

# Image Analysis with CASA

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# Table of Contents

- Introduction to Image Analysis with CASA
  - CASA Image format/Checking image header
- Statistics/Reformat of images
- Continuum analysis
  - Two dimensional Gaussian fit
- Line analysis
  - Moment maps
  - Position-velocity (PV) diagrams

\*Brief tutorial is provided by NRAO:

[https://casaguides.nrao.edu/index.php/First\\_Look\\_at\\_Image\\_Analysis\\_CASA\\_6.6.1](https://casaguides.nrao.edu/index.php/First_Look_at_Image_Analysis_CASA_6.6.1)

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Some examples are here!

```
bash-4.2$ cd image_analysis
bash-4.2$ ls
exportfits.py  imstat.py
imfit.py       reformat_image.py
imhead.py      twhya_co.image
immoments.py  twhya_cont.image
impv.py        twhya_n2hp.image
```

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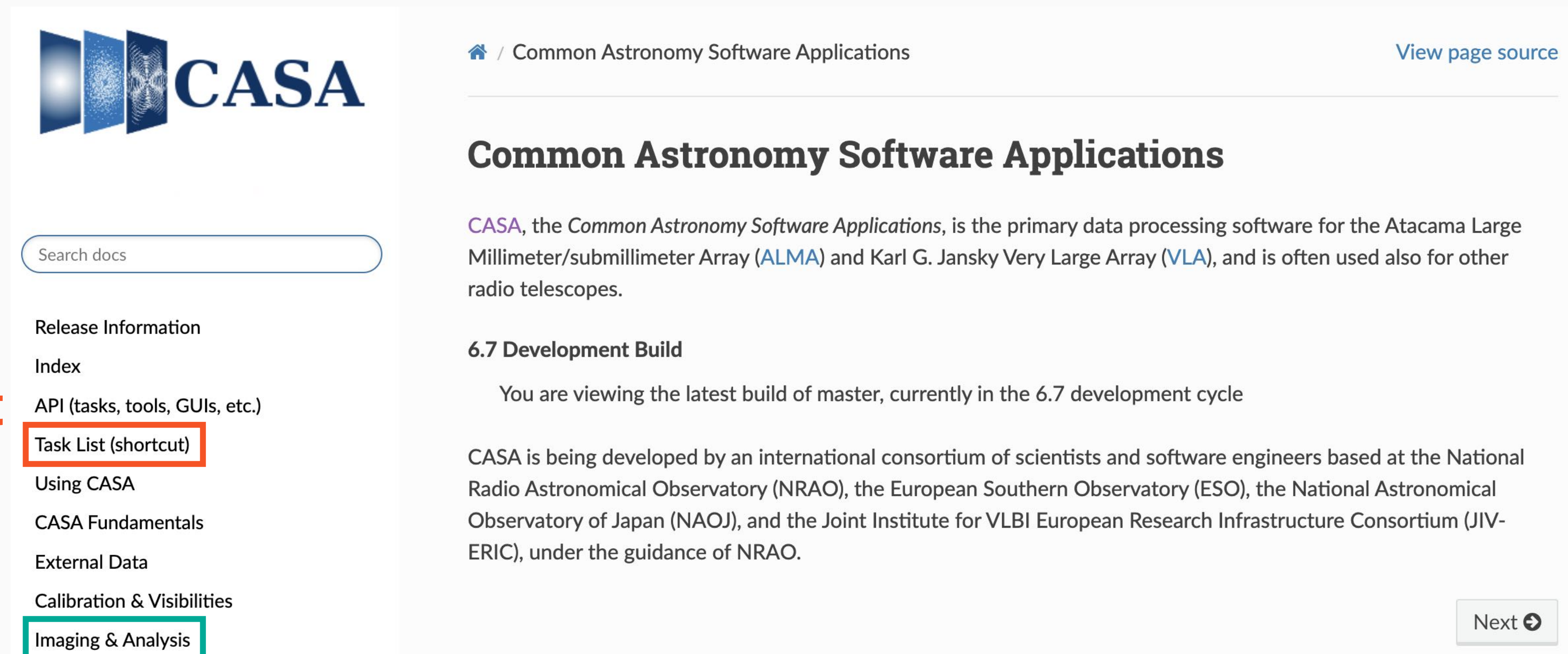
# Image Analysis with CASA

- CASA provides various command-line tasks for image analyses
- Advantage is you can keep log, be more exact in numbers, easily redo analyses, and execute many tasks once running scripts

Google “CASA docs” or <https://casadocs.readthedocs.io/en/latest/imaging.html>

**Task list**

**Instruction for  
imaging & analysis**



The screenshot shows the CASA documentation website. The header includes the CASA logo and the text "Common Astronomy Software Applications". A search bar is present. The navigation menu on the left lists: Release Information, Index, API (tasks, tools, GUIs, etc.), Task List (shortcut), Using CASA, CASA Fundamentals, External Data, Calibration & Visibilities, and Imaging & Analysis. The main content area is titled "Common Astronomy Software Applications" and contains a paragraph about CASA and a section for "6.7 Development Build". A "Next" button is visible in the bottom right corner.

🏠 / Common Astronomy Software Applications [View page source](#)

## Common Astronomy Software Applications

CASA, the *Common Astronomy Software Applications*, is the primary data processing software for the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA) and Karl G. Jansky Very Large Array (VLA), and is often used also for other radio telescopes.

