

# Scaling invariance behaviour of thermal fluxes from an extensive green roof

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NP3.2 Climate Variability Across Scales and Multifractals in Urban Geosciences



# Context

Analysis of the **scale-invariant properties of heat fluxes** related to the evapotranspiration (ET) flux, such as the structure function parameter of the refraction index of air ( $C_n^2$ ) and the air temperature ( $T$ ) in the Blue Green Wave, **using the Universal Multifractal framework**.

- The Blue Green Wave is an extensive green roof of 1 ha, located in the Ecole des Ponts ParisTech (France)
- Measuring of path-averaged  $C_n^2$  over the 190 m with a Large Aperture Scintillometer LAS MKI every 10 min. The path-length between transmitter and receiver of LAS MKI pass over the BGW.
- The path-averaged  $C_n^2$  measured by the LAS MKI is mainly due to temperature fluctuations (Moene, 2003): Monitoring of the air temperature next to the receiver unit with a CNR4 radiometer.

# Methodology

## 1. The power spectral density

The power spectral density corresponds to the second-order moment statistics.

$$E(f) \sim f^{-\beta}$$

$f$  is the frequency  
 $\beta$  is the spectral exponent

$$\beta = 1 + 2H - K(2)$$

$H$  is the Hurst exponent  
 $K(2)$  is the scaling moment function

## 2. The structure function

The structure function enables to fully characterise the variability of the flux across scales over several orders of statistical moments  $q$ .

$$S_q(r) = \langle |u(x+r) - u(x)|^q \rangle$$

$u$  velocity increments

$$S_q(r) = \epsilon^{-q/3} r^{q/3} \propto r^{\zeta(q)}$$

$\zeta(q)$  is the scaling exponent function

**The curve  $\zeta(q)$  vs.  $q$ :**

- For a monofractal process:  $\zeta(q)$  follows the power law  $qH$ .
- For a multifractal process:  $\zeta(q)$  does not follow the power law  $qH$ , which is affected by the nonlinearity of  $K(q)$  from intermittent and multifractal processes.

**$K(q)$  is the scaling moment function that can be characterised by the Universal Multifractal framework.**



### 3. Universal Multifractal (UM)

The UM framework enables the characterisation of  $K(q)$  with three scale invariant parameters  $\alpha$ ,  $C_1$  and  $H$  (Schertzer & Lovejoy, 1987):

$$K(q) + Hq = \begin{cases} \frac{C_1}{\alpha - 1} (q^\alpha - q) & \alpha \neq 1 \\ C_1 q \ln q & \alpha = 1 \end{cases}$$

**Lévy index  $\alpha$** , indicates the extent of multifractality ( $0 \leq \alpha \leq 2$ ):

- Monofractal fields,  $\alpha = 0$
- Maximal occurrence of extremes (log normal multifractal),  $\alpha = 2$

**Mean singularity  $C_1$** , measures the clustering of the average field intensity and fractal codimension of the average field:

- $C_1 = 0$  for uniform field

**Hurst exponent  $H$** , measures the degree of non-conservation of the average field:

- $H = 0$  conservative field

$K(q)$  and the scale invariant parameters  $\alpha, C_1$  for a conservative field ( $H = 0$ ) can be estimated through Trace Moments or Double Trace Moments Technique :

#### 4. Trace Moments (Schertzer & Lovejoy, 1987)

The statistical moments of order  $q$  of a scale invariant field  $\epsilon$  at a given resolution  $\lambda$ , scales with the resolution  $\lambda$ :

$$\langle \epsilon_\lambda^q \rangle \approx \lambda^{K(q)}$$

$$C_1 = K'(1)$$

$$\alpha = C_1 / K''(1)$$

$$\lambda = \frac{\text{outlier scale}}{\text{observation scale}}$$

#### 5. Double Trace Moments (Lavallée et al. 1993)

Trace Moments analysis on a renormalised  $\eta$ th power of the field  $\epsilon_\lambda$ .

