

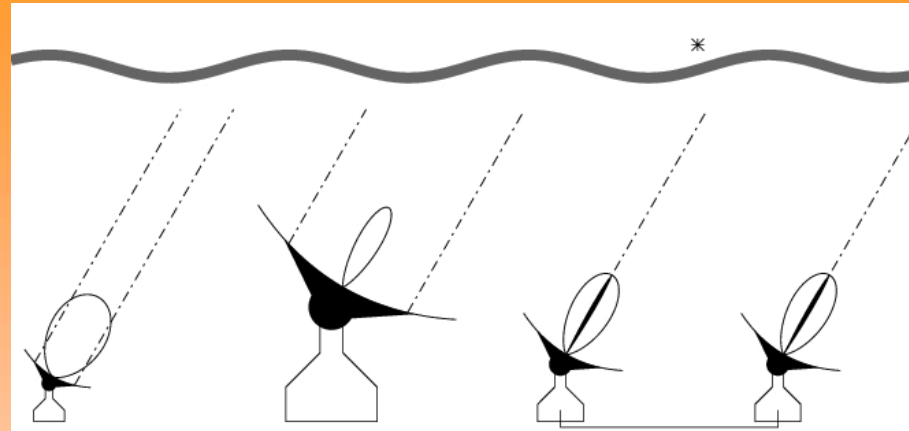
Atmospheric Phase Correction

*6th IRAM Millimeter Interferometry School
Grenoble, October 6-10, 2008*

Michael Bremer

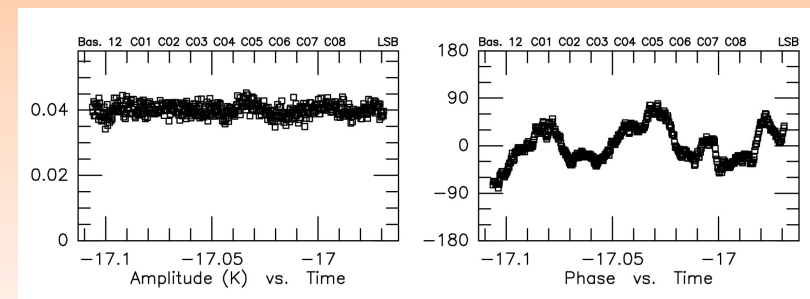
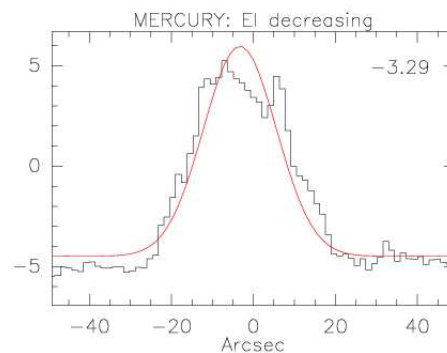
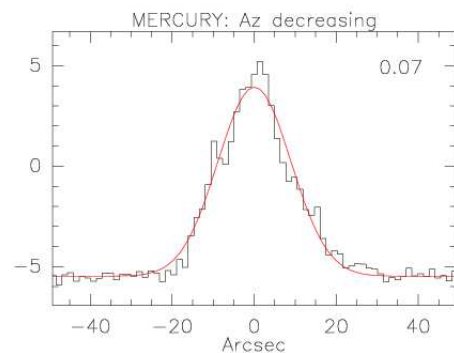
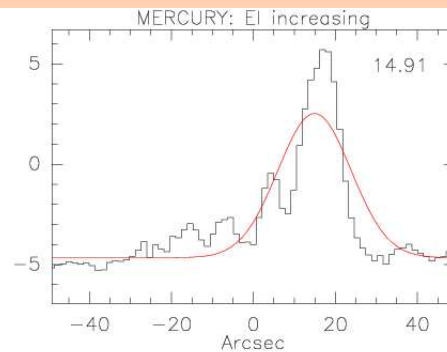
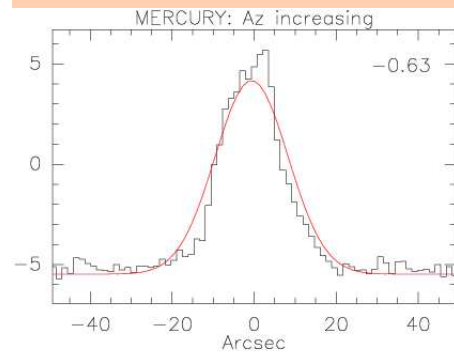
- Atmospheric phase fluctuations
First encounters – the physics behind the scenes – turbulent times
- Monitoring
What tool, please? – where to look – practical implementation
- Appearance in the Plateau de Bure data reduction
Press the button, and smile – some useful checks – fine tuning

First encounters with atm. phase fluctuations



30m pointing under anomalous refraction

PdBI observation with phase noise

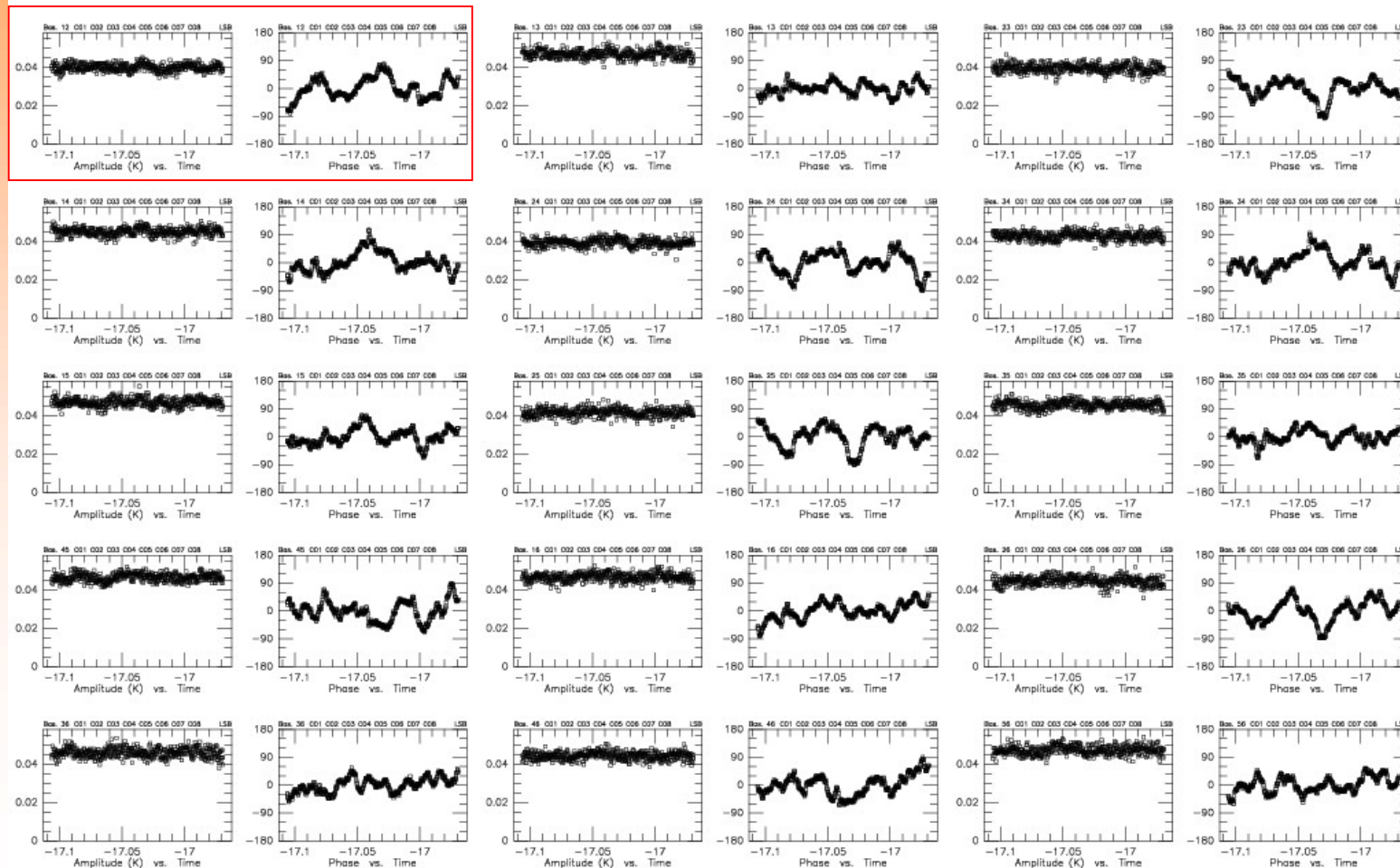


We will look at the PdBI
phase noise in more detail ...

First encounters with atm. phase fluctuations

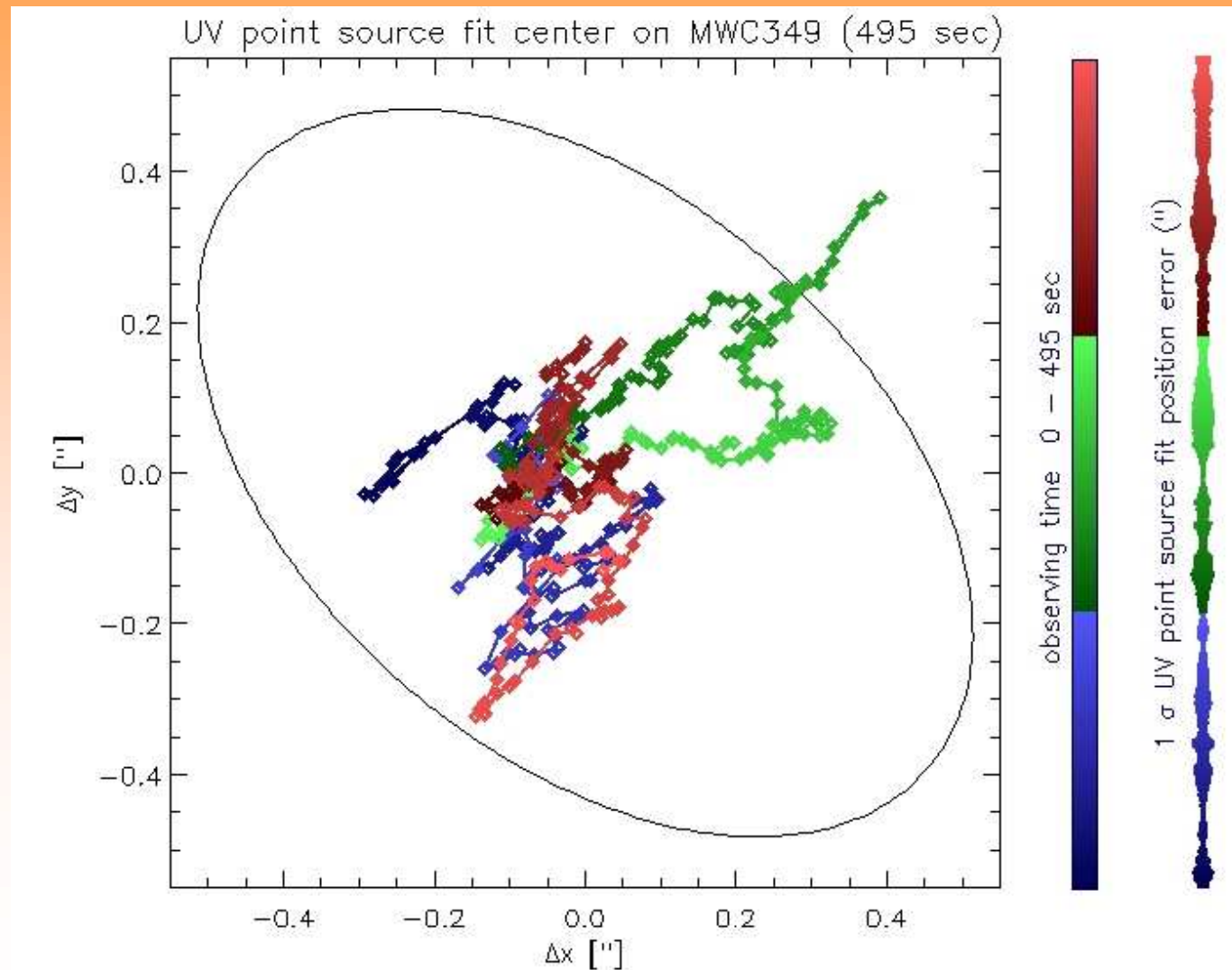
6-antenna observation (15 baselines) in extended configuration, ~ 8 minutes

RF: Uncal. CLIC - 23-SEP-2008 13:45:35 - bremer@pctcp10 W27E68W12N46N20E12 6Bq-E23+E68 No Avg
Am: Abs. 22GG HCN 88.950GHz B1 Q3(320,320,320,320)V Q3(320,320,320,320)H
Ph: Rel.(A) (247 1508 0 CORR)-(257 1518 0 CORR) 09-MAR-2008 06:53-07:01



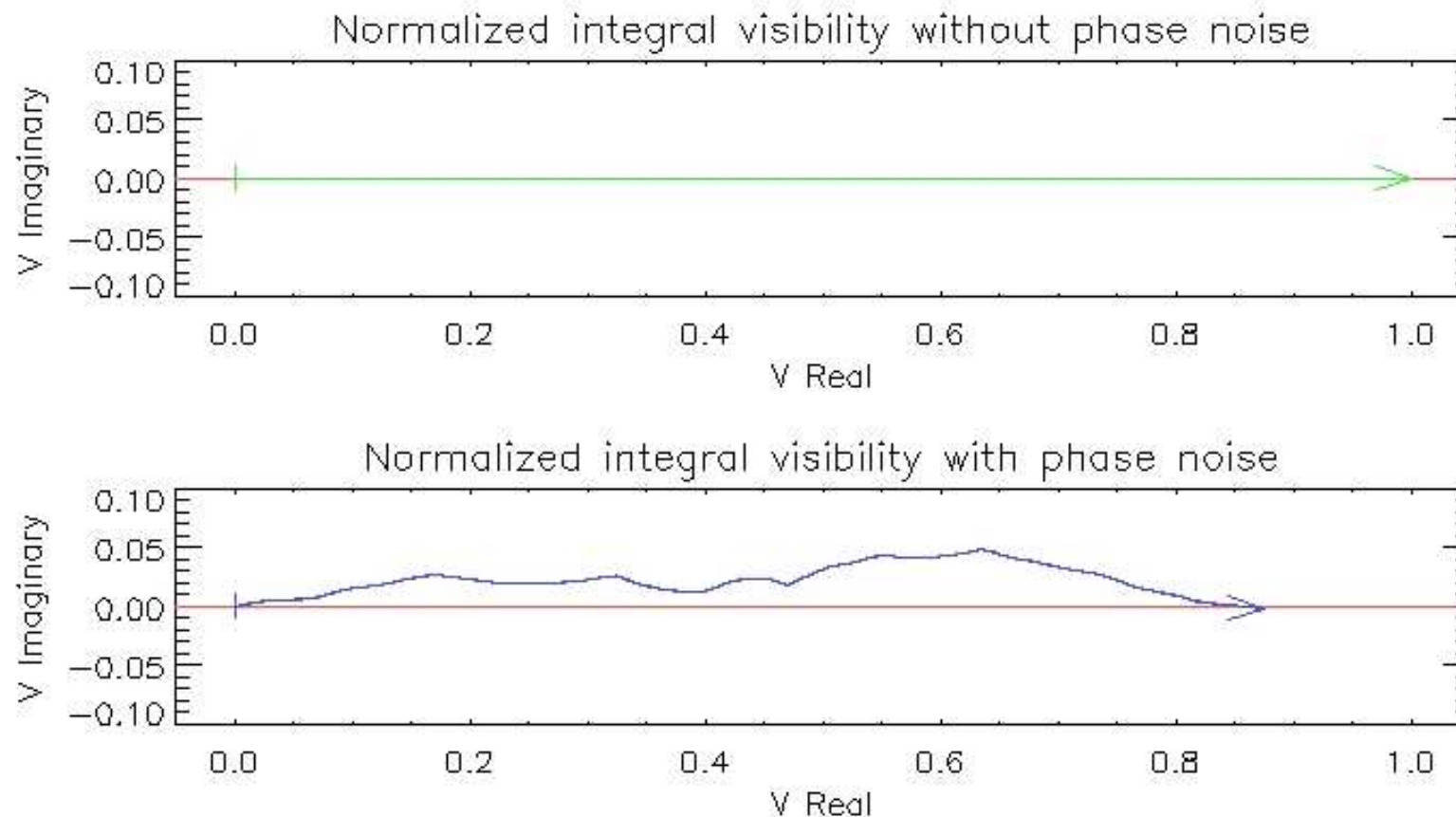
First encounters with atm. phase fluctuations

Practical impact: a) the point source appears to move,



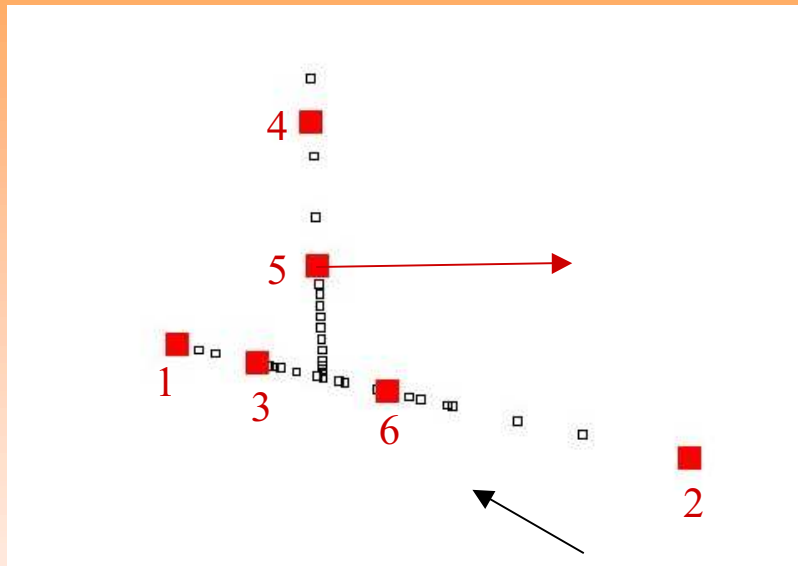
First encounters with atm. phase fluctuations

Practical impact: b) we loose 12.5% of the integrated flux $V_{\text{OBS}} = V_0 \exp(-\phi^2/2)$
(part of the visibility vectors cancels out),



First encounters with atm. phase fluctuations

Practical impact: c) and we lose more signal on the longest baselines, which provide the finest details of our maps.

