

Observations of carbon radio recombination lines near Galactic plane at decameter wavelengths.

Mukha D.V., Stepkin S.V., Konovalenko A.A.

Institute of Radio Astronomy NAS Ukraine

Abstract

We present the attempt to carry out a large scale survey of the Galactic plane in carbon radio recombination lines (RRLs) at frequencies near 25-26 MHz as well as the observations against several adjacent to the Galactic plane objects (among them are 3C144, DR-21, GSH139-03-69, HB21, L1407, and S140). Space atoms producing these RRL are excited up to the levels corresponding to principal quantum numbers more than 600 and are concentrated around the Galactic plane. The features are strongly broadened mostly due to Doppler processes. The Galactic plane was scanned using West-East arm of the decameter wavelength radio telescope UTR-2 (spatial resolution was $40' \times 10^\circ$) in the range of galactic longitude from 30° to 180° with the step of 10° . Unexpectedly, the features were detected in all measured directions. The distribution of RRLs radial velocities was in good correspondence with the standard model of the Galactic rotation. Low frequency spectroscopy provides effective ways of diagnostic of the cold low density and partially ionized interstellar plasma, but the achievable at the moment spatial resolution limits the possibilities of mapping using this kind of spectral lines. LOFAR characteristics make this instrument very suitable for carrying out such investigations.



Radio Recombination Lines in the ISM

$$T \sim 20 \dots 100 \text{ K}$$

$$n_e < 0.5 \text{ cm}^{-3}$$



Previews Low Frequency RRLs Observations

GEE-TEE at 34.5 MHz

Ooty at 328 MHz

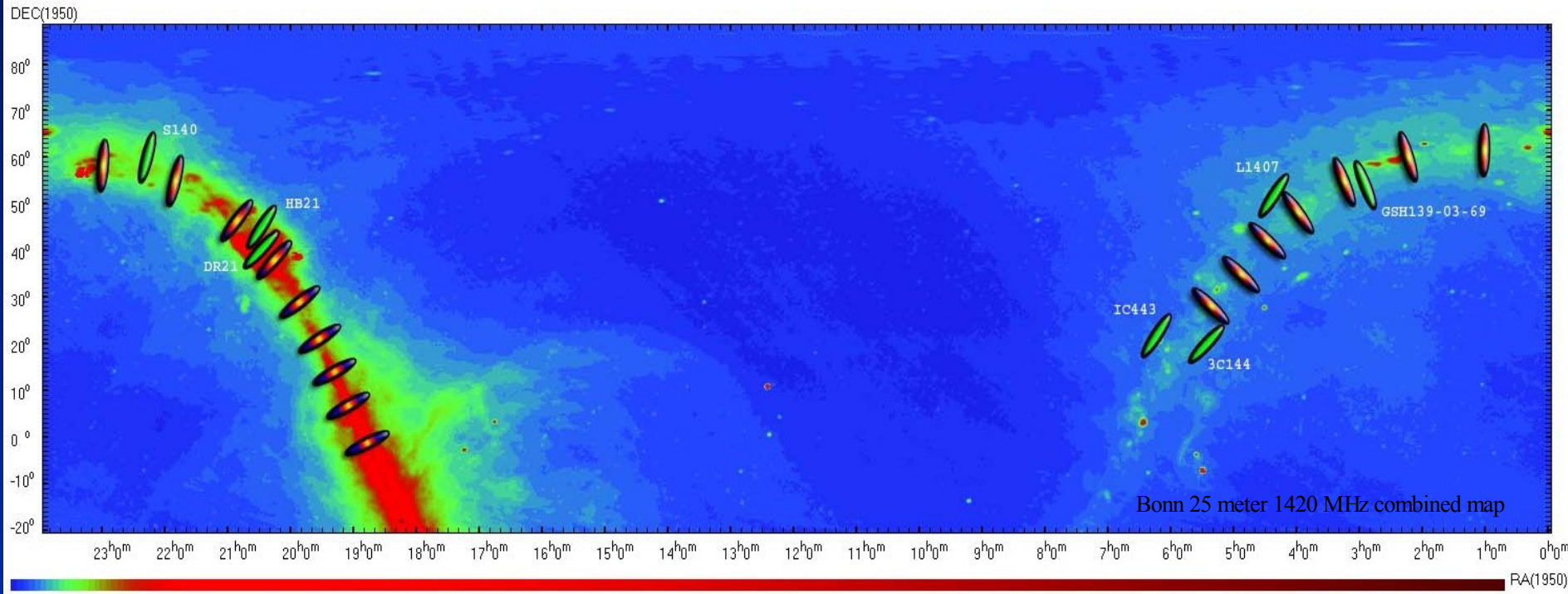


Galactic Longitude < 20 degree

General Formula

$$\nu = R \left(1 - \frac{m}{M} \right) c Z^2 \left(\frac{1}{n^2} - \frac{1}{(n + \Delta n)^2} \right)$$

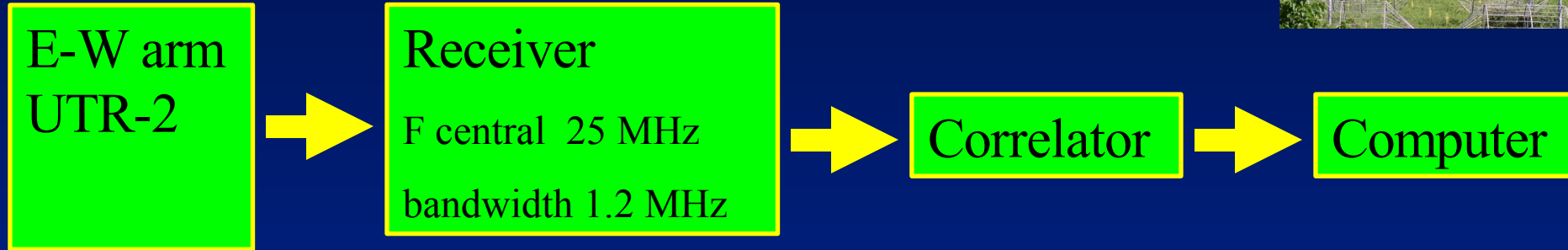
Directions Where Carbon Radio Recombination Lines have been Observed with UTR-2



