

# Imaging Proxima b ... ... and nearby Habitable planets around M stars

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*Breakthrough Watch committee chair*



Mar 22, 2017

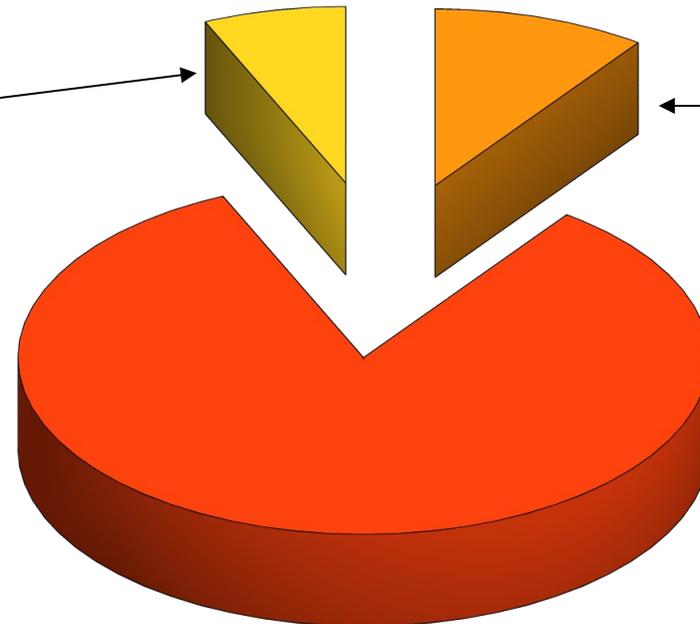
# What is so special about M stars ?

They are **abundant**: >75% of main sequence stars are M type

Class	Effective temperature <sup>[1][2][3]</sup>	Vega-relative "color label" <sup>[4][nb 1]</sup>	Chromaticity <sup>[5][6][7][nb 2]</sup>	Main-sequence mass <sup>[1][8]</sup> (solar masses)	Main-sequence radius <sup>[1][8]</sup> (solar radii)	Main-sequence luminosity <sup>[1][8]</sup> (bolometric)	Hydrogen lines	Fraction of all main-sequence stars <sup>[9]</sup>
O	≥ 30,000 K	blue	blue	≥ 16 $M_{\odot}$	≥ 6.6 $R_{\odot}$	≥ 30,000 $L_{\odot}$	Weak	~0.00003%
B	10,000–30,000 K	blue white	deep blue white	2.1–16 $M_{\odot}$	1.8–6.6 $R_{\odot}$	25–30,000 $L_{\odot}$	Medium	0.13%
A	7,500–10,000 K	white	blue white	1.4–2.1 $M_{\odot}$	1.4–1.8 $R_{\odot}$	5–25 $L_{\odot}$	Strong	0.6%
F	6,000–7,500 K	yellow white	white	1.04–1.4 $M_{\odot}$	1.15–1.4 $R_{\odot}$	1.5–5 $L_{\odot}$	Medium	3%
G	5,200–6,000 K	yellow	yellowish white	0.8–1.04 $M_{\odot}$	0.96–1.15 $R_{\odot}$	0.6–1.5 $L_{\odot}$	Weak	7.6%
K	3,700–5,200 K	orange	pale yellow orange	0.45–0.8 $M_{\odot}$	0.7–0.96 $R_{\odot}$	0.08–0.6 $L_{\odot}$	Very weak	12.1%
M	2,400–3,700 K	red	light orange red	0.08–0.45 $M_{\odot}$	≤ 0.7 $R_{\odot}$	≤ 0.08 $L_{\odot}$	Very weak	76.45%

Within 5pc (15ly) : 60 hydrogen-burning stars, 50 are M type, 6 are K-type, 4 are A, F or G

4.36 Alpha Cen A  
8.58 Sirius A  
11.40 Procyon A  
11.89 Tau Ceti



■ A F G  
■ M  
■ K

4.36 Alpha Cen B  
10.52 Eps Eri  
11.40 61 Cyg A  
11.40 61 Cyg B  
11.82 Eps Ind A  
15.82 Gliese 380

# What is so special about M stars ?

Strong evidence that their systems are rich in terrestrial planets:

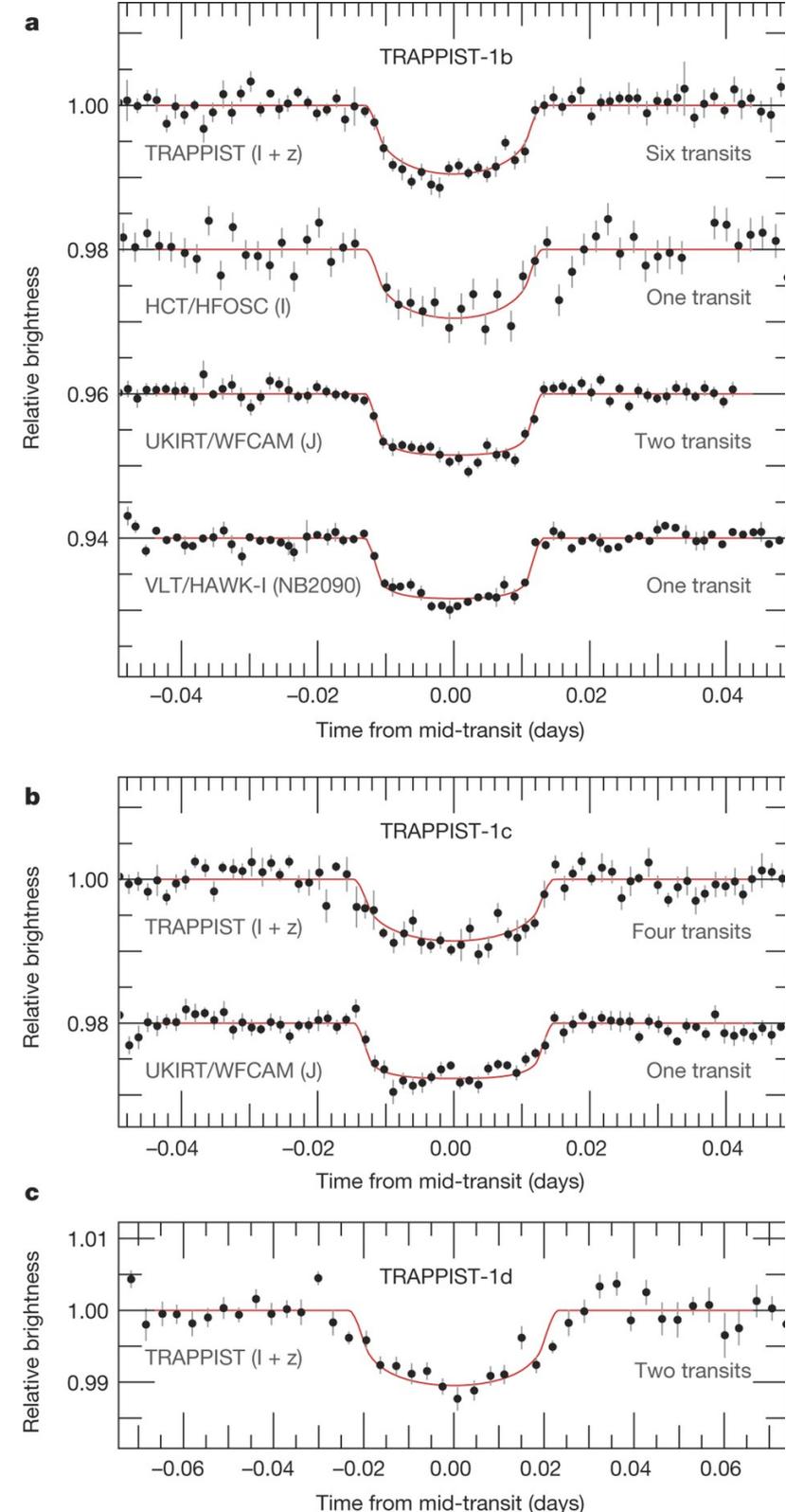
- Planet formation models evidence
- Lack of giant planets near HZ → good thing !
- Kepler data shows trend : more rocky planets around M-type stars
- Recent discoveries:  
Prox Cen b  
Trappist-1



# What is so special about M stars ?

## “Easy” to observe

- Strong RV signal (near-IR RV instruments coming online)
- Moderate contrast (this talk): good for direct imaging
- Excellent transit targets:
  - Larg(er) probability of transit: some hope for transit+RV+direct imaging
  - Larger transit depth: JWST transit spectroscopy

