

Performance of a compact 557-GHz heterodyne receiver front-end

Components for future European space missions

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Philipp Neumaier



Knowledge for Tomorrow



Performance of a compact 557-GHz heterodyne receiver front-end

Components for future European space missions



European Project: **TeraComp**



P. Neumaier, H. Richter, H.-W. Hübers

German Aerospace Center, Berlin

J. Stake, H. Zhao, A.-Y. Tang, V. Drakinskiy

Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden

P. Sobis, T. Pellikka, A. Emrich

Omnisys Instruments AB, Sweden

A. Hülsmann, I. Kallfass, A. Tessmann, A. Leuther

Fraunhofer IAF, Germany

T. Johansen

Technical University of Denmark, Denmark

T. Bryllert, J. Hanning, L. Yan

Wasa Millimeter Wave AB, Sweden

V. Krozer

Goethe-University Frankfurt, Germany



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Motivation

Monitoring Earths' atmosphere

Water vapor, cloud ice water content

→ Strong H₂O absorption line @557GHz



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Motivation

Monitoring Earths' atmosphere

Water vapor, cloud ice water content

→ Strong H₂O absorption line @557GHz

Other planets, moons

NO₂, N₂O, SO₂, H₂S, NH₃, CH₄, HCN

Motivation

Monitoring Earths' atmosphere

Water vapor, cloud ice water content

→ Strong H₂O absorption line @557GHz

Other planets, moons

