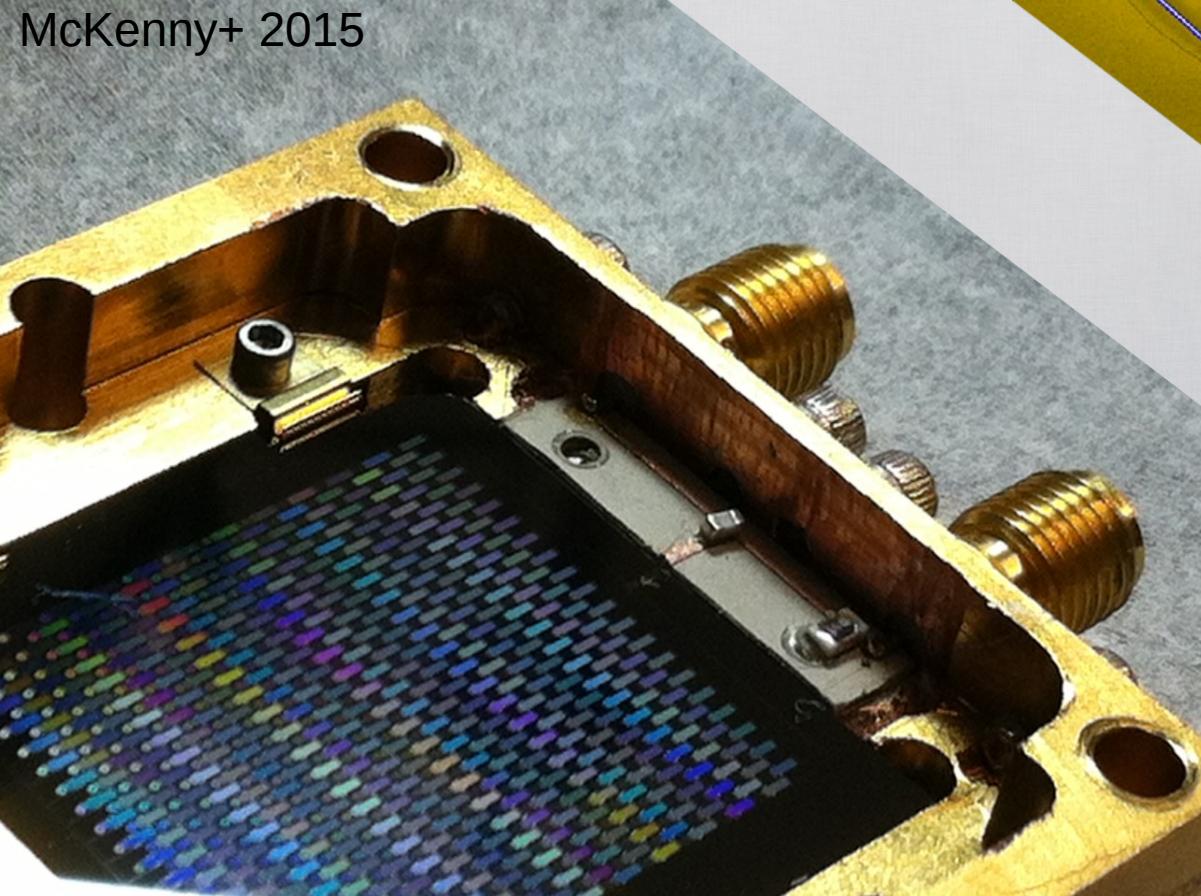


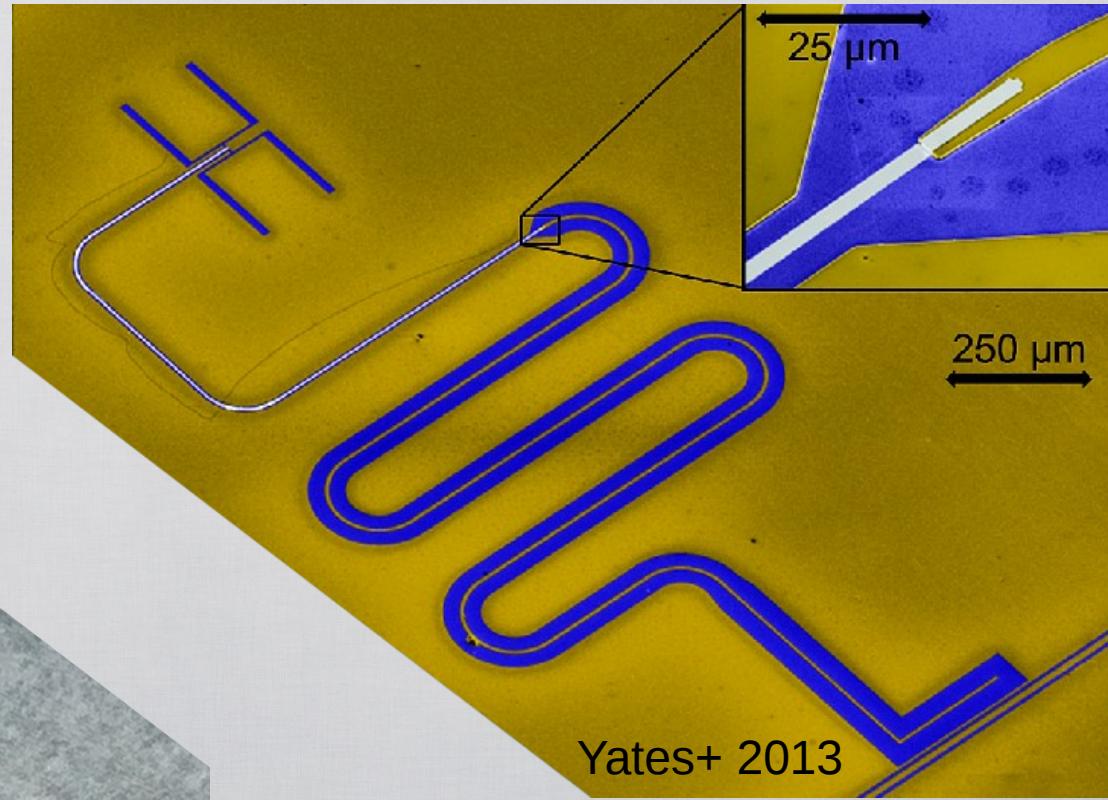
# Technology for next-generation submm and far-IR instruments

