

M. Juvela

Observatory, University of Helsinki

# Inverse problems in the analysis of astronomical images

Inversion methods in astronomy  
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# Contents

## I. De-convolution: theory

- linear methods, Bayesian framework
- iterative methods
- interferometry
- Maximum Entropy
- multiscale methods

## II. De-convolution: practice

- routines in reduction packages
- some examples

# Convolution

- present in all observations
  - finite time resolution → convolution of time
    - detector response, temporal sampling
  - finite spectral resolution → convolution of frequencies
    - detector bandpass, channel resolution
  - point spread function → convolution of spatial coordinates
    - telescope beam, seeing, detector geometry

# Convolution

- in 1D: 
$$(f * g)(h) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) g(h-x) dx$$

- convolution of source intensity  $I(f)$  with the detector response curve  $R(f)$

$$I_{obs}(f) = (I_{true} * R_{det})(f) = \int_0^{+\infty} I_{true}(f') R_{det}(f - f') df'$$

- observed intensity distribution on the sky

$$I_{obs}(\theta_0, \phi_0) = \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \int_0^{\pi} d\theta I_{true}(\theta, \phi) B(\theta_0 - \theta, \phi_0 - \phi)$$

# Convolution

- convolution can be calculated easily with Fourier transforms: **convolution theorem**

$$F(I_{obs}) = F(I_{true} * B) = F(I_{true}) F(B)$$

... but if the filter function  $B$  is known, the original signal can be recovered directly

$$I_{true} = F^{-1}\left(F(I_{obs})/F(B)\right) \quad \square$$

(this is the least squares solution)

# De-convolution

- How would this work in practice
  - Example 1: deconvolution of a 1 D signal
  - Example 2: deconvolution of a 2D map

- the noise should be part of the model

$$F(I_{obs}(x, y)) = F(I_{true}) F(B) + F(n(x, y))$$

- least squares should be fine for gaussian noise

# De-convolution

- conclusion:
  - de-convolution is trivial – in the sense of getting a function whose convolution is equal to the observation
  - result is extremely sensitive to the noise (and the knowledge of the convolving function)
    - solution also tries to fit all the noise
  - deconvolution becomes easily an ill-posed problem => need some regularization

# Convolution

- usually one works with discrete quantities

$$D_i = \sum_j H_{i,j} I_j + \epsilon_j$$

- $D$  is the observed image,  $H$  elements of the point spread matrix,  $I$  the true signal, and  $\epsilon$  the noise in the observed data elements

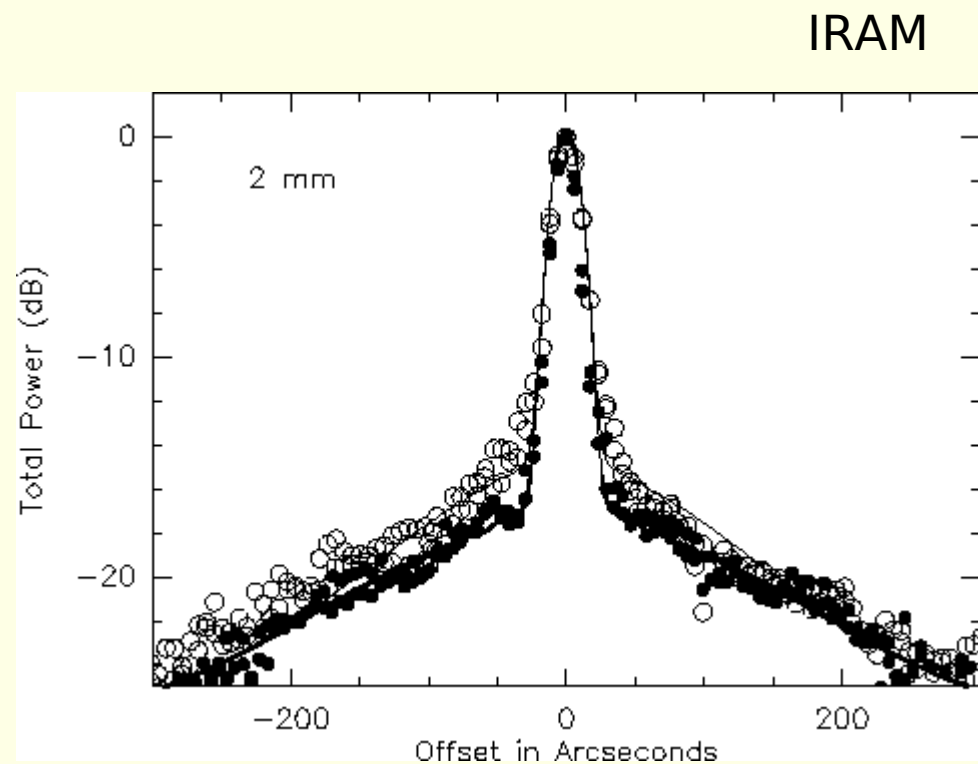
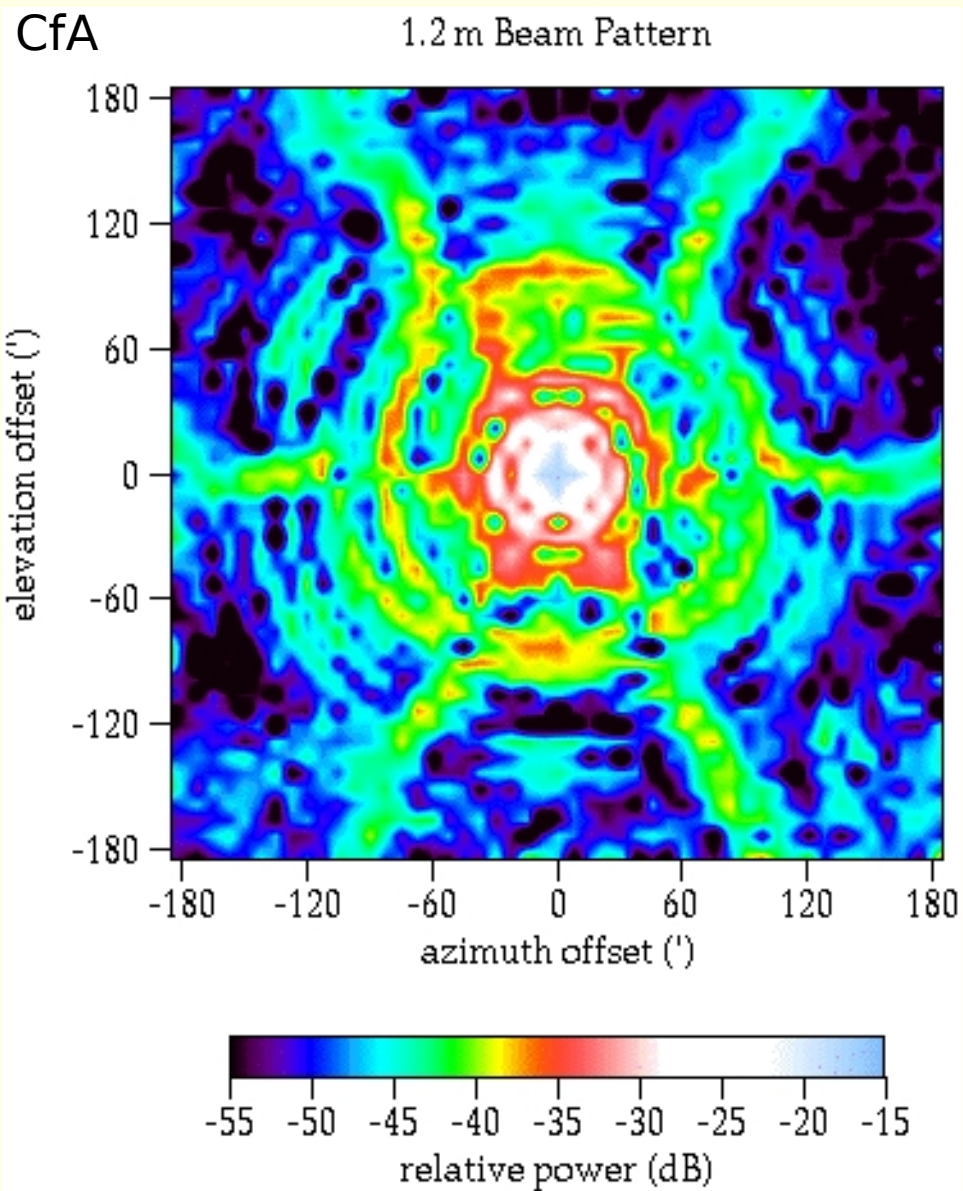


# Naive solution

- naively one might try a least squares solution (assuming the errors were normally distributed)

$$\min_I \frac{\|H * I - D\|^2}{\sigma^2}$$

- as the previous examples showed, this does not usually work
  - oscillatory solutions
  - might be acceptable if number of data points > number of points in the reconstructed image *and* the noise level is small



# Smoothed least squares

- in the basic regularization we require the result image to be 'smooth'
  - no rigorous definition of smoothness
- the solution is found by minimizing

$$\min_I \left[ \frac{\|H * I - D\|^2}{\sigma^2} + \lambda \phi(I) \right]$$

- $\lambda$  is a smoothing parameter
- $\phi$  is smoothing function, for example

$$\phi(I) = \sum_j (I_j - I_{j+1})^2$$

# Smoothed least squares

- in Tikhonov regularization one minimizes function

$$J(I) = \left\| D(x, y) - (H * I)(x, y) \right\| + \lambda \left\| P * I \right\|$$

- first term is  $\chi^2$
  - second term contains convolution of the result image with a high pass filter
  - $\lambda$  is regularization parameter that determines balance between exact fit and image smoothness
- the solution (*note syntax:  $F(x) = \tilde{x}$* )

$$\tilde{I} = \frac{\tilde{H}^* \tilde{D}}{|\tilde{H}|^2 + \lambda |\tilde{P}|^2}$$

# Smoothed least squares

- more generally one might write the smoothing function as a quadratic form

$$\phi(f) = f^T C f$$

- the solution of the resulting equation

$$\min_I \left[ \frac{\|H I - D\|^2}{\sigma^2} + \lambda I^T C I \right]$$

becomes  $I = (H^T H + \lambda C)^{-1} H^T D = K(\lambda) D$

- solution is found quickly with linear algebra
- least squares solution recovered with  $\lambda=0$
- stable solution as soon as  $\lambda$  'sufficiently' large

# Smoothed least squares

- the main problem is the selection of the smoothing parameter
  - often an ad hoc value - what looks right
  - below we follow Thompson & Graig -92
- objectively  $\lambda$  could be chosen so that correct  $\chi^2$ -value is recovered  $\|\hat{g} - g\|^2 = n\sigma^2$ 
  - $g$  the observed data,  $\hat{g}$  reconstructed image
  - in practice this leads to too smooth solutions
- different criteria developed for finding the optimal smoothing

# Smoothing parameters: EDF

- the reason the normal  $\chi^2$  criterion fails is that counts d.o.f. of the fit but ignores the d.o.f. of the observed image

$$\|\hat{g} - g\|^2 + \langle |\hat{g} - \langle \hat{g} \rangle|^2 \rangle = n \sigma^2 \quad (1)$$

- $\chi^2$  criterion ignores the second term  $\Rightarrow$  fit becomes less precise  $\Rightarrow$  resulting image is too smooth
- the variance can be estimated if the probability distribution of the recovered image is known
  - see Thompson & Graig (1992)

# Smoothing parameters: EDF

- when  $I=K(\lambda) D$ , the variance term becomes

$$\langle |\hat{g} - \langle \hat{g} \rangle|^2 \rangle = \sigma^2 \text{tr}(K(\lambda)) = \sigma^2 \text{tr}(H(H^T H + \lambda C)^{-1} H^T)$$

- $\lambda$  is selected so that Eq. 1 holds

$$\|H \hat{f} - g\|^2 = \sigma^2 \text{tr}(I - K(\lambda))$$

- result can be generalized for non-quadratic smoothing functions (Thompson & Kay -92)



# Smoothing parameters: CB

- Craig & Brown (1990) use the same criterion  $\|\hat{g} - g\|^2 + \langle |\hat{g} - \langle \hat{g} \rangle|^2 \rangle = n \sigma^2$  but calculate the second term according to the stability of the solution
- the probability of a realization  $g_k$  is

$$P(g_k) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left\| \frac{Hf - g_k}{\sigma} \right\|^2\right) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left\| \frac{g - g_k}{\sigma} \right\|^2\right)$$

- the latter form follows when  $Hf$  is replaced with our best estimate, i.e., the actually observed map

# Smoothing parameters: CB

- the previous leads to the result

$$\begin{aligned}\langle |\hat{g} - \langle \hat{g} \rangle|^2 \rangle &= \langle |\hat{g} - \langle \hat{g}_k \rangle|^2 \rangle \\ &= \int (\hat{g}_k - \langle \hat{g}_k \rangle)^T (\hat{g}_k - \langle \hat{g}_k \rangle) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{g_k - g}{\sigma}\right)^2\right) d(g_k) \\ &= \sigma^2 \text{tr}(K(\lambda) K(\lambda))\end{aligned}$$

- smoothin parameter is found based on

$$\|H \hat{f} - g\|^2 = \sigma^2 \text{tr}(I - K(\lambda) K(\lambda))$$

- larger filter factor than EDF, asymptotical difference smaller than a factor of two

# Smoothing parameters: BAS

- Bayesian derivation by Gull (1988)
  - several formulations (one method identical with EDF)
  - one particular form

$$\|H \hat{f} - g\|^2 + \lambda \hat{f}^T C \hat{f} = n \sigma$$

- $H$  was the beam,  $C$  the constraints
- this can be evaluated without calculating the trace of matrix  $K \Rightarrow$  suitable for large problems

# Smoothing parameters

- conclusions of Thompson & Graig
  - easy problem = low blur
    - EDF reconstruction close to the best possible
    - CB oversmooths slightly (some bias)
    - BAS worse, consistently undersmoothed
  - harder problem = large blur
    - EDF sensitive to  $\sigma$ , sometimes *grossly* undersmoothed
    - CB appears slightly more robust
    - BAS undersmoothed (features produced by noise) but insensitive to the value of  $\sigma$ 
      - the  $\chi^2$  method produces grossly oversmoothed results

# Linear regularization methods

- some problems
  - Gibbs oscillations near discontinuities
  - hard to use any a priori information (even positivity constraints)
  - regularization usually through smoothing: leads to loss of resolution

