

22. EVGA Meeting, Azores, Portugal

Augmenting the stochastic model
in VLBI data analysis by
correlations from atmospheric turbulence models

Sebastian Halsig, Thomas Artz, Andreas Iddink, Axel Nothnagel

Institute of Geodesy and Geoinformation, University of Bonn, Germany

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Motivation



[www.apod.nasa.gov, last access on 12 May 2015]

Routine VLBI data analysis of the IVS:

- stochastical model mainly consists of **uncertainties from correlation process** plus additional noise
- **diagonal variance-covariance-matrix (no correlations)**
- **formal errors of standard VLBI analysis too optimistic**

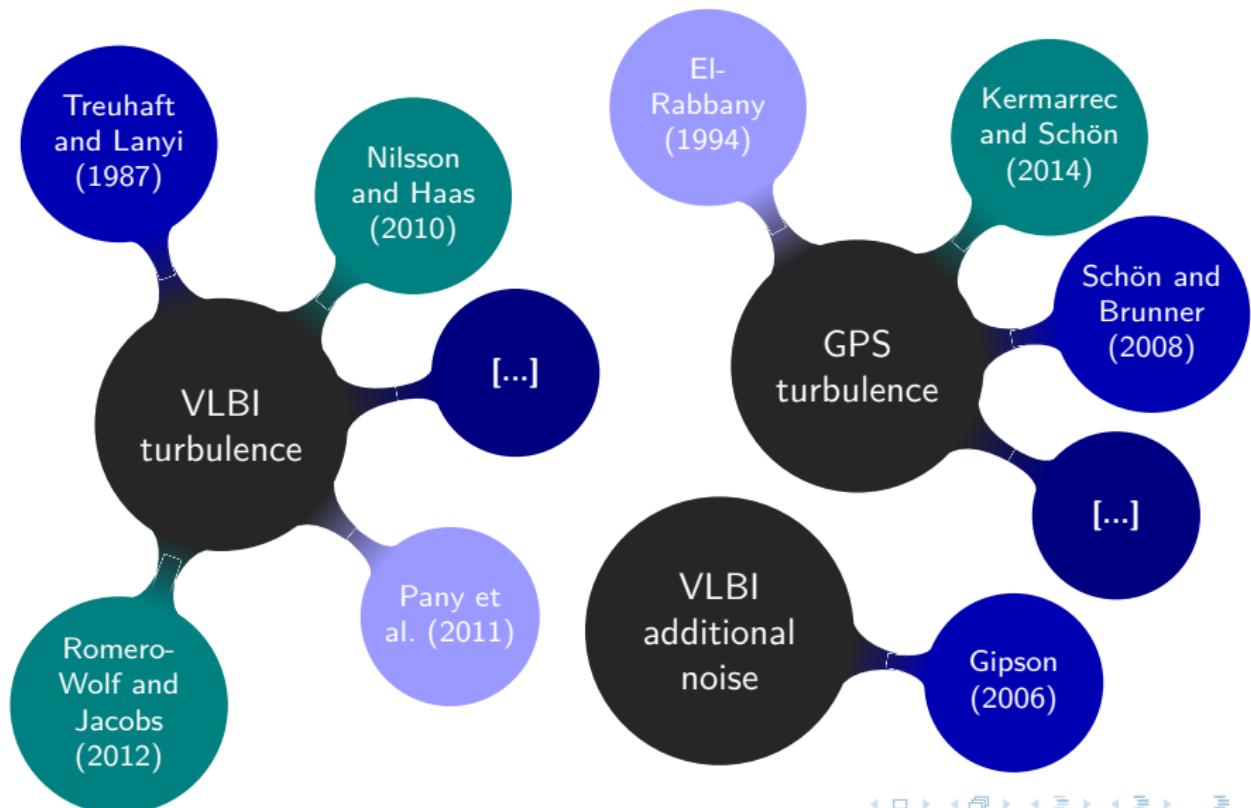
[www.apod.nasa.gov, last access on 12 May 2015]



this study:

