

SMOS Calibration: Approach and Expectations

M. Martin-Neira, M. Brown, M. Suess
European Space Agency

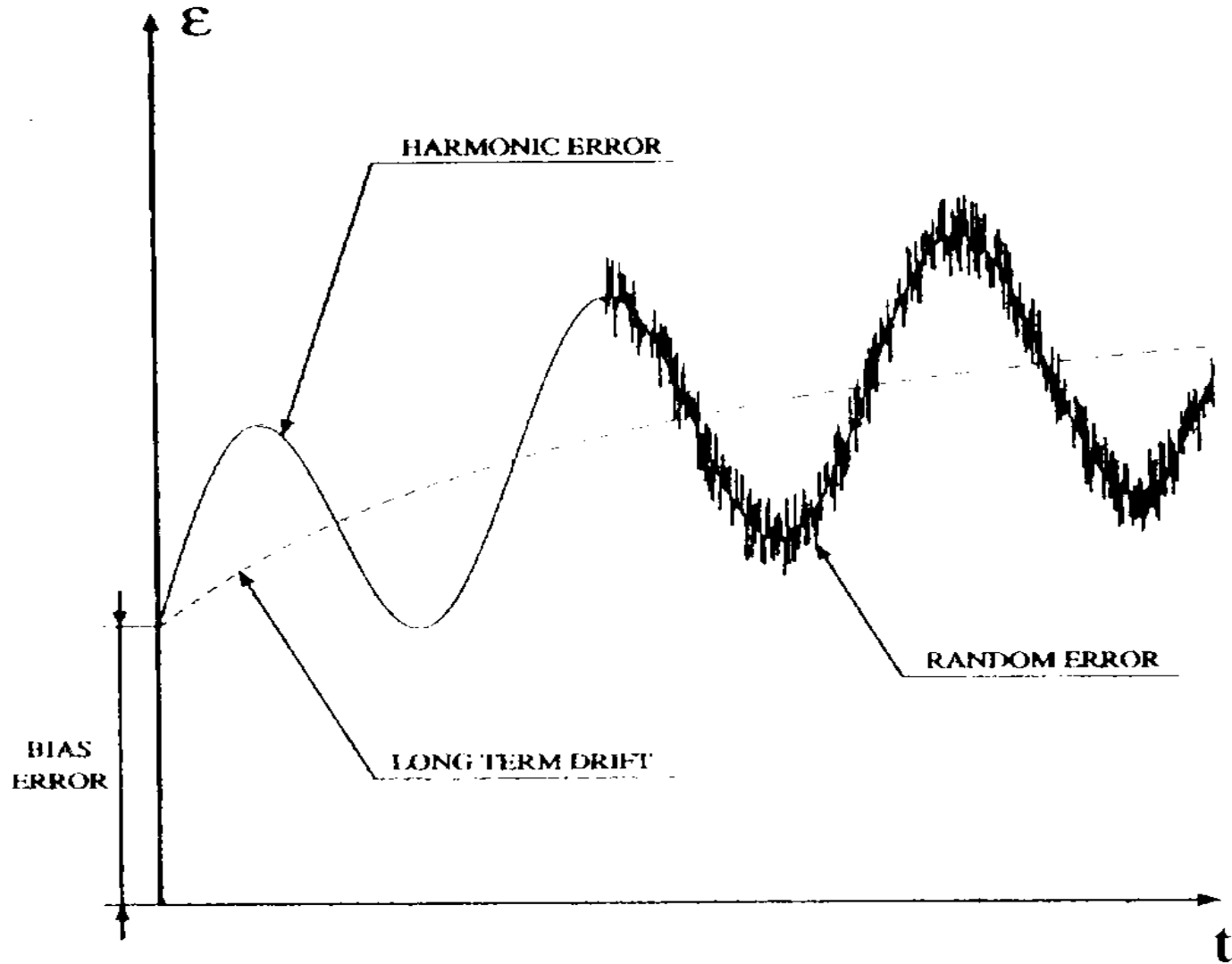
J. Closa
EADS-CASA Espacio

I. Corbella, F. Torres
Polytechnic University of Catalonia (UPC)

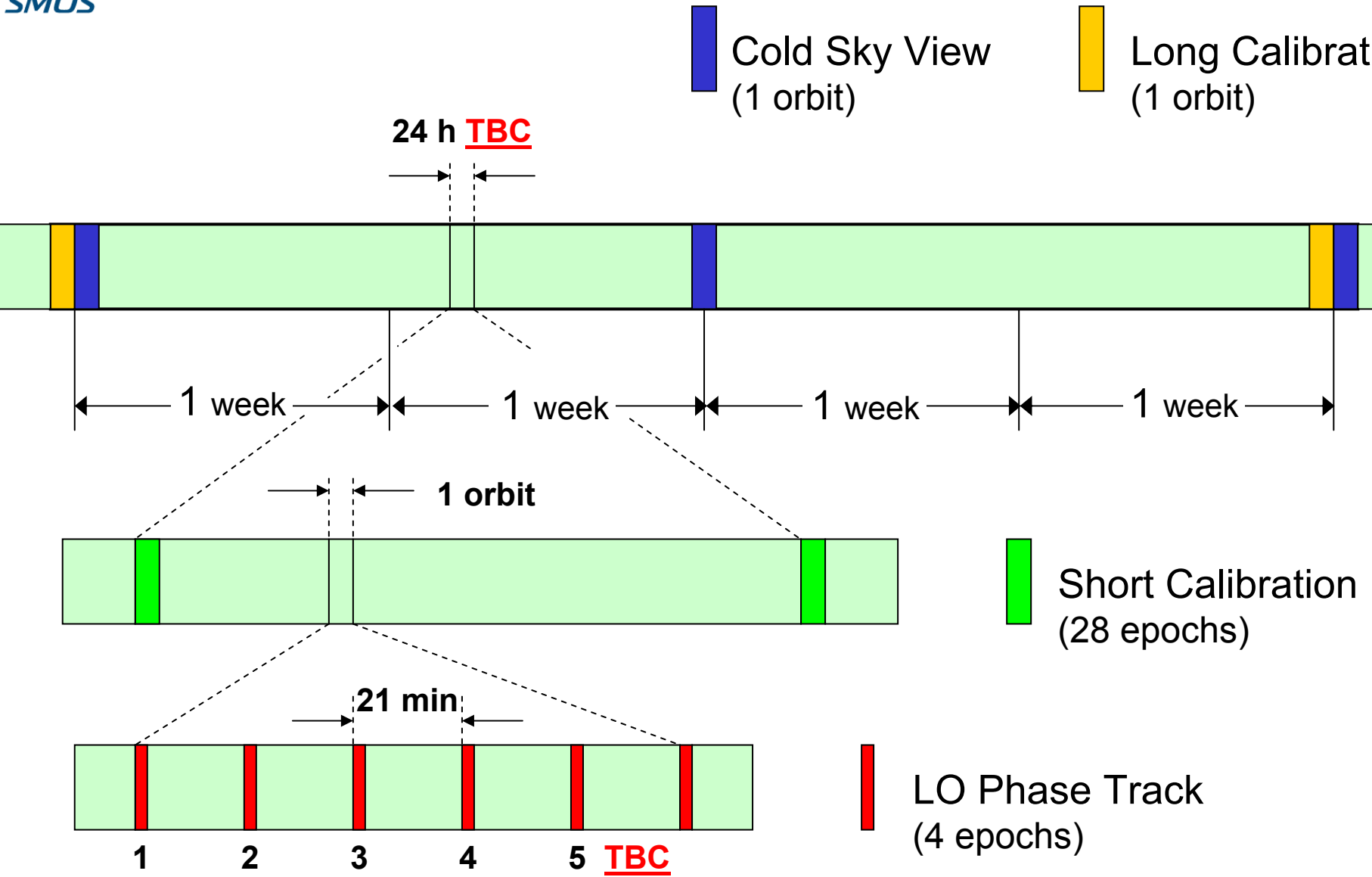
A. Colliander, J. Lemmetyinen, J. Kainulainen
Helsinki University of Technology (TKK)

Contents:

- Calibration Approach
- Visibilities Calibration
- Level-1 Processor Overview
- Performance over Temperature
- Sensitivity



