

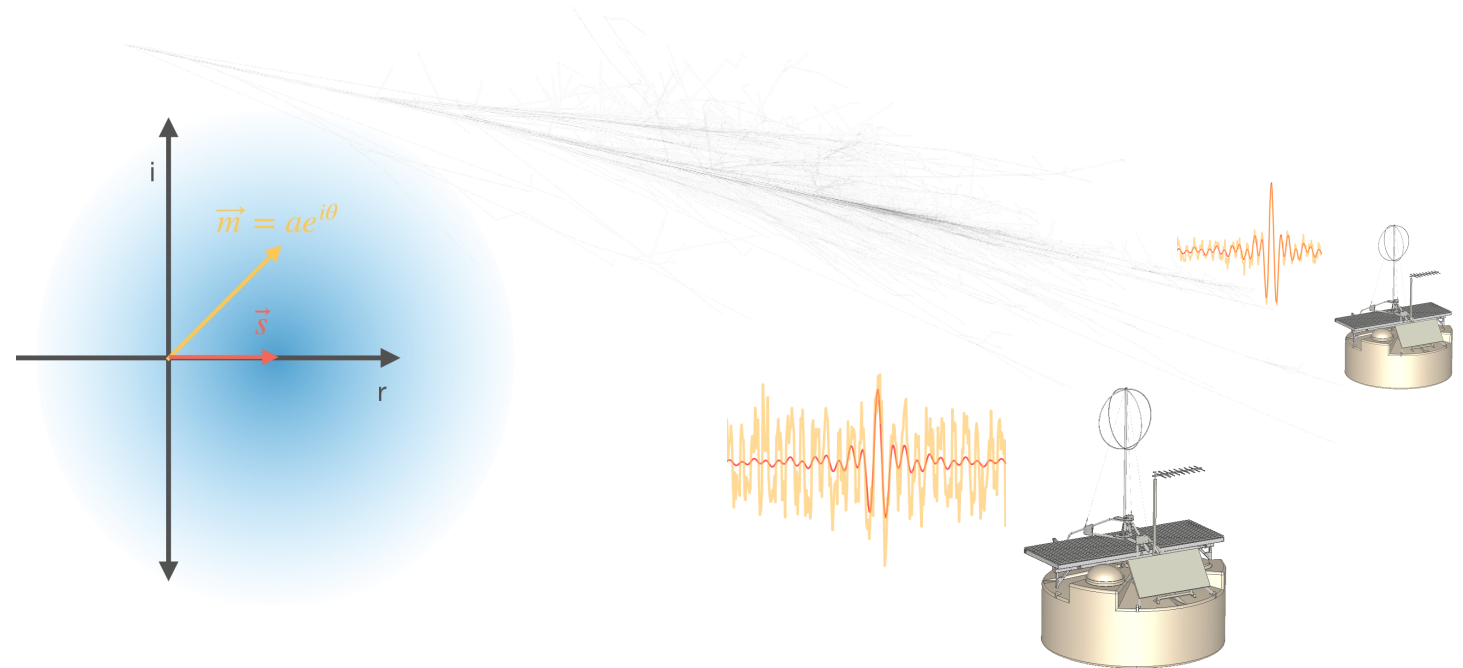
PIERRE
AUGER
OBSERVATORY



DPG 2024, Karlsruhe 05.03.24

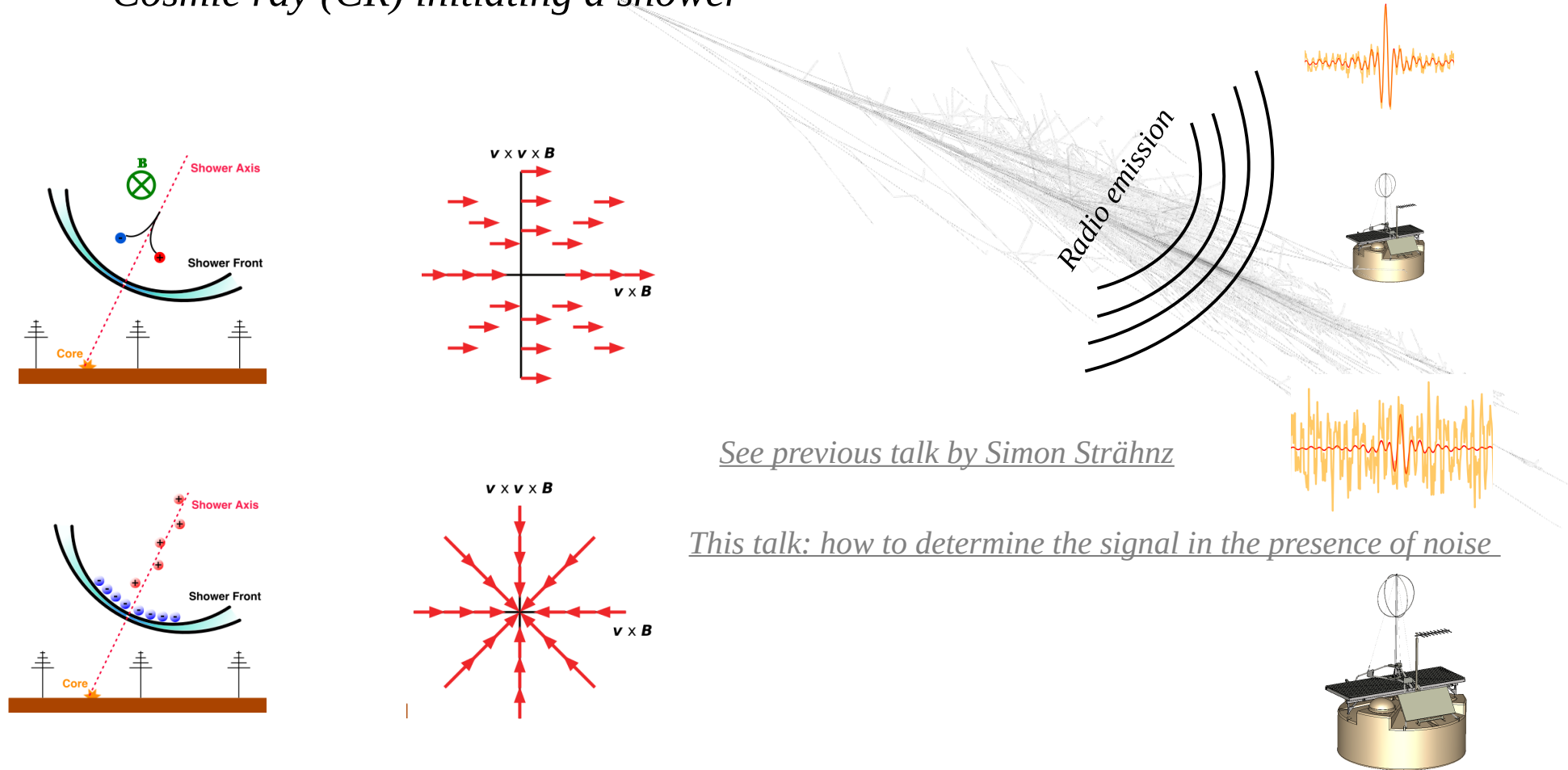
Radio signal and uncertainty estimation

S. Martinelli*, Dr. T. Huege, Dr. D. Ravignani, Dr. H. Schoorlemmer for the Pierre-Auger collaboration



*Speaker, contact: sara.martinelli@kit.edu

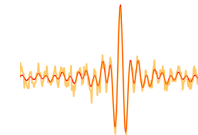
Cosmic ray (CR) initiating a shower



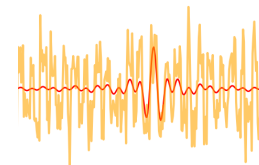
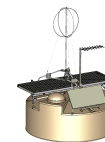
This talk: how to determine the signal in the presence of noise

Radio measurements of CR pulses have both an amplitude and a phase

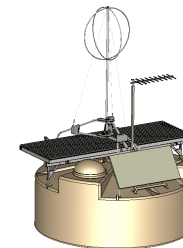
- The CR signal and the random noise can add up constructively or destructively
- Recovering of the underlying signal for small signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) is non-trivial



large SNR



small SNR



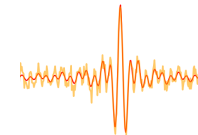
This talk: how to determine the signal in the presence of noise

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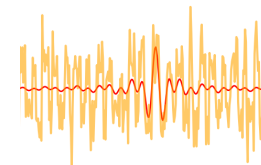
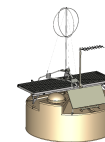
- The CR signal and the random noise can add up constructively or destructively
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Energy fluence

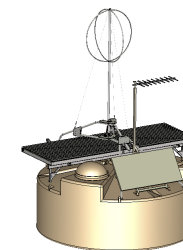
- Energy deposit per unit area [eV/m^2]
- Typically reconstructed by noise subtraction (Auger, LOFAR...)

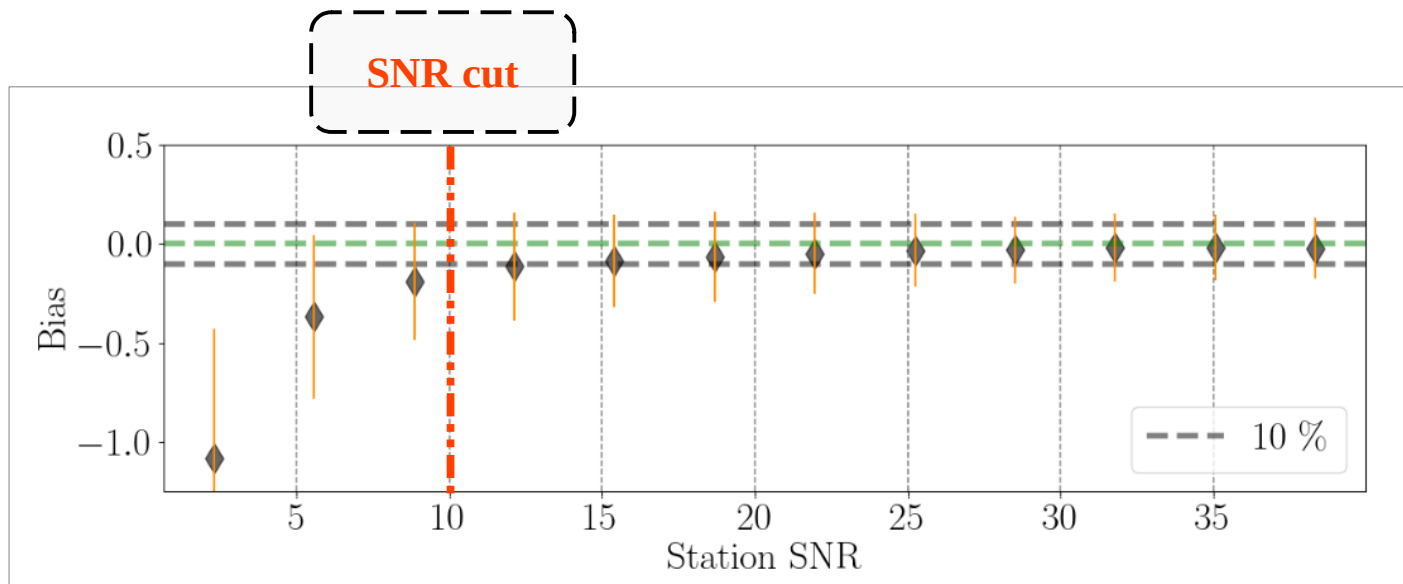


large SNR



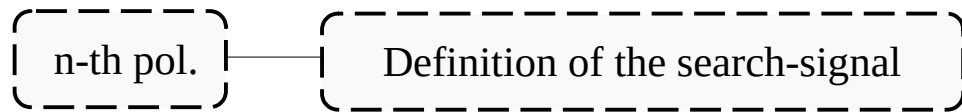
small SNR



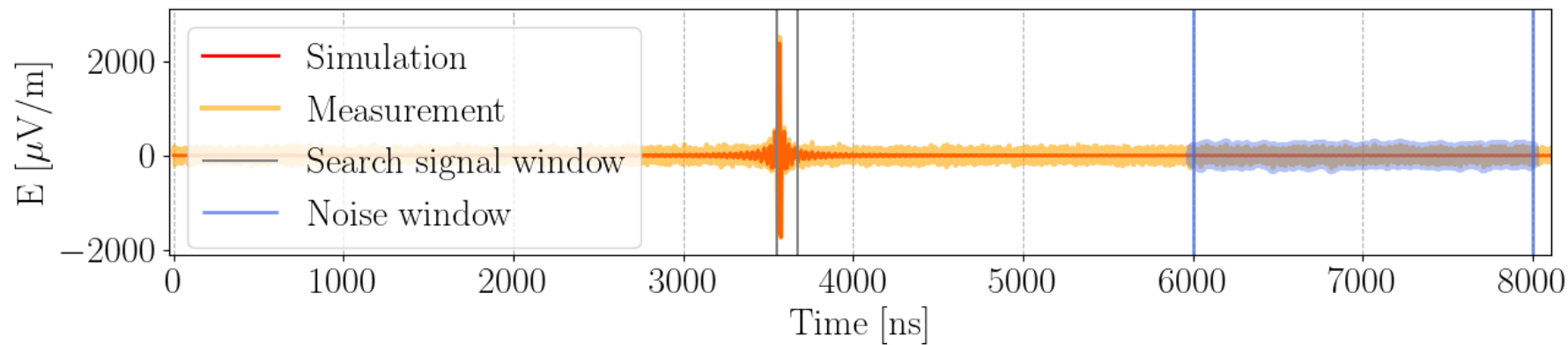
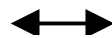


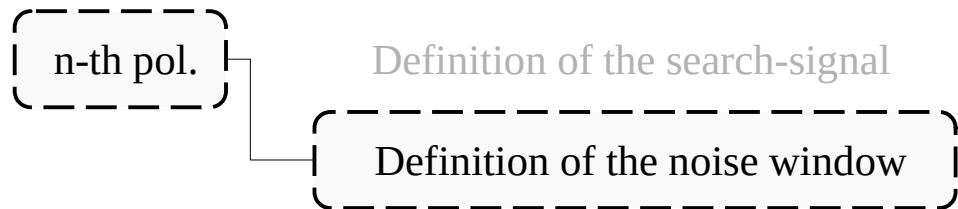
- Method unbiased for $\text{SNR} > 10$ (cut)
- Uncertainties underestimated

How does the method work?