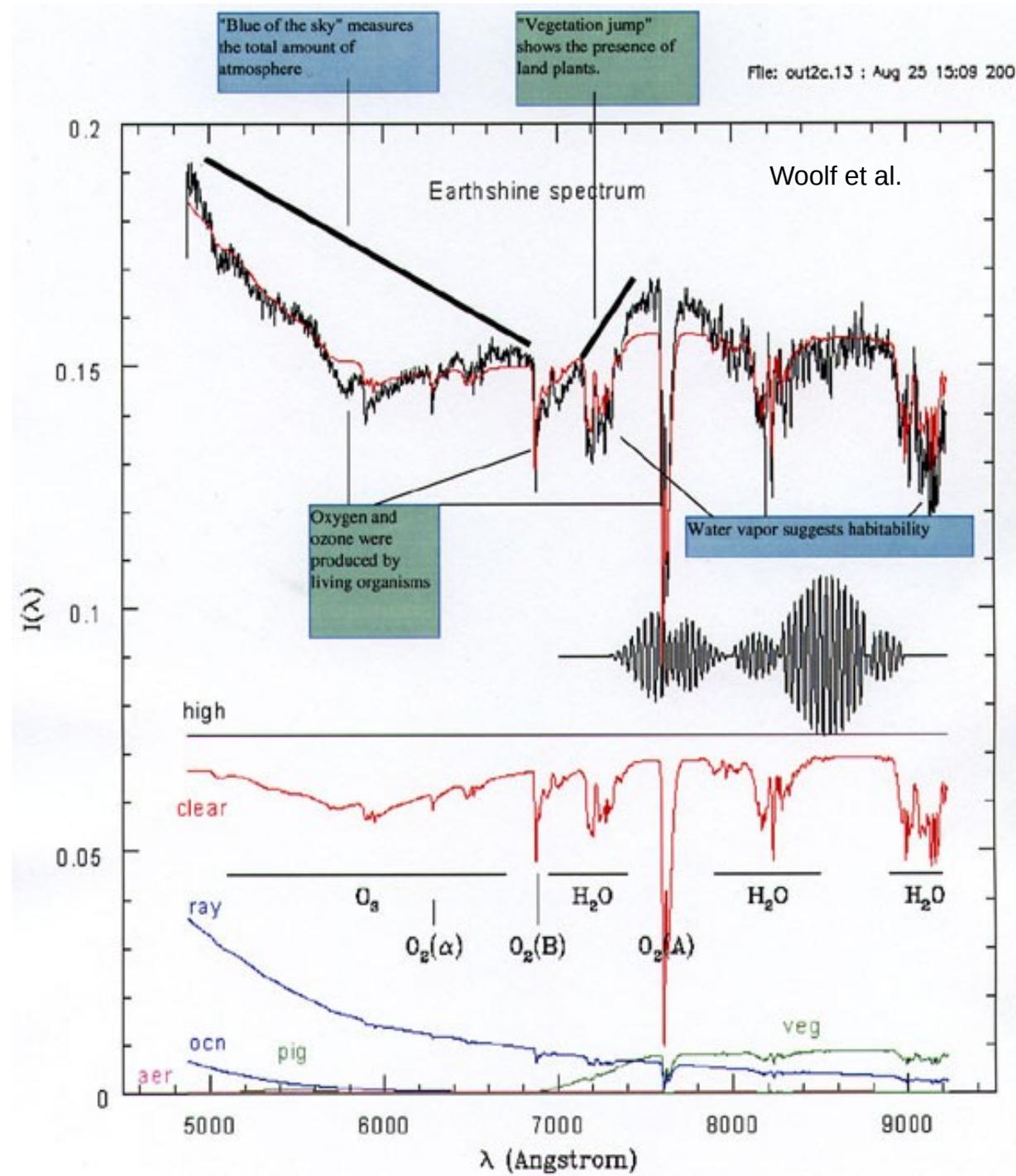


# Why directly imaging ?

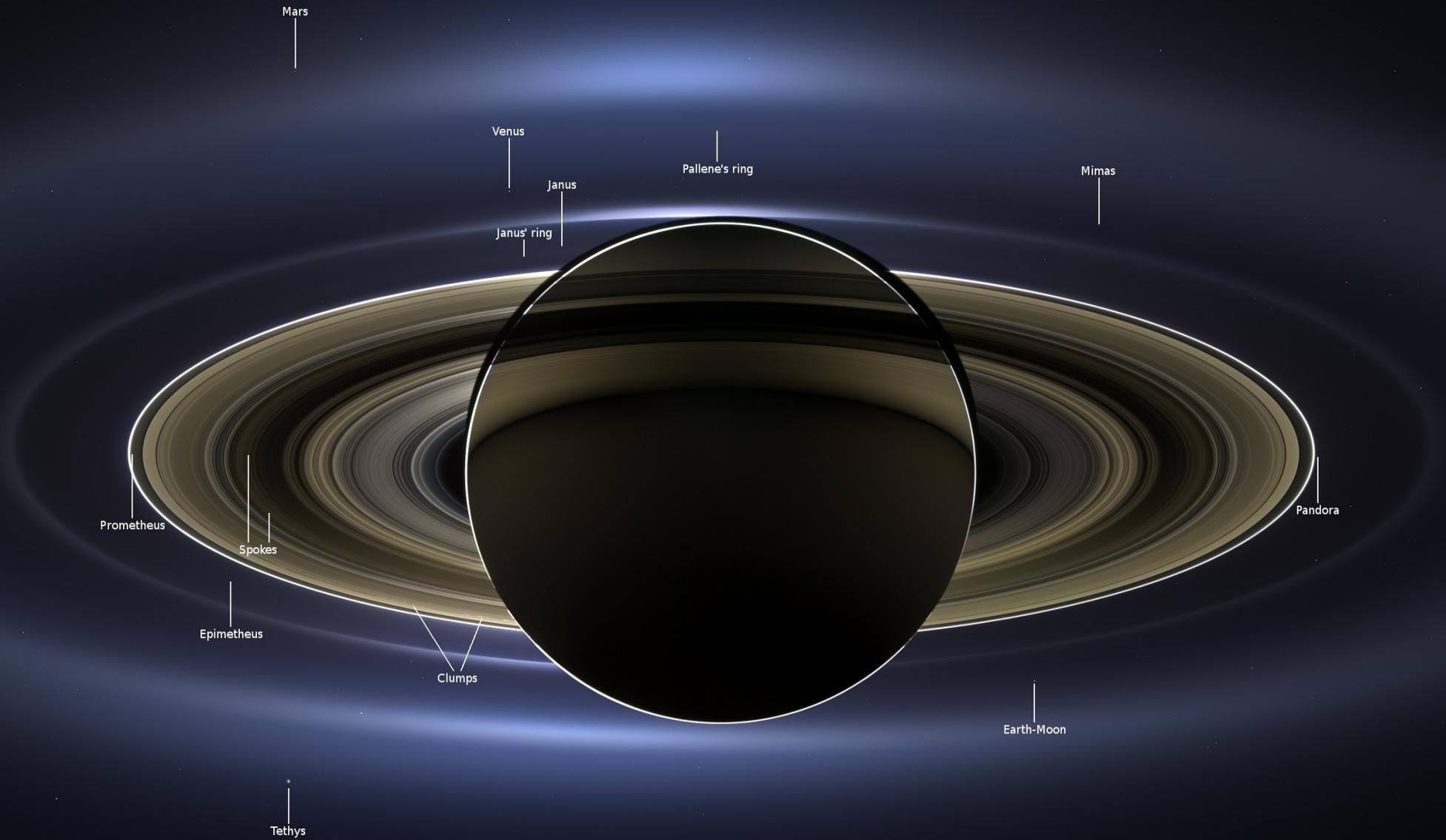
Spectra can also be obtained by transit, but :

- Low probability (few %)
- High atmosphere only

Spectra of Earth (taken by looking at Earthshine) shows evidence for life and plants



