

Differential-Jitter Estimation Accuracy Using Centroid-Based Angle-of-Arrival

Matthew R. Whiteley, Ph.D.

October 22, 2008

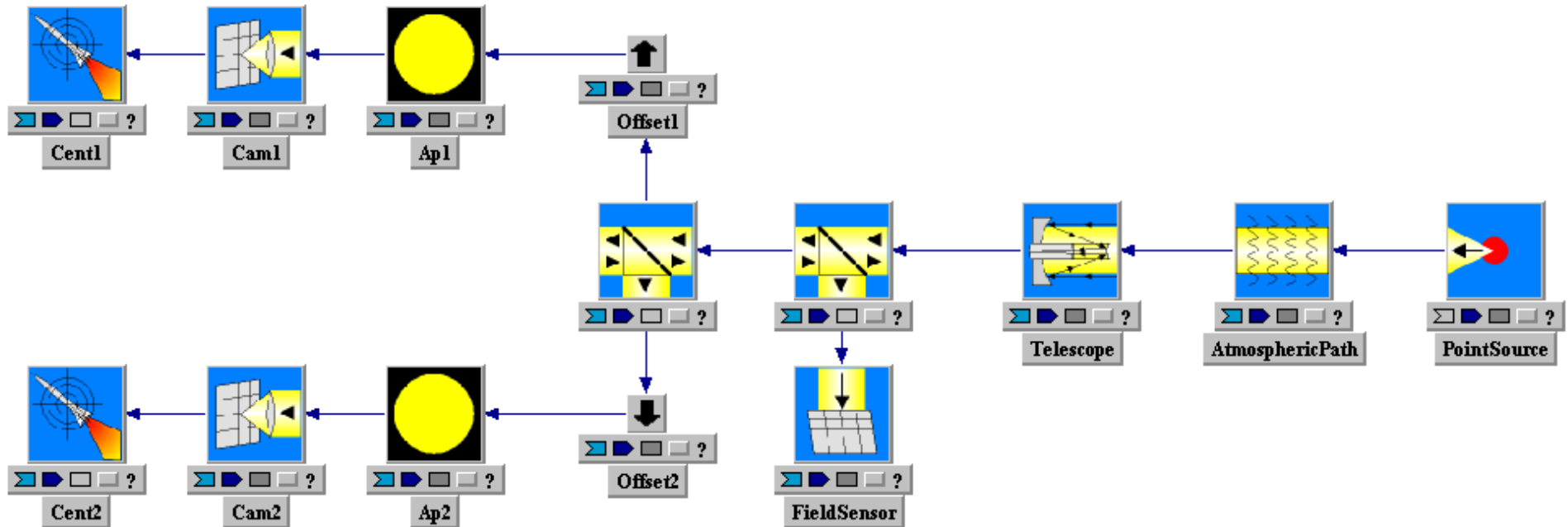
MZA Associates Corporation

*2021 Girard Blvd. SE, Suite 150
Albuquerque, NM 87106
505-245-9970*

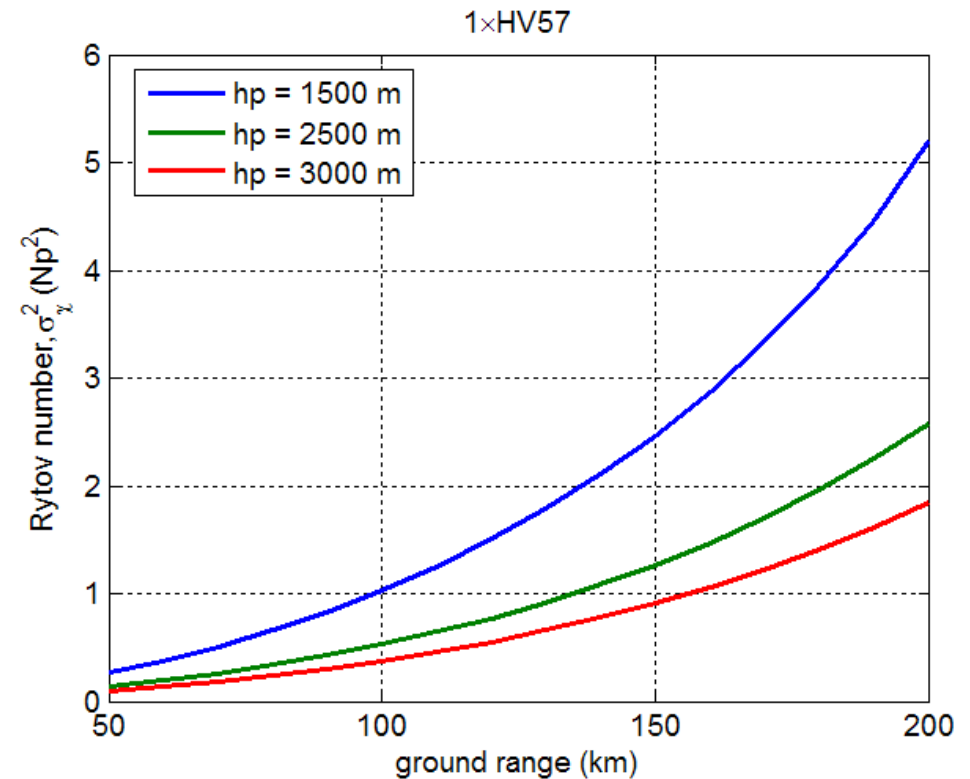
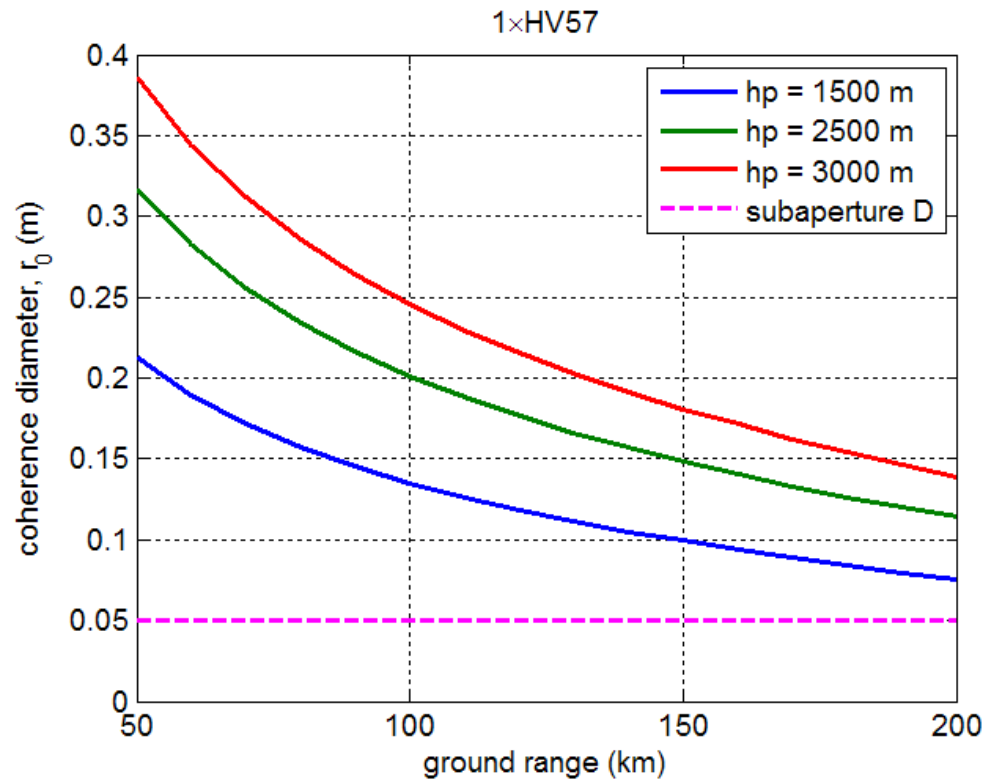
*1360 Technology Ct, Suite 200
Dayton, OH 45430
937-684-4100*

*140 Intracoastal Pointe Dr. Suite 310
