



Absolute Flux Calibration

Melanie Krips



Outline

- I. Primary/Secondary Flux Calibrators
- II. Practical Tips to Calibrate the Fluxes of your Sources

Motivation

What do we want in a flux calibrator?

- strong ($>1\text{Jy}$) emission at mm wavelengths
- compact ($<<1''$) emission at mm wavelengths
- emission should not be variable in time
- preferentially with long LST range
(i.e., high declination source)
- no or only little sun-avoidance
- preferentially well known properties
(such as SED, size)

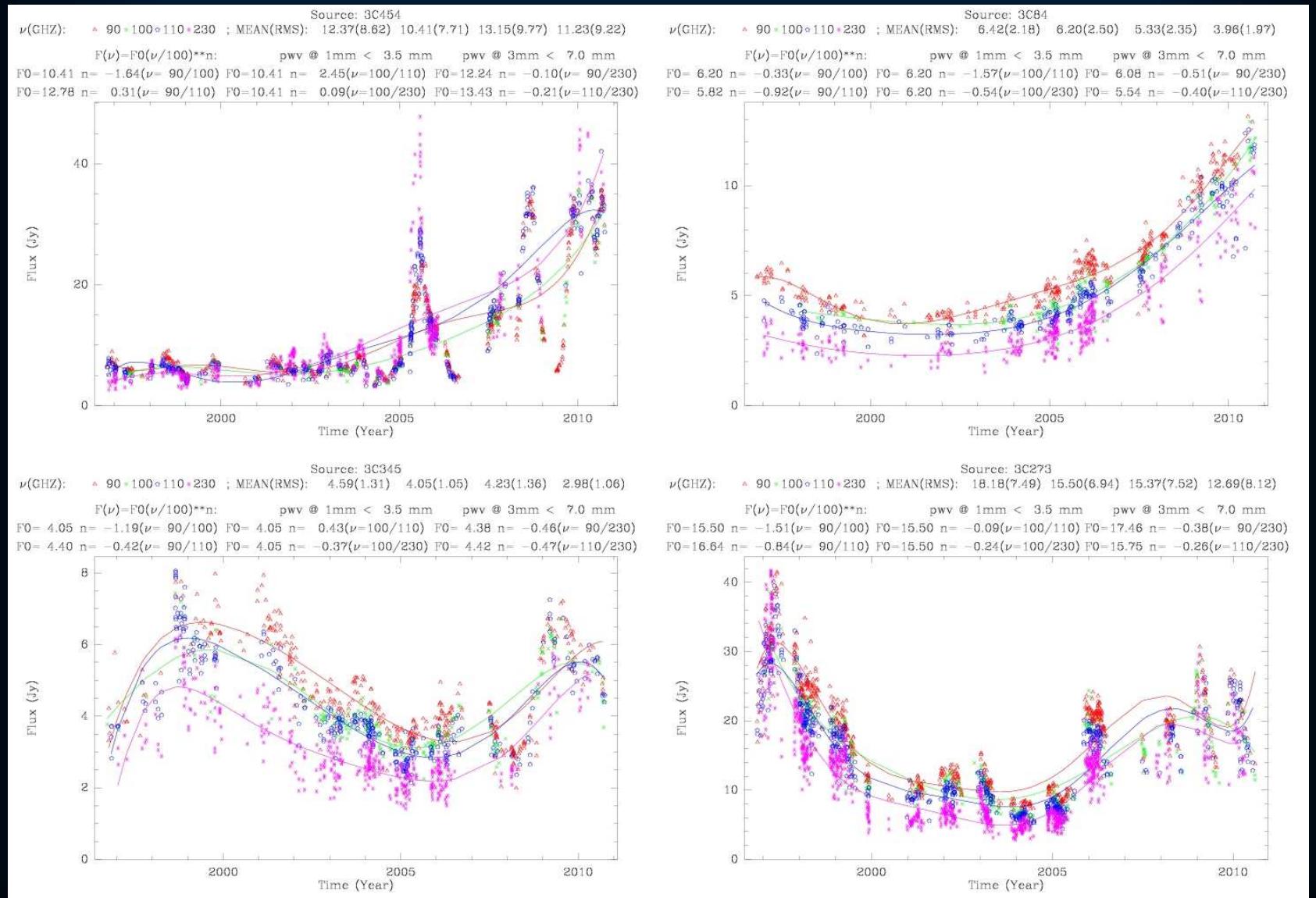
Flux Calibrators

1. Quasars
2. Planets
3. Solar Bodies
(Satellites, Asteroids,
Dwarf Planets)
4. Radio Stars
5. Antenna Efficiencies?

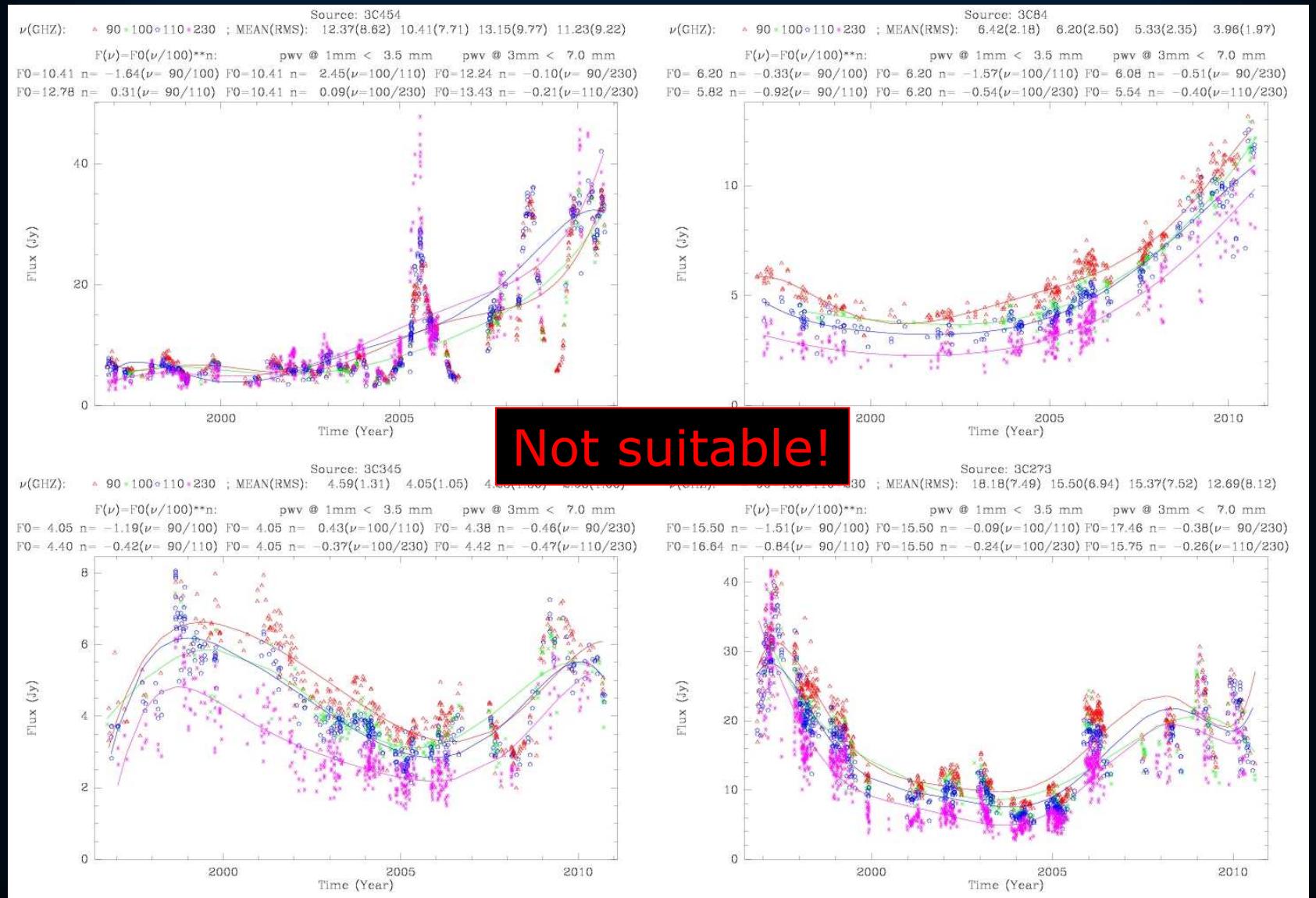
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Flux Calibrators: Quasars



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Flux Calibrators: Planets

- Pro:
most of the solar planets have strong mm-emission and reasonably well derived flux models
- Contra:
 - 1.) Fluxes not completely constant
 - 2.) They start to be resolved ($\geq 3''$) already at 3mm
 - 3.) Some of them have broad molecular line absorption (e.g., Mars, Jupiter, Saturn)
 - 4.) Not always visible, i.e., more constraints due to sun-avoidance, short LST ranges



Mars



Uranus



Jupiter



Saturn



Neptune

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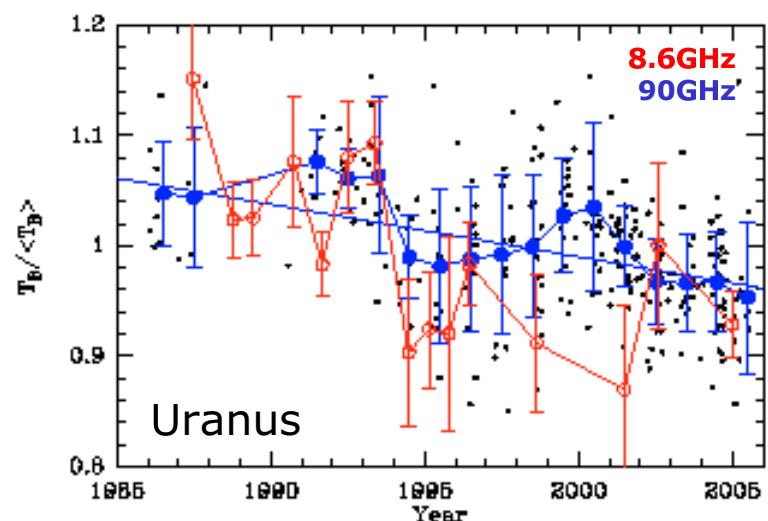


Saturn

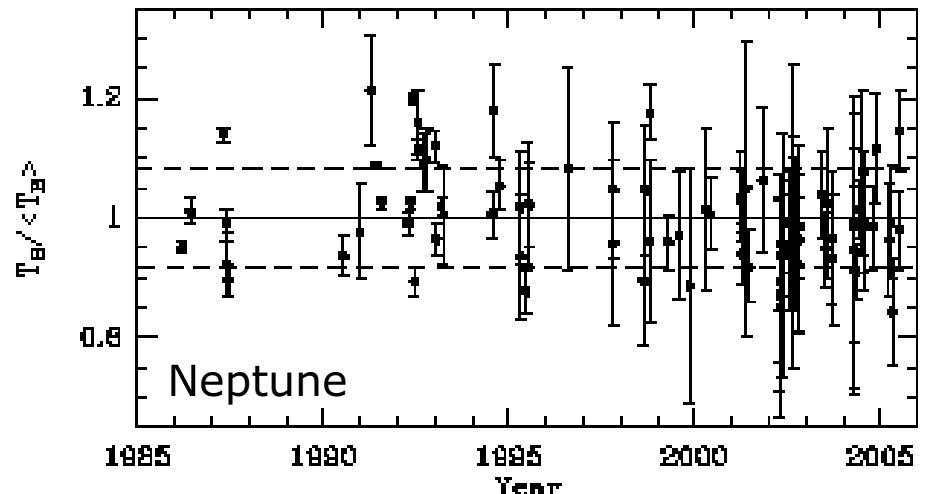


Neptune

Flux Calibrators: Planets

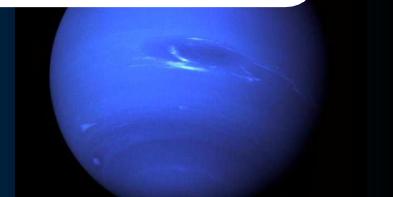


Kramer et al. (2008)



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Jupiter

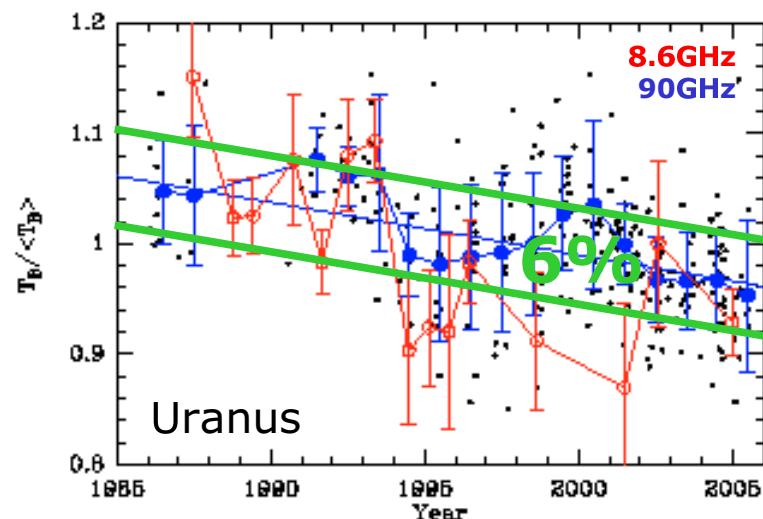


Saturn

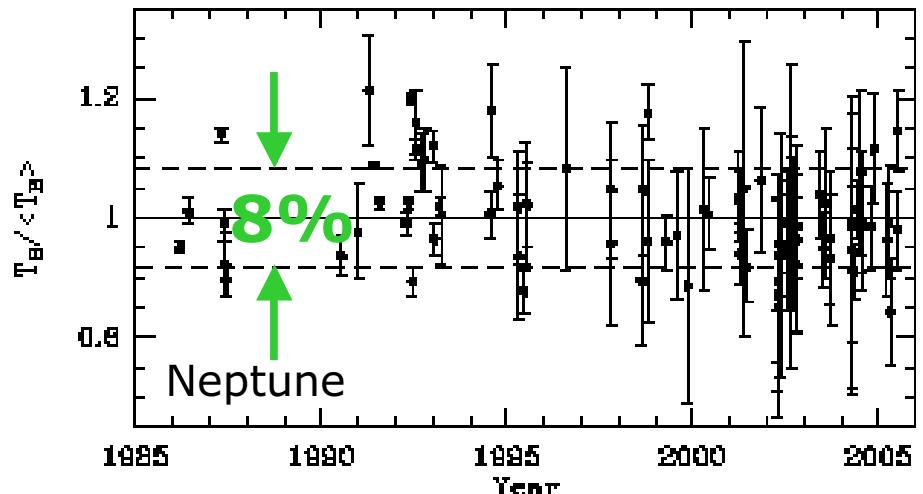


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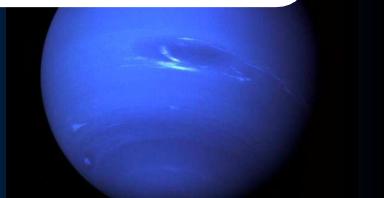


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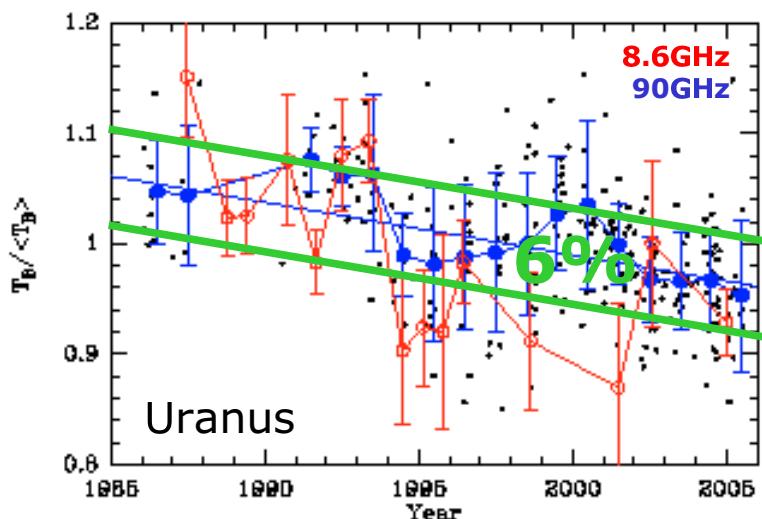


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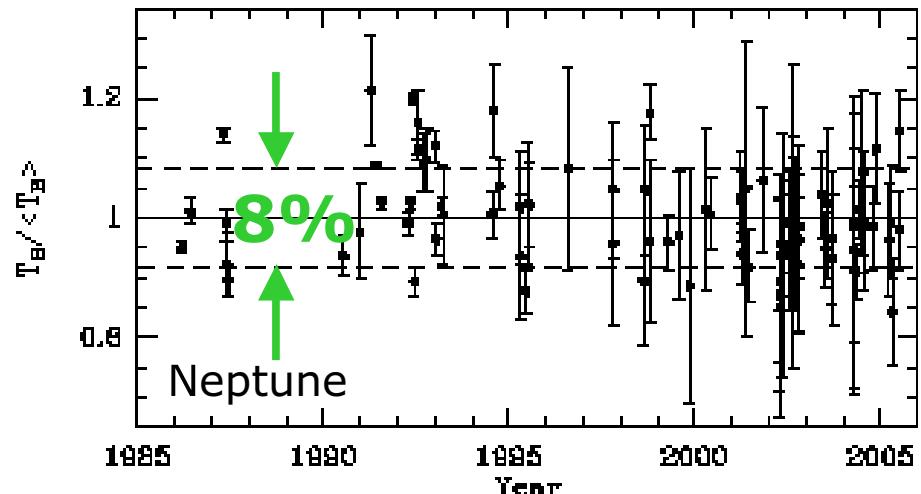


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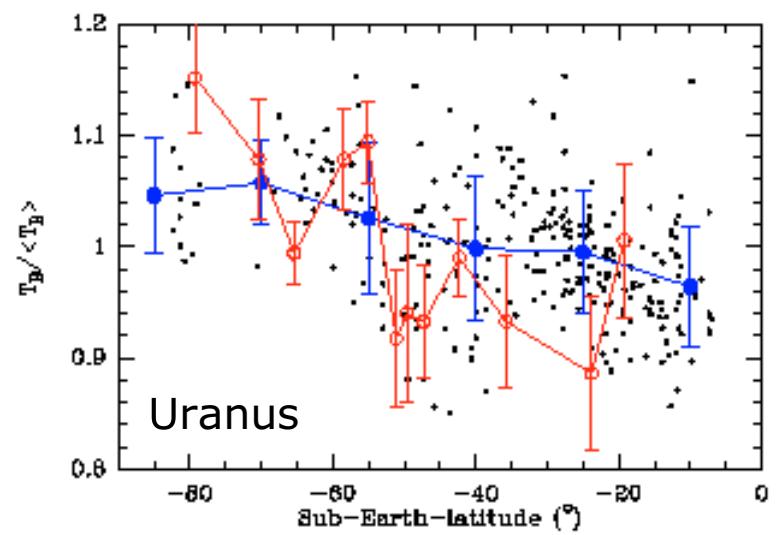
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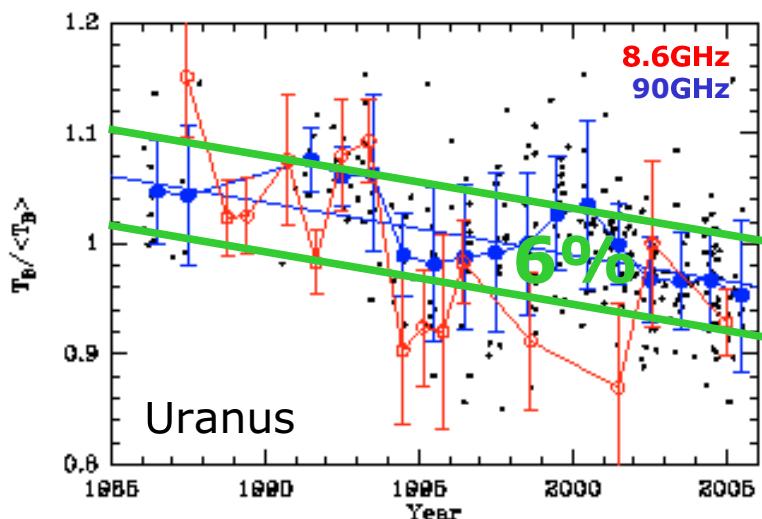
... constraints due to sun-



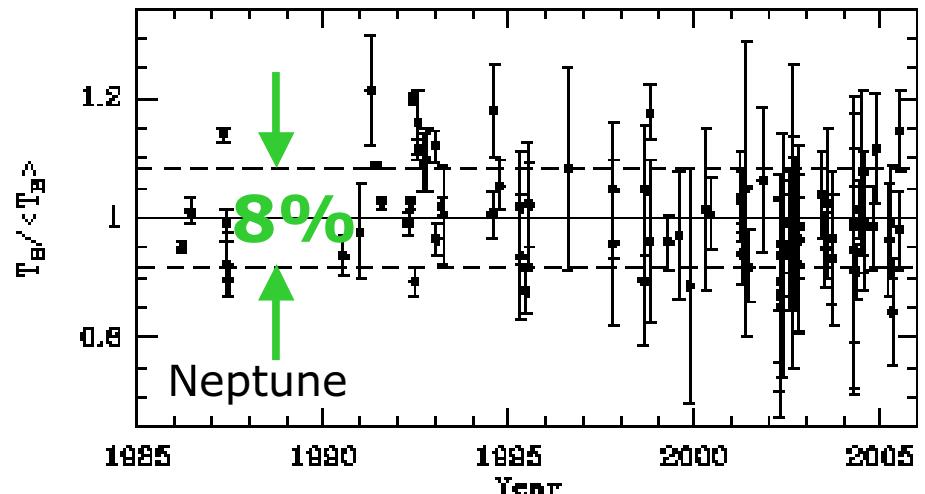
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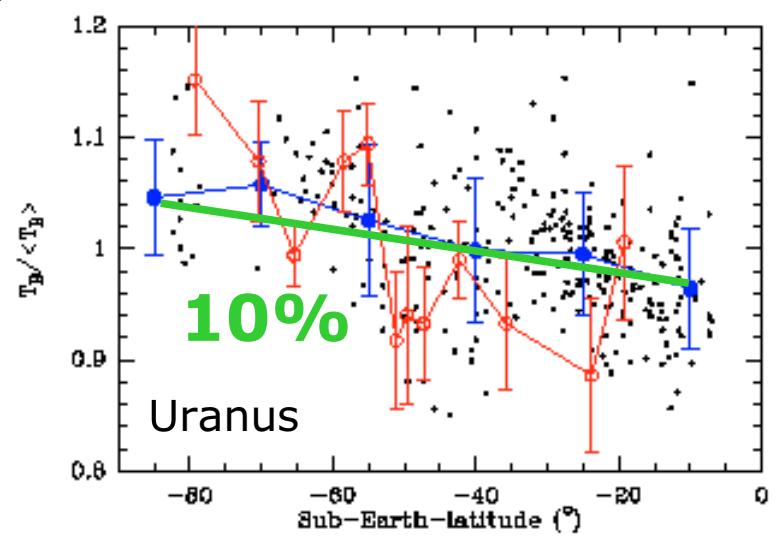
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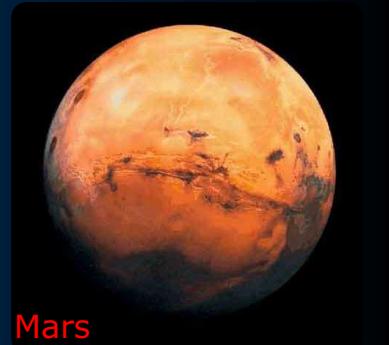
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Jupiter



Saturn

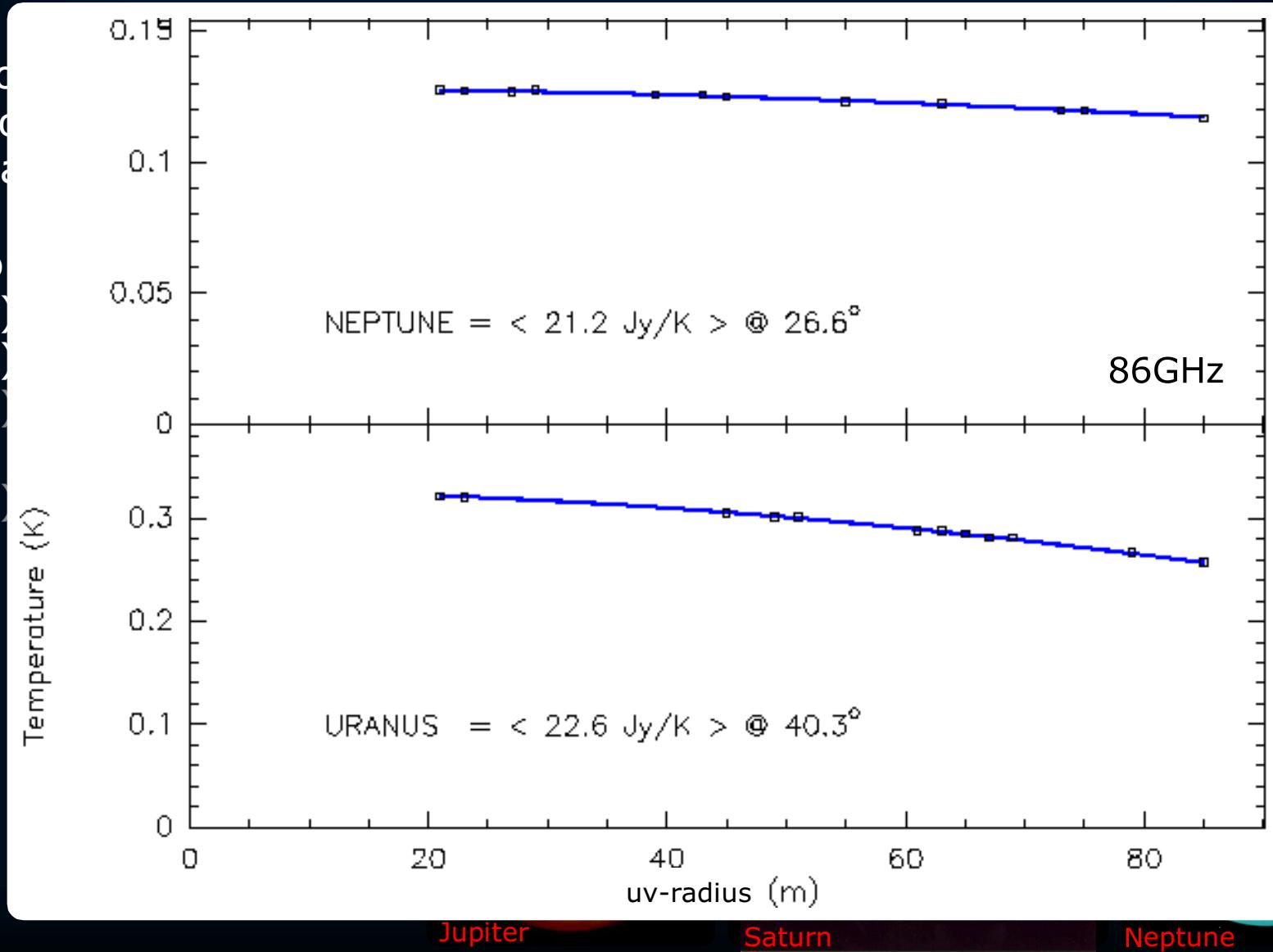


Neptune

Flux Calibrators: Planets

- Proven models ready

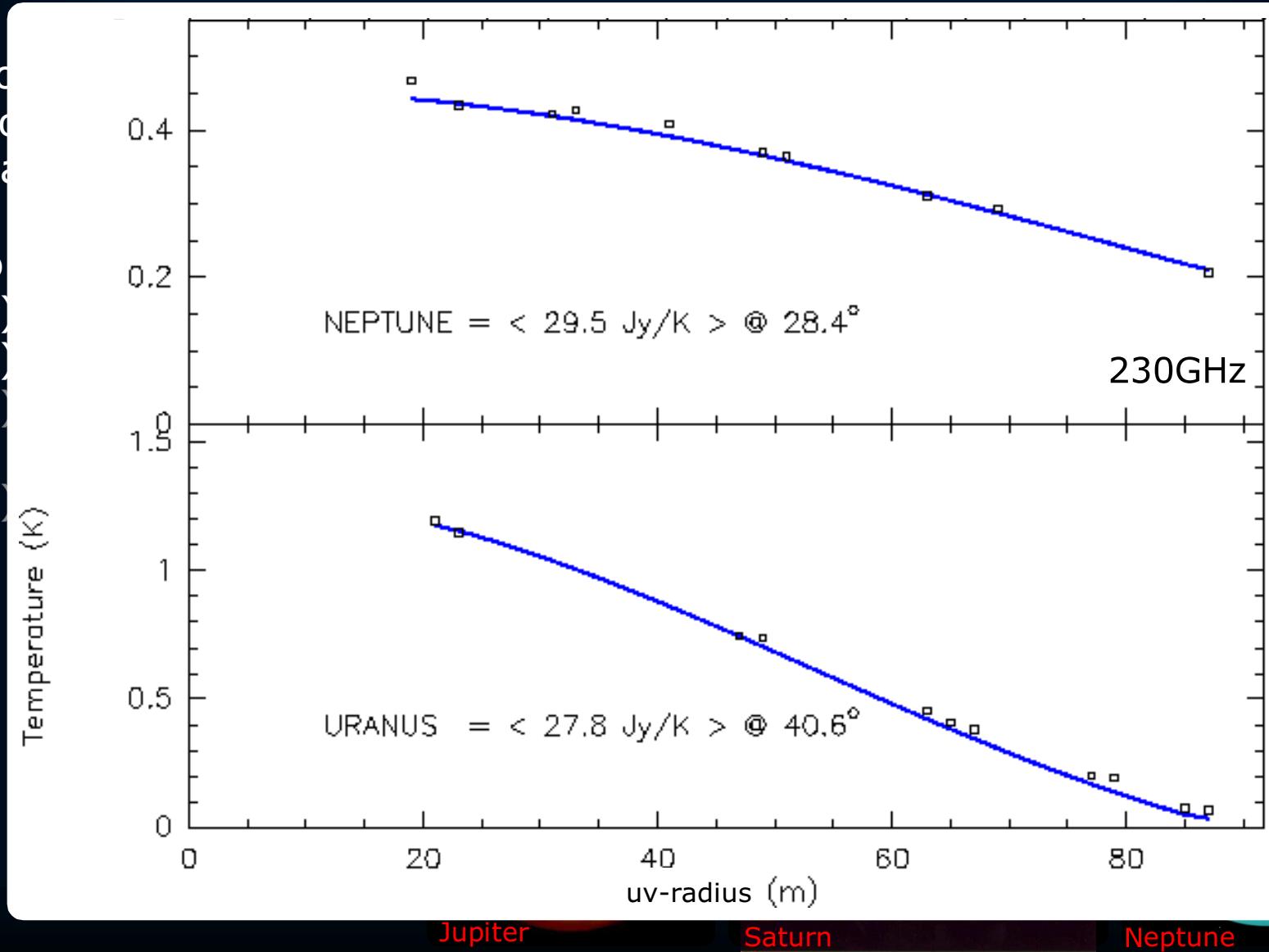
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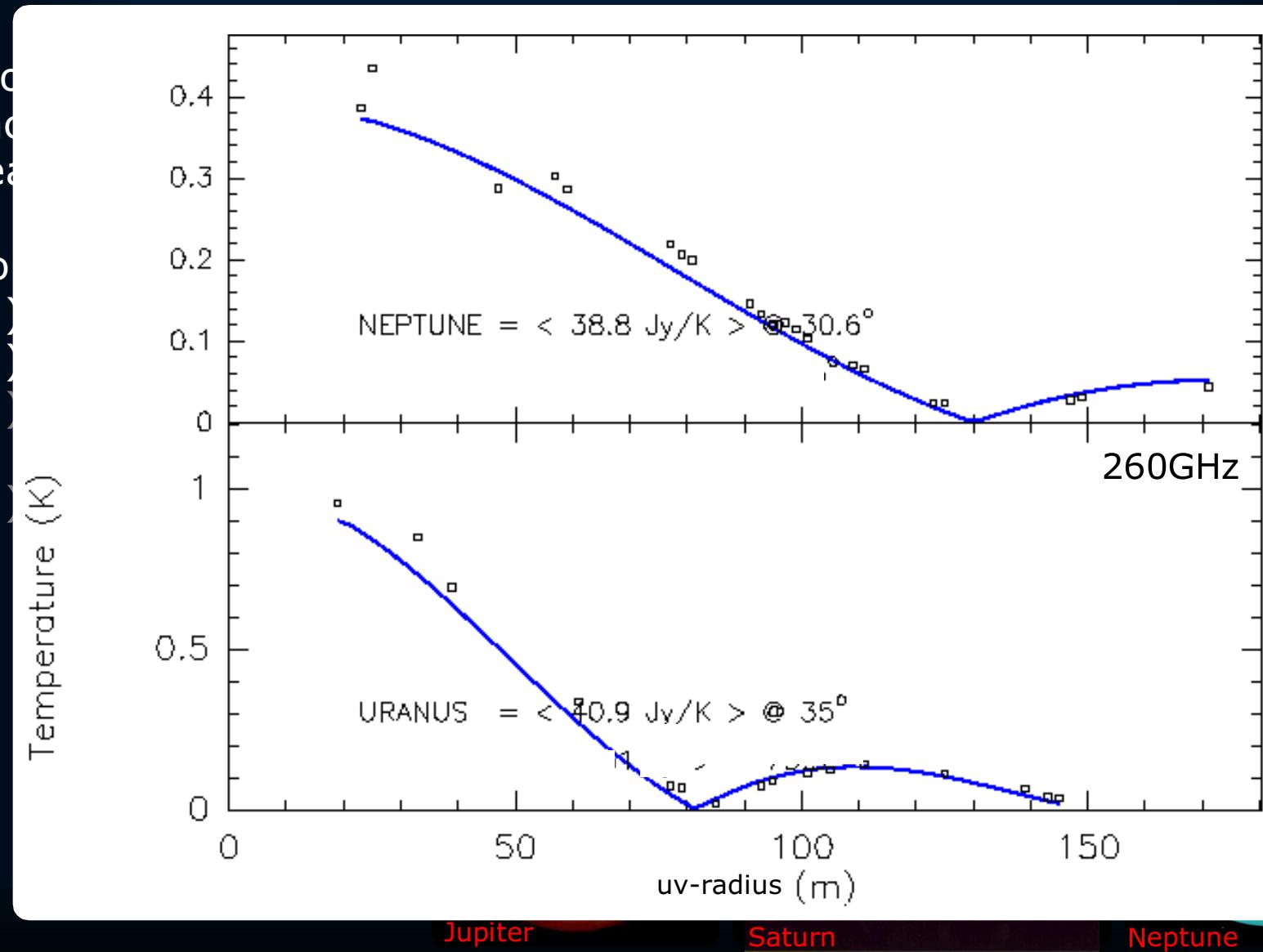
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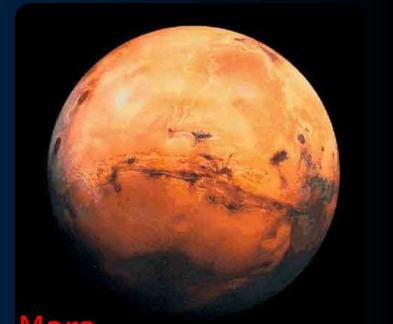
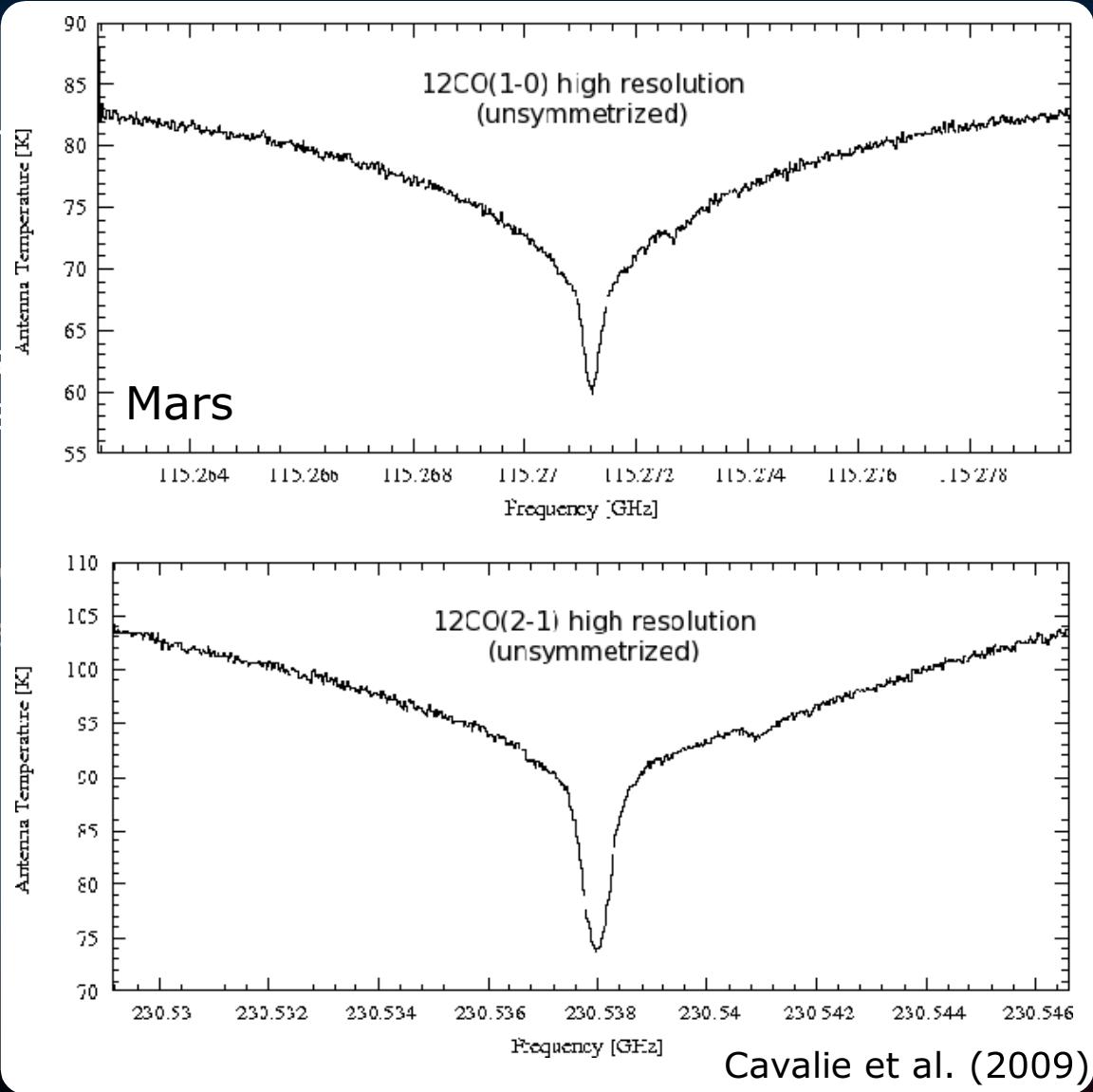
Saturn



