Observing and Data Reduction with MIRC-X

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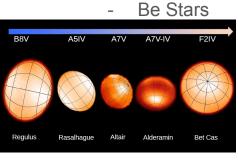
MIRC-X Overview

MIRC-X Overview

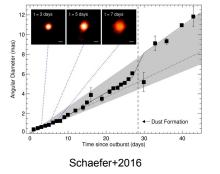
- Combines light from 6 telescopes of CHARA in J/H bands
 - 15 baselines simultaneously, up to 330m
 - Resolution: ~0.5 milli-arcseconds
 - Limitations: Can only observe objects with H < 7.5
- An upgrade of Michigan InfraRed Combiner (MIRC)
 - Monnier et al (2006; 2010)
 - Goals of upgrade: 1) Maximize sensitivity, 2) Extend wavelength coverage to J-band, 3) Enable polarization interferometry
- Observing modes currently offered:
 - H-band PRISM (R~22, 50, or 102)
 - H-band GRISM (R~190)
 - J-band, polarization modes to come
- MIRC-X is explained in detail in upcoming paper by Anugu et al (submitted)

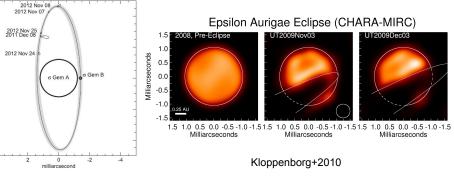
MIRC-X Science Programs

- A wide variety of science interests currently underway with MIRC-X:
 - Stellar diameters
 - Imaging!
 - Rapid rotators, RS CVn, RSG, YSOs, novae
 - Binary stars \rightarrow orbits, multiplicity surveys, planet searches with precision astrometry

