

# DRAGONFLY / GLINT

*Nulling interferometry with direct-write integrated optics*

---



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
SYDNEY



MACQUARIE  
University





University of Sydney

Barnaby Norris  
Tiphaine Lagadec  
Peter Tuthill



Macquarie University

Simon Gross  
Alex Arriola  
Thomas Gretzinger  
Mick Withford



Australian Astronomical  
Observatory

Barnaby Norris  
Jon Lawrence



and collaborators:

Nem Jovanovic (*Caltech*)

Julien Lozi (*Subaru Telescope*)

Olivier Guyon (*Subaru Telescope*)

Nick Cvetojevic (*Observatoire de Paris*)

Sylvestre Lacour (*Observatoire de Paris*)

Takayuki Kotani (*NAOJ*)



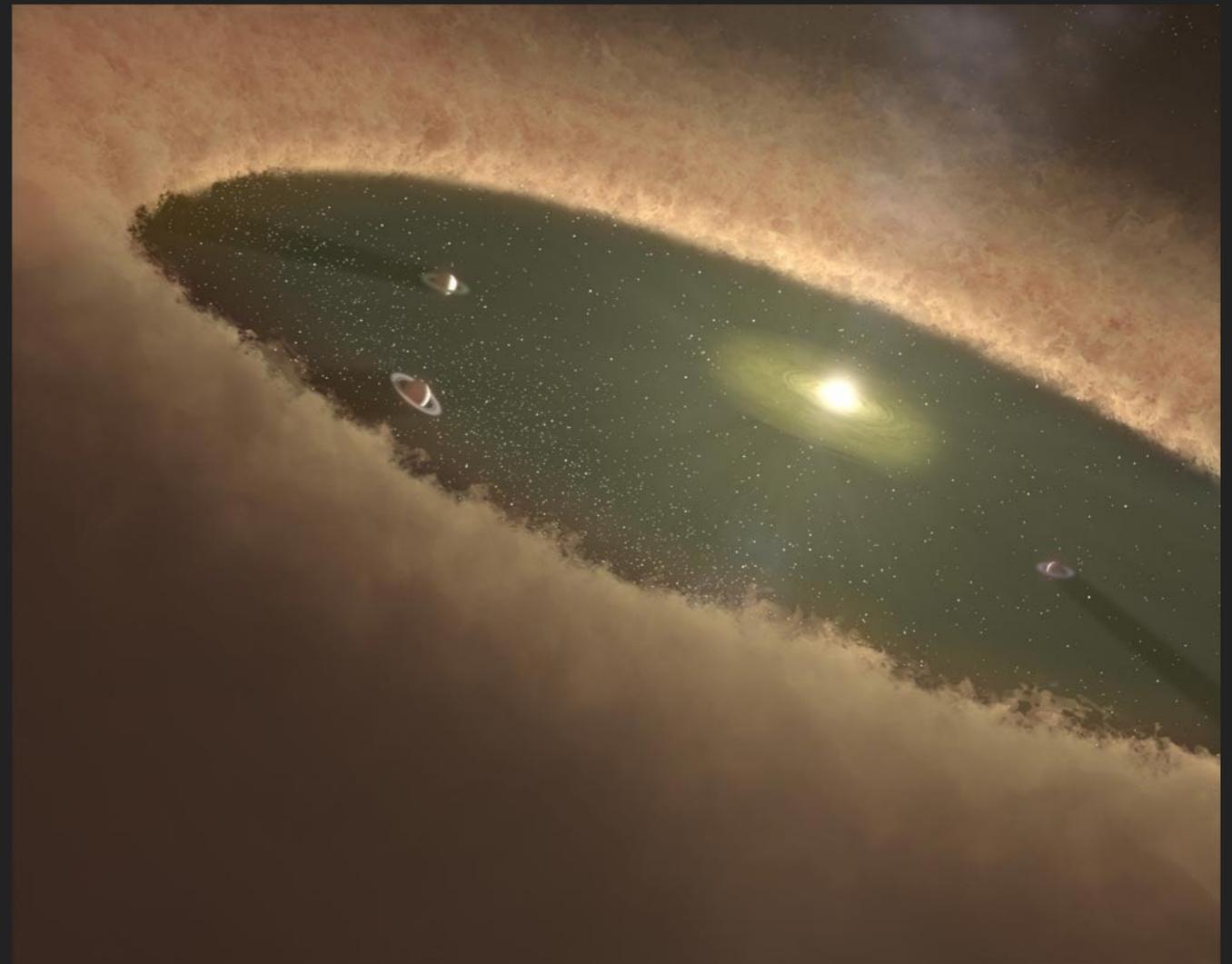
## OVERVIEW

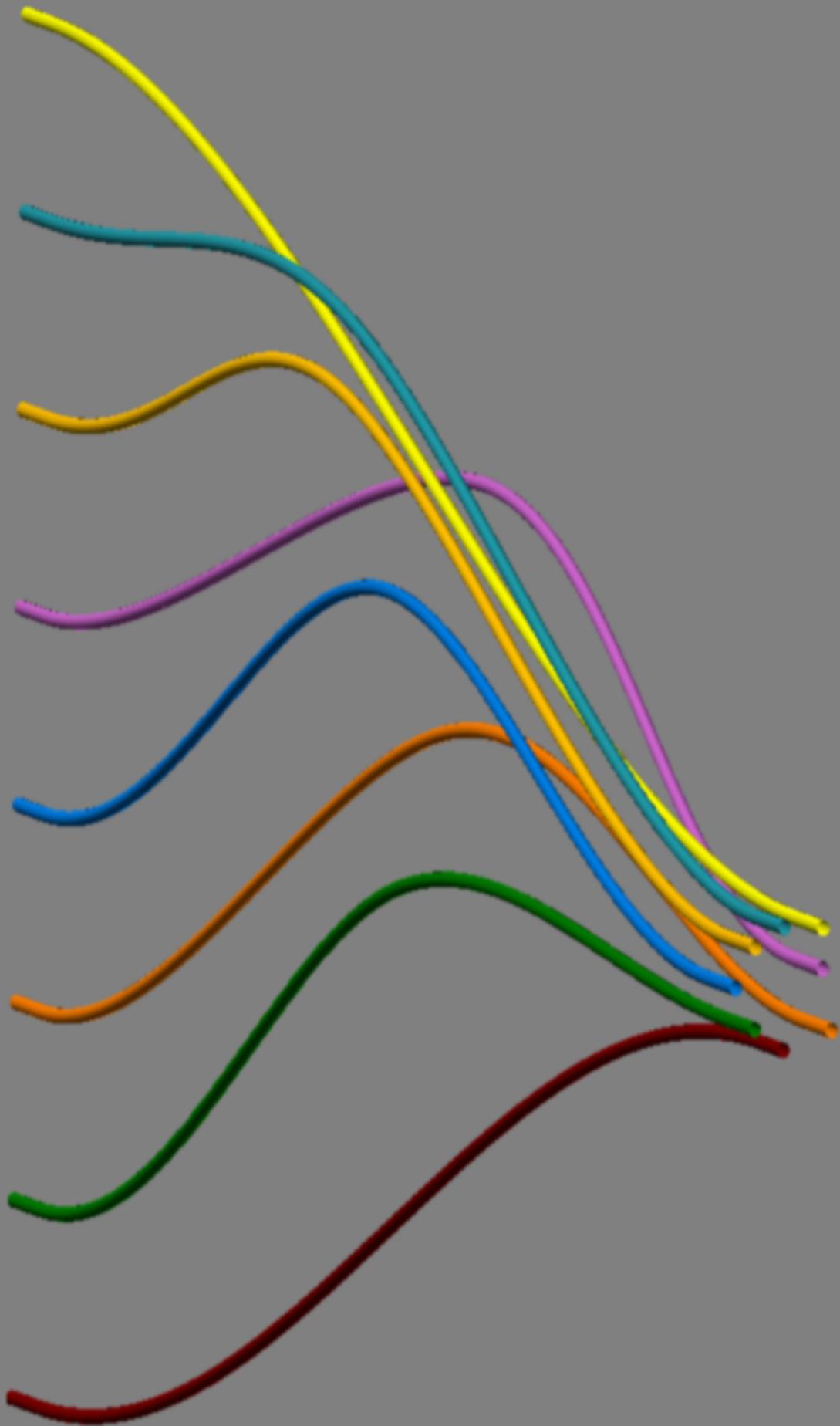
- ▶ The 'classic' Dragonfly Project
  - ▶ Integrated photonic pupil remapping using ULI
  - ▶ Hybrid 3D-2D architecture, closure phases and visibilities
- ▶ GLINT integrated nuller
  - ▶ ULI integrated pupil remapper and nulling interferometer
- ▶ To the MIR



## KEY SCIENCE GOAL: UNDERSTANDING PLANET FORMATION

- ▶ Protoplanetary disks - map image dust, gaps, density perturbations, ...
- ▶ Direct imaging of hot, young exoplanets
- ▶ Exozodi studies
- ▶ Stellar astrophysics



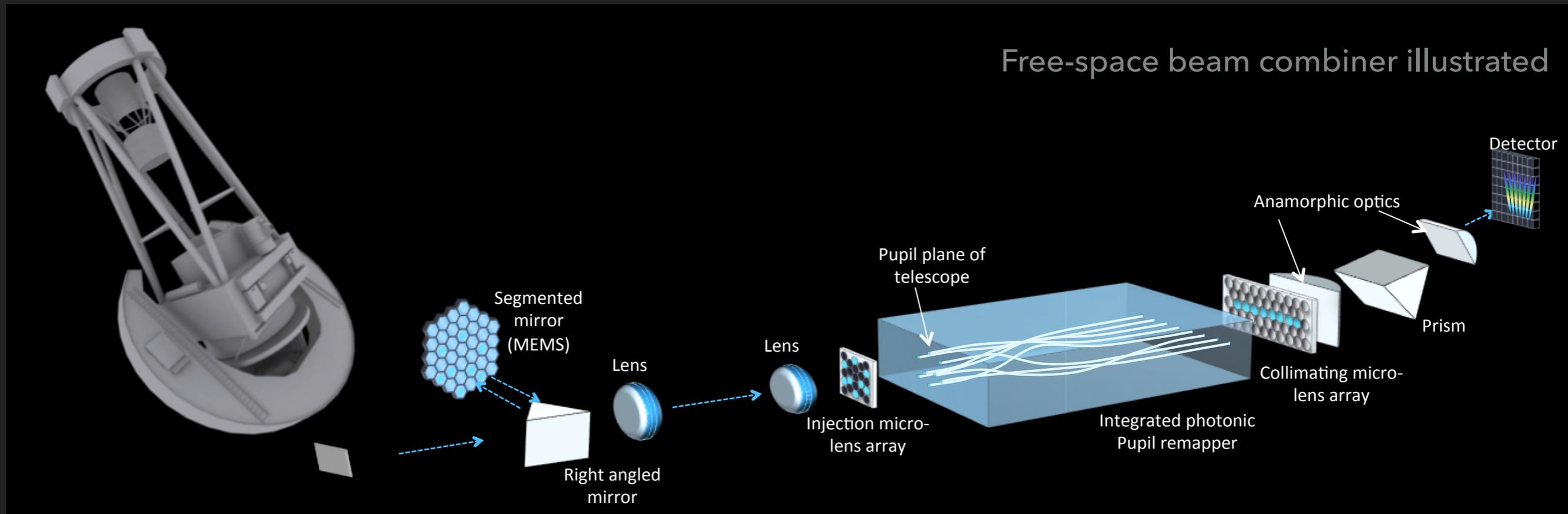


# PART 1 – PUPIL REMAPPING INTERFEROMETRY

*Efficiently re-map 2D telescope pupil to linear SM waveguide array, while maintaining coherence*

# 'CLASSIC' DRAGONFLY: PHOTONIC PUPIL REMAPPER

*compare to Non Redundant Masking (aka Sparse Aperture Masking)*

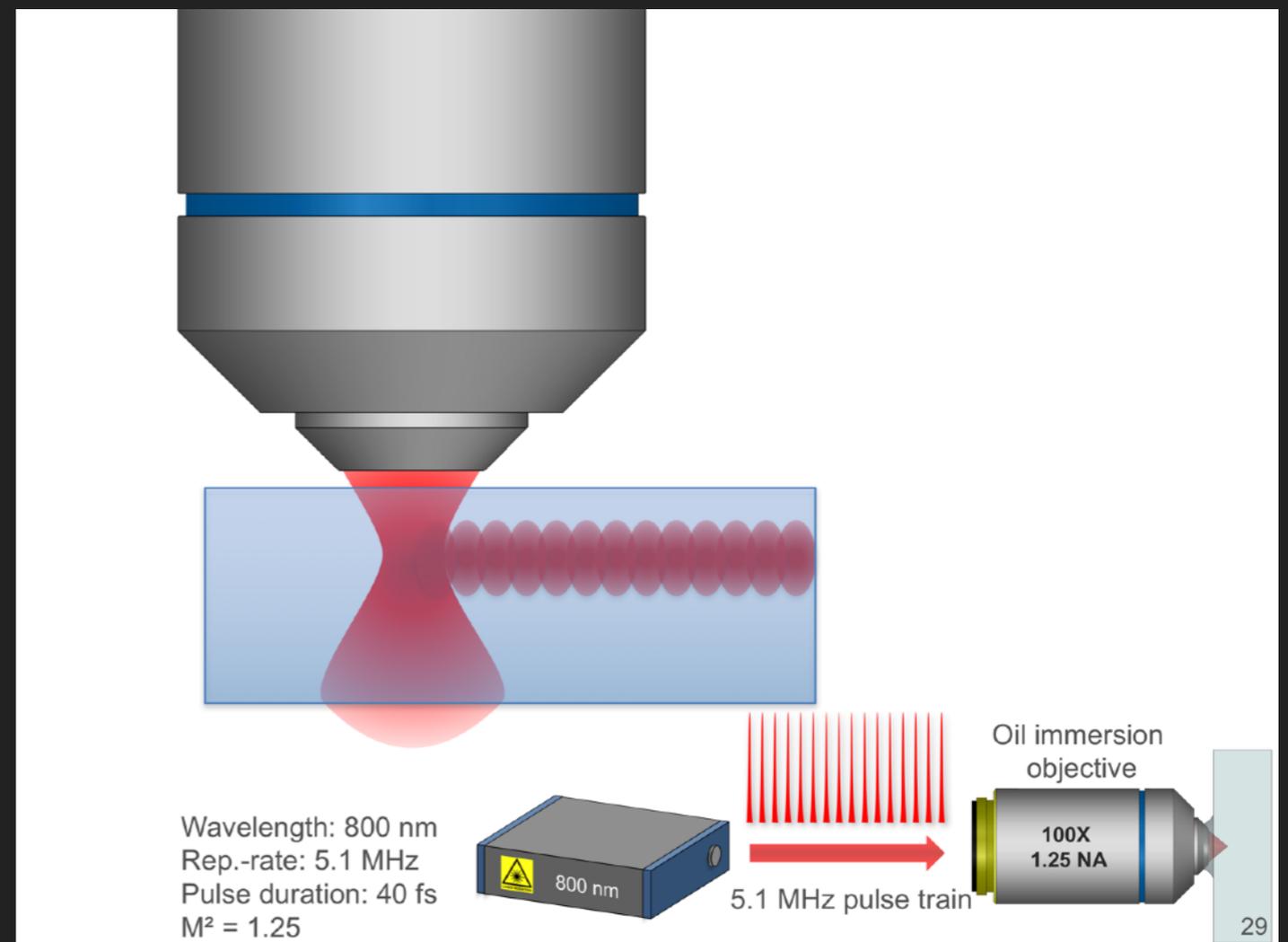


## Photonic pupil remapper (NIR) - Remaps arbitrary 2D pattern into 1D

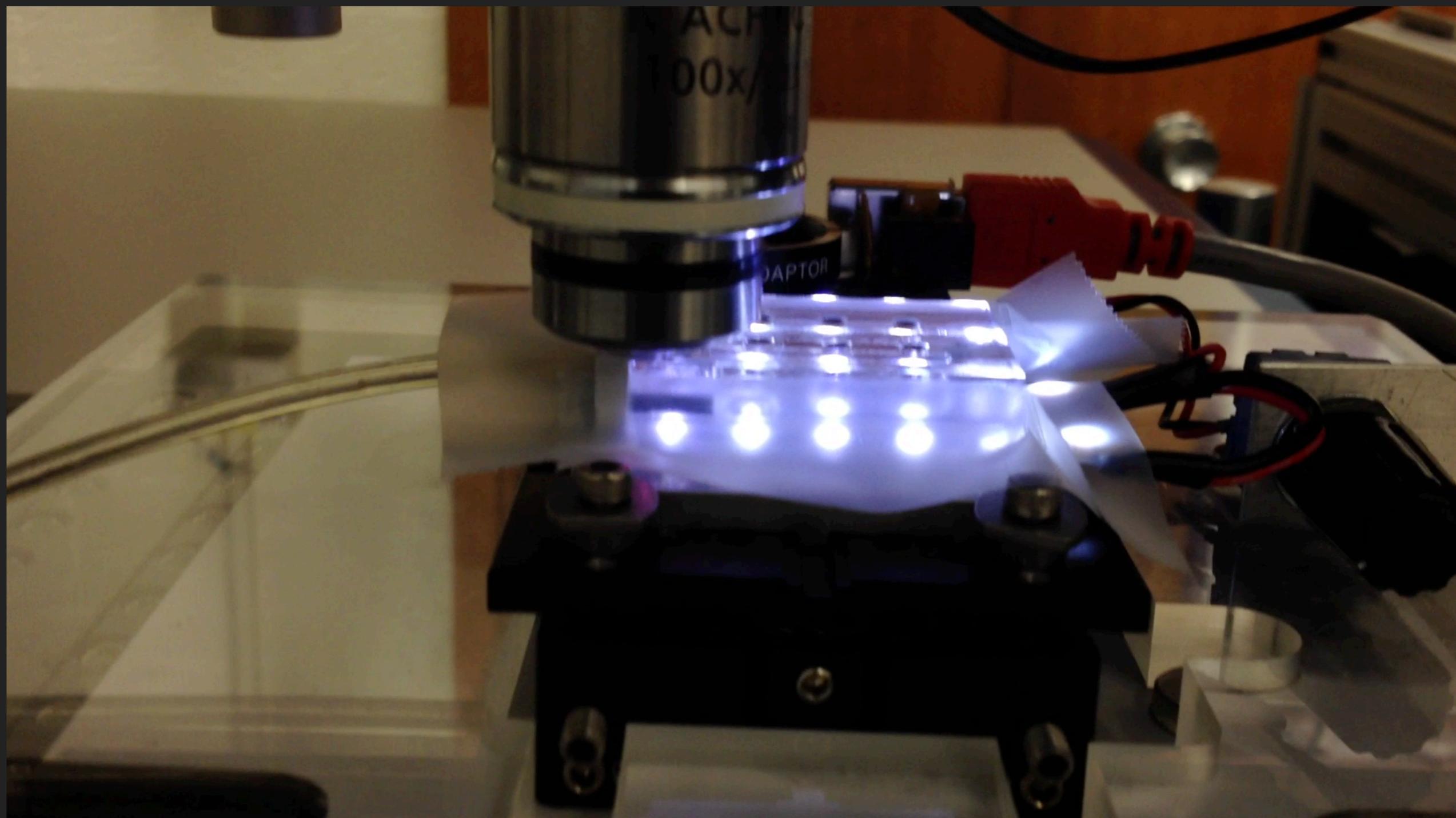
- Redundant (full pupil coverage) → non-redundant
- 1D → can be spectrally dispersed
- Single-mode waveguides → flat phase across “sub-aperture”

## THE PHOTONIC PUPIL REMAPPER

- ▶ Waveguides directly written into glass using tightly focused femtosecond laser - 'direct write' (aka 'ultrafast laser inscription')
- ▶ Chemical structure modified, positive change in index
- ▶ Translating glass allows waveguides to be written in 3 dimensions
- ▶ Must be path-length matched to  $<1$  micron. **Photonic chip provides necessary stability**

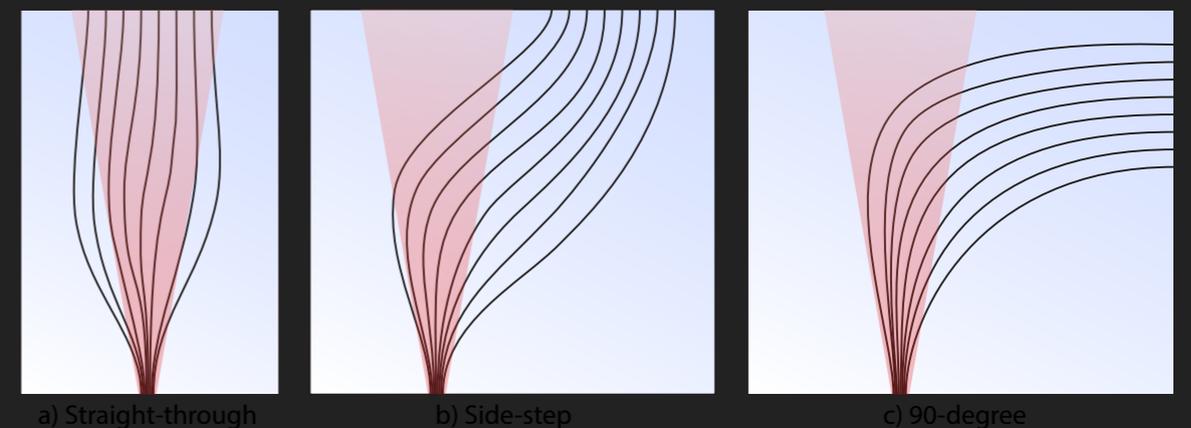
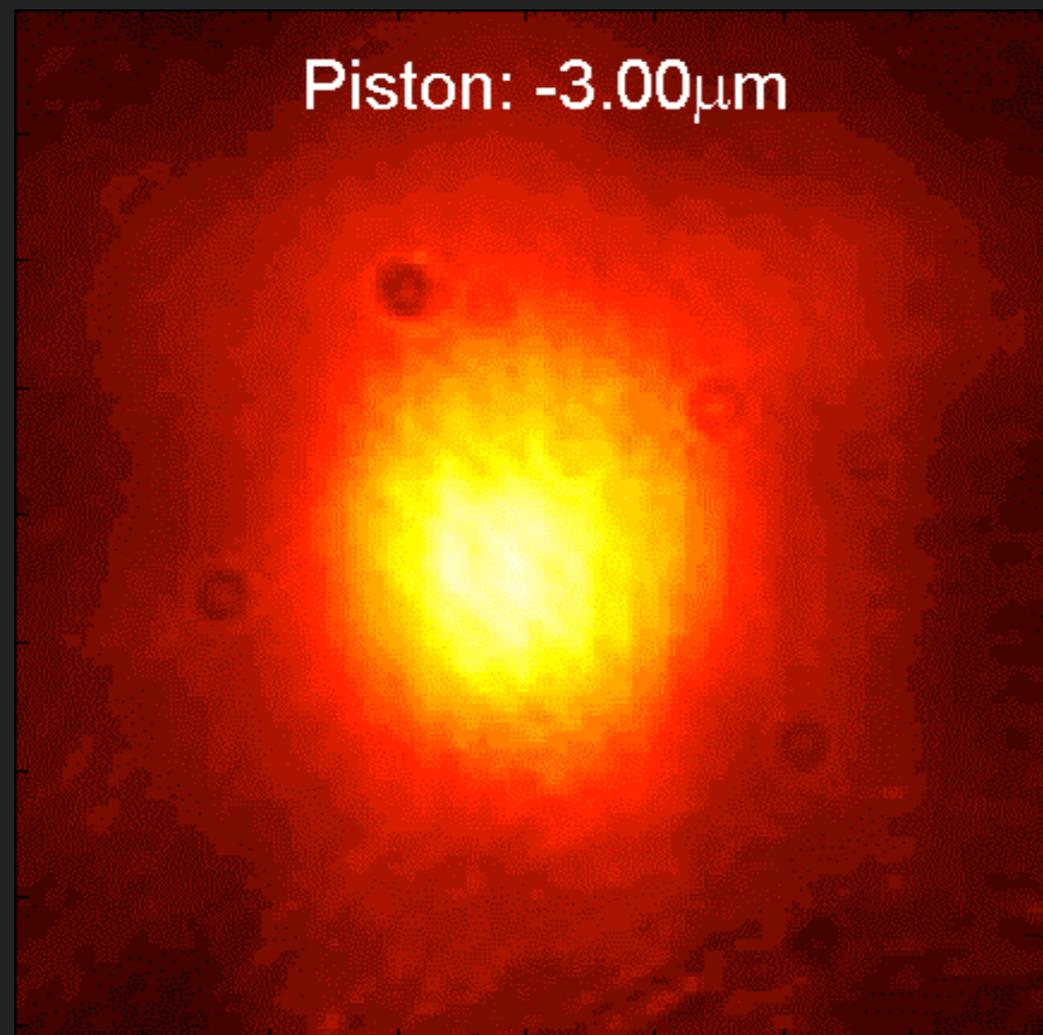


# THE PHOTONIC PUPIL REMAPPER



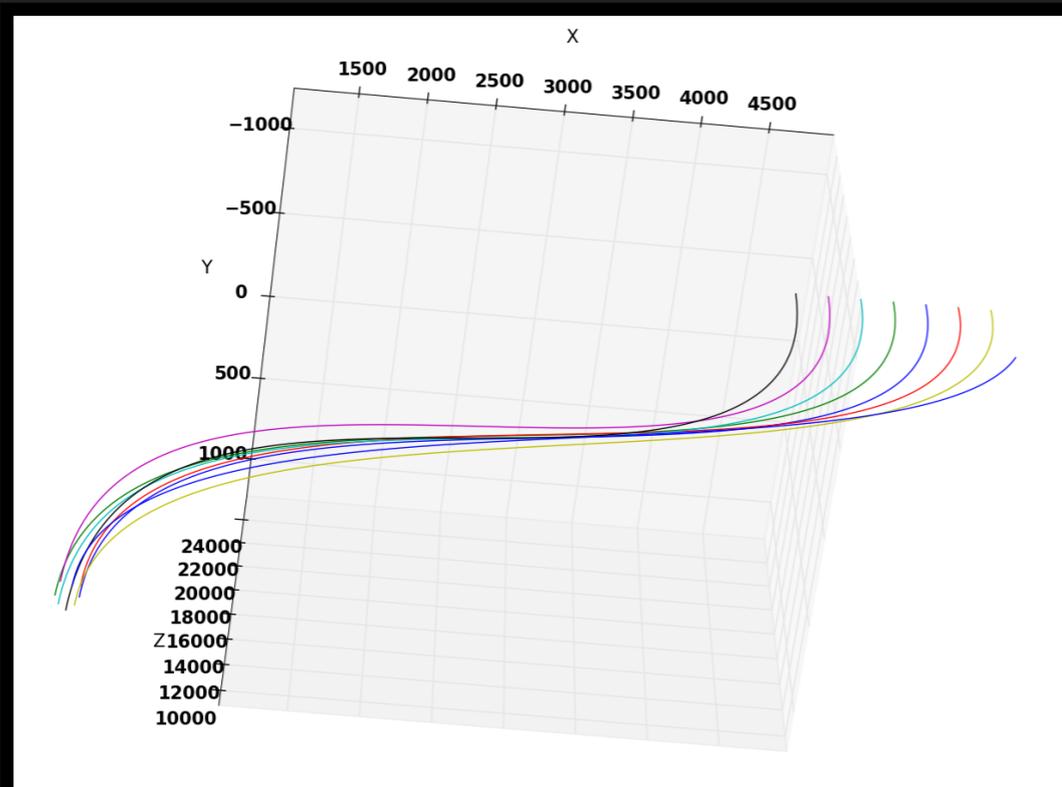
## IMPACT OF STRAY LIGHT

- ▶ Un-coupled light propagates through bulk and interferes at output face - reduce CP precision (at least in free-space beam combination)



