

# Systematic Uncertainty: What's next?

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1. what Jeremy said

2. the quick and dirty method

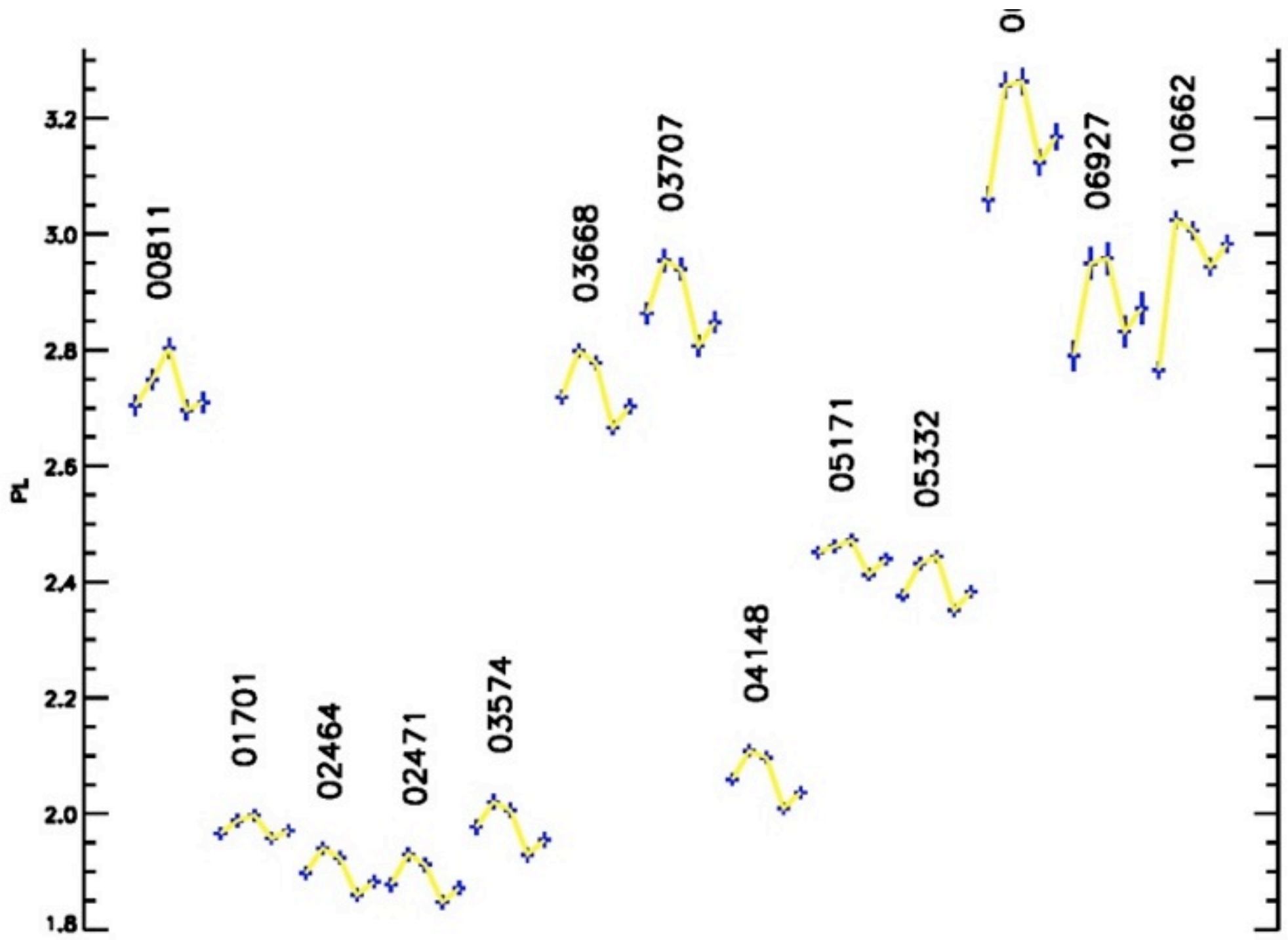
or, how to square-add errors via the Multiple Imputation  
Combining Rule