NO₂, N₂O, SO₂, H₂S, NH₃, CH₄, HCN

Security application

THz-Imaging

Performance

Overview



Performance

Overview



Fraunhofer IAF

x6 W-band mHEMT MMIC module

100mW between 88 - 97GHz

@ P_{input} -3dBm

@ f_{input} 14.6 - 16GHz

Performance

Overview



Fraunhofer IAF

x6 W-band mHEMT MMIC module
100mW between 88 - 97GHz

@ P_{input} -3dBm

@ f_{input} 14.6 - 16GHz

Wasa

x3 HBV
1-5 mW between 250 - 305GHz

Performance

Overview



Fraunhofer IAF

x6 W-band mHEMT MMIC module
100mW between 88 - 97GHz

@ P_{input} -3dBm

@ f_{input} 14.6 - 16GHz

Wasa

x3 HBV
1-5 mW between 250 - 305GHz

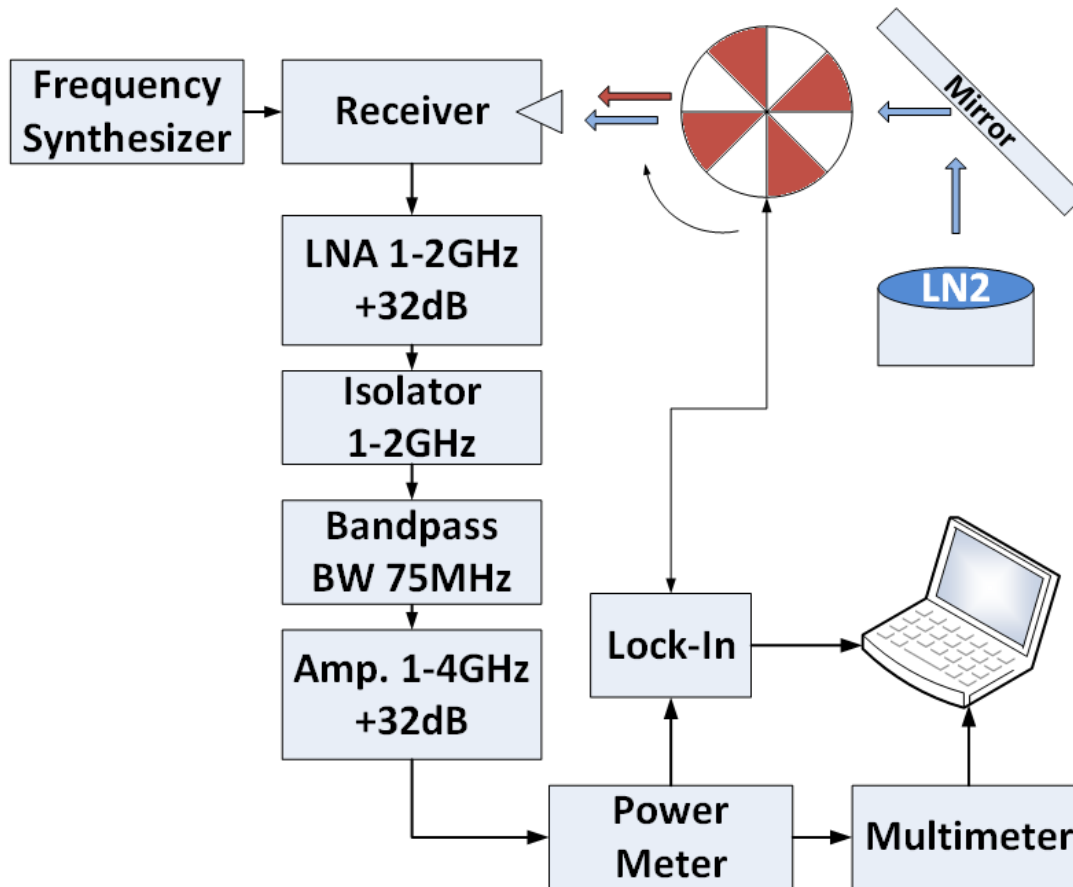
Chalmers, Omnisys

low noise subharmonic Schottky diode mixer (DSB)
around 557GHz

Performance

Noise Temperature

Setup



- Load, Eccosorb

$$T_{\text{Hot}} = 296\text{K}$$

$$T_{\text{Cold}} = 77\text{K}$$

- Bandpass

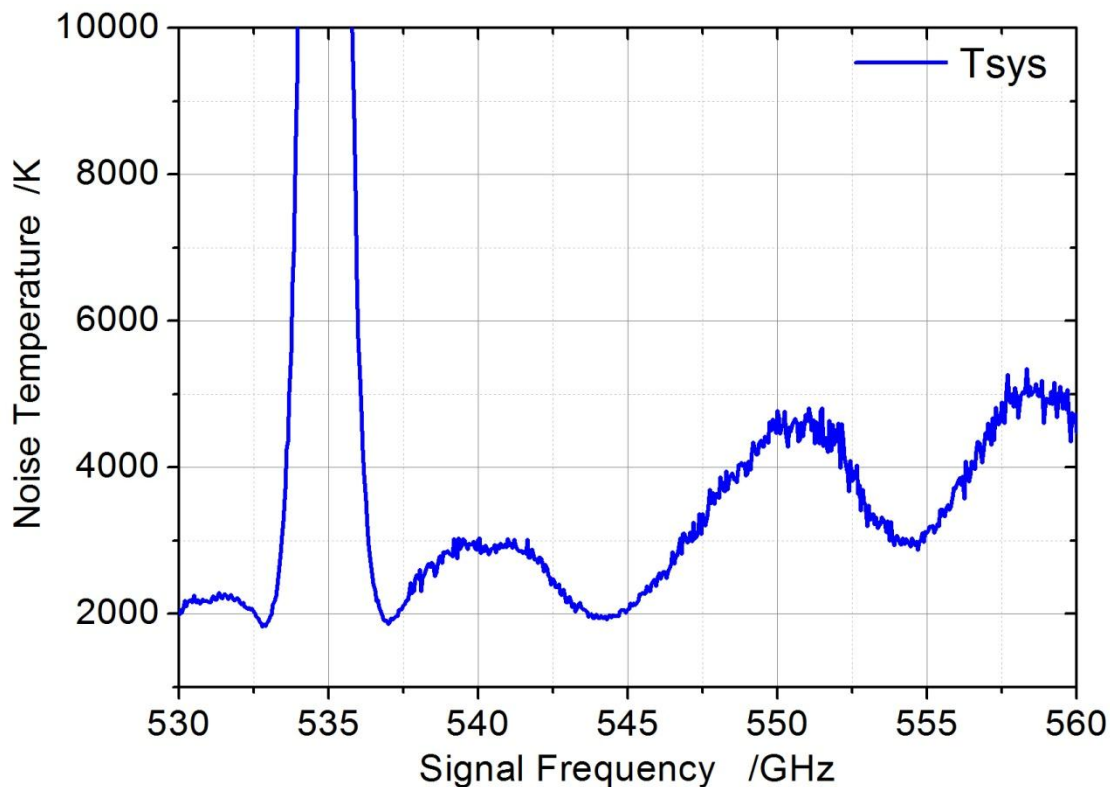
$$f_{\text{center}} = 1.43\text{GHz}$$

$$\Delta f = 75\text{MHz}$$

Performance

Noise Temperature

Results



- Y-Factor

$$Y = \frac{P_{hot}}{P_{cold}}$$

- System Noise Temperature

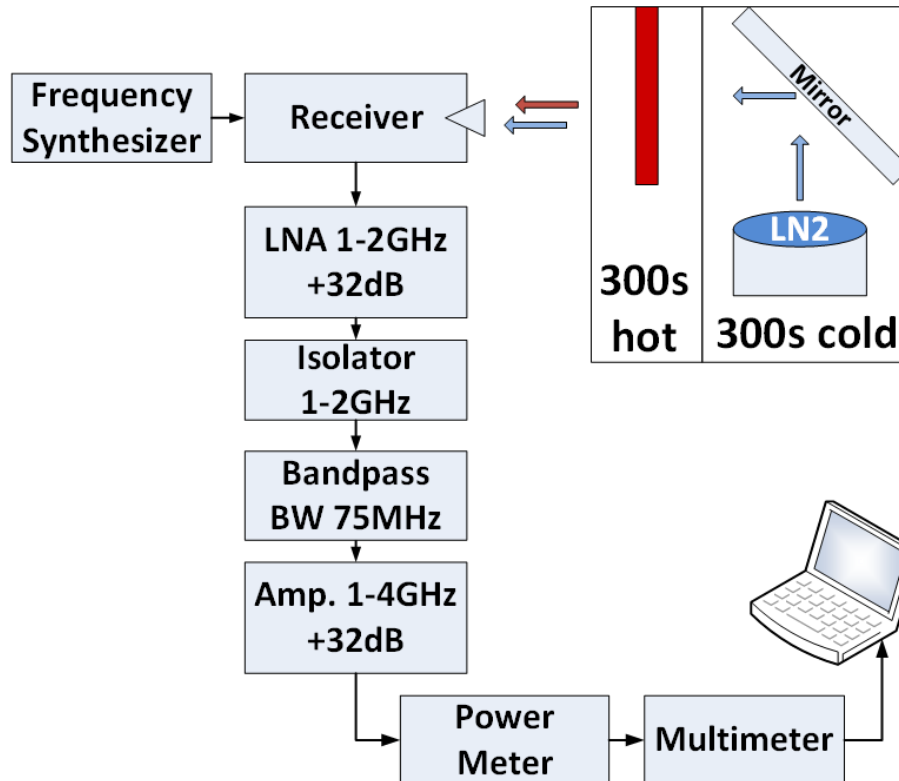
$$T_{sys} = \frac{T_{hot} - YT_{cold}}{Y - 1}$$

$$T_{sys} (545GHz) = 2000K$$

Performance

Temperature Resolution

Setup

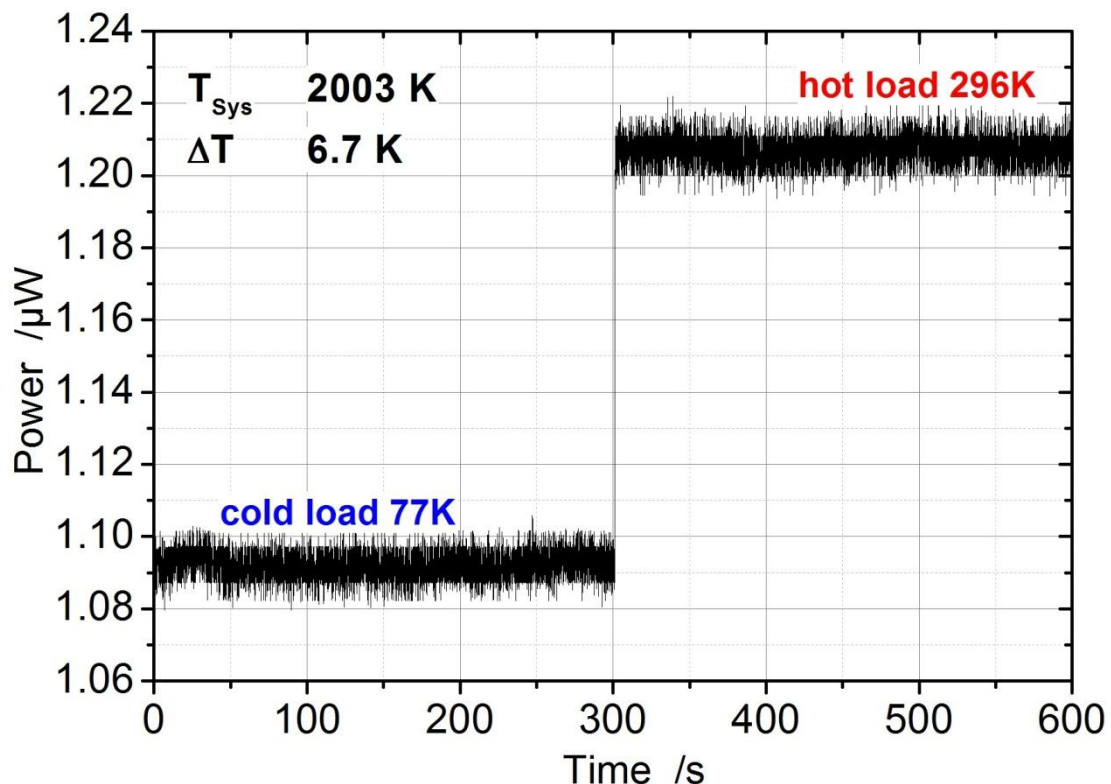


- LO-Chain
 $f_{LO} = 15.138\text{GHz}$ (545GHz)
- Load, Eccosorb
 $T_{Hot} = 296\text{K}$
 $T_{Cold} = 77\text{K}$

