

# EU-HOU MW-project

## Connecting classrooms to the Milky Way



COMENIUS - EU commission “LifeLong Learning Program” (2010-2012) coordinated by University Pierre et Marie Curie

Outreach within Radionet Workshop

Nov 17th-19th, Bologna

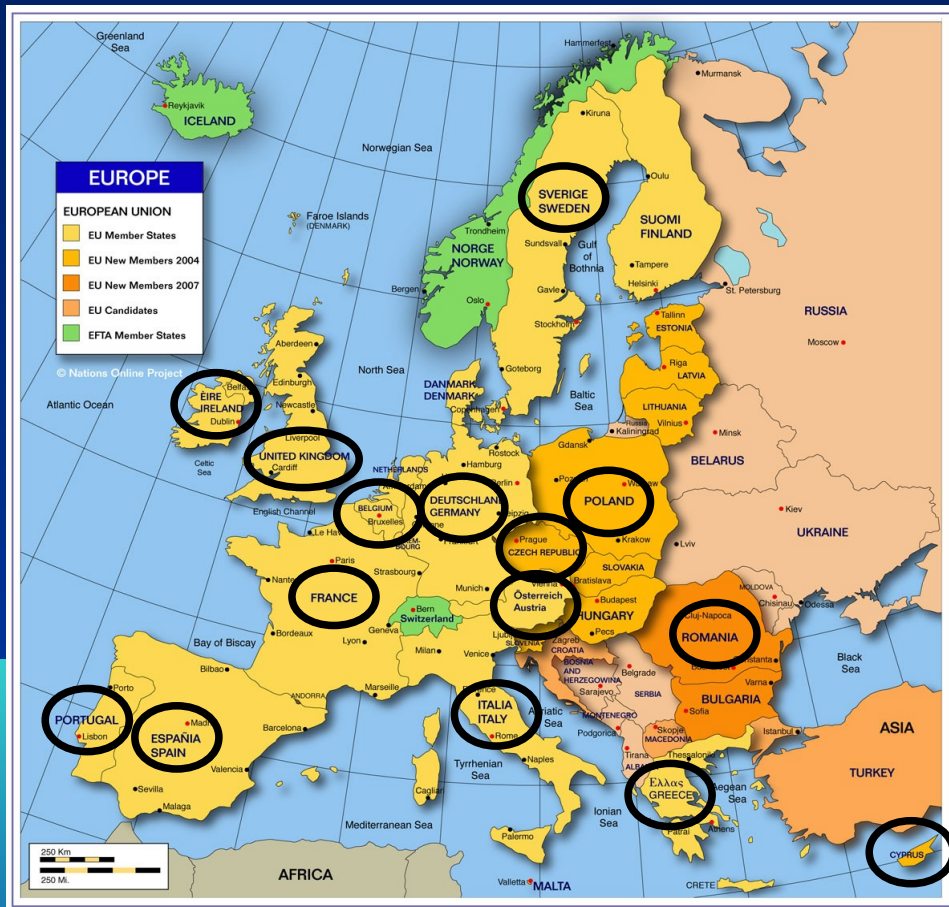
Philippe SALOME  
LERMA, Obs de Paris  
FRANCE



# EU-Hands on Universe

## European Consortium

### European Commission Education & Learning



- Minerva Program (8)  
2004 – 2006 : 370 k.euros

- Comenius Program (14)  
2008 – 2010 : 300 k.euros

- Comenius program (11)  
'LifeLong Learning Program'

### Radio-astronomy

- 2010 – 2012 : 300 k.euros

# EU-Hands on Universe

European Consortium

**Université Pierre et Marie Curie (France) - *F-HOU* Coordinator**

**Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz (Austria)**

**Observatoire royal de Belgique**

**Lykeio Agiou Nikolaou (Cyprus)**

**Astronomický ústav Akademie (Česká Republika)**

**National Observatory of Athens (Greece)**

**Cork Institute of Technology (Ireland)**

**Fondazione IDIS – Città Della Scienza (Italy)**

**Nicolaus Copernicus university (Poland)**

**Núcleo Interactivo de Astronomia (Portugal)**

**Universitatea din Craiova (Romania)**

**Universidad Complutense de Madrid (Spain)**

**House of Science (Sweden)**

**Cardiff University (United Kingdom)**

**F.A.S. Bonn (Germany)**

# EU-Hands on Universe

## European Consortium

**HOU is the leading team of**

**« Galileo Teacher Training Program »**

**a cornerstone launched by IAU and UNESCO for IYA 2009**

**Now included in the IAU decadal strategic plan  
for astronomy development**

**3rd price AMA09/Mani Bhaumik for *“Excellence in Astronomy  
Education and Public Outreach”***


**Silver award of the European Commission at the occasion of the  
conference « Innovation and Creativity in the Lifelong Learning  
Programme: Create, Innovate and Cooperate » held in Prague, 6-7  
May 2009**

# Goals

- Raise the **attractiveness** of science education
- Participate to the development and **modernisation of EU schools**
- Promote scientific **methods/knowledge**



# How ?

- Production of innovative **pedagogical resources** and exercises based on real astronomical data available from a **multilanguage website**
  - Production of a pupil-friendly **software**: *SalsaJ*
  - Creation of a network of researchers and teachers and dissemination through workshops and **teacher training** sessions
  - Pedagogical use of worldwide **telescope networks** **operated remotely**
- 
- A stylized silhouette of a mountain range in shades of brown and tan, positioned at the bottom of the slide against a dark blue background.

# How ?

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<http://www.euhou.net/>

# EU-HOU

Bringing frontline interactive astronomy to the classroom

Forum

Important dates

Tools

News

- ✦ Supernova in M100 !!!
- ✦ The Life of Stars and their Spectra
- ✦ Measuring Distances to Cepheids.
- ✦ Annular Eclipse in Bragança (Portugal), 3 October, 2005
- ✦ ...

Software

Exercises

Contact

What is  
EU-HOU ?



# Radio Astronomy Posters



- Pedagogical document for teachers (11 pages)
- Can be used in classrooms (quizz)

[http://www.fr.euhou.net/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=134&Itemid=156](http://www.fr.euhou.net/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=134&Itemid=156)

**Hundreds** of European teachers trained. **Thousands** of European pupils have used HOU tools



**Cardiff – 22-25 August 2009**



**OHP – 7-10 May 2009**

**Torun – 5-8 May 2010**



# Remote access to Optical telescope

The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window displaying the 'About Us' page of the Faulkes Telescope Project. The browser's address bar shows the URL <http://www.faulkes-telescope.com/aboutus>. The website features a dark background with a starry sky and a blue arc representing a telescope's field of view. The main heading is 'Faulkes Telescope Project', with a sub-heading 'an official partner of LCOGT.net'. A navigation menu includes 'Home', 'Support', 'User Showcase', 'Education', 'Information', 'Multimedia Resources', and 'News'. Below this, a secondary menu lists 'Educational Resources', 'Gallery', 'Register', 'Astronomical Targets', 'About Us', and 'FT team'. The main content area is titled 'About Us' and includes the following text: 'The Faulkes Telescope Project is the education arm of Las Cumbres Observatory Global Telescope Network (LCOGTN). Our aim is to provide **free** access to robotic telescopes and a fully supported education programme to encourage teachers and students to engage in research-based science education. Access to our resources and those of our partners is provided **at no charge** to teachers and students. **Robotic Telescopes** LCOGTN operates a network of research class robotic telescopes. Currently there are two telescopes, one in Hawaii and the other in Australia. These telescopes are available to teachers for them to use as part of their curricular or extra-curricular activities and are fully supported by a range of educational materials and a team of educators and professional astronomers. Click on the link below that is relevant to you to find out more.' At the bottom, there are two buttons: 'Teachers' and 'Other Users'. On the right side, there are sections for 'Login', 'Registration', 'Search', 'Status Updates', and 'Related links'. The 'Status Updates' section lists 'Faulkes Telescope North' and 'Faulkes Telescope South'.

