

Title: Array Site Reports cont.

Date: Nov 13, 2014 10:20 AM

URL: <http://pirsa.org/14110100>

Abstract:

# CARMA status

Dick Plambeck, UC Berkeley



- 2 VLBI stations!
  - beamformer phases 8 telescopes (equivalent of a 25-m single dish)
  - one 10-m telescope is operated as a separate station for calibration purposes

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MacMahon, Matt Dexter, Alan Rogers, Jason SooHoo, Christiaan Brinkerink, Laurent Loinard, Joe Lazio, Gisela Ortiz, ...



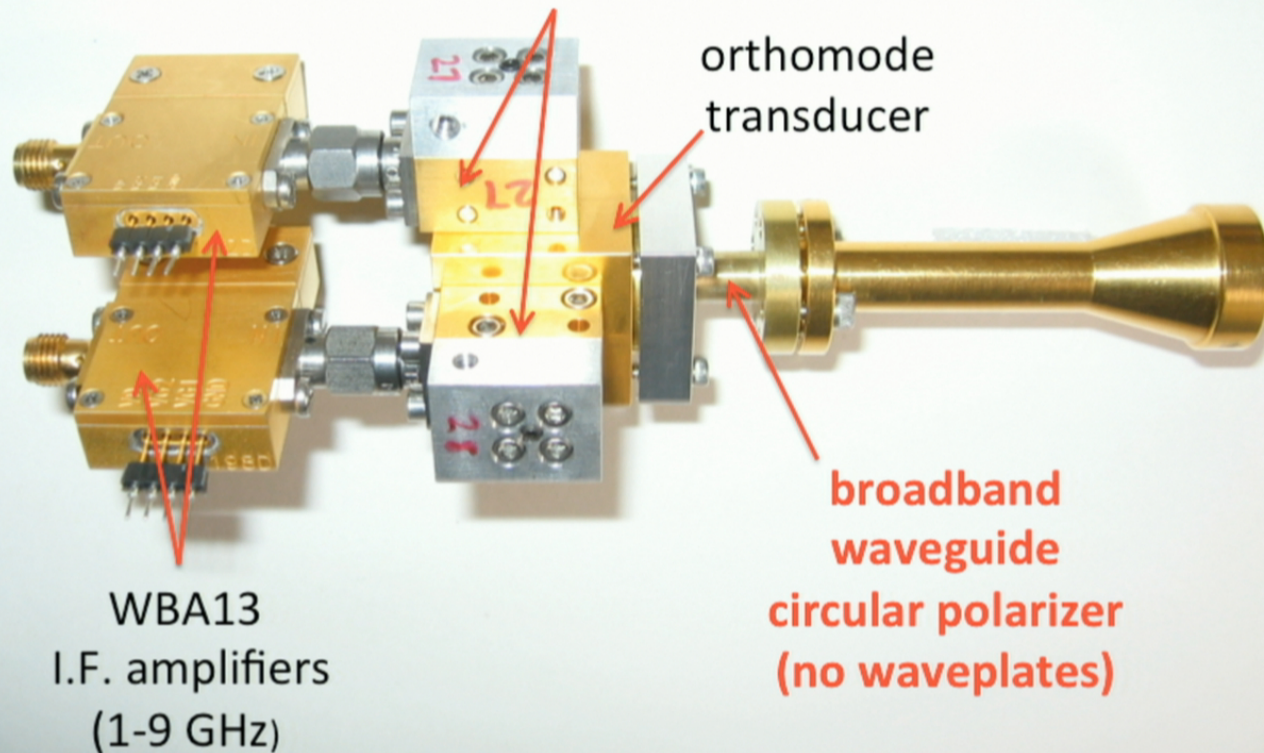
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# 1mm dual polarization receivers

