

The Northern Extended Millimeter Array NOEMA
Xth Interferometry School
Roberto Neri, IRAM

The NOrthern Extended Millimeter Array NOEMA

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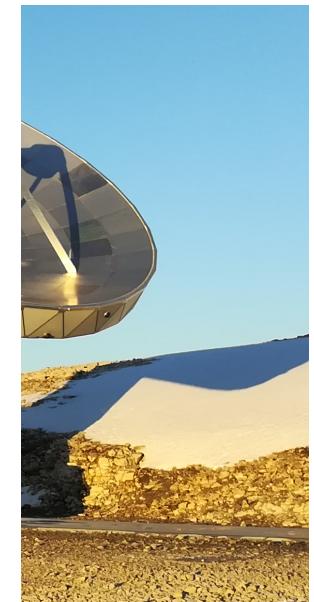
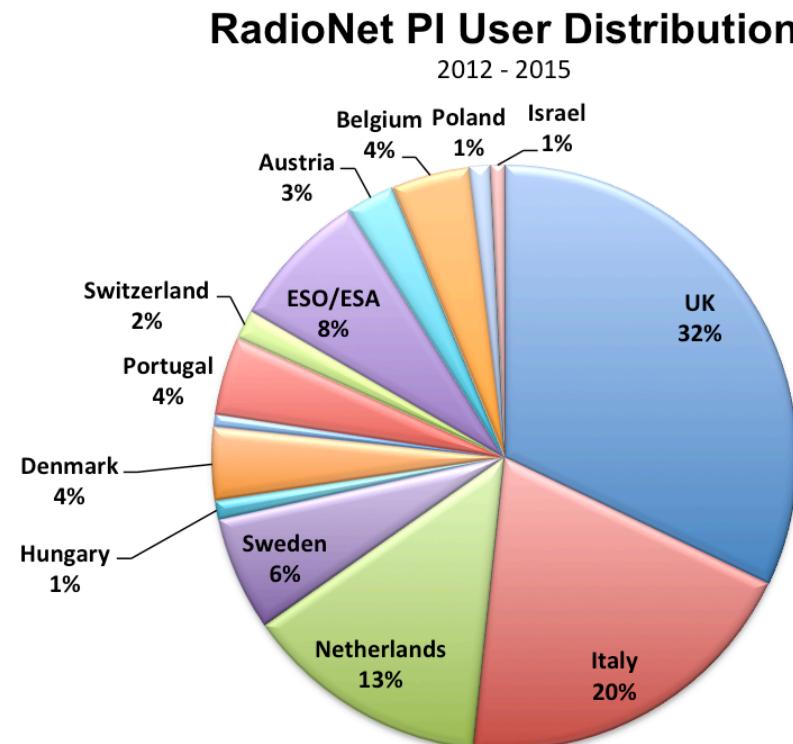
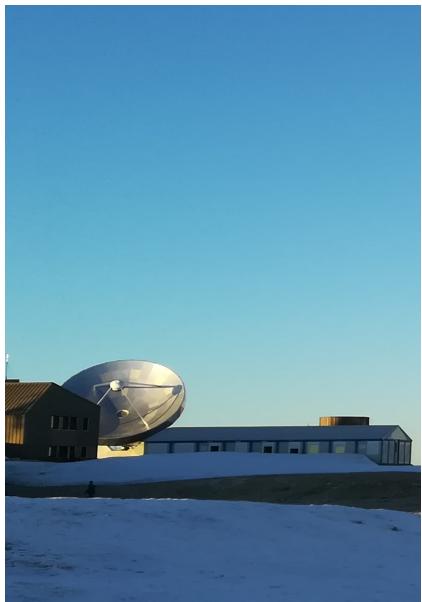
1. a general overview
2. instrumentation
3. sensitivity considerations
4. phase considerations

A view on the NOEMA Observatory



- IRAM = two observatories : NOEMA + IRAM 30m-telescope
- three partners: CNRS, MPG, IGN, >3000 astronomers
- open time (up to 15%), RadioNet

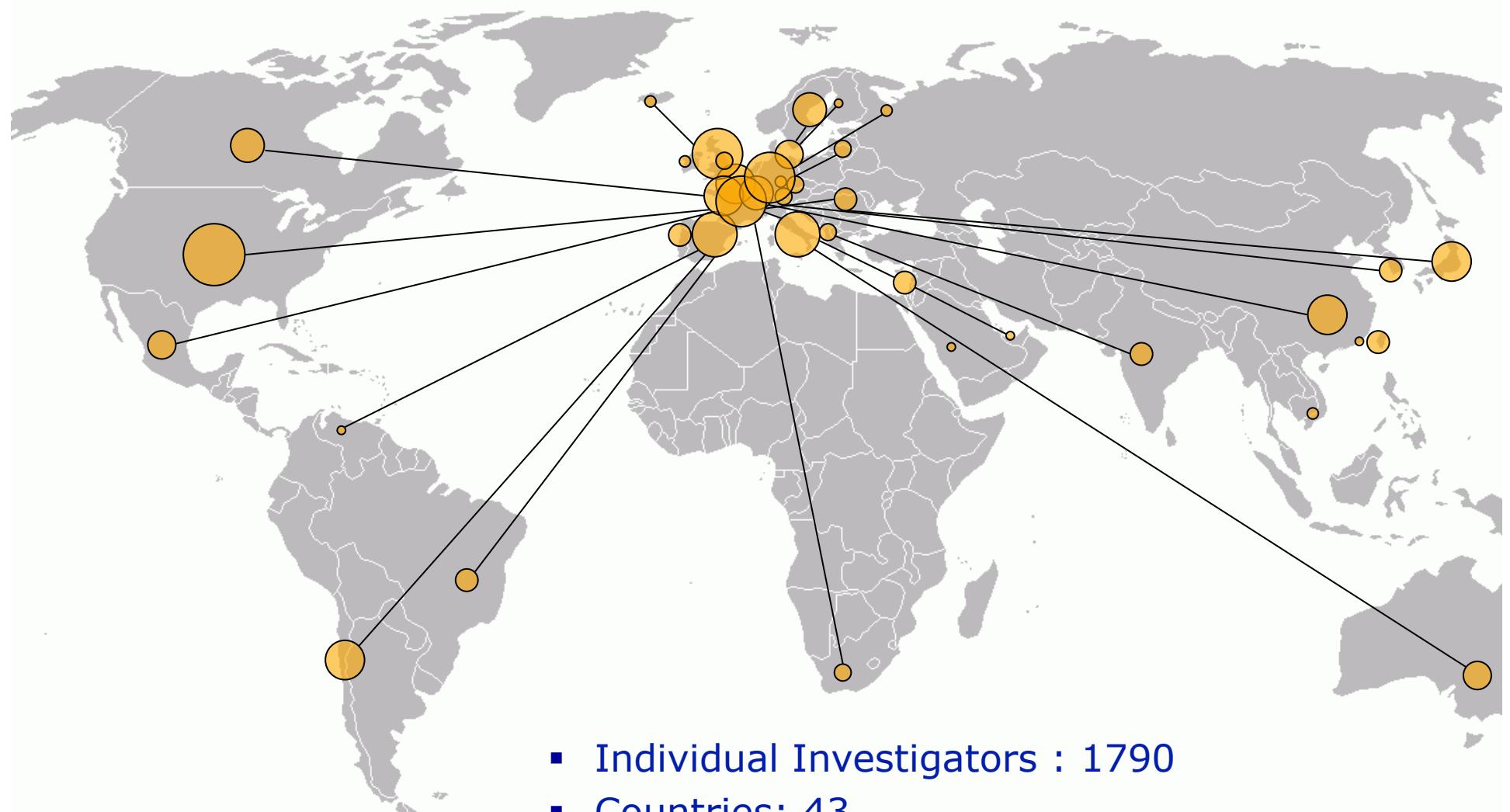
A view on the NOEMA Observatory



- IRAM =
- three pa
- open time (up to 15%), RadioNet

scope
;

INVESTIGATOR DISTRIBUTION MAP 2010 – 2016

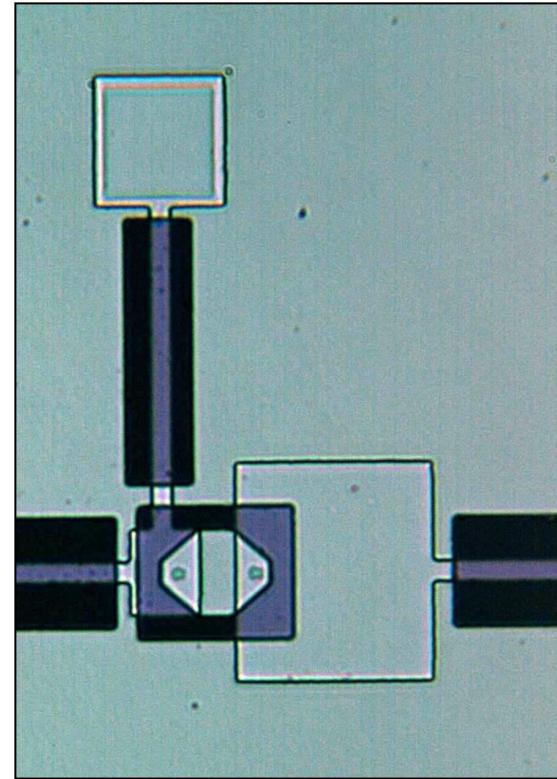


IRAM's expertise: pictures worth a thousand words



- Telescope design (~ 30 um), construction and operation
 - Receiver design and development e.g. ALMA Band7, MPS, AETHRA
 - HS-digital backends + LO systems e.g. PolyFiX (2x 2x 8 GHz)

IRAM's expertise: pictures worth a thousand words



- high-precision micro-machining workshop
- Class 100 clean room for thin film technology
- complete mm/THz-wave technology laboratory

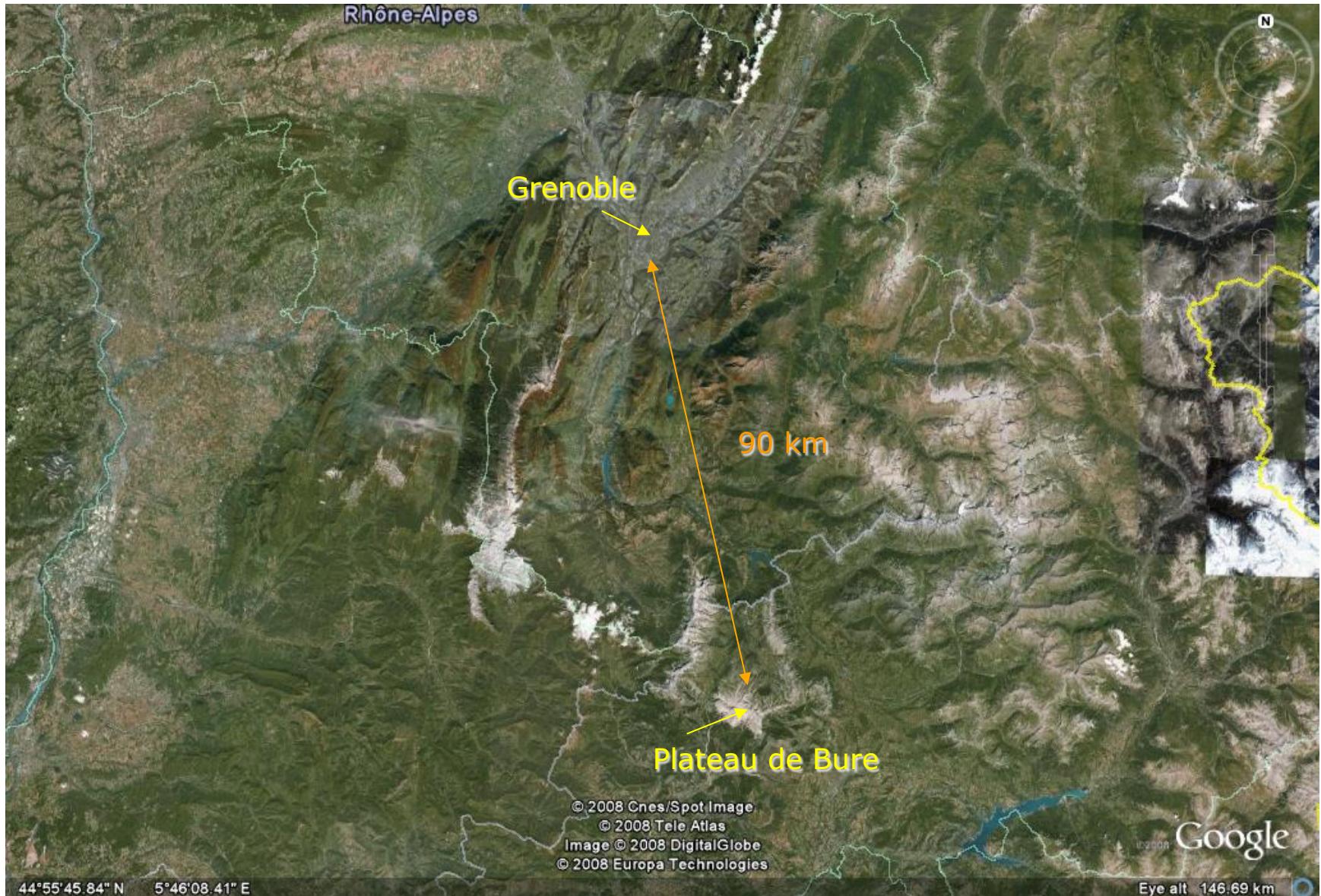
progress timeline

Semester	Project	Done
2010	WIDEX	✓
2011	band 4	✓
2012	double-array mode	✓
2013	LO reference system	✓
2015	N7 + 2SB receivers #1, #2	✓
2016	N8 + 2SB receivers #3, #4, #5, #6	✓
2017	N9 + POLYFIX	✓
2018	N10	✓
2019	VLBI + spectral survey @ 250 KHz	
2020/2021	N11 + new A configuration (1.7 km)	
2021/2022	N12 + dual band	

progress timeline

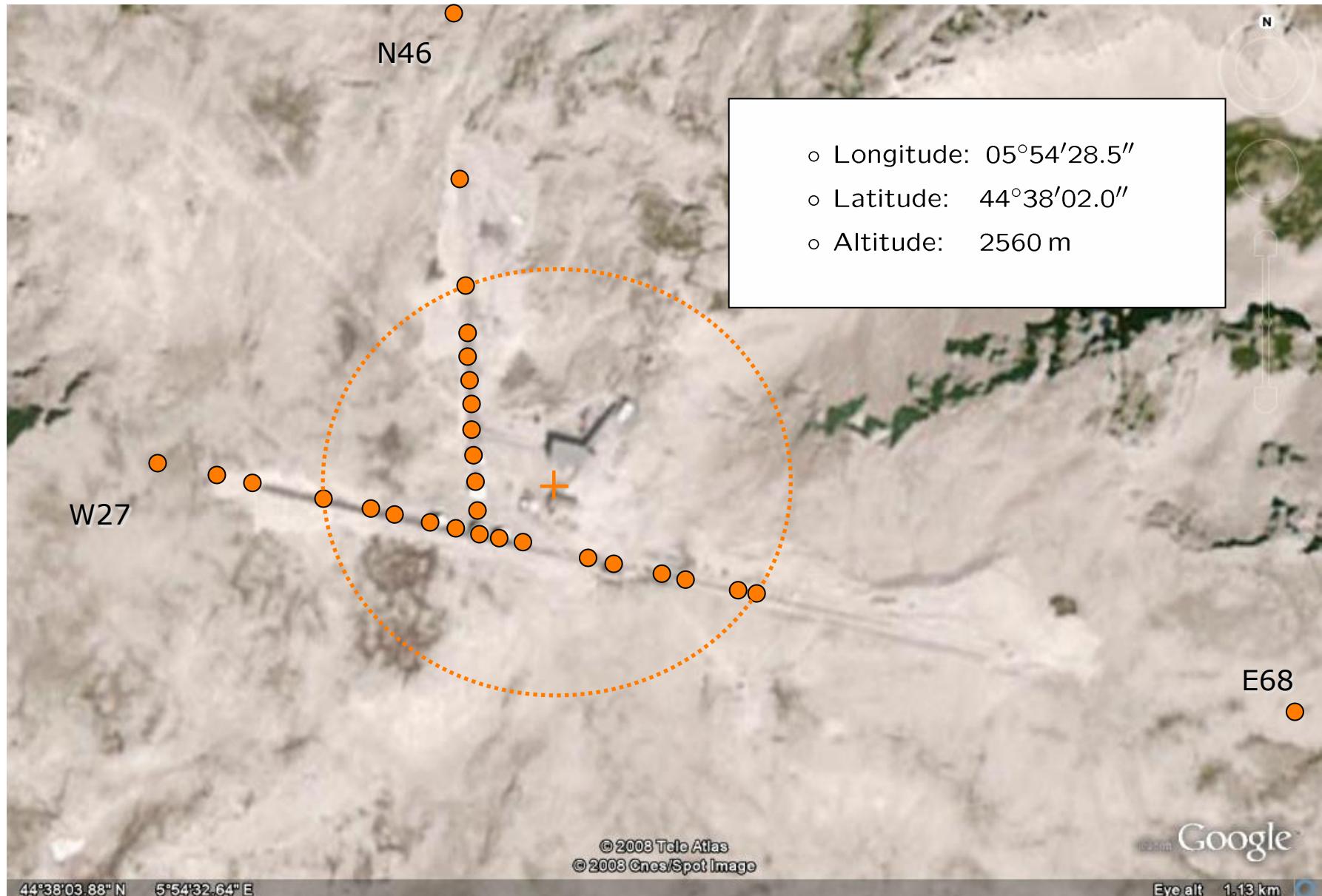
Semester	Done
2010	✓
2011	✓
2012	✓
2013	✓
2015	✓
2016	
2017	✓
2018	✓
2019	KHz
2020/2021	
2021/2022	











NOEMA site



- Latitude : 05°54' 28.5"
 - Longitude : 44°38' 02.0"
 - Altitude : 2560 m
 - RFI protection : terrain shielding + NRQZ (30 km)

 - Water vapor : 40% (<3mm); 25% (<1mm) in winter
down to 0.3mm in best winter conditions
submm conditions ~5 % of the time

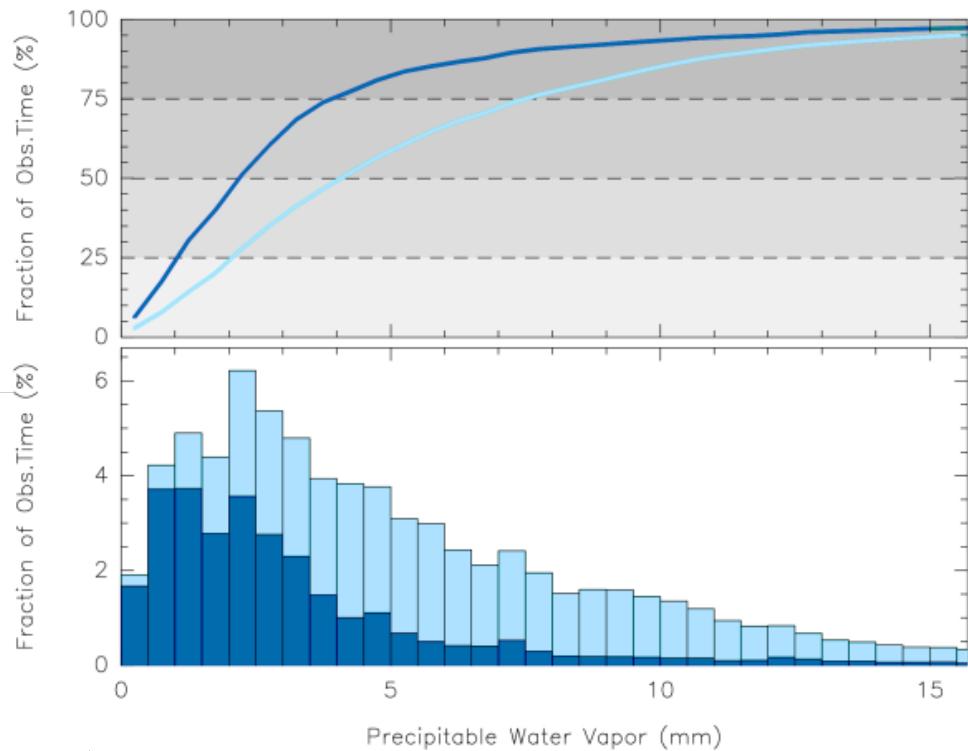
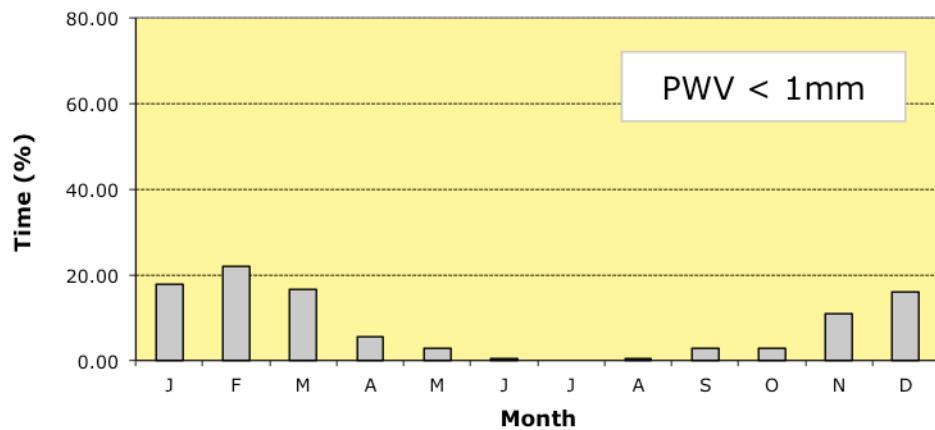
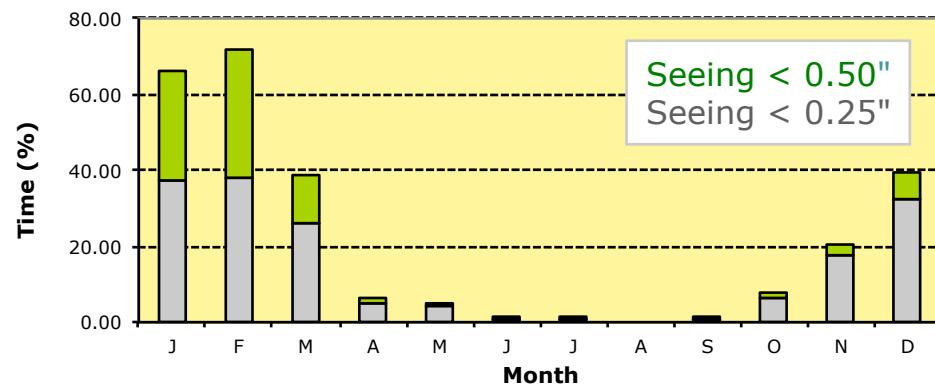
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- Water vapor : 40% (<3mm); 25% (<1mm) in winter
 down to 0.3mm in best winter conditions
 submm conditions ~5 % of the time
- Weather downtime : 25 - 35%