# Some regularization schemes

$$\|C I\| = \sum \sum I(x, y) - \frac{I(x-1, y) + I(x+1, y) + I(x, y-1) + I(x, y+1)}{4}$$

- sometimes called (simultaneous) autoregressive model

- equivalent to prior  $\propto \exp\left(-\frac{\alpha}{2} \|C I\|\right)$

– examples of other forms

- Charbonnier et al. (1997)
- Moline et al. (1996, 2001, 2000)

# Bayesian framework

- the Bayes formula of probabilities

$$P(I|D) = \frac{P(I)P(D|I)}{P(D)}$$

- in this case we interpret  $D$  as the observed data and  $I$  as the true intensity
- solution found by maximizing posterior probability  $P(I|D)$ 
  - $P(I)$  is prior probability of given solution  $I$
  - $P(D|I)$  is the probability of data when model  $I$  is given (by itself would often lead to  $\chi^2$  minimization)
  - $P(D)$  is merely a normalization factor

# Bayesian framework

- the maximum likelihood estimate would be

$$ML(I) = \max_I p(D|I)$$

while the solution from Bayes formula is

$$ML(I) = \max_I p(D|I) p(I)$$

- MAP = maximum a posteriori solution
- denominator  $P(D)$  does not affect the solution
- ML = MAP with constant prior



# Bayes: Gaussian noise

- for gaussian (=normally distributed) noise

$$p(D|I) = (\dots) \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{D - I * H}{\sigma} \right)^2 \right]$$

- in unconstrained case this leads to  $\chi^2$  minimization

$$\max p(D|I) = \max \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} \chi^2 \right) \Rightarrow \min \chi^2$$

- in constrained case regularization can be built in the iterative optimization algorithm
  - Landweber / successive approximations / Jacobi method
  - number of iterations  $\sim$  smoothness of solution
  - include other constraints, e.g., positivity

# Bayes: Gaussian noise

- in the special case that both object and noise are normally distributed with zero mean, the Bayes solution leads to Wiener filtering

$$\tilde{I} = \frac{\tilde{H}^* \tilde{D}}{|\tilde{H}|^2 + \sigma_N^2 / \sigma_o^2}$$

- as before,  $H$  is the beam,  $D$  the observations, and  $I$  the recovered intensity
- $\sigma_N^2$  the noise variance and  $\sigma_o^2$  the object variance
- Wiener filtering is very fast to calculate – and optimal in case of stationary, Gaussian signal
- ... but causes artifacts (e.g., rings around point sources) and needs noise estimates in the *frequency* space –  $\sigma = \sigma(v)$  !

# Bayes: Poisson noise

– Poisson distribution is  $p(k) = \frac{\mu^k}{k!} e^{-\mu}$

- $k$  is the discrete number of events
  - $\mu$  is the expectation value (and variance)
- and the probability becomes

$$p(D|I) = \prod_{x,y} \frac{[(H*I)(x,y)]^{D(x,y)} e^{-(H*I)(x,y)}}{D(x,y)!}$$

– ML estimate is found by setting derivate of  $\ln p(D|I)$  to zero

$$\frac{\partial \ln p(D|I)}{\partial I} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{D}{H*I} * H^* = 1$$

# Bayes: Poisson noise

- this leads to an iterative algorithm
  - multiply both sides with  $I$ , evaluate left side using an old estimate on the right hand side

$$I^{(n+1)} = I^{(n)} \left( \frac{D}{H * I^{(n)}} * H^* \right)$$

- this is the famous **Richardson-Lucy** algorithm (Lucy 1974) or the **expectation maximization** (EM) method
- the flux is conserved and the solution is always non-negative
- still only a maximum likelihood solution

# Bayes: Poisson noise

- if we denote with  $M$  the true solution, the probability of given model  $I$  becomes

$$p(I) = \frac{\prod M^I e^{-M}}{I!}$$

and the MAP solution is

$$I = M \exp \left\{ \left[ \frac{D}{H * I} - 1 \right] * H^* \right\}$$

setting  $M=I^{(n)}$  one obtains an iterative formula

$$I^{(n+1)} = I^{(n)} \exp \left\{ \left[ \frac{D}{H * I^{(n)}} - 1 \right] * H^* \right\}$$

# Iterative regularized methods

- let  $I$  be the recovered intensity
- constraints can be presented as a function  $P_C$  so that we require, e.g.,
  - positivity of solution
  - object belongs to spatial domain  $D$

$$P_C(I(x, y)) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} I(x, y), & \text{if } (x, y) \in D \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{array} \right\}$$

- solution is band limited

$$P_C(\tilde{I}(x, y)) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \tilde{I}(x, y), & \text{if } \nu < \nu_0 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{array} \right\}$$

# Iterative regularized methods

- the constraints can be implemented easily in iterative schemes
  - smaller number of iterations acts also like regularization
- below are examples of regularized versions of the following algorithms
  - Jansson-Van Cittert
  - Landweber
  - Tikhonov
  - Richardson-Lucy

# Iterative regularized methods

- the van Cittert iteration is very simply

$$I^{(n+1)} = I^{(n)} + \alpha (D - H * I^{(n)})$$

- convergence parameter can be set  $\alpha \sim 1$
  - may converge in a few iterations, diverges in the presence of noise
- Jansson (-70) considered constraint  $A < I < B$

$$\alpha \rightarrow C \left[ 1 - 2 \frac{|I^{(n)} - (A+B)/2|}{B-A} \right]$$

- more generally  $I^{(n+1)} = P_C \left\{ I^{(n)} + \alpha (D - H * I^{(n)}) \right\}$



# Iterative regularized methods

- regularized Landweber iteration

$$I^{(n+1)} = P_C \left\{ I^{(n)} + \gamma H^* * (D - H * I^{(n)}) \right\}$$

- ~steepest descent minimization (Jacobi method)

- $H^*(x, y) = H(-x, -y)$

- regularized Richardson-Lucy

$$I^{(n+1)} = P_C \left\{ I^{(n)} \left[ \frac{D}{H * I^{(n)}} * H^* \right] \right\}$$

# Iterative regularized methods

- Tikhonov solution is obtained using gradient function

$$\nabla J = [H^* * H + \mu P^* * P] * I - H^* * D$$

- $P$  is a high pass filter
- normal iteration is

$$I^{(n+1)} = I^{(n)} - \gamma \nabla J$$

and the regularized version, not surprisingly,

$$I^{(n+1)} = P_C \left\{ I^{(n)} - \gamma \nabla J \right\}$$

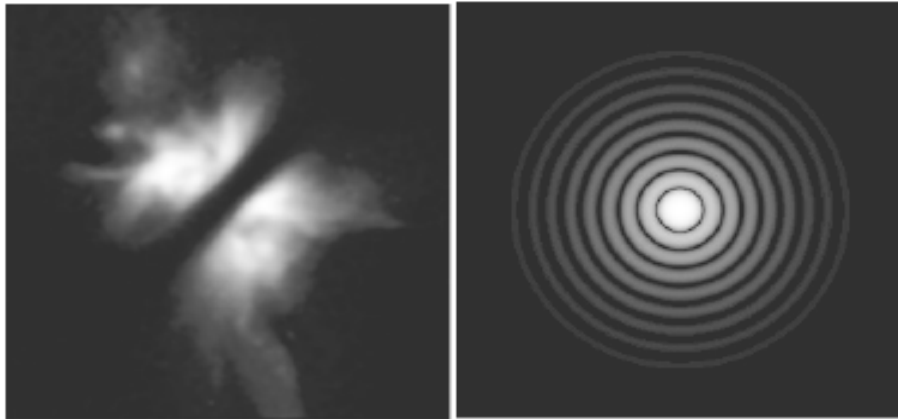
# Edge effects

- FFT based methods are computationally efficient in de-convolution
  - Richardson-Lucy requires 4 FFT transformations and total cost is  $O(N^2 \log N)$
- in the case of extended emission edges cause ripple in the solution
  - artifacts can be decreased by  $\times 10$  by using reflective or anti-reflective boundary conditions
    - changes the result – what did the real beam see outside the image?

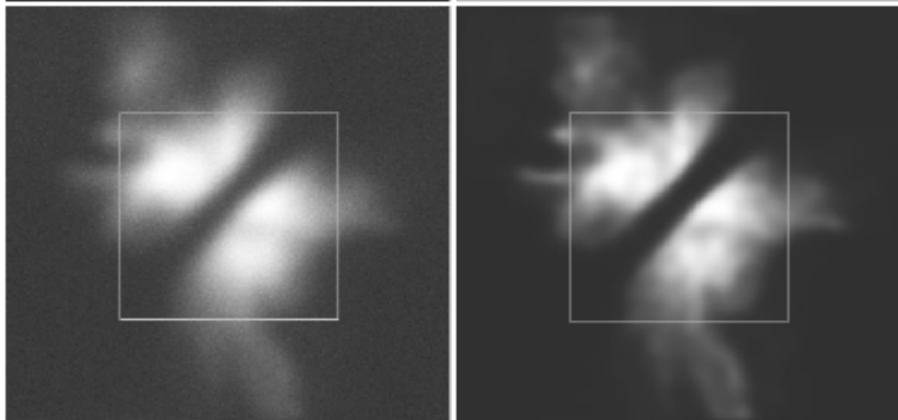
# Edge effects

- the boundary pixels depend on the unknown intensity outside the FOV
- Bertero & Boccacci (2005):
  - RL is used to deconvolve a larger image, which improves the reconstruction inside FOV
  - brightness values outside measured map as free parameters
  - fast implementation using FFT:s

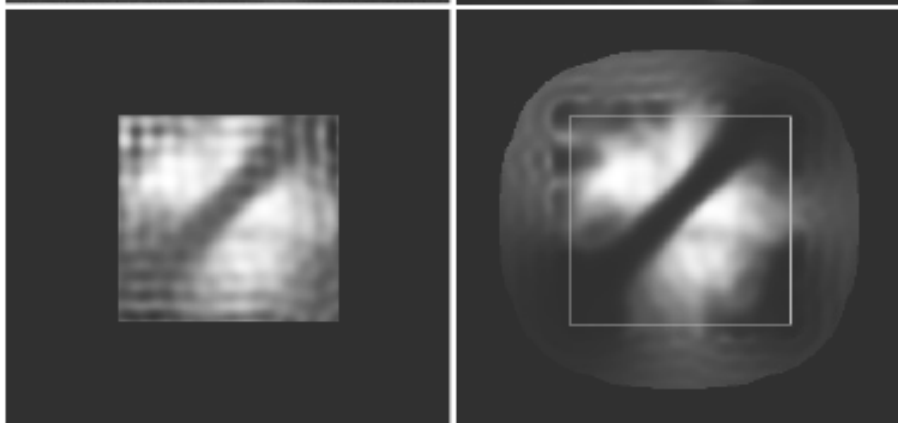
# Edge effects



original image and the beam



convolved image with Poisson noise and  
RL reconstruction of full image



reconstruction of smaller area with RL  
and with the method of Bertero &  
Boccacci



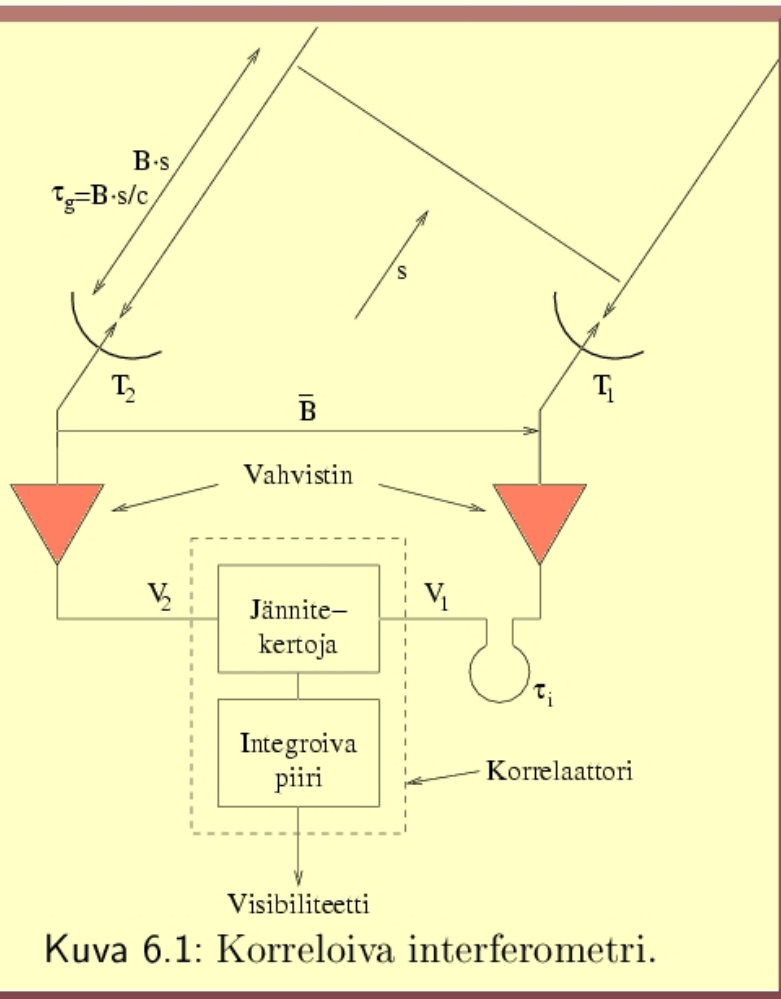
# Interlude: Interferometry



VLA/NRAO

# Interferometry

- correlation of signals observed by two or more antennas



Kuva 6.1: Korreloiva interferometri.

- same wavefront is observed in antennas with a phase shift

$$\tau_g = \frac{1}{c} \vec{B} \cdot \vec{s}$$

- the correlator calculates time average of the product of measured voltages  $V$
- $V^2$  is proportional to the power of the radiation
- for a point source the cross correlation is

$$R_{xy} \propto \sqrt{w_1 w_2} e^{i2\pi\nu\tau}$$



# Interferometry

- the phase shift is set to zero at a phase center close to the object
- the corrected cross correlation is called the *visibility*
  - this depends on the source intensity and the angles between the source direction and the baseline  $B$  connecting the antennas
- usually coordinates  $u$  and  $v$  are used
  - $u$  = east-west length of  $B$  as seen from the phase centre
  - $v$  = corresponding length of the north-south projection

# Interferometry

- in aperture synthesis the observed visibilities are used to derive a continuous map of the sky around the phase centre
- for an intensity distribution the visibility is

$$V(u, v) = \int I_v(x, y) A_e(x, y) e^{i2\pi(ux+yv)} dx dy$$

- $I(x, y)$  is the true surface brightness
- $A(x, y)$  is the effective collecting area of the telescopes, *including their beam pattern*
- ... one observes a Fourier transform of the surface brightness !

