

# Development of wideband VLBI system – Gala-V

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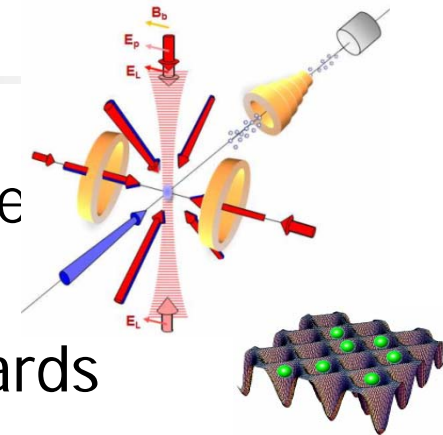
NICT/ Space-Time Standards Laboratory

Mission Target:=

Frequency Comparison of Clocks at Intercontinental Distances

## Background-1:

- NICT is the Time Keeping Authority of the National Standard Time JST.
- Development of Optical frequency standards is in progress in this field.
- Primary standard Cs Clock will be replaced by optical clock (e.g. Sr atom 698nm) in near future.
- High precision frequency comparison between optical clocks is important for the process of defining new primary frequency standard (= Re-definition of the "Second").

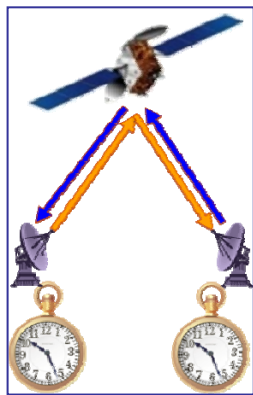
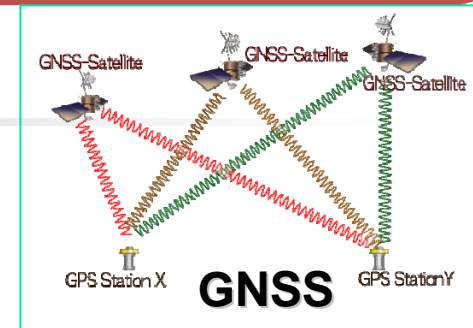


Mission Target:=

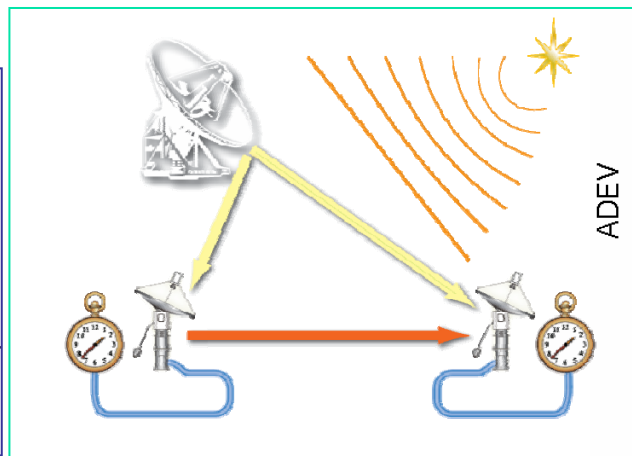
Frequency Comparison of Clocks at Intercontinental Distances

## Space Technologies for Distant Frequency Comparison

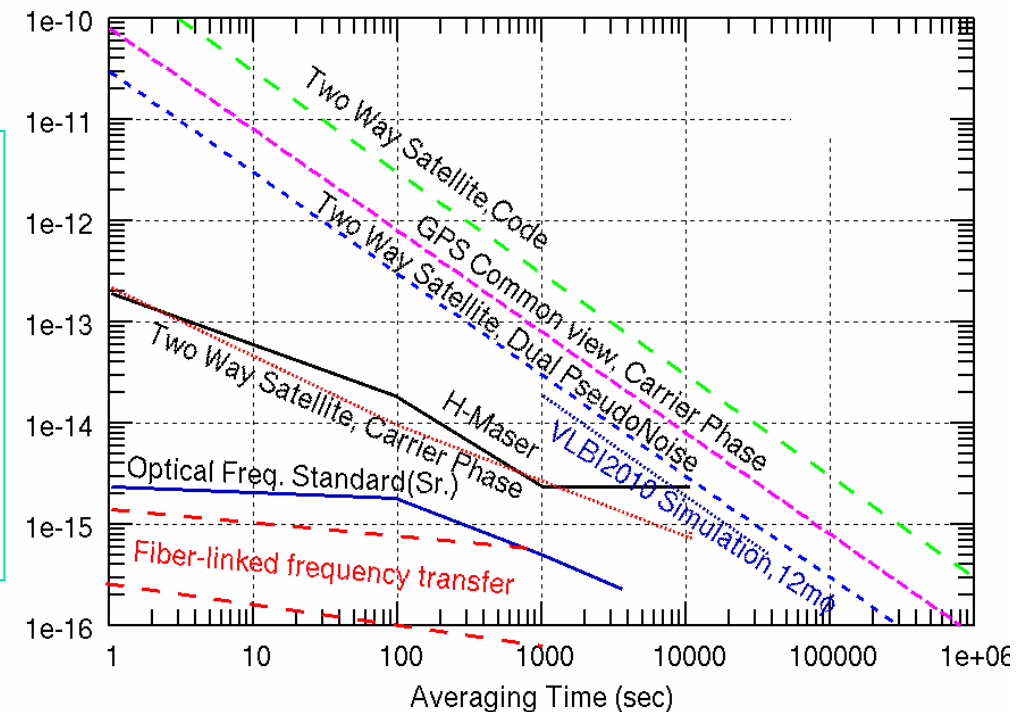
- GNSS(Common view, PPP)
- Two way Satellite Time and Frequency Transfer(TWSTFT)
- VLBI



