

Compressed Sensing for Rotation Measure Synthesis

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Faraday Rotation





CS for RM Synthesis



In general:

$$\phi \neq RM$$
, $RM = \frac{d\chi(\lambda^2)}{d\lambda^2}$ where $\chi = \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1} \frac{U}{Q}$.

For the single source:

$$\chi(\lambda^2) = \chi_0 + \phi \lambda^2$$
, therefore $\frac{d\chi(\lambda^2)}{d\lambda^2} = \phi = RM$.



Multiple Faraday structures:

 $P(\lambda^2) = \int F(\phi) e^{2i\phi\lambda^2} d\phi$ (Burn 1966)

That single source again:

$$F(\phi) = \delta(\phi - \phi_0) \rightarrow P(\lambda^2) = e^{2i\phi_0\lambda^2} = \cos(2\phi_0\lambda^2) + i\sin(2\phi_0\lambda^2) = Q + iU$$



The Faraday dispersion function is a Fourier relationship:

 $P(\lambda^2) = \int F(\phi) e^{2i\phi\lambda^2} d\phi$ (Burn 1966)

$$F(\phi) = \int P(\lambda^2) e^{-2i\phi\lambda^2} d\phi$$



Similarly to the relationship between the *uv* and image planes in aperture synthesis it is not fully sampled:

$$P(\tilde{\lambda}^2) = W(\lambda^2)P(\lambda^2)$$

We get a response function similar to that of a PSF:

$$RMSF(\phi) = \frac{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} W(\lambda^2) e^{-2i\phi\lambda^2} d\lambda^2}{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} W(\lambda^2) d\lambda^2}$$

Brentjens & de Bruyn 2005



Resolution is a function of coverage in λ^2 : $\delta \phi \approx \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{\Delta \lambda^2}$ $\begin{array}{l} \text{Sensitivity to maximum scale in } \phi \text{ is a} \\ \text{function of resolution in } \lambda^2 \text{:} \\ ||\phi_{\max}|| \approx \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\delta\lambda^2} \end{array}$





RM Synthesis

- RMSF from 30-50 MHz + 60-80 MHz: $\delta \phi = 0.05 \text{ rad m}^{-2},$ $\phi_{\text{max}} = 19 \text{ rad m}^{-2}$
- RMSF from 120-150 MHz + 180-210 MHz: $\delta \phi = 1.0 \text{ rad m}^{-2}$, $\phi_{\text{max}} = 1200 \text{ rad m}^{-2}$

Heald 2009





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LOFAR Early Results



CS for RM Synthesis



LOFAR Early Results



Andreas Horneffer



LOFAR Early Results



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CS for RM Synthesis



RM Clean

RM Clean (Heald 2009)

Works in the same way as standard CLEAN Iterative subtraction of a δ -fnc scaled by a loop gain factor.





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CS for RM Synthesis





Marijke Haverkorn























































Extended emission (Fan region)



WSRT



Extended emission (Fan region)



LOFAR: Marco Iacobelli & Marijke Haverkorn



RM Synthesis

Faraday spectra are **complex**: the modulus defines the emission and the phase the PA

$$P(\lambda^{2}) = \int \epsilon(z) e^{2i\chi(z)} e^{2i\phi(z)\lambda^{2}} dz$$
$$F(\phi) = \epsilon(\phi) e^{2i\chi(\phi)} \left(\frac{d\phi}{dz}\right)^{-1}$$

Standard RM Synthesis does not recover the complex components as there is no information at $\lambda^2 < 0$

Requires a degree of inference about the underlying signal distribution



Frick et al. 2010



RM Synthesis

Wavelet based RM Synthesis can recover real and imaginary parts of $F(\phi)$ more accurately

Requires a degree of inference about the underlying signal distribution \rightarrow symmetry of dispersion function



Frick et al. 2010



CS for Faraday Thin Sources











Li et al. 2011



Faraday Caustics



(Bell, Enßlin & Junklewitz 2011)

Caused by reversals of the B-field along the l.o.s.

Leads to Heaviside functions in the Faraday dispersion spectrum





(Waelkens+ 2009)



Sparsity of Faraday Caustics

Statistical TV norm (STV $_{\epsilon}$):



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Variation with Galactic Co-ords

 $b = 40^{\circ}$



CS for RM Synthesis



- The RM-Synthesis problem is similar in some respects to the Aperture Synthesis problem
- Differences in the underlying signal cause necessary variations of approach - prior knowledge is required for RM-Synthesis
- Sparsity can be used as a prior in a number of circumstances
 - Point-like objects in FD
 - Faraday Caustics
- Basis Pursuit approaches should be possible