



International
Centre for
Radio
Astronomy
Research



Extracting science from massive data sets: *Experience from the Murchison Widefield Array (MWA) and the Very Large Array (VLA)*

Andreas Wicenec

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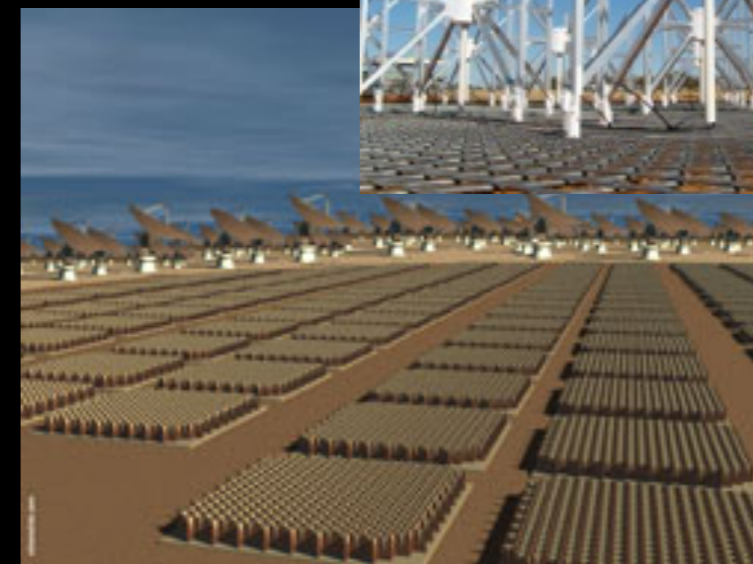
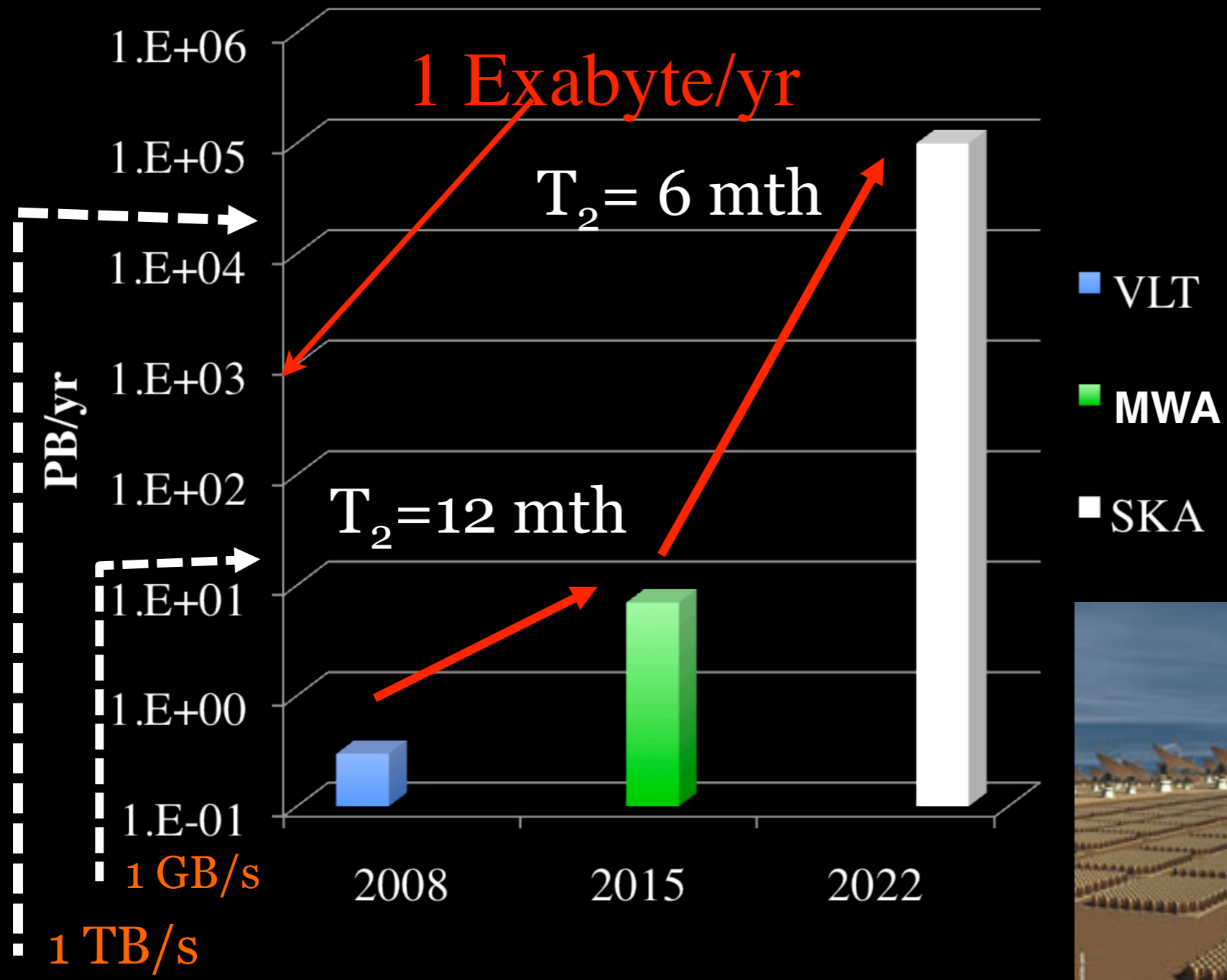
the Data Intensive Astronomy team at ICRAR

&

others

CONTEXT

The deluge continues



- VLT
- MWA
- SKA

Questions

★ Who should build:

- Dishes?
- Receivers?
- Beam formers?
- Correlators??
- Operational Software???
- Astronomy software???