Erik Shirokoff

University of Chicago



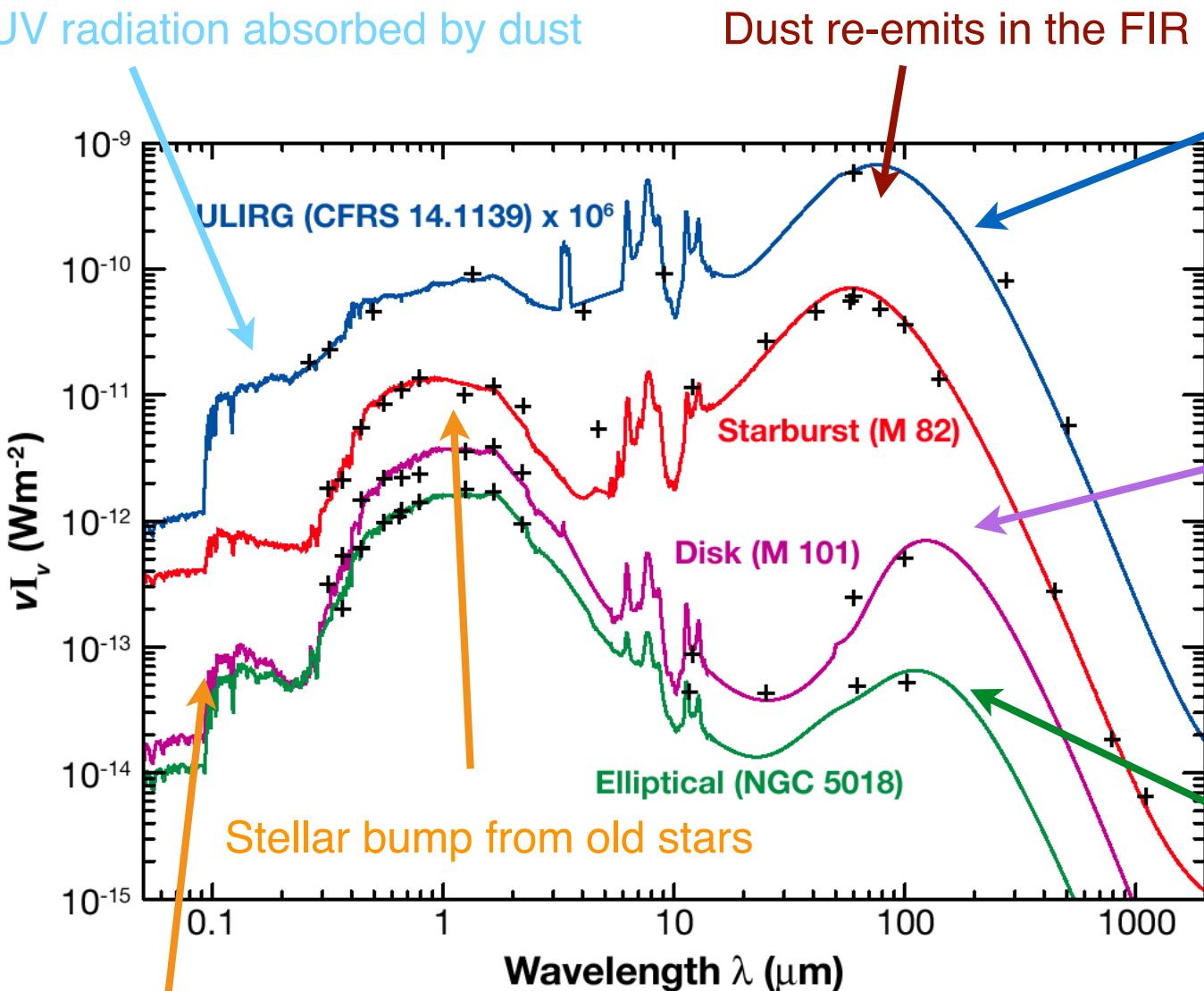
McKenna+ 2015



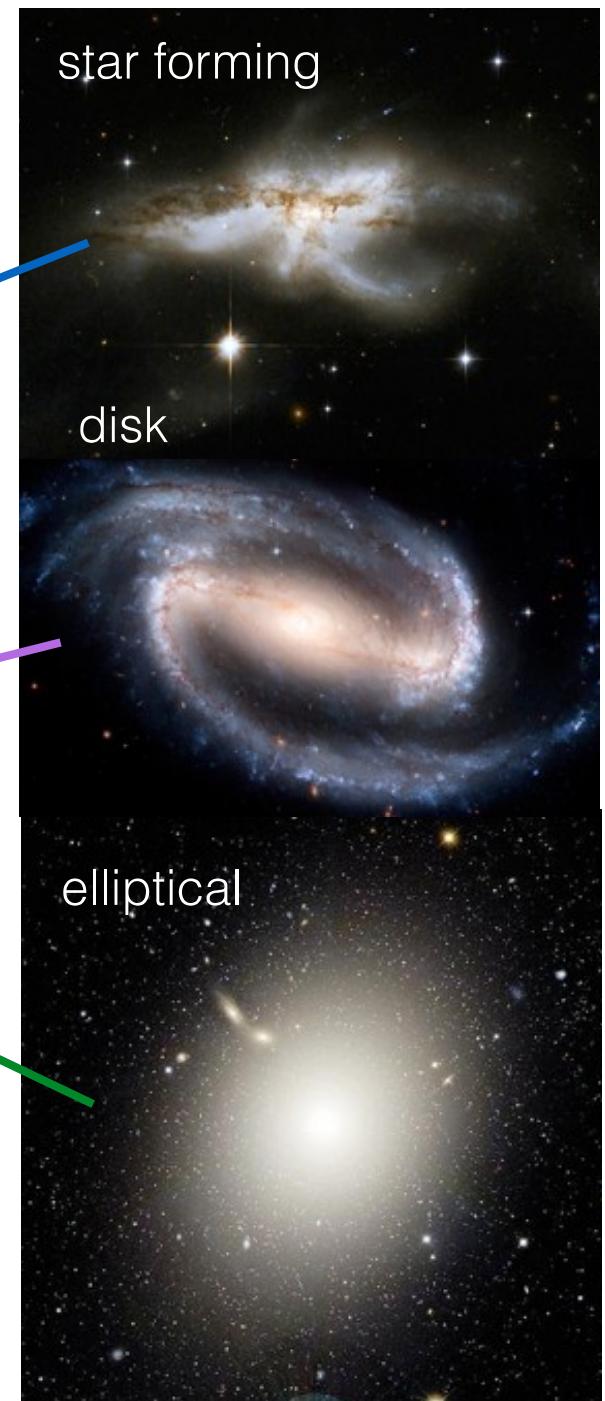
8 January, 2019

# Spectral Energy Densities of Galaxies

UV radiation absorbed by dust



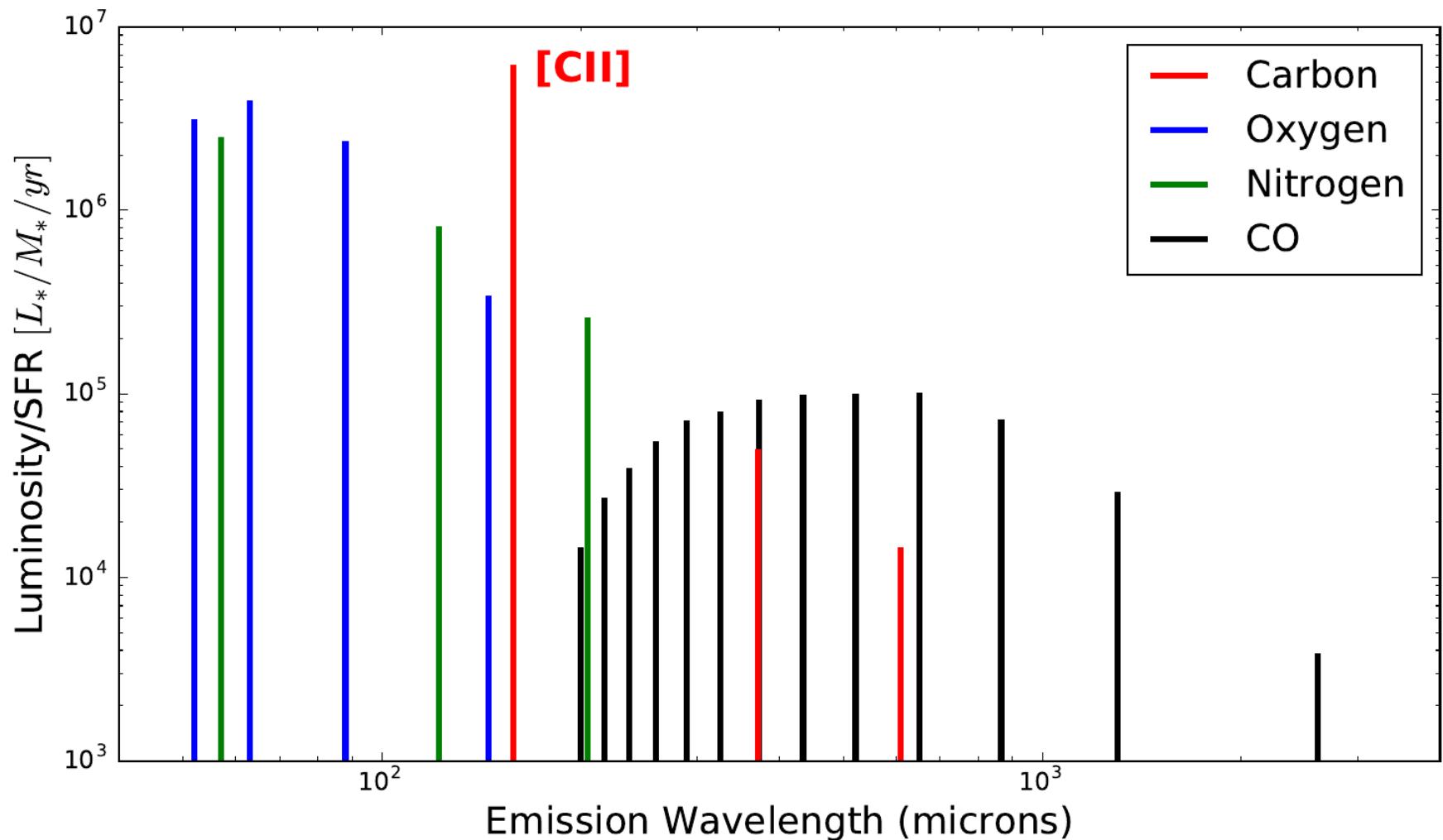
Dust re-emits in the FIR



UV from young, hot stars

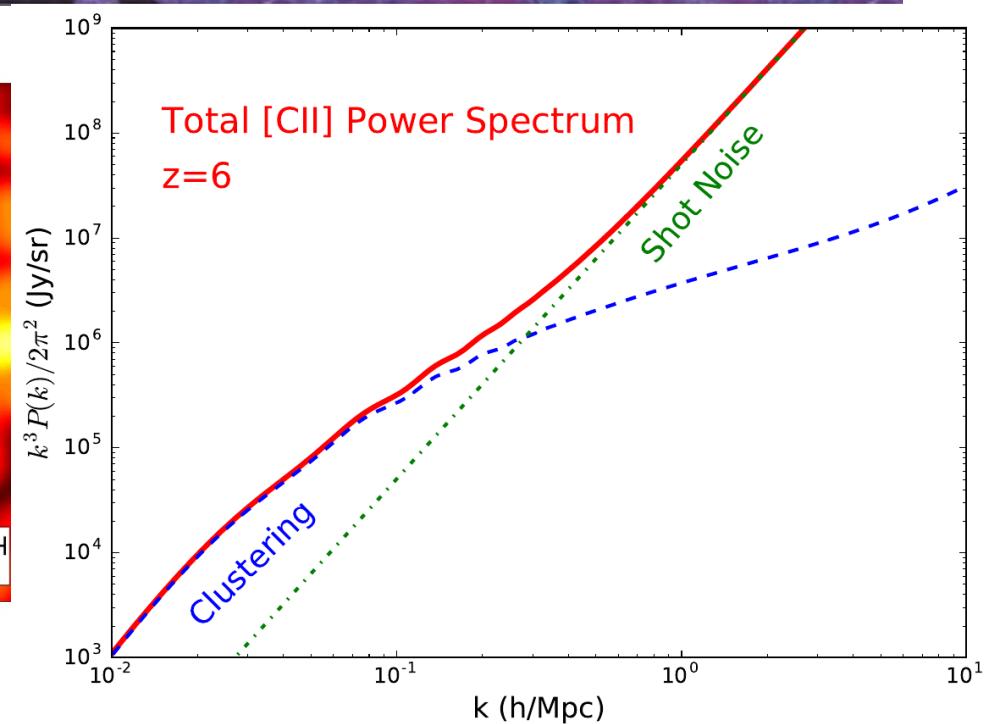
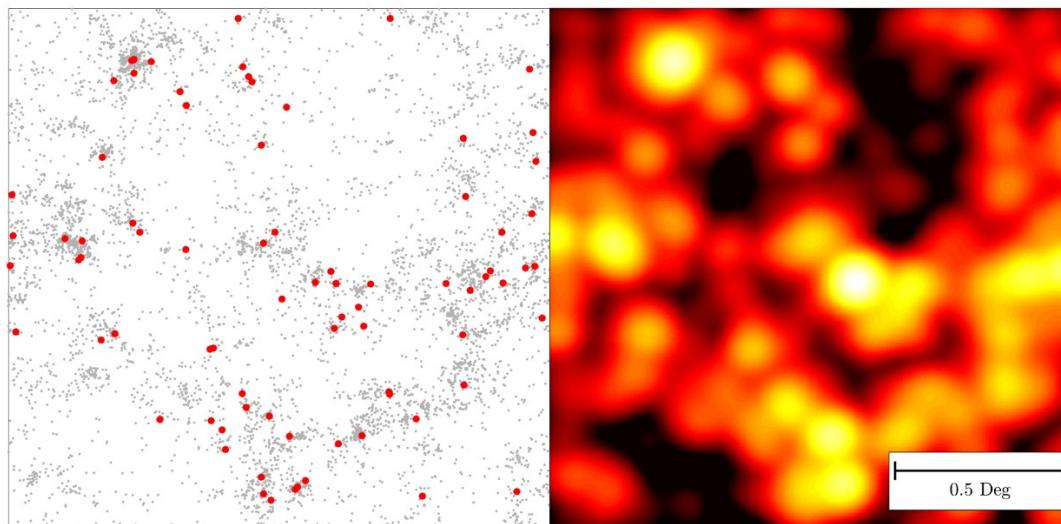
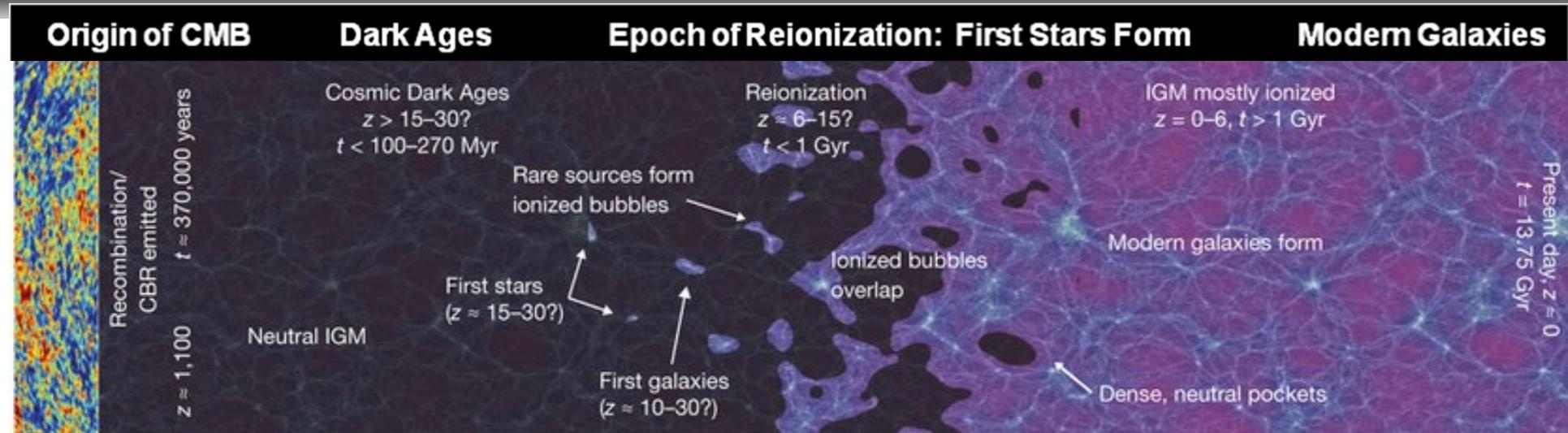
Lagach+2005, based on Galliano 2007, adapted by J. Viera

