

International Workshop
“RT-32 Zolochiv:
First Results, EU Collaboration, Radio Astronomy Frontiers”
October 3-7, 2021, Zolochiv, Ukraine

New Frontiers in the Low-frequency Radio Astronomy. Part 2

A. Konovalenko

*Institute Radio Astronomy of NAS of Ukraine
61002, Kharkiv, Mystetskv St. 4*

New Opportunities of Ukrainian and World Low Frequency Radio Astronomy

Part 1: Super sensitive low-frequency radio astronomy

Part 2: New astrophysical tasks and capabilities

A. Konovalenko

Institute of Radio Astronomy, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Kharkiv, Ukraine

Abstract

There is a rapid progression of low-frequency radio astronomy (8-80 MHz band) around the world. Giant new generation instruments LOFAR, NenuFAR, LWA, MWA, SKA are being built and used. But for half a century, Ukraine has remained the world leader in this current field of fundamental and applied science, thanks to the creation and use of the world's largest UTR-2, URAN, GURT radio telescopes. Recently, a careful analysis has shown that the reserves of these unique tools and related research have not yet been exhausted. This concerns the further development and modernization of experimental means and observation methods that will radically increase the sensitivity of measurements, resolution, noise immunity. The integration of Ukrainian radio astronomy potential and related facilities into the worldwide network of radio research of the Universe is also an additional opportunity for progress.

Low-frequency radio telescopes on the map of Ukraine

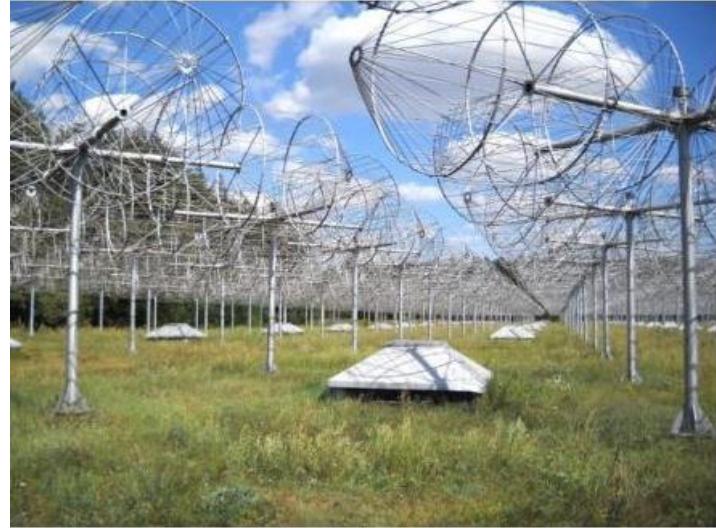




The world's largest UTR-2 radio telescope (N-S arm, 1.9 km x 60 m)
Frequency range - 8... 32 MHz; number of elements - 2040;
effective area - 150,000 square meters.



The UTR-2 radio telescope, E-W arm (900m×60m)



URAN-1...URAN-4 radio telescopes

$\Sigma N (\text{URAN}) = 1000 * 2;$ $\Sigma N (\text{total}) = 4040;$ $A_{\text{eff}} (\text{total}) = 200000 \text{ sq. m}$

Upgrade of the UTR-2 radio telescope during 2006-2016



SYSTEM PARAMETERS AND REGIMES	OLD	NEW
<i>Antenna</i>		
Frequency range	10-25 MHz	8 – 32 (40) MHz
Frequency band	$6 \times 1 \text{ MHz} = 6 \text{ MHz}$	24 (32) MHz
Calibration, check-in, control, hardware, software	~	high - performance
<i>Back-end</i>		
Number of channels	5 beams x 12 rec. = 60 ch.	$5 \times 2 \times 8192 = 81920 \text{ ch.}$
Frequency band	$10 \text{ kHz} \times 60 = 600 \text{ kHz}$	24(32) MHz
Time resolution	20 ms	0,25 ms (up to 1 mcs)
Frequency resolution	10 kHz	4 kHz (up to 0,1 kHz)
Dynamic range	40 dB	90 dB
Sensitivity	10 Jy	10mJy
Regimes of measurements	Power spectra; post detector registration	Power spectra; complex cross-spectra; real-time Fourier transform; wave-form

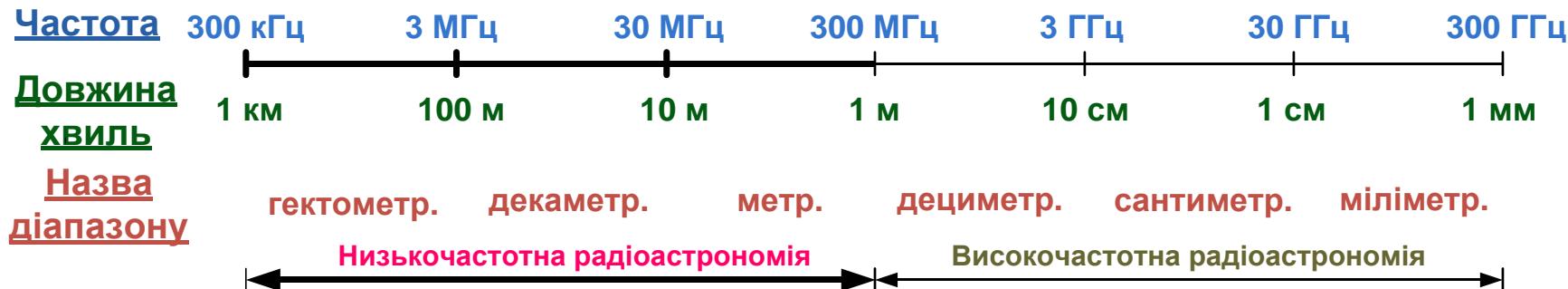
Main parameters of Ukrainian low-frequency radio telescopes

Sky Noise Dominance for UTR-2 and URAN system is 4-8 dB, for GURT – 10 dB.

Main beam scan sector from zenith along both coordinates is $\pm 70^\circ$ for UTR-2 and $\pm 80^\circ$ for URAN and GURT

Radio telescope; institution; coordinates (longitude / latitude)	Frequency range, MHz	Dimensions, m; Max effective area, m ²	Number of elements (l × m = N); polarization	Beamwidth at 25 MHz	Distance to UTR-2 (LOFAR), km	VLBI resolution at 25 MHz (UTR-2 – URAN)	Array spacing (d), suspension above ground (h)
UTR-2; IRA NASU (49° 39' / 36° 56')	8 – 32 (40)	1800 × 900 m 140 000 m ²	2040 1 linear	0.4° × 0.4°	0 (~2000)	–	$d_{NS} = 7.5 \text{ m}$ $d_W = 9 \text{ m}$, $h = 3.5 \text{ m}$
UTR-2 North-South arm	8 – 32 (40)	1800 × 53 m 105 000 m ²	6 × 240 = 1440 1 linear	0.3° × 12°	0 (~2000)	–	---//---
UTR-2 West arm	8 – 32 (40)	900 × 45 m 40 000 m ²	6 × 100 = 600 1 linear	0.6° × 12°	0 (~2000)	–	---//---
URAN-1; IRA NASU (49° 40' / 36° 21')	8 – 32 (40)	200 × 29 m 5 500 m ²	4 × 24 = 96 2 linear	5° × 30°	42 (~1950)	59"	$d = 7.5 \text{ m}$ $h = 3.5 \text{ m}$
URAN-2; PGO NASU (49° 38' / 34° 50')	8 – 32 (40)	238 × 116 m 28 000 m ²	16 × 32 = 512 2 linear	3.5° × 7.5°	150 (~1850)	16"	$d = 7.5 \text{ m}$ $h = 3.5 \text{ m}$
URAN-3; PMI NASU (51° 29' / 23° 50')	8 – 32 (40)	238 × 58 m 14 000 m ²	8 × 32 = 256 2 linear	3.5° × 15°	946 (~1100)	2.6"	$d = 7.5 \text{ m}$ $h = 3.5 \text{ m}$
URAN-4; IRA NASU (46° 24' / 30° 16')	8 – 32 (40)	238 × 29 m 7 000 m ²	4 × 32 = 128 2 linear	3.5° × 30°	613 (~1500)	4"	$d = 7.5 \text{ m}$ $h = 3.5 \text{ m}$
GURT (single subarray); IRA NASU (49° 39' / 36° 56')	8 – 70 (80)	18 × 18 m 650 m ² (at 10 MHz)	5 × 5 = 25 2 linear	30° × 30°	~1 (~2000)	–	$d = 3.75 \text{ m}$ $h = 1.6 \text{ m}$

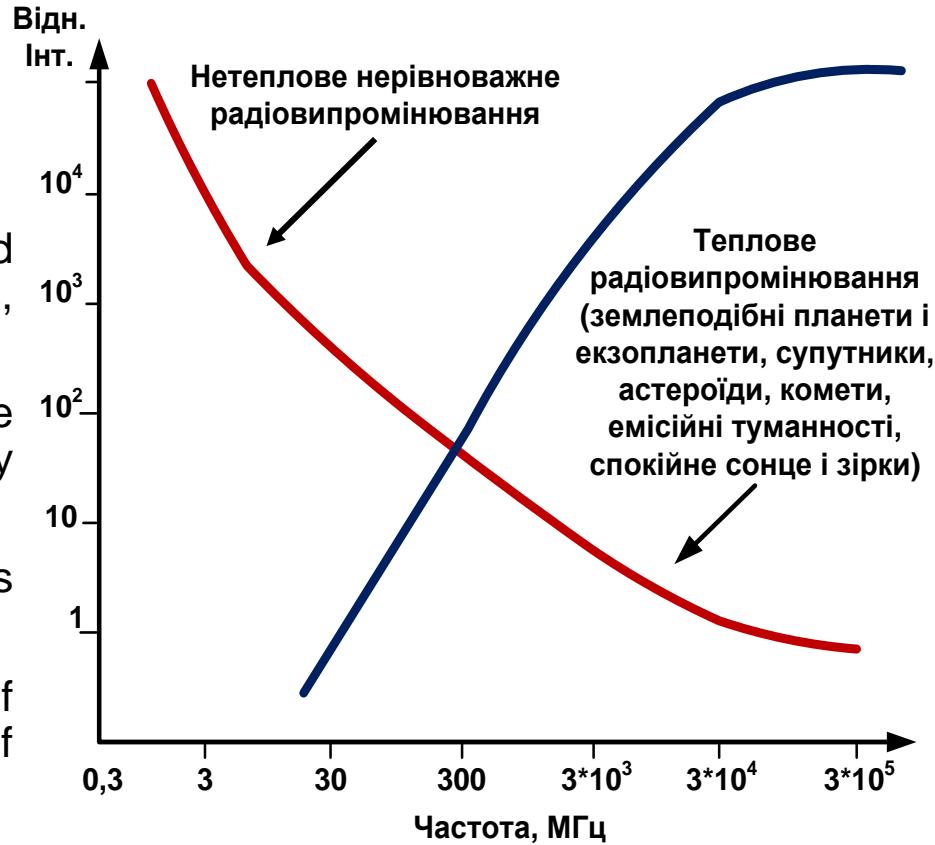
Frequency bands of radio astronomical studies



Non-thermal non-thermal radio emission mechanisms important for low-frequency radio astronomy

- Synchrotron radio emission (galactic and extragalactic background, radio galaxies, quasars);
- Coherent radioemission in magnetoactive plasma (active Sun and stars, pulsars, planetary giants and giant exoplanets);
- Radio emission of electrostatic discharges (lightning in planets and exoplanets);
- Monochromatic stimulated radioemission of highly excited atoms (recombination lines of interstellar atoms).

Possible spectra of radio emission



Equipment-methodical advantages of the low-frequency radio-astronomy

1. Informativeness of the astronomical observations in the certain range of spectrum rises with the increase of relative width of this spectrum that is determined as f_B / f_H . For low-frequency radioastronomy ($f = 8 \dots 80$ Mhz) $f_B / f_H = 10$. (In an optics it equals only two). Thus the absolute band of frequencies folds only $F = f_B - f_H = 80 - 8 = 72$ Mhz. Up-to-date digital technique such band it can be simply digitised "straight".
2. As a noise temperature of low-frequency of radio telescopes is determined by the temperature of the galactic background, then there is not a necessity to use cryogenic entrance receiver.
3. The number of required antenna elements (at a given effective area) decreases inversely in proportion to the square of the wavelength, so the price of the LF radio telescope is significantly reduced.
4. For low-frequency radio telescopes are built as antenna arrays in which it is possible to achieve simultaneously unlimited field of view, multi-beam and multi-section signal reception, flexibility in changing the configuration of the radio telescope.
5. Phased array antennas do not have mechanically moving parts, which increases the reliability and longevity of radio telescopes.
6. Low-frequency radio telescopes are scientific-capacitive, but not technologically-capacitive, so they are not very expensive.

Difficulties of the decameter wavelengths radio astronomy

<i>Problems of low-frequency radio astronomy</i>	<i>Possible solution</i>
High temperature of the Galactic background	High effective area ($10^4 \dots 10^6 \text{ m}^2$). The increasing of the integration time, frequency band, observational statistics. Multi-telescope observations.
Ground-based interferences (natural, artificial, narrow-band, broad-band)	High dynamic range of the front-end. High dynamic range and resolutions back-end. Broad-band antenna. High directivity, low side lobes of antenna. Special processing (clean). Space-borne instruments. Multi-telescope observations.
Ionosphere influence (refraction, scintillations, absorption)	Large field of view (multi-beams). Adaptive antenna. Special processing (clean). Space-borne instruments. Multi-telescope observations.
Low angular resolution in single-dish mode (low D/λ ratio)	VLBI (ground-ground; ground-space). It is Multi-telescope observations.

