• A two element interferometer

Astronomical Techniques II : Lecture 6

Ruta Kale

Low Frequency Radio Astronomy (Chp. 4) http://www.ncra.tifr.res.in/ncra/gmrt/gmrt-users/low-frequency-radio-astronomy

Synthesis imaging in radio astronomy II, Chp 2

Interferometry and synthesis in radio astronomy (Chp 2)

Two element interferometer in practice



Extended source

Consider a source at s_o with some đ small extent. Any point on the source can be written as dΩ $s = s_0 + \sigma$ ŝ $s_0 \sigma = 0$ $\tau_{a} = s_{0}.b$ From van Cittert Zernike theorem: $r(\tau_g) = Re \left[\int I(\mathbf{s}) e^{\frac{-i2\pi \mathbf{s}.\mathbf{b}}{\lambda}} d\mathbf{s} \right]$ $s.b = s_0.b + \sigma.b$ $= Re \left[e^{\frac{-i2\pi\mathbf{s_0.b}}{\lambda}} \int I(\mathbf{s}) e^{\frac{-i2\pi\sigma.\mathbf{b}}{\lambda}} d\mathbf{s} \right]$ $\mathcal{V} = |\mathcal{V}|e^{-i\Phi_{\mathcal{V}}}$ $= |\mathcal{V}|\cos(2\pi\nu\tau_q + \Phi_{\mathcal{V}})$ where

Extended source

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Only contains the variation of the fringe as a function of earth's rotation or source rise-set. If an equal delay is introduced in the signals' path we will have:

$$r(\tau_g) = |\mathcal{V}| \cos(\Phi_{\mathcal{V}})$$

This instrumental delay has to change continuously as τ_a changes: *delay tracking*

Extended source

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 $r(\tau_g) = |\mathcal{V}| \cos(\Phi_{\mathcal{V}})$

While τ_{g} is in RF the delay tracking is in baseband and thus needs to be properly accounted.

have:

Two element interferometer: multiplying



 $\tau_g = b \sin(\theta)/c$



$$r(\tau_g) = |\mathcal{V}|\cos(2\pi\nu\tau_g + \Phi_{\mathcal{V}})$$

where

$$= |\mathcal{V}|e^{-i\Phi_{\mathcal{V}}}$$

 \mathcal{V}



Interferometer in practice including compensation for the geometric delay: delay correction



Basic interferometer

Interferometer in practice including compensation for the geometric delay: delay correction



 $\langle V_1(t)V_2(t)\rangle$

$$V_1(t) = v_1 \cos 2\pi\nu (t - \tau_g)$$
$$V_2(t) = v_2 \cos 2\pi\nu t$$

$$r(\tau_g) = v_1 v_2 \cos 2\pi \nu \tau_g$$

We would like to express the interferometer output in terms of brightness integrated over the sky.



$$\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{s}_0 + oldsymbol{\sigma}$$

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I(s) is the brightness in the direction s at frequency ν W Hz^{-1} m^{-2} sr^{-1}



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I(s) is the brightness in the direction s at frequency ν $$W~Hz^{-1}~m^{-2}~sr^{-1}$$

The total power received in a bandwidth $\Delta\nu$ from a source element d\Omega is

 $A(s)I(s)\Delta v d\Omega$

A(s) is the effective collecting area of the antennas in the direction s



 $\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{s}_0 + \boldsymbol{\sigma}$

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 $dr = A(\mathbf{s})I(\mathbf{s})\Delta\nu d\Omega\cos 2\pi\nu\tau_g$



$$\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{s}_0 + oldsymbol{\sigma}$$

13 Source is in the far field and is spatially incoherent.

 $\langle V_1(t)V_2(t)\rangle$

$$V_1(t) = v_1 \cos 2\pi\nu (t - \tau_g)$$

 $r(\tau_q) = v_1 v_2 \cos 2\pi \nu \tau_q$.

