

Spectrospatial models for LVM

SDSS-V Meeting 2026



spectracles



SDSS-V

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+ Collaborators



MONASH
University

Aside: PCA with outliers and bad data

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Robust Heteroskedastic Matrix Factorization: A Generalization of PCA that Flags Outliers and Handles Missing Data

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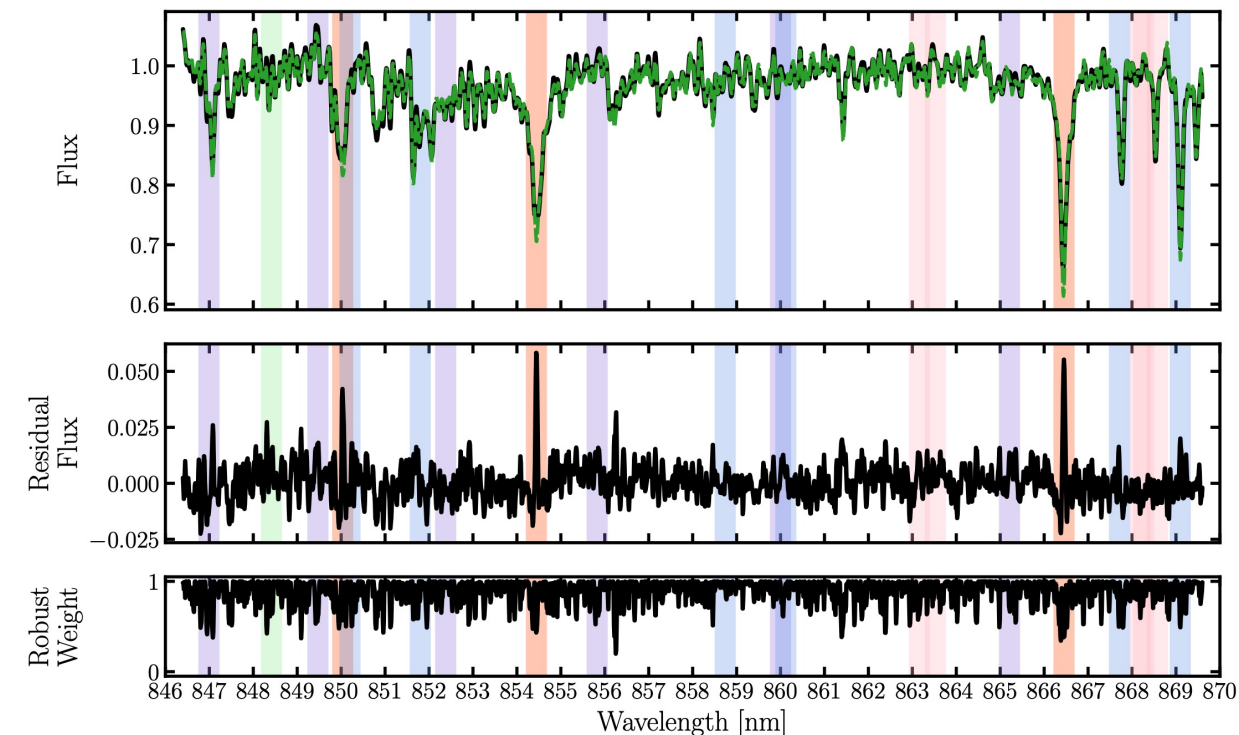
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ABSTRACT

We present Robust Heteroskedastic Matrix Factorization (RHMF), a generalization of Principal Component Analysis (PCA) that is robust to outliers, handles per-feature uncertainties and missing data, and automatically flags per-feature and per-object anomalies. RHMF is useful both in recovering a low-dimensional embedding unspoiled by bad data or anomalies, and in identifying those anomalies. It utilises an iterative reweighting algorithm that implicitly maximizes a Student-t likelihood. This admits an equivalent probabilistic interpretation as fitting a hierarchical model with per-data-point latent variances. We deliver a fast JAX implementation, **Robusta-HMF**, and practical guidance for users. We demonstrate the ability of the model to identify and mitigate outliers of different classes. Identification accuracy is contingent on the choice of hyperparameters, but we show that these can be set reliably by cross-validation. We also apply RHMF to RVS spectra from Gaia DR3 to find main-sequence stars that are strange relative to their neighbors in color-magnitude space. We highlight specific examples, including a known binary hosting a Be star, and M-dwarfs with subtle emission in the Ca II triplet lines, indicative of accretion or magnetic activity, which would not be obvious to identify by eye.

1. INTRODUCTION

Most stellar spectra are well described by a low-dimensional manifold. There are a handful of physical parameters—effective temperature, surface gravity, metallicity, α -element enhancement, and perhaps projected rotation and a continuum shape—that account for most of the variation across thousands of pixels of a given spectrum, for most stars of most types. This is both an expectation of stellar atmosphere theory (Hubeny & Mihalas 2014) and an empirical finding from data-driven analyses of large spectroscopic surveys (e.g. Ness et al. 2015; Casey et al. 2016; Price-Jones & Bovy 2018).

