New balloon-borne experiments for the Cosmic Microwave Background

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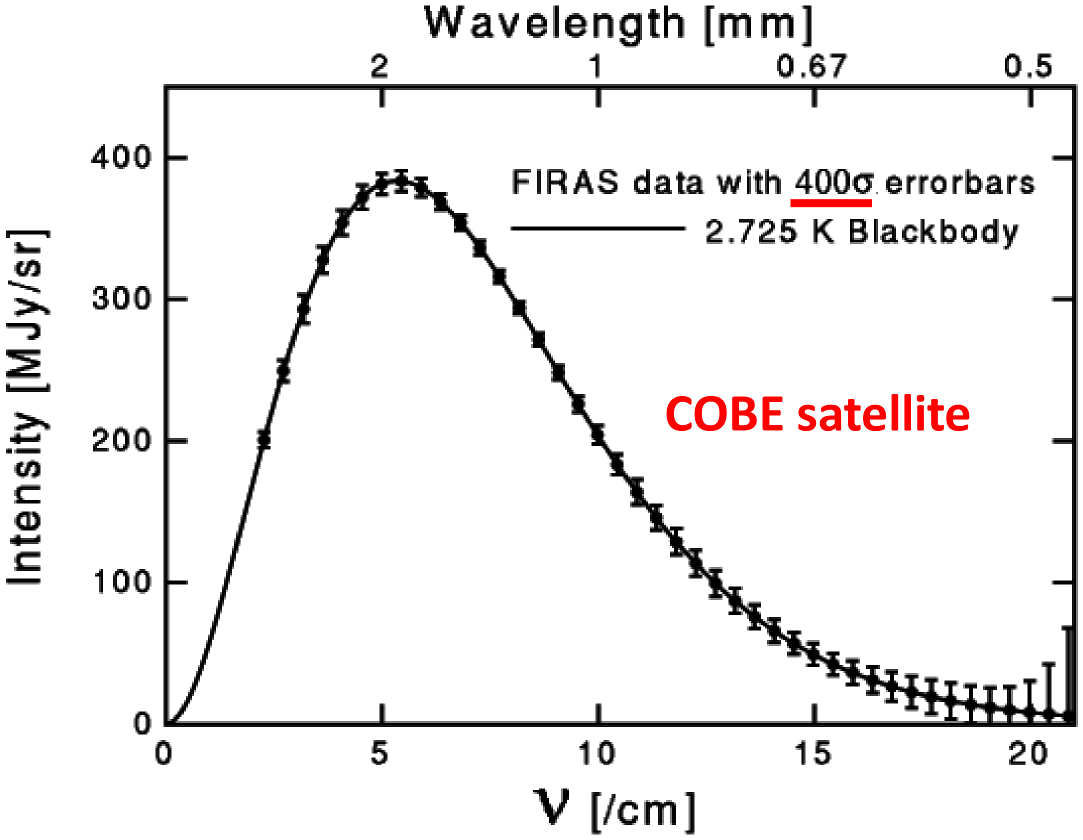
Hemera Workshop

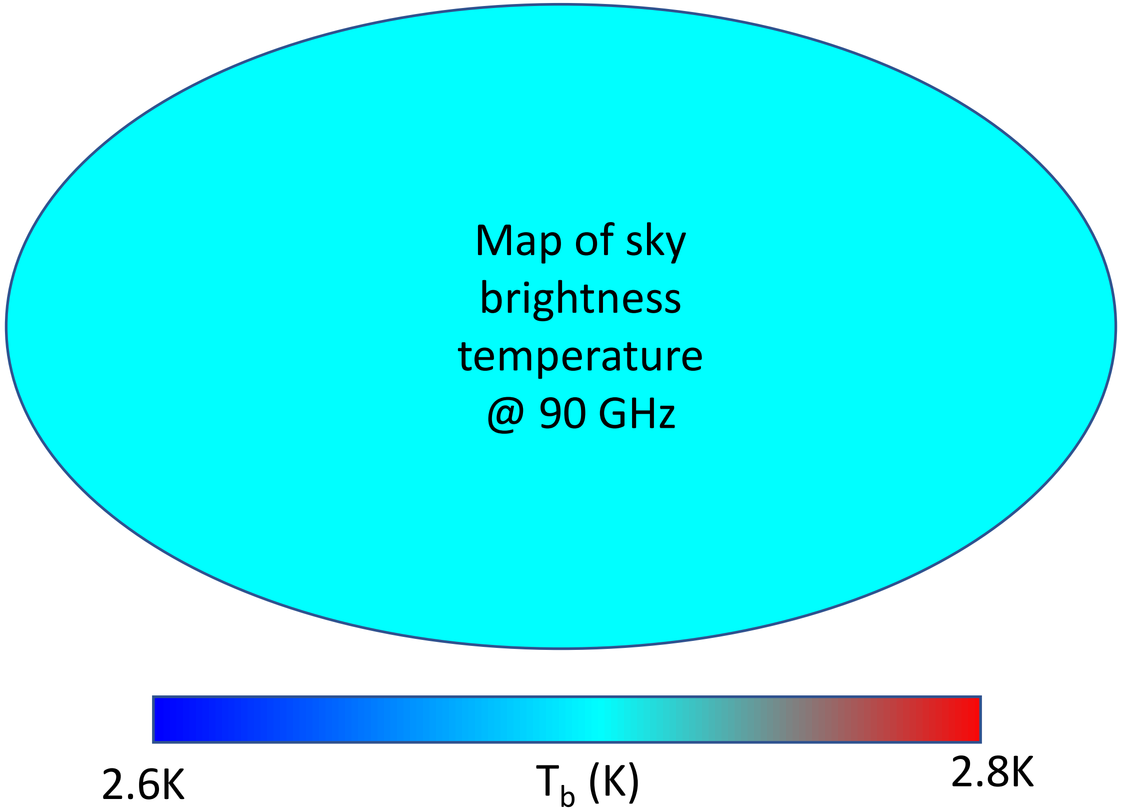
Roma - July 6th, 2022

The CMB: a consolidated probe of the Universe

Spectrum: An accurate demonstration of the Hot Big Bang model for Cosmology



Isotropy: An accurate demonstration of the very high isotropy of the universe at large scales


Map of sky brightness temperature @ 90 GHz

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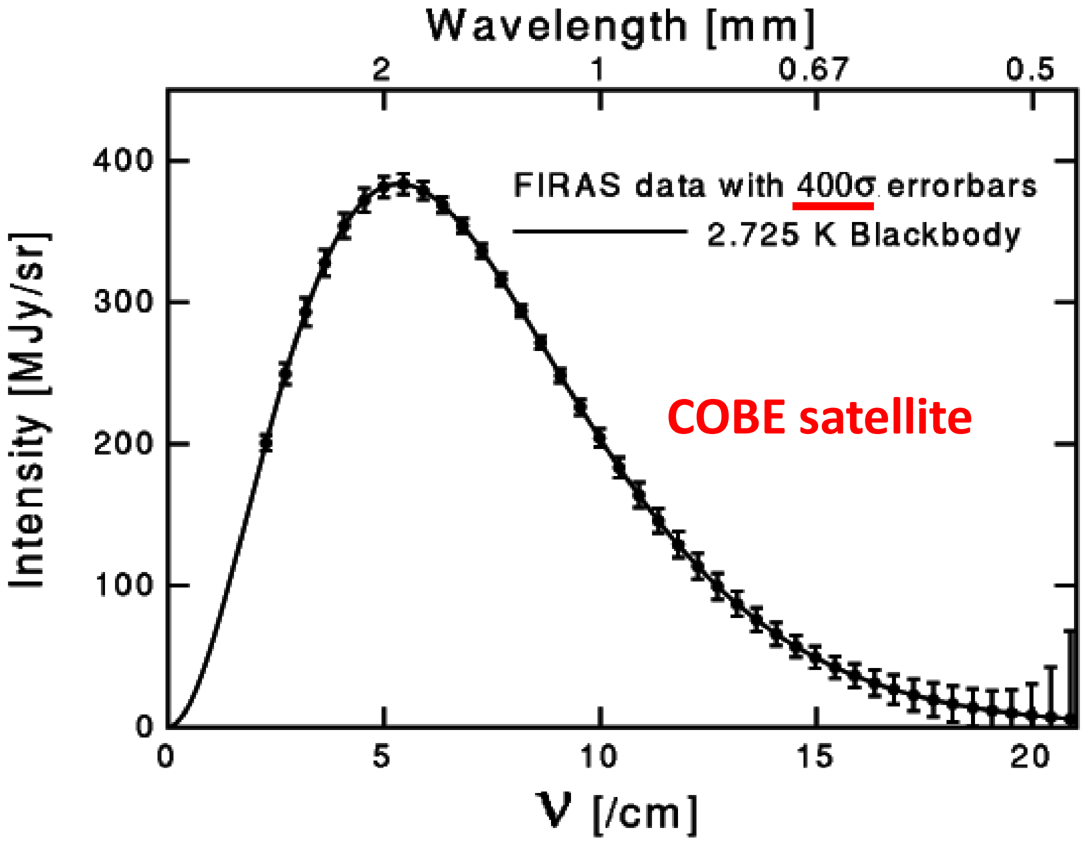
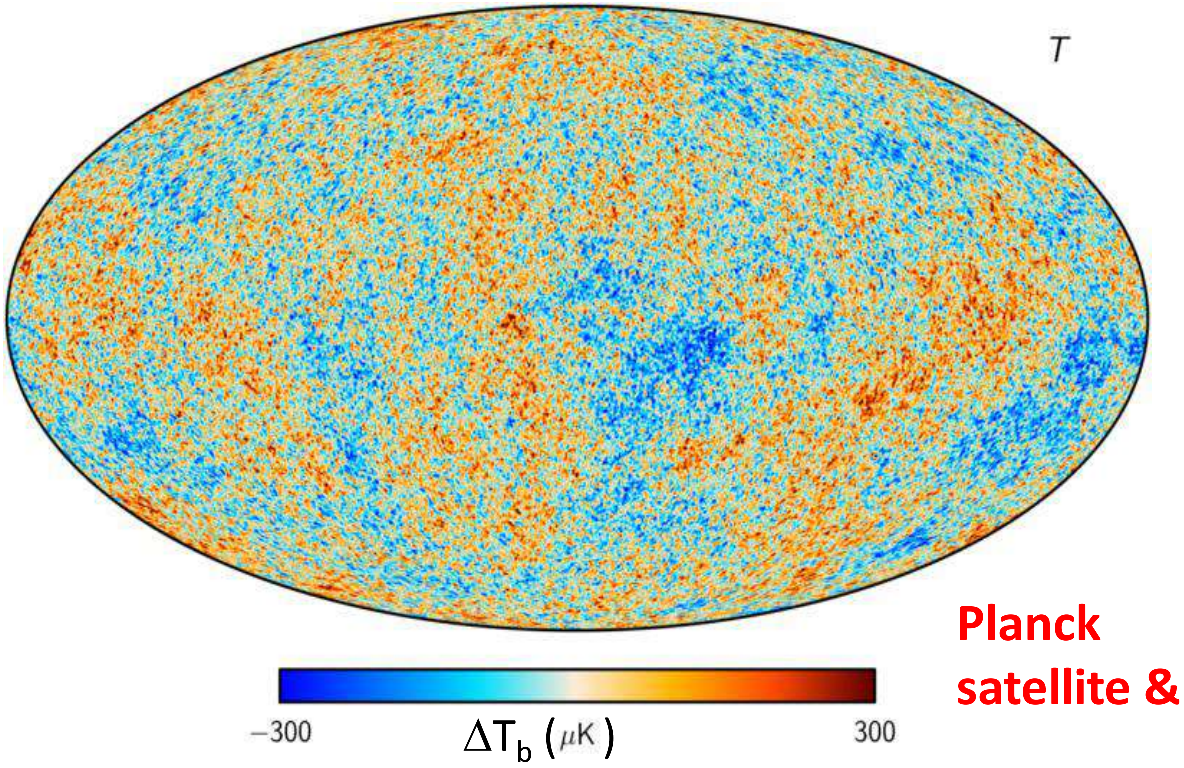


COBE satellite

Anisotropy: An accurate probe of the geometry, composition, and structure formation in the Universe



Planck satellite &

The CMB: a consolidated probe of the Universe

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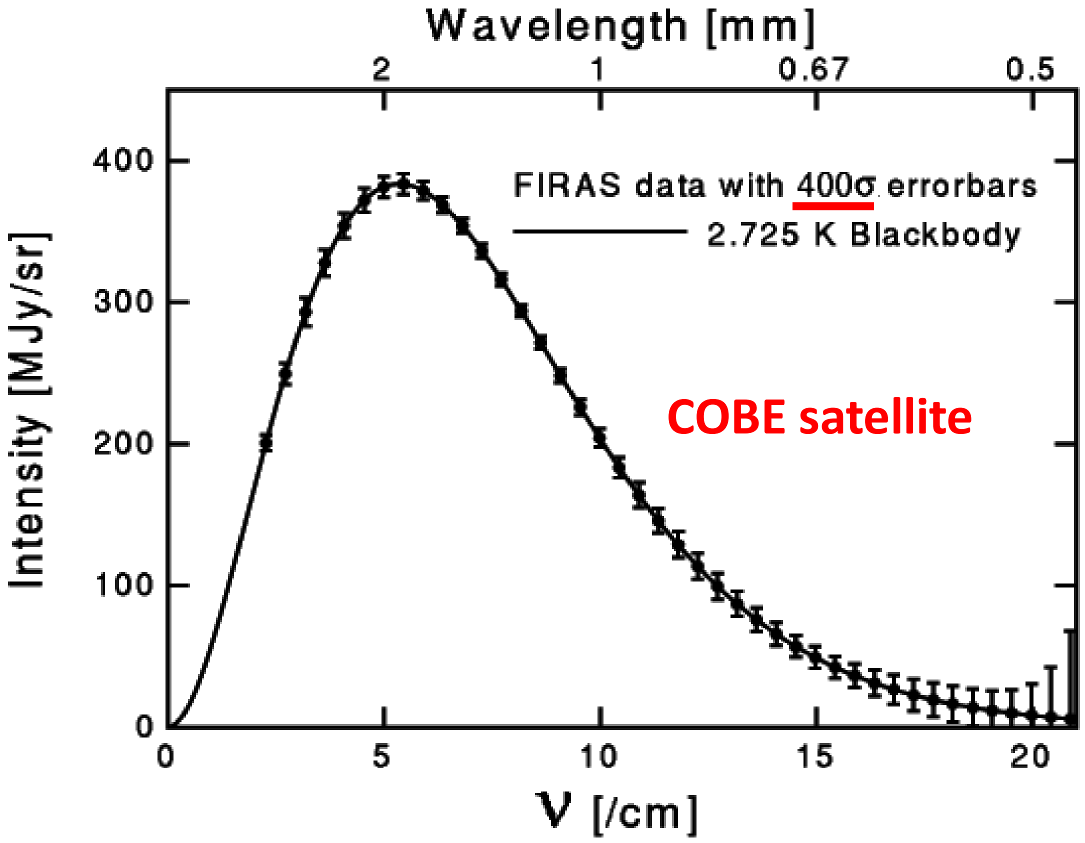
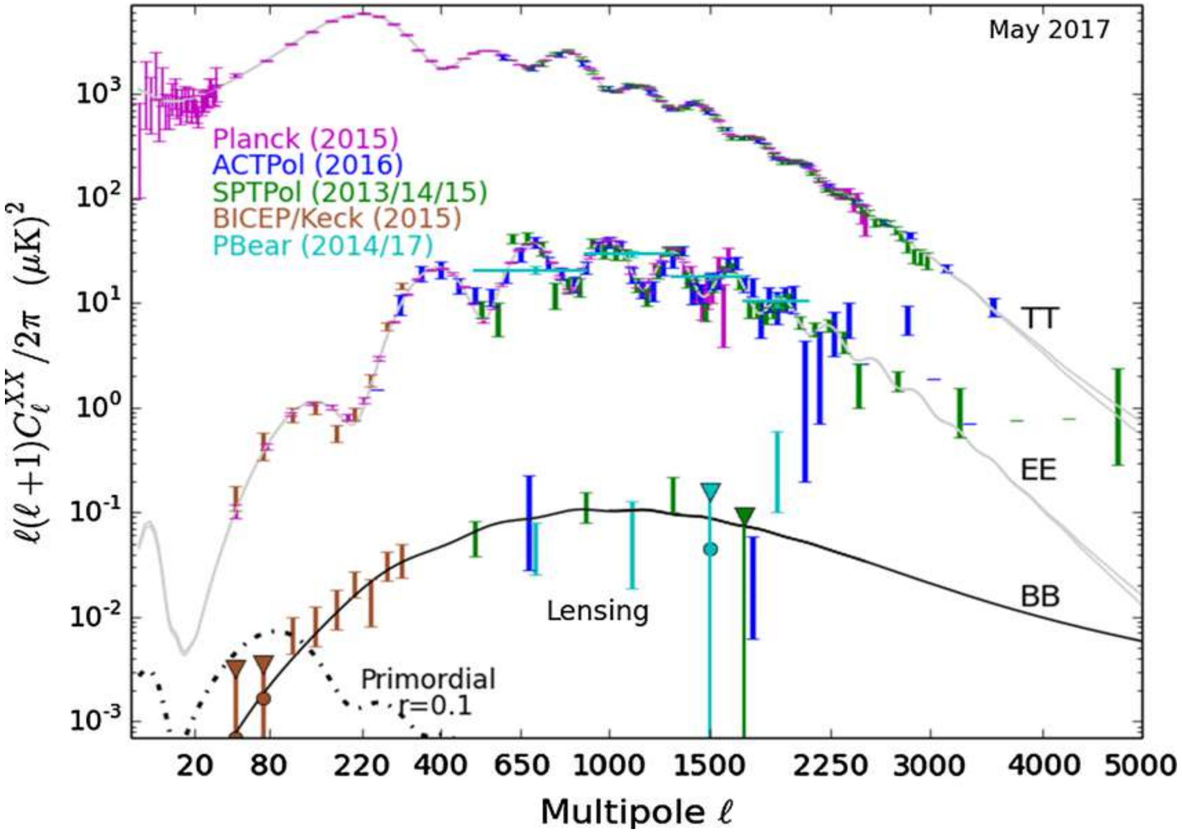


COBE satellite

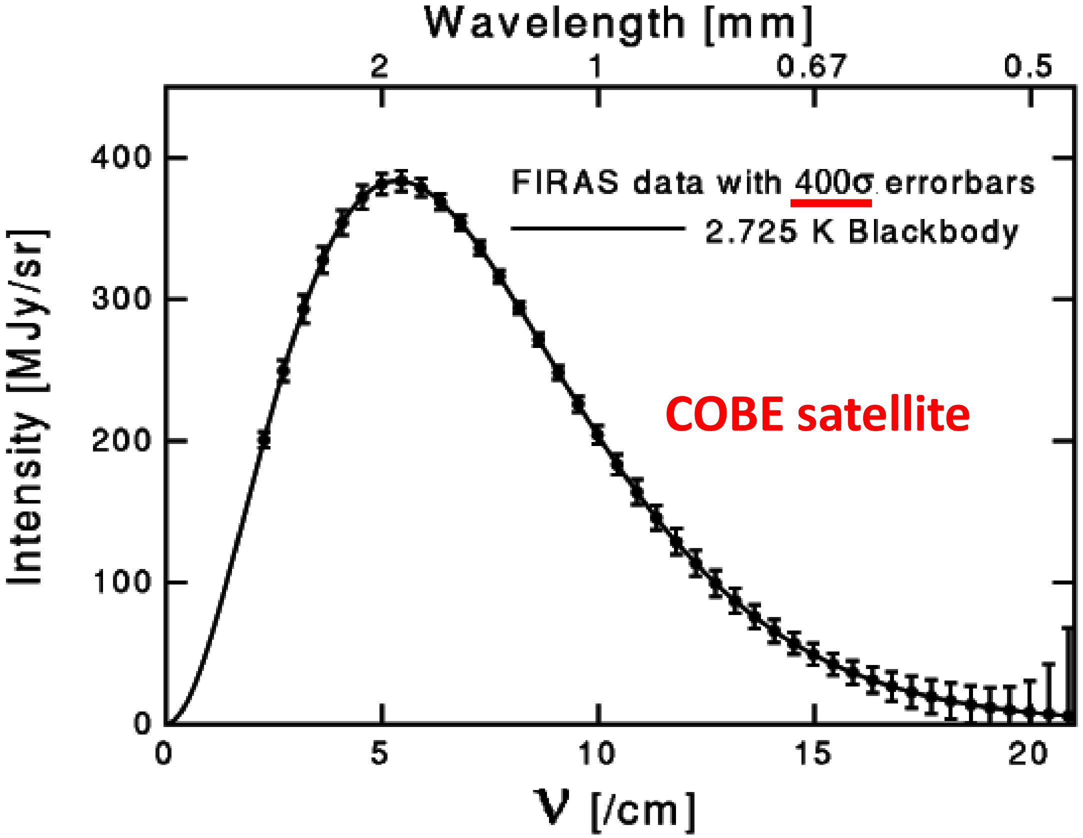
Anisotropy: An accurate probe of the geometry, composition, and structure formation in the Universe



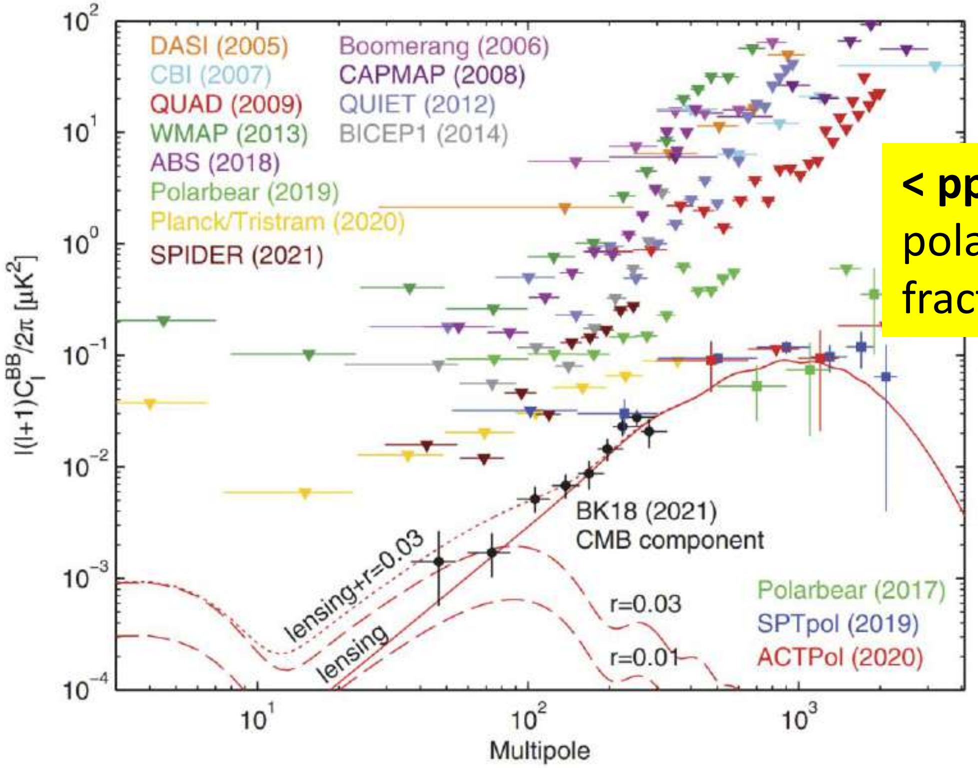
The CMB: a consolidated probe of the Universe

Spectrum: An accurate demonstration of the Hot Big Bang model for Cosmology

Polarization: A confirmation of the physics at recombination, and a possible probe of the very early universe (inflation) and physics at ultra high energy.



COBE satellite



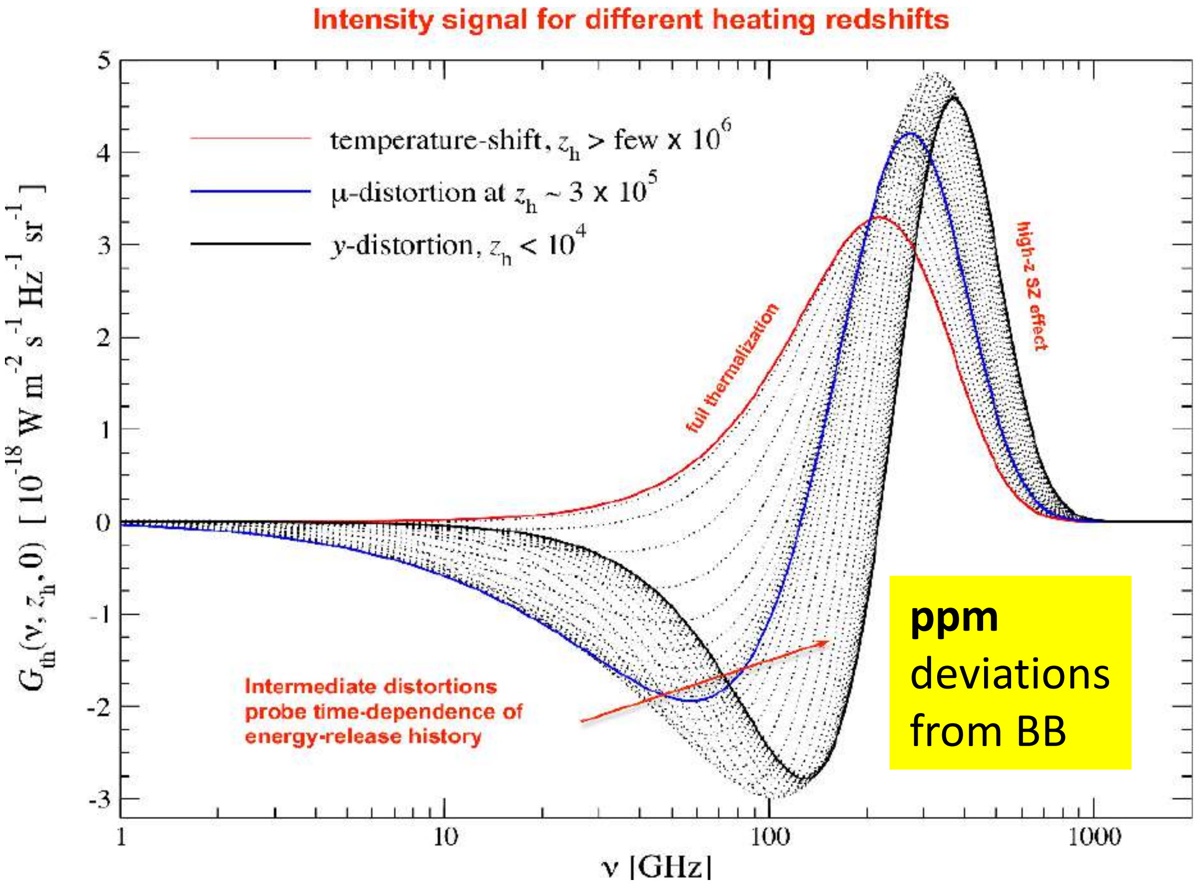
< ppm polarized fraction

FIG. 7. Summary of CMB *B*-mode polarization upper limits

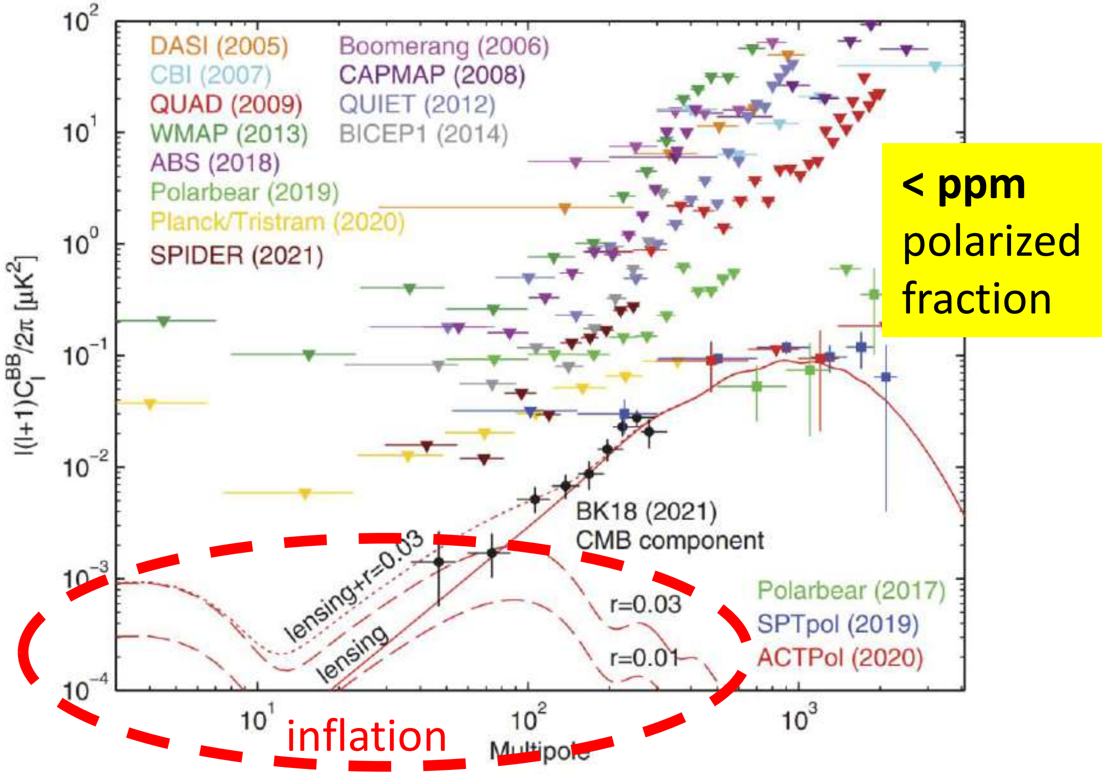
The CMB: a consolidated probe of the Universe

Spectral distortions: A unique way to probe the very early universe and different pre-recombination phenomena

Polarization: A confirmation of the physics at recombination, and a possible probe of the very early universe (inflation) and physics at ultra high energy.


Intensity signal for different heating redshifts

ppm deviations from BB



< ppm polarized fraction

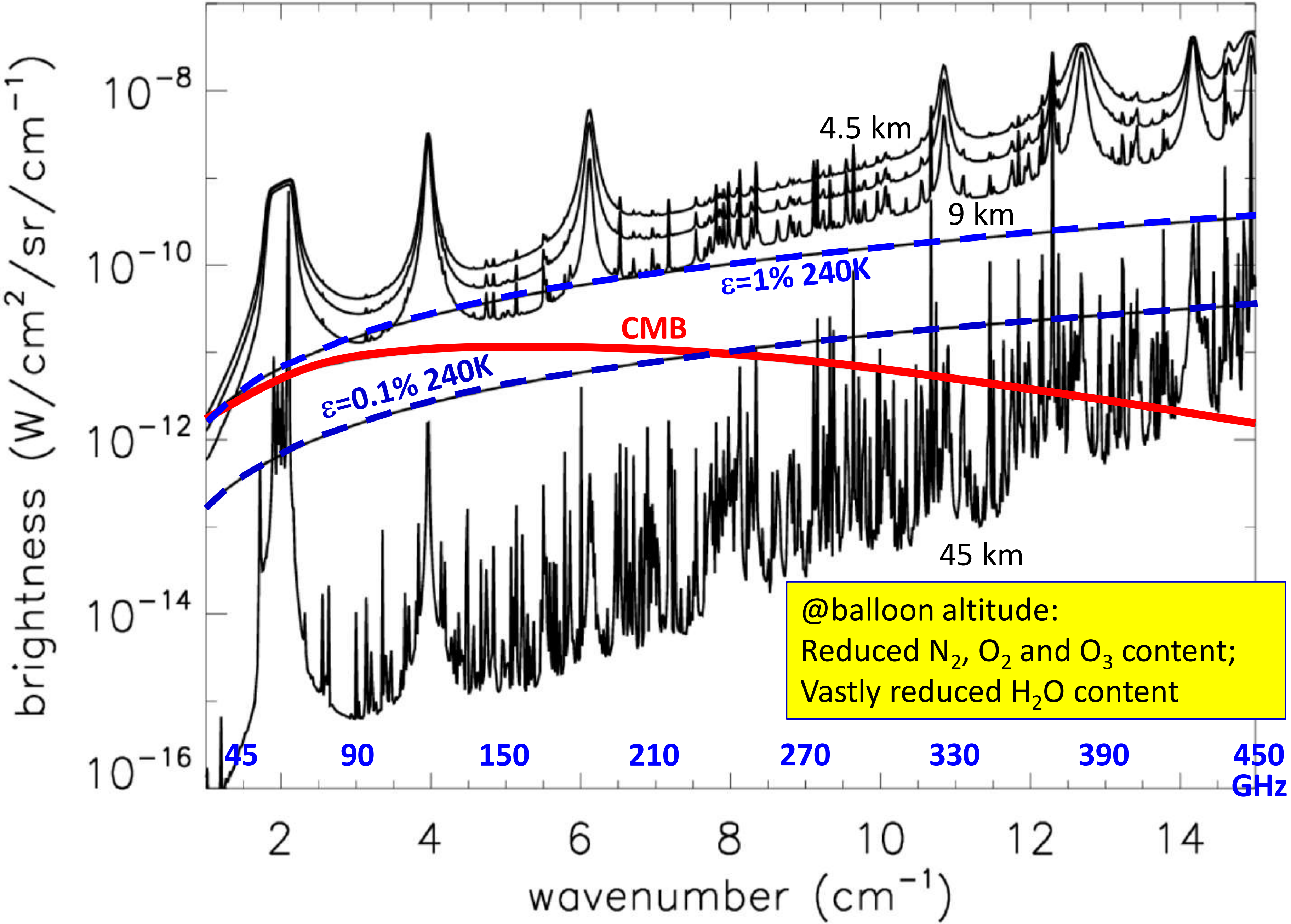
inflation

FIG. 7. Summary of CMB *B*-mode polarization upper limits

Advantage of balloon-borne wrt ground-based: significantly reduced atmospheric emission and fluctuations, mainly at high frequencies

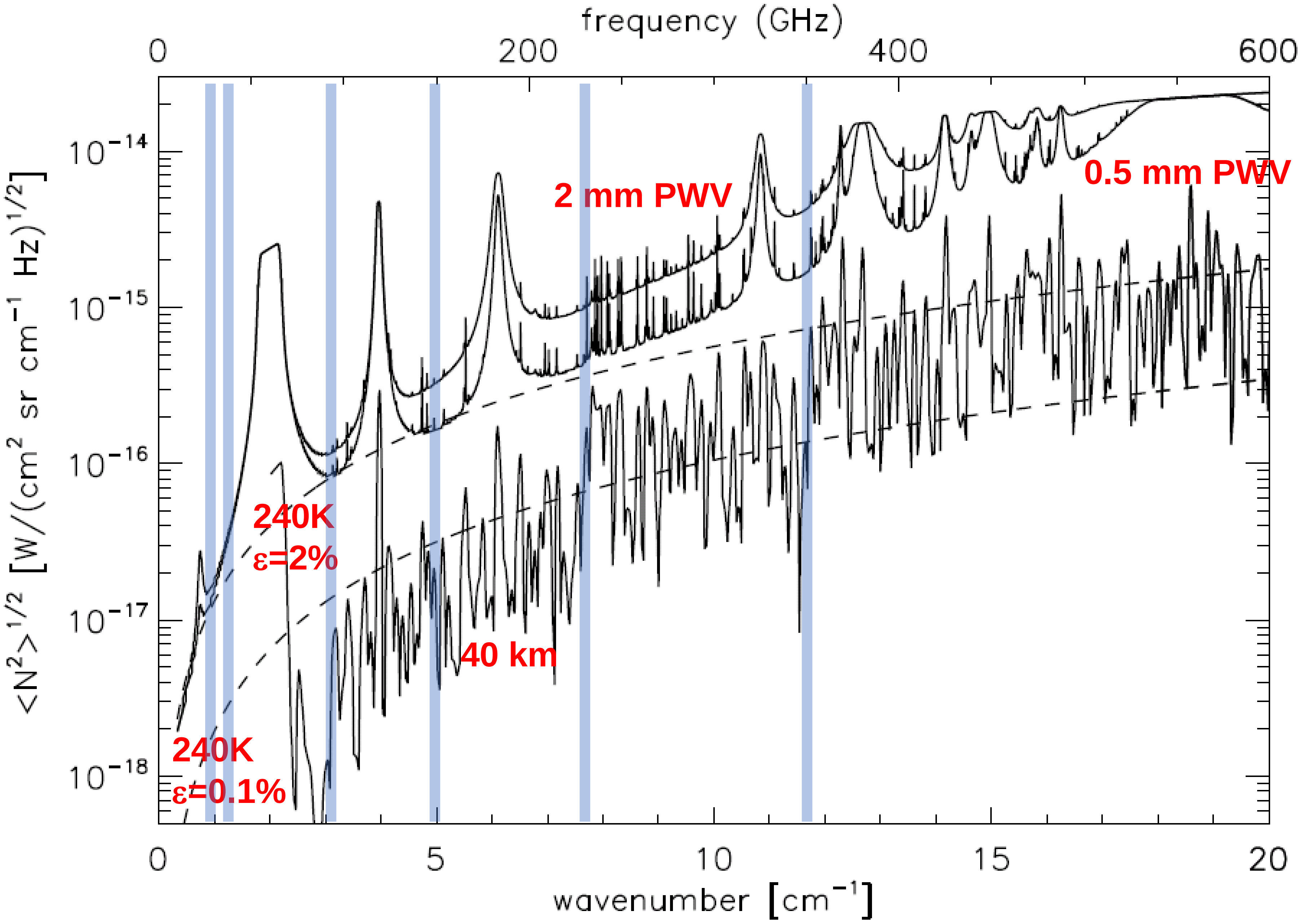
OLIMPO TM
Arctic test
flight, 2014

Atmospheric Emission at different altitudes



@balloon altitude:
Reduced N_2, O_2 and O_3 content;
Vastly reduced H_2O content

Photon noise from the local environment for CMB observations



One day on a balloon …

- … at 150 GHz
  - is like >16 days at the best site on the ground
  - is close to 1 day on a satellite
- … at 350 GHz
  - is like > 100 days at the best site on the ground
  - is close to 0.2 days on a satellite
- … at 420 GHz
  - is like > 250 days at the best site on the ground
  - is like 0.03 days on a satellite

Additional Considerations

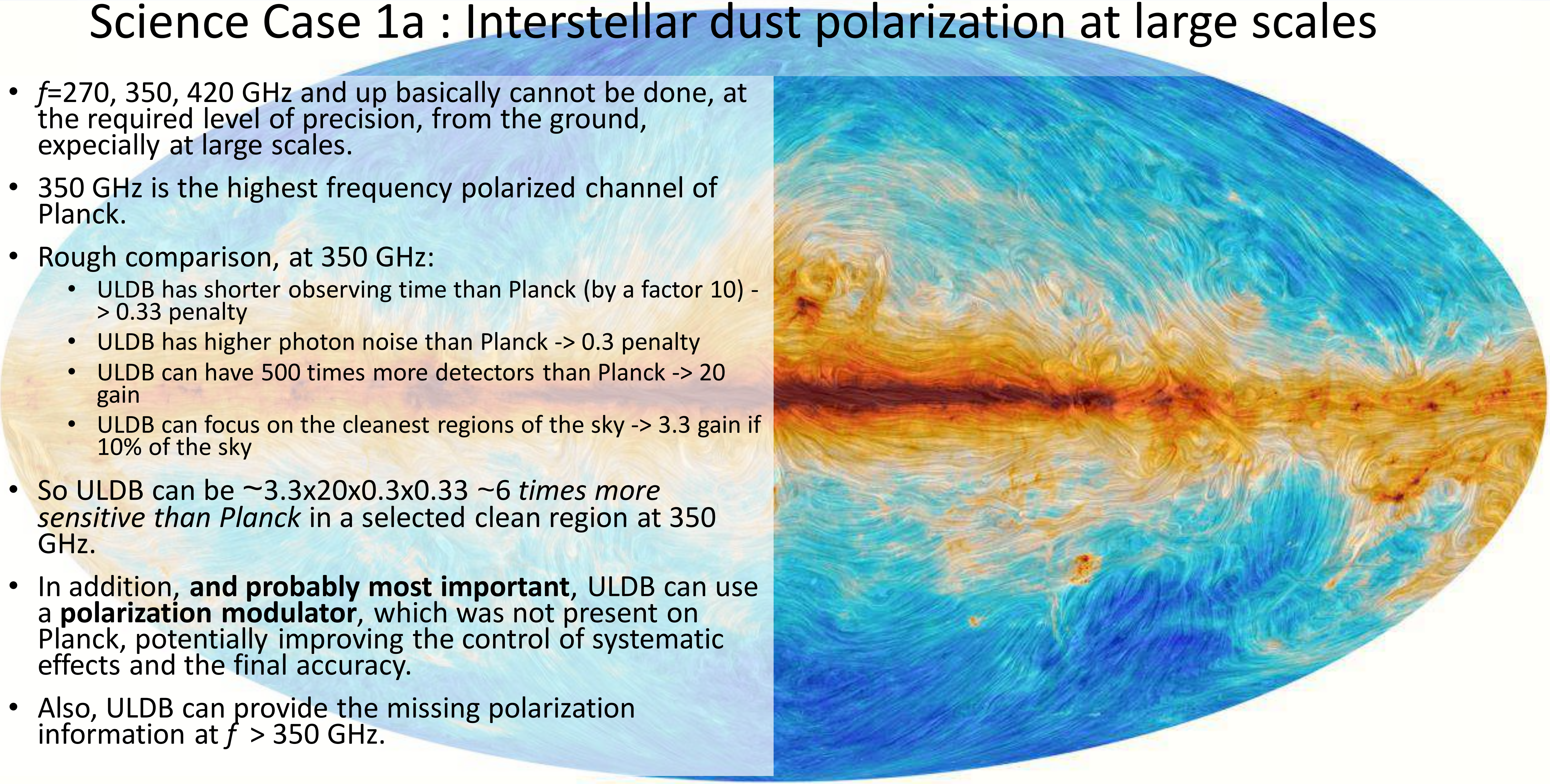
- Atmospheric turbulence increases the advantage of balloons wrt ground
- Space missions longer than LDB and ULDB
- Ground-based measurements also longer (but with lower efficiency)
- Cost for a LDB: way smaller than for a space mission
  - Cost per kg : can use large cryostats, large cold optical systems
  - Cost per m^3: use large shields, large aperture telescopes
- Balloons can use the Earth as a giant Sun shield
- Excellent test platforms for new technologies, to be flown later in deep space (examples: BOOMERanG & Archeops were important precursors for Planck-HFI)

CMB-related science from stratospheric balloons

with large advantage wrt ground-based experiments:

- Polarization measuremenst at large scales and high frequencies (dust and CMB), instrumental for
  - Measurements of the optical depth to recombination (tau, due to cosmic reionization)
  - B-mode polarization from large-scale structures lensing and cosmic inflation
- Spectral measurements of the Sunyaev-Zeldovich effect (inverse Compton effect of CMB photons in the intracluster plasma)
  - Cover the high frequency branch of the SZ spectrum
  - 3m dish @350 GHz on a balloon **<->** 10m dish @ 150 GHz on the ground
- Spectral measurements of Cosmic Infrared Background anisotropy
- Measurements of spectral distortions of the CMB (in selected frequency bands) due to deviations from thermal equilibirium between matter: pre- and post- recombination energy injections)
- …

Science Case 1a : Interstellar dust polarization at large scales



- *f*=270, 350, 420 GHz and up basically cannot be done, at the required level of precision, from the ground, expecially at large scales.
- 350 GHz is the highest frequency polarized channel of Planck.
- Rough comparison, at 350 GHz:
  - ULDB has shorter observing time than Planck (by a factor 10) -> 0.33 penalty
  - ULDB has higher photon noise than Planck -> 0.3 penalty
  - ULDB can have 500 times more detectors than Planck -> 20 gain
  - ULDB can focus on the cleanest regions of the sky -> 3.3 gain if 10% of the sky
- So ULDB can be ~3.3x20x0.3x0.33 ~6 *times more sensitive than Planck* in a selected clean region at 350 GHz.
- In addition, **and probably most important**, ULDB can use a **polarization modulator**, which was not present on Planck, potentially improving the control of systematic effects and the final accuracy.
- Also, ULDB can provide the missing polarization information at *f* > 350 GHz.