C635 α – C645 α lines have been detected near 25 MHz

Integration times are from 150 to 250 hour

Scheme of Observation in the Direction of Galactic Plane



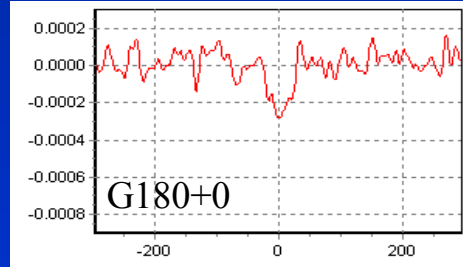
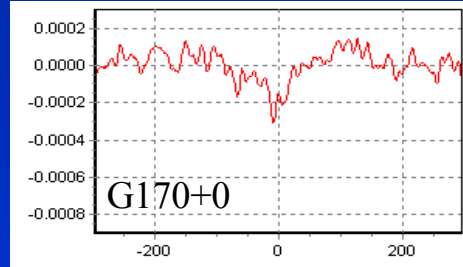
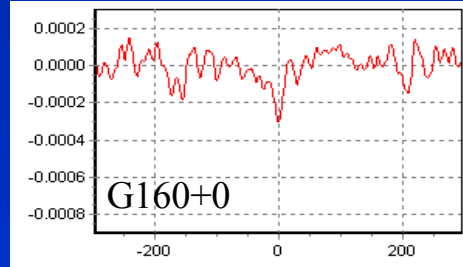
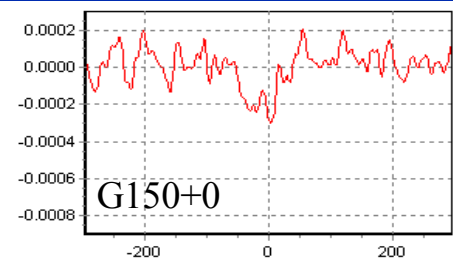
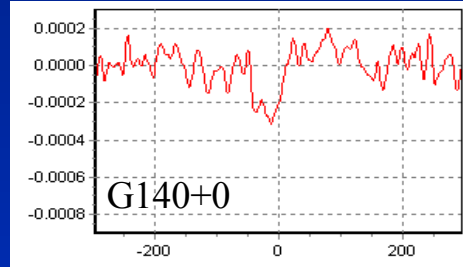
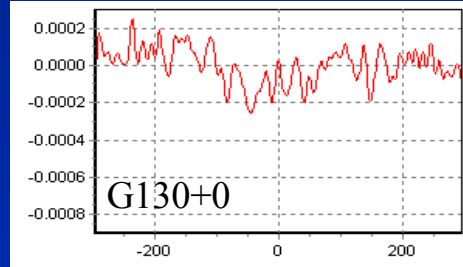
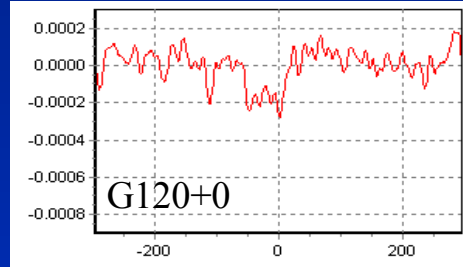
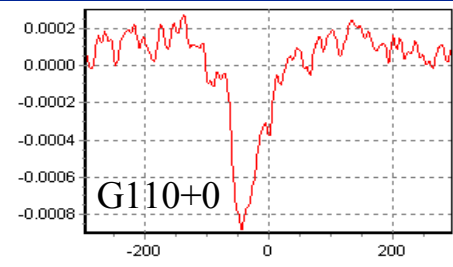
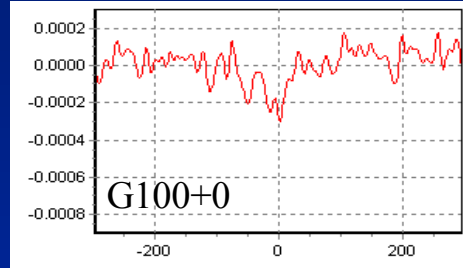
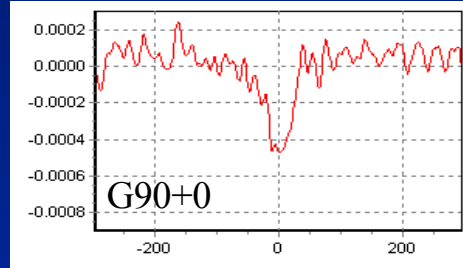
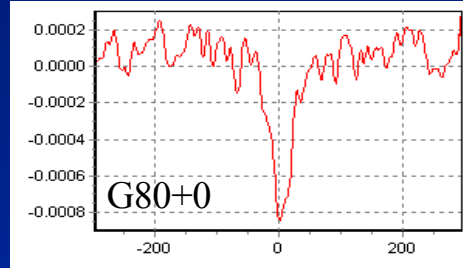
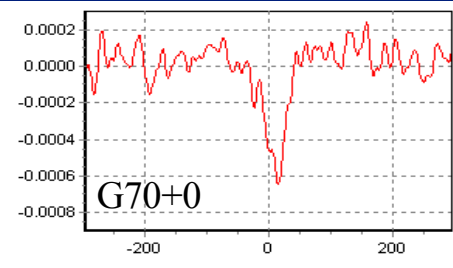
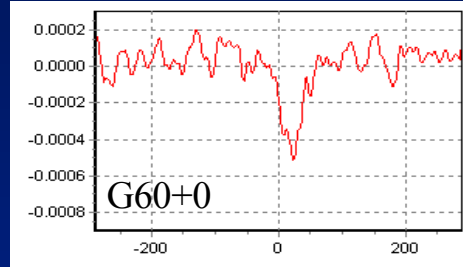
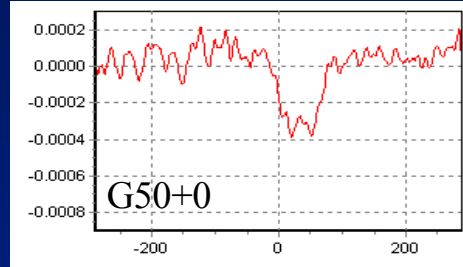
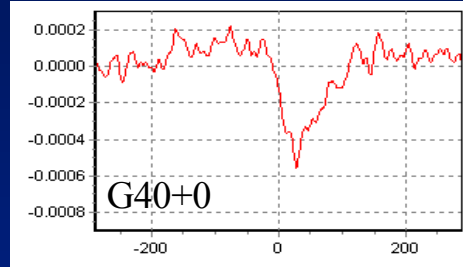
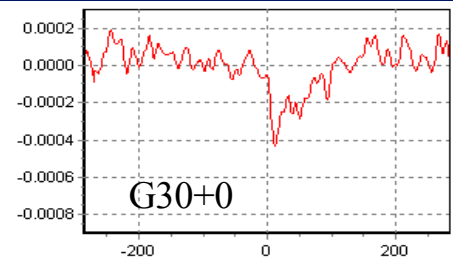
4096 channel digital autocorrelator