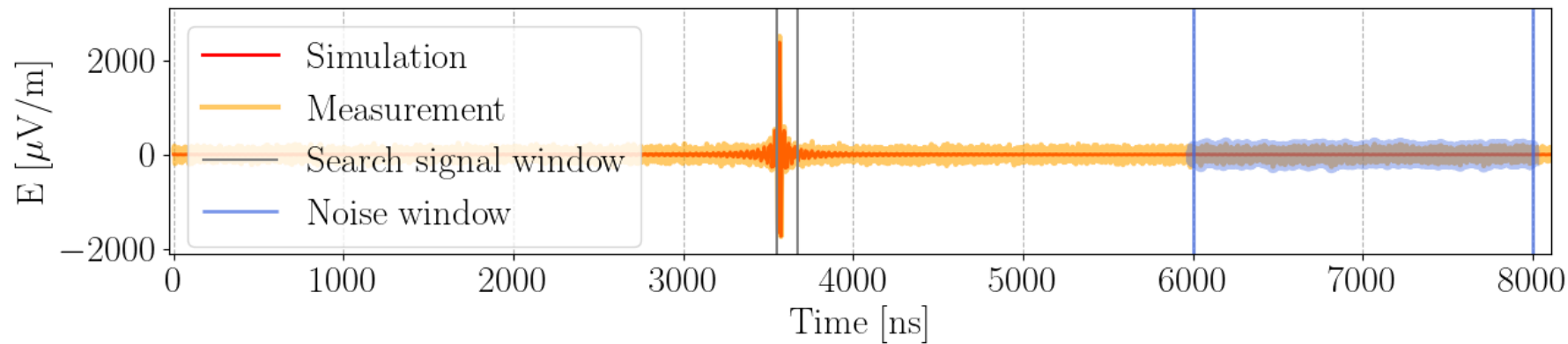
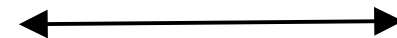


Trigger constrains the signal search





Here we do not expect a signal



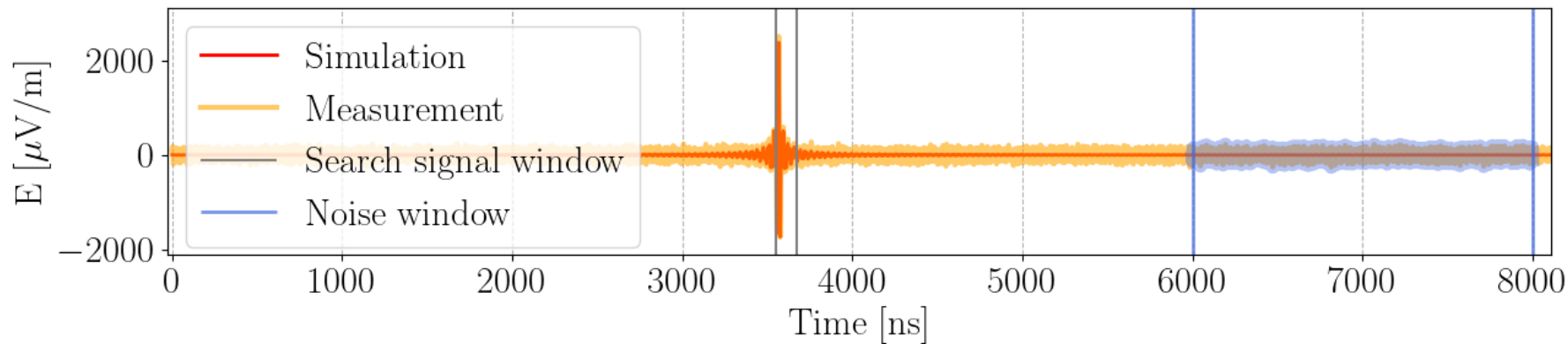
n-th pol.

Definition of the search-signal

Definition of the noise window

Find the peak in the search-signal window

Pulse Finding Algorithm (e.g. maximum of the Hilbert envelope over the polarisations)



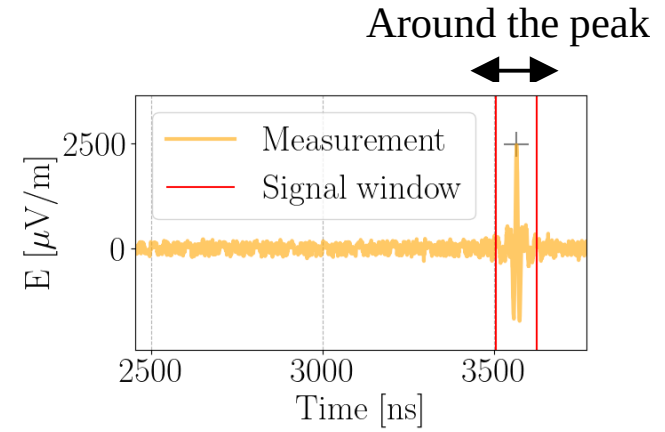
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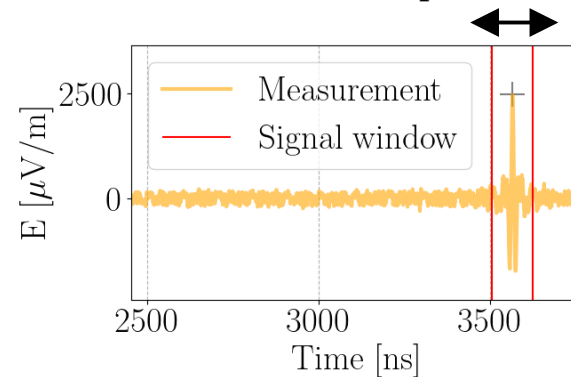
Definition of the noise window

Find the peak in the search-signal window

Definition of the signal window

Fluence in the signal window

$f \sim$ sum over the amplitudes squared



$$\hat{f}^{\text{pol}} = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \left(\sum_{t_j=t_3}^{t_4} A(t_j)_{\text{pol}}^2 + \dots \right)$$

n-th pol.

Definition of the search-signal

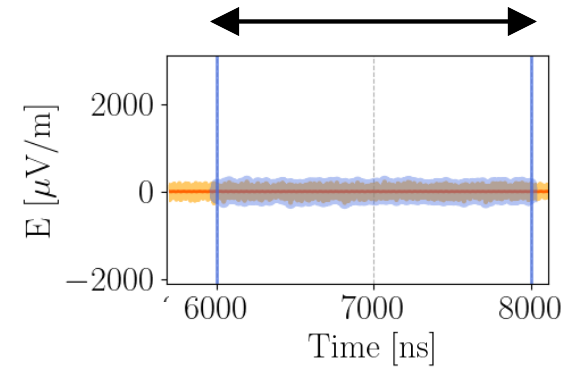
Definition of the noise window

Find the peak in the search-signal window

Definition of the signal window

Fluence in the signal window

Subtraction of the noise fluence

 $f \sim$ sum over the amplitudes squared

$$\hat{f}^{\text{pol}} = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \left(\sum_{t_j=t_3}^{t_4} A(t_j)_{\text{pol}}^2 + \dots \right)$$

$$\hat{f}^{\text{pol}} = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \left(\sum_{t_j=t_3}^{t_4} A(t_j)_{\text{pol}}^2 - \frac{t_4 - t_3}{t_2 - t_1} \sum_{t_j=t_1}^{t_2} A(t_j)_{\text{pol}}^2 \right)$$

Norm. \nearrow

(uncertainty model: backup)

The estimator can be negative!

n-th pol.

Definition of the search-signal

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Find the peak in the search-signal window

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Fluence in the signal window

$$\hat{f}^{\text{pol}} = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \left(\sum_{t_j=t_3}^{t_4} A(t_j)_{\text{pol}}^2 + \dots \right)$$

Subtraction of the noise fluence

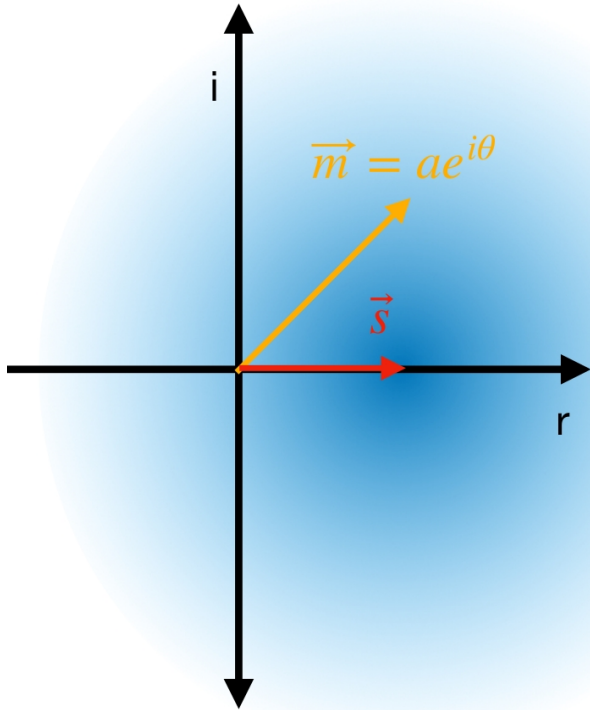
$$\hat{f}^{\text{pol}} = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \left(\sum_{t_j=t_3}^{t_4} A(t_j)_{\text{pol}}^2 - \frac{t_4 - t_3}{t_2 - t_1} \sum_{t_j=t_1}^{t_2} A(t_j)_{\text{pol}}^2 \right)$$

antenna
station

$$\hat{f}^{\text{station}} = \sum_{\text{pol}} \hat{f}^{\text{pol}}$$

The estimator can be negative!

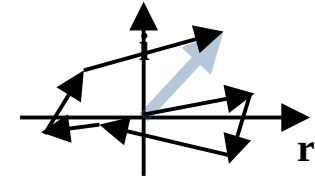
Can we do better than this?

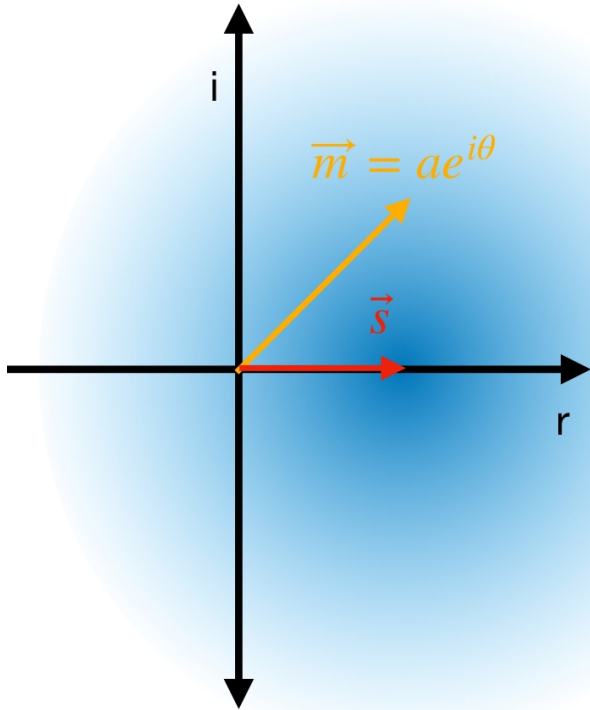


Radio measurements have both an amplitude and a phase

- Our **measurement** can be expressed as the sum of **constant known phasor s** and a **random phasor sum** (Rayleigh-distributed noise).

random phasor sum =

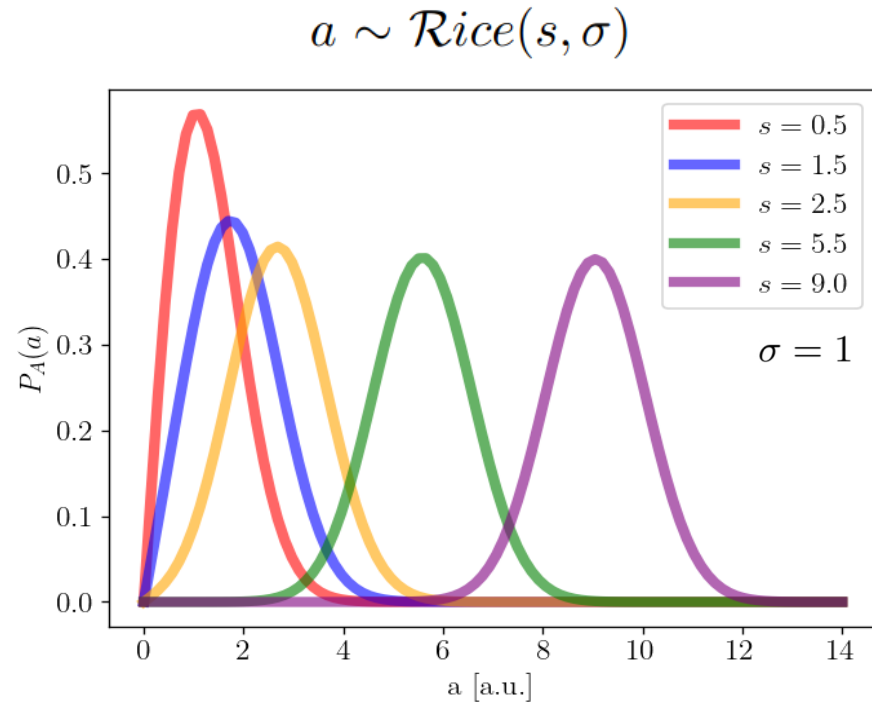
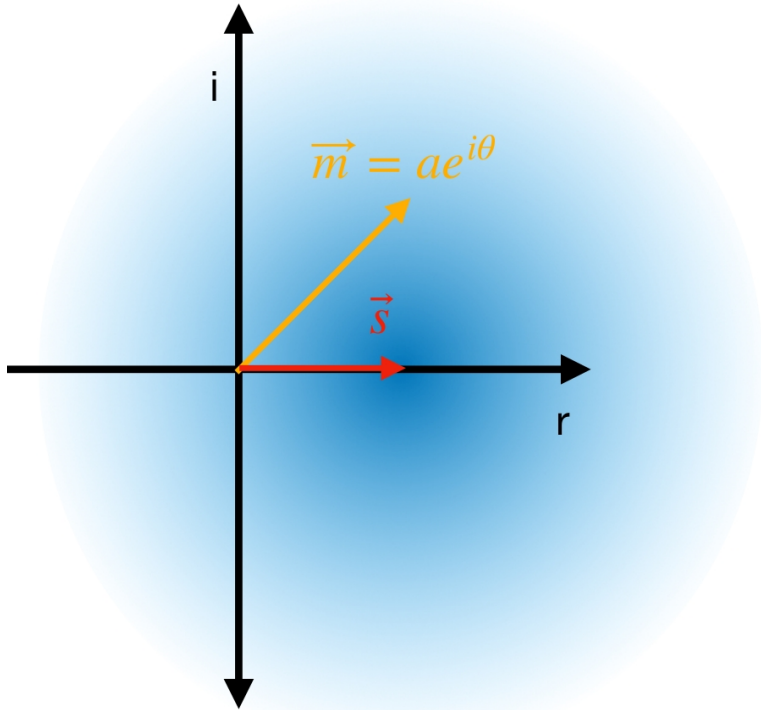


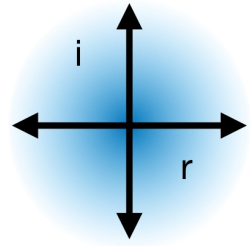


Radio measurements have both an amplitude and a phase

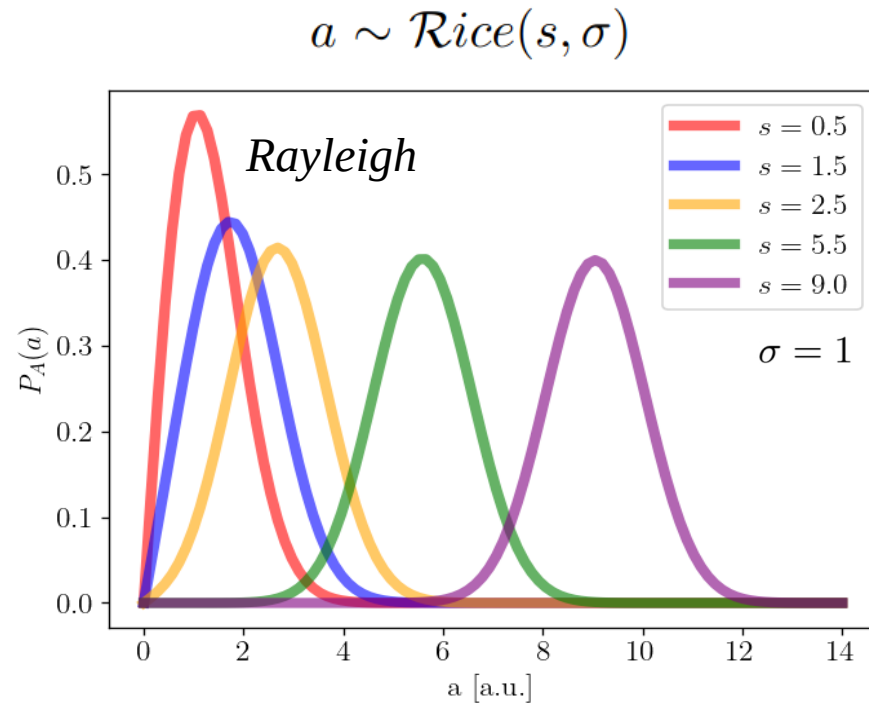
- Our **measurement** can be expressed as the sum of **constant known phasor** s and a **random phasor sum** (Rayleigh-distributed noise).
- The marginal p.d.f. of the measured **amplitude** is the Rice distribution.

