

Inferring spectral characteristics of the H α spectral line observed by the Dutch Open Telescope Lyot filter

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Alfvén waves

- possible transporters of magneto-convective energy for coronal heating

[Tomczyk et al. 2007: Science 317, 1192](#)

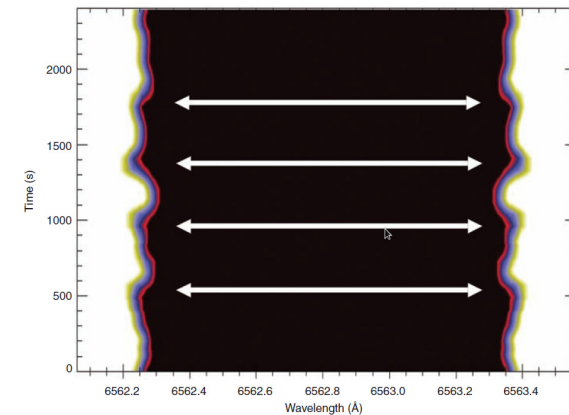
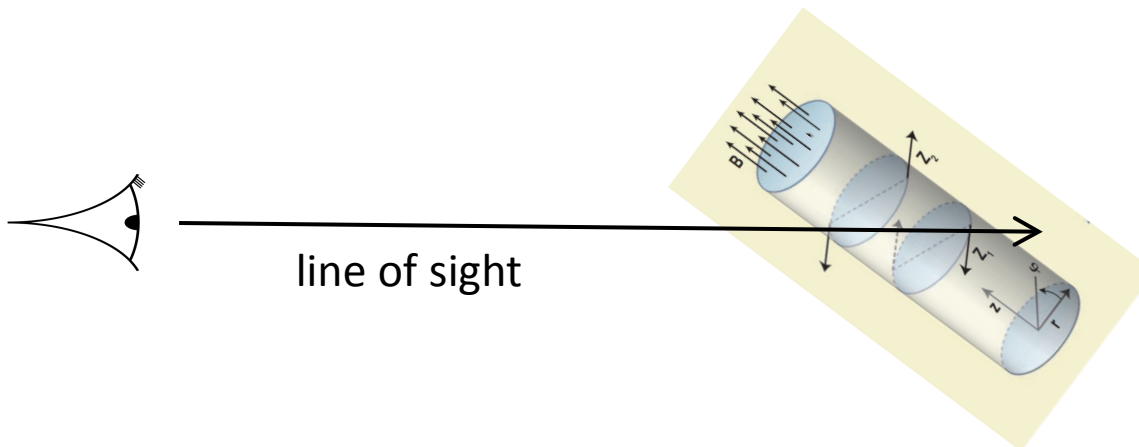
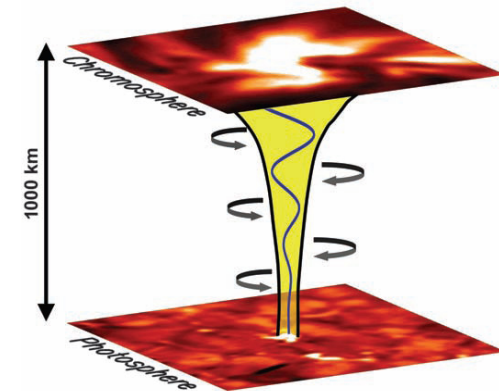
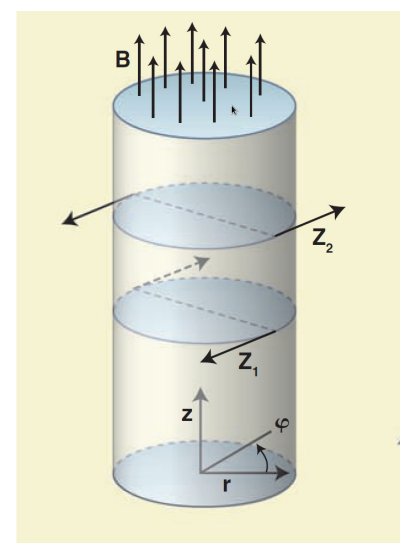
[De Pontieu et al. 2007: Science 318, 1574](#)

[Jess et al. 2009: Science 323, 1582](#)

[Antolin & Shibata 2010: ApJ 712, 494](#)

[McIntosh et al. 2011: Nature 475, 477](#)

