

# GNSS Interference Mitigation: a Measurement and Position Domain Assessment

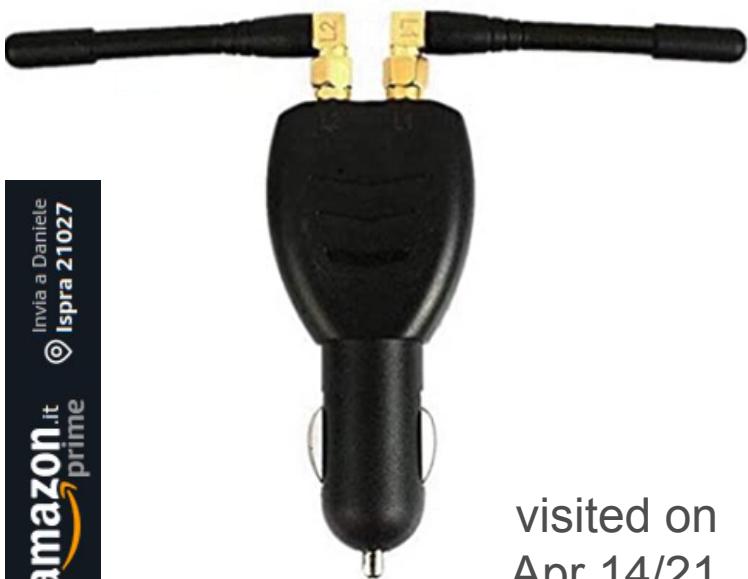
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*European Commission  
Joint Research Centre*

# Introduction

Growing number of interference and jamming events reported all around the world (e.g./ [www.gnss-strike3.eu](http://www.gnss-strike3.eu))

Re-think receiver design  
including interference mitigation capabilities



visited on  
Apr 14/21

Greetuny Posizionamento Scudo Mini GPS Plus Beidou Scudo di

Posizionamento Doppia modalit?Accendisigari Accendisigari

Alimentazione 12-24V (Colore:Nero)

Marca: Greetuny

★★★★★ 20 voti

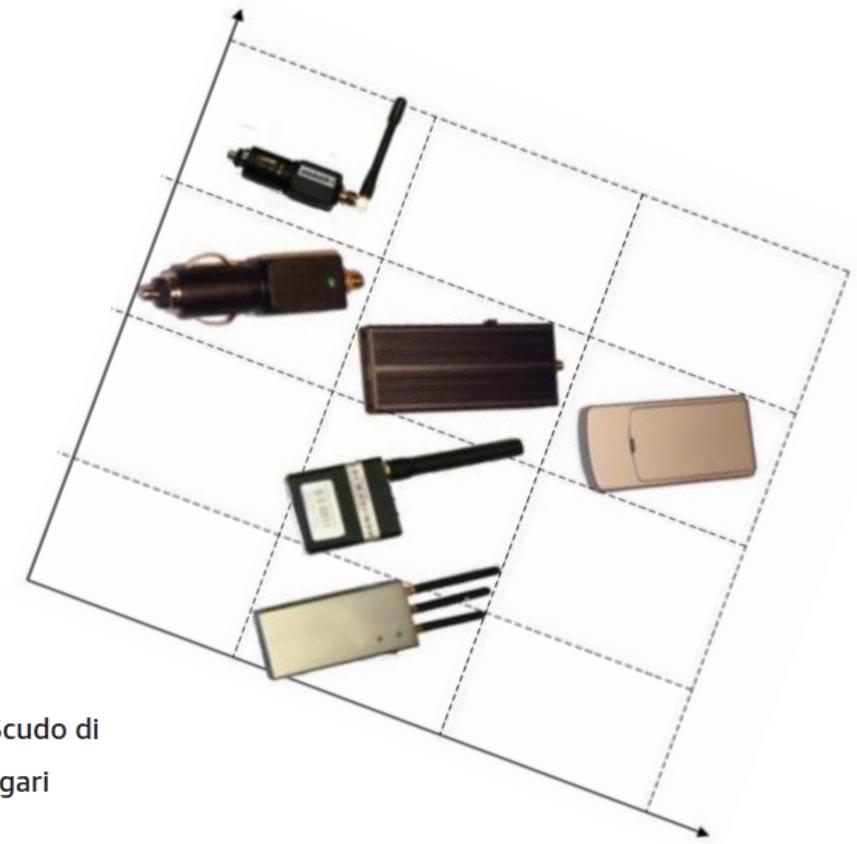
Prezzo: 14,99 €

Tutti i prezzi includono l'IVA.

Nuovo (2) da 14,99 € + 4,99 € di spedizione

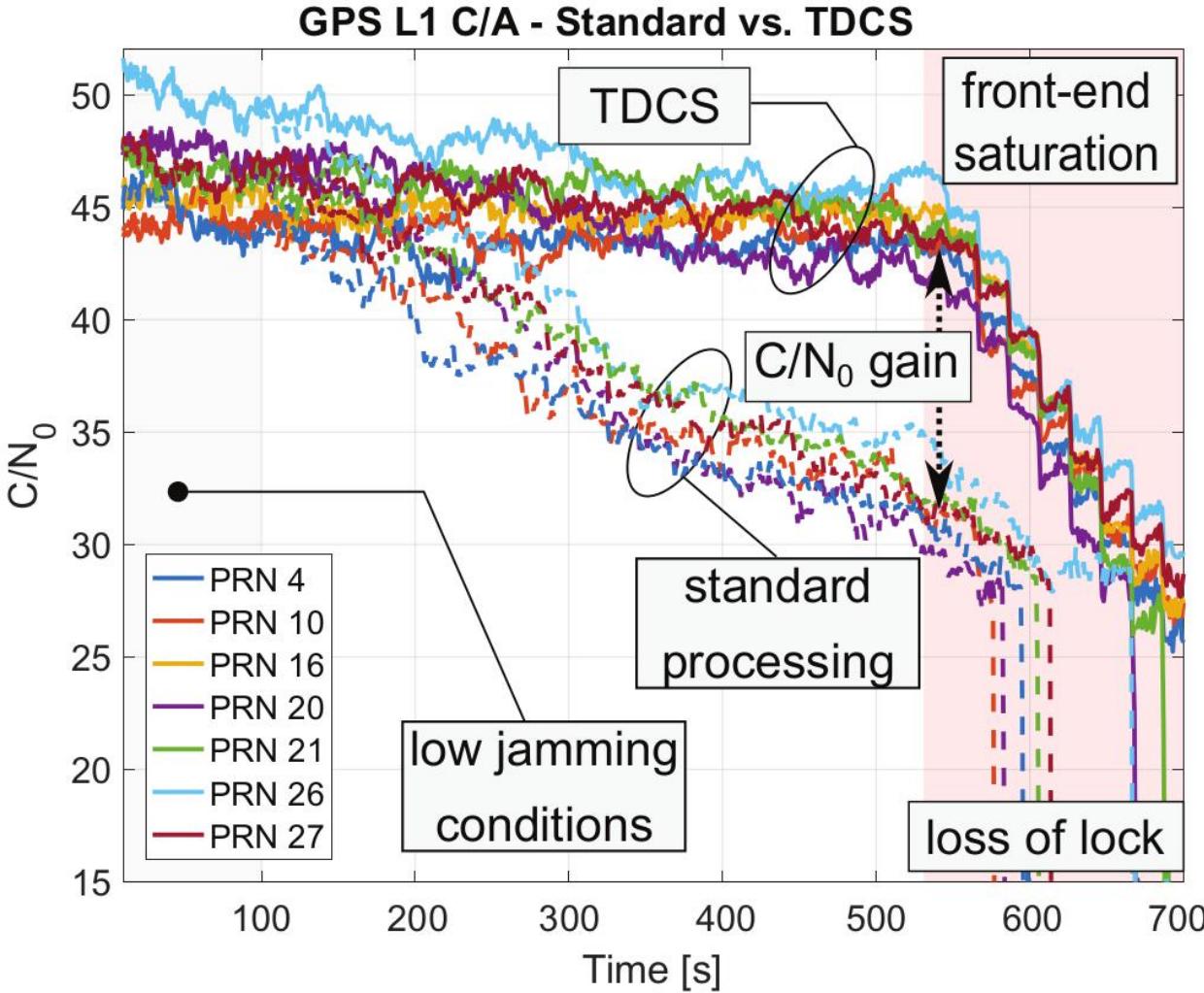
- Prevenire efficacemente il posizionamento satellitare GPS, il posizionamento satellitare Beidou interferisce in modo efficace con i segnali satellitari GPS
- non influisce sulla normale ricezione dei telefoni cellulari
- alta potenza, piccola leggerezza, copertura Grande, facile da trasportare, impedisce efficacemente il posizionamento del sistema di posizionamento satellitare GPS auto / mobile!
- Quando lo scudo è utile, conservarlo in un luogo asciutto e ben ventilato per evitare un'esposizione prolungata a nebbia salina e gas nocivi
- Quando si pulisce la superficie, si prega di interrompere l'uso di solventi chimici per evitare l'accumulo di acqua nella macchina

[Visualizza altri dettagli prodotto](#)



Jammers still easily available even on popular e-commerce platforms

# Beyond the Effective C/N<sub>0</sub>



Interference mitigation (IM)  
often evaluated in terms of effective C/N<sub>0</sub>

how many dB IM provides?