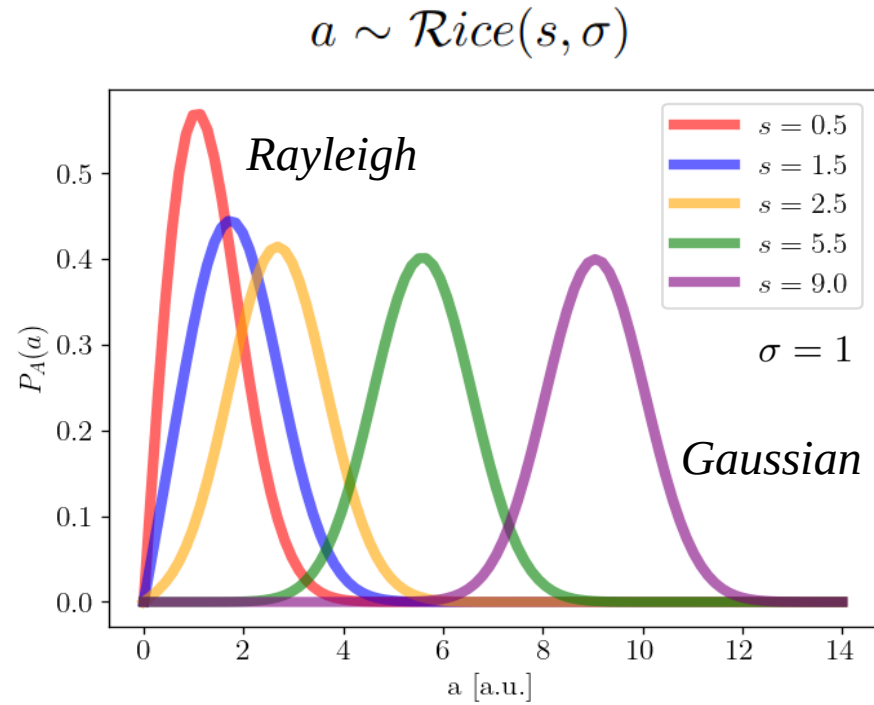
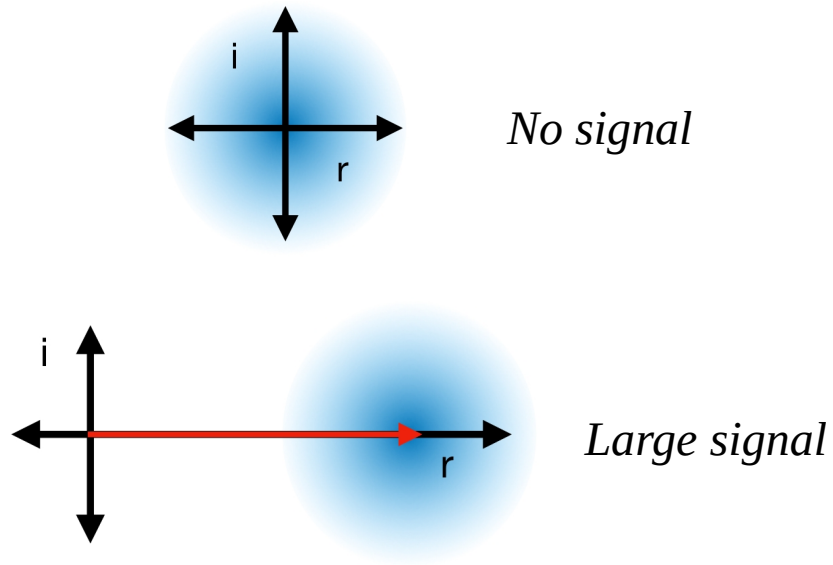
$$p_A(a|s, \sigma) = \begin{cases} \frac{a}{\sigma^2} \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{a^2+s^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \cdot I_0\left(\frac{as}{\sigma^2}\right) & a > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

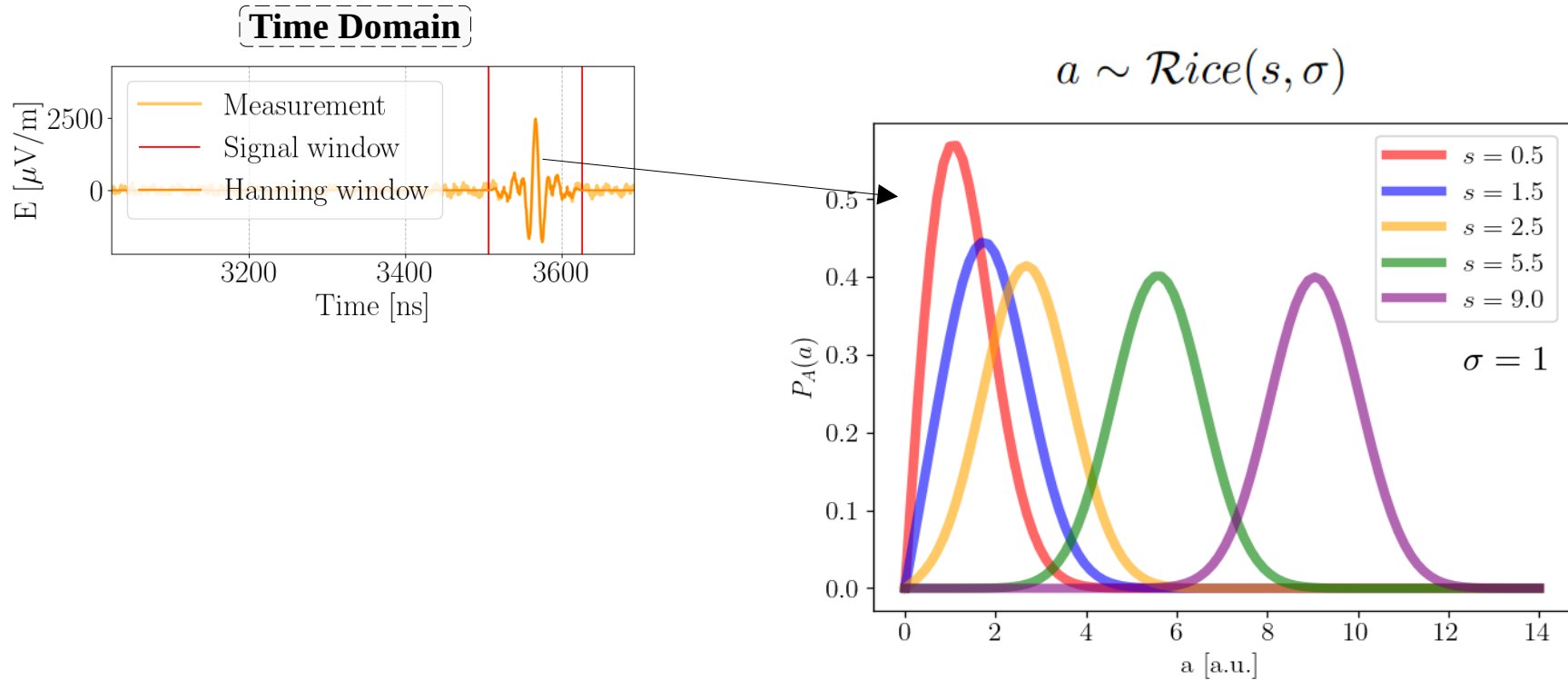




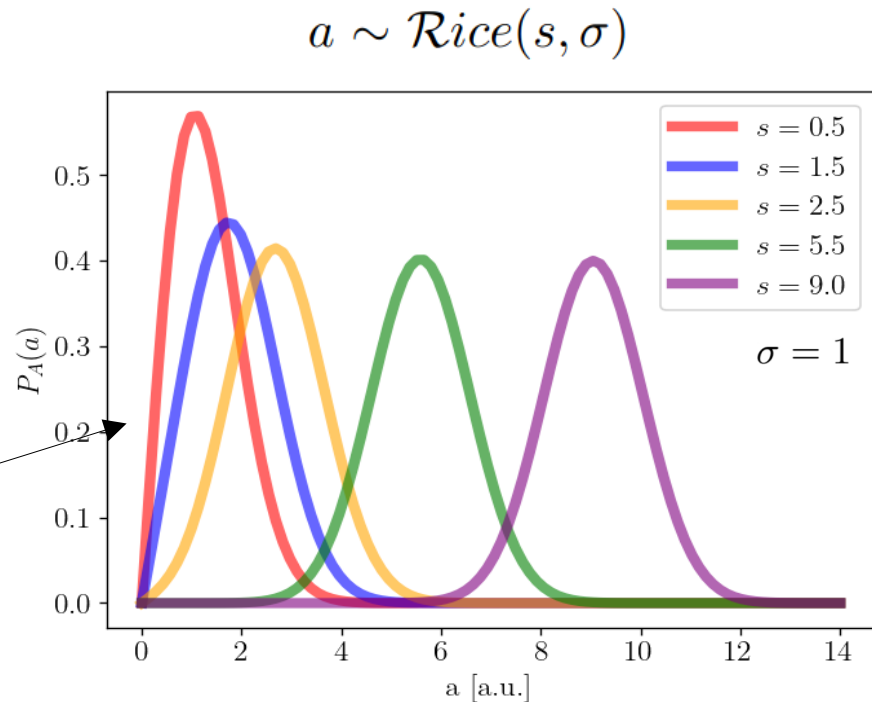
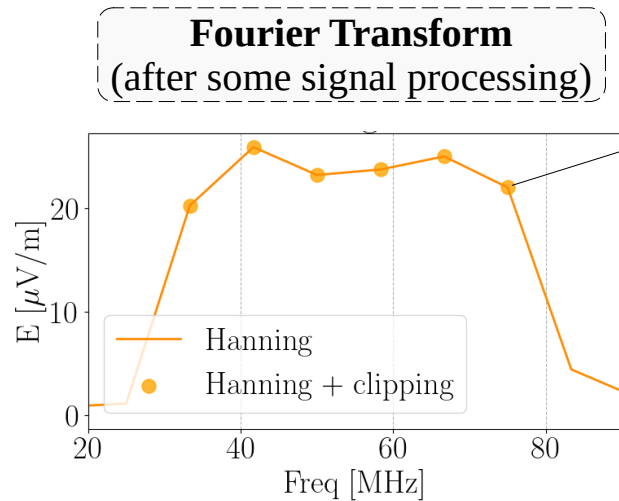
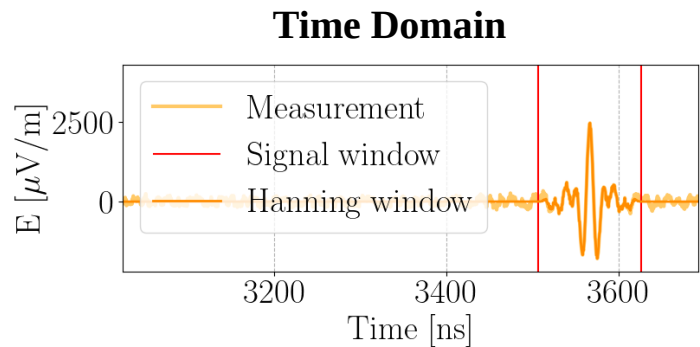
No signal



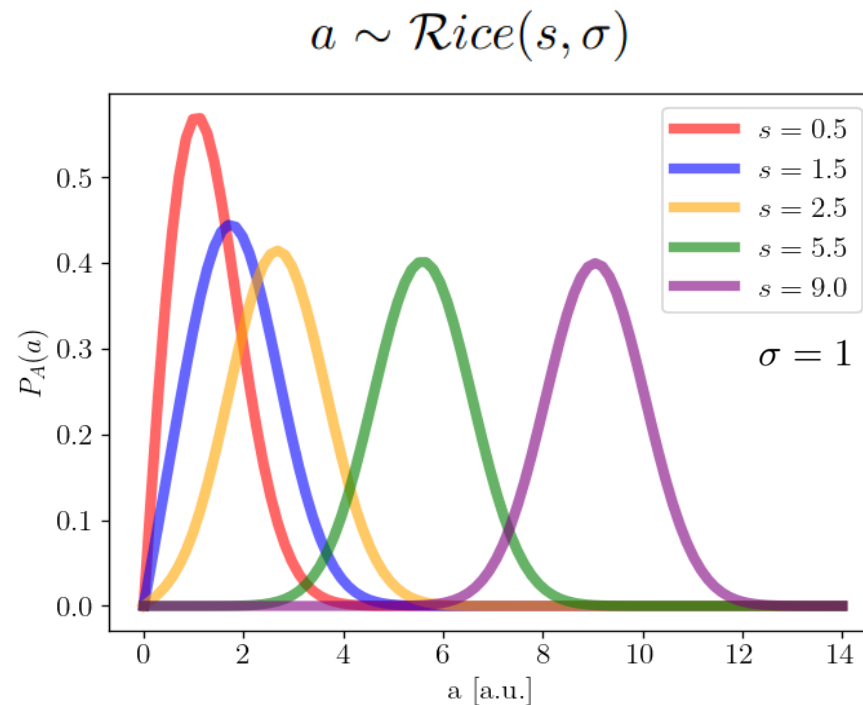




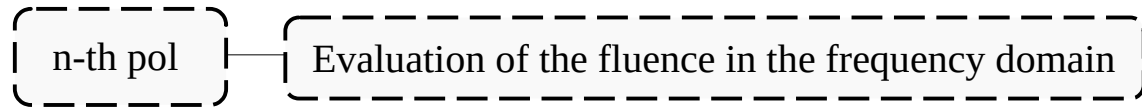
Formalism valid for both time and frequency domains



Formalism valid for both time and frequency domains



How can we use this theory to build a better estimator of the fluence?



(Parseval's theorem)

$$f^{\text{pol}} = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} A(t_j)_{\text{pol}}^2 = 2\epsilon_0 c \frac{\Delta t}{N} \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} |D(v_j)_{\text{pol}}|^2$$

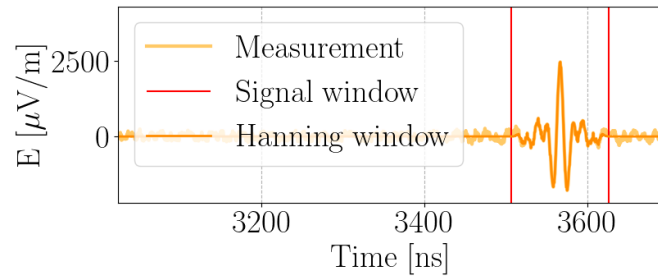
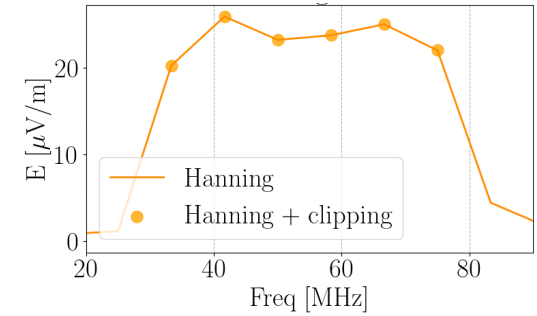


Fourier Transform

n-th pol

Evaluation of the fluence in the frequency domain

Definition of signal window

signal processing
Fourier Transform

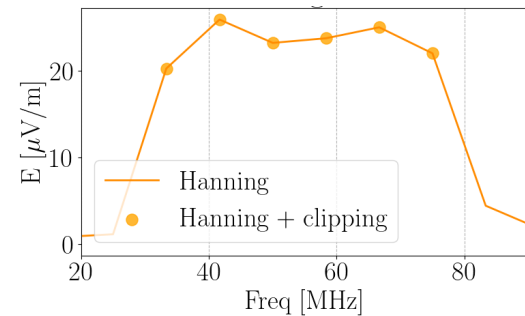
n-th pol

Evaluation of the fluence in the frequency domain

Definition of signal window

Fluence estimator ~ sum over the frequencies

$$\hat{f}^{\text{pol}} = K \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \hat{f}_j$$



