



EUROPEAN ARC  
ALMA Regional Centre



# ALMA QA

What is quality assurance, what should I  
look for or look at?

*Luke Maud - ESO - Garching*

SPANISH

**ALMA Days**

18-20 February 2025, La Laguna, Tenerife, Spain


# Outline

## ○ **INTRO : Quality Assurance**

- what is it?
- what does the observatory do

## ○ **PART 1 : Calibration**

- how do I know what was done
- the 'important' points
- example cases



we'll do a follow through with an online weblog

## ○ **PART 2 : Imaging**

- what images were made for my target(s)
- can I use these or do I need to do more



In the next session



# ALMA Technical Handbook

an overview of all material ALMA related is here

Doc 11.3, version 1.4 | March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

## ALMA Cycle 11 Technical Handbook

### Chapter 11

## Quality Assurance

The goal of ALMA Quality Assurance (QA) is to ensure that the data products delivered to the PIs meet the expected quality standards. That is, the delivered products have reached the desired control parameters outlined in the science goals (or is as close to them as possible), they are calibrated to the desired accuracy, and calibration and imaging artifacts are mitigated as much as possible.

The QA analysis will be based on a calibration plan that specifies the required observations and the intervals between observations, in order to monitor and calibrate system performance and environmental factors as they evolve with time. Furthermore, the analysis will also be used in (a) assessing the merging of data within each science goal taken with different configurations, (b) the inclusion of 7-m Array and TP Array data, and (c) the final image quality. Errors introduced by user supplied parameters, such as incorrect source coordinates, inadequate frequency setting (e.g. an incorrect redshift) or inadequate sensitivity limits (leading to an inadequate integration time or inadequate  $uv$ -plane coverage) are outside the scope of the ALMA QA, unless the error occurred due to faulty information or tools provided by the Observatory.

To be more efficient in detecting problems, ALMA QA has been divided into several stages that mimic the main steps of the data flow. The broad classification of this multi-layered QA approach is:

- QA0:** The first check and monitoring of the calibration and overall performance during and just after an observation, performed at Execution Block level.
- QA0+:** The first check of imaging performance, based on a simplified and fast scripted imaging QA. This is mainly used when the results from QA0 are unclear or marginal, and will also be available in the QA0 report in Cycle 11.
- QA1:** This involves the measurement and monitoring of performance parameters and telescope properties by the observatory, across different observations and projects.
- QA2:** Full calibration and generation of imaging products, normally using the ALMA Data Reduction Pipeline (hereafter, ALMA Pipeline).
- QA3:** Issues found with the data by the PI or ALMA staff after data delivery.

The QA process is handled by the Program Management Group (PMG) and the Data Management Group (DMG) at the JAO with significant contributions from ARC personnel, as well as the Array Performance Group (APG) at the JAO. The process is primarily implemented using the ALMA Quality Assurance (AQUA) Tool (see Section 11.7) and other software necessary for the assessment of data quality. Responsibility for data quality assurance rests with the Data Management Group Head within the Department of Science Operations.



more detail than I can cover here

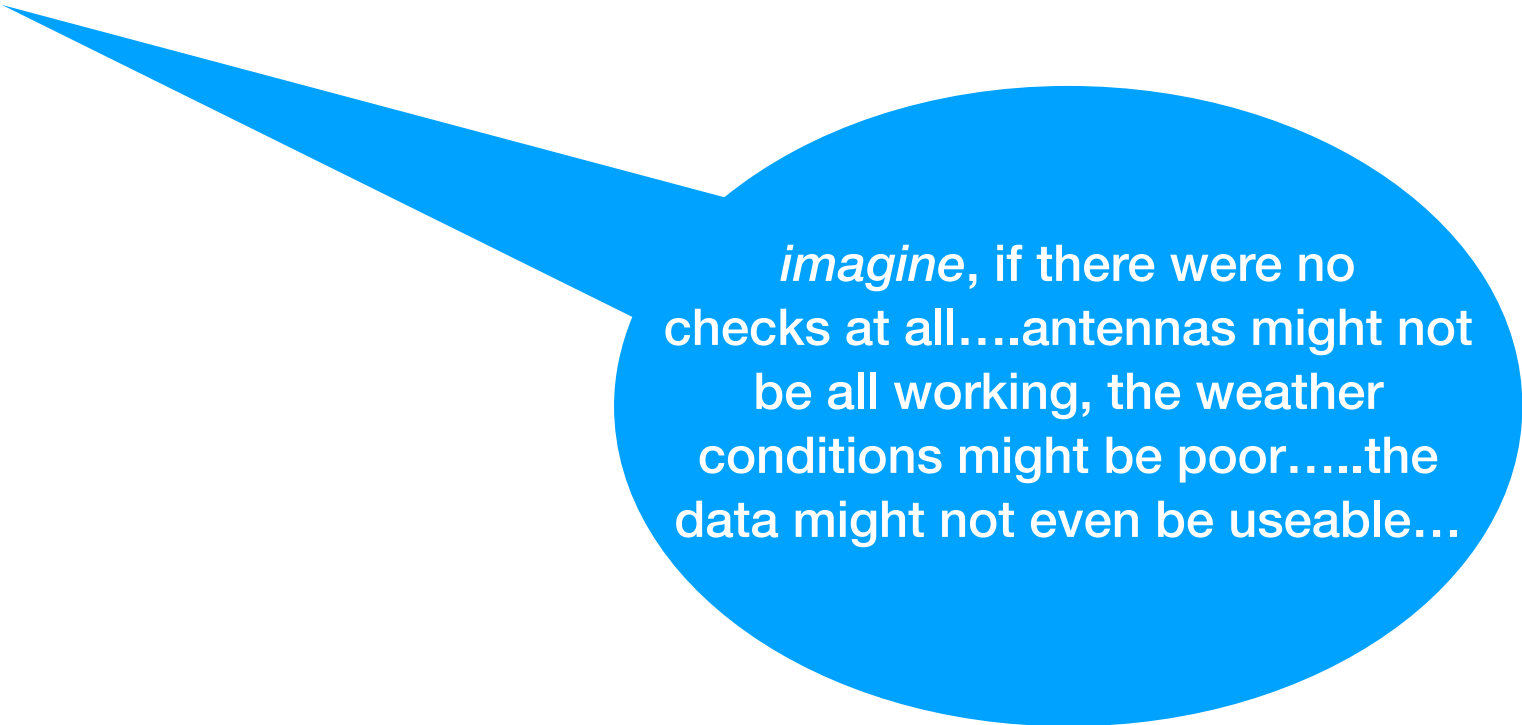


[www.almascience.org](http://www.almascience.org)

# Quality Assurance

### ○ What is it :

- literally “quality assurance”
- checks that are in place to ensure the products that finally get delivered to the PIs / Users are meeting the expected standard



*imagine, if there were no checks at all....antennas might not be all working, the weather conditions might be poor.....the data might not even be useable...*

# Quality Assurance

- **QA levels**

- **QA0**: Check of the data recorded and the calibrators, and their performance right after the Execution is completed

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# Quality Assurance

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- **QA2**: Full calibration and generator of imaging products - either by the ALMA Pipeline or by-hand, manually\*



this is what we are interested in

\*for special modes and/or difficult data



# Quality Assurance

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- **QA2**: Full calibration and generator of imaging products - either by the ALMA Pipeline or by-hand, manually\*
- **QA3**: if significant issues with data or imaging is found (by the observatory or users) later, a new analysis is opened



this is what we are interested in

\*for special modes and/or difficult data

# What does the observatory do?

- **QA0/QA0+ : The Astronomer on Duty - at the telescope**

- Checks results for Atmospheric effects, Antenna issues, Signal issues, Correlator Issues, Observing issues (i.e. completeness)

- Automated quick reduction shows images of the calibrators and target

- If all checks are passed, the data are QA0 - Pass



Ready for QA2 and to be "processed"

- If data are taken correctly but very poor conditions these are **QA0-semi-pass**, cannot be calibrated to meet the expected standard

- If data is partially taken, no target, or instrument issues - essentially **QA0-Fail**

# What does the observatory do?

### ○ QA2 : JAO and ARCs

- In recent years the **majority** (97% in last 2 cycles) of ALMA data are **calibrated** and **imaged** with the ALMA pipeline
- The ALMA pipeline is run at the **ARC Regional Centers** (Europe, North America, East Asia) and the **Joint ALMA Observatory** (JAO) in Chile
- A weblog serves as the **interface** for data analysts and users alike to **investigate** how the pipeline processing progressed and for **data analysts** to assess the quality
- **QA2 pass - data delivered to the PI/user**
  - Must meet the Angular Resolution and Image Sensitivity

### ○ QA3 : JAO and ARCs

- deep dive into investigation and fixing of issues

# What does the observatory do?

### ○ QA2 : JAO and ARCs

- In recent years the **majority** (97%) of the data are **calibrated** and **imaged**
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- A weblog serves as the **interface** for scientists and users alike to **investigate** how the pipeline processing progressed and for **data analysts** to assess the quality
- **QA2 pass - data delivered to the PI/user**
  - Must meet the Angular Resolution and Image Sensitivity

Starting in Cycle 10 (2023 Oct)  
- data that are “good” are automatically assessed and not seen by an analyst

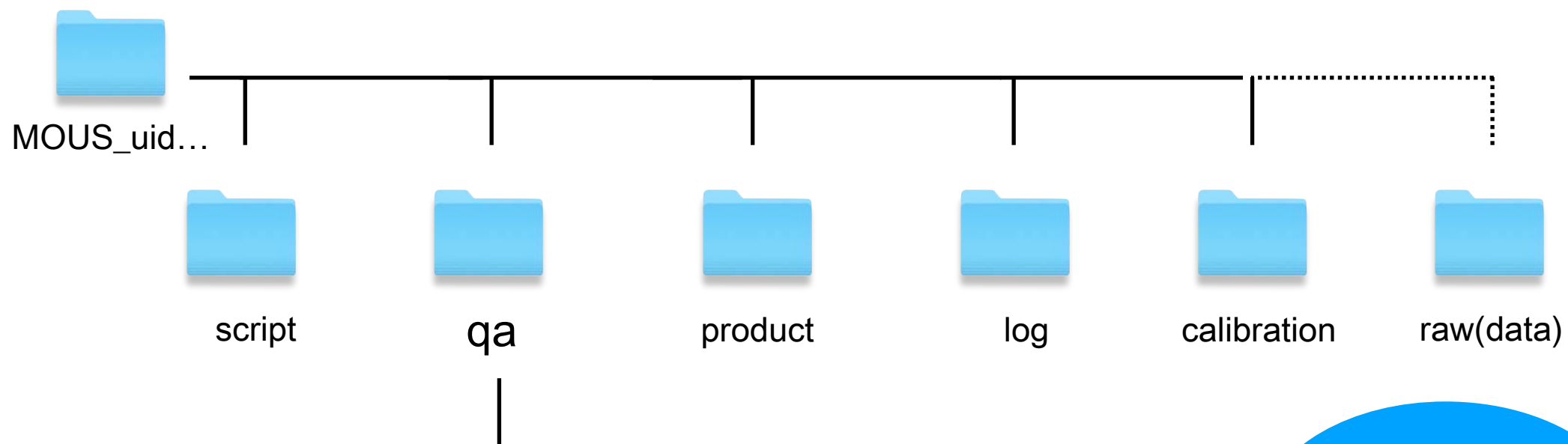
### ○ QA3 : JAO and ARCs

- deep dive into investigation and fixing of issues

**Any questions so far....?**



# How do I know what was done



this is exactly what the 'Data Analyst' checked to ensure the quality

summary of the QA2 product and important comments from the data analyst

QA0 report are for the Execution Block Name, basic 'instrument' check

\*version dependent (CASA/Pipeline)

# PART 1 - Calibration

# QA0 Report

## QA0 Report



### Execution Block Summary

<b>Project Code</b>	2017.1.00098.S	<b>SchedBlock</b>	G17.64+0_a_06_TM1
<b>ExecBlock</b>	uid://A002/Xc55c89/X120	<b>ExecBlock Status</b>	SUCCESS
<b>QA0 Status</b>	✔ Pass	<b>Exec. Fraction</b>	1.00
<b>Repr. frequency</b>	217.684 GHz (Sky)	<b>Band</b>	ALMA_RB_06
<b>Array</b>	12 [m]	<b>Baselines</b>	41m -- 14968m
<b>Antennas</b>	Antennas: 43 effective, 43 usable, 43 unflagged, 43 total. Expected for Cycle 5 : 43, minimum acceptable: 41 Band observed: 6. Highest recommended: 8-8		
<b>Weather</b>	PWV 0.73 mm; Wind 12.65 m/s; Humidity 8.15 %; Pressure 556.47 hPa; Phase rms: 77.929 microns		

**AOS Check comment**

```
===== GoNogo/Handover/QA0 ===== v5.12
-----
---- checking ASDM: uid://A002/Xc55c89/X120
>/X120 checking Tsys/Trx: 6 ATMcalcs B6 median: Tsys 69.3K Trx 42.8K
>/X120 checking pointing: 1 pointings. Max pointing offset 1.37 arcsec on DA42      No significant
pointing errors
>/X120 checking signal: Median aperture efficiency 0.70 min/max= 0.56 0.85      No significant errors
in signal levels
>/X120 checking WVRs: Median pwv 0.721 +- 0.058 mm      No significant wvr problems
>/X120 checking phases:
Resolution: 0.027 arcsec Baseline limit with good phase: 9855m.
Antenna-based phaseCal differences: 21.79 degrees. Max= 28.38 (DV03)
Measured [& predicted] approximate fluxes: Bandpass: 2.84 [ 3.73 ] Jy Phase: 0.033 [ 0.040 ] Jy
```

```
----- Summary of system from SB -----
2017-10-04T21:28:23 uid://A002/Xc55c89/X120 band 6 Freq 233.033285342GHz
(1) Atmosphere :
Median Tsys: 69.3 K
Mean Zenith PWV: 0.72 +/- 0.06 mm
Antenna-based phase differences on phaseCal: Q4= 21.8 degrees.
Baseline-based phase fluctuations: mean= 165.9 microns ( 46.4 degrees) on baselines of 6500 m
Median improvement in phase rms using WVRs: 1.71
(2) Antennas & system :
Issues with DA59 (FE#24) -
Scan 85 Pol 1 All spws : Amplitude 60.6% of median
1.2% of all cal data flagged

Issues with DV02 (FE#31) -
Scan 66 All spws & pols : Amplitude 43.0% of median
2.3% of all cal data flagged
Dashboard status = C

Issues with DV04 (FE#21) -
Scan 3 spw 2 BB_3 P1 : Amplitude 54.6% of median
Scan 3 spw 3 BB_4 P1 : Amplitude 54.7% of median
0.6% of all cal data flagged

Issues with DV15 (FE#36) -
Scan 51 All spws & pols : Phase noise 16.8x sigma on most baselines Amplitude 54.9% of median
```

Observing conditions

QA0 output

Summary statistic, e.g  
some antennas with higher  
than expected amplitudes

# PART 1 - Calibration

# QA2 Report

QA2 Report													
<b>Project information</b>													
Name	The Dust Disk in the O-Type Protostar G17.64+0.16												
Code	2017.1.00098.S												
PI	Luke Maud												
Organization	Leiden Observatory, Leiden University												
Co-Is	V. Allen, M. Beltran, H. Beuther, R. Cesaroni, T. Csengeri, W. de Wit, S. Etoka, G. Fuller, D. Galli, R. Galvan-Madrid, C. Goddi, T. Henning, M. Hoare, K. Johnston, P. Klaassen, R. Kuiper, N. Kumar, S. Lumsden, L. Moscadelli, J. Mottram, T. Peters, V. Rivilla, A. Sanchez-Monge, P. Schilke, L. Testi, F. van der Tak, S. Vig, C. Walmsley, H. Zinnecker												
<b>ObsUnitSet information</b>													
Name	Member OUS (G17.64+0.16)												
QA2 Status	✔ Pass												
Member OUS Status ID	uid://A001/X1288/X59f												
SchedBlock name	G17.64+0_a_06_TM1												
SchedBlock UID	uid://A001/X1288/X59b												
Array	TM1												
Mode	Standard [Long baseline]												
Band	ALMA_RB_06												
Repr.Freq. (sky)	217.68 [GHz]												
Spectral setup	FDM												
Sources	G17.64+0.16												
Other SBs in this Group													
OUS (Member OUS Status ID in brackets):													
Execution count	1.00 of 1 expected												
<b>Final QA2 comment</b>													
Processed using CASA 5.1.1													
Imaging performed with tclean using briggs weighting of 1.5. An RMS higher than the requested is achieved with Briggs weighting with a robust value of 0.													
After 2 runs of self-cal (only down to 30s), the noise level is 0.027 mJy with a beam 0.020" by 0.015".													
<b>RMS and beam size at representative frequency</b>													
Sensitivity goal	0.024 [mJy] over bandwidth 6000 [MHz]												
Angular resolution goal	0.016 - 0.024 [arcsec]												
Achieved RMS													
for desired bandwidth	0.027 [mJy]	for continuum		N/A									
Synthesized beam	Mean (arcsec)	0.017											
Major axis (arcsec)	0.020	Minor axis (arcsec)	0.015	Position angle (deg)	N/A								
<b>Execution blocks summary</b>													
EB	N Ant.	Start Time	End Time	ToS (sec)	Avg. Elev. (deg)	Trans. Elev.	Mean PWV (mm)	Phase RMS (deg)*	Min BL (m)	Max BL (m)	AR (")	MRS (")	EF
uid://A002/Xc55c89/X120	43	2017-10-04 21:28:	2017-10-04 22:34:	3937	0.0	0.0	0.7	77.051	41.4	14969.3	0.0	0.4	1.00
*WVR-corrected value averaged over all basebands and scans.													
<b>Manual reductions</b>													
CASA version							Report date						
5.1.1							2018-01-10 14:50:41						

My data

Comment from the analyst - this is now formalised since ~CASA 6.1.

