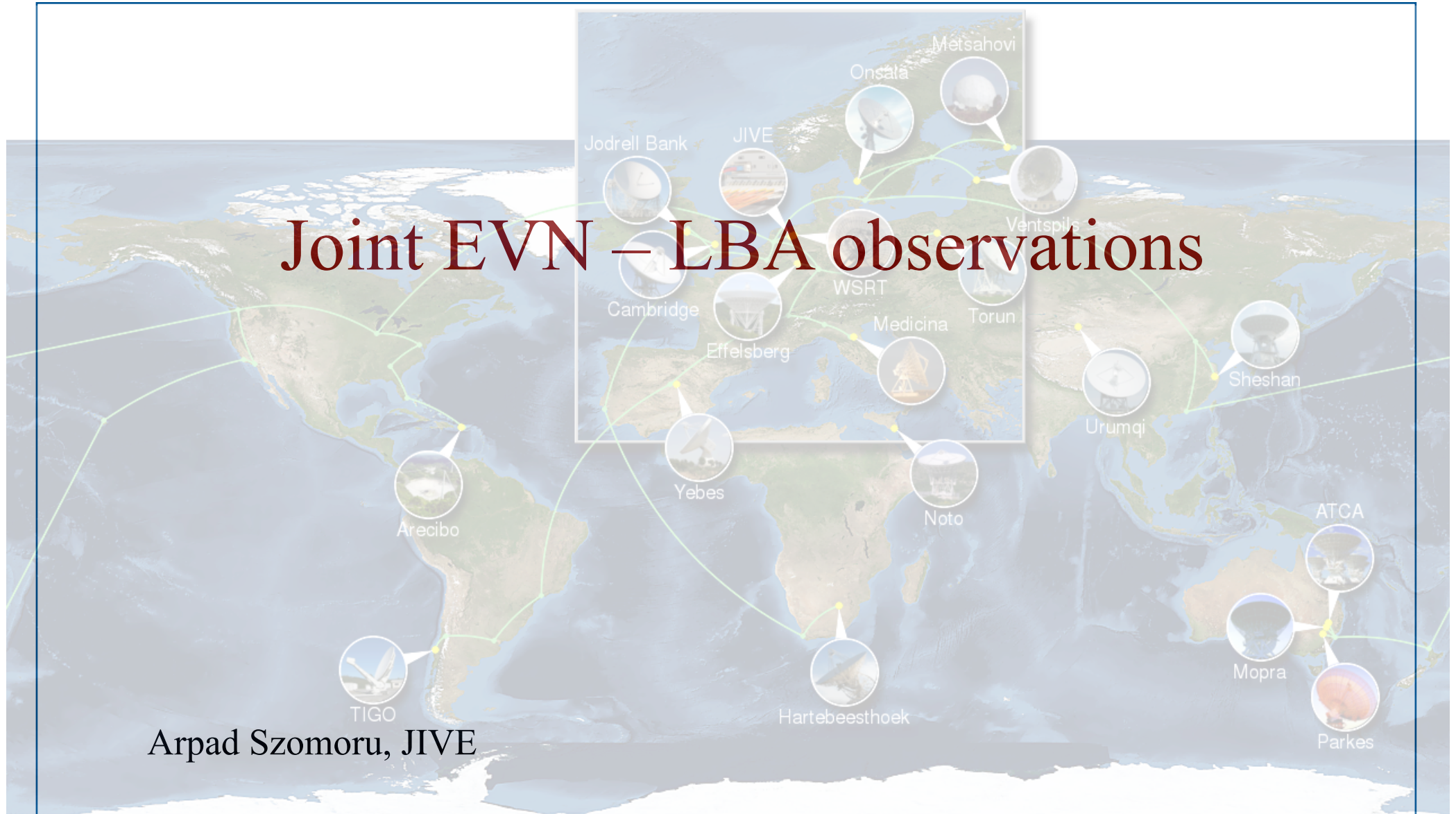


Joint EVN – LBA observations

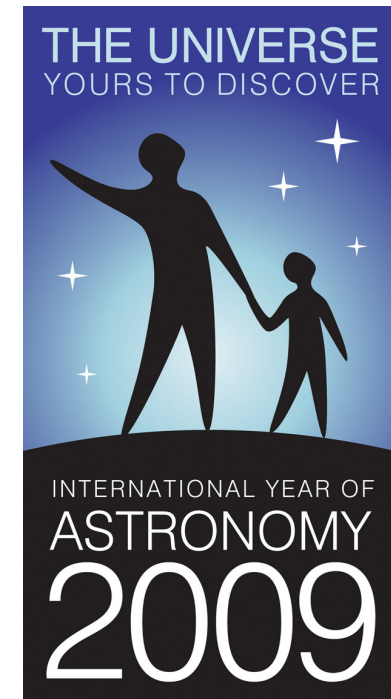
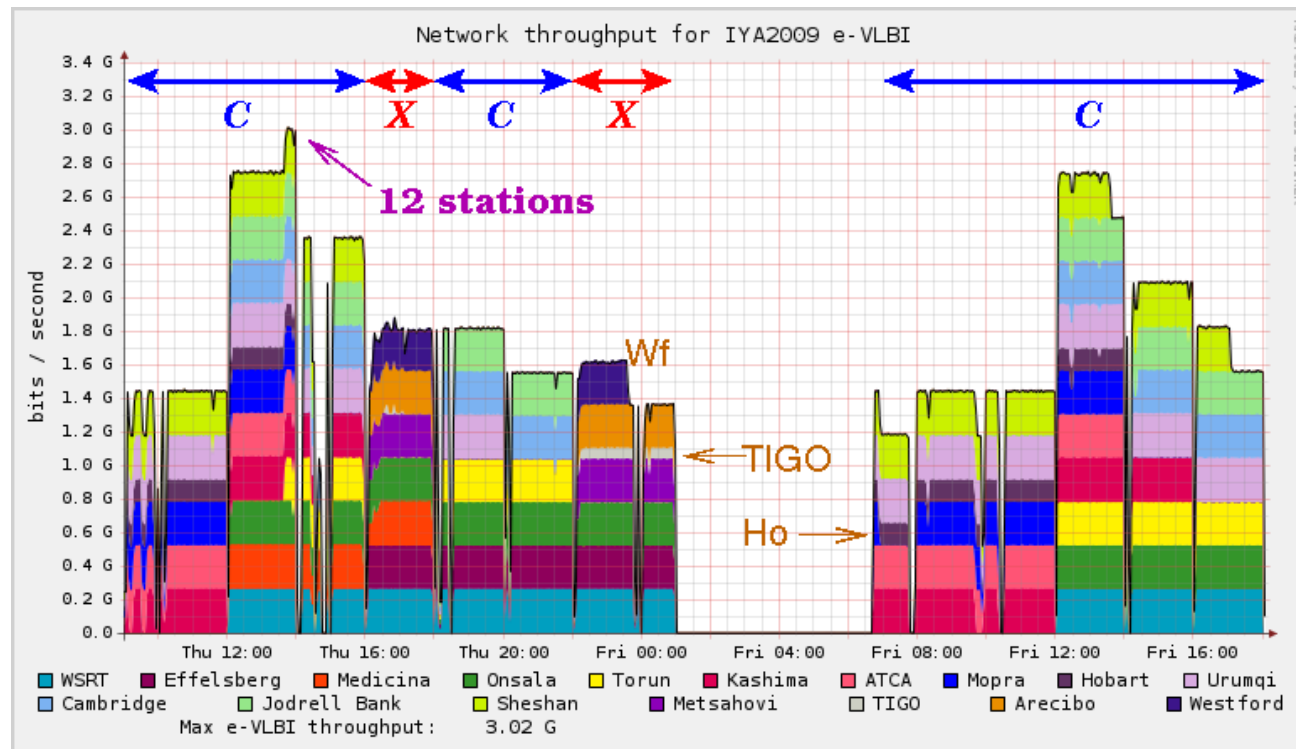


Arpad Szomoru, JIVE

Network status as per 2008-05-02. Image created by Paul Boven <boven@jive.nl>. Satellite image: Blue Marble Next Generation, courtesy of Nasa Visible Earth (visibleearth.nasa.gov).

Some history

- 32 hour real-time (near-) continuous e-VLBI demo
- Involving telescopes in Australia, Japan, China, Europe, the Americas
- At opening of IYA2009, Paris
- Led to three-epoch observations by Giroletti et al.
- Then, nothing (not known, not supported,....)