**SIS mixers – ALMA Band 6  
devices in DSB mixer block**

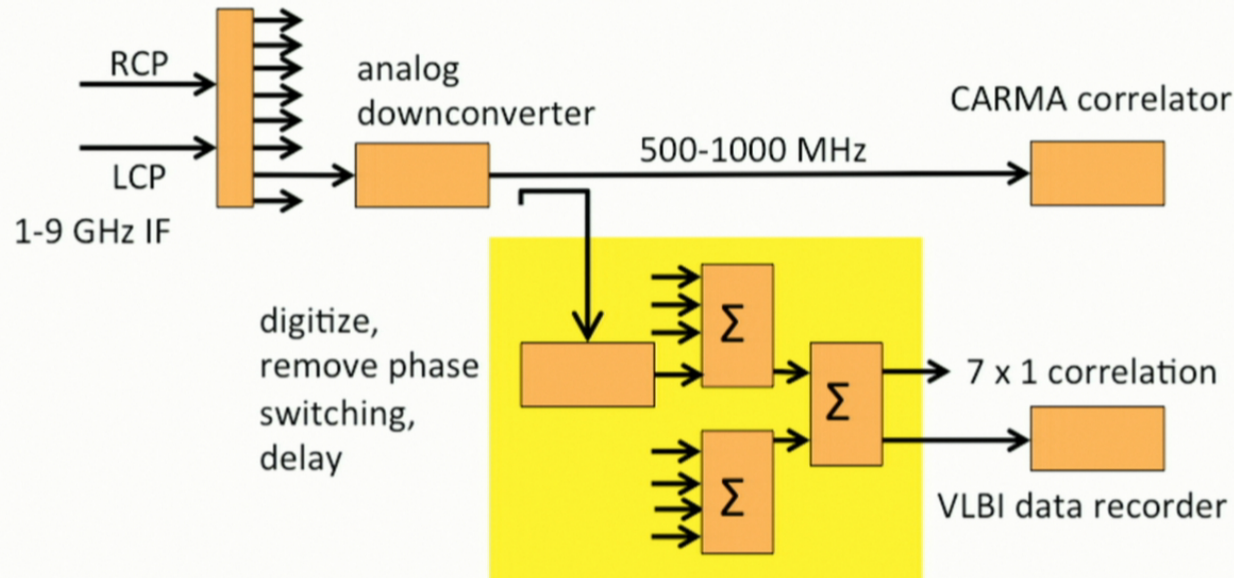


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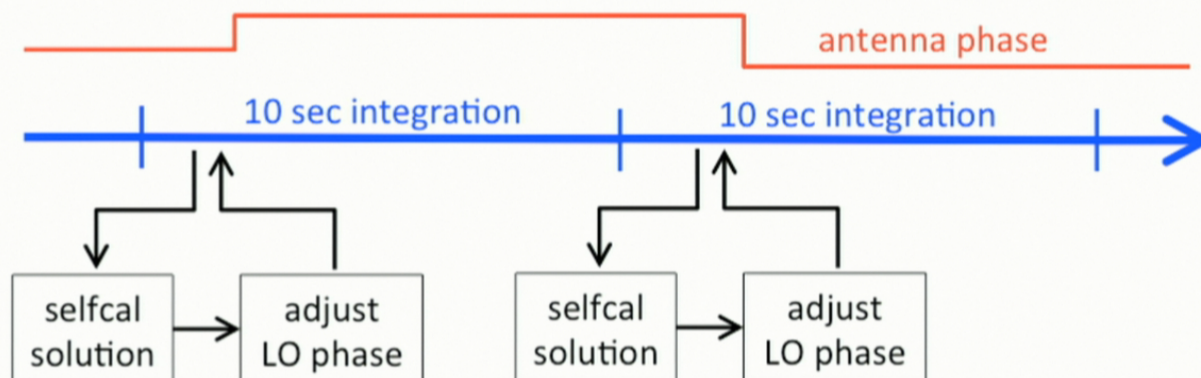
# beamformer (SMA - Berkeley development) operates in parallel with CARMA correlator



- each beamformer phases 8 telescopes, 500 MHz bw

# antenna phasing

- phase up beamformers on a strong calibrator at beginning of each night, using 7 baseline  $\times$  500 MHz correlator
- thereafter, use 105 baseline  $\times$  4 GHz CARMA correlator to maintain phase relationship of antennas



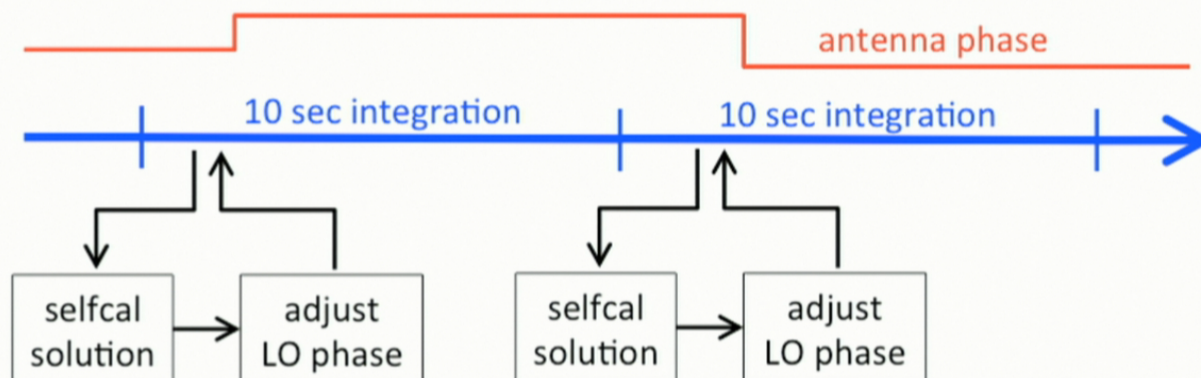
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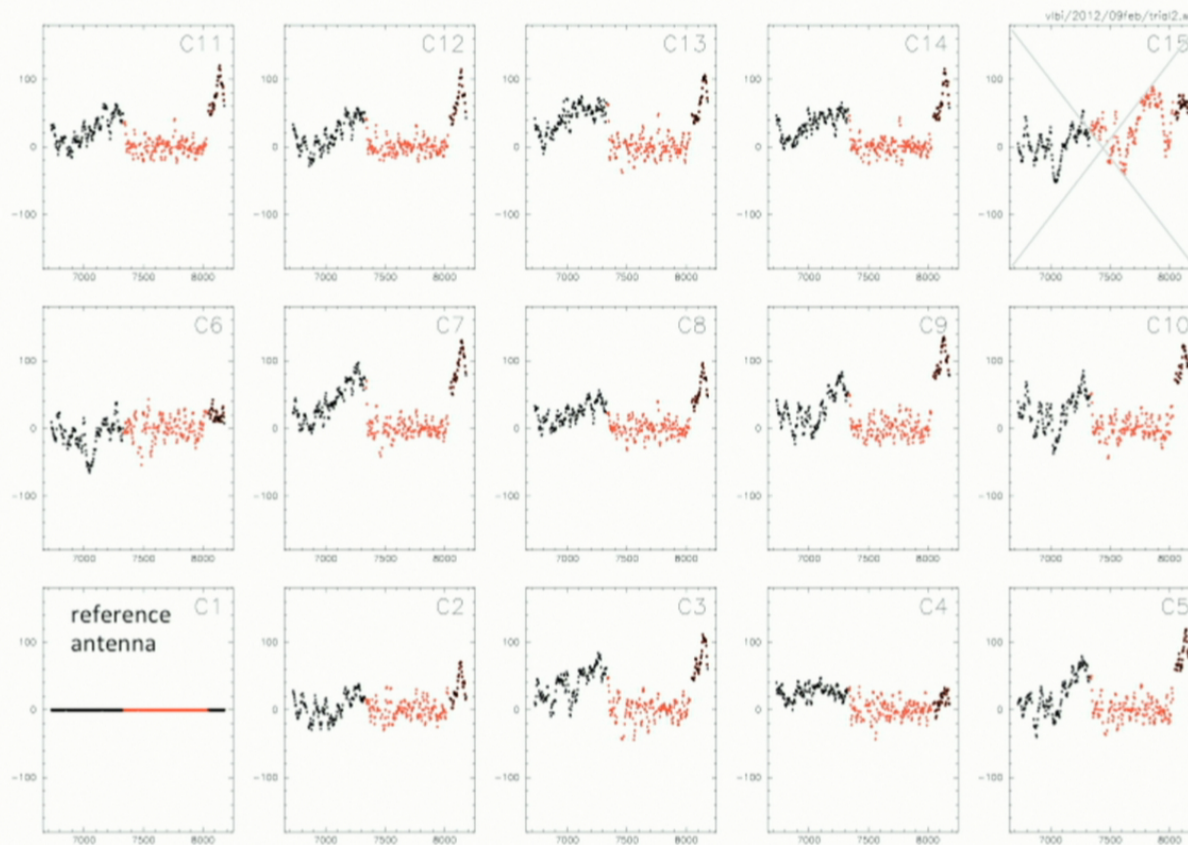
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# antenna phasing

