

DETERMINATION OF THE SUITABILITY OF MT GAMSBERG IN NAMIBIA
FOR MILLIMETRE WAVE ASTRONOMY BY MEASUREMENTS OF THE
PRECIPITABLE WATER VAPOUR

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Abstract

Precipitable Water Vapour (PWV) is the amount of water vapour in the atmospheric column above a location equivalent to the amount of liquid precipitation that would result if all the water vapour in the column was condensed. Water vapour is the main source of opacity in the Earth's atmosphere at infrared and millimetre to sub-millimetre wavelengths. The Event Horizon Telescope (EHT) is a large network of millimetre to sub-millimetre telescopes across the globe that is used to image supermassive black holes. The Africa Millimetre Telescope (AMT) is planned to be built on Mt Gamsberg in Namibia and aims to complement the EHT. In this study, PWV at Mt Gamsberg and at the H.E.S.S. site was determined in order to assess the two sites regarding their suitability to conduct millimetre wave astronomy and for the AMT to be built on Mt Gamsberg. PWV at the H.E.S.S. site was indirectly determined from sky temperature data which was taken from 2004 to 2019 by radiometers on four of the H.E.S.S. Cherenkov Telescopes (CT). The PWV at H.E.S.S. as a function of sky temperature as given by the CT radiometers was determined by relationships given by data from two other equipment present at the H.E.S.S. site, namely the NASA AERONET station and an ATMOSCOPE with the equipment recording PWV and sky temperature, respectively. The PWV at Mt Gamsberg was determined by scaling the PWV from the H.E.S.S. site to what it would be at the height of Mt Gamsberg. The relative frequency distribution of PWV, monthly mean PWV along with its seasonal variations were com-

puted for both sites. The presented results indicate Mt Gamsberg is a suitable site for millimetre wave astronomy and to host the AMT. However it was recommended that direct PWV measurements should be taken at Mt Gamsberg to confirm the result of this study, as these were not based on direct in-situ measurements.

All diagrams, graphs and tables presented in this thesis were produced by the author,
unless otherwise stated.

Contents

List of Figures	viii
1 Introduction	1
2 Literature Review	4
2.1 Electromagnetic Spectrum	4
2.2 Types of radiations	6
2.2.1 Magnetobremstrahlung	7
2.2.2 Electrostatic bremsstrahlung	7
2.3 Radio window	8
2.4 Millimeter radio astronomy	8
2.5 Single dish radio astronomy	9
2.5.1 Africa Millimetre Telescope	10
2.6 Radio interferometry	11
2.6.1 The Event Horizon Telescope	14
2.6.2 EHT + AMT	16
2.7 The effect of Precipitable Water Vapour (PWV) on observations	17
2.7.1 Atmospheric transmission	18
2.8 PWV at millimeter astronomy sites	19
2.9 Mt Gamsberg and the H.E.S.S. site	21
2.9.1 Site Testing at Gamsberg Mountain	21
2.9.2 The H.E.S.S. site	23
2.9.3 Scaling PWV with height	25

3	Instruments	26
3.1	Heitronics KT19.82 IR radiometers	26
3.2	Autonomous Tool for Measuring Observatory Site COnditions PrE- cisely (Atmoscope)	28
3.3	The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) AErosol RObotic NETwork (AERONET) station	29
4	Data and Methods	31
4.1	Data from Heitronics KT19.82 IR radiometers	31
4.1.1	CT's IR data processing	32
4.2	Data from the Autonomous Tool for Measuring Observatory Site COnditions PrE- cisely (Atmoscope)	38
4.3	Data from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) AErosol RObotic NETwork (AERONET) station	39
4.4	DATA callibration	40
4.4.1	Atmoscope (sky temperature) and AERONET (PWV)	41
4.4.2	Atmoscope (PWV) and CT (sky temperature)	42
4.5	CT PWV Processing	46
5	Results and Discussions	49
5.1	H.E.S.S. site	49
5.2	Mt Gamsberg	51
5.3	Comparison of PWV at Mt Gamsberg to some sites in the EHT	53
5.4	Mt Gamsberg PWV comparisons	54
6	Conclusions and Recommendation	56
	Appendices	63
A	CT data extraction script in C++	65
B	Calibration script in python	68

C	Processing script in python	100
D	AERONET monthly plots	126

List of Figures

2.1	The electromagnetic spectrum	4
2.2	Transmission of electromagnetic waves in Earths atmosphere	6
2.3	Single radio telescope	9
2.4	SEST telescope	11
2.5	Radio interferometry setup	13
2.6	Interferometry signal phase shift	13
2.7	Event Horizon Telescope	15
2.8	M87 image	15
2.9	UV coverage of EHT + AMT	16
2.10	EHT + AMT baselines	16
2.11	Effect of PWV	17
2.12	Atmospheric transmission depending on PWV	18
2.13	PWV at Chajnantor Plateau from 2008 – 2010	19
2.14	PWV at South Pole from 2008 – 2010	20
2.15	PWV at Mauna Kea from 2008 – 2010	20
2.16	Mt Gamsberg	21
2.17	PWV at Mt Gamsberg from 1994 – 1995	22
2.18	H.E.S.S. observatory	23
2.19	Distance between Mt Gamsberg and the H.E.S.S. site	24
2.20	Mt Gamsberg from H.E.S.S. site	24
3.1	Heitronics KT19.82 IR radiometer	26
3.2	sky brightness temperature as a function of zenith angle	27

3.3	The Atmoscope station	28
3.4	The AERONET station	29
4.1	IR sky temperature from CT radiometers	33
4.2	CT radiometers against each other	34
4.3	cleaned CT data against each other	35
4.4	CT's cleaned IR sky temperature data	36
4.5	Mean CT IR sky temperature	37
4.6	Atnoscope IR sky temperature	38
4.7	AERONET PWV	39
4.8	AERONET PWV against Atmoscope IR sky temperature	41
4.9	fit between AERONET PWV and Atmoscope IR sky temperature	42
4.10	Atmoscope PWV	43
4.11	CT mean IR sky temperature against Atmoscope PWV	43
4.12	fit between CT mean IR sky temperature against Atmoscope PWV data	44
4.13	CT PWV (H.E.S.S site PWV)	45
4.14	Mt Gamsberg PWV	46
4.15	monthly CT recordings for 2004	47
5.1	Relative frequency distrution of PWV at the H.E.S.S.	49
5.2	H.E.S.S. PWV variations	50
5.3	monthly weighted mean	50
5.4	Relative frequency distrution of PWV at Mt Gamsberg	51
5.5	PWV variations at Mt Gamsberg	52
5.6	Mt Gamsberg monthly mean PWV	52
5.7	Site comparison of seasonal variations in PWV	53
5.8	Comparison of PWV from 1994 to 2019	54
D.1	AERONET DATA Analysis	126

List of Acronyms and abbreviations

Abbreviation	Meaning
PWV	Precipitable Water Vapour
mm	millimetre
IR	Infrared
UV	Ultra-Violet
AERONET	Aerosol Robotic Network
Atmoscope	Autonomous Tool for Measuring Observatory Site Conditions Precisely
EHT	Event Horizon Telescope
AMT	Africa Millimetre Telescope
H.E.S.S.	High Energy Stereoscopic System
CT	Cherenkov Telescope
VLBI	Very Long Baseline Interferometry
ADC	Analog-to-digital converter
UNAM	University of Namibia
ESO	European Southern Observatory

JCMT	James Clerk Maxwell telescope
SMA	Submillimeter Array
ALMA	Antacama Large Millimeter Array
LMT	Large Millimeter Telescope
SPT	South Pole Telescope
IRAM	Institut de Radioastronomie Millimtrique
SMT	Submillimeter Telescope
SEST	Swedish-ESO Submillimter Telescope
M86	Messier 86
MPIA	Max Planck Institute of Astronomy
AGN	Active Galactic Nuclear
GBT	Green Bank Telescope

Prefixes: $n = 10^{-9}$, $\mu = 10^{-6}$, $m=10^{-3}$, $k=10^3$, $G=10^9$

Constants: $h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34}$ J.s, $c = 2.998 \times 10^8$ m/s

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Dedication

This thesis is dedicated to my mother, Hendrina Shishiveni, and my aunt, Rauna Hangula. Without their endless support, love and encouragement I would never have been able to complete my studies. I appreciate everything that you have done for me.

This thesis is also dedicated to my grandma, Tuyimo Rainhold and my siblings, Elkana Frans and Kronelia Kalute. I love you all.

Declarations

I, Lott Ndeyanale Frans, declare hereby that this study is a true reflection of my own research, and that this work, or part thereof has not been submitted for a degree in any other institution of higher education.

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Lott Ndeyanale Frans

Date: 20 October 2019

Chapter 1

Introduction

The Event Horizon Telescope (EHT) is a large network of millimetre to sub-millimetre telescopes across the world that is used to image supermassive black holes. The Africa Millimetre Telescope (AMT) will be a 15 m single dish telescope that [1] shall compliment the EHT. The AMT is planned to be built on Mt Gamsberg in the Khomas Highlands of Namibia [1]. The AMT will significantly increase the resolution and sensitivity of the EHT [2].

Precipitable Water Vapour (PWV) is the amount of water vapour in the atmospheric column above a location equivalent to the amount of liquid precipitation that would result if all the water vapour in the column is condensed [3]. Water vapour is the main source of opacity in the Earth's atmosphere at infrared (IR) and millimetre to sub-millimetre wavelengths. That opacity is the primary reason that ground-based astronomical observations are only conducted at certain wavelength regions, called windows. These windows are relatively well-defined and stable for most observations at temperate latitudes and moderate elevations above sea level because of the relative lack of water absorption lines and other telluric absorption features [4].

This study underlines effects of PWV on millimeter wave radio astronomy and uses mathematical and statistical means to determine the PWV at Mt Gamsberg. In order to determine the PWV at Mt Gamsberg and its suitability for millimetre (mm) wave astronomy the following objectives were set for this study:

- (a) Determine a mathematical relationship between PWV and sky temperature by means of data calibration of the AERONET PWV data, Atmoscope IR sky temperature data and the Cherenkov Telescope (CT) IR sky temperature data.
- (b) Use the relationship in (a) to determine the PWV at the H.E.S.S. site as given by the CT IR sky temperature data,
- (c) Determine the PWV at Mt Gamsberg by scaling the PWV obtained at the H.E.S.S. site in (b) for Mt Gamsberg,
- (d) Determine the relative frequency distribution of PWV, mean monthly PWV and the PWV seasonal variations at both the H.E.S.S. site and Mt Gamsberg,
- (e) Analyze and compare PWV results of both sites in (d) to PWV results from other sites that host mm wave observatories and determine if Mt Gamsberg is a suitable site to conduct millimeter wave astronomy.

The following is an outline of how this thesis is structured:

Chapter 2: Gives an overview of the electromagnetic spectrum, the radio window, mm wave astronomy and the effects of PWV on mm wave astronomy. Moreover PWV conditions from some sites that host mm wave astronomy observatories are discussed along with previous measured PWV conditions at Mt Gamsberg.

Chapter 3: A brief description is given of the instruments used in this research, namely the Atmoscope, AERONET and CT radiometers.

Chapter 4: A description of the data recorded by the Atmoscope, AERONET and CT radiometers is given. Furthermore, the processes involved in obtaining the PWV, its relative frequency distribution, seasonal variations and monthly mean at both Mt Gamsberg and the H.E.S.S. site are outlined.

Chapter 5: The results obtained based on chapter 4 are presented and discussed, moreover these results of the computed PWV are compared to the previous PWV measurements taken at Mt Gamsberg and those of other sites where mm wave astronomy is conducted.

Chapter 6: Conclusion to the discussions on the suitability of Mt Gamsberg for mm wave astronomy as presented by the results (Chapter 5) and further recommendations are given.

Chapter 2

Literature Review

2.1 Electromagnetic Spectrum

Although all electromagnetic waves follow the same concept in their formation, they are classified into different groups depending on their property, namely wavelength (λ), frequency (ν) or energy [5]. Figure 2.1 shows the classification of electromagnetic waves, with the waves having wavelength of 400 nm to 700 nm classified to be visible light [6]. The visible spectrum is the only range which the human eye is sensitive to, however astronomical objects mainly radiates over a range of wavelength which are not visible to the human eye [5].

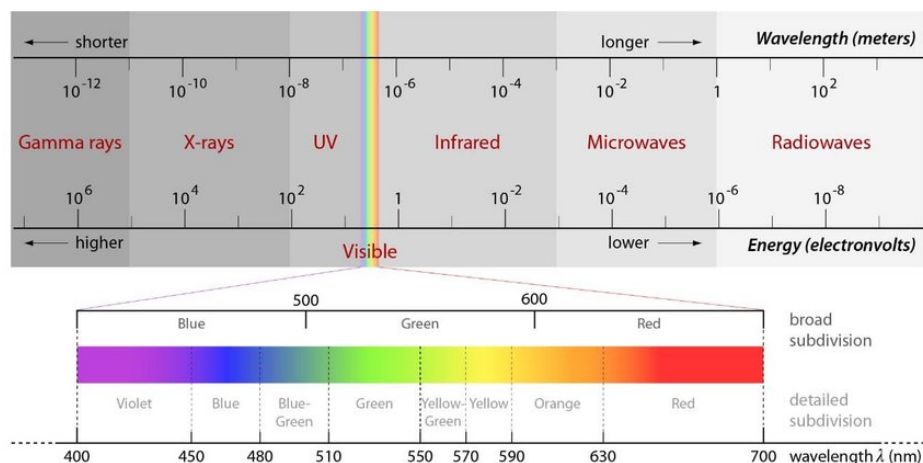


Figure 2.1: The classification of electromagnetic waves into groups depending on wavelength and/or energy. Altogether these groups make up the electromagnetic spectrum [6]. The electromagnetic spectrum ranges from radio waves which have the longest wavelength and lowest energy to the gamma rays which have the shortest wavelength and highest energy.

In 1905, Albert Einstein showed that despite light being a wave it can sometimes act as a particle (photon). This Einstein proposed in-order to explain the results of the photoelectric effect phenomena. Furthermore, Einstein showed that energy carried by a photon is proportional to the frequency of radiation and is related by,

$$E = h\nu \tag{2.1}$$

where h is the Planck's constant and is equal to 6.63×10^{-34} joule seconds (Js), which therefore quantified the double nature of light [5]. This led to the definition of quantum mechanics, which shows that atoms can absorb or emit radiation of only certain fixed wavelengths and hence energies, which are related to fixed state transitions [5].

The understanding of the dual nature of electromagnetic radiation allowed astronomers to decipher information of celestial bodies that is carried by electromagnetic waves on to Earth [5] by a method of spectroscopy. Spectroscopy is the study of incoming radiation by splitting it into its component wavelengths. This process has allowed astronomers to not only deduce certain properties of celestial bodies but also their distance and relative motion just by studying the radiation emitted by them [5].

Despite electromagnetic waves having a wide variety of wavelengths as in figure 2.1, only the visible and radio waves at frequencies greater than 10 MHz reach the ground [7] as can be seen in figure 2.2. This is because the earths atmosphere absorbs electromagnetic radiation at other wavelengths, making ground base astronomy only accessible over the radio and visible spectrum [7].

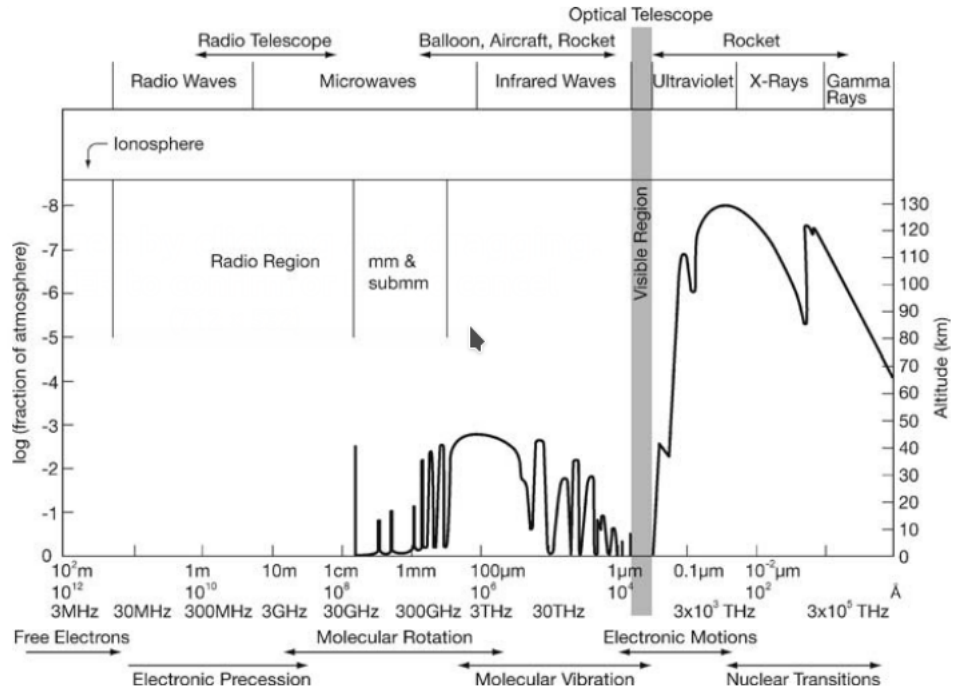


Figure 2.2: The transmission of electromagnetic radiation (waves) in the Earth's atmosphere [8].

2.2 Types of radiations

Accelerated charged particle emits electromagnetic radiation with power specified by Larmors equation,

$$P = \frac{2}{3} \frac{q^2 \dot{v}^2}{c^3} \quad (2.2)$$

where P is the power of the electromagnetic, q the electrical charge, \dot{v} the acceleration vector and c the speed of light [7]. Equation 2.2 implies that a charged particle radiates when accelerated and that the total radiated power is proportional to the square of the acceleration [7]. Electromagnetic forces are in astrophysical known to produce the strongest acceleration of charged particles [7]. Acceleration by an electric field accounts for free-free radiation whilst that by the magnetic field produces magneto-bremsstrahlung [7].

2.2.1 Magnetobremstrahlung

The character of magnetobremstrahlung depends on the speeds of the electrons [7], with:

Gyro radiation - Produced when the velocities are much smaller than the speed of light ($v \ll c$) [7].

Cyclotron radiation - Produced when the kinetic energy of the electrons are comparable with their rest mass ($m_e c$) [7].

Synchrotron radiation - Produced when the kinetic energy of the electrons is much larger than the rest mass ($m_e c \ll \text{kinetic energy}$) [7].

Synchrotron radiation is common in astronomy and accounts for most of the radio emission from active galactic nuclei (AGN) which is powered by supermassive black holes in galaxies and quasars, and it dominates the radio continuum emission from star-forming galaxies like our own at frequencies below ≈ 30 GHz [7].

2.2.2 Electrostatic bremsstrahlung

Most astronomical sources of electrostatic bremsstrahlung are thermal because the radiating electrons have the Maxwellian velocity distribution of particles in LTE [7]. Thermal emission is produced by a source whose emitting particles are in local thermodynamic equilibrium (LTE), otherwise non-thermal emission is produced [7]. LTE is a term referred to, when an the emitting/absorbing material is in thermal equilibrium at a well-defined temperature even if it is not in equilibrium with the radiation field [7].

2.3 Radio window

As can be seen in Figure 2.2 the radio band ranges roughly from lower frequency limit of 15 MHz ($\lambda = 20$ m) to a high frequency cut-off at 1.5 THz ($\lambda = 0.2$ mm). The high frequency cut-off occurs because of the resonant absorption rotation bands of molecules in the troposphere in this frequency range. This is mainly due to two molecules namely Water Vapor (H_2O) and O_2 with Water Vapor having an absorption band at 22 GHz ($\lambda = 1.35$ cm) and 183 GHz ($\lambda = 1.63$ mm) whilst O_2 has a strong absorption band at 60 GHz ($\lambda = 5$ mm) [8].

2.4 Millimeter radio astronomy

Radio astronomy is the study of natural radio emission from celestial sources [7]. The millimetre wave band is part of the radio band and as can be seen from Figure 2.2, the millimetre wave band ranges from 1 cm to 1 mm and beyond to submillimetre wavelengths up until $200 \mu\text{m}$. Although the angular resolution of telescopes in radio astronomy is generally poor compared to other telescopes such as optical telescopes [5], radio astronomy generally has a lot of advantages.

Firstly, because the radio window is broad, almost all astronomical sources, thermal and non thermal radiation mechanism, and propagation phenomena can be observed. Secondly, dust scattering is negligible because interstellar dust is much smaller than radio wavelengths thus making the dusty interstellar medium transparent. Thirdly, nearly every astronomical object is a thermal radio source. Lastly, radio synchrotron sources live long after their emitting electrons were accelerated to relativistic energies thus they can provide long lasting information of a past energetic phenomena [7].

2.5 Single dish radio astronomy

A radio telescope is an astronomical instrument consisting of a radio receiver and an antenna system that is used to detect radio-frequency radiation emitted by extraterrestrial sources. Radio telescopes are built with a large mount which supports a huge curved dish. The dish with diameter D is designed to capture incoming radiation (radio waves) with wavelength λ and reflect it onto the focus, where the receiver detects it [5]. The angular resolution of a telescope is the smallest angle on the sky between two sources of radiation that can be discerned as separate sources with that telescope [9]. The angular resolution θ in radians of a single dish telescope is given by

$$\theta = \frac{\lambda}{D}. \quad (2.3)$$

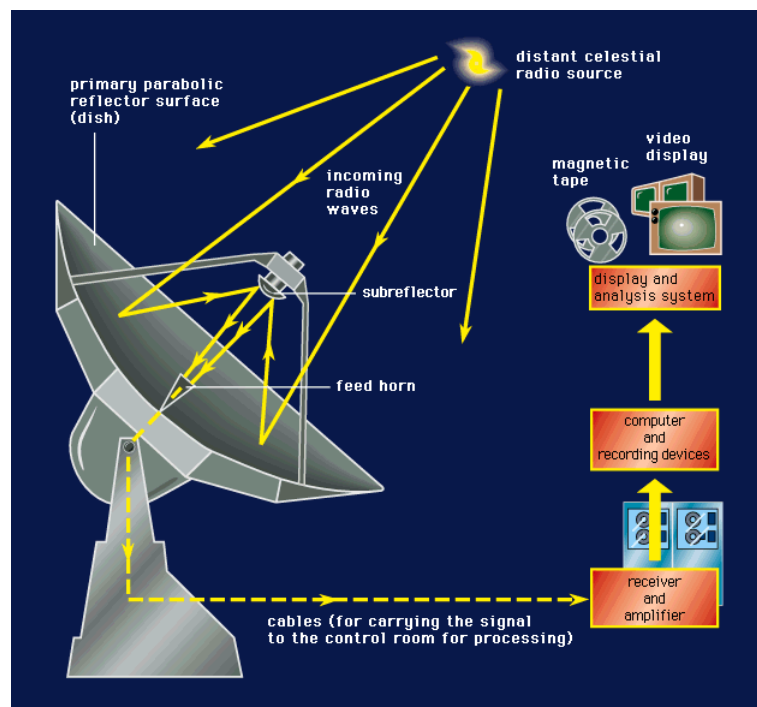


Figure 2.3: Schematic diagram of the telescope shows the path taken by an incoming beam of radio radiation [10]. A distant object emits radio signals which are then collected by the dish and reflected onto the subreflector. The subreflector then reflects the waves into the feed horn where the electromagnetic waves are converted into a radio frequency voltage (small voltage) which is then received and amplified by the amplifier. The amplified signal is then stored for analysis with computer.

Figure 2.3 shows the typical sequence of events carried out from observations to imaging of a radio source if a radio wave from the source with energy such as that in equation 2.1, travels through space and reaches the telescope, where it is reflected onto the receiver by the radio dish. The electromagnetic energy is then converted into electrical energy by the feed horn and fed with cables to the analog-to-digital converters (ADC) which amplifies and digitized the signal. The digitized signal is fed to be processed, analyzed and stored by a computer [5].

2.5.1 Africa Millimetre Telescope

The Africa Millimetre Telescope (AMT) will be made up of a 15 m diameter Swedish-ESO Submillimetre Telescope (SEST) that will be built on Mt Gamsberg. SEST has a surface accuracy of $70 \mu\text{m}$ (rms) and has a pointing accuracy of 3 arcsecond in azimuth and elevation [11]. The AMT will host a 1.3 mm (230 GHz) and 0.8 mm 345 GHz band receiver. The AMT will also host the receivers that observe in the centimeter wave regime of radio emissions [1].

As a single dish telescope the AMT will be used in single dish science cases such as mm wave observation for flux density monitoring of Active Galactic Nuclei (AGN) and studies of molecular emission lines [1]. Figure 2.4, shows a SEST which is planned to be adopted for the AMT.



Figure 2.4: The 15 m diameter SEST, credits: ESO/H.Zodet [12]. The AMT will consist of the decommissioned SEST telescope which is currently placed at the La Silla Observatory in Chile.

2.6 Radio interferometry

Given equation 2.3, in order to have high angular resolution when observing at longer wavelengths (λ) in the radio spectrum, the diameter (D) of the telescope has to be very large. The largest single steerable radio telescope the Green Bank Telescope (GBT) is 100 m in diameter, though impressive it is dwarfed by the size of the diameter of a telescope needed to archive sub-arcsecond resolution. For example using the relation in equation 2.3, if the GBT is to reach 1 arcsecond angular resolution θ when observing at 21 cm then,

$$D = \frac{\lambda}{\theta} \quad (2.4)$$

since 1 arcsecond= 0.0000048 rad and 21 cm = 0.21 m, then

$$D = \frac{0.21 \text{ m}}{0.0000048} = 43750 \text{ m} = 43.75 \text{ km} \quad (2.5)$$

hence, the GBT will need to be 43.75 km in diameter to reach angular resolution of 1 arcsecond. Building a single dish telescope with a diameter of that size is difficult and nearly impossible. Therefore single dish radio telescopes have relatively low angular resolution [7].