Neptune

Flux Calibrators: Planets

- Pro:
most of them reasonable
- Contra:
 - 1.) Fluxes
 - 2.) They sometimes have large errors
 - 3.) Some are very cold (e.g., Neptune)
 - 4.) Not always available



Mars



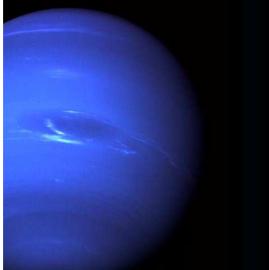
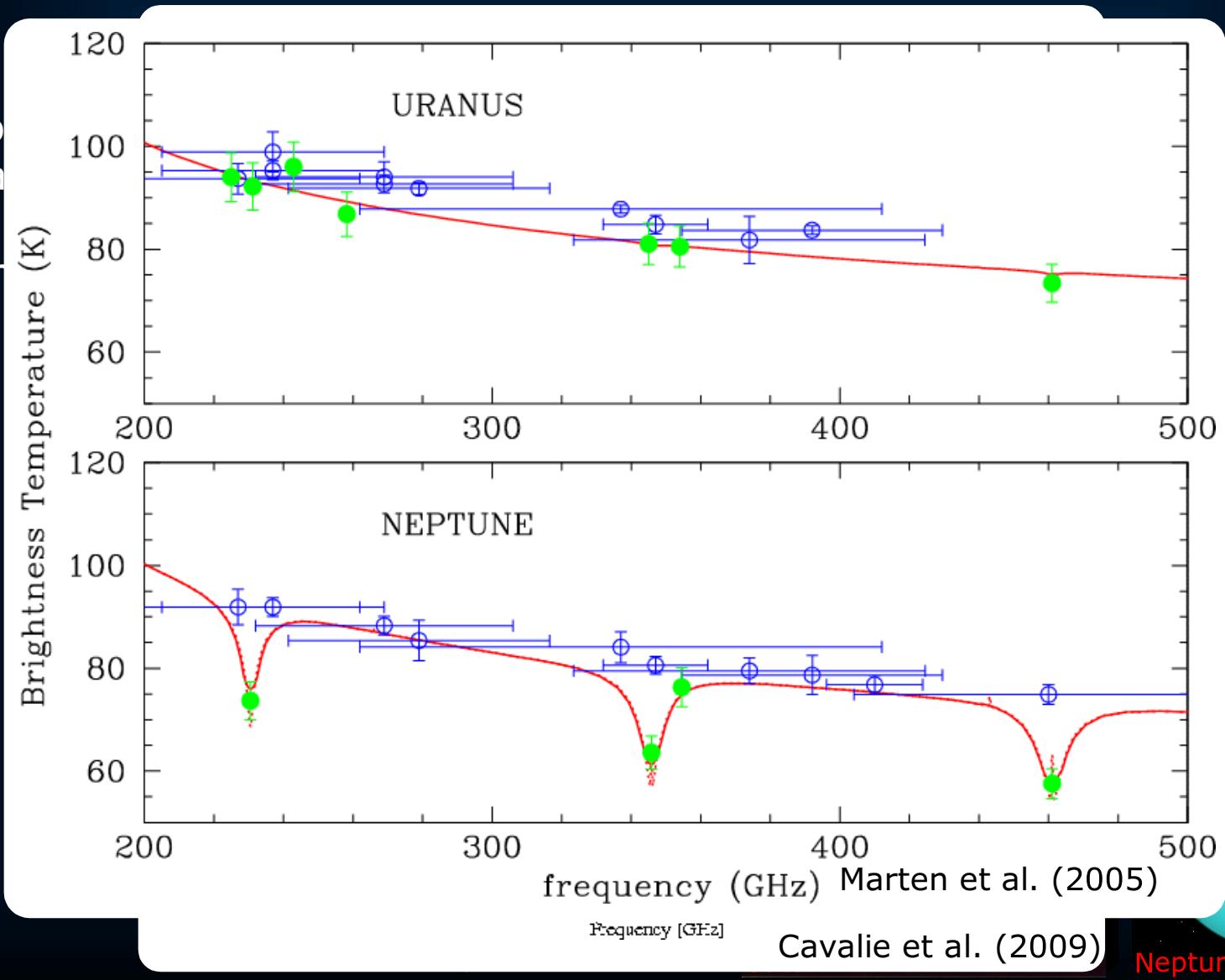
Uranus



Neptune

Flux Calibrators: Planets

- Promotional material
- Corrections
- 1.) Mars
- 2.) Neptune
- 3.) Uranus
- 4.) Neptune



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Jupiter



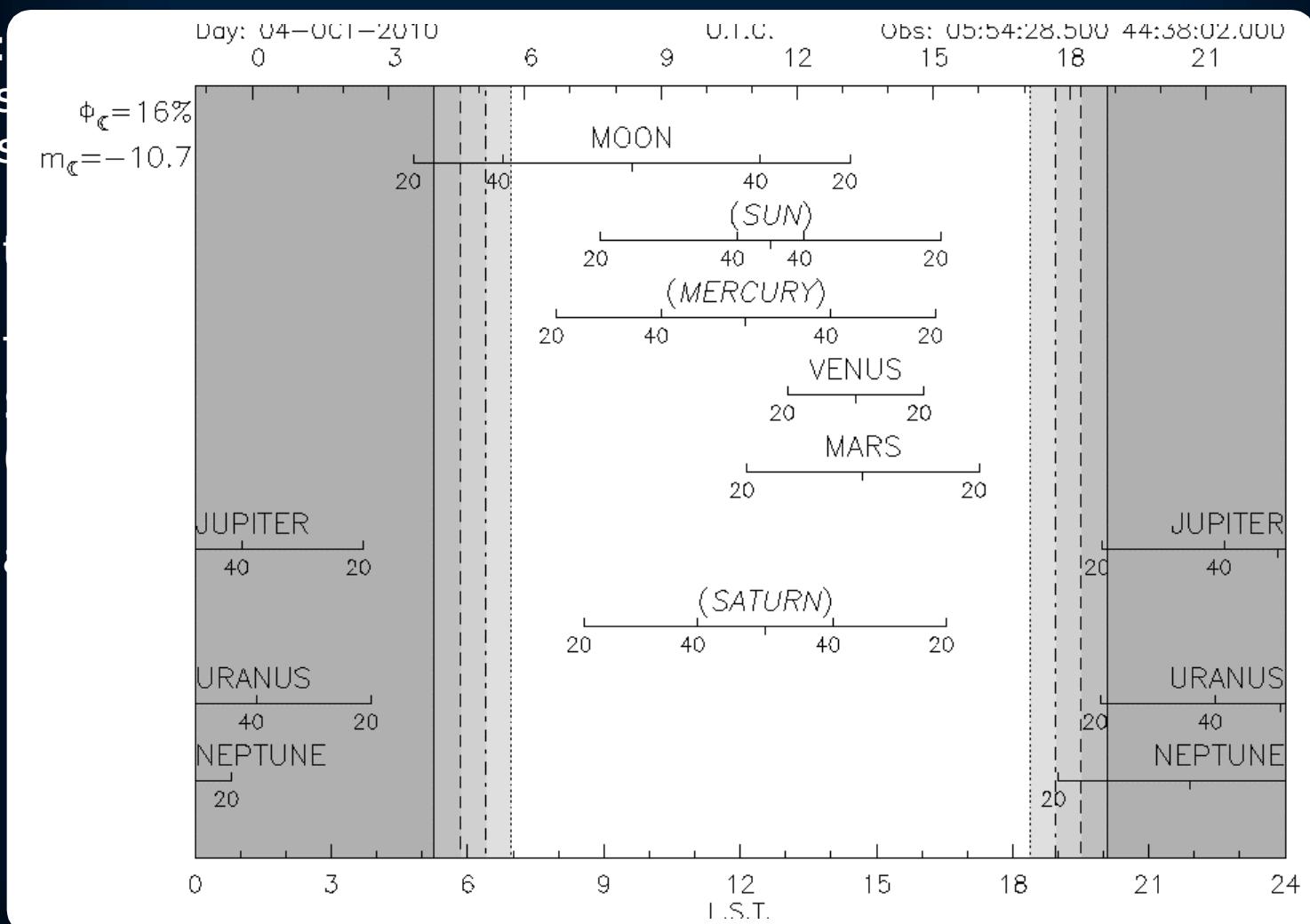
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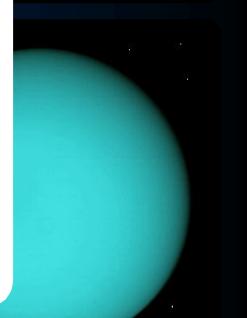
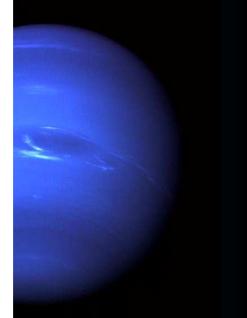
- Pros:
- mosaic
- reasons
- Cons:
- 1.)
- 2.)
- 3.)
- 4.)



Jupiter

Saturn

Neptune

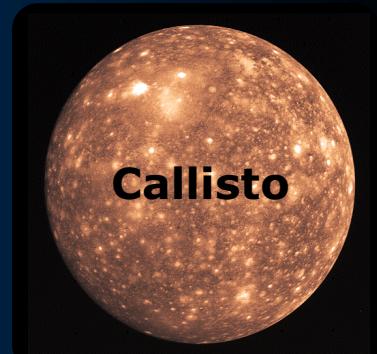


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Flux Calibrators: Satellites

- Pro:
 - They are quite compact (hence better for extended configurations and/or higher frequencies than planets) and still sufficiently bright (>500mJy@3mm)
- Already regularly used at the SMA:
Titan, Ganymede, Callisto
- Contra:
 - Titan also shows broad molecular lines
 - they are not always useable especially when they are too close to their 'mother'-planet (or each other); one needs at least 3xPB
 - flux models not as well constrained as for planets



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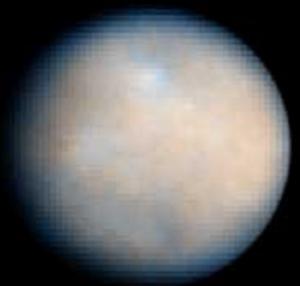
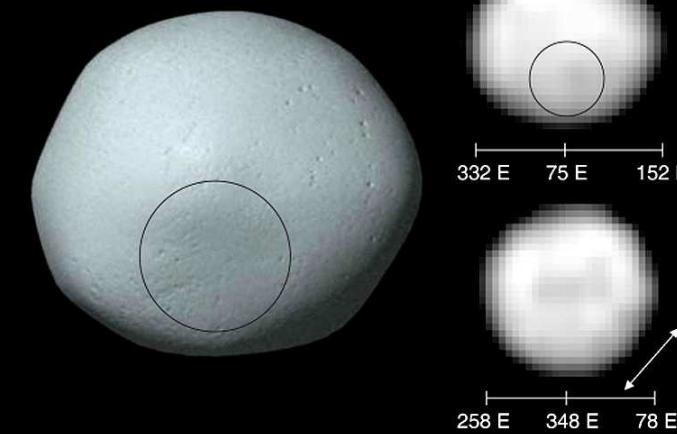
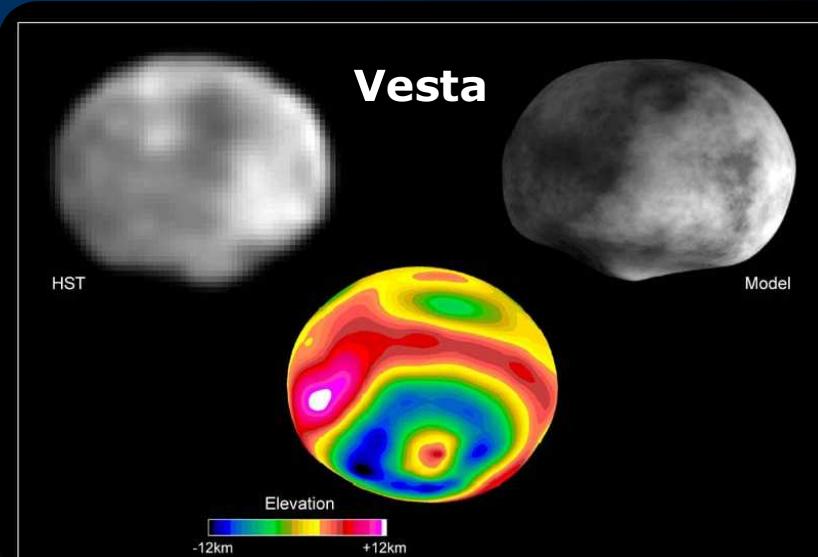
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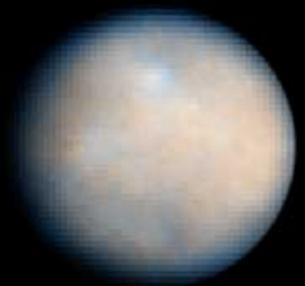
Flux Calibrators: Asteroids/Dwarf Planets

- Pro:
 - bright and relatively small solar bodies
- Contra:
 - Fluxes not (yet) well determined; some of them known to vary quite significantly within a day
 - irregular shapes

Ceres**Palla****Vesta**

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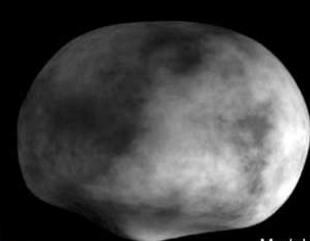
Ceres**Palla**

332 E 75 E 152 E

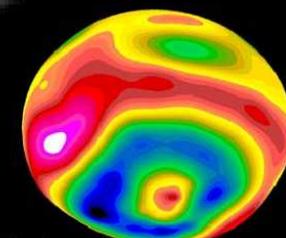
258 E 348 E 78 E

Vesta

HST

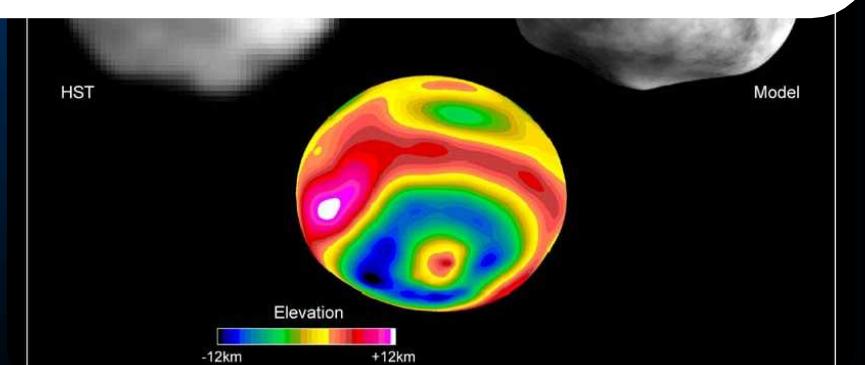
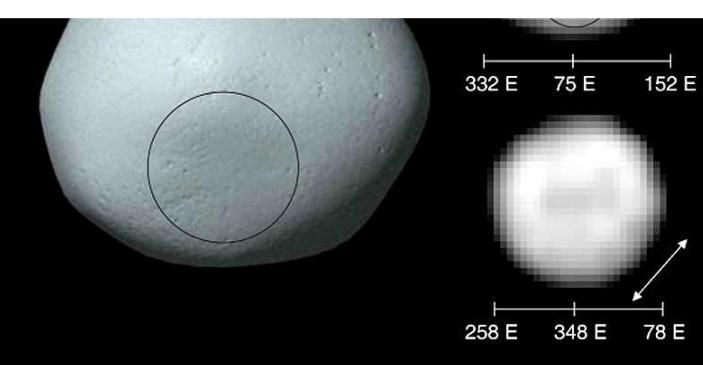
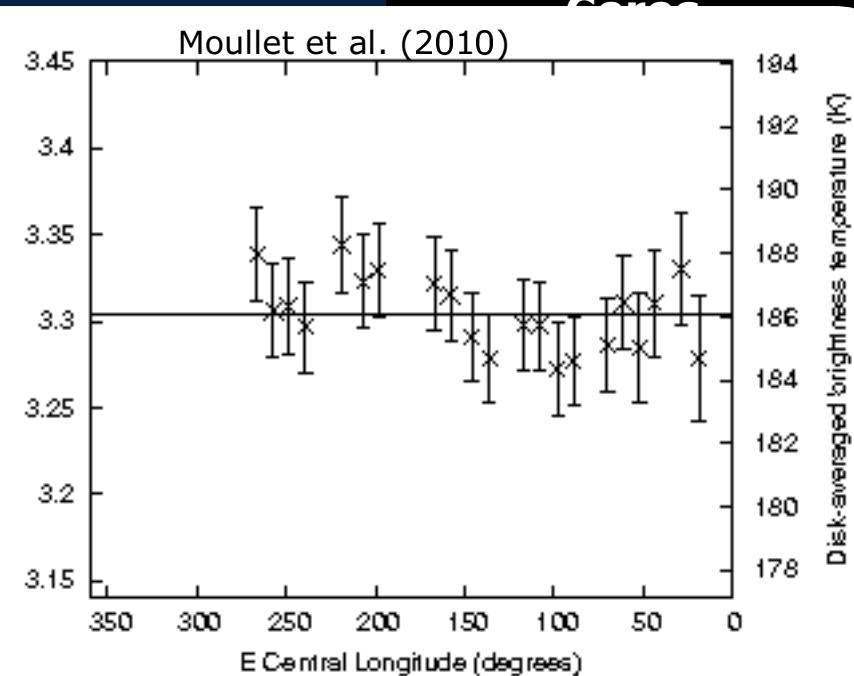
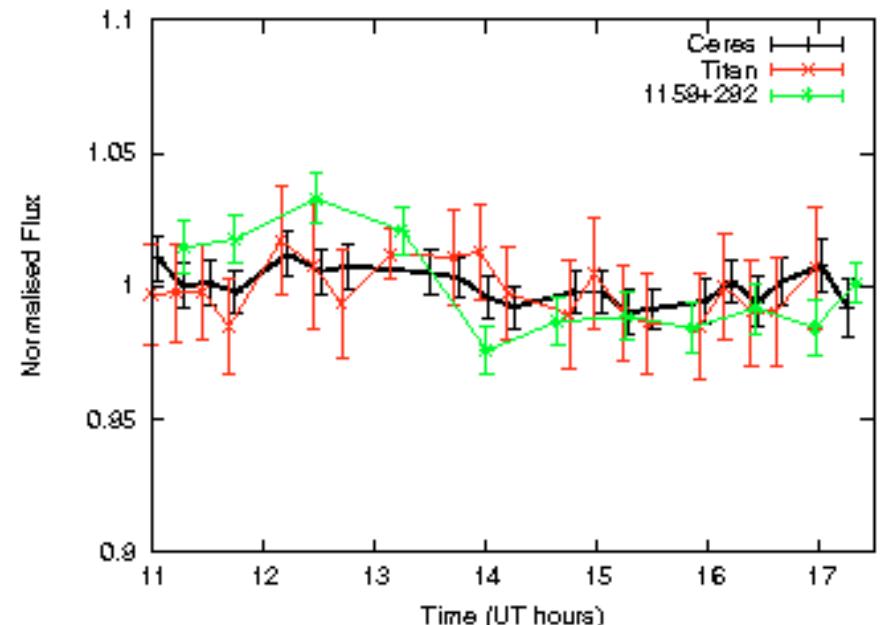


Model



Elevation
-12km +12km

Flux Calibrators: Asteroids/Dwarf Planets



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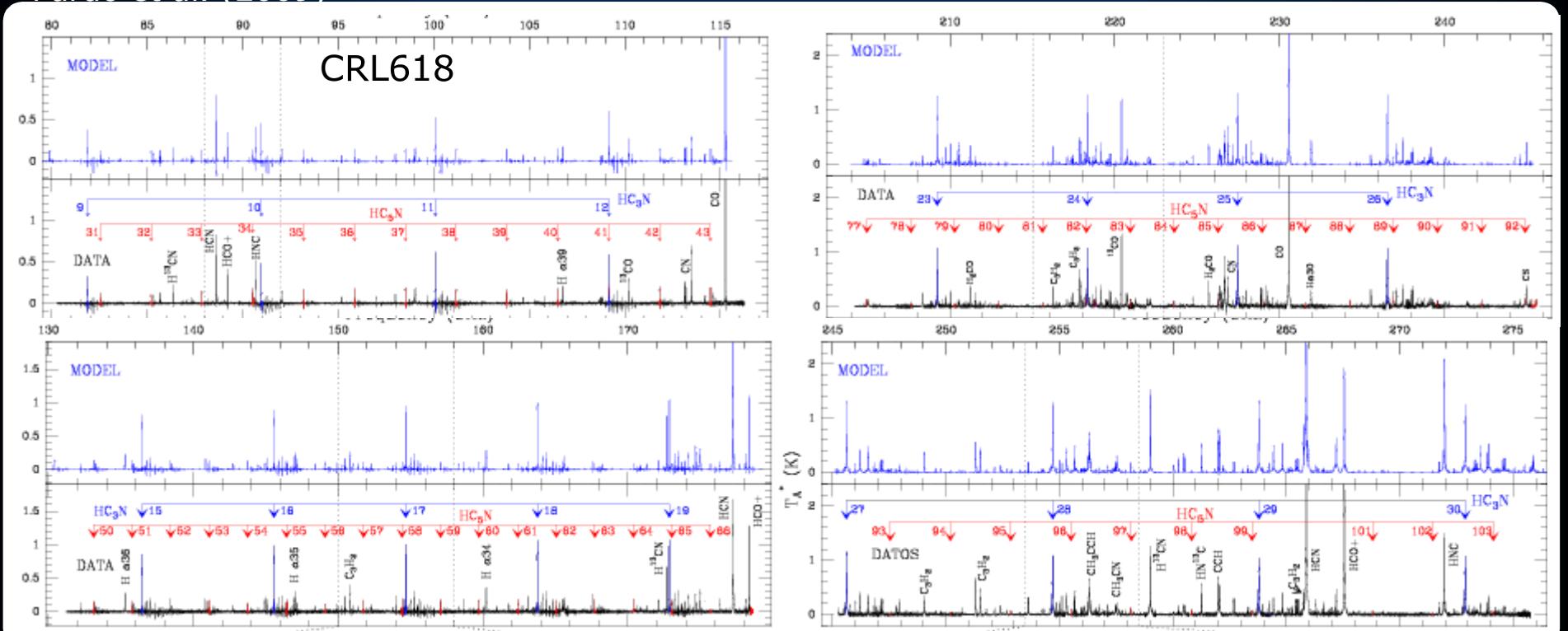
Flux Calibrators: Radio Stars

Number of radio bright stars:

- MWC349 (binary star)
- CRL618 (PPN)
- W3OH (HII region)
- NGC7072 (young PN)
- NGC7538 (HII region)
- K3-50A (HII-region)
-

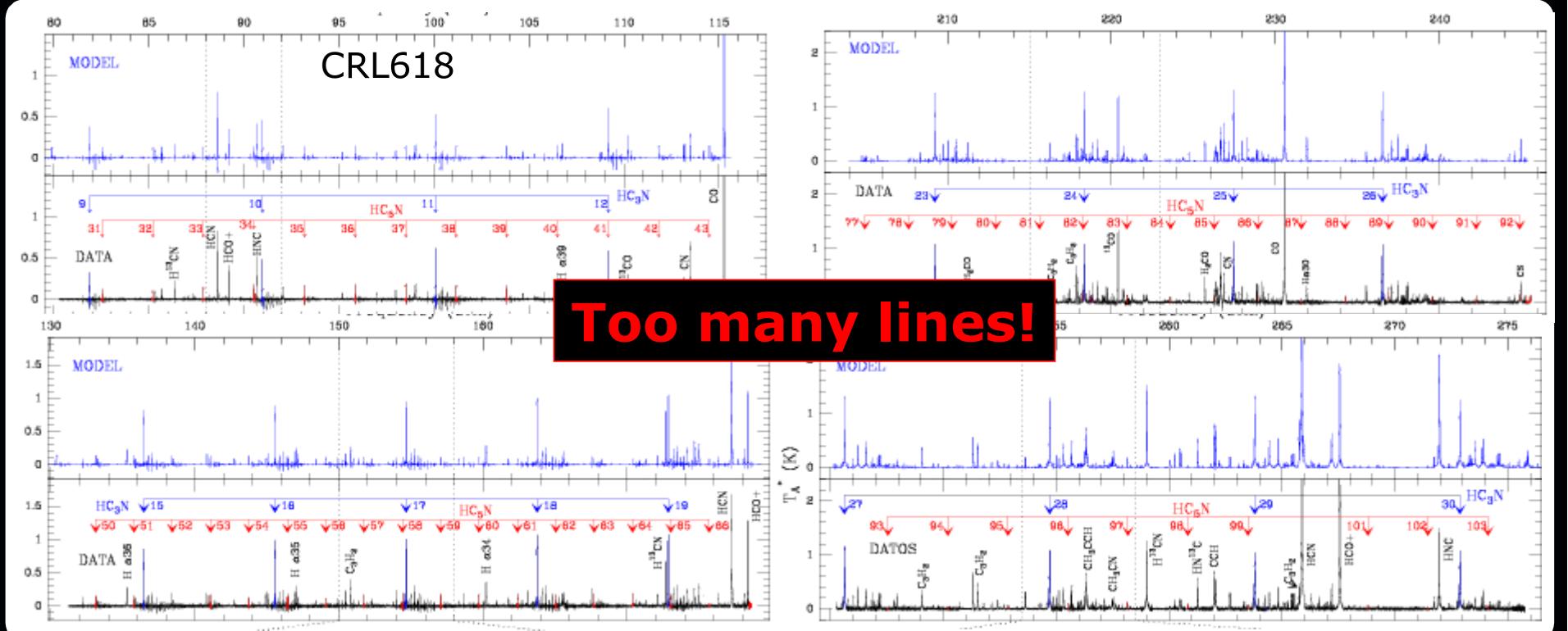
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Pardo et al. (2009)

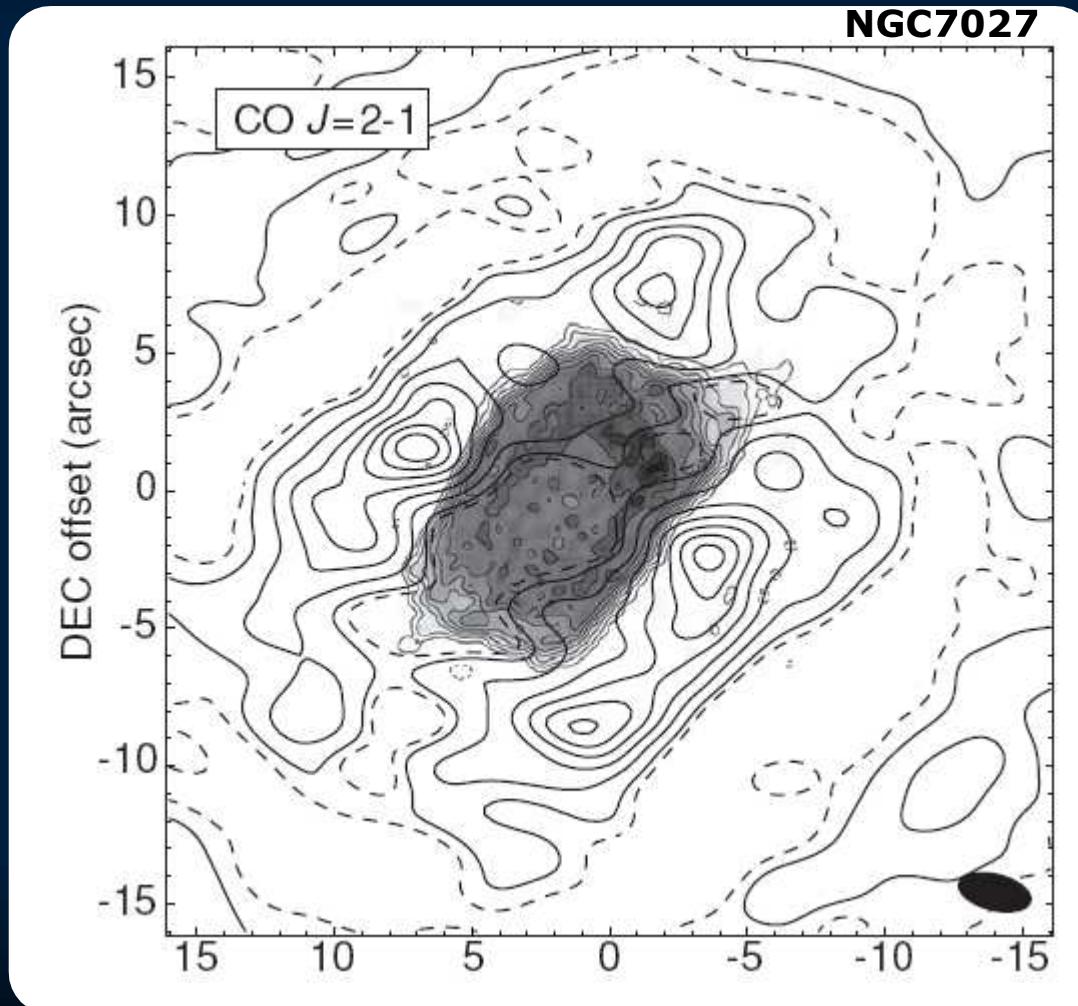


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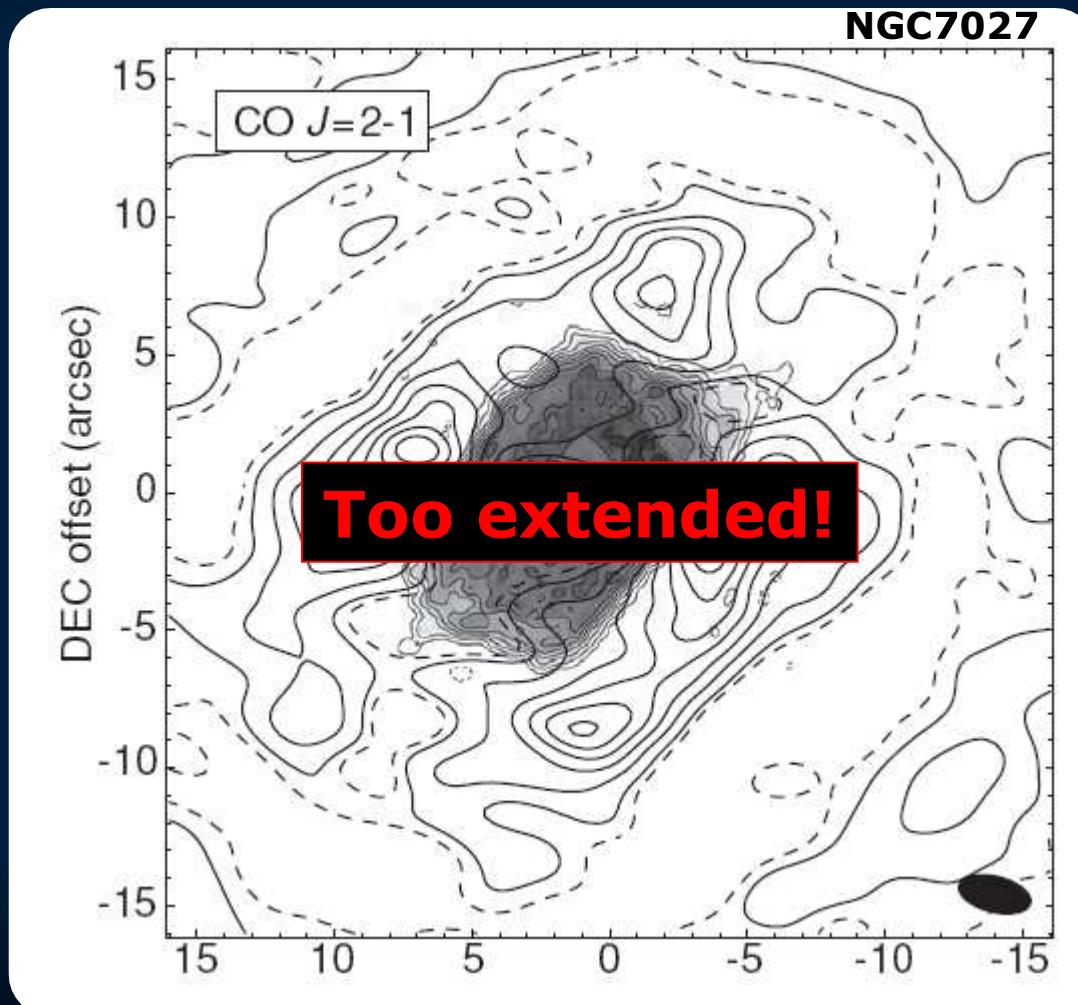