Performance

Temperature Resolution

Results



- Radiometric Equation

$$\Delta T = \frac{T_{sys}}{\sqrt{B \cdot t_{int}}} \approx 1.8K$$

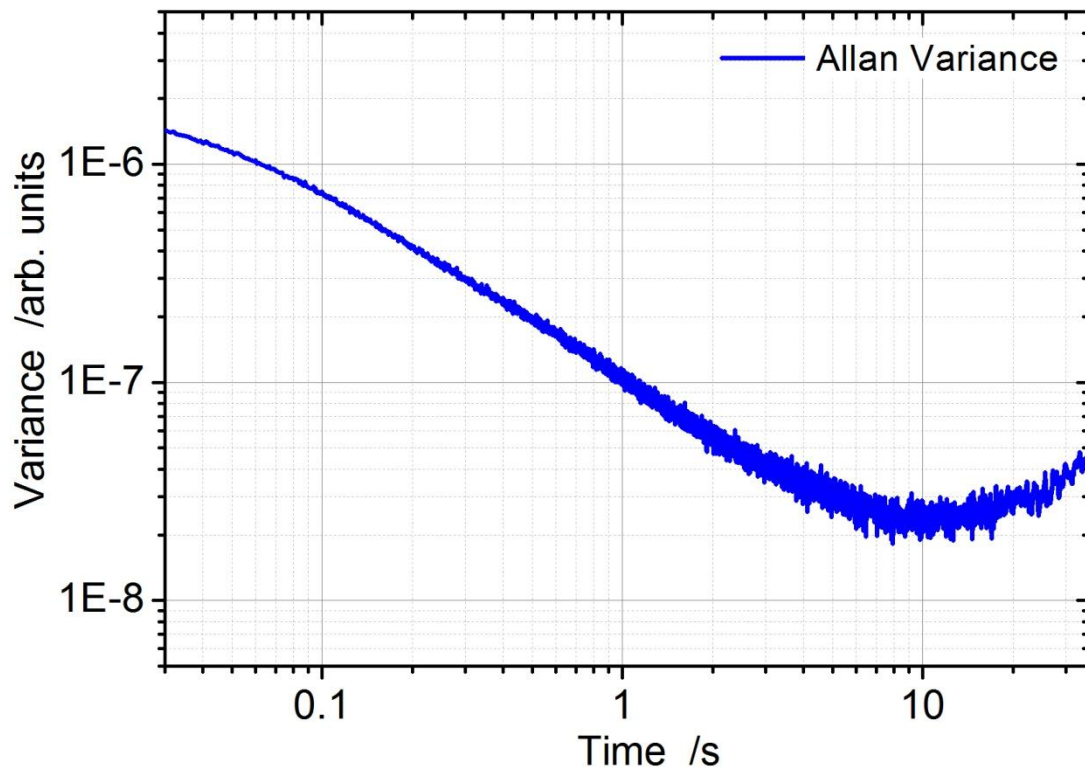
B = 75MHz

t_{int} = 20ms

Performance

Allan Variance

Results



- Allan Variance

$$\sigma_A^2(t) = at^\beta + \frac{b}{t} + c$$

- Allan Time

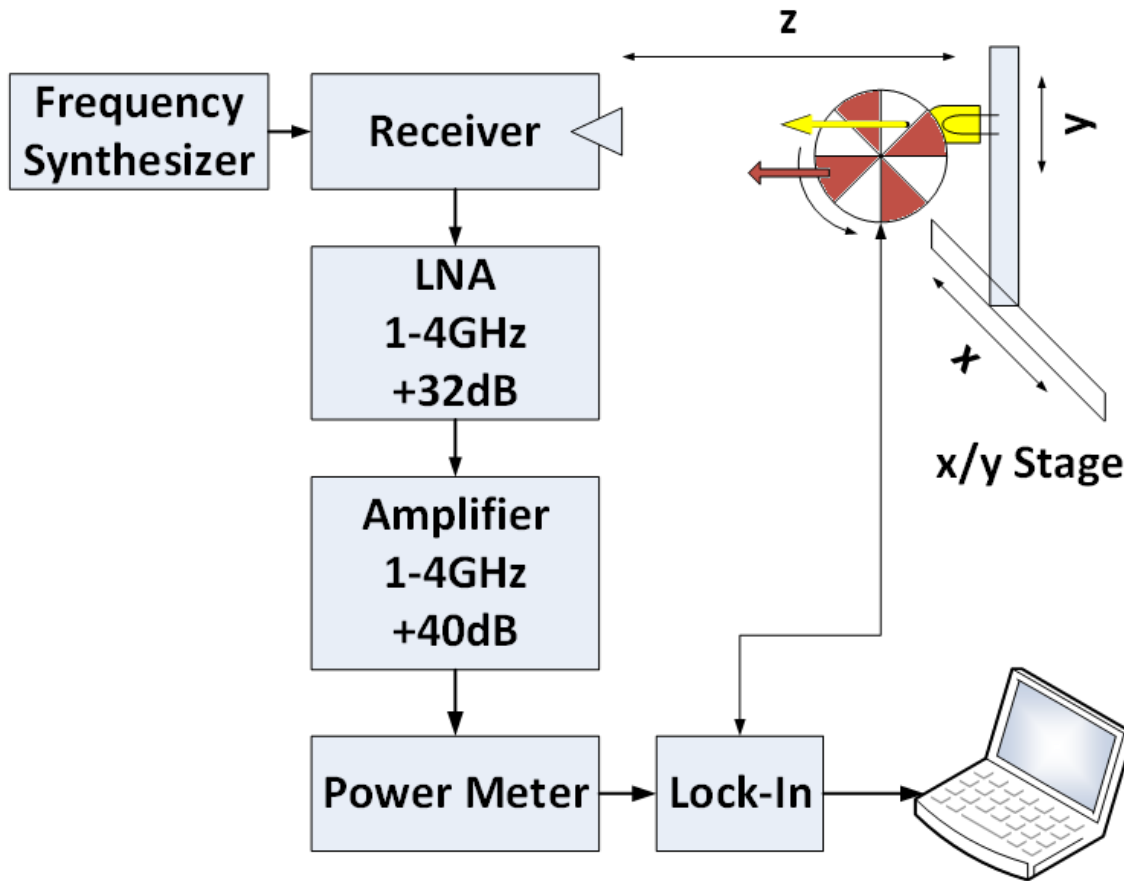
$$t_{Allan} \cong 10s$$

$$t_{Measurement} = 900s$$

Performance

Antenna Profile

Setup

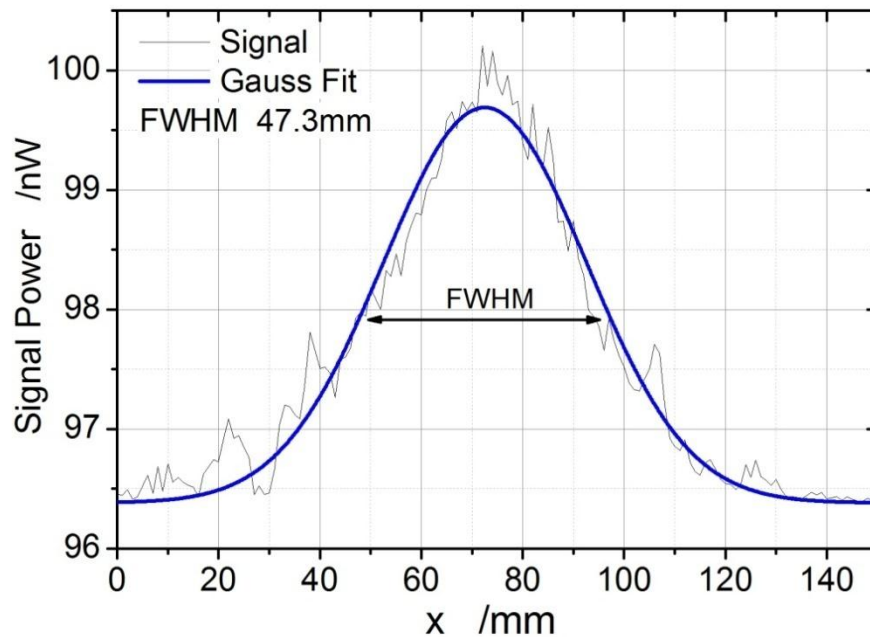


- LO-Chain
 $f_{LO} = 15.138\text{GHz}$ (545GHz)
- Loads, Eccosorb, Hg-Lamp
 $T_{RT} = 296\text{K}$
 $T_{hot} \approx 4000\text{K}$