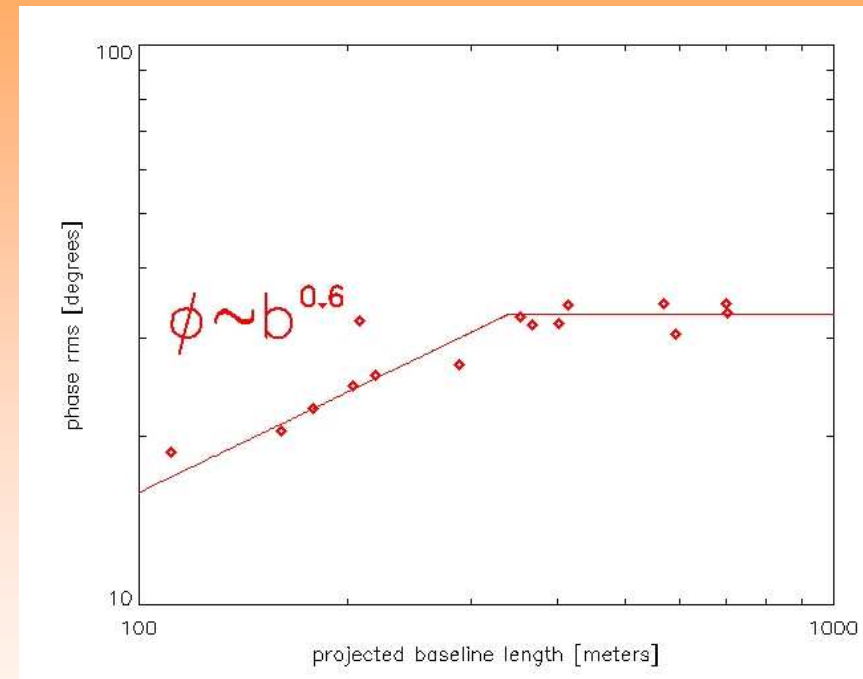


Configuration: W27-E68-W12-N46-N20-E12

Wind speed : 9 m/s from Azimuth -59°

Pointing : Azimuth $= -91^\circ$, Elevation $= 67.3^\circ$

Frequency : 88.950 GHz



- *Atmospheric phase noise is worst on the longest baselines.*
- *The power-law break is weather dependent, and can be at several km.*

The physics behind the scenes

What we experience in the radio range differs from optical seeing.

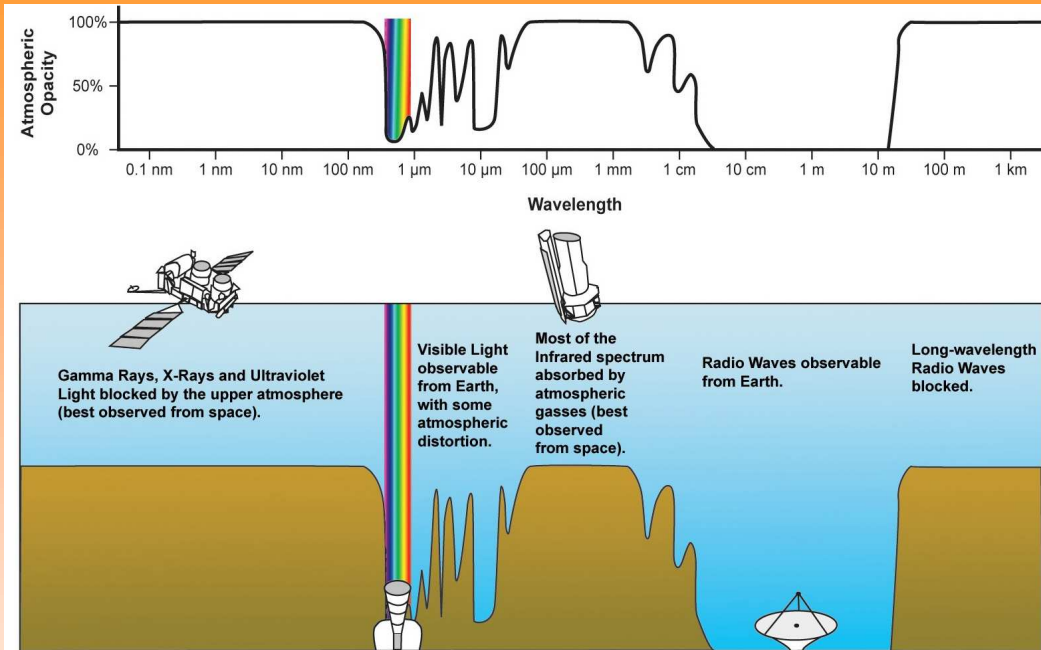
Table 1: Expected image patterns for different scales of moist air turbulence.

Scale of turbulence:	FINE SCALE (diffractive regime, $a \ll D$)		INTERMEDIATE $a \leq D$	LARGE SCALE (refractive regime, $a > D$)
Phase variation over scale a :	$\Delta\phi < 1$ radian <i>VLBI</i>	$\Delta\phi > 2.6$ radians	$\Delta\phi > 2.5$ radians <i>Optical</i>	<i>30M, PDBI</i>
Short integration result	IMAGES superimposed on "error" beam	BLUR ("seeing disk")	SPECKLES	IMAGE MOTION (= Anomalous Refraction)
Remark	Images can still be formed. Some of the power is scattered to large angles (λ/a).	The diffraction limited beam disappears into the "error" pattern.	$(D/r_o)^2$ images	
Long integration result	same as snapshot result.	same as snapshot result.	BLUR (beam size convolved with seeing disk)	BLUR (In long integrations, the radio seeing disk is the smoothed envelope of the image motion.)
Point source image size: snapshot:	$\frac{\lambda}{D}$	$\frac{\lambda}{a}$	$\frac{\lambda}{D}$	$\frac{\lambda}{D}$
Long integration:	same	same	$\left(\frac{\lambda^2}{r_o^2} + \frac{\lambda^2}{D^2}\right)^{1/2}$	$\left(1.4\frac{\lambda^2}{r_o^2} + \frac{\lambda^2}{D^2}\right)^{1/2}$

Symbols: a = scale size of moist air packet; D = size of antenna, or interferometer baseline; r_o = diameter of atmospheric coherence region; at radius $r_o/2$, wavefront phase error $\Delta\phi = 2.6$ radians.

From: Downes and Altenhoff (1989), Anomalous Refraction at Radio Wavelengths,
Proc. of the URSI/IAU Symposium on Radioastronomical Seeing, Beijing 15-19 May 1989

The physics behind the scenes

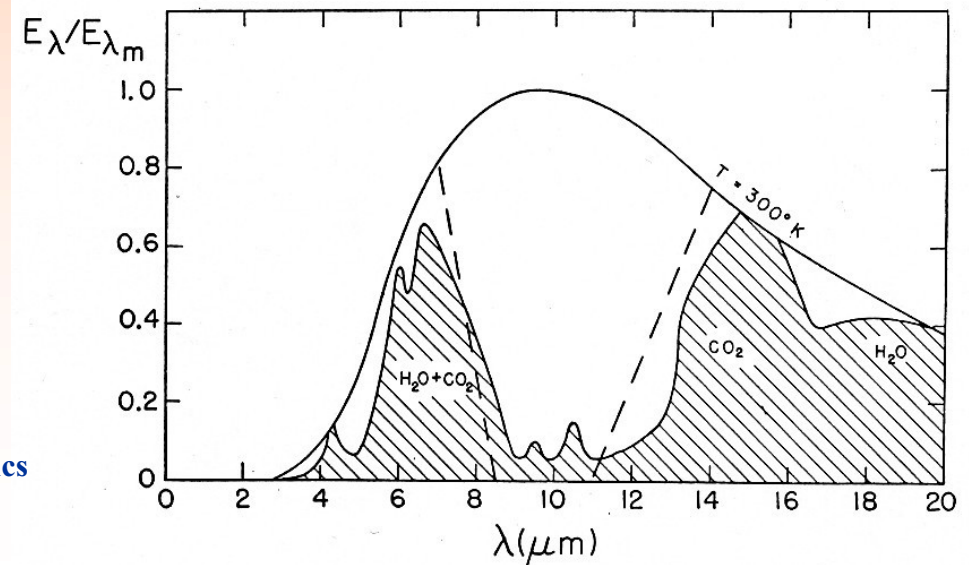


Main absorbers between the optical and radio transmission windows:

- H_2O
- CO_2



From:
Irbarne & Cho,
Atmospheric Physics



The physics behind the scenes

Water vapour produces radio seeing, but is invisible in the optical.
What happens between optical and radio wavelengths?

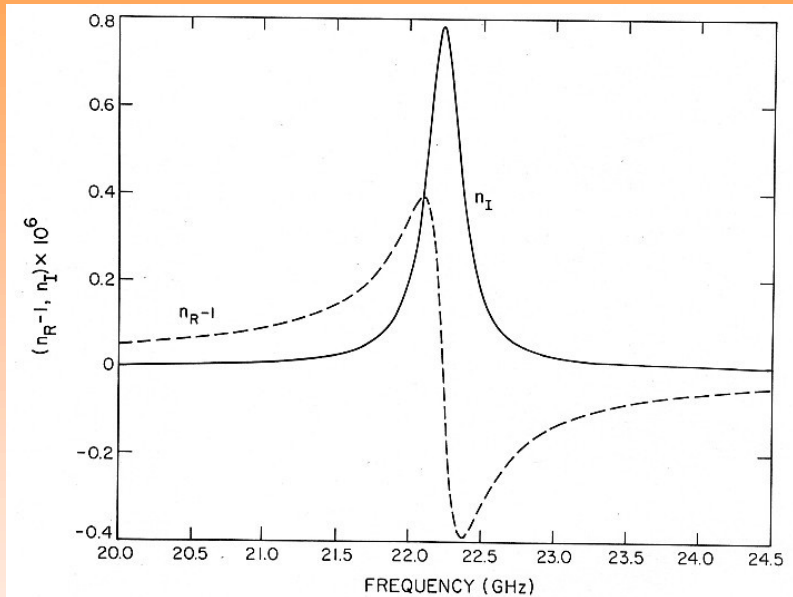


Figure 13.7 Real and imaginary parts of the index of refraction versus frequency for a single resonance given by Eqs. (13.63) and (13.64). The case shown is for the $6_{16}-5_{23}$ transition in *pure* water vapor with $\rho_v = 7.5 \text{ g m}^{-3}$. In the atmosphere the line is much broader (Liebe 1969).

From:
Thompson

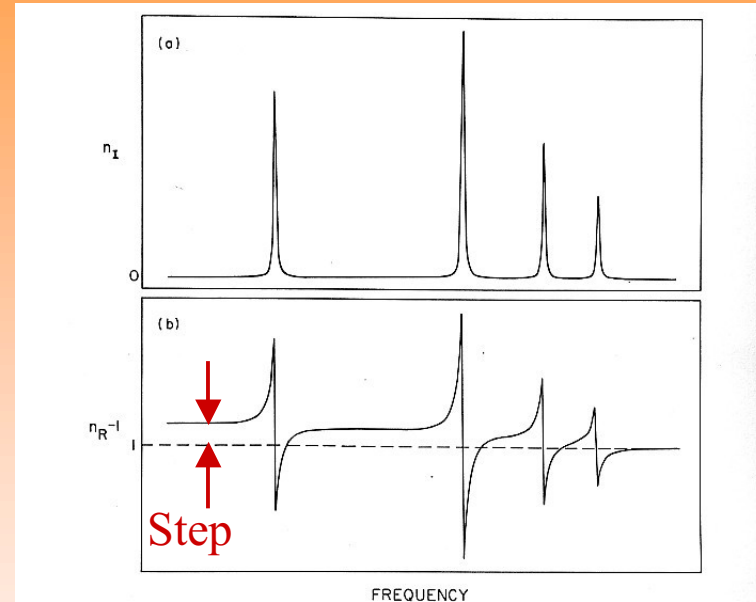


Figure 13.8 (a) Imaginary, and (b) real, parts of the index of refraction versus frequency for a dilute gas with many resonances. The buildup of the index of refraction at low frequencies is greatly exaggerated.

The HITRAN2004 V12.0 database records 64123 H_2O lines.

The extensive infrared H_2O absorption line system modifies the refractive index.
(real and imaginary dielectric constants are connected over the Kramers-Kronig relation)

The physics behind the scenes

Troposphere: lowest atmospheric layer, about 10 km thick (varies with geographical latitude). Principal layer with humidity and weather patterns. Principal source of mm amplitude and phase fluctuations. Temperature decreases by $\approx 6.5^\circ\text{C}$ with altitude.

- Most of the solar radiation heats the ground, not the atmosphere it traverses
- Heat transport by convection, but most important mechanism by water vapor (evaporation, condensation, freezing).
- Day-to-day variations: planetary boundary layer, typically 1-2 km high, limited by a temperature inversion.
- Vertical temperature gradients are *less* than the adiabatic rate of $9.8^\circ/\text{km}$ of dry air.

More details about water vapor:

- Molecular weight: 18.2 g/mol. In comparison, dry air has 28.96 g/mol
- Scale height H_0 : 2 km. Dry air has 8.4 km *Exponential Profile on average only!*
- Mixes badly with dry air, has the tendency to separate and form bubbles of sizes between some cm and several km
- A “clear sky” in human terms can be full of turbulent water vapor, especially in summer.

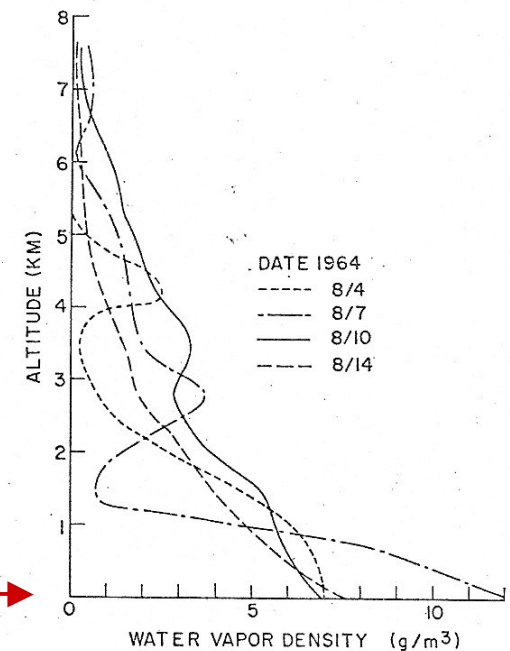
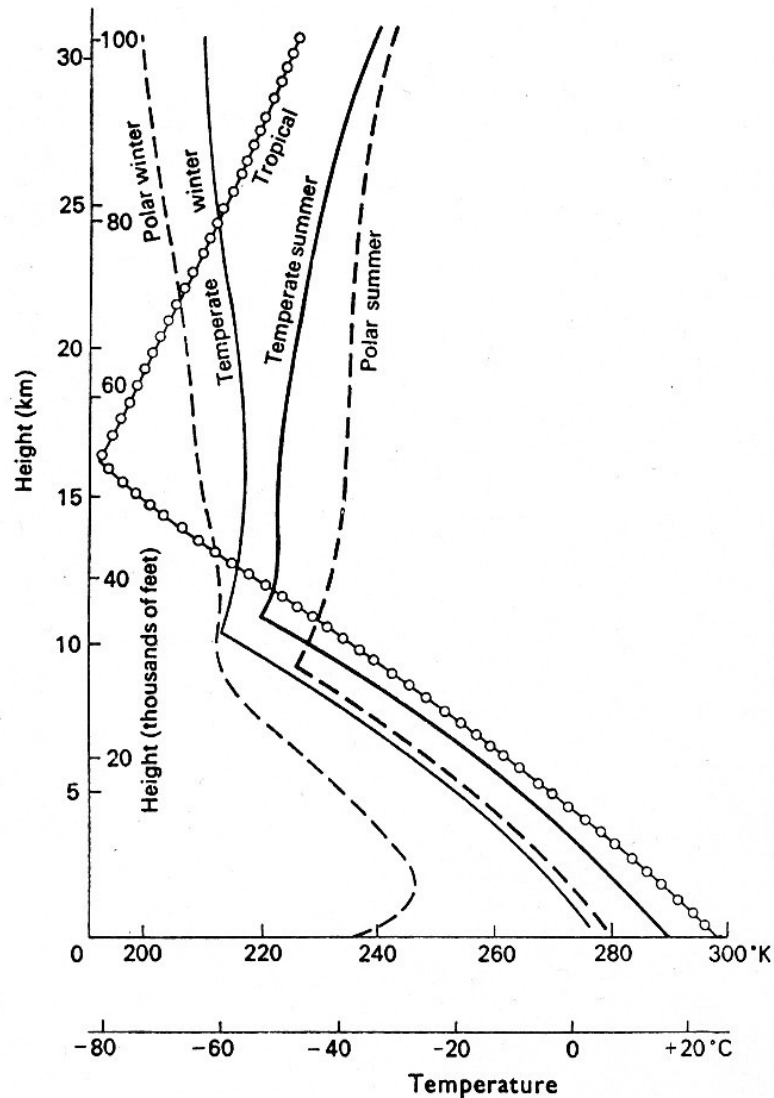


Fig. 3. Atmospheric water vapor profiles measured by radiosondes.

