

# Robust Calibration of Radio Interferometers in Non-Gaussian Environment

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# Outline

- **Introduction to radio astronomy and motivation of this work**
- **Data model**
  - ▶ Non-structured Jones matrices
  - ▶ Structured Jones matrices (3DC calibration regime)
- **Estimation procedure for non-structured Jones matrices**
  - ▶ Principle of the proposed calibration technique
  - ▶ Use of the EM algorithm
  - ▶ Use of the BCD algorithm
- **Estimation procedure for structured Jones matrices (3DC calibration regime)**
- **Numerical simulations**
  - ▶ Under SIRP noise assumption
  - ▶ Under realistic model
  - ▶ Under 3DC calibration regime
- **Conclusion**

Van der Veen et al. (2013)

- **Goal**

- ▶ Measure **electromagnetic waves** impinging on the Earth thanks to astronomical instruments
- ▶ Deduce **spectral flux density** from maps which measure strength of radiation
- ▶ Study **physical phenomena** to handle cosmological issues

- **Astronomical instruments**

- ▶ Large telescope dishes: **expensive**, lack of flexibility
- ▶ **Interferometric array**: higher angular resolution
- ▶ **Phased-array system**: cheaper dipole antennas, no moving parts (software telescope), huge collecting area



- **Radio astronomy**

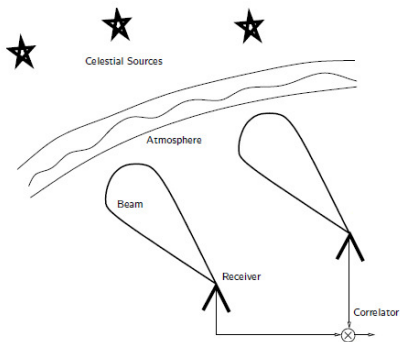
- ▶ Study **radio emissions**
- ▶ Case of **LOFAR** (LOW Frequency ARray):
  - LBA (Low Band Antenna) 30-80 MHz
  - HBA (High Band Antenna) 120-240 MHz



## ● Calibration

- ▶ Estimation of all **perturbations** introduced along the signal path
- ▶ Essential to perform **image reconstruction** with no distortions

Hamaker et al. (1996)  
Kazemi and Yatawatta  
(2013)



## ● Non-Gaussianity assumption

- ▶ Presence of **outliers** in the data (weak unknown sources, RFI, ...)
- ▶ Robust calibration in the literature: only **Student's t**

# Data model

Non-structured Jones matrices

# Mathematical model for non-structured Jones matrices

Hamaker et al. (1996), Smirnov (2011)

- ▷  $D$  sources,  $M$  antennas, 2 orthogonal polarization directions ( $x, y$ )
  - $\mathbf{s}_i = [s_{i_x}, s_{i_y}]^T$   $i$ -th **incoming radiation**
  - $\bar{\mathbf{v}}_{i_p}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = [v_{i_{px}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}), v_{i_{py}}(\boldsymbol{\theta})]^T$  **generated voltage** at  $p$ -th antenna
  - $\mathbf{J}_{i_p}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$  **Jones matrix**, **parametrized** by unknown vector  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$

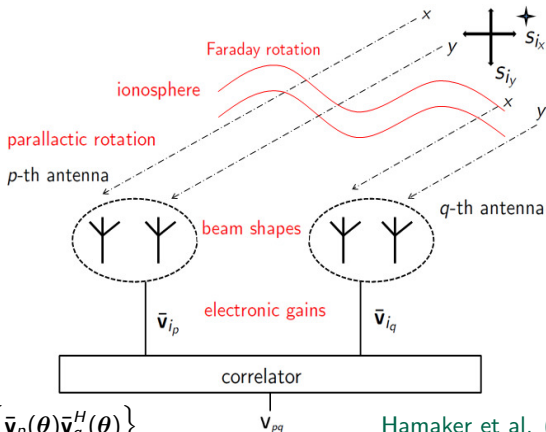
⇓

$$\bar{\mathbf{v}}_{i_p}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathbf{J}_{i_p}(\boldsymbol{\theta})\mathbf{s}_i$$