### 6.7 Development Build

You are viewing the latest build of master, currently in the 6.7 development cycle

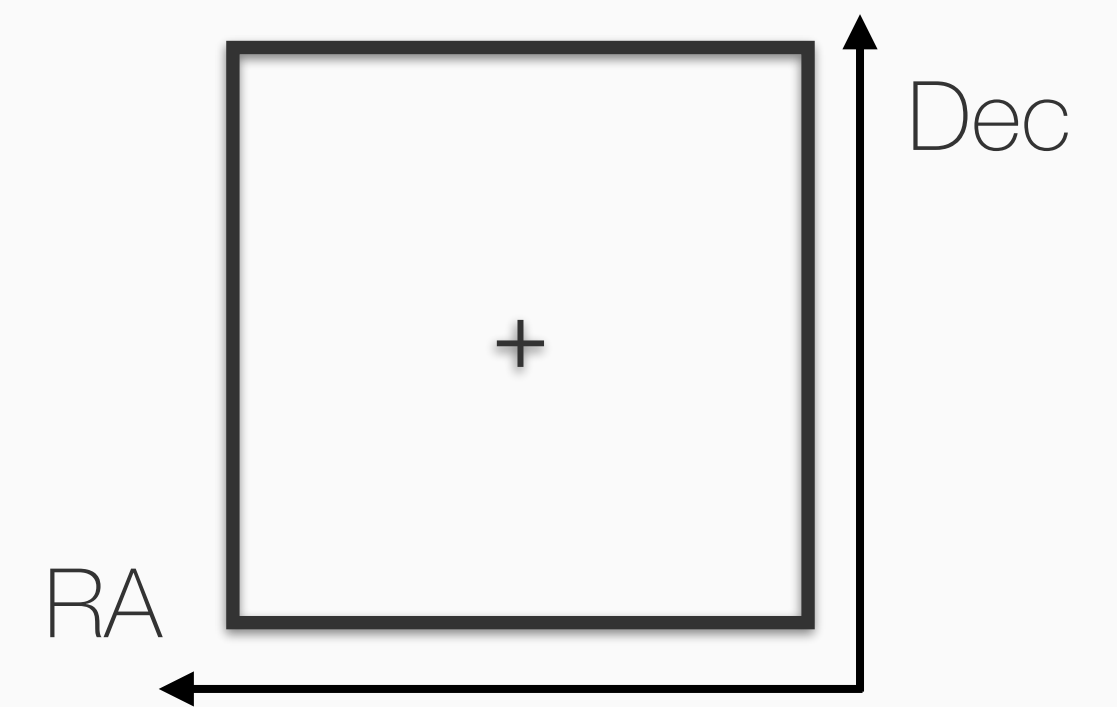
CASA is being developed by an international consortium of scientists and software engineers based at the National Radio Astronomical Observatory (NRAO), the European Southern Observatory (ESO), the National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NAOJ), and the Joint Institute for VLBI European Research Infrastructure Consortium (JIVE-ERIC), under the guidance of NRAO.

Next ➔

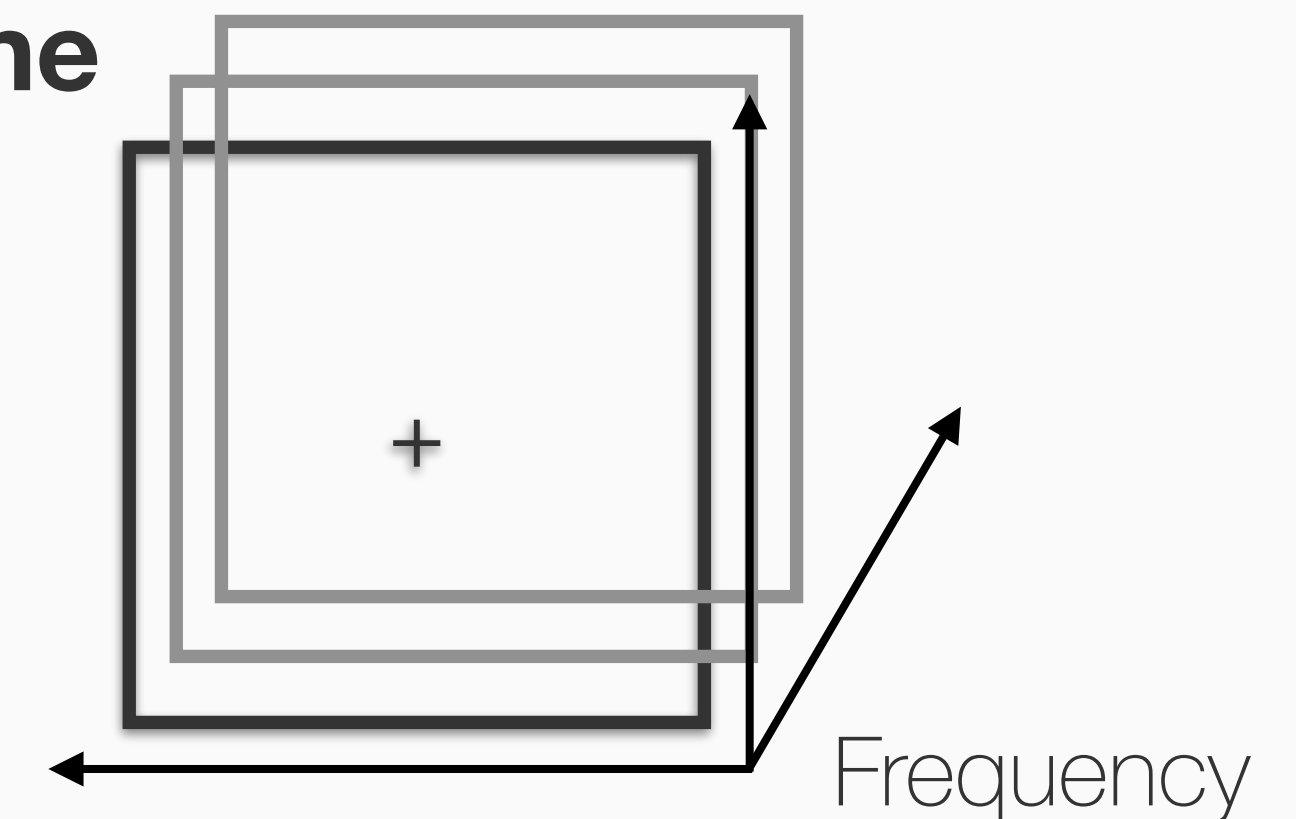
# CASA Image Format

- Meta data are contained in Header
  - Information of observations—observing date, target name, etc
  - Coordinate systems—absolute & pixel coordinates of images
  - Intensity units, restoring beam size, spectral & stokes parameters
- CASA images typically have four axes
  - Spatial coordinate (RA/GLON, DEC/GLAT), stokes, and frequency
  - Non-polarization data have only Stokes I
  - Continuum data have only single frequency point

