The art of Stokes inversions

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Outline

- What is an inversion technique?
- How do they work?
- ME inversions
- Accounting for asymmetric Stokes profiles
- Be careful with the choice of model atmosphere!
- Available codes
- Tips and tricks
- Stray-light considerations
- Running SIR
 - Input files
 - Visualization of results





What is an inversion technique?

- Any method used to infer the physical conditions of the atmosphere from the interpretation of Stokes profiles
 - Center-of-gravity method, bisector analyses, ...
 - Forward modeling
 - PCA, artificial neural networks
 - Least-squares fitting

• What to expect: a model atmosphere capable of reproducing the observations.... nothing else!





Radiative transfer

• The Stokes parameters obey the RTE

$$\frac{d}{d\tau} \begin{pmatrix} I \\ Q \\ U \\ V \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \eta_{\mathrm{I}} & \eta_{\mathrm{Q}} & \eta_{\mathrm{U}} & \eta_{\mathrm{V}} \\ \eta_{\mathrm{Q}} & \eta_{\mathrm{I}} & \rho_{\mathrm{V}} & -\rho_{\mathrm{U}} \\ \eta_{\mathrm{U}} & -\rho_{\mathrm{V}} & \eta_{\mathrm{I}} & \rho_{\mathrm{Q}} \\ \eta_{\mathrm{V}} & \rho_{\mathrm{U}} & -\rho_{\mathrm{Q}} & \eta_{\mathrm{I}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I-S \\ Q \\ U \\ V \end{pmatrix}$$

(Unno 1956; Rachkovsky 1962)

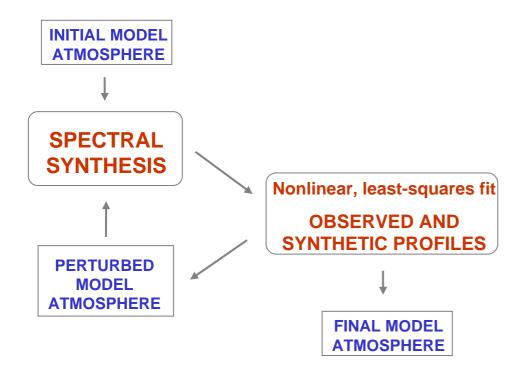
- $\eta_{I,Q,U,V}$ and $\rho_{Q,U,V}$ depend on $\mathbf{a} \equiv (B, \gamma, \chi, v_{LOS}, T, P_e, v_{mic})$
- This means that
 - Four Stokes parameters needed to understand just one of them
 - Proper interpretations of the Stokes vector require a good knowledge of the atmosphere (a)





Least-square inversions

- The complete line transfer problem has to be solved
- Self-consistent inferences \rightarrow Inversion techniques



Advantages:

- No simplifying assumptions
- Full Stokes vector fitted
- Complex model atmospheres
- All atmospheric parameters inferred at the same time





How do they work?

• Inversion driven by χ^2 -minimization:

$$\chi^{2}(\mathbf{a}) = \sum \left[I_{obs}(\lambda_{i}) - I_{syn}(\lambda_{i}, \mathbf{a}) \right]^{2}$$

• Linearization: Levenberg-Marquardt algorithm

 $\nabla \chi^2(\mathbf{a}) + \mathbf{A}(\chi^2) \cdot \delta \mathbf{a} = 0$

- Keeping the number of free parameters small:
 - Atmospheric parameters perturbed in coarse grid
 - Full stratifications in finer grid by cubic spline interpolation
- Regularization techniques (*when in doubt, smooth*)
 - Penalty function, or
 - Modified SVD method (Ruiz Cobo & del Toro Iniesta 1992)





Inversions based on ME atmospheres

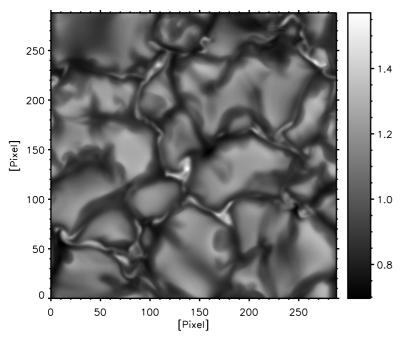
- ME atmosphere:
 - Source function is linear with optical depth
 - Absorption matrix does not vary with optical depth
- Analytical Stokes profiles
- Fast inversion
- Smooth maps of physical quantities
- Results are relatively accurate and easy to interpret





ME inversions of high spatial resolution profiles

MHD simulations (Vögler et al. 2005)