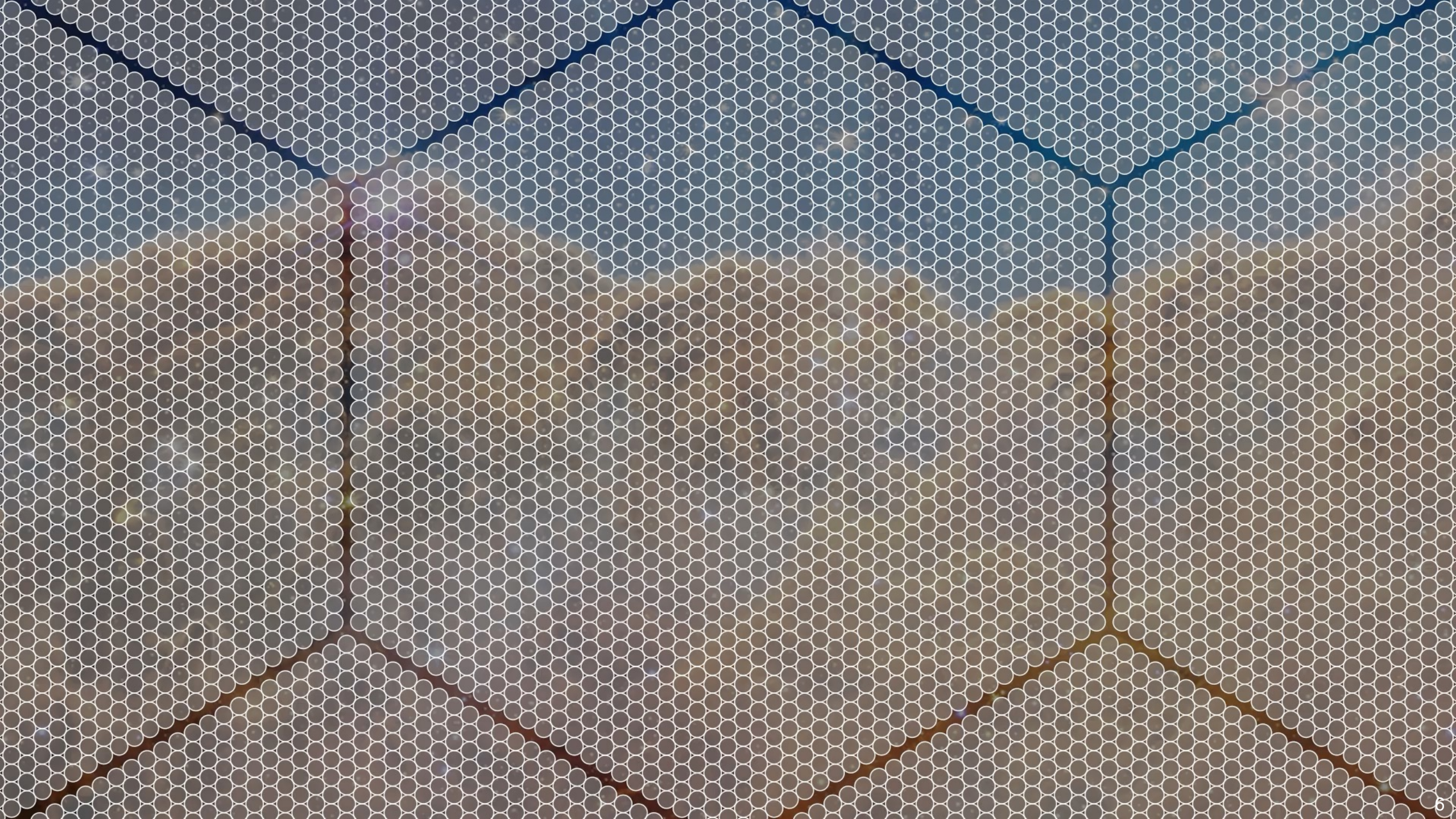


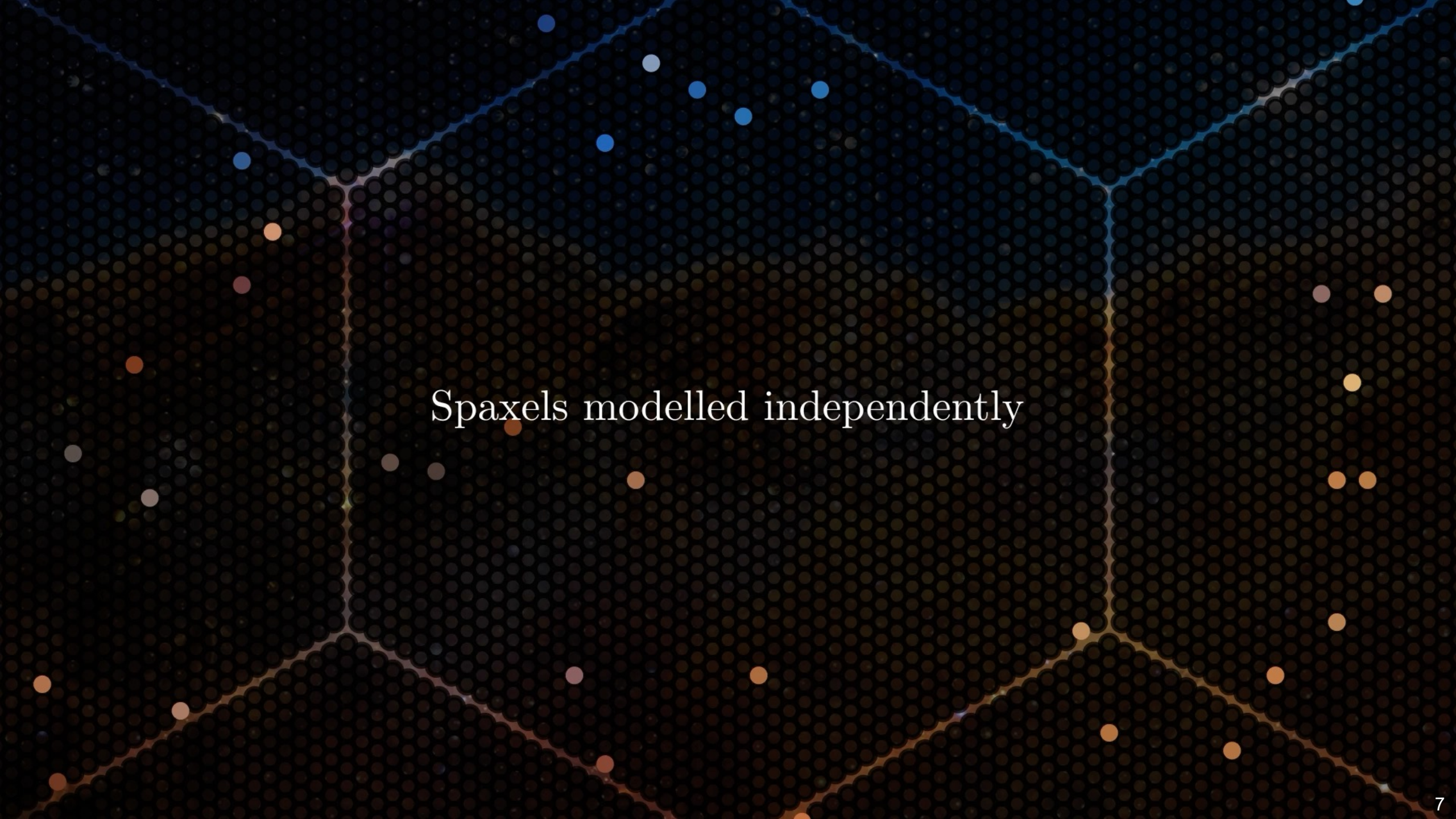
A cosmic background image featuring a dense field of stars of various colors (white, yellow, blue) against a dark blue sky. In the foreground, there are large, textured, brownish-orange nebulae or dust clouds. The text is centered over the image.

Spectrospatial models

for mapping weak emission lines in LVM & beyond





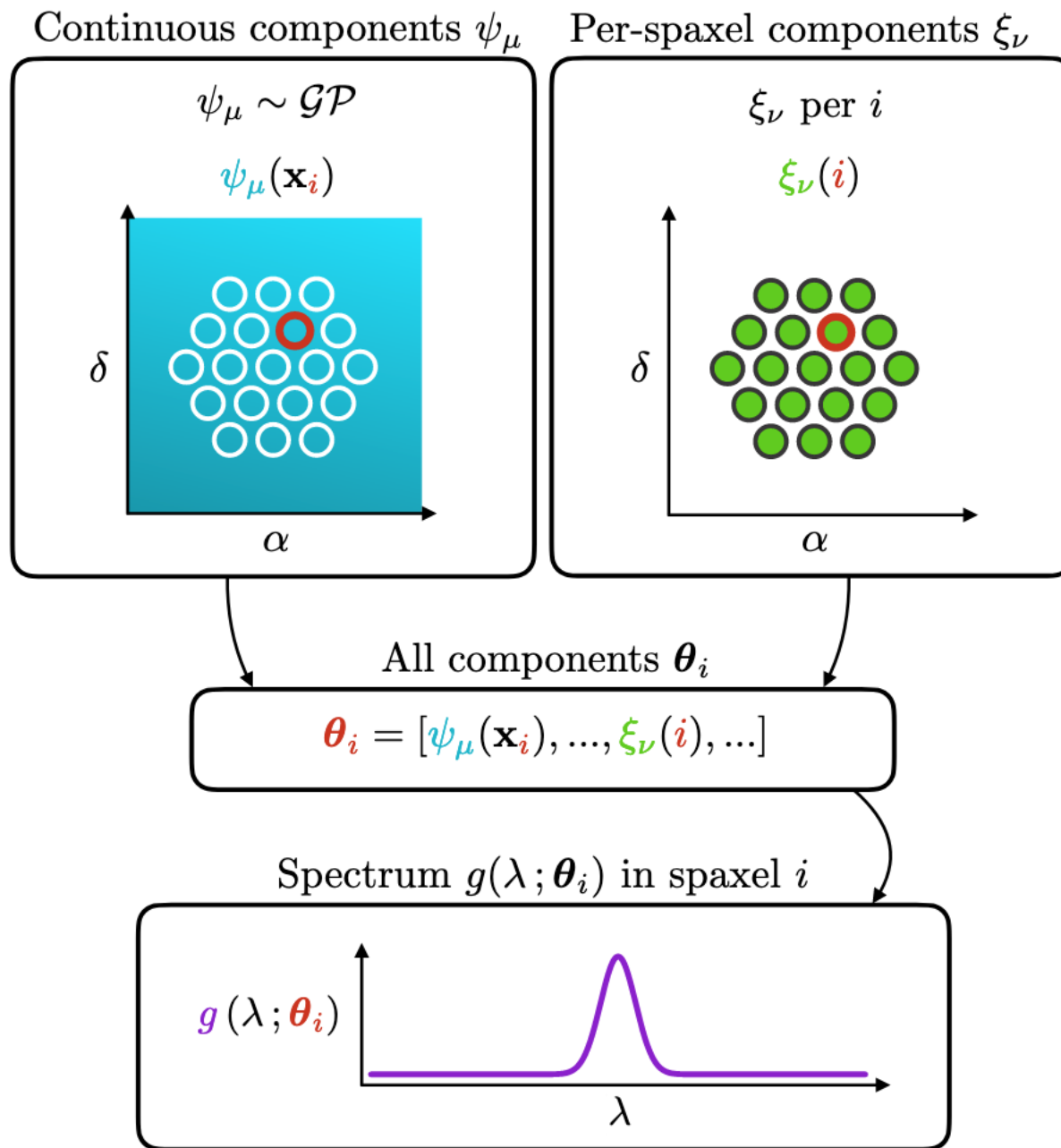
The image shows a large-scale simulation of the universe. The background is a dark, textured field composed of a dense grid of small, dark blue circles, representing 'spaxels'. These spaxels are arranged in a hexagonal pattern, with some areas appearing slightly brighter or darker than others. Scattered throughout this field are numerous small, colored dots representing galaxies. The dots are primarily orange and yellow, with a few blue and white ones. The overall effect is a deep, starry space with a structured, grid-like background.

Spaxels modelled independently

Binning?