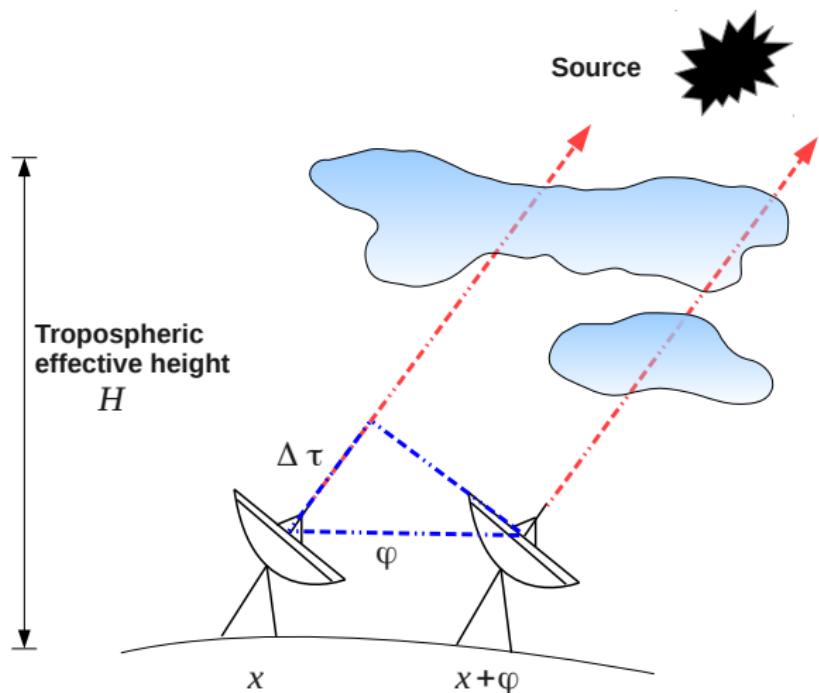
- augmenting the stochastic model by correlations due to dynamic processes in the atmosphere
- concerning small-scale fluctuations (stochastic description)
- fully populated variance-covariance matrix based on turbulence modeling

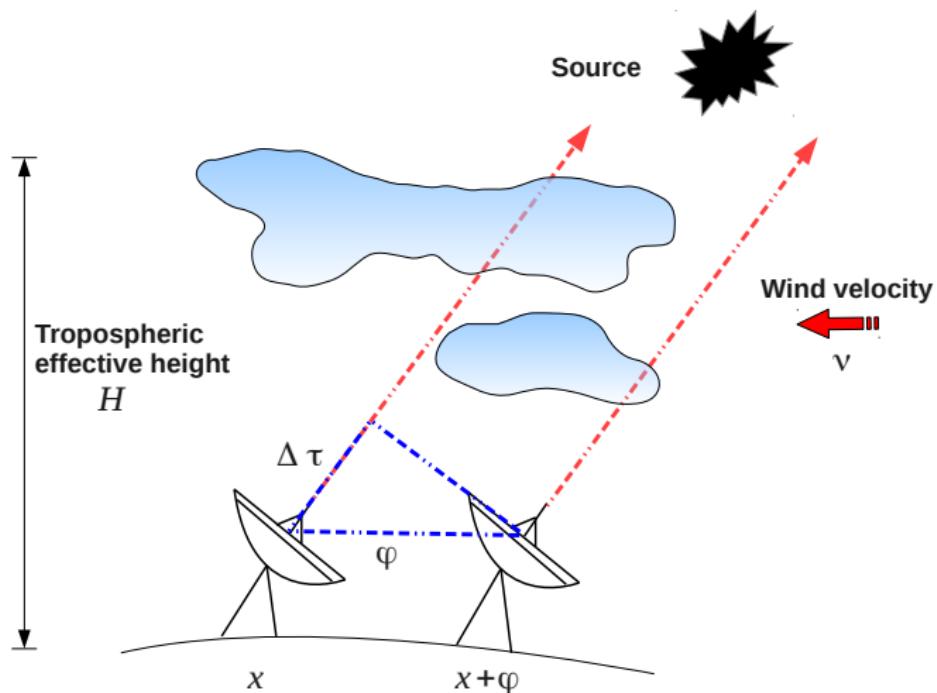
[www.telegraph.co.uk; www.apod.nasa.gov, last access on 12 May 2015]