## WAVEGUIDE DESIGN

- ▶ Arbitrary 3D geometry, but strict design requirements:
  - ▶ Path-length matched ( $\ll$  micron)
  - ▶ Bend radii limit  $\sim 25$  mm
  - ▶ Min proximity  $\sim 30$   $\mu\text{m}$

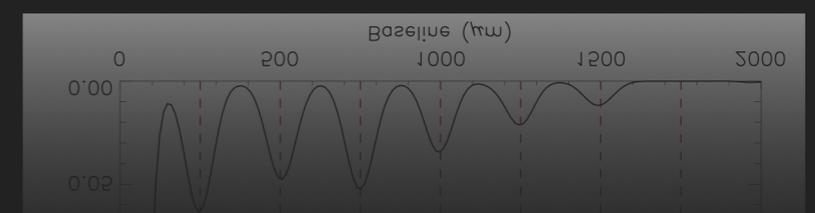
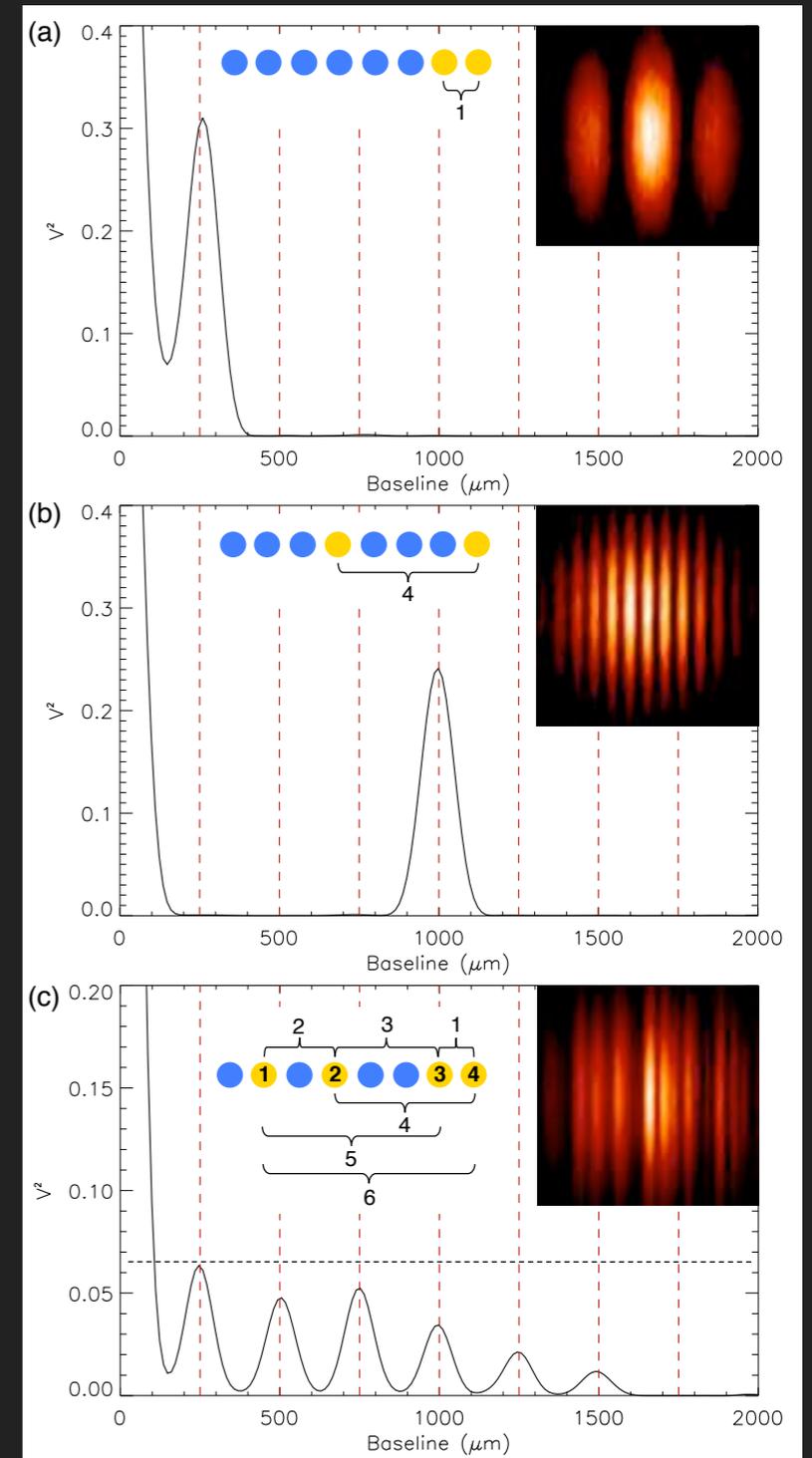
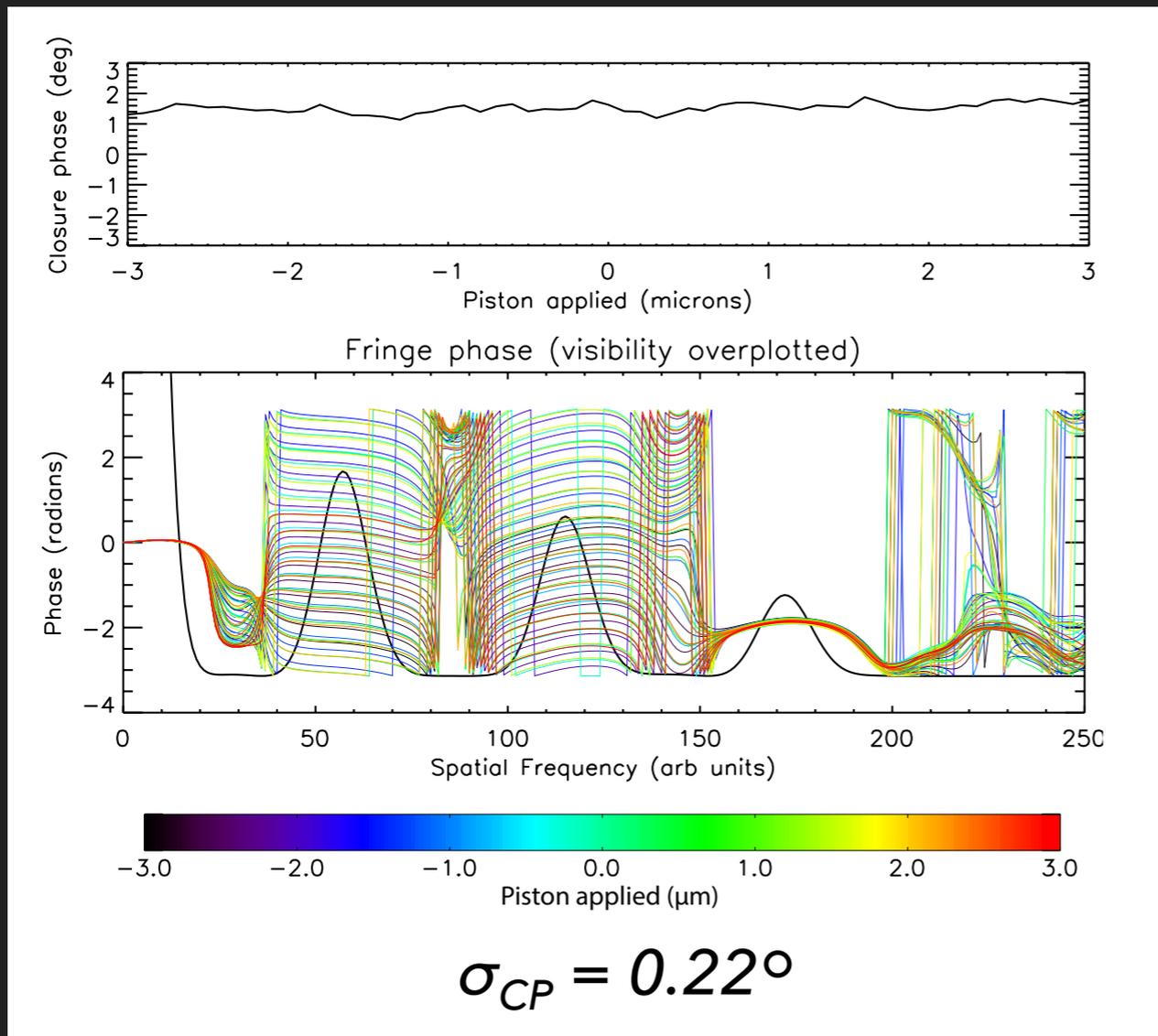


- ▶ Waveguide optimisation code
  - ▶ Parameterise each waveguide as set of 3D cubic Bezier curves
  - ▶ Cost function derived from length matching, ROC, write depth, proximity (exp. weighted), ...
  - ▶ Deploy global and local optimisers
  - ▶ -> Produce G-code for writing stages

*(Lagadec et al. 2017 in prep.)*

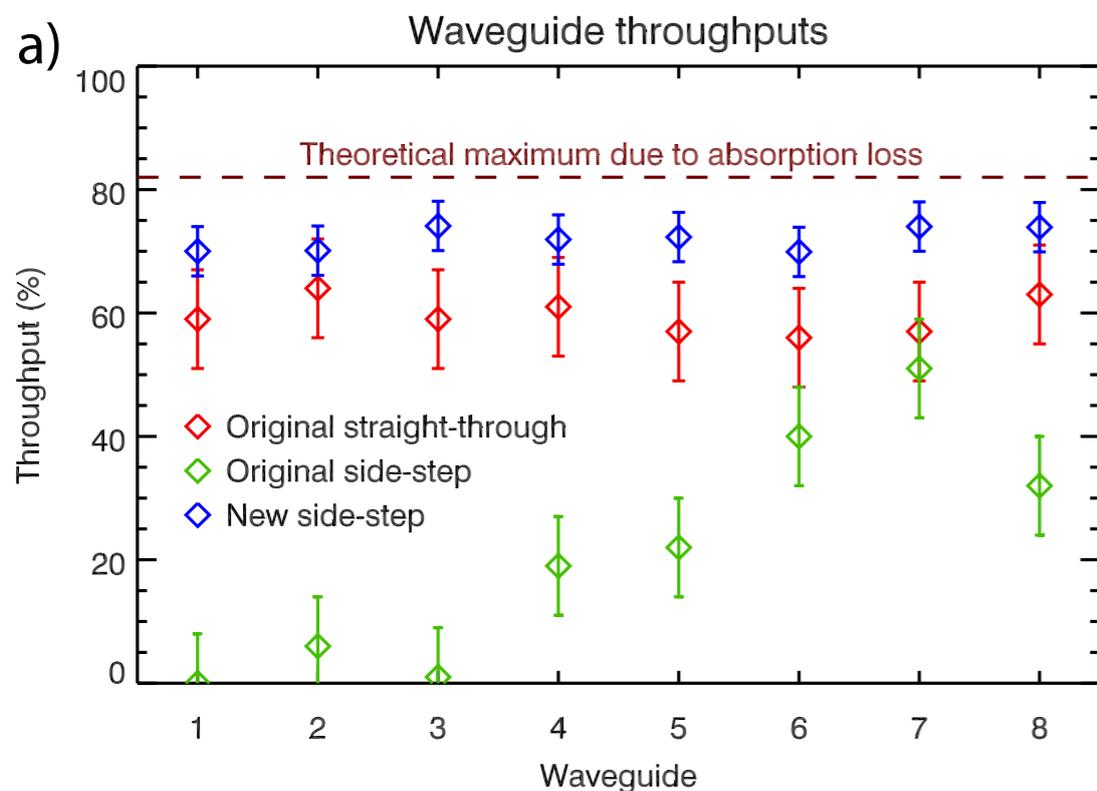
# FREE-SPACE BEAM COMBINATION

- ▶ Map pupil to linear non-redundant output
  - ▶ Simple, easy spectral dispersion, effective
  - ▶ But limited to  $\sim < 9$  wgs, no separate photometry



# FREE-SPACE VERSION - PERFORMANCE

- ▶ Residual stress -> high bend-loss
- ▶ Address with thermal annealing



Throughputs for side-step design previously shown

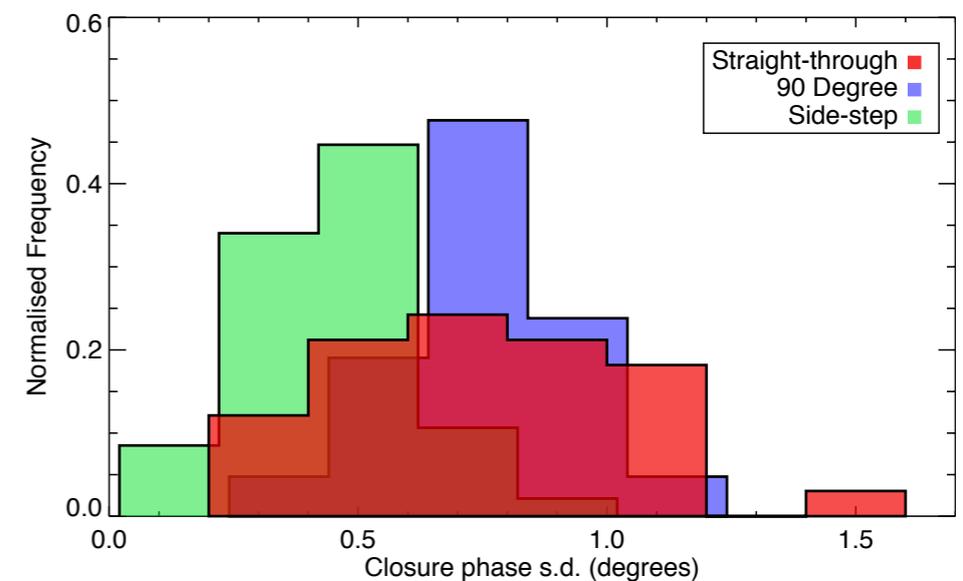
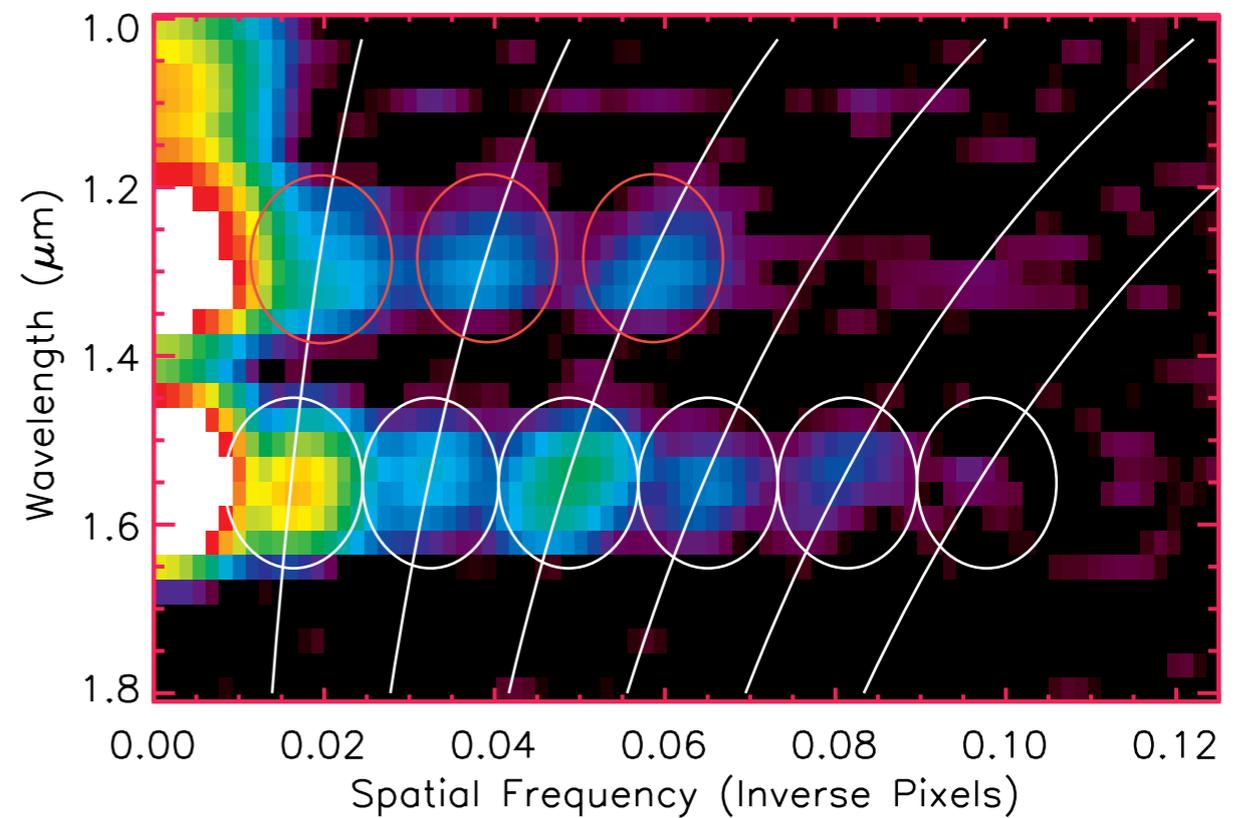
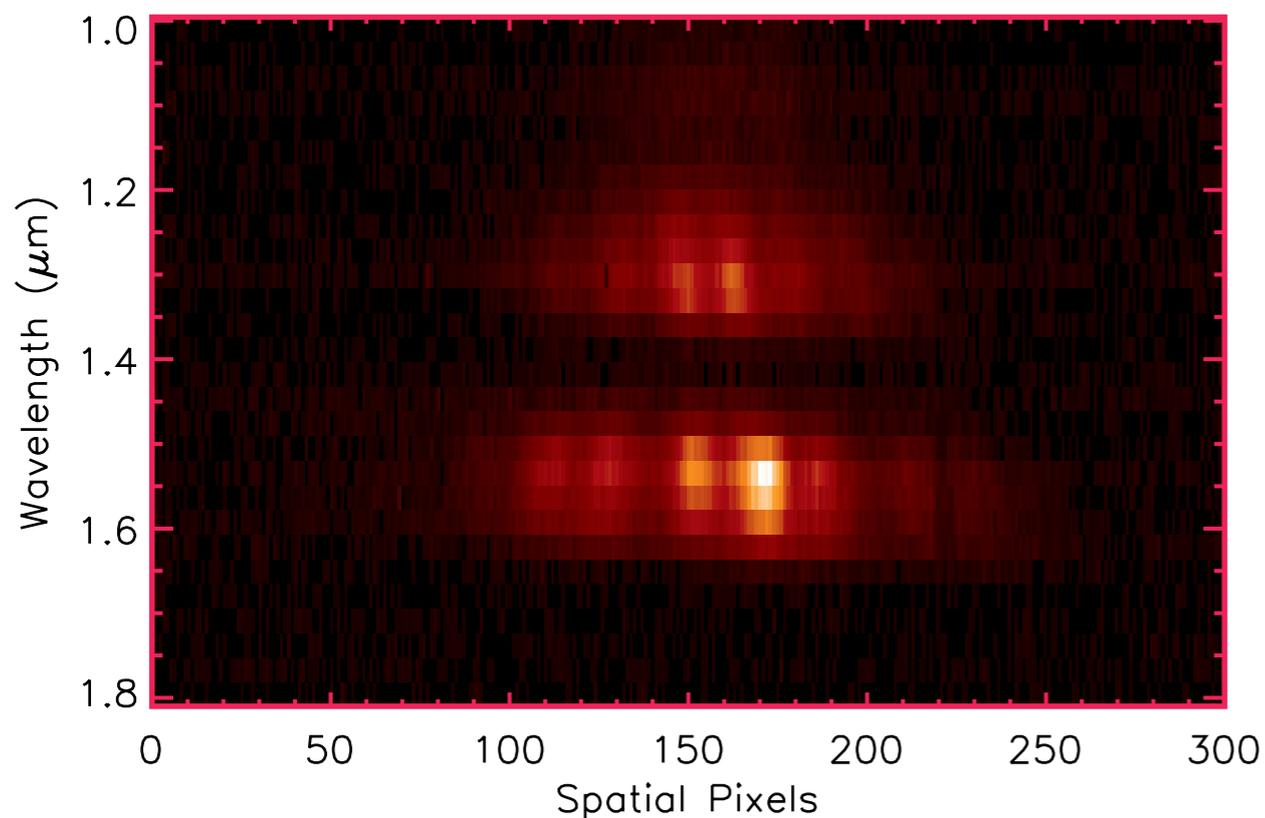


Fig. 10. A histogram showing the distribution of  $\sigma_{CP}$  when the pupil-remapper and microlens-array are subjected to repeated realignments. The frequencies have been normalized such that the integral of each histogram is unity.

# On-sky Performance

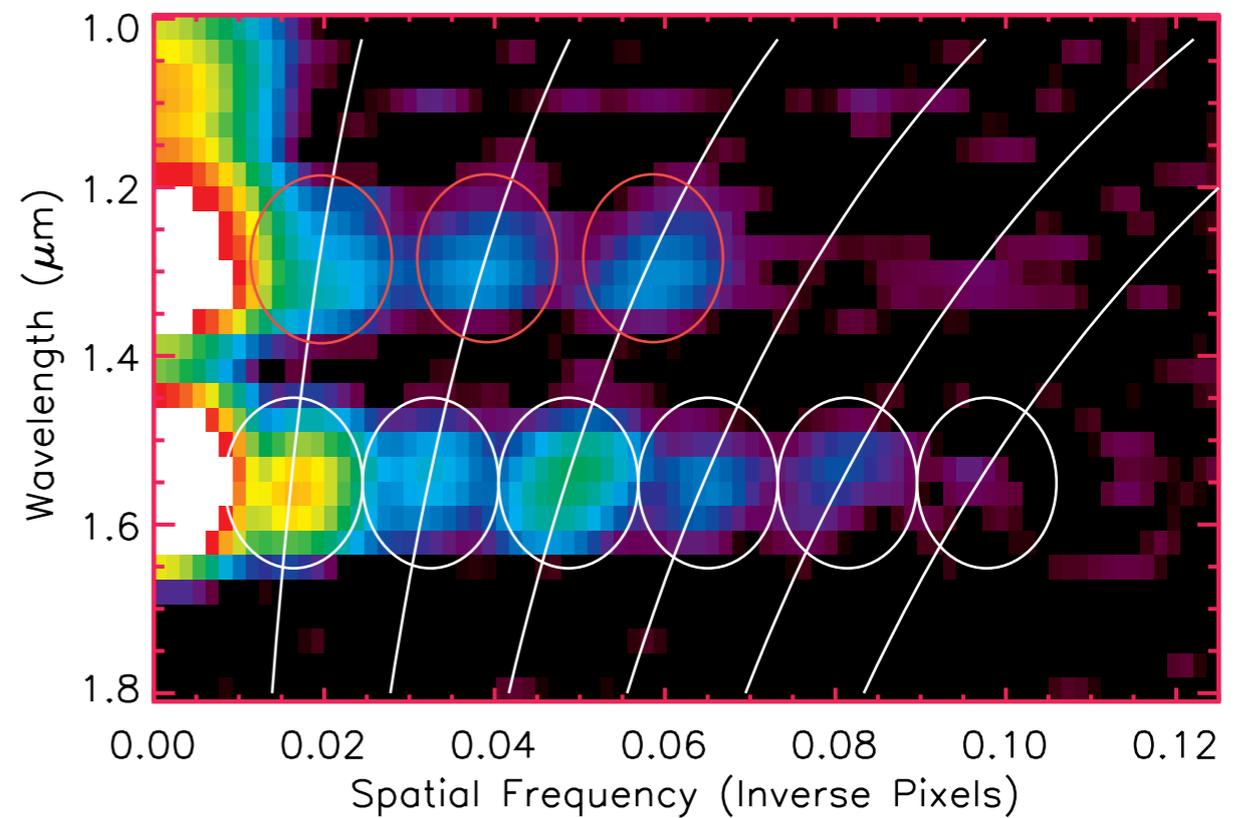
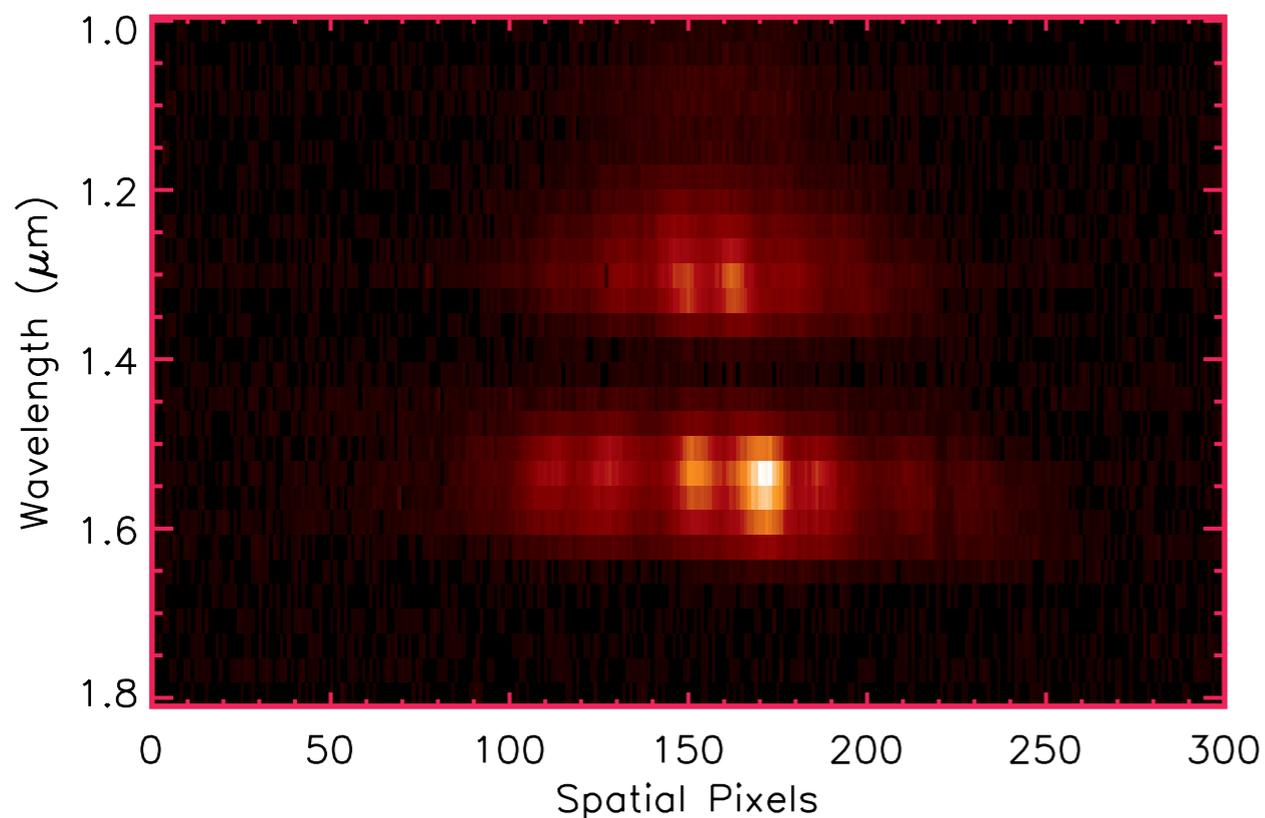
- 20th-21st May 2011 at AAT -  $r_0$  1.8 arcsec,  $t_0$  30ms at H
- $r_0$  2.5x greater than projected sub-aperture - large WF error across sub-ap, - poor coupling
- $t_{\text{int}}$  (200ms)  $\gg t_0$  - low system visibility