Model underlying fields

- Line strength
- Radial velocity
- Velocity dispersion

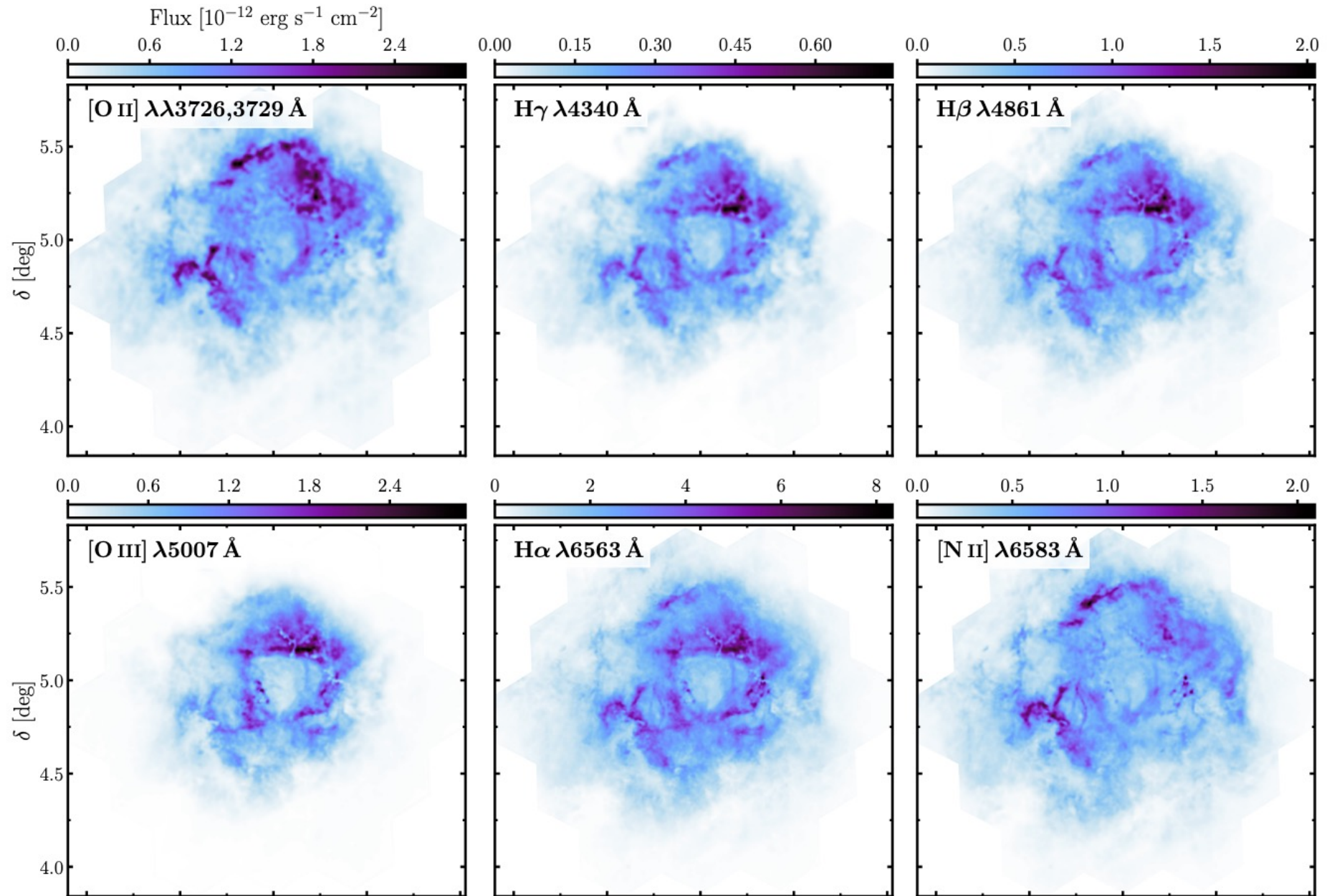


+ discrete
bits

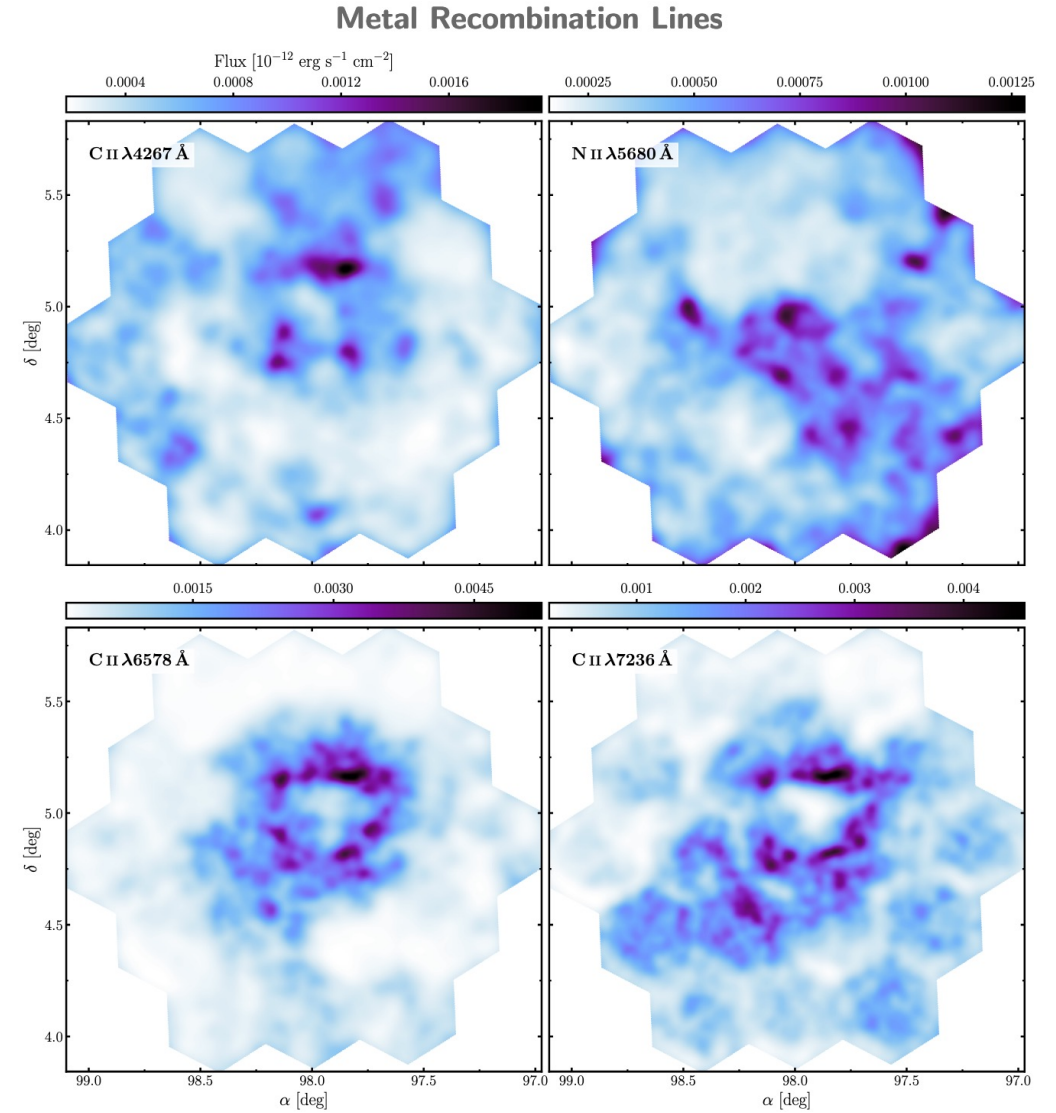
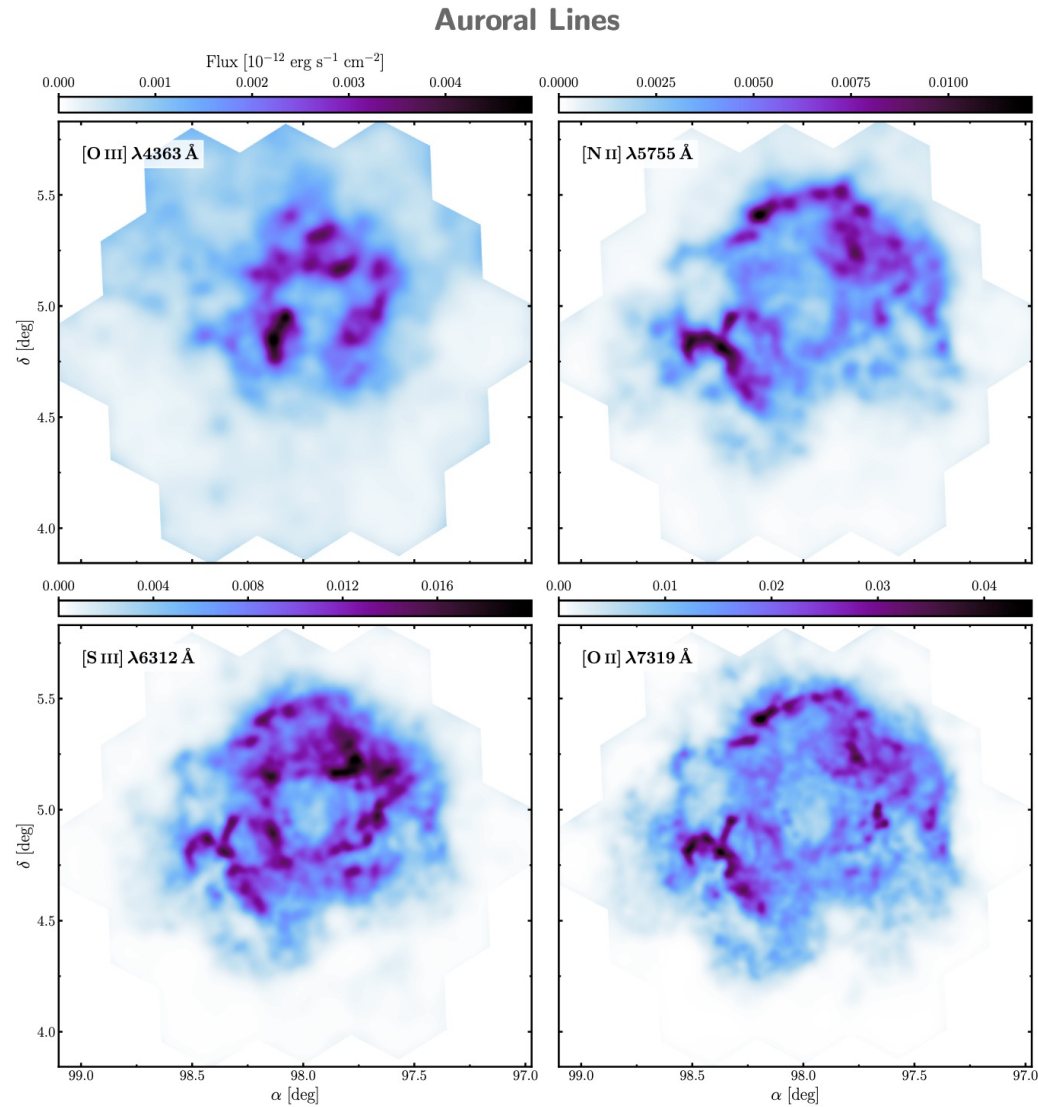
(e.g. Stellar
Continuum)