Science case 1b : tau

- The optical depth to recombination (τ) is related to the physics of reionization. The integral measurement of the amount of scattering from free electrons is an important parameter in reionization models. Its effect on <EE> is important at low multipoles: large angular scales difficult to measure from the ground due to atmospheric and ground spillover effects.
- A balloon-borne survey at large scales overcomes atmospheric effects and can implement large ground shields to mitigate ground spillover. Changing the ground footprint during the flight, important null tests can be carried out.

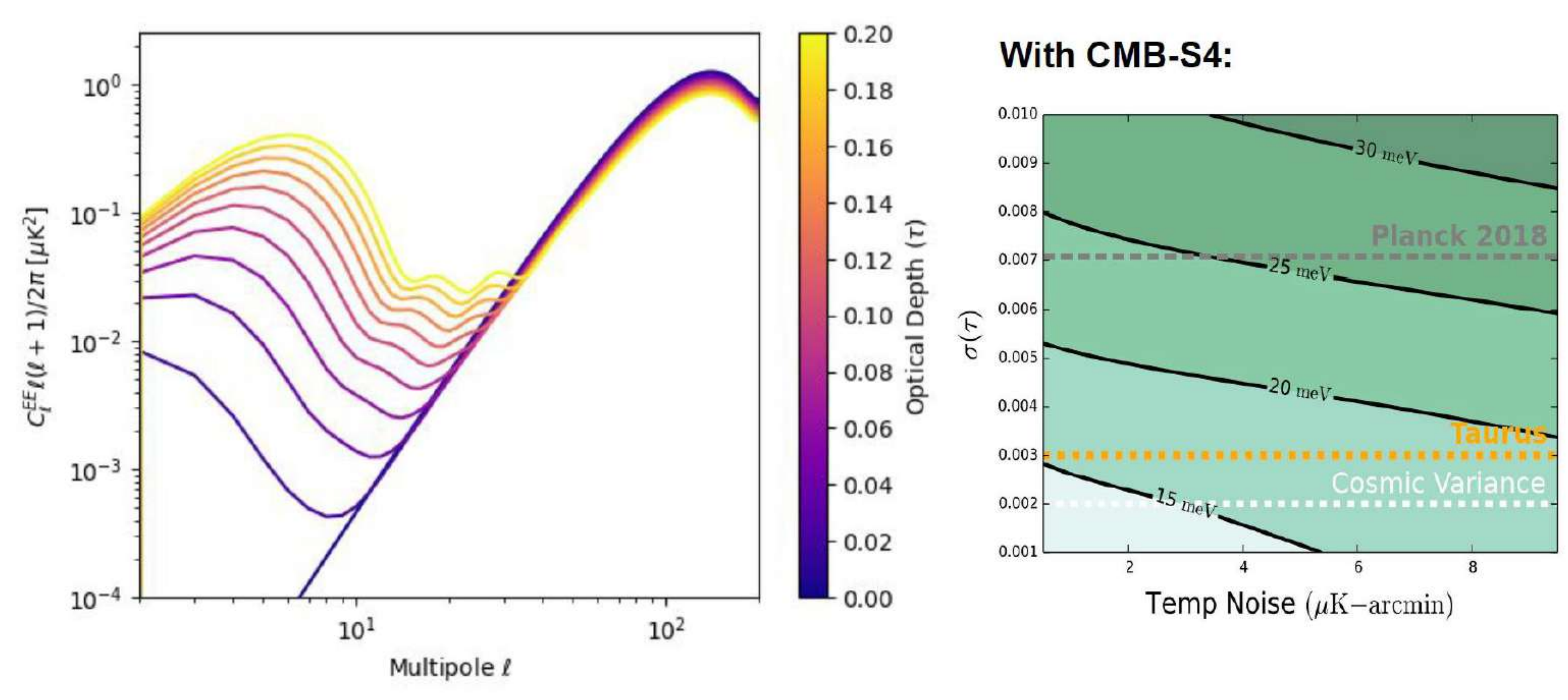


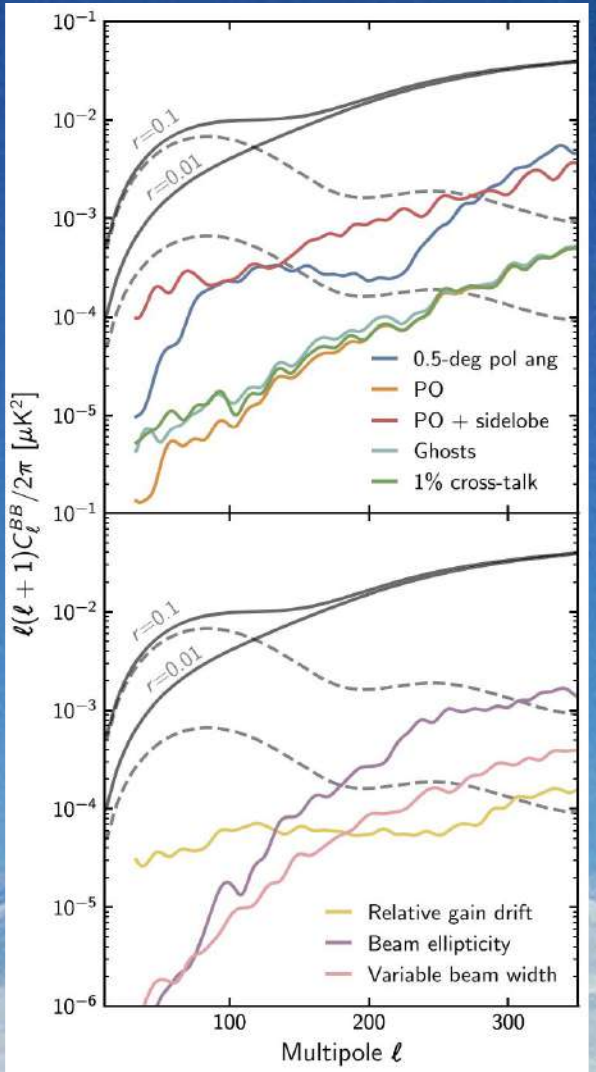
Figure from S. Benton

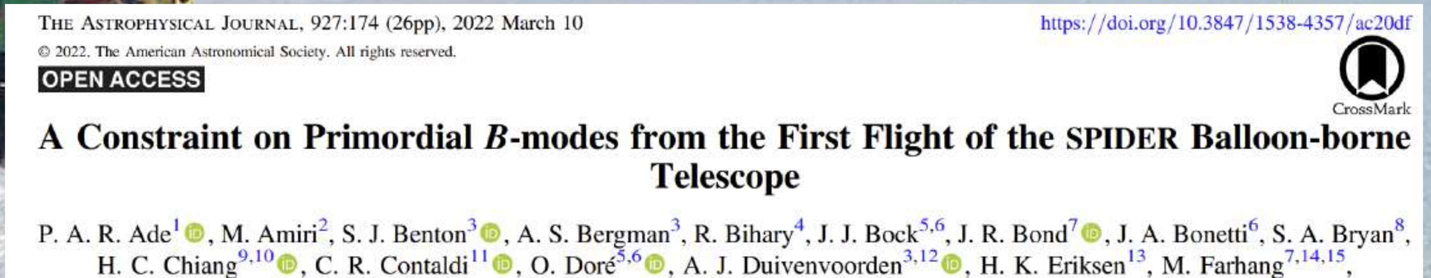
SPIDER

2015 LDB flight with 94 and 150 GHz telescopes

2015 flight	Frequency [GHz]	
	94	150
Telescopes	3	3
Bandwidth [GHz]	22	36
Optical efficiency	30-45%	30-50%
Angular resolution* [arcmin]	42	28
Number of detectors†	652 (816)	1030 (1488)
Optical background‡ [pW]	≤ 0.25	≤ 0.35
Instrument NET† [μK·rts]	6.5	5.1

*FWHM. †Only counting those currently used in analysis
‡Including sleeve, window, and baffle




The Astrophysical Journal, 927:174 (26pp), 2022 March 10 https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/ac20df

A Constraint on Primordial *B*-modes from the First Flight of the SPIDER Balloon-borne Telescope

P. A. R. Ade[1], M. Amiri[2], S. J. Benton[3], A. S. Bergman[3], R. Bihary[4], J. J. Bock[5,6], J. R. Bond[7], J. A. Bonetti[6], S. A. Bryan[8], H. C. Chiang[9,10], C. R. Contaldi[11], O. Doré[5,6], A. J. Duivenvoorden[3,12], H. K. Eriksen[13], M. Farhang[7,14,15],

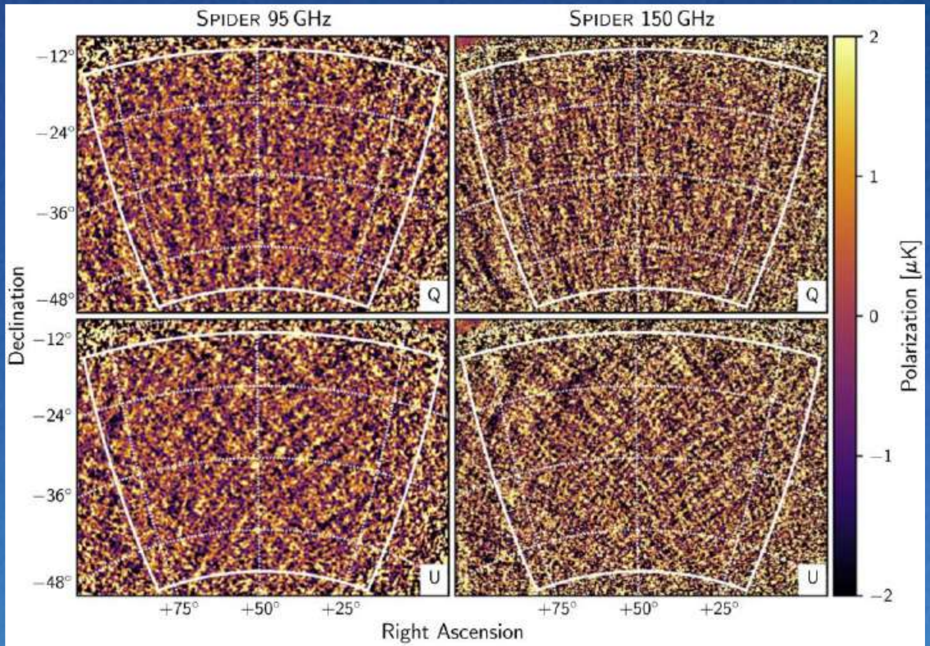
SPIDER

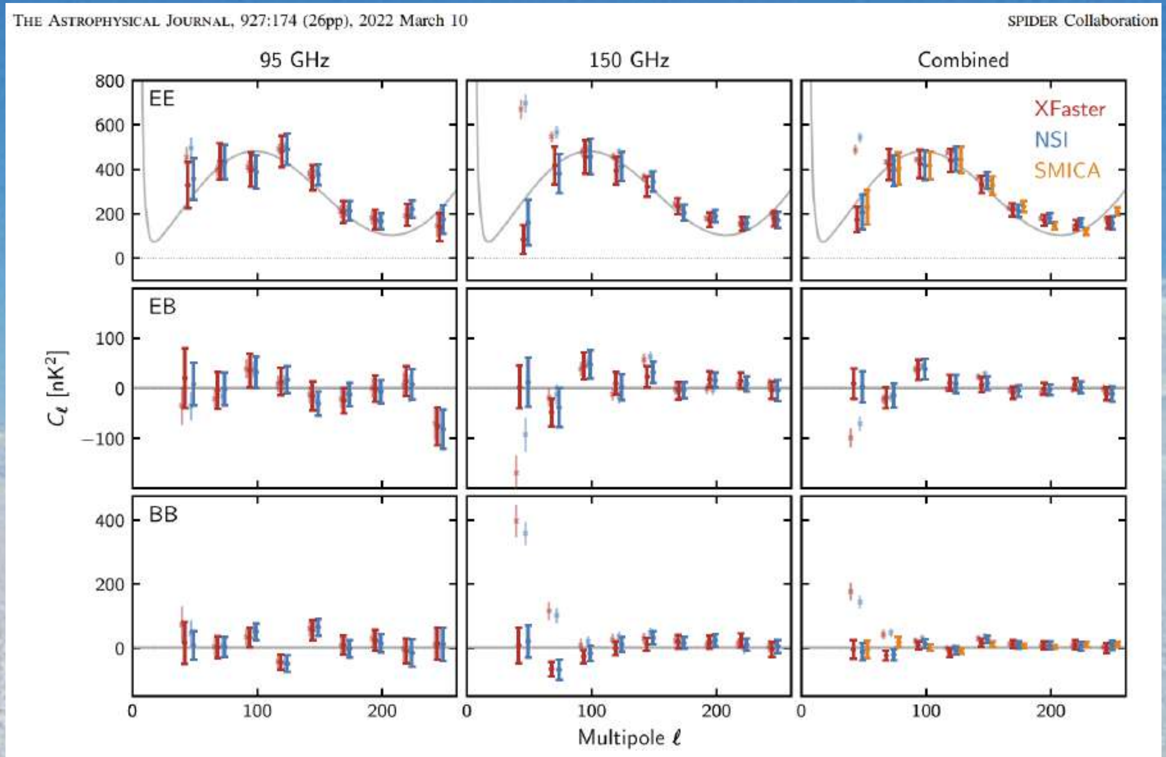
r < 0.11 - 95% C.L.

Removing polarized foregrounds was the largest challenge.

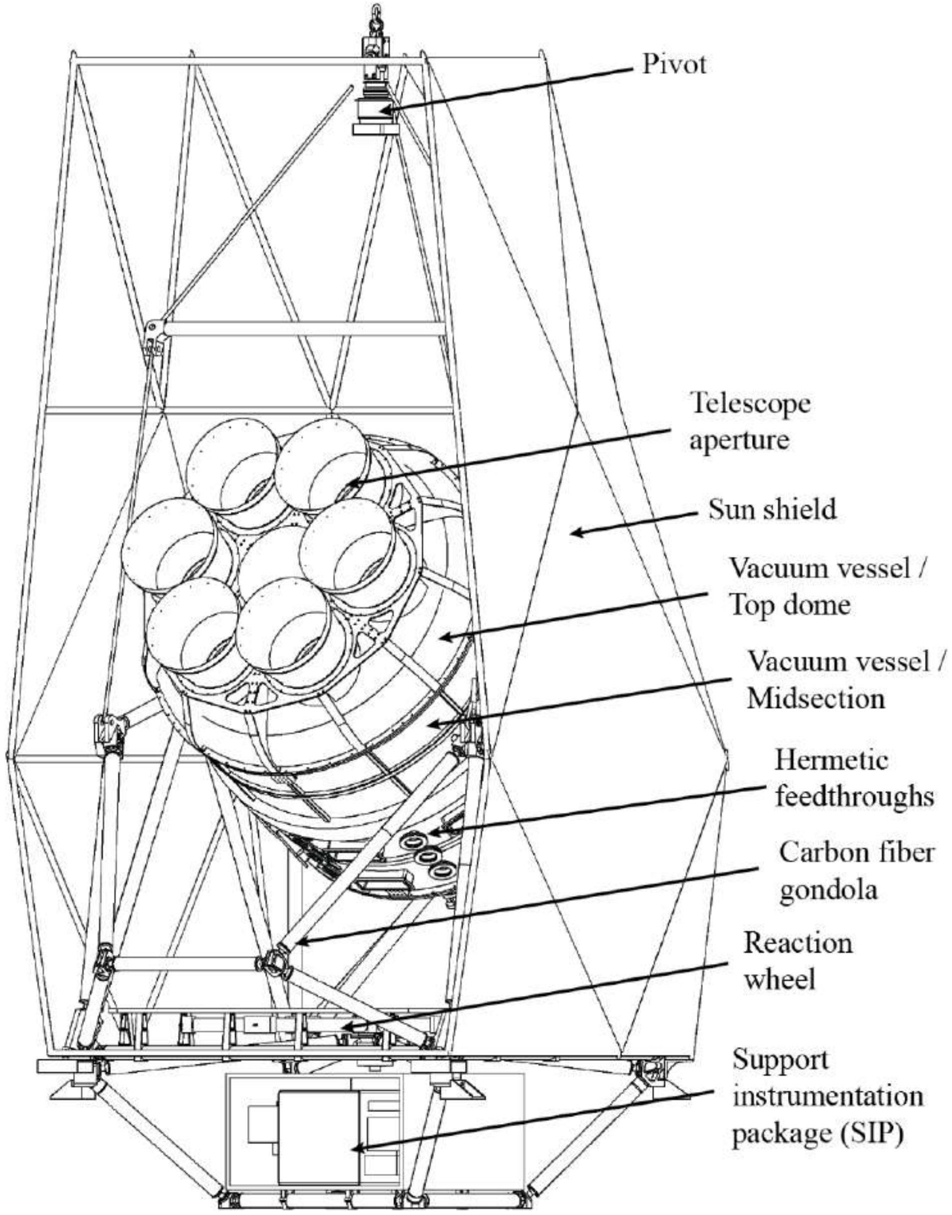
New flight with 3 telescopes total **1530 PSBs @285 GHz**.

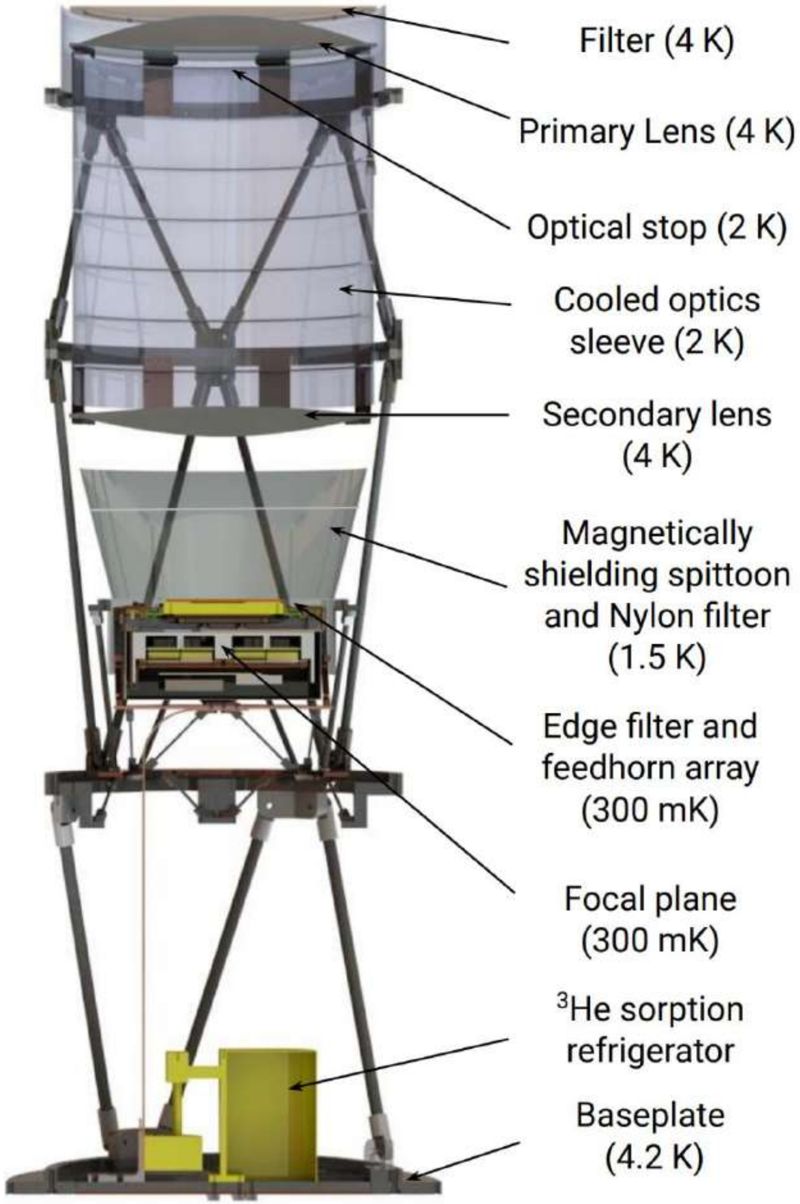
Shipped to Palestine (TX) for an attempt the upcoming Antarctic season.



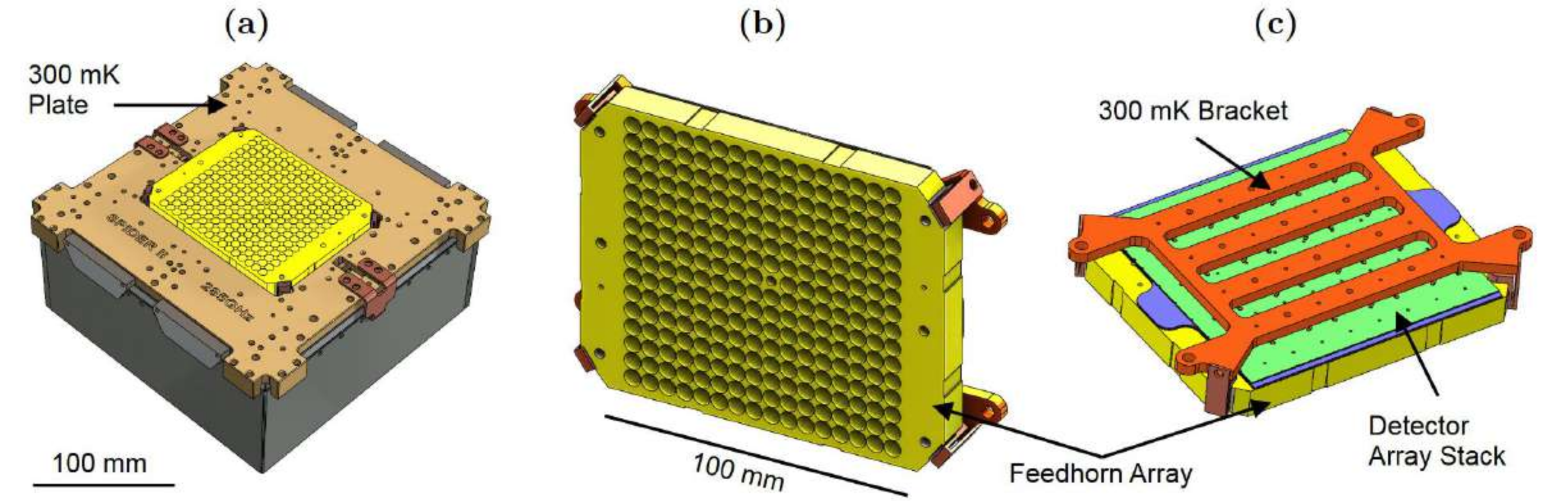


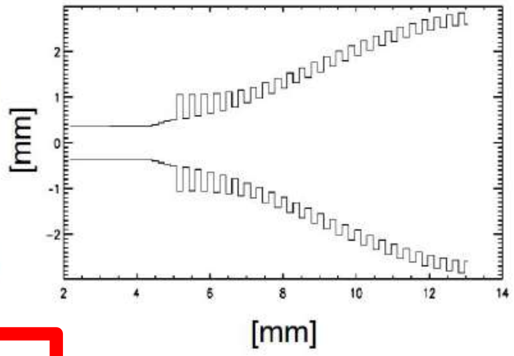
THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 927:174 (26pp), 2022 March 10 SPIDER Collaboration

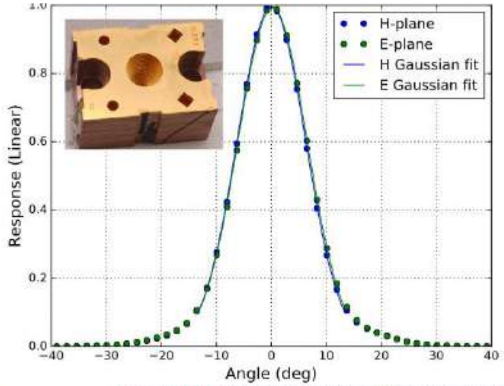


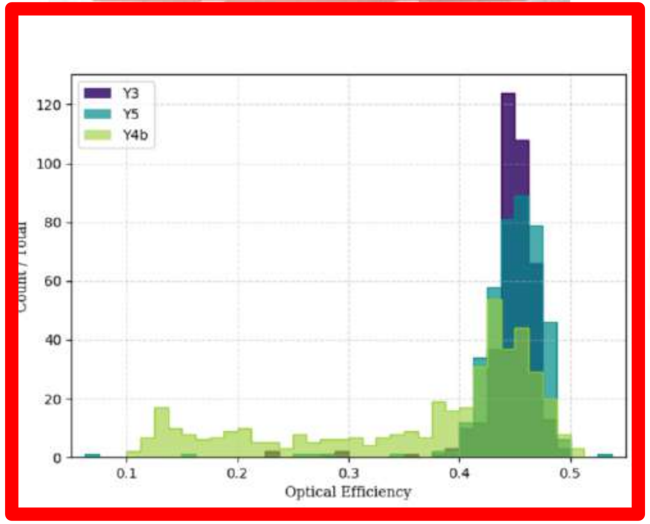


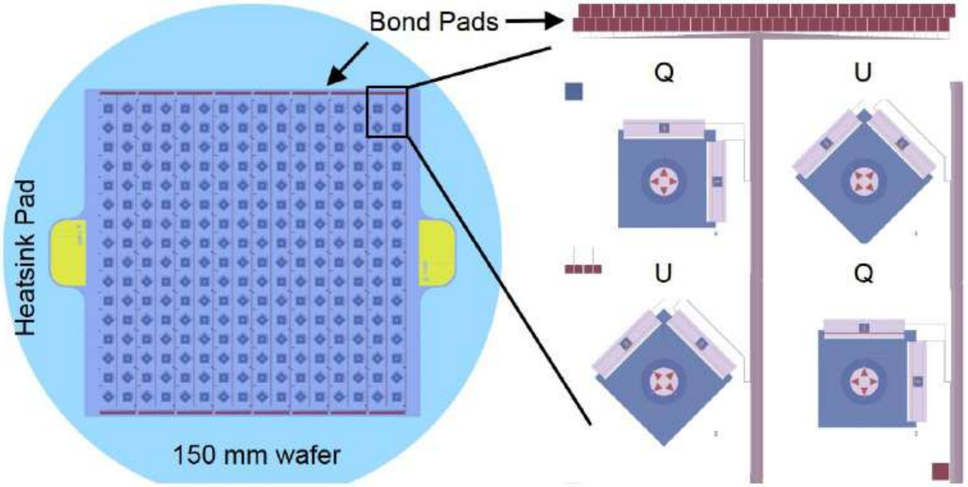
Design and pre-flight performance of SPIDER 280 GHz receivers - https://arxiv.org/abs/2012.12407

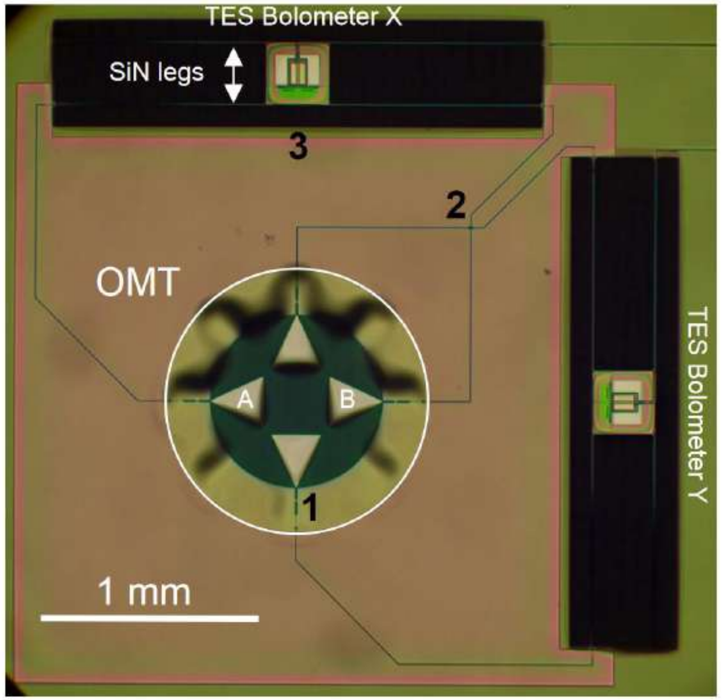


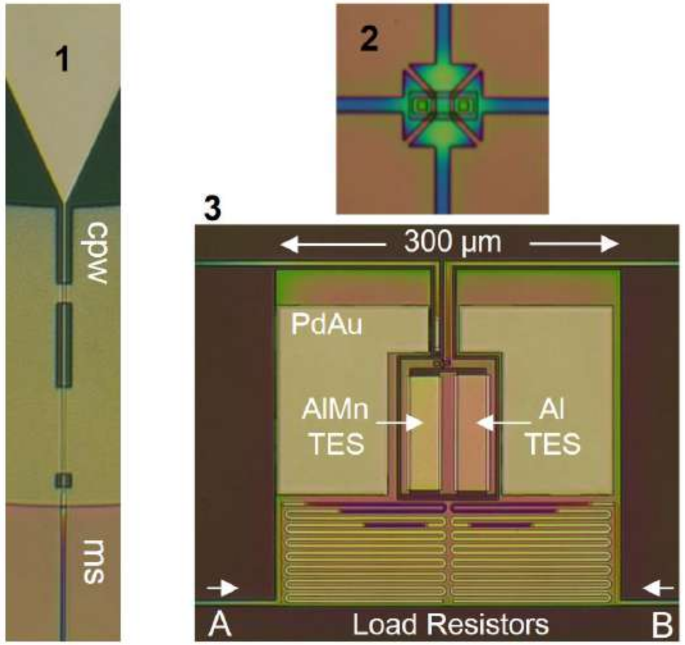








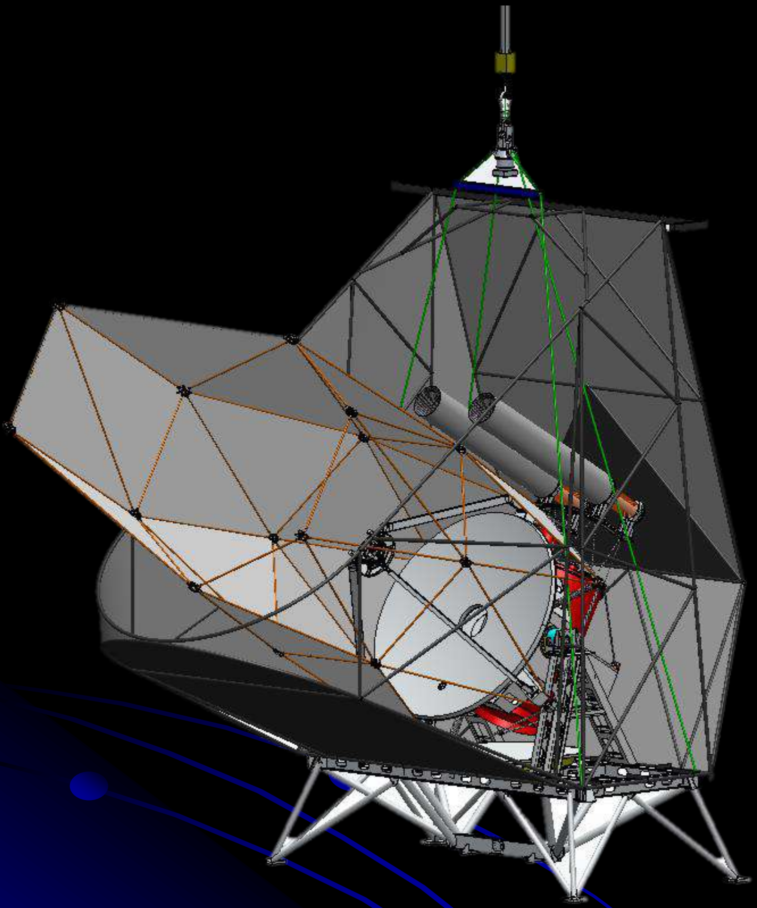


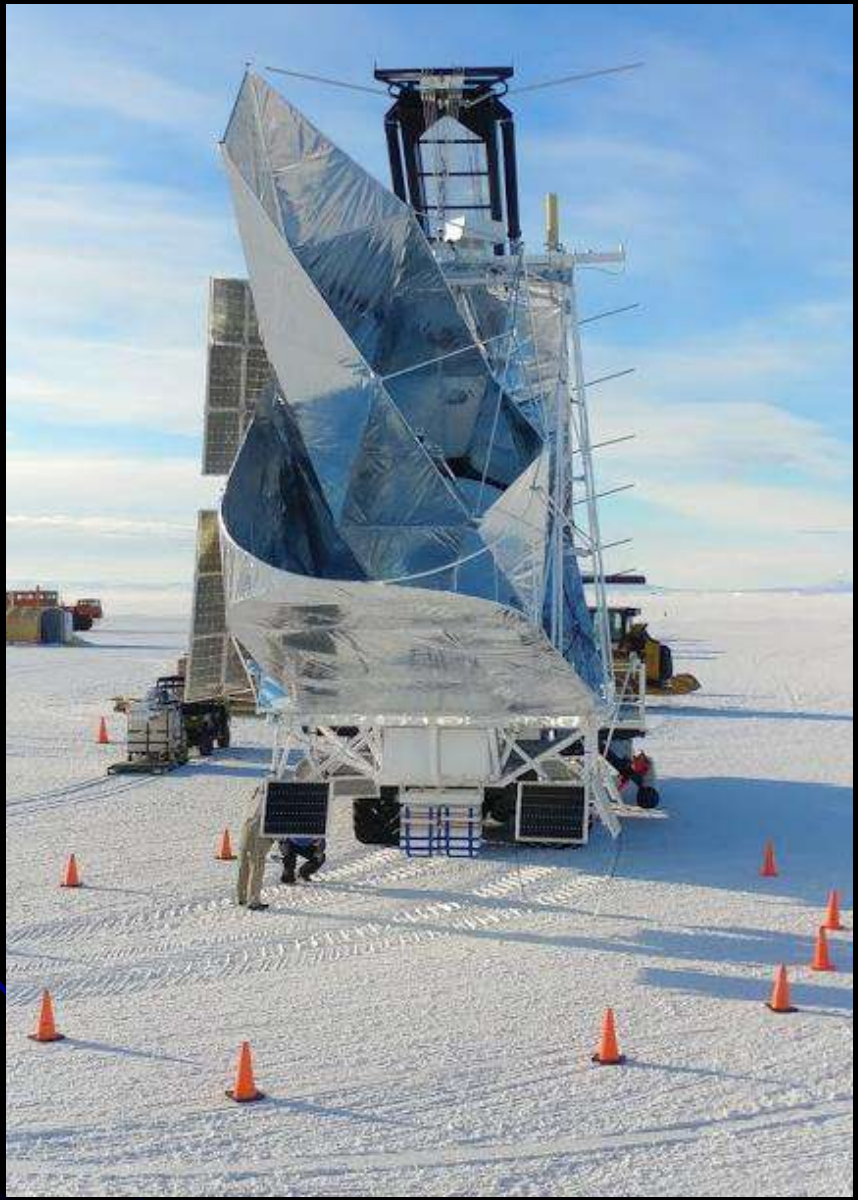


Design of 280 GHz feedhorn-coupled TES arrays for the balloon-borne polarimeter SPIDER - https://arxiv.org/abs/1606.09396

The Balloon-borne Large Aperture Submillimeter Telescope

BLAST





PI Marc Devlin (UPenn)
https://sites.northwestern.edu/blast/

SPECIFICATIONS:

- 2.5 meter Carbon Fiber Mirror
- **2200 KID detectors**
  - 250, 350 and 500 μm
  - Polarization Sensitive
  - 280 mK
- 22 arcsec resolution at 250 μm
- 28 day flight!

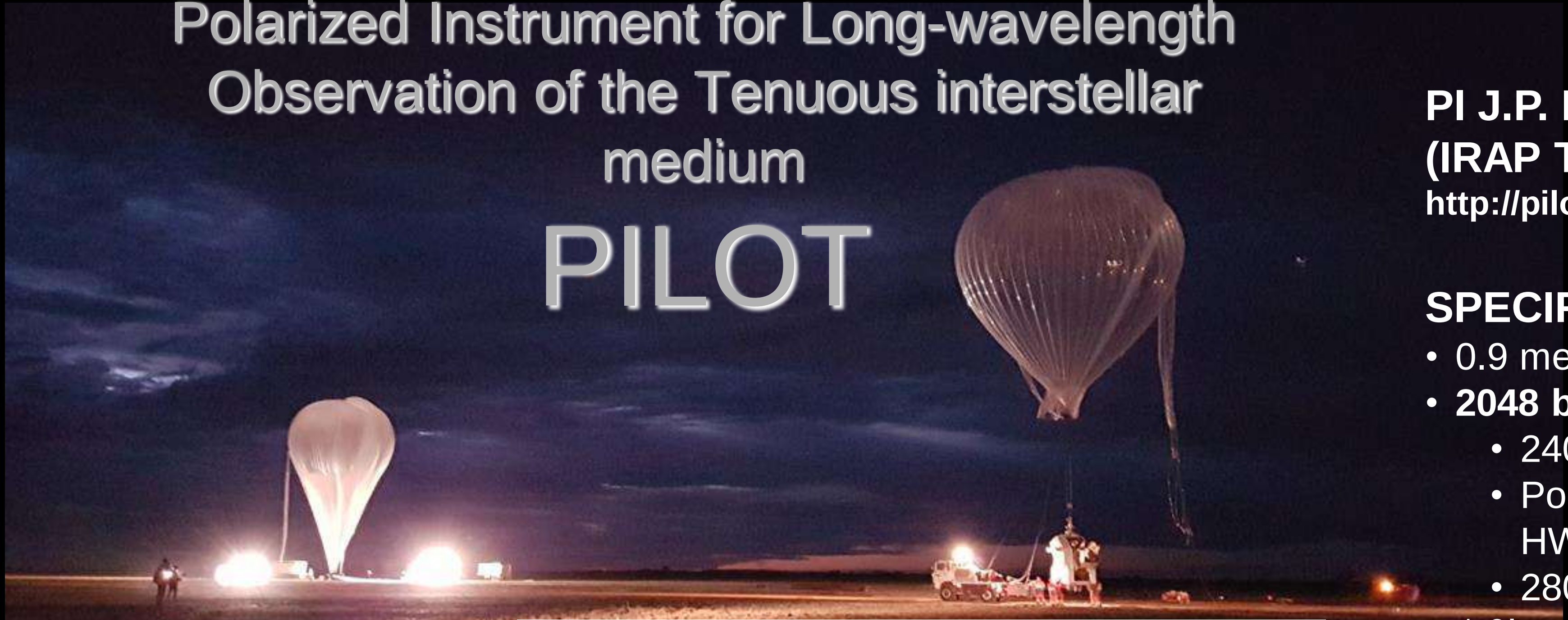
Science:

- Polarized dust emission **in star forming regions** in our Galaxy.
- Polarized dust emission in low dust regions for CMB polarization foregrounds.

