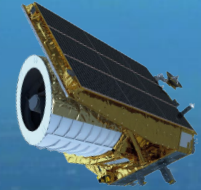

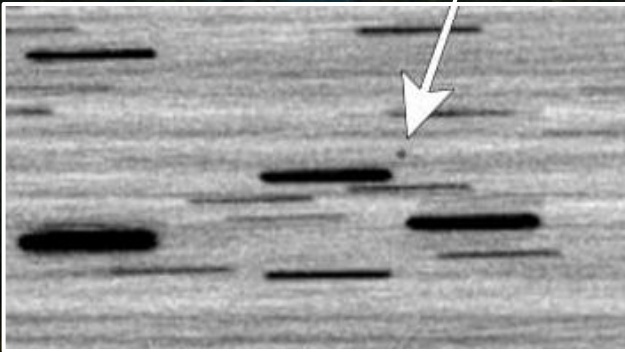


Euclid NISP Signal Estimator

A challenging problem, an analytical solution, and its implications



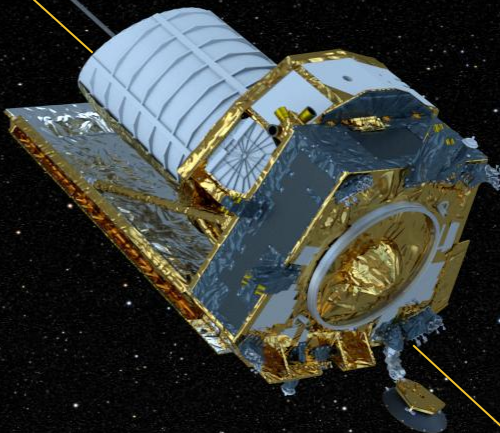
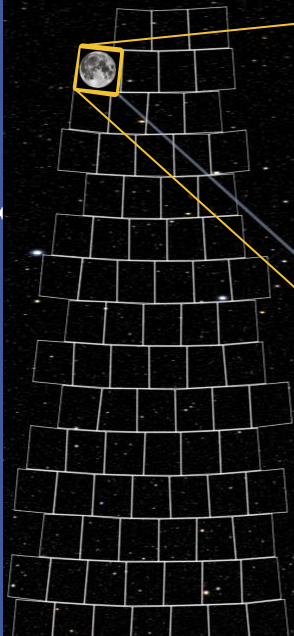
IRIS26 is somewhere around here 



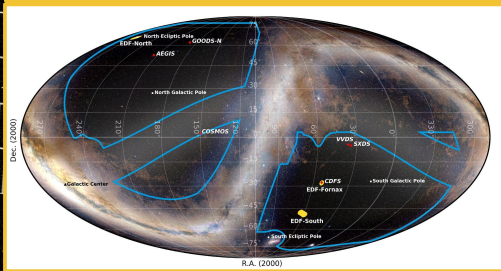
INAF – OAS Bologna, Loiano Observatory
2023-07-09 T 21:30 UT
Credits: Albino Carbognani (INAF)

Presented by Fabrizio Cogato on behalf of *Euclid* Consortium
IRIS workshop 2026 / INAF – OAS Bologna

A challenging problem...

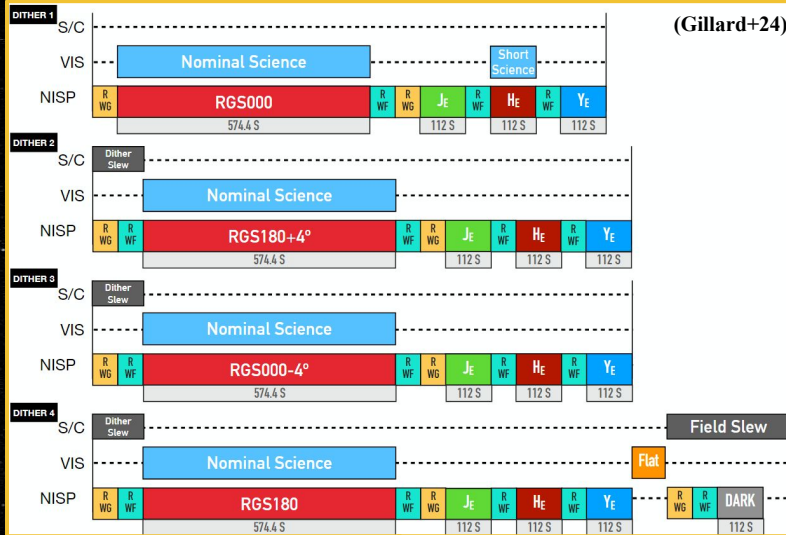


Region of Interest (>15000 deg²)



Reference Observation Sequence (ROS) // 1.5 h

(Gillard+24)



NISP instrument: survey operation (Battaglia+24)

- Spectrometric: 4 × MACC(15,16,11) // 550 s
- Photometric: 12 × MACC(4,16,4) // 87 s

10 deg²/day = 20 ROS/day → 320 NISP obs/day

Focal plane: 16 × 2048 × 2048 pixels/obs

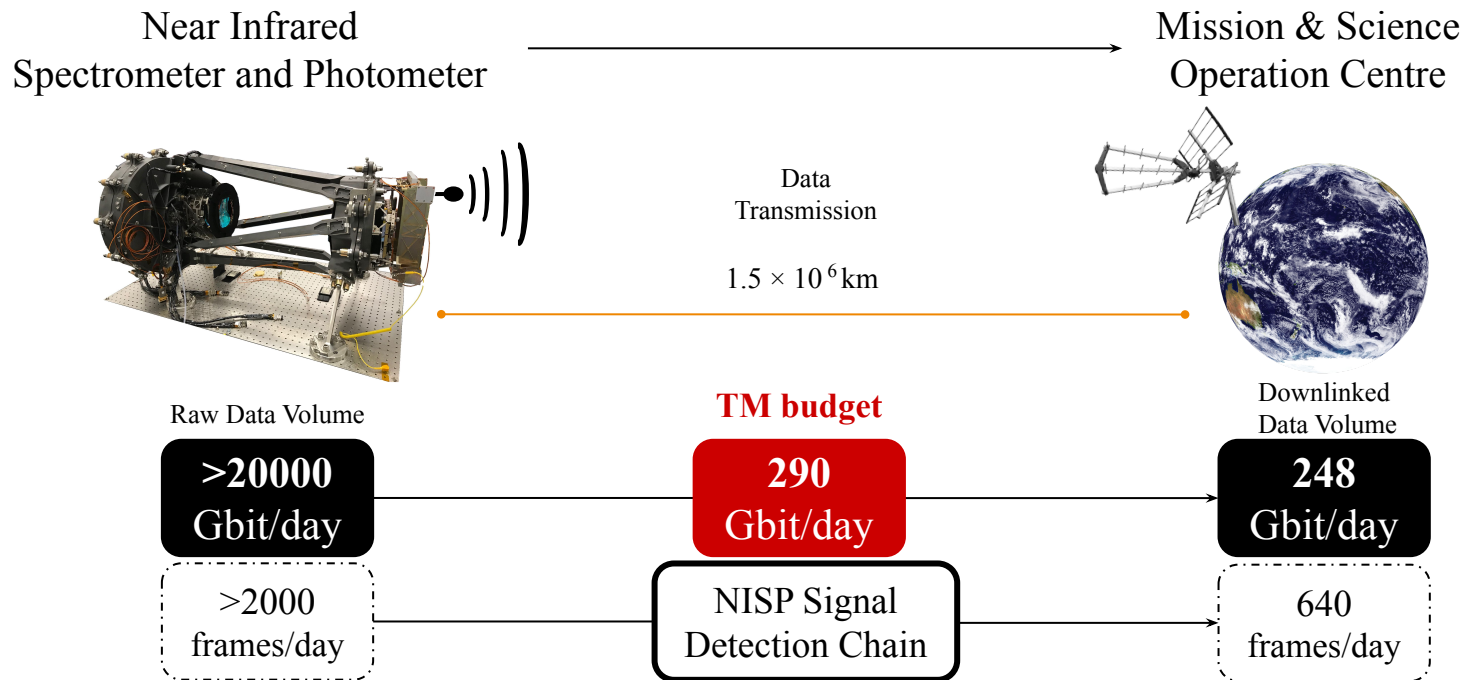
Total data volume: 20000 Gbit/day

Requirement: 290 Gbit/day

What should be done?

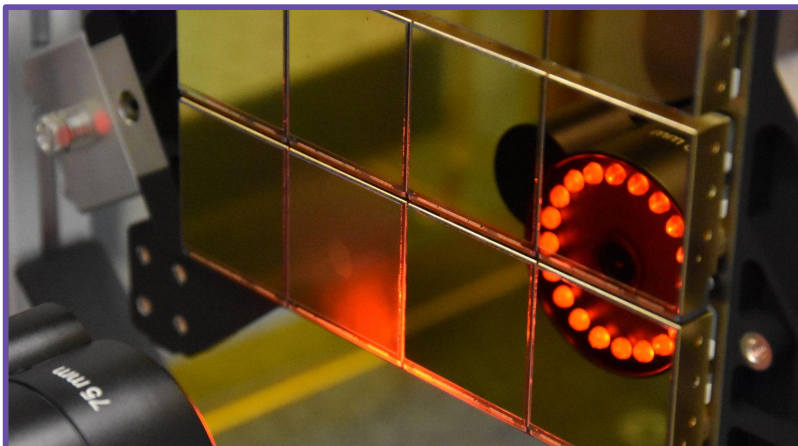
An analytical solution...

NISP instrument meets the stringent **operational and scientific** requirements thanks to an ad-hoc **hardware-software architecture**.

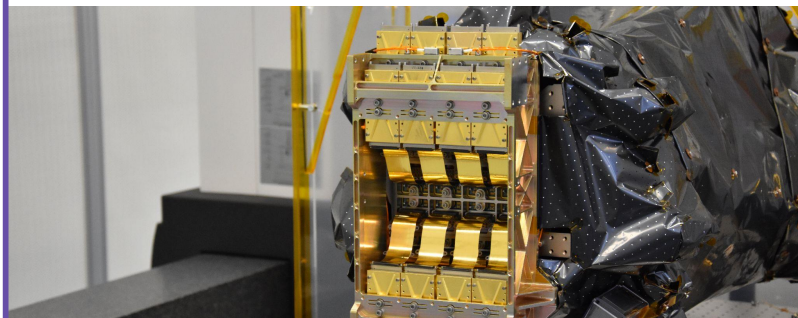


An analytical solution...

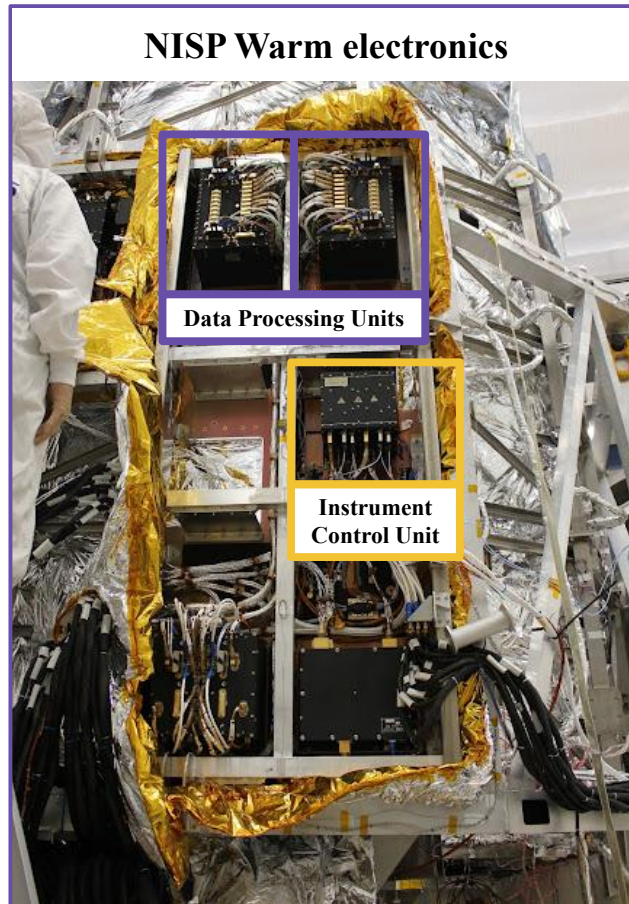
NISP Signal Detection Chain: the hardware



NISP Focal plane (4 x 4 H2RG detectors)



NISP SIDECAR ASIC electronics



NISP Warm electronics

Data Processing Units

Instrument Control Unit

NISP Signal Detection Chain: the software

A New Signal Estimator from the NIR Detectors of the Euclid Mission

Bogna Kubik¹, Remi Barbier¹, Eric Chabanat¹, Arnaud Chapon^{2,3}, Jean-Claude Clemens², Anne Ealet², Sylvain Ferriol¹,

William Gillard², Aurelia Secroun², Benoit Serra², Gerard Smadja¹, and André Tilquin²

¹University of Lyon, UCB Lyon 1/CNRS/IN2P3, IPN Lyon, Lyon, France; bkubik@ipnl.in2p3.fr

²Centre de Physique des Particules de Marseille, Aix-Marseille Université, CNRS/IN2P3, Marseille, France

³Now at Conseil et Etude en Radio-Protection, Cherbourg-en-Cotentin, France

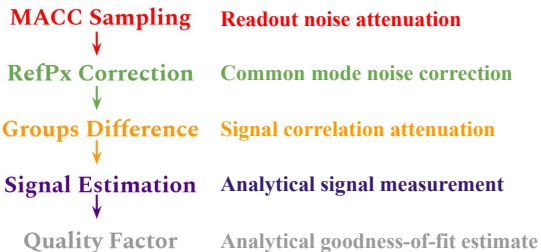
Received 2016 February 12; accepted 2016 May 29; published 2016 September 5

>10 years ago!

Abstract

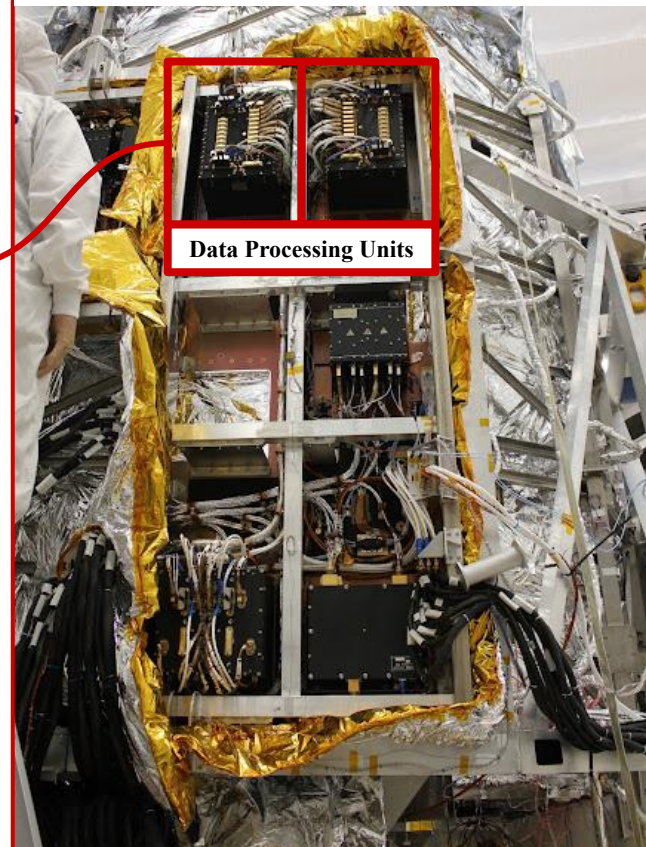
We describe how the Euclid detectors in the Near Infrared Spectrometer and Photometer (NISP) channel will be read out on board and present an analytic expression for the estimated fluence in each pixel with the associated quality factor of the fit per pixel. The method accounts for the Poisson like distribution of the data and includes the effects of noise correlations that arise after the coadding procedure of frames read non-destructively up the ramp during one exposure. The bias of the flux estimator presented in this paper is kept lower than 0.3% over a wide rang of scientifically interesting fluxes of Euclid. The associated error is by 6% lower than the commonly used formula derived in Rauscher et al. in the context of an equally weighted least squares fit. Moreover, the quality factor follows the very well known $\chi^2_{\text{in}}(x; n)$ distribution and thus provides a well behaved statistical tool to check the goodness of the ramp fit. The method is proposed in the context of a large amount of data per exposure, produced by the NISP detectors, that cannot be transferred to the ground for the subsequent processing. The method, which is validated using real and simulated test data, can be safely used by most near-infrared instruments which require very accurate measurements to be performed on board.