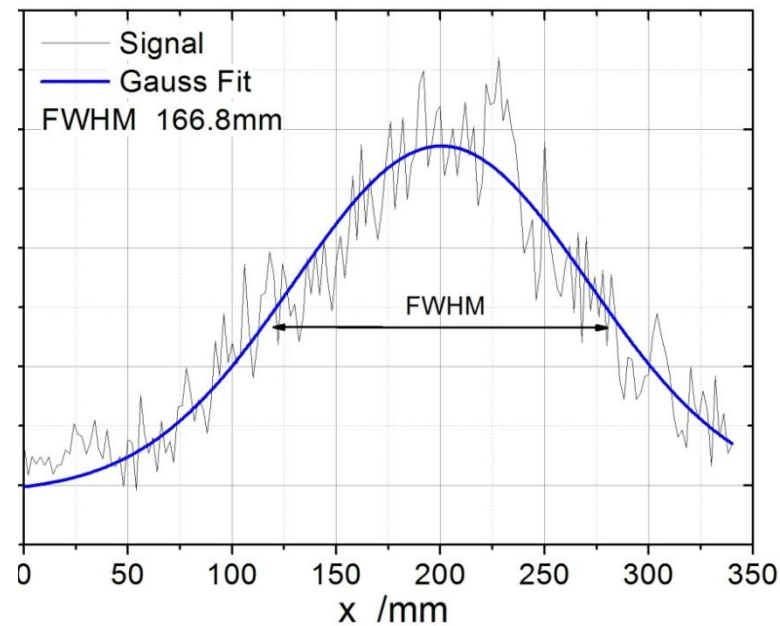
Performance

Antenna Profile

Results



Beam Pattern z = 115mm

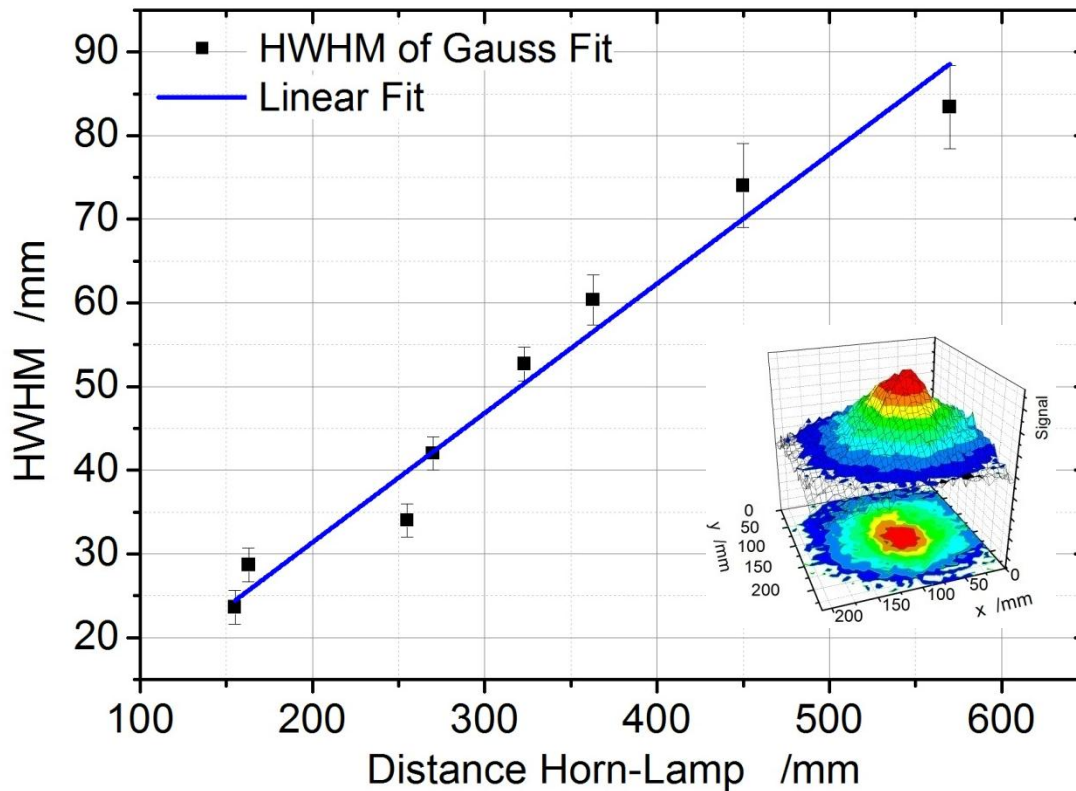


Beam Pattern z = 570mm

Performance

Antenna Profile

Results



- confocal distance

$$z_c = \frac{\pi w_0^2}{\lambda} \cong 7.4 \text{ mm}$$

- waist

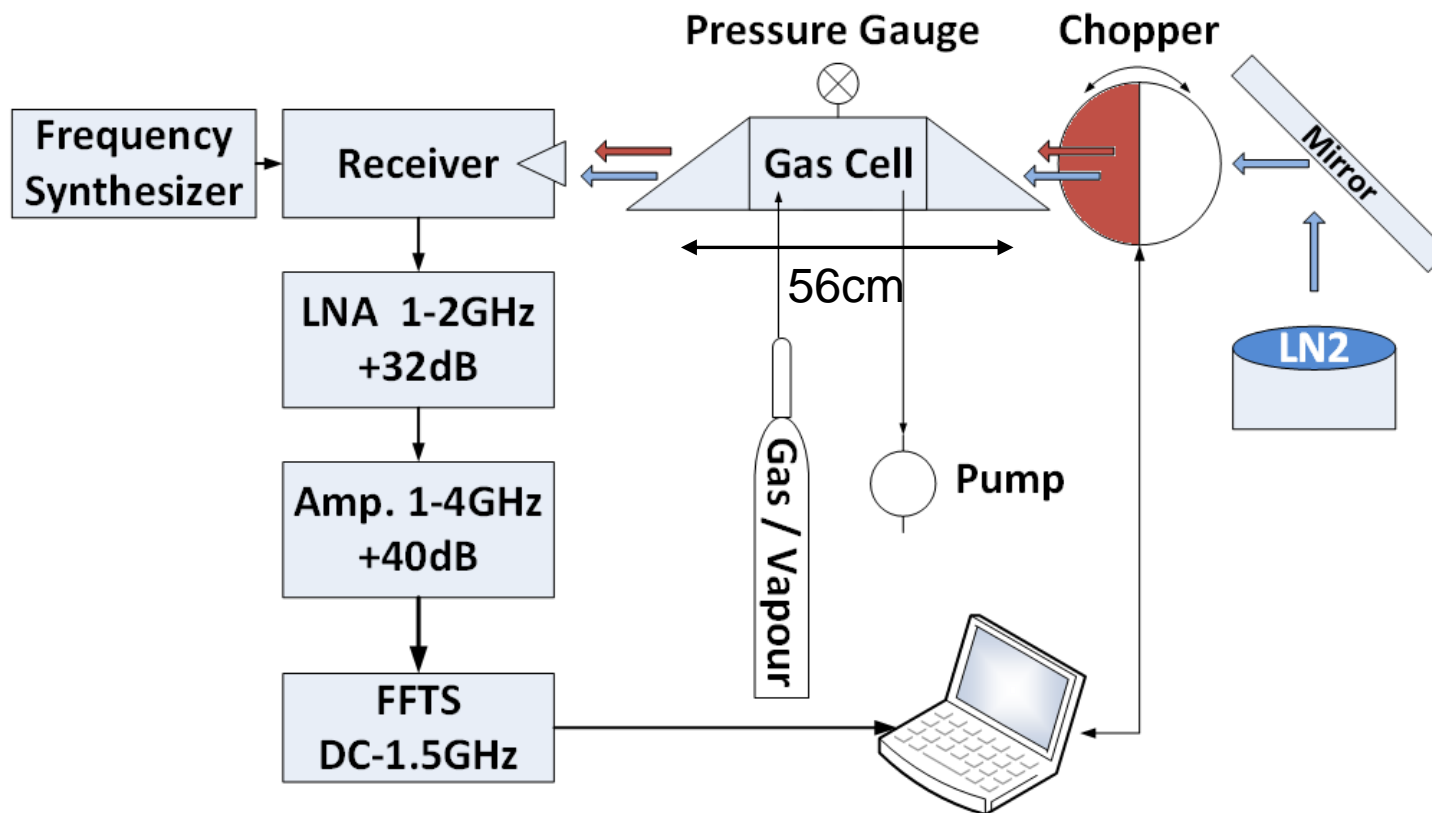
$$w_0 \cong 1.14 \text{ mm}$$

- asymptotic beam growth angle

$$\Theta \cong \frac{\lambda}{\pi w_0} \cong 8.8^\circ$$

Application

Spectroscopy Setup

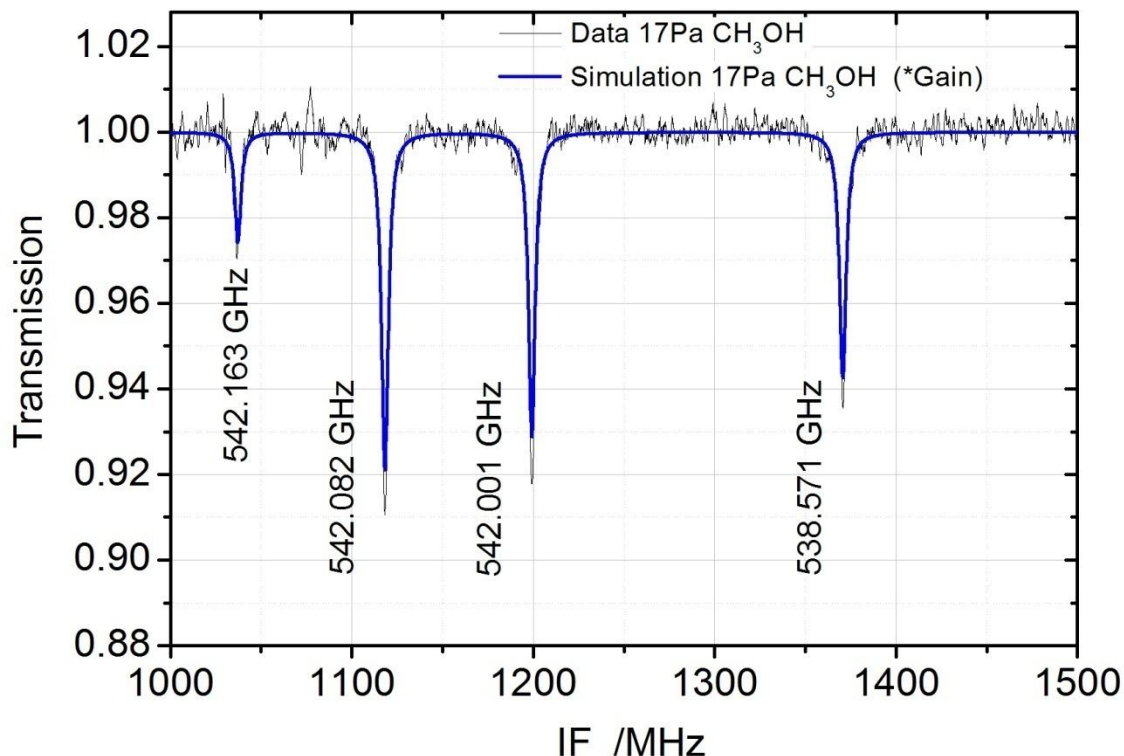


Application

Spectroscopy

Results

CH₃OH Spectroscopy



CH₃OH

$$T = \frac{S_{gas}^{hot} - S_{gas}^{cold}}{S_{empty}^{hot} - S_{empty}^{cold}}$$