Effective C/N<sub>0</sub>: does not tell the full story!  
Biases, distortions, loss of efficiency not  
accounted for



Experimentally evaluate the  
effect of interference  
mitigation techniques on  
pseudoranges and position  
solution

# Agenda

**Introduction**

**Interference Mitigation: Review and Demo**

**Experimental Setup**

**Experimental Results**

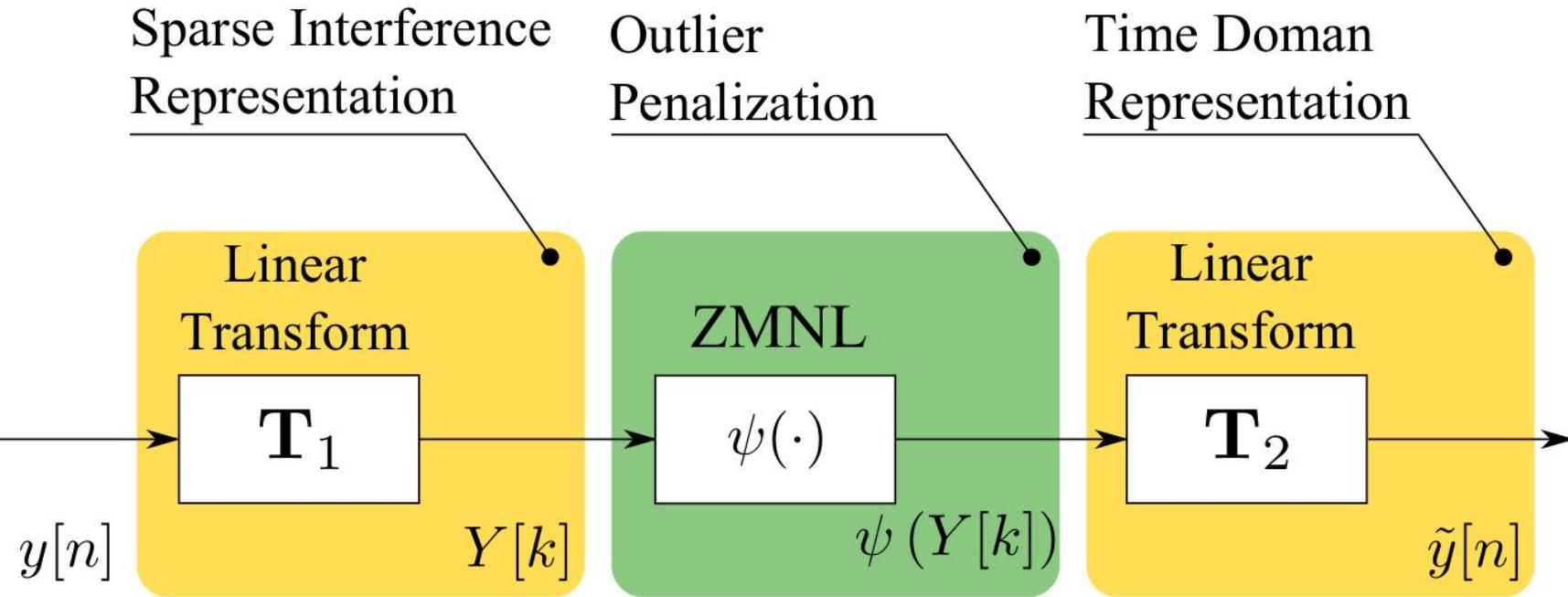
**Conclusions**



Code and data  
samples  
available at:

[https://github.com/  
borioda/gnss\\_jamming\\_  
demo](https://github.com/borioda/gnss_jamming_demo)

# Robust Interference Mitigation



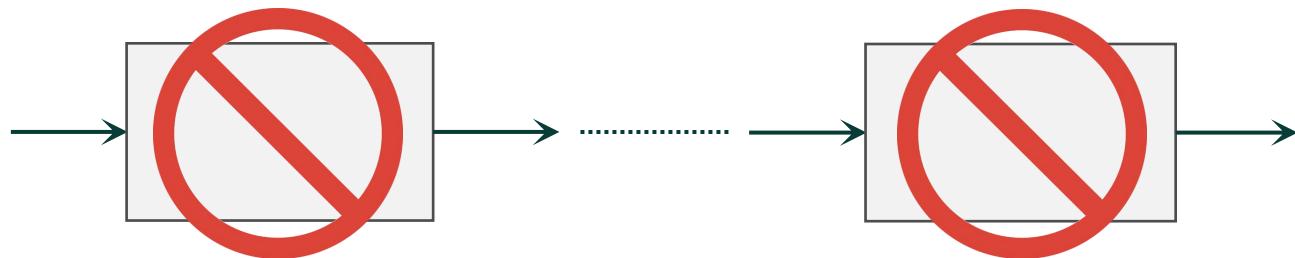
- Four techniques:**
- Time Domain Pulse Blanking (TDPB)
  - Time Domain Complex Signum (TDCS)
  - Frequency Domain Pulse Blanking (FDPB)
  - Frequency Domain Complex Signum (FDCS)

**Three Steps:**

- 1) **Linear Transform,  $\mathbf{T}_1(\cdot)$ :** bring the samples in a domain where **interference is sparse**
- 2) **Zero-Memory Non-Linearity,  $\psi(\cdot)$ :** penalize the impact of **outliers**
- 3) **Second Linear Transform,  $\mathbf{T}_2(\cdot)$ :** samples back in the **time domain**

# Transforms and Non-Linearities

## Time Domain



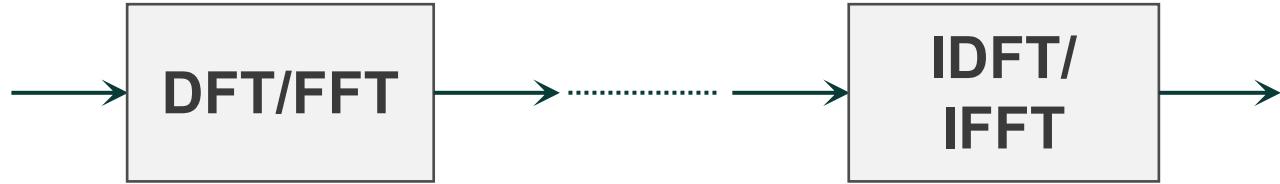
No Transform needed (**filtering could be used**)

## Complex Signum

$$\psi(Y[k]) = \begin{cases} \frac{Y[k]}{|Y[k]|} & \text{if } Y[k] \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } Y[k] = 0 \end{cases}$$

Use phase information only

## Frequency Domain



Periodic interference signals (**CW, swept**)  
have a **line (sparse)** spectrum

## Pulse Blanking

$$\psi(Y[k]) = \begin{cases} Y[k] & \text{if } |Y[k]| < T_h \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$T_h$ : decision threshold

## Frequency excision techniques

# Adaptive Notch Filter

Remove **instantaneously narrowband interference** by applying a notch in the frequency domain

Filter transfer function

$$H_{ANF}(z) = \frac{1 - z_0 z^{-1}}{1 - k_\alpha z_0 z^{-1}}$$

Pole contraction factor

$$0 \leq k_\alpha < 1$$

Notch frequency

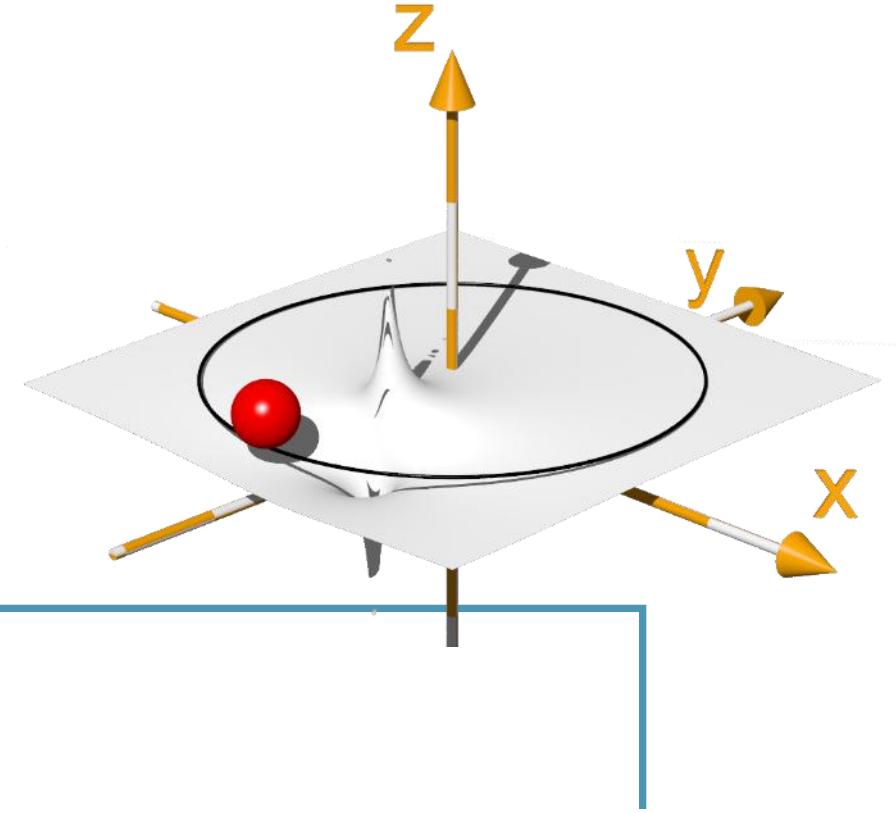
$$z_0 = A_0 \exp \left\{ j2\pi \frac{f_0}{f_s} \right\}$$

track interference frequency

$k_\alpha$  close to 1: **narrow frequency notch**  
**slower adaptation**, closer to **instability**

Effective for signals of the type:

$$i[n] \approx z_0 i[n - 1]$$



# Adaptation Process

$z_0$  estimated epoch by epoch:  
minimization of the **energy of the output signal**