NISP Onboard Data Acquisition and Processing



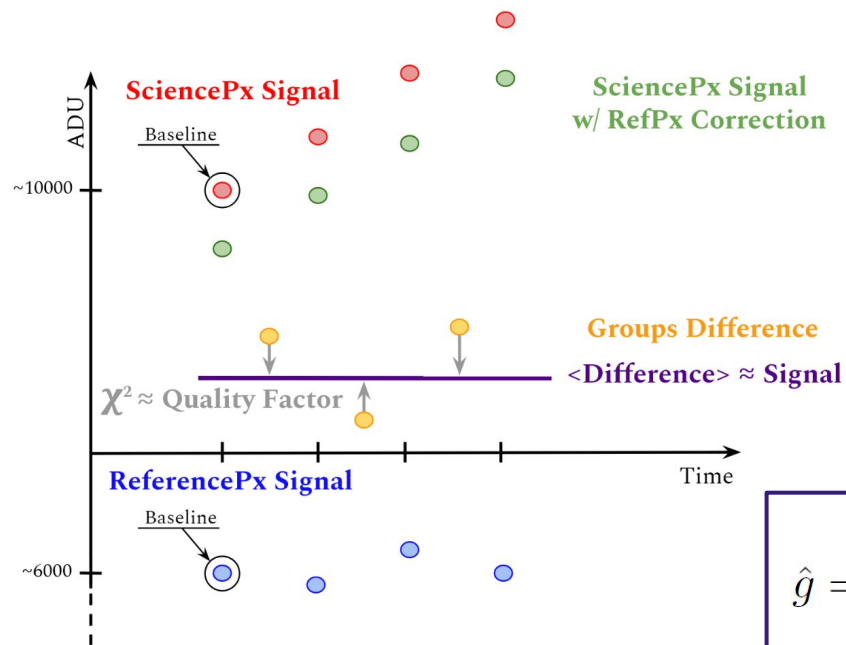
CrossMark

NISP Warm electronics

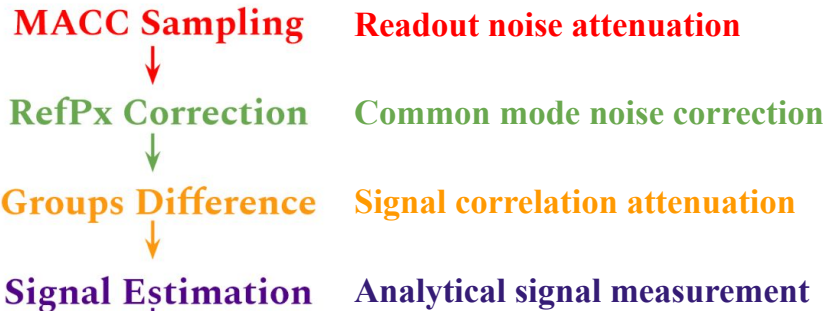


An analytical solution...

“Processing *each* of the 67×10^6 NISP px/obs at 1.5×10^6 km from Earth, aboard *Euclid*”



NISP Onboard Data Acquisition and Processing



$$\hat{g} = \frac{1 + \alpha}{2f_e} \left[\sqrt{1 + \frac{4f_e^2 \sum_{i=1}^{n_g-1} (\Delta G_i + \beta)^2}{(n_g - 1)(1 + \alpha)^2}} - 1 \right] - \beta$$

Signal Sampling Properties:

n_g = Number of Groups
 n_f = Number of Frames
 n_d = Number of Drops

Pixel Properties:

f_e = Conversion Gain [e-/ADU]
 σ_R = Readout Noise [e-]

Key Processing Parameters:

$$\alpha = \frac{1 - n_f^2}{3n_f(n_f + n_d)} \quad \beta = \frac{2\sigma_R^2 f_e}{n_f(1 + \alpha)}$$

And its implications...

“What level of accuracy does the NISP signal estimator achieve?”

To optimize **satellite’s resources** NISP onboard processing applies a single **detector-average readout noise** (σ_{DPU}) to each detector array (2040x2040 px)

NISP Signal Estimator \propto Pixel Properties

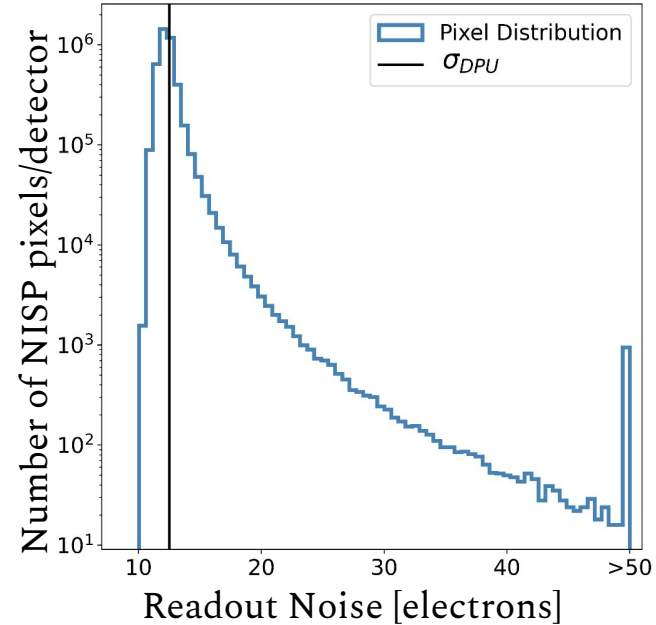
Key Processing Parameter

σ_R = Readout Noise [electrons]

$$\hat{g} = \frac{1 + \alpha}{2f_e} \left[\sqrt{1 + \frac{4f_e^2 \sum_{i=1}^{n_g-1} (\Delta G_i + \beta)^2}{(n_g - 1)(1 + \alpha)^2}} - 1 \right] - \beta$$

$$\beta = \frac{2\sigma_R^2 f_e}{n_f(1 + \alpha)}$$

Data Processing Approximation

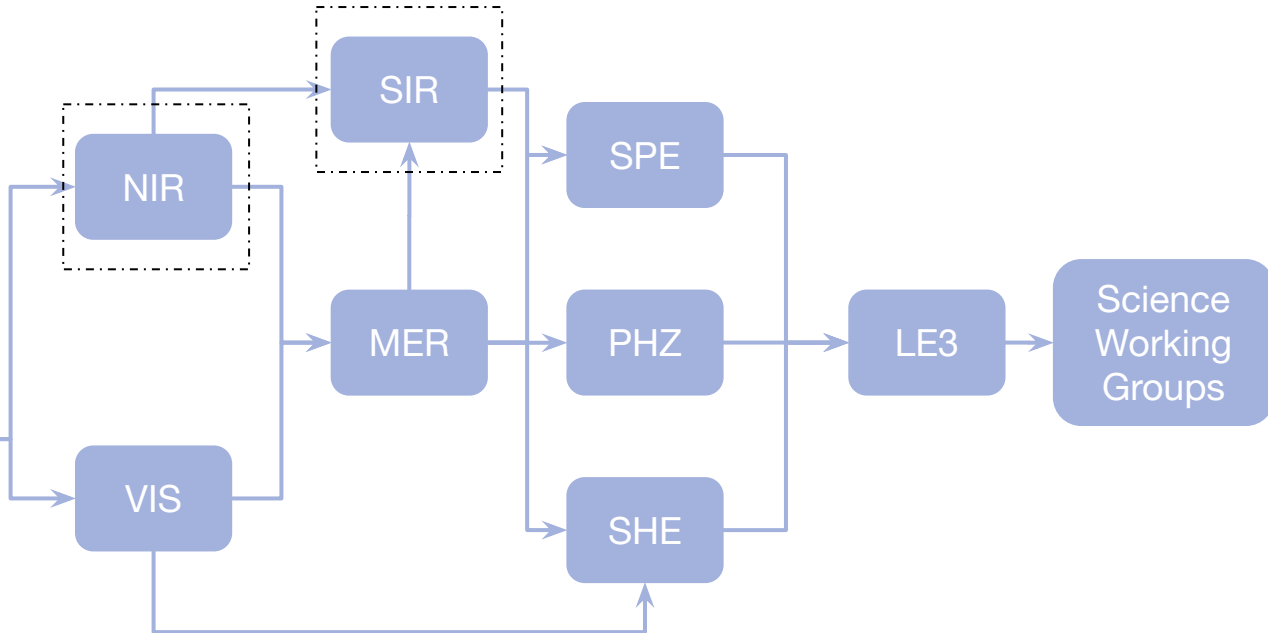
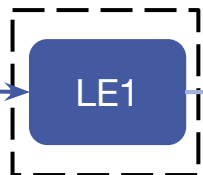


And its implications...

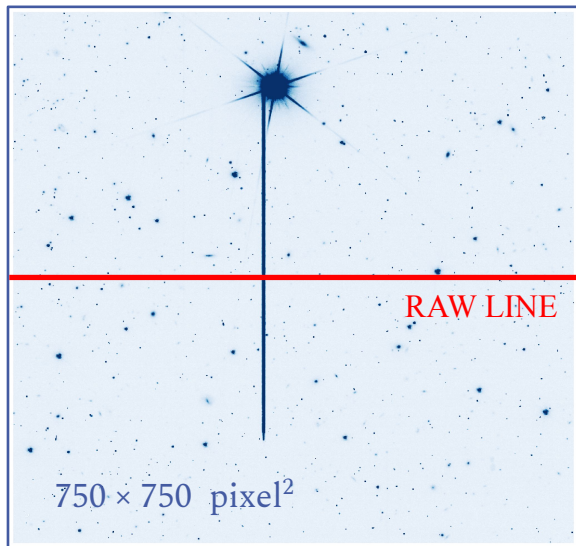
From Data Stream to Scientific Data



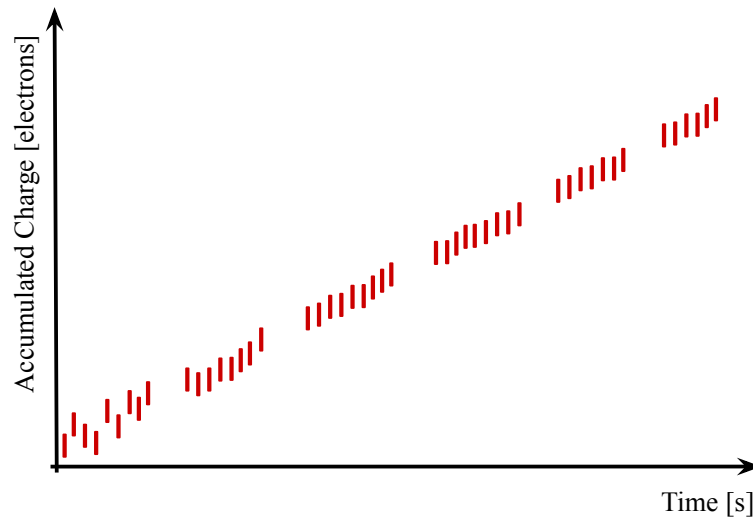
We focus on
NISIP Raw Data



NISP LE1 Raw Data

**Onboard Data**

NIR SCI

 $16 \times 2048 \times 2048$ pixels/obs**Control Sample**

RAW LINE

 16×2040 pixels/obs

And its implications...

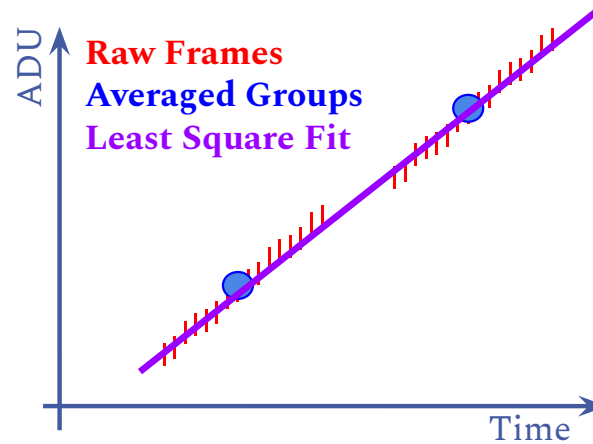
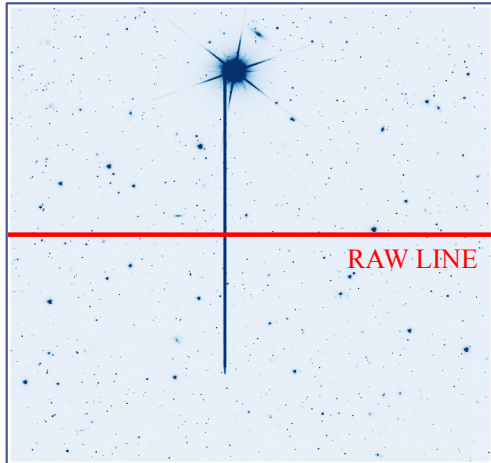
“What level of accuracy does the NISP signal estimator achieve?”

Comparison with un-weighted **Least Square Fit** of UTR frames

**In-flight analysis:
NISP Signal Estimator**

vs.

**On-ground analysis:
Least Square Fitting**

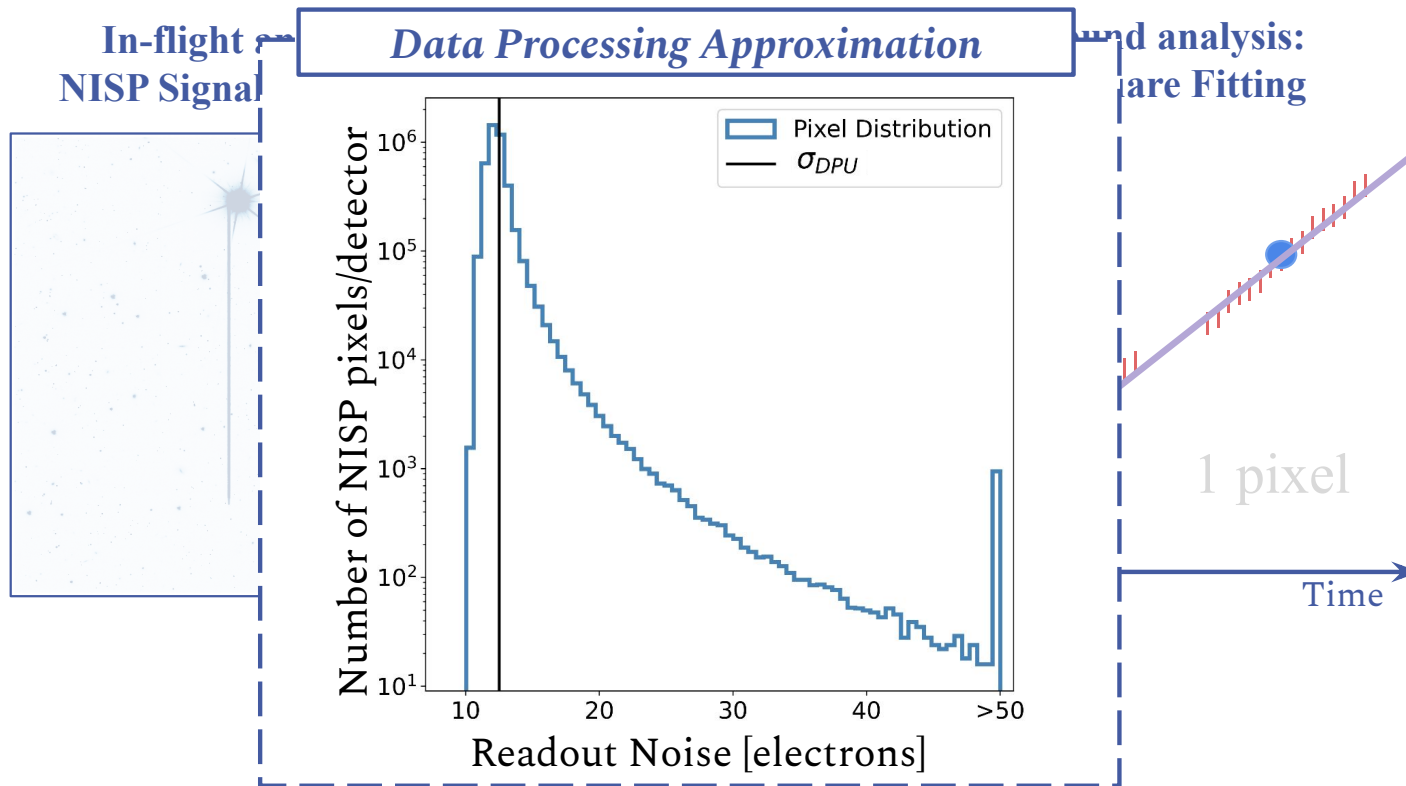


$$\hat{g} = \frac{1 + \alpha}{2f_e} \left[\sqrt{1 + \frac{4f_e^2 \sum_{i=1}^{n_g-1} (\Delta G_i + \beta)^2}{(n_g - 1)(1 + \alpha)^2}} - 1 \right] - \beta$$

And its implications...

“What level of accuracy does the NISP signal estimator achieve?”

Comparison with un-weighted **Least Square Fit** of UTR frames



And its implications...

“What level of accuracy does the NISP signal estimator achieve?”