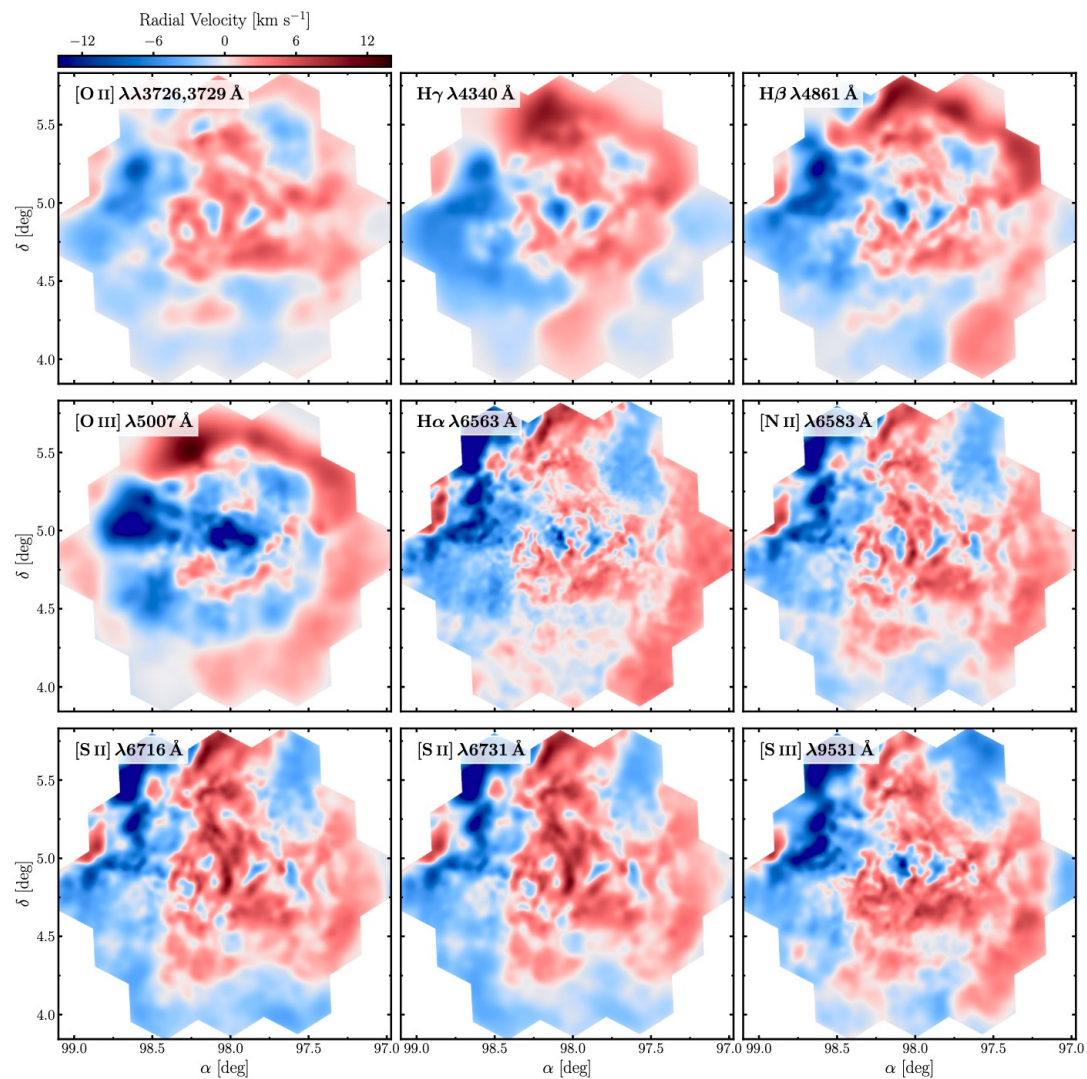
First application – Rosette Nebula



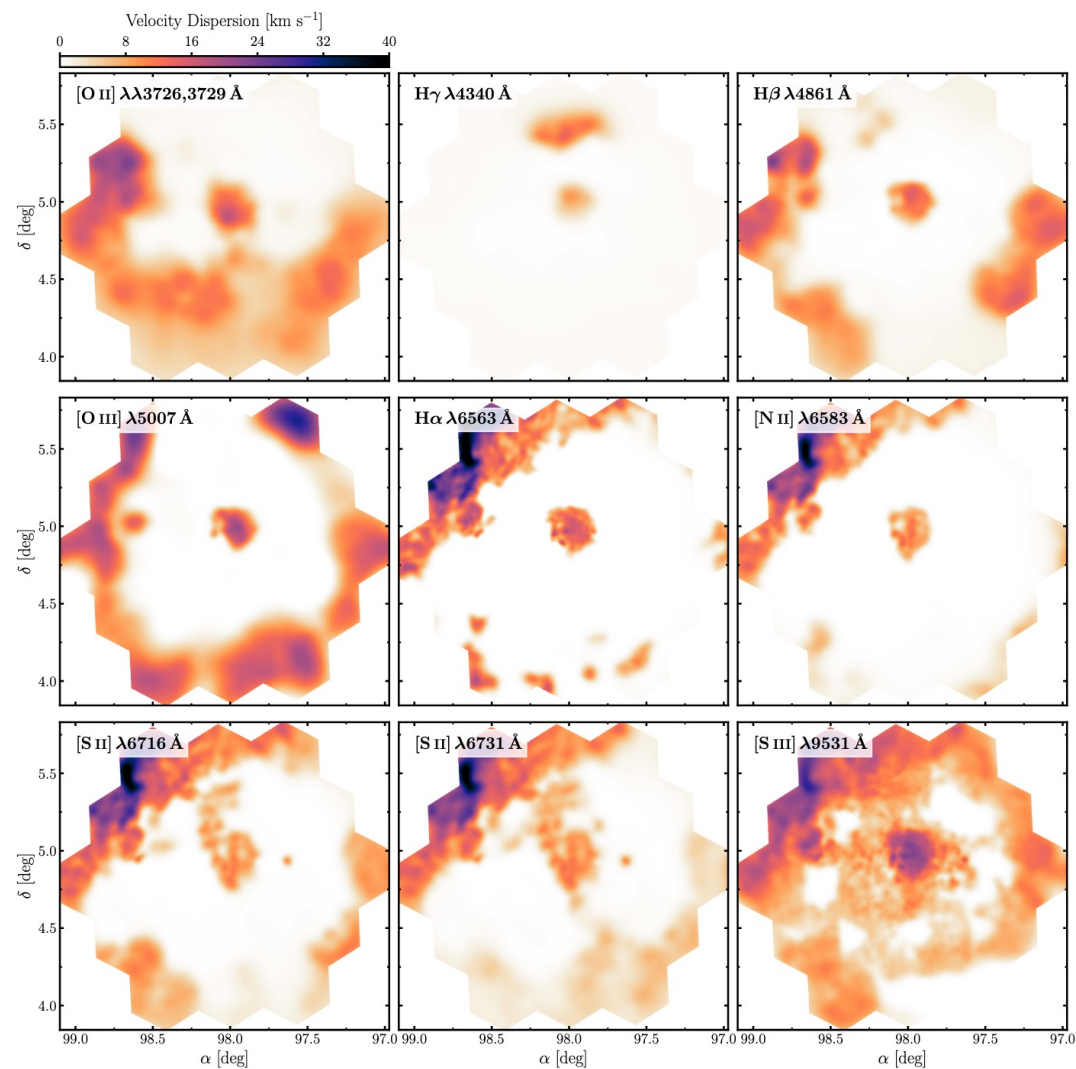
First application – Rosette Nebula



Radial velocities



Dispersions (LSF corrected)