some weather statistics



→ 2017: 80% of the observing time invested @ 3mm and 2mm

NOEMA observatory



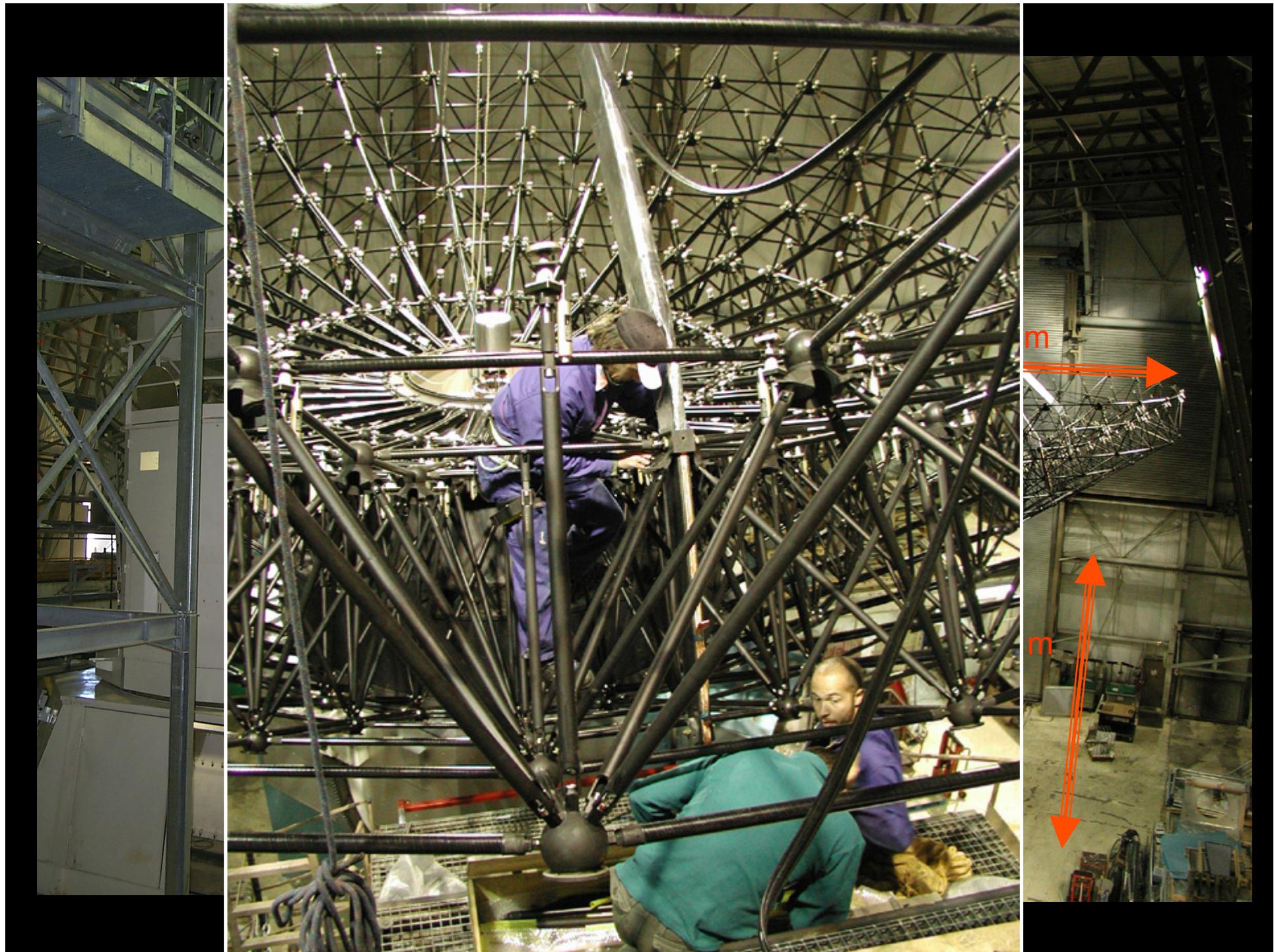
- Operation : 24 hrs, 365 days, service mode
 staff @ Bure + SOG @ Grenoble
- Team @ site : 6 staff members (incl. astronomer)
- Working schedule : 1 team per week, every 3 weeks

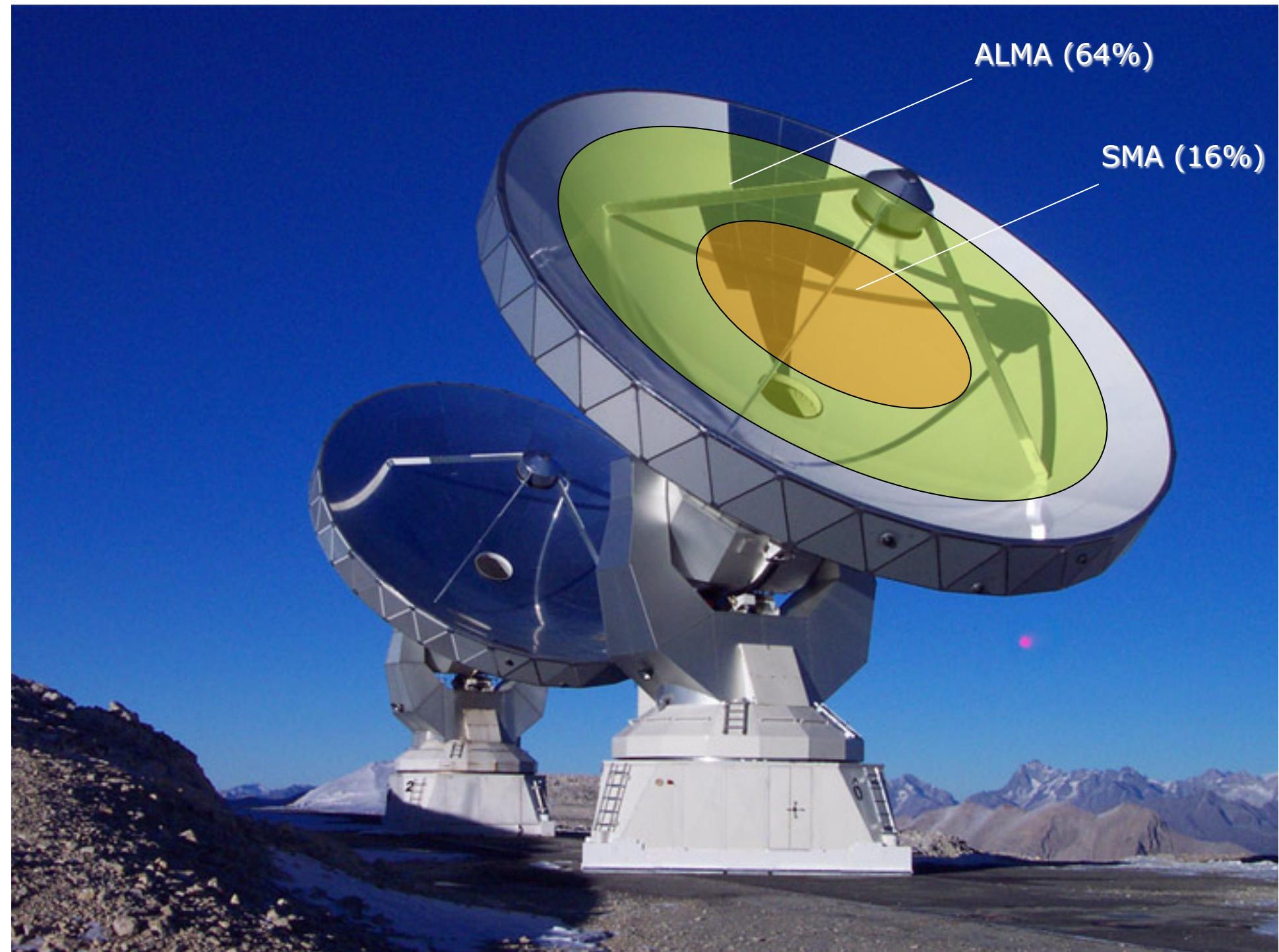
- VLBI @ 3mm > : suspended (2019)

NOEMA antennas



- antennas : 10, Cassegrain type
- collecting area : $177\text{m}^2 \times 10 = 1770\text{m}^2$
- surface panels : 176, aluminum
- surface accuracy : 25 - 40 μm
- aperture efficiency : 0.65 @ 230
- primary beam : 21" @ 230 GHz
- pointing / tracking RMS : 1.5" / 0.2"
- wind speed (max) : 14 m/s





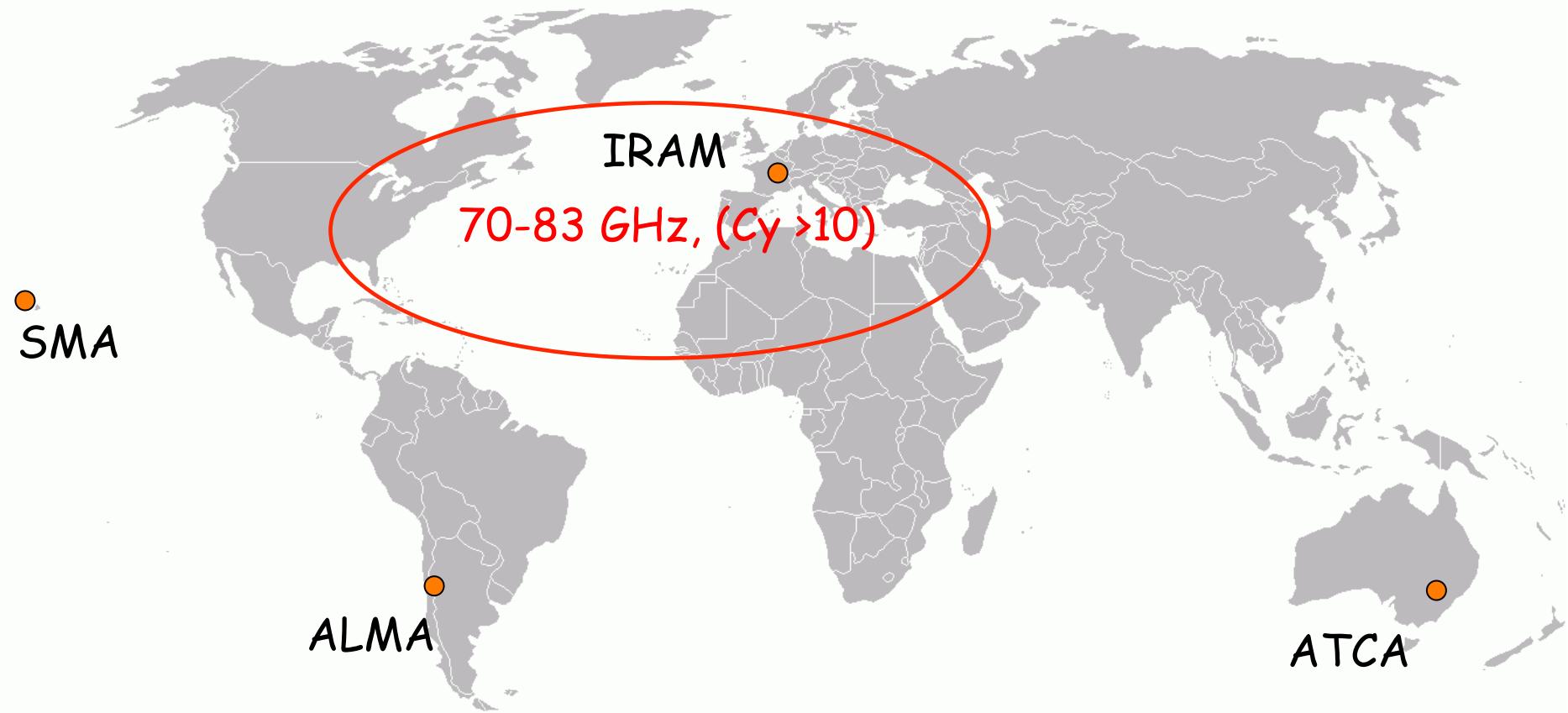
(sub)mm-interferometers worldwide

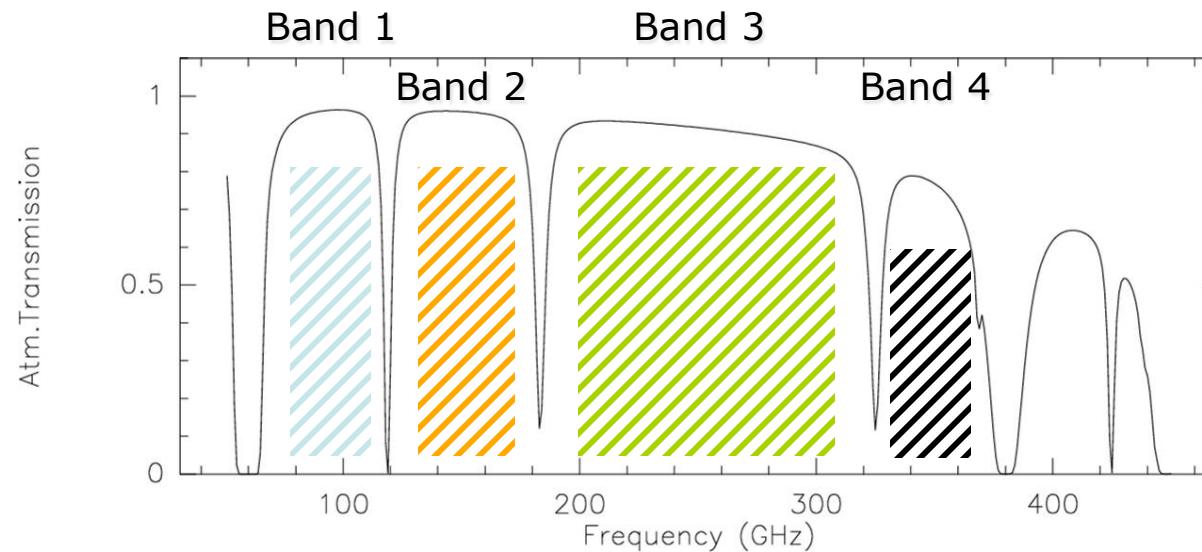


(sub)mm-interferometers worldwide



(sub)mm-interferometers worldwide





3mm = 100 GHz

2mm = 150 GHz

1mm = 300 GHz

0.8mm = 350 GHz

Interferometer	Atmospheric window	Ang.Resolution
ATCA	3mm	1.6" @ 105 GHz
NOEMA	3mm, 2mm, 1mm, 0.8mm	0.4" @ 230 GHz
SMA	1mm, 0.8mm	0.5" @ 230 GHz
ALMA	3mm, 2mm, 1mm → Band 10	0.02" @ 230 GHz

Large differences !

RECEIVERS



NOEMA state of the art receiver technology

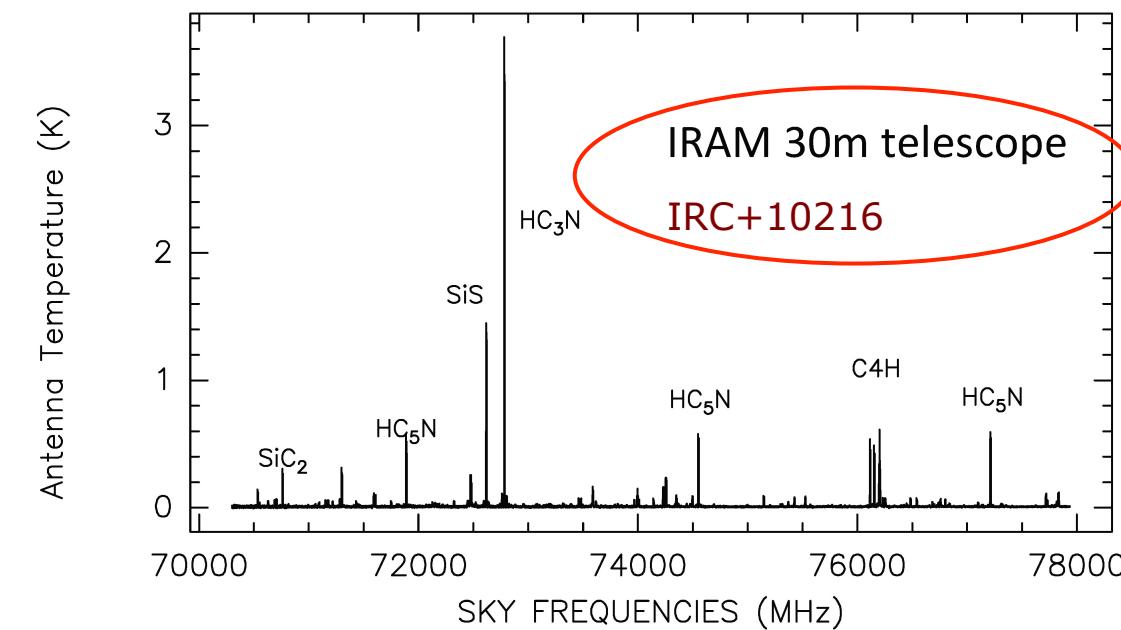
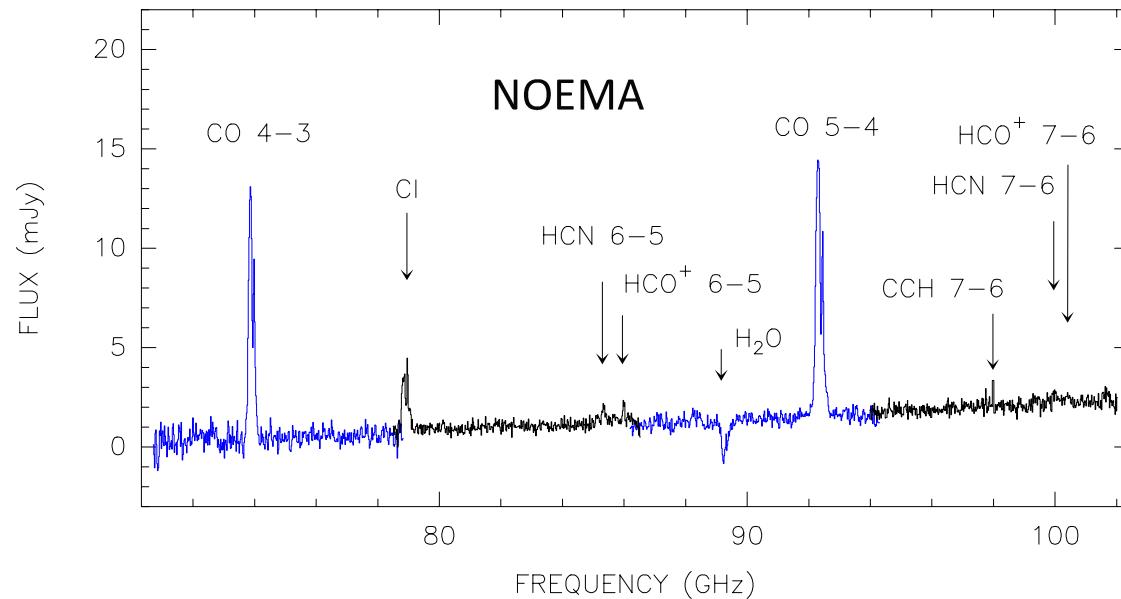
- closed cycle cryocoolers → no liquid He refills
- SIS mixers → 8 GHz Band per polarization and sideband
→ USB and LSB operation (2SB)
- fully reflective optics → lower loss
- new design → higher density, better EMI control,
simplified wiring
- in the near future tuneless mixers and LOs → simplified
frequency tuning and switching