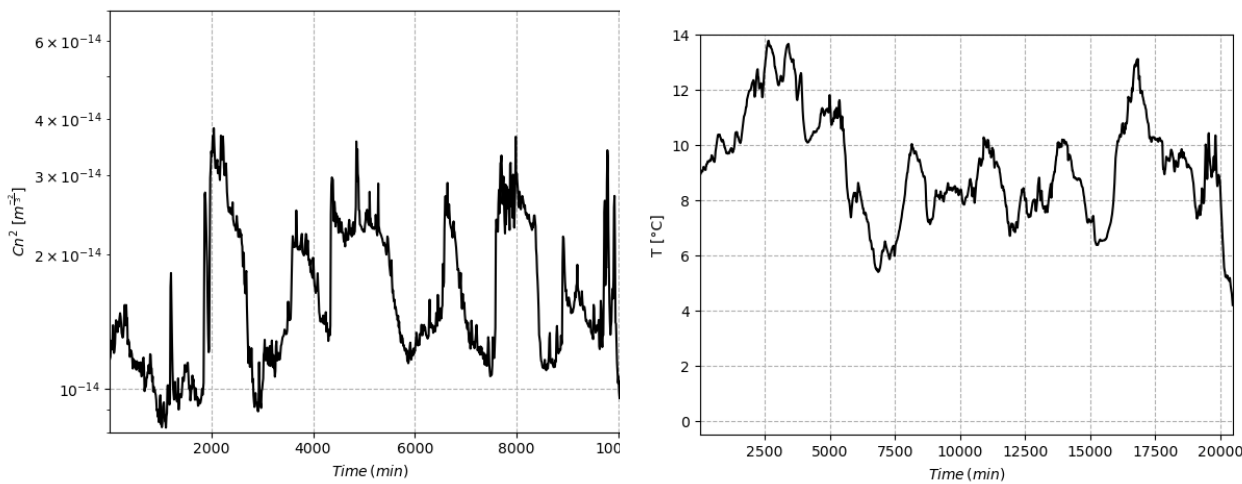
$$\langle \epsilon_\lambda^{(\eta)q} \rangle \approx \lambda^{K(q,\eta)}$$

$$K(q, \eta) = K(q\eta) - qK(\eta)$$

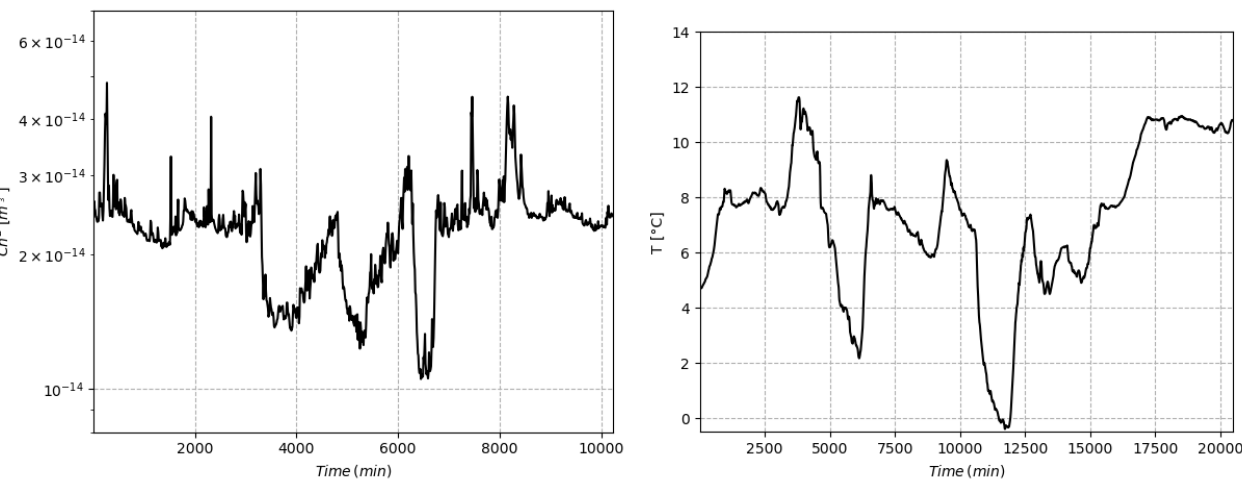
$$K(q, \eta) = \eta^\alpha K(q)$$

# The data-set:

## December 2019



## January 2020



Measurements of  $C_n^2$  and  $T$  with a LAS MKI and a CNR4 respectively, in December 2019 and January 2020.