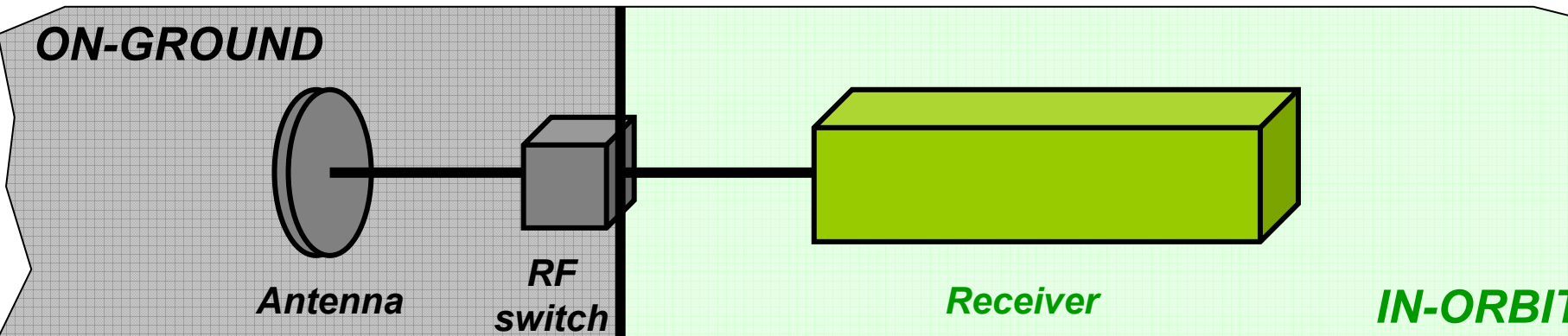
Calibration Approach



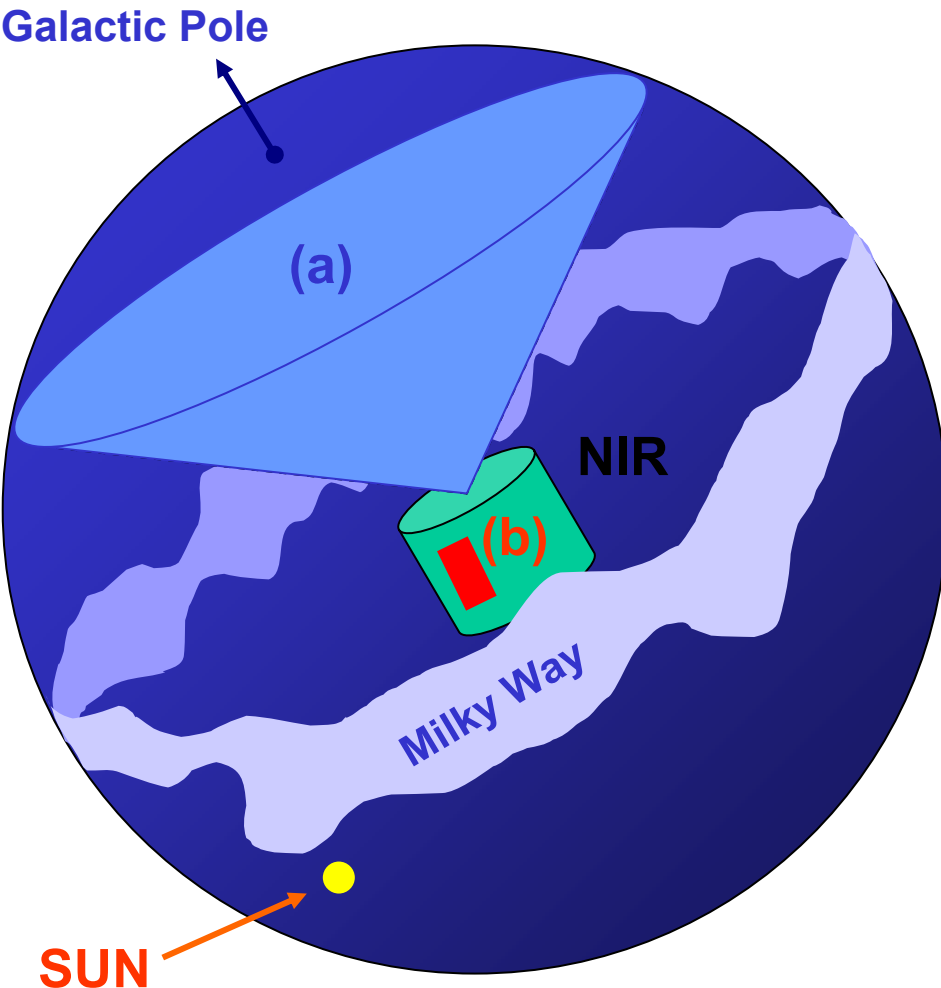
The in-orbit calibration of SMOS is based on the following strategy:

- 1.- Calibration of NIR and CAS based on 2 calibration standards;
- 2.- Injection of known signals (CAS) right after the antenna (through an RF switch);
- 3.- On-ground characterisation of antenna and RF switch;
- 4.- Temperature correction of all parameters in-between NIR/CAS calibrations.

ASSUMPTION: ANTENNA PATTERNS REMAIN CONSTANT



Calibration Standards used in SMOS



SMOS is using two standards for in-orbit calibration:

a) The Cold Sky

Realised by inertial pointing of MIRAS to the galactic poles.

b) One Matched Load

It is placed in NIR.
Its physical temperature is ambient and is well monitored.

Visibility Key Elements

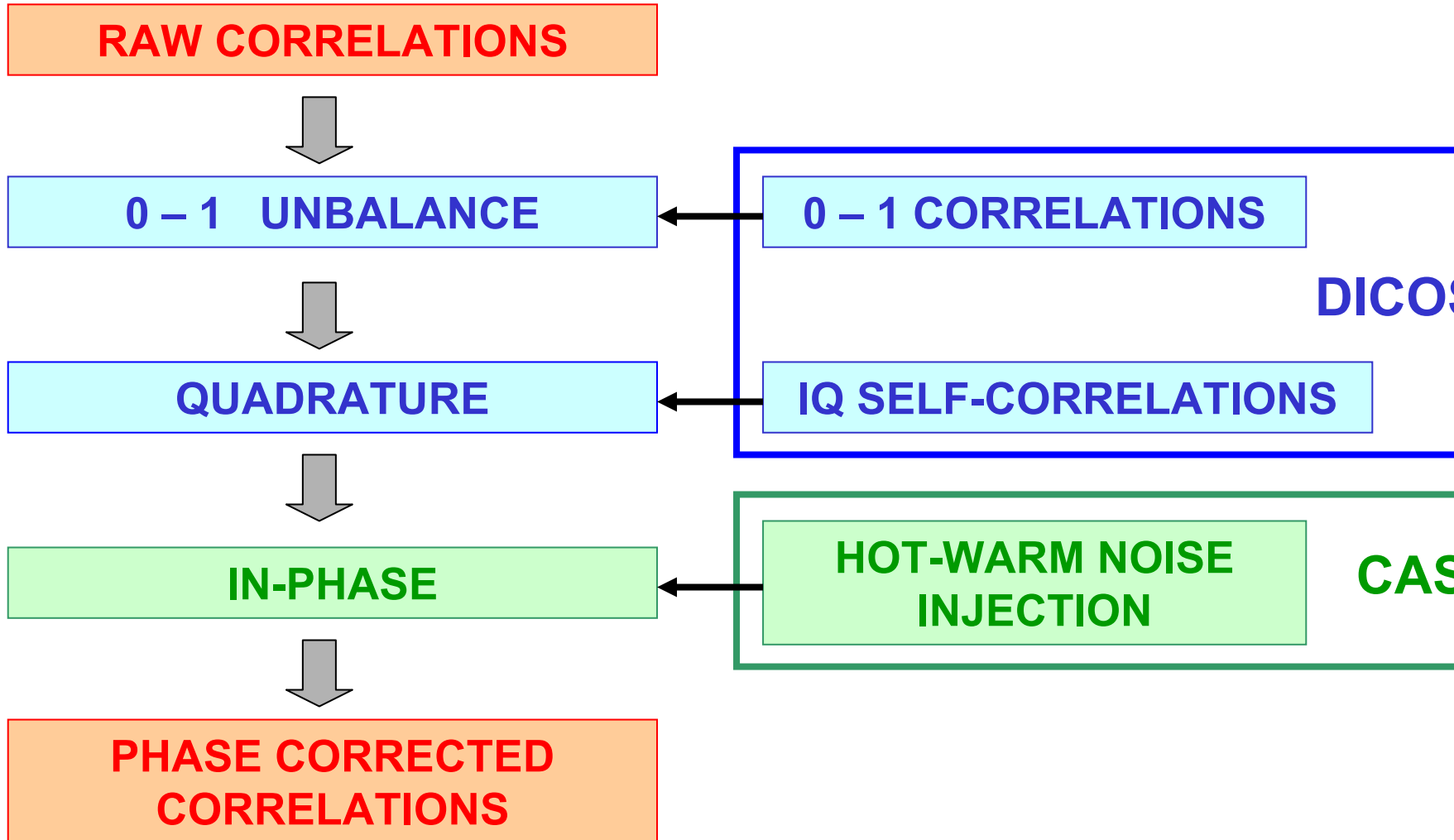
$$V_{kj} = \frac{\sqrt{T_{sys,k} T_{sys,j}}}{G_{kj}} M_{kj}$$