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Nakashima et al. (2010)

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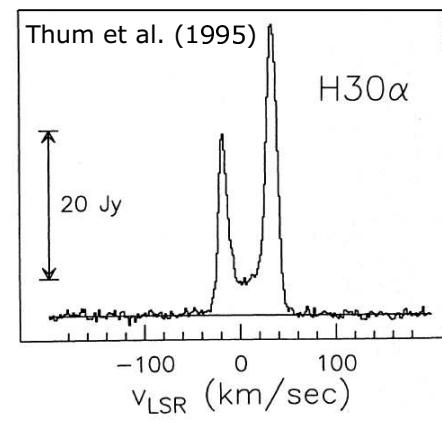
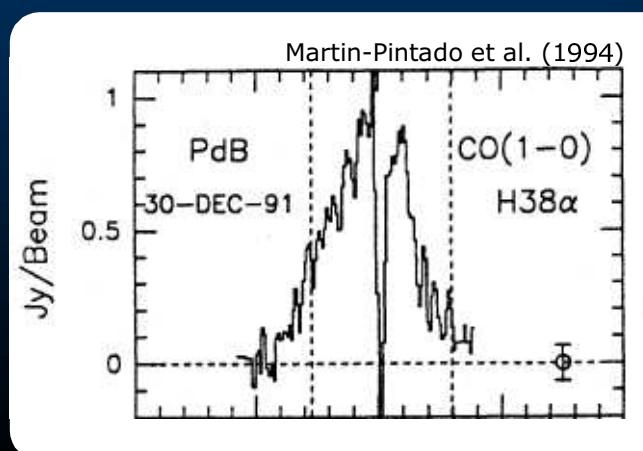
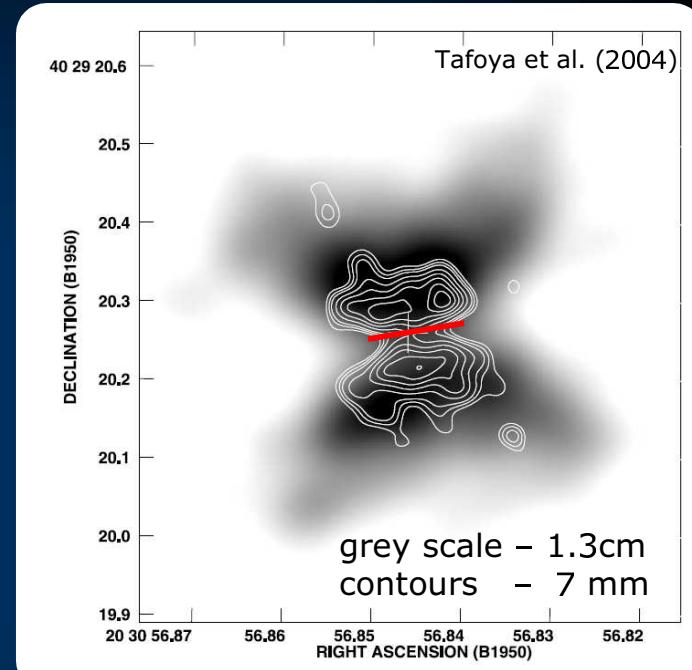
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Flux Calibrators: MWC349

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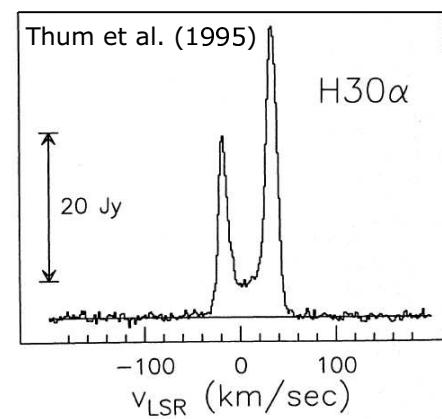
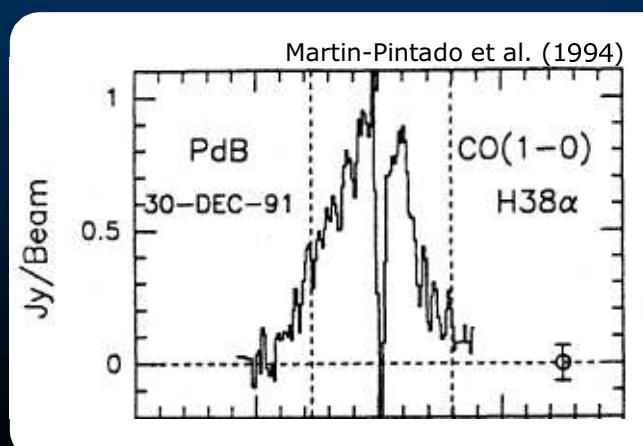
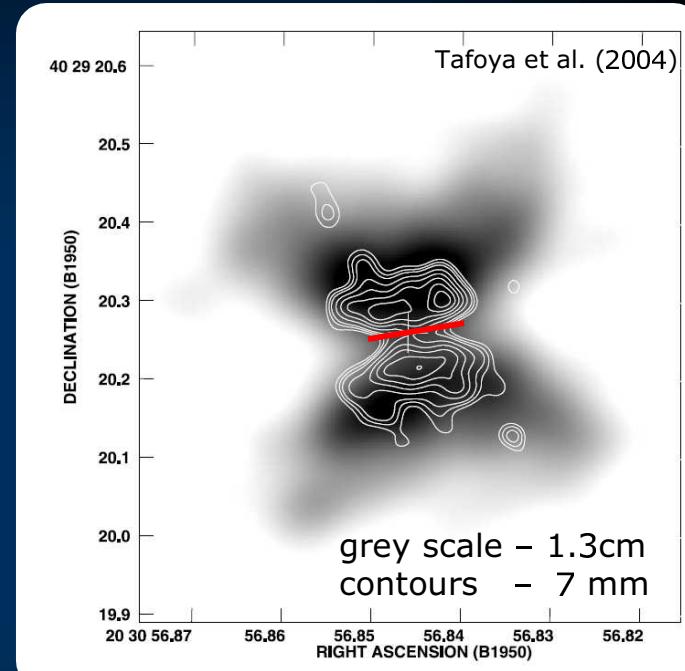
- binary stellar system:
MWC349A (Be) & MWC349B (B0 type III)
- the two stars are separated by $2.4'' \pm 0.1''$ and possibly interact
- MWC349A the brightest radio continuum star
- radio continuum produced by “ionised bipolar flow that photoevaporates from the surface of a neutral Keplerian disk”
- size of flow decreases with frequency
- strong but highly variable hydrogen maser emission (RRLs) from the near-edge-on disk ($\sim 0.065'' = 80\text{AU}@1.2\text{kpc}$)
- at declination of $>40\text{deg}$
-> visible for $\sim 13\text{h}$ per day



Flux Calibrators: MWC349

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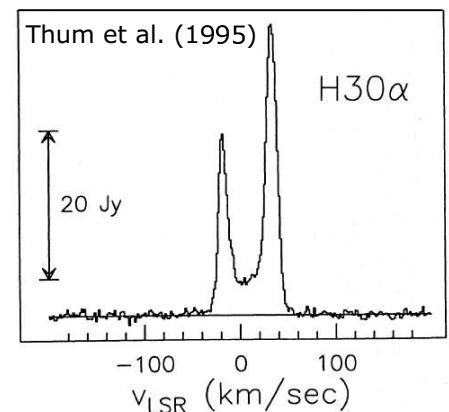
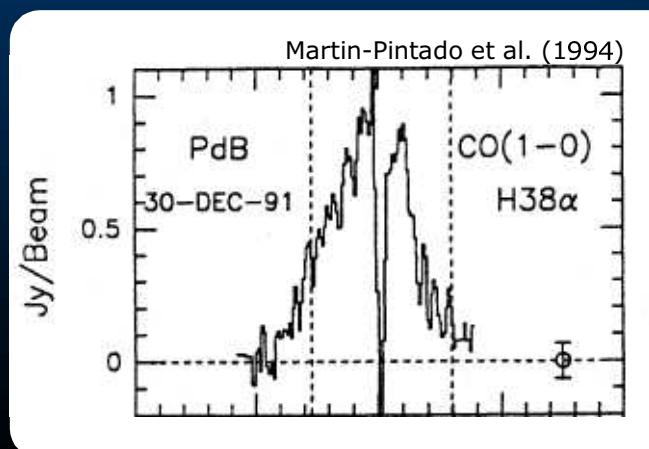
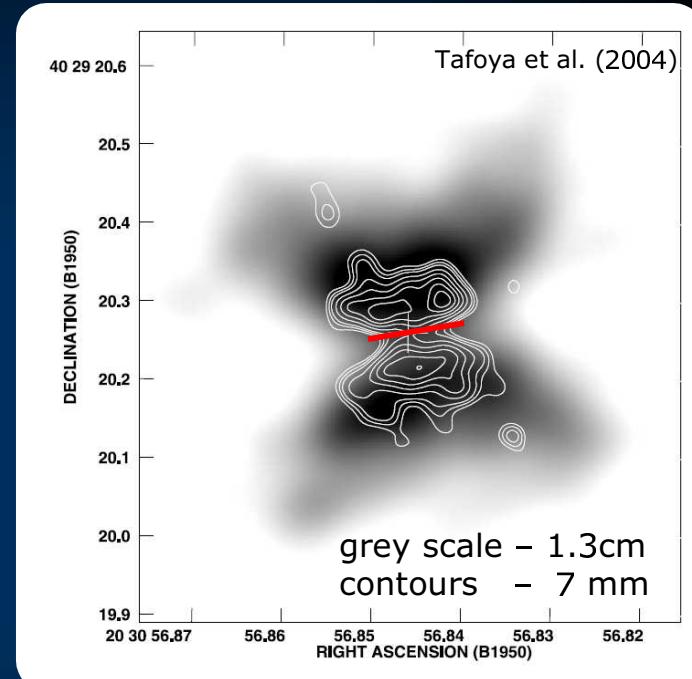
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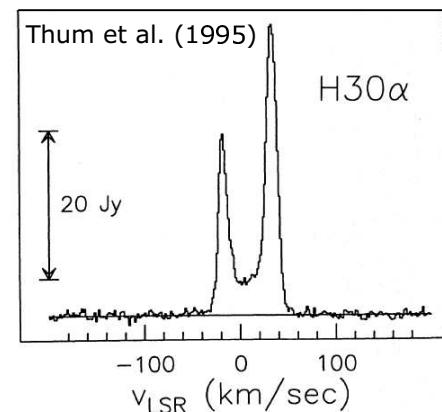
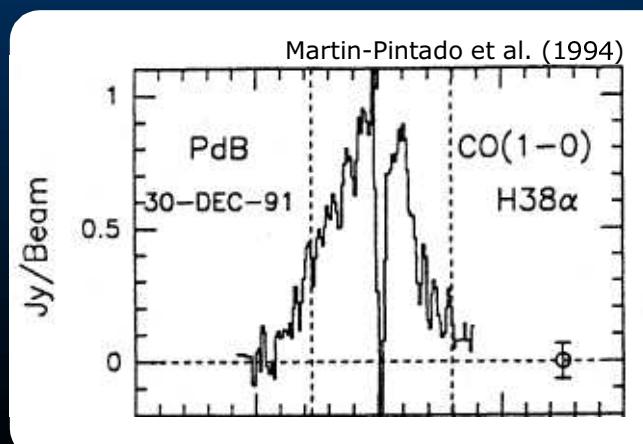
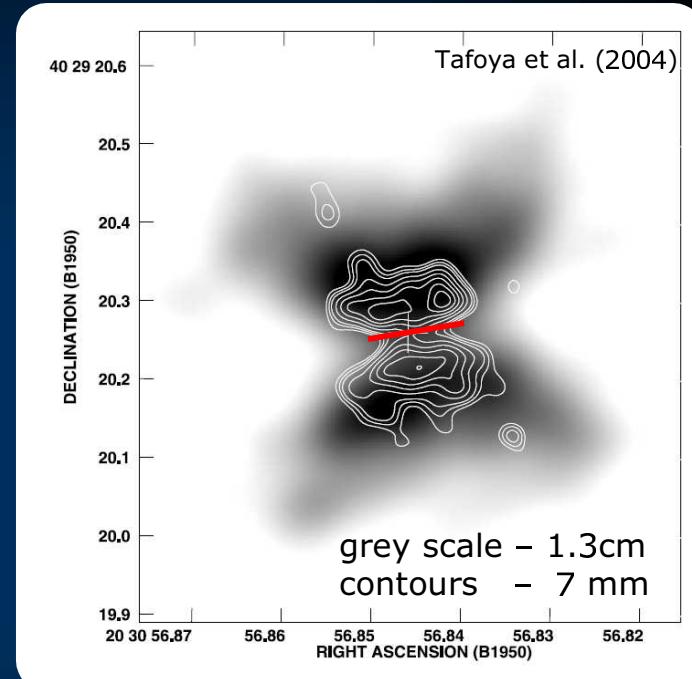
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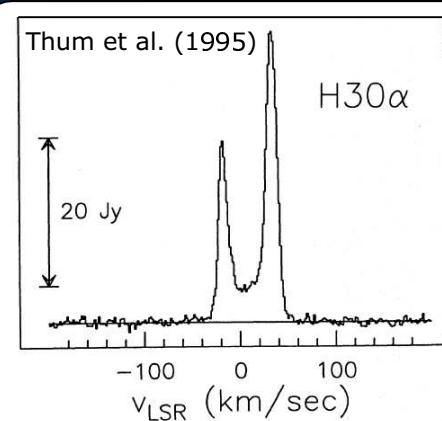
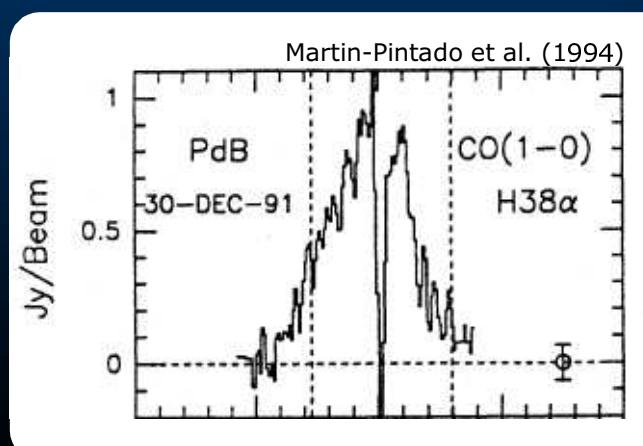
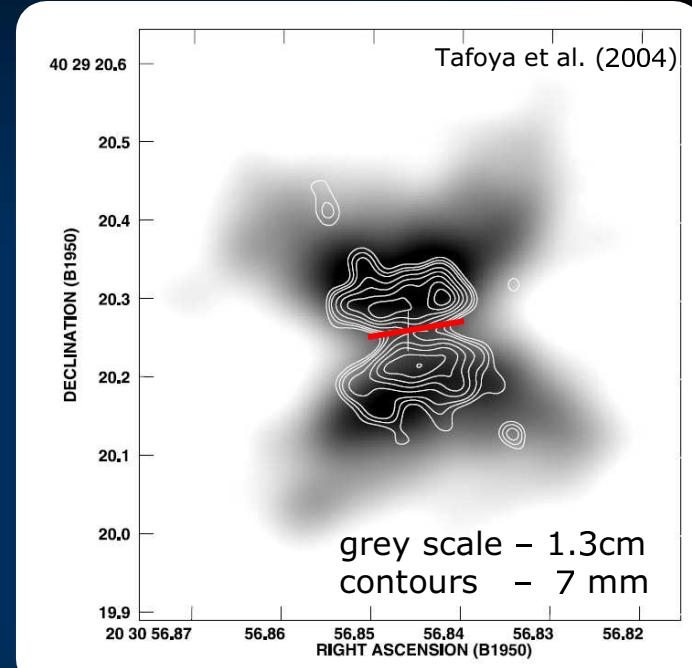
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- at declination of $>40\text{deg}$
-> visible for $\sim 13\text{h}$ per day



Flux Calibrators: MWC349

Some facts:

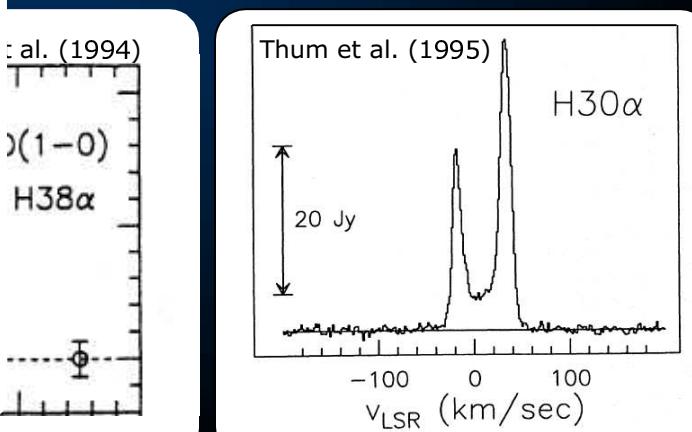
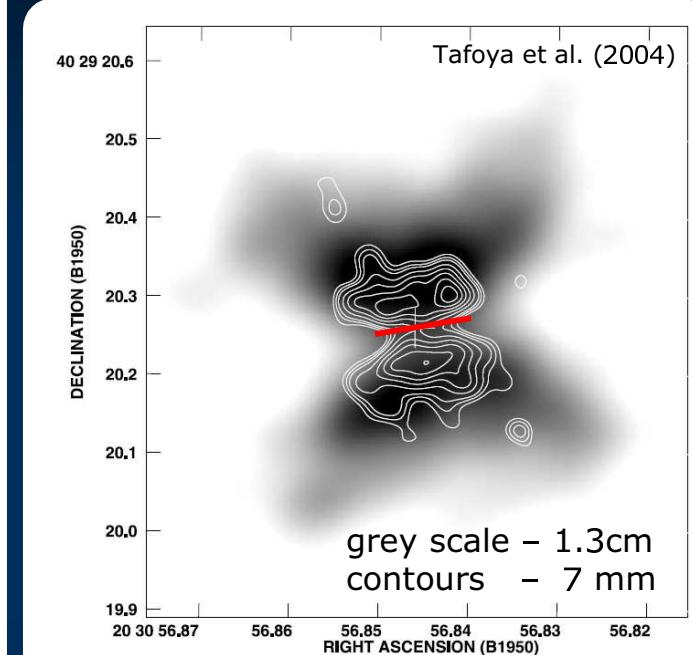
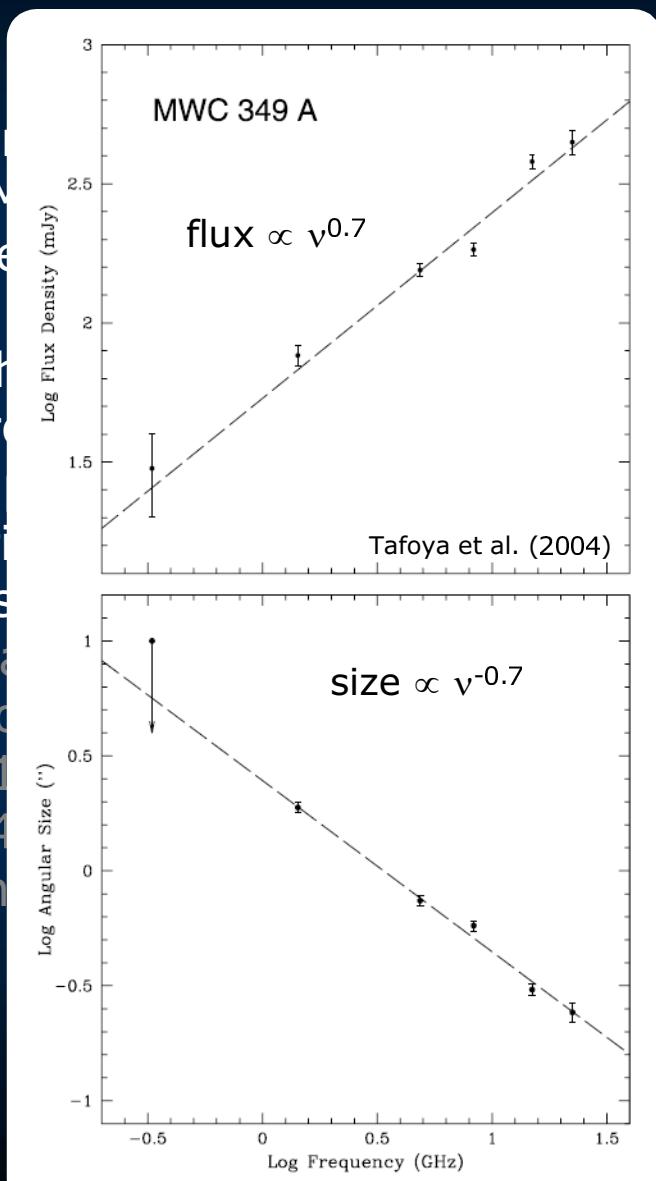
- binary stellar system:
MWC349A (Be) & MWC349B (B0 type III)
- the two stars are separated by $2.4'' \pm 0.1''$ and possibly interact
- MWC349A the brightest radio continuum star
- radio continuum produced by "ionised bipolar flow that photoevaporates from the surface of a neutral Keplerian disk"
- size of flow decreases with frequency
- strong but highly variable hydrogen maser emission (RRLs) from the near-edge-on disk ($\sim 0.065'' = 80\text{AU}@1.2\text{kpc}$)
- at declination of $>40\text{deg}$
-> visible for $\sim 13\text{h}$ per day



Flux Calibrators: MWC349

Some facts:

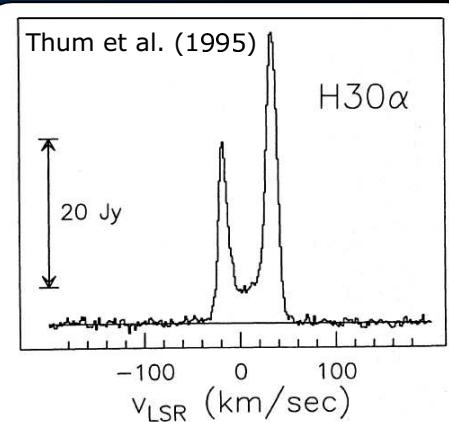
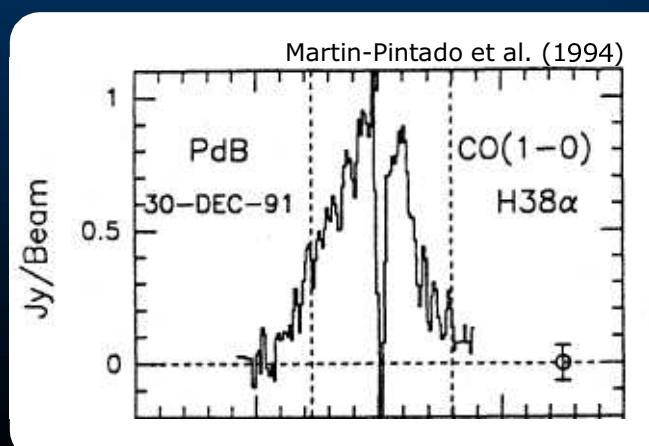
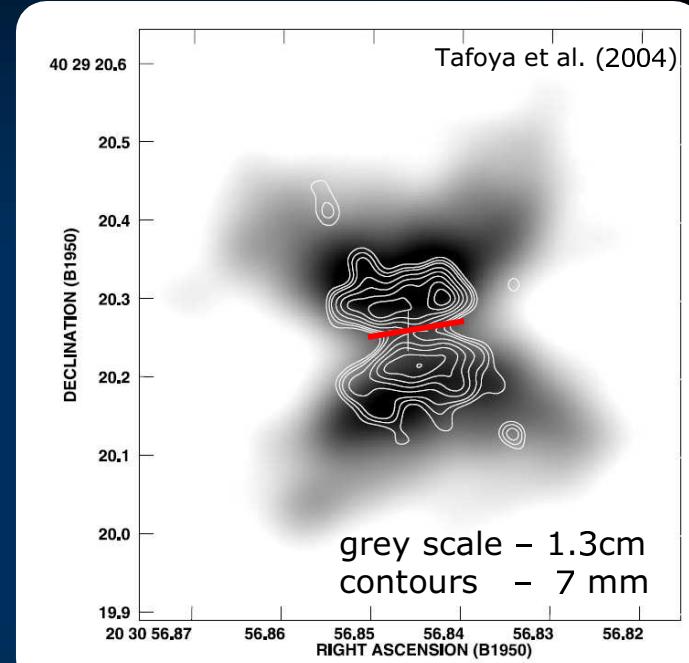
- binary stellar system MWC349A (Be) & MWC349B (O9)
- the two stars are separated by ~1.5 AU and possibly interact
- MWC349A the bright star
- radio continuum probe the outflow that photoevaporates the envelope of a neutral Keplerian disk
- size of flow decreases with frequency
- strong but highly variable radio emission (RRLs) from the envelope ($\sim 0.065'' = 80\text{AU} @ 1\text{GHz}$)
- at declination of $>40^\circ$ -> visible for $\sim 13\text{h}$ per day



Flux Calibrators: MWC349

Some facts:

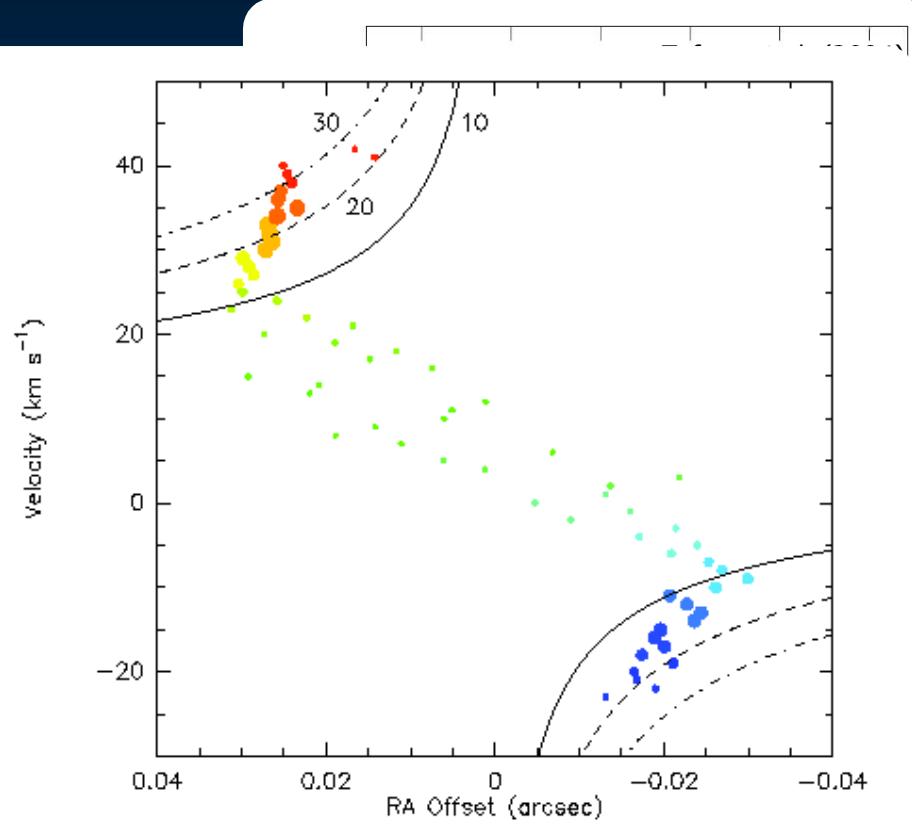
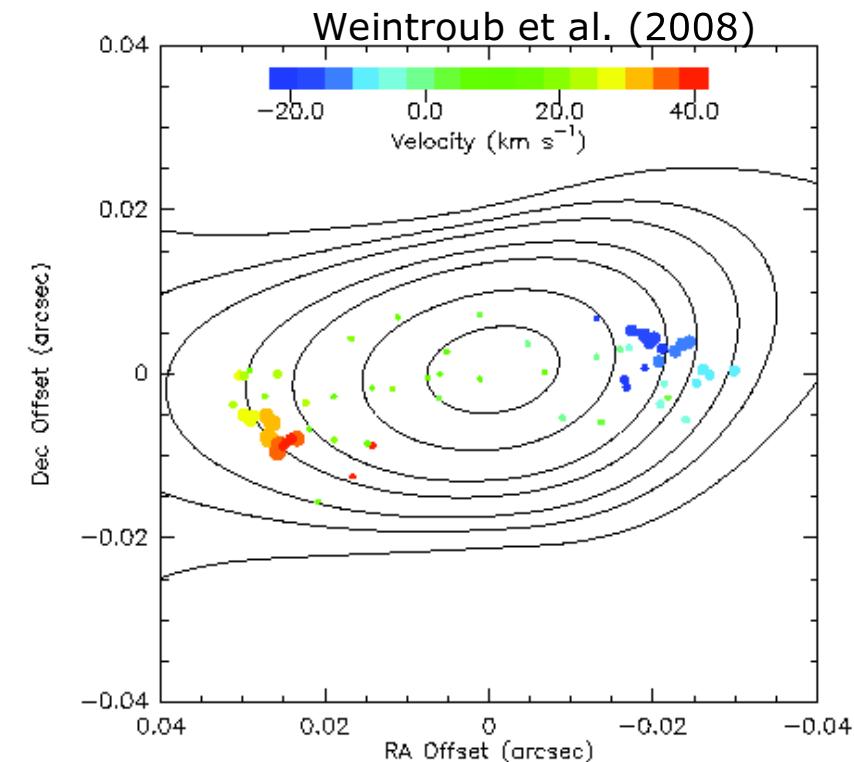
- binary stellar system:
MWC349A (Be) & MWC349B (B0 type III)
- the two stars are separated by $2.4'' \pm 0.1''$ and possibly interact
- MWC349A the brightest radio continuum star
- radio continuum produced by "ionised bipolar flow that photoevaporates from the surface of a neutral Keplerian disk"
- size of flow decreases with frequency
- strong but highly variable hydrogen maser emission (RRLs) from the near-edge-on disk ($\sim 0.065'' = 80\text{AU}@1.2\text{kpc}$)
- at declination of $>40\text{deg}$
-> visible for $\sim 13\text{h}$ per day



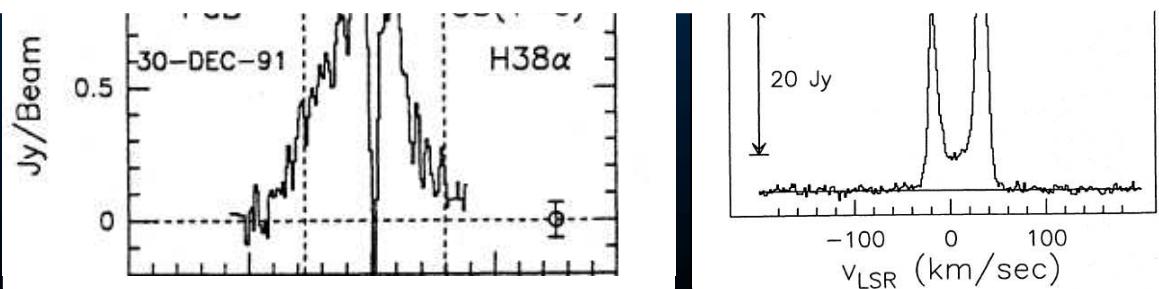
Flux Calibrators: MWC349

Some facts:

- binary stellar system



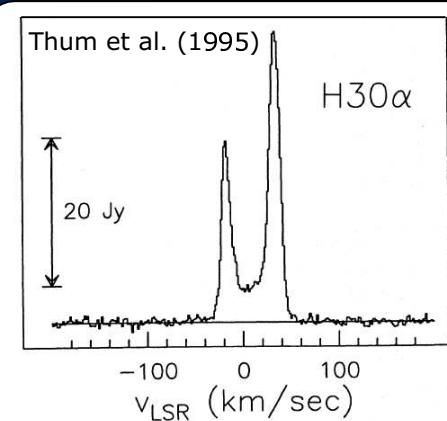
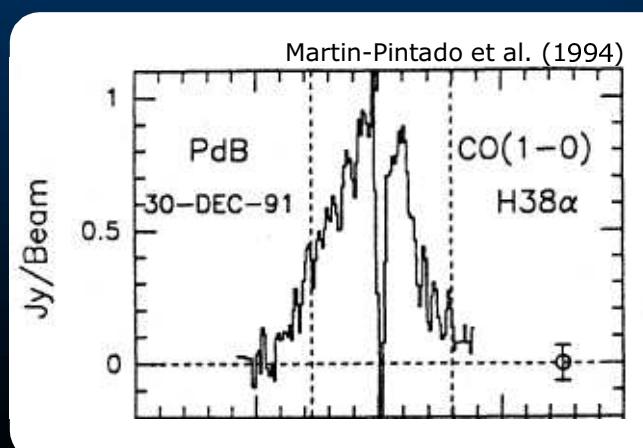
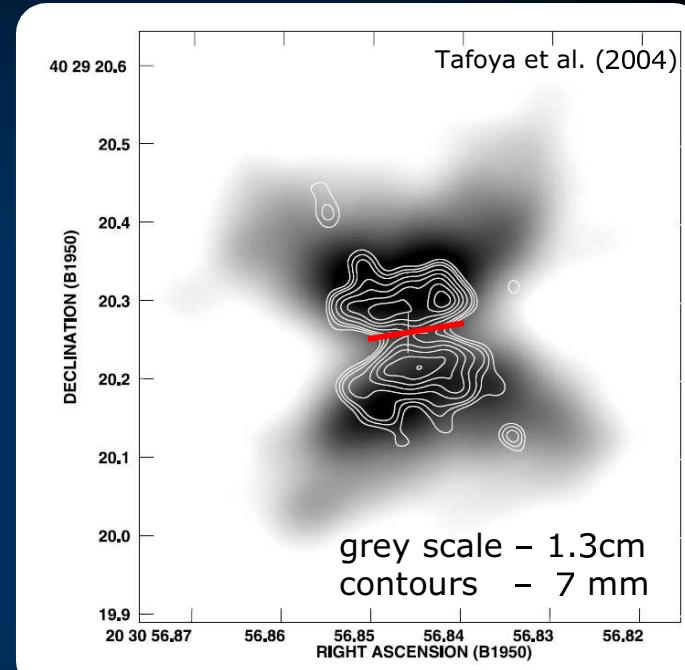
day



Flux Calibrators: MWC349

Some facts:

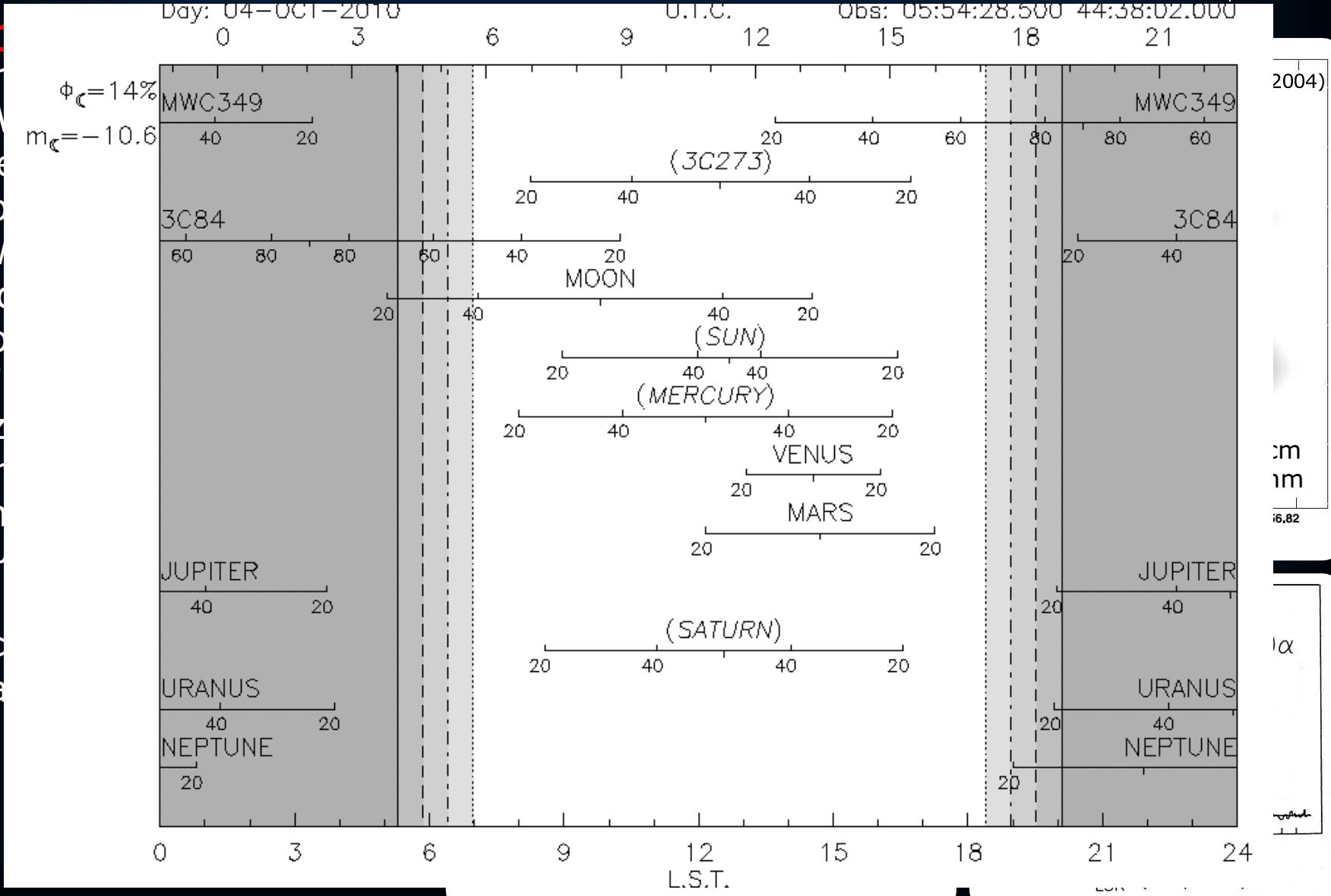
- binary stellar system:
MWC349A (Be) & MWC349B (B0 type III)
- the two stars are separated by $2.4'' \pm 0.1''$ and possibly interact
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- radio continuum produced by “ionised bipolar flow that photoevaporates from the surface of a neutral Keplerian disk”
- size of flow decreases with frequency
- strong but highly variable hydrogen maser emission (RRLs) from the near-edge-on disk ($\sim 0.065'' = 80\text{AU}@1.2\text{kpc}$)
- at declination of $> 40\text{deg}$
=> visible for $\sim 13\text{h}$ per day



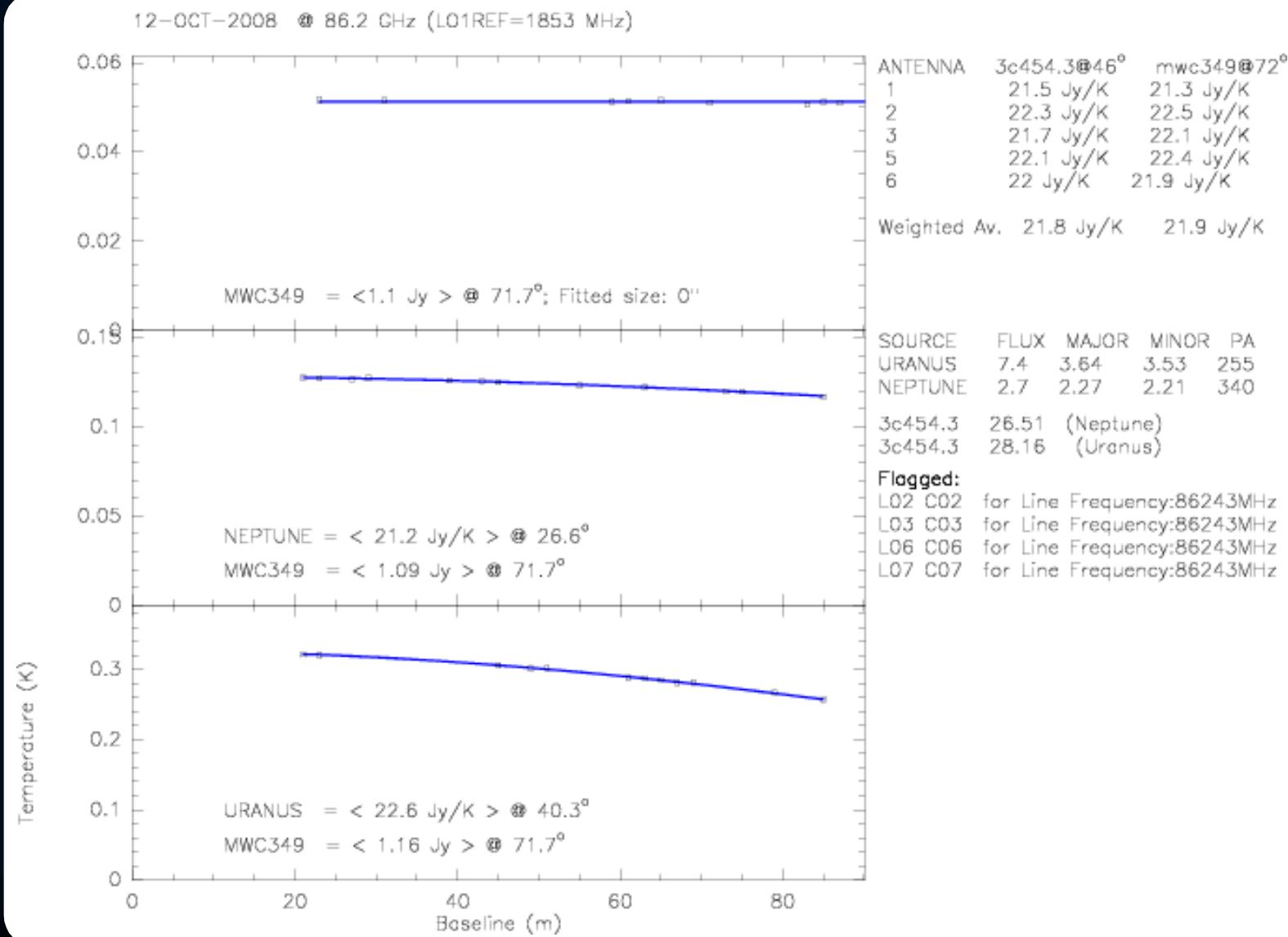
Flux Calibrators: MWC349

Sources

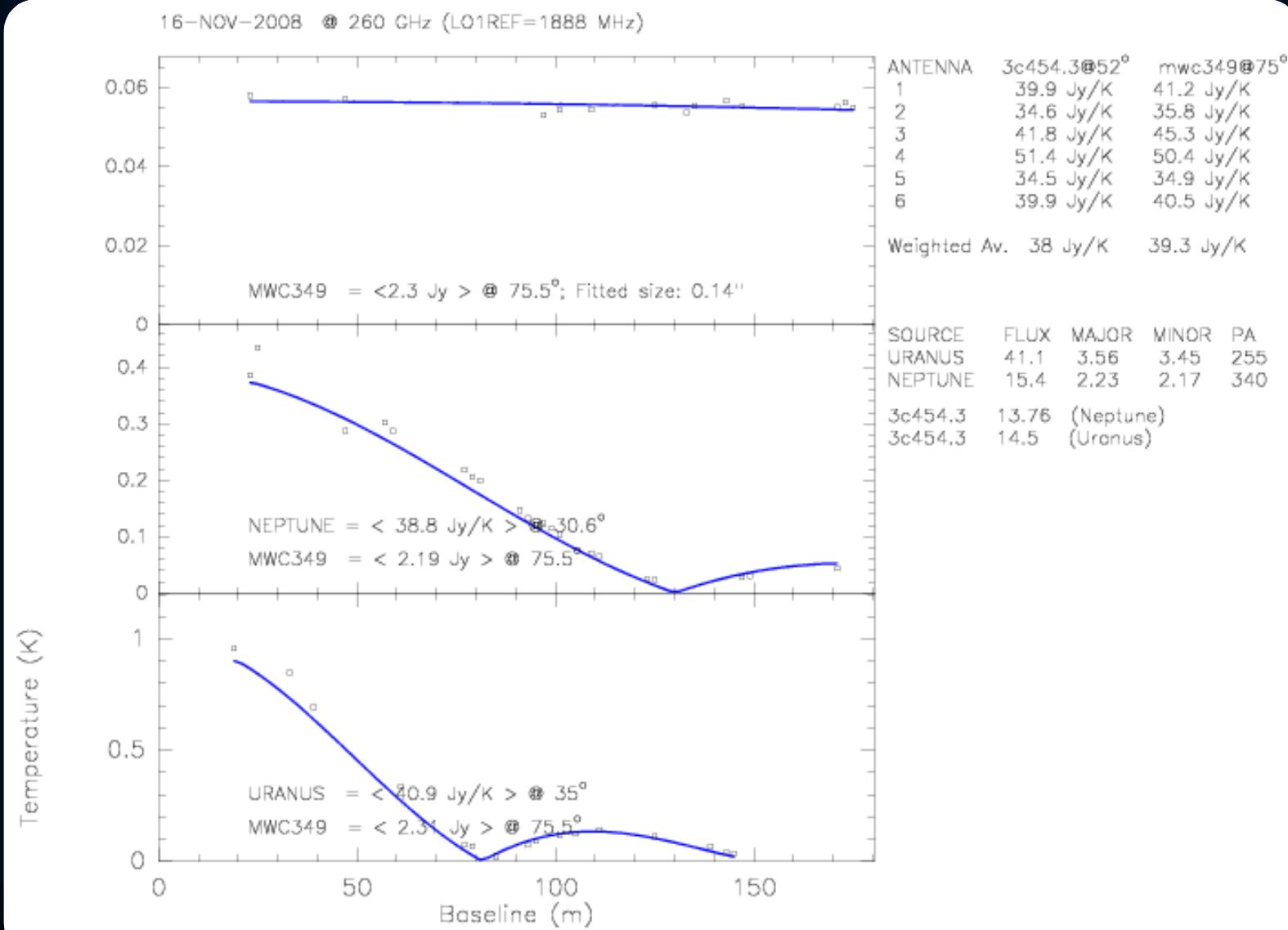
- binary
- MWC349
- thermal
- polarization
- MWC349
- radio flux density of
- size
- strength (~
- atmospheric = > days



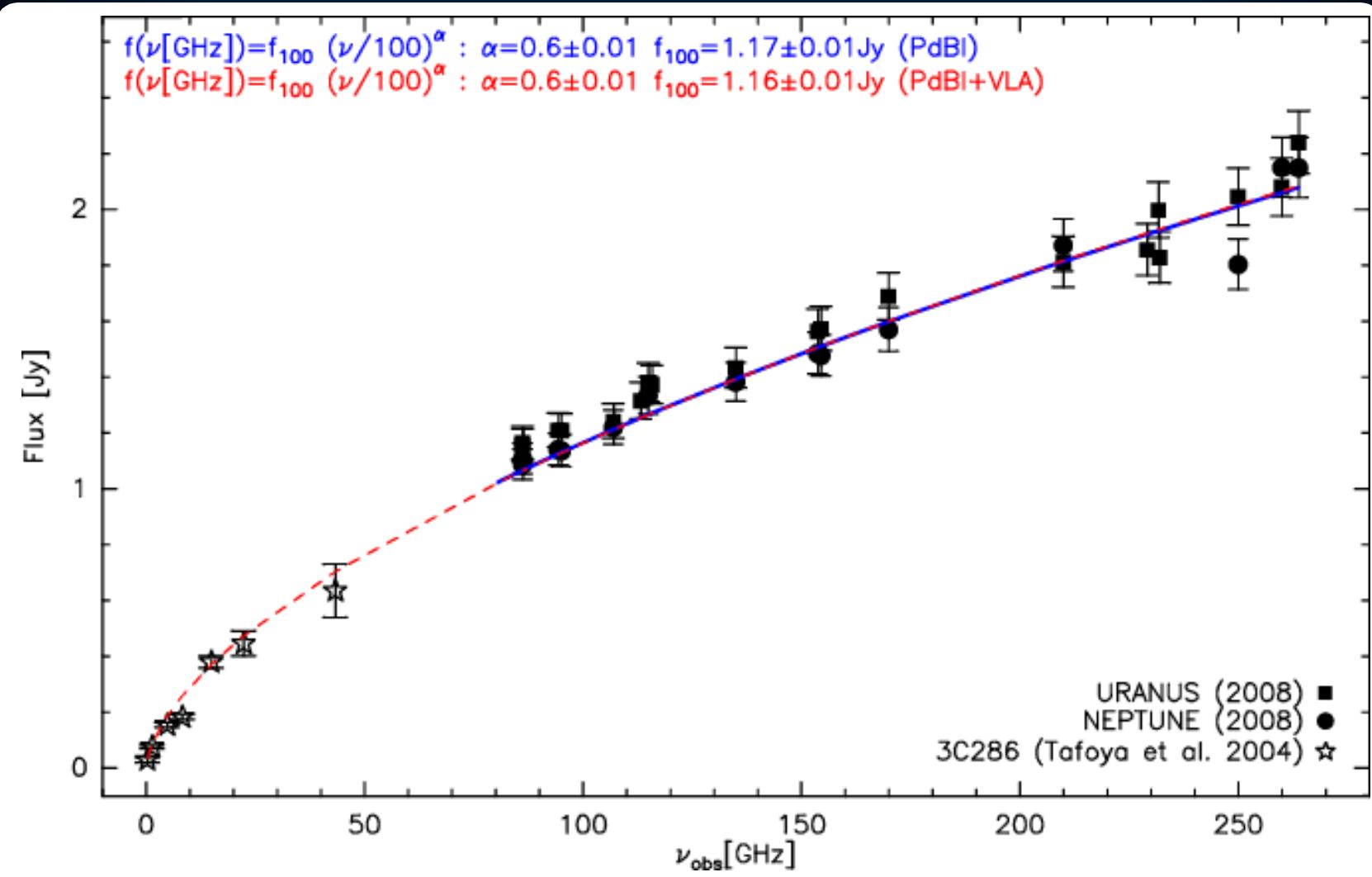
How to calibrate a calibrator?



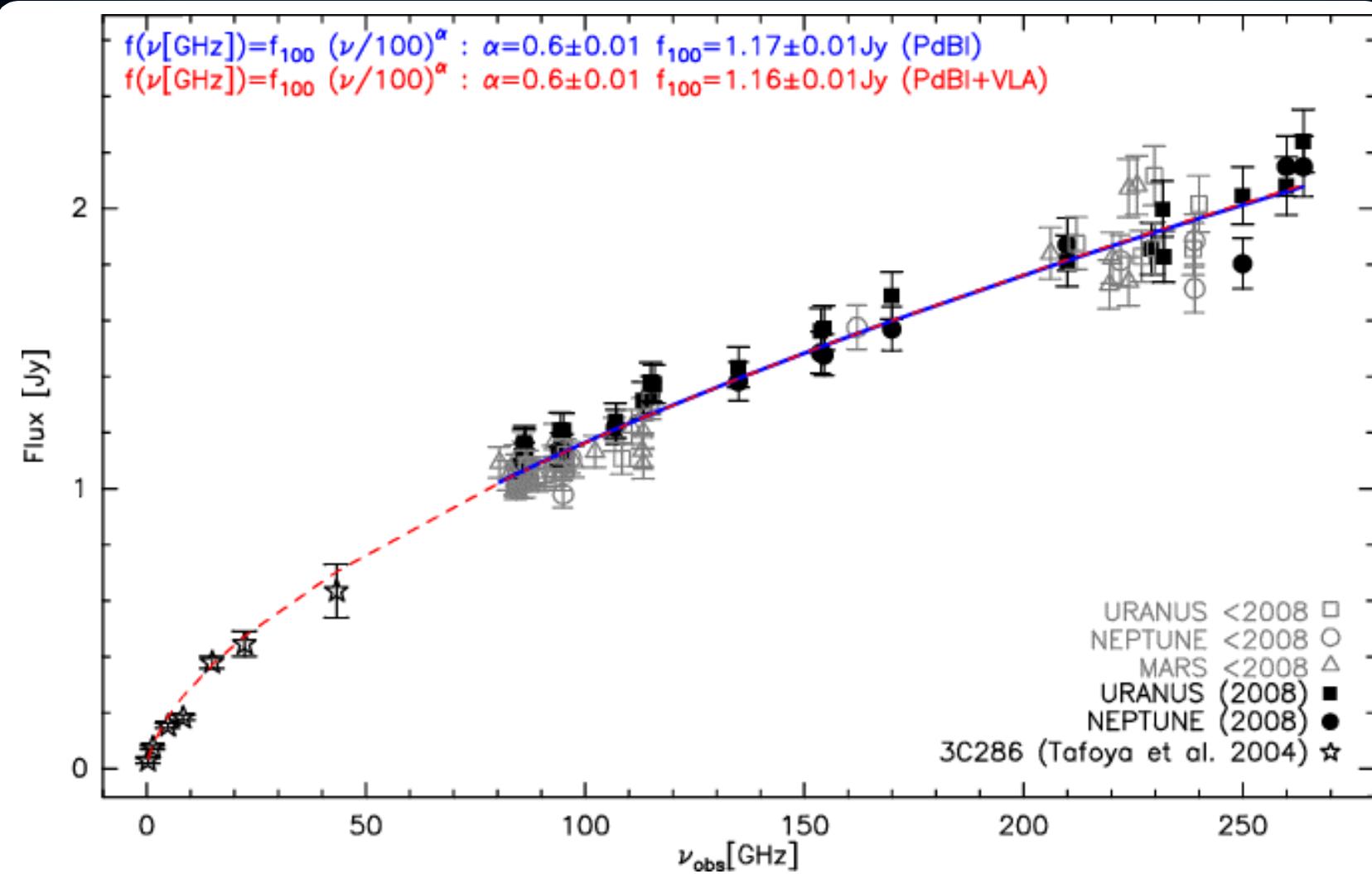
How to calibrate a calibrator?



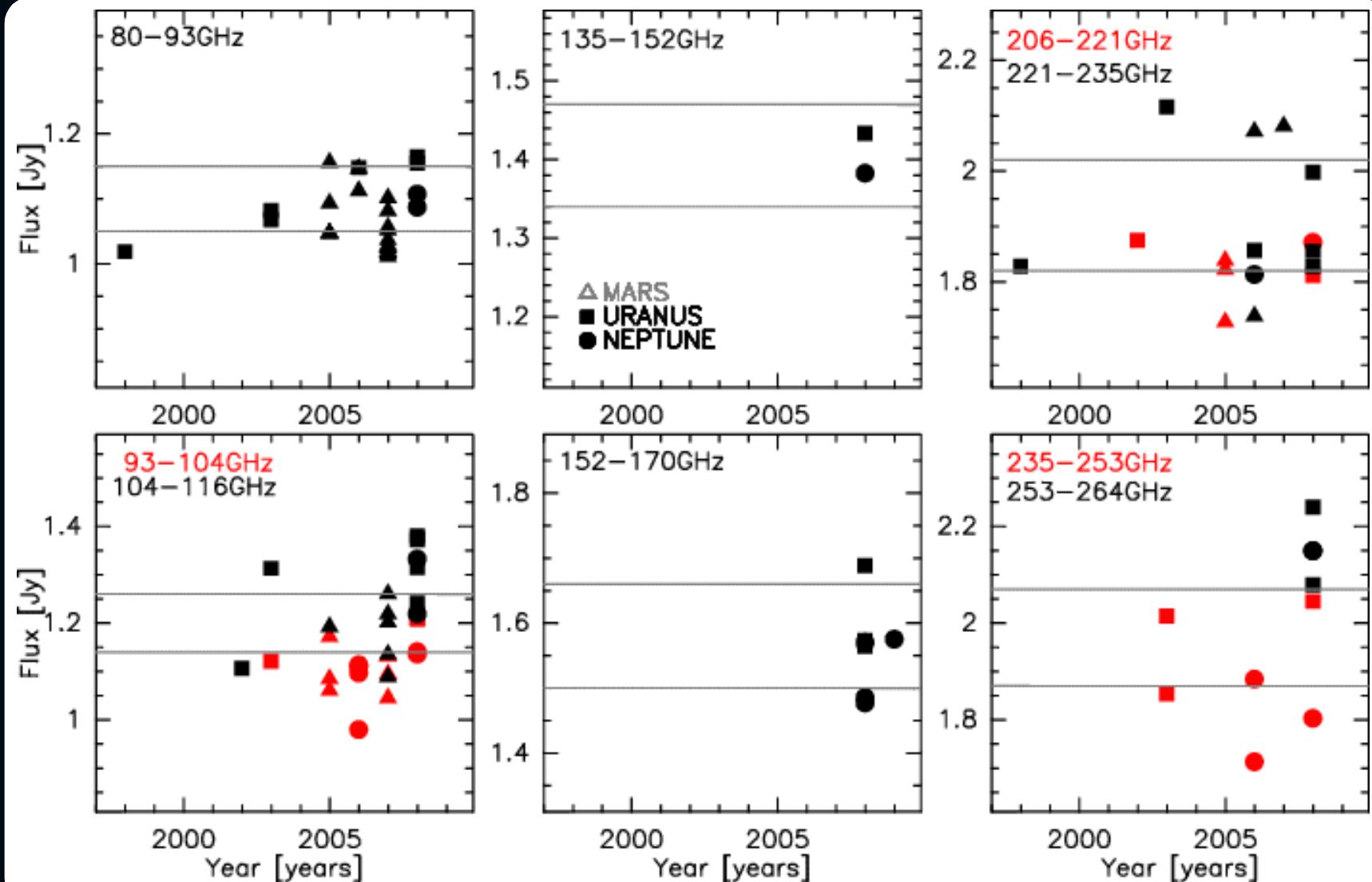
Flux of MWC348: SED



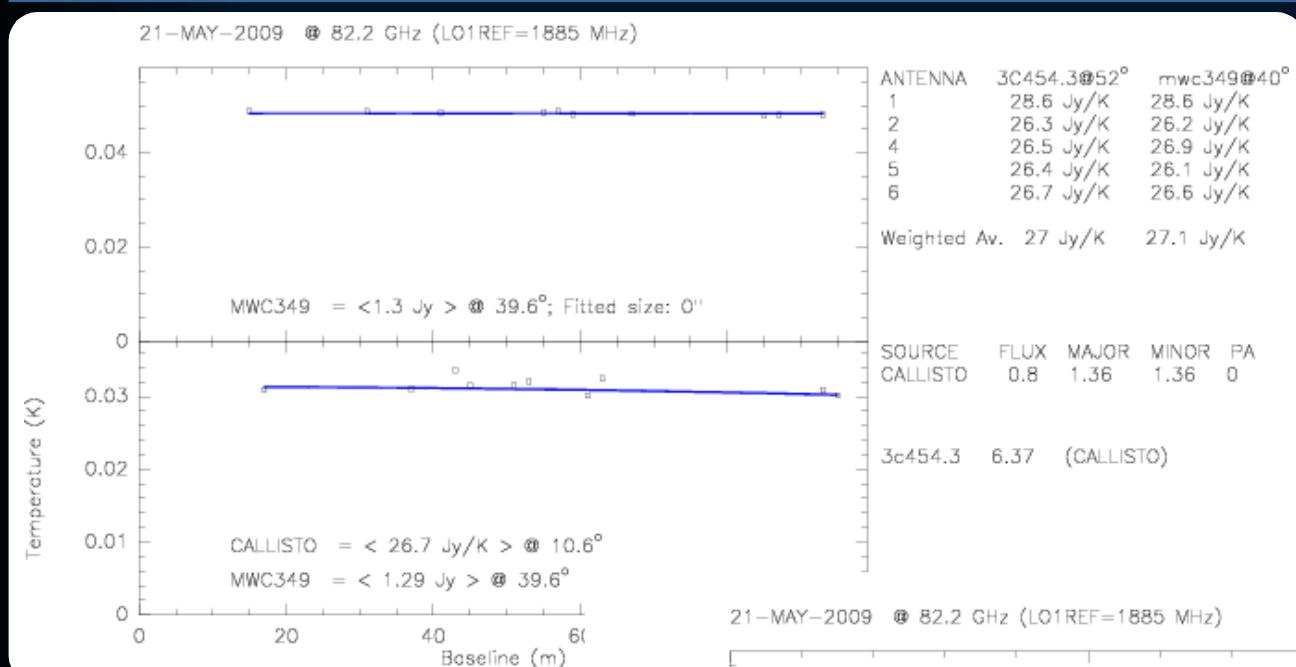
Flux of MWC348: SED



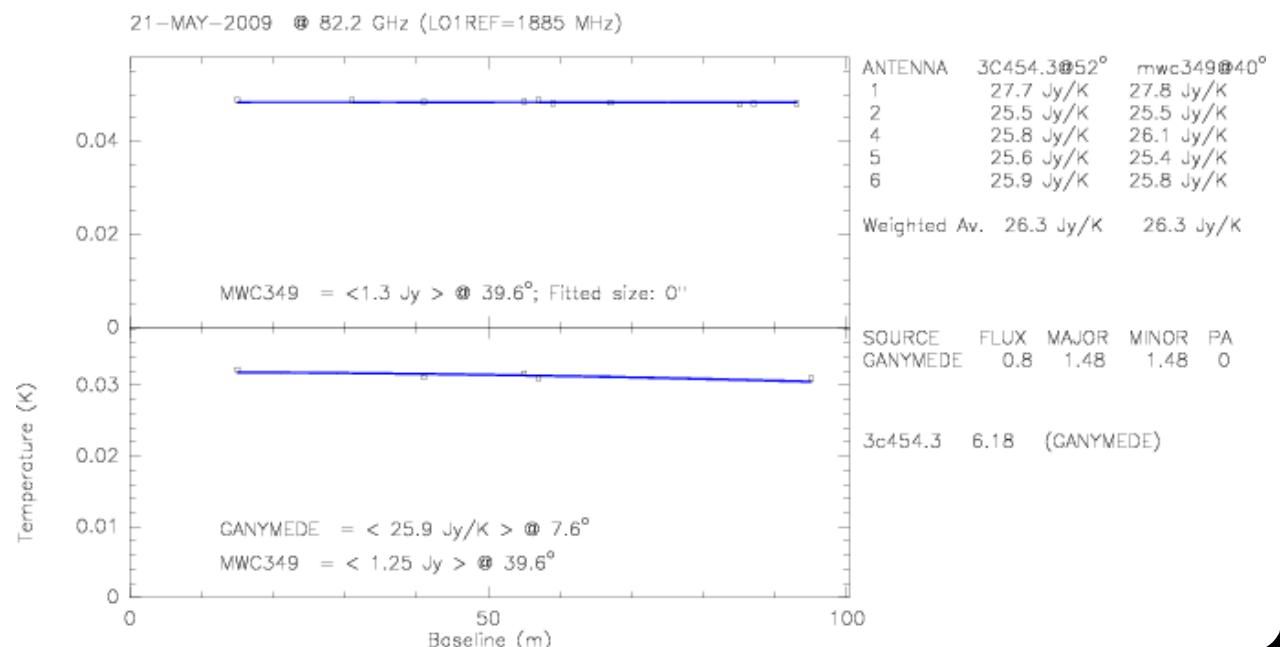
Flux of MWC348: Time variability?



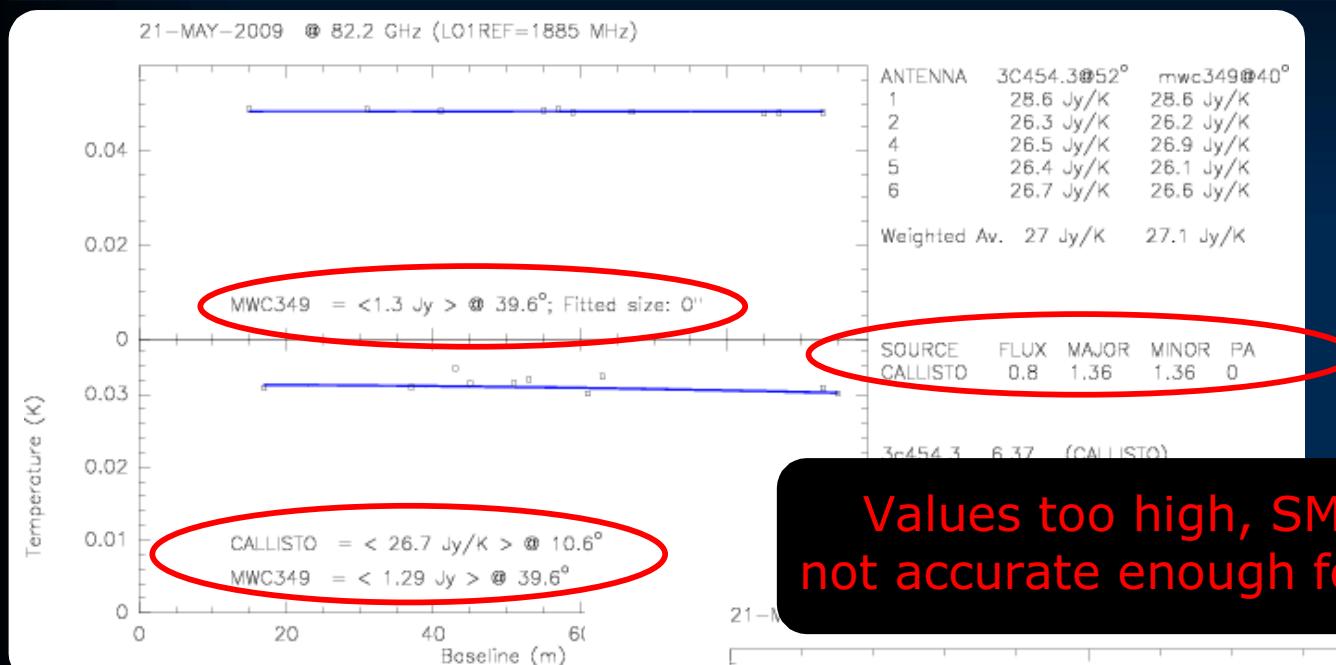
Flux of MWC348: Using satellites?



Using SMA model!