Jupiter, FL 33477
561-747-6881*

WaveTrain Model



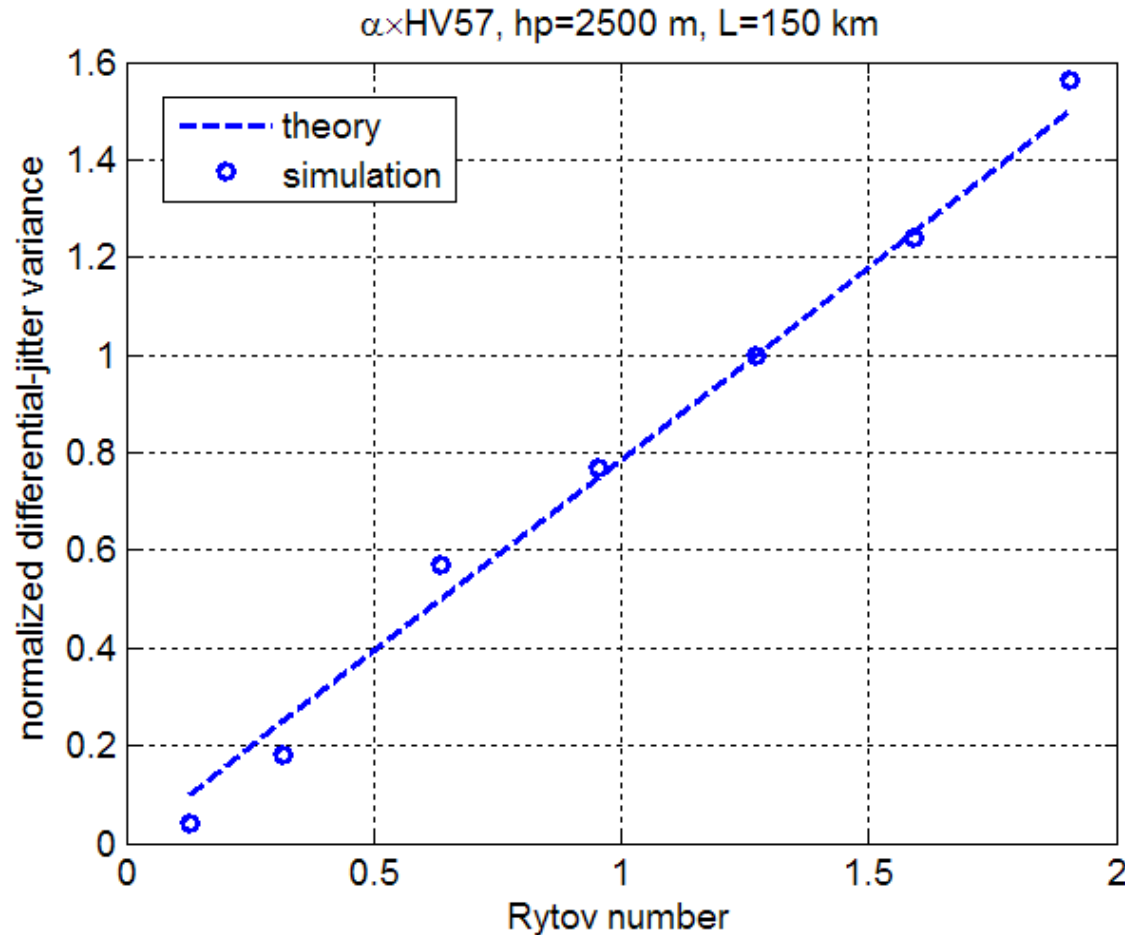
- **Two cameras offset by an arbitrary separation imaging a common point source**
- **Functionally equivalent to a differential-image-motion monitor (DIMM)**
 - Sometimes referred to as an r0-meter
- **This is the fundamental building block of the LRP**
- **Used 5 cm aperture with closest subaperture spacing from baseline design**
 - Based on SRP, $s/D = 1.5875$