NIR
↓

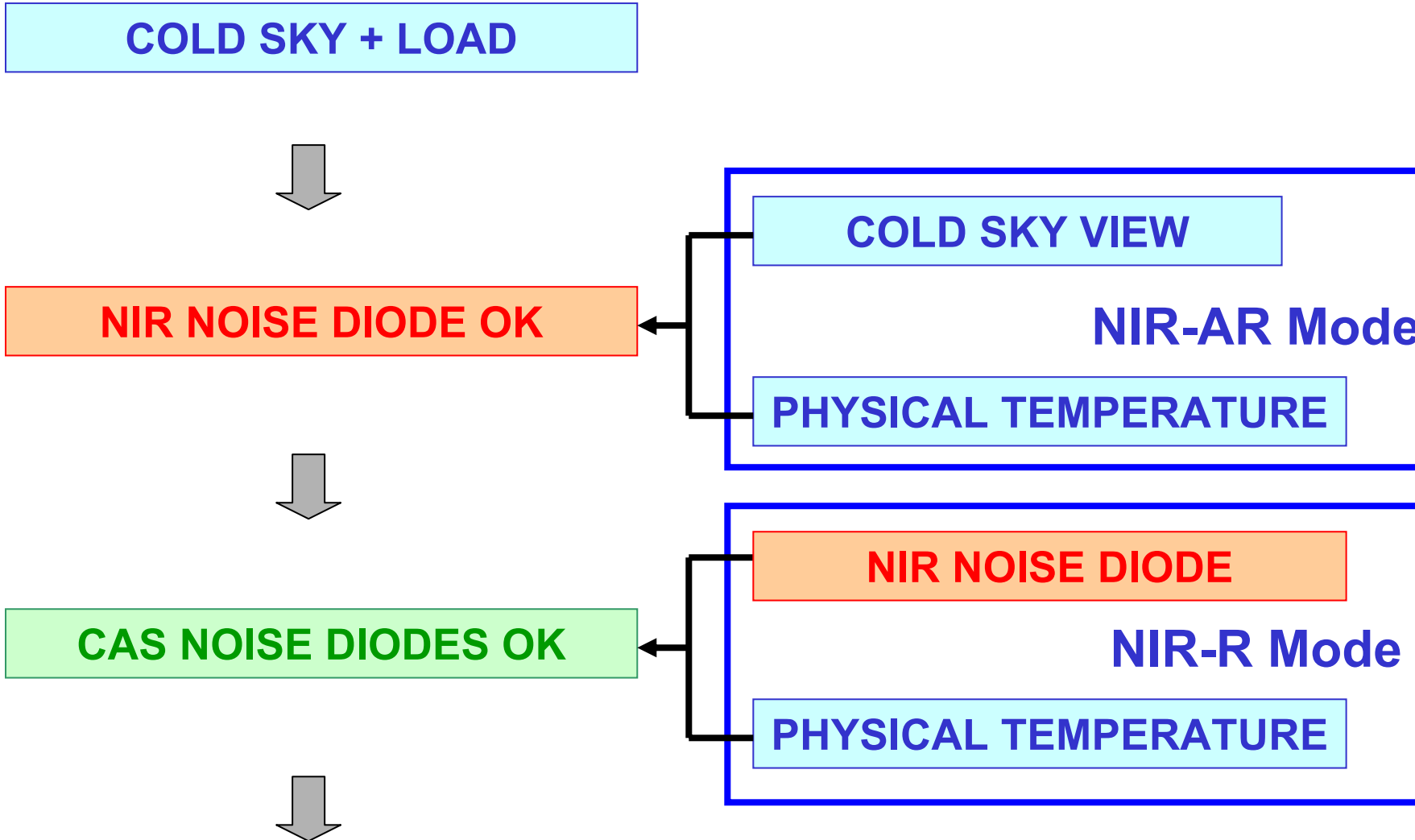
PMS
↑

← Correlations

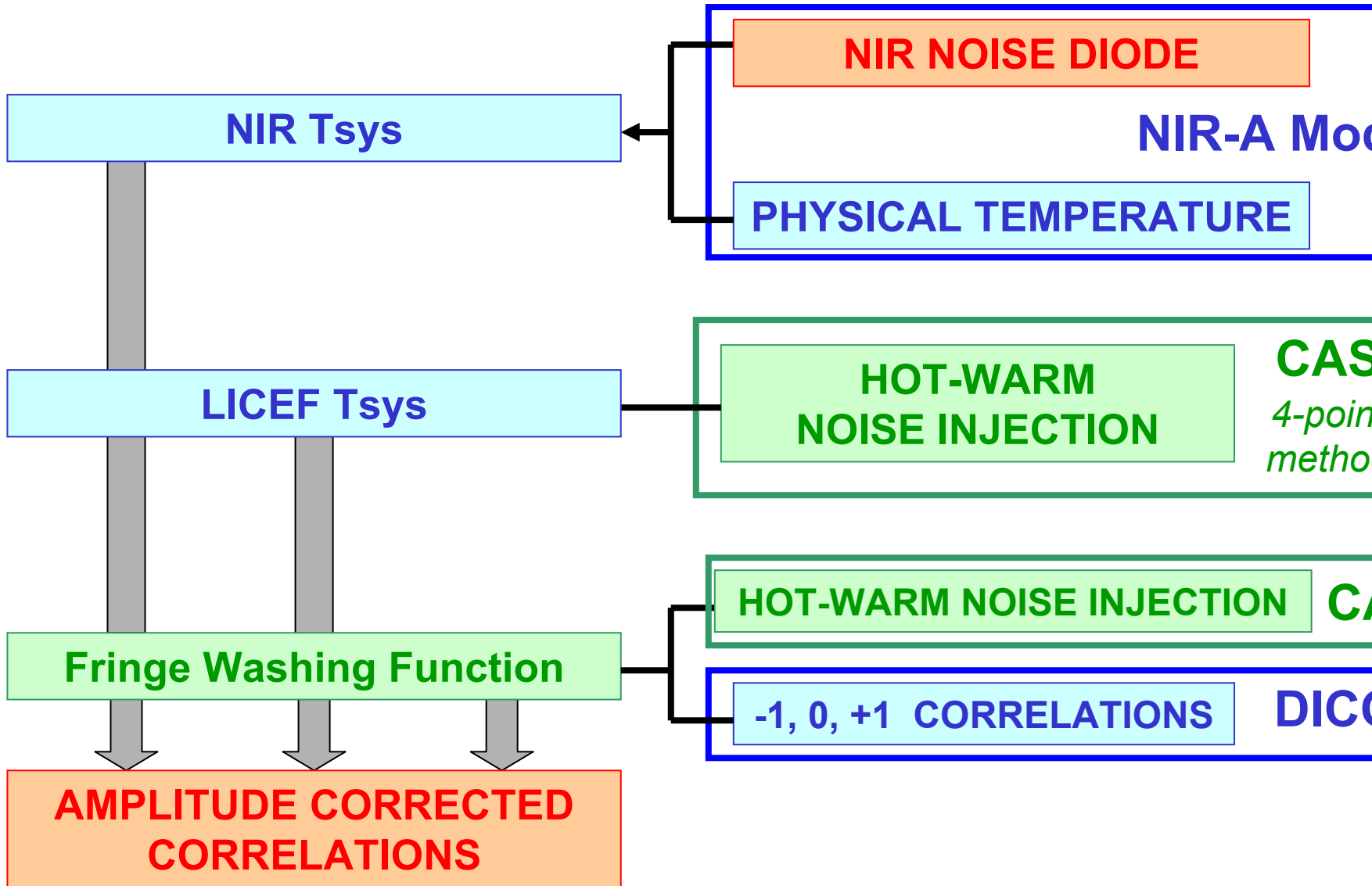
Phase Calibration



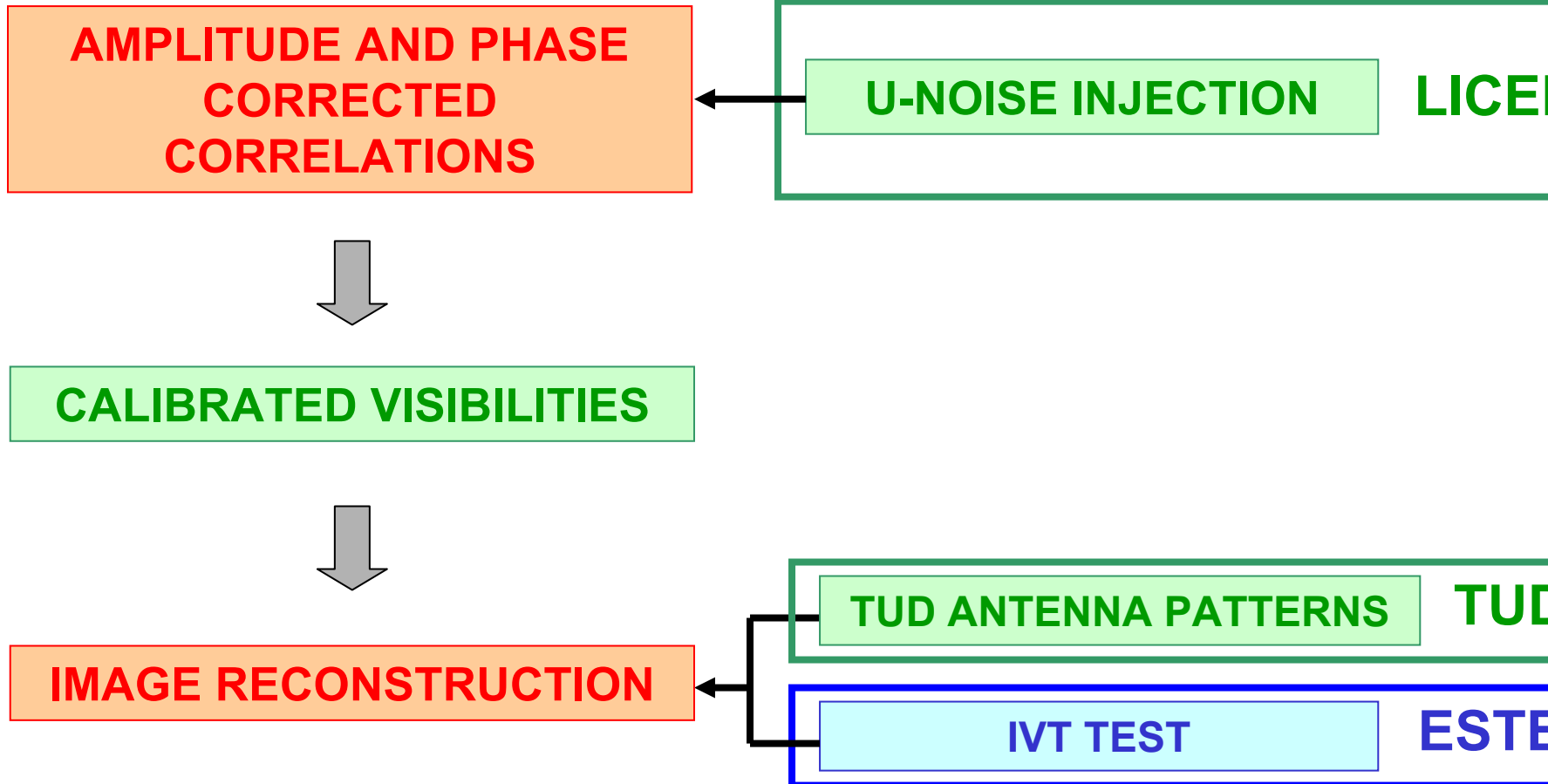
Amplitude Calibration (I)



Amplitude Calibration (II)



Offset Calibration



Corbella Equation

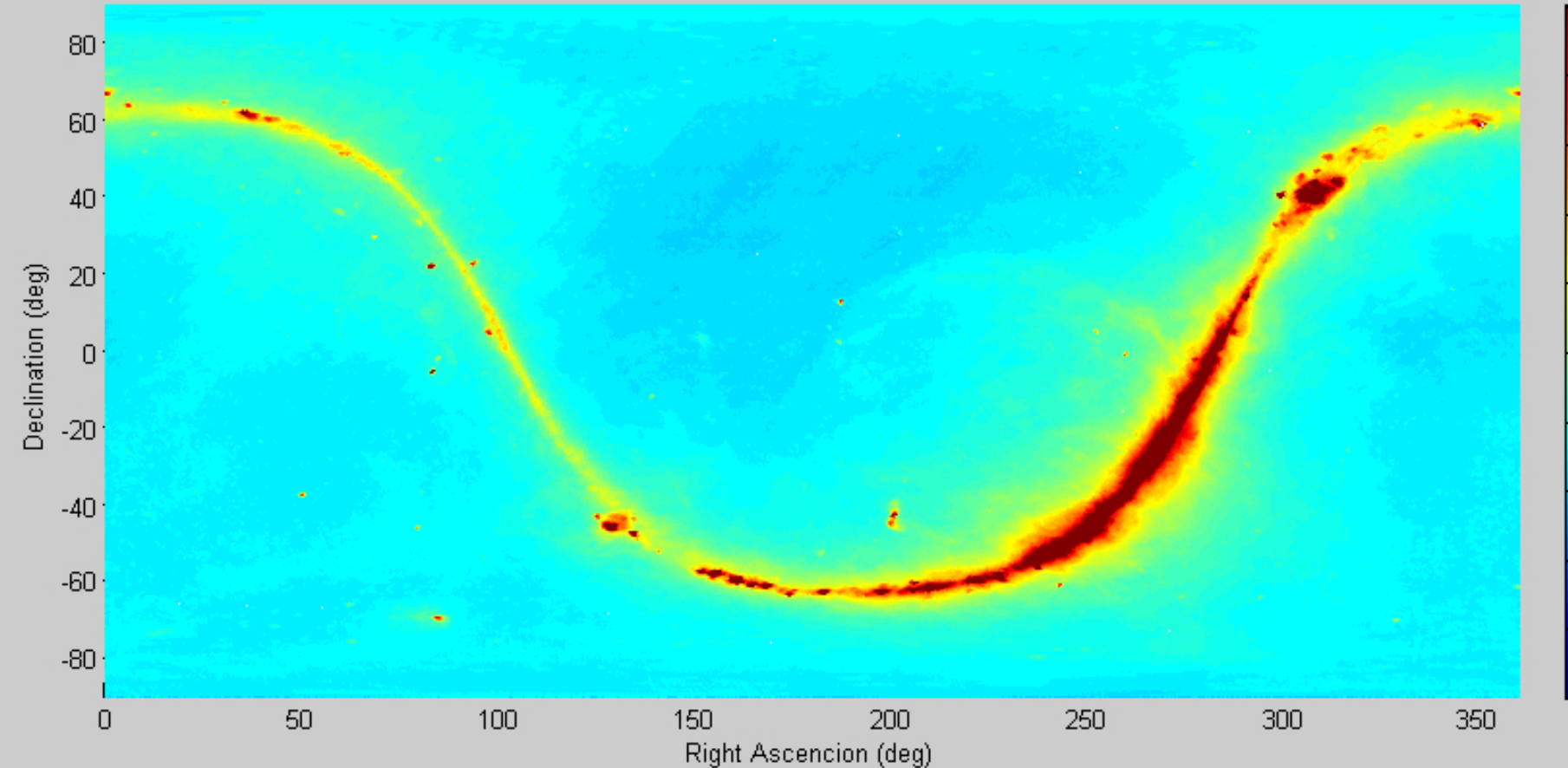
$$V_{ij}^{pq}(u, v) = 2k_B \sqrt{B_i B_j} \alpha_i \alpha_j \frac{1}{\sqrt{\Omega_i^p \Omega_j^q}} \times$$