# There are bright atomic and molecular lines at submm wavelengths



FIR line luminosities (nearby galaxies) adapted from Visbal and Loeb 2010. Figure by K. Karkare

# Intensity mapping: total star formation rate, clustering, and the epoch of reionization



# Submm survey science and tomography requires many very sensitive pixels.

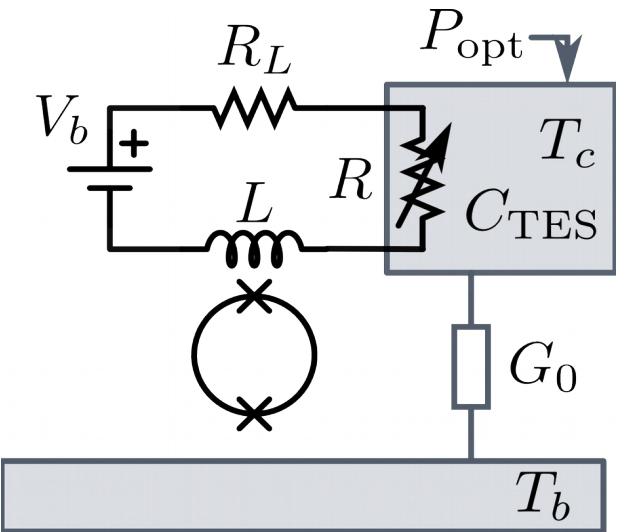
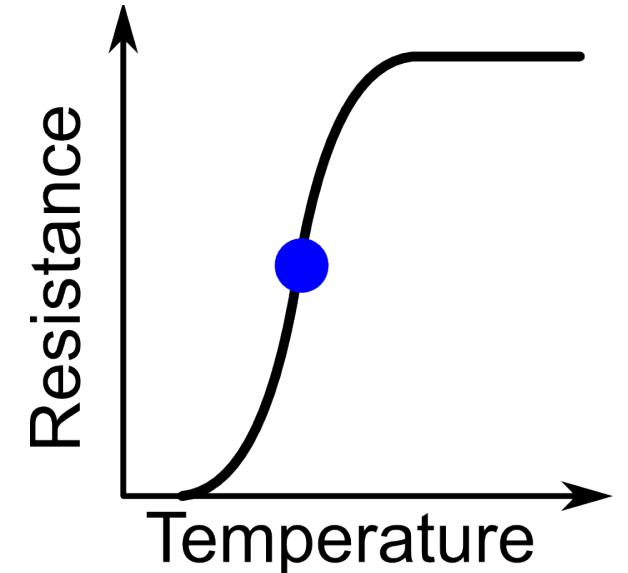
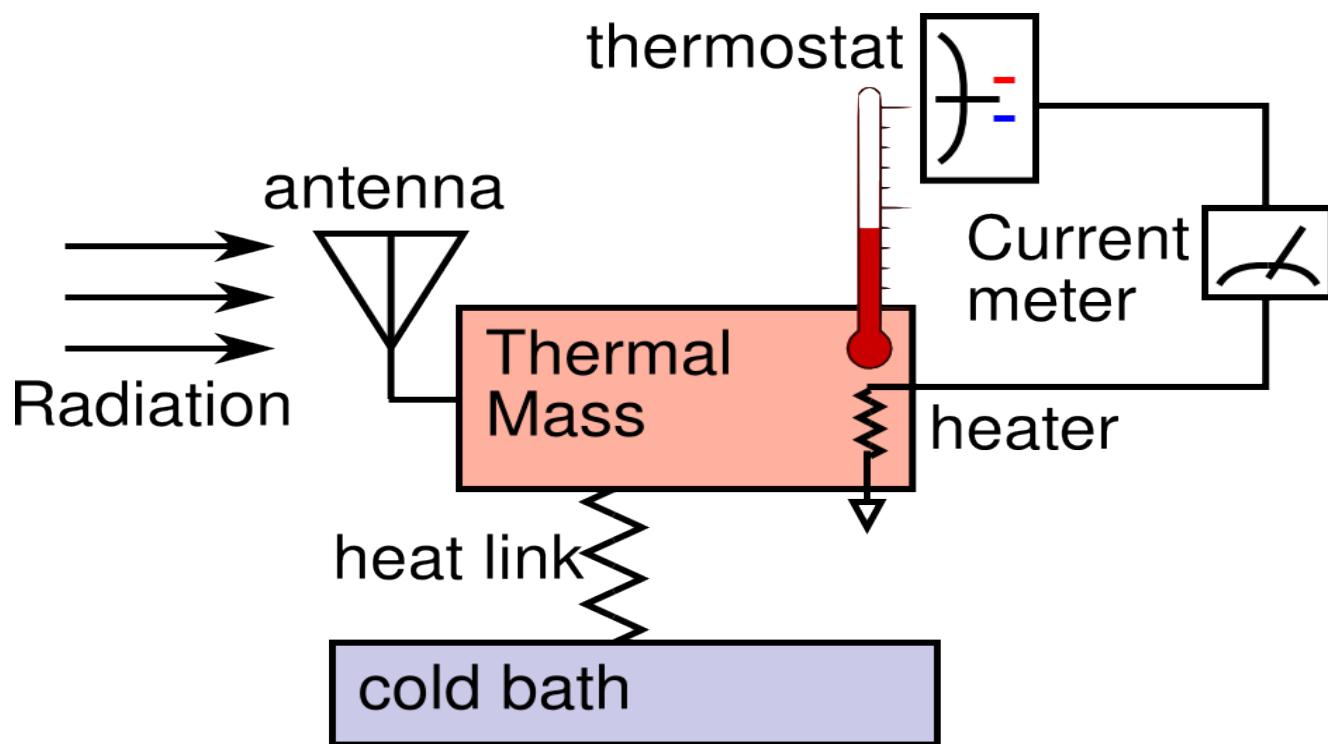
New developments in sub-K incoherent detectors:

- Bolometers and multiplexing
- Kinetic inductance detectors
- On-chip submm architecture

Note there are many exciting new things I'm skipping today:

- Coherent receivers
- Semiconductor devices
- Fourier Transform spectroscopic instruments

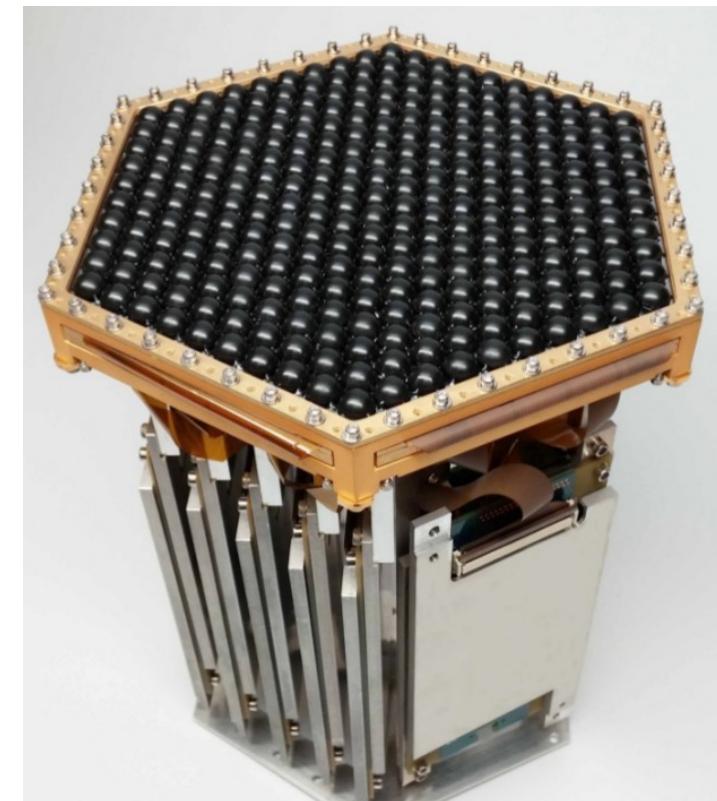
Bolometers: measure how much heat is deposited in a thermally-isolated material.