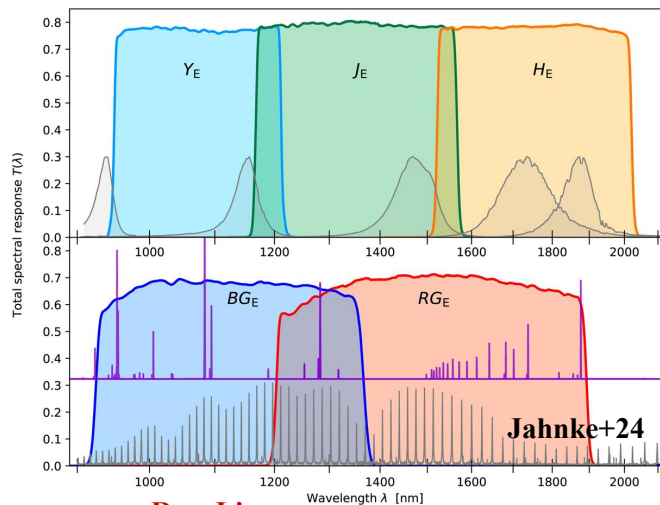
Near-infrared zodiacal background

Photo-Spectrometric $\sim 1 \text{ e}^-/\text{s}$

$\| \text{sys-}\sigma_R \| < 0.01 \text{ e}^-/\text{s}$ (99% pixels)

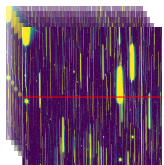
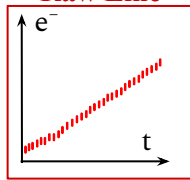
NISP Flight Data (8 months of Euclid Wide Survey)

~ 5000 exposures/passband

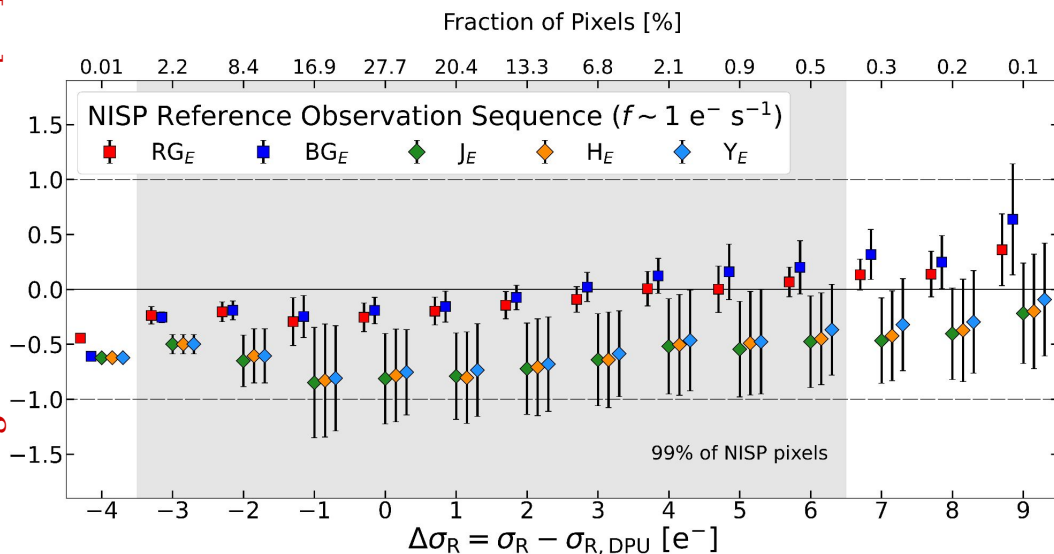


Jahnke+24

Raw Line

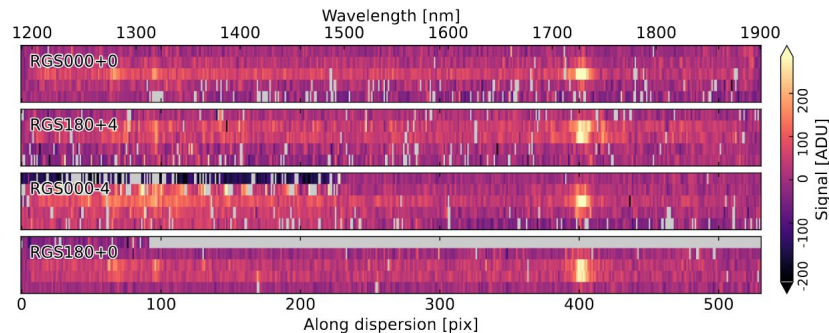


NISP Signal Estimator - LSF [%]



And its implications...

Impact of the NISP signal estimator bias on the accuracy of the spectroscopic flux calibration

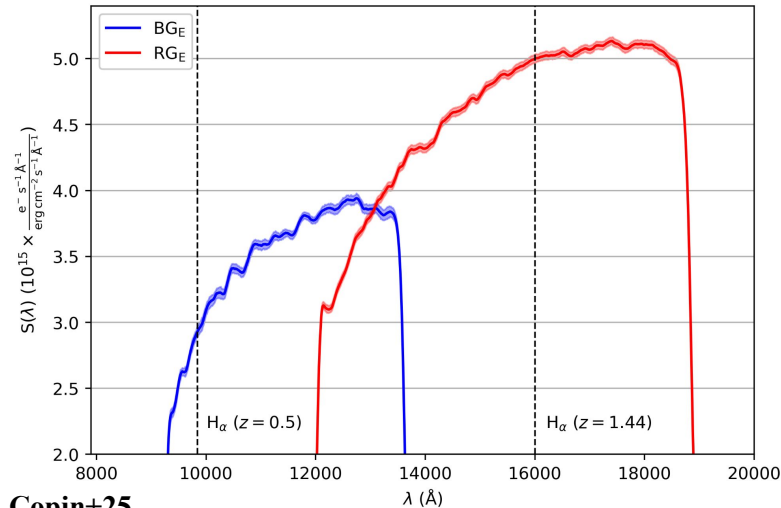


SpectroMACC: $|\delta f| < 0.5\%$

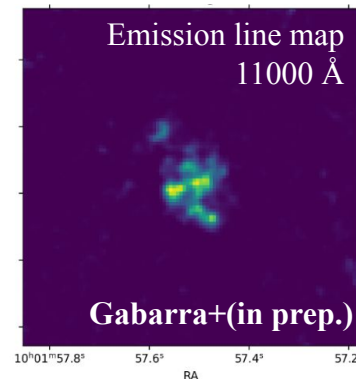
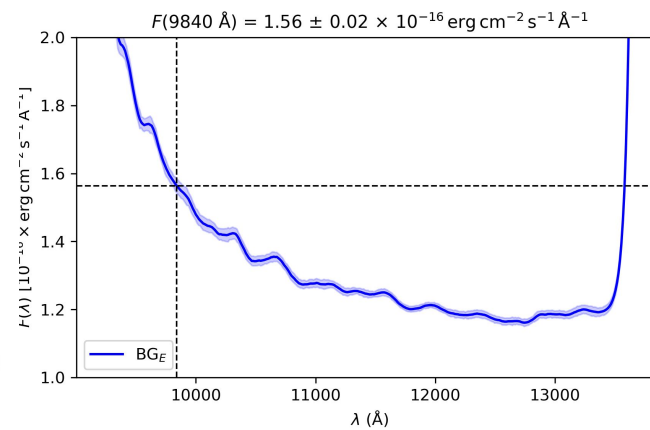
At 1 e/s, the NISP signal estimator bias *increases* the **total uncertainty budget (RMSE)** at the **sub-percent level**:

$RG_E: 0.6\% \rightarrow 0.8\%$

$BG_E: 1.4\% \rightarrow 1.5\%$

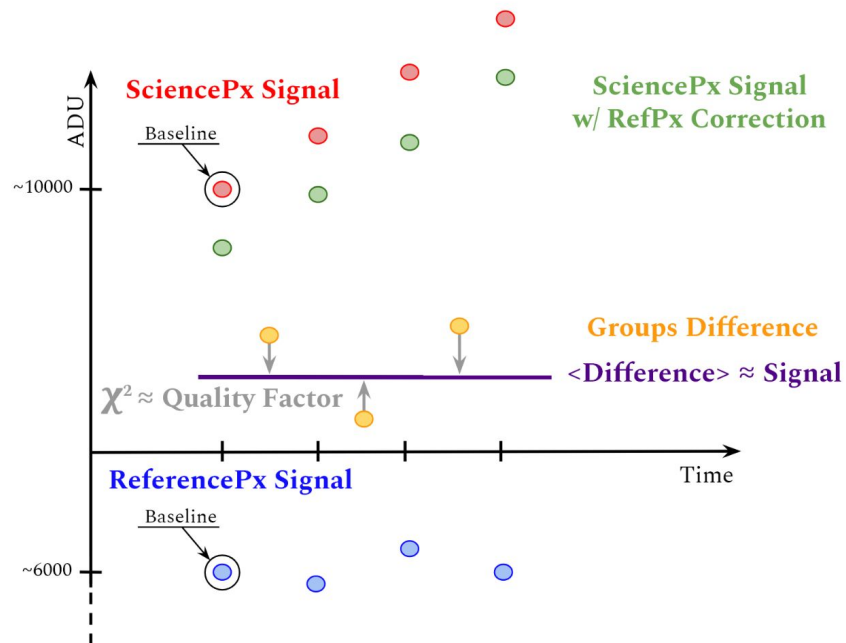


NISP spectroscopic scientific performance

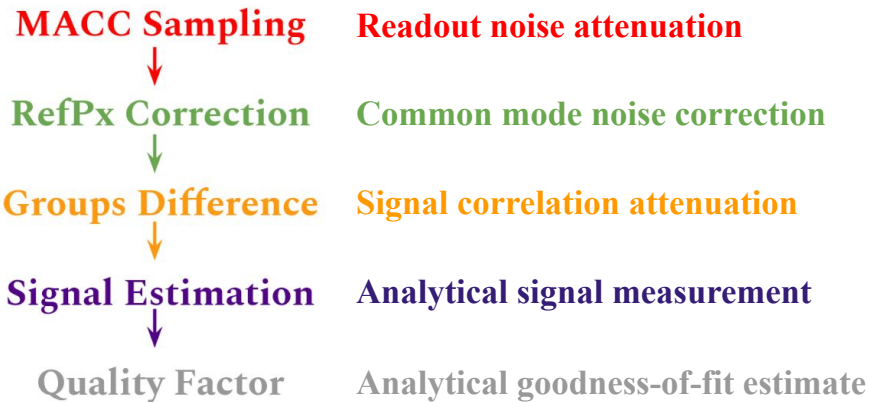


An analytical solution...

“Processing *each* of the 67×10^6 NISP px/obs at 1.5×10^6 km from Earth, aboard *Euclid*”



NISP Onboard Data Acquisition and Processing



$$QF = \frac{2f_e}{(1 + \alpha)} [(n_g - 1)\hat{g}_x - (G_n - G_1)]$$

Signal Sampling Properties:

n_g = Number of Groups
 n_f = Number of Frames
 n_d = Number of Drops

Pixel Properties:

f_e = Conversion Gain [e-/ADU]
 σ_R = Readout Noise [e-]

Key Processing Parameters:

$$\alpha = \frac{1 - n_f^2}{3n_f(n_f + n_d)} \quad \beta = \frac{2\sigma_R^2 f_e}{n_f(1 + \alpha)}$$

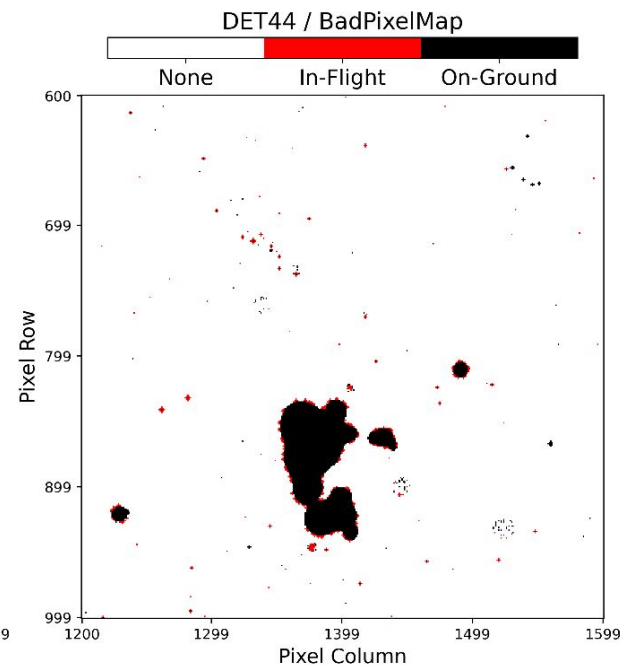
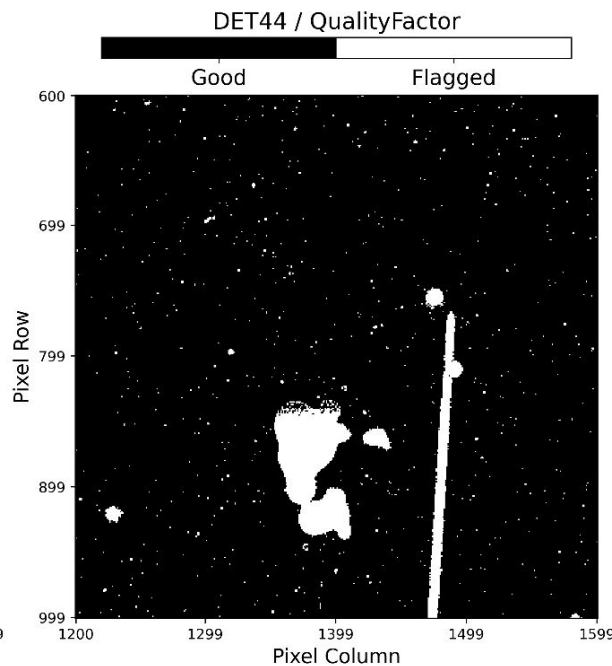
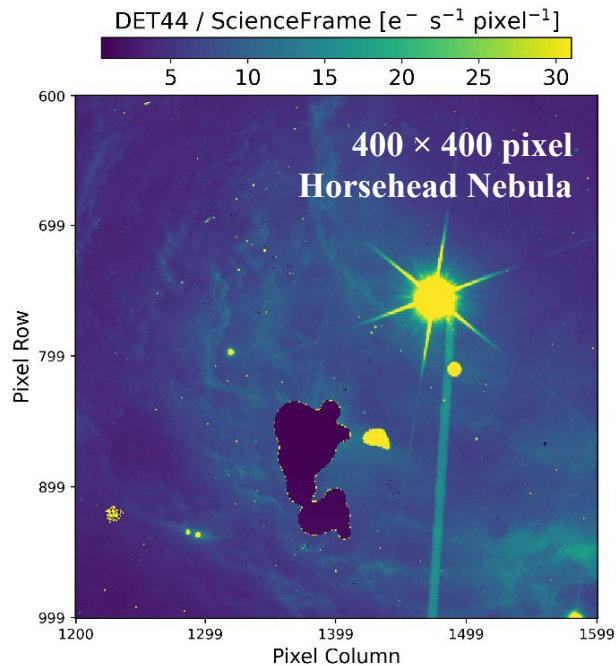
And its implications...

“How should the NISP Quality Factor be interpreted?”

The NISP QF quantifies the *deviation* from *ideal* linear signal integration.

$$QF = \frac{2f_e}{(1 + \alpha)} [(n_g - 1)\hat{g}_x - (G_n - G_1)] \sim \chi^2[\text{dof} = \underbrace{(n_g - 1)}_{\text{Signal measurement } (\Delta G_i)} - \underbrace{(1)}_{\text{Signal parameter } (g)}]$$

- **Persistence signal** and other anomalous behaviours, e.g., bad pixels.



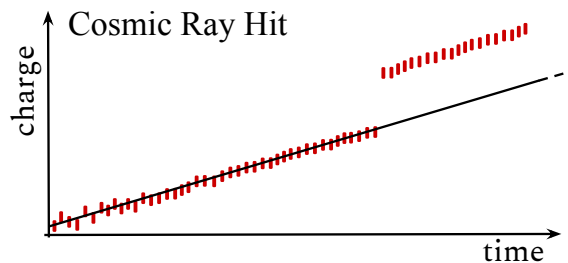
And its implications...

“How should the NISP Quality Factor be interpreted?”

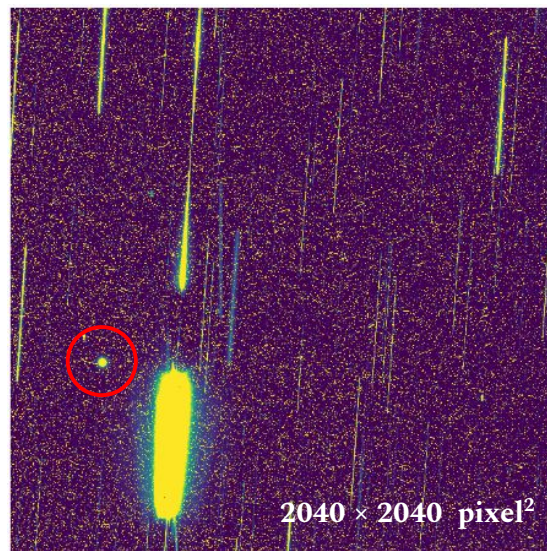
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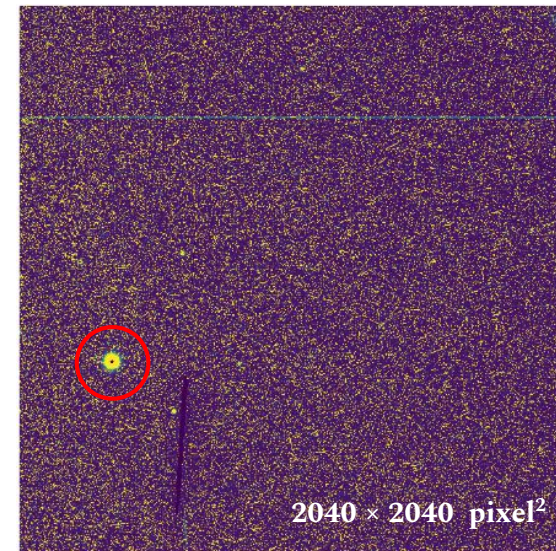
- **Solar energetic particles** and other artefacts



NISP Signal



NISP Quality Factor



And its implications...

“How should the NISP Quality Factor be interpreted?”

