

The ALMA Regional Center node in the Netherlands

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The ARC node in the Netherlands

- hosted by Leiden Observatory
- sponsors
 - the university astronomy departments (Leiden, Amsterdam, Utrecht, Nijmegen, Groningen), working together as NOVA
 - ASTRON (Dwingeloo)
 - Joint Institute for VLBI in Europe (Dwingeloo)
 - Netherlands Institute for Space Research (SRON)
- funding
 - NOVA (-2008)
 - applied for continuation 2009-2012
 - exploring options for 2012 and beyond

What we do

- Provide “small observatory feel” within the ALMA project
 - users can get face-to-face support from experts
 - training of students and postdocs
- Build expertise through
 - CASA testing
 - providing person-power for commissioning
- Expertise areas
 - Observing at high frequencies (‘band 9’)
 - Imaging of wide fields and at high dynamic range
 - Access to science analysis tools

High frequency observing

- “Cradle to grave” support
 - Assist with translating ideas into proposals
 - Implementation into observing scripts
 - Data inspection, calibration, reduction, and imaging
 - Interpretation
- Synergy with Band 9 hardware effort in Groningen
 - and with CHAMP⁺ on APEX

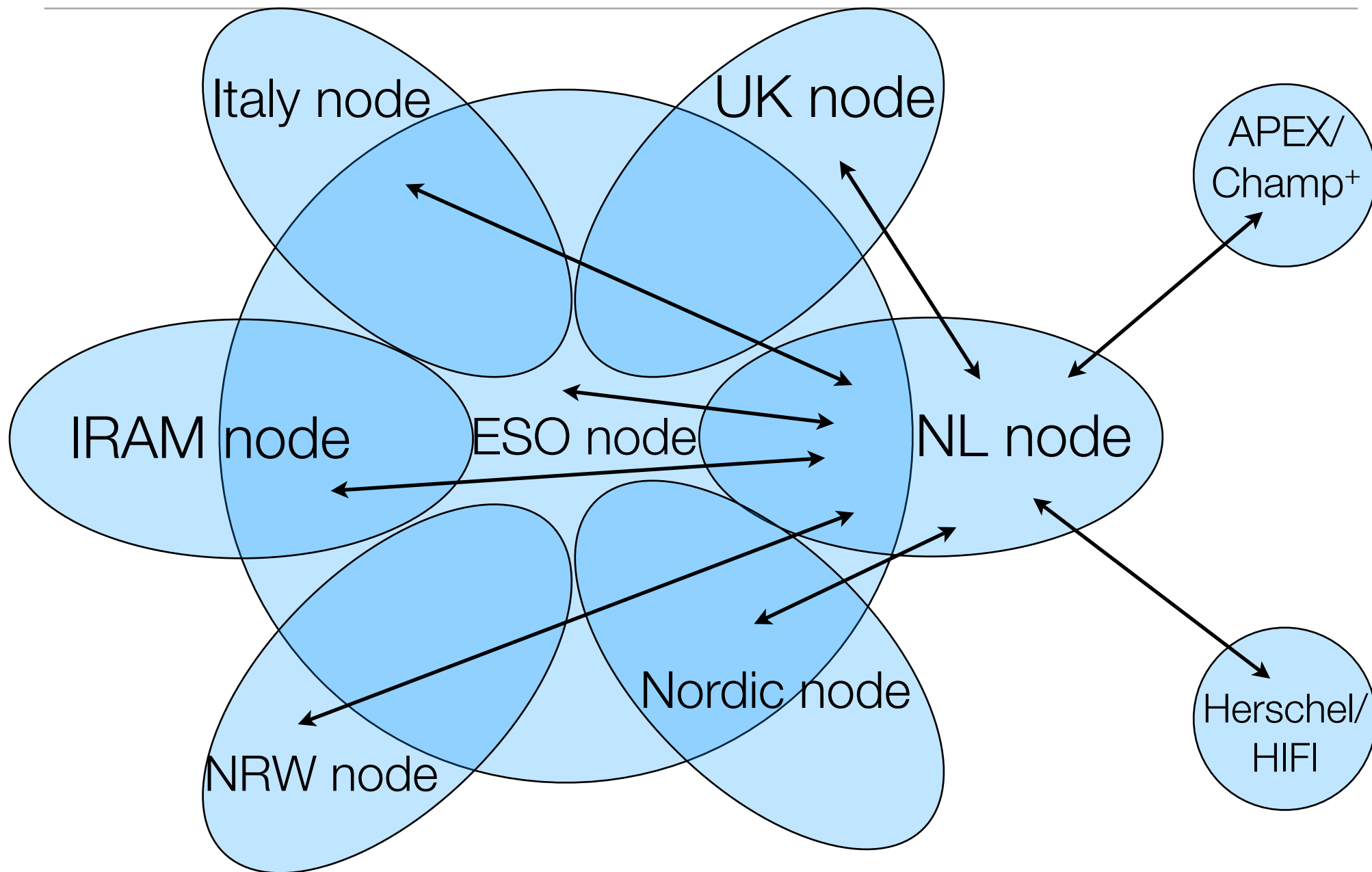
Wide field/high dynamic range imaging

- Build on expertise at ASTRON and JIVE
 - WSRT: High dynamic range
 - LOFAR: wide field imaging
 - EVN: high angular resolution
- Involves porting expertise from cm to submm

Science analysis tools

- Provide well documented access to analysis tools
 - Tools developed by the community
 - Collect, test, and make available
 - Common input/output (or translation recipes)
- Examples:
 - LAMBDA: a database with molecular data
 - RADEX: a simple tool for non-LTE analysis of line spectra
 - RATRAN: a code for 1D and 2D excitation and radiative transfer

Connections



Where to find us

- www.strw.leidenuniv.nl/~alma/arc

- LAMBDA: www.strw.leidenuniv.nl/~moldata
- RADEX: www.sron.rug.nl/~vdtak/radex/
- RATRAN: www.sron.rug.nl/~vdtak/ratran/