Low-frequency radio telescopes on the map of Ukraine



First part of LOFAR core

LBA: 30...80 MHz; HBA: 110...240 MHz

The Netherlands, Exloo, 2010



Queen Beatrix at the inauguration of the first part of LOFAR, Exloo, 2010





New LF radio telescope LWA (Long Wavelength Array, USA, New Mexico) $f = 20\ldots80 \text{ MHz}$

США, LWA: $f=30\text{-}80 \text{ МГц}$; $N=256$; $B=16 \text{ МГц}$; $D=85 \text{ дБ}$; $\Delta T=6 \text{ дБ}$; $b=12 \text{ біт}$; $\Sigma_1 = 400 \text{ USD}$

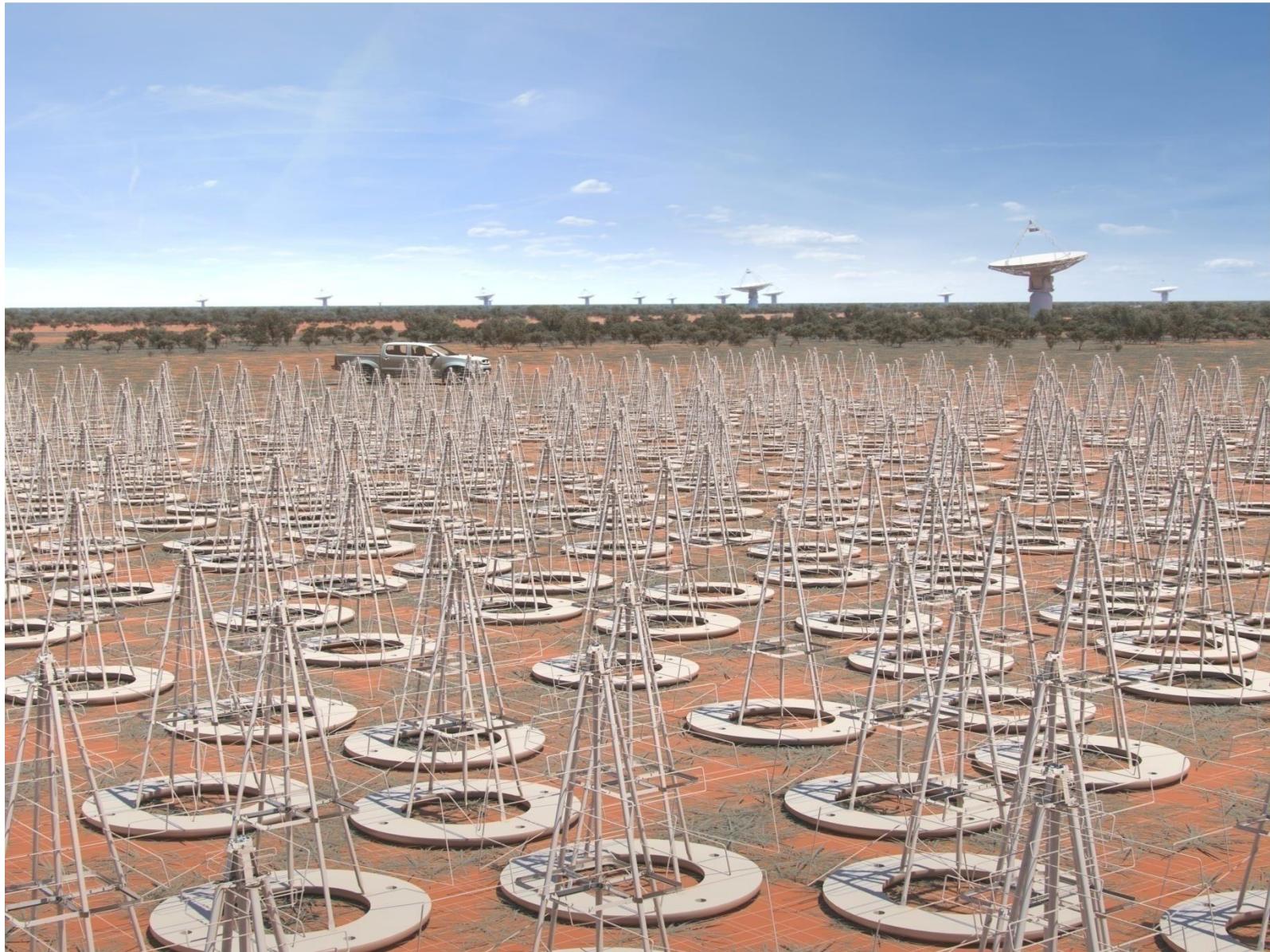
Європа, LOFAR: $f=30\text{-}80 \text{ МГц}$; $N=96\times 10$; $B=16 \text{ МГц}$; $D=80 \text{ дБ}$; $\Delta T=4 \text{ дБ}$; $b=12 \text{ біт}$; $\Sigma_1 = 350 \text{ USD}$

Україна, GURT: $f=10\text{-}80 \text{ МГц}$; $N=275$; $B=70 \text{ МГц}$; $D=95 \text{ дБ}$; $\Delta T=9 \text{ дБ}$; $b=16 \text{ біт}$; $\Sigma_1 = 150^{15} \text{ USD}$

Radio Telescope MWA, 50-300 MHz, Australia



Radio Telescope SKA, 200-1000 MHz, International



NANCAY Decameter Array (NDA), France (10-80 MHz)



New Generation Radio Telescope NenuFAR

(New Extention of Nancay Upgrading LOFAR), France, f= 8...80 MHz



Radio telescope NenuFAR sub-arrays



The Contribution of Ukrainian Radio Astronomers to the development of the NenuFAR Radio Telescope, Nancay Observatory, France

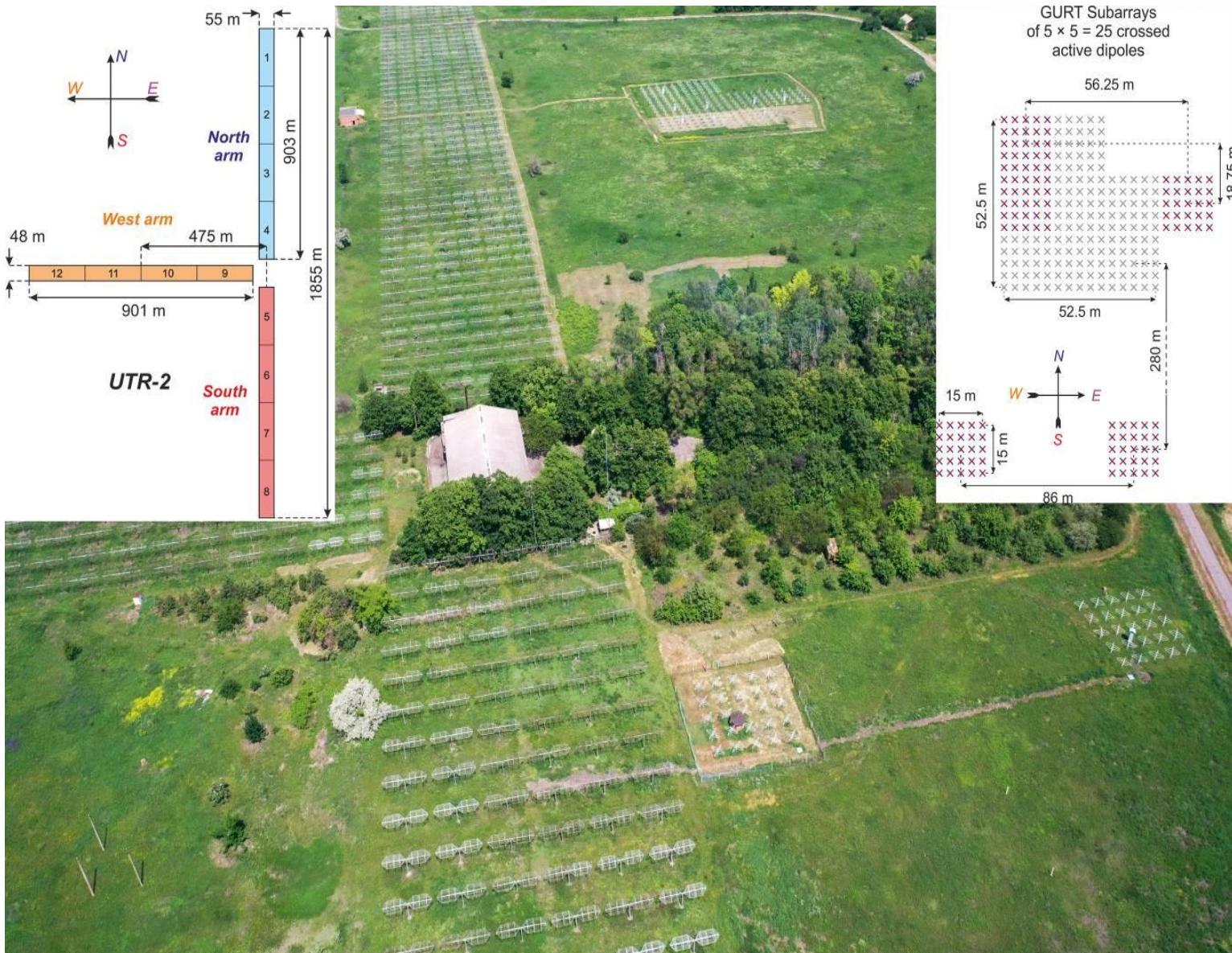
1. Girard J.N., Zarka P., Tagger M., Denis L., Charries D., **Konovalenko A.**, Boone F. Antenna design and distribution of the LOFAR superstation.// Comptes Rendus Physique. – 2012. – V.13 – P. 33-37.
2. Zarka P., Girard J. N., Tagger M., Denis L., Aghanim N., Alsac L., Arnaud M., Barth S., Boone F., Bosse S., Capayrou D., Capdessus C., Cecconi B., Charrier D., Coffre A., Cognard I., Combes F., Corbel S., Cornilleau-Wehrlin N., Cottet P., Dole H., Dumez-Viou C., **Falkovych I.**, Ferrari C., Floquet F., Garnier S., Georges G., Gond B., Grespier N., Grießmeier J.-M., Joly S., **Konovalenko A.**, Lamy L., Leh-nert M., Pommier M., Rucker H., Sandré P., Semelin B., Taffoureau C., Tasse C., Thétas E., Theureau G., **Tokarsky P.**, Van Driel W., Vimon J.-B., and Weber R.: LSS/NenuFAR: The LOFAR Super Station project in Nançay //S. Boissier, P. de Laverny, N. Nardetto, R. Samadi, D. Valls-Gabaud, and H. Wozniak, eds. SF2A 2012: Proc. of the Annual meeting of the French Society of Astronomy and Astrophysics. – 2012. – P. 687–694.
3. Zarka P., Tagger M., Denis L., Girard J. N., **Konovalenko A.**, Atemkeng M., Arnaud M., Azarian S., Barsuglia M., Bonafede A., Boone F., Bosma A., Boyer R., Branchesi M., Briand C., Cecconi B., Célestin S., Charrier D., Chassande-Mottin E., Coffre A., Cognard I., Combes F., Corbel S., Courte C., Dabbech A., Daiboo S., Dallier R., DumezViou C., El Korso M. N., Falgarone E., **Falkovych I.**, Ferrari A., Ferrari C., Ferrière K., Fevotte C., Fialkov A., Fullekrug M., Gérard E., Grießmeier J.-M., Guiderdoni B., Guillemot L., Hessels J., Koopmans L., Kondratiev V., Lamy L., Lanz T., Larzabal P., Lehnert M., Levrier F., Loh A., Macario G., Maintoux J.-J., Martin L., Mary D., Masson S., Miville-Deschenes M.-A., Oberoi D., Panchenko M., Pandey-Pommier M., Petiteau A., Pinçon J.-L., Revenu B., Ri-ble F., Richard C., Rucker H. O., Salomé P., Semelin B., Serylak M., **Sidorchuk M.**, Smirnov O., Stappers B., Taffoureau C., Tasse C., Theureau G., **Tokarsky P.**, Torchinsky S., **Ulyanov O.**, van Driel W., **Vasylieva I.**, Vaubaillon J., Vazza F., Vergani S., Was M., Weber R., and **Zakharenko V.** NenuFAR: Instrument description and science case // International Conference on Antenna Theory and Tech-niques (ICATT): Proc. conf. – Kharkiv, Ukraine. – 2015. – P. 1–6. DOI: 10.1109/ICATT.2015.7136773