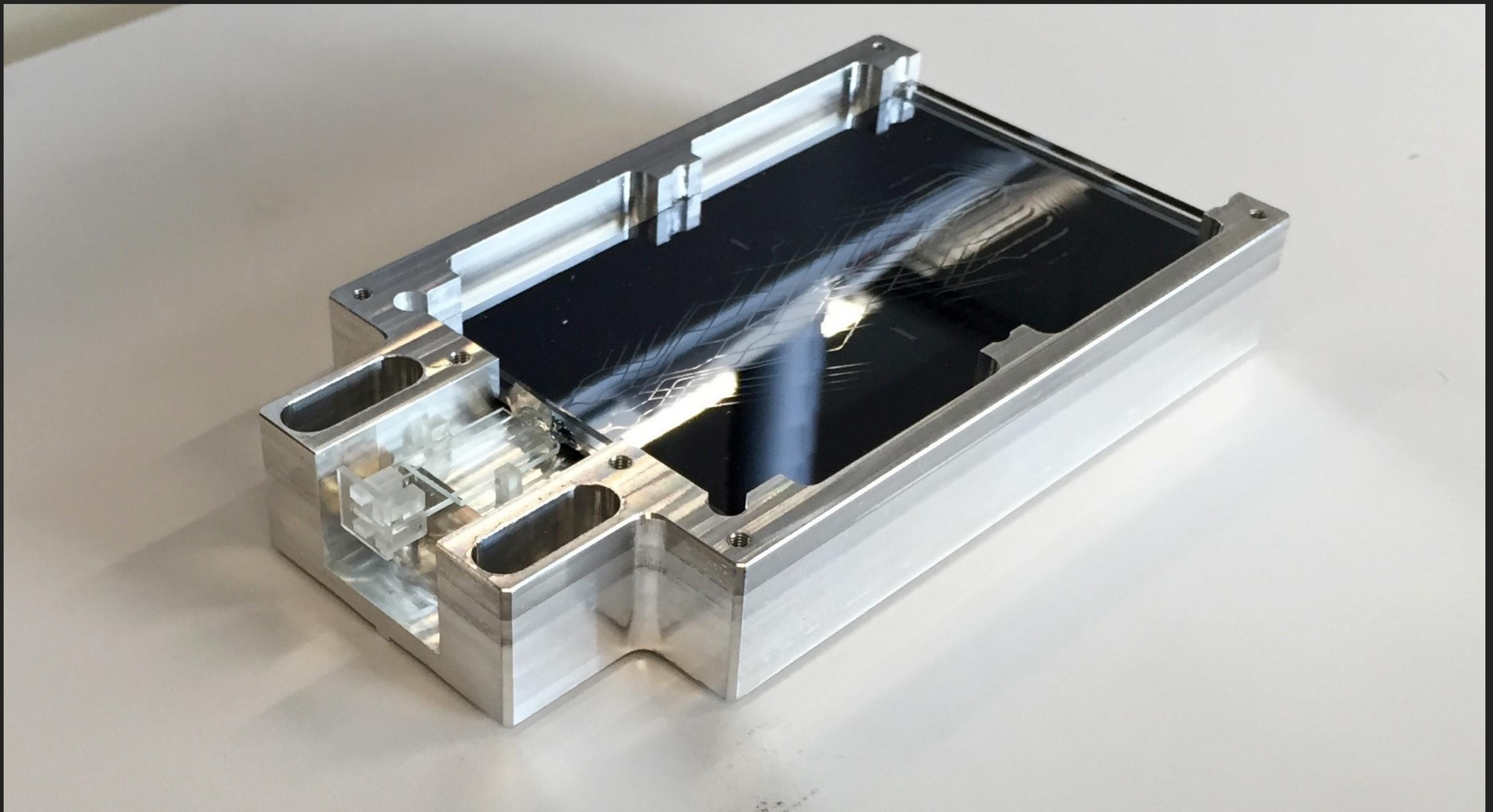
# On-sky Performance

	On-sky measured	Ideal prediction (numerical model)
<b>System visibility</b>	0.36	0.39
<b>Closure phase</b>	$0^\circ \pm 5^\circ$ (SEM)	$0^\circ \pm 4^\circ$ (SEM)

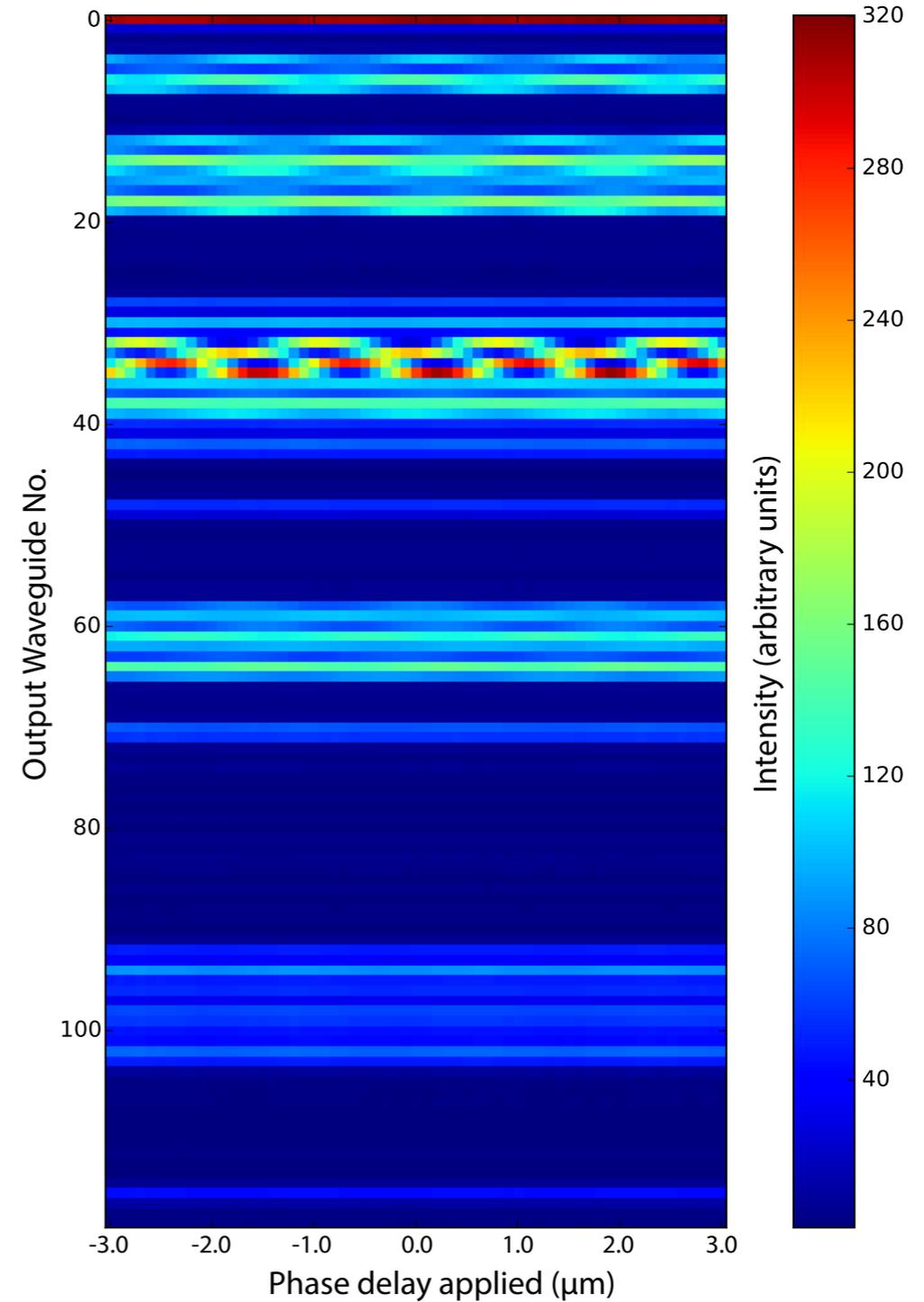
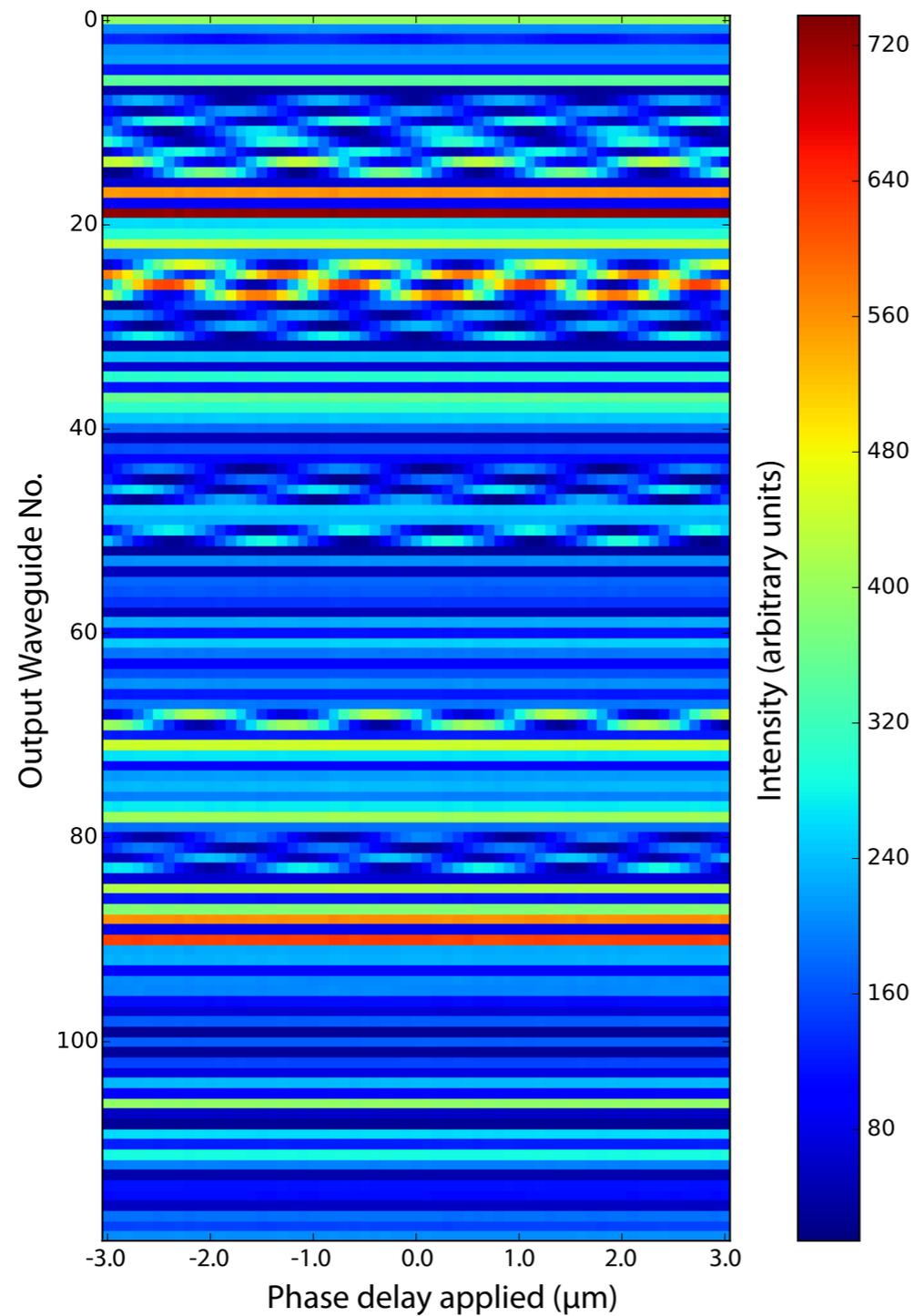
On-sky results consistent with lab when seeing taken into account.



## HYBRID BEAM COMBINATION

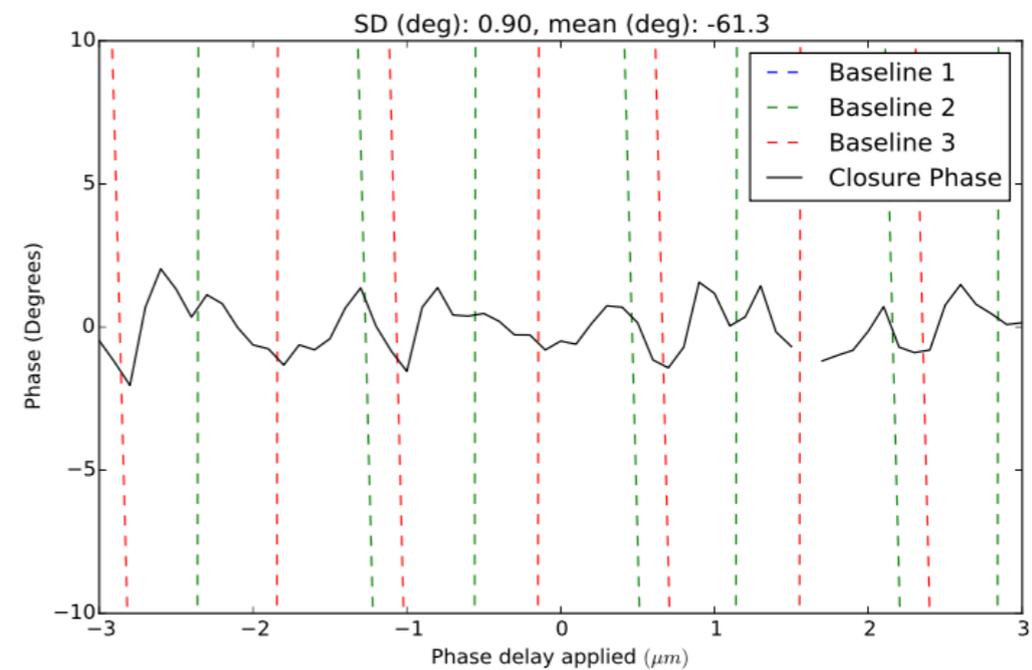
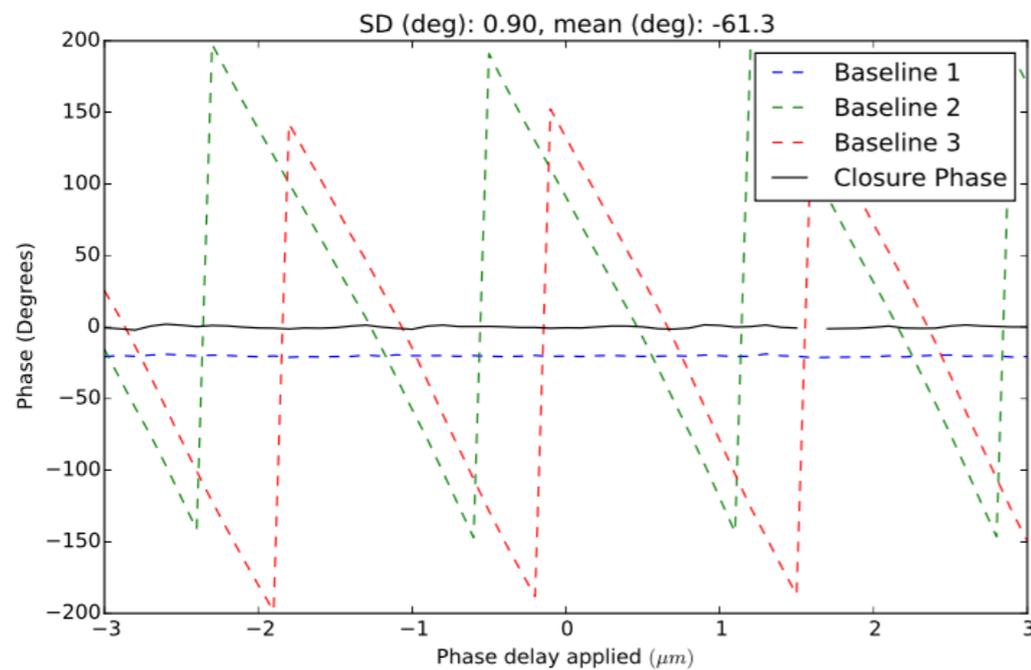


# BEAM COMBINATION - ANALYSIS



# BEAM COMBINATION - ANALYSIS

- ▶ **Instantaneous** (not temporally modulated) measurement
  - ▶ Originally limitation of slow detector, works well
- ▶ Test worst-case CP precision by postponing through  $>2\pi$  rad
  - ▶ CP standard deviation  $< 1$  degree





GLINT

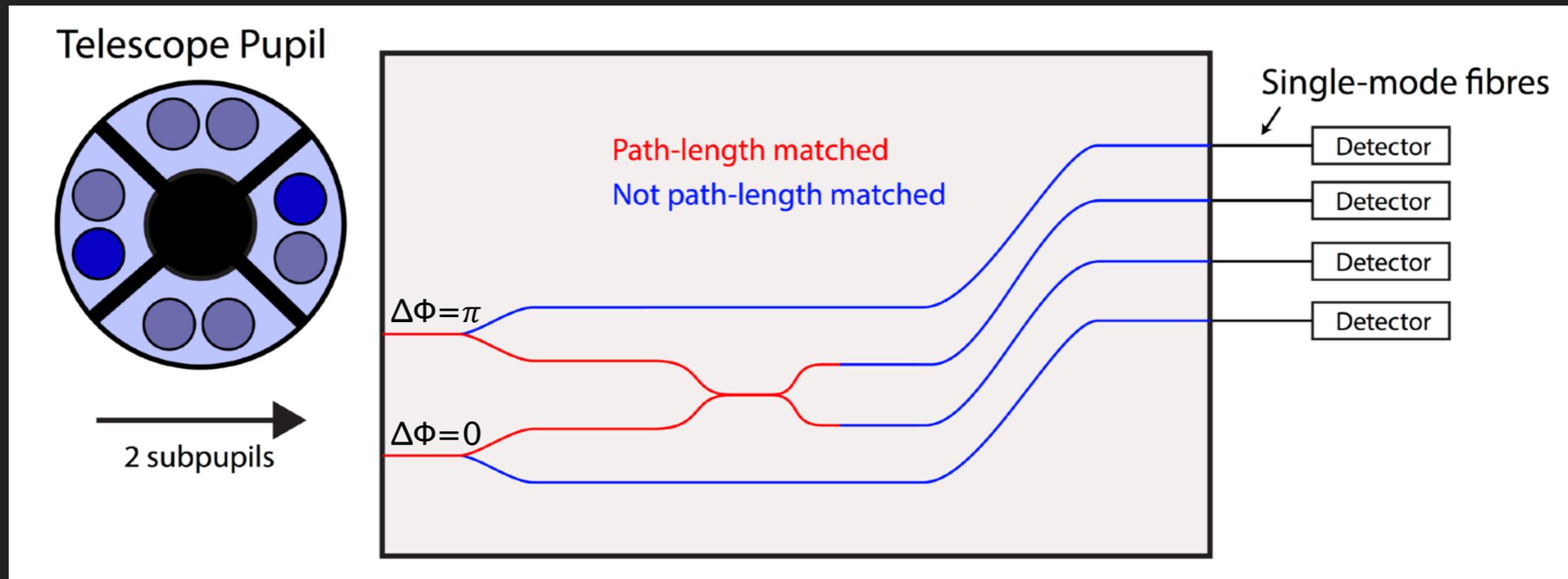
Guided Light Interferometric  
Nulling Technology

# PART 2 – NIR INTEGRATED NULLING

*Beat photon-noise while exploiting integrated  
ULI beam-combiners*

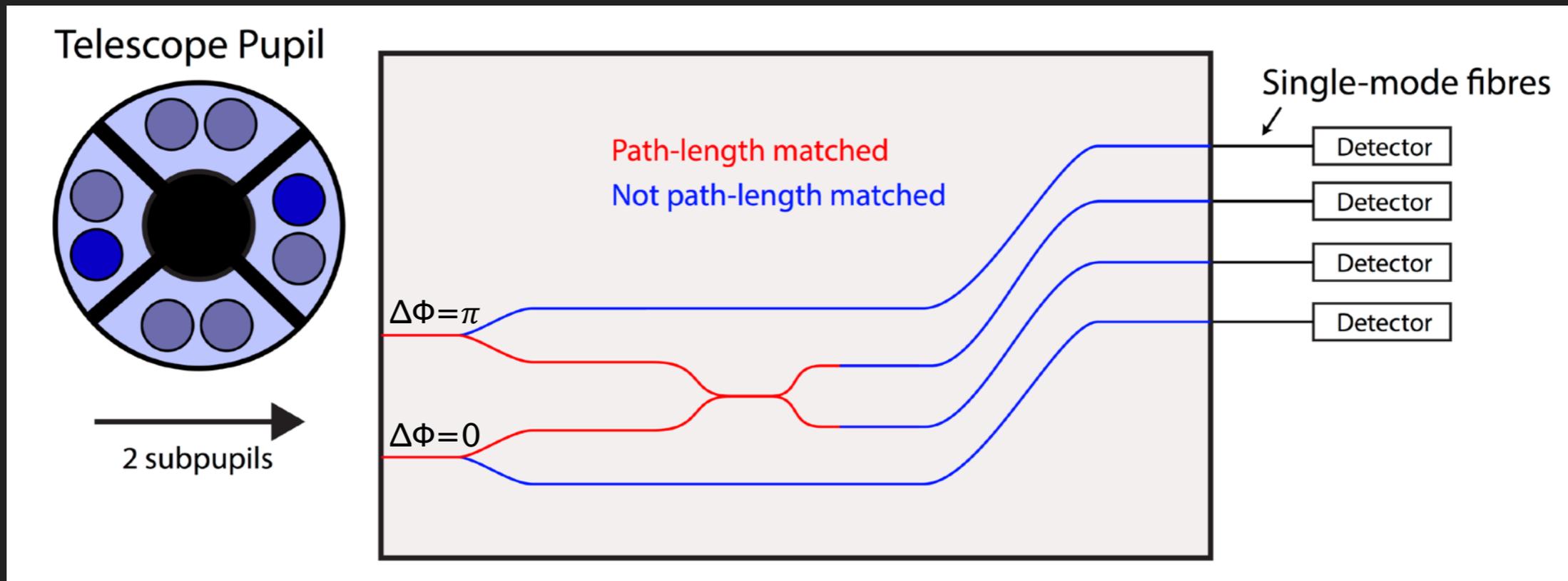
## GLINT NULLER

- ▶ Uses a 3D photonic chip (ULI) to destructively interfere starlight, revealing signal of high contrast structure
  - ▶ Telescope pupil imaged onto chip
  - ▶ Remapping + interference via evanescent couplers in chip
  - ▶ 10s of outputs, encoding time domain signal as pupil rotates

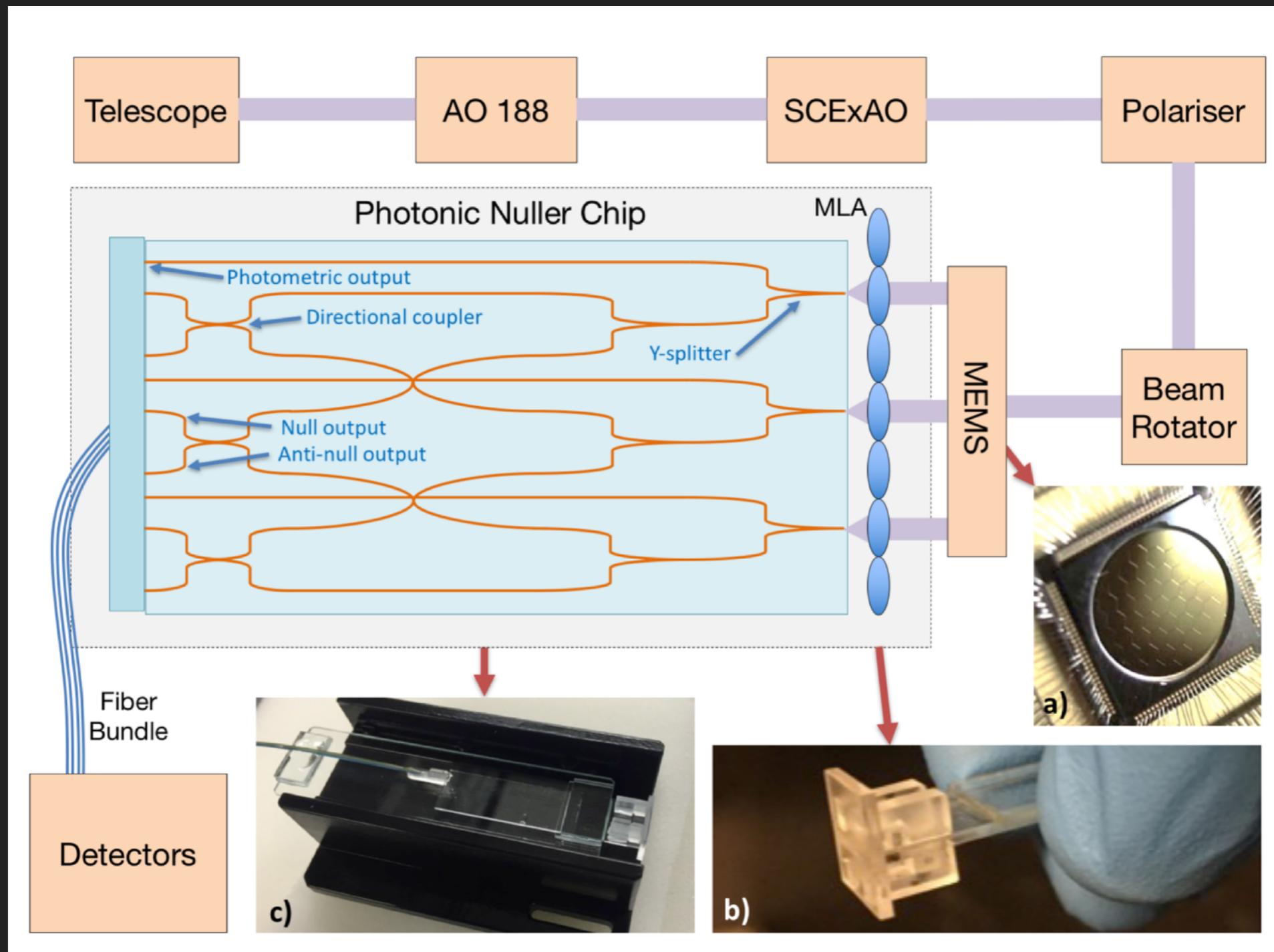


# GLINT NULLER

- ▶ Advantages of integrated photonic approach
  - ▶ Pupil-Remapped and nulling interferometer in one device
  - ▶ Truly simultaneous photometry (not chopper) and  $I^+$  measurement -> Better null-depth estimate
  - ▶ Ideal for multiple, cascaded beam combination - e.g. closure-phase nulling
  - ▶ Intrinsically stable