What was achieved

# How do I know what was done

- The ALMA pipeline.....
  - is comprised of **stages** to perform different tasks to calibrate and image data
  - performs a number of **heuristics** to do **automated flagging** and to generate quality assessment **scores** (**green**, **blue**, **yellow**, **red**) and **plots**
  - has been **updated** and **improved** throughout the ALMA Cycles to include new features
  - calibrates **per** Measurement Set (execution block)

# ALMA Pipeline Guide / Reference Manual

v.1.0 | Oct 2024

## User Support:

ALMA Science Pipeline User's Guide  
for Release 2024.1.0.8, CASA 6.6.1-17, python3.8

Interferometric and Single-Dish Processing

Detailed explanation



## Pipeline Tasks Reference Manual

Release 2024.1.0.8

pipeline team

Tasks,  
parameters and brief  
expiation (doc string  
style)



[www.almascience.org](http://www.almascience.org)

ALMA, an international astronomy facility, is a partnership of ESO (representing its member states), NSF (USA) and NINS (Japan), together with NRC (Canada), NSC and ASIAA (Taiwan), and KASI (Republic of Korea), in cooperation with the Republic of Chile. The Joint ALMA Observatory is operated by ESO, AUI/NRAO and NAOJ.

Sep 16, 2024



# ALMA Pipeline Heuristics paper

Publications of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, 135:074501 (58pp), 2023 July

<https://doi.org/10.1088/1538-3873/ace216>

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## The ALMA Interferometric Pipeline Heuristics

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### Abstract

We describe the calibration and imaging heuristics developed and deployed in the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA) interferometric data processing pipeline, as of ALMA Cycle 9 operations. The pipeline software framework is written in Python, with each data reduction stage layered on top of tasks and toolkit functions provided by the Common Astronomy Software Applications package. This framework supports a variety of tasks for observatory operations, including science data quality assurance, observing mode commissioning, and user reprocessing. It supports ALMA and Very Large Array interferometric data along with ALMA and NRO 45 m single dish data, via different stages and heuristics. In addition to producing calibration tables, calibrated measurement sets, and cleaned images, the pipeline creates a WebLog which serves as the primary interface for verifying the quality assurance of the data by the observatory and for examining the contents of the data by the user. Following the adoption of the pipeline by ALMA Operations in 2014, the heuristics have been refined through annual prioritized development cycles, culminating in a new pipeline release aligned with the start of each ALMA Cycle of observations. Initial development focused on basic calibration and flagging heuristics (Cycles 2–3), followed by imaging heuristics (Cycles 4–5). Further refinement of the flagging and imaging heuristics, including the introduction of parallel processing, proceeded for Cycles 6–7. In the 2020 release, the algorithm to identify channels to use for continuum subtraction and imaging was substantially improved by the addition of a moment difference analysis. A spectral renormalization stage was added for the 2021 release (Cycle 8) to correct high spectral resolution visibility data acquired on targets exhibiting strong celestial line emission in their autocorrelation spectra. The calibration heuristics used in the low signal-to-noise regime were improved for the 2022 release (Cycle 9). In the two most recent Cycles, 97% of ALMA data sets were calibrated and imaged with the pipeline, ensuring long-term automated reproducibility of results. We conclude with a brief description of plans for future additions, including self-calibration, support for multi-configuration imaging, and complete

<https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1538-3873/ace216/pdf>

### 1. Introduction

Located on the 5000 m plateau of Chajnantor in northern Chile, the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array

# How do I know what was done

- **Recall**, we want to solve for instrumental and atmospheric variations to **calibrate** the data
- **System Temperature ( $T_{\text{sys}}$ )** - instrumental amplitude scaling (K to Jy)
- **Bandpass** - instrumental frequency response
- **Amplitude** - the absolute flux/amp. scaling
- **Gains** - temporal variations in amplitude and phase

so... all of this calibration has been done, with any flagging of bad data, then imaging

# PART 1 - Calibration

## The Weblog

- There is a main weblog landing page - the **home** page, and subsequent **by Topic** and **by Task** tabs



**Main Tabs**

Home By Topic By Task 2016.1.00484.L

### Observation Overview

Project	uid://A001/X5ac/X43f
Principal Investigator	sandrews
OUS Status Entity id	uid://A001/Xbd4641/X23
Observation Start	2017-05-09 04:28:16 UTC
Observation End	2017-05-09 05:23:29 UTC
Number of Execution Blocks	1

### Pipeline Summary

Pipeline Version	2023.1.0.124 ( <a href="#">documentation</a> )
CASA Version	6.5.4.9 ( <a href="#">environment</a> )
IERSeop2000 Version	0001.0179 (last date: 2024-02-08 00:00:00)
IERSpredict Version	0623.1483 (last date: 2024-06-07 00:00:00)
Pipeline Start	2024-03-11 10:34:25 UTC
Execution Duration	1 day, 6:48:49

### Observation Summary

Measurement Set	Receivers	Num Antennas	Time (UTC)			Baseline Length			Size
			Start	End	On Target	Min	Max	RMS	
Observing Unit Set Status: uid://A001/Xbd4641/X23 Scheduling Block ID: uid://A001/Xbd4641/X17									
Session: session_1 ACS Version: 2015-08-ACS-B, Build Version: 201608-CYCLE4-ON-B-2017-04-26-00-00-00									
<a href="#">uid__A002_Xc02418_X29c8.ms</a>	ALMA Band 6	45	2017-05-09 04:28:16	2017-05-09 05:23:29	0:25:19	15.1 m	1.1 km	476.0 m	32.6 GiB
<a href="#">uid__A002_Xc02418_X29c8_targets.ms</a>	ALMA Band 6	45	2017-05-09 04:46:58	2017-05-09 05:22:08	0:25:12	15.1 m	1.1 km	476.0 m	17.1 GiB
<a href="#">uid__A002_Xc02418_X29c8_targets_line.ms</a>	ALMA Band 6	45	2017-05-09 04:46:58	2017-05-09 05:22:08	0:25:12	15.1 m	1.1 km	476.0 m	17.1 GiB



# PART 1 - Calibration

## The Weblog

- The **home** page reports much of the overview information...

The screenshot displays the ALMA web interface. At the top left is the ALMA logo. Navigation links include 'Home', 'By Topic', and 'By Task'. A 'Project Code' field shows '2016.1.00484.L'. The 'Observation Overview' section lists project details: Project (uid://A001/X5ac/X43f), Principal Investigator (sandrews), OUS Status Entity id (uid://A001/Xbd4641/X23), Observation Start (2017-05-09 04:28:16 UTC), Observation End (2017-05-09 05:23:29 UTC), and Number of Execution Blocks (1). The 'Pipeline Summary' section lists: Pipeline Version (2023.1.0.124 (documentation)), CASA Version (6.5.4.9 (environment)), IERSeop2000 Version (0001.0179 (last date: 2024-02-08 00:00:00)), IERSpredict Version (0623.1483 (last date: 2024-06-07 00:00:00)), Pipeline Start (2024-03-11 10:34:25 UTC), and Execution Duration (1 day, 6:48:49). The 'Observation Summary' table has columns: Measurement Set, Receivers, Num Antennas, Time (UTC) (Start, End, On Target), Baseline Length (Min, Max, RMS), and Size. A blue banner shows 'Observing Unit Set Status: uid://A001/Xbd4641/X23 Scheduling Block ID: uid://A001/Xbd4641/X17'. A session banner shows 'Session: uid://A001/Xbd4641/X23-08-ACS-B-Build Version: 201608-CYCLE4-ON-B-2017-04-26-00-00-00'. The table lists measurement sets: uid\_\_A002\_Xc02418\_X29c8.ms (16 antennas, 0:25:19 on target, 32.6 GiB), uid\_\_A002\_Xc02418\_X29c8\_targets.ms (ALMA Band 6, 45 antennas, 0:25:12 on target, 17.1 GiB), and uid\_\_A002\_Xc02418\_X29c8\_targets\_line.ms (ALMA Band 6, 45 antennas, 0:25:12 on target, 17.1 GiB). Annotations highlight 'Project Code', 'PI', 'Dates', 'Versions', 'the Measurement Set', and 'useful parameters'.

**Project Code** 2016.1.00484.L

**Observation Overview**

Project	uid://A001/X5ac/X43f
Principal Investigator	sandrews
OUS Status Entity id	uid://A001/Xbd4641/X23
Observation Start	2017-05-09 04:28:16 UTC
Observation End	2017-05-09 05:23:29 UTC
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**PI**

**Dates**

**Pipeline Summary**

Pipeline Version	2023.1.0.124 (documentation)
CASA Version	6.5.4.9 (environment)
IERSeop2000 Version	0001.0179 (last date: 2024-02-08 00:00:00)
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Pipeline Start	2024-03-11 10:34:25 UTC
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**Versions**

**Observation Summary**

Measurement Set	Receivers	Num Antennas	Time (UTC)			Baseline Length			Size
			Start	End	On Target	Min	Max	RMS	
Observing Unit Set Status: uid://A001/Xbd4641/X23 Scheduling Block ID: uid://A001/Xbd4641/X17									
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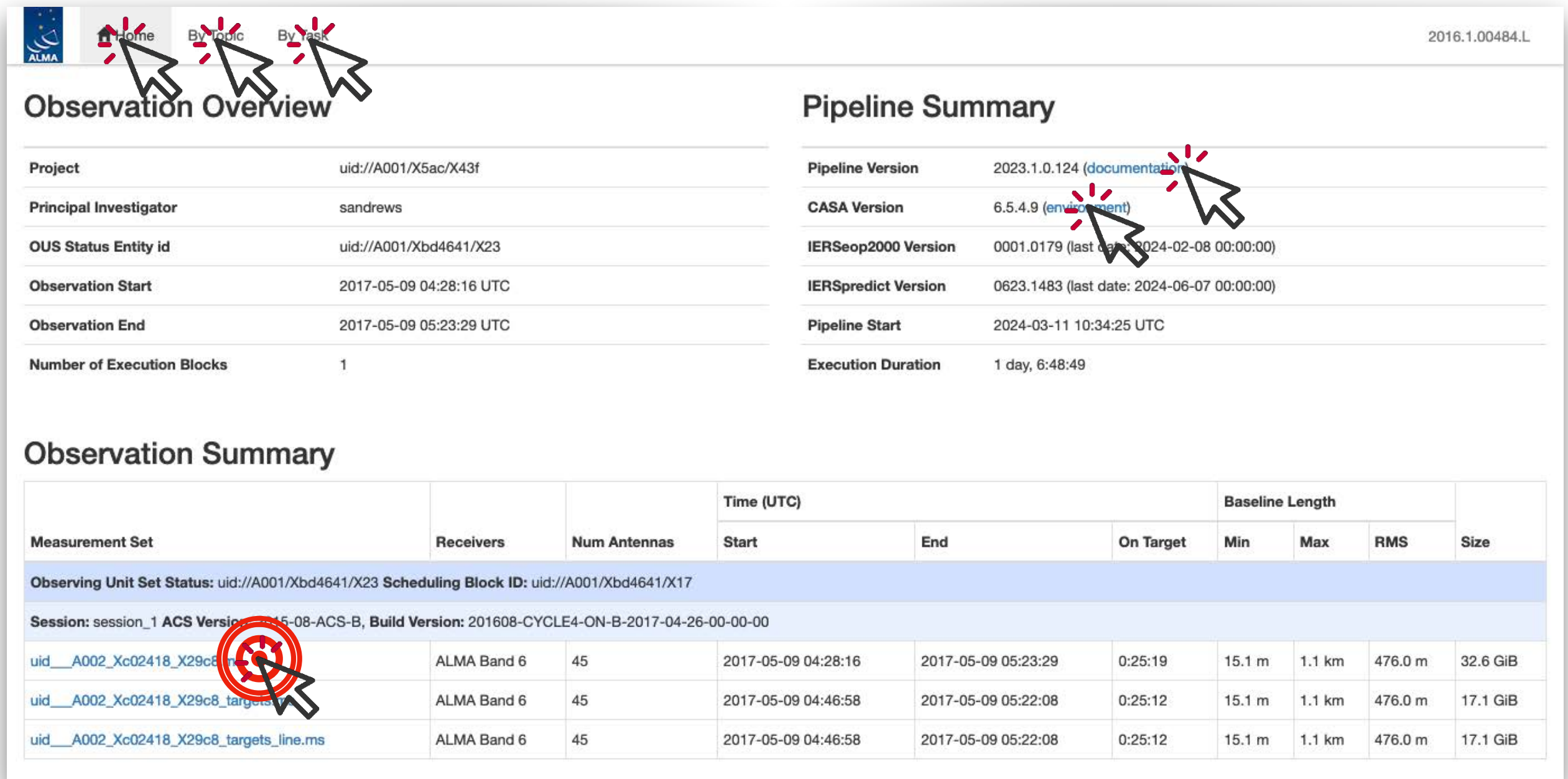
**the Measurement Set**

**useful parameters**

# PART 1 - Calibration

## The Weblog

- All tabs can be **clicked** as can all **blue** text as to **navigate** the Weblog



The screenshot displays the ALMA Weblog interface. At the top left is the ALMA logo. Navigation tabs include 'Home', 'By Topic', and 'By Task', each with a mouse cursor icon. The version number '2016.1.00484.L' is shown in the top right. The main content is divided into two columns: 'Observation Overview' and 'Pipeline Summary'. Below these are 'Observation Summary' and a detailed data table.