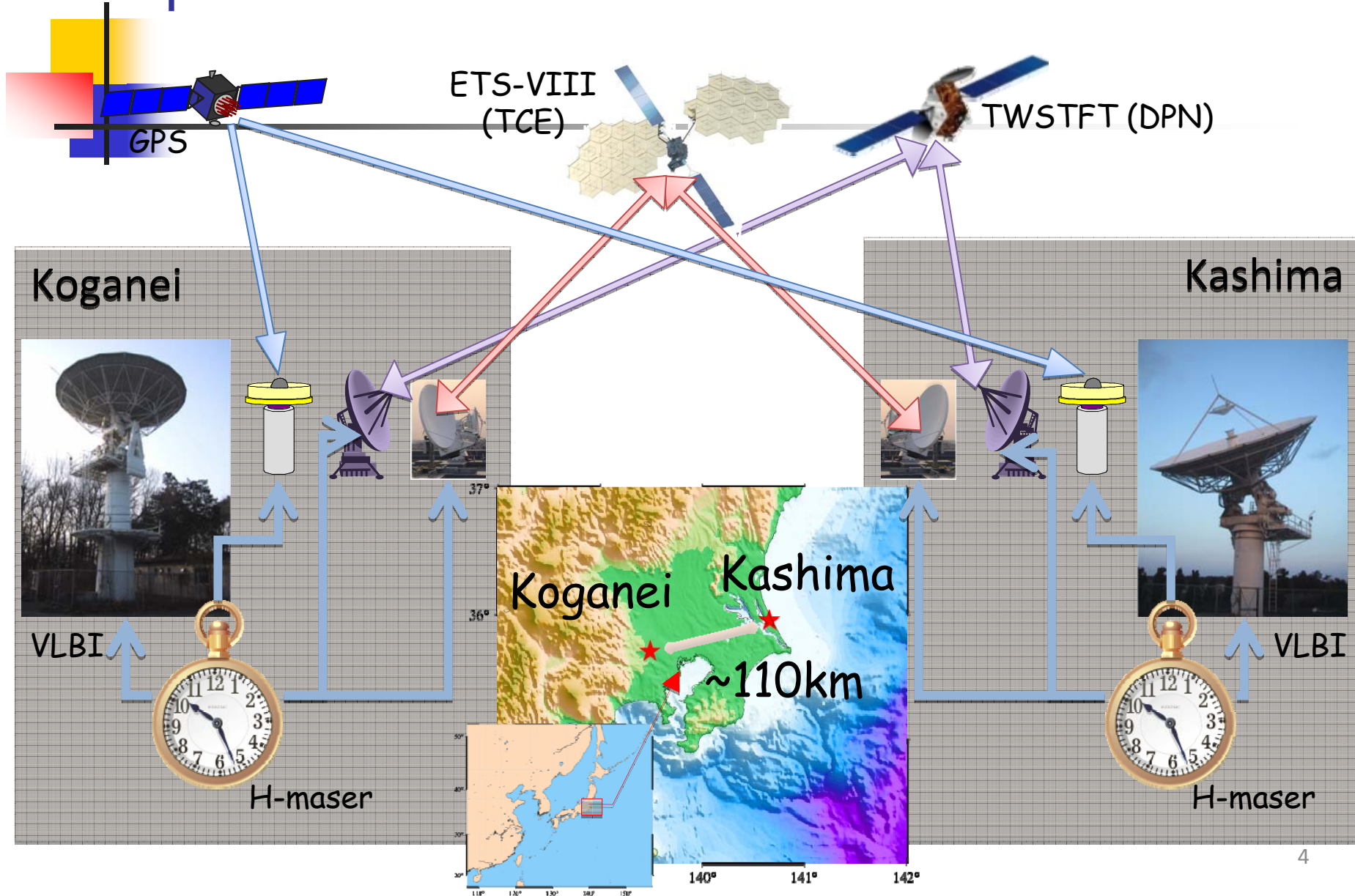
TWSTFT



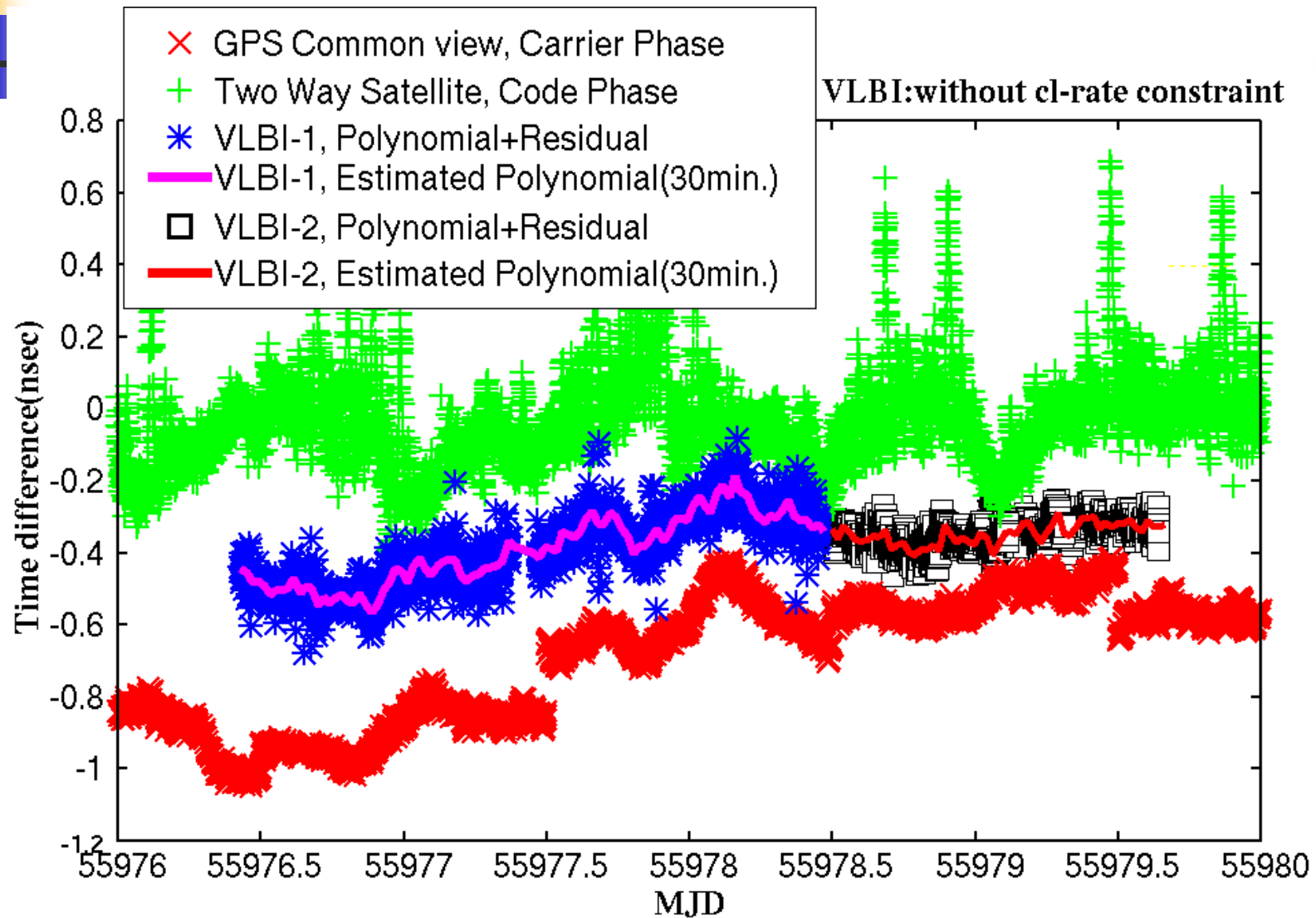
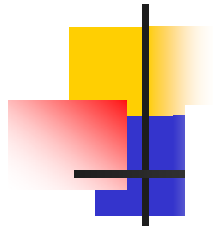
VLBI



