

Satellite Contamination on MeerKATs' SD HI IM



PhD candidate: Brandon Engelbrecht

Supervisor: Prof. M. Santos

Dr. J. Wang & Dr. Y. Li & Dr. J. Fonseca



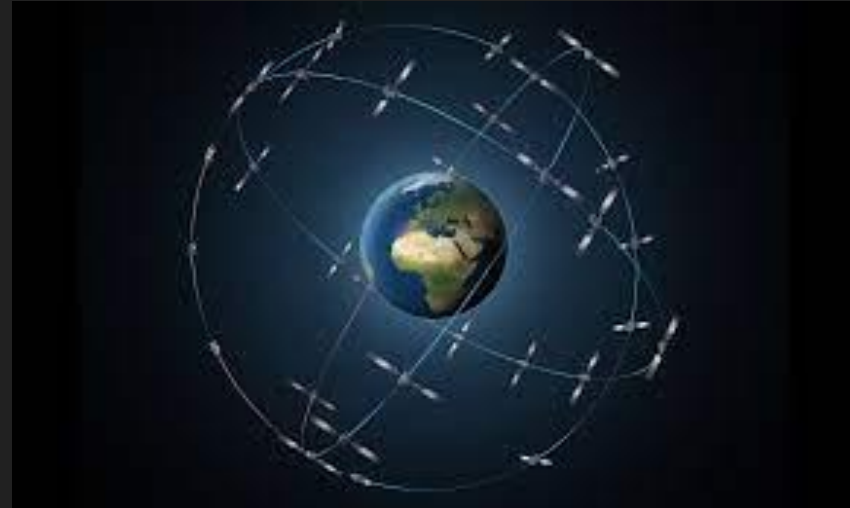
SISSA/IFPU: 25 May 2022

First things:

Artificial Satellites



[Credit:](#)



[Credit:](#)

First things:

Artificial Satellites



4 global satellite systems
2 regional satellite systems
1 geostationary system

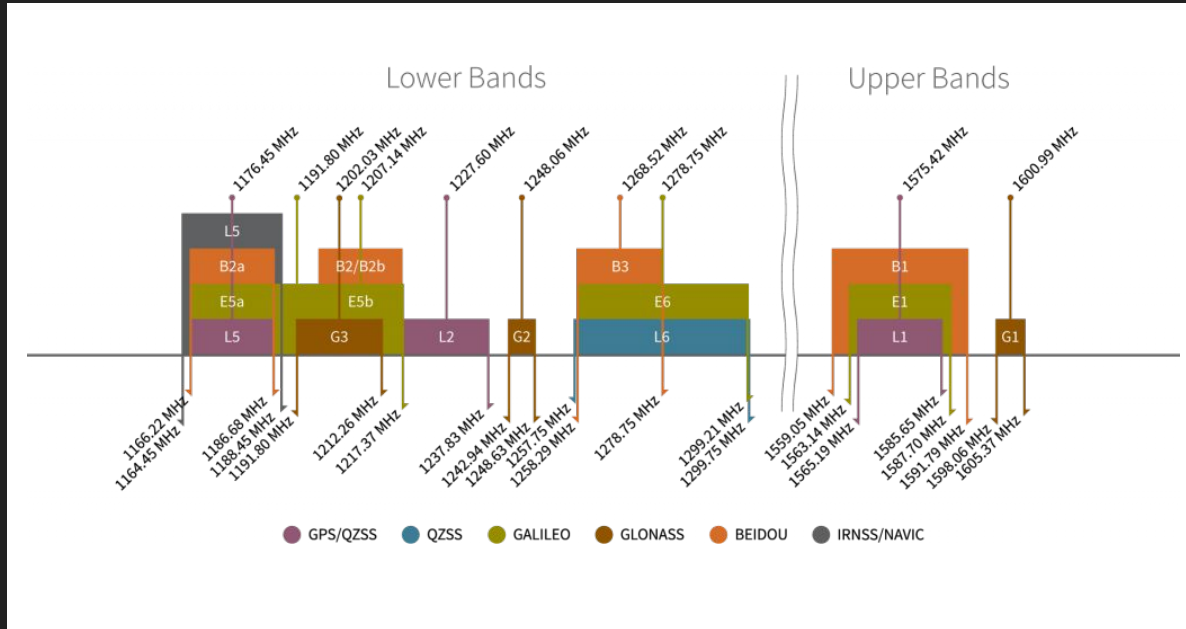
~ 160 satellites

Producer of Radio Frequency
Interference

Credit:

First things:

Artificial Satellites



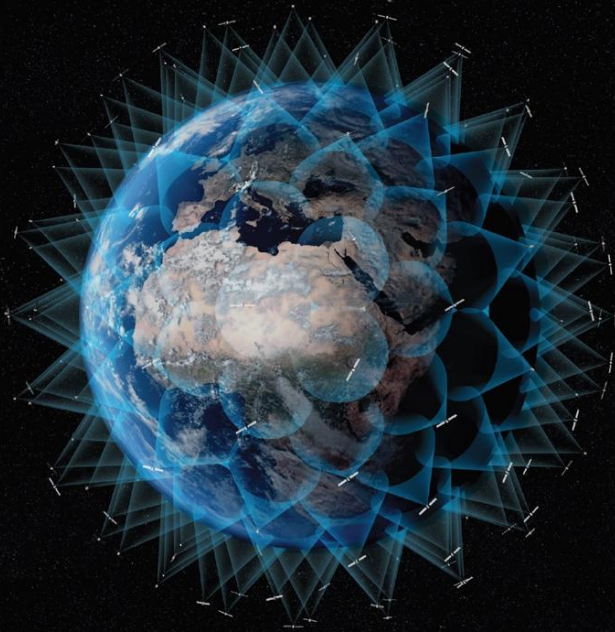
4 global satellite systems
2 regional satellite systems
1 geostationary system

~ 160 satellites

Producer of Radio Frequency
Interference

First things:

Artificial Satellites



Mega-constellations:
Starlink, OneWeb, Kuiper

Communication based

Bands: **10.7-12.7 GHz Starlink**
12-18 GHz OneWeb
As Stuart mentioned

Credit

MeerKAT/MeerKLASS

HI intensity mapping with MeerKAT: Calibration pipeline for multi-dish autocorrelation observations

[Wang et al 2020](#)

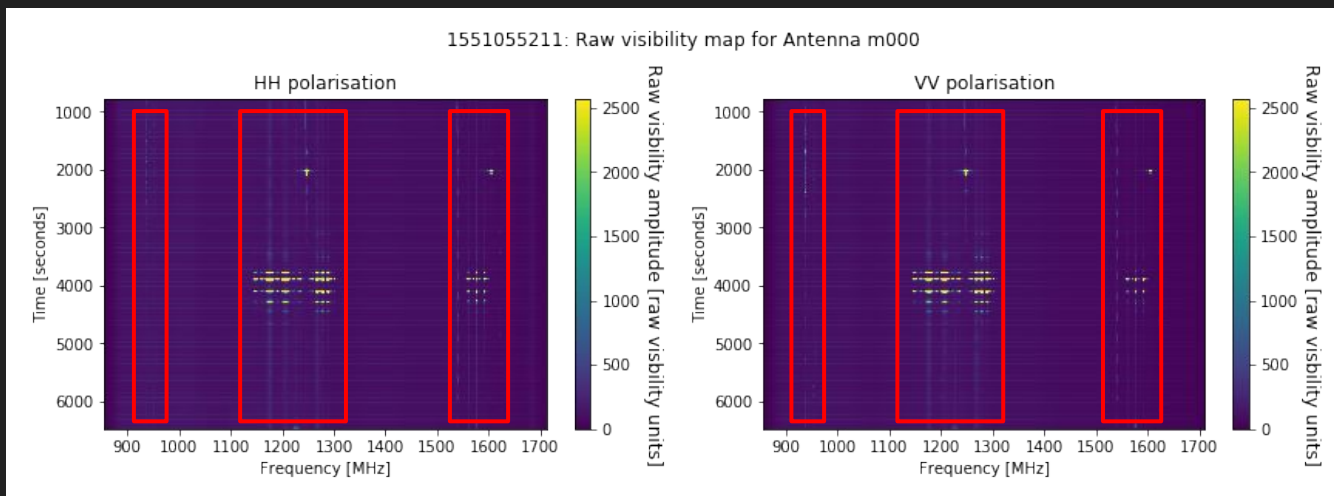
Potential Impact of Global Navigation Satellite Services on Total Power HI Intensity Mapping Surveys

[Harper 2018](#)

MeerKAT/MeerKLASS

HI intensity mapping with MeerKAT: Calibration pipeline for multi-dish autocorrelation observations

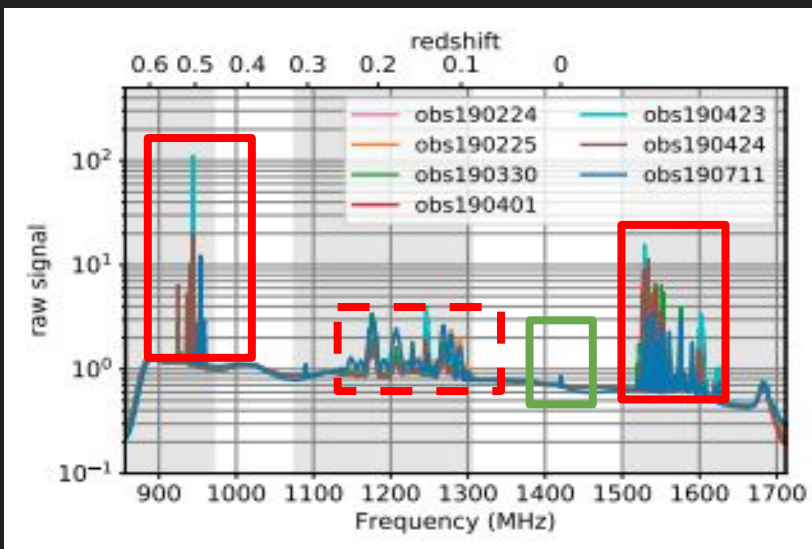
[Wang, J 2020](#)



MeerKAT/MeerKLASS

HI intensity mapping with MeerKAT: Calibration pipeline for multi-dish autocorrelation observations

[Wang. et al 2020](#)



Multiple observations

Larger than the HI signal

Area of interest: 1000-1500 MHz

Construct a simulation

Comprised of 3 sections:

Handling MeerKAT data (*specific*)

Satellite position & Telescope Beam (*generic*)

Constellation estimation & Fitting (*generic*)