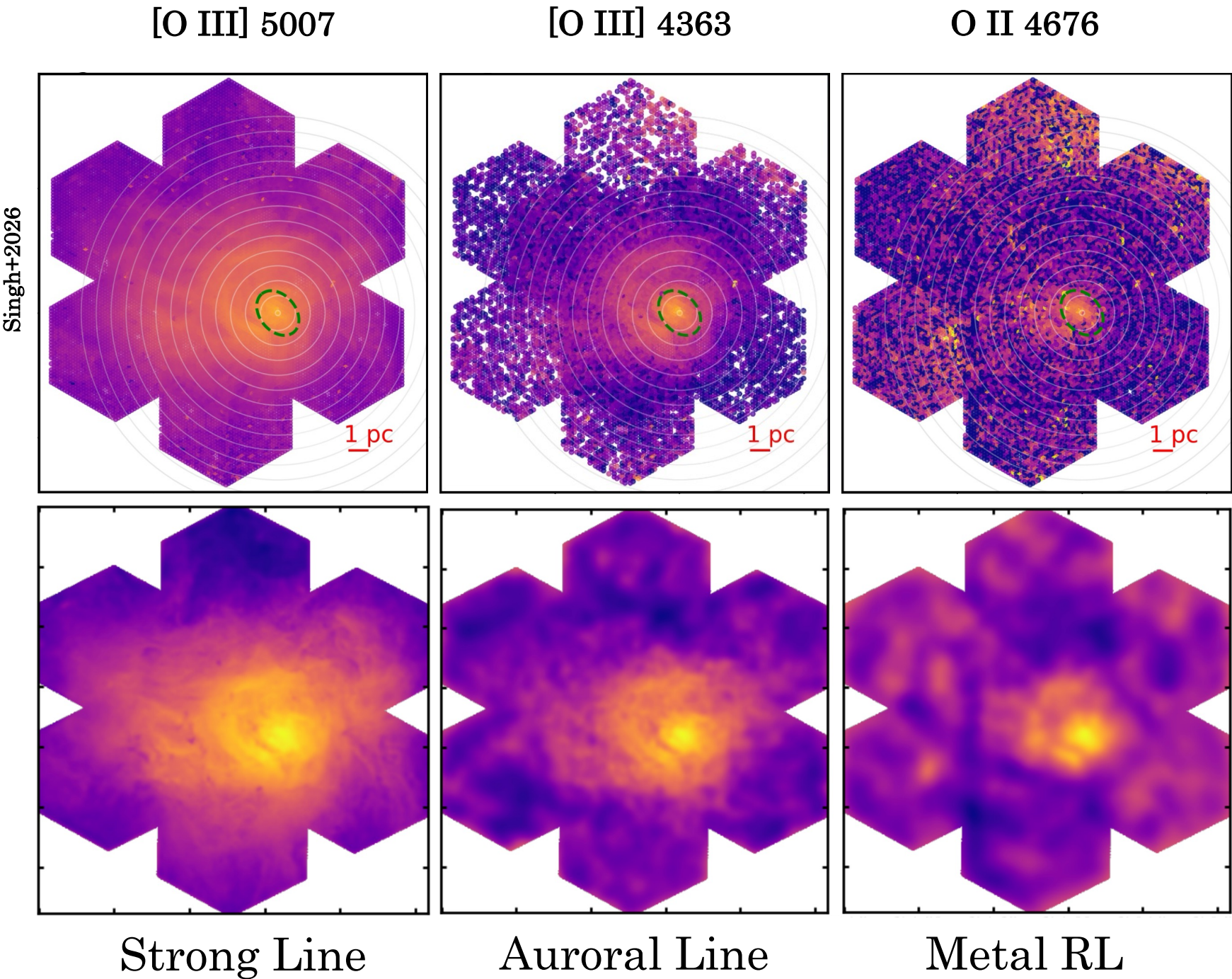


Lagoon / M8

- w/ Amrita Singh

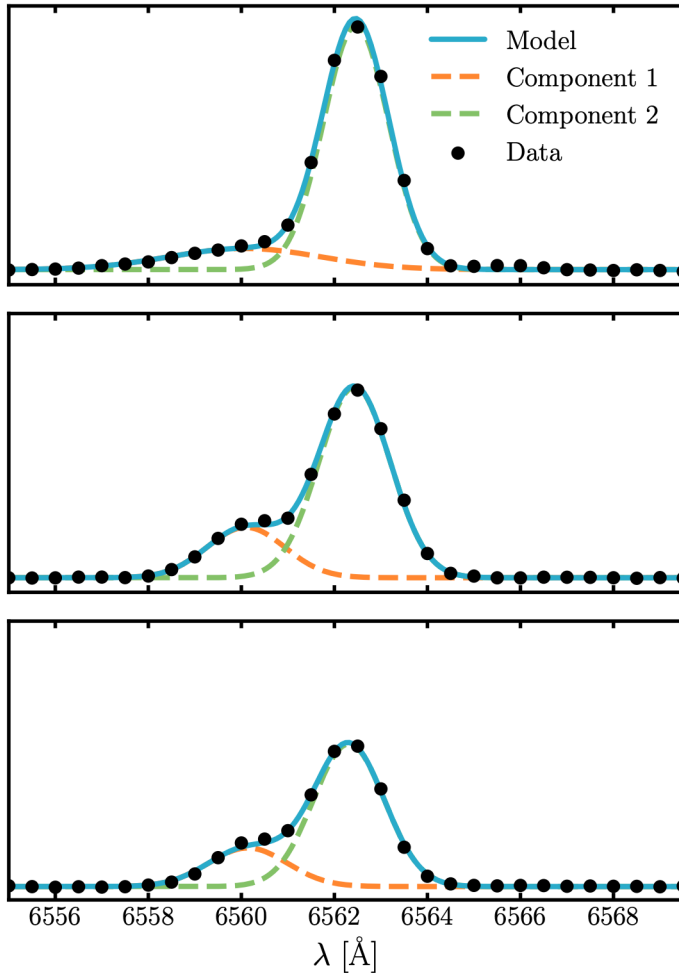


(Vera Rubin Obs.)