# Comparison of Frequency Transfer Techniques Experiment on 100 km baseline



# Comparison of TWSTFT, GPS, VLBI Exp. on 19-22 Feb. 2012

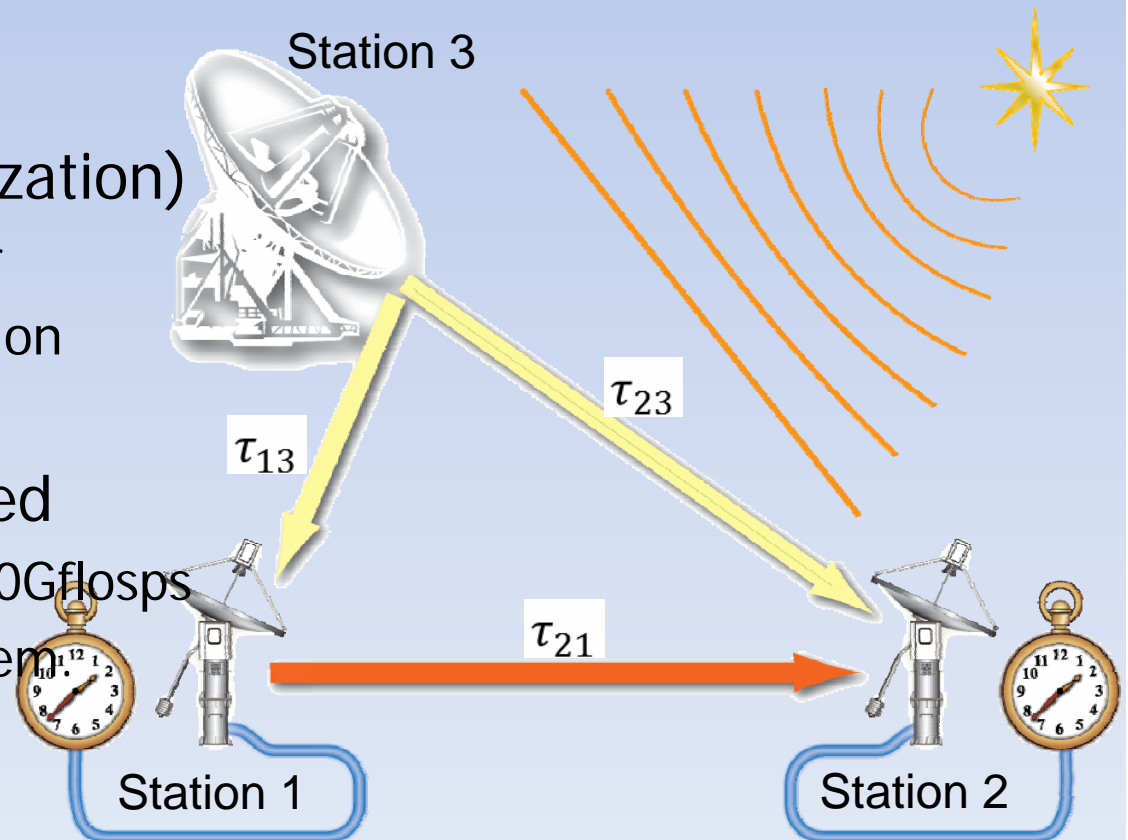


# Gala-V project Overview

Target Precision: 30 ps -> 7 ps

- Observation 4 band (1024MHz)
  - $F_c = 4.0\text{GHz}, 5.6\text{GHz}, 9.9\text{GHz}, 13.1\text{GHz},$
  - Effective BW: 3.8GHz
- Data processing (1 Polarization)
  - GICO3 Software Correlator
  - 2Gbps x 4 = 8 Gbps / Station
  - 40TB/Stn X 3 stn = 120 TB
- Required Processing Speed
  - 100Gflops/1Gbps x 8 = 800Gflops
  - 8- 16 PCs will deal with them

Combination of Small and Large Diameter antennas



# 1.6/1.5m and 34m VLBI antenna



1.5m compact antenna



Kashima 34m antenna

- VLBI2010 semi compliant Observation System is under preparation
  - 1 GHz x 4 band in the 3-15GHz Frequency Range