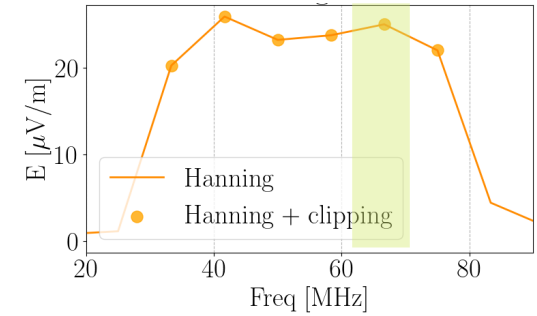
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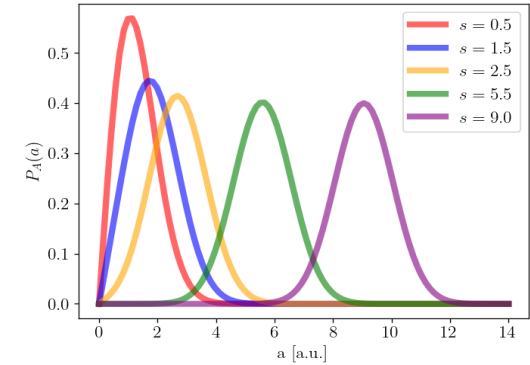
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j-th bin

$$a \sim \text{Rice}(s, \sigma)$$



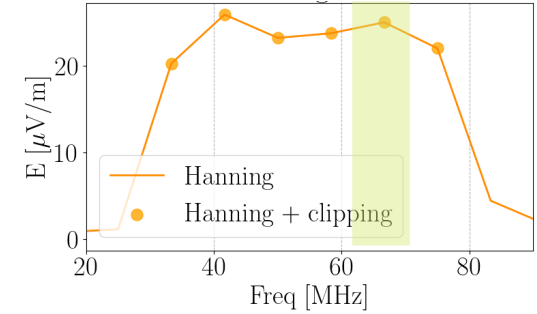
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$$a \sim \text{Rice}(s, \sigma)$$

$$\hat{f} \propto a^2 \quad a^2 \sim ?$$

n-th pol

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j-th bin

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$$\hat{f} \propto a^2 \quad a^2 \sim ?$$

Derivation:

$b = a/\sigma$ Change of variable by scaling the measured amplitude by the noise level of the bin

Adimensional

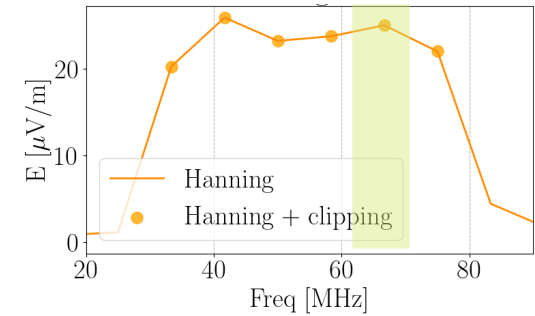
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$$\hat{f} \propto a^2 \quad a^2 \sim ?$$

$$b = a/\sigma$$

$$\text{snr} = (s/\sigma)^2 \quad \text{snr at bin level, to not be confused with the SNR of the full measurement!}$$

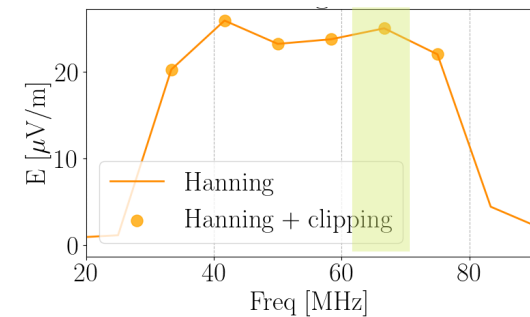
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j-th bin

$$a \sim \text{Rice}(s, \sigma)$$

$$\hat{f} \propto a^2 \quad a^2 \sim ?$$

$$b = a/\sigma$$

$$\text{snr} = (s/\sigma)^2$$

$$\longrightarrow b \sim \text{Rice}(\sqrt{\text{snr}}, 1) = \chi_{\text{nc}}(DF = 2, \lambda = \sqrt{\text{snr}})$$

Degrees of Freedom

Non-centrality
parameter

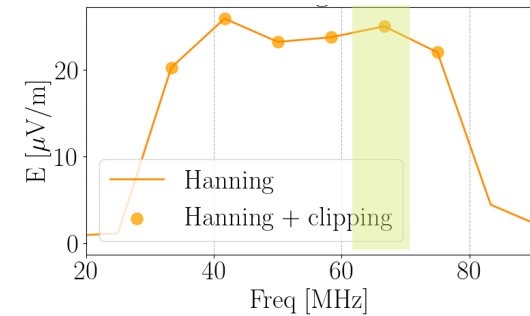
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j-th bin

$$a \sim \text{Rice}(s, \sigma)$$

$$\hat{f} \propto a^2 \quad a^2 \sim ?$$

Derivation:

$$b = a/\sigma$$



$$b^2 \sim \chi_{\text{nc}}^2(DF = 2, \lambda = snr) \quad \text{Well-known distribution!}$$

$$snr = (s/\sigma)^2$$

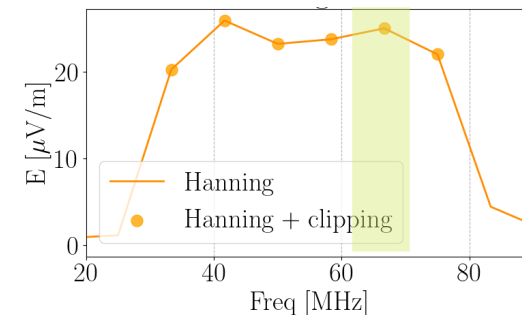
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j-th bin

$$a \sim \text{Rice}(s, \sigma)$$

$$\hat{f} \propto a^2 \quad a^2 \sim ?$$

Derivation:

$$b = a/\sigma$$

$$\longrightarrow b^2 \sim \chi_{\text{nc}}^2(DF = 2, \lambda = snr)$$

$$snr = (s/\sigma)^2$$

$$E(b^2) = 2 + snr \quad \text{Expected value}$$

$$Var(b^2) = 2(2 + 2 snr) \quad \text{Variance}$$

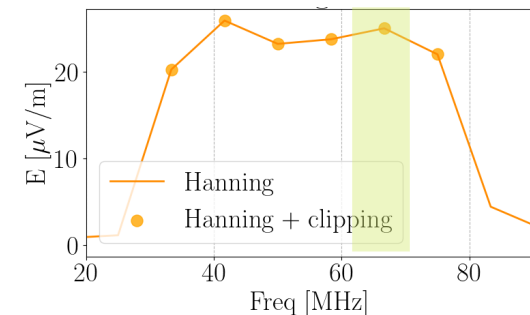
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j-th bin

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Derivation:

$$b = a/\sigma$$

$$\longrightarrow b^2 \sim \chi_{\text{nc}}^2(DF = 2, \lambda = snr)$$

$$snr = (s/\sigma)^2$$

$$E(b^2) = 2 + snr$$

$$Var(b^2) = 2(2 + 2 snr)$$

$$\xrightarrow{b^2 = a^2/\sigma^2}$$

$$E(a^2) = 2\sigma^2 + s^2$$

$$Var(a^2) = 2\sigma^4(2 + 2 snr)$$

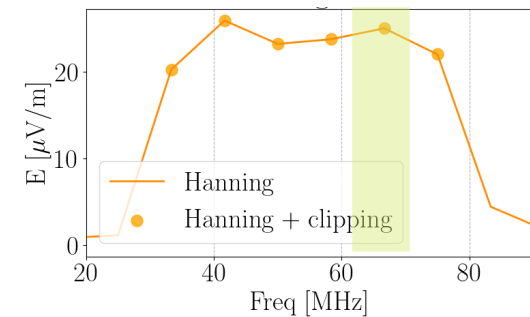
n-th pol

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j-th bin

$$a \sim \text{Rice}(s, \sigma)$$

$$\hat{f} \propto a^2 \quad a^2 \sim ?$$

Derivation:

$$E(a^2) = 2\sigma^2 + s^2 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \hat{f} = \begin{cases} a^2 - 2\sigma^2 & a^2 \geq 2\sigma^2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Always positive-valued!

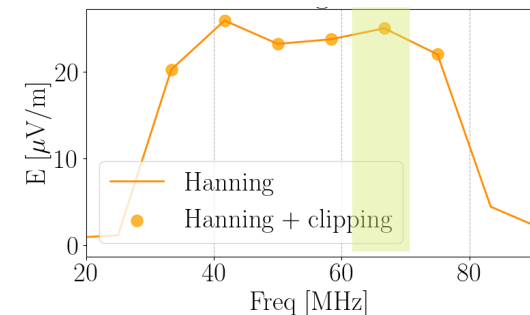
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$$\text{Var}(a^2) = 2\sigma^4(2 + 2 \text{snr})$$

$$\text{Var}(\hat{f}) = \text{Var}(a^2)$$

n-th pol

Evaluation of the fluence in the frequency domain

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$$\hat{f}^{\text{pol}} = K \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \hat{f}_j$$

j-th bin

$$a \sim \mathcal{Rice}(s, \sigma)$$

$$\hat{f} = \begin{cases} a^2 - 2\sigma^2 & a^2 \geq 2\sigma^2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Var}(\hat{f}) = 2\sigma^4(2 + 2\text{snr})$$

$$\text{snr} = (s/\sigma)^2 \rightarrow s^2 \approx \hat{f}$$

n-th pol

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$$\hat{f}^{\text{pol}} = K \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \hat{f}_j$$

j-th bin

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$$\text{snr} = (s/\sigma)^2 \rightarrow s^2 \approx \hat{f}$$

$$\sigma^2 \sim ?$$



n-th pol

Evaluation of the fluence in the frequency domain

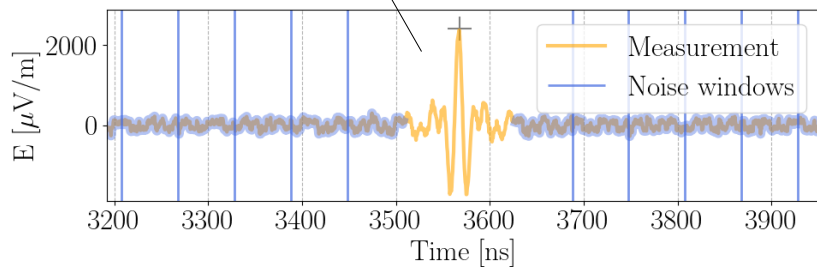
Definition of signal window

Fluence estimator ~ sum over the frequencies $\hat{f}^{\text{pol}} = K \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \hat{f}_j$

Definition of noise windows

N_{noise} windows along the whole trace

Signal window excluded



$$a \sim \text{Rice}(s, \sigma)$$

$$\hat{f} = \begin{cases} a^2 - 2\sigma^2 & a^2 \geq 2\sigma^2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Var}(\hat{f}) = 2\sigma^4(2 + 2\text{snr})$$

$$\text{snr} = (s/\sigma)^2 \rightarrow s^2 \approx \hat{f}$$

$$\sigma^2 \sim ?$$

j-th bin

n-th pol

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Definition of signal window

Fluence estimator ~ sum over the frequencies $\hat{f}^{\text{pol}} = K \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \hat{f}_j$

Definition of noise windows

Noise estimator over the windows

$$a \sim \text{Rice}(s, \sigma)$$

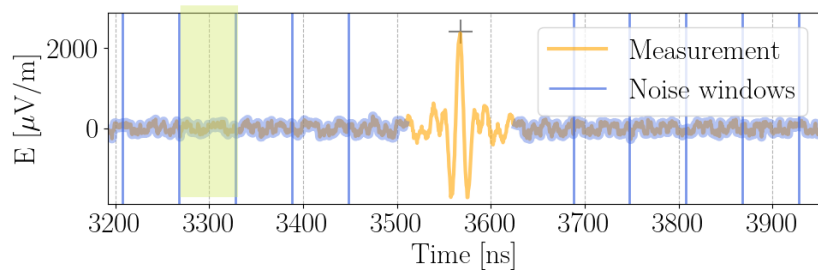
$$\hat{f} = \begin{cases} a^2 - 2\sigma^2 & a^2 \geq 2\sigma^2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Var}(\hat{f}) = 2\sigma^4(2 + 2\text{snr})$$

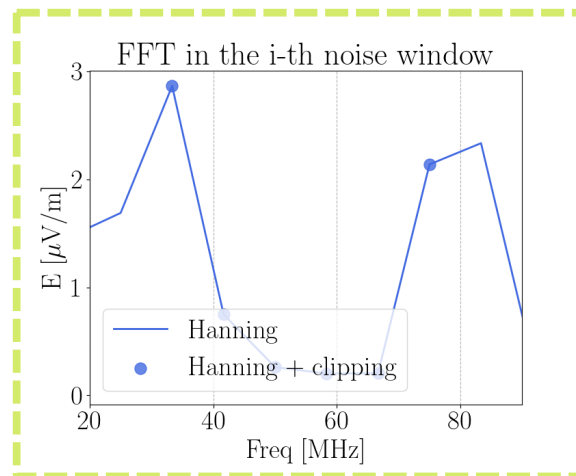
$$\text{snr} = (s/\sigma)^2 \rightarrow s^2 \approx \hat{f}$$

$$\sigma^2 \sim ?$$

j-th bin

Repeated for all the N_{noise} windows

signal processing
Fourier Transform



n-th pol

Evaluation of the fluence in the frequency domain

Definition of signal window

Fluence estimator ~ sum over the frequencies $\hat{f}^{\text{pol}} = K \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \hat{f}_j$

Definition of noise windows

Noise estimator over the windows

j-th bin

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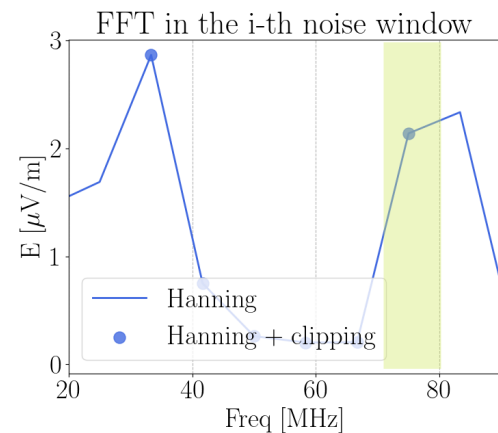
$$\sigma^2 \sim ?$$

Derivation:

$$E(a^2) = 2\sigma^2 + s^2$$

 $s = 0$

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{E(a^2)}{2}$$



n-th pol

Evaluation of the fluence in the frequency domain

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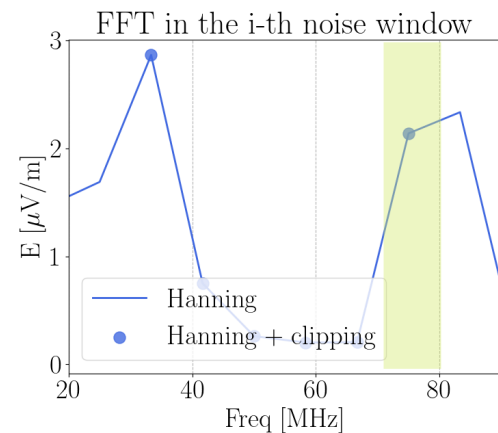
$$E(a^2) = 2\sigma^2 + s^2$$

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{E(a^2)}{2}$$

$s = 0$

Sample mean of the statistic over the noise windows:

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{N_{\text{noise}}} \sum_{i=0}^{N_{\text{noise}}-1} a_i^2 \right)$$



n-th pol

Evaluation of the fluence in the frequency domain

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Noise estimator over the windows

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$$\text{snr} = (s/\sigma)^2 \rightarrow s^2 \approx \hat{f}$$

$$\sigma^2 \sim ?$$

Derivation:

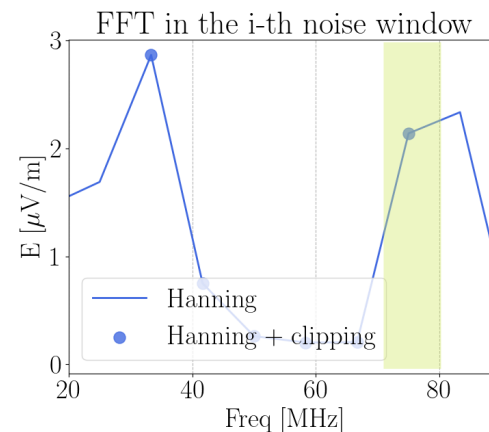
$$E(a^2) = 2\sigma^2 + s^2$$

$s = 0$

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{E(a^2)}{2}$$

Sample standard deviation over the noise windows:

$$\delta(\hat{\sigma}^2) = \frac{1}{2} s(a_i^2) / \sqrt{N_{\text{noise}}} \quad (\text{small})$$



n-th pol

Evaluation of the fluence in the frequency domain

Definition of signal window

Fluence estimator ~ sum over the frequencies $\hat{f}^{\text{pol}} = K \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \hat{f}_j$