$$\iint_{\xi^2 + \eta^2 \leq 1} F_{n,i}^{\alpha,p}(\xi, \eta) F_{n,j}^{\beta,q*}(\xi, \eta) \frac{T_B^{\alpha\beta}(\xi, \eta) - \delta_{\alpha\beta} T_r}{\sqrt{1 - \xi^2 - \eta^2}}$$

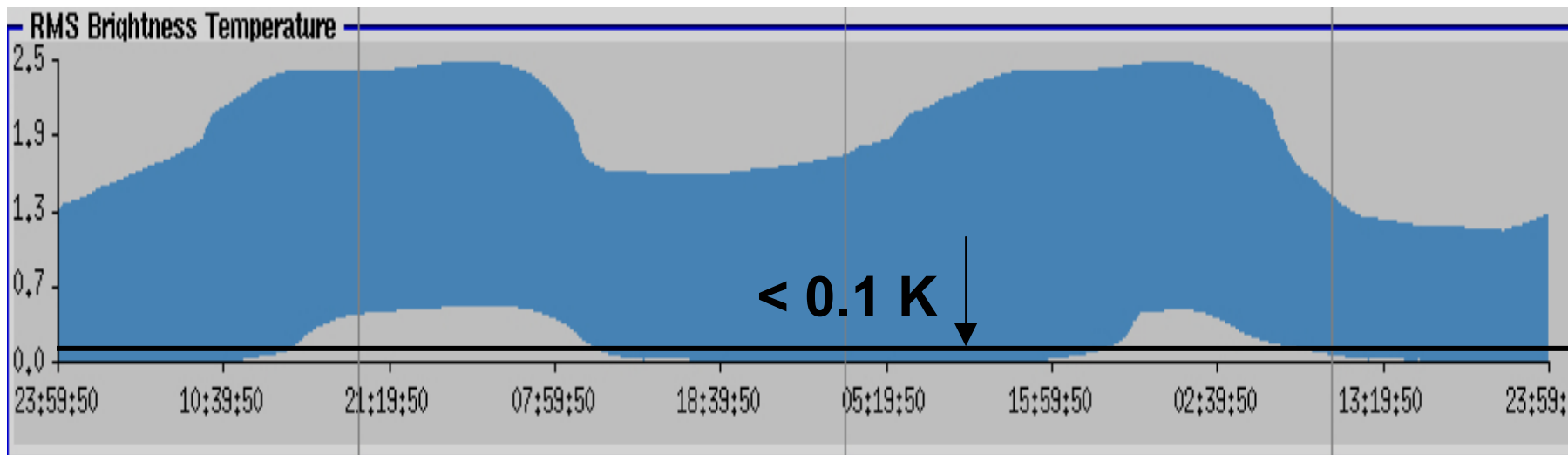
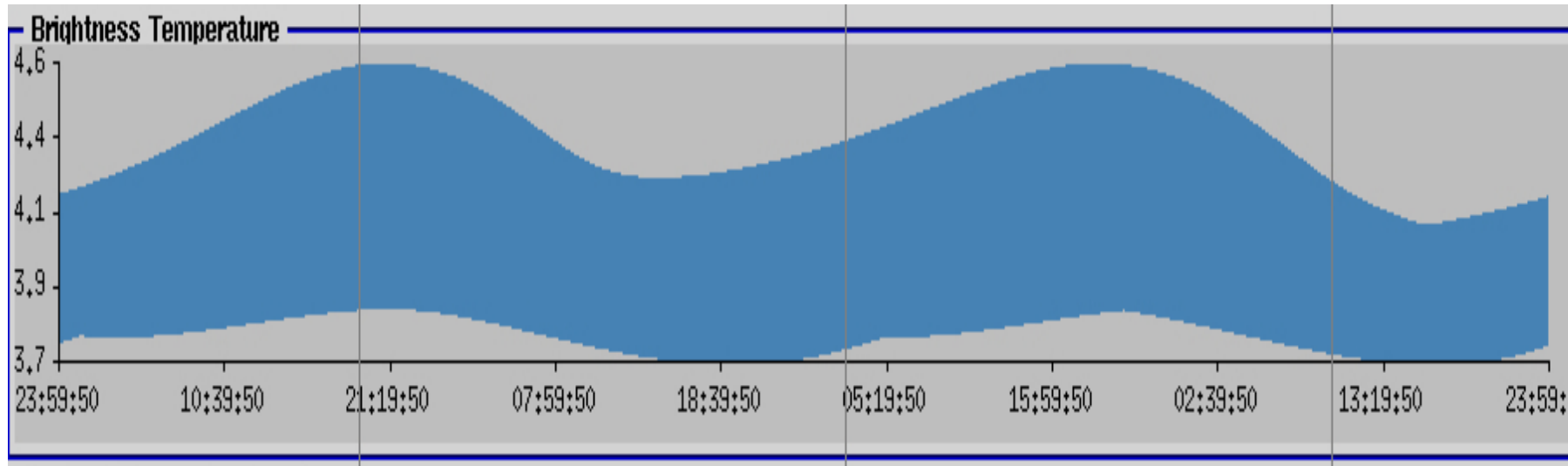
$$\tilde{r}_{ij} \left(-\frac{u\xi + v\eta}{f_o} \right) e^{-j2\pi(u\xi + v\eta)} d\xi d\eta$$

Flat Target Response (1)

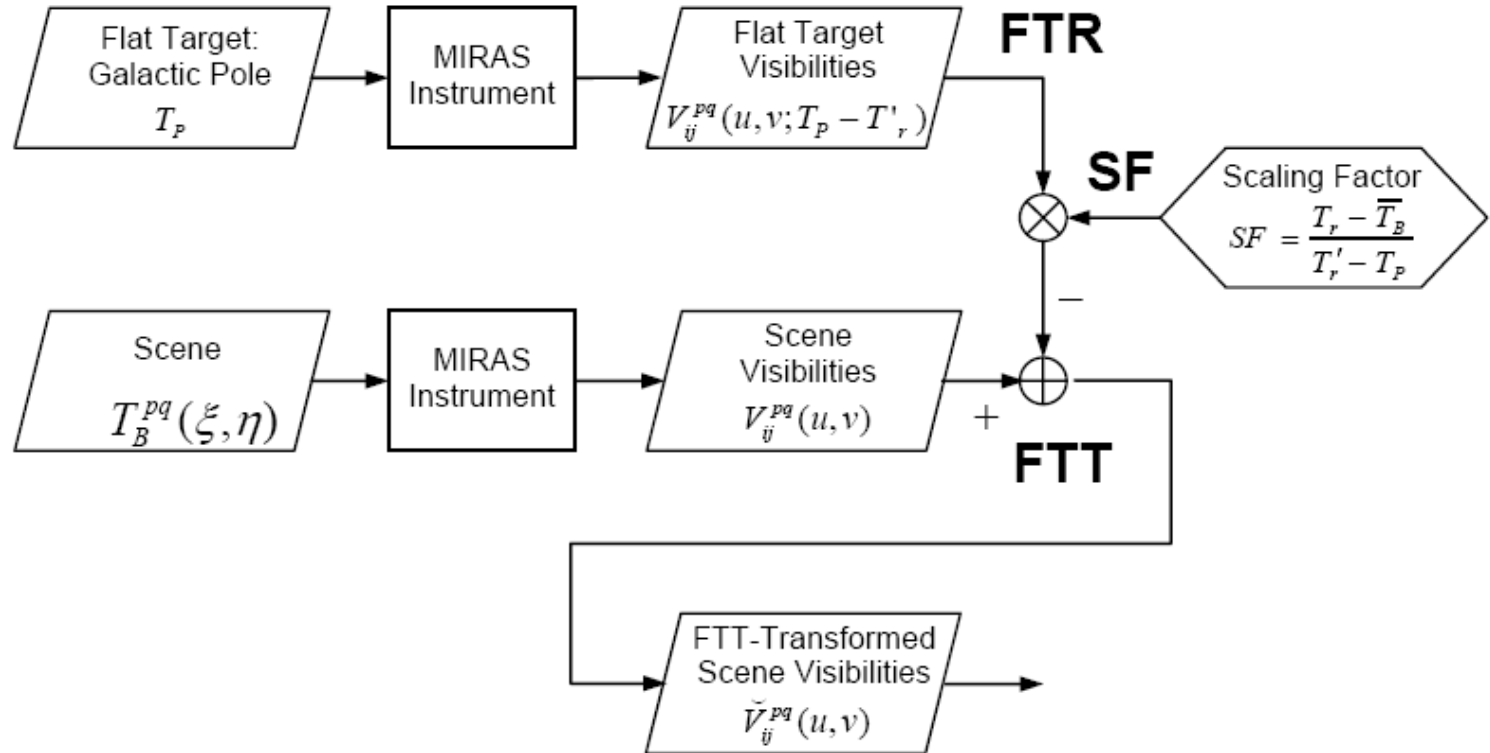
GLAXY MAP 0 Intensity



Flat Target Response (2)