Astronomical radio interferometry is the practice of correlating the outputs from multiple antenna pairs to synthesize an aperture equivalent to the distances between the antennas. This allows for higher resolution such as arcsecond or better to be achieved in comparison to those that can be achieved through a single dish antenna [13]. The angular resolution of the interferometer then becomes

$$\theta = \frac{\lambda}{B}, \quad (2.6)$$

where B is the longest distance between any two antennas (baseline) in the interferometer, and λ the observing wavelength [14]. The baseline can extend thousands of kilometers therefore giving high angular resolutions.

Figure 2.5 shows a setup of a two antenna interferometer, with b the separation distance (baseline) between the two antennas, with τ_g the geometric delay, τ_0 the instrumental delay, V_1 and V_2 the output voltages from antenna 1 and 2, respectively.

The relative phase ϕ between the signals received at telescopes 1 and 2 as shown in figure 2.6, dependent on the geometric delay τ_g and the observing wavelength λ , with the geometric delay τ_g given by equation 2.7

$$\tau_g = \frac{\text{distance of projection } \vec{b} \text{ in the direction of } \hat{\mathbf{s}}_o}{\text{speed of light}} = \frac{\vec{b} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{s}}_o}{c}. \quad (2.7)$$

The phase difference can be eliminated in any one direction $\hat{\mathbf{s}}_o$ called the delay center by introducing a compensating delay $\tau_0 \approx \tau_g$ in the signal path of the leading antenna as shown in Figure 2.5.

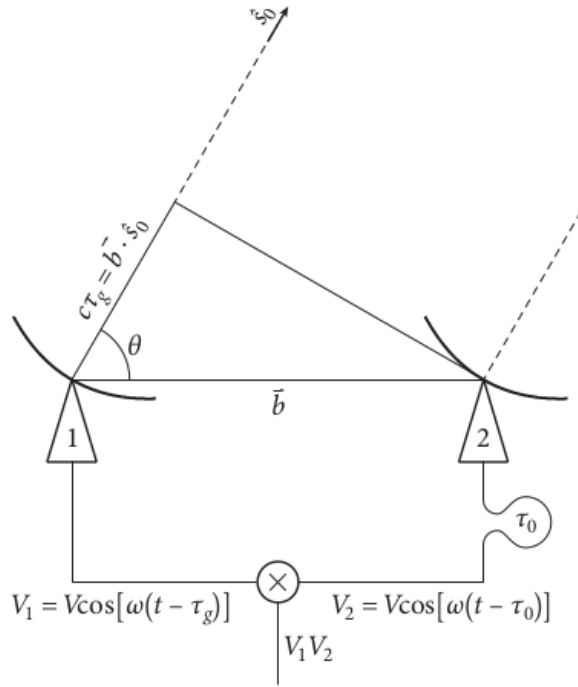


Figure 2.5: A schematic diagram of a two-element correlation interferometer [7]. A compensating delay (τ_0) is introduced in the signal by electronics of the leading antenna (antenna 2) to compensate for the geometric delay (τ_g) of the signal to antenna 1.

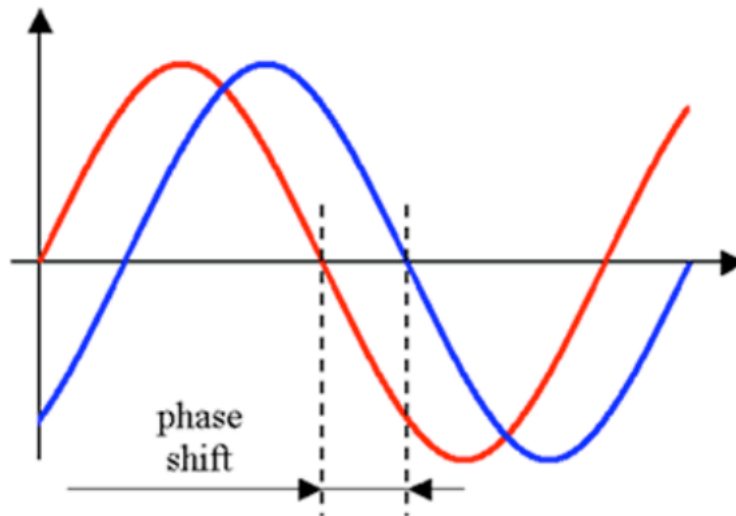


Figure 2.6: Phase difference due to τ_g which is compensated by the electronics of the leading antenna with τ_0 [7].

These voltages (V_1 & V_2) are amplified, multiplied, and time averaged by the correlator to yield an output response whose amplitude (R) is proportional to the flux density of the point source [7].

2.6.1 The Event Horizon Telescope

The Event Horizon Telescope (EHT) is a very long baseline interferometry (VLBI) network of telescopes around the globe that observe at millimetre wavelengths [1]. The EHT is capable of achieving 12-20 μ arcsecond resolution and is used to image supermassive black holes. Table 2.1 shows the 7 telescopes around the globe that makes up the EHT.

Table 2.1: Characetristic of the Telescopes that make up the EHT [1].

Telescope name	Acronym	Location (Country)	Number of antennas	Diameter [m]
James Clerk Maxwell telescope	JCMT	Hawaii	1	15
Submillimeter Array	SMA	Hawaii	8	8
Large Millimeter Telescope	LMT	Mexico	1	50
South Pole Telescope	SPT	South Pole	1	10
Submillimeter Telescope	SMT	Arizona	1	10
Institut de Radioastronomie Millimtrique	IRAM	Spain	1	30
Antacama Large Millimeter Array	ALMA	Chile	66	12 & 7

Figure 2.7 shows the location of the telescopes that makes up the EHT around the globe and the baselines between this telescopes.

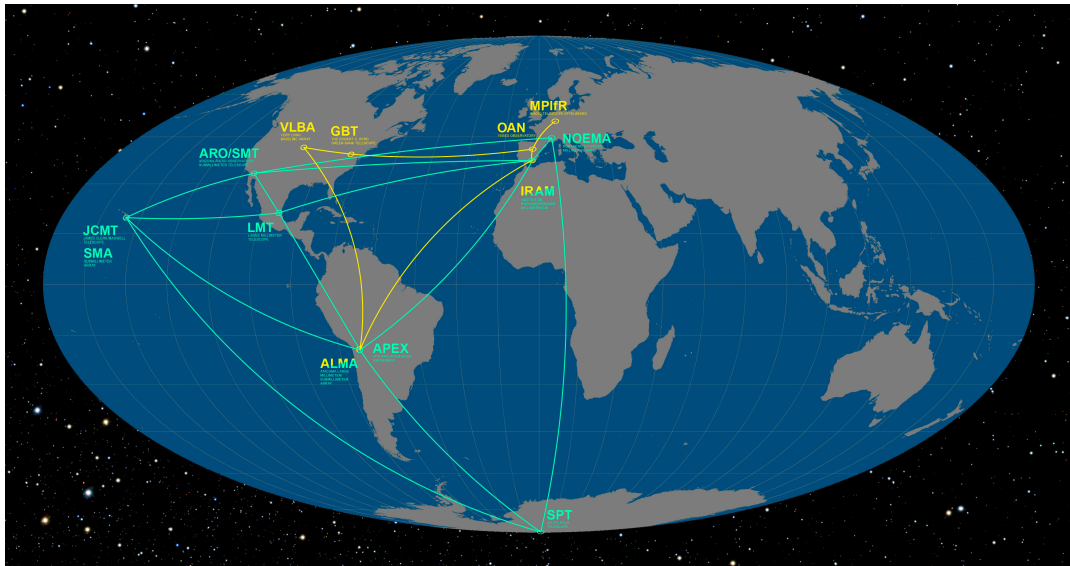


Figure 2.7: The EHT array, credits: ESO/O. Furtak [15]. The EHT is a very long baseline interferometry array that is made up of telescopes around the globe. These telescopes include the SPT, ALMA, LMT, JCMT, SMT, SMA and IRAM

In 2017, the EHT observed M87 at 1.3 mm (230 GHz) wavelength on the 5th, 6th, 7th and 11th of April with 7 of its station from 5 geographical locations. In 2019, the first images of the black hole was revealed, and showed a prominent ring with a diameter of $\approx 40 \mu\text{as}$, consistent with the size and shape of the lensed photon orbit encircling the shadow of a supermassive black hole. The ring was found to be consistent across the four nights of observation and shows enhanced brightness in the south [16] as can be seen in figure 2.8.

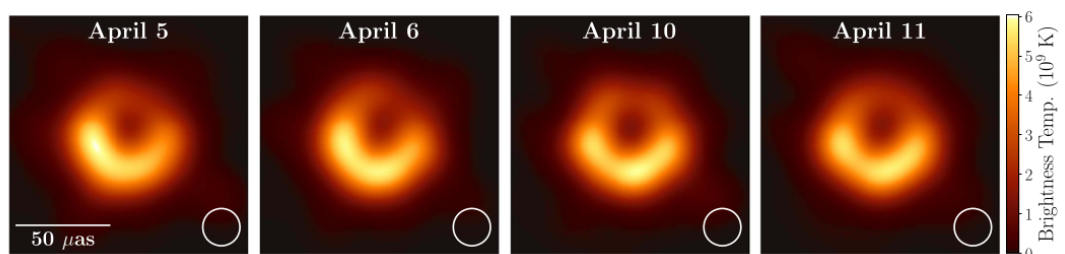


Figure 2.8: Image of M87 across 4 days of observations. A ring of diameter $\approx 40 \mu\text{as}$ and a shape of the lensed photon orbit encircling the shadow of a supermassive black hole was observed [16].

2.6.2 EHT + AMT

Apart from operating as a single dish telescope, the AMT will also be an addition to the EHT and therefore it will significantly increase the u - v coverage of the EHT [1] as can be seen in figure 2.9.

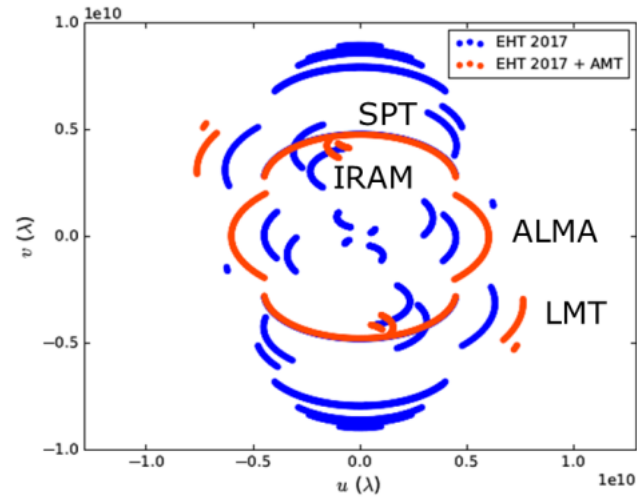


Figure 2.9: The UV coverage of the EHT and that of the EHT+AMT [1].

As can be seen in Figure 2.10, the addition of the AMT to the EHT will also add essential baselines to all other facilities (telescopes) allowing continuous observations as the Earth rotates and the telescope that can see the Black Hole changes. In addition, every addition to the network increases its sensitivity and the AMT, being a dedicated telescope, provides for ample redundancy of the network.

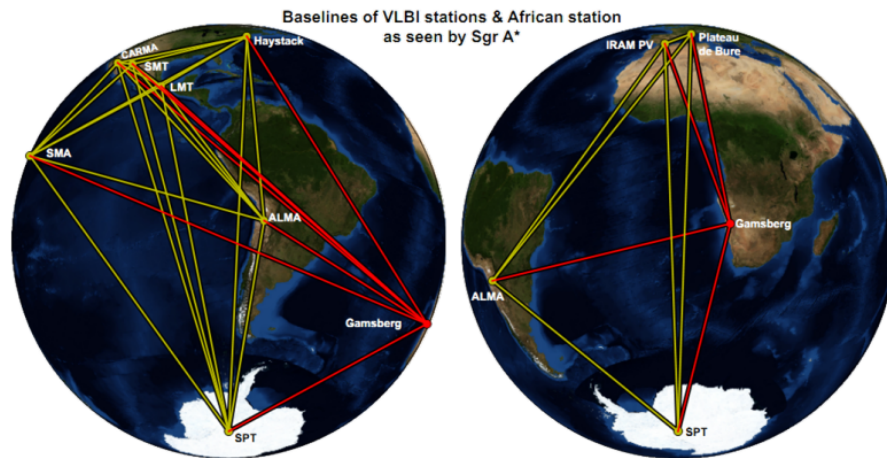


Figure 2.10: The existing baselines of the EHT (yellow) and that added when the AMT (red) is added to the EHT array [1].

2.7 The effect of Precipitable Water Vapour (PWV) on observations

Phase fluctuations caused by water vapour (discussed earlier in section 2.3) are generally the limiting factor at obtaining high angular resolution at millimetre to submillimetre interferometers such as the EHT. Moreover, water vapour also attenuates the astronomical signal and increases the system temperatures. Therefore the main challenge for millimetre and submillimetre interferometers would be to correct for phase fluctuations caused by water vapour [17].

Figure 2.11 shows a signal from an astronomical radio source being received by two observing antennas in an interferometer. Since the refractive index of air rises with the amount of water vapour it contains, the electromagnetic waves propagate more slowly through moist than dry air. Therefore the signal from antenna 1 will arrive later than that of antenna 2, with the interferometer measuring the difference in arrival time Δt as a phase given by,

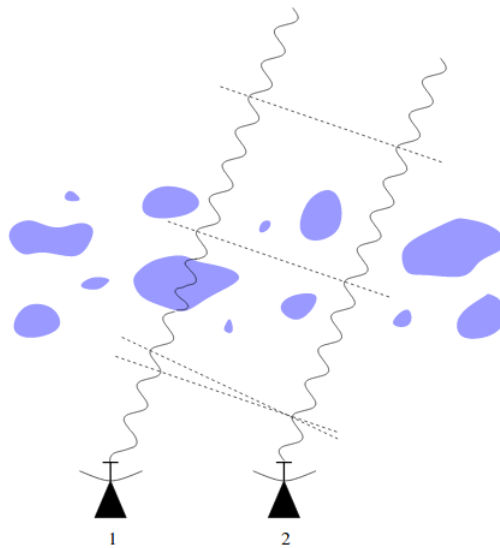


Figure 2.11: A cartoon on effect of water on an astronomical signal [13]. Whilst there is no delay of the signal at antenna 2, the EM waves propagate slowly due to water vapour at antenna 1 causing a delay in the signal received at antenna 1.

$$\phi = v\Delta t \quad (2.8)$$

2.8 PWV at millimeter astronomy sites

A study was carried out to determine the best site for millimetre wave astronomy across 11 different sites by determining PWV [19]. Data recorded by the Infrared Atmospheric Sounding Interferometer (IASI) on a Metop-A satellite was used to retrieve PWV from all 11 sites for three years namely 2008, 2009 and 2010. The sites included, Dome C, Dome A, Cerro Chajnantor, Cerro Macon, Summit (Greenland), Yangbajing (Tibet), Palmdale, Christchurch, South Pole, Mauna Kea and Chajnantor Plateau. Table 2.2 shows the profiles of the latter three sites [19].

Table 2.2: Profile of some sites where mm wave astronomy is conducted.

site	latitude	longitude	altitude [m]	telescope
Chajnantor Plateau	23°00's	67°45'w	5100	ALMA
South Pole	90°s	0°e	2800	SPT
Mauna Kea	19°45'n	155°27'w	4207	JCMT

These three sites host telescopes that partake in the EHT and thus are of particular interest for comparison with the results of this study. Figure 2.13 shows the PWV results in days over Chajnantor Plateau which houses ALMA.

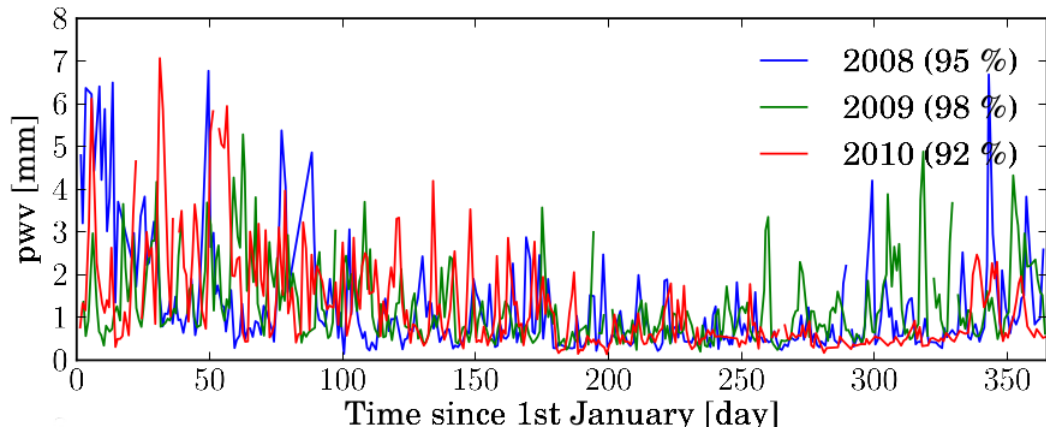


Figure 2.13: PWV variations from 2008 – 2010 at Chajnantor Plateau in Chile where ALMA is located [19]. The percentage indicate fraction of days of the year of which satellite measurements were taken. The PWV for all three years show a similar trend of PWV rising in the summer period and dropping during the winter period.

The percentage in Figure 2.13 indicates the fraction of days of the year on which data from satellite measurements could be extracted. As can be seen there is a clear seasonal variation with the PWV being as high as 7 mm for the first 100 days and then dropping below 4 mm from 150-300 days and again rising towards the year end, since Chajnantor Plateau is in the southern hemisphere this can simply be interpreted as the PWV rising in the summer periods and dropping in the winter period.

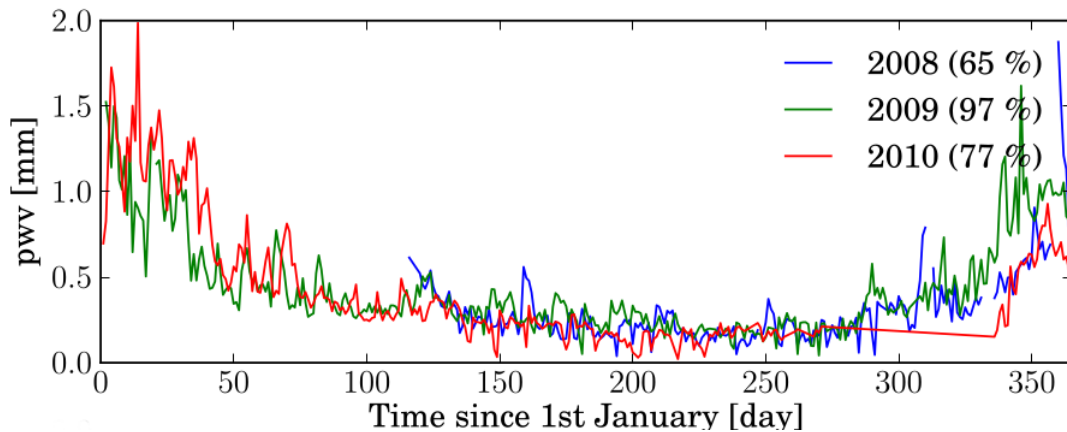


Figure 2.14: PWV variations from 2008 – 2010 at the South Pole site, where the SPT is located. The PWV for all three years show a similar trend of PWV rising in the summer months and dropping in the winter months, also the PWV at the South Pole is lower than the PWV of the other sites in winter. The south pole is among the sites with lowest PWV with it frequently dropping below 0.5 mm in the winter period [19].

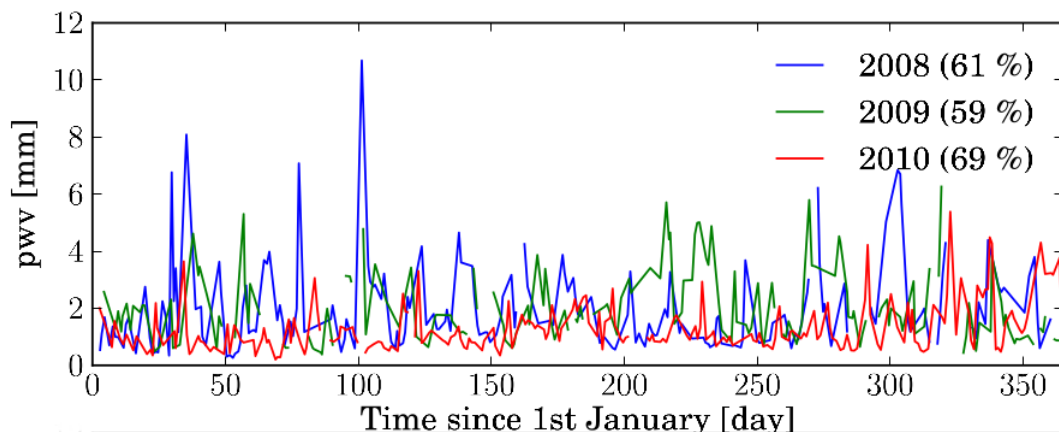


Figure 2.15: PWV variations from 2008 – 2010 at Mauna Kea, where the JCMT is located [19]. Considering Mauna Kea is in the Northern Hemisphere, the PWV for all three years show a common trend of PWV rising in the summer period (mid-year) and dropping during the winter period (start year-end year). Mauna Kea generally has higher PWV than Chajnantor and the South Pole.

The same trend can be seen in figure 2.14 for the South Pole site, with the PWV being extremely low (less than 1.5 mm) throughout the year and even lower than 0.5 mm in the winter period (150 days to 300 days). Similarly, the same trend can be observed in figure 2.15 when considering Mauna Kea is in the Northern hemisphere. The PWV drops below 4 mm in the winter months (begining of year and towards end year), and rises as high as 10 mm during the year.

Ultimately the study concluded on all the 11 sites and in doing so ranked the site located at the South Pole first with PWV lower than 0.5 mm for 75% of the time for the three years (2008 – 2010), the Chile sites which has the Chajnantor Plateau second with 1.5 mm for 75% of the time for the three years and in accordance with this study the Mauna Kea last with 2.6 mm 75% of the time for the three years [19].

2.9 Mt Gamsberg and the H.E.S.S. site

2.9.1 Site Testing at Gamsberg Mountain



Figure 2.16: Mt Gamsberg in the Khomas Highlands of Namibia [20]. The mountain is generally considered to be dry with its condition previously compared to that of La Silla in [21].

Standing at 2347 m above sea level and located 23°3'S and 16°2'E in the Khomas Highlands of Namibia, Mt Gamsberg is considered to be a great site for astronomy mostly due to its number of photometric nights and seeing condition which is comparable to ESO site at La Silla in Chile [21].

A study was carried out at Mt Gamsberg by the European Southern Observatory (ESO) and the Max Planck Institute of Astronomy (MPIA) in 1994 – 1995, which measured the yearly average PWV column on photometric nights to be 5.2 mm, with the maximum monthly average of 7.5 mm in December 1994 and the minimum monthly average of 2.5 mm in August 1994. The results are presented in Figure 2.17 and showed favorable PWV conditions at Mt Gamsberg for mm wave observation throughout the year. The PWV results also indicate the mountain is capable of hosting a mm telescope that can seasonally participate in EHT observations in the months of June, July and August [1, 22].

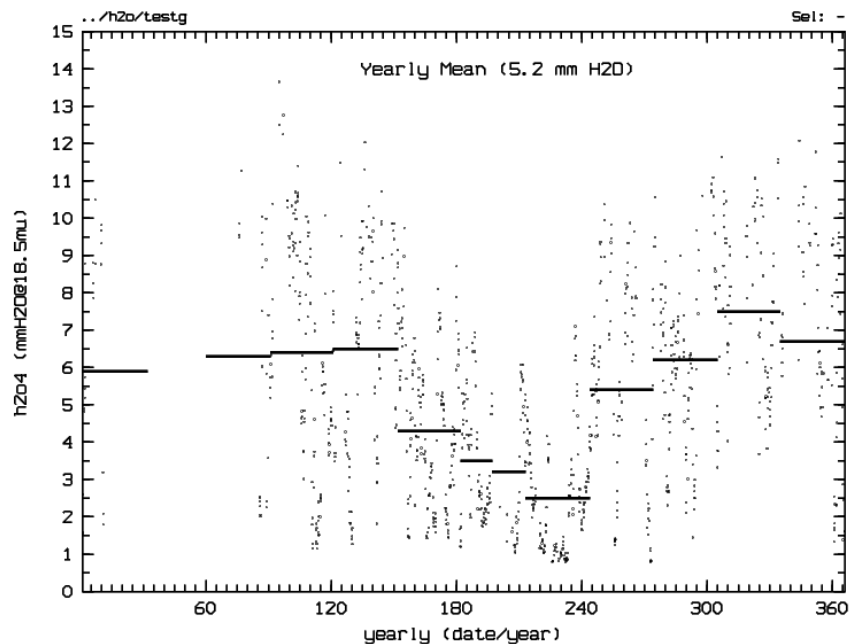


Figure 2.17: The mean PWV recorded at Mt Gamsberg from mid July 1994 to mid July 1995 in photometric nights [22]. These results show favorable conditions to conduct mm wave observations.

2.9.2 The H.E.S.S. site

The High Energy Stereoscopic System (H.E.S.S.) is a system of imaging atmospheric Cherenkov Telescopes (CT) that is located in the Khomas Highlands $23^{\circ}16'18''$ s and $16^{\circ}30'00''$, approximately 100 km south west of Windhoek in Namibia. The observatory stands at 1800 m above sea level [23].

The H.E.S.S. observatory as can be seen in figure 2.18, consist of 5 telescopes that investigate cosmic gamma rays in the energy range from 10s of GeV to 10s of TeV. The first four telescopes of phase 1 all started operating in December 2003 [23].



Figure 2.18: The H.E.S.S. observatory. The High Energy Stereoscopic System (H.E.S.S.) is a system of 5 imaging atmospheric Cherenkov Telescopes (CT) that is located in the Khomas Highlands [23].

The H.E.S.S. observatory and Mt Gamsberg are separated by a mere distance of 30 km in Khomas highlands as can be seen in figure 2.19. Mt Gamsberg can well be seen in the background from the H.E.S.S. observatory as can be seen in figure 2.20.