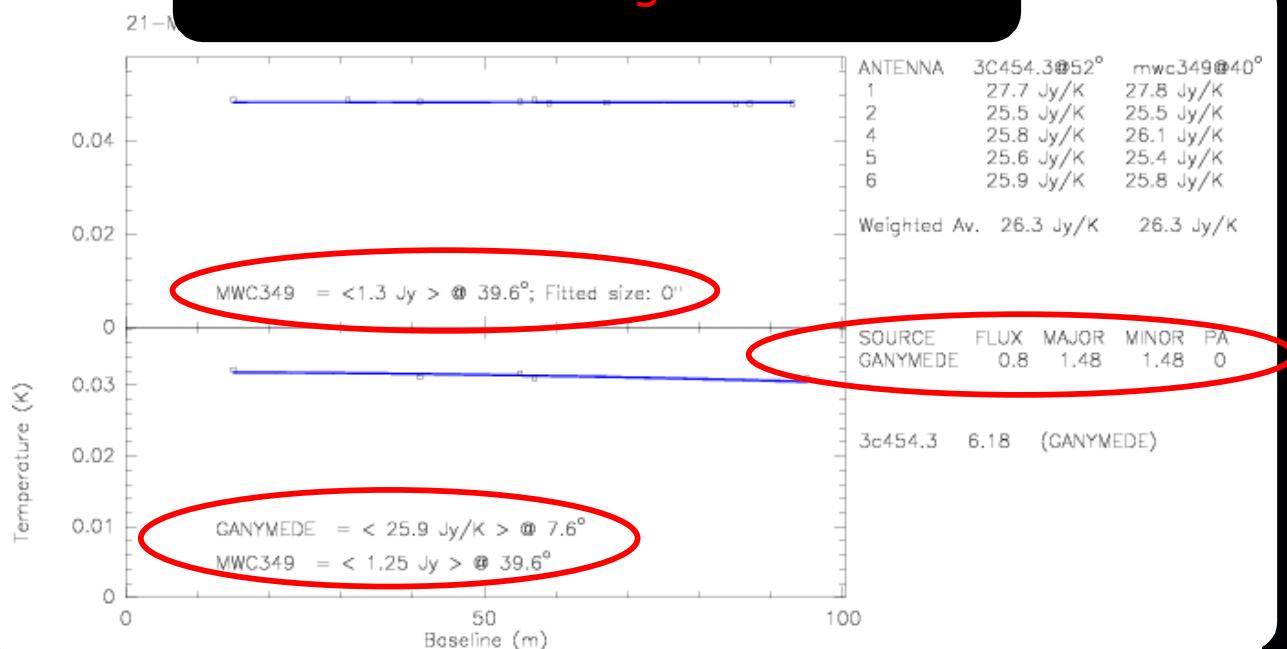


Flux of MWC348: Using satellites?

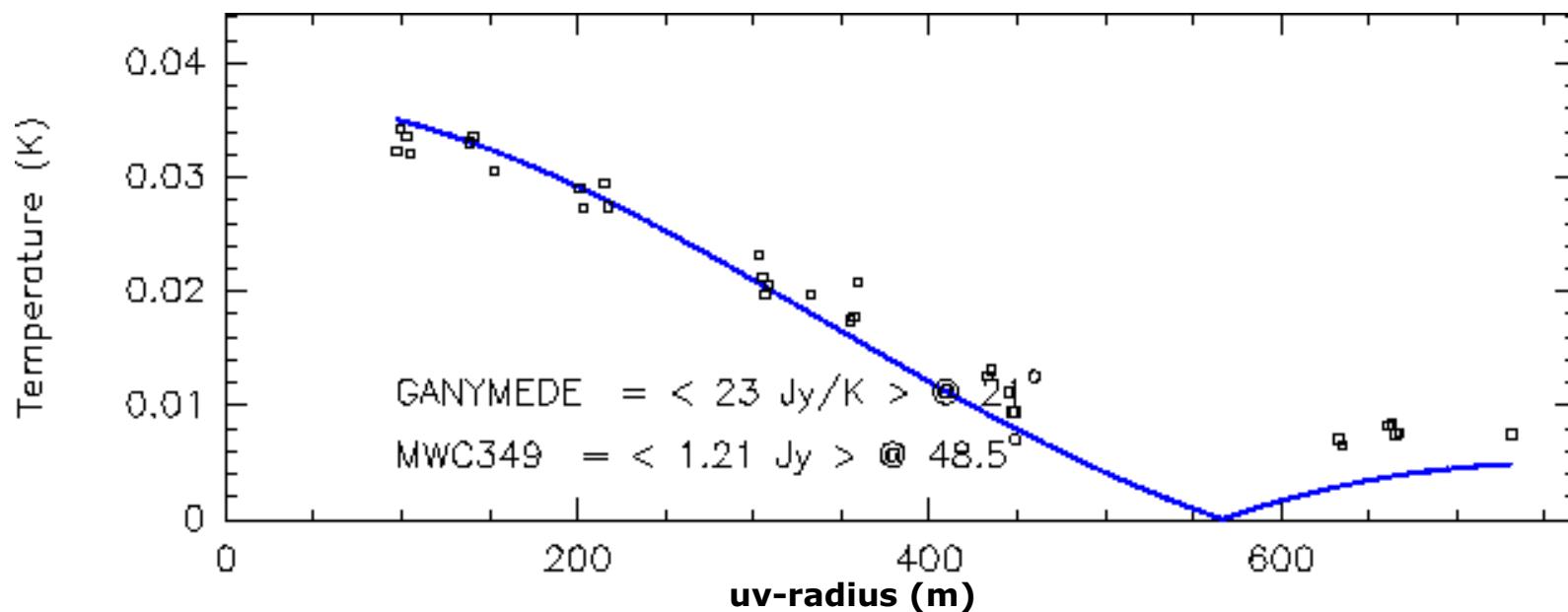


Using SMA model!

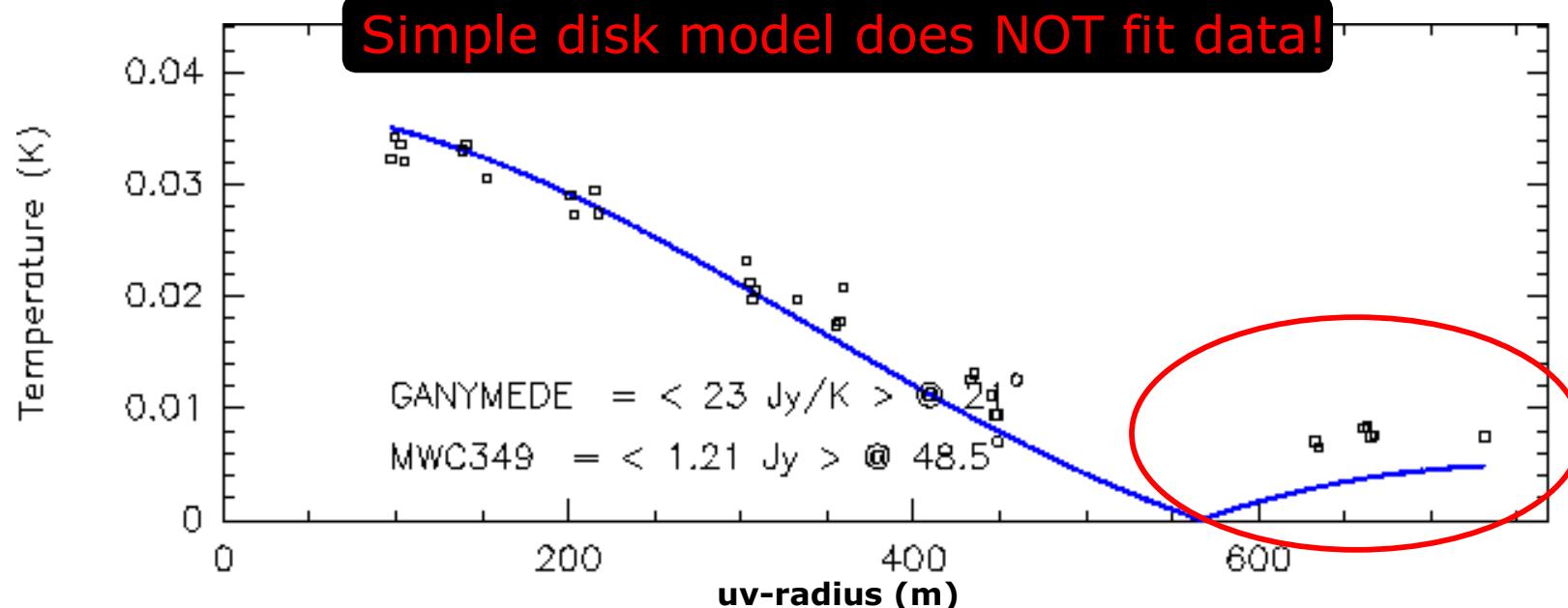
Values too high, SMA model
not accurate enough for $\lambda > 1\text{mm}$!



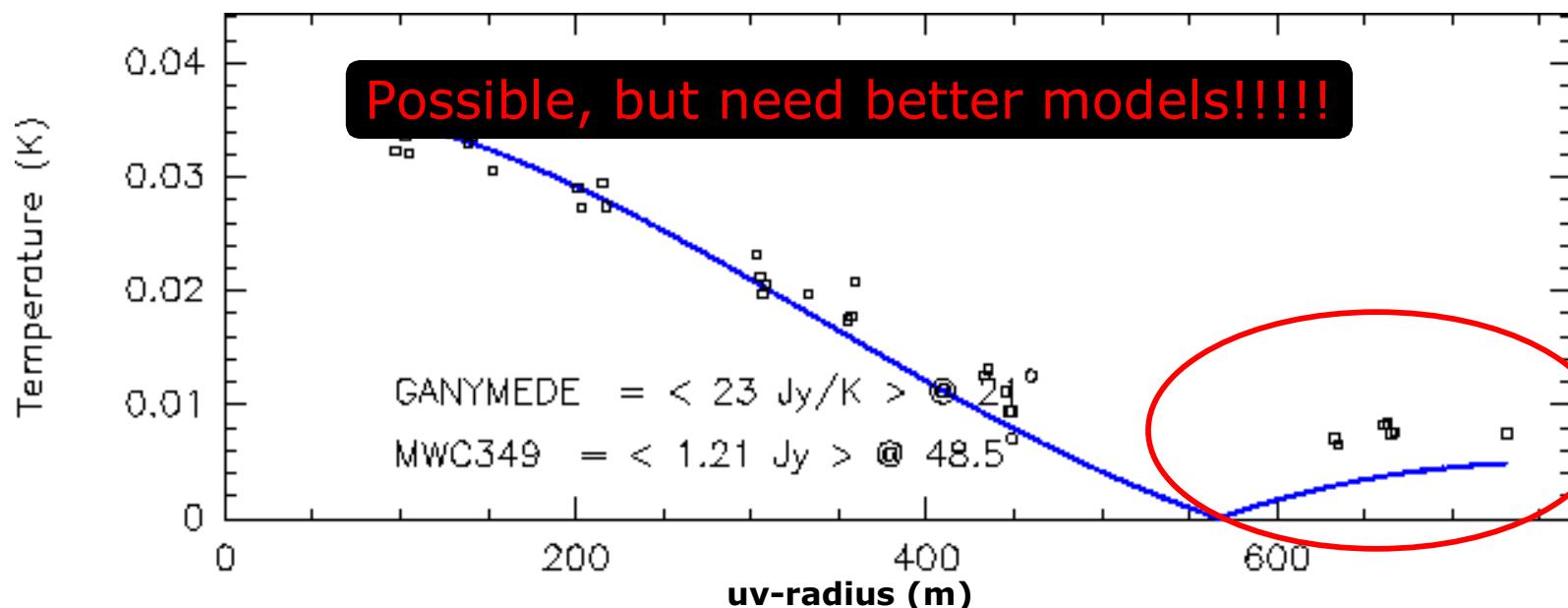
Flux of MWC348: Using satellites?



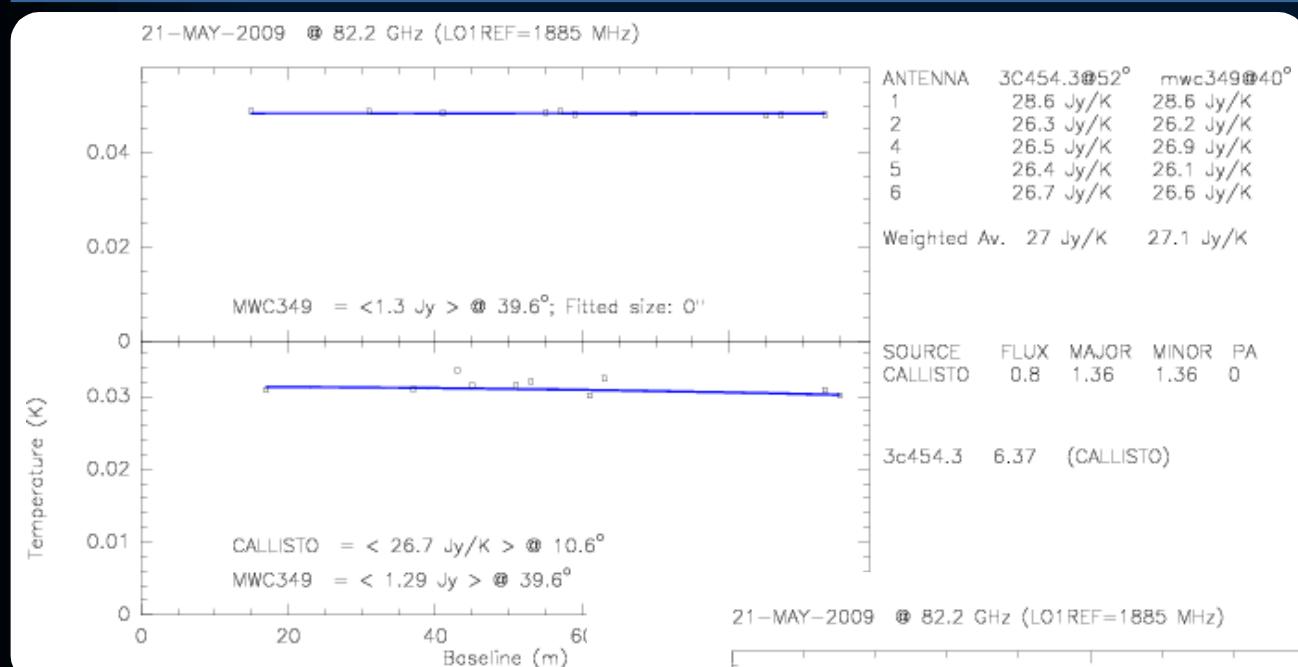
Flux of MWC348: Using satellites?



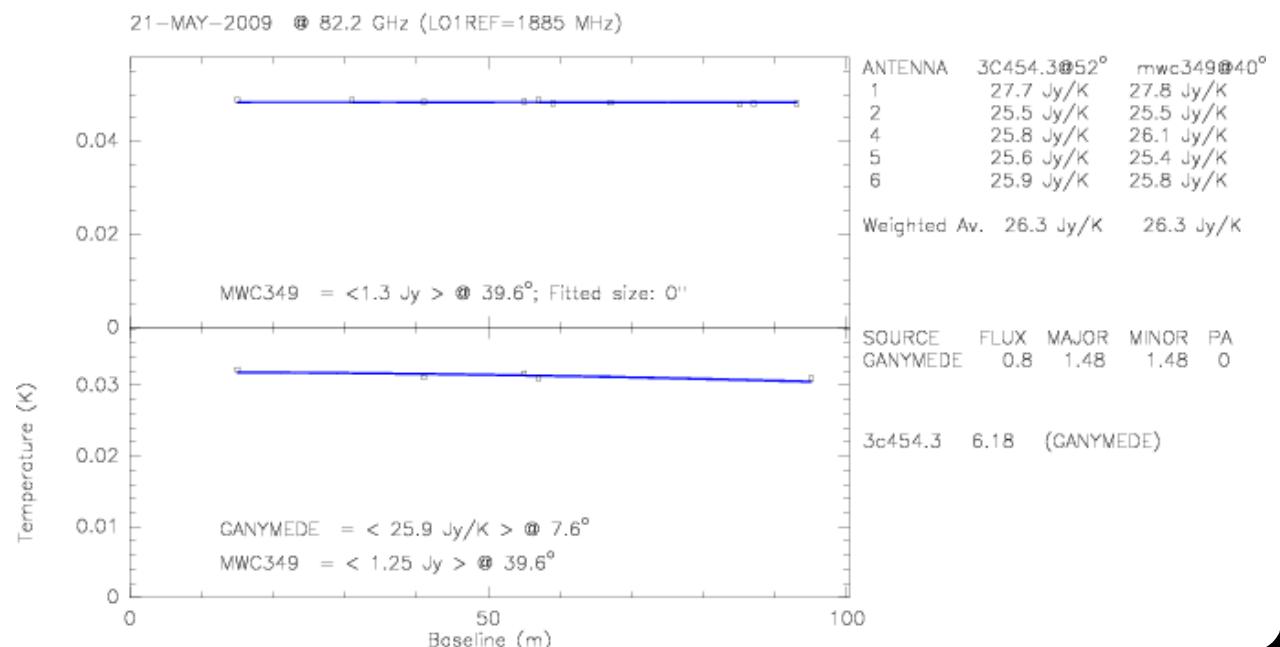
Flux of MWC348: Using satellites?



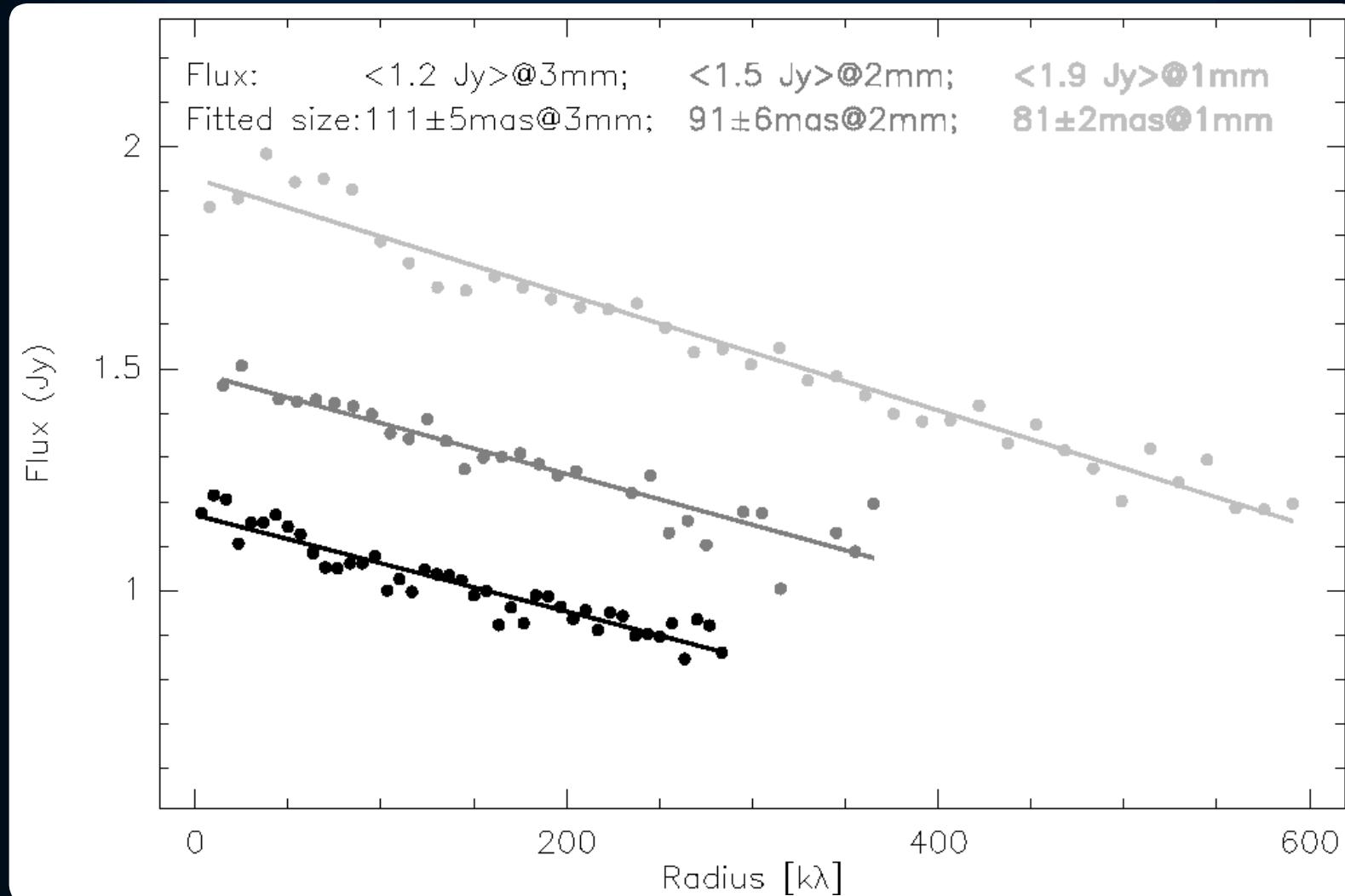
Flux of MWC348: Using satellites?



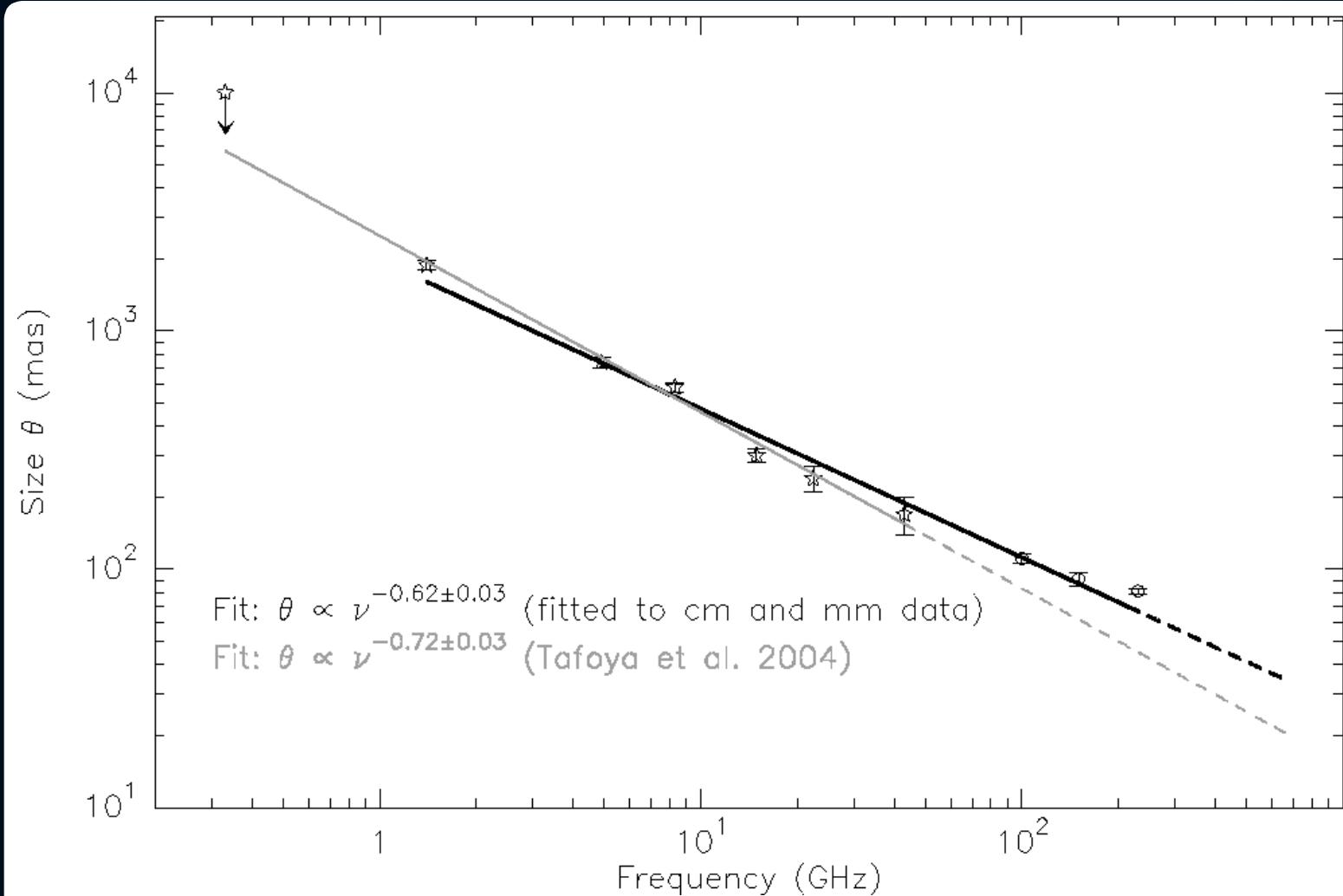
Using SMA model!



Size of MWC348



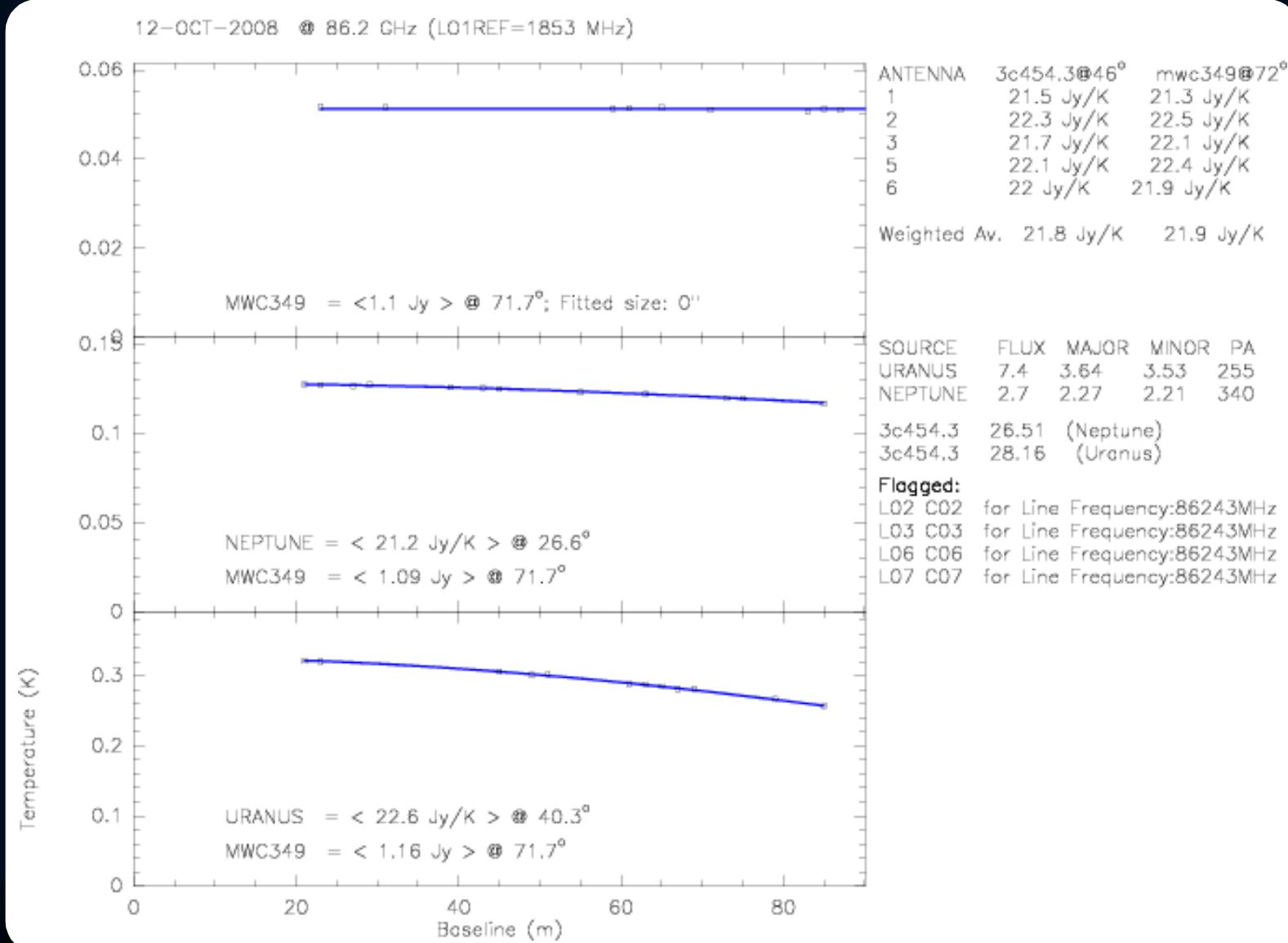
Size of MWC348



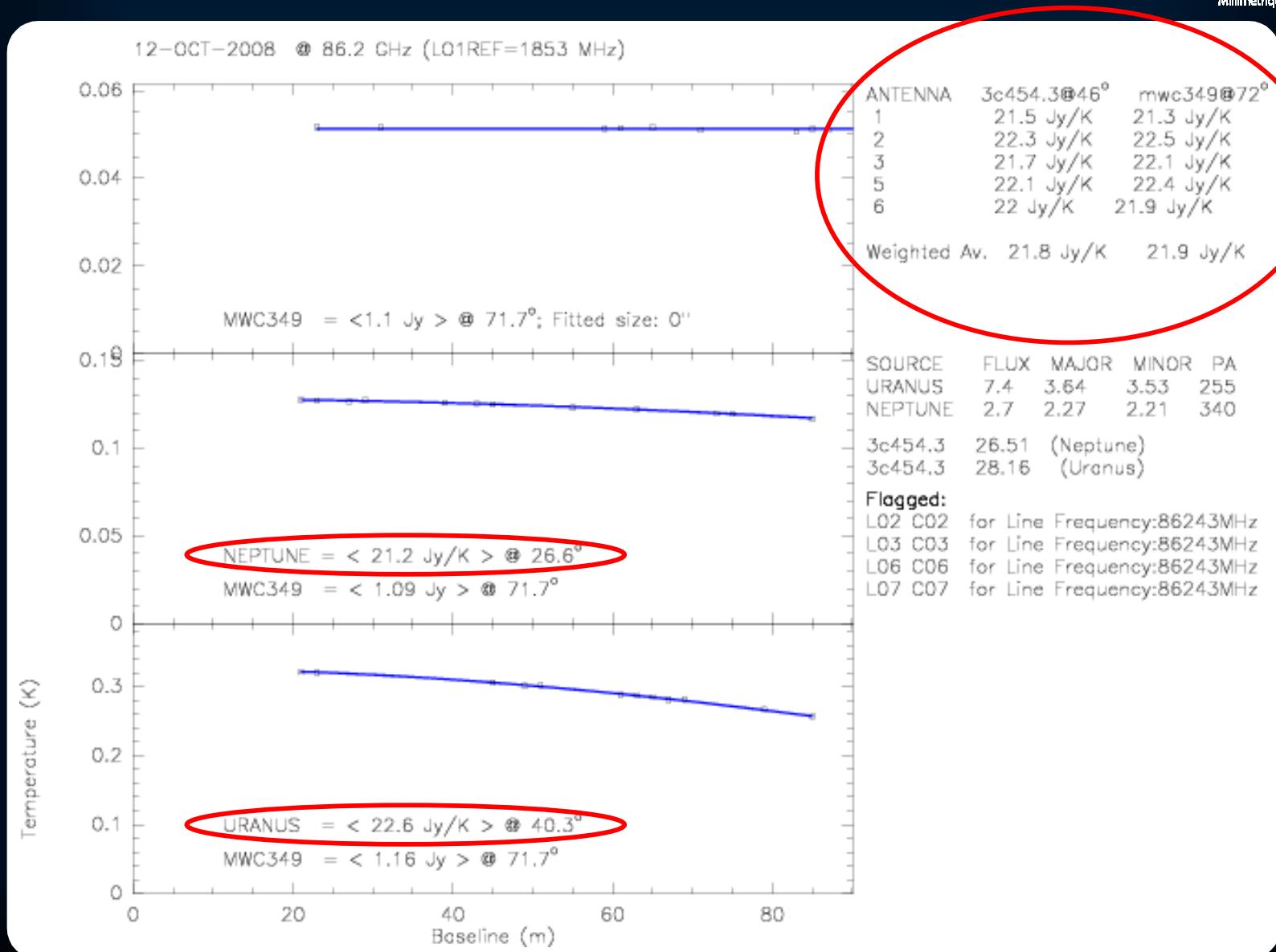
Primary Flux Calibrators

1. Quasars
2. Planets
3. Solar Bodies
(Satellites, Asteroids,
Dwarf Planets)
4. Radio Stars
5. Antenna Efficiencies?

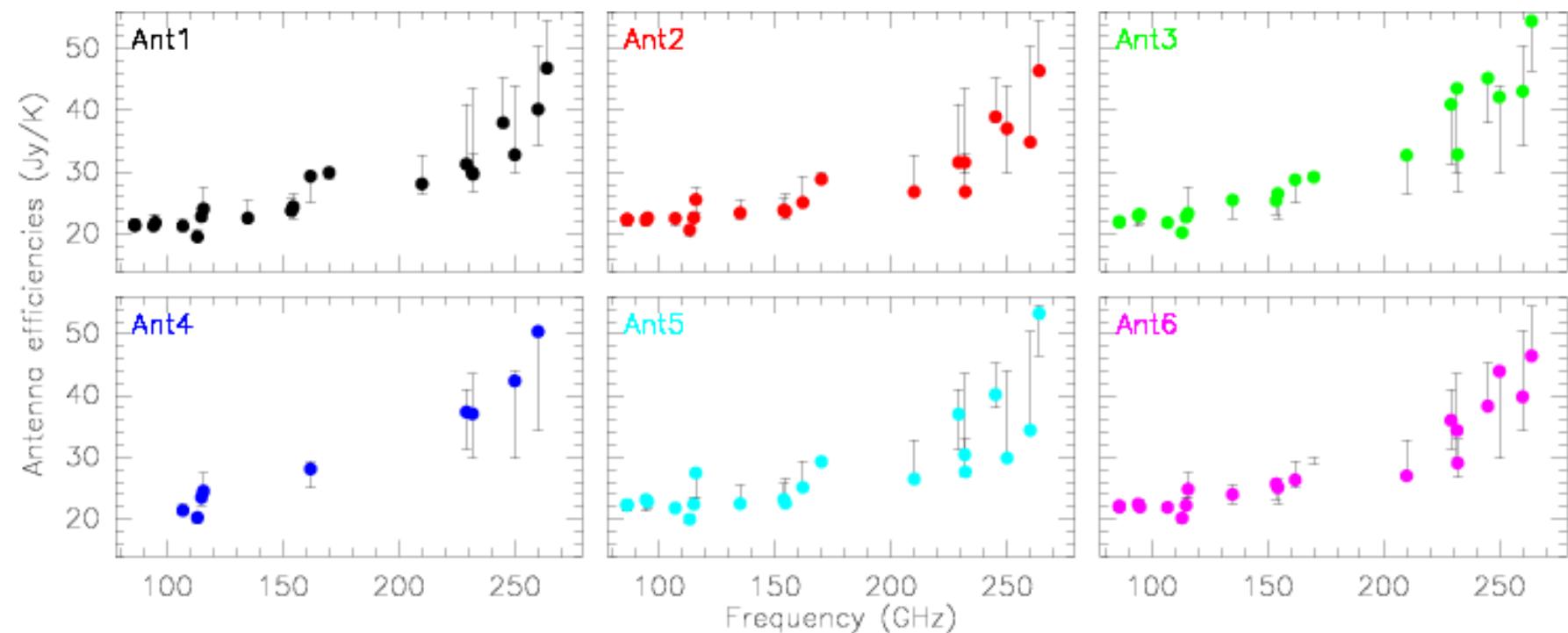
"By-product" of calibration



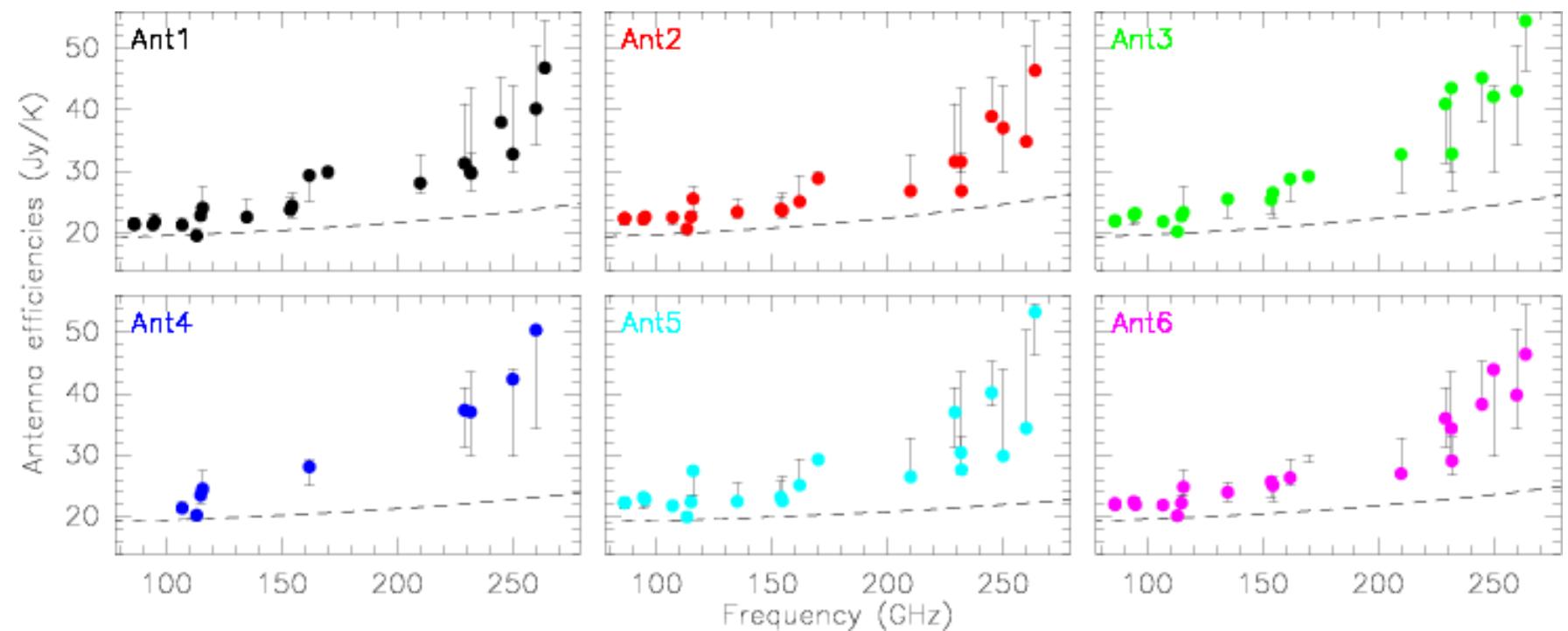
"By-product" of calibration: getting antenna efficiencies!