Flat Target Transformation



$$\check{V}_{ij}^{pq}(u, v) = V_{ij}^{pq}(u, v) - \frac{T_r - \bar{T}_B}{T'_r - T_p} V_{ij}^{pq}(u, v; T_p - T'_r)$$

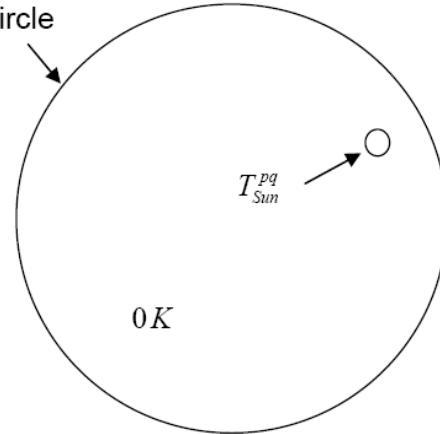
Flat-Target-Transformed Corbella Equation

$$\begin{aligned}
 V_{ij}^{pq}(u, v) &= 2k_B \sqrt{B_i B_j} \alpha_i \alpha_j \frac{1}{\sqrt{\Omega_i^p \Omega_j^q}} \times \\
 &\iint_{\xi^2 + \eta^2 \leq 1} F_{n,i}^{\alpha,p}(\xi, \eta) F_{n,j}^{\beta,q*}(\xi, \eta) \frac{T_B^{\alpha\beta}(\xi, \eta) - \delta_{\alpha\beta} \bar{T}_B}{\sqrt{1 - \xi^2 - \eta^2}} T_r \rightarrow \\
 &\tilde{r}_{ij} \left(-\frac{u\xi + v\eta}{f_o} \right) e^{-j2\pi(u\xi + v\eta)} d\xi d\eta
 \end{aligned}$$

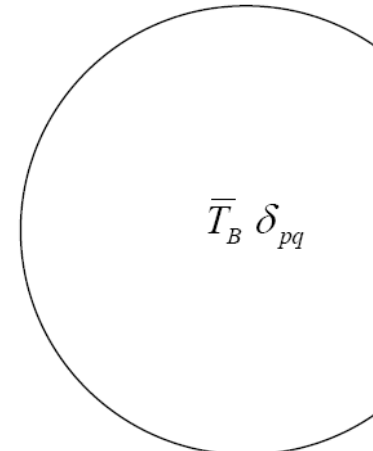
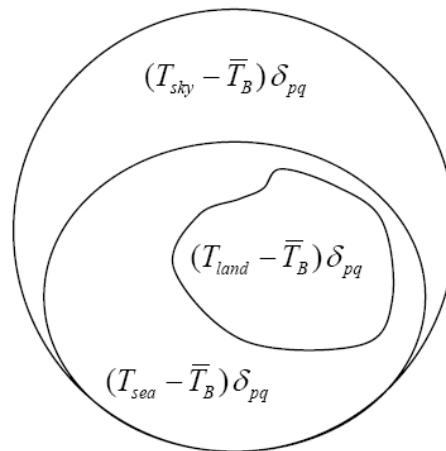
Level-1 Processor Main Steps



Unity Circle



Sun Scene



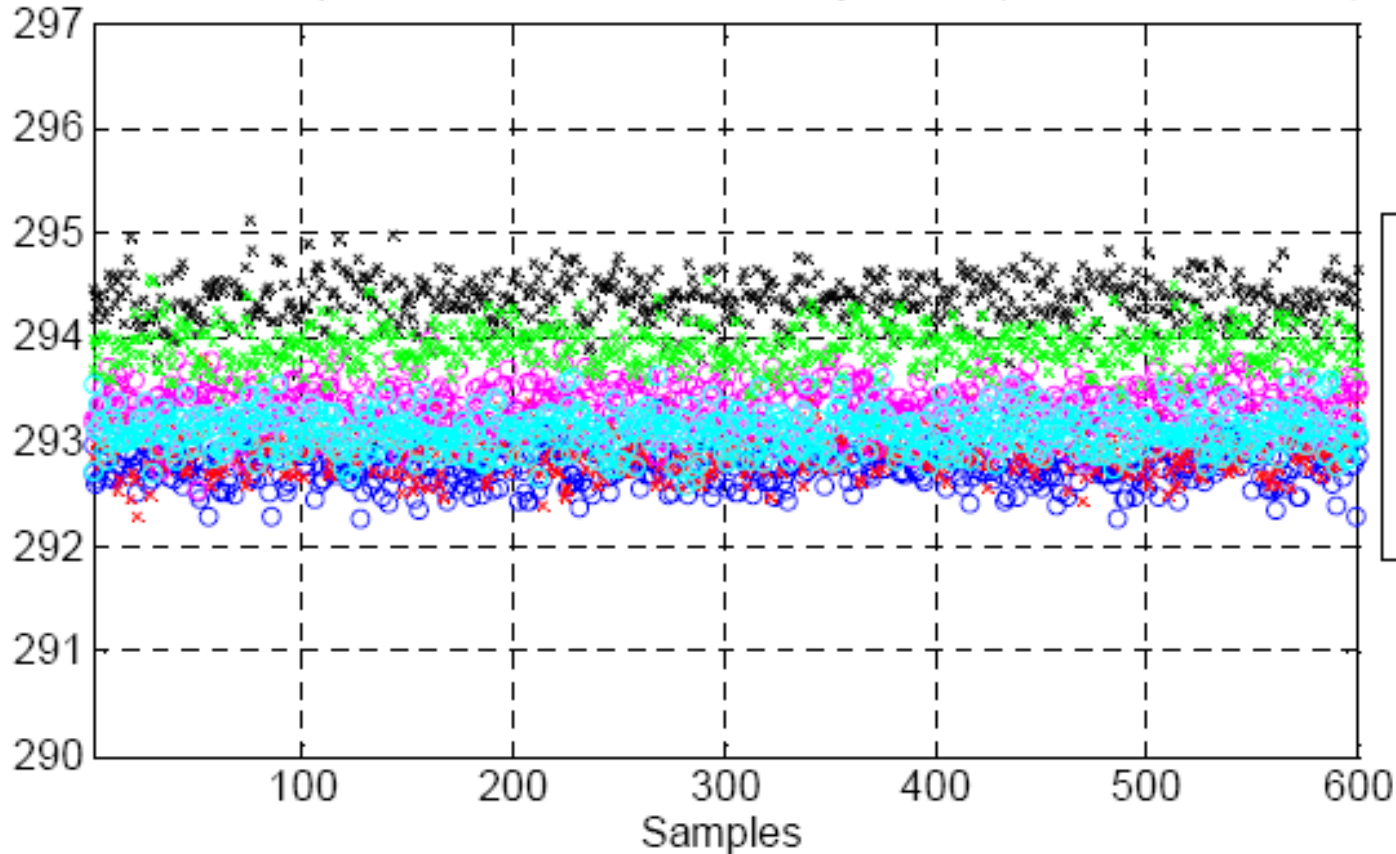
NIR Variation over Temperature

$$V_{kj} = \frac{\sqrt{T_{sys,k} T_{sys,j}}}{G_{kj}} M_{kj}$$

NIR Unit	Temperature Drift for a 220 K Scene (K/C)			
	10 C --> 35 C		35 C --> 10 C	
	HOT	WARM	HOT	WARM
AB H	0.15	0.22	0.11	0.18
AB V	0.02	0.09	0.02	0.04
BC H	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.09
BC V	0.07	0.09	0.02	0.07
CA H	0.07	0.11	0.04	0.11
CA V	0.07	0.09	0.02	0.04
Specification	< 0.2 K/C ; 0.02 K/C with compensation			

NIR Accuracy (using factory values)

Antenna temperature retrieved with factory values (absorbers 293.7 K)



- * AB H: 294.4 K ()
- AB V: 292.8 K ()
- * BC H: 292.9 K ()
- BC V: 293.4 K ()
- * CA H: 293.9 K ()
- CA V: 293.1 K ()