$$t_{int} = 9.96 \text{ s}$$

$$P = 17 \text{ Pa}$$

$$f_{LO} = 15 \text{ GHz}$$

$$f_{Signal} = 540.2 \text{ GHz}$$

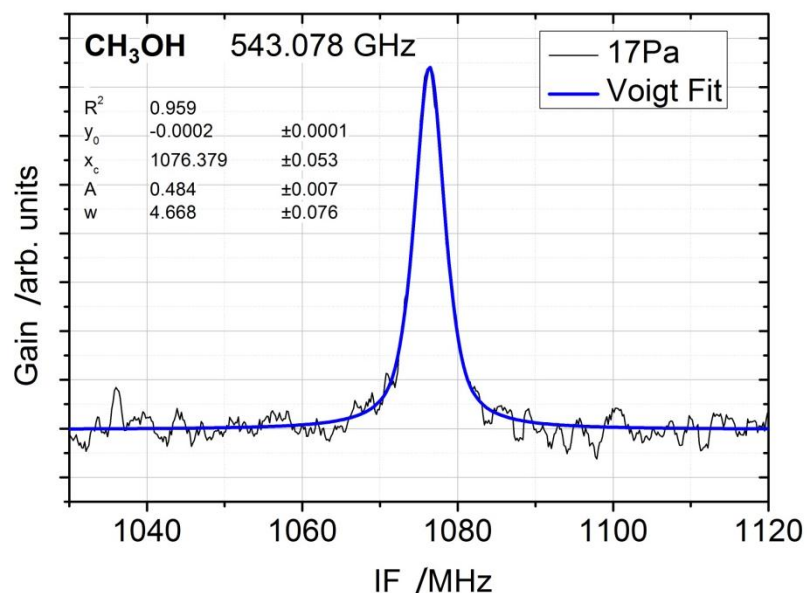
Simulation with HITRAN

Application

Spectroscopy

Results

CH₃OH Line Broadening



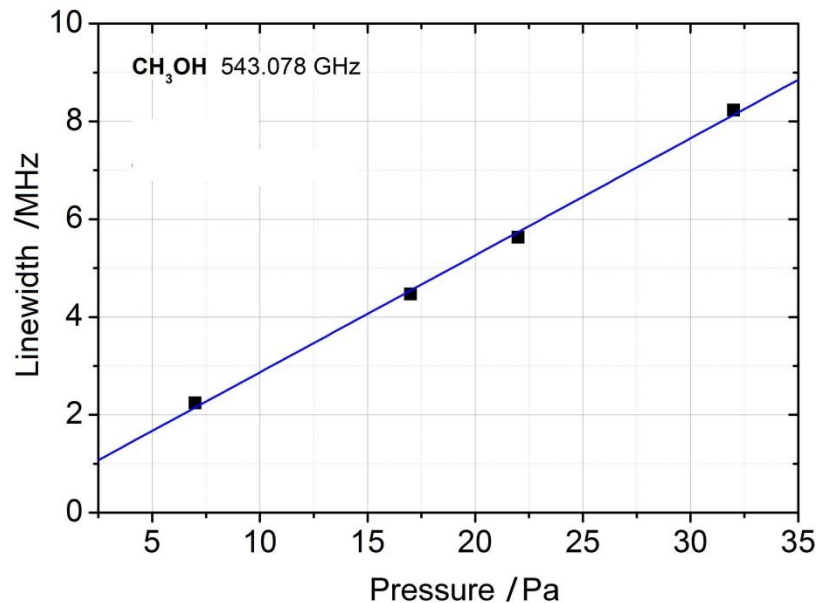
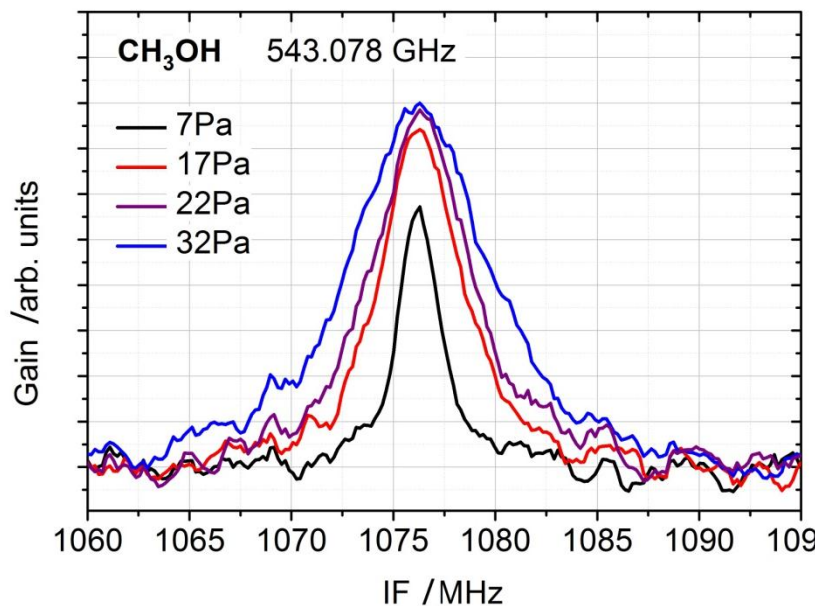
$$G = \frac{S_{empty}^{hot} - S_{empty}^{cold}}{S_{gas}^{hot} - S_{gas}^{cold}} - 1$$

Application

Spectroscopy

Results

CH₃OH Line Broadening



$$G = \frac{S_{empty}^{hot} - S_{empty}^{cold}}{S_{gas}^{hot} - S_{gas}^{cold}} - 1$$

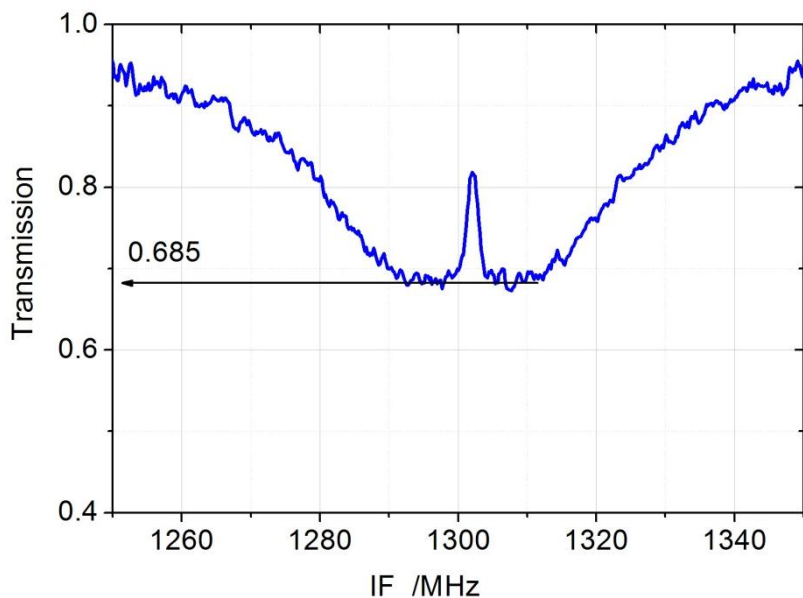
$$\gamma = 240 \frac{kHz}{Pa}$$

Application

Spectroscopy

Results

H₂O Spectroscopy / Sideband Gain



H₂O

$$T = \frac{S_{gas}^{hot} - S_{gas}^{cold}}{S_{empty}^{hot} - S_{empty}^{cold}}$$

$$t_{int} = 9.96 \text{ s}$$

$$P = 22 \text{ Pa}$$

$$f_{LO} = 15.43 \text{ GHz}$$

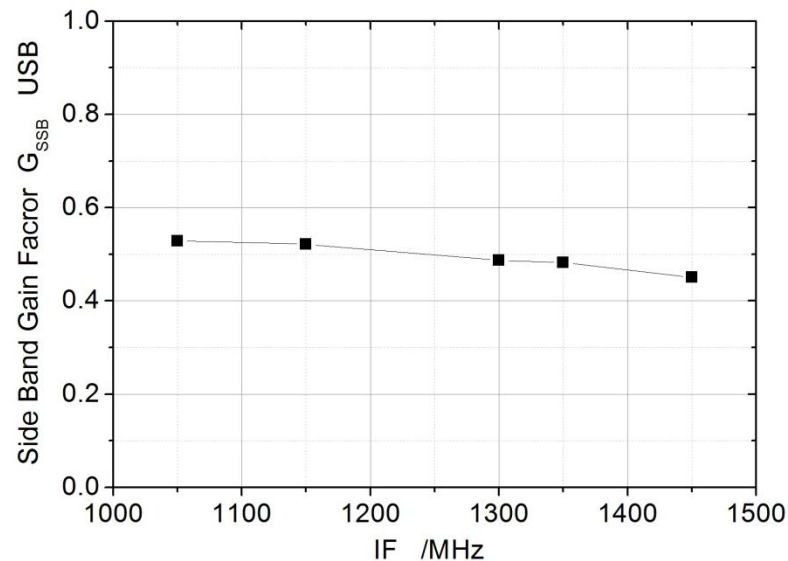
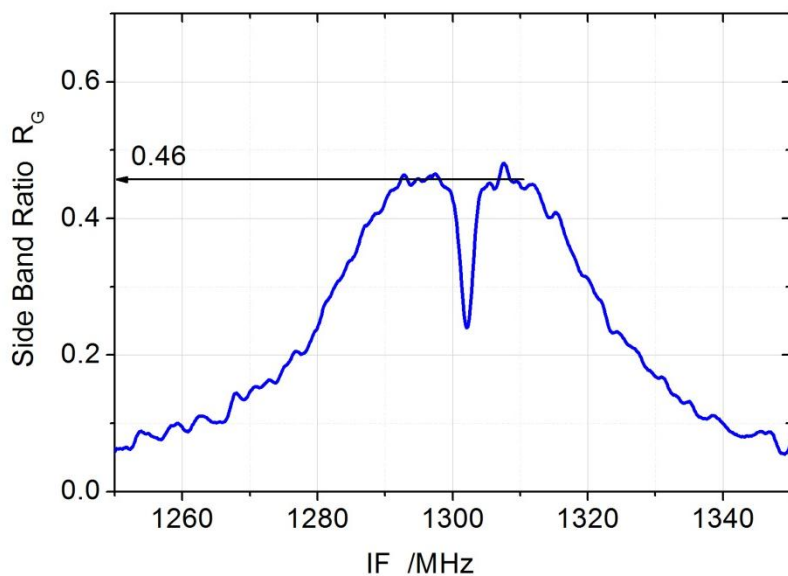
$$f_{Signal} = 555.6 \text{ GHz}$$

Application

Spectroscopy

Results

H₂O Spectroscopy / Sideband Gain

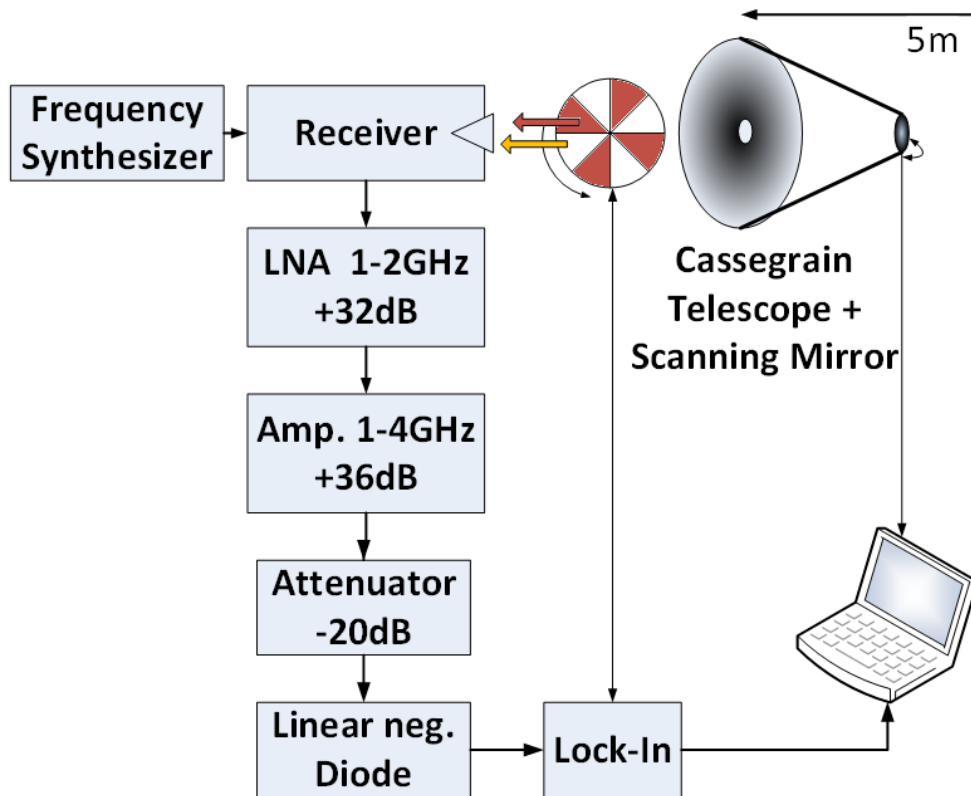


$$R_G = \frac{S_{empty}^{hot} - S_{empty}^{cold}}{S_{gas}^{hot} - S_{gas}^{cold}} - 1$$

