VERA project observations: status and future



Overview of science outputs

2007	Initial results (Orion-KL, S269)
2008	PASJ special issue (1)
2009	
2010	
2011	PASJ special issue (2)
2012	First galactic structure paper
2013	
2014	PASJ special issue (3-a), First KaVA results
2015	PASJ special issue (3-b)
	First discussion on asymmetry by arm

Project observations

~2000 hour per year

~40 sources / year

 more than 200 sources have been observed for more than 8 epochs

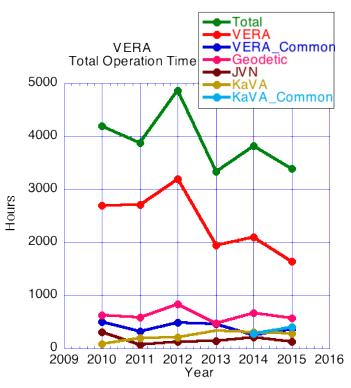


Fig 1. VERA operation time for the categories of observations from the last September to August of each year except 2015 (from September to June).

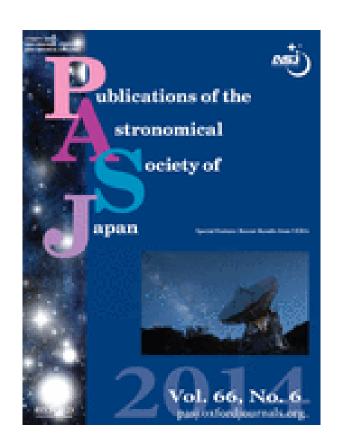
Recent results

• 3rd PASJ special issue (2014/15)

• 7 papers in 2014 Dec

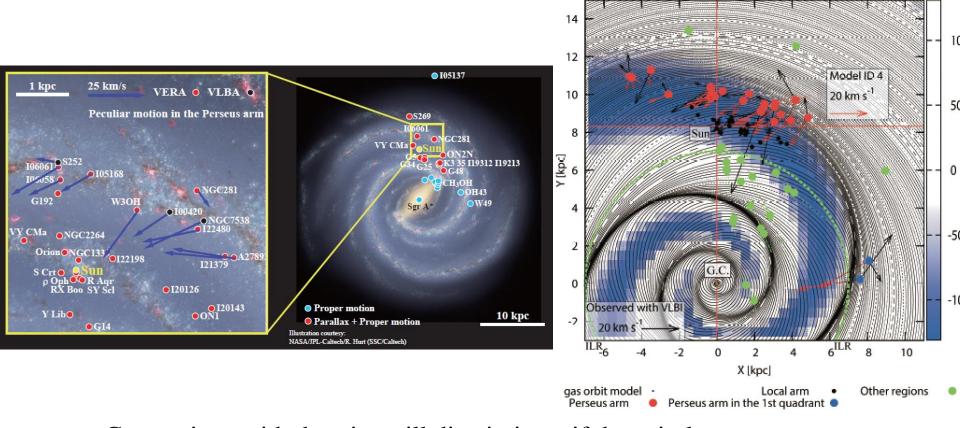
• 6 papers in 2015 Aug

 Including astrometry, Galaxy dynamics etc. (+AGN, KaVA...)



Sakai et al.(2015)

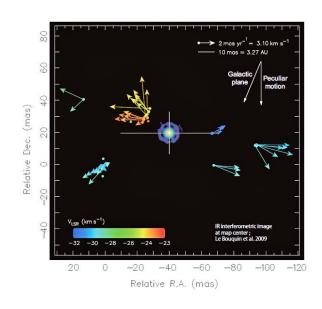
- Systematic deviation from circular rotation seen
- Lag behind the rotation + inward motion

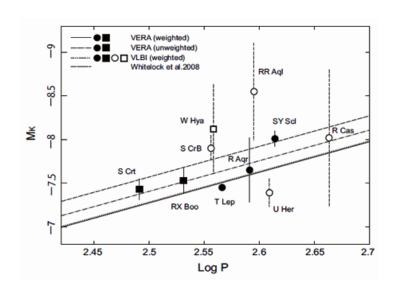


Comparison with theories will discriminate if the spiral arms are density wave or material wave (e.g., Sakai et al. 2015)

Nakagawa et al. (2014)

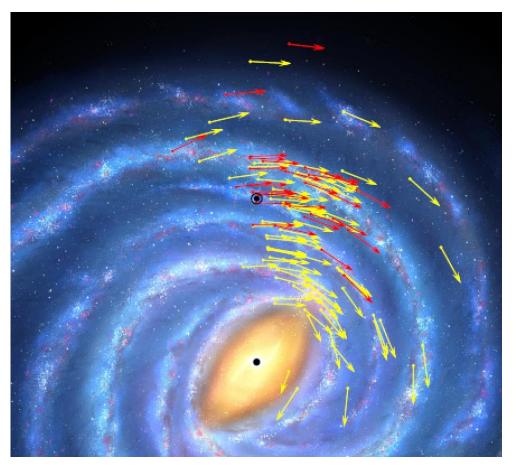
- VLBI astrometry of AGB variables with VERA: A Mira-type variable T Lepus; Nakagawa, A., et al. 2014, PAJS, 66, 101
- Accuracy calibration of AGB distance and PL.





Galaxy Astrometry Status as of 2015

VERA/VLBA/EVN (114 SFR masers)



Corrections in the text: 32 VERA sources in the above plot.

Other than that, 8 Miras published, 10 new parallax are in prep. (totally 50 parallaxes)

Science operation plan

Requirements for the VERA operation until 2022

Operation Requirements	
Target accuracy	10% parallax error, 10 μas at best
Number of target sources in total	~300
Number of sources to be observed	~200 (assuming failure rate of 0.75)
Number of epochs per source	~10 epochs
Hours per epoch	~6 hr
Total hour required	~12000 hr
Necessary project time per year	~1800 hr/yr