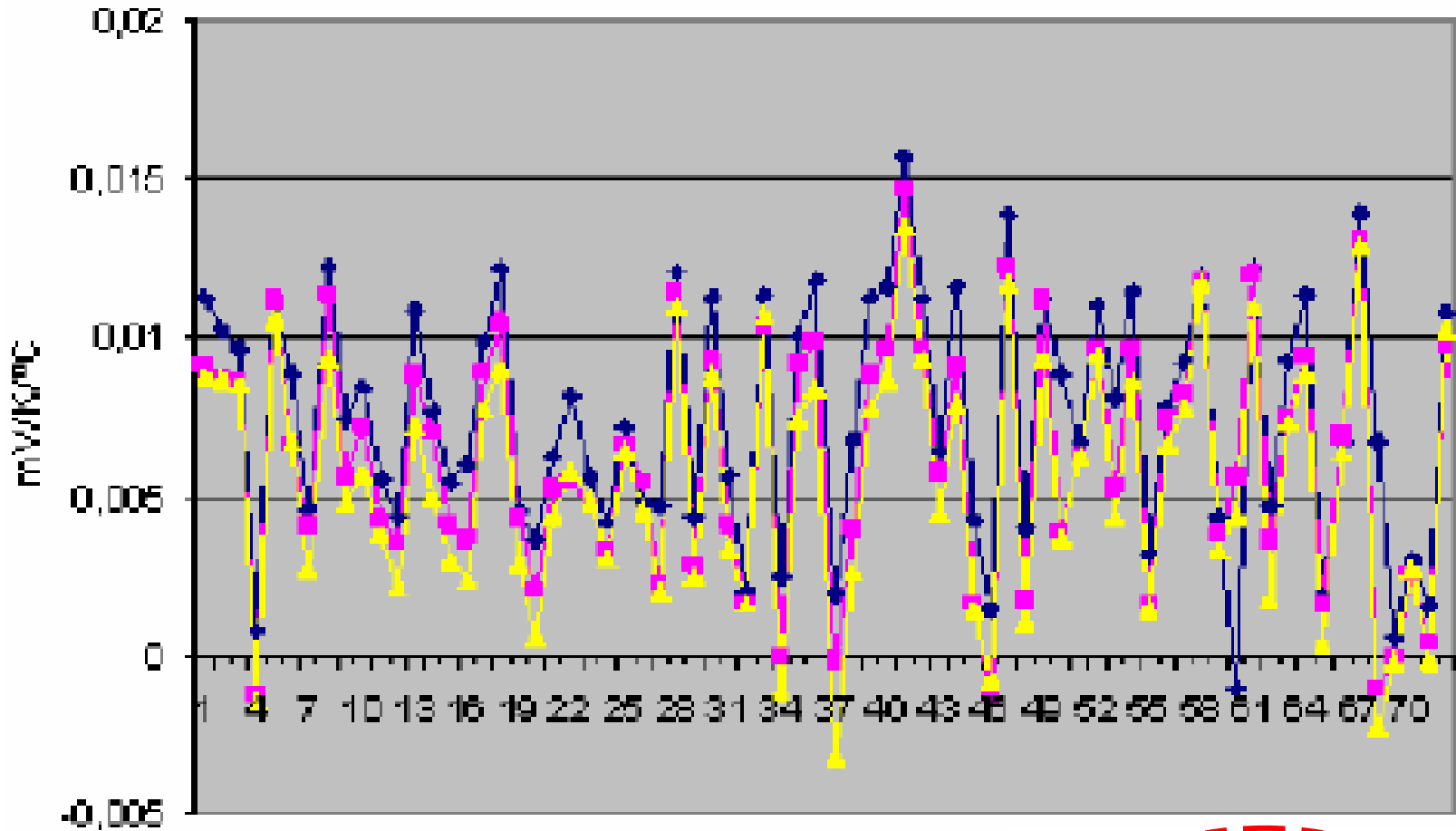
$\langle V \rangle = 293.1$ K

$\langle H \rangle = 293.7$ K

$T_{\text{abs}} = 293.7$ K

NIR antenna temperature using factory values

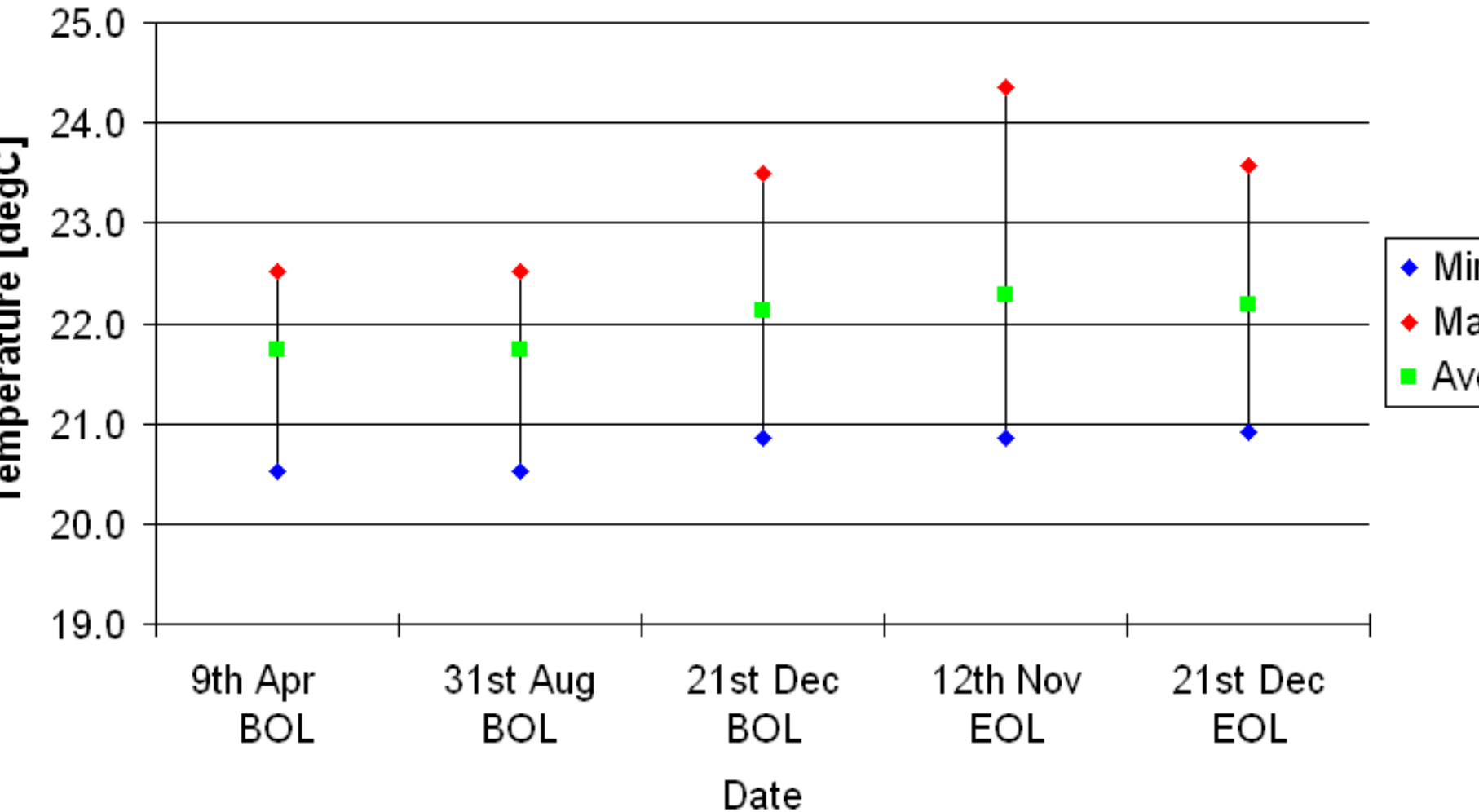
PMS Variation over Temperature



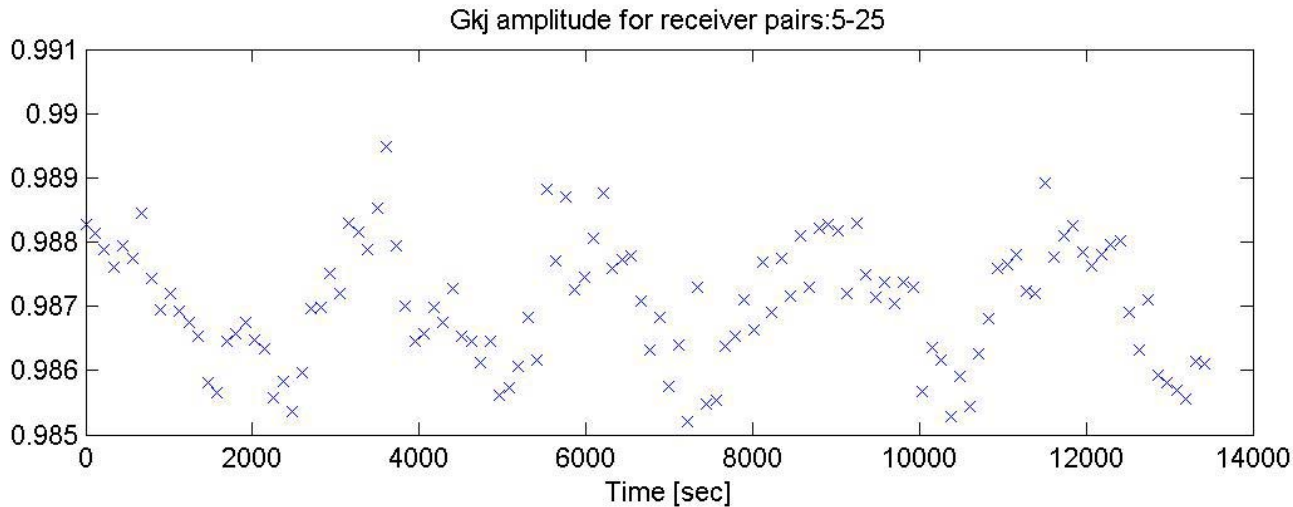
LICBF

$$V_{kj} = \frac{\sqrt{T_{sys,k} T_{sys,j}}}{G_{ki}} M_{kj}$$

LICEF Temperature Evolution Over Mission Lifetime

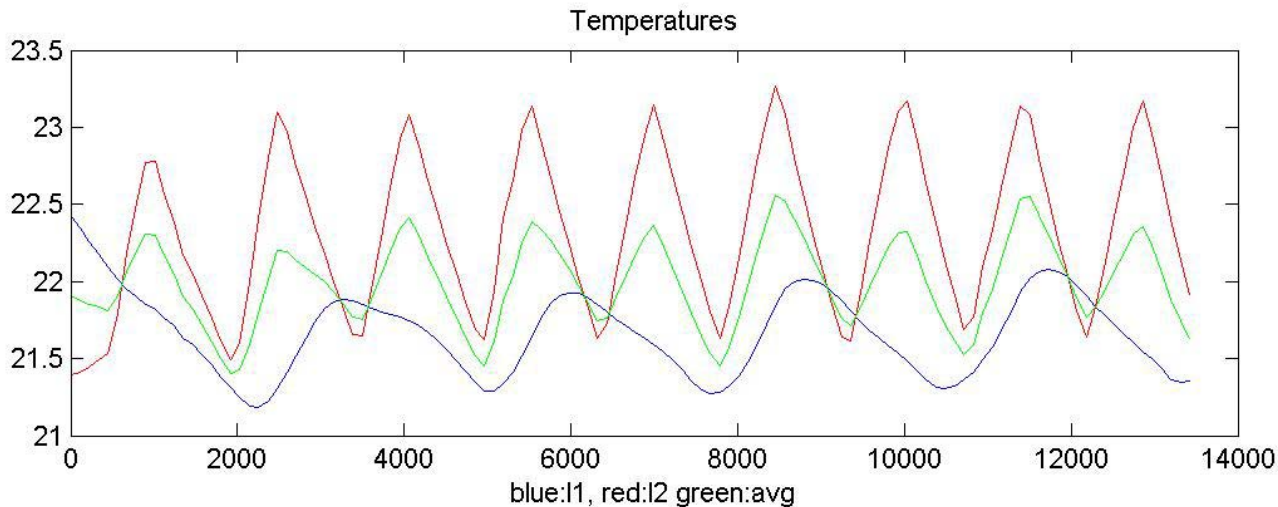


