
Wind measurement with a 5 Hole Probe

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Outline

- Wind measurement with the 5 hole probe
- Error estimation of the pressure transducer
- Wind Vector Uncertainty
 - Error estimation of the spectral resolution of wind turbulence
 - Absolute error of the wind vector
- Results of Measurement Flights in 2012



Introduction

UAV MASC (multi-purpose automatic sensor carrier):

- two temperature sensors
- humidity sensors
- 5 hole probe (5HP)
- GPS receiver
- inertial measurement unit (IMU)



Wind Vector

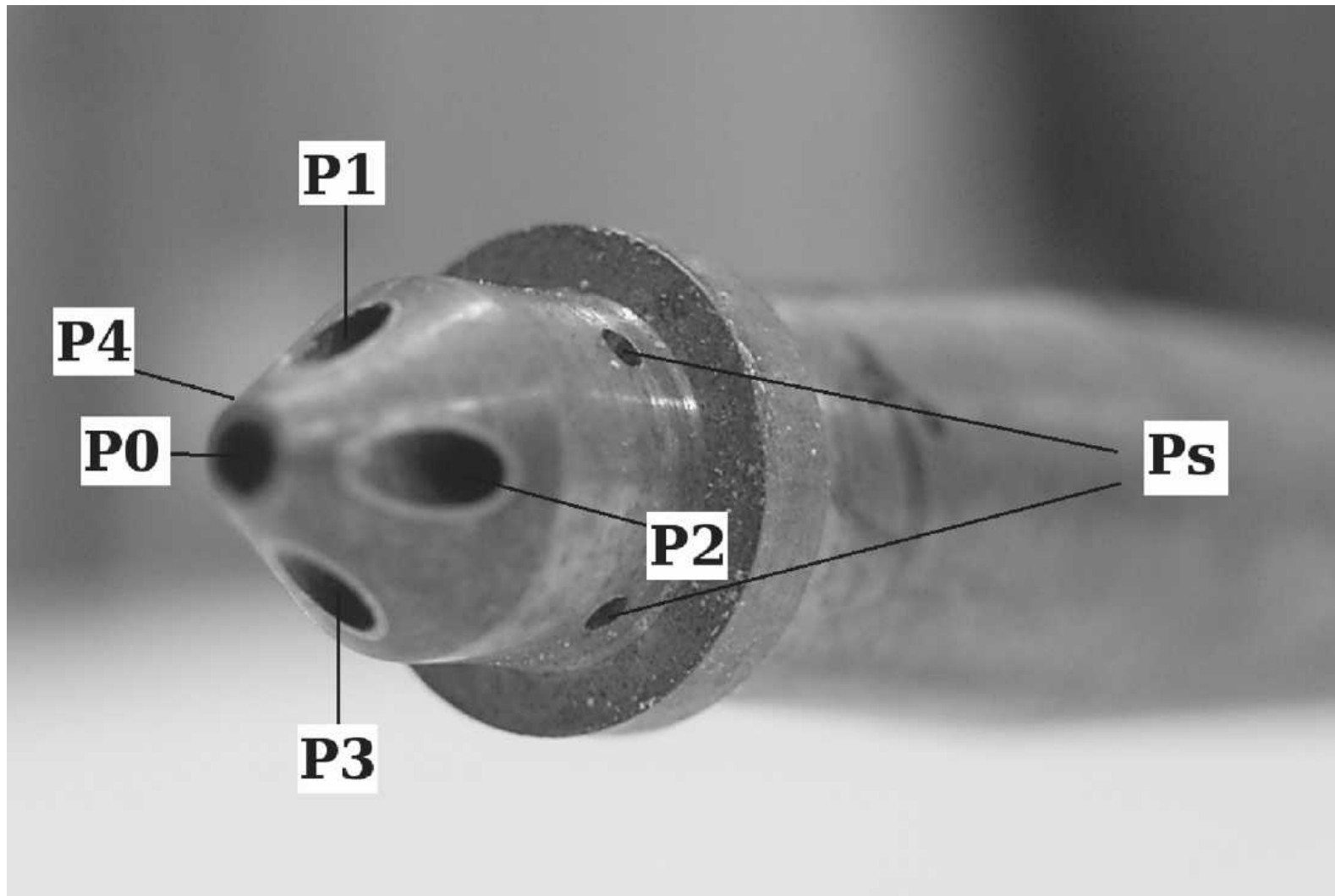
The wind vector \mathbf{W}_g defined in geodetic coordinate system is the vector difference between the inertial velocity vector \mathbf{V}_g and the true airspeed U_a

$$\mathbf{W}_g = \mathbf{V}_g + \mathbf{M}_{gb}\mathbf{M}_{ba}U_a$$

IMU/GPS 5 hole probe



5 hole probe



Pressure sensor sampling frequency $f_s = 100\text{Hz}$

5 hole probe

True airspeed and airflow angles are calculated by the pressure measurements:

$$|U_a| = f_u(\Delta p_{01}, \Delta p_{02}, \Delta p_{03}, \Delta p_{04}, \Delta p_{0s}) \quad (1)$$

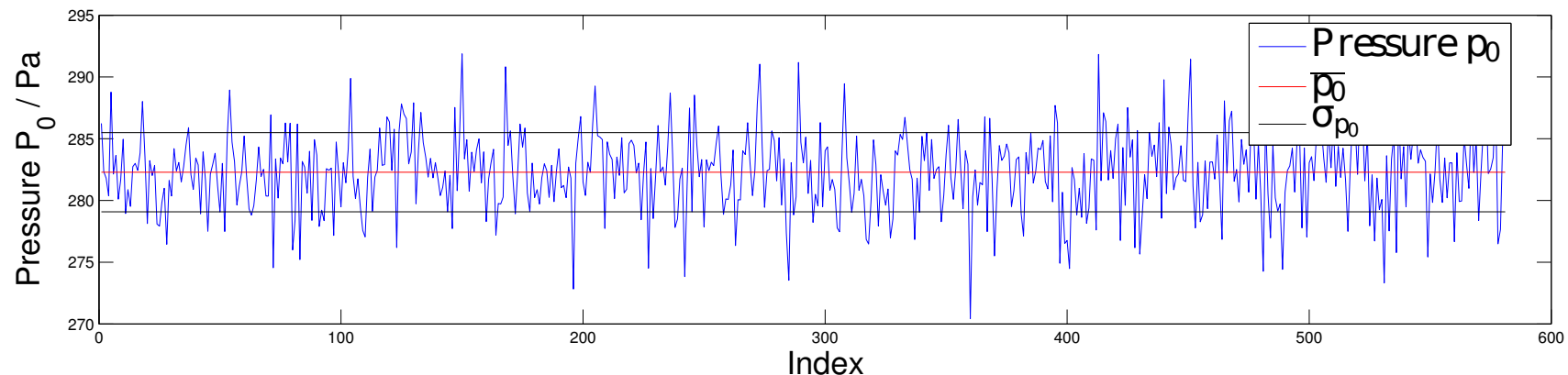
$$\alpha = f_\alpha(\Delta p_{01}, \Delta p_{02}, \Delta p_{03}, \Delta p_{04}, \Delta p_{0s}) \quad (2)$$

$$\beta = f_\beta(\Delta p_{01}, \Delta p_{02}, \Delta p_{03}, \Delta p_{04}, \Delta p_{0s}) \quad (3)$$

where Δp_{0x} is the difference between the pressure measured at the Hole x of the 5HP and the pressure (P_0) measured at the tip.