# Remote access to Radio telescope

Jodrell Bank Internet Observatory (JBiO) - Mozilla Firefox

Fichier Édition Affichage Historique Marque-pages Outils Aide

http://webmail.jb.man.ac.uk/distance/observatory/index.php

Seminaires Programming Observatory Concours Science PdB ALMA Utilities e-mails Gmail Mandriva

Courrier (no subje... Radex o... Cross Co... Astrono... Astrono... FCRAO ... RadioNe... Observa... Jodre...

## Jodrell Bank Internet Observatory (JBiO)

Front Page Jodrell Bank Observatory University of Manchester 9:38:00 Wed 10 Nov 2010

**Logged Out**

### Jodrell Bank Internet Observatory (JBiO)

**Telescope Status: Control: Remote Motors: On Observation: Not Tracking Azimuth: 44.7 Elevation: 58.0**


The Jodrell Bank Internet Observatory (JBiO) is a remotely-controlled 7-metre radio telescope used by full-time Undergraduate students of the University of Manchester, and for schools projects run by Jodrell Bank Observatory.

The [data archive](#) is freely available but access to the telescope control system requires [Login](#) using a username and password.

A general description of the JBiO telescope can be found by clicking on the [Introduction](#) link under the **Documents** side menu.

The above **Telescope Status** bar indicates whether the radio telescope is currently enabled for observing. The [Monitor](#) link under the **Tools** side menu shows the current status in more detail. If the status bar and the [Monitor](#) screen do not show control as "Remote" and the telescope motors are "Off", the telescope is probably not available for observing due to severe weather (high winds or snow) or is undergoing maintenance (usually Mondays).

The JBiO telescope is operated by [Jodrell Bank Observatory](#), part of the [School of Physics & Astronomy](#) of the [University of Manchester](#).



- **Movie** Click here for a [movie](#) of the 7-metre telescope tracking a source whilst the Lovell Telescope conducts a HI survey and observes pulsars.

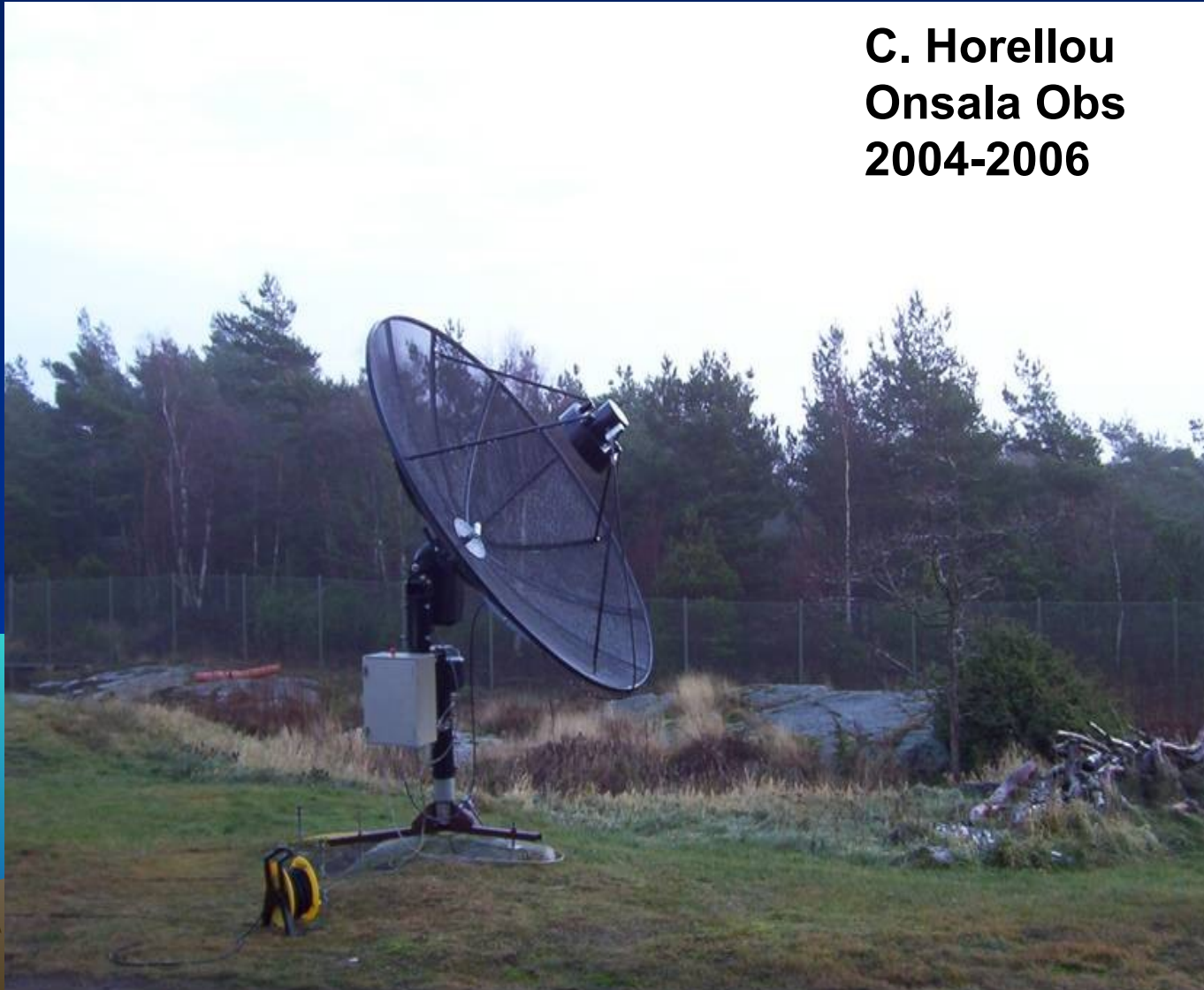
© University of Manchester

Tim O'Brien (web interface/control system, education), Christine Jordan (telescope control system), Alastair Gunn (web design/interface), Tim Ikin (receiver system), Stuart Lowe (SkyMap, photograph of 7m)

Jodrell Bank Observatory, School of Physics & Astronomy, The University of Manchester, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK11 9DL, United Kingdom  
Tel: +44 (0) 1477 571321, Fax: +44 (0) 1477 571618