LESSONS LEARNT

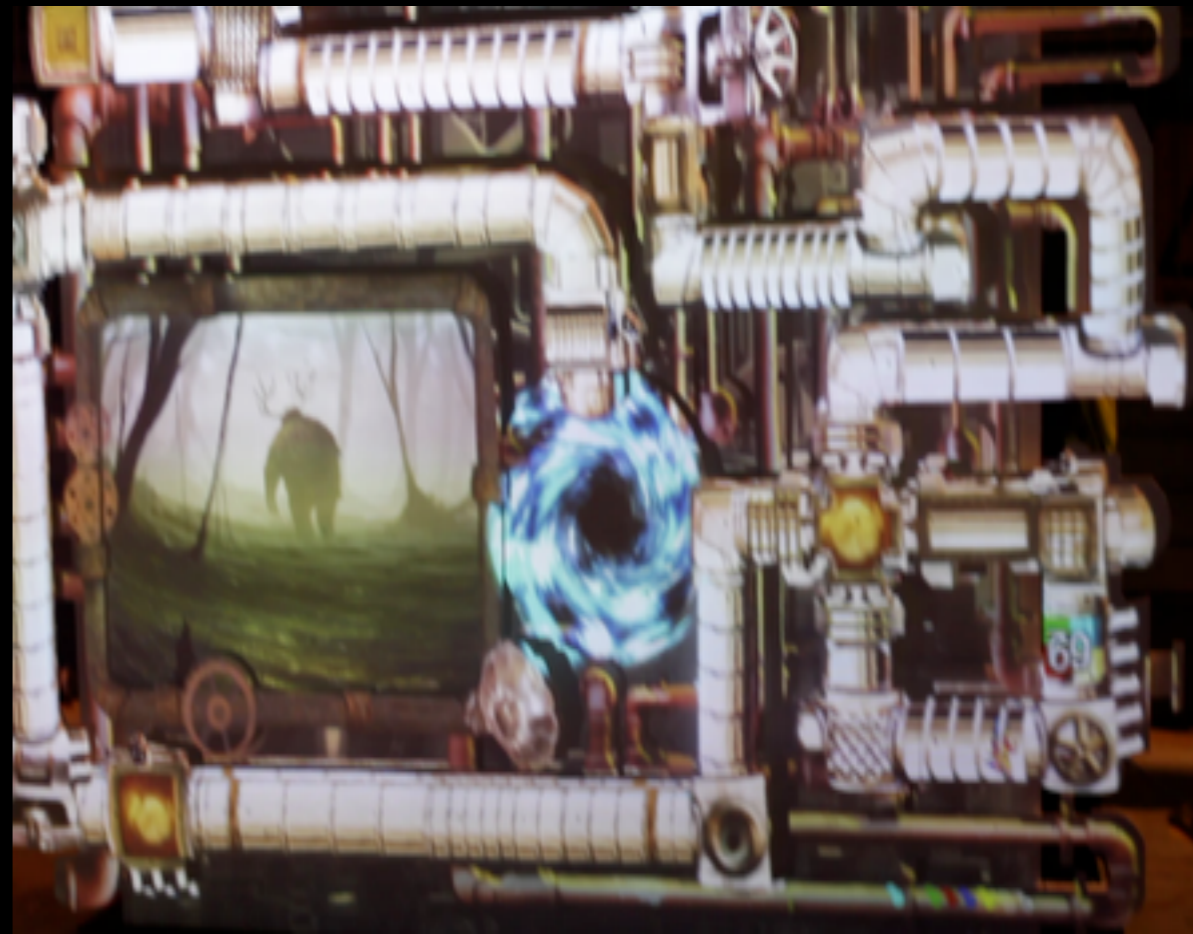
★ Don't let Astronomers write software if your requirements include:

- performance
- parallelism,
- optimal use of network,
- optimal use of storage,
- optimal use of computers

there are exceptions

Pipelines

- Everybody is talking about them
- New ones are ‘invented’ for almost every single project.
- Very often based on hacking CASA tasks, Miriad tasks, AIPS tasks and homegrown modules pulled together into a unmaintainable monster, that only a few people understand.
- Other scientists are adding more modules or replacing existing ones with ‘better’ ones.



SEPARATION OF CONCERNS

Separation of concerns

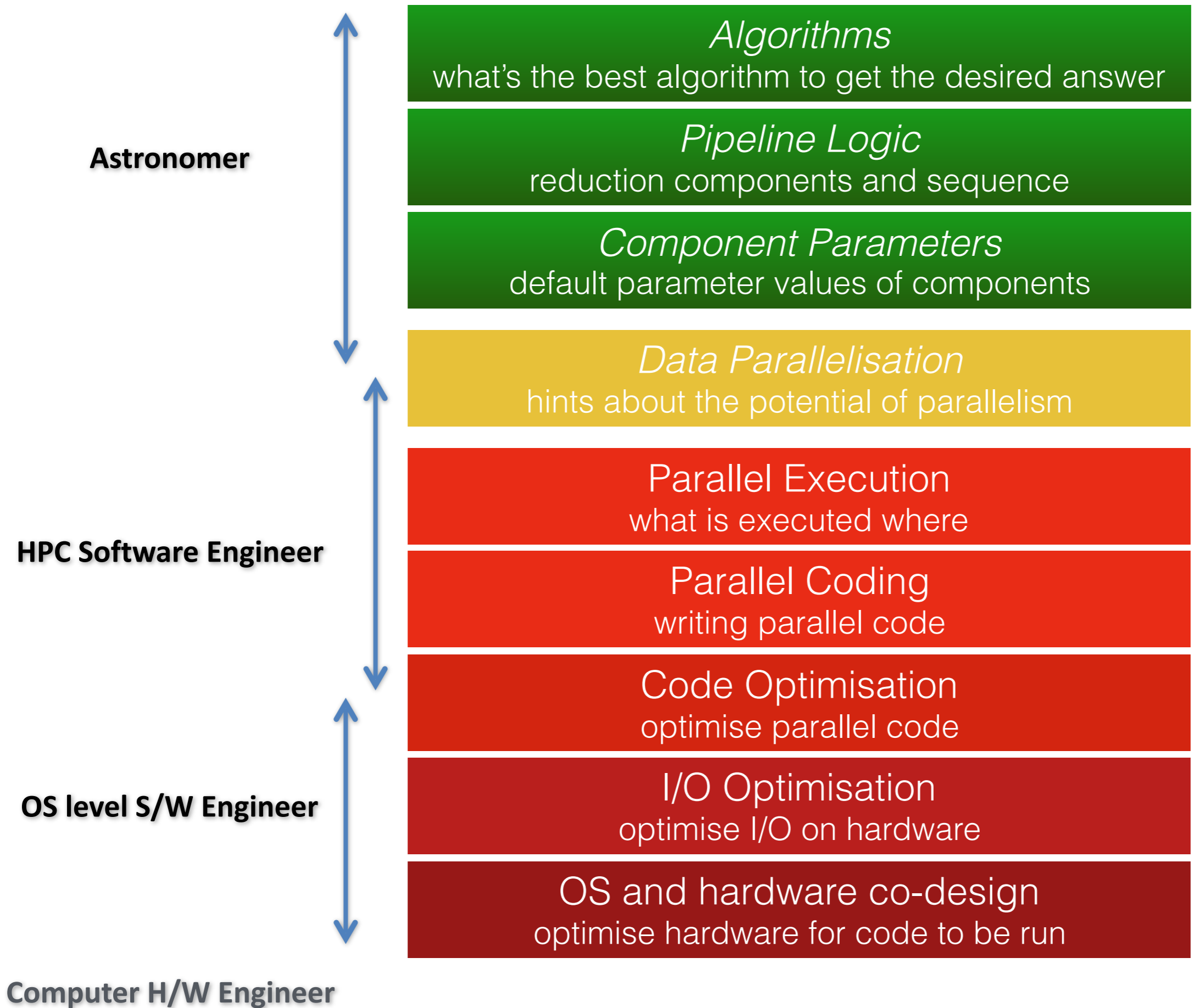
★ Let astronomers think about and do astronomy:

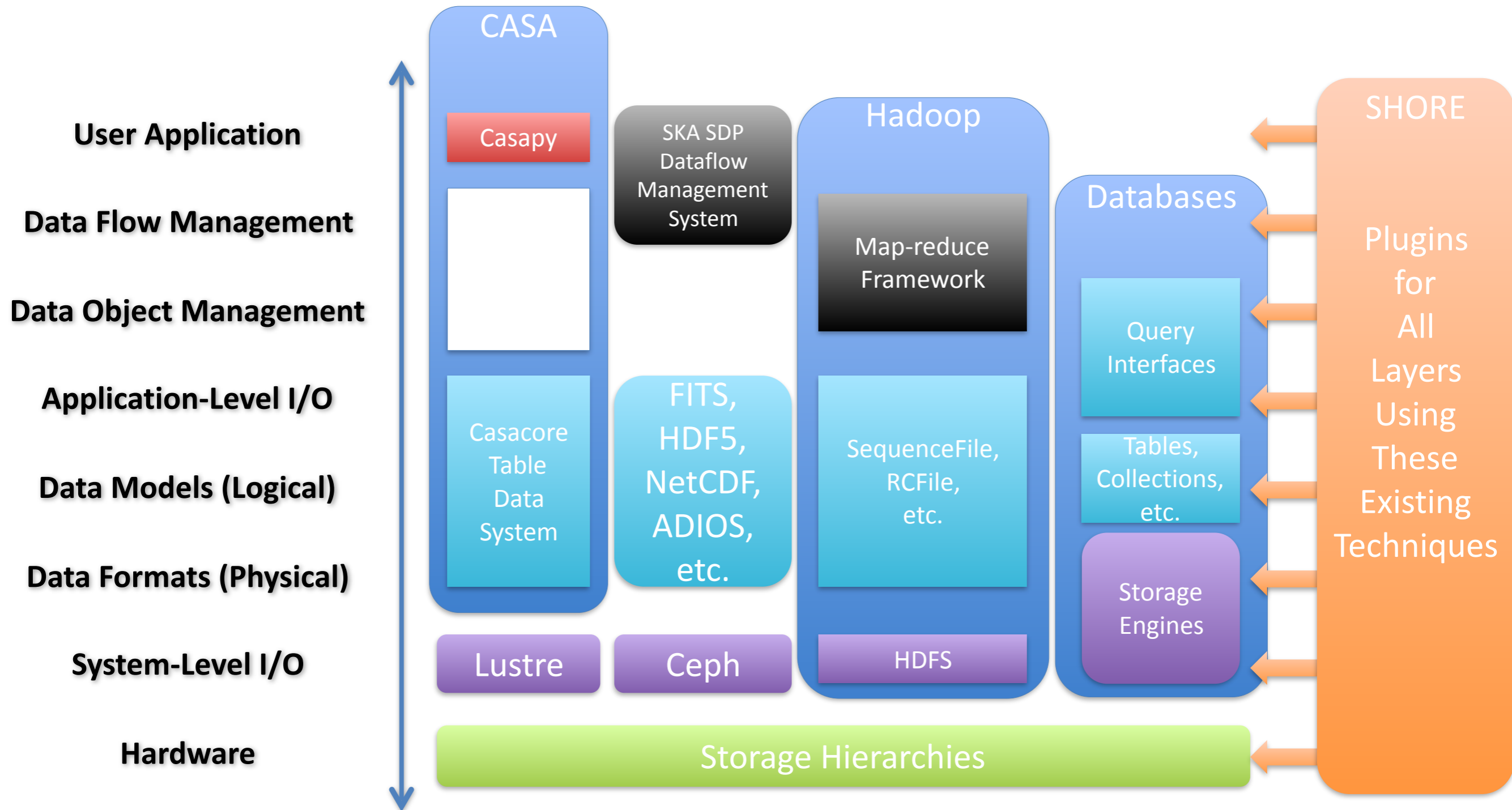
- Astronomical algorithms
- Pipeline logic
- Novel ways of extracting science
- New science
- Interpretation of extracted information
- Training of AI methods
-

Separation of concerns

★ Let software engineers think about and write software:

- Optimised code using the most appropriate language
- Novel ways of using latest hardware
- Using modern I/O techniques.
- Using advanced DB technologies
- Parallel code (even only a few software engineers can do this well!)
- HPC coding (even less people can do this well!)
-





SKA AND PRECURSORS REQUIRE EVEN MORE ATTENTION...

