



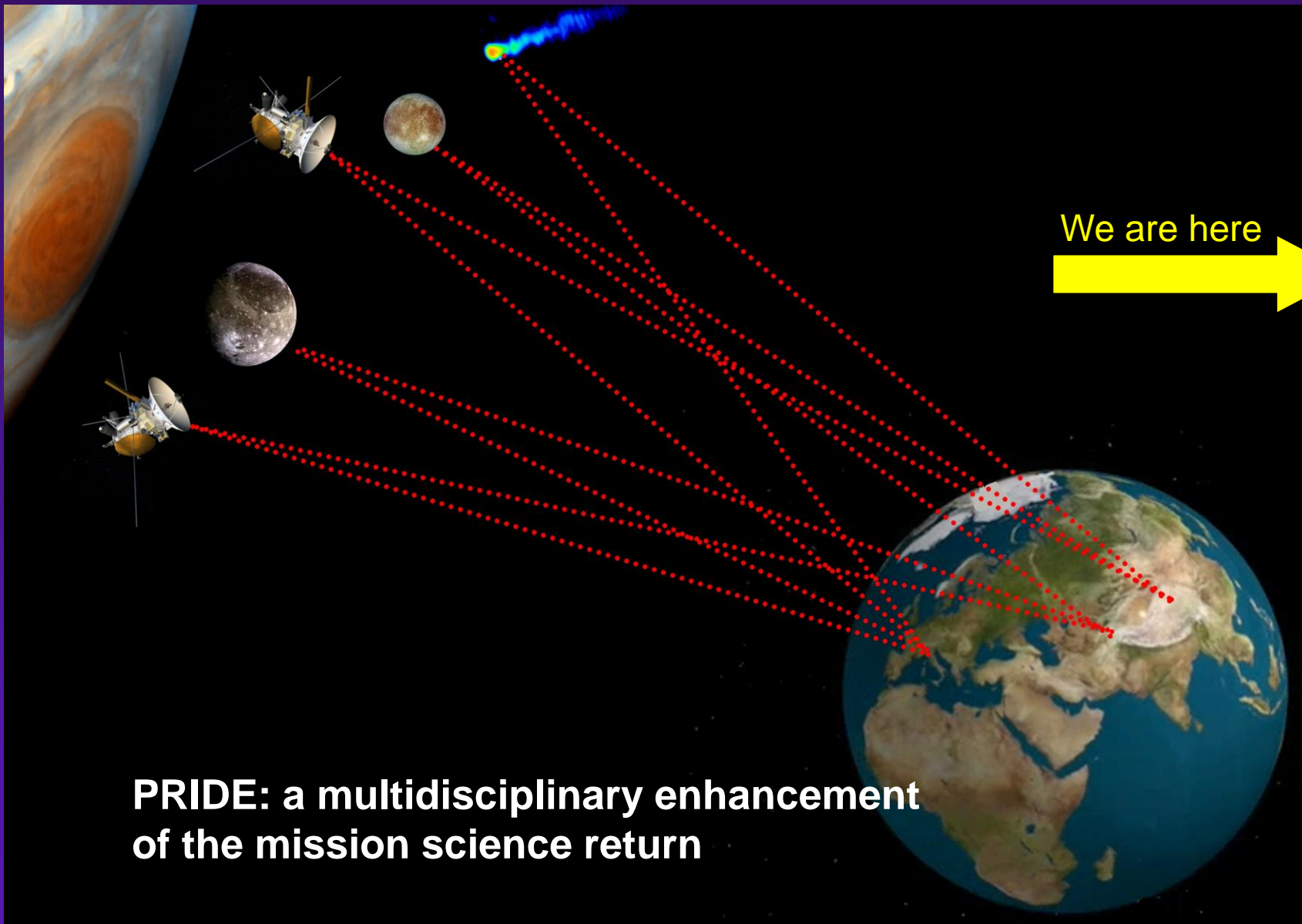
**Planetary Radio Interferometry and  
Doppler Experiment (PRIDE)  
in the IVS context**