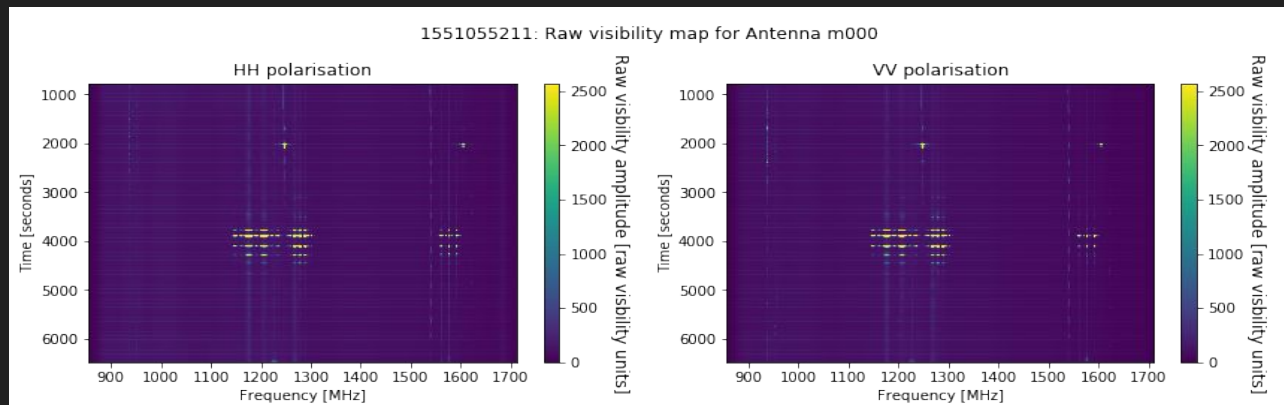
Handling MeerKAT data

Looking at 1 observation: 1551055211
2019-02-25 : 02:40:11

Method applies to each receiver

Receivers added together

All dishes averaged together



Handling MeerKAT data

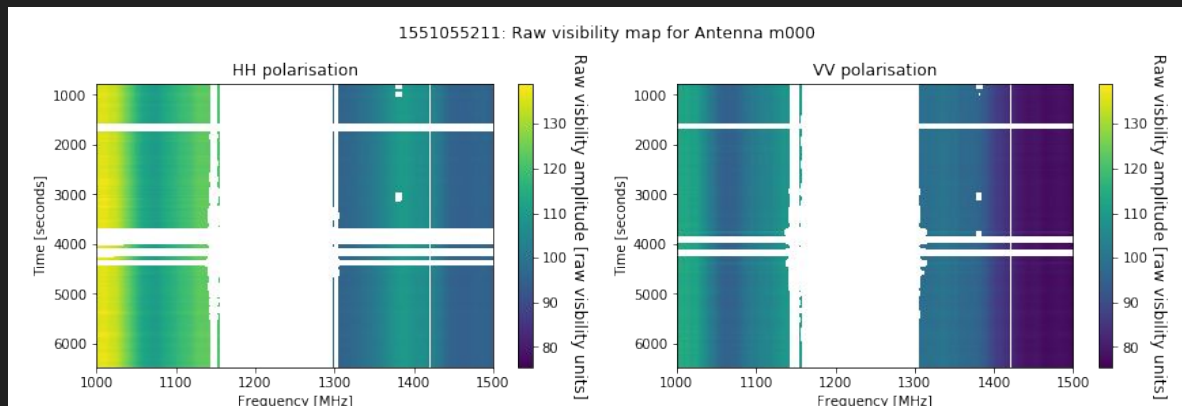
Looking at 1 observation: 1551055211
2019-02-25 : 02:40:11

A flag is applied in the pipeline

Looking at the frequency of interest

Time is noted: nd_s0

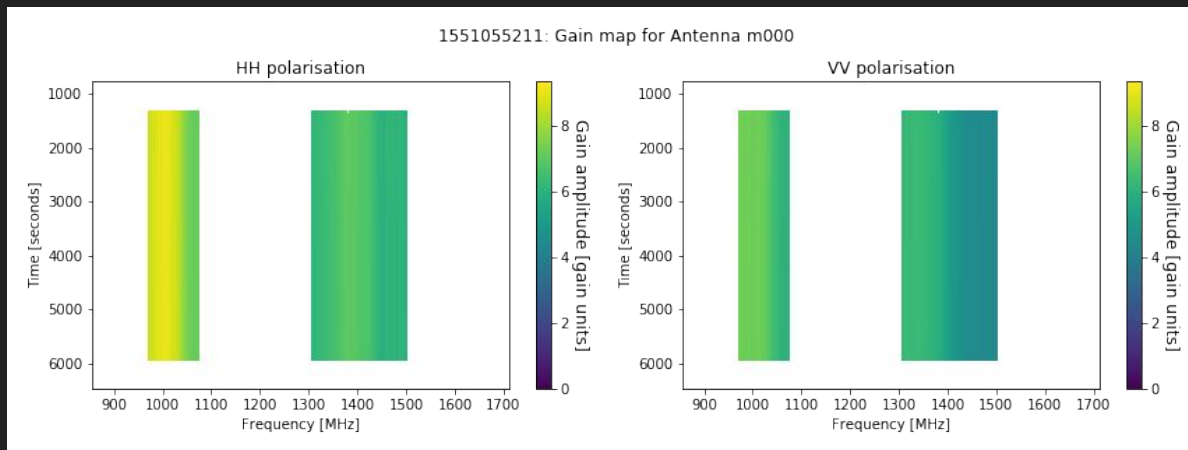
Noise diode off, scan period



Handling MeerKAT data

Information from the gain maps

Need completeness to recalibrate the data

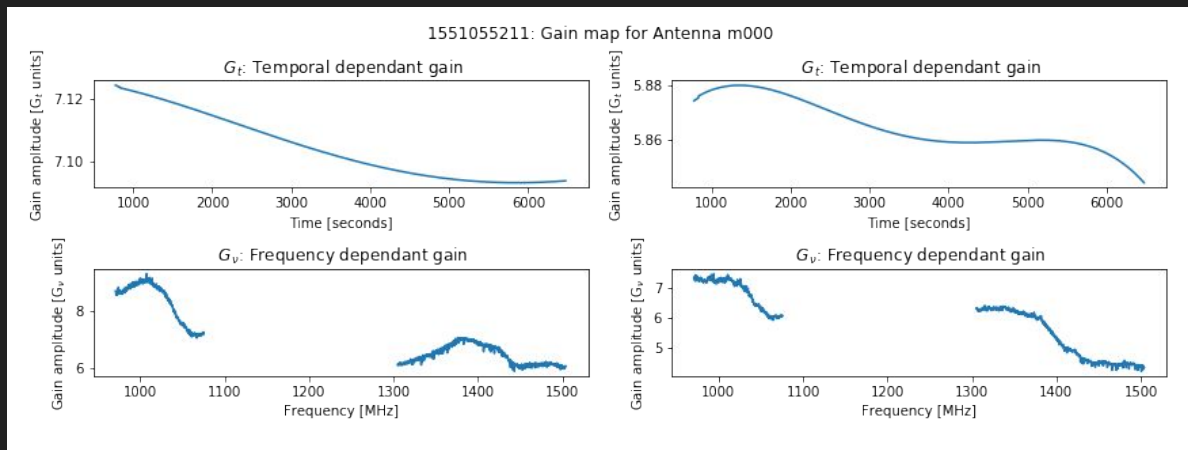


Handling MeerKAT data

Information from the calibration

Need completeness to recalibrate the data.

Frequency space requires interpolation.



Handling MeerKAT data

Information from the calibration

Need completeness to recalibrate the data.

Frequency space requires interpolation.

Applying a method from SCP data with Yi-Chao

$$G(\nu, t) = G_\nu \times G_t$$

Removing the temporal gain contribution from the raw visibility.

$$a1_{\text{true}} = \frac{RV}{G_t}$$

Removing background models from the sky

$$a1 = \frac{RV}{G_t \times \text{BG}}$$

Averaging down the temporal component.

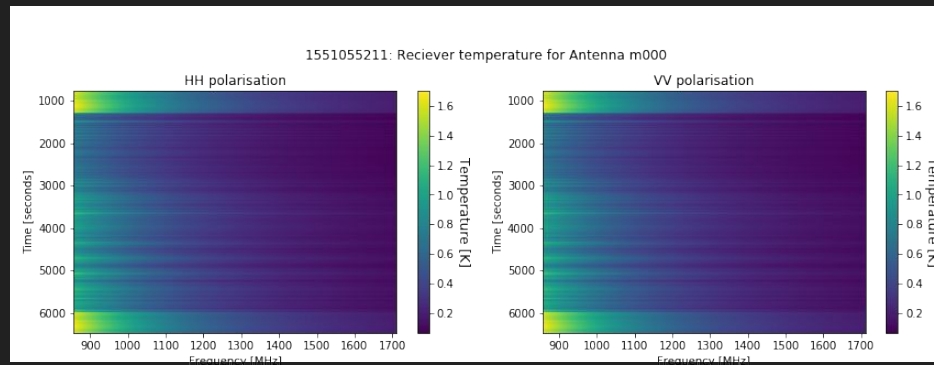
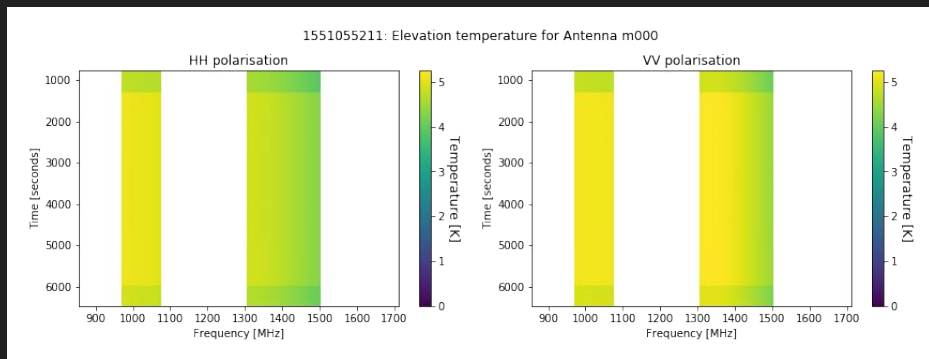
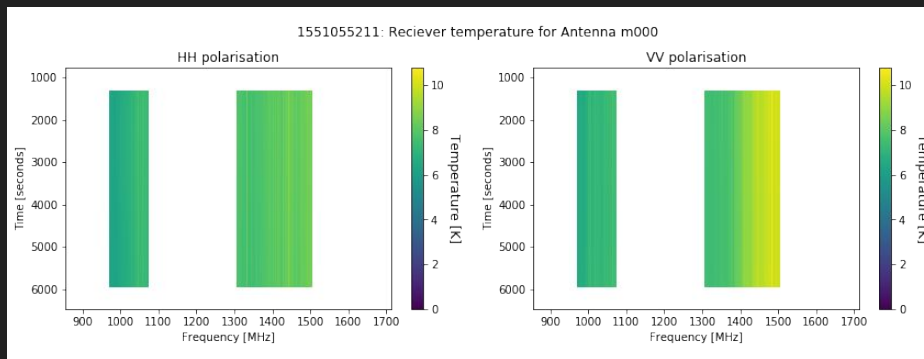
$$a2 = a1_\nu$$

