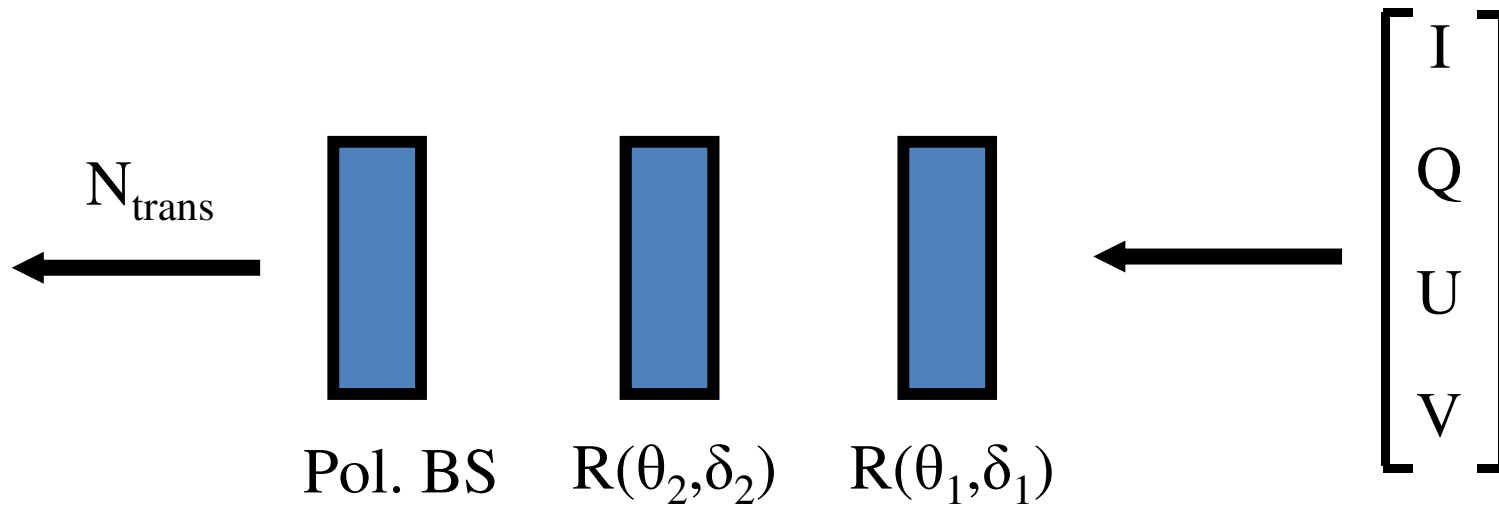


## S.4.1 Polarization contamination

- Which polarimetric sensitivity is required?
- Better Q,U signal at expense of V?
- Spectral resolution vs SNR. Optimum trade-off?



# Polarimetric techniques



$$N_{\text{trans}} = [1 \quad \pm 1 \quad 0 \quad 0] R(\theta_2, \delta_2) R(\theta_1, \delta_1) \begin{bmatrix} I \\ Q \\ U \\ V \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow$$

$$\rightarrow \vec{N} = M \vec{I} \rightarrow \vec{I} = D \vec{N} \quad // \quad D M = I$$



# Polarimetric techniques

## Modulation efficiency

$$\vec{N} = \mathbf{M} \vec{I} \longrightarrow \vec{I} = \mathbf{D} \vec{N} \quad // \quad \mathbf{D} \mathbf{M} = \mathbf{1}$$

$$\epsilon_i = \left( n \sum_{j=1}^n D_{ij}^2 \right)^{-1/2} \quad \epsilon_1 \leq 1, \quad \sum_{i=2}^4 \epsilon_i^2 \leq 1$$

$$\sigma_i = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_i} \quad \text{Larger efficiencies mean lower noise}$$

Optimum efficiencies

Equal efficiency for Q,U, and V

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Optimum efficiencies} \\ \text{Equal efficiency for Q,U, and V} \end{array} \right\} \epsilon_{Q,U,V} = 1/\sqrt{3} = 0.577$$