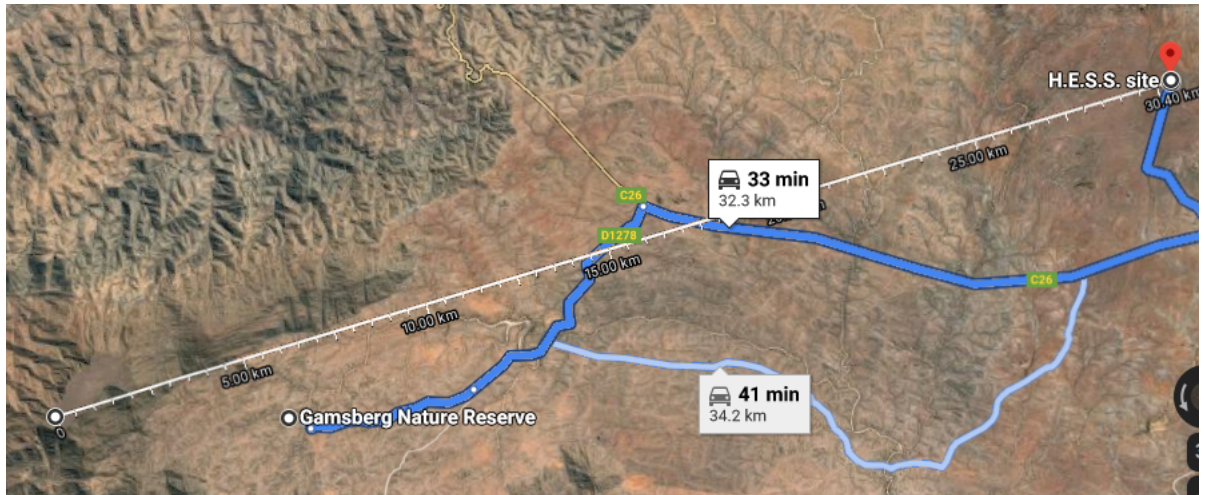


Figure 2.19: The distance Between H.E.S.S. site and Mt Gamsberg is ≈ 30 km and the height difference between the two sites is 547 m. The flat top of Mt Gamsberg is clearly visible in the bottom left of the aerial map. credits: Google maps



Figure 2.20: The flat top Mt Gamsberg viewed from the H.E.S.S. site [23]. Both the H.E.S.S. site and Mt Gamsberg are located in the Khomas Highlands [23] and as can be seen from figure 2.19 they are separated by a mere ≈ 30 km.

2.9.3 Scaling PWV with height

In Hydrostatic equilibrium, the variation of density with height follows an exponential law. The $1/e$ scale height of water vapour H is taken as 2 km [24] so that the PWV P_{scaled_H} at the scaled height is given by,

$$P_{\text{scaled}_H} = \alpha P \quad (2.9)$$

where P is the initial PWV to be scaled and α is the scaling function [24, 25]. The scaling function is given by,

$$\alpha = e^{-(\mu/H)} \quad (2.10)$$

with μ the elevation difference between the two sites [24].

Given the weather conditions are the same in the vicinity of the H.E.S.S. site including Mt Gamsberg and by also considering the elevation difference of 547 m between the two sites, then the PWV at Mt Gamsberg can be scaled from the PWV of the H.E.S.S. site using equation 2.10 and 2.9.

Chapter 3

Instruments

In this research, data from three instruments that are located at the H.E.S.S. site was used. In this section a brief description of the instruments is given. The instruments are namely the IR radiometers, Atmoscope and the NASA AERONET station.

3.1 Heitronics KT19.82 IR radiometers

The Heitronics KT19.82 IR radiometer as seen in Figure 3.1 has a 2° field of view and operates in the $8\text{-}14\ \mu\text{m}$ IR band and is sensitive to a temperature range of -100°C to 3000°C . Four IR radiometers are attached on the H.E.S.S. phase I Cherenkov telescopes (CT), with each of the four telescope having one IR radiometer pointing in that telescope's observing direction [26].



Figure 3.1: Heitronics KT19.82 IR radiometer [26]. The IR radiometer measures sky temperature in the range of -100°C to 3000°C .

These IR radiometers each take a sky radiance, interpreted as a sky temperature using the Stefan-Boltzmann law [26]. The IR radiometers take one reading per single observation (run) in the direction which the telescope is observing. A single H.E.S.S. observation run is on average 28 minutes long and thus all four IR radiometers record a single sky temperature value for that observation at the same time.

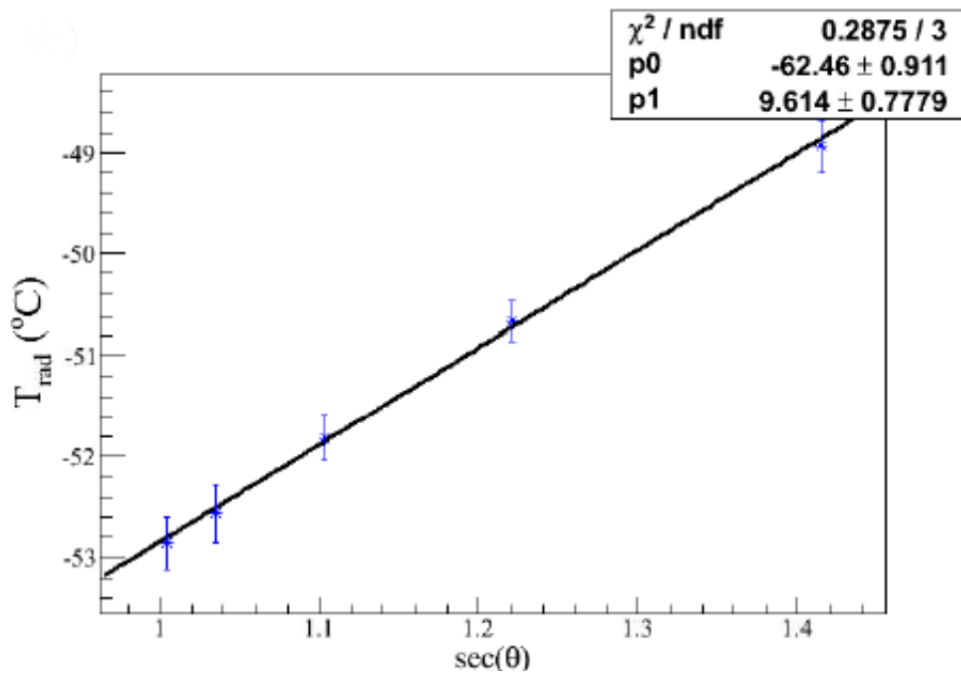


Figure 3.2: The sky temperature as a function of zenith angle for a clear sky (cloudless sky) as given by the IR radiometers [27].

A study was carried out [27] to investigate how sky temperature varies with elevation. This is because the telescopes would not be observing in the same direction and angle, thus zenith considerations would be needed in determining the sky temperature at the H.E.S.S. site. Figure 3.2 shows the relationship between sky temperature and the zenith angle for the IR radiometers on the CT [27].

3.2 Autonomous Tool for Measuring Observatory Site COnditions PrEcisely (Atmoscope)

The Atmoscope, as seen in Figure 3.3a is a weather station that was designed to find the best site for the Cherenkov Telescope Array (CTA). The Atmoscope records all information from observations to climate conditions.



(a) Atmoscope station.

(b) Atmoscope sensors.

Figure 3.3: The Atmoscope weather station [28]. The Atmoscope includes a host of sensors as can be seen in figure 3.3b and a solar panel as can be seen in figure 3.3a with two rechargeable batteries for power storage.

The Atmoscope station contains a host of “485 sensors” that detects all sort of weather elements as can be seen in figure 3.3b. The cloud sensor, uses a thermopile to measure the difference between ambient temperature and sky temperature readings in °C [28]. The WKS 485 internally calculates the cloud base from the sky temperature readings and ambient temperature readings using the following relationship,

$$T(h) = T_0 - hy \quad (3.1)$$

where $T(h)$ is the sky temperature, T_0 is the ambient temperature, h in meters the altitude and y is the temperature gradient given as 6.5 Kelvin per kilometer [28, 29]. The temperature sensor is sensitive to temperature between -40°C to 60°C and is accurate to $\pm 0.3^{\circ}\text{C}$. The cloud sensor has a 10° full field of view for an inhomogeneous cloud coverage with only a mean value measured [28]. The Atmoscope was set to take one reading per minute.

3.3 The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Aerosol RObotic NETwork (AERONET) station

The AERONET is a ground based aerosol monitoring system. The AERONET contains a CIMEL Electronique 318A spectral radiometer which is solar powered and is a robotically pointed sun and sky radiometer. The instrument has an approximate 1.2° full angle field of view and has two detectors for measurements of direct sun, aureole and sky radiance. The instrument has a sun/aureole collimator that is protected by a quartz window which then allows for observation with a UV enhanced silicon detector with sufficient signal to noise for spectral observations between 300 nm to 1020 nm [30].

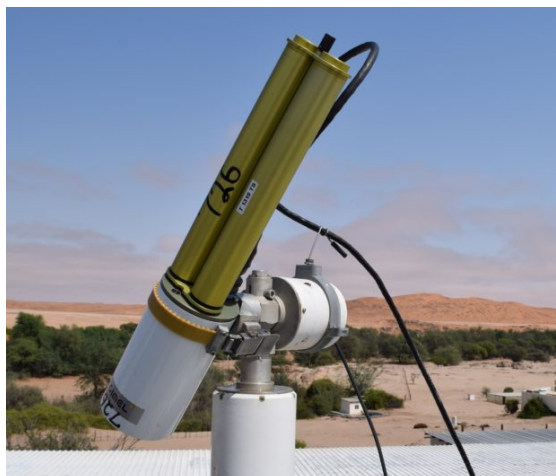


Figure 3.4: The AERONET station at Gobabeb, Namibia. The AERONET sun photometer measures the light energy that reaches it. Since the energy the sun produces at the top of the atmosphere is known, any difference measured by the instrument at the ground is caused by Aerosols such as smoke, dust and sea salt between the top of the atmosphere and the ground. From this the aerosol concentrations in the atmosphere can be calculated [31]. Credit: NASA/Jane Peterson

The column water vapour is determined by the AERONET using three channels of 675 nm, 870 nm and 940 nm. The total transmission (T) is computed for 675 nm and 870 nm using the Rayleigh and aerosol optical depths whilst the total transmission for 940 nm (T_{940}) is determined through extrapolation. The extrapolated transmission at 940 nm is subtracted from a measured transmission at 940 nm (T_{940}) resulting only in the transmission due to water vapour (T_w). The precipitable water vapour in cm is therefore determined by the AERONET using the following equations [32],

$$\ln [T_w] = \ln [T_{940[\text{measured}]}] - \ln [T_{940[\text{extrapolated}]}] \quad (3.2)$$

$$-\ln [T_w] = \ln [V_{0940} d^{-2}] - \ln [T_{940}] - m \left(\tau_{940_{AOT}} + \tau_{940_{Rayleigh}} \right) \quad (3.3)$$

$$-\ln [T_w] = a (m_w u)^b \quad (3.4)$$

$$u = \frac{[-\ln T_w / a]^{1/b}}{m_w} \quad (3.5)$$

where u is the precipitable water in centimetres (cm), T_w is the transmission due to water vapour, a and b are filter dependent constants and m_w the water vapour optical air mass, d is the ratio of the average to the actual earth-sun distance, m the optical air mass, V_0 the extraterrestrial voltage, V the digital voltage and $\tau_{940_{AOT}}$ and $\tau_{940_{Rayleigh}}$ the aerosol and Rayleigh optical depths [32], respectively.

Chapter 4

Data and Methods

Data sets from the three instruments described in section 3 were used in determining the PWV at the H.E.S.S. site and Mt Gamsberg. A brief description of the instrument data is given in this section and how it was processed with two python scripts, one to read in data, calibrate the data and to obtain CT PWV whilst the other was to process the data to obtain monthly mean, seasonal variations and frequency distribution of the CT PWV for H.E.S.S. site. Moreover the second script was used to scale H.E.S.S. site PWV for Mt Gamsberg and compute the monthly mean, seasonal variations and frequency distribution for Mt Gamsberg. Both these scripts are attached at the appendix section together with the C++ script that was used to extract CT data from the H.E.S.S. database.

4.1 Data from Heitronics KT19.82 IR radiometers

H.E.S.S. observations take place from sunset to sunrise (astronomical dark time) with each H.E.S.S. observation run lasting 28 minutes on average and thus the IR radiometers record over night with each measurement being taken every 28 minutes on average. The H.E.S.S. telescopes have been observing since 2004, with the IR radiometers on the telescopes also operating for the same amount of time and has thus far recorded over a period of 16 years.

A script was written in C++ to access and extract data from the H.E.S.S. database. The script extracted and wrote into a file the sky temperature readings given by the IR radiometers on CT 1, CT 2, CT 3 and CT 4 with their corresponding elevation $(\theta_{CT1}, \theta_{CT2}, \theta_{CT3}, \theta_{CT4})$ and the recording time. In this thesis, the IR radiometer on CT 1 will be referred to as CT1, that on CT 2 as CT2, that of CT 3 as CT3, that on CT 4 as CT4 and all the four radiometers together as CT.

4.1.1 CT's IR data processing

A python script was written to visualize and analyze the data from CT1, CT2, CT3 and CT4. Firstly the zenith angle (θ_Z) corrections were applied on the sky temperature readings of all four CT's as follows,

$$\theta_Z = 90 - \theta_e \quad \theta_{CT1}, \theta_{CT2}, \theta_{CT3}, \theta_{CT4} \in \theta_e \quad (4.1)$$

also from the relationship in figure 3.2,

$$T(\theta_Z) = P_1 \sec(\theta_Z) + P_0 \quad (4.2)$$

such that

$$T(\theta_e) = P_1 \sec(\theta_e) + P_0 \quad (4.3)$$

at zenith, $\theta_e = 90^\circ$ then according to equation 4.1, $\theta_Z = 0^\circ$ such that equation 4.2 becomes,

$$T(0) = P_1 \sec(0) + P_0 = P_1 + P_0 \quad (4.4)$$

subtract equation 4.3 from equation 4.4,

$$T(\theta_e) - T(0) = P_1 \sec(\theta_e) - P_1 \quad (4.5)$$

so that,

$$T(0) = P_1(1 - \sec(\theta_e)) + T(\theta_e) \quad (4.6)$$

where $T(0)$ is the Sky temperature in the Zenith direction.

The graphs of sky temperature against time at zenith were then plotted for the four CT's as in figure 4.1.

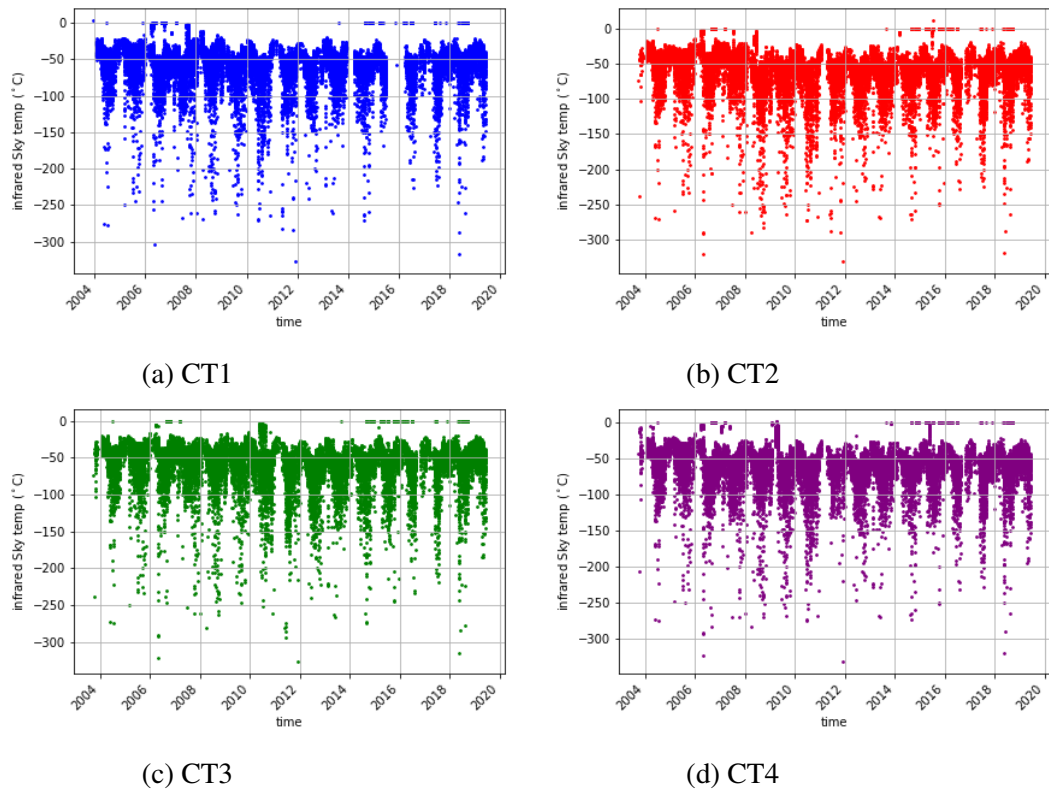


Figure 4.1: Infrared sky temperature as measured by all four CT radiometers. The sky temperatures measured by all CTs ranges from $\approx -300^{\circ}\text{C}$ to around 0°C . The period during which data was recorded across all the CT radiometers is also consistent, ranging from 2004 to 2019.

As can be seen from figure 4.1, data from all four CT's have a maximum threshold of around 0°C and a minimum of -300°C , thus indicating a consistency between the four plots already. In order to further determine if all the CTs measure the same sky temperature and measure the same point in the sky, they were plotted against each other as follows, CT1 against CT2, CT1 against CT3, CT1 against CT4, CT2 against CT3, CT2 against CT4 and CT3 against CT4, as shown in figure 4.2.

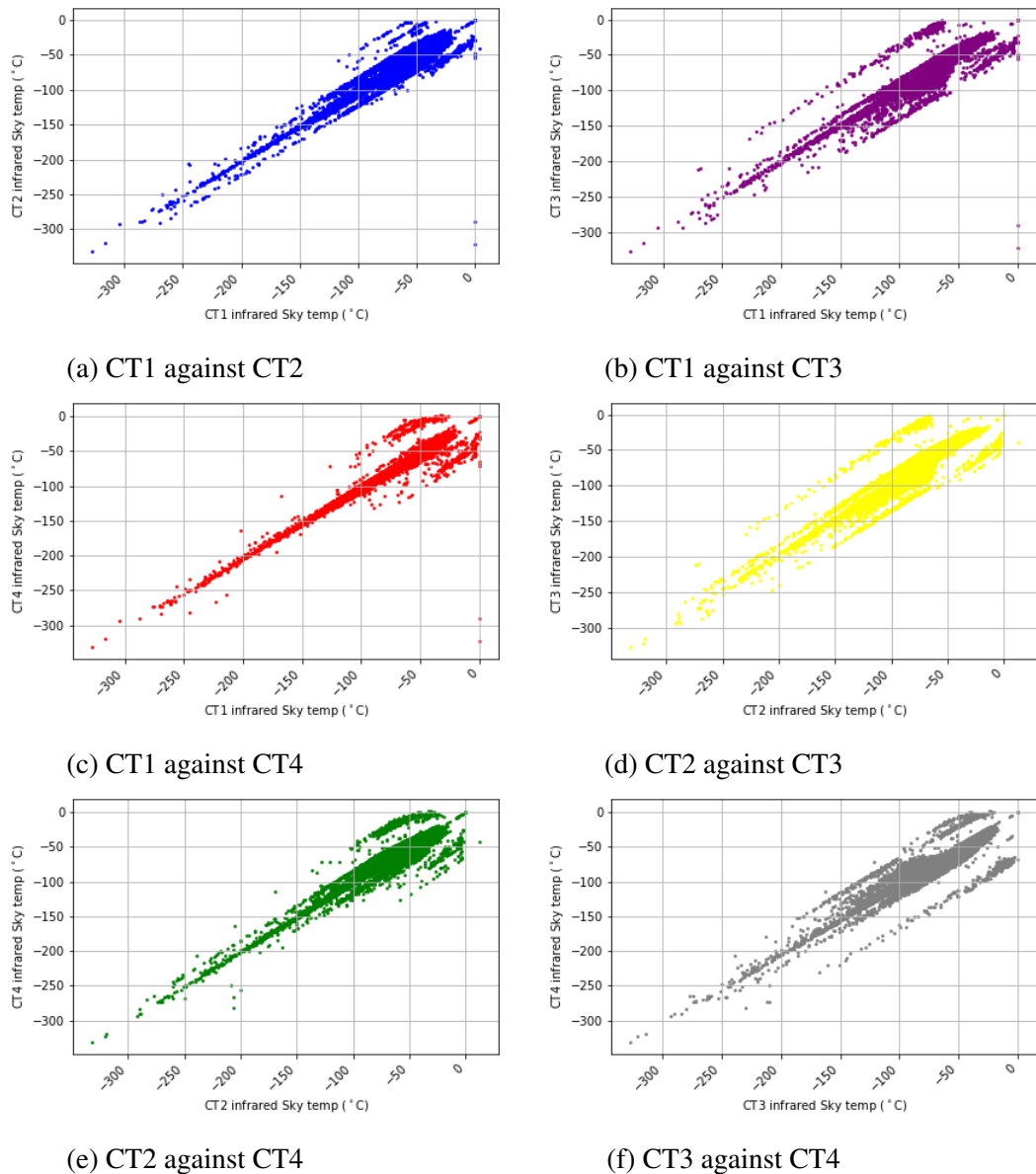


Figure 4.2: Sky temperatures from all four CT radiometers plotted against each other.

As can be seen in figure 4.2, a consistent linear relationship is common in all graphs, with few outliers that are also common. However figure 4.2 also show a few inconsistent outliers at 0°C or greater, these points are not consistent throughout all the four CT IR radiometers and would thus be disregarded. There is also data points less than -273.15°C , these points would be disregarded as they fall below absolute zero and thus would be considered unphysical. Furthermore as discussed under the instrument description, the CT radiometers all have a temperature range between -100°C to 3000°C , thus the radiometers would not accurately record temperatures below -100°C and thus they were also disregarded. For those reasons altogether, the points below

–100°C and those equal or above 0°C were flagged as shown in Figure 4.3. The CT

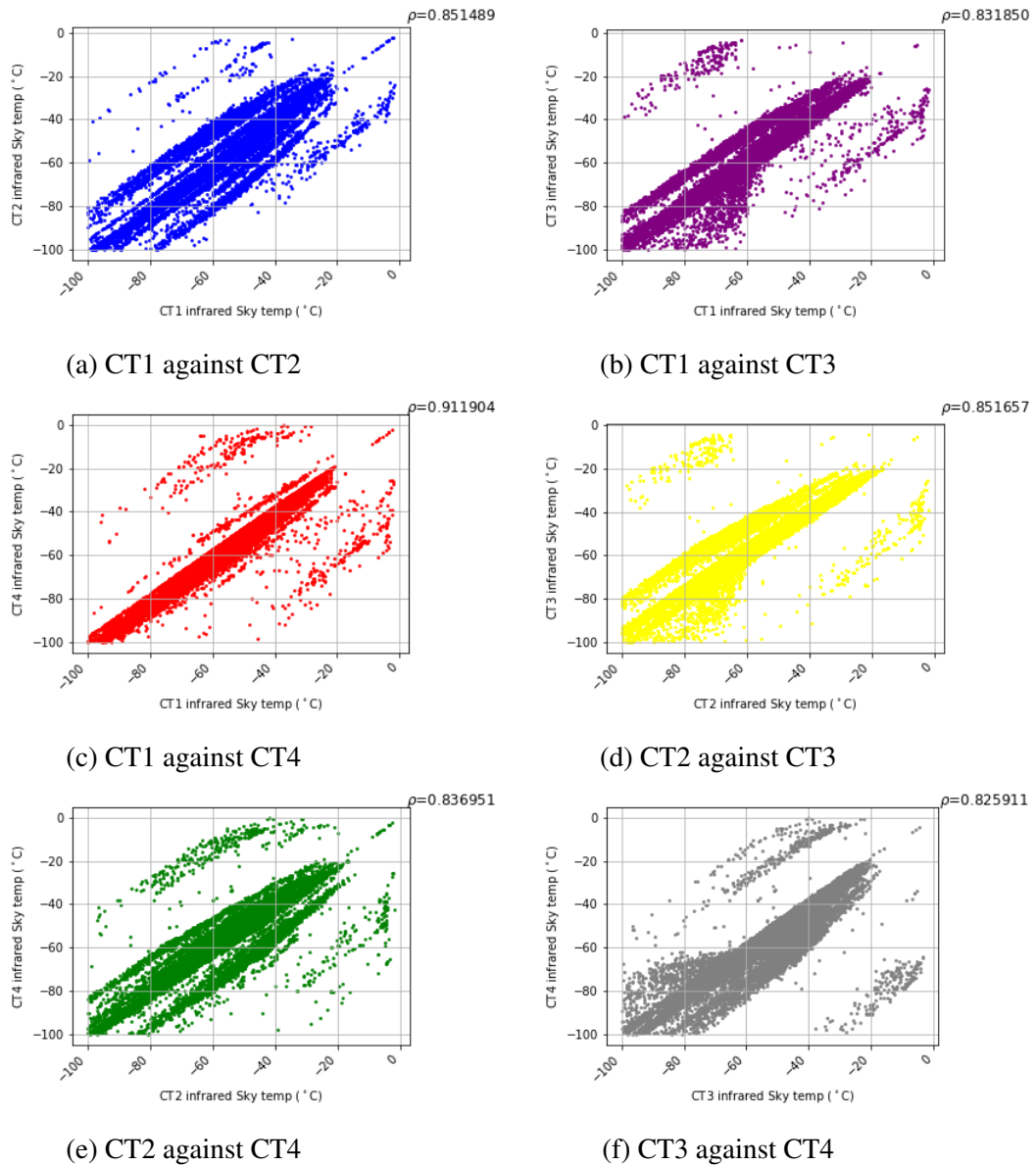


Figure 4.3: Infrared sky temperature as measured by CT radiometers after flagging of data. The Pearson coefficient is also displayed for all plots showing a high positive correlation of atleast a minimum 0.82.

graphs in Figure 4.3 all still show a consistent linear relationship with a few data points that are offset from the main linear trend of points. These points would not be flagged as they are also linearly correlated and consistent through the four CT IR radiometers. The correlation was then calculated using,

$$\rho = \frac{cov(x,y)}{\sigma_x\sigma_y} = \frac{\overline{xy} - \bar{x}\bar{y}}{\sigma_x\sigma_y} \quad (4.7)$$

where ρ is the Pearson's correlation coefficient [33] and x and y are the CT's sky temperature data with σ_x and σ_y their respective standard deviations. The correlation coefficient would indicate if the measurements are the same and if the CT see and measure the same sky. All the CT permutations gave a positive correlation and all show a high correlation with a minimum of 0.82. This indicates the CT's do measure the same sky and have and almost have same data points.