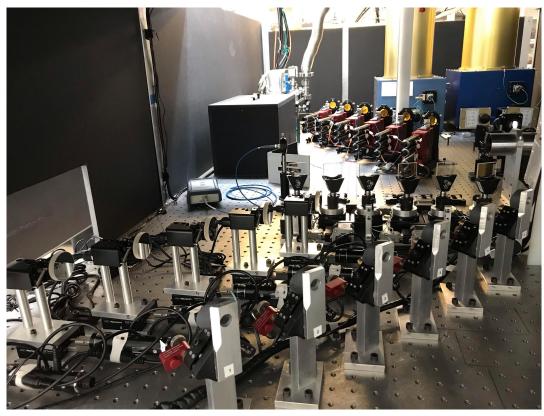


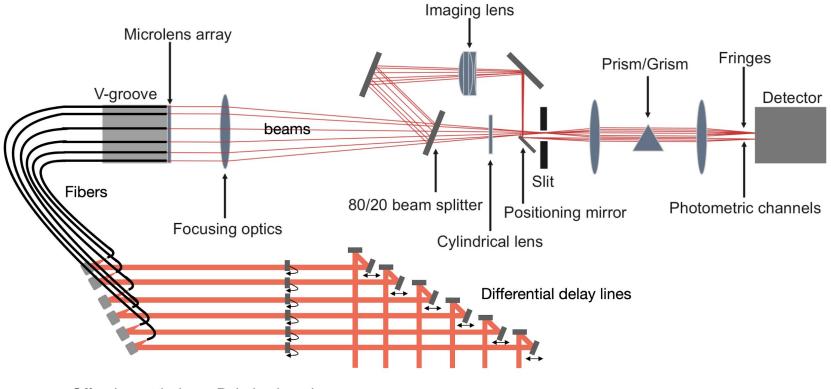
Monnier+2007, Zhao+2009, Che+2011



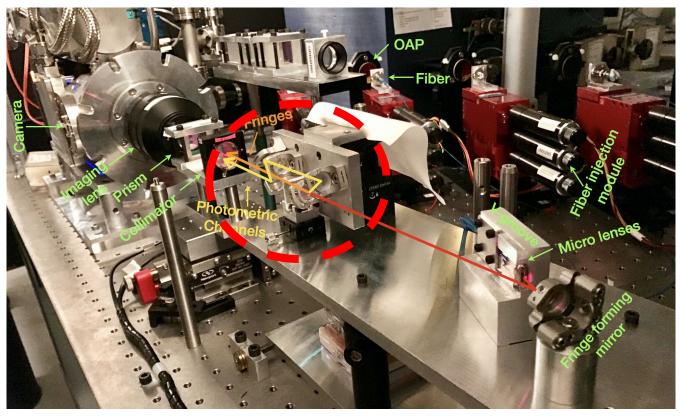


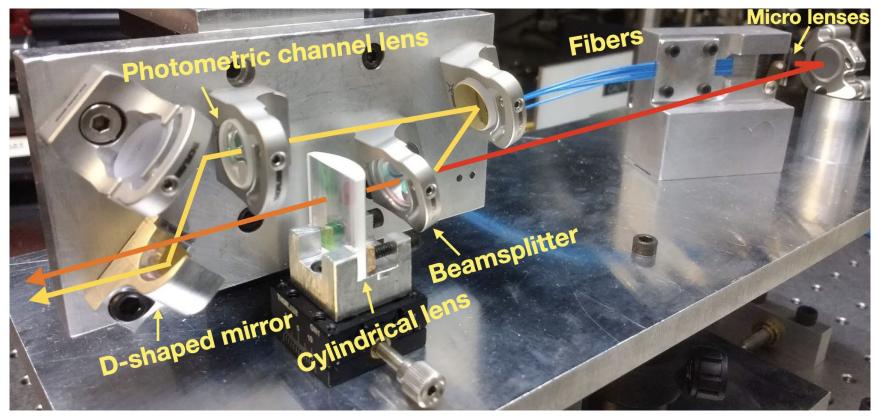
Roettenbacher+15





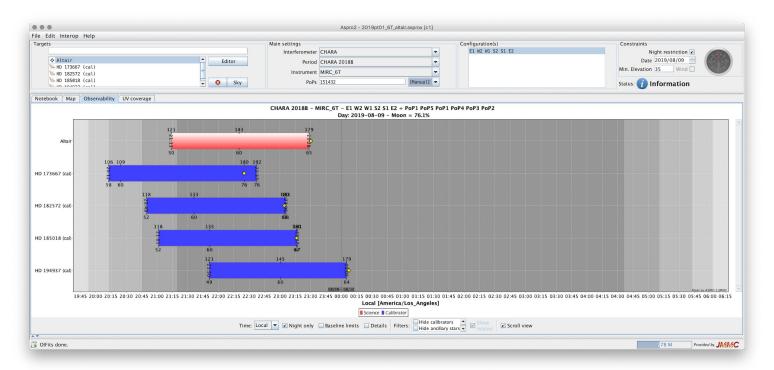
Off-axis parabolas Polarization plates Incoming CHARA beams



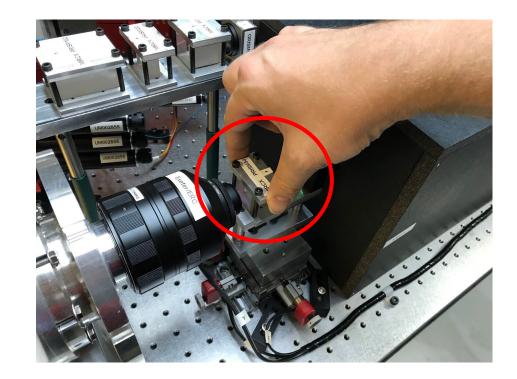


- MIRC-X is a slow cadence beam combiner
 - Observations on a single object take 20 minutes at the bare minimum for recording data
- Calibrator selection
 - Make sure your calibrators are ~30 min to an hour before your target is in delay
 - Within the same mag range as your object (exception: very bright targets)
- Typical Observing sequence
 - Cal1-Obj-Cal2
- MIRC-X designated beam order (as of 2018)
 - E1-W2-W1-S2-S1-E2

- Aspro2 & searchcal



- Various modes for MIRC-X
 - PRISM 50 (default mode)
 - GRISM 190
- Polarization coming soon...
- J-band mode coming soon...
- Future plans with MYSTIC (K-band)



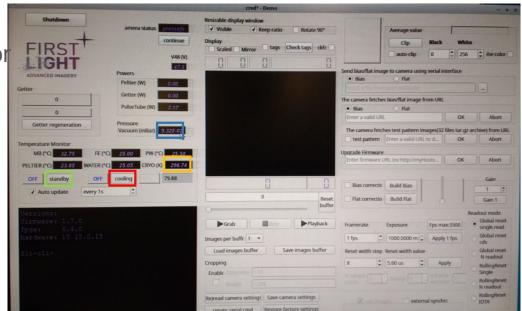
Observing with MIRC-X

Standard Observing Sequence

- 1. Acquire star at the telescopes
- 2. Perform a fiber explorer map to align light into the fibers
- 3. 10 minutes of DATA, with all shutters open and fringes tracked
- 4. 1 minute of BACKGROUND with all shutters closed
- 5. 1 minute of each beam where the shutter of only one of the six beams is open sequentially
- 6. 3 minutes of FOREGROUND frames where all shutters are open but the optical path is set to a large value to ensure that no fringes are present in the data set

Startup & C-RED-ONE GUI

- User manual for MIRC-X observing on CHARA wiki
- Always start servers before opening any GUIs
- C-RED-ONE GUI used to monitor camera but not used throughout the night



MIRC-X server GUI

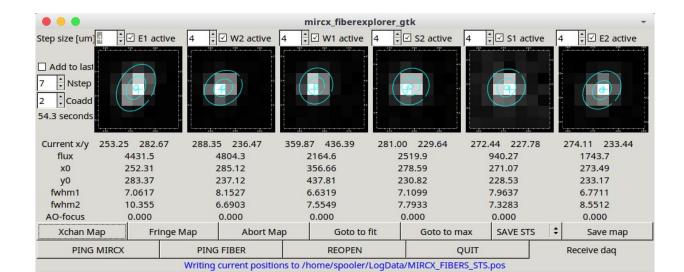
- Load in parameters for mode and _ send
- Now you can start operations and send your parameters to the camera
- Monitor this GUI throughout the _ night to make sure settings are

fine!

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MIRC-X fiber explorer GUI

- Use this to make sure that you are getting light in the fibers
 - Can adjust Step size, Nstep, and Coadd throughout the night
- Good seeing: Beams are compact & produces nice 2D gaussian profiles
- Bad seeing: Light from beams are spread out



MIRC-X super gtk GUI

- Can reset/take backgrounds
- Can reset/take flats (for bright objects to avoid issues with cross-talk)
- Use this to record data

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MIRC-X GDT GUI

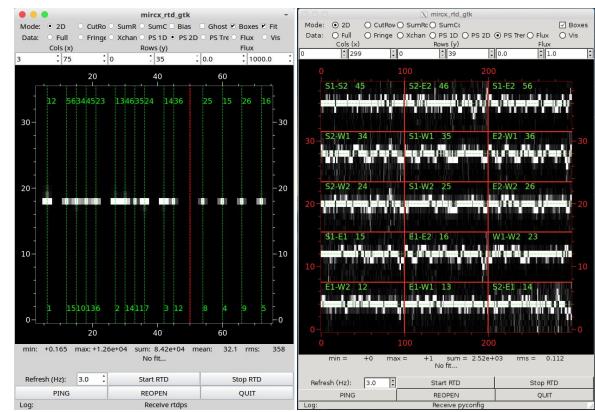
- This GUI lets you control offsets between carts
- When the fringe is found, fringe lights up "yellow"; locking on a fringe will turn the fringes "green"
- You have the option to "track" on a fringe
- You can lock on cross-fringes but ultimately want to lock with ref cart