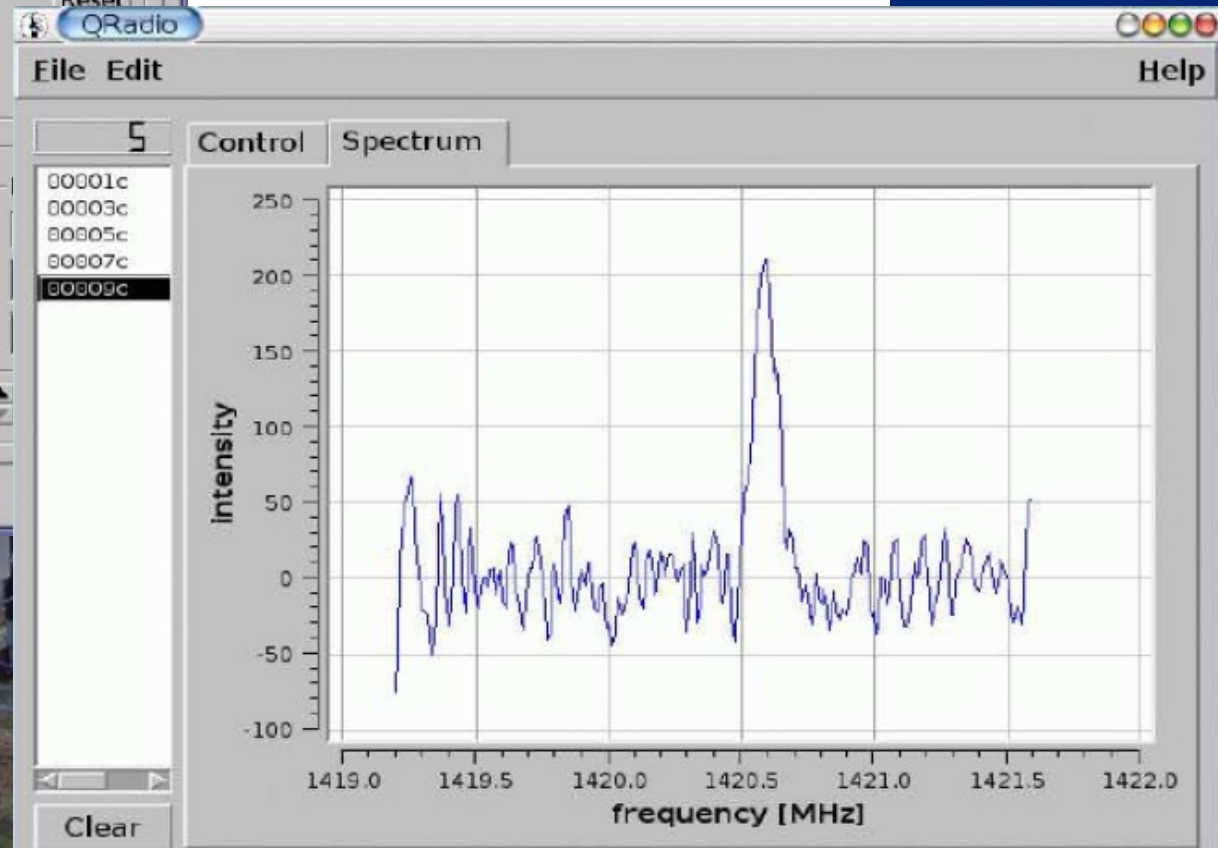
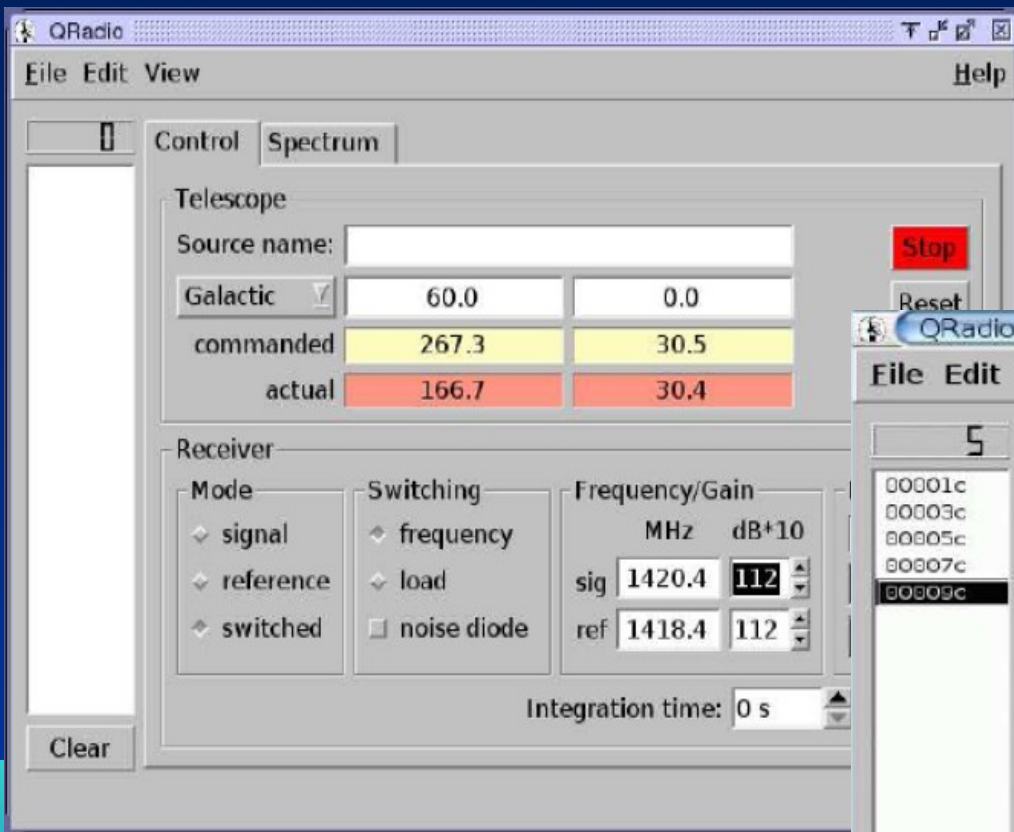
# Remote access to Radio telescope Salsa – Onsala (Sweden)