- Calculations assume $\lambda = 1550$ nm
- Assumed 1x HV57 turbulence over path with curved earth
- r_0 larger than baseline subaperture diameter over altitudes & ground ranges considered

- Curved earth causes mid-path turbulence enhancement
- Can result in quite high Rytov numbers depending on path altitude and range
- Profiler concept based on weak turbulence assumption—practical range limit??

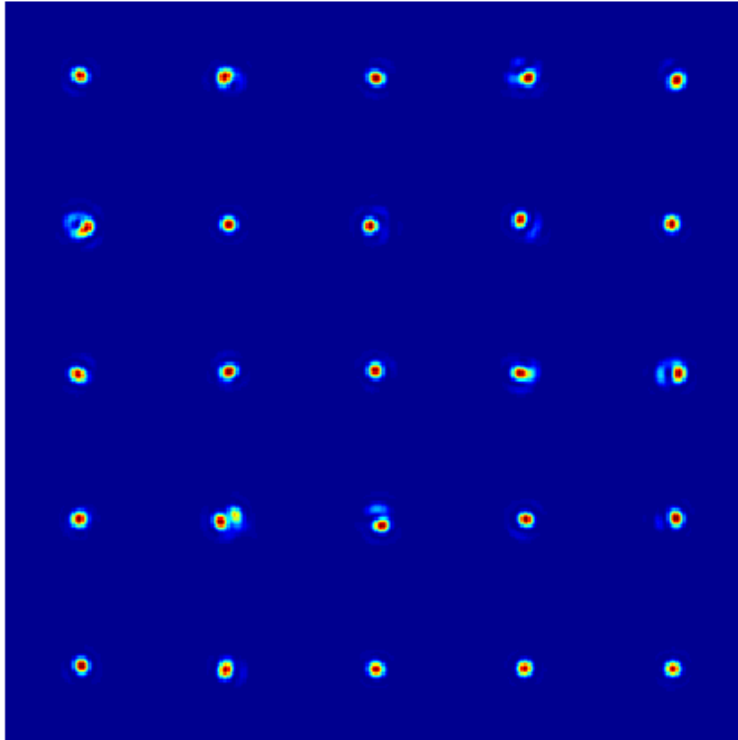
Linearity with Turbulence Multiplier



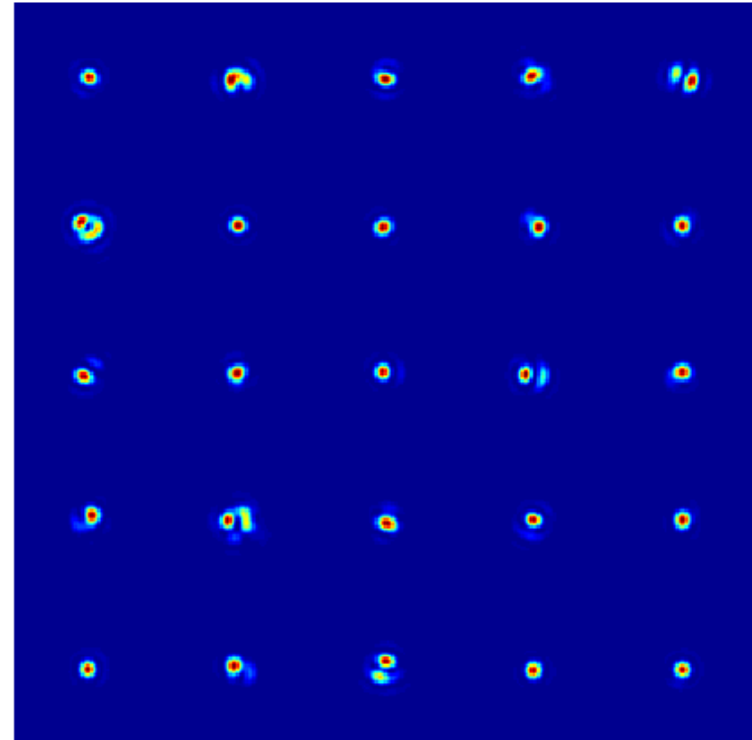
- **Differential jitter variance scales directly with turbulence multiplier**
 - Rytov number also scales directly with turbulence multiplier
- **Using 2500 m altitude and 150 km range we see acceptable linearity of differential-tilt variance**
 - Note: $1 \times \text{HV57} = \text{Rytov} > 1$

