

Potentials of AutoML solving astronomical problems

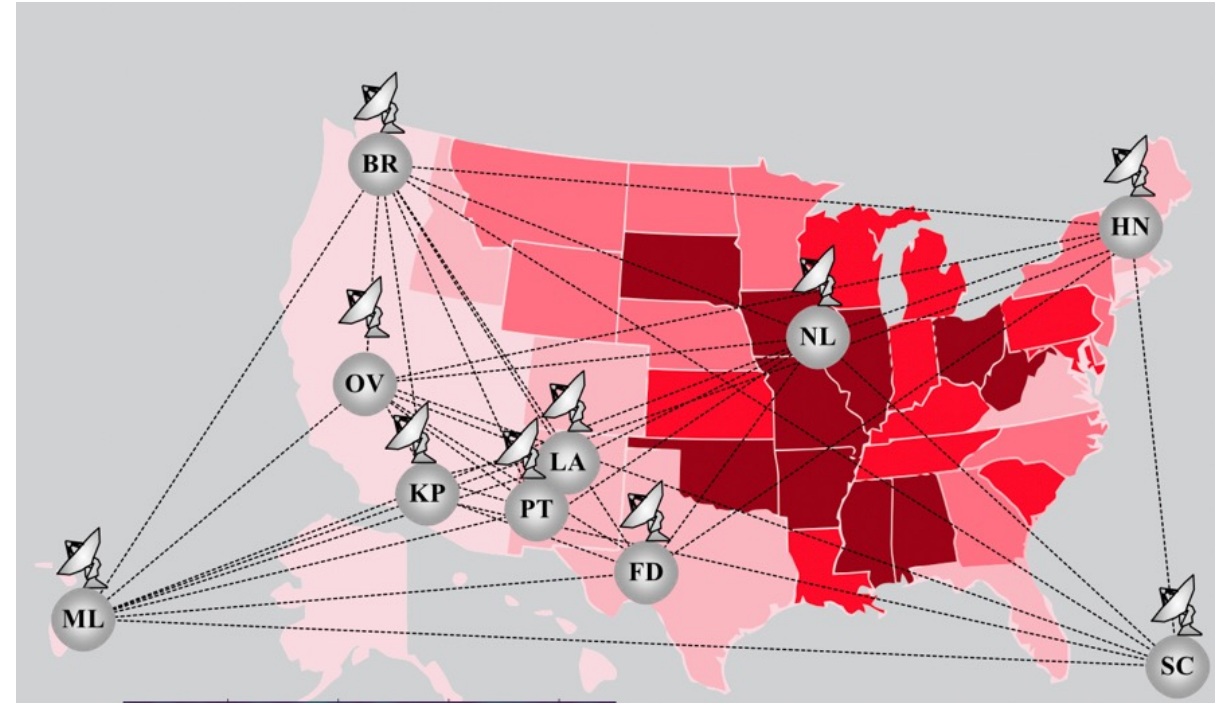
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Leiden Observatory