We are at the limit!

★ SKA and ASKAP

- are producing very high data volumes at very high rates
- are a challenge for currently available compute infrastructures (at least at affordable costs)

★ that means

- just throwing more hardware at the problem won't do the trick anymore.
- we need to use existing hardware more efficiently.
- at least the SKA requires significant innovation in order to approach the science potential of the arrays.

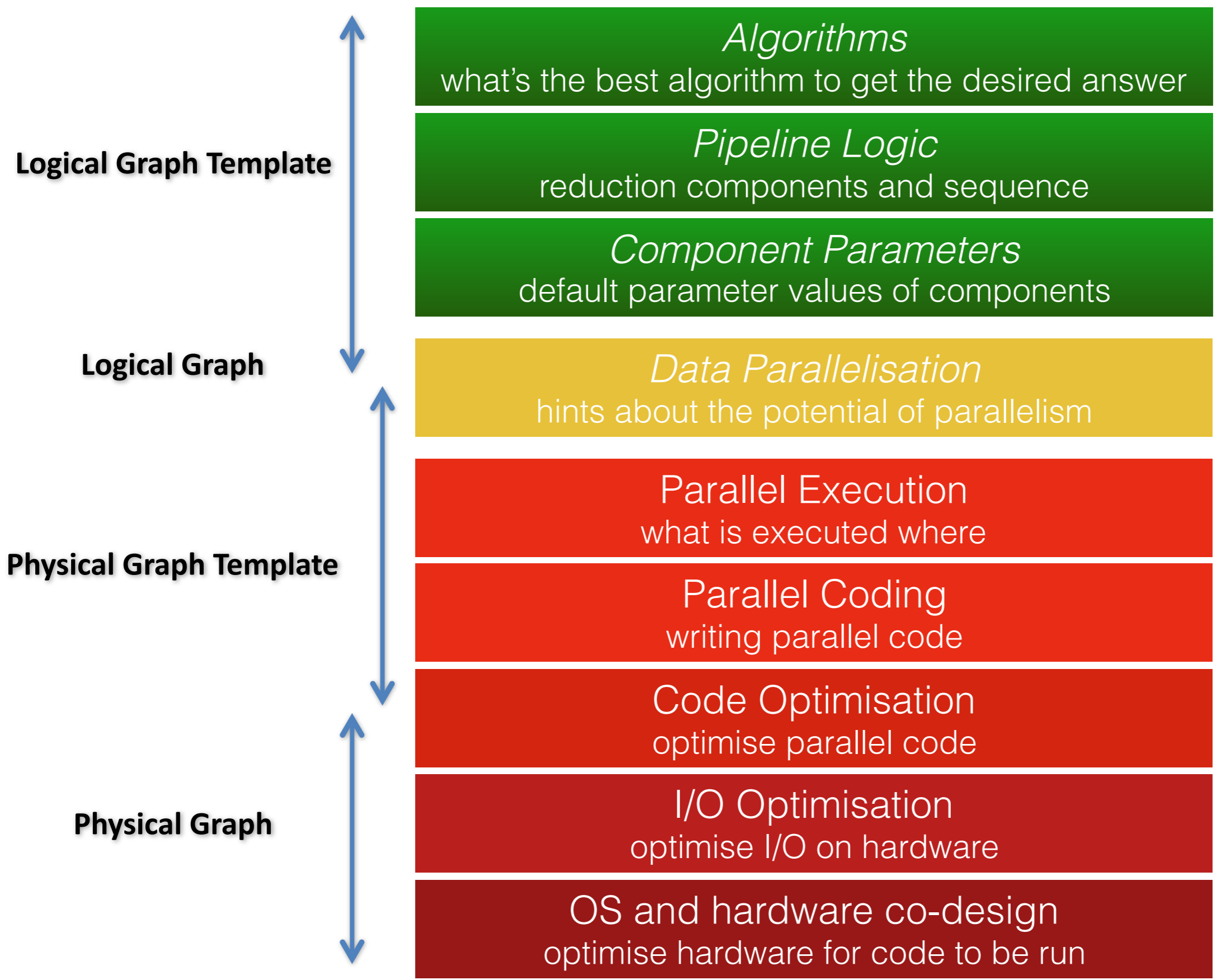
... A TINY BIT OF
INNOVATION

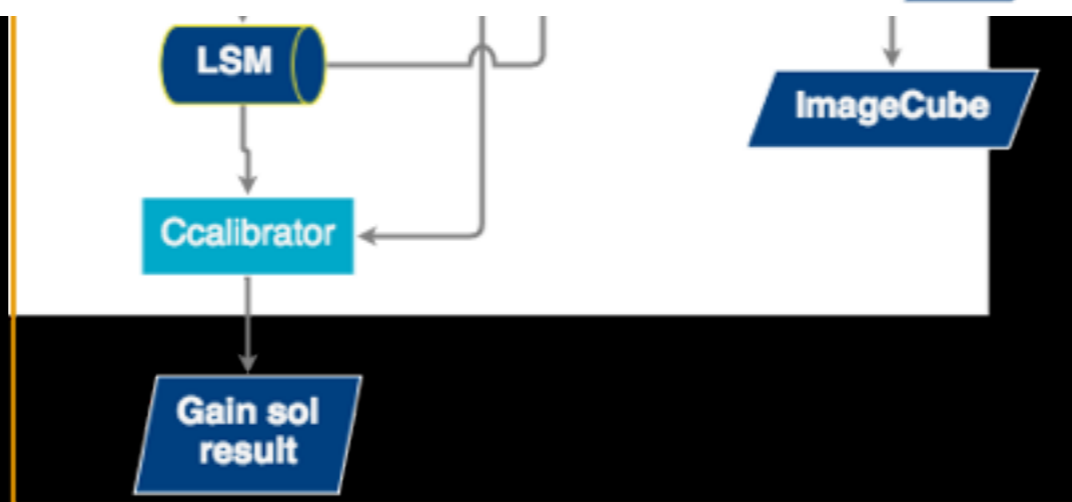
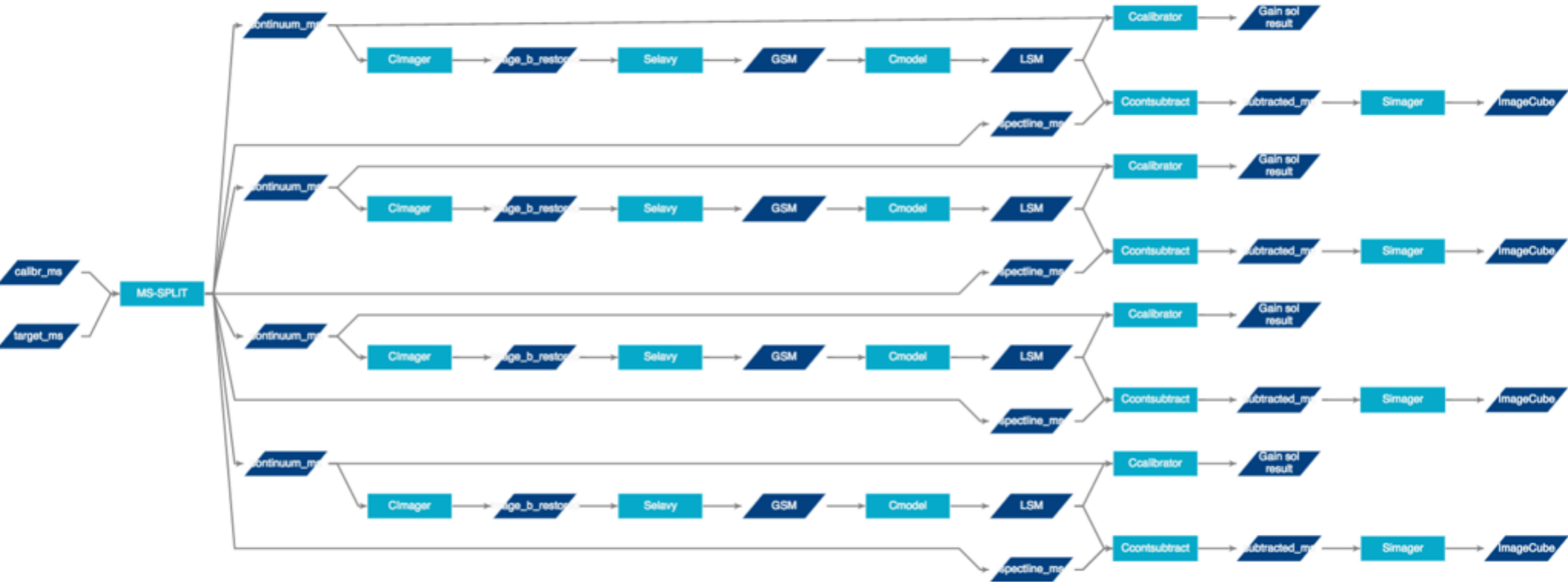
DATA TRIGGERED PROCESSING ENABLED BY

Daliuge!