**Observation Overview**

Project	uid://A001/X5ac/X43f
Principal Investigator	sandrews
OUS Status Entity id	uid://A001/Xbd4641/X23
Observation Start	2017-05-09 04:28:16 UTC
Observation End	2017-05-09 05:23:29 UTC
Number of Execution Blocks	1

**Pipeline Summary**

Pipeline Version	2023.1.0.124 ( <a href="#">documentation</a> )
CASA Version	6.5.4.9 ( <a href="#">environment</a> )
IERSeop2000 Version	0001.0179 (last date: 2024-02-08 00:00:00)
IERSpredict Version	0623.1483 (last date: 2024-06-07 00:00:00)
Pipeline Start	2024-03-11 10:34:25 UTC
Execution Duration	1 day, 6:48:49

**Observation Summary**

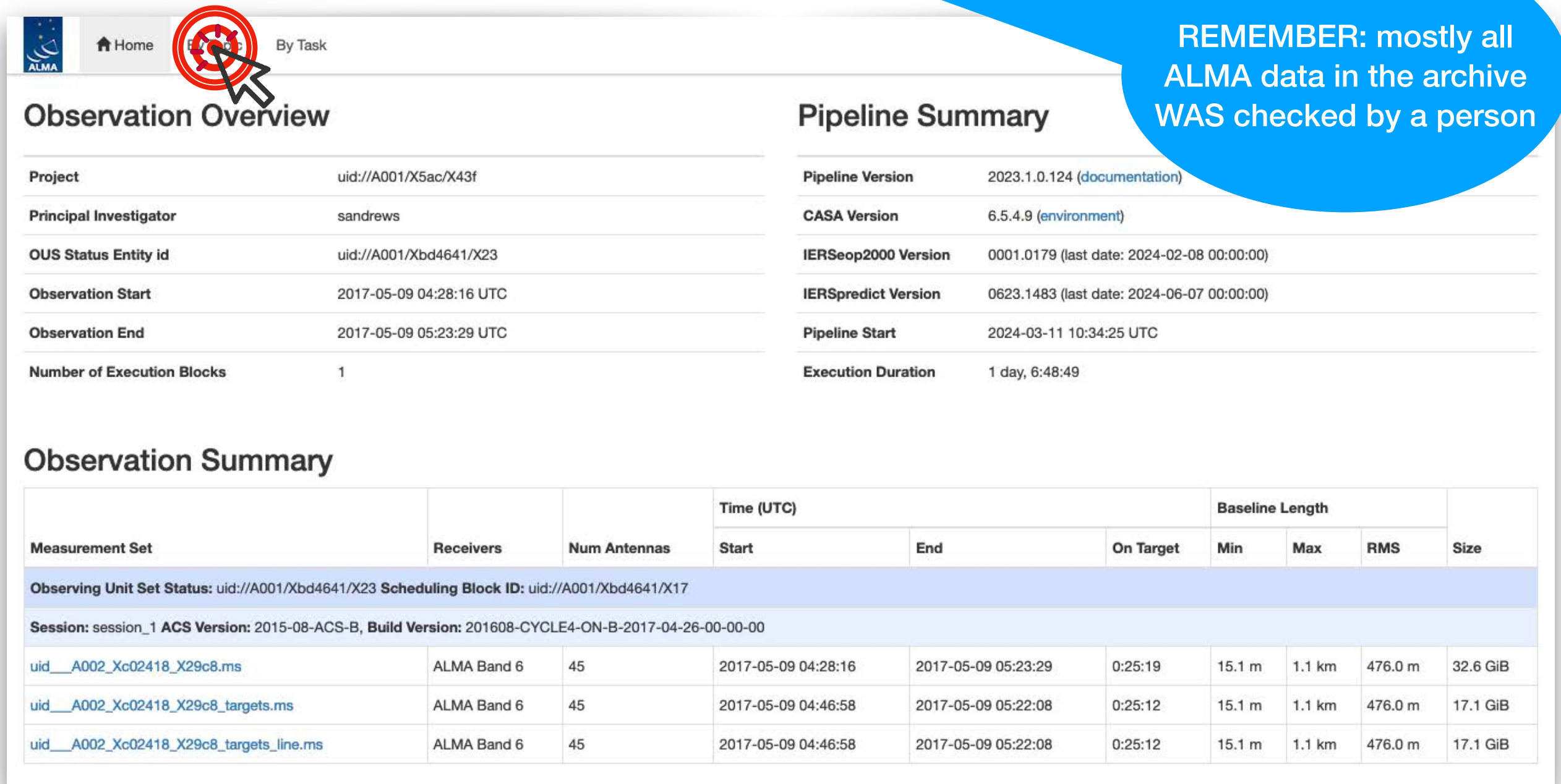
Measurement Set	Receivers	Num Antennas	Time (UTC)			Baseline Length			Size
			Start	End	On Target	Min	Max	RMS	
<b>Observing Unit Set Status:</b> uid://A001/Xbd4641/X23 <b>Scheduling Block ID:</b> uid://A001/Xbd4641/X17									
<b>Session:</b> session_1 <b>ACS Version:</b> 2015-08-ACS-B, <b>Build Version:</b> 201608-CYCLE4-ON-B-2017-04-26-00-00-00									
<a href="#">uid__A002_Xc02418_X29c8_targets</a>	ALMA Band 6	45	2017-05-09 04:28:16	2017-05-09 05:23:29	0:25:19	15.1 m	1.1 km	476.0 m	32.6 GiB
<a href="#">uid__A002_Xc02418_X29c8_targets</a>	ALMA Band 6	45	2017-05-09 04:46:58	2017-05-09 05:22:08	0:25:12	15.1 m	1.1 km	476.0 m	17.1 GiB
<a href="#">uid__A002_Xc02418_X29c8_targets_line.ms</a>	ALMA Band 6	45	2017-05-09 04:46:58	2017-05-09 05:22:08	0:25:12	15.1 m	1.1 km	476.0 m	17.1 GiB



# PART 1 - Calibration

## The Weblog

- Lets quickly look at the **by Topic**, this stage highlights notable **warnings** or **issues** and **identifies** possible stages to check



**REMEMBER: mostly all ALMA data in the archive WAS checked by a person**

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IERSpredict Version	0623.1483 (last date: 2024-06-07 00:00:00)
Pipeline Start	2024-03-11 10:34:25 UTC
Execution Duration	1 day, 6:48:49

### Observation Summary

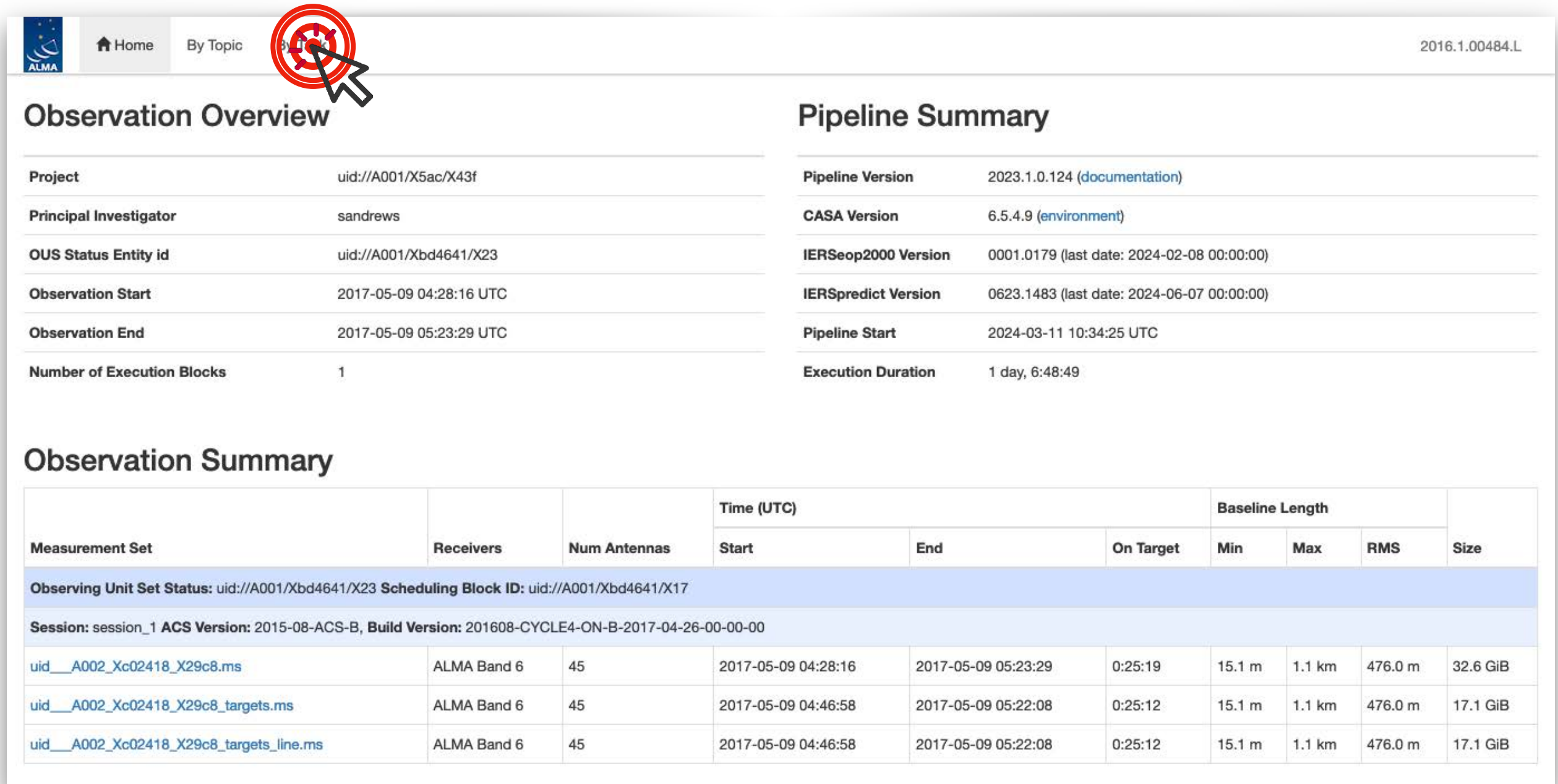
Measurement Set	Receivers	Num Antennas	Time (UTC)			Baseline Length			Size
			Start	End	On Target	Min	Max	RMS	
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Session: session_1 ACS Version: 2015-08-ACS-B, Build Version: 201608-CYCLE4-ON-B-2017-04-26-00-00-00									
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# PART 1 - Calibration

## The Weblog

- Lets look at the **by Task**, which contains all the main pipeline stages in running order



The screenshot shows the ALMA web interface. At the top left is the ALMA logo. Navigation links include 'Home' and 'By Topic', with a red target icon and a mouse cursor pointing to 'By Topic'. The version number '2016.1.00484.L' is in the top right. The main content is divided into two columns: 'Observation Overview' and 'Pipeline Summary'. Below these is an 'Observation Summary' table.

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# Task Summaries

Task	QA Score	Duration
1. <b>hifa_importdata</b> : Register measurement sets with the pipeline	1.00	0:10:16
2. <b>hifa_flagdata</b> : ALMA deterministic flagging	1.00	0:41:03
3. <b>hifa_fluxcalflag</b> : Flag spectral features in solar system flux calibrators	1.00	0:00:03
4. <b>hif_rawflagchans</b> : Flag channels in raw data	1.00	0:07:53
5. <b>hif_refant</b> : Select reference antennas	1.00	0:00:23
6. <b>h_tsyscal</b> : Calculate Tsys calibration	1.00	0:07:19
7. <b>hifa_tsysflag</b> : Flag Tsys calibration	1.00	0:09:24
8. <b>hifa_antpos</b> : Correct for antenna position offsets	Nonzero antenna position offsets  0.90	0:00:06
9. <b>hifa_wvrgcalflag</b> : Calculate and flag WVR calibration	1.00	0:17:46
10. <b>hif_lowgainflag</b> : Flag antennas with low gain	1.00	0:10:00
11. <b>hif_setmodels</b> : Set calibrator model visibilities	1.00	0:09:32
12. <b>hifa_bandpassflag</b> : Phase-up bandpass calibration and flagging	0.99	0:25:24
13. <b>hifa_bandpass</b> : Phase-up bandpass calibration	0.99	0:18:17
14. <b>hifa_spwphaseup</b> : Spw phase offsets calibration	1.00	0:05:15
15. <b>hifa_gfluxscaleflag</b> : Phased-up flux scale calibration + flagging	1.00	0:25:08
16. <b>hifa_gfluxscale</b> : Transfer fluxscale from amplitude calibrator	1.00	0:23:34
17. <b>hifa_timegaincal</b> : Gain calibration	Potential phase offset outliers  0.80	0:33:53
18. <b>hifa_targetflag</b> : Target outlier flagging	1.00	0:14:44
19. <b>hif_applycal</b> : Apply calibrations from context	Phase vs frequency slope outliers  0.90	0:43:48

note: more stages below these



# Task Summaries

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6. <b>h_tsyscal</b> : Calculate Tsys calibration	1.00	0:07:19
7. <b>hifa_tsysflag</b> : Flag Tsys calibration	1.00	0:09:24
8. <b>hifa_antpos</b> : Correct for antenna position offsets	0.90	0:00:06
9. <b>hifa_wvrgcalflag</b> : Calculate and flag wvrgcal	1.00	0:17:46
10. <b>hif_lowgainflag</b> : Flag antennas with low gain	1.00	0:10:00
11. <b>hif_setmodels</b> : Set calibrator model visibilities	1.00	0:09:32
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“hifa” - ALMA interferometry specific

“hif” - Interferometry - can be used by other telescopes

“h” - just means heuristic stage, can be used by other telescopes and not just interferometry

note: more stages below these



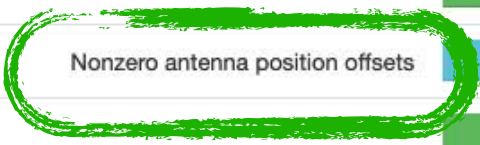
tasks listed



scores



task short messages



1.0 scores, all is good

Task	QA Score	Duration
1. <b>hifa_importdata</b> : Register measurement sets with the pipeline	1.00	0:10:16
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4. <b>hif_rawflagchans</b> : Flag channels in raw data	1.00	
5. <b>hif_refant</b> : Select reference antennas	1.00	
6. <b>hif_tsyscal</b> : Calculate Tsys calibration	1.00	
7. <b>hifa_tsysflag</b> : Flag Tsys calibration	1.00	0:09:24
8. <b>hifa_antpos</b> : Correct for antenna position offsets	0.90	0:00:06
9. <b>hifa_wvrgcalflag</b> : Calculate and flag WVR calibration	1.00	0:17:46
10. <b>hif_lowgainflag</b> : Flag antennas with low gain	1.00	0:10:00
11. <b>hif_setmodels</b> : Set calibrator model visibilities	1.00	0:09:32
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14. <b>hifa_spwphaseup</b> : Spw phase offsets calibration	1.00	
15. <b>hifa_gfluxscaleflag</b> : Phased-up flux scale calibration + flagging	1.00	
16. <b>hifa_gfluxscale</b> : Transfer fluxscale from amplitude calibrator	1.00	
17. <b>hifa_phaseoutliers</b> : Potential phase offset outliers	1.00	
18. <b>hifa_phaseoutliers</b> : Potential phase offset outliers	1.00	
19. <b>hifa_phaseoutliers</b> : Phase vs frequency slope outliers	0.90	0:43:48

informative symbols, notification, warnings and errors

BLUE scores, some notifications but no issues

# The important points

- **AGAIN** - remember **delivered** data **all passed QA2**

i.e. no need to  
“go looking” for  
problems or things to  
flag

- **Note:** Pipeline scoring has been **updated** and **improved** over the years
- **older** pipeline Weblogs might **not** have (as) **trustworthy** scores, or scores and warnings maybe slightly misleading
- always check the version, and remember for pre-Cycle 10 (6.5.4 CASA), a **person always checked** the weblogs so they should always be without issues

# The important points

- **System Temperature ( $T_{\text{sys}}$ )** - should look sensible, related with the transmission
- **WVR** - shows the initial phase correction by the water vapour radiometer system
- **Bandpass** - there should be no spikes (birdies), regular structure/instrumental glitches
- **Amplitude** - the flux gains should be sensible when compared to ALMA's catalogue
- **Gains** - changes in amplitude and phase are trackable and smooth, no glitches/jumps

does not exist for ACA antennas

➔ **Apply** - does all correct data look as expected

# The scores and symbols

- Pipeline have defined scores on a traffic light scheme
- **Green** - all is good with the stage (1.0)
- **Blue** - some notifications, but otherwise good ( $0.66 < \text{score} \leq 0.9^*$ )
- **Amber** - not ideal warning, maybe a problem ( $0.33 < \text{score} \leq 0.66$ )
- **Red** - likely a major issue and needs investigation ( $\leq 0.33$ )

\*technically, anything with a notification is set to 0.9

# Investigation time....

- Follow the web link to a weblog **you selected**
- There will be **~10-15 minutes** for you individually to examine a weblog to get:
  - Project Code
  - CASA Version
  - WVR improvement factor
  - Worst Score - in **calibration stages**
  - Phase calibrator flux in ***lowest index*** SpW
  - Identify any possible issues/warnings

I didn't show  
where to get any  
of these  
parameters

# Investigation time....

- <https://almascience.eso.org/arcdistribution/ALMAschool/dataset1/html>

- <https://almascience.eso.org/arcdistribution/ALMAschool/dataset2/html>

- <https://almascience.eso.org/arcdistribution/ALMAschool/dataset3/html>



# Investigation time...*answers*

Dataset	Project Code	CASA Version	WVR Imp.	Lowest Score (cal)	Phase Cal. Flux	Other issues?
1						
2						
3						