Introduction

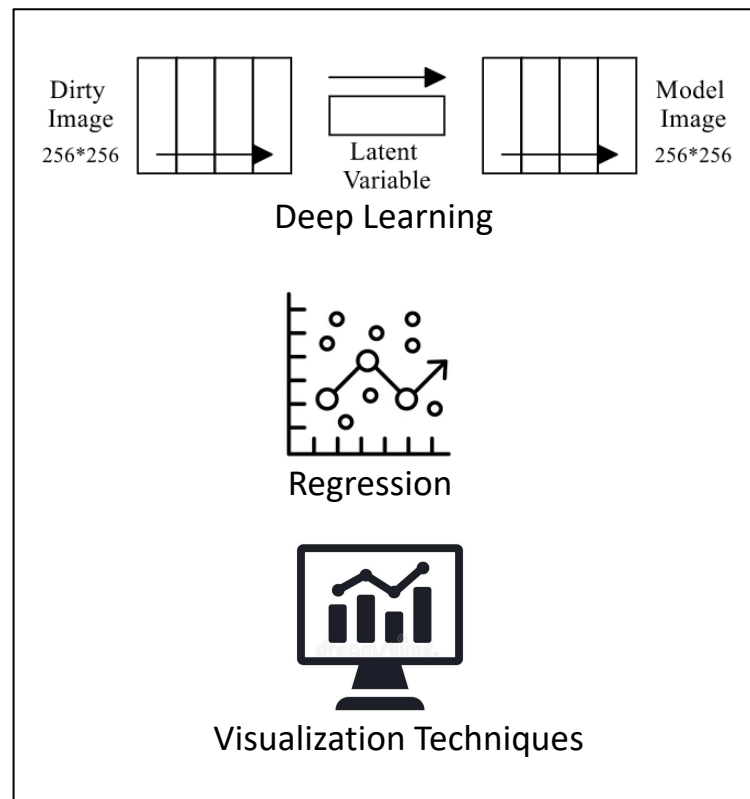
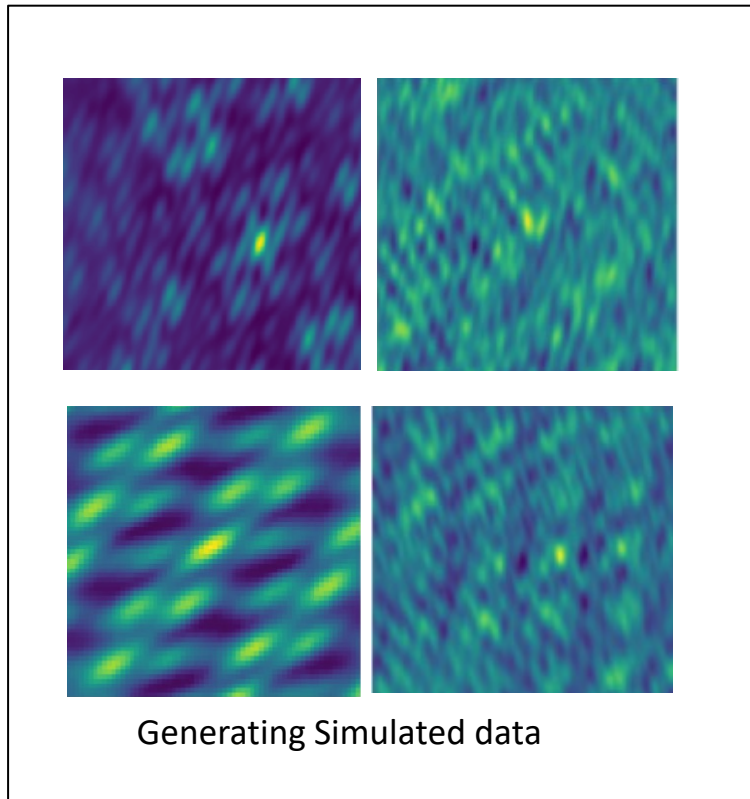
- Observed at 1.4 GHz by VLBA
- Aim: inspecting a large sample of mJy radio sources at mas resolution.
- pre-selected from the Faint Images of the Radio Sky at 20cm (FIRST) survey by VLA (Very Long Array)



Very Long Baseline Array(VLBA)

Source Detection and Characterization (DECORAS)