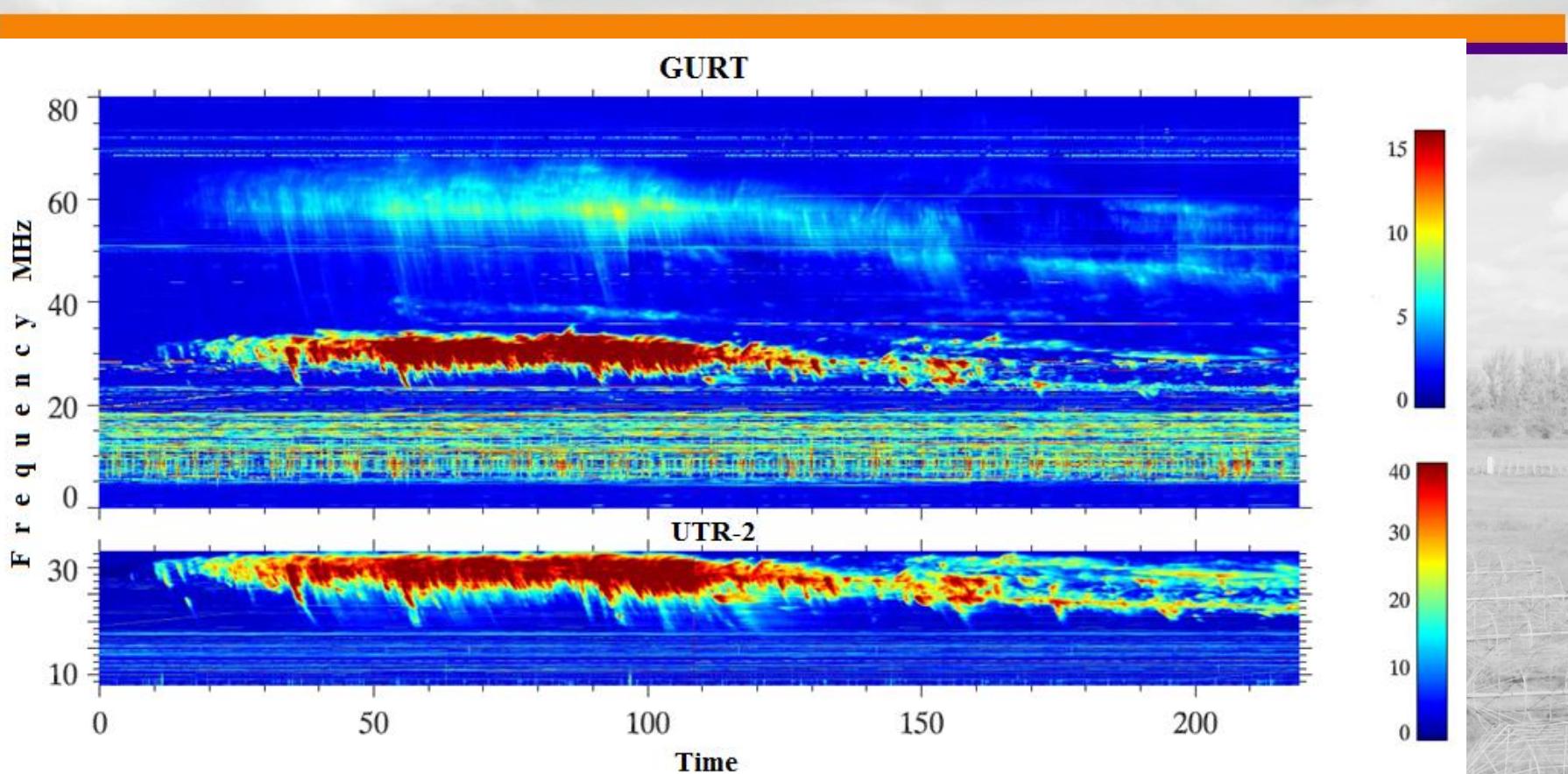
Additional New Generation GURT Radio Telescope with the UTR-2 Radio Telescope at the Observatory of the name S.Y. Braude

- ✓ Frequency range – **8...80 МГц**;
- ✓ Number of crossed elements in the subarray – **25**;
- ✓ The total number of elements installed – **550**;
- ✓ Potential number of elements - up to **10,000**,
which can provide an area of up to 1 sq. km!



Radio telescopes UTR-2 and GURT and their structural schemes





Type II Solar bursts observed by GURT (top)
and UTR-2 (bottom) on 25.07.2014.
The start is 07:11:15 UT

High quality astrophysical studies by using of small size low-frequency new generation radio telescopes

1. Advantages of new generation sub-array GURT (25 active antenna elements)

- broad band;
- high sensitivity for brightness temperature;
- high time and frequency resolution;
- high dynamic range and interference immunity;
- electronic beam steering;
- polarimetric capabilities;
- high filling factor of antenna elements;
- continuous operation in automatic mode;
- optimal combination of analog and digital equipment;
- low costs of the development and maintenance;
- simple checking and repairing.

2. Astrophysical possibilities and tasks

- The Sun and interplanetary medium;
- Earth ionosphere;
- Jupiter;
- Saturn electrostatic discharges;
- pulsars;
- galactic and extragalactic background;
- interstellar medium and radio recombination lines;
- cosmological spectral lines;
- secular decreasing of CasA flux density.

The world's best low frequency radio telescopes ($f \leq 300$ MHz)

(*Existing modernized* *, *New generation* **, *Future* ***), $K = T_N / (T_N + T_{sys})$

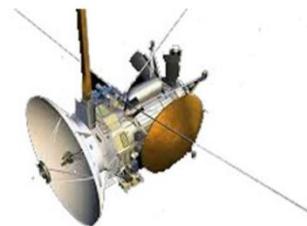
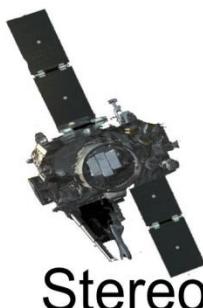
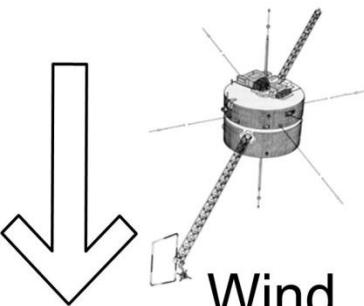
- 1.* **UTR-2 :** $f = 8 \dots 32(40)$ MHz; $A_{ef} \approx 150\ 000$ sq.m ($K \approx 0,8$) – Ukraine
- 2.* **URAN-1...URAN-4:** $f = 8 \dots 32(40)$ MHz; $\sum A_{ef} \approx 50\ 000$ sq.m ($K \approx 0,8$) – Ukraine
- 3.** **GURT:** $f=8 \dots 80$ MHz; $A_{ef} \approx 400$ sq.m (1 субрешітка) ($K \approx 0,9$) – Ukraine
- 4.* **NDA:** $f=(10)20 \dots 80$ MHz; $A_{ef} \approx 14\ 000$ sq.m ($K \approx 0,7$) – France
- 5.** **NenuFAR:** $f=(8)20 \dots 80$ MHz; $A_{ef} \approx 20\ 000$ ($40\ 000$) sq.m ($K \approx 0,9$) – France
- 6.** **LOFAR (LBA):** $f=(10)30 \dots 80$ MHz; $A_{ef} \approx 50\ 000$ sq.m ($K \approx 0,3$) – Europe
LOFAR (HBA): $f=110 \dots 240$ MHz; $A_{ef} \approx 10\ 000$ sq.m ($K \approx 0,5$) – Europe
- 7.** **LWA:** $f=(10)20 \dots 80$ MHz; $A_{ef} \approx 7\ 000$ sq.m ($K \approx 0,7$) – USA
- 8.** **MWA:** $f=50 \dots 300$ MHz; $A_{ef} \approx 10\ 000$ sq.m ($K \approx 0,7$) – Australia
- 9.*** **SKA (Low-band):** $f=200 \dots 1000$ MHz; $A_{ef} \approx 10^6$ sq.m ($K \approx 0,7$) – South. Africa



Low-frequency radio telescopes in Europe (**UTR-2, URAN-1, URAN-2, URAN-3, URAN-4, GURT, LOFAR, E-LOFAR, Nenu FAR, NDA**)

LF: 10...30 MHz (dkm); 30...300 MHz (m)

Complementary character of space and ground-based low-frequency radio astronomy systems



SPACE:

f < 10 MHz (NOT IONOSPHERIC LIMIT):

$f=0,1 - 30 \text{ MHz}$; $\Delta F=100 \text{ kHz}$; $\Delta T=100 \text{ ms}$

$N \approx 1$; $A_{\text{eff}} \approx 100 \text{ m}^2$ (!)

$$\Delta S_{\text{min}} = 2kT / A_{\text{eff}} \sqrt{\Delta f \Delta T}; \quad A_{\text{eff}} \approx N A_1 \approx N \lambda^2 / 4$$

GROUND: (UTR-2, URAN1.....URAN4,GURT); **$F \geq 10 \text{ MHz}$ (IONOSPHERIC LIMIT):**

$f=8-32 \text{ MHz}$ ($8-80 \text{ MHz}$); $\Delta F=1 \text{ kHz}$; $\Delta T=1 \mu\text{s}$

$N=2040$ (UTR-2); $N_{\Sigma}=4500$; A_{eff} (UTR-2)= $140\,000 \text{ m}^2$; $A_{\text{eff}}_{\Sigma} \approx 300\,000 \text{ m}^2$ (!)



UTR-2



URAN-1



URAN-2



URAN-3



URAN-4



GURT

Huge Solar system – scale low-frequency radio telescope

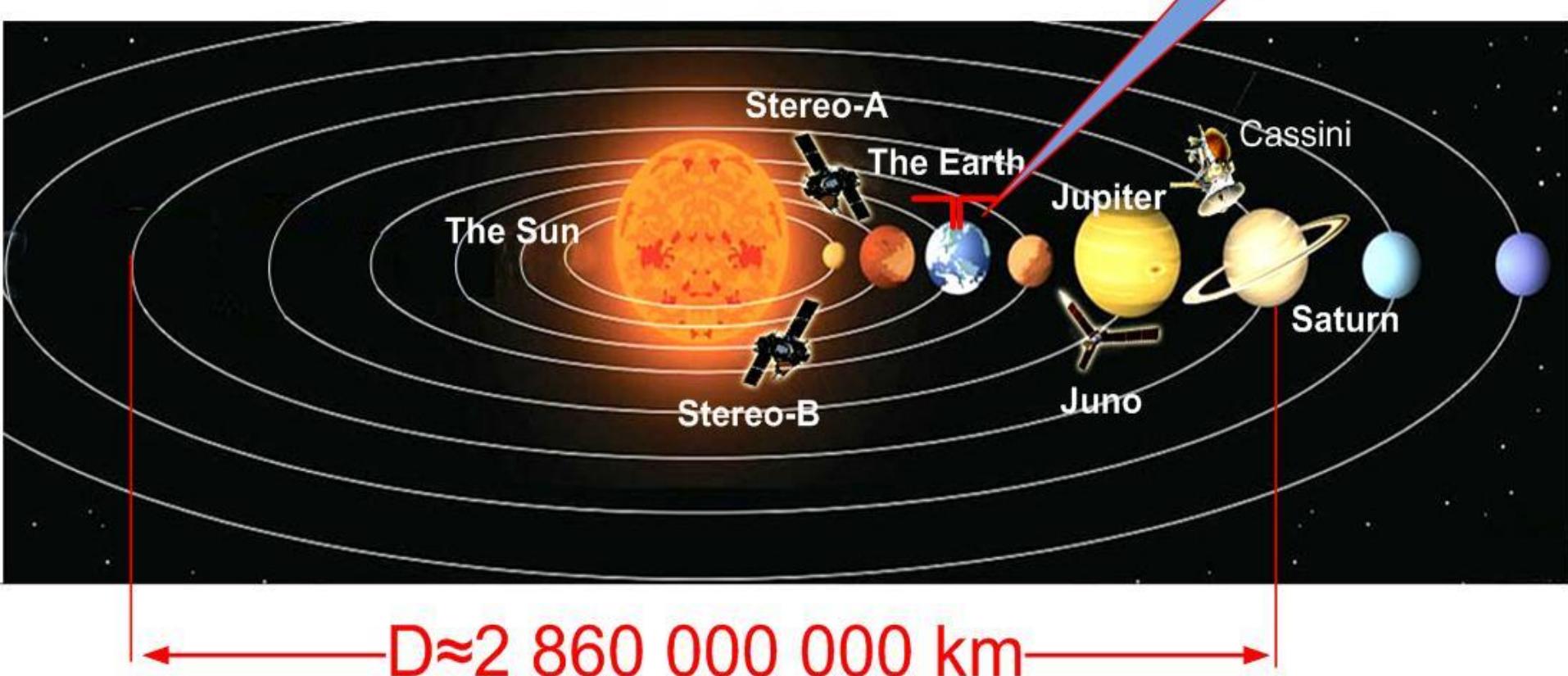
(It is in principle, it is a joke 😎):

Ground-based
LF radio
telescopes

$f \approx 0.1 \dots 100 \text{ MHz} !$

$N \approx 20000 \text{ elements} !$

$D \approx 2860\,000\,000 \text{ km} !!!$



Advantages of the multi-telescope (ground-ground, ground-space) radio astronomy observations at low-frequencies (the distances between telescopes are from ~ 1 km up to ~ 3 000 km)

1. Improvement of the sensitivity
(summarization of the effective areas in coherent mode).
2. Improvement of the angular resolution
(VLBI mode).
3. Mutual positive complementarity
(low effective area, sensitivity and resolutions, but broad frequency range + high effective area, sensitivity and resolutions but moderate frequency range).
- *4. Reducing and/or identification of the interferences (inner, external, natural, artificial, broad-band, narrow-band) influences.
- *5. Reducing and/or identification of the ionospheric influences.
6. Reducing and/or identification of the interplanetary medium influence.
7. In the frame of the previous point it is interesting to measure of the delay in the interplanetary inhomogeneous movements across of line-of-sigh.
8. Measurements of the directivity of the source pulse radio emission.
9. Improvement of the sporadic radio emission identification.
10. Identification of the negative instrumental effects.
11. Identification of the observational arte-facts what produced by the telescope side-lobes and difractional lobes influence.
- *12. Considerable improvement of the effectiveness and reliability of the low-frequency radio astronomy investigation in general

The sensitivity of the radio astronomy investigations

$$\Delta S_{\min} = 2 k T_{\text{sys}} / A_{\text{ef}} \sqrt{\Delta f \Delta t}$$