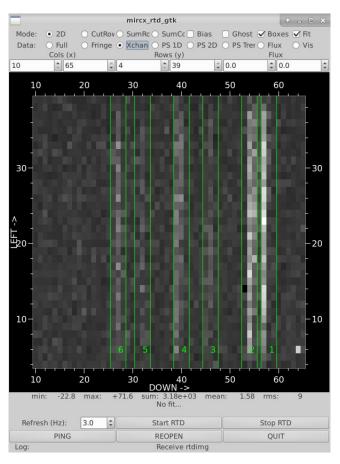
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MIRC-X RTD GUI

- Using this GUI allows you to find fringes in "waterfall plot"
- Many different type of plots to help with observations



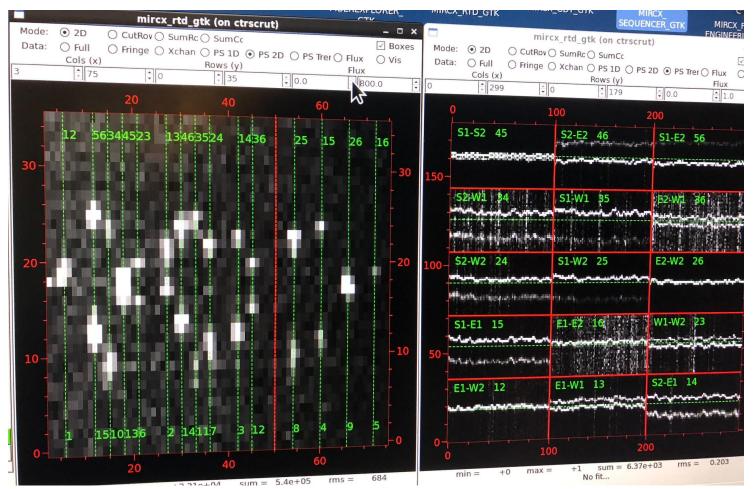
Fiber Mapping \rightarrow Make sure flux injected into MIRCX



Add a on-sky map here (maybe move up this slide in presentation?)

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A binary star in GRISM mode:



Six Telescope Simulator (STS)

- Internal light source for checking MIRCX performance, switching modes, testing
- Used each night before observations
- Installed in May 2019

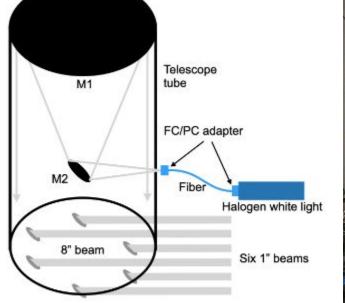
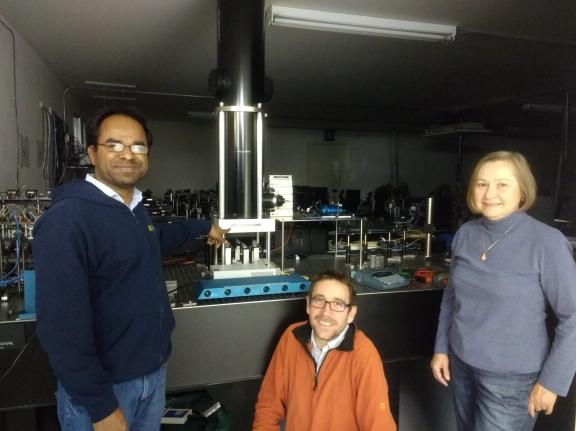
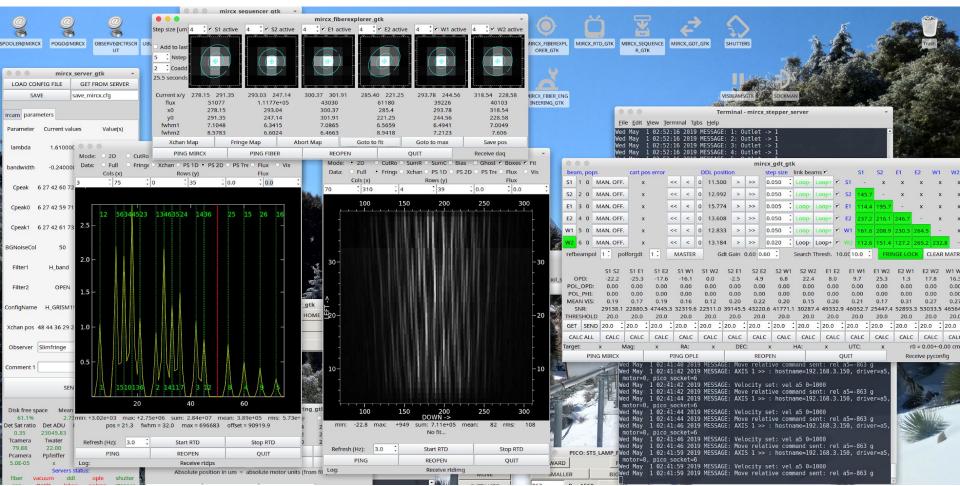


Figure 9. Layout of the six telescope simulator (STS, not to scale). Six coherent beams are extracted from an 8-inch collimated beam created by a Classical Dobsonian telescope acting in reverse. The telescope eyepiece is fed by a single-mode fiber, which is injected light from a halogen lamp.