 Fe I 630.1 and 630.2 nm profiles degraded to HINODE/SP pixel size





ME inversions of high spatial resolution profiles

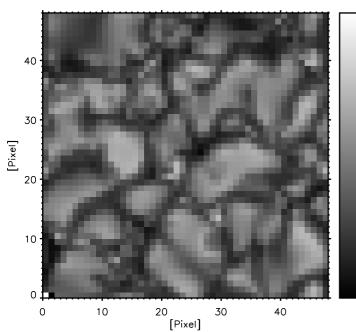
- 1.4

- 1.2

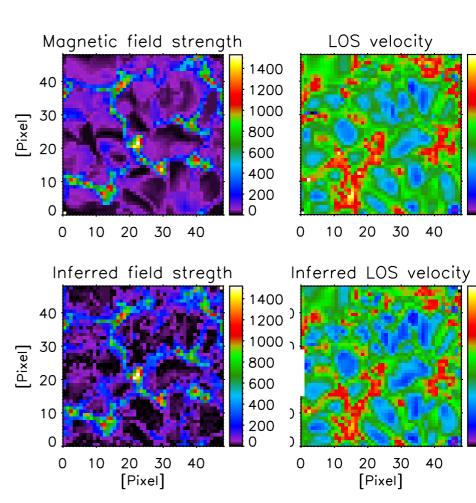
- 1.0

- 0.8

MHD simulations (Vögler et al. 2005)



- Fe I 630.1 and 630.2 nm profiles degraded to HINODE/SP pixel size
- Maps of inferred B and v_{Los} very similar to real ones!



Orozco Suárez et al. 2007, ApJL





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Inversions based on ME atmospheres

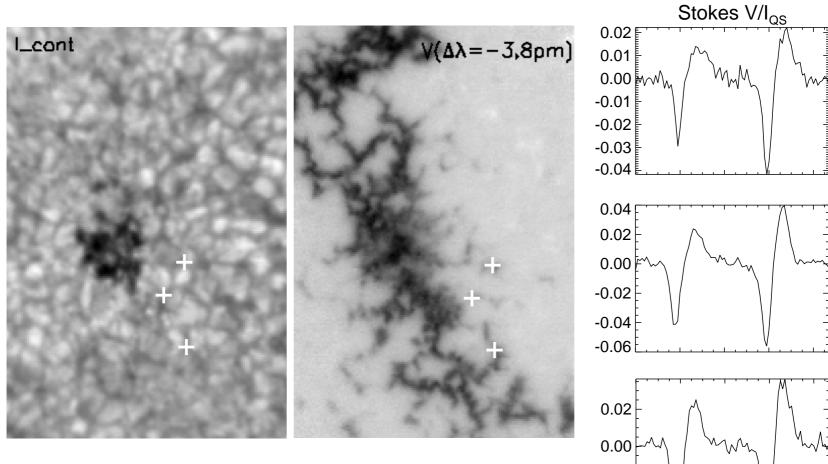
- ME atmosphere:
 - Source function is linear with optical depth
 - Absorption matrix does not vary with optical depth
- Analytical Stokes profiles
- Fast inversion
- Smooth maps of physical quantities
- Results are easy to interpret

- Simplistic treatment of radiation transfer
- Little thermal information. No height variations
- Cannot account for asymmetric Stokes profiles

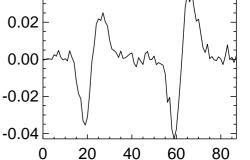




Asymmetric Stokes profiles



- KIS/IAA Visible Imaging Polarimeter + TESOS + KAOS
- VTT, Observatorio del Teide
- Spatial resolution: ~0.4"
- Pore near disk center, Fe I 630.15 and 630.25 nm