New readout schemes allow for much denser readout multiplexing of TES devices.

- Microwave frequency domain mux:
  - AC bias TESes at tens to hundreds of MHz
- Microwave mux:
  - The DC current through a resonator-coupled SQUID change the phase of a microwave tone
  - Currently planned for the Simons Observatory.

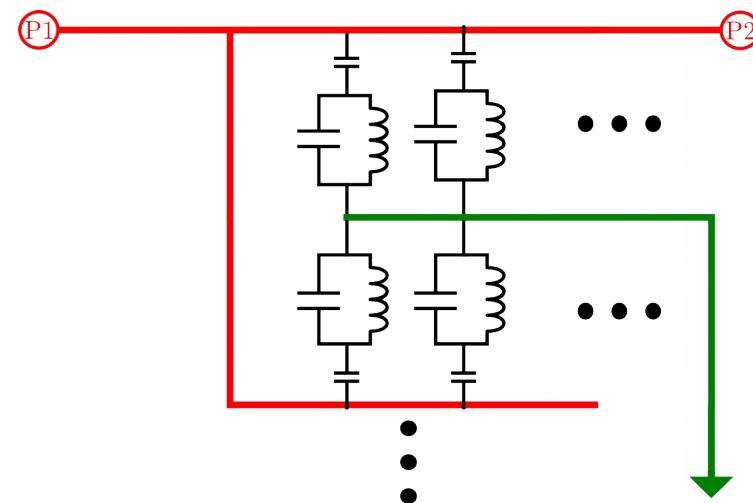
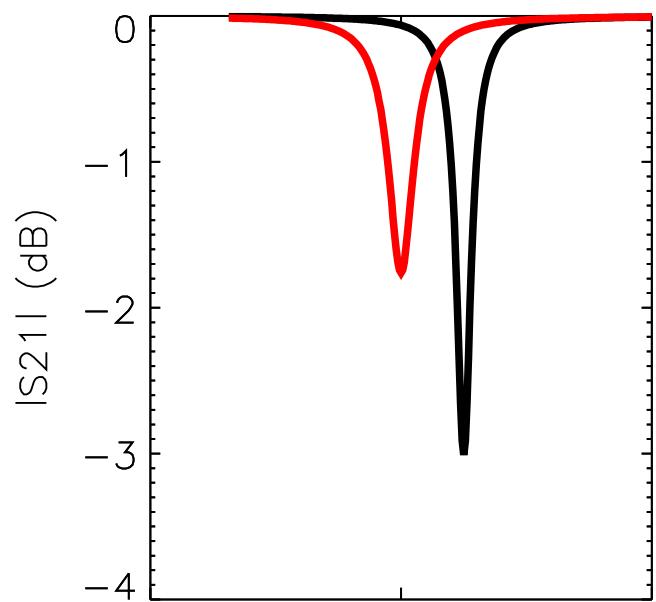
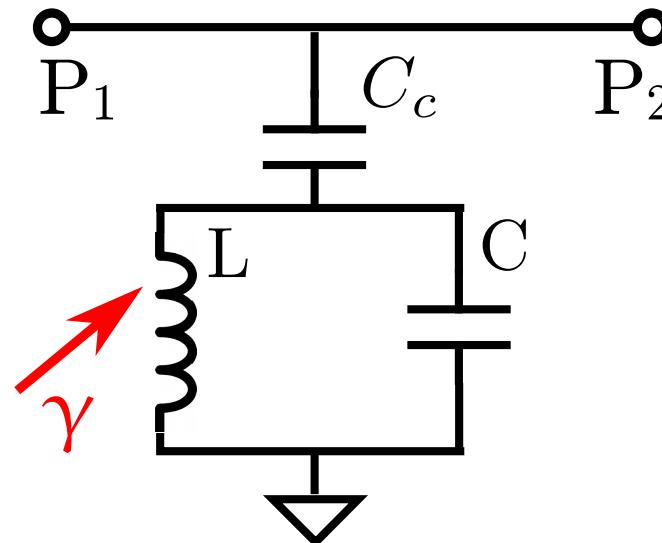
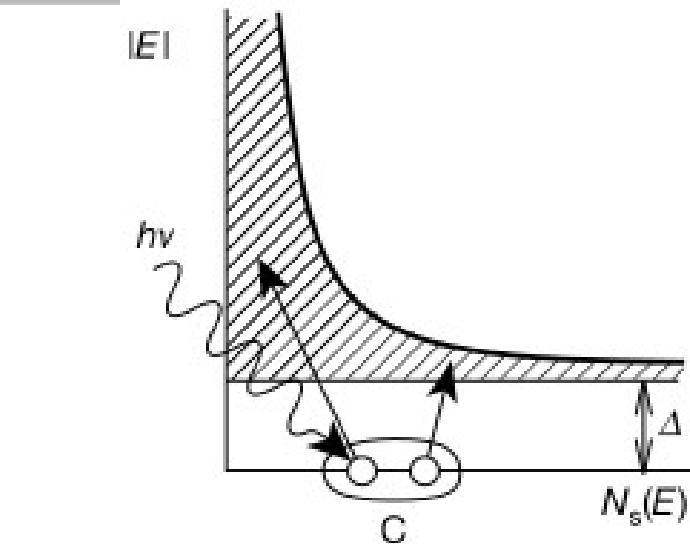
SPT-3G fielded 16000 pol-sensitive, 3-color detectors.



PolarBear-2 module

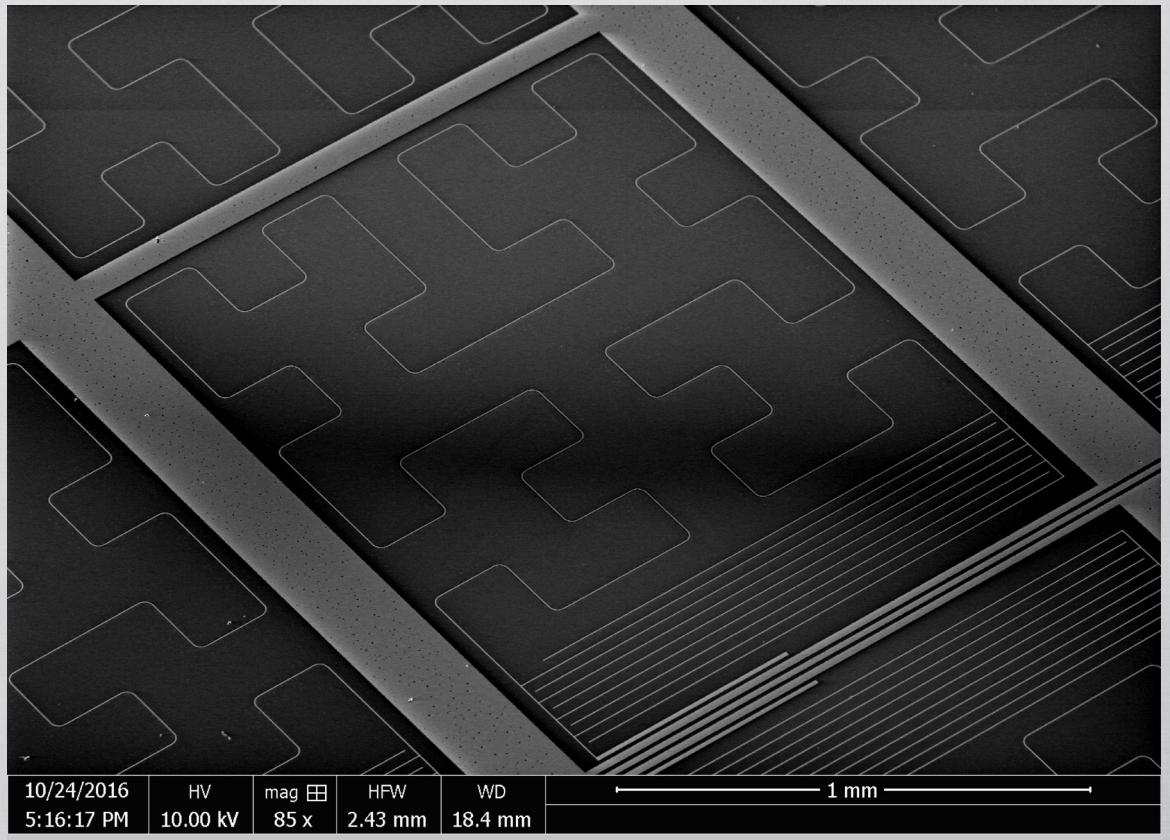
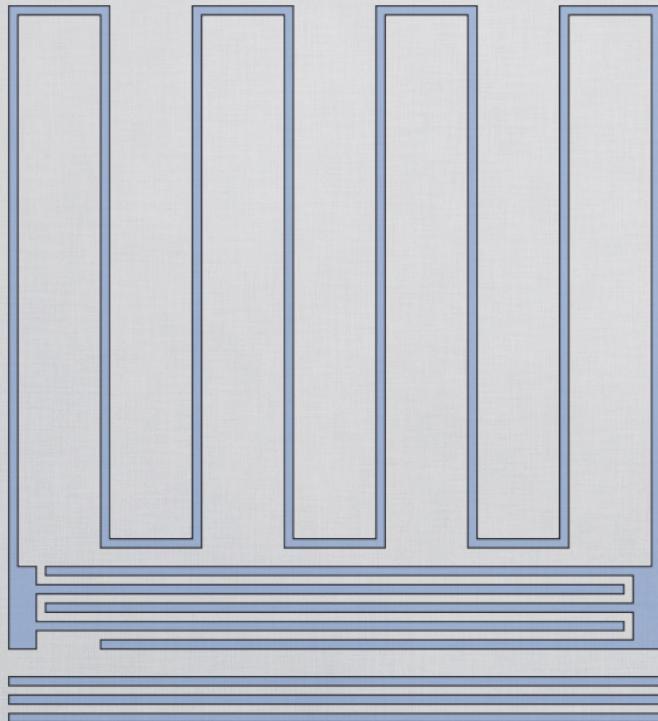
CMB-S4 plans to field half a million!

The kinetic inductance detector: photon absorption breaks Cooper pairs, causes a frequency shift in a microwave resonator.