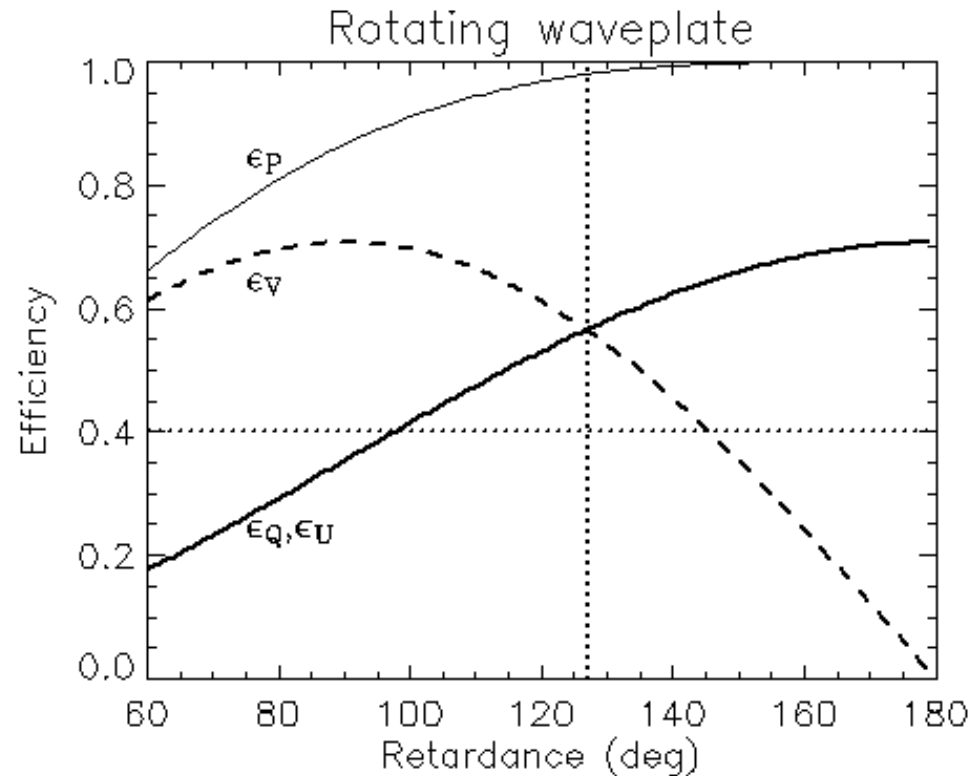
# Polarimetric techniques

- 1 rotating waveplate (ASP, POLIS, SPINOR)
- 2 retarders with discrete orientations (THEMIS)
- 2 nematic liquid crystals (ViSP, IMaX, SST)
- 2 ferroelectric liquid crystals (TIP, LPSP)
- 2 piezoelectric modulators (ZIMPOL)



# Polarimetric techniques

## 1 rotating waveplate (ASP, POLIS, SPINOR)

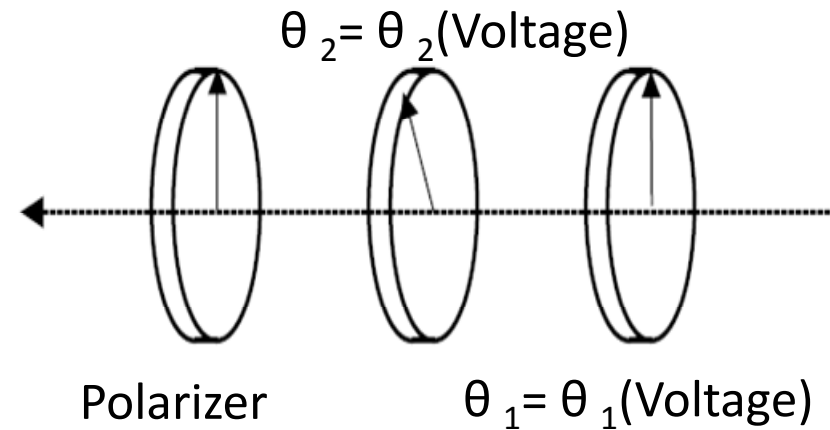
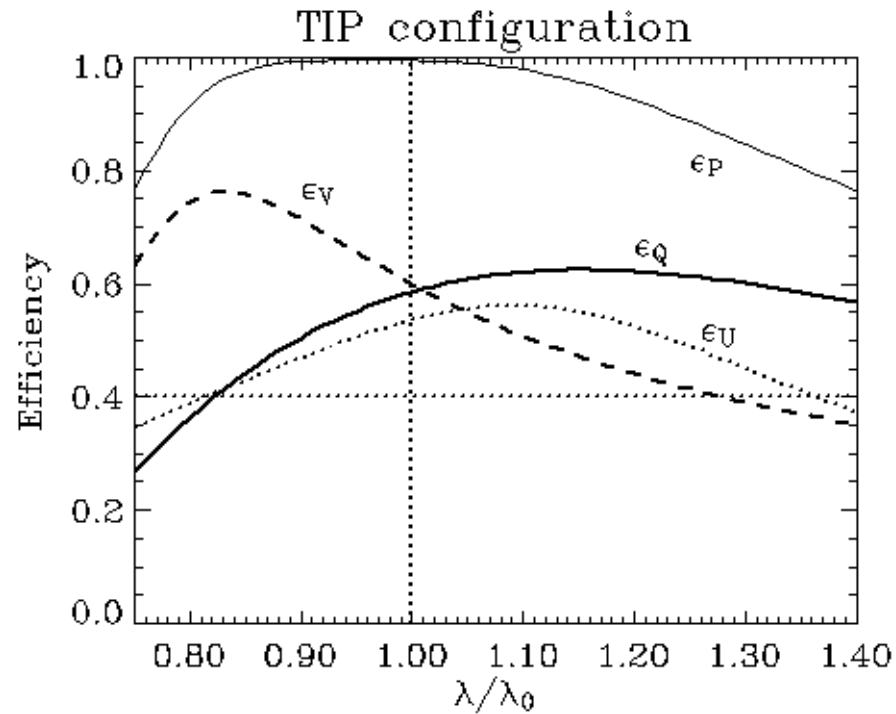