- phase up beamformers on a strong calibrator at beginning of each night, using 7 baseline  $\times$  500 MHz correlator
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# unphased (black) vs. phased (red)



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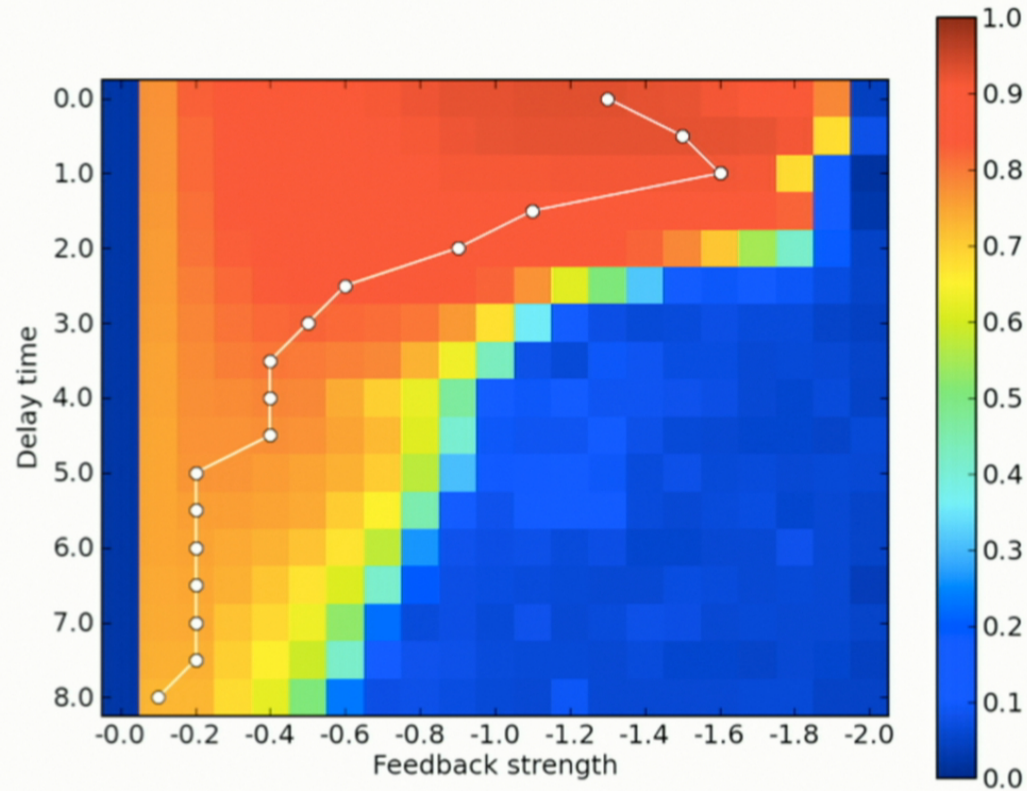
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# phasing eff vs time delay, feedback strength

real data (4 sec integrations), simulated phasing  
(Christiaan Brinkerink)