Definition of noise windows

Noise estimator over the windows

j-th bin

$$a \sim \text{Rice}(s, \sigma)$$

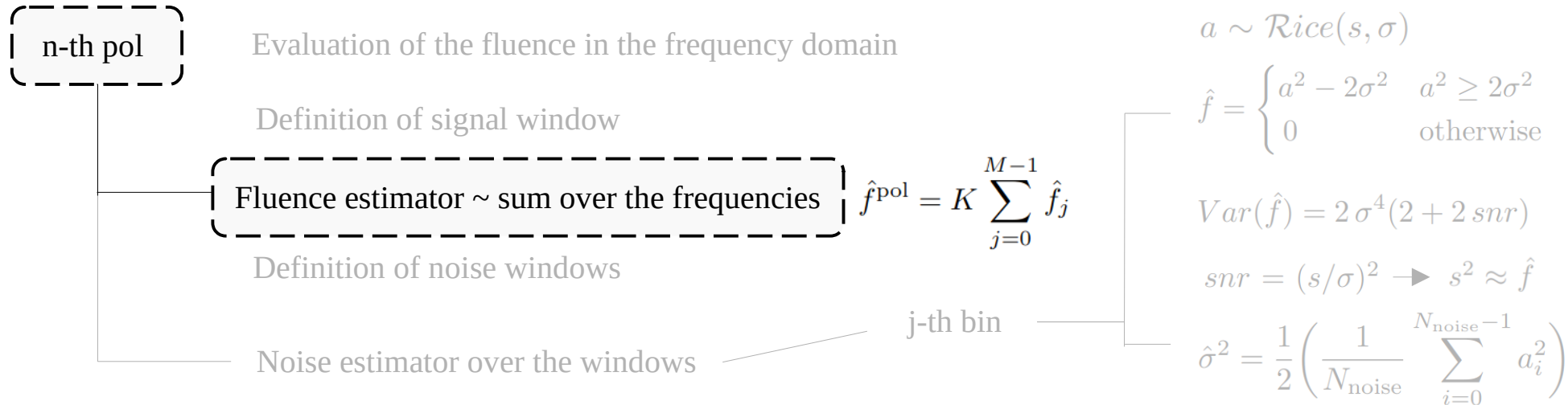
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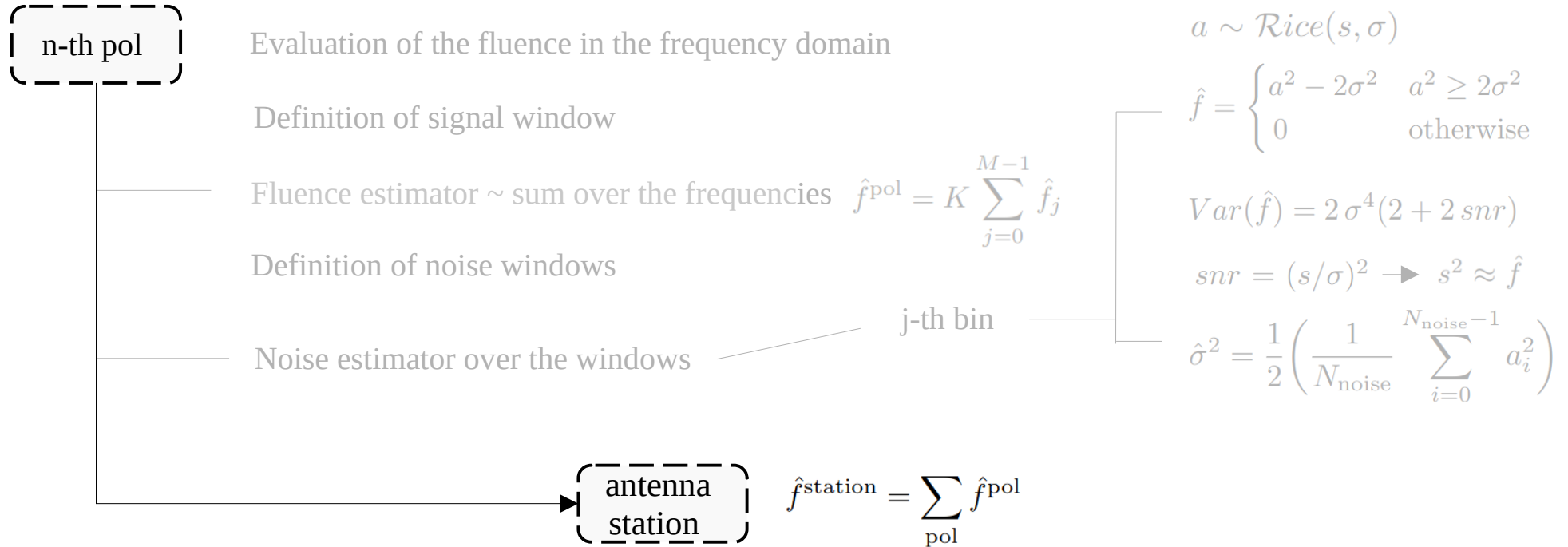
$$\text{snr} = (s/\sigma)^2 \rightarrow s^2 \approx \hat{f}$$

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{N_{\text{noise}}} \sum_{i=0}^{N_{\text{noise}}-1} a_i^2 \right)$$

We have all the ingredients at bin level



We can now evaluate the fluence at trace level ...

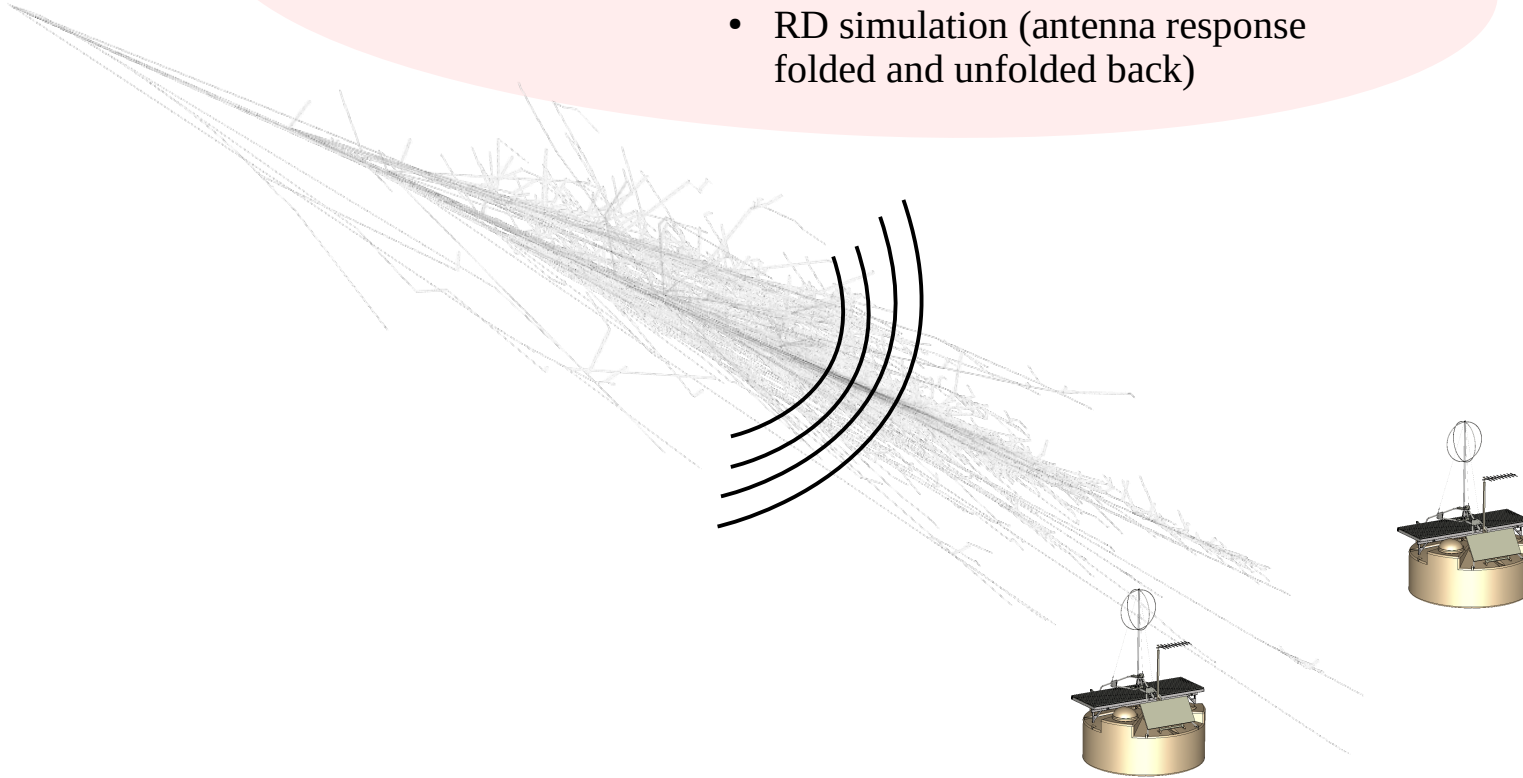


... and at the antenna level

Now we can compare the new method and the noise-subtraction method

RD Simulations

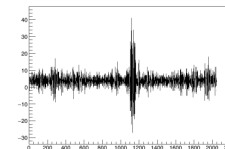
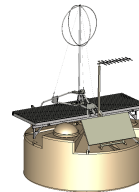
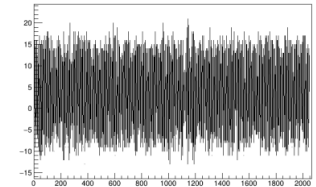
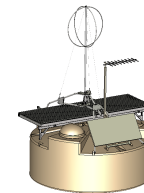
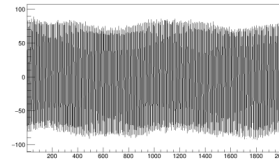
- 8000 proton/iron/nitrogen/helium CORSIKA/CoREAS simulations
- RD simulation (antenna response folded and unfolded back)

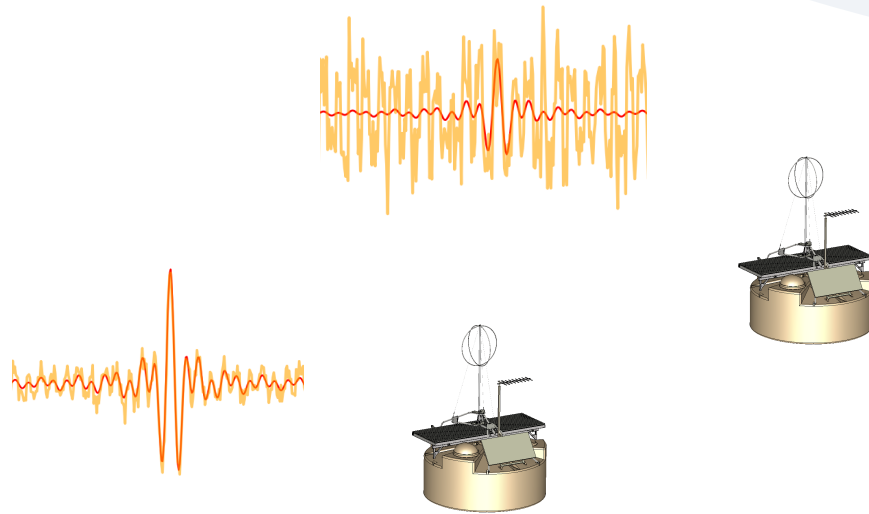


RD Simulations

- RD traces recorded over one year from the stations of the Engineering Array
 - Cleaned from the showers signals and corrupted traces

RD Noise Library





RD Simulations

Simulated RD
Measurements

RECONSTRUCTION

New method $\hat{f}^{\text{pol}} = K \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \hat{f}_j$

Noise subtraction method

$$\hat{f}^{\text{pol}} = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \left(\sum_{t_j=t_3}^{t_4} A(t_j)_{\text{pol}}^2 - \frac{t_4 - t_3}{t_2 - t_1} \sum_{t_j=t_1}^{t_2} A(t_j)_{\text{pol}}^2 \right)$$

RD Simulations

Simulated RD Measurements

New method

$$f^{\text{pol}} = K \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} s^2(\nu_j)$$

Noise subtraction method

$$f^{\text{pol}} = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \left(\sum_{t_j=t_3}^{t_4} A(t_j)_{\text{pol}}^2 \right)$$

REFERENCE VALUES vs RECONSTRUCTION

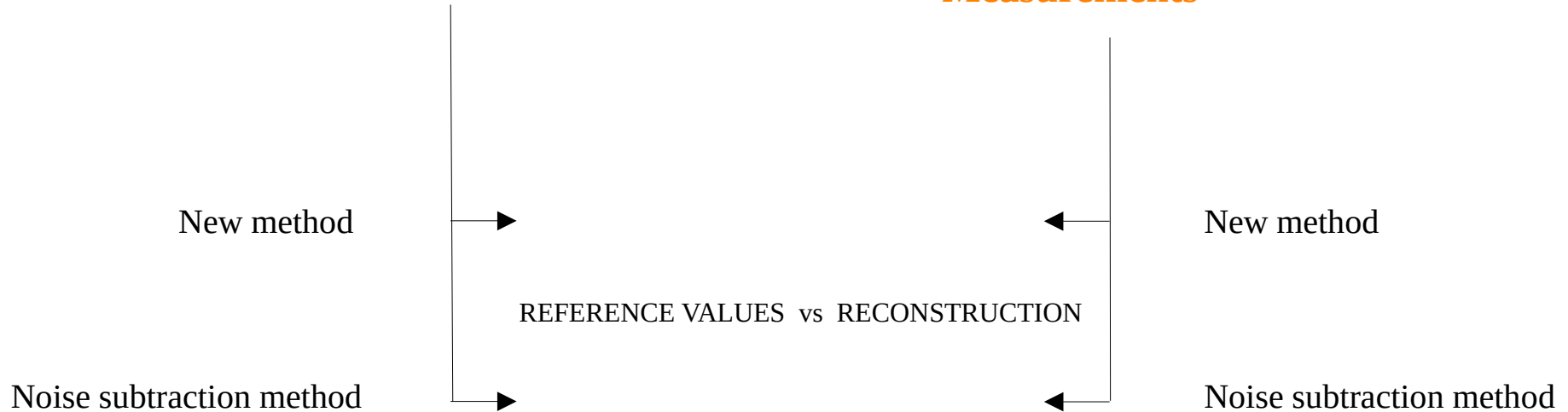
New method

$$\hat{f}^{\text{pol}} = K \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \hat{f}_j$$

Noise subtraction method

$$\hat{f}^{\text{pol}} = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \left(\sum_{t_j=t_3}^{t_4} A(t_j)_{\text{pol}}^2 - \frac{t_4 - t_3}{t_2 - t_1} \sum_{t_j=t_1}^{t_2} A(t_j)_{\text{pol}}^2 \right)$$

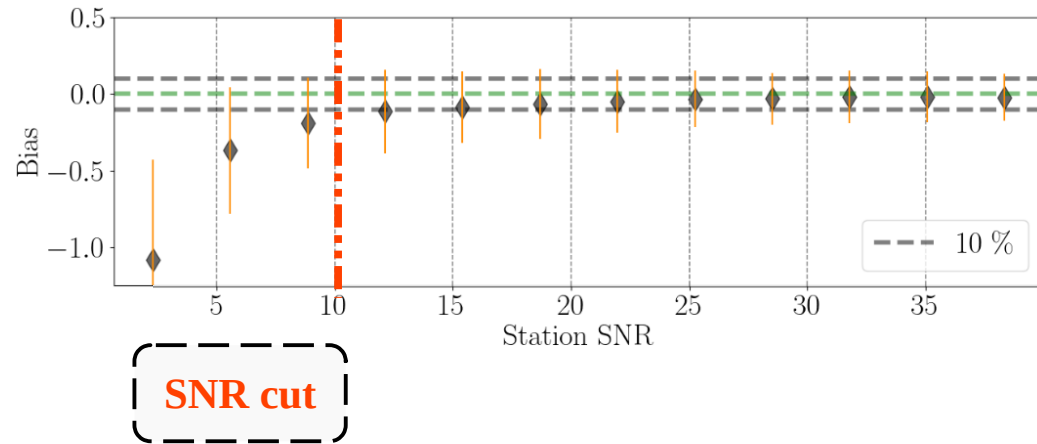
Different reference values for different methods