Data activated flow graph engine

...think about deluge!





REAL WORLD EXAMPLES

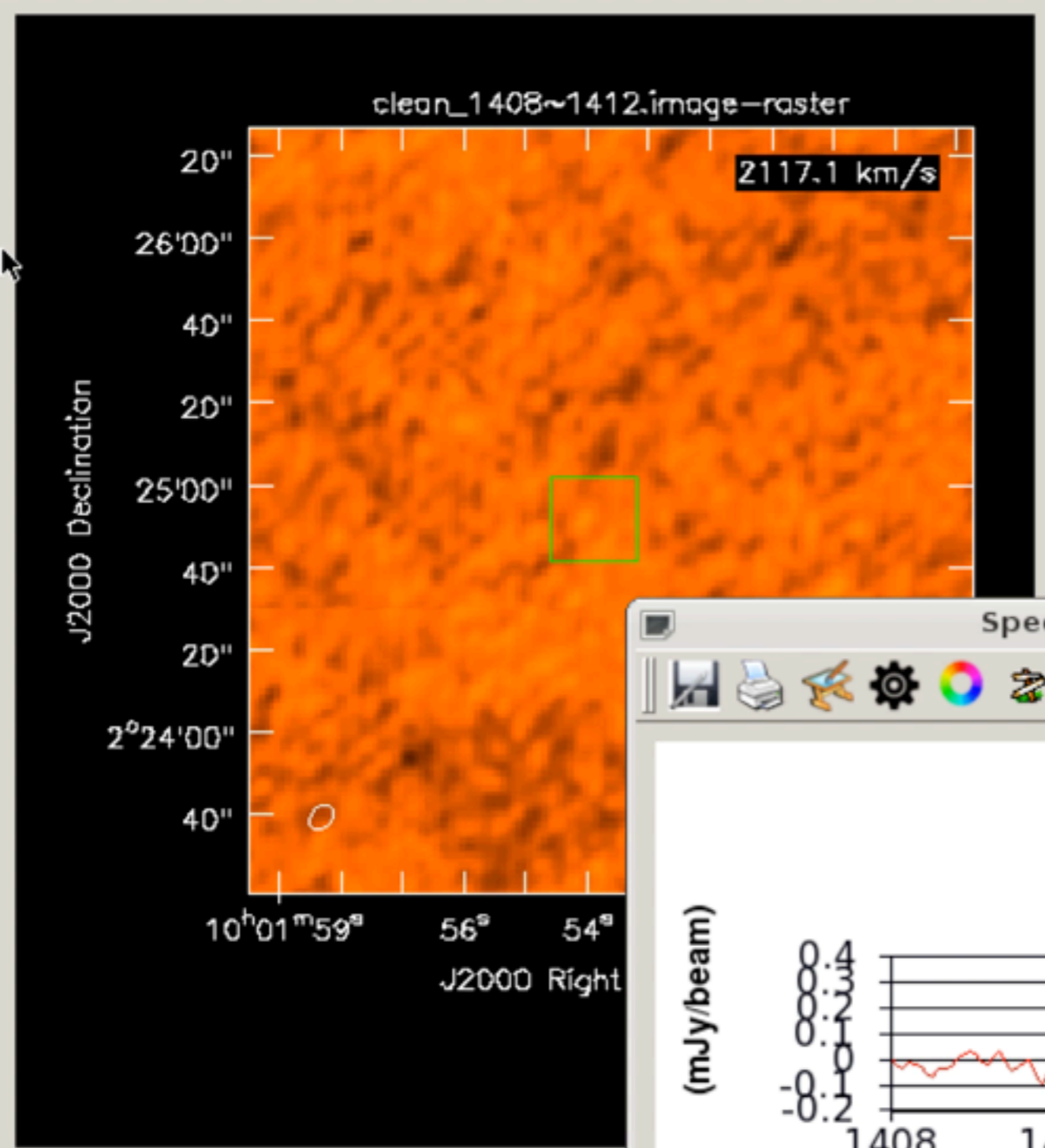
- **Dailuge** has been verified using CHILES data on AWS, in-house cluster, Magnus and Galaxy.
- The current code version of the code creates 40+ Node managers all running on separate heterogeneous AWS instances; with a single Data Island Manager controlling them.
- The graphs contain 7,000 ~ 18,000 Drops
- The graph generator knows the AWS instance types and can deploy more CPU/IO intensive tasks to more powerful nodes.
- The CasaPy tasks are all run from within Docker containers controlled by the **Dailuge**