# Taking images of exoplanets: Why is it hard ?

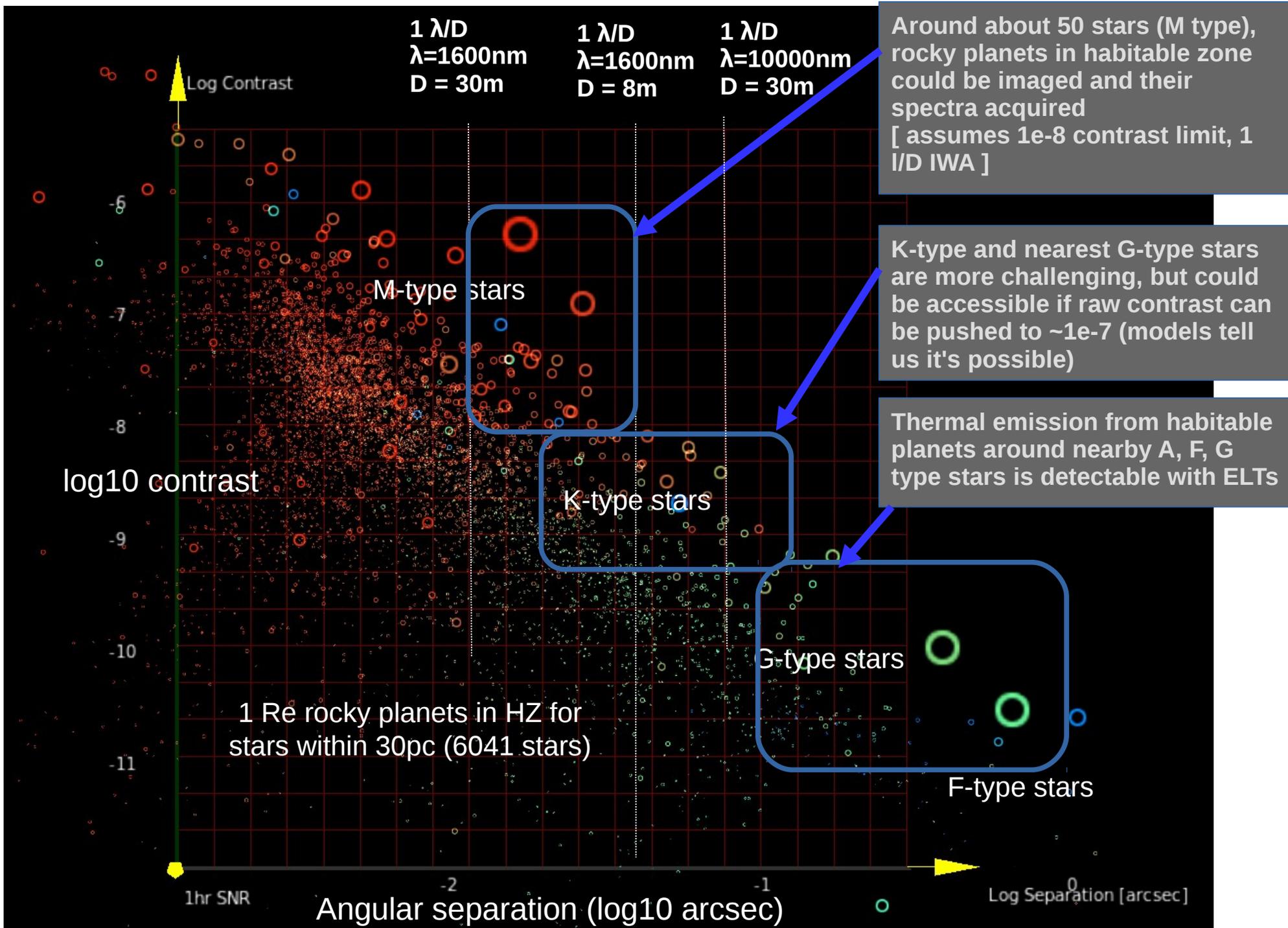




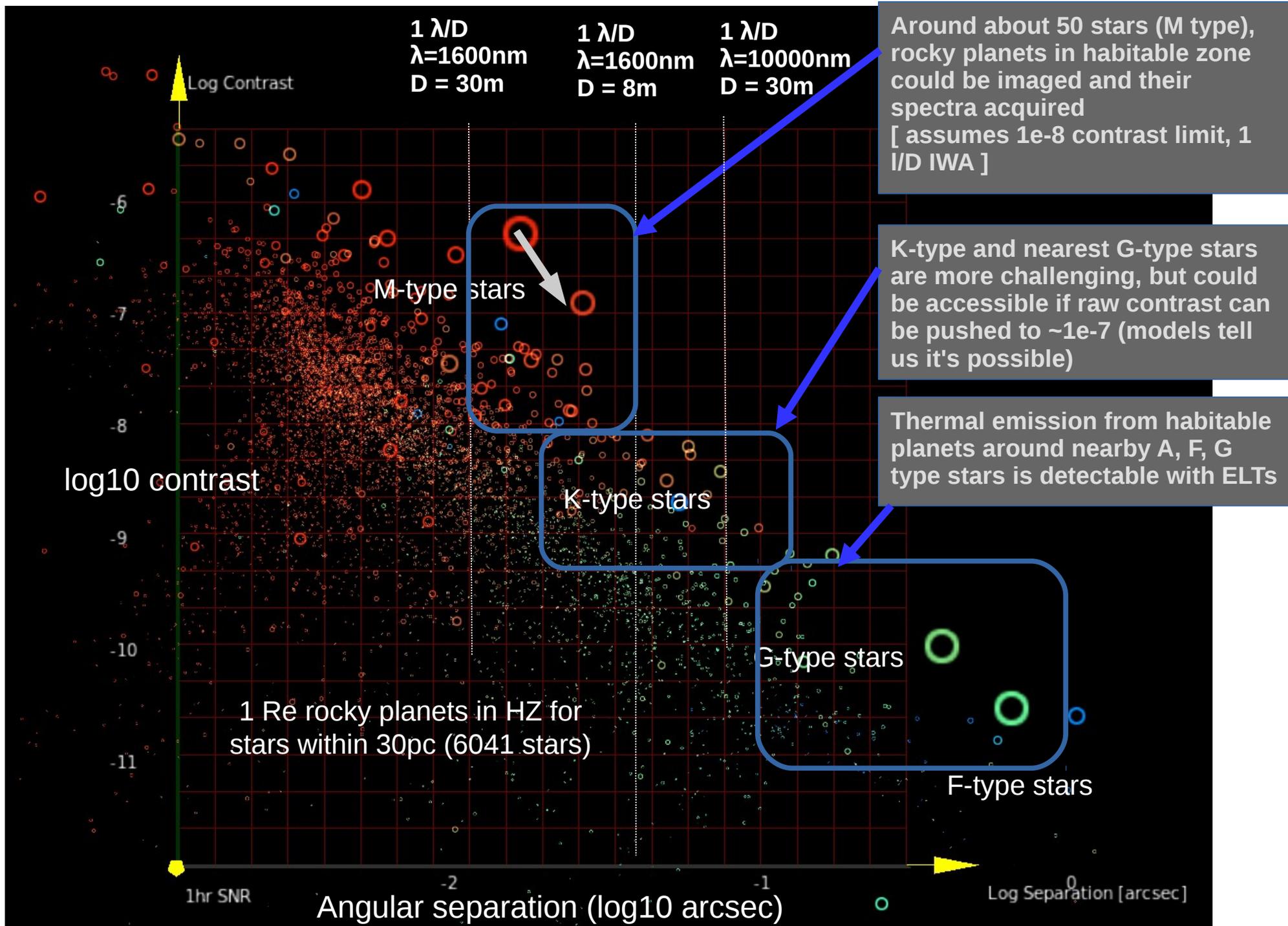
Saturn

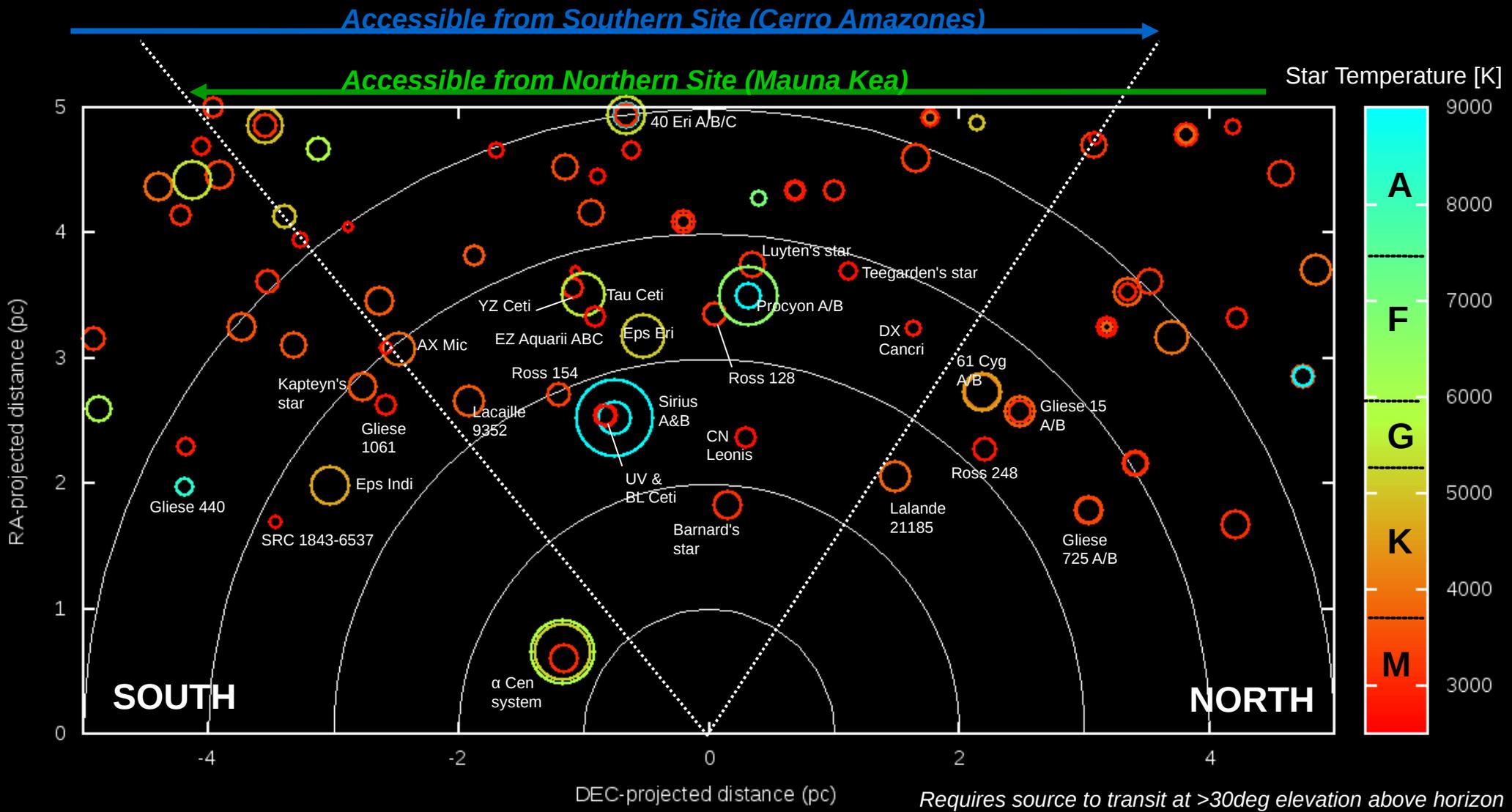
↑  
Earth

# Contrast and Angular separation

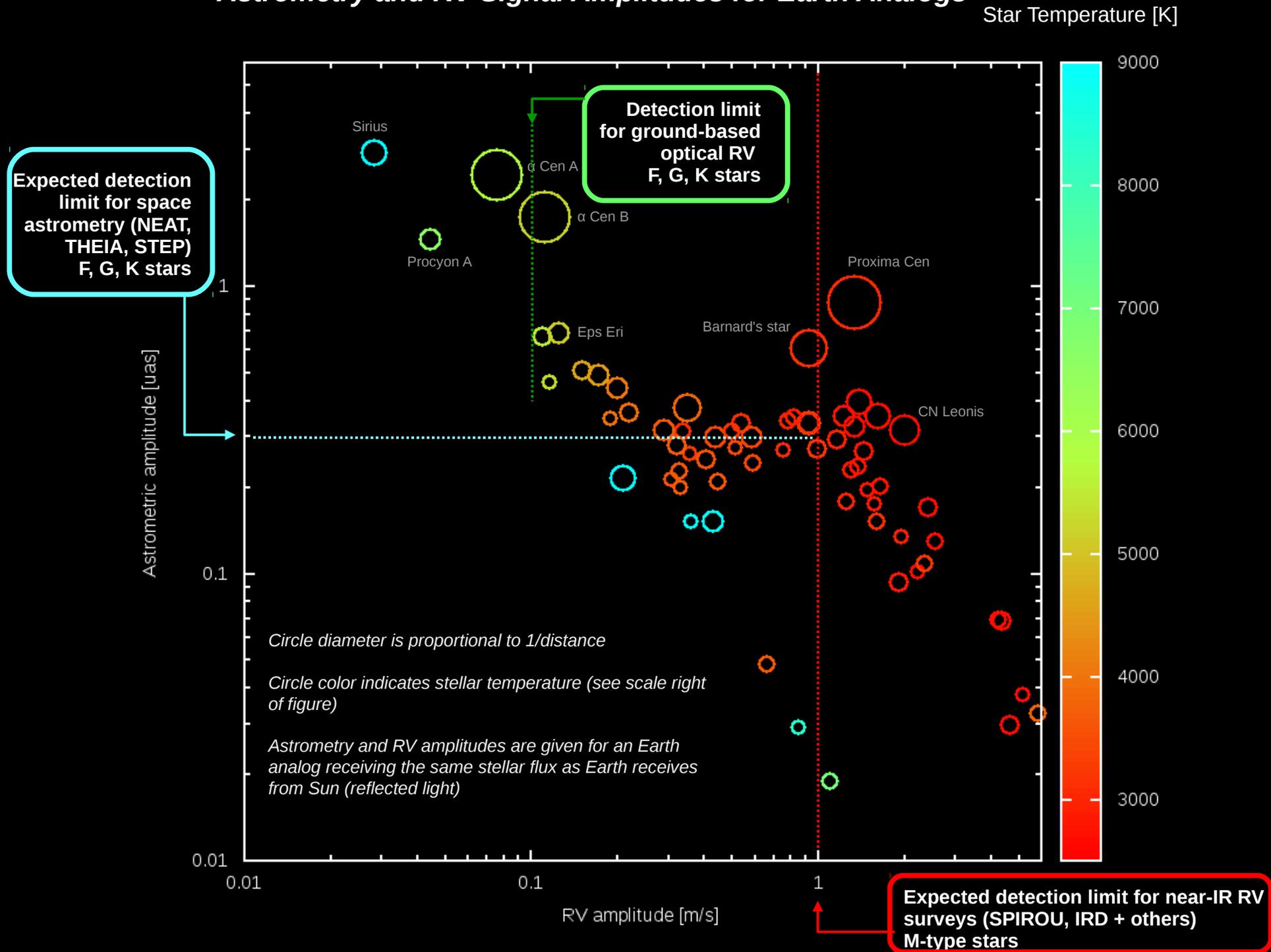


# Contrast and Angular separation (updated)





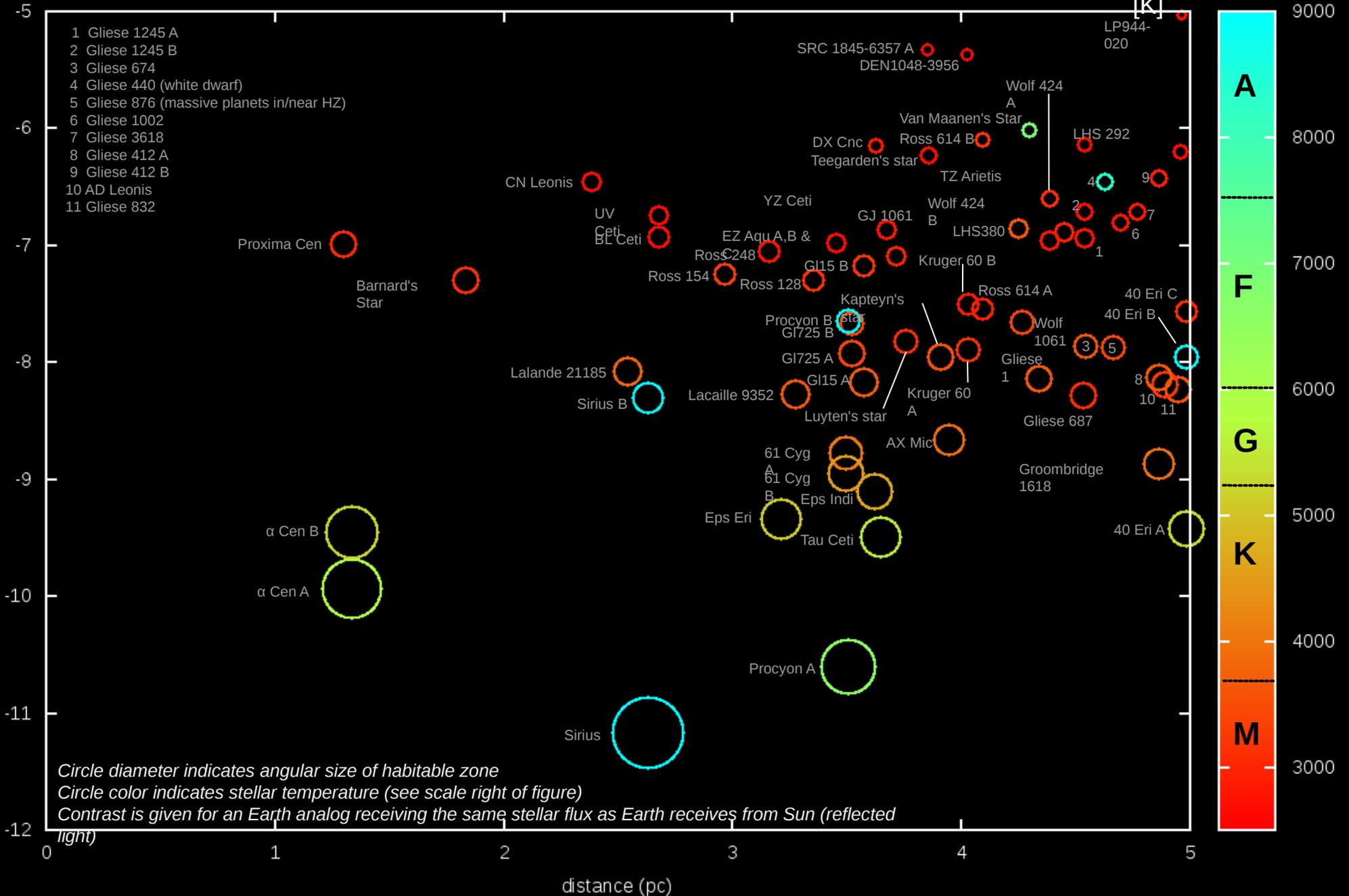
# Habitable Zones within 5 pc (16 ly): Astrometry and RV Signal Amplitudes for Earth Analogs



# Habitable Zones within 5 pc (16 ly)

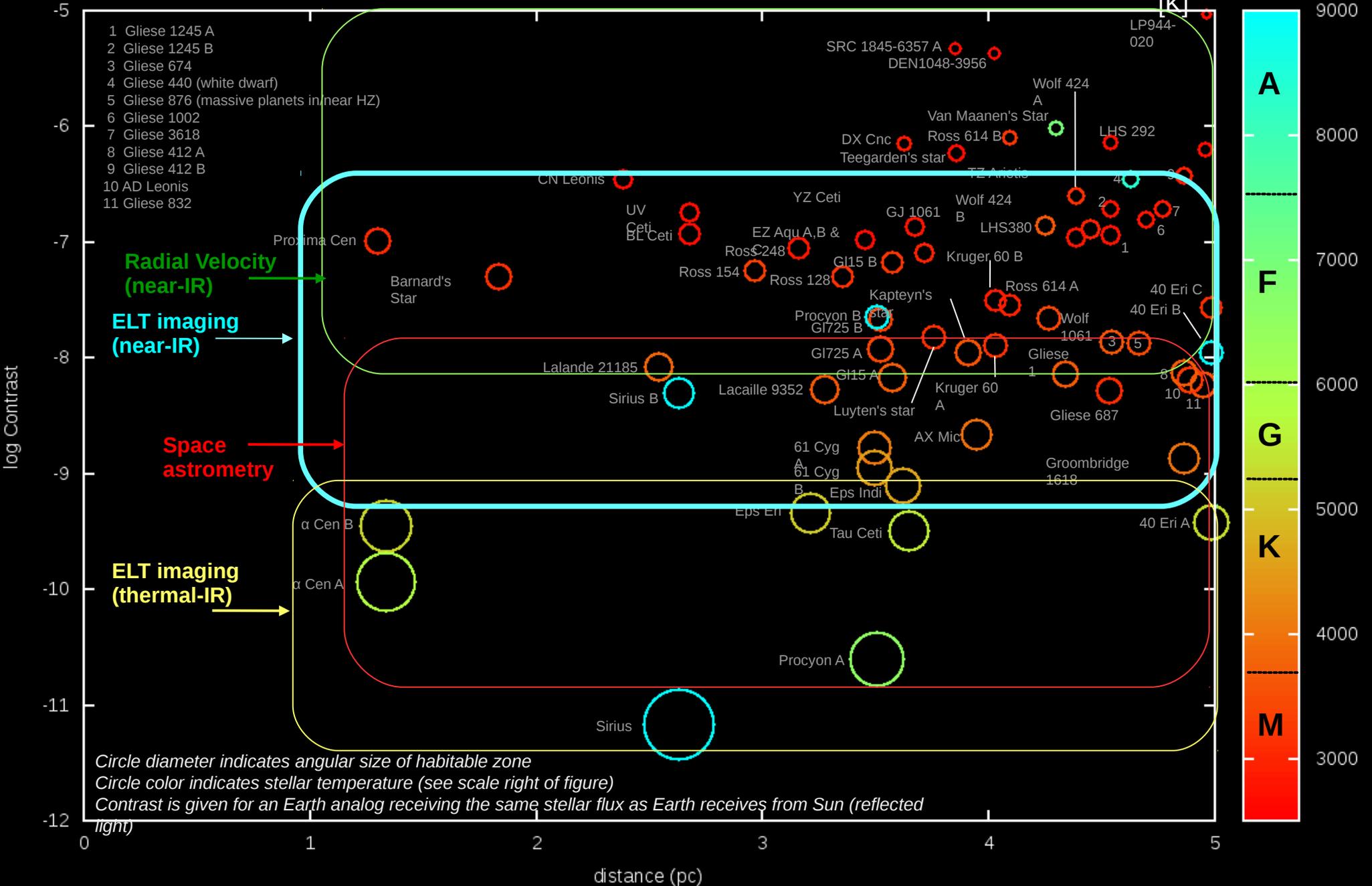
Star Temperature

[K]



# Habitable Zones within 5 pc (16 ly)

Star Temperature [K]