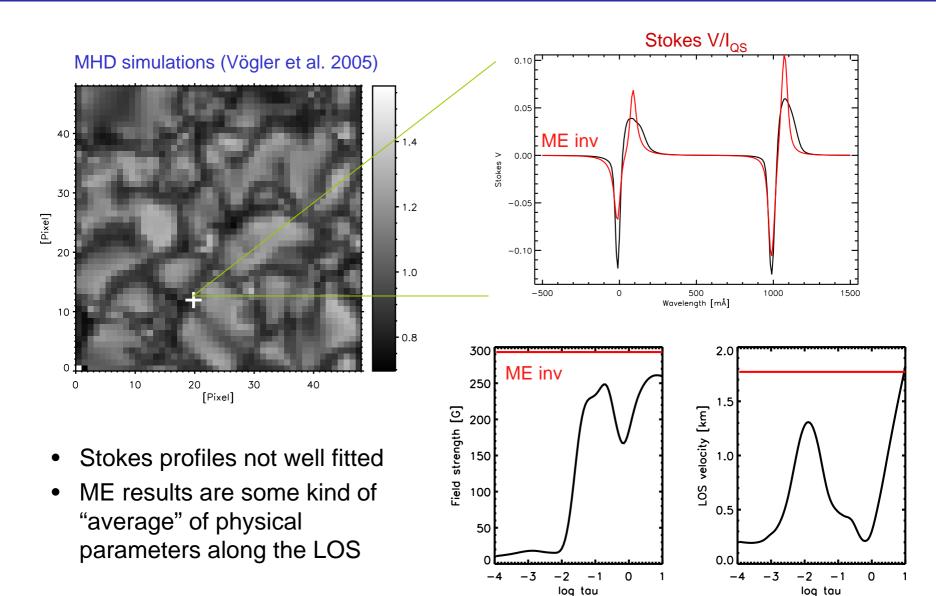


Bellot Rubio et al. (2007)





ME inversions of asymmetric profiles







The origin of asymmetries

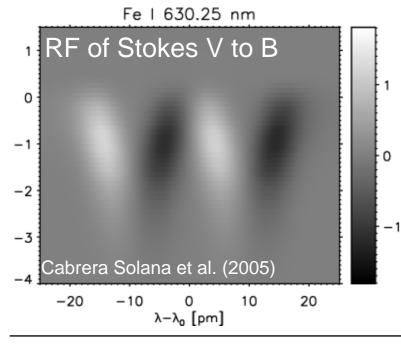
Amplitude asymmetry/ Multi-lobed Stokes profiles

Area asymmetry

Different magnetic atmospheres coexisting in resolution element

Gradients/discontinuities of physical parameters along LOS

Auer & Heasley (1978)



The area asymmetry gives information on the height variation of atmospheric parameters





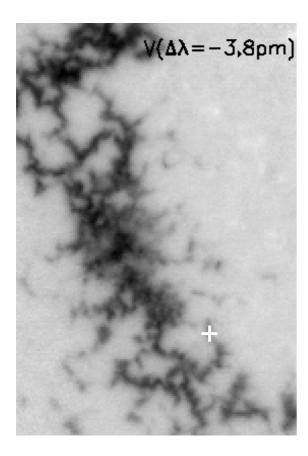
Accounting for asymmetries

- Inversion codes capable of dealing with asymmetries
 - Are based on numerical solution of RTE
 - Provide reliable thermal information
 - Use less free parameters than ME codes
 - Infer stratifications of physical parameters with depth

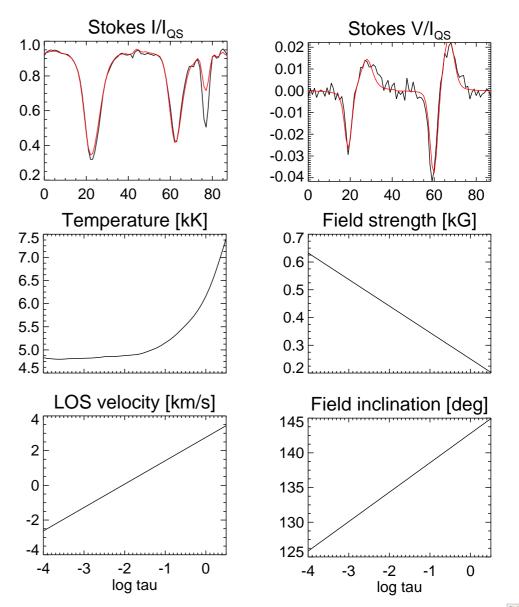




Accounting for asymmetries



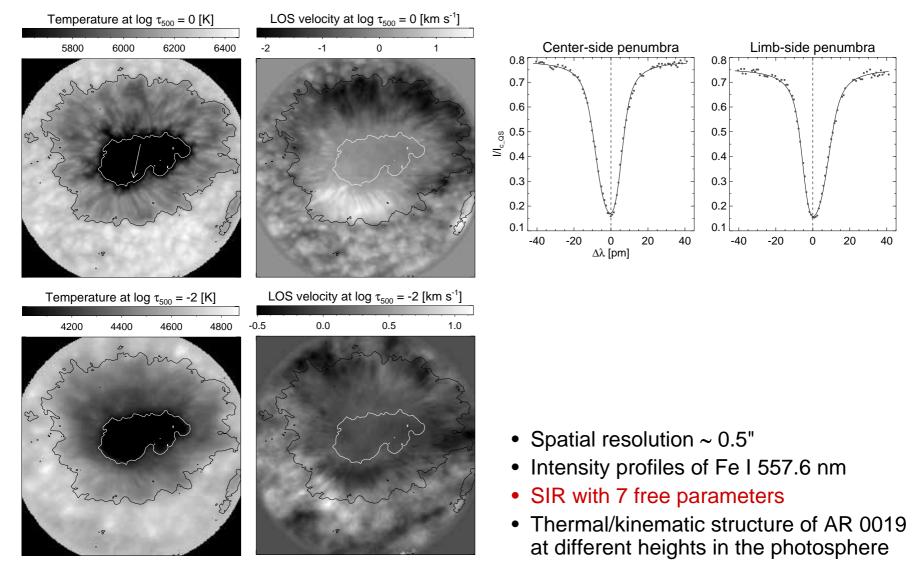
- VIP + TESOS + KAOS
- SIR with 10 free parameters
- Bellot Rubio et al. (2007)