From:
Staelin, 1966

The physics behind the scenes

Fig. II-3. Average curves of temperature as a function of height at different seasons and latitudes. On individual days, the temperature may vary considerably from these mean values.



The temperature inversion traps the water vapour, and keeps it from reaching altitudes where photodissociation can take place.

That happened apparently on Venus ...

The physics behind the scenes

Can we predict numerically how the phase noise will be in some minutes?

For this line of argument, we are now entering ...

Turbulent Times

A short look at the foundations of hydrodynamics:

Dynamics of viscous fluids have already intrigued Newton. The general equations for compressible viscous fluids (gases) are non-linear second order differential equations (Eq. 1.3).

$$\underbrace{\frac{d\vec{V}}{dt}}_{1.} + \underbrace{\frac{grad P}{\rho}}_{2.} + \underbrace{grad U}_{3.} - \underbrace{\frac{\eta}{\rho}\Delta\vec{V} - \frac{\xi + \frac{\eta}{3}}{\rho} grad div \vec{V}}_{4.} = 0 \quad (1.3)$$

The various terms will be described in the following.

1. This part is the complete derivative in time, containing non-linear terms:

$$\frac{d\vec{V}}{dt} = \frac{\delta\vec{V}}{\delta t} + (\vec{V} grad) \vec{V} = \frac{\delta\vec{V}}{\delta t} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} grad (\vec{V} \cdot \vec{V})}_{kin. Energy} - \underbrace{\vec{V} \times (curl \vec{V})}_{Vortices} \quad (1.4)$$

2. The pressure term describes the reaction to external forces, and is related to density and temperature over the equation of state.
3. External forces, described by the gradient of a Potential U . This form makes it easier to include this term into the others.
4. **Energy dissipation.** Viscous terms, with the Laplacian operator $\Delta = \nabla^2 = div grad$. The material constants η and ξ are the first and second viscosity coefficients, where ξ is specific to compressive media.

Turbulent Times

Is that really all ... ?

To solve Equation 1.3, one needs:

- the equation of state for the gas,
- the conservation of mass and energy,
- the boundary conditions.

Considering the complexity of hydrodynamical phenomena, it was doubted for a long time if the equations could really be that simple.

Important: Many stationary solutions to problems are mathematically exact, but are not present in nature.



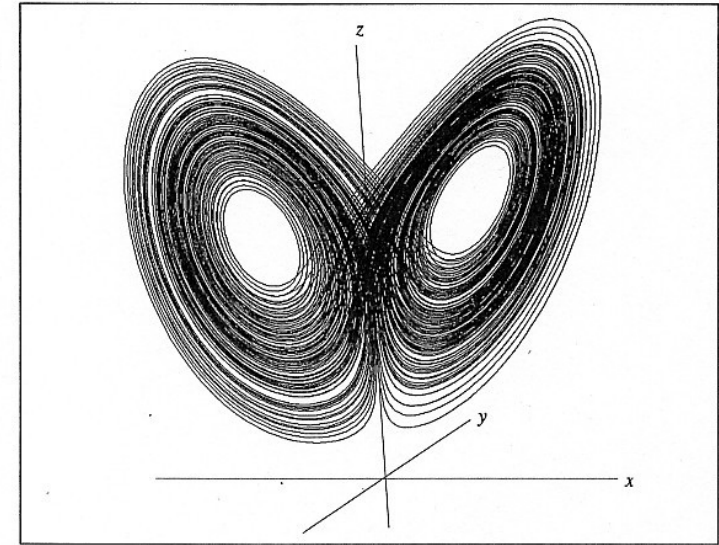
Turbulent Times

[Do simple equations give simple answers?]

The now famous **Lorenz Attractor** was discovered by Edward N. Lorenz, who studied numerical solutions of a simplified meteorological convection problem.

$$\begin{aligned}x' &= -A \cdot x + A \cdot y \\y' &= B \cdot x - y - x \cdot z \\z' &= -C \cdot z + x \cdot y\end{aligned}$$

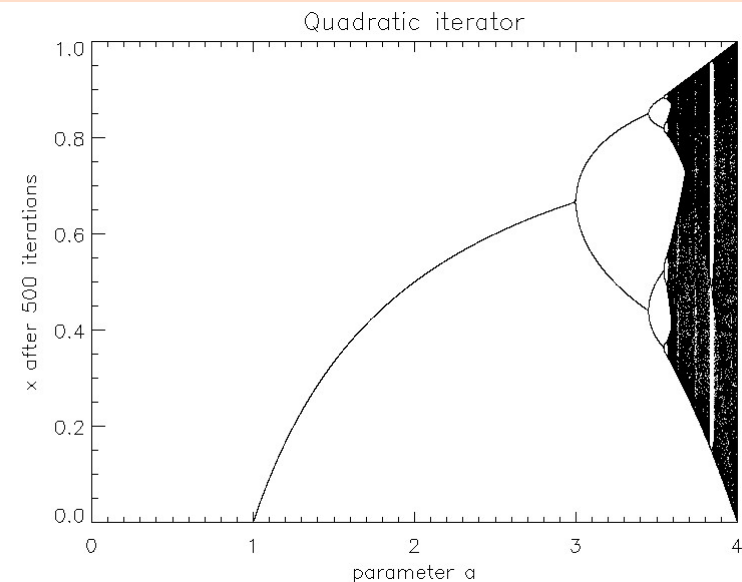
Lorenz obtained for $A = 10$, $B = 28$, $C = 8/3$ the following curve.

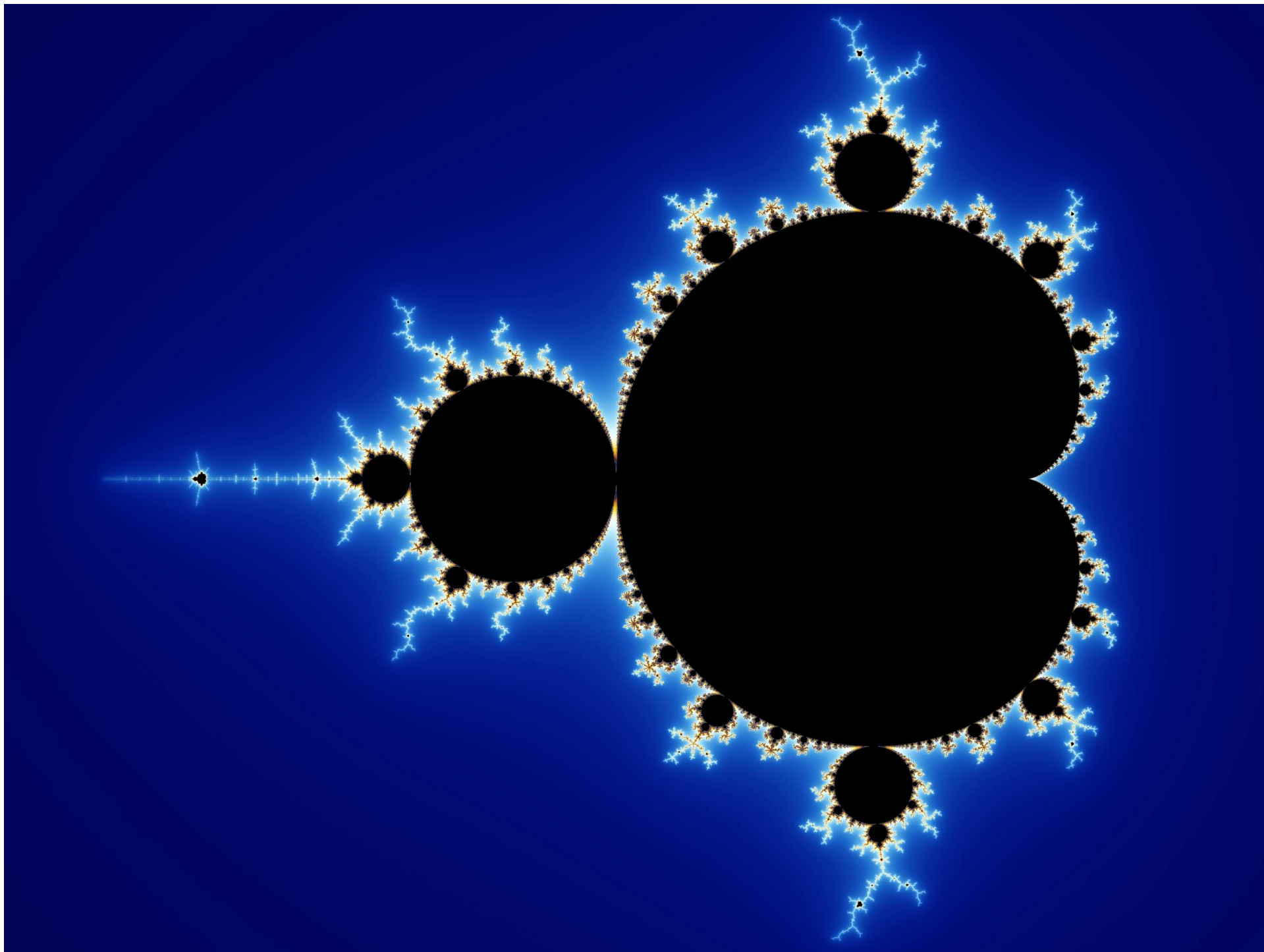


Simple nonlinear equations can produce very complex results.

The quadratic iterator $x_{n+1} = a \cdot x_n \cdot (1 - x_n)$:

- Very simple formula, easy to use.
 - Choose $a[0...4]$
 - start with a random $x_n[0...1]$
 - study x_n for $n > 100$
- Amazingly, lots of other non-linear formulas and very complex systems in nature mimic some of its properties.





Turbulent Times

Simplify Eq 1.3., and get the Law of Similarity:

1.3 Navier-Stokes equations, Reynold's Number

For most sub-sonic atmospheric flow problems, air can be treated as *incompressible medium*. The Navier-Stokes equations (Navier 1827, extended by Stokes in 1845) describe an incompressible medium with viscosity (Eq. 1.5).

$$\frac{d\vec{V}}{dt} + \frac{\text{grad } P}{\rho} + \text{grad } U - \frac{\eta}{\rho} \Delta \vec{V} \quad (1.5)$$

Without external forces ($\text{grad } U = 0$), one can choose convenient units for spatial dimension and velocity:

- **Spatial dimension:** size of an obstacle in the flow l_0
- **Velocity:** flow velocity far from the obstacle V_0

i.e. one replaces the

- velocity V by $V' = V/V_0$
- spatial dimension l by $l' = l/l_0$,

which allows to change the other terms accordingly:

- time t by $t' = t \cdot v_0/l_0$
- density ρ by $\rho' = \rho \cdot l_0^3$
- pressure P by $P' = P \cdot l_0^3/v_0^2$

Turbulent Times

Finally one obtains the dimensionless equation

$$\frac{dV'}{dt'} + \frac{\text{grad } P'}{\rho'} - \frac{1}{Re} \Delta V' = 0$$

with the Reynold's number $Re = l_0 \cdot V_0 \cdot \rho / \eta$

If two systems have
the same geometry and Reynolds number,
their turbulent flows are alike,
no matter their relative size, viscosity or flow speed!

Critical Reynold's number Re_c : Problem dependent, typically between 10 and 100.
For a given problem and a $Re > Re_c$, no stable solutions exist.

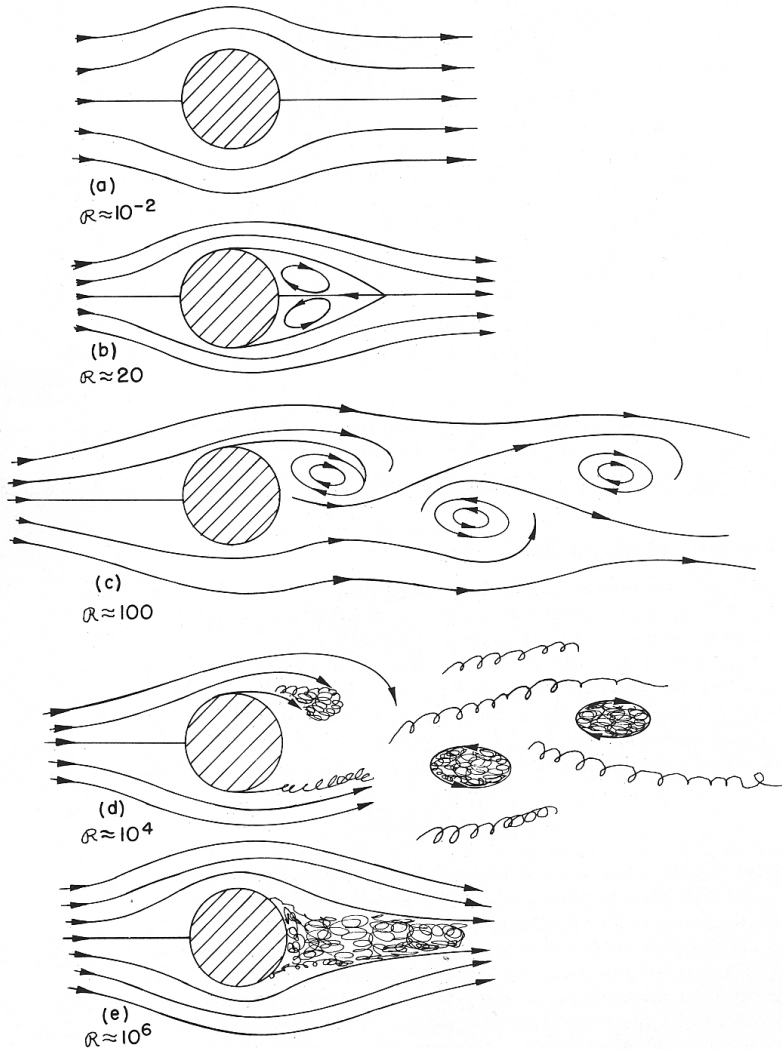
Medium	η [g/cm s]	$\nu = \eta / \rho$ [cm ² /s]
Water	0.010	0.010
Air	0.00018	0.150
Alcohol	0.018	0.022
Glycerin	8.5	6.8
Mercury	0.0156	0.0012

*Flows faster than some cm/s around
obstacles larger than some cm are turbulent.*

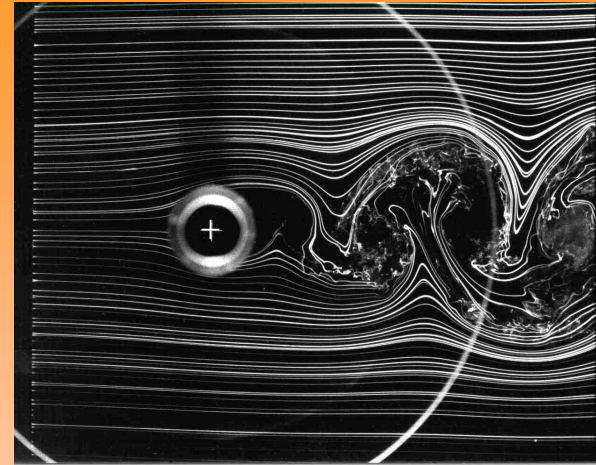
Table 1: Examples for viscosity and the kinetic viscosity $\nu = \eta / \rho$ from Landau-Lifschitz