Sample Focal Plane Images: HV57 Model

DiffJitterRunHV-2500-150-1p00.trf, 25 realizations



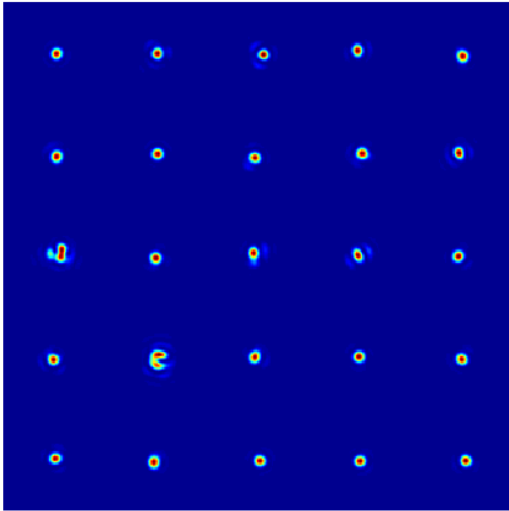
DiffJitterRunHV-2500-150-1p50.trf, 25 realizations



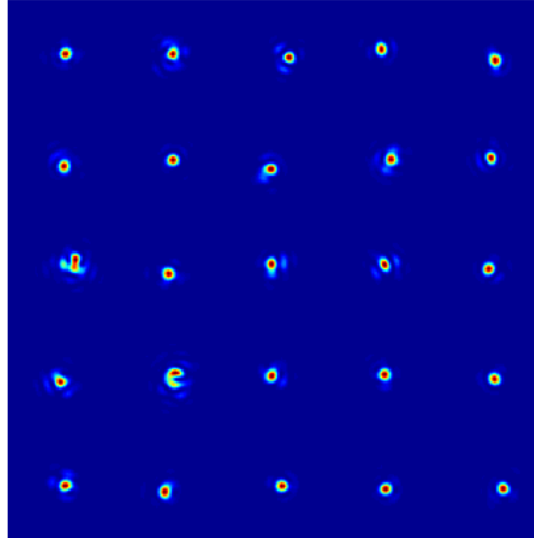
- Focal plane images are well-formed even for Rytov > 1
- Due to the fact that r_0 is larger than subaperture

Sample Focal Plane Images: Slab + HV57 Model

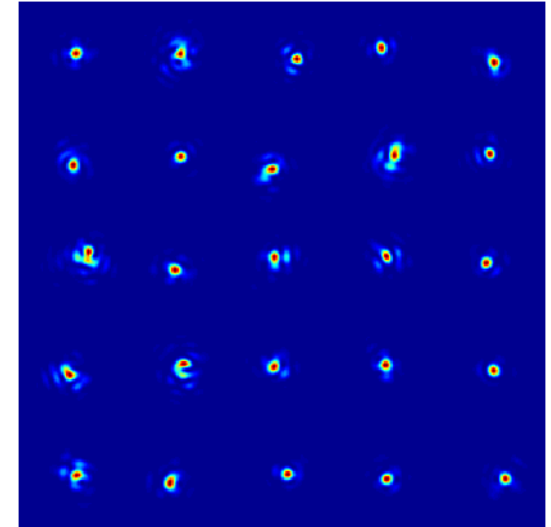
DiffJitterRunSlab10xHV1x.trf, 25 realizations



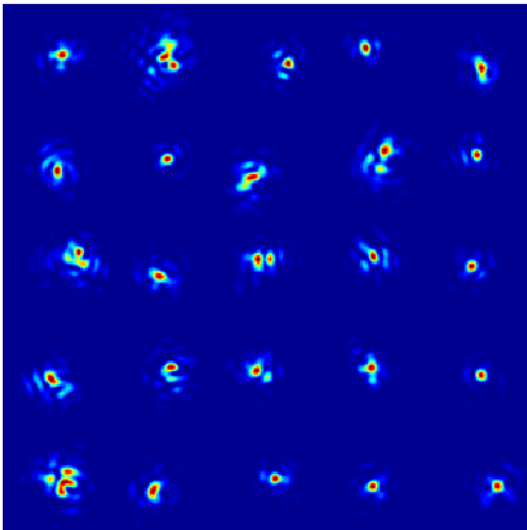
DiffJitterRunSlab50xHV1x.trf, 25 realizations



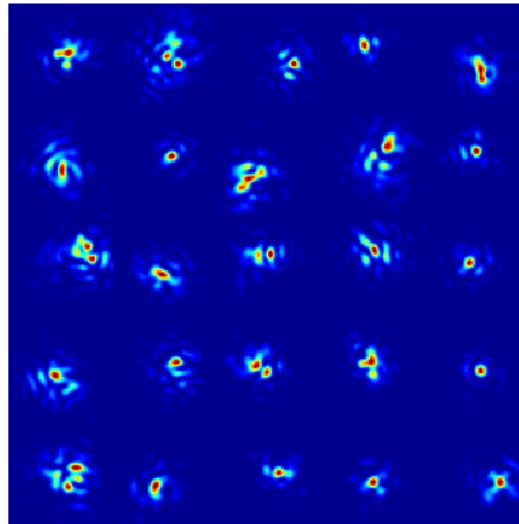
DiffJitterRunSlab100xHV1x.trf, 25 realizations