 $V_2(t) = v_2 \cos 2\pi \nu t$

$$dr = A(\mathbf{s})I(\mathbf{s})\Delta\nu\,d\Omega\cos 2\pi\nu\tau_g$$

$$r = \Delta \nu \int_{S} A(\mathbf{s}) I(\mathbf{s}) \cos \frac{2\pi \nu \, \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{s}}{c} d\Omega$$

Integral taken over the entire sphere – however field of view, source structure restrict this to a small region.



$$\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{s}_0 + oldsymbol{\sigma}$$

$$r = \Delta \nu \int_{S} A(\mathbf{s}) I(\mathbf{s}) \cos \frac{2\pi \nu \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{s}}{c} d\Omega$$

$$s_{0} \text{ is the phase tracking centre}$$

$$\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{s}_{0} + \boldsymbol{\sigma}$$

$$r = \Delta \nu \cos\left(\frac{2\pi\nu \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{s}_0}{c}\right) \int_S A(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) I(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \cos\frac{2\pi\nu \mathbf{b} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}}{c} d\Omega$$
$$- \Delta \nu \sin\left(\frac{2\pi\nu \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{s}_0}{c}\right) \int_S A(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) I(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \sin\frac{2\pi\nu \mathbf{b} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}}{c} d\Omega$$

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Introducing visibility:

$$V \equiv |V|e^{i\phi_V} = \int_S \mathcal{A}(\boldsymbol{\sigma})I(\boldsymbol{\sigma})e^{-2\pi i\nu\mathbf{b}\cdot\boldsymbol{\sigma}/c}\,d\Omega$$

$$r = \Delta \nu \cos\left(\frac{2\pi\nu \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{s}_{0}}{c}\right) \int_{S} A(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) I(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \cos\frac{2\pi\nu \mathbf{b} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}}{c} d\Omega$$
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 $\mathcal{A}(\sigma) \equiv A(\sigma)/A_0$ Normalized antenna reception pattern. A₀ is the reception pattern at the beam centre

Writing real and imaginary parts separately gives:

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \Delta\nu\cos\left(\frac{2\pi\nu\,\mathbf{b}\cdot\mathbf{s}_0}{c}\right)\int_S A(\boldsymbol{\sigma})I(\boldsymbol{\sigma})\cos\frac{2\pi\nu\,\mathbf{b}\cdot\boldsymbol{\sigma}}{c}\,d\Omega\\ &- \Delta\nu\sin\left(\frac{2\pi\nu\,\mathbf{b}\cdot\mathbf{s}_0}{c}\right)\int_S A(\boldsymbol{\sigma})I(\boldsymbol{\sigma})\sin\frac{2\pi\nu\,\mathbf{b}\cdot\boldsymbol{\sigma}}{c}\,d\Omega\\ \mathcal{A}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \equiv A(\boldsymbol{\sigma})/A_0 \end{aligned}$$
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$$A_0|V|\cos\phi_V = \int_S A(\boldsymbol{\sigma})I(\boldsymbol{\sigma})\cos\frac{2\pi\nu\,\mathbf{b}\cdot\boldsymbol{\sigma}}{c}\,d\Omega \qquad \text{Real}$$
$$A_0|V|\sin\phi_V = -\int_S A(\boldsymbol{\sigma})I(\boldsymbol{\sigma})\sin\frac{2\pi\nu\,\mathbf{b}\cdot\boldsymbol{\sigma}}{c}\,d\Omega \qquad \text{Imaginary}$$

$$r = \Delta\nu\cos\left(\frac{2\pi\nu\,\mathbf{b}\cdot\mathbf{s}_{0}}{c}\right)\int_{S}A(\boldsymbol{\sigma})I(\boldsymbol{\sigma})\cos\frac{2\pi\nu\,\mathbf{b}\cdot\boldsymbol{\sigma}}{c}\,d\Omega$$
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c

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$$r = A_0 \Delta \nu |V| \cos \left(\frac{2\pi\nu \,\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{s}_0}{c} - \phi_V\right)$$

Amplitude and phase of the fringe is measured and then amplitude and phase of V are derived after calibration. Source brightness then derived by inversion of V.

$$r = \Delta \nu \cos\left(\frac{2\pi\nu \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{s}_0}{c}\right) \int_S A(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) I(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \cos\frac{2\pi\nu \mathbf{b} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}}{c} d\Omega$$
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$$V \equiv |V|e^{i\phi_V} = \int_S \mathcal{A}(\boldsymbol{\sigma})I(\boldsymbol{\sigma})e^{-2\pi i\nu\mathbf{b}\cdot\boldsymbol{\sigma}/c}\,d\Omega$$

$$r = A_0 \Delta \nu |V| \cos \left(\frac{2\pi\nu \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{s}_0}{c} - \phi_V\right)$$

V needs to be measured at sufficiently wide range of $\nu \mathbf{b} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}/c$

$$r = A_0 \Delta \nu |V| \cos \left(\frac{2\pi\nu \,\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{s}_0}{c} - \phi_V\right)$$