**Optimum retardance : 127°**



# Polarimetric techniques

## 2 ferroelectric liquid crystals (TIP)



Fixed retardances

$$\delta_1 = 155^\circ \quad \delta_2 = 75^\circ$$

$$\theta_1 = 70^\circ \quad \theta_2 = 155^\circ \quad \Delta\theta = 50^\circ$$



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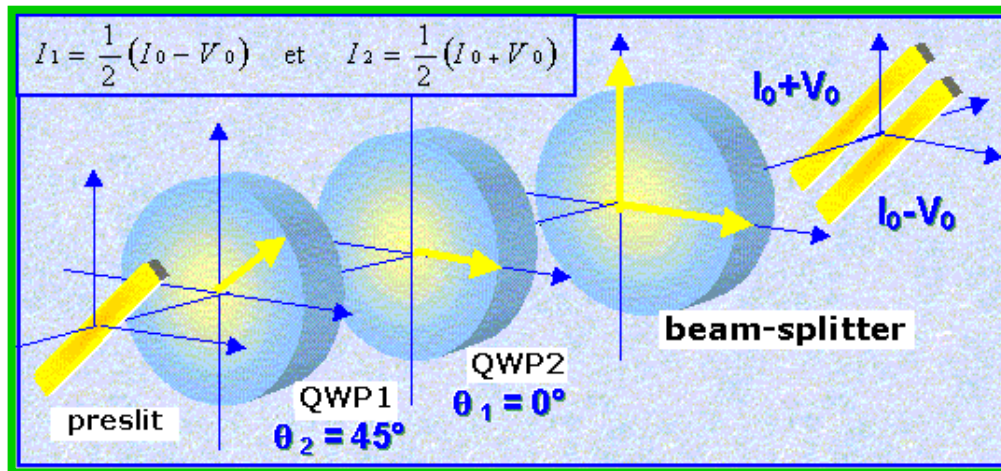
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# Polarimetric techniques

## 2 retarders with discrete orientations (THEMIS)

$$\delta_1 = \delta_2 = 90^\circ$$



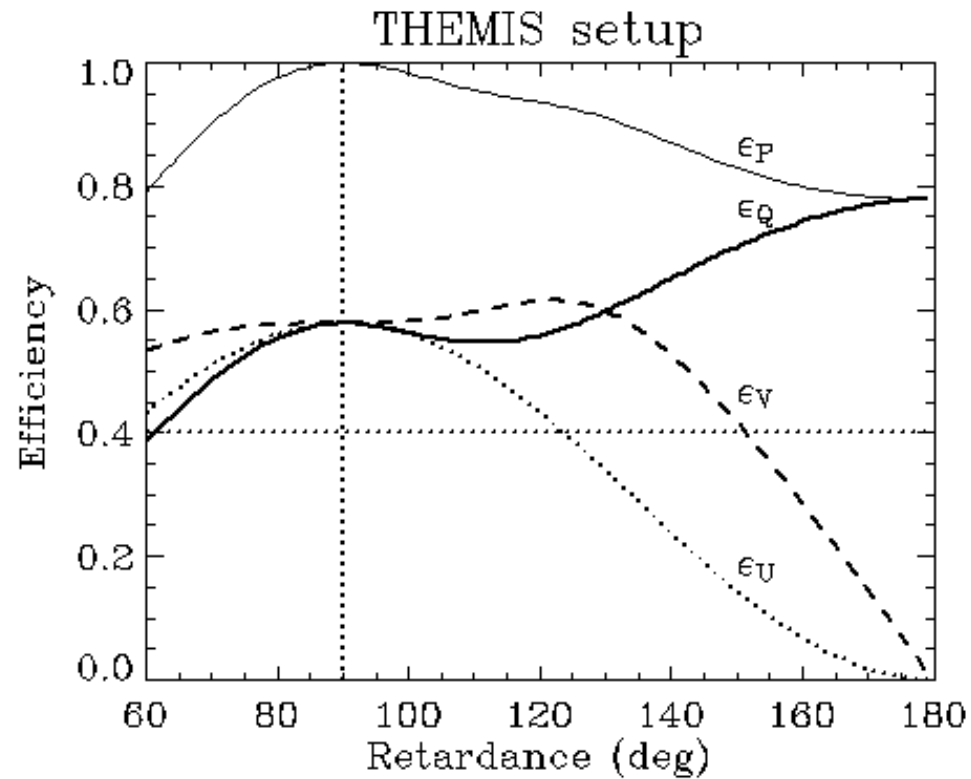
- Pure Stokes parameters
- Maximum efficiencies:  $\epsilon_{Q,U,V} = 0.577$