**C. Horellou  
Onsala Obs  
2004-2006**



# Remote access to Radio telescope Salsa – Onsala (Sweden)

C. Horellou  
Onsala Obs  
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# The EU-HOU MW Project

## Connecting Classrooms to the Milky Way

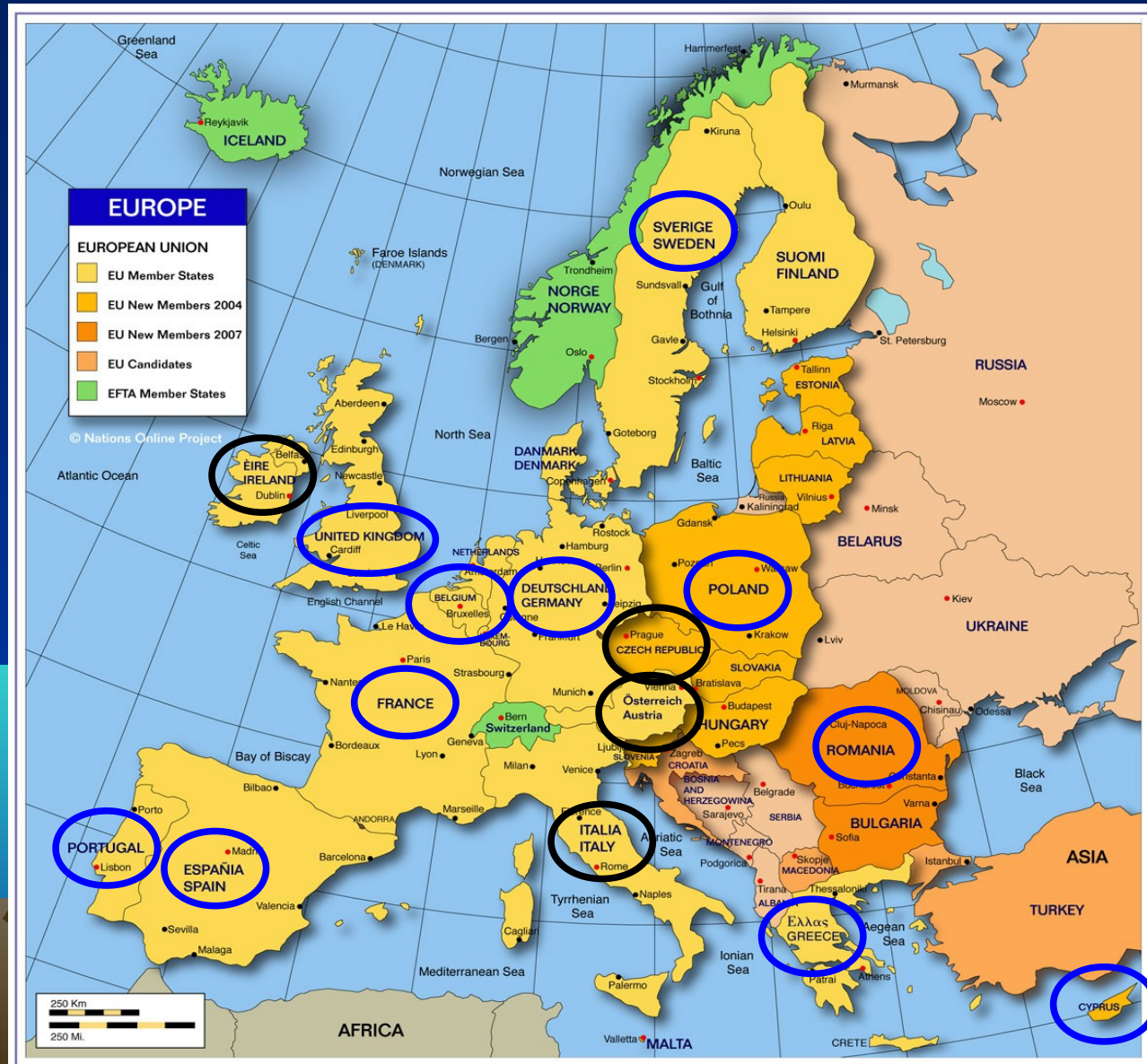
### COMENIUS 2010-2012

- How: Develop the first European network of **radiotelescopes** for education, enabling European schools to explore the Milky Way through **Internet (via a browser)**
- Need: Coordinate the access to radio facilities and **improve the existing interfaces** (simplify the access and provide analysis tools) for use in schools with young people



# The EU-HOU MW Project

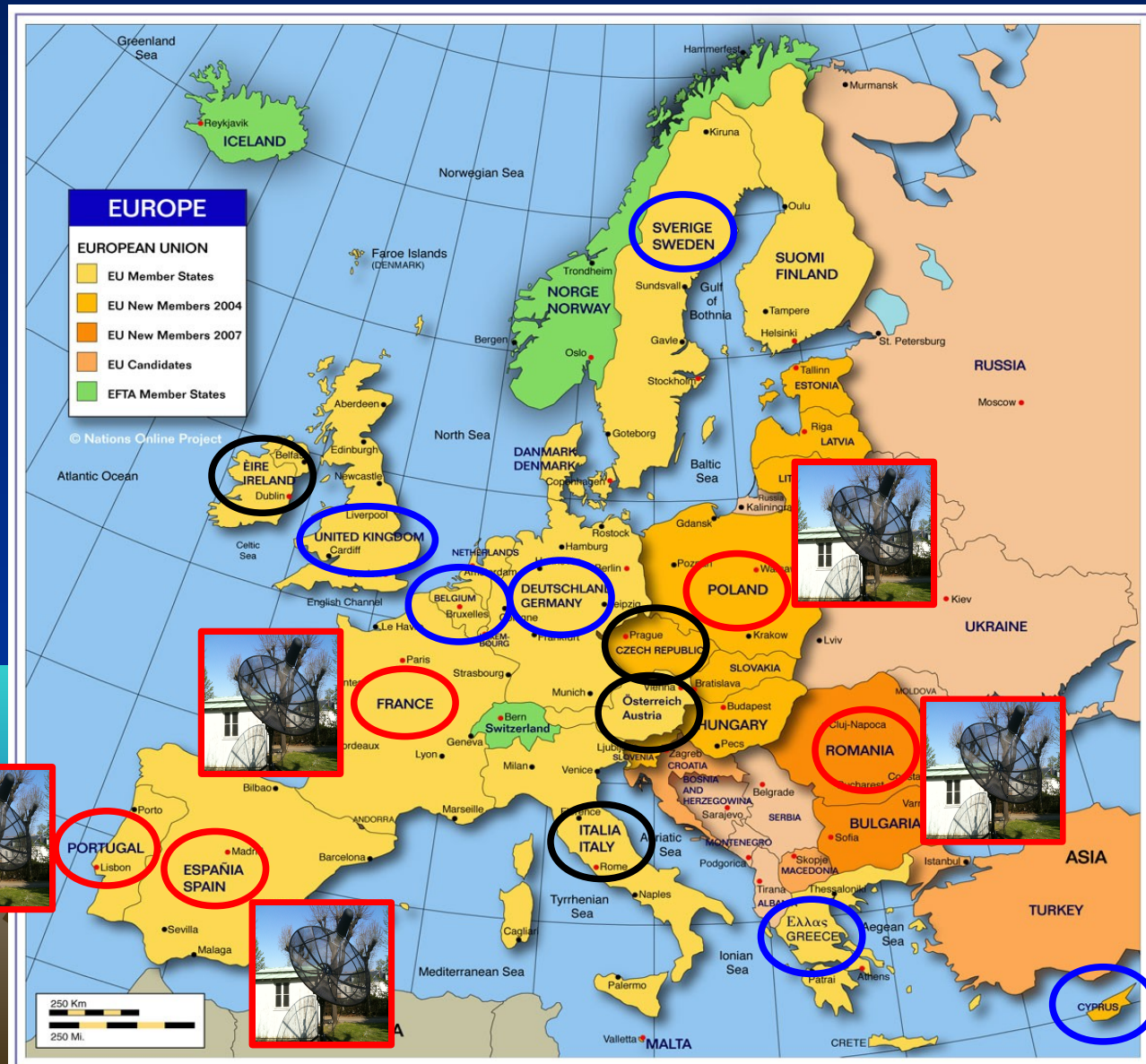
## Comenius Project 11 European countries