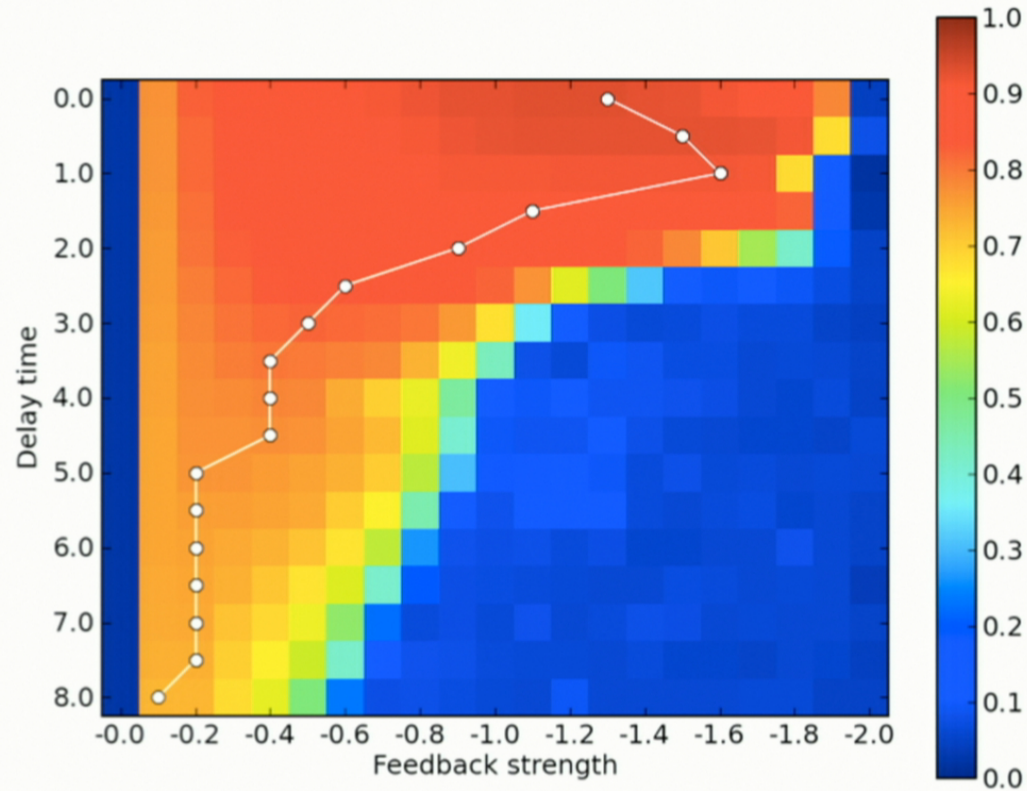
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# phasing eff vs time delay, feedback strength

real data (4 sec integrations), simulated phasing  
(Christiaan Brinkerink)