$k = 1,38 \times 10^{-23}$ – Boltzmann constant;

T_{sys} – the noise temperature of the receiving system of the radio telescope;
(cryogenic input amplifier);

$\Delta f, \Delta t$ – registration band (frequency resolution)
and accumulation time (temporal resolution)

For high frequency radio astronomy ($f > 300$ MHz): $T_{\text{sys}} \sim 10$ K; $A_{\text{ef}} \sim 3000$ sq.m.

$$2k T_{\text{sys}} / A_{\text{ef}} = S E F D \sim 1 \text{ Jy} \text{ (System Equivalent Flux Density)}$$

For low frequency radio astronomy ($f < 300$ MHz):

$$\Delta S_{\min} = 2 k T_{\text{sys}} / A_{\text{ef}} (T_N / (T_{\text{sys}} + T_N)) \sqrt{\Delta f \Delta t};$$

$T_{\text{sys}} = 1000 - 1000000$ K! (temperature of the galactic background);

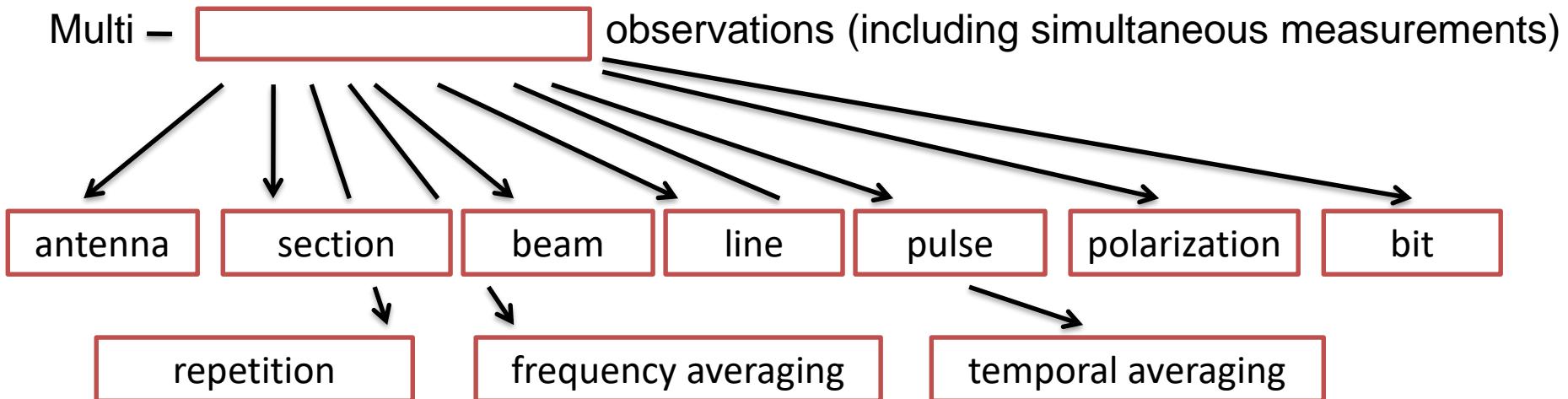
$T_N \sim 100$ K (noise temperature of the input antenna amplifier);

$A_{\text{ef}} \sim 1000 - 1000000$ sq.m.

*New low frequency radio telescope quality parameter
introduced by Ukrainian radio astronomers:*

$$A_{\text{ef}} (T_N / (T_{\text{sys}} + T_N)) = S E E A \sim 100000 \text{ sq.m. (System Equivalent Effective Area)}$$

New methods for the strong improvements of the low frequency measurements sensitivity



Furthermore it should be:

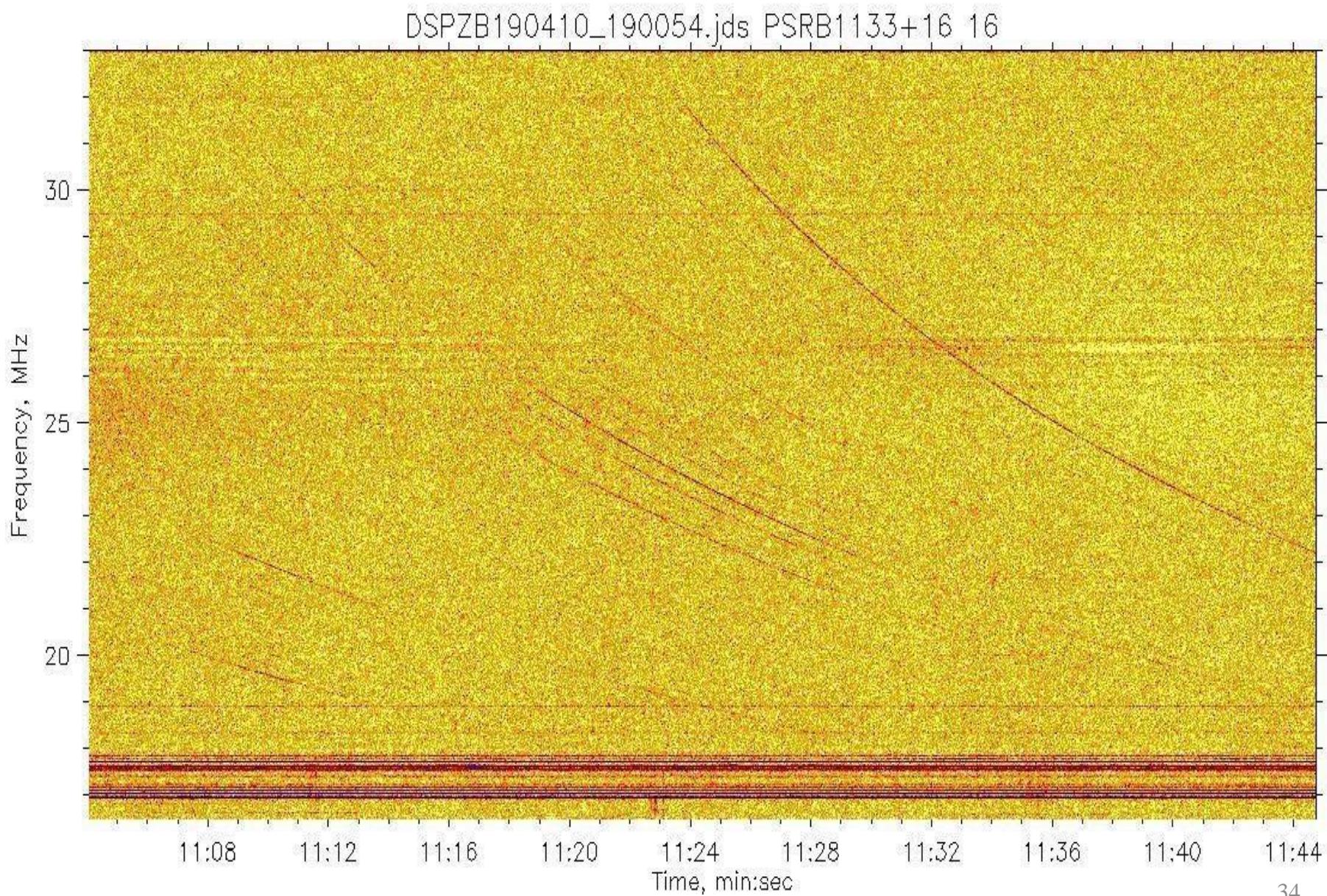
- the decreasing of the side and difractional lobes levels;
- optimal restoration of the low-frequency spacial harmonics;
- optimal implementation of the time and frequency resolution during the observations;
- optimal implementation of the averaging parameters during the processing;
- optimal choosing of signals levels in the systems for the maximum dynamic range;
- combination of the absolute and relative measurements;
- optimization of the calibration procedures;
- maximization of the fluctuation and “confusion” sensitivities.

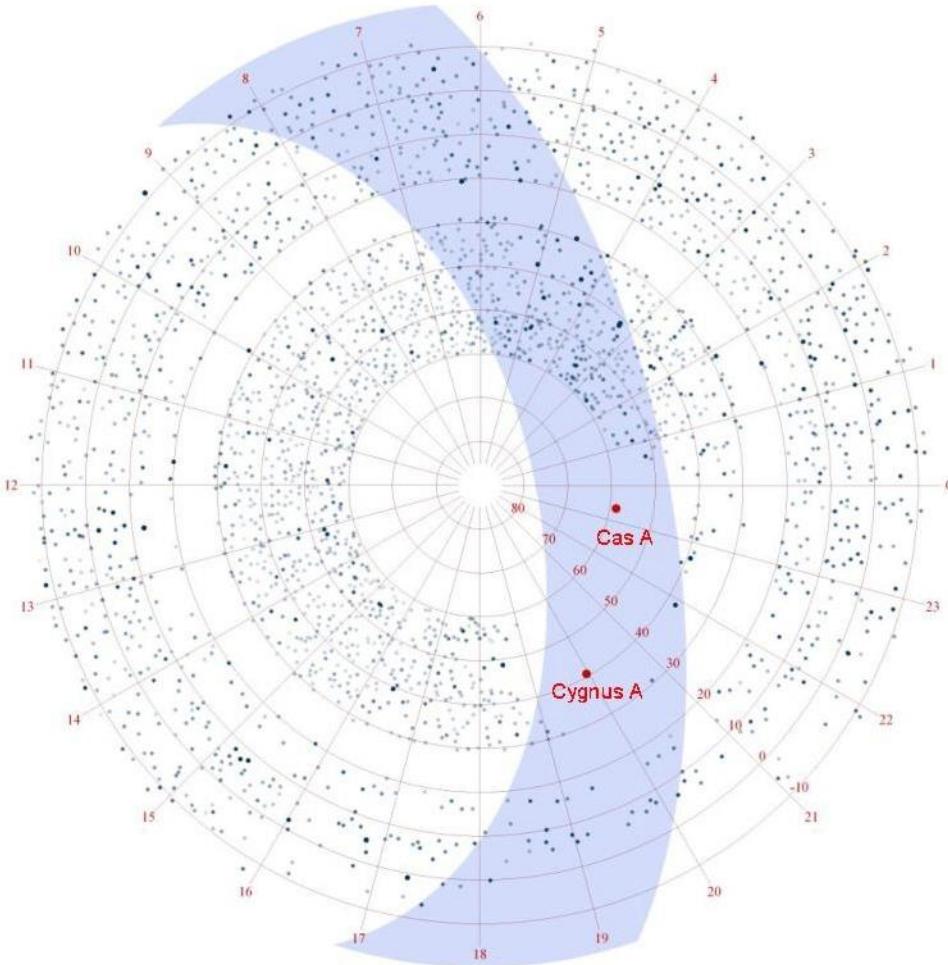
New Frontiers in the Low-frequency Radio Astronomy

Part 2: New astrophysical tasks and capabilities

New low-frequency radio astronomy Programme is prepared in IRA NASU, Kharkiv. It includes the implementation of the mentioned above methodology for the resolving of the actual astrophysical tasks by simultaneous observations of many objects for various types of cosmic radioemission (continuum, monochromatic, pulse, sporadic, polarized). So, there is concept “Ten in the ones” and it includes the studies of: 1. Discrete radiosources (radio galaxies, quasars, H II regions, supernova remnants); 2. galactic background; 3. extragalactic background; 4. pulsars; 5. transients; 6. recombination lines; 7. cosmological spectral specialties; 8. the Sun, planets and exoplanets; 9. interplanetary and ionospheric scintillations; 10. lightning activity.

Dynamic spectra of PSRB1133+16





UTR-2 catalogue coverage of the Northern sky. Color intensities of individual point sources represent their flux densities. Shaded region is the Galactic disk: $|b| < 15^\circ$

UTR-2 survey

freq. 20 MHz

DEC(2000)

55°

50°

45°

40°

35°

30°

12^h0^m

11^h0^m

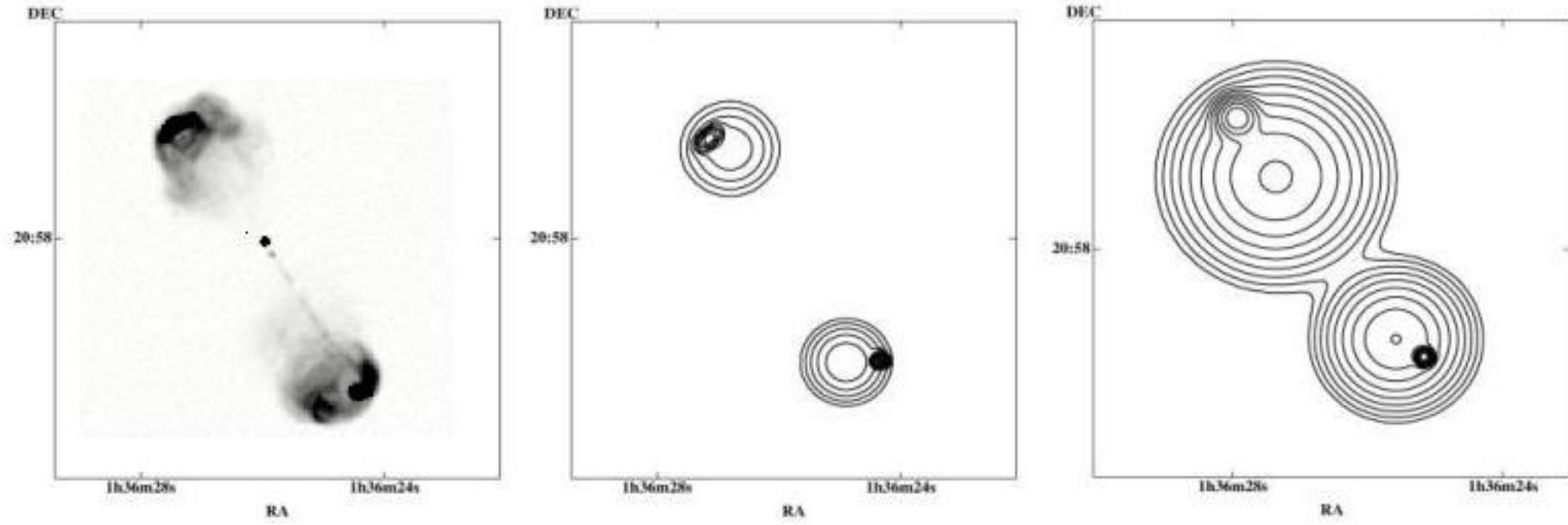
10^h0^m

9^h0^m

RA(2000)