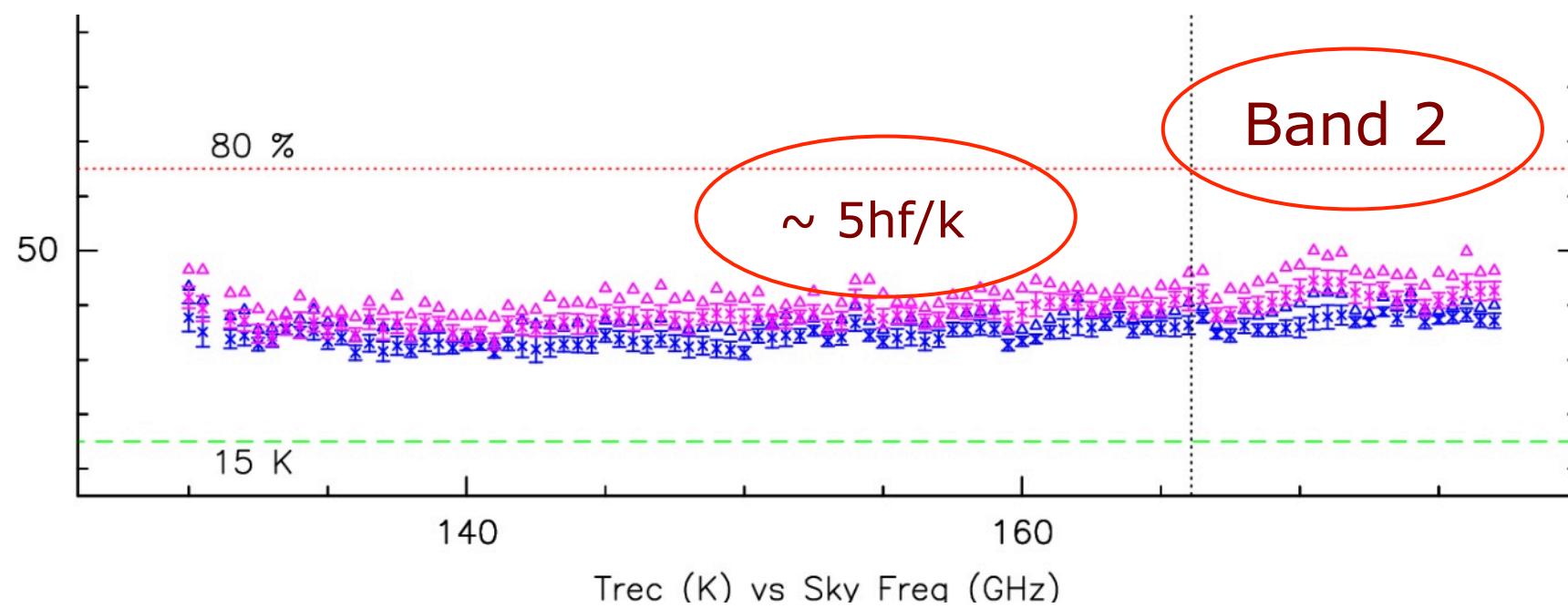
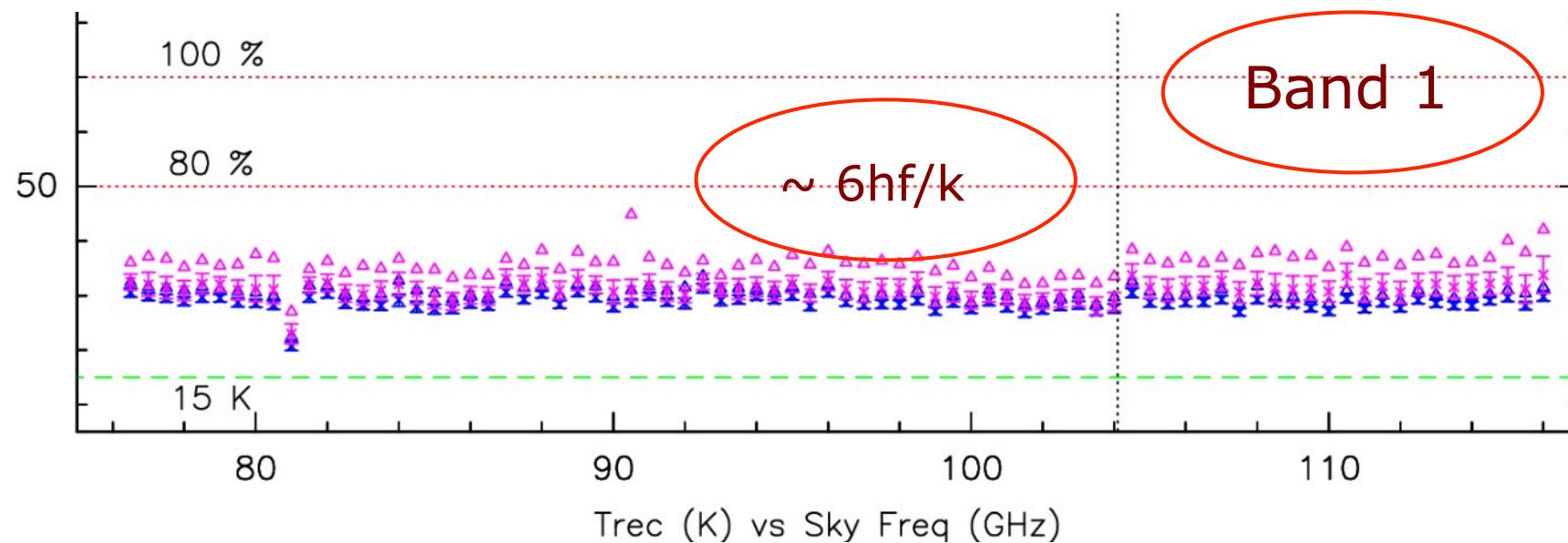
NOEMA receiver capabilities

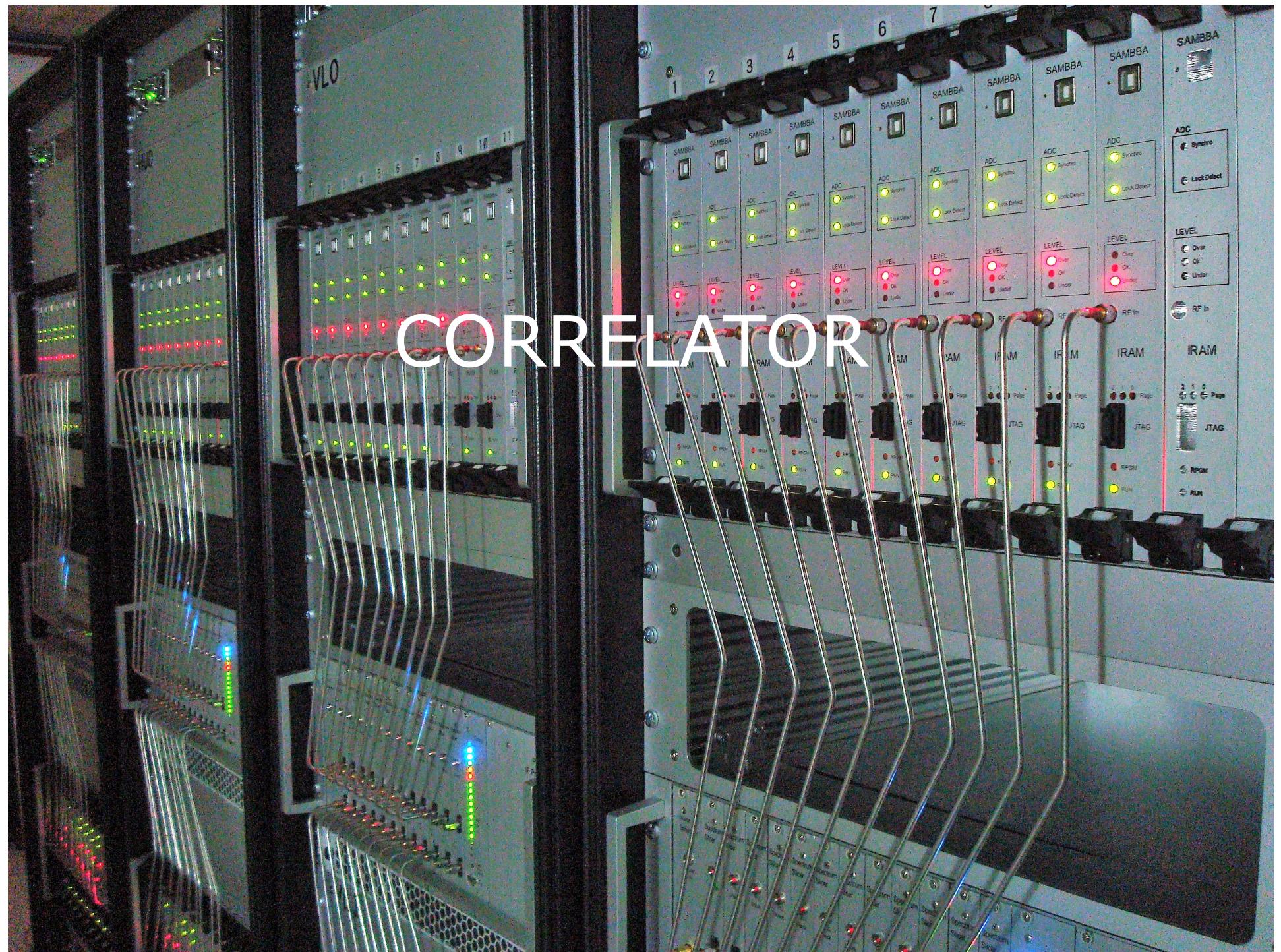
Item		
RF bands		
WVR radion		
1 = ALMA B	LO = 106.000 GHz	
2 = ALMA B	LSB USB	
3 = ALMA B	94.000 110.000 102.000 118.000	
4 = ALMA B	96.000 112.000 100.000 116.000 104.000 108.000	
RF response		
IF band		
Polarization	dual linear	
Observing mode	single frequency dual polarization	
	second band in standby potential for Dual freq, Dual pol	
	10dB	

70-80 GHz band offers

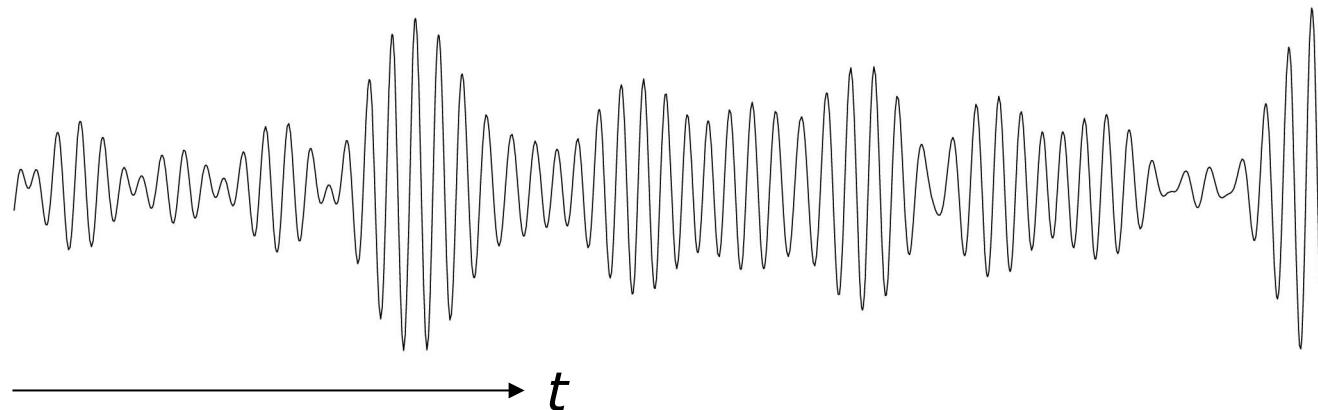
- new discovery space
- deep molecular line surveys
- first-ever opportunity to perform synthesis mapping (no ALMA)
- NOEMA + 30m telescope to sample spatial scales down to 1.3"







Temporal coherence function

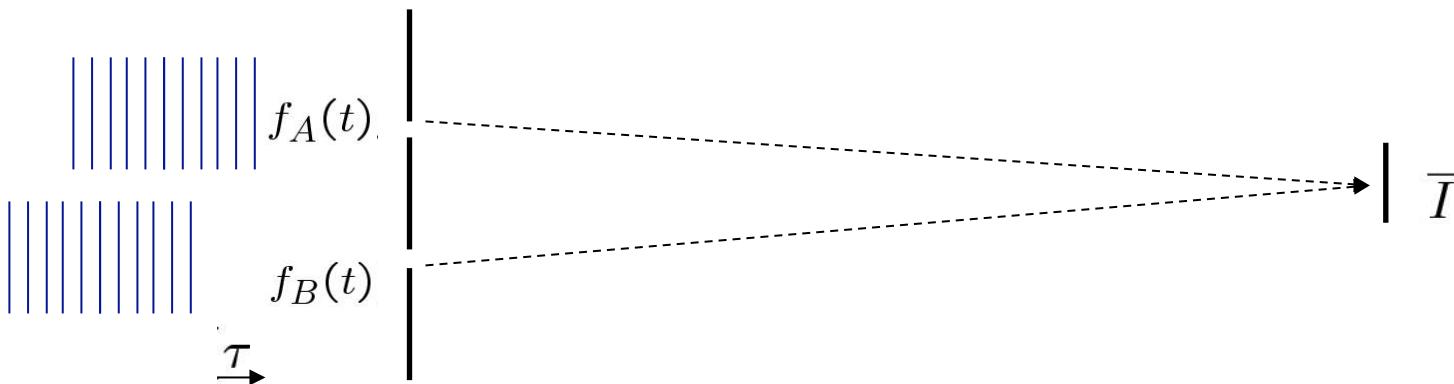


Correlation coefficient:

$$\gamma(\tau) = f(t)f^*(t + \tau)/\overline{|f(t)|^2}$$

$$f(t) = A e^{i\omega t} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \gamma(\tau) = e^{-i\omega\tau} \quad \Rightarrow \quad |\gamma(\tau)| = 1$$

Temporal coherence



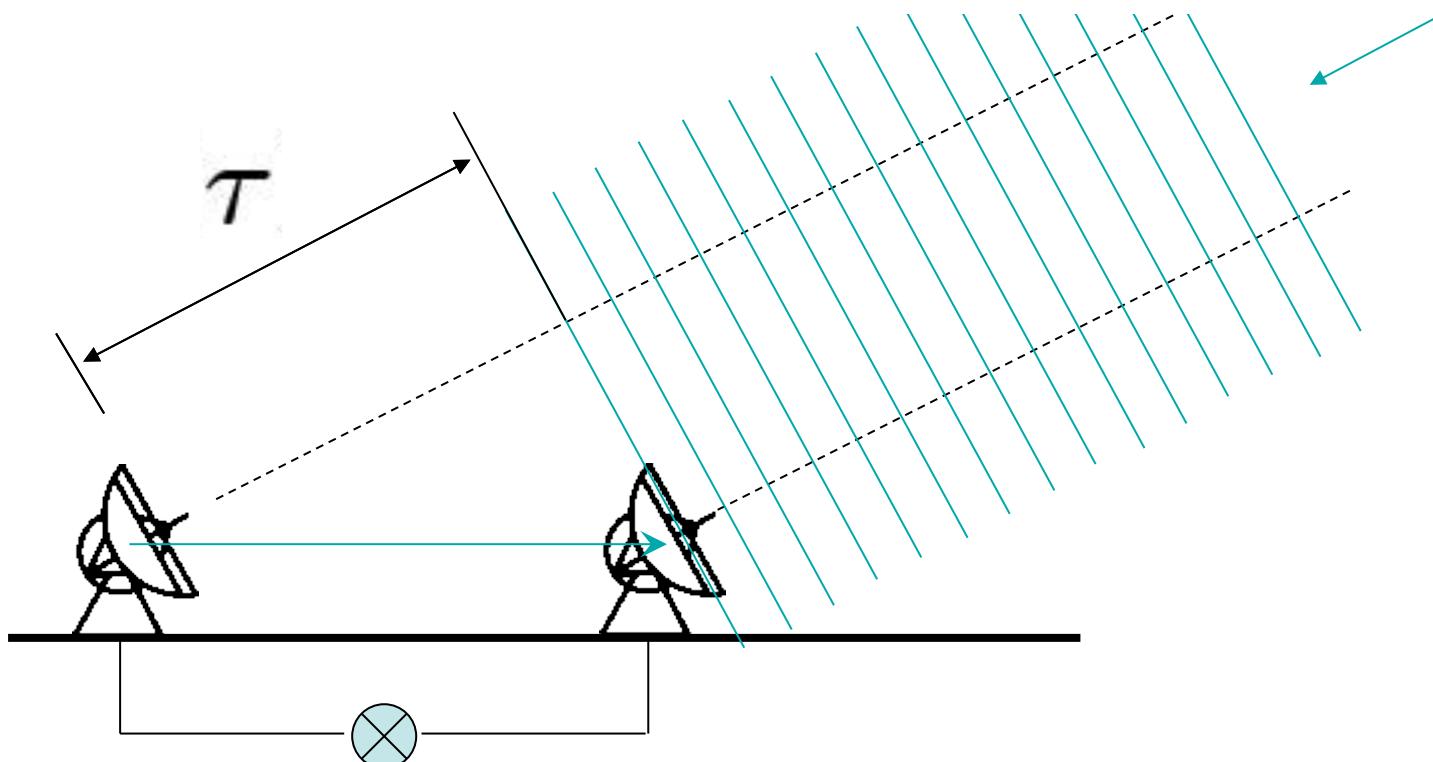
Correlation coefficient:

$$\gamma_{AB} = f_A(t) f_B^*(t + \tau) / (\overline{|f_A(t)|^2} \overline{|f_B(t)|^2})^{1/2}$$

$$V = \frac{I_{\max} - I_{\min}}{I_{\max} + I_{\min}} = 2|\gamma_{AB}|(\bar{I}_A \bar{I}_B)^{1/2} / (\bar{I}_A + \bar{I}_B)$$

$$\bar{I}_A = \bar{I}_B \quad \Rightarrow \quad V = |\gamma_{AB}|$$

An interferometer
measures the temporal coherence of the
incoming wavefront



Correlator \Rightarrow

$$V = \gamma(\tau) = FFT(I(w))$$

PolyFiX



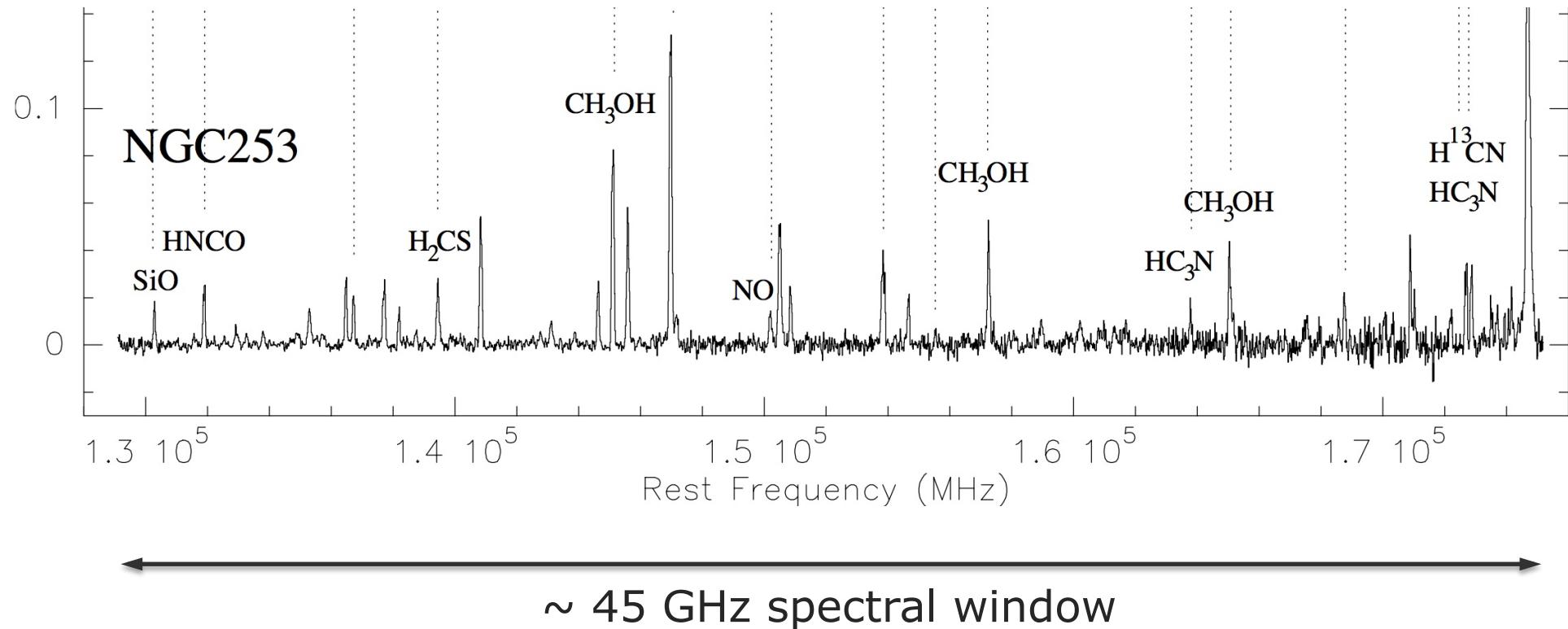
- $(32 \text{ GHz} = 8 \text{ GHz} \times 2 \text{ sidebands} \times 2 \text{ polarizations}) \times 12 \text{ antennas}$
- data output = >140.000 spectral channels

Full 32 GHz band, $16000 \times 2 \text{ MHz}$
AND
up to 128 spectral windows of 64 MHz, $1024 \times 62.5 \text{ kHz}$