The graphs of the CTs sky temperature was then plotted to see if they varied by much, and as can be seen in Figure 4.4 all CT graphs are similar.

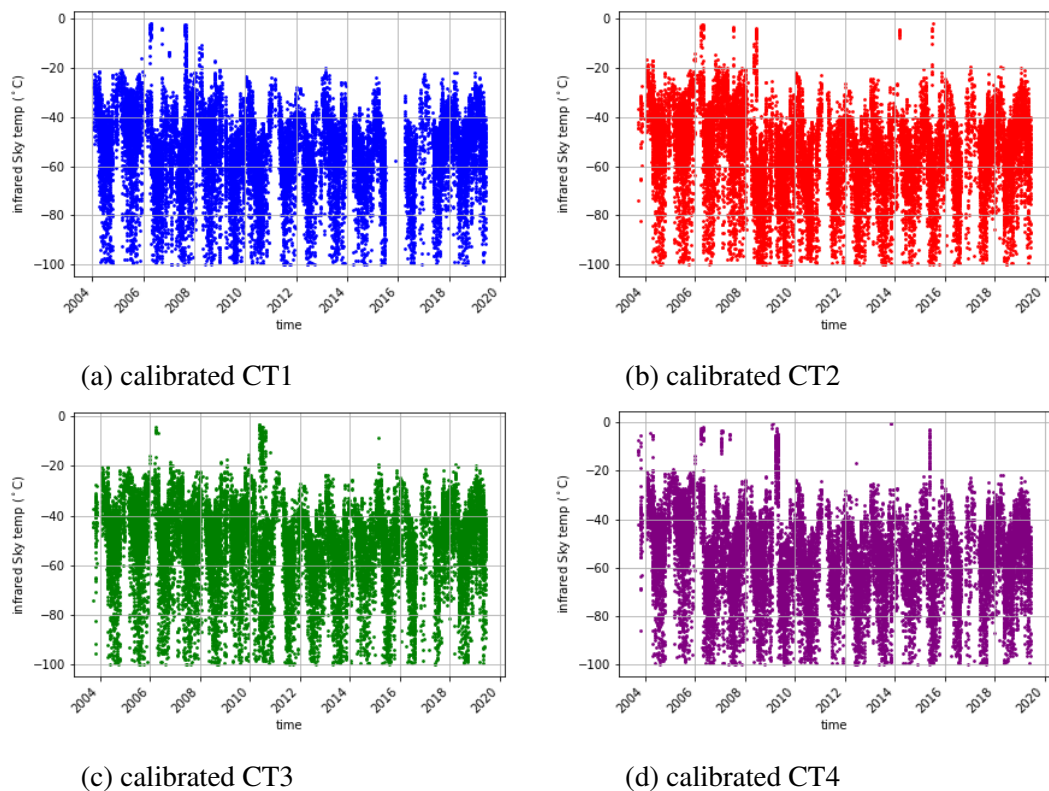


Figure 4.4: calibrated Infrared sky temperature as measured by CT radiometers. After flagging of unwanted data, this is how the sky temperature data from all CT's look like.

Finally the average sky temperature for the CT's was computed with its standard deviation by considering the following:

Since the CTs all record a sky temperature at a certain time then each CT can be represented in terms of its corresponding sky temperature such that $CTn = T_{skyt}n$ where $n = 1, 2, 3$ or 4 . Then the mean [33] of the sky temperature can be calculated for all CTs at that certain time as,

$$\bar{T}_{Skyt} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_1^4 T_{skyt}n \quad (4.8)$$

and the standard deviation [33] can be calculated as,

$$\sigma_{T_{skyt}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n-1} \sum_1^4 (T_{skyt}n - \bar{T}_{skyt})^2} \quad (4.9)$$

this yields the mean sky temperature (4.8) and its standard deviation (4.9) (\bar{T}_{sky} , $\sigma_{T_{skyt}}$), which was plotted with respect to time to give figure 4.5.

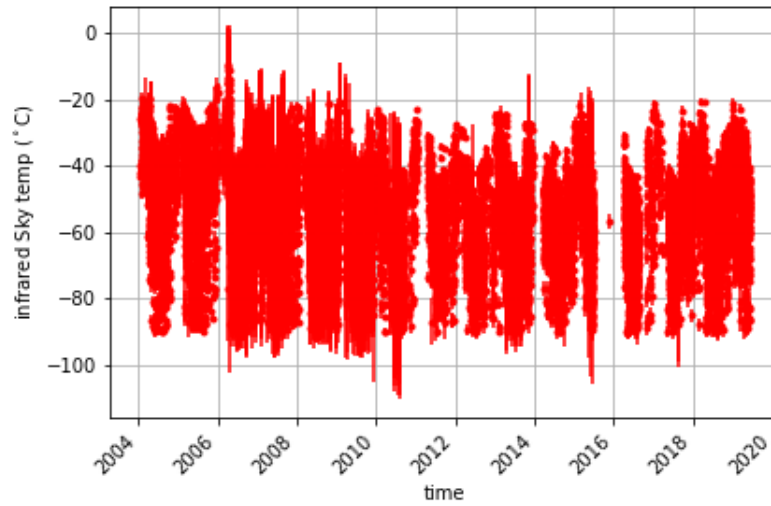


Figure 4.5: The mean sky temperature as measured by the CTs. The scatter plot also has the standard deviation in sky temperature (error bars) as calculated using equation 4.9.

4.2 Data from the Autonomous Tool for Measuring Observatory Site Conditions PrEcisely (Atmoscope)

The Atmoscope at the H.E.S.S. site has been operational between 2011 and 2018, recording at least 6 years of data. The Atmoscope takes a reading on average of 1 minute and records throughout the day as well as the night.

As discussed in the instrument section 3.2, the Atmoscope measures the ambient temperature, sky temperature and then calculates cloud height at the specific time the measurement was taken. Although the Atmoscope does not record the sky temperature, it records the ambient temperature and the cloud height which was converted to the sky temperature using equation 3.1. The sky temperature was then plotted with respect to time from 2011 to 2017 as in figure 4.6.

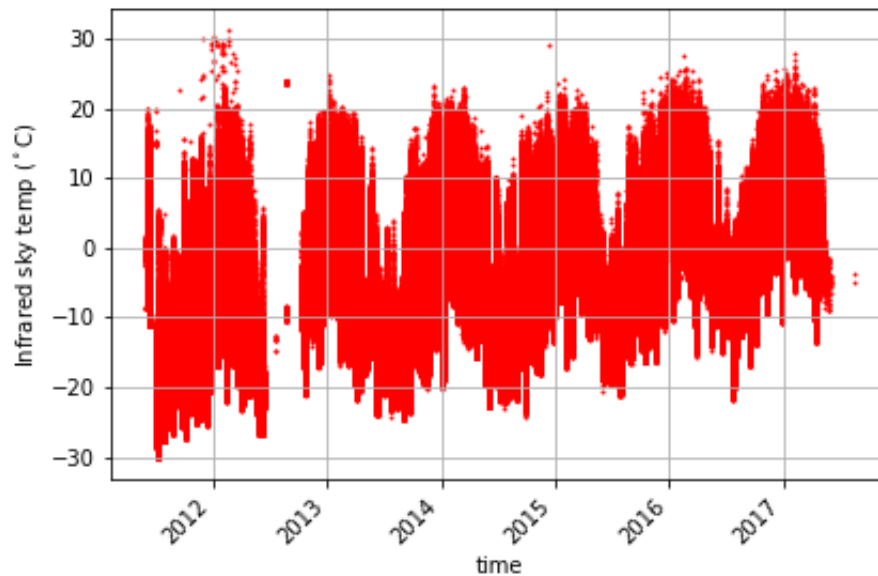


Figure 4.6: Sky temperature as given by the Atmoscope. An upward trend from year to year is clearly visible in the data.

The sky temperature clearly lies between -30°C and 30° which is well in the sensitive range of Atmoscope's temperature sensor. There is however a visible upward trend in the sky temperature data that suggest an increase in sky temperature from year to year. It is not yet known if this yearly upward trend was a true natural phenomenon which is truly reflected by the data in figure 4.6. Explaining this trend is beyond the scope of this study and for that reason the data was kept and used as it is in figure 4.6.

4.3 Data from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Aerosol RObotic NETwork (AERONET) station

The AERONET directly calculates and records the PWV as given by the equation 3.5 in section 3.3. The AERONET recorded a single PWV value randomly within a time difference ranging from 1 minute to 5 minutes.

The PWV and its corresponding time was then extracted from its data file and plotted as in Figure 4.7.

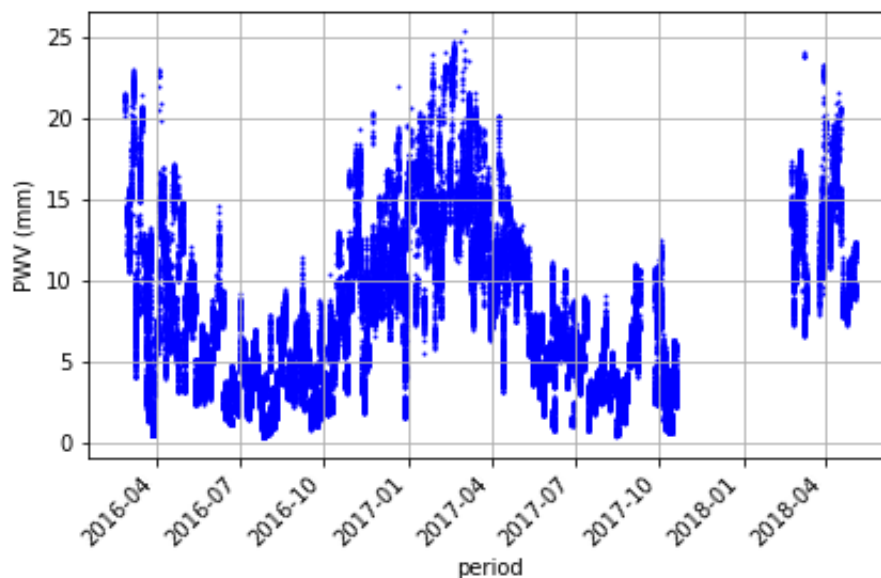


Figure 4.7: The PWV as measured by the AERONET station. A clear visible seasonal trend in the PWV data can be seen, with the PWV dropping in the winter months and peaking in the summer months. The figure also shows a period in 2018 where PWV was not recorded.

The AERONET data plot shows that the PWV was taken between 2016 and 2018, and has a few months in 2018 without any PWV measurements. Figure 4.7 shows a clear seasonal variation trend as the daily PWV drops in the winter periods from April to October and rises from October to April.

4.4 DATA calibration

The sky temperature of both CT and the Atmoscope was converted into PWV through the means of calibration and finding the relationships between the data from both instruments. The PWV given by the CT is what we desire to get and use in determining the PWV at the H.E.S.S. site and Mt Gamsberg for the following reasons. Firstly, CT data was taken for longer periods and will show in depth seasonal variations of PWV at the H.E.S.S. site. Secondly the results of CT will also make for good comparison with the results of 1994-1995, since those values were taken during the night and the CT radiometers only measures the sky temperature through the night as H.E.S.S. observes. Thirdly, from the three equipment, only the CT data was more consistent, with the AERONET not recording for a few months and with the Atmoscope sky temperature having an un-explainable seasonal upward trend. Lastly, the CT sky temperature data is given as mean of the four CT sky temperature which would make it more accurate than the data from the other two equipment.

In order to get the CT PWV from CT sky temperature $(\bar{T}_{skyt}, \sigma_{T_{skyt}})$, two calibration processes were conducted. Firstly, taking advantage of the fact the AERONET only takes PWV measurements during the day time and the Atmoscope takes sky temperature measurements during both day and night, an overlap of data recorded at the same time during the day by the AERONET and the Atmoscope was found. By means of cross calibration and finding the relationship between the two equipment, all the sky temperature of the Atmoscope was converted into PWV, which is PWV for both day and night.

Secondly, the converted PWV of the Atmoscope was then used in getting the CT PWV by finding the data recorded at the same time during the night time by CT (sky temperature) and the Atmoscope (converted PWV). This data was then cross calibrated to get the relationship between the instruments which was then used to convert the CT sky temperature into PWV.

4.4.1 Atmoscope (sky temperature) and AERONET (PWV)

In the first step of the cross calibration process, the day time sky temperature from the Atmoscope was plotted against the corresponding day time PWV from the AERONET. Figure 4.8 shows a plot of Aeronet PWV against Atmoscope sky temperature.

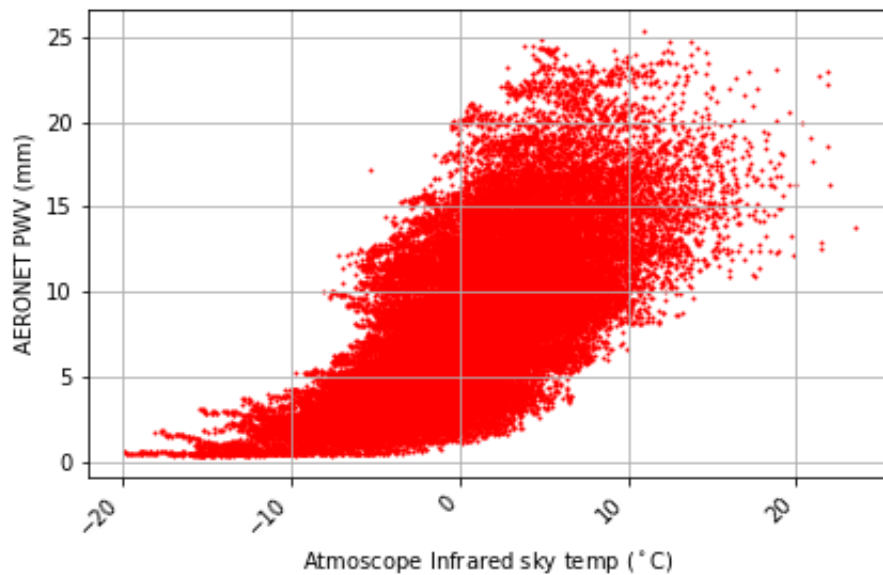


Figure 4.8: Day time AERONET PWV against corresponding day time Atmoscope sky temperature. The data from the two instruments has an exponential fit.

As can be seen from Figure 4.8 there is an exponential relationship between the data given by the two instruments, thus an exponential fit was applied to the graph as in figure 4.9.

The exponential fit line is described by the relation,

$$y = 8.074815 e^{0.071097x} \quad (4.10)$$

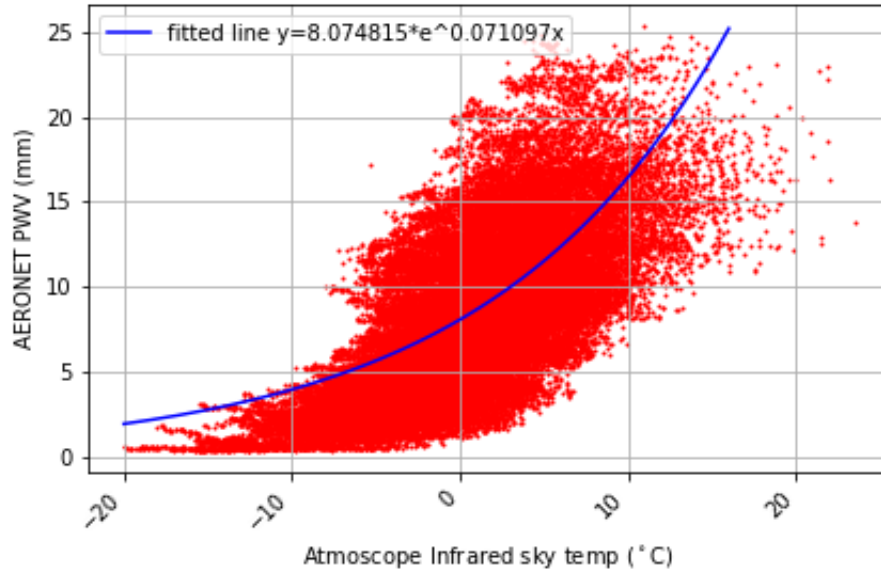


Figure 4.9: The exponential fit to the AERONET and Atmoscope data. The fit in blue is given by the relation of equation 4.10.

where y is the PWV in millimeters given by the AERONET and x is the sky temperature in degree Celsius given by the Atmoscope. Hence all sky temperature from an Atmoscope can now be converted into PWV as it would be given by the AERONET using the relationship in equation 4.10.

The sky temperature of the Atmoscope including that of the night was then converted to PWV, giving day and night PWV for the Atmoscope as in Figure 4.10.

4.4.2 Atmoscope (PWV) and CT (sky temperature)

In the second step of calibration, the night time PWV from the Atmoscope data was used to find the relation between converted Atmoscope PWV and CT temperature. This relations was then used to convert the CT sky temperature into CT PWV data, therefore giving the night time CT data at the H.E.S.S site. As done with the Atmoscope and the Aeronet data, the Atmoscope night time PWV was also plotted against the the corresponding CT sky temperature and its standard deviation data as in Figure 4.11.

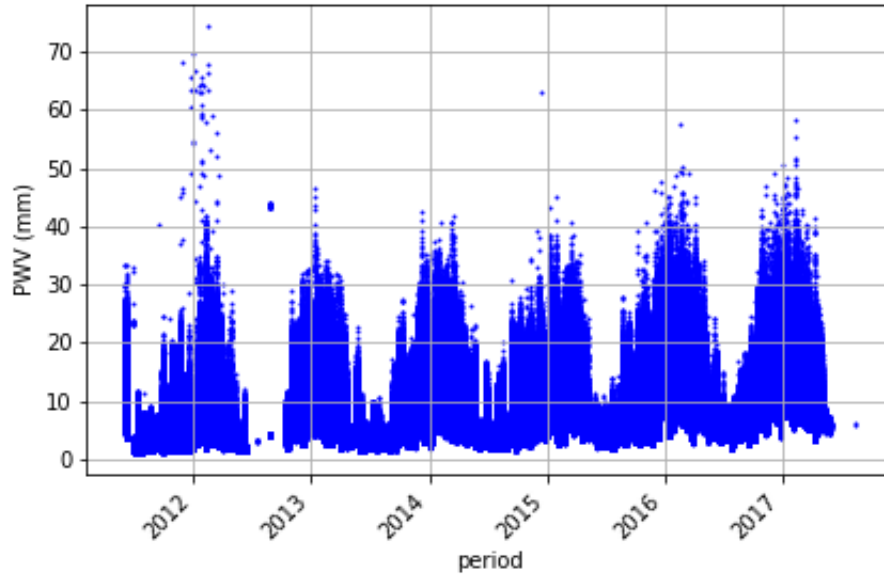


Figure 4.10: The Atmosphere PWV as given by the relation in equation 4.10.

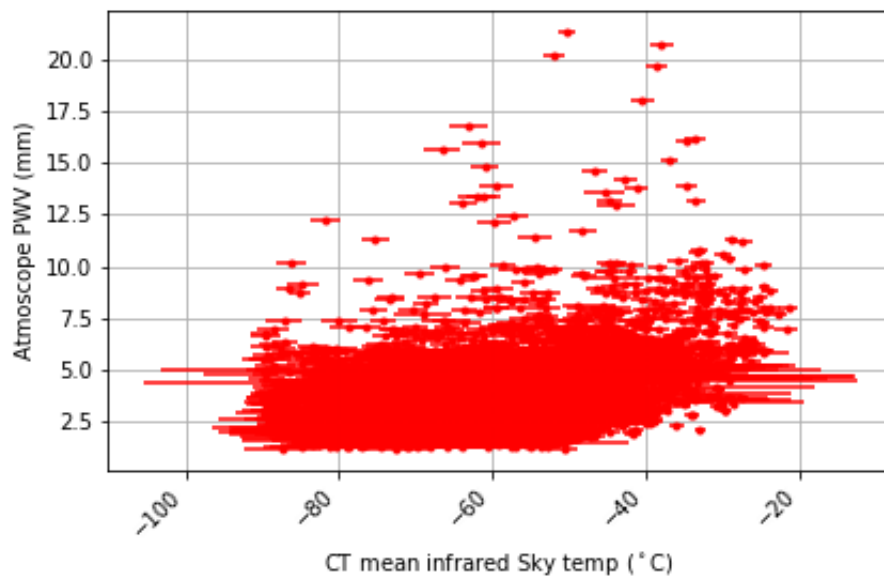


Figure 4.11: Night time CT sky temperature against night time Atmosphere PWV.

As can be seen from Figure 4.11, there is a few outliers but there is a definite exponential trend in the data with a slight rise starting around the -40° mark of the sky temperature. An exponential fit was applied to the data as in figure 4.12 with the fit governed by the relationship,

$$y = 8.394457 e^{0.010886x} \quad (4.11)$$

where y is the PWV given by the Atmoscope and x the sky temperature given by the CTs.

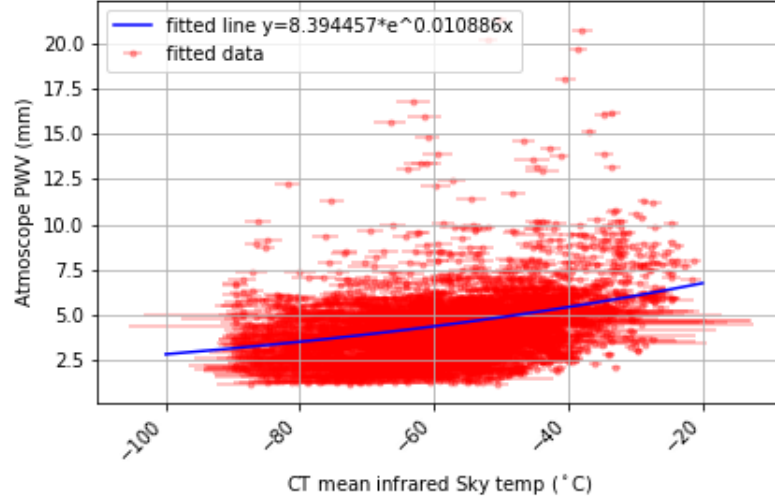


Figure 4.12: Atmoscope PWV against CT sky temperature fit. The fit is given by relation in equation 4.11.

The relation in equation 4.11 was then used to give the night time PWV as given by the night time CT sky temperature. Error propagation was then conducted to convert the sky temperature standard deviation to the PWV standard deviation as follows. Equation 4.11 gives the following,

$$PWV = 8.394457e^{0.010886\bar{T}_{skyt}} \quad (4.12)$$

Then PWV is function of the mean sky temperature from the CTs with its uncertainty,

$$PWV = f(\bar{T}_{skyt}) = f(\bar{T}_{skyt} \pm \sigma_{T_{skyt}}) \quad (4.13)$$

where $\sigma_{T_{skyt}}$ is the error on the sky temperature \bar{T}_{skyt} as given by equation 4.9 and 4.8, respectively. Then from error propagation [34],

$$\sigma_{PWV} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial PWV}{\partial \bar{T}_{skyt}}\right)^2 \sigma_{T_{skyt}}^2} \quad (4.14)$$

taking the partial derivative of equation 4.12 with respect to \bar{T}_{skyt} ,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial PWV}{\partial \bar{T}_{skyt}} &= \frac{\partial (8.394457e^{0.010886\bar{T}_{skyt}})}{\partial \bar{T}_{skyt}} \\ &= (8.394457)(0.010886)e^{0.010886\bar{T}_{skyt}} \\ &= 0.091382e^{0.010886\bar{T}_{skyt}}\end{aligned}\quad (4.15)$$

replacing it in equation 4.14,

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_{PWV} &= \sqrt{\left(0.091382e^{0.010886\bar{T}_{skyt}}\right)^2 \sigma_{\bar{T}_{skyt}}^2} \\ &= \left(0.091382e^{0.010886\bar{T}_{skyt}}\right) \sigma_{\bar{T}_{skyt}}\end{aligned}\quad (4.16)$$

Giving the PWV and its error ($PWV \pm \sigma_{PWV}$). The desired graph containing the night time PWV with its error from 2004 to 2019 was then plotted as in figure 4.13.

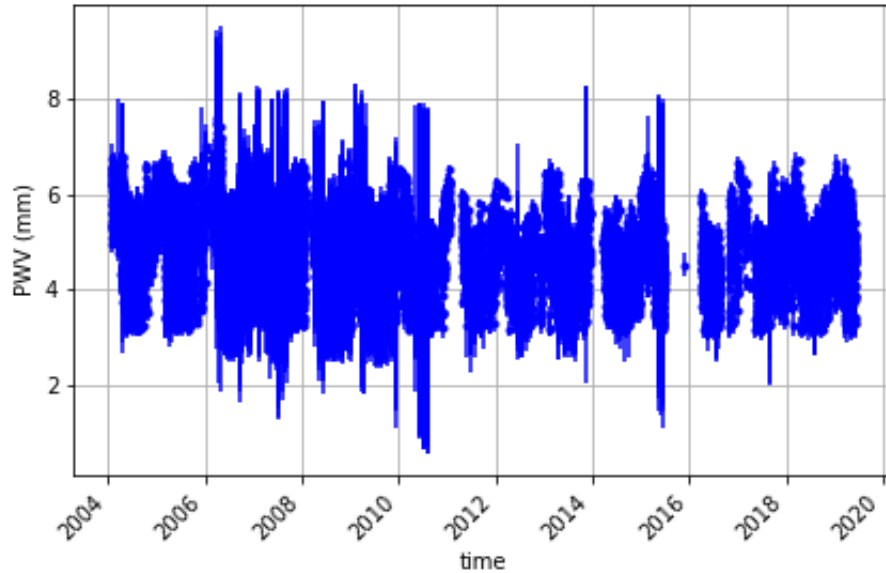


Figure 4.13: The PWV as given by CT sky temperature at the H.E.S.S. site. The relation in equation 4.11 to convert the sky temperature with the error propagation in equation 4.16 to give PWV error.