# Investigation time...*answers*

Dataset	Project Code	CASA Version	WVR Imp.	Lowest Score (cal)	Phase Cal. Flux	Other issues?
1	2017.A.00042.T	6.5.9	0.97	0.30 (import)	SpW 19 62 mJy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ASDM imports no flux database</li> <li>• Phase Offsets</li> <li>• DV02 Bandpass strange</li> </ul>
2	2018.1.00659.L	5.4.0	1.05 1.67	0.53 (WVR) 0.00 ( <i>Check Source Img.</i> )	SpW 25 142 mJy 148 mJy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Resolved Bandpass in X9a1</li> <li>○ Check source images scores</li> </ul>
3	2019.1.00260.S	5.6.1	3.08	0.66 (Bandpassflag)	SpW 19 860 mJy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DV24 outlier phase (diagnostic)</li> <li>• Outlier ant (phase) apply</li> <li>• Images*</li> </ul>

learned - older weblogs have less information or differently placed

\*trick question as we are looking at calibration  
these data also had a correlator issue that an analyst found

# PART 1 - Calibration

## ○ The important points - **Tsys**

flags issued in the Tsys tables using heuristics

- Tasks in execution order
- 1. hifa\_importdata
- 2. hifa\_flagdata
- 3. hifa\_fluxcalflag
- 4. hif\_rawflagchans
- 5. hif\_refant
- 6. h\_tsyscal
- 7. hifa\_tsysflag**
- 8. hifa\_antpos
- 9. hifa\_wvrgcalflag
- 10. hif\_lowgainflag
- 11. hif\_setmodels
- 12. hifa\_bandpassflag
- 13. hifa\_bandpass
- 14. hifa\_spwphaseup
- 15. hifa\_gfluxscaleflag
- 16. hifa\_gfluxscale
- 17. hifa\_timegaincal
- 18. hifa\_targetflag
- 19. hif\_applycal
- 20. hif\_makeimlist (cals)
- 21. hif\_makeimages (cals)
- 22. hif\_makeimlist (checksrc)
- 23. hif\_makeimages (checksrc)
- 24. hifa\_imageprecheck
- 25. hif\_checkproductsizes
- 26. hifa\_renorm
- 27. hifa\_exportdata
- 28. hif\_mstrtransform
- 29. hifa\_flagtargets
- 30. hif\_makeimlist (mfs)

### 7. Flag T<sub>sys</sub> calibration

BACK

QA Score: 1.00 4.49% of data in uid\_\_A002\_Xc02418\_X29c8.ms.h\_tsyscal.s6\_1.tsyscal.tbl was newly flagged

#### Contents

- T<sub>sys</sub> after flagging
- Flagged data summary
- Flag step details
  - manual
  - nmedian
  - derivative
  - edgechans
  - fieldshape
  - birdies
  - toomany

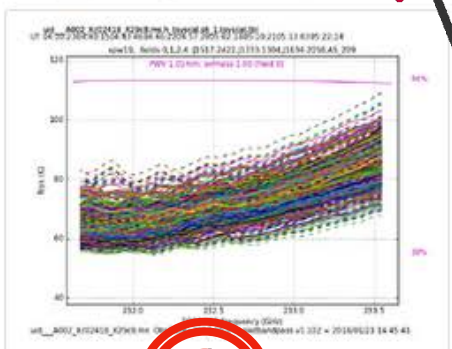
can click to jump to flag summaries for heuristics

#### T<sub>sys</sub> vs frequency after flagging

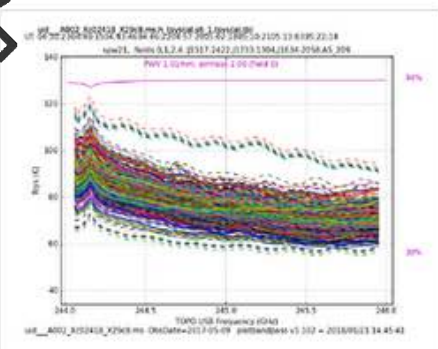
Plots of time-averaged T<sub>sys</sub> vs frequency, colored by antenna.

can click to look at all plots, or plots per SpW

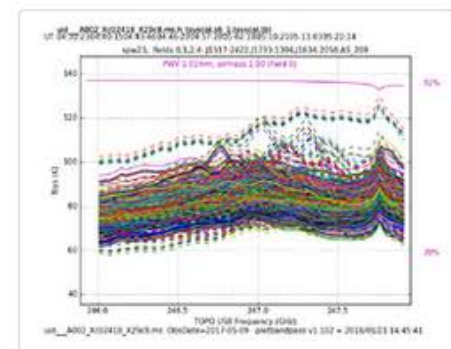
[uid\\_\\_A002\\_Xc02418\\_X29c8.ms](#)



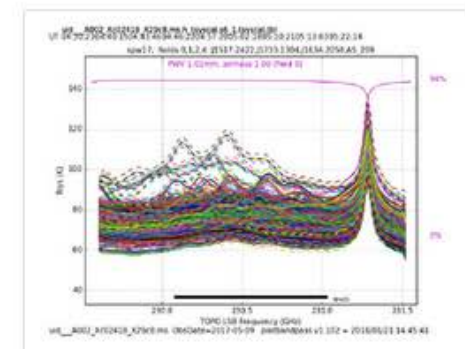
T<sub>sys</sub> spw 19  
Science spw 19.



T<sub>sys</sub> spw 21  
Science spw 21.



T<sub>sys</sub> spw 23  
Science spw 23.



T<sub>sys</sub> spw 17  
Science spw 25.

# PART 1 - Calibration

## ○ The important points - **Tsys**

### ○ We clicked to look at **only** SpW 19

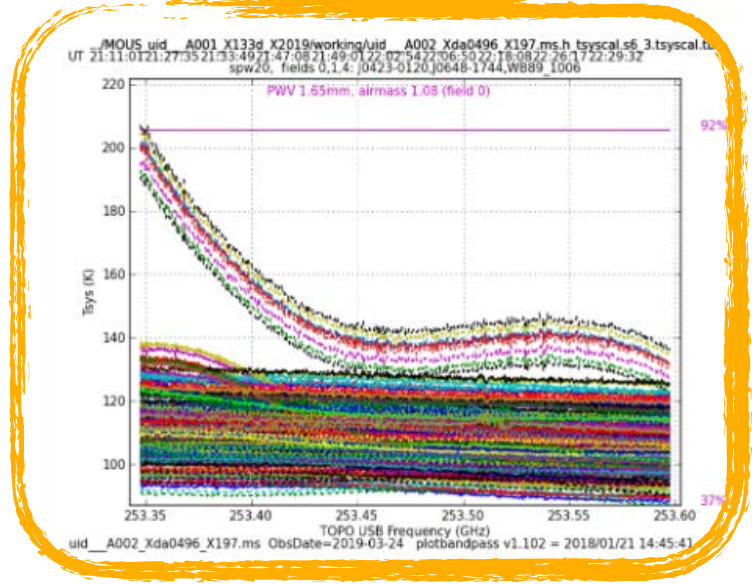
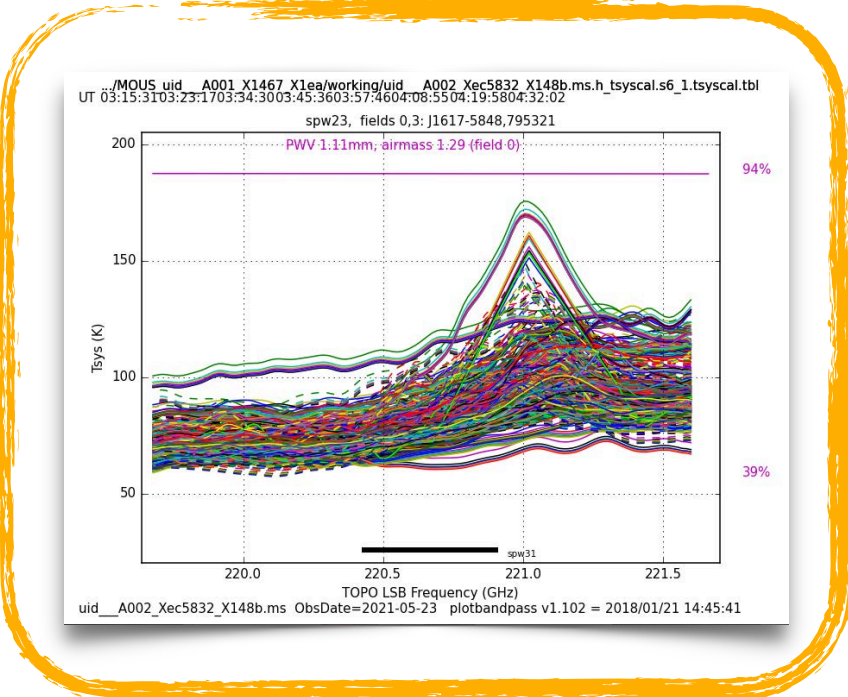




# PART 1 - Calibration

## ○ The important points - **Tsys**

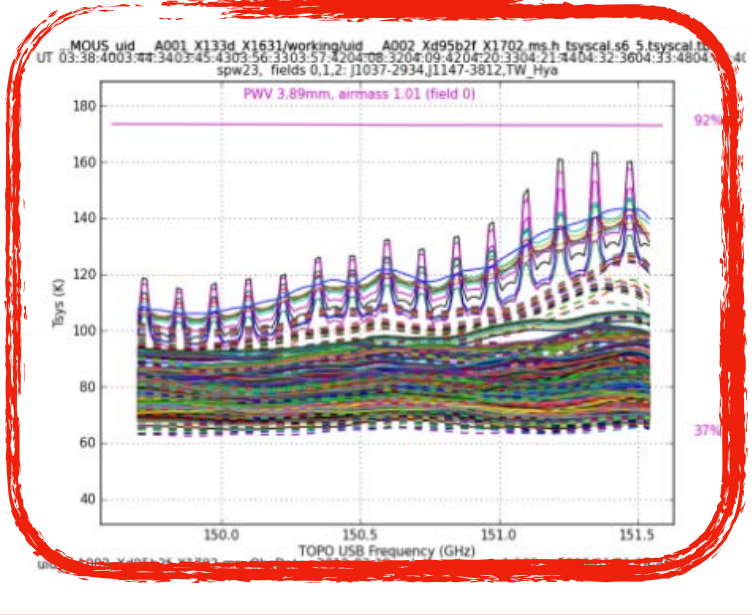
DV06 had some flagging that caused an unrealistic pyramid feature. Not a 'fail' issue - simply this antenna would be down weighted. But it can be fixed with heuristic adjustments



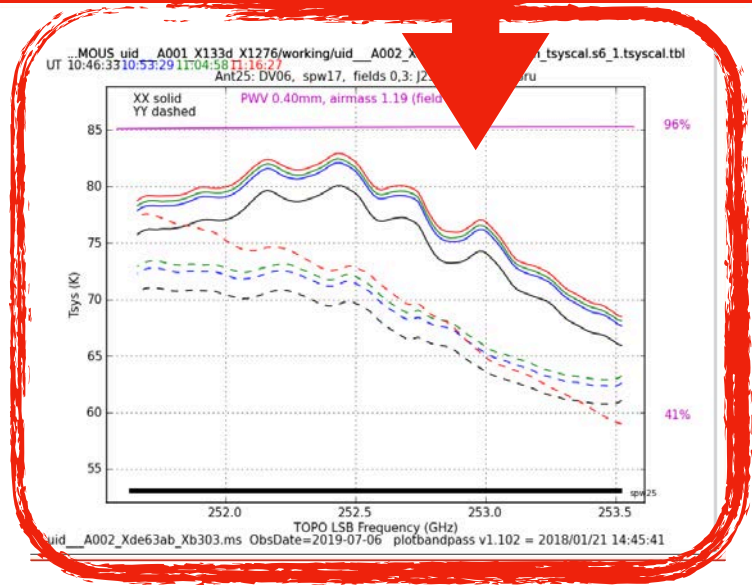
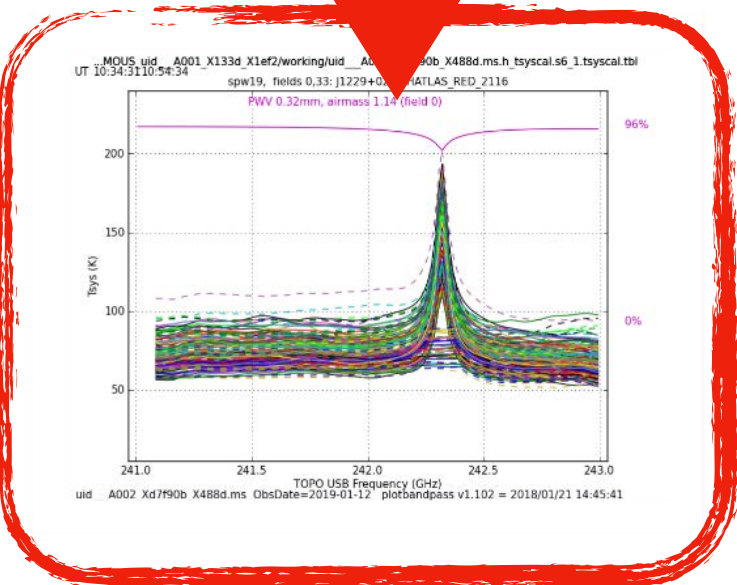
one antenna elevated, nothing to do, just follow the antenna in other stages to see if it is miss behaved

older pipeline version sometimes over flagged the ATM lines in the Tsys, they should not be flagged otherwise the weightings are not correct

subtle issue that some scans have a different slope (red-dashed line), this indicated an instrumental issue (that got fixed at the telescope)



Regular oscillations and patterns are indicative of a bad antenna - it will probably be bad in other stages too, e.g. "hifa\_bandpass"



# PART 1 - Calibration

## ○ The important points - WVR

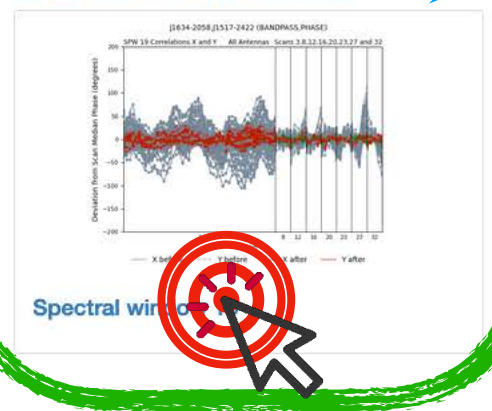
rough rule, spread of +/-50 deg after correction is ideal

- Tasks in execution order
- 1. hifa\_importdata
- 2. hifa\_flagdata
- 3. hifa\_fluxcalflag
- 4. hif\_rawflagchans
- 5. hif\_refant
- 6. h\_tsyscal
- 7. hifa\_tsysflag
- 8. hifa\_antpos
- 9. hifa\_wvrflag**
- 10. hif\_lowgainflag
- 11. hif\_setmodels
- 12. hifa\_bandpassflag
- 13. hifa\_bandpass
- 14. hifa\_spwphaseup
- 15. hifa\_gfluxscaleflag
- 16. hifa\_gfluxscale
- 17. hifa\_timegaincal
- 18. hifa\_targetflag
- 19. hif\_applycal
- 20. hif\_makeimlist (cals)
- 21. hif\_makeimages (cals)
- 22. hif\_makeimlist (checksrc)
- 23. hif\_makeimages (checksrc)
- 24. hifa\_imageprecheck
- 25. hif\_checkproductsizes
- 26. hifa\_renorm
- 27. hifa\_exportdata
- 28. hif\_mstransform
- 29. hifa\_flagtargets
- 30. hif\_makeimlist (mfs)
- 31. hif\_findcont
- 32. hif\_uvcontsub
- 33. hif\_makeimages (mfs)
- 34. hif\_makeimlist (cont)
- 35. hif\_makeimages (cont)
- 36. hif\_makeimlist (cube)
- 37. hif\_makeimages (cube)

### Phase correction with/without WVR

After flagging discrepant WVRs based on the bandpass calibrator, the phase... The following set of plots show the improvement in the rms phase after app... The correction applied to those antennas in these plots is the correction inte... flagged for the rest of the calibration process. Click on a link below to show a...

uid\_\_A002\_Xc02418\_X29c8.ms

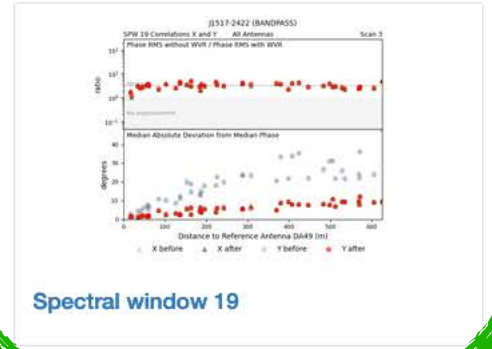


median phase deviation before and after applying the WVR. This is often an informative plot to check if there are issues