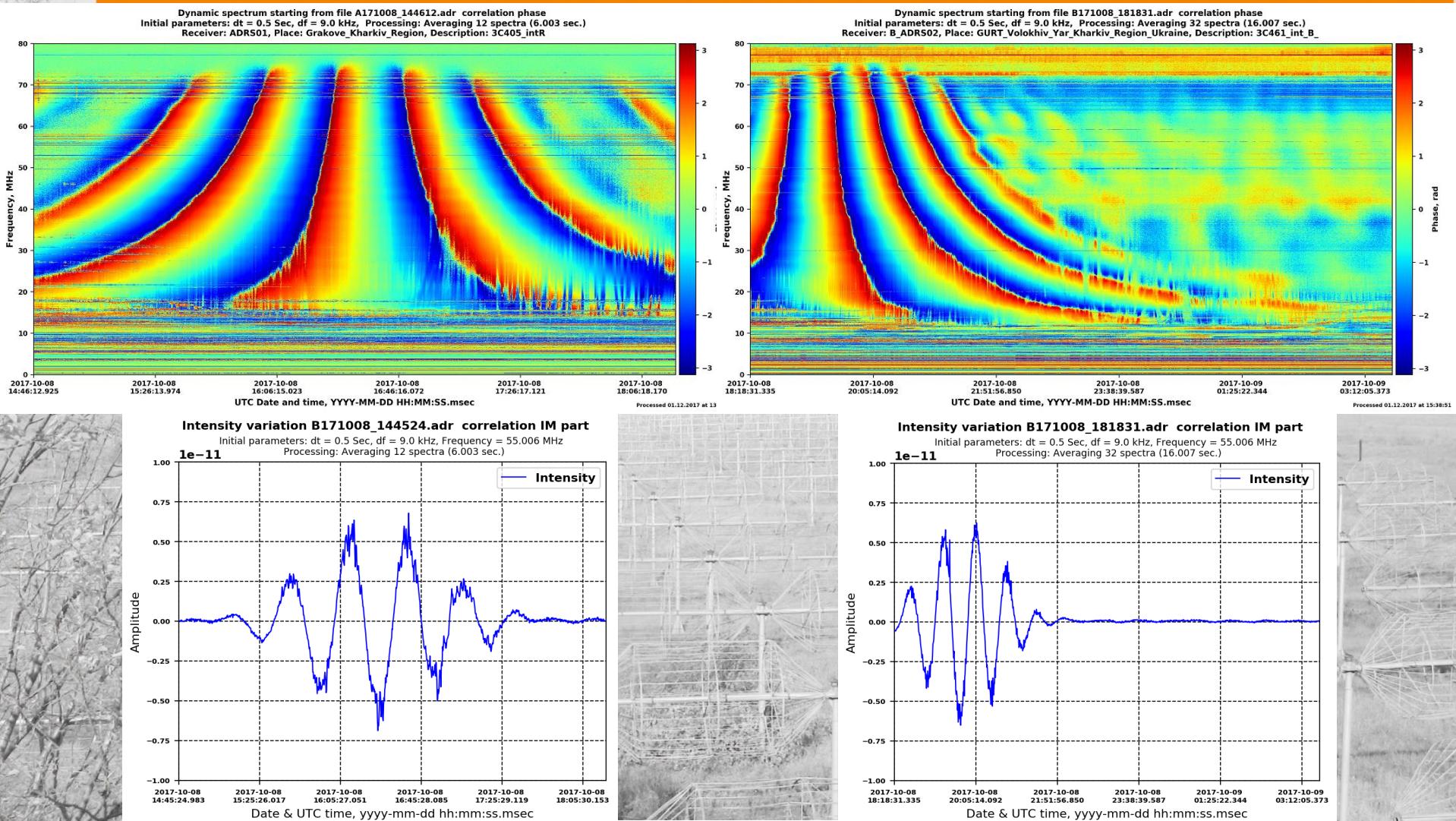


UTR-2 full resolution 24 image (half-power bandwidth is $\sim 34' \times 38'$) describing the brightness temperature map of Northern sky part at 20 MHz. The contour map starts at level of 5×10^3 K and runs in steps of 5×10^3 K



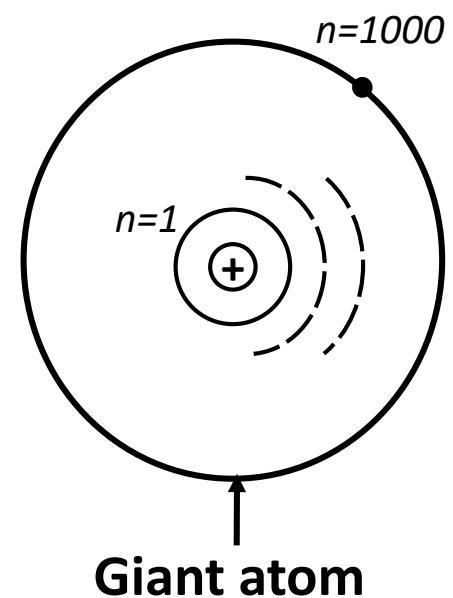
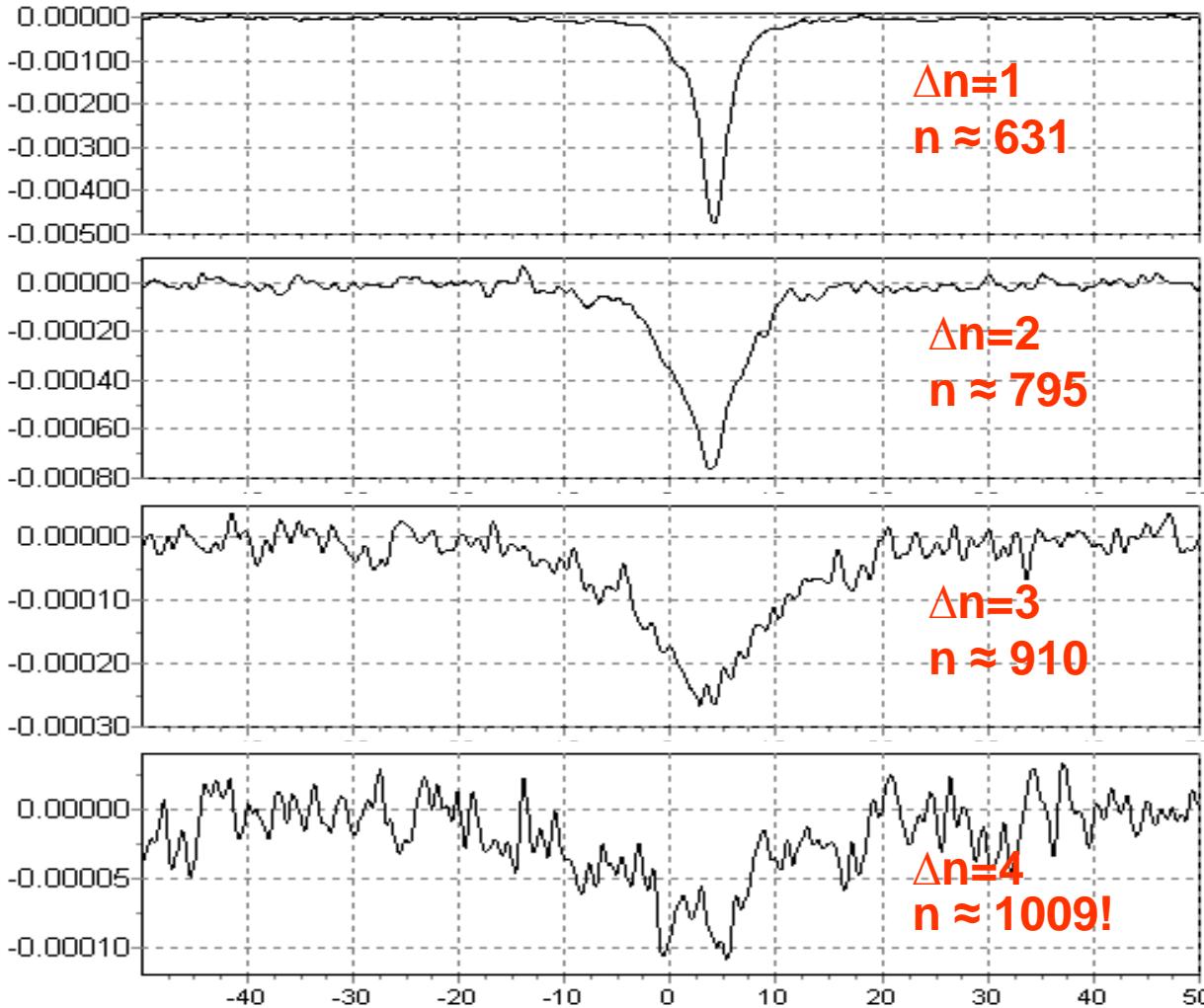
The VLA map of the 3C47 quasar at the frequency 1,65 GHz (left). In the middle panel one can see a simplified model of the source which was computed taking into consideration the URAN resolution. On the right panel a model of low frequency structure of the 3C47 obtained with URAN interferometers is presented at 25 MHz at the same scale as those in pictures to the left of it

Interferometric observations 3C405 and 3C461 (Oct, 2017)



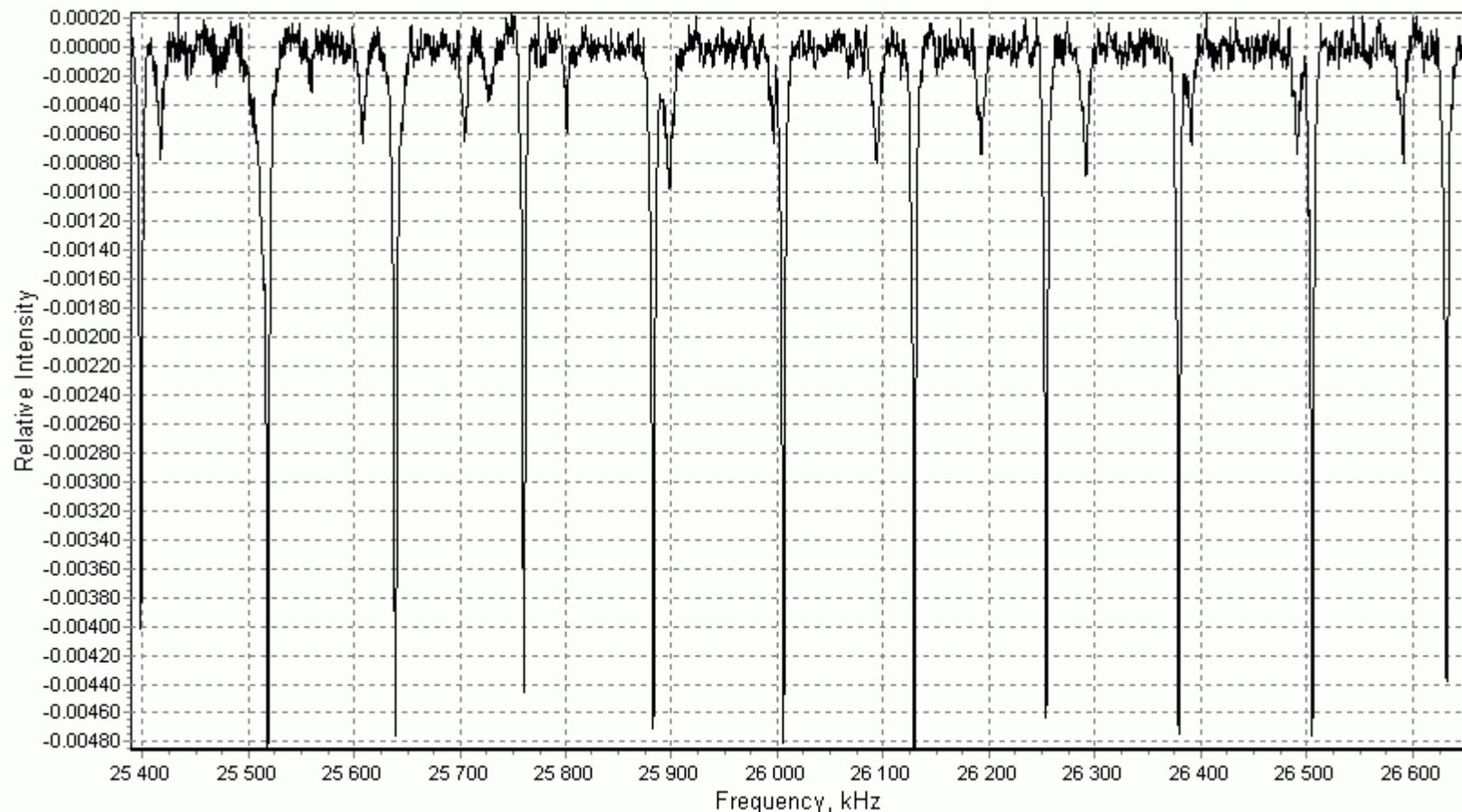
The upper panel is the signal correlation phase, the lower panel is the imaginary part of the correlation