Inversions with gradients



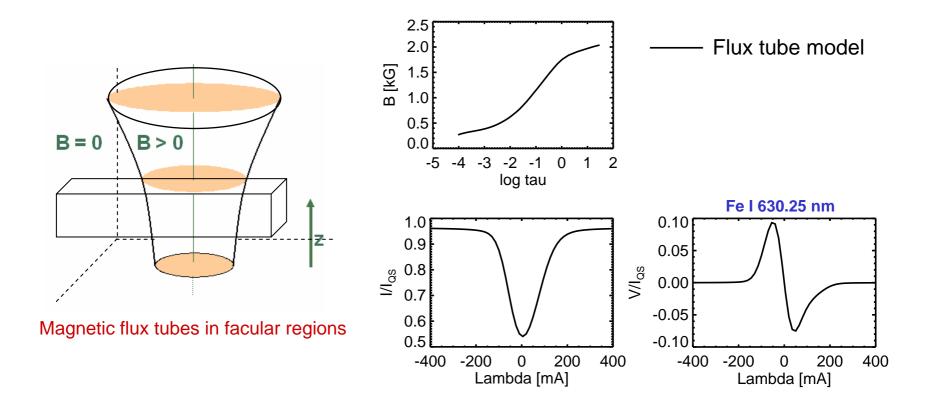
Bellot Rubio, Schlichenmaier, & Tritschler 2006, A&A 453, 1117

NAOJ, 17 July 2007



Be careful with the atmospheric model!

Inversion results change if the physical model is changed Models are often simplistic and do not describe the real atmosphere

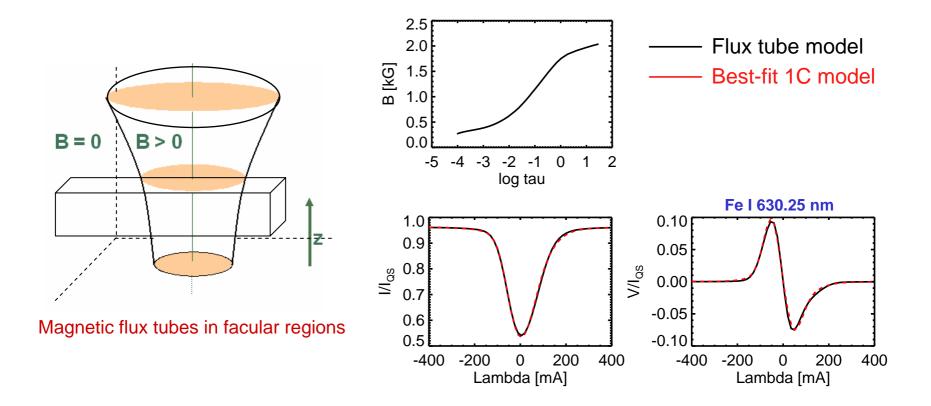






Be careful with the atmospheric model!

Inversion results change if the physical model is changed Models are often simplistic and do not describe the real atmosphere

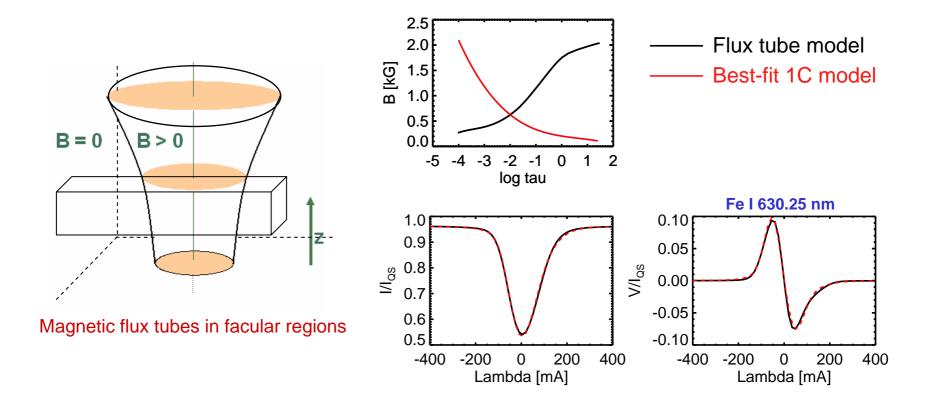






Be careful with the atmospheric model!