RD Simulations**Simulated RD
Measurements**

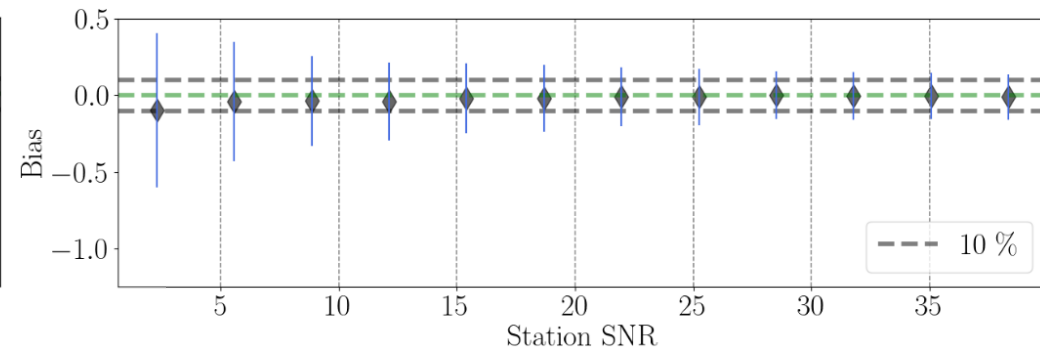
Quality cuts:

- Stations affected by thinning artifacts from simulation
- Stations where the pulse-finding algorithm “fails” (>2ns)

Noise subtraction method

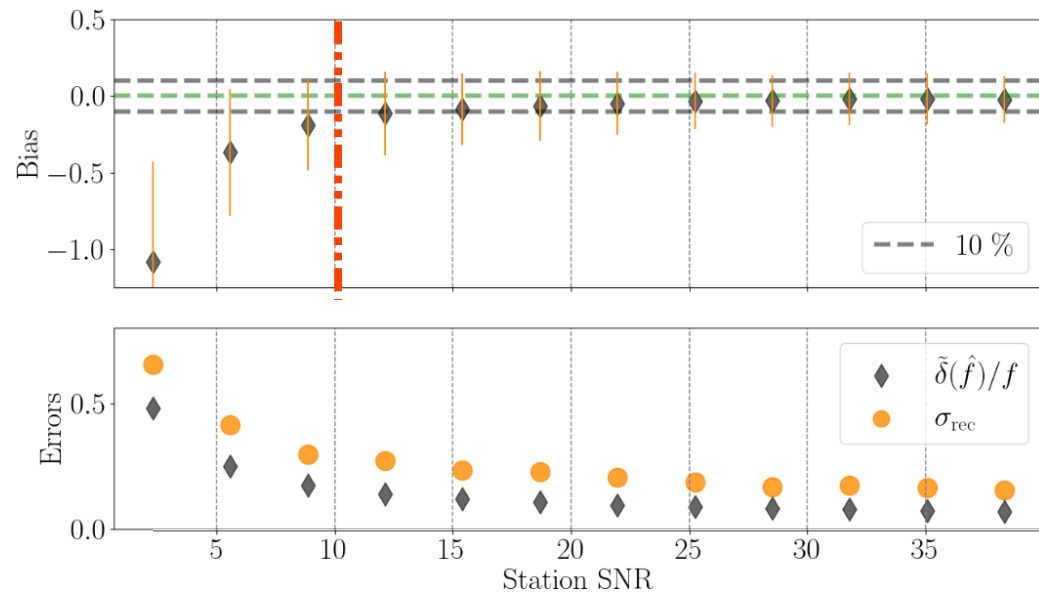


New method



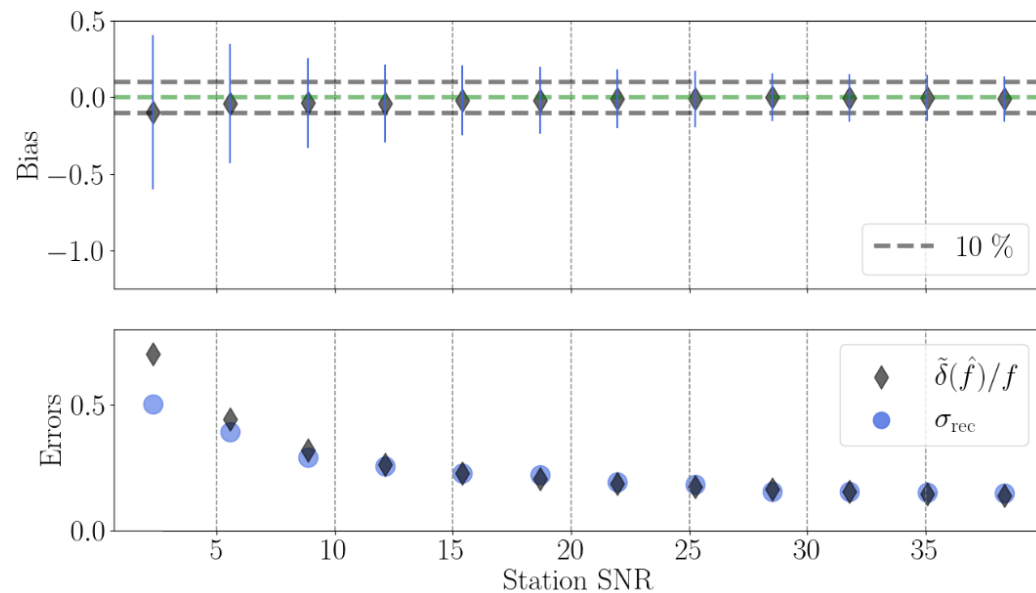
On average the new method is unbiased even at small SNR

Noise subtraction method



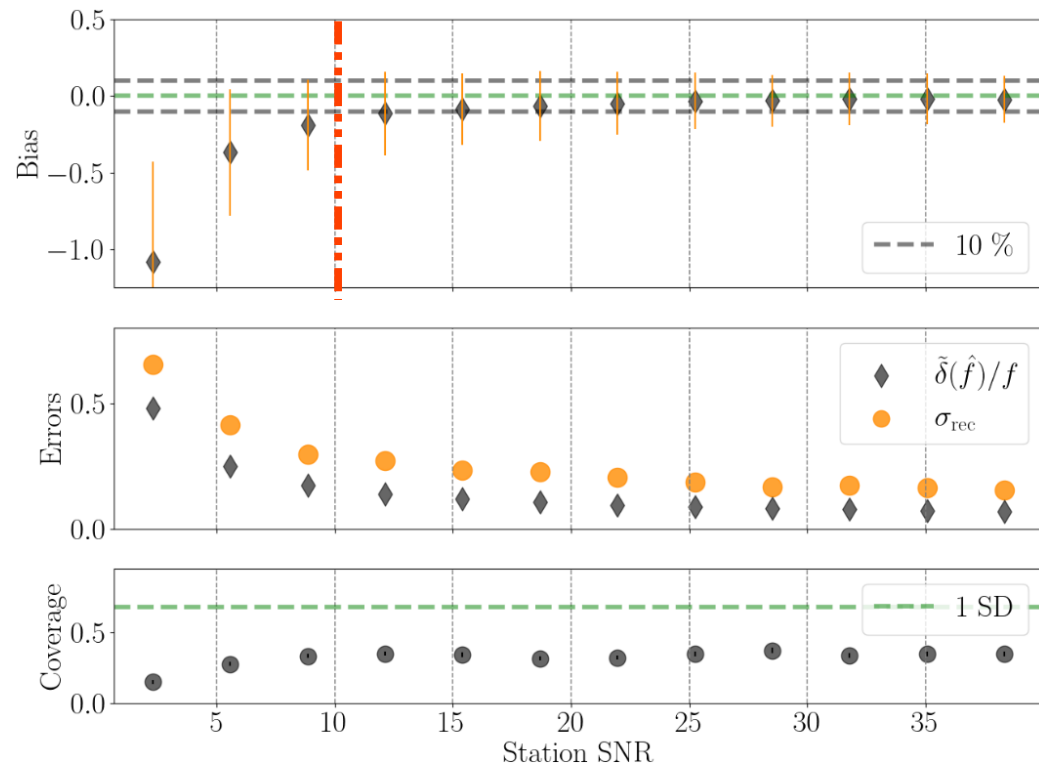
The relative errors are smaller than the reconstruction resolution of the same bin

New method



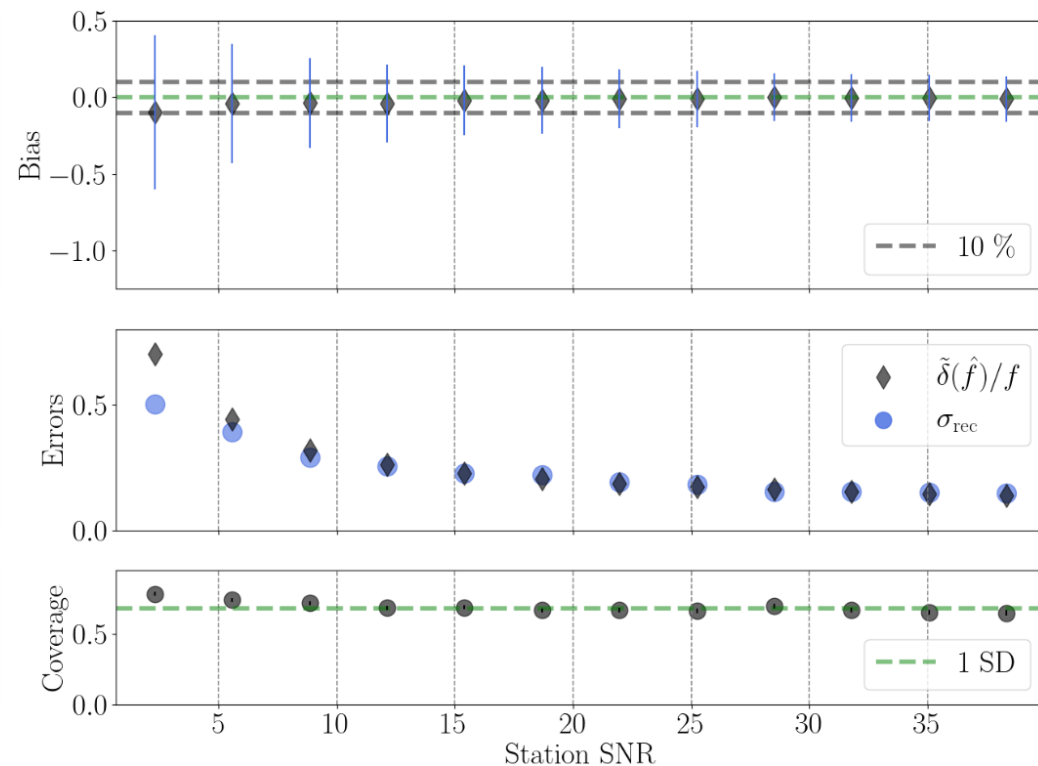
The relative errors of the new method reflect better the reconstruction resolution

Noise subtraction method



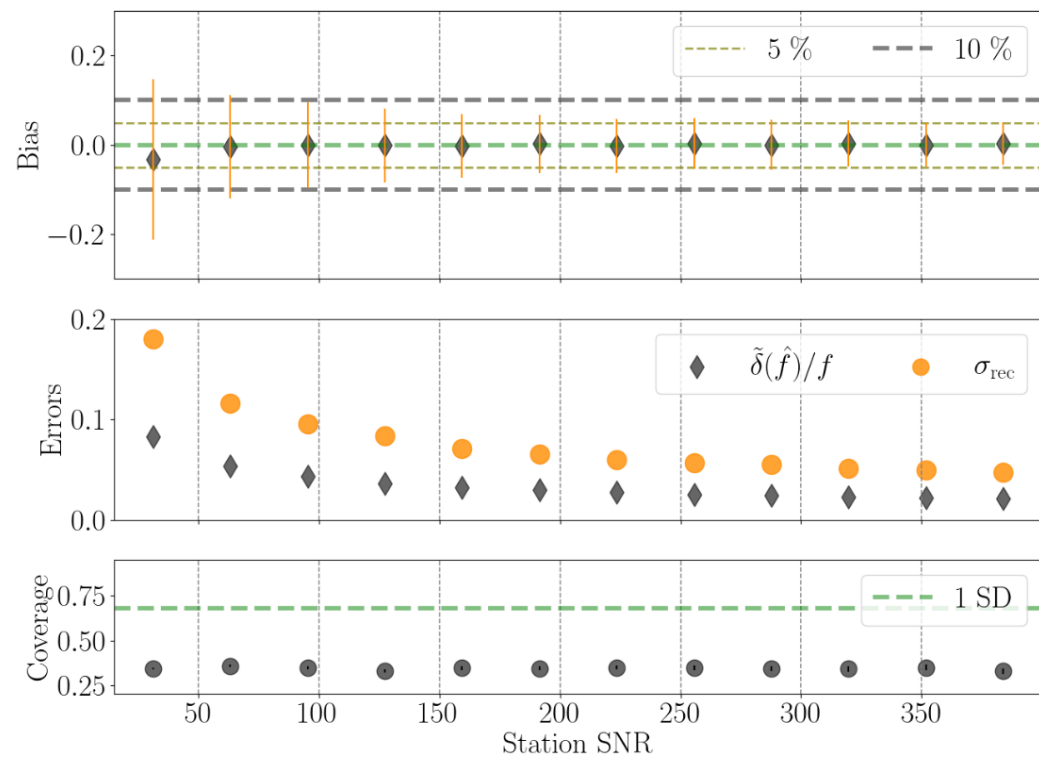
The noise subtraction method underestimates the uncertainties

New method

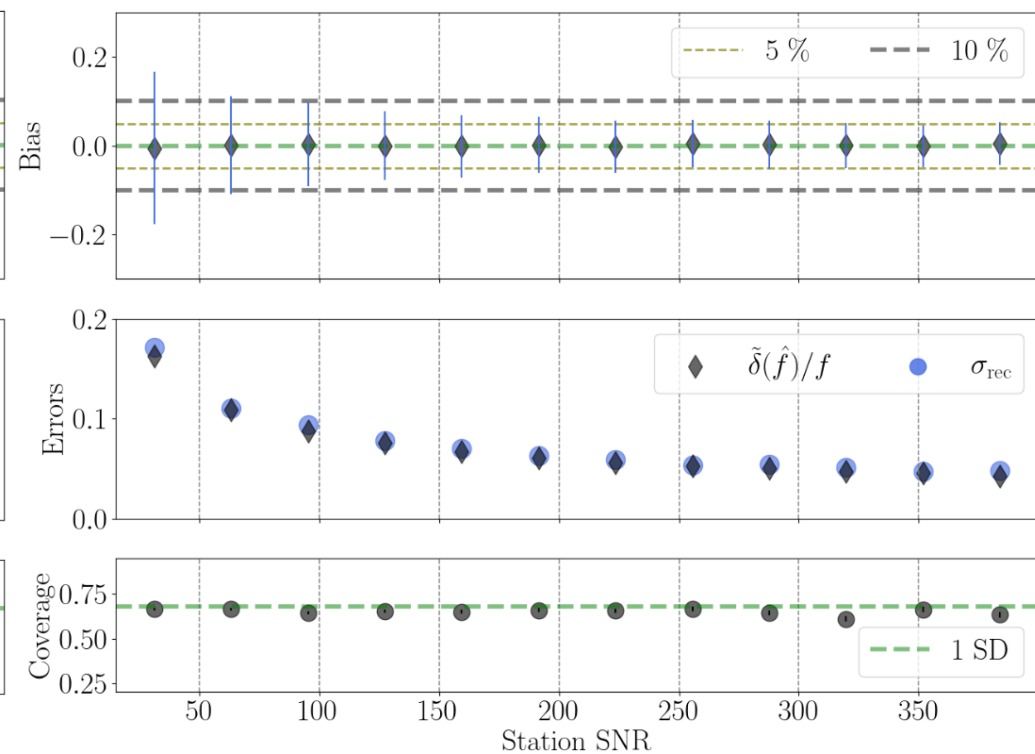


Coverage of the errors fluctuates around 68%

Noise subtraction method



New method



The noise subtraction method strongly underestimates the uncertainties at any SNR.