Flight from Antarctica:
December 2019

Polarized Instrument for Long-wavelength Observation of the Tenuous interstellar medium

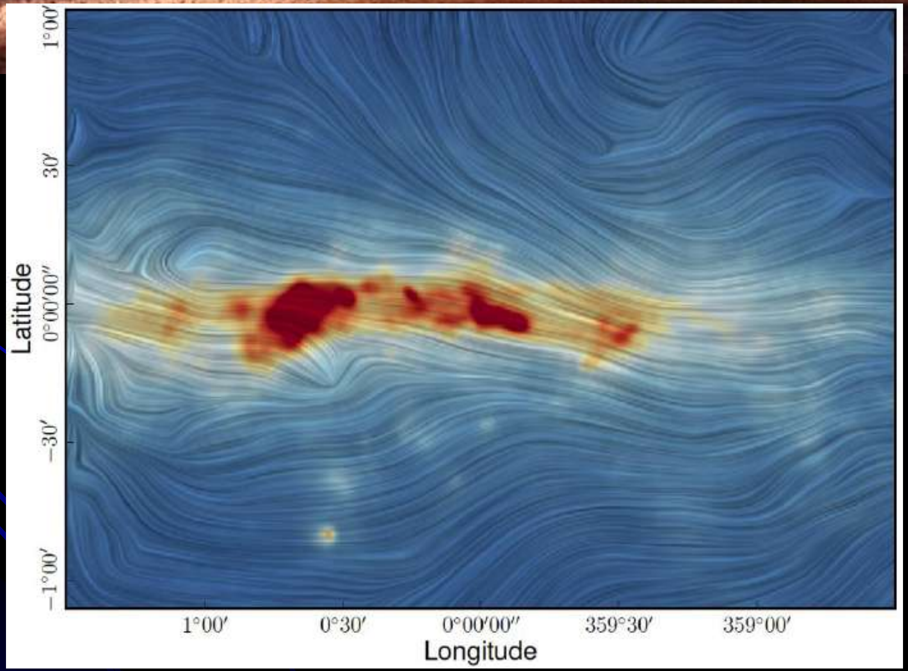
PILOT



PI J.P. Bernard
(IRAP Toulouse)
http://pilot.irap.omp.eu/PAGE_PILOT/index.html/

SPECIFICATIONS:

- 0.9 meter aperture telescope
- **2048 bolometers**
  - 240 and 550 µm
  - Polarization Sensitive with cryogenic HWP
  - 280 mK
- 1.9’ resolution at 250 µm
- See Mangilli et al. Astro-ph/1804.05645
- Flown by CNES (Timmins)

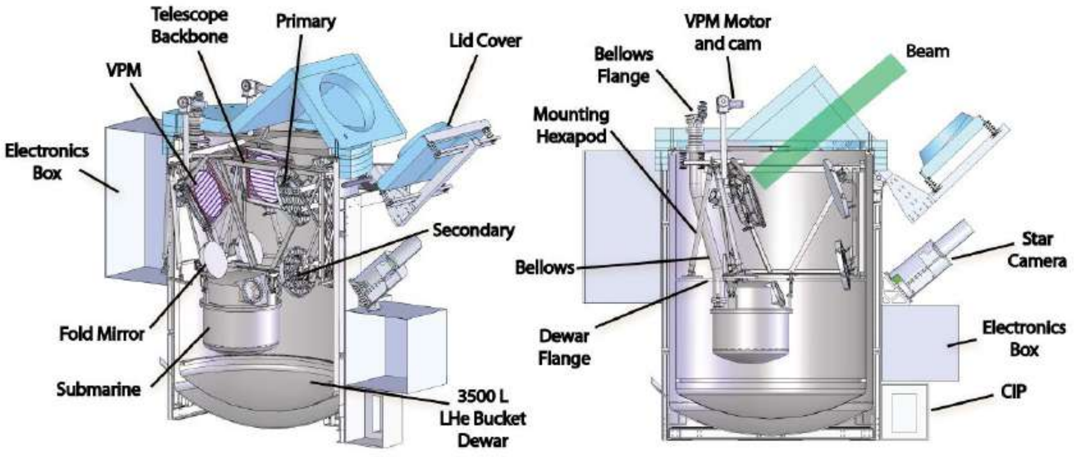


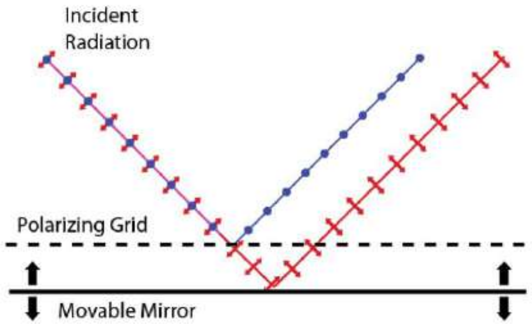
Science:

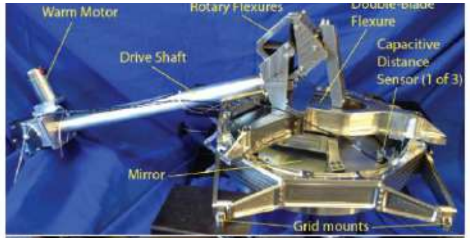
- a balloon-borne experiment to study the polarized emission arising from dust grains present in the diffuse interstellar medium in our Galaxy.
- See Mangilli et al. (2019) arXiv:1901.06196 for first science results.

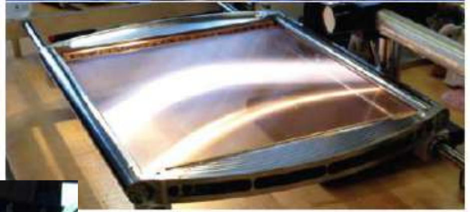
PIPER

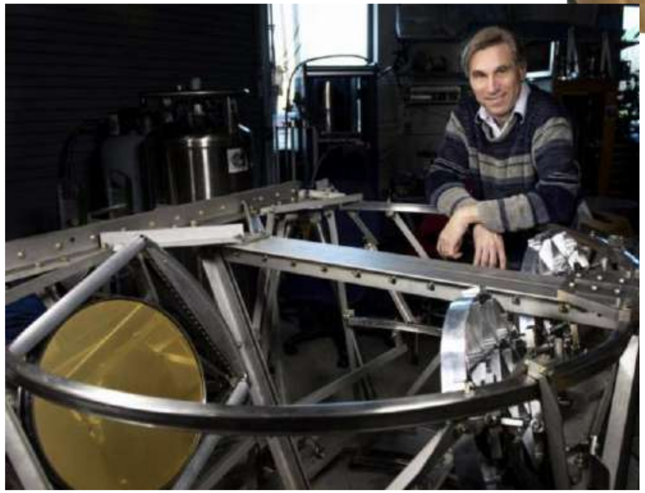
- The **Primordial Inflation Polarization Explorer** (PIPER) consists of two identical telescopes cooled to 1.5 K within a large (3500-liter capacity) liquid helium bucket dewar.
- There are no windows between the LHe-cooled telescope and the ambient environment. The unusual cryogenic design provides very high mapping, allowing PIPER to achieve sensitivities with over-night balloon flights from New Mexico that would otherwise require 10-day flights from Antarctica.
- Each of PIPER's twin telescopes illuminates a pair of 32 × 40 element transition-edge superconducting detector arrays for a total of **5120 detectors**. In 8 flights, PIPER will map 85% of the sky in both linear and circular polarization, at wavelengths of 1500, 1100, 850, and 500 mm (frequencies 200, 270, 350, and 600 GHz) complementary to ground-based.
- A Variable-Delay Polarization Modulator (VPM) injects a time-dependent phase delay between orthogonal linear polarizations to cleanly separate polarized from unpolarized radiation.
- The combination of background-limited detectors with fast polarization modulation allows PIPER to rapidly scan large areas of the sky. PIPER is capable of observing on angular scales larger than 20°, where the inflationary signal is expected to be largest.
- Engineering flight in 2017 OK - https://doi.org/10.1117/12.2313874
- **https://asd.gsfc.nasa.gov/piper/**

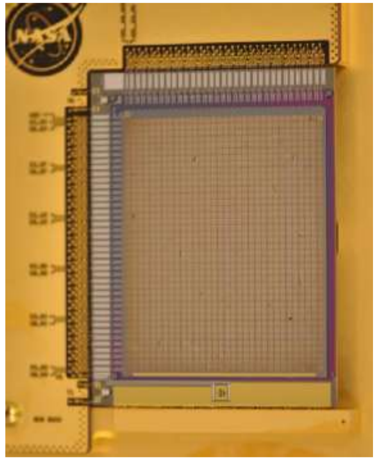






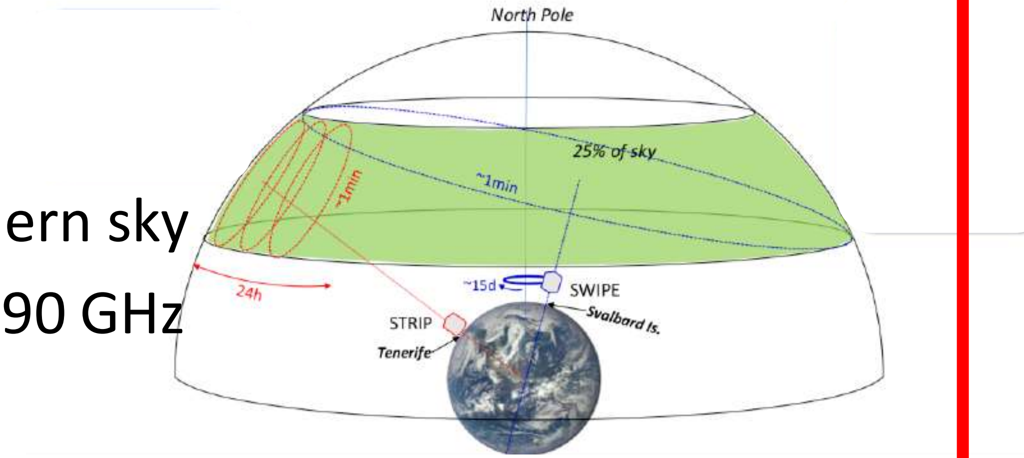






LSPE

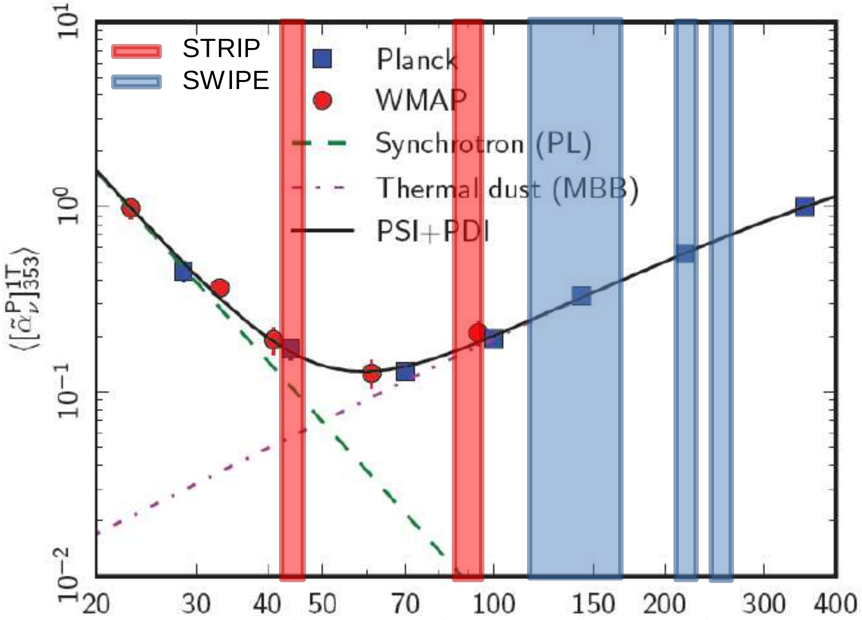
- The Large-Scale Polarization Explorer is an experiment to measure the polarization of the CMB and interstellar dust at large angular scales.



- Frequency coverage: 40 – 250 GHz (5 bands)
- 2 instruments: STRIP & SWIPE covering the same northern sky
- **STRIP** is a ground-based instrument working at 44 and 90 GHz
- **SWIPE** works at 140, 220, 240 GHz
  - collects 8800 radiation modes
  - uses *a spinning stratospheric balloon payload* to avoid atmospheric noise, flying *long-duration, in the arctic polar night*
  - uses a *polarization modulator* to achieve high stability
  - Uses a large polarizer to define an accurate polarization direction reference
  - Angular resolution: 1.3^o FWHM
  - Sky coverage: 20-25% of the sky per flight / year
  - Combined sensitivity: 10 μK arcmin per flight
- See astro-ph/1208.0298, 1208.0281, 1208.0164 and 2008.11049

See lspe.roma1.infn.it for collaboration list

LSPE : Foregrounds cleaning strategy

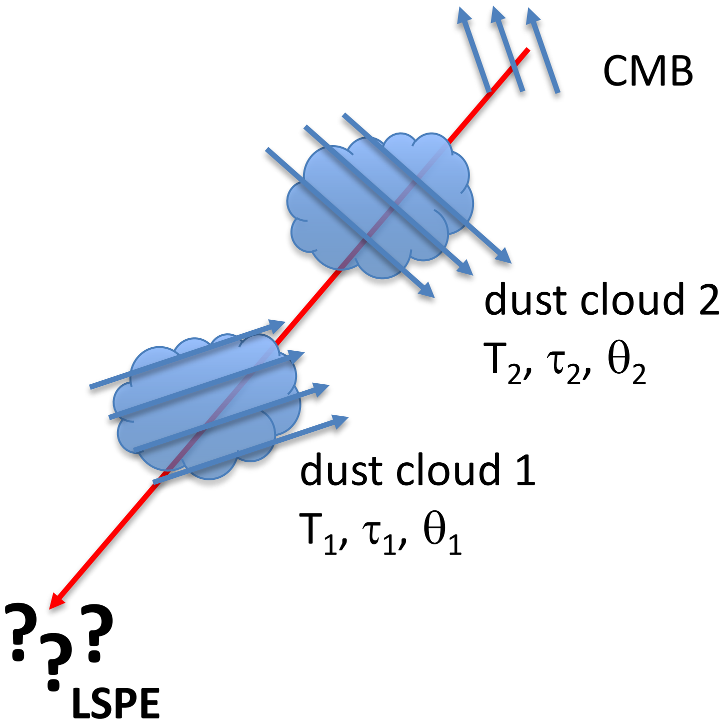


44 GHz - STRIP
Monitor polarized synchrotron

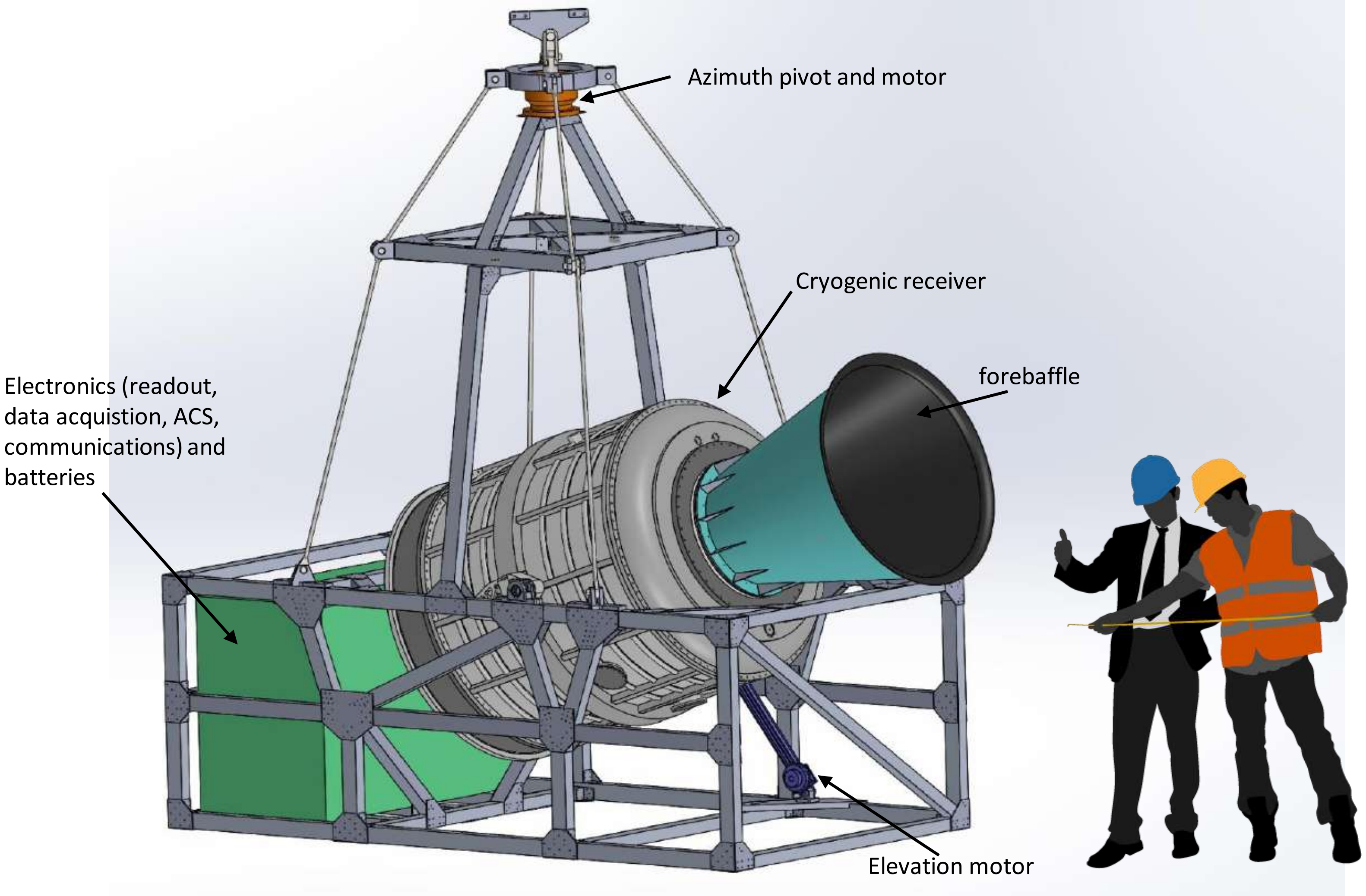
90 GHz - STRIP
Atmospheric monitor

140 GHz - SWIPE
Main CMB channel

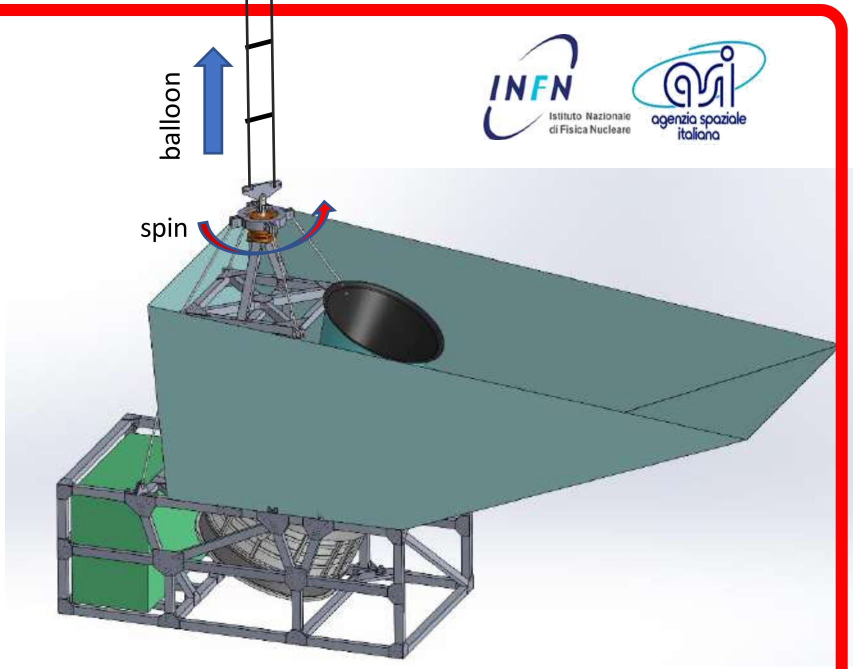
220 + 240 GHz - SWIPE
Monitor **level, slope and possible rotation** of polarized dust emission.
To date - extrapolated from 350 GHz



LSPE/SWIPE



Rendering without ground/sun shields – a 1.6 tons payload

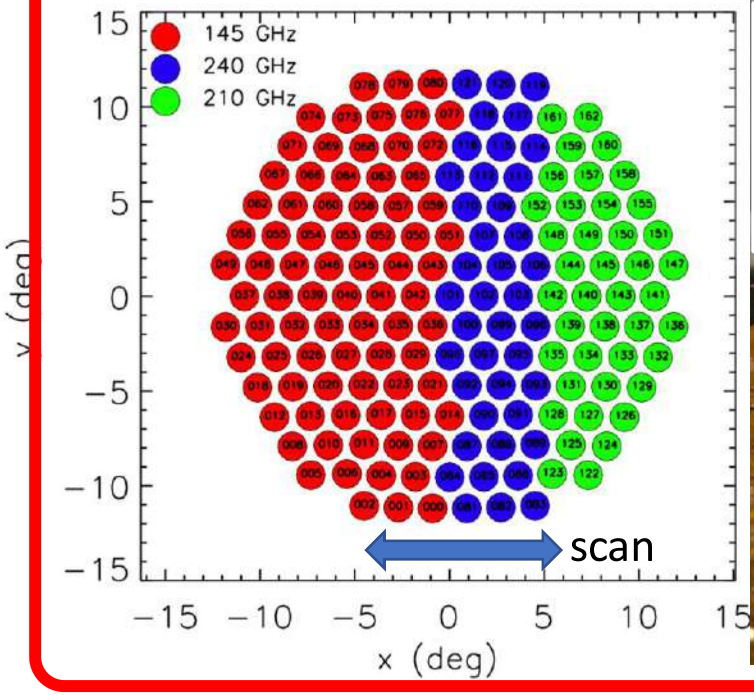


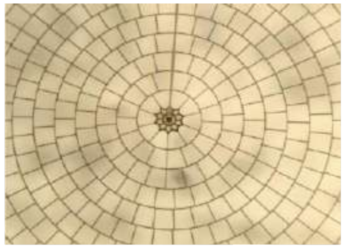
- The instrument is flown at 40 km altitude to mitigate the effects of earth’s atmosphere.
- The instrument spins in azimuth to cover about 25% of the northern sky.

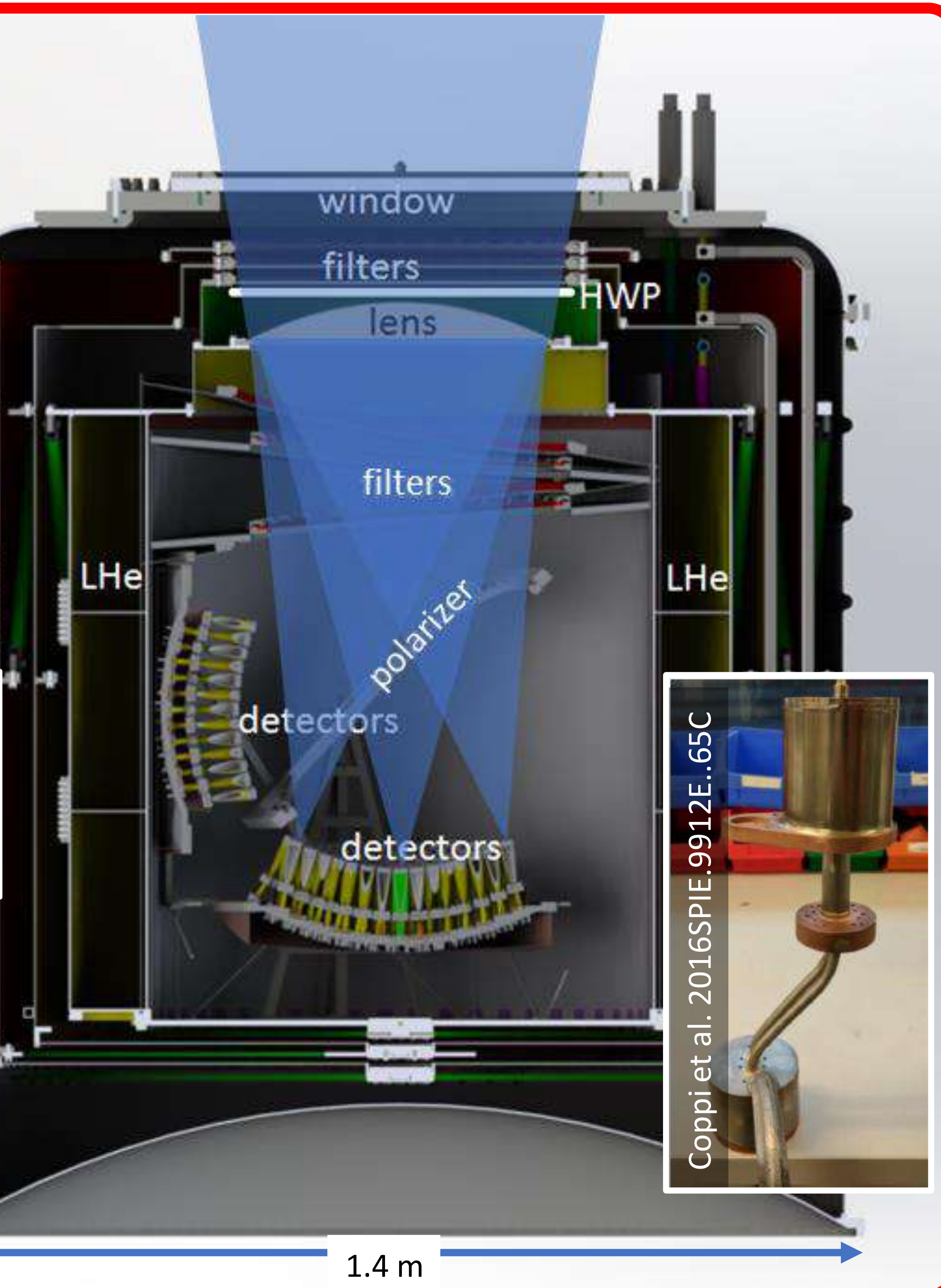
The SWIPE receiver

A Stokes polarimeter, with

- A spinning HWP (10-15K)
- A single-lens telescope at 3K (490mm diameter with a 460 mm diam. cold stop)
- A 500mm diameter, 45° tilted wire grid at 2K, splitting the focused beams (f/1.75) in
- Two large focal planes accomodating 330 multimode feedhorns and bolometric detectors (8800 modes), covering a 20° diameter field of view, and cooled at 0.28 K.
- The main cryostat contains 250 liters of suprfluid L^{4}He
- The sub-K cooler is a ^{3}He refrigerator (filled with 24 liters STP).



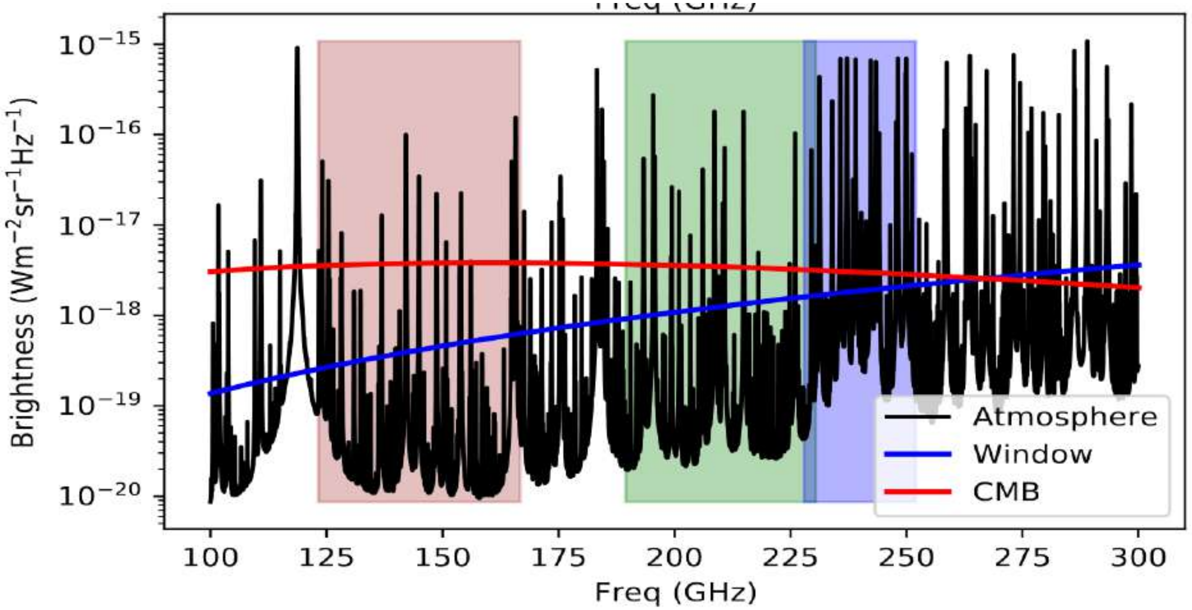


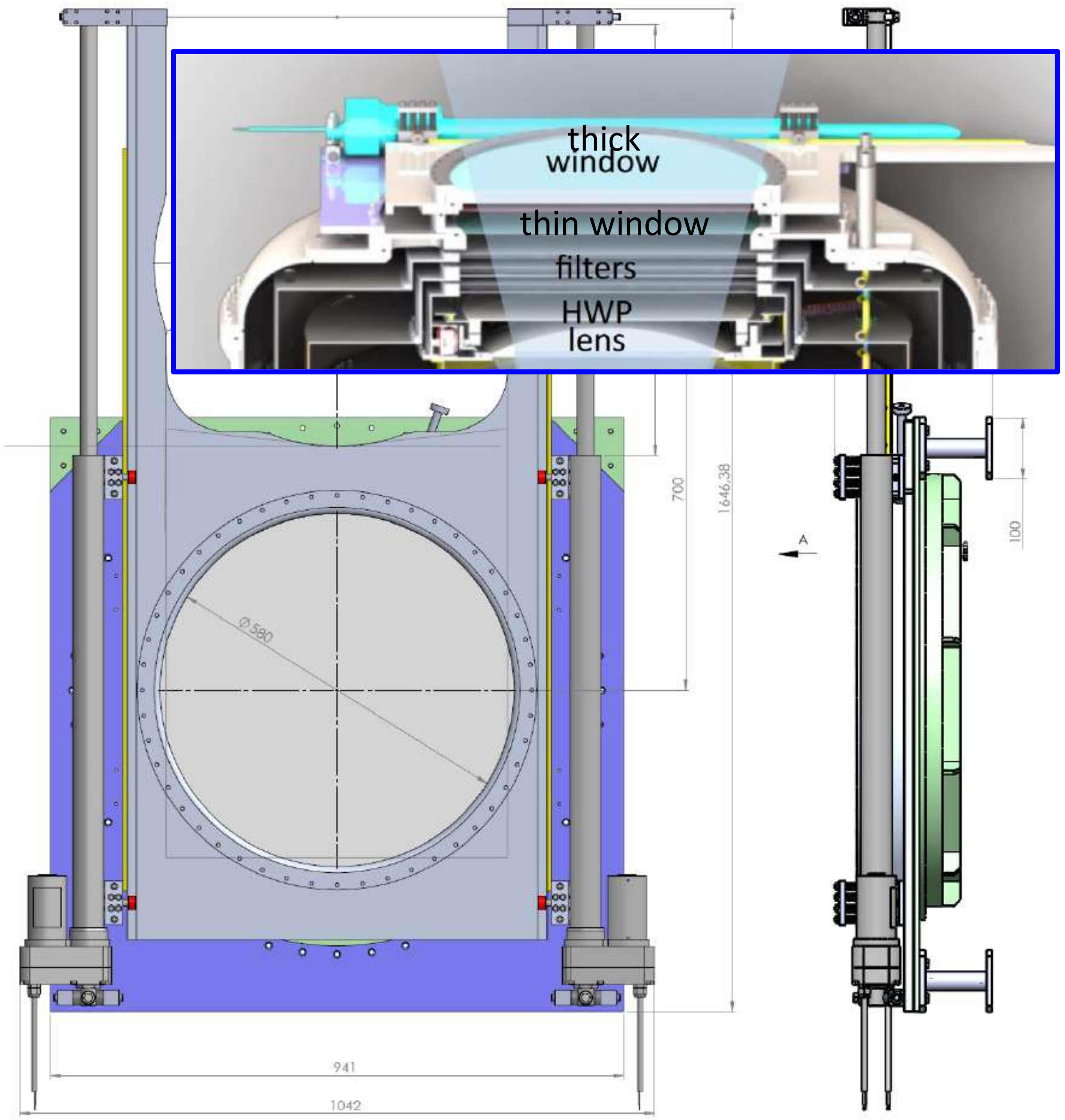


Coppi et al. 2016SPIE.9912E..65C

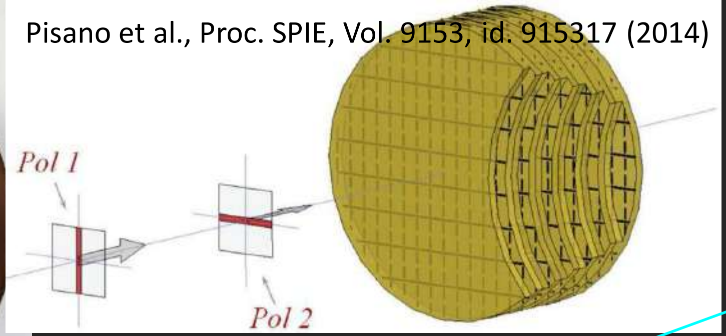
Reducing the background

- For laboratory operations, LSPE uses a 60 cm diameter 1 cm thick HDPE window with integrated reflecting NDF.
- At float, the thick HDPE window is removed, leaving a very thin (1 mil) polypropylene window in place to separate the mild vacuum of the stratosphere from the high vacuum of the dewar interior.
- The mechanism is a larger version of the one used in the EBEX balloon flight (Zilic &, Rev. Sci. Inst. 88, 045112 (2017)).
- The emission of the thin window is less than the emission of the CMB in the bands of SWIPE.



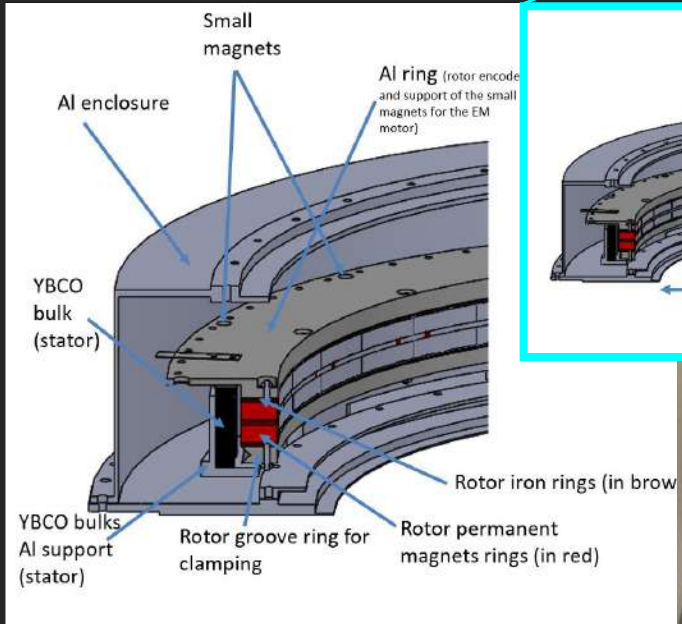


LSPE/SWIPE: Polarization modulation unit

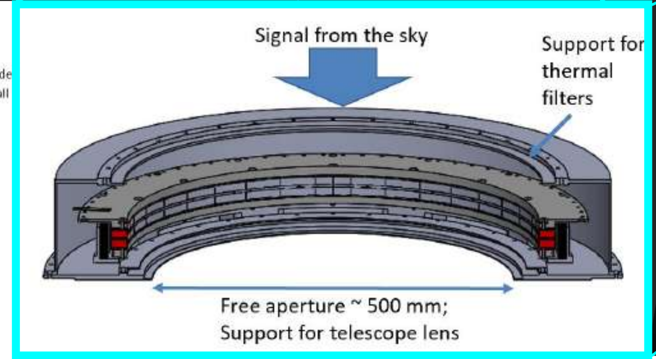

Pisano et al., Proc. SPIE, Vol. 9153, id. 915317 (2014)

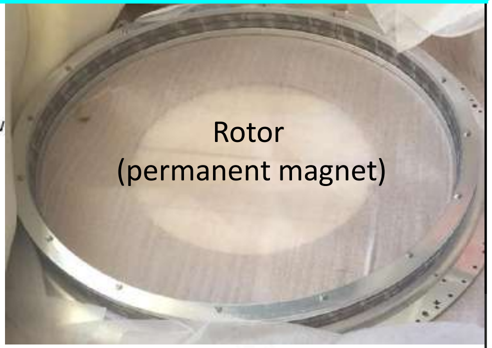
Metamaterials HWP

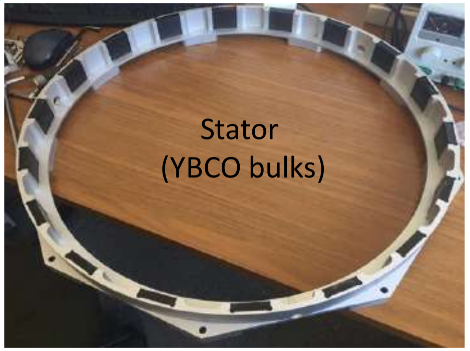
1 rps magnetically levitating HWP rotator

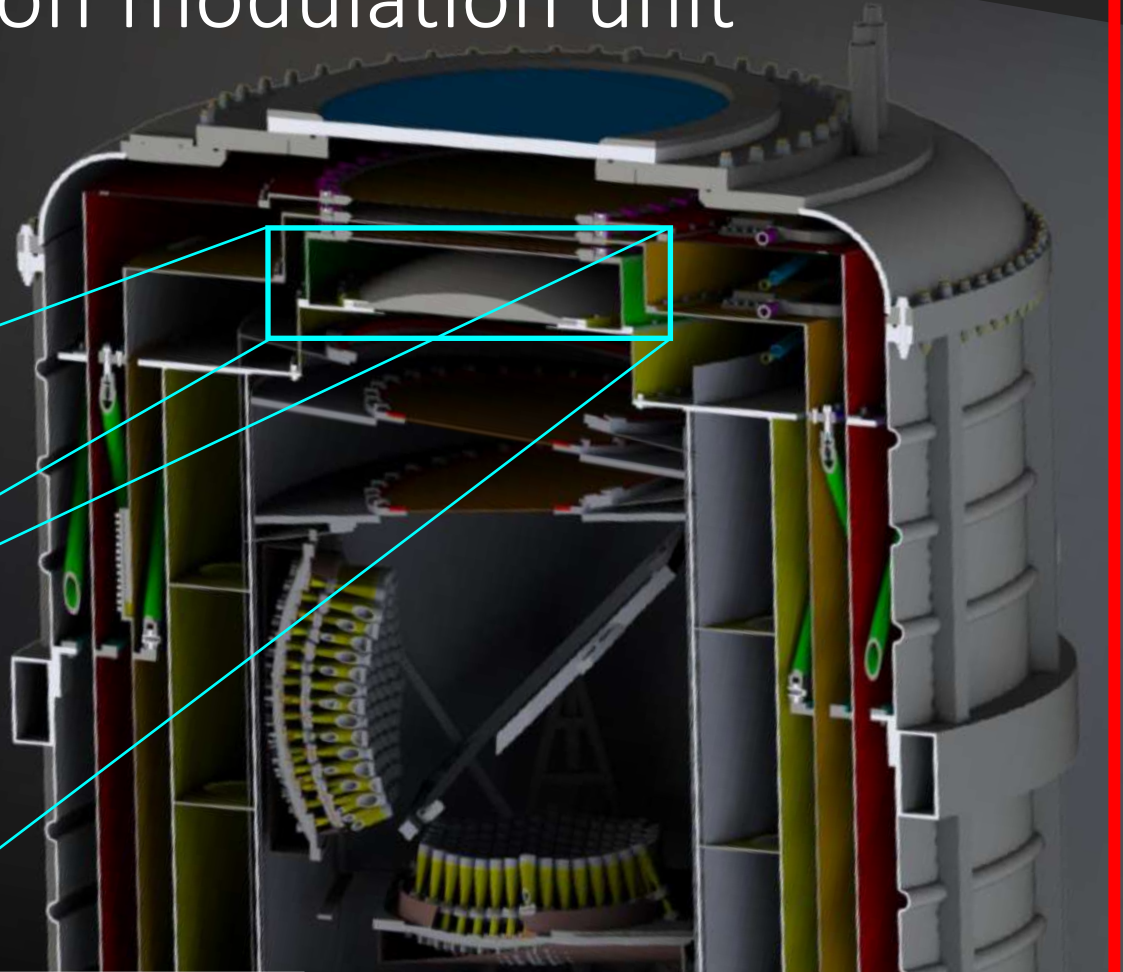


1T field strength in the gap. Total mass 9 kg.