Collected Images of the Sky



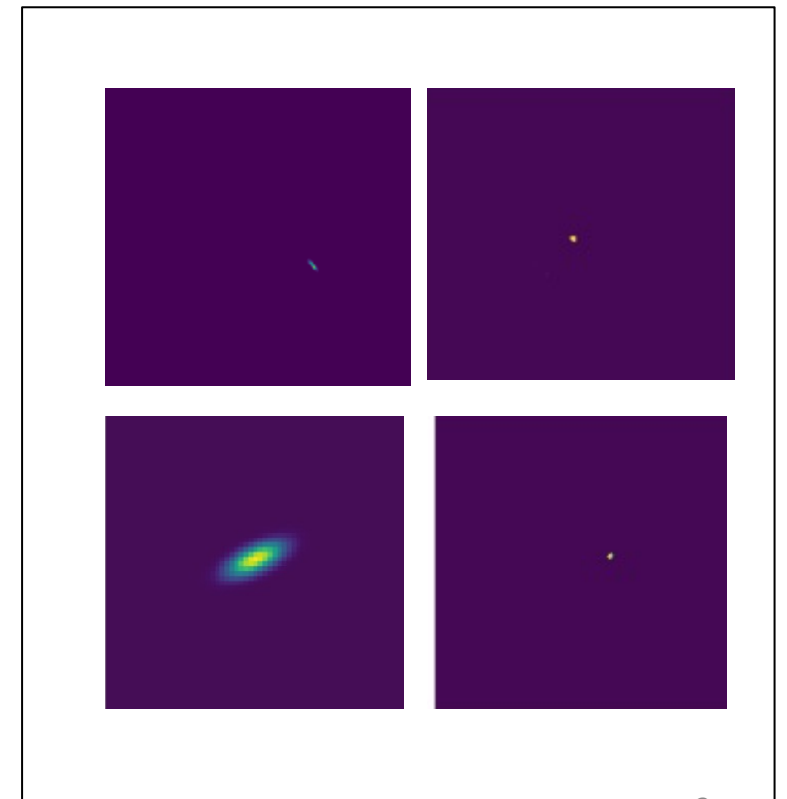
Dirty beam deconvolution

Is there a source?

Where is it ?

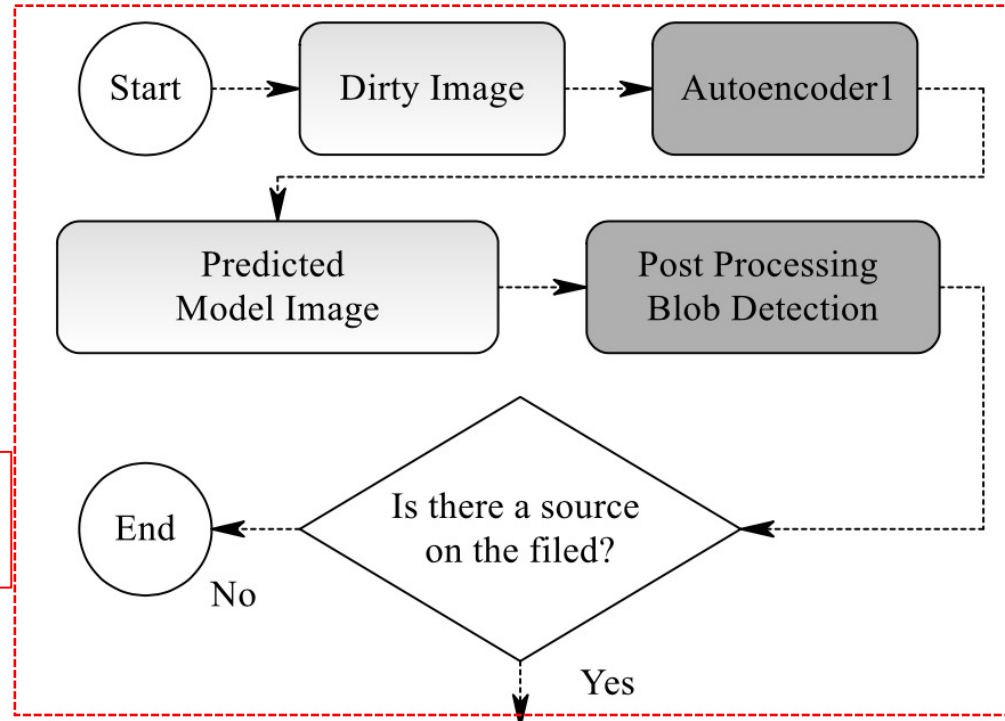
How big it is ?

How bright it is?