Heat Flux	Collection time	Sample length	Sample frequency
$C_n^2$	December 2019	1024	1 Hz, 10 min average
	January 2020		
$T$	December 2019	2048	1 Hz, 5 min average
	January 2020		

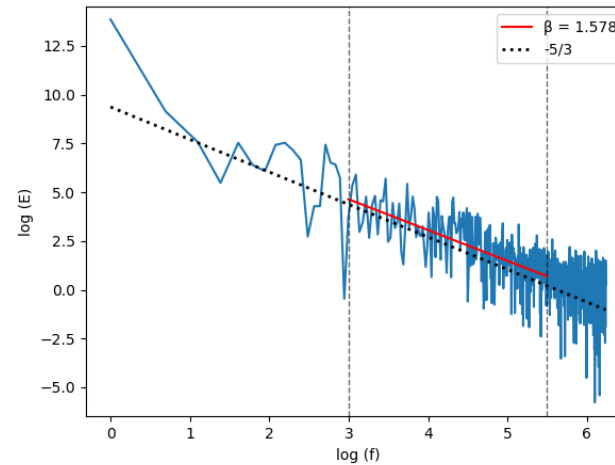
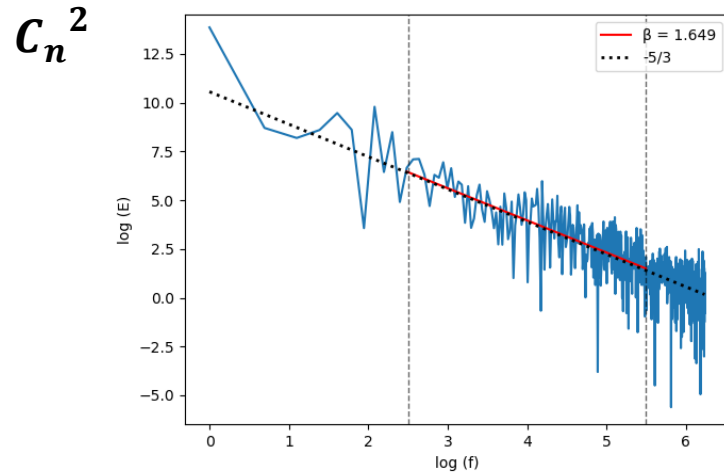


# Results

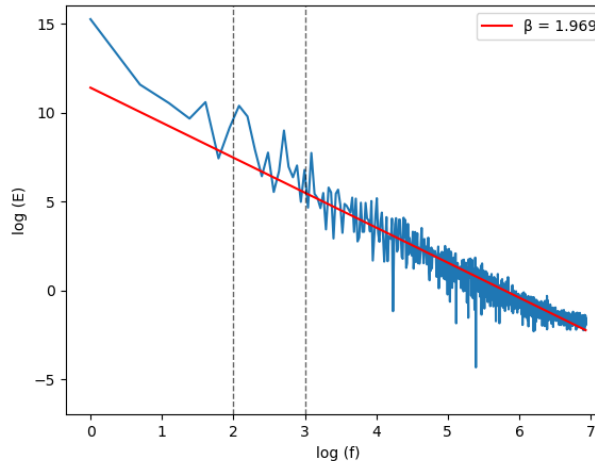
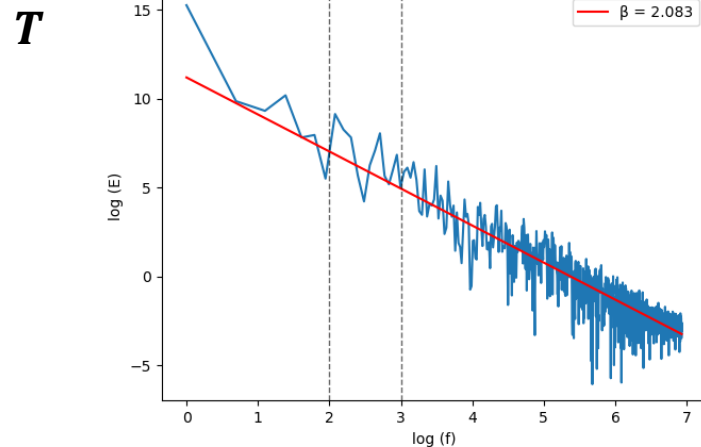
## The power spectral density

December 2019

January 2020



- Fluctuations of  $C_n^2$  and  $T$  in both periods exhibit a linear scaling behaviour.
- Spectral slope  $\beta$  of  $C_n^2$  roughly equal to 1.6 ( $\sim 5/3$  of isotropic and homogeneous turbulence, Kolmogorov 41)
- Spectral slope  $\beta$  of  $T$  roughly equal to 2 ( $\sim 11/5$  of scaling stable stratified turbulence, Bolgiano-Obukhov).