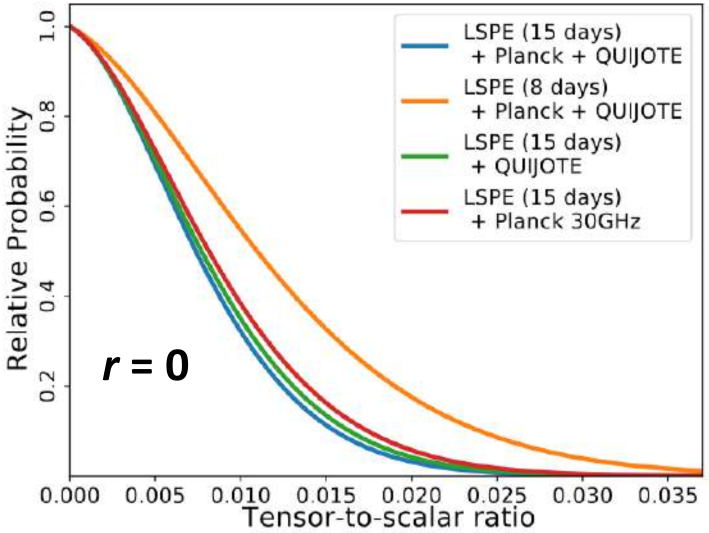


Also, a prototype for MHFT on LiteBIRD

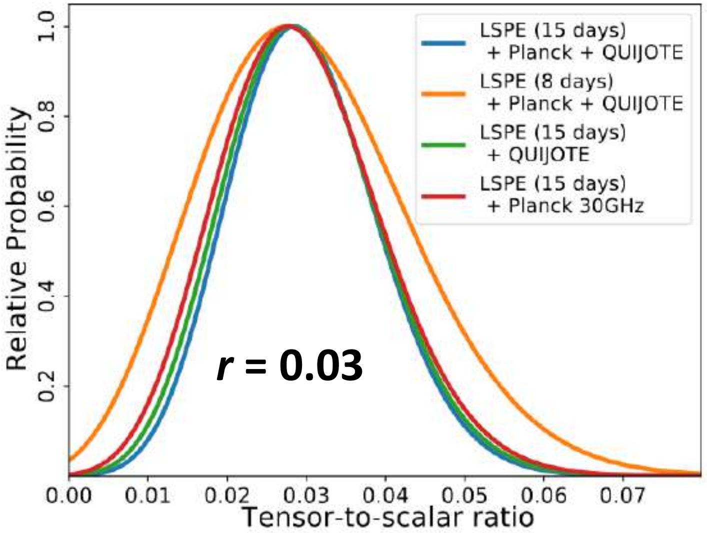
Expected performance of SWIPE-LSPE and requirements for the flight

https://arxiv.org/abs/2008.11049

https://doi.org/10.1088/1475-7516/2021/08/008

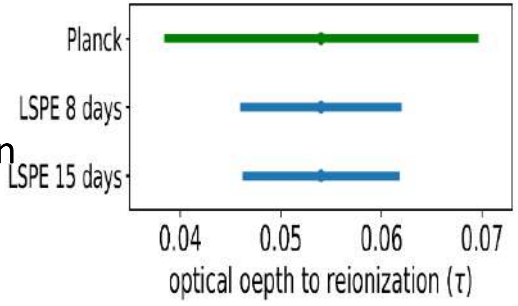


***r* = 0**

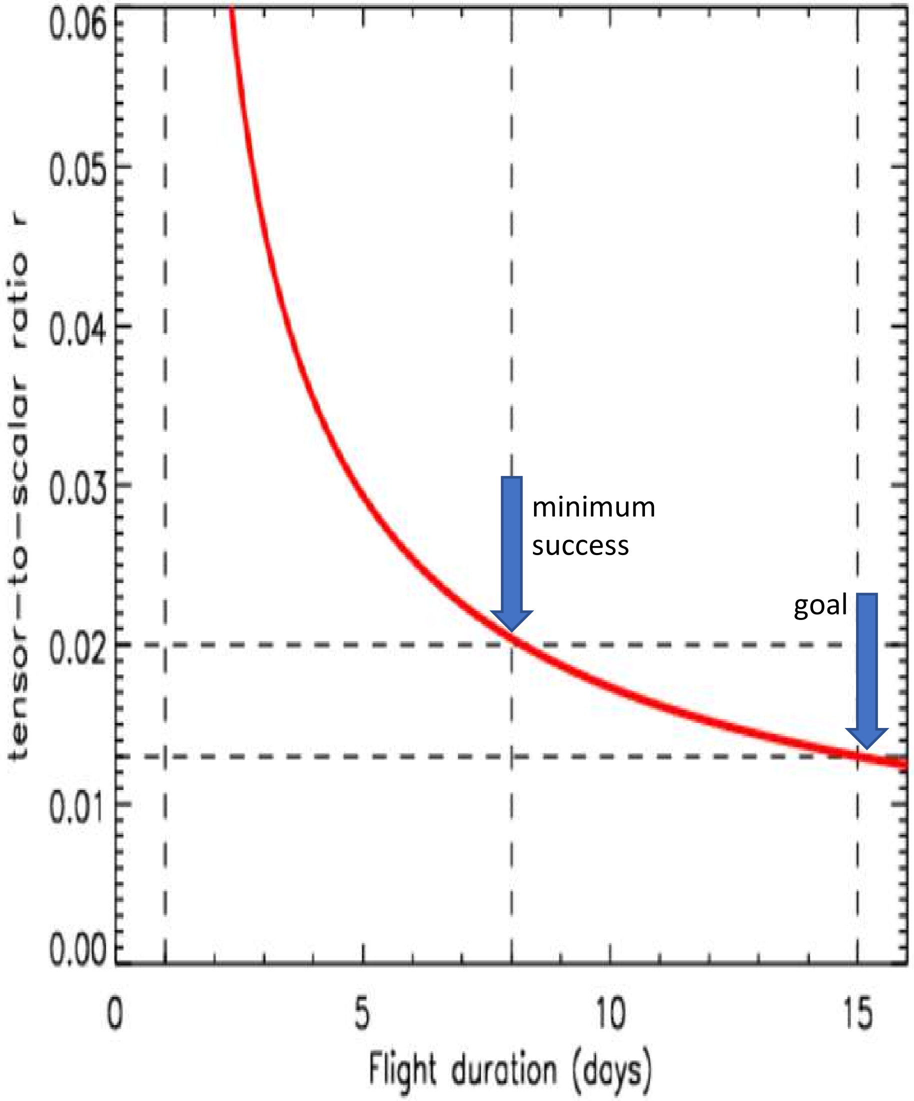


***r* = 0.03**

- If *r* << 0.01 LSPE-SWIPE provides a 95% CL U.L. *r* < 0.015
- If *r* > 0.01 LSPE-SWIPE provides a significant detection (σ_r=0.009)
- The measurement of the optical depth to recombination is improved significantly wrt Planck:
- Long integration time (8 days minimum, 15 days goal)
- Night flight (to cover all azimuths with a telescope spinning in azimuth), Arctic circumpolar flight.
- Flight: end of 2023 if international situation allows

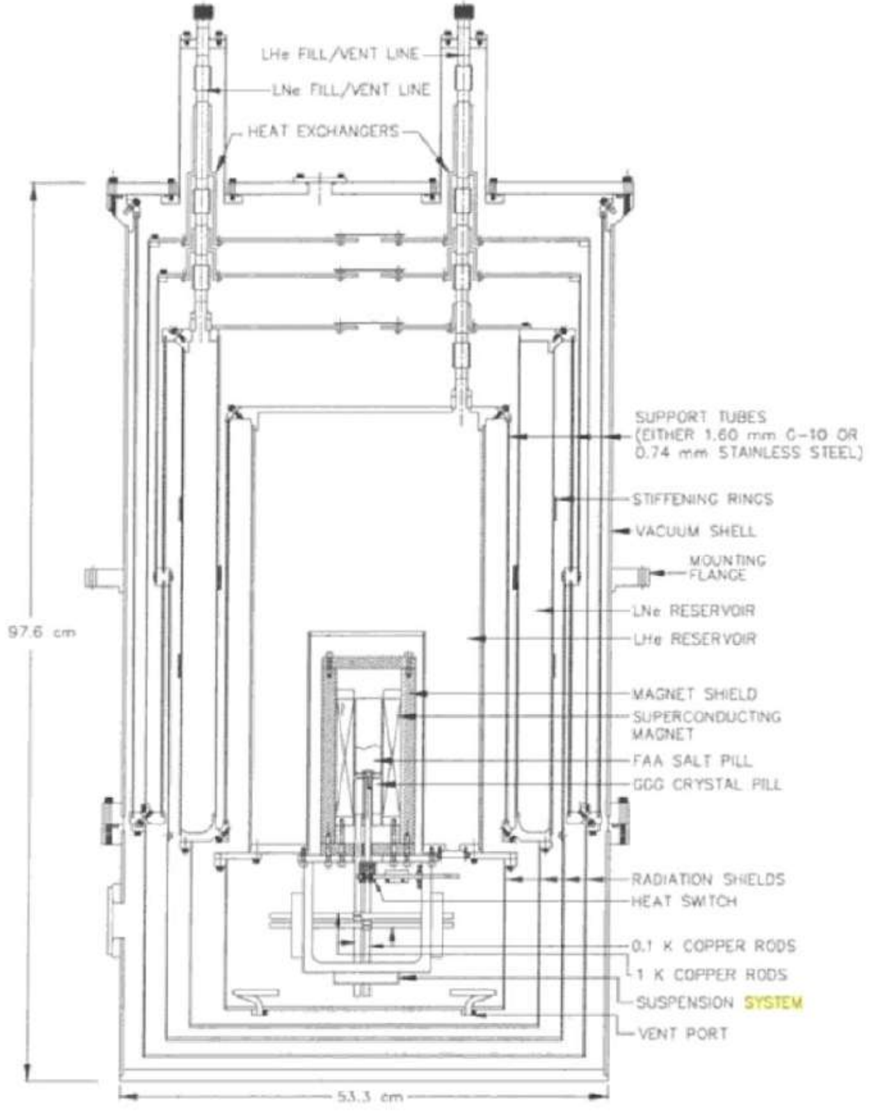


95% Confidence intervals for the optical depth



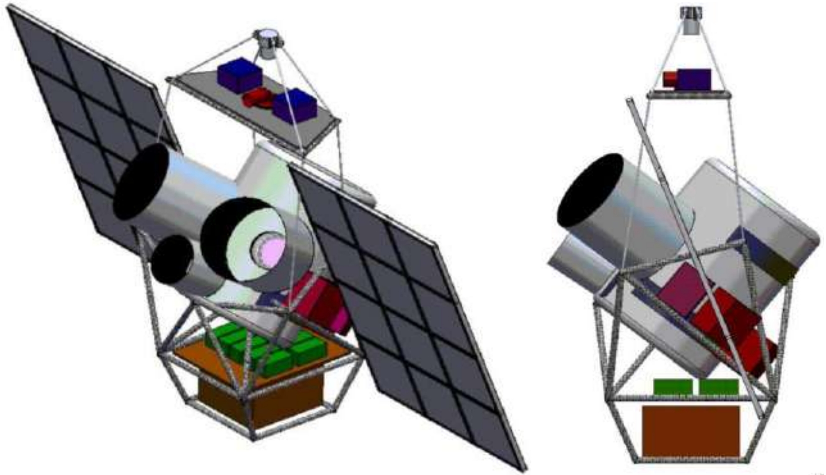
ULDB flights require new cryogenic systems

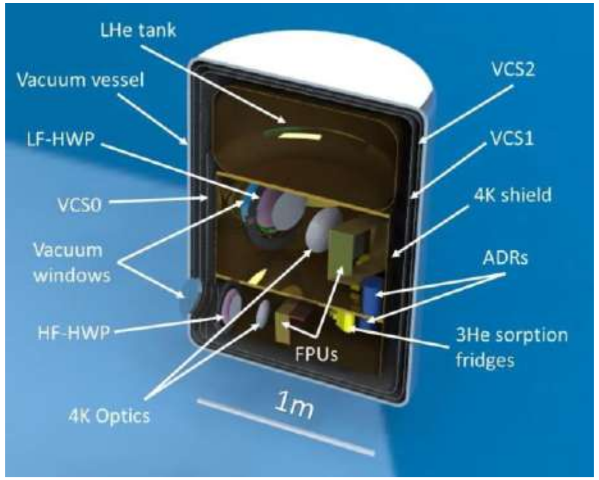
- Cryogenic systems for LDB, based on liquid cryogens (LN, LHe) have a target hold time of 1 month and a mass at the launch of the order of 300 kg (see e.g. Masi et al. Cryogenics, 38, 319-324, 1998, Coppolecchia et al. Cryogenics, 110, 103129 2020)
- To exploit the longer flight duration (order of 100 days) of a ULDB and cope with the reduced payload mass compliance of sealed balloons, longer duration and lighter cryostats must be optimized.
- Solutions are possible either using cryogenic fluids:
  - A long lifetime balloon-borne cryostat and magnetic refrigerator J. O. Gundersen et al. 2013, Advances in Cryogenic Engineering, Quan-Sheng Shu et al. Eds. Springer
- or using **hybrid systems with mechanical coolers** for the intermediate temperature stage (as needed for large windows).



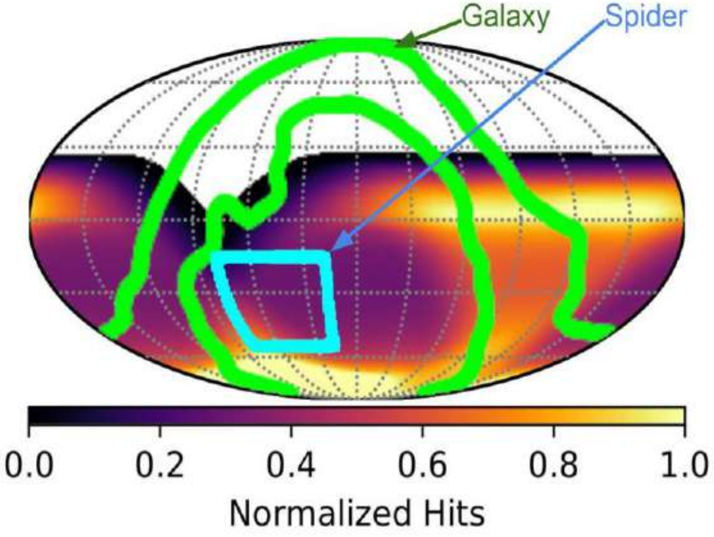
TAURUS (tau”R”us)

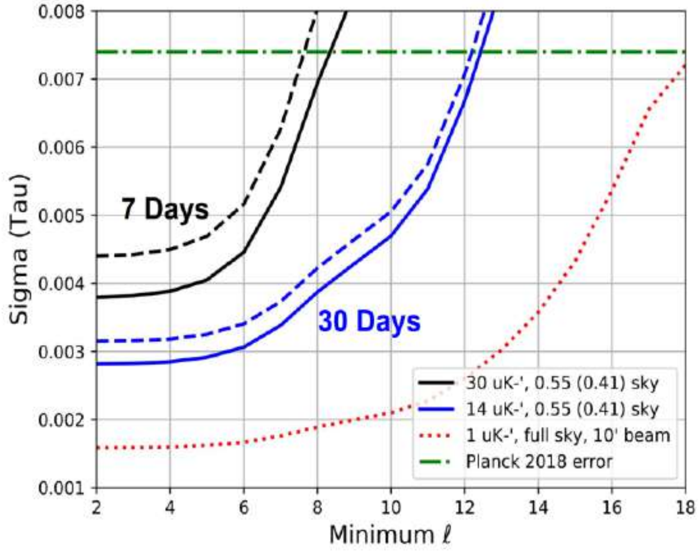
- Taurus will be deployed on a mid-latitude **super-pressure balloon** (>50 days, 2026), where it can observe approximately 70% of the sky.
- The instrument combines low temperature (100 mK) detectors with compact, cold optics and polarization modulators to provide a sensitive and robust view of the microwave sky in many frequency bands.
- Observing at high frequencies inaccessible from the ground enables the removal of polarized Galactic dust signals, which would otherwise obscure the cosmological information.
- The Taurus mission builds upon heritage from the SPIDER payload, and the science is highly complementary to the ground-based CMB-S4 experiment.
- Princeton (S. Benton, PI) + UIUC + NIST + WUSTL + Stockholm + Toronto + FNAL





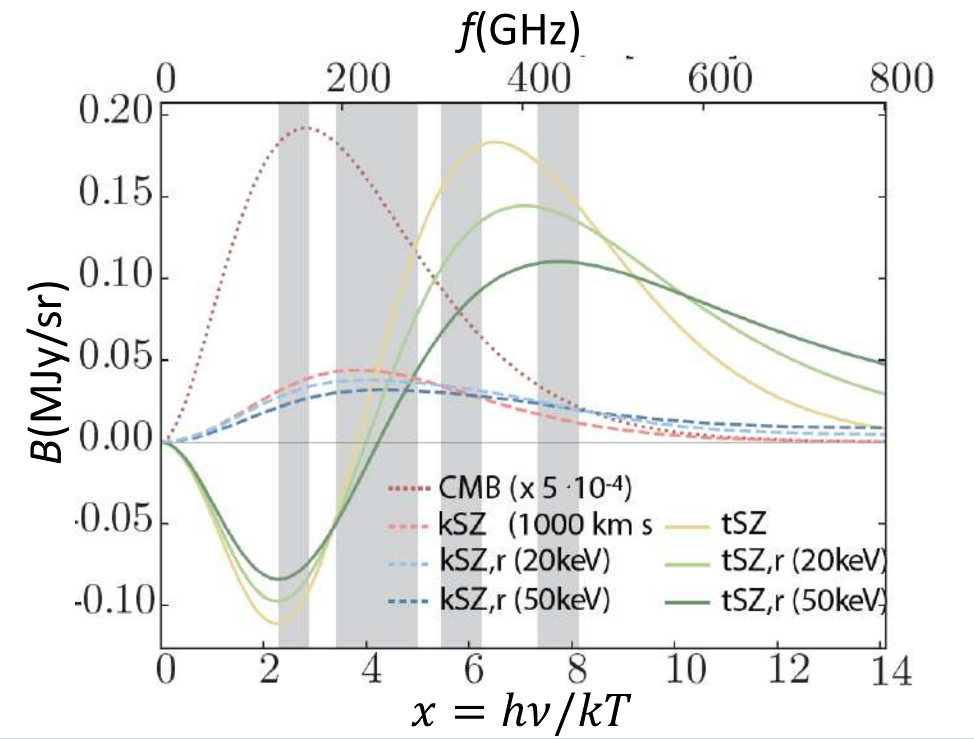
Band Center (GHz)	Bandwidth (GHz)	Beam FWHM (arcmin)	Number of Detectors	Absorbed Power (pW)	Detector Sensitivity ($\mu K_{CMB}\sqrt{s}$)	Instrument Sensitivity ($\mu K_{CMB}\sqrt{s}$)
150	40	60	3024	0.9	76	1.5
220	55	40	3024	1.1	123	2.4
280	70	60	2016	1.4	220	5.4
350	85	50	2016	1.6	550	13.4

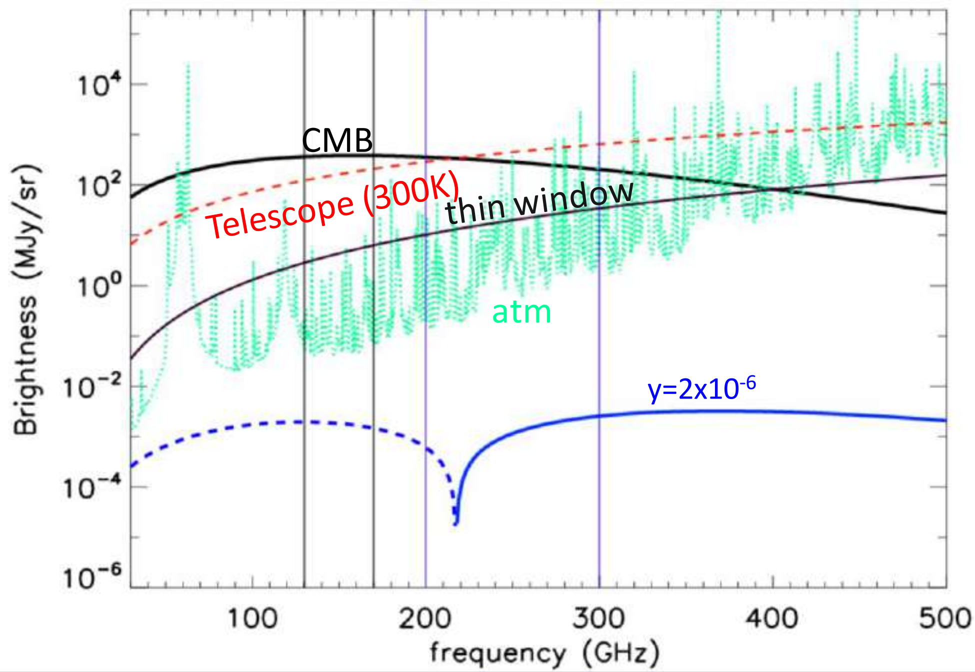




Science Case 2 : Anisotropic spectral distortions

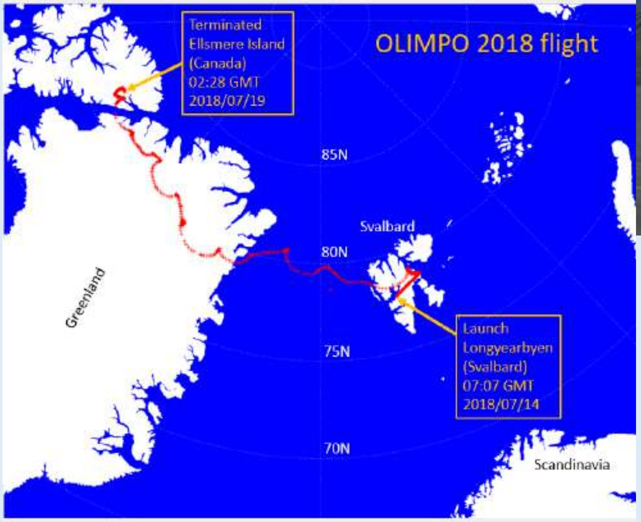
- Sunyaev-Zeldovich effect in clusters of galaxies and other ionized structures (thermal and kinetic):
  - Difficult to access from the ground at f > 280 GHz
  - Large (1°diameter) clusters and structures difficult to map from the ground even at 150 GHz, due to atmospheric fluctuations and spillover.
  - A 3m aperture telescope working at 450 GHz (balloon) matches the resolution of a 10m telescope working at 150 GHz (ground: SPT, ACT, …).
  - Multiband photometry possible at depths and resolutions better than Planck, for a small clusters sample in a single LDB flight (longer integration on small sky patches, more detectors). This allows measurements of e.g. the ICM velocity structure, or mapping bridges between clusters / WHIM. tSZ + e-ROSITA provide mass-weighted temperatures.
  - Low resolution spectroscopy of the SZ possible, in mm/submm bands, to provide a number of spectral bins ($\Delta\nu$ ~ 1-5 GHz) and allow for clean components separation.
- Line intensity mapping (LIM) of rotational CO lines (not properly CMB photons …)
  - In the 400-600 GHz range can be measured from the stratosphere with a cryogenic telescope and spectrometer,
  - LIM data to be correlated to optical surveys to investigate star formation history.



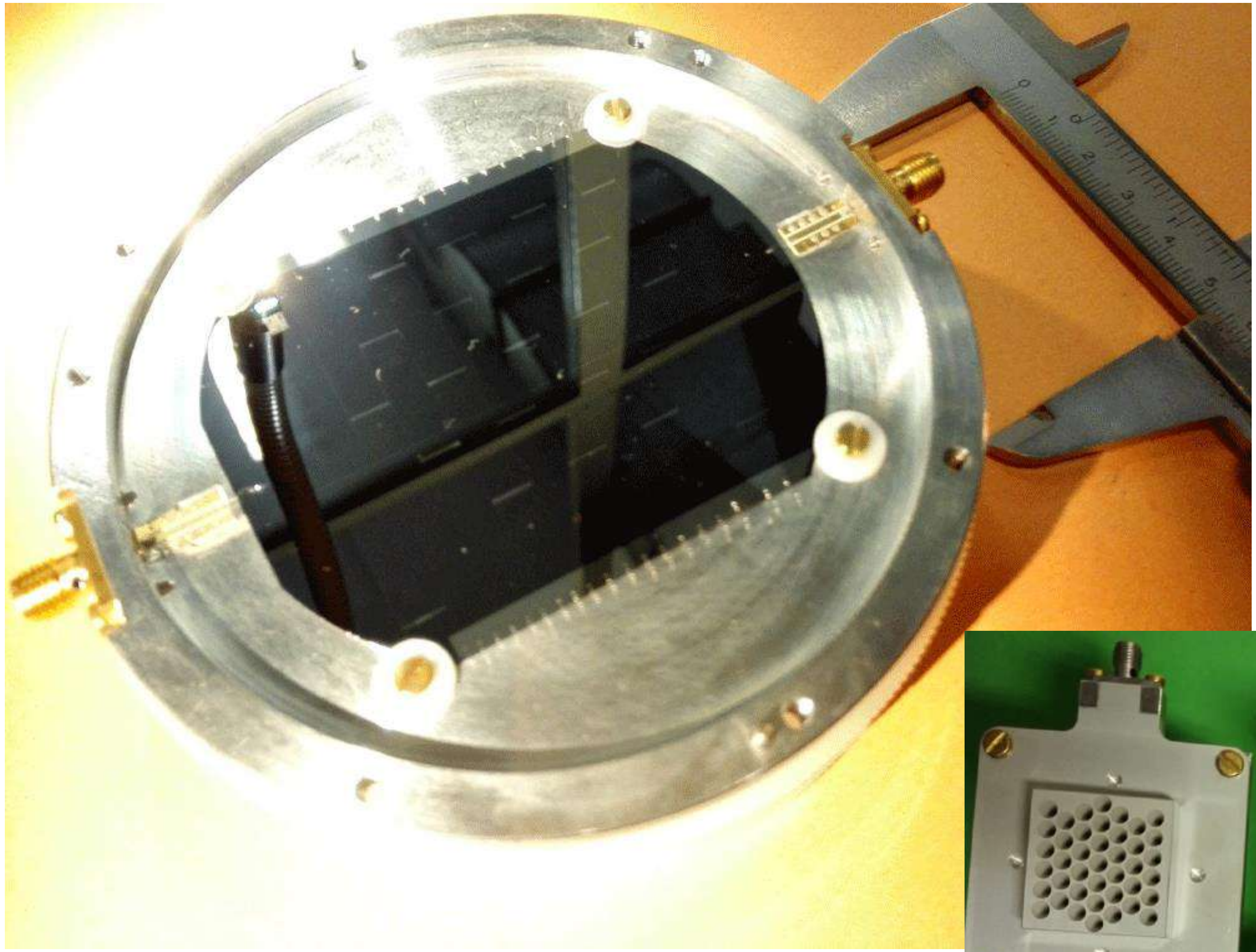


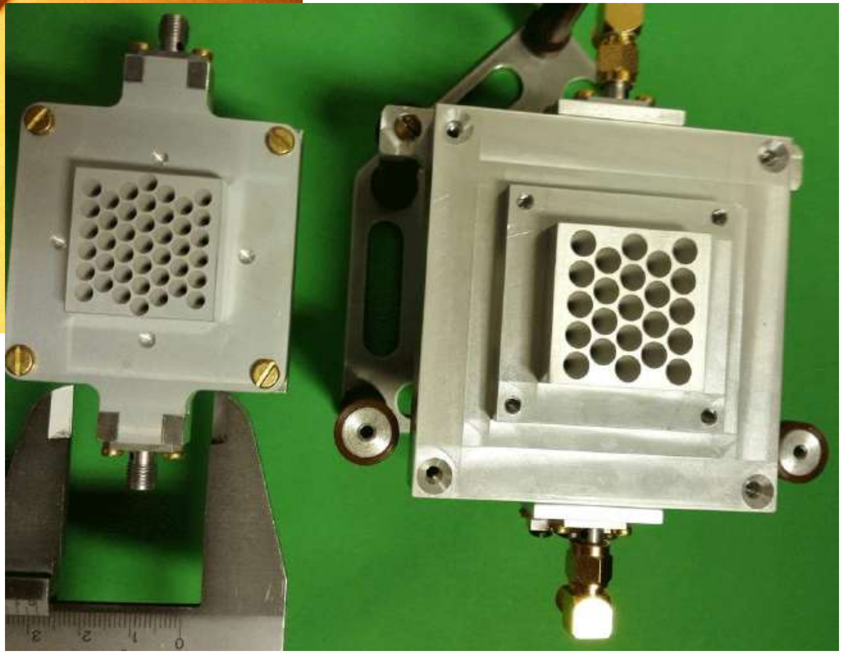
OLIMPO

- The OLIMPO experiment is a first attempt at spectroscopic measurements of the SZ.
- A large (2.6m aperture) balloon-borne telescope with a 4-bands photometric array and a plug-in room temperature **differential FTS** (150, 250, 350, 460 GHz).
- http://olimpo.roma1.infn.it



- OLIMPO launched at 07:09 GMT, 14/Jul/2018, from Longyearbyen (Svalbard)
- Great performance of Kinetic Inductance Detector Arrays, Telescope and Spectrometer.
- First Validation of KIDs in space conditions
- Satellite TM/TC failure - only LOS contact, first 20h – engineering flight





OLIMPO
Kinetic Inductance
Detectors

AL LEKIDs @
140, 200, 340, 480 GHz

100-600 MHz res.

CNR-IFN + Sapienza

SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

IFN

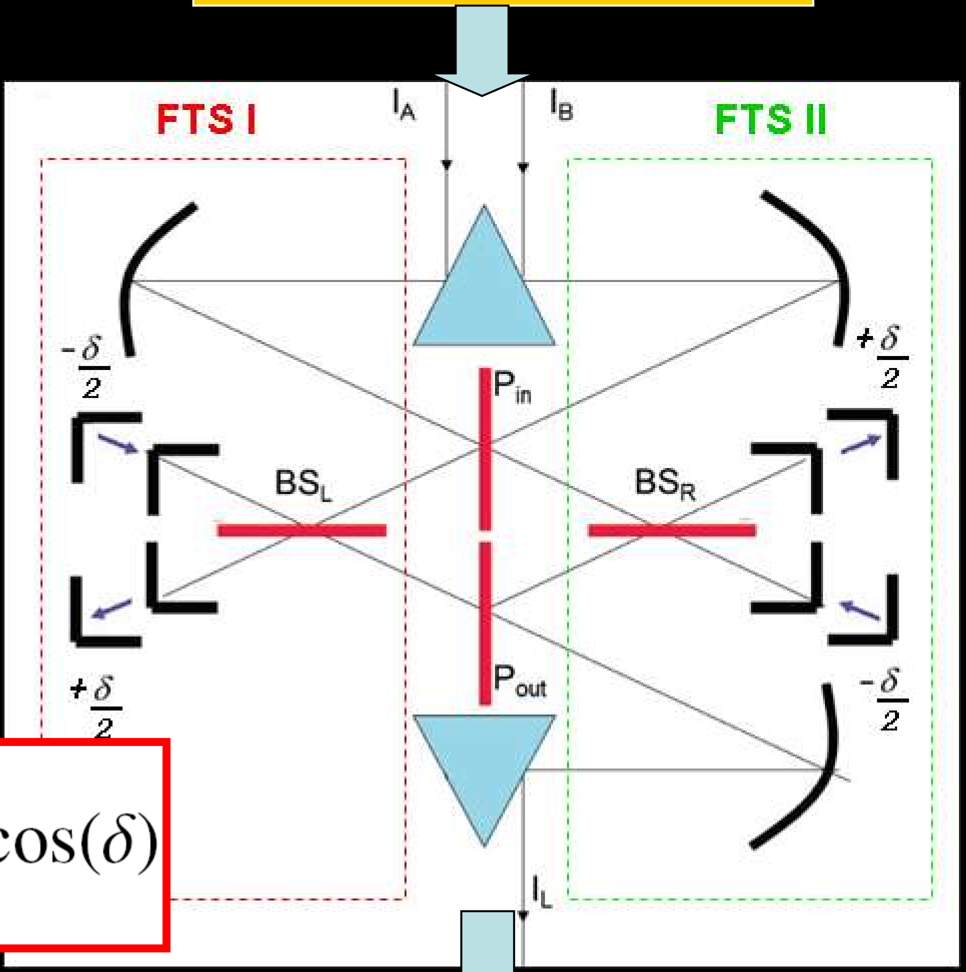
- **The instrument is based on a double Martin Puplett Interferometer configuration to avoid the loss of half of the signal.**
- **A wedge mirror splits the sky image in two halves I_a and I_b, used as input signals for both inputs of the two FTS's.**
- **In the FTSs the beam to be analyzed is split in two halves, and a variable optical path difference is introduced.**

See Schillaci et al. A&A 565, A125, 2014 for a detailed description of the instrument. The output brightness is

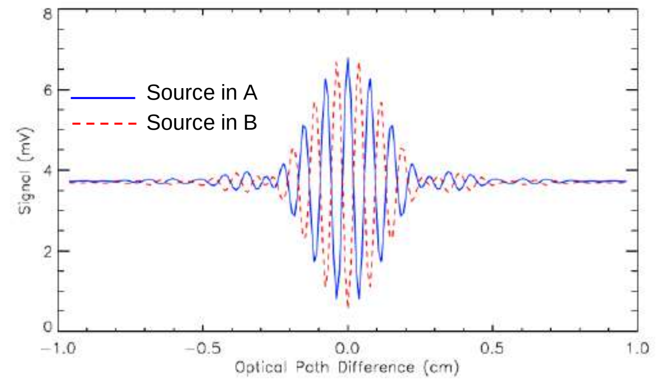
$$I_L = \frac{1}{2}(I_a + I_b) + \frac{1}{2}(I_a - I_b)\cos(\delta)$$

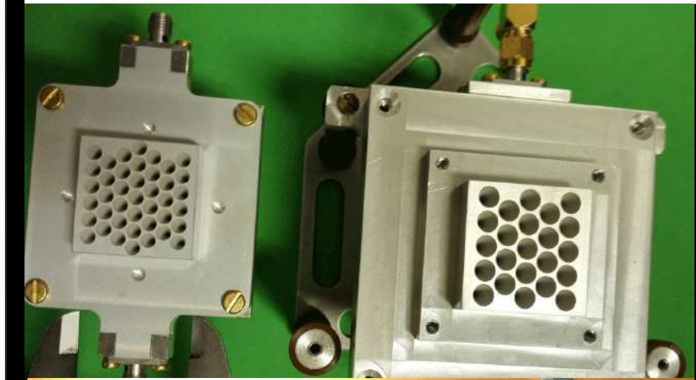
δ = variable phase shift, introduced by the variable optical path difference.
Only the *difference* between the two input brightnesses is modulated by the variable optical path difference. CMRR > 50 dB

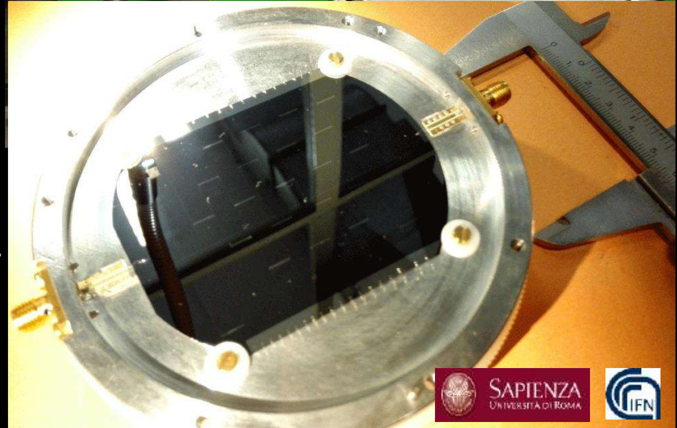
Olimpo Telescope



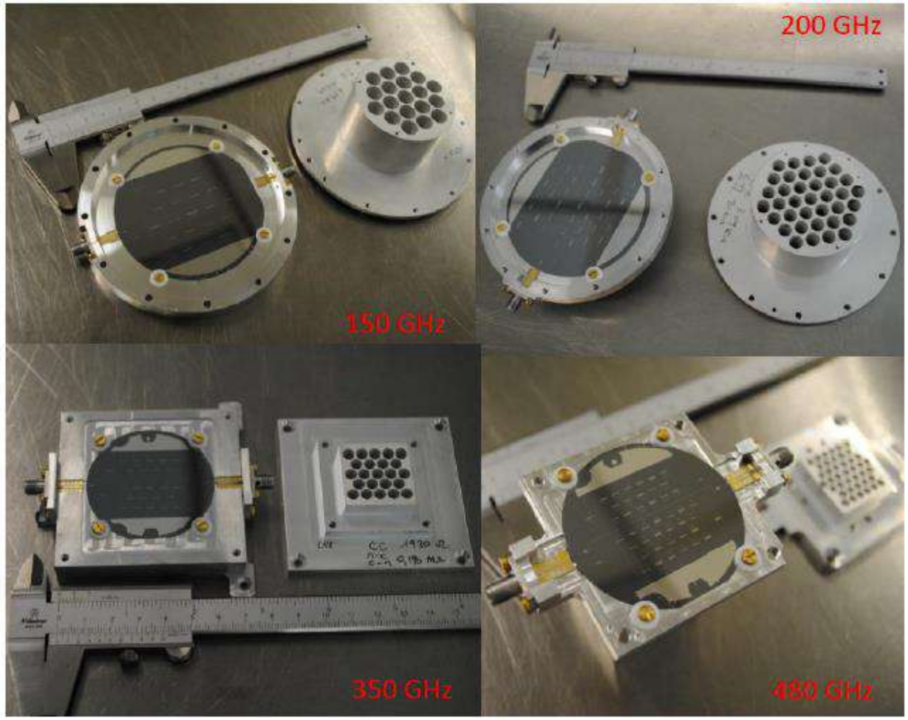
Olimpo
Cryostat
KID arrays





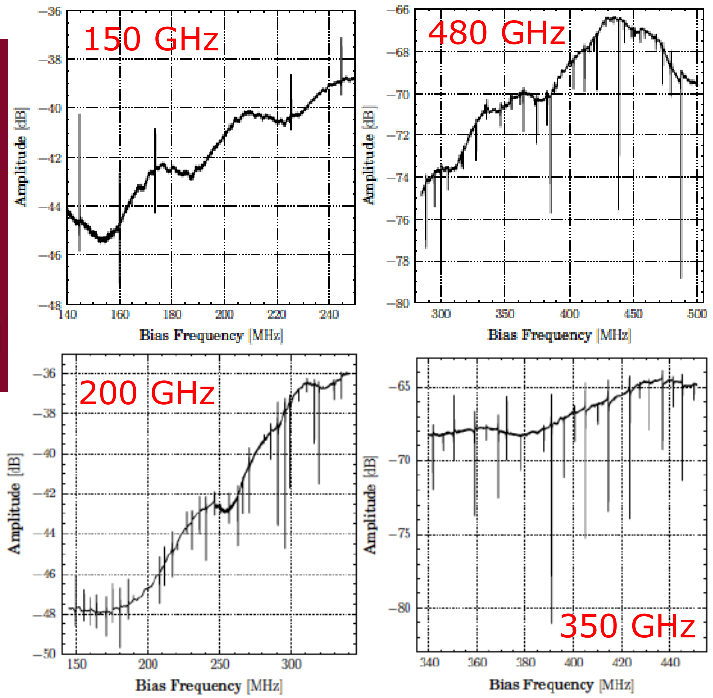


OLIMPO: Kinetic Inductance Detectors

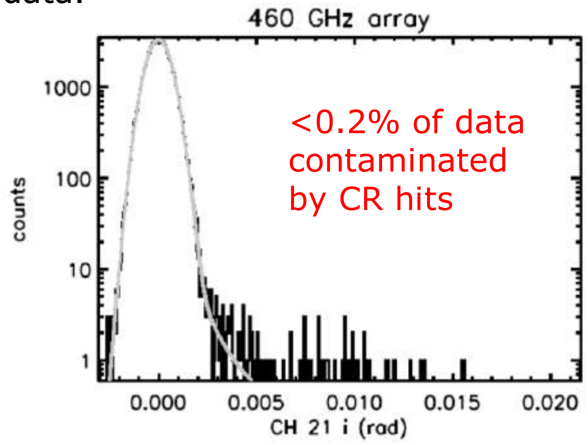


CNR IFN Istituto di Fotonica e Nanotecnologie

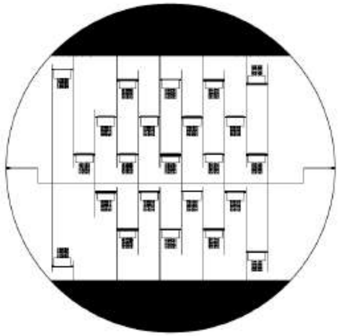
SAPIENZA UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

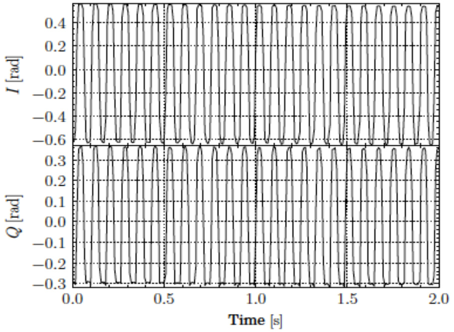


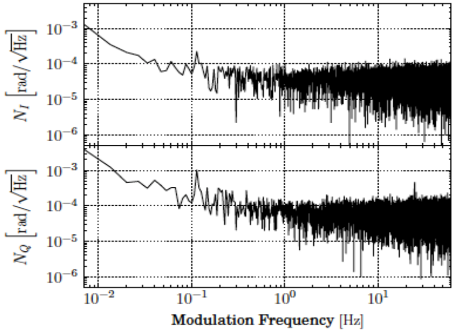
KIDs were tuned for the flight background and operated flawlessly at float. We measured photon noise limited performance, with Cosmic rays hits contaminating < 2% of the data.