⇒ Unknown elements = **entries of all Jones matrices**

# Noise-free case

$$\mathbf{V}_{pq}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \sum_{i=1}^D \mathbf{J}_{i_p}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \mathbf{C}_i \mathbf{J}_{i_q}^H(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \quad \text{for } p < q, \quad p, q \in \{1, \dots, M\}$$



- $\mathbf{V}_{pq}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathbb{E} \left\{ \bar{\mathbf{v}}_p(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \bar{\mathbf{v}}_q^H(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \right\}$  Hamaker et al. (1996)
- $\mathbf{C}_i = \mathbb{E} \{ \mathbf{s}_i \mathbf{s}_i^H \} = \begin{bmatrix} I_i + Q_i & U_i + jV_i \\ U_i - jV_i & I_i - Q_i \end{bmatrix}$  **intrinsic source coherency matrix**



## Full visibility vector

$$\mathbf{v}_{pq}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \sum_{i=1}^D \mathbf{J}_{i_p}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \mathbf{C}_i \mathbf{J}_{i_q}^H(\boldsymbol{\theta})$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{pq}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \text{vec}\left(\mathbf{v}_{pq}(\boldsymbol{\theta})\right) = \sum_{i=1}^D \mathbf{u}_{i_{pq}}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$$

- $\mathbf{u}_{i_{pq}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \left(\mathbf{J}_{i_q}^*(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \otimes \mathbf{J}_{i_p}(\boldsymbol{\theta})\right) \text{vec}(\mathbf{C}_i)$

**Noisy** correlation measurements

$$\mathbf{v}_{pq} = \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{pq}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) + \mathbf{n}_{pq}$$

$$\Rightarrow$$

$$\mathbf{x} = [\mathbf{v}_{12}^T, \mathbf{v}_{13}^T, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{(M-1)M}^T]^T = \sum_{i=1}^D \mathbf{u}_i(\boldsymbol{\theta}) + \mathbf{n}$$

- $\mathbf{u}_i(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = [\mathbf{u}_{i_{12}}^T(\boldsymbol{\theta}), \mathbf{u}_{i_{13}}^T(\boldsymbol{\theta}), \dots, \mathbf{u}_{i_{(M-1)M}}^T(\boldsymbol{\theta})]^T$

- $\mathbf{n} = [\mathbf{n}_{12}^T, \mathbf{n}_{13}^T, \dots, \mathbf{n}_{(M-1)M}^T]^T \Rightarrow$  **Gaussian** noise & **outliers**

# Noise modeling

## Spherically invariant random process (SIRP)

$$\mathbf{n}_{pq} = \sqrt{\tau_{pq}} \mathbf{g}_{pq}$$

- $\tau_{pq}$  positive real random variable (**texture**)
- $\mathbf{g}_{pq}$  complex zero-mean Gaussian process (**speckle**)

$$\mathbf{g}_{pq} \sim \mathcal{CN}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{\Omega}) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \text{tr}\{\mathbf{\Omega}\} = 1$$

⇒ Remove **scaling ambiguities**

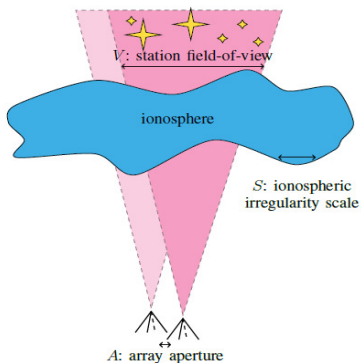
# Data model

Structured Jones matrices

# 3DC calibration regime

## Direction dependent distortions with compact array

Lonsdale (2004)



- **Closely** packed group of **similar** antennas
- **Wide field of view** of individual elements

Noordam (1996), Smirnov (2011), Yatawatta (2012)

$$\mathbf{J}_{i_p}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{i_p}^{3\text{DC}}) = \mathbf{G}_p(\mathbf{g}_p)\mathbf{H}_{i_p}\mathbf{Z}_{i_p}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_i)\mathbf{F}_i(\vartheta_i)$$

with  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{i_p}^{3\text{DC}} = [\vartheta_i, \mathbf{g}_p^T, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_i^T]^T$