**Detection of the recordly high excited quantum states ($n > 1000$)
on the interstellar atoms
(UTR-2, $\nu \approx 30$ MHz, $\Delta n = 1 \dots 4$, $n \approx 1009$) - 2007**



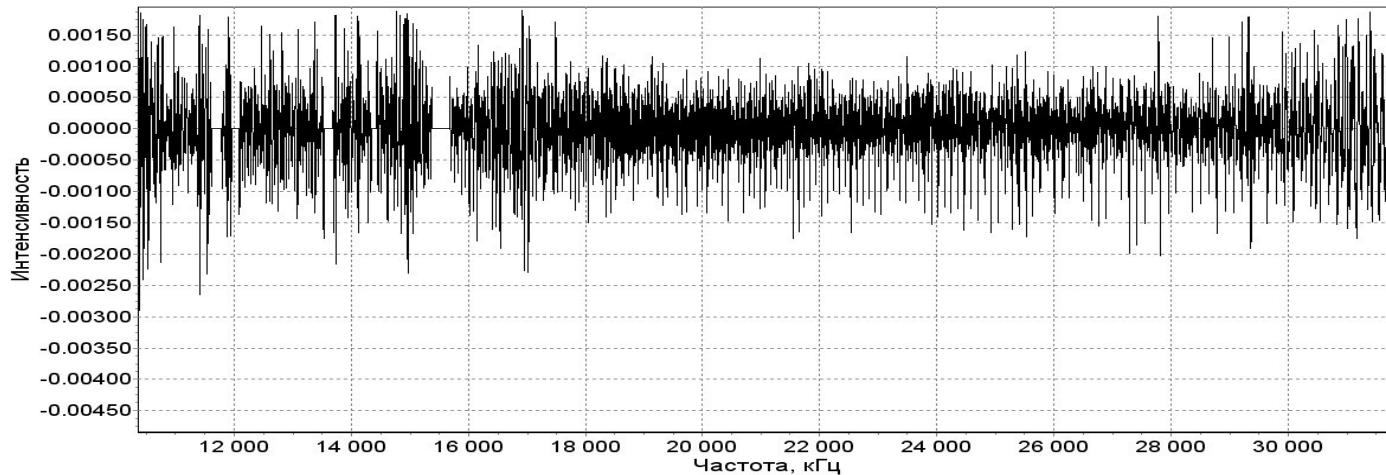
$D \approx 0.1$ mm !

Radio recombination lines towards Cas A detected by UTR-2 with broad-band ($B > 1$ MHz) and multi – channel ($N=4096$) measurements

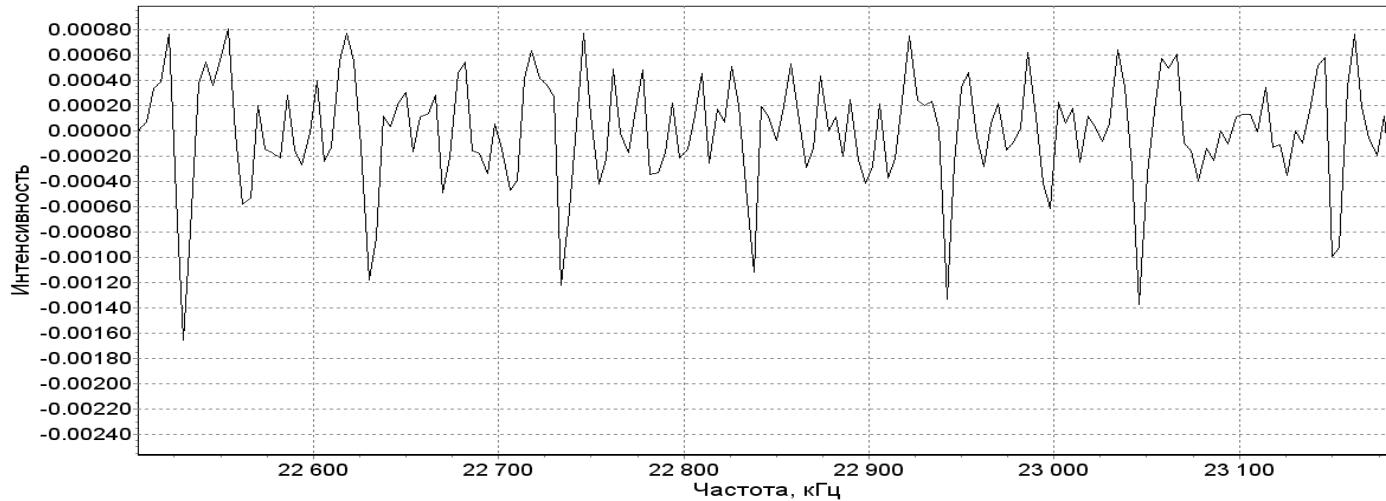


S.V. Stepkin, A.A. Konovalenko. Radio recombination lines from the largest atoms in space.
Monthly Notices of Royal Astronomical Society, 2007, January, v. 374, issue 3, pp. 852-856.

First simultaneous registration a large number of recombination lines (~ 250) at UTR-2, Oct., 2017



Normalized spectrum in the direction of Cassiopeia A containing a series of RRL carbon. C854 α ... C596 α lines fall in the range from 10.5 MHz to 31 MHz. The accumulation time was 55 minutes



A part of the spectrum with lines C663 α ... C657 α

A New Method of Sensitive Search and Studies of the Low Frequency Radio Recombination Lines

$$(\Delta T_L / T_C)_{\min} = \pi / 2 \sqrt{\Delta f_{\text{ef}} \Delta t} N_1 N_2 N_3 N_4 N_5$$

1978 : detection of interstellar RRL at the decameter waves using UTR-2;

$\Delta t_{\text{ef}} = 4 \text{ год}$; $N_1 = 1, N_2 = 1, N_3 = 1, N_4 = 1$; $\Delta f = 1 \text{ кГц}$; $B = 20 \text{ кГц}$;

$(\Delta T_L / T_C)_{\min} = 4 \times 10^{-4}$; $(\Delta T_L / T_C)_{\text{det}} = 4 \times 10^{-3}$; $S/N \approx 10$

1978-1992 : detection of the low-frequency RRL in selected galactic objects;

it is shown that the distance between the lines is significantly reduced at LF ($\Delta F = 3 f / n$)

$\Delta t_{\text{ef}} = 5 \times 4 \text{ год} = 20 \text{ hours}$; $N_1 = 5, N_2 = 1, N_3 = 1, N_4 = 1$; $\Delta f = 1 \text{ кГц}$; $B = 20 \text{ кГц} \times 5$;

$(\Delta T_L / T_C)_{\min} = 1,8 \times 10^{-4}$; $(\Delta T_L / T_C)_{\text{det}} \approx 1,5 \times 10^{-3}$; $S/N \approx 10$

1992-2005 : detection of the recordly high excited states ($n \sim 1000$);

$\Delta t_{\text{ef}} = 10 \times 4 \text{ год} = 40 \text{ hours}$; $N_1 = 10, N_2 = 1, N_3 = 1, N_4 = 1$; $\Delta f = 1 \text{ кГц}$; $B = 1,5 \text{ МГц}$;

$(\Delta T_L / T_C)_{\min} = 1 \times 10^{-4}$; $(\Delta T_L / T_C)_{\text{det}} = 1 \times 10^{-3}$; $S/N \approx 10$

2005-2018 : simultaneous observations of many RRL ($\Delta n \sim 100 \dots 400$);

$\Delta t_{\text{ef}} = 400 \times 4 \text{ hours} = 1600 \text{ hours}$; $N_1 = 400, N_2 = 1, N_3 = 1, N_4 = 1$; $\Delta f = 1 \text{ кГц}$; $B = 12 \dots 24 \text{ MHz}$;

$(\Delta T_L / T_C)_{\min} = 2 \times 10^{-5}$; $(\Delta T_L / T_C)_{\text{det}} = 1 \times 10^{-4}$; $S/N \approx 5$

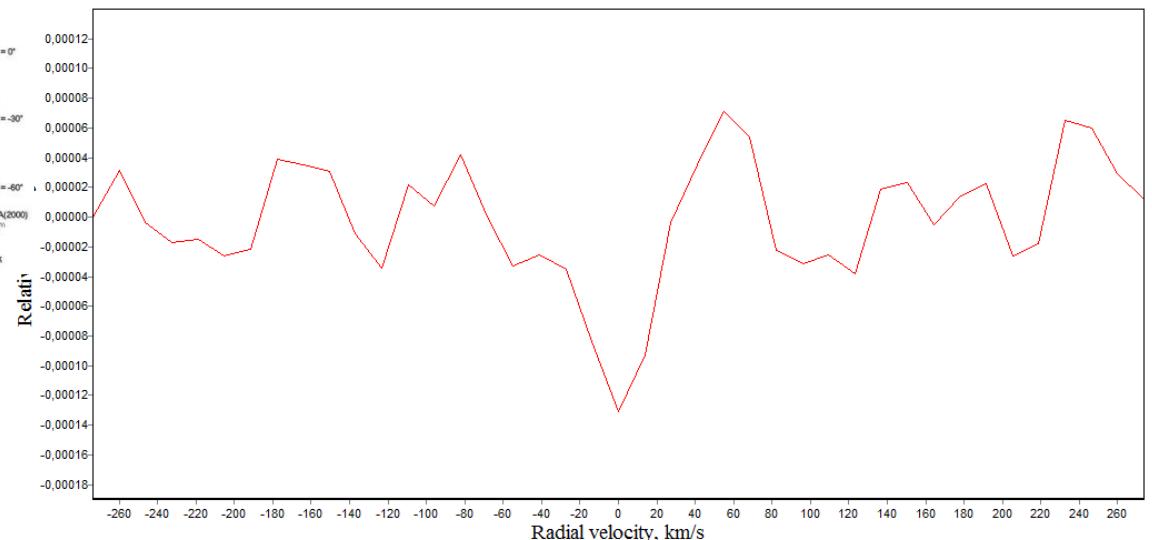
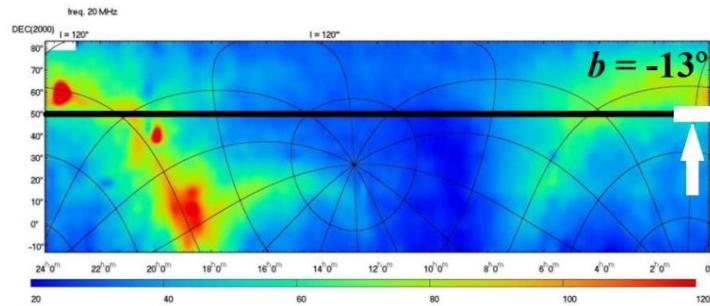
2019: simultaneous multilinear ($N_1 = 400$), multi-section ($N_2 = 100$), multi-antenna ($N_3 = 3$), bipolarization ($N_4 = 2$), many bits ($N_5 = 2$) insensitive searches RRL;

!
• $\Delta t_{\text{ef}} = 400 \times 100 \times 3 \times 2 \times 4 \text{ hours} = 480 \text{ 000 hours} \leftarrow 100 \text{ years} !$

!
• $(\Delta T_L / T_C)_{\min} = 6 \times 10^{-7}$

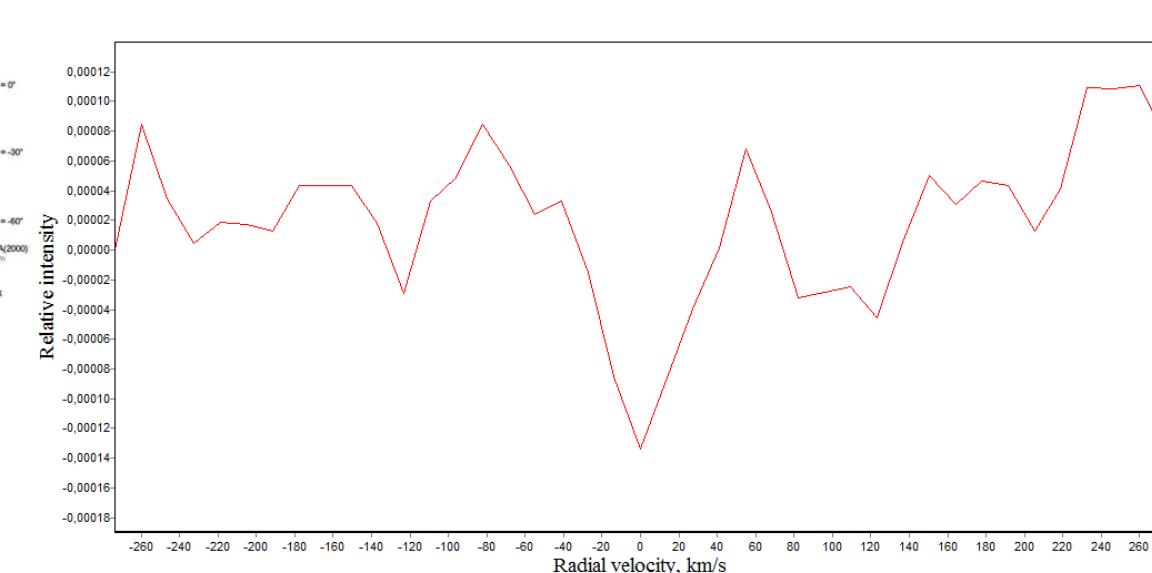
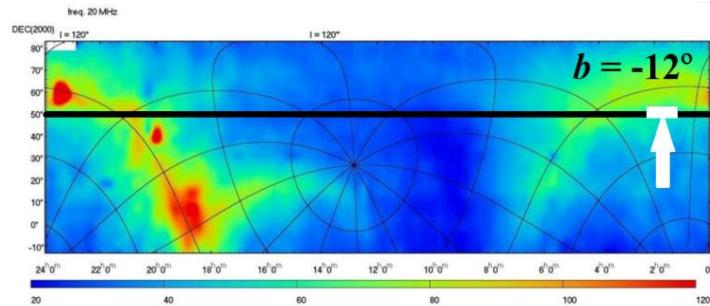
Detection of LF carbon RRLs in medium across the Galactic plane