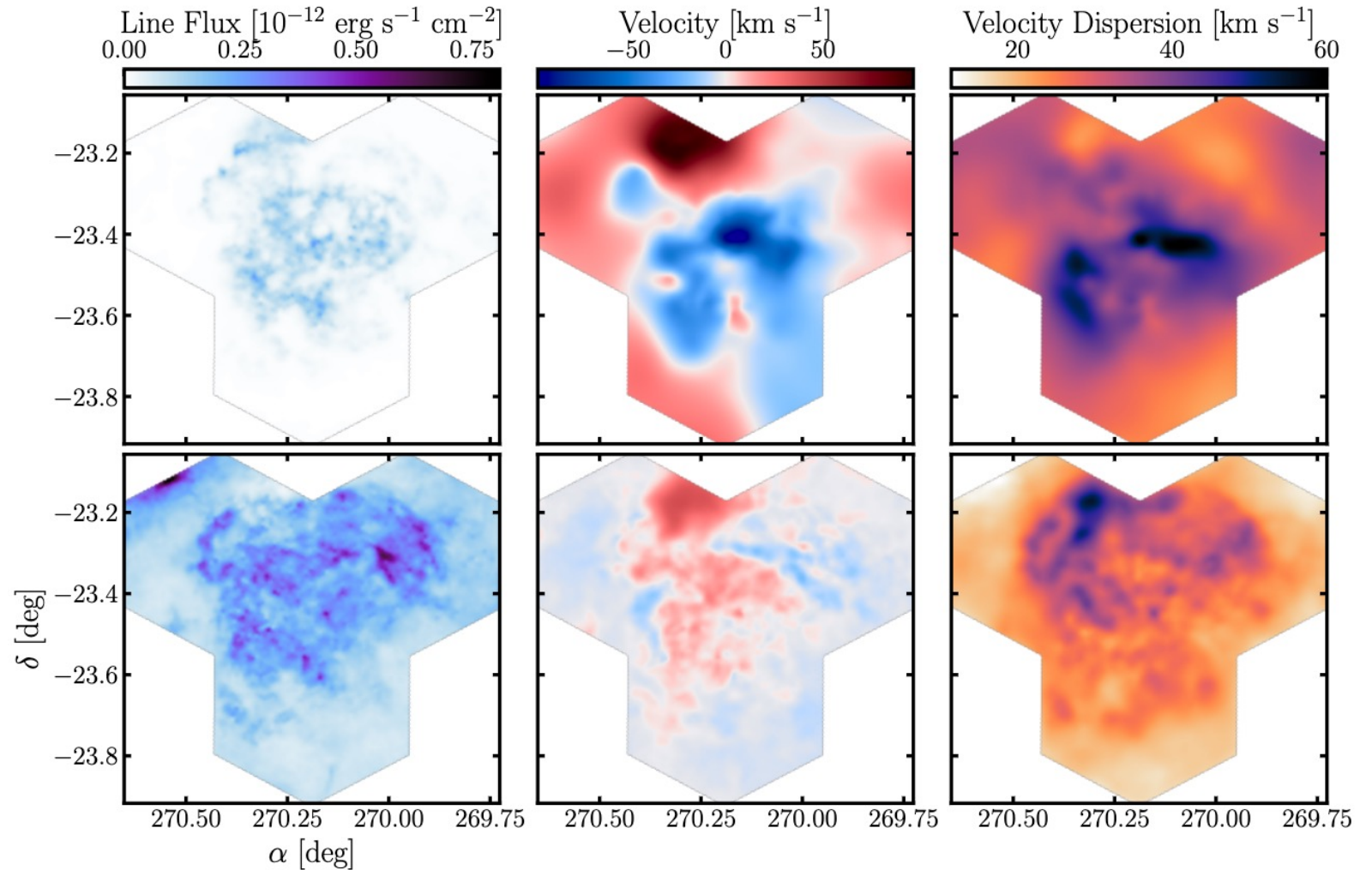


W28 Supernova Remnant

- w/ Knox Long
- Run this yourself on BinderHub

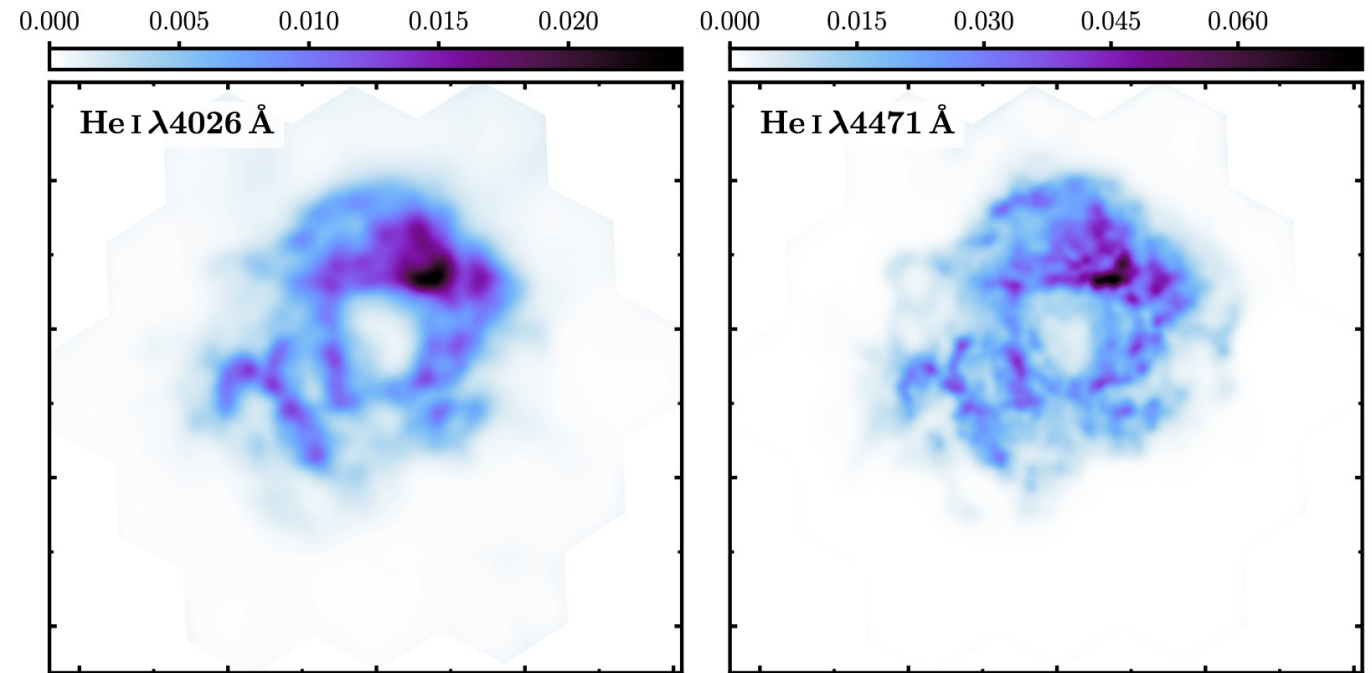


[N II] 6583



Caveats?

- Variable resolution at different S/N
 - Bias ratio maps?
- No uncertainties



Unc

Posterior samples of velocity $v(x,y)$

True

Sample 1

Sample 2

Sample 3

Flame ne
w/ Lucian
& Amy St

Sample 4

Sample 5

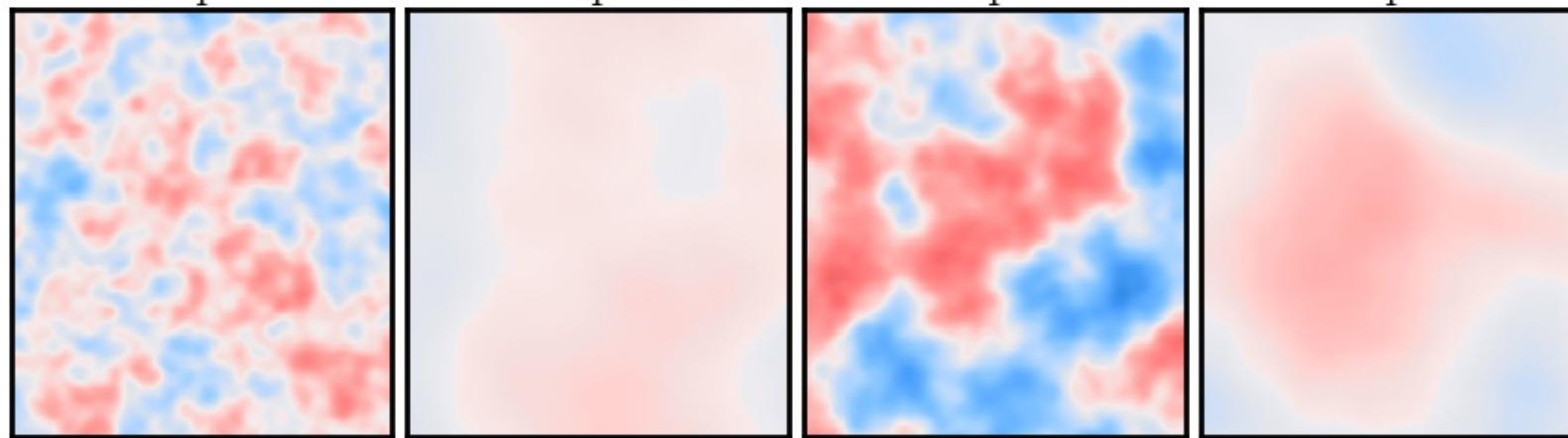
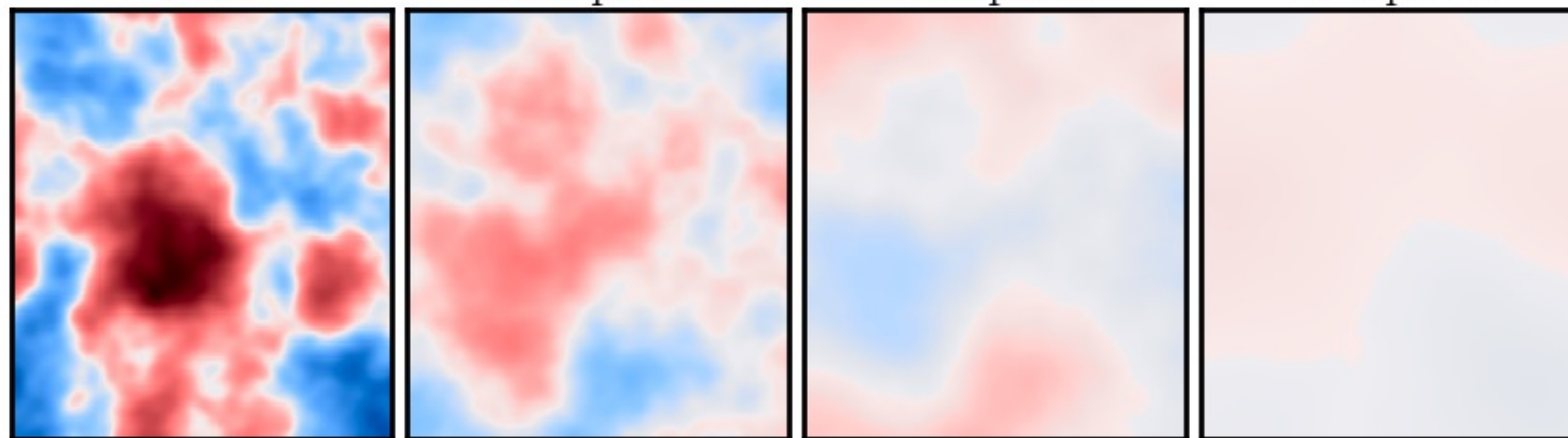
Sample 6