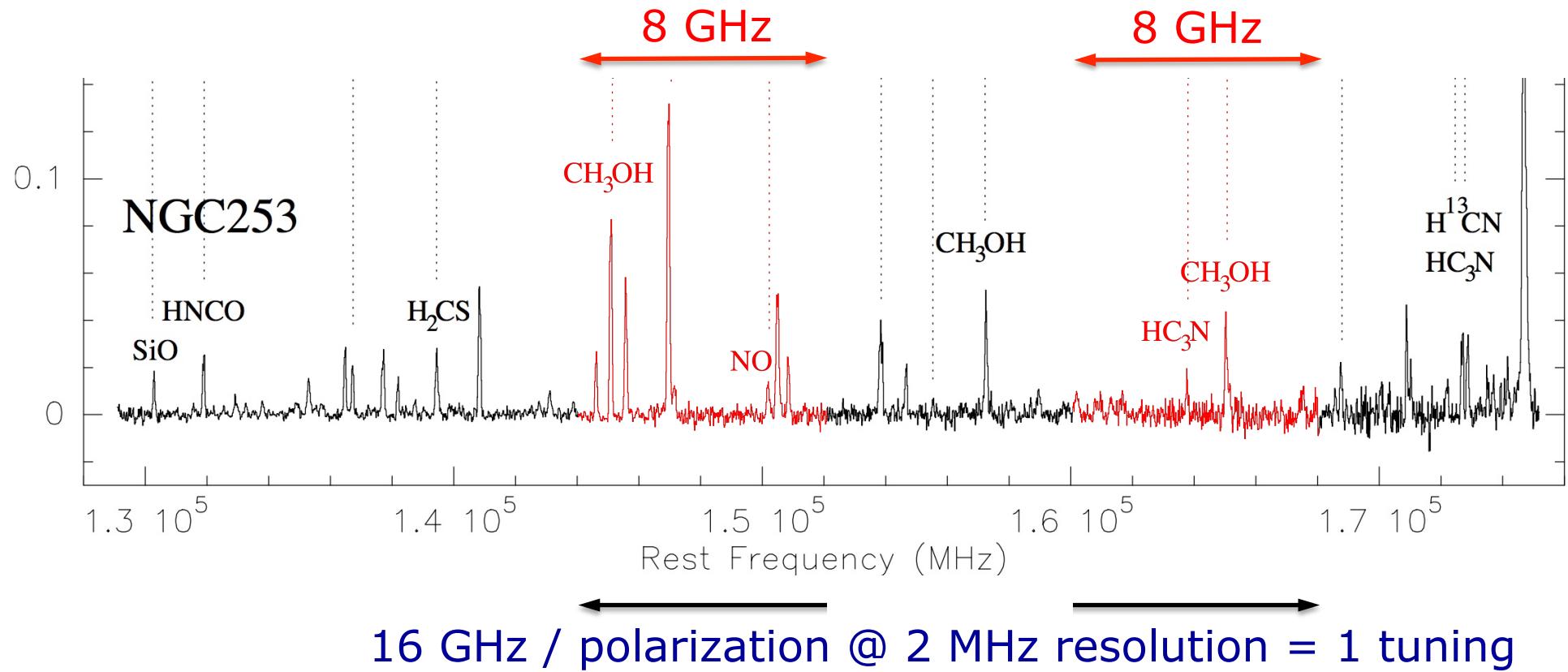
- 5-bit sampling = correlation efficiency close to 100%

NGC 253 spectral survey @ 2mm

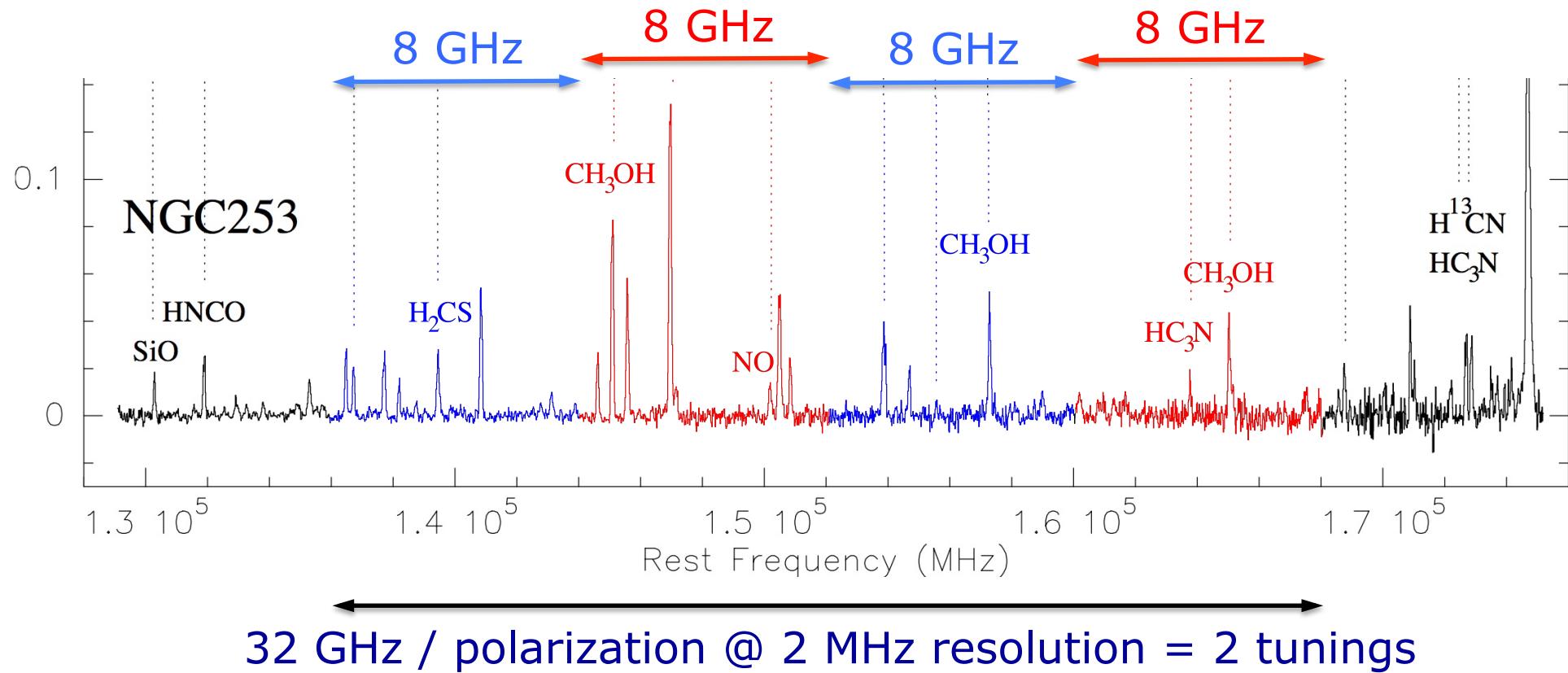
Martín et al. 2006



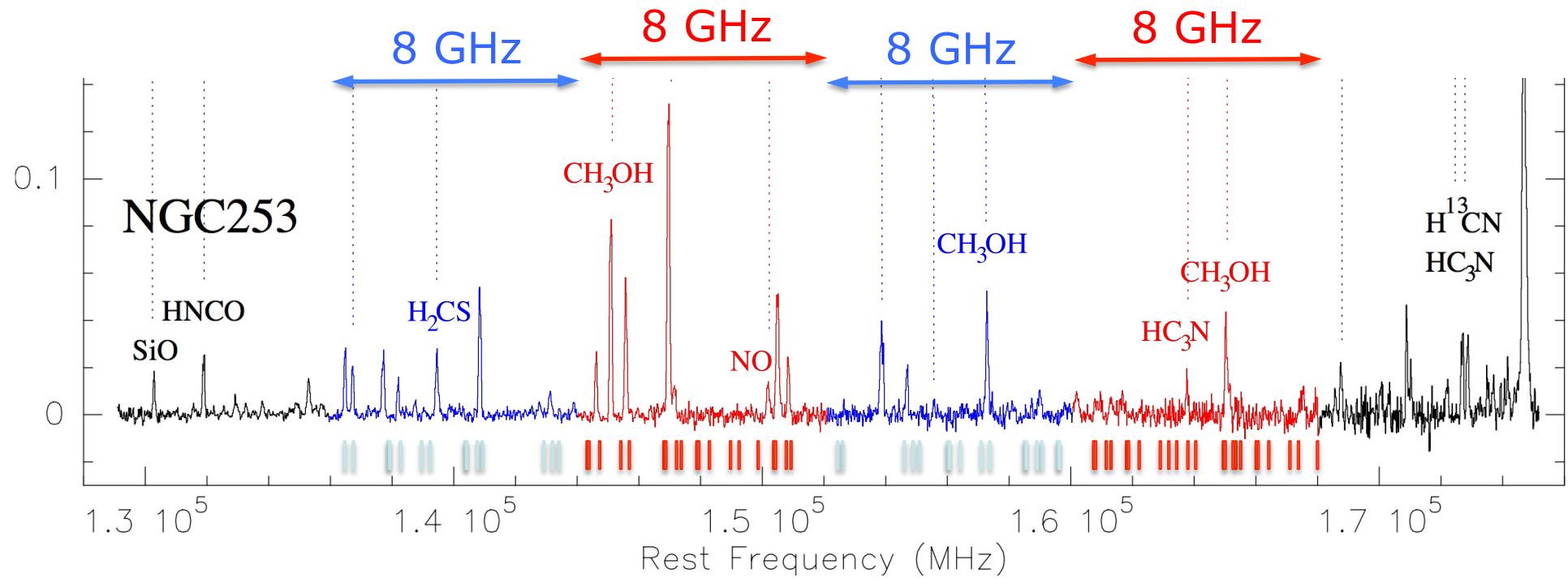
PolyFiX



PolyFiX



PolyFiX



32 GHz @ 2 MHz resolution = 2 tunings
AND
128x 64 MHz channels @ 62.5 KHz /per tuning
> 140.000 spectral channels /per tuning

PolyFiX

8 GHz 8 GHz 8 GHz 8 GHz



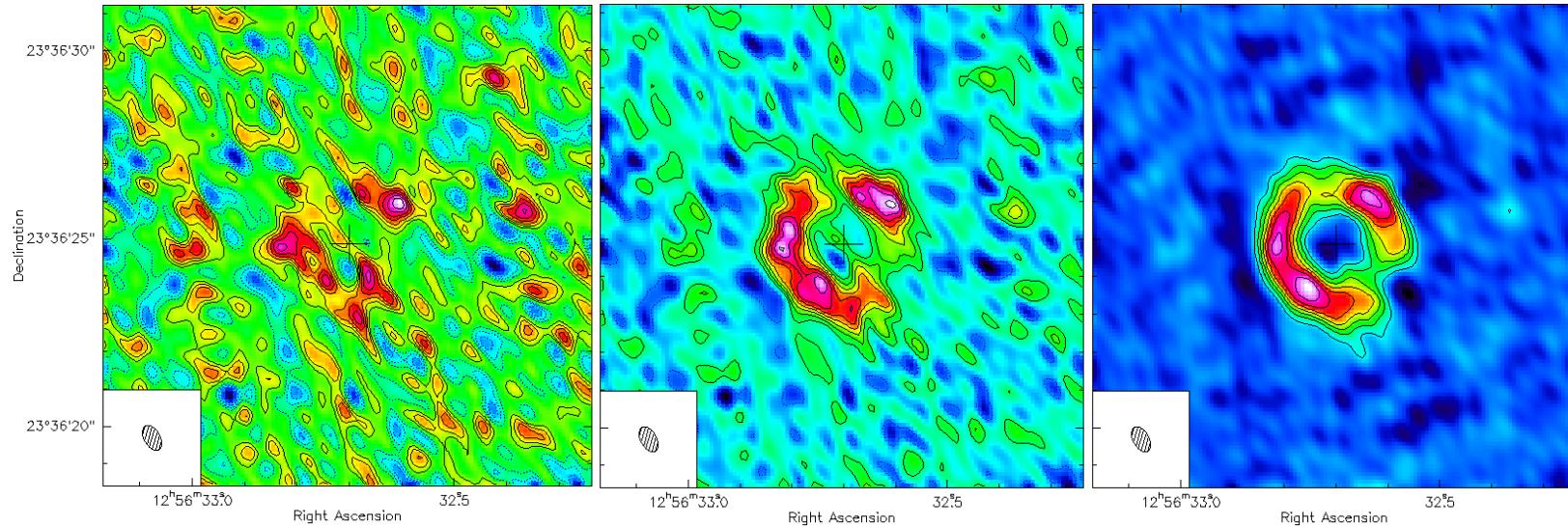
- extragalactic + galactic work, line searches (@ high redshift)
- improved relative line intensity calibration
- sensitive continuum : improves calibration, spectral index, multi-frequency synthesis, self-calibration

↔ 32 GHz @ 2 MHz resolution = 2 tunings

AND

128x 64 MHz channels @ 62.5 KHz /per tuning
> 140.000 spectral channels /per tuning

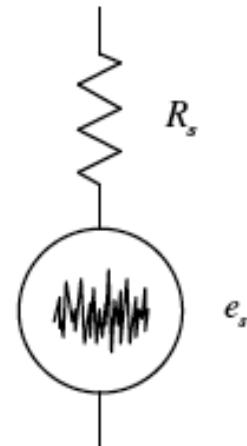
sensitivity considerations



Noise Power

The output power of a ...

... Resistor :



$$P_N = kT\Delta\nu$$

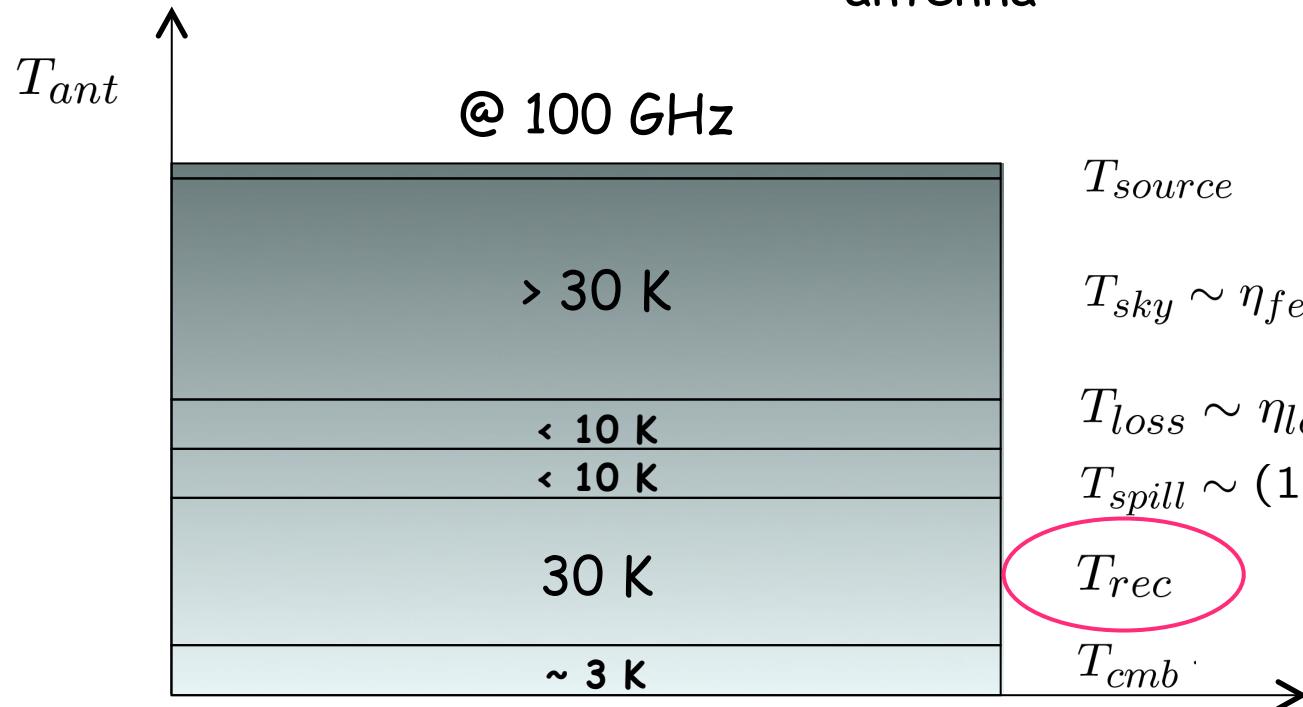
... Receiving System :

$$P_N = kT_{ant}\Delta\nu$$

Antenna System Temperature

Antenna System Temperature

is the temperature of the equivalent blackbody observed by the antenna



$$T_{ant} = T_{cmb} + T_{sky} + T_{spill} + T_{loss} + T_{rec}$$

We refer the **System Temperature**

Noise Power



$$T_{sys} = \frac{e^{\tau_{atm}}}{\eta_{feff}} T_{ant}$$

and the **Antenna Temperature**

Astronomical
Signal



$$\begin{aligned} T_A^* &= \frac{e^{\tau_{atm}}}{\eta_{feff}} T_{source} \\ &= \frac{\eta_A A}{2k} S \end{aligned}$$

to an ideal antenna located outside the atmosphere.

NOEMA system temperatures

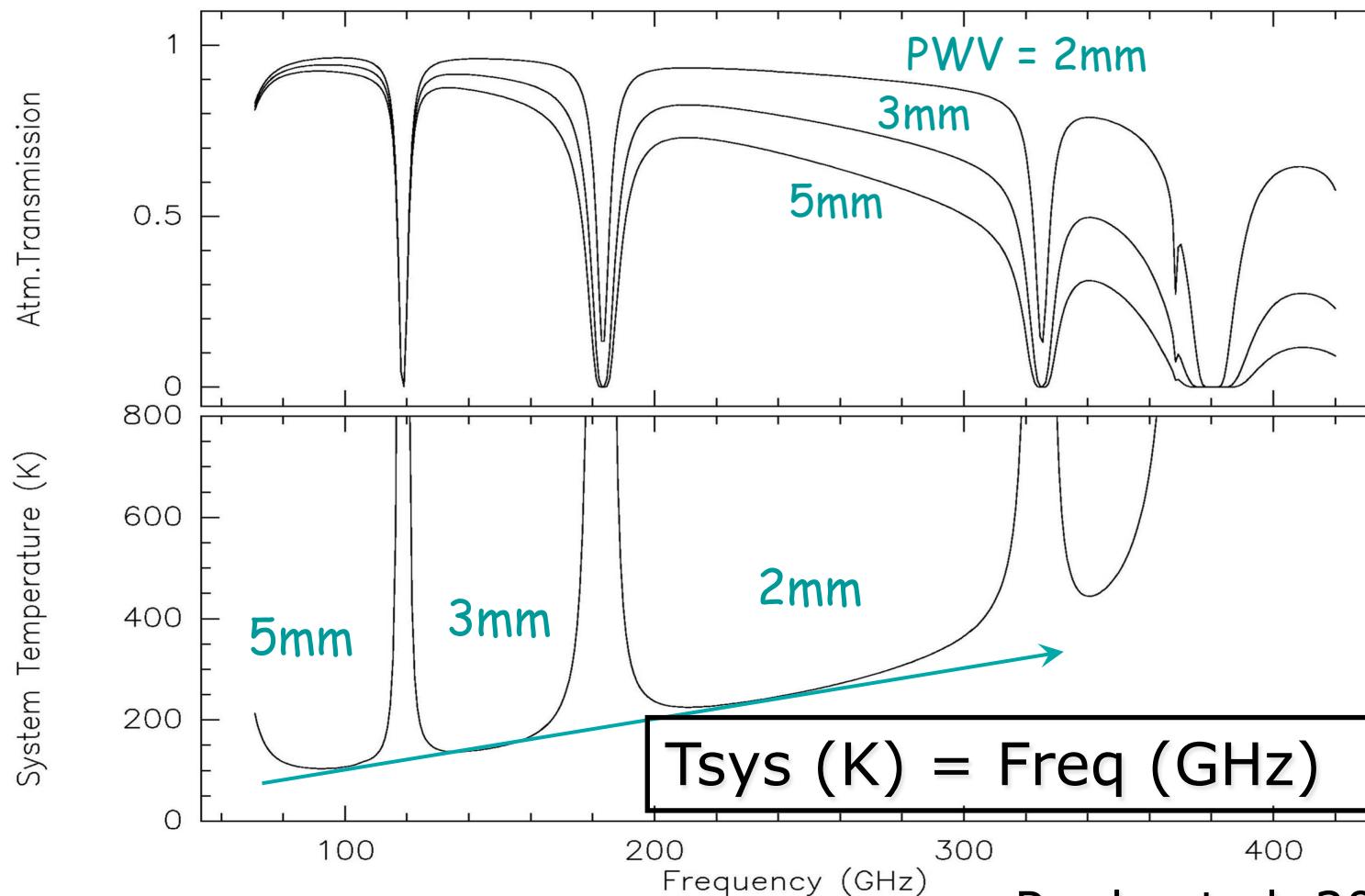
Winter values: Tamb=273K, A=1.4 airmass

ATM (Cernicharo, Pardo)

↓

	PWV	G	η_{eff}	Trec	τ	Tsys	Obs. Tim
100 GHz	3	0.05	0.95	32	0.07	77	90%
150 GHz	3	0.05	0.92	35	0.10	113	70%
230 GHz	1	0.05	0.87	50	0.07	141	30%

NOEMA system temperatures



Pardo et al. 2007

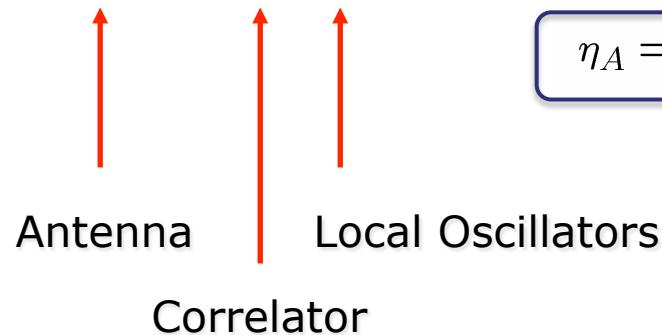
INSTRUMENTAL PERFORMANCE

SD efficiency (Jy/K)

ATMOSPHERE

Seeing Transparency

$$\sigma_S = \frac{2k}{\eta_A A} \times \frac{\langle T_{SYS} \rangle}{\eta_C \eta_J \eta_P \sqrt{N(N-1)\Delta\nu\Delta t}} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_P}}$$



$$\eta_A = \eta_{\text{Blocage}} \cdot \eta_{\text{Spillover}} \cdot \eta_{\text{Receiver}} \cdot \eta_{\text{Ruze}}$$

INSTRUMENTAL PERFORMANCE

interferometric
efficiency (Jy/K)

ATMOSPHERE

Seeing Transparency

$$\sigma_S = \frac{2k}{\eta_A A} \times \frac{\langle T_{SYS} \rangle}{\eta_C \eta_J \eta_P \sqrt{N(N-1)\Delta\nu\Delta t}} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_P}}$$

Antenna

Local Oscillators

Correlator

$\eta_J \eta_P$ degrades the signal
 η_C degrades the noise

$\eta_C = 1.00$ (= 5-bit sampling)

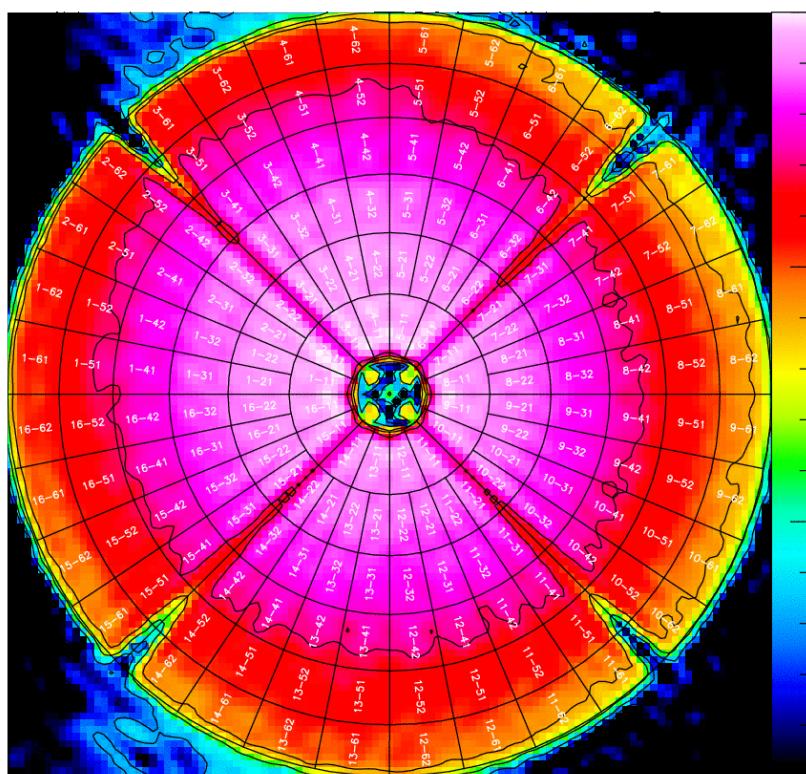
RF: F_{CB}^(B) - 06-MAY-2016 09:11:47 - beaklini@pipeline-pd - Ant 8 - W09N17N09E04W12E12N13
 Am: Rel.(B) - 06-MAY-2016 09:11:47 - beaklini@pipeline-pd - Ant 8 - W09N17N09E04W12E12N13
 Ph: Rel.(B) 3C454.3 7ant-Special scans 8335 to 8438 06-MAY-2016 06:08UT EI: 56.44

rms Pha.