Inversion results change if the physical model is changed Models are often simplistic and do not describe the real atmosphere





Available codes for inversions with gradients

SIR	Ruiz Cobo & del Toro Iniesta (1992)	1C & 2C atmospheres, arbitrary stratifications, any photospheric line
SIR/FT	Bellot Rubio et al. (1996)	Flux tube model, arbitrary stratifications, any photospheric line
SIR/NLTE	Socas-Navarro et al. (1998)	NLTE line transfer, arbitrary stratifications
SIR/GAUS	Bellot Rubio (2003)	Uncombed penumbral model, arbitrary stratifications
SIR/JUMP	Bellot Rubio (2007)	Canopy-like atmospheres
SPINOR	Frutiger & Solanki (2001)	1C & 2C atmospheres, arbitrary stratifications, any photospheric line, molecular lines, flux tube model, uncombed model
LILIA	Socas-Navarro (2001)	1C atmospheres, arbitrary stratifications
MISMA IC	Sánchez Almeida (1997)	MISMA model, arbitrary stratifications, any photospheric line





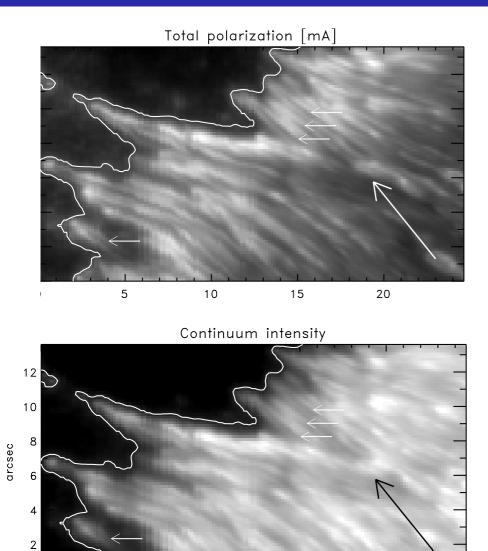
Tips and tricks

- First of all, look at the profiles
- Try a ME inversion, it usually works
 - If the V profiles are very asymmetric, fit only I, Q, and U
- Examine the fits: are they reasonably good?





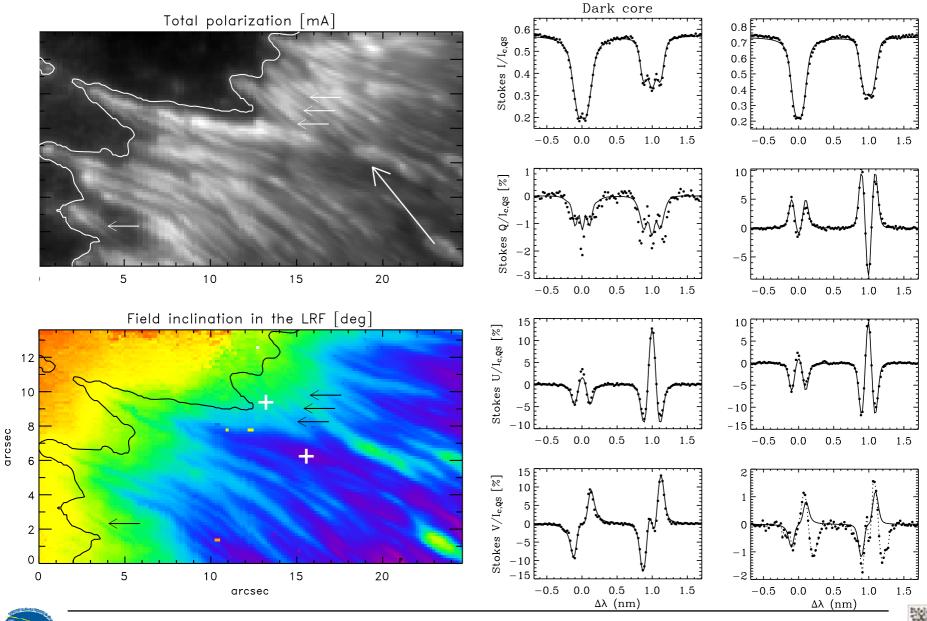
1C SIR inversion of Hinode/SP data







1C SIR inversion of Hinode/SP data





Tips and tricks

- First of all, look at the profiles
- Try a ME inversion, it usually works
 - If the V profiles are very asymmetric, fit only I, Q, and U
- Examine the fits: are they reasonably good?
- Identify
 - Pixels with bad fits and/or large asymmetries
 - Regions where interesting physical processes occur
- Run SIR inversions on these pixels
 - Which model are you going to use?