...and ASKAP?

- CHILES is a small version of the DINGO survey (mainly larger field of view).
- If we can deal with CHILES, DINGO is not too far off.
- We are currently wrapping ASKAPsoft into Daliuge *Drops*.
- *Drops* are software objects and the enabling core elements of Daliuge.
- The various nodes on the graphs are all implemented as *Drops* in Daliuge.



Display



Animators

Channels

Navigation icons: left, right, up, down, zoom in, zoom out, zoom reset

Rate: 5 Jump 152 256

150 ————— 200

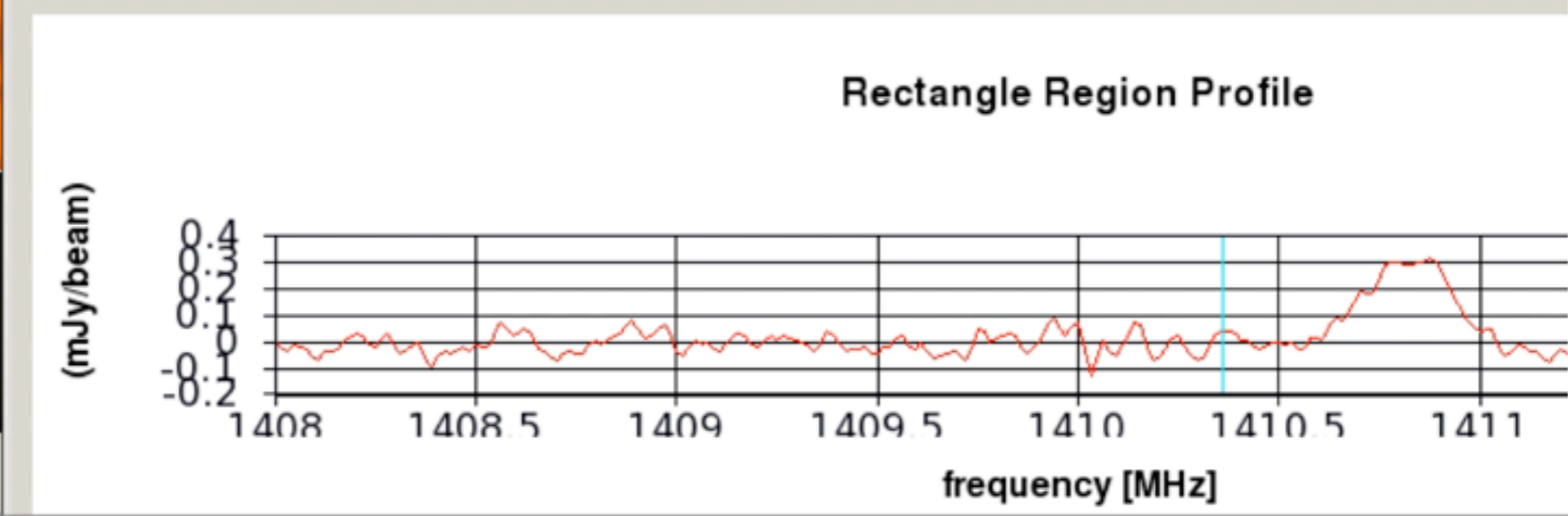
Images

Cursors

clean_1408~1412.image-raster

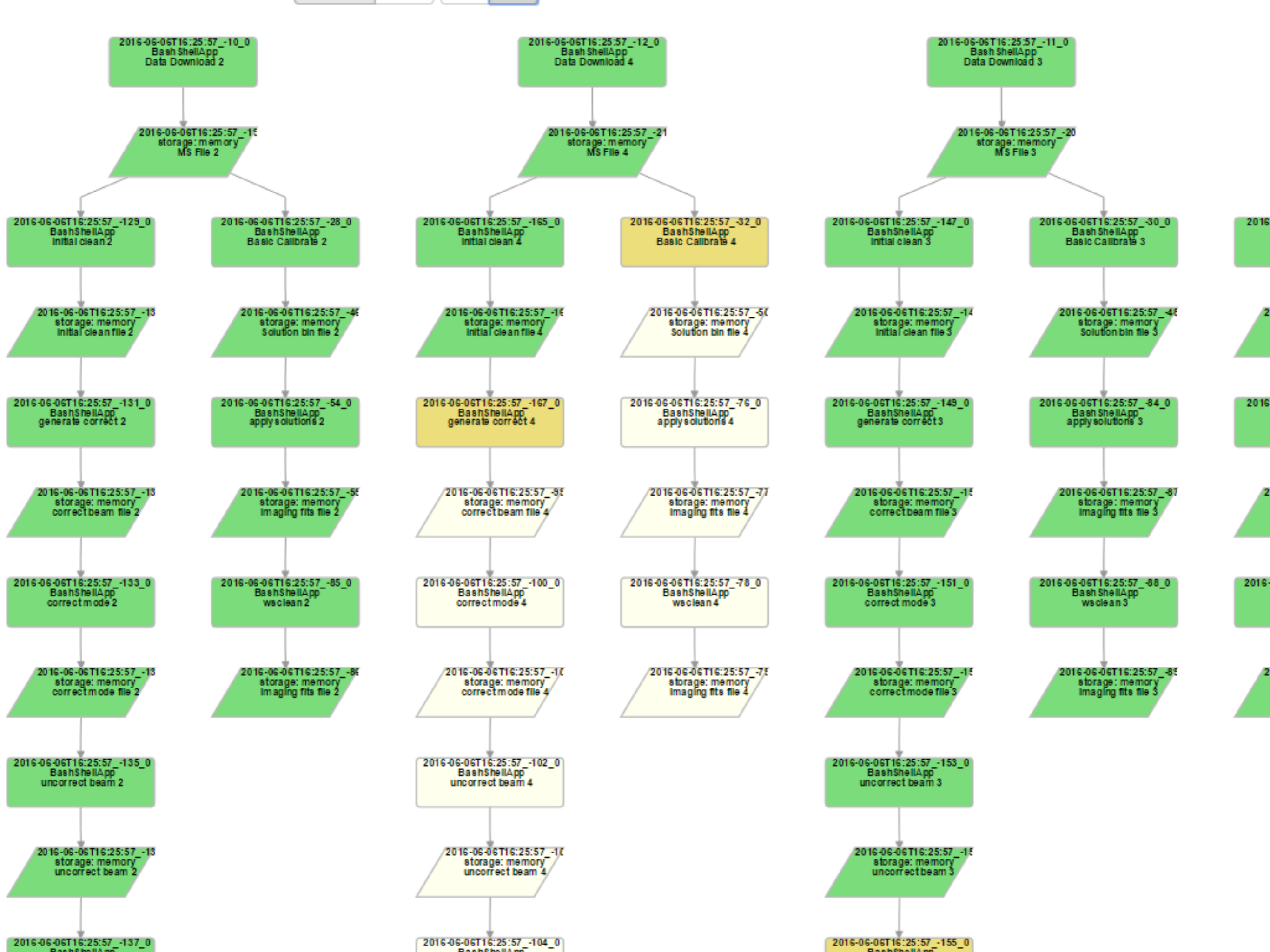
```
+3.19447e-05 Jy/beam    Pixel: 642 1253 0 153  
10:01:55.850 +02.25.46.455 I 2113.8 km/s (lsrk/radio velocity)
```

Spectral Profile - clean_1408~1412.image-raster (on epeius.icrar.org)