### Phase correction vs distance to reference antenna

Plots show the phase offset (lower panel) and improvement ratio (upper panel) vs distance to the reference antenna before and after WVR application. The lower panel of these plots show the median absolute deviation of the gaincal corrections with and without WVR correction applied. The upper panel shows the ratio of the RMS deviations about the median for data with WVR correction applied to the RMS deviations without WVR correction. One plot is generated per scan, with points plotted per correlation and antenna as a function of distance from the reference antenna.

uid\_\_A002\_Xc02418\_X29c8.ms

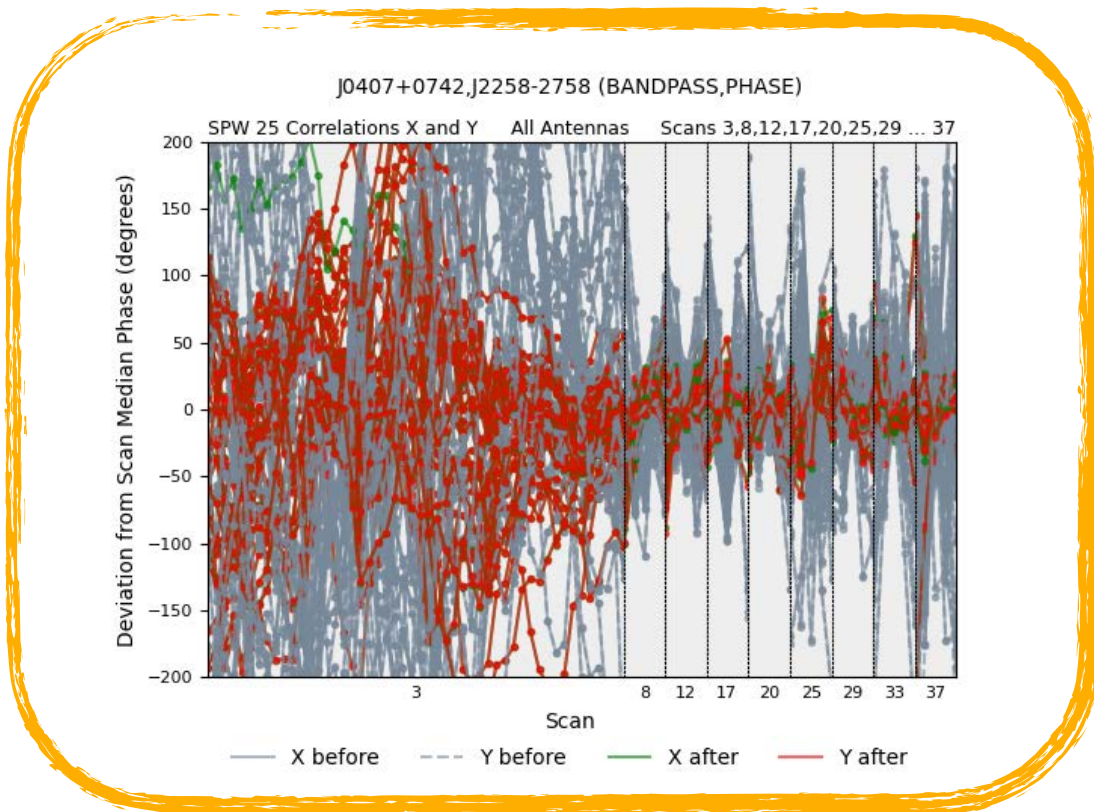


median phase correction and deviation against distance to reference antenna before and after applying the WVR



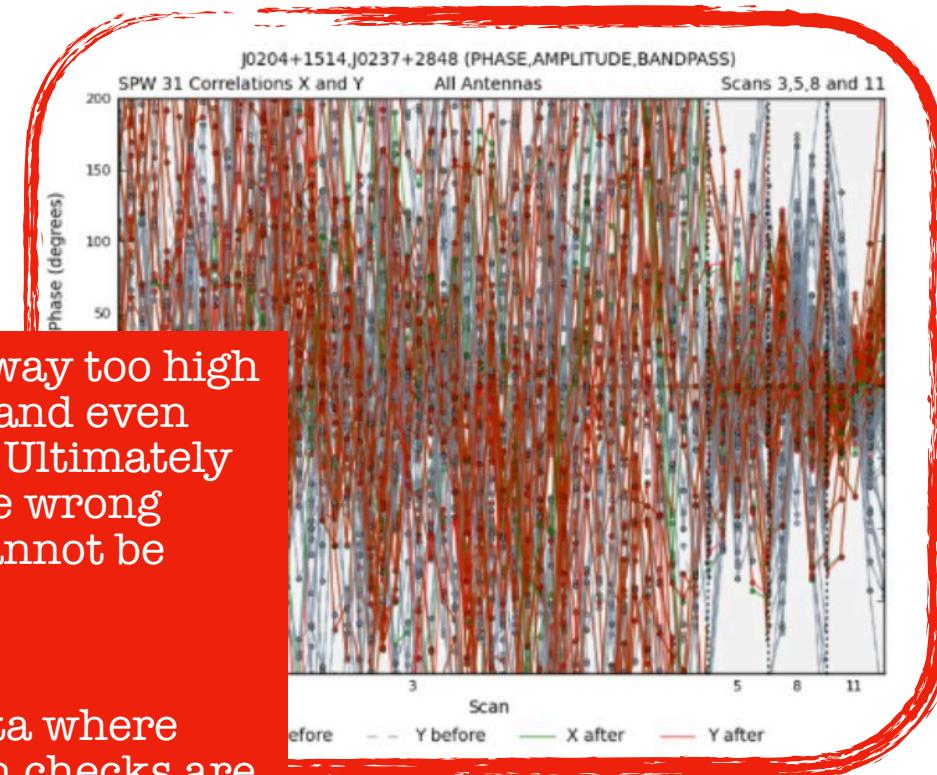
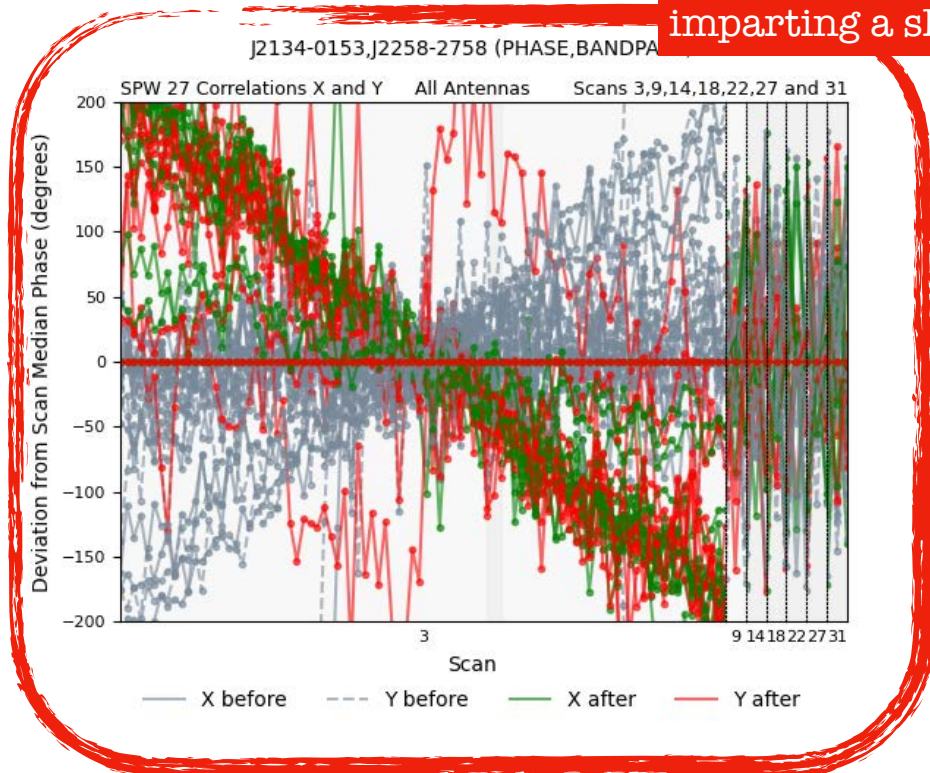
# PART 1 - Calibration

## ○ The important points - **WVR**



phases are improved, but even after correction there is a huge spread. The phase RMS of these data is likely too high - if will also show in later stages (caveat self-calibration could help such data if it is possible)

something is going wrong, needs checking - in this case the reference antenna is imparting a slope and should be changed



the phase noise is simply way too high in these data, both before and even after the WVR correction. Ultimately these were observed in the wrong conditions and the data cannot be calibrated

(note these are testing data where sometimes strict condition checks are not necessary to follow)

QA0-semipass (do not get to QA2)

# PART 1 - Calibration

## ○ The important points - **Bandpass**

does the bandpass calibration also using heuristics to set the parameters

### Plots

Plots show the bandpass correction applied to the target source. The first two plots show amplitude vs frequency; or for the typical antenna.

Click the summary plots to enlarge them, or the plot title to see detailed plots per spectral window and antenna.

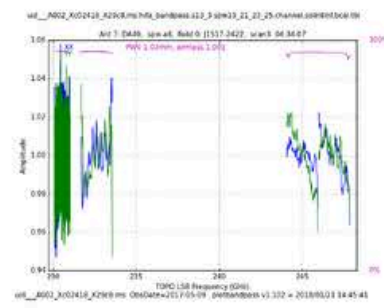
uid\_\_A002\_Xc02418\_X29c8.ms

Can click to look at various sets of plots - these can also be filtered later for all (or selected) antennas/SpWs

with mode score. The third plot shows phase vs frequency

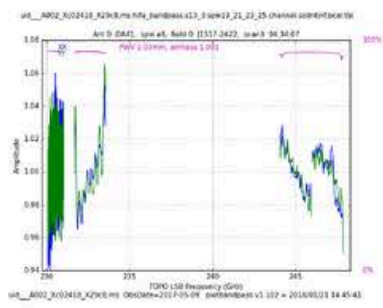
#### Amplitude vs frequency (show uid\_\_A002\_Xc02418\_X29c8.ms)

The plots below show amplitude vs frequency for the bandpass correction, overlaid for all spectral windows and correlations. Click on the link above to show show detailed plots for all antennas, or on the links below to show plots with specific antennas preselected.



#### Reference antenna (DA49) ( show DA49 )

Amplitude vs frequency for the reference antenna (DA49). Click the link above to show detailed plots for DA49.



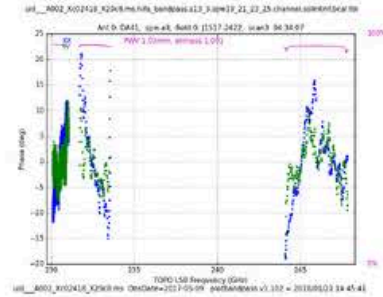
#### Typical antenna (DA41) ( show DA41 )

Amplitude vs frequency for a typical antenna (DA41). Click the link above to show detailed plots for DA41.

NB. random antenna until scores are working

#### Phase vs frequency (show uid\_\_A002\_Xc02418\_X29c8.ms)

The plot below shows phase vs frequency for the bandpass correction, overlaid for all spectral windows and correlations. Click on the link above to show show phase vs frequency plots for all antennas, or on the link for just the typical antenna.



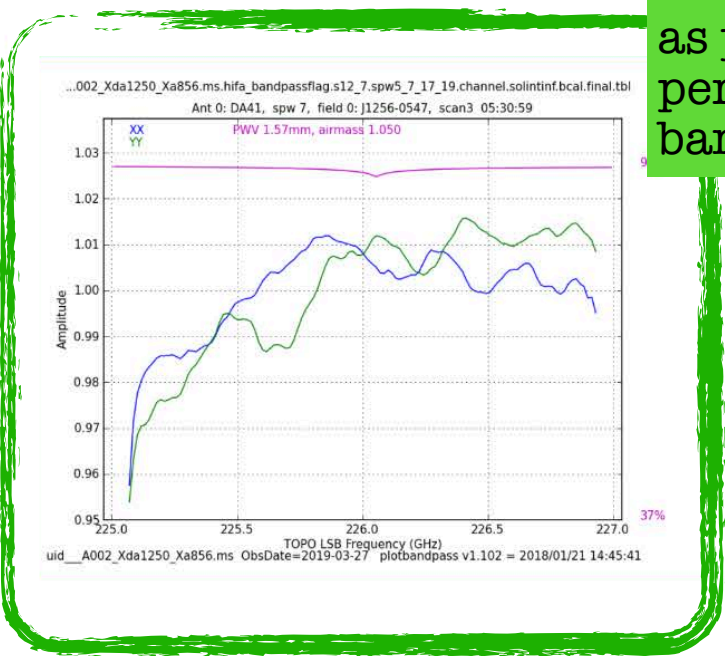
#### Typical antenna (DA41) ( show DA41 )

Phase vs frequency for a typical antenna (DA41). Click the link above to show detailed plots for DA41.

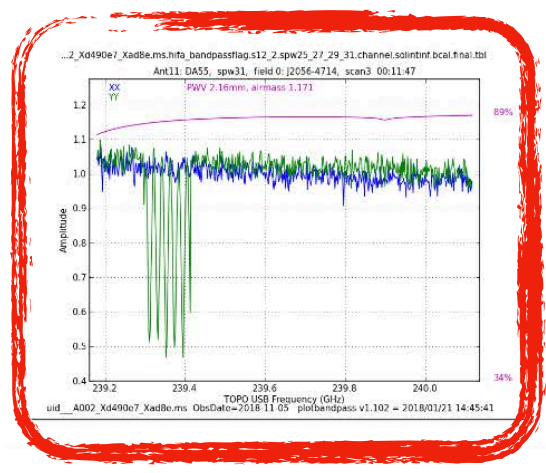


# PART 1 - Calibration

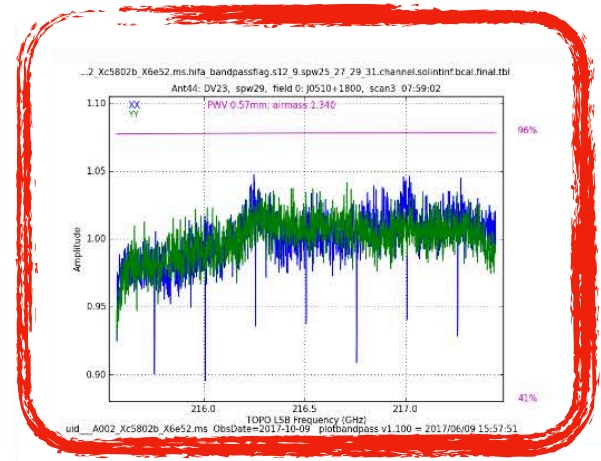
## ○ The important points - Bandpass



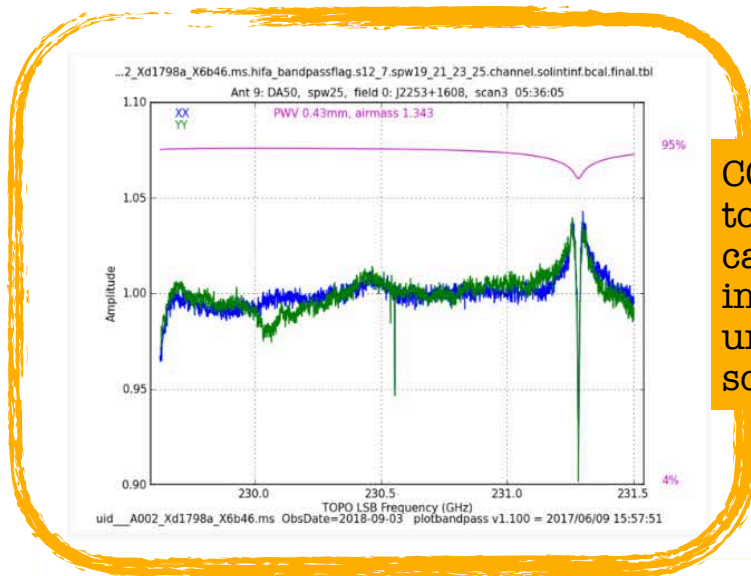
as previous, a perfectly normal bandpass