$$G_{ssb}^{upper} = \frac{1}{1 + R_G}$$

Application

Passive Imaging Setup



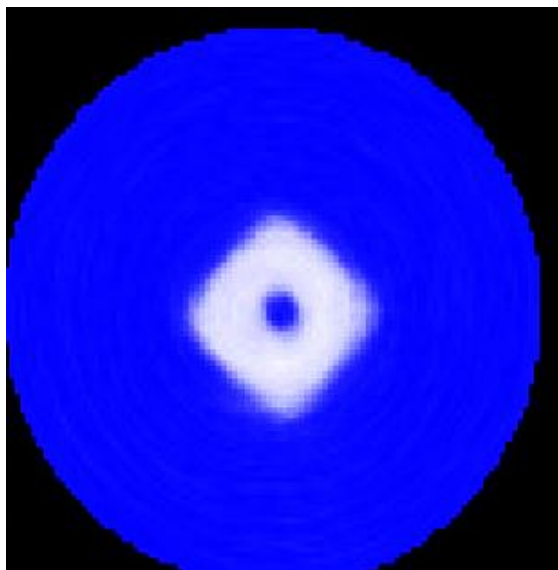
Object

- LO-Frequency
 $f_{LO} = 15.138\text{GHz}$ (545GHz)
- Cassegrain Telescope
 $\varnothing_{\text{prime}} = 76\text{cm}$
 $\varnothing_{\text{second}} = 11\text{cm}$
 $\varnothing_{\text{Field of View}} = 1\text{m}$
- $x_{\text{Object}} = 5\text{m}$

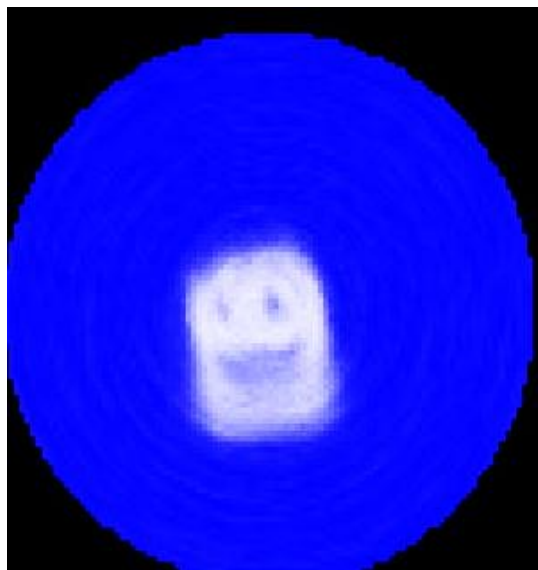
Application

Passive Imaging

Results



cold Ecosorb square
with hole



cold Ecosorb face with
eyes and mouth



Conclusion

Mixer	RT heterodyne receiver
	Subharmonic Schottky diode mixer
	Compact, light weight
	T_{sys} (545GHz) = 2000 K
LO	Power Amplifier mHEMT MMIC
	HBV tripler
Appl.	Spectroscopy CH_3OH , H_2O
	Passive Imaging



Thank you
for your attention

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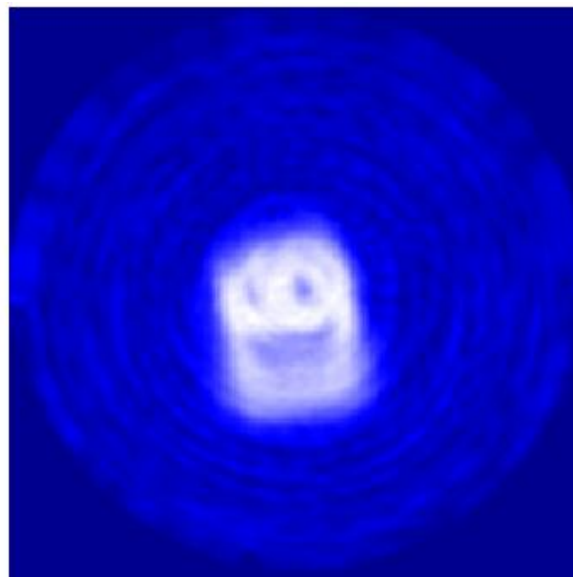
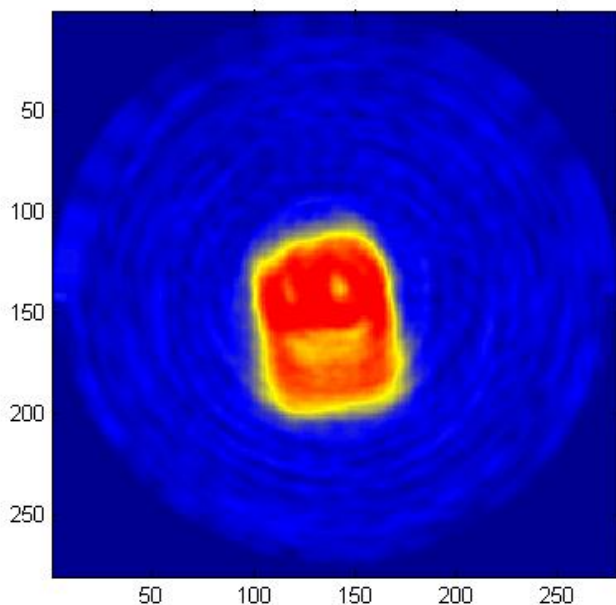


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Passive Imaging

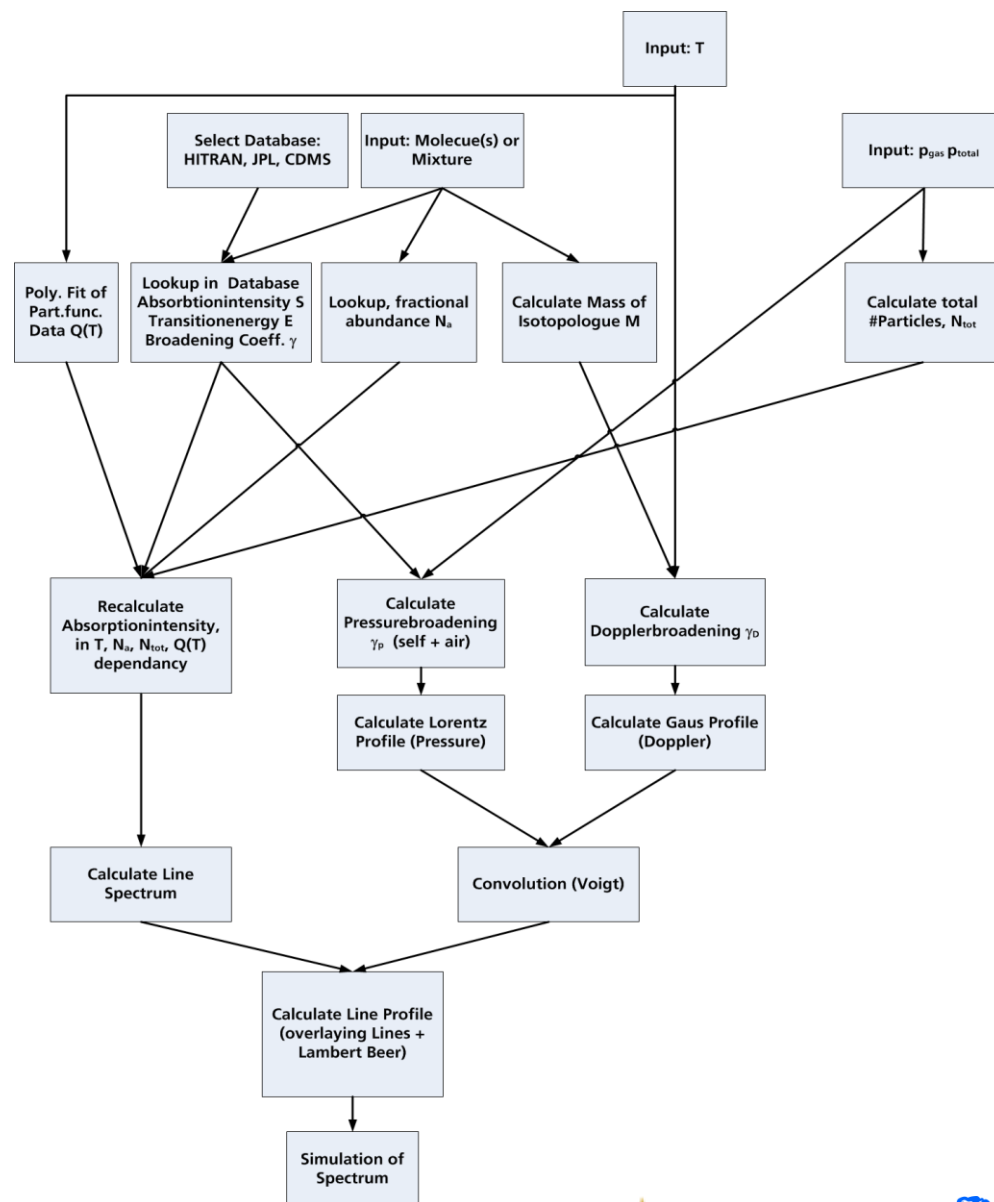
Results



cold Ecosorb face with eyes and mouth

Flowchart

Simulation Programme



Spectroscopy

Lineprofile, Broadening, Fitting

Pressure (Lorentz)

$$\delta\nu_{Lorentz} = \gamma_{self} \cdot P$$

Doppler (Gauß)

$$\delta\nu_{Doppler} = \frac{v_0}{c} \sqrt{\frac{2(\ln 2)k_B T}{M}}$$

} Voigt

Integrated Abs.-Intensity

$$S_{DB}$$

Abs.coef.