3. the theoretically completely general way to  
incorporate calibration uncertainty into  
spectral analysis

4. Theory vs Practice

the AREF file specification

# The Multiple Imputation Combining Rule



# The Multiple Imputation Combining Rule

- ▶ Analyze a dataset using  $N$  separate cal products
- ▶ Derive parameters and errors  $\theta_i \pm \sigma_i$
- ▶ Compute
  - ▶  $S = \text{mean of } \sigma_i^2$
  - ▶  $V = \text{variance of } \theta_i$
- ▶ Compute total variance,

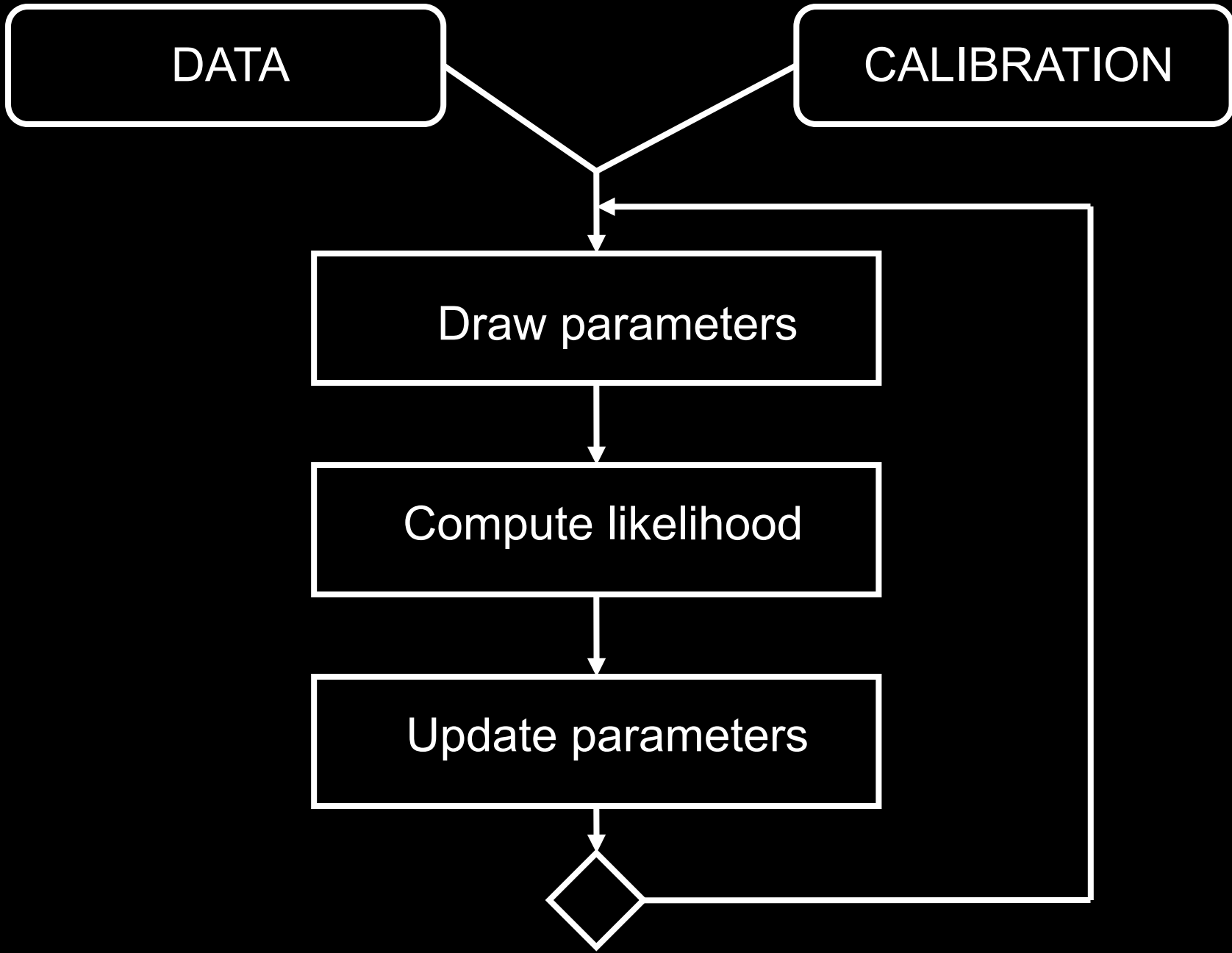
$$\Sigma = S + (1+1/N)*V$$

But..