A MonteCarlo analysis of NISP QF behaviour

Signal integration variance:

$$D_{kk}(\Delta G_k; g) = (1 + \alpha \frac{g}{f_e} + \frac{2\sigma_R^2}{n_f})$$

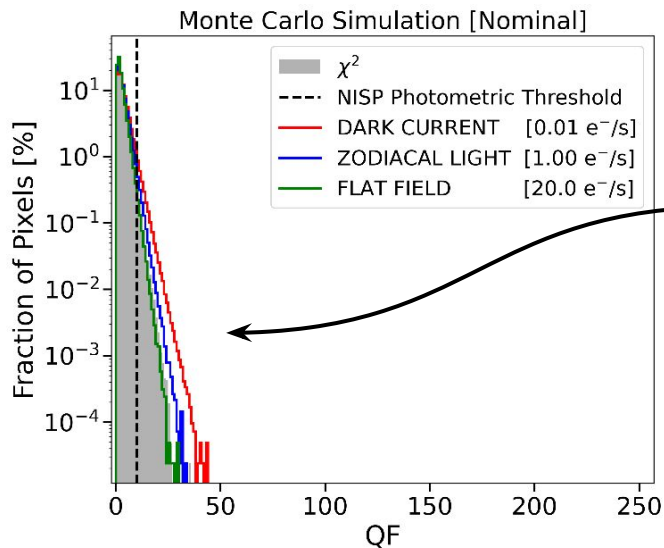
Input Parameter

Incident flux [e/s]

Readout noise [e]

Conversion gain [e/ADU]

2040 × 2040 px



Nominal
No readout noise approx

Median over
500 synthetic exposures

Acquisition Mode

Photometric MACC(4,16,4)

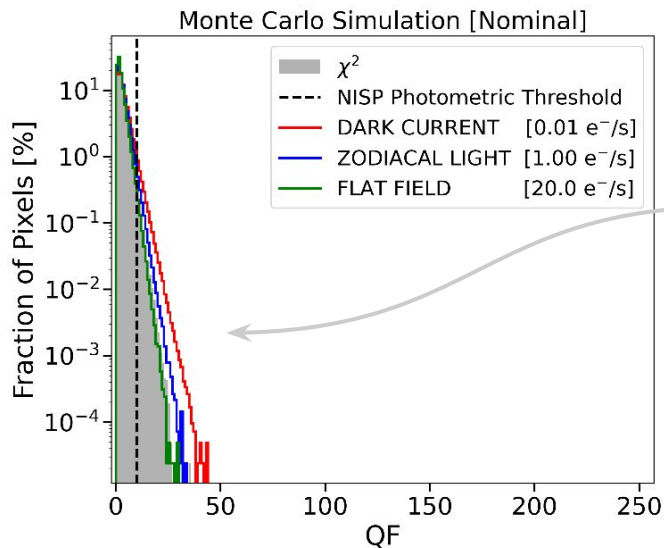
NISP Signal Estimator
NISP Signal + Quality Factor

And its implications...

“How should the NISP Quality Factor be interpreted?”

A MonteCarlo analysis of NISP QF behaviour

Signal integration variance:

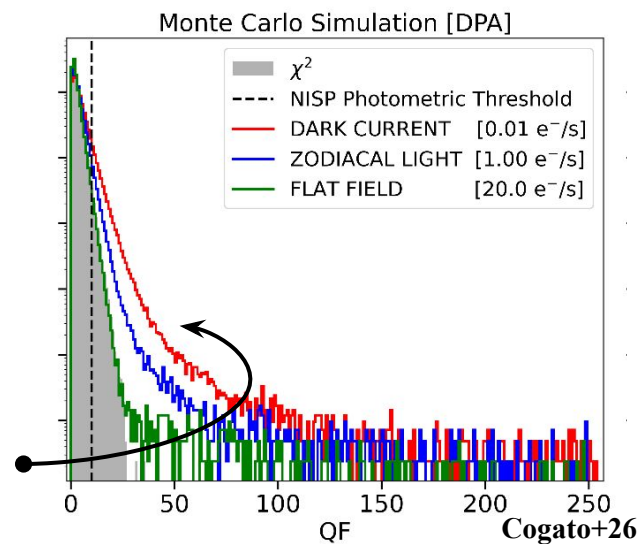


Nominal
No readout noise approx.

Median over
500 synthetic exposures

NISP readout noise approx.

DPA



Cogato+26

And its implications...

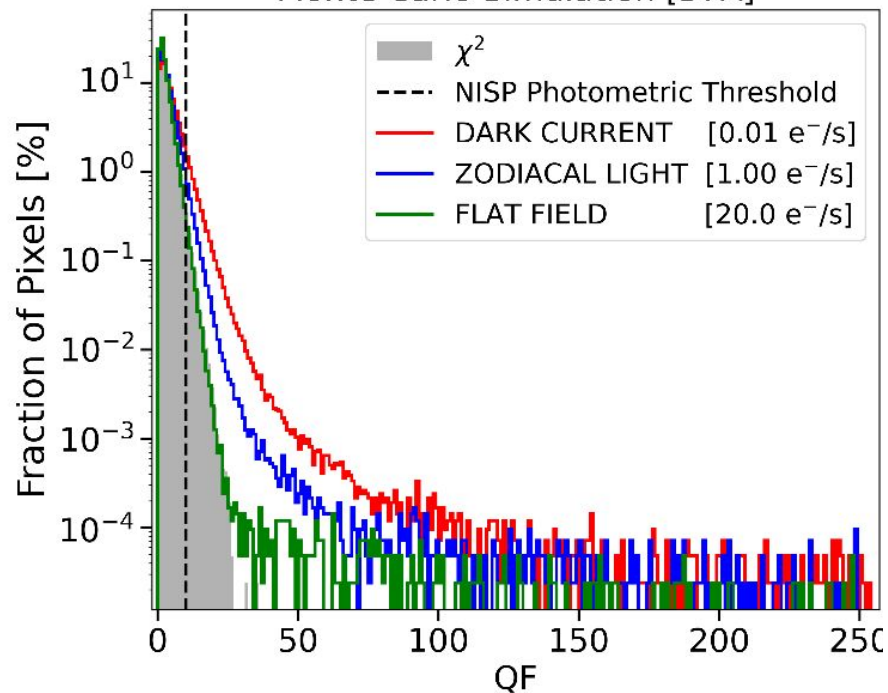
“How should the NISP Quality Factor be interpreted?”

The **NISP QF** marks every pixel whose signal integration deviates from linear behavior.

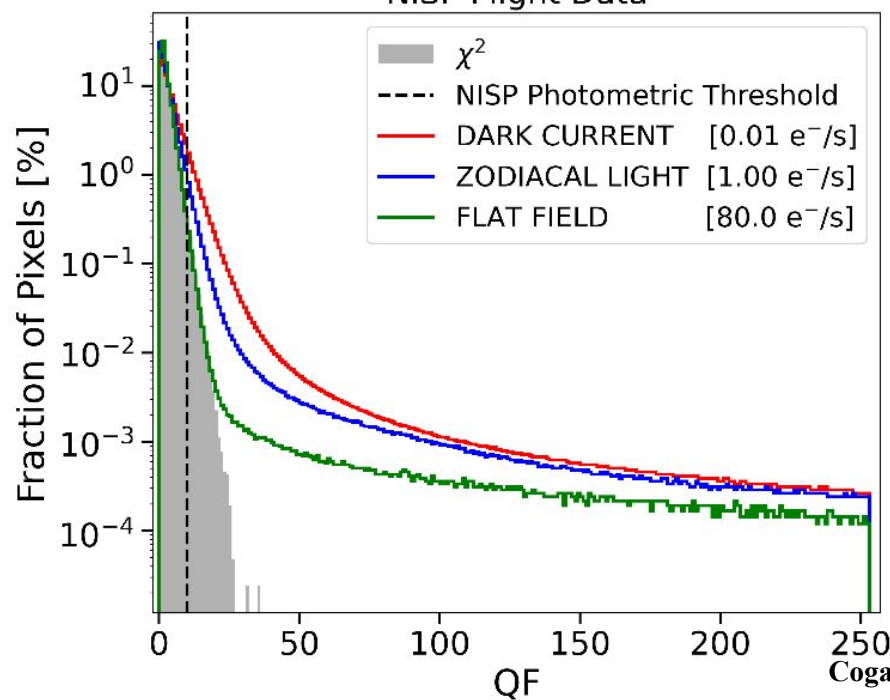
Expected (MC): QF(10) = 1.31 % of pixels at 1 e/s

NISP Flight Data: QF(10) = 2.59 % of pixels at 1 e/s

Monte Carlo Simulation [DPA]



NISP Flight Data



And its implications...

“How should the NISP Quality Factor be interpreted?”

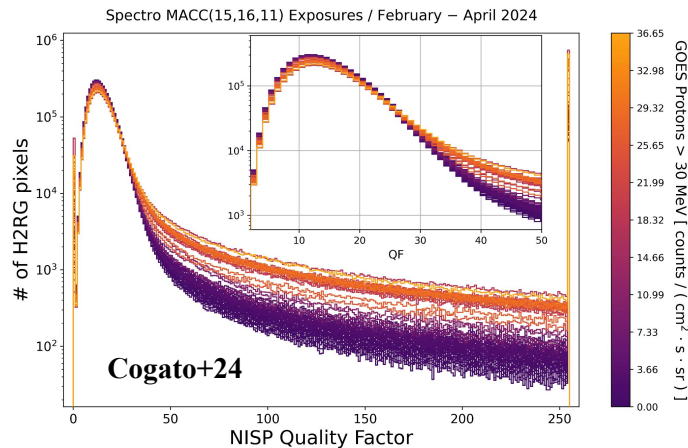
The NISP QF marks every pixel whose signal integration deviates from linear behavior.

Photometric MACC(4,16,4) $\rightarrow \chi^2(2)$

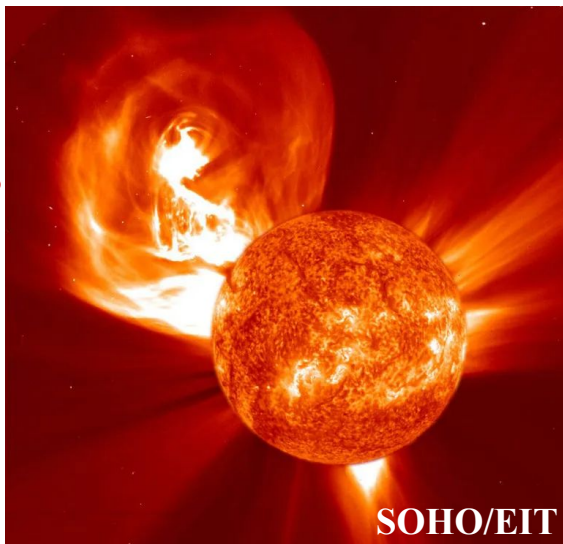
Theoretical (2.7σ clip): $\chi^2(2, 10) = 0.67\%$ of pixels

Expected (MC): QF(2, 10) = 1.31 % of pixels

Measured (Flight Data): QF(2, 10) > 3 % of pixels
space-weather



space-weather



Lessons Learned on NISP Signal Estimator and Quality Factor



Working in the ΔG_i space (Difference of signal groups) reduce signal UTR correlations, resulting in a **three-diagonal covariance matrix**.

However:

- The **analytical solution** for accurate and precise **signal estimation** requires several assumptions/approximations:
 - Diagonal approximation, neglect off-diagonal covariance terms.

Onboard data processing was essential for enabling NISP to observe $\frac{1}{3}$ of the sky in 6 years w/ 0.3-arcsec resolution.

However:

- Detector **gain** and **readout noise** must be carefully **characterized on ground** to accurately model the in-flight behavior of **each pixel** in the focal plane.
- The **Data Processing Approximation** (pixel maps \rightarrow detector-average) is acceptable, provided the appropriate average is selected...

The **NISP Quality Factor** is a powerful tool for **monitoring data quality** and detecting various types of anomalies.

However:

- By construction, it is **affected by the same bias that impacts the NISP signal estimator**, so it must be handled and corrected accordingly.
- Since it flags signal integration anomalies, **recovering the true pixel signal is impossible** (maybe it's "just" difficult and Monte Carlo simulations may help address this).

Advertisement on NISP Signal Estimator and Quality Factor

If you are designing a new **infrared telescope**, there are at least three reasons to integrate the **NISP signal estimator framework** into the data processing chain.

1. **In flight**, it provides **accurate signal estimation** (together with data-quality control) while significantly reducing the total raw data volume.
2. **On the ground**, it accelerates signal processing and provides a robust goodness-of-fit estimator that helps **identify a wide range of anomalies**, which can then be handled later in the processing pipeline.
3. **Looking ahead**, there is always room for improvement – perhaps another paper will join the legacy:

Kubik et al. 2016, Cogato et al. 2026, ??? et al. <2036 ?

Euclid NISP Signal Estimator

A challenging problem, an analytical solution, and its implications

Thanks for listening!

NISP signal estimator

Lessons learnt on signal estimation

Cogato et al. In prep

- Start from $\mathcal{L}(g | \Delta G)$ not from $\chi^2 \Rightarrow$ less bias with Poisson noise
- Correct pixel-independent bias (flux-independent in first order approx)

$$b_f = \frac{-\xi}{(n_g - 1)(n_f + n_d) t_{fr}}$$

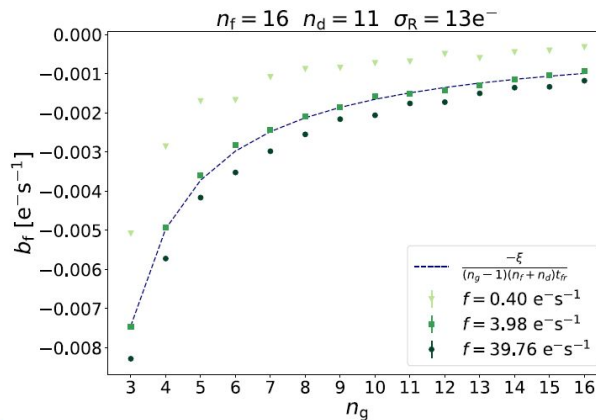
- Remaining deviations: neglected covariance terms

$$\mathcal{L}(g | \Delta G_i) = \prod_{i=1}^{n_g-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi D_{kk}(g)}} \exp \left[-\frac{(\Delta G_i - g)^2}{2D_{kk}(g)} \right]$$

Reduces bias (pointing to the product term)

Less correlations (pointing to the exponent term)

Remaining negligible bias (pointing to the denominator of the exponent)



Impact of signal non-linearity on the NISP Quality Factor



QF non-linearity characterization:

$$\log(QF_{NL}) - \log(QF_{LIN}) = \text{Poly}(\text{SIGNAL})$$

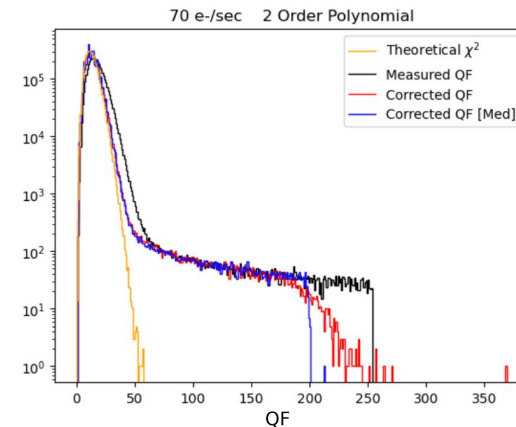
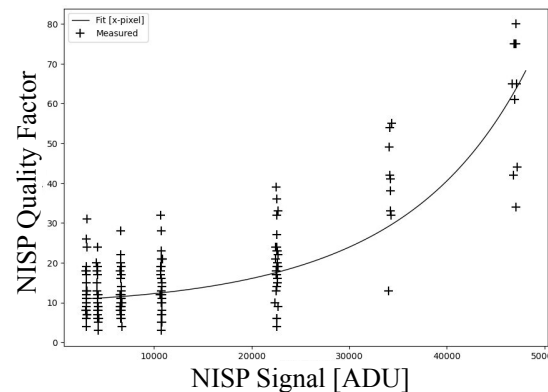
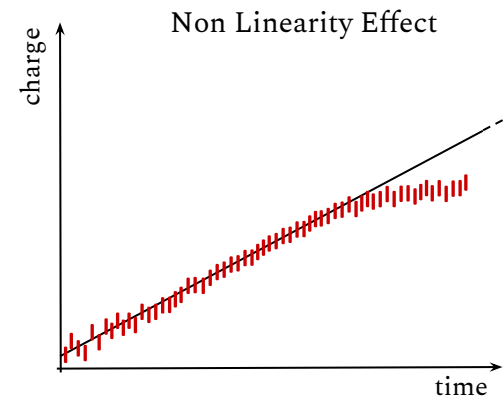
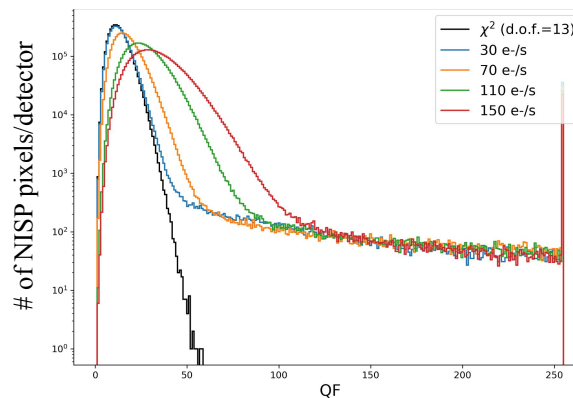
QF non-linearity correction:

$$QF_{CORR} = QF \cdot 10^{-\text{Poly}(\text{SIGNAL})}$$

Corrected QF distribution is expected to be:

χ^2 -like!