# GLINT NULLER - 3 WG AND 4 WG CHIPS IN PROCESS



# GLINT NULLER – TOWARDS CP NULLING

## A new interferometer architecture combining nulling with phase closure measurements

S. Lacour,<sup>1</sup> P. Tuthill,<sup>2</sup> J. D. Monnier,<sup>3</sup> T. Kotani,<sup>4</sup> L. Gauchet<sup>1</sup> and P. Labeye<sup>5</sup>

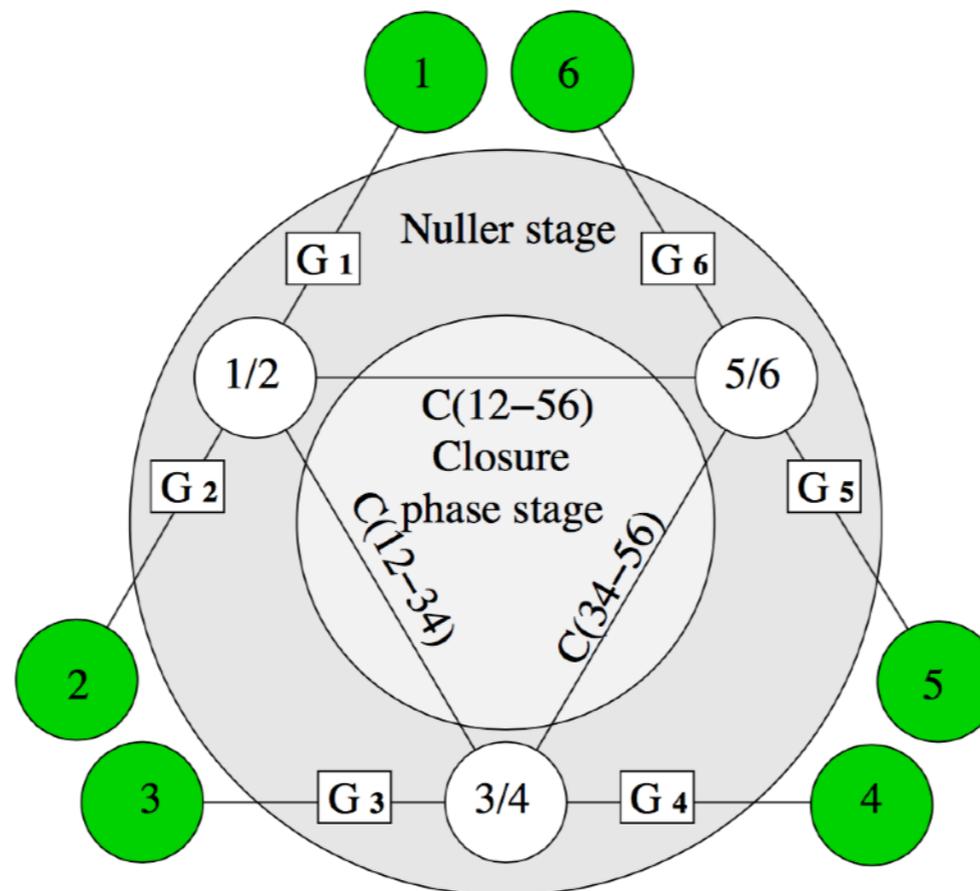
<sup>1</sup> LESIA/Observatoire de Paris, CNRS, UPMC, Université Paris Diderot, 5 place Jules Janssen, 92195 Meudon, France

<sup>2</sup> Sydney Institute for Astronomy, School of Physics, The University of Sydney, N.S.W. 2006, Australia

<sup>3</sup> Department of Astronomy, University of Michigan, 941 Dennison Building, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, USA

<sup>4</sup> National Astronomical Observatory of Japan, 2-21-1 Osawa, Mitaka, Tokyo 181-8588, Japan

<sup>5</sup> CEA-LETI, MINATEC Campus, 17 rue des Martyrs, 38054 Grenoble Cedex 9, France



# PART 2 - INTEGRATED NULLING (GLINT)

## Patterned liquid-crystal optics for broadband coronagraphy and wavefront sensing

David S. Doelman<sup>a</sup>, Frans Snik<sup>a</sup>, Nathaniel Z. Warriner<sup>b</sup>, and Michael J. Escuti<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Leiden Observatory, Leiden University, P.O. Box 9513, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands

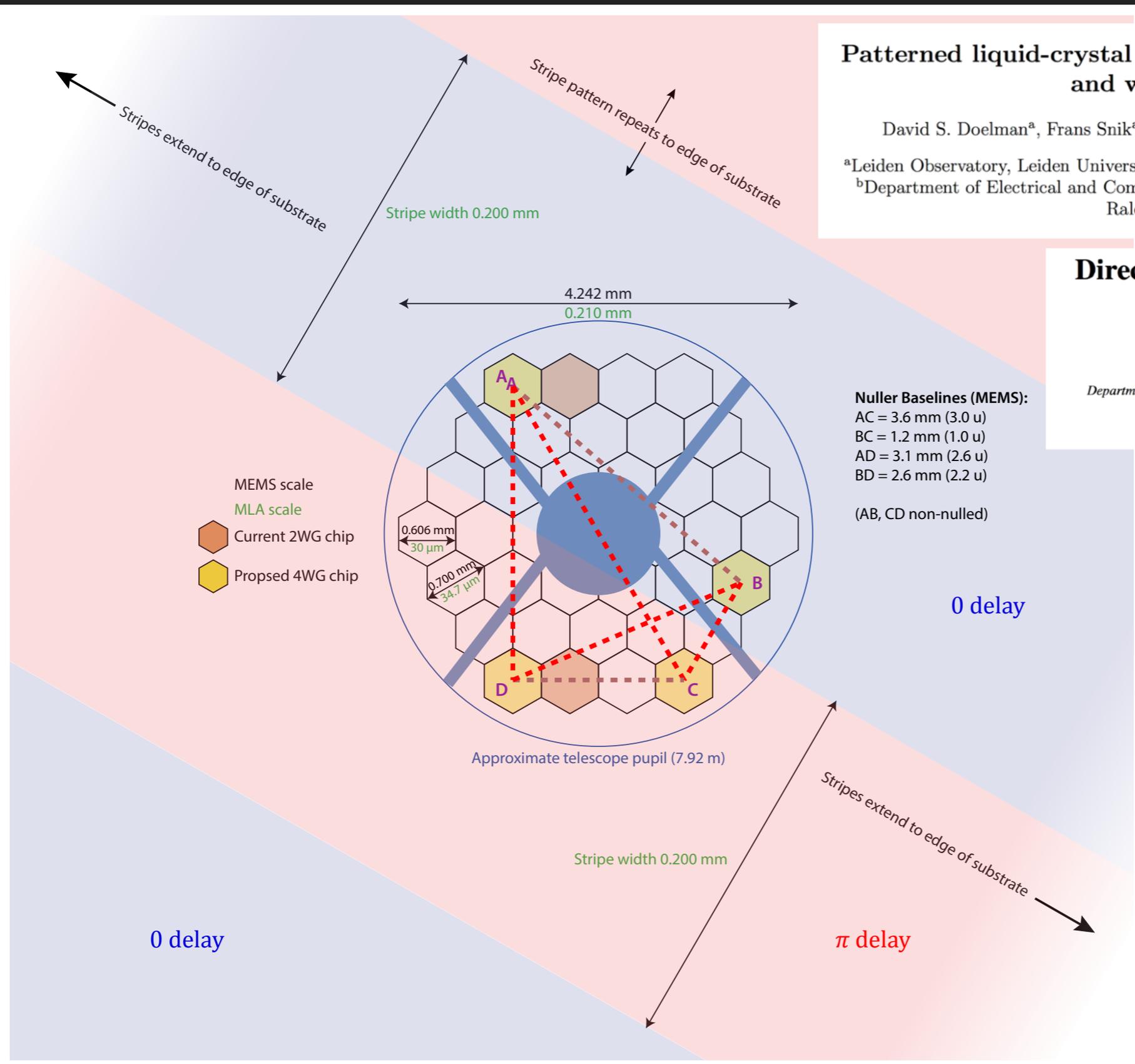
<sup>b</sup>Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695, USA

## Direct-writing of complex liquid crystal patterns

Matthew N. Miskiewicz and Michael J. Escuti\*

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC, 27695 USA

\*[mjescuti@ncsu.edu](mailto:mjescuti@ncsu.edu)



### Nuller Baselines (MEMS):

AC = 3.6 mm (3.0 u)

BC = 1.2 mm (1.0 u)

AD = 3.1 mm (2.6 u)

BD = 2.6 mm (2.2 u)

(AB, CD non-nulled)

## GLINT NULLER - SPECTROGRAPHIC BACK END

- ▶ Prototype back-end built and tested in lab (Enrico Biancalani)
- ▶ ~40 fibers in v-groove diffraction limited
- ▶ Low R - 5 nm spectral channels
- ▶ Awaiting delivery of C-RED 2!
- ▶ Plan for on sky Q1 2018