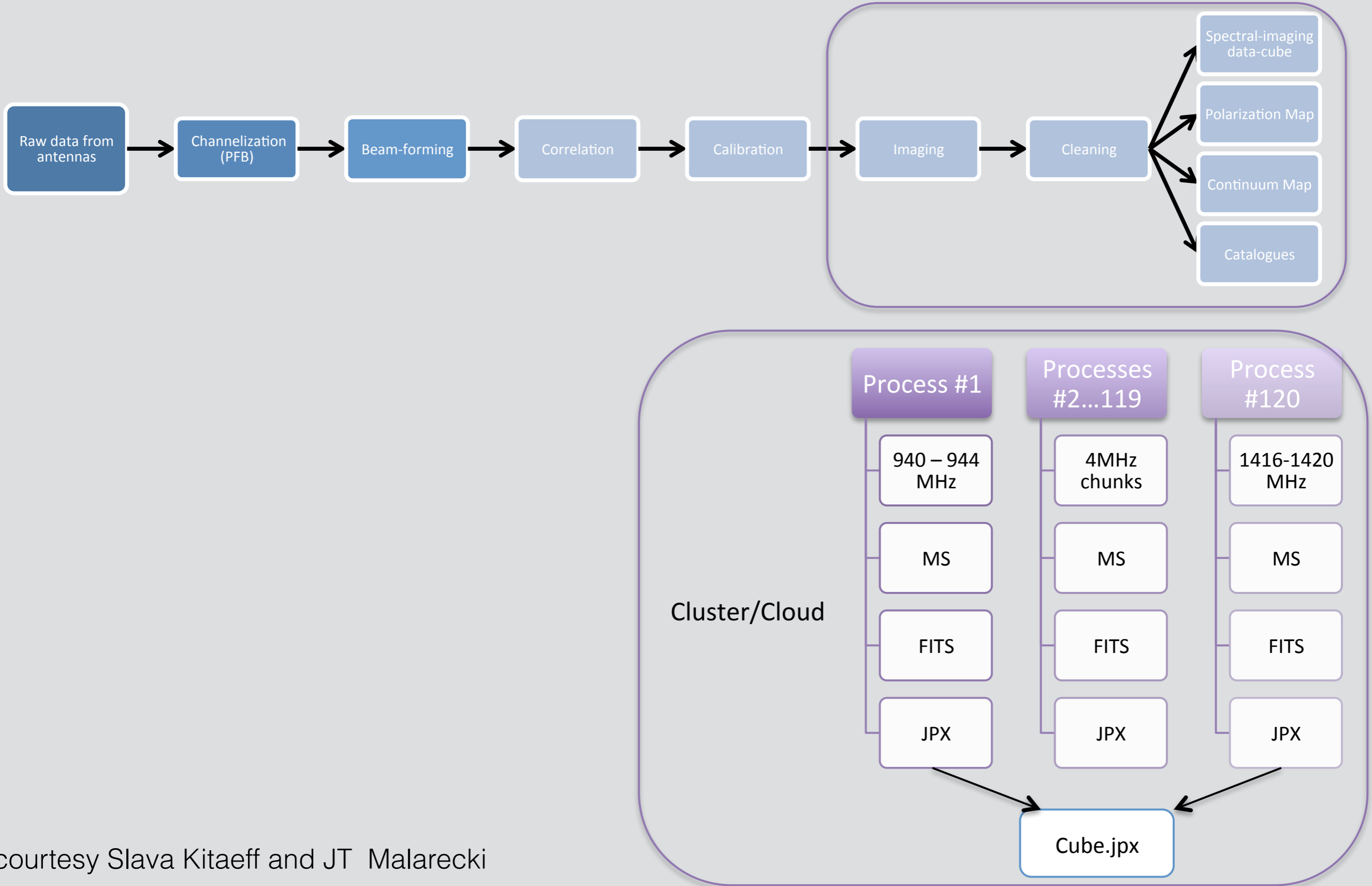
...and more

- we have ported the MWA GLEAM pipeline to Daliuge.
- ASTRON is working to port and run the LOFAR pipeline.
- Fudan University wants to run a movie encoding and analysis pipeline.
- we are also integrating OSKAR2 and can simulate and reduce MWA and ASKAP data.
- code is available on SKA SDP github.
- documented and fully tested code (continuous integration with loads of test code)
- Graph translation and scheduling is a really hard problem...

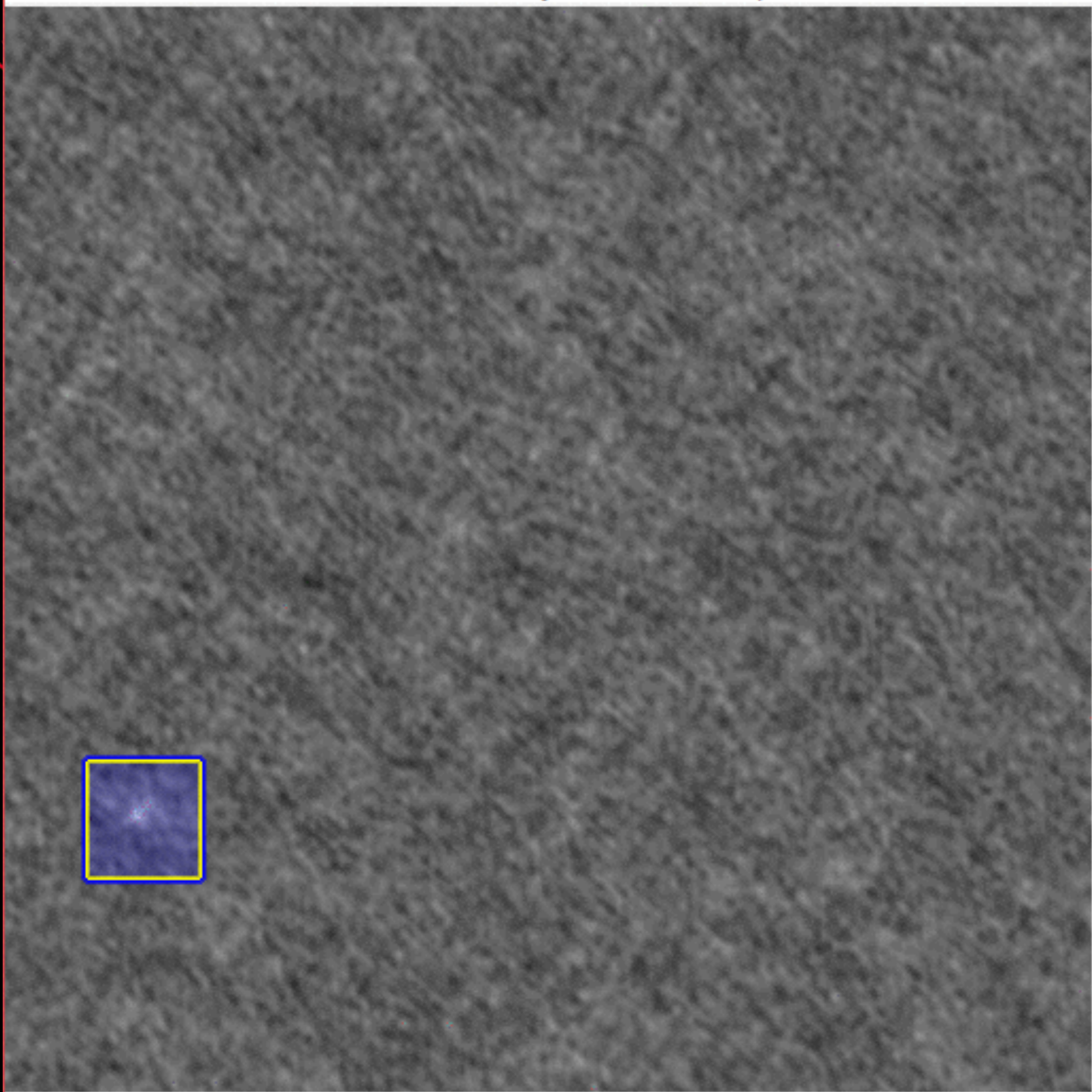


VISUALISATION OF TB AND PB DATA CUBES

JPEG2000 and JPIP



- Commercial standard backed by many companies and OSs already.
- Highly optimised implementations.
- Multi-dimensional encoding.
- Distributed client-server infrastructure for interactive low-bandwidth adaptive visualisation.
- Multi-component transforms built-in.
- Very rich and flexible metadata (keep all of FITS, plus a lot more...)
- Region of interests built-in with support for quality variation, i.e. rather than overlays, catalogues can be built-in.



Catalog paste bar/tools

Back Fwd Peer

- [-] Structured metadata
 - [-] galaxy a
 - <region (ROI)>
 - [-] galaxy b
 - 1↔(4) <region (ROI)>
 - Top/orphan image associations
 - Top/orphan region associations

Resolution=100.0% x1 Channel=688/1536 Quality layers=all, trimmed

686 |<|>| +10

⏪ ⏩ x1.00 native repeat

Next Steps

- Large and very large scale deployments:
 - Magnus@Pawsey ✓
 - Tianhe2 (almost there)
- More real-world use cases (logical graphs of *your* pipeline).
- Profiling of existing code (e.g. ASKAPsoft).
- Work on better parallelisation.
- Work on optimisation of key algorithms.
- Collaboration with other organisations and companies.

CONCLUSIONS

Questions

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