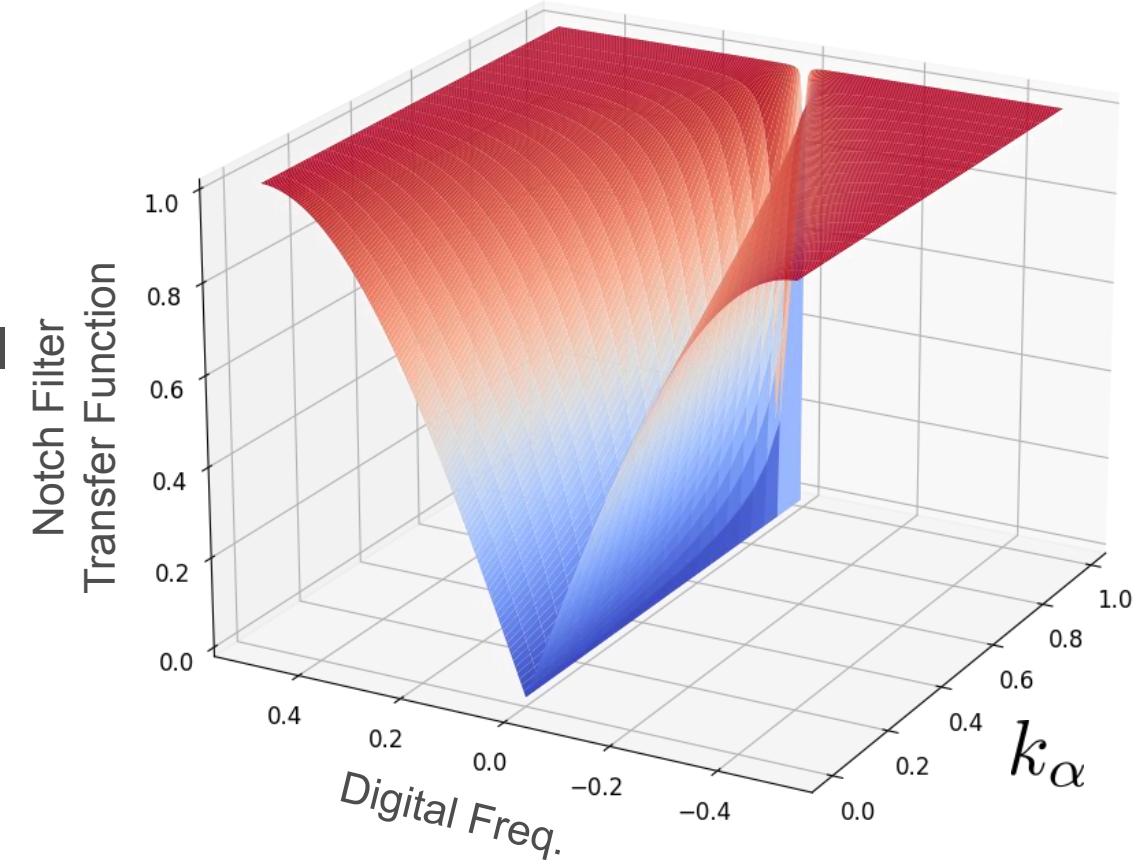
**gradient descent algorithm:**

$$z_0[n + 1] = z_0[n] + \frac{\delta}{E_y} \tilde{y}[n] y_{AR}^*[n]$$

input signal energy       $\delta$       adaptation step  
output signal

$$y_{AR}[n] = y[n] + k_\alpha z_0[n] y_{AR}[n - 1]$$

output of the Auto-Regressive  
(AR) part



$$H_{ANF}(z) = \frac{1 - z_0 z^{-1}}{1 - k_\alpha z_0 z^{-1}}$$

Two parameters: **pole contraction factor**,  $k_\alpha$ , and **adaptation step**,  $\delta$

# Parameter Settings

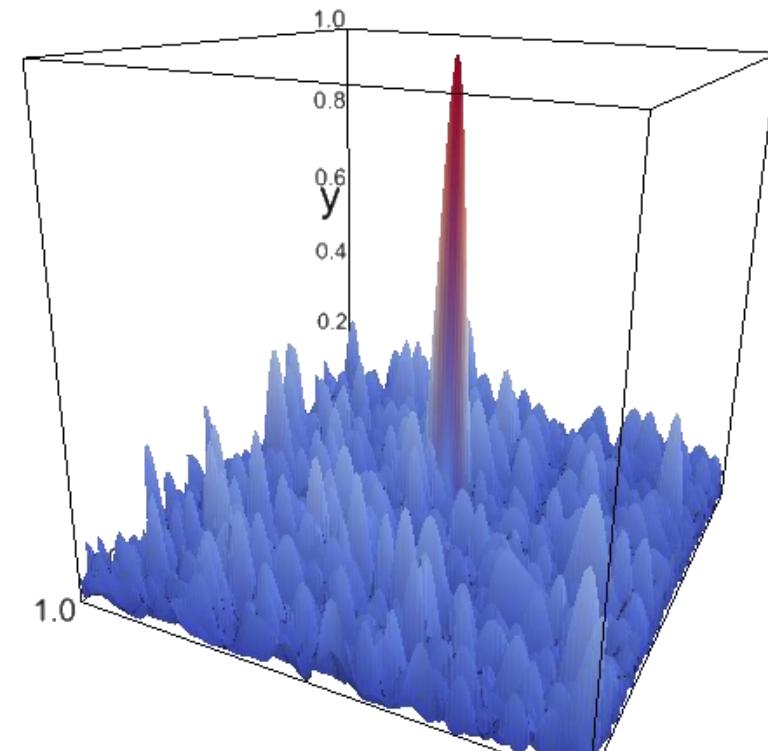
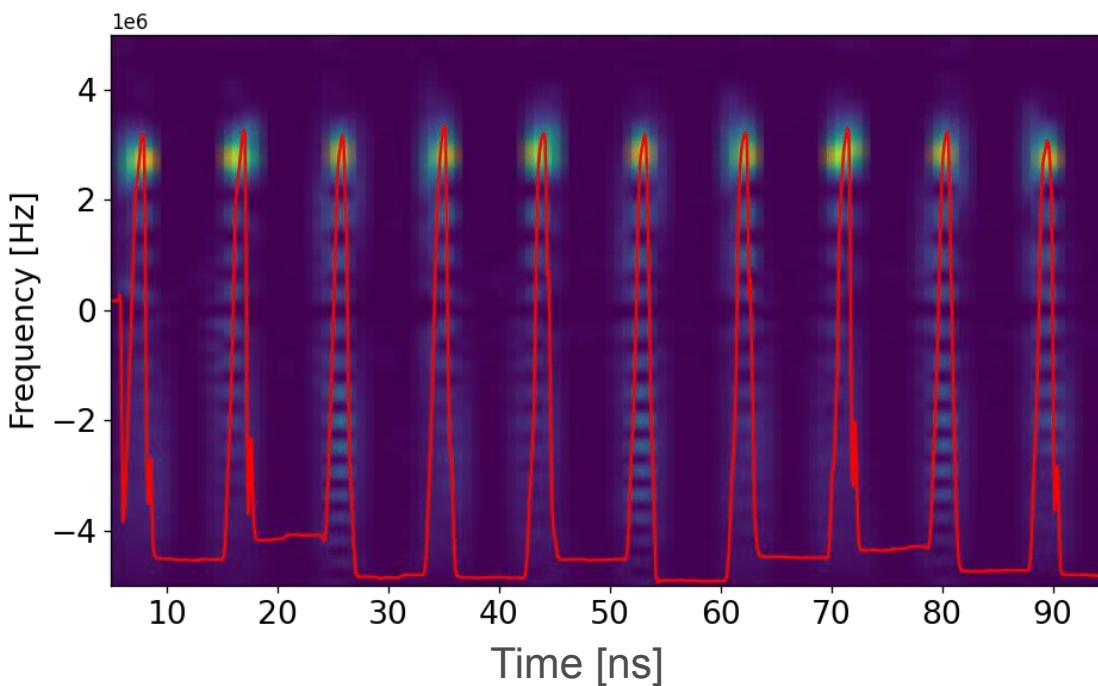
TABLE 1 Interference mitigation parameters and typical values

Technique	Parameter	Value	Comments and references
ANF	Pole contraction factor, $k_\alpha$	[0.7,0.9]	For swept interference (Borio , O'Driscoll, and Fortuny, 2012; Qin, Dovis, et al., 2019; Qin, Troglia Gamba, et al., 2019; Troglia Gamba et al., 2012; Wendel et al., 2016)
		[0.9,0.98]	For CWI (Calmettes et al., 2001; Raasakka & Orejas, 2014; Troglia Gamba et al., 2012)
	Adaptation step, $\delta$	$\delta < \sqrt{\frac{1-k_\alpha}{4}}$ , [0.001,0.1]	(Calmettes et al., 2001; Qin et al., 2019; Wendel et al., 2016)
PB	Decision Threshold, $T_h$	$\alpha_T \sigma$	Require noise floor estimation (Bastide, Chatre et al., 2004; Raimondi et al., 2008; Rugamer et al., 2017; Wang et al., 2010)
		quantization level	Noise floor estimated by the AGC (Bastide, Macabiau et al., 2003; Borio & Cano, 2013; Hegarty et al., 2000)
complex signum	Parameter free		(Borio & Closas, 2018)

... complete literature review in the paper

# Live Demo

- Processing of jamming data with the ANF
- Impact of different IM techniques on the Cross-Ambiguity Function (CAF) - Acquisition stage