**BTW key effort**

Task force

R&D, Design, instrument work

On-sky observations

CY2016

CY2017

CY2018

CY2019

CY2020

CY2021

CY2022

CY2023

CY2024

CY2025

CY2026

# Searching for Earth-mass planets in the habitable zones of Alpha Cen A & B

## Alpha Cen Thermal Imaging

Uses existing large ground-based telescopes

Instruments/cameras development

On-sky observations

## Alpha Cen Astrometry (TOLIMAN)

30cm space telescope

Design

Fabrication, testing

Science operation [3yr]

If planet found

Alpha Cen planet characterization task force

Alpha Cen planet characterization mission(s) – BTW-led or BTW-assisted

# Finding and characterizing habitable worlds within 5pc

## Indirect detection, mass & orbit measurements of habitable planets within 5pc

Strategic investments in existing and future RV and astrometry projects

BTW participation to ground-based near-IR RV campaign (likely near-IR, possibly optical)

RV & Astrometry task force

BTW participation to space-based astrometry mission

## Imaging & spectroscopy of habitable planets within 5pc with ELTs

Development and deployment of instrumentation for spectroscopic characterization of rocky planets in habitable zones of stars within 5pc

ELT instrumentation task force

Technology development, lab and on-sky validation/prototyping

Instrument(s) design

Integration & testing

Targets

ELTs first light  
On-sky observations

Targets

On-sky experience

## R&D for 100m-class telescopes capable of exolife signatures detection

Explore designs/technologies for 100m-class telescopes optimized for detection of exolife signatures / in collaboration with Starshot beamer

Exolife signatures task force

Large telescope detailed design → construction

Large telescope design & technology development efforts

# Breakthrough Watch recommendations

## Phase #1 effort : Alpha Cen system

Key projects:

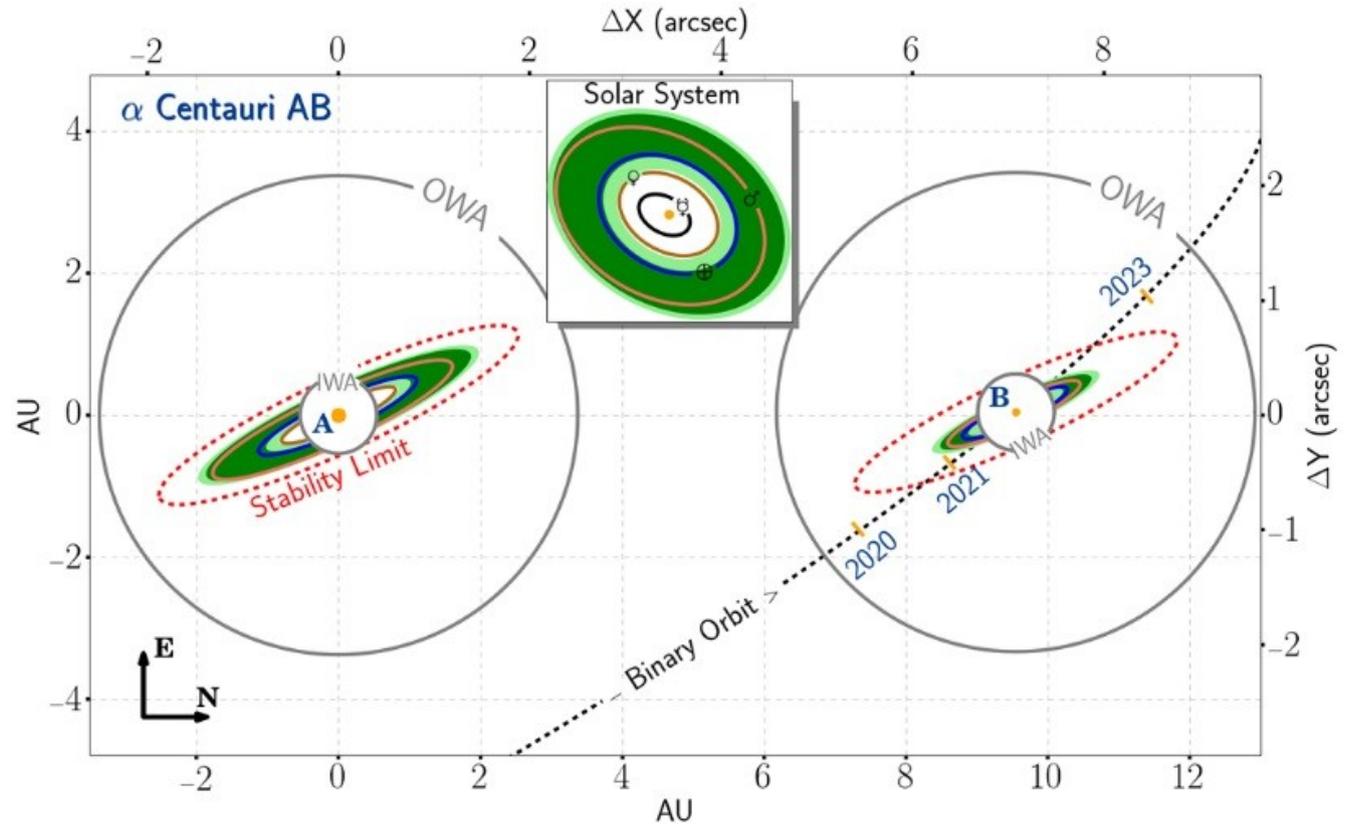
- 10um imaging with 8-m telescopes
  - Dedicated space astrometry mission
- + support activities for RV, space visible imaging ?

## Phase #2 effort: starts within 5pc

Key project(s):

- Direct imaging with ELTs, 10um (Sun-like stars)
  - **Direct imaging with ELTs, near-IR (M-type stars)**
- + participation to space missions: astrometry, imaging ?

# Alpha Cen Space Astrometry Mission



Measure accurately the angular separation between Alpha Cen A & B

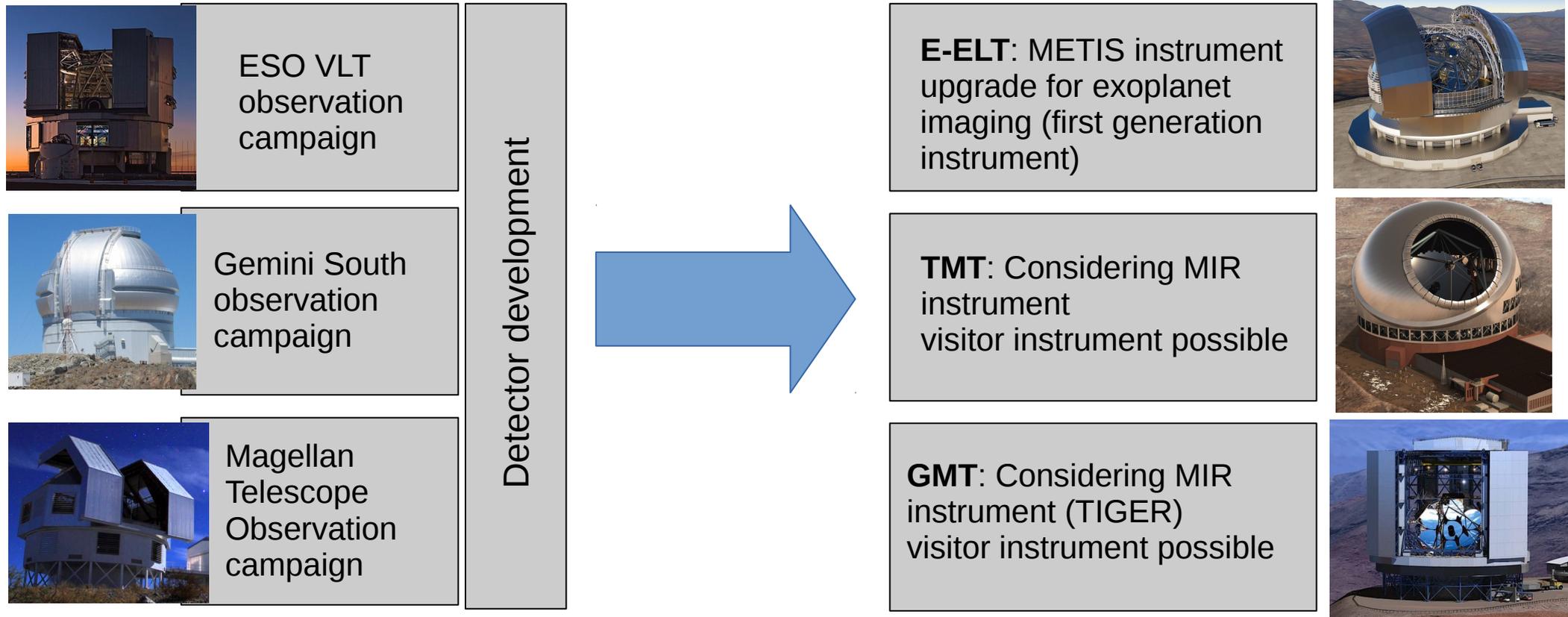
Habitable plane would modulate the separation by few uas

# 10um Ground Based Imaging

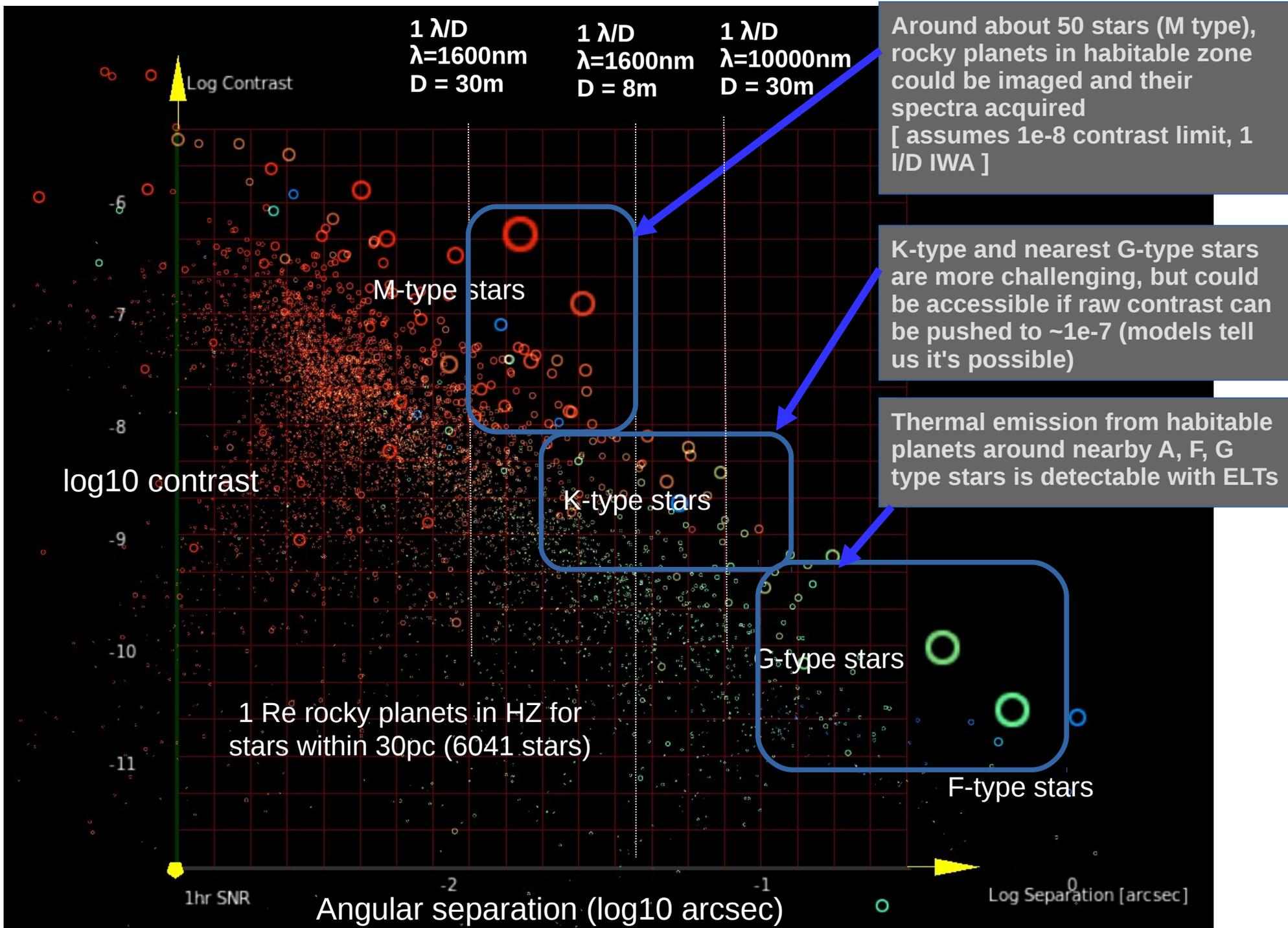
Phase 1 (Alpha Cen, VLT/Gemini/Magellan) effort will enable Phase 2 (ELTs) imaging and characterization of habitable planets around a dozen nearby stars

Thermal IR imaging/spectroscopy detects habitable exoplanets, measures radius and temperature + some chemical species (CO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, O<sub>3</sub>)

Overlap with space missions targets (reflected visible light) → Direct measurement of greenhouse effect and detailed characterization of atmospheres.