- **Ionospheric delay** matrix

$$\mathbf{Z}_{i_p}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_i) = \exp\{j\varphi_{i_p}\}\mathbf{I}_2$$

where  $\varphi_{i_p} = \eta_i u_p + \zeta_i v_p$ ,

- ▶  $\boldsymbol{\alpha}_i = [\eta_i, \zeta_i]^T$  source offset
- ▶  $\mathbf{r}_p = [u_p, v_p]^T$  known antenna position in units of wavelength

- **Diagonal electronic gain** matrix

$$\mathbf{G}_p(\mathbf{g}_p) = \text{diag}\{\mathbf{g}_p\}$$

- **Known** matrix  $\mathbf{H}_{i_p}$ 
  - ▶ Electromagnetic simulations
  - ▶ A priori knowledge (calibrator sources & antenna positions)

- **Ionospheric Faraday rotation** matrix

$$\mathbf{F}_i(\vartheta_i) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\vartheta_i) & -\sin(\vartheta_i) \\ \sin(\vartheta_i) & \cos(\vartheta_i) \end{bmatrix}$$

- ▶ Faraday rotation angle  $\vartheta_i$

# Estimation procedure

Non-structured Jones matrices

## Maximum likelihood method

$$f(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\tau}, \boldsymbol{\Omega}) = \prod_{pq} \frac{1}{|\pi \tau_{pq} \boldsymbol{\Omega}|} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{\tau_{pq}} \mathbf{a}_{pq}^H(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \boldsymbol{\Omega}^{-1} \mathbf{a}_{pq}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \right\}$$

- $\boldsymbol{\tau} = [\tau_{12}, \tau_{13}, \dots, \tau_{(M-1)M}]^T$
- $\mathbf{a}_{pq}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathbf{v}_{pq} - \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{pq}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$

⇓

$$\begin{aligned} \log f(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\tau}, \boldsymbol{\Omega}) = \\ -4B \log \pi - 4 \sum_{pq} \log \tau_{pq} - B \log |\boldsymbol{\Omega}| - \sum_{pq} \frac{1}{\tau_{pq}} \mathbf{a}_{pq}^H(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \boldsymbol{\Omega}^{-1} \mathbf{a}_{pq}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \end{aligned}$$

### Iterative ML algorithm

- ▷ Optimization w.r.t. each unknown parameter: **concentrated ML** estimator
- ▷ Probability density function of all  $\tau_{pq}$  not specified: **relaxed ML** estimator



## Proposed algorithm

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1 **Initialize**  $\hat{\Omega} = \Omega_{\text{init}}, \hat{\tau} = \tau_{\text{init}}$

2 **Estimation of  $\theta$**

$$\hat{\theta} = \underset{\theta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\{ \sum_{pq} \frac{1}{\hat{\tau}_{pq}} \mathbf{a}_{pq}^H(\theta) \hat{\Omega}^{-1} \mathbf{a}_{pq}(\theta) \right\}$$

3 **Estimation of  $\Omega$**

$$\hat{\Omega} = \frac{4}{B} \sum_{pq} \frac{\mathbf{a}_{pq}(\hat{\theta}) \mathbf{a}_{pq}^H(\hat{\theta})}{\mathbf{a}_{pq}^H(\hat{\theta}) (\hat{\Omega})^{-1} \mathbf{a}_{pq}(\hat{\theta})}$$

$$\hat{\Omega} = \frac{\hat{\Omega}}{\operatorname{tr}\{\hat{\Omega}\}}$$

4 **Estimation of  $\tau$**

$$\hat{\tau}_{pq} = \frac{1}{4} \mathbf{a}_{pq}^H(\hat{\theta}) \hat{\Omega}^{-1} \mathbf{a}_{pq}(\hat{\theta})$$

5 **Repeat steps 2 to 4 until stop criterion reached**

# Non-structured Jones matrices

- Partition per source

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} = [\boldsymbol{\theta}_1^T, \dots, \boldsymbol{\theta}_D^T]^T = [\boldsymbol{\theta}_{1_1}^T, \dots, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{1_M}^T, \dots, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{D_1}^T, \dots, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{D_M}^T]^T$$

- $\mathbf{J}_{i_p}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$  parametrized by **path from i-th calibrator source to p-th sensor**

$$\mathbf{J}_{i_p}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathbf{J}_{i_p}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{i_p})$$

with  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{i_p} \in \mathbb{R}^{8 \times 1}$