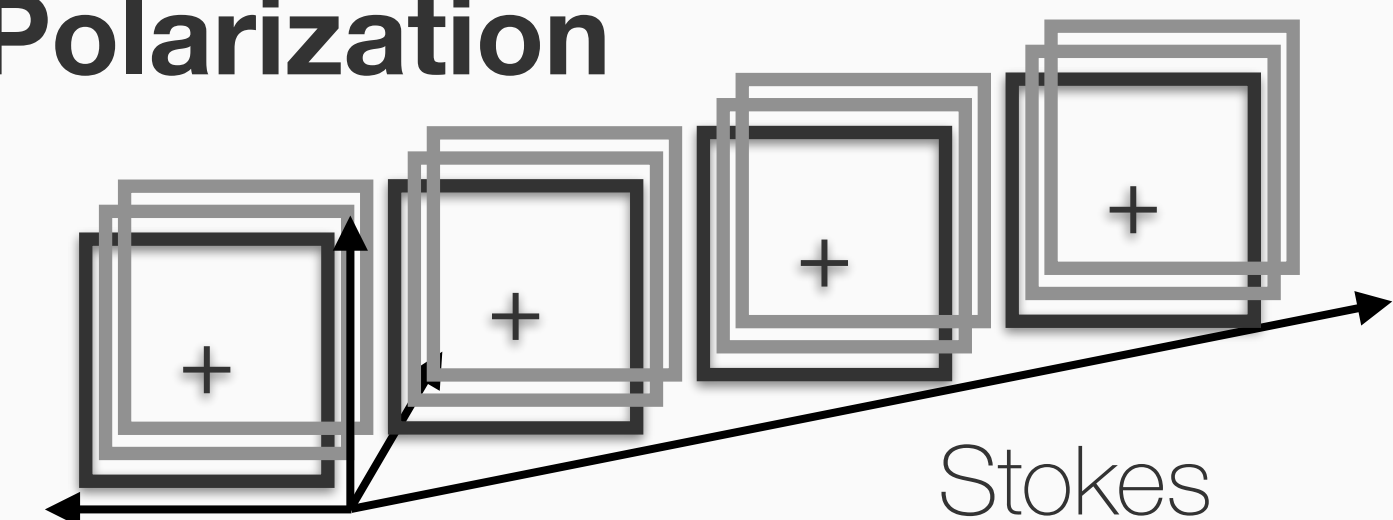
## Continuum



## Line



## Polarization





# Checking Image Header

## Task—imhead

- More information can be obtained with mode='list'

```
CASA <19>: imhead('twhya_n2hp.image', mode='list')
Out[19]:
{'beammajor': {'unit': 'arcsec', 'value': 0.6148935726253035},
 'beamminor': {'unit': 'arcsec', 'value': 0.4531960312291376},
 'beampa': {'unit': 'rad', 'value': -0.9142064866512125},
 'bunit': 'Jy/beam',
 'cdelt1': -4.84813681109536e-07,
 'cdelt2': 4.84813681109536e-07,
 'cdelt3': 1.0,
 'cdelt4': -621550.8096313477,
 'crpix1': 125.0,
 'crpix2': 125.0,
 'crpix3': 0.0,
 'crpix4': 0.0,
 'crval1': 2.887923300334642,
 'crval2': -0.6057134431858937,
 'crval3': 1.0,
 'crval4': 372672489999.99994,
 'ctype1': 'Right Ascension',
 'ctype2': 'Declination',
 'ctype3': 'Stokes',
 'ctype4': 'Frequency',
 'cunit1': 'rad',
 'cunit2': 'rad',
 'cunit3': '',
 'cunit4': 'Hz',
 'datamax': 0.29089340567588806,
 'datamin': -0.11979858577251434,
 'date-obs': '2012/11/19/07:56:26.544000',
 'equinox': 'J2000',
 'imtype': 'Intensity',
 'masks': array(['mask0'], dtype='<U5'),
 'maxpixpos': array([122, 135, 0, 5]),
 'maxpos': '11:01:51.820 -34.42.16.366 I 3.726694e+11Hz',
 'minpixpos': array([142, 139, 0, 6]),
 'minpos': '11:01:51.658 -34.42.15.966 I 3.726688e+11Hz',
 'object': 'TW Hya',
 'observer': 'cqi',
 'projection': 'SIN',
 'reffreqtype': 'LSRK',
 'restfreq': array([3.7267249e+11]),
 'shape': array([250, 250, 1, 15]),
 'telescope': 'ALMA'}
```

# Checking Image Header

Task–imhead

- Various modes

Values	Description	From CASA docs
add	Add a new metadata value to the image.	
del	Delete a key or reset its value to a fiducial value if possible. Ignores <i>hdvalue</i> parameter.	
get	Return the specified keyword value. Ignores the <i>hdvalue</i> parameter.	
history	Log image history. Ignores the <i>hdkey</i> and <i>hdvalue</i> parameters.	
list	Show supported keywords and their values. Ignores the <i>hdkey</i> and <i>hdvalue</i> parameters.	
put	Modify the value associated with the keyword using the specified value.	
summary	Log a summary of the image and return a dictionary of various metadata values. Ignores the <i>hdkey</i> and <i>hdvalue</i> parameters.	

```
CASA <6>: f = 'twhya_n2hp.image/'
CASA <7>: imhead(f, mode = 'get', hdkey = 'restfreq')
Out[7]: {'unit': 'Hz', 'value': 372672489999.99994}
```

# Checking Image Header

Task-imhead

- Various modes

Values	Description	From CASA docs
add	Add a new metadata value to the image.	
del	Delete a key or reset its value to a fiducial value if possible. Ignores <i>hdvalue</i> parameter.	
get	Return the specified keyword value. Ignores the <i>hdvalue</i> parameter.	
history	Log image history. Ignores the <i>hdkey</i> and <i>hdvalue</i> parameters.	
list	Show supported keywords and their values. Ignores the <i>hdkey</i> and <i>hdvalue</i> parameters.	
put	Modify the value associated with the keyword using the specified value.	

```
CASA <21>: # modify header value
...: imhead('twhya_n2hp.image', mode = 'put', hdkey = 'observer', hdvalue = 'Me')

CASA <22>: # modify header value
...: imhead('twhya_n2hp.image', mode = 'get', hdkey = 'observer')
Out[22]: 'Me'
```