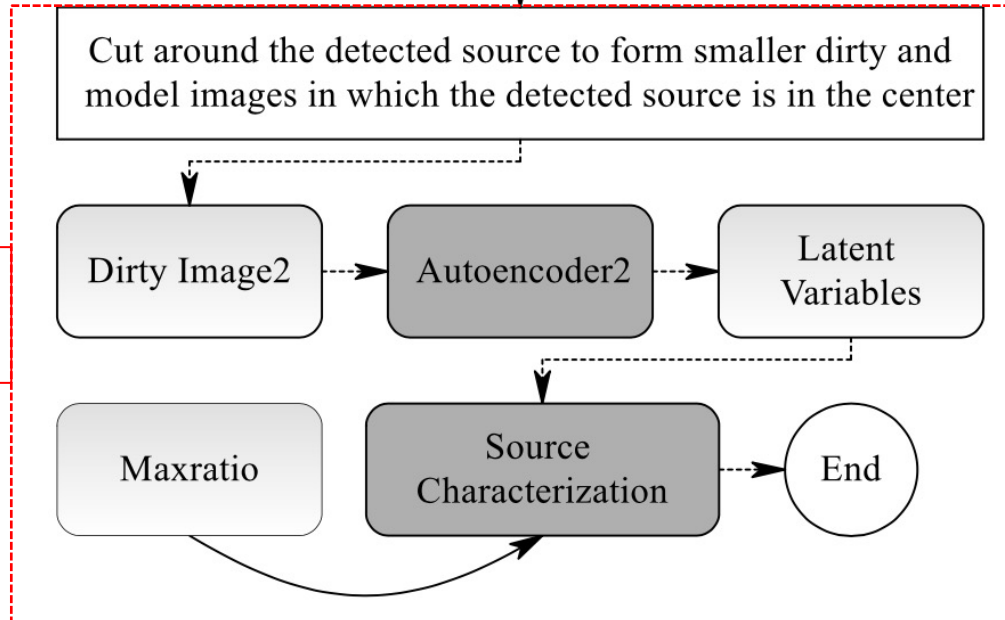


DECORAS Flowchart

Source
Detection



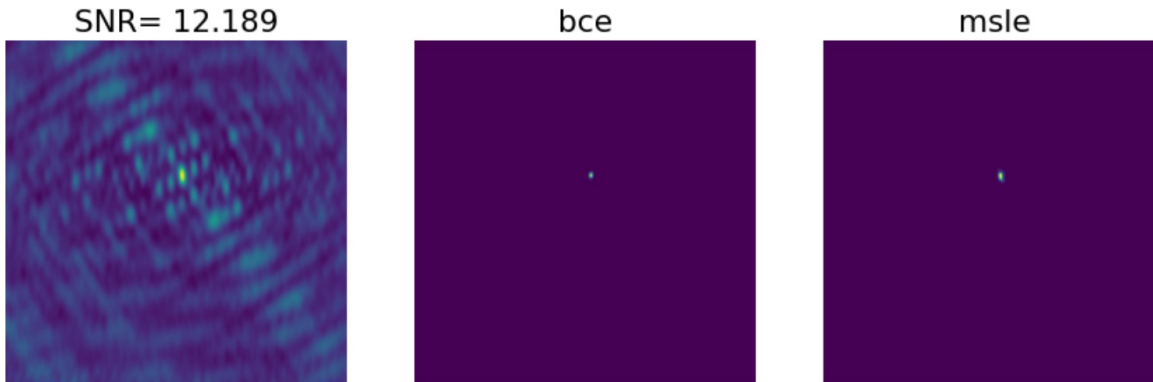
Source
Characterization



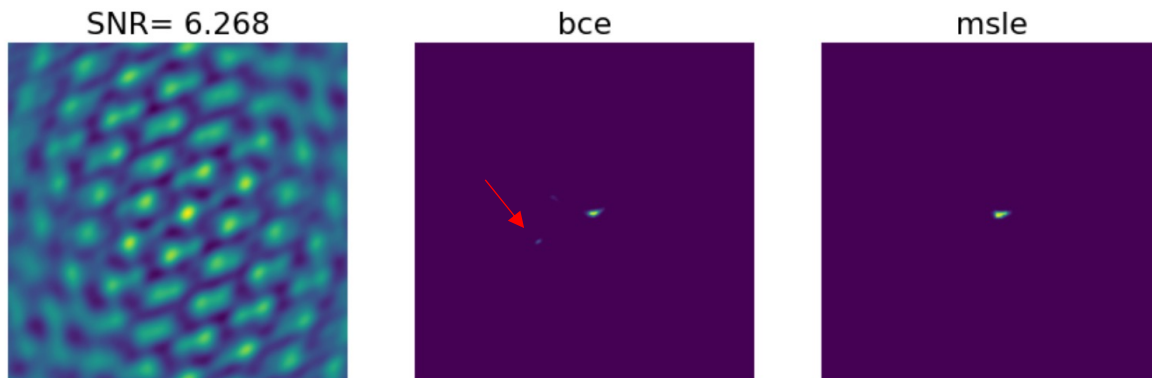
Loss Functions

- Binary Cross Entropy (BCE)
- Mean Squared Logarithmic Error (MSLE)