Sample 7

Std. Dev.)
arcsec⁻²]
0.06

Higher
uncertainty at
excluded fibres

Line of
partially
excluded fibres
here



-10

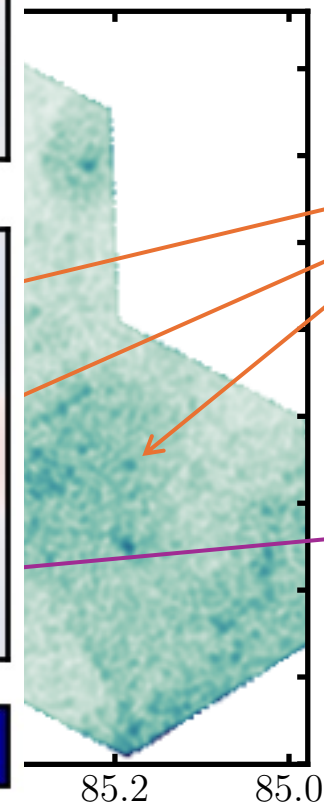
-5

0

5

10

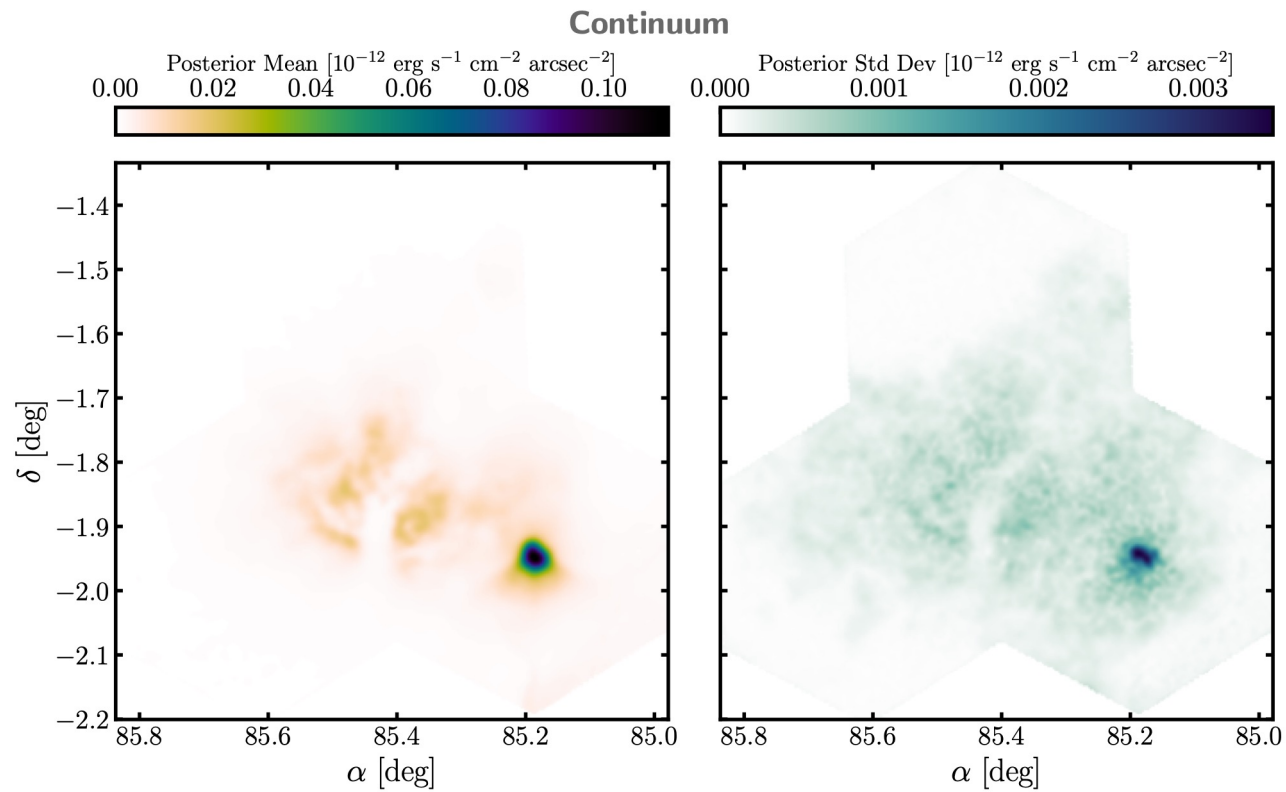
Velocity $v(x,y)$



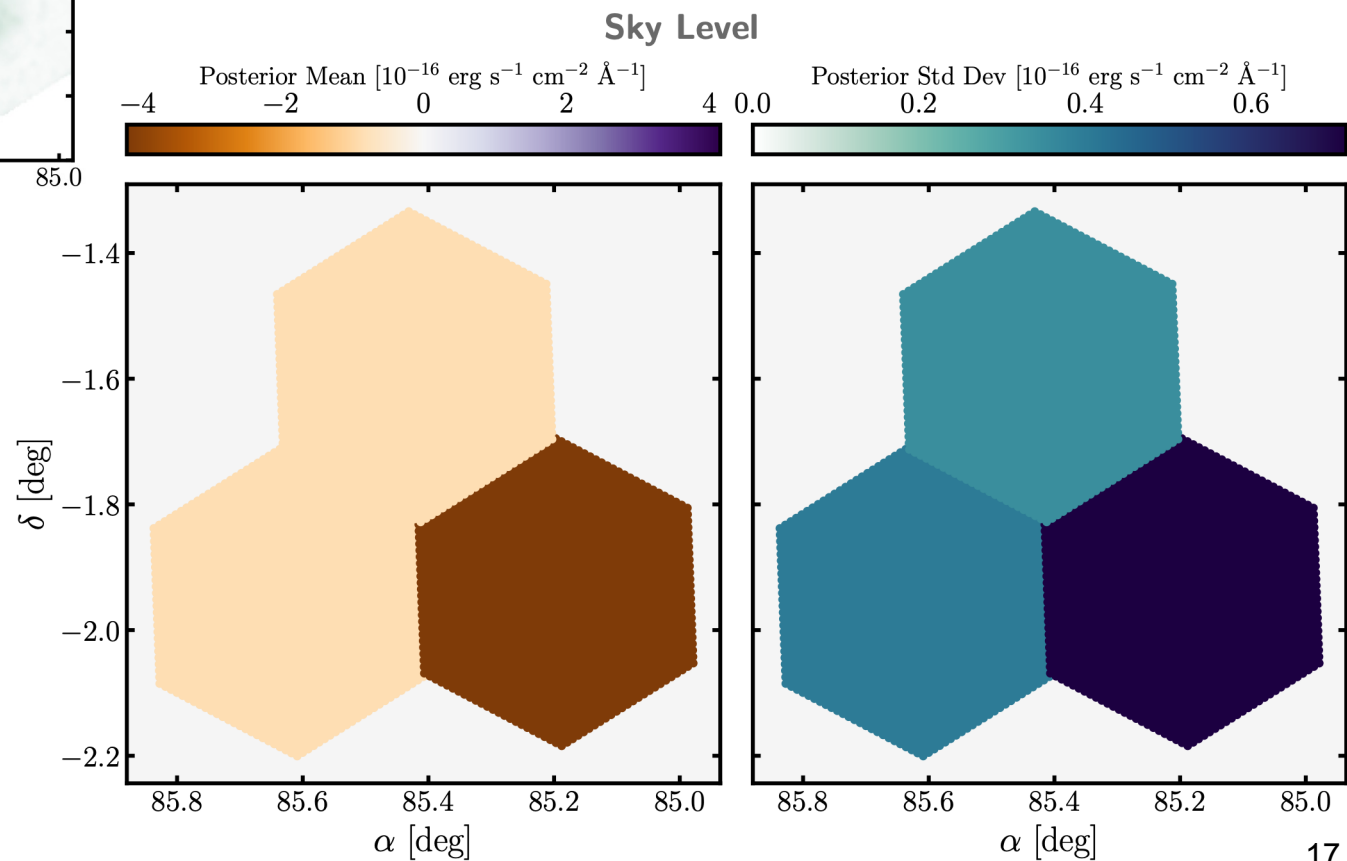
85.2

85.0

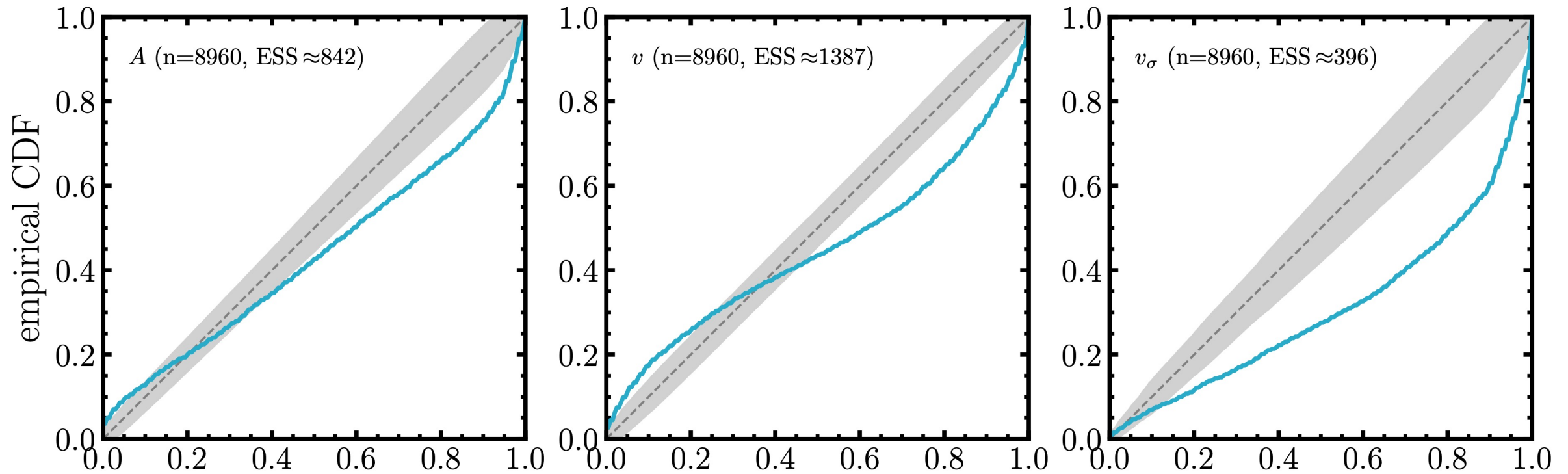
We are sampling over **all** model parameters, including the GP kernel parameters