As can be seen from figure 4.13, the night time PWV lies between 2 mm and 8 mm which is more or less consistent with data from the CTs. In order to further evaluate this data for further information, monthly means would be computed.

This two step calibration process yielded two important interchangeable relationships between sky temperature and PWV among the three different equipment.

4.5 CT PWV Processing

Since the CTs yielded PWV data from the H.E.S.S. site, another python script was written to scale the PWV at the H.E.S.S. site for what it would be at Mt Gamsberg and compute the frequency distribution, evaluate the monthly mean PWV and compute the seasonal variations over the 16 year period for both H.E.S.S. site and Mt Gamsberg.

Using the scaling function in equation 2.10 and the H.E.S.S. PWV as P in equation 2.9, the scaled PWV for Mt Gamsberg was found as P_G and yielded the plot in Figure 4.14.

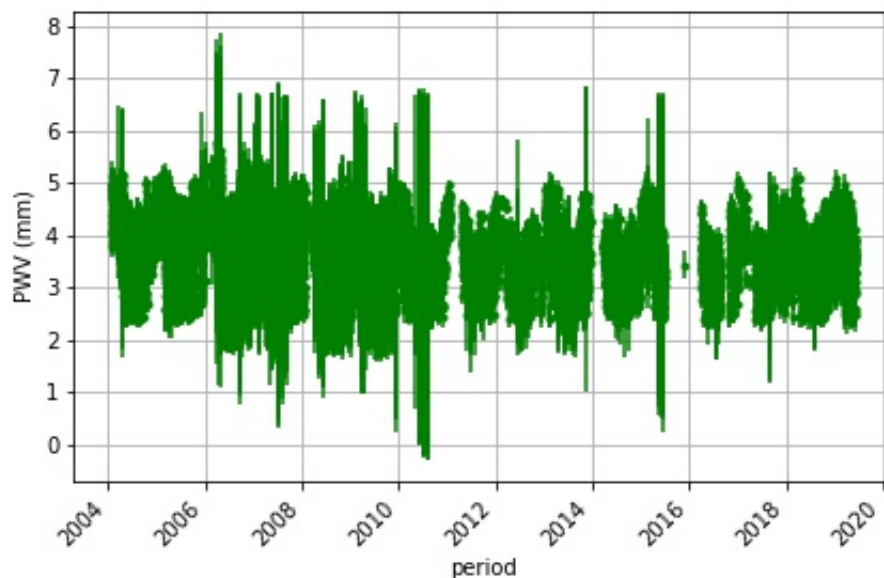


Figure 4.14: The PWV at Mt Gamsberg as scaled from the H.E.S.S. site PWV by using the scaling function.

Given that the PWV data for both sites was obtained, the relative frequency distribution of all the PWV at both sites was then computed in bins of 0.5 mm in order to see the distribution of PWV on a smaller scale, this can be observed in Figure 5.1 and Figure 5.4.

Since H.E.S.S. only operates from sunset to sunrise (night time) and under cloudless skies, its amount of observations per month varies by season. Figure 4.15 shows the amount of monthly recording taken in 2004 by the CT radiometers.

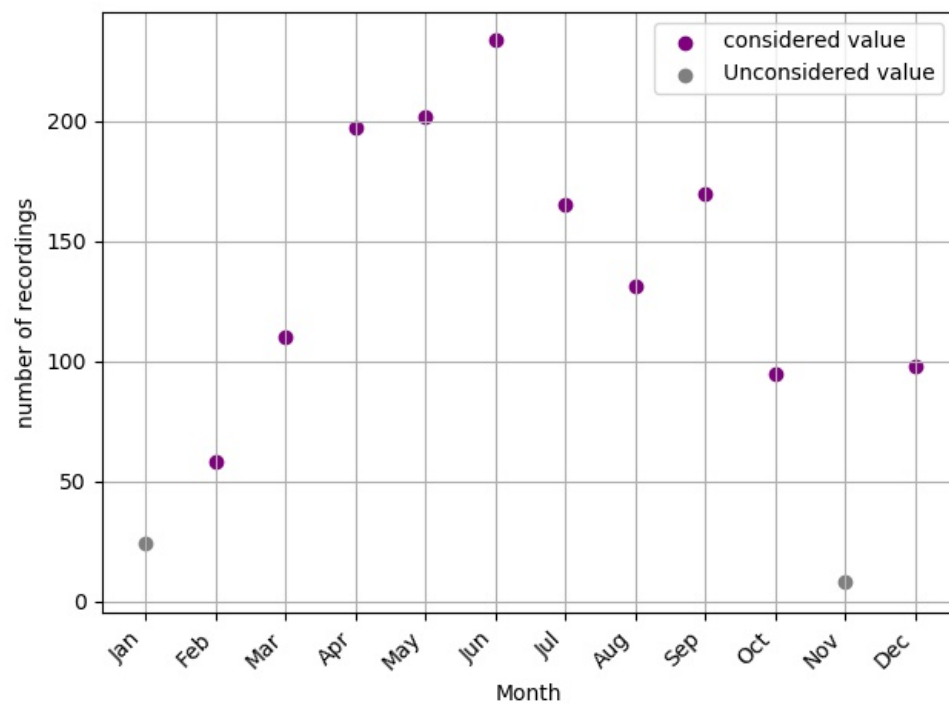


Figure 4.15: Number of considered points for each month and discarded points. Only means of months having at least $\frac{1}{5}$ of possible observations were calculated.

As can be seen, more observations took place in the winter months than in the summer period, this was because more cloudless skies occurred in the winter period.

Weighted mean PWV values were considered and calculated for only months having 50 or more observations. The reason being that a maximum of approximately 250 observations was recorded in the winter months of each year when the weather conditions were more favorable. The 50 observations account for at least $\frac{1}{5}$ th of the maximum

amount of observation that can be done in a single month. If the number of data recordings in a month was less than 50, the data points were disregarded and the weighted mean for the specific month was not computed.

The weighted mean PWV ($\overline{P_H}$) at the H.E.S.S. site was then computed for each month having 50 or more recordings for each year from 2004 to 2019 with the following formula [33] in equation 4.17. Let $PWV = P$ and $\sigma_{PWV} = \sigma_P$ then,

$$\overline{P} = \frac{\sum_i P_i / \sigma_{P_i}^2}{\sum_i 1 / \sigma_{P_i}^2} \quad (4.17)$$

This was then plotted on the same figure as in figure 5.2, in order to visualize and interpret how the PWV varies with seasons at the H.E.S.S. site. A weighted mean $\overline{Z_H}$ as in equation 4.17 for each specific month was then computed with the weights provided by the standard deviation σ_{P_H} of the weighted mean points $\overline{P_H}$, for each specific month. This was done in order to give each specific month a mean value regardless of year as in Figure 5.3.

The weighted mean PWV ($\overline{P_G}$) for each month having 50 or more data points was computed for the 16 year period for Mt Gamsberg using equation 4.17 to yield the results as in Figure 5.5. The weighted mean $\overline{Z_G}$ for each specific month was then computed using equation 4.17 with weights provided by the standard deviation σ_{P_G} of the weighted mean $\overline{P_G}$ of each specific month to give each specific month a mean value regardless of year as in figure 5.6.

The computed mean values at Mt Gamsberg in figure 5.5 were then plotted on the same axis (figure 5.8) with mean PWV values taken at Mt Gamsberg in 1994 and 1995 for comparison and to validate the computed values.

Chapter 5

Results and Discussions

5.1 H.E.S.S. site

As a result of the procedures in chapter 3, the following figures containing the results were obtained for the PWV at the H.E.S.S. site. Figure 5.1 shows the relative frequency distribution of PWV obtained at the H.E.S.S. site from 2004 to 2019 and figure 5.2 shows the seasonal variations of the PWV at the H.E.S.S. site over the same period, whilst figure 5.3 is showing the single monthly mean PWV for each specific month over the 16 year period.

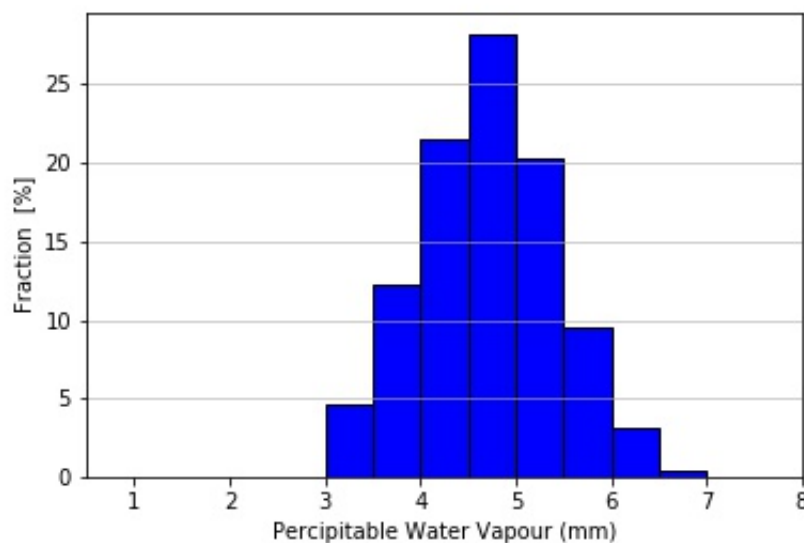


Figure 5.1: The relative frequency of PWV at the H.E.S.S. site. The y-axis shows the fraction of PWV out of 100% with the division of bins in steps 0.5 mm.

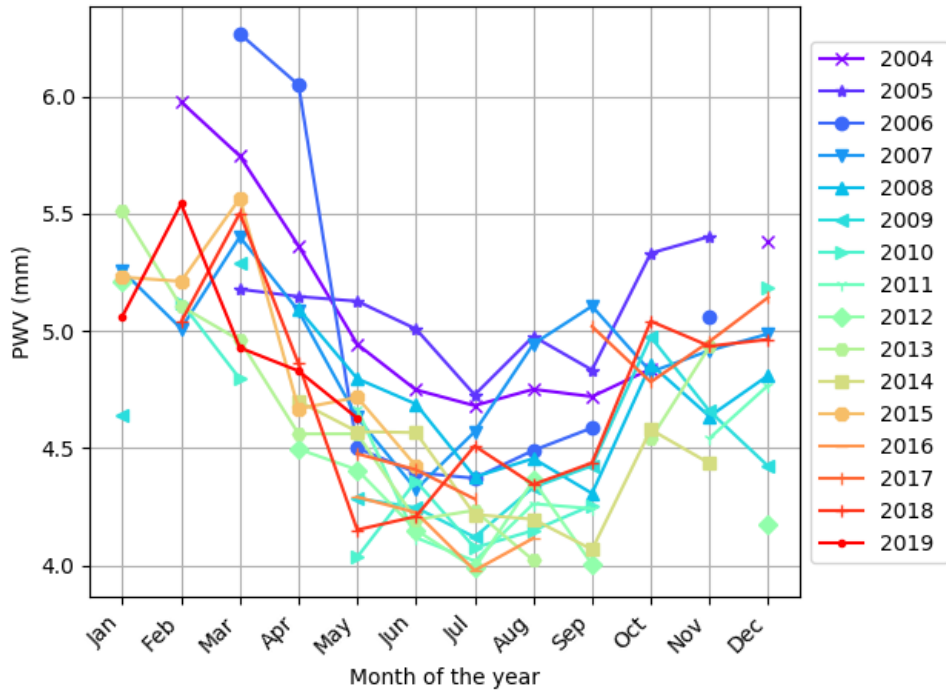


Figure 5.2: Monthly weighted mean PWV variations at the H.E.S.S. site from 2004 to 2019. The monthly PWV means have a similar trend where the PWV drops in the winter months and peaks in the summer months.

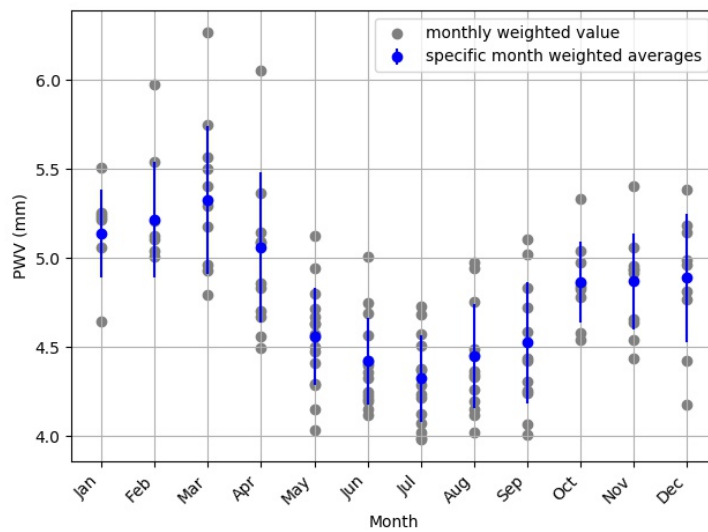


Figure 5.3: Single weighted mean PWV for each month at the H.E.S.S. site. The single weighted averages confirm the trend of the PWV dropping in the winter months and rising and peaking in the summer months.

The relative frequency distribution in figure 5.1 indicates that a fraction of 28% of the PWV at the H.E.S.S. site is between 4.5 mm to 5 mm alone, and a fraction of 71% is between 4 mm and 5.5 mm. As can be seen from figure 5.2, for all 16 years the PWV is below 7 mm and well below 5 mm in the winter month. There is a clear seasonal trend

through the years in the data, with the PWV rising in the summer seasons and falling to its lowest in the winter months. These seasonal variation results are comparable to the seasonal variation results found at Chajnantor Plateau, with the difference being that the H.E.S.S. site PWV is a bit higher in winter and does not go below 3 mm as can be seen in figure 5.2 and is proven in Figure 5.1 and similarly this could also be seen in Figure 5.3. Furthermore, Figure 5.3 indicates that the PWV at the H.E.S.S. site fall below to the lowest of maximum of 4.5 mm in June, July and August which would make it the best period to observe if mm observations were to be conducted at the H.E.S.S. site.

5.2 Mt Gamsberg

The following results were obtained for Mt Gamsberg. Figure 5.4 is showing the relative frequency distribution of PWV at Mt Gamsberg from 2004 to 2019 and Figure 5.5 shows the seasonal variations of the PWV scaled for Mt Gamsberg whilst Figure 5.6 is showing the monthly mean PWV for each specific month over the 16 year period at Mt Gamsberg.

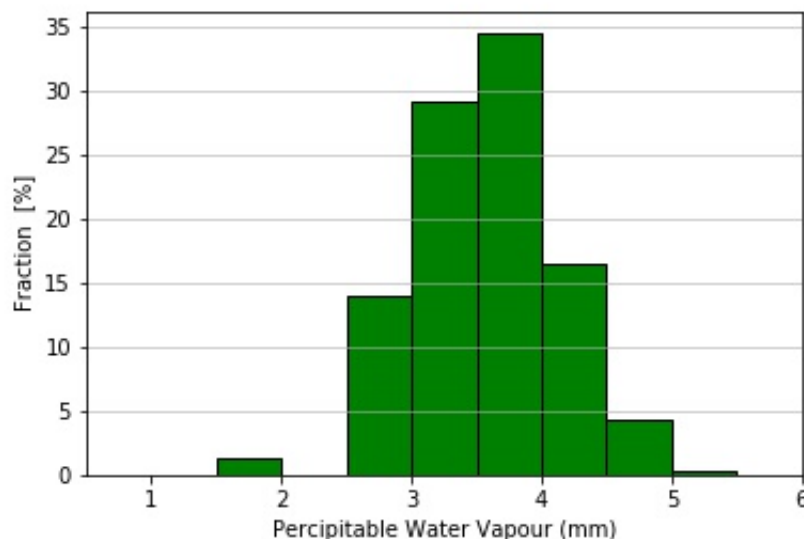


Figure 5.4: The PWV at Mt Gamsberg as scaled from the H.E.S.S. site PWV. The y-axis shows the fraction of PWV out of 100% with the division of bins in steps 0.5 mm.

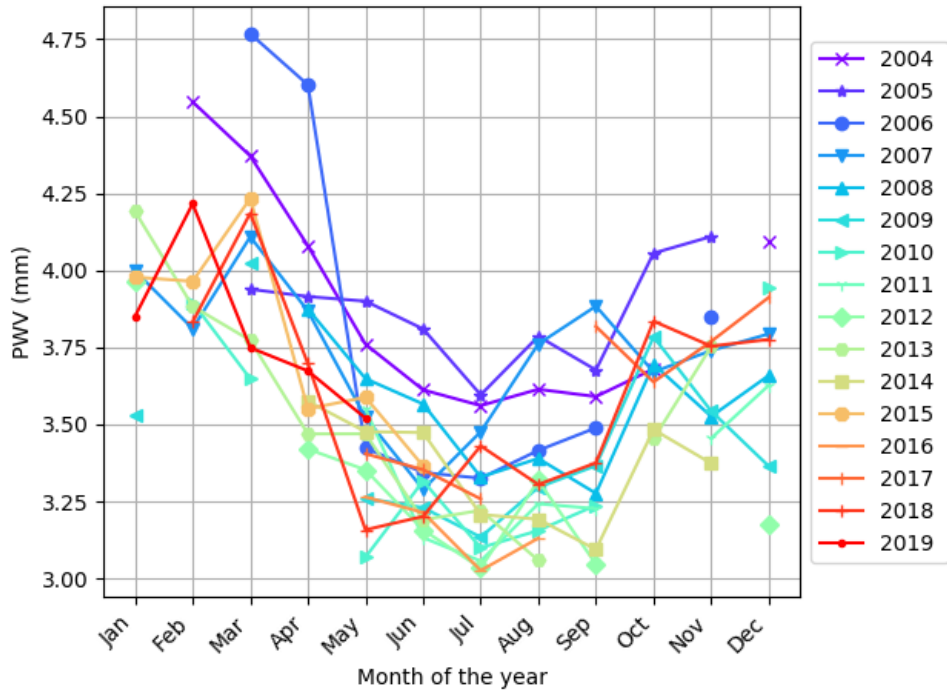


Figure 5.5: monthly weighted mean PWV variations at Mt Gamsberg from 2004 to 2019. The mean monthly at Mt Gamsberg show a maximum threshold of approximately 4.75 and a minimum of 3 mm. Clearly a trend can be seen in the data for all years with the PWV rising in the summer months and dropping in the winter months.

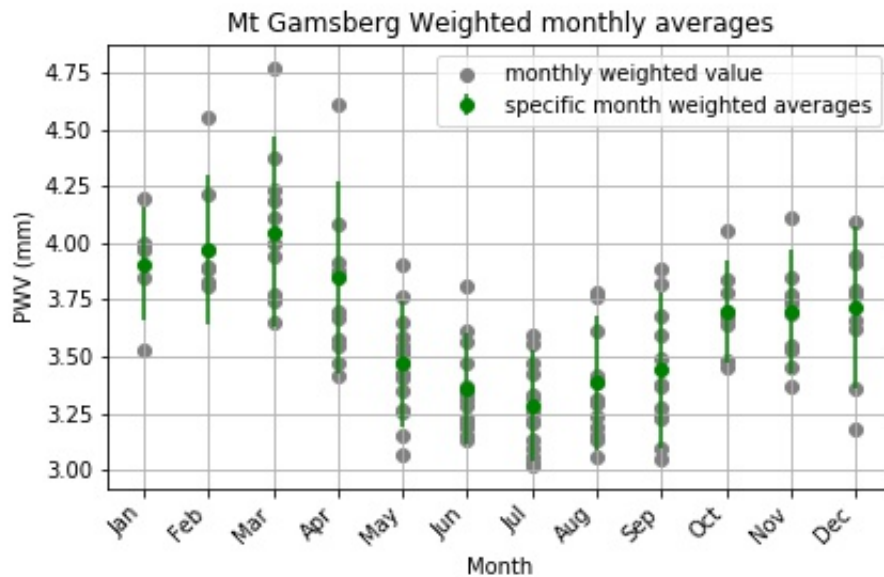


Figure 5.6: Single weighted mean PWV at the Mt Gamsberg site.

The relative frequency (Figure 5.4) indicate that a fraction 79% of the PWV lie between 1.5 mm - 4mm of which around 63% lie between 3 mm and 4 mm alone.

As is for the H.E.S.S. PWV, the PWV at Mt Gamsberg also shows a clear trend of seasonal variations, with the PWV occasionally going below 3.75 mm in the winter months, and as well rising in the summer season. The monthly mean PWV in figure 5.6 indicate that the best possible period for the AMT to conduct observations if it were to be build on Mt Gamsberg would be in May, June, July, August and September.

5.3 Comparison of PWV at Mt Gamsberg to some sites in the EHT

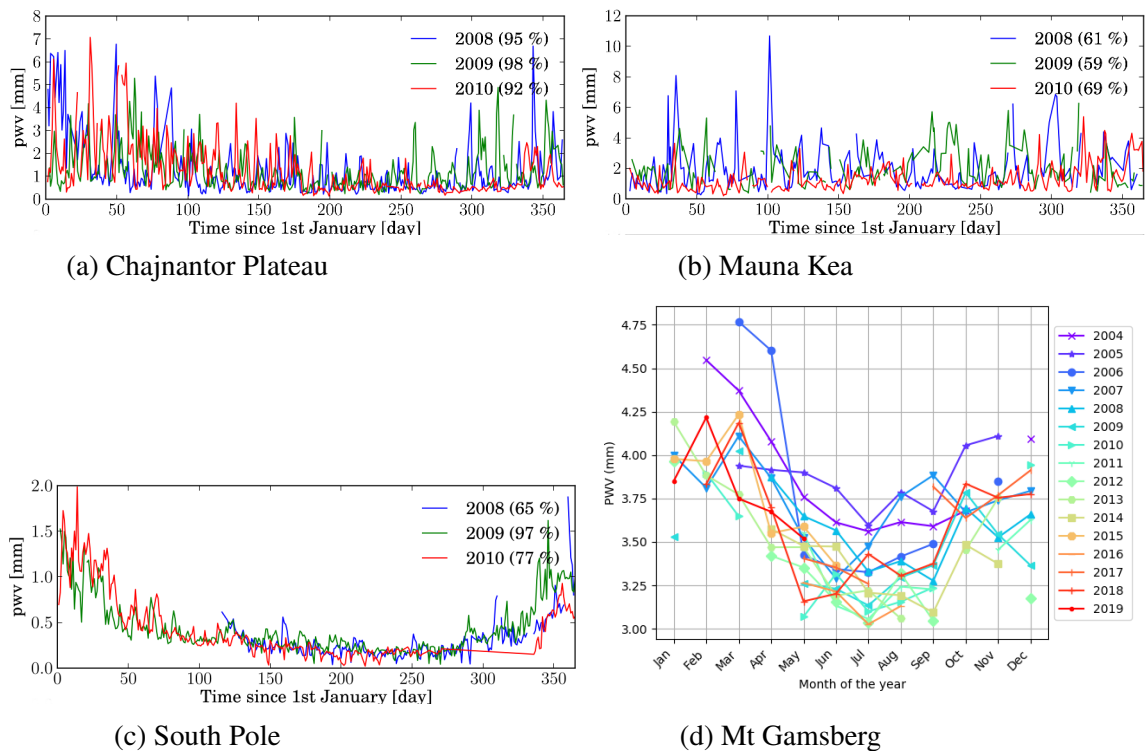


Figure 5.7: Seasonal variations in PWV at sites that conduct mm wave astronomy in comparison to Mt Gamsberg [19].

As can be seen in figure 5.7, the mean PWV results of Mt Gamsberg shows similarities in the seasonal variations when compared to the seasonal variations of the Chajnantor, Mauna Kea and South Pole with the PWV peaking in the summer period and dropping in the winter period across all four sites. The magnitude of the seasonal PWV at Mt Gamsberg is more comparable to that of the Chajnantor Plateau and Mauna Kea with Mauna Kea seemingly having higher PWV than that computed at Mt Gamsberg.

5.4 Mt Gamsberg PWV comparisons

Figure 5.8 shows the results of the mean PWV taken at Mt Gamsberg between 1994 and 1995 [22], and those that are computed in this thesis from 2004 to 2019.

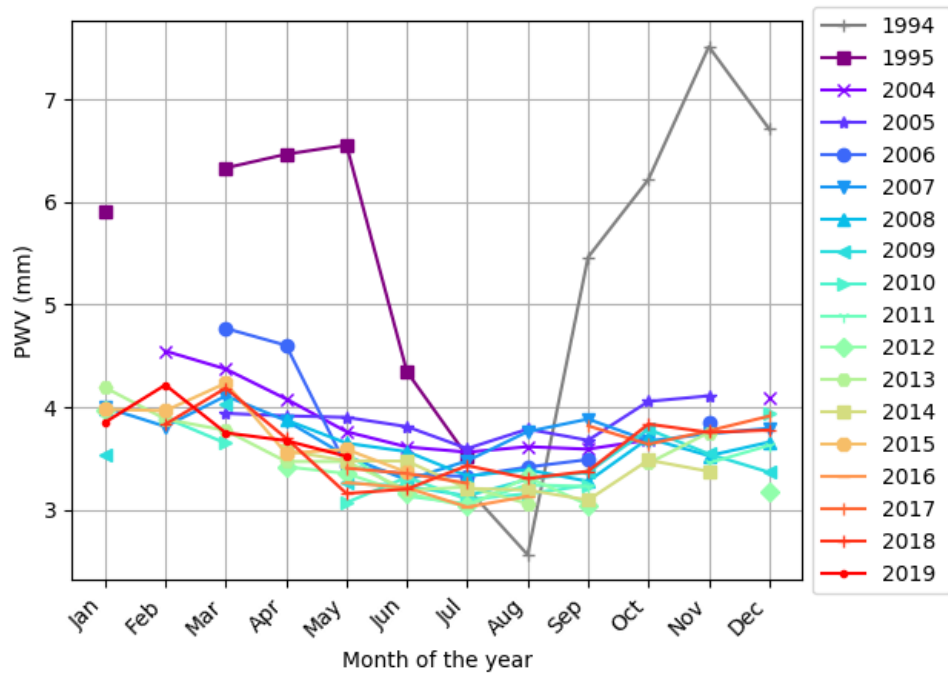


Figure 5.8: Mt Gamsberg computed monthly mean PWV results from 2004 to 2019 plus measured results of 1994 and 1995.

