

AREADETECTOR GAUSSIAN FITTING PLUGIN FOR ROBUST BEAM CHARACTERIZATION AND ALIGNMENT SUPPORT

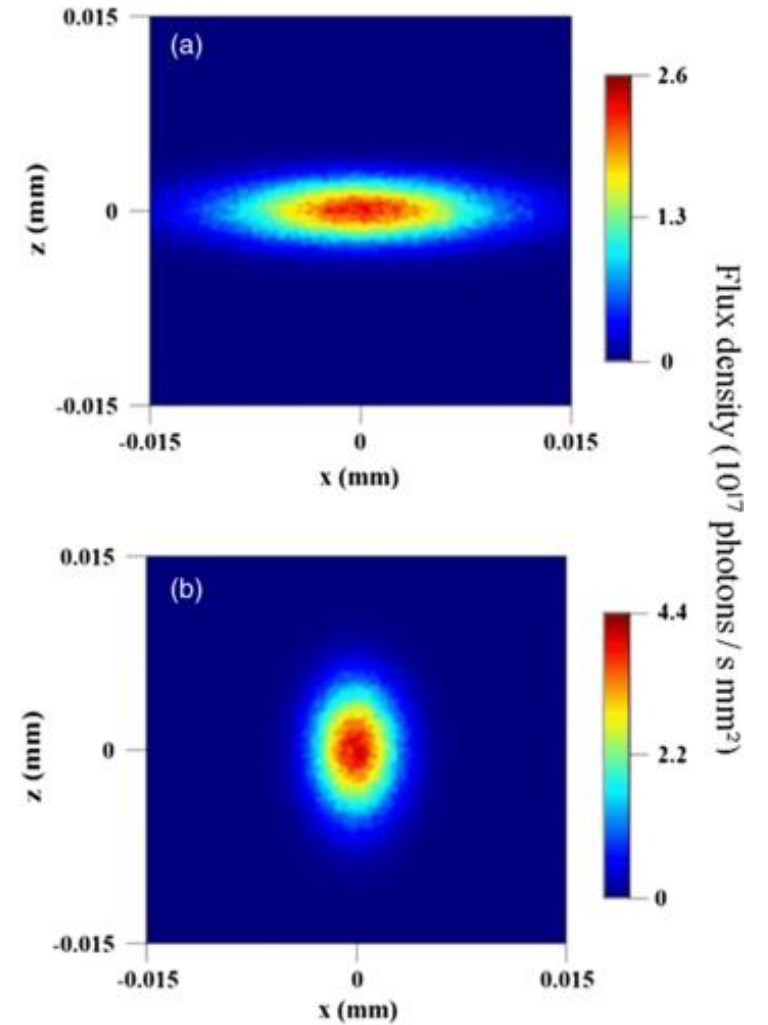
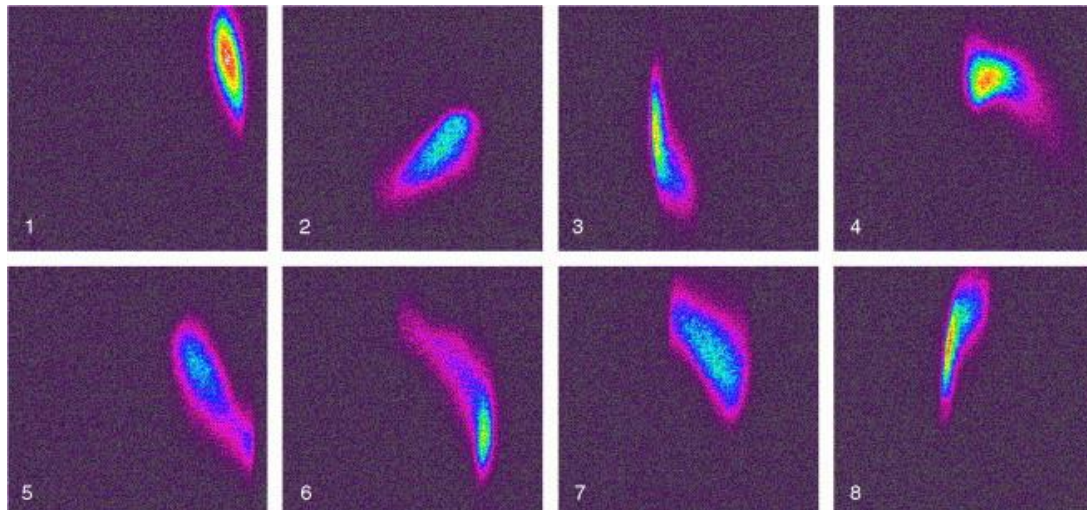
Luca Porzio

EPICS
Collaboration
Meeting
ENS Paris-Saclay
Spring 2026

MOTIVATION

While areaDetector is the standard for DAQ, it currently lacks a robust, built-in way to perform true nonlinear curve fitting.