# The EU-HOU MW Project

Radiotelescope Network **5 European countries**



# The EU-HOU MW Project

## Small Radio Antenna Prototype in Paris

**Kickoff meeting last week in Paris**



# The EU-HOU MW Project

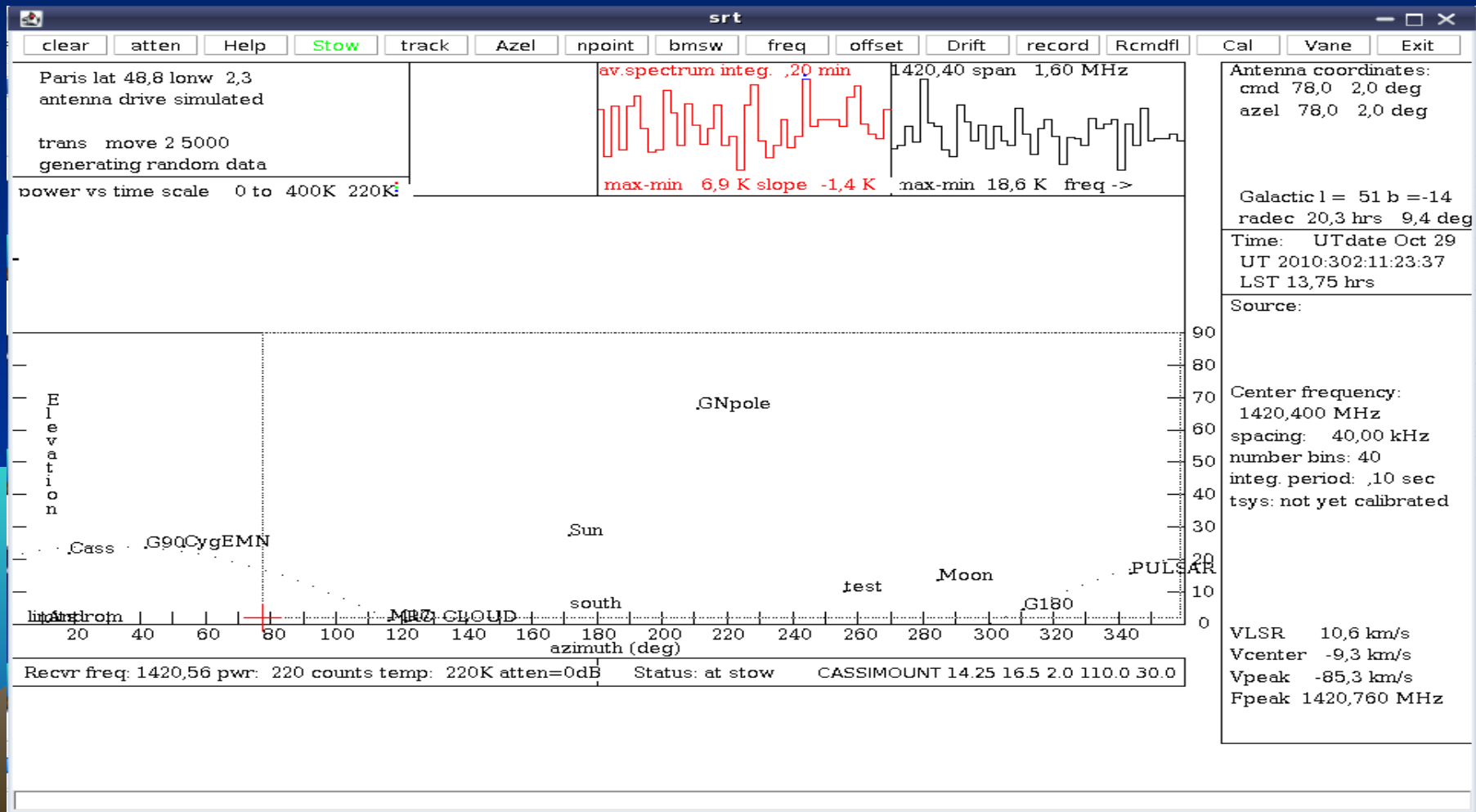
Radiotelescope Network **5 European countries**

- 5 radiotelescopes
- HI observation simulator from the LAB database (Kalberla)
- Pedagogical Interface to control the instruments/access the database from a classroom **(for all pupils not only highly motivated groups)**
- Scheduling system to access the telescopes



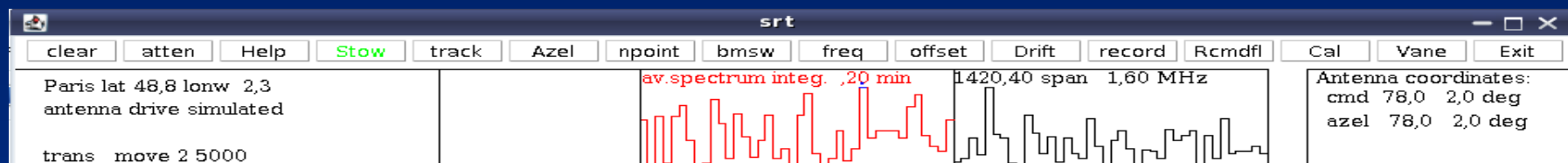
# Hardware/Software (MIT Haystack)

- 2.3m antenna equipped with a 1.4 GHz receiver
- Java-based software to control the antenna and the receiver – not user friendly / ascii output format



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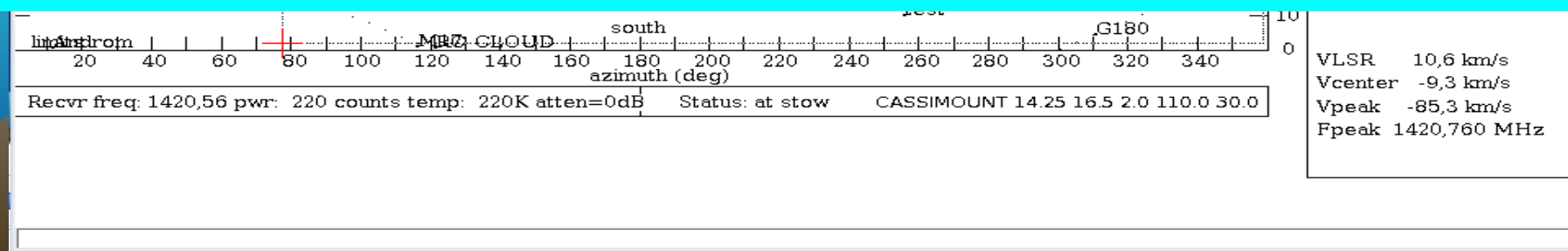
- 2.3m antenna equipped with a 1.4 GHz receiver
- Java-based software to control the antenna and the receiver – not user friendly / ascii output format



**The current software is not properly designed to be used from a classroom**

**Better to build a C++ toolbox that can be wrapped into python, PHP...**

**New developments ... not expected**



# Study Cases beyond schools

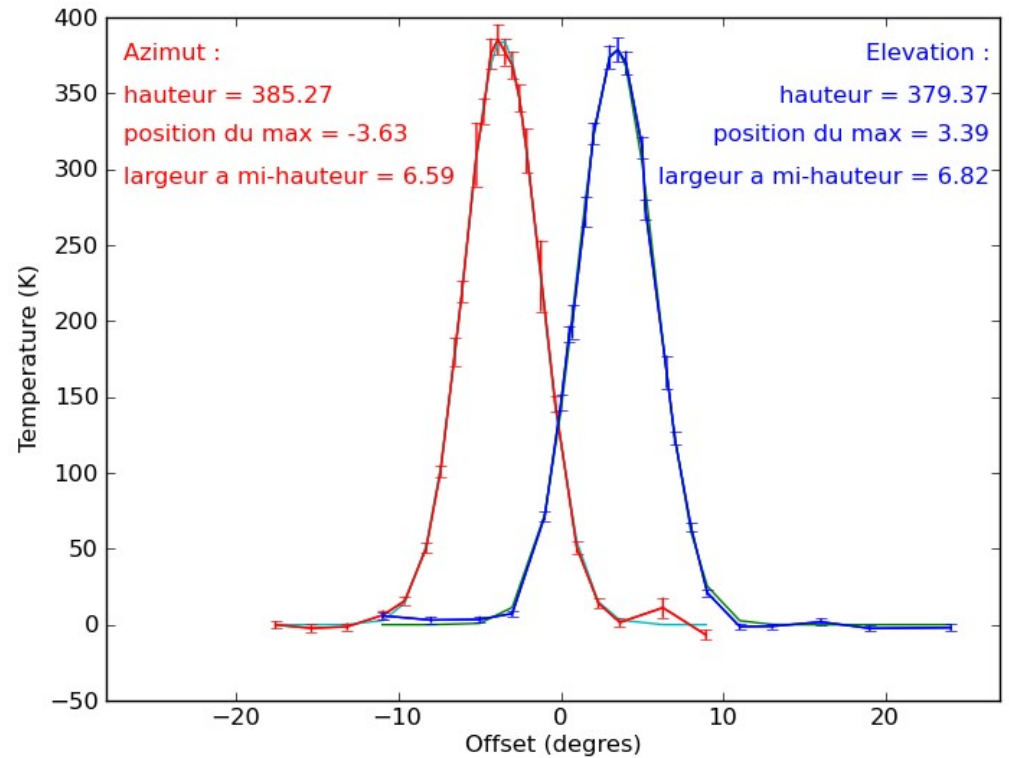
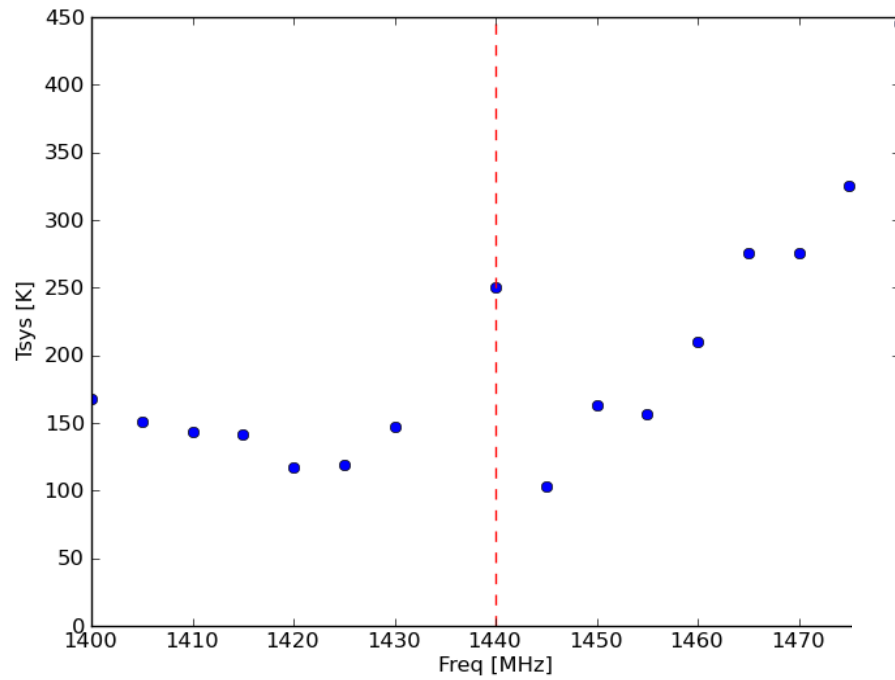
**Students** of the Paris University UPMC (one last summer, another this winter)