The computed PWV and the previously taken result all have the same trend, with the PWV rising in the summer period and dropping in the winter period of June, July and August. There is however a huge clear difference in the mean PWV taken between 1994 and 1995, with it being significantly higher above 5 mm in the summer period, whilst the PWV computed from 2004 to 2019 indicate PWV lower than 5 mm for the same period for all years.

The mean PWV results in this study were computed only by means of mathematical and statistical methods rather than directly measuring the PWV physically at Mt Gamsberg. Also, this results are based on an assumption made of the sky temperature being the same at both sites but in reality this may well vary at both sites. This can be seen in figure 5.8, which shows a difference in the actual data taken at Mt Gams-

berg and those values calculated in this study. This could very well tell us that the sky temperature vary at the two sites. Thus these results cannot be considered as the true PWV conditions at Mt Gamsberg but rather as estimates of how the PWV conditions is likely to be at Mt Gamsberg given the weather conditions are the same as those at the H.E.S.S. site. Therefore, these results would have to be verified with actual PWV data readings with a radiometer at Mt Gamsberg.

Chapter 6

Conclusions and Recommendation

The results, indicate that both Mt Gamsberg and the H.E.S.S. site have PWV content suitable enough for mm wave observations. The mean PWV over the years show that multiple observations can be conducted in the mm wave regime at Mt Gamsberg, with PWV conditions more suitable for high frequency observation in the winter period as it occasionally drops below 3.5 mm and for lower frequency observation throughout the year as the mean PWV over Mt Gamsberg has a maximum PWV level of 5 mm. Moreover, the PWV result of Mt Gamsberg was found to be comparable to that of the Chajnantor Plateau and Mauna Kea which host telescopes that conduct mm wave astronomy and partake in EHT observations. This would indicate that Mt Gamsberg would make an ideal site to conduct mm wave astronomy. Furthermore, Mt Gamsberg is found to have the same seasonal variation trends in PWV as that of the other three sites (South Pole, Chajnantor Plateau and Mauna Kea) having telescopes which partake in EHT observations, which indicates that the AMT if build on Mt Gamsberg can as well observe with the EHT during this period.

These results and those obtained in 1994 and 1995 at Mt Gamsberg, all indicate Mt Gamsberg has the potential to host the AMT, and all indicate that if the AMT is to be hosted at Mt Gamsberg, it will also make it possible for it to observe in an interferometer with the EHT seasonally, in the winter periods. However, since the EHT observes specifically in April, the PWV at Mt Gamsberg PWV would not be suitable during this period.

The results however when compared with those of 1994 and 1995 show that the computed results may not accurately give the true reflection of PWV at Mt Gamsberg and thus the clear out-most recommended way to get accurate results would be for a radiometer to be set up on Mt Gamsberg and directly take PWV measurements.

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Appendices

All the codes used in this thesis and presented in the appendix are altogether also available on GitHub at the following link: Github Appendix codes here or <https://github.com/franslott/Lott-Ndeyanale-Frans-MSc-Thesis-Physics-codes->

Appendix A

CT data extraction script in C++

```
1 void data_extraction(string filename, string out){
2
3 TFile* f = new TFile(filename.c_str()); //load in file
4 ofstream myfile;
5 myfile.open(out.c_str(), ios::app); //open data file for radio
6 // data storage
7 //Create Data structures for all parts needed:
8 Sash::DataSet* events = (Sash::DataSet*)(f->Get("dstevents")); //
9 // event data structure
10 Sash::DataSet* run = (Sash::DataSet*)(f->Get("run")); //Run
11 // information such as run length etc.
12 run->GetEntry();
13
14 Sash::DataSet* runquality = (Sash::DataSet*)(f->Get("runquality"));
15
16 Sash::HESSArray* hess = run->GetHESSArray(); //Create Hess
17 // array
18 Sash::RunHeader* runhead = hess->Get((Sash::RunHeader*)0); //
19 // runheader with telescope involvement information
20
21 myfile << runhead->GetRunNum() << "\t";
22
23 //the loop over all the telescopes
```

```

20 int ct; //telescope
    number
21 for(int i = 1; i <= 4; i++){
22 ct = i;
23 run->GetEntry(); //get run
    information
24 Sash::Pointer<Sash::Telescope> tel(hess, ct); //select telescope
    i
25 if(runhead->CheckTelInRun(tel)){ //check if
    telescope i is involved in run
26 runquality->GetEntry(); //get runquality
    info for meteo
27 ParisRunQuality::TelescopeMeteoInformation* meteo = hess->Get(ct, (
    ParisRunQuality::TelescopeMeteoInformation*)0); //get meteo
    information for ct = i
28 ParisRunQuality::TelescopeTrackingInformation* teltrack = hess->Get(
    ct, (ParisRunQuality::TelescopeTrackingInformation*)0); //This is
    for Zenith and Azimuth
29 Double_t radioT = meteo->GetMeanRadiometerTemperature(); //get
    radio temperature
30 Double_t zenith = teltrack->GetZenithAngleMean();
31 Double_t azimuth = teltrack->GetAzimuthAngleMean();
32 myfile << radioT << "\t" << zenith << "\t" << azimuth << "\t";
33 } else {
34 myfile << "nan\t\t\t";
35 }
36 }
37 runquality->GetEntry();
38 Sash::HESSArray* hess = runquality->GetHESSArray();
39 ParisRunQuality::MeteoInformation* Meteo = hess->Get((
    ParisRunQuality::MeteoInformation*)0); //
40 Double_t ambTemp = Meteo->GetMeanTemperature();
41 Double_t RelHum = Meteo->GetMeanRelativeHumidity();
42
43 events->GetEntry();

```

```

44 Sash::HESSArray* hess = events->GetHESSArray(); //rerun hess array
    creation
45 Sash::EventHeader* head = hess->Get((Sash::EventHeader*)0); //get
    event header for time info
46 Sash::Time time1 = head->GetTimeStamp(); // get
    time stamp from event header
47 Sash::Coordinate position = runhead->GetTargetPosition(); //
    Target Position
48 double time = time1.GetTimeDouble(); //
    convert from Sash::Time to double value
49 myfile << Form("%f", time) << "\t" << Form("%f\t", (ambTemp)) <<
    Form("%f", (RelHum)) << endl; //write
    the time value
50 myfile.close();
51 }
52 //_____File format
    output_____
53 //run number CT1_radioT CT1_zenith CT1_azimuth CT2_radioT
    CT2_zenith CT2_azimuth CT3_radioT CT3_zenith CT3_azimuth
    CT4_radioT CT4_zenith CT4_azimuth TimeStamp ambientTemp RelHum

```

Appendix B

Calibration script in python

```
1 #!/usr/bin/env python3
2 # -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
3 """
4 Created on Sat Oct 12 03:34:32 2019
5
6 @author: thecuriosvambo
7 """
8
9 #!/usr/bin/env python3
10 # -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
11 """
12 Created on Mon Aug 19 03:55:15 2019
13
14 @author: thecurioswambo
15 """
16 from datetime import datetime
17 import numpy as np
18 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
19 from itertools import islice
20 import glob
21 from pathlib import Path
22 import math
23 import matplotlib.cm as cm
24 import csv
```

```

25 import itertools
26 from astropy.stats import median_absolute_deviation
27 #import scipy
28
29 from scipy.optimize import curve_fit
30 import numpy.polynomial.polynomial as poly
31 from scipy.interpolate import *
32 from scipy.stats import pearsonr
33
34 #
35 #####
36 #####
37
38 # Opening Aeronet data and processing
39
40 print("press 1 for Aeronet , Atmoscope calibration")
41 print("press 2 for Atmoscope , CT calibration")
42
43 select=int(input('select:')) # Input of option 1 or 2
44
45 if select == 1:
46
47     # Opens Aeronet datafile for processing
48     aeronet=open("20160101_20191231_HESS.lev20",'r')
49
50     Aerodate=[]
51     AeronetPWV=[]
52     fullAerodate=[]
53
54     AeronetPWVdata=open('AeronetPWV.csv','w') # opens new file to
55     write Aeronet PWV to
56
57     for line in islice(aeronet, 7, None):

```

```

57     pass
58     aeroPWV=float(line.split(",")[26])
59
60     if aeroPWV <= -50.0:
61         continue
62
63     date=line.split(",")[0]
64     day=int(date.strip(" ")[0:2])
65     month=int(date.strip(":")[3:5])
66     year=int(date.strip(': ')[6:])
67
68     time=line.split(",")[1]
69     hour=int(time.strip(" ")[0:2])
70     minute=int(time.strip(":")[3:5])
71     sec=int(time.strip(': ')[6:])
72
73     datetim=datetime(year,month,day,hour,minute)
74     fulldatetim=datetime(year,month,day,hour,minute,sec)
75     Aerodate.append(datetim)
76     fullAerodate.append(fulldatetim)
77     PWV=aeroPWV
78     AeronetPWV.append(PWV*10.00)
79 aeronet.close()
80
81 Aeronetdata=[i for i in zip(Aerodate,AeronetPWV)]
82
83 for i,j in zip(fullAerodate,AeronetPWV):
84     AeronetPWVdata.write('%s,%5.2f\n' %(i,j)) #writes PWV onto
file
85 #
#####
86
87 ## Plots PWV from the Aeronet
88

```

```

89     fig = plt.figure()
90     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
91     ax.plot([], [])
92     ax.scatter(fullAerodate, AeronetPWV, color='blue')
93     ax.set_title('Aeronet PW vs Time at H.E.S.S')
94     ax.set_ylabel('PWV (mm)')
95     ax.set_xlabel('period')
96     ax.grid(True)
97     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
98     fig.tight_layout()
99     fig.savefig("completeAeronet")
100    fig.show()
101
102
103
104    #===== opens and reads in data from atmosphere
=====#
105
106    AtmoscopePWVdata=open('AtmosPWV.csv','w')
107    y=6.5*(10**-3)
108    Atmoscopetime=[]
109    skytemp_atmoscope=[]
110    fullAtmoscopetime=[]
111    for file in sorted(glob.glob('/home/thecuriosvambo/Documents/
codes/hesspart/*.dat')):
112        with open(file) as f:
113            # skipping and passing the Header titles and not reading
them
114            for line in islice(f, 1, None):
115                pass
116
117            # Extracting the temperature and cloud height and
converting it into a useful number
118                temperature=float(line.split()[2])
119                cloud_altitude=float(line.split()[7])

```

```

120
121         # skipping and not reading in the data when the
instruments where at the initial point and not recording useful
data
122         if temperature <= -50.0:
123             continue
124
125         # extracts the date and time from the file
Datetime=line.split()[0]
126
127         # extract date and convert it to a float (useful
number)
128         date=Datetime.split('_')[0]
129         year=int(date.split('-')[0])
130         month=int(date.split('-')[1])
131         day=int(date.split('-')[2])
132         # extracts the time and converts it into a useful
number
133         time=Datetime.split('_')[1]
134         hour=int(time.split(':')[0])
135         minute=int(time.split(':')[1])
136         sec=int(time.split(':')[2])
137
138         # Conversion to julian dates
139         dateHuman = datetime(year, month, day, hour, minute)
140         Atmoscoperime.append(dateHuman)
141
142         fullhumandate = datetime(year, month, day, hour,
minute,sec)
143         fullAtmoscoperime.append(fullhumandate)
144
145         # Calculating the PWV from the ambient temp,cloud
altitude altitude and gradient temperature.
146         T0=temperature # ( degrees Celcius)
147         h=cloud_altitude # (m)
148

```

```

149         # MWS 3 & 485-Sensors with Microprocessor without
datalogger manual
150
151         # Formula to calculate the cloud temperature, page 9
section 3.2.6 The clouds Sensor WKS 485
152         T=T0-h*y      # (K)    T=cloud temperature temperature,
T0=ambient temp, y=gradient temperature
153         #T= T - 273.15 # (Degrees celcius)
154
155         skytemp_atmoscope.append(T)
156
157     f.close()
158
159     Atmoscopedata=[i for i in zip(Atmoscopedtime,skytemp_atmoscope)]
160
161     ##### plotting Atmoscope sky temparture at H.E.S.S.
162
163     fig = plt.figure()
164     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
165     ax.plot([],[])
166     ax.scatter(fullAtmoscopedtime,skytemp_atmoscope,color='red')
167     ax.set_title('Atmoscope PW vs Time at H.E.S.S')
168     ax.set_ylabel('Infrared sky temp ( $^{\circ}$ C)')
169     ax.set_xlabel('time')
170     ax.grid(True)
171     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
172     fig.tight_layout()
173     fig.savefig("Atmosrawdata")
174     fig.show()
175
176 #
#####
177 ##### CALIBRATION of Atmoscope vs Aeronet
#####

```

```

178
179 #
#####
180
181
182 #Atmos=sorted(list(set(i for i,j in Atmoscopedata) & set(x for x
,y in Aeronetdata)))
183 AtmosAero=list(set(i for i,j in Atmoscopedata).intersection(x
for x,y in Aeronetdata))
184
185
186 Atmoscopemapping = dict((a, b) for a, b in Atmoscopedata)
187 Atmoscoperesult = [Atmoscopemapping[x] for x in sorted(AtmosAero
)]
188
189
190 Aeronetmapping = dict((a, b) for a, b in Aeronetdata)
191 Aeronetresult = [Aeronetmapping[i] for i in sorted(AtmosAero)]
192
193 print("The number of points with same time is %i" %(len(
AtmosAero)))
194
195 ### plotted Aeronet PWV vs Atmoscope sky temperature
196
197 fig = plt.figure()
198 ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
199 ax.scatter(Atmoscoperesult,Aeronetresult,color='red')
200 ax.set_title('Aeronet PWV vs Atmoscope IR sky temp')
201 ax.set_ylabel('AERONET PWV (mm)')
202 ax.set_xlabel('Atmoscope Infrared sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
203 ax.grid(True)
204 fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
205 fig.tight_layout()
206 fig.savefig("Aeronet-Atmos")

```

```

207     fig.show()
208
209     # converted the data into x and y numpy arrays
210
211     x = np.array(Atmoscoperesult, dtype=float)
212     y = np.array(Aeronetresult, dtype=float)
213
214
215     # fitted the data and found the relationship between Aeronet PWV
    and Atmoscope IR temperature
216
217     fitting=np.polyfit(x, np.log(y), 1, w=np.sqrt(y))
218     xx = np.linspace(-20, 16, 500)
219     yy=[np.exp(fitting[1])*np.exp(fitting[0]*i) for i in xx]
220
221     #found PWV as given by model
222
223     AtmoscopePWV=[ np.exp(fitting[1])*np.exp(fitting[0]*i) for i in
    skytemp_atmoscope]
224
225     for i,j in zip(fullAtmoscopetime,AtmoscopePWV):
226         AtmoscopePWVdata.write('%s,%5.2f\n' %(i,j)) #writing
    Atmoscope data to file
227
228
229
230     # plots the fit between Aeronet PWV vs Atmoscope sky temp
231
232     fig = plt.figure()
233     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
234     ax.scatter(x,y,color='red',zorder=1)
235     ax.plot(xx,yy,'blue',label='fitted line y=%f*e^%fx' %(np.exp(
    fitting[1]),fitting[0]))
236     ax.set_title('Aeronet PWV vs Atmoscope IR')
237     ax.set_ylabel('AERONET PWV (mm)')

```

```

238 ax.set_xlabel('Atmoscope Infrared sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
239 ax.grid(True)
240 ax.legend()
241 fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
242 fig.tight_layout()
243 fig.savefig("Aeronet-Atmosfit")
244 fig.show()
245
246 ##### plots callibrated Atmoscope data as govern by fit
247
248 fig = plt.figure()
249 ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
250 ax.plot([], [])
251 ax.scatter(fullAtmoscopetime, AtmoscopePWV, color='blue')
252 ax.set_title('callibrated Atmoscope PW vs Time at H.E.S.S')
253 ax.set_ylabel('PWV (mm)')
254 ax.set_xlabel('period')
255 ax.grid(True)
256 fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
257 fig.tight_layout()
258 fig.savefig("Atmoscalibrateddata")
259 fig.show()
260
261
262
263 #
264 #####
265
266 print ("Callibration completed")
267 #
268 #####
269
270 # Opening H.E.S.S data for caliberation
271 if select == 2 : # Part TWO

```

```

269
270
271 fin=open("radio.dat",'r')
272
273 def zero_to_nan(values):
274     return [float('nan') if x >= 0 else x for x in values]
275
276 def one_to_nan(values):
277     return [float('nan') if x < -100 else x for x in values]
278
279 def delete_to_nan(values):
280     return [float('nan') if x < -100 else x for x in values]
281
282 def two_to_nan(values):
283     return [float('nan') if x < -100 else x for x in values
284 ]
285
286 def remove3_to_nan(values):
287     return [float('nan') if x < -100 else x for x in values]
288
289 CT1skyt=[]
290 CT2skyt=[]
291 CT3skyt=[]
292 CT4skyt=[]
293
294 CTtime=[]
295 CTUTC=[]
296
297
298 P1=9.614
299 P0=-62.46
300
301 for line in fin:
302     run_no=float(line.split()[0])

```

```
303
304
305     skyt_ct1=float(line.split()[1])
306     CT1_zenith=float(line.split()[2])
307     CT1_azimuth=float(line.split()[3])
308
309
310
311     #print(skyt_ct1,Tz1)
312
313
314     skyt_ct2=float(line.split()[4])
315     CT2_zenith=float(line.split()[5])
316     CT2_azimuth=float(line.split()[6])
317
318
319     # print(skyt_ct1,Tz2)
320
321
322     skyt_ct3=float(line.split()[7])
323     CT3_zenith=float(line.split()[8])
324     CT3_azimuth=float(line.split()[9])
325
326
327
328
329
330
331     skyt_ct4=float(line.split()[10])
332     CT4_zenith=float(line.split()[11])
333     CT4_azimuth=float(line.split()[12])
334     unix=float(line.split()[13])
335
336
337
```

```

338
339
340     amb_T=float(line.split()[8])
341     humid=float(line.split()[9])
342
343
344
345     UTC=datetime.fromtimestamp(unix)
346     UTCtime=UTC.replace(microsecond=0)
347     UTCdate=UTC.replace(second=0, microsecond=0)
348
349     CTtime.append(UTCtime)
350     CTUTC.append(UTCdate)
351
352     if CT1_zenith != 0.0:
353
354         z_theta1=90-CT1_zenith
355         x_z1=(1/np.cos(np.deg2rad(z_theta1)))
356         Tz1=(P1*(1-x_z1)) + skyt_ct1
357         CT1skyt.append(Tz1)
358
359
360     if CT1_zenith == 0.0:
361         CT1skyt.append(0.0)
362
363
364     if CT2_zenith != 0.0:
365
366         z_theta2=90.0-CT2_zenith
367         x_z2=(1/np.cos(np.deg2rad(z_theta2)))
368         Tz2=(P1*(1-x_z2)) + skyt_ct2
369         CT2skyt.append(Tz2)
370
371     if CT2_zenith == 0.0:
372         CT2skyt.append(0.0)

```

```

373
374
375     if CT3_zenith != 0.0:
376
377         z_theta3=90.0-CT3_zenith
378         x_z3=(1/np.cos(np.deg2rad(z_theta3)))
379         Tz3=(P1*(1-x_z3)) + skyt_ct3
380         CT3skyt.append(Tz3)
381
382
383     if CT3_zenith == 0.0:
384         CT3skyt.append(0.0)
385
386     if CT4_zenith != 0.0:
387
388         z_theta4=90.0-CT4_zenith
389         x_z4=(1/np.cos(np.deg2rad(z_theta4)))
390         Tz4=(P1*(1-x_z4)) + skyt_ct4
391         CT4skyt.append(Tz4)
392
393     if CT4_zenith == 0.0:
394         CT4skyt.append(0.0)
395
396
397     fin.close()
398
399     ##### plotting to data
400     #####
401
402     fig = plt.figure()
403     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
404     ax.plot([], [])
405     ax.scatter(CTtime, CT1skyt, color='blue')
406     ax.set_title('CT1 infrared Sky temp')

```

```

407 ax.set_ylabel('infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
408 ax.set_xlabel('time')
409 ax.grid(True)
410 fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
411 fig.tight_layout()
412 fig.savefig("rawskyCT1")
413 fig.show()
414
415 fig = plt.figure()
416 ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
417 ax.plot([], [])
418 ax.scatter(CTtime, CT2skyt, color='red')
419 ax.set_title('CT2 infrared Sky temp')
420 ax.set_ylabel('infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
421 ax.set_xlabel('time')
422 ax.grid(True)
423 fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
424 fig.tight_layout()
425 fig.savefig("rawskyCT2")
426 fig.show()
427
428
429 fig = plt.figure()
430 ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
431 ax.plot([], [])
432 ax.scatter(CTtime, CT3skyt, color='green')
433 ax.set_title('CT3 infrared Sky temp')
434 ax.set_ylabel('infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
435 ax.set_xlabel('time')
436 ax.grid(True)
437 fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
438 fig.tight_layout()
439 fig.savefig("rawskyCT3")
440 fig.show()
441

```

```

442     fig = plt.figure()
443     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
444     ax.plot([], [])
445     ax.scatter(CTtime, CT4skyt, color='purple')
446     ax.set_title('CT4 infrared Sky temp')
447     ax.set_ylabel('infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
448     ax.set_xlabel('time')
449     ax.grid(True)
450     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
451     fig.tight_layout()
452     fig.savefig("rawskyCT4")
453     fig.show()
454
455
456
457     ##### inspection of data
458     #####
459
460     ##### To see if the CT telescopes are recording the same
461     temperature #####
462     ##### plotting against each other
463     #
464     #####
465
466     print("--unflagged raw data--")
467
468     # raw plot CT1 vs CT2 plot
469
470     fig = plt.figure()
471     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
472     ax.plot([], [])

```

```

473 ax.scatter(CT1skyt,CT2skyt,color='blue')
474 ax.set_title('CT1 vs CT2')
475 ax.set_ylabel('CT2 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
476 ax.set_xlabel('CT1 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
477 ax.grid(True)
478 fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
479 fig.tight_layout()
480 fig.savefig("unskytCT1CT2")
481 fig.show()
482
483 # raw plot CT1 vs CT4 plots
484
485 fig = plt.figure()
486 ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
487 ax.plot([],[])
488 ax.scatter(CT1skyt,CT4skyt,color='red')
489 ax.set_title('CT1 vs CT4')
490 ax.set_ylabel('CT4 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
491 ax.set_xlabel('CT1 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
492 ax.grid(True)
493 fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
494 fig.tight_layout()
495 fig.savefig("unskytCT1CT4")
496 fig.show()
497
498 # raw plot CT2 vs CT4 plot
499
500 fig = plt.figure()
501 ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
502 ax.plot([],[])
503 ax.scatter(CT2skyt,CT4skyt,color='green')
504 ax.set_title('CT2 vs CT4')
505 ax.set_ylabel('CT4 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
506 ax.set_xlabel('CT2 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
507 ax.grid(True)

```

```

508     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
509     fig.tight_layout()
510     fig.savefig("unskytCT2CT4")
511     fig.show()
512
513     # raw plot CT1 vs CT3 plot
514
515     fig = plt.figure()
516     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
517     ax.plot([], [])
518     ax.scatter(CT1skyt, CT3skyt, color='purple')
519     ax.set_title('CT1 vs CT3')
520     ax.set_ylabel('CT3 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
521     ax.set_xlabel('CT1 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
522     ax.grid(True)
523     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
524     fig.tight_layout()
525     fig.savefig("unskytCT1CT3")
526     fig.show()
527
528     # raw plot CT2 vs CT3 plot
529
530     fig = plt.figure()
531     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
532     ax.plot([], [])
533     ax.scatter(CT2skyt, CT3skyt, color='yellow')
534     ax.set_title('CT2 vs CT3')
535     ax.set_ylabel('CT3 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
536     ax.set_xlabel('CT2 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
537     ax.grid(True)
538     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
539     fig.tight_layout()
540     fig.savefig("unskytCT2CT3")
541     fig.show()
542

```

```

543 # raw plot CT3 vs CT4 plot
544
545 fig = plt.figure()
546 ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
547 ax.plot([], [])
548 ax.scatter(CT3skyt, CT4skyt, color='grey')
549 ax.set_title('CT3 vs CT4')
550 ax.set_ylabel('CT4 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
551 ax.set_xlabel('CT3 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
552 ax.grid(True)
553 fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
554 fig.tight_layout()
555 fig.savefig("unskytCT3CT4")
556 fig.show()
557
558
559 ##### removing outliers and flagging of data
560 #####
561 print("-----unwanted data flagged-----")
562
563 CT1sky=zero_to_nan(CT1skyt)
564 CT1sky=one_to_nan(CT1sky)
565
566 CT2sky=zero_to_nan(CT2skyt)
567 CT2sky=two_to_nan(CT2sky)
568
569 CT3sky=zero_to_nan(CT3skyt)
570 CT3sky=remove3_to_nan(CT3sky)
571
572 CT4sky=zero_to_nan(CT4skyt)
573 CT4sky=delete_to_nan(CT4sky)
574
575 # removing nan values from CT 1 and CT 2 data
576 CTs12=[(i, j) for i, j in zip(CT1sky, CT2sky) if str(i) != 'nan'
577 and str(j) != 'nan']