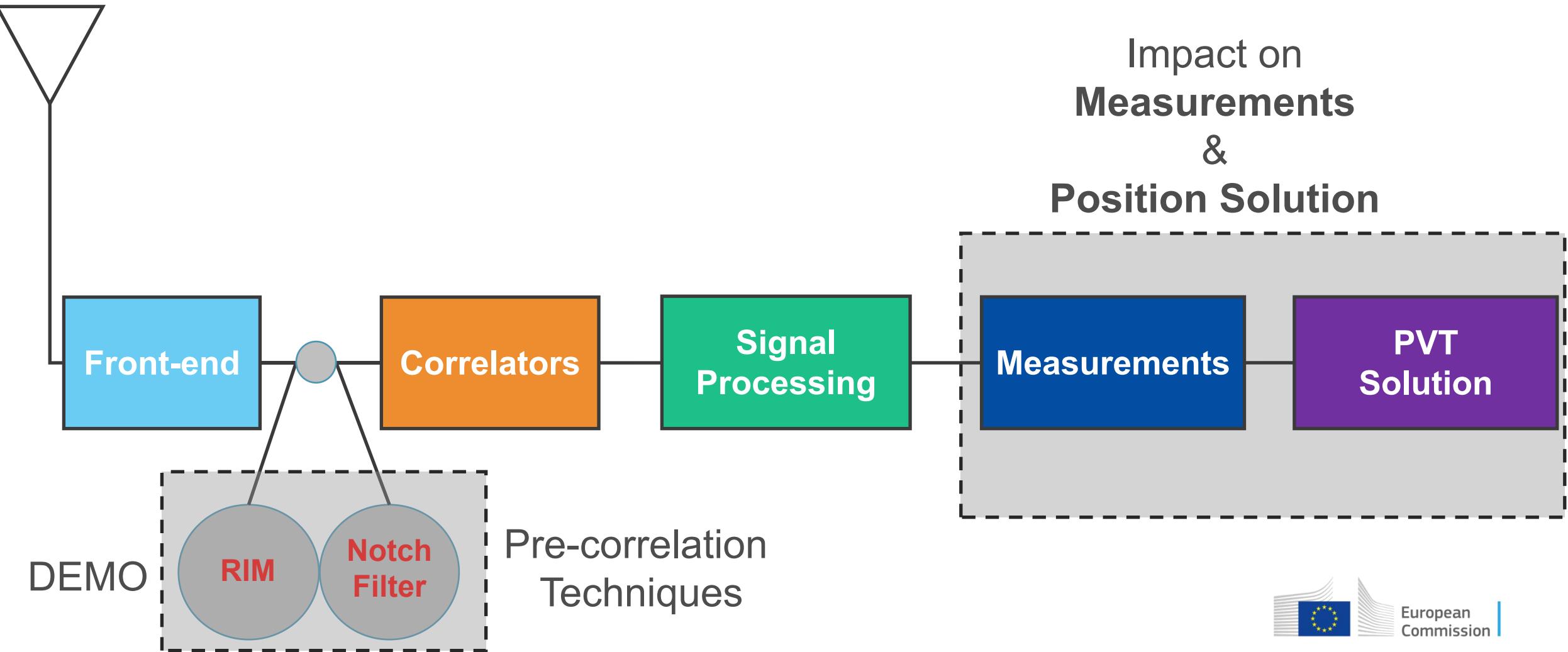
developed in python and provided as Jupyter Notebooks



<https://jupyter.org/>  
“The Jupyter Notebook is an open-source web application that allows you to create and share documents that contain live code, equations, visualizations and narrative text”

# GNSS Processing Stages

Antenna

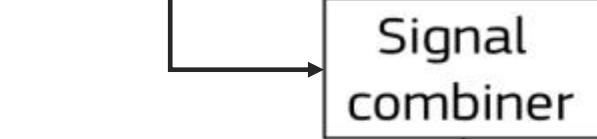


# Experimental Setup (I/II)

Live clean GNSS signals 3 modulations:  
BPSK(1), BOC(1, 1) and BPSK(10)

**SDR** approach:

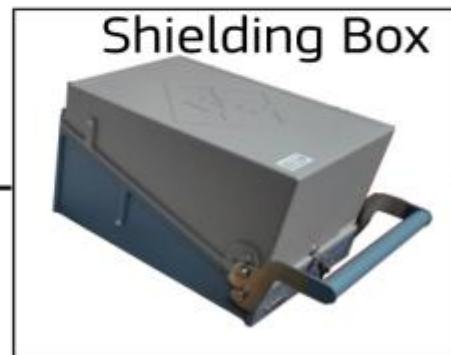
data stored to disk and  
re-processed several  
times



I/Q samples  
SDR processing



Variable  
attenuator:  
varies  
jamming  
power



jammer inside

**Custom**  
Matlab  
**software**  
receiver

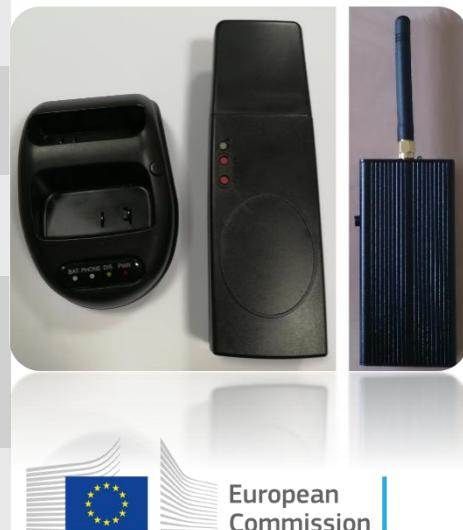
# Experimental Setup (II/II)

Several tests: effect of **signal quantization** and **GNSS modulations**

In all tests: jammer power up to **front-end saturation**

GPS and Galileo analyzed **separately**

Parameter	Test 1	Test 2	Test E5B
Samp. Freq.	10 MHz	10 MHz	20 MHz
Cent. Freq.	1575.42 MHz	1575.42 MHz	1207.14 MHz
Bits	8	16	8
Attenuation step	1 dB	1 dB	0.25 dB
Attenuation step Interval	30s	20s	2s
Jammer Type	Swept	Swept	Swept



# Test 1 on GPS L1 C/A and Galileo E1C

Total length: about 15 min

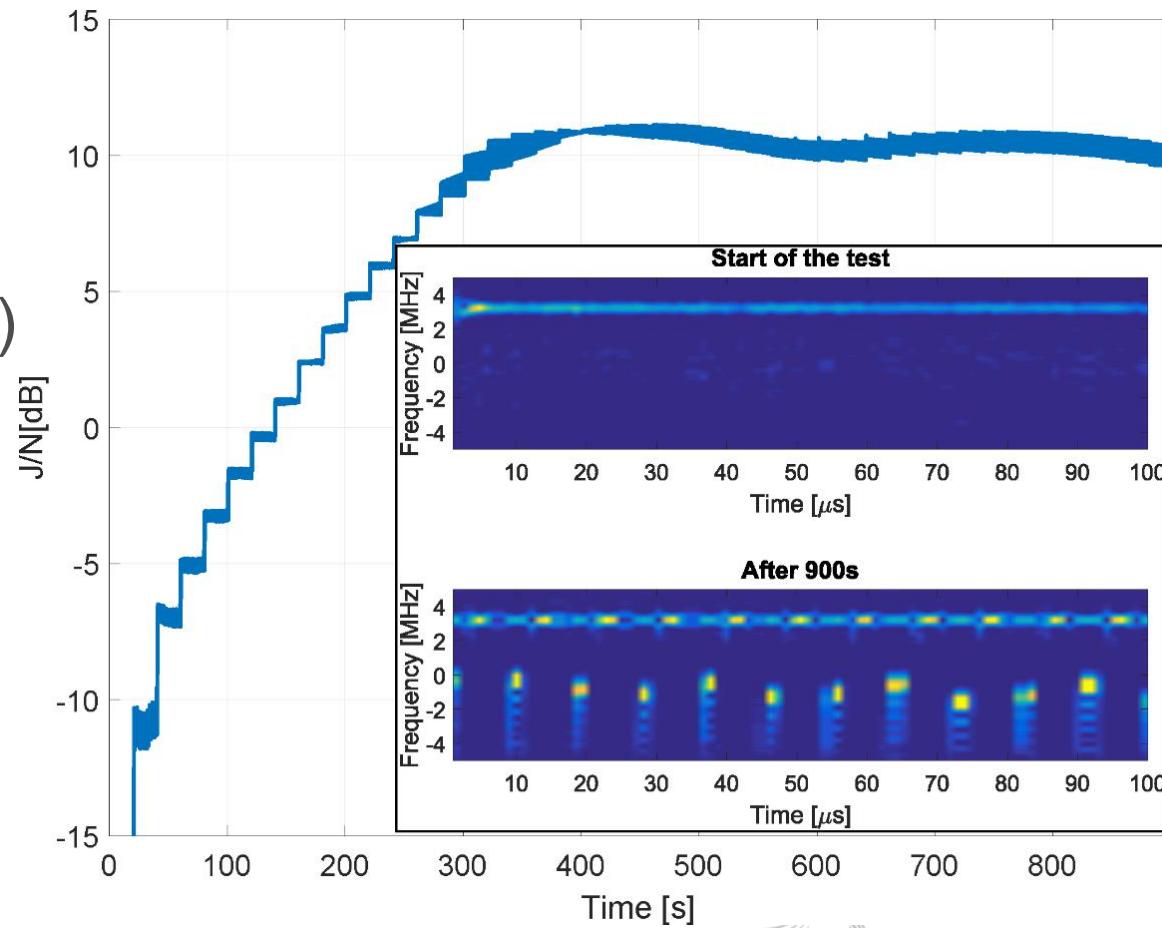
First 100s: negligible jamming  
front-end saturation after 400 s

GPS L1 C/A and Galileo E1C (pilot processing)  
analyzed separately: **two independent  
solutions**