Spectroscopic MACC(15,16,11)

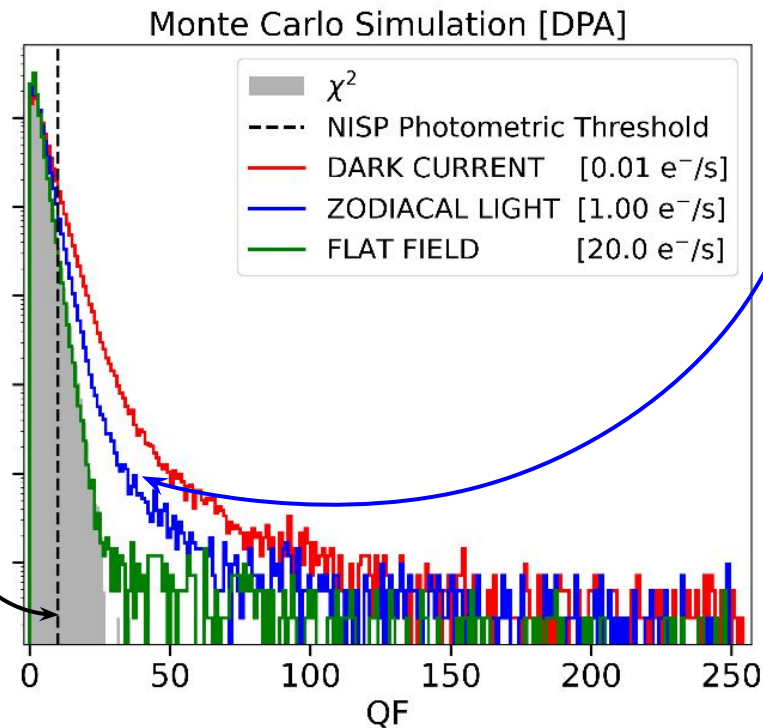
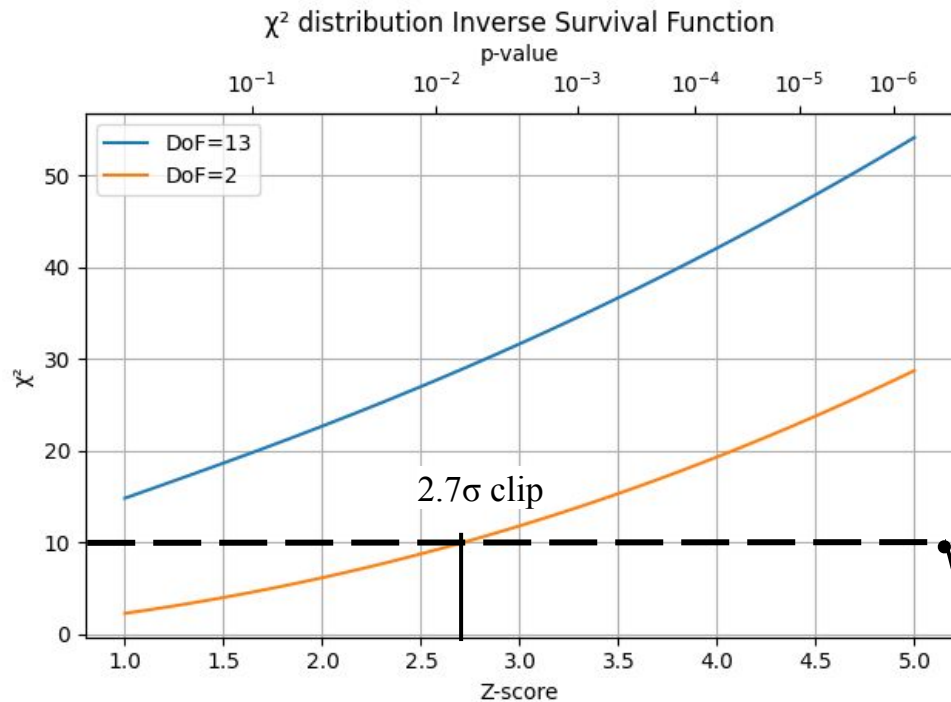


“How should the NISP Quality Factor be interpreted?”

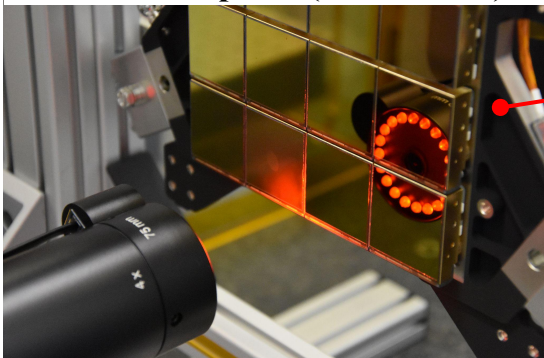
The NISP QF is statistically equivalent to $\chi^2(n_g-2)$ distribution

$$\chi^2(2, 10) = 0.67\% \text{ of pixels (} 2.7\sigma \text{ clip)}$$

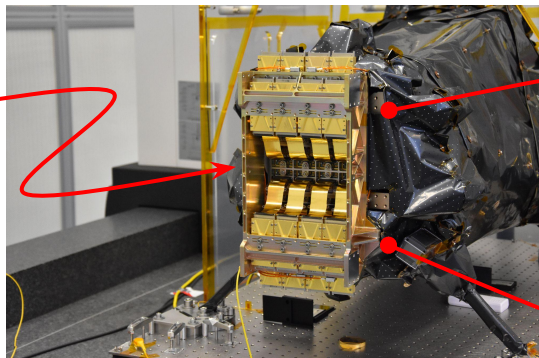
NISP readout noise approx.
1 e/s \rightarrow QF(10) = 1.31 % of pixels



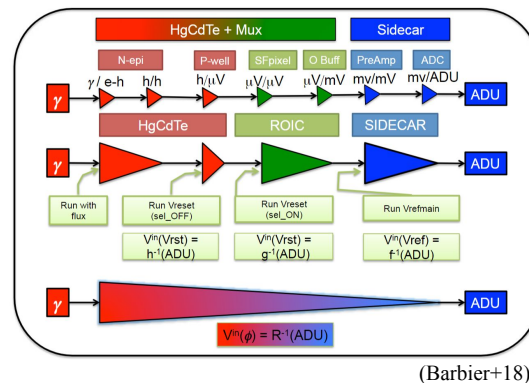
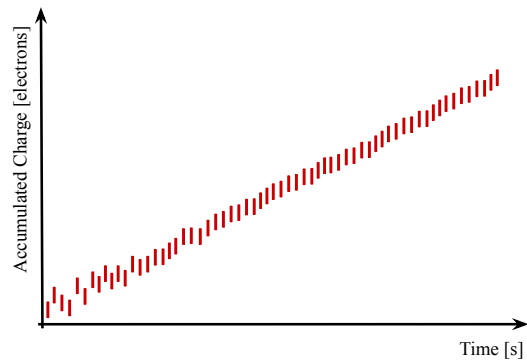
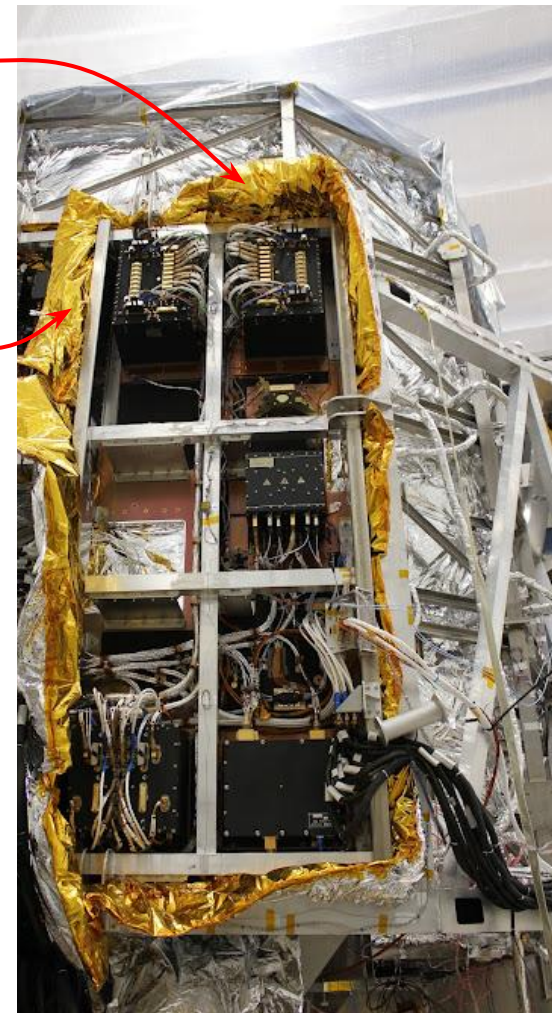
NISP Focal plane (4 x 4 H2RG)



NISP SIDECAR ASIC electronics



NISP Warm electronics

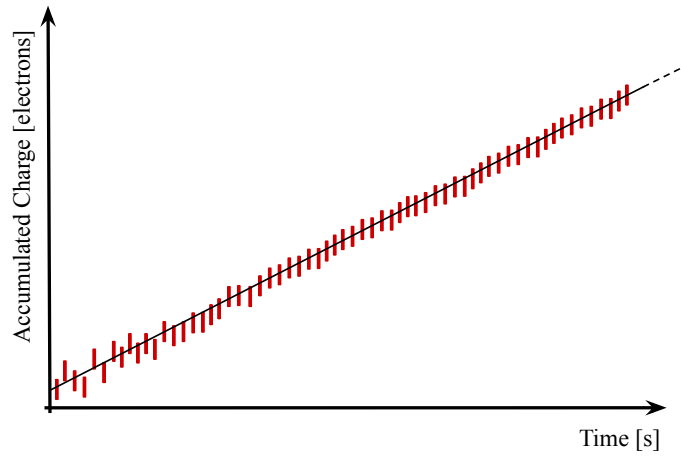


Analogue

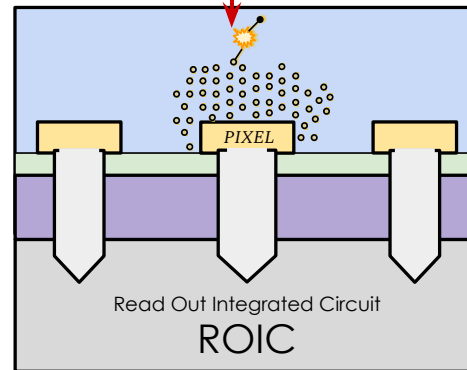


Digital





“How should the ramp slope be estimated?”



NOT TO SCALE

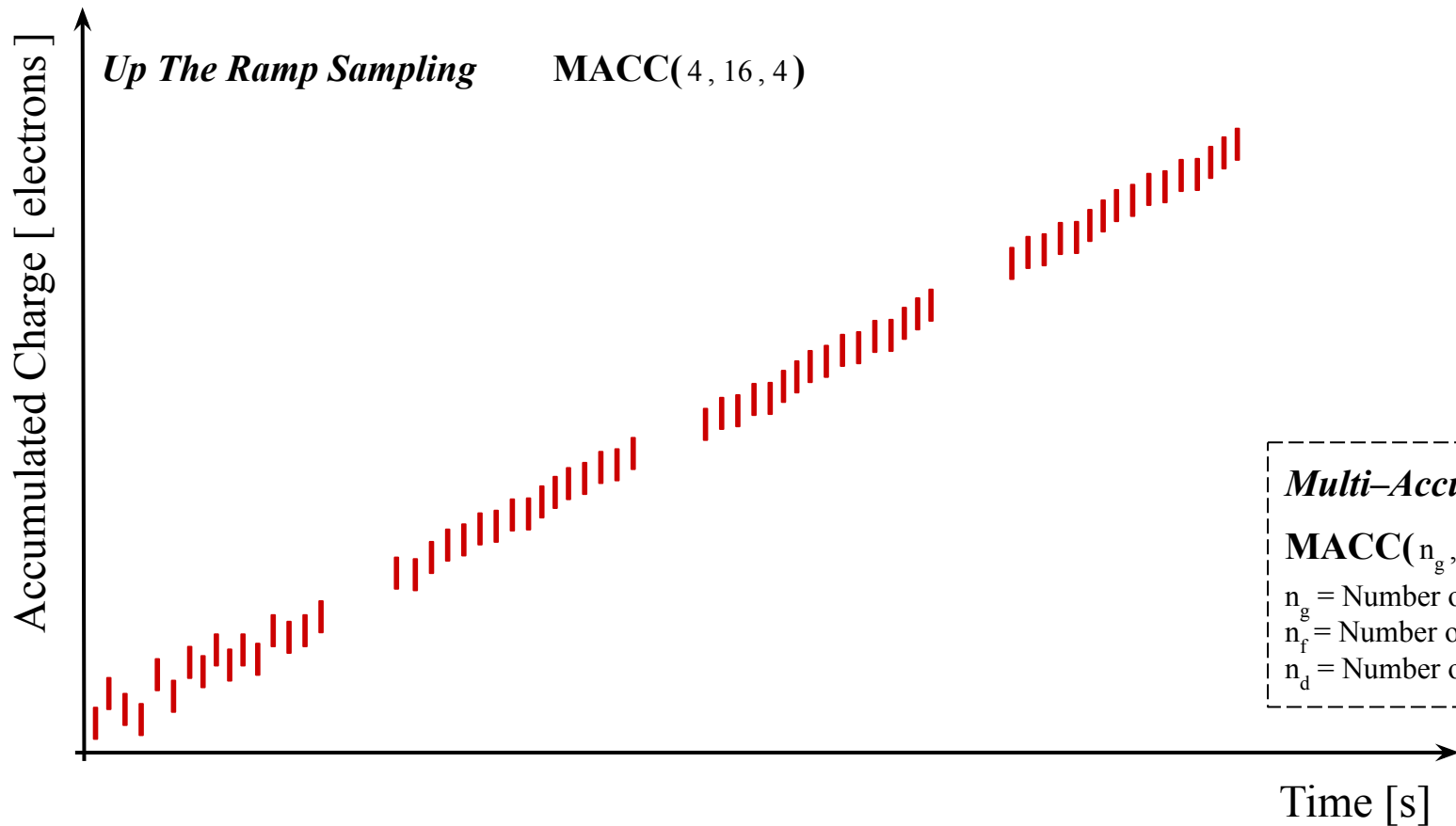


NGC6543 (Cat's Eye Nebula)
Credits: ESA/NASA/Euclid Consortium

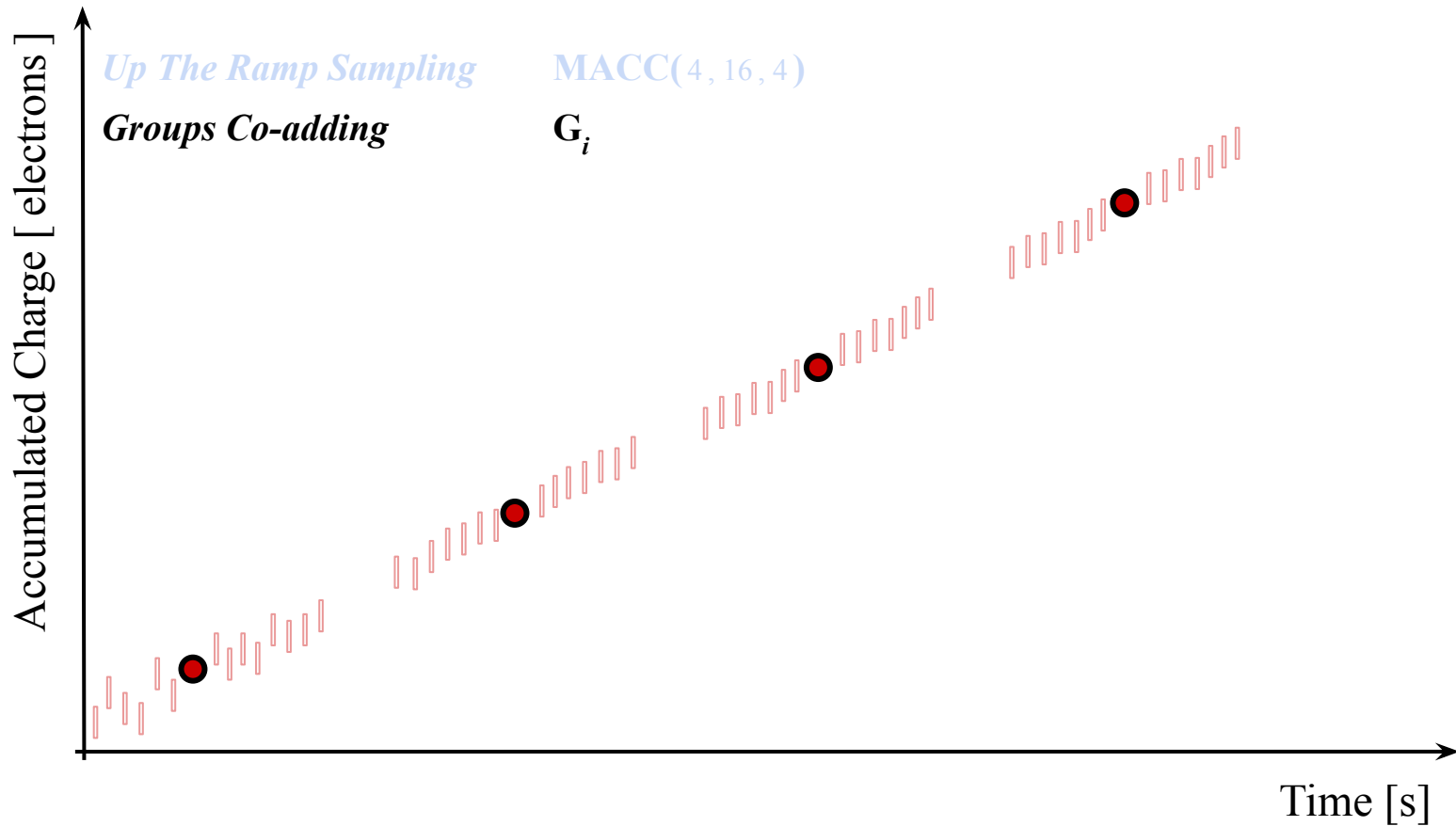
-  NIR photon
-  photoelectric interaction
-  photo-electron
-  photo-hole