```

```

576 # splitting CTs12 in CT1 AND CT2
577 x11=[i[0] for i in CTs12]
578 y11=[i[1] for i in CTs12]
579
580 # calculating the Pearson Coefficient of CT1 and CT2
581 corr12, p12 = pearsonr(x11, y11)
582 print(corr12,p12)
583
584 # plotting CT1 vs CT3
585
586 fig = plt.figure()
587 ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
588 ax.plot([], [])
589 ax.scatter(CT1sky,CT2sky,color='blue')
590 ax.set_title('CT1 vs CT2 after flagging')
591 ax.set_ylabel('CT2 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
592 ax.set_xlabel('CT1 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
593 ax.text(2, 6, r' $\rho$ =%f' %(corr12), fontsize=10)
594 ax.grid(True)
595 fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
596 fig.tight_layout()
597 fig.savefig("flagskyCT1CT2")
598 fig.show()
599
600 # removing nan values from CT1 and CT3 data
601 CTs13=[(i, j) for i, j in zip(CT1sky,CT3sky) if str(i) != 'nan'
602 and str(j) != 'nan']
603
604 # splitting CTs13 to CT1 and CT3 clean list
605 x13=[i[0] for i in CTs13]
606 y13=[i[1] for i in CTs13]
607
608 # calculating the Pearson Coefficient of CT1 and CT3
609 corr13, p13 = pearsonr(x13, y13)
610 print(corr13,p13)

```

```

610
611 # Plotting CT1 VS CT3
612
613 fig = plt.figure()
614 ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
615 ax.plot([], [])
616 ax.scatter(CT1sky, CT3sky, color='purple')
617 ax.set_title('CT1 vs CT3 after flagging')
618 ax.set_ylabel('CT3 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
619 ax.set_xlabel('CT1 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
620 ax.text(2, 6, r'$\rho$=%f' %(corr13), fontsize=10)
621 ax.grid(True)
622 fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
623 fig.tight_layout()
624 fig.savefig("flagskyCT1CT3")
625 fig.show()
626
627 # removing nan values from CT1 and CT4 data
628 CTs14=[(i, j) for i, j in zip(CT1sky, CT4sky) if str(i) != 'nan'
and str(j) != 'nan']
629 # splitting CTs14 to CT1 and CT4 clean list
630 x14=[i[0] for i in CTs14]
631 y14=[i[1] for i in CTs14]
632 # calculating the Pearson Coefficient of CT1 and CT3
633 corr14, p14 = pearsonr(x14, y14)
634 print(corr14, p14)
635
636 # Plotting CT 1 vs CT 4
637
638
639 fig = plt.figure()
640 ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
641 ax.plot([], [])
642 ax.scatter(CT1sky, CT4sky, color='red')
643 ax.set_title('CT1 vs CT4 after flagging')

```

```

644 ax.set_ylabel('CT4 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
645 ax.set_xlabel('CT1 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
646 ax.text(2, 6, r'$\rho$=%f' %(corr14), fontsize=10)
647 ax.grid(True)
648 fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
649 fig.tight_layout()
650 fig.savefig("flagskyCT1CT4")
651 fig.show()
652
653
654 # removing nan values from CT2 and CT4 data
655 CTs24=[(i,j) for i,j in zip(CT2sky,CT4sky) if str(i) != 'nan'
and str(j) != 'nan']
656 # splitting CTs24 to CT2 and CT4 clean list
657 x24=[i[0] for i in CTs24]
658 y24=[i[1] for i in CTs24]
659 # calculating the Pearson Coefficient of CT2 and CT4
660 corr24, p24 = pearsonr(x24, y24)
661 print(corr24,p24)
662
663 # Plotting CT 2 vs CT 4
664
665 fig = plt.figure()
666 ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
667 ax.plot([],[])
668 ax.scatter(CT2sky,CT4sky,color='green')
669 ax.set_title('CT2 vs CT4 after flagging')
670 ax.set_ylabel('CT4 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
671 ax.set_xlabel('CT2 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
672 ax.text(2, 6, r'$\rho$=%f' %(corr24), fontsize=10)
673 ax.grid(True)
674 fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
675 fig.tight_layout()
676 fig.savefig("flagskyCT2CT4")
677 fig.show()

```

```

678
679
680 # removing nan values from CT2 and CT3 data
681 CTs23=[(i,j) for i,j in zip(CT2sky,CT3sky) if str(i) != 'nan'
and str(j) != 'nan']
682 # splitting CTs23 to CT2 and CT3 clean list
683 x23=[i[0] for i in CTs23]
684 y23=[i[1] for i in CTs23]
685 # calculating the Pearson Coefficient of CT2 and CT3
686 corr23, p23 = pearsonr(x23, y23)
687 print(corr23,p23)
688
689 # Plotting CT2 vs CT3
690
691 fig = plt.figure()
692 ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
693 ax.plot([],[])
694 ax.scatter(CT2sky,CT3sky,color='yellow')
695 ax.set_title('CT2 vs CT3 after flagging')
696 ax.set_ylabel('CT3 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
697 ax.set_xlabel('CT2 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
698 ax.text(2, 6, r' $\rho$ =%f' %(corr23), fontsize=10)
699 ax.grid(True)
700 fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
701 fig.tight_layout()
702 fig.savefig("flagskyCT2CT3")
703 fig.show()
704
705 # removing nan values from CT3 and CT4 data
706 CTs34=[(i,j) for i,j in zip(CT3sky,CT4sky) if str(i) != 'nan'
and str(j) != 'nan']
707 # splitting CTs34 to CT3 and CT4 clean list
708 x34=[i[0] for i in CTs34]
709 y34=[i[1] for i in CTs34]
710 # calculating the Pearson Coefficient of CT3 and CT4

```

```

711 corr34, p34 = pearsonr(x34, y34)
712 print(corr34,p34)
713
714 # plottinfg CT3 vs CT4
715
716 fig = plt.figure()
717 ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
718 ax.plot([],[])
719 ax.scatter(CT3sky,CT4sky,color='grey')
720 ax.set_title('CT3 vs CT4 flagging')
721 ax.set_ylabel('CT4 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
722 ax.set_xlabel('CT3 infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
723 ax.text(2, 6, r' $\rho$ =%f' %(corr34), fontsize=10)
724 ax.grid(True)
725 fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
726 fig.tight_layout()
727 fig.savefig("flagskyCT3CT4")
728 fig.show()
729
730 ##### calibrated plots after flagging of
731 data #####
732
733 fig = plt.figure()
734 ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
735 ax.plot([],[])
736 ax.scatter(CTtime,CT1sky,color='blue')
737 ax.set_title('CT1 infrared Sky temp after calibration')
738 ax.set_ylabel('infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
739 ax.set_xlabel('time')
740 ax.grid(True)
741 fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
742 fig.tight_layout()
743 fig.savefig("calskyCT1")
744 fig.show()

```

```

745
746
747     fig = plt.figure()
748     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
749     ax.plot([], [])
750     ax.scatter(CTtime, CT2sky, color='red')
751     ax.set_title('CT2 infrared Sky temp after calibration')
752     ax.set_ylabel('infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
753     ax.set_xlabel('time')
754     ax.grid(True)
755     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
756     fig.tight_layout()
757     fig.savefig("calskyCT2")
758     fig.show()
759
760     fig = plt.figure()
761     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
762     ax.plot([], [])
763     ax.scatter(CTtime, CT3sky, color='green')
764     ax.set_title('CT3 infrared Sky temp after calibration')
765     ax.set_ylabel('infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
766     ax.set_xlabel('time')
767     ax.grid(True)
768     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
769     fig.tight_layout()
770     fig.savefig("calskyCT3")
771     fig.show()
772
773
774     fig = plt.figure()
775     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
776     ax.plot([], [])
777     ax.scatter(CTtime, CT4sky, color='purple')
778     #ax.set_title('CT4 infrared Sky temp after calibration')
779     ax.set_ylabel('infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')

```

```

780 ax.set_xlabel('time')
781 ax.grid(True)
782 fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
783 fig.tight_layout()
784 fig.savefig("calskyCT4")
785 fig.show()
786
787 ##### finding the Average & standard deviation of all CT 1-4
radiometer data #####
788
789 CTs14ave=[]
790 CTs14std=[]
791
792 for i,k,m,n in zip(CT1sky,CT2sky,CT3sky,CT4sky):
793     CTs=[i,k,m,n]
794     aveCTs=np.mean(CTs)
795     sttdCTs=np.std(CTs)
796     CTs14ave.append(aveCTs)
797     CTs14std.append(sttdCTs)
798
799
800 CTs14ave=zero_to_nan(CTs14ave)
801 CTs14stde=zero_to_nan(CTs14std)
802
803
804 #####==== Atmoscope PWV for CALIBRATION with CT's
=====#####
805
806 # reading in and processing Atmoscope data
807
808 y=6.5*(10**-3)
809 Atmoscopetime=[]
810 skytemp_atmoscope=[]
811

```

```

812     for file in sorted(glob.glob('/home/the curiosvambo/Documents/
codes/hesspart/*.dat')):
813         with open(file) as f:
814             # skipping and passing the Header titles and not reading
them
815             for line in islice(f, 1, None):
816                 pass
817
818             # Extracting the temperature and cloud height and
converting it into a useful number
819             temperature=float(line.split()[2])
820             cloud_altitude=float(line.split()[7])
821
822             # skipping and not reading in the data when the
instruments were at the initial point and not recording useful
data
823             if temperature <= -50.0:
824                 continue
825
826             # extracts the date and time from the file
827             Datetime=line.split()[0]
828             # extract date and convert it to a float (useful
number)
829             date=Datetime.split('_')[0]
830             year=int(date.split('-')[0])
831             month=int(date.split('-')[1])
832             day=int(date.split('-')[2])
833             # extracts the time and converts it into a useful
number
834             time=Datetime.split('_')[1]
835             hour=int(time.split(':')[0])
836             minute=int(time.split(':')[1])
837             sec=int(time.split(':')[2])
838
839             # Conversion to julian dates

```

```

840         dateHuman = datetime(year, month, day, hour, minute)
841         Atmoscopetime.append(dateHuman)
842
843
844         # Calculating the PWV from the ambient temp,cloud
altitude altitude and gradient temperature.
845         T0=temperature # ( degrees Celcius)
846         h=cloud_altitude # (m)
847
848         # MWS 3 & 485-Sensors with Microprocessor without
datalogger manual
849
850         # Formula to calculate the cloud temperature, page 9
section 3.2.6 The clouds Sensor WKS 485
851         T=T0-h*y # (K) T=cloud temperature temperature,
T0=ambient temp, y=gradient temperature
852         #T= T - 273.15 # (Degrees celcius)
853
854         skytemp_atmoscope.append(T)
855
856     f.close()
857
858
859
860
861     #
#####
862     #
#####
863     #
#####

```

```

864 #
#####
865
866 ##### CT AND ATMOSCOPE DATA CALIBRATION
#####
867
868 #
#####
869 #
#####
870
871 # CT sky temp data
872 allCTdata=[i for i in zip(CTUTC,CTs14ave,CTs14std) if i[1] >
-90]
873
874 CTdata=[(i[0],i[1]) for i in allCTdata]
875 CTstd=[(i[0],i[2]) for i in allCTdata]
876
877
878 newCTdata=[i for i in zip(CTtime,CTs14ave,CTs14std) if i[1] >
-90]
879
880 CTtime=[i[0] for i in newCTdata]
881 CTs14ave=[i[1] for i in newCTdata]
882 CTs14std=[i[2] for i in newCTdata]
883
884 # Atmoscope data sky temp and calibrated PWV
885 AtmoscopePWV=[ np.exp(2.08874992)*np.exp(0.07109687*i) for i in
skytemp_atmoscope] ### As gain from the first relationship,
between the atmosphere and Aeronet
886 Atmoscopedata=[i for i in zip(Atmoscopedtime,skytemp_atmoscope)]
887 AtmoscopePWVdata=[i for i in zip(Atmoscopedtime,AtmoscopePWV)]

```

```

888
889 # finding data that overlap between Atmoscope and CT
890
891 AtmosCT=list(set(i for i,j in AtmoscopePWVdata).intersection(x
for x,y in CTdata))
892
893 # Overlapping Atmoscope PWV
894
895 Atmoscopemapping = dict((a, b) for a, b in AtmoscopePWVdata)
896 Atmoscoperesult = [Atmoscopemapping[x] for x in sorted(AtmosCT)]
897
898 # Overlap CT sky temp and Standard deviation
899 CTmapping = dict((a, b) for a, b in CTdata)
900 CTresult = [CTmapping[i] for i in sorted(AtmosCT)]
901
902 CTsttdmapping = dict((a, b) for a, b in CTsttd)
903 CTsttdresult = [CTsttdmapping[i] for i in sorted(AtmosCT)]
904
905 print("The number of points with same time is %i" %(len(AtmosCT
)))
906
907 # removing nan values from overlapping CT,Atmoscope and standard
deviation results
908
909 XY=[i for i in zip(CTresult,Atmoscoperesult,CTsttdresult) if str
(i[0]) != 'nan' ]
910
911 X=np.array([i[0] for i in XY])
912 Y=np.array([i[1] for i in XY])
913 S=np.array([i[2] for i in XY])
914
915 print("The number of points without 'nan' with the same time is
%i" %(len(X)))
916
917 #####Ploting averaged sky temp calibrated plot

```

```

918
919     fig = plt.figure()
920     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
921     ax.plot([], [])
922     ax.errorbar(CTtime, CTs14ave, yerr=CTs14std, color='red', fmt='o',
923               alpha=1)
924     #ax.set_title('CT mean IR sky temperature at H.E.S.S')
925     ax.set_ylabel('infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
926     ax.set_xlabel('time')
927     ax.grid(True)
928     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
929     fig.tight_layout()
930     fig.savefig("CTrawdata")
931     fig.show()
932
933     ### Plotting overlapping results against each other to find
934     relationship
935     fig = plt.figure()
936     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
937     ax.errorbar(X, Y, xerr=S, color='red', fmt='o')
938     ax.set_title('Atmoscope PWV vs CT mean IR sky temp')
939     ax.set_ylabel('Atmoscope PWV (mm)')
940     ax.set_xlabel('CT mean infrared Sky temp ( $\circ$ C)')
941     ax.grid(True)
942     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
943     fig.tight_layout()
944     fig.savefig("Atmos-CT")
945     fig.show()
946
947     X = np.array(X, dtype=float)
948     Y = np.array(Y, dtype=float)
949     S = np.array(S, dtype=float)
950
951     lin=np.polyfit(X, np.log(Y), 1, w=np.sqrt(Y))

```

```

951 XX = np.linspace(-100, -20, 500)
952 YY=[np.exp(lin[1])*np.exp(lin[0]*i) for i in XX]
953
954
955 # Finding the relationship between CT sky temp and Atmoscope PWV
956
957 #lin=np.polyfit(X,Y,1)
958 print("A=%f" %(np.exp(lin[1])))
959 print("B=%f" %(lin[0]))
960 print("the equation is given by y=Ae^(Bx) ")
961 print("y=%f*e^%fx" %(np.exp(lin[1]),lin[0]))
962
963
964 #Ploting the fit onto the grapgh
965
966
967 fig = plt.figure()
968 ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
969 ax.errorbar(X,Y,xerr=S,color='red',fmt='o',alpha=0.3,zorder=1,
label="fitted data")
970 ax.set_title('Atmoscope PWV vs CT mean IR sky temperature')
971 ax.plot(XX,YY,'blue',label='fitted line y=%f*e^%fx' %(np.exp(lin
[1]),lin[0]))
972 ax.set_ylabel('Atmoscope PWV (mm)')
973 ax.set_xlabel('CT mean infrared Sky temp ($^\circ$C)')
974 ax.grid(True)
975 ax.legend()
976 fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
977 fig.tight_layout()
978 fig.savefig("Atmos-CTfitt")
979 fig.show()
980
981
982

```

```

983     CTPWVdata=open('CTPWV.csv','w') # Opening new file to write CT
PWV results as given by fit
984
985     #CTPWV=[ float(lin[0])*i+float(lin[1]) for i in CTs14ave] # PWV
as given by fit
986     CTPWV=[ np.exp(lin[1])*np.exp(lin[0]*i) for i in CTs14ave]
987
988     #Error propagation from Sky temp to PWV
989     CTPWVstd=[np.sqrt(((lin[1]*lin[0])*(np.exp(lin[0]*i)))*(p**2))
for i,p in zip(CTs14ave,CTs14std)]
990
991     for i,j,k in zip(CTtime,CTPWV,CTPWVstd):
992         CTPWVdata.write('%s,%5.2f,%5.2f\n' %(i,j,k)) #wirting on to
File
993
994
995
996     # Plotting CT PWV results
997     fig = plt.figure()
998     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
999     ax.plot([],[])
1000     ax.errorbar(CTtime,CTPWV,yerr=CTPWVstd,color='blue',fmt='o',
alpha=1)
1001     ax.set_title('mean callibrated CT PWV at H.E.S.S')
1002     ax.set_ylabel('PWV (mm)')
1003     ax.set_xlabel('time')
1004     ax.grid(True)
1005     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
1006     fig.tight_layout()
1007     fig.savefig("CTcallibrateddata")
1008     fig.show()
1009
1010     print ("Calibration Completed")

```

Appendix C

Processing script in python

```
1 #!/usr/bin/env python3
2 # -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
3 """
4 Created on Sat Sep  7 17:49:16 2019
5
6 @Author: Frans Lott N
7 @alias: thecurioswambo
8 contact: +264 81 3129813
9 email:franslott8@gmail.com
10 """
11
12 #importing packages
13
14 from datetime import datetime
15 import numpy as np
16 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
17 import math
18 import matplotlib.cm as cm
19 import csv
20
21 #####
22
23 ##### Plotting option #####
24
```

```

25 print("enter 1: for CT (night) results")
26 print("enter 2: for AERONET (day) results")
27 #####
28
29 select=int(input('select:')) ##### recieve plotting input
30 bin_edges=[2.5,3,3.5,4,4.5,5] #####list of bin adges
31 bin_edges1=[2.5,3,3.5,4,4.5,5] #####list of bin adges
32 bin_edges3=[.5,1,1.5,2,2.5,3,3.5,4,4.5,5,5.5,6,6.5,7,7.5,8]
33 bin_edges2=[.5,1,1.5,2.5,3,3.5,4,4.5,5,5.5,6]
34 ##### plotting CT results #####
35
36 if select == 1:
37     fin=open('CTPWV.csv','r') # Opening CT PWV file
38
39
40     CTPWV=[] # empty list for storing CT PWV data
41     CTPWVstd=[] # empty list storing CT PWV standard
deviation data
42     CTtime=[] # empty list for storing correspinding CT
data time
43
44
45     #processing data from file (loading data)
46     for line in fin:
47
48         # extracts date and time strings, and converting it into a
number
49         Datetime=line.split(',') [0]
50         date=Datetime.split() [0]
51         year=int(date.split('-') [0])
52         month=int(date.split('-') [1])
53         day=int(date.split('-') [2])
54         time=Datetime.split() [1]
55         hour=int(time.split(':') [0])
56         minute=int(time.split(':') [1])

```

```

57     sec=int(time.split(':')[2])
58
59     # creating a time from extracted data
60     dateHuman = datetime(year, month, day, hour, minute)
61
62     # extracting PWV and Standard deviation and converting it
into float
63
64     PWV=float(line.split(',')[1])
65     std=float(line.split(',')[2])
66
67     # storing time,PWV and standard deviation data to empty list
68     CTPWV.append(PWV)
69     CTPWVstd.append(std)
70     CTtime.append(dateHuman)
71
72     # plotting data to visulize how the PWV looks like
73
74     fig = plt.figure()
75     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
76     ax.plot([],[])
77     ax.errorbar(CTtime,CTPWV,yerr=CTPWVstd,color='blue',fmt='o',
alpha=1)
78     ax.set_title('mean callibrated CT PWV at H.E.S.S')
79     ax.set_ylabel('PWV (mm)')
80     ax.set_xlabel('period')
81     ax.grid(True)
82     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
83     fig.tight_layout()
84     fig.savefig('CTplots/CTdata')
85     fig.show()
86
87     # a function to convert all zeros to nan values incase of
plotting
88     def zero_to_nan(values):

```

```

89         return [float('nan') if x==0 else x for x in values]
90
91     # creating a list equivalent to number of CT years data called
YCT
92     YCT=list(range(1,17))
93
94     # Creating a list equivalent to number of months in a year
M=list(range(1,13))
95
96     # Gamsberg Measured PWV in 1994 and 1995
Gamsberg_94
97     Gamsberg_94
=[0,0,0,0,0,0,3.20799,2.56114,5.46083,6.21921,7.51292,6.70993]
98     Gamsberg_95
=[5.90694,0,6.33074,6.46457,6.55379,4.34557,3.52027,0,0,0,0,0]
99
100    # a list containing months
months=['Jan','Feb','Mar','Apr','May','Jun','Jul','Aug','Sep','
101    Oct','Nov','Dec']
102
103    # analysing the PWV data,and standard deviation by year
for j in YCT:
104        CTyear=[i for i in zip(CTtime,CTPWV,CTPWVstd) if i[0].year
==2003+j ]
105
106        CTdateyear=[i[0] for i in CTyear]
107        CTaveyear=[i[1] for i in CTyear]
108        CTstdyear=[i[2] for i in CTyear]
109
110    # plotting by yearly PWV data
111
112    fig = plt.figure()
113    ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
114    ax.errorbar(CTdateyear,CTaveyear,CTstdyear,color='yellow',
fmt='o')
115    ax.set_title('CT mean at H.E.S.S. %i' %(2003+j))
116    ax.set_ylabel('Percipitable Water Vapour (mm)')
117    ax.set_xlabel('time')

```

```

118     ax.grid(True)
119     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
120     fig.tight_layout()
121     fig.savefig('CTplots/Plots/Yearly/CT1-4meanatH.E.S.S.%i.jpg'
122                %(2003+j))
123
124     fig.show()
125
126
127     # analysing data by month of year in YCT
128     for m,t in zip(M,months):
129
130         CTmonth=[i for i in CTyear if i[0].month== m ]
131         CTdate=[i[0] for i in CTmonth]
132         CTave=[i[1] for i in CTmonth]
133         CTstd=[i[2] for i in CTmonth]
134
135         # Plotting individual month data
136
137         fig = plt.figure()
138         ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
139         ax.errorbar(CTdate,CTave,CTstd,color='blue',fmt='o')
140         ax.set_title('CT mean PWV at H.E.S.S. in %s %i' %(t
141                    ,2003+j))
142         ax.set_ylabel('Percipitable Water Vapour (mm)')
143         ax.set_xlabel('time')
144         ax.grid(True)
145         fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
146         fig.tight_layout()
147         fig.savefig('CTplots/Plots/Monthly/CT1-4meanatH.E.S.S.%s
148                    %i.jpg' %(t,2003+j))
149         fig.show()
150
151     # scaling function for Mt Gamsberg
152     h1=1800           # elevation of H.E.S.S. site in meters
153     h2=2347          # elevation of Mt Gamsberg in meters
154     H=2000.          # Water vapour scale height

```

```

150     alpha=np.e**-(h2-h1)/H      # scaling function
151
152     Gamsberg_94=zero_to_nan(Gamsberg_94)    # removing zero values
for plotting
153     Gamsberg_95=zero_to_nan(Gamsberg_95)    # removing zero values
for plotting
154
155     PWVzero = [0 if math.isnan(x) else x for x in CTPWV] # adding
zero if "nan"
156     stdzero=[0 if math.isnan(x) else x for x in CTPWVstd] # adding
zero if "nan"
157
158     scaPWV = [ alpha*x for x in CTPWV]
159     # removing zeros from list to have clean PWV and standard
deviation
160     PWVclean = [i for i in zip(CTtime,PWVzero,stdzero) if i[1] != 0
]
161
162     # creating empty list for storing weighted mean PWV
163     PWVweightedave=[]
164     # creating empty list for storing corresponding standard
deviation
165     yerr=[]
166     # creating empty list for storing corresponding time
167     month=[]
168
169     # analysing data by year
170     for j in YCT:
171         CTyear=[i for i in PWVclean if i[0].year ==2003+j ]
172         CTdateyear=[i[0] for i in CTyear]
173         CTaveyear=[i[1] for i in CTyear]
174         CTstdyear=[i[2] for i in CTyear]
175
176
177     monthlist=[]

```

```

178     allmonthdata=[]
179
180     maxcount=[]
181     maxtime=[]
182
183     mincount=[]
184     mintime=[]
185
186     # Analysing data by month
187     for m,t in zip(M,months):
188         CTmonth=[i for i in CTyear if i[0].month== m ]
189         CTdate=[i[0] for i in CTmonth]
190         CTave=[i[1] for i in CTmonth]
191         CTstd=[i[2] for i in CTmonth]
192         CTstd=[1 if np.mean(CTstd)==0 else i for i in CTstd]
193         allmonthdata.append(len(CTmonth))
194         monthlist.append(t)
195
196         # proccessing data as 0 if number of data points is less
197         than 50
198
199         if len(CTmonth) < 50.0 :
200             month.append(t)
201             yerr.append(0.0)
202             PWVweightedave.append(0.0)
203             mincount.append(len(CTmonth))
204             maxcount.append(0.0)
205             maxtime.append(t)
206             mintime.append(t)
207
208         # processing data if number of data points is 50 or more
209         if len(CTmonth) >= 50.0 :
210             weightedave=np.average(CTave,weights=CTstd)
211             PWVweightedave.append(weightedave)
212             CTweightedstd=np.std(CTave)

```

```

212         yerr.append(CTweightedstd)
213         month.append(t)
214         mincount.append(0.0)
215         maxcount.append(len(CTmonth))
216         maxtime.append(t)
217         mintime.append(t)
218
219         # Plotting monthly histogram
220
221         plt.figure("Monthly Histogram of PWV")
222         plt.hist(CTave, color = 'purple', edgecolor = 'black
',bins = bin_edges,alpha=1,cumulative=1,normed=True)
223         plt.title("PWV Histogram for %s in %i at H.E.S.S."
%(t,2003+j))
224         plt.xlabel(" Percipitable Water Vapour (mm)")
225         plt.ylabel("fraction [%]")
226         plt.savefig('CTplots/Hist/Monthly/PWV histograms of
month %s year %i.jpeg' %(t,2003+j))
227         #plt.show()
228
229
230         # getting number of data taken for each month with records
and writting them to a file
231         alldatafile=[i for i in zip(monthlist,allmonthdata)]
232         with open('CTplots/datacount/csvfile/alldatafile_{0}.csv'.
format(j+2003),'w',newline='') as f:
233             w = csv.writer(f)
234             w.writerow(['month of year','data points taken'])
235             w.writerows(alldatafile)
236
237         # plotting number of monthly data points
238         fig = plt.figure()
239         ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
240         ax.scatter(monthlist,allmonthdata,color='purple')