***L.I. Gurvits, S.V. Pogrebenko, G. Cimò***

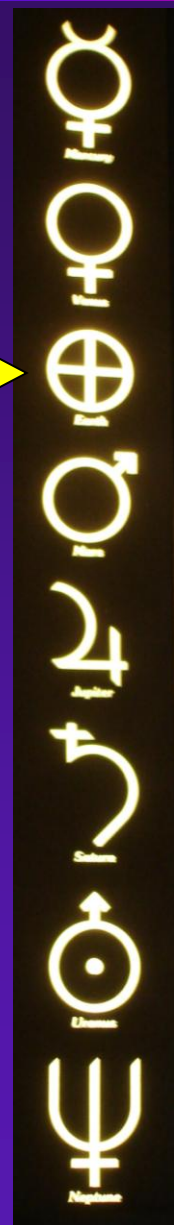
**JIVE, Dwingeloo, The Netherlands**

**and *PRIDE* collaboration**

# Generic PRIDE configuration



**PRIDE: a multidisciplinary enhancement of the mission science return**



# Spacecraft as a celestial radio source

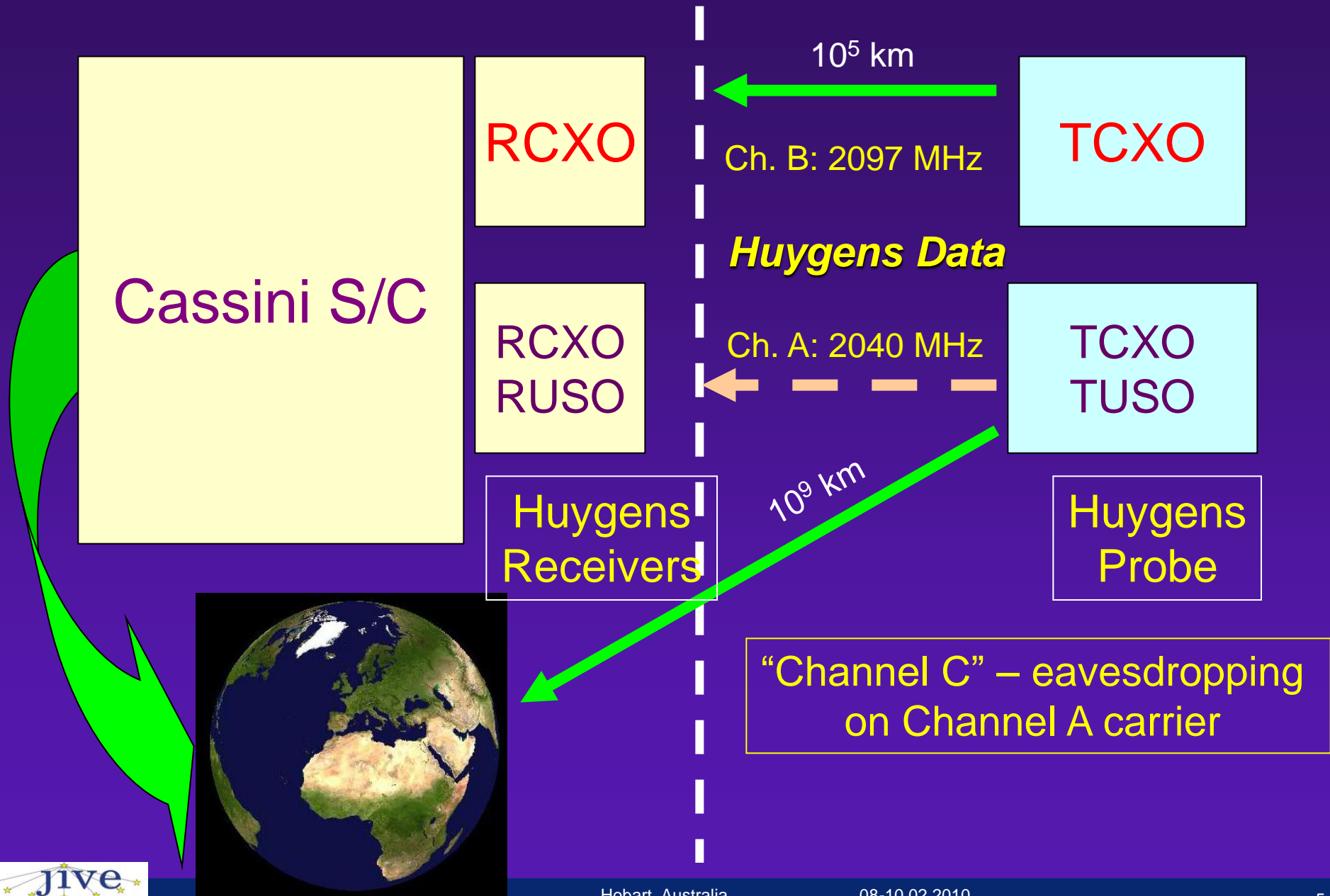
- **Spacecraft tend to be radio loud... actually?**
  - *Transmitter power 1 W*
  - *Distance 5 AU (Jupiter)*
  - *On-board antenna gain 3 dB*
  - *Bandwidth 100 kHz*
- **Operate at frequencies radio astronomers love (or hate):**  
*UHF (400 and 800 MHz), S (2.3 GHz), X (8.4 GHz), Ka (32 GHz)*
- **Estimates of state-vectors of spacecraft:**
  - *Need for “higher-than-standard” accuracy in special cases*
    - *Geodynamics and planetology*
    - *Trajectory measurements in close vicinity of Solar System bodies (e.g. landings)*
    - *Fundamental physics*
    - *Space-borne astrometry missions (e.g. GAIA)*
- **Need for “eavesdropping” (sometimes, in desperation...)**