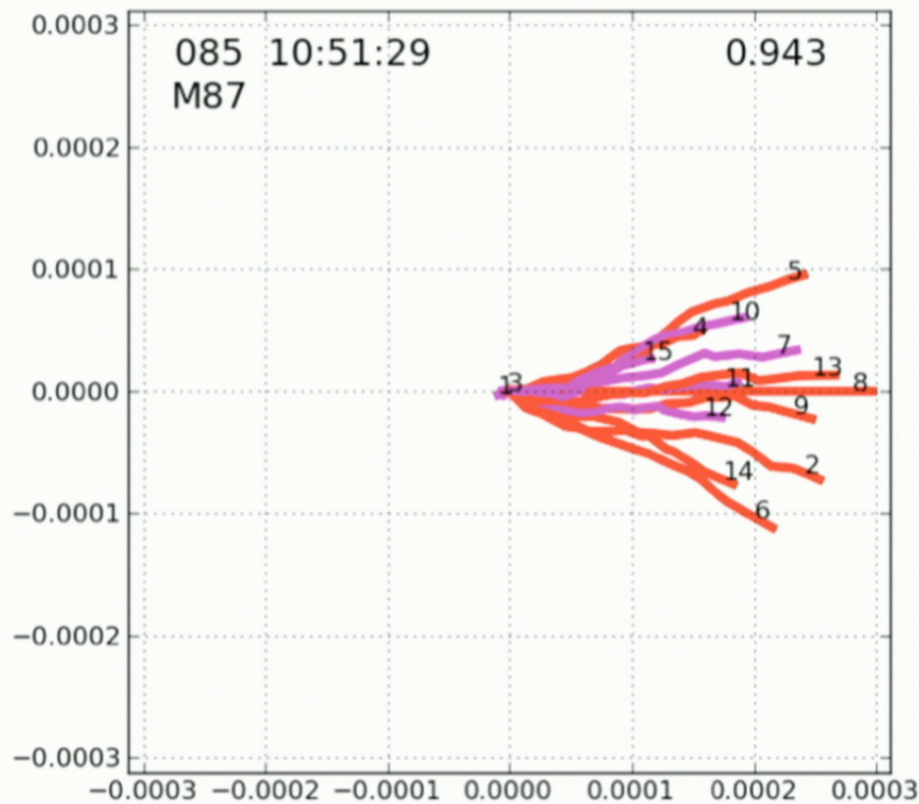


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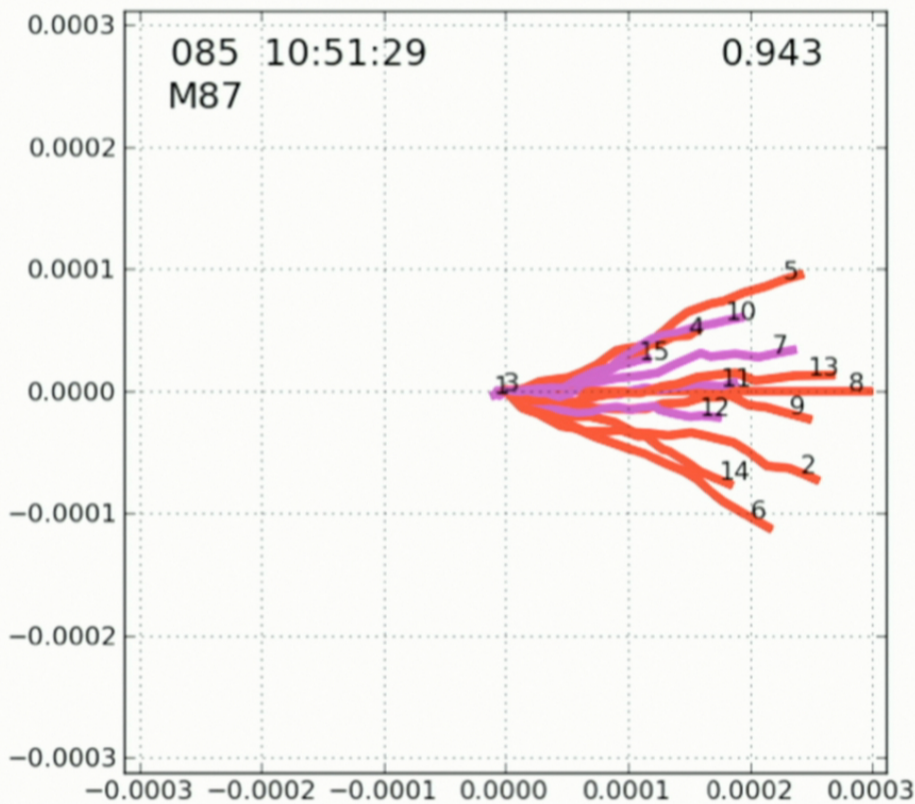
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# phasing diagram