# Tips for Starting up –before going into more analyses

- Type taskhelp to look into CASA tasks

```
CASA <58>: taskhelp
=====
CASA tasks
-----
> analysis
-----
  imbaseline : Image-based baseline subtraction for single-
  imcollapse : Collapse image along one axis, aggregating p
  imcontsub  : Estimates and subtracts continuum emission f
  imdev      : Create an image that can represent the statist
```

- Use help command to recall/learn usage of tasks

```
CASA <59>: help(imhead)
```



```
----- parameter descriptions -----
imagername Input image cube.
           Default: none
           Example: imagername='ngc5921_task.image'
mode       Mode of operation.
           Default: summary
           Options: "add", "del", "get", "history", "list",
                  "put", or "summary".
```

- Visit [CASA docs](#) to learn more

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# Getting Image Statistics

## Task-imstat

- Statistical information of image is calculated
  - Flux, maximum intensity, median, standard deviation, rms, etc.
- Computed information is returned as Python dictionary

```
CASA <9>: stat = imstat(imagename = 'twhya_cont.image')
CASA <10>: stat
Out[10]:
{'blc': array([0, 0, 0, 0]),
 'blcf': '11:01:52.810, -34.42.29.866, I, 3.72637e+11Hz',
 'flux': array([1.98294114]),
 'max': array([0.39978448]),
 'maxpos': array([120, 127, 0, 0]),
 'maxposf': '11:01:51.837, -34.42.17.166, I, 3.72637e+11Hz',
 'mean': array([0.00144245]),
 'medabsdevmed': array([0.00136992]),
 'median': array([3.91167487e-05]),
 'min': array([-0.00869298]),
 'minpos': array([ 85, 191, 0, 0]),
 'minposf': '11:01:52.120, -34.42.10.766, I, 3.72637e+11Hz',
 'npts': array([42937.]),
 'q1': array([-0.00133103]),
 'q3': array([0.00140875]),
 'quartile': array([0.00273978]),
 'rms': array([0.01665415]),
 'sigma': array([0.01659175]),
 'sum': array([61.93455052]),
 'sumsq': array([11.90902983]),
 'trc': array([249, 249, 0, 0]),
 'trcf': '11:01:50.790, -34.42.04.966, I, 3.72637e+11Hz'}
```

# Getting Image Statistics

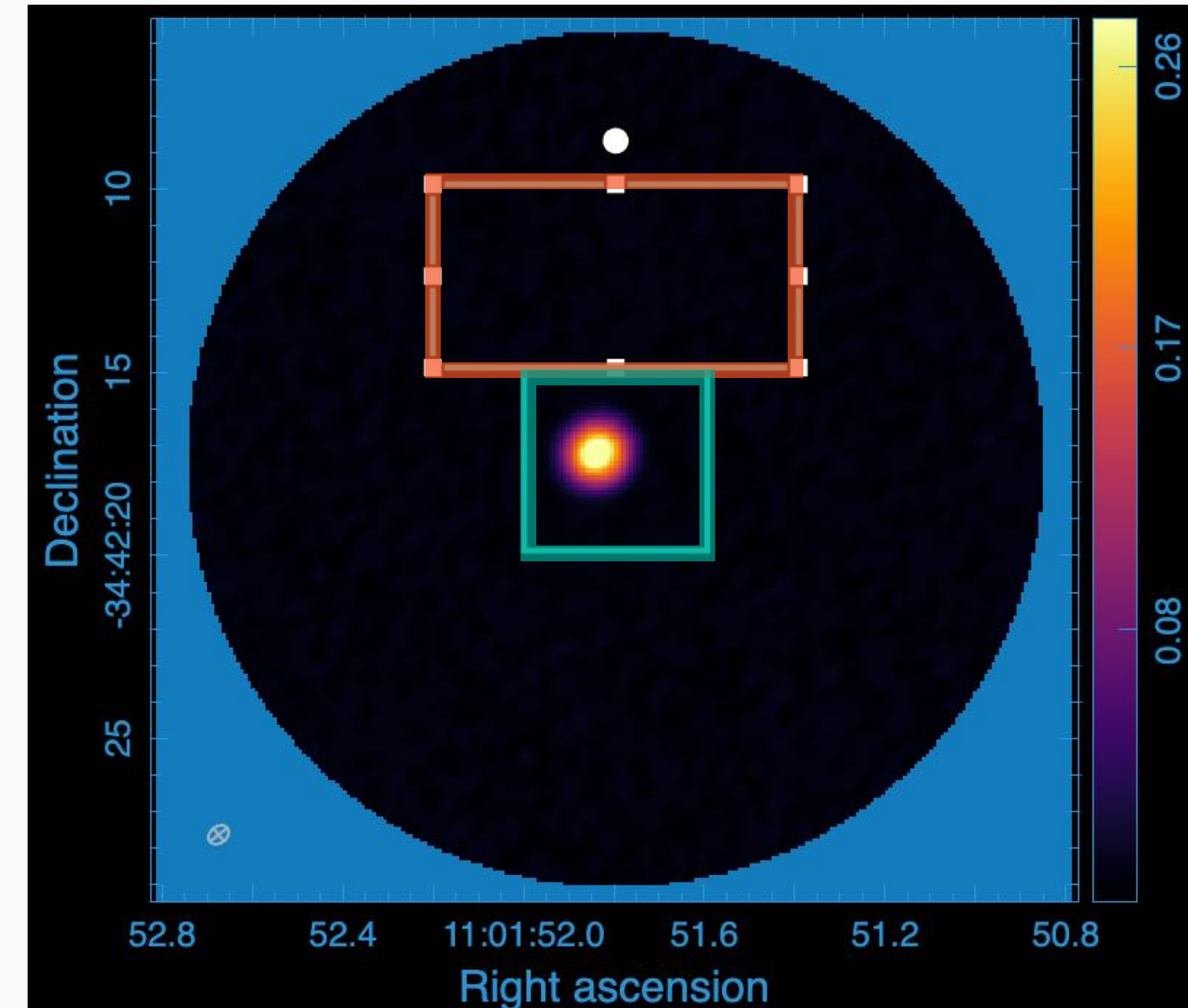
- Examples—selecting box region

```
CASA <6>: # statisitcs of off-source region
...: stat = imstat(
...:     imagename = 'twhya_cont.image',
...:     box = '75, 150, 175, 200',
...: )
...: print('RMS: ', stat['rms'])
RMS: [0.00199016]
```

```
CASA <5>: stat = imstat(
...:     imagename = 'twhya_cont.image',
...:     box = '100, 100, 150, 150',
...: )
...: print('Flux density: ', stat['flux'])
Flux density: [1.99766084]
```