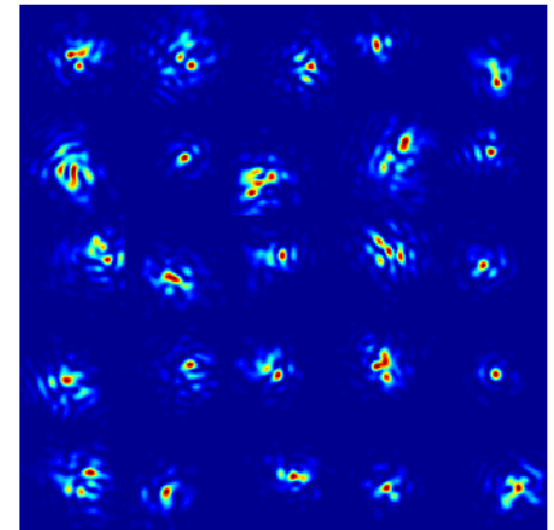
DiffJitterRunSlab200xHV1x.trf, 25 realizations



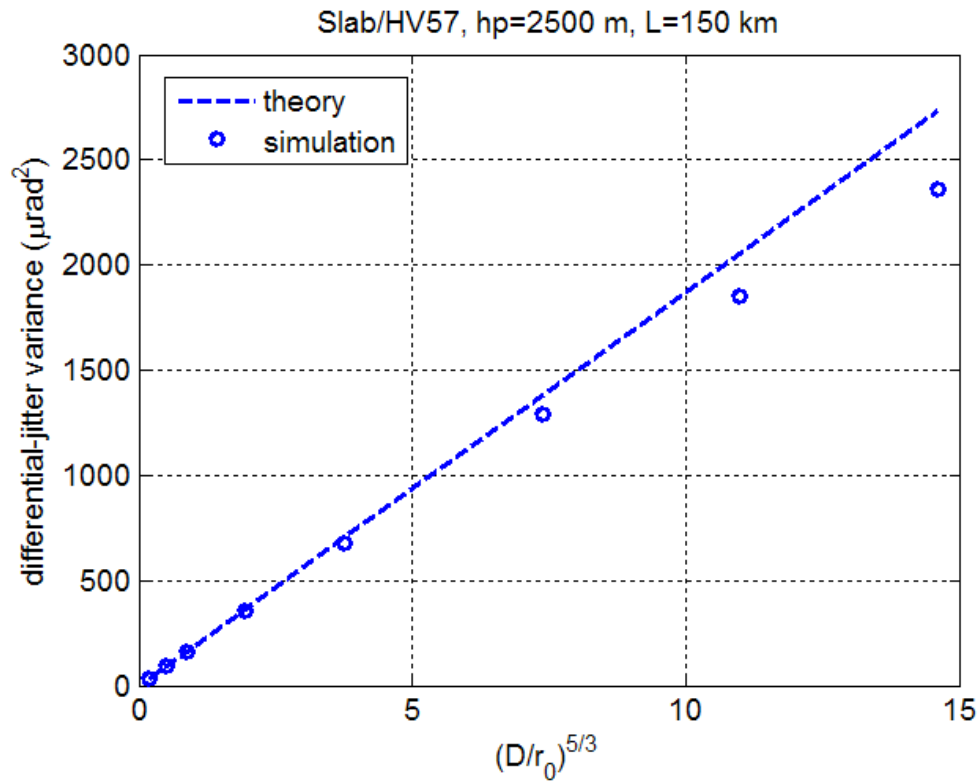
DiffJitterRunSlab300xHV1x.trf, 25 realizations



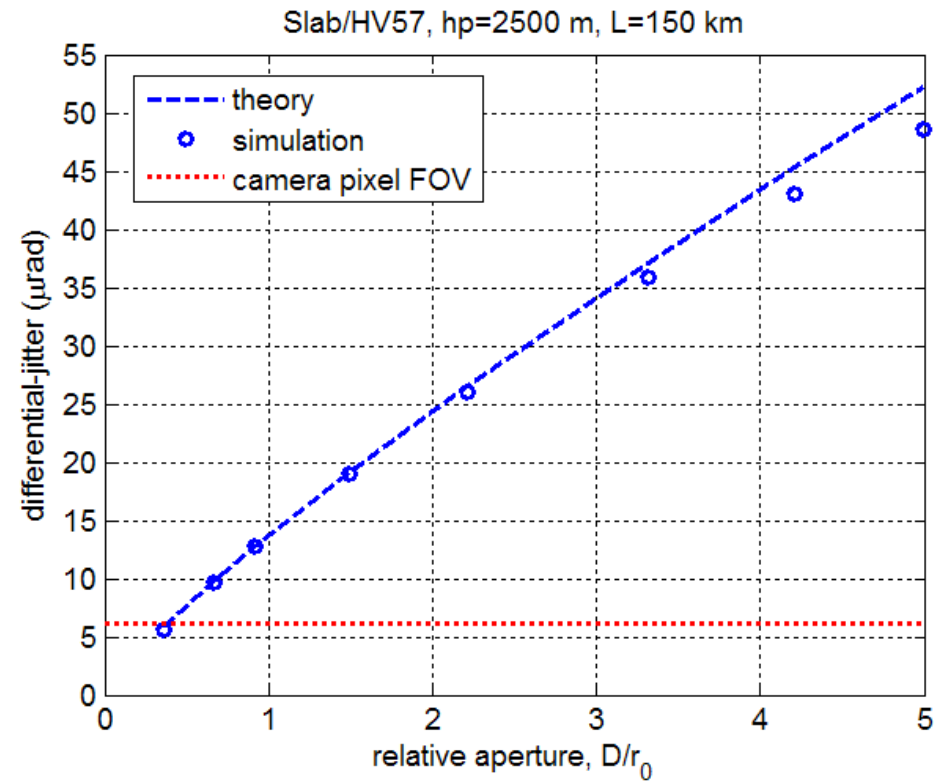
DiffJitterRunSlab400xHV1x.trf, 25 realizations