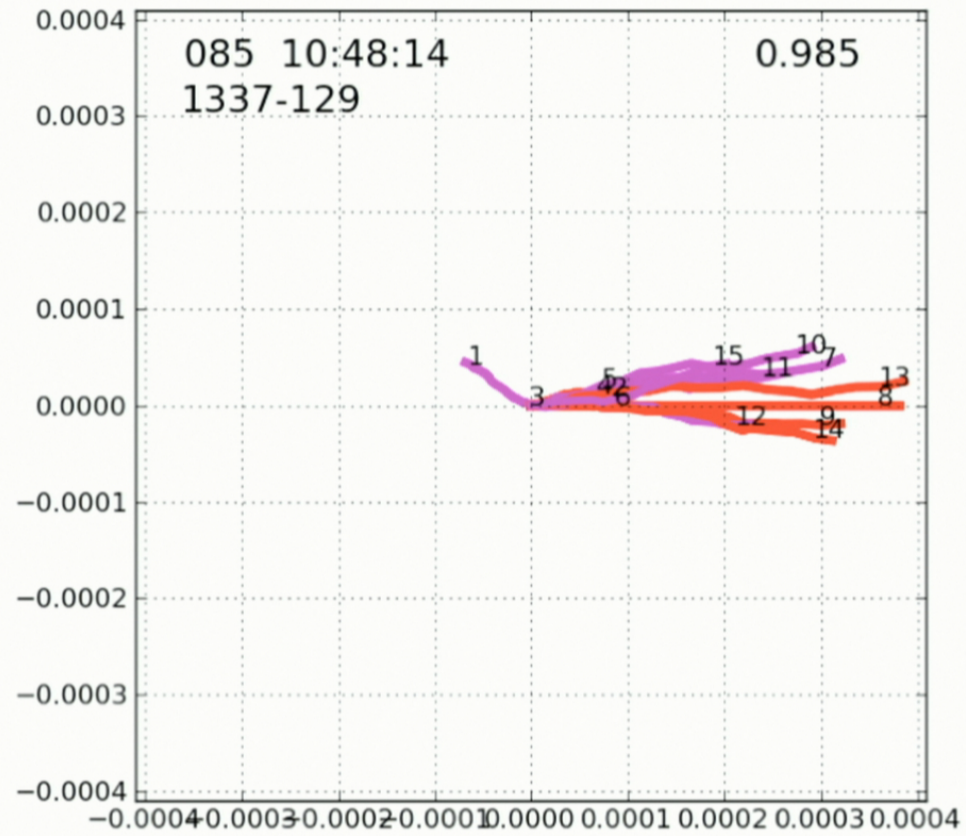


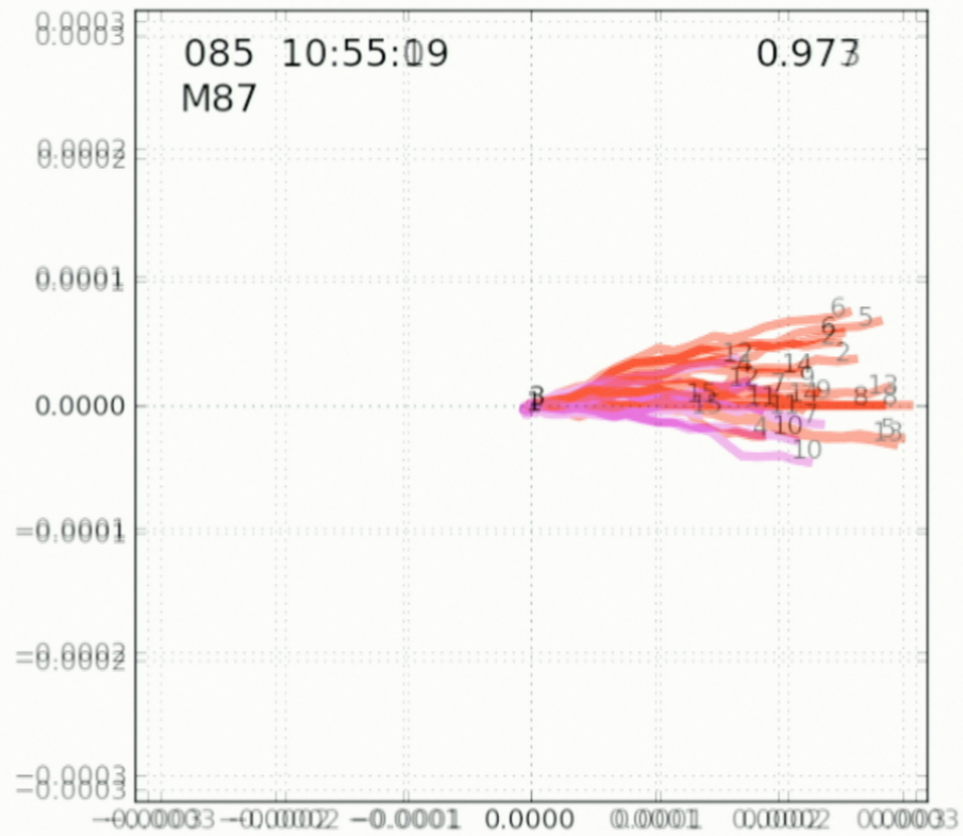
- visualizes selfcal solution from previous 10-sec integration
- 1 “SNR” vector per antenna
- 16 segments/vector (spectral windows)
- red: included in phased sum

# phasing diagram



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- 16 segments/vector (spectral windows)
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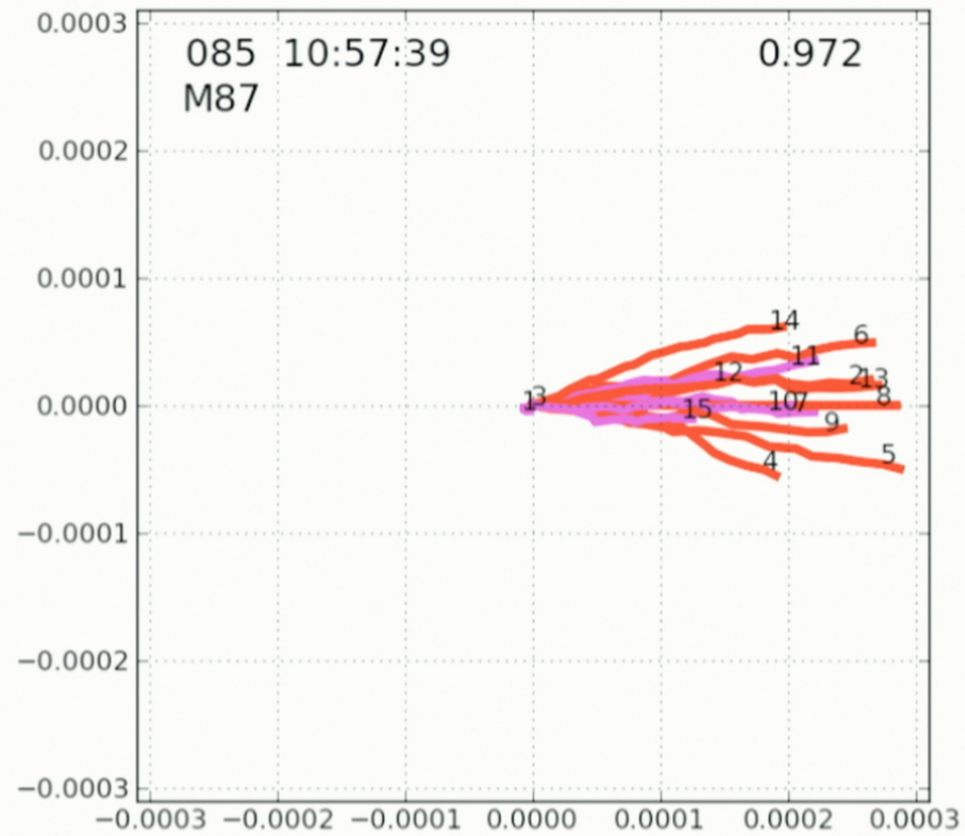