- Use imhead to know pixel coordinates of image center

**Pixel coordinates of bottom left and top right corners**



# Getting Image Statistics

- Examples—selecting channels

```
CASA <11>: # line
...: # statistics of line free channels
...: stat = imstat(
...:     imagename = 'twhya_n2hp.image',
...:     chans = '0~3; 9~14'
...: )
...: print('Line RMS: ', stat['rms'])
Line RMS: [0.02783996]
```

Selecting line-free channels

- Use CARTA to find line-detected/free channels

# Reformat Images

- **imsubimage:** enables the user to extract a sub-image from a larger cube,
- **imtrans:** changes the axis order in an image,
- **imregrid:** sets the image onto a different spatial coordinate system or spectral grid,
- **imreframe:** changes the velocity system of an image
- **imrebin:** rebins an image in a spatial or spectral dimension
- **imcollapse:** collapses an image along an axis.

From CASA docs

# Extracting Sub-region of Image

Task-`imsubimage`

```
# region to extract
region = 'rotbox[[11h01m51.837s, -034d42m17.21s], [6arcsec, 6arcsec], 0deg]'
# Refer to https://casaguides.nrao.edu/index.php/CASA\_Region\_Format for region format

# continuum
imsubimage(
    imagename = 'twhya_cont.image',
    region = region,
    outfile = 'twhya_cont_sub.image'
)
```

# Extracting Sub-region of Image

Task-`imsubimage`

**Rotated box**

**Box center**

**Box width and rotation angle**

```
# region to extract
region = 'rotbox[[11h01m51.837s, -034d42m17.21s], [6arcsec, 6arcsec], 0deg]'
# Refer to https://casaguides.nrao.edu/index.php/CASA\_Region\_Format for region

# continuum
imsubimage(
    imagename = 'twhya_cont.image',
    region = region,
    outfile = 'twhya_cont_sub.image'
)
```

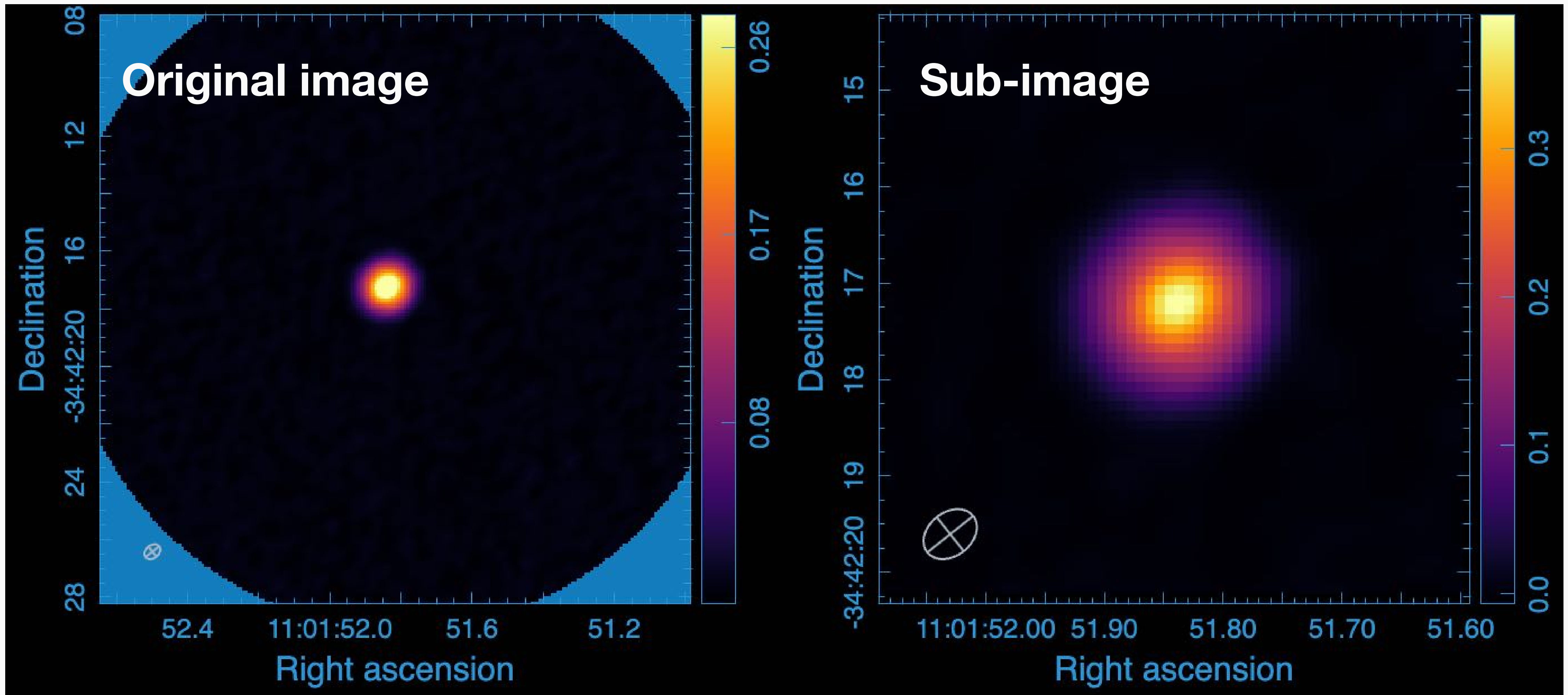
# Extracting Sub-region of Image

Task-`imsubimage`

```
# region to extract  
region = 'rotbox[[11h01m51.837s, -034d42m17.21s], [6arcsec, 6arcsec], 0deg]'  
# Refer to https://casaguides.nrao.edu/index.php/CASA\_Region\_Format for region
```

```
# continuum  
imsubimage(  
    imagename = 'twhya_cont.image',  
    region = region,  
    outfile = 'twhya_cont_sub.image'  
)
```

