

TOPROF EU COST Action ES-1303

Doppler lidar training school

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Doppler lidar

Introduction

- Instrument and basic theory
- Measuring wind
 - Scanning methods
- Measuring turbulence
- Practical applications



Instruments

- Characterise instruments
 - Understand uncertainty
 - Improve sensitivity (background correction)

Wind observations

- Selection of scanning pattern
- Impact of turbulence

Turbulent properties

- Uncertainty is directly implicated in velocity distribution
- Multiple layers identify source of mixing
- Applications
 - Identify shear, low-level jets, wind gusts
 - Ash /dust resuspension
 - Update classical picture of the boundary layer











Doppler lidar types

- Direct detection
 - Resonance
 - Rayleigh-Mie filter

Heterodyne

- Pulsed
- Continuous wave



Single- and Double-Edge Filters



The locking filter channel is to ensure the optimum balance of the Edge 1 and Edge 2 filters (F-P etalons) on the zero Doppler-shifted laser signal.



Coherent Detection Detecting Doppler Shifts

We can't detect the frequency of light - but we can detect the "beat" (i.e. difference) signal between to light beams of slightly different frequency...

So, we create two beams: a local oscillator (LO) and a power oscillator (PO). The Local oscillator has frequency f_{LO} .

We make sure that the PO has a known frequency offset (i.e. $f_{offset} = 10 \text{ MHz}$, 100 MHz) from that of the LO, or $f_{PO} = f_{LO} + f_{offset}$.

This PO beam goes out into the atmosphere. The light that returns (scattering off of aerosols) may have been Doppler shifted by f_{Dopp} for a total frequency offset of

$$f_a = f_{Dopp} + f_{offset} + f_{LO}$$



The atmospheric return signal and the signal from the local oscillator are both incident on the detector.

Their electric fields add to create the total electric field incident on the detector:

$$E_{a} = A_{a} \cos(j2\pi f_{a}t + \varphi_{a})$$

$$E_{LO} = A_{LO} \cos(j2\pi f_{LO}t + \varphi_{LO})$$

$$E_{tot} = A_{a} \cos(j2\pi f_{a}t + \varphi_{a}) + A_{LO} \cos(j2\pi f_{LO}t + \varphi_{LO})$$





The detector actually "sees" optical power or:

$$\begin{aligned} \left| E_{tot} \right|^{2} &= \left| A_{a} \cos(j2\pi f_{a}t + \varphi_{a}) + A_{LO} \cos(j2\pi f_{LO}t + \varphi_{LO}) \right|^{2} \\ &= A_{a}^{2} \left| \cos(j2\pi f_{a}t + \varphi_{a}) \right|^{2} + A_{LO}^{2} \left| \cos(j2\pi f_{LO}t + \varphi_{LO}) \right|^{2} \\ &+ 2A_{a}A_{LO} \cos(j2\pi f_{a}t + \varphi_{a}) \cos(j2\pi f_{LO}t + \varphi_{LO}) \end{aligned}$$

The product of cosines leads to a sum and a difference: $|E_{tot}|^{2} = A_{a}^{2} |\cos(j2\pi f_{a}t + \varphi_{a})|^{2} + A_{LO}^{2} |\cos(j2\pi f_{LO}t + \varphi_{LO})|^{2}$ $+ 2A_{a}A_{LO} \cos(j2\pi (f_{a} + f_{LO})t + (\varphi_{a} + \varphi_{LO}))$ $+ 2A_{a}A_{LO} \cos(j2\pi (f_{a} - f_{LO})t + (\varphi_{a} - \varphi_{LO}))$





The high frequency (i.e. the sum of LO and atmospheric frequencies) is too high to detect. The other terms contribute to a DC offset, and the difference frequency is what gives us our signal:

$$|E_{tot}|^{2} = |E_{a}|^{2} + |E_{LO}|^{2} + A_{a}A_{LO}\cos(j2\pi(f_{a} - f_{LO})t + (\varphi_{a} - \varphi_{LO})))$$

In terms of power - the optical power on the detector is given by:





The detector current is then given by:

We know f_{offset} ...so we can find the Doppler shift frequency.

