Modeling and analysis of LOFAR scintillation data

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Modeling and analysis of LOFAR scintillation data

Scintillation - fluctuations of wave characteristics after passing through medium with variable refractive index Interferometry in low frequencies (10-240 MHz)



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LOFAR (Low Frequency Array)

Interferometry in low frequencies (10-240 MHz)

Consists of:

- Two antenna fields with 96 dipole antennas in each
- LBA (Low Band Antenna) observations in 10-90 MHz range
- HBA (High Band Antenna) observations in 110-240 MHz range
- Directional observations possible (beamforming)



Scintillation

(fluctuations of wave characteristics after passing through medium with variable refractive index)









Modeling pattern evolution – dispersion analysis





$$\psi(\mathbf{r},t) = \int d\mathbf{r}' K^t(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')\psi(\mathbf{r}',0)$$
$$\hat{\psi}(\mathbf{k},t) = \hat{\psi}(\mathbf{k},0)e^{\Omega(\mathbf{k})t}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[\psi(r_1,t_1)\psi(r_2,t_2)] = \int dm{k} P(m{k}) e^{\Omega(m{k}) au} e^{im{k}\cdotm{\zeta}} = C(m{\zeta}, au), \ m{\zeta} = r_2 - r_1, \ au = t_2 - t_1$$

M. Grzesiak, A. W. Wernik, Dispersion analysis of spaced antenna measurements, Annales Geophysicae, 27, 2843-2849, 2009

Basic example – frozen flow



$$K(r' - r, t) = \delta(r' - (r - v_d t))$$

 $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}C - \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\xi}}C = 0$



 $oldsymbol{ au}_lpha$

 $oldsymbol{\xi}_{lpha} = \mathbf{r}_k - \mathbf{r}_l$

Simulation



 $oldsymbol{ au}_lpha$





0.05

 $\boldsymbol{\tau}_{lpha}=0$ <



<

Correlation function features recognition



Briggs, B. H., On the analysis of moving patterns in geophysics, I, Correlation analysis, J. Atmos. Terr. Phys., 30, 1777-1788, 1968.

Estimation of geometry and drift velocity

0

0

п

$$C(\boldsymbol{\xi}) = \rho(\boldsymbol{\xi}^{T} Q \boldsymbol{\xi})$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} C(\boldsymbol{\xi} - \boldsymbol{v}\tau) = 0 \qquad \boldsymbol{\xi}^{T} Q \boldsymbol{v} = \tau_{m} \boldsymbol{v}^{T} Q \boldsymbol{v} \rightarrow \tau_{m} = \frac{\boldsymbol{\xi}^{T} Q \boldsymbol{v}}{\boldsymbol{v}^{T} Q \boldsymbol{v}}$$

$$\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\xi}} \tau_{m} = \frac{Q \boldsymbol{v}}{\boldsymbol{v}^{T} Q \boldsymbol{v}} \qquad \boldsymbol{v} = \frac{Q^{-1} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\xi}} \tau_{m}}{(\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\xi}} \tau_{m})^{T} Q^{-1} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\xi}} \tau_{m}}$$

-0.06

-0.04

-0.02

0

0.02

0.04

0.06

Estimation of geometry and drift velocity



	data set	v_x	v_y	$\operatorname{magnitude}$	v_x	v_y	magnitude
					isotropic	isotropic	isotropic
		[m/s]	[m/s]	[m/s]	$\ $ [m/s]	[m/s]	[m/s]
•	L547449	142	-35	147	86	-90	124
	L547785	694	408	804	$\parallel 549$	552	778
	L552177	-2160	795	2370	-1526	1586	2200

Space-frequency analysis



$$f = \exp ikx \qquad x \to x - vt$$

$$f(x_1, t_1)f^*(x_2, t_2) = \exp(ikd)\exp(ikv\tau), \ d = x_1 - x_2, \ \tau = t_1 - t_2$$

$$\omega = kv, \ \Delta \phi = kd \to \Delta \phi = \frac{d}{v}\omega$$



Frequency domain picture





20

15

10

0

-5

-10

-15

-1.5

-1

timelag [s] 5

Time vs. frequency









0.1 0.2 0.3 frequency [Hz] 0.4 0

Phase screen approach & Fresnel filtering



Double phase screen







time lags for maximum correlation (L547449CasAsb10)



Problems with frozen flow model



Temporal decorrelation + frozen flow:

 $Q' = T^T Q T$

$$\mathbf{v}_{T} = Q_{s}^{-1}Q_{[1:2;3]}$$



 $\gamma-$ the velocity scaling factor from fitting the temporal correlation to the spatial correlation

 $v_{_{\rm F}}$ – the velocity when taken the frozen flow approximation

Estimated velocity doesn't follow model with separable temporal decorrelation

Conclusions

LOFAR network provides consistent scintillation data of coverage both in time and space that equips us with new possibilities of Spatio-temporal analysis.

The method presented gives an estimate of drift velocity, taking into account possible anisotropy of irregularities. It turns out that the magnitude of drift velocity depends on geomagnetic activity: the larger the Kp index, the greater velocity, which is in agreement with previous observations.

Similar scales of irregularities revealed by correlation analysis at a given time instant in conjunction with velocity estimates explain the broadening of frequency power spectra - larger drift velocity shifts spatial structures in the frequency domain according to the Doppler effect.

The observed nonlinear dependence of time lag on separation can be attributed to propagation through a multilayer ionosphere with different evolution properties.

There are inconsistencies between the observations and the frozen flow model that cannot be accounted for by the temporal decorrelation.