# Interferometry

- when we look at a small area surrounding the phase centre, the beam of individual telescopes is almost constant

$$V(u, v)/A_e = \int I_v(x, y) e^{i2\pi(ux+vy)} dx dy$$

- if visibilities were observed for all  $u$  and  $v$ , the intensity would be obtained by a direct Fourier transform

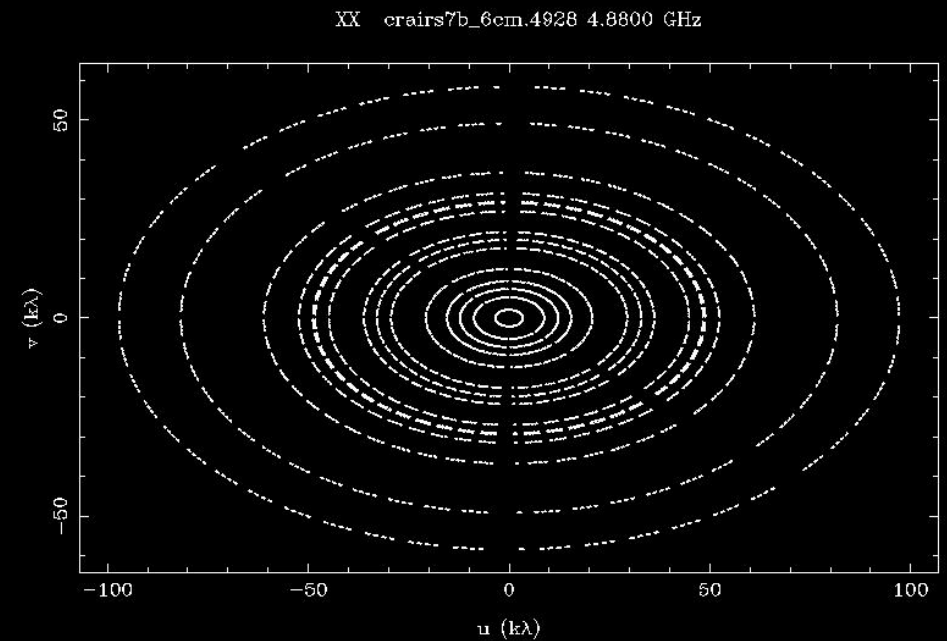
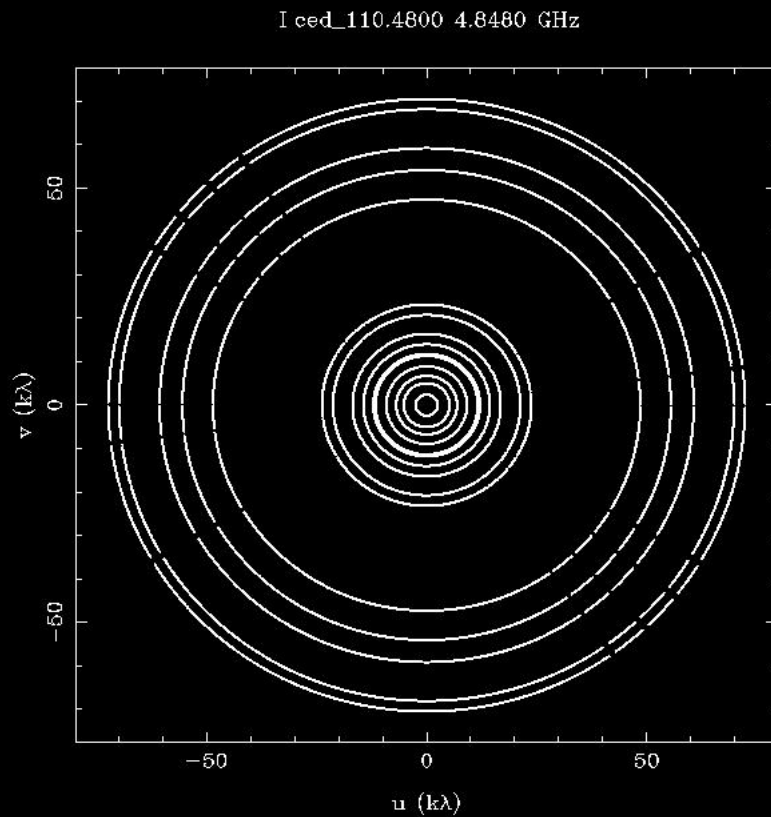
$$I_v(x, y) = \int \int V(u, v)/A_e e^{-i2\pi(ux+vy)} du dv$$

# Interferometry

- in practice only a small part of the  $(u,v)$  plane is covered
  - each antenna pair gives instantaneously only one position  $(u,v)$ 
    - ... and the corresponding point  $(-u,-v)$
    - because visibilities are real,  $V(-u,-v)=V^*(u,v)$
  - as the Earth rotates, each antenna pair draws a curve in the  $(u,v)$ -plane

# Interferometry

(u,v)-coverage in two cases



# Interferometry

- the measured visibility can be seen as a convolution between true visibility and a mask  $g$ 
  - $g=1$  where we have measurements,  $g=0$  elsewhere
  - by definition the product  $g(u,v)V(u,v)$  is known everywhere and the Fourier transforms can be performed

# Interferometry

- according to convolution theorem

$$F(g(u, v)V(u, v)) = \text{Con}(P_{syn}(l, m), M(l, m))$$

- $P_{syn}$  is the Fourier transform of  $g =$  **dirty beam**
- this defines the final resolution of the recovered map
- $M$  is essentially the product of the true intensity and the beam pattern of an individual antenna
  - $g$  is also called the *grading function* of the synthesized aperture

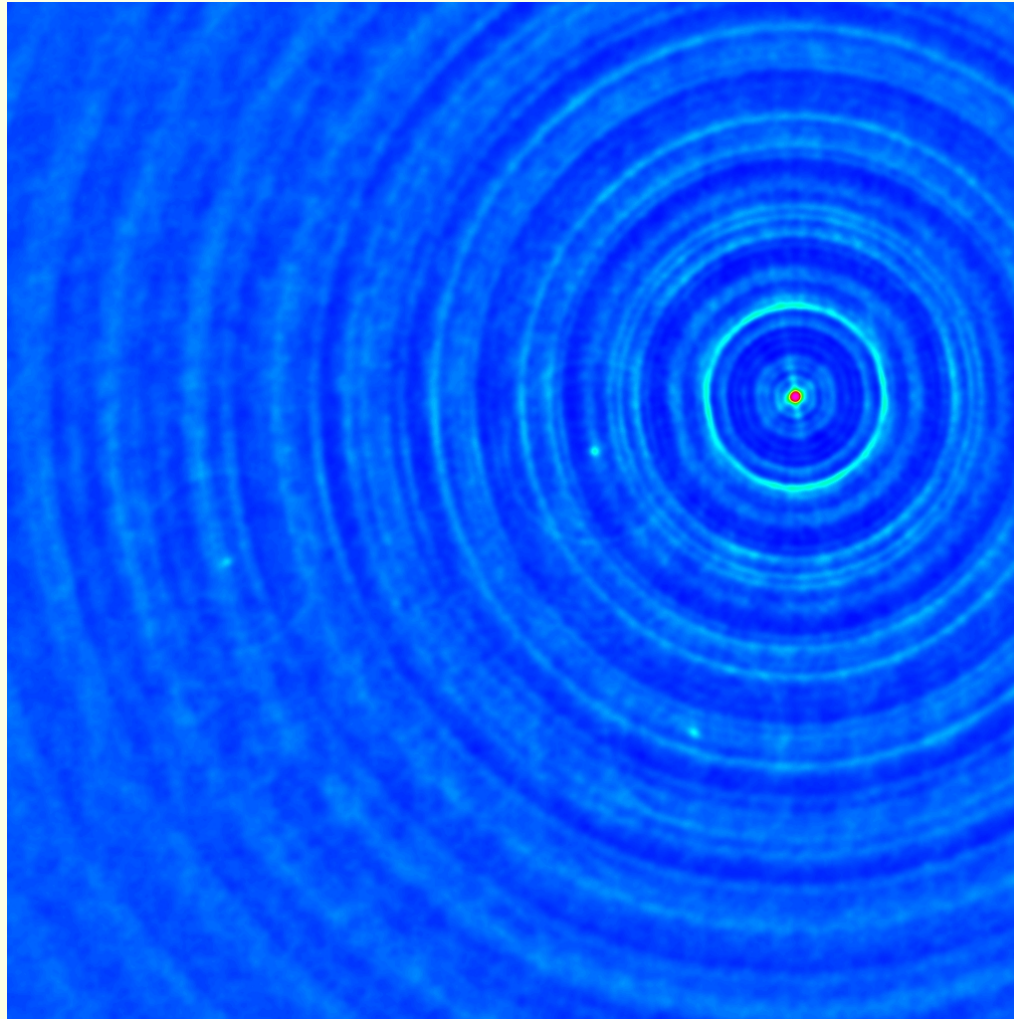
# Interferometry

- the recovered 'dirty image' contains artifacts caused by the incomplete sampling of the  $(u,v)$  plane
  - each point source produces an image of the dirty beam
  - one must somehow fill in the missing visibilities (regularization) or *clean* the final image



# Interferometry

- dirty image:



# CLEAN

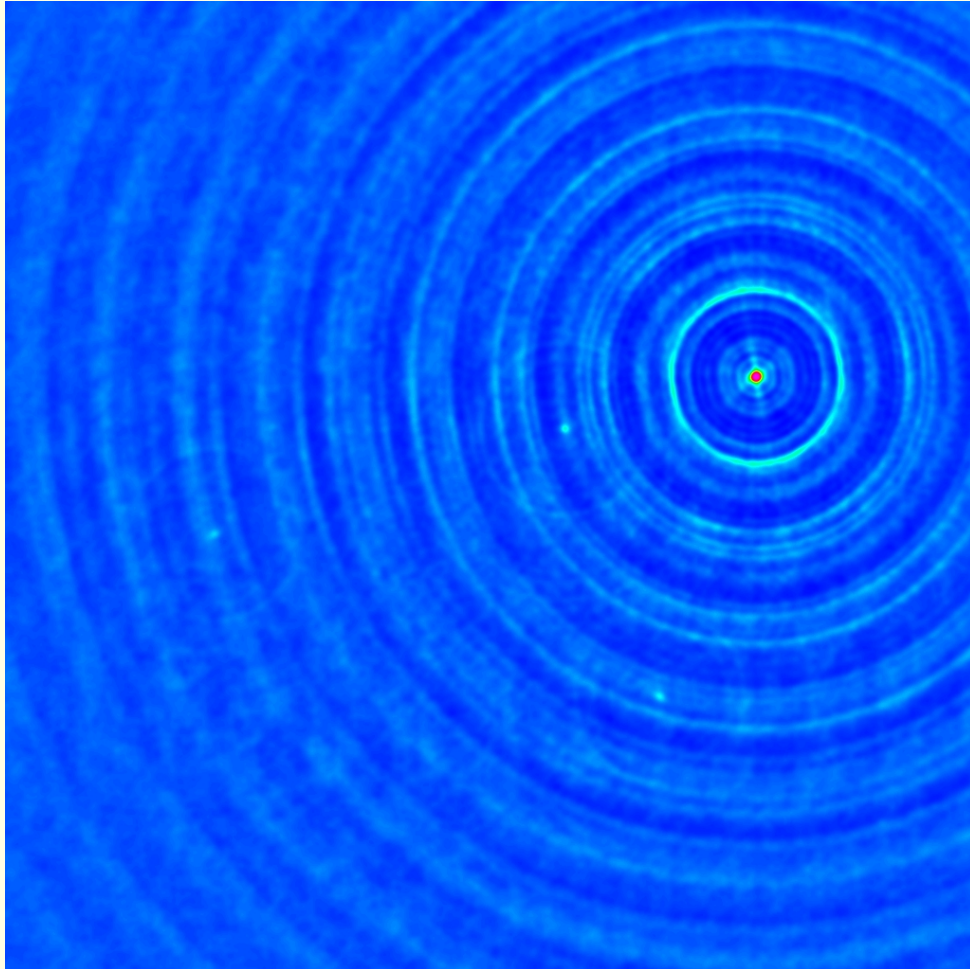
- the CLEAN algorithm (Högbom 1974) models image as a sum of point sources
  1. find an intensity peak in the (dirty) image
  2. subtract the peak = (dirty) beam multiplied with a damping factor
  3. repeat there are no more peaks above specified level
  4. convolve point source model with idealized 'CLEAN beam' (e.g., central lobe of (dirty) beam)
    - above 'dirty image' and 'dirty beam' refer to interferometric observations

# CLEAN

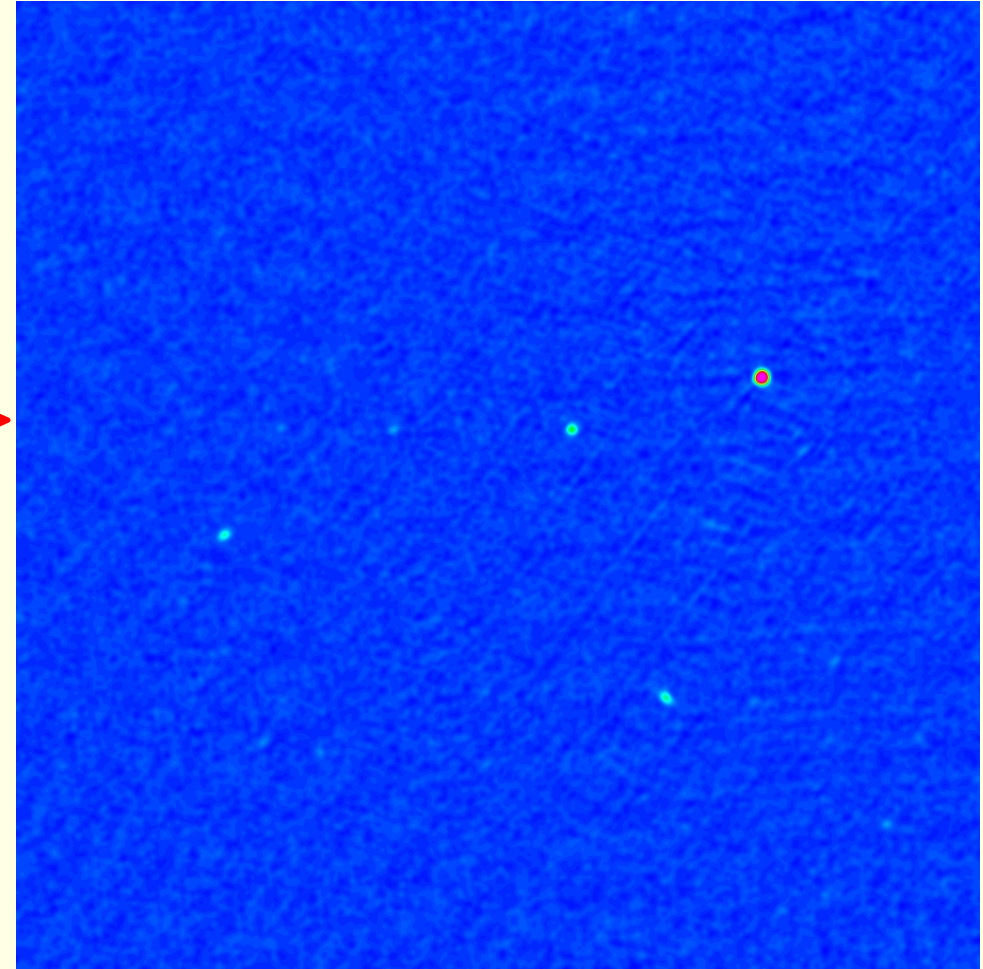
- the residual image may be added to CLEAN image (as a check)
- instead of the real space image one can work in Fourier space using FFTs (Cark 1980) or, in the case of interferometry, directly with visibilities
- solution is unique
  - ... if there is no noise and if the number of visibility measurements is larger than the number of image elements
  - in principle superresolution should be possible
  - in practice (because of the noise and other factors) CLEAN performs badly in this respect