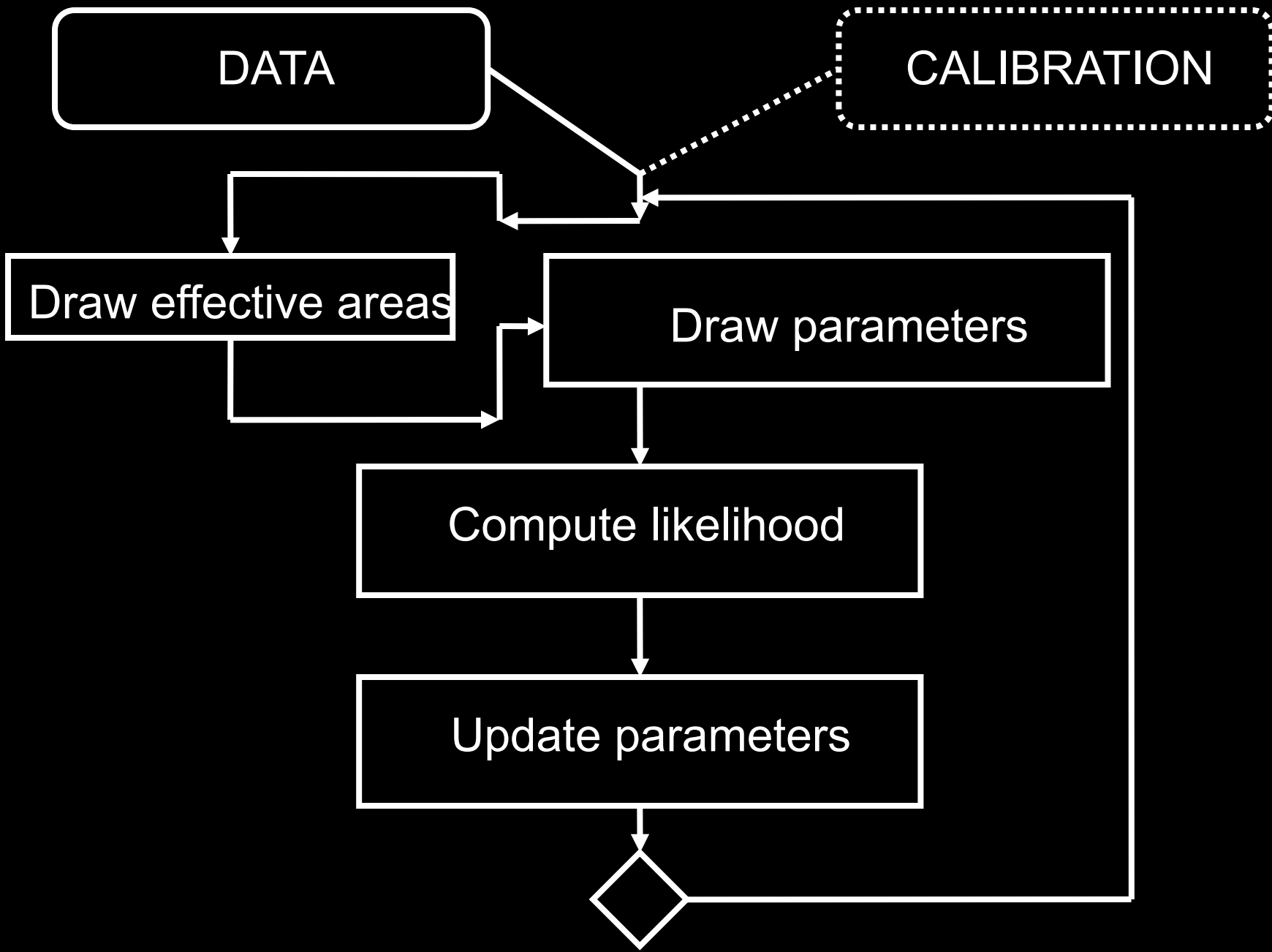
- ▶ assumes that
  - errors are symmetrical
  - error distributions are Gaussian
  - all fits are “good” fits
  - all replications are equally weighted
- ▶ “1 sigma” is not necessarily a 68% interval