# EM algorithm

## Expectation-Maximization

Yatawatta et al. (2009), Kazemi et al. (2011)

### ▷ Motivation

- Decrease computational cost  
Optimization for single source problems of smaller dimensions  
 $\implies$  optimization w.r.t.  $\theta_i \in \mathbb{C}^{4M \times 1}$  instead of  $\theta \in \mathbb{C}^{4DM \times 1}$
- Ensure convergence

**Complete data vector**  $\mathbf{w} = [\mathbf{w}_1^T, \dots, \mathbf{w}_D^T]^T$

$$\mathbf{w}_i = \mathbf{u}_i(\theta_i) + \mathbf{n}_i \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \mathbf{x} = \sum_{i=1}^D \mathbf{w}_i$$

▷ E-step

**Goal:** conditional expectation of complete data  $\hat{\mathbf{w}} = \mathbb{E}\{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\tau}, \boldsymbol{\Omega}\}$

- $\mathbf{n} = \sum_{i=1}^D \mathbf{n}_i \sim \mathcal{CN}(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{\Psi})$

$$\boldsymbol{\Psi} = \begin{bmatrix} \tau_{12}\boldsymbol{\Omega} & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & \tau_{(M-1)M}\boldsymbol{\Omega} \end{bmatrix}$$

- $\mathbf{n}_i \sim \mathcal{CN}(\mathbf{0}, \beta_i \boldsymbol{\Psi})$
- $\sum_{i=1}^D \beta_i = 1$

$$\hat{\mathbf{w}}_i = \mathbb{E}\{\mathbf{w}_i|\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\tau}, \boldsymbol{\Omega}\} = \mathbf{u}_i(\boldsymbol{\theta}_i) + \beta_i \left( \mathbf{x} - \sum_{l=1}^D \mathbf{u}_l(\boldsymbol{\theta}_l) \right)$$

▷ **M-step****Goal:** estimation of  $\theta_i$ 

$$f(\hat{\mathbf{w}}|\theta, \tau, \Omega) = \prod_{i=1}^D \frac{1}{|\pi\beta_i\Psi|} \exp \left\{ - \left( \hat{\mathbf{w}}_i - \mathbf{u}_i(\theta_i) \right)^H (\beta_i\Psi)^{-1} \left( \hat{\mathbf{w}}_i - \mathbf{u}_i(\theta_i) \right) \right\}$$

$$\phi_i(\theta_i) = \left( \hat{\mathbf{w}}_i - \mathbf{u}_i(\theta_i) \right)^H (\beta_i\Psi)^{-1} \left( \hat{\mathbf{w}}_i - \mathbf{u}_i(\theta_i) \right)$$

- Numerical example: **Levenberg-Marquardt (LM)** algorithm
- Analytical method: **Block Coordinate Descent (BCD)** algorithm

# BCD algorithm

## Block Coordinate Descent

Friedman et al. (2007), Hong et al. (2016)

- Perform optimization of  $\phi_i$  w.r.t.  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{i_p} \in \mathbb{C}^{4 \times 1}$  with fixed  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{i_q}$ ,  $q \neq p$

$$\phi_i(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{i_p}) = \sum_{\substack{q=1 \\ q > p}}^M \left( \mathbf{w}_{i_{pq}} - \mathbf{u}_{i_{pq}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{i_p}) \right)^H (\beta_i \tau_{pq} \boldsymbol{\Omega})^{-1} \left( \mathbf{w}_{i_{pq}} - \mathbf{u}_{i_{pq}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{i_p}) \right) + \\ \sum_{\substack{q=1 \\ q < p}}^M \left( \mathbf{w}_{i_{qp}} - \mathbf{u}_{i_{qp}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{i_p}) \right)^H (\beta_i \tau_{qp} \boldsymbol{\Omega})^{-1} \left( \mathbf{w}_{i_{qp}} - \mathbf{u}_{i_{qp}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{i_p}) \right) + \text{Cst}$$