$\theta_1$	$\theta_2$	Stokes
$0^\circ$	$0^\circ$	I+Q
$45^\circ$	$45^\circ$	I-Q
$22.5^\circ / 45^\circ$	$22.5^\circ / 0^\circ$	I+U
$67.5^\circ / -45^\circ$	$67.5^\circ / 0^\circ$	I-U
$0^\circ$	$-45^\circ$	I+V
$0^\circ$	$45^\circ$	I-V



# Polarimetric techniques

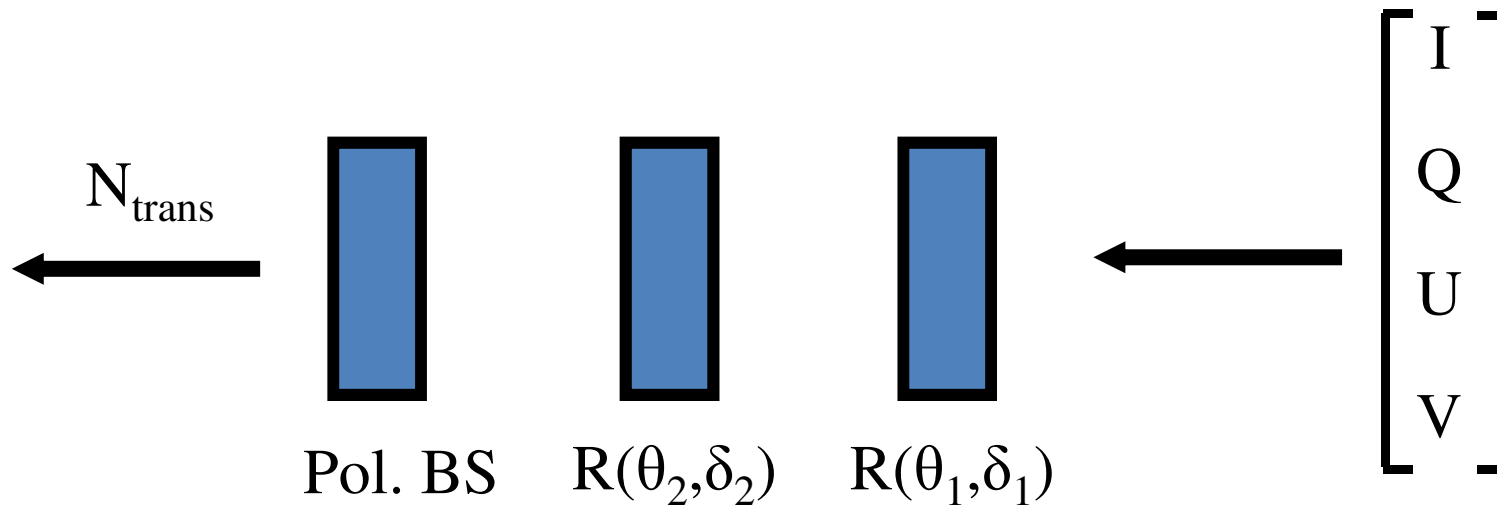
## 2 retarders with discrete orientations (THEMIS)