Response in an infinitesimal bandwidth $d\nu$

$$dr = A_0 |V| \cos \left(2\pi\nu\tau_g - \phi_V\right) d\nu$$

$$r = A_0 \Delta \nu |V| \cos \left(\frac{2\pi \nu \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{s}_0}{c} - \phi_V\right)$$

Response in an infinitesimal bandwidth $d\nu$

$$dr = A_0 |V| \cos \left(2\pi\nu\tau_g - \phi_V\right) d\nu$$



$$\begin{aligned} r &= A_0 \Delta \nu |V| \cos \left(\frac{2\pi \nu \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{s}_0}{c} - \phi_V \right) & \text{Amplifier} \\ \text{Response in an infinitesimal bandwidth } d\nu \\ dr &= A_0 |V| \cos \left(2\pi \nu \tau_g - \phi_V \right) d\nu & \nu_0 \end{aligned}$$

$$r = A_0 |V| \int_{\nu_0 - \Delta\nu/2}^{\nu_0 + \Delta\nu/2} \cos \left(2\pi\nu\tau_g - \phi_V\right) \, d\nu$$

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Work this out.

sin(a+b) = sin(a) cos(b) + cos(a) sin(b)

$$\begin{split} r &= A_0 \Delta \nu |V| \cos \left(\frac{2\pi \nu \, \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{s}_0}{c} - \phi_V \right) \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Amplifier} \\ \text{Response} \\ \\ dr &= A_0 |V| \cos \left(2\pi \nu \tau_g - \phi_V \right) \, d\nu \\ \end{split} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Amplifier} \\ \text{Response} \\ \\ \hline \\ \nu_0 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Frequency} \\ \end{array} \end{split}$$

$$r = A_0 |V| \int_{\nu_0 - \Delta\nu/2}^{\nu_0 + \Delta\nu/2} \cos \left(2\pi\nu\tau_g - \phi_V\right) \, d\nu$$

$$= A_0 |V| \Delta \nu \frac{\sin \pi \Delta \nu \tau_g}{\pi \Delta \nu \tau_g} \cos \left(2\pi \nu_0 \tau_g - \phi_V\right)$$



Modifies the fringe amplitude – maximum only when geometric delay is zero.

$$r = A_0 |V| \Delta \nu \frac{\sin \pi \Delta \nu \tau_g}{\pi \Delta \nu \tau_g} \cos \left(2\pi \nu_0 \tau_g - \phi_V\right)$$

Instructive to calculate at what angular offset the fringe amplitude fall for e. g. to 1% of its maximum. Use of the following approximation:

$$|\pi\Delta\nu\tau_g| \ll 1 \qquad \qquad \frac{\sin\pi\Delta\nu\tau_g}{\pi\Delta\nu\tau_g} \approx 1 - \frac{(\pi\Delta\nu\tau_g)^2}{6}$$

The geometric delay needs to be compensated in order to observe a source from rise to set.

RF converted to IF in a mixer and in one of the signals a delay to compensate the geometric delay is introduced.



Low noise amplifier – not shown here but is present before the mixer in low frequency systems.

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RF converted to IF in a mixer and in one of the signals a delay to compensate the geometric delay is introduced.



Low noise amplifier – not shown here but is present before the mixer in low frequency systems.

 $\nu_{\rm RF} = \nu_{\rm LO} \pm \nu_{\rm IF}$

Upper side band and lower side band.

Both can be processed further (*double sideband system*) or using filters only one may be taken – called a *single sideband system*.

We need to see the phase changes before reaching the input of the correlator.



$$\nu_{\rm RF} = \nu_{\rm LO} \pm \nu_{\rm IF}$$

For USB (single sideband system):

$$\phi_1 = 2\pi\nu_{\rm RF}\tau_g = 2\pi(\nu_{\rm LO} + \nu_{\rm IF})\tau_g$$

$$\phi_2 = 2\pi\nu_{\rm IF}\tau_i + \phi_{\rm LO}$$

Instrumental

delay that is

compensate

geometric

given to

for the

delay

Is the phase difference between the LO signal at the two mixers



LO provides a single frequency but the RF and IF have a bandwidth; Two sidebands

$$\nu_{\rm RF} = \nu_{\rm LO} \pm \nu_{\rm IF}$$

For USB:

$$\phi_1 = 2\pi
u_{
m RF} au_g = 2\pi (
u_{
m LO} +
u_{
m IF}) au_g$$



Obtain the response by replacing the argument of cosine function with $\phi_1 - \phi_2 - \phi_V$ and integrating over IF from $\nu_{\rm IF_0} - \Delta \nu/2$ to $\nu_{\rm IF_0} + \Delta \nu/2$