Differential Jitter with Slab/HV57

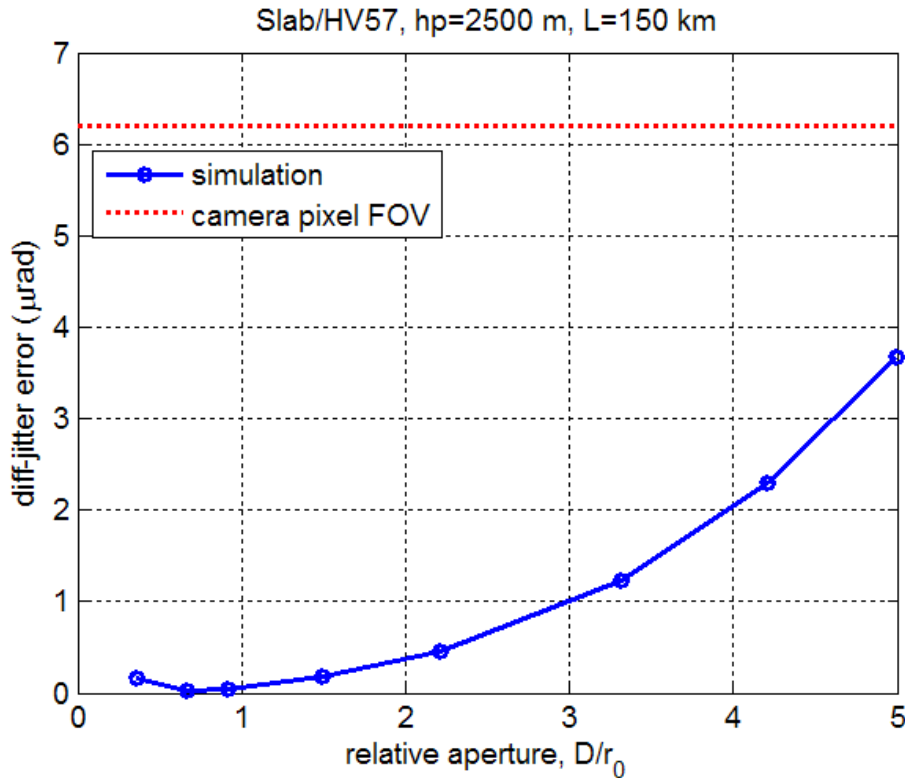


- Variance compared to theory
- Scales linearly with $(D/r_0)^{5/3}$

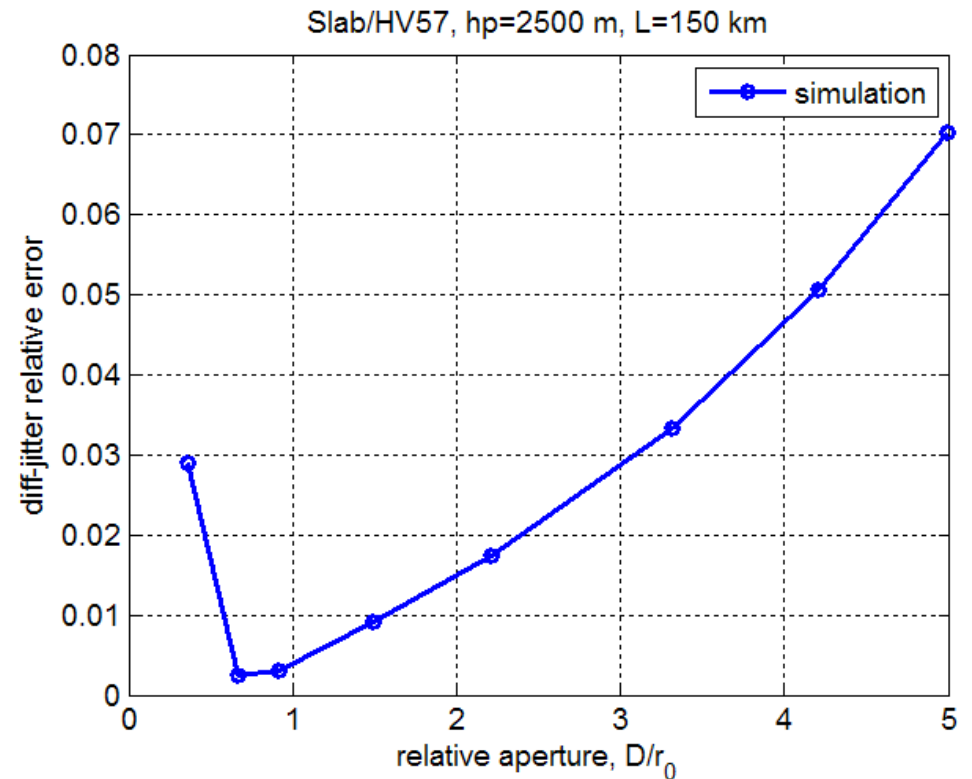


- Jitter compared to theory
- Plot indicates size of modeled pixel

Differential Jitter Error



- Error compared to theory is a fraction of the modeled pixel subtense

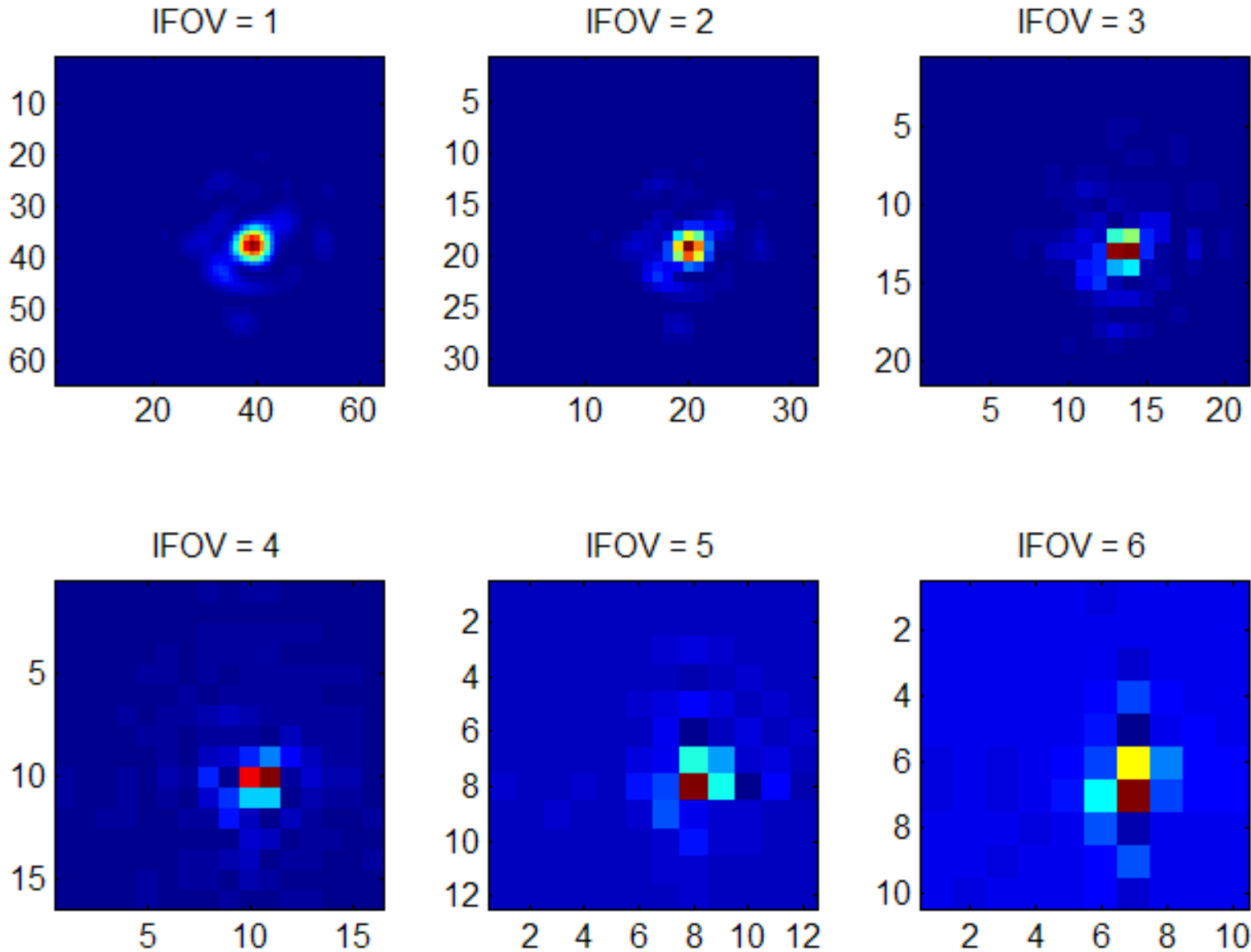


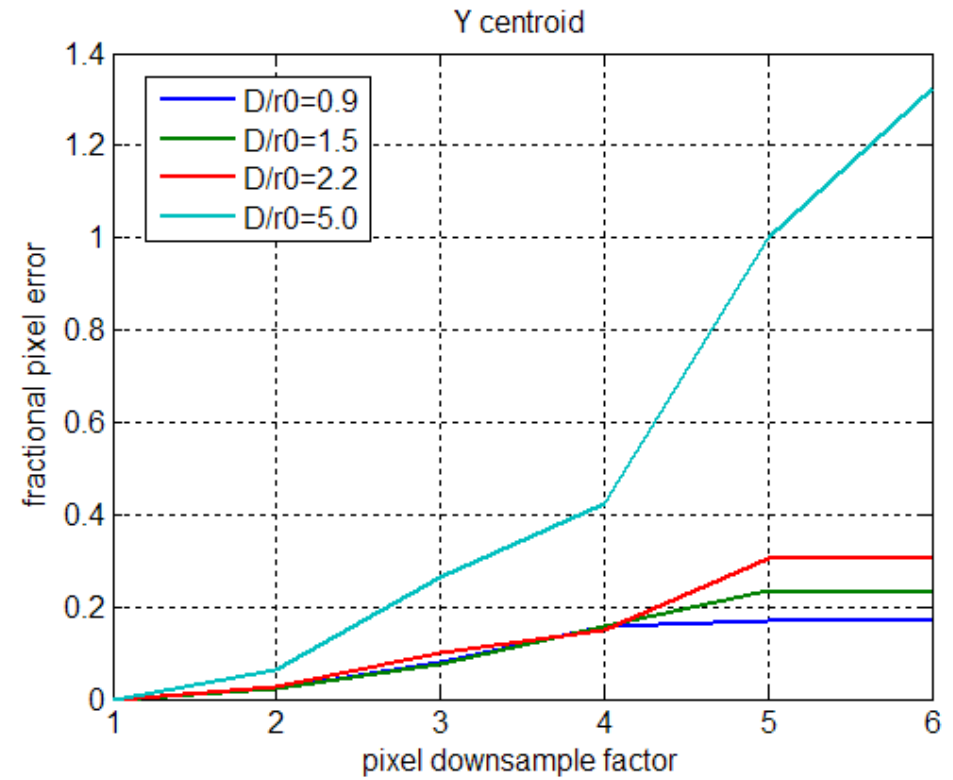
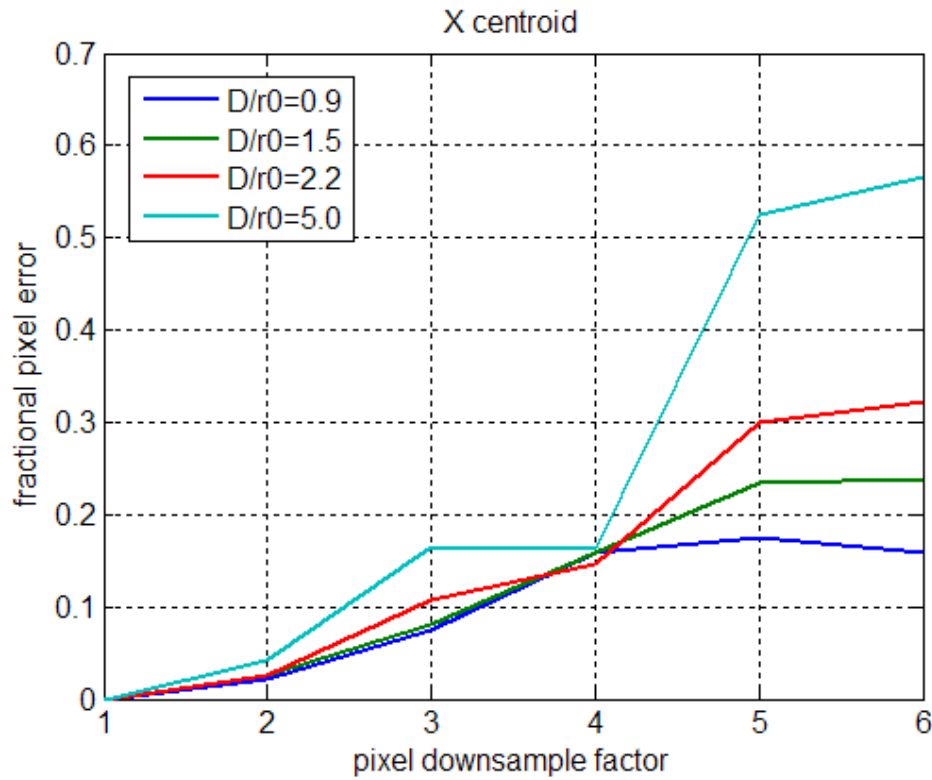
- Relative error < 10% even for largest values of D/r_0
- Centroid error with considerable higher-order breakup is quite tolerable

Effect of Pixelization on Centroid

- **Centroid accuracy studies were made with “high resolution” imaging system**
 - Camera pixel = $0.2 \lambda/D \rightarrow 12$ pixels over airy spot