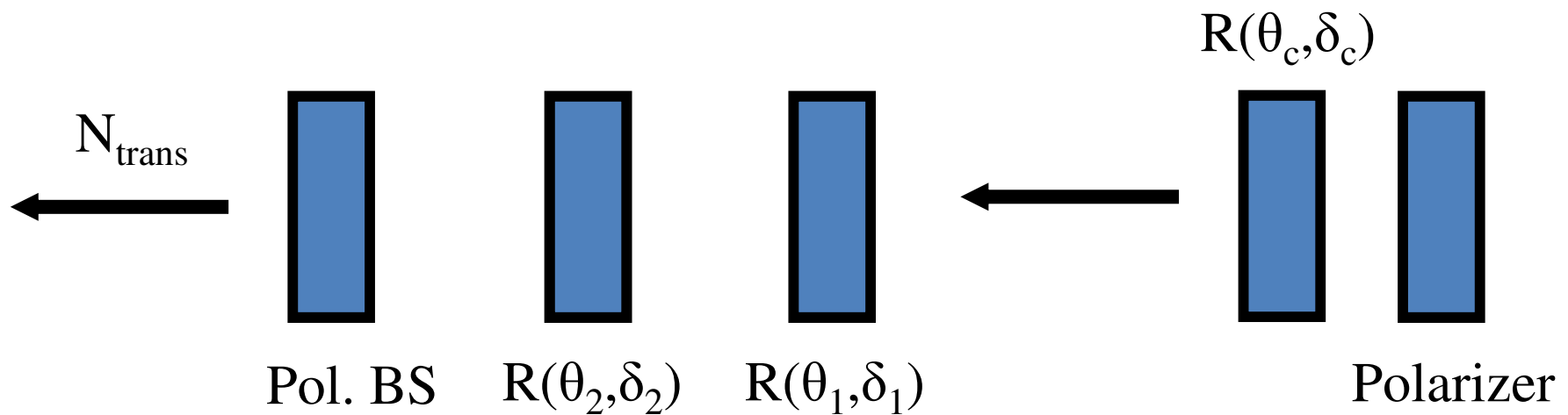
# Polarimetric techniques

## Calibration procedure



# Polarimetric techniques

## Calibration procedure



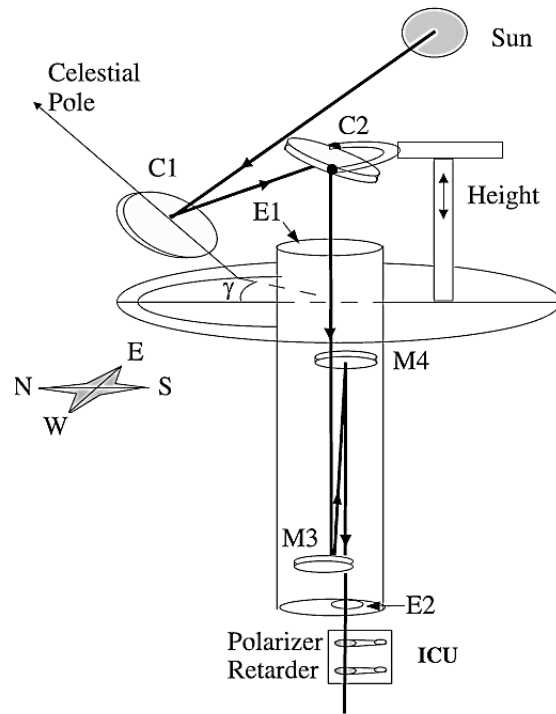
$$\vec{N} = M \vec{I} \longrightarrow \vec{I} = D \vec{N} \quad // \quad D M = I$$

$$\sigma_D \sim 10^{-3}$$

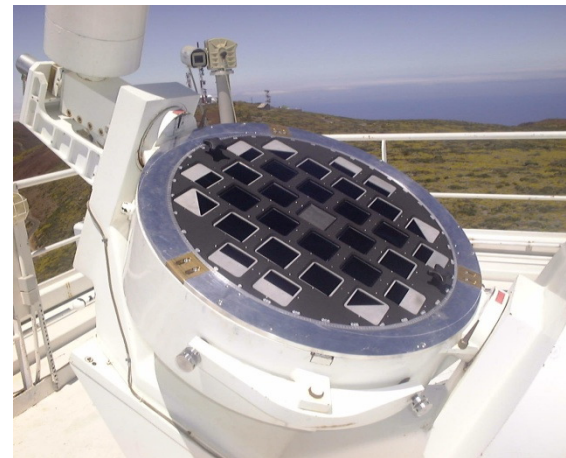
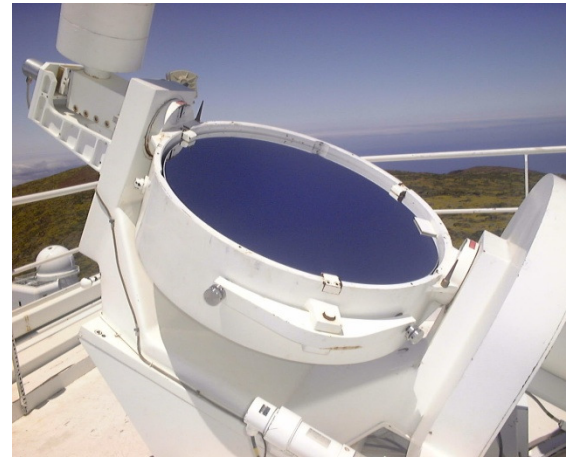