ciritcal discussion

- neither anisotropy nor inhomogeneity is taken into account (except for Brunner and Schön, 2008)
- considering anisotropy (Brunner and Schön, 2008) some **numerical instabilities** due to the double integral occur
- most models based on a **double integral** which can only be solved numerically, necessitating a **large computational effort**





Refractivity (co-) variance expression

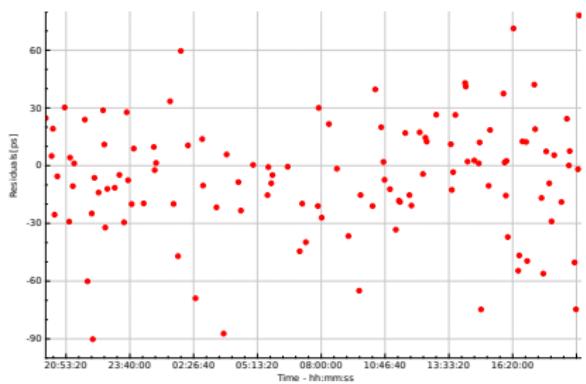
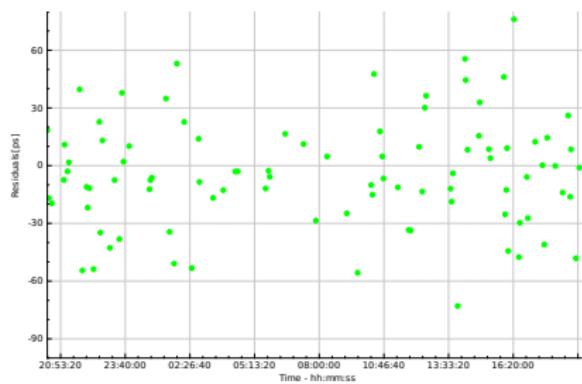
$$C(t, t) = 0.782 \frac{k^2 H C_n^2 c \kappa_0^{-\frac{3}{5}}}{\sin^2(\epsilon_i(t))}$$

$$C(t, t + \tau) = 0.7772 \frac{k^2 H C_n^2 c \kappa_0^{-\frac{3}{5}}}{\sin(\epsilon_i(t)) \sin(\epsilon_j(t + \tau))} \times \left(\frac{\kappa_0 u \tau}{a} \right)^{\frac{5}{6}} K_{\frac{5}{6}} \left(\frac{\kappa_0 u \tau}{a} \right)$$

Variable	Description	Variable	Description
$C(t, t + \tau)$	variance-covariance matrix	ϵ^i, ϵ^j	elevation angle for stations i and j
C_n^2	Structure constant	K	modified Bessel function of second kind
H	Integration height	$\frac{1}{\alpha}$	Matern correlation time
k	electromagnetic wavenumber	c	stretched parameters for the outer scale length
κ	wavenumber vector		

[Kermarrec and Schön, J Geod 2014]