| G_{kj} | Variation over Temperature



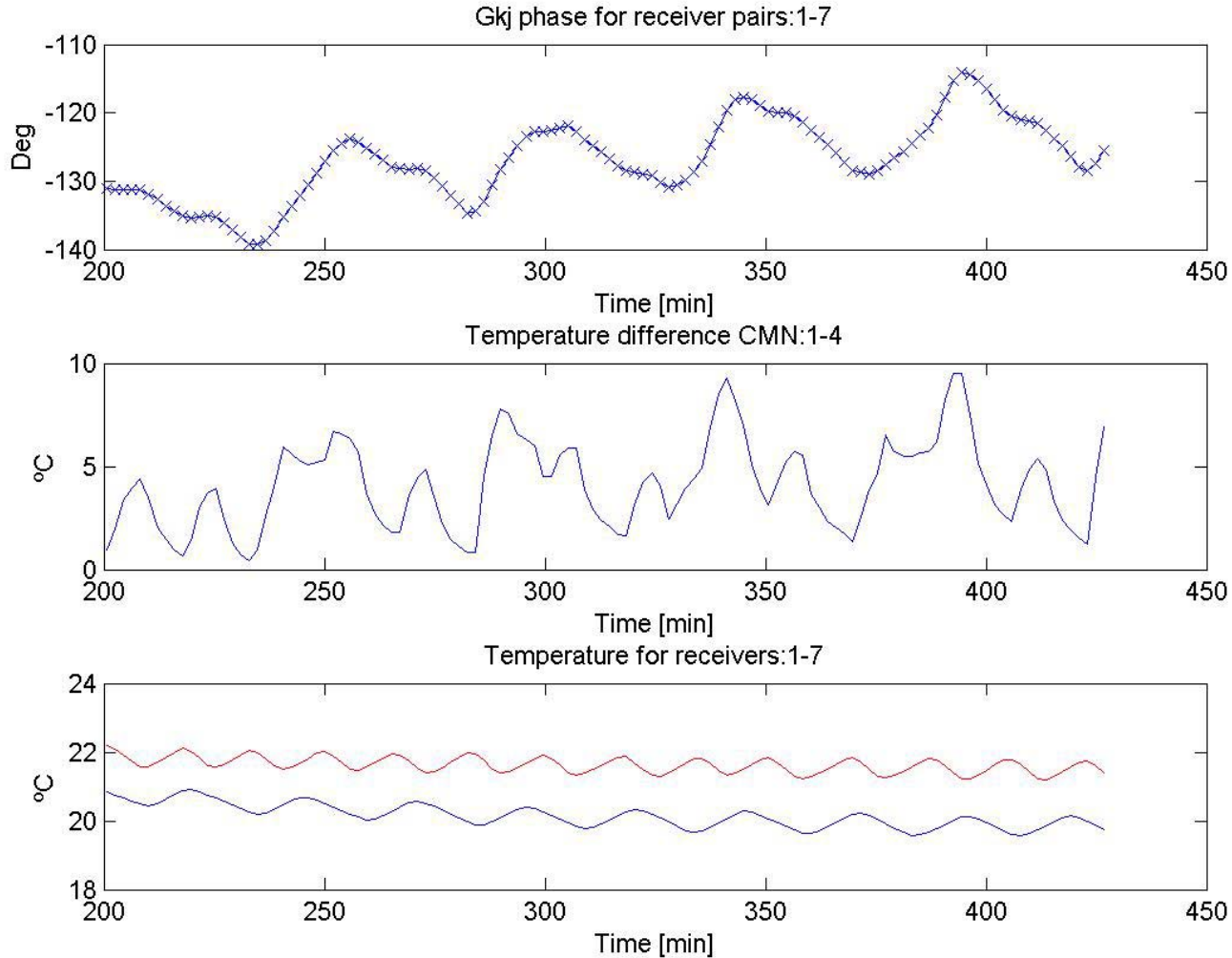
$$V_{kj} = \frac{\sqrt{T_{sys,k} T_{sys,j}}}{G_{kj}}$$

| G_{kj} | < 0.3 %
(worst baseline)



LICEF temperature
(same baseline)

Phase of G_{kj} and M_{kj} over Temperature

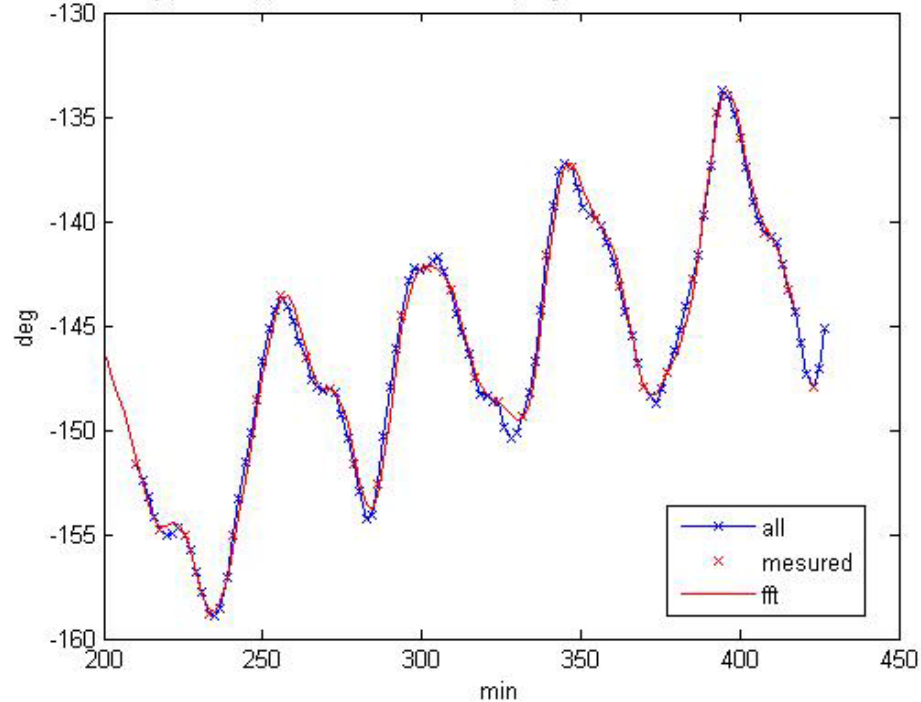


$$\text{Arg} \{G_{kj}\} = 16^\circ$$

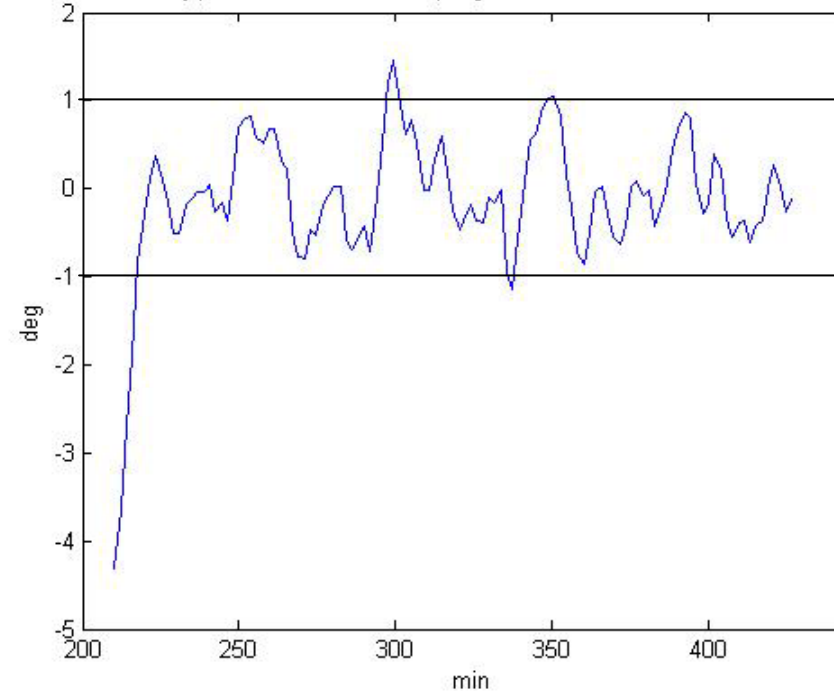
$$V_{kj} = \frac{\sqrt{T_{sys,k} T_{sys,j}}}{G_{kj}}$$

LO phase variation tracking (LO calibration)