Good Example



Problematic case

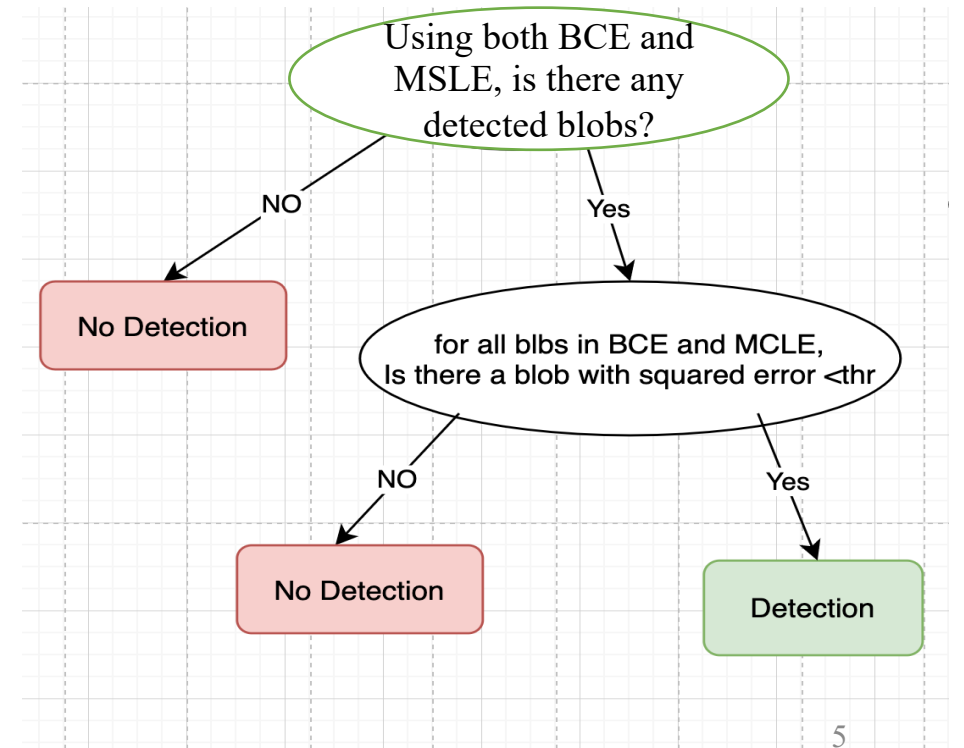


Evaluation Metrics

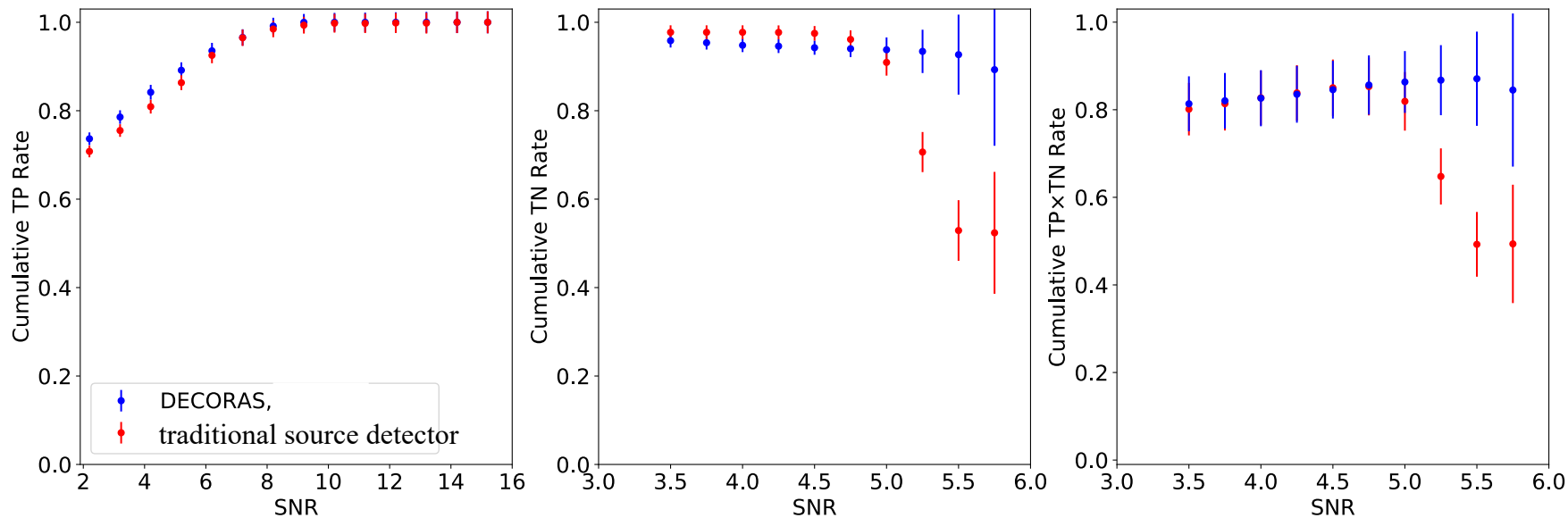
$$TP\ rate = \frac{TP}{TP + FN}$$