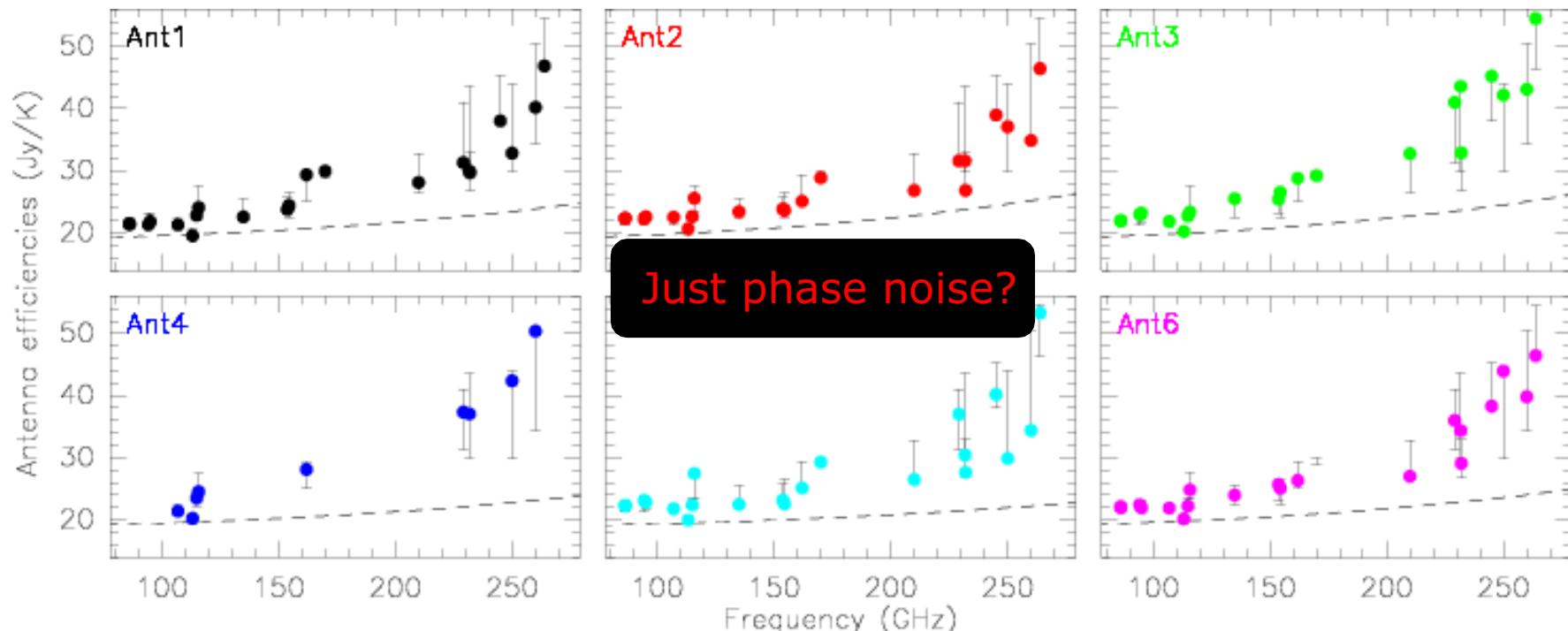
Antenna Efficiencies: Interferometrically



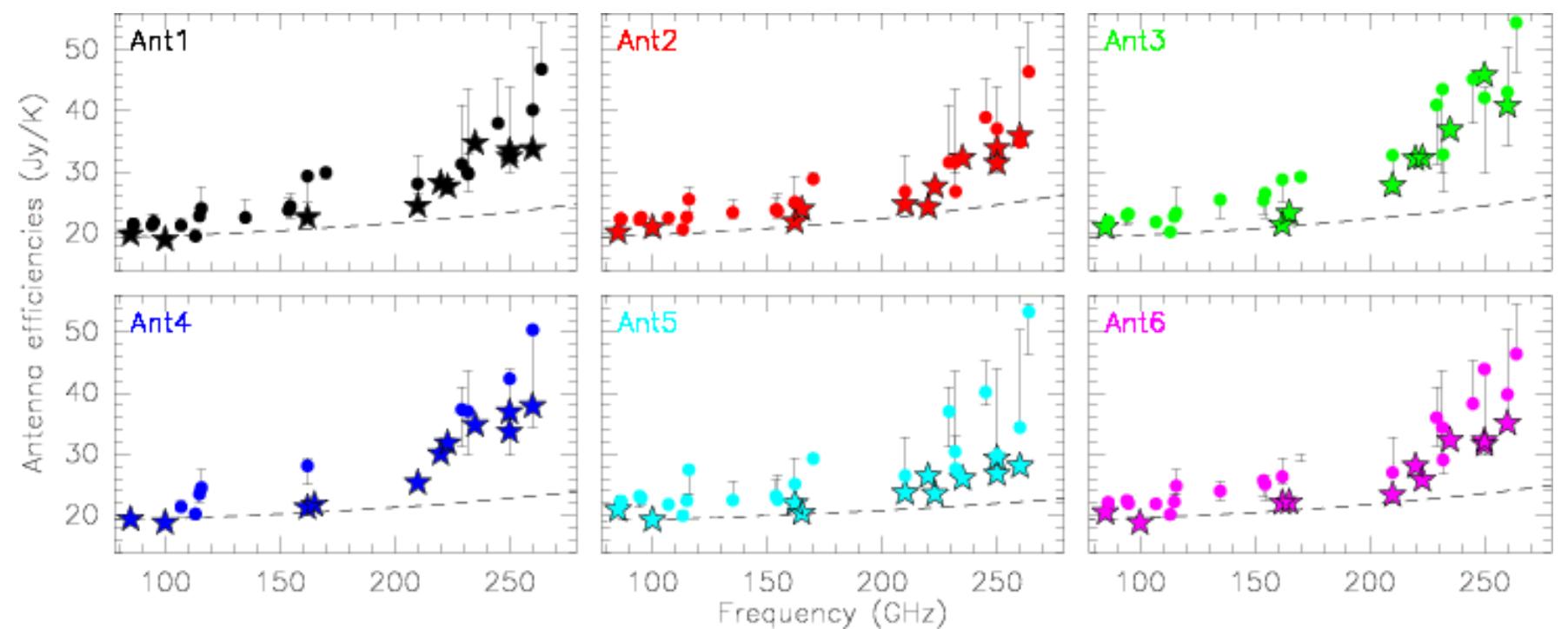
Antenna Efficiencies: Interferometrically + Holo



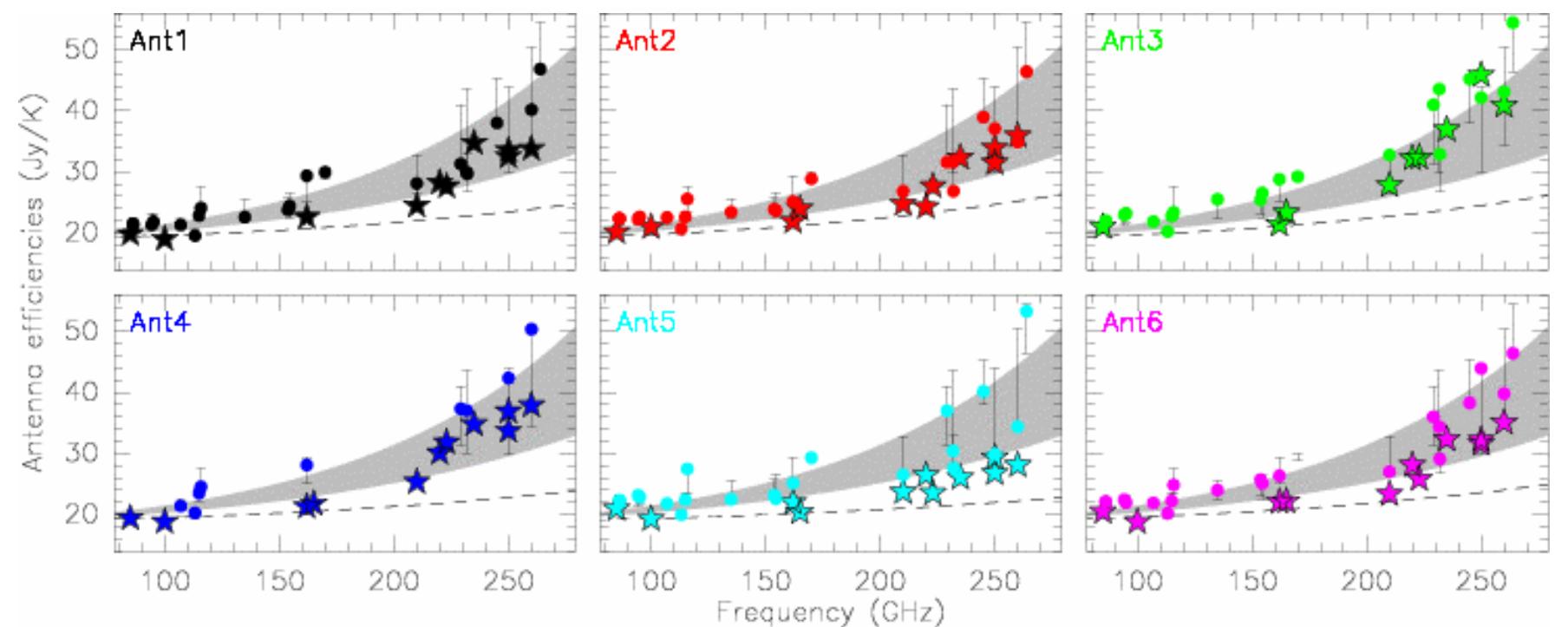
Antenna Efficiencies: Interferometrically + Holo



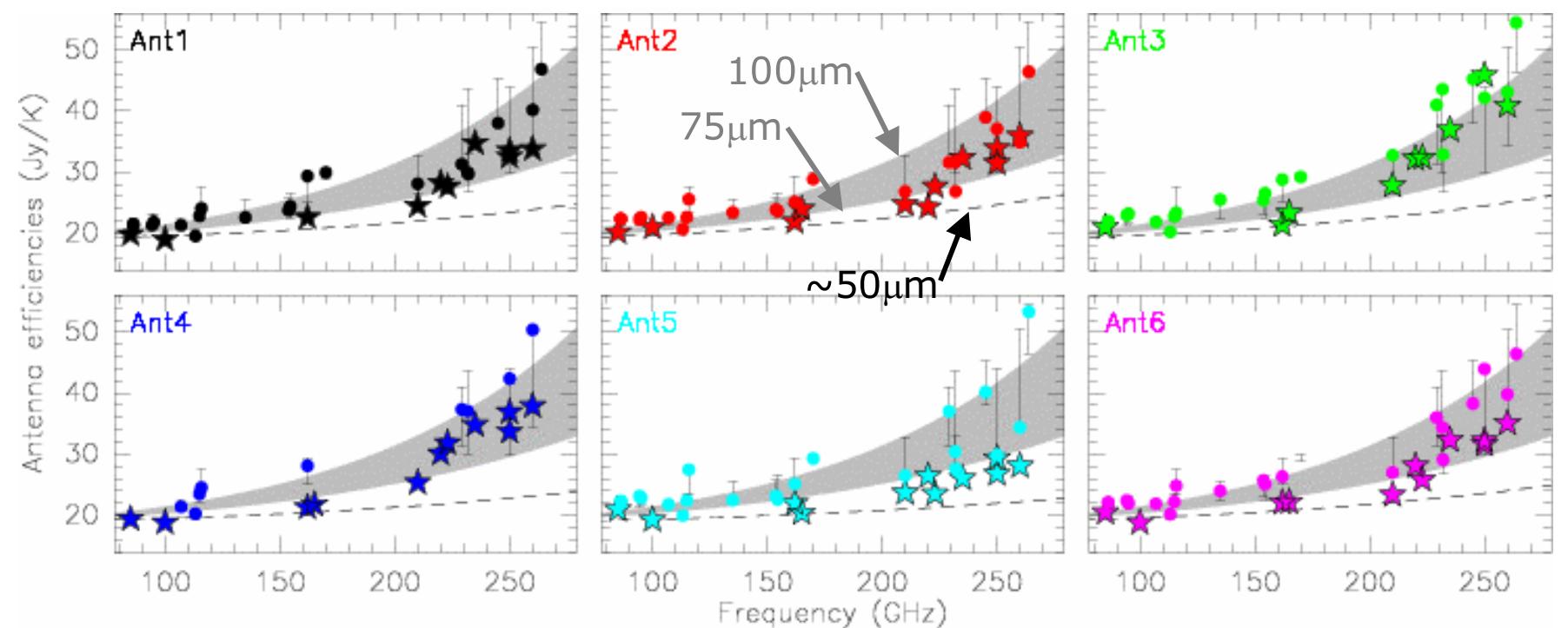
Antenna Efficiencies: Interferometrically + Holo + SD



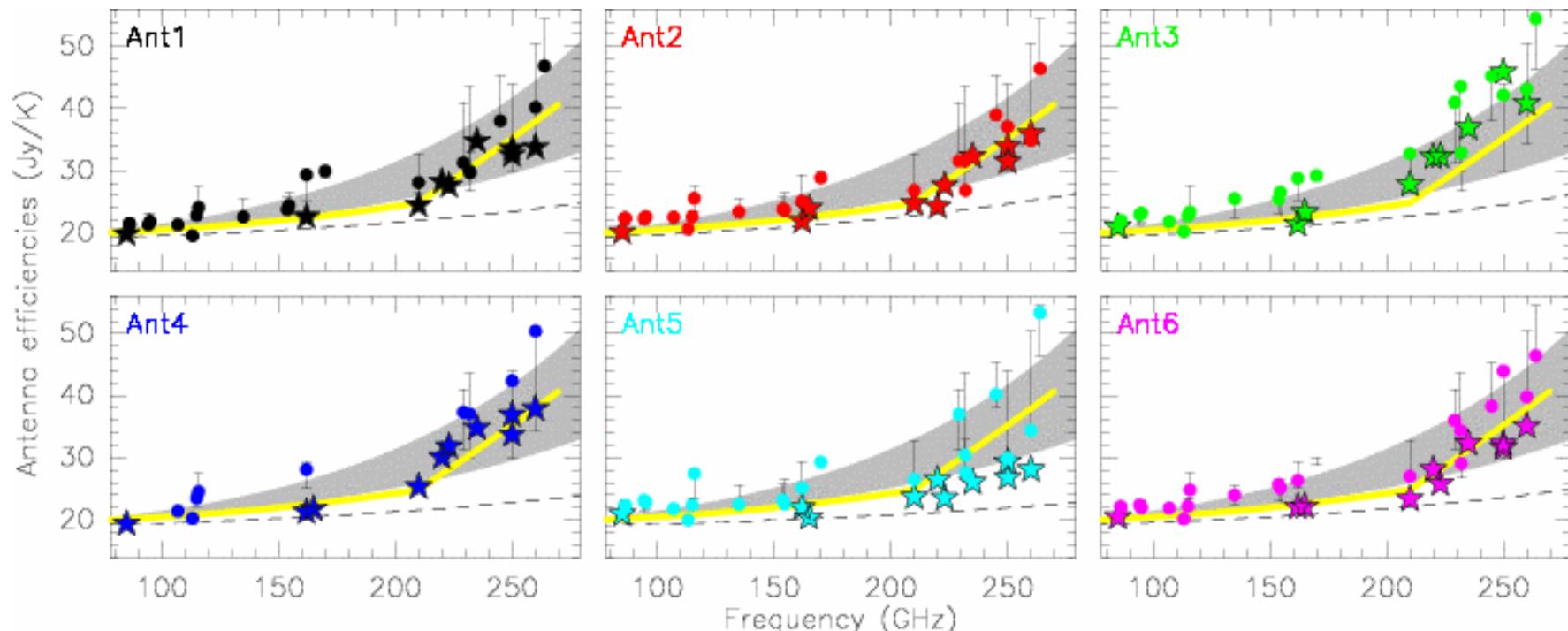
Antenna Efficiencies: Interferometrically + Holo + SD



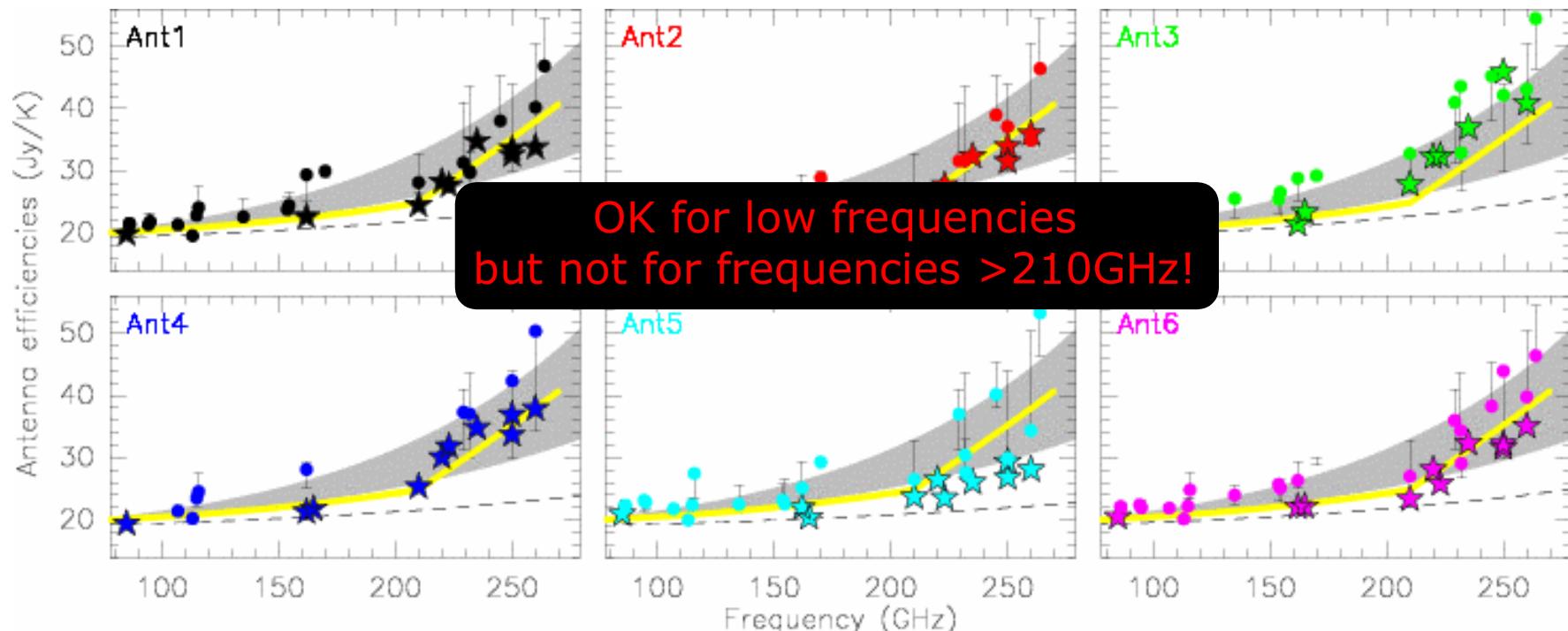
Antenna Efficiencies: Interferometrically + Holo + SD



Antenna Efficiencies: Interferometrically + Holo + SD



Antenna Efficiencies: Interferometrically + Holo + SD

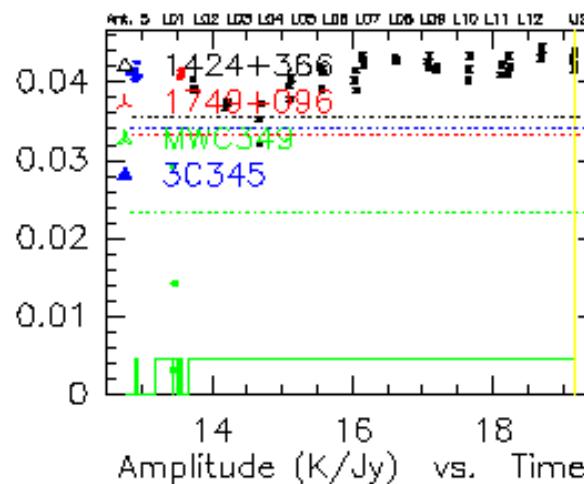
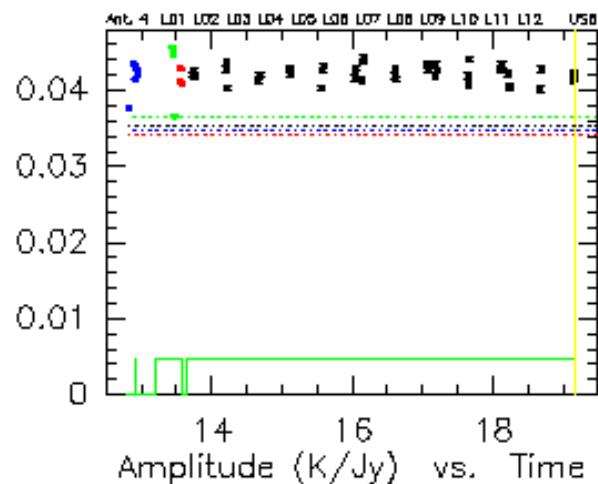
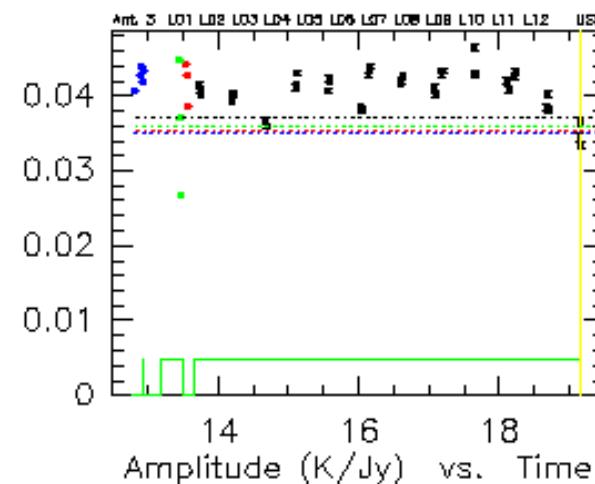
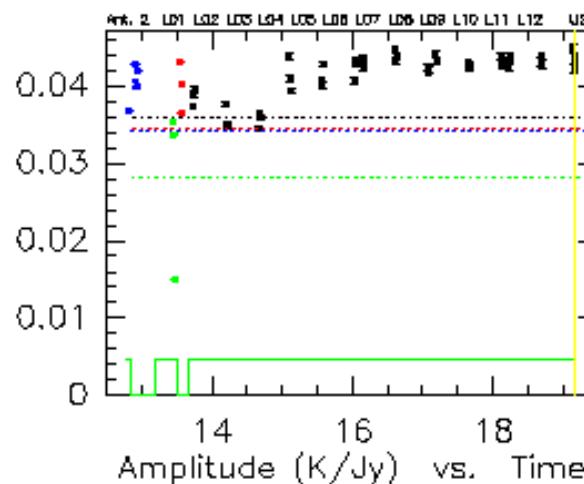
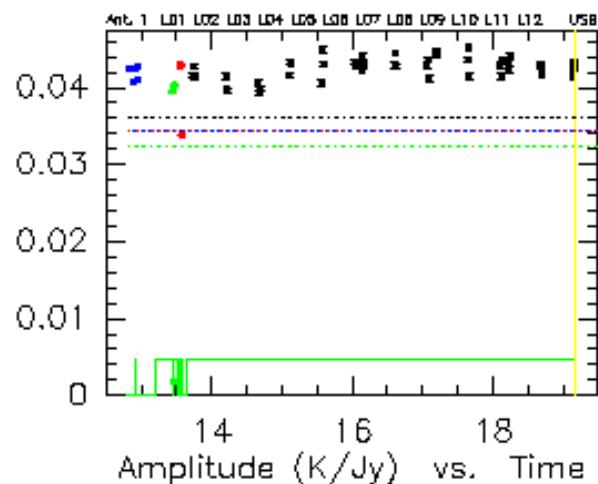


Practical Tips

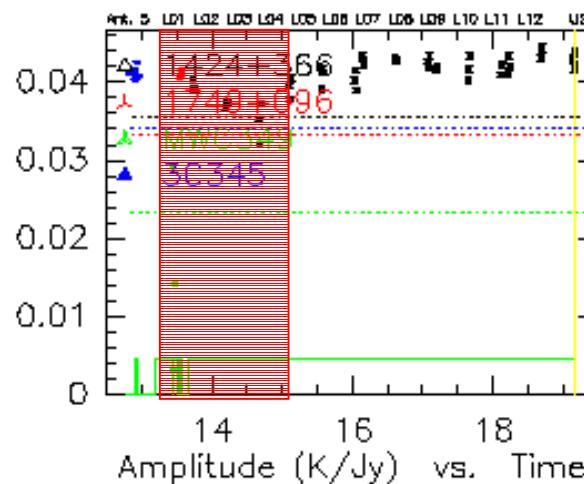
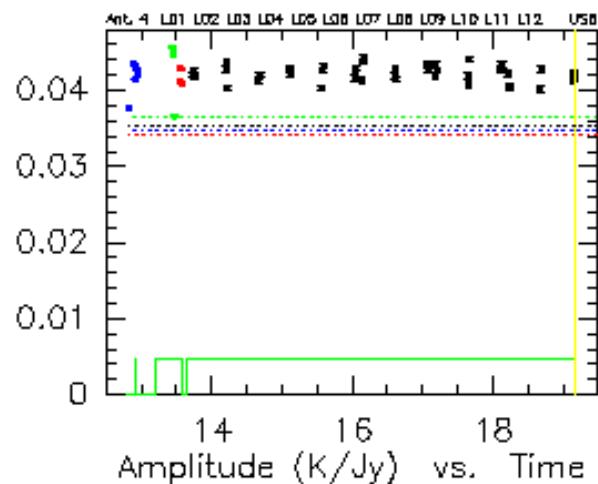
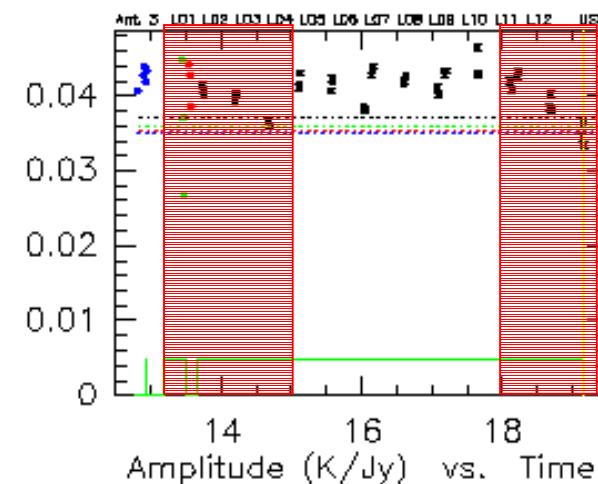
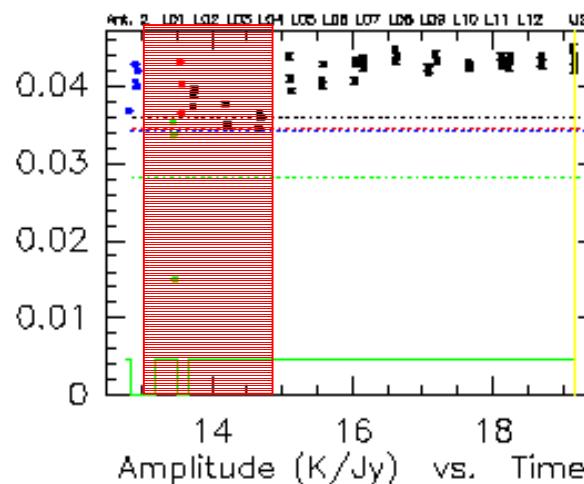
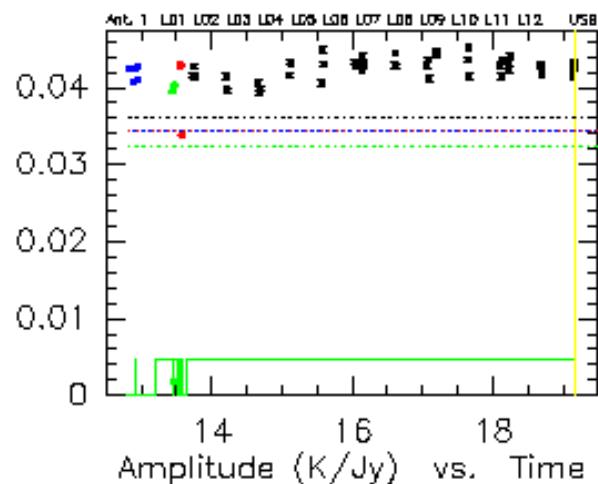
Checklist:

- Antenna Shadowing
- Pointing/Focus Problems
- Tracking Problems
- Do phases of different spectral windows overlap?
- Noisy data
- Has Flux Calibrator Lines?
- Is Flux Calibrator Extended?
- Check Elevation of your source
- Check whether source is polarised
(only important when using NC with one polarisation)