# BCD algorithm

- Estimate the Jones matrix associated with **path from i-th calibrator source to p-th sensor**

$$\hat{\theta}_{i_p} = \begin{cases} (\Sigma_i^H \mathbf{A}_{i_p} \Sigma_i + \Upsilon_i^H \tilde{\mathbf{A}}_{i_p} \Upsilon_i)^{-1} (\Sigma_i^H \mathbf{A}_{i_p} \mathbf{w}_{i_p} + \Upsilon_i^H \tilde{\mathbf{A}}_{i_p} \tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{i_p}) & \text{for } 1 < p < M \\ (\Sigma_i^H \mathbf{A}_{i_p} \Sigma_i)^{-1} \Sigma_i^H \mathbf{A}_{i_p} \mathbf{w}_{i_p} & \text{for } p = 1 \\ (\Upsilon_i^H \tilde{\mathbf{A}}_{i_p} \Upsilon_i)^{-1} \Upsilon_i^H \tilde{\mathbf{A}}_{i_p} \tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{i_p} & \text{for } p = M \end{cases}$$

- $\mathbf{c}_i = \text{vec}(\mathbf{C}_i) = [c_{i_1}, c_{i_2}, c_{i_3}, c_{i_4}]^T$
- $\mathbf{J}_{i_p}(\theta_{i_p}) = \begin{bmatrix} p_{i_1} & p_{i_2} \\ p_{i_3} & p_{i_4} \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{J}_{i_q}(\theta_{i_q}) = \begin{bmatrix} q_{i_1} & q_{i_2} \\ q_{i_3} & q_{i_4} \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\theta_{i_p} = [p_{i_1}, p_{i_2}, p_{i_3}, p_{i_4}]^T$  and  $\theta_{i_q} = [q_{i_1}, q_{i_2}, q_{i_3}, q_{i_4}]^T$
- $\Sigma_{i_q} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_{i_q} & \beta_{i_q} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \alpha_{i_q} & \beta_{i_q} \\ \gamma_{i_q} & \rho_{i_q} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \gamma_{i_q} & \rho_{i_q} \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\Upsilon_{i_q} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{i_q} & \mu_{i_q} & 0 & 0 \\ \nu_{i_q} & \xi_{i_q} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_{i_q} & \mu_{i_q} \\ 0 & 0 & \nu_{i_q} & \xi_{i_q} \end{bmatrix}$
- $\alpha_{i_q} = q_{i_1}^* c_{i_1} + q_{i_2}^* c_{i_3}$ ,  $\beta_{i_q} = q_{i_1}^* c_{i_2} + q_{i_2}^* c_{i_4}$ ,  $\gamma_{i_q} = q_{i_3}^* c_{i_1} + q_{i_4}^* c_{i_3}$  and  $\rho_{i_q} = q_{i_3}^* c_{i_2} + q_{i_4}^* c_{i_4}$
- $\lambda_{i_q} = q_{i_1} c_{i_1} + q_{i_2} c_{i_2}$ ,  $\mu_{i_q} = q_{i_1} c_{i_3} + q_{i_2} c_{i_4}$ ,  $\nu_{i_q} = q_{i_3} c_{i_1} + q_{i_4} c_{i_2}$  and  $\xi_{i_q} = q_{i_3} c_{i_3} + q_{i_4} c_{i_4}$
- $\mathbf{w}_{i_p} = [\mathbf{w}_{i_p(\rho+1)}^T, \dots, \mathbf{w}_{i_p M}^T]^T$  and  $\mathbf{A}_{i_p} = \text{bdiag}\{\beta_i \tau_{p(\rho+1)} \Omega, \dots, \beta_i \tau_{pM} \Omega\}^{-1}$
- $\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{i_p} = [\mathbf{w}_{i_{1p}}^T, \dots, \mathbf{w}_{i_{(p-1)p}}^T]^T$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}_{i_p} = \text{bdiag}\{\beta_i \tau_{1p} \Omega^*, \dots, \beta_i \tau_{(p-1)p} \Omega^*\}^{-1}$
- $\Sigma_i = [\Sigma_{i_{p+1}}^T, \dots, \Sigma_{i_M}^T]^T$  and  $\Upsilon_i = [\Upsilon_{i_1}^T, \dots, \Upsilon_{i_{p-1}}^T]^T$