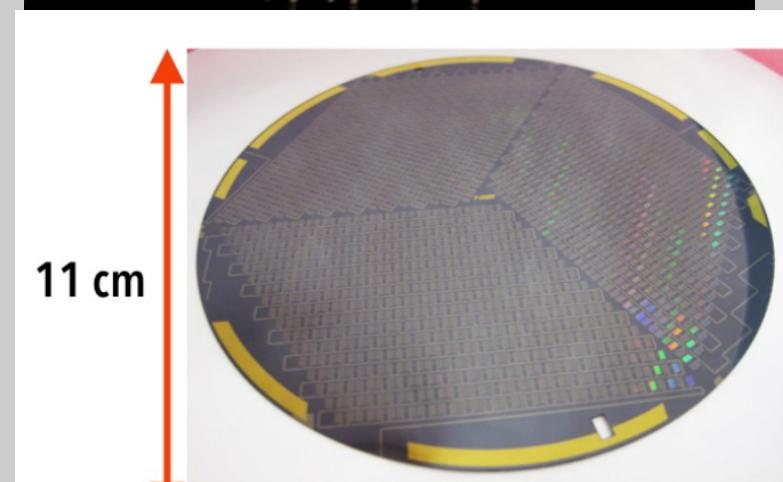
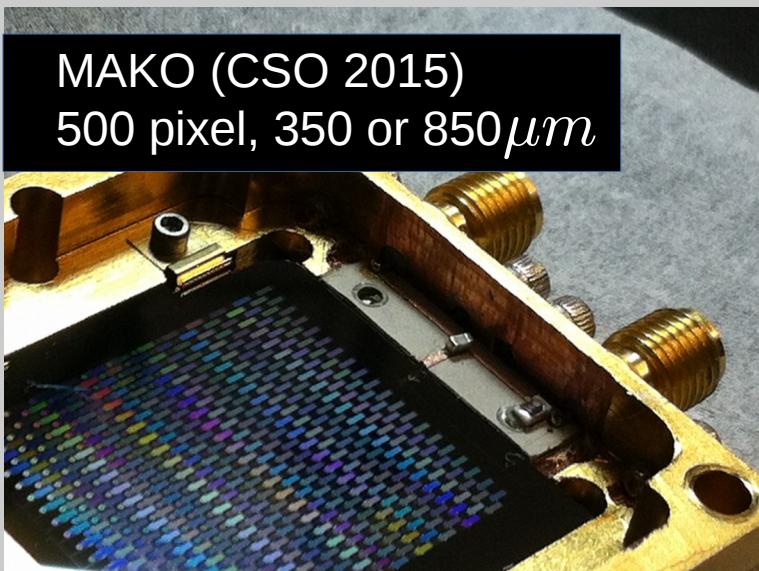
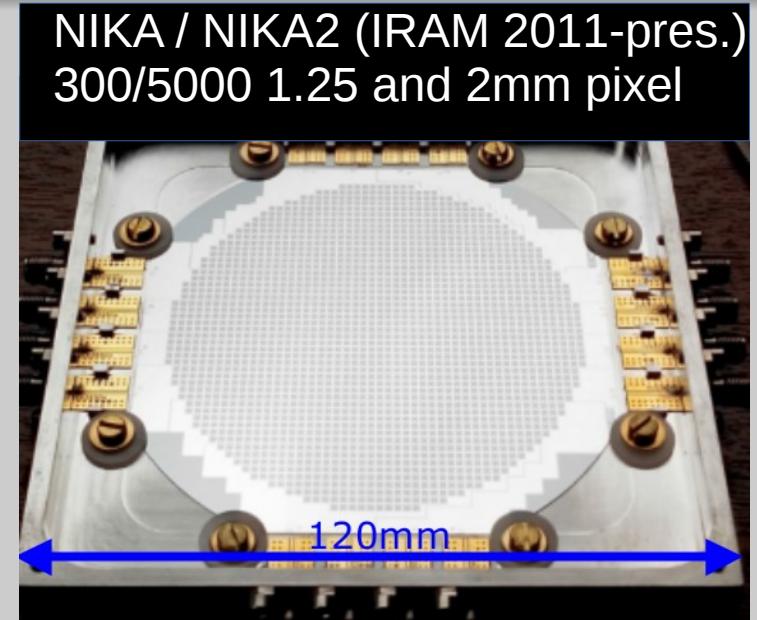
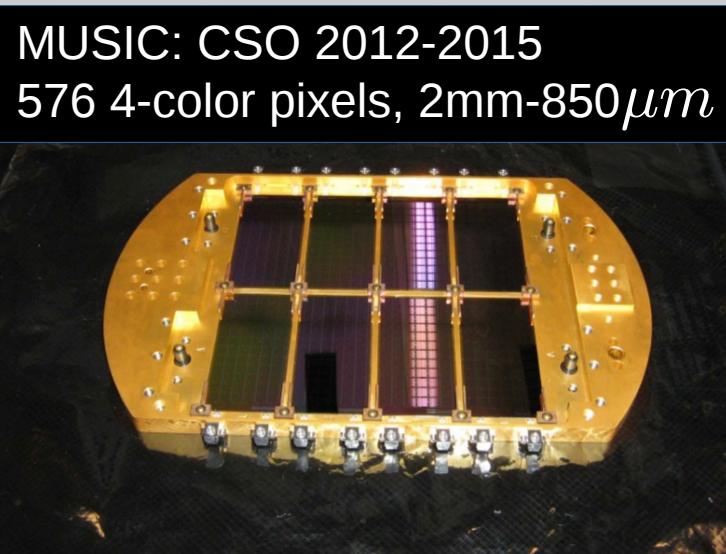


Some figures: Zmuidzinas group

# Direct-absorbing lumped-element KID (LeKID): interdigitated capacitor and meandered inductor



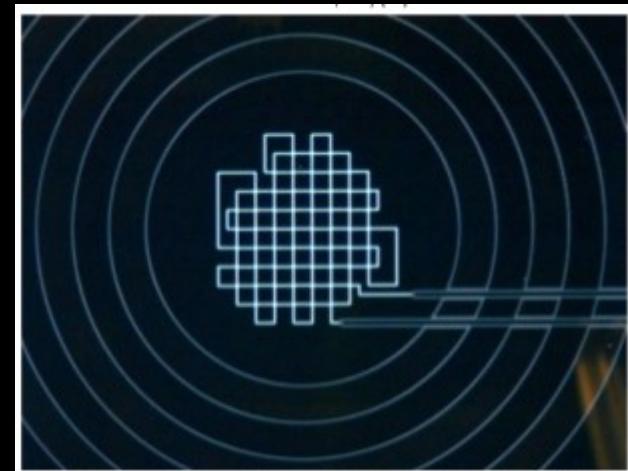
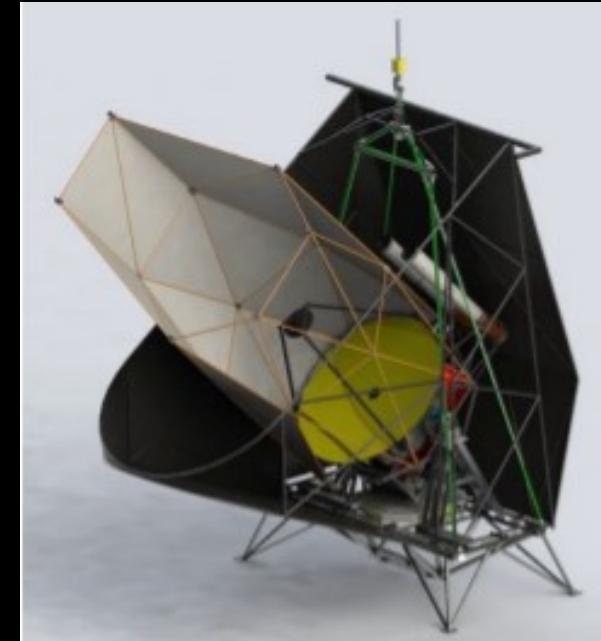
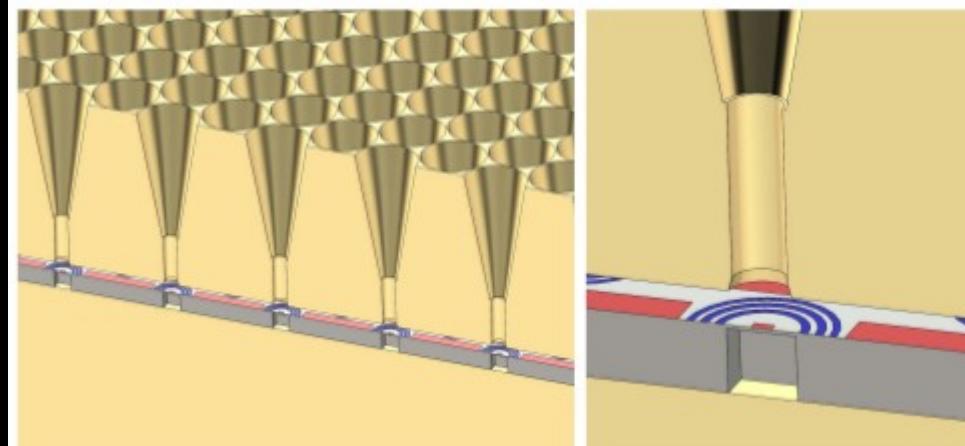
# On-sky cameras exist, and many more are coming next year!