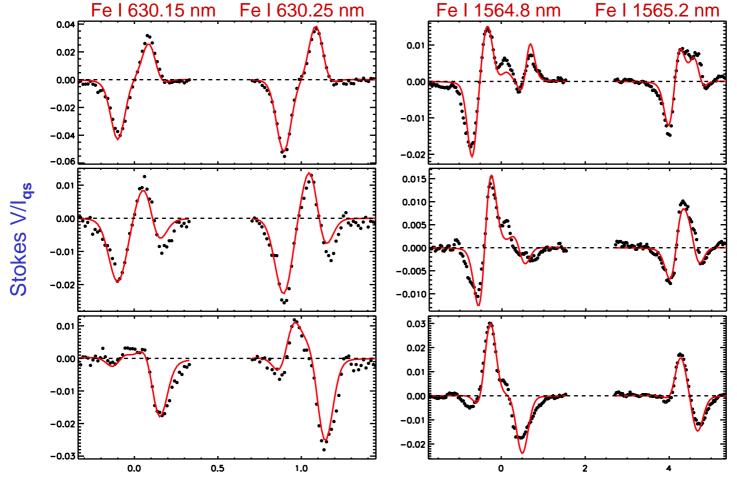
1C model, 2C model, flux tube model, uncombed model?





Uncombed inversion of penumbral profiles

SIR/GAUS inversion of simultaneous visible and IR observations

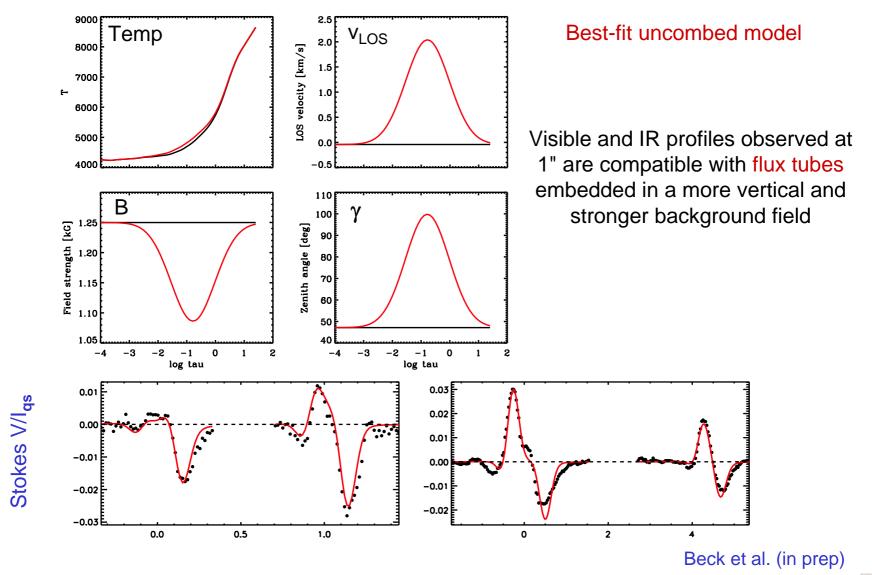


Beck et al. (in prep)





Uncombed inversion of penumbral profiles







Tips and tricks

- First of all, look at the profiles
- Try a ME inversion, it usually works
 - If the V profiles are very asymmetric, fit only I, Q, and U
- Examine the fits: are they reasonably good?
- Identify
 - Pixels with bad fits and/or large asymmetries
 - Regions where interesting physical processes occur
- Run SIR inversions on these pixels
 - Which model are you going to use?
 1C model, 2C model, flux tube model, uncombed model?
 - Use ME results as initialization
 - Give more weight to the strangest Stokes parameter
 - Keep it simple! See if linear stratifications (2 nodes) are sufficient
- Ask yourself if the retrieved model atmosphere makes sense!!
- You have experts in-house: ask them for advice (Jan-san)