Recall
$$r = A_0 |V| \int_{\nu_0 - \Delta \nu/2}^{\nu_0 + \Delta \nu/2} \cos (2\pi \nu \tau_g - \phi_V) d\nu$$



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$$\nu_{\rm RF} = \nu_{\rm LO} \pm \nu_{\rm IF}$$

For USB:

$$\phi_1 = 2\pi\nu_{\rm RF}\tau_g = 2\pi(\nu_{\rm LO} + \nu_{\rm IF})\tau_g$$



Obtain the response by replacing the argument of cosine function wit $\phi_1 - \phi_2 - \phi_V$ and integrating over IF from $\nu_{\rm IF_0} - \Delta \nu/2$ to $\nu_{\rm IF_0} + \Delta \nu/2$

$$r_u = A_0 \Delta \nu |V| \frac{\sin \pi \Delta \nu \Delta \tau}{\pi \Delta \nu \Delta \tau} \cos[2\pi (\nu_{\rm LO} \tau_g + \nu_{\rm IF_0} \Delta \tau) - \phi_V - \phi_{\rm LO}]$$

 $\Delta au = au_g - au_i$ Tracking error of the compensating delay



$$\nu_{\rm RF} = \nu_{\rm LO} \pm \nu_{\rm IF}$$

For LSB

$$\phi_1 = -2\pi(
u_{
m LO} -
u_{
m IF})\tau_g$$

$$\phi_2 = 2\pi\nu_{\rm IF}\tau_i - \phi_{\rm LO}$$



$$r_l = A_0 \Delta \nu |V| \frac{\sin \pi \Delta \nu \Delta \tau}{\pi \Delta \nu \Delta \tau} \cos[2\pi (\nu_{\rm LO} \tau_g - \nu_{\rm IF_0} \Delta \tau) - \phi_V - \phi_{\rm LO}]$$

 $\Delta au = au_g - au_i$ Tracking error of the compensating delay

$$\nu_{\rm RF} = \nu_{\rm LO} \pm \nu_{\rm IF}$$

For a double sideband system:



$$r_{u} = A_{0}\Delta\nu|V|\frac{\sin\pi\Delta\nu\Delta\tau}{\pi\Delta\nu\Delta\tau}\cos[2\pi(\nu_{\rm LO}\tau_{g} + \nu_{\rm IF_{0}}\Delta\tau) - \phi_{V} - \phi_{\rm LO}] \qquad r_{l} = A_{0}\Delta\nu|V|\frac{\sin\pi\Delta\nu\Delta\tau}{\pi\Delta\nu\Delta\tau}\cos[2\pi(\nu_{\rm LO}\tau_{g} - \nu_{\rm IF_{0}}\Delta\tau) - \phi_{V} - \phi_{\rm LO}]$$

$$r_{d} = r_{u} + r_{l}$$

= $2\Delta\nu A_{0}|V|\frac{\sin(\pi\Delta\nu\Delta\tau)}{\pi\Delta\nu\Delta\tau}\cos(2\pi\nu_{\rm LO}\tau_{g} - \phi_{V} - \phi_{\rm LO})\cos(2\pi\nu_{\rm IF_{0}}\Delta\tau)$

 $\Delta au = au_g - au_i$ Tracking error of the compensating delay

Fringe rotation/stopping

$$r_u = A_0 \Delta \nu |V| \frac{\sin \pi \Delta \nu \Delta \tau}{\pi \Delta \nu \Delta \tau} \cos[2\pi (\nu_{\rm LO} \tau_g + \nu_{\rm IF_0} \Delta \tau) - \phi_V - \phi_{\rm LO}]$$

If the term $(2\pi\nu_{\rm LO}\tau_g - \phi_{\rm LO})$ can be kept constant then the output will vary with changes in V and slow drifts in the instrument.

The control of LO phase shift is referred to as fringe stopping or fringe rotation.

The phase shifter allows to have this control and thus is introduced in the system.



Complex correlator: briefly

To measure the complex fringe both the real and imaginary components need to be measured. The imaginary part is just a $\pi/2$ phase shifted copy of the same.