# Extracting Sub-region of Image



# CASA Region Format

- Region can be specified in flexible way
- region parameter is also used in many of other tasks introduced later
- Refer to [https://casaguides.nrao.edu/index.php/CASA\\_Region\\_Format](https://casaguides.nrao.edu/index.php/CASA_Region_Format) for more details

region='box[[x1,y1], [x2,y2]]'  
is equivalent to box='x1,y1, x2,y2'

- **Rectangular box**; the two coordinates are two opposite corners:

```
box[[x1, y1], [x2, y2]]
```

- **Center box**; [x, y] define the center point of the box and [x\_width, y\_width] the width of the sides:

```
centerbox[[x, y], [x_width, y_width]]
```

- **Rotated box**; [x, y] define the center point of the box; [x\_width, y\_width] the width of the sides; rotang the rotation angle:

```
rotbox[[x, y], [x_width, y_width], rotang]
```

- **Polygon**; there could be many [x, y] corners; note that the last point will connect with the first point to close the polygon:

```
poly[[x1, y1], [x2, y2], [x3, y3], ...]
```

- **Circle**; center of the circle [x,y], r is the radius:

```
circle[[x, y], r]
```

- **Annulus**; center of the circle is [x, y], [r1, r2] are inner and outer radii:

```
annulus[[x, y], [r1, r2]]
```

- **Ellipse**; center of the ellipse is [x, y]; semi-major and semi-minor axes are [bmaj, bmin]; position angle of the major axis:

```
ellipse[[x, y], [bmaj, bmin], pa]
```

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# Two Dimensional Gaussian Fit

## Task-imfit

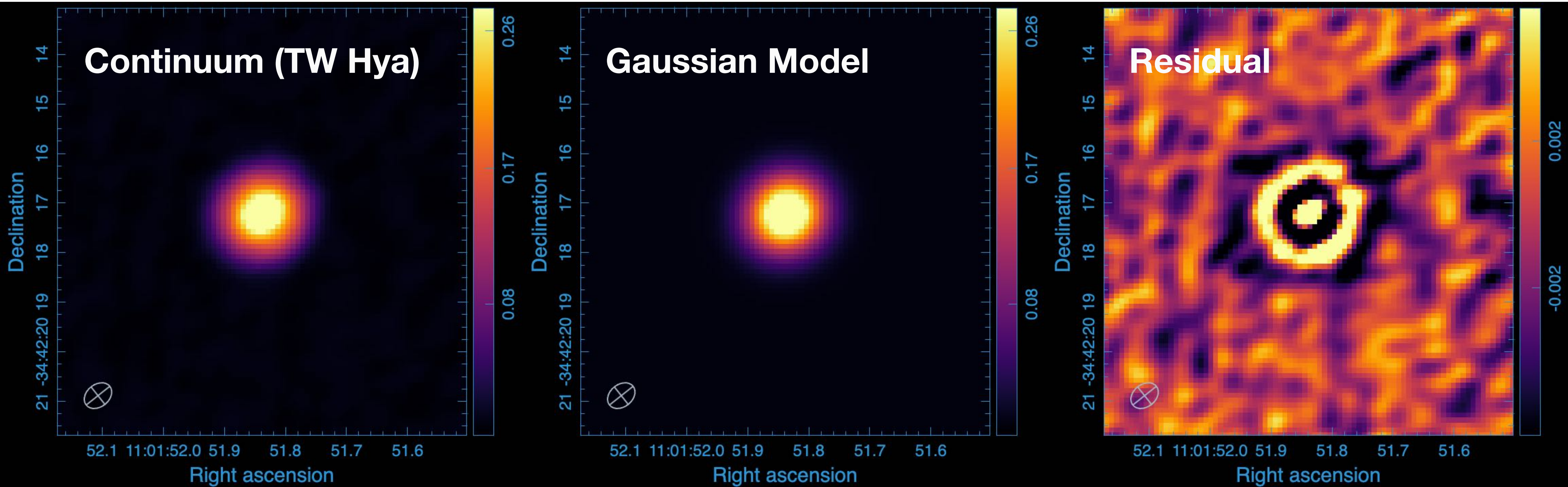
```
imfit(  
    imagename = 'twhya_cont.image',  
    box = "100, 100, 150, 150", # bottom-left  
    logfile = 'Gaussian_fit.log',  
    residual = 'Gaussian_fit.residual',  
    model = 'Gaussian_fit.model'  
)
```

### ESTIMATES

Initial estimates of fit parameters (peak intensity, peak x pixel coordinate, peak y pixel coordinate, major axis, minor axis, position angle) may be specified via an estimates text file. Each line of this file should contain a set of parameters for a single Gaussian. Optionally, some of these parameters can be fixed during the fit. The format of each line is: peak intensity, peak x-pixel value, peak y-pixel value, major axis, minor axis, position angle, fixed.