# Algorithm 1

- Initialize**  $\hat{\Omega} = \Omega_{\text{init}}, \hat{\tau} = \tau_{\text{init}}, \hat{\theta}_i = \theta_{i_{\text{init}}}, i = 1, \dots, D$
- EM algorithm** (for  $i = 1, \dots, D$ ) to repeat until stop criterion reached  
E-step: Estimation of  $\mathbf{w}_i$

$$\hat{\mathbf{w}}_i = \mathbf{u}_i(\hat{\theta}_i) + \beta_i \left( \mathbf{x} - \sum_{l=1}^D \mathbf{u}_l(\hat{\theta}_l) \right)$$

M-step: Estimation of each  $\theta_{i_p}$  for  $p = 1, \dots, M$  (to repeat iteratively)

$$\hat{\theta}_{i_p} = \begin{cases} (\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^H \mathbf{A}_{i_p} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i + \boldsymbol{\Upsilon}_i^H \tilde{\mathbf{A}}_{i_p} \boldsymbol{\Upsilon}_i)^{-1} (\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^H \mathbf{A}_{i_p} \mathbf{w}_{i_p} + \boldsymbol{\Upsilon}_i^H \tilde{\mathbf{A}}_{i_p} \tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{i_p}) & \text{for } 1 < p < M \\ (\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^H \mathbf{A}_{i_p} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i)^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^H \mathbf{A}_{i_p} \mathbf{w}_{i_p} & \text{for } p = 1 \\ (\boldsymbol{\Upsilon}_i^H \tilde{\mathbf{A}}_{i_p} \boldsymbol{\Upsilon}_i)^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Upsilon}_i^H \tilde{\mathbf{A}}_{i_p} \tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{i_p} & \text{for } p = M \end{cases}$$

- Estimation of  $\Omega$  and  $\tau$**

$$\hat{\Omega} = \frac{4}{B} \sum_{pq} \frac{\mathbf{a}_{pq}(\hat{\theta}) \mathbf{a}_{pq}^H(\hat{\theta})}{\mathbf{a}_{pq}^H(\hat{\theta}) (\hat{\Omega})^{-1} \mathbf{a}_{pq}(\hat{\theta})}$$

$$\hat{\Omega} = \frac{\hat{\Omega}}{\text{tr}\{\hat{\Omega}\}}$$

$$\hat{\tau}_{pq} = \frac{1}{4} \mathbf{a}_{pq}^H(\hat{\theta}) \hat{\Omega}^{-1} \mathbf{a}_{pq}(\hat{\theta})$$

- Repeat steps 2 to 3 until stop criterion reached**



# Estimation procedure

Structured Jones matrices

# Structured Jones matrices

- Estimation of the antenna gains

$$\hat{\mathbf{g}}_p = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{g}_p} \sum_{i=1}^D \|\hat{\mathbf{J}}_{i_p} - \mathbf{G}_p(\mathbf{g}_p) \mathbf{H}_{i_p} \mathbf{Z}_{i_p} \mathbf{F}_i\|_F^2$$

- Estimation of the source shifts due to the ionosphere

$$\hat{\varphi}_{i_p} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\varphi_{i_p}} \|\hat{\mathbf{J}}_{i_p} - \mathbf{G}_p \mathbf{H}_{i_p} \mathbf{Z}_{i_p}(\varphi_{i_p}) \mathbf{F}_i\|_F^2$$

with  $\varphi_{i_p} = \eta_i u_p + \zeta_i v_p$  and  $\alpha_i = [\eta_i, \zeta_i]^T$

- Estimation of the Faraday rotation angle

$$\hat{\vartheta}_i = \operatorname{argmin}_{\vartheta_i} \sum_{p=1}^M \|\hat{\mathbf{J}}_{i_p} - \mathbf{G}_p \mathbf{H}_{i_p} \mathbf{Z}_{i_p} \mathbf{F}_i(\vartheta_i)\|_F^2$$