- **Gen-2 profiler design will work with larger pixel IFOV**
 - Allows more light in pixel for long-range operation
- **Centroid will be affected by size of pixel on focal plane**
- **To address this concern**
 - Simulation image data was reprocessed into images with lower resolution
 - Centroid data was recomputed for lower-resolution images
 - Reported centroid was compared with centroid from high-resolution image

Example: Images with Increased IFOV





- X-axis centroids
- “Pixel downsample factor” = ratio of IFOV to high-resolution image
- high-res = $6.2 \mu\text{rad} = 0.2 \lambda/D$

- Y-axis centroids
- Error nominally independent of $D/r0$ up to $\text{IFOV} = 0.8 \lambda/D$
- Pixelization error < 0.1 pixel for $\text{IFOV} < 0.6 \lambda/D$
 - $< 0.6 \mu\text{rad}$

Conclusions

- **Scaling of differential tilt variance with strength multiplier for distributed turbulence shows expected linearity**
- **“Weak turbulence” assumption underlying profiler theory of operation holds up well at high Rytov numbers**
- **Effect of higher-order phase on centroid-tilt accuracy is <10% effect for $D/r_0 < 5$**
- **No compelling reason to use focal plane processing other than centroid to determine tilt (angle of arrival)**
 - Applying a threshold prior to centroid desirable, as is done with the short-range profiler
- **~20 μ rad pixel will result in ~0.5 μ rad centroid error due to pixelization**
 - This effect combines with differential-jitter error from theory/simulation comparison
 - <10% error for likely propagation conditions