Typical Doppler lidar specifications

- Wavelength 1.5 micron
- Low-energy laser (~0.1mJ), high pulse repetition (15kHz) -> eye-safe
- Coherent heterodyne technique
 - Mix signal with local oscillator to get the Doppler shift
- Range 90 m 10 km, resolution 30-50 m
- Full hemispheric scanning, or limited conical scan
- Continuous operation for months
- Signal-to-noise ratio
- Radial velocity
- Attenuated backscatter
- Depolarisation







Stare

- θ azimuth angle
- φ elevation angle
- Vertical stare (zenith)
 - $\phi = 90^{\circ}$





Doppler Beam Swing (DBS)

- 3-beam DBS
 - 1 zenith (vertical) beam
 - 2 off-zenith beams
 - Orthogonal (e.g. N, E)
 - $\theta = 90^{\circ}$
 - $\phi = 70^{\circ}$ (typically)





Doppler Beam Swing (DBS)

- 4-beam DBS
 - 4 off-zenith beams
 - $\theta = 90^{\circ}$, N, E, S, W
 - $\phi = 70^{\circ}$ (typically)





Doppler Beam Swing (DBS)

- 5-beam DBS
 - 1 zenith beam
 - 4 off-zenith beams
 - $\theta = 90^{\circ}$, N, S, E, W
 - $\phi = 70^{\circ}$ (typically)





- Velocity Azimuth Display
 - VAD
 - Conical scan
 - N off-zenith beams
 - $\theta = 0.360$
 - $\phi = constant$





- Plan Position Indicator
 - PPI
 - Scan in azimuth at constant elevation
 - Low elevation scan similar to VAD
 - N beams
 - $\theta = 0.360$
 - $\phi = constant (0 5^{\circ})$





Scattering properties (Mie)





Terminal Fall Velocity (Beard et al., 1976)







Stratocumulus

- Very common cloud type, composed entirely of liquid water droplets.
- Droplets are reasonably small (around 10-20 microns in diameter), but numerous (100 per cc or more) so give a very strong lidar signal.
- Liquid layers also rapidly attenuate the lidar signal so that you cannot see through the layer.





Stratocumulus with drizzle

- If stratocumulus is more than a few hundred metres thick, then larger `drizzle' drops (around 100-200 microns in diameter) can grow.
- Drizzle drops are larger, but number concentration is much lower: backscatter signal is usually much lower than for the liquid layer itself.
- Drizzle often evaporates before reaching the surface.





Altocumulus

- Mid-level cloud occurs at temperatures below freezing and above -40 C.
- Typically composed of a thin layer of supercooled liquid water droplets at the top, with ice crystals falling below in a layer that can reach a couple of km deep.
- Liquid droplets are about 10 microns in diameter.
- Larger, but less numerous, ice crystals may be several hundred microns across.





Altocumulus with specular reflection

- If the Doppler lidar is pointing at vertical, altocumulus may sometimes look slightly different.
- In certain conditions the pristine ice crystals falling below the liquid layer behave like mirrors.
- Causes anomalously high backscatter, termed specular reflection.
- May also impact depolarization signal, causing it to be much lower than expected.





Cirrus

- Composed purely of ice crystals.
- Characterised by classic `fallstreak' structure.
- Depending on the number and size of ice crystals present, it is possible to see few km into these layers before the lidar signal is attenuated.





Snow

- Frontal or `stratiform' snow (and rain)
- Ice crystals nucleate high in the atmosphere and grow as they fall, potentially reaching sizes of a few cm.
- Fall velocities usually not much larger than 1 m s-1.
- Fall velocity increases rapidly at the melting level, if present, to greater than 4 m s-1 and the typical rain drop size is a few mm.
- Attenuation by snow/rain clearly visible lidar backscatter decreases >10³ within a km or two.
- Attenuation not as rapid as in liquid layers.



Doppler lidar velocity uncertainty Directly related to SNR (Pearson et al., 2009; O'Connor et al., 2010)

$$\sigma_e = \left(\frac{\Delta v^2 \sqrt{2}}{\alpha N_p} \left(1 + 1.6\alpha + 0.4\alpha^2\right)\right)^{1/2},$$

- $\Delta v_{
 m c}$ signal spectral width
- *B* receiver bandwidth
- α Ratio of detector photon count to speckle count

$$\alpha = \frac{\text{SNR}}{(2\pi)^{1/2} (\Delta v/B)},$$

 N_p Accumulated photon count

$$N_p = \text{SNR} \ n \ M,$$



Doppler lidar velocity uncertainty

Directly related to SNR (Pearson et al., 2009; O'Connor et al., 2010)





- Doppler lidar measures radial velocity
 - Line-of-sight component only
- Scan type
 - Stare (usually vertical stare)
 - DBS
 - VAD
 - PPI
 - RHI
 - Scan selection based on requirements



Wind/Turbulent properties from Doppler lidar

- Where can we retrieve these properties?
 - Requires tracers and good sensitivity
 - Boundary layer aerosol
 - In-cloud
- Turbulence different methods available
 - Which method depends on scan capability