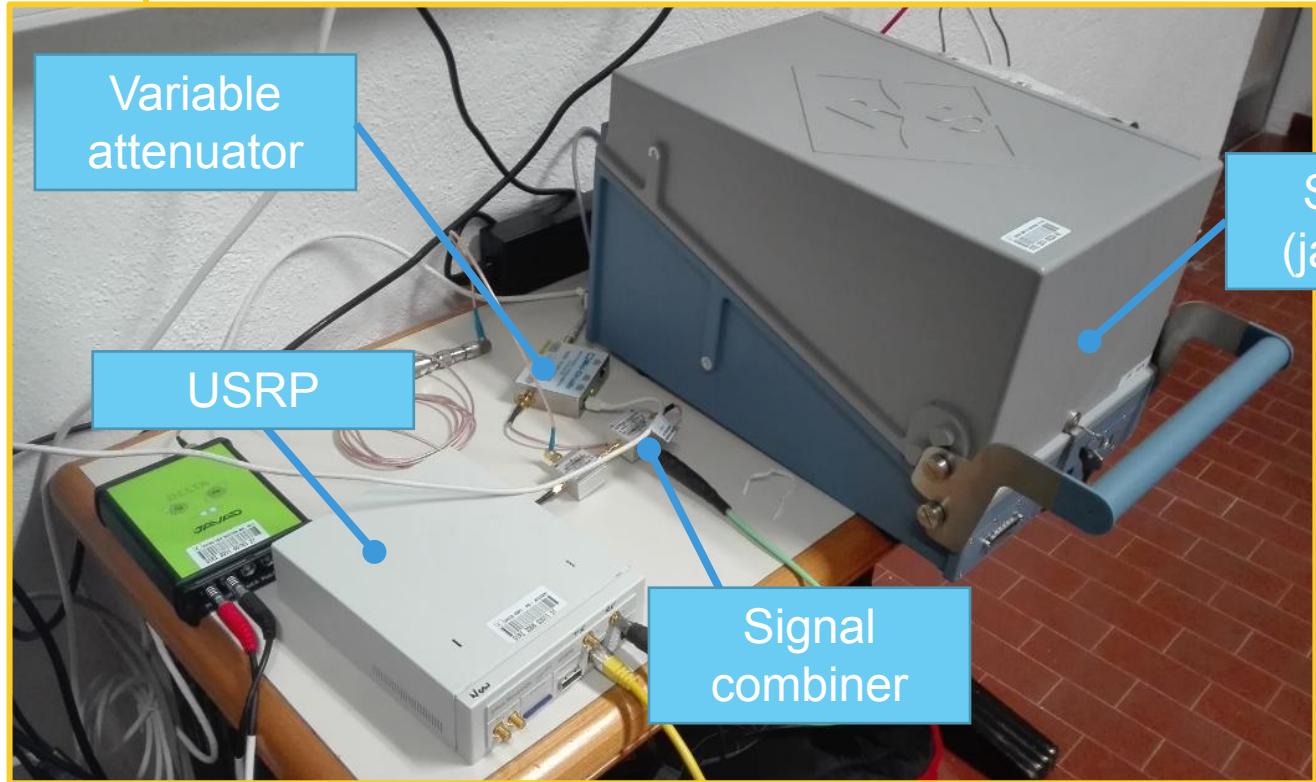


8 Bit quantization

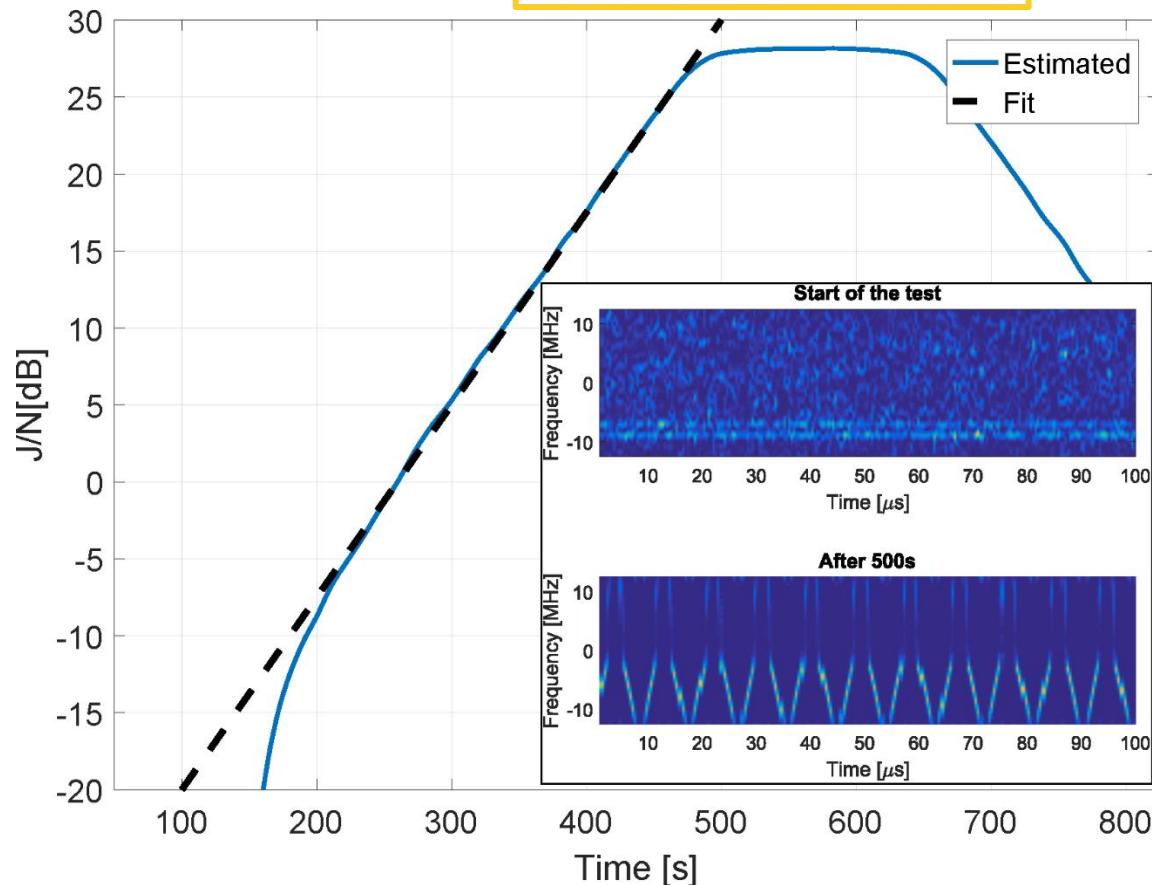
Wideband interference



# Test on E5B



NonSMA-Battery  
Jammer in the shape of  
a DECT



Total length about 15 min, first 100 s  
negligible jamming, front-end saturation after 500 s

Wideband interference  
Galileo E5B position solution

# L1 Pseudorange Differences

$$\Delta Pr(t) = Pr_{NoMit}(t) - Pr_{Mit}(t)$$

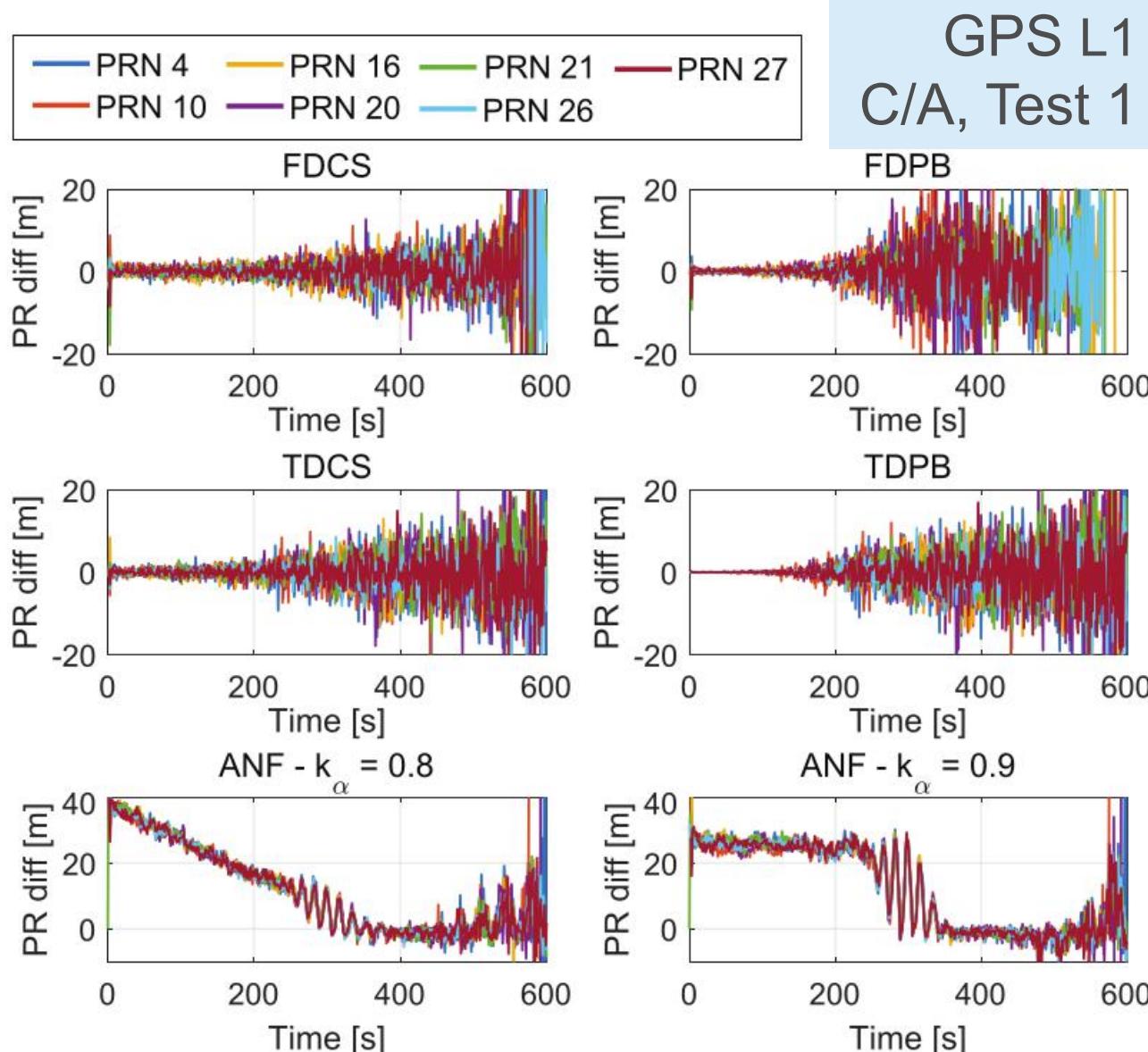
**Average Pseudorange Differences** under low jamming (first 100 seconds of Test 1): **decimeter level** (processing noise level)