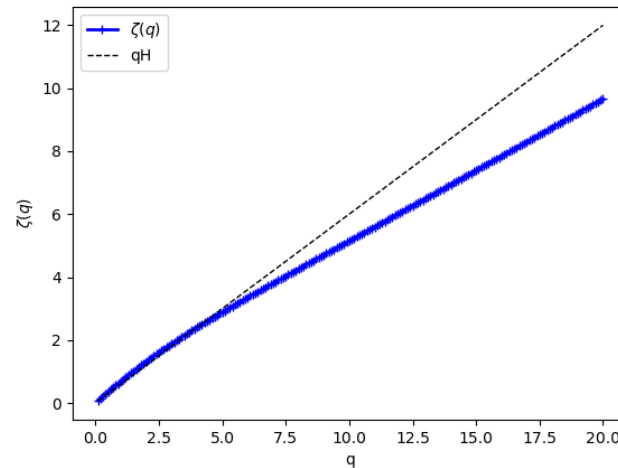
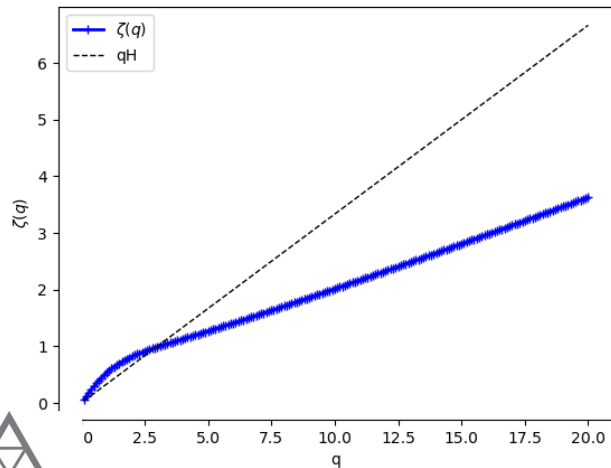
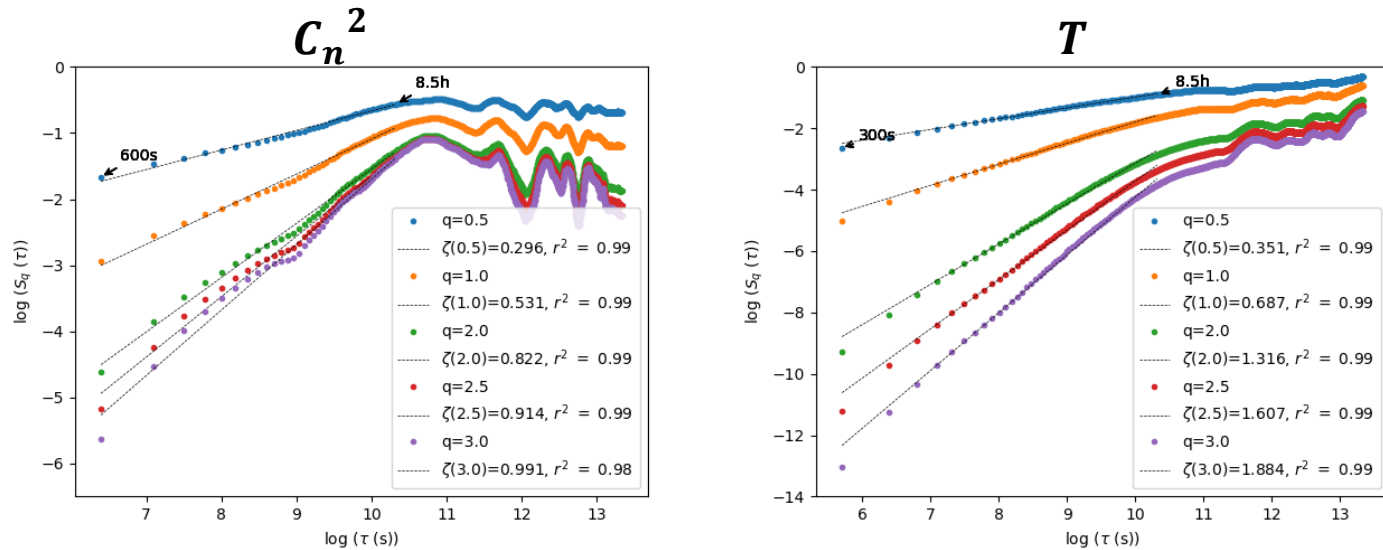