# CLEAN

dirty image



cleaned and restored image



# CLEAN

- some negative aspects
  - slow for large images
  - no handle on the image statistics
  - spurious peaks caused by the noise
  - depression in surface brightness around strong sources
  - fluctuations in extended emission
  - final convolution with 'CLEAN beam' is basically an ad hoc procedure to produce nice images
    - this affects also the relative scaling between CLEAN image and residuals!
  - if there is a good source model for extended emission, that should be subtracted before CLEANing the image

# Maximum entropy

- entropy is a measure of disorder
- in image reconstruction one would like to obtain an image that contains all information available from the observations – but no additional structure
- maximization of image entropy should guarantee this
  - 'maximally noncommittal'
  - 'as featureless as the data allow'



# Maximum entropy

- the problem is still the inversion of eq.

$$D_i = \sum_j H_{i,j} I_j + N_i$$

- $D$  is the observed quantity, in images usually the intensity
  - $H$  is the point spread function
  - $N$  (additive) noise
- the entropy of the recovered image is

$$S = \int \int f[I(x, y)] dx dy \quad S = \sum_{i,j} f[I_{i,j}]$$

- $f$  is some function (not quite a unique definition!)

# Maximum entropy

- entropy is related to the probability of a state
  - entropy measures the number of ways a given state can be realized
  - entropy is additive while probabilities are combined multiplicatively  $\Rightarrow$  entropy should be proportional to the logarithm of probability
    - if there are  $W$  ways to realize a state, each with probability  $p_w = 1/W$ , entropy is  $S = \ln W = -\ln p_w$
    - when alternatives have probabilities  $p_i$  the average becomes

$$S = -\langle \ln p_i \rangle = -\sum_i p_i \ln p_i$$



# Maximum entropy

- if original variable  $X$  is transformed to  $Y$

$$S = - \int p(X) \ln [p(X)] dx = - \int q(Y) \ln [q(Y) / J(Y)] dY$$

–  $J$  is the Jacobian of the transformation,  $J = dX/dY$

- this suggests that entropy should be written in form

$$S = - \int p(X) \ln [p(X) / p_0(X)] dX$$

–  $p_0(X)$  is 'prior', which is analogous with the state degeneracy  $g$  in the discrete case

$$S = - \sum_i p_i \ln (p_i / g_i)$$

# Maximum entropy

- the prior makes entropy independent of the scaling
- when prior is constant (flat image), entropy is maximum when  $p_i$  is constant
  - more generally, maximum corresponds to state where  $p$  is proportional to its prior
- in practice different forms of entropy are used

$$f(I) = -\ln I$$

$$f(I) = -I \ln I$$

# Bayesian derivation

- the Bayes equation of probabilities says

$$P(I|D) = \frac{P(I)P(D|I)}{P(D)}$$

- $P(I)$  is the prior probability  $P(I) \propto \exp[S(I)]$
- $P(D|I)$  is the probability of observations when image  $I$  is given; in case of gaussian white noise

$$P(D|I) \propto \prod_r \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \sum_i \left( \frac{H_{ri} I_i - D_r}{\sigma} \right)^2 \right]$$

- note that the denominator  $P(D)$  does not depend on the solution and is merely a normalization factor

# Bayesian derivation

- when we take a logarithm we obtain probability

$$\ln P(I|D) = S(I_i) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_r \left( \frac{\sum_i H_{ri} I_i - D_r}{\sigma_r} \right)^2$$

- this is a sum of entropy and the  $\chi^2$  value
- our solution would correspond to the maximum of this probability
- conversely, we could minimize  $\chi^2 - S$
- note: assumes uncorrelated errors and normal error distribution!

# Entropy functions

- in the framework of power spectrum estimation Burg (1967) came up with the formula corresponding to  $S_1 = \int \ln I$ 
  - there  $I$  corresponded to terms of power spectrum that can be seen as independent Gaussian random variables
  - probability is product of normal probabilities and the entropy is proportional to logarithm of variance
  - same form can be derived for images in the limit of high photon numbers

# Entropy functions

- consider an image with pixel intensities  $I_i$
- with total flux of the image  $D_0 = \text{sum}(I_i)$ , we can define fractional intensity  $f_i = I_i / D_0$ 
  - the image can be constructed in  $W = \exp(S)$  different ways, which leads to
$$S_2 \approx -N \sum_i f_i \ln f_i = -(N/D_0) \sum_i \ln I_i (+ \text{constant})$$
  - the same formula can also be derived from thermodynamic entropy in the limit of low photon numbers
    - valid for high frequencies while  $S_1$  might be more appropriate at radio frequencies?

# Entropy functions

- the two formulations are not necessarily contradictory
  - correspond to different probability distributions one can attribute to the same image ?
  - both go to infinity when intensity goes to zero: forces results to be positive
    - there are generalizations for cases with negative intensities
  - both have negative second derivative which suppresses rapid variations

# Entropy functions

- still another formula (Gull & Skilling 1991)

$$S = \sum_x \sum_y \left\{ I(x, y) - M(x, y) - I(x, y) \ln \frac{I}{M} \right\}$$

- $M$  prior image,  $I$  our solution
- entropy reaches maximum (value zero) when image is equal to the prior



# ME-approach to interferometry

- intensity  $I(x,y)$  is to be reconstructed based on measured function  $F(D)(u,v)$ 
  - $D$  is in real space and  $F(D)$  is its Fourier transform in the  $(u,v)$ -space so that  $F(I)(u,v)=F(D)(u,v)$  for all *measured*  $u$  and  $v$
  - **ignoring the noise** we can maximize

$$\int \int f(I) dx dy + \sum_{u,v} \lambda_{u,v} \left( \int \int I \exp[-i 2 \pi (u x + v y)] dx dy - \tilde{D}(u, v) \right)$$

- Lagrange multipliers  $\lambda$  enforce the constraints
- derivation wrt  $I(x,y)$  gives

$$f' [I(x, y)] = - \sum_{u,v} \lambda(u, v) \exp[-i 2 \pi (u x + v y)] \equiv J(x, y)$$

# ME-approach

- the ME image is found by formally solving this equation

$$I(x, y) = f'^{-1}[J(x, y)] \equiv g[J(x, y)]$$

- depending on the selected form of entropy we have either

$$S = \ln I \Rightarrow S' = 1/I \Rightarrow g(J) = 1/J$$

or

$$S = -I \ln I \Rightarrow S' = -\ln I + 1 \Rightarrow g(J) = \exp(-1 - J)$$

# ME-approach

- the result has the following properties
  - in  $J(x,y)$  are only Fourier components corresponding to measured  $(u,v)$ 
    - in the restored image missing values must be created by the non-linearity of the  $f'$
    - the degree of the non-linearity depends on absolute value of  $l$
  - if we add an offset in the intensities, the recovered map will be different
  - the slope of  $f'$  is small at large values of  $l \Rightarrow$  peaks will be narrow ('superresolution')
  - the slope is large at small  $l \Rightarrow$  small scale variations are suppressed

# ME-approach

- around extreme points Taylor expansion gives for  $f = -\ln I$

$$I(x, y) = \frac{1}{a(x-x_0)^2 + 2b(x-x_0)(y-y_0) + c(y-y_0)^2 + d}$$

and for  $f = -I \ln I$

$$I(x, y) = \exp[-a(x-x_0)^2 - 2b(x-x_0)(y-y_0) - c(y-y_0)^2 - (d+1)]$$

- in other words, in details the first definition of entropy leads to **Loretzian** peaks, the latter to **Gaussian** peaks

# ME-approach

- the resolution depends on the intensity level:  
it is largest for the highest peaks
  - peak height is less reliable than the values of integrated flux
- suppression of small scale variation is best at low intensities
  - the sidelobes of a point source are not well suppressed if the source is located on an elevated plateau
- there can be spurious peaks around absorption features



# ME-approach, noisy data

- in ME analysis one can resort to the old scheme: smooth until one gets expected value of  $\chi^2 = \Omega \approx$  number of independent data points

– the constraint 
$$\chi^2 = \sum_{u,v} \left[ \frac{\tilde{I}(u,v) - \tilde{D}(u,v)}{\sigma(u,v)} \right]^2 = \Omega$$

is again forced with the help of Lagrange multipliers when maximizing

$$\iint f(I) dx dy - \lambda(\chi^2 - \Omega)$$

- 'least squares MEM'

# ME-approach, noisy data

- the function  $J$  is still band limited
  - fourier coefficients of  $F(J)$  are zero except for the measured  $(u, v)$  coordinates
- the model predictions *differ* from the data

$$\tilde{J}(u, v) - \lambda \frac{\tilde{I}(u, v) - \tilde{D}(u, v)}{\tilde{\sigma}^2(u, v)} = 0$$

- in the fourier space the residuals  $F(I) - F(D)$  are not random
  - highly correlated, negative at peaks and in regions of low intensity mostly positive, smoothing out variations of  $I$



# ME-approach, noisy data

- flux is transferred from peaks to background
  - the relative effect is largest for small peaks
    - at large S/N the residuals are larger than for the original data by a factor of  $\sqrt{2}$  !
  - the solution is always biased towards the prior (usually flat distribution)
- additional constraints can be added for flux conservation of the whole image
- resolution depends on the S/N ratio
  - MEM is capable of superresolution
    - but how to tell, whether all the structures are real?
  - final MEM image can be convolved with a gaussian to get a more uniform resolution

# ME-approach, noisy data

## – comparison with CLEAN

- MEM is biased, CLEAN is not; bias results from the fact that data (including the noise) is not modelled exactly
- bias is acceptable as a trade-off with smaller variance and can be decreased by convolving the original data
- MEM minimizes pixel variance so that the images are smoother than CLEAN images
- CLEAN is poor for extended emission, MEM has problems with point sources on extended emission
- in MEM a priori information can be introduced easily through prior image

# ME-approach, single aperture

- here a single aperture means that we have *full coverage* of all spatial frequencies, but the S/N ratio drops at scales below the size of the psf  $H$
- the maximized function is identical to the previous case except for the inclusion of the point spread function

$$S = \int \int f(I) dx dy - \lambda \left( \sum_{u,v} \left\{ \frac{|\tilde{H}(u,v)\tilde{I}(u,v) - \tilde{D}(u,v)|}{\tilde{\sigma}(u,v)} \right\}^2 - \Omega \right)$$

# ME-algorithms

- the MEM image is result of optimization
  - optimize  $\max\{S - \lambda C\}$
  - unknowns are image values  $I_{i,j}$  based on which entropy is defined, e.g.,

$$S = -\sum_{i,j} p_{i,j} \log p_{i,j}, \quad p_{i,j} = I_{i,j} / \sum_{i,j} I_{i,j}$$

- one can include condition for flux preservation

$$\max\{S - \lambda C - \mu \sum I_{i,j}\}$$

- $\mu$  can be selected to fit given value of total flux
- more simply, use corresponding value  $A$  directly as the prior

$$S = -\sum_{i,j} I_{i,j} \left[ \log(I_{i,j}/A) - 1 \right]$$

# ME-algorithms

- constrained optimization: maximize  $S$  subject to constraints on goodness-of-fit  $C$ 
  - and possible other constraints on flux etc.
- solution is always iterative
- could be found with general optimization algorithms
- there are a number of specialized algorithms

# ME-algorithms

– Gull & Daniel (1978) maximize  $Q = S - \lambda C$

$$I_j^{(n+1)} = A \exp\left[-\lambda \frac{\partial C(I^{(n)})}{\partial I_j}\right]$$

- image remains positive on all iterations
- *unstable*, even if successive iterates are smoothed

– normal steepest ascent

$$I_j^{(n+1)} = I_j^{(n)} + x \frac{\partial Q(I^{(n)})}{\partial I_j}$$

- develops negative values, unless  $x$  is extremely small
- negative values must be reset and even then there will be convergence problems

# ME-algorithms

- conjugate gradient algorithms
  - instead of direction  $\nabla Q$  one uses only part that is conjugate to some previous directions (~attempts to estimate the Hessian based on previous steps)
  - considerably better than steepest ascent although problem of negative values persists
- search of unconstrained optimization ( $\lambda = \text{const}$ )
  - main expense is in the image data transformations needed for estimates of  $\nabla Q$
  - instead of a single line, it may be more efficient to search full subspace
  - some (<10) vectors are used to span the subspace

# ME-algorithms

- search directions of constrained problem
  - in previous case a separate iteration is needed on  $\lambda$  so that  $C$  becomes correct
  - the search directions  $e$  can be selected to enforce the constraints directly
    - e.g. see Skilling & Bryan (1984)



# ME-algorithms

- Cornwell & Evans (1985; AIPS task 'VM')

- maximize  $J = S - \alpha \chi^2 - \beta I$

- Lagrange multipliers  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  selected so that  $\chi^2$  and total flux  $F$  both get their expected values