Removing the average of $a2$

$$a3 = \frac{a2}{a2}$$

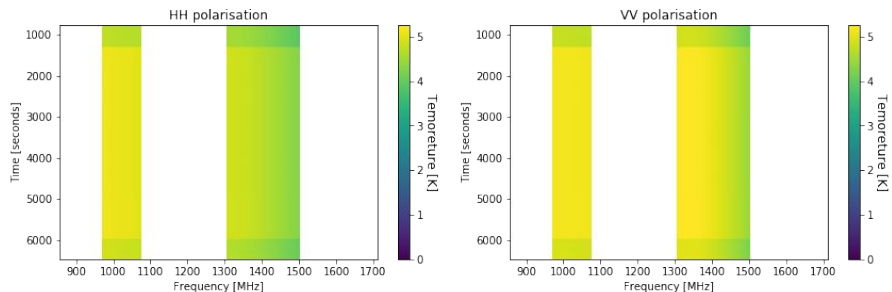
Handling MeerKAT data

Background temperature
Receiver, Elevation, Galactic, CMB

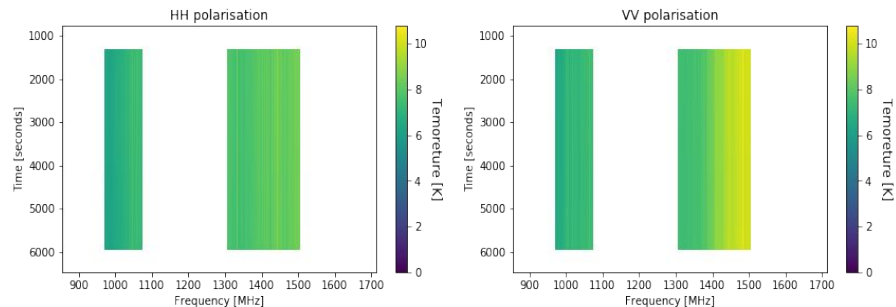


Handling MeerKAT data

1551055211: Elevation temperature for Antenna m000



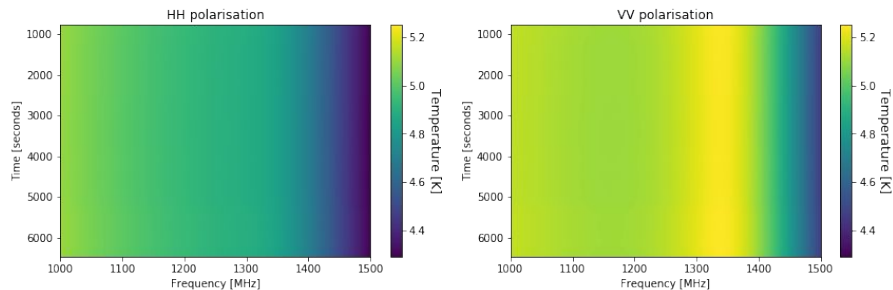
1551055211: Receiver temperature for Antenna m000



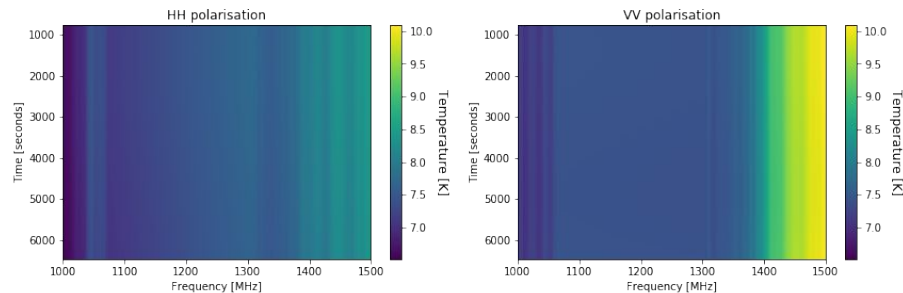
A similar method as the SCP

A code to complete the elevation temperature [Jingying]

1551055211: Elevation [Re-done] temperature for Antenna m000



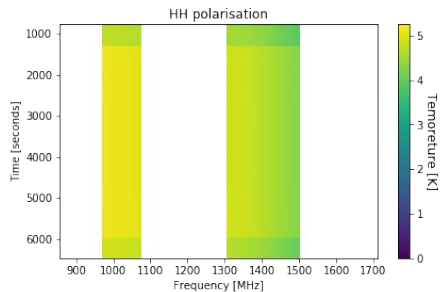
1551055211: Receiver [Interpolated] temperature for Antenna m000



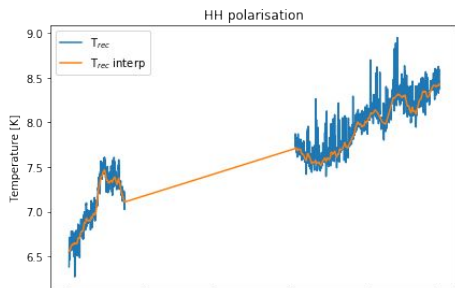
Looking at nd_s0 & Frequency choice

Handling MeerKAT data

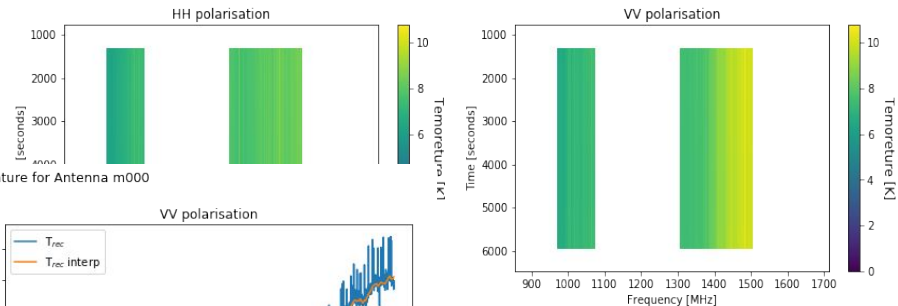
1551055211: Elevation te



1551055211: 1D receiver temperature for Antenna m000



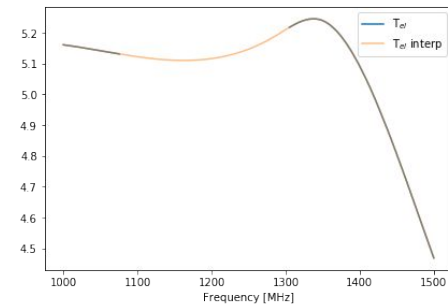
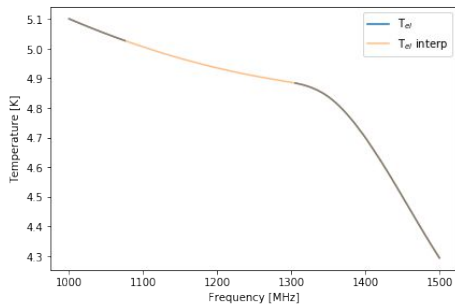
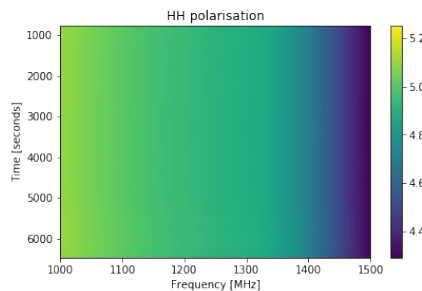
1551055211: Receiver temperature for Antenna m000



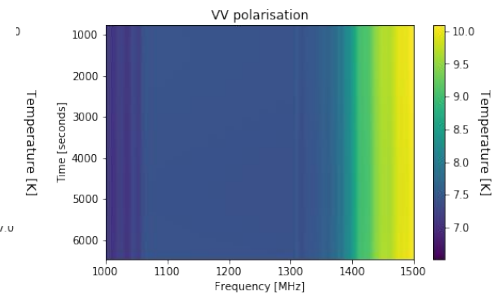
od as the SCP

A code to complete the elevati

1551055211: Elevation [Re-

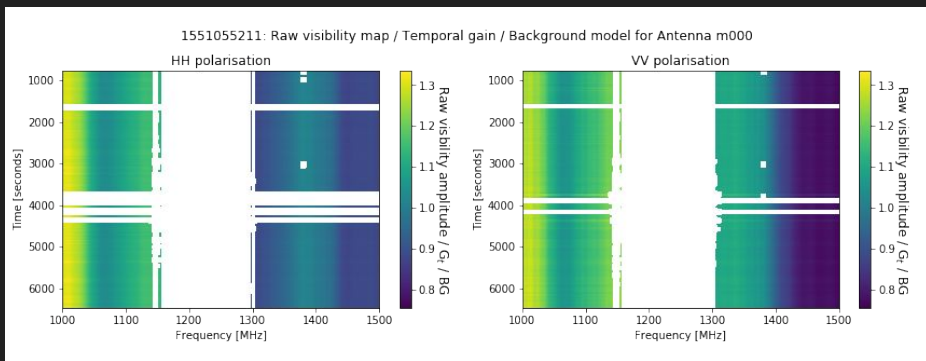


olated) temperature for Antenna m000

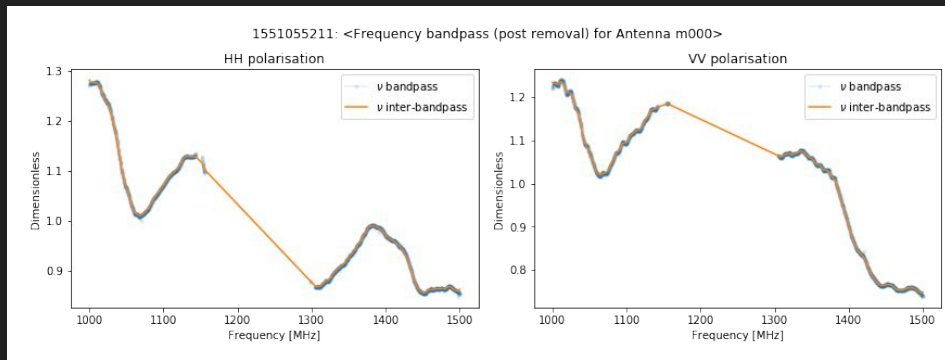


Looking at nd_s0 & Frequency choice

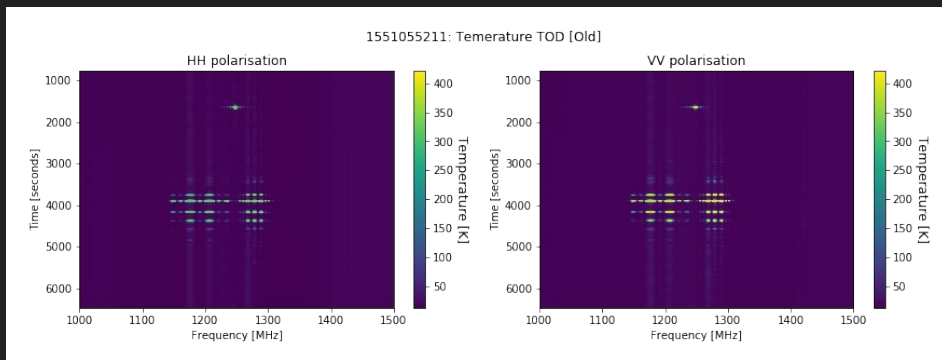
Handling MeerKAT data



Satellite infused TOD



a3 term



Satellite infused TOD

Satellite positioning & Telescope beam

Second stage:

Designed to be (radio) instrument independent

Satellite Positioning:

1. Tracking of satellites with respect to the telescope pointing
2. Identifying periods when satellite contamination is inevitable

Telescope beam:

- i. Flexible beam application

Satellite positioning

Satellite Tracking:

Make use of the python package [Skyfield](#) and the positioning data (TLE) from [CelesTrak](#)

```
STARLINK-1007
1 44713C 19074A 22144.05382058 .00007555 00000-0 50641-3 0 1447
2 44713 53.0529 286.9678 0001557 63.1676 203.9990 15.06377160 17
STARLINK-1008
1 44714C 19074B 22144.03178469 -.00031975 00000-0 -21435-2 0 1448
2 44714 53.0528 287.0862 0001356 59.5787 202.8455 15.06410800 16
STARLINK-1009
1 44715C 19074C 22144.08940847 -.00009778 00000-0 -65539-3 0 1441
2 44715 53.0543 286.8287 0001301 76.6335 198.4981 15.06396236 11
```