# Components of the System

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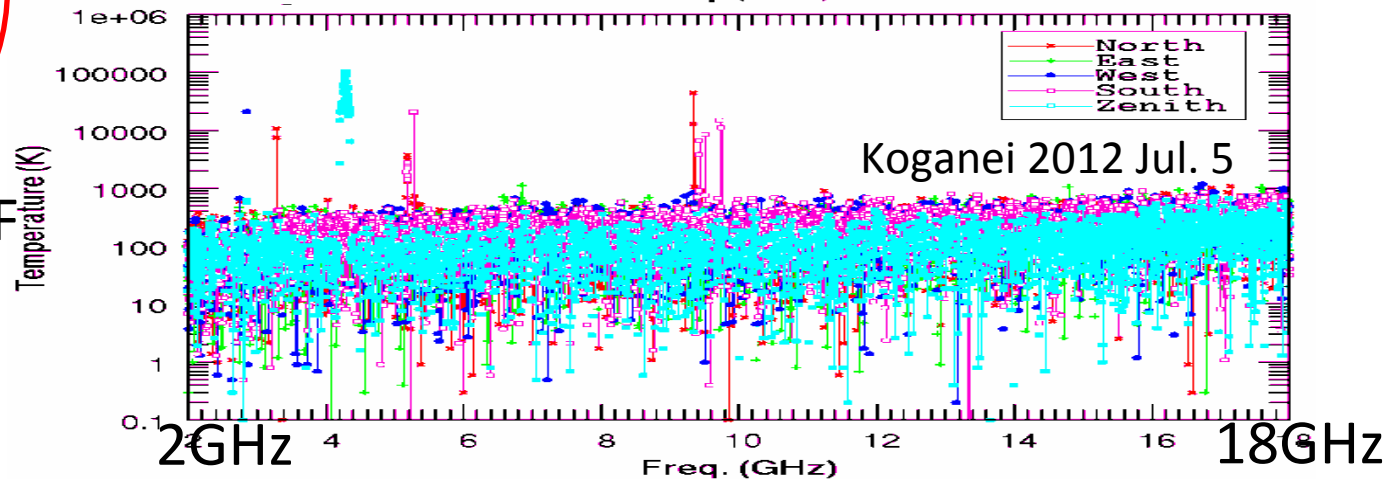
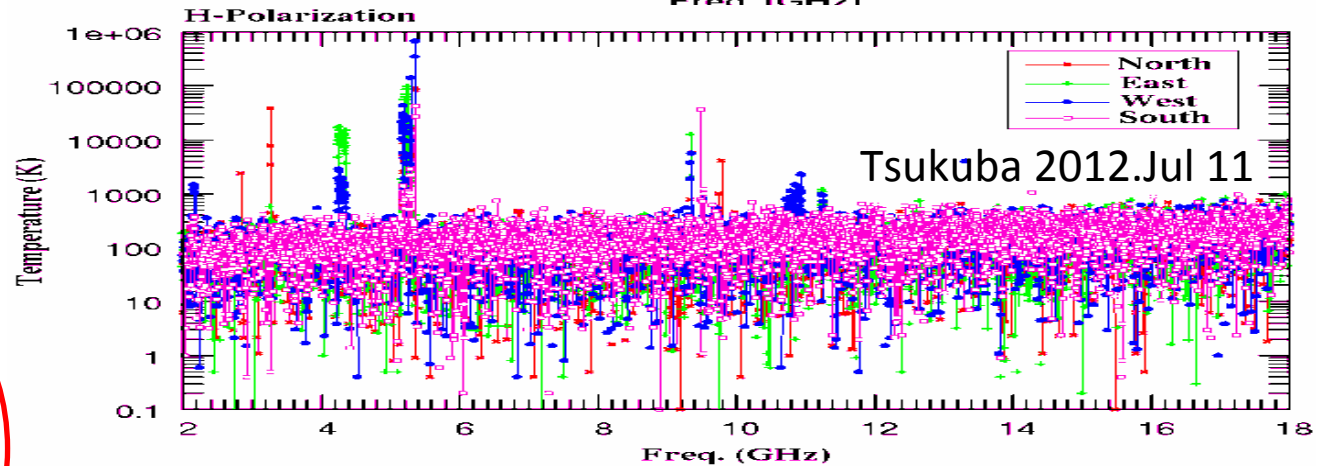
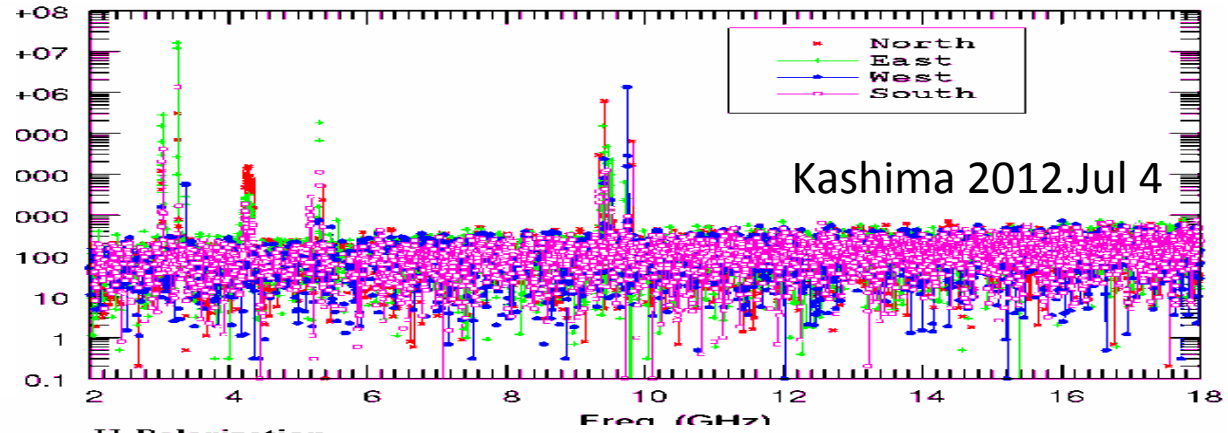
1. Selection of Observation Frequency Band
  - Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) Survey
  - Wide band feed design for existing Radio Telescope (Kashima 34m)
2. Wideband low NF signal Transmission
3. Data Acquisition System
  - Down Converter and ADS3000+
  - Gala-V sampler (GALAS)
4. Phase Calibration Signal
5. Correlation Processing