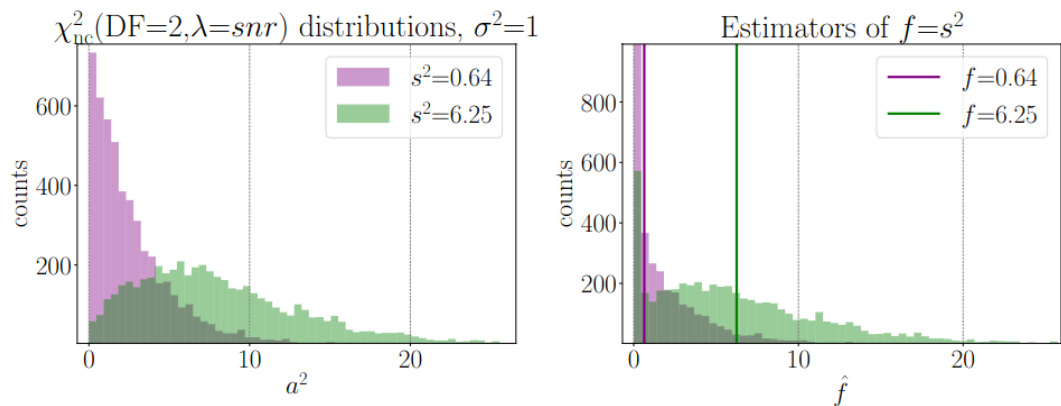
Conclusions

- The new fluence estimation shows a smaller bias than the conventional method for small SNR values (on average less than 10%)
- At higher SNRs, the bias is comparable (on average less than 5%)
- The new method correctly estimate the uncertainties at any SNR (coverage about 68%)

... & Outlooks

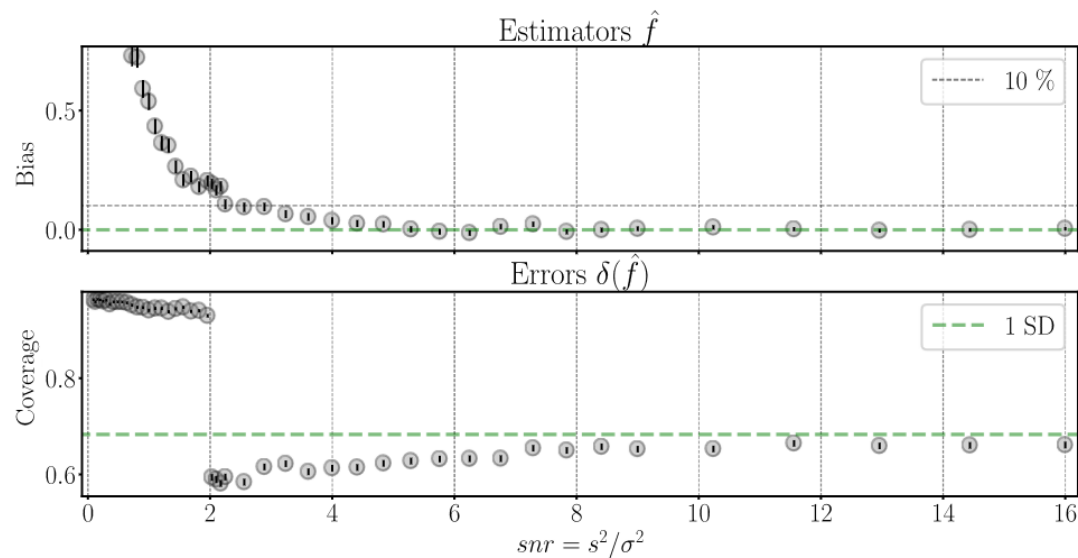
- Paper soon
- SNR cut can be lowered/removed
- Improvements on the elm. Energy reconstruction
- Possible employment of frequency spectrum modeling

Backup



N=5000

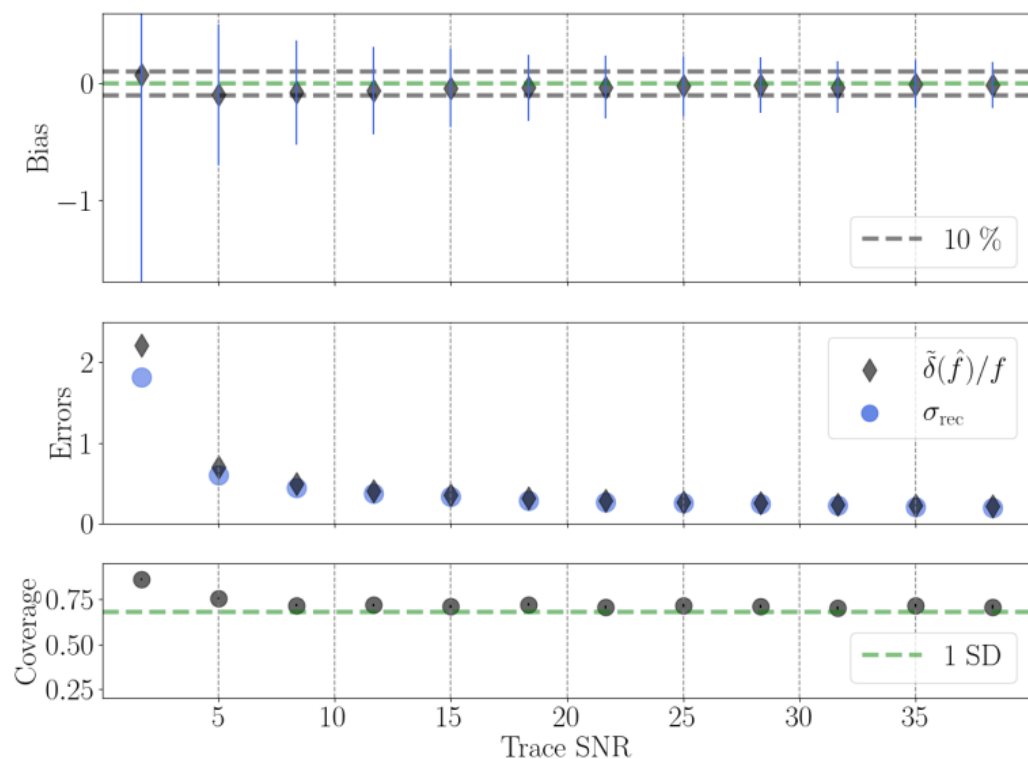
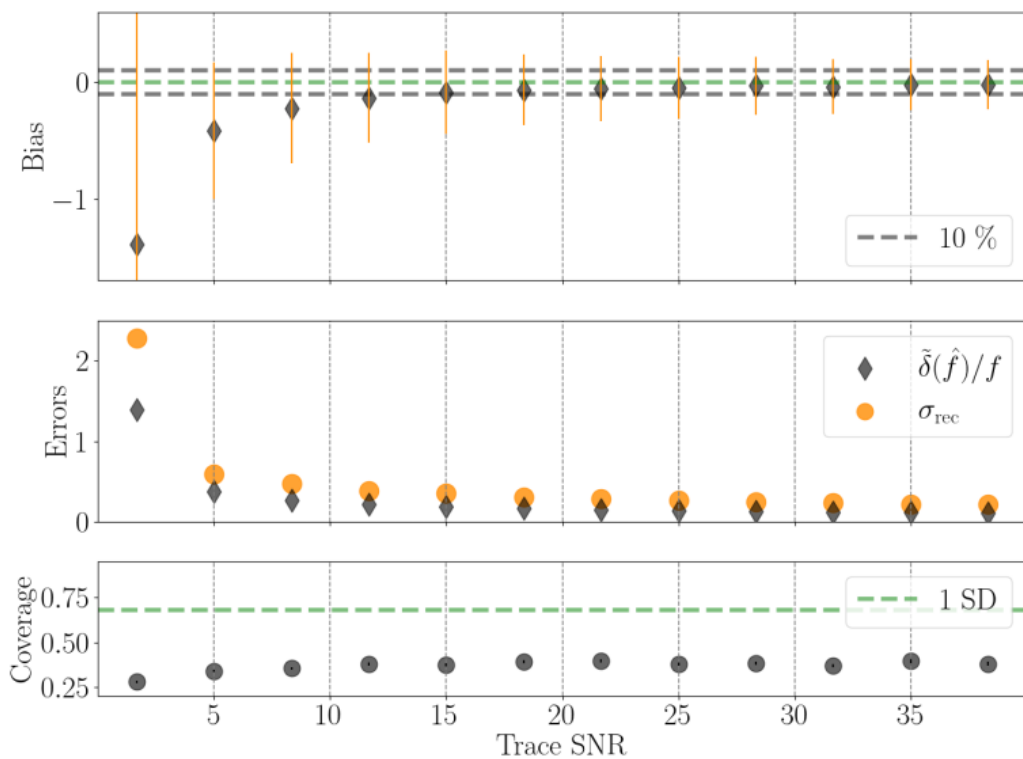
$$\left(snr_{MC}, (a_{MC}^k)^2 \right) \rightarrow \left(\hat{f}^k, \delta(\hat{f}^k) \right)$$



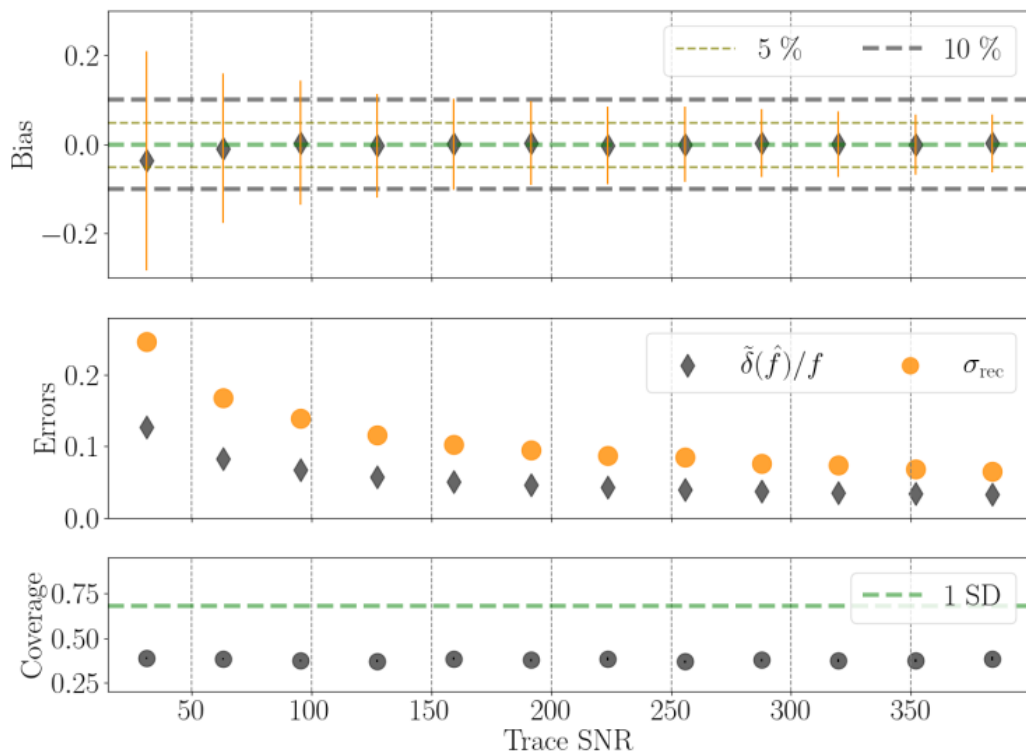
Repeating by fixing snr to several values

Noise subtraction method

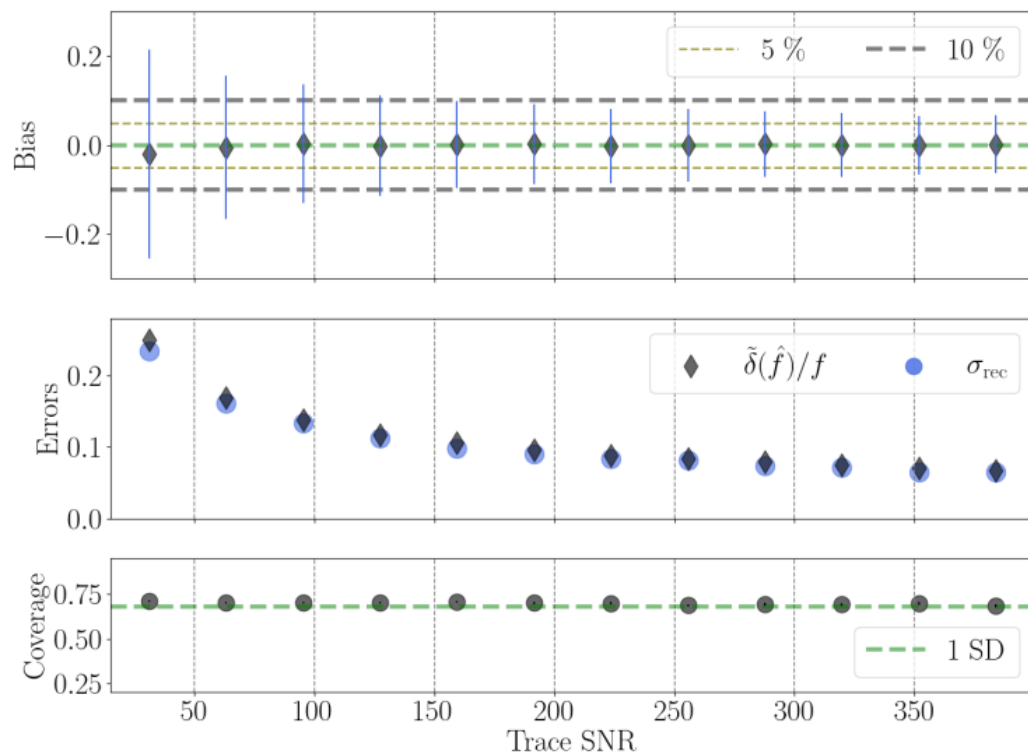
New method



Noise subtraction method

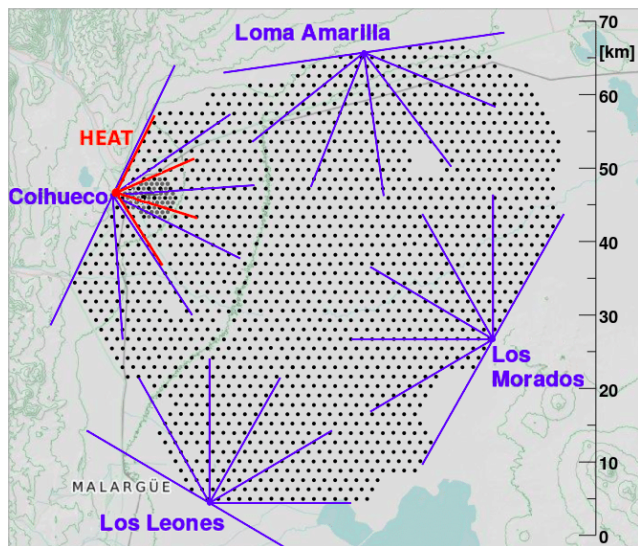


New method



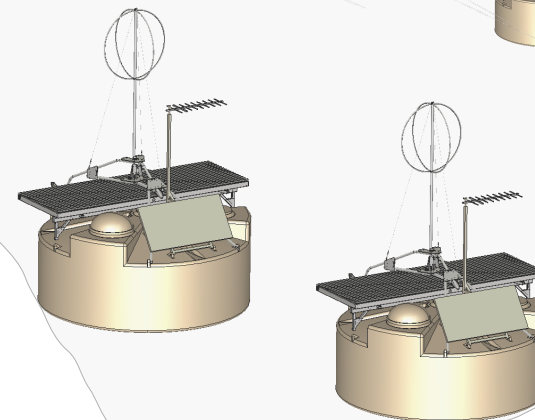
CR initiating EAS

elm. component => radio emission



Pierre Auger Observatory

AugerPrime Upgrade, Radio Detector (RD)

