

Holographic Surface Measurement Techniques for Radio Antennas

T. K. Sridharan⁽¹⁾

(1) Harvard Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, Cambridge, MA, e-mail: tksridha@cfa.harvard.edu

Radio holography is the preferred method for the assessment of the surface accuracy and alignment of high gain microwave and millimeter/sub-millimeter-wave antennas and relay optics chains used in radio astronomy. High signal to noise ratio measurements using transmitters in the near-field are used to assess and correct small scale deviations. Elevation dependent large scale deformations are studied using measurements on celestial sources. A review of the methods used will be presented using experience primarily with the sub-millimeter wavelength antennas of the Submillimeter Array (SMA).