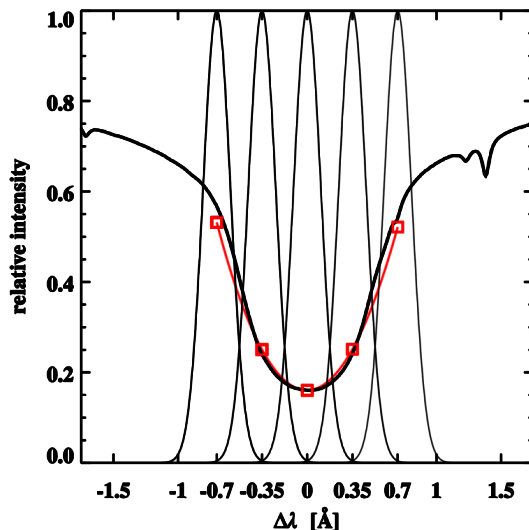
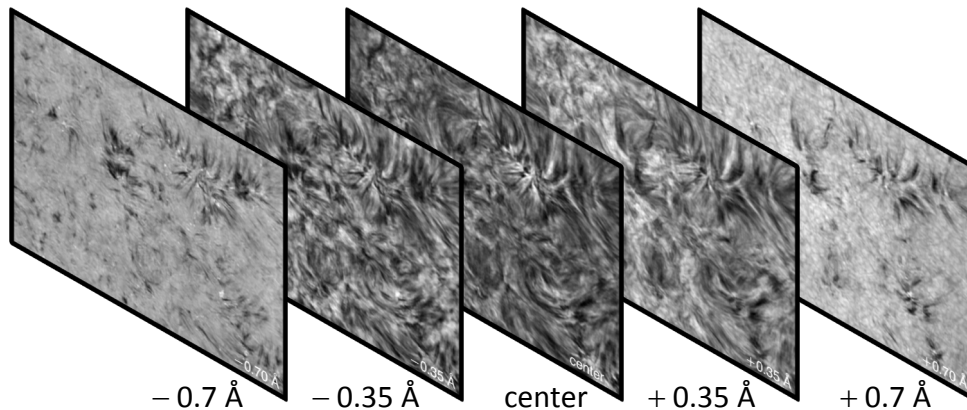
- pure magnetic waves
- magnetic tension as the restoring force
- incompressible transverse oscillations of magnetized plasma propagating along field lines
- detectable as periodic variations of non-thermal broadening (line width) of a spectral line



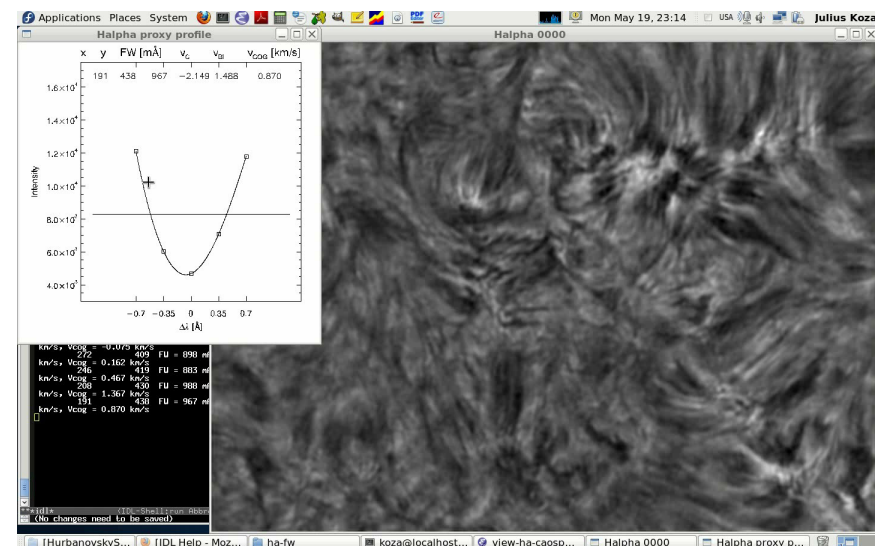
Search for Alfvén waves by H α imagery of the Dutch Open Telescope (DOT)

Koza et al. 2012: „Search for Alfvén waves and shocks in the chromospheric network, I. Temporal evolution of spectral characteristics”
21. celoštátny slnečný seminár, Stará Turá, 2012

[Koza et al. 2013: „Search for Alfvén waves in a bright network element observed in H \$\alpha\$ ”, CAOSP 43/1, 5](#)



- 4th-order polynomial fit of five H α profile samples
- inferred spectral characteristics:
 - Doppler velocity of fit minimum v_C
 - Intensity of fit minimum I_C
 - fit width FW
 - fit asymmetry:
 - bisector velocity v_{BI}
 - center-of-gravity velocity v_{COG}



Examples of inferred spectral characteristics

source data:

a sequence of 71 speckle-reconstructed H α images taken by DOT in the quiet Sun at the disk center on October 19, 2005 at ± 0.7 , ± 0.35 , and 0 \AA

time resolution:

1 min

field of view:

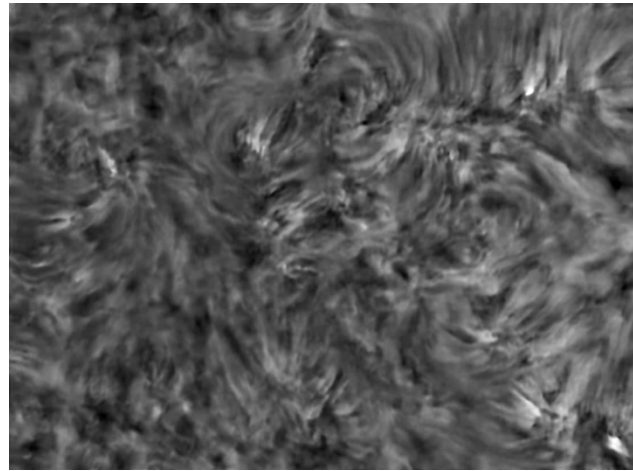
79 arcsec \times 58 arcsec

convention:

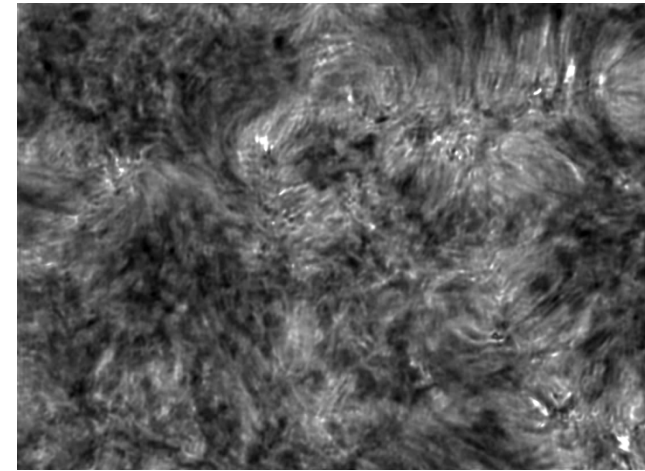
dark = blueshift = negative v_c

bright = redshift = positive v_c

Doppler velocity v_c



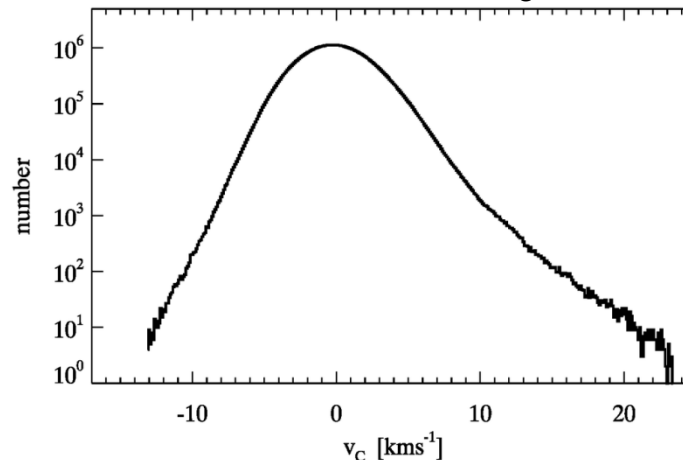
Fit width FW



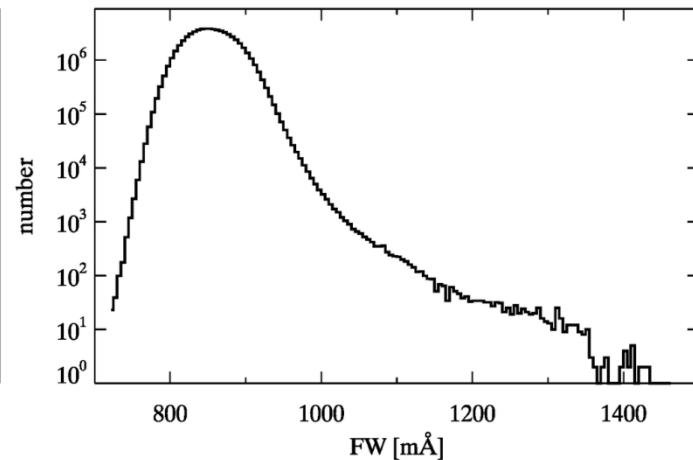
some results:

- an occurrence of highly redshifted profiles with $v_c > 15 \text{ kms}^{-1}$
- a long tail of broad profiles with $FW > 1000 \text{ m\AA}$

Histogram of v_c



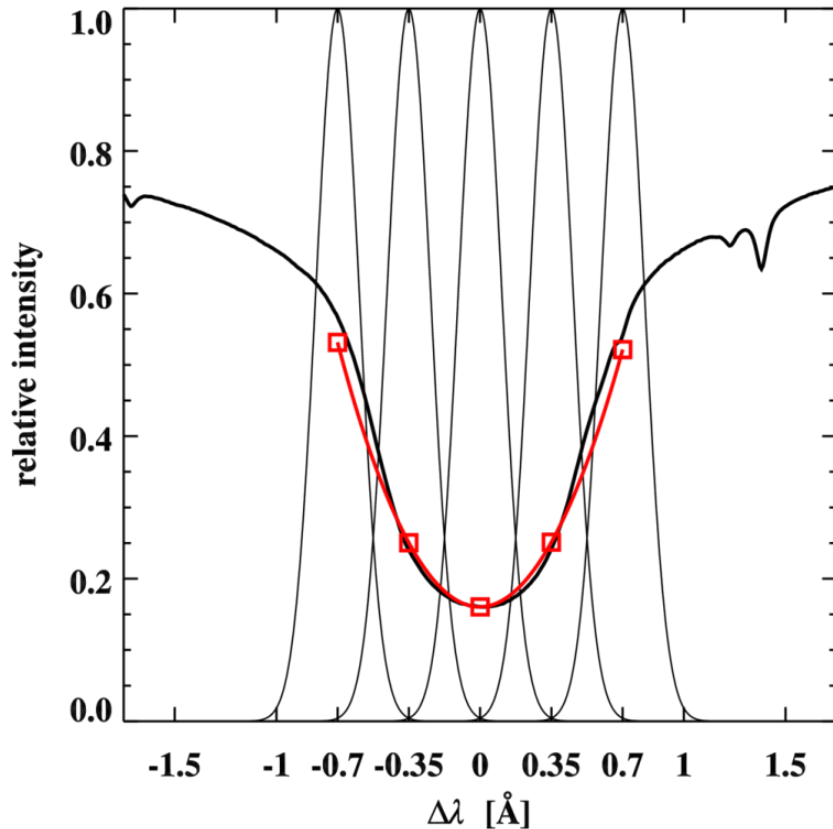
Histogram of FW



Motivation

low spectral resolution + curve fitting \Rightarrow alternation of “true” spectral characteristics

A question of an accuracy of inferred spectral characteristics v_C I_C FW



Aims

to estimate deviations of:

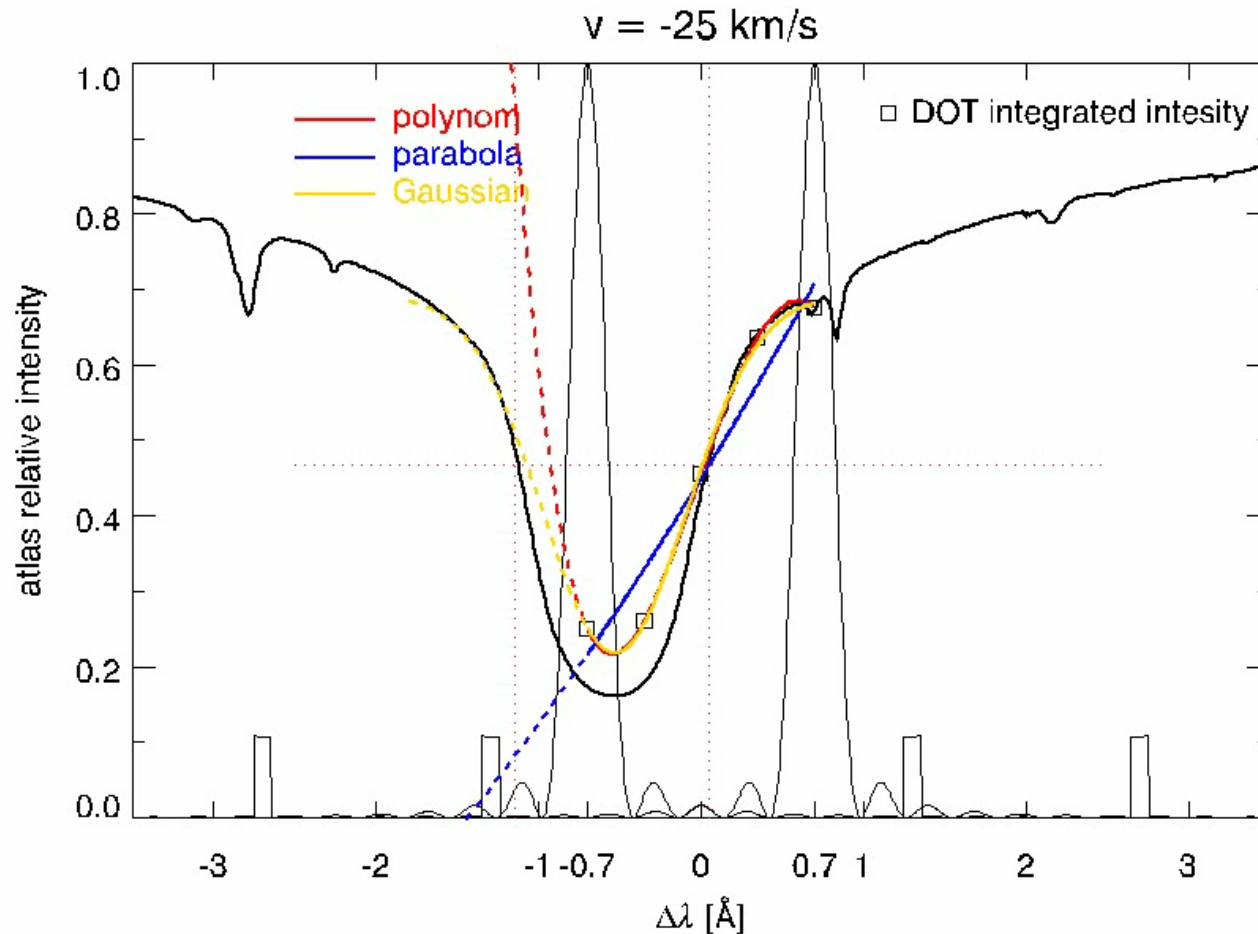
- Doppler velocity v_C
- core intensity I_C
- core width FW
- core asymmetry v_{BI} v_{COG}

of the $H\alpha$ spectral line observed by the DOT $H\alpha$ Lyot filter derived using:

- 4th-order-polynomial fit
- Gaussian fit
- parabolic fit

Procedure

- the reference H α profile
 - taken from the disk-center spectral atlas
 - the source of the reference values of v_c I_c FW ...
 - shifted using Doppler velocities in the interval $\pm 25 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ with a step of 1 km s^{-1}
- the “alternated” spectral characteristics derived from the shifted H α profile
- deviations: differences of the reference and alternated spectral characteristics