- Calibration with the warm load/noise cal
- Pointing on the sun (offset, beam size, efficiency)
- Obs of the galaxy

Very successful **Public Outreach** during the Open days of the Paris Observatory

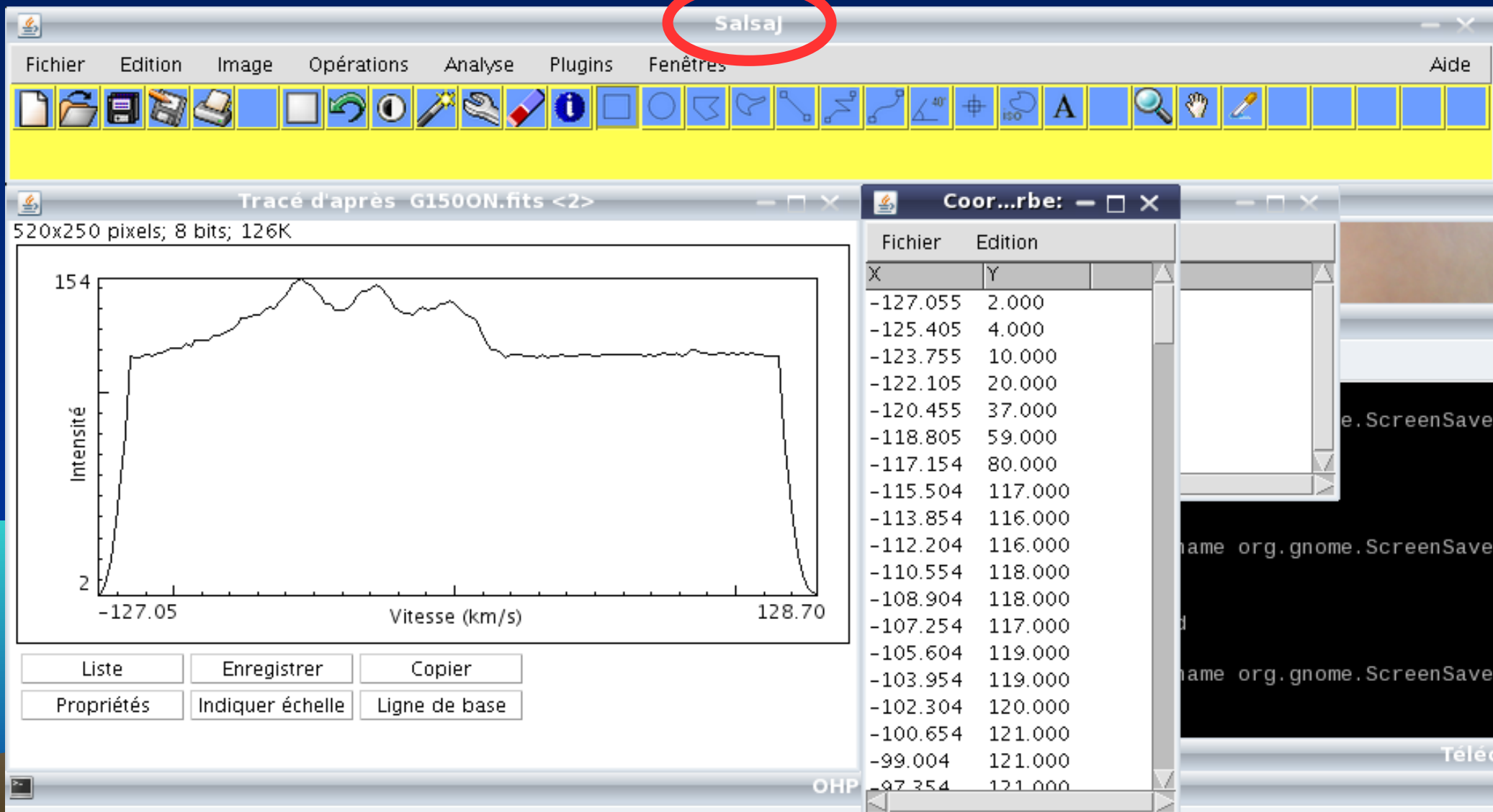


# Observations



# Analysis

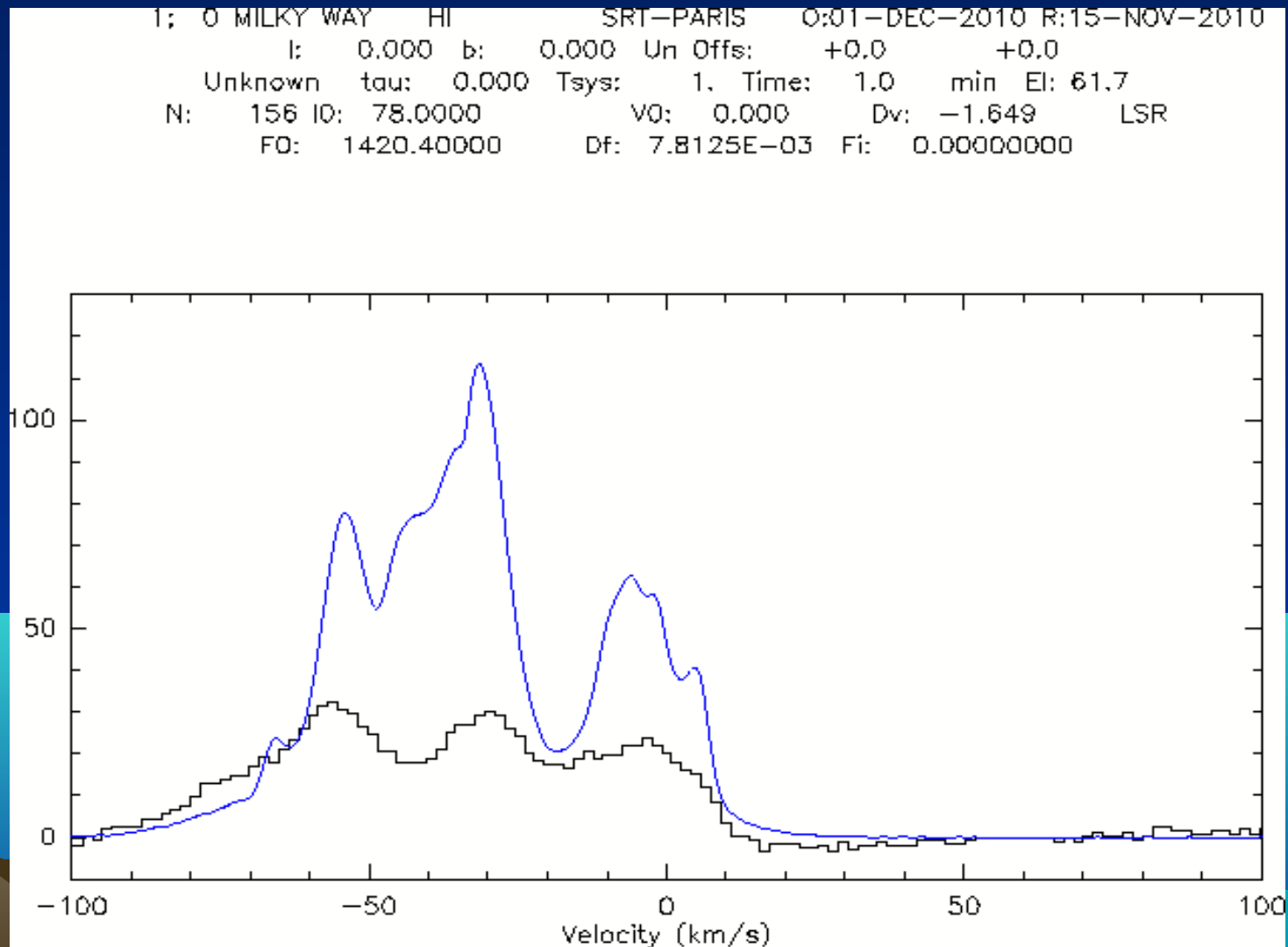
- Fits conversion with pyfits : Read with **salsaj**