- condition  $\nabla J = 0$  leads to the implicit formula

$$I_i = m_i \exp\left(-\alpha (\partial \chi^2 / \partial I_i) - \beta\right)$$

- $m$  is the prior image

- iterative substitution leads to unstable algorithm and slow convergence (see above)  
=> better to optimize directly the  $J$

# ME-algorithms

- quadratic approximation of entropy is valid but only very close to solution => need to use second order methods
- direct Newton-Raphson gives

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta I &= (-\nabla \nabla J)^{-1} \nabla J \\ \nabla J &= \nabla S - \alpha \nabla \chi^2 - \beta I \\ \nabla \nabla J &= \nabla \nabla S - 2\alpha H\end{aligned}$$

- Hessian of  $J$  is diagonal – apart from the contribution from beam profile  $H$
- approximation: neglect non-diagonal part of the Hessian = sidelobes of the beam

# ME-algorithms

- beam  $H$  is replaced with a scaled identity matrix

$$\nabla \nabla J = \nabla \nabla S - 2\alpha q I$$

- $q$  is a scaling factor that depends on the beam solid angle (conversion from flux in the beam to flux within a pixel) – exact value is not important
- previous equations give the search direction  $\Delta b$  along which a line search is performed
  - two convolutions are required for the calculation of residuals but also these can be interpolated

# ME-algorithms

- convergence criterion  $\|\nabla J \cdot \nabla J\| < \epsilon \|1 \cdot 1\|$

- update of lagrange multipliers

$$\Delta \alpha = -\Delta \chi^2 / \|\nabla \chi^2 \cdot \nabla \chi^2\|$$

$$\Delta \beta = -\Delta F / \|\nabla F \cdot \nabla F\|$$

- these updates interfere with update of  $J$  so that step size must be limited

- one must correct for negative values

- small values are cut, lower limit decreased during the iterations

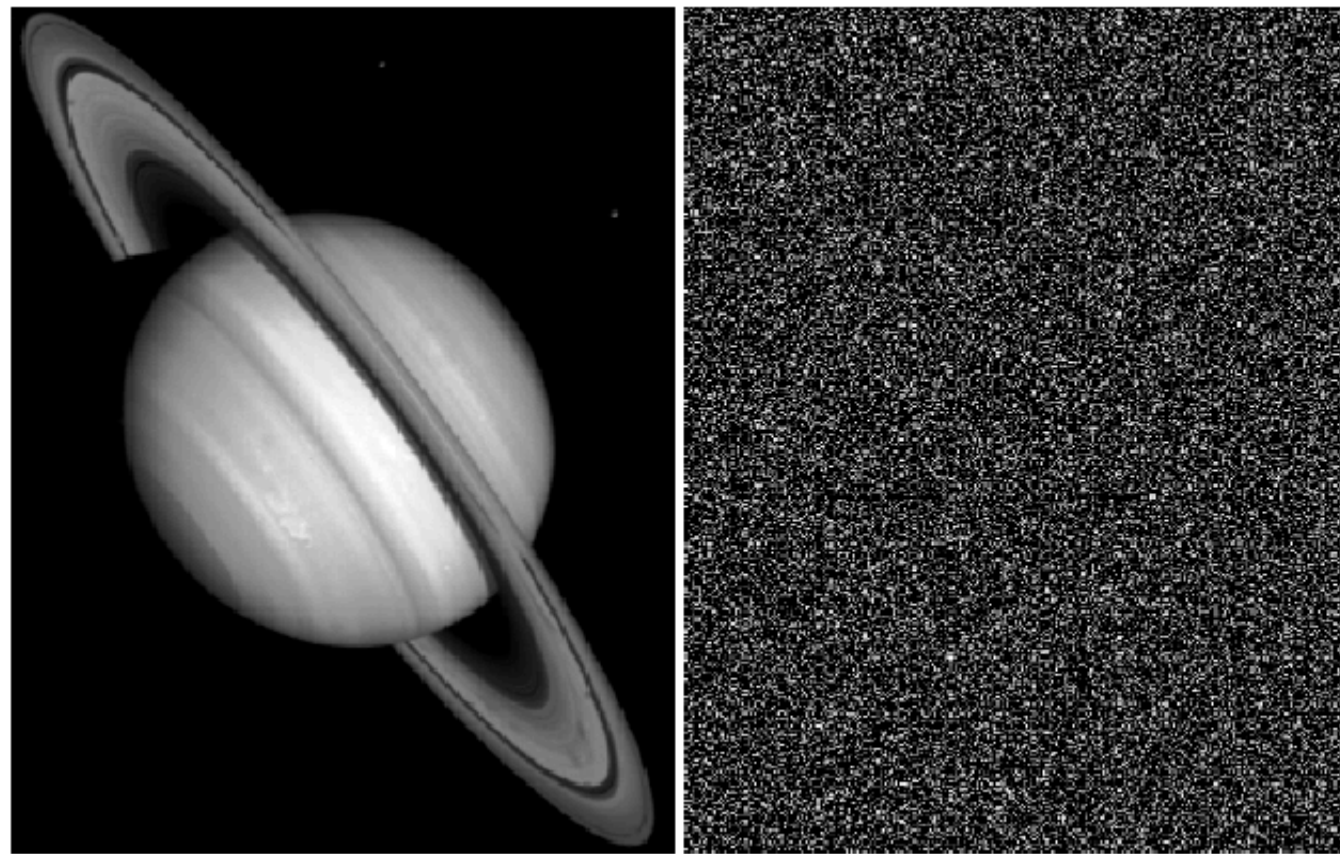
- for large images VM is generally faster than CLEAN

# Problems in deconvolution

- Starck & Pantin (2002)
  - fourier based methods give band-limited solutions (Wiener filtering, Tikhonov method, ...)
  - CLEAN cannot restore extended emission (and is slow for large images)
  - MEM cannot recover both compact and extended sources
    - results depend on the background level
    - poor results for features below the background level
    - spatial correlations ignored
  - iterative methods cause noise amplification
    - van Cittert, Richardson-Lucy, Landweber, ...

# Problems in deconvolution

- two images with identical entropy



Starck et al. 2001

# Wavelet transform

- Fourier-based methods perform poorly when signal contains point sources or edges
  - base functions extend over the whole space
- wavelet transform promises to be a good alternative
  - base functions are wavelets that are localized in both real and frequency space
  - data is presented as a sum of wavelets that are scaled and translated
  - presentation is hierarchical, each level describing the structures at one particular scale

# Wavelet transform

- original signal  $s$  is decomposed into a coarse image  $c_j$  and wavelet bands  $w_j$ ,  $j=1, \dots, J$ 
  - $J$  is the number of scales used
- the coarse image corresponds to frequencies  $< (1/2)^J$  and each wavelet band to frequencies  $[ (1/2)^{j+1}, (1/2)^j ]$
- the decomposition is calculated using low- and high pass filters  $h$  and  $g$

$$c_{j+1,l} = \sum_k h(k-2l) c_{j,k}$$

$$w_{j+1,l} = \sum_k g(k-2l) c_{j,k}$$

- filters are derived from the wavelet function



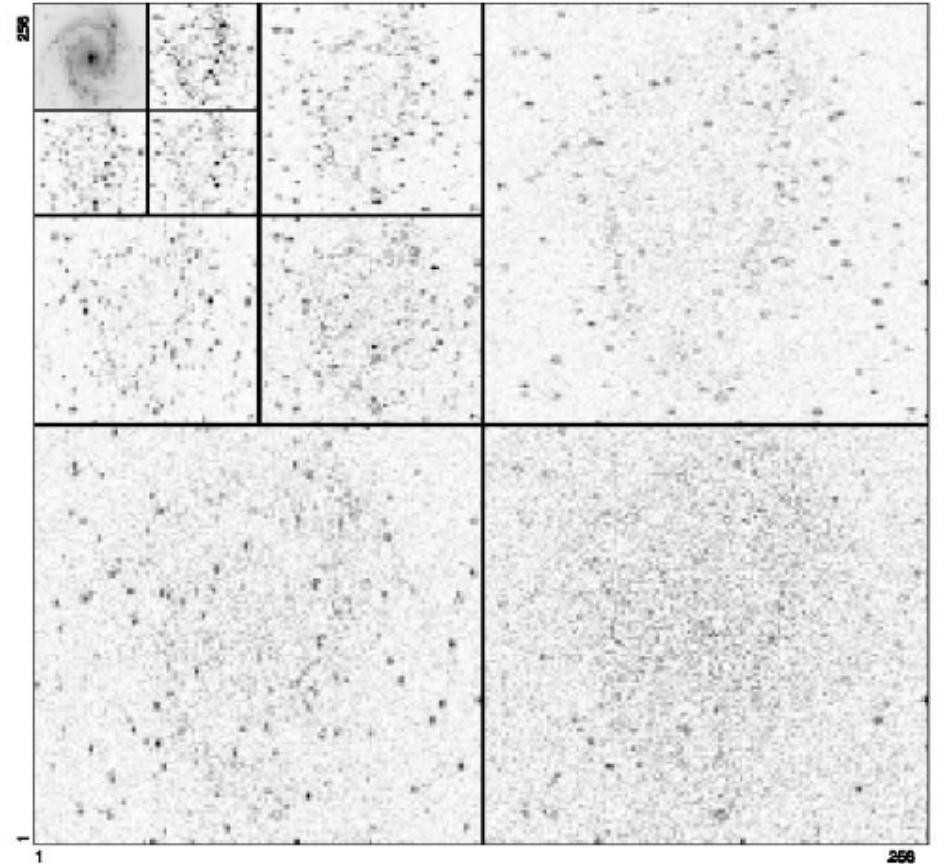
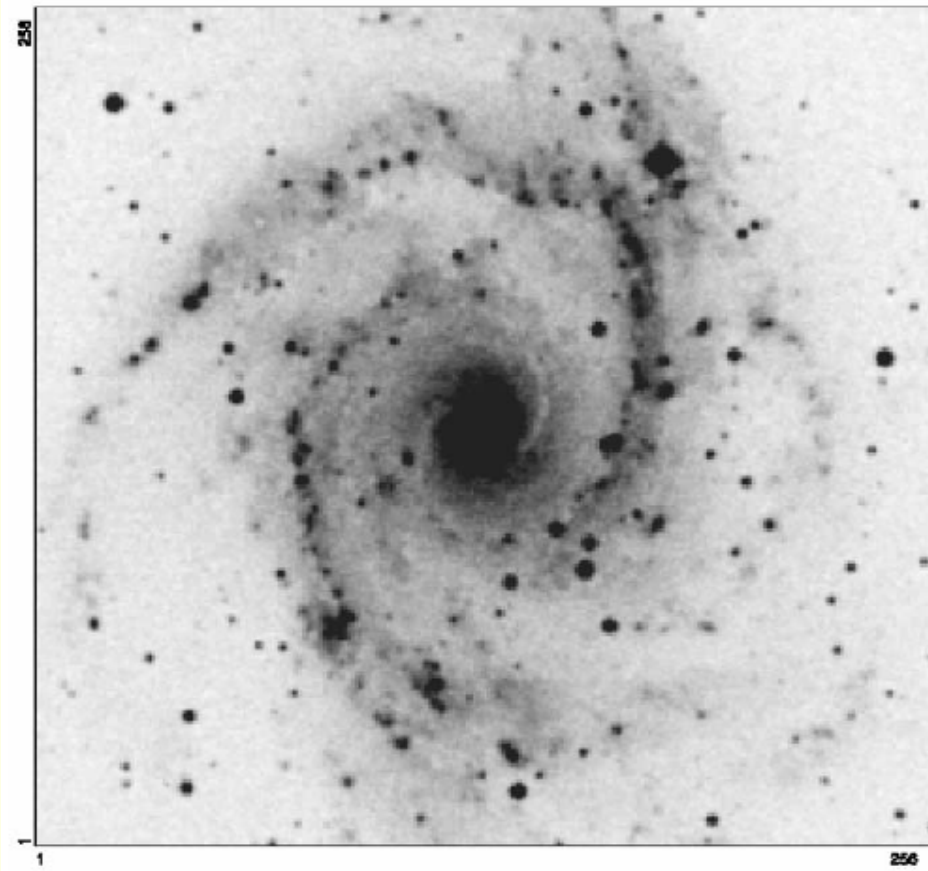
# Wavelet transform

- for 2D images there are three wavelets, one horizontal, one vertical, and one diagonal
  - three wavelet images on each resolution level
  - total number of pixels same as in the original data

$f^{(2)}$	H. D. $j=2$	Horiz. Det. $j = 1$	Horizontal Details $j = 0$
V. D. $j=2$	D. D. $j=2$		
Vert. Det. $j = 1$	Diag. Det. $j = 1$		
Vertical Details $j = 0$		Diagonal Details $j = 0$	

# Wavelet transform

- NGC 2997



Starck, Pantin, Murtagh (2002)

# Wavelet transform

- deconvolution can be done by first applying inverse filter  $H^{-1}$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{H}^{-1}(u, v) &= 1/\tilde{H}(u, v) \\ F &= H^{-1} * D + H^{-1} * N = I + Z \end{aligned}$$

- in  $F$  the noise  $Z$  is still normally distributed, and may be **amplified**
- the wavelet transformation of  $F$  is **thresholded** and inverse transformation provides the result
  - thresholding sets small wavelet coefficients (=noise) to zero
- **wavelet-vaguelette** method (Donoho -95)

# Wavelet transform

- Neelamani (1999, 2001) **hybrid scheme**

- regularization still done in Fourier domain through a window function  $W$

$$\tilde{W} = \frac{|\tilde{H}|^2}{|\tilde{H}|^2 + \lambda \sigma^2 / \tilde{S}}$$

- $S$  is the noise power spectrum !
- the windowed function  $F$  is

$$F = W * H^{-1} * D + W * H^{-1} * N$$

- parameter  $\lambda$  should be small
- remaining noise eliminated with wavelet transform (eliminates Gibbs oscillations)
- positivity constraint not used

# Wavelet transform

- some problems of the previous approach
  - determination of the regularization parameter  $\lambda$  is not trivial
  - positivity constraint is not used at all
  - the power spectrum of noise is usually unknown
  - restricted to the case of Gaussian noise

# Wavelet regularization

- in iterative deconvolution the residual at a particular iteration is

$$R^{(n)}(x, y) = D(x, y) - (H * I^{(n)})(x, y)$$

- using a wavelet algorithm the residuals can be written as sum of last smooth array and wavelets at  $J$  scales

$$R^{(n)}(x, y) = c_J(x, y) + \sum_{j=1}^J w_{j, x, y}$$

... but a large part of  $w_{j, x, y}$  may be just noise

# Wavelet regularization

- need to separate *significant* structures from noise
- define **multiresolution support**  $M$  as

$$M(j, x, y) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } w_j(x, y) \text{ significant} \\ 0, & \text{if } w_j(x, y) \text{ insignificant} \end{cases}$$