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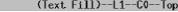
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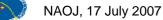
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Nodes for microturb. 2	:	
Nodes for magnetic field 2	:	
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Nodes for gamma 2	:	
Nodes for phi 2	:	
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:** sir.trol (Text Fill)-	0.6000	/44/.4 4.092/0E+02		92E+03 4.6400E+05			-4.5889E+01	1./294E+05	3.6293E-0/
		7178.8 2.61987E+02		92E+03 4.6400E+05		1.2604E+02		1.6719E+05	3.6429E 07
	0.4000 0.3000	6880.1 1.54640F+02 6592.3 9.00154E+01		892E+03 4.6400E+05 892E+03 4.6400E+05		1.2604E+02	2.6596F+01	1.6061E+05	3.6536F 07 3.6304E-07
	0.2000	6322.8 5.28586E+01					0.0000E+00		3.5603E-07
	0.1000	6084.1 3.25596E+01	2.256E+02 2.34	92E+03 4.6400E+05	1.4605E+02	1.2604E+02	1.7050E+01	1.3330E+05	3.4316E-07
	0.0000	5875.4 2.13316E+01 5696.8 1.49885E+01		92E+03 4.6400E+05 92E+03 4.6400E+05			3.6610E+01 5.8242E+01	1.2186E+05 1.0997E+05	3.2486E-07 3.0238F-07
	-0.2000	5543.1 1.11864E+01		92E+03 4.6400E+05		1.2604E+02		9.8263E+04	2.7768E-07
	-0.3000	5409.4 8.73575E+00	2.256E+02 2.34	92E+03 4.6400E+05	1.4605E+02	1.2604E+02	1.0504E+02	8.7213E+04	2.5255E-07
	-0.4000	5295.8 7.06379F+00		92F+03 4.6400F+05			1.2903F+02	7.7100F+04	2.2806F-07
	-0.5000	5192.1 5.80998E+00 5093.5 4.81886E+00		92E+03 4.6400E+05 92E+03 4.6400E+05		1.2604E+02 1.2604E+02	1.5291E+02		2.0521E-07 1.8436E-07
	-0.7000	4994.8 4.00224E+00		92E+03 4.6400E+05		1.2604E+02			1.6563E-07
leemod.pro	-0.8000	4906.1 3.34879E+00		92E+03 4.6400E+05		1.2604E+02			1.4855E-07
	-0.9000	4827.5 2.82042E+00 4758.8 2.39137E+00		92E+03 4.6400E+05 92E+03 4.6400E+05		1.2604E+02	2.4496E+02 2.6702E+02		1.3300E-07 1.1887E-07
	-1.1000	4690.1 2.02242E+00		92E+03 4.6400E+05		1.2604E+02			1.0625E-07
escribemod.pro	-1.2000	4631.5 1.72307E+00		92E+03 4.6400E+05		1.2604E+02			9.4772E-08
I	-1.3000	4582.8 1.48063E+00 4539.1 1.27741E+00		92E+03 4.6400E+05 92E+03 4.6400E+05			3.3157E+02 3.5269E+02		8.4341E-08 7.4964E-08
modolodor? v	-1.5000	4495.5 1.10053E+00		92E+03 4.6400E+05		1.2604E+02		1.9116E+04	6.6613E-08
modelador2.x	-1.6000	4456.8 9.52386E-01	2.256E+02 2.34	92E+03 4.6400E+05	1.4605E+02	1.2604E+02	3.9451E+02	1.6816E+04	5.9107E-08
	-1.7000	4428.2 8.33382E-01					4.1526E+02		
equilibrium.x	-1.8000	4409.5 7.37876E-01 4390.8 6.53162E-01		92E+03 1.6400E+05 92E+03 4.6400E+05		1.2604E+02 1.2604E+02	4.3592E+02 4.5649E+02	1.3002E+04	1.6192E-08 4.0787E-08
equilibrium.x	-2.0000	4372.2 5.78038E-01	2.256E+02 2.34	92E+03 4.6400E+05	1.4605E+02	1.2604E+02	4.7698E+02	1.0052E+04	3.6016E-08
		4353.5 5.11436E-01			1.4605E+02	1.2604E+02	4.9737E+02	8.8384E+03	3.1803E-08
geometrical.x	: guese Loading muh		Fill)L1C0T	op					
ycomethical.x	- construg and								
	1 I	тр		D			2.1		
	log τ	T P _e	V _{mic}	B V _{LOS}	γ	Φ	z [km]	P_	ρ