$$TN\ rate = \frac{TN}{TN + FP}$$

DECORAS Source Detection Strategy

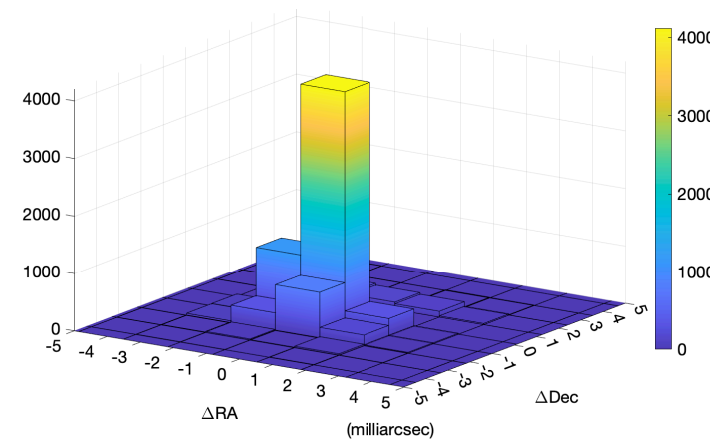
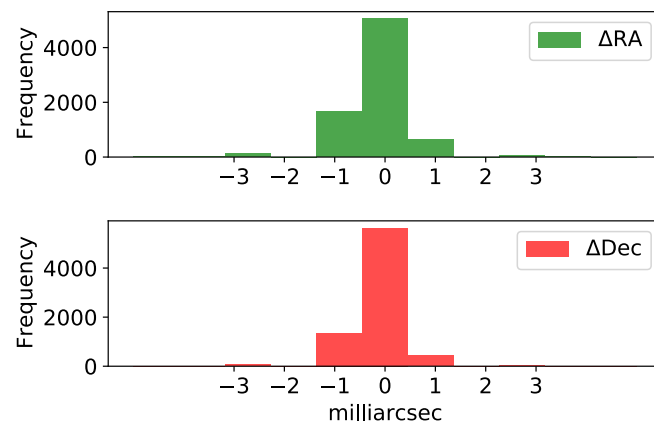