Marginalise over small mistakes in data reduction

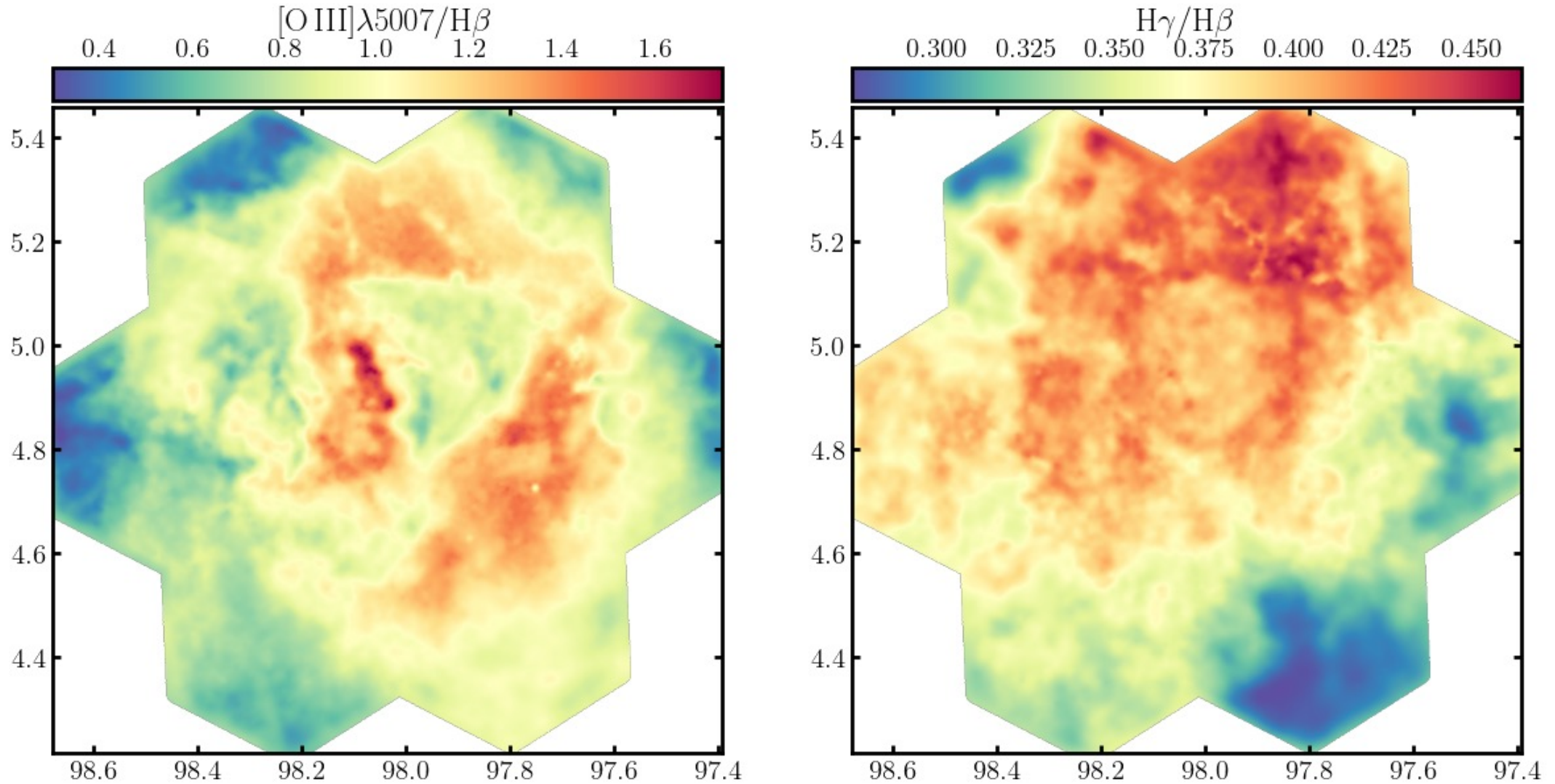


Are the uncertainties correct?

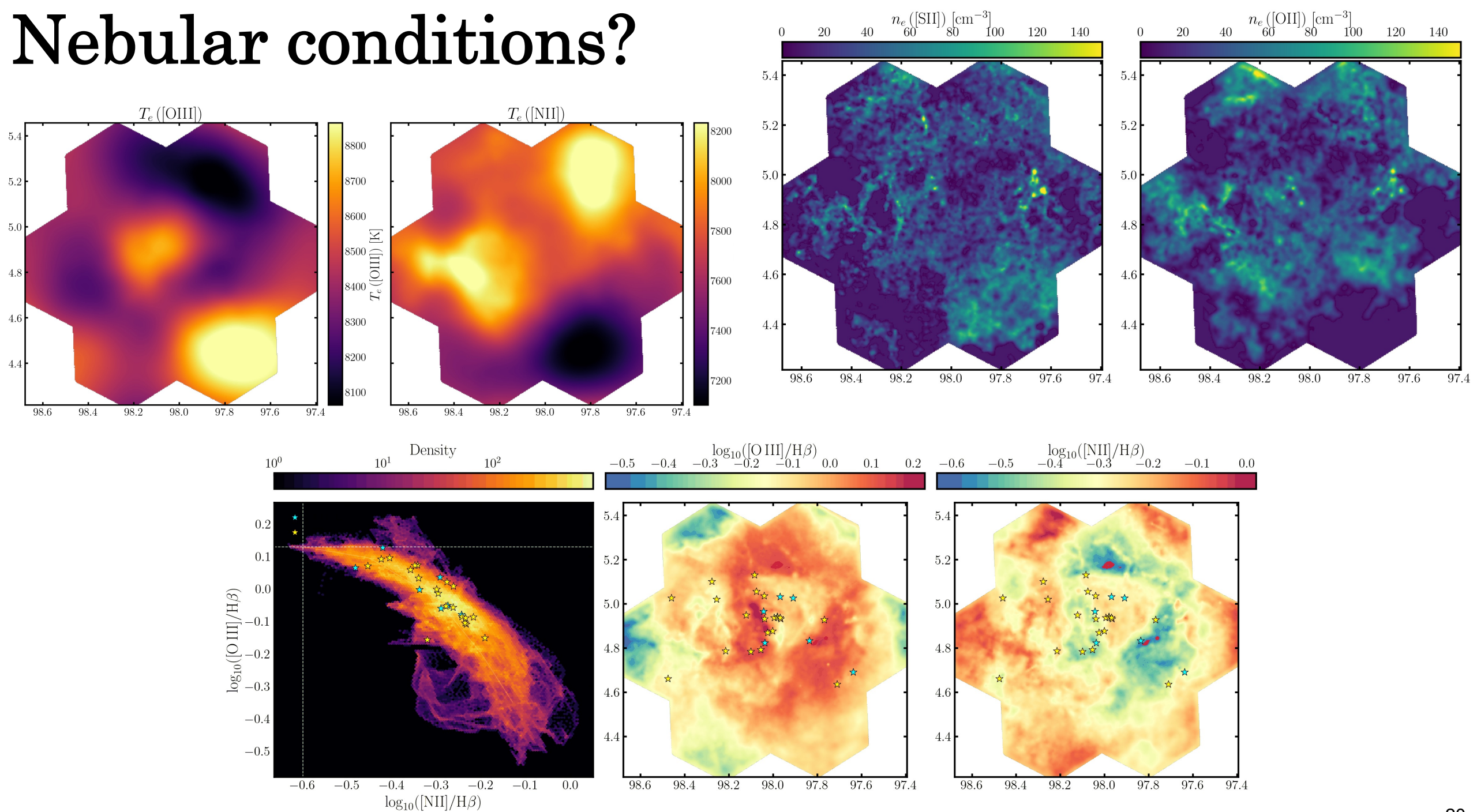


Mis-calibrated when there are **multiple fields** (sad)

Line ratio field as part of model



Nebular conditions?



Future

- ❑ Submit PhD thesis (...in 3 weeks)
- ❑ Calibrated uncertainties
- ❑ Applications to LVM H II regions
- ❑ Synergies via simultaneously modelling multiple surveys (SPHEREx, AMASE)
- ❑ Model physical quantities (T_e , n_e) as fields
- ❑ Continuing to work on LVM (LVM2?) at CCA