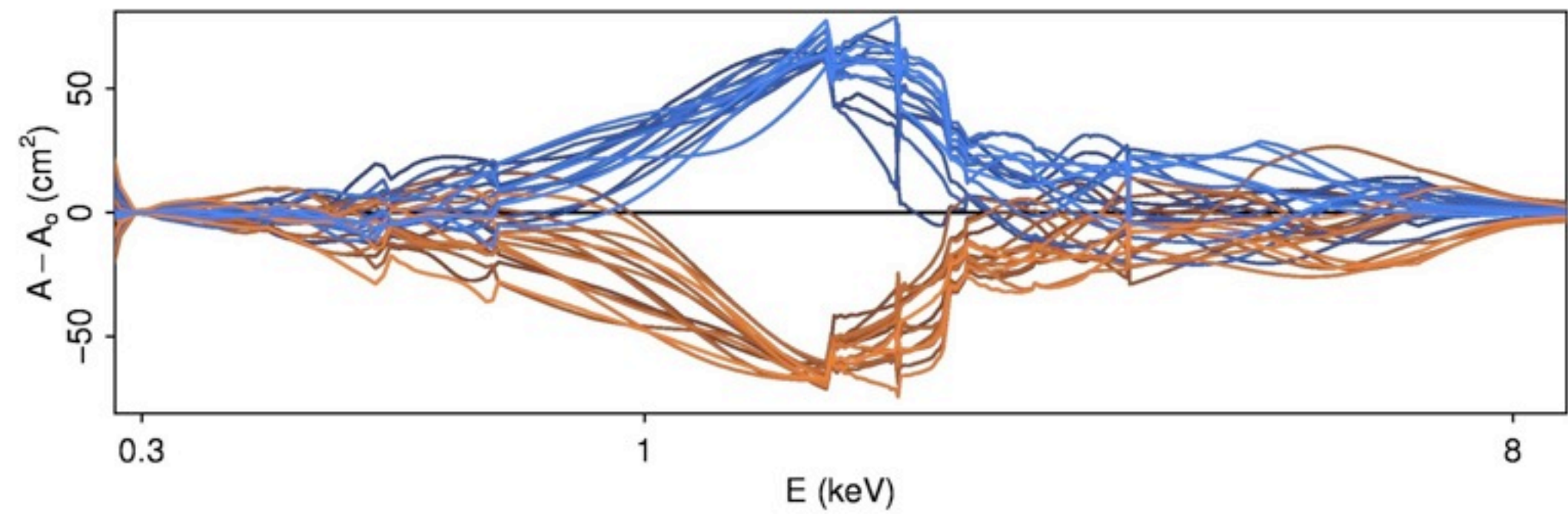
# MCMC based fitting

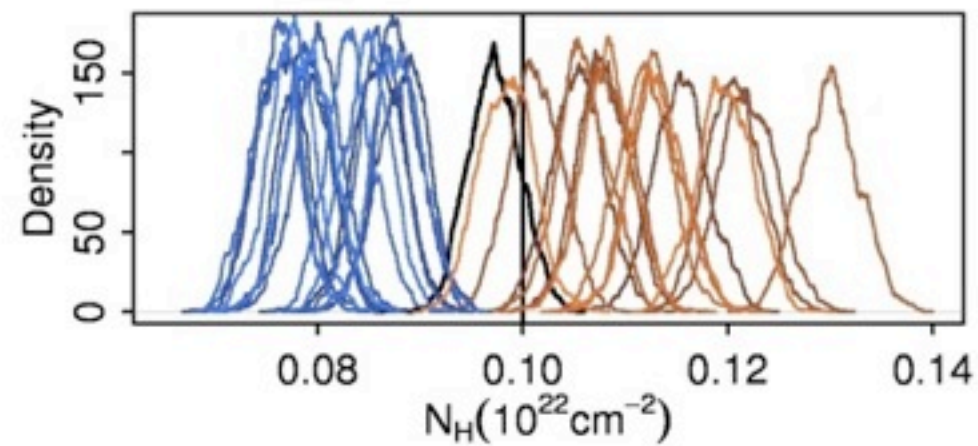
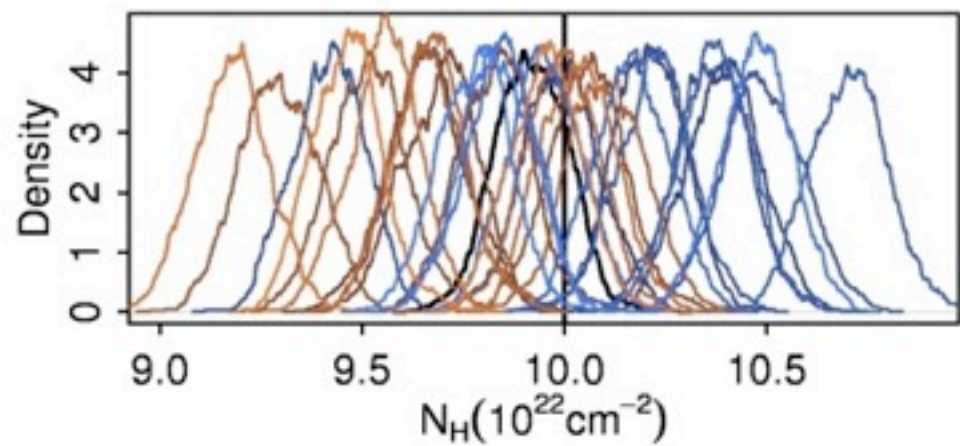
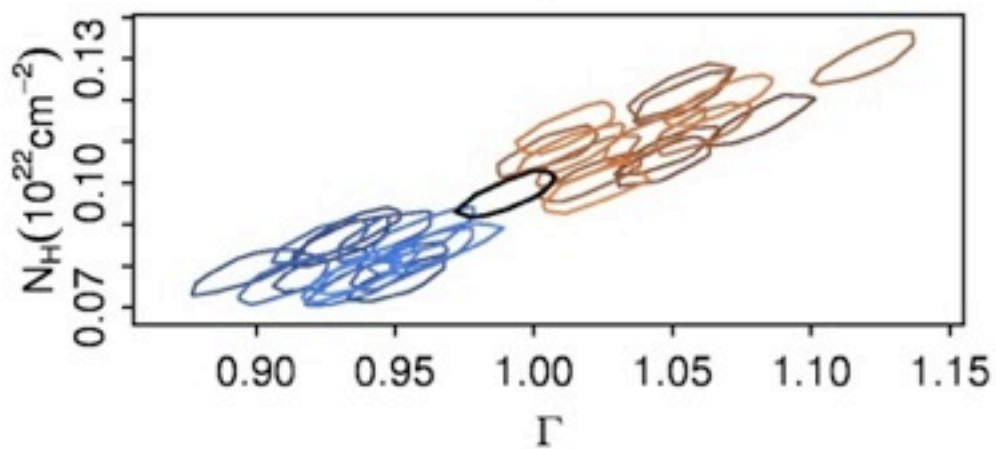