Error only by Pressure Transducers

Laminar wind tunnel with a turbulence intensity $I = \frac{\sigma_u}{\bar{u}} = 1\%$ with $\bar{u} = 17$ m/s.

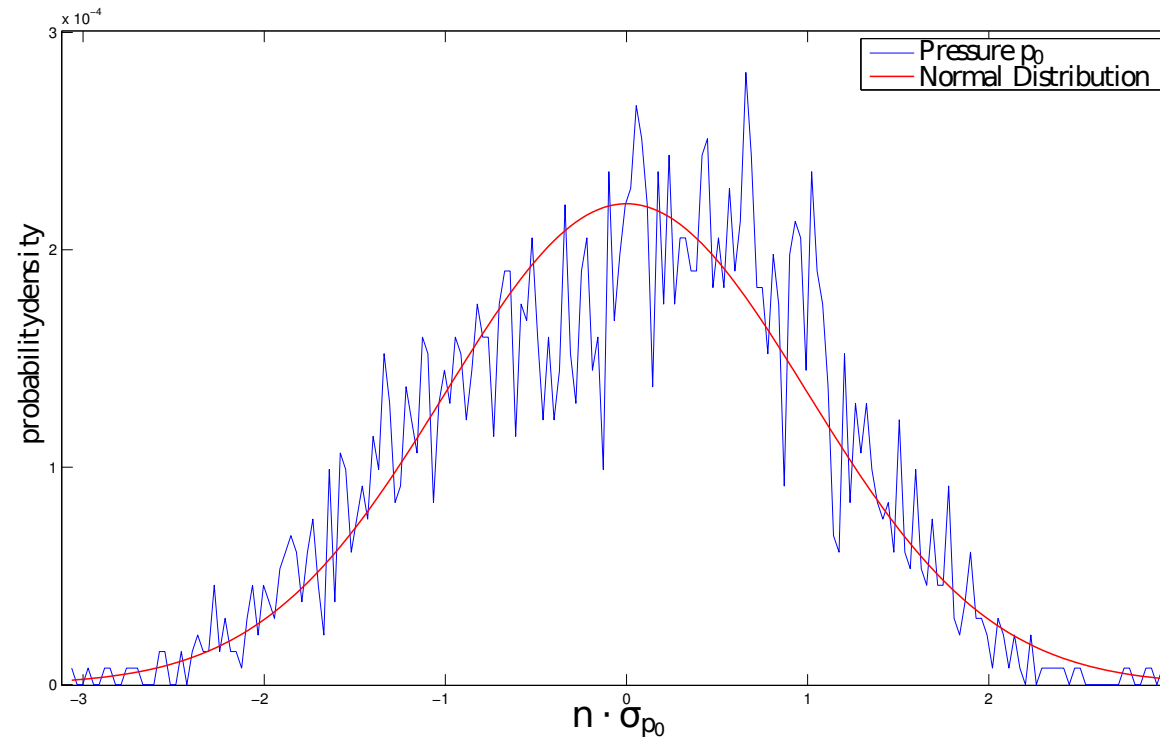


Pressure signal p_0 measured with 5 hole probe in the laminar jet wind tunnel

$$\bar{u} = 17\text{m/s} : \sigma_{p_0} = 2.9\text{Pa}, \bar{p}_0 = 283.1\text{Pa} \Rightarrow I_m = \frac{\sigma_{u_m}}{u_m} = \frac{\sigma_{\sqrt{p_0}}}{\sqrt{p_0}} = 0.7\%$$

$$\bar{u} = 0\text{m/s} : \sigma_{p_0} = 0.5\text{Pa}, \bar{p}_0 = 0\text{Pa} \Rightarrow \text{elctrical thermal noise of the sensors}$$

Normal Distribution of Sensor Noise



To simulate the error due to noise, random numbers with gaussian distribution (ε) and a specific standard deviation (σ_{noise}) are added to the measurement:

$$\Delta \tilde{p}_{xy,i} = \Delta p_{xy,i} + \sigma_{p,noise} \cdot \varepsilon_{p,i}$$

Simulation of noise error by pressure transducers

$$|\tilde{U}_a| = f_u(\Delta\tilde{p}_{01}, \Delta\tilde{p}_{02}, \Delta\tilde{p}_{03}, \Delta\tilde{p}_{04}, \Delta\tilde{p}_{0s}) \quad (4)$$

$$\tilde{\alpha} = f_\alpha(\Delta\tilde{p}_{01}, \Delta\tilde{p}_{02}, \Delta\tilde{p}_{03}, \Delta\tilde{p}_{04}, \Delta\tilde{p}_{0s}) \quad (5)$$

$$\tilde{\beta} = f_\beta(\Delta\tilde{p}_{01}, \Delta\tilde{p}_{02}, \Delta\tilde{p}_{03}, \Delta\tilde{p}_{04}, \Delta\tilde{p}_{0s}) \quad (6)$$

$$\text{RMS}_{U_a} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=0}^n (|U_a|_i - |\tilde{U}_a|_i)^2} \quad (7)$$

$$\text{RMS}_\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=0}^n (\alpha_i - \tilde{\alpha}_i)^2} \quad (8)$$

$$\text{RMS}_\beta = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=0}^n (\beta_i - \tilde{\beta}_i)^2} \quad (9)$$

Error only by pressure transducers

S_A power spectrum of a time series \Rightarrow White noise: $S_A = \text{const.}$

$$\sigma^2 = \int_0^N S_A(n) dn \quad (10)$$

with N as the upper bound frequency, is the half of the sampling frequency ($f_s = 100\text{Hz}$).

$$S_A = \frac{\sigma^2}{N} = \frac{\sigma^2}{f_s/2} = \frac{\sigma_{p0noise}^2}{f_s/2} = \frac{0.5\text{Pa}^2}{50\text{Hz}} = 0.01\text{Pa}^2\text{Hz}^{-1} \quad (11)$$