Turbulent Times

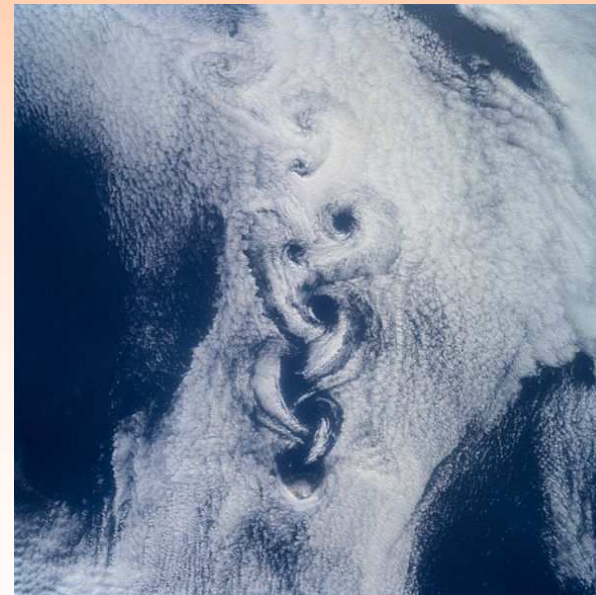
Example: Flow around a cylinder



From: Feynman



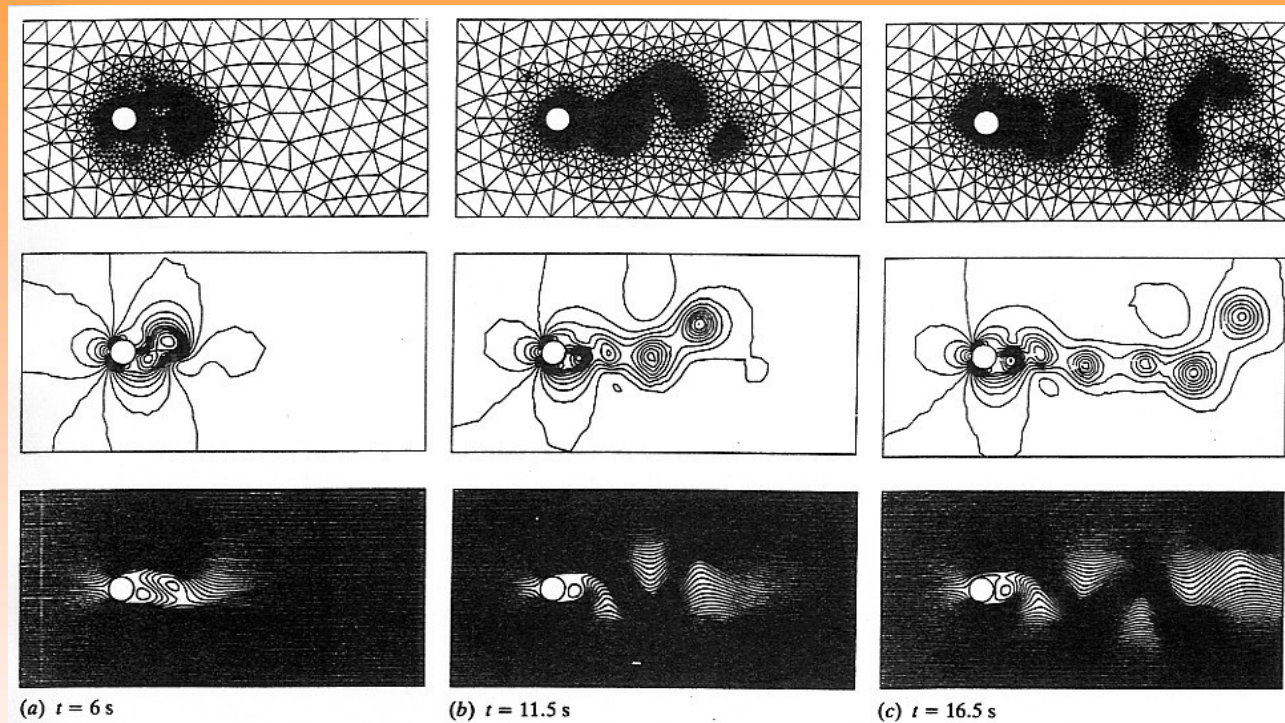
C.Norberg, LTH Lund, Sweden



NASA: Von Karman vortices off
Rishiri Island, Japan

Turbulent Times

To come back to the question if we could predict phase noise numerically:



Already the turbulent flow around a cylinder with $Re=250$ is difficult to model and needs powerful adaptive grid methods. Imagine a wind-moved tree ...

Biggest problem: The boundary conditions (butterfly effect)!

Turbulent Times

What is the purpose of turbulence?

Kinetic energy enters the flow system on a large scale, e.g. as convection. Vortices form with high Reynolds numbers (Re).

The vortices fragment into smaller and smaller eddies with decreasing Re (“inertia range”).

The smallest eddies have sub-critical Re , i.e. they dissipate their energy as heat (“viscous range”).

Turbulence converts kinetic energy from large to small scale sizes, until it can be dissipated as heat.

Turbulent Times

We can examine the energy flow across the scales!

Kolmogorov (1941): For high R ($10^6 - 10^7$), the turbulent structure of the inertia range is determined only by the **energy density for each scale size** ϵ and the **kinetic viscosity**. In the viscous range, it depends only on ϵ .

i.e., the smallest structures are homogeneous and isotropic.

Consequence for turbulence on intermediate scalesizes (when taking the simplest solution): Famous 2/3 law

$$D_{rr}(r) = C \cdot (\epsilon \cdot r)^{2/3}$$

Applies to fluctuations of temperature, velocity, ... Also for the refractive index. For a thin layer, refractive index fluctuations and phase fluctuations are identical. This is the *thin screen approximation*.

$$D_{\varphi}(r) = C \cdot (\epsilon \cdot r)^{2/3}$$

For a thick turbulent layer, one obtains (after some calculations involving the spatial spectra and a Bessel function, see Tatarski (1961)) the form:

$$D_{\varphi}(r) = C \cdot (\epsilon \cdot r)^{5/3}$$

Turbulent Times

Statistical tools to cope with turbulence:

Structure functions: An instrument to characterize *non-stationary random processes*, first introduced by Kolmogorov (1941).

$$D_f(x_i, x_j) = \overline{(f(x_i) - f(x_j))^2}$$

Detailed theory based on random vector fields and their spatial spectra. Good reference, with theory and experiments:

Tatarski V.I (1961), Wave Propagation in a turbulent Medium, McGraw-Hill

Taylor's Hypothesis:

The turbulent structure changes on timescales that are long compared to the crossing time due to wind, and can be considered “frozen”.

Relation between temporal and spatial structure function:

$$\overline{D}_\varphi(t) = \sqrt{(2)} \cdot D_\varphi(r) \big|_{r=v \cdot t}$$

The temporal structure function behaves well in the presence of noise.

Turbulent Times

Before we end this section, a small summary on what we have learned:

1. We cannot predict the future atmospheric phase noise from present values (no numerical “meteo forecast approach”). The best we can do is direct measurement, and statistics.
2. Turbulence is a mechanism of energy dissipation. Wind, convection, cloud formation, mountains or big obstacles upwind etc. will increase phase noise. Nights and early mornings with little wind will typically have low phase noise.
3. To correct atmospheric phase noise, we need to monitor the atmosphere as close as possible to the optical path.

Monitoring

What Tool, please?



LIDAR (LIght Detection And Ranging)

Detection of atmospheric components over
backscattering of laser light (**directional**, **clear sky**)

SODAR (SOnic Detection And Ranging)

Wind speed and turbulence detection over
backscattering of sound (**directional**, **limited range**)

Radiometer (water vapour emission)

Thermal emission of water vapour and clouds
(**directional**, **quantitative**)

Solar spectrometer (water vapour absorption)

Analysis of optical/IR absorption lines in front
of a strong background source (**quantitative**,
not directional, **clear sky**)

GPS (Global Positioning System)

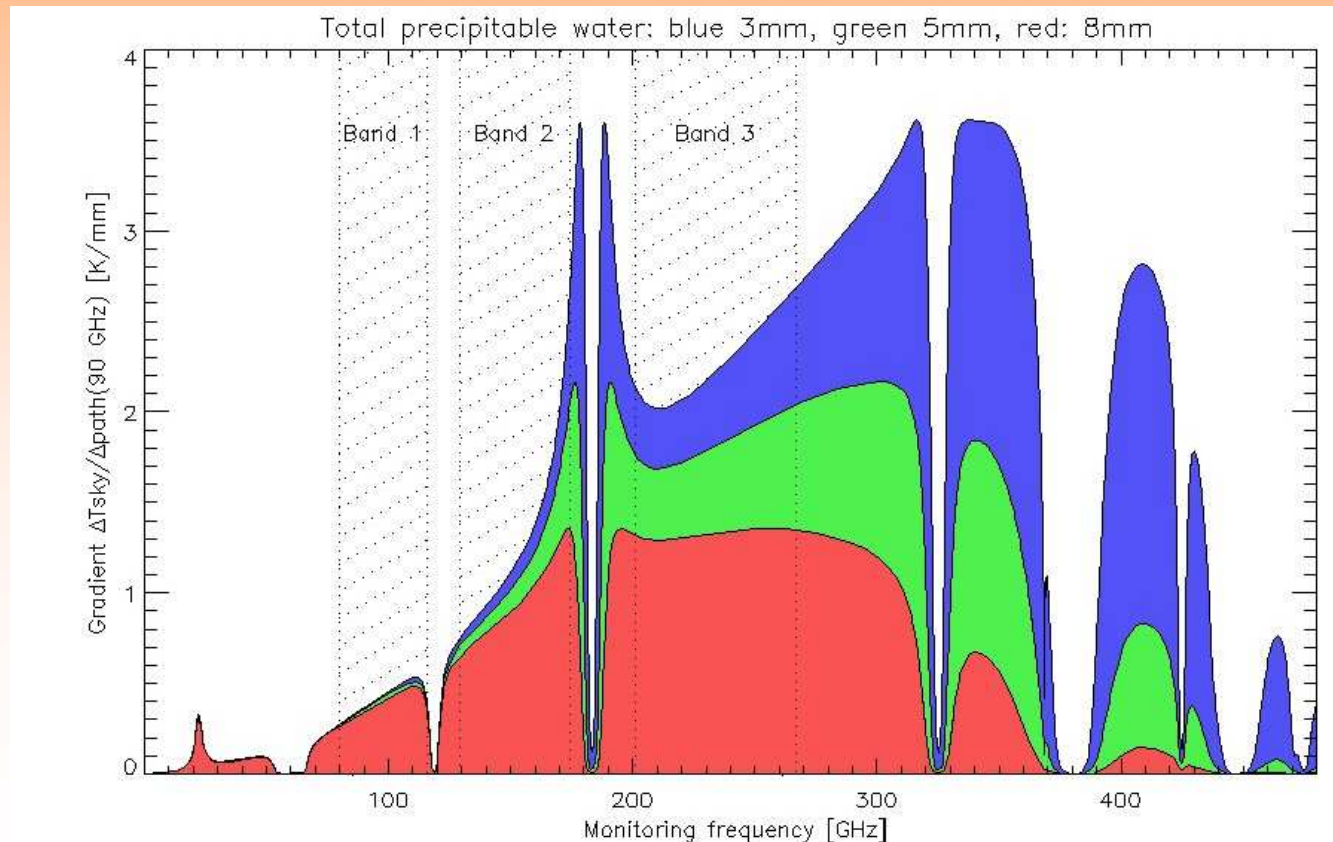
Differences in GPS arrival times due to atmospheric
path variations (**quantitative**, **not directional**)

Radiosonde (Balloons with sensor package)

In situ measurement of various atmospheric
parameters (**quantitative**, **not directional**)

Monitoring: where to look

- Δ radio path $\sim \Delta$ quantity of water vapour along the line of sight
- water vapour emits in the radio range, we can measure $\Delta T(\text{sky})$.
 - clear sky: $\Delta \text{path} \sim \Delta \text{vapour} \sim \Delta T(\text{vapour}) = \Delta T(\text{sky})$ (easy)
 - cloudy sky: $\Delta \text{path} \sim \Delta \text{vapour}$
 $\Delta T(\text{sky}) = \Delta T(\text{vapour}) + \Delta T(\text{cloud})$ (tricky)



Monitoring: where to look

A word about Clouds:

- Clouds need humidity and condensation nuclei to form.
- Absorption coefficient is $\sim \nu^2$ for observing wavelengths $\gg$ drop size (Rayleigh scattering). Formalism for the general case: Mie scattering.
- Ice crystal clouds have little effect on phase noise
- A cloud layer indicates a region of droplets, saturated water vapour, and increased temperature.

For monitoring purposes, it is easier to work in the Rayleigh scattering regime.

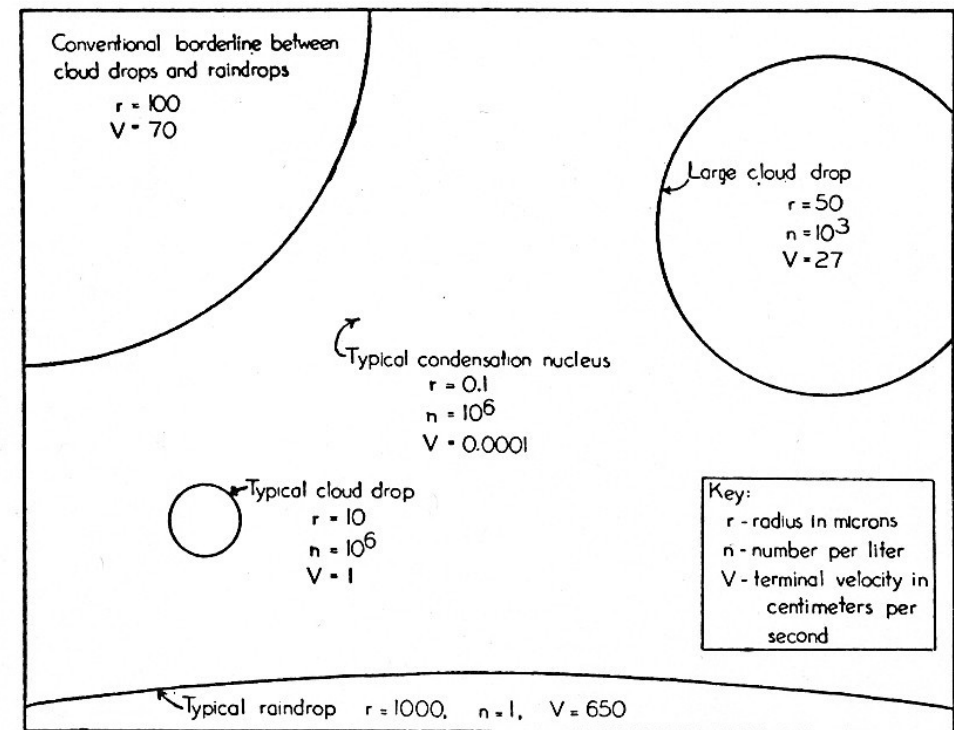


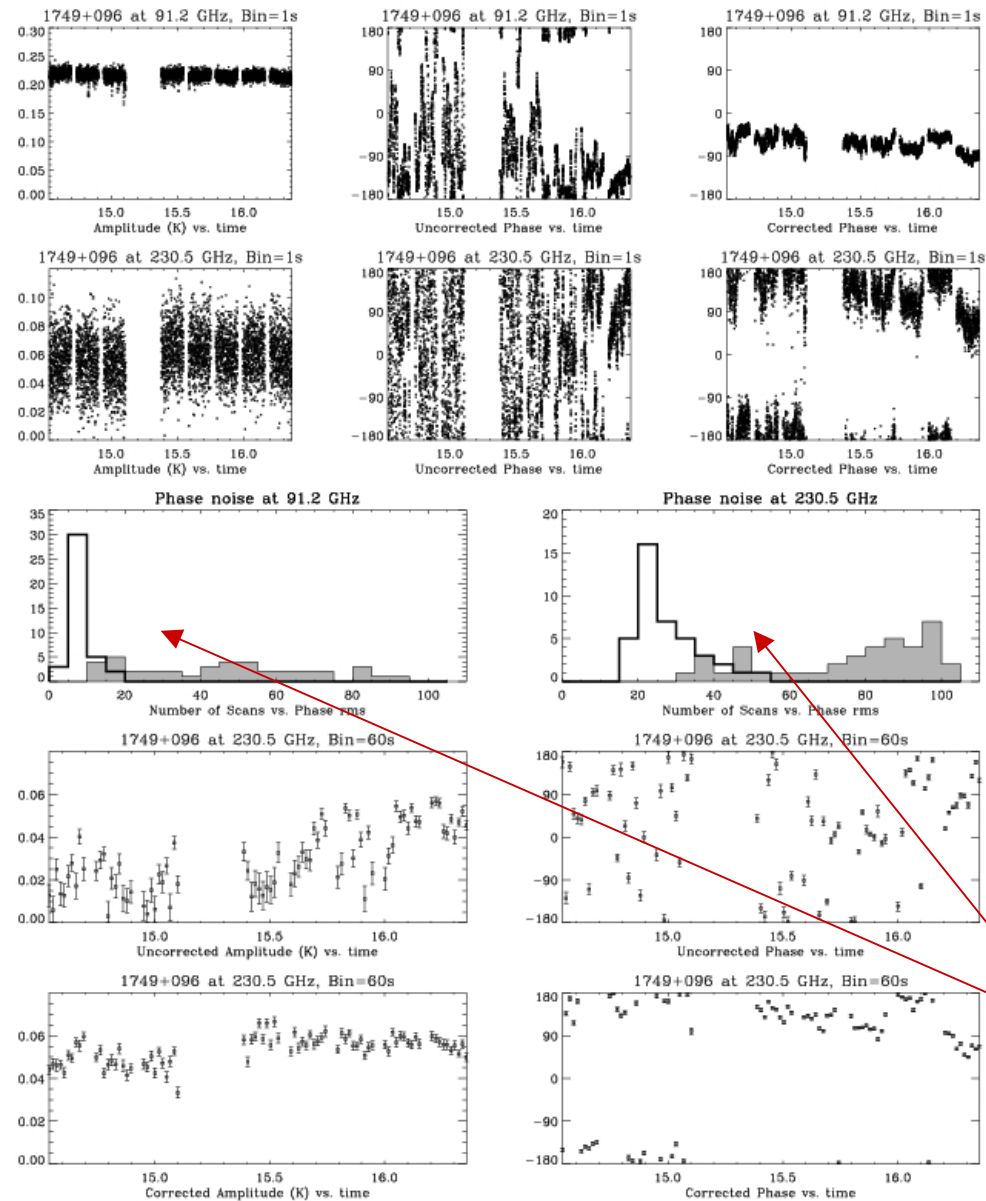
Fig. V-8. Size range of elements involved in cloud physics. Typical sizes, concentrations and falling velocities of nuclei, cloud droplets and raindrops.