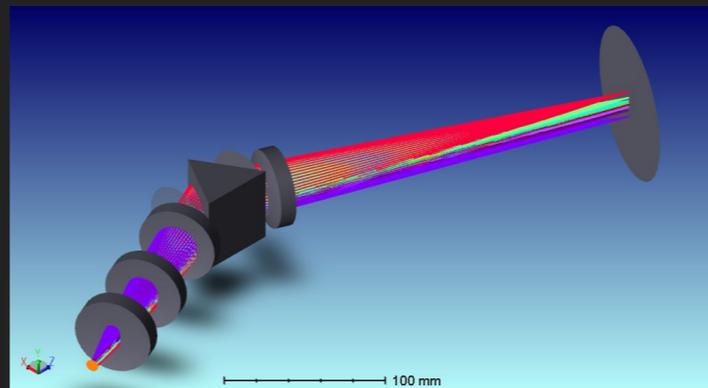


Fig. 4 -

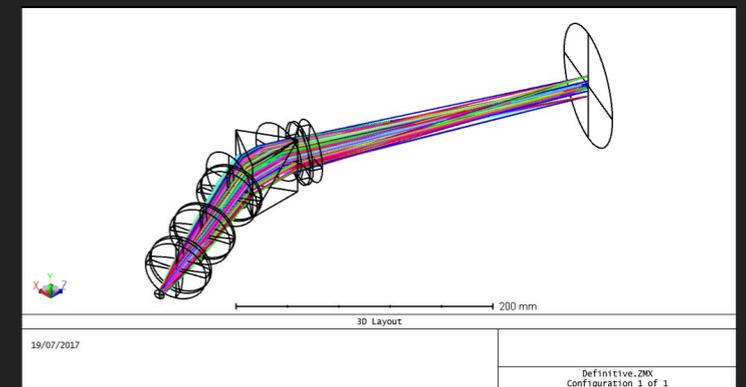


Fig. 8 -

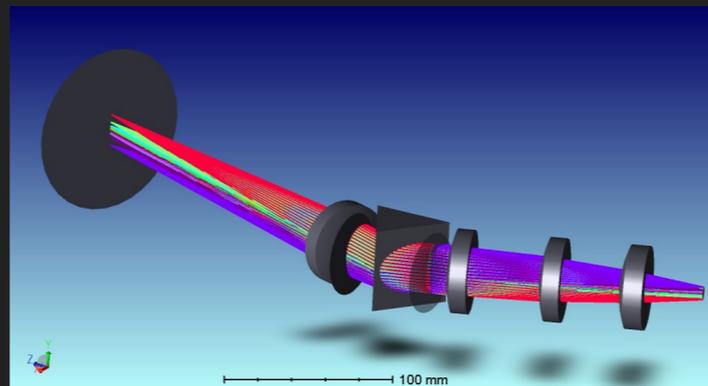


Fig. 5 -

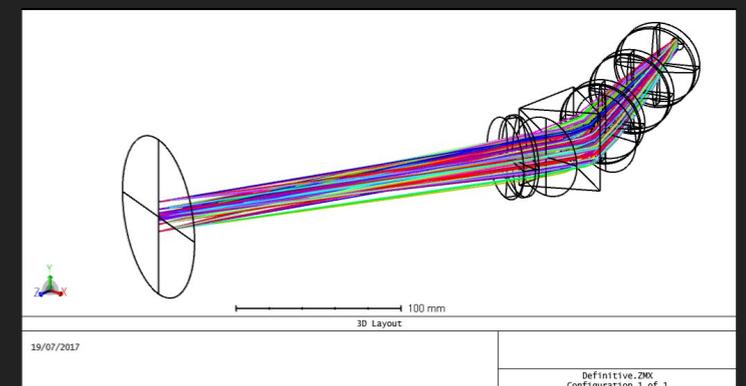


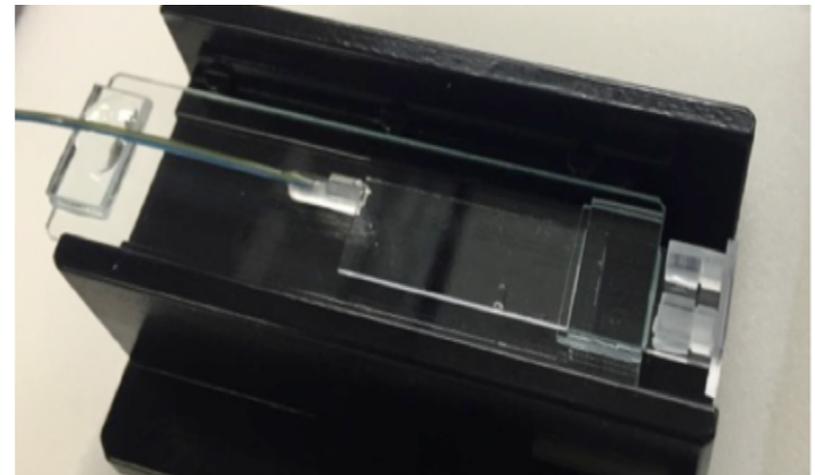
Fig. 9 -

# GLINT NULLER

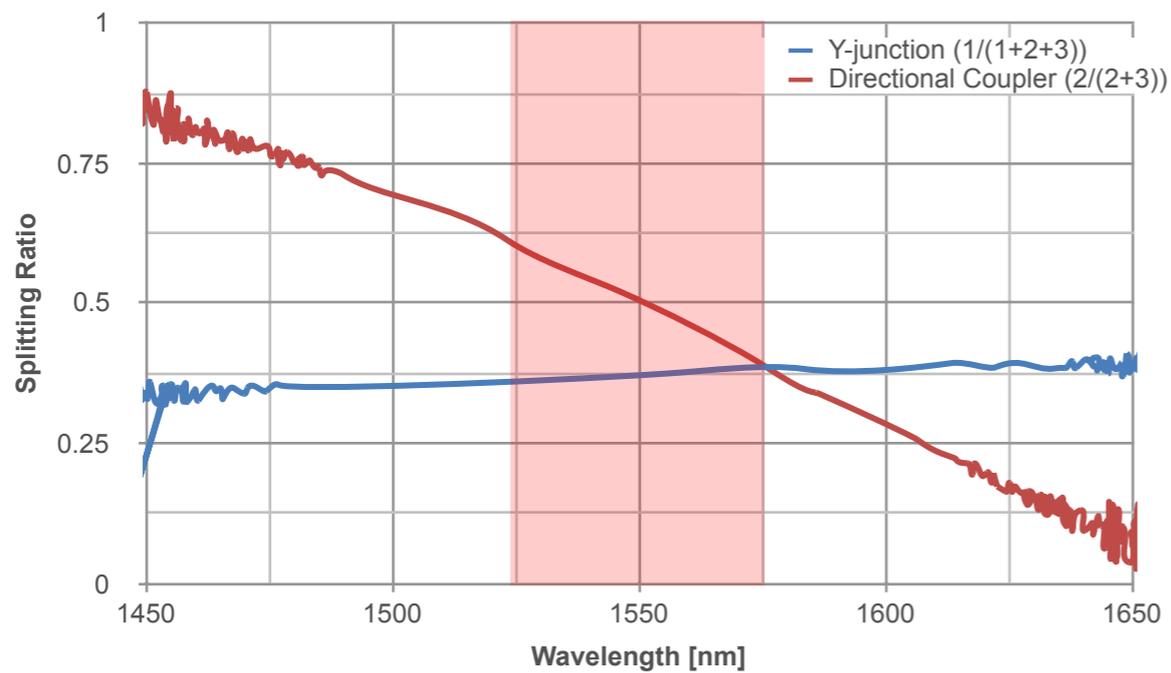
Microlens array



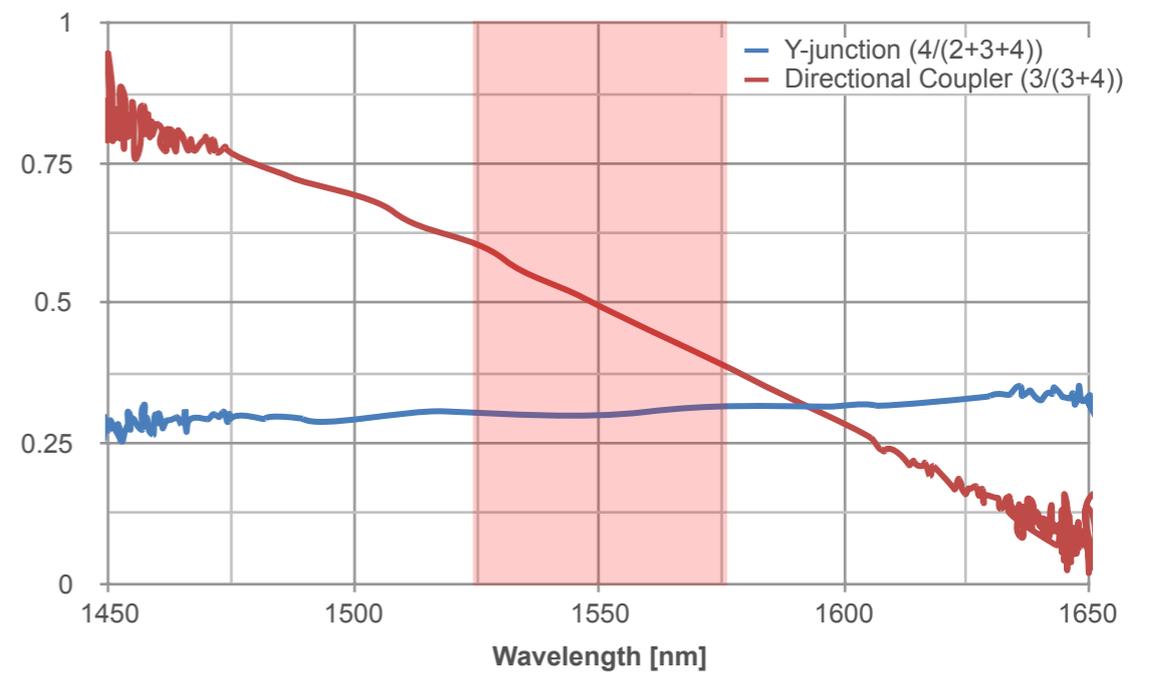
Fully packaged chip



1st Branch



2nd Branch



# ON-SKY TESTING

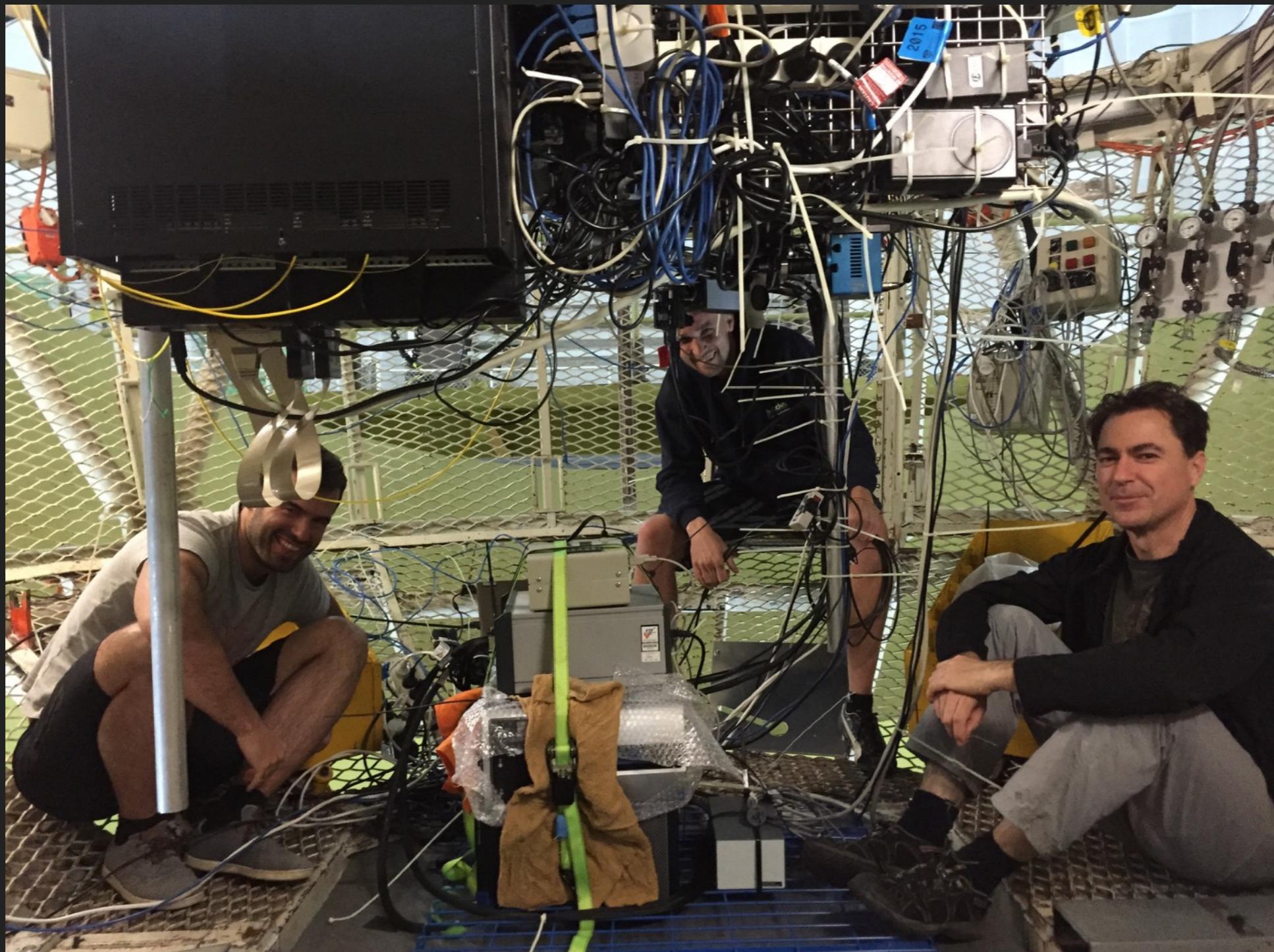
Anglo-Australian Telescope

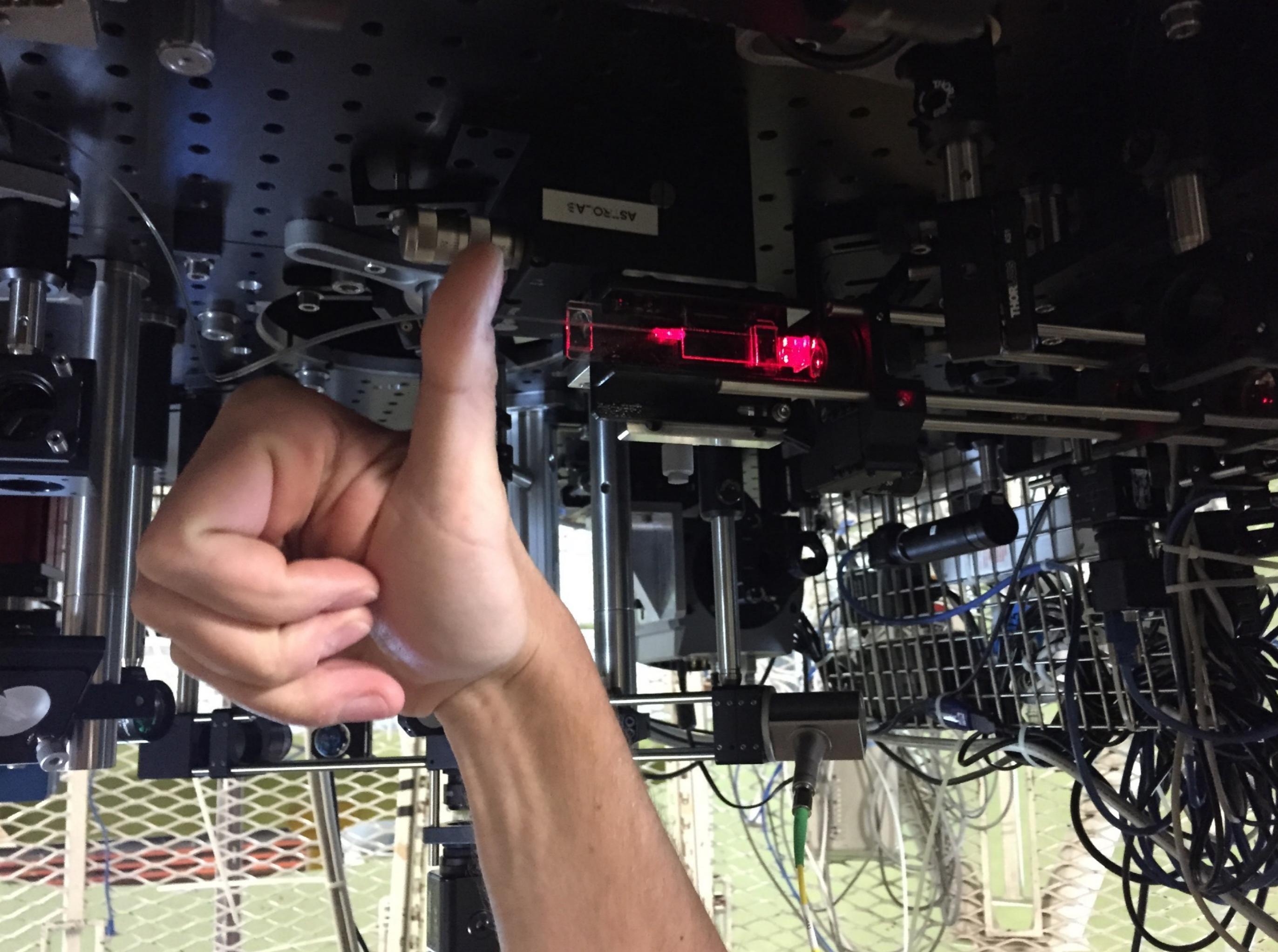


Subaru Telescope



## TESTING AT AAT

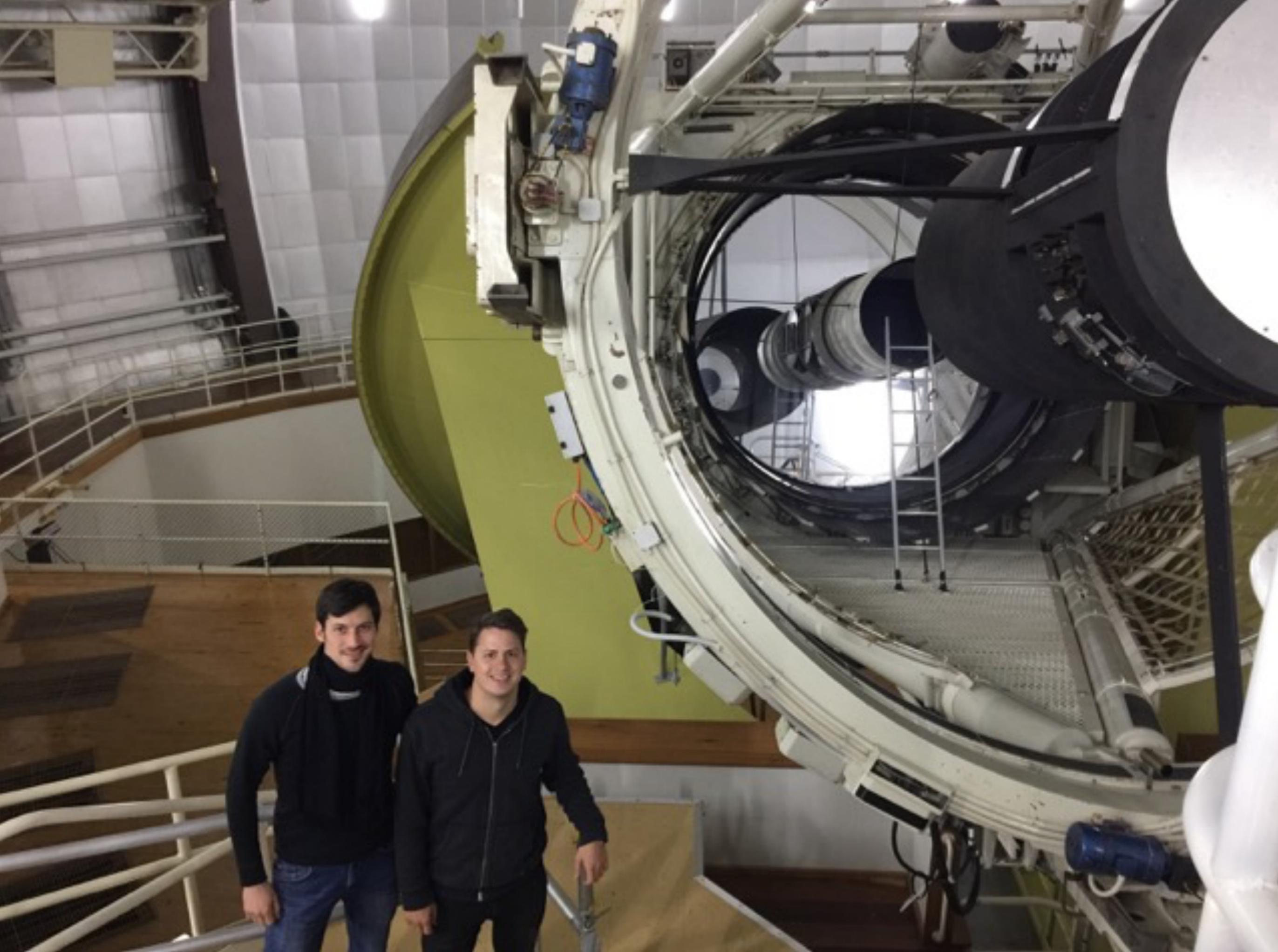


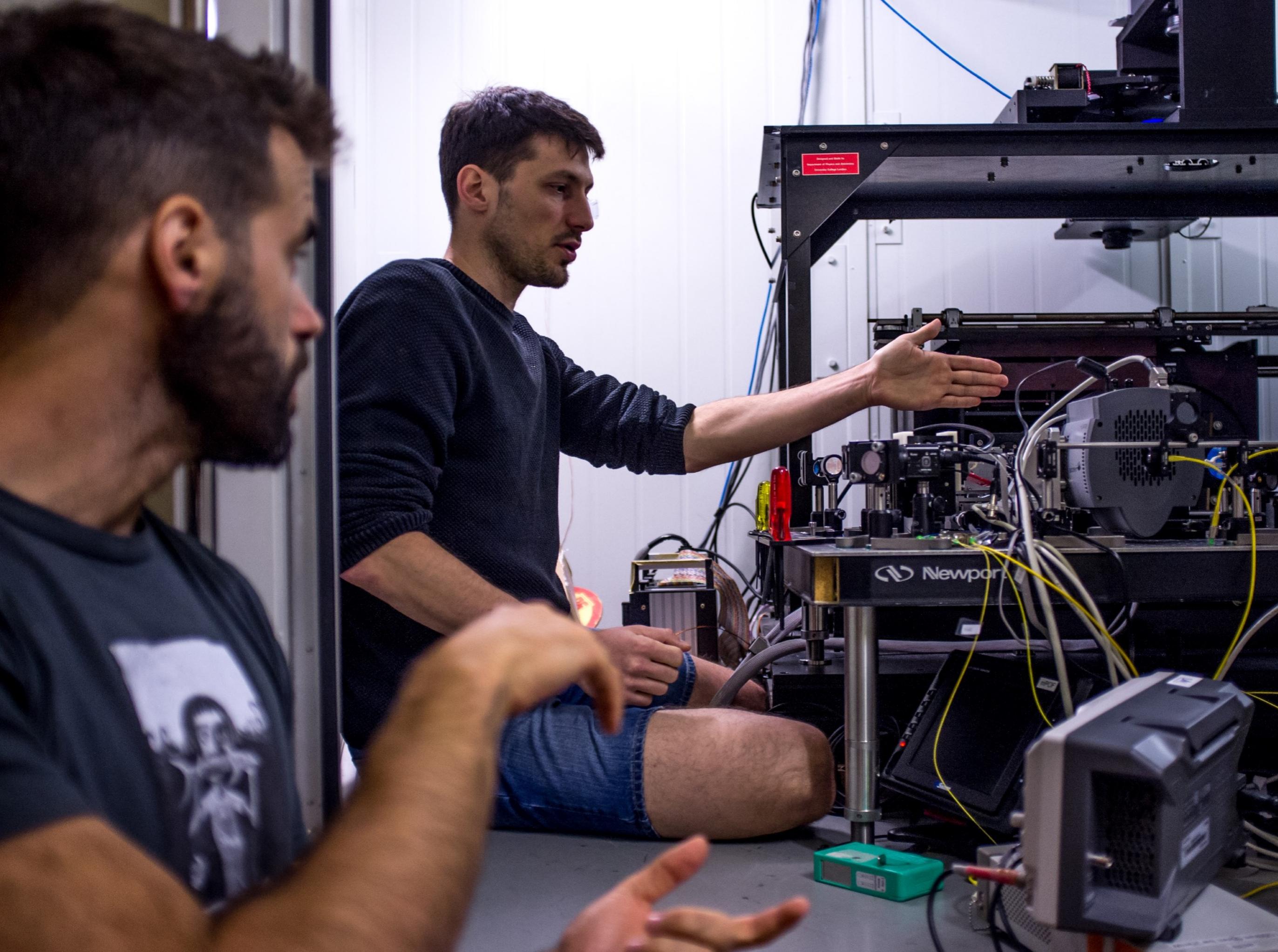


ASTRO-A3

THORLABS

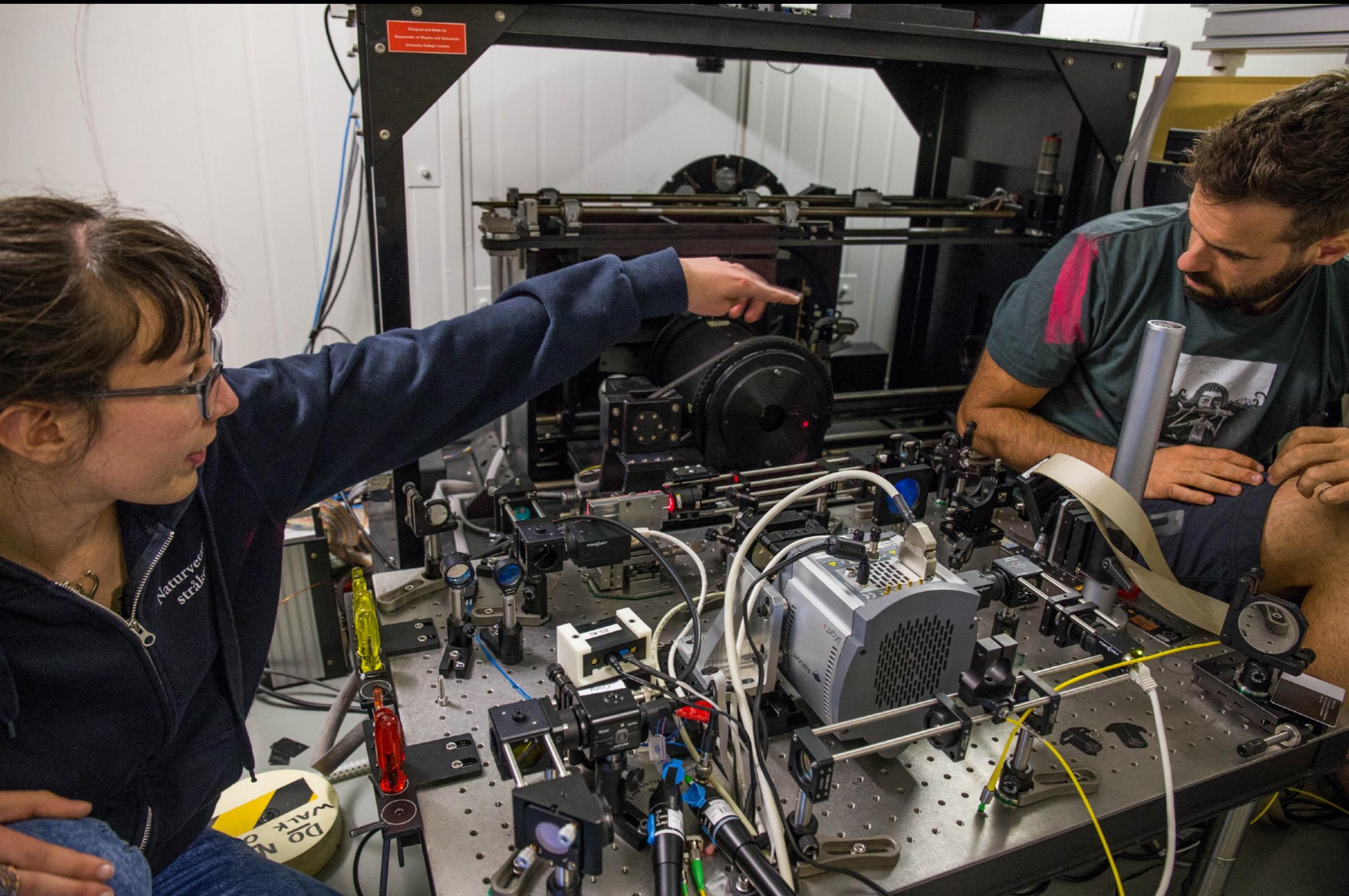


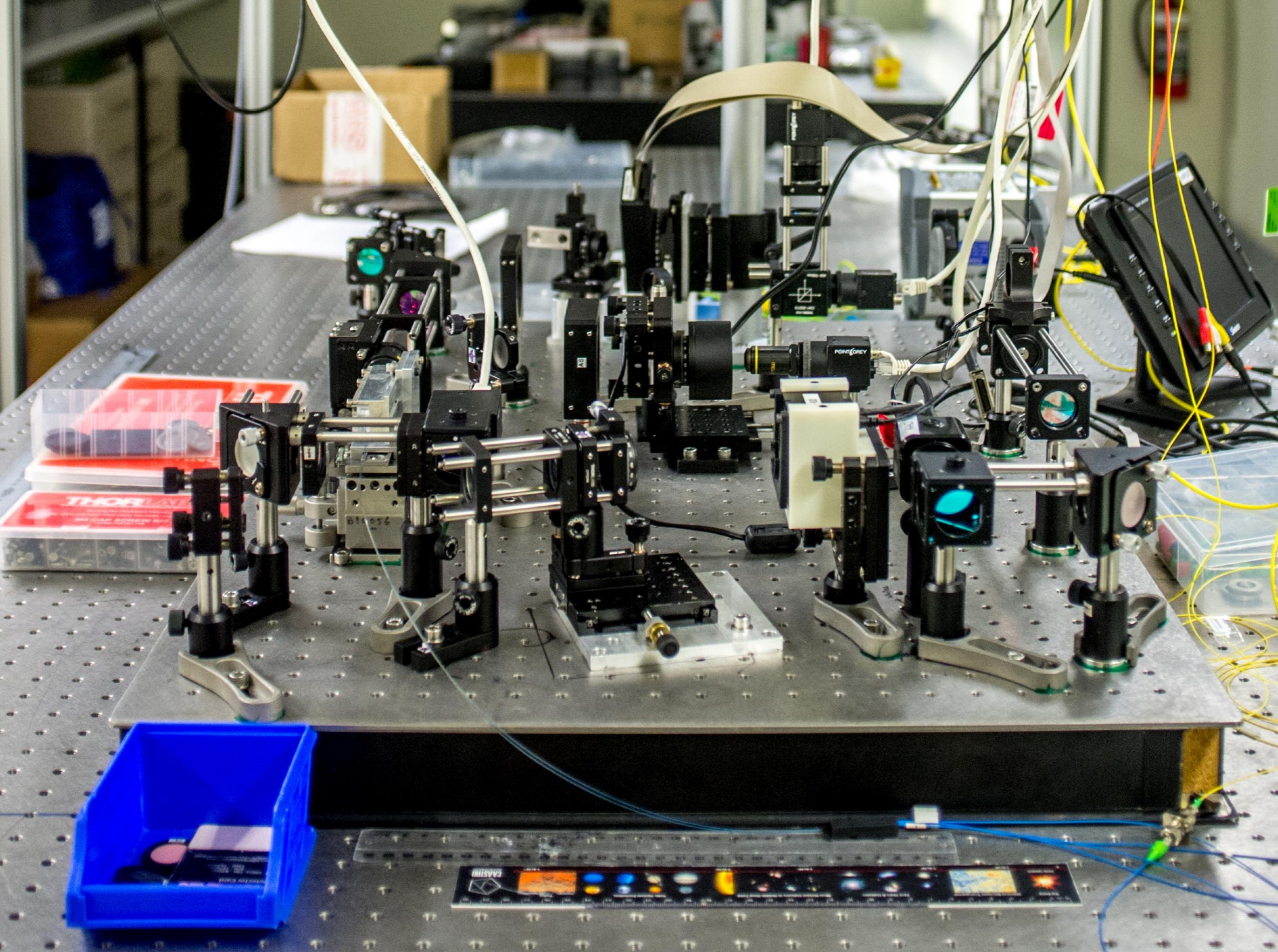




MUST  
CLOSED







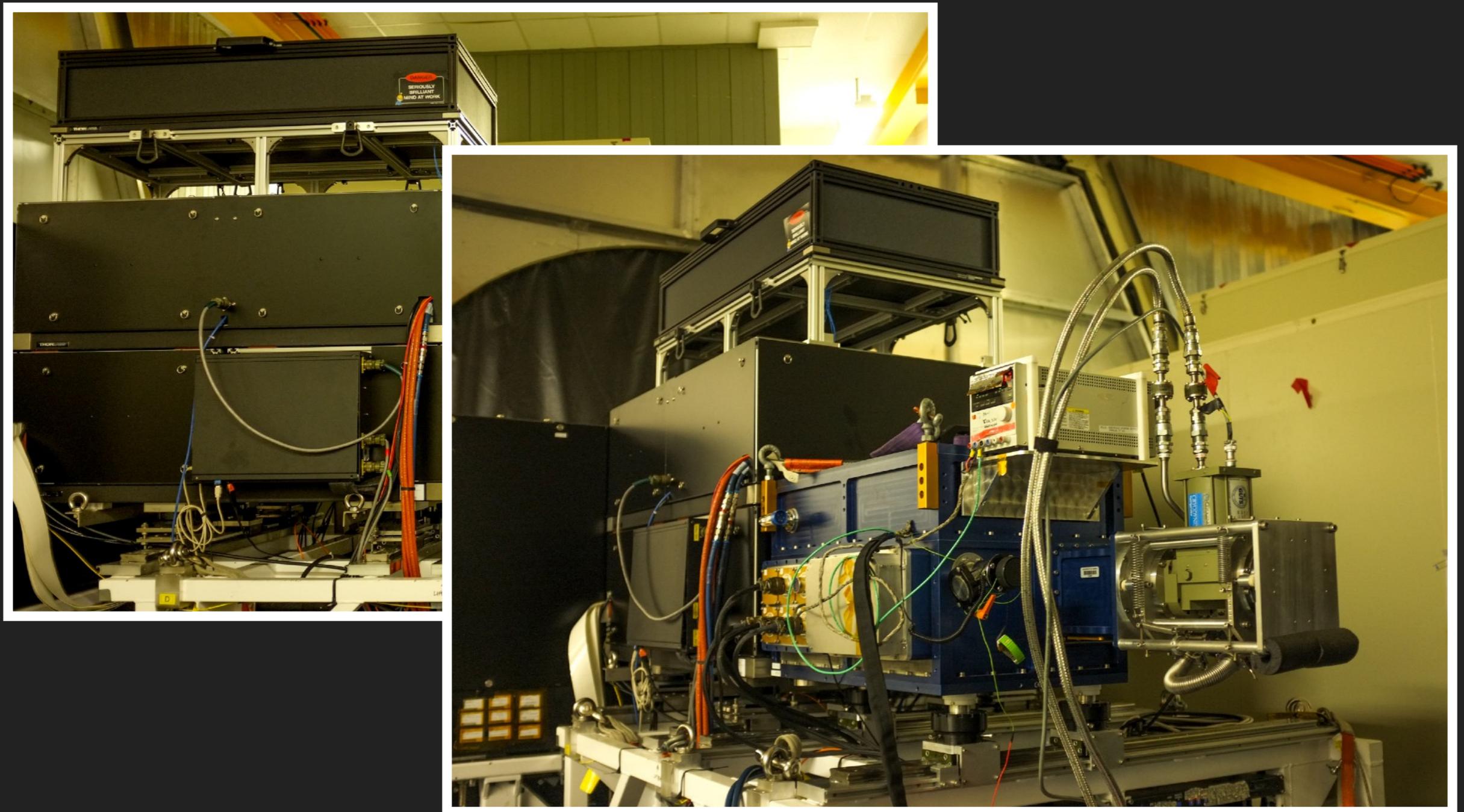
## GLINT @ SUBARU - SCEXAO



## PART 2 - INTEGRATED NULLING (GLINT) - ON SKY TESTING

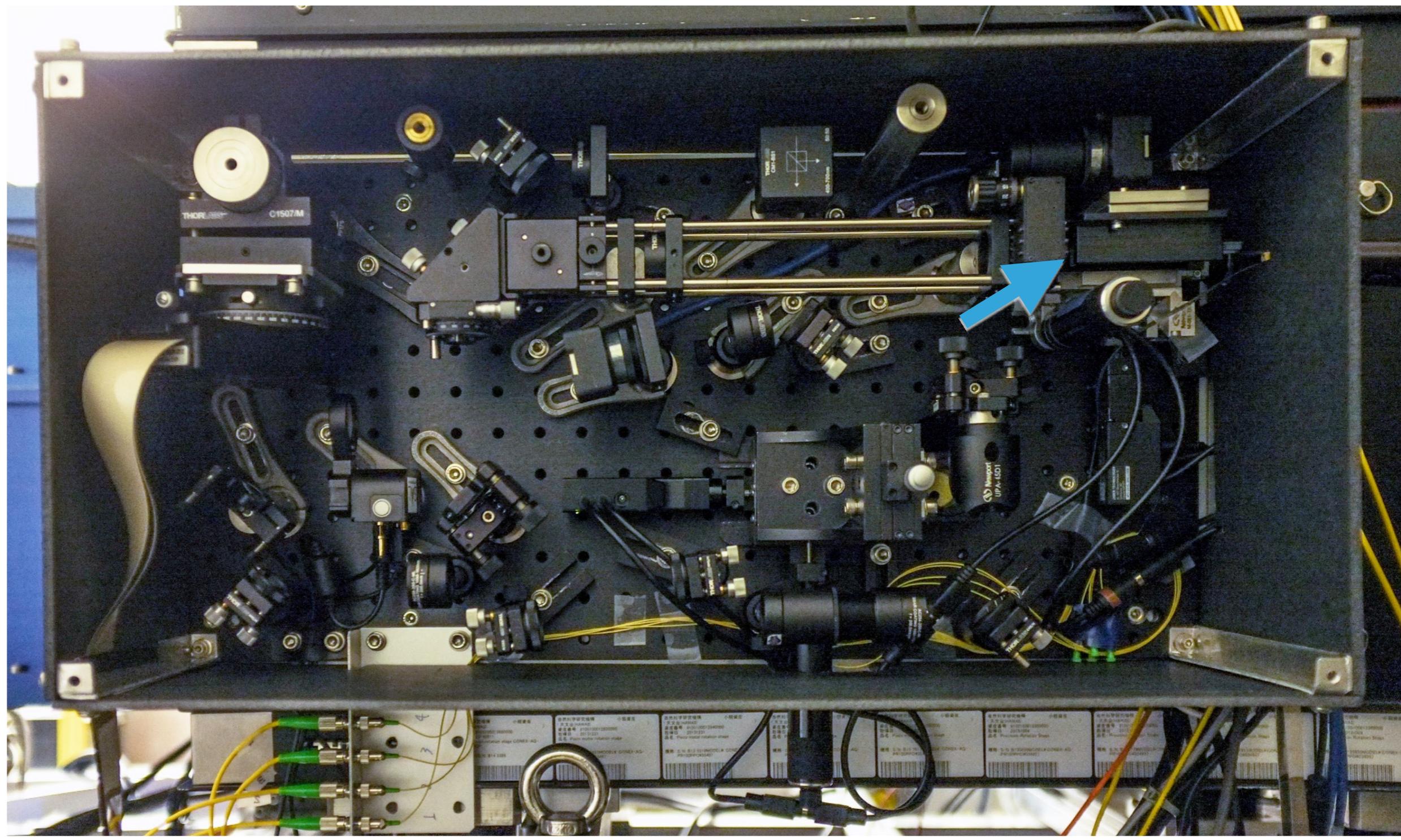
---

# GLINT @ SUBARU - SCEXAO

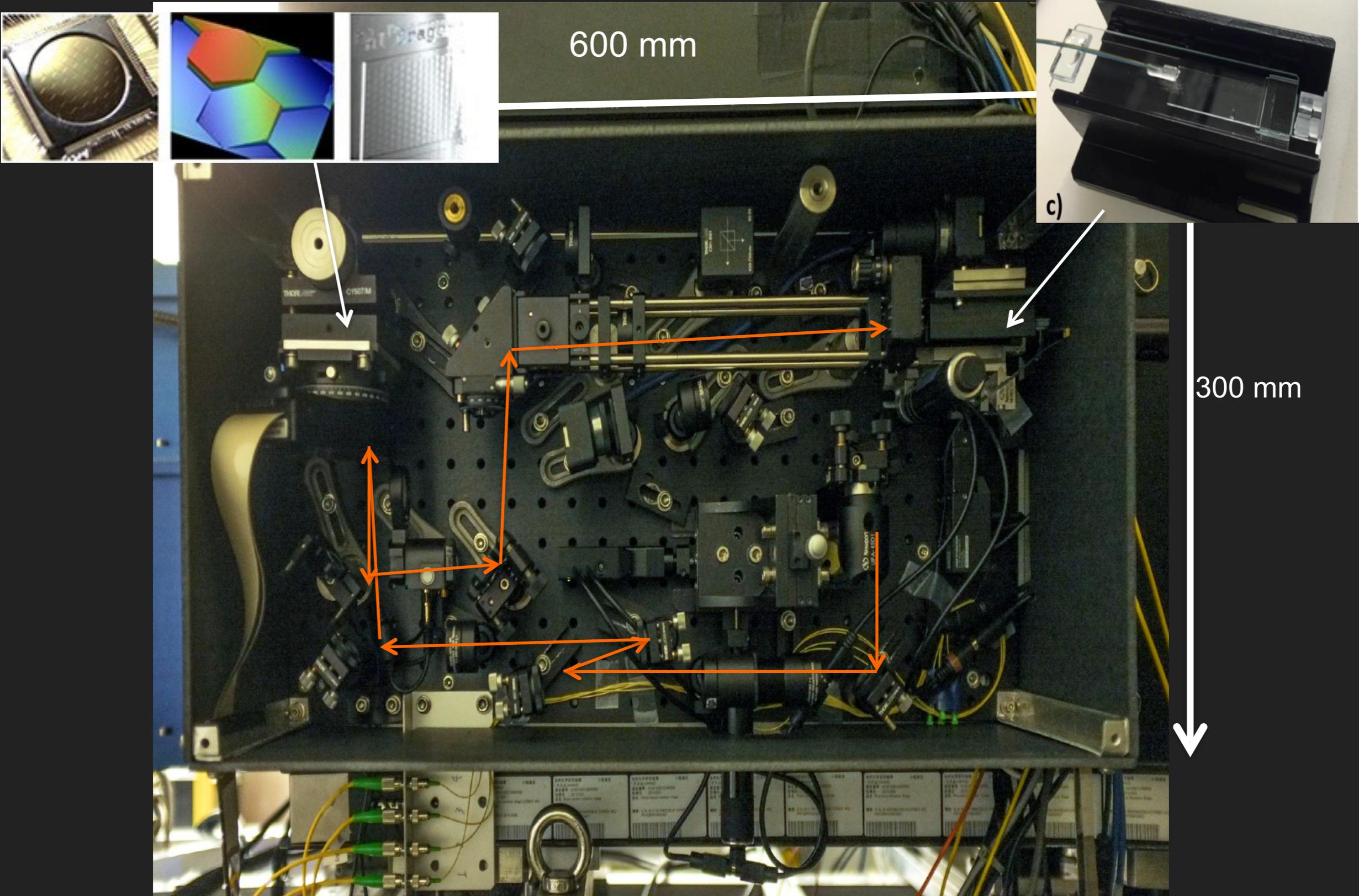


PART 2 - INTEGRATED NULLING (GLINT) - ON SKY TESTING

GLINT @ SUBARU



# PART 2 - INTEGRATED NULLING (GLINT) - ON SKY TESTING



# RESULTS

- ▶ Results use NSC method - will let Denis describe details
  - ▶ Essentially, fit model of null depth PDF histogram (or KDF)
    - ▶ Some parameters known from data (photometry PDFs, dark/bg PDFs, etc)
    - ▶ Other parameters fitted - phase variance (mean, sigma), and astro null
- ▶ Some other analysis used some small value approximations... we couldn't due to very large phase variance
  - ▶ Do full MC model, computationally intensive
  - ▶ GPU implantation - ~100x faster than CPU implementation!
  - ▶ Fit with nonlinear leastsq (TRR) + basin hopping