Error only by pressure transducers

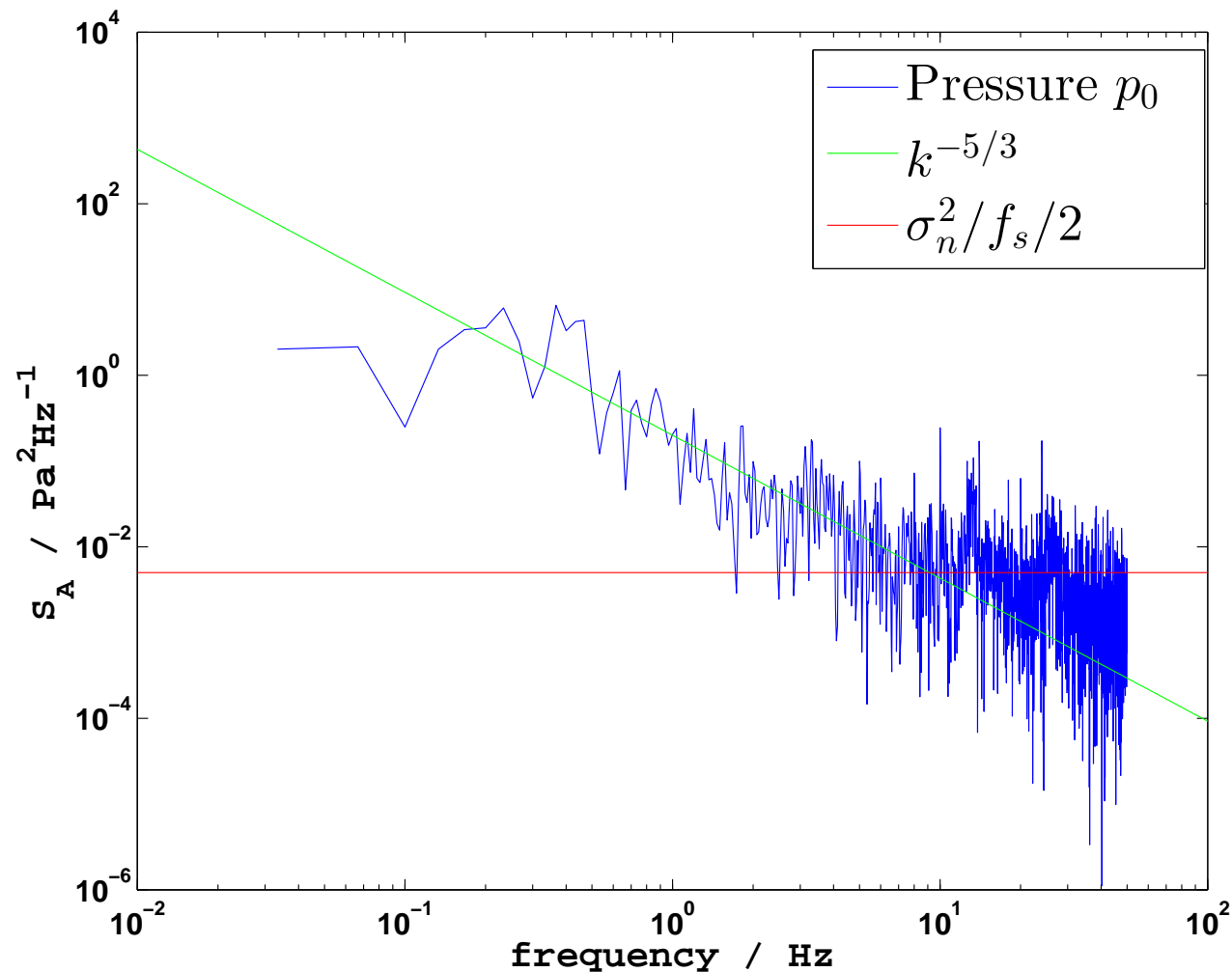


Abbildung 1: Power spectrum of p_0 pressure measurement with theoretical noise level (red).

Wind Vector Uncertainty

Variable	σ
$ U_a $	0.04 ms^{-1}
α	0.07°
β	0.05°
Φ	1°
Θ	1°
Ψ	1°
V_g	$[0.1 \ 0.1 \ 0.1] \text{ ms}^{-1}$

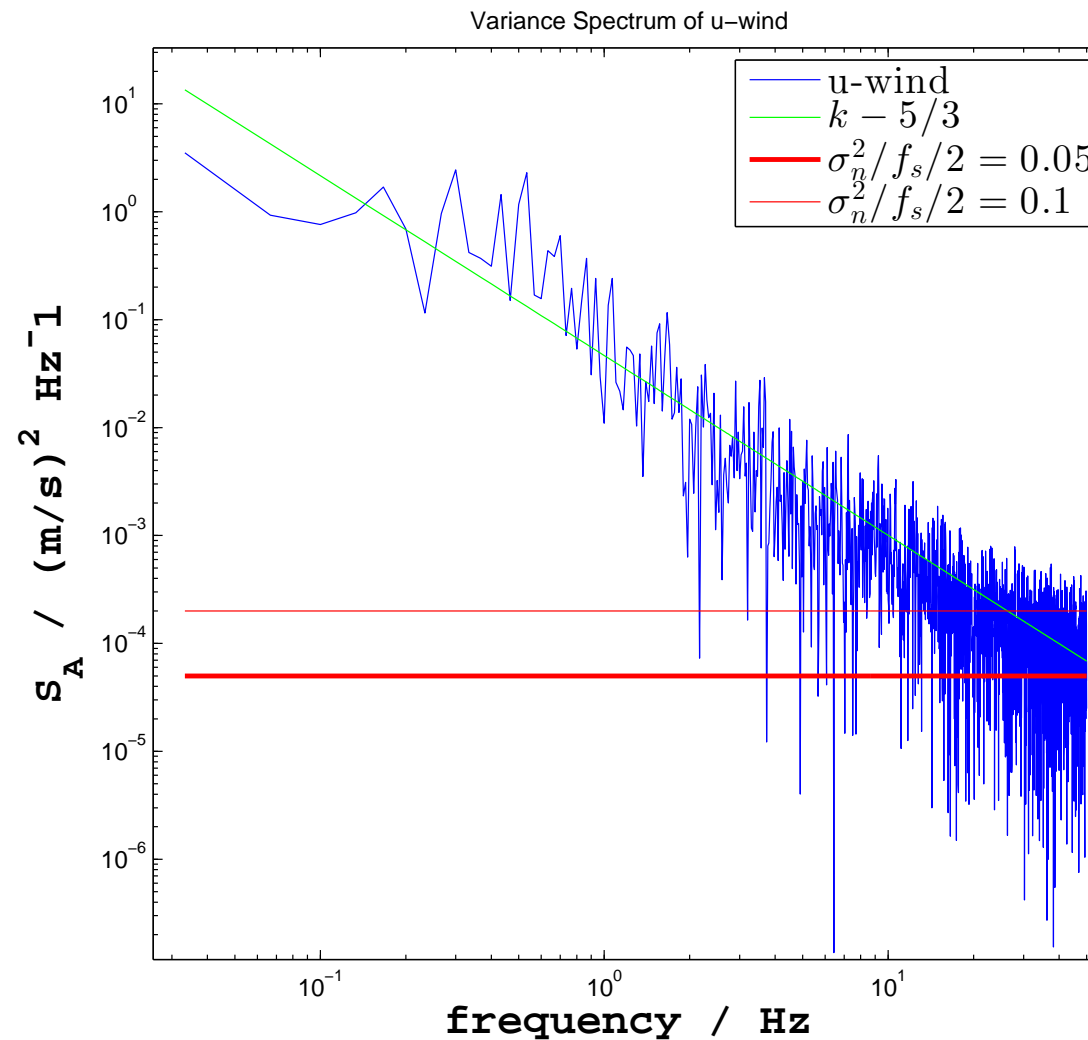
Gaussian error estimation: $\implies \sigma_{u,v,w} \approx 0.4 \text{ m/s}$