$$R(mT_0) = \sum_{i=1}^M \text{sgn}[x(iT_0)] \text{sgn}[x(iT_0 + mT_0)]$$

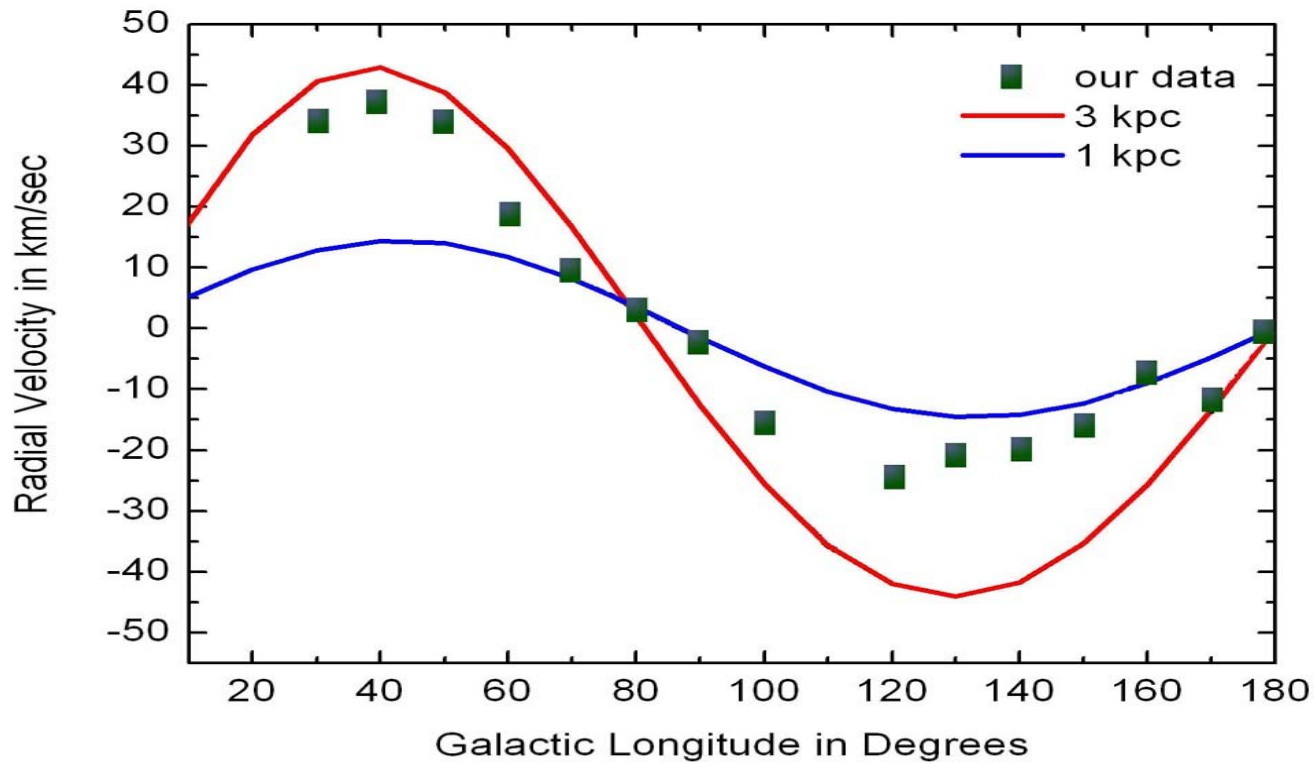
$$G(f) = \frac{TR(0)}{M} + 2T_0 \sum_{m=1}^N \omega(mT_0) \sin\left(\frac{\pi R(nT_0)}{2M}\right) \cos(2\pi fmT_0)$$