# Polarimetric techniques

## Telescope Calibration



VTT



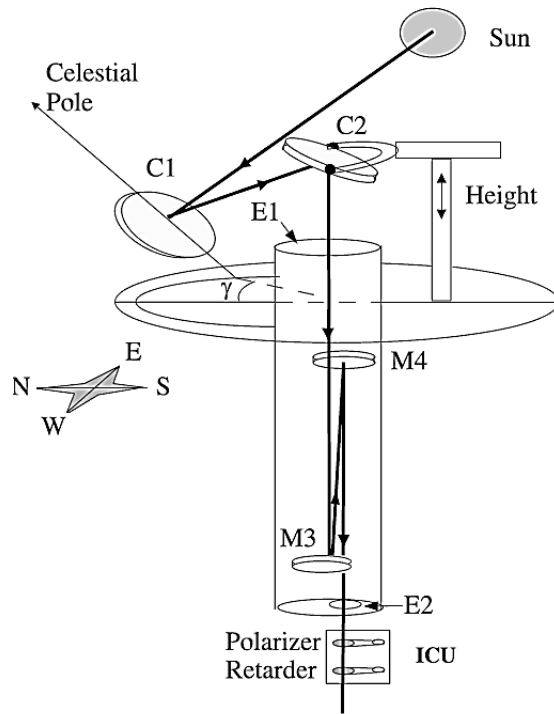
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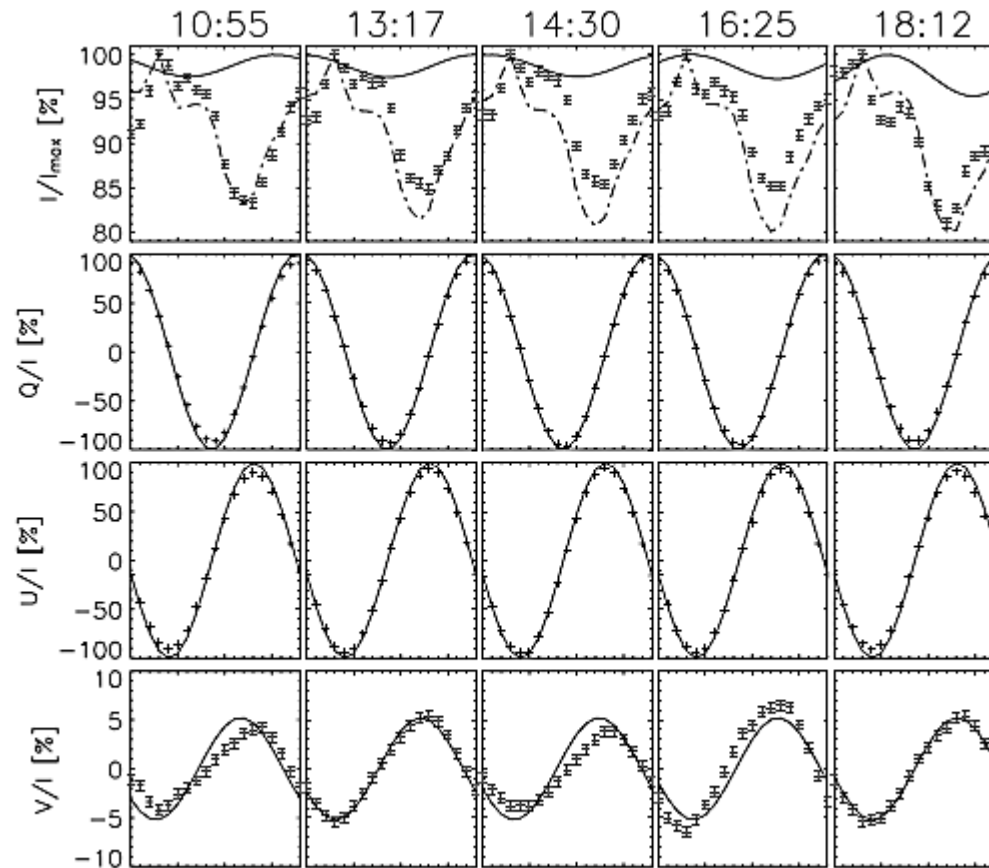


# Polarimetric techniques

## Telescope Calibration



VTT



Beck et al. (2005)