Anugu et al (submitted)



Six Telescope Simulator (STS)



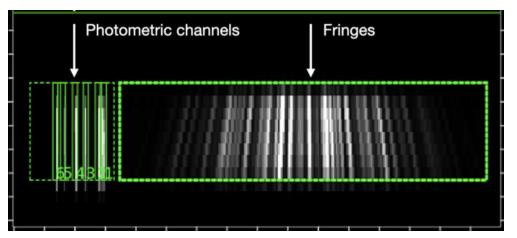
Remote Observing

- VNC connection through machine in Atlanta
- Most MIRC-X runs are done remotely now



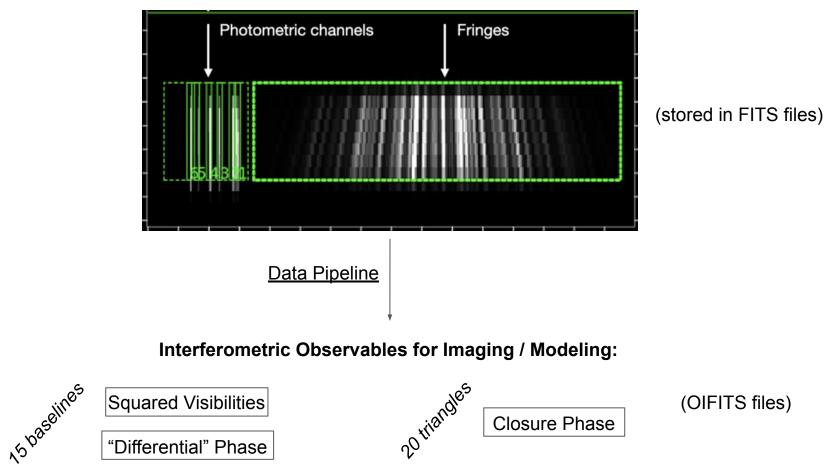
MIRC-X Data Reduction

What we measure at the detector:



(stored in FITS files)

What we measure at the detector:



MIRC-X Data Reduction Pipeline - Overview

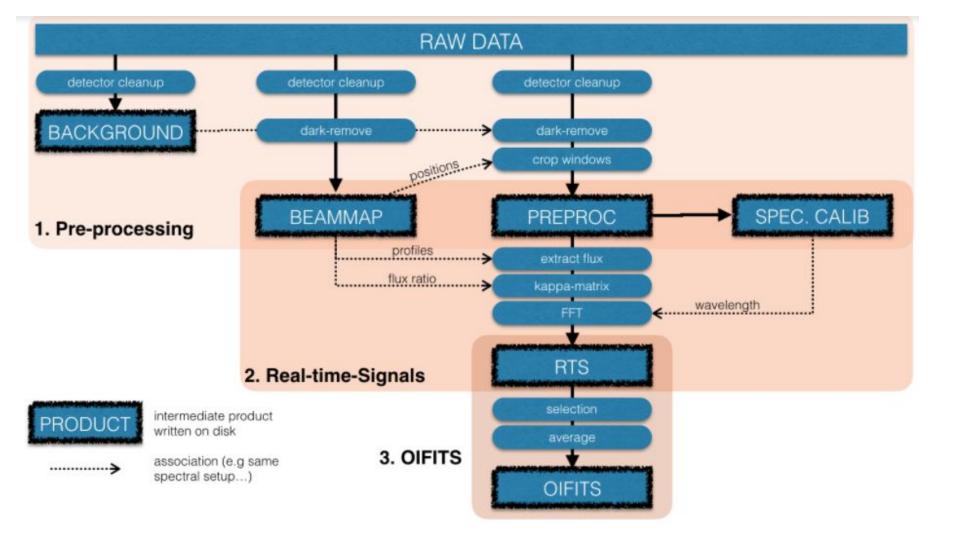
- Raw FITS files of night → Calibrated OIFITS files for imaging/modeling
- Written by Jean-Baptiste Le Bouquin
 - Python 3.7
 - Maintained on git repository: <u>https://gitlab.chara.gsu.edu/lebouquj/mircx_pipeline</u>
- Pipeline divided into 3 steps:
 - Pre-processed files (PREPROC)
 - Real Time Signal (RTS)
 - Raw and calibrated OIFITS

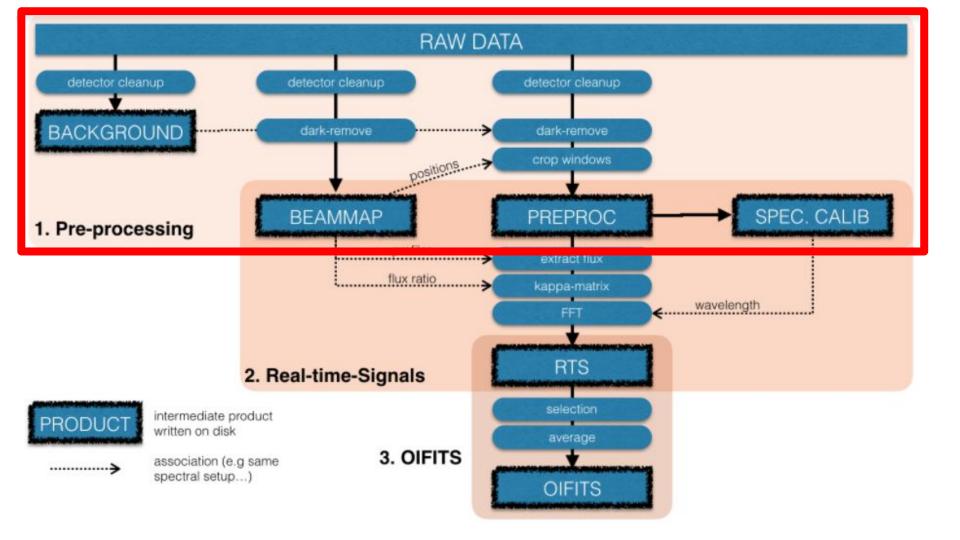
- MIRC-X and its data reduction pipeline are detailed in an upcoming paper
 - Anugu et al, 2020 (submitted)