Doing the fit outside of EPICS introduces challenges on **synchronization** and **timestamping** as well as increasing the **system complexity**.



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NDPluginGaussianFit



ARCHITECTURE & CORE FEATURES

Ceres Solver (Google) – Used on Google Maps, Android Camera, Project Tango – Released under *Apache 2.0* License .

Additional Features:

- Data Sparsification (thresholding)
- Robust Loss Function (resilience to outliers)
- N-1 frame tracking (closed-loop)

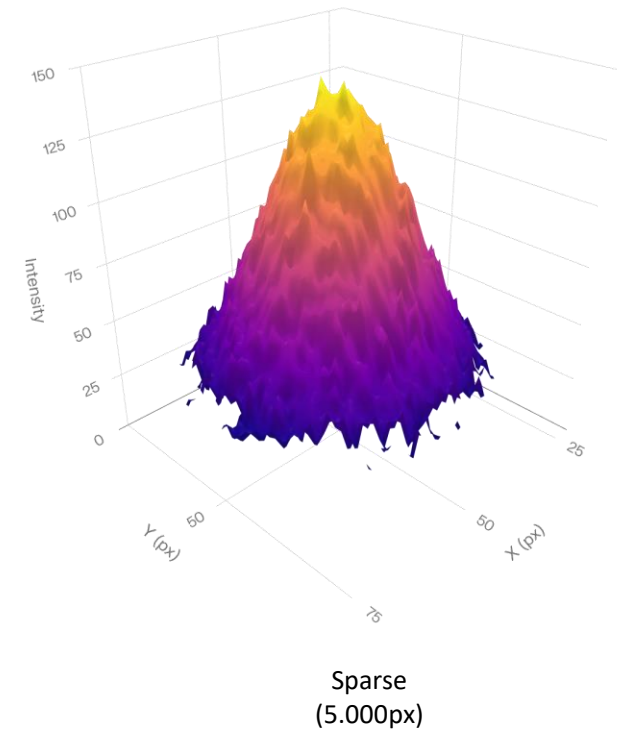
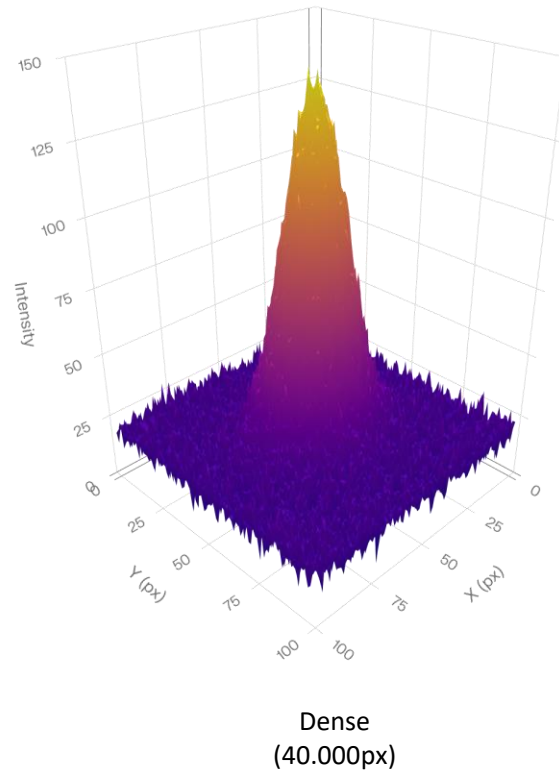