(Adapted from Mosby+20)

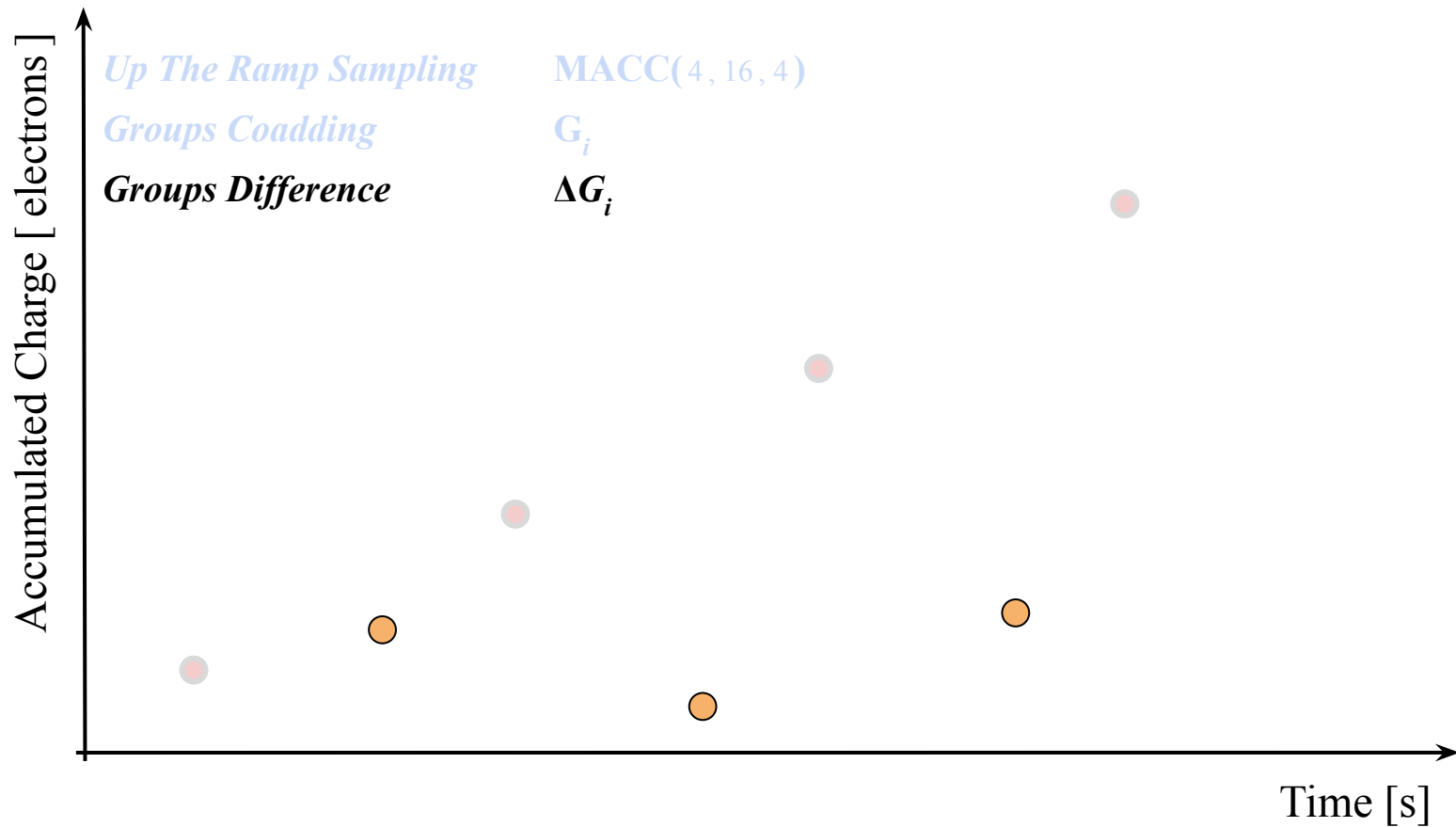
“Well, it’s just a straight line!”



“Well, it’s just a straight line!”

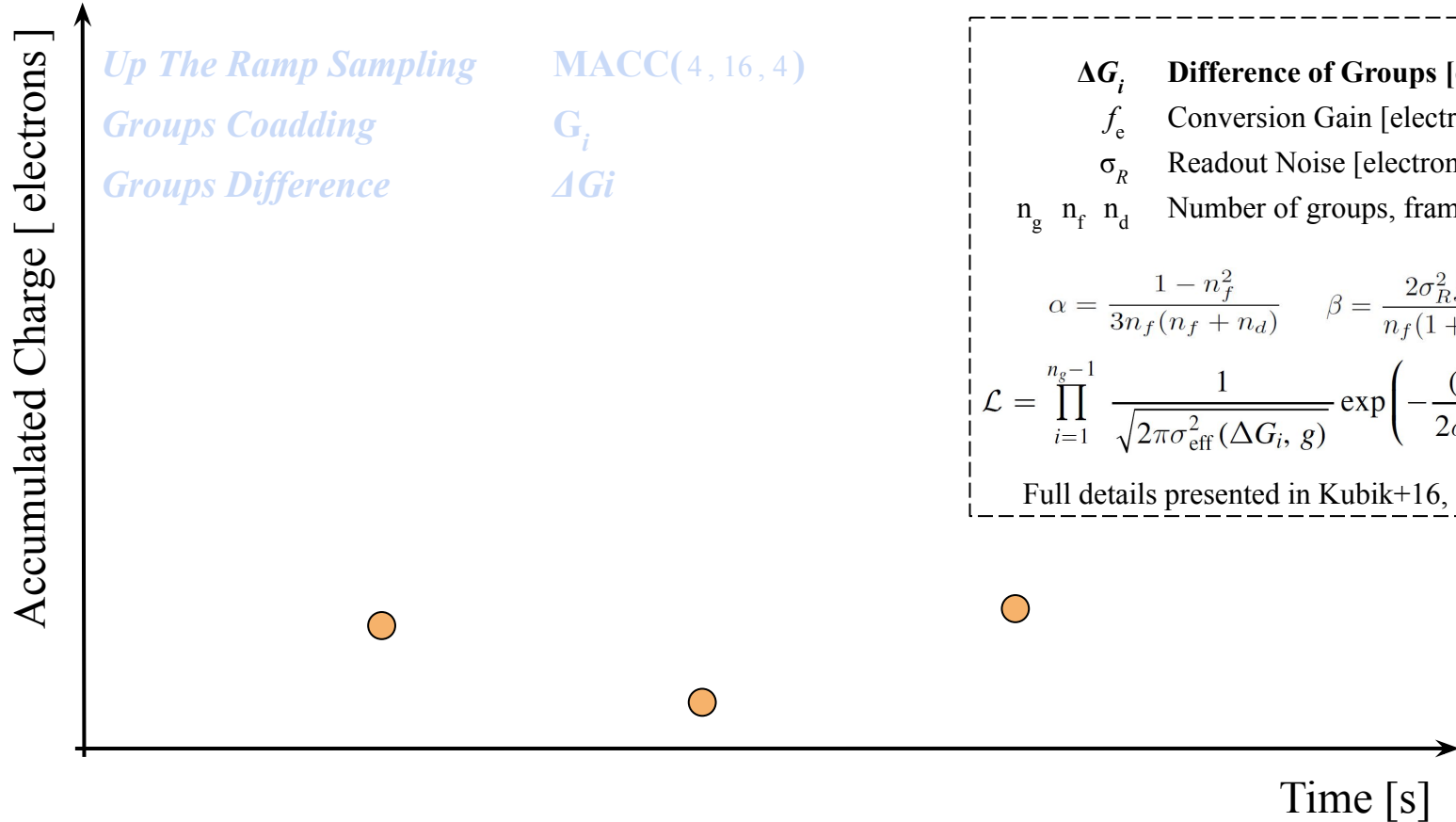


“Perhaps a straight *horizontal* line would be better.”



“Perhaps a straight *horizontal* line would be better.”

Euclid's NISP Signal Estimator
Signal integration analytical model

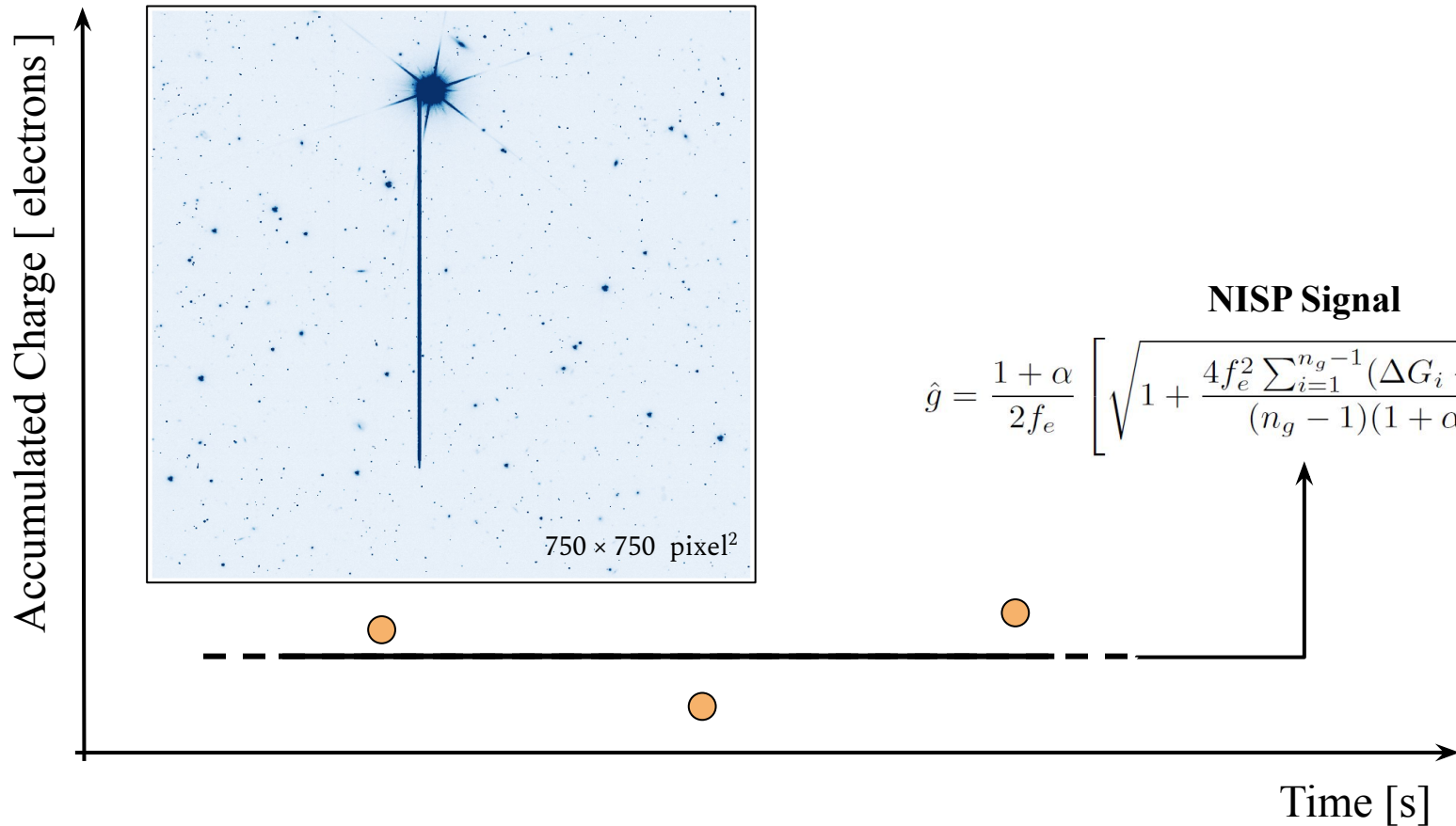
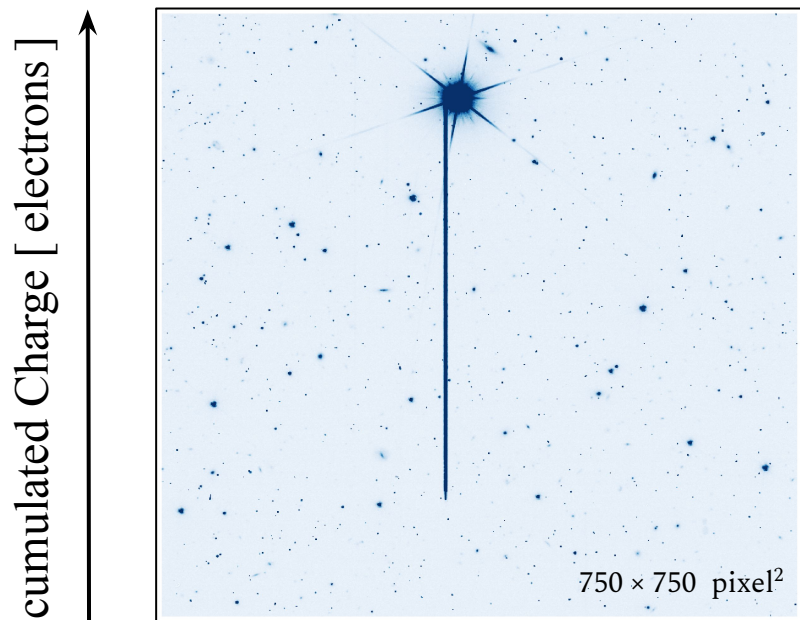


$$\begin{aligned} \Delta G_i & \text{ Difference of Groups [electrons]} \\ f_e & \text{ Conversion Gain [electrons/ADU]} \\ \sigma_R & \text{ Readout Noise [electrons]} \\ n_g \ n_f \ n_d & \text{ Number of groups, frames, drops} \end{aligned}$$
$$\alpha = \frac{1 - n_f^2}{3n_f(n_f + n_d)} \quad \beta = \frac{2\sigma_R^2 f_e}{n_f(1 + \alpha)}$$
$$\mathcal{L} = \prod_{i=1}^{n_g-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_{\text{eff}}^2(\Delta G_i, g)}} \exp\left(-\frac{(\Delta G_i - g)^2}{2\sigma_{\text{eff}}^2(\Delta G_i, g)}\right)$$

Full details presented in Kubik+16, Cogato+26

“Ok, now we know how to perform an *analytical* horizontal-line fit...”

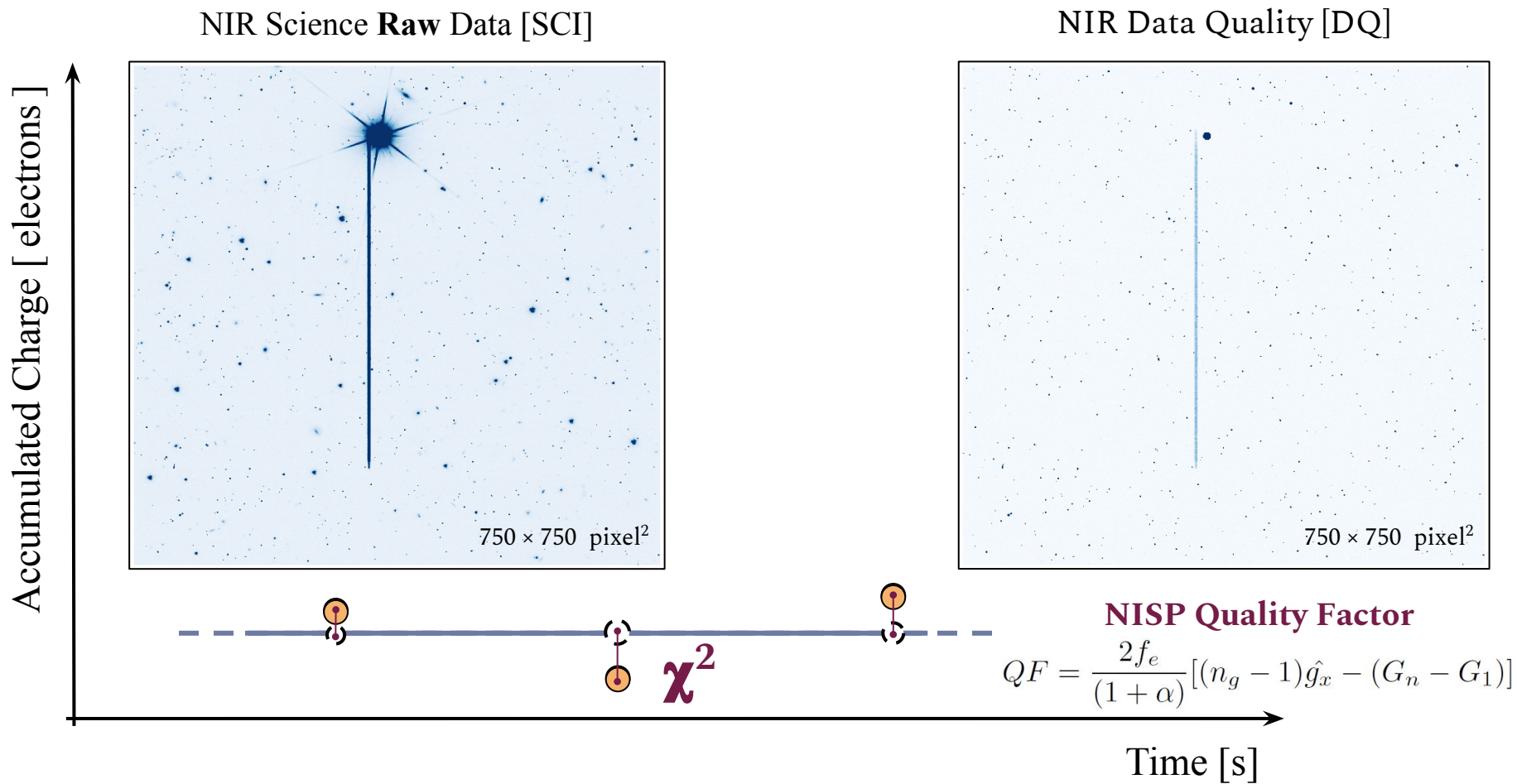
NIR Science **Raw Data** [SCI]



NISP Signal

$$\hat{g} = \frac{1 + \alpha}{2f_e} \left[\sqrt{1 + \frac{4f_e^2 \sum_{i=1}^{n_g-1} (\Delta G_i + \beta)^2}{(n_g - 1)(1 + \alpha)^2}} - 1 \right] - \beta$$

“...and derive an *analytical measure* of the goodness of fit!”