<0.2% of data contaminated by CR hits

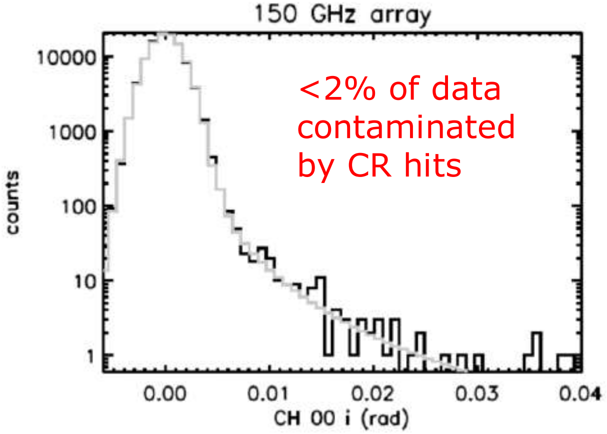






Channel	NET_{RJ} $[mK/\sqrt{Hz}]$
150 GHz	0.180
200 GHz	0.145
350 GHz	0.288
480 GHz	0.433

typical NET



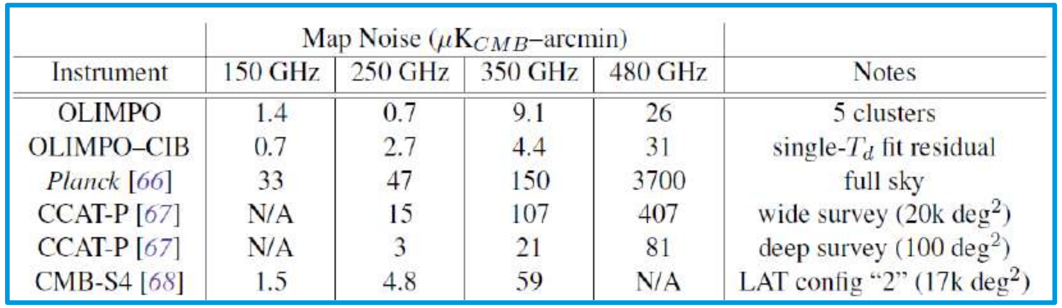
<2% of data contaminated by CR hits

asi agenzia spaziale italiana

See Paiella et al. (2019) JCAP01(2019)039 - Masi et al. (2019) JCAP07(2019)003

Expected results from science flight

Photometric configuration



Instrument	Map Noise (μK_{CMB}–arcmin)				Notes
	150 GHz	250 GHz	350 GHz	480 GHz	
OLIMPO	1.4	0.7	9.1	26	5 clusters
OLIMPO–CIB	0.7	2.7	4.4	31	single-T_d fit residual
Planck [66]	33	47	150	3700	full sky
CCAT-P [67]	N/A	15	107	407	wide survey (20k deg^2)
CCAT-P [67]	N/A	3	21	81	deep survey (100 deg^2)
CMB-S4 [68]	1.5	4.8	59	N/A	LAT config "2" (17k deg^2)

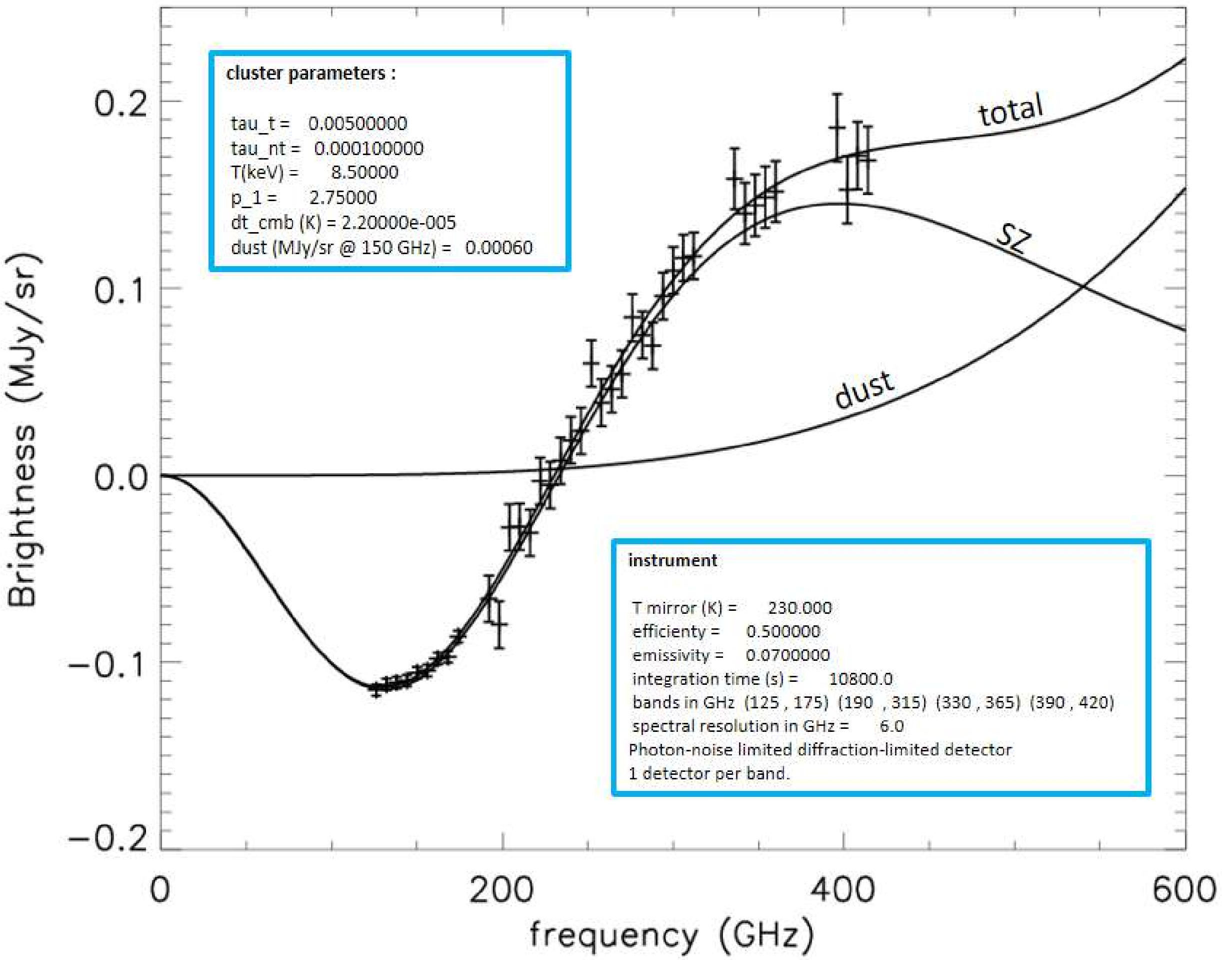
After the engineering flight, OLIMPO is currently looking for a scientific flight opportunity (Antarctic LDB).

Targets:

- A selection of a few a highly relaxed cool-core systems
- A morphologically regular object lacking a cool core
- A major merger with an ICM shock and significant radio emission
- A pre-merger pair connected by an emission bridge potentially associated with a filament.

This diversity will help mitigate selection-related systematics in our ensemble results.

Spectroscopic configuration



cluster parameters :

tau_t = 0.00500000
tau_nt = 0.000100000
T(keV) = 8.50000
p_1 = 2.75000
dt_cmb (K) = 2.20000e-005
dust (MJy/sr @ 150 GHz) = 0.00060

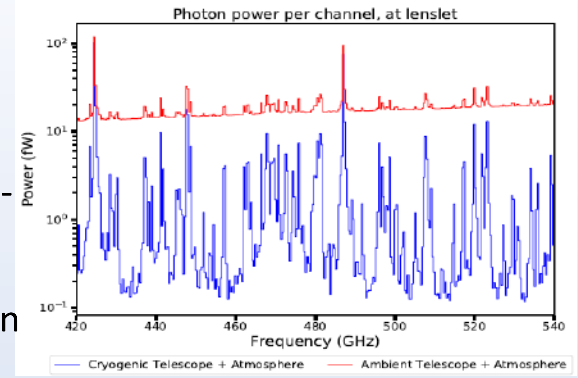
instrument

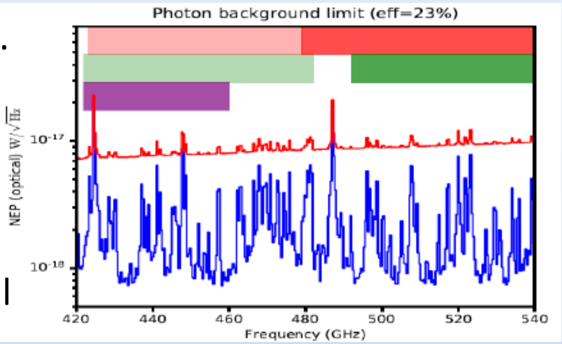
T mirror (K) = 230.000
efficiency = 0.500000
emissivity = 0.0700000
integration time (s) = 10800.0
bands in GHz (125 , 175) (190 , 315) (330 , 365) (390 , 420)
spectral resolution in GHz = 6.0
Photon-noise limited diffraction-limited detector
1 detector per band.

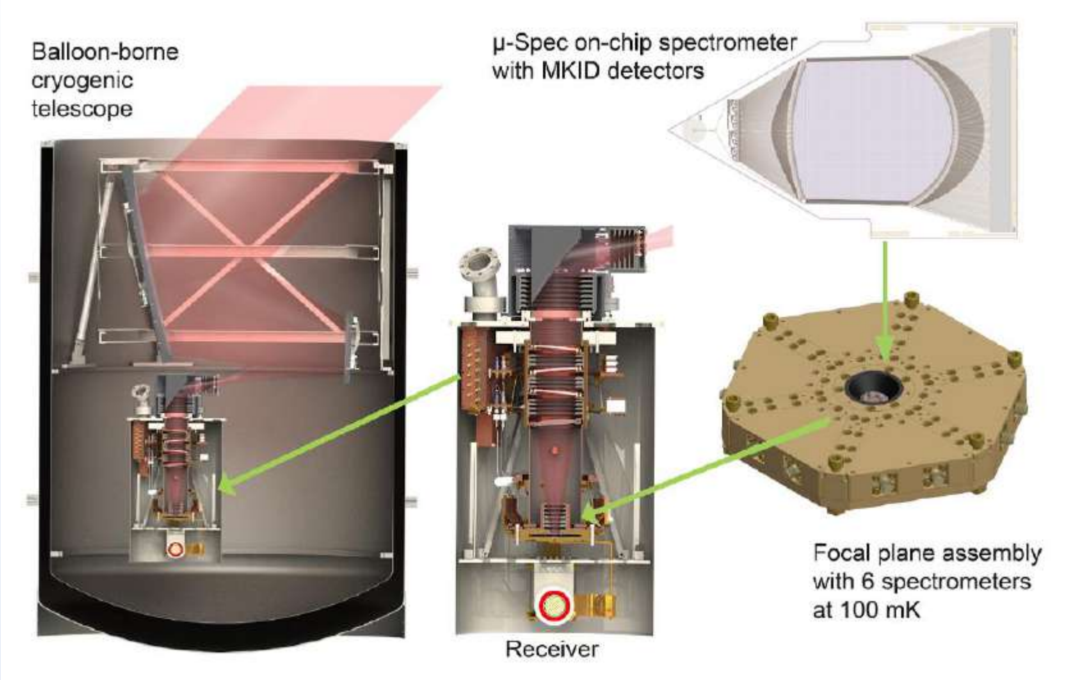
EXCLAIM

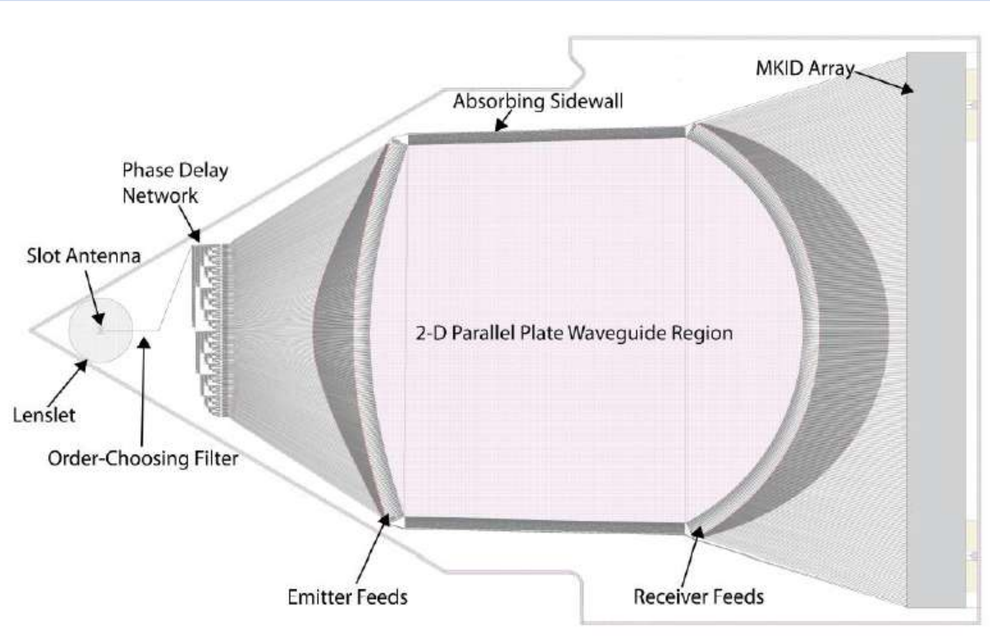
Cataldo+, arXiv:2101.11734

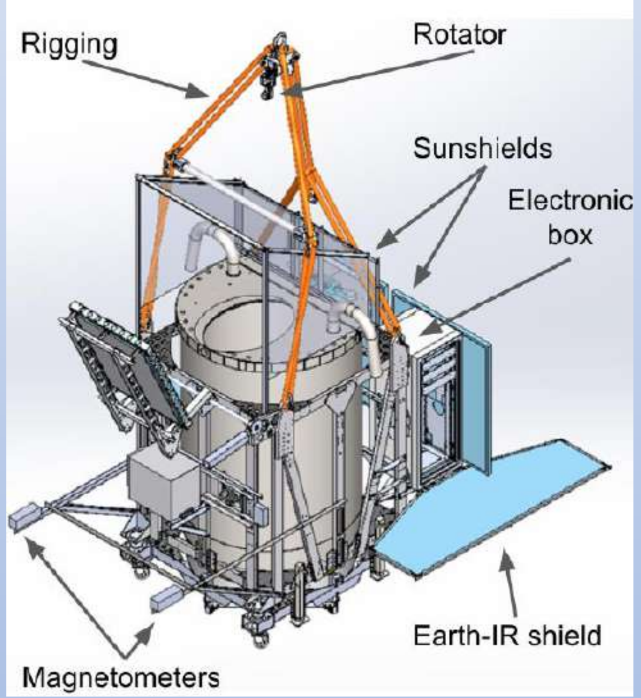
- The EXperiment for Cryogenic Large-Aperture Intensity Mapping (EXCLAIM) is a balloon-borne far-infrared telescope that will survey star formation history over cosmological time
- EXCLAIM will map the emission of redshifted carbon monoxide and singly-ionized carbon lines in windows over a redshift range $0 < z < 3:5$, following an innovative approach known as intensity mapping.
- Intensity mapping measures the statistics of brightness fluctuations of cumulative line emissions instead of detecting individual galaxies, thus enabling a blind, complete census of the emitting gas.
- To detect this emission unambiguously, EXCLAIM will cross-correlate with a spectroscopic galaxy catalog.
- The EXCLAIM mission uses a cryogenic design to cool the telescope optics to approximately 1.7 K. The telescope features a 90-cm primary mirror to probe spatial scales on the sky from the linear regime up to shot noise-dominated scales.
- The telescope optical elements couple to six μ-Spec spectrometer modules, operating over a 420-540 GHz frequency band with a spectral resolution of 512 and featuring microwave kinetic inductance detectors.
- the expected 2σ sensitivity to the surface brightness-bias product for $0 < z < 0:2$ (SDSS MAIN) for CO J = 4-3, J = 5-4, $0.2 < z < 0.4$ for J = 5-4, J = 6-5 (BOSS LOWZ), $0.4 < z < 0.7$ for J = 6 - 5 (CMASS), and $2.5 < z < 3.5$ for [CII] (QSO) are [0.15; 0.28; 0.30; 0.37; 0.45; 13] kJy/sr, respectively.





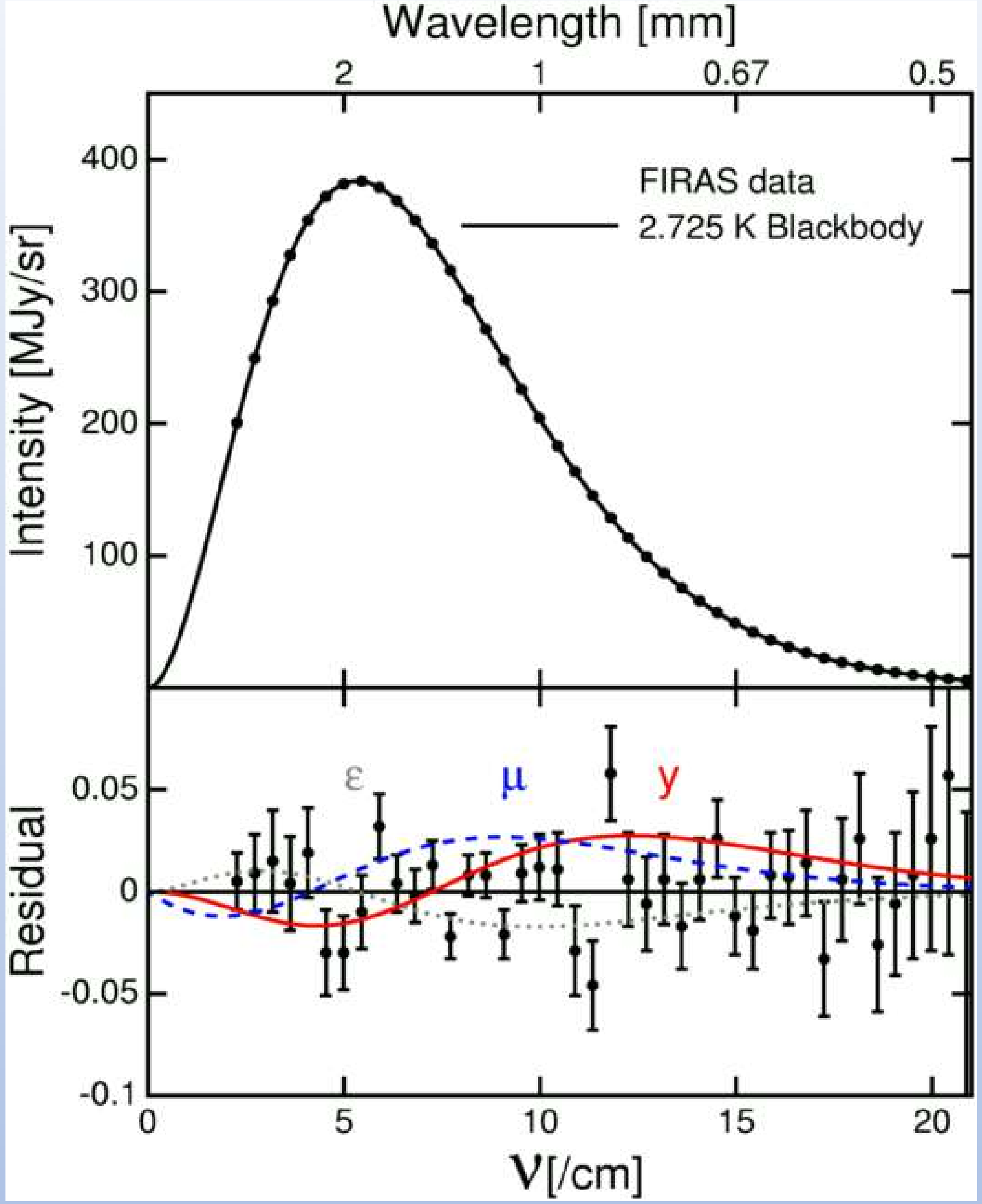






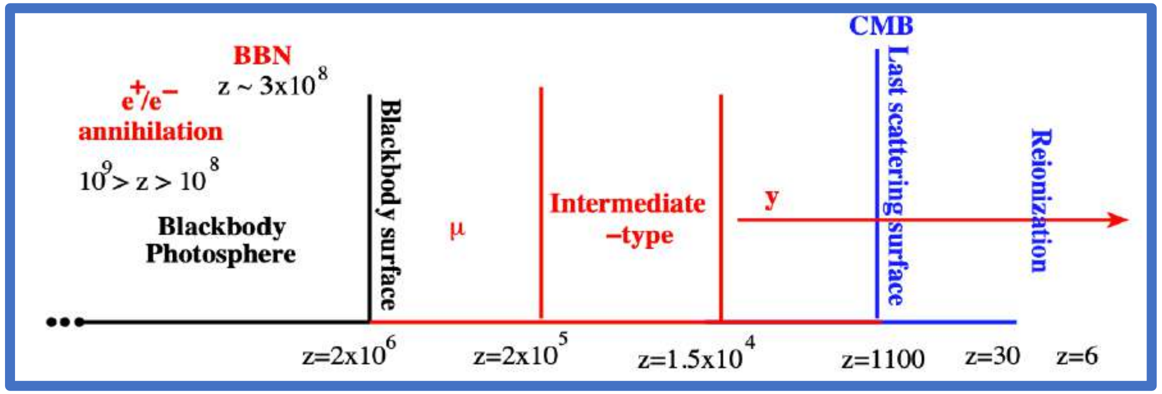
Science Case 3 : Isotropic spectral distortions

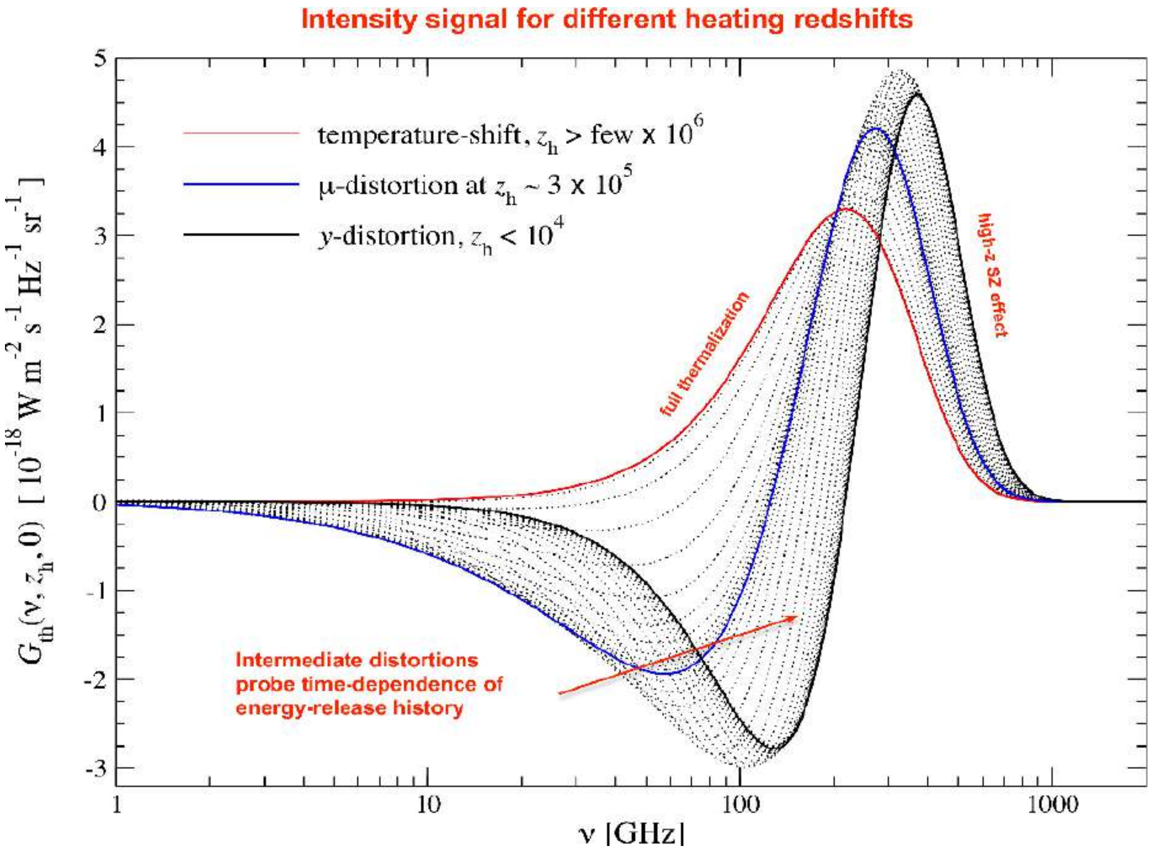
- In the primeval fireball, CMB photons are frequently scattered by free electrons, and efficiently thermalized, thus acquiring their blackbody spectrum.
- After recombination, CMB photons do not interact with matter anymore, and the blackbody spectrum is maintained, with its temperature scaling as the inverse of the scale factor.
- This has been measured by COBE-FIRAS: **a perfect blackbody spectrum**, within deviations, if any, < 100 ppm of its maximum brightness.
- If there was any deviation from thermal equilibrium, the result would be a *spectral distortion*, a deviation from a pure Planck spectrum.
- **Spectral deviations are expected, at a level of 20 ppm or lower.** See e.g. J. Chluba, R. A. Sunyaev MNRAS (2012) 419 1294
- The obvious choice for this measurement is to use an absolute spectrometer on a satellite (see e.g the PIXIE psoposal).
- Can we attempt a measurement from a stratospheric balloon ?



Isotropic spectral distortions

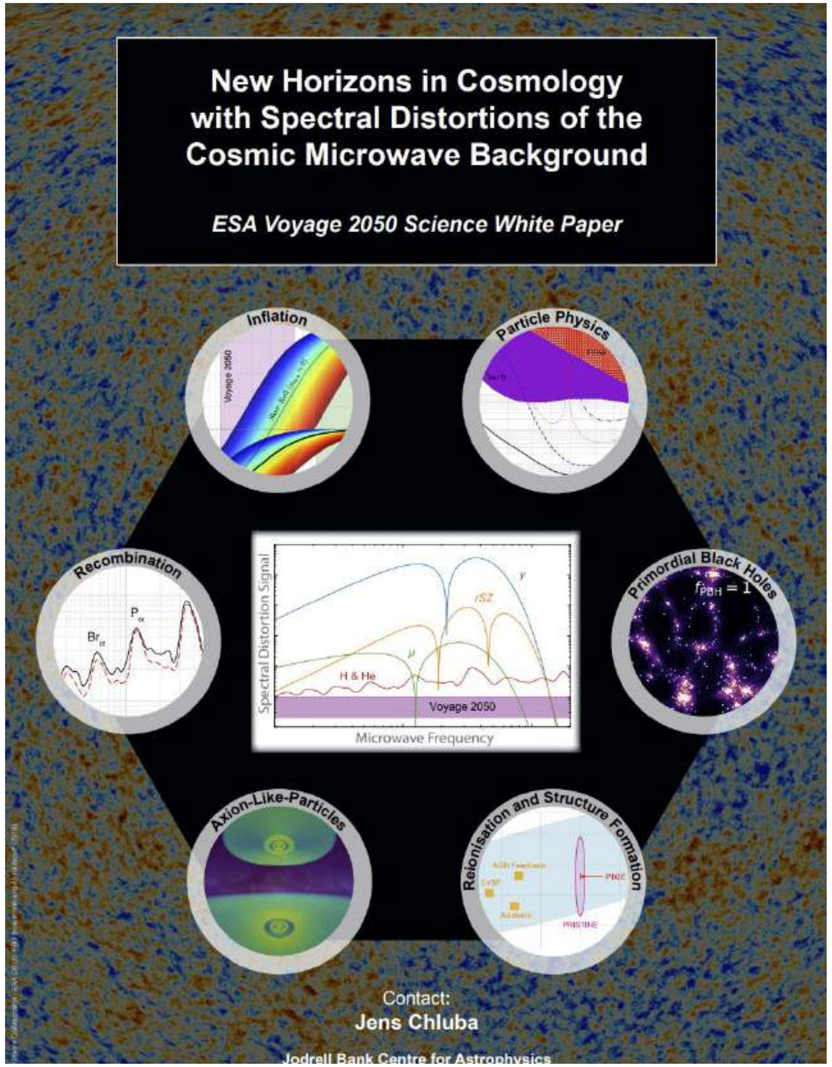
- Two classes of phenomena lead to distortions:
  - Energy injection (due to matter – photons interactions)
  - Production of energetic photons or particles (i.e. entropy variations)
- Depending on when these phenomena happened, the generated distortion is, or is partially, or is not reabsorbed by thermalization processes.
- Very early departures ($z>2\times10^6$) are thermalized (to a higher temperature).
- Later releases produce isotropic distortions with different amplitudes and spectral shapes: intermediate energy releases produce a Bose-Einstein (μ) distortion; late energy releases produce a Compton (y) distortion.
- The distortion signature from different energy-release scenarios is not just given by a superposition of pure μ- and pure y-distortion. The small residual beyond μ- and y-distortion contains information about the exact time-dependence of the energy-release history.
- A rich information content to be exploited, if isotropic distortions are detected.




Intensity signal for different heating redshifts

Wide theoretical literature

- **Take home messages from theoretical literature:**
- Isotropic spectral distortions add a new dimension to CMB science since they probe the thermal history at different stages of the Universe.
- Several guaranteed signals are expected
  - y-distortion from post recombination ionized matter
  - Silk damping signal & recombination radiation
- Complementary and independent information:
  - cosmological parameters from the recombination radiation
  - New/additional test of large-scale anomalies
- Test various inflation models
  - damping of the small-scale power spectrum
- Discovery potential
  - decaying particles, including dark matter generation
  - other exotic sources of distortions



New Horizons in Cosmology with Spectral Distortions of the Cosmic Microwave Background

ESA Voyage 2050 Science White Paper

Contact:
Jens Chluba
Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics

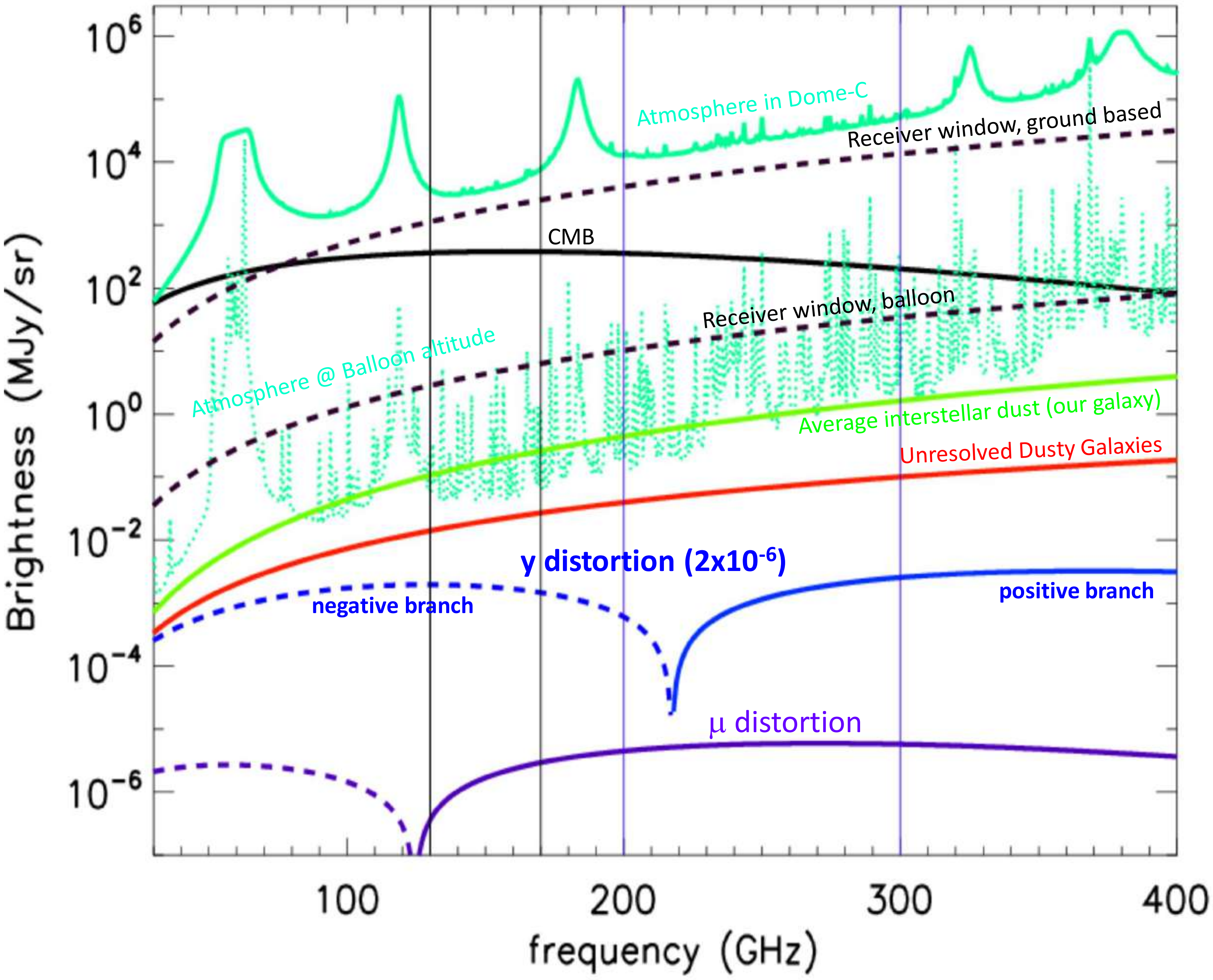
Experimental Astronomy, **51**, 1515-1554, (2021)

- **Additional take home message: isotropic spectral distortions are small, but for several of them we do have a reliable expectation value for the amplitude.**
- For example, the Comptonization due to post recombination ionized matter along the line of sight produces $y=1.8\mathrm{x}10^{-6}$

Reality check

- The isotropic distortion signals are embedded in much stronger isotropic local and astrophysical foregrounds.
- To avoid local foregrounds (atmosphere, instrument), the final measurement requires a space mission.
- Ground-based and balloon-borne measurements are necessary to validate instrument solutions, measurement strategies, and astrophysical foregrounds.
- In the best *ground-based environment,* the largest distortion signal is ~ 6 orders of magnitude smaller than the emission of the atmosphere: a very difficult situation.

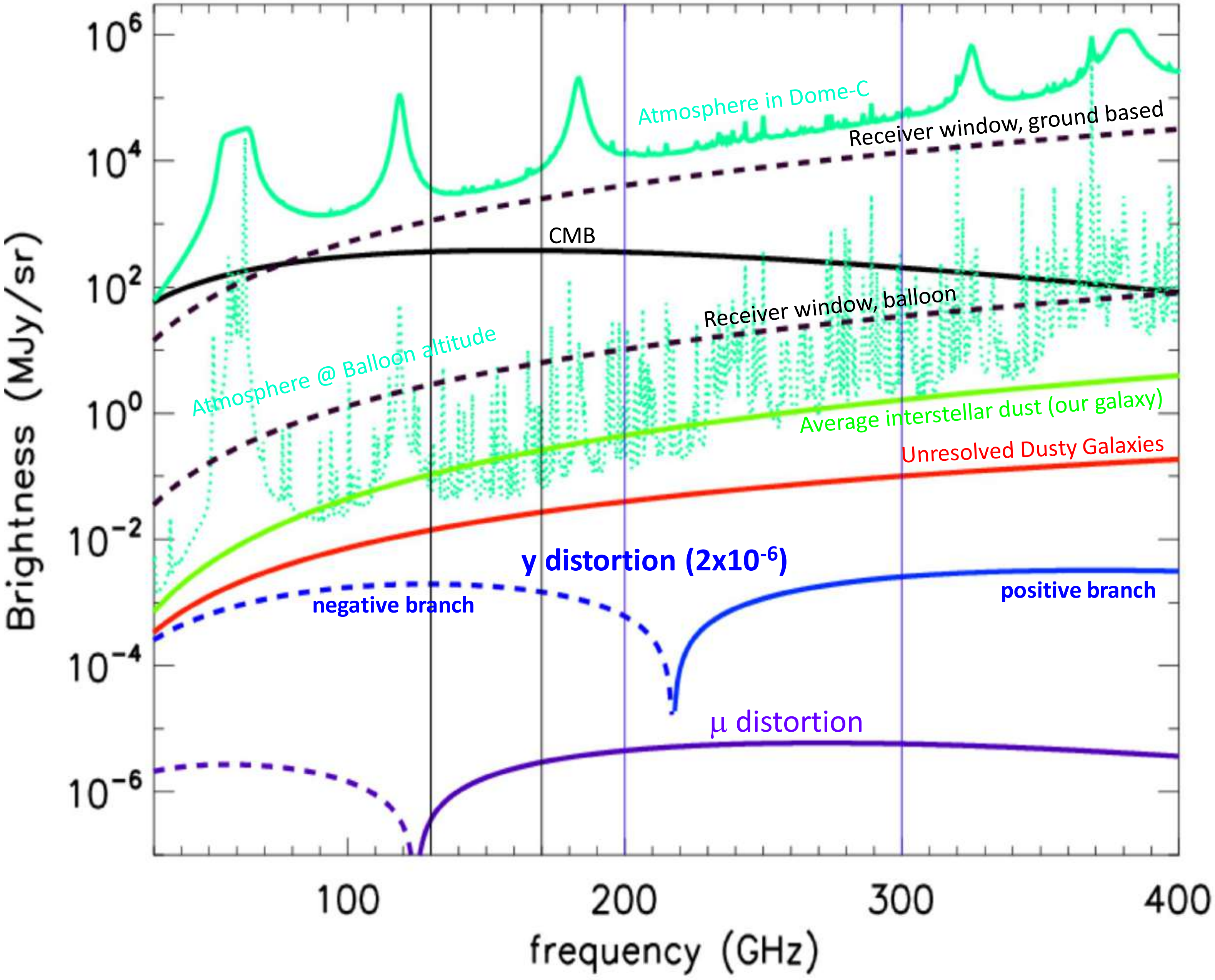
from Masi & arXiv:2110.12254



A way forward

- In the best *balloon-borne environment*, the largest distortion signal is ~3 orders of magnitude smaller than the residual emission of the atmosphere, which is smaller than the CMB and comparable to other isotropic astrophysical foregrounds.
- The undistorted isotropic CMB can be rejected by a nulling instrument (like a Martin-Puplett FTS), where the sky brightness is compared to an internal blackbody at 2.725K.
- The residual emission from the receiver window can be monitored and subtracted by introducing controlled temperature changes.
- This tells us that **a pathfinder balloon-borne instrument can measure the largest y distortion and the astrophysical foregrounds.** Efficient separation is expected due to the very different spectral shapes.

from Masi & arXiv:2110.12254



A staged approach

1) Pathfinder *ground-based* implementation: COSMO, on-going (PRIN, PNRA), see also ASPERA at low frequencies. COSMO will be used to validate the differential spectrometer measurement approach, well beyond FIRAS, using:

- A cryogenic Fourier Transform Spectrometer with ultra-high CMRR
- Tunable cryogenic reference blackbody for nulling
- Window temperature modulation method
- Fast KIDs detectors with fast atmospheric modulation to monitor and remove atmospheric fluctuations

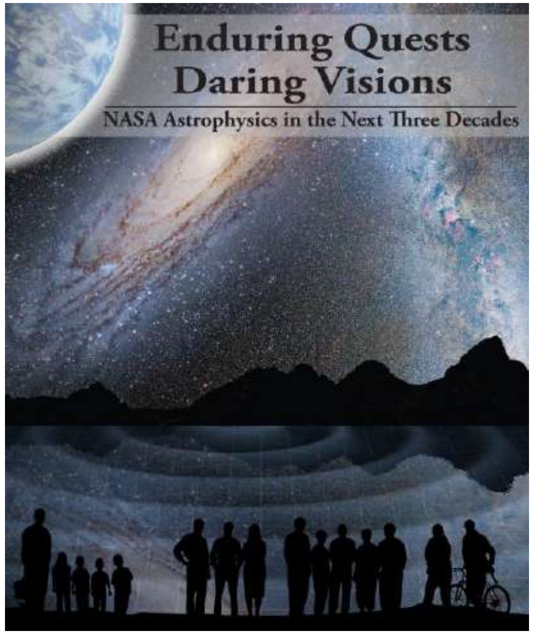
2) Same/similar hardware on a *stratospheric balloon* (in a LHe cryostat): **COSMO-Balloon** (ASI-Cosmos study), or **BISOU** (CNES study)

- To measure the largest y distortion, the astrophysical foregrounds, and demonstrate the efficiency of the separation methods

3) A dedicated *satellite mission*. (PIXIE, CORE, PRISTINE, FOSSIL, V2050 proposals)

- Note that the importance of this science has been officially recognized by
- NASA: 30 years study 2014: https://arxiv.org/abs/1401.3741
- ESA: Voyage 2050: https://www.cosmos.esa.int/documents/1866264/1866292/Voyage2050-Senior-Committee-report-public.pdf
- However, none of the proposals above has been approved, yet.

- The staged approach depicted here will certainly help the community to produce a convincing proposal, not only from the point of view of science, but also from the instrumental, methodological and programmatic points of view.



COSMO
(COSmic Monopole Observer)

- **COSMO** is a pathfinder spectral distortions experiment, ground-based (Dome-C) in its first implementation.
- A second balloon-borne implementation is under study.
- The instrument is a cryogenic **Differential Fourier Transform Spectrometer**, comparing the sky brightness to an accurate internal blackbody.