How to Run the MIRC-X Pipeline

- Run via command line in terminal, designed to be automated
- Many different user input options / modes

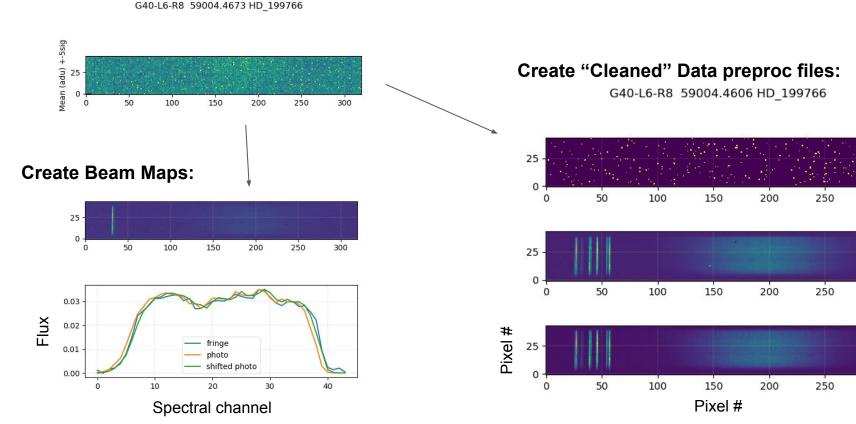
	育 tgardne — ssh monnier-mini.astro.lsa.umich.edu — 137×23
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(python3)	monnier-mini:~ tgardne\$ cd /Volumes/monnier-mini-raid48/PUBLIC/reduced/2020Jun04/
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	-dir=oifits_ncoh10_30secraw-dir=/nfs/Monnier2/MIRCX_DATA/MIRCX_2020Jun/2020Jun04/ &
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(python3)	monnier-mini:2020Jun04 tgardne\$ appending output to nohup.out
(python3)	monnier-mini:2020Jun04 tgardne\$
(python3)	monnier-mini:2020Jun04 tgardne\$ tail -f nohup.out
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Matplotlib	backend: MacOSX
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	2020-06-25T12:01:31.701 [5.46G]: End compute_vis in 14.32s
[INFO]	2020-07-07T10:54:30.612 [0.14G]: Start mircx_reduce
	2020-07-07T10:54:30.613 [0.14G]: bbias is TRUE so force save-all-freqs=TRUE
[INF0]	2020-07-07T10:54:30.613 [0.14G]: Start loaddir
	2020-07-07T10:54:30.776 [0.14G]: Load directory: /nfs/Monnier2/MIRCX_DATA/MIRCX_2020Jun/2020Jun04/
[INF0]	2020-07-07T10:54:34.373 [0.14G]: Load header log /nfs/Monnier2/MIRCX_DATA/MIRCX_2020Jun/2020Jun04//mircx_hdrs.txt





1) Pre-Processing Step

Background Files:



- Associate detector setups; targets / shutters
- Detector cleanup, bad pixel removal
- Creates PREPROC data files, beam maps, spectral calibration

300

300

300

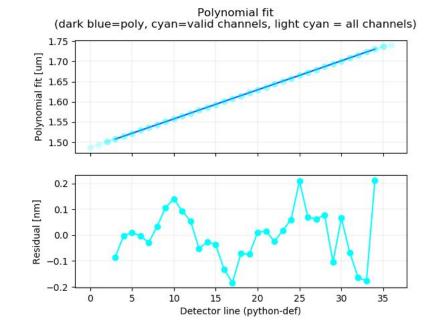
1) Pre-Processing Step

All Fringe Files of Given Setup \rightarrow Spectral Calibration

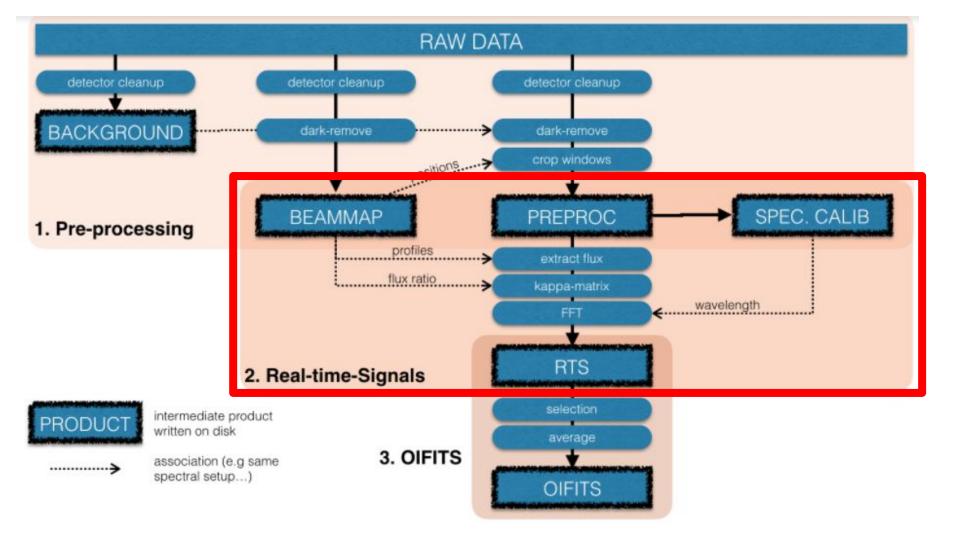
Observed PSD (orange) and scaled template (blue)