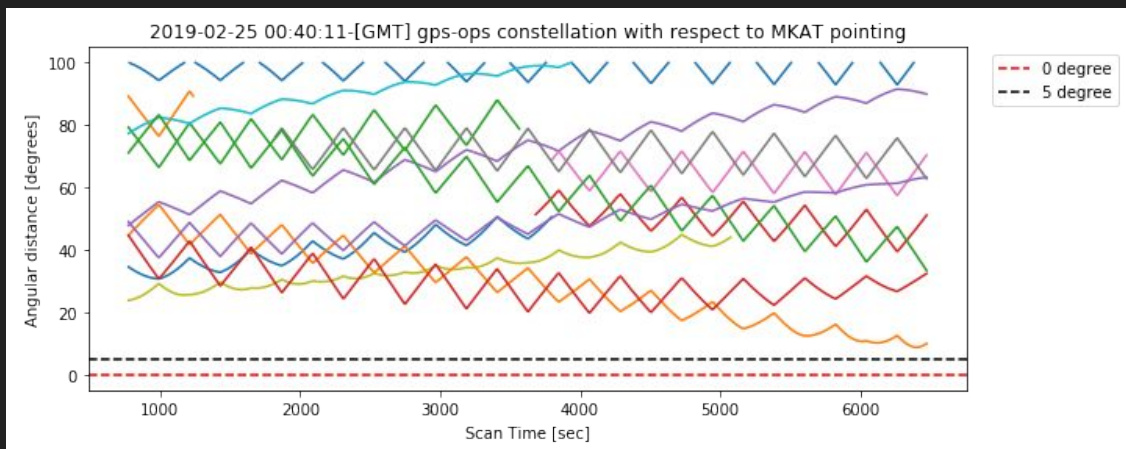
[Credit](#)

Satellite positioning

Satellite Tracking:

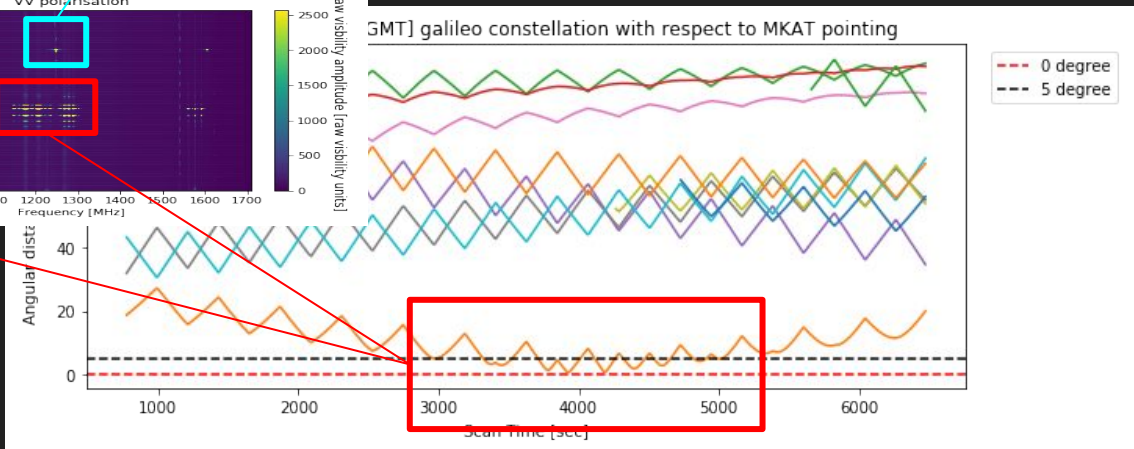
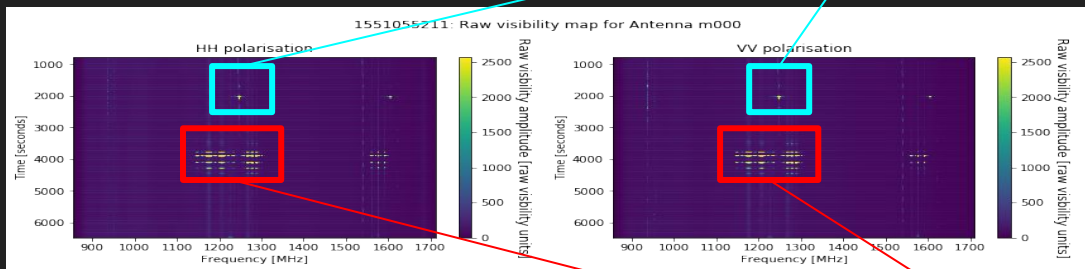
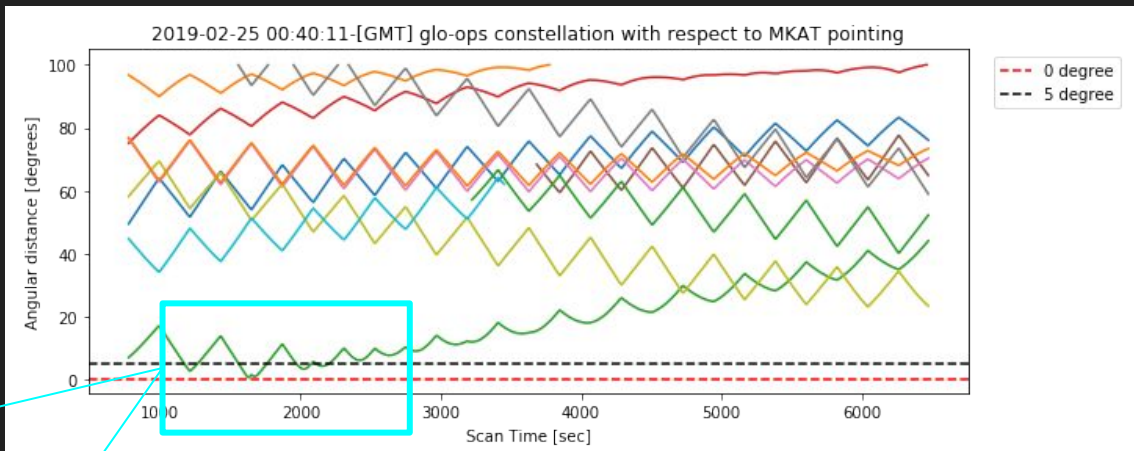
With respect to the telescope:

1. Timeline of observation [nd_s0]
2. Positional information of the telescope [Lat & Long]
3. Scanning strategy



Satellite positioning

Satellite Tracking:



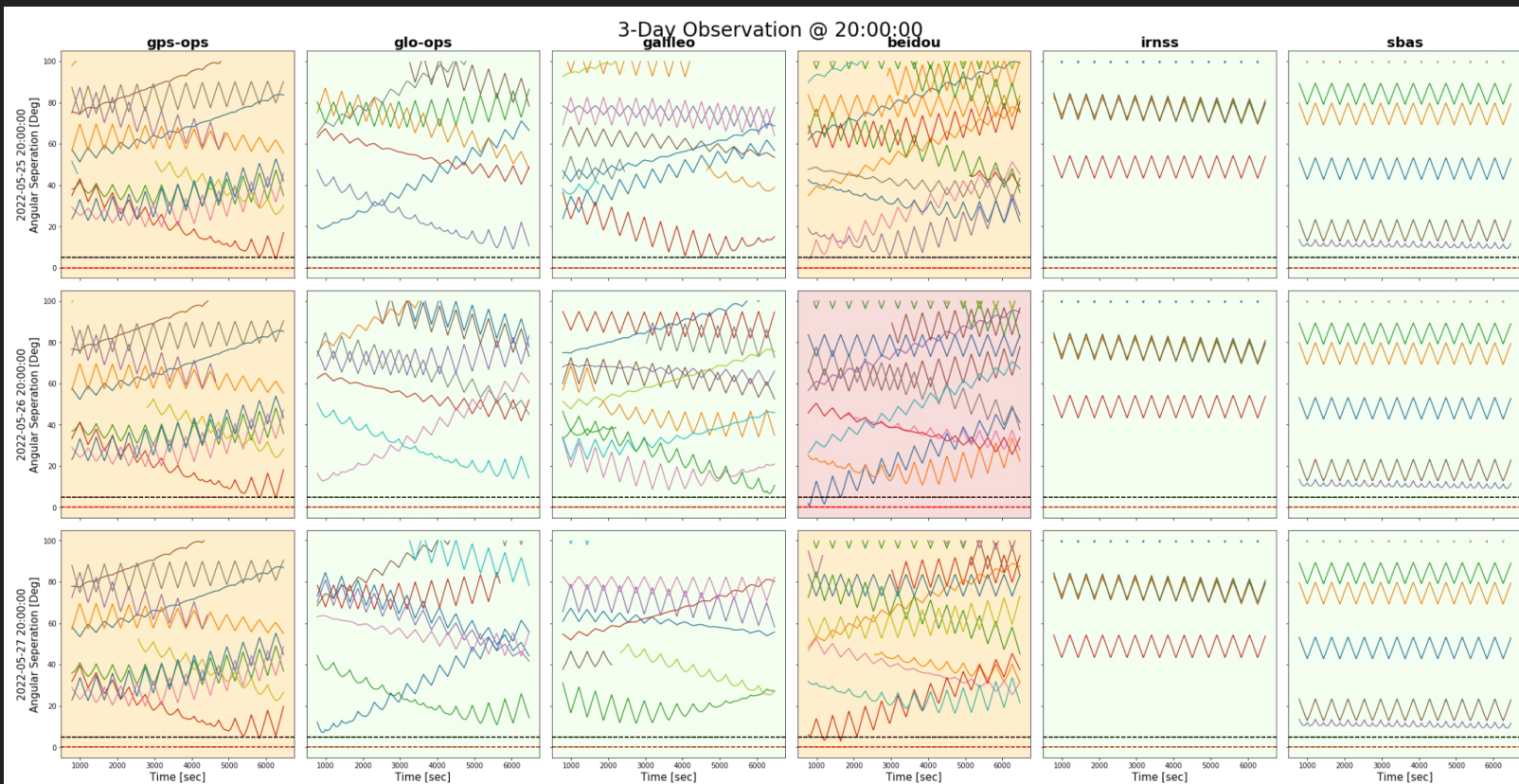
Satellite positioning

Satellite forecast

8pm@night

~ 1.5 hours

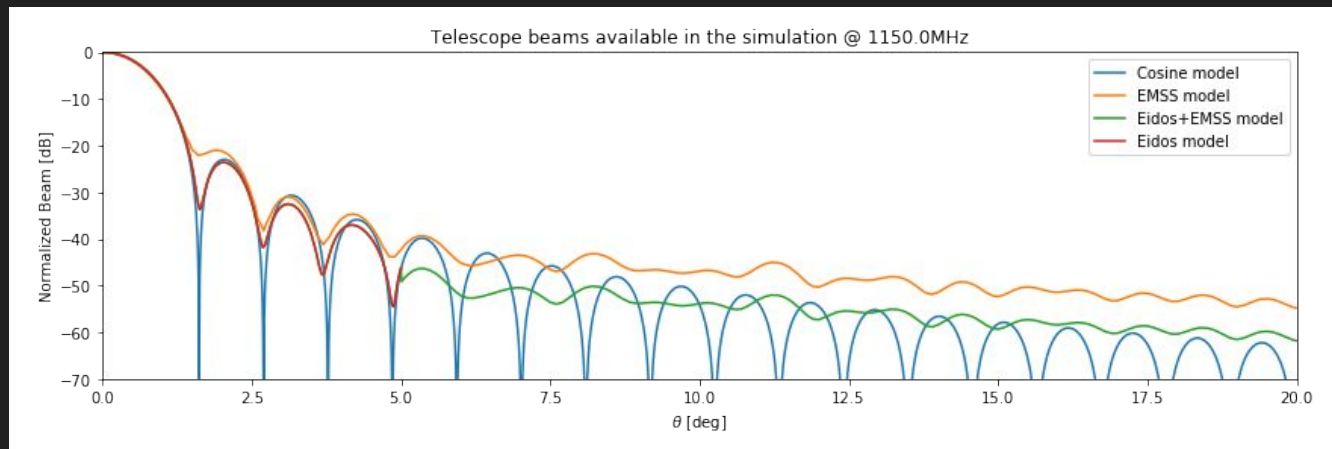
Same scan~WiggleZ



Telescope beam

Multiple beam options:

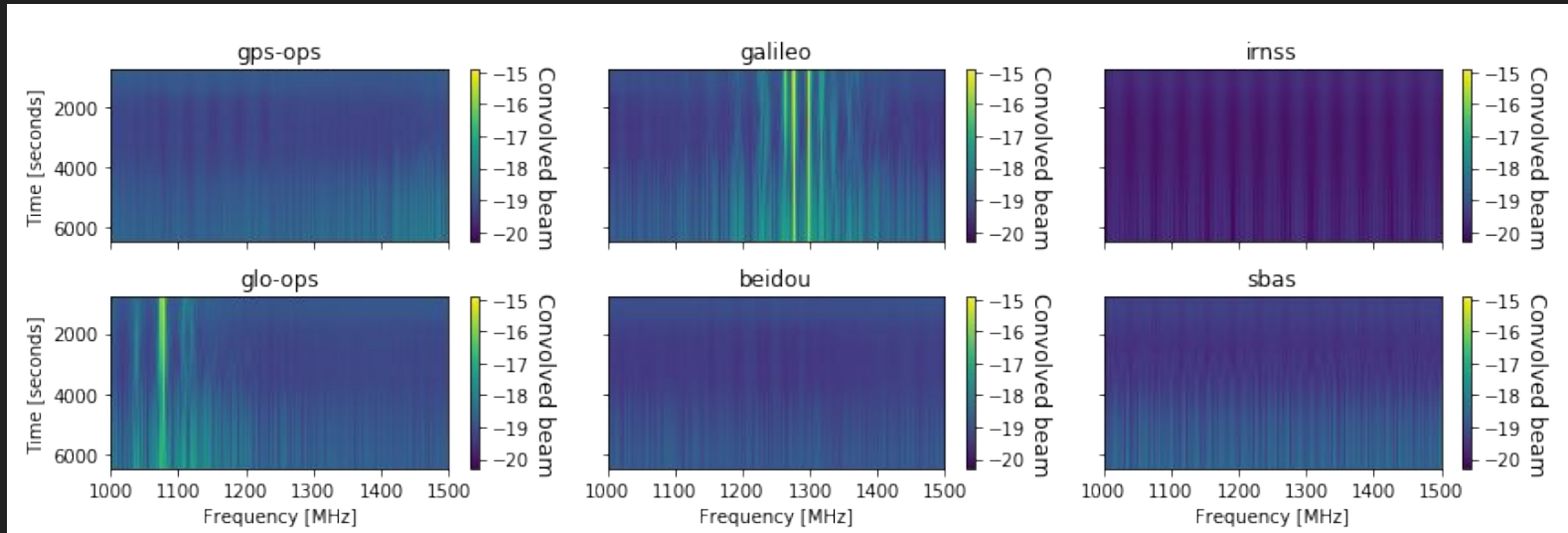
1. Eidos beam [[Asad 2019](#)]
2. Cosine beam
3. EMSS beam [SARAO engineers, **In use**]
4. Eidos+EMSS beam [**work in progress**]



Note: Assuming beam symmetry

Satellite position X Telescope beam

1. Each satellite's angular position is calculate with the telescope beam
2. We include radius information from each individual satellite.
3. Each constellation is the sum of all the individual satellite contributions



Constellation estimation & fitting

Third stage:

Simulating satellite signal

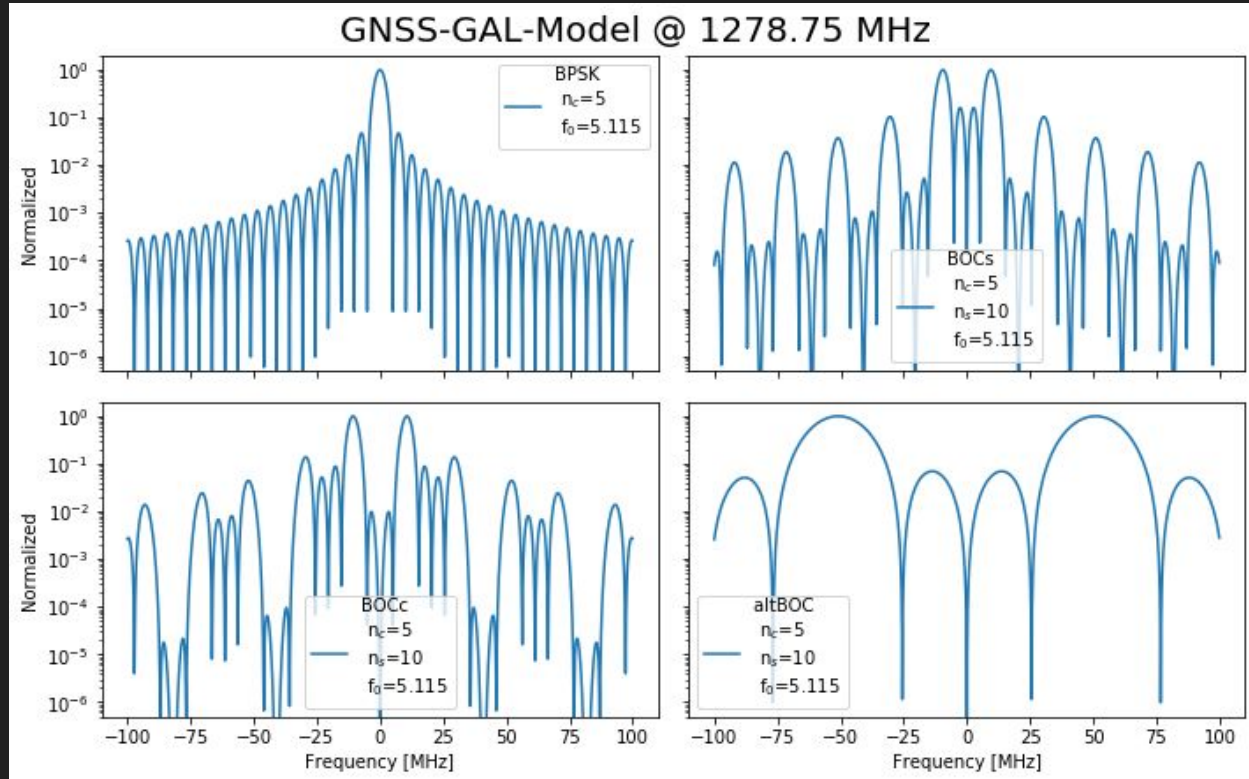
Constellation estimation:

1. Constellation signal catalogue
2. Chi Square fitting estimation

Constellation signal catalogue

	Sys	Band	Signal	Frequency[MHz]	Modulation	Rate(MHz)	P_t (dBW)	G_t (dBi)	Alpha
0	GPS	L1	P(Y)	1575.420	BPSK(10)	10.2300	13.5	13.5	1.5
1	GPS	L1	C/A	1575.420	BPSK(1)	1.0230	16.5	13.5	1.5
2	GPS	L1	L1C-D	1575.420	TMBOC(6,1,4/33)	1.0230	10.0	10.0	1.5
3	GPS	L1	M-D	1575.420	BOC(10,5)	5.1150	18.2	13.5	1.5
4	GPS	L2	P(Y)	1227.600	BPSK(10)	10.2300	10.0	10.0	1.5
5	GPS	L2	L2CM	1227.600	BPSK(1)	0.5115	10.0	10.0	1.5
6	GPS	L2	M-D	1227.600	BOC(10,5)	5.1150	16.0	13.5	1.5
7	GPS	L5	L5I	1176.450	BPSK(10)	10.2300	18.0	18.0	1.0
8	GLO	L1	L1SF(P)	1602.000	BPSK(5)	5.1100	10.0	10.0	0.6
9	GLO	L2	L2SF(P)	1245.100	BPSK(5)	5.1100	10.0	10.0	0.6
10	GLO	L2	L2OF(C/A)	1245.100	BPSK(0.5)	0.5110	10.0	10.0	0.6
11	GLO	L3	L3OC-D	1202.025	BPSK(10)	10.2300	10.0	10.0	0.6
12	GLO	L2	L2OC-D	1248.300	BPSK(1)	1.0230	13.0	12.0	0.6
13	GLO	L2	L2OC-P	1248.300	BOC(1,1)	0.5115	5.0	5.0	0.6
14	GAL	E1	OS-D(B)	1575.420	CBOC(6,1,1/11)	1.0230	10.0	10.0	0.6
15	GAL	E6	CS-P(C)	1278.750	BPSK(5)	5.1150	16.0	15.0	0.6

Satellite frequency structure



$$P_{\text{BPSK}}(\nu, n_c) = \frac{\text{sinc}(\nu/[n_c f_0])}{\sqrt{n_c f_0}}$$

Sinusoidal structure

Satellite Temperature

Beam model

Frequency structure

Fitting parameter

$$T_{\text{sat}}(\Omega, \nu) = G_r(\nu) \frac{B_r(\Omega, \nu)}{r_{\text{sat}}^2} \frac{\alpha P_{\text{sat}}}{k_b \delta \nu} \frac{c^2}{4\pi \nu^2}$$

$$P_{\text{sat}} = \frac{G_t P_t}{4\pi}$$

Distance of satellite

Transmitted gain

Transmitted power

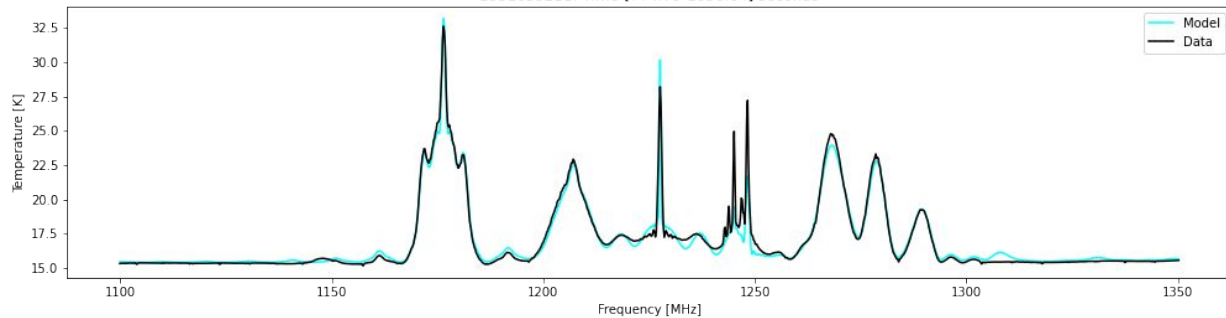
$$\chi^2 = \frac{\text{Data} - T_{\text{sat}}}{\sigma^2}$$

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{\text{Data}^2}{\delta t \delta \nu}$$

