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Rainfall analysis using cellular networking measurements

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Rainfall measurements have been investigated worldwide because of their important implications in meteorology, hydrology and weather forecasting. Recently, we have presented a new tool as a way of measuring rainfall based on microwave radio links from cellular communication networks, by using an algorithm which converts the received signal lever (RSL) into a two dimensional rain map.

This method can reveal fine-scale evolution of rainfall in space and time and allows observation of near surface rainfall at spatial and temporal resolutions of 1 km² and 1 minute. Such is not available from standard weather radar normally operating at 2 km² and 4-6 minutes. All this without additional installation and maintenance cost.

Microwave rainfall mapping over central Israel with up to 90 links will be shown with high correlation –up to 0.90- with rain gauges. This method has been implemented to all rain events since the last winter (2006/2007).