**Increased variance** due to the effect of the **increased jammer power**

Pseudorange differences: **zero mean** for RIM

ANF: **delay common** to all pseudoranges

**Impact of ANF parameters**



# E1C Pseudorange Differences

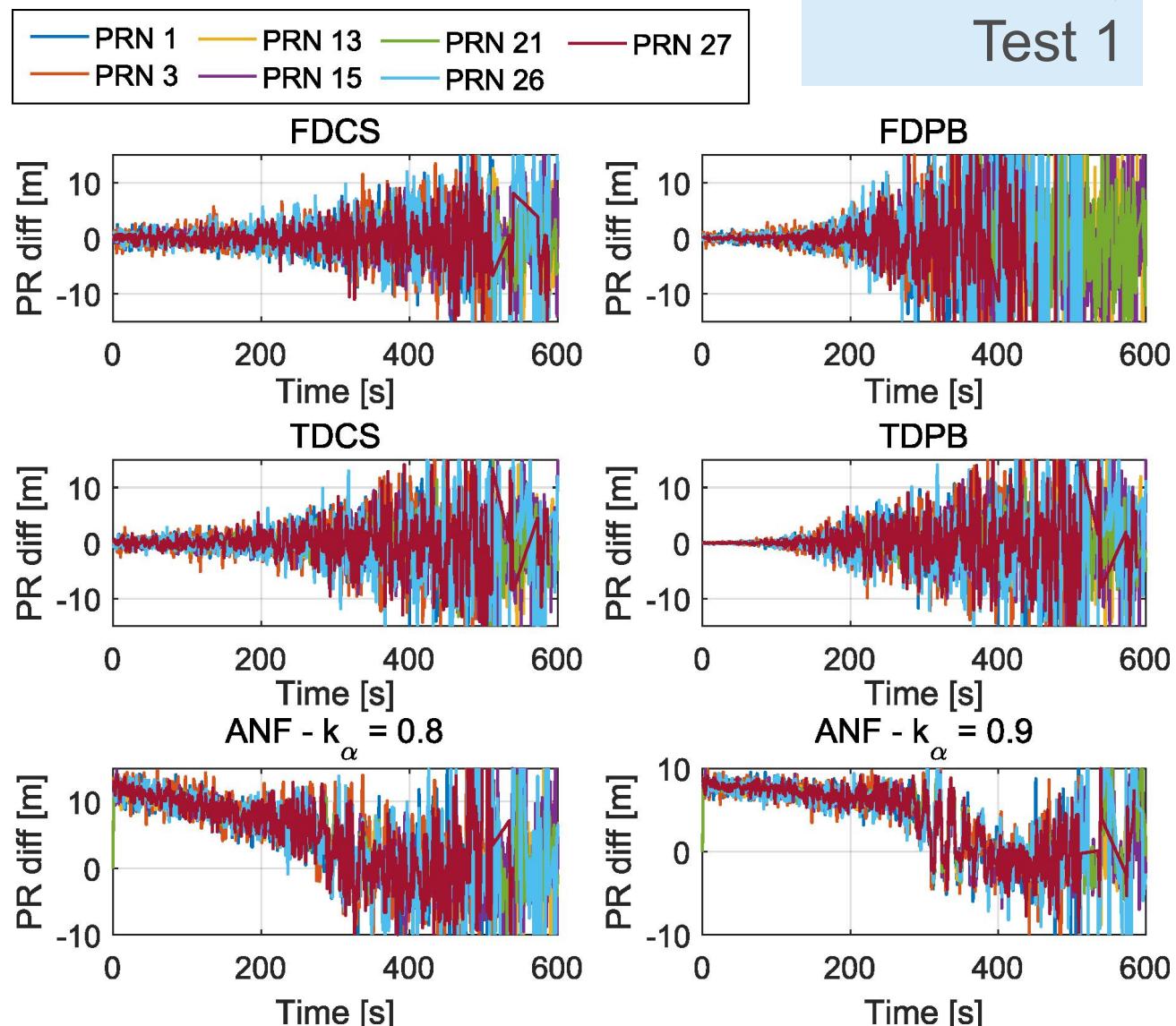
RIM techniques do not introduce biases on pseudoranges for Galileo as well

**ANF delay:** time-varying due to the progressively increase of jamming power

Different delays on GPS and Galileo: **modulation dependent bias**

Delay difficult to predict

Galileo E1C,  
Test 1



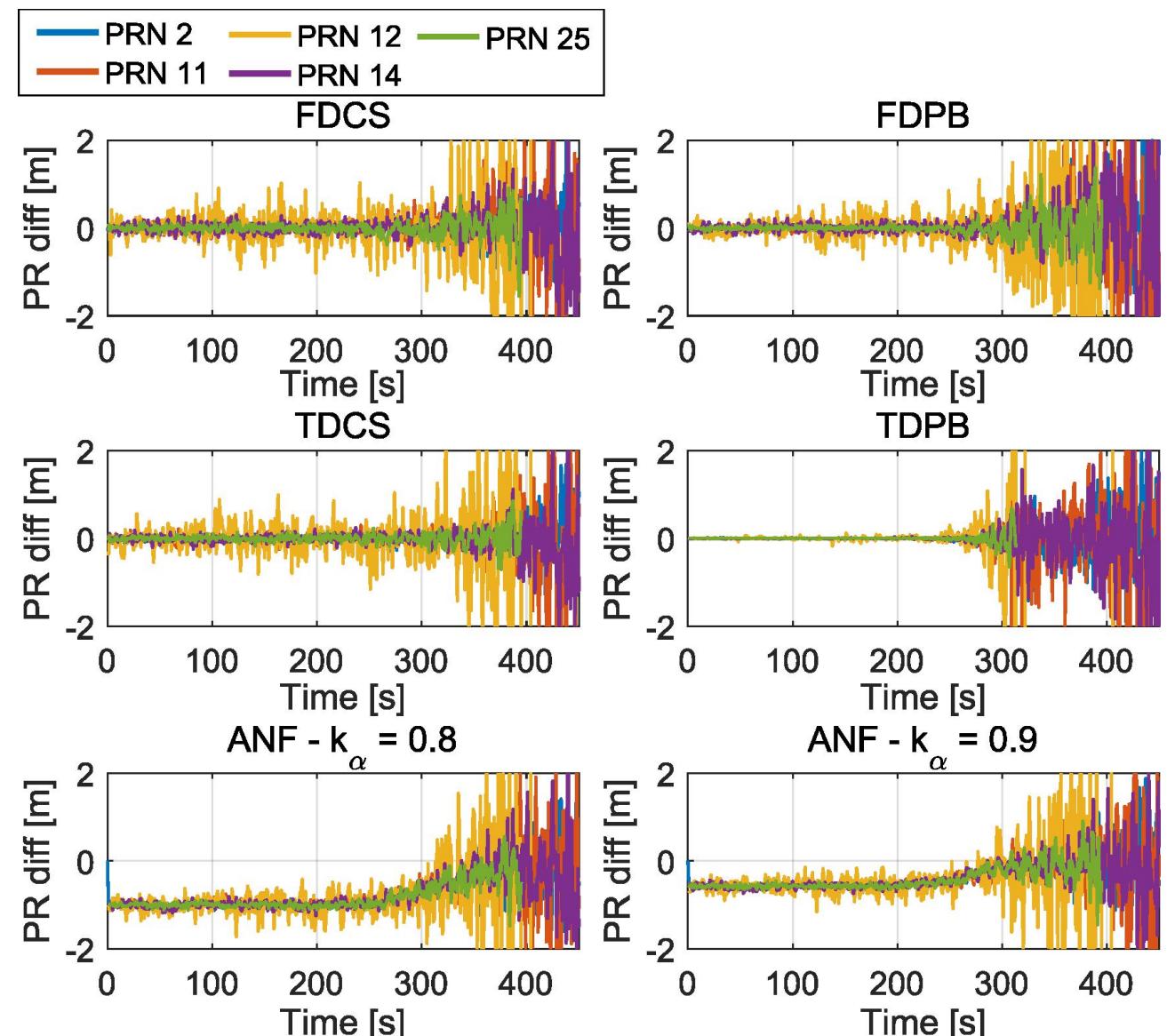
# E5B Pseudorange Differences

Also in this case: **no biases** for RIM

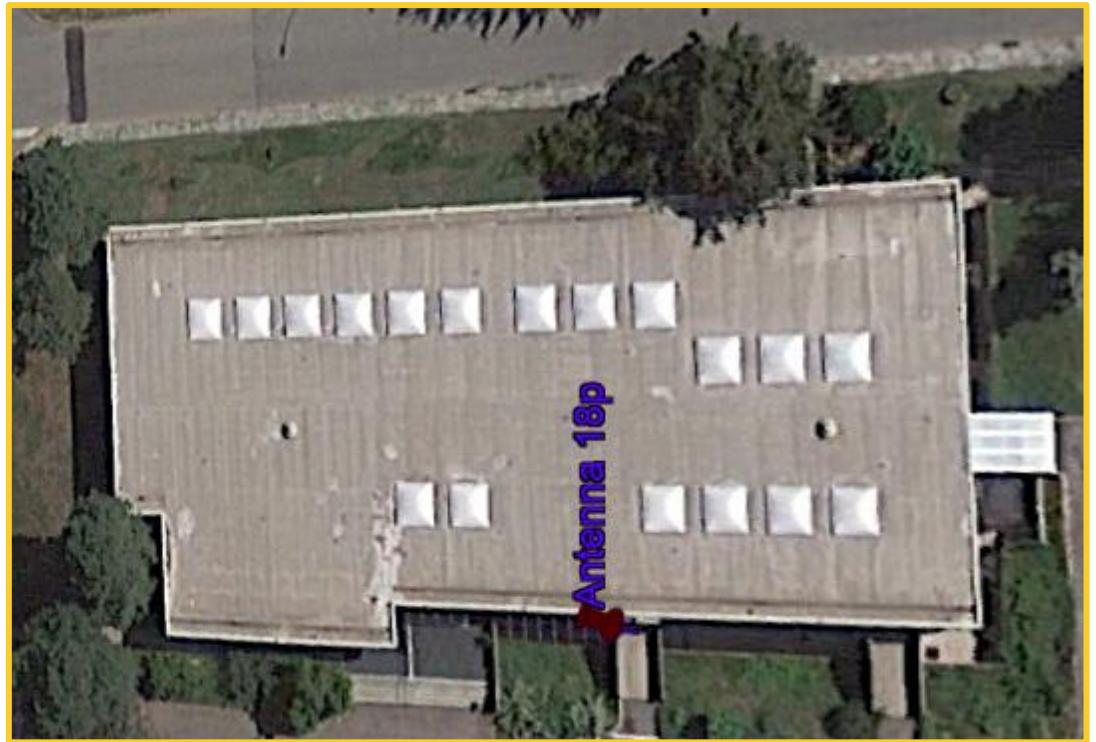
**Low jamming conditions: difference in the cm level**