Chi square fitting & Radiometer Eq

Constellation estimation: Fitting alpha terms

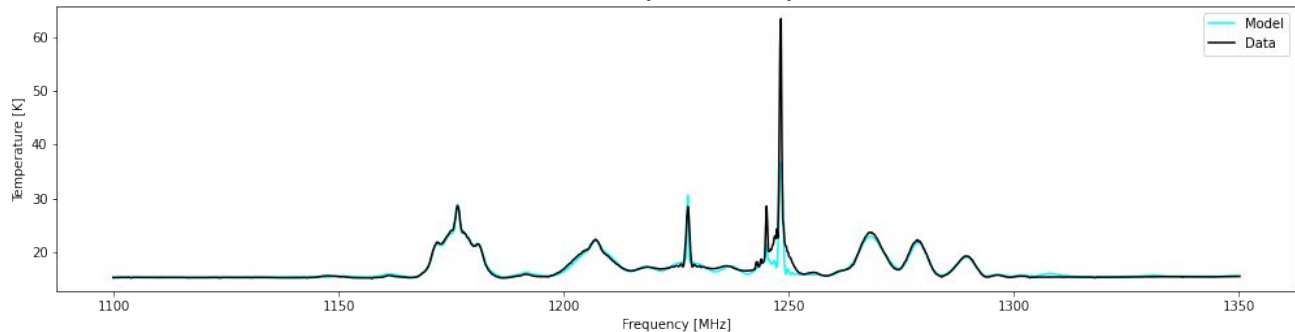
1551055211: Time-[774.75-1036.64] seconds



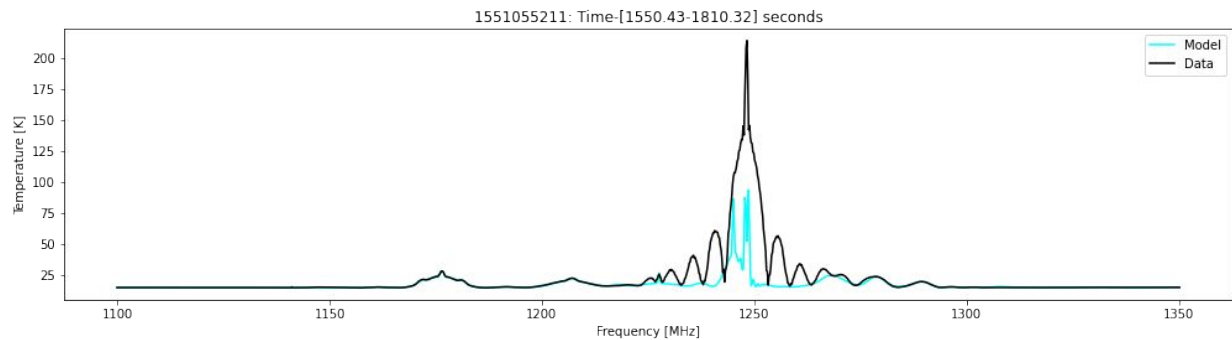
Fitting in smaller time chunks

Far from satellite intrusion

1551055211: Time-[1034.64-1294.53] seconds



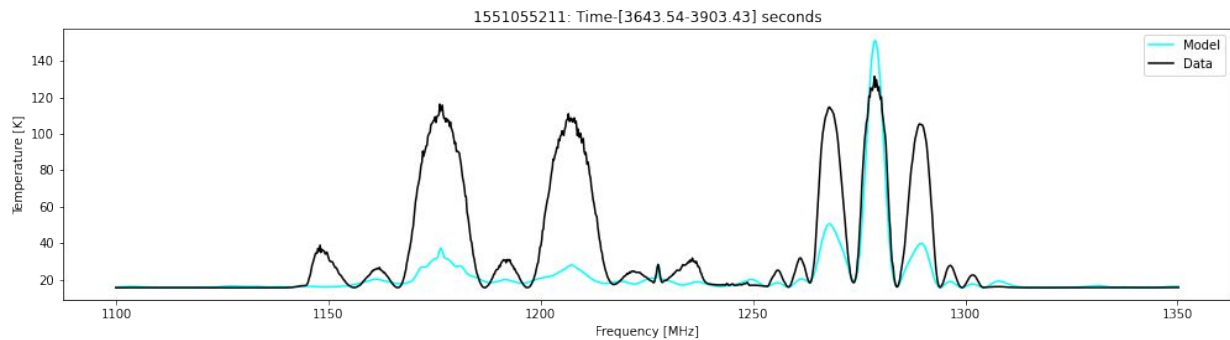
Constellation estimation: Fitting alpha terms