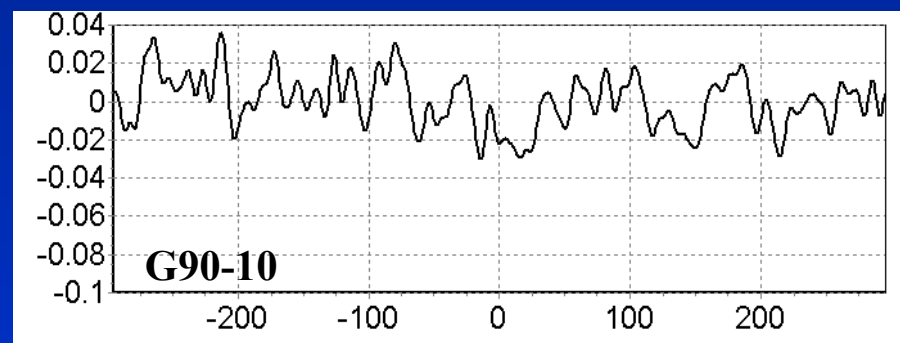
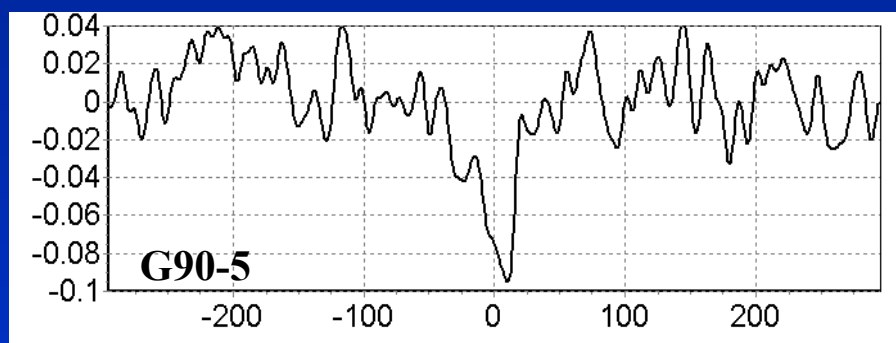
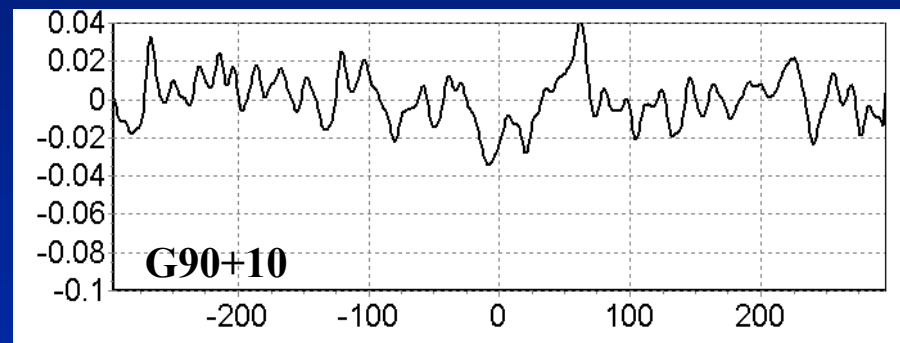
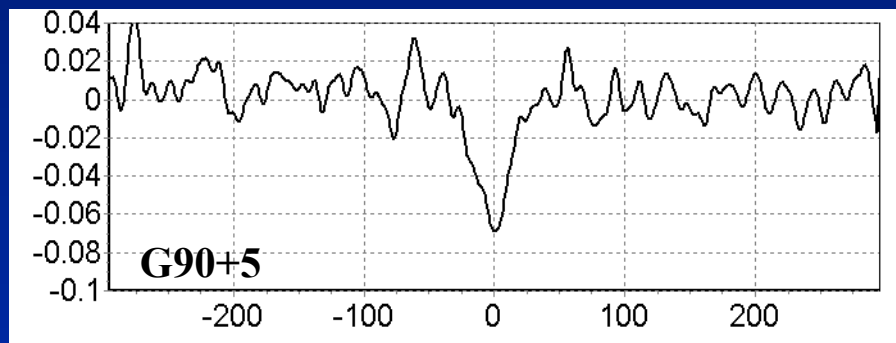
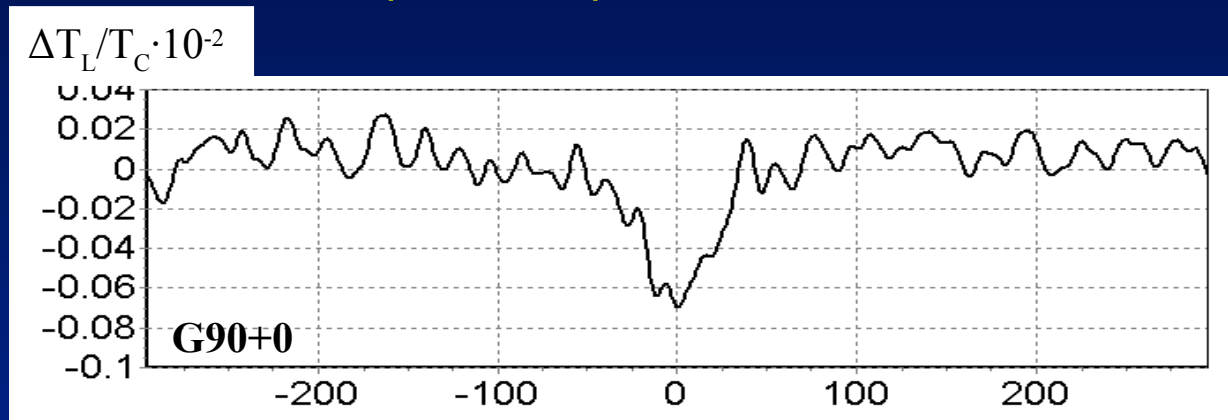
Observation of Carbon Radio Recombination Lines in the Direction of Galactic Plane