0.2 0.4 0.3 0.0 0.1

- Associate detector setups; targets / shutters
- Detector cleanup, bad pixel removal
- Creates PREPROC data files, beam maps, spectral calibration



Observed Fringe Frequency

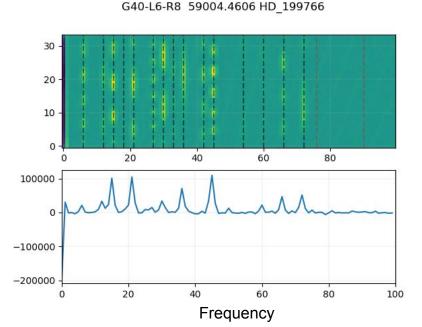


2) RTS Step

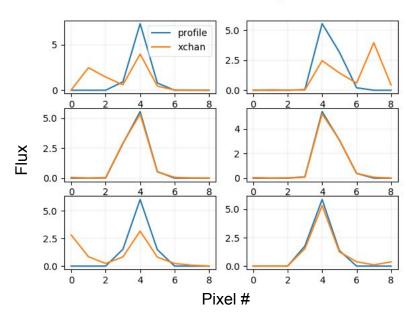
Beam Profiles, Photometry:

- Compute real-time photometry -
- Fringe power -
- Compute bispectrum bias -
- Crude vis2 -

Fringes:

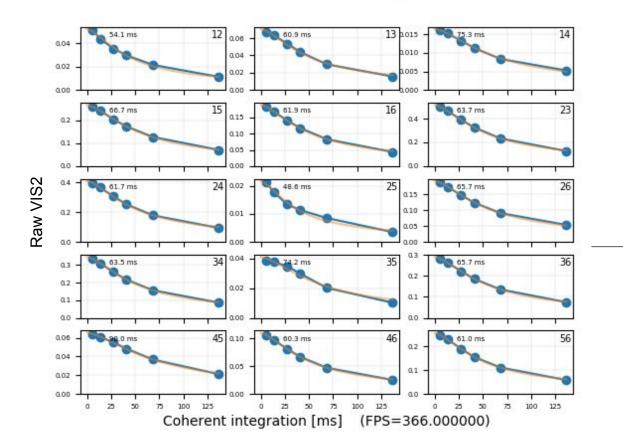


G40-L6-R8 59004.4606 HD_199766



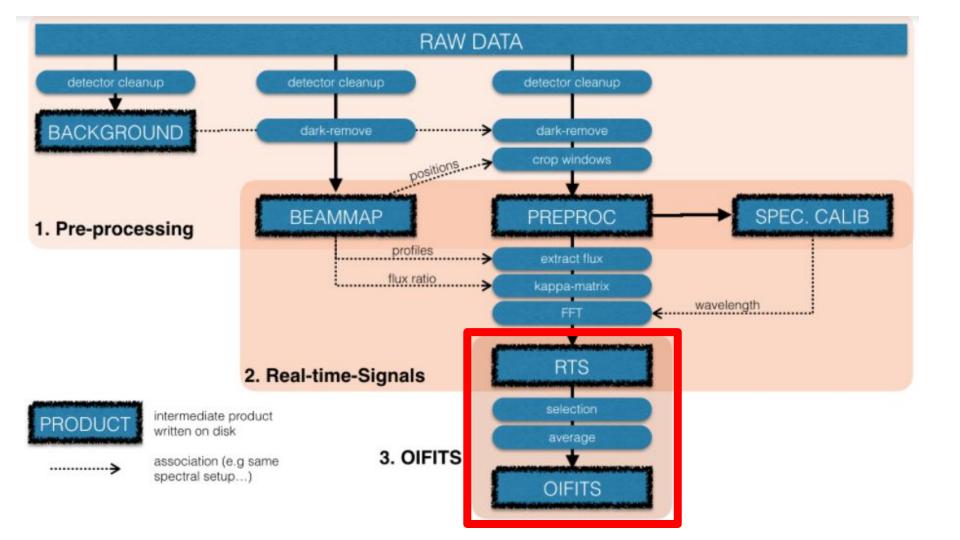
2) RTS Step

G40-L6-R8 59004.4606 HD_199766

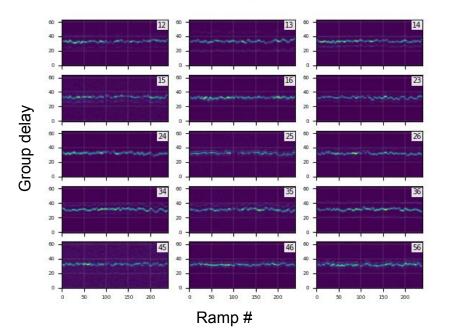


- Compute real-time photometry
- Fringe power
- Compute bispectrum bias
- Crude vis2

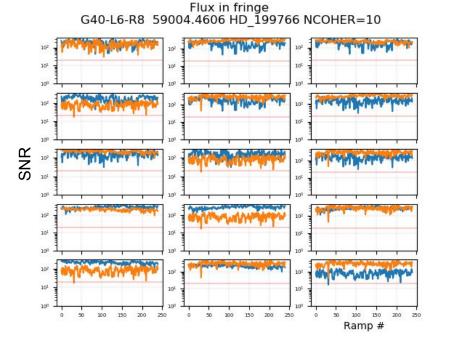
Gives an idea of how many frames to coherently average for OIFITS step



- Further selection criteria for cleaning
- Computation of raw visibilities, differential phase, closure phase