**Time Domain processing: most effective**

**Clear bias** observed for the ANF  
(1 m for  $k_\alpha = 0.8$ , 0.6 m for  $k_\alpha = 0.9$ )  
decreasing to zero after about 300 seconds



# Position Domain Analysis



**Antenna location carefully surveyed (known coordinates)**

Position solution: **Weighted Least Squares (WLS)**, weights based on satellite elevation

For the different cases: **comparison of position error time series**

# Position Domain Analysis (I/III)

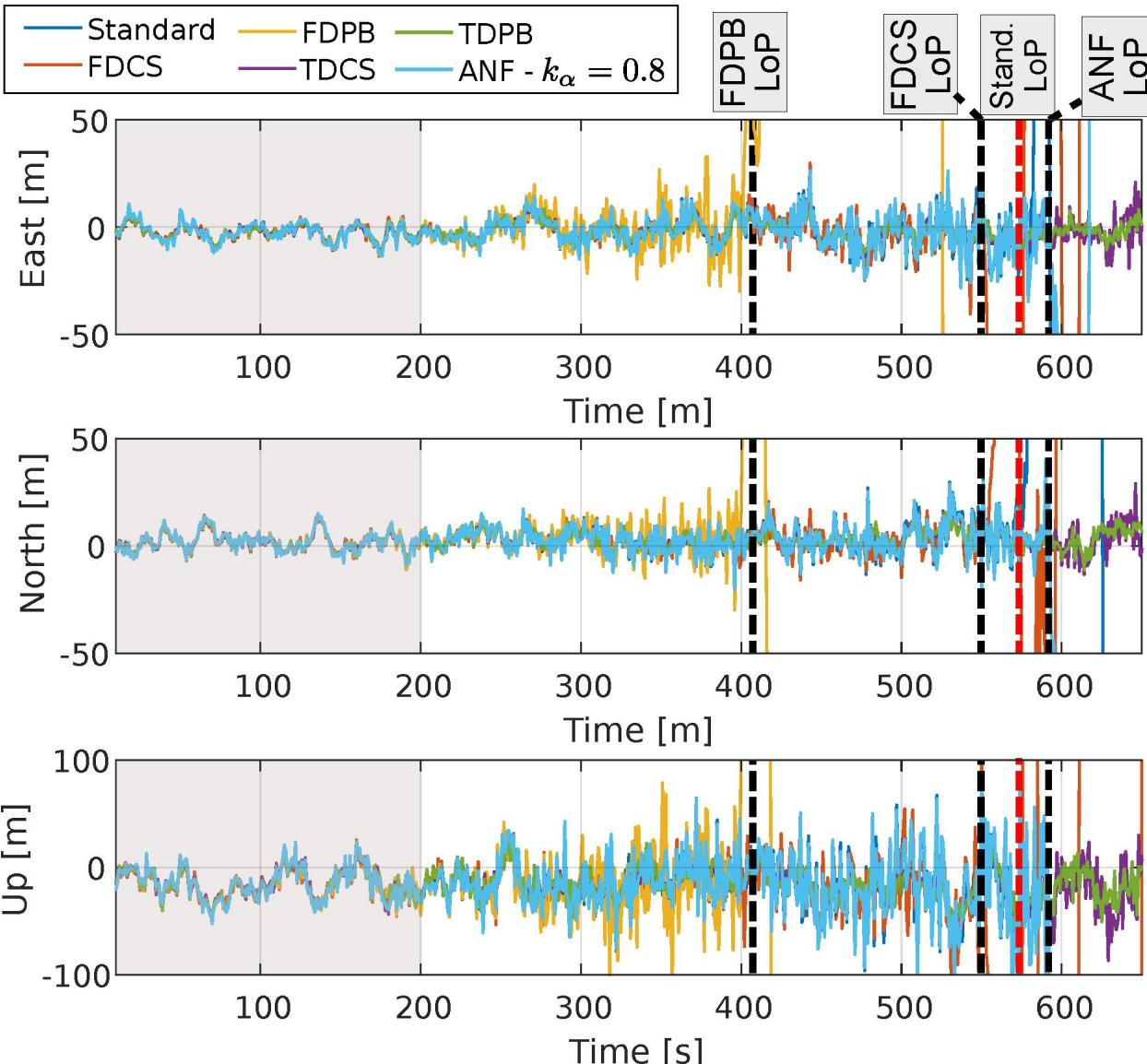
GPS L1  
C/A, Test 1

**Benefits of RIM:** TD RIM quite effective

**FDPB** deteriorates performance:  
**increased variance and early solution unavailability, ...**  
(see discussion during demo)

**FDCTS** does not improve wrt standard processing

**ANF no significant improvements**



# Position Domain Analysis (II/III)

Galileo E1C,  
Test 1

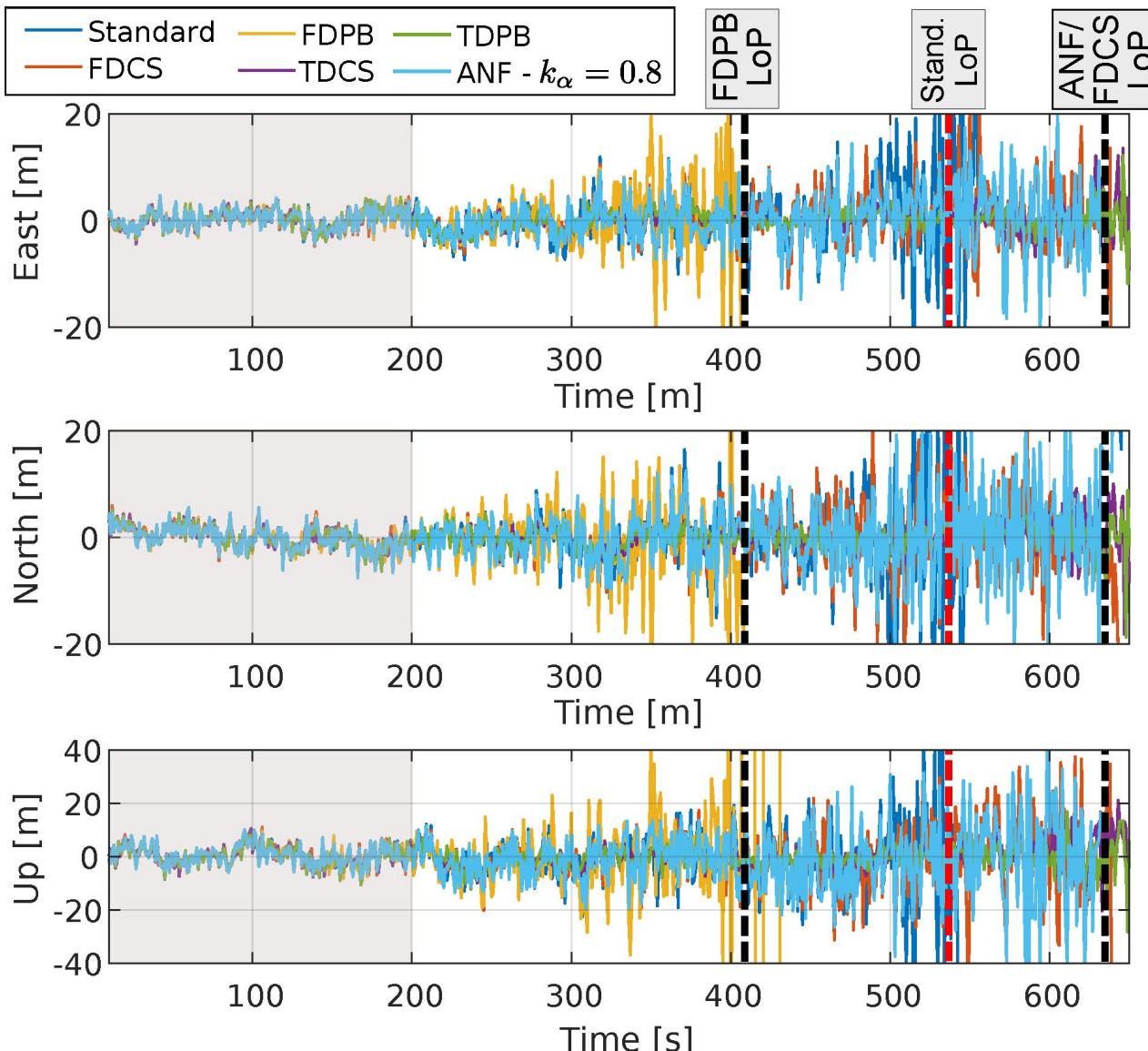
Findings similar to the GPS L1 case

No degradations for low levels of jamming

Frequency domain RIM ineffective due to the jamming signal nature

TD techniques: the most effective

Improved solution availability with respect to GPS mainly due to pilot processing