Monitoring – practical implementation

Part 1: using the astronomical 1mm receiver signal

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| April 1995: | First PdBI phase correction (astronom. receiver at 230 GHz) |
| Nov. 1995: | Implementation into the real-time PdBI system |
| Oct. 1999: | Test of a 200 GHz VLBI phase correction at the IRAM 30-m |
| Oct. 2001: | Installation of the first 22 GHz radiometer on the PdBI |
| Dec. 2002: | Installation of the last 22 GHz radiometer on the PdBI |
| 2003-2004: | Optimization of thermal and signal transport environment |
| June 2004: | Implementation into the PdBI real-time system |

Monitoring – practical implementation



Astronomical receiver stability:
 $2 \cdot 10^{-4}$ at 230 GHz

Differential Method:

determine the conversion factor c

$$\Delta_{\text{path}} = c \cdot \Delta T_{\text{sky}}$$

from an atmospheric model,
store corrected and uncorrected data,
choose the data set with the highest
amplitude in post-processing.

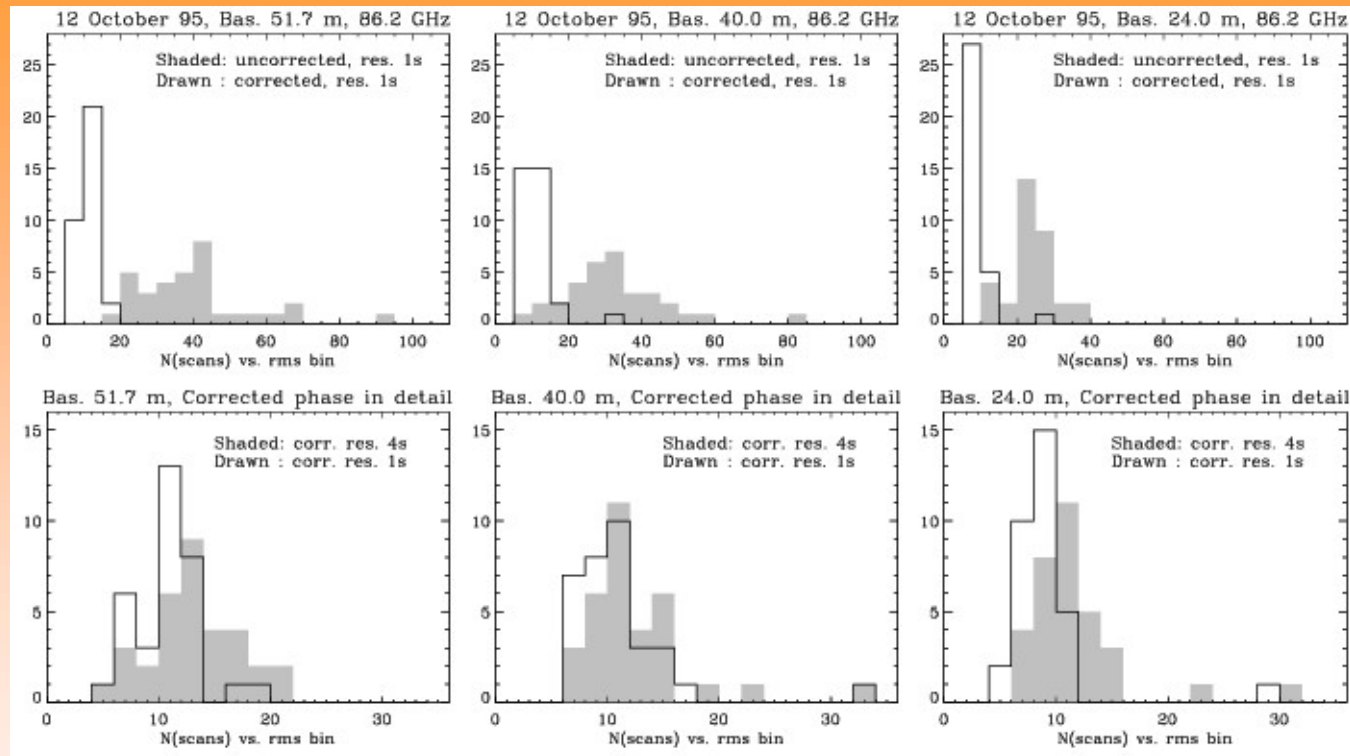
Discard corrected absolute phases.

Result:

Coherence is significantly improved
under clear sky conditions.

grey = uncorrected,
white = corrected phases

Monitoring – practical implementation



Comparison of the phase correction at 1 second and 4 seconds time resolution:

4 seconds: better S/N of the averaged total power signal.

1 second: better time resolution.

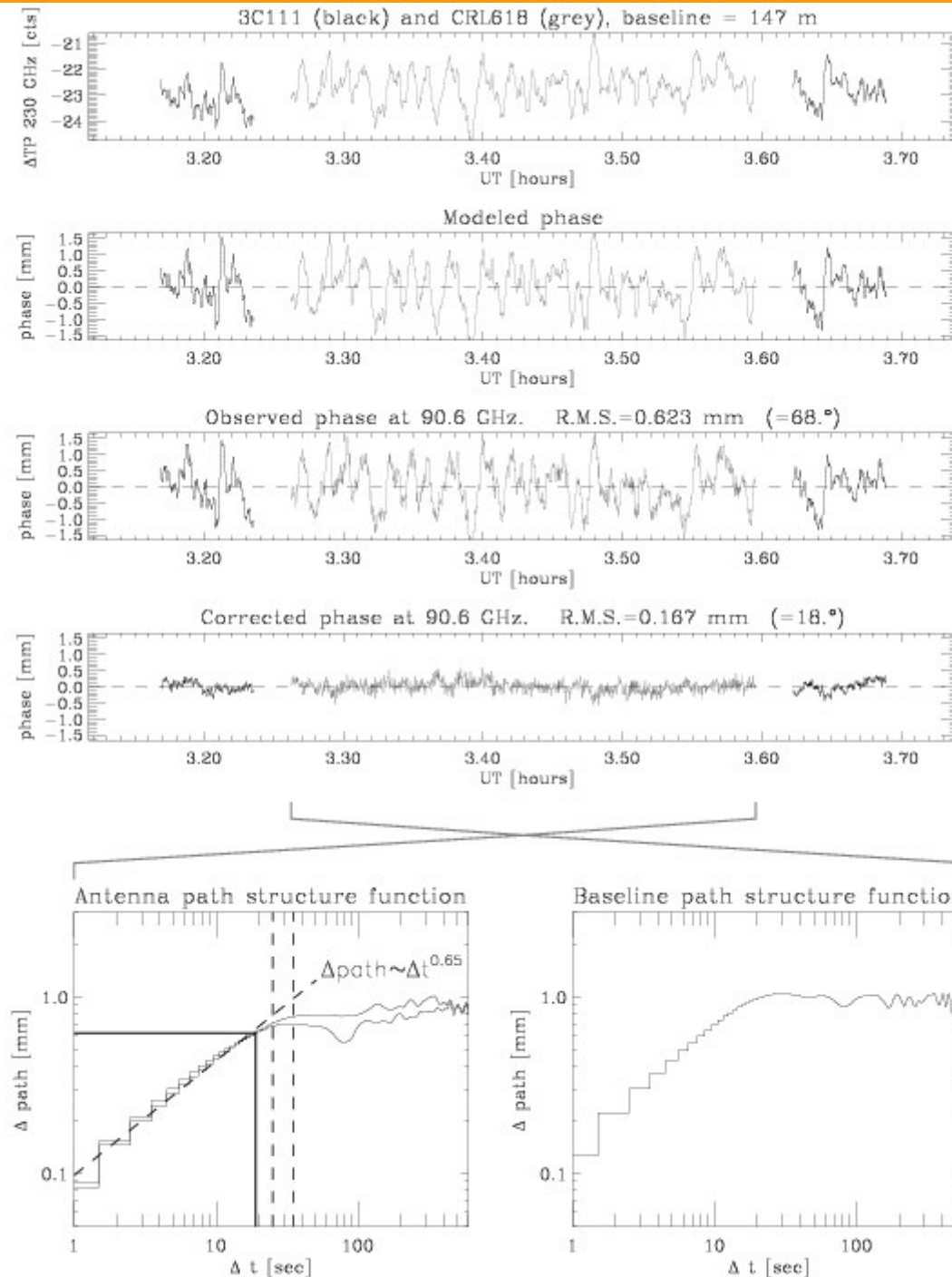
The higher time resolution gives better results.

Example

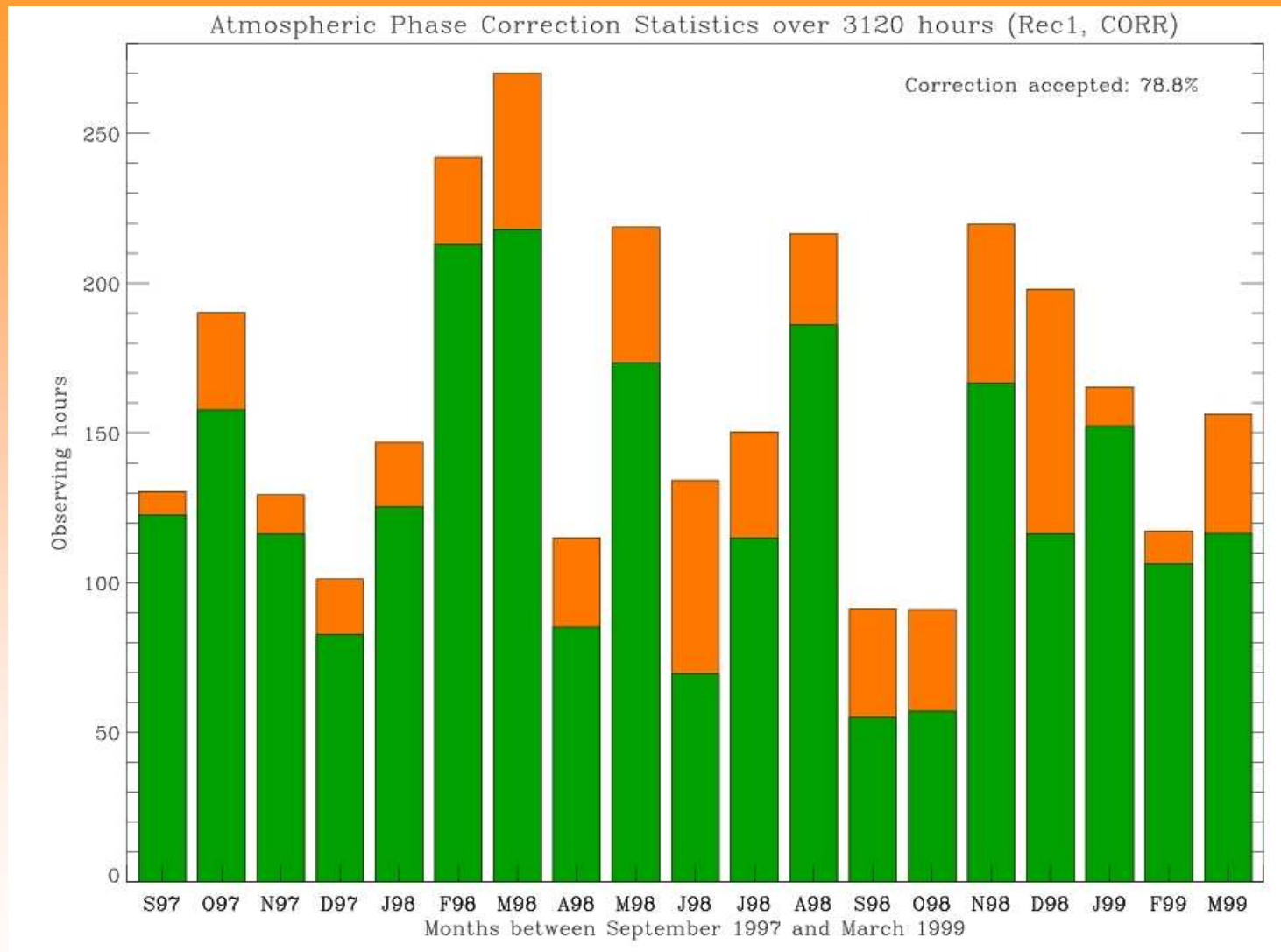
Clear sky phase modeling was successful with the ATM atmospheric model by Chernicharo (1985).

Note:

We are using at present an updated version of ATM by Juan Pardo.



Monitoring – practical implementation

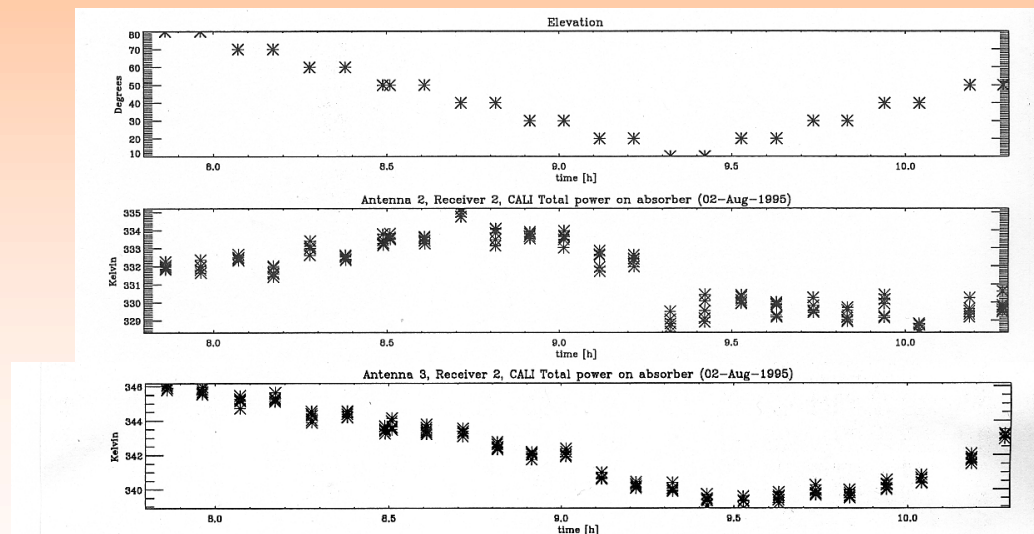


Result: Differential phase correction is successful most of the time.

If it works so nicely,
why change to a 22 GHz system?

Drawbacks of the 1mm phase monitoring:

1. Additional tuning time to optimize the astronomical 1mm receivers for total power stability
2. Concerns that the following receiver generation with closed-cycle Helium cryostats may be more instable in total power
3. Gain-elevation variations show hysteresis effects, no continuous phase tracking over source changes possible (this would be absolute phase correction)



4. Clear sky phase correction only



Clear sky, cloudy sky

Monitoring in the 1mm continuum band:

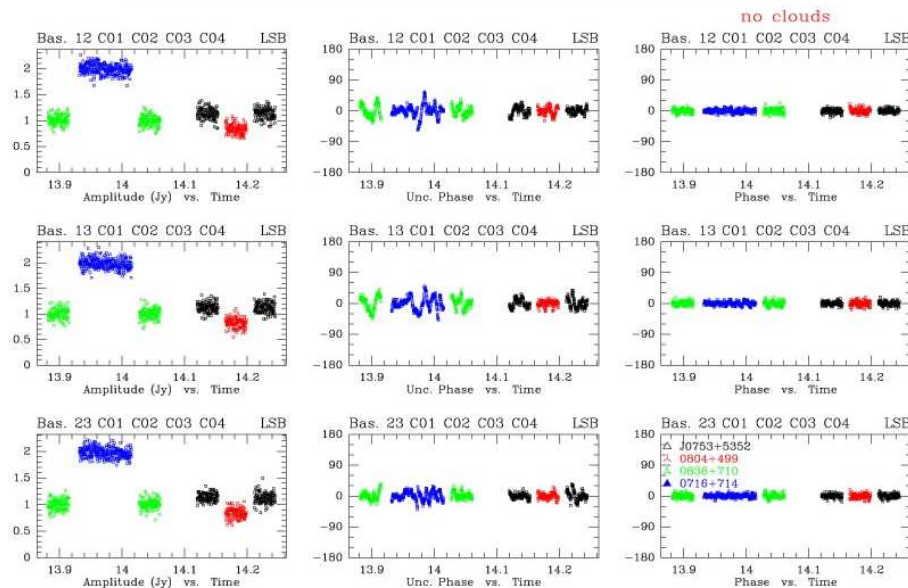
No straight-forward detection of clouds.