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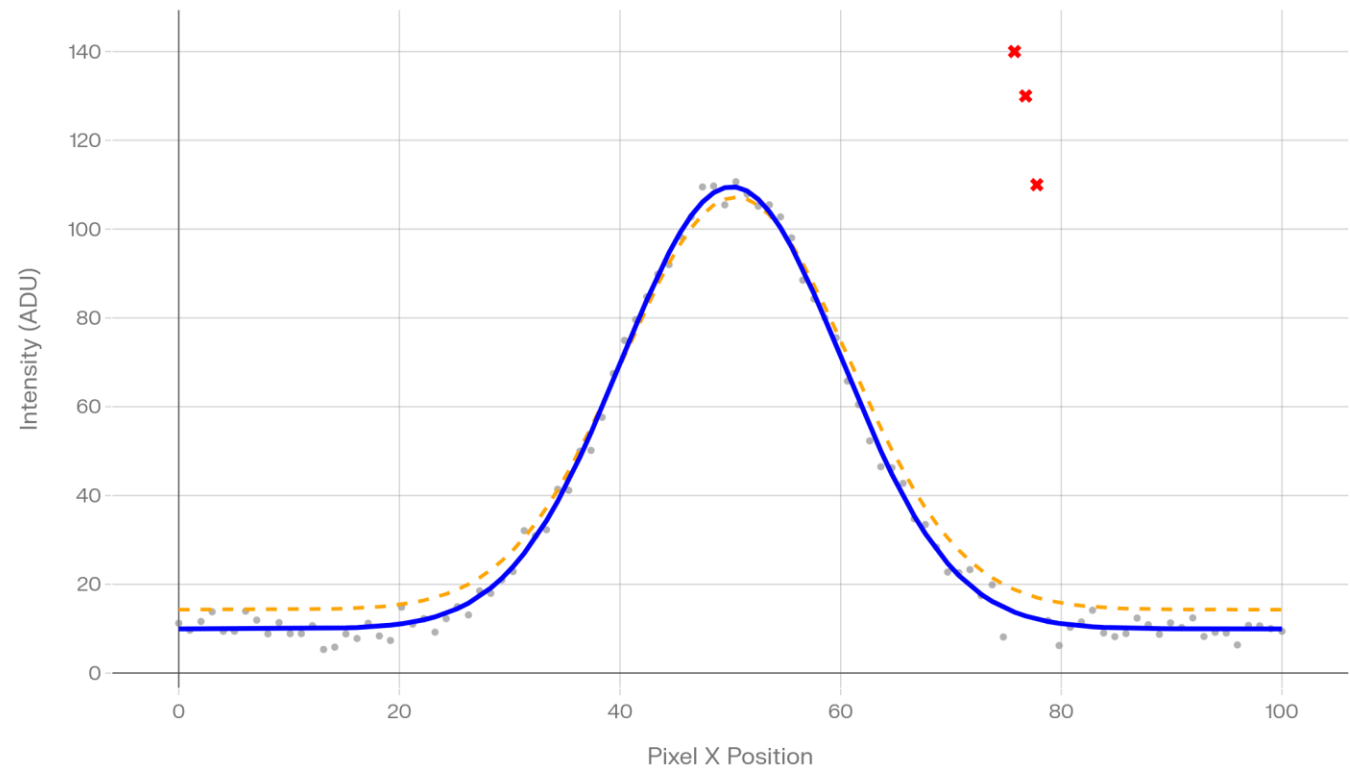
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Robust Loss vs. Outliers (1D Profile)

Huber loss ignores extreme values to maintain accurate beam tracking
• Beam + Noise ✖ Hot Pixels - - Standard Fit (Biased) — Robust Fit (Ceres)



ARCHITECTURE & CORE FEATURES

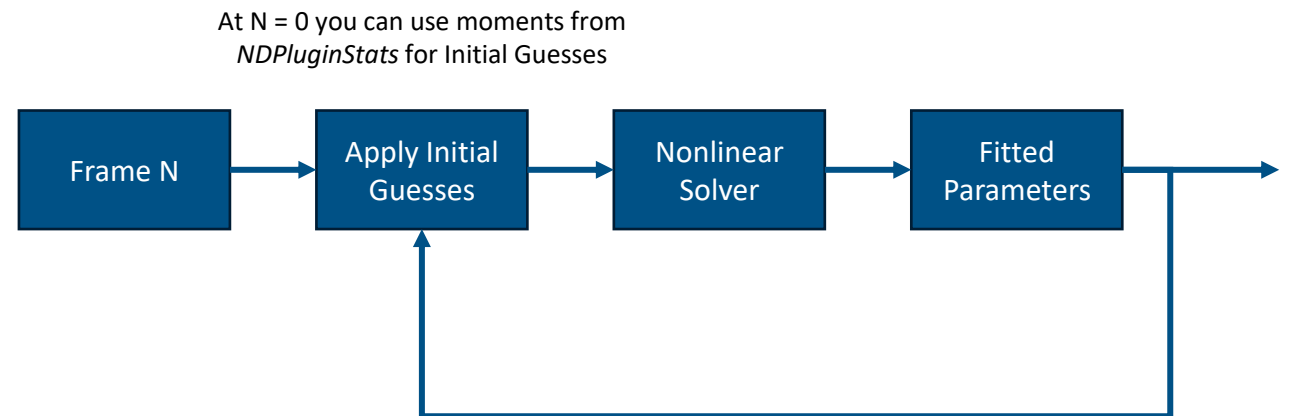
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Performances:

- $300_{px} \times 200_{px}$ *uint8* - **40ms** in closed-loop (total plugin execution time)
i9-12900K @ 5.2 GHz – 8 threads



USE CASES – BEAM/OPTICS CHARACTERIZATION & ALIGNMENT SUPPORT

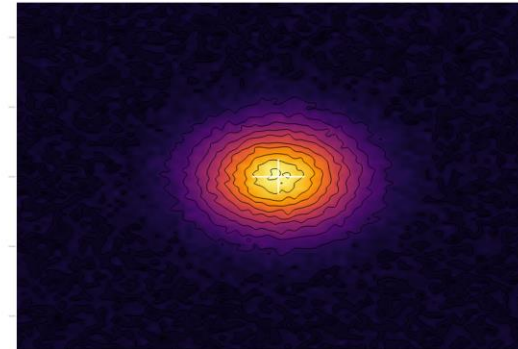
Moving from “*where is the beam*” to “*how good is the beam*”.

- **Goodness of fit (NRMSE):** data drifts from the model, even if centroid/sigma don’t move.
- **Covariance matrix (from Hessian):** 1σ uncertainties and correlations on $x_0, y_0, \sigma_x, \sigma_y, \theta$, amplitude, and background in real time.

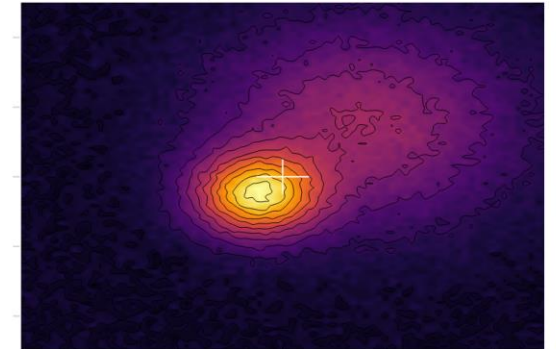
NRMSE as a Universal Beam Diagnostic Metric

Four scenarios where standard centroid tracking succeeds, but the true beam shape has degraded

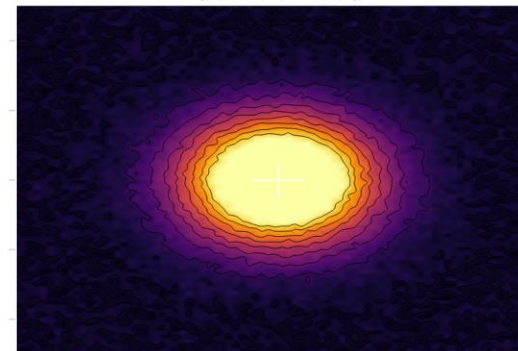
1. Ideal Beam
(NRMSE = 1.8%)



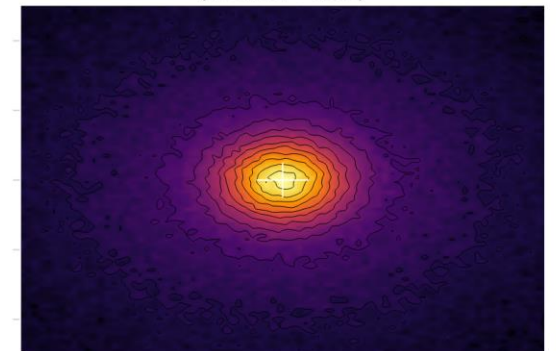
2. Coma / Slope Error
(NRMSE = 9.7%)