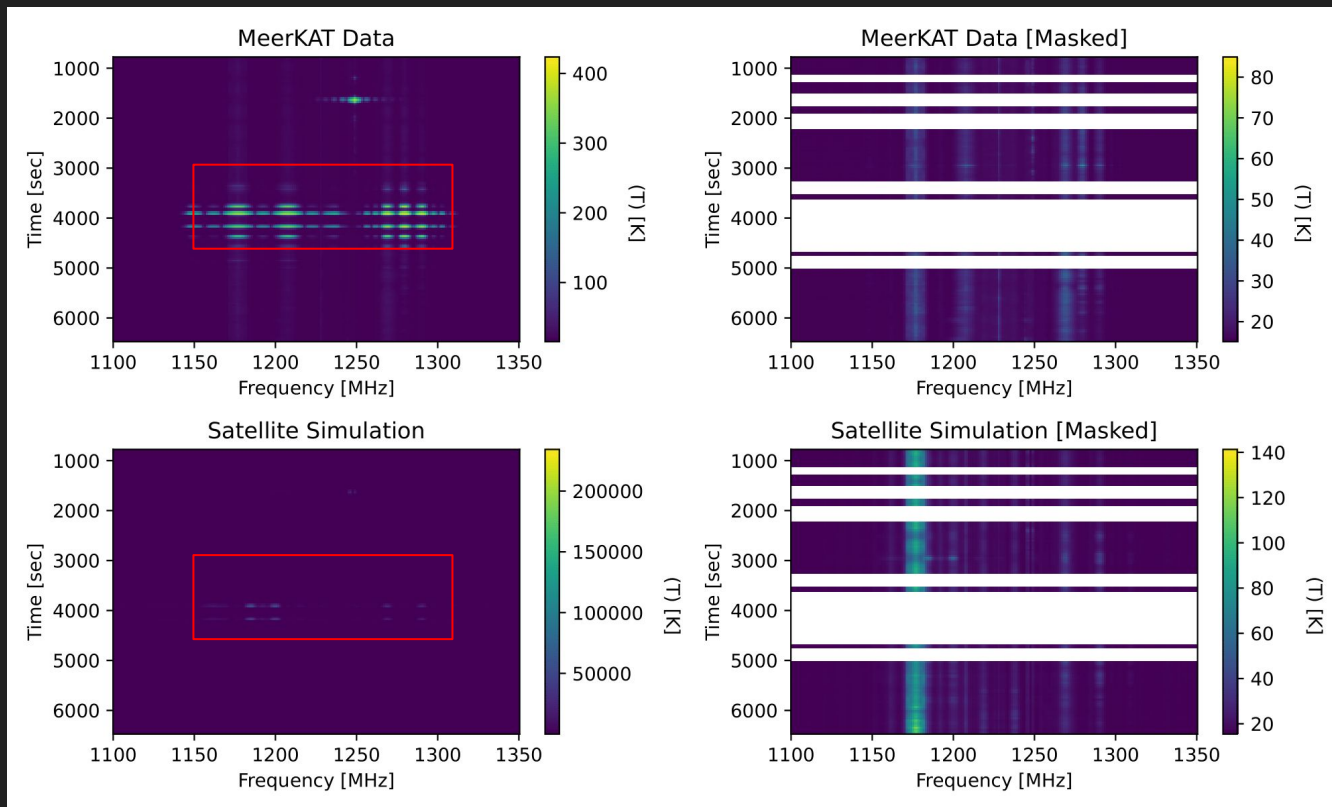
Fitting in smaller time chunks

Near satellite intrusion

Simulation struggles to understand saturation

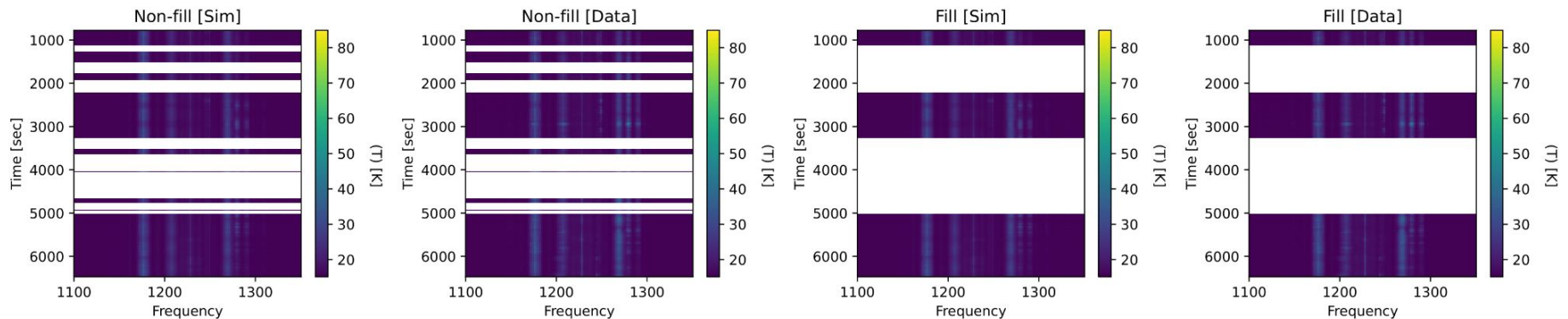


Constellation estimation: Masking data



Constellation estimation: Masking data in degrees

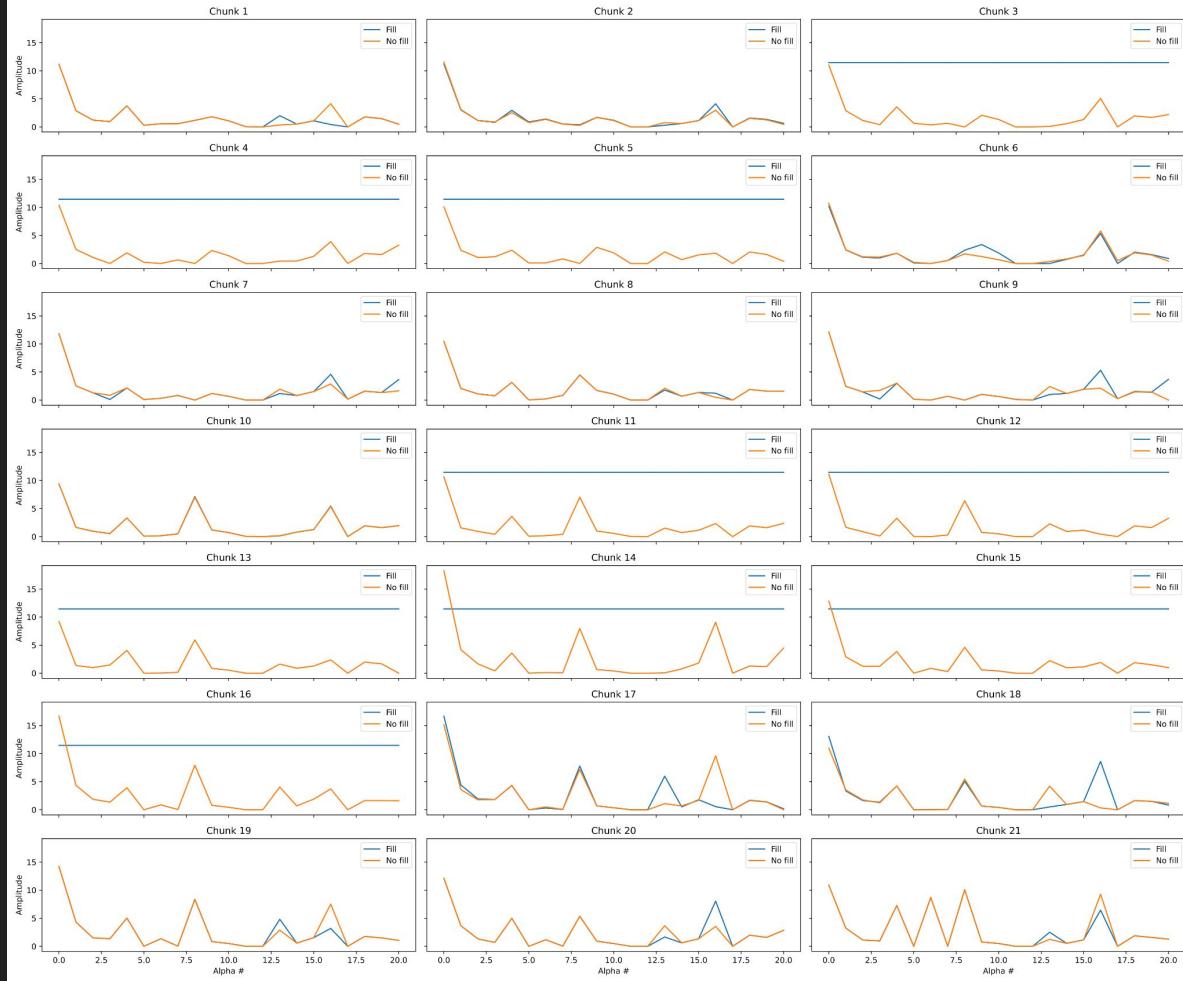
TOD waterfall for 5 deg



Constellation estimation: Masking data in degrees



Comparison of alpha between [Fill & Non-fill] masks for 5 deg



Comparing the fitting parameter

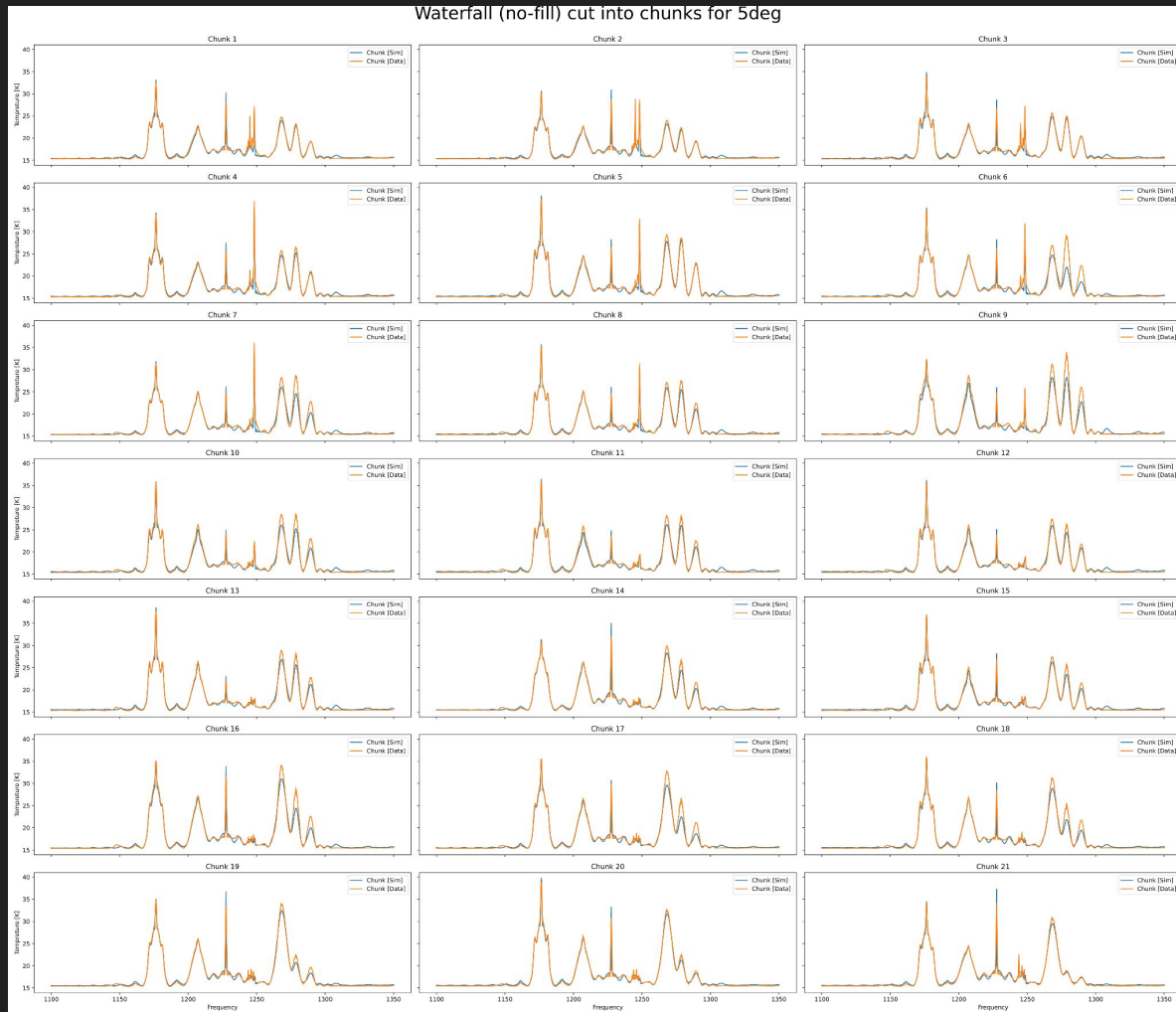
We looked at shuffling the parameters

Comparing the non-fill mask

Structure overlay is present

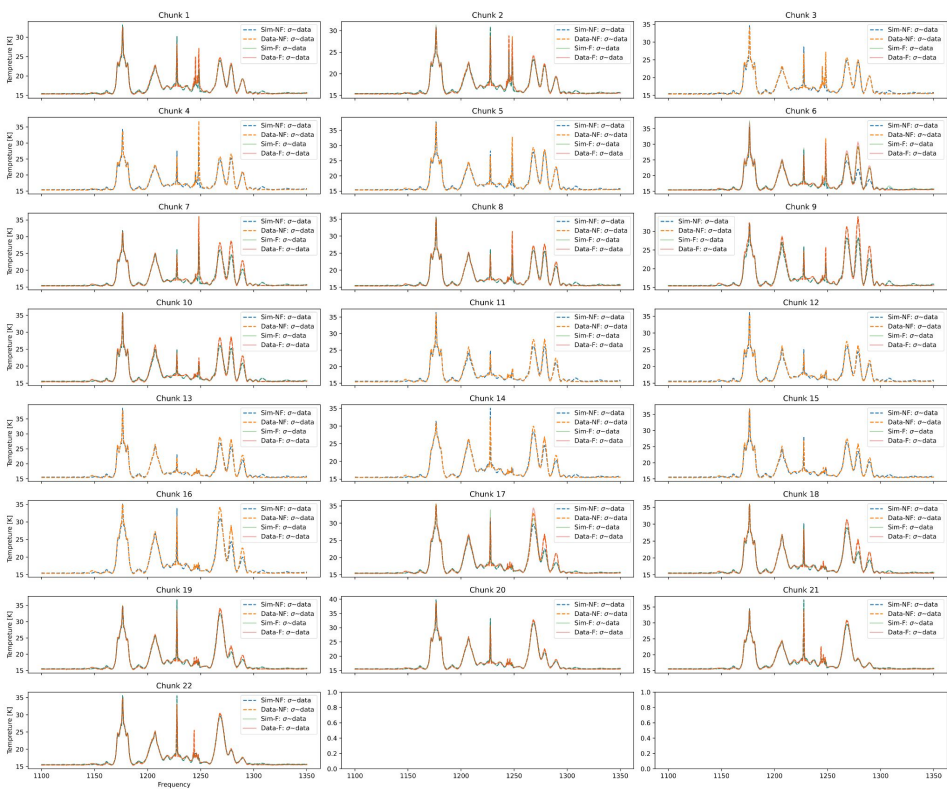
Amplitude offset at the peaks

Waterfall (no-fill) cut into chunks for 5deg

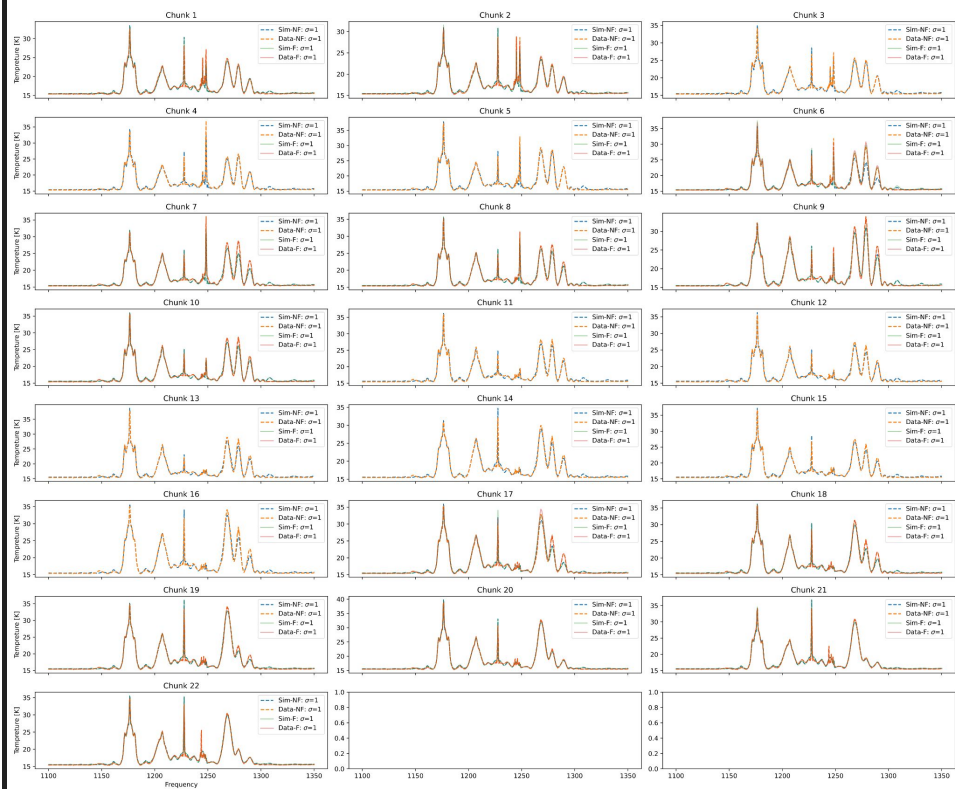


Constellation estimation: Varying the radiometer eq

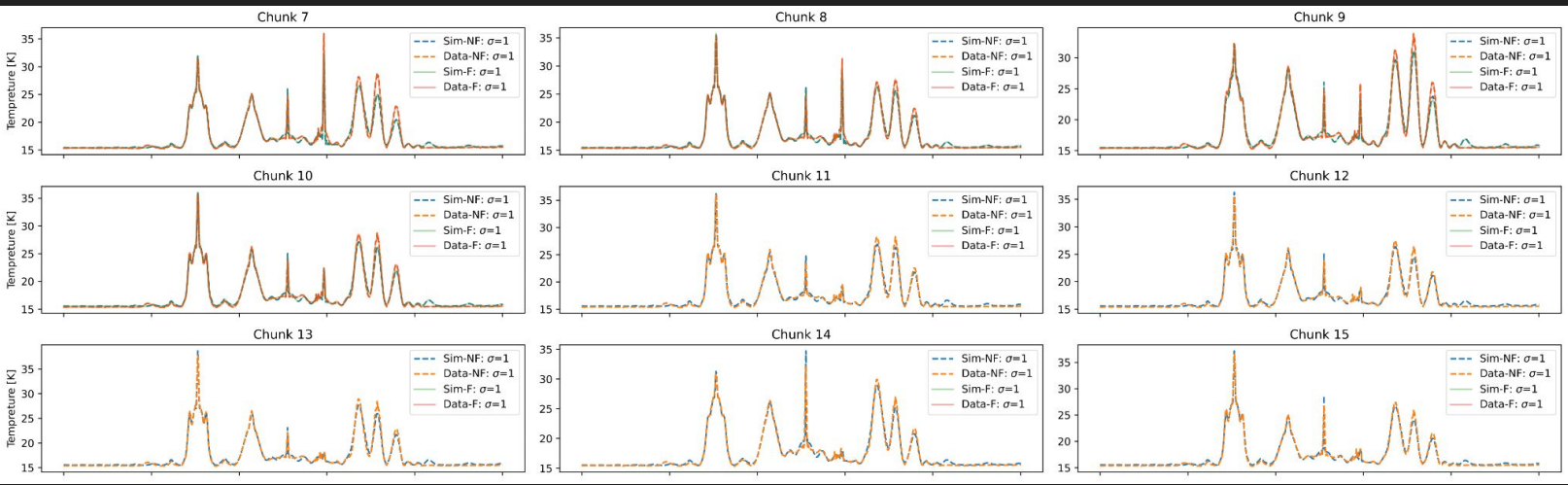
Chunk waterfall for $\sigma=\text{data}$ and mask [F&NF] for 5deg