- `box` (or `region`)—Region included in fitting
  - For `box`, give pixel coordinates of bottom left and top right corners
- `logfile`—Name of log file.  
Recommended to give, otherwise no log will be saved.
- `residual`, `model`—Names of residual and model images if they need to be saved
- `estimates`—Initial guess of parameters. Must be provided if multi-Gaussian components fitting

# Two Dimensional Gaussian Fit—Results





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# Moment Maps

- 0th moment:  $M_0 = \sum_i I_i$  **Integrated intensity**
- $N$ th moment:  $M_N = \frac{\sum_i w_i I_i}{M_0}$
- Usually integration is along velocity axis
- 1st moment:  $M_1 = \frac{\sum_i v_i I_i}{M_0}$  **Intensity-weighted mean velocity**
- 2nd moment:  $M_2 = \frac{\sum_i (v_i - M_1)^2 I_i}{M_0}$  **Intensity-weighted velocity dispersion**

# Moment Maps

Task-immoments

Examples — moment 0 (integrated intensity)

```
CASA <16>: # Calculate moment maps
...: # moment 0 (integrated intensity)
...: immoments(
...:     imagename = 'twhya_n2hp.image',
...:     moments = [0],
...:     chans = '5~7',
...:     outfile = 'twhya_n2hp_mom0.image')
```

Or

```
chans = ('range=[2.5 km/s, 3.5 km/s], restfreq=372.672490 GHz'),
```

Velocity range

Rest frequency; use imhead to know

- `imagename` — Input image
- `moments` —  $i$  of  $i$ -th moment to be computed. Multiple moments can be calculated at once: `moments=[0,1]`.
- `chans` — Channels over which moment maps are computed
- `outfile` — Output image name

# Moment Maps

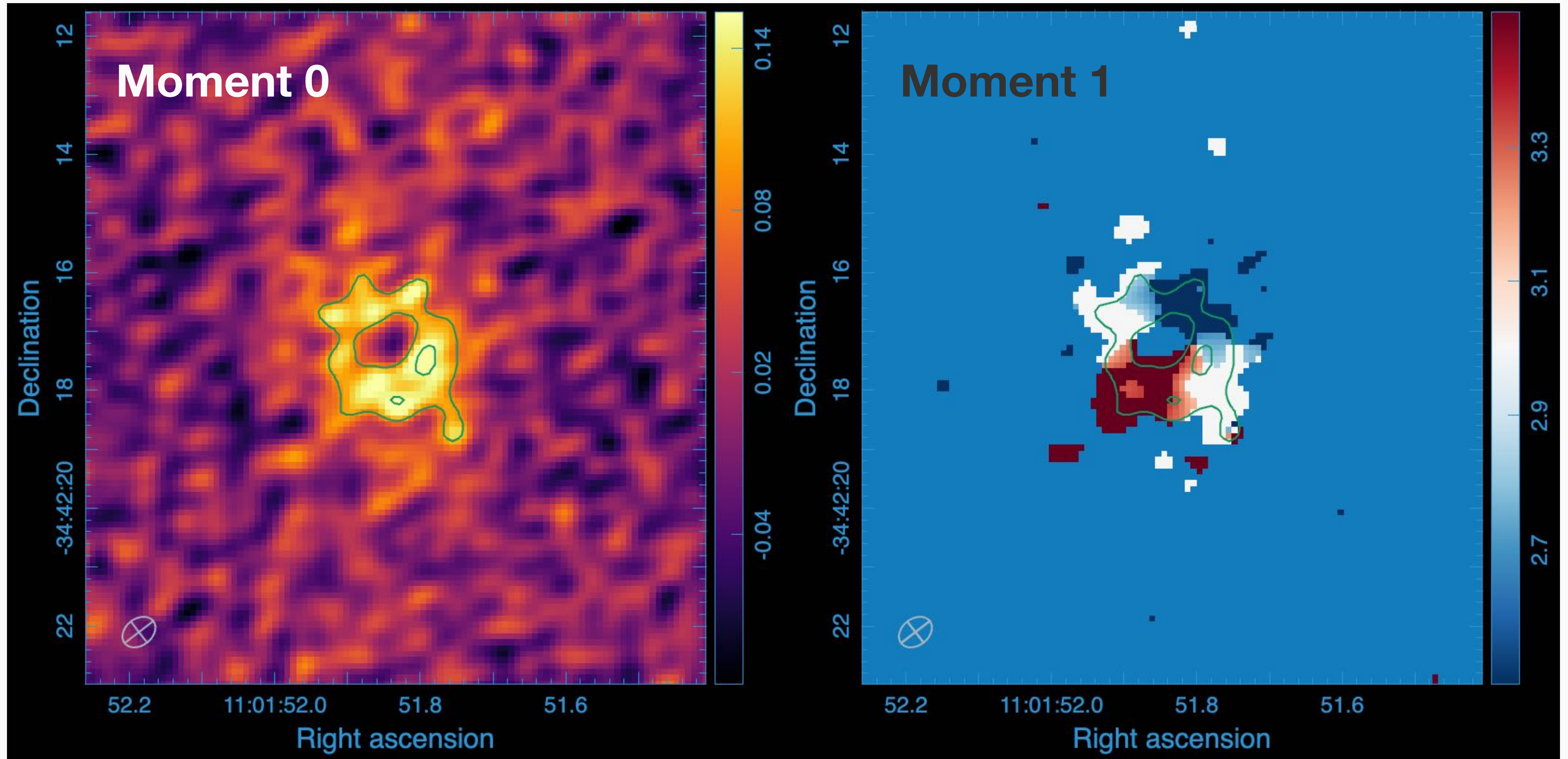
Task-immoments

Examples—moment 1 (mean velocity)

```
CASA <18>: # moment 1 (mean velocity)
...: rms = 27.8e-3 # Jy/beam
...: immoments(
...:   imagename = 'twhya_n2hp.image',
...:   moments = [1],
...:   includepix = [3*rms, 1000], # cutoff noise
...:   chans = ('range=[2.5 km/s, 3.5 km/s], rest
...:   outfile = 'twhya_n2hp_mom1.image',
...:   )
```

- includepix/excludepix  
— Pixel values included in/  
excluded from computing of  
moment maps

# Moment Maps



# More Moments...

- moments = -1 - mean value of the spectrum
- moments = 0 - integrated value of the spectrum
- moments = 1 - intensity weighted coordinate; traditionally used to get “velocity fields”
- moments = 2 - intensity weighted dispersion of the coordinate; traditionally used to get “velocity dispersion”
- moments = 3 - median value of the spectrum
- moments = 4 - median coordinate
- moments = 5 - standard deviation about the mean of the spectrum
- moments = 6 - root mean square of the spectrum
- moments = 7 - absolute mean deviation of the spectrum
- moments = 8 - maximum value of the spectrum
- moments = 9 - coordinate of the maximum value of the spectrum
- moments = 10 - minimum value of the spectrum
- moments = 11 - coordinate of the minimum value of the spectrum