3. Saturated Detector
(NRMSE = 7.4%)



4. Scatter Halo
(NRMSE = 6.8%)



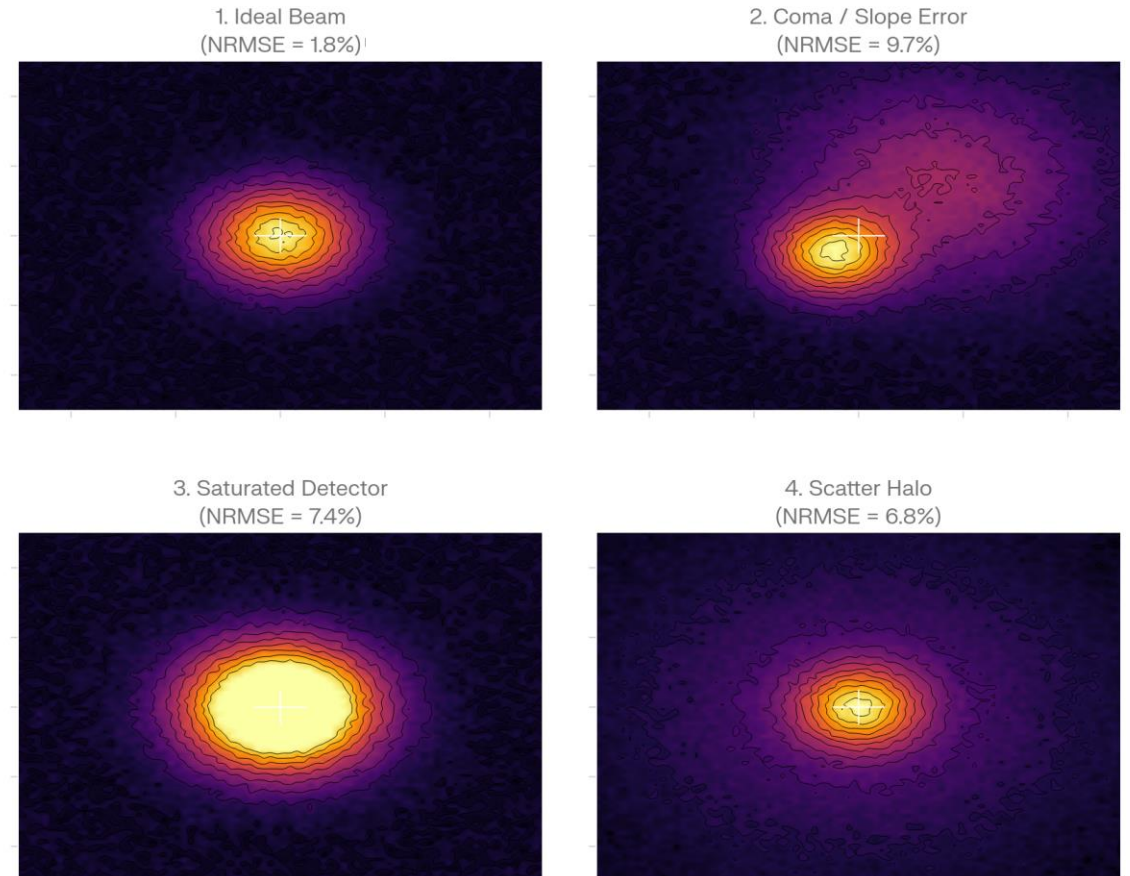
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- Detection of **Optics Aberrations** and **Multi Mode Beam**.
- **Ellipticity & Astigmatism:** Extracting the major/minor axis and rotation angle (θ) maps directly to mirror slope errors and sagittal/tangential focus mismatch.
- Track slow variations in beam size (**thermal load**)

NRMSE as a Universal Beam Diagnostic Metric

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FUTURE TESTS DEVELOPMENTS

- Support to **Voigt-like** beams.
- **Kalman Filter Integration:** Ceres provides per-frame Gaussian fits and local curvature (Hessian), the Kalman filter turns those into a temporally consistent state with predictive priors and uncertainties.
- **AI & Flying Bayesian Optimization:** Acting as the high-speed “reward function” evaluator. Autonomous agents can adjust mirror benders and pitch/roll, using the real-time σ_x, σ_y , and NRMSE from this plugin to optimize the beamline completely hands-free.