Consequences:

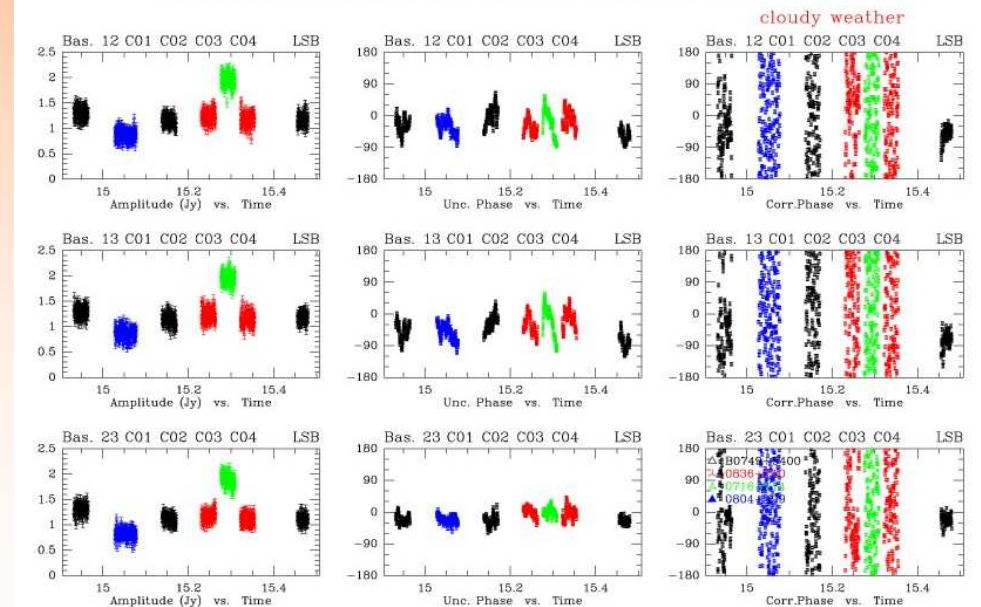
No clouds (monitoring improves data)

Clouds (monitoring degrades data)

RF: Fr.(A) CLIC - 07-MAY-1999 16:33:17 - i--1 N05W00W05E03 No Avg
Am: Rel.(A) 99 4436 1038 0836+710 P CORR CONT3 4D1 18-MAY-1998 13:53 -2.7 Vect.Avg
Ph: Rel.(A) Atm. 149 4476 1038 J0753+5352 P CORR CONT3 4D1 18-MAY-1998 14:14 -1.5



RF: Fr.(A) CLIC - 07-MAY-1999 16:01:03 - i--1 N09W01E03 No Avg
Am: Rel.(A) 295 9621 1038 B0749+5400 P CORR CONT3 4D2-W10 22-MAY-1998 14:56 -.6 Vect.Avg
Ph: Rel.(A) Atm. 367 9666 1038 B0749+5400 P CORR CONT3 4D2-W10 22-MAY-1998 15:28 .0



Monitoring – practical implementation

April 1995:	First PdBI phase correction (astronom. receiver at 230 GHz)
Nov. 1995:	Implementation into the real-time PdBI system
Oct. 1999:	Test of a 200 GHz VLBI phase correction at the IRAM 30-m

Part 2: Using a dedicated 22 GHz system

Oct. 2001:	Installation of the first 22 GHz radiometer on the PdBI
Dec. 2002:	Installation of the last 22 GHz radiometer on the PdBI
2003-2004:	Optimization of thermal and signal transport environment
June 2004:	Implementation into the PdBI real-time system

A dedicated 22 GHz WVR

Requirements for phase correction:

- Observing and monitoring beams must be close together
(beware of effective baselines where observing + monitoring beams cross the phase screen)
15 arcmin separation = 17 meters at 4 km distance
- Data rate of 1 readout /second
- Receiver parameters (gain, T_{rec}) should not depend on elevation.
If this cannot be avoided, they must have no hysteresis to allow calibration.
- Receivers of high intrinsic stability required.

This is the “wish list” which goes to the receiver group ...

Bure 22 GHz radiometers: parameters (I)

- Ambient temperature, Peltier-stabilized instrument
- Absolute stability (30 min): $7.5 \cdot 10^{-4}$, differential stability (between channels): $8 \cdot 10^{-5}$
- Measured receiver temperatures of the 6 radiometers: 170 K - 220 K
- Separation between observed and monitored optical axis: 15' Azimuth,
The WVRs use the astronomical Cassegrain main reflector / subreflector
- Monitoring data recorded once per second

And this is what comes back! (excellent work)

Bure 22 GHz radiometer: parameters (II)

- Cloud opacity is $\sim \nu^2$ for wavelength $\gg$ droplet size.
- All exponential terms at 22 GHz can be linearized for realistic observing conditions at 82 GHz.
- $T_{\text{wvr}} = F_{\text{eff}} \cdot (T_{\text{vap}} + T_{\text{cloud}}) + (1 - F_{\text{eff}}) \cdot T_{\text{amb}} + T_{\text{rec}}$

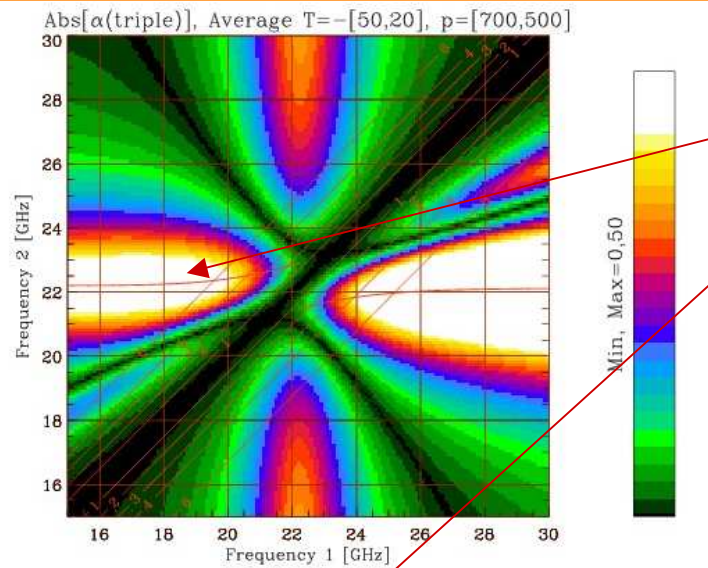
Then the combination of 3 channels

$$T_{\text{triple}} = (T_1 - T_2 \cdot \nu_1^2/\nu_2^2) - (T_2 - T_3 \cdot \nu_2^2/\nu_3^2)$$

removes cloud emission and constant temperature offsets if

$$\nu_1^2/\nu_2^2 = \nu_2^2/\nu_3^2$$

22 GHz radiometer: parameters (III)

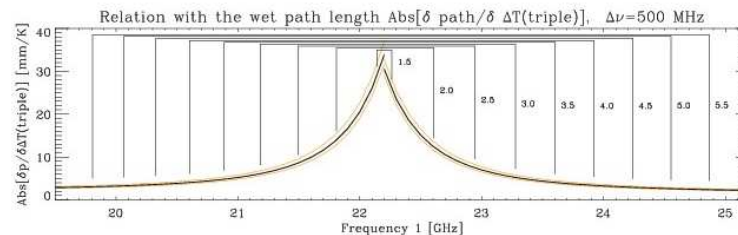
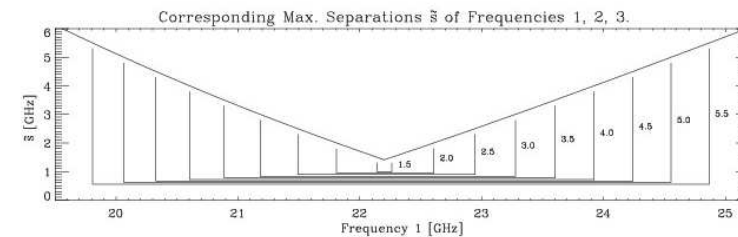
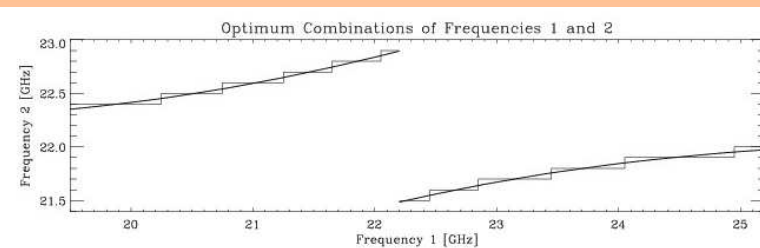
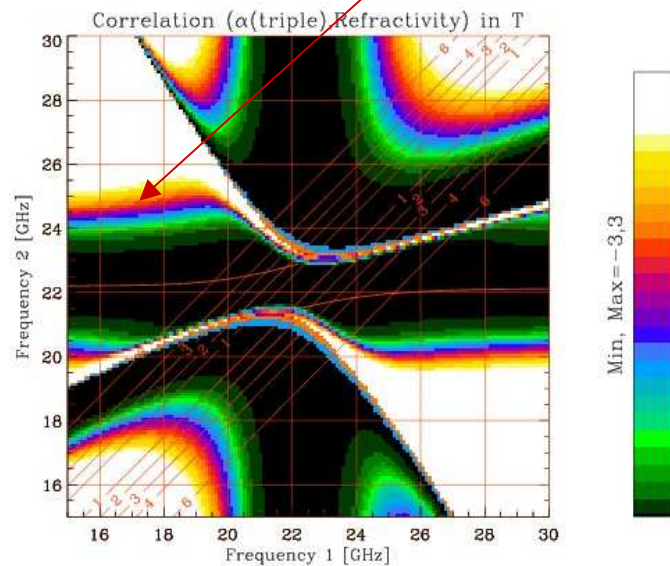


In the graphs, $v_3 = v_2^2/v_1$

Traced ridges: maximum sensitivity

Conflict with a minimum dependency of the optical path on vertical atmospheric temperature.

Maximum sensitivity was preferred.



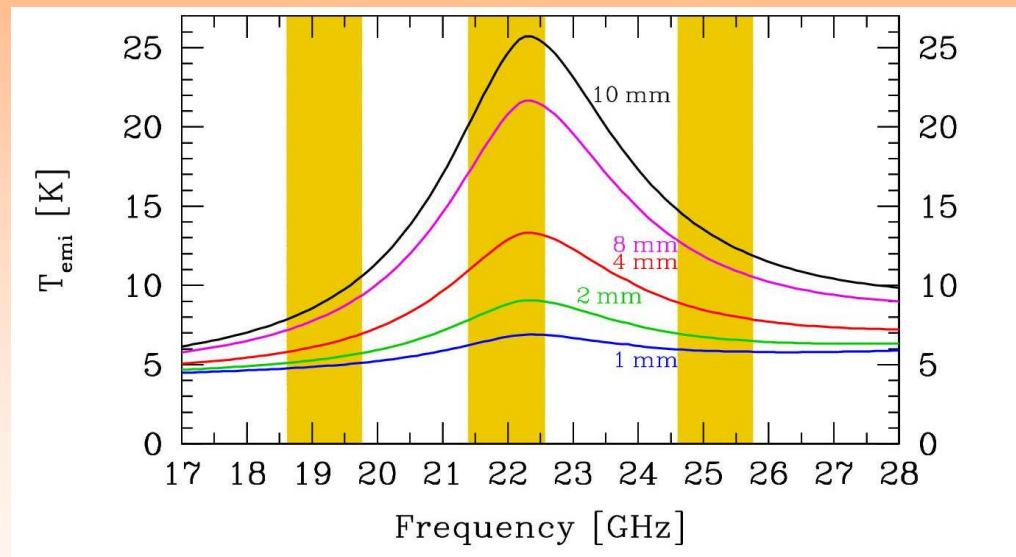
22 GHz radiometer: parameters (IV)

Choice of frequencies for the Plateau de Bure Radiometers:

Three channels of 1 GHz bandwidth each:

$$\nu_1 = 19.175 \text{ GHz} , \quad \nu_2 = 21.971 \text{ GHz} , \quad \nu_3 = 25.175 \text{ GHz}$$

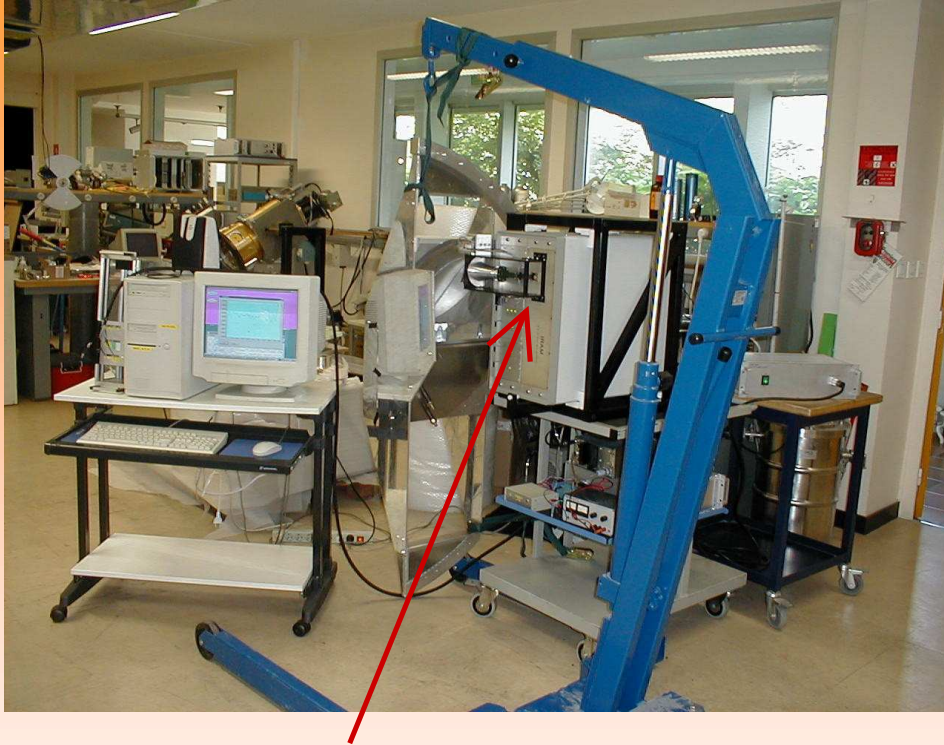
Selected by fixed filters on the 8 GHz bandpass of a single receiver.



*It was not possible to stay on ITU protected frequency bands
to reach the required sensitivity.*

Calibration hardware: a waveguide-mounted noise diode
and an ambient load table.

22 GHz radiometer – some photos



22 GHz Radiometer in the Grenoble receiver labs. Part of a receiver cabin wall (vertex-side) is suspended from a crane to study the mirror system which approaches the monitoring and observing beams.