```

```

241     #ax.set_title('number of monthly recordings at H.E.S.S. in %
i' %(2003+j))
242     ax.set_ylabel('number of recordings')
243     ax.set_xlabel('Month')
244     ax.grid(True)
245     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
246     fig.tight_layout()
247     fig.savefig('CTplots/datacount/plots/recordcount%i.jpg'
%(2003+j))
248     fig.show()
249
250
251     # convering all zero data points to nan for plotting
252     maxcount=zero_to_nan(maxcount)
253     mincount=zero_to_nan(mincount)
254
255     # plotting considered 50 or more points for visualization
256     fig = plt.figure()
257     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
258     ax.scatter(maxtime,maxcount,color='purple',label='considered
value')
259     ax.scatter(mintime,mincount,color='grey',label='Unconsidered
value')
260     ax.set_title('number of considered monthly recordings at H.E
.S.S. in %i' %(2003+j))
261     ax.set_ylabel('number of recordings')
262     ax.set_xlabel('Month')
263     ax.grid(True)
264     ax.legend()
265     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
266     fig.tight_layout()
267     fig.savefig('CTplots/datacount/plots/greyrecordcount%i.jpg'
%(2003+j))
268     fig.show()
269

```

```

270
271 # converting zero to nan
272 yerr=zero_to_nan(yerr)
273 PWVweightedave=zero_to_nan(PWVweightedave)
274 # removing nana values
275 PWVstdtime=[i for i in zip(month,PWVweightedave,yerr) if str(i
[1]) != 'nan']
276
277
278 # scaling H.E.S.S. site PWV for Mt Gamsberg
279 scPWVweighted=[i*alpha for i in PWVweightedave]
280 # removing nan values
281 scPWVstdtime=[i for i in zip(month,scPWVweighted,yerr) if str(i
[1]) != 'nan']
282
283
284 avePWV=[] # empty list to store mean PWV of H.E.S.S.
285 aveSTD=[] # empty lsit for storing corresponding Standard
deviation
286
287 scavePWV=[] # empty list for storing scaled mean PWV for Mt
Gamsberg
288 scaveSTD=[] # empty list storing corresponding standard
deviation for scaled vales
289
290
291 # processing non scaled PWV of H.E.S.S. and scaled PWV for Mt
Gamsberg
292 for i in months:
293     avestd=[(k[0],k[1],k[2]) for k in PWVstdtime if k[0]==i]
294     allPWV=[i[1] for i in avestd ]
295     allstd=[i[2] for i in avestd ]
296     avePWVave=np.average(allPWV,weights=allstd)
297     stdallstd=np.std(allPWV)
298     avePWV.append(avePWVave)

```

```

299     aveSTD.append(stdallstd)
300
301     scavestd=[(k[0],k[1],k[2]) for k in scPWVstdtime if k[0]==i]
302     scallPWV=[i[1] for i in scavestd ]
303     scallstd=[i[2] for i in scavestd ]
304     scavePWVave=np.average(scallPWV,weights=scallstd)
305     scstdallstd=np.std(scallPWV)
306     scavePWV.append(scavePWVave)
307     scaveSTD.append(scstdallstd)
308
309
310     # Plotting H.E.S.S. site single monthly PWV values
311     fig = plt.figure()
312     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
313     ax.scatter(month,PWVweightedave,color='grey',label='monthly
weighted value')
314     ax.errorbar(months,avePWV,yerr=aveSTD,color='blue',fmt='o',label
='specific month weighted averages')
315     ax.set_title('H.E.S.S Weighted monthly averages')
316     ax.set_ylabel('PWV (mm)')
317     ax.set_xlabel('Month')
318     ax.grid(True)
319     ax.legend()
320     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
321     fig.tight_layout()
322     fig.savefig('CTplots/AveragedpointHESS.jpg')
323     fig.show()
324
325     # Plotting Mt Gasberg site single monthly weighted mean PWV
values
326     fig = plt.figure()
327     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
328     ax.scatter(month,scPWVweighted,color='grey',label='monthly
weighted value')

```

```

329     ax.errorbar(months, scavePWV, yerr=aveSTD, color='green', fmt='o',
330 label='specific month weighted averages')
331
332     ax.set_title('Mt Gamsberg Weighted monthly averages')
333     ax.set_ylabel('PWV (mm)')
334     ax.set_xlabel('Month')
335     ax.grid(True)
336     ax.legend()
337     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
338     fig.tight_layout()
339     fig.savefig('CTplots/AveragedpointGams.jpg')
340     fig.show()
341
342     Gamsberg_94=zero_to_nan(Gamsberg_94)
343     Gamsberg_95=zero_to_nan(Gamsberg_95)
344     yerr=zero_to_nan(yerr)
345     PWVweighted=zero_to_nan(PWVweightedave)
346
347
348     # Plotting H.E.S.S. weighted mean PWV (seasonal variations)
349     fig = plt.figure()
350     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
351     n=12
352     q=[PWVweighted[i:i+n] for i in range(0, len(PWVweighted), n)]
353     x = np.arange(1,13)
354     markers=['x','*', 'o', 'v', '^', '<', '>', '1', 'D', 'H', 's', '8', '_', '|',
355             '+', '.']
356
357     colors = cm.rainbow(np.linspace(0, 1, len(q)))
358
359     for j,y, c,m in zip(YCT,q, colors,markers):
360         ax.plot(months, y, color=c, linestyle='-', marker=m, label="%i
361 "%(2003+j))
362
363     box = ax.get_position()
364     ax.set_position([box.x0, box.y0, box.width * 0.5, box.height])

```

```

361 ax.legend(loc='center left', bbox_to_anchor=(1, 0.5))
362 ax.set_title('H.E.S.S. weighted Means')
363 ax.set_ylabel('PWV (mm)')
364 ax.set_xlabel('Month of the year')
365 ax.grid(True)
366 fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
367 fig.tight_layout()
368 fig.savefig('CTplots/H.E.S.S.monthlyave.png')
369 fig.show()
370
371 # plotting weighted mean scaled values for Mt Gamsberg (Seasonal
372 variations)
373 fig = plt.figure()
374 ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
375 n=12
376 q=[scPWVweighted[i:i+n] for i in range(0, len(scPWVweighted), n)
377 ]
378 x = np.arange(1,13)
379 markers=['x','*','o','v','^','<','>','l','D','H','s','8','_','|',
380 '+','.']
381 colors = cm.rainbow(np.linspace(0, 1, len(q)))
382
383 for j,y, c,m in zip(YCT,q, colors,markers):
384     ax.plot(months, y, color=c,linestyle='-',marker=m,label="%i
385     "%(2003+j))
386     box = ax.get_position()
387     ax.set_position([box.x0, box.y0, box.width * 0.5, box.height])
388     ax.legend(loc='center left', bbox_to_anchor=(1, 0.5))
389     ax.set_title('Mt Gamsberg weighted Means')
390     ax.set_ylabel('PWV (mm)')
391     ax.set_xlabel('Month of the year')
392     ax.grid(True)
393     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
394     fig.tight_layout()
395     fig.savefig('CTplots/MountGamsaveCT.png')

```

```

392 fig.show()
393
394
395 # plotting weighted means of Mt Gamsberg along with 1994-1995
    PWV values
396 fig = plt.figure()
397 ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
398 ax.plot(months,Gamsberg_94,color='grey',linestyle='-',marker='+',
    ,label="1994" )
399 ax.plot(months,Gamsberg_95,color='purple',linestyle='-',marker='
    s',label="1995" )
400 n=12
401 q=[scPWVweighted[i:i+n] for i in range(0, len(scPWVweighted), n)
    ]
402 x = np.arange(1,13)
403 markers=['x','*', 'o', 'v', '^', '<', '>', '1', 'D', 'H', 's', '8', '_','|',
    ,'+', '.']
404 colors = cm.rainbow(np.linspace(0, 1, len(q)))
405
406 for j,y, c,m in zip(YCT,q, colors,markers):
407     ax.plot(months, y, color=c,linestyle='-',marker=m,label="%i
    "%(2003+j))
408 box = ax.get_position()
409 ax.set_position([box.x0, box.y0, box.width * 0.5, box.height])
410 ax.legend(loc='center left', bbox_to_anchor=(1, 0.5))
411 ax.set_title('Mt Gamsberg weighted Means')
412 ax.set_ylabel('PWV (mm)')
413 ax.set_xlabel('Month of the year')
414 ax.grid(True)
415 fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
416 fig.tight_layout()
417 fig.savefig('CTplots/MountGamsave.png')
418 fig.show()
419
420

```

```

421
422
423
424 heights, bins = np.histogram(CTPWV, bins = bin_edges3)
425 percent = [i/sum(heights)*100 for i in heights]
426
427
428 plt.figure()
429 plt.bar(bins[:-1], percent, width = 0.5, linewidth=1,align="edge
", edgecolor='black',color='blue',alpha=1)
430 plt.xlim(min(bins), max(bins))
431 plt.grid(axis='y', alpha=0.75)
432 plt.xlabel('Percipitable Water Vapour (mm)')
433 plt.ylabel('Fraction [%]')
434 plt.xticks()
435 plt.yticks()
436 plt.savefig('CTplots/Hist/Monthly/allHESPWV.jpeg')
437 plt.title('relative frequencyDistribution Histogram H.E.S.S.',
438 fontsize=15)
439
440
441
442 heights1, bins2 = np.histogram(scaPWV, bins = bin_edges2)
443 percent1 = [i/sum(heights1)*100 for i in heights1]
444
445 plt.figure()
446 plt.bar(bins2[:-1], percent1, width = 0.5, linewidth=1,align="
edge", edgecolor='black',color='green',alpha=1)
447 plt.xlim(min(bins2), max(bins2))
448 plt.grid(axis='y', alpha=0.75)
449 plt.xlabel('Percipitable Water Vapour (mm)')
450 plt.ylabel('Fraction [%]')
451 plt.xticks()
452 plt.yticks()
453 plt.savefig('CTplots/Hist/Monthly/allgamsPWV.jpeg')

```

```

453 plt.title('Relative frequency Distribution Histogram for
Gamsberg', fontsize=15)
454 plt.show
455
456
457
458 fig = plt.figure()
459 ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
460 ax.plot([], [])
461 ax.errorbar(CTtime, scaPWV, yerr=CTPWVstd, color='green', fmt='o',
alpha=1)
462 #ax.set_title('mean callibrated CT PWV at H.E.S.S')
463 ax.set_ylabel('PWV (mm)')
464 ax.set_xlabel('period')
465 ax.grid(True)
466 fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
467 fig.tight_layout()
468 fig.savefig('CTplots/gamsCTdata.jpeg')
469 fig.show()
470
471
472
473
474 # proccessing areonet values (daily values)
475
476 if select == 2:
477
478     fin=open('AeronetPWV.csv','r') # opening Aeronet data file
479
480
481     CTPWV=[] # empty list for storing PWV
482     CTtime=[] # empty list for storing corresponding time
483
484     # reading and loading data from file
485     for line in fin:

```

```

486
487     # reading in date and time, converting it to a number
488     Datetime=line.split(',')[0]
489     date=Datetime.split()[0]
490     year=int(date.split('-')[0])
491     month=int(date.split('-')[1])
492     day=int(date.split('-')[2])
493     time=Datetime.split()[1]
494     hour=int(time.split(':')[0])
495     minute=int(time.split(':')[1])
496     sec=int(time.split(':')[2])
497
498     # converting it to useful date
499     dateHuman = datetime(year, month, day, hour, minute,sec)
500     PWV=float(line.split(',')[1])
501
502     # storing PWV data and time to empty list
503     CTPWV.append(PWV)
504     CTtime.append(dateHuman)
505
506     #plotting data to visualize
507     fig = plt.figure()
508     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
509     ax.plot([], [])
510     ax.scatter(CTtime,CTPWV,color='blue',alpha=1)
511     ax.set_title('mean calibrated CT PWV at H.E.S.S')
512     ax.set_ylabel('PWV (mm)')
513     ax.set_xlabel('time')
514     ax.grid(True)
515     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
516     fig.tight_layout()
517     fig.savefig('Aeronetplots/Aeronetcalibrateddata')
518     fig.show()
519

```

```

520     # a function to convert all zeros to nan values incase of
plotting
521     def zero_to_nan(values):
522         return [float('nan') if x==0 else x for x in values]
523
524     # a list containing number of years data taken (3)
525     YCT=list(range(1,4))
526     # list containing number of months in year (12)
527     M=list(range(1,13))
528     # list contaning listof month
529     months=['Jan','Feb','Mar','Apr','May','Jun','Jul','Aug','Sep','
Oct','Nov','Dec']
530
531     # processing data by yeear
532     for j in YCT:
533         CTyear=[i for i in zip(CTtime,CTPWV) if i[0].year ==2015+j ]
534         CTdateyear=[i[0] for i in CTyear]
535         CTaveyear=[i[1] for i in CTyear]
536
537         # plotting year data
538         fig = plt.figure()
539         ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
540         ax.scatter(CTdateyear,CTaveyear,color='yellow')
541         ax.set_title('Aeronet PWV at H.E.S.S. %i' %(2015+j))
542         ax.set_ylabel('Percipitable Water Vapour (mm)')
543         ax.set_xlabel('time')
544         ax.grid(True)
545         fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
546         fig.tight_layout()
547         fig.savefig('Aeronetplots/Plots/yearly/meanatH.E.S.S.%i.jpg'
%(2015+j))
548         fig.show()
549
550     # processing data by month
551     for m in M:

```

```

552
553     CTmonth=[i for i in CTyear if i[0].month== m ]
554     CTdate=[i[0] for i in CTmonth]
555     CTave=[i[1] for i in CTmonth]
556
557     # plotting monthly plots
558     fig = plt.figure()
559     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
560     ax.scatter(CTdate,CTave,color='blue')
561     ax.set_title('Aeronet PWV at H.E.S.S. %i %i' %(m,2015+j)
562 )
563     ax.set_ylabel('Percipitable Water Vapour (mm)')
564     ax.set_xlabel('time')
565     ax.grid(True)
566     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
567     fig.tight_layout()
568     fig.savefig('Aeronetplots/Plots/monthly/H.E.S.S.%i%i.jpg
569 ' %(m,2015+j))
570
571     fig.show()
572
573
574     h1=1800 # H.E.S.S elevation in meters
575     h2=2347 # Mt Gamsberg elevation in meters
576     H=2000. # water vapour scale height
577     alpha=np.e**-(h2-h1)/H
578
579     # adding zero if vale is equall to nan
580     PWVzero = [0 if math.isnan(x) else x for x in CTPWV]
581     # removing zero PWV with its time
582     PWVclean = [i for i in zip(CTtime,PWVzero) if i[1] != 0 ]
583
584     # empty list for weighted PWV and erro,and time
585     PWVweightedave=[]

```

```

585     yerr=[]
586     month=[]
587
588     # processing data by year
589     for j in YCT:
590         CTyear=[i for i in PWVclean if i[0].year ==2015+j ]
591         CTdateyear=[i[0] for i in CTyear]
592         CTaveyear=[i[1] for i in CTyear]
593
594
595         monthlist=[]
596         allmonthdata=[]
597
598         maxcount=[]
599         maxtime=[]
600
601         mincount=[]
602         mintime=[]
603
604         # processing data by month
605         for m,t in zip(M,months):
606             CTmonth=[i for i in CTyear if i[0].month== m ]
607             CTdate=[i[0] for i in CTmonth]
608             CTave=[i[1] for i in CTmonth]
609
610             allmonthdata.append(len(CTmonth))
611             monthlist.append(t)
612
613             # discarding data of month if its less then 1500
614             if len(CTmonth) < 1500.0 :
615                 month.append(t)
616                 yerr.append(0.0)
617                 PWVweightedave.append(0.0)
618                 mincount.append(len(CTmonth))
619                 maxcount.append(0.0)

```

```

620         maxtime.append(t)
621         mintime.append(t)
622
623         # proccessing data of month if its equall to 1500 or more
624         if len(CTmonth) >= 1500.0 :
625             weightedave=np.mean(CTave)
626             PWVweightedave.append(weightedave)
627             CTweightedstd=np.std(CTave)
628             yerr.append(CTweightedstd)
629             month.append(t)
630             mincount.append(0.0)
631             maxcount.append(len(CTmonth))
632             maxtime.append(t)
633             mintime.append(t)
634
635             # plotting histo plot of data
636             plt.figure("Monthly Histogram of PWV")
637             plt.hist(CTave, color = 'purple', edgecolor = 'black
638             ',bins = bin_edges,alpha=1,cumulative=1,normed=True)
639             plt.title("PWV Histogram for %s in %i at H.E.S.S."
640             %(t,2015+j))
641             plt.xlabel(" Percipitable Water Vapour (mm)")
642             plt.ylabel("fraction [%]")
643             plt.savefig('CTplots/Hist/Monthly/PWV histograms of
644             month %s year %i.jpeg' %(t,2003+j))
645             plt.show()
646
647             # getting number of data taken for each month with records
648             and writting them to a file
649             alldatafile=[i for i in zip(monthlist,allmonthdata)]
650             with open('Aeronetplots/datacount/csvfile/alldatafile_{0}.
651             csv'.format(j+2015),'w',newline='') as f:
652                 w = csv.writer(f)
653                 w.writerow(['month of year','data points taken'])

```

```

650         w.writerows(alldatafile)
651
652         # plotting number of data recorded per month of year
653         fig = plt.figure()
654         ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
655         ax.scatter(monthlist,allmonthdata,color='purple')
656         ax.set_title('number of monthly recordings at H.E.S.S. in %i
657 ' %(2015+j))
658         ax.set_ylabel('number of recordings')
659         ax.set_xlabel('Month')
660         ax.grid(True)
661         fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
662         fig.tight_layout()
663         fig.savefig('Aeronetplots/datacount/plots/recordcount%i.jpg'
664 %(2015+j))
665         fig.show()
666
667         maxcount=zero_to_nan(maxcount)
668         mincount=zero_to_nan(mincount)
669         # plotting considered number of points
670         fig = plt.figure()
671         ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
672         ax.scatter(maxtime,maxcount,color='purple',label='considered
673 value')
674         ax.scatter(mintime,mincount,color='grey',label='Unconsidered
675 value')
676         ax.set_title('number of considered monthly recordings at H.E
677 .S.S. in %i' %(2015+j))
678         ax.set_ylabel('number of recordings')
679         ax.set_xlabel('Month')
680         ax.grid(True)
681         ax.legend()
682         fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
683         fig.tight_layout()

```

```

679     fig.savefig('Aeronetplots/datacount/plots/greyrecordcount%i.
jpg' %(2015+j))
680     fig.show()
681
682     yerr=zero_to_nan(yerr)
683     PWVweightedave=zero_to_nan(PWVweightedave)
684     PWVstdtime=[i for i in zip(month,PWVweightedave,yerr) if str(i
[1]) != 'nan']
685
686     scPWVweighted=[i*alpha for i in PWVweightedave]
687     scPWVstdtime=[i for i in zip(month,scPWVweighted,yerr) if str(i
[1]) != 'nan']
688
689
690     avePWV=[]
691     aveSTD=[]
692
693     scavePWV=[]
694     scaveSTD=[]
695
696     for i in months:
697         avestd=[(k[0],k[1],k[2]) for k in PWVstdtime if k[0]==i]
698         allPWV=[i[1] for i in avestd ]
699         allstd=[i[2] for i in avestd ]
700         avePWVave=np.average(allPWV,weights=allstd)
701         stdallstd=np.std(allPWV)
702         avePWV.append(avePWVave)
703         aveSTD.append(stdallstd)
704
705         scavestd=[(k[0],k[1],k[2]) for k in scPWVstdtime if k[0]==i]
706         scallPWV=[i[1] for i in scavestd ]
707         scallstd=[i[2] for i in scavestd ]
708         scavePWVave=np.average(scallPWV,weights=scallstd)
709         scstdallstd=np.std(scallPWV)
710         scavePWV.append(scavePWVave)

```

```

711         scaveSTD.append(scstdallstd)
712
713
714     # plotting monthly mean PWV at h.e.s.s. site
715     fig = plt.figure()
716     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
717     ax.scatter(month, PWVweightedave, color='grey', label='monthly
weighted value')
718     ax.errorbar(months, avePWV, yerr=aveSTD, color='blue', fmt='o', label
='specific month weighted averages')
719     ax.set_title('H.E.S.S Weighted monthly averages')
720     ax.set_ylabel('PWV (mm)')
721     ax.set_xlabel('Month')
722     ax.grid(True)
723     ax.legend()
724     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
725     fig.tight_layout()
726     fig.savefig('Aeronetplots/AveragedpointHESS.jpg')
727     fig.show()
728
729     # plotting weighted mean PWV scaled for Mt Gamsberg
730     fig = plt.figure()
731     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
732     ax.scatter(month, scPWVweighted, color='grey', label='monthly
weighted value')
733     ax.errorbar(months, scavePWV, yerr=aveSTD, color='red', fmt='o',
label='specific month weighted averages')
734     ax.set_title('Mt Gamsberg Weighted monthly averages')
735     ax.set_ylabel('PWV (mm)')
736     ax.set_xlabel('Month')
737     ax.grid(True)
738     ax.legend()
739     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
740     fig.tight_layout()
741     fig.savefig('Aeronetplots/AveragedpointGams.jpg')

```

```

742     fig.show()
743
744
745     yerr=zero_to_nan(yerr)
746     PWVweighted=zero_to_nan(PWVweightedave)
747
748
749
750     # plotting seasonal variations plot at H.E.S.S. site
751     fig = plt.figure()
752     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
753     n=12
754     q=[PWVweighted[i:i+n] for i in range(0, len(PWVweighted), n)]
755     x = np.arange(1,13)
756     markers=['x','*','o']
757     colors = cm.rainbow(np.linspace(0, 1, len(q)))
758
759     for j,y, c,m in zip(YCT,q, colors,markers):
760         ax.plot(months, y, color=c,linestyle='-',marker=m,label="%i
761 "%(2015+j))
762         box = ax.get_position()
763         ax.set_position([box.x0, box.y0, box.width * 0.5, box.height])
764         ax.legend(loc='center left', bbox_to_anchor=(1, 0.5))
765         ax.set_title('H.E.S.S. weighted Means')
766         ax.set_ylabel('PWV (mm)')
767         ax.set_xlabel('Month of the year')
768         ax.grid(True)
769         fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
770         fig.tight_layout()
771         fig.savefig('Aeronetplots/H.E.S.S.monthlyave.png')
772         fig.show()
773
774     # plotting scaled values for Mt Gamsberg (seasonal variations)
775     fig = plt.figure()
776     ax = fig.add_subplot(111)

```

```

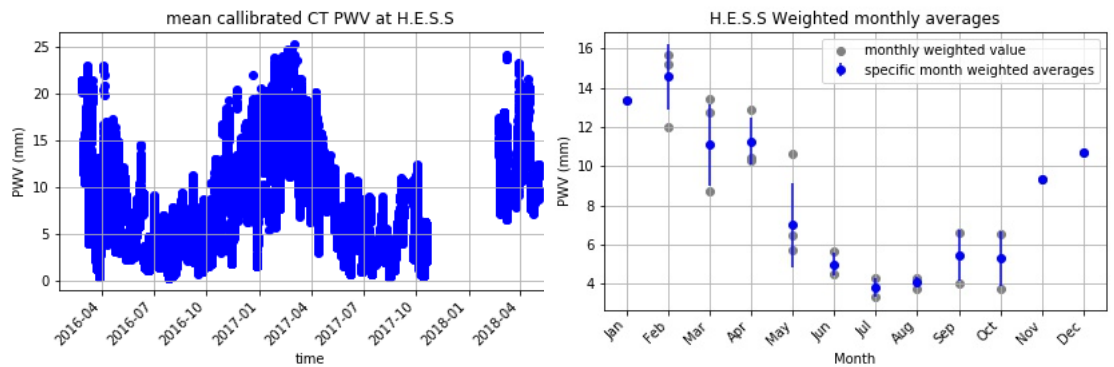
776     n=12
777     q=[scPWVweighted[i:i+n] for i in range(0, len(scPWVweighted), n)
778     ]
779     x = np.arange(1,13)
780     markers=['x','*','o']
781     colors = cm.rainbow(np.linspace(0, 1, len(q)))
782     for j,y, c,m in zip(YCT,q, colors,markers):
783         ax.plot(months, y, color=c,linestyle='-',marker=m,label="%i
784         "%(2015+j))
785     box = ax.get_position()
786     ax.set_position([box.x0, box.y0, box.width * 0.5, box.height])
787     ax.legend(loc='center left', bbox_to_anchor=(1, 0.5))
788     ax.set_title('Mt Gamsberg weighted Means')
789     ax.set_ylabel('PWV (mm)')
790     ax.set_xlabel('Month of the year')
791     ax.grid(True)
792     fig.autofmt_xdate(rotation=45)
793     fig.tight_layout()
794     fig.savefig('Aeronetplots/MountGamsaveCT.png')
795     fig.show()

```

Appendix D

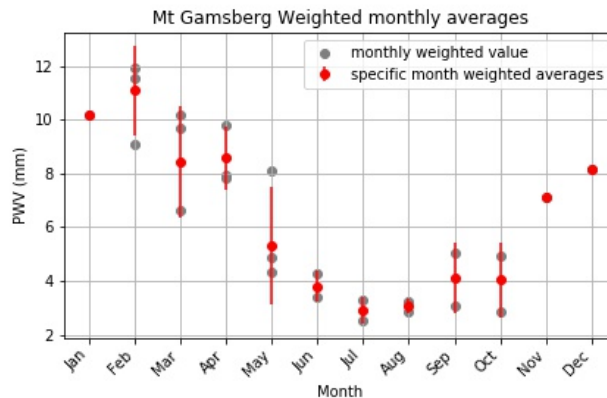
AERONET monthly plots

Monthly evaluations for AERONET PWV representing daytime values in contrast to CT values which represent night time values.



(a) PWV recorded at H.E.S.S. site.

(b) Monthly mean PWV at H.E.S.S. site.



(c) Monthly mean PWV scaled for Mt Gamsberg.

Figure D.1: AERONET monthly data analysis for both H.E.S.S. site and scaled values for Mt Gamsberg. AERONET PWV represents daytime values.