*Flux density  $\approx 0.5$  mJy*

# ***S/C VLBI presentations at this meeting***

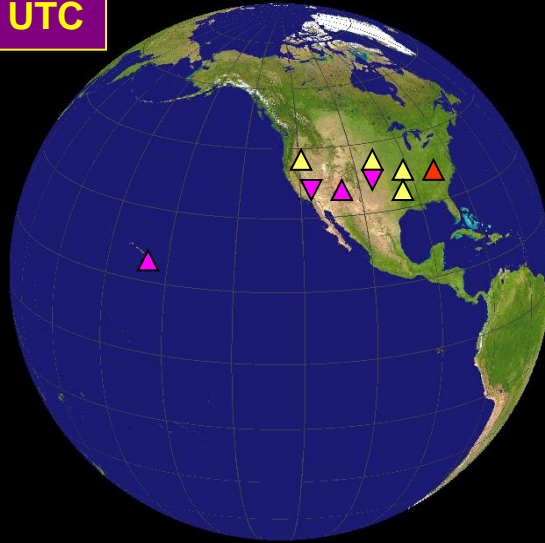
- **S1-T12: How and why to do VLBI on GNSS S/C**  
*John Dickey*
- **S1-T13: Planning of an experiment for VLBI tracking of GNSS satellites**  
*Vincenza Tornatore et al.*
- **S2-T13: Zodiac extragalactic sources densification using phase-referencing technology**  
*Guangli Wang*
- **S5-T06: Lunar, Martian, and Jovian Geodesy and Science Mission Using VLBI and Astrometrical Technology**  
*Takahiro Iwata et al.*
- **S2-P11: Venus Express Spacecraft Observations with the Wettzell Radio Telescope – First Results**  
*Alexander Neidhardt et al.*

# Huygens VLBI tracking: eavesdropping...

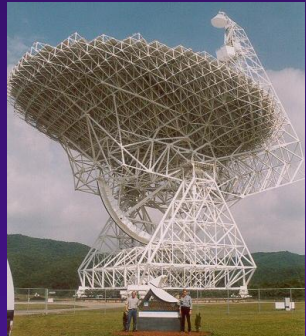
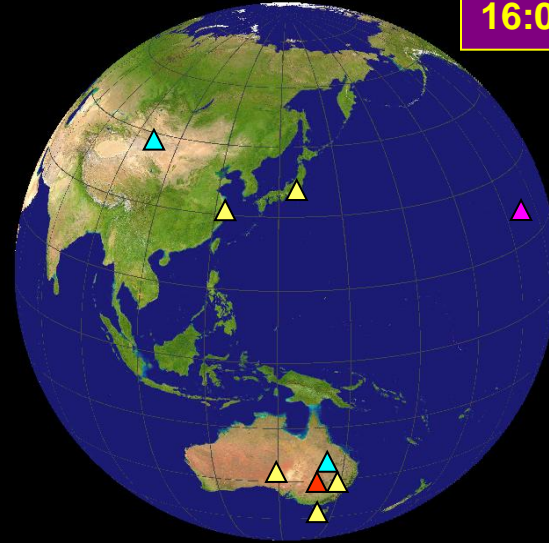


# VLBI tracking of Huygens, 14 January 2005

09:30 UTC



16:00 UTC

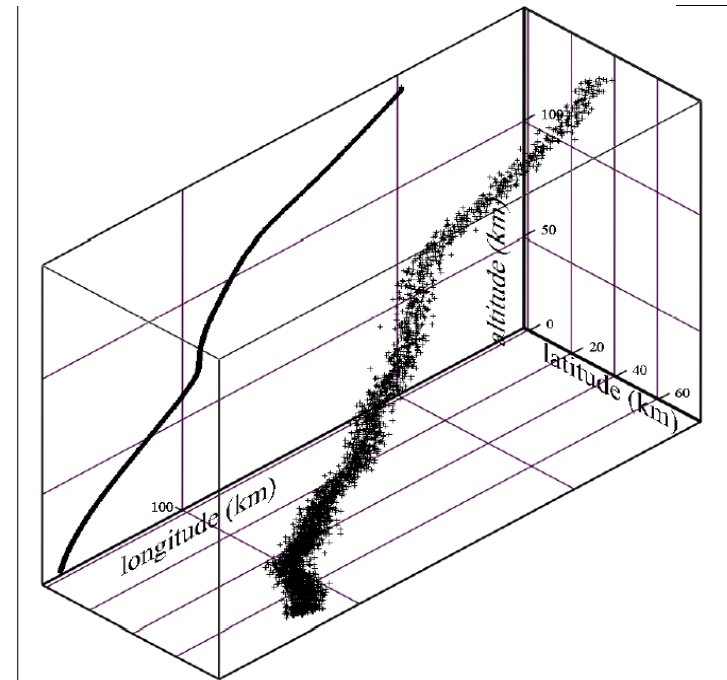


~20 radio photons  
per 25-m telescope  
per second...