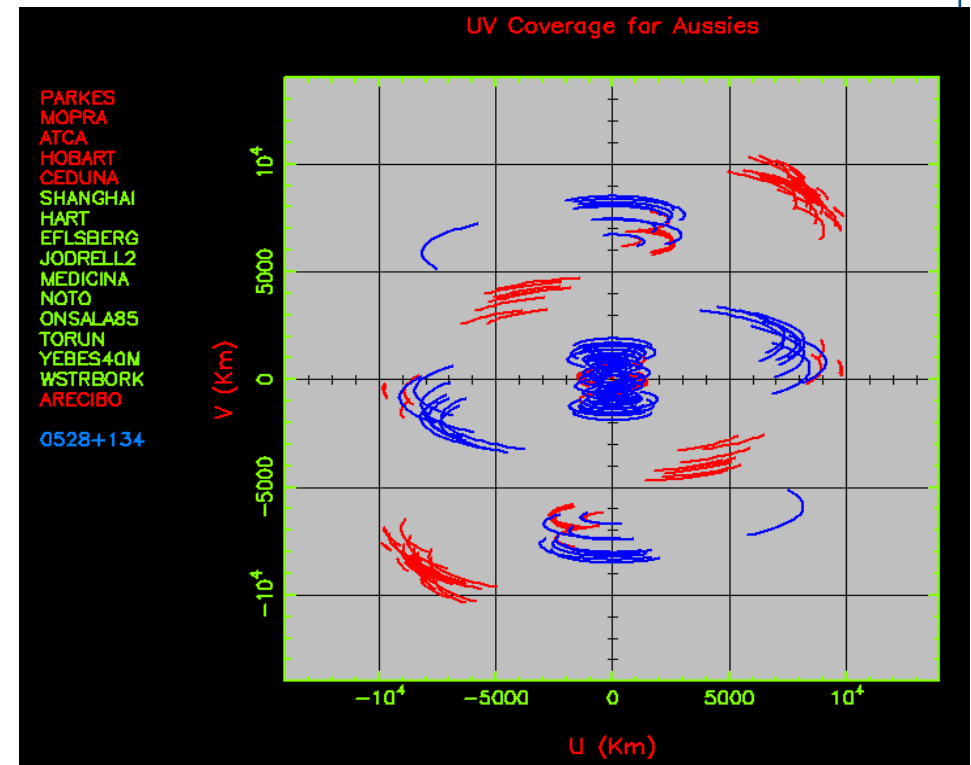
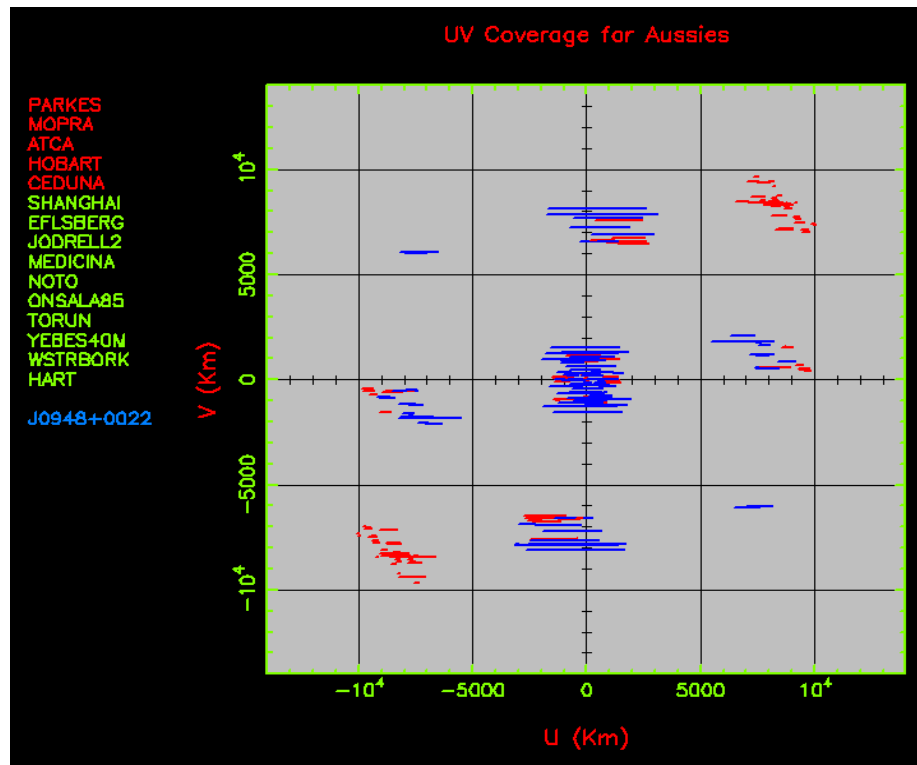


Why bother?