Complex correlator: briefly

To measure the complex fringe both the real and imaginary components need to be measured. The imaginary part is just a $\pi/2$ phase shifted copy of the same.

For each antenna pair a second correlator with the shift is added in one of the inputs.

This is called complex correlator.

We will come to further details when we will discuss correlators.



Coordinate systems

Baseline orientation; Track in the uv-plane.



Coordinate systems



$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\nu \, \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{s}}{c} &= ul + vm + wn \\ \frac{\nu \, \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{s}_0}{c} &= w, \\ d\Omega &= \frac{dl \, dm}{n} &= \frac{dl \, dm}{\sqrt{1 - l^2 - m^2}} \end{aligned}$$

$$V(u, v, w) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathcal{A}(l, m) I(l, m) e^{-2\pi i \left[ul + vm + w\left(\sqrt{1 - l^2 - m^2} - 1\right)\right]} \frac{dl \, dm}{\sqrt{1 - l^2 - m^2}}$$

Integrand taken as zero when $l^2 + m^2 \ge 1$

We have been through the conditions under which this is a 2-D Fourier transform.

Antenna spacings and u,v,w



 H_{0} and δ_{0} are the hour angle and the declination of the phase reference position.

$$\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\lambda} \begin{pmatrix} \sin H_0 & \cos H_0 & 0 \\ -\sin \delta_0 \cos H_0 & \sin \delta_0 \sin H_0 & \cos \delta_0 \\ \cos \delta_0 \cos H_0 & -\cos \delta_0 \sin H_0 & \sin \delta_0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} L_X \\ L_Y \\ L_Z \end{pmatrix}$$

What is the locus of a track in the uv-plane ? Eliminating H_0 from the equations for u and v:

$$u^{2} + \left(\frac{v - (L_{Z}/\lambda)\cos\delta_{0}}{\sin\delta_{0}}\right)^{2} = \frac{L_{X}^{2} + L_{Y}^{2}}{\lambda^{2}}$$

 $V(-u,-v) = V^*(u,v)$



Sampling in the uv-plane

Visibilities are sampled: the footprint in the uvplane – *uv-coverage* is the sampling function.

For a point source at the phase centre the visibility is a constant as a function of u and v.

The FT of the sampling function is then the response to a point source – *the synthesized beam*.



Coordinate system

$$\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\lambda} \begin{pmatrix} \sin H_0 & \cos H_0 & 0 \\ -\sin \delta_0 \cos H_0 & \sin \delta_0 \sin H_0 & \cos \delta_0 \\ \cos \delta_0 \cos H_0 & -\cos \delta_0 \sin H_0 & \sin \delta_0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -\sin \delta_0 & \cos \delta_0 \\ \cos \delta_0 & \cos H_0 & -\cos \delta_0 \sin H_0 & \sin \delta_0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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For a point source at the phase centre the visibility is a constant as a function of u and v.

The FT of the sampling function is then the response to a point source – *the synthesized beam.*

The sampling in the uv-plane decides the shape of the synthesized beam.



Coordinate system





$$r = A_0 |V| \int_{\nu_0 - \Delta \nu/2}^{\nu_0 + \Delta \nu/2} \cos \left(2\pi \nu \tau_g - \phi_V\right) d\nu$$

$$= A_0 |V| \Delta \nu \frac{\sin \pi \Delta \nu \tau_g}{\pi \Delta \nu \tau_g} \cos \left(2\pi \nu_0 \tau_g - \phi_V\right)$$

$$\tau_q = b \sin(\theta)/c$$

- Bandwidth leads to a modulation of the fringe with a sinc function.
- Introduction of delay tracking to remove this effect: however it is only valid for the delay tracking centre.

Bandwidth smearing

The bandwidth over which the signal that is delay tracked only at the central frequency is averaged and this lead to blurring in the image.

 u_0, v_0 for the central frequency and u and v for another frequency.

$$(u_0, v_0) = \left(\frac{\nu_0}{\nu}u, \frac{\nu_0}{\nu}v\right)$$

$$V(u,v) \rightleftharpoons I(l,m)$$

Similarity theorem of FT

$$V\left(\frac{\nu_0}{\nu}u,\frac{\nu_0}{\nu}v\right) \rightleftharpoons \left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_0}\right)^2 I\left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_0}l,\frac{\nu}{\nu_0}m\right)$$



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Will become significant when it becomes of the order of the synthesized beam.