*E. Battistelli, P. de Bernardis, S. Cibella, F. Columbro, A. Coppolecchia, M. Bersanelli, G. D’Alessandro, M. De Petris, C. Franceschet, M. Gervasi, A. Limonta, L. Lamagna, E. Manzan, E. Marchitelli, S. Masi, L. Mele, A. Mennella, A. Paiella, G. Pettinari, F. Piacentini, L. Piccirillo, G. Pisano, S. Realini, C. Tucker, M. Zannoni

SAPIENZA UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

CNR IFN Istituto di Fotonica e Nanotecnologie

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO BICOCCA

UNIVERSITAS STUDIORUM MEDIOLANENSIS

MANCHESTER 1824 The University of Manchester

CARDIFF UNIVERSITY PRIFYSGOL CAERDYDD

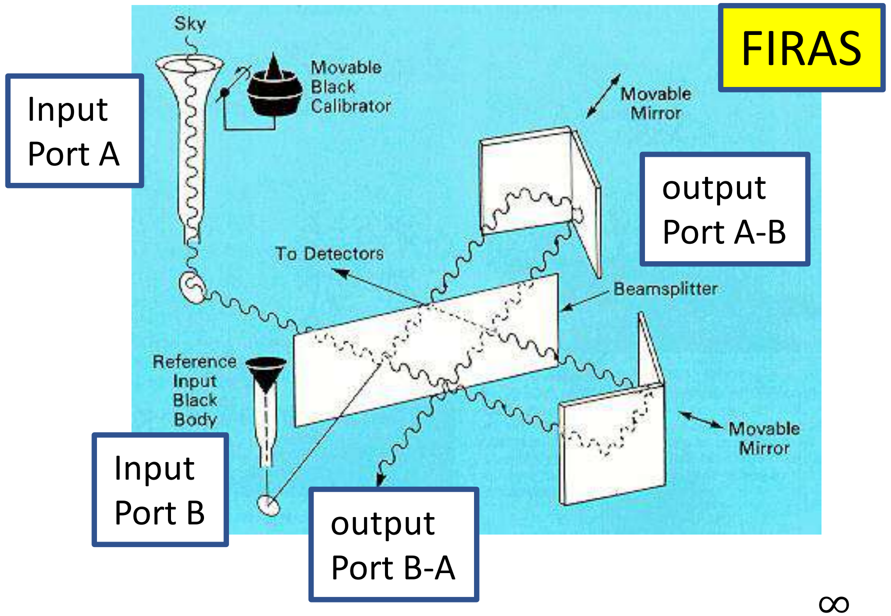
PRIN Programmi di Ricerca Scientifica di Rilevante Interesse Nazionale

PROGRAMMA NAZIONALE DI RICERCHE IN ANTARTIDE ITALIANTARTIDE

https://cosmo.roma1.infn.it

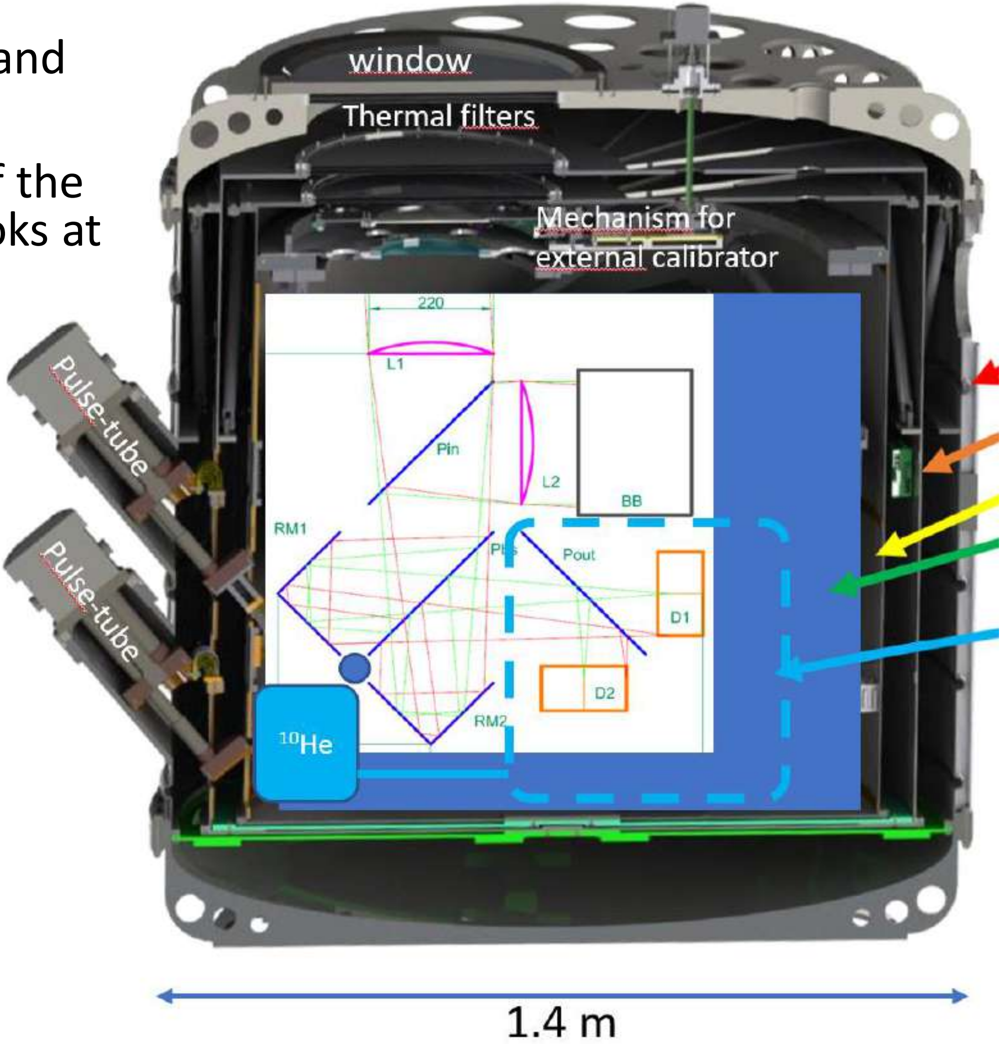
Absolute measurement approach

- The Martin-Pupplett Fourier Transform Spectrometer used un FIRAS and PIXIE has two input ports.
- The instrument is intrinsically differential, measuring the spectrum of the difference in brightness at the two input ports. Normally one port looks at the sky, the other one at an internal reference blackbody.
- For calibration, a movable blackbody fills the sky port.



FIRAS

COSMO

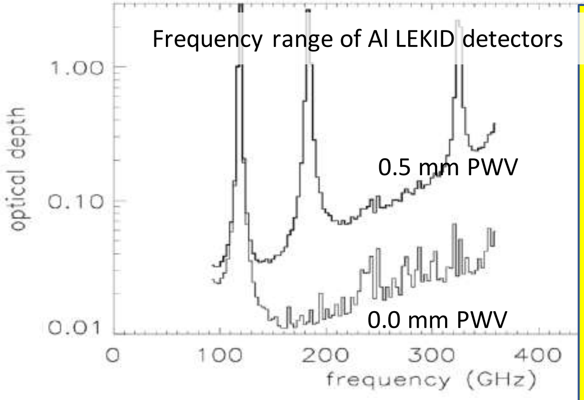


Sky measurement

$$I_{SKY}(x) = C \int_0^\infty [S_{SKY}(\sigma) - S_{REF}(\sigma)] rt(\sigma) \{1 + \cos[4\pi\sigma x]\} d\sigma$$

Calibration measurement

$$I_{CAL}(x) = C \int_0^\infty [S_{CAL}(\sigma) - S_{REF}(\sigma)] rt(\sigma) \{1 + \cos[4\pi\sigma x]\} d\sigma$$



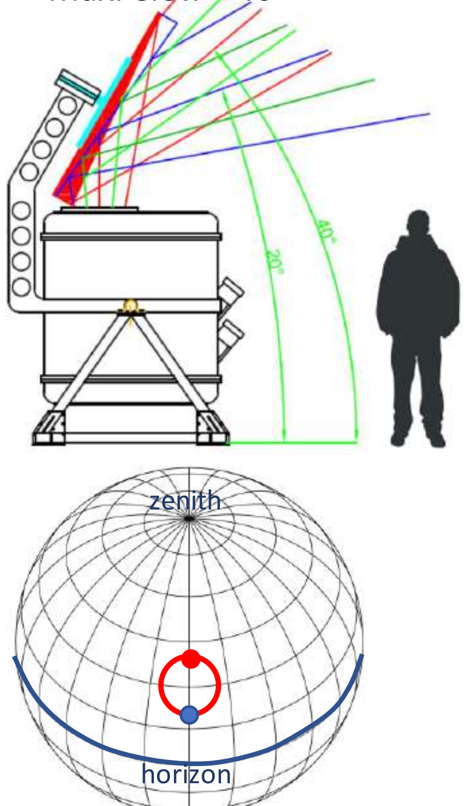
Coping with atmospheric emission

COSMO will operate from the Concordia French-Italian base in Dome-C (Antarctica) … the best site on Earth, extremely cold and dry ! But still has to cope with some atmospheric emission.

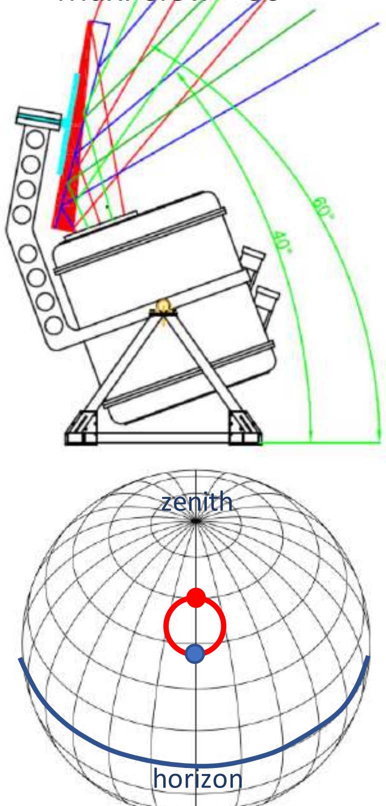
COSMO uses fast detectors (KIDs) and fast elevation scans to separate atmospheric emission and its long-term fluctuations from the monopole of the sky brightness.

A fast spinning wedge mirror (>1000 rpm!) steers the boresight direction on a circle, 20º in diameter, scanning a range of elevations (and corresponding atmospheric optical depths) while the cryogenic interferometer scans the optical path difference.

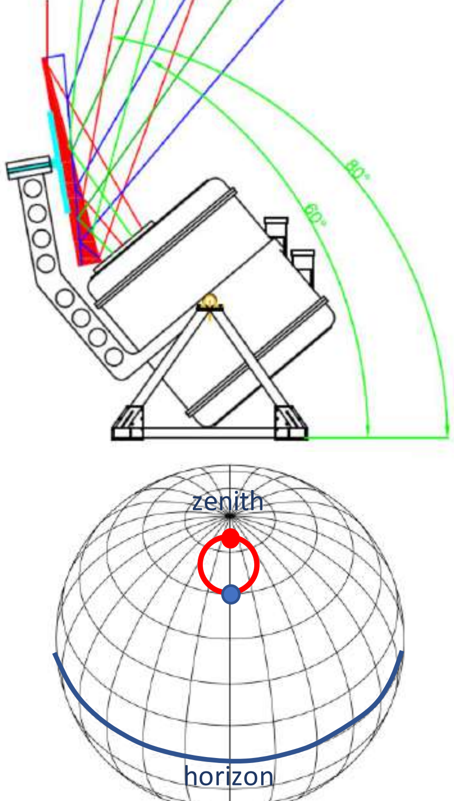
Cryostat tilt = 0º
PT tilt = 40°
Min. elev. = 20°
Max. elev. = 40°



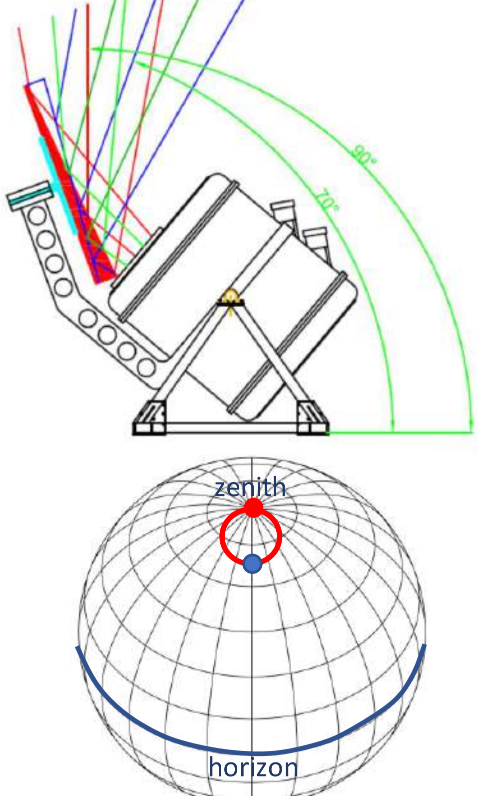
Cryostat tilt = 20º
PT tilt = 20°
Min. elev. = 40°
Max. elev. = 60°

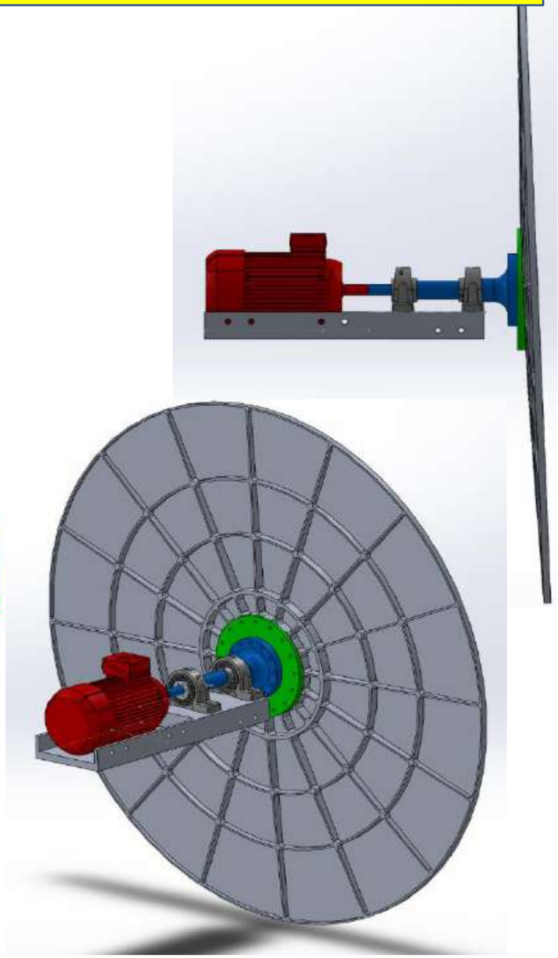


Cryostat tilt = 40º
PT tilt = 0°
Min. elev. = 60°
Max. elev. = 80°

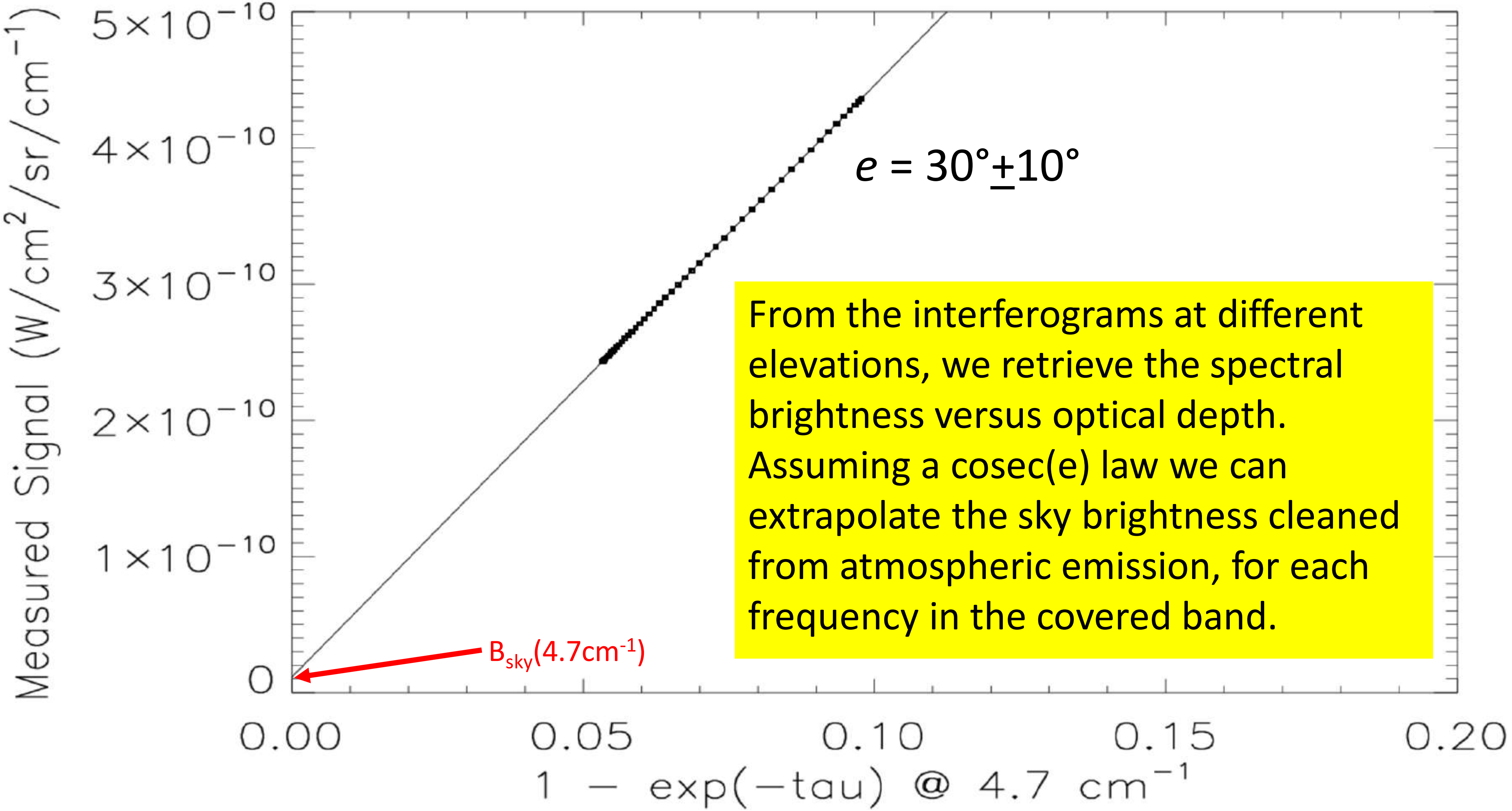


Cryostat tilt = 50º
PT tilt = -10°
Min. elev. = 70°
Max. elev. = 90°





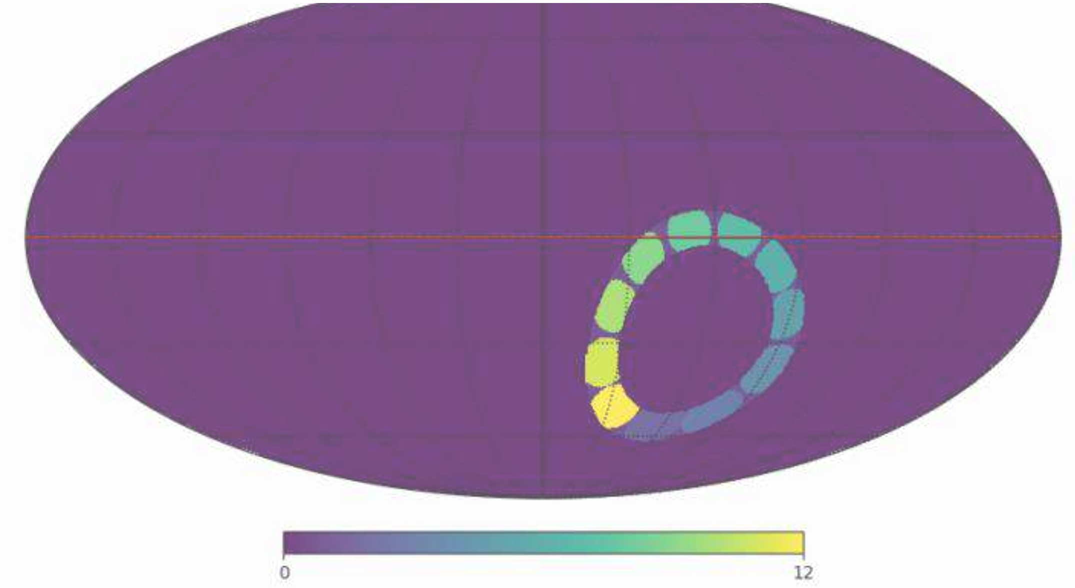
Coping with atmospheric emission

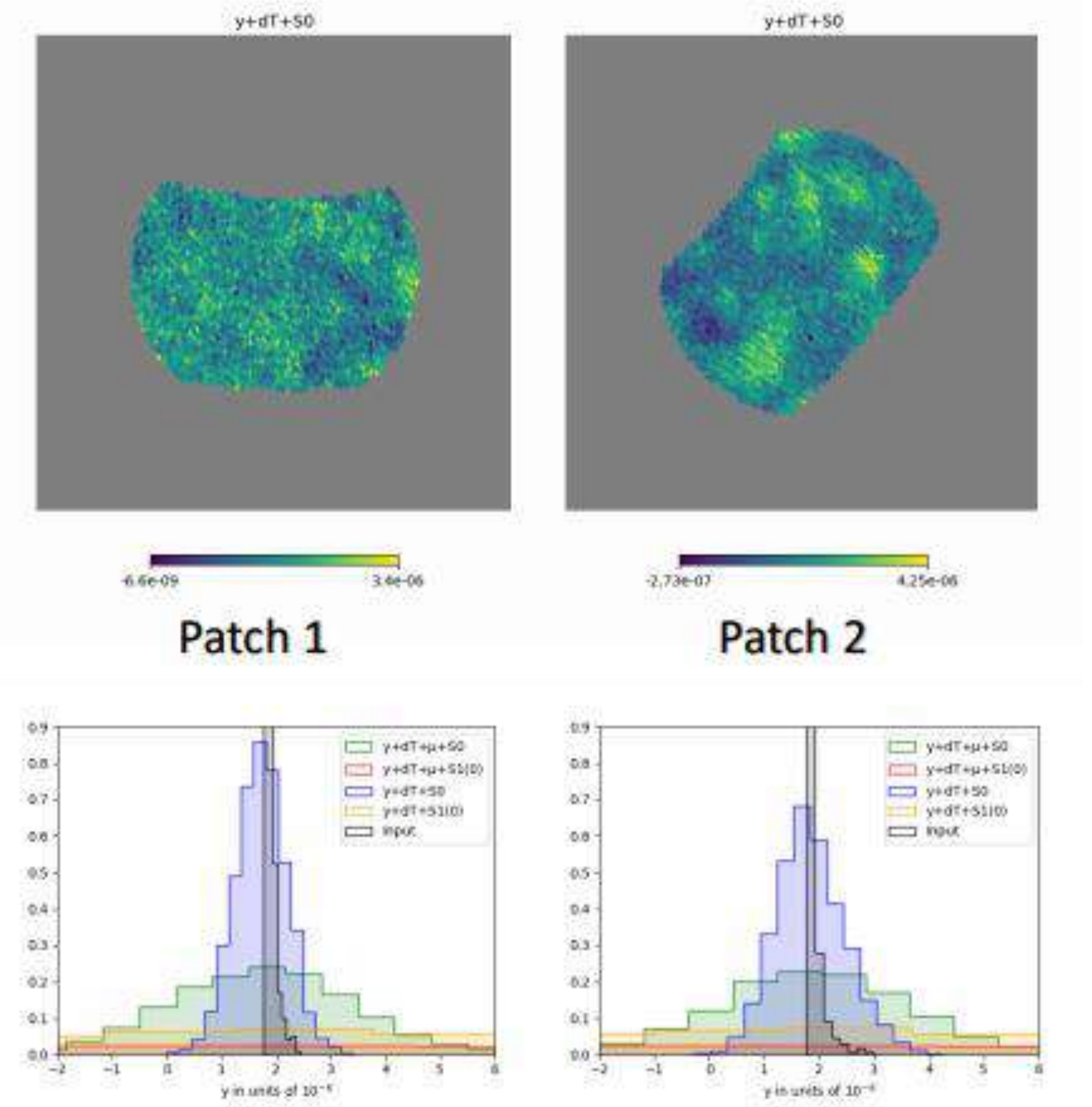


From the interferograms at different elevations, we retrieve the spectral brightness versus optical depth. Assuming a cosec(e) law we can extrapolate the sky brightness cleaned from atmospheric emission, for each frequency in the covered band.

Performance Forecast

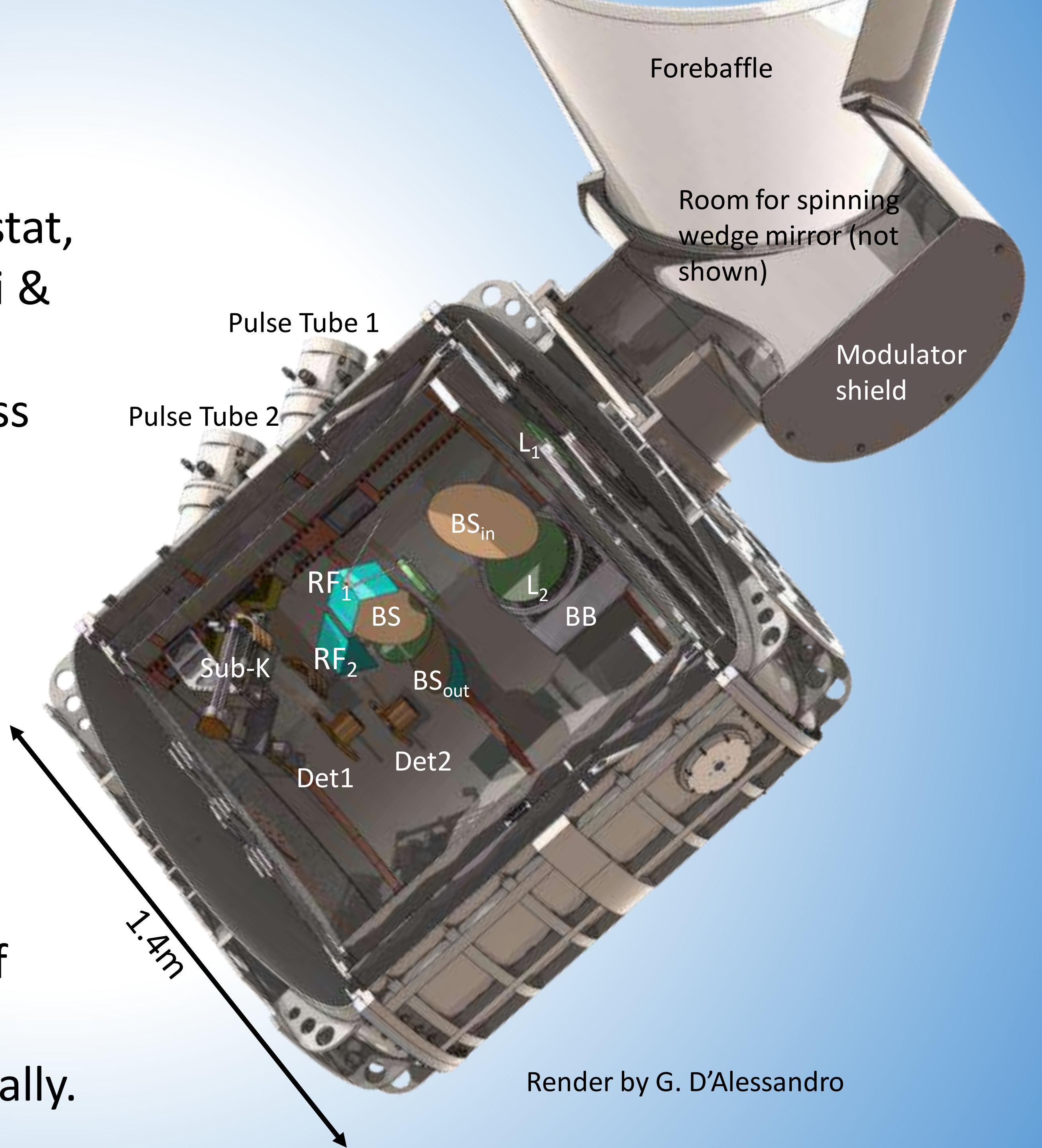
- Assuming photon noise limited performance, dominated by the atmospheric emission (AM model) and cryostat window (with $\varepsilon = 1\%$)
- Observing site: Dome-C. Daily coverage of 11 sky patches at high elevation, 1 year of integration.
- ILC-based simulations: COSMO can extract the isotropic comptonization parameter (assumed to be $y = 1.77 \cdot 10^{-6}$) as $y = (1.76 \pm 0.26) \cdot 10^{-6}$ in the presence of the main Galactic foreground (thermal dust) and of CMB anisotropy, and assuming perfect atmospheric emission removal (L. Mele)





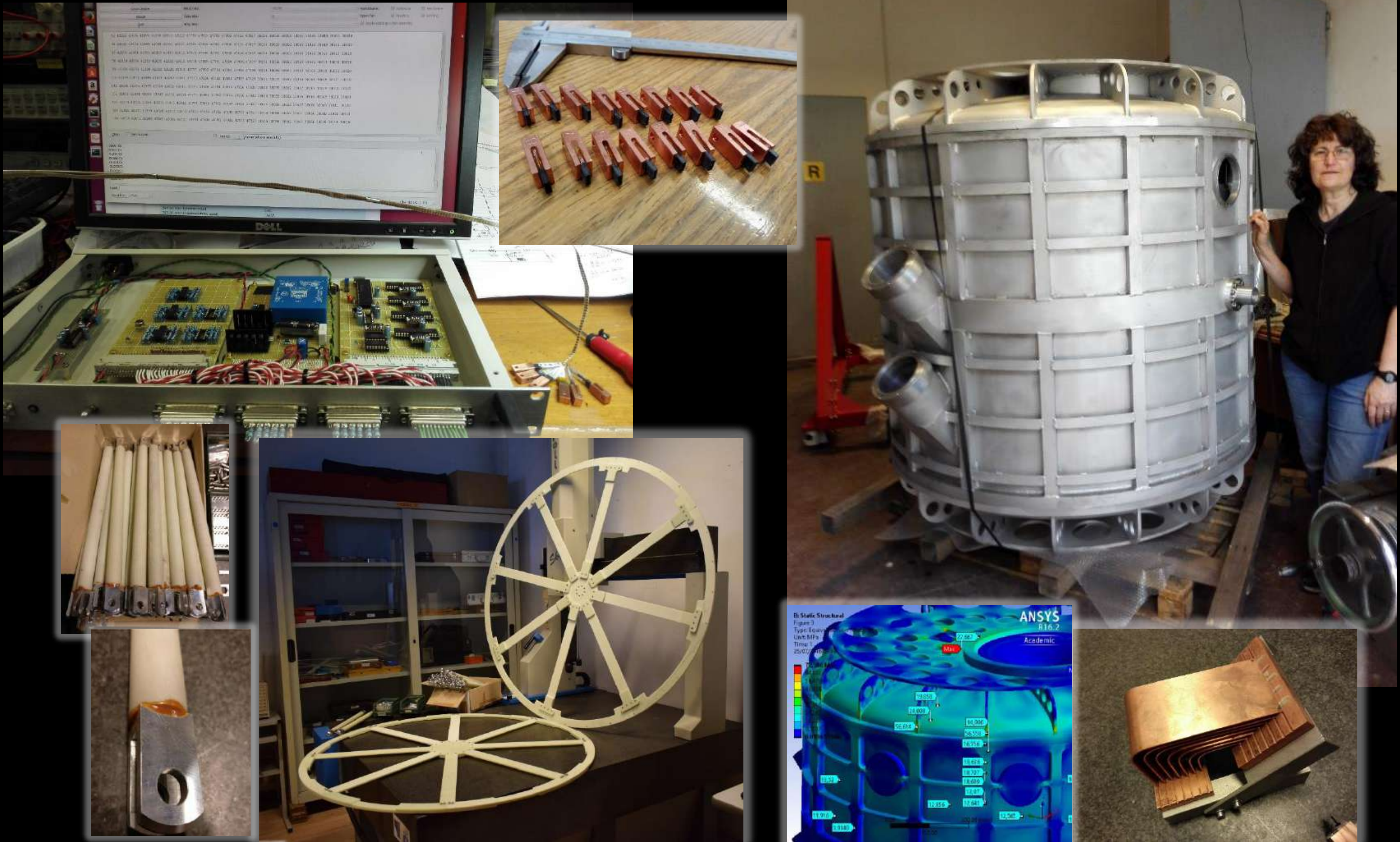
Instrument Implementation

- Instrument inside a pulse-tube based cryostat, twin of the one developed for QUBIC (Masi & JCAP 2021)
- Cryostat height 1.54m, diameter 1.4m, mass 350kg.
- The spinning wedge mirror for sky scans is mounted on top of the vacuum window.
- A large, absorbing forebaffle protects the spinning wedge from straylight.
- The interferometer operates at cryogenic temperature (close to 2.7K)
- The optical path difference modulation is obtained by translating one of the two roof mirrors by means of a frictionless cryomechanism, actuated electromagnetically.



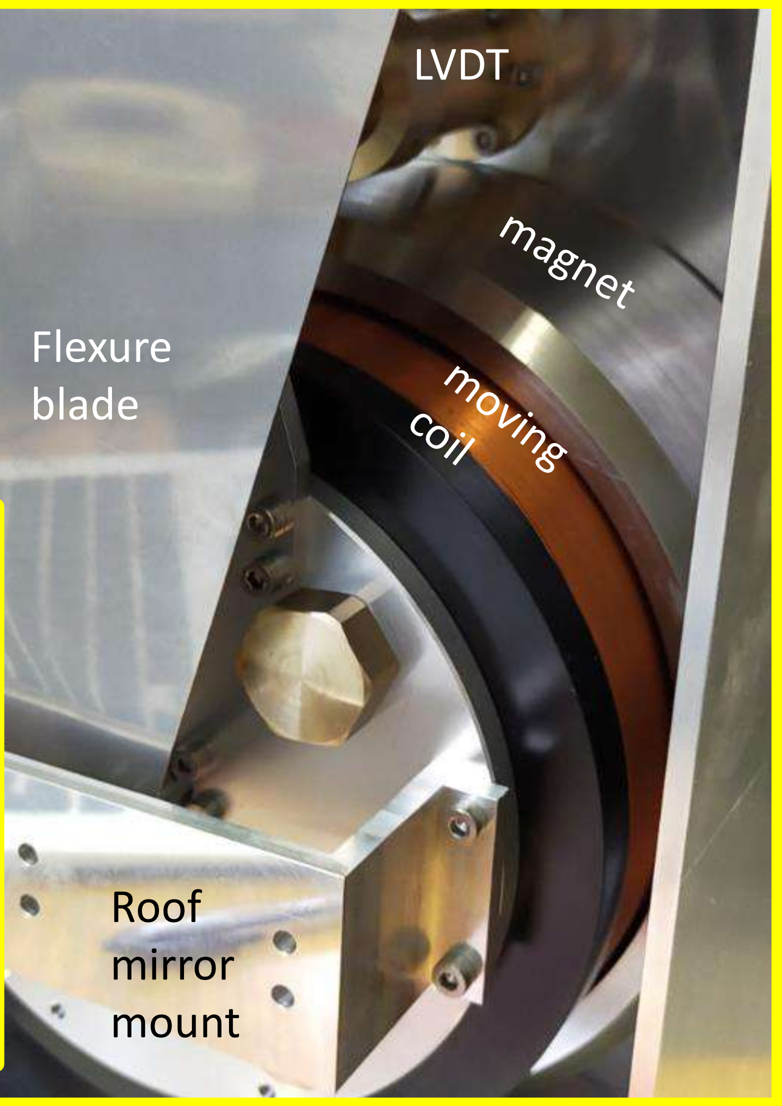
Render by G. D'Alessandro

COSMO hardware



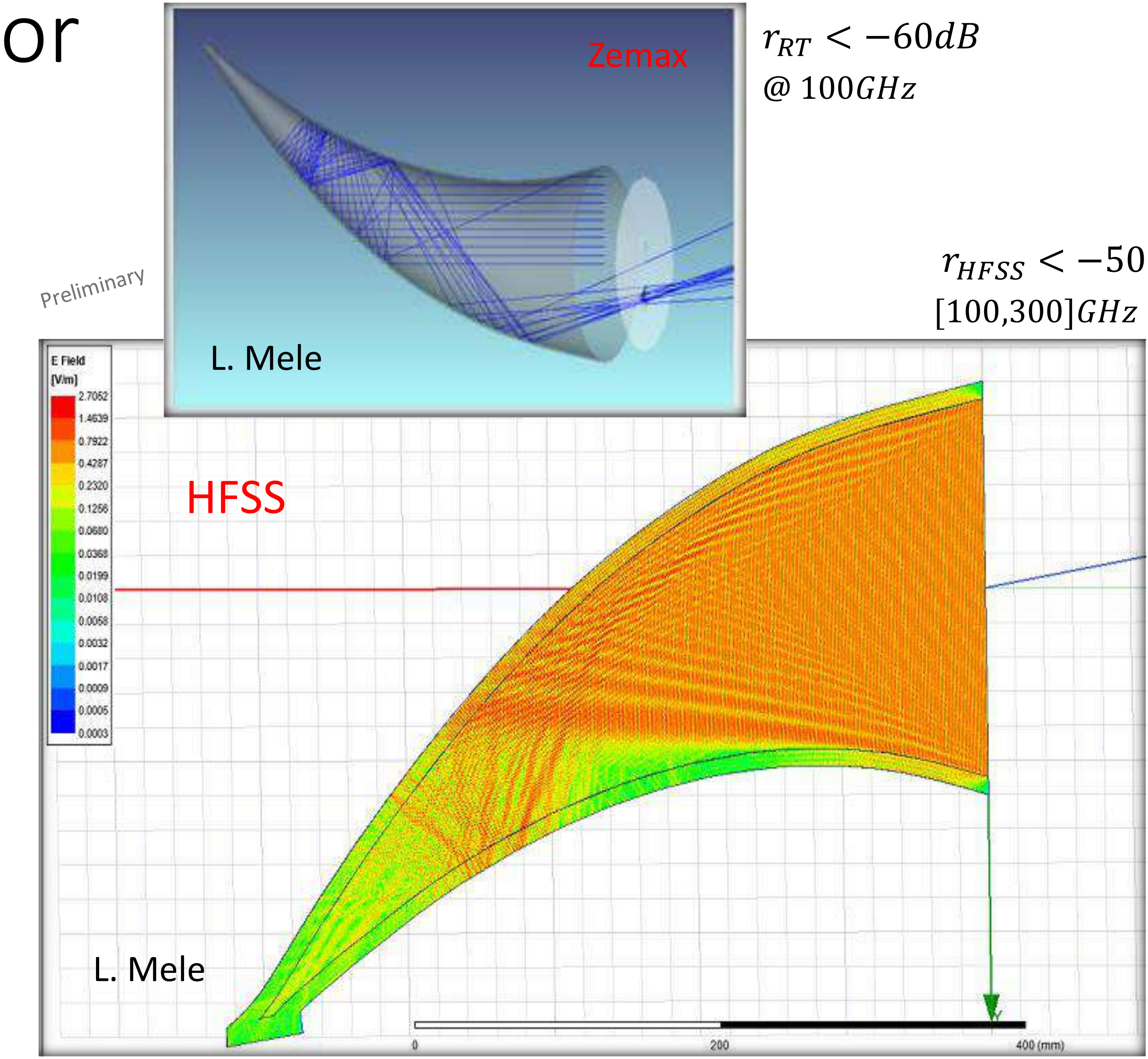
Variable Delay Line for the FTS

- Cryogenic operation – frictionless design to minimize heat load
- Based on a powerful voice coil with steel flexure blades support, to move one roof mirror. up to 0.2 cm/s.
- Voice coil delivered, assembly built.
- Eddy currents in moving coil support minimized by means of a dielectric coil support.
- Electronics being developed (E. Marchitelli)



Blackbody calibrator

- Emissivity ->1
- Low thermal gradients (single compact element)
- Ray Tracing approach (RT): Maximization of the # of reflections with the absorbing coating (cr-110, Emerson & Cuming)
- EM approach with HFSS modelling.
- Reflectivity lower than 1 ppm, to be better evaluated experimentally.
- Fabrication of Cu support for validation prototype started recently.