Uncertainties

• Requires accurate determination of radial velocities



Wind

- Doppler lidar measures radial velocity
 - How do we get horizontal wind?
- Scan selection
 - VAD
 - DBS
- Intercomparison with other measurements
- Optimisation through changing focus
- Scan close to surface
 - PPI



Horizontal winds from radial winds

- To derive vector wind (u, v, w) from radial winds requires at least three independent line-of-site measurements
- Two main techniques
 - VAD (Velocity Azimuth Display)
 - Conical scan at fixed elevation angle
 - DBS (Doppler Beam Swinging)
 - Three or five beams
 - One vertical, others tilted North, East (South, West)
 - Four beams (N, S, E, W, no vertical)
- All assume homogeneity..


Scan Types

Doppler Beam Swing (DBS)

- 3-beam DBS
 - 1 zenith (vertical) beam
 - 2 off-zenith beams
 - Orthogonal (e.g. N, E)
 - $\theta = 90^{\circ}$
 - $\phi = 70^{\circ}$ (typically)





Doppler-Beam-Swinging (DBS) techniques: pointing lidar beam to vertical, tilted east, and tilted north.



 V_{RZ} , V_{RE} , V_{RN} are the vertical, tilted east, and tilted north radial velocities



Doppler Beam Swing (DBS) Technique







Doppler Beam Swing (DBS) Technique - Errors







Scan Types

- Velocity Azimuth Display
 - VAD
 - Conical scan
 - N off-zenith beams
 - $\theta = 0.360$
 - $\phi = constant$





Velocity Azimuth Display (VAD) Technique







Velocity Azimuth Display (VAD) Technique



Radial velocity V_R consists of components from u, v, and w:

- Zonal wind contribution $u\sin\theta\cos\varphi$ Meridional contribution $v\cos\theta\cos\varphi$ Vertical contribution $w\sin\varphi$
- the azimuth angle, clockwise from North, and the elevation angle.

$$\theta_N = 0^\circ, \theta_E = 90^\circ, \theta_S = 180^\circ, \theta_W = 270^\circ$$

 $V_R = u\sin\theta\cos\varphi + v\cos\theta\cos\varphi + w\sin\varphi$



- Sinusoidal fit for horizontal wind
- Residuals from turbulence and non-turbulent changes in wind





Velocity Azimuth Display (VAD) Technique









Wind speed

Wind direction





Horizontal winds

- DBS
 - Very fast 3, 4 or 5 beams
 - Min. range determines lowest measurement
- VAD
 - Slower requires more beams (12+)
 - Elevation choice determines lowest measurement
 - Can cope with missing beams (obstruction)
 - Extra information potentially available



• Depends!

- What vertical resolution do you require?
- How strong are the winds?
- What is your instrument Nyquist velocity?



• Nyquist velocity is usually 20 or 40 m s⁻¹

Elevation	0	30	60	75
Max velocity				



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Elevation	0	30	60	75
Max velocity	20	23	40	77



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• What about uncertainty?



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- What about uncertainty?
 - Typical radial uncertainty < 20 cm s⁻¹



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• Nyquist velocity is usually 20 or 40 m s⁻¹

Elevation	0	30	60	75
Max velocity	20	23	40	77

- What about uncertainty?
 - Typical radial uncertainty < 20 cm s⁻¹
- We have neglected turbulence! See talks this week.



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Horizontal winds

- VAD is much more robust in turbulent conditions
 - Some influence of averaging timescales, and spatial separation
- Recommendation: VAD Paeschke et al., 2015
 - QC through Condition Number together with SNR
 - VAD at two elevation angles if possible:
 - 70-75 degrees, slow, 12 beams
 - Best retrieval lowest uncertainty
 - 5-30 degrees, fast, 24 beams
 - High vertical resolution at near ranges
 - Representativity
- Uncertainties propagated from radial winds



How to check pointing angle

- In-built GPS
 - Need phone signal
 - Need accurate time
- Scan across known target such as a mast or building







Elevation [m a.s.l. 1400 4 1200 3 1000 2 -800 1 ŝ -600 0 400 -1 -2 -3 15 WS [m s⁻¹] -4 -15 -3 -2 -1 0 2 3 4 -4 1

km

10:08:40 UTC





Distance east (km)





10:05:40 UTC



Azimuthal repeatability







Optimisation through changing focus



For a given signal (or amount of aerosol)..