The Longitude-Velocity Diagram of the Carbon Recombination Lines at 25 MHz

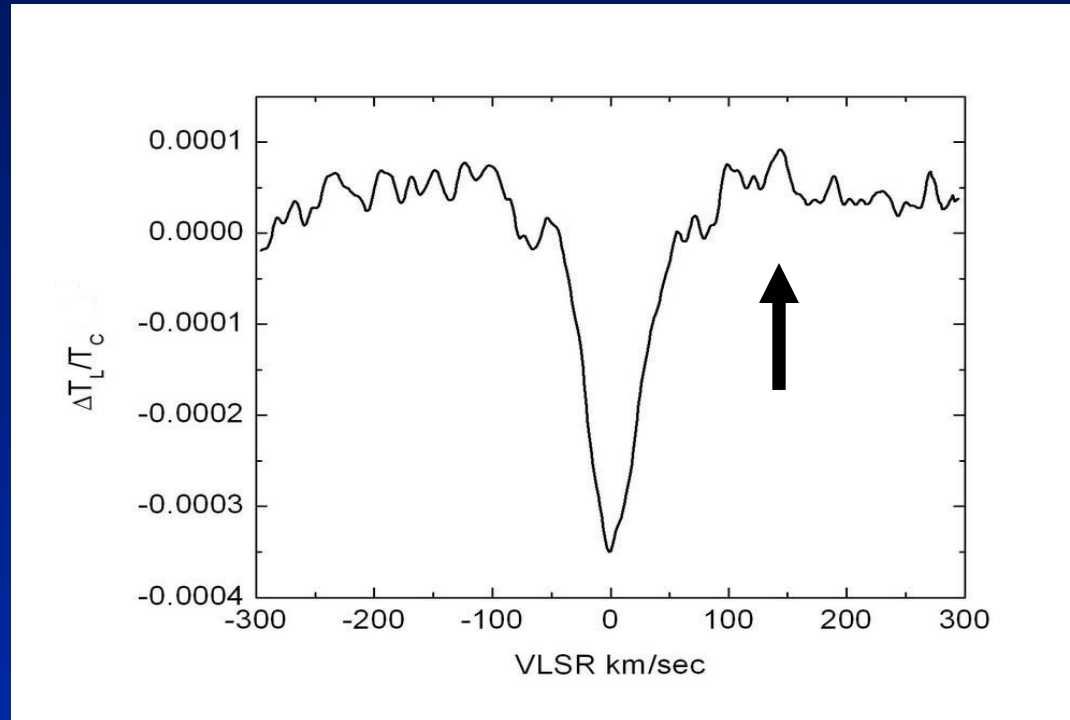


Spectra Measured Toward Position Shifted from GP (G90+0)



VLSR, km/sec

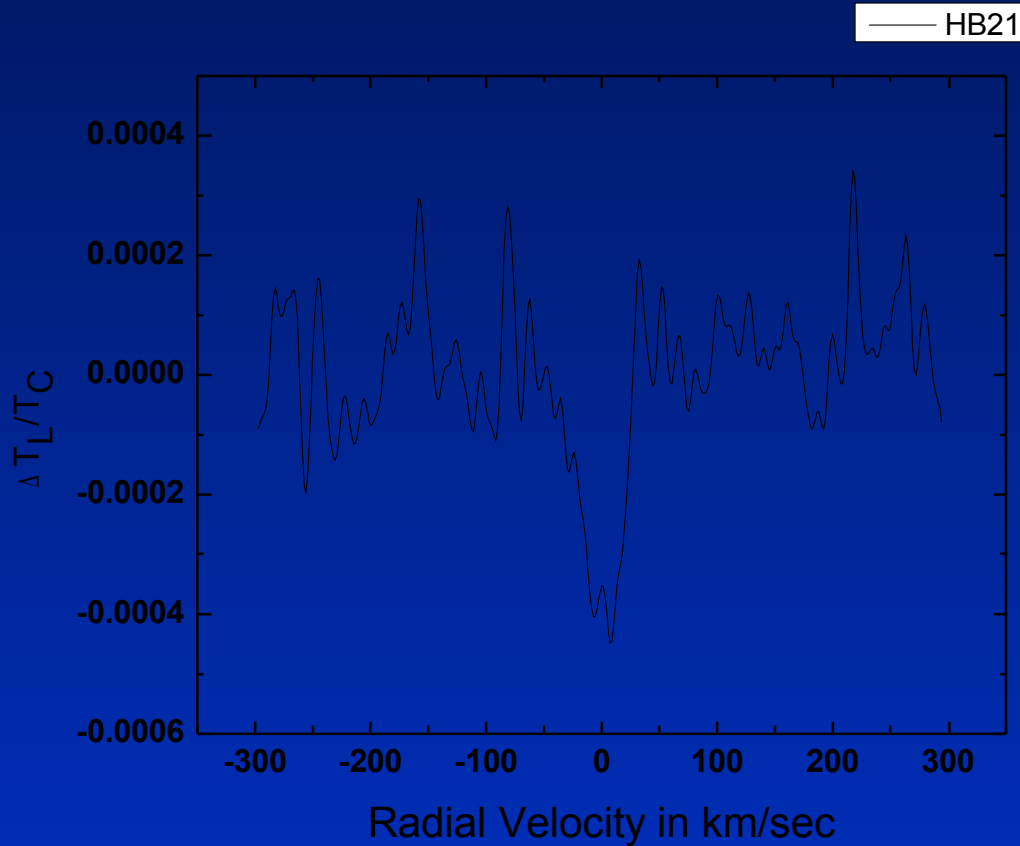
The Integrated Spectrum of the Radio Recombination Lines along the Galactic Plane



Effective integration time is about 3000 hour.

Hydrogen recombination lines $Hn\alpha$, which have to be at the distance of 150 km s^{-1} , have not been detected.