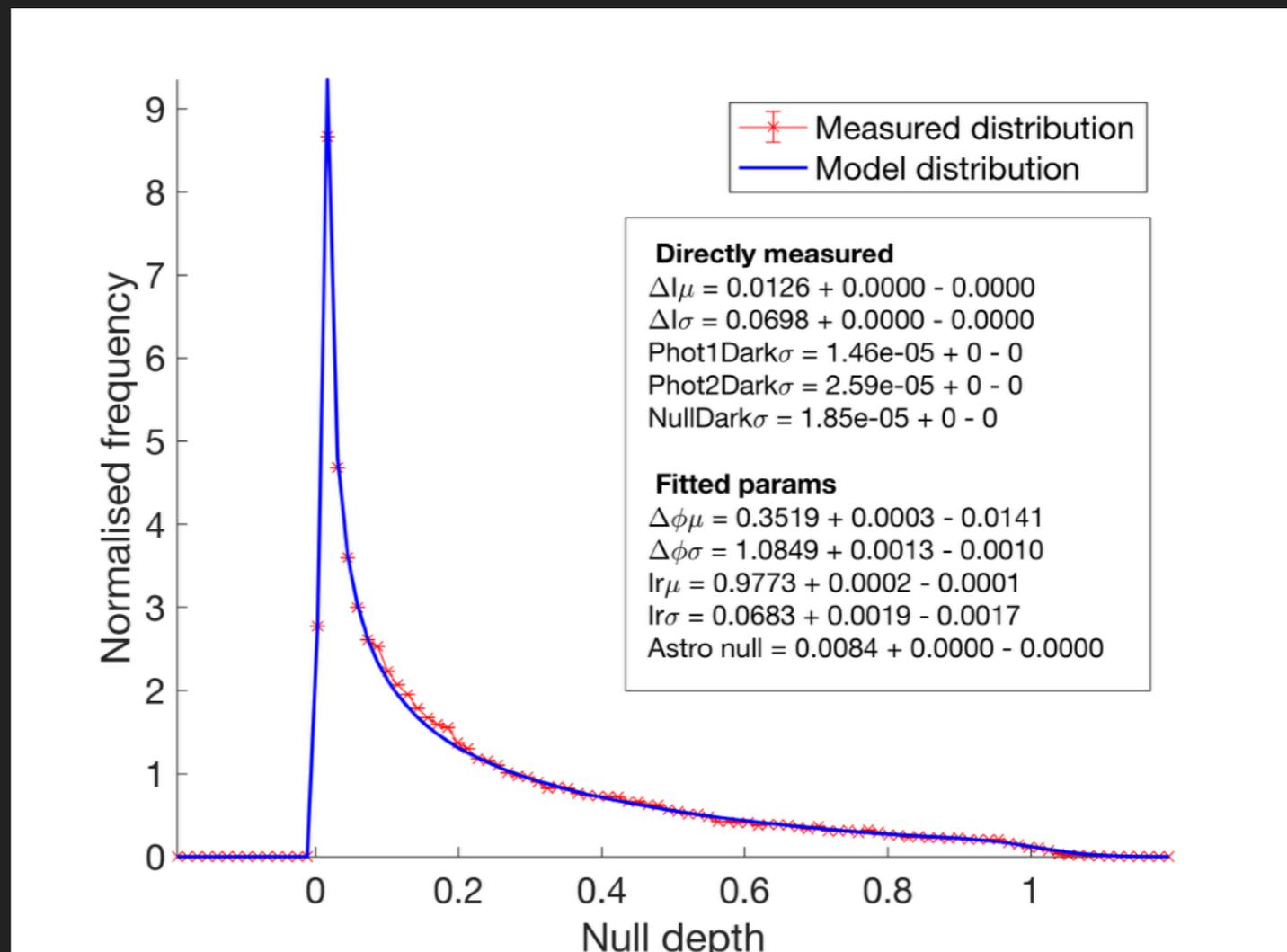
Overclocked GTX 1080 Ti  
15 TFLOPS (single precision)  
~USD 1000!



# RESULTS

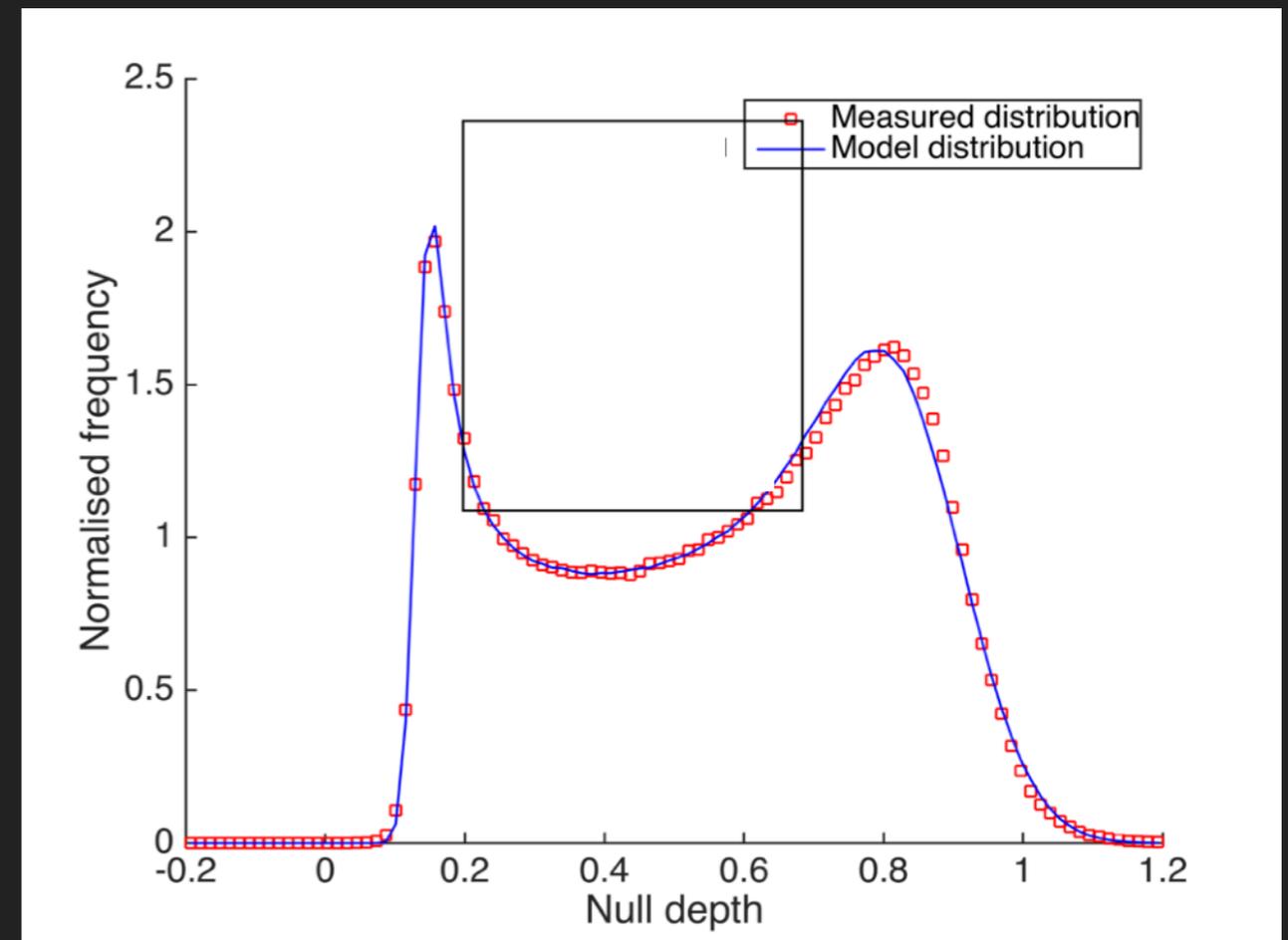
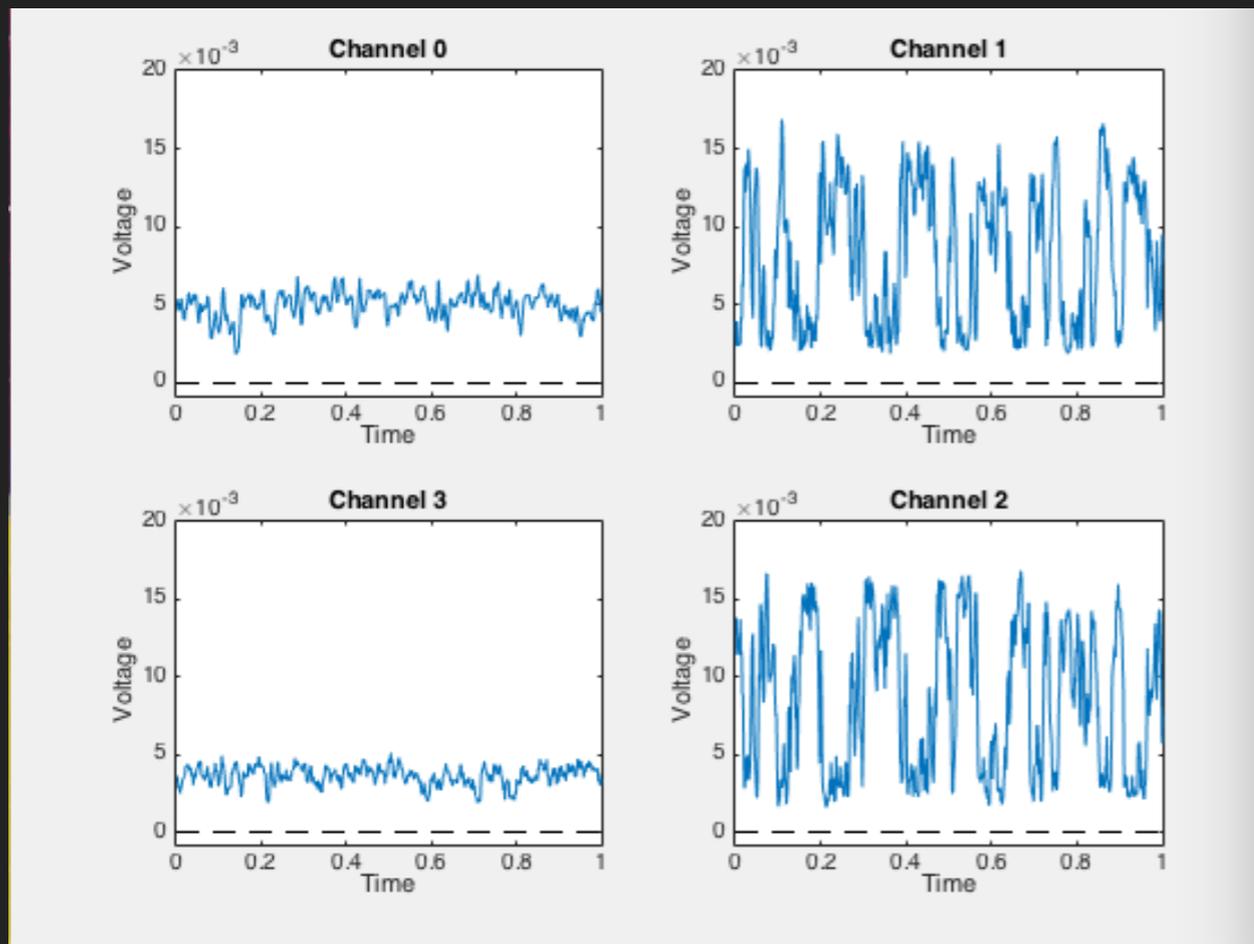
- ▶ Allow seeing to move null depth, analyse statistically by fitting model PDF to histogram of data
  - ▶ Pioneered by Palomar Fibre Nuller, see Hanot, et al. 2011
  - ▶ Very large phase errors -> couldn't use analytical approach, needed Monte Carlo
  - ▶ Work in progress - not yet polychromatic & proper polarisation
  - ▶ Lab source 'resolved'?

Laboratory  
measurement in  
SCEXAO, with 200nm  
RMS wavefront error



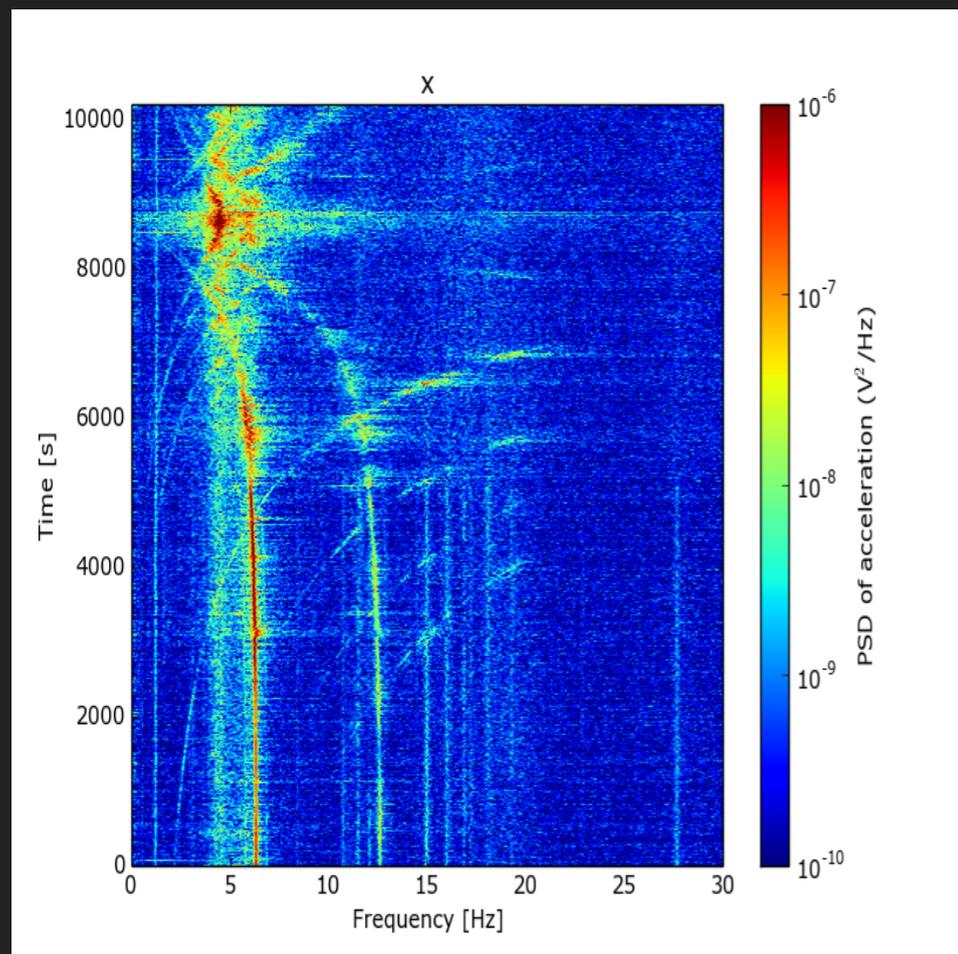
# RESULTS

- ▶ On-sky at Subaru 2016 - large telescope vibrations meant very large phase fluctuation
  - ▶ Strongly double-peaked histogram, see e.g.  $\alpha$  Her below

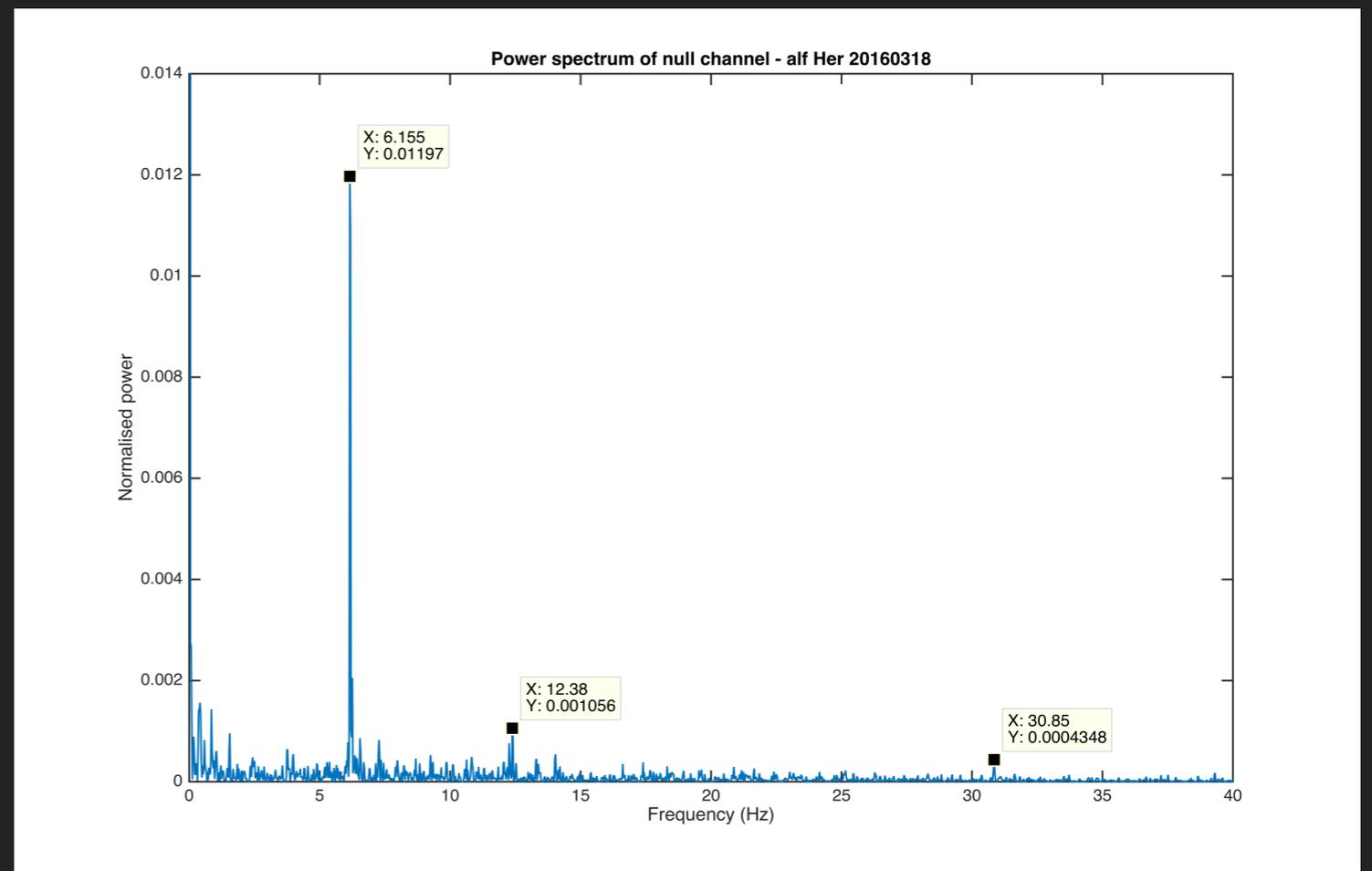


# RESULTS

- ▶ On-sky at Subaru 2016 - large telescope vibrations meant very large phase fluctuation



Top-ring accelerometer



Null-depth data power spectrum

# RESULTS

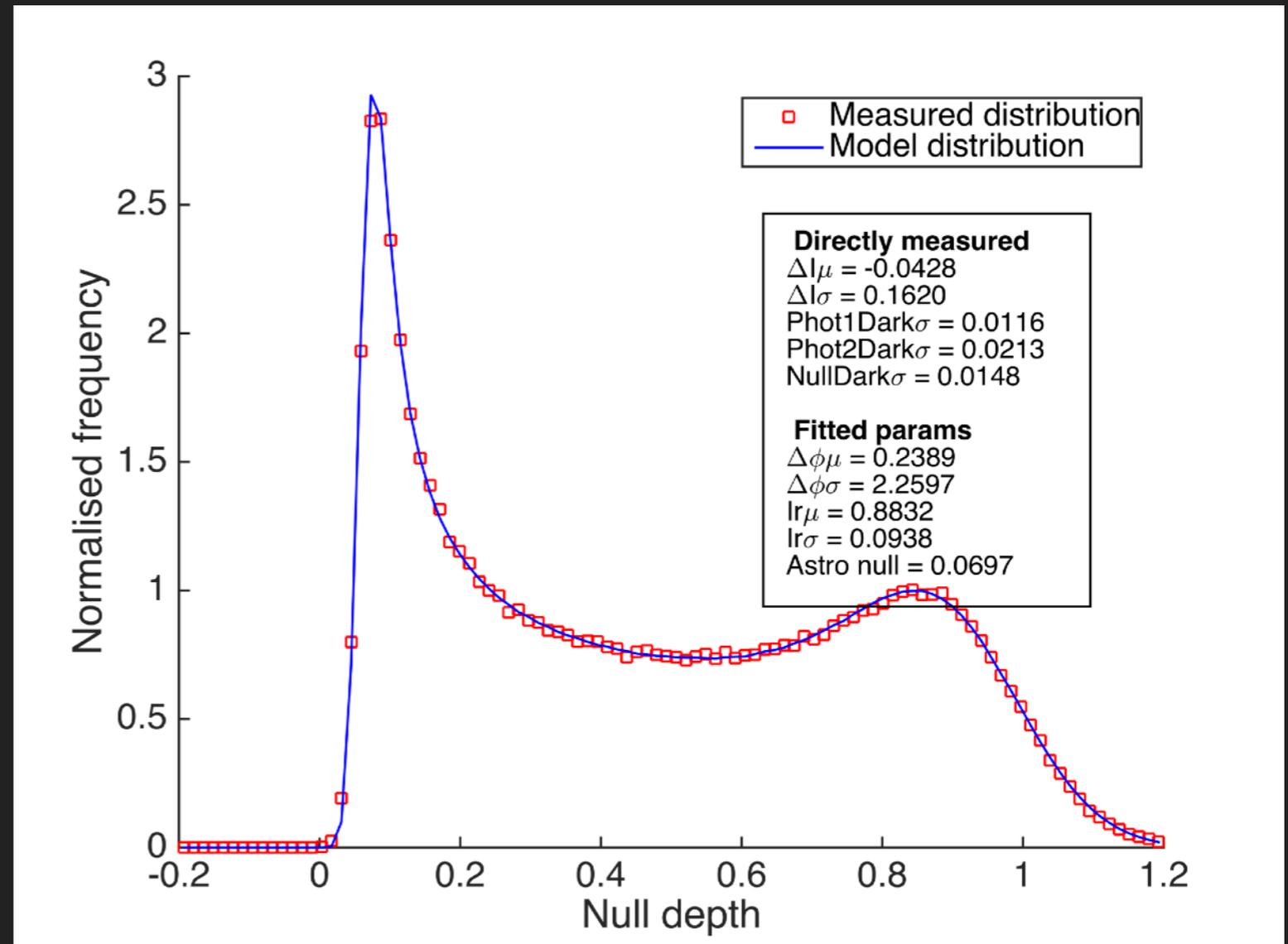
- ▶ Still works!
- ▶ Successfully measured stellar diameters from null depth

$$N_A = \left( \frac{\pi B \theta_{LD}}{4\lambda} \right)^2 \left( 1 - \frac{7u_\lambda}{15} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{u_\lambda}{3} \right)^{-1}$$

Absil 2006, 2011

On-sky measurement (Subaru) of alf Boo. Null measurement gives **UD diameter of 19 mas**, consistent with known value

(Star partially resolved, diffraction limit ~ 40 mas)