# RFI Survey 2-18GHz at Tokyo, Kashima, and Tsukuba



With 3.5GHz HPF  
before LNA



# The Gala-V Feed "Iguana".

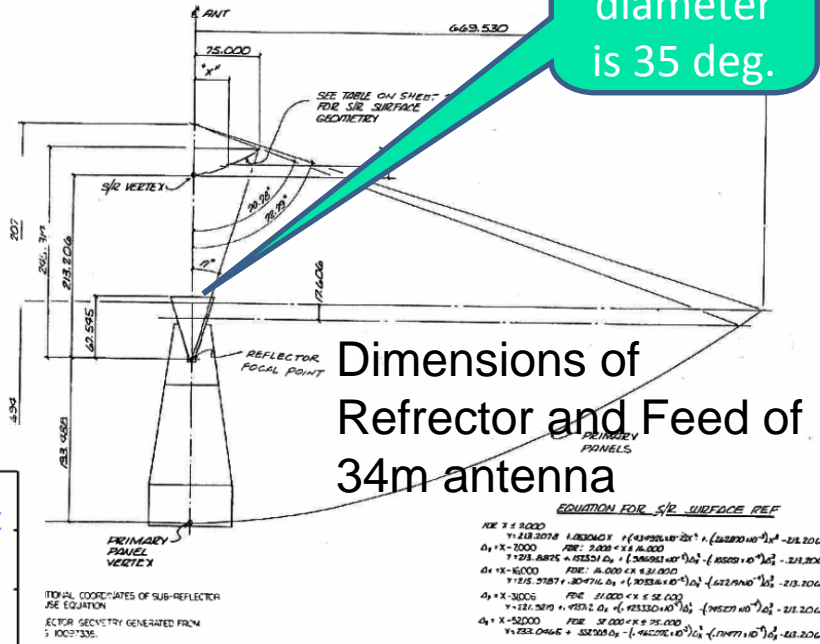
Apparent diameter is 35 deg.