Results - deviations of Doppler velocity Δv

Fitting curve

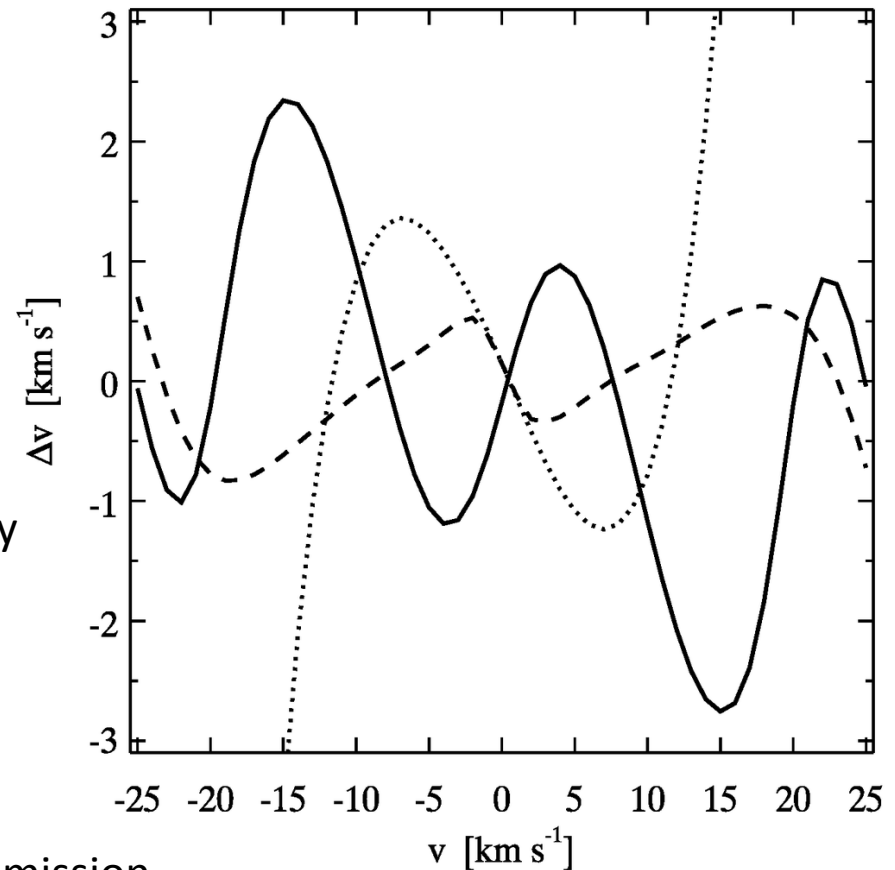
4th-order polynomial ———

Gaussian - - - - -

parabola
.....

Δv absolute deviation of Doppler velocity

$\Delta v = \text{measured} - \text{reference}$



Deviations in general:

- **insensitive** to the shape of the filter transmission
- depend **non-linearly** on the Doppler shift, therefore they do not cancel out if the spectral characteristics are represented by their relative variations

Gaussian fit: the most preferable choice, deviations less than 1 km s^{-1}

4th-order polynomial fit: considerably variable deviations in the range $\pm 2.5 \text{ km s}^{-1}$

Results - deviations of core intensity ΔI

Fitting curve

4th-order polynomial ———

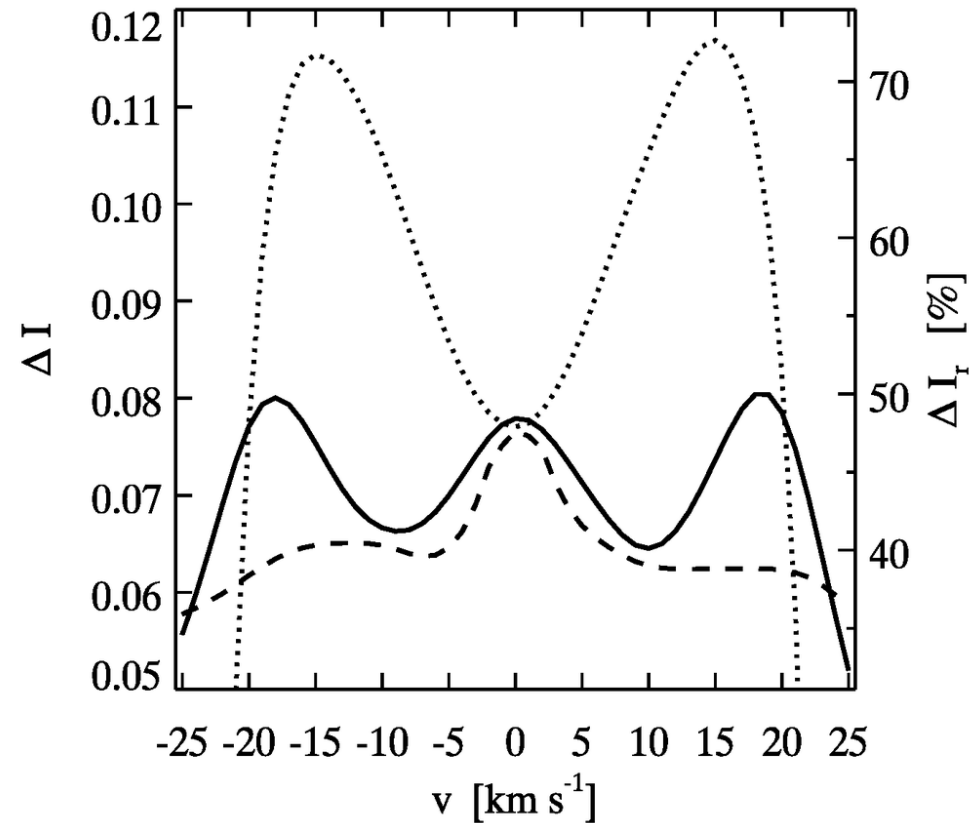
Gaussian - - - - -

parabola ·····

ΔI absolute deviation of core intensity

$\Delta I = \text{measured} - \text{reference}$

$$E(\lambda) = \int_0^{\infty} I(x)T(x - \lambda)dx$$



- all fitting curves overestimate the core intensity I_c due to the integration over the area-normalised filter transmission profile T
- the 4th-order-polynomial fit overestimates I_c with the sinus-like relative deviation varying from 40 to 50%