## Algorithm 2

- 1 **Initialize**  $\hat{\vartheta}_i = \vartheta_{i_{\text{init}}}$ ,  $\hat{\alpha}_i = \alpha_{i_{\text{init}}}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, D$ ,  $\hat{\mathbf{g}}_p = \mathbf{g}_{p_{\text{init}}}$ ,  $p = 1, \dots, M$
- 2 **Estimation of**  $\vartheta_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, D$

$$\hat{\vartheta}_i = \operatorname{argmin}_{\vartheta_i} \sum_{p=1}^M \|\hat{\mathbf{J}}_{i_p} - \hat{\mathbf{G}}_p \mathbf{H}_{i_p} \hat{\mathbf{Z}}_{i_p} \mathbf{F}_i(\vartheta_i)\|_F^2$$

- 3 **Estimation of**  $\mathbf{g}_p$ ,  $p = 1, \dots, M$

$$[\hat{\mathbf{g}}_p]_k = \left( \sum_{i=1}^D [\hat{\mathbf{W}}_{i_p}^*]_{k,k} \right)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^D [\hat{\mathbf{X}}_{i_p}^*]_{k,k}$$

for  $k \in \{1, 2\}$ , with  $\hat{\mathbf{X}}_{i_p} = \hat{\mathbf{R}}_{i_p} \hat{\mathbf{J}}_{i_p}^H$ ,  $\hat{\mathbf{W}}_{i_p} = \hat{\mathbf{R}}_{i_p} \hat{\mathbf{R}}_{i_p}^H$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{R}}_{i_p} = \mathbf{H}_{i_p} \hat{\mathbf{Z}}_{i_p} \hat{\mathbf{F}}_i$

- 4 **Estimation of**  $\alpha_i = [\eta_i, \zeta_i]^T$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, D$

$$\hat{\alpha}_i^T = \frac{\hat{\varphi}_i^T \mathbf{\Lambda}^H \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{p=1}^M v_p^2 & -\sum_{p=1}^M u_p v_p \\ -\sum_{p=1}^M v_p u_p & \sum_{p=1}^M u_p^2 \end{bmatrix}}{\sum_{p=1}^M u_p^2 \sum_{p=1}^M v_p^2 - (\sum_{p=1}^M u_p v_p)^2}$$

with  $\hat{\varphi}_i = [\hat{\varphi}_{i_1}, \dots, \hat{\varphi}_{i_M}]^T$ ,  $\mathbf{\Lambda} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 & \dots & u_M \\ v_1 & \dots & v_M \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\exp\{2j\hat{\varphi}_{i_p}\} = \frac{\operatorname{Tr}\{\hat{\mathbf{M}}_{i_p}\}}{\operatorname{Tr}\{\hat{\mathbf{M}}_{i_p}^H\}}$  and

$$\hat{\mathbf{M}}_{i_p} = \hat{\mathbf{J}}_{i_p} \hat{\mathbf{F}}_i^H \mathbf{H}_{i_p}^H \hat{\mathbf{G}}_p^H$$

- 5 **Repeat steps 2 to 4 until stop criterion reached**

# Numerical simulations

Besson et al. (2013)

- Additive noise term follows a **SIRP**
- Particular case of **Student's t** (texture  $\sim$  inverse gamma)
- Compare **MSE and CRB**

$$\text{MSE}([\hat{\theta}]_k) = \mathbb{E} \left\{ \left( [\hat{\theta}]_k - [\theta]_k \right)^2 \right\} \geq [\text{CRB}(\theta)]_{k,k}$$

- Expression of the **FIM**

$$[\mathbf{F}]_{k,l} = 2 \frac{\nu + 4}{\nu + 5} \sum_{pq} \Re \left\{ \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{pq}^H(\theta)}{\partial [\theta]_k} \boldsymbol{\Omega}^{-1} \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{pq}(\theta)}{\partial [\theta]_l} \right\}$$

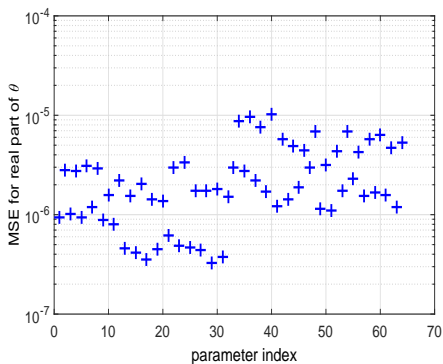


Figure 1: MSE of the real part of the 64 unknown parameters for a given SNR

- $D = 2$  bright signal sources,  $M = 8$  antennas
- 100 Monte-Carlo runs
- 128 real unknown parameters of interest