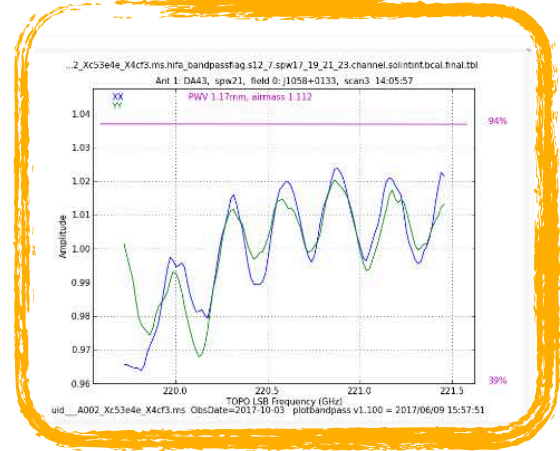
Issue related to only a specific section that effects only one region and only one polarisation. If the correlator - i.e. all data, then these cannot be use. If only one antenna flags might be enough



Correlator issue related to how SpW are made and the edges are not correctly handled. These data cannot be calibrated correctly

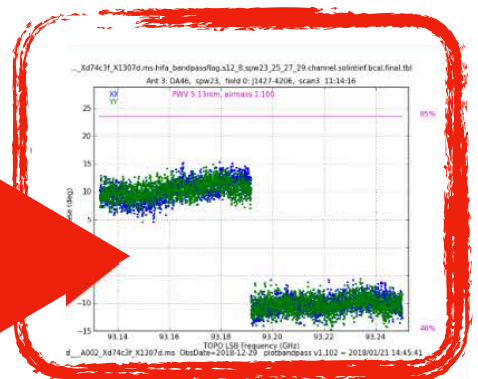


CO 230.X GHz 'dip' related to telluric emission. This cannot be helped but the impact must be carefully understood during the scientific work



Instrumental issue causing a standing wave. Data might be ok, it is not guaranteed this is not transient - could be 'red' if this pattern seen in final target data

errors also in the phase vs frequency plots always check both. Here platforming in amplitude also leads to a step break in phase



# PART 1 - Calibration

## ○ The important points - Amplitude

**Tasks in execution order**

1. hifa\_importdata
2. hifa\_flagdata
3. hifa\_fluxcalflag
4. hif\_rawflagchans
5. hif\_refant
6. h\_tsyscal
7. hifa\_tsysflag
8. hifa\_antpos
9. hifa\_wrgcalflag
10. hif\_lowgainflag
11. hif\_setmodels
12. hifa\_bandpassflag
13. hifa\_bandpass
14. hifa\_spwphaseup
15. hifa\_gfluxscaleflag
- 16. hifa\_gfluxscale**
17. hifa\_timegaincal
18. hifa\_targetflag
19. hif\_applycal
20. hif\_makeimlist (cals)
21. hif\_makeimages (cals)
22. hif\_makeimlist (checksrc)
23. hif\_makeimages (checksrc)
24. hifa\_imageprecheck
25. hif\_checkproductsizes
26. hifa\_renorm
27. hifa\_exportdata
28. hif\_mstransform
29. hifa\_flagtargets
30. hif\_makeimlist (mfs)
31. hif\_findcont
32. hif\_uvcontsub
33. hif\_makeimages (mfs)
34. hif\_makeimlist (cont)
35. hif\_makeimages (cont)
36. hif\_makeimlist (cube)
37. hif\_makeimages (cube)
38. hif\_makeimlist (cube\_repBW)
39. hif\_makeimages (cube\_repBW)
40. hif\_selfcal
41. hif\_makeimlist (mfs)
42. hif\_makeimages (mfs)
43. hif\_makeimlist (cont)
44. hif\_makeimages (cont)
45. hif\_makeimlist (cube)
46. hif\_makeimages (cube)
47. hif\_makeimlist (cube\_repBW)
48. hif\_makeimages (cube\_repBW)
49. hifa\_exportdata

### 16. Phased-up fluxscale

QA Score: 1.00 All expected derived fluxes present for uid\_\_A002\_Xc02418\_X29c8.ms All QA Scores (11 green)

**Contents**

- Tables:
  - Antennas used for flux scaling
  - Computed flux densities
- Plots:
  - Calibrated flux density vs derived flux density vs catalogue flux density
  - Flux calibrator model comparison

**Results**

#### Antennas Used for Flux Scaling

The following antennas were used for flux scaling, entries for unresolved flux calibrators are blank

Measurement Set	UV Range
uid__A002_Xc02418_X29c8.ms	

Antennas for Flux Calibration

#### Computed Flux Densities

The following flux densities were set in the measurement set model column and recorded in the pipeline context:

Measurement Set	Field	Spw	Frequency Bandwidth (TOPO)	Derived Scaling Factor			Flux Ratio (Calibrated / Catalog)	S/N
				I	U	V		
uid__A002_Xc02418_X29c8.ms	J1517-2422 (#0) BANDPASS	19	232.617 GHz 2.000 GHz	1.799 ± 0.002 Jy (0.09%)	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.985	0.0
				1.799 ± 0.0003 Jy (0.01%)				
				1.826 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy		
		21	232.617 GHz 2.000 GHz	1.799 ± 0.0003 Jy (0.01%)	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.988	
				1.781 ± 0.0002 Jy (0.01%)				
				1.803 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy		
		23	246.923 GHz 2.000 GHz	1.780 ± 0.002 Jy (0.1%)	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.989	
				1.779 ± 0.0002 Jy (0.01%)				
				1.799 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy		
		25	230.554 GHz 937.500 MHz	1.806 ± 0.002 Jy (0.1%)	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.987	
				1.806 ± 0.0002 Jy (0.01%)				
				1.830 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy		
J1634-2058 (#2) PHASE	19	232.617 GHz 2.000 GHz	99.361 ± 0.726 mJy (0.7%)	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.854		
			99.060 ± 0.150 mJy (0.2%)					

quick links to tables and plots at bottom of page

per INTENT calibrated by the Amplitude INTENT fluxes are now reported as:

- a scaling factor (used in gaincal)
- Calibrated visibility data measurement
- Catalogue comparisons (from "hifa\_importdata" stage)

if the catalogue value is recent (<10's of days) the ratios should be 1.0 with errors generally be within the quoted ALMA flux uncertainties

# PART 1 - Calibration

## ○ The important points - **Amplitude**

### Computed Flux Densities

The following flux densities were set in the measurement set model column and recorded in the pipeline context:

Measurement Set	Field	Spw	Frequency Bandwidth (TOPO)	Derived Scaling Factor				Flux Ratio (Calibrated / Catalog)	Spix
				I	Q	U	V		
uid__A002_Xe79954_X5876.ms	J1407-4302 (#1) PHASE	25	261.862 GHz 58.594 MHz	155.734 ± 2.528 mJy (1.6%)	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.627	0.0
				130.859 ± 1.435 mJy (1.1%)					
				208.737 mJy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy		
		27	262.023 GHz 117.188 MHz	143.874 ± 2.050 mJy (1.4%)	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.636	
				132.659 ± 0.959 mJy (0.7%)					
				208.702 mJy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy		
		29	261.862 GHz 58.594 MHz	155.052 ± 2.304 mJy (1.5%)	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.634	
				132.536 ± 1.351 mJy (1.0%)					
				209.080 mJy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy		
		31	261.875 GHz 117.188 MHz	145.715 ± 2.316 mJy (1.6%)	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.639	
				133.934 ± 0.996 mJy (0.7%)					
				209.537 mJy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy		

but the catalogue value is 100 days old, so that is probably wrong. Each SpW all get the same flux so this is ok... and...as long as the FLUX calibrator value is recent

check "setmodels" or "importdata" stages (*flux.csv*)

the ratio is very different from 1.0 - the uncertainty at band 6 is 10%....



# PART 1 - Calibration

## ○ The important points - **Amplitude**

NOTE: these are band 10 data, the highest and most difficult frequency to observe

Source	Frequency	Flux	Scaling Factor	Visibility Amp.	Catalogue	Ratio
J1145-6954 (#3) CHECK	801.613 GHz 937.500 MHz	1.052 ± 0.040 Jy (3.8%)	scaling factor	visibility amp.	0.000 Jy	0.430
		301.109 ± 30.177 mJy (10.0%)	visibility amp.	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.430
		700.022 mJy	catalogue	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.430
49	802.295 GHz 234.375 MHz	1.304 ± 0.044 Jy (3.3%)	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.285
		199.119 ± 41.787 mJy (21.0%)	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.285
		699.812 mJy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.285
51	802.471 GHz 234.375 MHz	1.301 ± 0.048 Jy (3.7%)	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.308
		215.308 ± 41.649 mJy (19.3%)	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.308
		699.758 mJy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.308
53	820.013 GHz 937.500 MHz	880.790 ± 42.941 mJy (4.9%)	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.439
		304.876 ± 24.597 mJy (8.1%)	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.439
		694.437 mJy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.000 Jy	0.439

the ratio is very different from 1.0 - but we know it is due to an **old** catalogue age

...but actually some SpW differ noticeably from the others and this needs to be investigated

Catalogue values differ - due to age as we've seen previously

But the **Scaling Factor** and **Calibrated visibility** values are also different

**Technical point** - Even though the fluxes are large, **0.5 Jy**, at Band 10, the stage "hifa\_spwphaseup" shows only **a very low SNR of 10 all SPWs combined** (typical of all the higher frequency bands, 8, 9 and 10)

The calibrated visibility amplitudes is the most accurate representation of the source flux - if calibration is good then check the fluxes in the images

# PART 1 - Calibration

## ○ The important points - Gains

PHASE

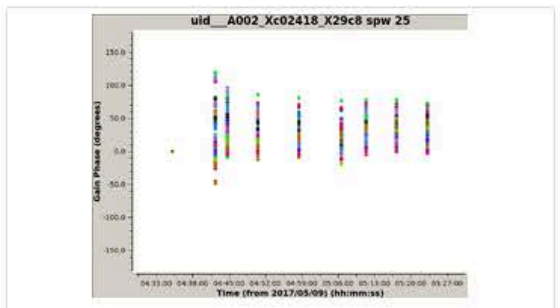
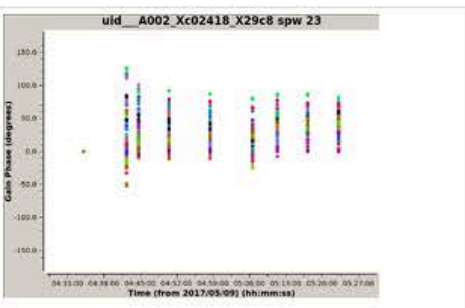
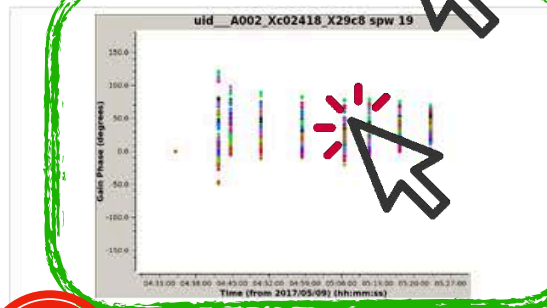
### Plots

#### Phase vs time

How the phase correction to be applied to the target source. A plot is shown for each spectral window, with phase correction data points plotted per antenna and correlation as a function of time. Click the summary plots to enlarge them, or the spectral window heading to see detailed plots per spectral window and antenna.

[uid\\_\\_A002\\_Xc02418\\_X29c8.ms](#)  
Spectral windows default mapped for J1614-2258 (PHASE).

all antenna summary plot, in some cases these can look "messy" as they are solutions to counteract the atmospheric variations - **longer baselines** and **higher frequencies** will "look" worse



[Spectral window 19](#)  
Phase vs time for spectral window 19, all antennas and correlations.

[Spectral window 21](#)  
Phase vs time, all antennas and correlations.

[Spectral window 23](#)  
Phase vs time, all antennas and correlations.

[Spectral window 25](#)  
Phase vs time, all antennas and correlations.

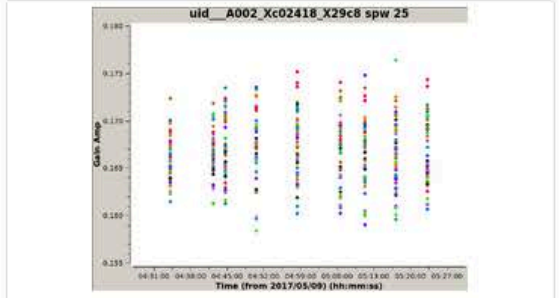
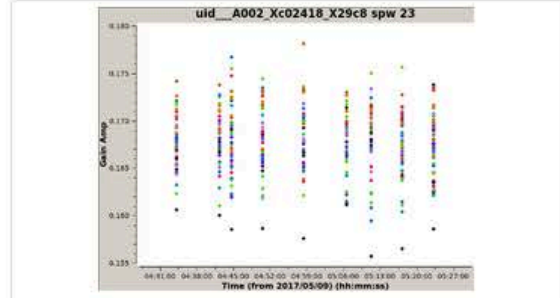
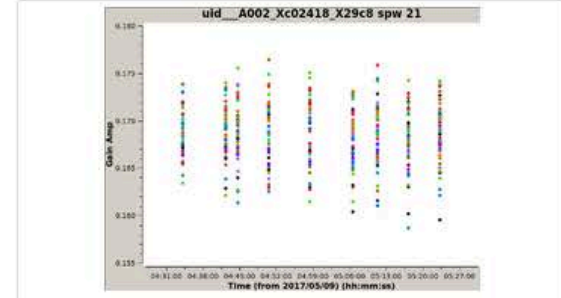
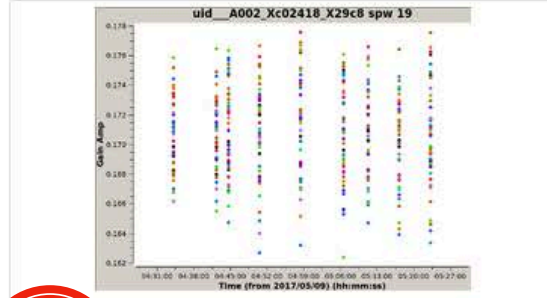
as usual, can click plots, and blue links

AMPLITUDE

#### Amplitude vs time

Amplitude calibration to be applied to the target source. A plot is shown for each spectral window and each set of antennas with the same antenna diameter, with amplitude correction data points per antenna and correlation as a function of time. Click the summary plots to enlarge them, or the spectral window heading to see detailed plots per spectral window and antenna.

[uid\\_\\_A002\\_Xc02418\\_X29c8.ms](#)



[Spectral window 19](#)  
Amplitude vs time for spectral window 19, all correlations, all antennas.

[Spectral window 21](#)  
Amplitude vs time for spectral window 21, all correlations, all antennas.

[Spectral window 23](#)  
Amplitude vs time for spectral window 23, all correlations, all antennas.

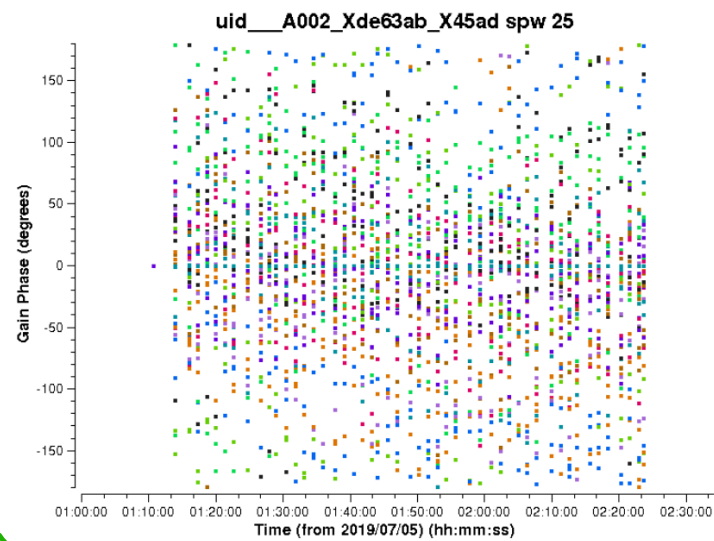
[Spectral window 25](#)  
Amplitude vs time for spectral window 25, all correlations, all antennas.