$$\alpha \propto \frac{S_{DB} \cdot P}{T \cdot \delta\nu_{Lorentz}}$$

Lambert Beer Law

$$\frac{I}{I_0} = \exp(-\alpha \cdot L)$$

Formulas

HITRAN Calculation

HITRAN Intensity

$$S = S_V^N \cdot N = \frac{h\nu_{if}}{c} \left[1 - \exp\left(-\frac{c_2\nu_{if}}{T}\right) \right] \cdot \frac{g_i I_a}{Q(T)} \exp\left(-\frac{c_2 E_i}{T}\right) B_{if} \cdot N$$

$$[S] = \frac{1}{\text{cm}^2}$$

Lambert Beer Law

$$I = I_0 \exp(-\alpha \cdot L)$$

$$[S_V^N] = \frac{\text{cm}}{\# \text{Molec}}$$

Voigt-Profile (normalized)

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \phi(\nu - \nu_0) d(\nu - \nu_0) = 1$$

$$[N] = \frac{\# \text{Molec}}{\text{cm}^3}$$

Absorption Coefficient

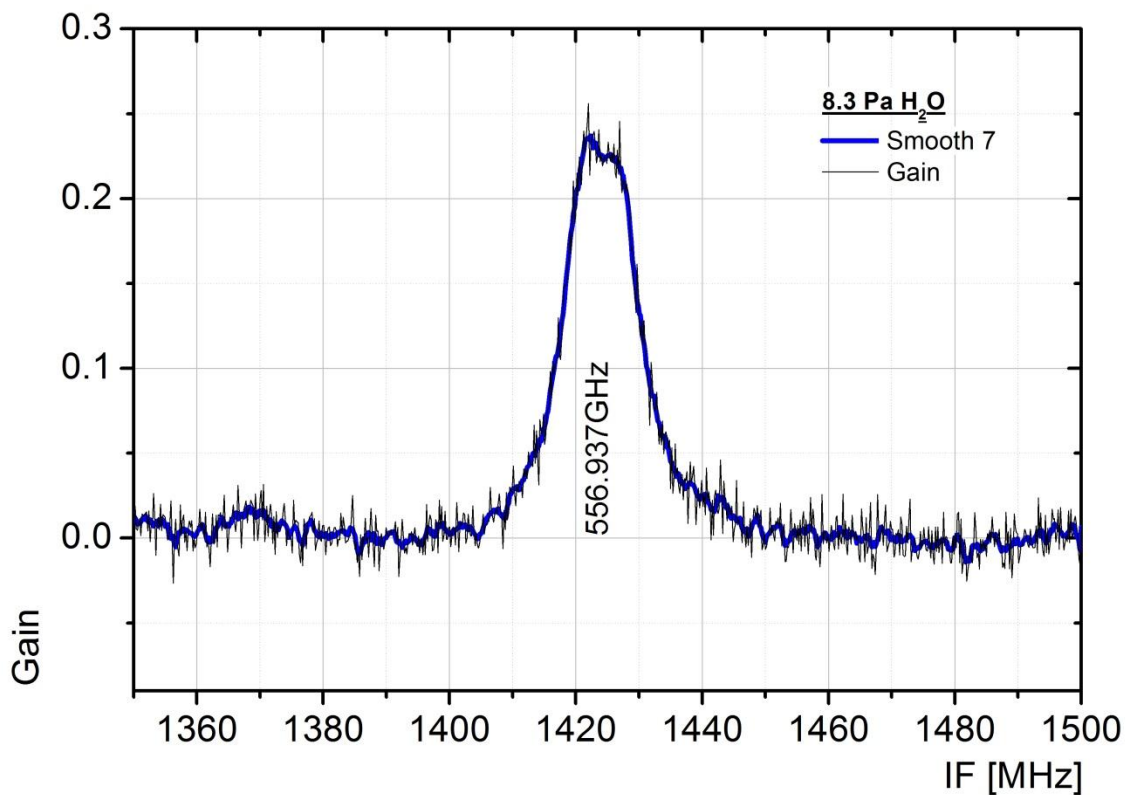
$$\alpha(\nu - \nu_0) = S \cdot \phi(\nu - \nu_0)$$

$$[\phi] = \text{cm}$$

Application

Spectroscopy

Results



H₂O

$$G = \frac{S_{empty}^{hot} - S_{empty}^{cold}}{S_{gas}^{hot} - S_{gas}^{cold}} - 1$$

$$G = \frac{1}{T} - 1$$

$t_{int} = 9.96$ s

$P = 8.3$ Pa

Gain = 0.235

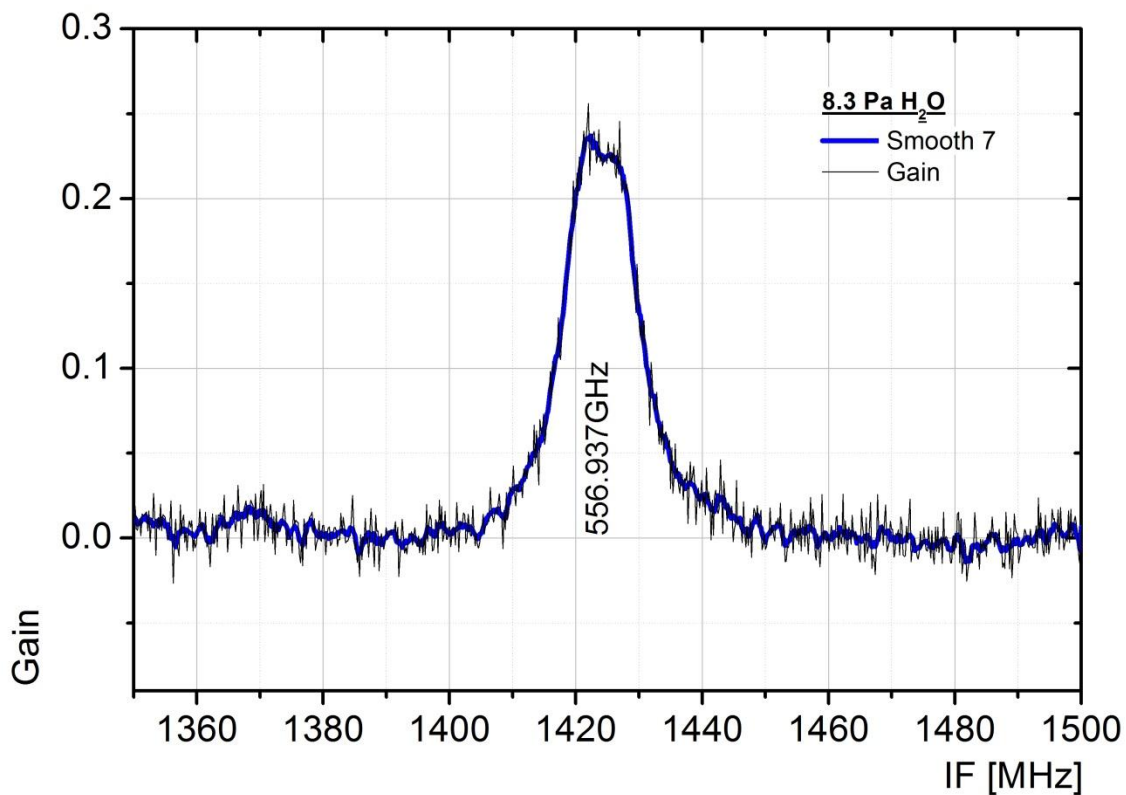
$f_{LO} = 15.43089$ MHz

$f_{Signal} = 555.512$ GHz

Application

Spectroscopy

Results



H₂O

$$G = \frac{S_{empty}^{hot} - S_{empty}^{cold}}{S_{gas}^{hot} - S_{gas}^{cold}} - 1$$