HB21 Supernova Remnant



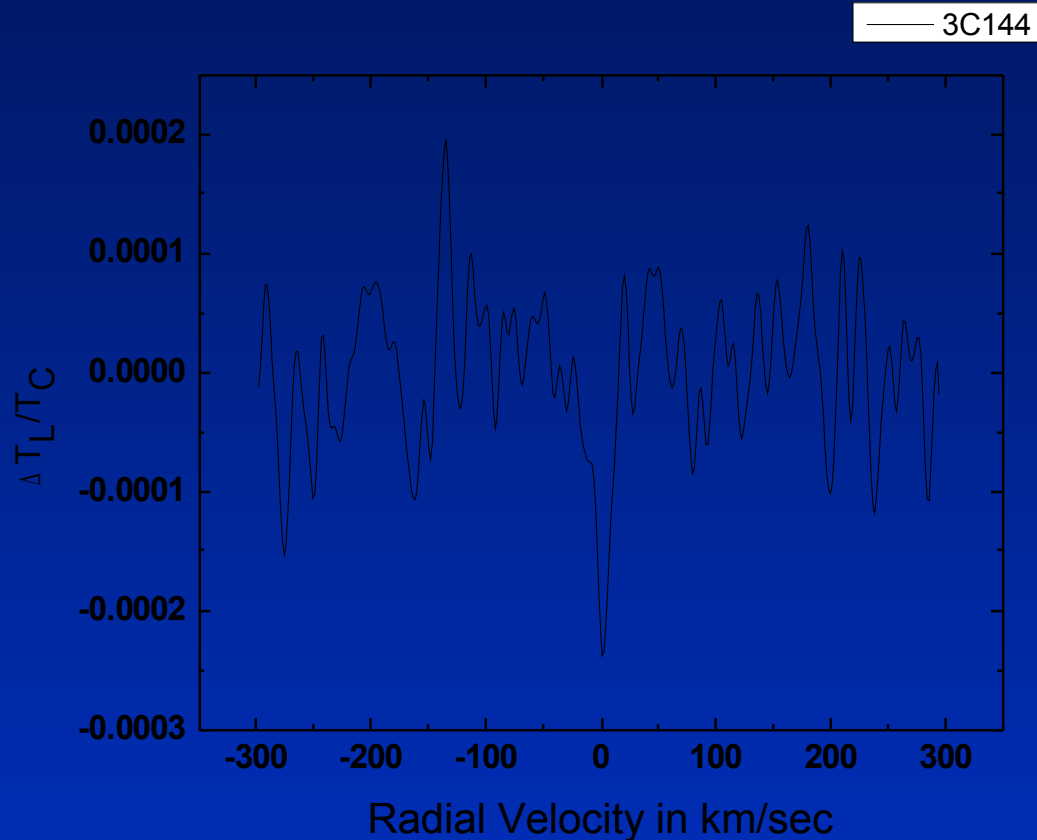
RA1950 = 20h43m30s

DEC1950 = 50g40m00s

Effective Integration
Time = 92 h

$C635\alpha - C645\alpha$

3C144 Crab Nebula



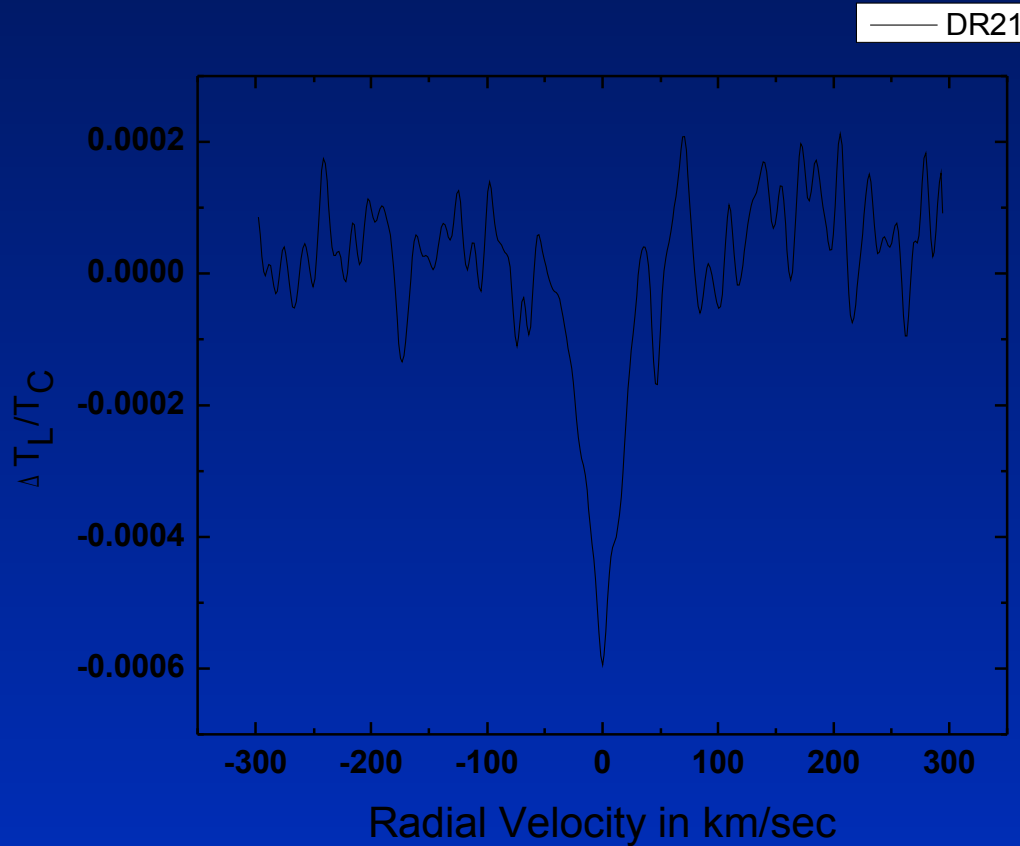
RA1950 = 05h31m30s

DEC1950 = 21g58m00s

Effective Integration
Time = 195 h

$C635\alpha - C645\alpha$

DR-21 Nebulosity



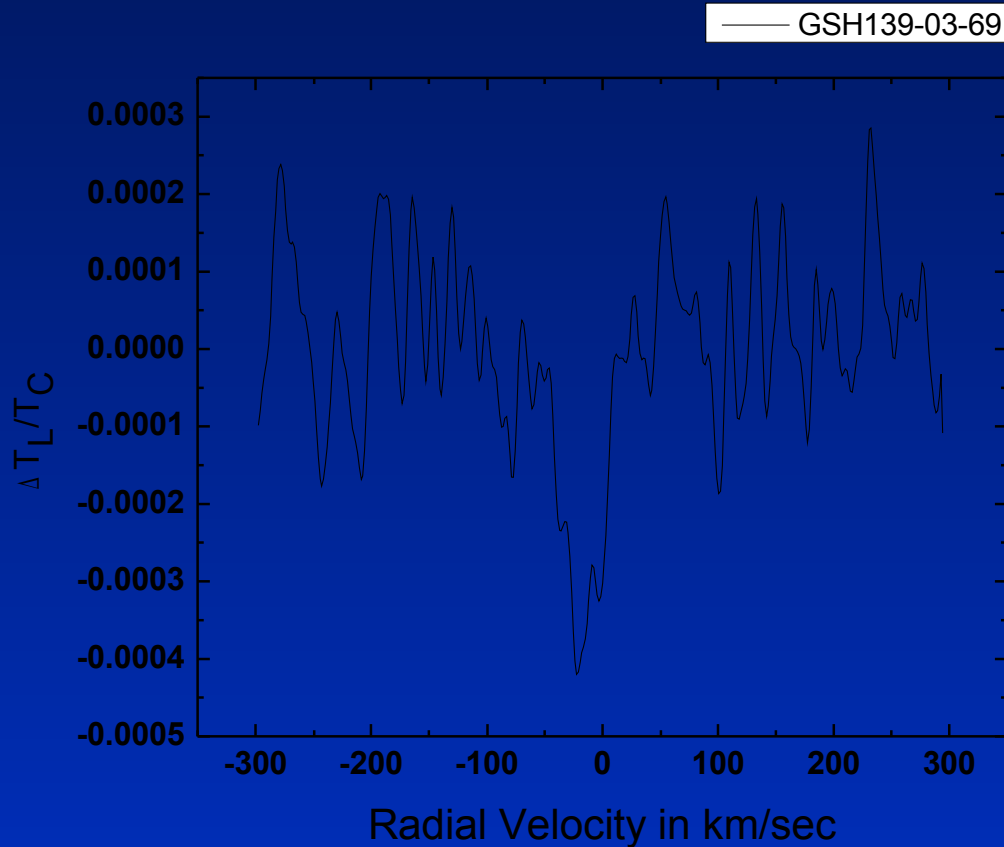
RA1950 = 20h37m13s

DEC1950 = 42g09m00s

Effective Integration
Time = 99 h

C635 α – C645 α

GSH139-03-69 Super Shell



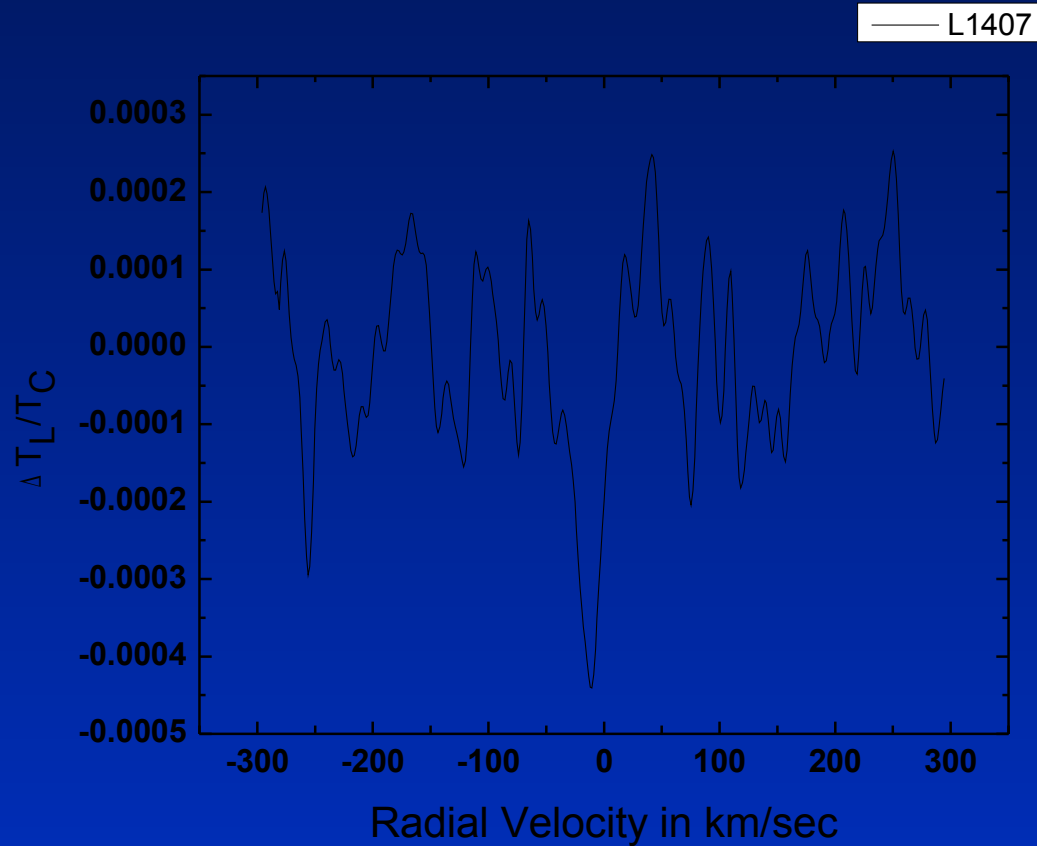
RA1950 = 02h50m00s

DEC1950 = 61g22m00s

Effective Integration
Time = 115 h

C635 α – C645 α

L1407 Dust Cloud



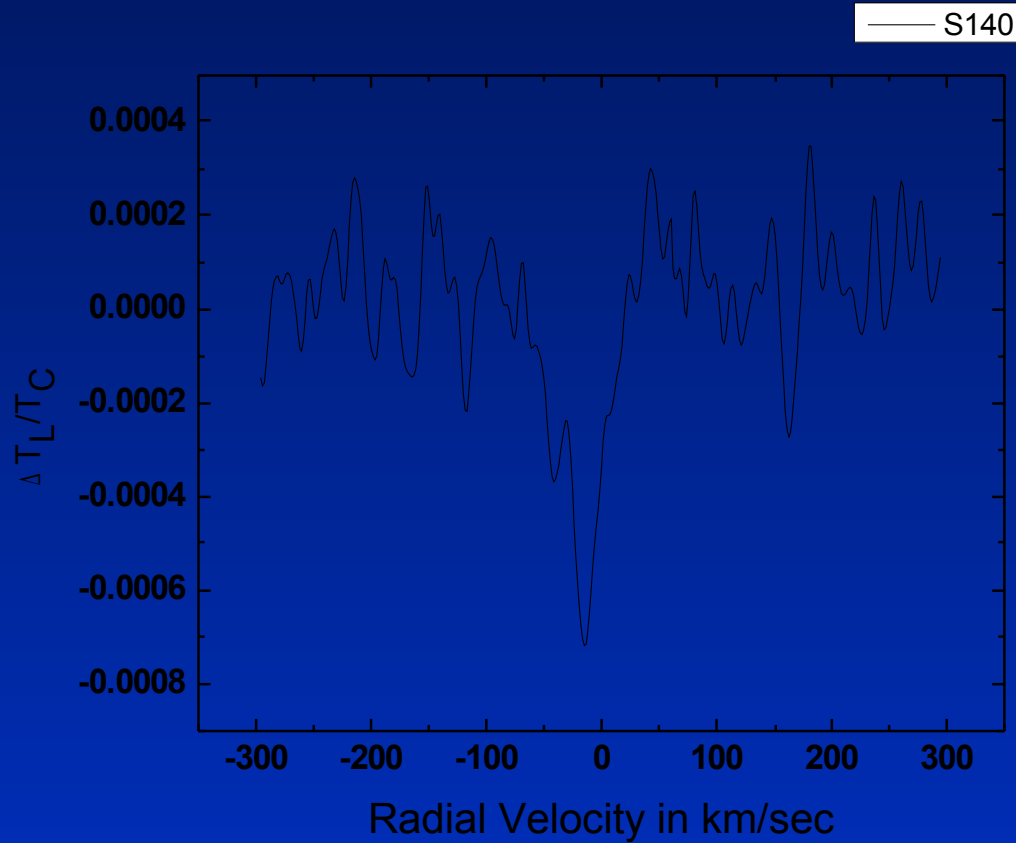
RA1950 = 04h26m30s

DEC1950 = 54g17m00s

Effective Integration
Time = 172 h