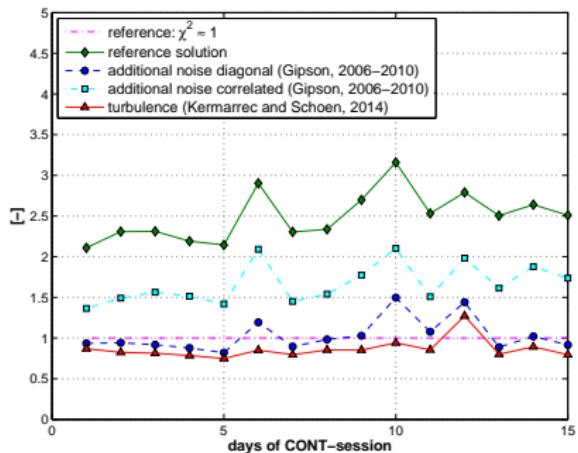
Residuals vs outliers



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solution type	KOKEE-NYALES20	ONSALA60
Reference solution (const. additional noise)	31 ($\approx 24.8\%$)	240 ($\approx 21.3\%$)
additional noise, diagonal (Gipson, 2006-2010)	9 ($\approx 7.2\%$)	184 ($\approx 16.3\%$)
turbulence model (Kermarrec and Schön, 2014)	2 ($\approx 1.6\%$)	67 ($\approx 6.0\%$)
overall:	125	1127



χ^2 

solution type

Reference solution

(const. additional noise)

additional noise, diagonal

(Gipson, 2006-2010)

additional noise, correlated

(Gipson, 2006-2010)

turbulence model

(Kermarrec and Schön, 2014)

 χ^2
[-]