Practical Tips

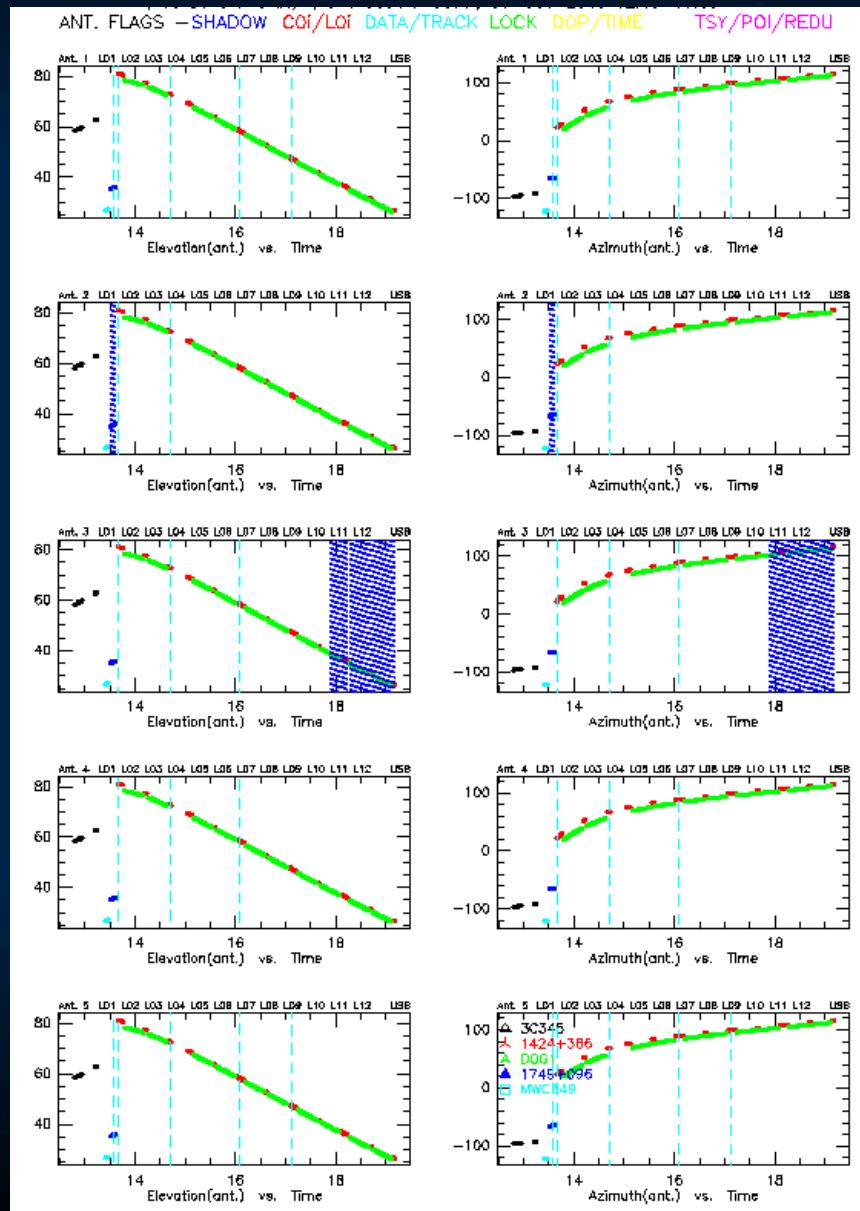


Practical Tips

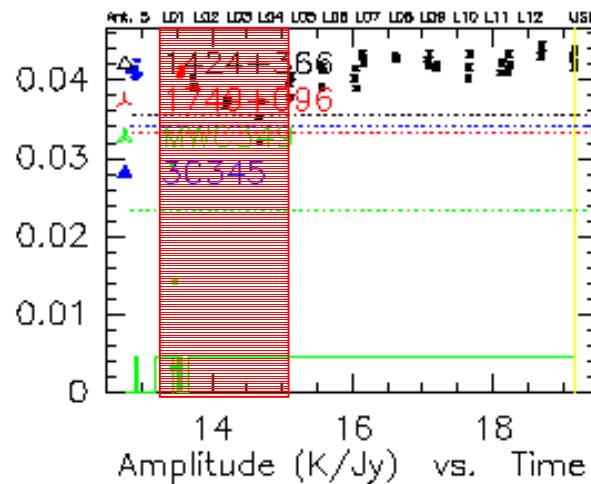
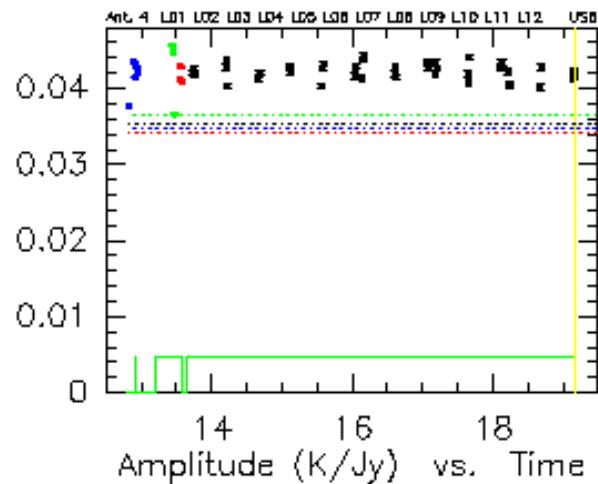
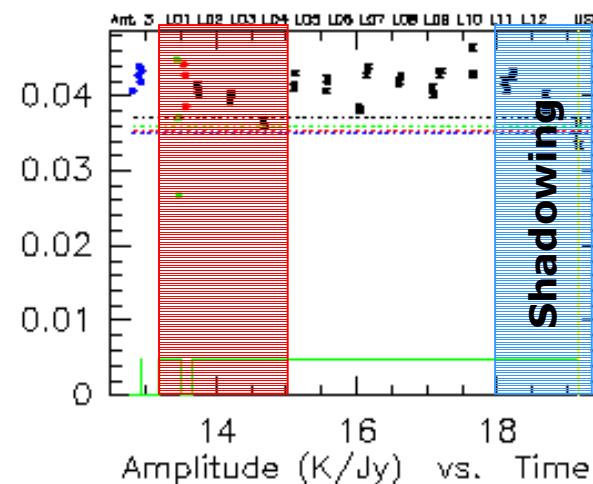
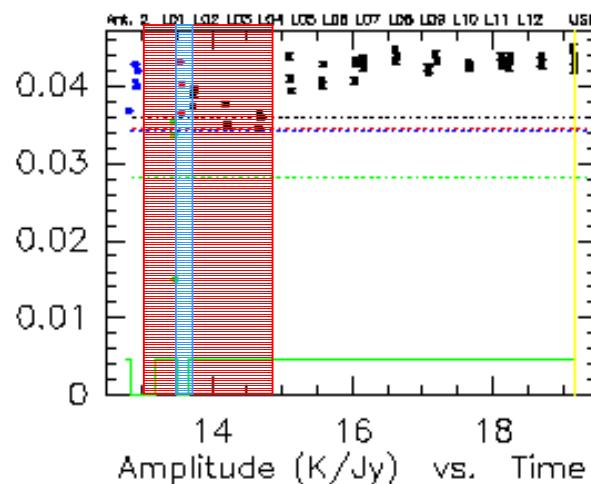
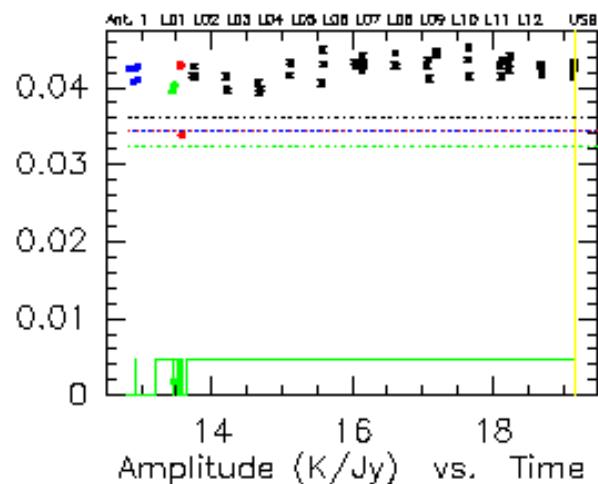


Practical Tips: Shadowing

First Look

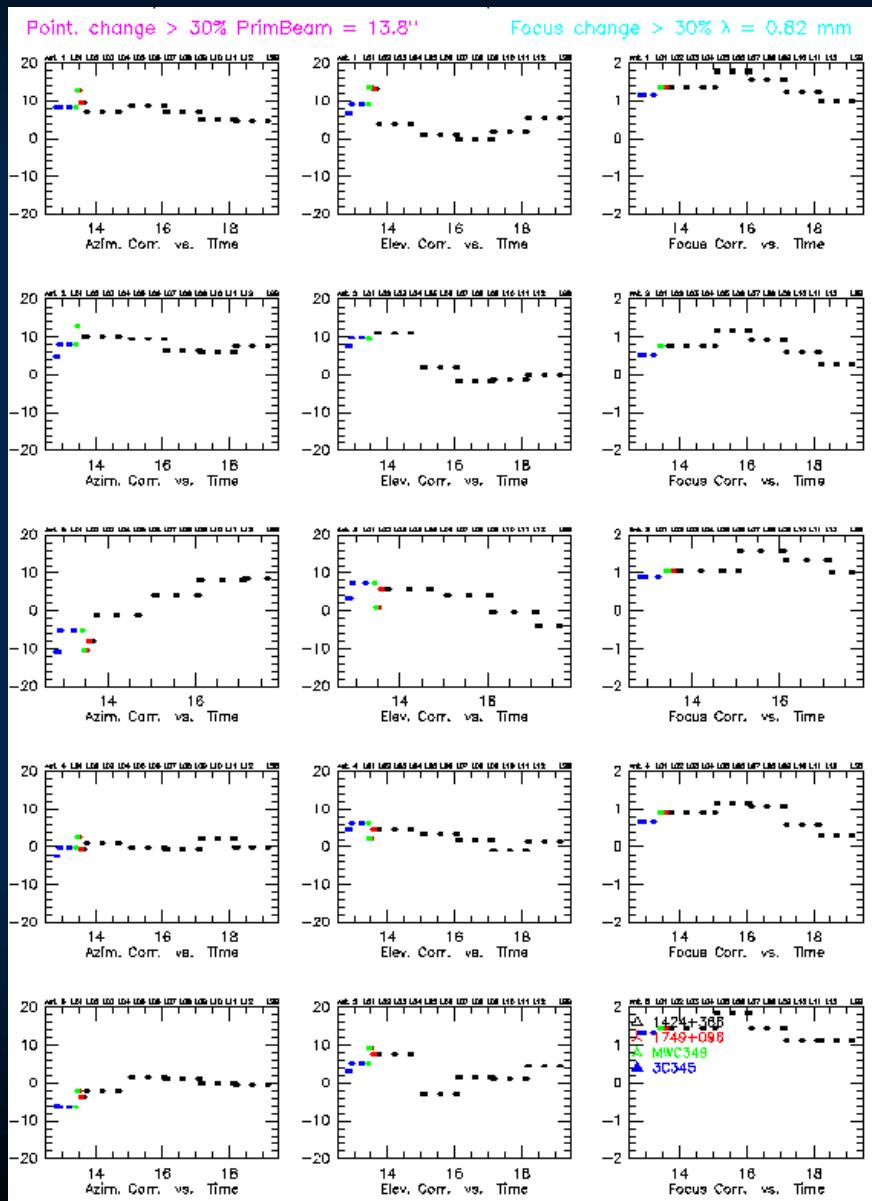


Practical Tips: Shadowing



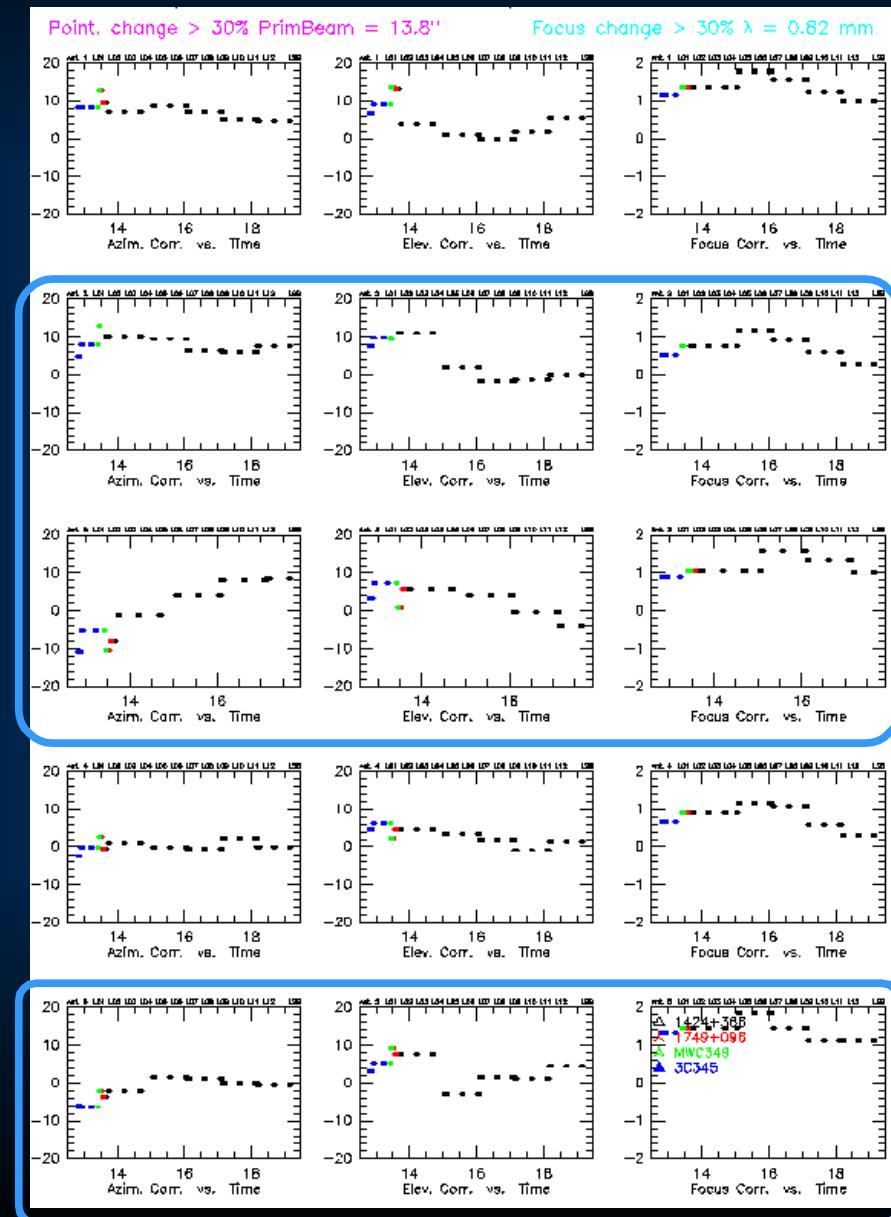
Practical Tips: Pointing/Focus

First Look



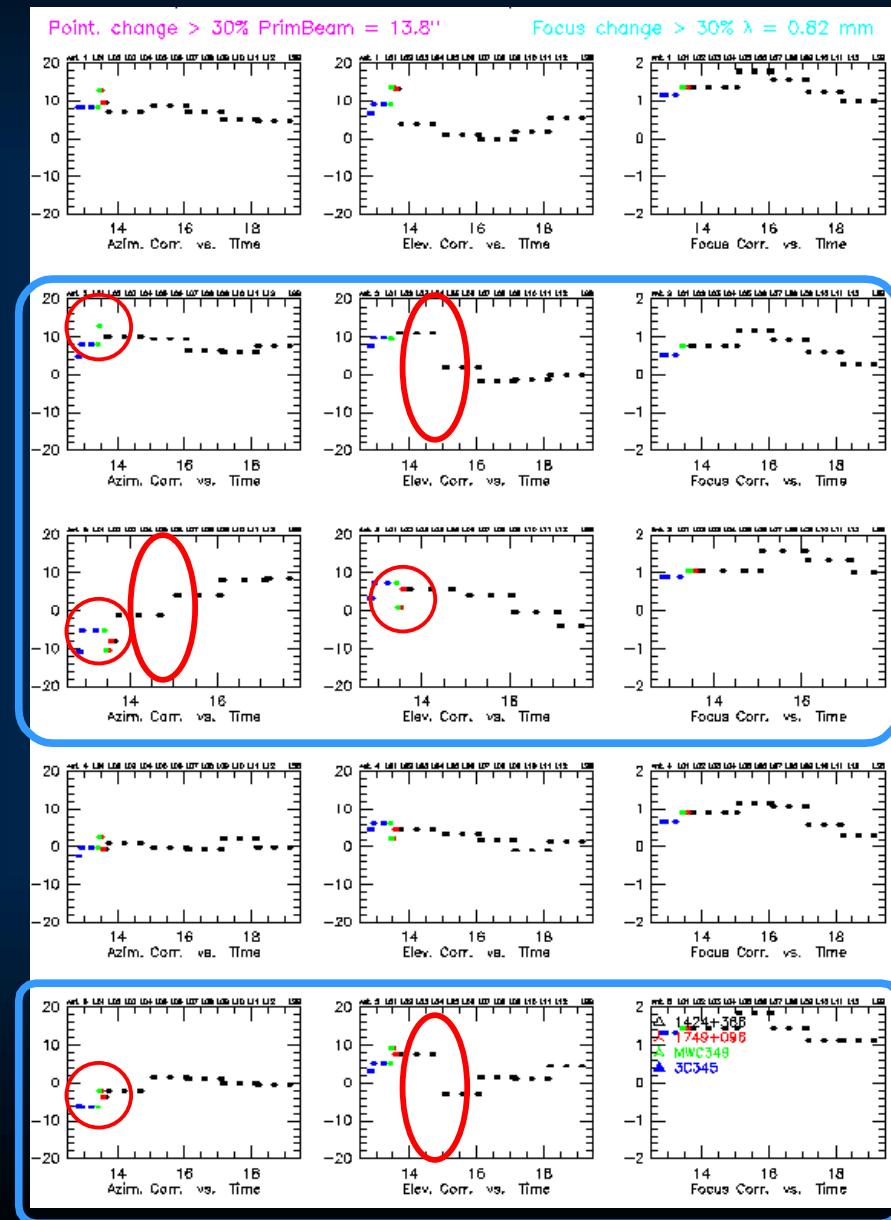
Practical Tips : Pointing/Focus

First Look



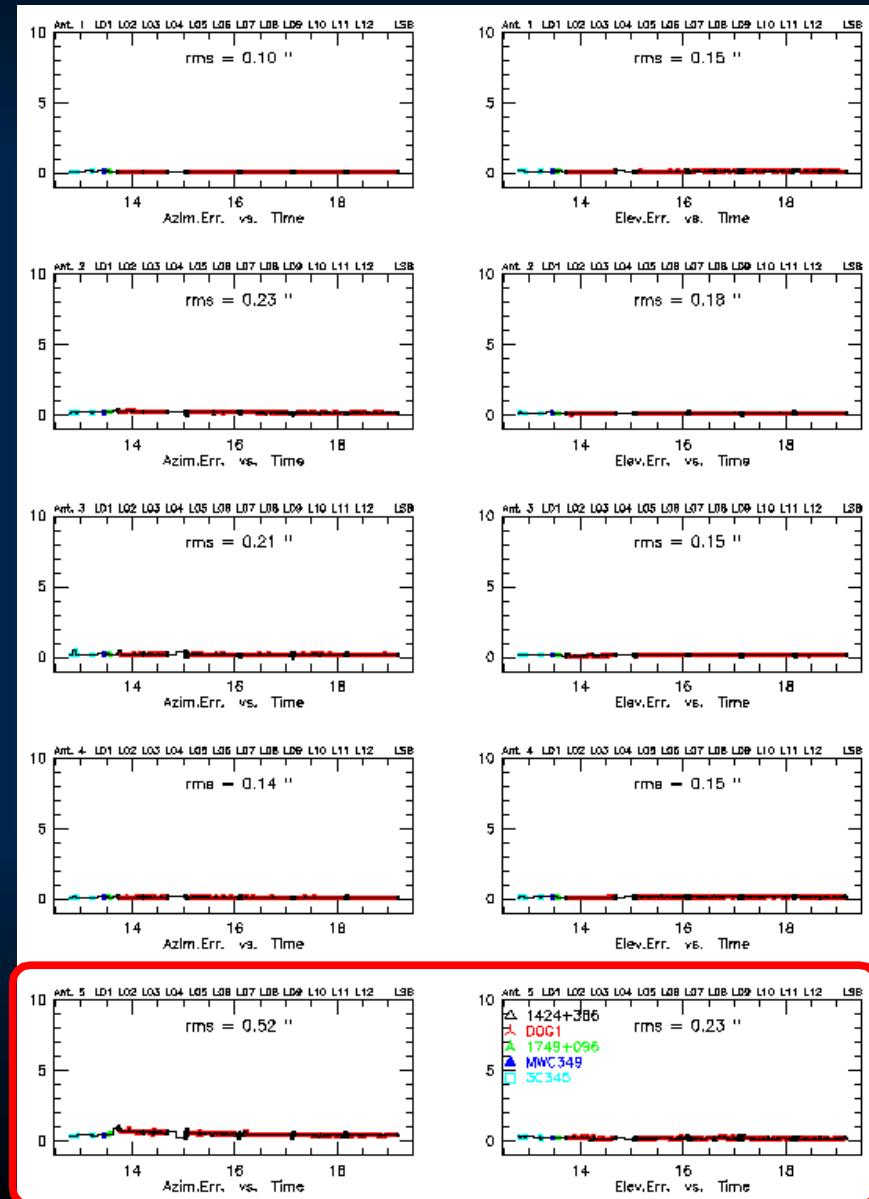
Practical Tips : Pointing/Focus

First Look

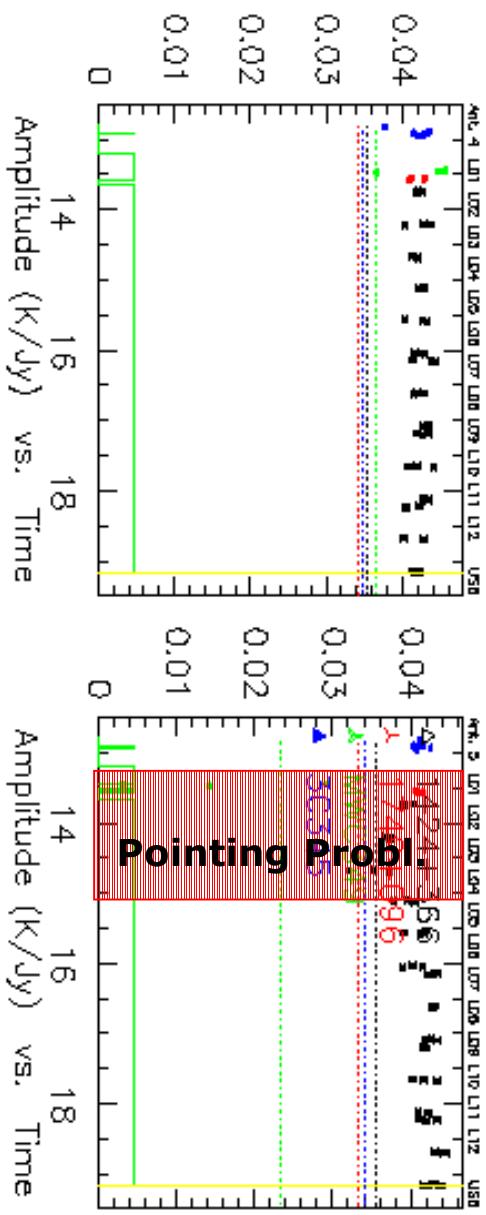
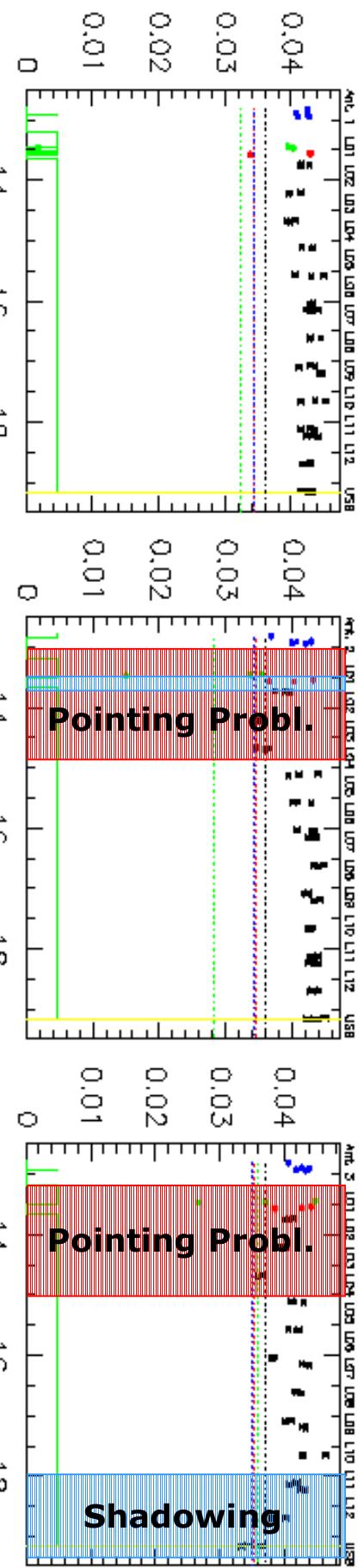


Practical Tips: Tracking

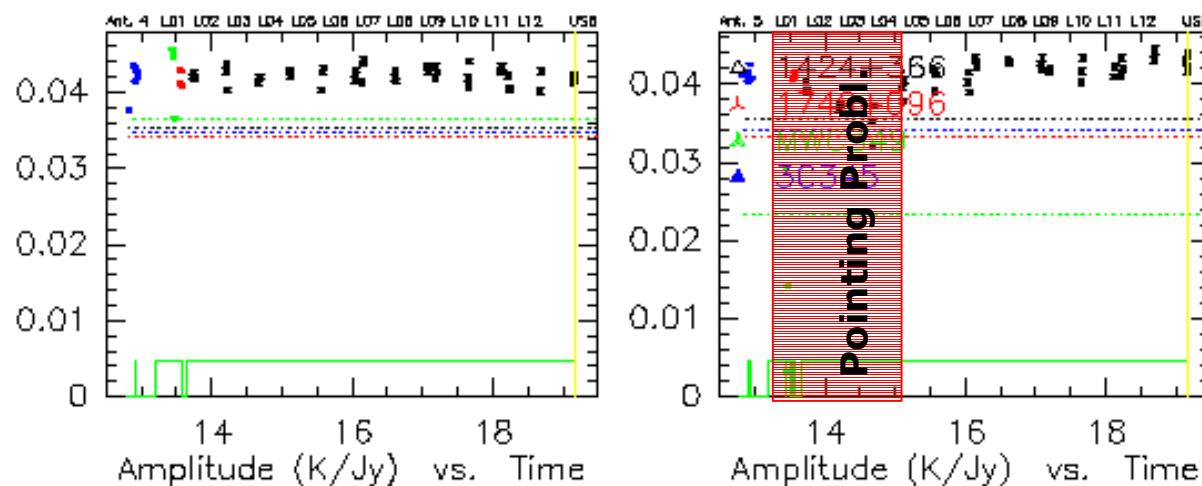
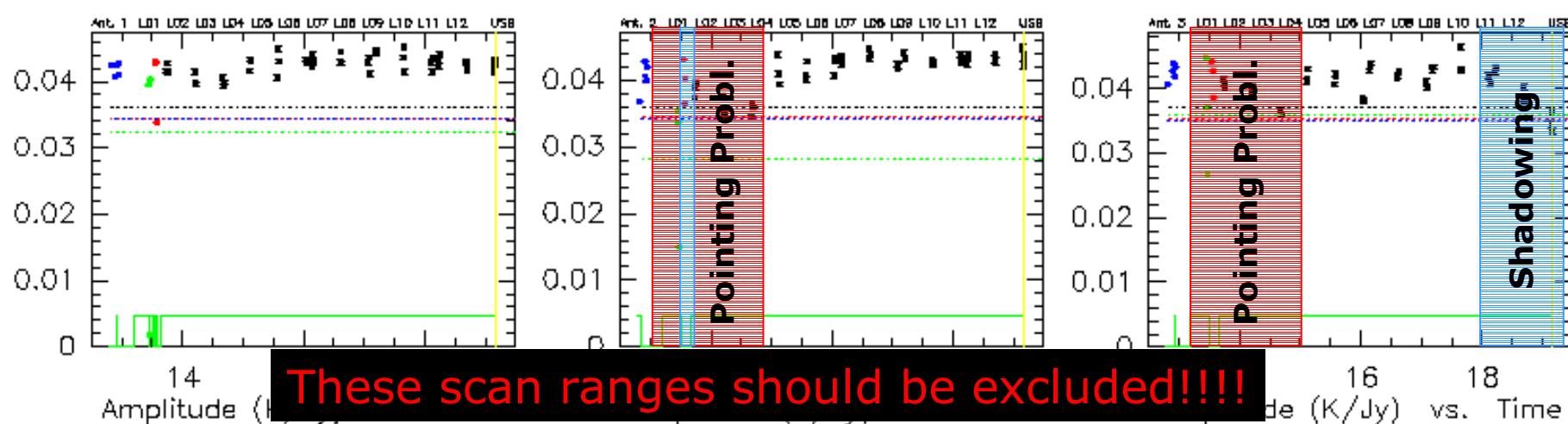
First Look



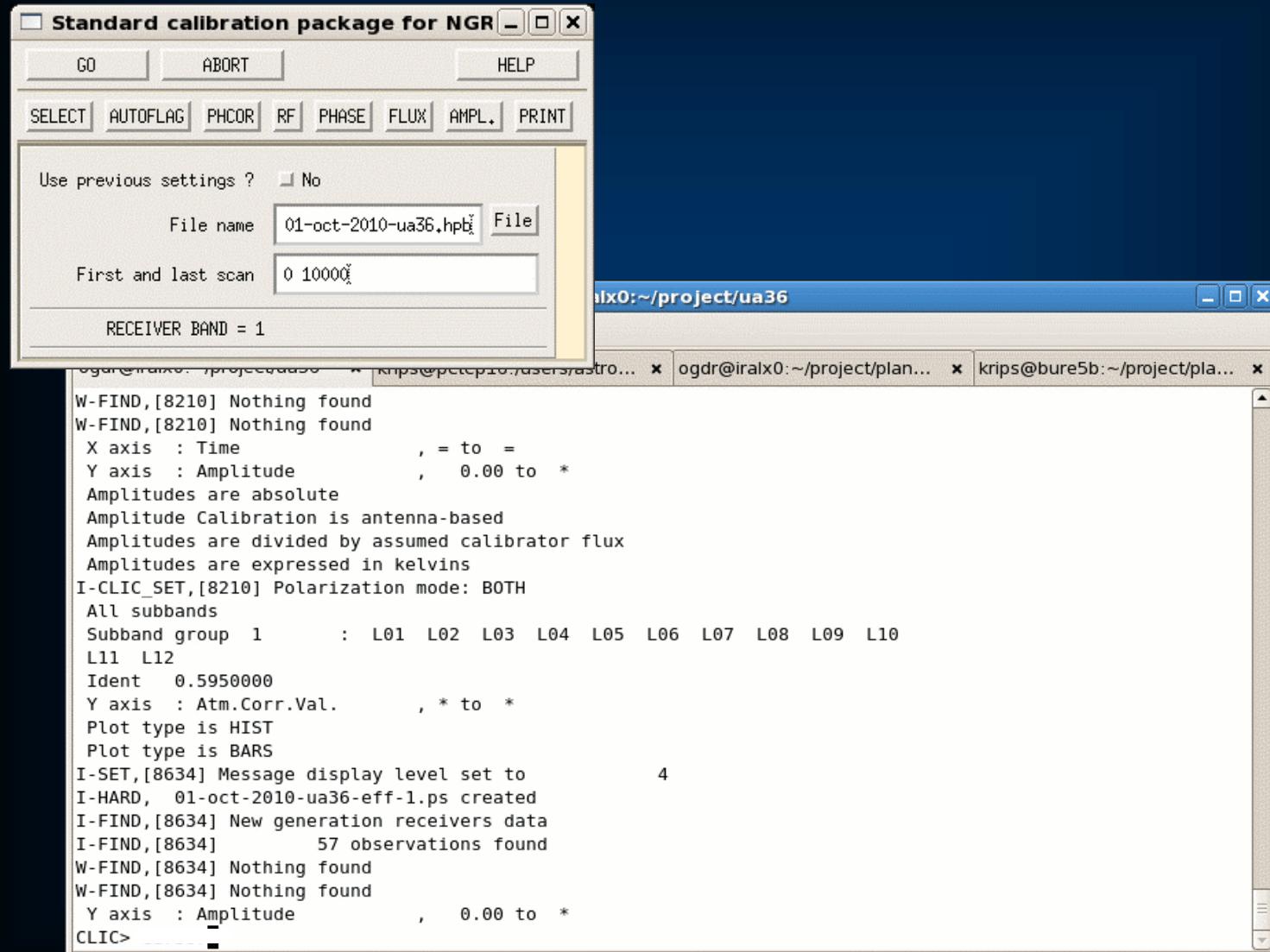
Practical Tips



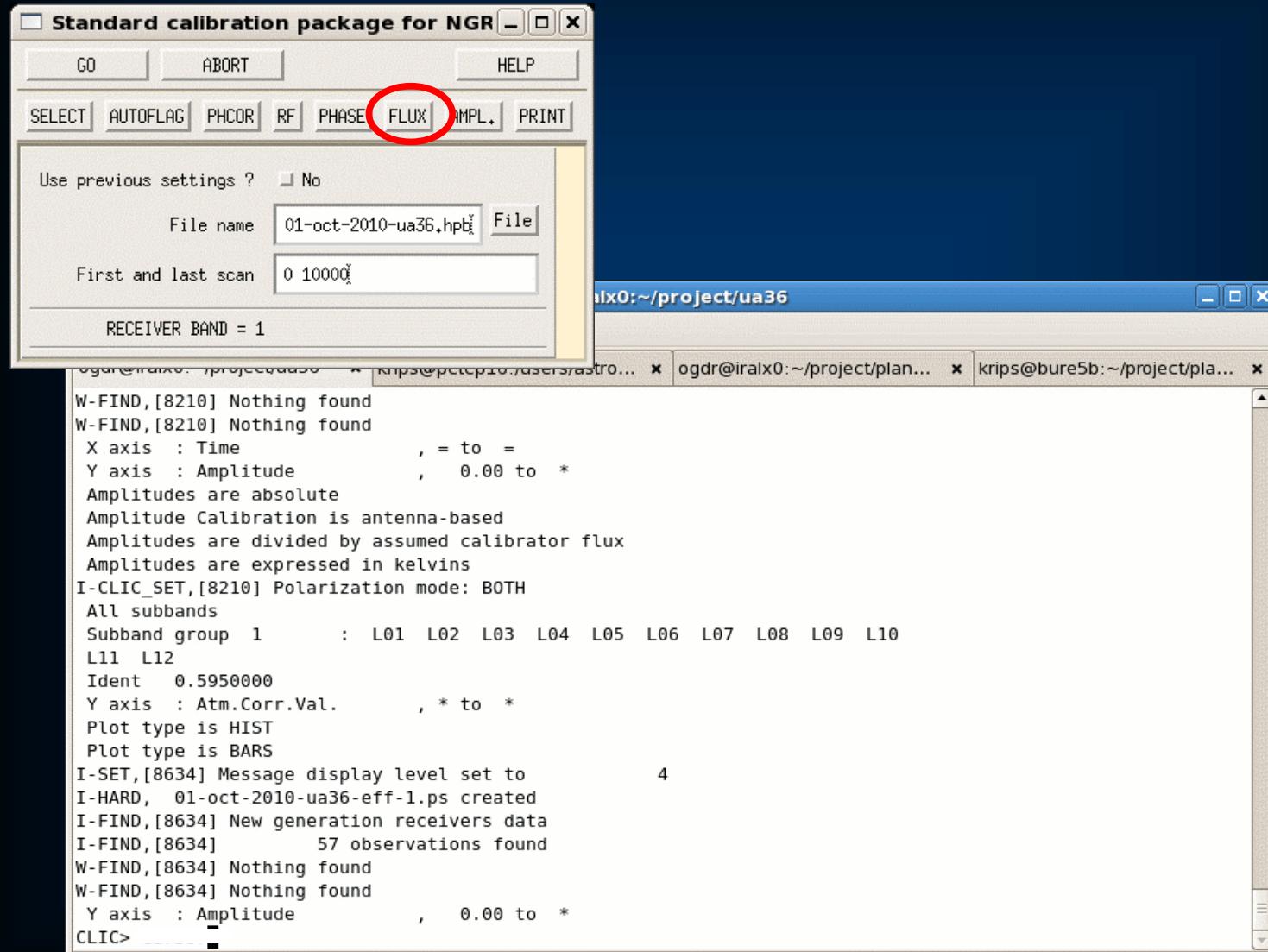
Practical Tips



Practical Tips



Practical Tips



Practical Tips

Standard calibration package for NGR

GO ABORT HELP

SELECT AUTOFLAG PHCOR RF PHASE FLUX NMPL PRINT

Use previous settings? No

File name: 01-oct-2010-ua36.hpb File

First and last scan: 0 10000

RECEIVER BAND = 1

```

W-FIND,[8210] Nothing found
W-FIND,[8210] Nothing found
X axis : Time , = to =
Y axis : Amplitude , 0.00 to *
Amplitudes are absolute
Amplitude Calibration is antenna-based
Amplitudes are divided by assumed calibrator flux
Amplitudes are expressed in kelvins
I-CLIC_SET,[8210] Polarization mode: BOTH
All subbands
Subband group 1 : L01 L02 L03 L04 L05 L06
L11 L12
Ident 0.5950000
Y axis : Atm.Corr.Val. , * to *
Plot type is HIST
Plot type is BARS
I-SET,[8634] Message display level set to
I-HARD, 01-oct-2010-ua36-eff-1.ps created
I-FIND,[8634] New generation receivers data
I-FIND,[8634] 57 observations found
W-FIND,[8634] Nothing found
W-FIND,[8634] Nothing found
Y axis : Amplitude , 0.00 to *
CLIC>
  