- coefficient is significant if  $P(|w| > w_{j,x,y}) < \epsilon$
  - for Gaussian noise, e.g.,  $w > 3\sigma_j$
  - one can include a source mask in  $M$
- one can write 'noiseless' residual

$$\bar{R}^{(n)}(x, y) = c_J(x, y) + \sum_{j=1}^J M(j, x, y) w_{j,x,y}$$

# Wavelet regularization

- with the previous definition one can transform a simple iteration (van Cittert)

$$I^{(n+1)}(x, y) = I^{(n)}(x, y) + \alpha R^{(n)}(x, y)$$

into a more stable scheme

$$I^{(n+1)}(x, y) = I^{(n)}(x, y) + \alpha \bar{R}^{(n)}(x, y)$$

- only statistically significant structures are carried over to the reconstructed image
  - final result is the restored image and residuals that are pure noise ( $R=N$ )
- **regularization by significant structures**



# Wavelet regularization

- the same can be applied similarly to the Richardson-Lucy algorithm

$$I^{(n+1)} = I^{(n)} \left( \frac{D}{H * I^{(n)}} * H^* \right)$$

- setting  $D^{(n)}$  as noiseless data

$$D(x, y) = D^{(n)}(x, y) + R^{(n)}(x, y) \quad D^{(n)}(x, y) = (H * I^{(n)})(x, y)$$

the regularized version becomes

$$I^{(n+1)} = I^{(n)} \left( \frac{D^{(n)} + \bar{R}^{(n)}}{D^{(n)}} * H^* \right)$$

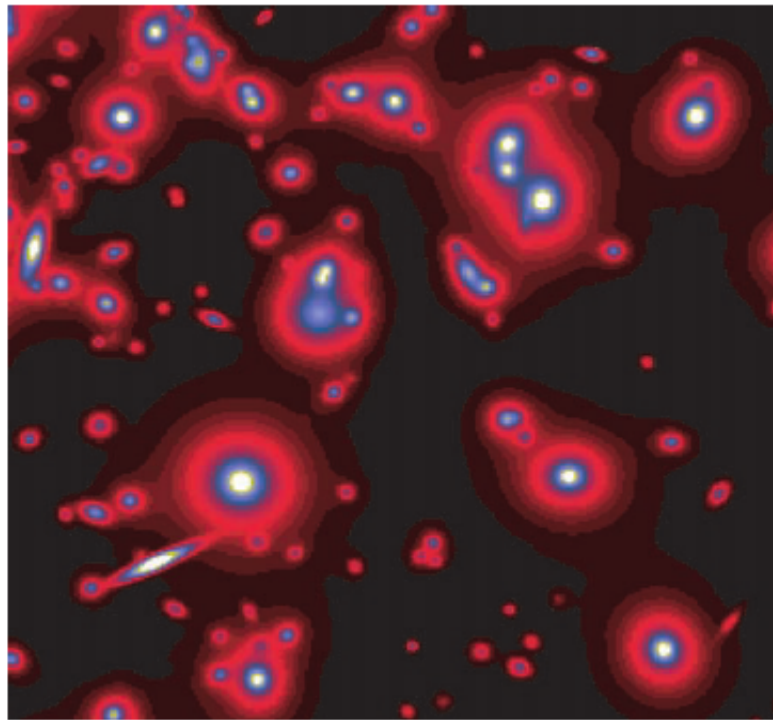
# Wavelet regularization

- the basic idea of the **Pixon** method is somewhat similar to the 'regularization using significant structures'
  - **not** based on wavelets; see Dixon et al. 1996
  - data modelled as a sum of pseudo-images that are smoothed with spatially varying scale
  - final image consists of a dictionary of features
    - +weak regularization for strong features
    - if feature cannot be detected directly from data, it is strongly regularized as part of the background

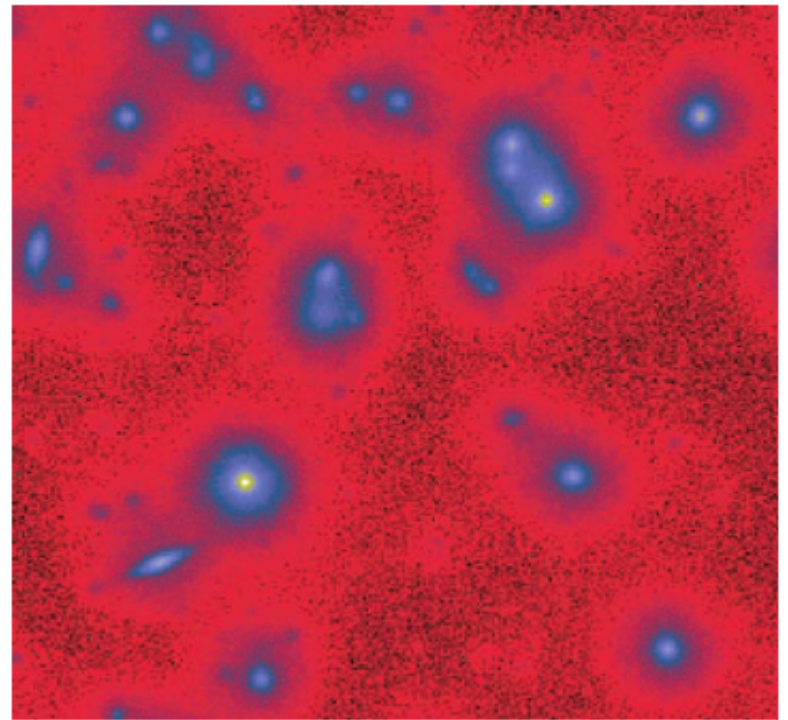
# Wavelet regularization

- simulation of galaxy cluster observed with Hubble Wide Field Camera

original: no noise, no aberration



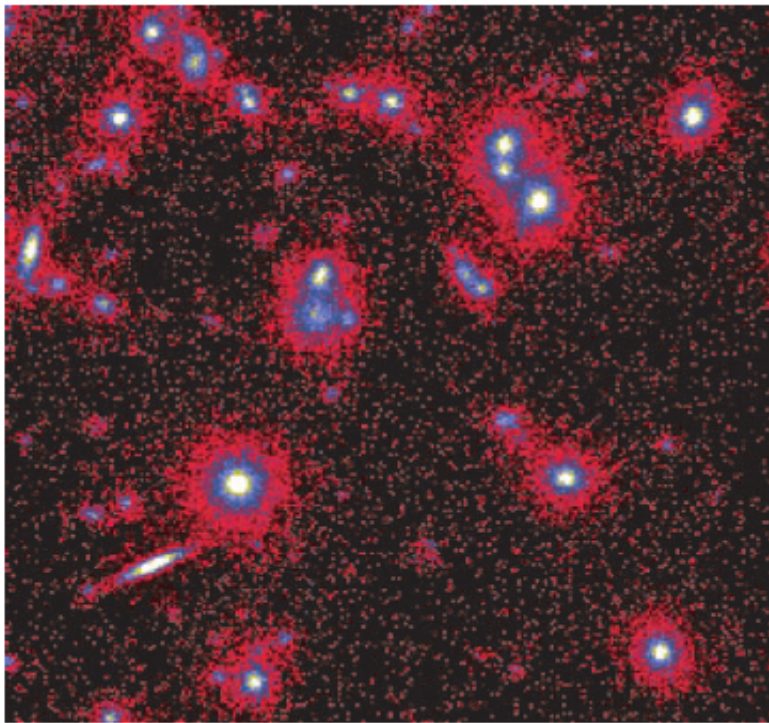
'observed': aberrated and noisy



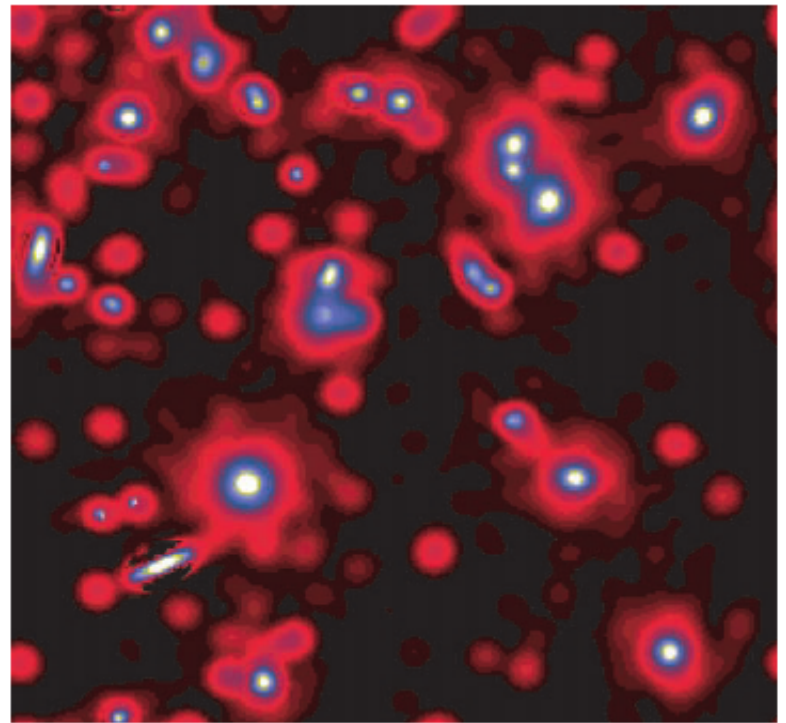
Starck, Pantin, Murtagh (2002)