2.50

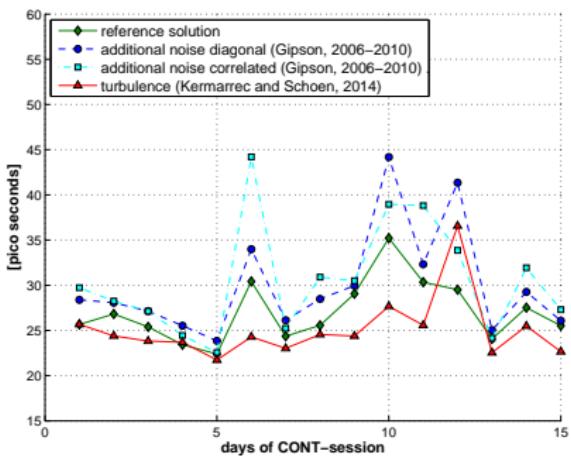
1.13

1.67

0.87

CONT02 session: 12.-26.08.2002

WRMS

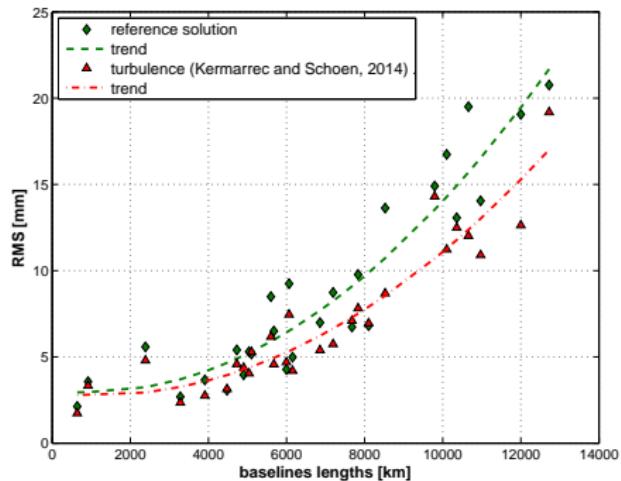


solution type

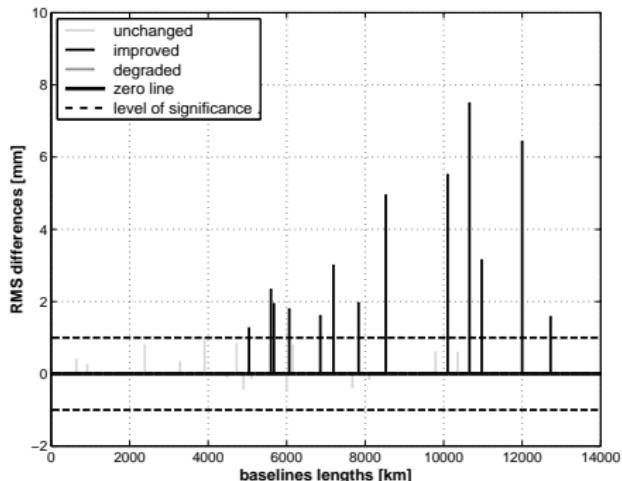
solution type	WRMS [ps]
Reference solution (const. additional noise)	25.67
additional noise, diagonal (Gipson, 2006–2010)	28.40
additional noise, correlated (Gipson, 2006–2010)	29.73
turbulence model (Kermarrec and Schön, 2014)	24.38

CONT02 session: 12.-26.08.2002

baseline repeatabilites



Differences

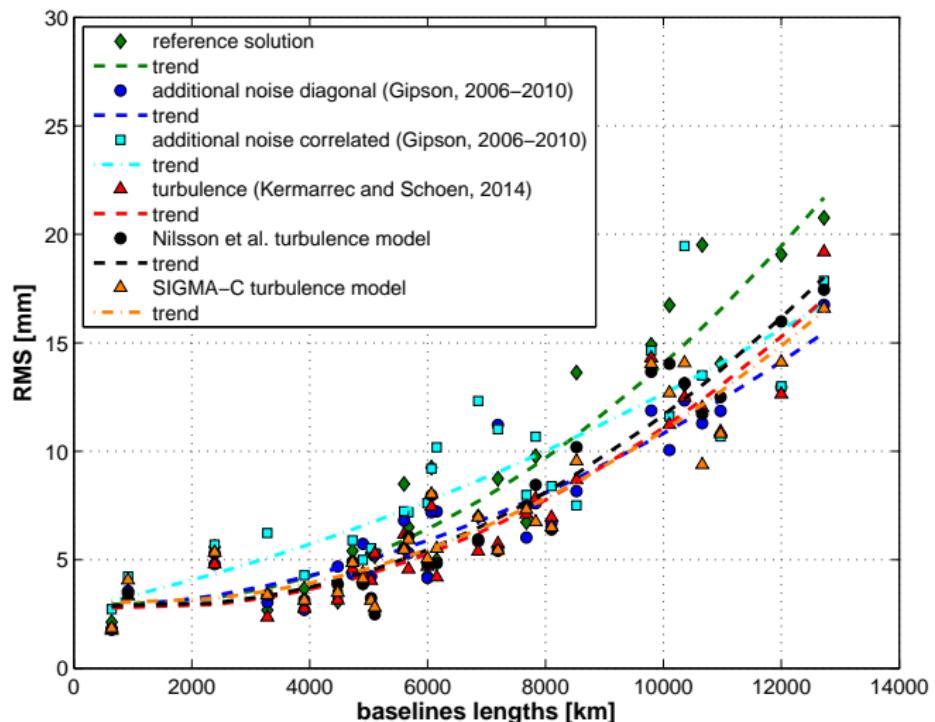


Improvement: 46.4%

Unchanged: 53.6%

Degradation: 0.0%

Baseline lengths repeatabilities



CONT02 session: 12.-26.08.2002

Conclusion

- stochastic model augmented by correlations due to atmospheric turbulence
- $\chi^2 \approx 1$ for the solutions with additional noise and correlations due to turbulent effects (slightly too small)
- WRMS and RMS decrease slightly
- **improvement of baseline lengths repeatabilities**
($\approx 50\%$ for CONT02 sessions)