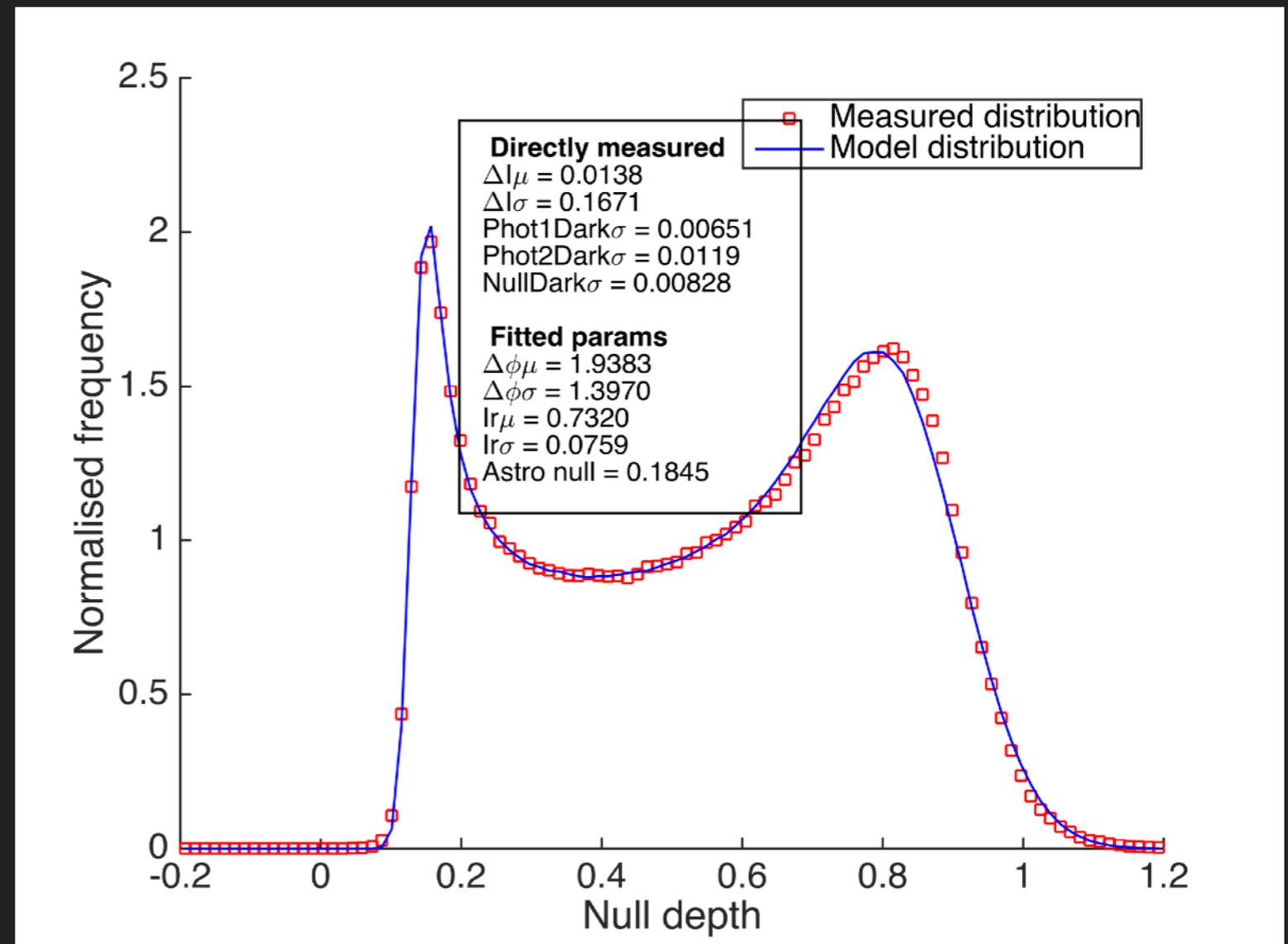
# RESULTS

- ▶ Still works!
- ▶ Successfully measured stellar diameters from null depth

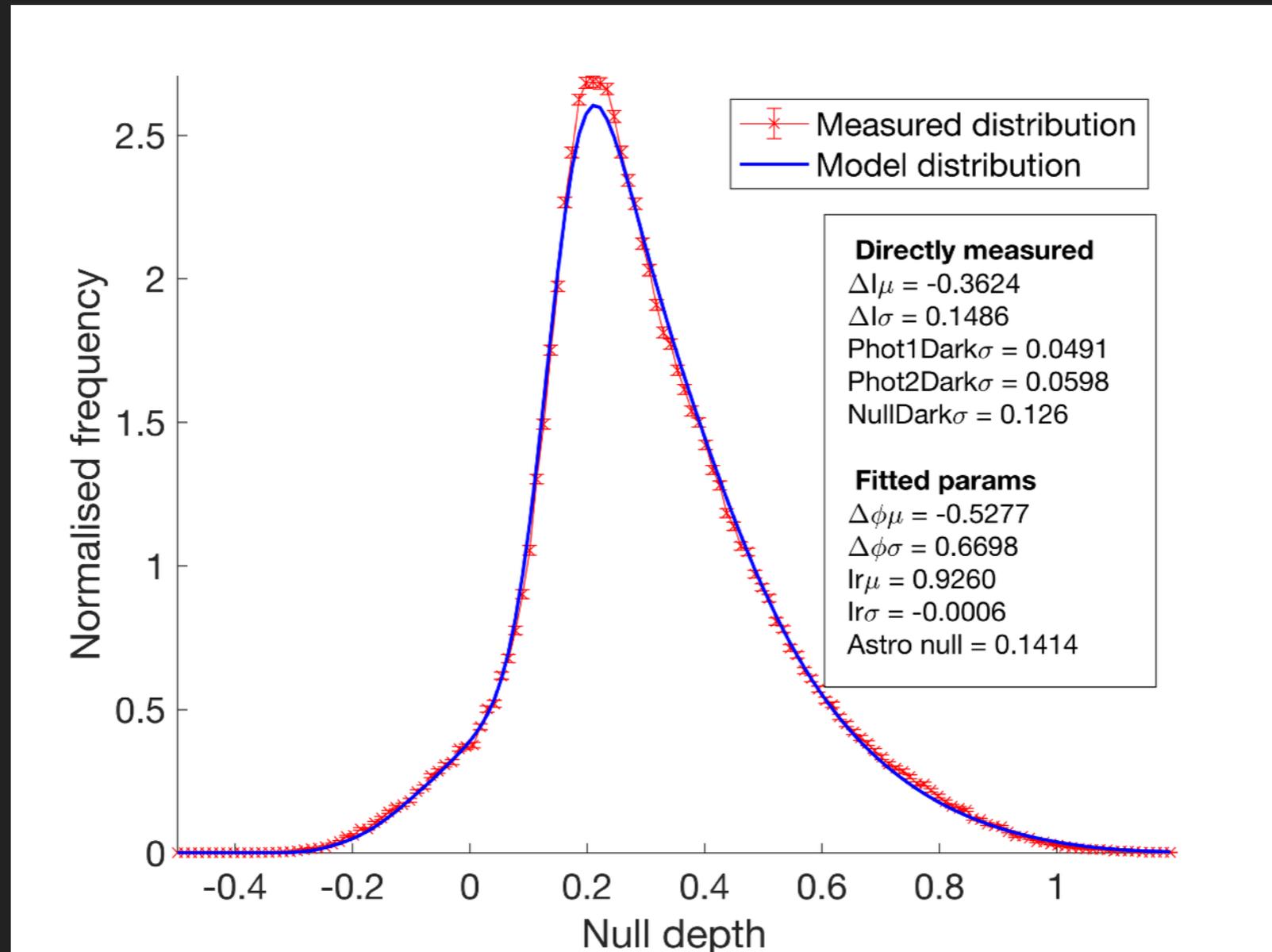
$$N_A = \left( \frac{\pi B \theta_{LD}}{4\lambda} \right)^2 \left( 1 - \frac{7u_\lambda}{15} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{u_\lambda}{3} \right)^{-1}$$

Absil 2006, 2011

On-sky measurement  
(Subaru) of  $\alpha$  Her. Null  
measurement gives  
**UD diameter of 31 mas,**  
consistent with known  
value



# RECENT RESULTS

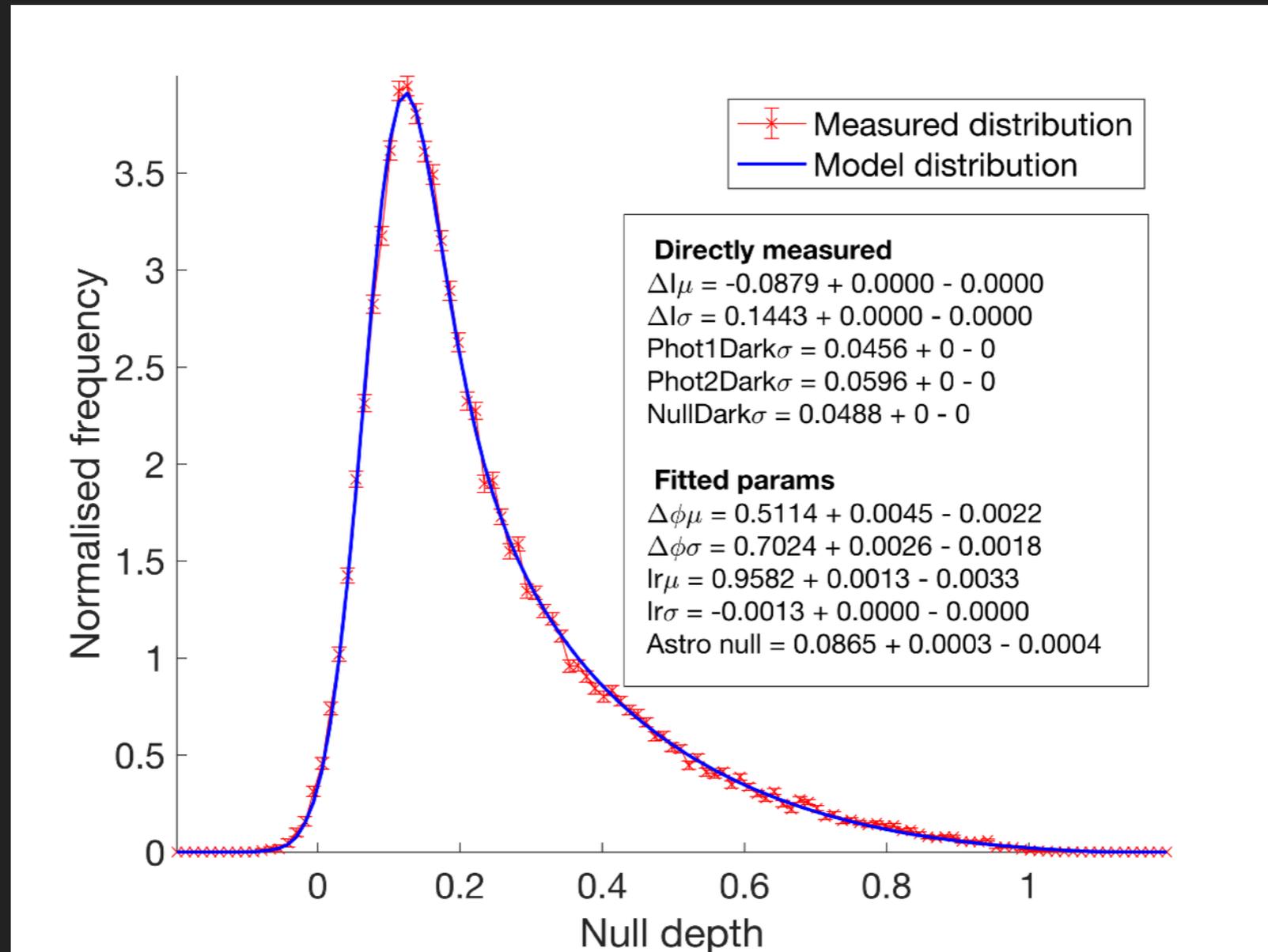


*omi Cet* - observed at Subaru November 2016.

Measured null = 0.1414

Corresponds to **UD = 27.6 mas** (Ks known diam 28~36, H?)

# RECENT RESULTS

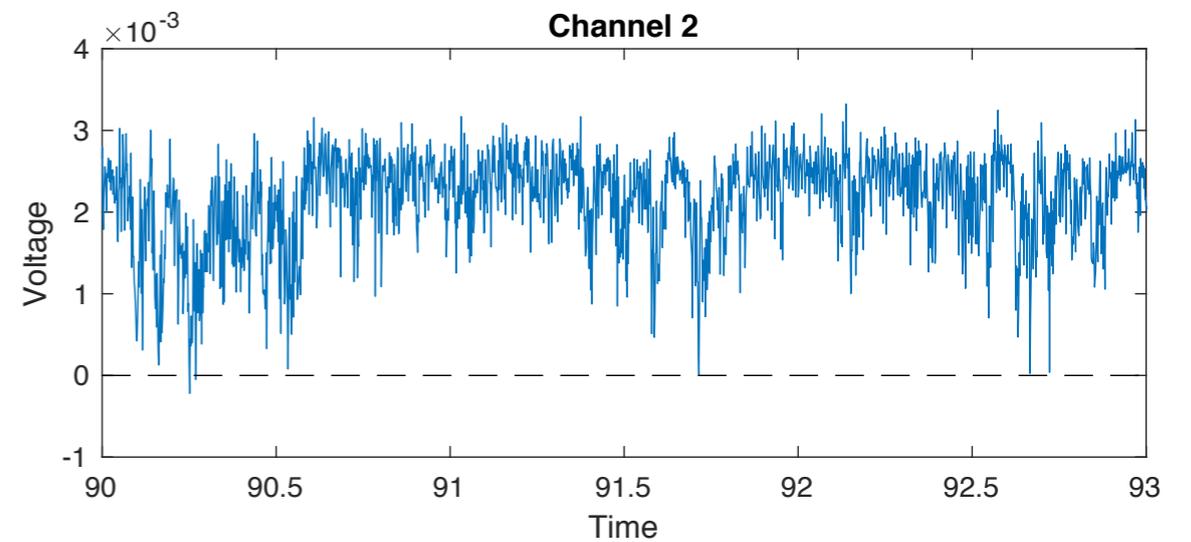
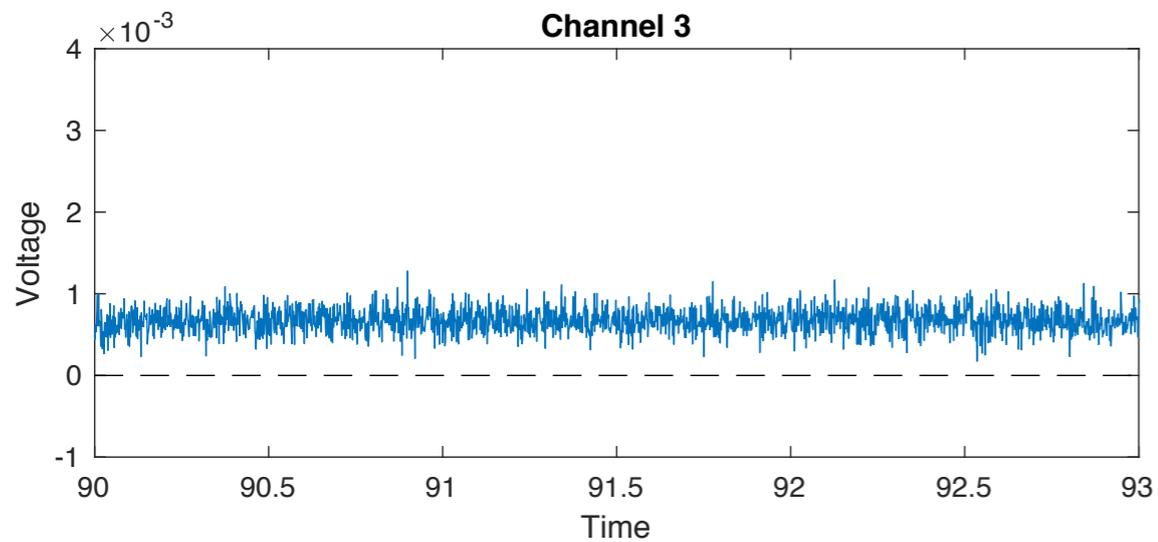
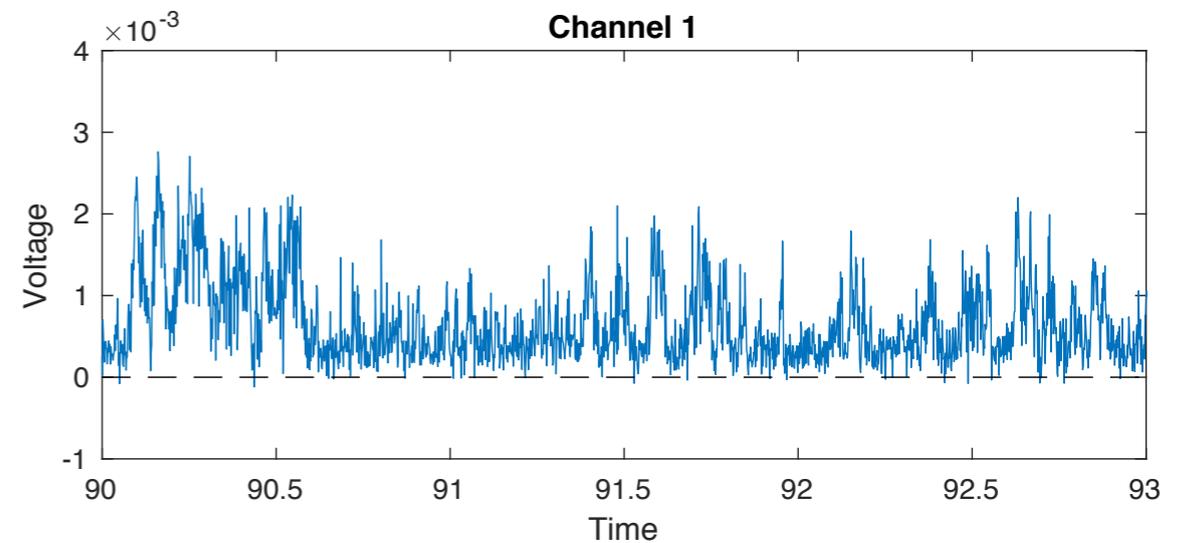
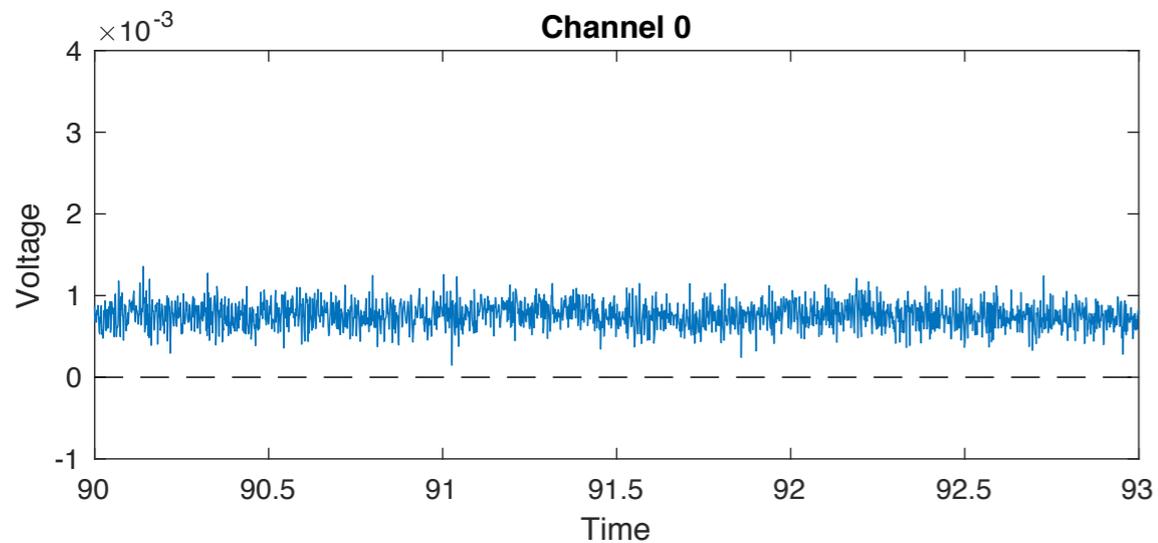


*chi Cyg* - observed at Subaru June 2017. Better t/t correction in PyWFS evident

Measured null =  $0.0865 \pm 0.0004$

Corresponds to UD = 21.6 mas (literature vals range 20 - 25 mas)

# RESULTS

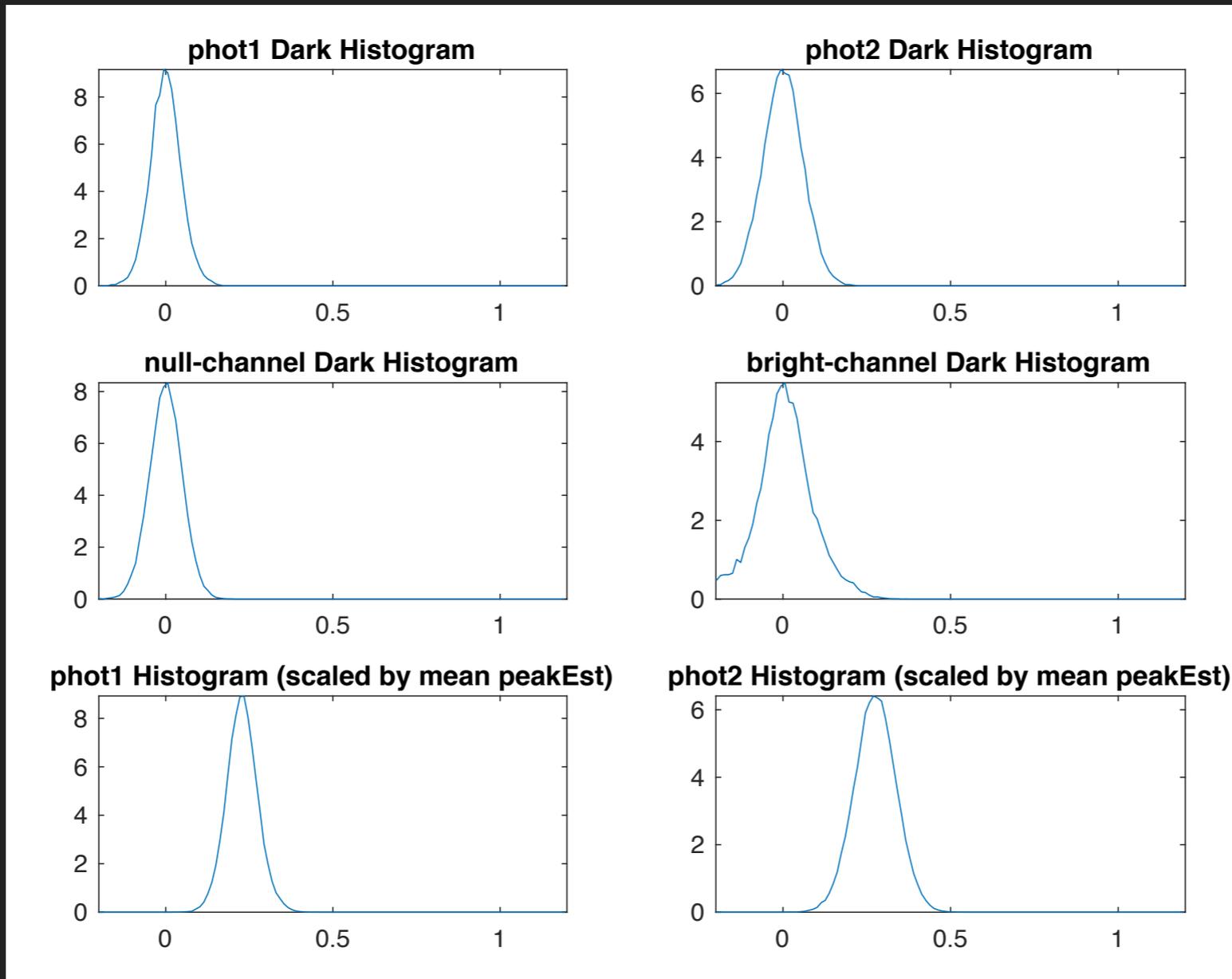


*chi Cyg* - observed at Subaru June 2017. Better t/t correction in PyWFS evident

Measured null =  $0.0865 \pm 0.0004$

**Corresponds to UD = 21.6 mas** (literature vals range 20 - 25 mas)

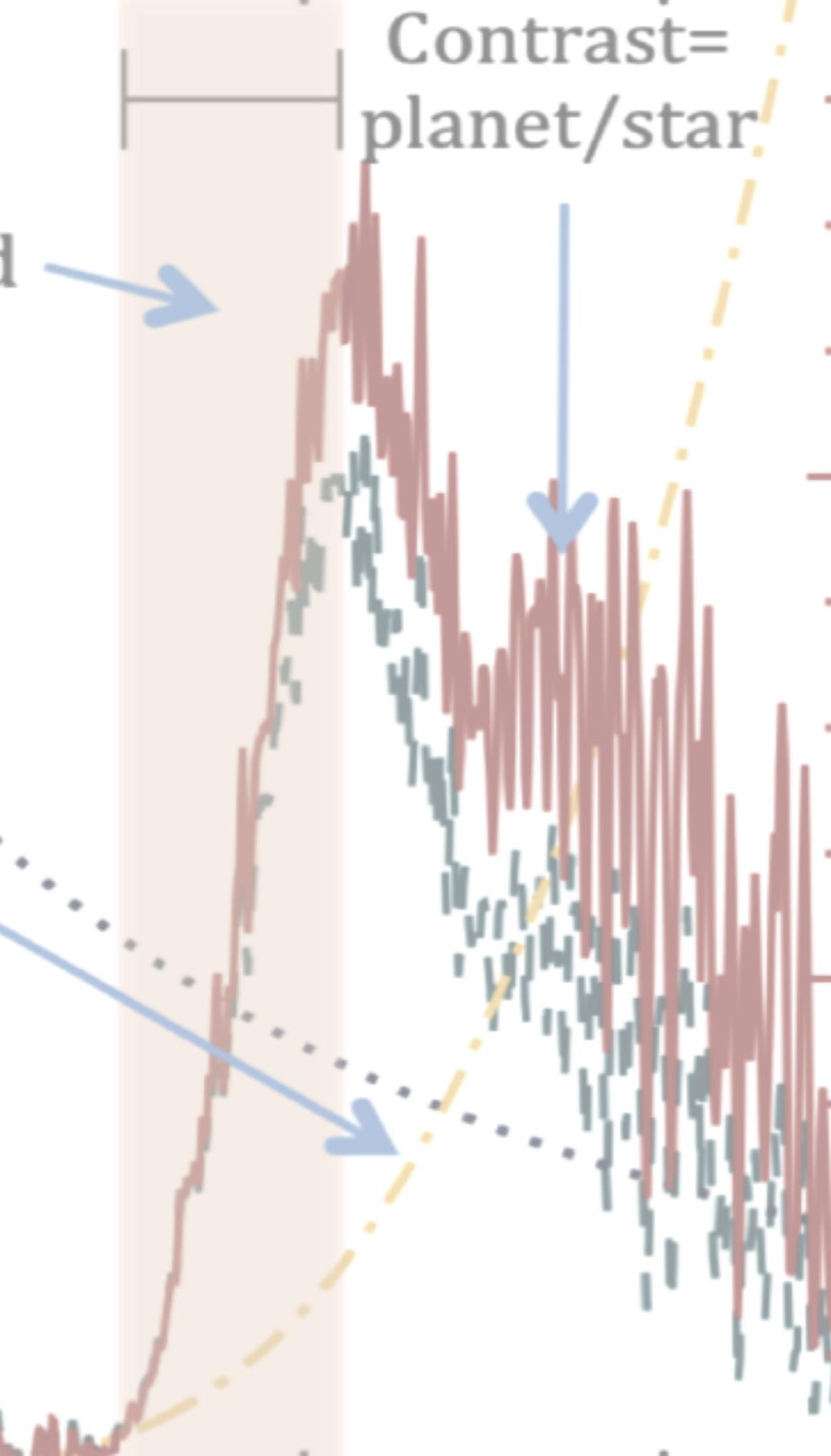
# RESULTS



**measured PDFS for NSC analysis**

## CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS AND CHALLENGES

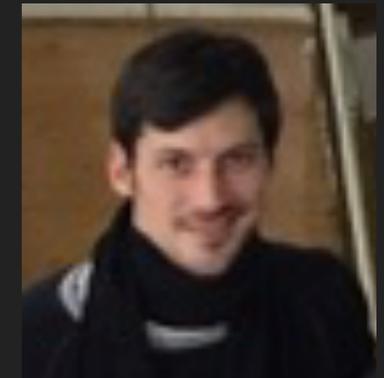
- ▶ Proper treatment of chromaticity and polarisation
- ▶ Need better detectors!! Currently limited to very bright stars (currently room temp commercial InGaAs photodiodes)
  - ▶ Also poses a problem in getting true 'white-light' null - hard to see signal in real-time
  - ▶ Awaiting C-RED 2 delivery. Also allows spectral dispersion
- ▶ Next step - 4 input waveguides
  - ▶ 4 nulled baselines, 2 non-nulled
  - ▶ How best to use NSC here....?