# Wavelet regularization

Richardson-Lucy



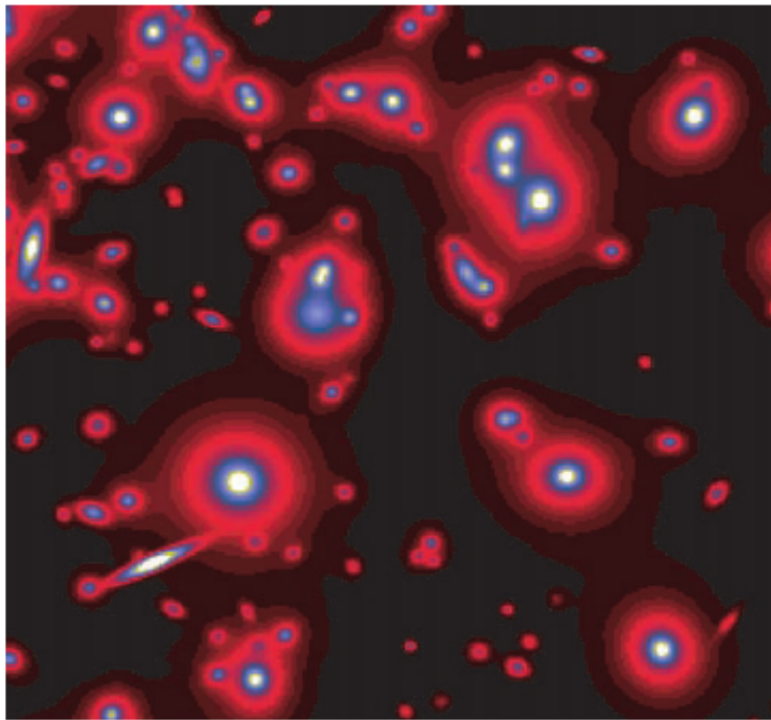
Pixon method



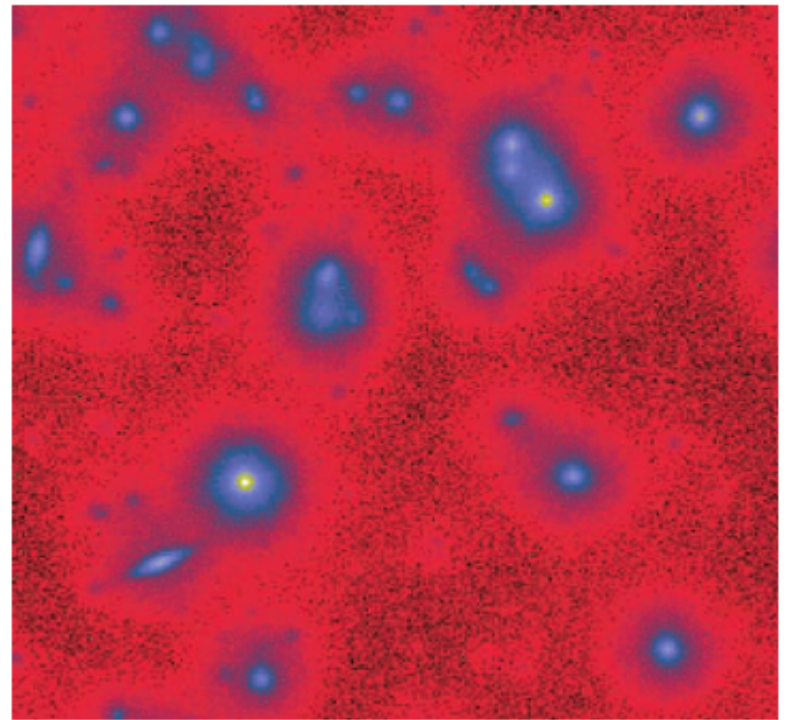


# Wavelet regularization

original: no noise, no aberration

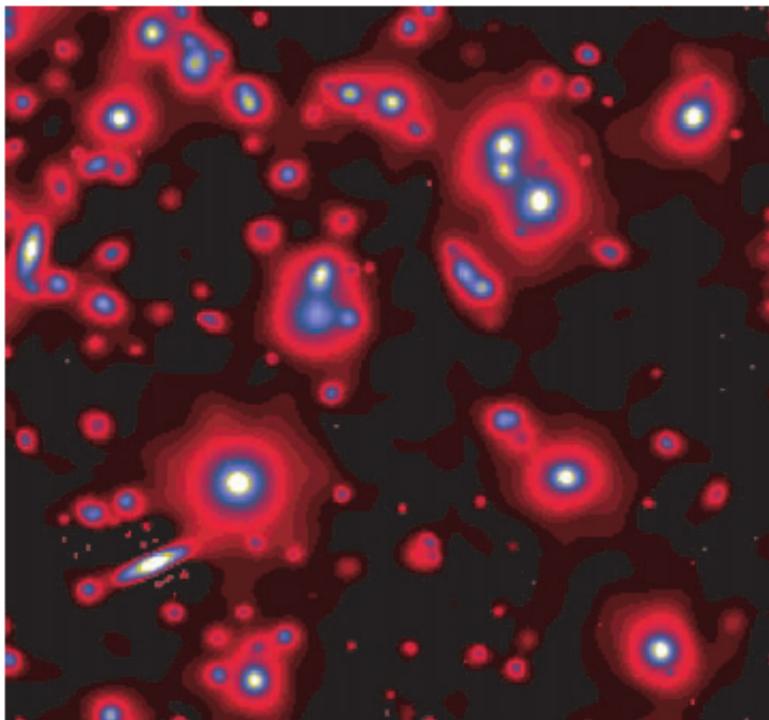


'observed': aberrated and noisy

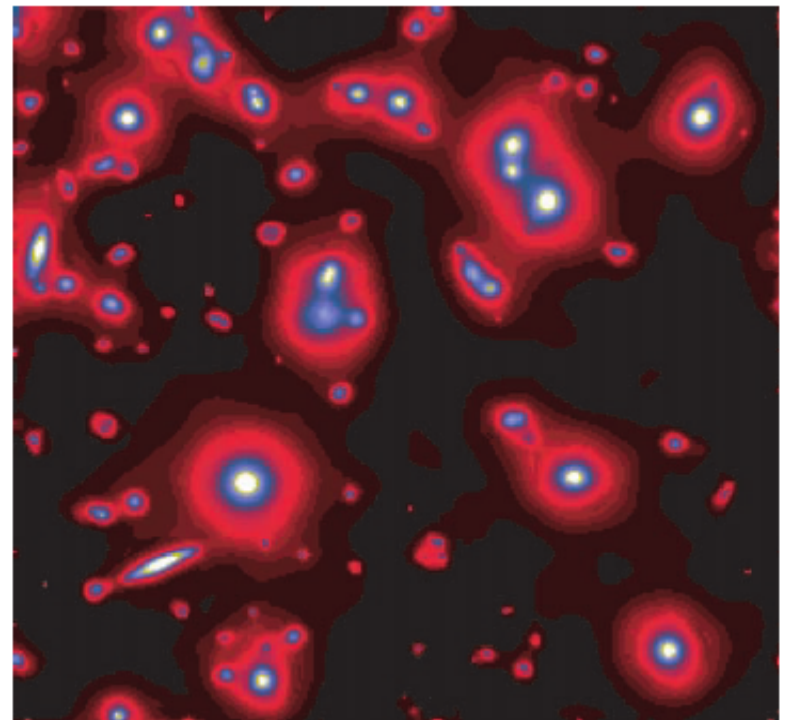


# Wavelet regularization

wavelette-vaguelette



wavelet-Lucy



# Wavelet regularization

- conclusions from the previous test
  - Richardson-Lucy amplifies the noise; some of the fainter objects disappear
  - in Pixon method the pixon features are identified from noisy (partially deconvolved data): strong sources are weakly regularized (=good), weak sources suppressed (=bad)
  - wavelet-vaguelette is very fast; results better than with the previous methods
  - wavelet-Lucy produced best results (fewer spurious sources)

# Wavelet CLEAN

- CLEANing
  - consisted of repeated subtraction of strongest *point* sources
  - results were not good for diffuse emission
- MRC CLEAN (Walker & Schwartz 1988)
  - build a smoothed image and the difference between original and the smoothed image
  - apply CLEAN separately to both images
  - result is the sum of processed maps



# Wavelet CLEAN

- in wavelet CLEAN the procedure is generalized to many scales (Starck 1998)
  - calculate wavelet transformations of the image, the PSF and the CLEAN beam
  - on each level, apply CLEAN using scale  $j$  of image and PSF transformations
  - construct result image using the wavelet transformation of the CLEAN beam



# Multiscale entropy

- image  $I(x,y)$  is decomposed into a smooth image  $c_{np}(x,y)$  and a set of wavelet coefficients  $w_j(x,y)$ 
  - index  $j$  refers to the scale,  $j=1, \dots, n_p$
  - original image is  $I(x,y) = c_{np}(x,y) + \sum_{j=1}^{np} w_j(x,y)$
  - $w_j$  are calculated as the difference between the last smoothed plane and an image obtained with a low pass filter

$$c_j(k) = \sum_l h(l) c_{j-1}(k + 2^{j-1} l)$$

$$w_j(k) = c_{j-1}(k) - c_j(k)$$

# Multiscale entropy

- entropy is related to the sum of information on each scale
- in wavelet transformation information is related to the probability that individual wavelet coefficients are caused by noise

$$S = - \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{k=1}^{N_j} \ln p(w_{j,k})$$

- minimize

$$J = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^N \left[ \frac{D_k - (H * I)_k}{\sigma} \right]^2 \pm \alpha S$$

# Multiscale entropy

– for Gaussian noise

$$S = \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{k=1}^{N_j} s(w_{j,k})$$

where

$$s(w_{j,k}) = \frac{w_{j,k}^2}{2\sigma_j^2} + \textit{constant}$$

- $s_j$  is again the noise in the wavelet coefficients at the level  $j$
- the constant term does not affect the maximization
- entropy  $\sim$  information  $\Rightarrow$  with the above definition smooth solution requires **minimization** of entropy

# Multiscale entropy

- in Starck & Pantin (1996) multiscale entropy is defined

$$S_m = \frac{1}{\sigma_I} \sum_{scales\ j} \sum_{pixels} \sigma_j \left[ w_j(x, y) - m_j - |w_j(x, y)| \ln \frac{|w_j(x, y)|}{m_j} \right]$$

- in the absence of signal the wavelet coefficients at level  $j$  approach  $m_j$  – this should be small compared with any real signal, i.e., a small fraction of the noise
- the noise  $\sigma_j$  acts as a weighting factor of the different scales
- entropy **maximized**

# Multiscale entropy

- multiresolution support
  - images at all wavelets scales, with pixel value TRUE if some information is present at given scale and location (hard threshold, 'hard weighting')
- 1. calculate wavelet transform of image  $I(x,y)$
- 2. estimate  $\sigma$  of the scale and set a threshold value for the significance (e.g.  $3\sigma$ )
- 3. multiresolution support  $M(j,x,y)$  is

$$M(j, x, y) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } w_j(x, y) \geq k \sigma_j \\ 0, & \text{if } w_j(x, y) < k \sigma_j \end{cases}$$

# Multiscale entropy

- the aim
  - to reconstruct significant structures (where we have enough signal) without strong regularization
  - to eliminate noise (strong regularization)
- new definition for multiscale entropy

$$S_m = \frac{1}{\sigma_I} \sum_{scales\ j} \sum_{pixels} [1 - M(j, x, y)] \sigma_j \left[ w_j(x, y) - m_j - |w_j(x, y)| \ln \frac{|w_j(x, y)|}{m_j} \right]$$

- entropy is calculated only for scales and regions with low signal-to-noise ratio



# Multiscale entropy

- previous  $M$  can be replaced with a continuous function going from 0 to 1
  - $M \sim 1 \Rightarrow$  weak regularization
  - $M \sim 0 \Rightarrow$  strong regularization
- the values  $\sigma_j$  can be obtained from simulations
  - create noise image with  $\sigma=1$  and do wavelet transform
  - calculate standard deviations of wavelet coefficients at each scale,  $\sigma_j^e$
  - $\sigma_j = \sigma_1 \sigma_j^e$

# Multiscale entropy

- image noise  $\sigma_I$ 
  - estimated from the difference of the image and average filtered image
  - e.g. in the case of CCD images one should disregard the high noise borders
    - look at the intensity histogram
  - estimate can be improved iteratively, using the wavelet transformation
    - calculate multiresolution support and re-estimate noise from pixels  $M \sim 0$

# Multiscale entropy

- for minimization of

$$J = \sum_{pixels} \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{D - H * I}{\sigma_I} \right)^2 - \alpha S_{ms}(I)$$

Starck & Pantin (1996) used the gradient

$$\nabla J = -H * \left[ \frac{D - H * I}{\sigma_I^2} + \frac{\alpha}{\sigma_I} \sum_{scale\ j} \left[ [1 - M(j)] \sigma_j \operatorname{sgn}(w_j^{(0)}) \ln \left( \frac{|w_j^{(0)}|}{m_j} \right) \right] * \Psi_j \right]$$

and steepest descent  $I^{n+1} = I^n - \gamma \nabla J(I^n)$

- above  $\Psi_j$  is the wavelet at scale  $j$

# Multiscale entropy

- the parameter  $\alpha$  is fixed by the noise behaviour of the wavelet transform
  - determination far from straightforward
  - depends on the requirement of smoothness

# Multiscale entropy

- Starck et al. (2001)
  - the coefficient  $w$  is partly due to signal ( $S_S$ ), partly due to noise ( $S_N$ )
    - small coefficients are noise and contribute to  $S_N$
    - large coefficients contribute mostly to  $S_S$
  - one might want to minimize

$$J = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^N \left[ \frac{D_k - (P * I)_k}{\sigma} \right]^2 + \alpha S_N(I)$$

- in the solution minimize the information that is *due to the noise*

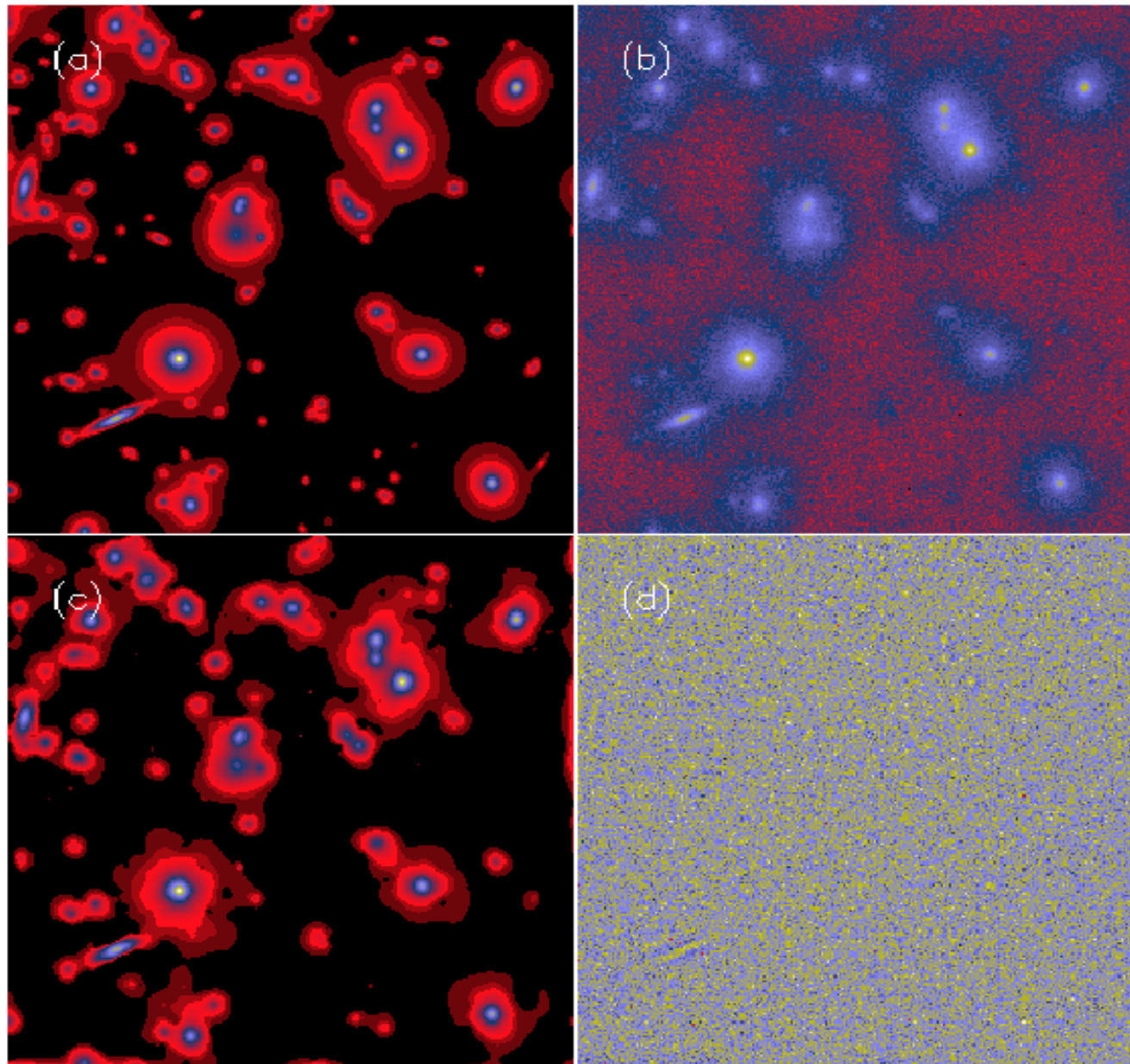
# Multiscale entropy

- the minimized function can be generalized as

$$J = S_S(D - P * I) + \alpha S_N(I)$$

- minimize signal contribution to the information in the residuals
  - minimize the noise contribution to the information in the solution
- both hard and soft weighting were studied, with and without the regularizing term

# Multiscale entropy



- a) original
- b) blurred and with Gaussian noise
- c) de-convolved image
- d) residuals

Starck et al. (2001)

# Multiscale entropy

- multiscale entropy can be used to test presence of undetected sources
  - with  $h(w_{j,k}) = -\ln[p(w_{j,k})]$ , calculate mean entropy of each scale  $j$

$$E(j) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^{N_j} s(w_{j,k})$$

- for assumed noise model, calculate normalized mean entropy

$$E_n(j) = \frac{E(j)}{E^{(noise)}(j)}$$

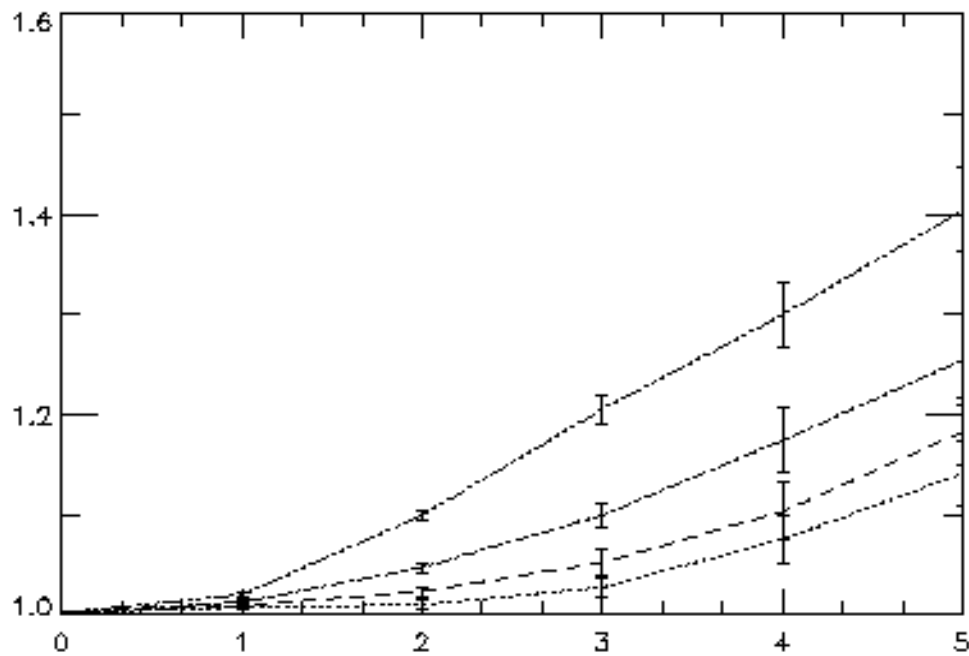
- $E^{(noise)}$  can be calculated ... at least with simulations