## Requirement:

- Beam width of the feed must be ~35 deg. over the wide frequency range

## Solution:

- Dividing into two frq. range
- 3-7GHz, 9-14GHz Nested feed



Dimensions of Reflector and Feed of 34m antenna

Preliminary beam pattern @ 13-Sep. 2012

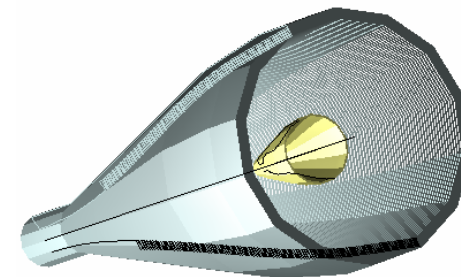
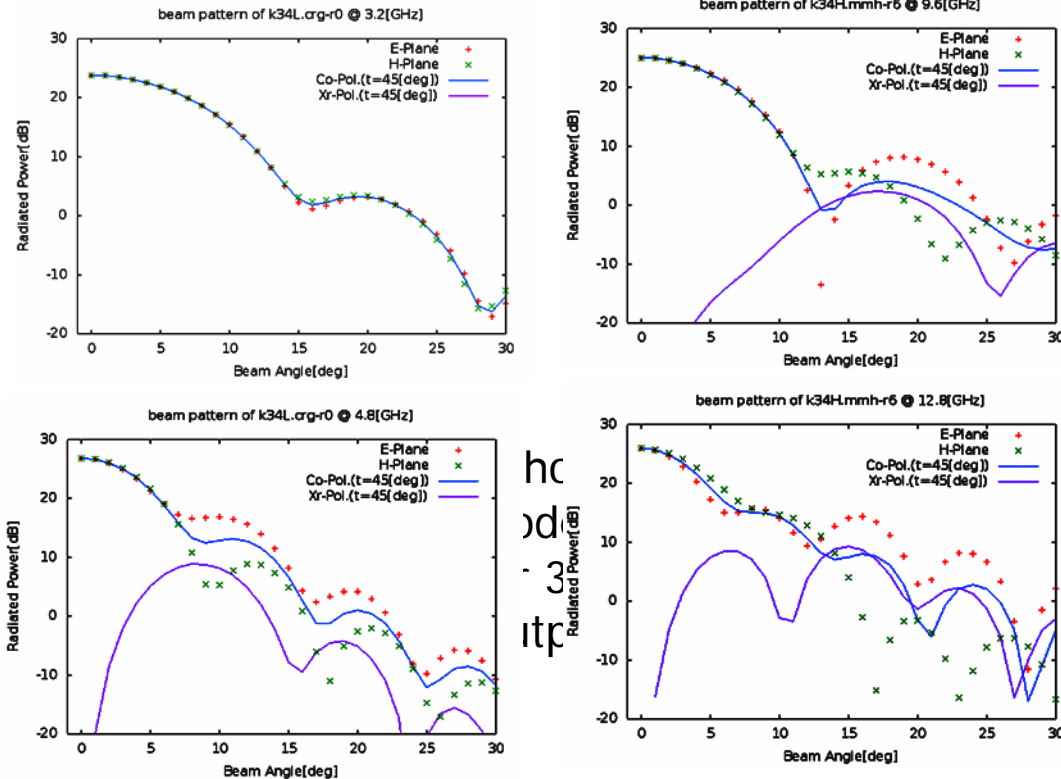
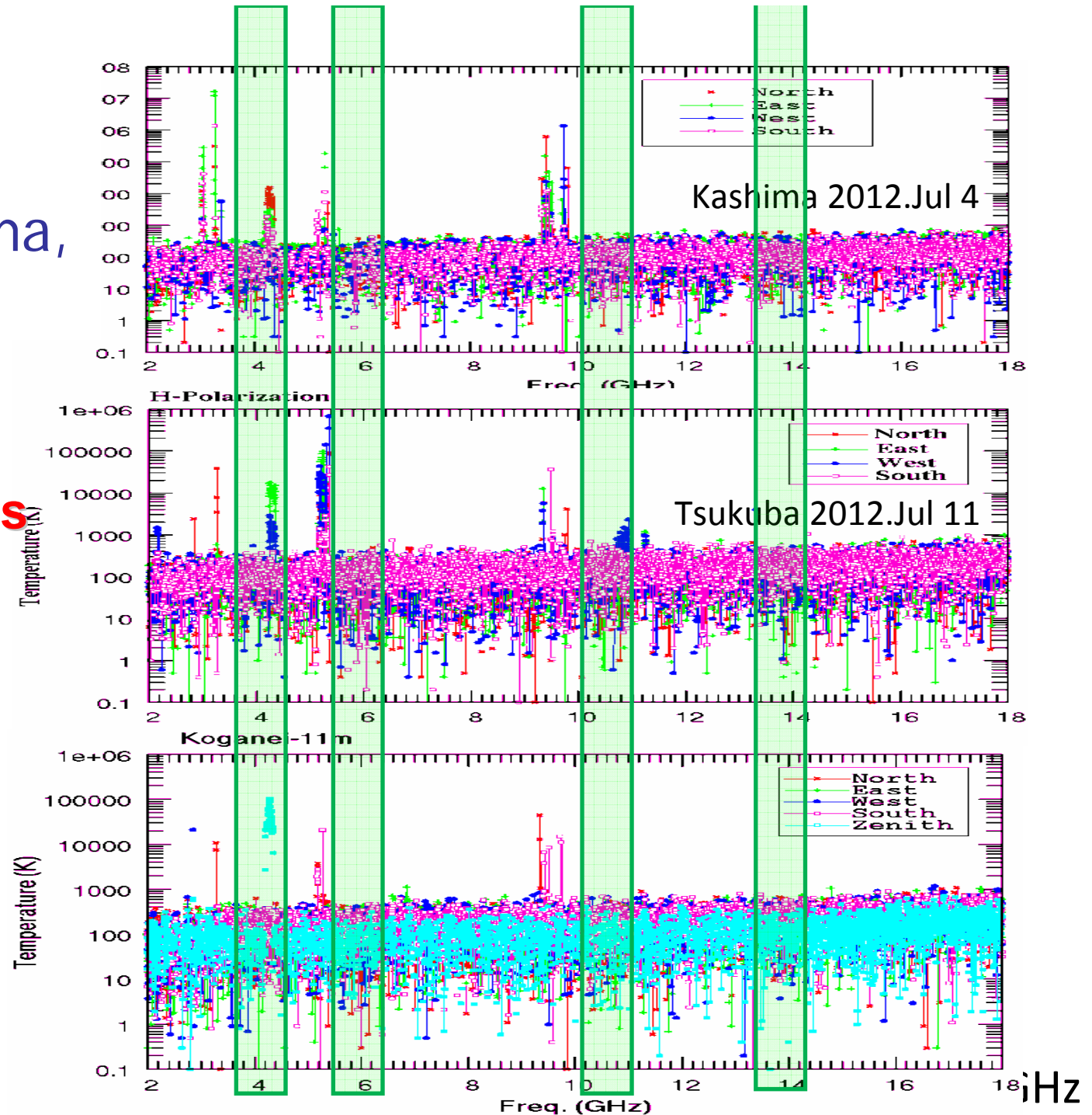


Image of Iguana feed under the development

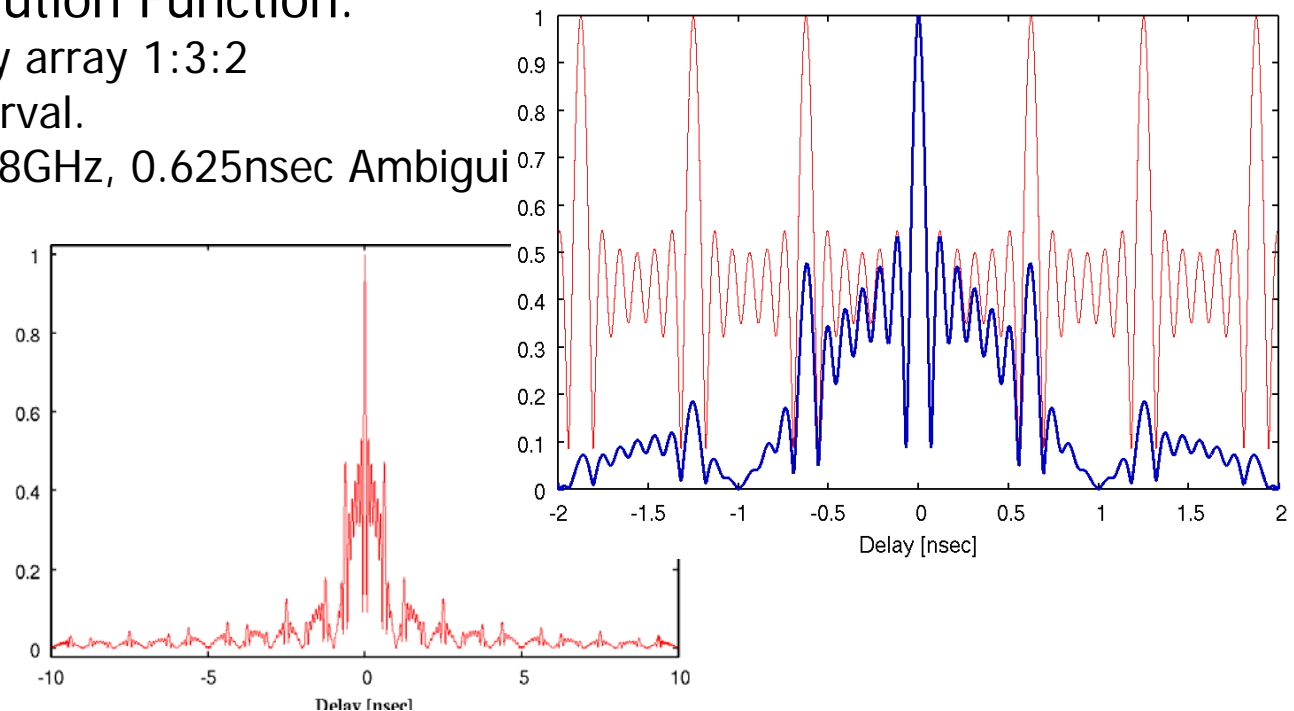
# RFI Survey 2-18GHz at Tokyo, Kashima, and Tsukuba