AMPLITUDE - should all be flat with time in general (or a smooth trend - no outliers)

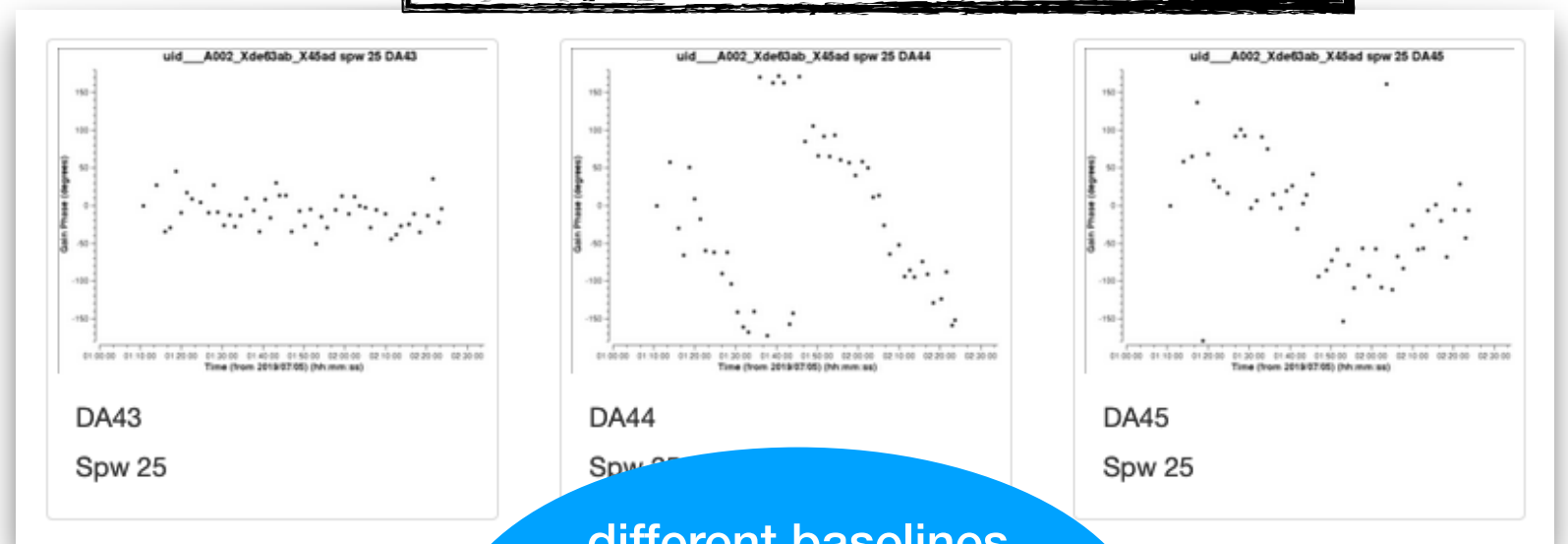
# PART 1 - Calibration

## ○ The important points - **Gains**

Per scan plot from main weblog page

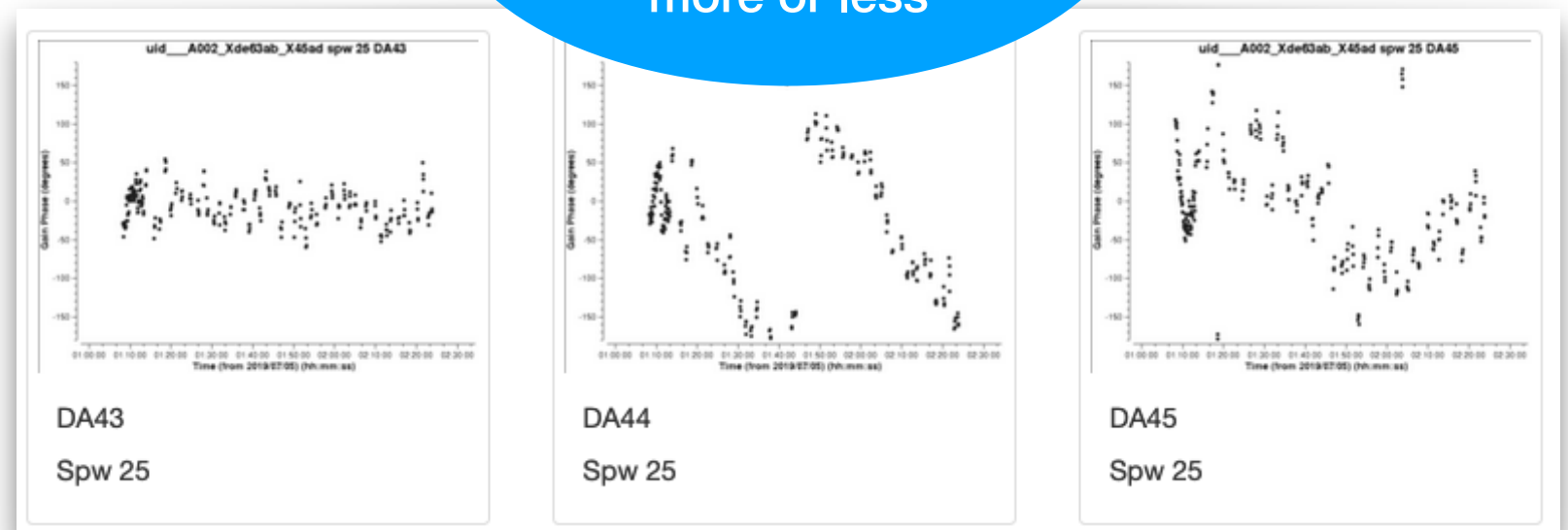
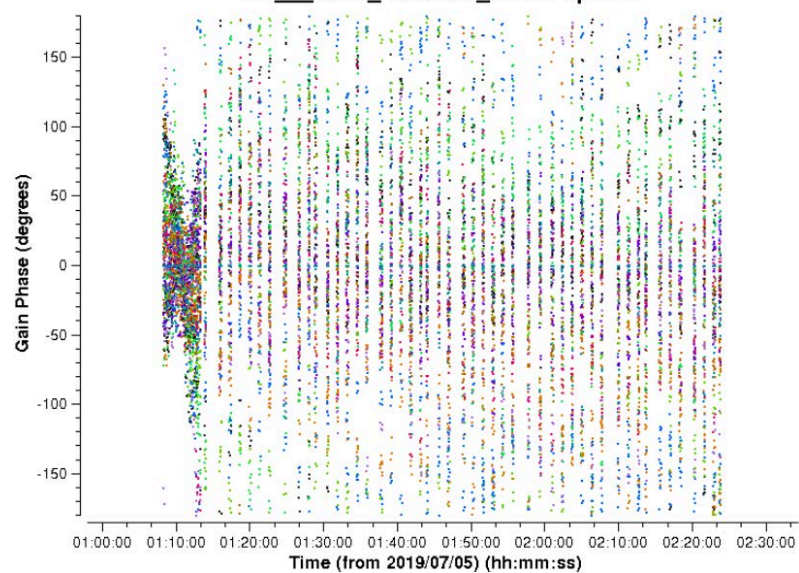


examples of ALMA longest baselines dataset - “looked” messy but are ideal as we can see/track the phases



different baselines with different lengths see the atmospheric variations more or less

Per integration plot from main weblog page - diagnostic plots

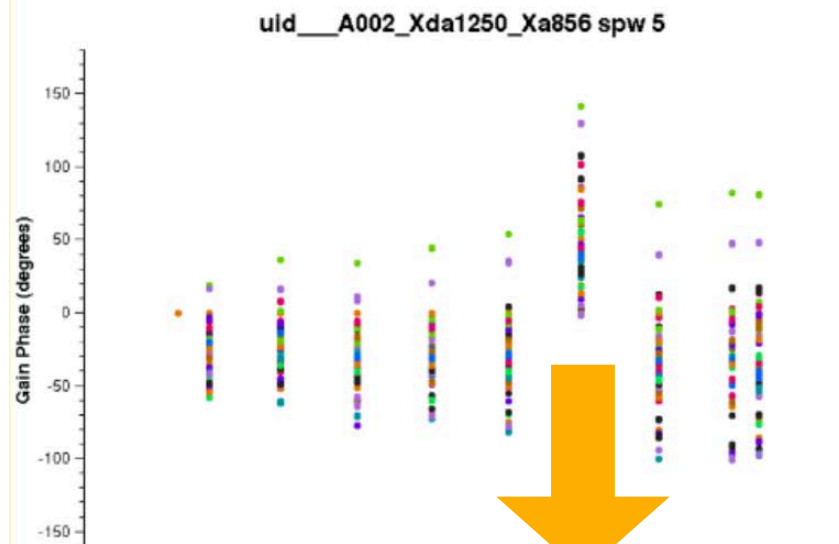




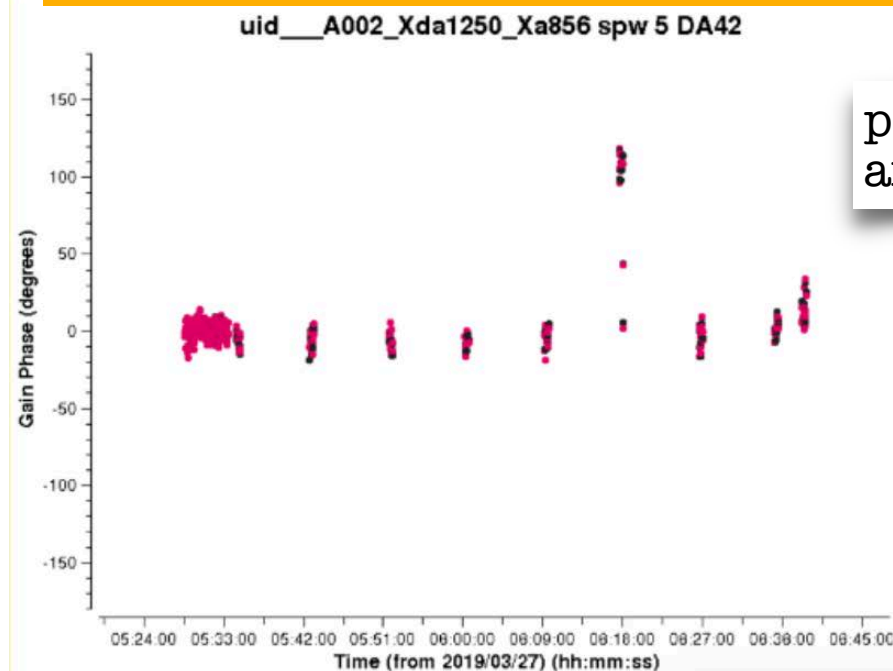
# PART 1 - Calibration

## ○ The important points - Gains

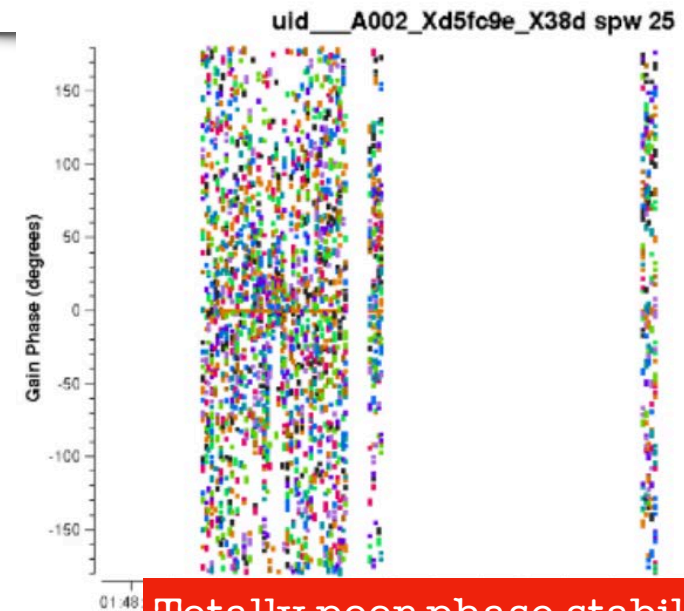
per scan plot from main weblog page



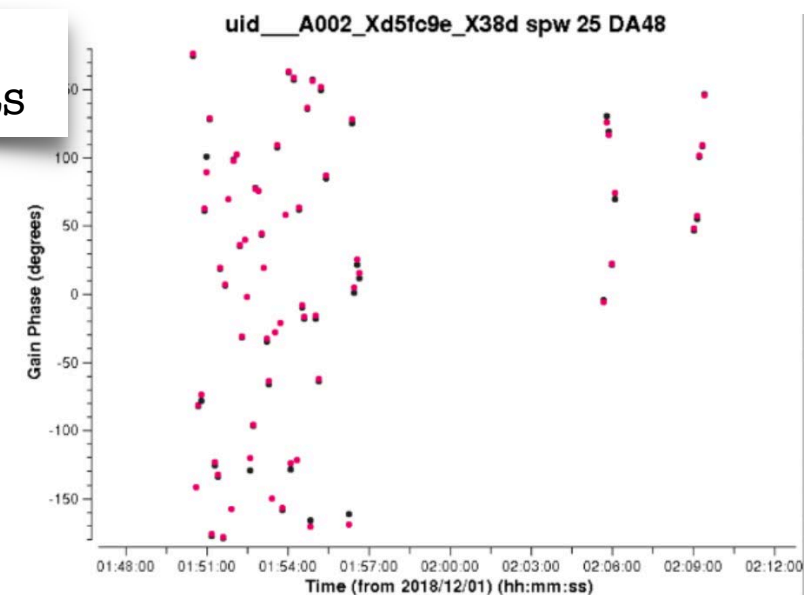
phase scan jump on all antennas, we do not know if this happened on the target(s) so it is safer to flag the scan and the target scans either side



per integration for one antenna - diagnostic plots



Totally poor phase stability caused by variable atmosphere to be able to correctly interpolate the phases to a target and have reliable calibration - user data should never look like this



QA0-semipass (do not get to QA2)



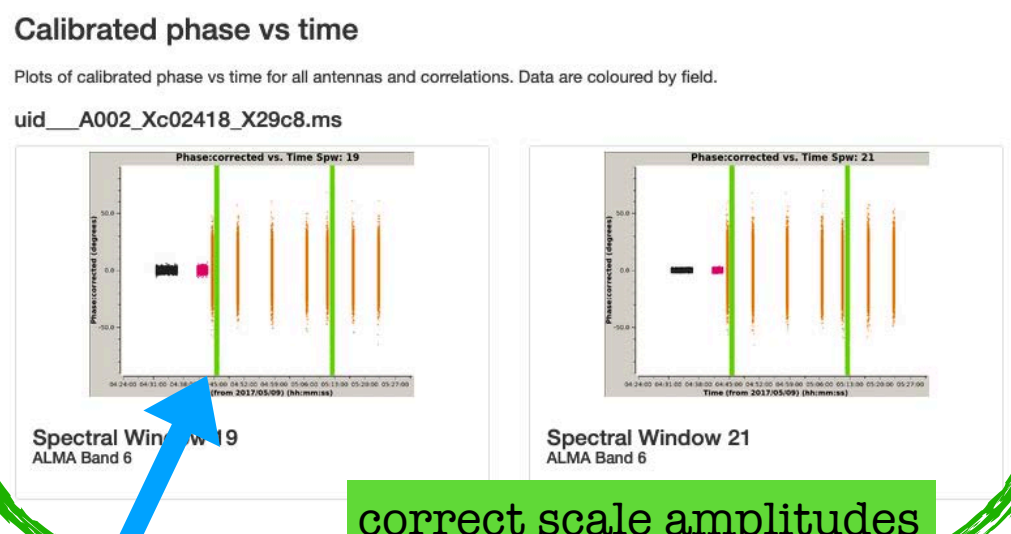
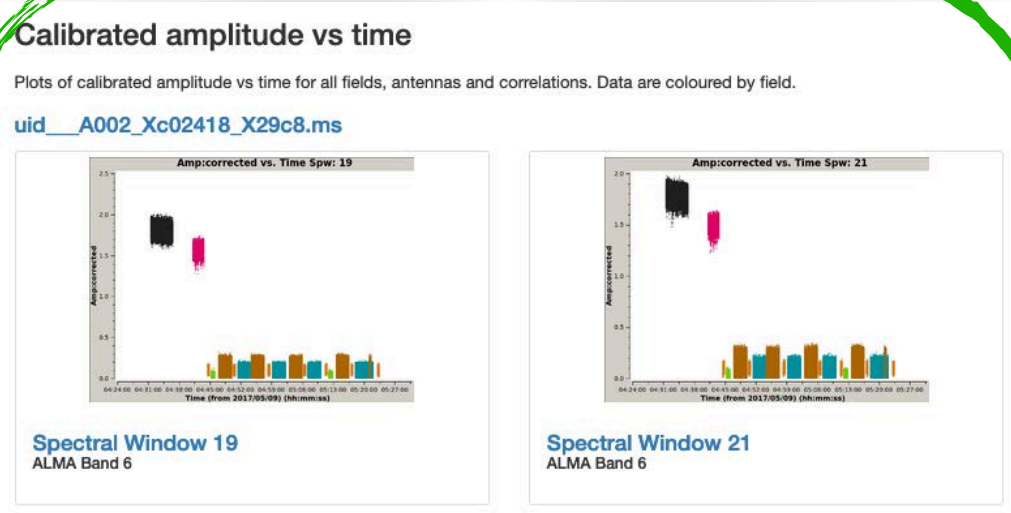
# Is the calibration good?