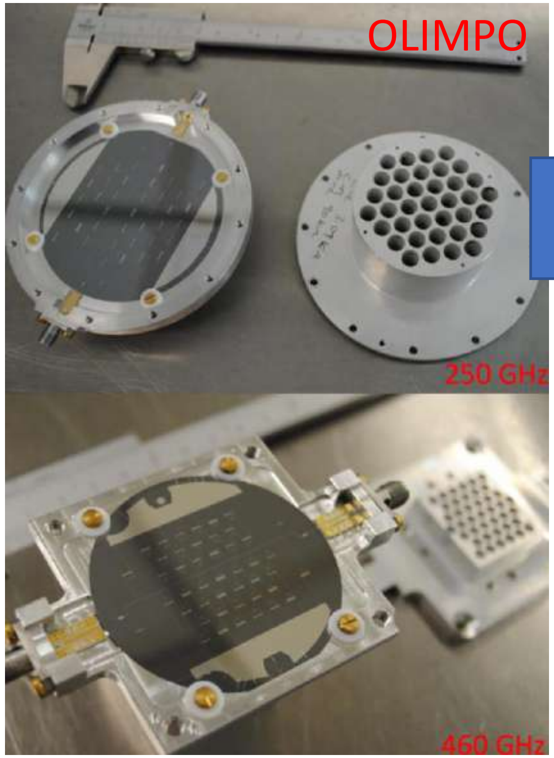


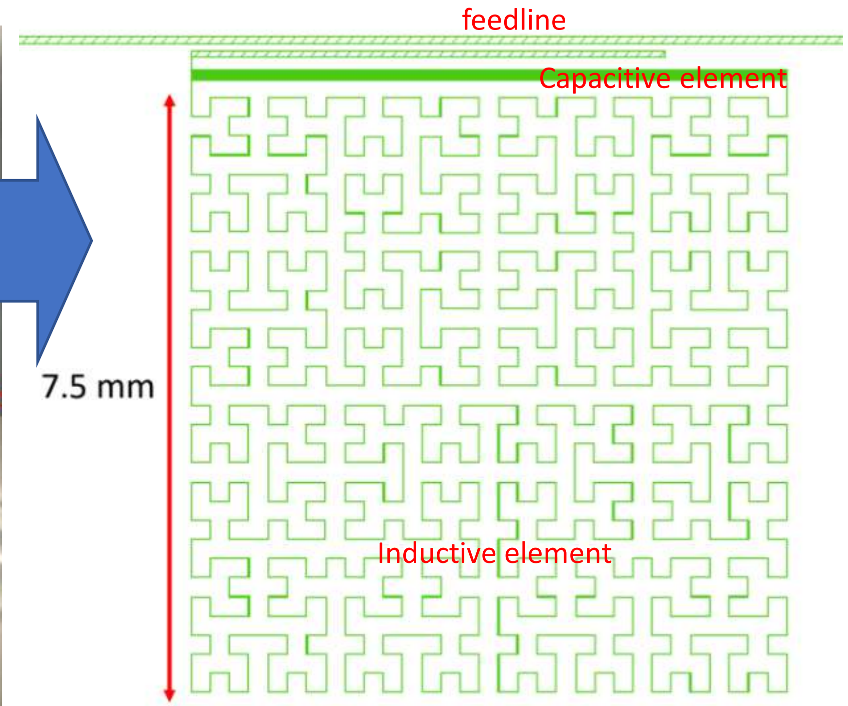
$r_{RT} < -60dB$
$@\ 100GHz$

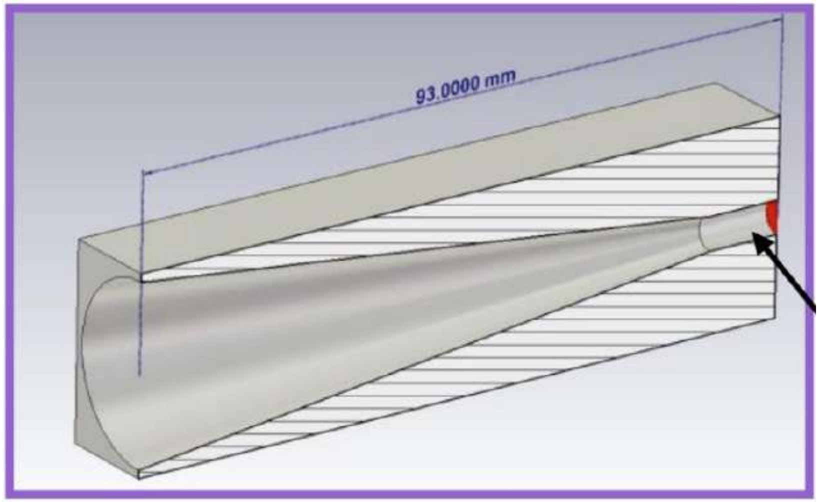
$r_{HFSS} < -50dB$
$[100,300]GHz$

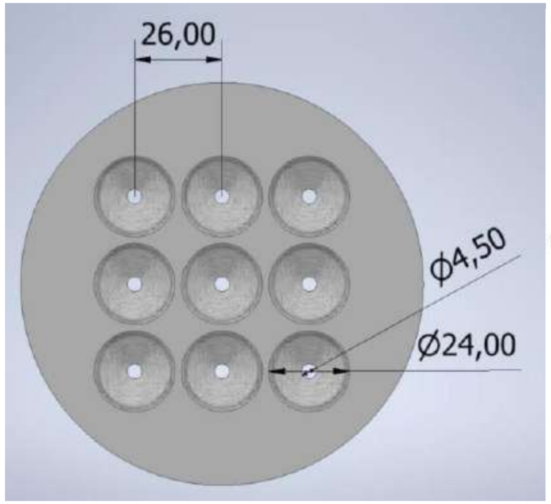
Detectors & Feedhorns

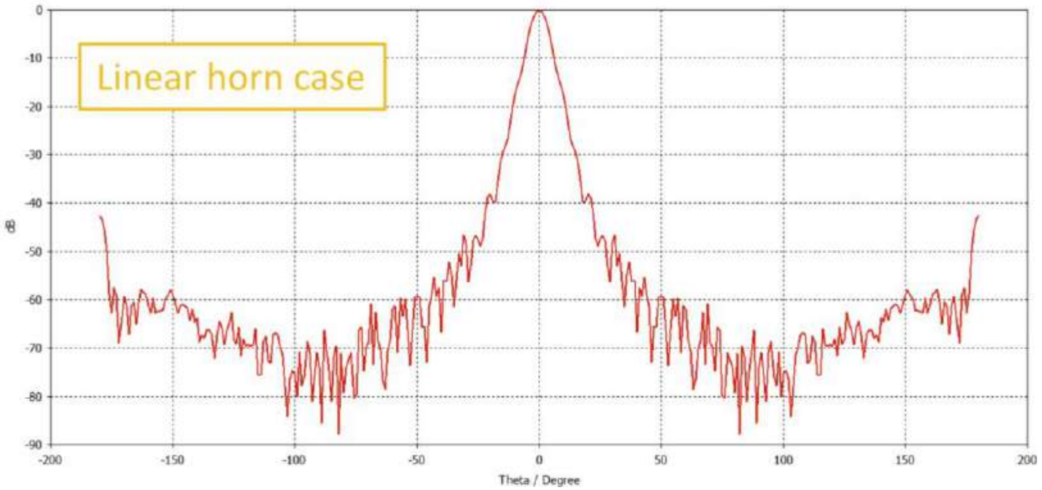
- COSMO uses two small arrays of multi-moded Al Kinetic Inductance Detectors, fabricated with the same process developed for the OLIMPO ones (Paiella et al. 2019, Masi et al. 2019).
- The two arrays cover the 130-160 GHz and the 200-300 GHz bands.
- Optimization in progress (A. Paiella).
- The KIDs are coupled to Al multi-mode feedhorns. Optimization in progress (E. Manzan).





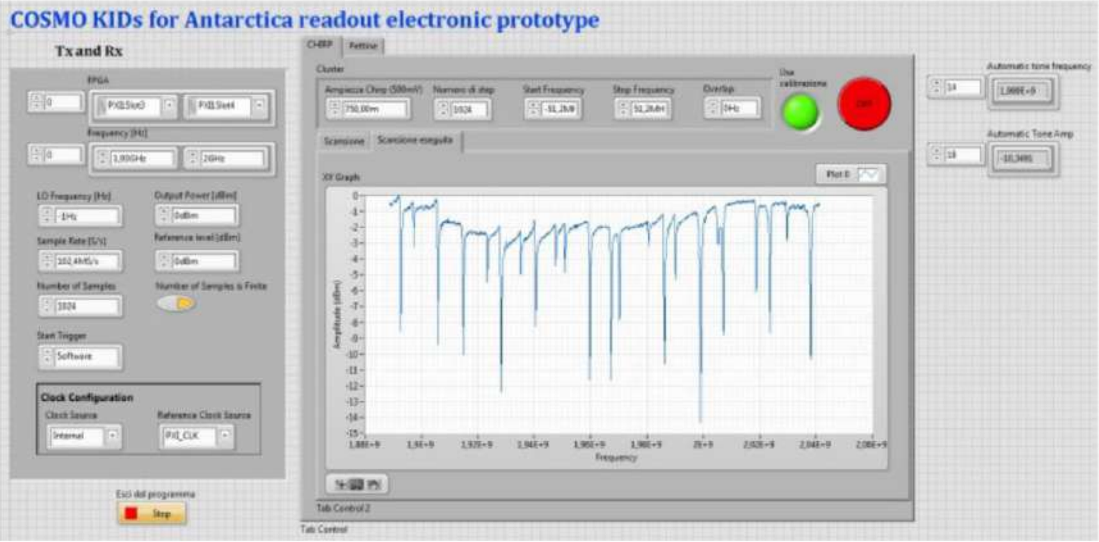






Detectors Readout

Warm Readout Electronics



COSMO KIDs for Antarctica readout electronic prototype

Tx and Rx

FPGA: 0, PXI1Slot3, PXI1Slot4

Frequency [Hz]: 0, 1,93GHz, 2GHz

LO Frequency [Hz]: -1Hz

Output Power [dBm]: 0dBm

Sample Rate [S/s]: 102,4MS/s

Reference level [dBm]: 0dBm

Number of Samples: 1024

Number of Samples is Finite

Start Trigger: Software

Clock Configuration

Clock Source: Internal

Reference Clock Source: PXI_CLK

Esci dal programma

Stop

CHIRP | Rettine

Cluster

Ampiezza Chirp (500mV): 750,00m

Numero di step: 1024

Start Frequency: -51,2M

Stop Frequency: 51,2MHz

Overlap: 0Hz

Uso calibrazione

Scansione | Scansione eseguita

XY Graph

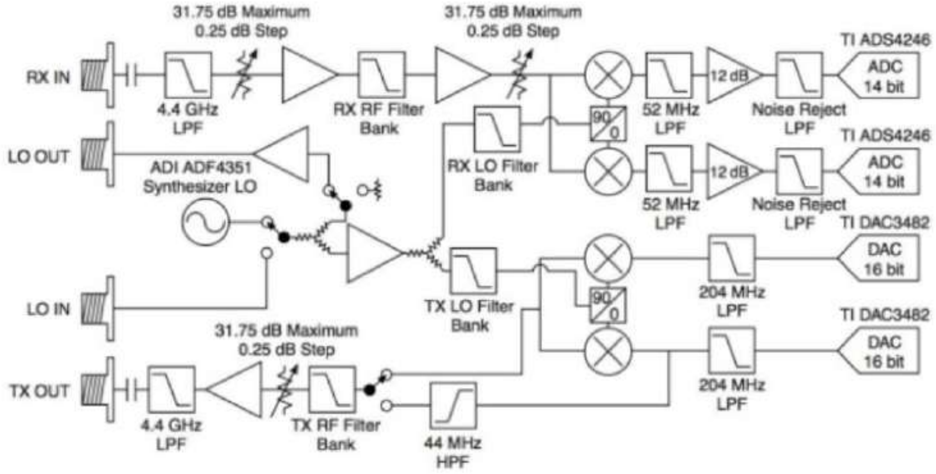
Plot 0

Automatic tone frequency: 14, 1,988E+9

Automatic Tone Amp: 18, -10,3486

Tab Control 2

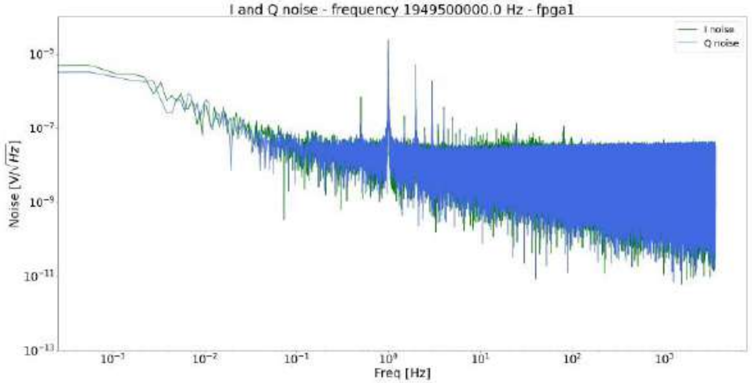
Tab Control

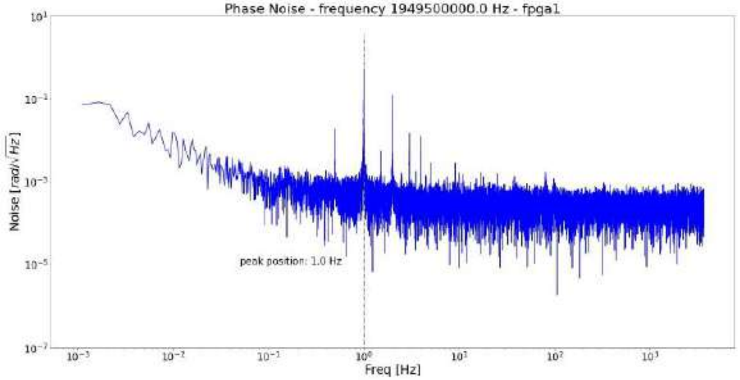


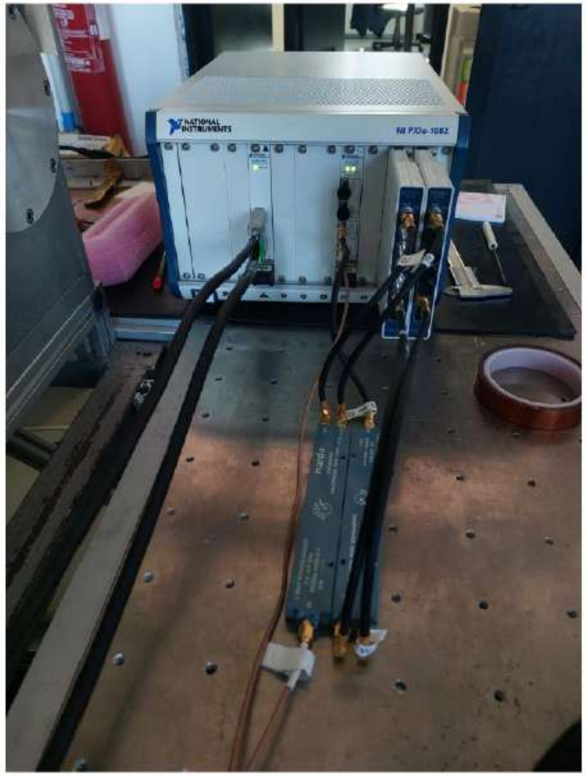
SW developed by Andrea Limonta

Data Analisys and Test by Giulia Conenna and Andrea Limonta

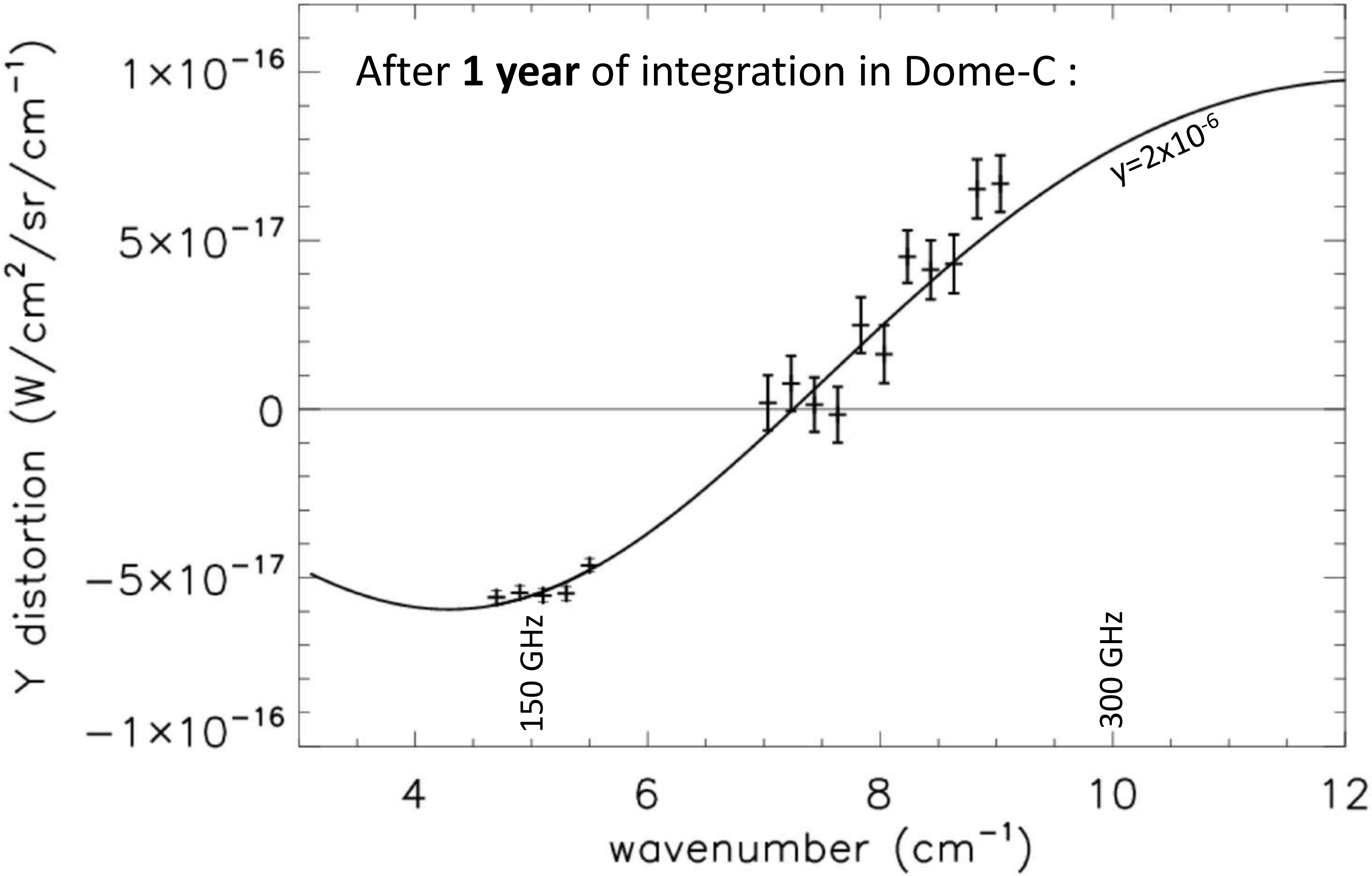
- First read-out mKID electronics based on commercial devices (NI)
- High acquisition rate (currently 15 kHz, target 60 kHz for 18 KIDs)
- Performances comparable with ROACH boards



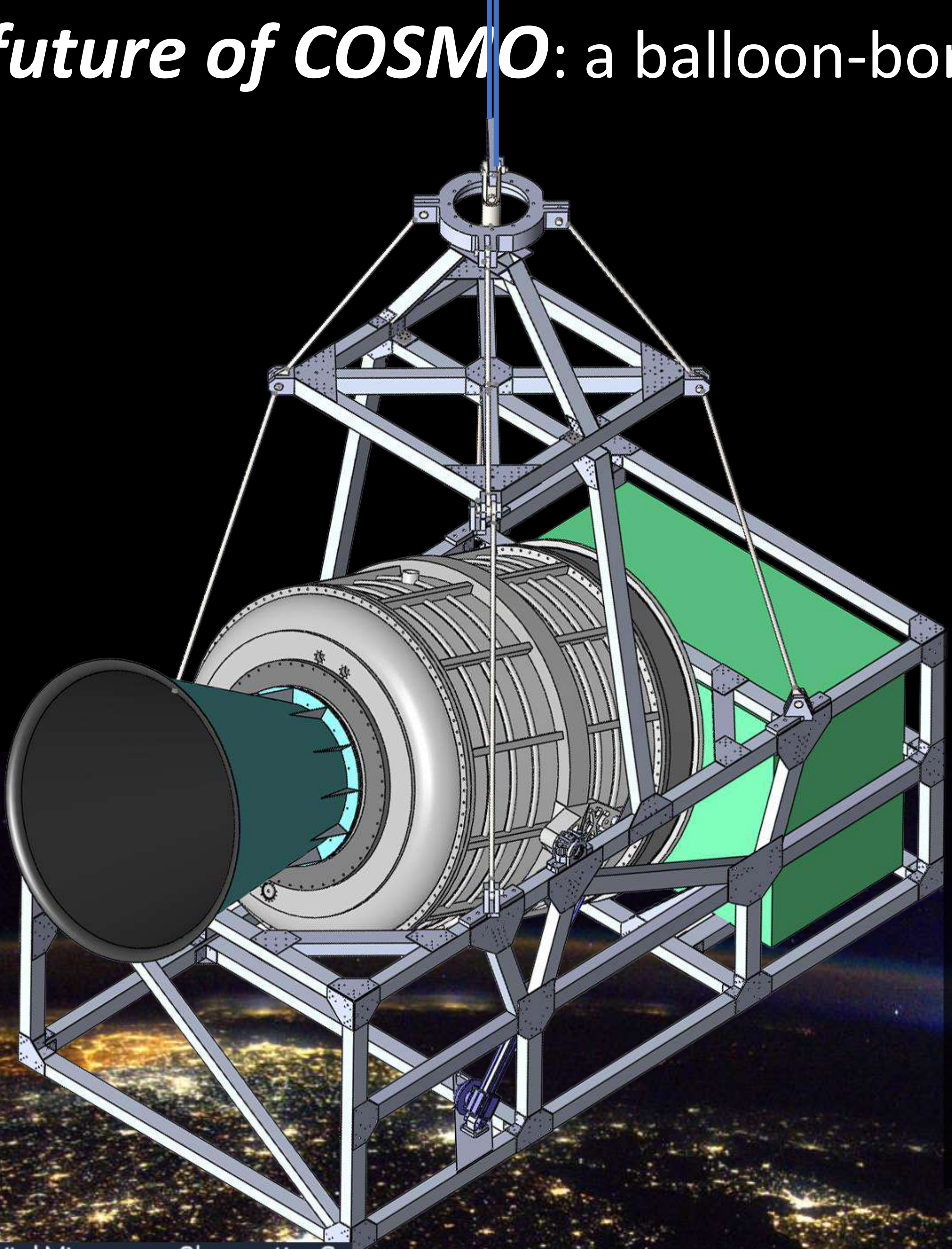




Simplistic Forecast



The future of COSMO: a balloon-borne instrument

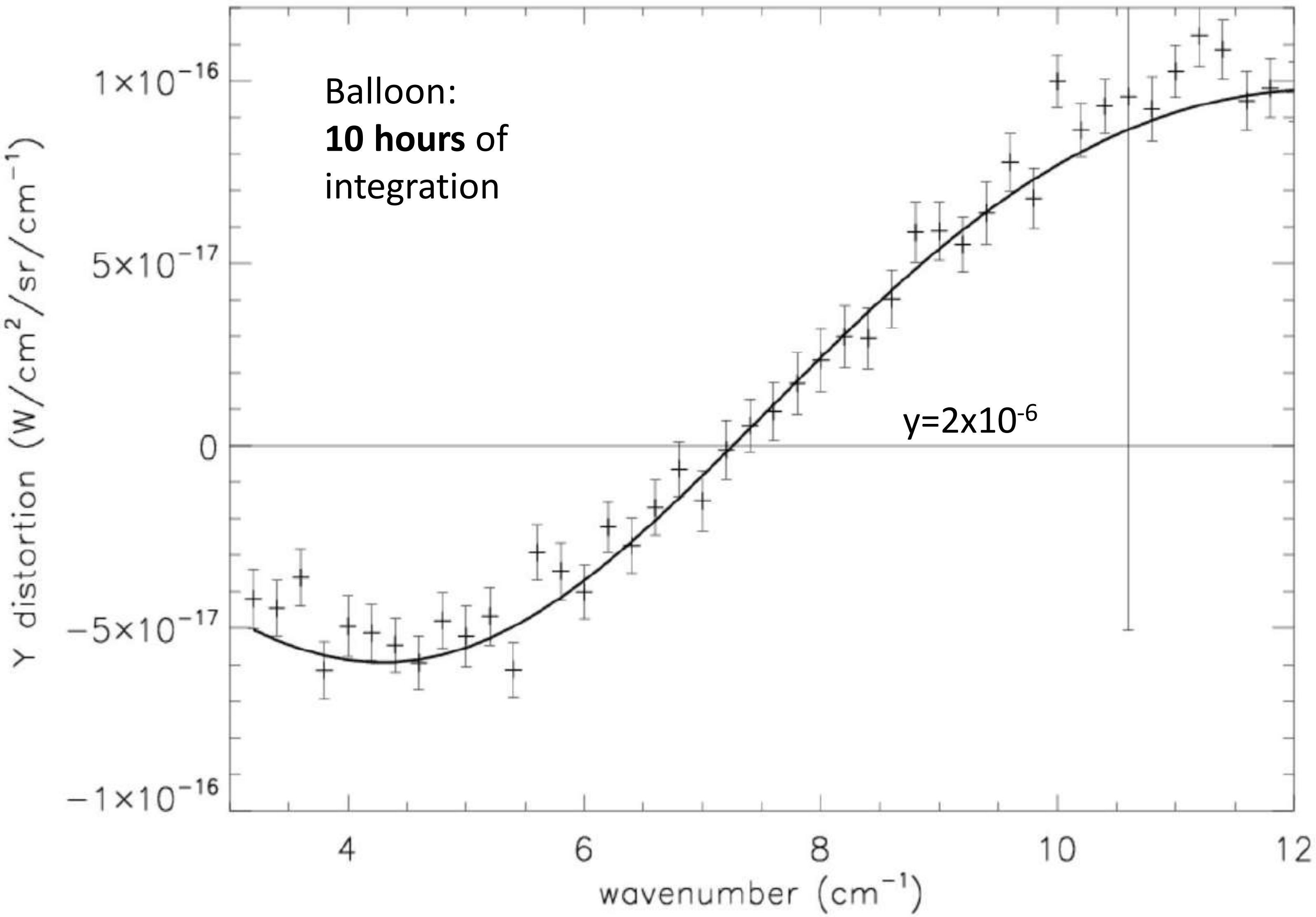


- **Reuse of most of the LSPE** LDB gondola
  http://lspe.roma1.infn.it
- Suitable LHe cryogenic system
- Possible to add (slower) sky modulator
- Might gain a factor 10 wrt COSMO on the ground.
- We have the capacity to provide - in house:
  - Detectors (KIDs from OLIMPO)
  - Readout electronics (OLIMPO)
  - Cryogenic system (LSPE)
  - Cryogenic FTS (OLIMPO/COSMO)
  - Modulator (COSMO)
  - Gondola / ACS (LSPE)
  - Data processing / analysis
- French/UK/US collaborators interested to join and provide needed hardware.
- Might merge with French proposal BISOU (CNES study, modulator configuration TBD)
- **Long duration balloon** (14 days at float, NASA summer circumantarctic flight OK, polar night better)
- Might be ready to launch in **2027/28**.

Cosmic Orbital and Suborbital Microwave ObservationS

Agenzia Spaziale Italiana

The future of COSMO: a balloon-borne instrument



Balloon:
10 hours of
integration

$y=2x10^{-6}$

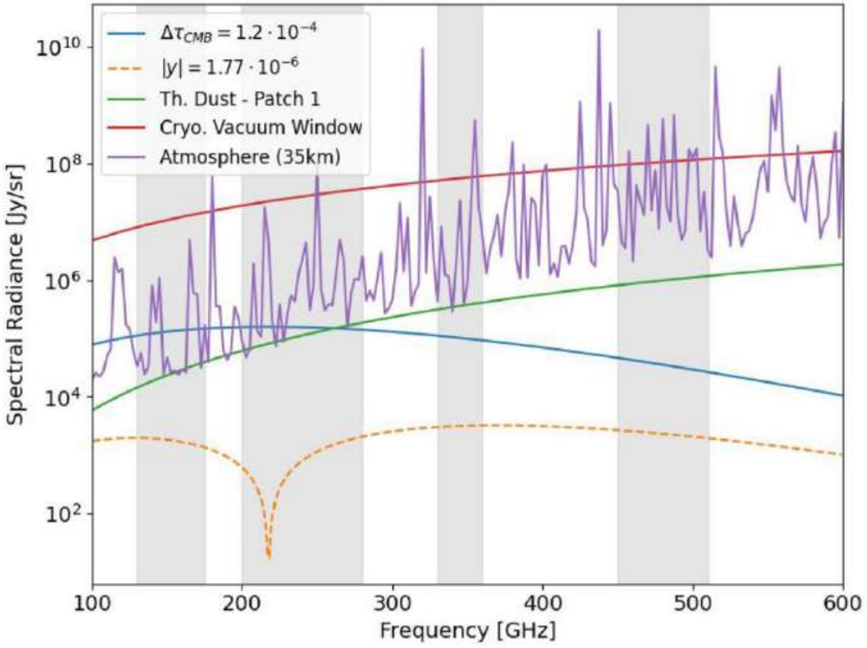
Feasibility study carried out with ASI – COSMOS project.
Synergic effort in France (BISOU)

Cosmic Orbital and Suborbital Microwave ObservationS

Agenzia Spaziale Italiana

Component Separation

Lorenzo Mele - Sapienza



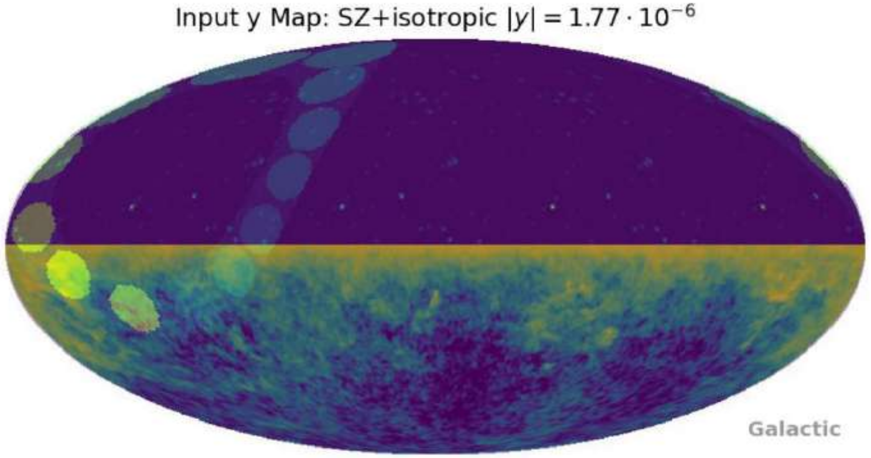
Monte Carlo Markov Chain (MCMC)

- Use multi-frequency data in a single sky patch
- No spatial information of the spectral components
- Parameter Optimization by Maximizing the likelihood

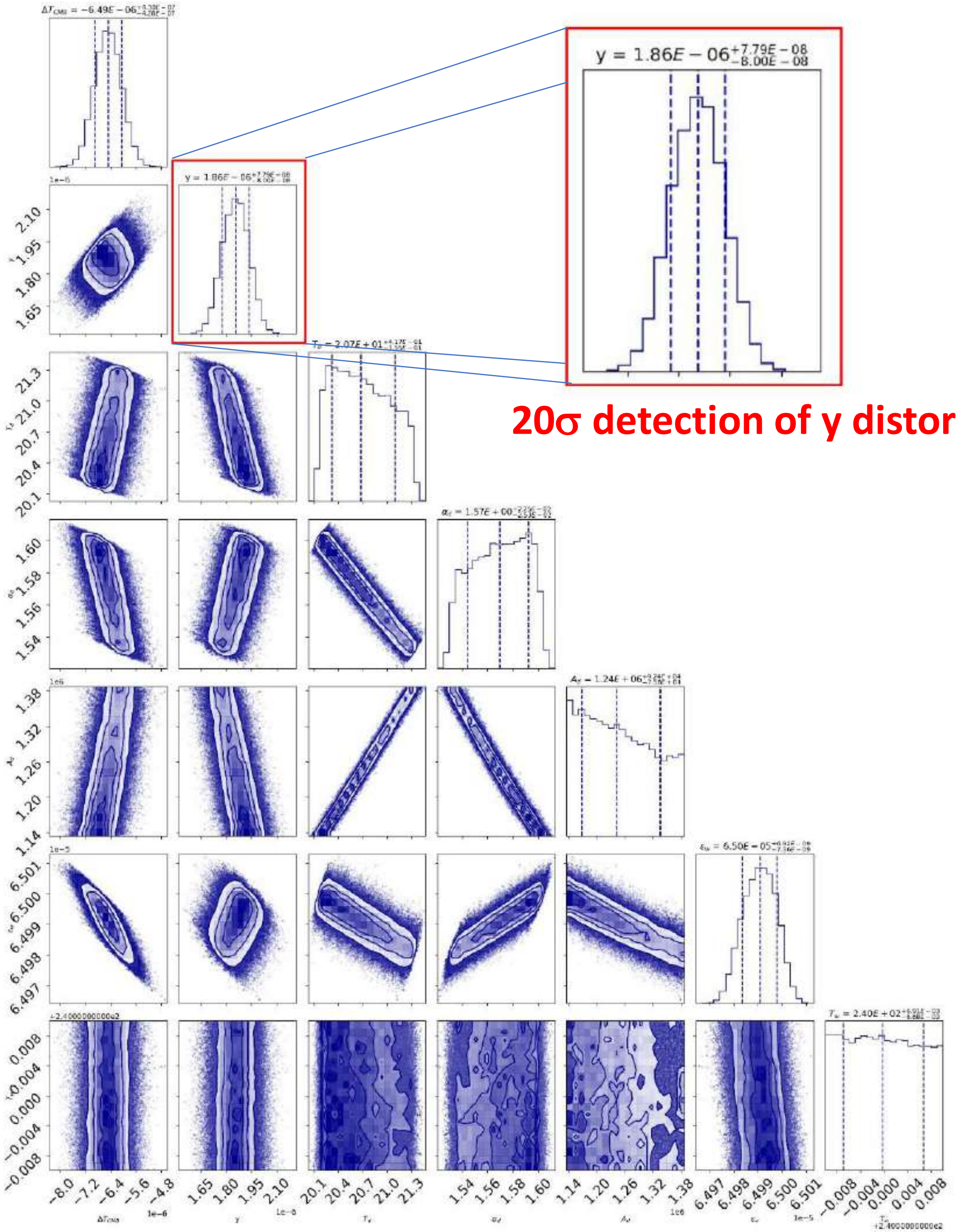
Input Maps (nside=64, FWHM=1°, v=150GHz+250GHz+350GHz+480GHz bands, Δv=5GHz)

- PySM model of Thermal Dust emission (*d2*)
- PySM model of CMB anisotropies (*c1*) + deviation from the currently known CMB monopole $\Delta\tau = \frac{T_{cmb}-T_0}{T_0} = 1.2\cdot10^{-4}$
- Isotropic Compton y-map with $<y>= 1.77\cdot10^{-6}$
  +SZ-signal from galaxy clusters (*Sehgal et al.* (2010) available at LAMBDA-simulations)
- Isotropic signal from the cryostat vacuum window (as a gray-body with flat emissivity <0.1% over the bands and temperature T=240K)

- Different sky patches where the MCMC is applied
- Photon noise limited performance (cryostat thin Mylar window, atmospheric emission, CMB monopole)

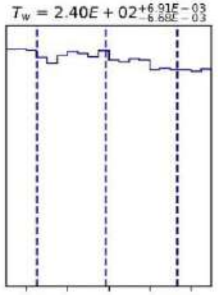


275GHz PySM thermal dust map



20σ detection of y distortion

- MCMC applied to the single sky patch, taking the average signal of the pixels in the patch
- Priors on Thermal Dust parameters 10%
- Priors on vacuum window: emissivity 10%, temperature **0.01K** (*Lakeshore Cryogenics*)
- Gaussian posteriors on the distortion parameters, non-Gaussian for foreground parameters, hitting the prior limit



25th ESA Symposium on European Rocket & Balloon programmes and related research

BISOU

BISOU
a Balloon Project for Spectral Observations of the Early Universe

B. Maffei
for the BISOU collaboration

MANCHESTER 1824
The University of Manchester

UCL

Maynooth University
National University of Ireland Maynooth

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cnes

岡山大学
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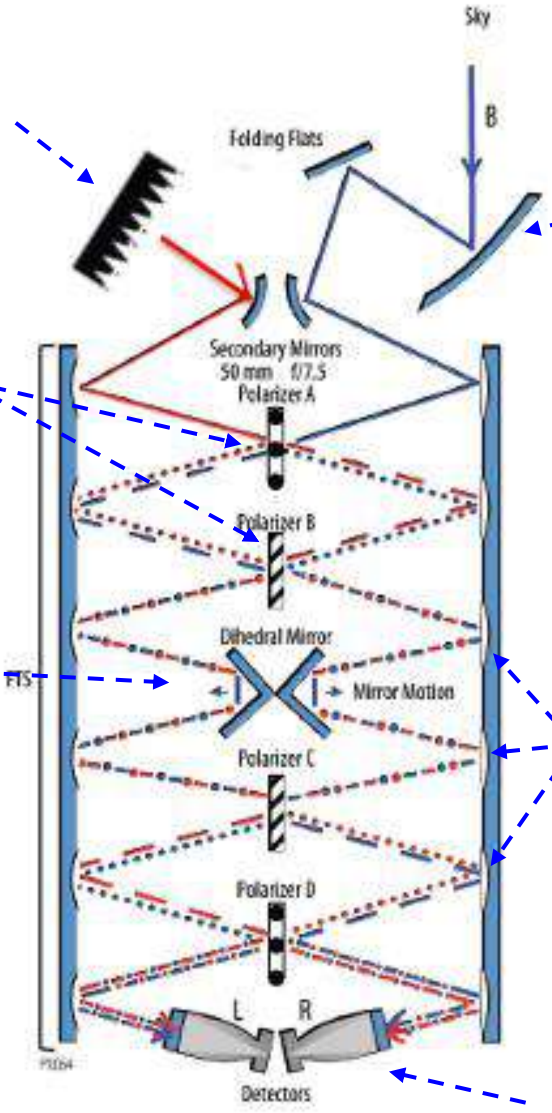
KAVLI IPMU

Instrument: measurement principle



Beam coming from the sky

Calibrator at 2.7K (reference for differential measurement)

Telescope primary setting the spatial resolution (in conj. with feed/detector)

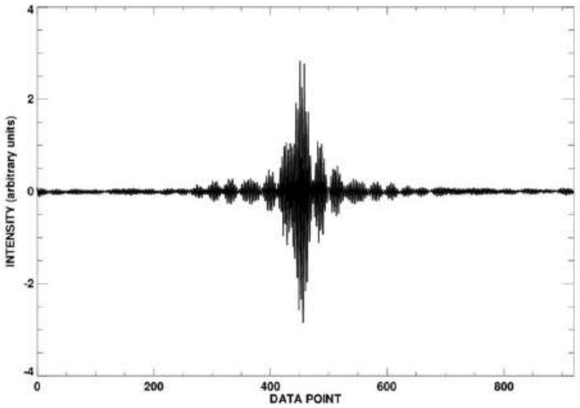
FTS beam dividers (polarisers at different angles) - Also act as beam combiners

FTS scanning mirror for interferogram

FTS mirrors

Detectors at each output of the FTS

A. Kogut et al, 2011



Electric field from the sky input: $E_{x,sky}$; $E_{y,sky}$ linearly polarised along x and y directions
Electric field from calibrator $E_{x,cal}$; $E_{y,cal}$. Both equal if unpolarised

$$P_{Lx} = \frac{1}{2}\int (E^2_{x,\mathrm{sky}} + E^2_{y,\mathrm{cal}}) + (E^2_{x,\mathrm{sky}} - E^2_{y,\mathrm{cal}})\cos(4z\omega/c)\ d\omega$$

$$P_{Ly} = \frac{1}{2}\int (E^2_{x,\mathrm{cal}} + E^2_{y,\mathrm{sky}}) - (E^2_{x,\mathrm{cal}} - E^2_{y,\mathrm{sky}})\cos(4z\omega/c)\ d\omega$$

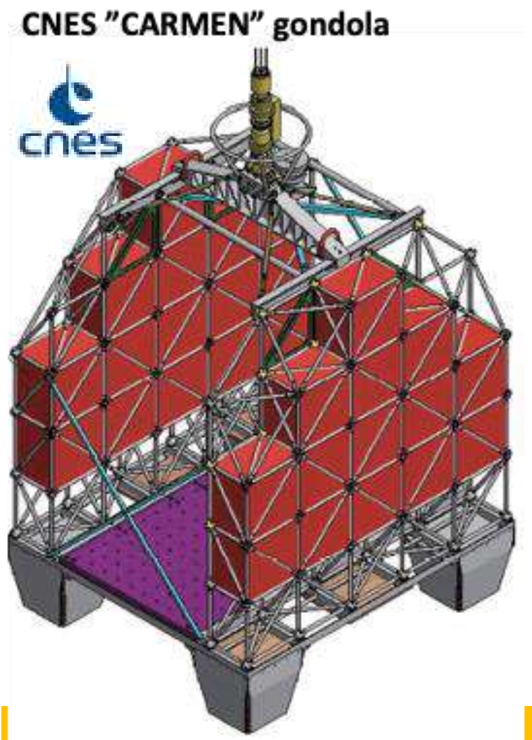
$$P_{Rx} = \frac{1}{2}\int (E^2_{x,\mathrm{cal}} + E^2_{y,\mathrm{sky}}) + (E^2_{x,\mathrm{cal}} - E^2_{y,\mathrm{sky}})\cos(4z\omega/c)\ d\omega$$

$$P_{Ry} = \frac{1}{2}\int (E^2_{x,\mathrm{sky}} + E^2_{y,\mathrm{cal}}) - (E^2_{x,\mathrm{sky}} - E^2_{y,\mathrm{cal}})\cos(4z\omega/c)\ d\omega$$

Power on each polarisation (x,y) of each detector (L,R) (with dual-polarised detectors)

If intensity only (non polarised detectors) then:
$P_L = P_{Lx} + P_{Ly}$ and $P_R = P_{Rx} + P_{Ry}$

Instrument concept - Balloon constraints

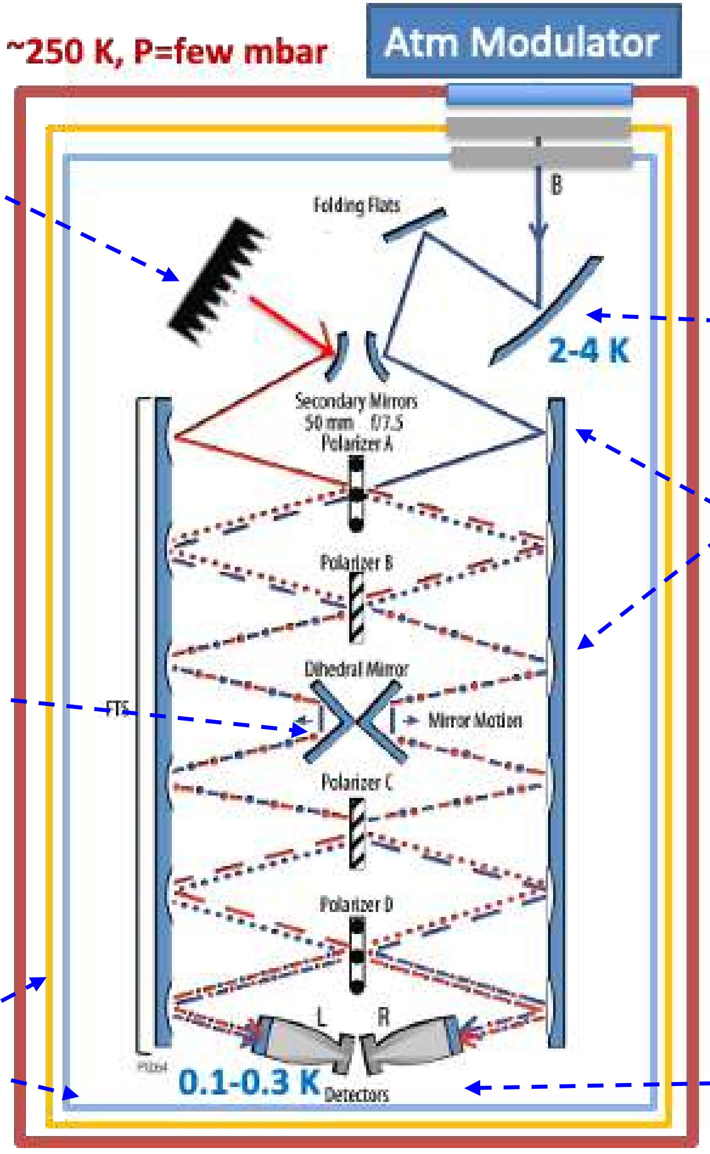


CNES "CARMEN" gondola

CONFIGURATION	802Z CARMEN
Maximum mass at the balloon hook	1750 kg
NEV	20
Parachute	140
NSO	140
Ballast (~10%)	250
Link , ...BAX	200
Pointed Gondola with avionics and swivel	390
Remaining mass for payload units + power supply	**610 kg**