# Contrast and Angular separation



# We need a Coronagraph ...

## Requirements ...

- IWA near 1 I/D
- high throughput ( $>\sim 50\%$  @ 2 I/D)
- $\sim 1e-6$  raw contrast
- resilient against stellar angular size (ELTs partially resolve stars)

## ... can be met now

At least two approaches meet requirements: Vortex, PIAACMC  
Performance demonstrated in lab on centrally obscured pupil (WFIRST)  
in visible light. Designs for segmented apertures have been produced  
(see next slides) but not tested.

No component-level significant challenge, but system-level performance  
has yet to be demonstrated on-sky

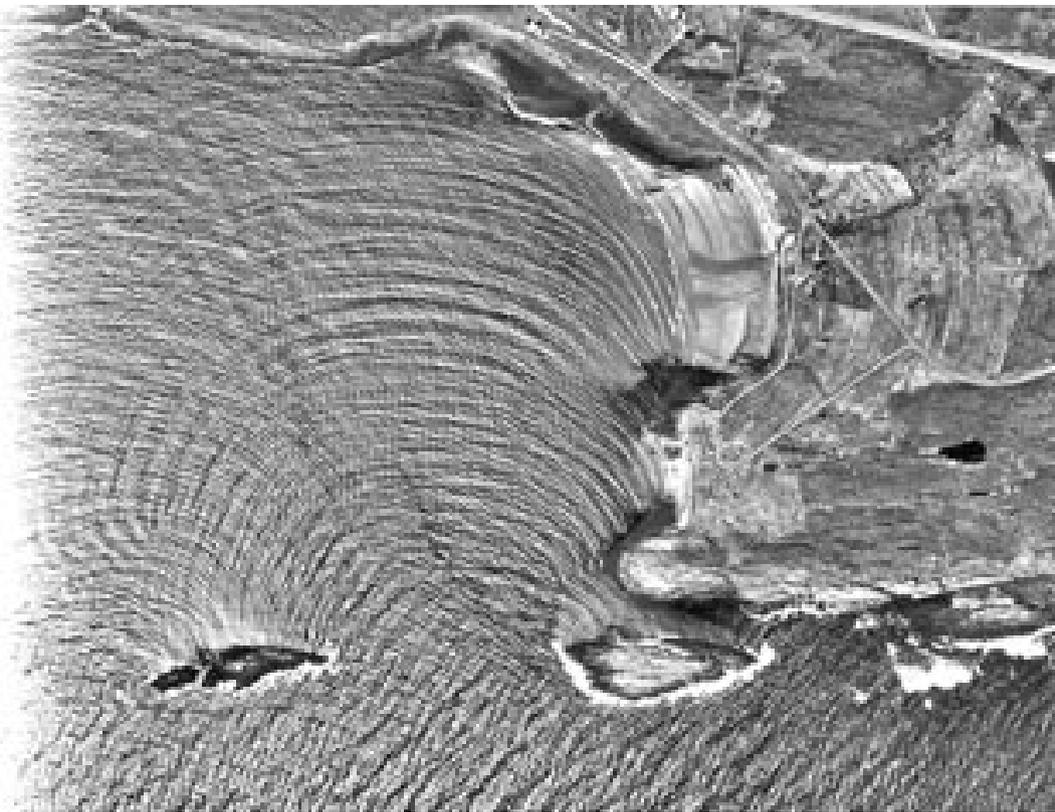
# ***Coronagraphy ... Using optics tricks to remove starlight (without removing planet light)***



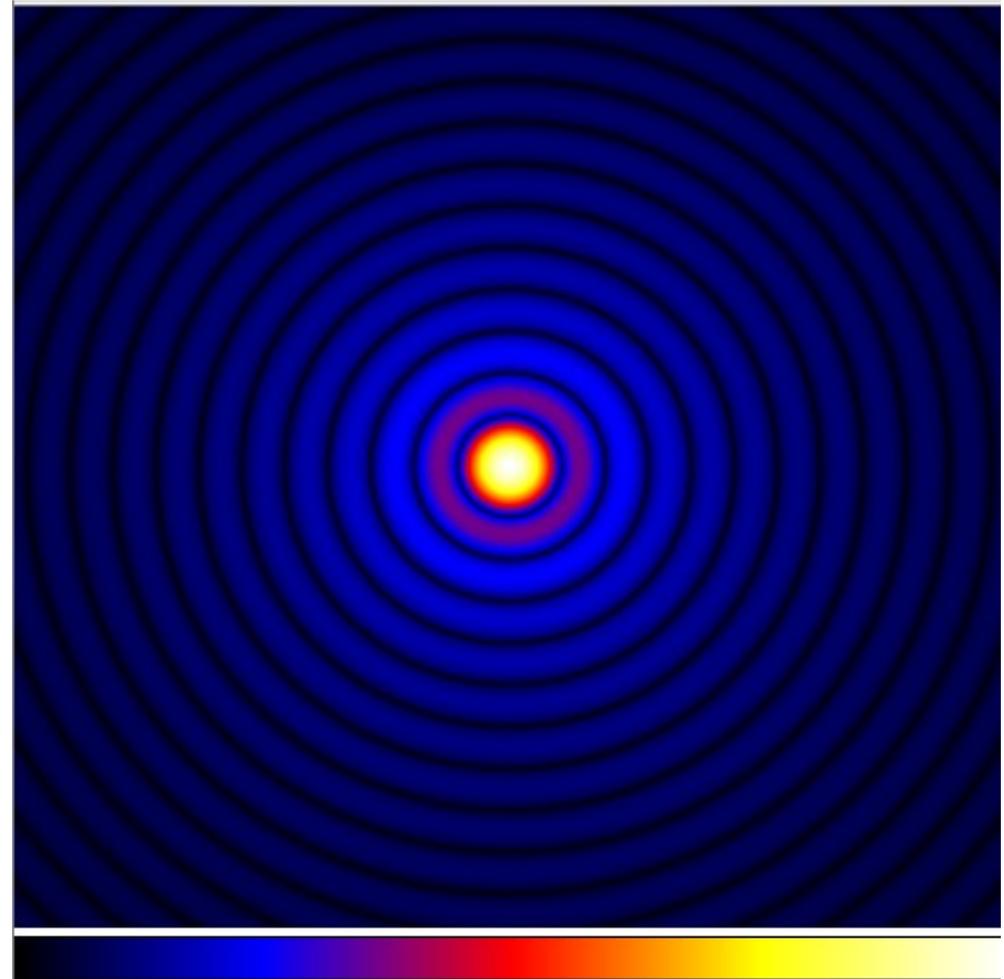
← Olivier's thumb...  
the easiest coronagraph  
Doesn't work well enough to  
see planets around other stars

We need a better coronagraph... and a larger eye (telescope)

# Water waves diffract around obstacles, edges, and so does light

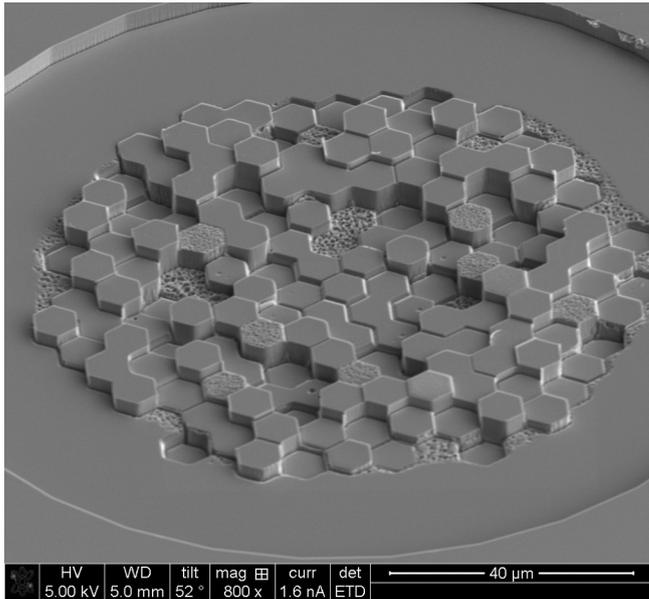


Waves diffracted by coastline and islands

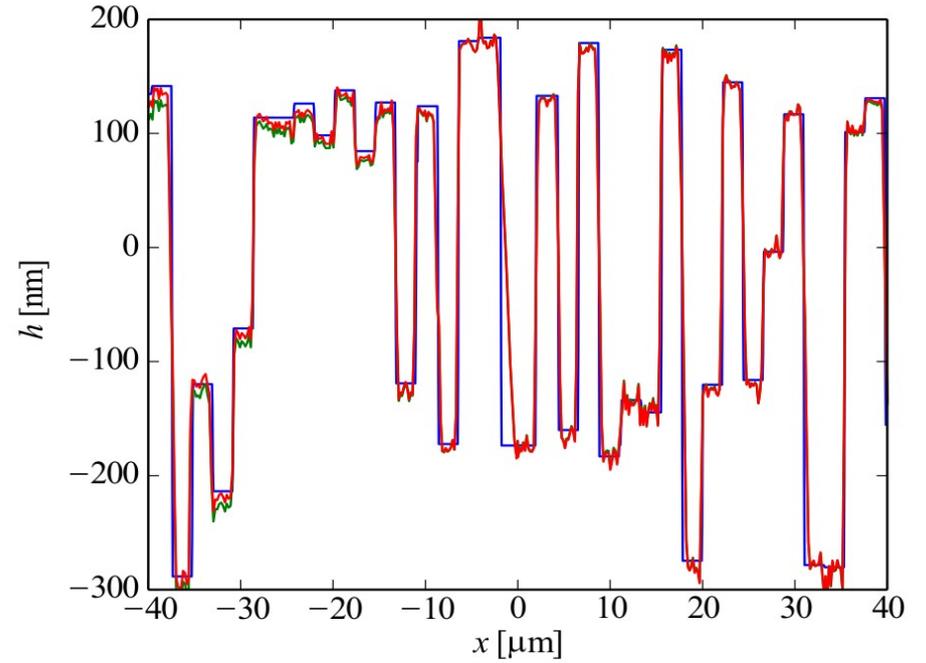
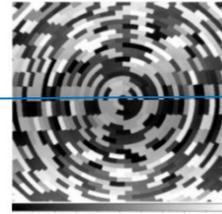


Ideal image of a distant star by a telescope  
Diffraction rings around the image core

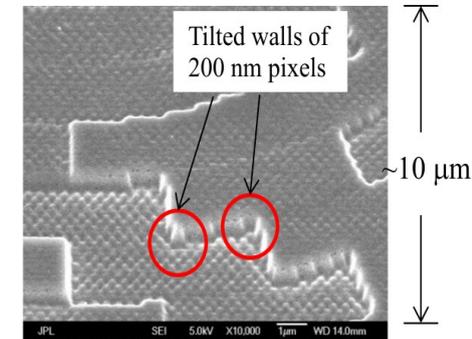
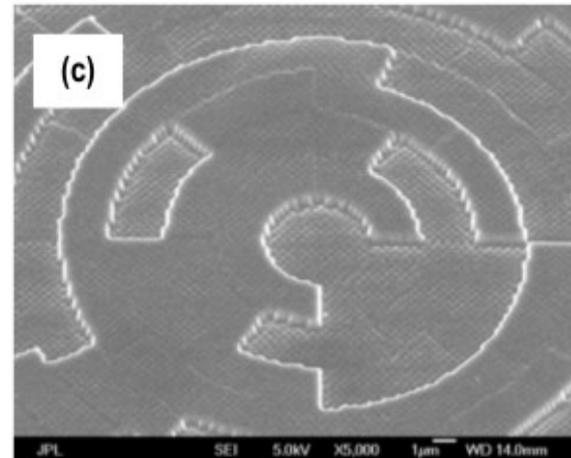
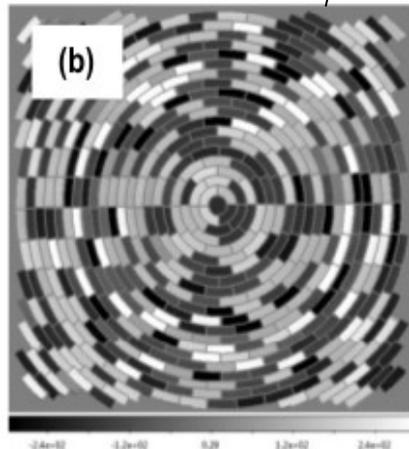
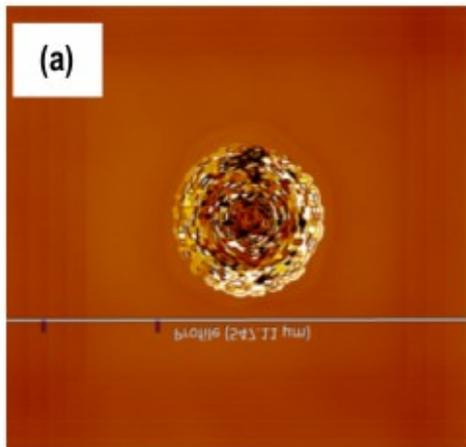
# PIAACMC focal plane mask manufacturing



← SCEXAO focal plane mask (Mar 2017)