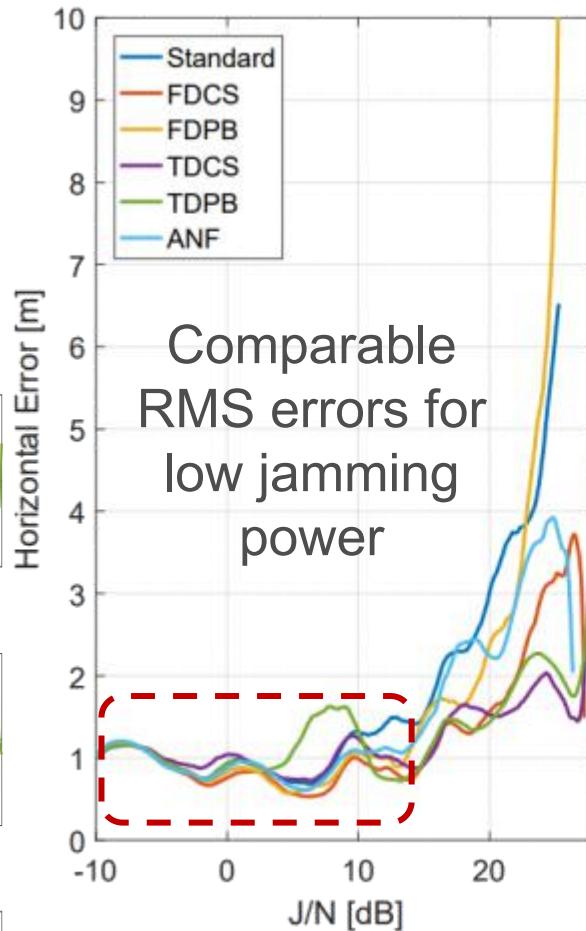
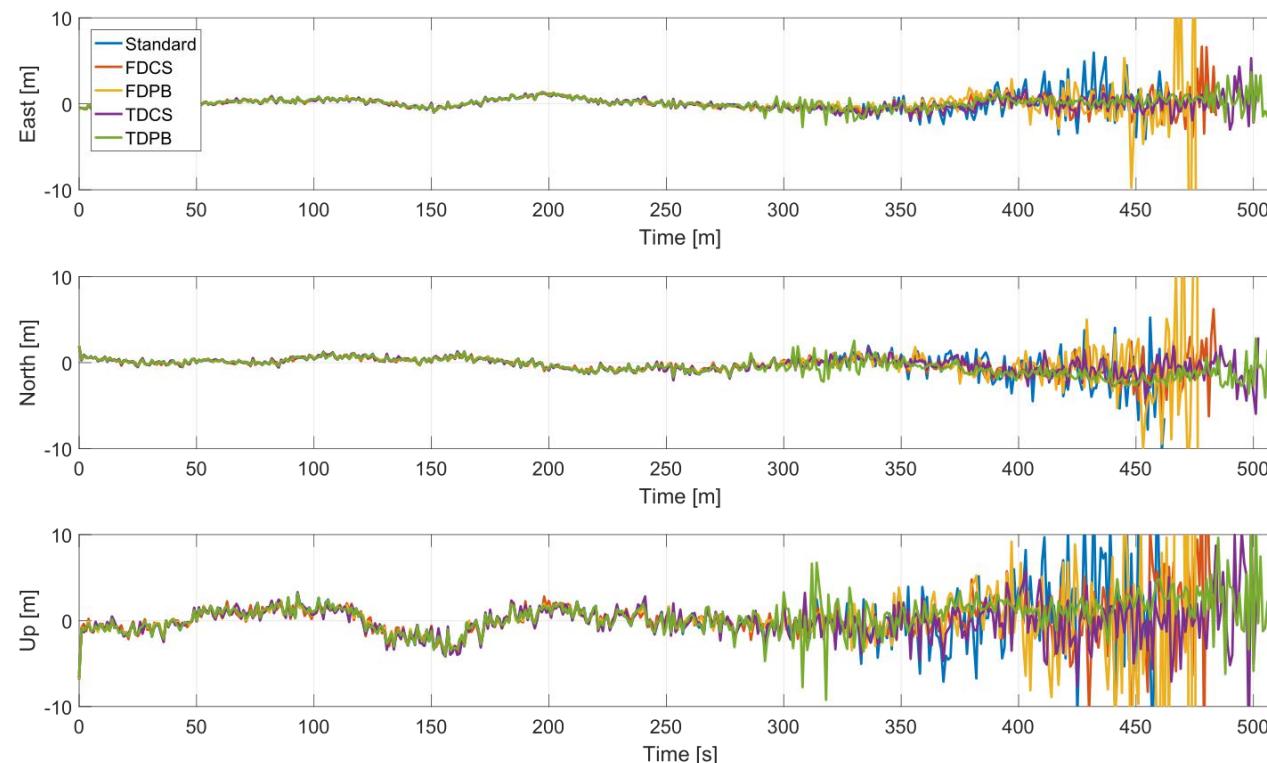


# Position Domain Analysis (III/III)

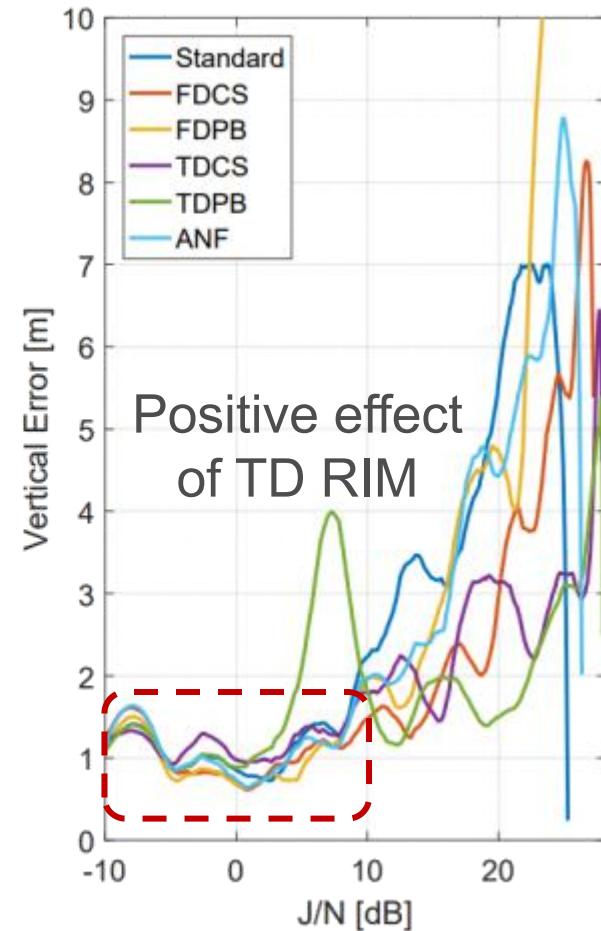
Galileo  
E5B

No bias introduced in the position time series

Benefits of RIM



Comparable  
RMS errors for  
low jamming  
power



Positive effect  
of TD RIM

Also in this case, **FDPB not effective**  
(performance degradation)

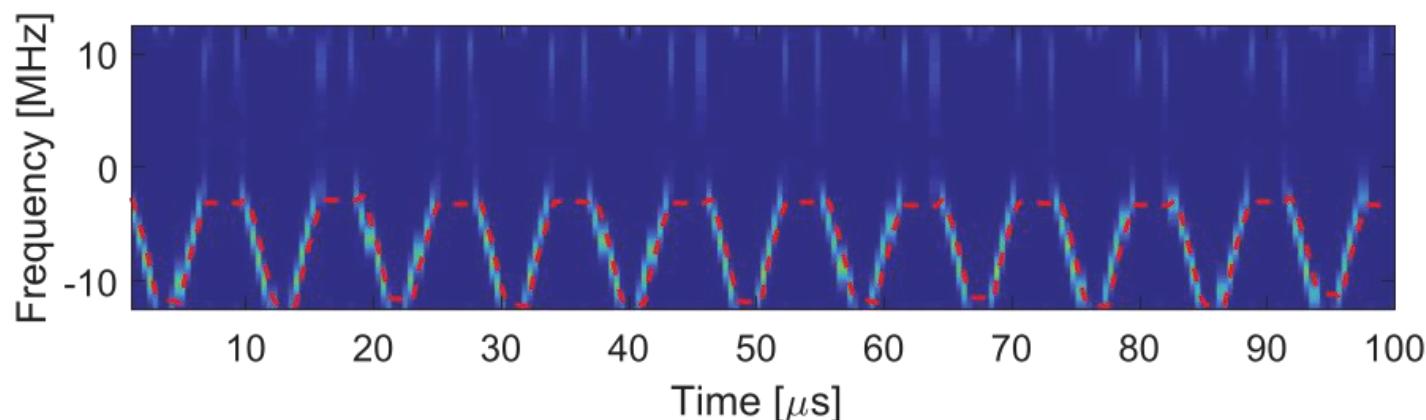
# Conclusions

RIM techniques: **no biases** in both measurement and position domains

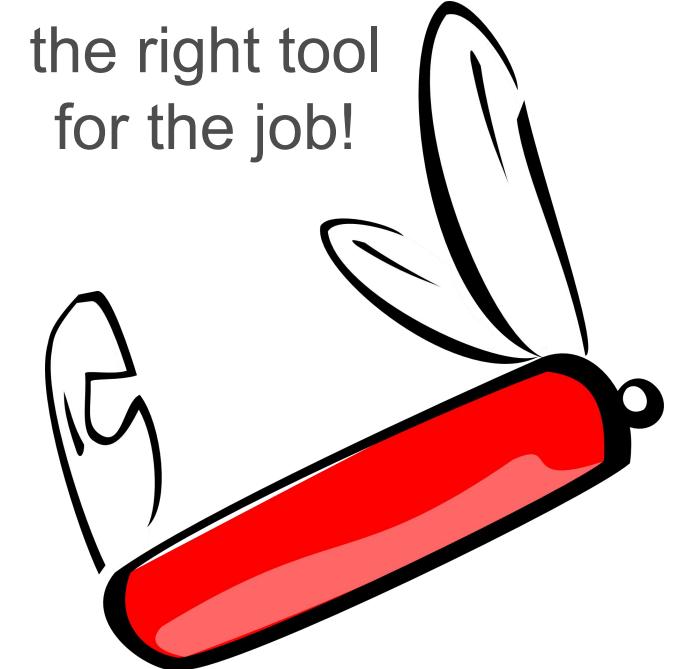
ANF: significant **biases** on the pseudoranges but **no effect** on final **SPP position** solution

**Negligible effects under low jamming conditions**

Significant **improvements** in terms of solution **availability** and **RMS error**



the right tool  
for the job!



**Selection** of the most appropriate technique and of its parameters: space for research

# For more information:

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/navi.391>



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