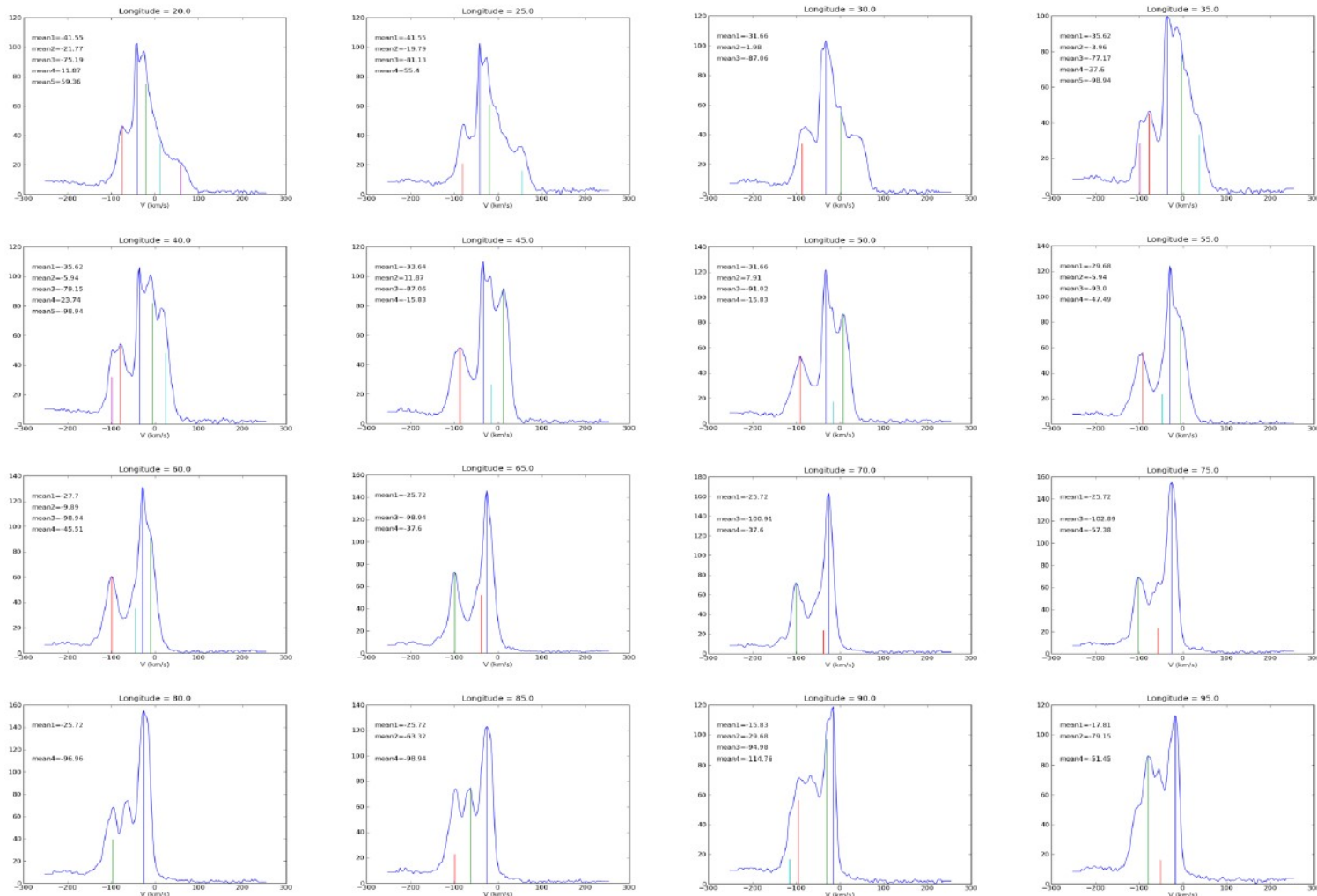
# Analysis

- Fits conversion with pyfits : Read with **CLASS (GILDAS)**



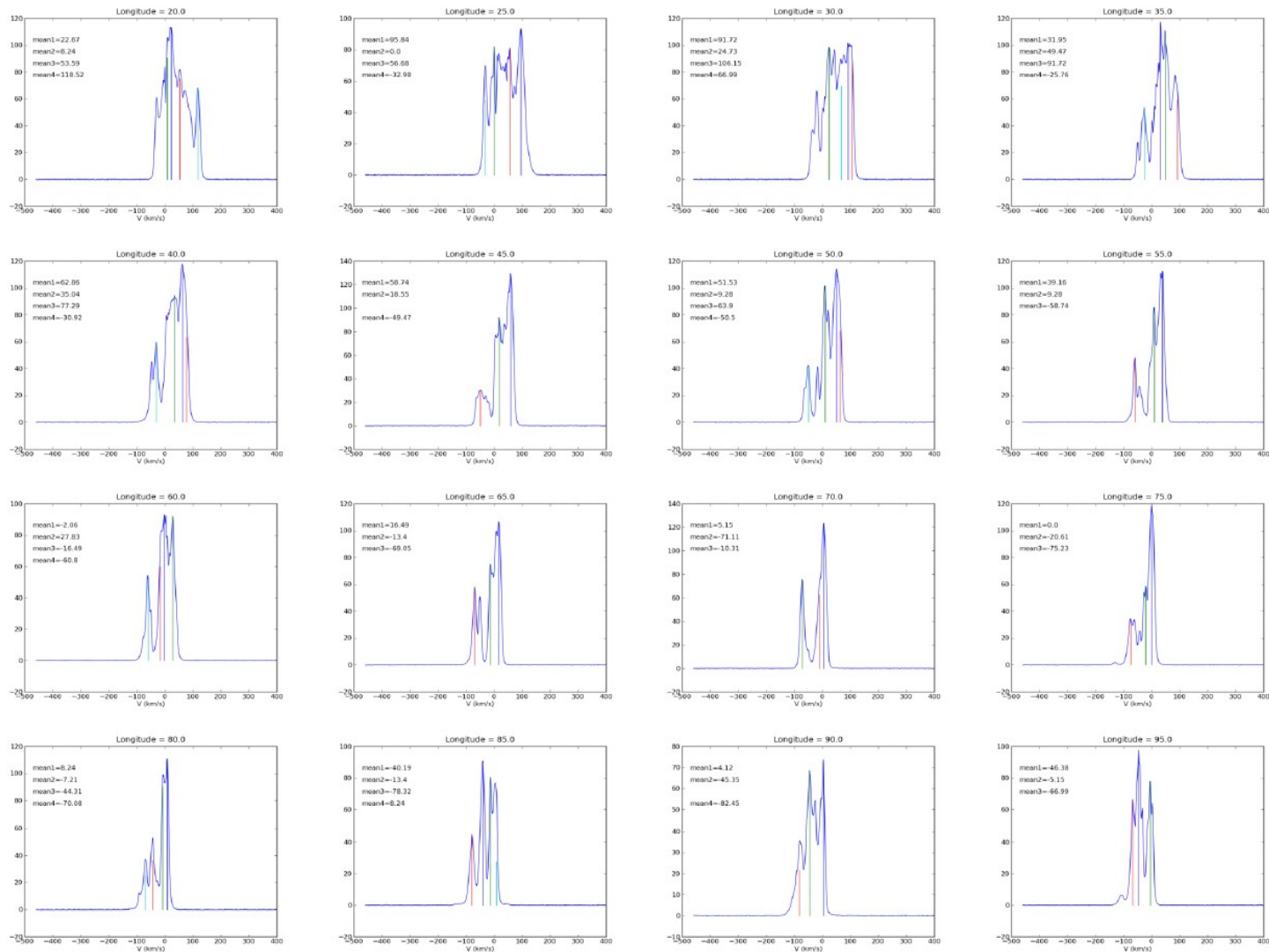
# Analysis

- Line velocities automatic identification (**Onsala data**)



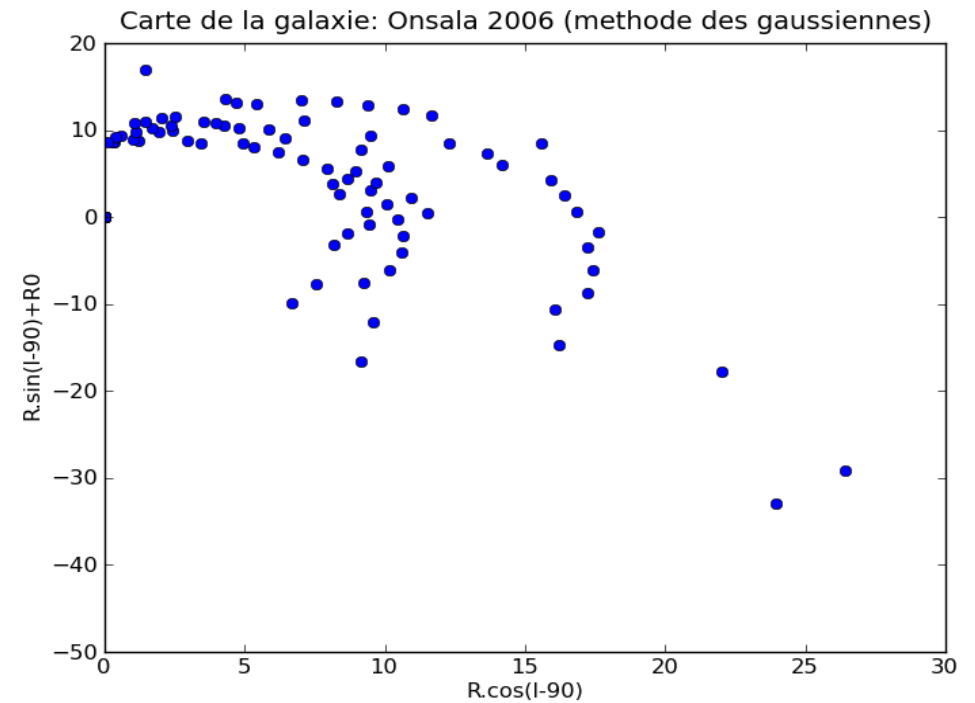
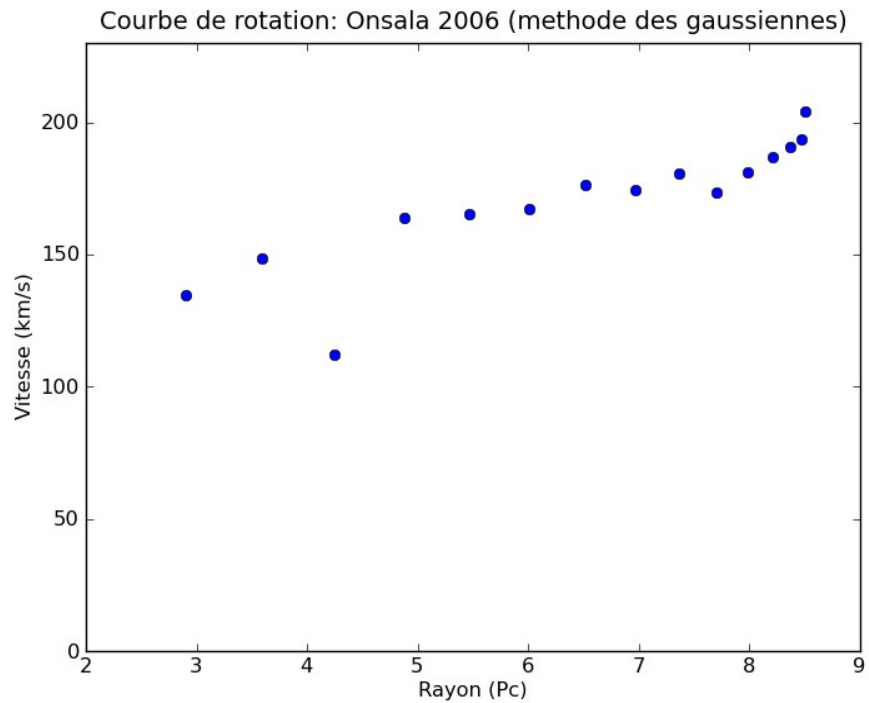
# Analysis/Comparison

- Line velocities automatic identification (**LAB data**)



# Analysis

- **Rotation curve and spiral arms** from the fitted data



# Work in progress

- Python scripts to read and plot the data + conversion to fits format good to teach students but not enough for a use in secondary schools and for the public

## Future Plans

- The actual software outdated : redesigned it to have an easy access from a web browser and provide post-processed analysed data – **Need Staff !! to build this new e-infrastructure** for science education



# Possible long-term developments

- Build new backends (broader band, more channels)
- Build a new receiver
- Combine 2 antennas to build a small interferometer

*Large potential for education in **classrooms / university** and **general public outreach** – to explain radioastronomy*