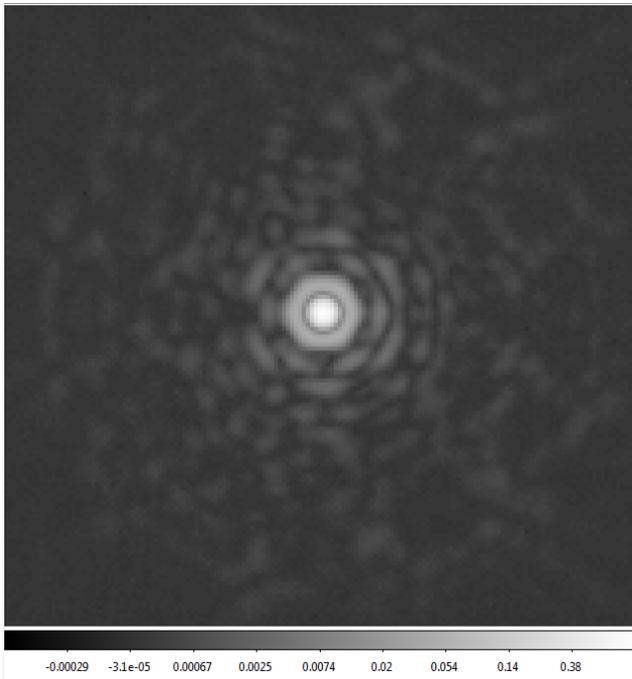
Focal plane mask manufactured at JPL's MDL  
Meets performance requirements  
(WFIRST PIAACMC Milestone report)



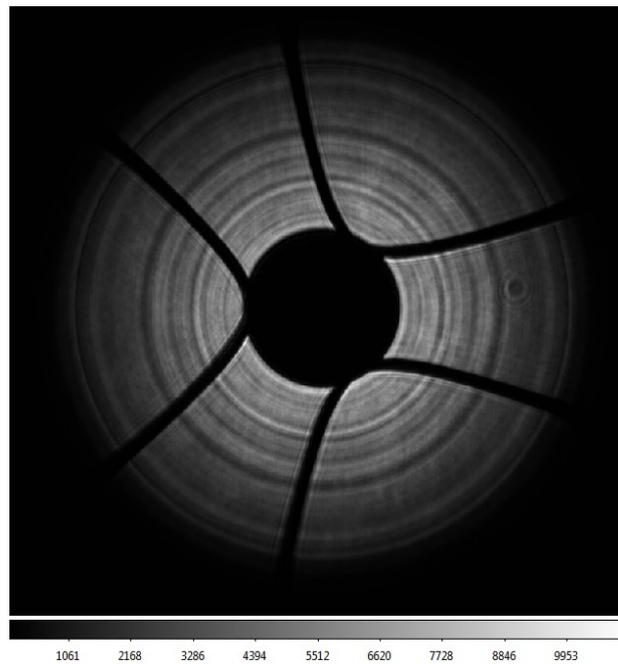
# PIAACMC lab performance @ WFIRST (Kern et al. 2016)

Operates at  $1e-7$  contrast, 1.3 I/D IWA, 70% throughput  
Visible light

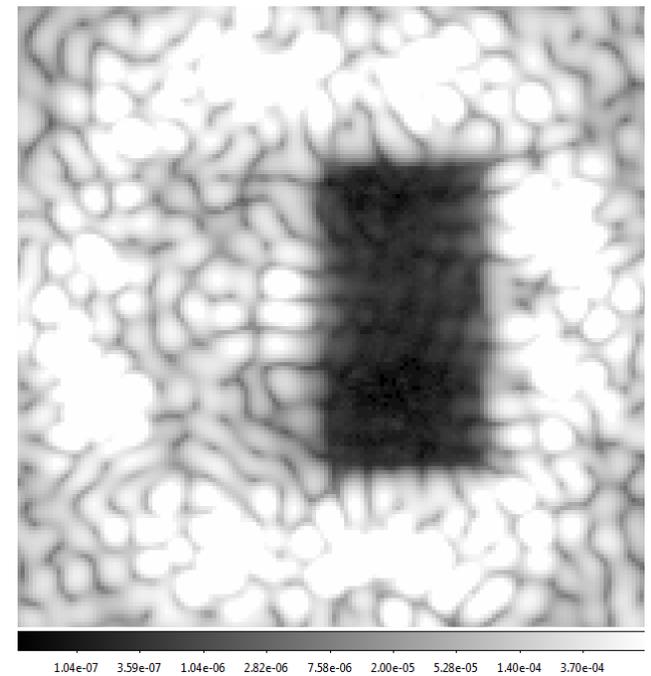
non-coronagraphic PSF



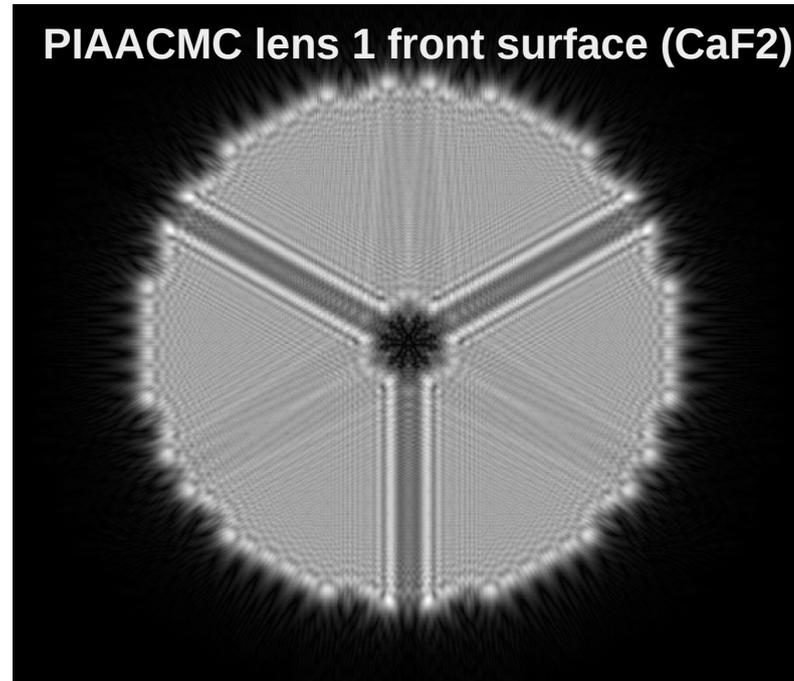
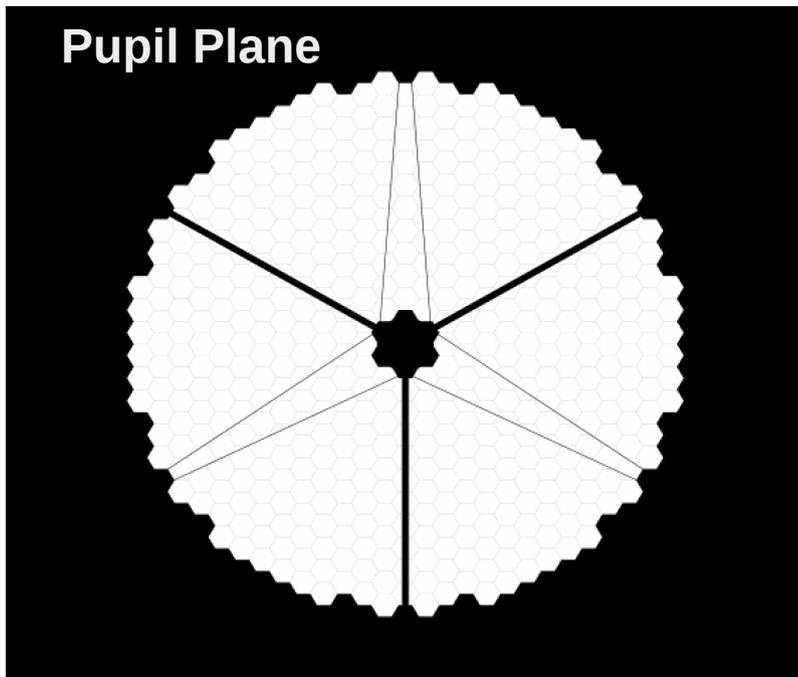
Remapped pupil



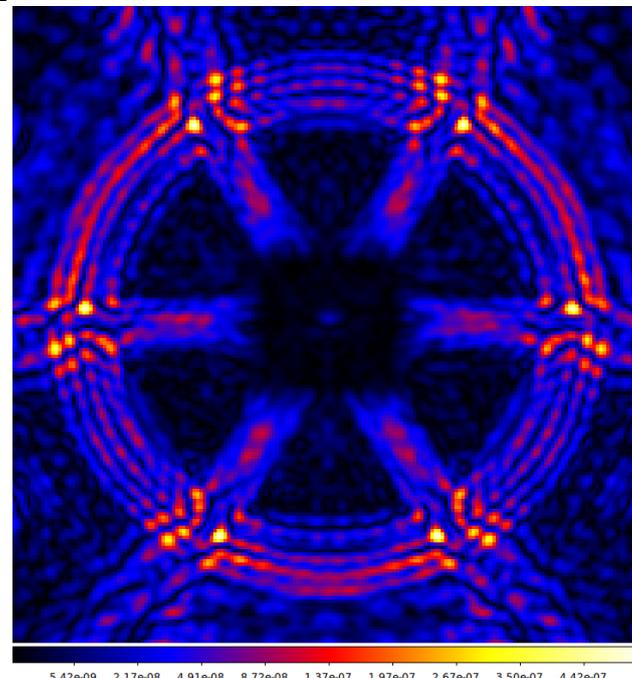
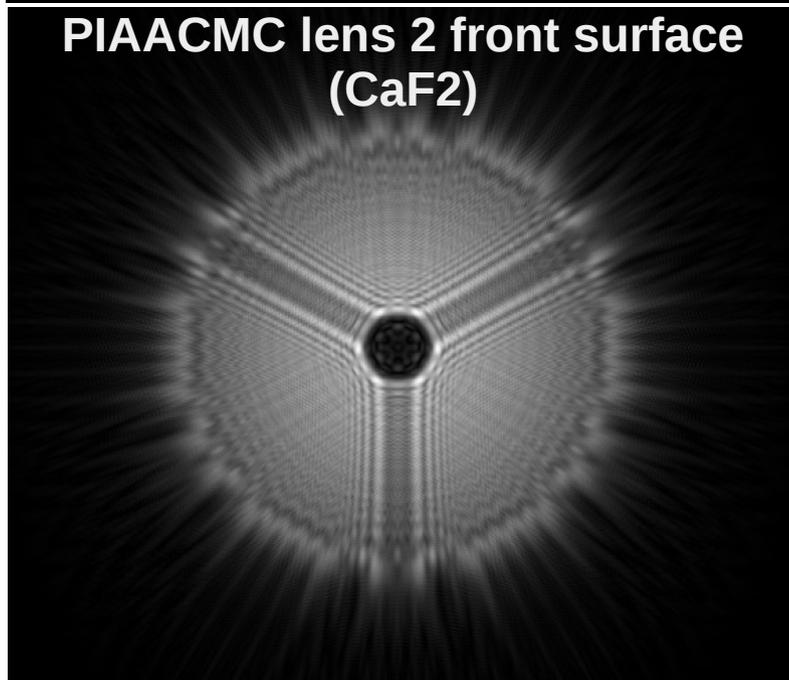
Coronagraphic image