$N = 40, \Delta F = 20\ldots24$ MHz



$\Delta\alpha = 0\text{h}\ldots1\text{h}, \delta \sim +50^\circ$

$\Delta T = 40 \times 8.7\text{h} = 348\text{h}$

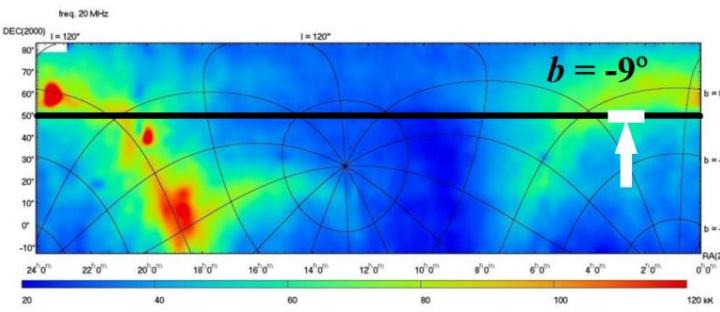


$\Delta\alpha = 1\text{h}\ldots2\text{h}, \delta \sim +50^\circ$

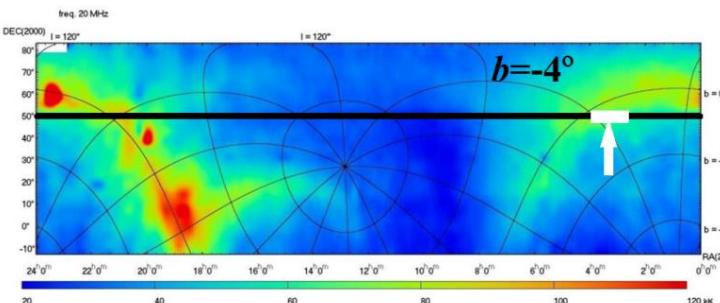
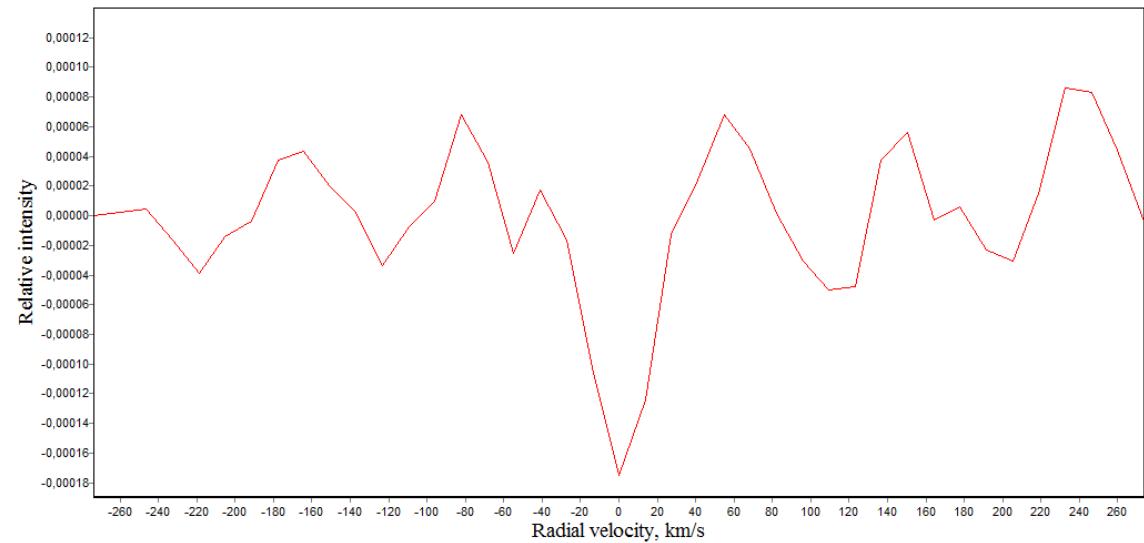
$\Delta T = 40 \times 7.2\text{h} = 288\text{h}$

Detection of LF carbon RRLs in medium across the Galactic plane

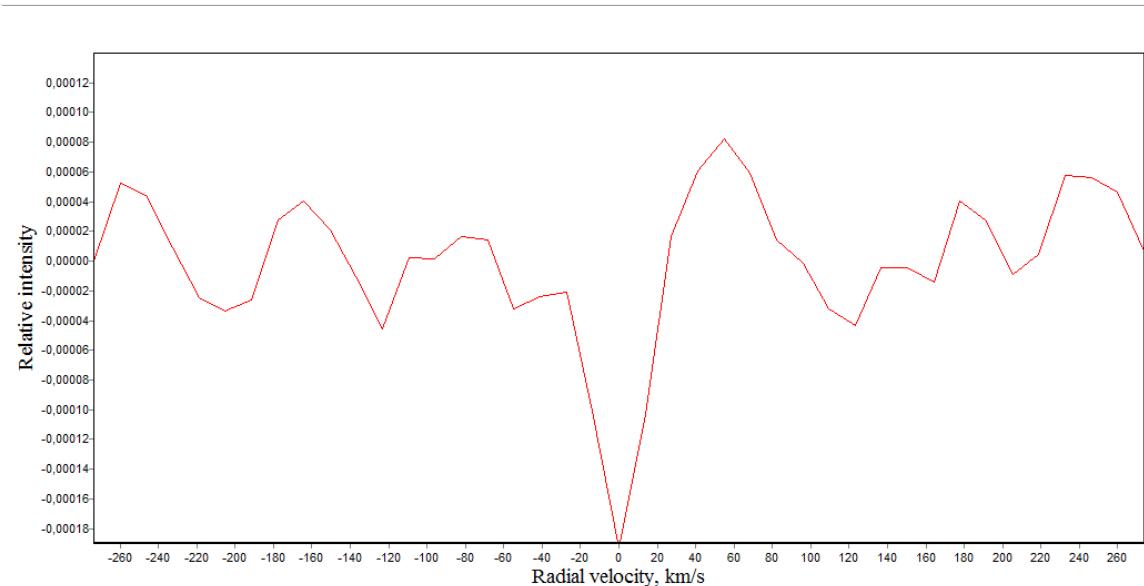
$N = 40, \Delta F = 20\ldots24$ MHz



$\Delta\alpha = 2\text{h}\ldots3\text{h}, \delta \sim +50^\circ$
 $\Delta T = 40 \times 8.2\text{h} = 328\text{h}$

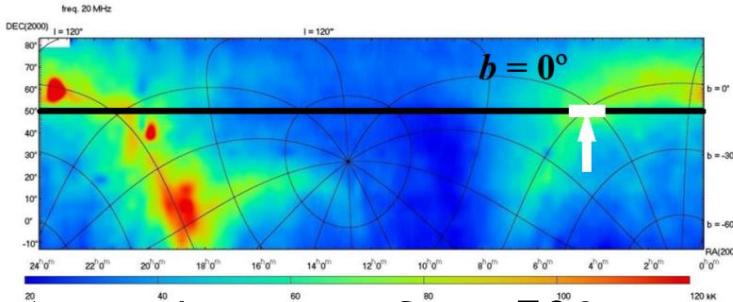


$\Delta\alpha = 3\text{h}\ldots4\text{h}, \delta \sim +50^\circ$
 $\Delta T = 40 \times 10.7\text{h} = 428\text{h}$

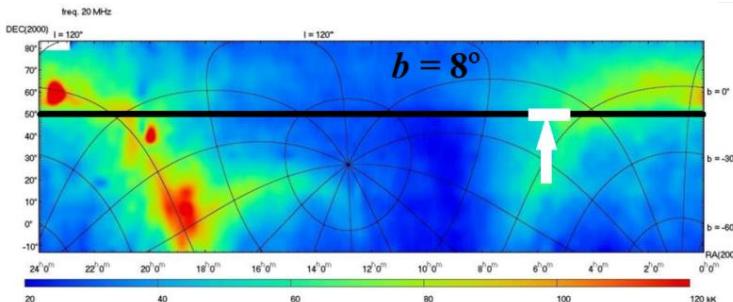
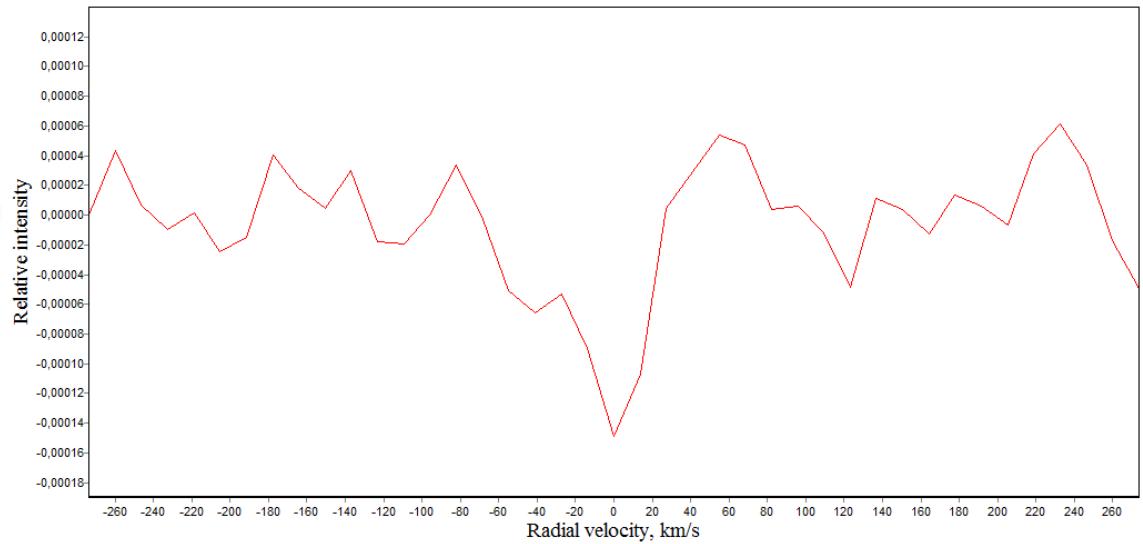


Detection of LF carbon RRLs in medium across the Galactic plane

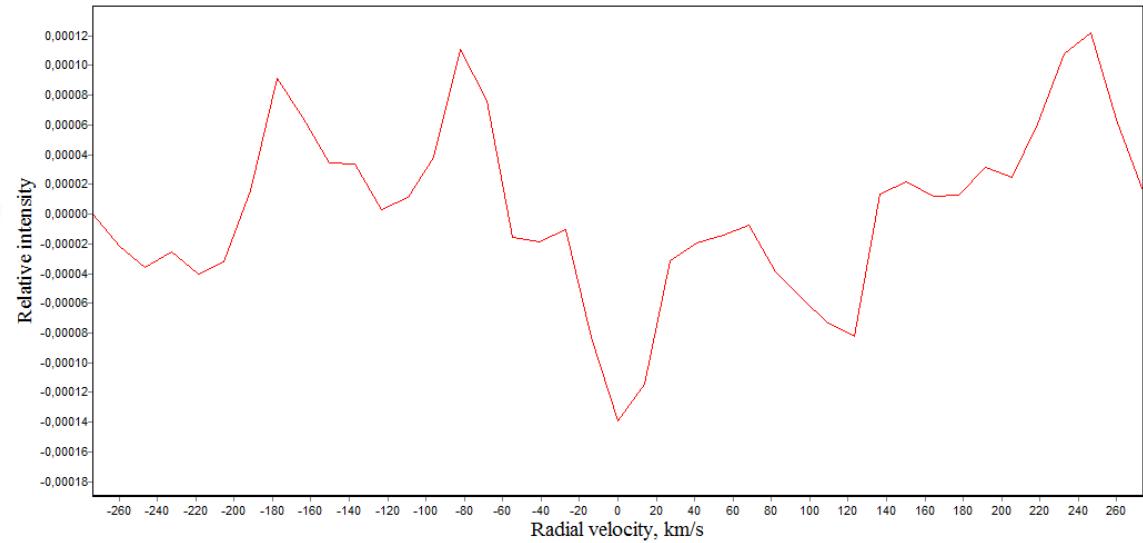
N = 40, ΔF = 20...24 MHz



$\Delta\alpha = 4\text{h}...5\text{h}$, $\delta \sim +50^\circ$
 $\Delta T = 40 \times 10.5\text{h} = 420\text{h}$

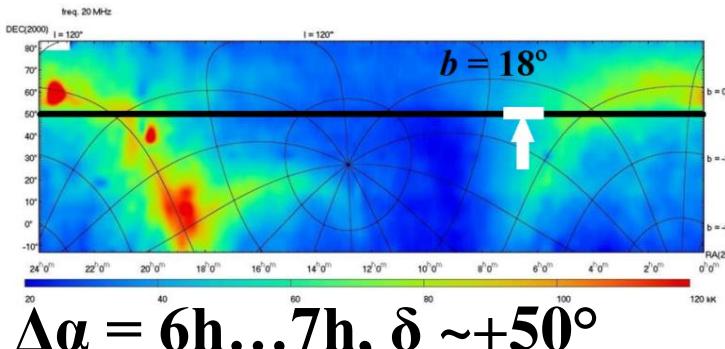


$\Delta\alpha = 5\text{h}...6\text{h}$, $\delta \sim +50^\circ$
 $\Delta T = 40 \times 11.3\text{h} = 452\text{h}$