# Results

## The structure function of temporal fluctuations

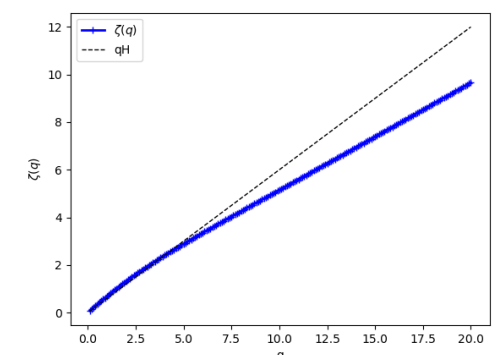
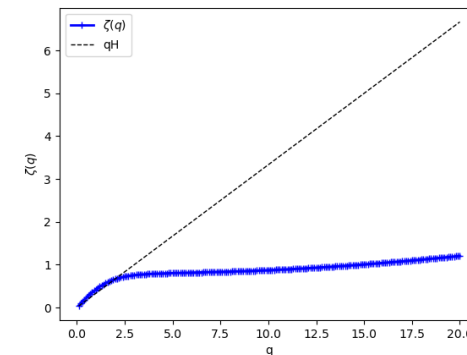
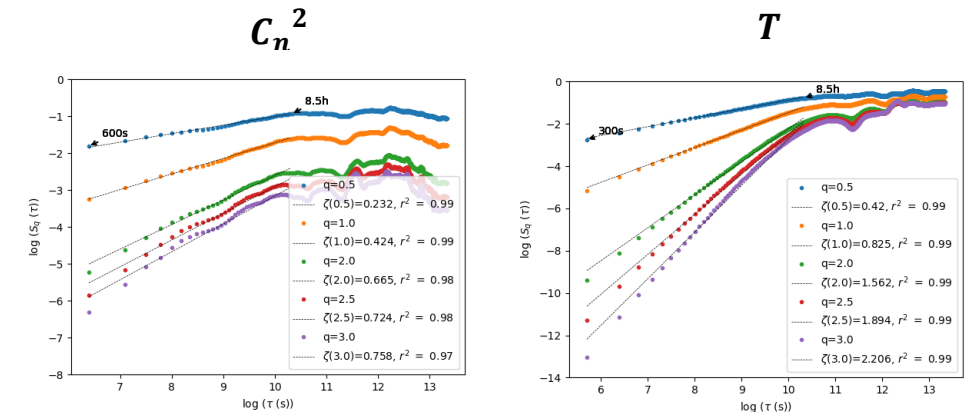
$$S_q(\tau) = \tau^{\zeta(q)}$$

**December 2019**



- Scaling behaviour of the  $C_n^2$  and  $T$ , between 600 s and 8.5 h, and 300 s and 8.5 h respectively.
- Nonlinearity of  $\zeta(q)$  given by  $K(q)$ .

