## Chapter I:

# What do you need in order to use polarimetric information

#### Radars

Infrastructure to operate then effectively

The more sophisticated are the radars the more sophisticated must be the infrastructure

People, not machines, are the key element











The engineers can be external, but the Super-User, the user that understands data quality, monitors data regularly and has a common language with the engineers, must be in-house.

# Polarimetric Radar

Isztar Zawadzki



Circular polarization







Because of the drops' deformation the medium is anisotropic for EM propagation and scattering.

Thus, the vertical and the horizontal components of the electric vector,  $\mathbf{E_V}$  and  $\mathbf{E_H}$ , are scattered differently and propagate at different speeds.

# CONSIDER A TRANSMISSION AT 45 DEGREES: EQUAL POWER IN. $E_V$ and $E_H$

E

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E<sub>H</sub>

AND A SIMULTANEOUS, BUT SEPARATE, RECEPTION OF THE VERTICAL AND HORIZONTAL COMPONENTS OF THE ELECTRIC VECTOR.

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#### Return from a single drop





#### Return from many drops moving relatively to each other



# Returns from dual-pol from many drops moving relatively to each other



### KDP and $\Phi_{dp} = \Phi_h - \Phi_v$



# What information do we obtain from polarization diversity at $45^{\circ}$ transmission and simultaneous reception of $Z_{H}$ and $Z_{V}$ ?

• Equivalent reflectivity (horizontal and vertical).

 $Z_e$ 

# What information do we obtain from polarization diversity at $45^{\circ}$ transmission and simultaneous reception of $Z_{H}$ and $Z_{V}$ ?

 $Z_{2}$  • Equivalent reflectivity (horizontal and vertical).

 $Z_{DR} = 10 \log \left(\frac{Z_H}{Z_V}\right)^{\circ}$  It is zero for spherical particles; positive (negative) for oblate (prolate) particles. Measures the average deformation of targets.

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 $\phi_{DP} = \phi_V - \phi_H$ 

• Phase difference between  $E_H$  and  $E_V$  produced by the anisotropy of the optical density of the propagation medium. It is zero for spherical particles; positive for oblate, and negative for prolate, particles. Measures mass\*deformation It is independent of radar calibration.

E A S U R A

B L E S

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E A S U R A B L E

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$$\boldsymbol{p}_{HV} = \overline{\left(Z_H - \overline{Z_H}\right) * \left(Z_V - \overline{Z_V}\right)}$$

 The overbar indicates the average over several consecutive pulses.

If the shapes, orientations and distributions of targets do not change in time  $\rho_{HV}$ =1; if there is a complete reshufflings at every pulse  $\rho_{HV}$ =0. Measures the time change in the variety of particles, their shapes and their orientations

#### **Polarimetric Measurements in Rain**



#### **Polarimetric Measurements in Rain**



# Drop Size Distributions (DSDs) provide a guidance to understanding

For a given reflectivity there is a large variety of DSDs:



#### Some polarimetric relationships for rain (climatology of over 34,000 DSDs, from 196 days with convection)



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Polarimetric data at 6 rpm

Ph10P 2.7deg 04:032 175ep1999 Friday, 9 August, 13

RH0\_HV 2.7deg 04:032 17Sep1999

# The most important use of polarization diversity is target identification.

#### For C-band radars it is attenuation correction.

snow, dry or wet

#### snow, dry or wet



snow, dry or wet



snow, dry or wet

From Pruppacher and Klett 1997



#### snow, dry or wet



From Pruppacher and Klett 1997

### Target ID - Particle Classification

#### Radar measurements used in algorithms

• Z

• Z<sub>DR</sub>

• K<sub>DP</sub>

• ρ<sub>Ην</sub>

- Temperature from soundings (Maniwaki (WMW) and Albany (ALB)Aircraft soundigns, model outputs
- Derived quantities (for ground clutter identification)
  - σ(Φ<sub>DP</sub>)
  - σ(V)
  - $\sigma(Z_{DR})$

# Om

# Automatic detection of hydrometeor type from polarimetry using fuzzy logic

#### Membership functions Example Z<sub>DR</sub> membership for hail and rain-hail:



For each parameter these functions give a membership value:  $0 < P_H^{ZDR} < 1$ , in the example of  $Z_{DR}$  membership for hail, and  $0 < P_{RH}^{ZDR} < 1$  for rain-hail
### **Particle Classification**

Take a weighted average of these values for each particle type  $\dot{i}$ :





#### **BEFORE DUAL POLARIZATION**

Is it all

rain?



#### **BEFORE DUAL POLARIZATION**





#### **BEFORE DUAL POLARIZATION**

Is it all

rain?



#### **BEFORE DUAL POLARIZATION**

Is it all

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**BEFORE DUAL POLARIZATION** 





**BEFORE DUAL POLARIZATION** 

PhiDP 0.9deg 23:47Z 16Sep1999

RHO\_HV 0.9deg 23:47Z 16sep1999



tid 2.7deg 20:23Z 10May2000

Friday, 9 August, 13

RHO\_HV 2.7deg 20:23Z 10May2000

# Target ID by polarimetry



#### **Data cleaning**



#### **Data cleaning**



Friday, 9 August, 13

#### **Data cleaning**



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#### Automatic detection of hydrometeor type from polarimetry







# Still better signal processing



### Polarimetry and precipitation measurements

#### K<sub>DP</sub> as alternative to Reflectivity



### Specific attenuation computed from DSDs

 $Y_H$  [dB/km]: specific attenuation at horizontal polarization  $Y_{DP}$  [dB/km]: specific differential attenuation =  $Y_H - Y_V$ 



### Advantages of $K_{dp}$ over Z



Computed for C-band

### Advantages of $K_{dp}$ over Z



It has a better relationship with rain rate: the relative error of the conversion of  $K_{dp}$  into R is smaller than that of the Z-R relationship

It is not affected by attenuation

It is not affected by partial beam blocking

The disadvantages is that it is difficult to measure values below 1°/km

And at C-band it is sensitive to resonances at the very large drops:

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## Critical issue: computing KDP from $\Phi$ DP



Fit a quadratic to 9 points and take the derivative at the center point; go to next range

Eliminate outliers: if a value is greater that the 5 next reject. If a values is lower than the preceding 5 reject.

Works better that SIGMET

# At C-band and X-band attenuation is a serious problem

## Correction for attenuation is necessary for quantitative measurements

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Comparison of S and C-band cross-calibrated radars



Comparison of S and C-band cross-calibrated radars



11 dBZ difference in equidistant weather due to in-rain attenuation

Comparison of S and C-band cross-calibrated radars



Comparison of S and C-band cross-calibrated radars



#### Attenuation correction



#### **Attenuation correction**



#### Attenuation correction; example

 $Y_H$  [dB/km]: specific attenuation at horizontal polarization  $Y_{DP}$  [dB/km]: specific differential attenuation =  $Y_H$ - $Y_V$ 

#### where $\alpha$ and $\beta$ are obtained from $Y_h = \alpha K_{dp}$ and $Y_{DP} = \beta K_{dp}$



### **Correction for attenuation**



# Calibration

#### Radar calibration with a disdrometer: Observed radar and disdrometric data



#### Radar calibration with a disdrometer: A few examples


## Consistency: comparison with polarimetric radar calibration

by a disdrometer

by polarimetry



## Consistency: comparison with polarimetric radar calibration

by a disdrometer

by polarimetry



Consistency between disdrometric and polarimetric calibrations !!

#### Radar calibration with polarimetry: With actual radar data



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# Consistency: comparison with polarimetric radar calibration



### THE END ...

### THE END ...

not really

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