$\sigma_\Phi = 0^\circ, \sigma_\Theta = 0^\circ, \sigma_\Psi = 0^\circ, \sigma_{V_g} = 0 \text{ m/s} \implies \sigma_{u,v,w} \approx 0.05 \text{ m/s}$

Problem: Φ, Θ, Ψ, V_g are no noise errors

Errors are NOT Gaussian normal distributed

Spectral Resolution



⇒ Expect **spectral resolution of turbulence** fluctuation of $\approx 20 \text{ Hz}^{-1}$

Absolute Error of the Wind Vector

Maximum Error Estimation

Linear Error Analysis with Taylor expansion of first order

$$\varepsilon_{total_{MAX}} = \left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right| \cdot \Delta x + \left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right| \cdot \Delta y + \dots \quad (12)$$

With $\Delta\Phi = 1^\circ$, $\Delta\Theta = 1^\circ$, $\Delta\Psi = 1^\circ$, $\Delta V_g = 0.1$ m/s

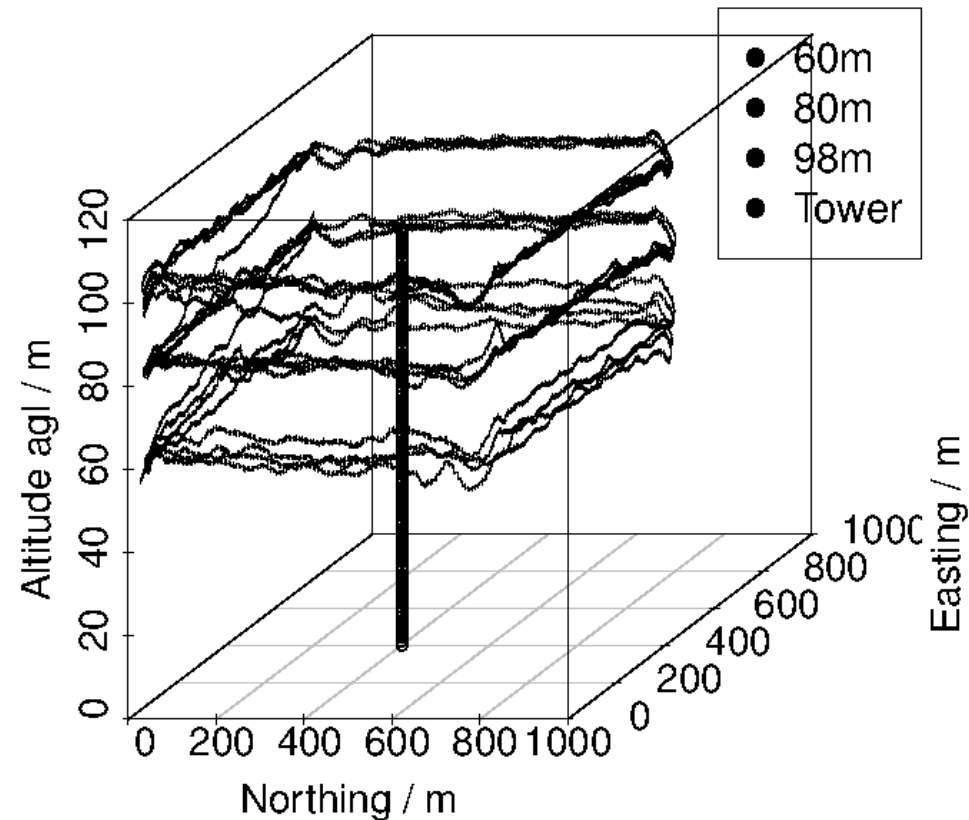
$$\implies \boxed{\varepsilon_{total_{MAX}} = \pm 0.49 \text{ m/s}}$$