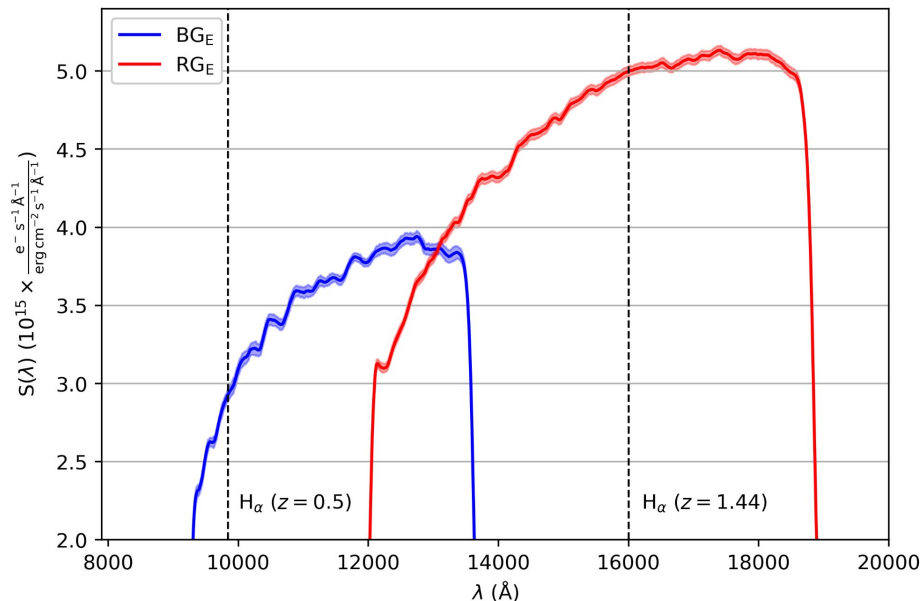


“What level of accuracy does the NISP signal estimator achieve?”

Impact of the **NISP signal estimator bias** on the accuracy of the **spectroscopic flux calibration**



NISP Spectroscopic Sensitivity Curve



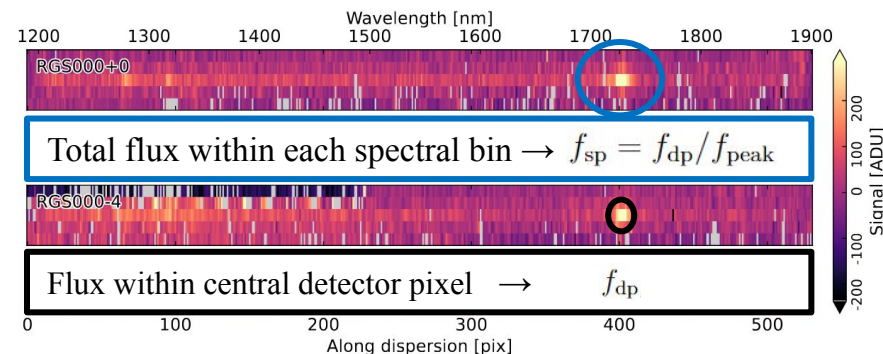
Copin+25

$$\Delta\lambda_{\text{bin}}(BG_E) = 12.3 \text{ \AA pixel}^{-1}$$

$$\Delta\lambda_{\text{bin}}(RG_E) = 13.4 \text{ \AA pixel}^{-1}$$

Astrophysical flux density

$$F(\lambda) = \frac{f_{\text{sp}}}{S(\lambda) \Delta\lambda_{\text{bin}}} \quad \left[\text{erg cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1} \text{Å}^{-1} \right]$$



Flux fraction for a 2D Gaussian distribution $\rightarrow f_{\text{peak}} = \left[\text{erf} \left(\frac{0.5}{\sqrt{2} \sigma} \right) \right]^2$

Assuming a **typical galaxy** w/
angular size of 0.5 arcsec, $\sigma = 0.9$ detector pixels

Impact of the **NISP signal estimator bias** on the accuracy of the **spectroscopic** and photometric flux calibration

Assuming a **typical galaxy** with an angular size of **0.''5**, the spatial profile of the signal can be approximated by a 2D Gaussian with $\sigma = \mathbf{0.9}$ **detector pixels** (Copin+25)

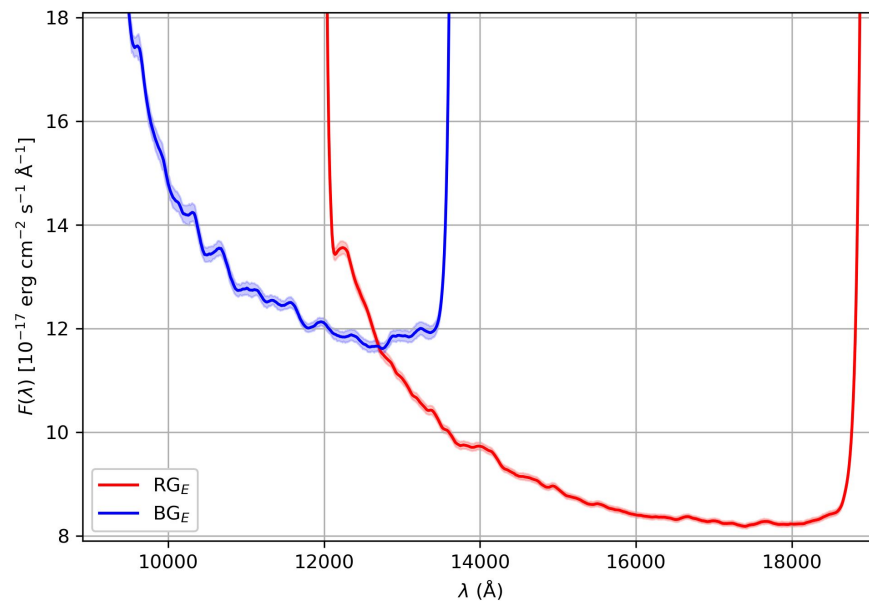
$$f_{\text{peak}} = \left[\text{erf} \left(\frac{0.5}{\sqrt{2} \sigma} \right) \right]^2 \simeq 0.178$$

$$f_{\text{dp}} = 1.00 \text{ e}^- \text{ s}^{-1} = \text{Flux within central detector pixel}$$

$$f_{\text{sp}} = f_{\text{dp}} / f_{\text{peak}} \simeq 5.629 \text{ e}^- \text{ s}^{-1} = \text{Total extracted flux}$$

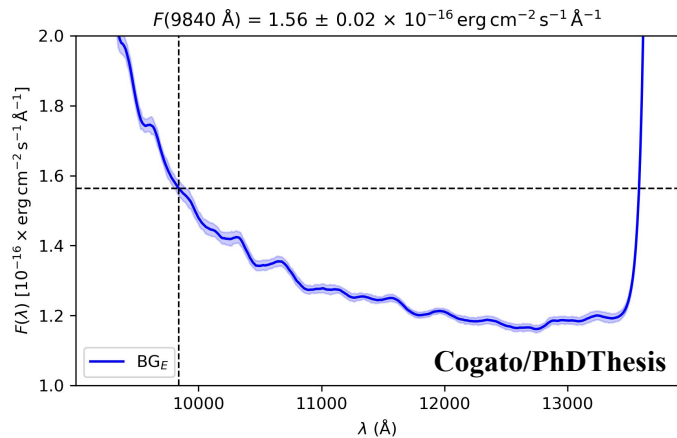
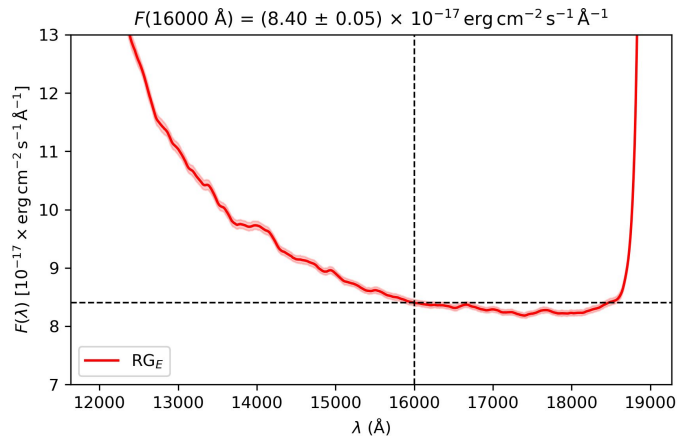
Astrophysical flux density

$$F(\lambda) = \frac{f_{\text{sp}}}{S(\lambda) \Delta\lambda_{\text{bin}}} \quad [\text{erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ \AA}^{-1}]$$



“What level of accuracy does the NISP signal estimator achieve?”

Impact of the **NISP signal estimator bias** on the accuracy of the **spectroscopic flux calibration**

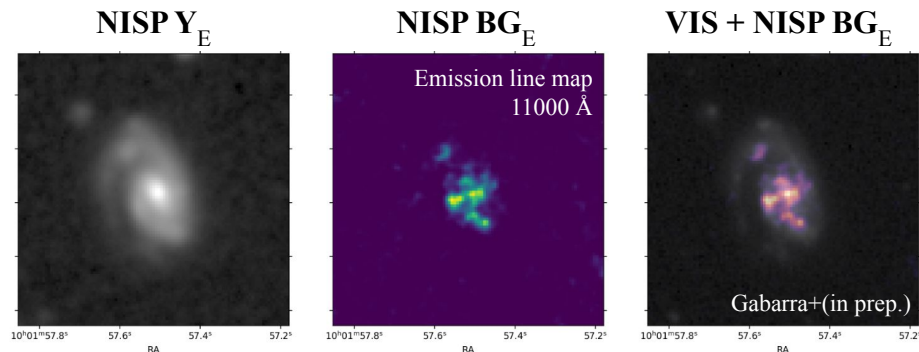


SpectroMACC: $|\delta f| < 0.5\%$

At 1 e/s, the NISP signal estimator bias **increases** the total *uncertainty budget* (RMSE) at the **sub-percent** level:

RG_E: 0.6% → 0.8%

BG_E: 1.4% → 1.5%



Impact of the **NISP signal estimator bias** on the accuracy of the spectroscopic and **photometric** flux calibration

Following **Schirmer+22**, and assuming that the **total source flux is collected within a single detector pixel**, the apparent AB magnitude as a function of the instrumental count rate can be expressed as:

$$m_{\text{AB}}(n_e) = 26.84 + 2.5 \log_{10} \left(\int_{\nu_{\text{min}}}^{\nu_{\text{max}}} \frac{T(\nu)}{\nu} d\nu \right) - 2.5 \log_{10}(n_e) = \text{ZP} - 2.5 \log_{10}(n_e)$$



PhotoMACC: $|\delta n_e| < 1\%$



$$\Delta \text{ZP}_{\text{SE}} = \pm |m_{\text{AB}}(1) - m_{\text{AB}}(1.01)| \simeq \pm 0.01 \text{ mag},$$

According to **Schirmer+22**, the dominant contribution to the uncertainty on the NISP photometric zero point arises from uncertainties in the detector quantum efficiency curves, amounting to $\pm 0.05 \text{ mag}$.

The **total uncertainty on the zero point calibration** can therefore be expressed as:

NISP average zero-point = 25 mag

$$\Delta \text{ZP}_{\text{tot}} = \pm \sqrt{\Delta \text{ZP}_{\text{QE}}^2 + \Delta \text{ZP}_{\text{SE}}^2} \simeq \pm 0.051 \text{ mag}$$

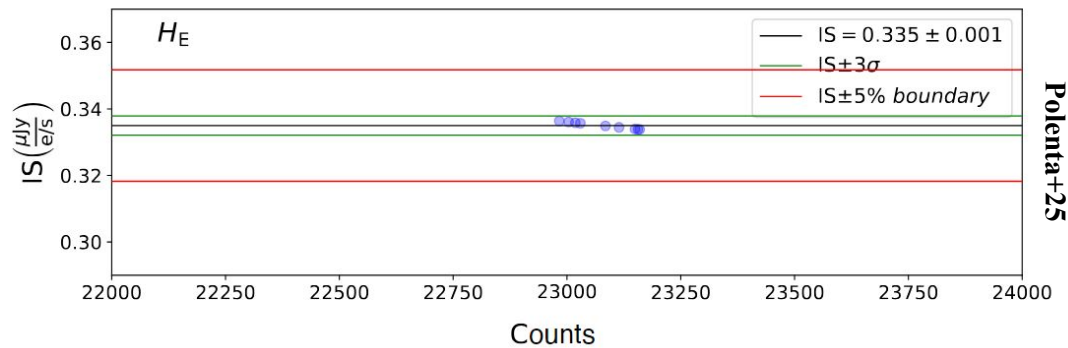
Impact of the **NISP signal estimator bias** on the accuracy of the spectroscopic and **photometric** flux calibration

The impact of the NISP bias can also be evaluated in terms of the absolute photometric flux calibration. Converting the zero point magnitude into flux units:

$$m_{\text{AB}} = -2.5 \log_{10} \left(\frac{f_{\nu}(\nu)}{1 \text{ Jy}} \right) + 8.90. \longrightarrow f(n_e) = 10^{-(\text{ZP} - 8.9 - 2.5 \log_{10}(n_e))/2.5} \times 10^6 \mu\text{Jy}$$

At 1 e/s, this corresponds to a reference zero point of about 0.3 μJy .

A 1% bias in the measured count rate translates into a variation of 0.003 μJy .



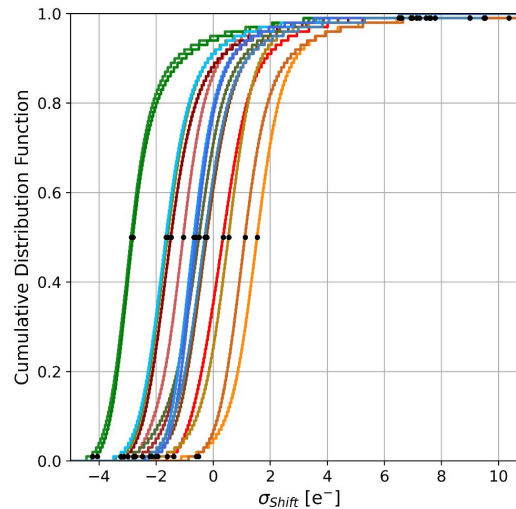
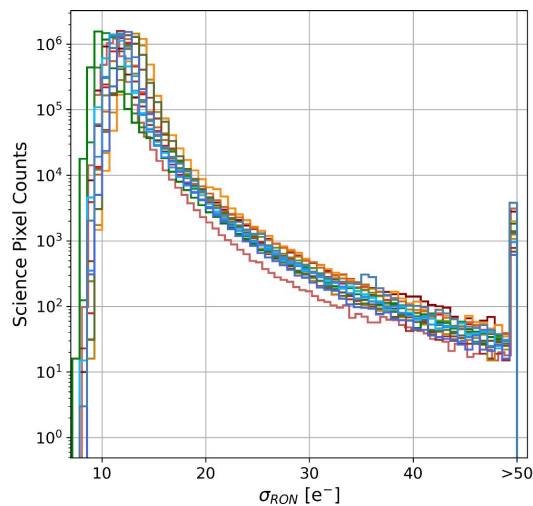
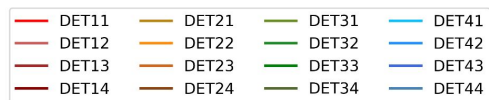
This effect is well below the 5% accuracy requirement on the NISP near-infrared absolute flux calibration.