- NEXPreS has finished
- For time being, no formal collaboration between JIVE + EVN and LBA, CSIRO, AARNET
- New Zealand looking at refurbishing 32m telescope
 - Obviously working together with Australians
 - But how to get them involved in world-wide VLBI?
- SKA looming on horizon, eating up radio astronomy
- VLBI will remain important, considering what baseline design looks like
- But have to showcase this importance
 - Be global, connected, active, transparent
- LBA already observes regularly with some EVN stations

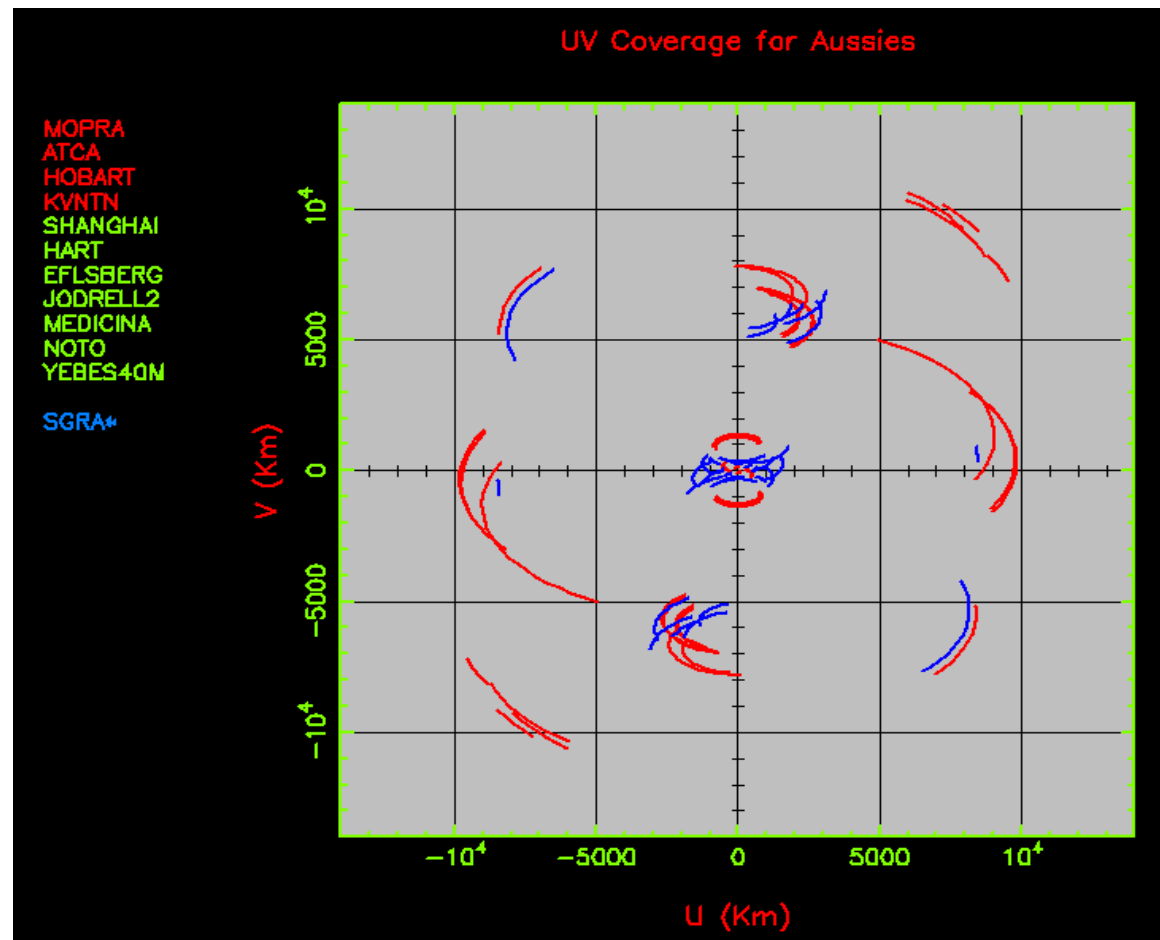
Science case (?)

- Left: source at Dec 0 (RG001)
 - 17 hours in total
 - Longest N-S and E-W baselines with different telescopes
- Right: source at Dec -10 (now includes Ar)
 - 19 hours in total



Science case (!)

- SGRA*
- High frequencies preferred, KVN perfect for this



Next

- Offer bigger, better instrument
 - More long baselines, more NS baselines
 - Should lead to better science
 - Transparent access, without jumping through lots of hoops
- Feel-good factor: global collaboration, transcontinental light-paths
 - Good PR for all involved
 - May help Oz get more connectivity
- Way forward
 - Document for EVN board
 - Try to find common times, opportunities
 - Try to get some observers to put in proposals
 - Maybe advertise “best effort” capability