# TMT coronagraph design for 1 I/D IWA



To be updated with new pupil shape



PSF at  
1600nm

3e-9 contrast  
in 1.2 to 8 I/D

80% off-axis  
throughput

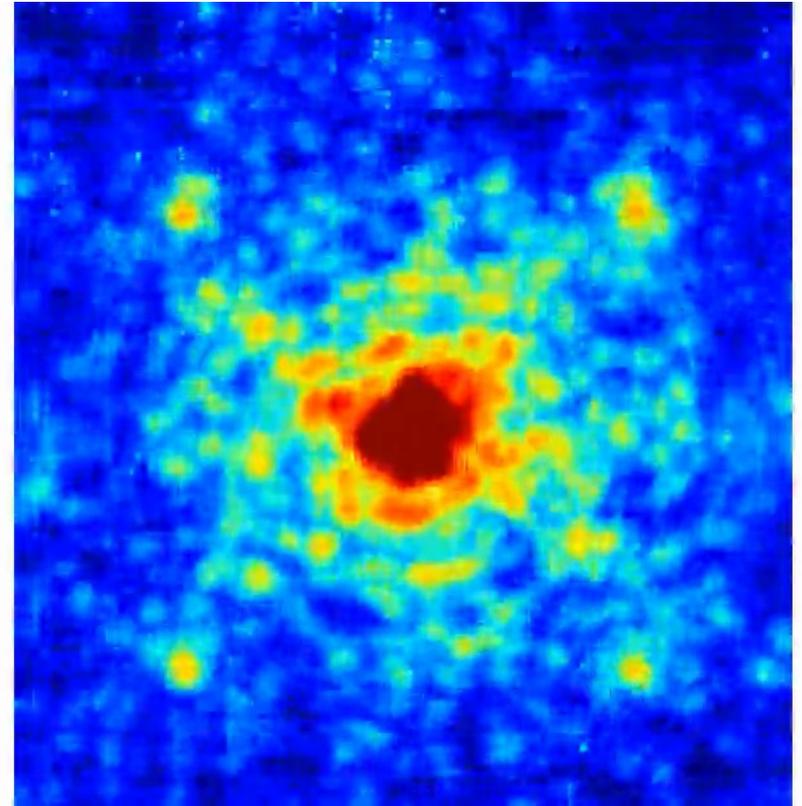
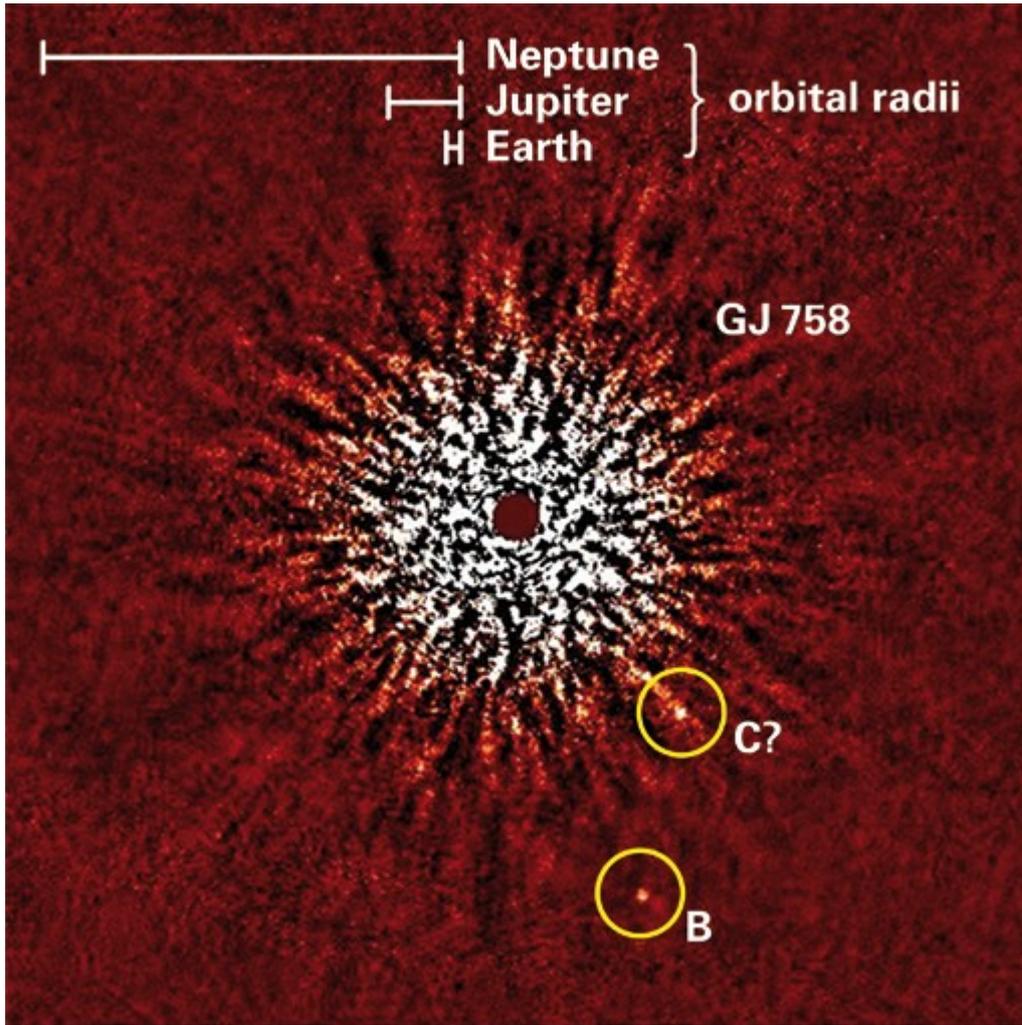
1.2 I/D IWA

CaF2 lenses  
SiO2 mask

5.42e-09 2.17e-08 4.91e-08 8.72e-08 1.37e-07 1.97e-07 2.67e-07 3.50e-07 4.42e-07

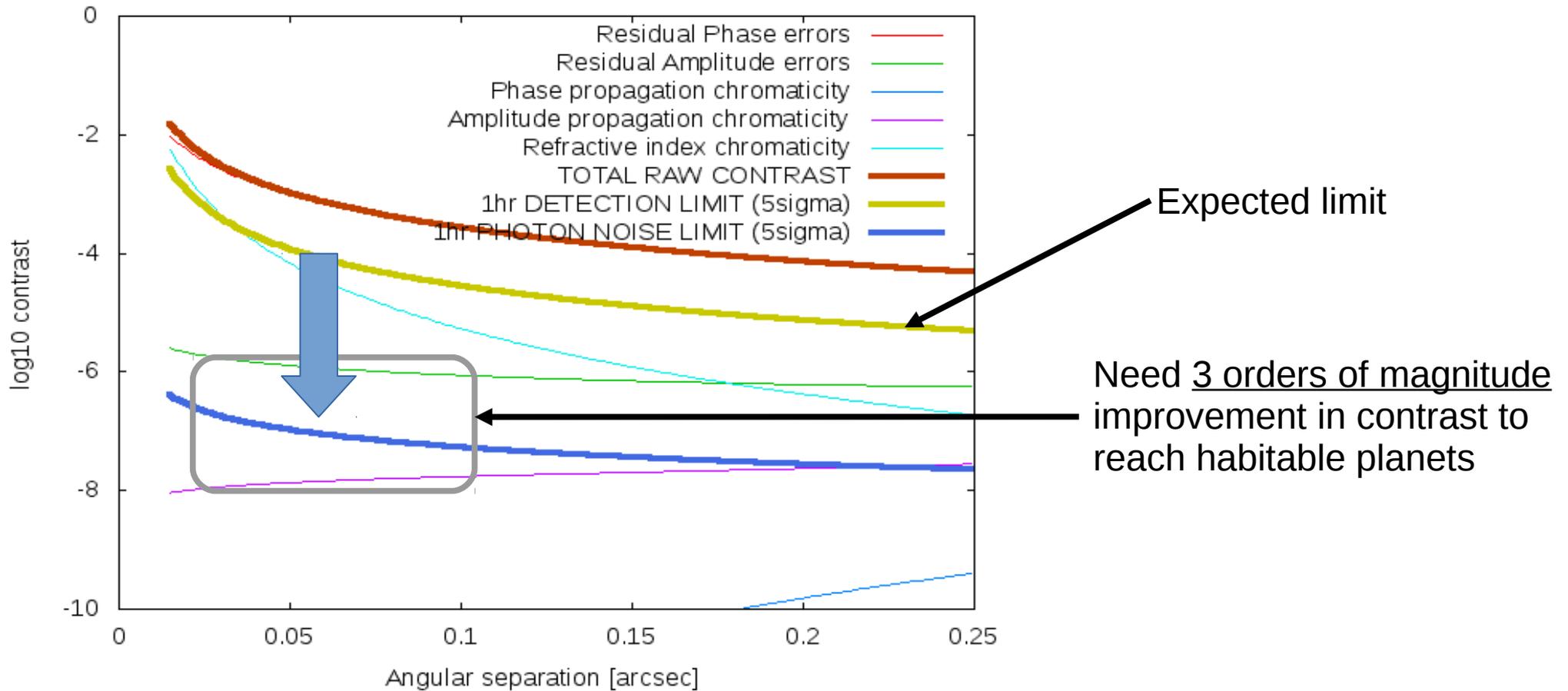
# What about speckles ?

H-band fast frame imaging (1.6 kHz)



# PREVIOUS technologies

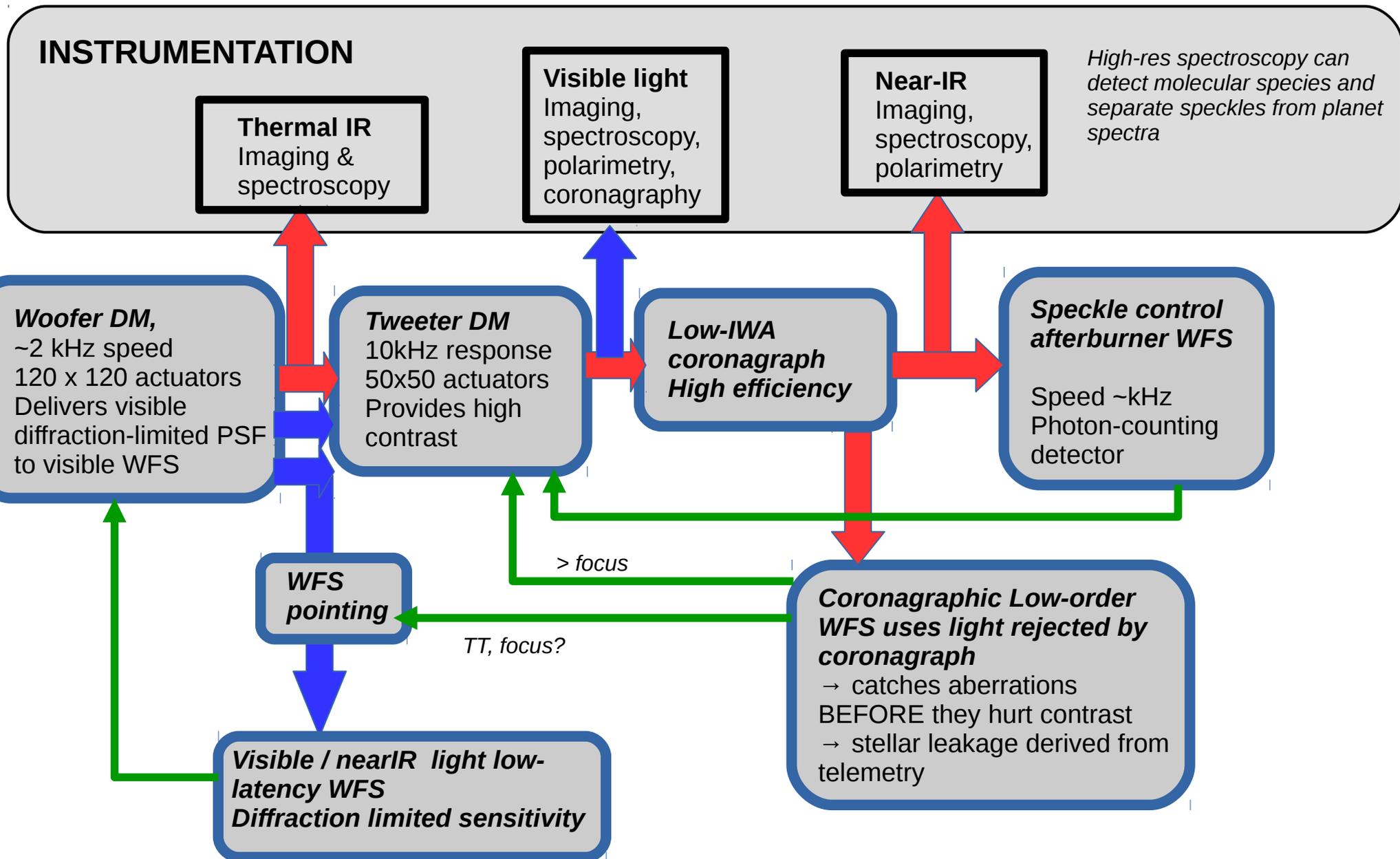
*30m: SH-based system, 15cm subapertures*



Limited by residual OPD errors: time lag + WFS noise  
kHz loop (no benefit from running faster) – same speed as 8m telescope  
>10kph per WFS required

Detection limit  $\sim 1e-3$  at IWA, **POOR AVERAGING** due to crossing time

# Nominal ELT ExAO system architecture



# Wavefront Control: challenges ... and solutions

## **[1] High-efficiency WFS**

M stars are not very bright for ExAO → need high efficiency WFS

For low-order modes (TT), seeing-limited (SHWFS) requires  $(D/r_0)^2$  times more light than diffraction-limited WFS (Pyramid)

This is a **40,000x gain for 30m telescope** (assuming  $r_0=15\text{cm}$ ) → 11.5 mag gain

## **[2] Low latency WFC** (High-speed WFS + predictive control)

System lag is extremely problematic → creates “ghost” slow speckles that last crossing time

Need ~200us latency (10 kHz system, or slower system + lag compensation)

Predictive control is essential

## **[3] Managing chromaticity: Multi-wavelength WFC / LOWFS, closed loop ADC**

Wavefront chromaticity is a serious concern when working at  $\sim 1e-8$  contrast

Visible light ( $\sim 0.6 - 0.8 \mu\text{m}$ ) photon carry most of the WF information, but science is in near-IR

## **[4] Fast speckle control, enabled by new detector technologies**

Addresses non-common path errors

It doesn't take much to create a  $1e-8$  speckle !