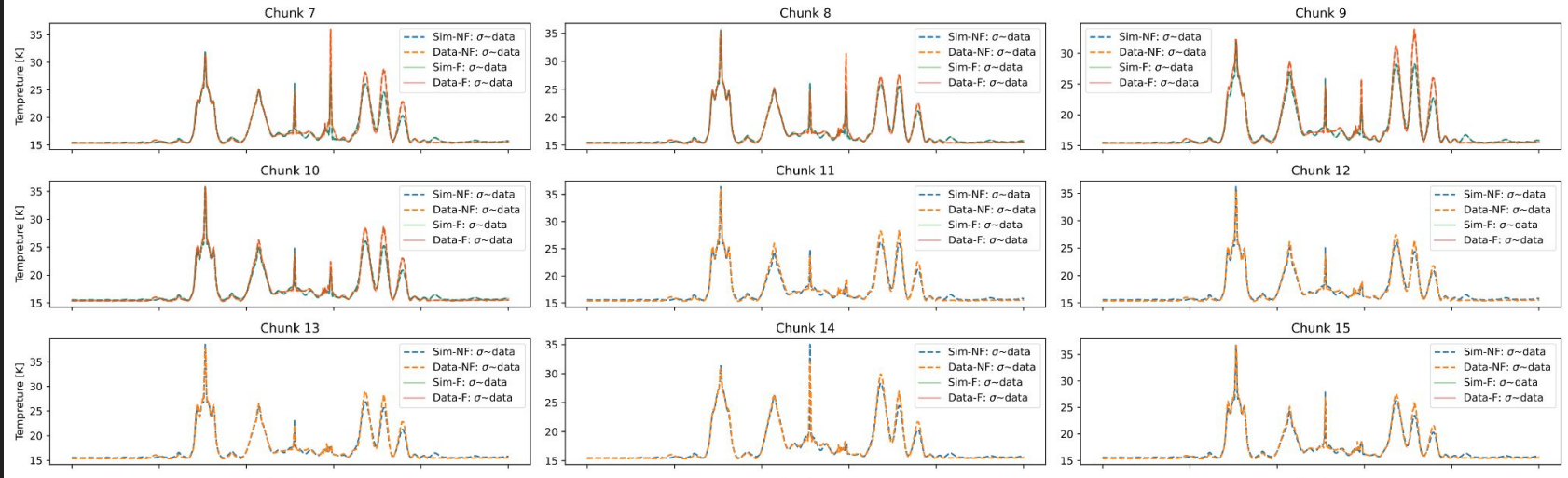
Chunk waterfall for $\sigma=1$ and mask [F&NF] for 5deg



sigma=1

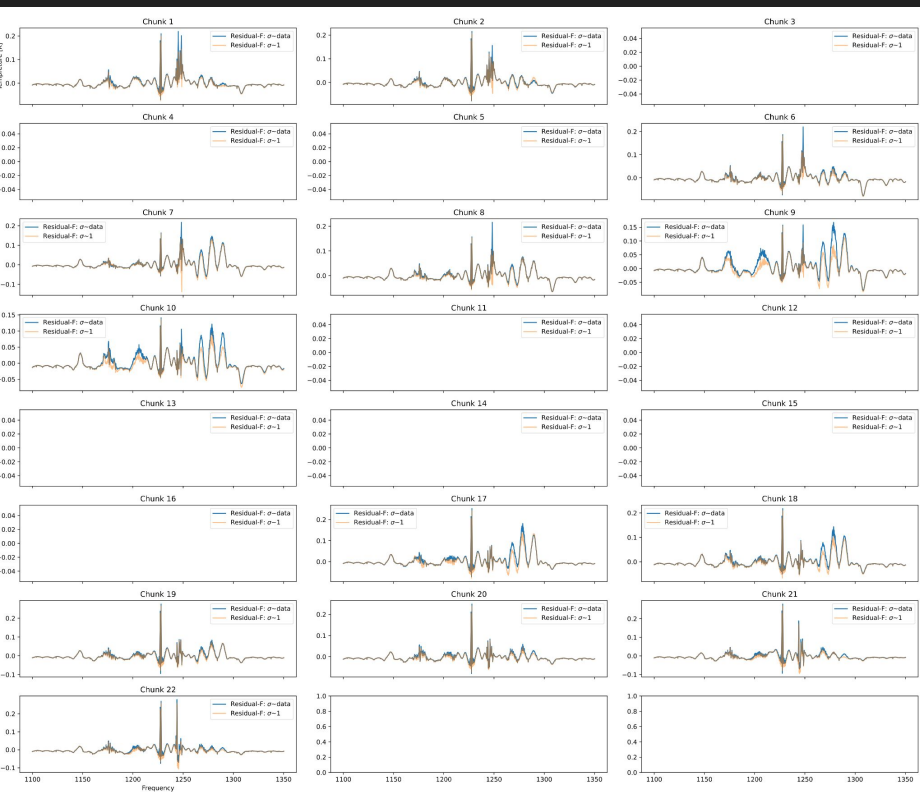


sigma=data



Constellation estimation: Residuals of variation

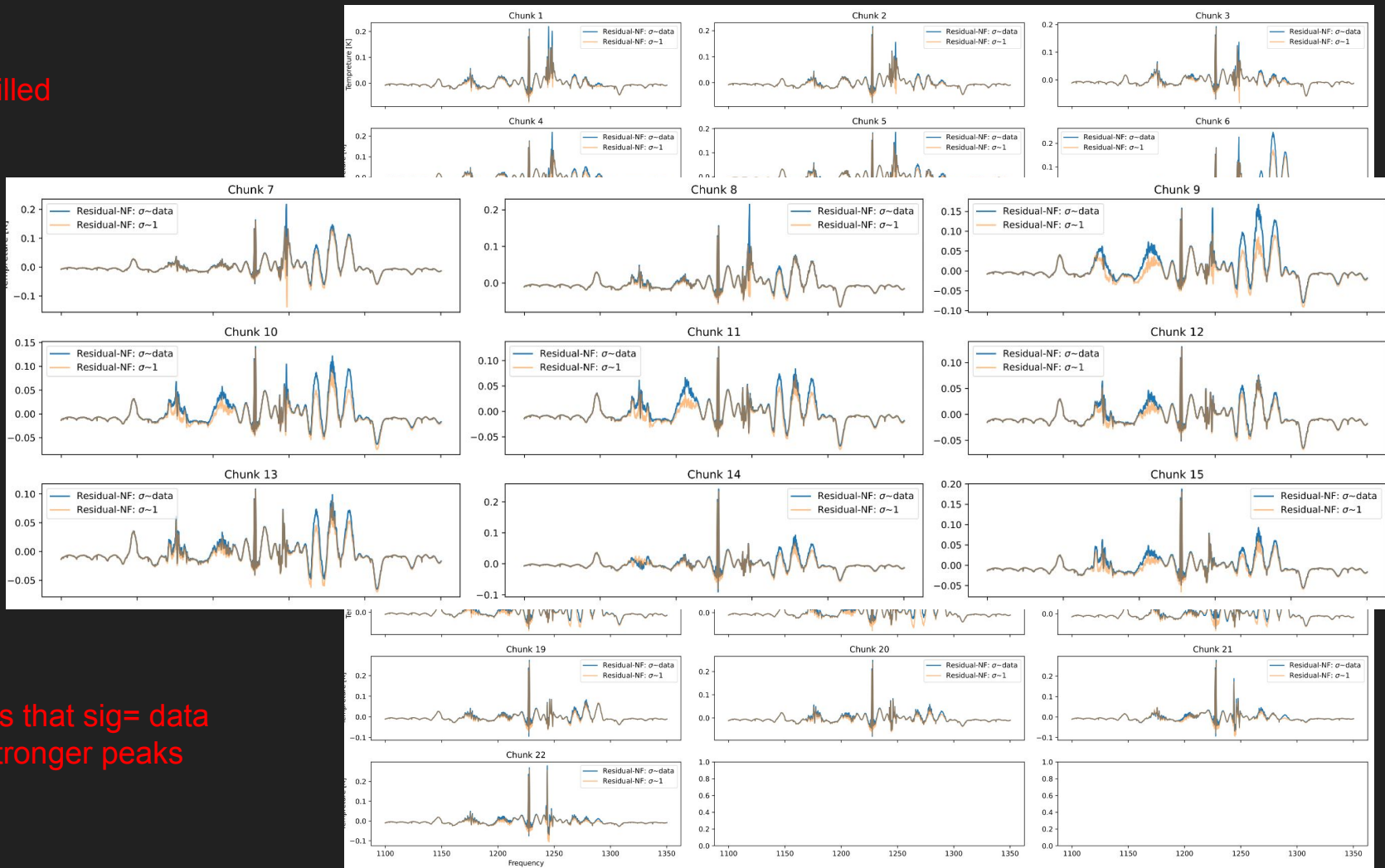
Mask is filled out



Mask is not filled out



Mask non-filled



sig=1 shows that sig= data dampens stronger peaks

Discussion

- Alpha parameters partially fit the simulation to the data.
- When satellites cross the pointing, the simulation cannot fit well to the data.
- Masking
- Chi-square with $\text{sig}=1$ resulted in a small improvement over all chunks
- Possible concerns:
 - Delay timing between the satellite position in the simulations versus in the data might have an offset.
 - The alphas are fitting more than the satellite power, fitting for the background level as well.
 - Out of band emission.
- Looking at applying a new frequency bandpass.

The other method.....