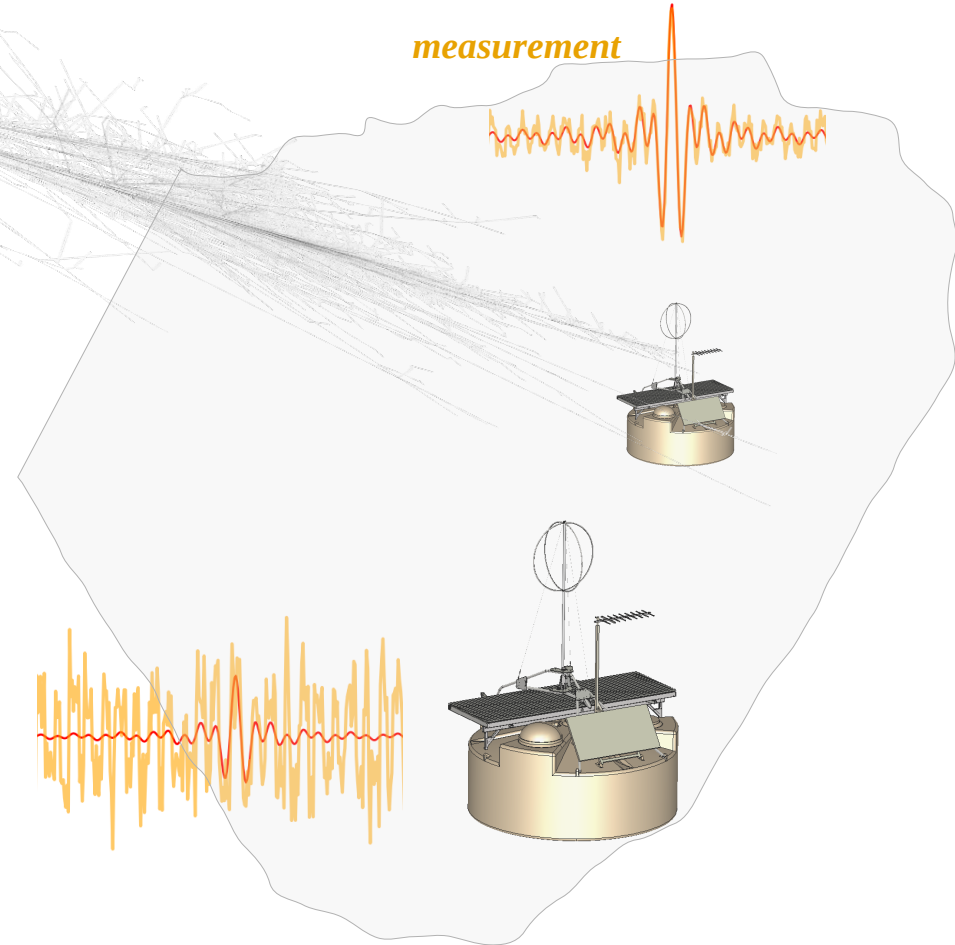
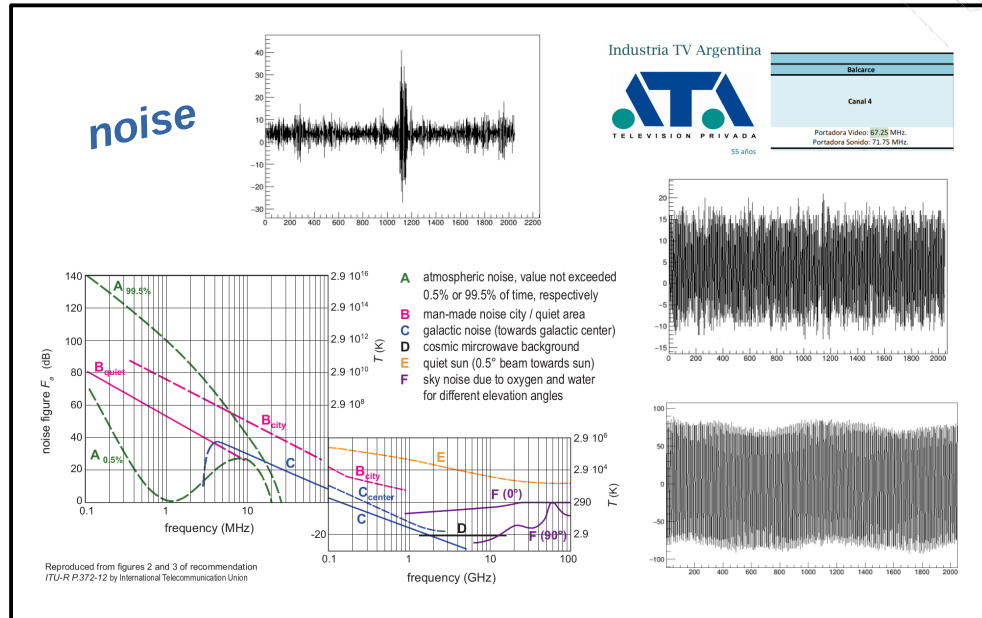


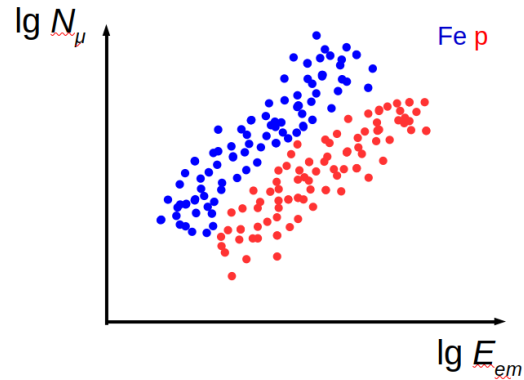
Not in scale ;)

CR initiating shower

elm. component => radio emission

CR radio signal
measurement



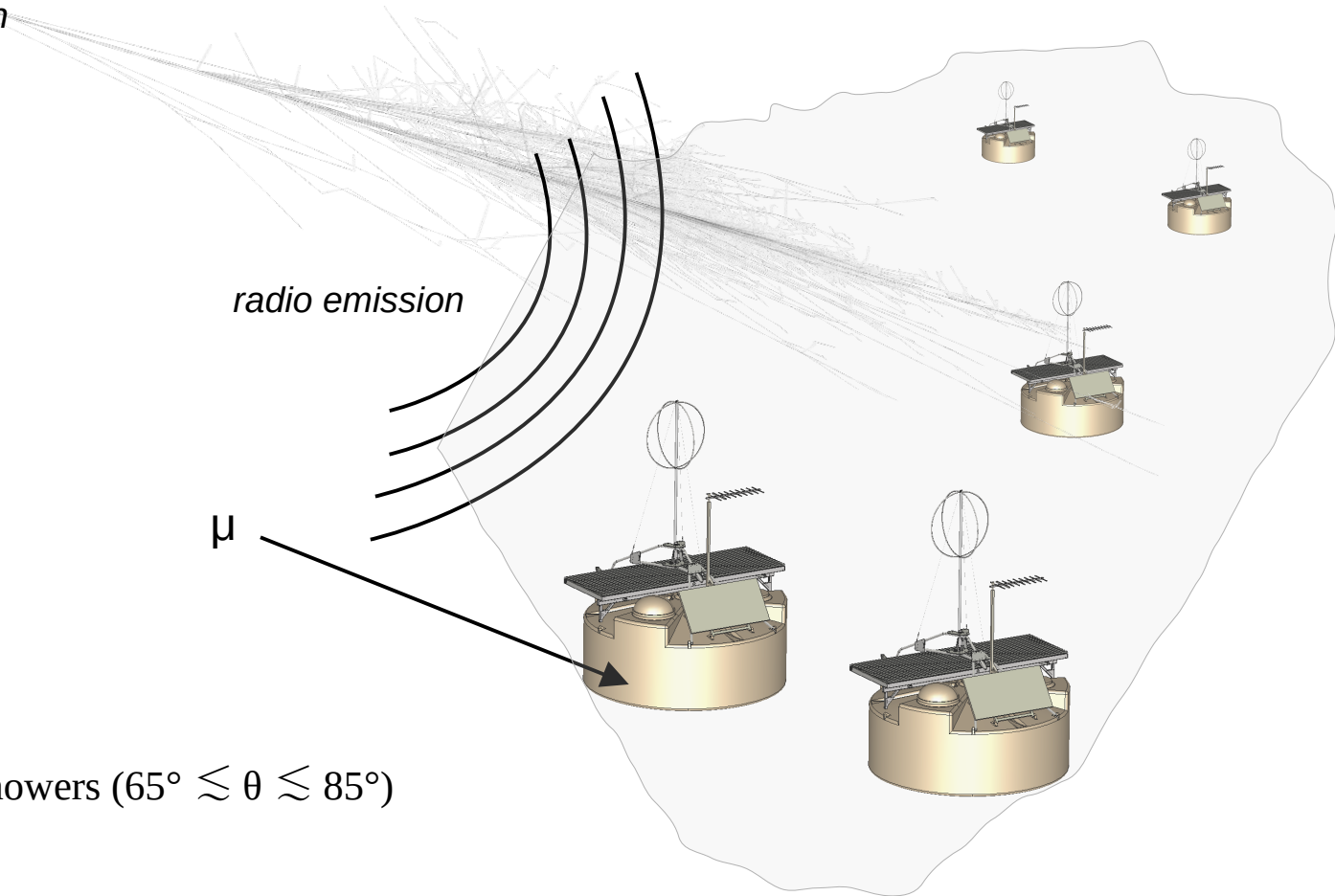
*CR initiating shower**elm. component => radio emission*

radio emission

 μ

Mass composition studies:
RD + WCD
 (Water Cherenkov Detector)

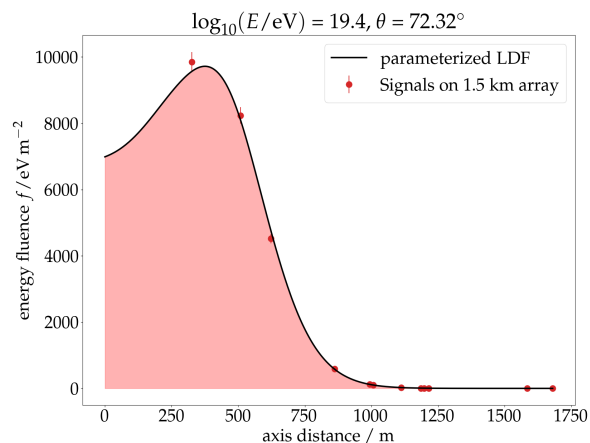
Works well with inclined air showers ($65^\circ \lesssim \theta \lesssim 85^\circ$)



CR initiating shower

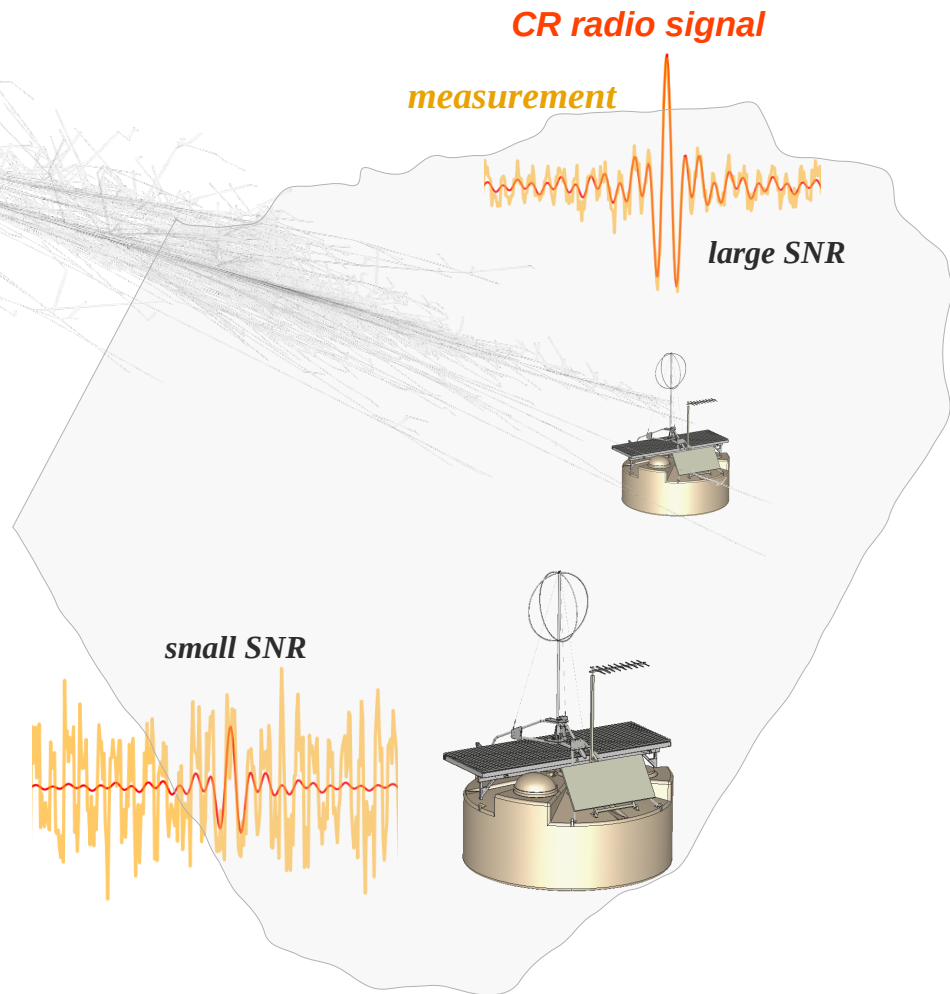
elm. component => radio emission

Goals: improve the signal estimation to recover the excluded radio data; correctly evaluate the uncertainties



$$\sim E_{em}^2$$

Application: LDF fitting of the **radio energy fluence** [eV m^{-2}] to estimate the elm. Energy of the shower



Reference: C. Glaser's PhD thesis

5.5.2 Uncertainty of the energy fluence

We estimate the uncertainty of the energy fluence by assuming that the measured electric-field amplitude $A(t)$ is the sum of the cosmic-ray radio pulse $S(t)$ and noise $e(t)$. Furthermore, we assume that the noise $e(t)$ is Gaussian distributed with mean $\mu = 0$ and standard deviation $\sigma = \sigma_e$. The energy fluence of A is then given by the equation

$$f(A) = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \sum_{t_1}^{t_2} A(t_i)^2 = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \sum_{t_1}^{t_2} [S(t_i) + e(t_i)]^2 = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \sum_{t_1}^{t_2} [S(t_i)^2 + 2S(t_i)e(t_i) + e(t_i)^2] \quad (5.16)$$

and the expectation value of $f(A)$ is

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f(A) \rangle &= \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \sum_{t_1}^{t_2} A(t_i)^2 = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \sum_{t_1}^{t_2} [\langle S(t_i)^2 \rangle + 2\langle S(t_i)e(t_i) \rangle + \langle e(t_i)^2 \rangle] \\ &= \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \sum_{t_1}^{t_2} \left[\langle S(t_i) \rangle^2 + \underbrace{\text{Var}(S(t_i))}_{=0} + 2\langle S(t_i) \rangle \underbrace{\langle e(t_i) \rangle}_{=0} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 2 \underbrace{\text{Cov}(S(t_i), e(t_i))}_{=0} + \underbrace{\langle e(t_i) \rangle^2}_{=0} + \underbrace{\text{Var}(e(t_i))}_{\sigma_e^2} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (5.17)$$

$$= \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \sum_{t_1}^{t_2} [\langle S(t_i) \rangle^2 + \sigma_e^2] .$$

Hence, the best estimate of the energy fluence of the radio signal S is indeed

$$f(S) = \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \sum_{t_1}^{t_2} [A(t_i)^2 - \sigma_e^2] \quad (5.18)$$

as defined in Eq. (5.8) where σ_e^2 is also calculated from the electric-field trace in a part where no signal is present. Following a similar calculation we can estimate the uncertainty of $f(S)$ by computing $\sigma_f^2 = \text{Var}(f) = \langle f^2 \rangle - \langle f \rangle^2$. After several lines of calculation it follows that

$$\sigma_f^2 = 4f \epsilon_0 c \Delta t \sigma_e^2 + 2(\epsilon_0 c)^2 (t_2 - t_1) \Delta t \sigma_e^4 . \quad (5.19)$$