Results - deviations of fit width ΔFW

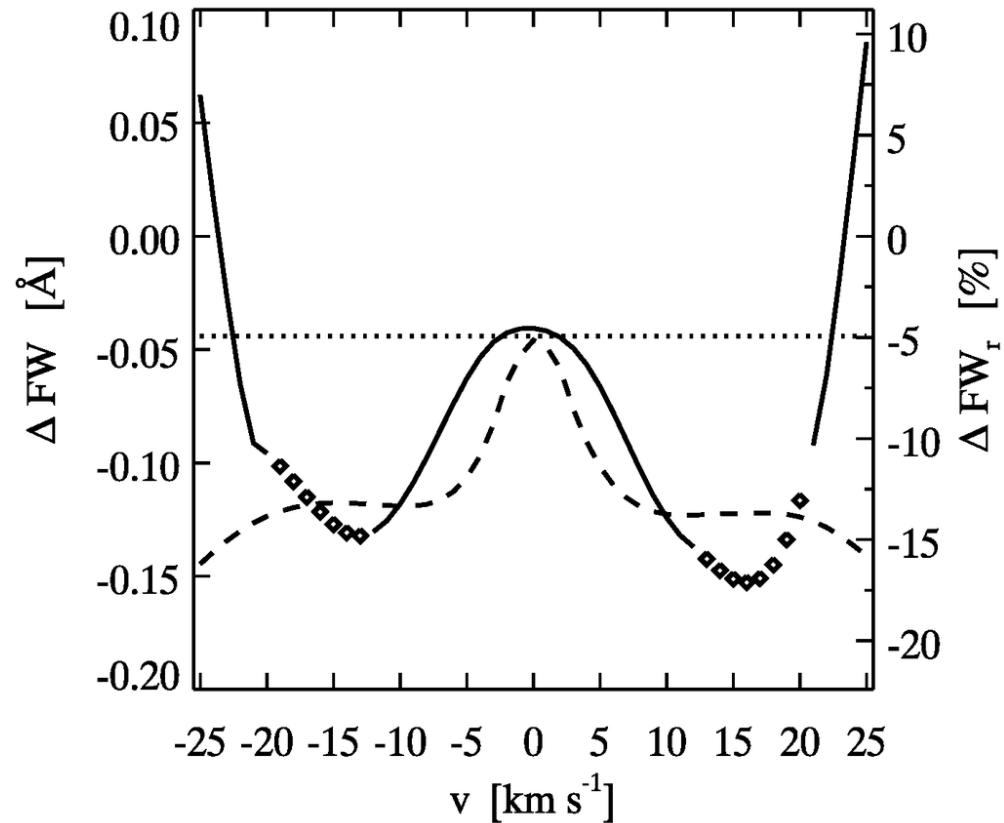
Fitting curve

4th-order polynomial ————

Gaussian - - - - -

parabola
.....

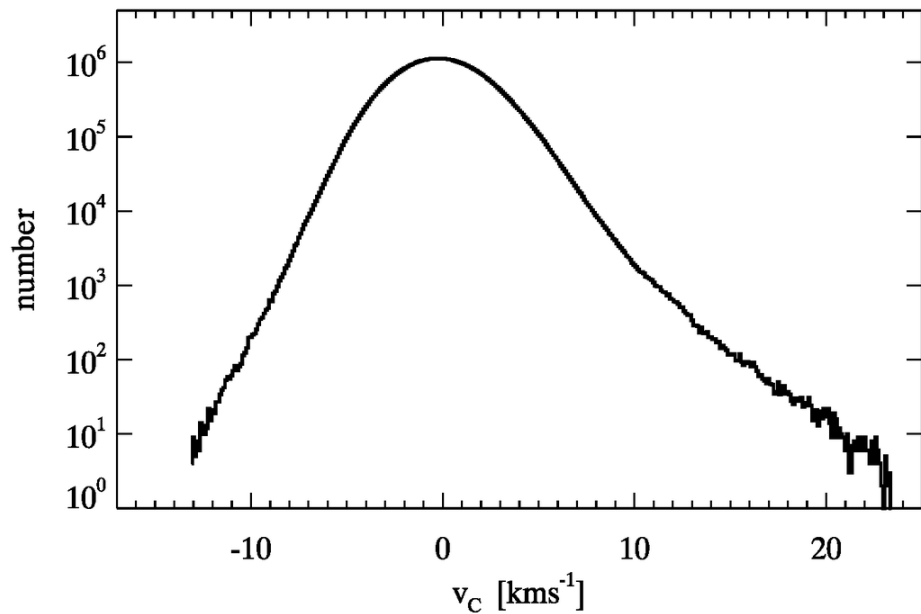
ΔFW absolute deviation of fit width
 $\Delta FW = \text{measured} - \text{reference}$