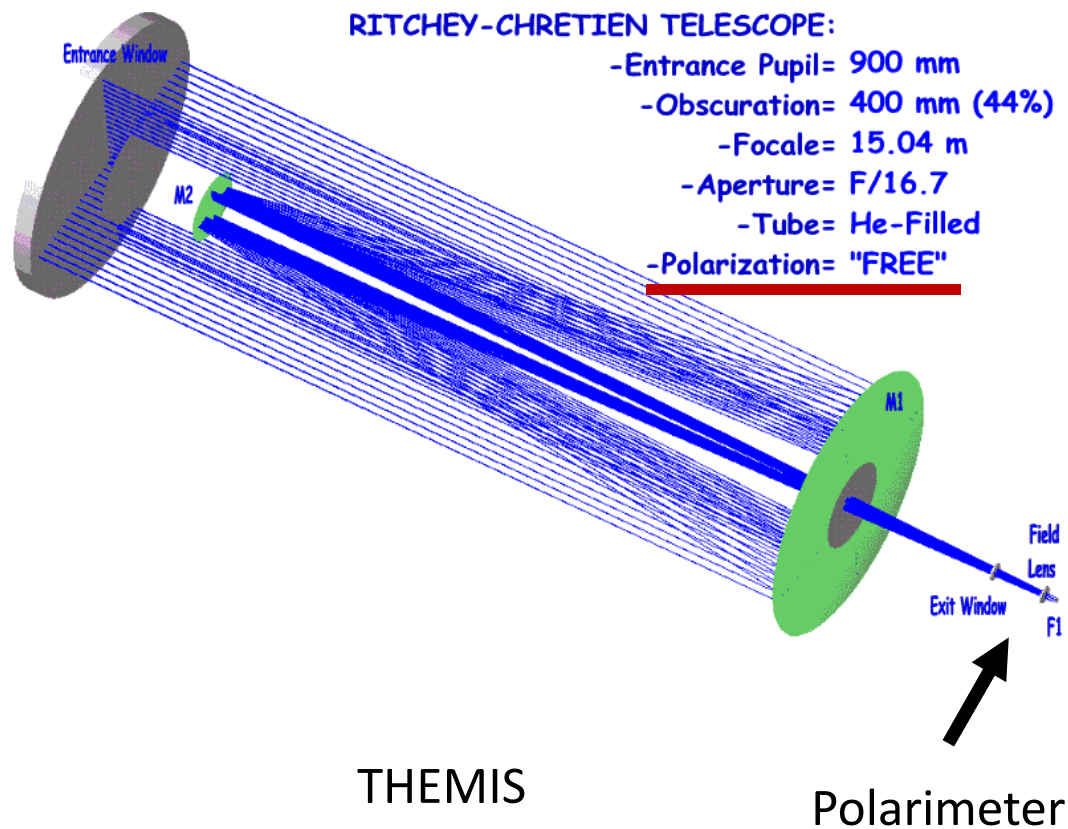
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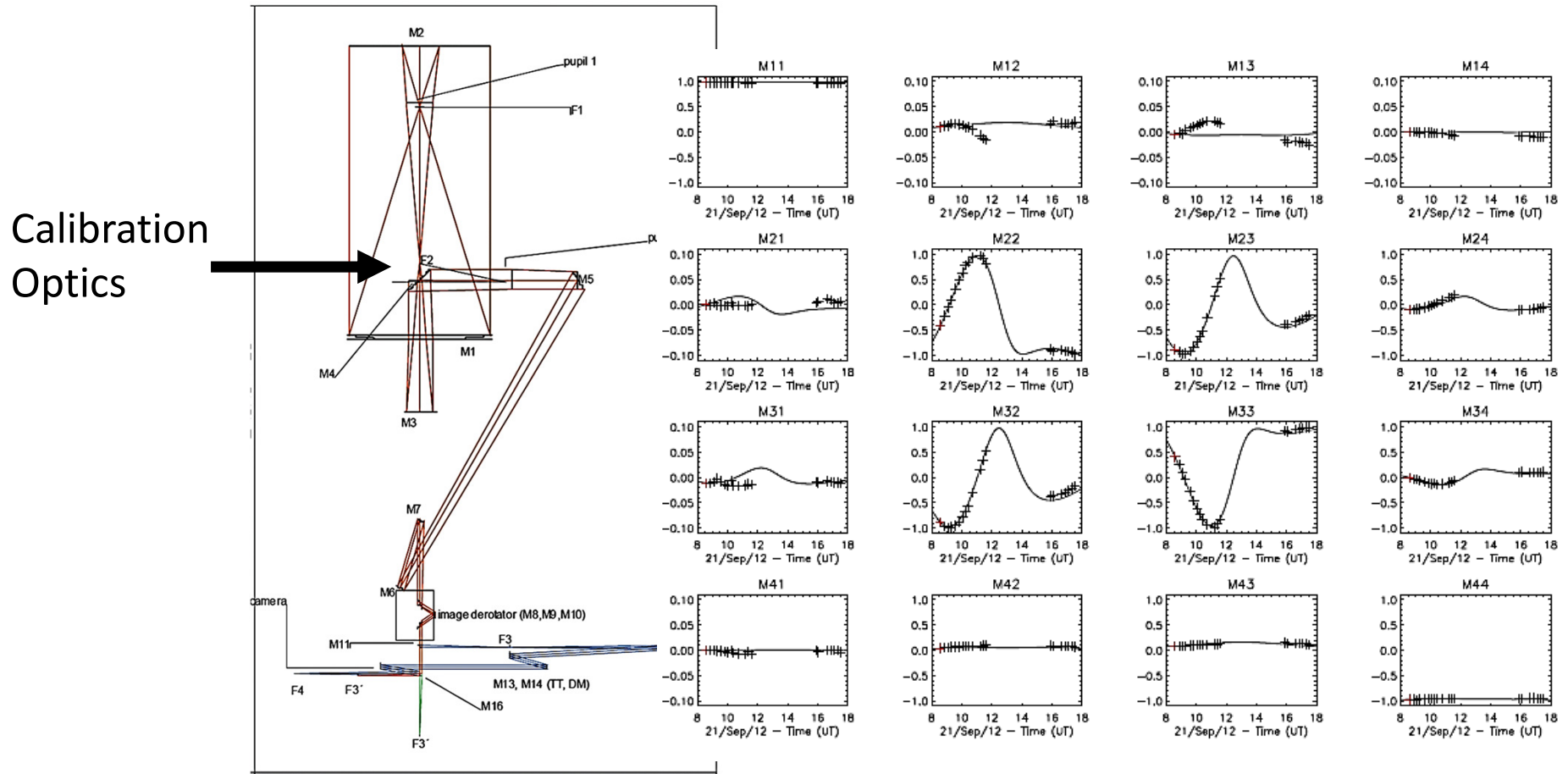
# Polarimetric techniques