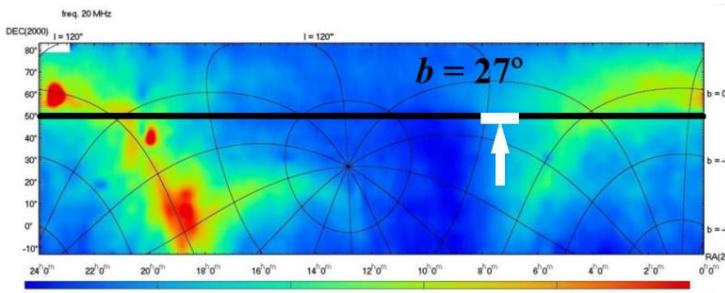
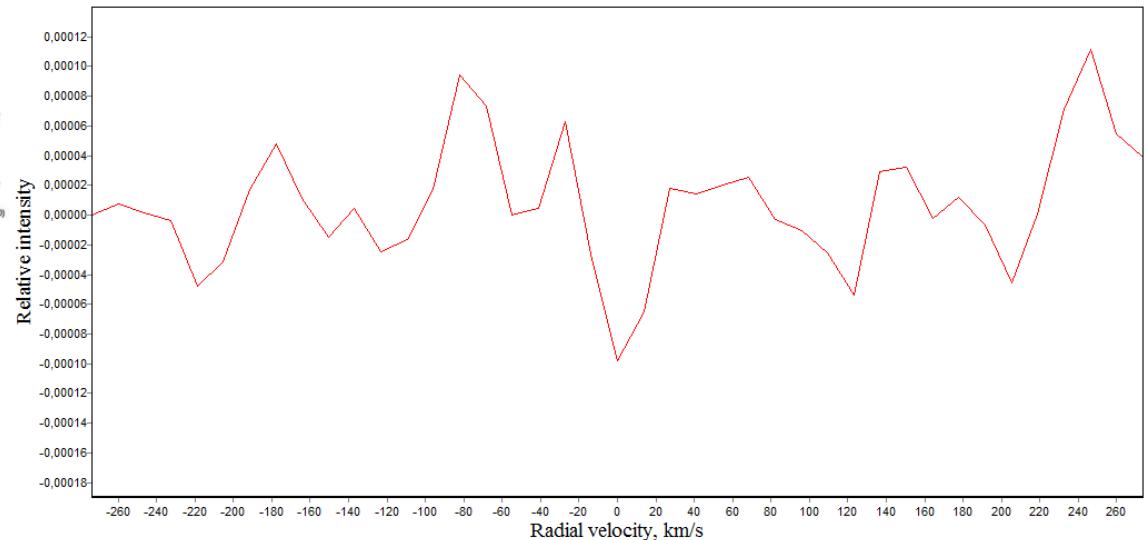
Detection of LF carbon RRLs in medium across the Galactic plane

$N = 40, \Delta F = 20\ldots24$ MHz



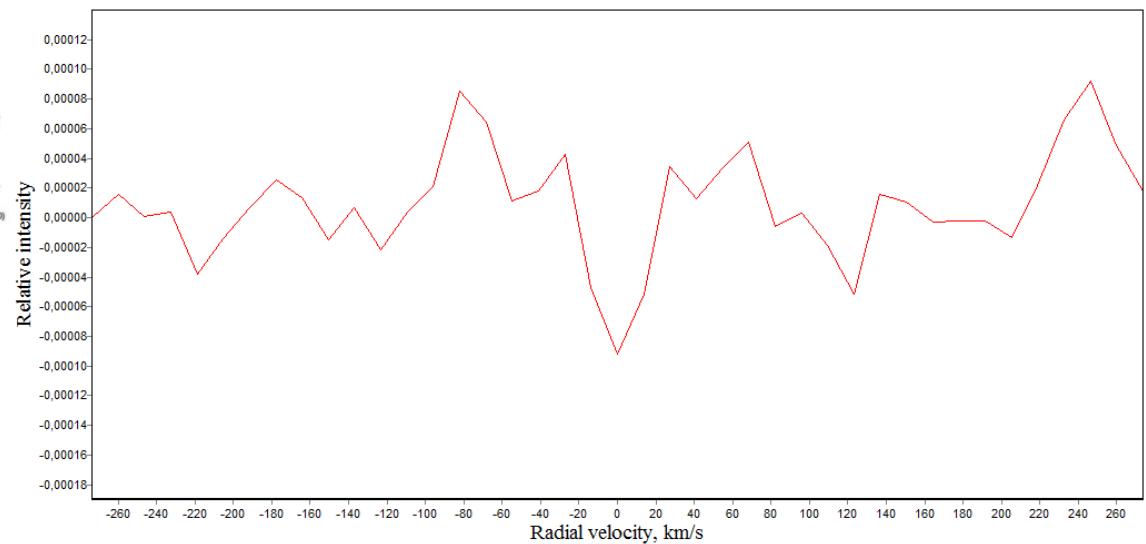
$\Delta\alpha = 6\text{h}\ldots7\text{h}, \delta \sim +50^\circ$

$\Delta T = 40 \times 11.1\text{h} = 444\text{h}$



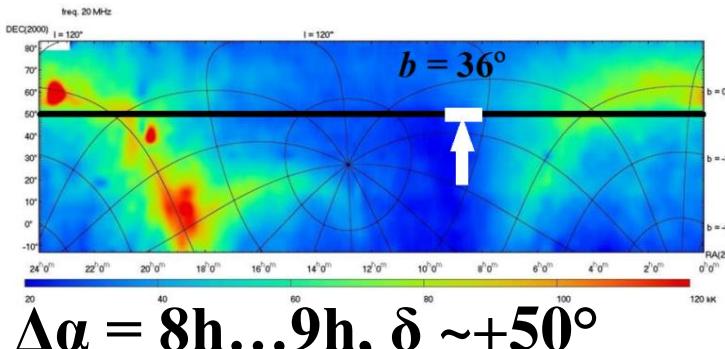
$\Delta\alpha = 7\text{h}\ldots8\text{h}, \delta \sim +50^\circ$

$\Delta T = 40 \times 12.3\text{h} = 492\text{h}$



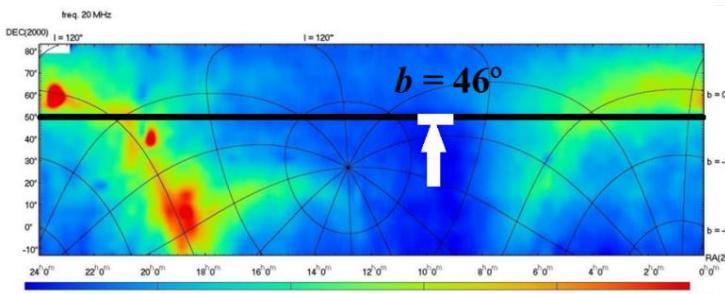
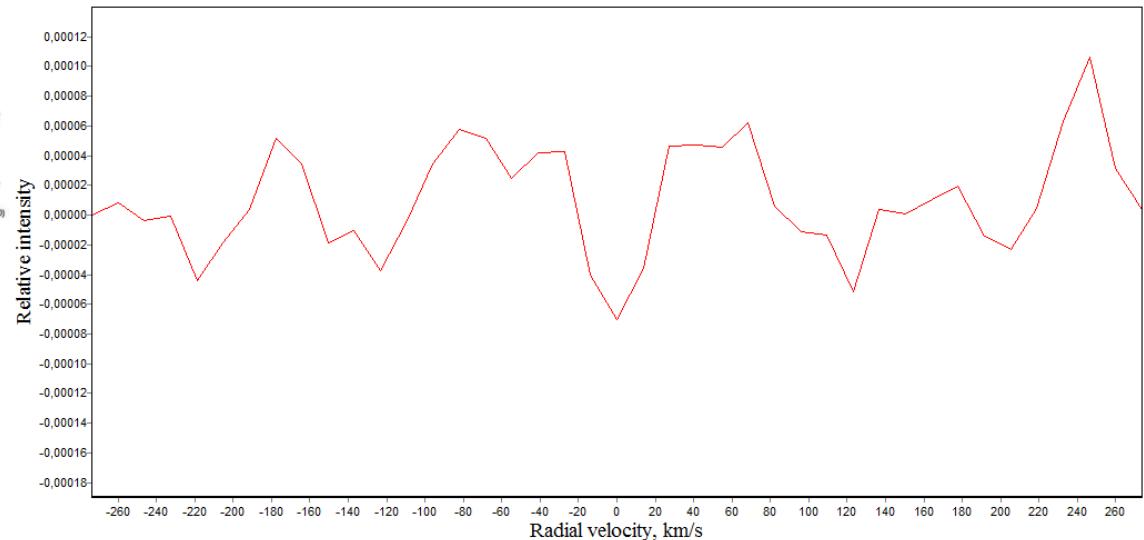
Detection of LF carbon RRLs in medium across the Galactic plane

$N = 40, \Delta F = 20\ldots24$ MHz



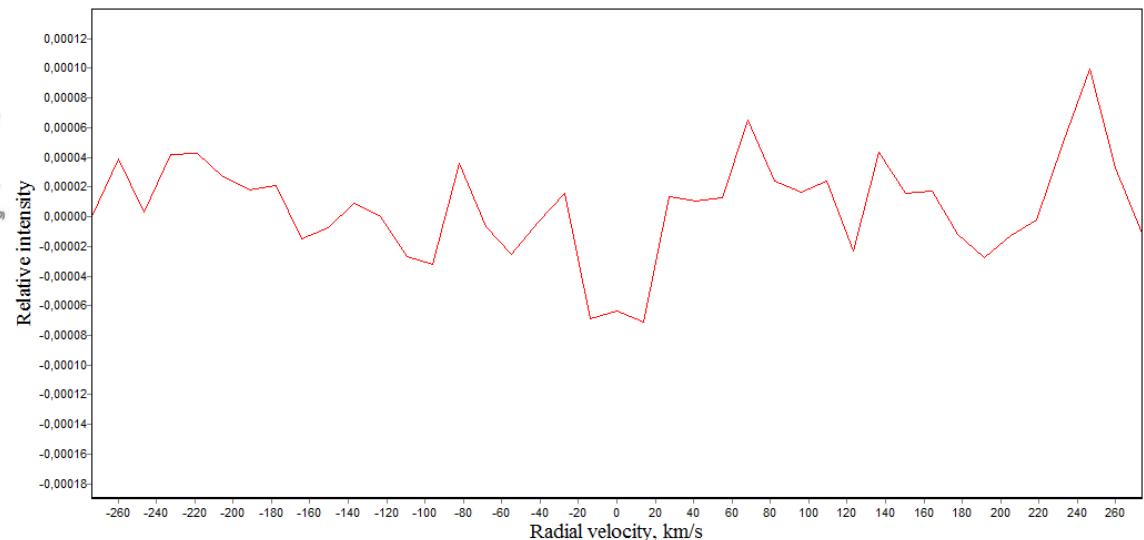
$\Delta\alpha = 8\text{h}\ldots9\text{h}, \delta \sim +50^\circ$

$\Delta T = 40 \times 9.8\text{h} = 392\text{h}$



$\Delta\alpha = 9\text{h}\ldots10\text{h}, \delta \sim +50^\circ$

$\Delta T = 40 \times 10.8\text{h} = 432\text{h}$



The tasks of the ground-based (and space-born) low frequency radio astronomy in the solar system, galactic and metagalactic sciences *(including UTR-2 and URAN observations)*

The Earth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Ionosphere * Magnetosphere * Air showers of cosmic rays * Parameters of the surface 	+
		~
		-
		+
Solar system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The Moon: occultations secondary emission of cosmic rays screen * The Sun: quiet active * Jupiter * Planets (Saturn, Uranus etc.) * Interplanetary media: scintillations VLBI * Comets 	+
		-
		-
		+
		+
		+
		+
		~
Galaxy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Pulsars * Active stars * Exoplanets * Transients Non-thermal background Supernova remnants HII regions * Interstellar media (recombination lines) 	+
		~
		~
		~
		+
		+
		+
		+
		+
Metagalaxy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Galaxies Radio galaxies Quasars Galactic clusters Unidentified objects * Transients * Dark ages spectral features 	+
		+
		+
		+
		+
		~
		-

Lecacheux, Konovalenko,
Rucker, P&SS, 2003;
Konovalenko et al., PRE VII, 2011

The State Prize of Ukraine in the Field of Science and Technology for 2018: “The Universe Radio Emission at Decameter Wavelength”

*Konovalenko A.A., Zakharenko V.V., Kalinichenko N.N., Melnik V.N., Sidorchuk M.A.,
Stanislavsky A.A., Stepkin S.V., Ulyanov O.M., (IRA NASU, Kharkiv)*



Solemn meeting at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (NASU),
June 5, 2019

**President of the NASU B. Paton with Academic of the NASU S.Braude
at the meeting of the Presidium of the Ukraine Academy of Sciences
during the inauguration of the UTR-2 Radio Telescope (June, 1971).**



Honorary meeting dedicated to 50-years of inauguration of UTR-2

(4 June 2021)



The Nature of the Observatory, Forge steppe



*Thank you for
your Attention!*