NISP Signal. Averaged-Parameter (AP) approximation

Reference Signal \longrightarrow Least Squares Fitting (LSF) of Averaged Groups (16 co-added raw frames)

$$\text{NISP DPU-measured Signal} \longrightarrow \hat{g} = \frac{1 + \alpha}{2f_e} \left[\sqrt{1 + \frac{4f_e^2 \sum_{i=1}^{n_g-1} (\Delta G_i + \beta)^2}{(n_g - 1)(1 + \alpha)^2}} - 1 \right] - \beta$$

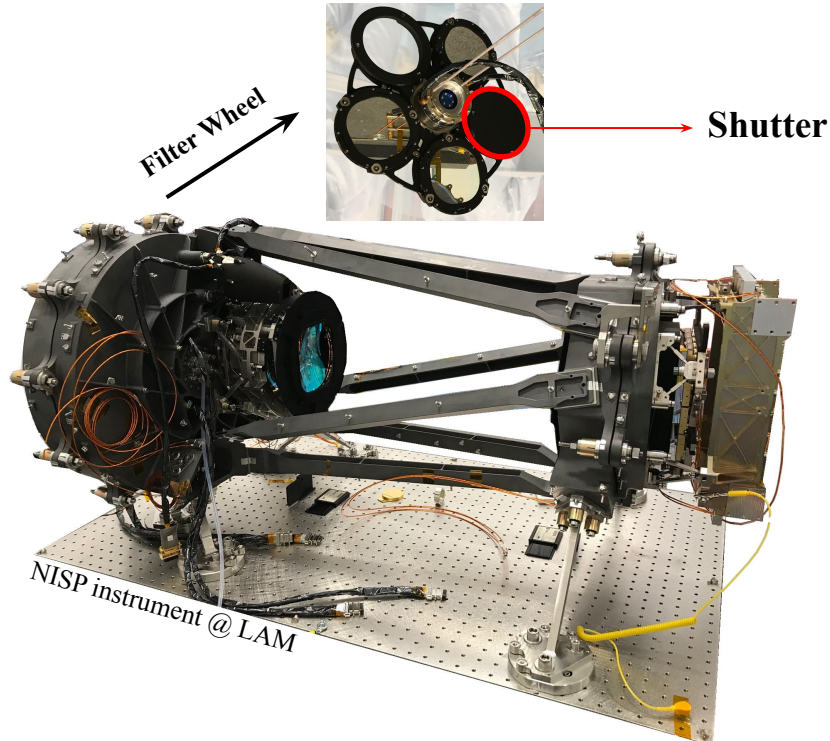
AP approximation Bias \longrightarrow $S_{BIAS} = \hat{g} - LSF$ vs. $\sigma_{R,Shift} = \sigma_{R,Map} - \langle \sigma_{R,Map} \rangle$



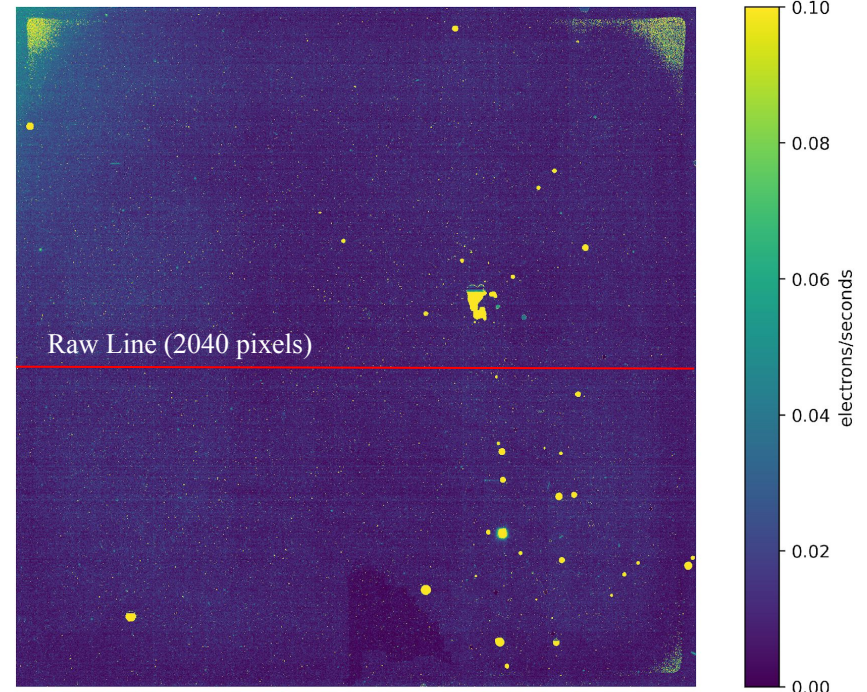
NISP Data Processing: the Averaged-Parameter (AP) approximation

Case Study. Spectroscopic MACC(15,16,11)

- DARK CURRENT***



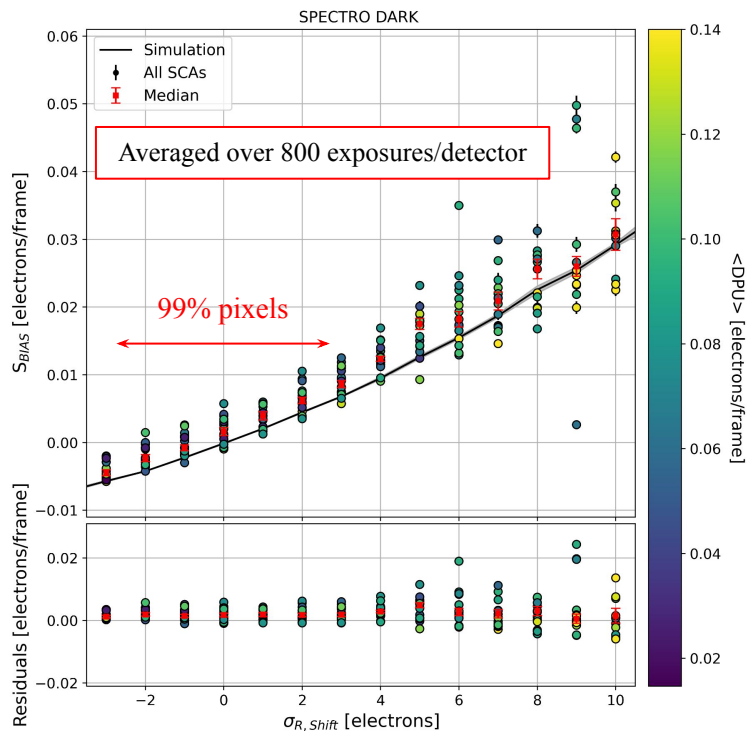
Master Dark (500 images stack)



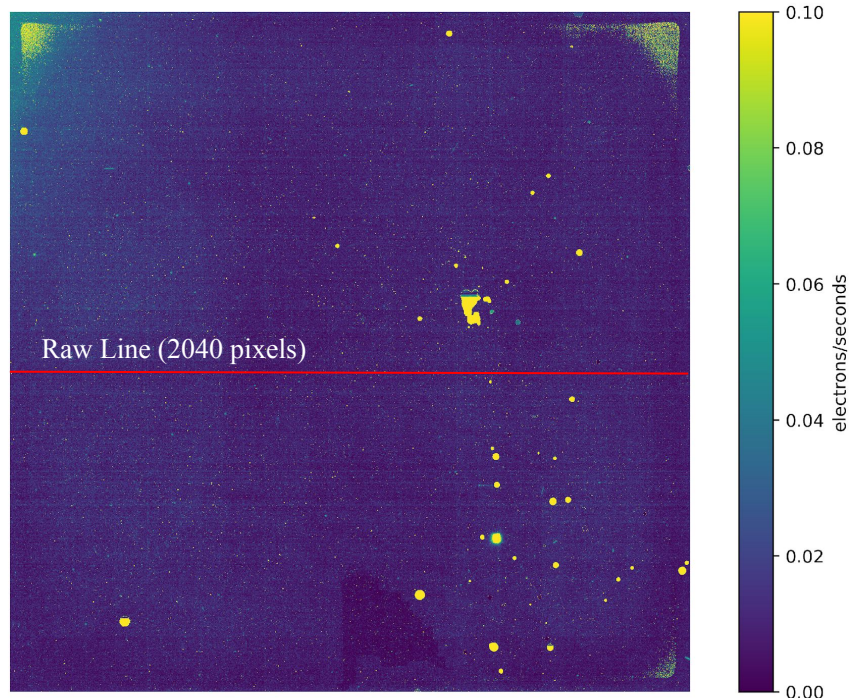
NISP Data Processing: the Averaged-Parameter (AP) approximation

Case Study. Spectroscopic MACC(15,16,11)

- DARK CURRENT**



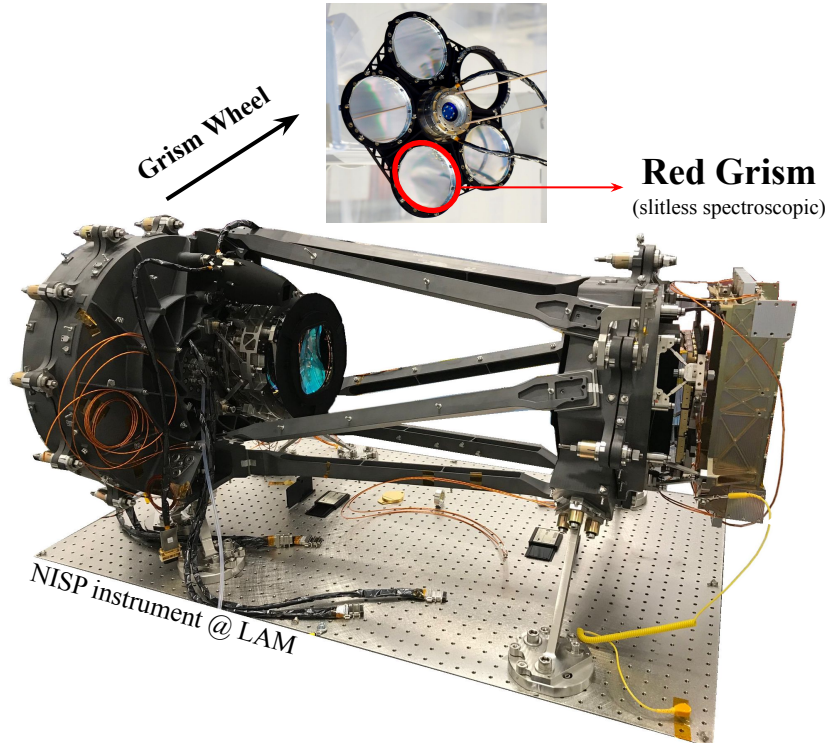
Master Dark (500 images stack)



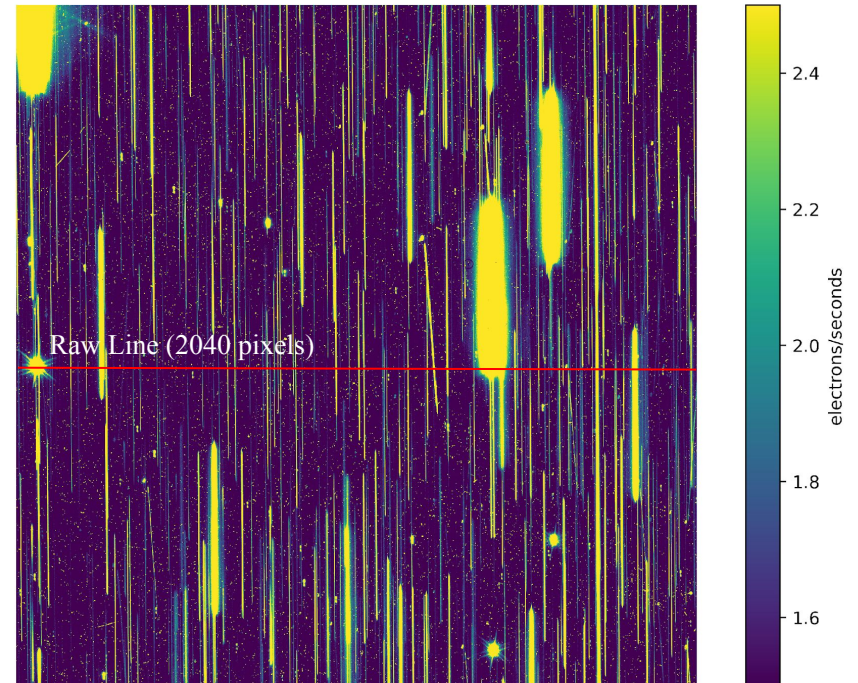
NISP Data Processing: the Averaged-Parameter (AP) approximation

Case Study. Spectroscopic MACC(15,16,11)

- **ZODIACAL BACKGROUND** (Scientific Images)



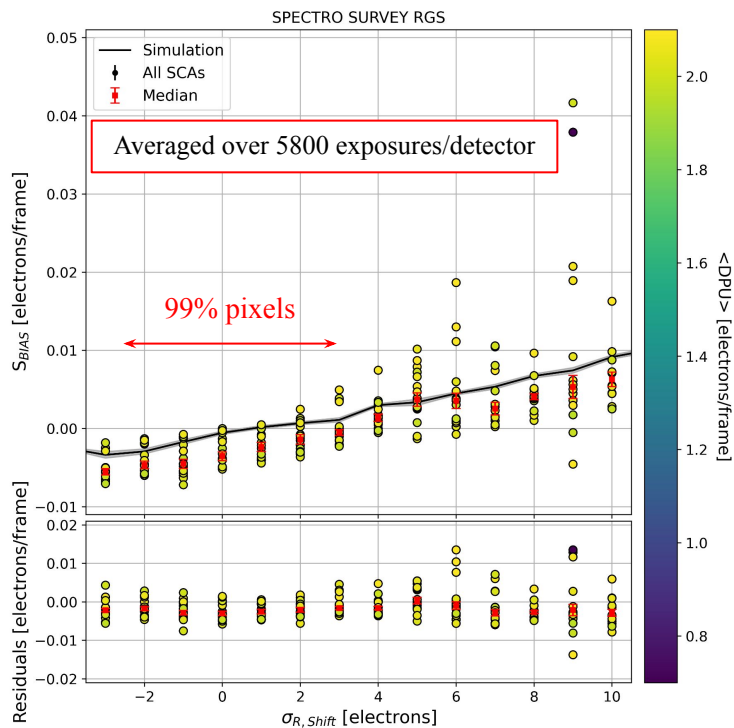
RGS000 exposure (not calibrated)



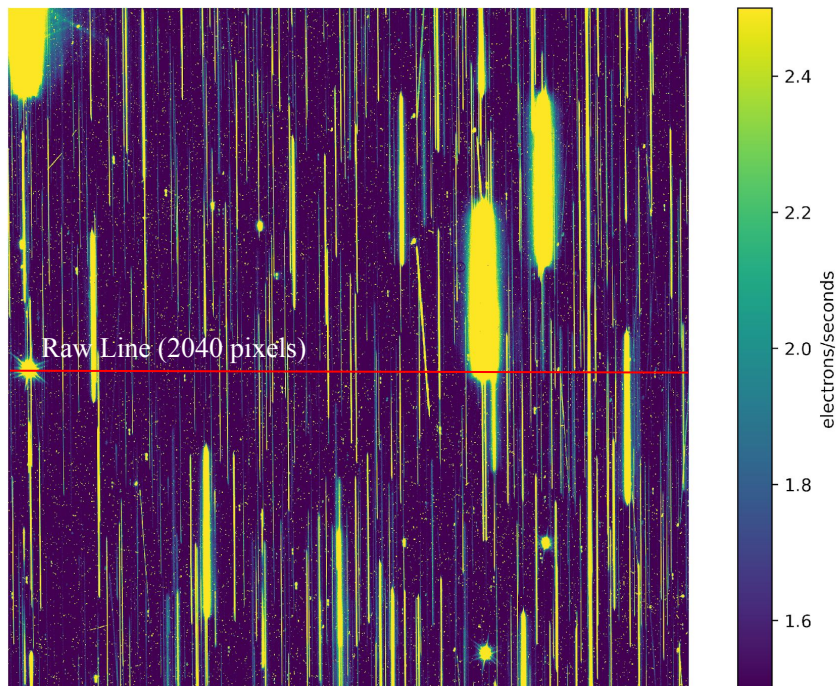
NISP Data Processing: the Averaged-Parameter (AP) approximation

Case Study. Spectroscopic MACC(15,16,11)

- ZODIACAL BACKGROUND** (Scientific Images)

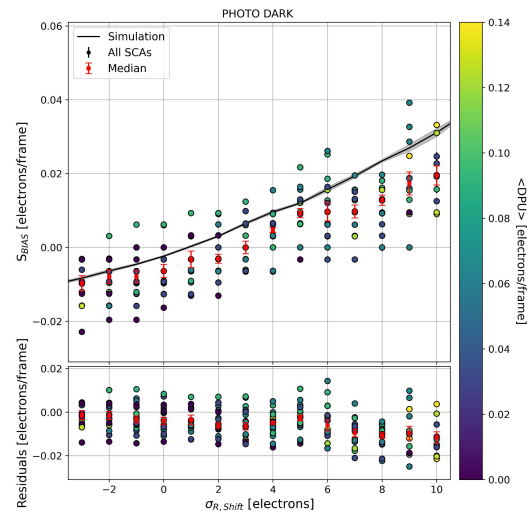
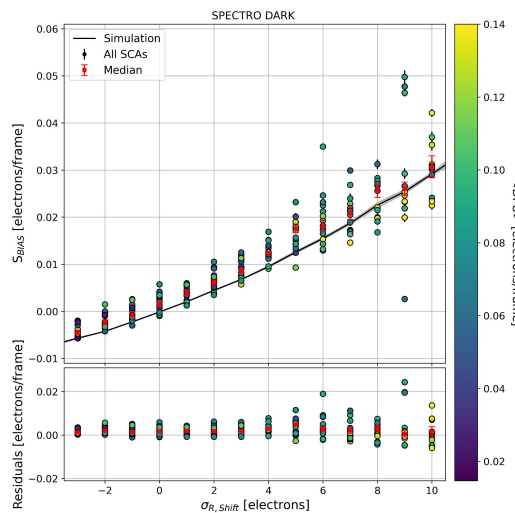


RGS000 exposure (not calibrated)



NISP Data Processing: the Averaged Parameterization approximation

DARK



NISP Data Processing: the Averaged Parameterization approximation

ZODIACAL BACKGROUND