## Telescope Calibration



# Polarimetric techniques

## Telescope Calibration



**GREGOR**  
 M. Collados  
 Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias

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# Polarimetric techniques

## Calibration

Sensitivities  $\sim 10^{-3}$  and

crosstalk between Q, U, V  $< 10^{-2}$

are routinely obtained

**Beyond that, careful specific reduction is required**



- Which polarimetric sensitivity is required?
- Better Q,U signal at expense of V?
- Spectral resolution vs SNR. Optimum trade-off?





- Which polarimetry sensitivity is required?
- Better Q,U signal at expense of V?
- Spectral resolution vs SNR. Optimum trade-off?



# Better Q,U signal at expense of V?

## Modulation efficiency

$$\vec{N} = M \vec{I} \longrightarrow \vec{I} = D \vec{N} \quad // \quad D M = I$$

$$\epsilon_i = \left( n \sum_{j=1}^n D_{ij}^2 \right)^{-1/2} \quad \epsilon_1 \leq 1, \quad \sum_{i=2}^4 \epsilon_i^2 \leq 1$$

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Optimum efficiencies

Equal efficiency for Q,U, and V

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Optimum efficiencies} \\ \text{Equal efficiency for Q,U, and V} \end{array} \right\} \epsilon_{Q,U,V} = 1/\sqrt{3} = 0.577$$



# Better Q,U signal at expense of V?

## Modulation efficiency

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Larger efficiencies mean lower noise  $\sigma_i = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_i}$

Optimum efficiencies

Equal efficiency for Q,U

$$\} \quad \epsilon_{Q,U} = 1/\sqrt{2} = 0.7$$



# Better Q,U signal at expense of V?

## Modulation efficiency

Optimum efficiencies  
Equal efficiency for Q,U, and V }  $\epsilon_{Q,U,V} = 1/\sqrt{3} = 0.577$

Optimum efficiencies  
Equal efficiency for Q,U }  $\epsilon_{Q,U} = 1/\sqrt{2} = 0.7$

Gain factor =  $\sqrt{3}/\sqrt{2} = 1.22$     Eq. to Exposure time x 1.5



# Spectral resolution vs SNR. Optimum trade-off?

$$N_{phot} \propto \Delta t \Delta\Omega \Delta\lambda = \Delta t \Delta x \Delta y \Delta\lambda = \Delta t \Delta x^2 \Delta\lambda$$

$$\text{SNR} = \sqrt{N_{phot}} \propto \Delta x \sqrt{\Delta t} \sqrt{\Delta\lambda}$$

$$\text{SNR} \times 2 \equiv \begin{cases} \Delta t \times 4 \\ \Delta\lambda \times 4 \\ \Delta x \times 2 \end{cases}$$