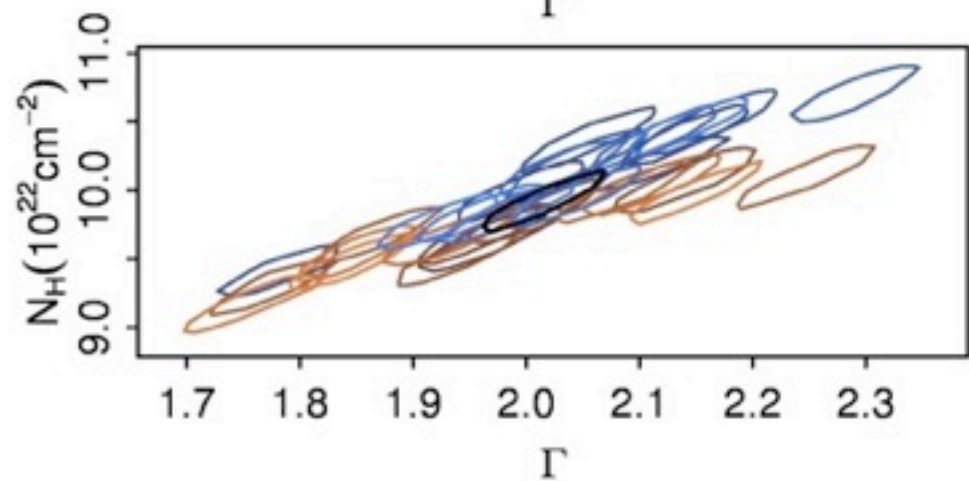
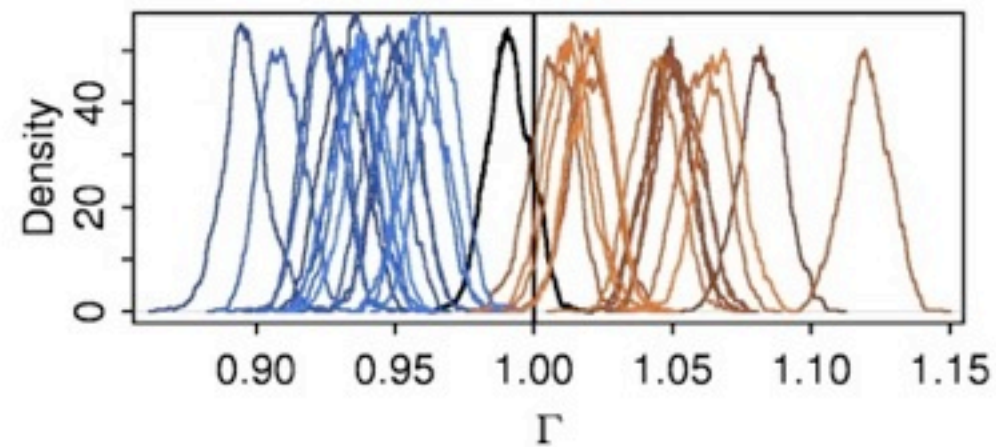
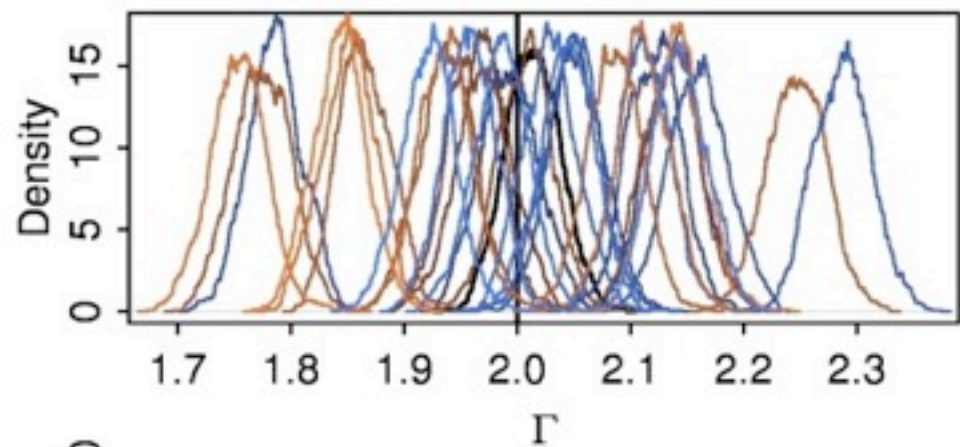
- Usual MCMC based fitting
  - construct a random chain of parameter values by intelligently directing the exploration of the parameter space
  - new parameter values are kept or discarded after comparing to most recent
- the wrinkle
  - randomly vary the cal product at each iteration step