Flight Test



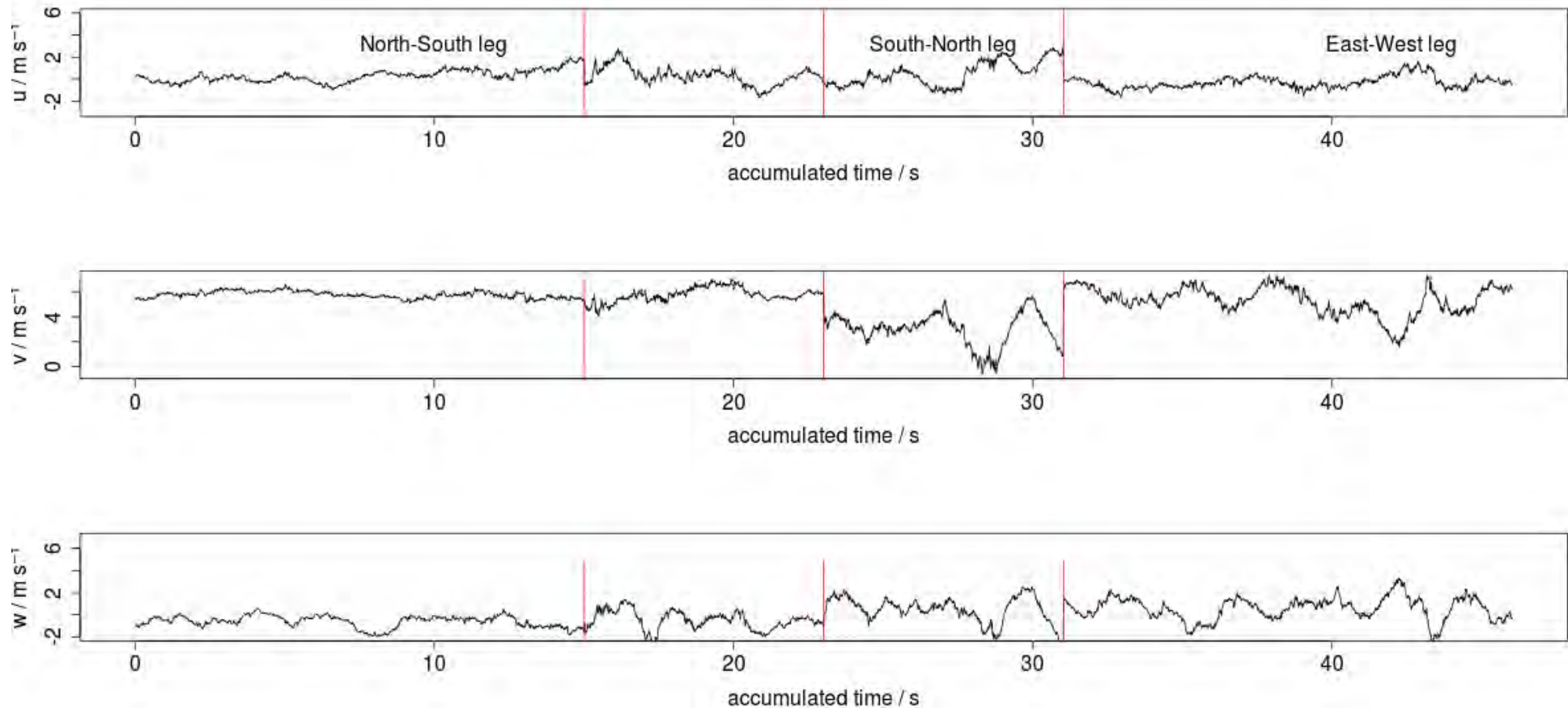
Flight Test

Flight measurements were carried out on 21- 23 September 2012 in Lindenberg near Berlin.