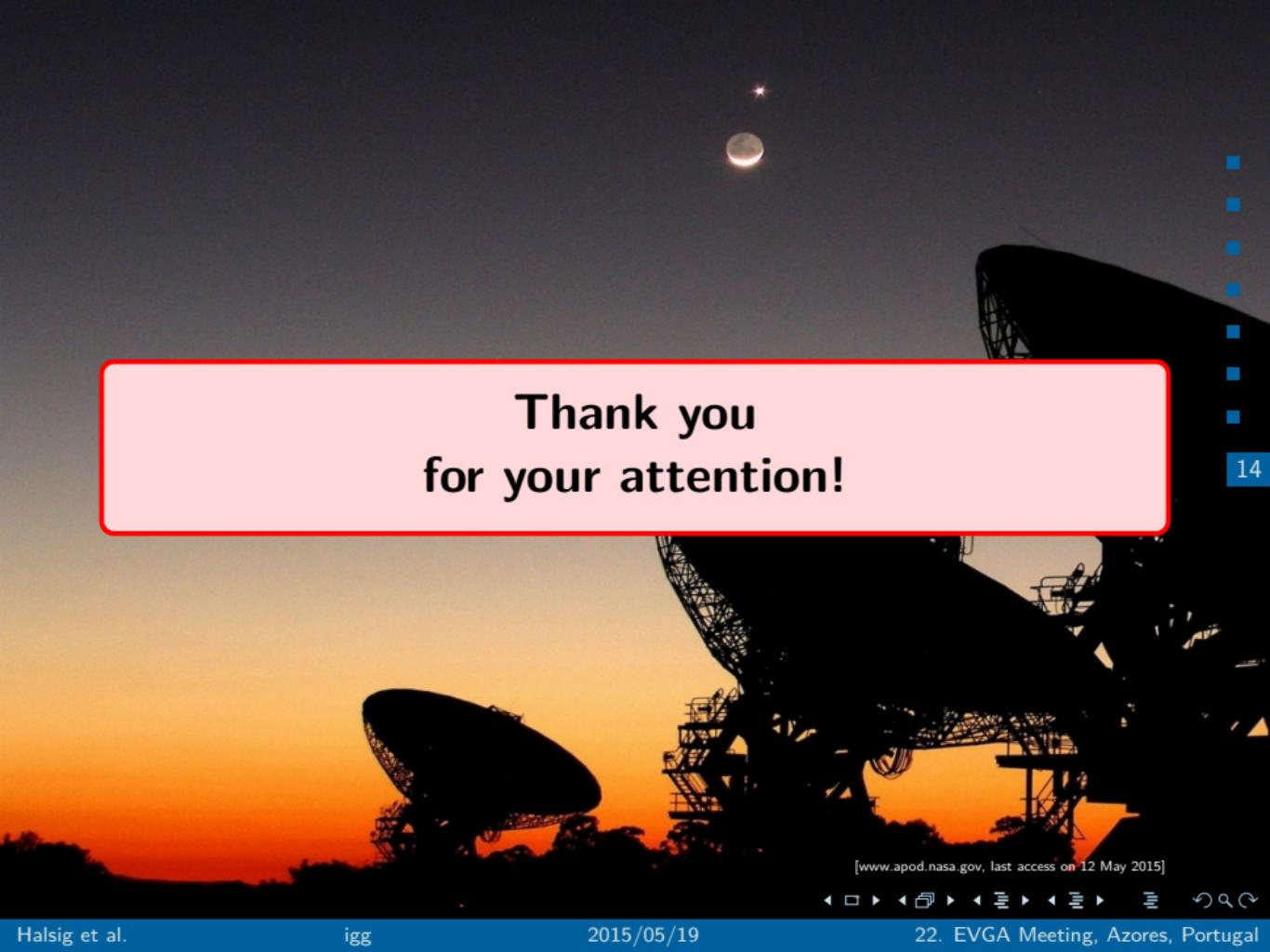
Conclusion

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further work

- further investigations of small baseline lengths
- parameterization of wind speed, structure constant, integration height, maximal baseline lengths for spatial correlation ...
- other error sources should possibly be used in the stochastic model



Thank you
for your attention!

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[www.apod.nasa.gov, last access on 12 May 2015]



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