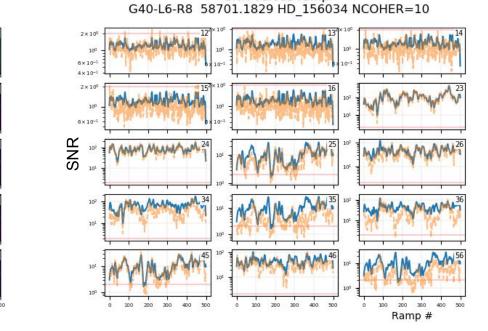


G40-L6-R8 59004.4606 HD_199766 NCOHER=10

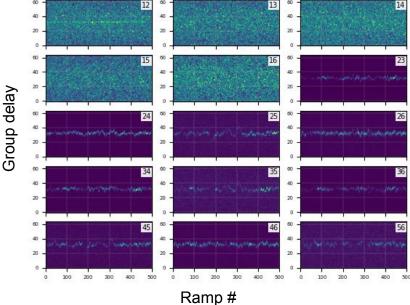


- Further selection criteria for cleaning
- Computation of raw visibilities, differential phase, closure phase

SNR versus ramp



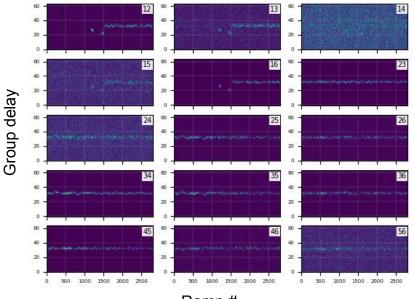
G40-L6-R8 58701.1829 HD_156034 NCOHER=10



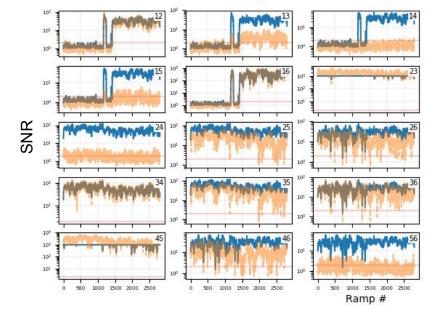
- Further selection criteria for cleaning
- Computation of raw visibilities, differential phase, closure phase

SNR versus ramp

G40-L6-R8 58701.3971 HD_4502 NCOHER=10



G40-L6-R8 58701.3971 HD_4502 NCOHER=10



Ramp #

0.1

0.3

0.2

0.1

0.3

0.7

0.2

0.4

0.0

0.2

0.1

0.2

0.0 0.4

0.2

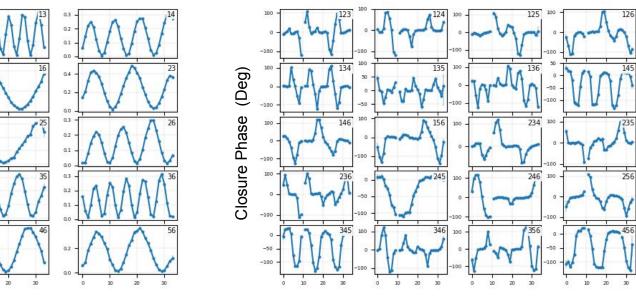
0.10

0.05

VIS2 (RAW)

- Further selection criteria for cleaning
- Computation of raw visibilities, differential phase, closure phase

G40-L6-R8 59004.4606 HD_199766 NCOHER=10



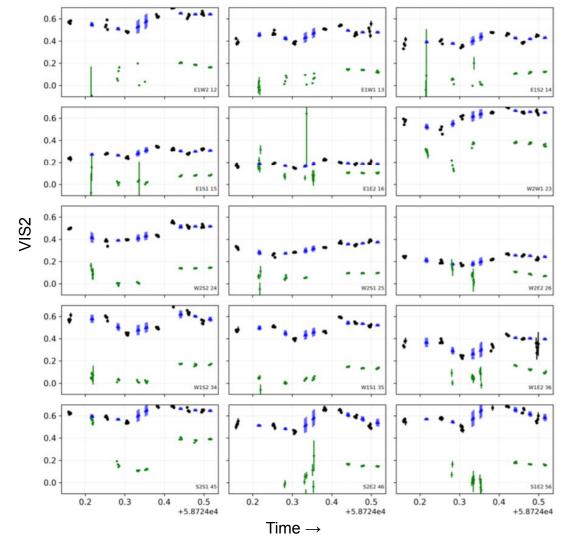
G40-L6-R8 59004.4606 HD_199766 NCOHER=10