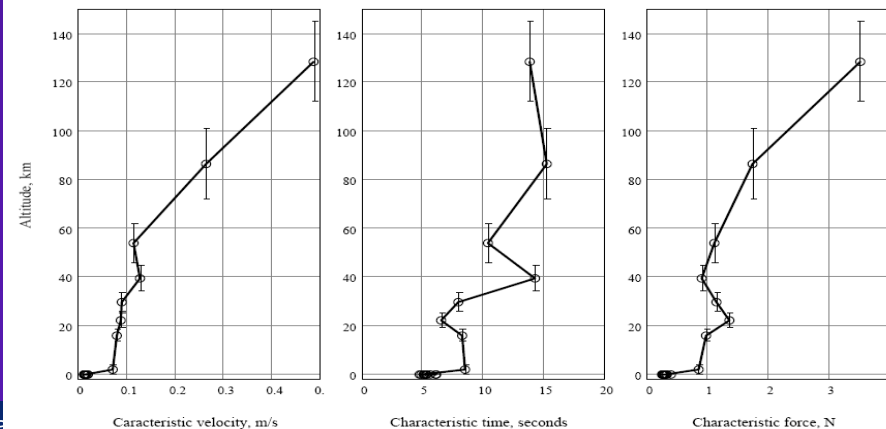
# Huygens VLBI heritage: 20 photons/dish/s



## 3D Huygens descent trajectory

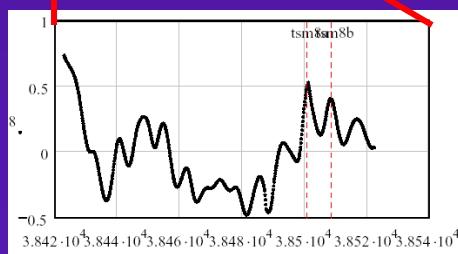
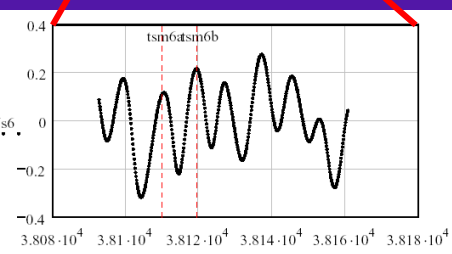
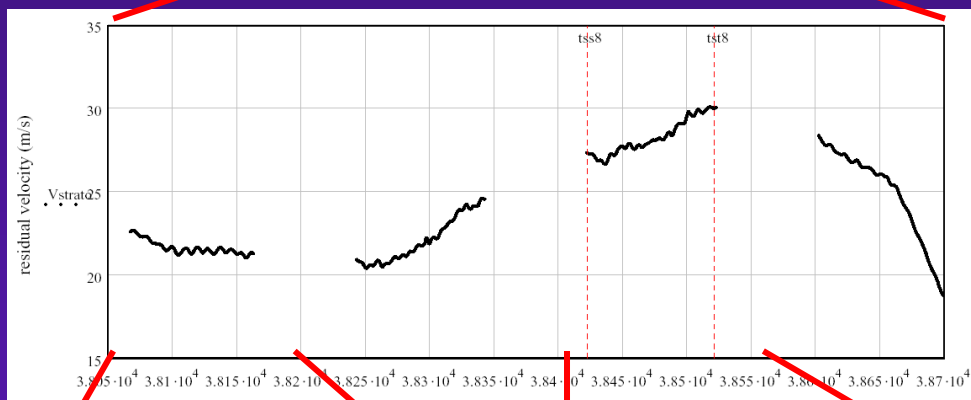
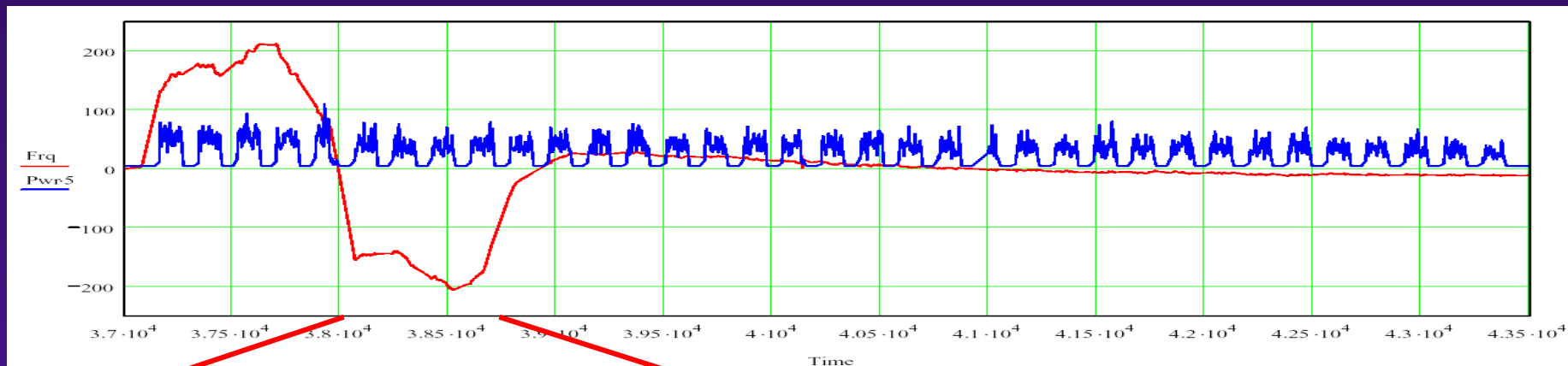