Refer to CASA docs for more details

From CASA docs

# Position-velocity (PV) Diagrams

Task-impv

```
CASA <49>: impv(  
    imagename = 'twhya_co.image',  
    mode = 'length',  
    center = '11h01m51.837s, -034d42m17.21s',  
    length = '8arcsec',  
    pa = '167deg',  
    width = 1,  
    outfile = 'twhya_co_pa167deg.pv',  
)
```

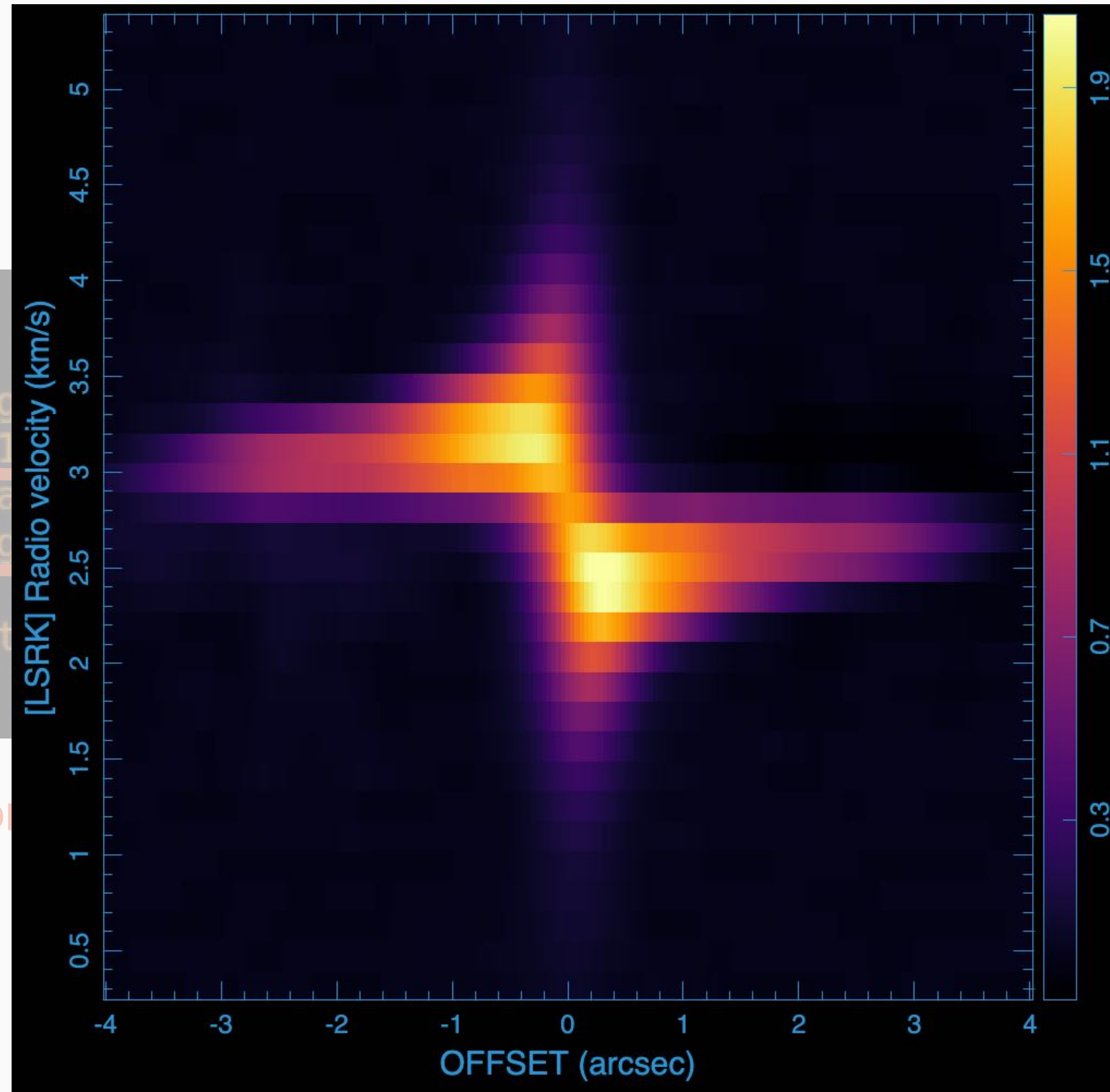
From imfit to continuum

- `imagename`—Input image
- `mode`—“coords” or “length”. If “coords”, use start and end values. If “length”, use center, length, and pa values.
- `center`, `length`, `pa`—Center, length and position angle of PV cut
- `width`—Width of PV cut
- `outfile`—Output image name

# Position-velocity (PV) Diagrams

```
CASA <49>: impv(  
  ....:   imagename =  
  ....:   mode = 'length'  
  ....:   center = '11'  
  ....:   length = '8a'  
  ....:   pa = '167deg'  
  ....:   width = 1,  
  ....:   outfile = 't'  
  ....: )
```

From



me — Input image

coords" or "length". If

use start and end

"length", use center,

and pa values.

Length, pa—

length and position

PV cut

Width of PV cut

— Output image name

# Exporting/Importing

Task-exportfits/importfits

```
CASA <1>: # Export images to fits files
...: exportfits(
...:     imagename = 'twhya_cont.image',
...:     fitsimage = 'twhya_cont.fits')
```

```
importfits(
    imagename = 'output_casaimage.image',
    fitsimage = 'input_fits.fits')
```

Some more optional and useful bool parameters

- `velocity`—If true, output fits file has velocity axis instead of frequency axis
- `dropdeg`—If true, drop degenerated axes (stokes and/or frequency)
- `overwrite`—If true, overwrite output file when same file already exists

**Any Questions?**

Thank you!