DECORAS on **dirty** images
 vs
 traditional source detector on
clean images (down to 3σ)



Recovering source Position
 within 0.61 ± 0.69 mas

VLBA beam size: 16×6 mas²



Generalizing DECORAS to other applications using AutoML

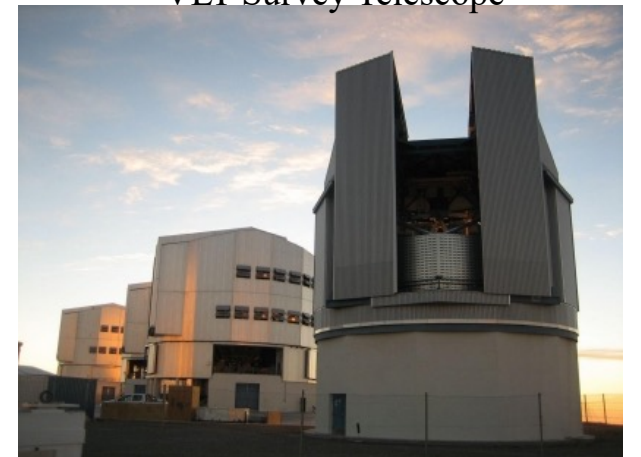
- Generating multiple datasets:
 - Recovering surface brightness distribution: LOFAR data