## Titan atmosphere turbulence signature

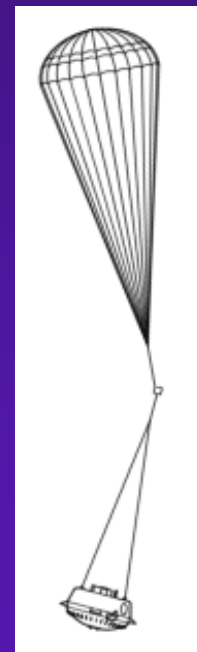
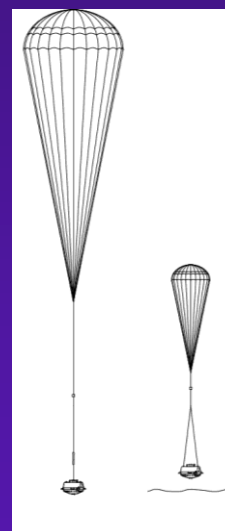


- Ad hoc use of the Huygens “uplink” carrier signal at 2040 MHz
- Utilised 17 Earth-based radio telescopes
- Non-optimal parameters of the experiment (not planned originally)
- Achieved 1 km accuracy of Probe’s descent trajectory determination
- Assisted in achieving one of main science goals of the mission – vertical wind profile

# VLBI processing by-product: Doppler data (probe's motion)



$T = 8 \div 10 \text{ s}$   
 $\Delta V = 0.22 \text{ m/s}$   
 $A \approx 0.6 \text{ m}$



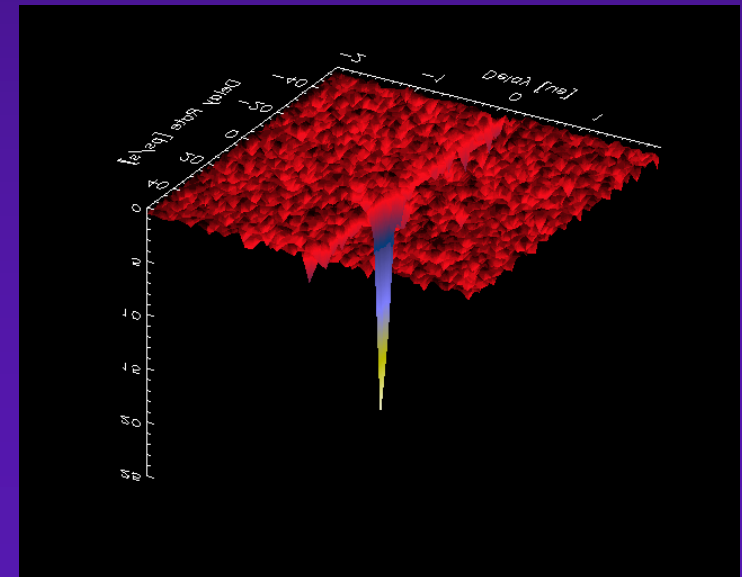
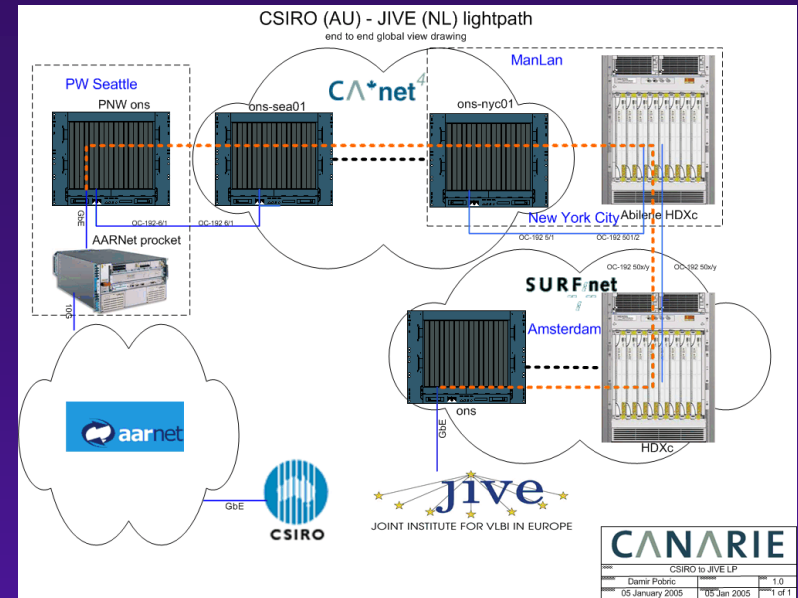
**Data available for analysis!**