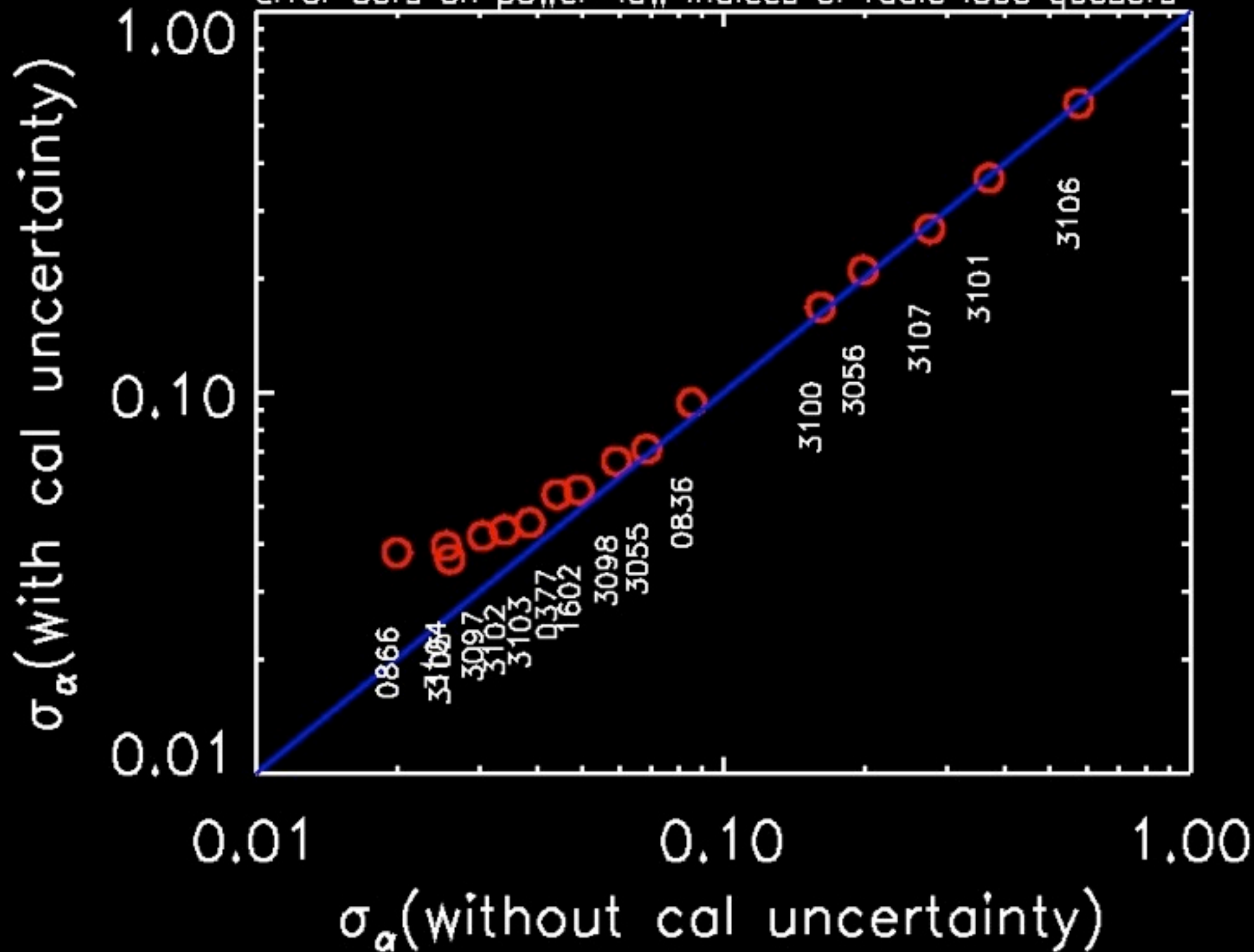








error bars on power-law indices of radio loud quasars



# the good, the bad, and the ugly

✓ the complete solution

fast

robust to fluctuations in data

can even work in reverse to select best cal product

\* requires MCMC

convergence not guaranteed

cannot be used as a black box

➡ where you gonna get the random cal product from?