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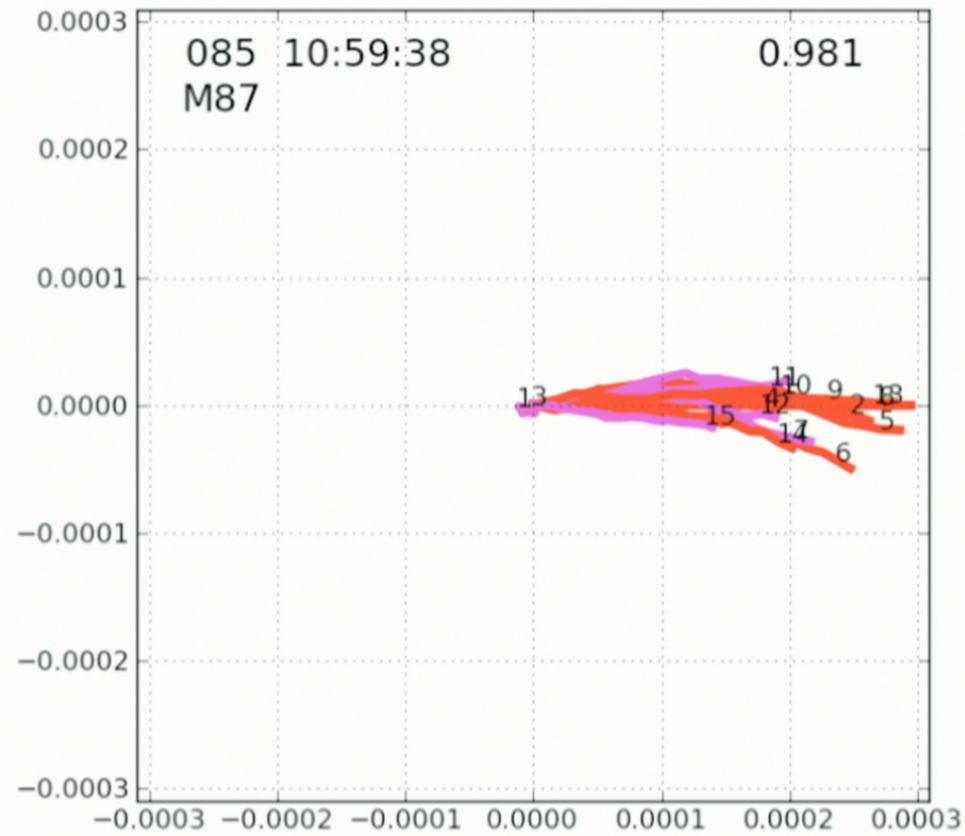
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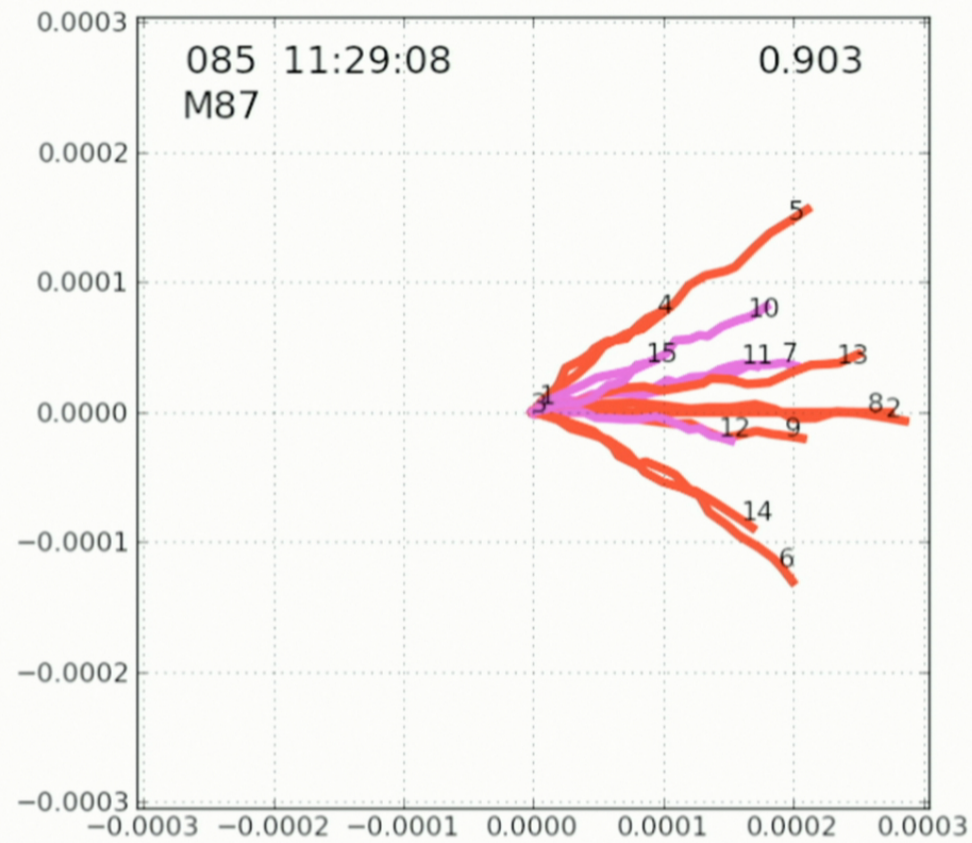