# e-VLBI & "Night Flight": 14 – 15 January 2005



A. Tzioumis & C. Phillips, ATNF, acting in near-RT mode



# e-VLBI in action, Feb 2010

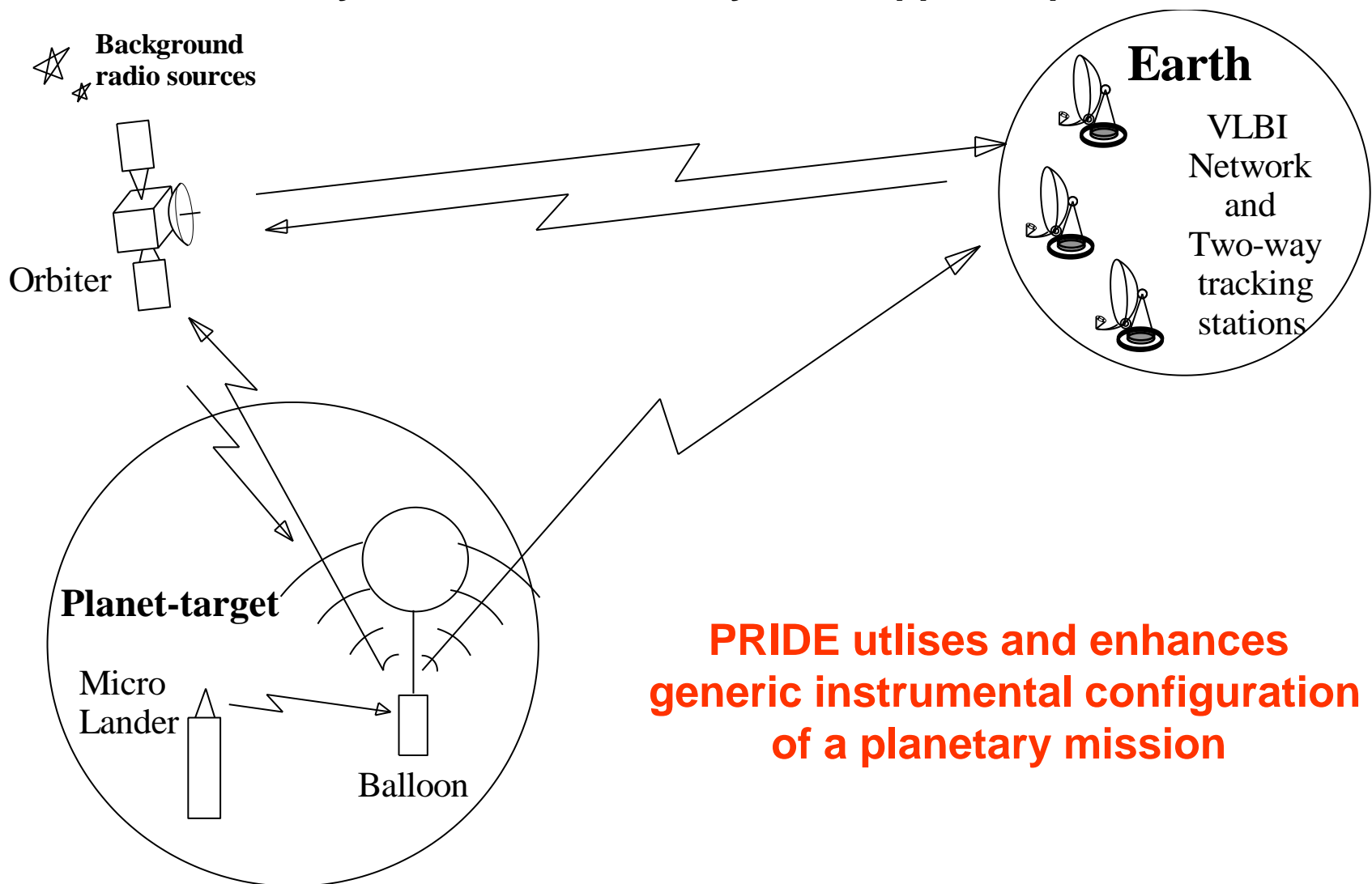


EC FP6 e-VLBI project EXPR<sub>e</sub>S 2006-2009



# Generic PRIDE configuration

## Planetary Radio Interferometry and Doppler Experiment



**PRIDE utilises and enhances generic instrumental configuration of a planetary mission**

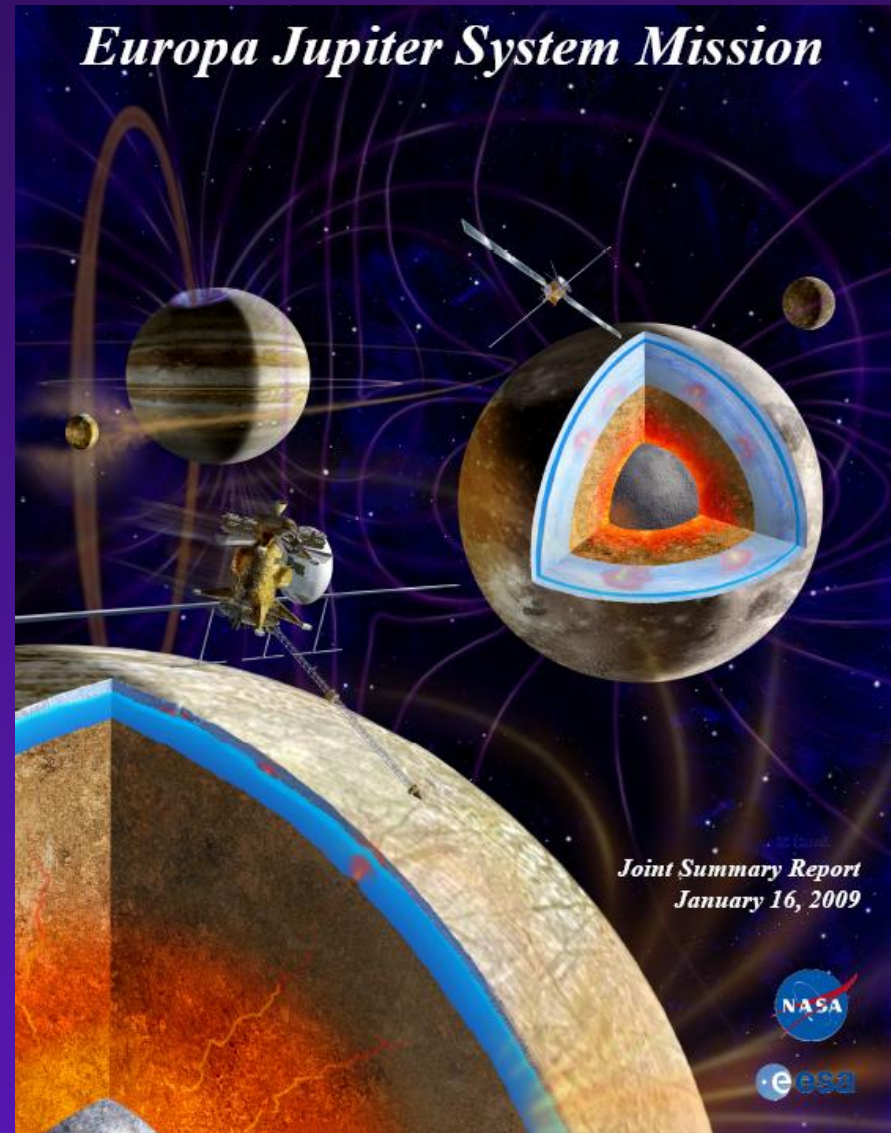
# Science case for generic PRIDE

- Direct characterisation of the orbiter (*and surface elements?*) signal by means of “VLBI tracking” and radial Doppler measurements
  - VLBI estimates of the S/C state vector
    - *Tidal deformations, seismology and tectonics of planetary bodies*
    - *Gravimetry*
    - *Atmosphere dynamics and climatology (if there is an atmosphere...)*
    - *Input to the fundamental physics*
  - Radio occultation observations (e.g. Jovian magneto-/iono-sphere)
  - “Cruise” science plus mission diagnostics (“health check”)
  - High degree of synergy with in situ measurements
  - Complementary to DeltaDOR measurements
- plus*
- Direct-to-Earth (DtE) delivery of critical data (e.g. via SKA)

# Planetary science missions – PRIDE customers



# ESA Cosmic Vision and NASA Flagship proposals



**~4B projects, compete for launch in 2020-2022**

# PRIDE-EJSM vs Huygens VLBI tracking

Mission	Distance	Transmitter power/gain	Band	Time resolution	Delay noise	Positional accuracy (lateral)
	[AU]		[GHz]	[s]	[ps]	[m]
Huygens VLBI	8	3 W / 3 dBi	2.0 (S)	300	15	1000
PRIDE EJSM	5	10 W / 6 dBi	4.0 (S)	100	5	120
			8.4 (X)	10	3	70
			32 (Ka)	10	1	23