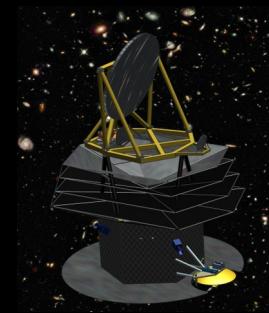
BLAST TNG (Antarctic balloon)  
3300 detectors 250, 350, 500 $\mu m$

# STARFIRE: the Spectroscopic Terahertz Airborne Receiver for Far-InfraRed Exploration

- Balloon, based on BLAST gondola
- IFU grating spectrometer
- 240 to 420 micron
- Direct-absorber KID detectors

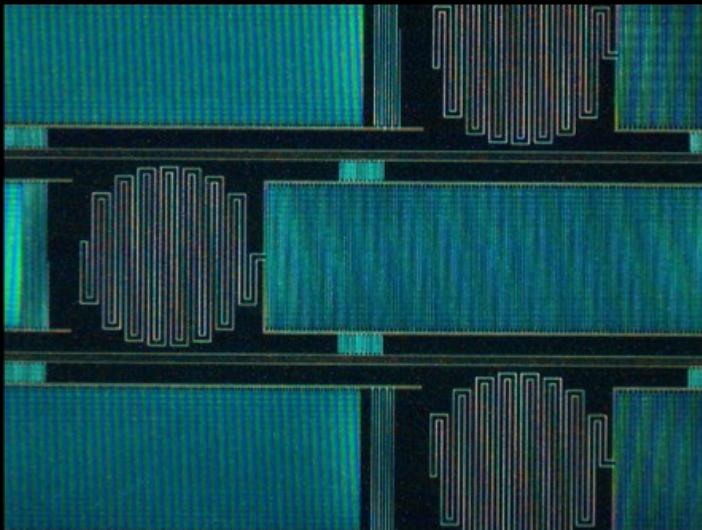


# Galaxy Evolution Probe KIDs

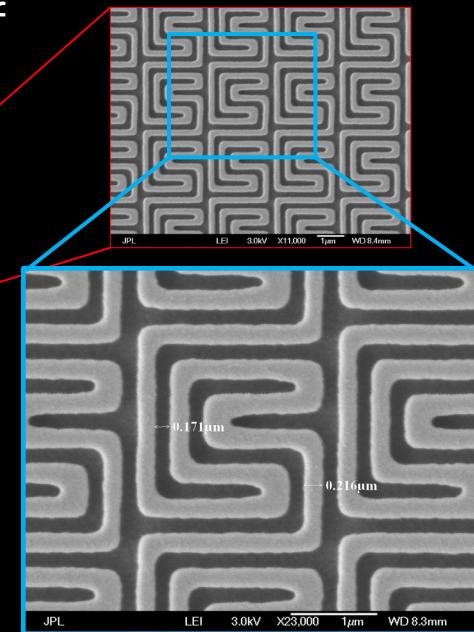
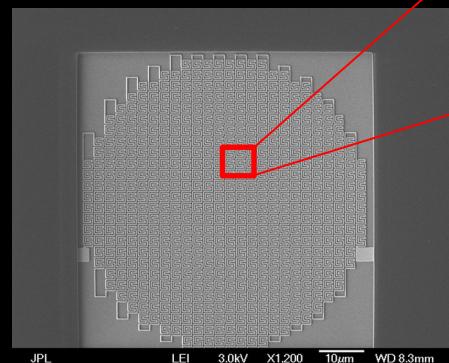


- 50,000 KIDs split evenly between imager and spectrometer
- Why baseline KIDs?
  - Simple architecture, simple cryogenic readout, one focal plane technology for all wavelengths.

100 - 400  $\mu\text{m}$ : MAKO type LEKID



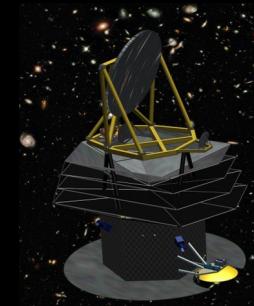
10 - 95  $\mu\text{m}$ : Unit cell of mid-IR KID absorber.



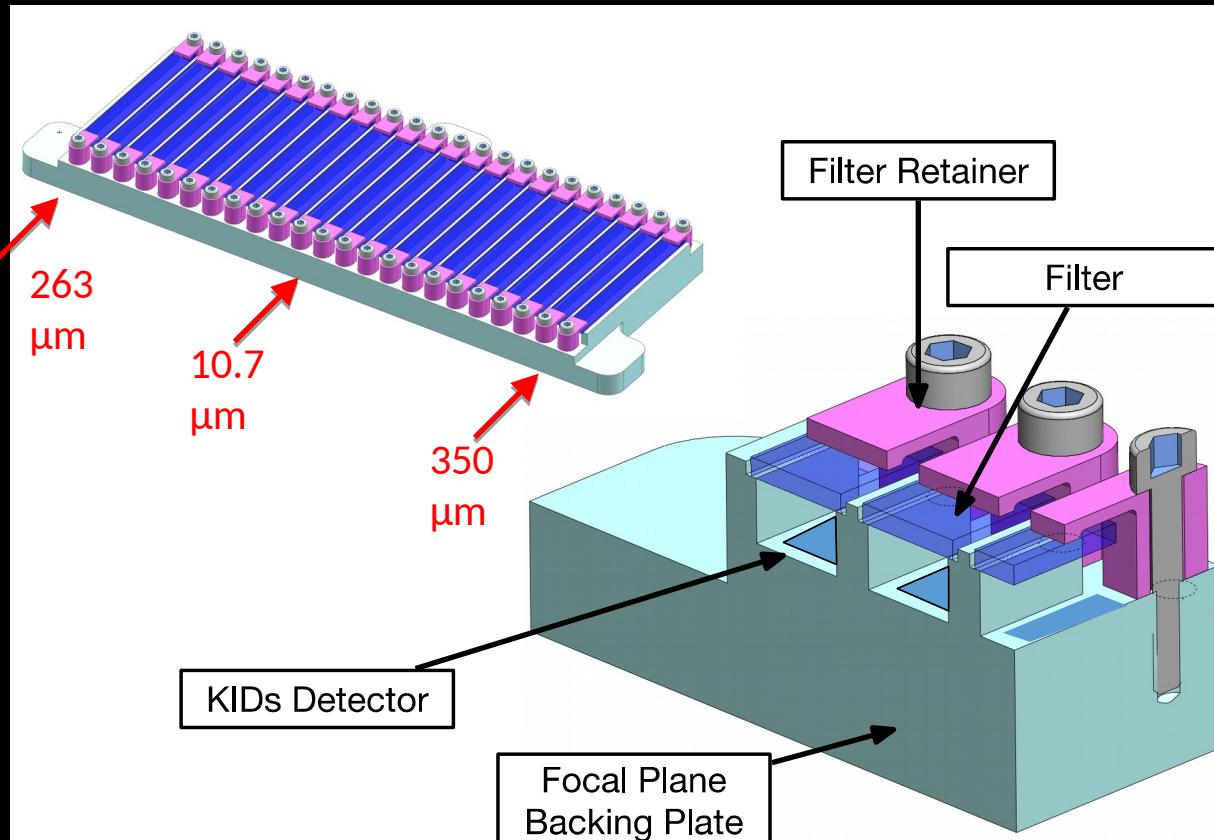
Day, LeDuc, Fyhrie, Glenn,  
Perido, Zmuidzinas

Technology development plan: MIR KIDs (10 – 100  $\mu\text{m}$ ),  
readout

# GEP-I Focal Plane (KIDs)



Continuous scanning for full spectral coverage



## Spectral Resolution

10-95  $\mu\text{m}$ :

$$R = \lambda/\Delta\lambda = 8$$

95-400  $\mu\text{m}$ :

$$R = \lambda/\Delta\lambda = 3.5$$

## FoV and Sampling

$0.5^\circ \times 0.1^\circ$

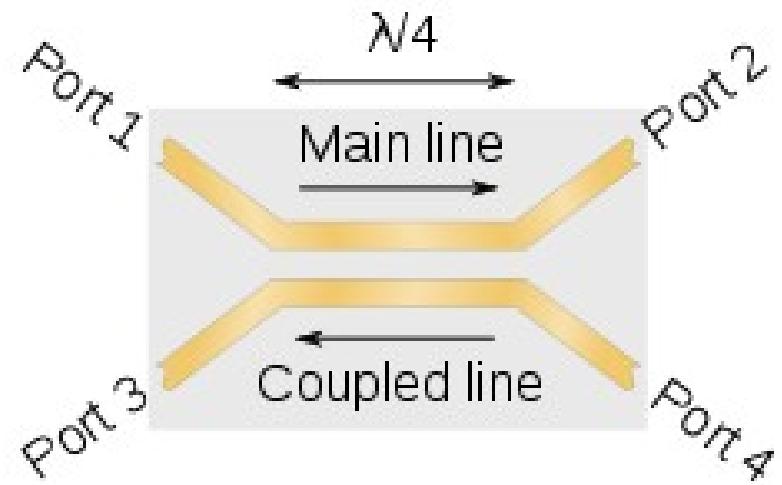
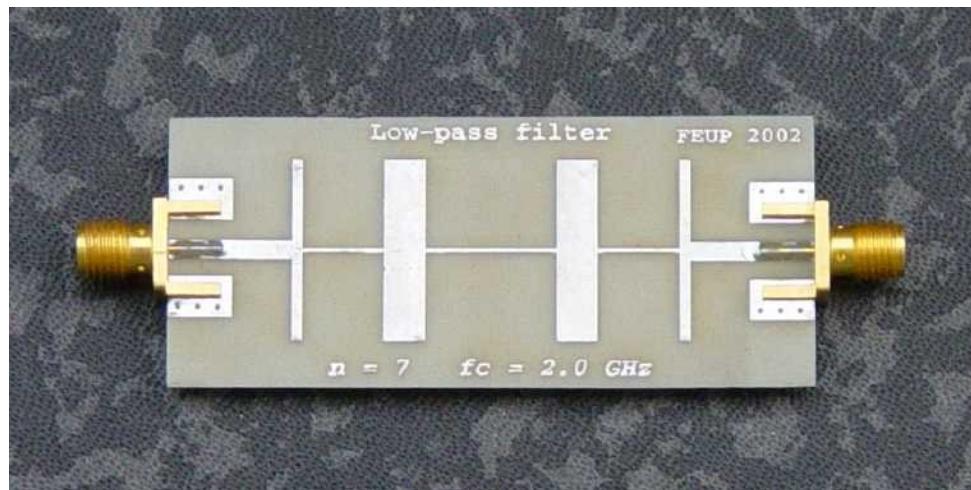
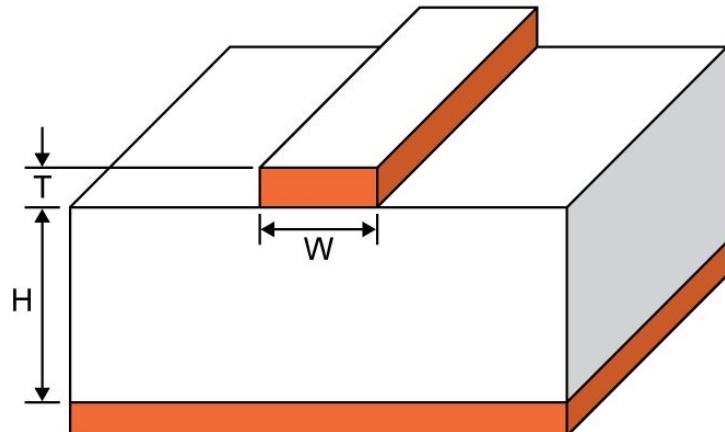
$\lambda < 70 \mu\text{m}$ :