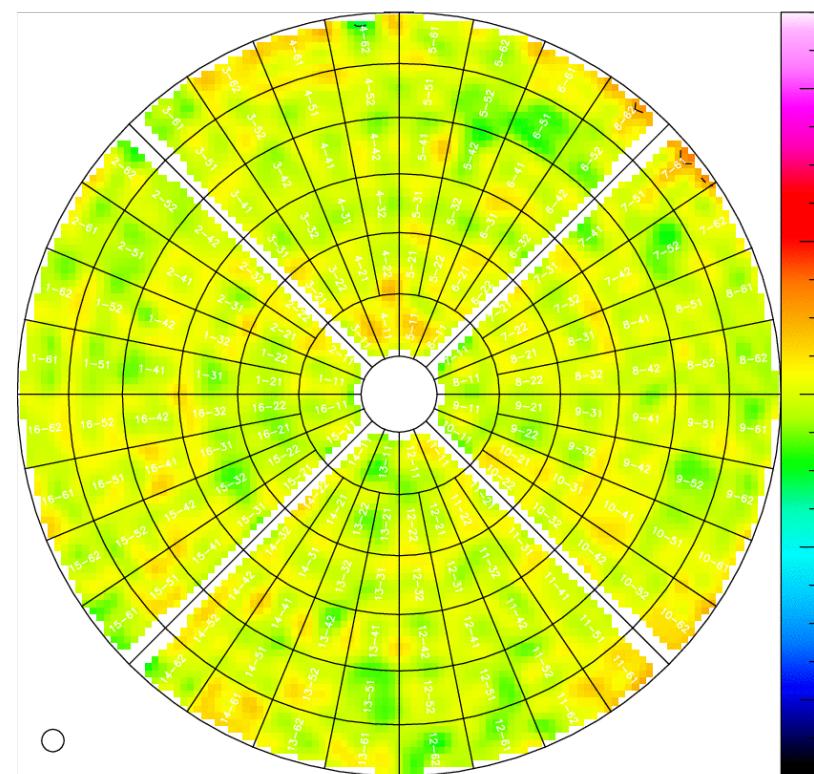
Edge taper = 12.13x 11.19 dB - offset X= -0.45 Y= 0.24 m
 focus offsets (X,Y,Z) = -0.41 0.11 0.00 mm; Astigmatism = 37.6 μm (178.2deg.)
 Phase rms (unweighted)= 0.085 (weighted)= 0.083 radians
 Surface rms (unweighted)= 26.90 - (weighted)= 25.66 μm
 $\eta_A(86.243 \text{ GHz}) = 0.800$; $\eta_A(230.0 \text{ GHz}) = 0.767$; $\eta_A(345.0 \text{ GHz}) = 0.721$
 $S/T(86.243 \text{ GHz}) = 19.518 \text{ Jy/K}$; $S/T(230\text{GHz}) = 20.362 \text{ Jy/K}$; $S/T(345 \text{ GHz}) = 21.651 \text{ Jy/K}$
 $\eta_I = 0.806 - \eta_S = 0.731 - \eta_P(86.243 \text{ GHz}) = 0.993 - \eta_P(230 \text{ GHz}) = 0.952 - \eta_P(345 \text{ GHz}) = 0.895$
 Rms/ring: 29.5 23.1 22.8 22.5 25.5 31.8

Amplitude (back view)
-15.000 to 0.000 by 3.000

Normal errors (back view)
-500.000 to 500.000 by 100.000



0
-5
-10
-15



400
200
0
-200
-400

Point source sensitivities:

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_S &= \frac{2k}{\eta_A A \times \eta_C \eta_J} \times \frac{\langle T_{SYS} \rangle}{\eta_P \sqrt{N(N-1)\Delta\nu\Delta t}} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_P}} \\ &= \frac{2k}{\eta_A A \times \eta_C \eta_J} \times \sigma_T\end{aligned}$$

- 22 × σ_T [Jy] @ 3mm Calibration precision $\leq 10\%$
- 26 × σ_T [Jy] @ 2mm Calibration precision $\leq 15\%$
- 35 × σ_T [Jy] @ 1mm Calibration precision $\leq 20\%$

One baseline, two antennas:

$$\sigma_S \simeq \frac{2k}{\eta_a A} \times \frac{\langle T_{SYS} \rangle}{\sqrt{2\Delta\nu\Delta t}} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_P}} = \frac{\sqrt{T_{SYS}^1 \times T_{SYS}^2}}{\sqrt{2\Delta\nu\Delta t}} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_P}} \quad [\text{Jy}]$$

Ex @ 100 GHz:

$$\sigma_S \simeq 22 \times \frac{100}{\sqrt{2 \times 0.0625 \times 10^6 \times 45}} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} \simeq 0.9 \text{ Jy}$$

$$\sigma_S \simeq 22 \times \frac{100}{\sqrt{2 \times 2.0 \times 10^6 \times 45}} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \simeq 116 \text{ mJy}$$

$$\sigma_S \simeq 22 \times \frac{100}{\sqrt{2 \times 16 \times 10^9 \times 1}} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \simeq 8.7 \text{ mJy}$$

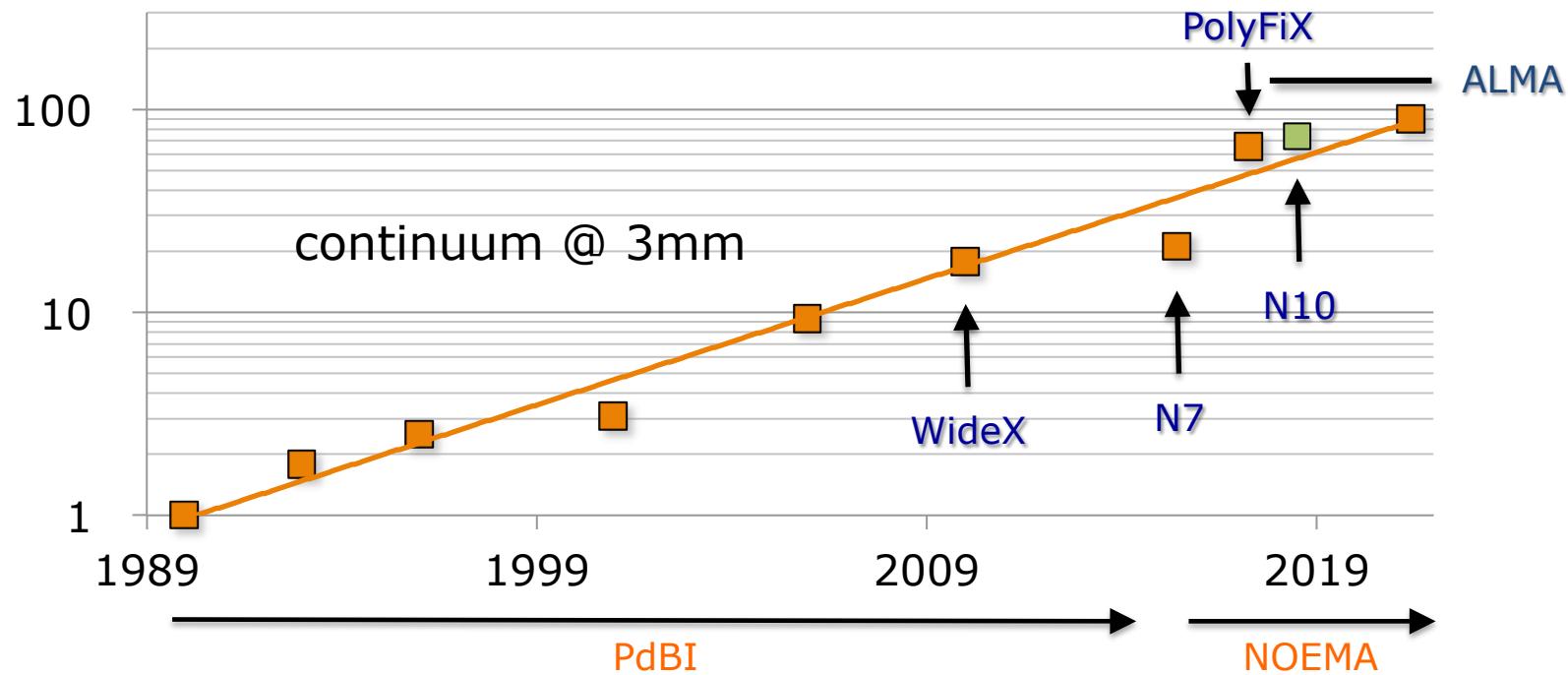
The point source sensitivity

$$\sigma_S = \frac{2k}{\eta_A A} \times \frac{\langle T_{SYS} \rangle}{\eta_C \eta_J \eta_P \sqrt{N(N-1) \Delta\nu \Delta t}} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_P}}$$

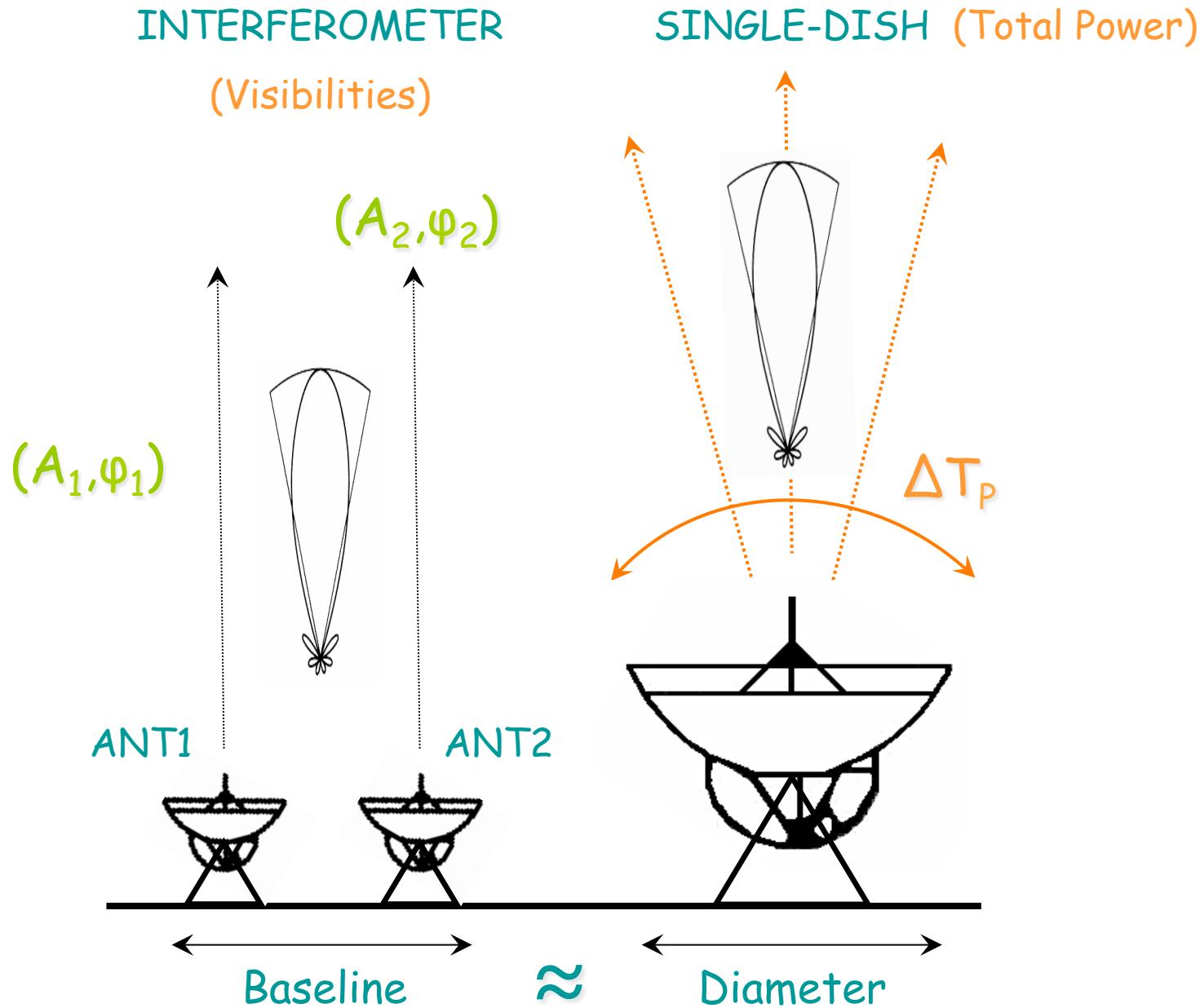
A	Collecting Area of a Single Antenna (177 m^2)
η_A	Aperture Efficiency (0.70 @ 3mm; 0.45 @ 1mm)
η_C	Correlator Efficiency (0.99)
η_J	Instrumental Jitter $\exp(-\sigma_J^2/2) \simeq 0.95$
η_P	Atmospheric Decorrelation $\exp(-\sigma_P^2/2) \leq 0.95$
N_P	Linear Polarizations (1 - 2)
T_{SYS}	System Temperature (K)
$\Delta\nu$	Spectral Bandwidth (62.5 kHz - 16000 MHz)
Δt	Integration Time On-Source (sec)

NOEMA sensitivity over the years

- initial PdBI capabilities multiplied by orders of magnitude
100x cont. sensitivity, 7x line sensitivity \Rightarrow ALMA like sensitivities



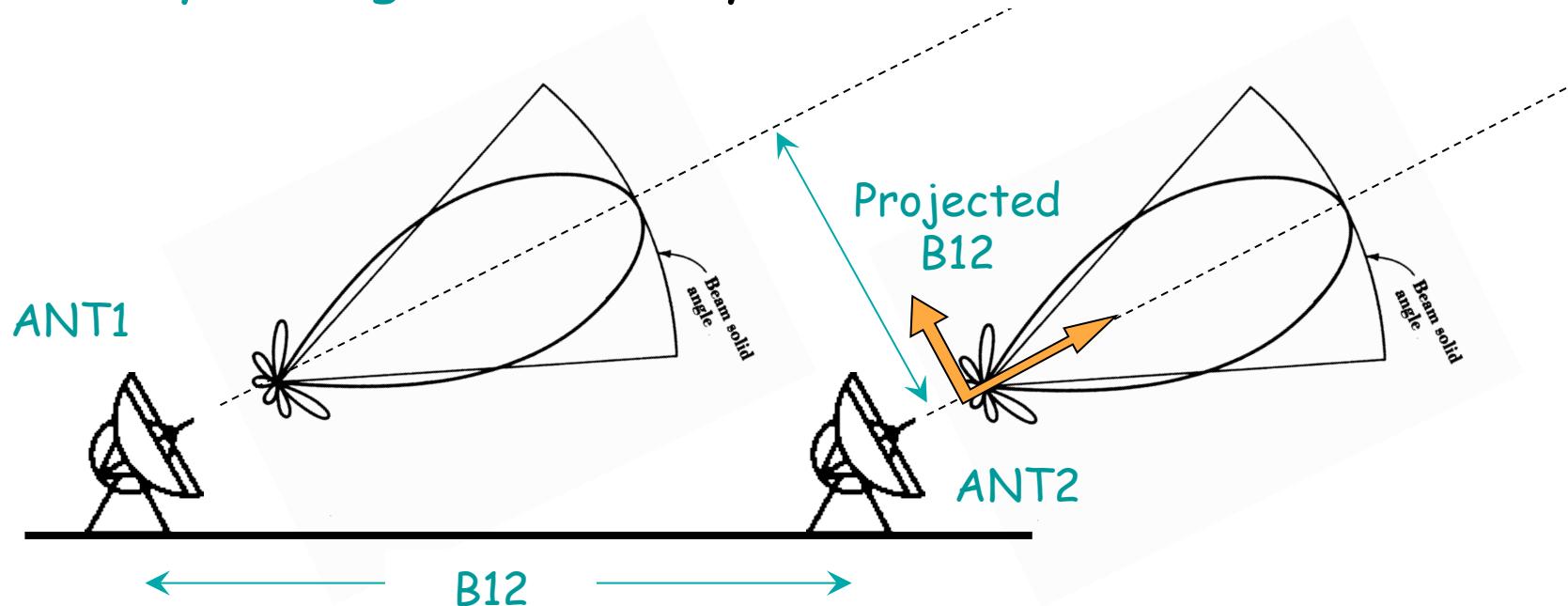
NOEMA will reach
>65% ALMA continuum sensitivity @ 3mm
>45 % ALMA line sensitivity @ 3mm