$$G = \frac{1}{T} - 1$$

$$t_{int} = 9.96 \text{ s}$$

$$P = 8.3 \text{ Pa}$$

$$\text{Gain} = 0.235$$

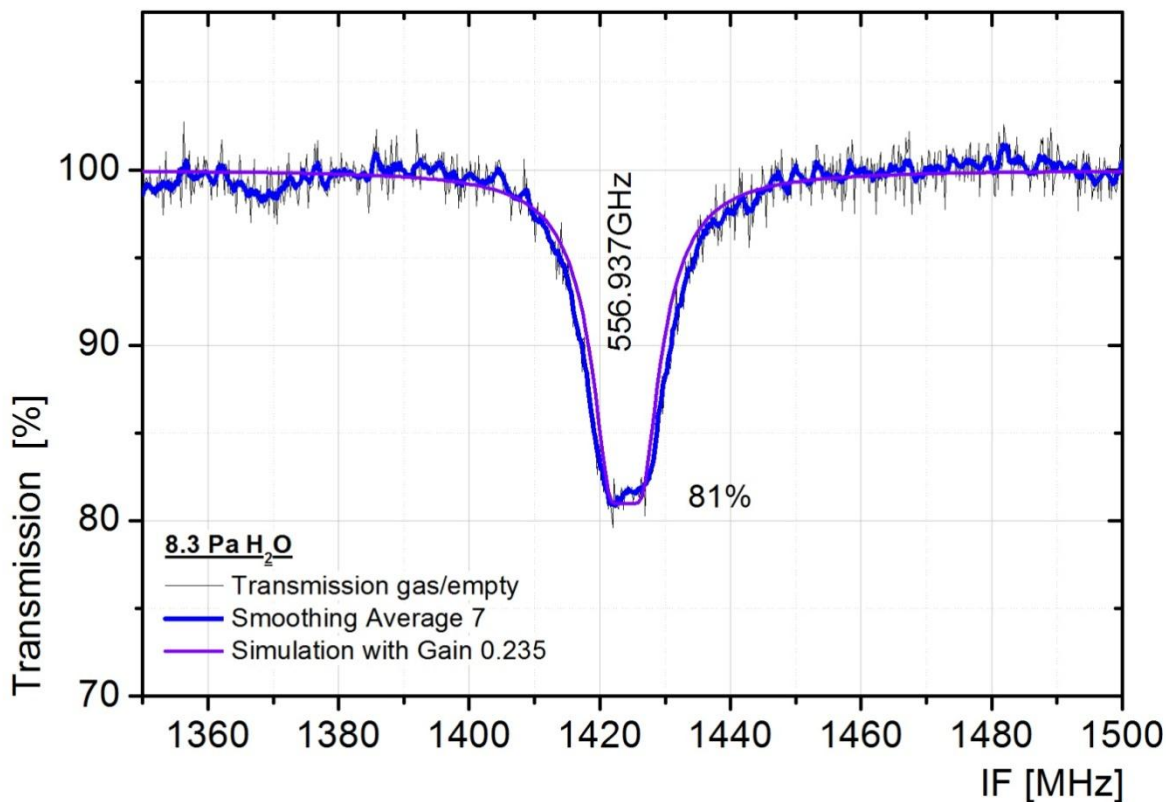
$$f_{LO} = 15.43089 \text{ MHz}$$

$$f_{Signal} = 555.512 \text{ GHz}$$

Application

Spectroscopy

Results



H₂O

$$T = \frac{S_{gas}^{hot} - S_{gas}^{cold}}{S_{empty}^{hot} - S_{empty}^{cold}}$$

$t_{int} = 9.96s$

$P = 8.3Pa$

Gain = 0.235

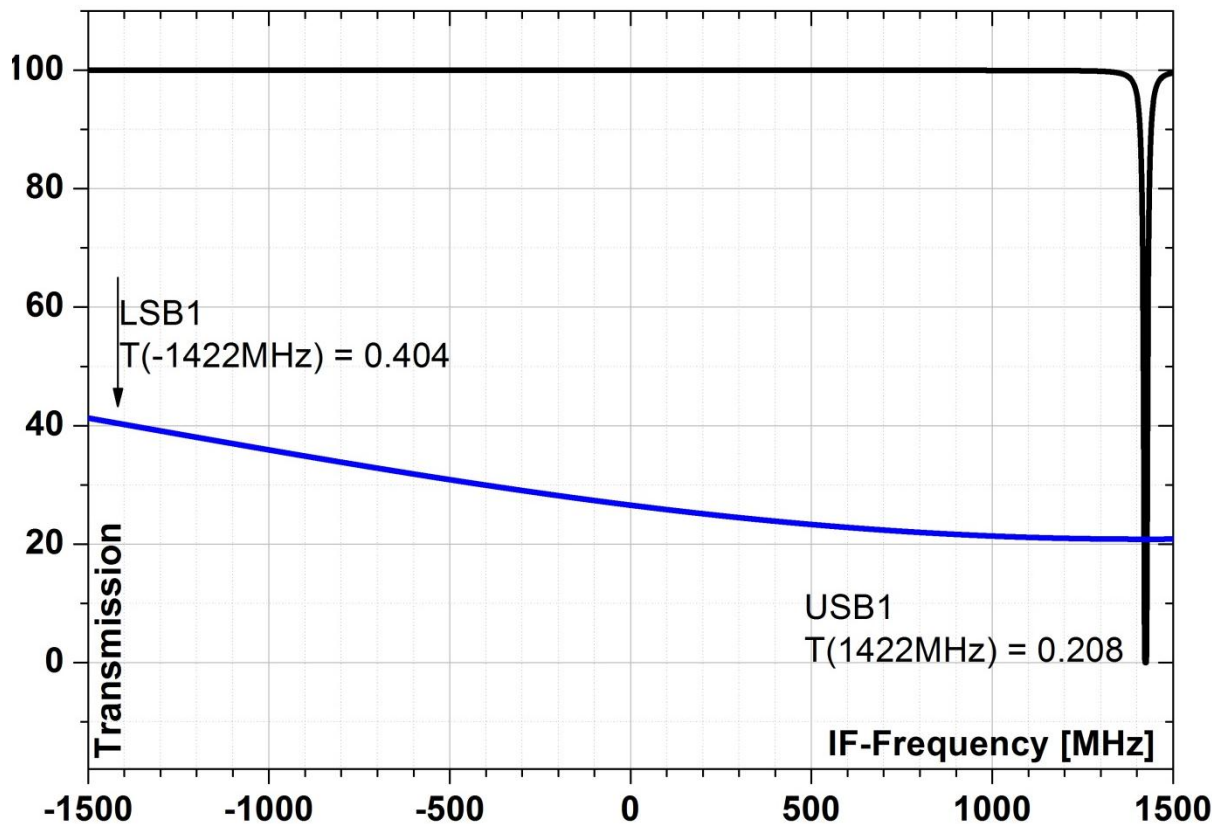
$f_{LO} = 15.43MHz$

$f_{Signal} = 555.5GHz$

Application

Spectroscopy

Results



H₂O

Simulation of 556.94 GHz H₂O-Line in ambient air.

DB HITRAN

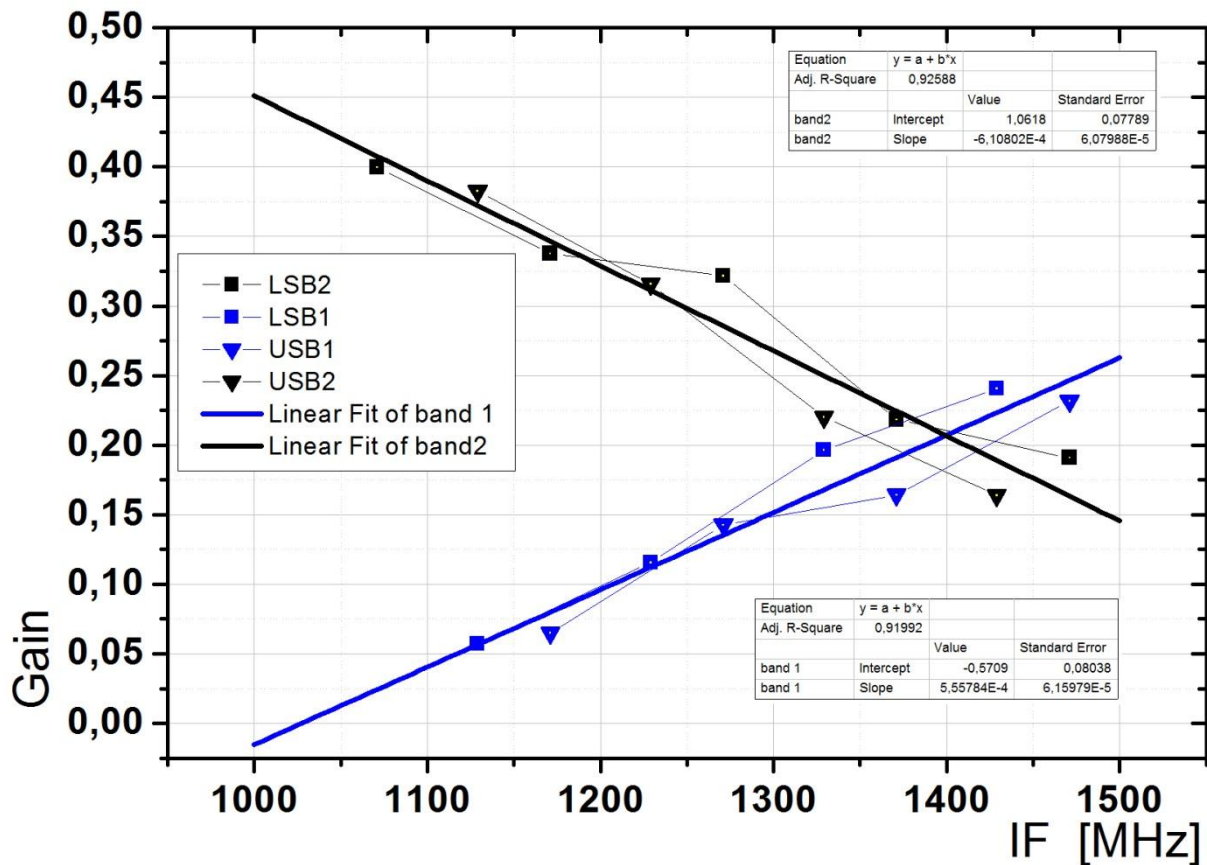
$P_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = 2230\text{Pa}$

$P_{\text{total}} = 100500\text{Pa}$

Application

Spectroscopy

Results



Sideband Gains

Upper / Lower Sideband + aliasing

Spectroscopy

Gain



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INSTRUMENTS



Fraunhofer
IAF