- **Scores** - if most were green or blue, or there are explanations for other lower scores and all data looks good - then “yes” calibration is good
- **Applycal stage** - check that calibrators are as we expect
  - Point source = **zero phase, constant amplitude**
- **Images** - are images of the calibrators point-like, and is the target image made and without defects?

# PART 1 - Calibration

○ Is the calibration good - **Applycal**

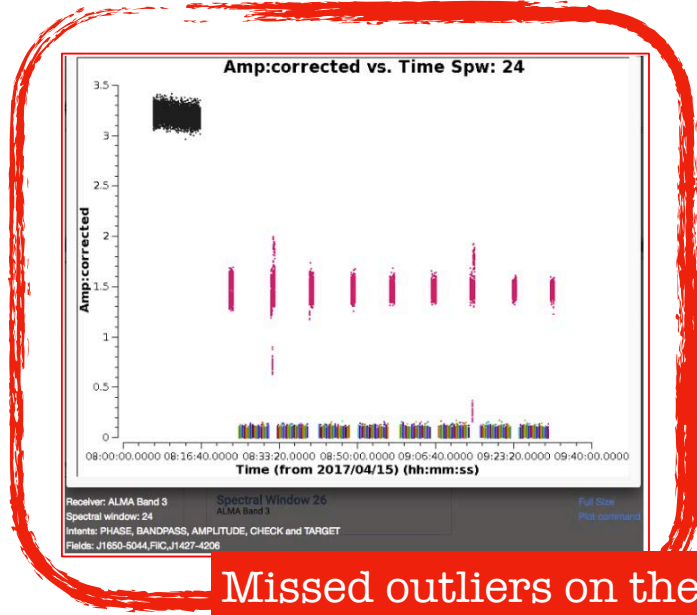
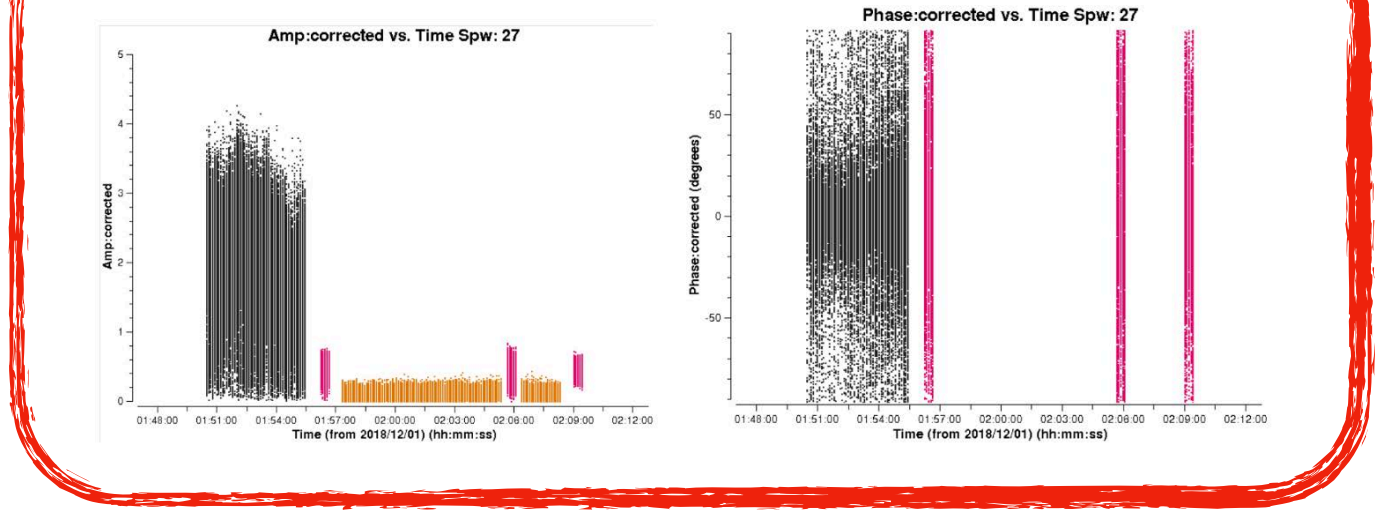
**calibrators** - amplitudes are constant and phases are zero (with time, frequency, and UV distance)



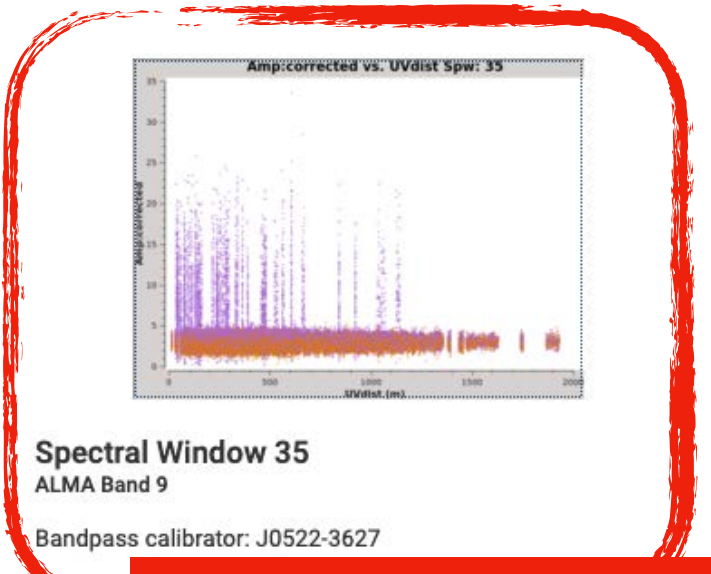
correct scale amplitudes and zero deg phases (average) with time for all fields

notice the check source is low SNR, so phases are not bad, just noisy - not a worry

Totally poor phase stability and decoherence even in bright calibrators like the bandpass - useless data



Missed outliers on the phase calibrator, need to go back and find these and flag

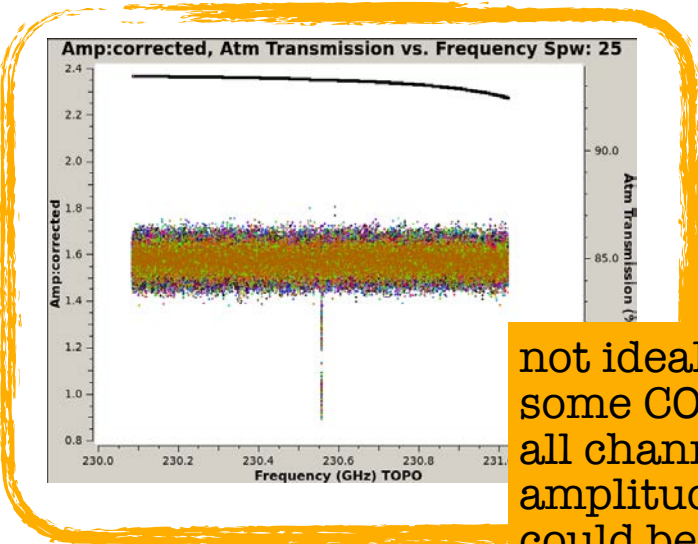


Missed outliers on the bandpass calibrator, need to go back and find these and flag

# PART 1 - Calibration

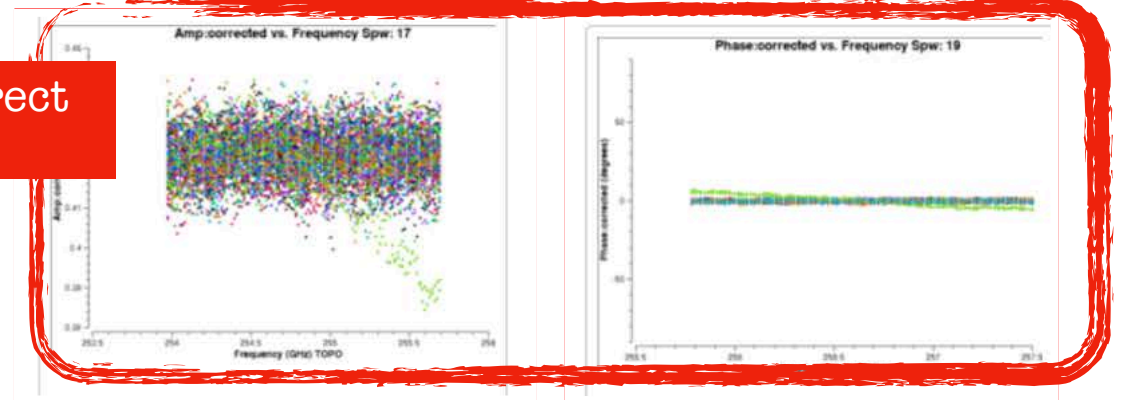
○ Is the calibration good - **Applycal**

**calibrators** - amplitudes are constant and phases are zero (with time, frequency, and UV distance)



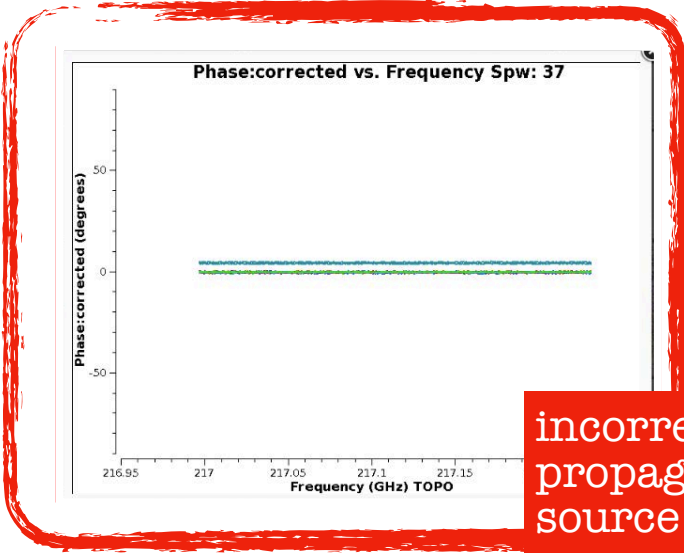
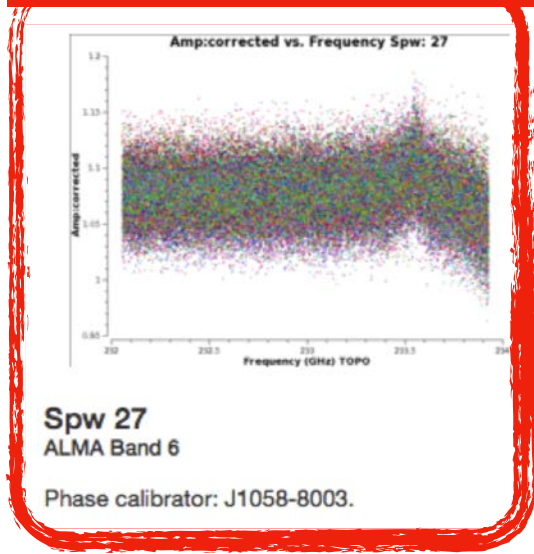
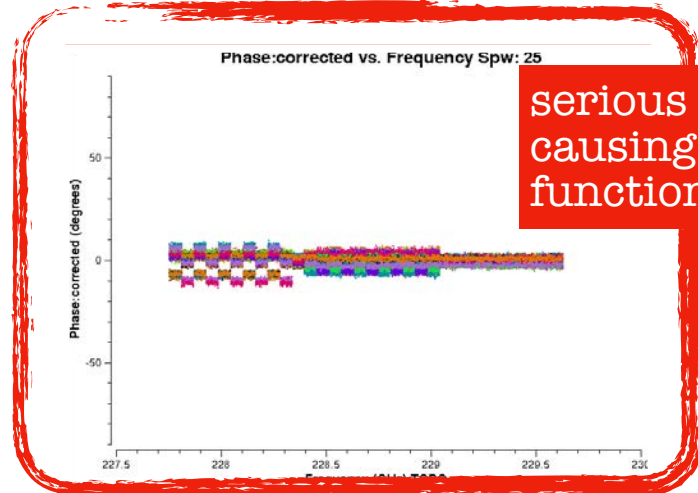
not ideal, the amplitude calibrator has some CO absorption. Likely so small, vs all channels, that the channel averaged amplitude gains will not change - but this could be flagged

One antenna has incorrect gains (amp. and phase)



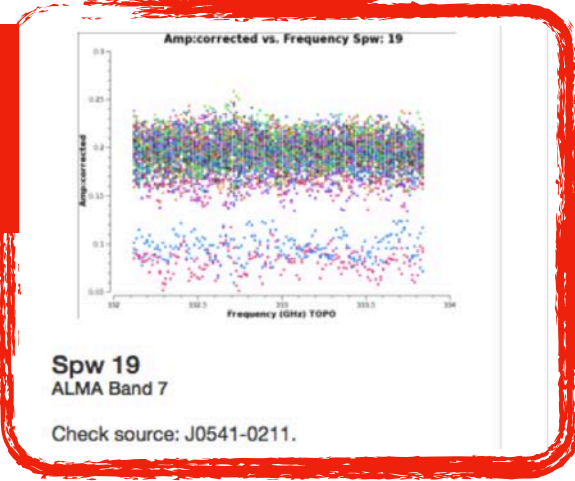
serious instrumental issues causing unnatural step functions in phases

amplitude on calibrators tails off at end of the SpW - **incorrect** Bandpass application



One antenna has incorrect amplitude scaling which propagates to the CHECK source

incorrect phase offset that propagates to the CHECK source





# PART 1 - Calibration

○ Is the calibration good - **Applycal**

**Science target(s)** - can use these plots as proxy for line detections, confirm no huge outliers

**Science target: calibrated amplitude vs UV distance**

Calibrated amplitude vs frequency plots for the each measurement set's representative source. For mosaics, the representative field atmospheric transmission for each spectral window is overlaid on each plot in pink.

Data are plotted for all antennas and correlations, with different spectral windows shown in different colours.

uid\_\_A002\_Xc02418\_X29c8.ms

Spw 19  
ALMA Band 6  
Source: AS\_209 (#4)  
Field: AS\_209

Spw 21  
ALMA Band 6  
Source: AS\_209 (#4)  
Field: AS\_209

**UV coverage**

Plots of UV coverage for each Measurement Set

uid\_\_A002\_Xc02418\_X29c8.ms

UV coverage plot for TARGET field AS\_209 (#4), spw 19

'expected' UV distance (resolved protostellar disk source) - i.e. no outliers

good UV coverage and few flags

**CAUTION:** do not over interpret a signal in the SpWs as a line "detection" where there is an ATM line. Increase opacity reduces sensitivity (significantly in some cases) and because amplitude noise is only positive, this can look like at line

Amp:corrected vs. UVdist Spw: 21

Amp:corrected vs. Time Spw: 18

egregious outliers in target source - need to flag a bad scan (pipeline now does try to do this)

Amp:corrected, Atm Transmission, Image Sideband vs. Frequency Spw: 23

Post applycal: UV coverage for uid\_\_A002\_Xd5fc9e\_X38d.ms

probably too many flags, limited data use - will have been evident in flagging summaries

**Concludes the calibration section - Any questions?**



# Firefox - viewing issues

- <https://help.almascience.org/kb/articles/what-is-the-best-way-to-view-the-weblog>

## 1. Inside CASA session, use:

> `h_weblog`

This opens a server to view, e.g.

> [http://127.0.0.1:30000/main/pipeline=procedure\\_hifa\\_calimage/html/t1-1.html](http://127.0.0.1:30000/main/pipeline=procedure_hifa_calimage/html/t1-1.html)

## 2. Outside CASA in the untarred pipeline directory

> `python3 -m http.server 8080 --bind 127.0.0.1`

This opens a server to view, e.g.

> <http://127.0.0.1:8080/index.html>