- Deblending two source emissions: VLT Survey data

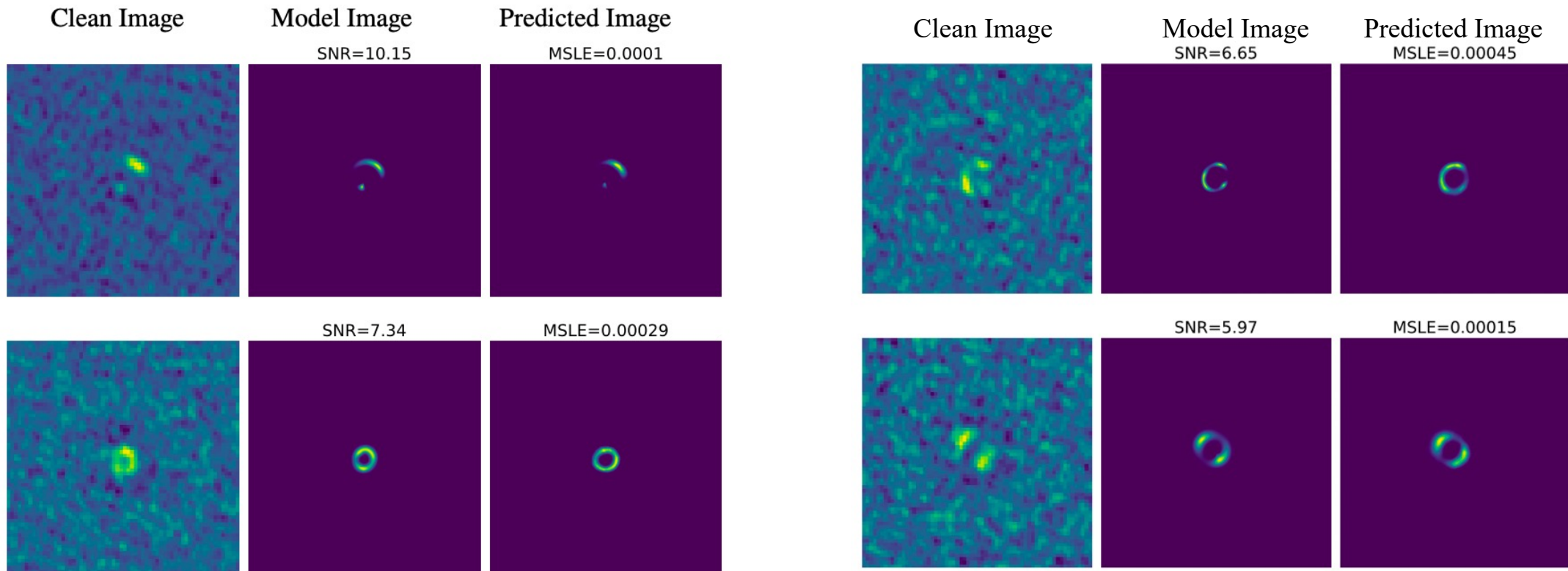
LOFAR Telescope



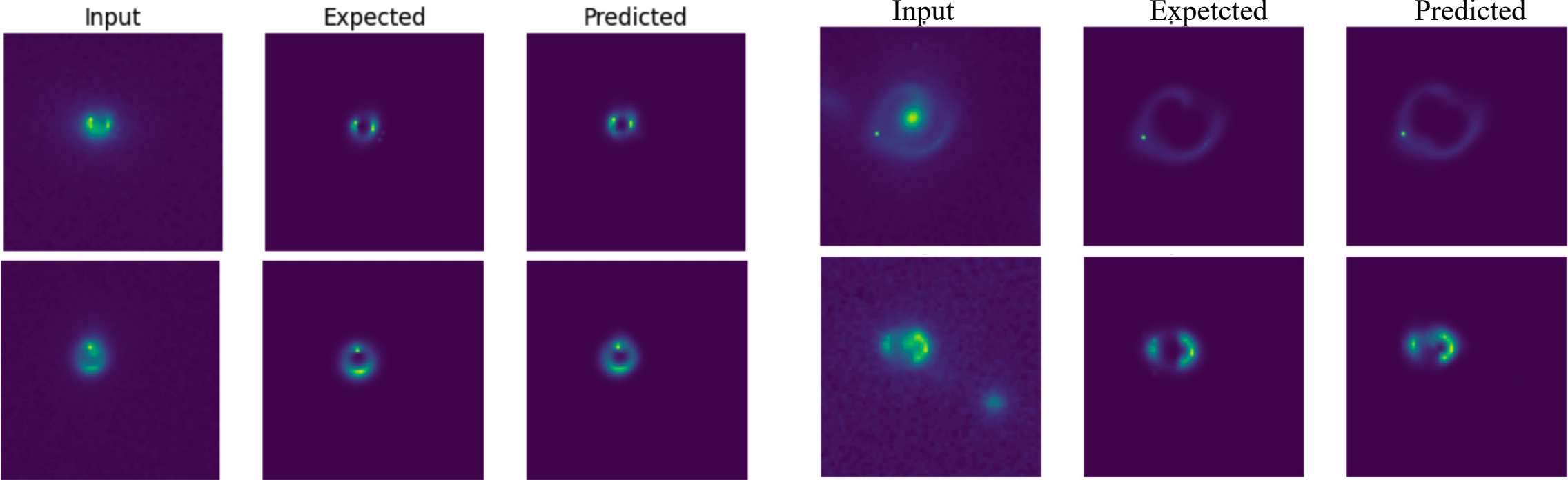
VLT Survey Telescope



Recovering surface brightness distribution: LOFAR data



Deblending two source emissions: VLT Survey data



Final Remarks

- Machine learning has a promising future in astrophysics, if it can prove itself to the astronomers,
- Defining the problem correctly is as important as developing efficient algorithms,
- Having some knowledge on the data and its properties are essential to use AI in astronomy,
- The key to develop practical solutions (for real astrophysical problems) is collaboration.
- AutoML can be a potential solution to reinvent the wheel for many astronomical problems.