3.43" pixels

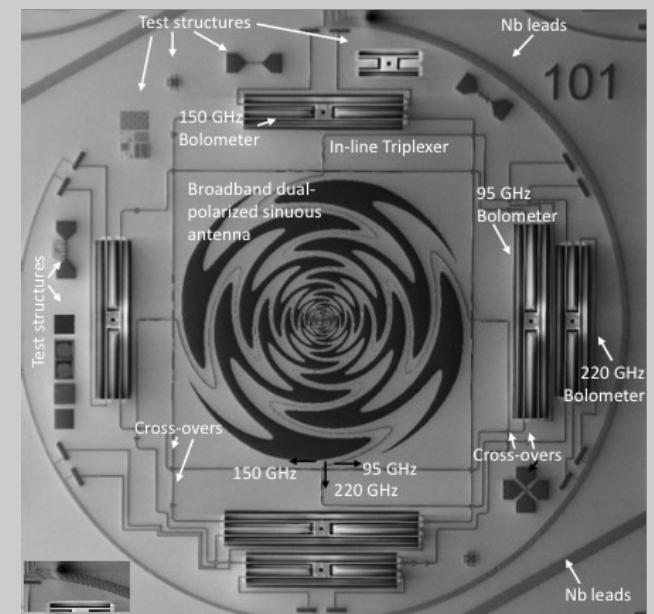
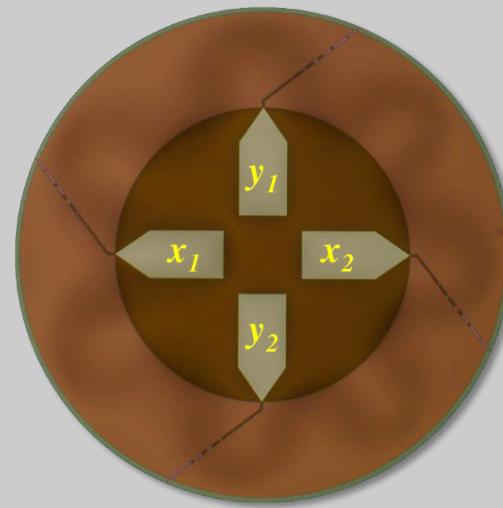
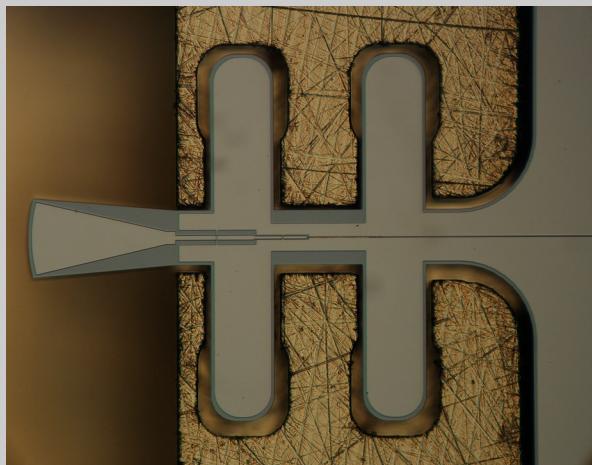
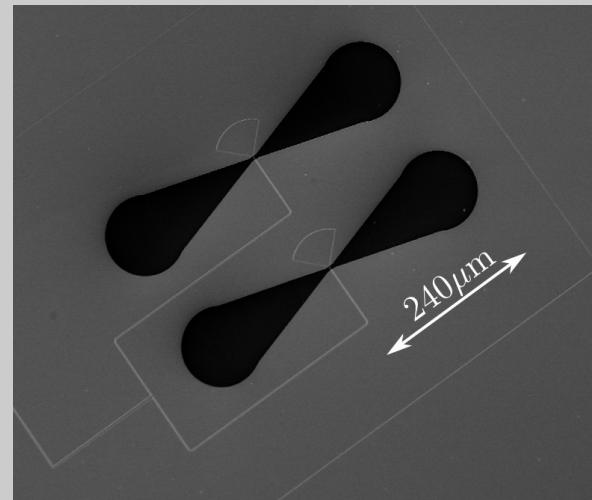
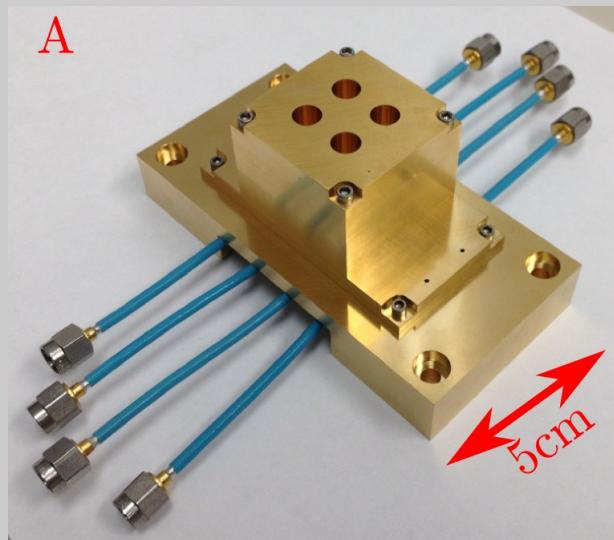
$\lambda > 70 \mu\text{m}$ :