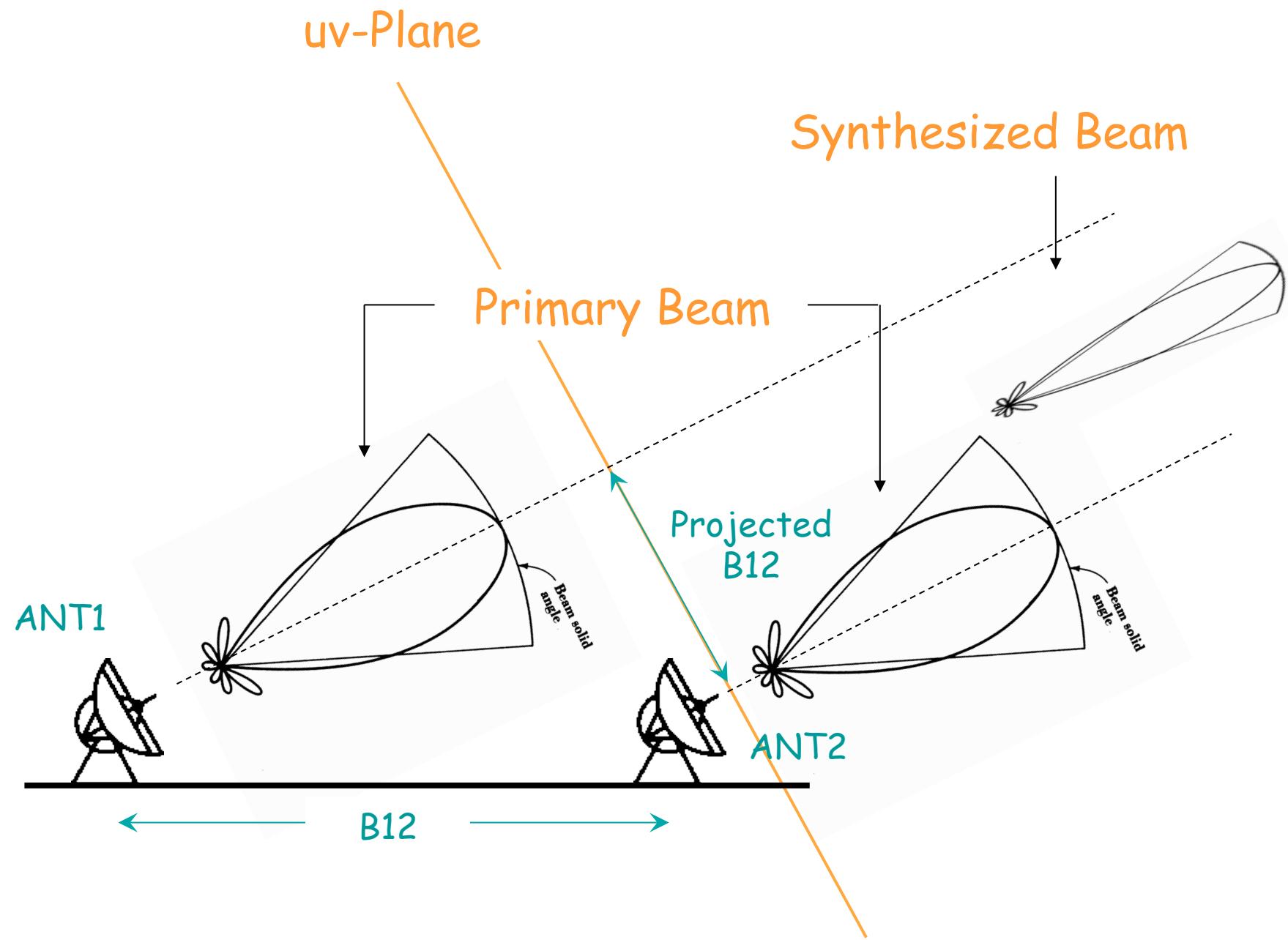


Baseline B_{ij} : distance between two antennas

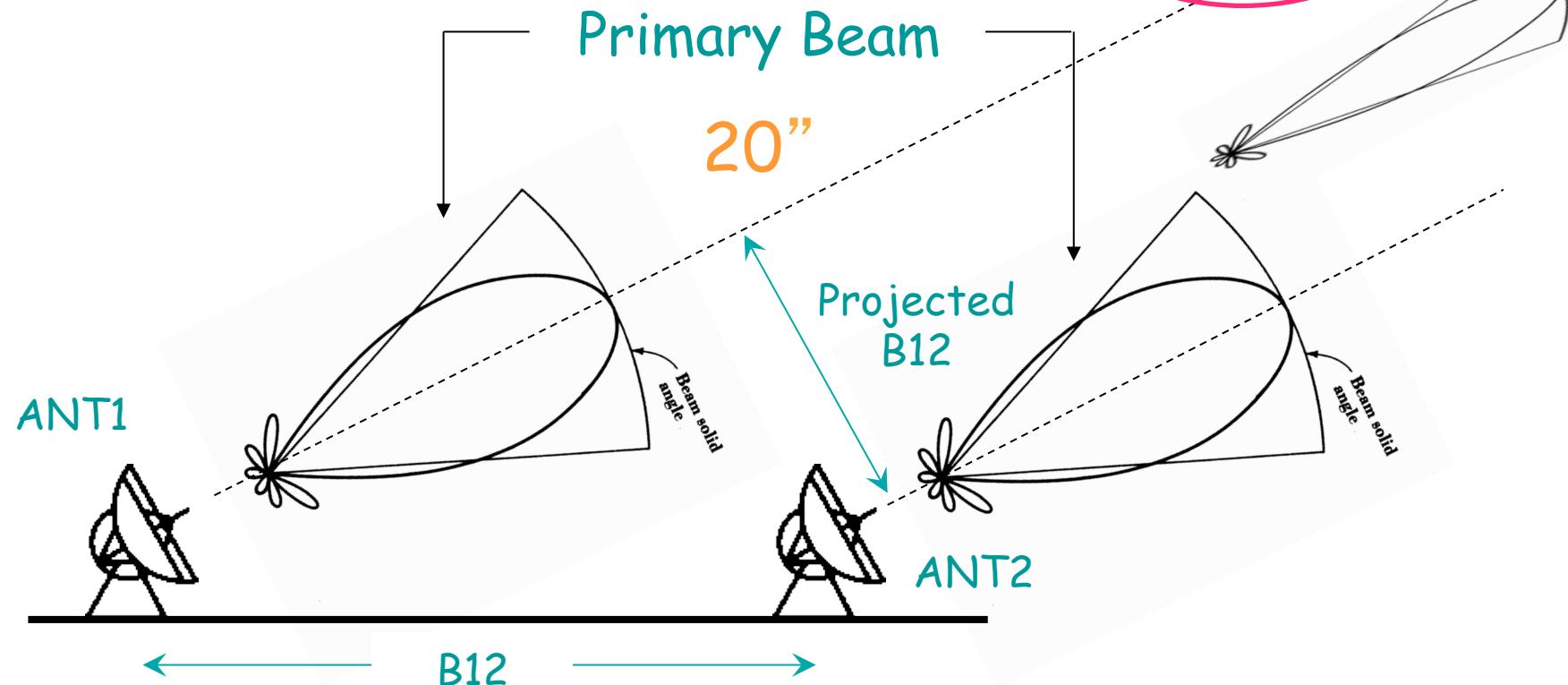
Projected Baseline B_{ij} : distance between two antennas as seen from the sky

Array Configuration : layout of the antenna stations





NOEMA @ 1mm

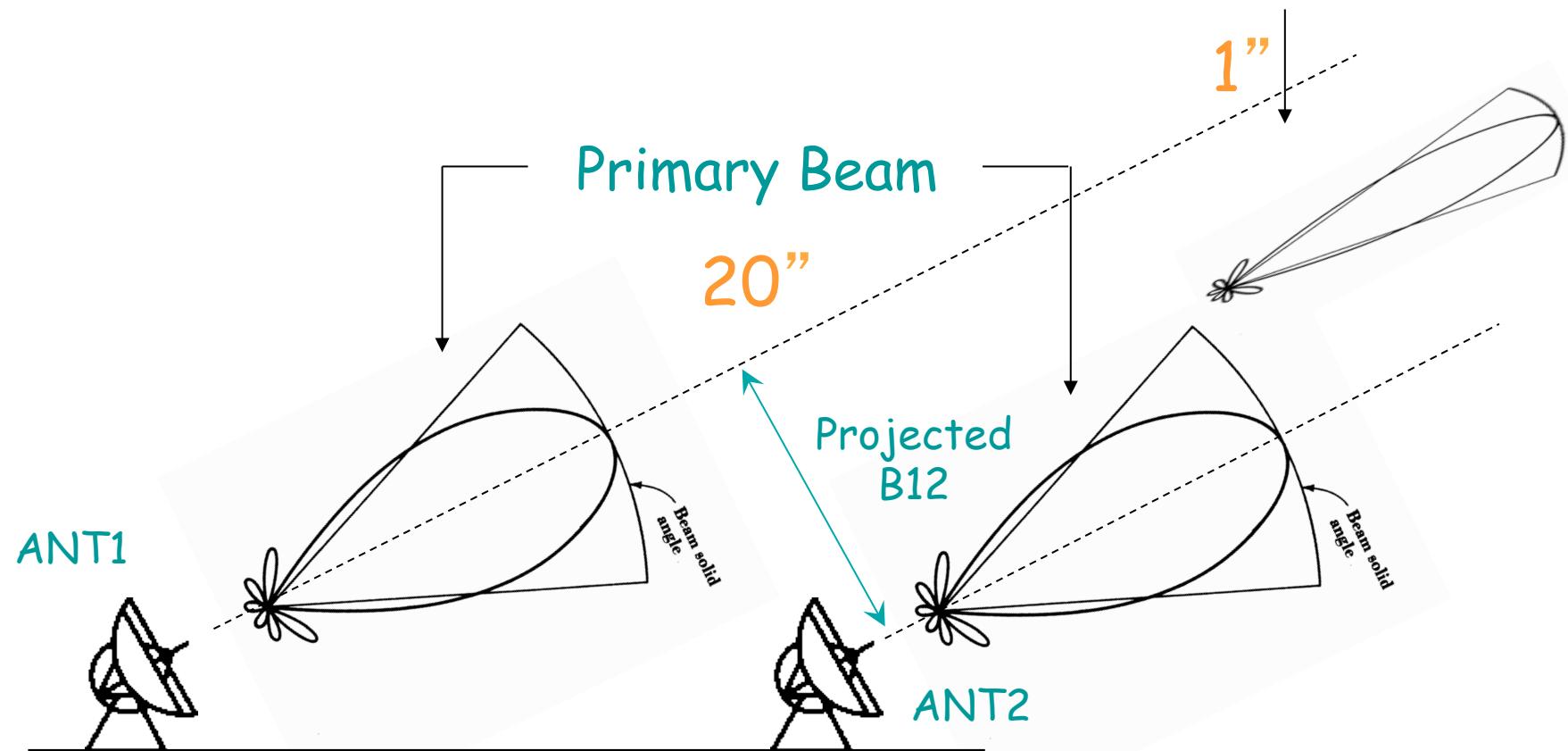


Baseline = 200m

Synthesized Beam

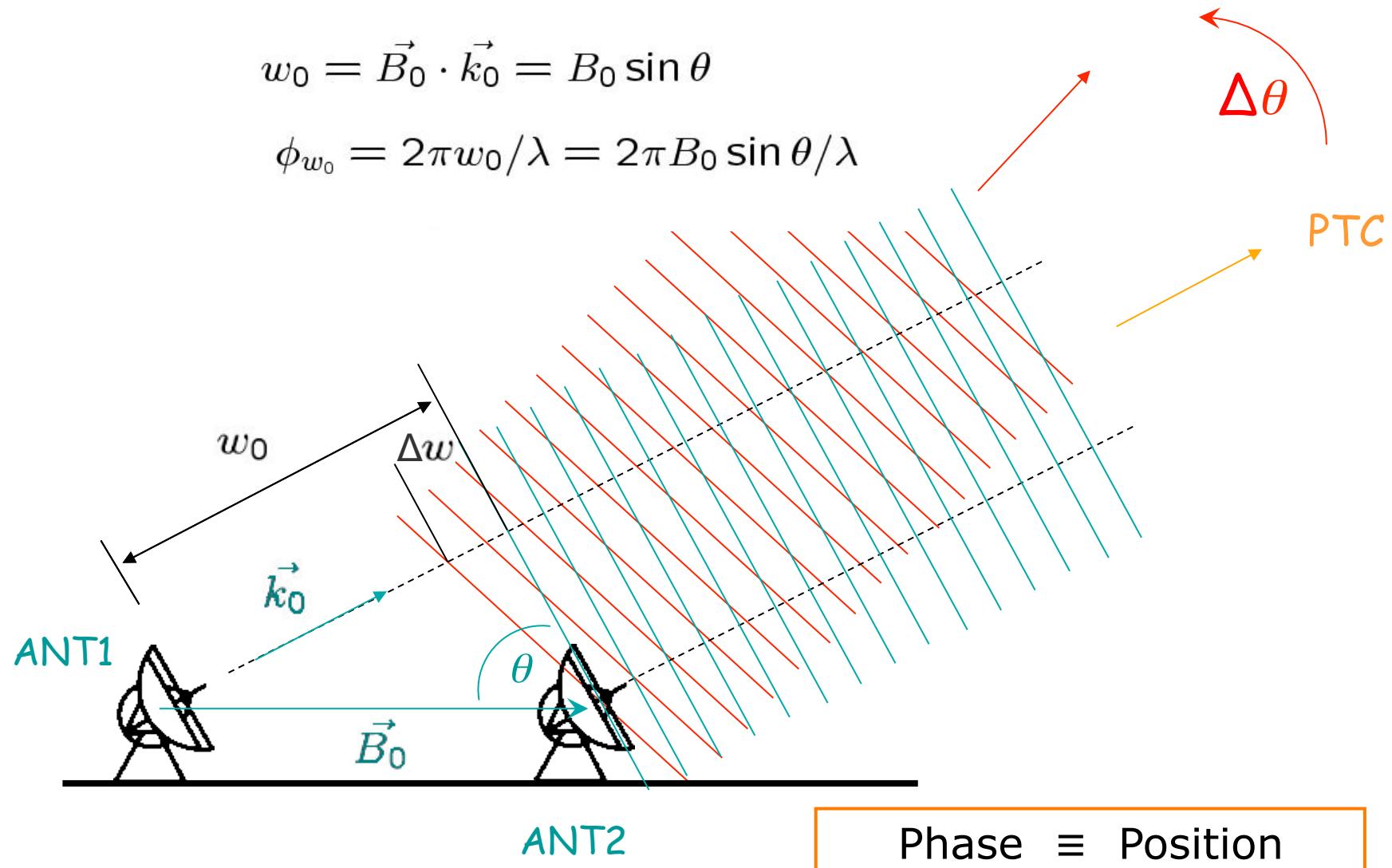
1''

NOEMA @ 1mm



Minimum projected baseline = 15m
SHORT SPACINGS \rightarrow 30m Telescope

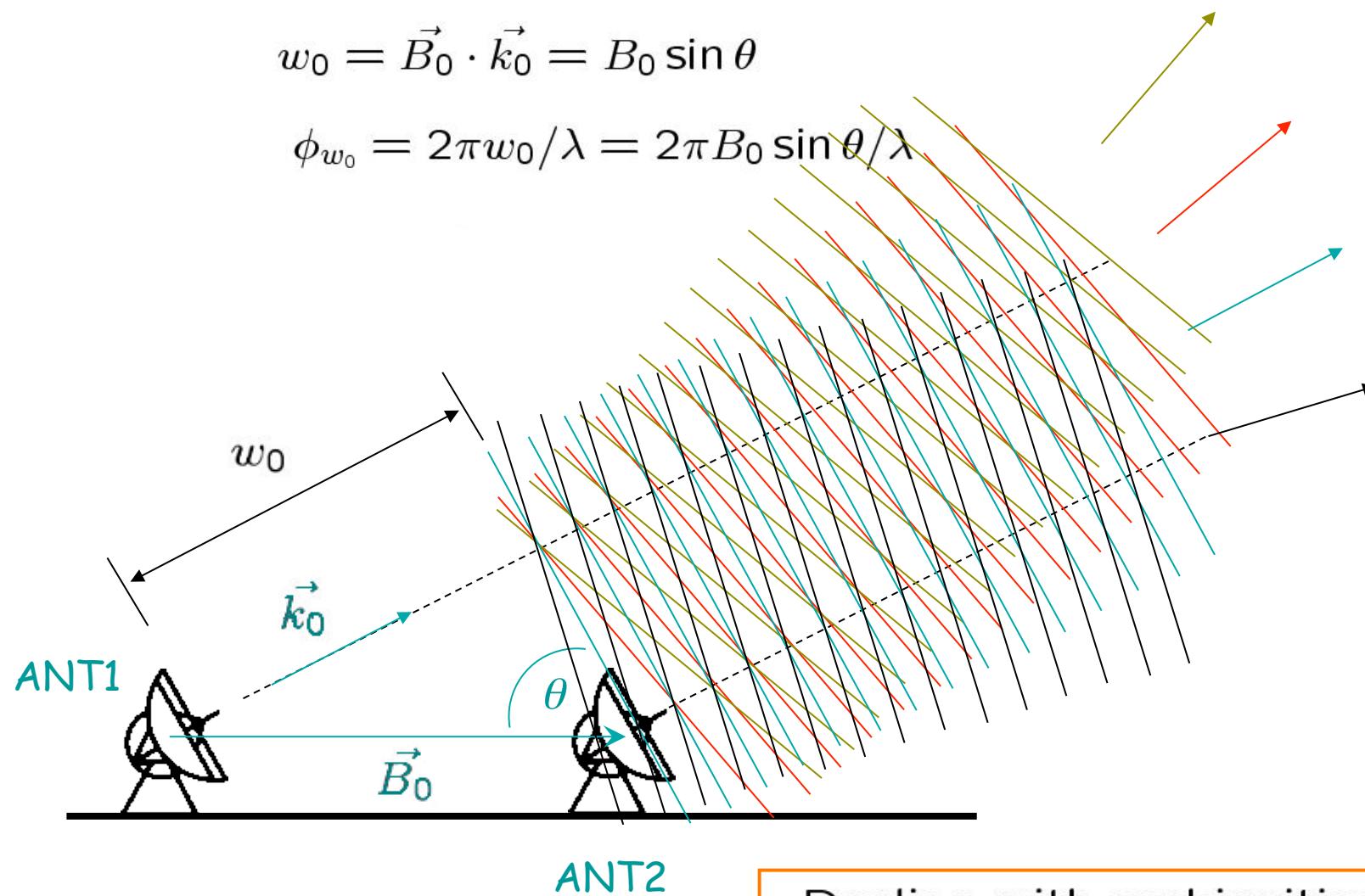
The phase equation



The phase equation

$$w_0 = \vec{B}_0 \cdot \vec{k}_0 = B_0 \sin \theta$$

$$\phi_{w_0} = 2\pi w_0 / \lambda = 2\pi B_0 \sin \theta / \lambda$$



Dealing with ambiguities ...

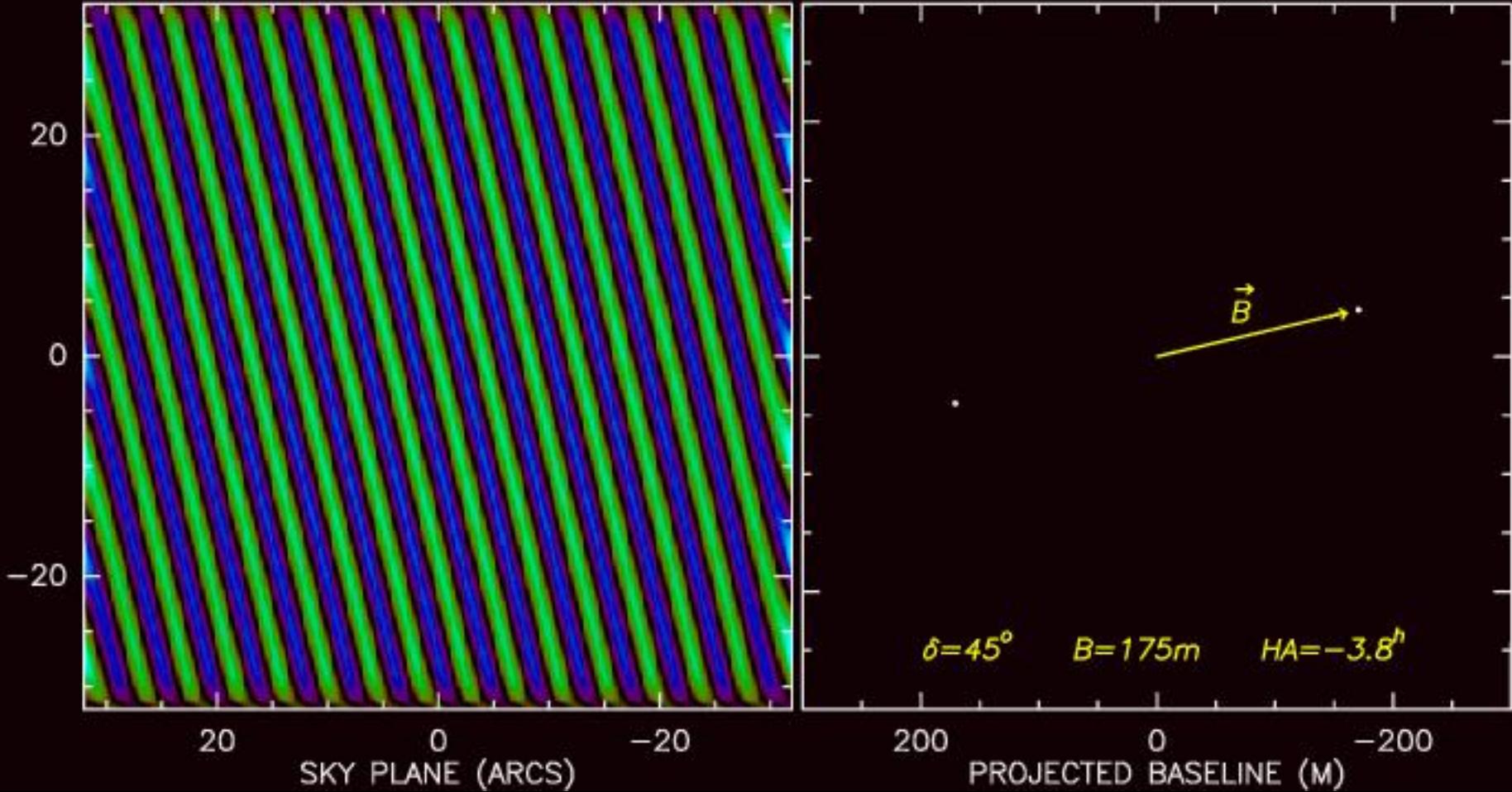
Dealing with $\omega_0 = \vec{k}_0 \cdot \vec{B}_0$

$$\rightarrow 2\pi\omega_0/\lambda = 2\pi B_0 \sin \theta/\lambda = \pm 2\pi N$$

Ex: with $B_0 = 300 \text{ m}$ and $\lambda = 3 \text{ mm}$, the positional ambiguity on the skyplane becomes:

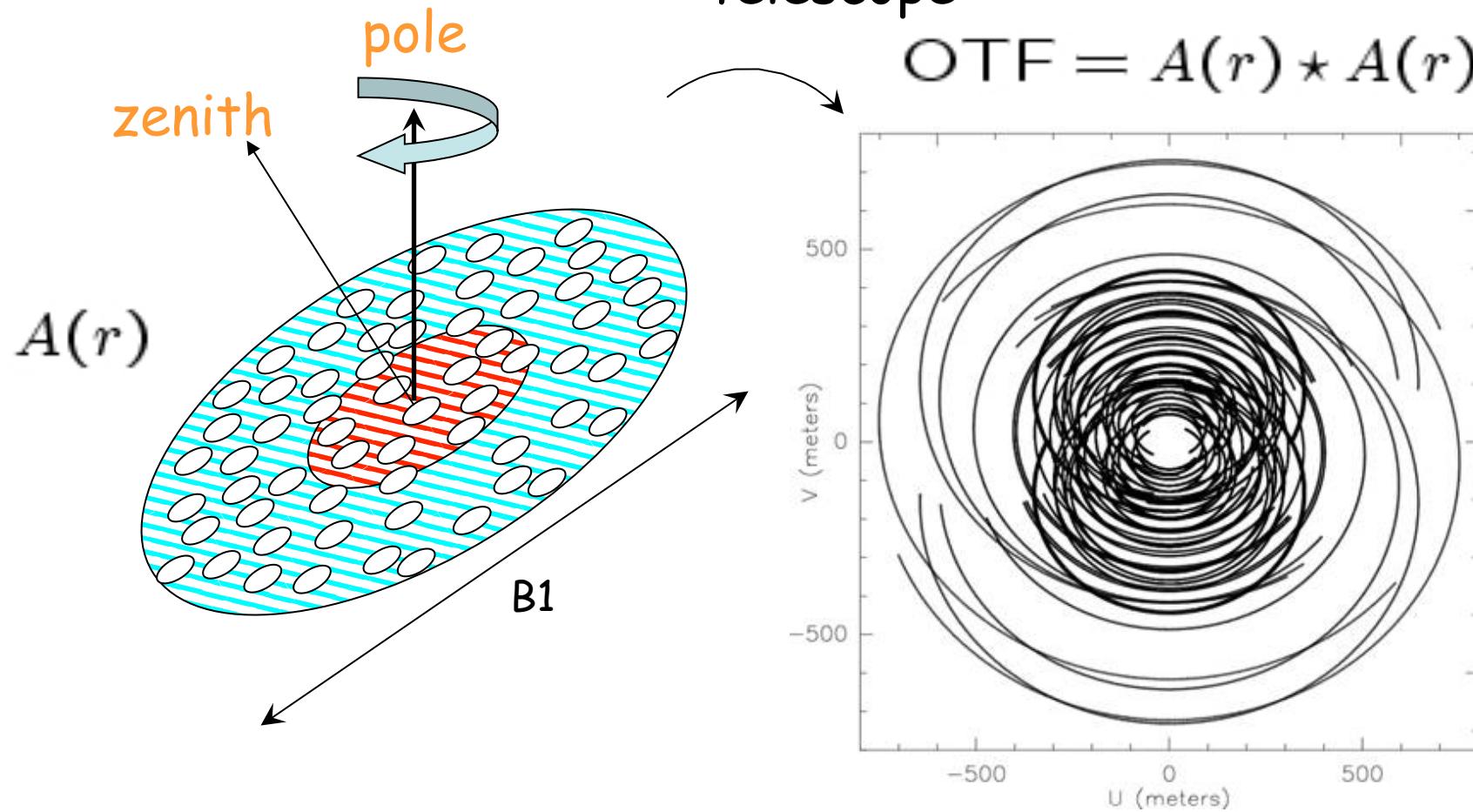
$$\theta_N = \lambda/B_0 \times N = \pm 2'' \times N$$

Ex: a source displaced by a single beam $\theta = \lambda/B_0$ shows an offset of 360° in the signal phase.