Gkj phase approximation with a sampling of 7.6 min and Fourier series

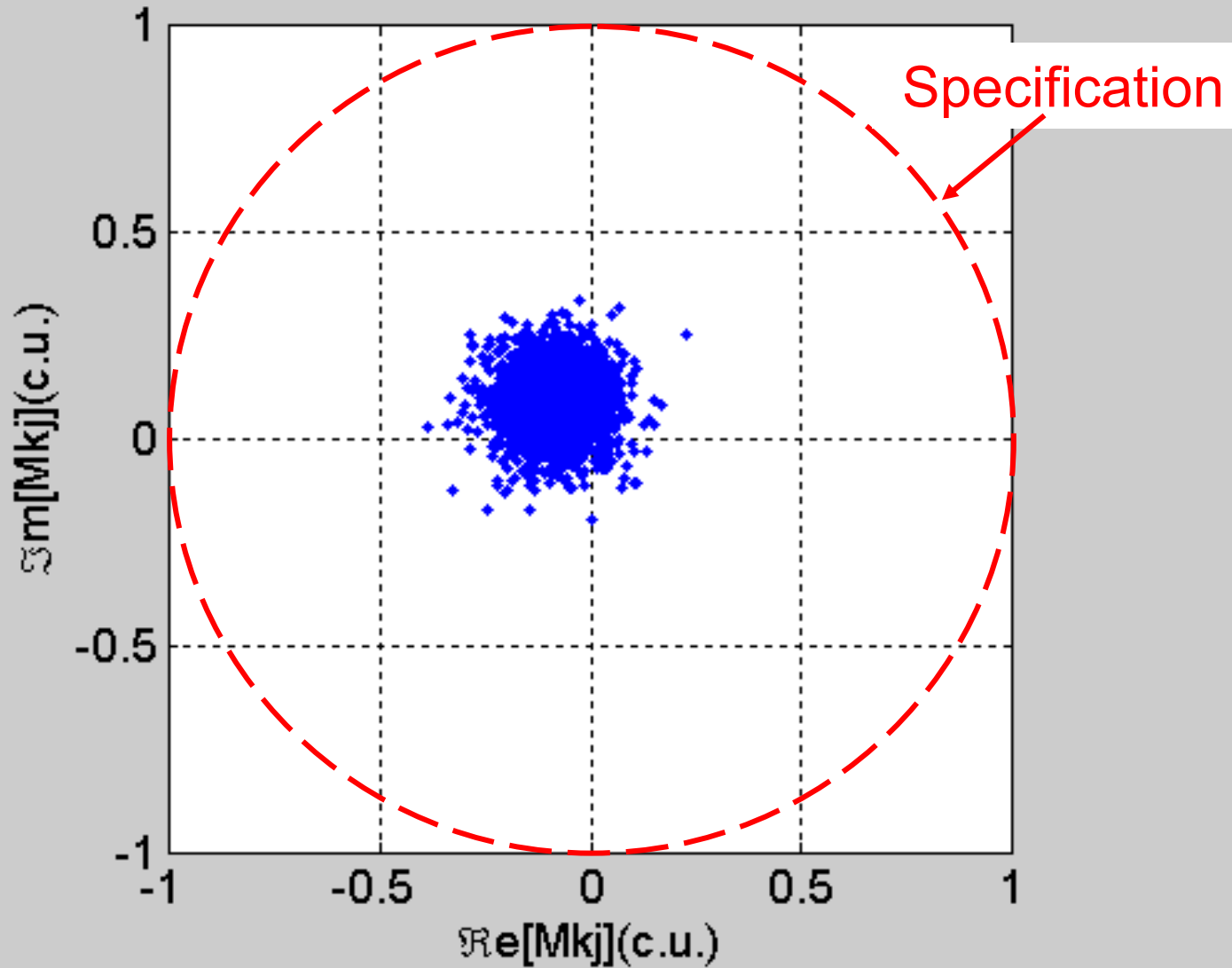


Gkj phase error with a sampling of 7.6 min and Fourier series

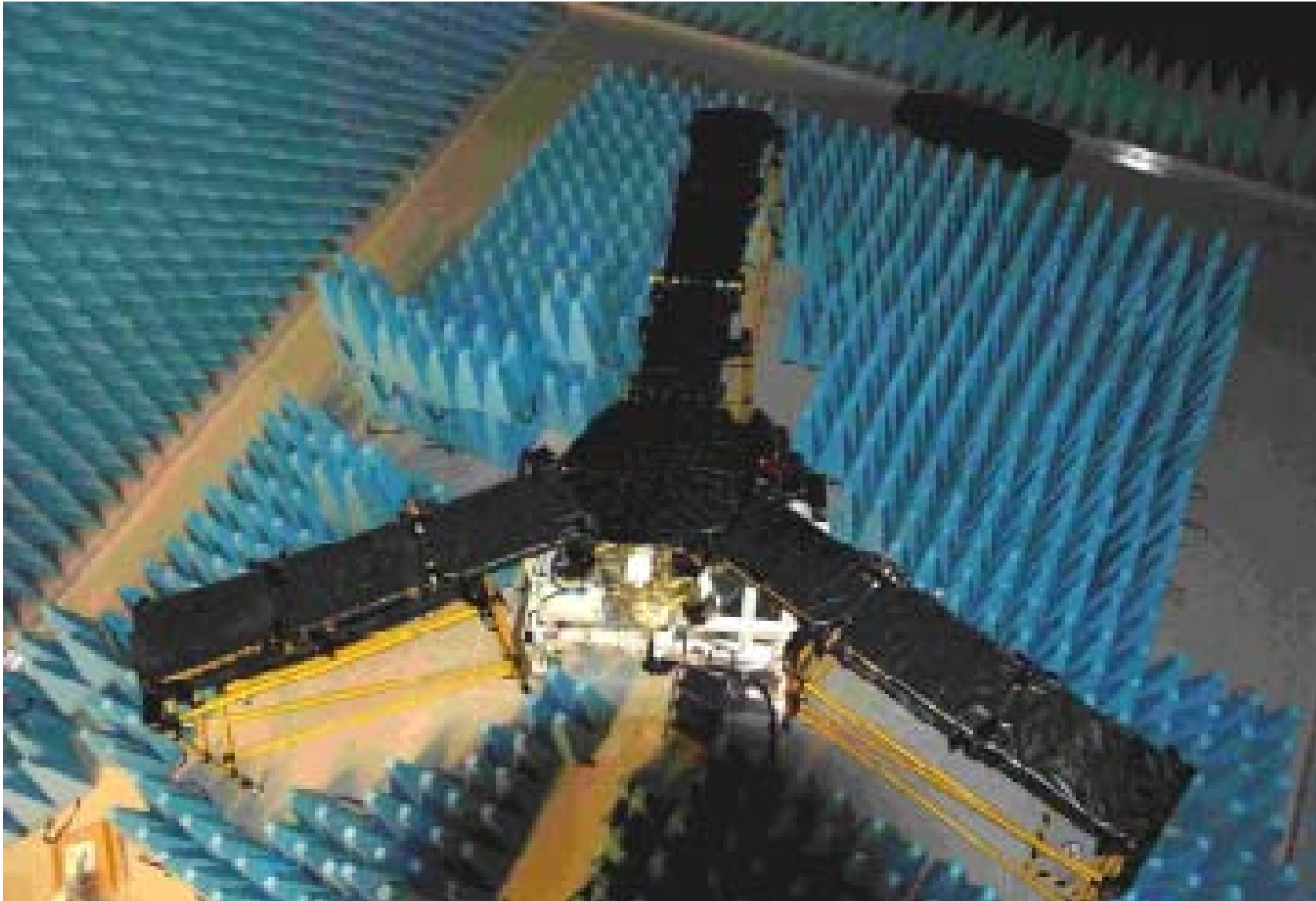


- requires periodic noise injections (LO calibration);
- objective is to have final peak-to-peak phase variations below 1°

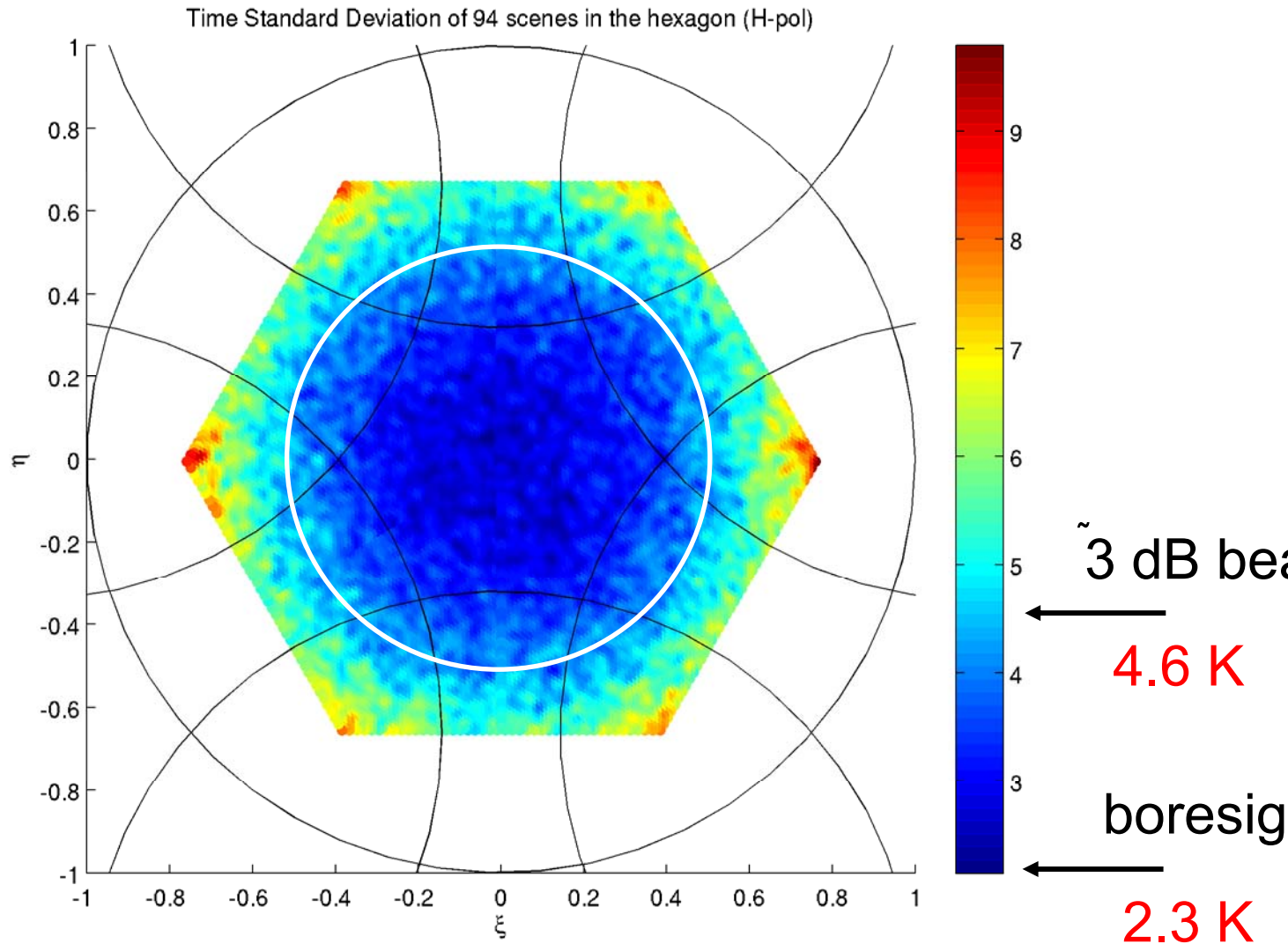
Correlation Offsets (1 cu = 10^{-4})



MIRAS in the Maxwell EMC Chamber



H-pol Final Image Radiometric Resolution



SRD Requirement	System Parameter	Specified Value	From IVT (IDEAL reconstruction)
R-4.5.2-002-a,b	Level-1 SM Radiometric Sensitivity 220 K	3.5 K RMS (00) 5.8 K RMS (32)	1.97 K RMS 3.94 K RMS
R-4.5.3-002-a,b	Level-1 OS Radiometric Sensitivity 150 K	2.5 K RMS (00) 4.1 K RMS (32)	1.65 K RMS 3.31 K RMS

- there are around 65 snapshots (H or V) along track;
- the along track effective sensitivity (per pass) for ocean is then

$$(1.65+3.31)/2\text{sqrt}(65) = 0.31 \text{ K}$$