**Selected bands**  
**3.5GHz,**  
**5.1GHz,**  
**9.9GHz,**  
**13.1GHz**



# Selection of Fixed Frequency Array

- VGOS Spec. : Any four 1GHz in 2-14GHz range can be selectable.
  - In Our case: Due to several limiting conditions, we decided to develop the system design with fixed frequency array.
    - Conditions: Resources, Time schedule, Designing narrow beam feed for existing 34m dish
    - Band Edge = **3.5GHz, 5.1GHz, 9.9GHz, 13.1GHz**
- Followings were took into consideration
  - RFI survey at 3 sites including Tokyo. Broadcasting Satellite Signal.
  - Possible narrow beam with wide frequency range for the Kashima 34m telescope
  - Good Delay Resolution Function.
    - Zero redundancy array 1:3:2 with 1.6GHz interval.
    - Effective BW=3.8GHz, 0.625nsec Ambigui





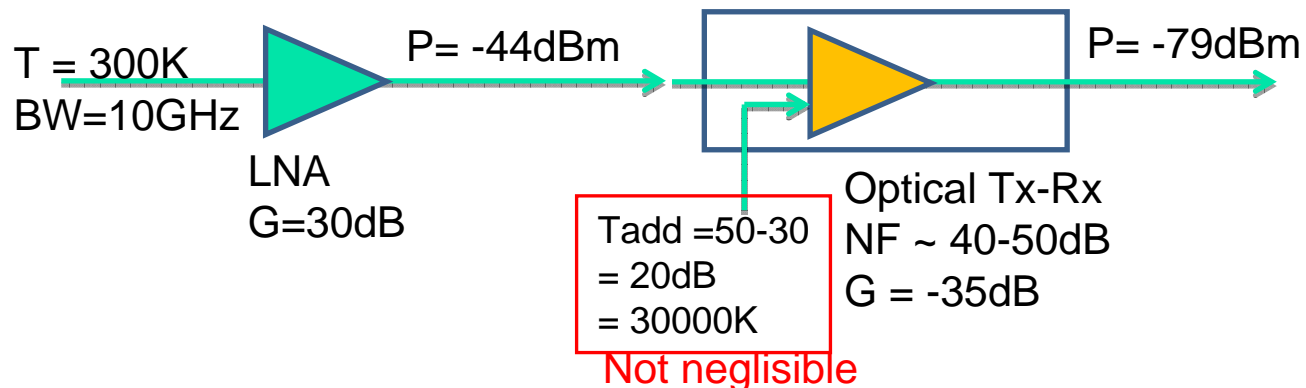
# Components of the System

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  - Wide band feed design for existing Radio Telescope (Kashima 34m)
2. **Wideband low NF signal Transmission**
3. Data Acquisition System
  - Down Converter and ADS3000+
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4. Phase Calibration Signal
5. Correlation Processing

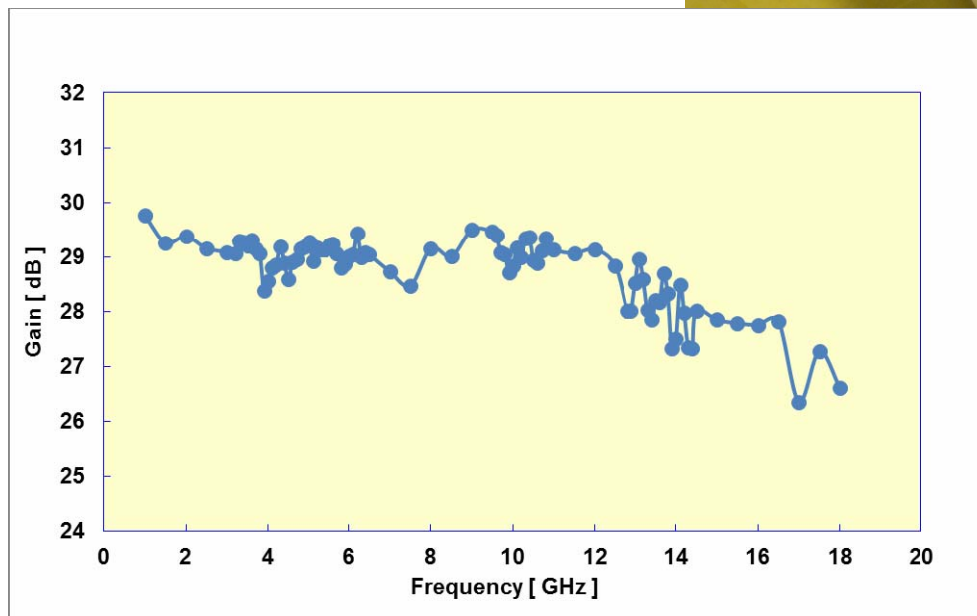
# Wideband low NF signal Transmission

- Wideband signal is transmitted from receiver to observation room with optical fiber.
- Low noise optical transmission is **important** (e.g. Christopher Beaudoin, IVS VLBI2010 Workshop on TechSpec 2012)
  - **10 GHz bandwidth = 100dB gain of total power.**



# E18000 from Sumitomo Osaka Cement Co Ltd.

	Parameters
Freq.	1-18GHz
Gain	+20dB
NF	< 5dB
P1dB	- 40dBm
Linearity	$\pm 0.5$ dB
Flatness	10dBp-p