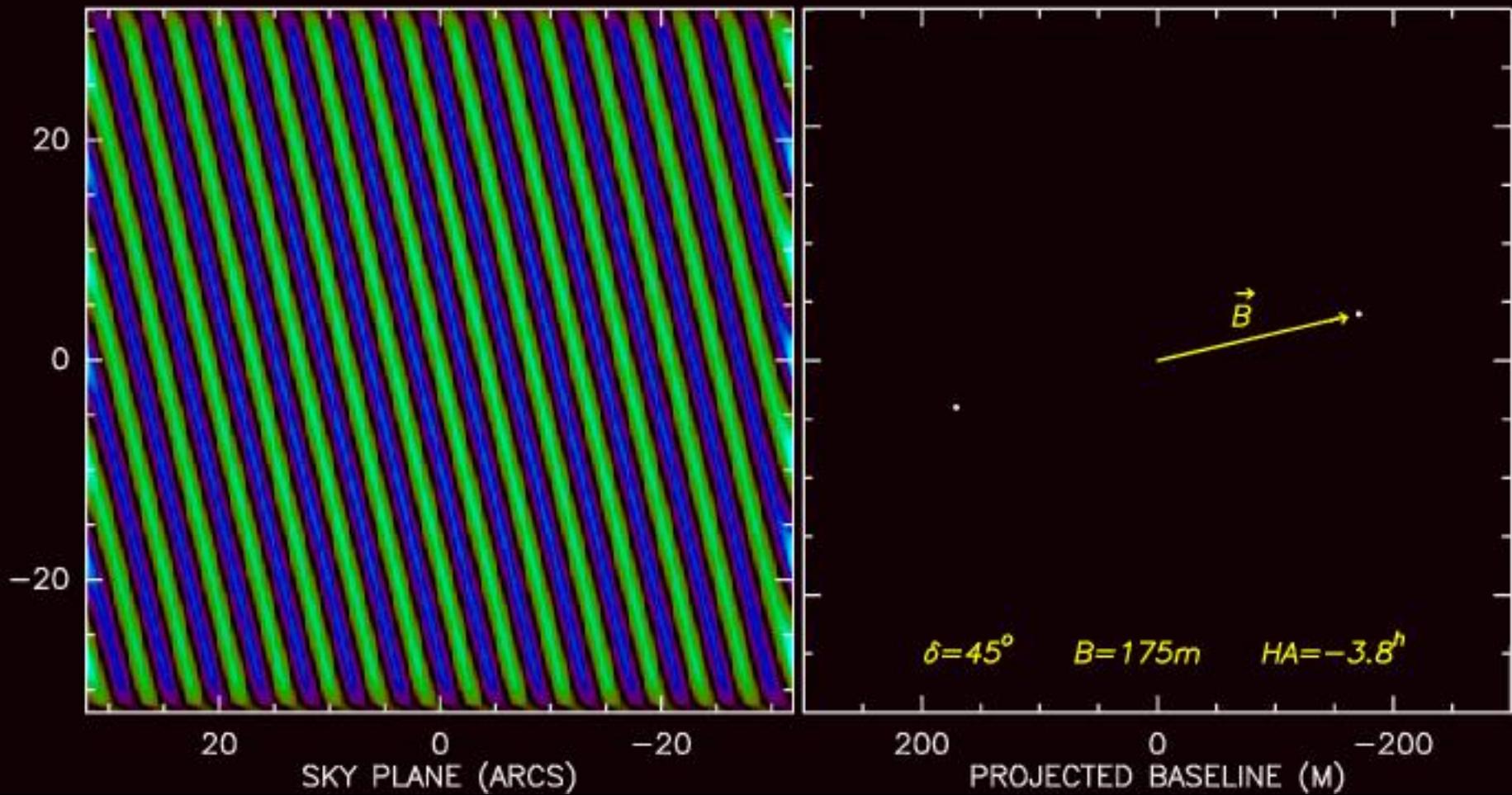


Super-Synthesis or Earth Rotation Synthesis

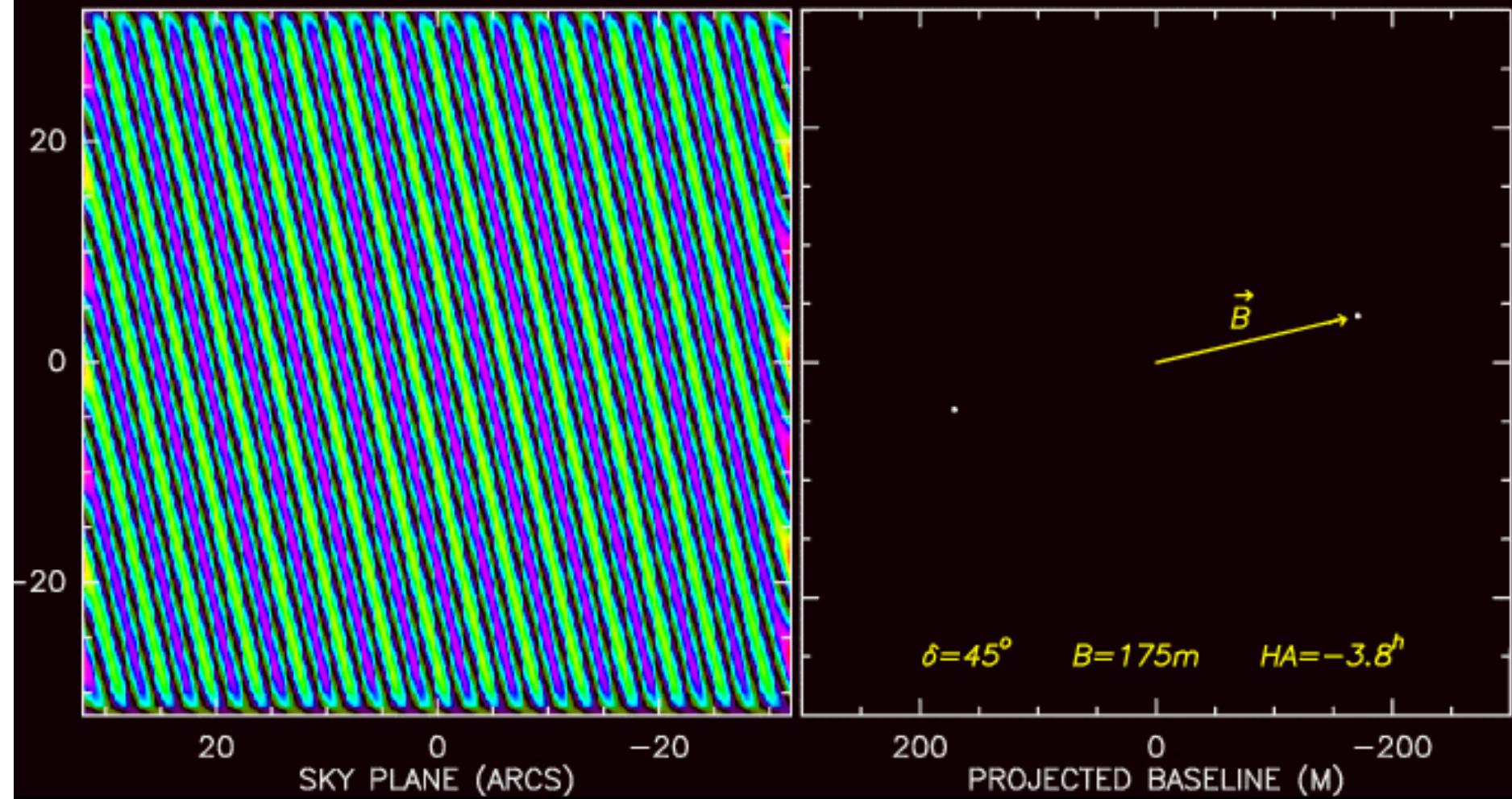
is the technique by which the elements of an interferometer sweep out the aperture of a large telescope



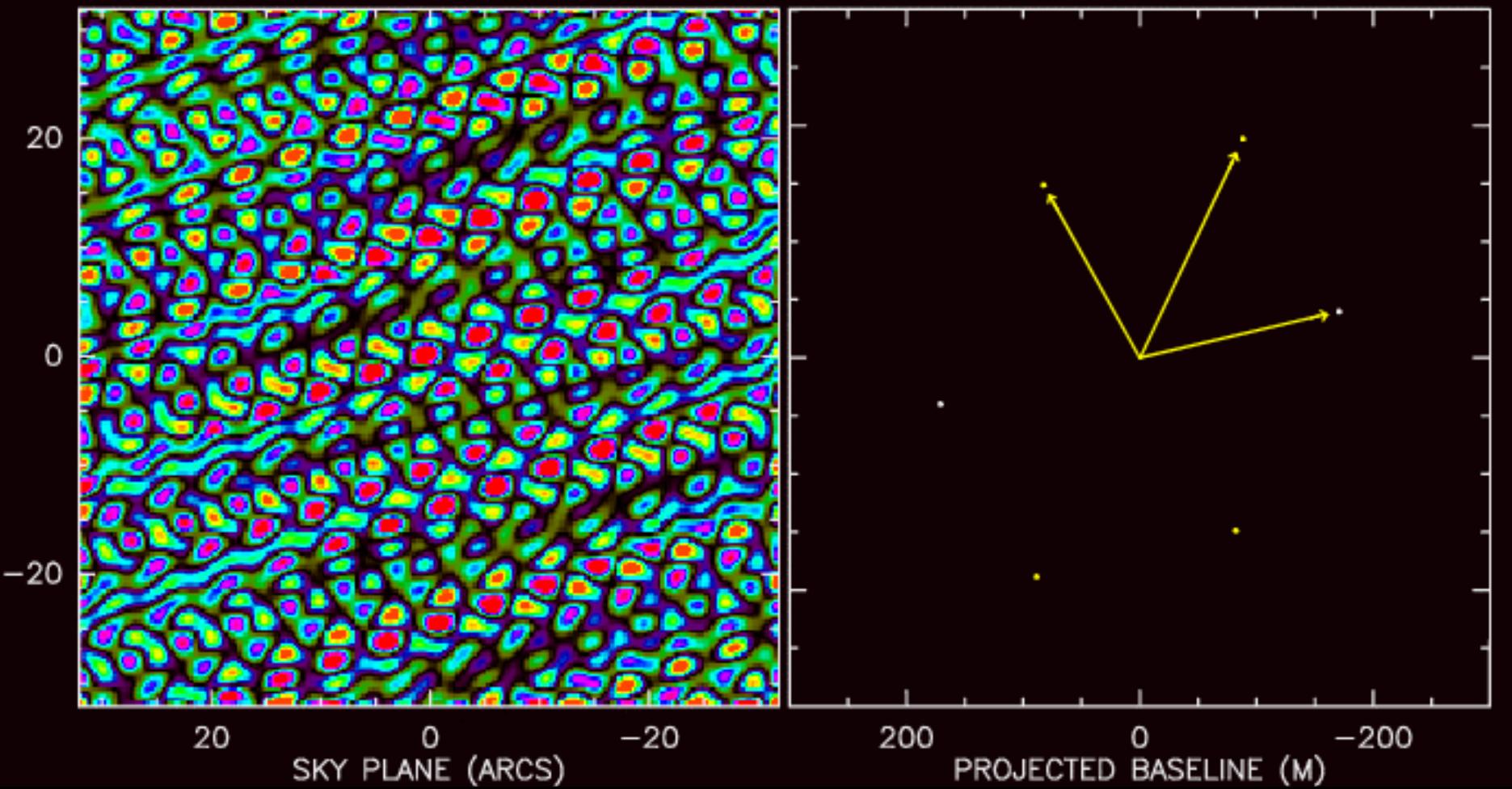
<http://www.iram.fr/~neri/ASTRO-A.GIF>

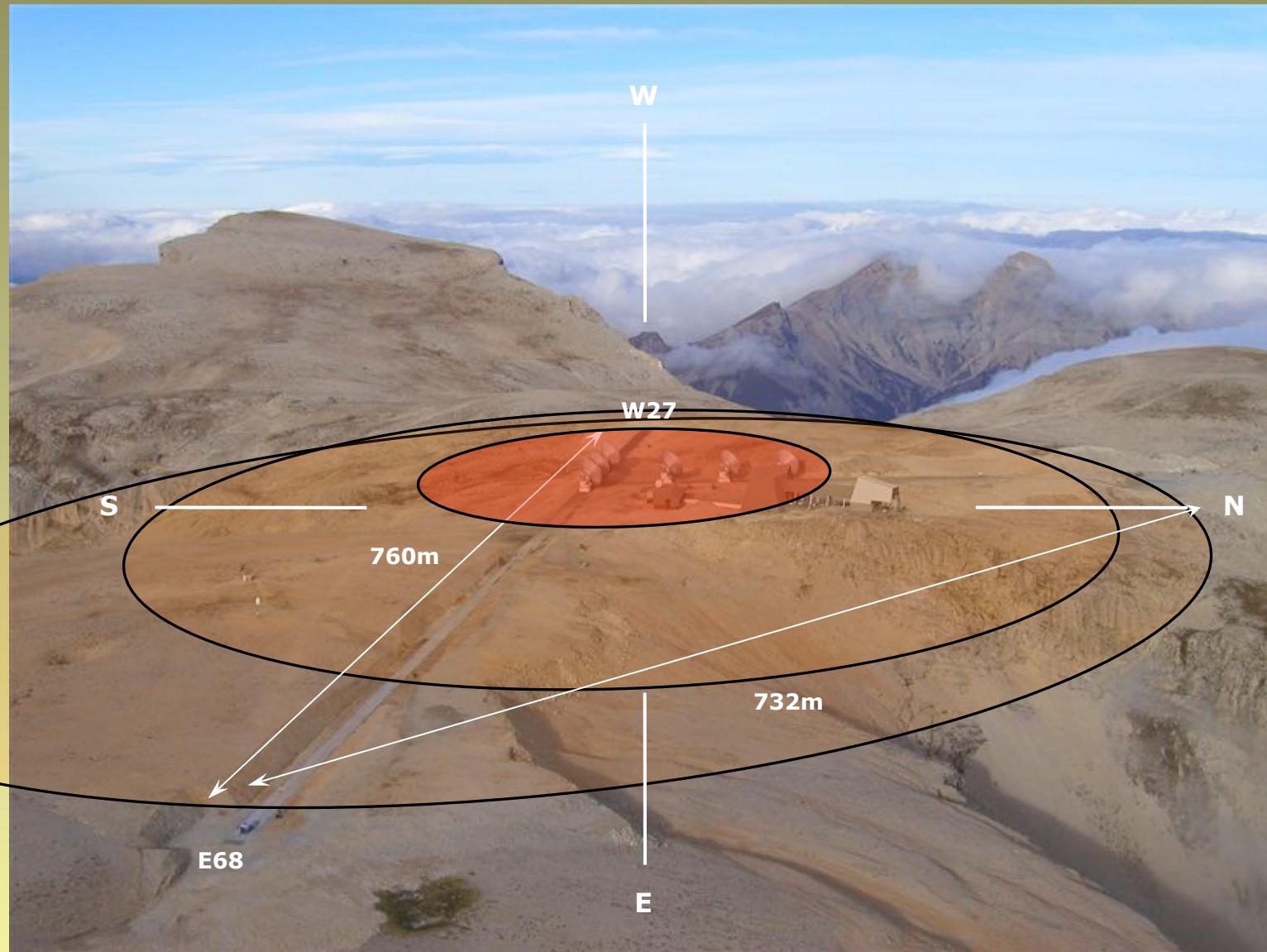


<http://www.iram.fr/~neri/ASTRO-B.GIF>



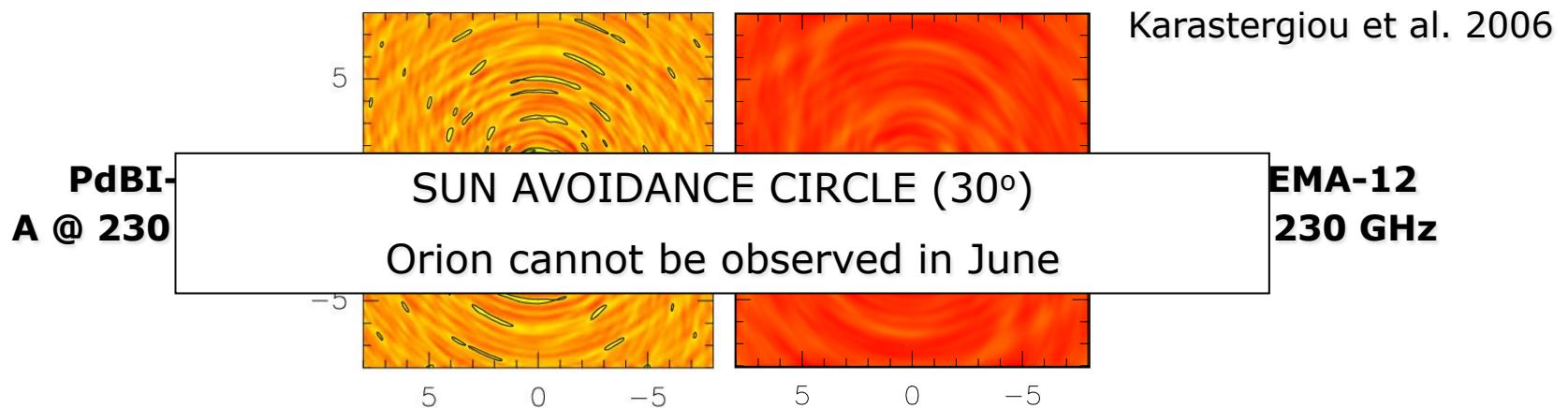
<http://www.iram.fr/~neri/ASTRO-C.GIF>





NOEMA array configurations

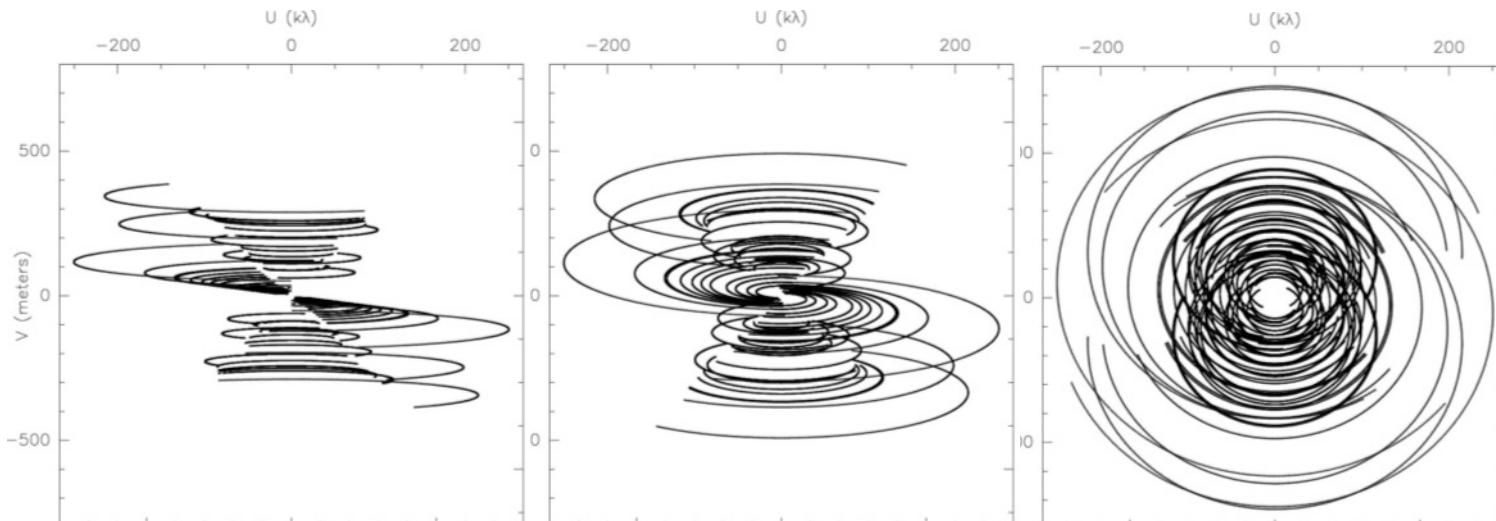
Design: 3 configurations, optimization 40° decl.