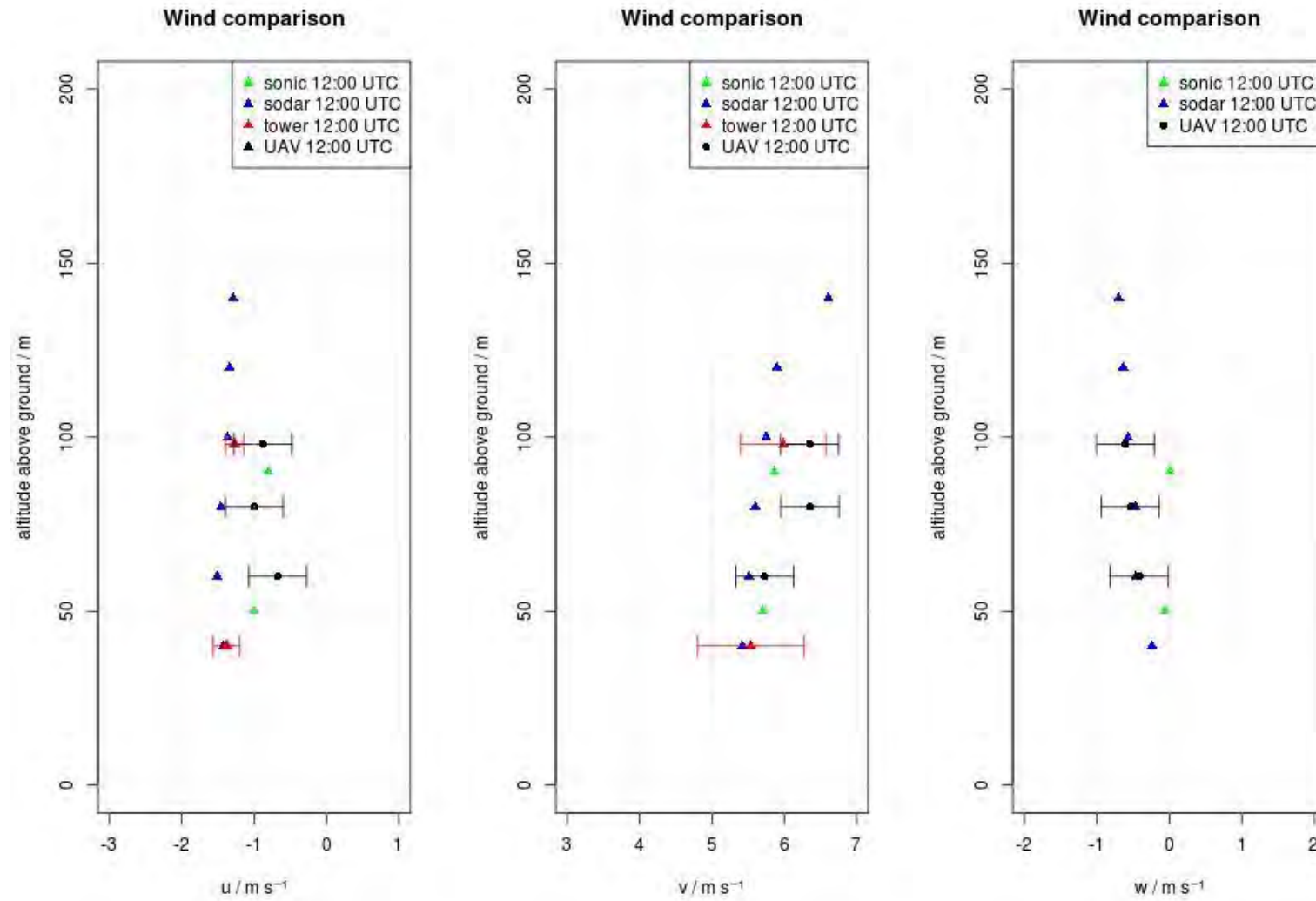
Results

Flight on 21st September 12:00 UTC



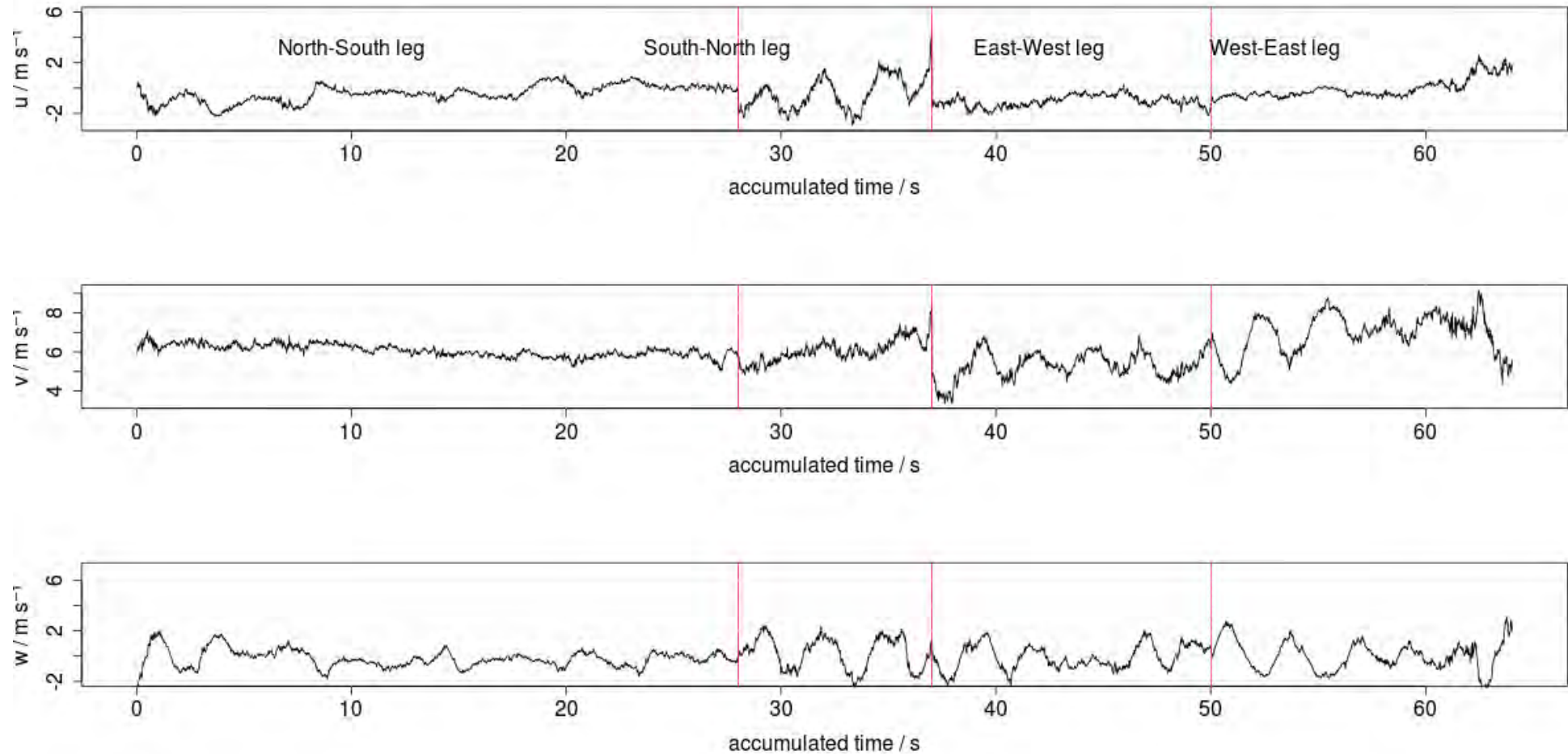
Results

Flight on 21st September 12:00 UTC



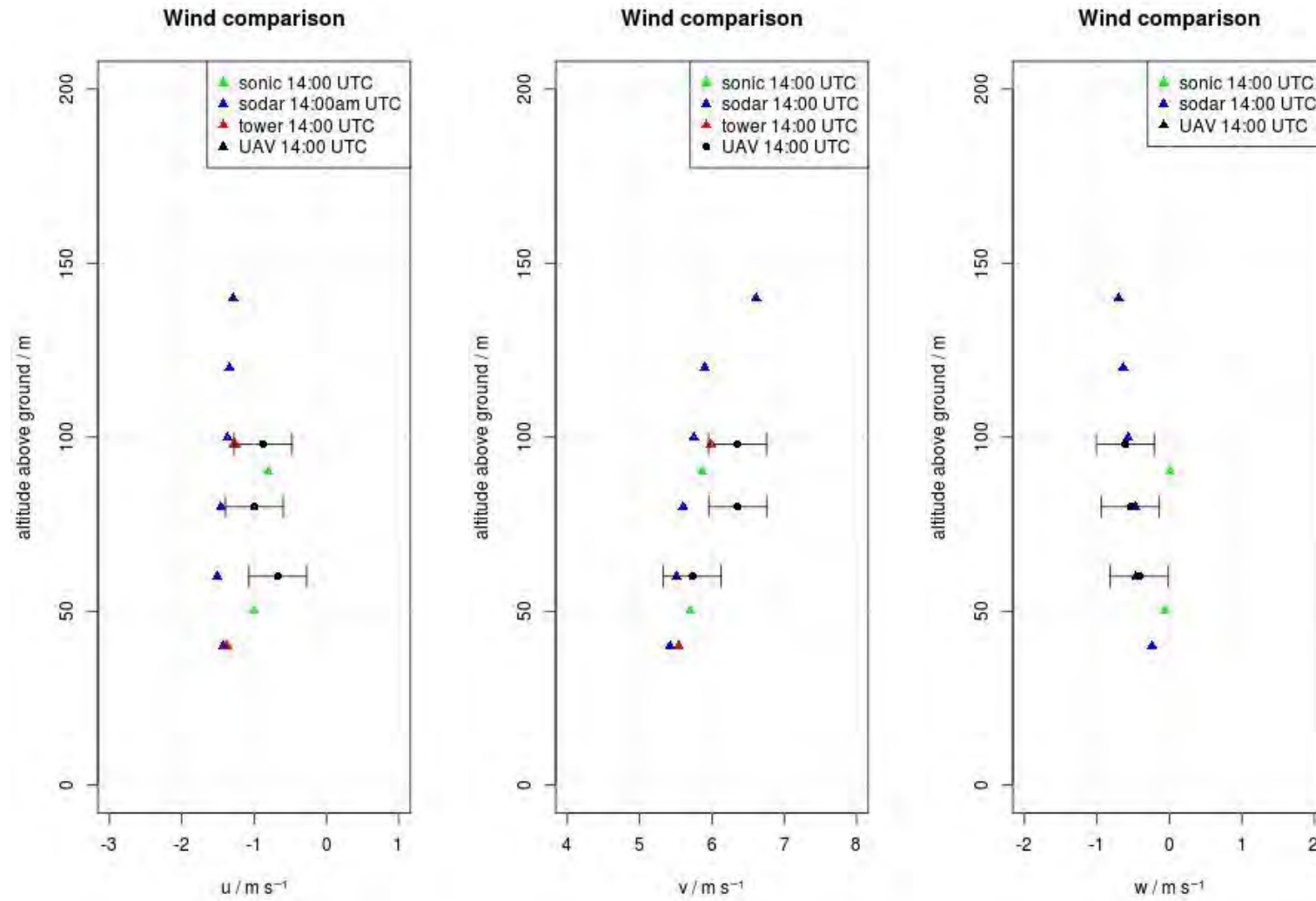
Results

Flight on 21st September 14:00 UTC



Results

Flight on 21st September 14:00 UTC



Conclusion and Outlook

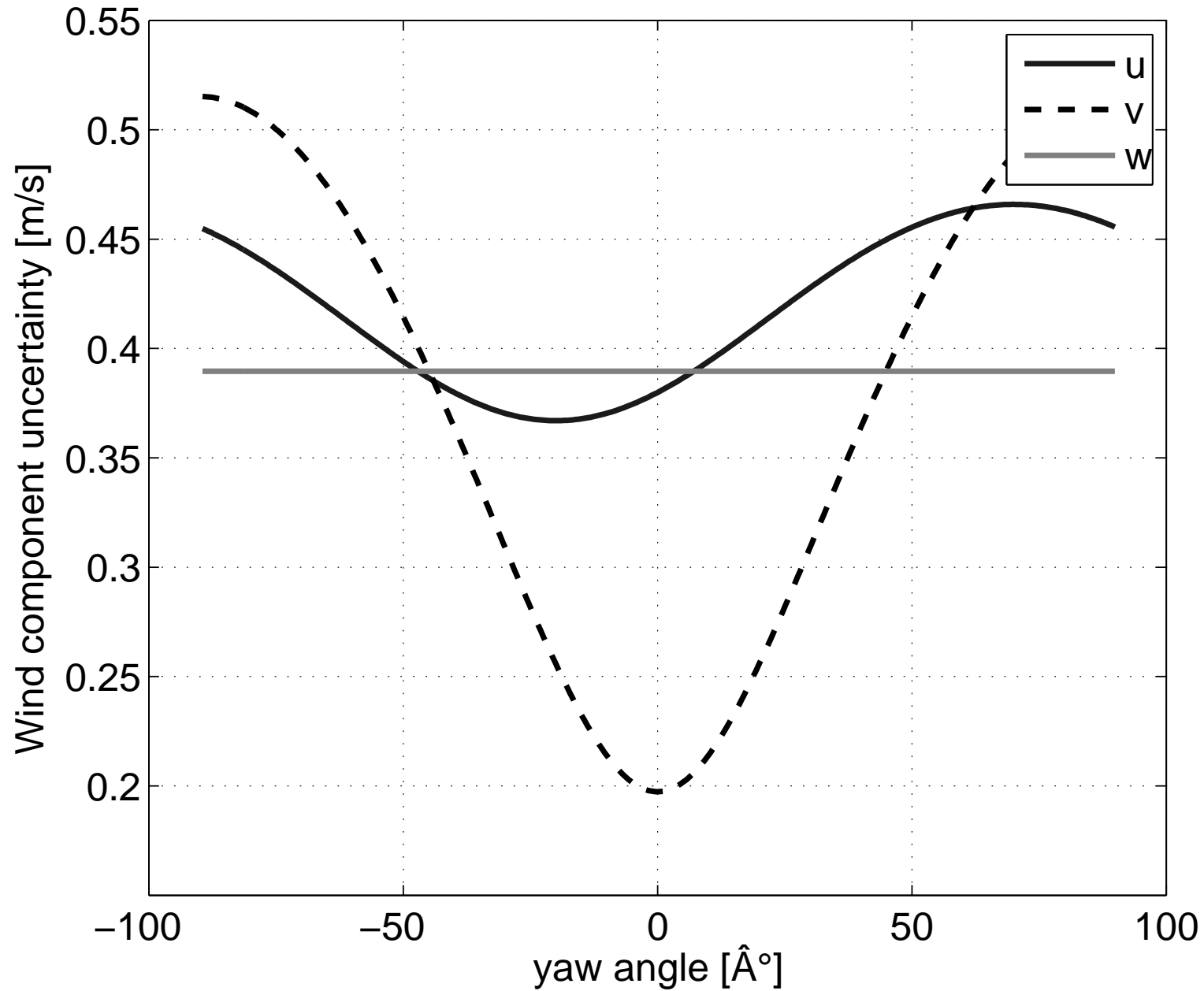
- **spectral resolution of turbulence** fluctuation of $\approx 20 \text{ Hz}^{-1}$