Nyquist

# Tools: microwave transmission lines for submm-wavelength on-chip features

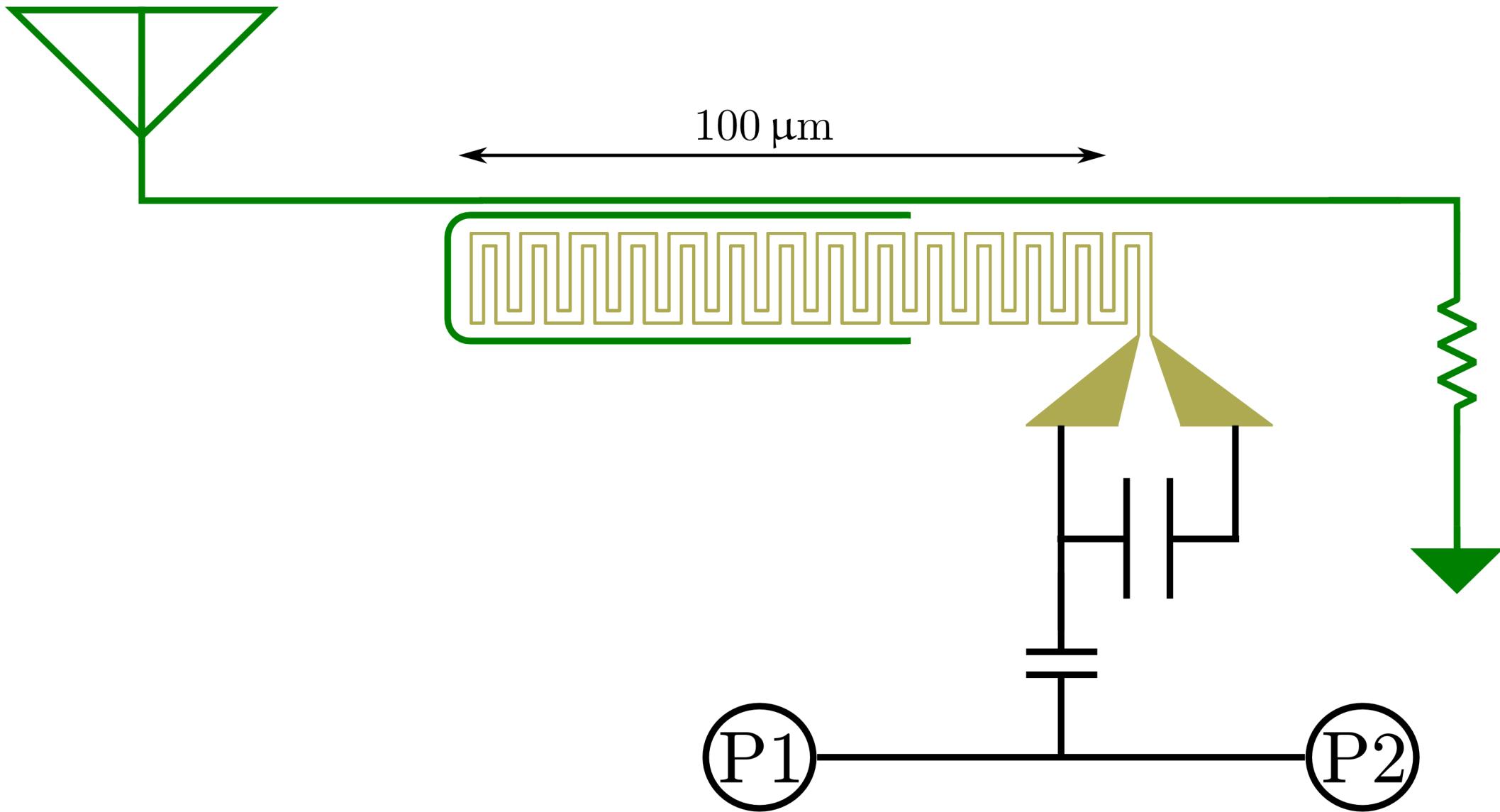


# Tools: antennas and horns

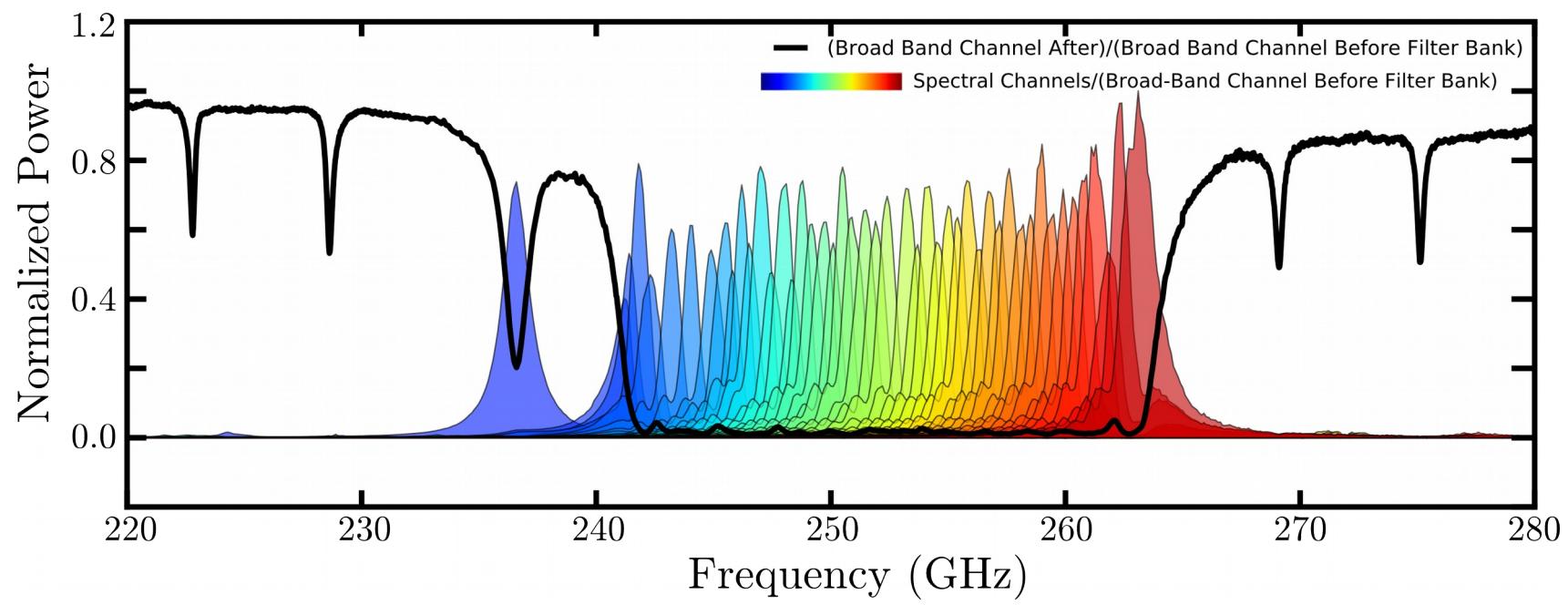
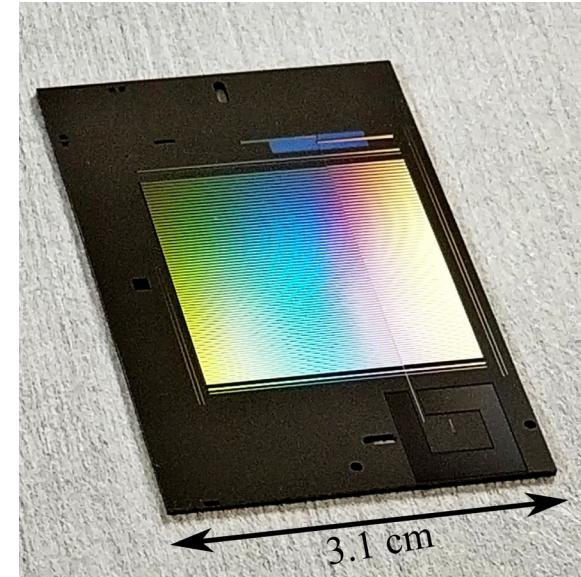
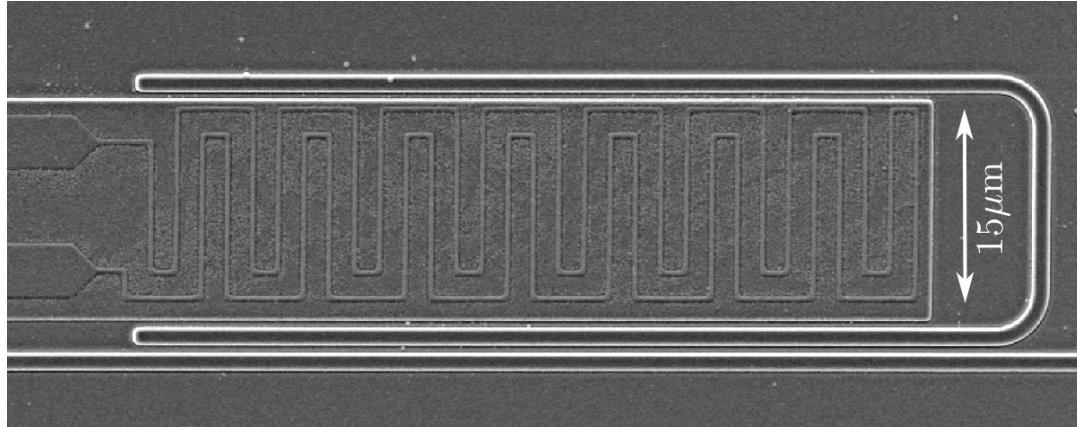


Some images: Advanced ACTPOL; SPT-3G

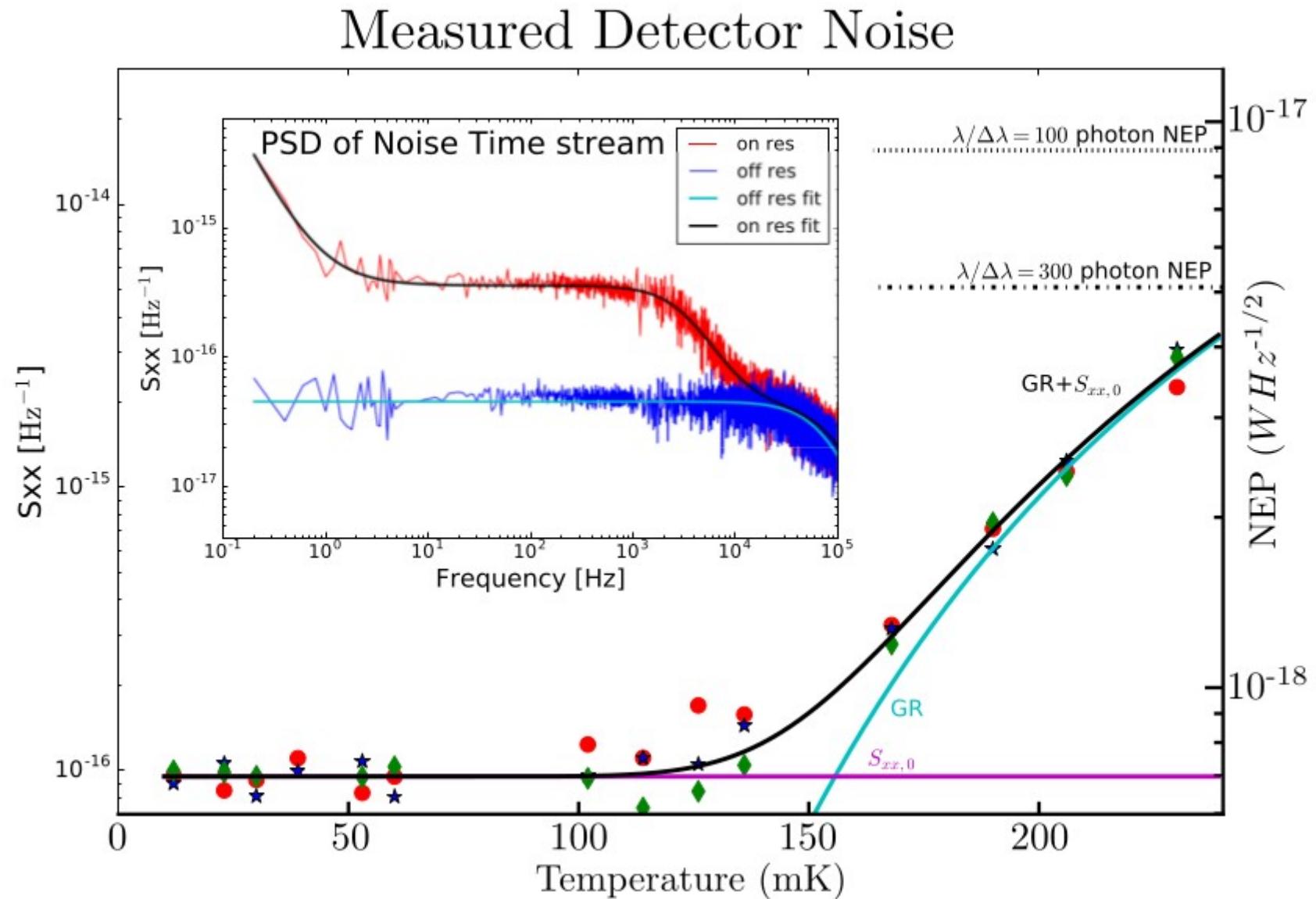
# SuperSpec: on-chip spectroscopy using microstrip resonator filters



# SuperSpec: an on-chip, R=300 spectrometer covering the 1 mm atmospheric band



Measured NEPs meet requirements for ground-based spectroscopy and submm/mm cameras.



# Next steps for on-chip band definition: improving R

- How high can we go in resolving power?
  - Current devices are limited by dielectric loss in the material used for the microstrip.

$$1/R = 1/Q_c + 1/Q_i + 1/Q_{\text{loss}}$$

$$Q_{\text{loss}} = 1/\tan \delta$$

Efficient operation requires  $R \lesssim Q_{\text{loss}}/3$

Currently  $Q_{\text{loss}} \sim 1400$  for silicon nitride.  
This limits  $R$  to a few hundred.

Lower loss materials exist:  
amorphous sputtered Si, crystal Si

Currently working to: deliver R=1000, explore R~3000

# Next steps for on-chip band definition: higher frequencies

- How HIGH can we go in frequency?
  - Superconducting transmission lines stop working below

$$\nu_{\max} < 72 \text{ GHz} \frac{T_c}{1.0K}$$

Candidates:

Nb: 8-9 K, 600 GHz (500 microns)

NbN: ~14 K, 1.0 THz (300 microns)

NbTiN: ~16 K, 1.2 THz (250 microns)

Metamaterial dielectric “waveguide” could go even higher.

Currently working on:

Nb 850 and 650 micron devices

NbTiN or NbN at 350 and 250 microns

# Next steps for everything: More sensitive detectors

- Several groups have measured NEPs of  $\text{few} \times 10^{-19} \text{W/Hz}^{-1/2}$
- This is great for most sub-orbital applications.
- Work is ongoing to explore lower noise limits needed for cold space cameras, narrow suborbital bands
- This is technology-agnostic: similar detectors can be used behind a grating spectrograph, a horn array, or an antenna.

# Conclusions

- Very large arrays of submm detectors will enable new classes of instruments.
- Kinetic inductance detectors have many useful properties and are now a mature technology.