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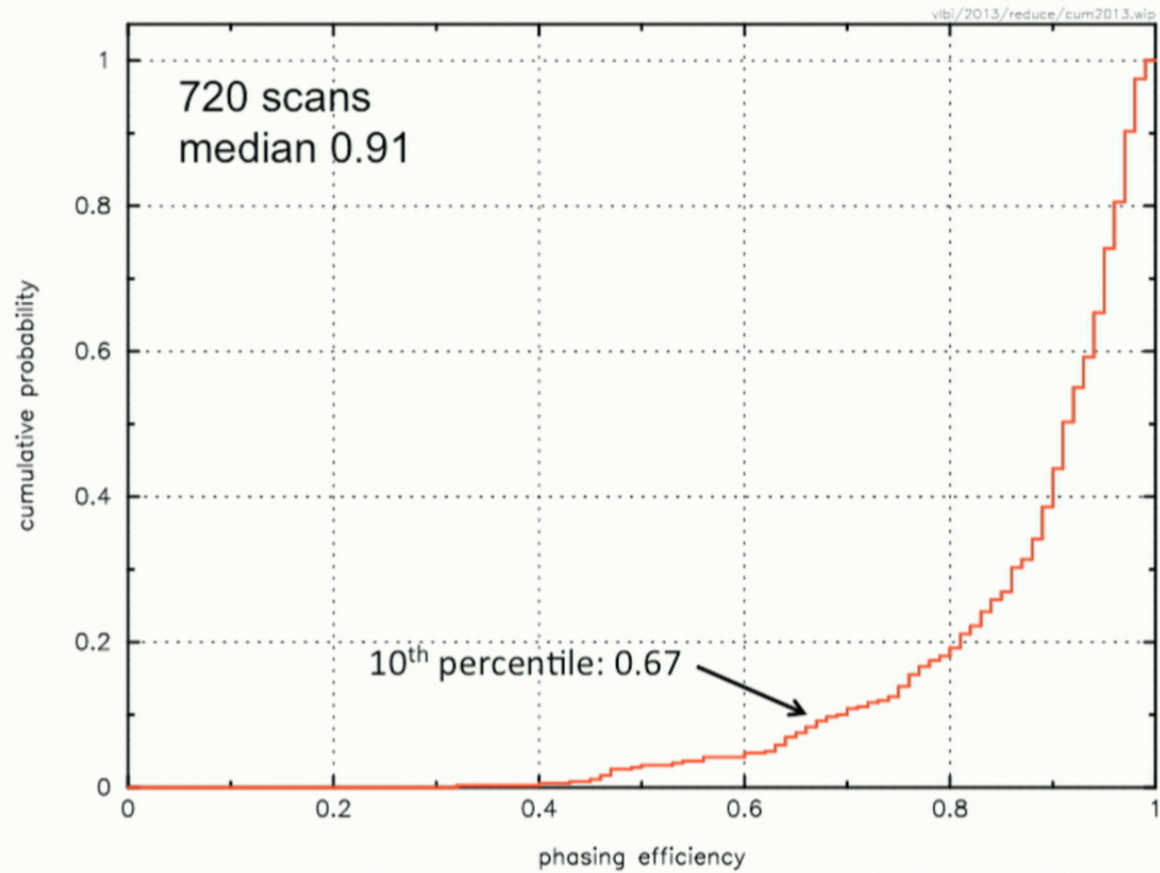


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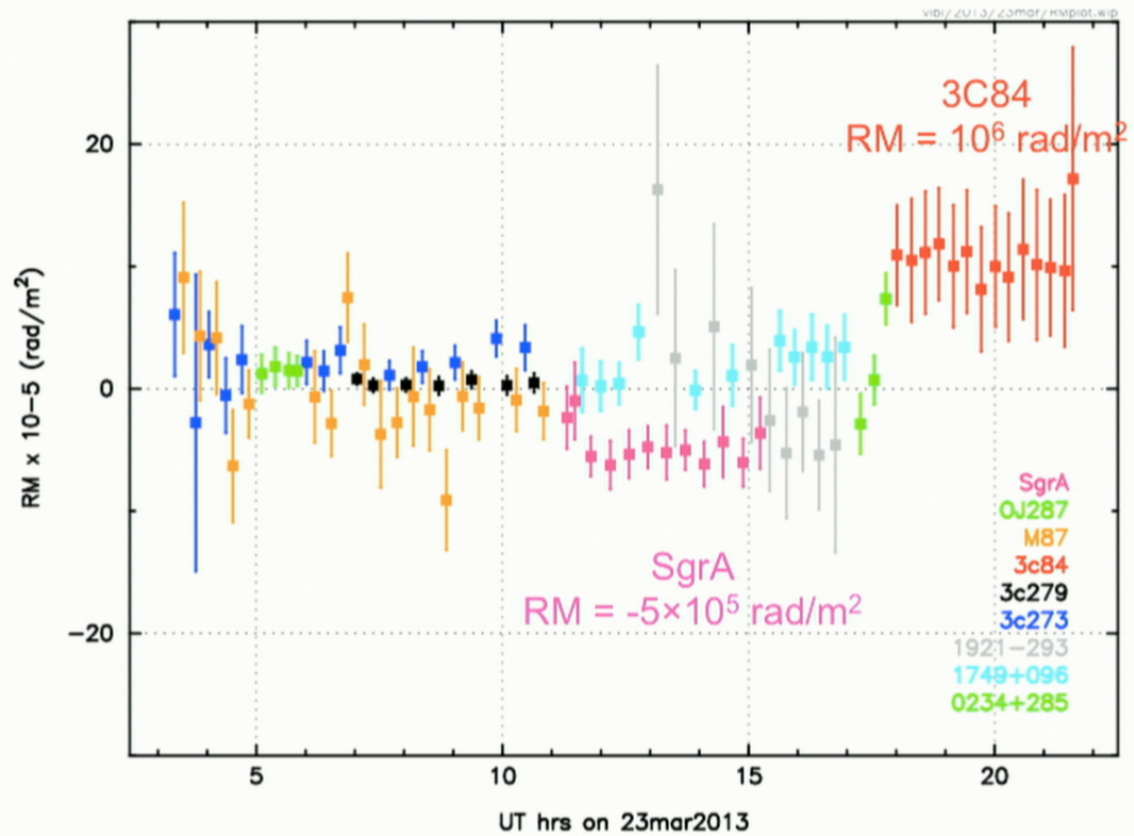
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# cumulative phasing efficiency, 2013 experiment



# serendipitous discovery of Faraday rotation toward 3c84 (from local CARMA data)



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## March 2015

- double size of beamformer to take advantage of all the analog downconverters (16 Gb/s)
  - 2 GHz × 2 polarizations, phased sum of 8 ants
  - Berkeley has all needed iBob and BEE2 boards
  - Haystack will provide FiLa 10G boards to convert from VSI to VDIF for Mk6 recorders
- also record 16 Gb/s from comparison antenna
  - use CARMA downconverters or standard block downconverter? R2DBE?

# 2016 and beyond...

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