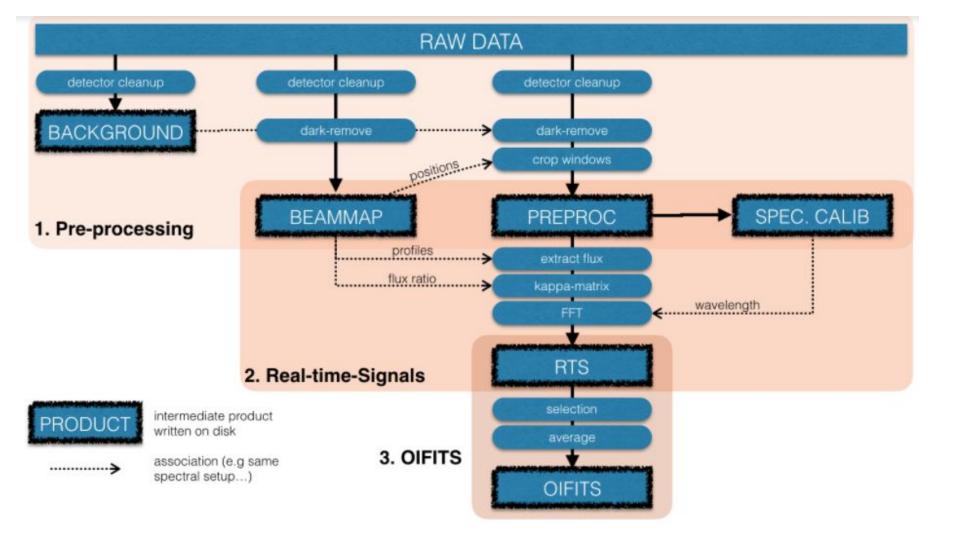
Wavelength

Wavelength

4) Calibration

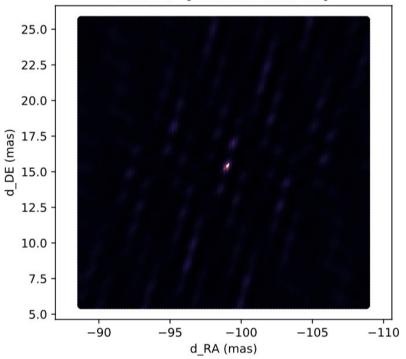
- True source visibility is corrupted by system losses
- Compute 'transfer function' with calibrator stars to account for this
- Use calibrators to calibrate visibilities / phases of science targets





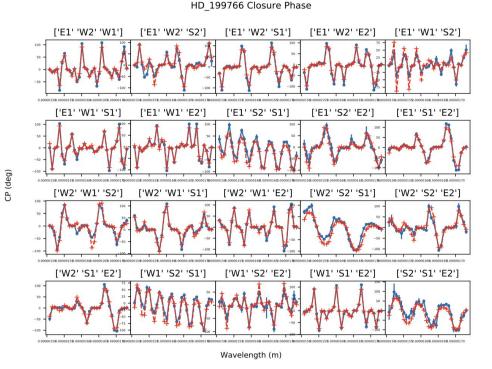
Imaging, model fitting, etc!

Example \rightarrow position of a binary companion:



Best Fit - [-98.8698 15.5424]

- Calibrated OIFITS files compatible with many publicly available softwares
- e.g. CANDID, squeeze, macim, MiRA, bsmem, LITpro,



End of Night → Archiving data and MIRC-X Pipeline Wrapper

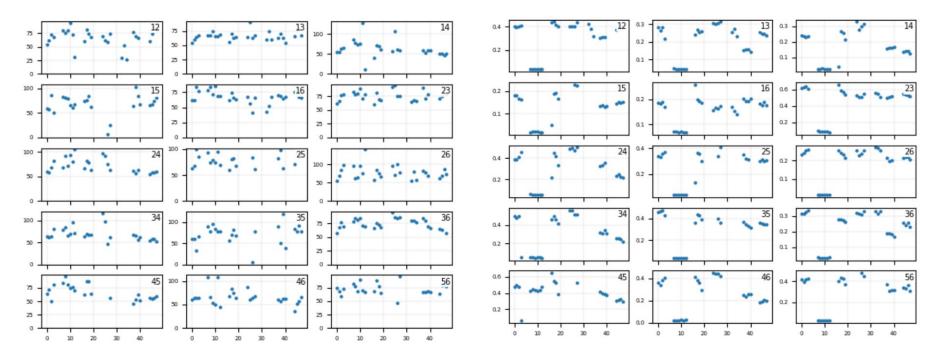
- Archive script saves 2 copies of compressed FITS data files of night
- Pipeline wrapper written by Claire Davies as a first 'quicklook' at data quality
 - Runs preproc, rts, oifits steps
 - Identifies calibrators
 - Fits binary models to check for bad calibrator stars
 - Shows fiber maps for night \rightarrow beam quality

- Group receives emailed summary reports \rightarrow Useful for multi-night runs!

Summary reports - Seeing / VIS2 of night

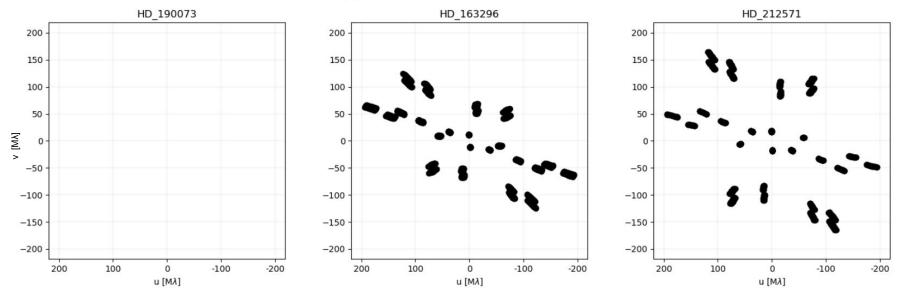
Decoherence Half Time [ms]

Vis2

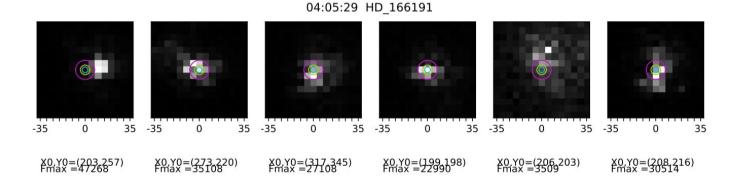


Summary reports - Identify targets / cals

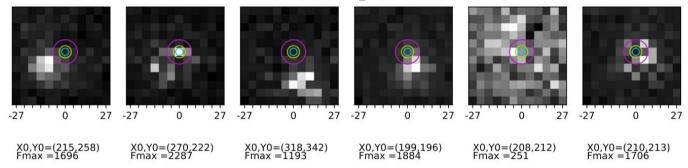
Full night *uv*-coverage for SCI target(s)



Summary reports - Fiber maps of night



04:19:17 HD_162998



MIRC-X: a highly-sensitive six telescope interferometric imager at the CHARA Array

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Credone detector upgrade - 2017June



Optics upgrade - 2018Sep