Adjust focus of telescope to modify sensitivity curve depending on application



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Turbulent properties from Doppler lidar

- Where can we retrieve turbulent properties?
 - Requires tracers and good sensitivity
 - Boundary layer aerosol
 - In-cloud
- Different methods available
 - Which method depends on scan capability

Uncertainties

• Requires accurate determination of radial velocities


- Methods
 - Velocity statistics
 - Spectral width, skewness, kurtosis
 - Turbulent tensor: 4-beam DBS
 - Radial velocities
 - Incorporate within stochastic Lagrangian turbulence model
 - Kolmogorov hypothesis
 - Vertical pointing
 - VAD (conical) scanning





Vertical velocity energy density spectra versus frequency conforming to Kolmogorov's hypothesis





In the inertial sub-range (Kolmogorov)

$$S(k) = a \varepsilon^{2/3} k^{-5/3}$$

$$\varepsilon = \left(\frac{2}{3a}\right)^{3/2} \sigma_{v}^{-3} \left(k_{1}^{-2/3} - k_{2}^{-2/3}\right)^{3/2}$$























- Background shape and ripple correction
 - Manninen et al. (2016, AMT)
 - Vakkari et al. (2017, ready to submit)
- Recalculate all uncertainties
 - Crucial for turbulent properties















0

0.5

1

Halo data requires pre-processing

1.5



2

2.5

Time UTC

3

3.5

4

Limassol, 27 March 2017

SNR = signal-to-noise ratio

1.005

1.004

1.003 F H 1.002 S

1.001

4.5



Limassol, 27 March 2017



SNR = signal-to-noise ratio



Instrument characterization – Halo systems

Background ripple determination and correction



Turbulence from VAD scans

- Sinusoidal fit for horizontal wind
- Residuals from turbulence and non-turbulent changes in wind



Remove non-turbulent residual

- Compare residual from one range gate to the next (same azimuth)
 - Correlated residuals indicate large-scale (>> 30 m) flow distortions
 - Difference in residuals leaves turbulence and instrumental noise



Proxy for turbulence: $\sigma_{VAD}^2 = \operatorname{var}(\Delta R_i) - \sigma_v^2$

- Variance of ΔR gives a proxy for turbulence
 - Variance can be calculated over a full circle (i.e. all azimuthal angles) or over a limited sector
 - Measurement uncertainty contribution σ_v^2 estimated from SNR

Summertime example (Limassol 24 Aug 2013; Vakkari et al., AMT 2015)





Turbulent retrieval from low-level scans (Vakkari et al., 2015)





Comparison of TKE from lidar & sonic anemometers (mast)





Comparison of TKE from lidar & sonic anemometers (mast)





Comparison of TKE from lidar & sonic anemometers (mast)







20110519 Turbulent eddy dissipation rate from ACTUAL Kings College, London





20110520 Turbulent eddy dissipation rate from ACTUAL Kings College, London



Cape Cod (Marine): 20120803





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Practical applications



Wind shear





Plume observations - Kuopio





Low-level jets





Low-level jets





Representativity





Island effect extends >1.5 km downwind

 Observations < 40 m a.s.l. are above island for both upwind and downwind profiles









Wind gusts

Standard measurement at surface or on mast

- 1 Hz data or better from anemometers
- Gust factor

$$G = \frac{U_{max}}{U}$$

- Can we do this with Doppler lidar
 - Current instruments too slow for direct measurement
 - Typically 5 seconds minimum integration to obtain horizontal wind profile
 - Use horizontal winds plus turbulence instead


Sonic anemometers on mast at Høvsøre, Denmark





Similar gust factors, including peak close to sunset









Potential temperature



Potential temperature





Decaying/intermittent Shear or surface layer Non-turbulent



2016-3-9, Jülich, Germany clear sky case





2016-3-9, Jülich, Germany clear sky case





2016-9-22, Hyytiälä, Finland cloud-topped





2016-9-22, Hyytiälä, Finland cloud-topped





27 March 2017, Limassol Cyprus, cloud free







27 March 2017, Limassol Cyprus, cloud free





27 March 2017, Limassol Cyprus, cloud free







Network

Currently research-orientated

- Scanning strategies determined by research requirements
 - Account for instruments operating with different specifications, environments and operating requirements
- Realtime data available from certain sites
- More sites can provide datasets for verification
- Selected sites are ready to send wind data to E-Profile hub
- Many potential applications



Network

Operational

Campaigns

Future operational





Outlook

- Harmonised consistent retrievals across Europe providing high resolution:
 - Horizontal wind profiles in the BL
 - Turbulent properties including gusts
 - BL description together with source of turbulence
- All retrievals include uncertainties
- Suitable for forecasters, assimilation, verification, and process studies