$$A = A_0 + \text{bias} + \text{components} + \text{residual}$$

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store in same  
format as  $A_0$

e.g.,  
SPECRESP

$$A = A_0 + \text{bias} + \text{components} + \text{residual}$$

store in same  
format as  $A_0$

e.g.,  
SPECRESP

case specific  
secondary FITS extension

e.g.,  
SAMPLE  
PCA1DADD  
PCA1DMUL  
POLY1D  
SPL1DMUL  
MULTSCAL



# this is where you come in

- ▶ AREF

like ARF, on steroids

- ▶ basic assumption is that the calibration may be time and location dependent, but the uncertainty on it is not

make once and store

- ▶ support for a wide range of encoding

PCA, splines, samples, etc.

aref\_Cedge.fits

Extension	Type	Dimensions
PRIMARY	image	NULL
SPECRESP	table	6 cols, 1078 rows
PCACOMP	table	4 cols, 18 rows

## Header Keywords

Add Delete

Name	Value
EMETHOD	PCA1DADD
CMETHOD	ARRAY=NOMINAL+BIAS+sum{r_j*PCA_EVALUE_j*PCA_EVECOR_j}+r*PCA_RESID
ERREXT	PCACOMP

SPECRESP rows: (1-100)/1078

page: 1/11

Edit Select Plot Histogram Image Info



	ENERG_LO	ENERG_HI	SPECRESP	BIAS	BIN_LO	BIN_HI
units	keV	keV	cm**2	cm**2	Angstrom	Angstrom
1	0.22	0.23	98.221	0	53.9066	56.3569
2	0.23	0.24	115.87	0	51.6605	53.9066
3	0.24	0.25	134.755	0	49.5941	51.6605
4	0.25	0.26	156.063	0	47.6866	49.5941
5	0.26	0.27	175.412	0	45.9204	47.6866
6	0.27	0.28	196.854	0	44.2804	45.9204
7	0.28	0.29	57.5639	0	42.7535	44.2804
8	0.29	0.3	4.19073	0.0054734	41.3284	42.7535
9	0.3	0.31	8.40835	0.023818	39.9952	41.3284
10	0.31	0.32	23.5821	0.08129	38.7454	39.9952

Sun 11-Apr 12:36:33 Loaded file aref\_Cedge.fits

Sun 11-Apr 12:36:32 Adding new tab to display

Sun 11-Apr 12:36:32 Configuring Analysis Menu from file: /soft/ciao/bin/ciao.ans

aref\_Cedge.fits

Extension	Type	Dimensions
PRIMARY	image	NULL
SPECRESP	table	6 cols, 1078 rows
PCACOMP	table	4 cols, 18 rows

## Header Keywords

Add Delete

Name	Value	Type	Comment
EMETHOD	PCA1DADD	string	Type of error encoding
HDUCLASS	CXC	string	file format is not OGIP star
HDUCLAS1	CALERR	string	extension contains principle
HDUCLAS2	PCACOMP	string	extension contains PCA eig
HDUCLAS3	PCA1DADD	string	extension contains 1D proc

PCACOMP

rows: (1-18)/18

page: 1/1

Edit

Select

Plot

Histogram

Image

Info



	COMPONENT	EVARIANCE	EIGENVAL	EIGENVEC[]
units				
1	0	0.44327539	261.9	EIGENVEC[0
2	1	0.23932790	192.44	EIGENVEC[0
3	2	0.10873004	129.71	EIGENVEC[0
4	3	0.08518479	114.81	EIGENVEC[0
5	4	0.04257358	81.165	EIGENVEC[0
6	5	0.02273462	59.312	EIGENVEC[0
7	6	0.01594055	49.665	EIGENVEC[0
8	7	0.01001792	39.372	EIGENVEC[0
9	8	0.00896778	37.842	EIGENVEC[0

Sun 11-Apr 12:36:33 Loaded file aref\_Cedge.fits

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coming soon to a console near you

pyBLoCXS

(not just for cal)

load\_arf()

RMFs,PSFs,ATOMDB

bottom line

there is a way  
to include calibration uncertainty  
in astrophysical data analysis  
in a flexible way  
for any instrument, mission, or detector.