- Absolute wind error: $\varepsilon_{total_{MAX}} = \pm 0.49 \text{ m/s}$
- Average wind fits good with ground based measurements

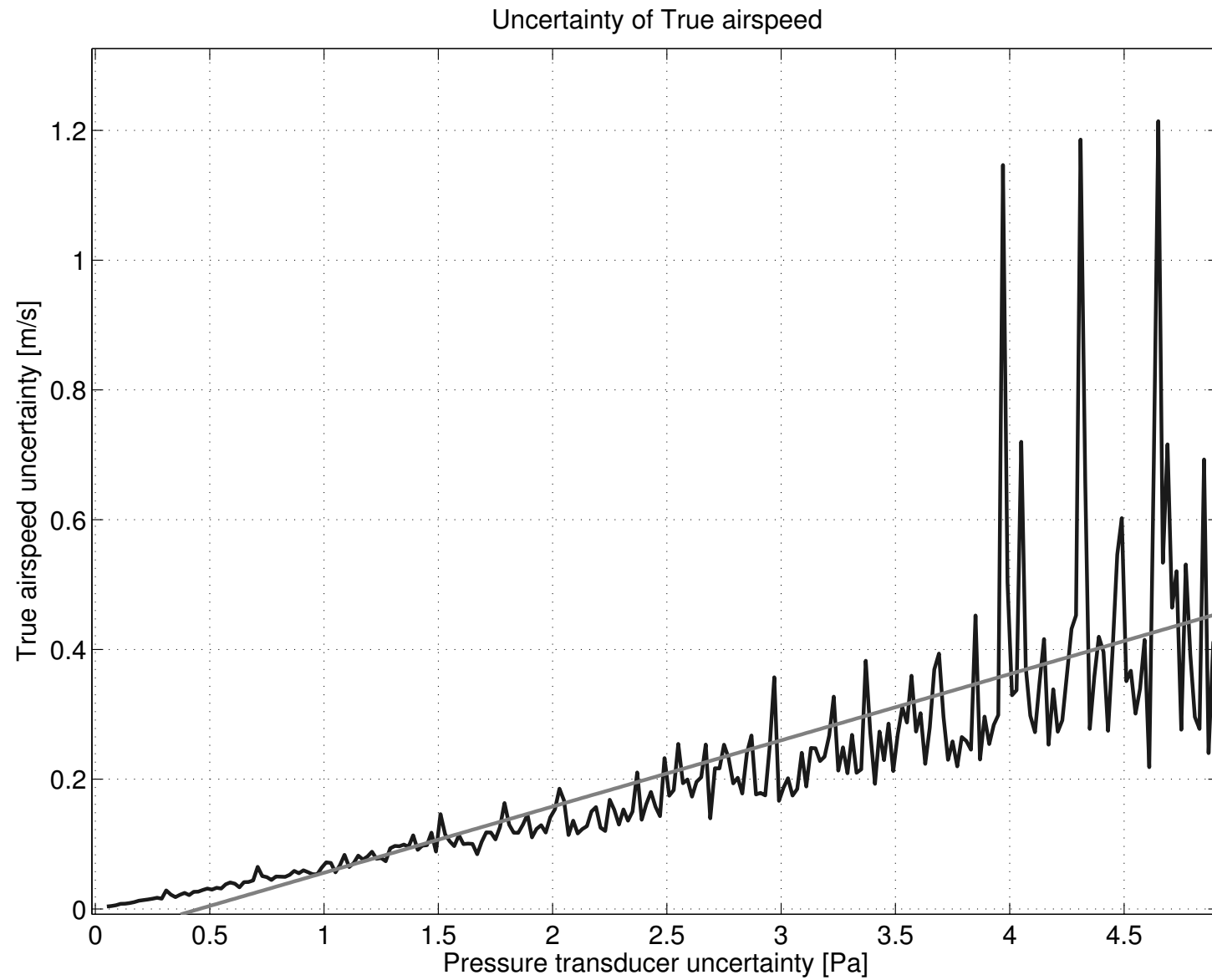
- Mathematical error propagation of the IMU error
- Spectral resolution of turbulence fluctuation depending on the turbulence intensity of the atmosphere
- Compare turbulence measurements with ground based measured turbulence fluxes