- Mass, Size
    - Max payload dimensions~1.8 x 1.6 x 0.9m
    - → Telescope primary diameter of about 40 cm
- Line of sight
    - Minimum 20 deg angle of sight from zenith (balloon above)
- Limited flight time
    - Assumption of 5 days - See CNES presentation
- Residual atmosphere
    - Emission of residual atmosphere
    - Needs either a reliable model or implementing a modulator for subtraction
- Additional components
    - Cryostat window and filters
    - Measure / model their effects
- Cryogenic chain (cannot use cryocoolers)
    - Use of cryogens → Liquid helium

Instrument: measurement principle in a balloon



Atmosphere modulator to remove the residual atmosphere emission

Window holding the vacuum inside cryostat (at T~ 250 K ? see later)

Spectral filters on various temperature stages to remove unwanted emissions

Calibrator at 2.7K (reference for differential measurement)

Telescope primary fixed to about 40 cm
→ **beam with equivalent gaussian beamwidth of ~ 1.5 deg**

FTS mirrors
→ **~15 cm diameter each for 1 pixel and low frequency performance**

FTS scanning mirror for interferogram
Mirror stroke of about 6mm for 15 GHz resolution

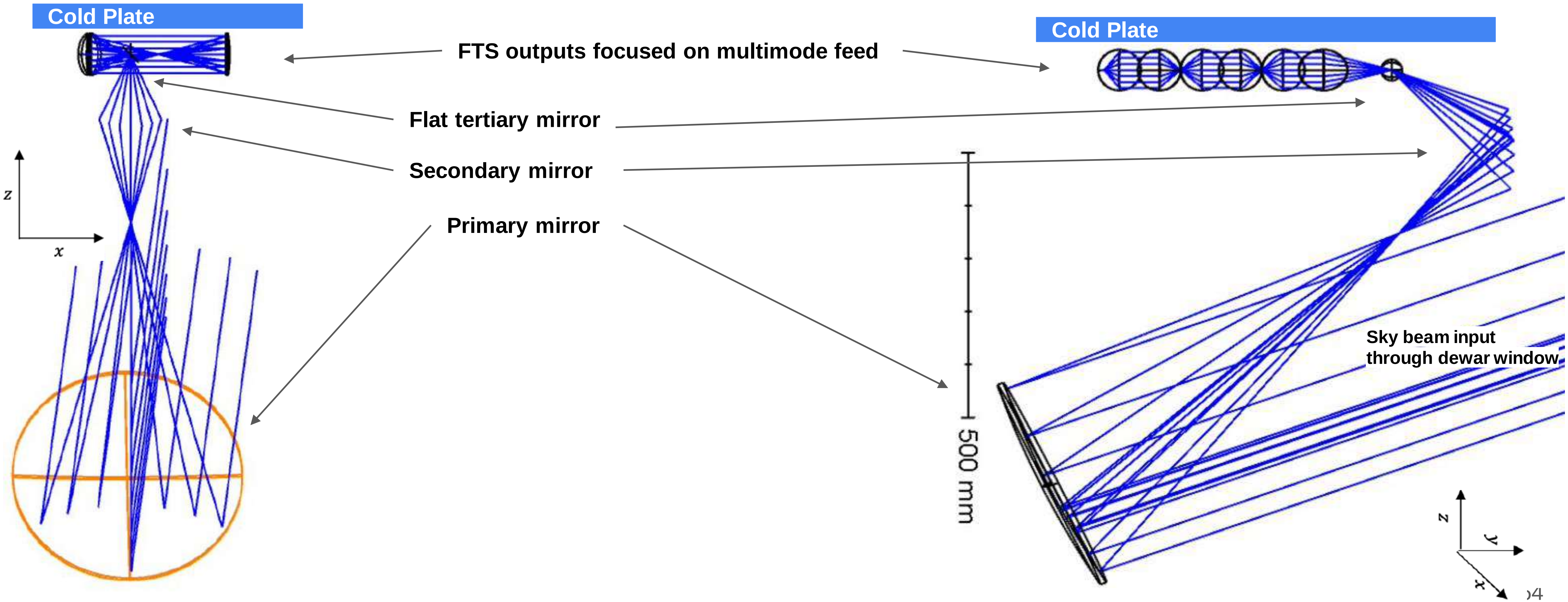
Thermal shields
At least 80, 30, 3K

Detectors temperature **between 100 - 300 mK to be optimised**
→ **impact of sub-K cooler technology**

Cryostat external structure

Optics

- off-axis dual mirror telescope
- + flat tertiary to redirect sky beam towards first FTS mirror
- 2nd FTS input (fixed calibrator) not shown here



Cold Plate

Cold Plate

FTS outputs focused on multimode feed

Flat tertiary mirror

Secondary mirror

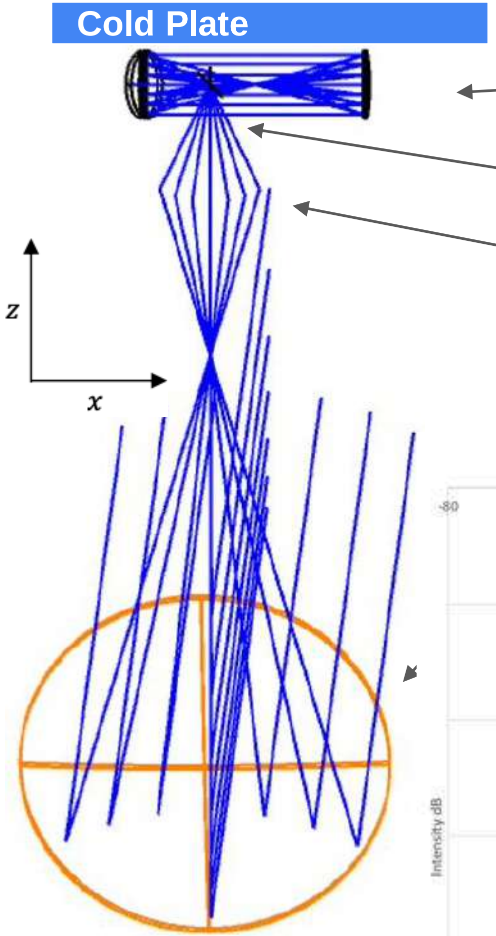
Primary mirror

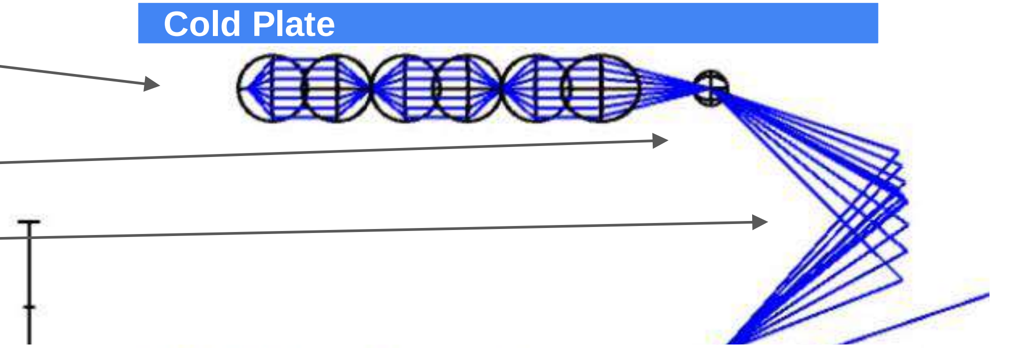
Sky beam input through dewar window

O'Sullivan C., Trappe N.

Optics

- off-axis dual mirror telescope
- + flat tertiary to redirect sky beam towards first FTS mirror
- 2nd FTS input (fixed calibrator) not shown here



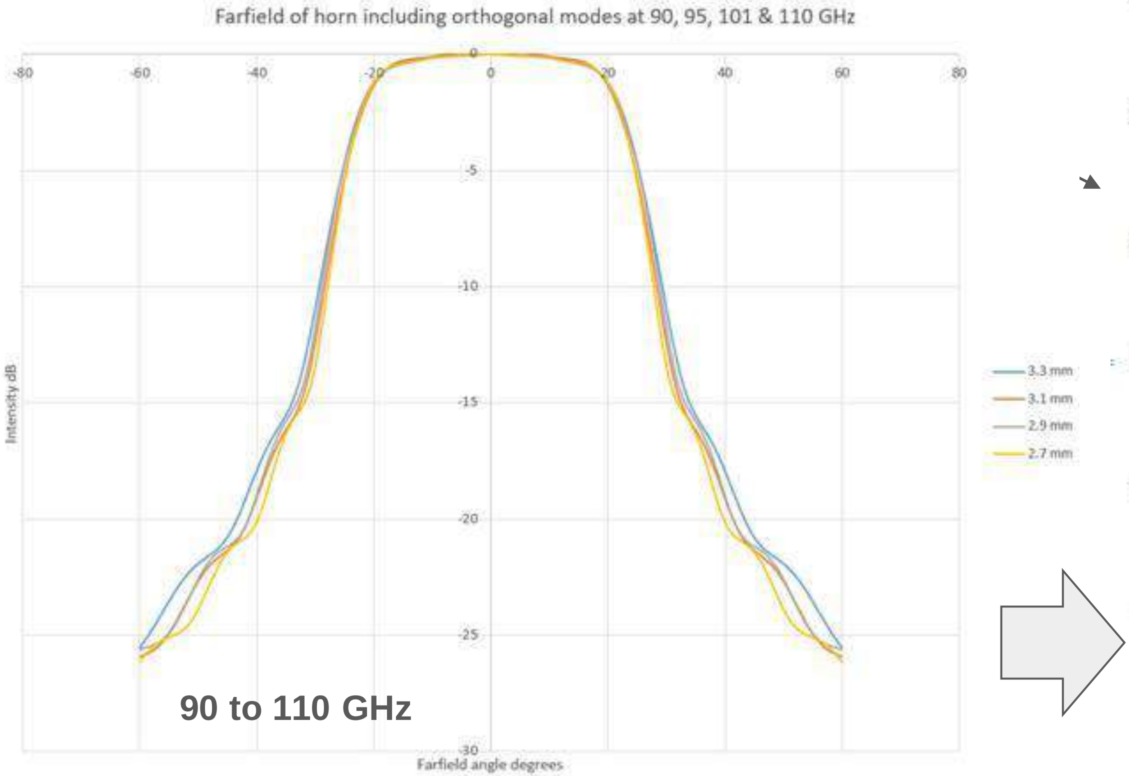


FTS outputs focused on multimode feed

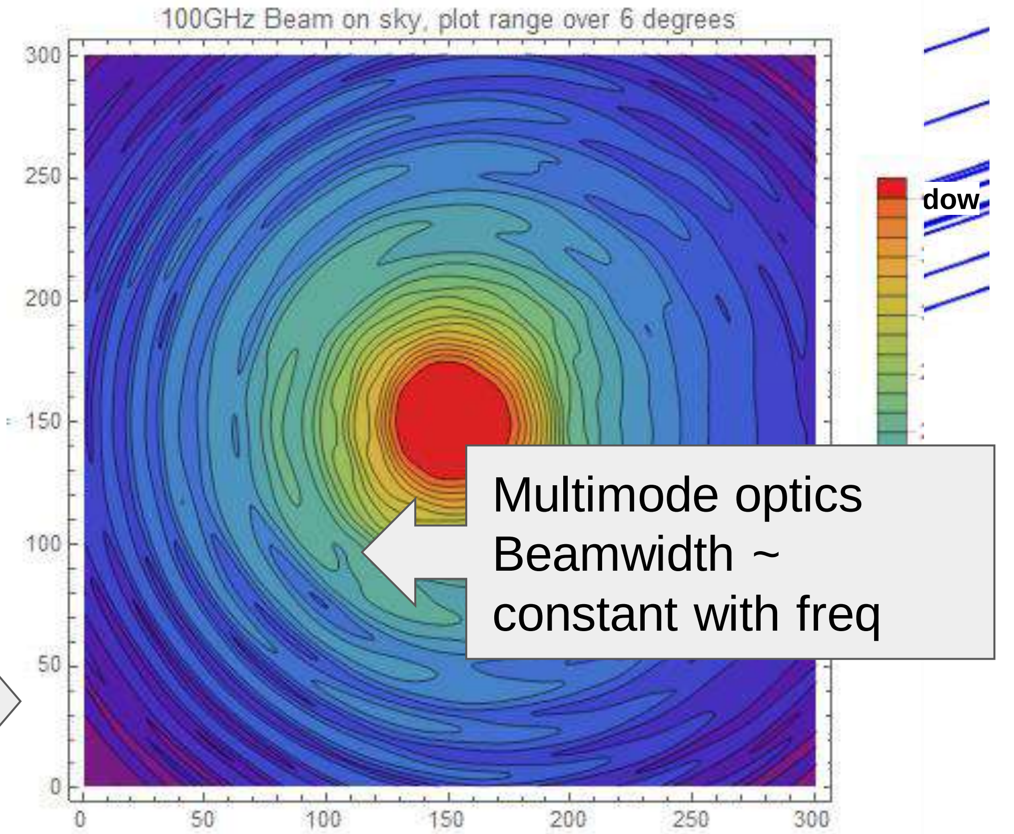
Flat tertiary mirror

Secondary mirror

Primary mirror



90 to 110 GHz

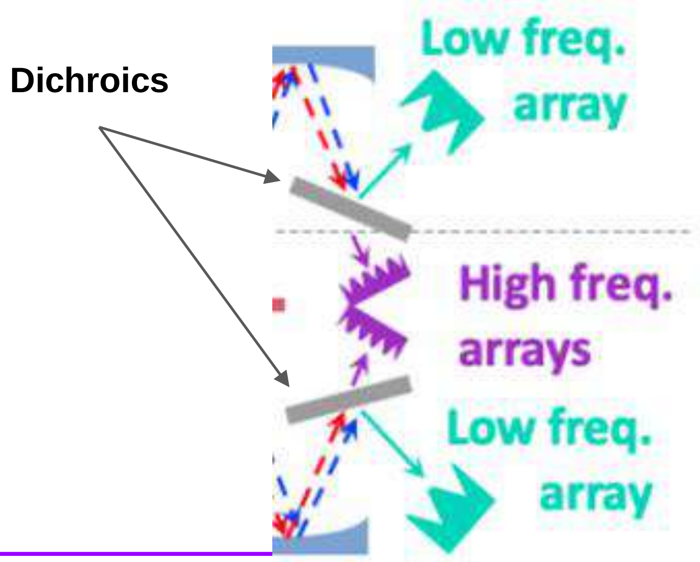


Multimode optics
Beamwidth ~ constant with freq

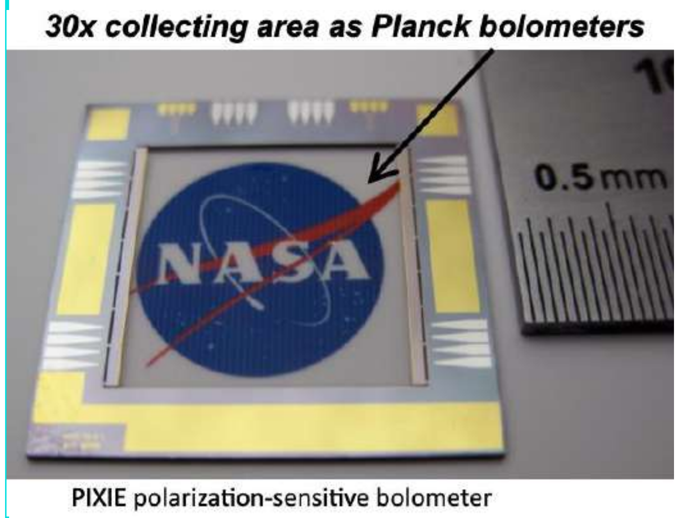
O'Sullivan C., Trappe N.

Focal planes / Detectors

- Investigation of splitting the full spectrum into 2 bands to optimise the sensitivity
  - Split around 500 GHz
  - Leading to 4 FPUs: 2 per band, 2 per FTS output
- NEP_{det} < few 10^{-16} W.Hz$^{-0.5}$ enough
  - Baseline: resistive bolometers from NASA-GSFC
  - KIDs technology would need some development



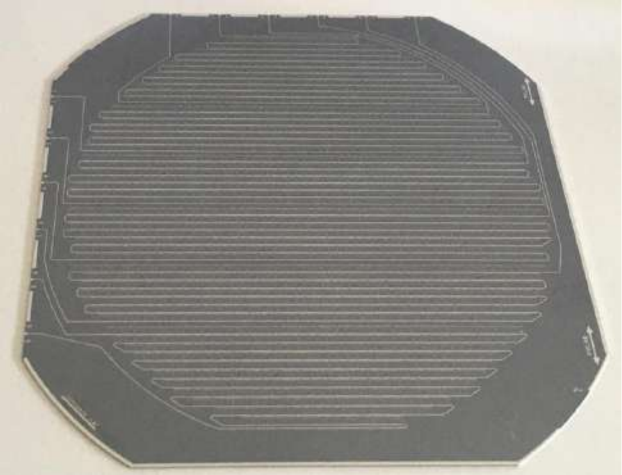
Resistive bolometers developed for *PIXIE* could be used across the whole frequency range (Kogut et al, 2011)



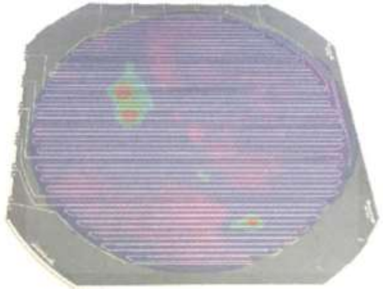
PIXIE polarization-sensitive bolometer

Kogut A.

KIDs array from Institut Néel / LPSC
2152 pixels, 6 readout lines



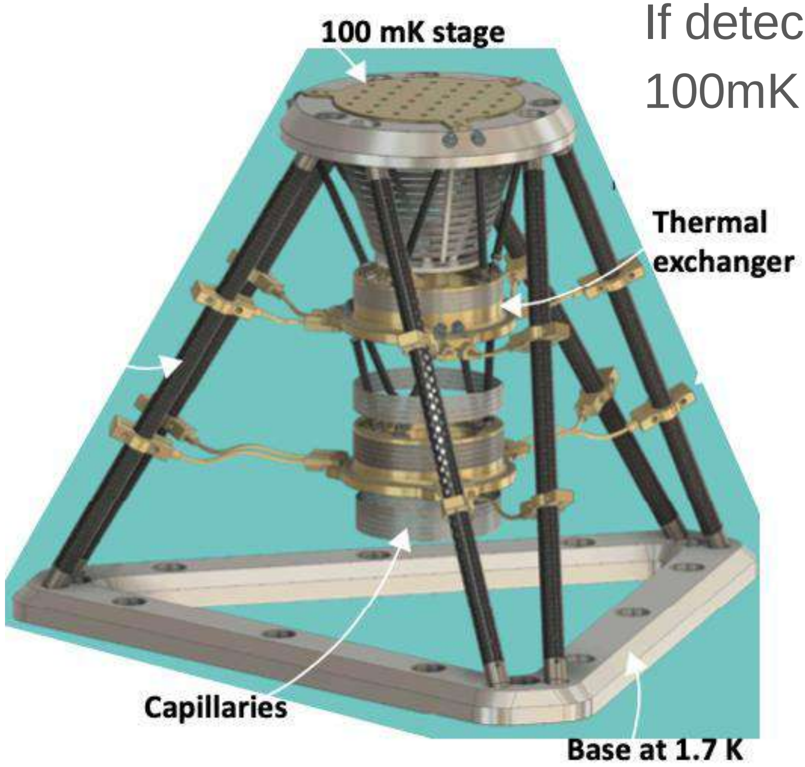
130 - 270 GHz
195 - 310 GHz



Courtesy of the CONCERTO collaboration

Cryogenic Chain

- Cooling system based on cryogens
  - Most probably a fully liquid helium based dewar down to 2 K (such as PILOT)
  - Maybe a first stage with liquid nitrogen to provide a 77K stage
    - Use less helium, could make use of the nitrogen gas output to cool window



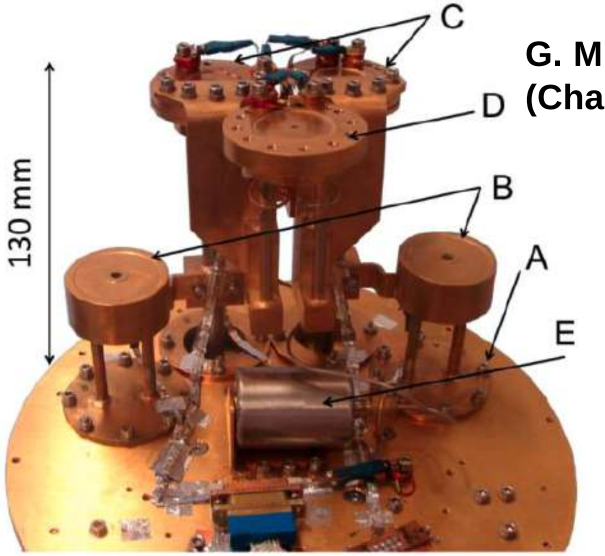
If detector temperature

100mK < T_{det} < 260 mK

CCDR (Closed Cycle Dilution Refrigerator)
V. Sauvage et al, SPIE conf, July 2022

If detector temperature T_{det} > 260 mK

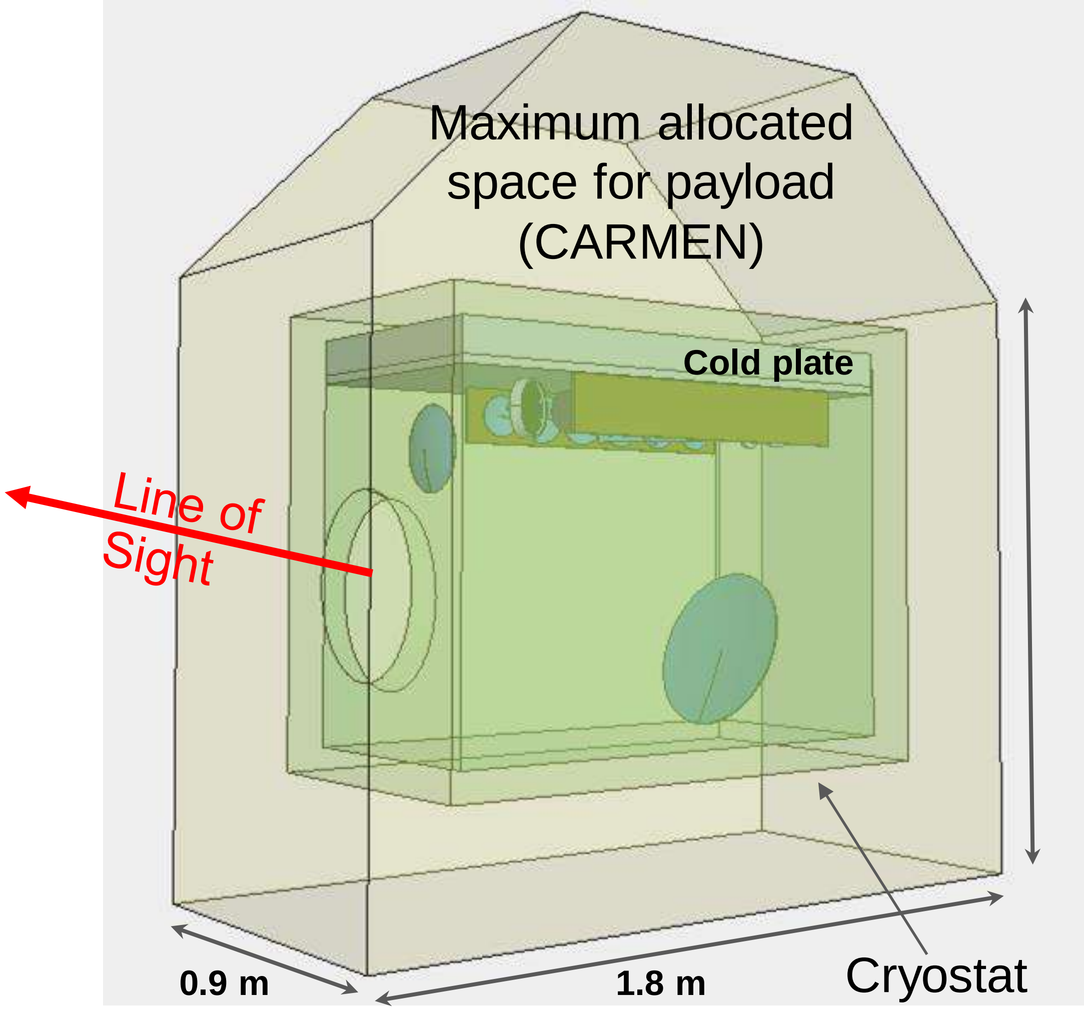
- "Classic" recyclable ^{3}He sorption cooler (PRONAOS, PILOT) from 1.8 K
- Continuous 300mK sorption coolers from 4K

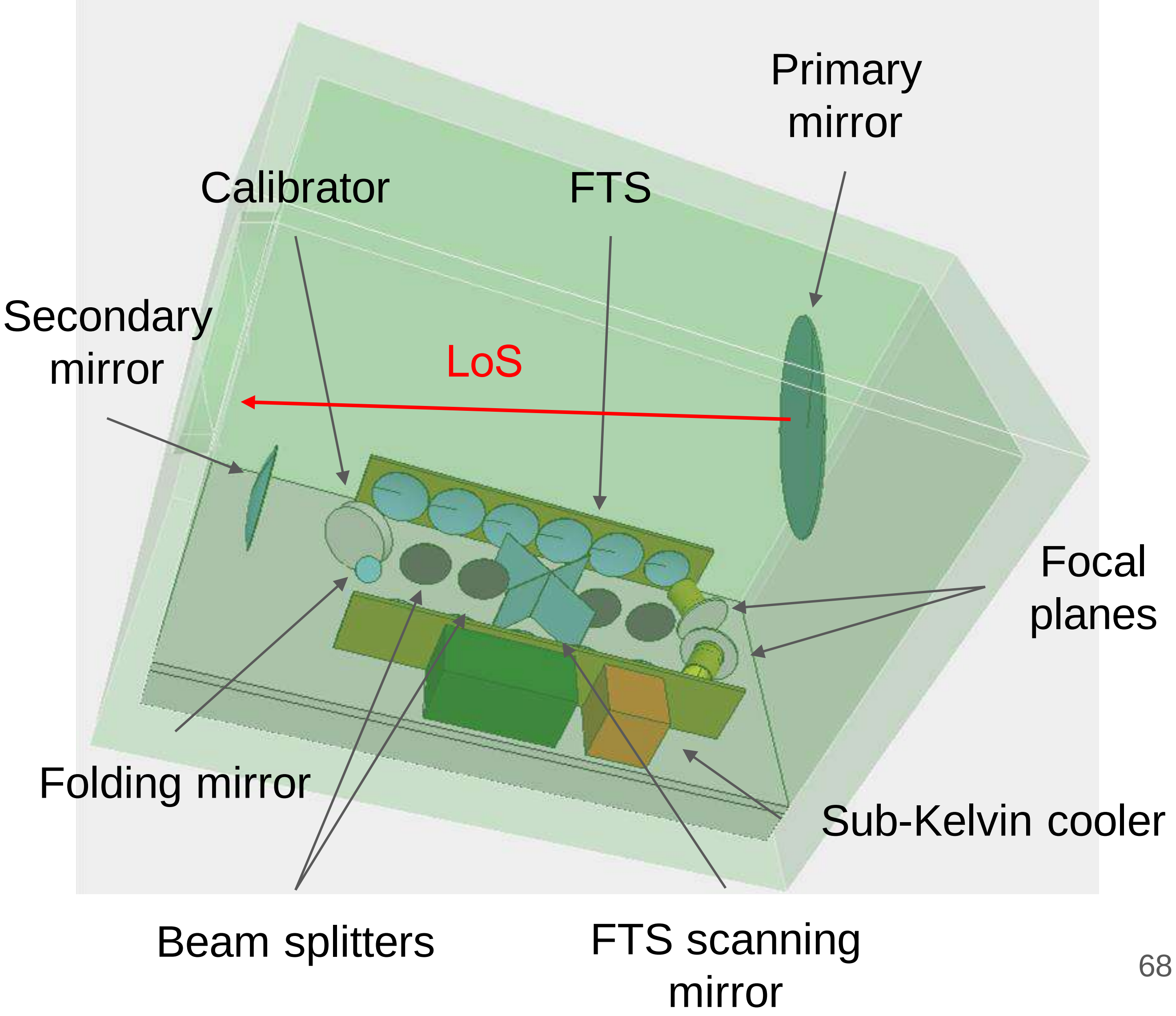


G. M. Klemencic et al, 2016
(Chase Research Cryogenics)

Sub-K cooler

Instrument concept - IDM model

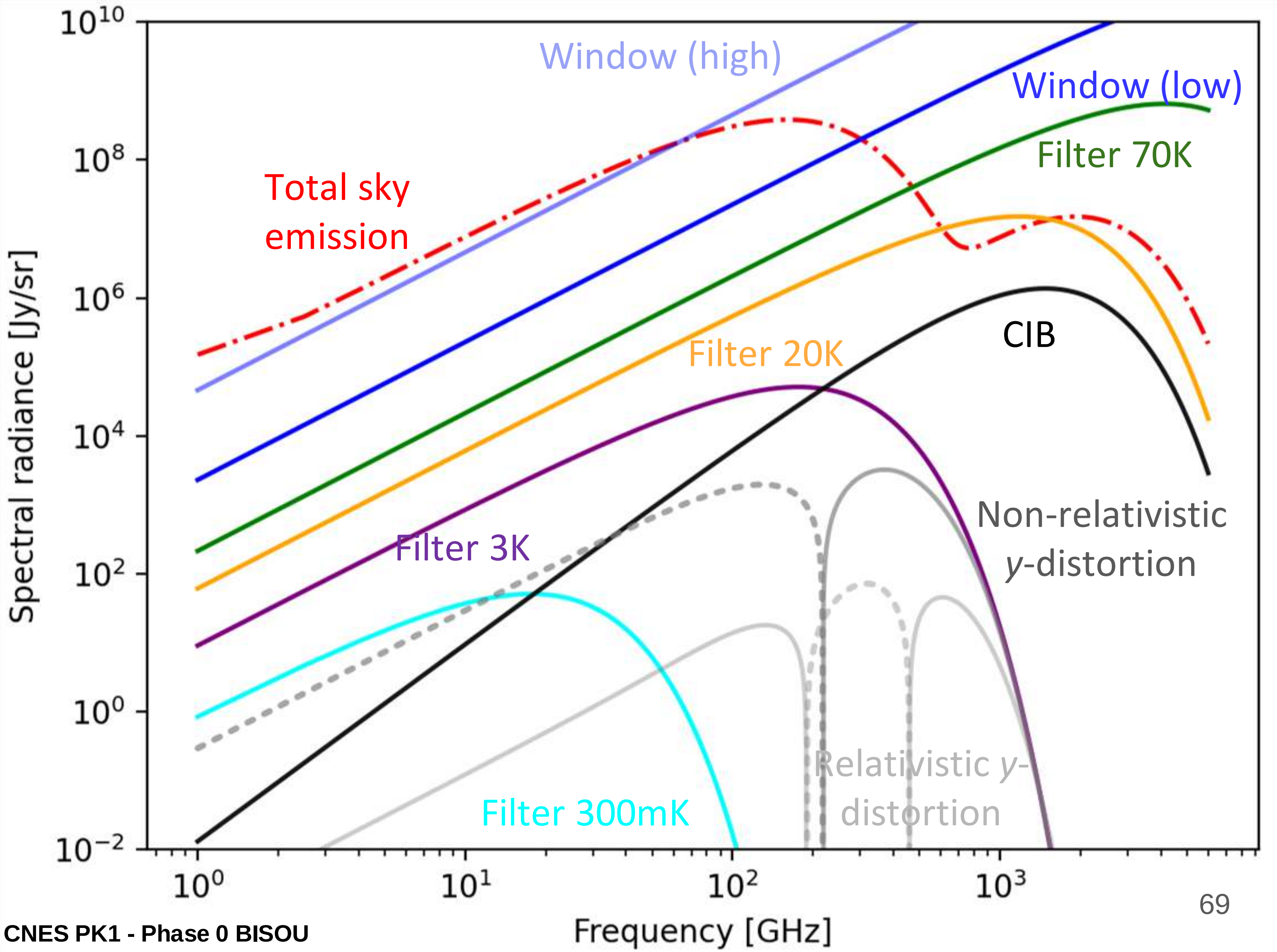




X. Coulon

Science Goals: Modeling the instrument

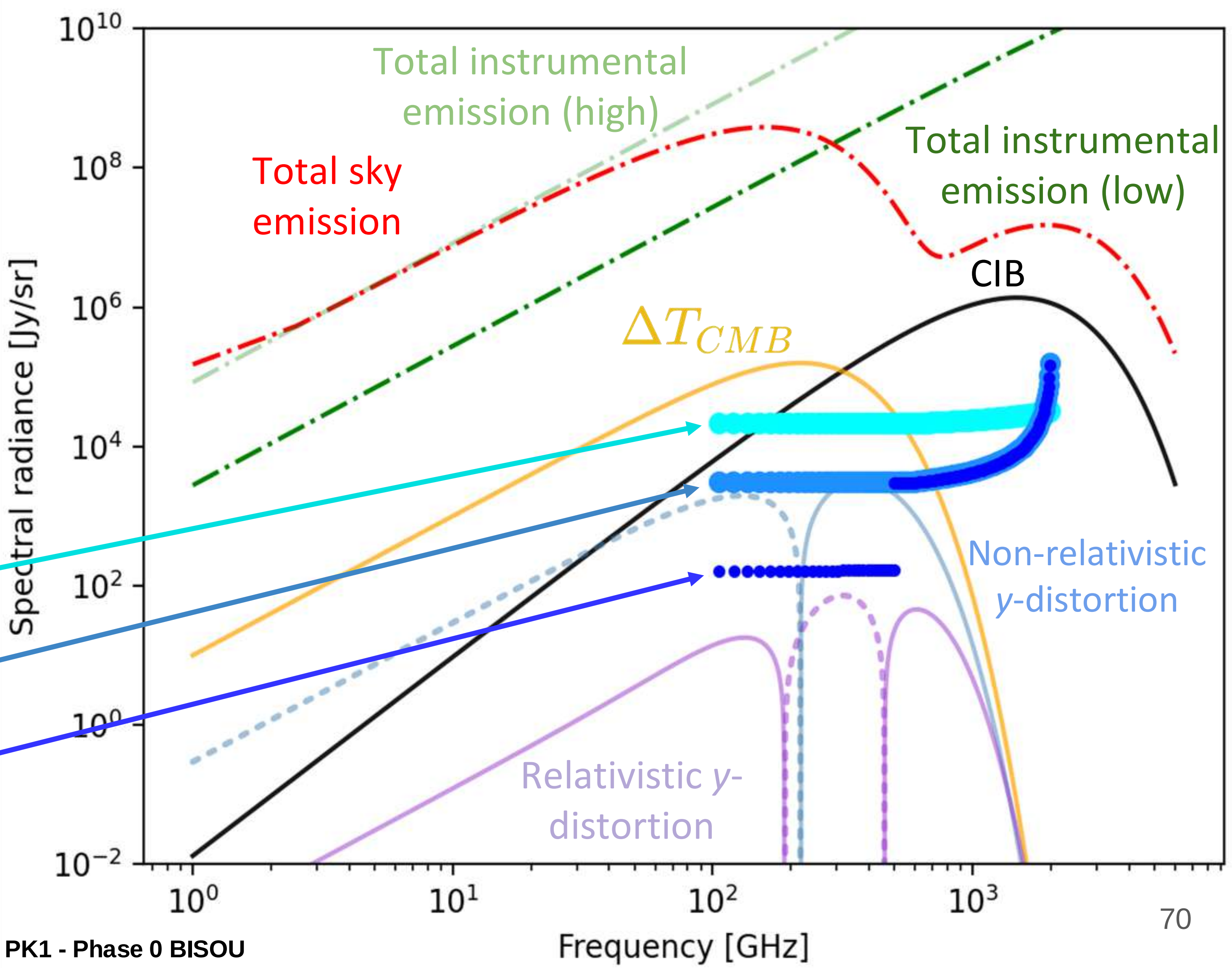
- 1 window:
  - Temperature 270K
- 4 filters:
  - Temperature 70, 20, 3K, and 300mK
  - Emissivity
    - High ~ 1%
    - Low ~ 0.1%
- Option: dichroic



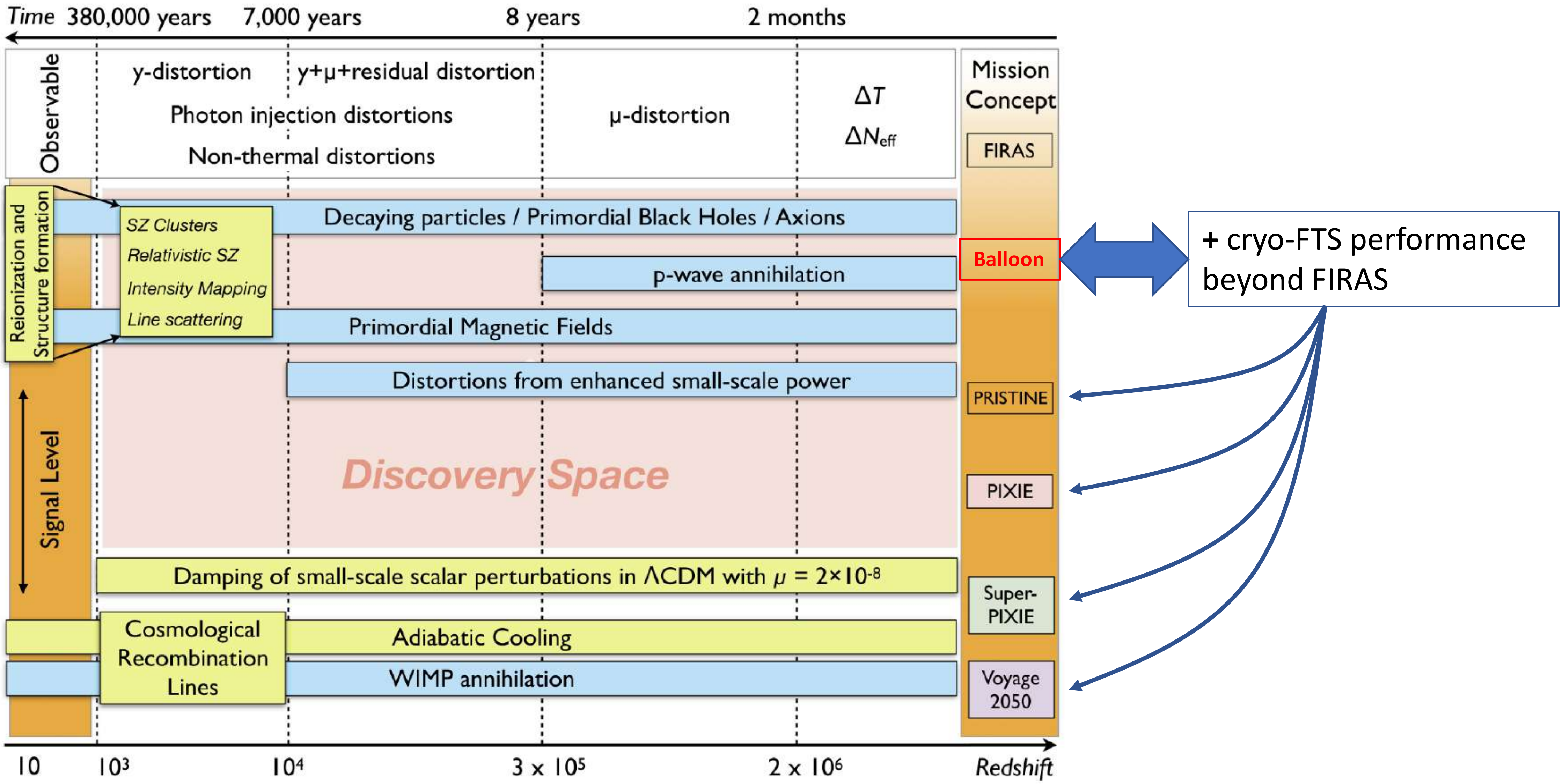
X. Coulon

Science Goals: Sensitivity

- Frequency range 90GHz - 2THz
- 5 days flight
- 75% observing time
- **No atmosphere**
- 1 window (@270K)
- 4 filters (@70, 20, 3K, 300mK) & emissivity 0.1%
- **1 detector**
    - High emissivity window + tapered filtering from 600GHz
    - Low emissivity window
    - Low emissivity window + dichroic at 500GHz



X. Coulon



+ cryo-FTS performance beyond FIRAS

Fig. 11 Science thresholds and mission concepts of increasing sensitivity. Guaranteed sources of distortions and their expected signal levels are shown in yellow), while non-standard processes with possible signal levels are presented in turquoise. Spectral distortions could open a new window to the pre-recombination Universe with a vast *discovery space* to new physics that is accessible on the path towards a detection and characterization of the μ-distortion from the dissipation of small-scale acoustic modes set by inflation and the cosmological recombination radiation

Conclusions

- CMB research is expanding towards large and global experiments, with very high discovery potential
- Stratospheric balloons offer a great deal of opportunities for CMB research, covering the high-frequency range of CMB measurements and dust-related polarized foregrounds.
- Balloon-borne **Stokes Polarimeters will produce essential polarization data (large scales, high frequencies) and** represent very useful pathfinders for the measurement solutions for the forthcoming LiteBIRD space mission:
  - Polarization Modulator Unit (rotation and optical performance)
  - Detectors, in close-to-representative environment
- Balloon-borne **spectrometers** (differential and absolute) represent a way to investigate LIM and spectral distortions, opening new windows on the early universe, and paving the way to dedicated satellite missions (e.g. ESA 2050).
- These are all cryogenic heavy lift large payloads. Flights of small payloads can be very important to test key technologies. e.g. *HEmera Returning MESsenger* (Romeo et al. EGU general assembly 2022)