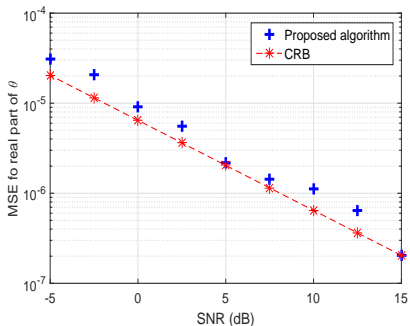


Figure 2: MSE vs. SNR for the real part of a given unknown parameter and the corresponding CRB

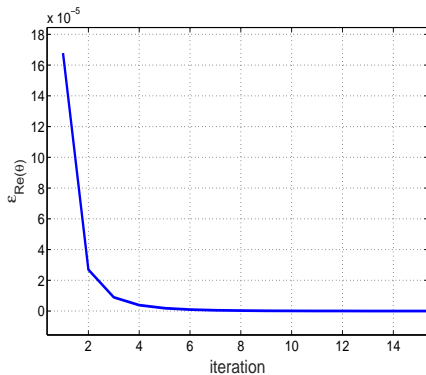


Figure 1:  $\epsilon_{\Re\{\theta\}}^h$  as function of the  $h$ -th iteration, for second loop from Algorithm 1

- Convergence properties

$$\epsilon_{\Re\{\theta\}}^h = \|\Re\{\theta^h - \theta^{h-1}\}\|_2^2$$

with  $h$ -th iteration

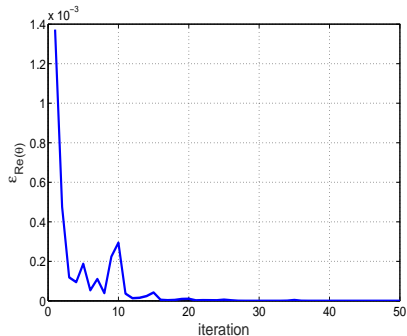


Figure 2:  $\epsilon_{\Re\{\theta\}}^h$  as function of the  $h$ -th iteration, for first loop from Algorithm 1

# Realistic model

- $D = 2$  calibrator sources,  
 $D' = 8$  weak outlier sources,  
background Gaussian noise
- $M=8$  antennas,  
128 real parameters of interest

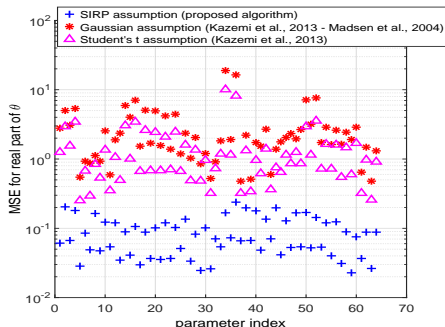


Figure: MSE of the real part of the 64 unknown parameters for a given SNR

# Structured case

- $D = 2$  calibrator sources,  
 $D' = 4$  weak outlier sources,  
 $M = 8$  antennas
- $\mathbf{g} = [\mathbf{g}_1^T, \dots, \mathbf{g}_M^T]^T$
- Similar behavior for  $\vartheta_1, \vartheta_2, \eta_2, \eta_1, \zeta_1$   
and  $\zeta_2$

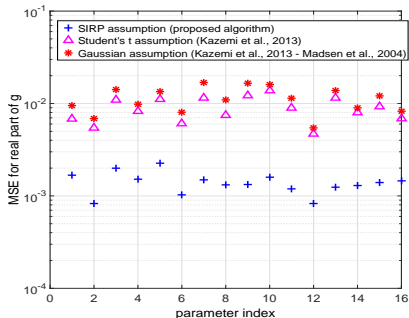


Figure: MSE of the real part of the 16 complex gains for a given SNR



- Conclusion

- ▶ **Robust calibration** algorithm based on **iterative relaxed concentrated MLE** and **SIRP** modeling
- ▶ Perturbation effects are modeled by **Jones matrices**
- ▶ Study of non-structured and structured case (**compact arrays** like a LOFAR station)

Thank you for your attention