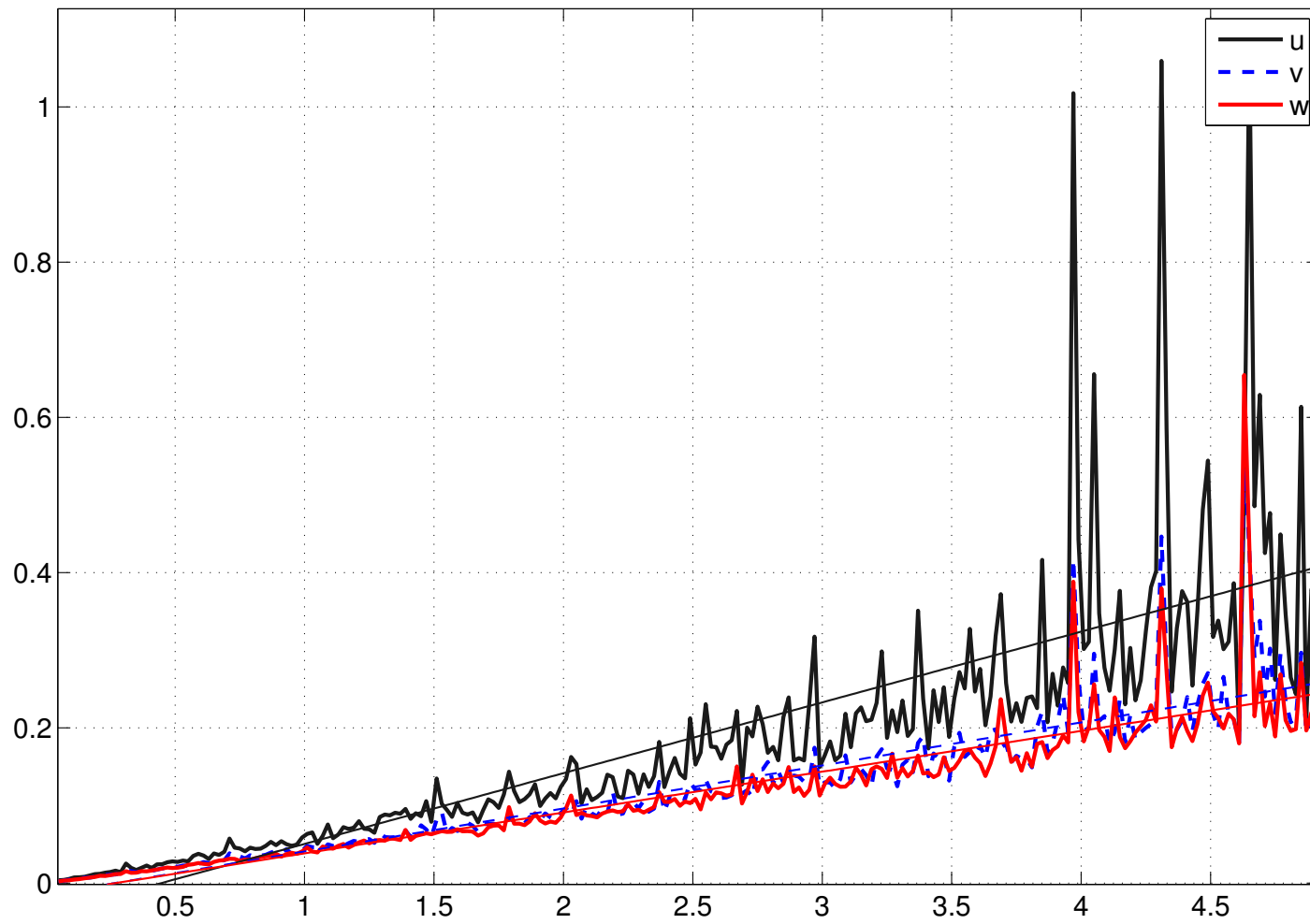
Appendix



Uncertainty of wind measurement







In-flight Calibration

⇒ **in-flight calibration** to minimize these errors

Square Pattern: Legs: North-South, West-East, South-North, East-West

For every horizontal leg mean values of the measured time series are calculated.

\bar{U}_a , $\bar{\alpha}$, $\bar{\beta}$, $\bar{\Theta}$, $\bar{\Psi}$, $\bar{\Phi}$, \bar{u}_{Ag} , \bar{v}_{Ag} and \bar{w}_{Ag}

$$\Theta \Rightarrow \bar{\Theta} + \Delta\Theta' \quad (13)$$

$$\Psi \Rightarrow \bar{\Psi} + \Delta\Psi' \quad (14)$$

$$U_a \Rightarrow \bar{U}_a f_{U_a} \quad (15)$$

In-flight Calibration

$$\bar{u}^n - \bar{u}^s = 0, \quad \bar{v}^n - \bar{v}^s = 0 \quad (16)$$

$$\bar{u}^w - \bar{u}^e = 0, \quad \bar{v}^w - \bar{v}^e = 0 \quad (17)$$

$$\bar{w}^n = \bar{w}^s = \bar{w}^w = \bar{w}^e = 0 \quad (18)$$

where n , s , w , and e indicate north, south, west, or east flight direction.

The unknown angles $\Delta\Theta'$, $\Delta\Psi'$, and f_{U_a} are calculated from (13-15) where u, v , and w are calculated by (5) using the substitutions from (10-12). The Levenberg–Marquardt least squares fit method (Press et al. 1992) is used to solve the equations.