GPS accuracy anywhere in Solar System

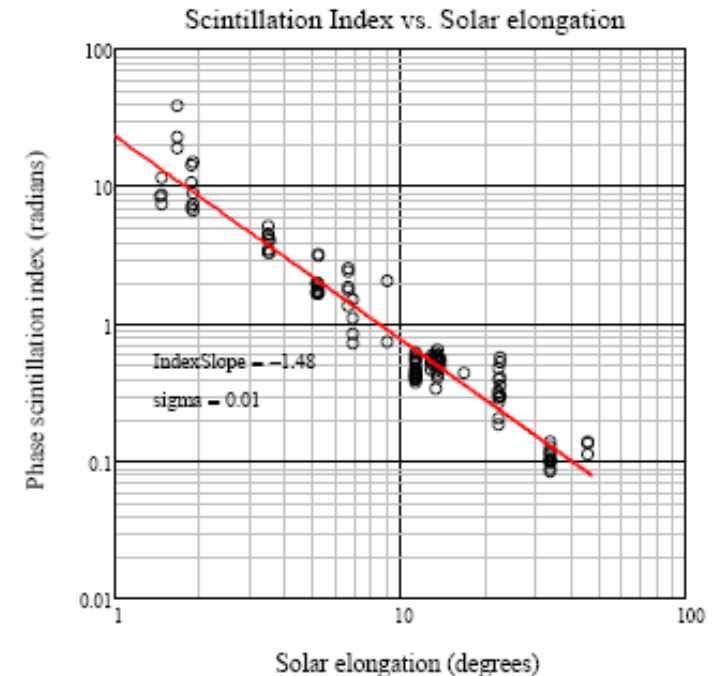
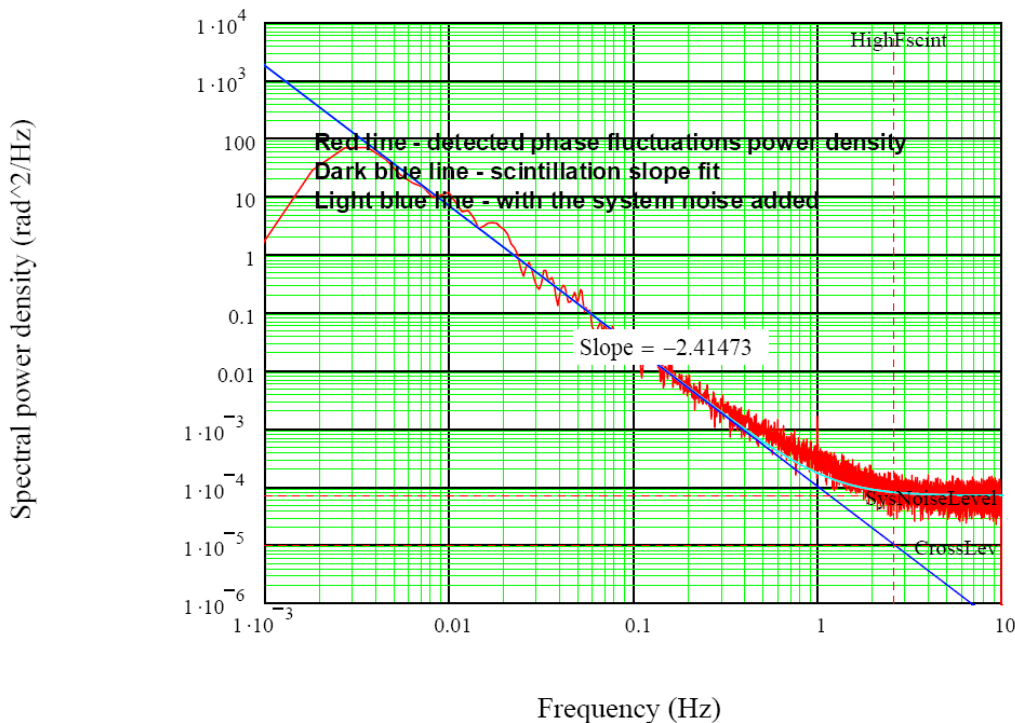
• Conservative estimate, today's technology

- Minimal special requirements for the on-board instrumentation
- In-beam "Orbiter-Probe" calibration can improve SNR further

# PRIDE 2010: status and results (so far...)

## ESA's Venus Express mission as a "training" target

Spectral power density of slow fluctuation phase turbulence below 10 Hz.



S2-P11, Neidhardt, Molera, Pogrebenko et al., this conference  
Participating stations: Medicina, Metsahovi, Noto, Wettzell, Yebes



# Toward S/C VLBI tracking in turbulent plasma

Allan variance of the stochastic part of the frequency detections on the Cebreros-VEX-Wettzell link