# Components of the System

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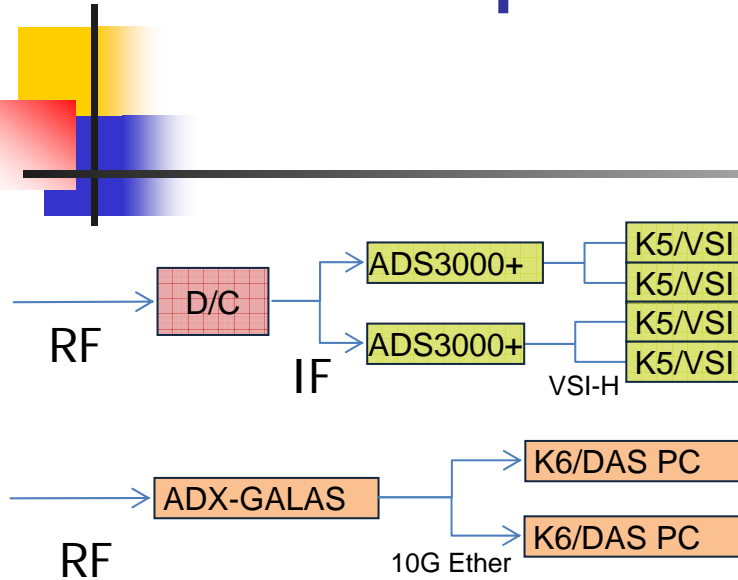
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  - **Gala-V Direct Sampler (GALAS)**
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# Data Acquisition: 1GHz x 4 Ch

## Two Approaches

- Fixed Freq. Down Converter + “ADS3000+”
  - Digital BBC function for legacy mode observation.
- Direct Sampler “GALAS”
  - Digital BBC function for selecting any Frequency
  - Avoiding D/C, simplifying the system
  - Flat Spectrum input is required



ADS3000+ Sampler  
DBBC (BW  $\leq$  32MHz)

Direct Sampler “GALAS”  
DBBC (BW=1024MHz)

See Takefuji et al. “Evaluation of the RF Direct sampler “GALAS” for the VGOS Era”





# Components of the System

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# Phase Cal. Signal

- Important for bandwidth Synthesis

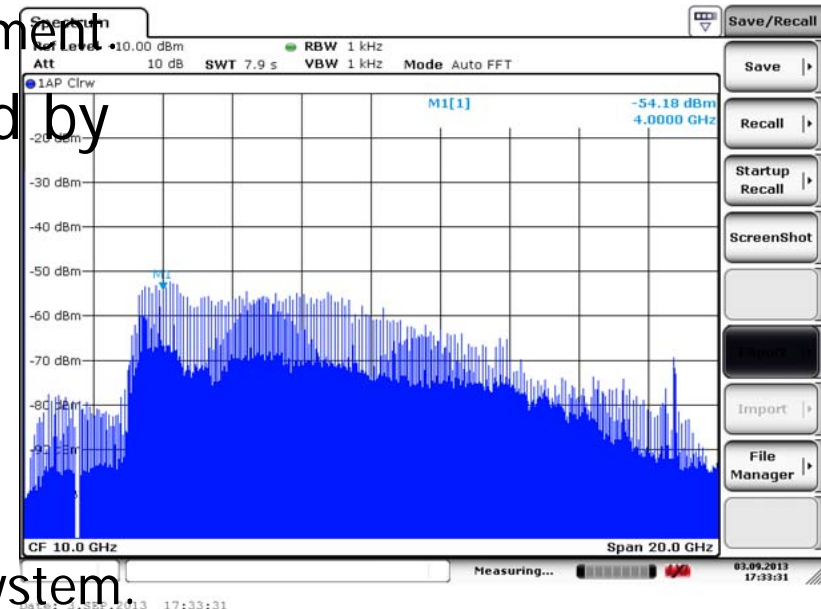
- Key for the precise delay measurement

- Using digital Phase cal. designed by Haystack

- Input reference Frequency: 50MHz

- ☺ Reduced number of Pcal tones.
    - ☺ Good S/N ratio

- ☹ Less compatible with legacy system.





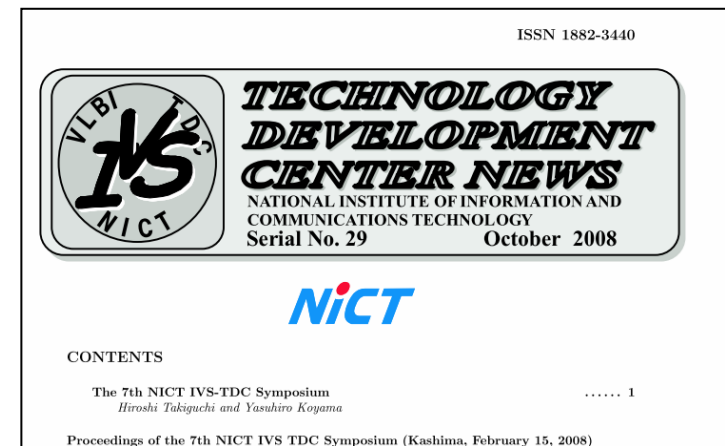
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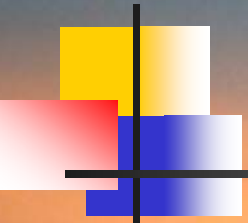
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5. **Correlation Processing**

# Correlation Processing: GICO3 Software Correlator

- GICO3:originally developed by M.Kimura(2003-2008)
  - 2Gbps processing performance with CPU Xeon X5355
  - 3-4 times better if core i7 CPU
- Data processing (1 Polarization)
  - 2Gbps x 4 = 8 Gbps / Station
  - 40TB/Stn X 3 stn= 120 TB
- Required Processing Speed
  - 100Gflops/1Gbps x 8 = 800Gflops
  - 8- 16 PCs will deal with them.





System Evaluation and  
Test experiment is under  
preparation.

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Thank you for  
Attention