**January 2020**



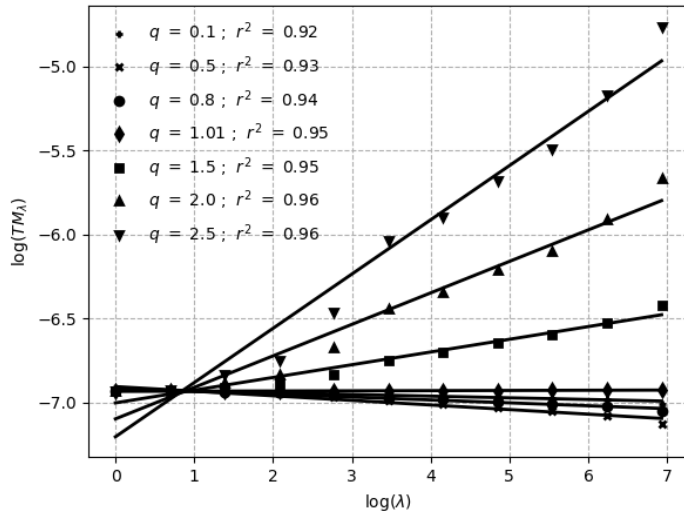


# Results

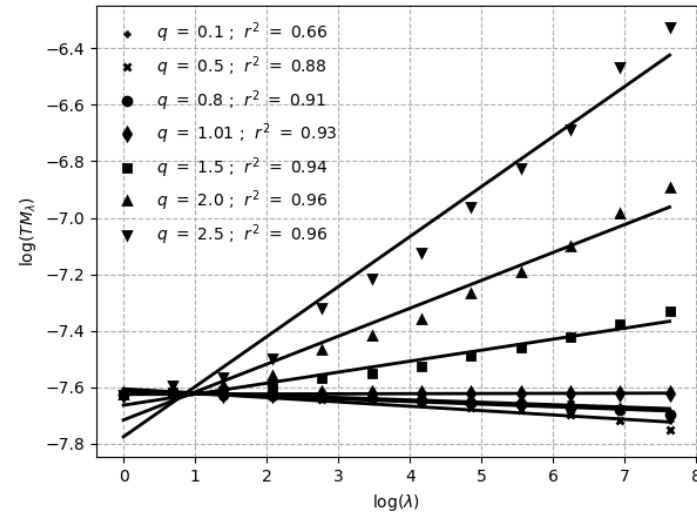
## Trace Moments/Double Trace Moments

December 2019

$C_n^2$

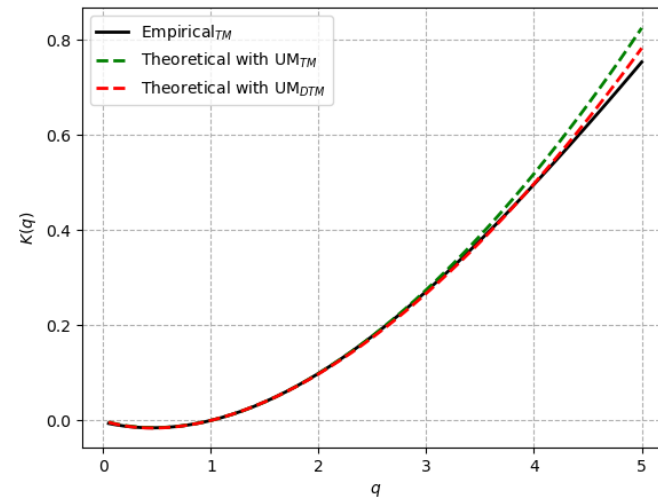
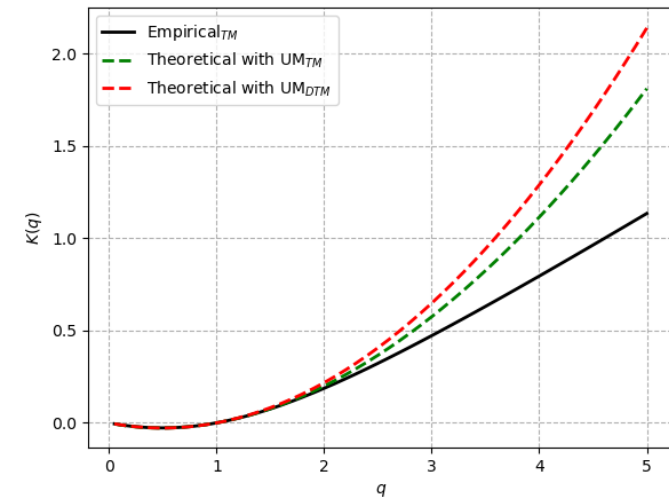


$T$



Characterisation of UM parameters

Period	December 2019		January 2020	
Flux/Parameter	$\alpha$	$C_1$	$\alpha$	$C_1$
Trace Moments				
$C_n^2$	1.839	0.106	1.879	0.10
$T$	1.702	0.055	1.680	0.073
Double Trace Moments				
$C_n^2$	1.97	0.11	1.85	0.10
$T$	1.625	0.056	1.587	0.075



# Conclusions & Perspectives

- Scale invariant parameters  $\alpha$  and  $C_1$  of  $C_n^2$  fluctuations during both periods of analysis were higher than the  $T$ , which indicates strong multifractality.
- $C_n^2$  measurements by the LAS MKI were not only affected by the temperature fluctuations, but additional turbulent processes that have a stronger impact on the heat convection than conventionally expected (e.g., wind speed).

Future work involves:

- Development of a new measurement campaign of heat fluxes, related to the ET from vegetated structures in urban environments, at different spatial scales.
- Analysis of the heat fluxes spatial variability from the new measurement campaign through the UM framework.

# References

- Lavallée, D., Lovejoy, S., Schertzer, D., & Ladoy, P. (1993). Nonlinear variability and landscape topography: Analysis and simulation. *Fractals in Geography*, 158–192.
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