C635 α – C645 α

S140 Nebulosity



RA1950 = 22h17m36s

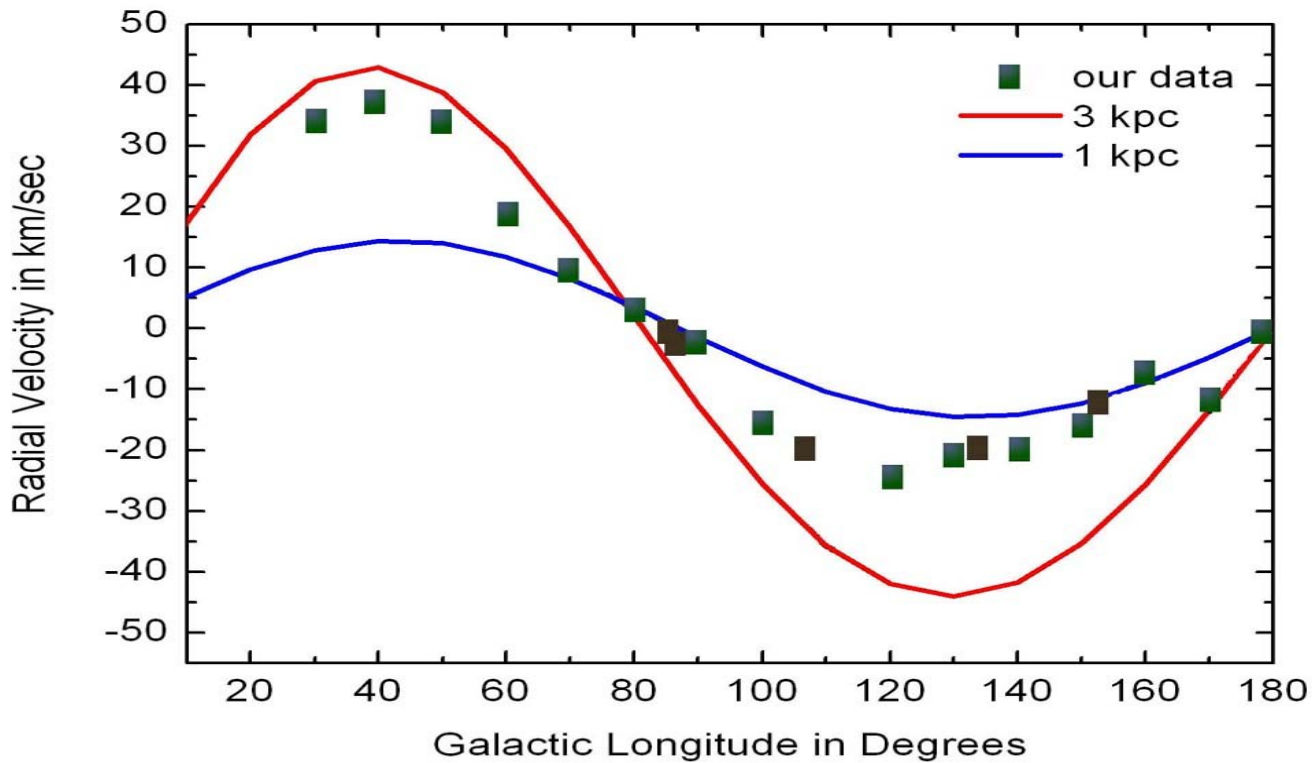
DEC1950 = 63g04m00s

Effective Integration

Time = 108 h

C635 α – C645 α

The Longitude-Velocity Diagram of the Carbon Recombination Lines at 25 MHz



Conclusions

Mapping of the ISM in Galactic Plane in RRLs at frequencies less than 100 MHz using existing instruments is difficult and time-consuming task. At the same time, this is effective approach to study cool, low density, and partially ionized interstellar matter. LOFAR possibilities are very suitable and promising for carrying out such investigations.

References

2. Konovalenko, A. A., Stepkin, S.V. Radio Recombination Lines. JENAM 2003 - Radio Astronomy from Karl Jansky to Microjanski, eds. L. Gurvits, S. Frey and S. Rawlings, EAS, EDP Sciences, v. 15, 271 -295, (2005).
3. Gordon, M. A., Sorochenko, R. L. Radio Recombination Lines: Their Physics and Astronomical Application. , (Kluwer, 2002).
4. Kantharia, N.G., Anantharamaiah, K.R. Carbon Recombination Lines from the Galactic Plane at 34.5 & 328 MHz. J. Astrophys. Astr., 22, 51-80, (2001)¹⁷

A sunset scene with a large, complex wireframe structure in the foreground and a bright sun in the background. The structure consists of a central vertical pole and several horizontal arms, each supporting a large, spherical wireframe dome. The sun is positioned in the center of the frame, partially obscured by the structure, creating a bright orange glow. The sky is a deep orange color, and the overall scene is silhouetted against the bright light of the sun.

The End...

Thanks