```

Flux Receiver 1 (on irax0)

GO ABORT HELP

CHECK SOLVE GET RESULT STORE PLOT >> CALIBRATE

Frequency 108.95 GHz

Efficiencies: 0 0 0 0 0 0

Scan list? 8175 8634

Calibrator 3C345

Input Flux? 4.195

Fixed flux? No

Solved Flux: 0

Flux in File: 4.195

Source MWC349, Model Flux 1.26 Jy

Input Flux? 1.221

Fixed flux? Yes

Solved Flux: 0

Flux in File: 1.221

Calibrator 1749+096

Input Flux? 3.242

Fixed flux? No

Solved Flux: 0

Flux in File: 3.242

Calibrator 1424+366

Input Flux? 1

Fixed flux? No

Solved Flux: 0

Flux in File: 1



Practical Tips

Standard calibration package for NGR

GO ABORT HELP

SELECT AUTOFLAG PHCOR RF PHASE FLUX NMPL PRINT

Use previous settings? No

File name: 01-oct-2010-ua36.hpb File

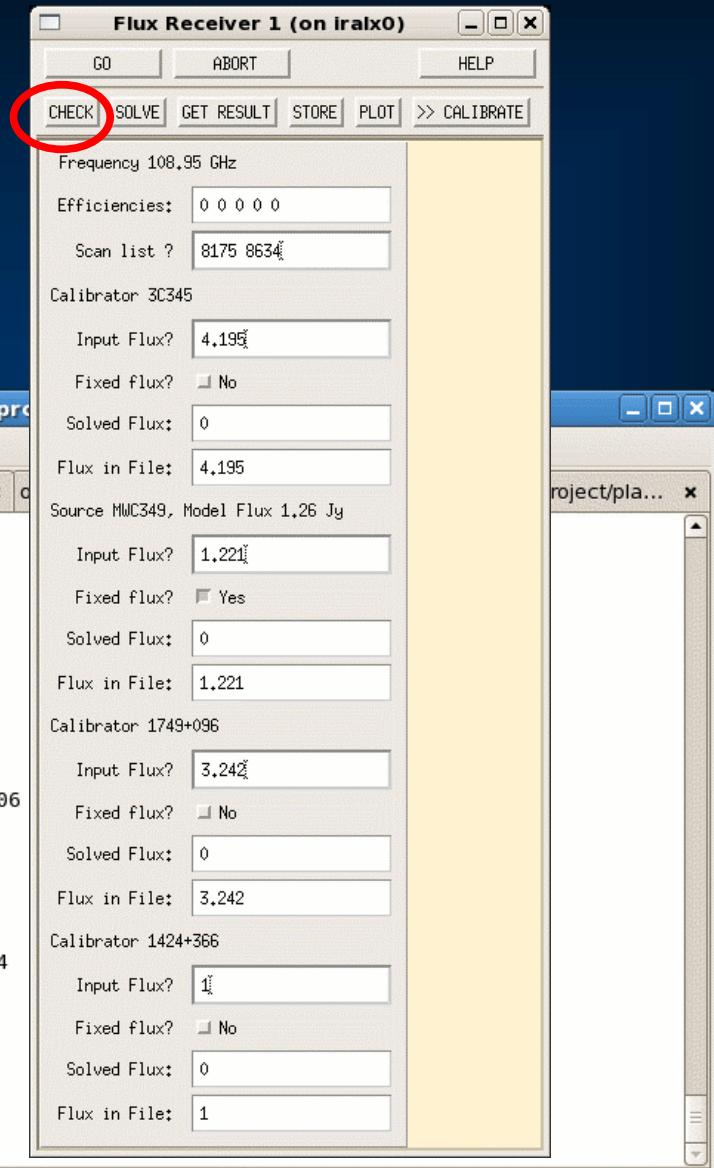
First and last scan: 0 10000

RECEIVER BAND = 1

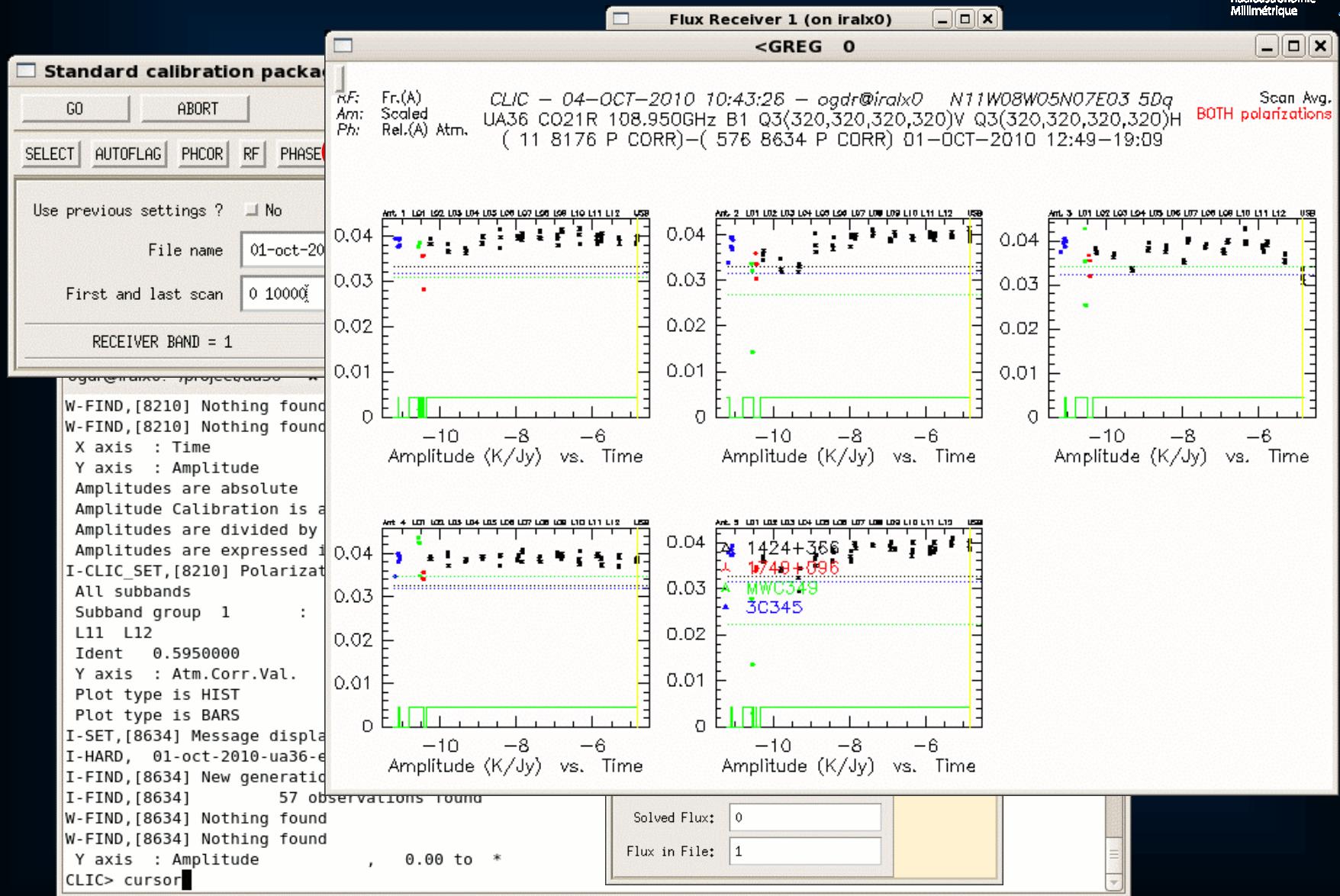
```

W-FIND,[8210] Nothing found
W-FIND,[8210] Nothing found
X axis : Time , = to =
Y axis : Amplitude , 0.00 to *
Amplitudes are absolute
Amplitude Calibration is antenna-based
Amplitudes are divided by assumed calibrator flux
Amplitudes are expressed in kelvins
I-CLIC_SET,[8210] Polarization mode: BOTH
All subbands
Subband group 1 : L01 L02 L03 L04 L05 L06
L11 L12
Ident 0.5950000
Y axis : Atm.Corr.Val. , * to *
Plot type is HIST
Plot type is BARS
I-SET,[8634] Message display level set to
I-HARD, 01-oct-2010-ua36-eff-1.ps created
I-FIND,[8634] New generation receivers data
I-FIND,[8634] 57 observations found
W-FIND,[8634] Nothing found
W-FIND,[8634] Nothing found
Y axis : Amplitude , 0.00 to *
CLIC>

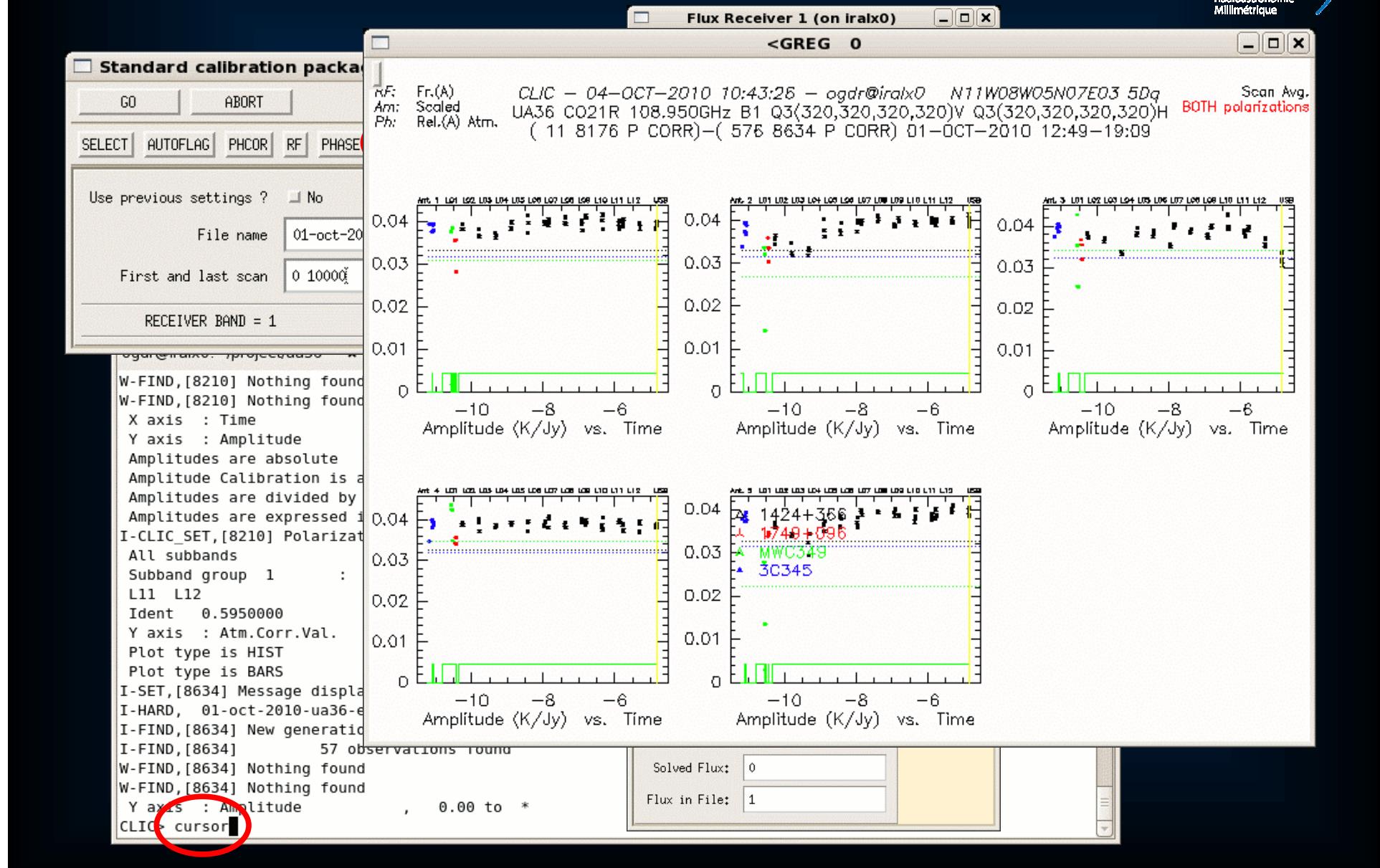
```



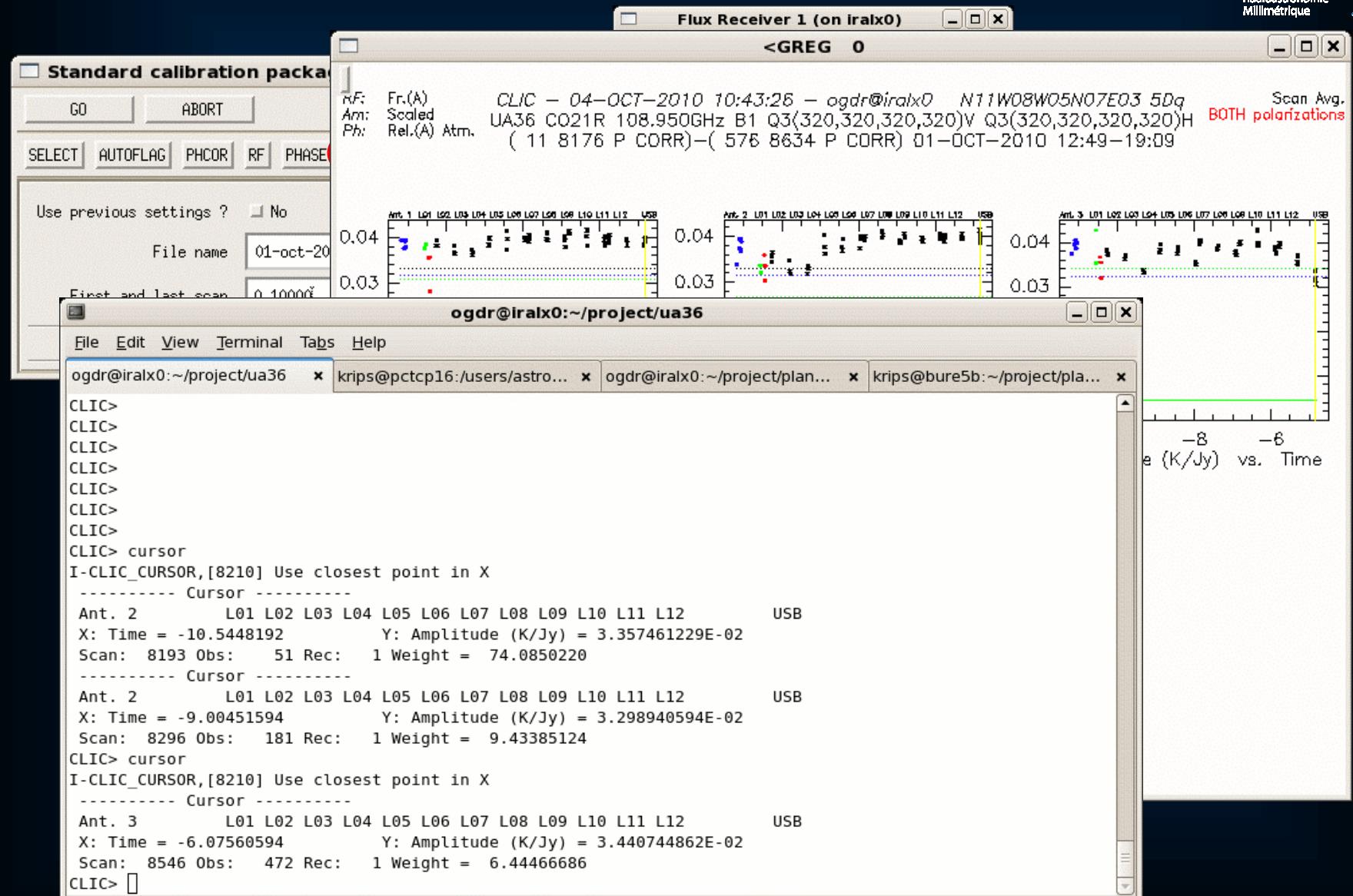
Practical Tips



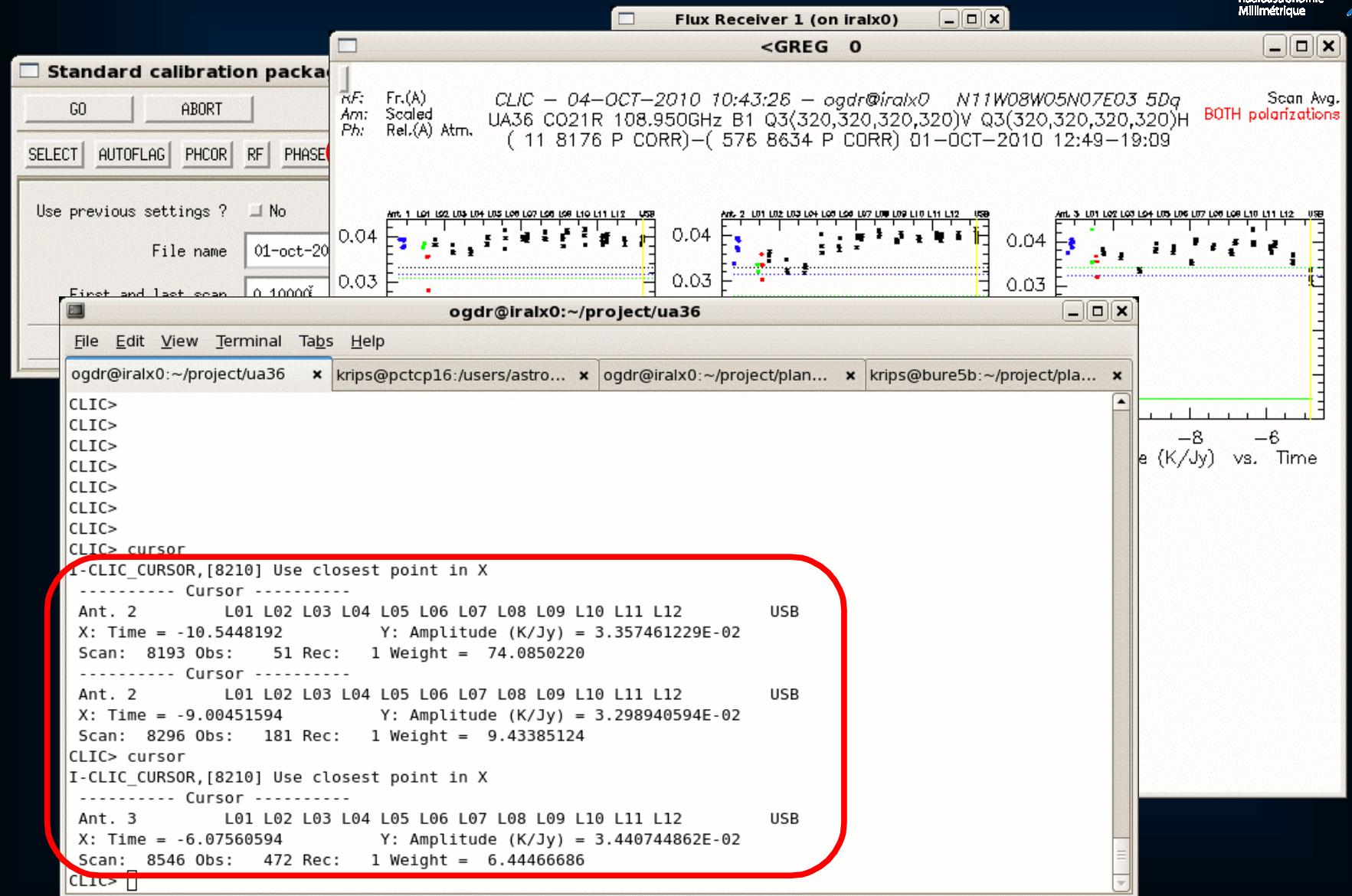
Practical Tips



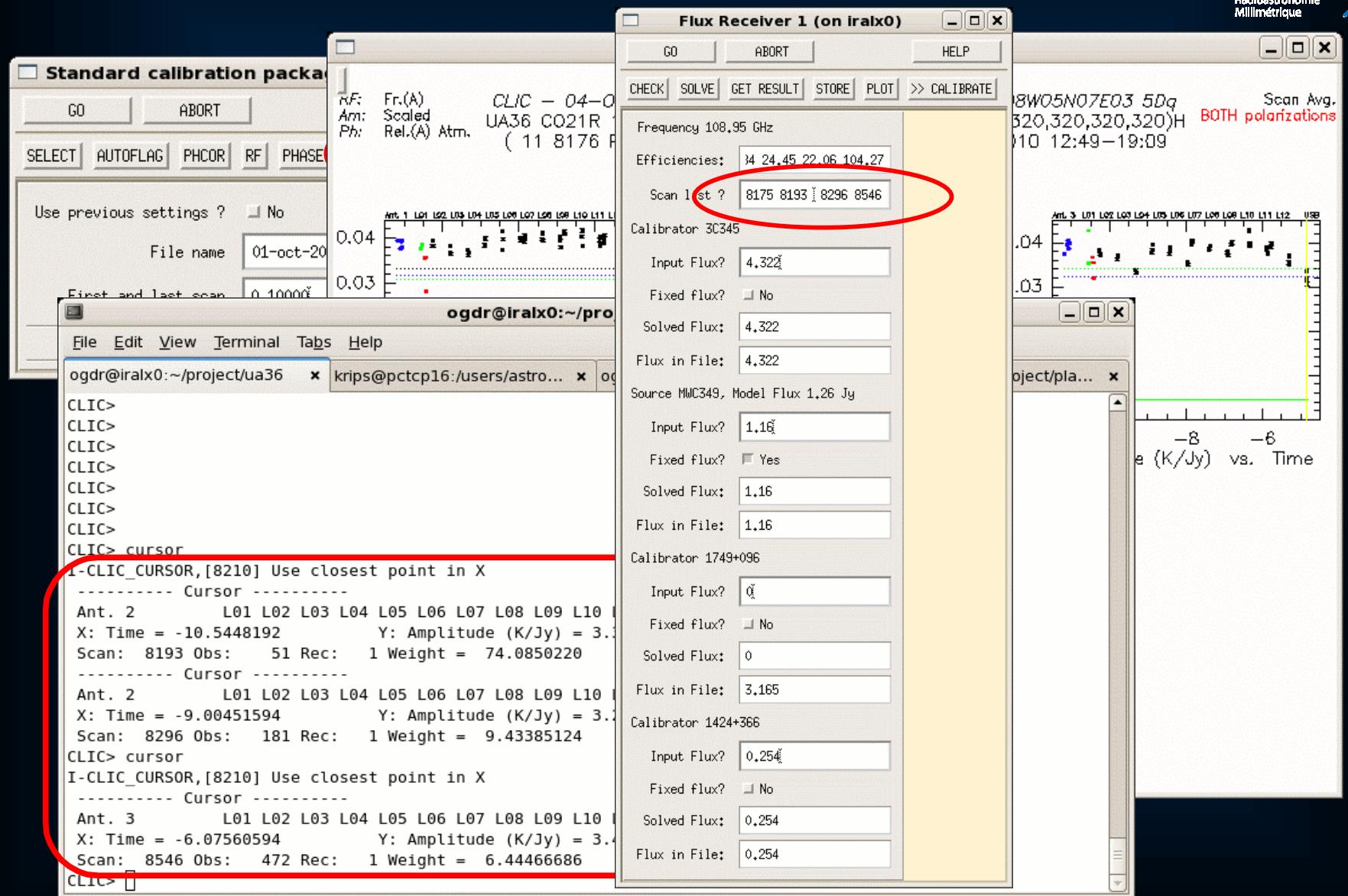
Practical Tips



Practical Tips



Practical Tips



Practical Tips

Flux Receiver 1 (on iralx0)

RF: Fr.(A) CLIC - 04-01
Am: Scaled UA36 CO21R 1
Ph: Rel.(A) Atm. (11 8176 F)

GO ABORT HELP

CHECK SOLVE GET RESULT STORE PLOT >> CALIBRATE

Frequency 108.95 GHz

Efficiencies: 34 24.45 22.06 104.27

Scan 1 st ? 8175 8193 8296 8546

Calibrator 3C345

Input Flux? 4.322

ogdr@iralx0:~/project/ua36

File Edit View Terminal Tabs Help

ogdr@iralx0:~/project/ua36 x krips@pctcp16:/users/astro... x ogdr@iralx0:~/project/plan... x krips@bure5b:~/project/pla...

CLIC>

Phases are Degrees Continuous 10

I-CLIC_MASK,[8181] Masked - Ant 1: SHADOW, Ant 2: SHADOW, Ant 3: SHADOW, Ant 4: SHADOW, Ant 5: SHADOW, Ant 6: SHADOW

I-CLIC_SET,[8181] Polarization mode: BOTH

All subbands

Subband group 1 : L01 L02 L03 L04 L05 L06 L07 L08 L09 L10 L11 L12

Plot type is BARS

I-FIND,[8181] New generation receivers data

I-FIND,[8181] 33 observations found

W-FIND,[8181] Nothing found

W-FIND,[8181] Nothing found

I-LISTE,[8181] Source # 1 3C345 6 Observations

I-LISTE,[8181] Source # 2 MWC349 2 Observations

I-LISTE,[8181] Source # 3 1424+366 25 Observations

I-SOLVE_FLUX,[8181] Average fluxes will use the best 3 antennas

Amplitudes are absolute

Amplitude Calibration is antenna-based

Amplitudes are divided by assumed calibrator flux

Amplitudes are expressed in kelvins

I-SOLVE_FLUX,[8546] Reference sources:

I-SOLVE_FLUX,[8546] MWC349 Flux = 1.1600 Jy

I-SOLVE_FLUX,[8546] Average efficiencies:

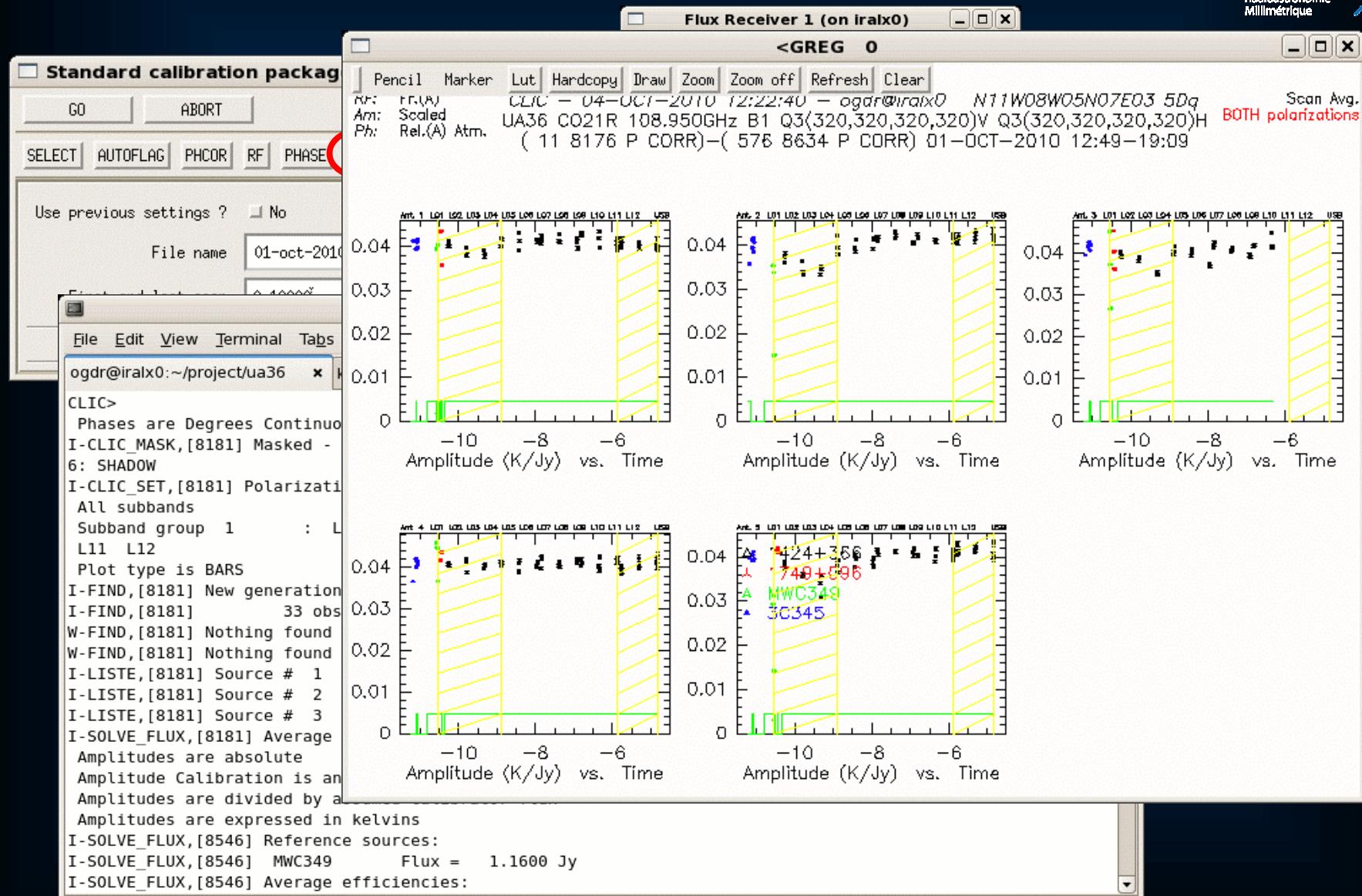
8W05N07E03 5Dq
320,320,320,320)H
2010 12:49-19:09

Scan Avg.
BOTH polarizations

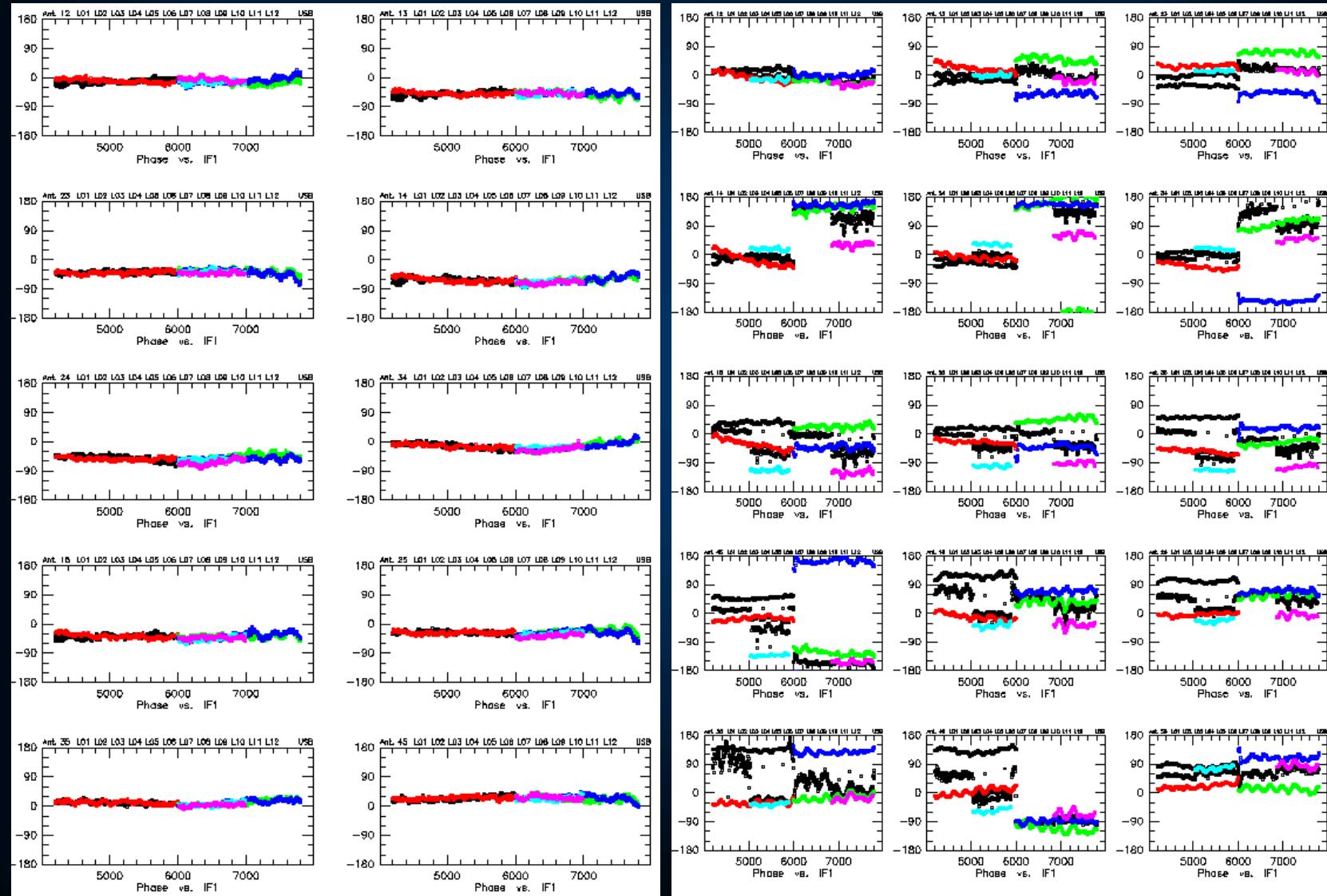
Ant 3 L01 L02 L03 L04 L05 L06 L07 L08 L09 L10 L11 L12 1138

e (K/Jy) vs. Time

Practical Tips



Practical Tips



Questions?

Summary

- SED of MWC349 follows $f \propto \nu^{0.6}$
- No time variability found above 10% during the past ~ 10 years
- Satellites can be used as flux calibrators as well but need better models
- Antenna efficiencies ok for 3mm & 2mm but quickly degrade for 1mm

Motivation