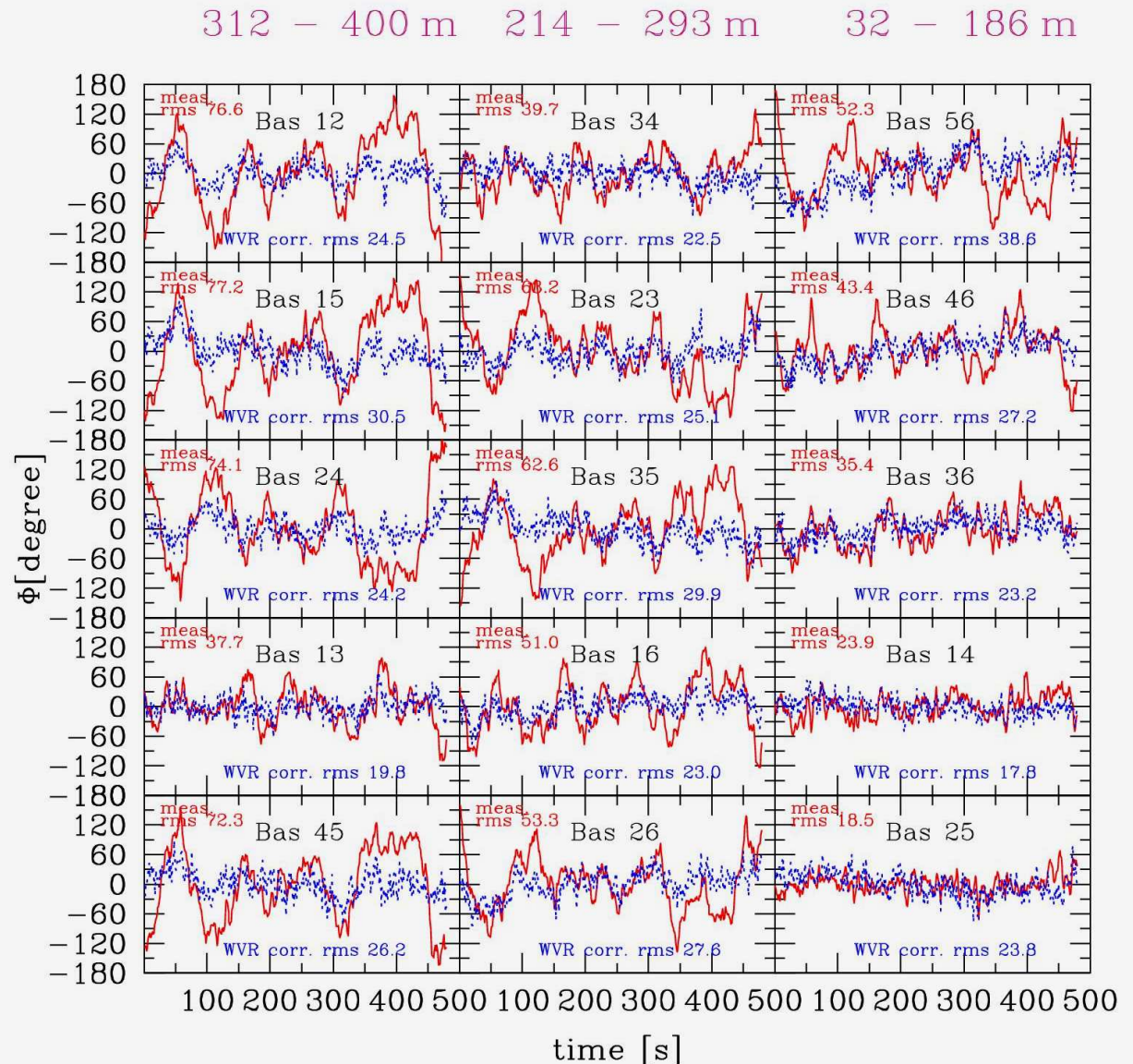


Three radiometers in a row in the Grenoble receiver labs. Tests before crating and transport to the Plateau de Bure.

22 GHz radiometer – practical implementation

Here an example of
the application of the
phase correction:

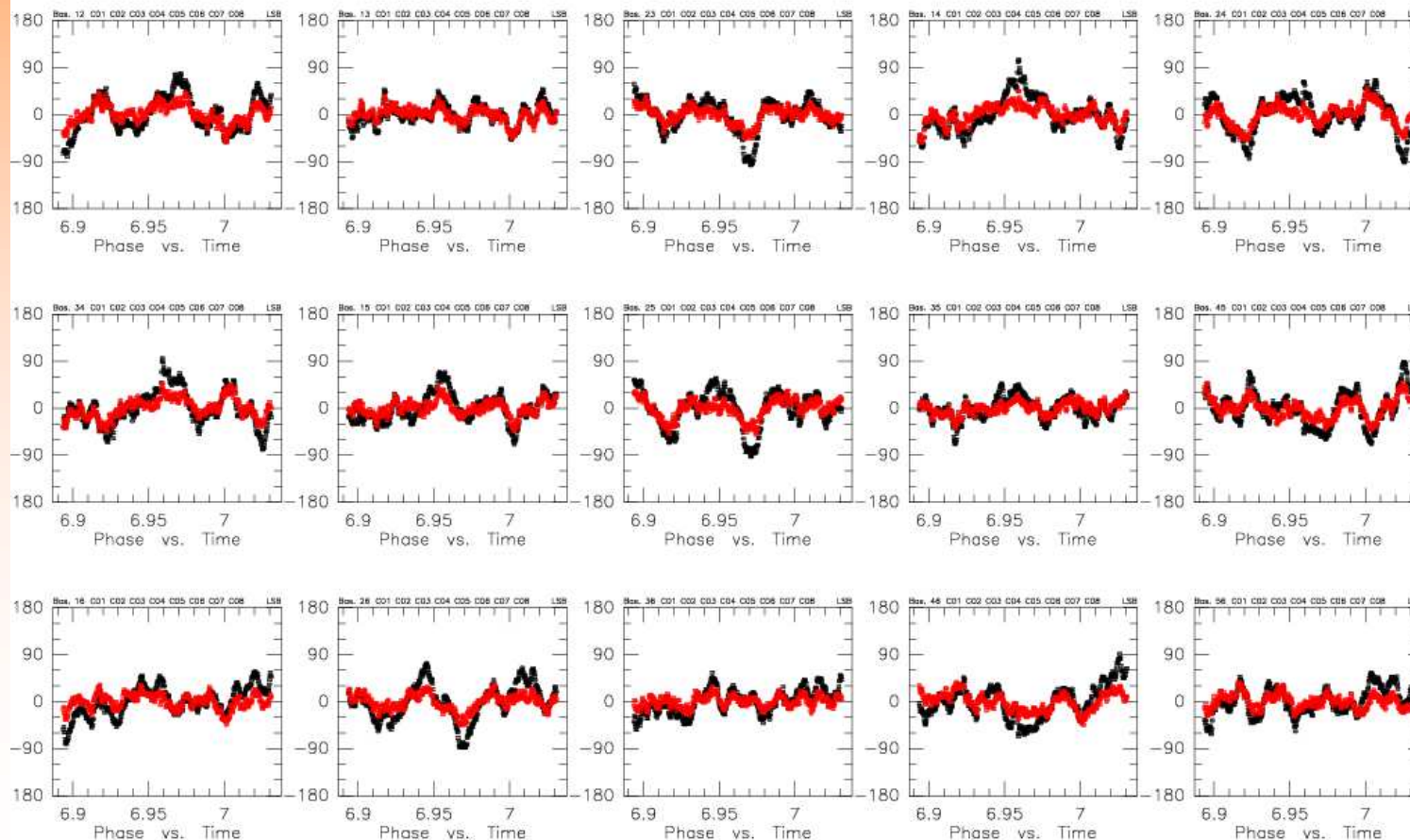
significant
improvement!



22 GHz radiometer – practical implementation

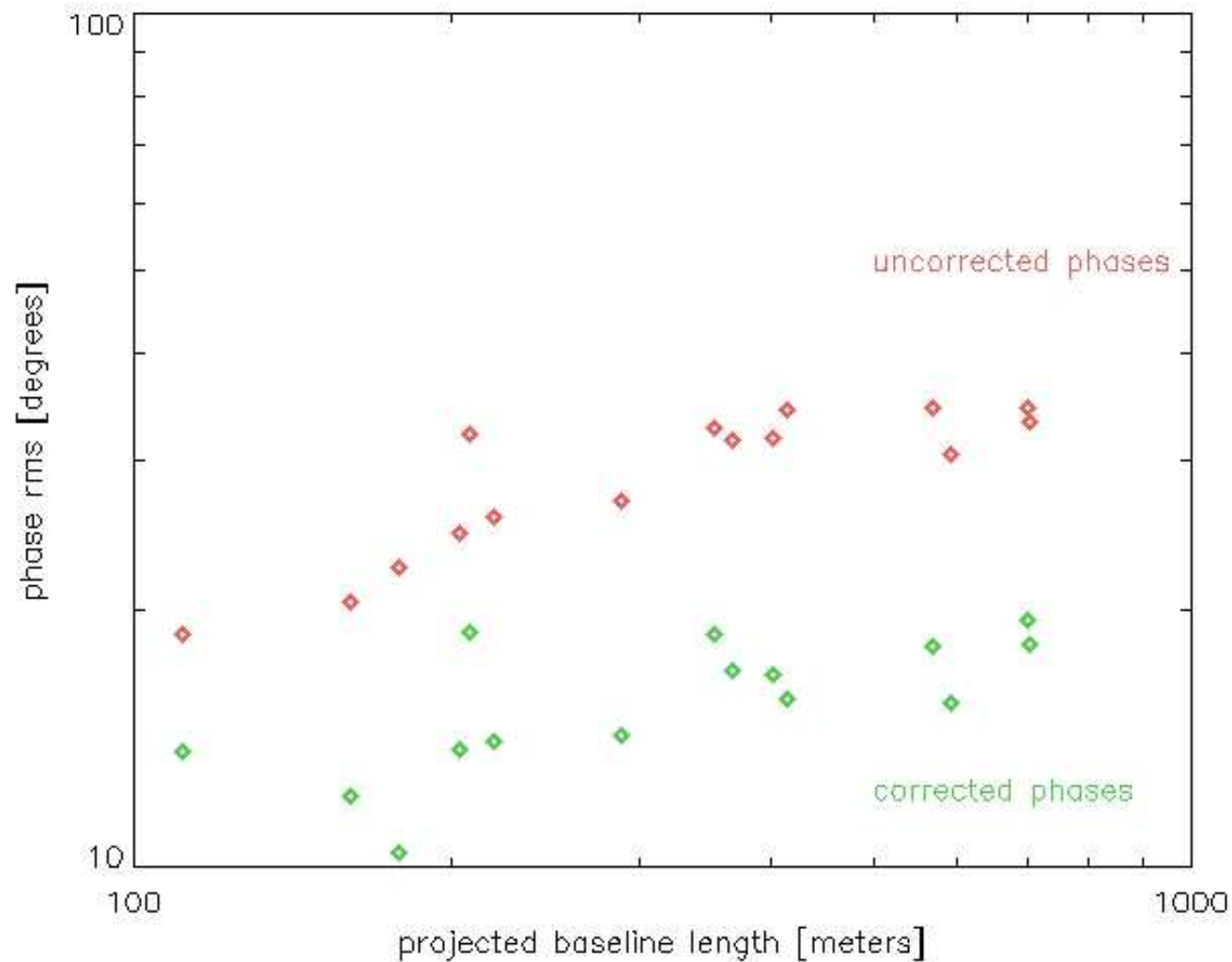
Our example on MWC349 from the beginning:

RF: Uncal. CLIC – 07-OCT-2008 08:10:31 – bremer@pctcp10 W27E68W12N46N20E12 6Bq-E23+E68 No Avg
Am: Abs. 22GG HCN 88.950GHz B1 Q3(320,320,320,320)V Q3(320,320,320,320)H BOTH polarizations
Ph: Rel.(A) (247 1508 0 CORR)-(257 1518 0 CORR) 09-MAR-2008 06:53-07:01



22 GHz radiometer – practical implementation

The corresponding phase noise vs. projected baseline plot:



22 GHz radiometer – practical implementation

Standard of the PdBI “default” phase correction:

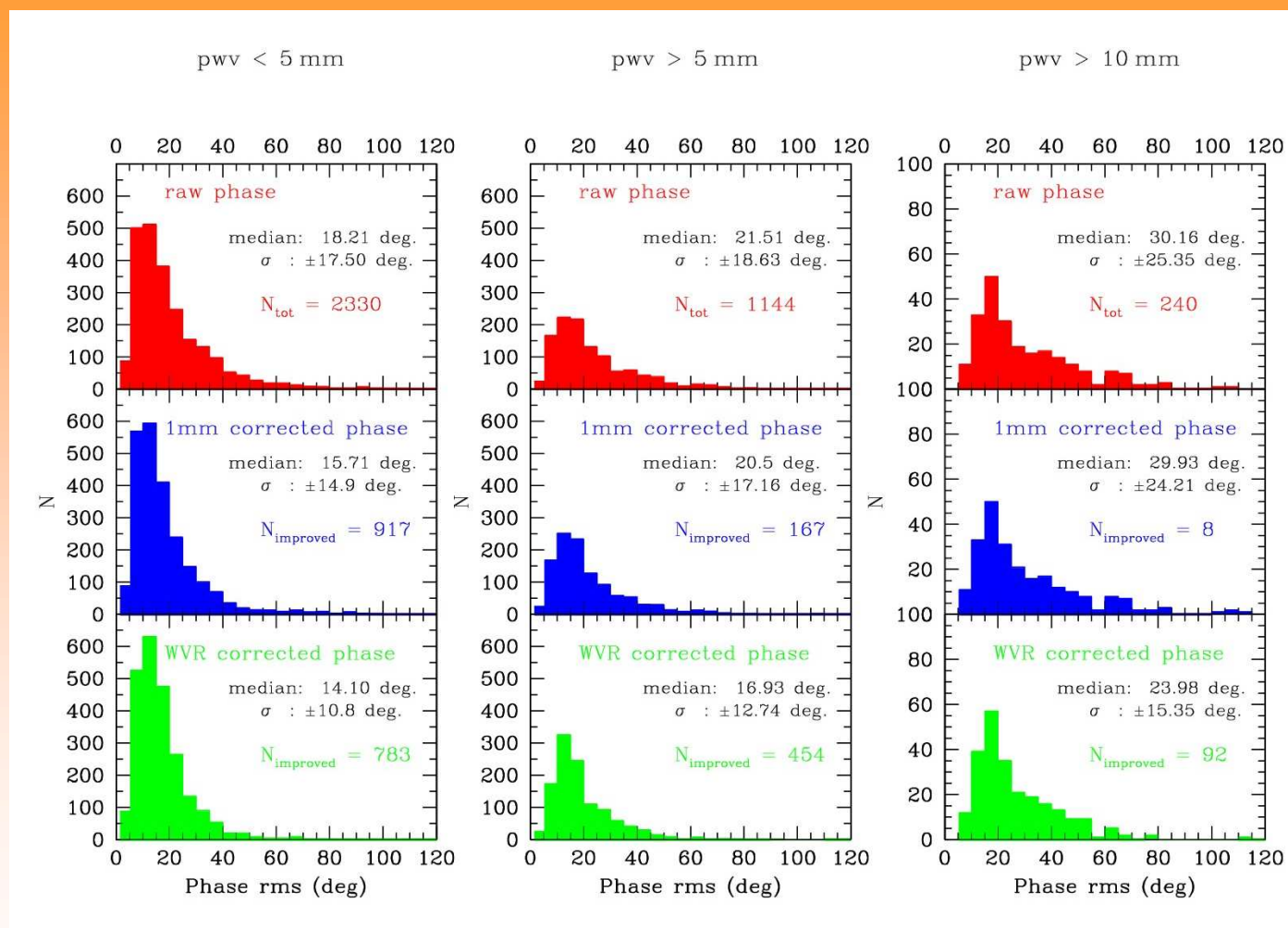
We still discard the corrected phases and only keep the improved amplitudes.

Why?

All residual error terms of the radiometers would appear in the phases. We are developing automated checks.

Once these options are safe, we will release them.

Practical implementation: WVR phase correction statistics



PdBI Histogram statistics on **raw phase**, 230 GHz corrected phase and **WVR corrected phase** show that the WVRs perform equivalent or better than the 230 GHz monitoring.

Appearance in the Bure data reduction

A simple mouse button starts procedures that are worth hours of command line typing. The following parts are related to phase correction:

Display package for NGR

GO ABORT HELP

SELECT METEO ELEV-AZI POIN-FOC TRACKING TOT.POW. TSYS **WATER** PRINT

Receiver numbers: 1 0 0 0

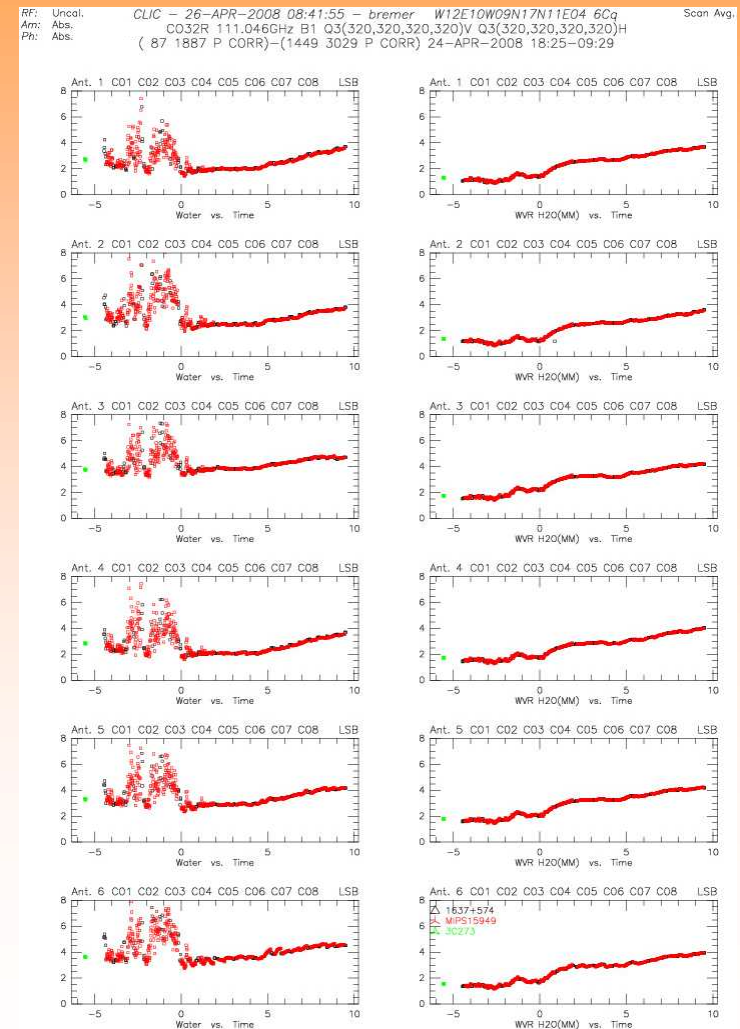
File name: /home/bremer/pdbi/09-mar-2008-test.hpb File

First and last scan: 0 10000

Min. Data quality?: AVERAGE Choices

Array configuration?: *1

Comparison of the astronomical receiver and radiometer-derived precipitable atmospheric water



Appearance in the Bure data reduction

The menus evolve with CLIC versions, and may differ. Here the aug08 menus.