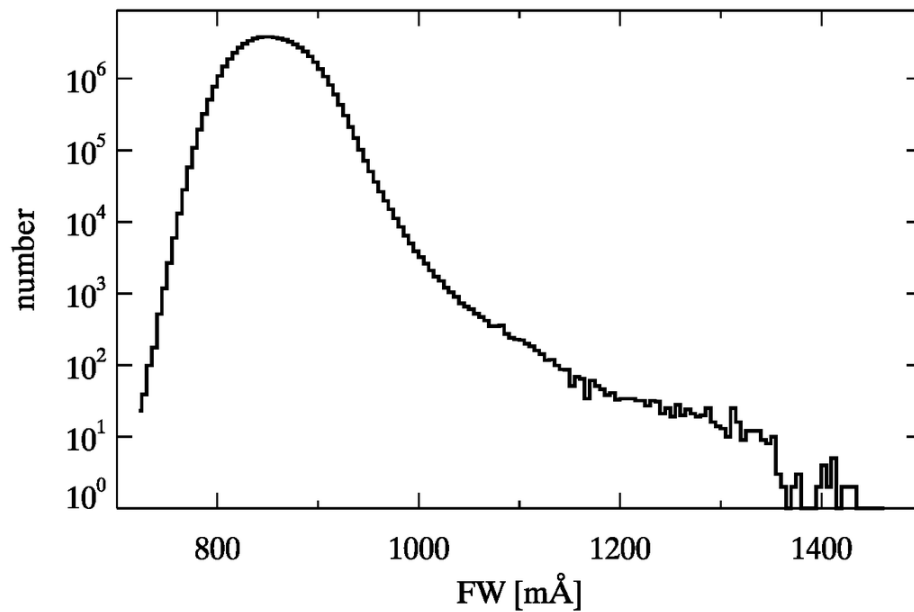
- all fitting curves underestimate FW
- the 4th-order-polynomial fit underestimates FW with relative deviations varying from 5 to 15%

Application of corrections

Histogram of v_c in log scale

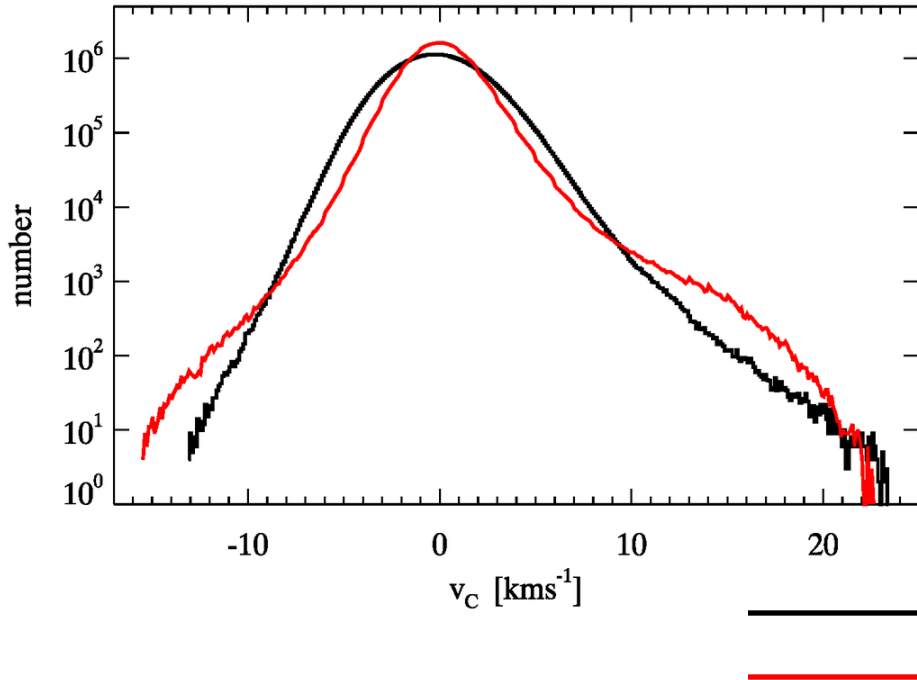


Histogram of FW in log scale



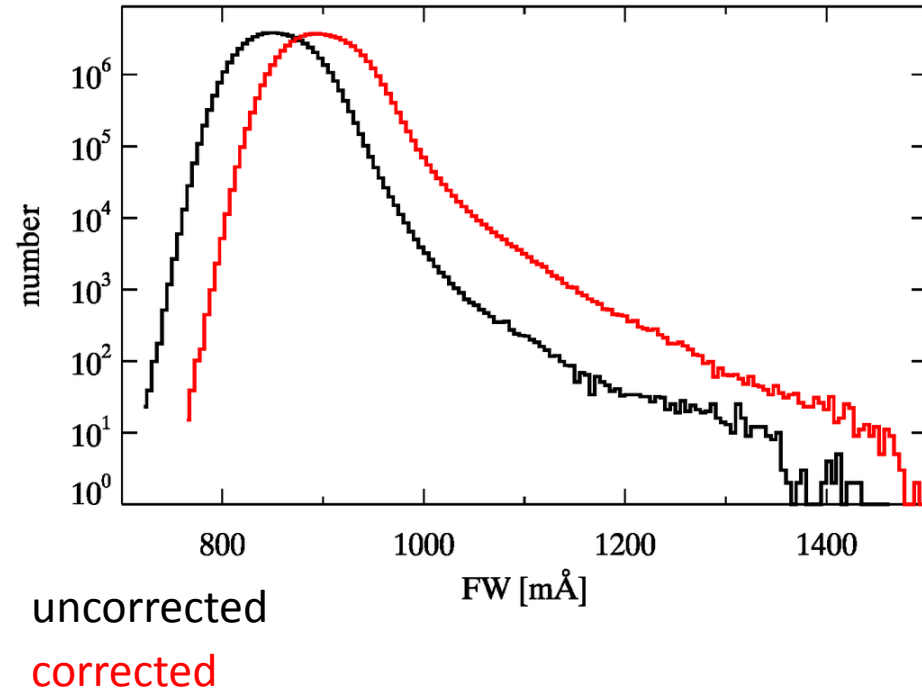
Application of corrections

Histogram of v_c in log scale



- corrections **narrow** the distribution in the range $\pm 8 \text{ kms}^{-1}$ **decreasing** the original v_c
- out of it, corrections **broaden** the distribution **increasing** the original v_c