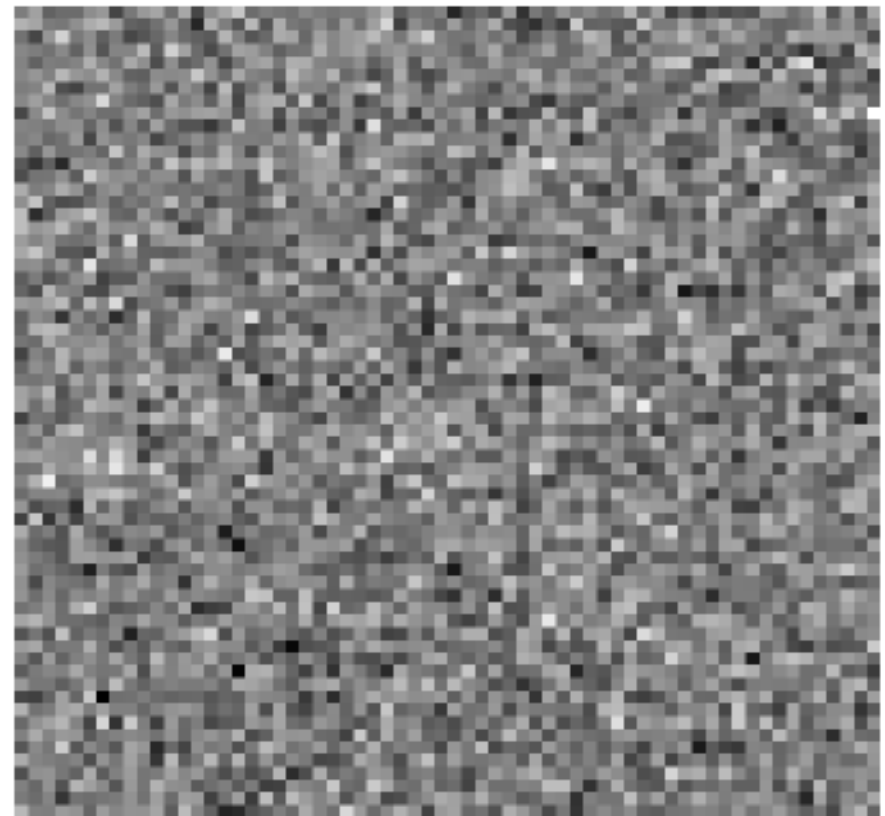
# Multiscale entropy

- plot normalized entropy as the function of scale
  - weak sources increase entropy at small scales, even when individual objects cannot be detected
- simulation (Starck 2001):
- 0, 50, 100, 200, or 400 sources with maximum equal to noise  $\sigma$  and source standard deviation 2

# Multiscale entropy



**Fig. 9.** Mean entropy versus the scale of 5 simulated images containing undetectable sources and noise. Each curve corresponds to the multiscale transform of one image. From top to bottom, the image contains respectively 400, 200, 100, 50 and 0 sources



**Fig. 10.** Region of a simulated image containing an undetectable source at the center

# Superresolution

- superresolution means resolution better than the beam size (diffraction limit)
- two conditions
  - space-bandwidth product (SBP) is no more than  $\sim 1$ 
    - SBP is approximately the ratio between source diameter and the diffraction limit
    - $\Rightarrow$  source must be small
  - good signal to noise ratio (SNR)

# Superresolution

- method requires *some* information about the source model
  - flux of the reconstructed object is concentrated within a smaller area
  - restoration is stable, if the total flux of the object is constrained
  - even non-negativity of the MEM can produce superresolution (of 'nearly black objects')
  - Richardson-Lucy implements both non-negativity and flux conservation

# Superresolution

- data is kept at original resolution
- model and the PSF are sampled at higher resolution
- for example, in the case of MAP Poisson algorithm

$$I^{(n+1)} = I^{(n)} \exp \left\{ \left( \frac{D}{(H * I^{(n)})_{\downarrow}} - 1 \right)_{\uparrow} * H * \right\}$$

- oversampling = ' $\uparrow$ ', down-sampling = ' $\downarrow$ '

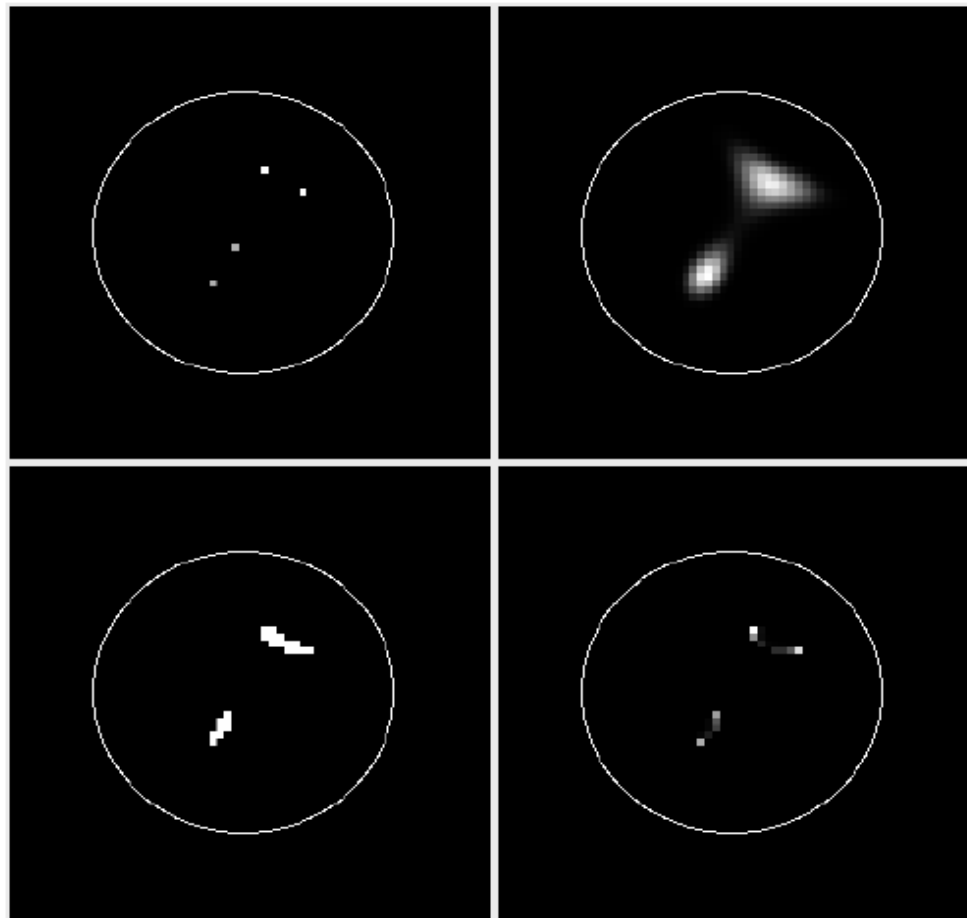
# Superresolution

- PSF undersampled but observations are made with small shifts => deconvolved image can be reconstructed on finer grid
  - co-adding of frames on fine grid: operator  $L_{\uparrow}$
  - estimation of  $k^{th}$  observation from  $L_{\uparrow}D$ : operator  $L_{\downarrow}^{-1}$
  - Landweber iteration becomes
$$I^{(n+1)} = I^{(n)} + \alpha H * \left[ L_{\uparrow} (D - L_{\downarrow}^{-1} (H * I^{(n)})) \right]$$
    - PSF function  $H$  is needed at the fine resolution

# Superresolution

- example: Anconelli (2005)
  1. apply Richardson-Lucy
  2. if stars are resolved, go to step 3. Otherwise
    1. define domain  $D$  where source intensity above threshold
    2. apply RL to that domain
    3. if stars are separated, positions are obtained as the feature centroids
  3. fit a least squares model (sum of psf's)
    - ... in case feature still contains several stars

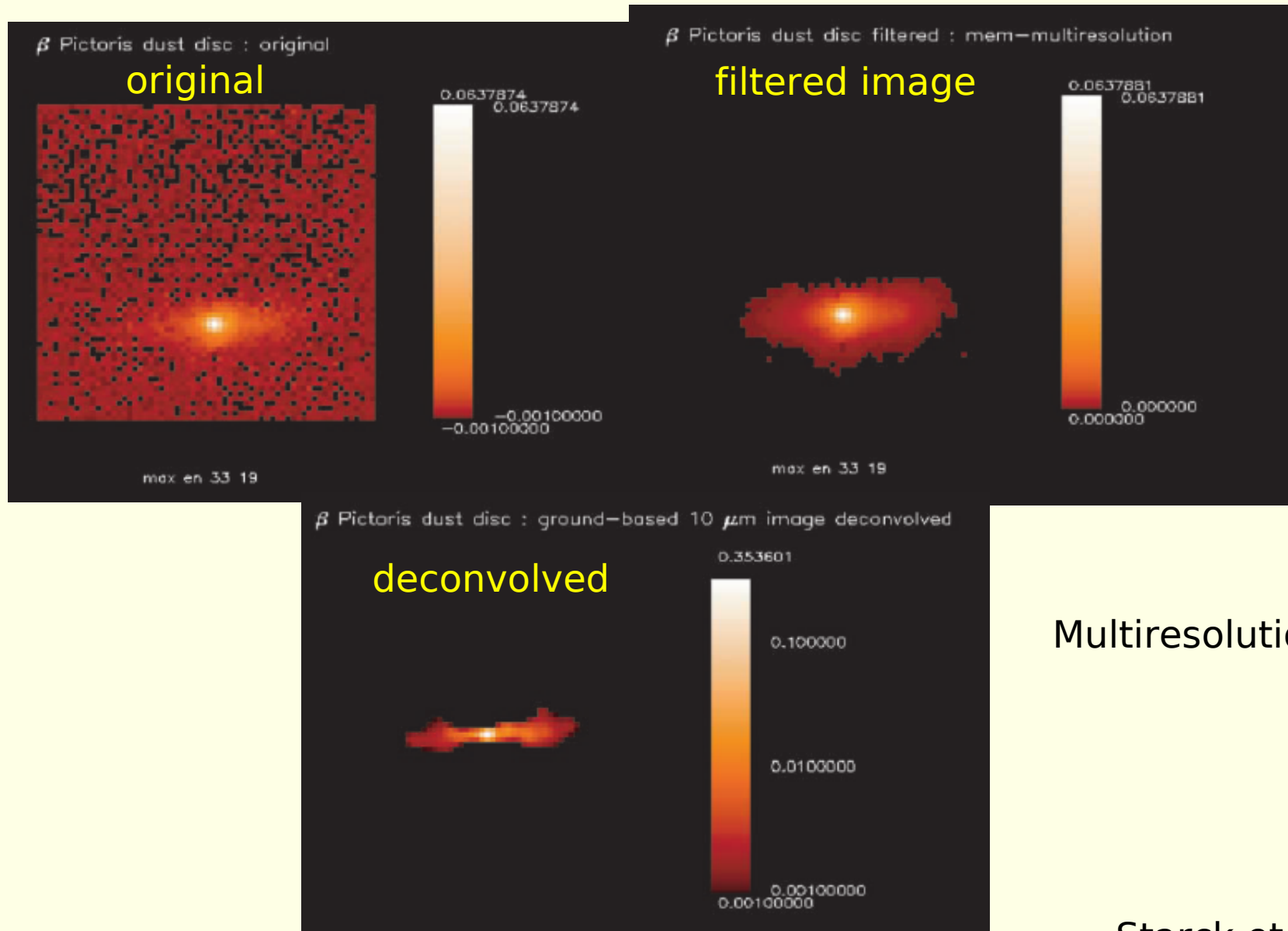
# Superresolution



**Fig. 1.** *Upper-left panel:* the object; *upper-right:* the reconstruction after 1000 OS-EM iterations (first step); *lower-left:* the mask obtained with a thresholding of the previous reconstruction (50% of the maximum value); *lower-right:* the restoration after 1000 OS-EM iterations, initialized with the previous mask (second step). The diameter of the circle shown in each picture is  $\lambda/B$ .



# Superresolution



Multiresolution MEM

Starck et al. 2002

# Program packages

- IRAF/STSDAS
  - Lucy (PLucy?); `lucy`
  - maximum entropy: `mem`
- Starlink, package *Kappa*
  - Wiener filtering
  - Richardson-Lucy
  - maximum entropy

# Program packages

- MIDAS
  - core commands
    - DECONVOLVE/IMAGE frame psf result [no\_iter] [cont\_flag]  
-
  - package surfphot
    - REBIN/DECONVOLVE frame psf result, zoom\_x, zoom\_y, n\_iter  
-

# Program packages

- Midas ctd.
  - package wavelet
    - FILTER/WAVE
      - thresholding, multiresolution Wiener filtering
    - GRAD/WAVE
      - deconvolution by regularized one step algorithm
    - LUCY/WAVE
      - wavelet Lucy
    - DIRECT/WAVE
      - multiresolution Tikhonov, regularization term  $\gamma_j \|w_j\|^2$
    - CITTERT/WAVE
      - van Cittert + multiresolution support

# Program packages

- MR/1-2 by Starck & Murtagh
  - commercial program ([www.multiresolution.com](http://www.multiresolution.com))
  - free version restricted to max 256x256 images
  - standard deconvolution methods (MEM, Lucy, Landweber, MAP, ...)
  - wavelet based methods
    - including multiresolution MEM

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