Verify where the phase correction improves the amplitudes

Contains an
interference
check

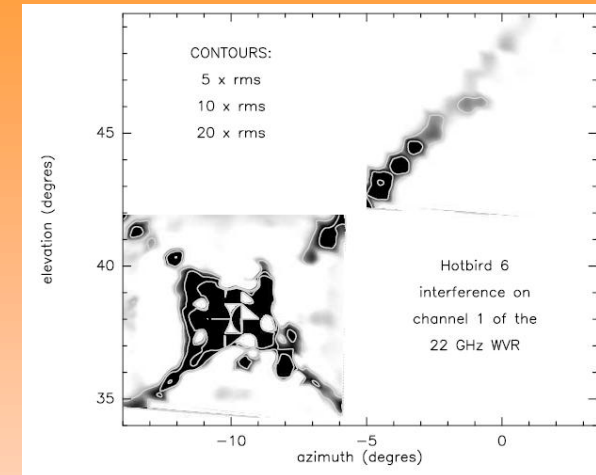
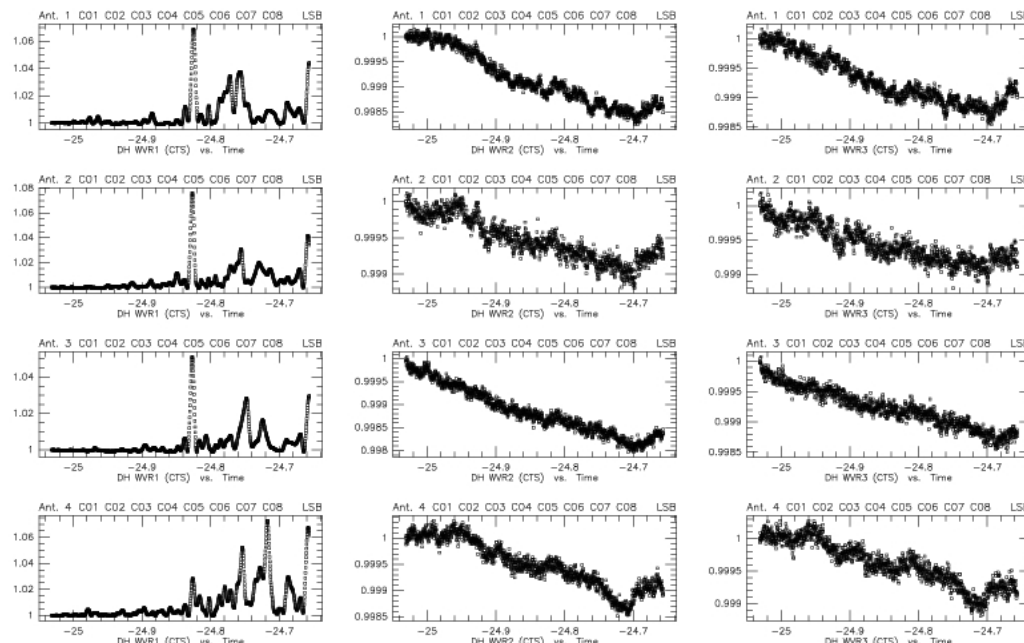
Choosing the phase correction, as accepted by
the **STORE CORRECTION AUTO** command.

Marks where the phase correction
has been accepted

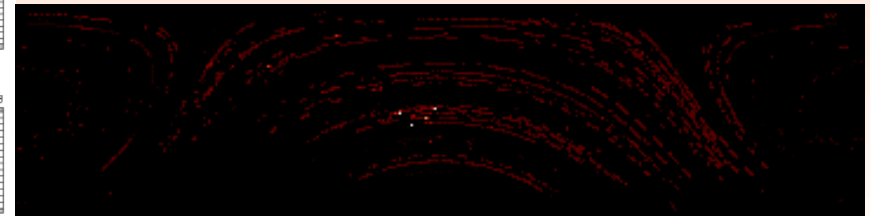
Useful checks

So far, interference has been detected from two satellites. In 2007, less than 0.5% of observations showed traces (876 out of 174716 correlation scans).

RF: Uncal. CLIC - 13-DEC-2007 14:09:41 - bremer W12E10W09N17 6Cq-N11E04 No Avg
Am: Abs. OA2E GLY3MM 223.650GHz B3 Q2(160,160,160,160)H Q2(160,160,160,160)V
Ph: Abs. (291 5936 0 CORR)-(320 5965 0 CORR) 12-DEC-2007 22:58-23:20



Prime suspect:
Hotbird 6 (Alcatel Space) downlink



Scan based detection and flagging is possible by studying the following ratio:

$$\text{rms} [T_1 - T_2 \cdot v_1^2/v_2^2] / \text{rms} [T_2 - T_3 \cdot v_2^2/v_3^2]$$

Useful checks

The pipeline reduction plot shows information on the radiometers:

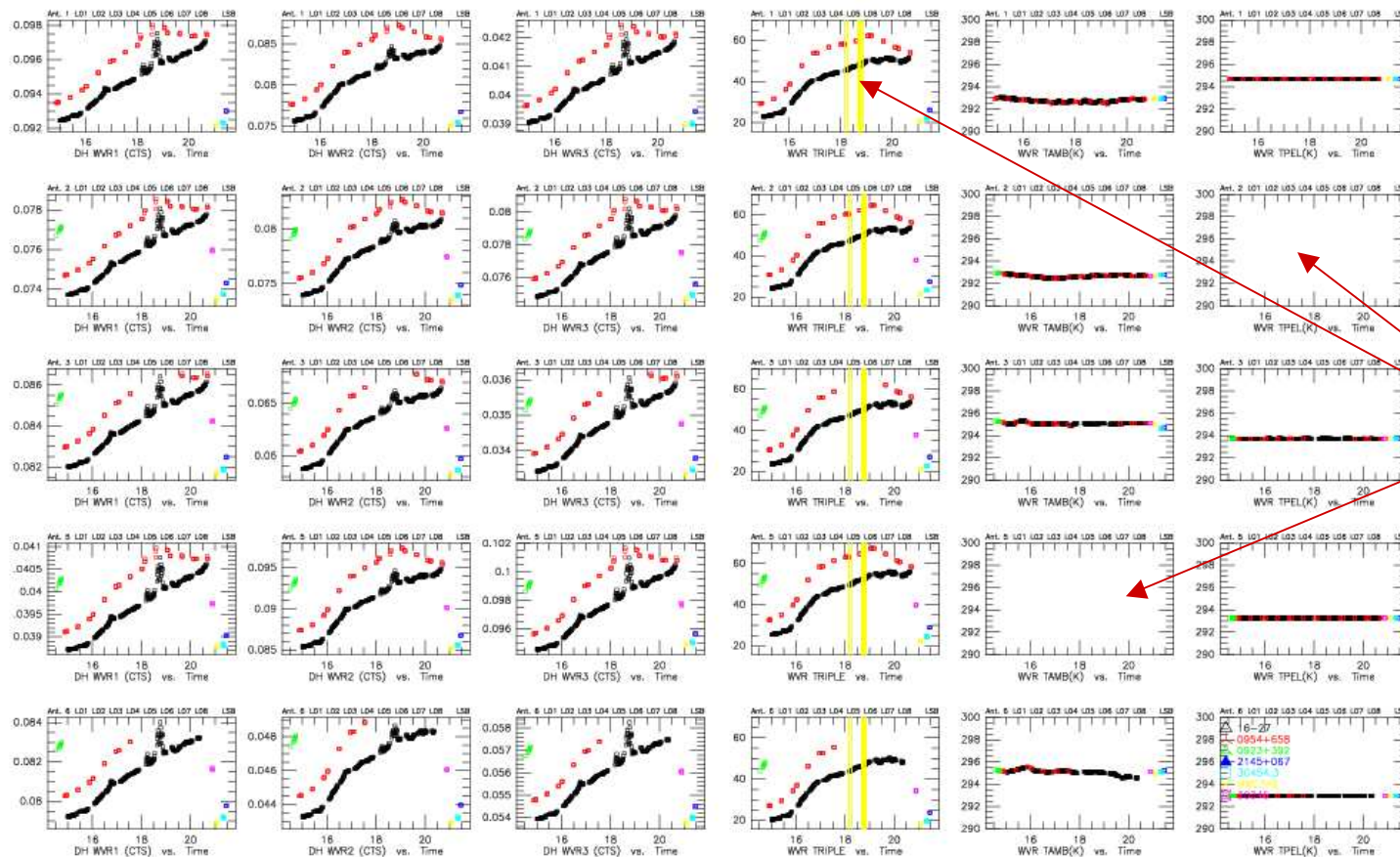
RF: Uncal.
Am: Abs.
Ph: Abs.

CLIC - 05-OCT-2008 21:51:35 - oper W05E03N11W08N07 5Dq
C043R 98.915GHz B1 Q1(320,320,320)H Q2(320,320,320)V
(26 9193 P CORR)-(704 9726 P CORR) 05-OCT-2008 14:31-21:28

Scan Avg.
PHYSICAL ant.
BOTH polarizations

1.8 22 GHz monitors

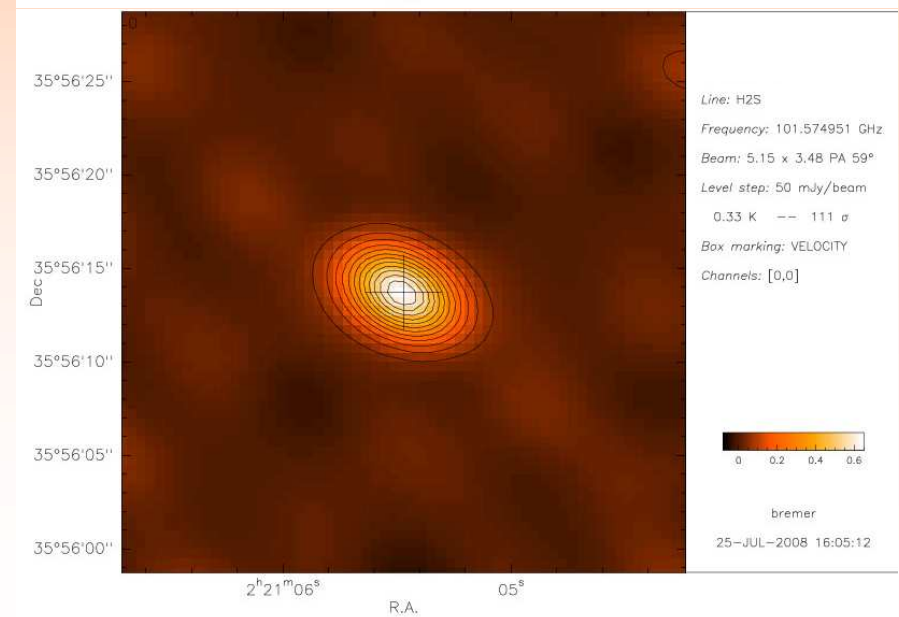
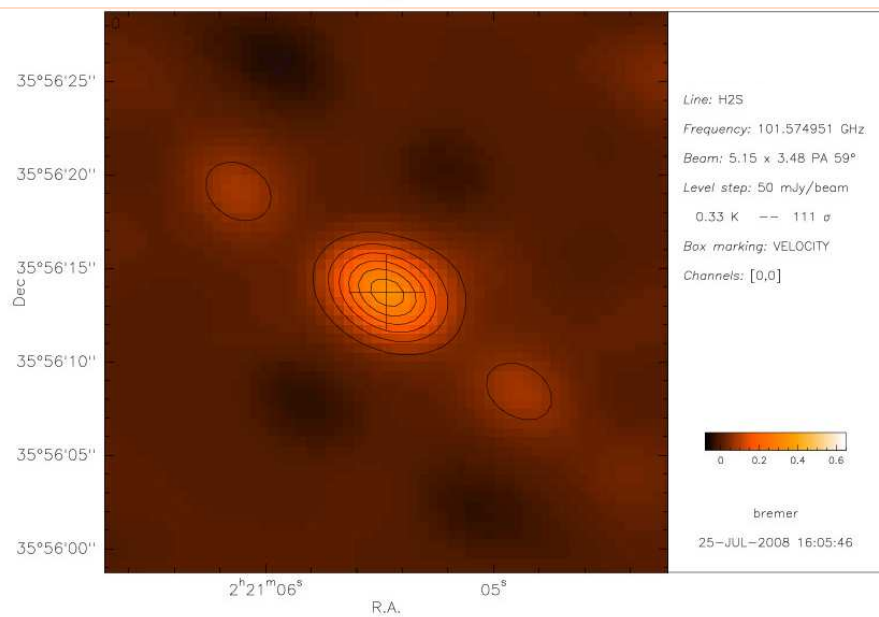
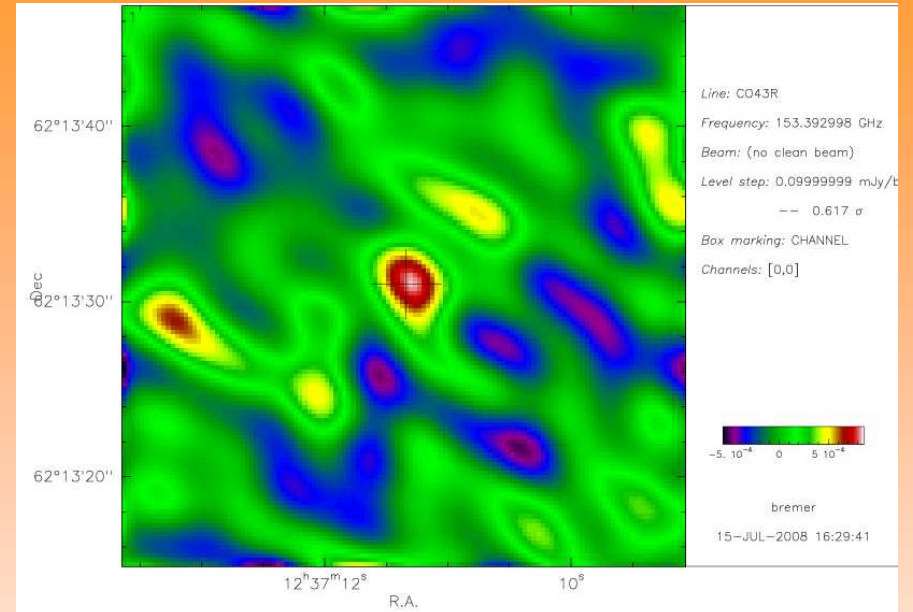
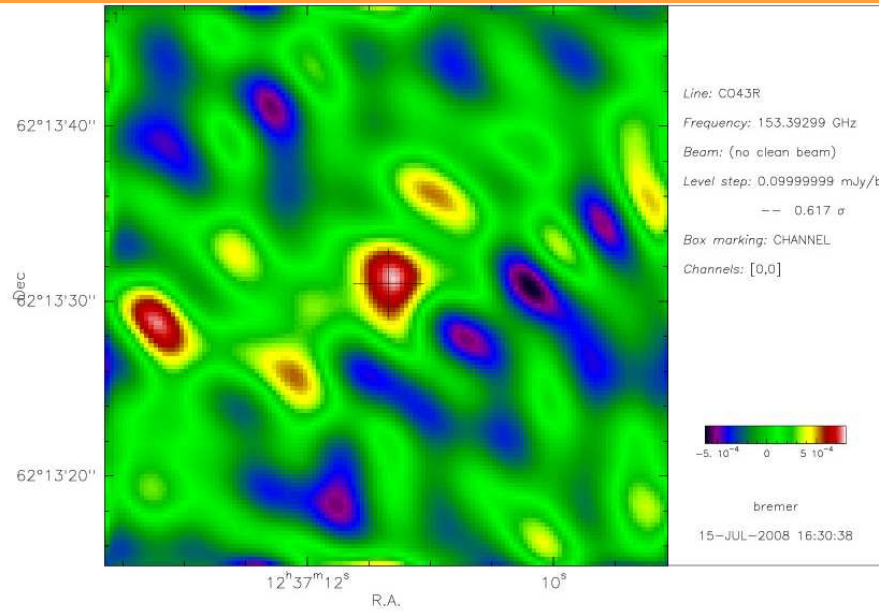
1 SUMMARY



Fine tuning

- verify if there are spurious “interference” flags
(can happen for some clouds)
- look if the receiver cabin temperature does not oscillate by more than 1°C
- check if a calibrator is not so weak that the amplitude improvement check is not significant (that may flag the phase correction on the following source scans)
- in case of doubt, ask the local contact.

Fine tuning - some experimental maps



The End

Still some work to do:

The maps shown assume “zero average” for the atmospheric phase fluctuations over 20 minutes. This does not always work. Automated checks necessary.

Absolute phase correction requires an ultra-precise differential calibration connected to the phase calibrations.
We are working on it ...

Thank you!