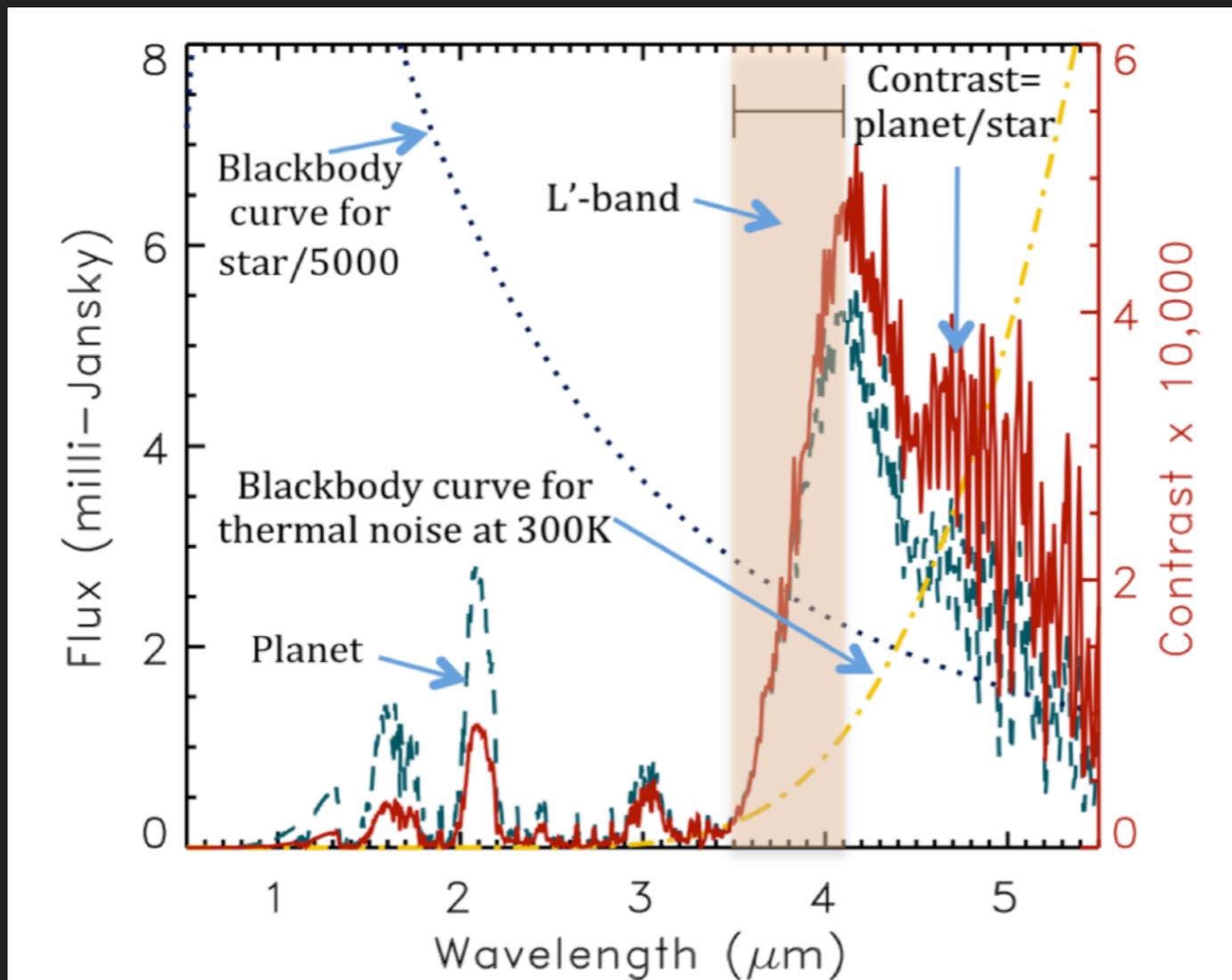
# PART 3 - TO THE MID-IR

*Current fused-silica good to K band...  
... more exotic materials and methods beyond that.*

# SWEET SPOT WAVELENGTH & MATERIALS



- ▶ Existing fused-silica technologies good until ~ K band
- ▶ Direct-write in MIR requires new materials and writing techniques



- ▶ Tellurides, Chalcogenides, Fluorides

## ▶ Gallium Lanthanum Sulfide (GLS)

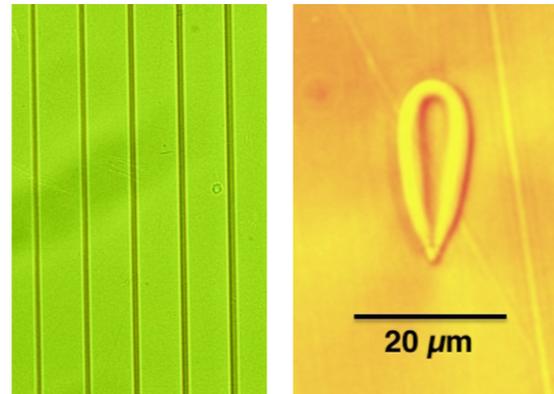
- ▶ High refractive Index
- ▶ High transmission in the IR-Spectrum
- ▶ High photosensitivity
- ▶ Commercially available



**Cumulative heating regime**

Parameters:

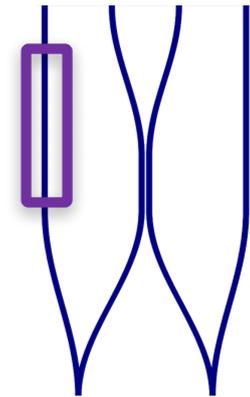
- Pulse energy
- Translation Speed
- Repetition rate
- Writing depth
- NA of focusing objective
- etc.



Single scan

$0.46 \pm 0.09$  dB/cm  
 $\lambda = 3.39 \mu\text{m}$

Fairly happy!! But..



- Round mode to avoid coupling losses
- Reduce bending losses

**Single scan**

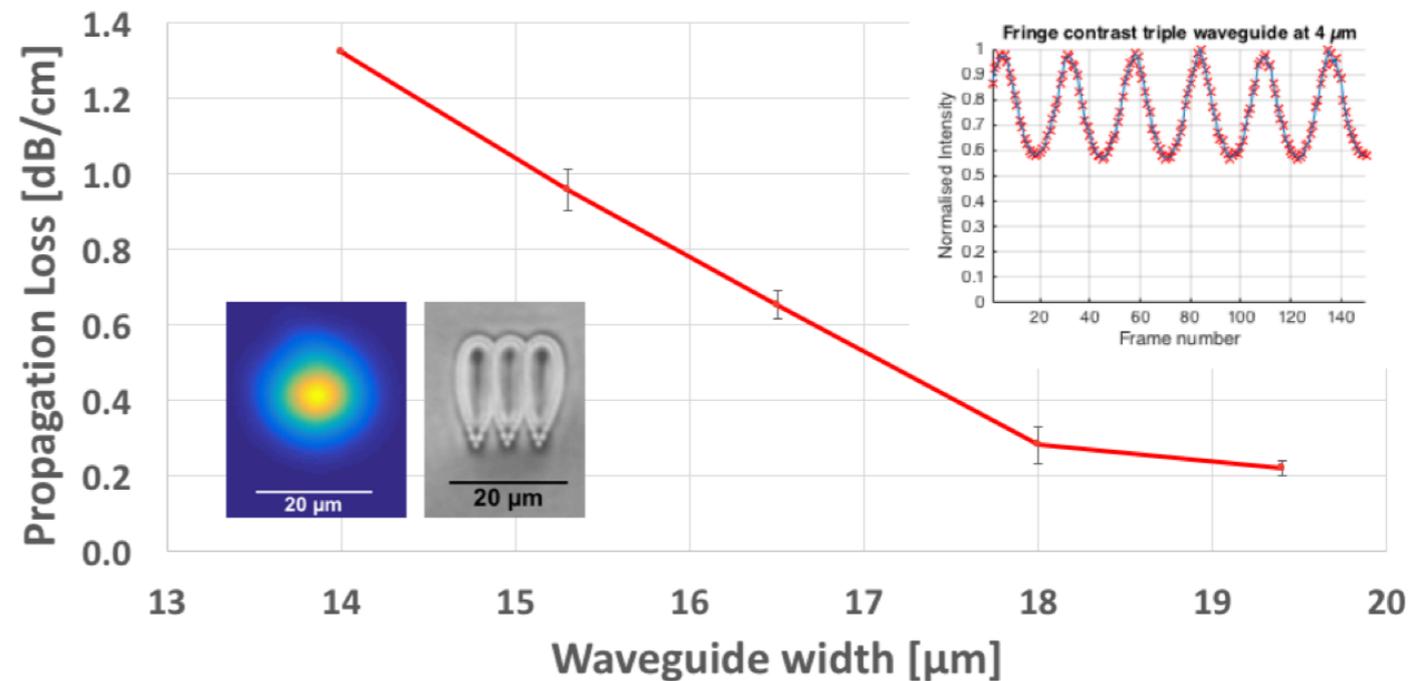
**$0.3 \pm 0.07$  dB/cm**

**Triple scan**

**$0.22 \pm 0.02$  dB/cm**

Delta n = 0.012  
 (RSoft simulation)

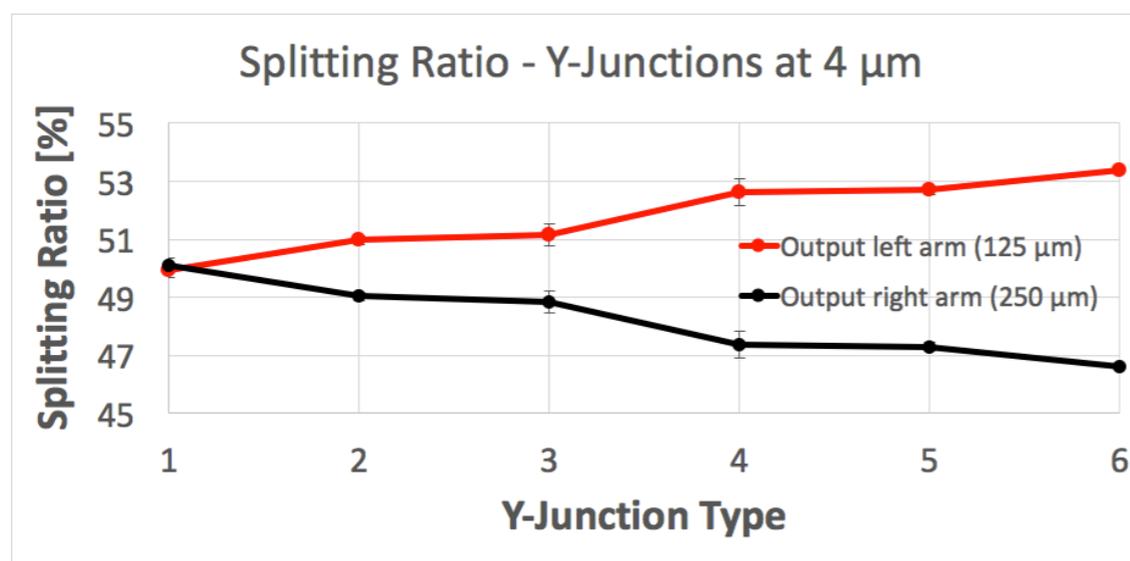
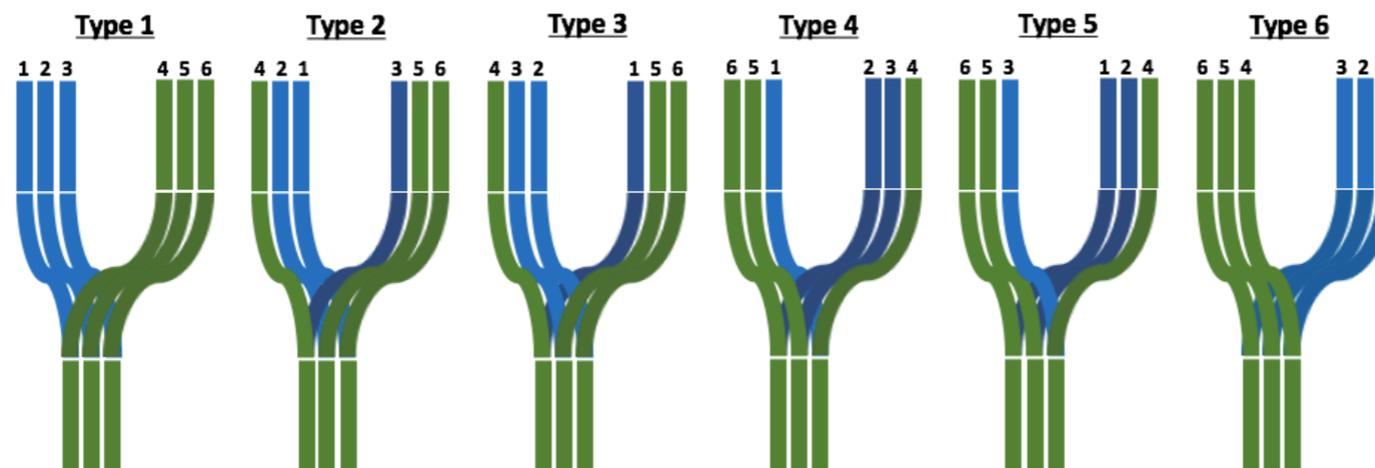
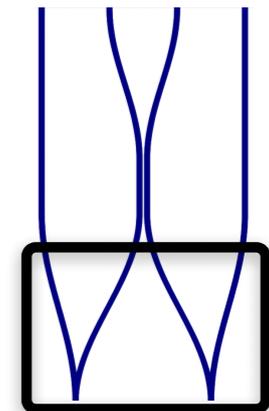
**Propagation Losses for Triple Modification - 4 μm**



## Asymmetric Y-junctions

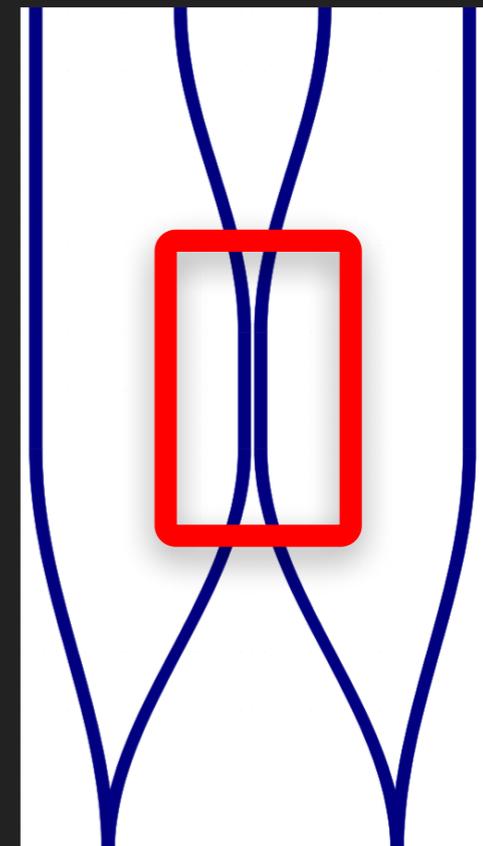
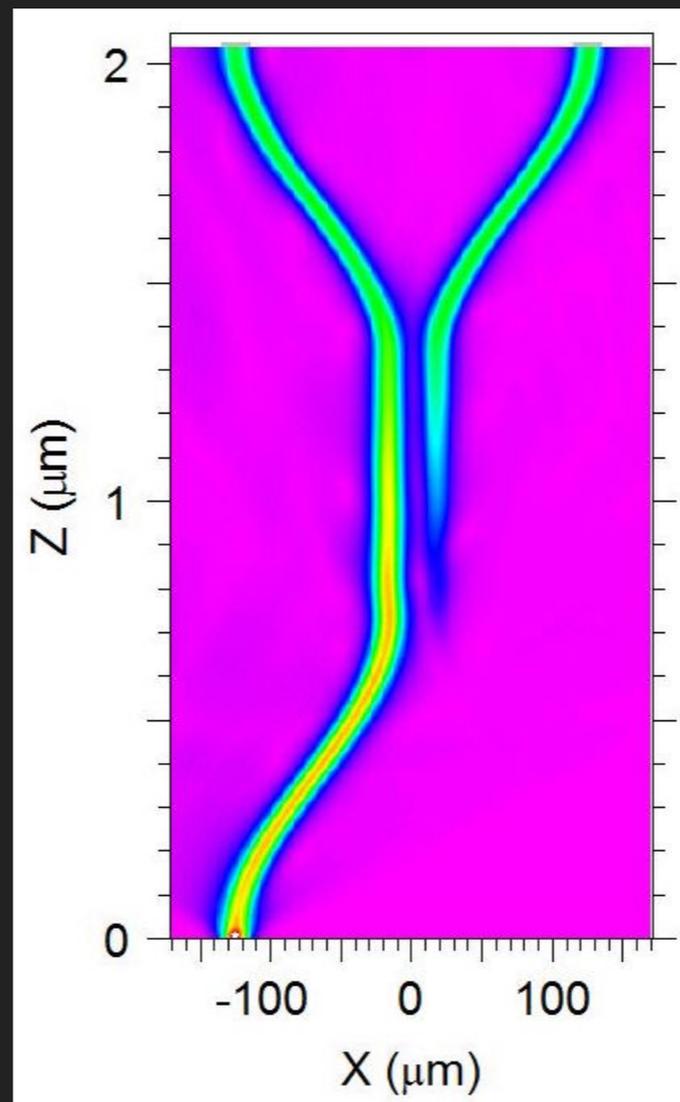
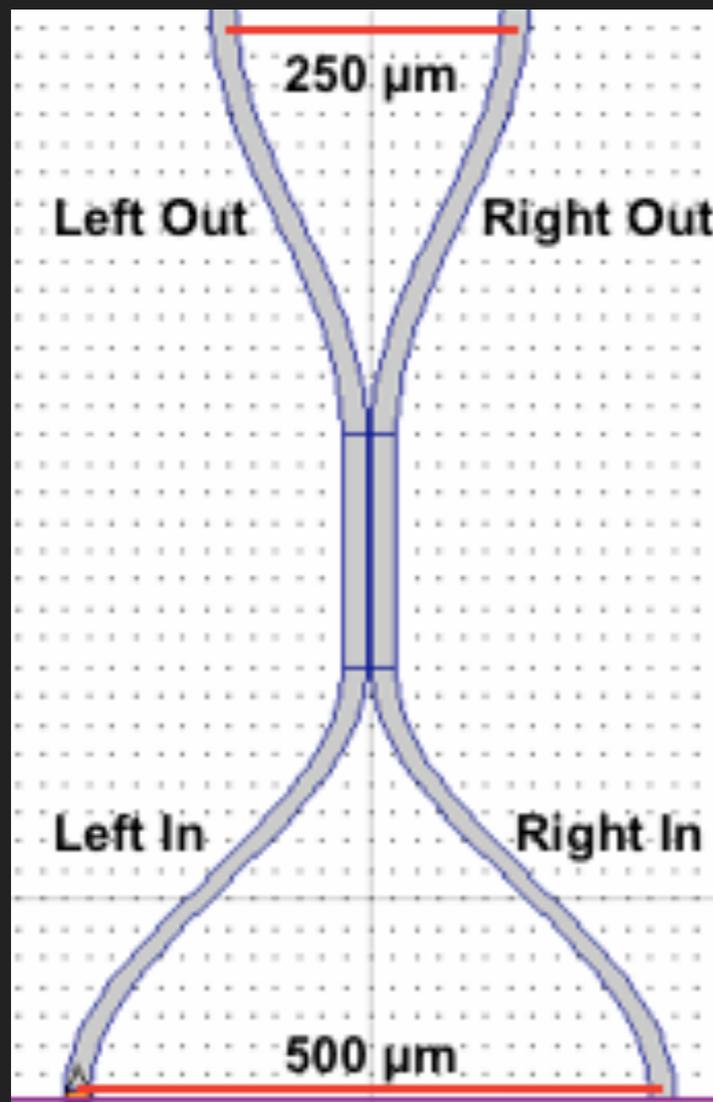
Waveguide pitch 375  $\mu\text{m}$  (125 +  $\sim$ 250  $\mu\text{m}$ ):

- (affordable) micro lens array for injection
- 250  $\mu\text{m}$  pitch for v-groove fiber holder (or camera)

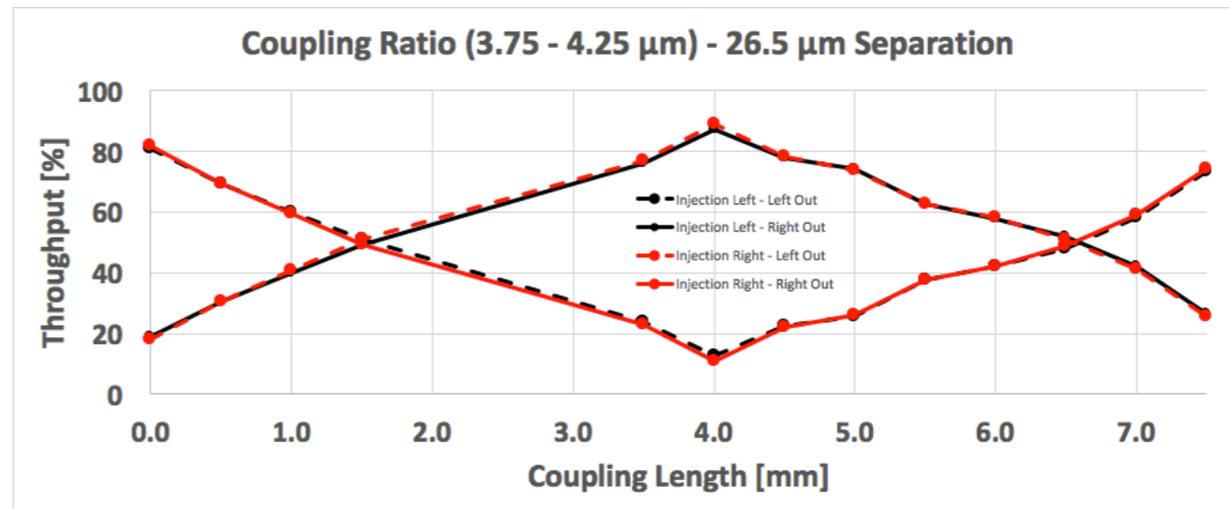
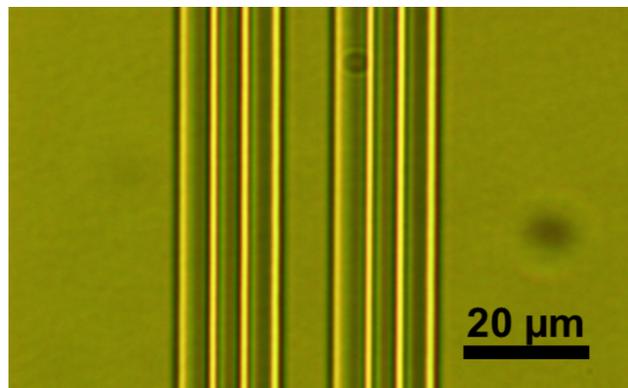
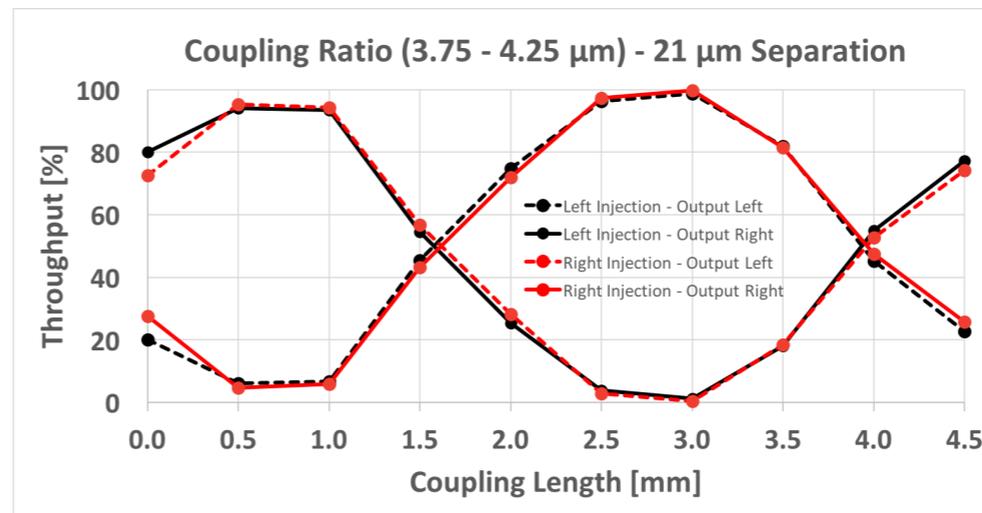


# DIRECTIONAL COUPLER

- ▶ Key to beam combination



# DIRECTIONAL COUPLER



## Problem

- Splitting ratio (21 μm separation): missed the first 50:50
- Coupling starts in the bends

## Solution

- Reduce separation or
- Change s-bend style (circular) accepting bending losses

## CONCLUSION

- ▶ 3D nature of direct-write allows stable (coherent) pupil-remapping
- ▶ On-sky demonstration of integrated nulling interferometer in NIR
  - ▶ Simultaneous photometry and bright channel
  - ▶ NSC analysis
  - ▶ Currently dark current limited, high sensitivity spectroscopic back-end Q1 2018
- ▶ 4-waveguide version in progress
  - ▶ Geometric phase delays?
- ▶ Next to the MIR
  - ▶ Encouraging results in GLS