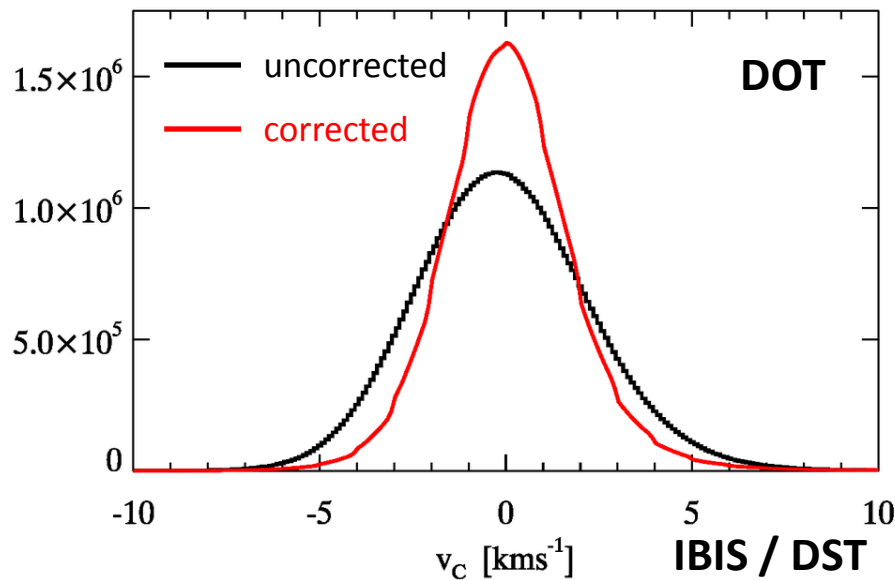
Histogram of FW in log scale



- corrections shift the distribution towards larger fit widths FW
- peak of original distr. at $850 \text{ m}\text{\AA}$
- peak of corrected distr. at $900 \text{ m}\text{\AA}$

Comparison

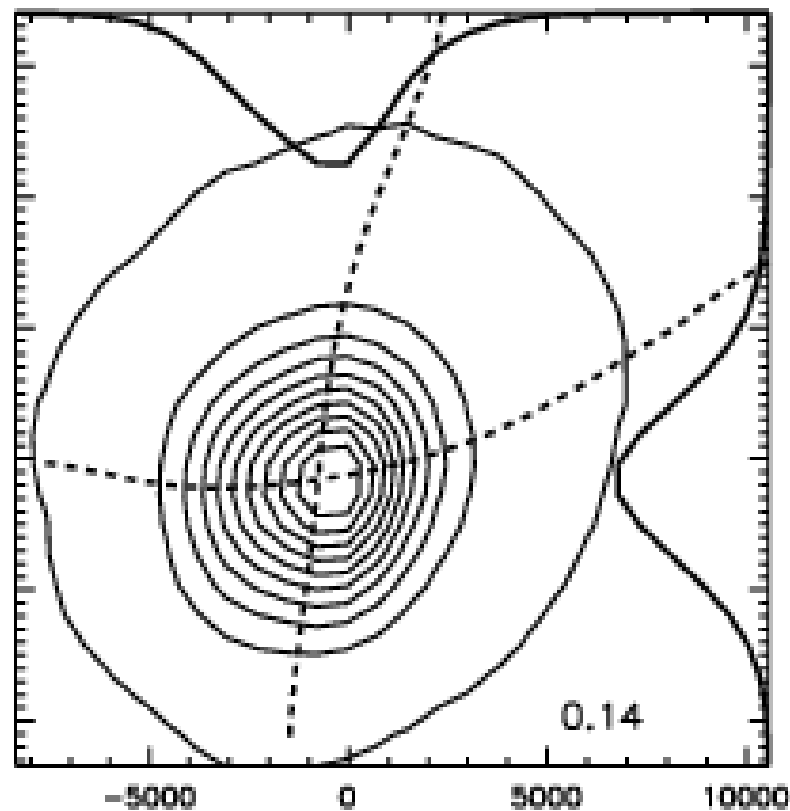
Histogram of v_c in linear scale



Blue asymmetry ?

H α Dopplershift [km/s]

H α Dopplershift from IBIS / DST



H α Dopplershift [m/s]

[Cauzzi et al. 2009: A&A 503, 577](#)

DOT: 45-cm mirror
No Adaptive Optics
5 profile samples of H α

DST: 76-cm entrance window of telescope
Adaptive Optics
22 profile samples of H α

Brief summary

- method of inferring and correcting of spectral characteristics of the H α line observed by the DOT Lyot filter was developed
- deviations of characteristics:
 - are insensitive to the shape of the filter transmission
 - depend mostly non-linearly on the Doppler shift, therefore

they do not cancel out if the characteristics are represented by their relative variations.

- the 4th-order polynomial is an acceptable fitting curve in terms of deviations. It allows estimating an asymmetry of profiles.

[Koza et al. 2014: CAOSP 44, 43](#)

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[Koza et al. 2014: CAOSP 44, 43](#)

Outlooks

- repeating of the study but with reference H α profiles taken by THEMIS or IBIS/DST, or VTT with high spatial and spectral resolution
- creating an extensive database of corrections for spectral characteristics derived from DOT H α observations