Configurations	D	C	A
Months	Apr – Nov	Mar - Apr Nov - Dec	Jan - Mar
Resolution @ 230 GHz	1.6" NOEMA-10 1.1" NOEMA-12		0.4" NOEMA-10 0.2" NOEMA-12

NEOMA configurations @ 230 GHz

Three Examples



	Orion @ -5°	W51N @ 14°	S140 @ 63°
Δt	8 hrs	9 hrs	10 hrs

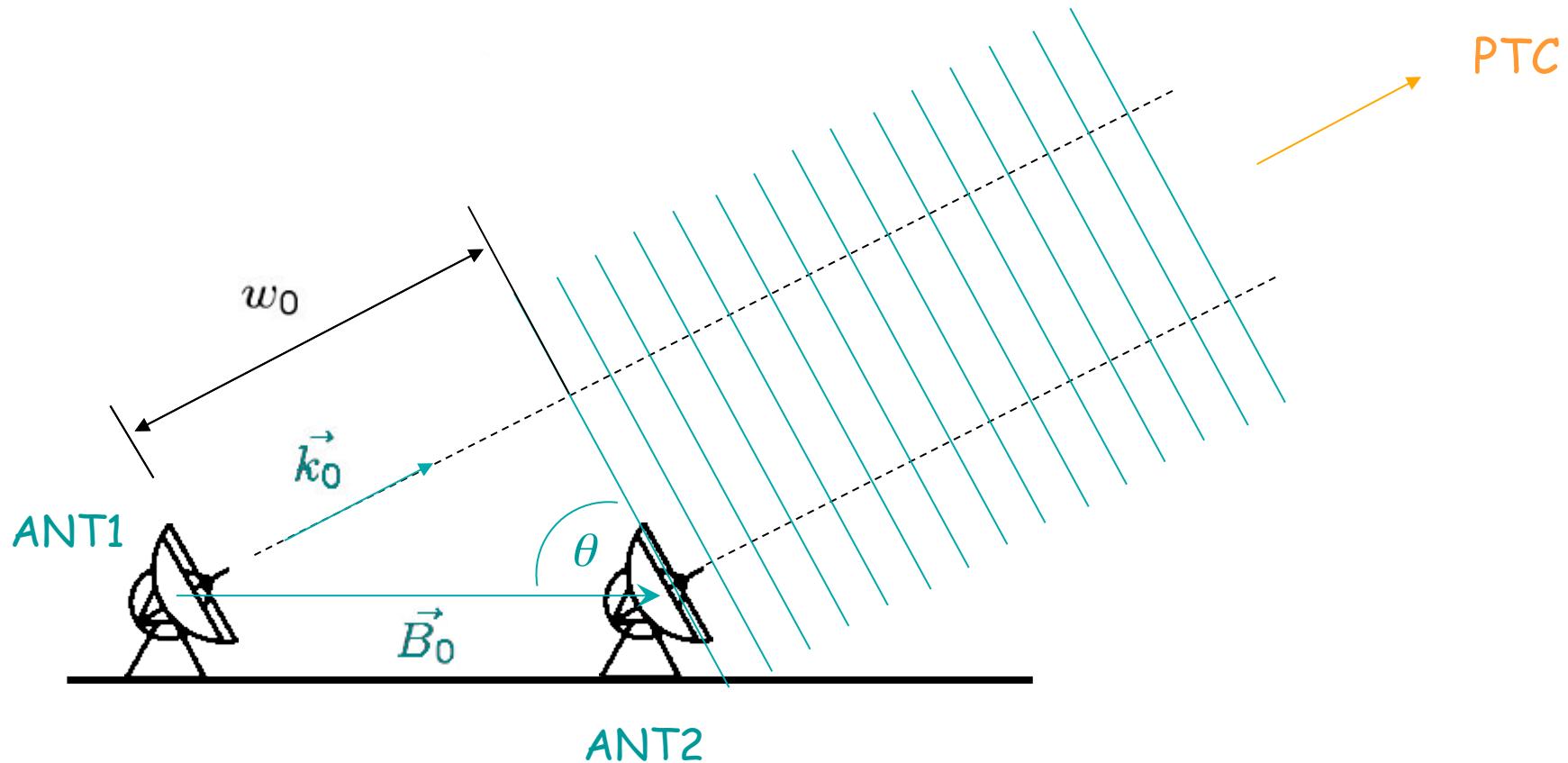
NOEMA - sources of position uncertainty

- mechanical imperfections of an antenna (+subreflector)
- wind effects on the antenna structure
- thermal load on the antenna structure
- atmospheric phase stability
- time and delay errors
- precision in the calibrators absolute position
- SNR of the source
- **accuracy of baseline measurements**
-

The phase equation

$$w_0 = \vec{B}_0 \cdot \vec{k}_0 = B_0 \sin \theta$$

$$\phi_{w_0} = 2\pi w_0 / \lambda = 2\pi B_0 \sin \theta / \lambda$$



$$\rightarrow \phi_{w_0} = 2\pi (B_x \cos H \cos \delta - B_y \sin H \cos \delta + B_z \sin \delta) / \lambda$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\phi^{ij} = & \ 2\pi/\lambda \cdot \\ & [\Delta\alpha \cdot (B_x^{ij} \sin H \cos \delta + B_y^{ij} \cos H \cos \delta) + \\ & \Delta\delta \cdot (B_y^{ij} \sin H \sin \delta - B_x^{ij} \cos H \sin \delta + B_z^{ij} \cos \delta) + \\ & (B_x^{ij} \cos H \cos \delta - B_y^{ij} \sin H \cos \delta + B_z^{ij} \sin \delta) + \\ & (A^i - A^j) \cos \text{EI}]\end{aligned}$$

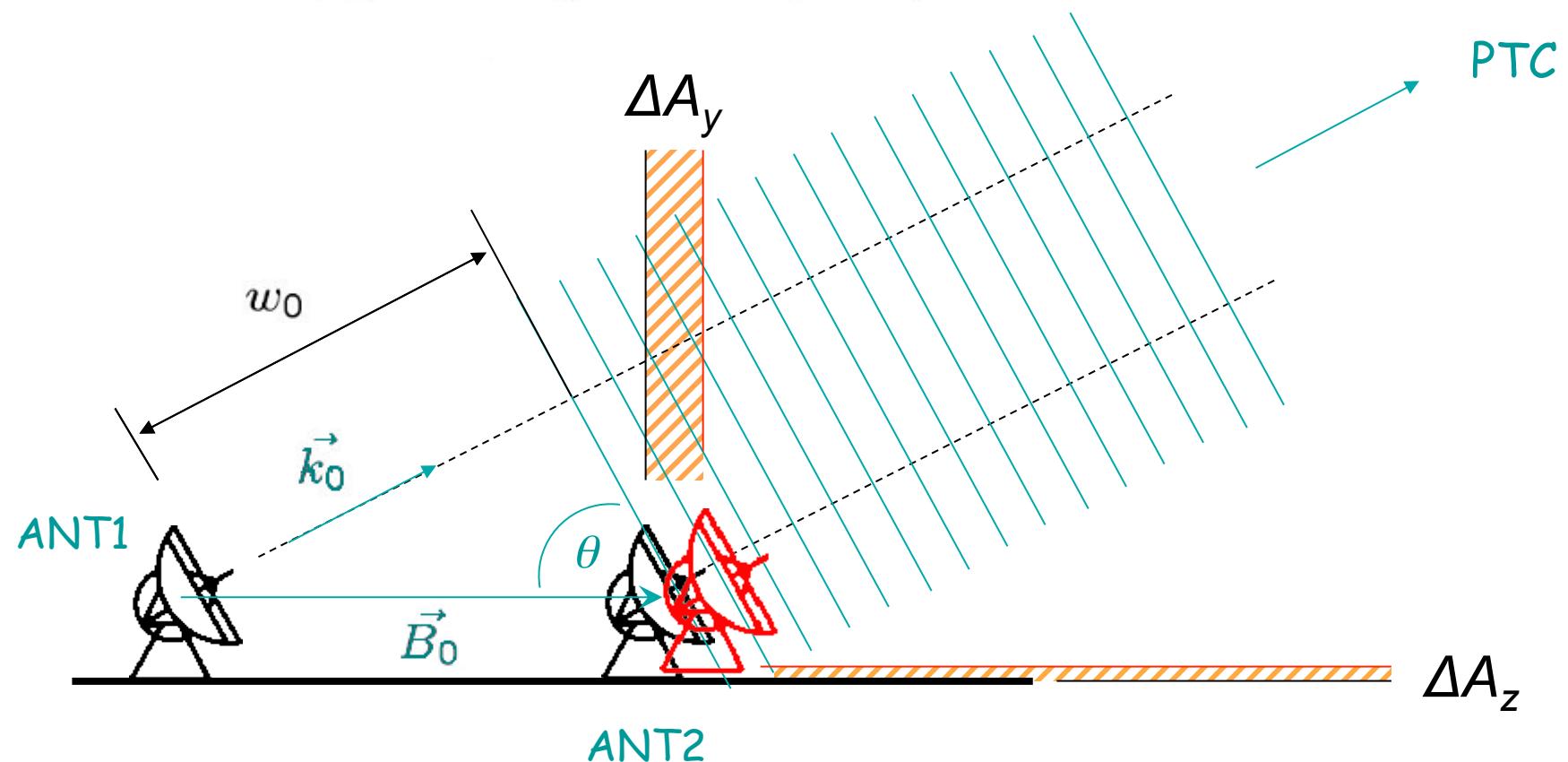
where A is the offset between the azimuth and elevation axis of an antenna.

In practice, an LSQ-analysis is used to derive the unknowns (B_x, B_y, B_z) from the measurements of the many observed $\Delta\phi^{ij}$ at 10 – 15 different hour angles H and declinations δ .

The phase equation

$$w_0 = \vec{B}_0 \cdot \vec{k}_0 = B_0 \sin \theta \simeq B_0 \cdot \theta$$

$$\phi_{w_0} = 2\pi w_0 / \lambda = 2\pi B_0 \sin \theta / \lambda$$



$$\Delta\phi^{ij} = 2\pi/\lambda \cdot$$

$$[\cancel{\Delta\alpha \cdot (B_x^{ij} \sin H \cos \delta + B_y^{ij} \cos H \cos \delta)} +$$

$$\cancel{\Delta\delta \cdot (B_y^{ij} \sin H \sin \delta - B_x^{ij} \cos H \sin \delta + B_z^{ij} \cos \delta)} +$$

$$\cancel{(B_x^{ij} \cos H \cos \delta - B_y^{ij} \sin H \cos \delta + B_z^{ij} \sin \delta)} +$$

$$\cancel{(A^i - A^j) \cos EI}]$$

where A is the offset between the azimuth and elevation axis of an antenna.

In practice, an LSQ-analysis is used to derive the unknowns (B_x, B_y, B_z) from the measurements of the many observed $\Delta\phi^{ij}$ at 10 – 15 different hour angles H and declinations δ .

RF: Fr.(A)

CL/C - 25-SEP-2002 14:40:31 - neri N07N29E04W12E23N17

Scan Avg

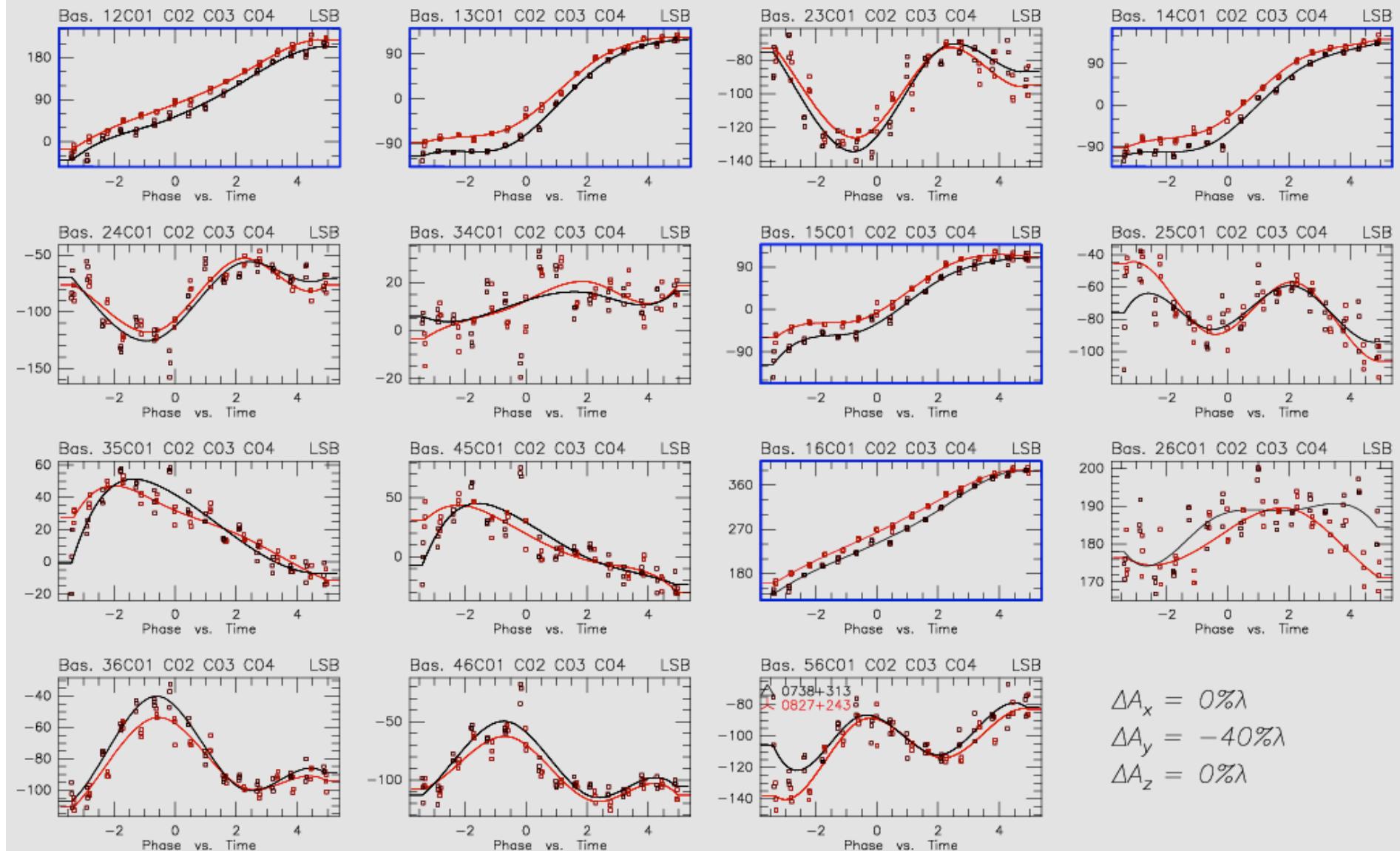
Am: Rel.(A)

100 8052 L058 0827+243 P CORR CO(3-2) 6ant-Special 08-JAN-2002 20:36 -4.3

Vect.Avg

Ph: Abs. Atm.

788 8629 L058 0738+313 P CORR CO(3-2) 6ant-Special 09-JAN-2002 04:57 4.9



$$\Delta A_x = 0\% \lambda$$

$$\Delta A_y = -40\% \lambda$$

$$\Delta A_z = 0\% \lambda$$

$$\Delta\phi^{ij} = 2\pi/\lambda \cdot$$

$$\begin{aligned} & [\cancel{\Delta\alpha \cdot (B_x^{ij} \sin H \cos \delta + B_y^{ij} \cos H \cos \delta)} + \\ & \cancel{\Delta\delta \cdot (B_y^{ij} \sin H \sin \delta - B_x^{ij} \cos H \sin \delta + B_z^{ij} \cos \delta)} + \\ & \cancel{(B_x^{ij} \cos H \cos \delta - B_y^{ij} \sin H \cos \delta + B_z^{ij} \sin \delta)} + \\ & \cancel{(A^i - A^j) \cos \text{EI}}] \end{aligned}$$

where A is the offset between the azimuth and elevation axis of an antenna.

In practice, an LSQ-analysis is used to derive the unknowns (B_x, B_y, B_z) from the measurements of the many observed $\Delta\phi^{ij}$ at 10 – 15 different hour angles H and declinations δ .

RF: Fr.(A)

CLIC - 25-SEP-2002 14:28:52 - neri N07N29E04W12E23N17

Scan Avg

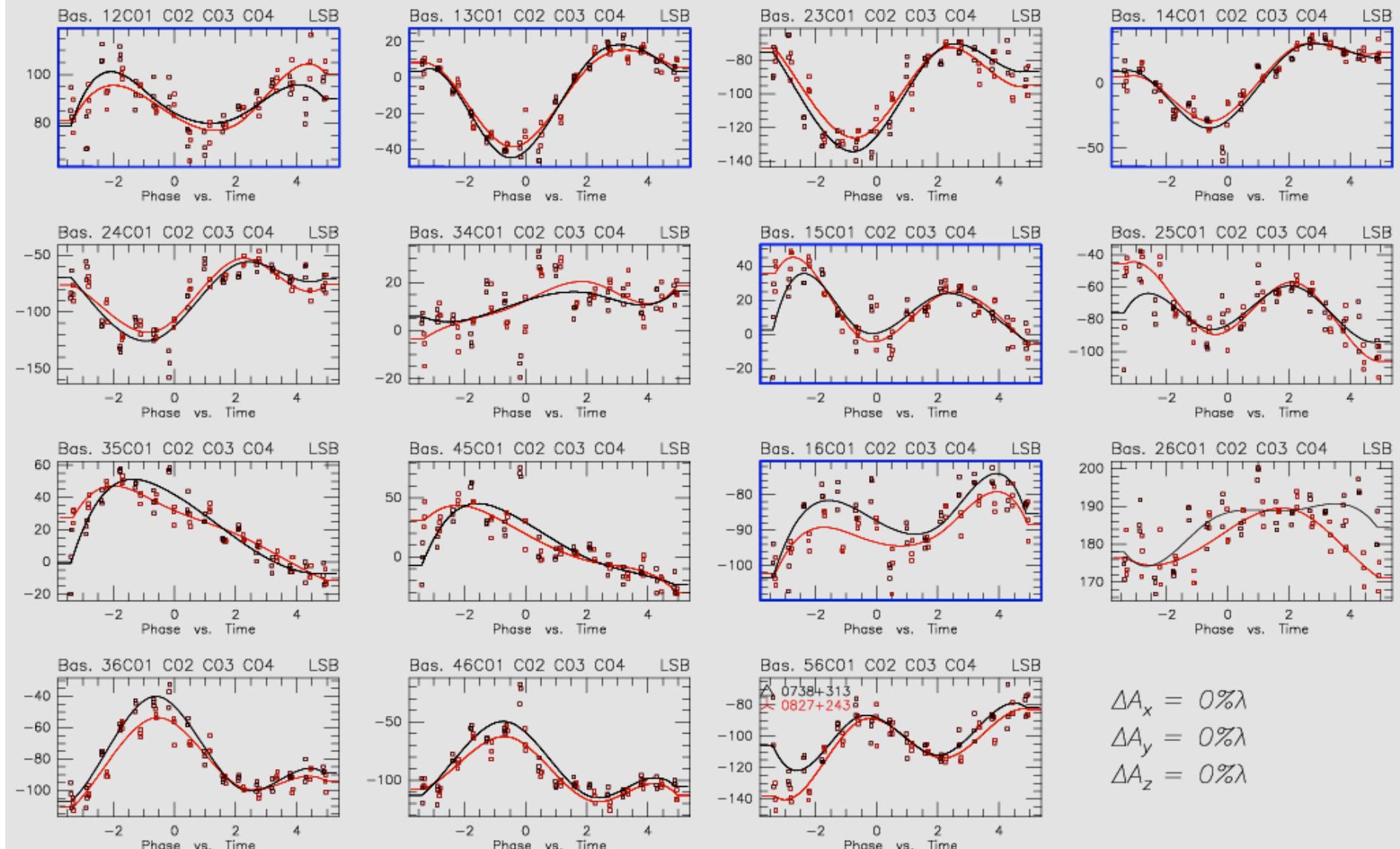
Am: Rel.(A)

100 8052 L058 0827+243 P CORR CO(3-2) 6ant-Special 08-JAN-2002 20:36 -4.3

Vect.Avg

Ph: Abs. Atm.

788 8629 L058 0738+313 P CORR CO(3-2) 6ant-Special 09-JAN-2002 04:57 4.9



$$\Delta A_x = 0\% \lambda$$

$$\Delta A_y = 0\% \lambda$$

$$\Delta A_z = 0\% \lambda$$

NOEMA - sources of position uncertainty

TELESCOPE	$\Delta\theta$	Calibration
Axes Non-Intersection	$\leq 0.20''$	Yes
AzEl Bearings	$\leq 0.15''$	Yes
OBSERVATION		
Focus Offset	$\leq 0.15''$	Partially
Calibrator Distance	$\leq 8 \cdot 10^{-2} \theta_B$	No
Atmospheric Seeing	$\leq 6 \cdot 10^{-2} \theta_B$	No
Pointing Offset	$\leq 2 \cdot 10^{-2} \theta_B$	Partially

NOEMA - sources of position uncertainty

OBJECT	$\Delta\theta$	Calibration
Source Intensity	$\leq 10^{-1} \theta_B$	No
Calibrator Position	$\leq 0.02''$	No
MISCELLANEOUS		
Bandwidth smearing	$\leq 0.08''$	No
Visibility averaging	$\leq 0.06''$	No
Gravitational lensing	$\leq 0.02''$	No
Primary beam correction	$\leq 0.02''$	No