Running SIR/GAUSS: input files

muj.trol - emacs@hsc24.mtk.nao.ac.jp	GAUSSIAN FILE
ile Edit Options Buffers Tools Help	
ViewXGSYWWWQSYYObserved profiles Observed profiles Stray light file Atomic parameters file Abundances file Initial guess model 1 Initial guess model 2 File containing gaussian(*):2 :Profile.per :Imuj.gaus!(0=synthesis) (cosi) !(none=no stray light co !Merry Law Weight for Stokes I Weight for Stokes U Weight for Stokes V Weight for Stokes V II Weight for Stokes V II Weight for Stokes V Weight for Stokes V II Weight for Stokes V Weight for Stokes V II Weight for Stokes V II Weight for Stokes V II Weight for Stokes V II Weight for Stokes V II III III IIII IIII IIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII	<pre>.e) (S file) (S file) (S file) (central position index : 0.2 (Sigma (optical depth) : 0.5 (Amplitude for T : 800.) (Amplitude for T : 800.) (Amplitude for B : -1.0E+05) (Amplitude for B : -500.) (Amplitude for v : -1.0E+05) (Amplitude for gamma : -30.0) (Amplitude for fi : -5.)</pre>
Nodes for LOŠ velocity 1 :1 Nodes for gamma 1 :0.1 Nodes for phi 1 :1 Invert macroturbulence 1? :0 ! (0 or blank=no, 1=yes) Nodes for temperature 2 :1 Nodes for telectr. press. 2 :0 Nodes for microturb. 2 :0 Nodes for magnetic field 2 :0,1 Nodes for LOS velocity 2 :0,1 Nodes for gamma 2 :1 Nodes for phi 2 :1	8000 (Fundamental)L1All
Invert macroturbulence 2?! (0 or blank=no, 1=yes)Invert filling factor?:0! (0 or blank=no, 1=yes)Invert stray light factor?:0! (0 or blank=no, 1=yes)Nodes for center of gaussian:0,1! Only 1 allowed if gauNodes for width of gaussian:1! only 0 or 1 allowed if gamu=cos (theta):0.84! (DEFAULT: mu=1. mu<0 =>Estimated S/N for I:800! (DEFAULT: 1000)Continuum contrast:! (DEFAULT: not used)Tolerance for SVD:! (DEFAULT value: 1e-4)Initial diagonal element! (DEFAULT value: 1.e1)Gas pressure at surface 1:5.e3! (0 or blank=Pe boundary)Magnetic pressure term?:0! (0 or blank=no, 1=yes)	v cond.
: muj.trol (Fundamental)L10A11	

4000

1.0

0.5

0.0



-1.5

-2.0

-0.5

 $log(\tau)$

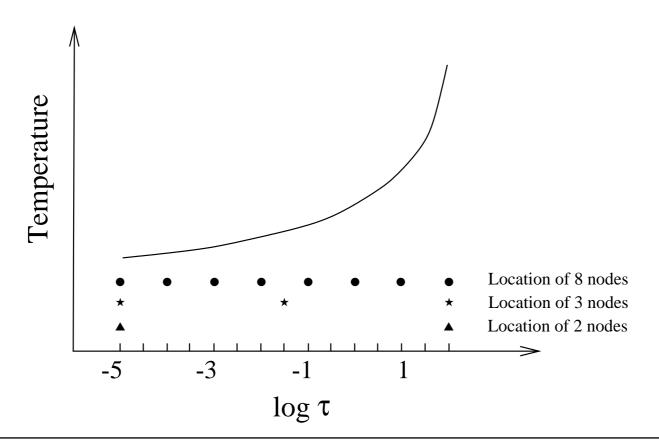
-1.0



1200

Concept of nodes

- Keeping the number of free parameters small:
 - Atmospheric parameters perturbed in coarse grid (nodes)
 - Full stratifications in finer grid by cubic spline interpolation







Stray-light considerations

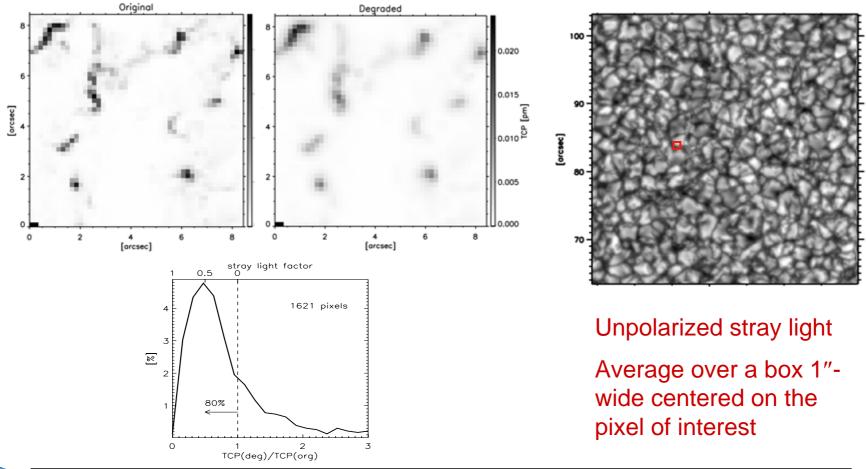
- Stray-light in ME inversions:
 - Equivalent to a magnetic filling factor f = 1- α
- Stray-light in SIR inversions:
 - It is NOT equivalent to a magnetic filling factor
 - In fact, SIR has two free parameters: $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$ and f
- Global vs local stray-light profile
 - Classical treatment: global stray-light profile (over FOV)
 - Orozco Suárez et al. (2007): local stray-light profile accounts for telescope diffraction





Local stray light

- Telescope diffraction reduces the polarization signal
- Important for weak fields and noisy signals!







echo sir.trol | sir.x





Visualizing SIR results: graphics.pro