## **[5] Real-time telemetry** → PSF calibration

WFS telemetry tells us where speckles are → significant gain using telemetry into post-processing

# Predictive control → 100x contrast gain

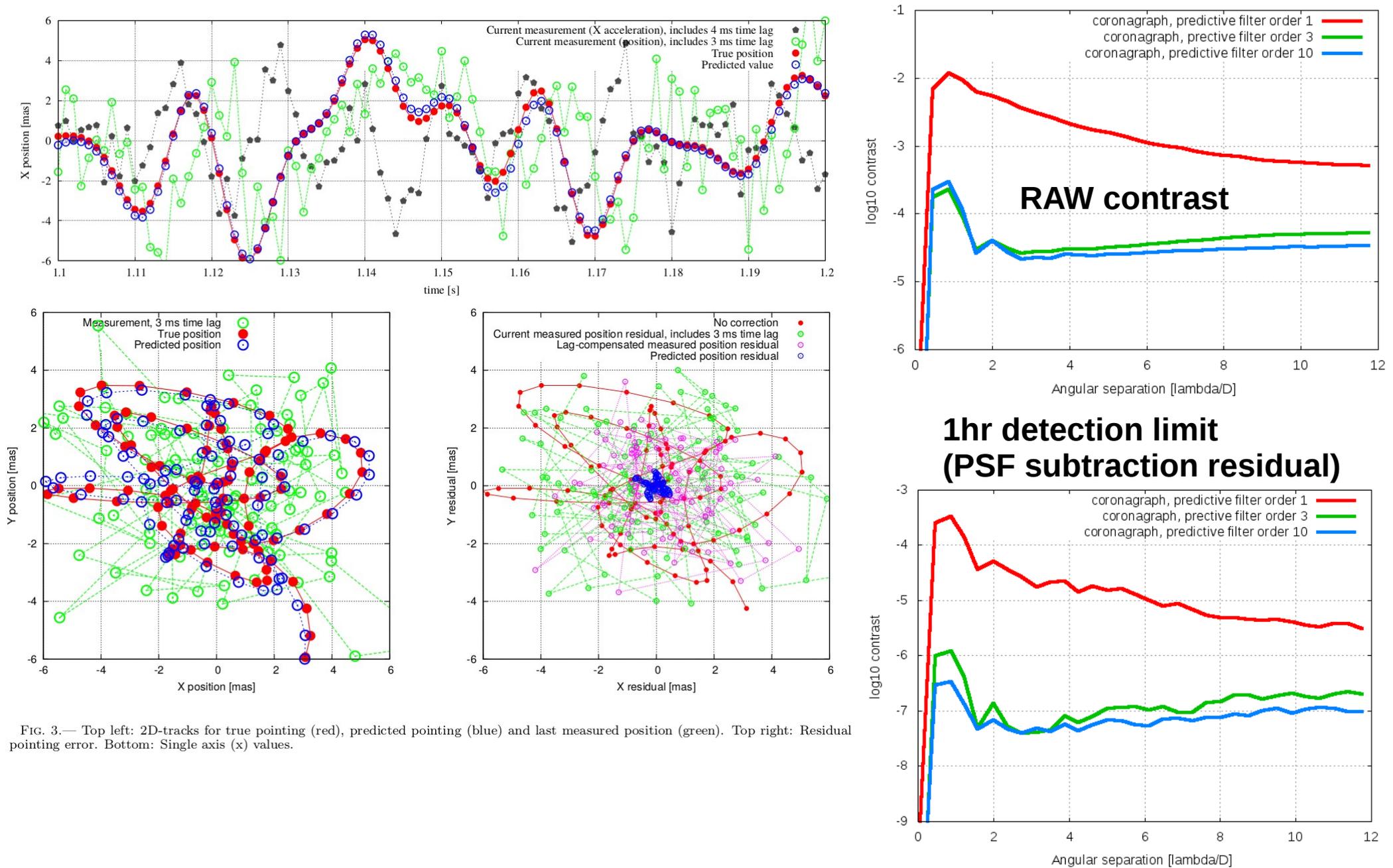
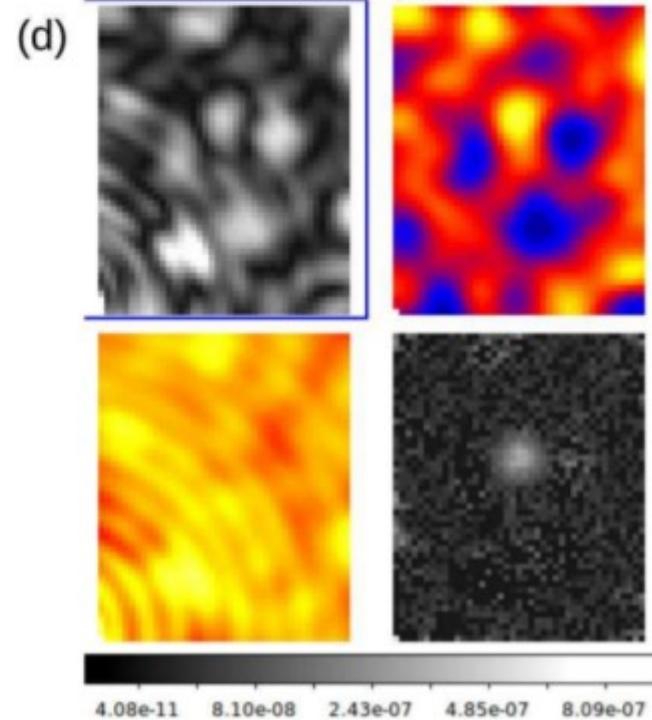
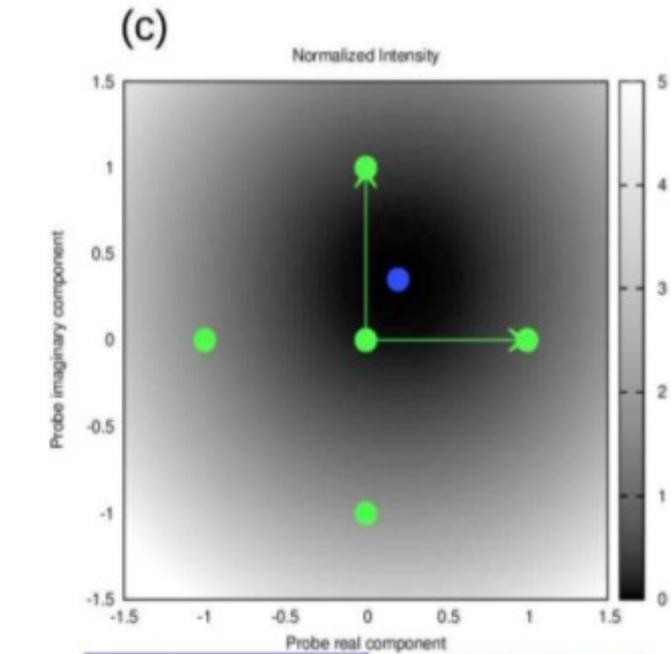
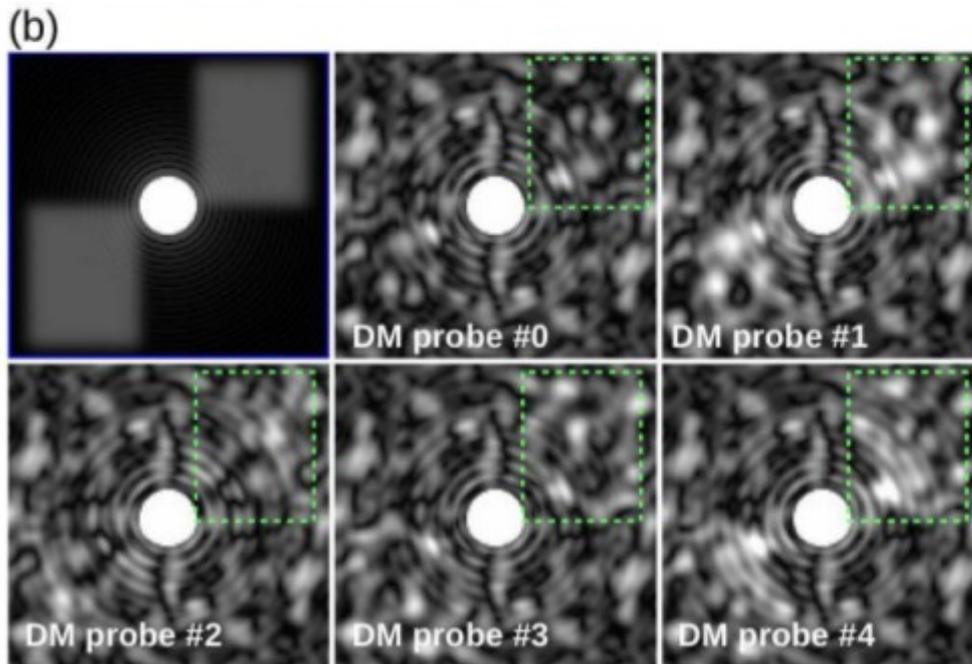
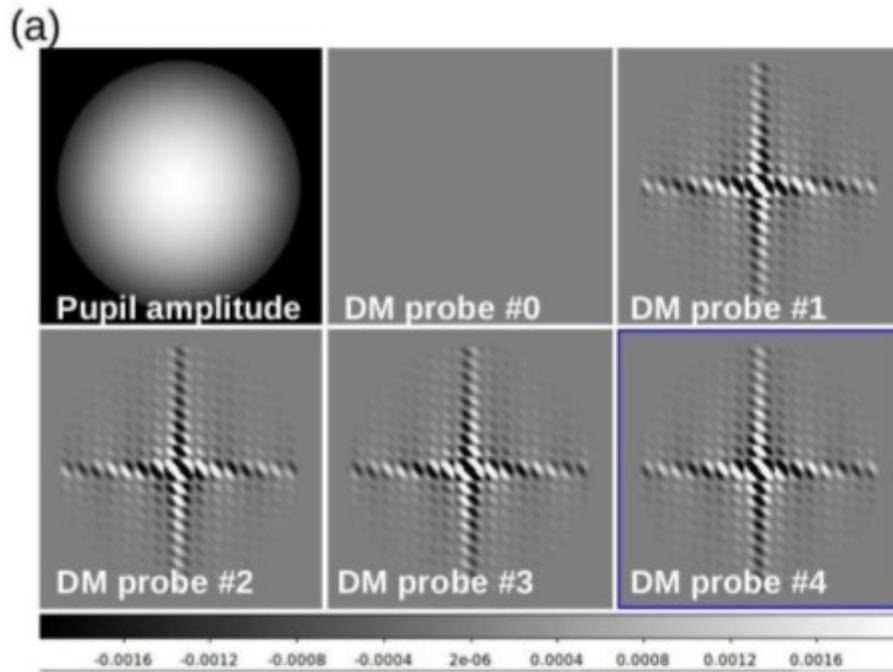


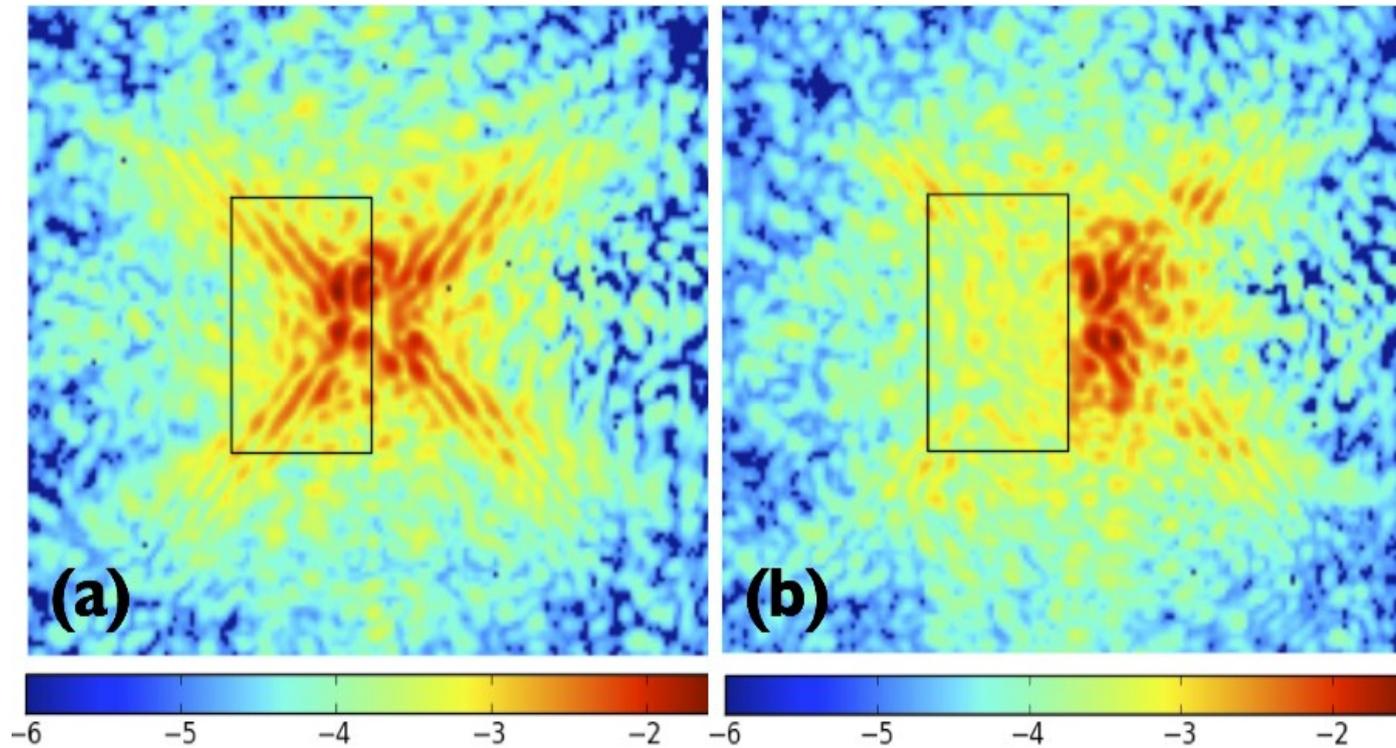
FIG. 3.— Top left: 2D-tracks for true pointing (red), predicted pointing (blue) and last measured position (green). Top right: Residual pointing error. Bottom: Single axis (x) values.

# Coherent Speckle Differential Imaging



# Speckle control

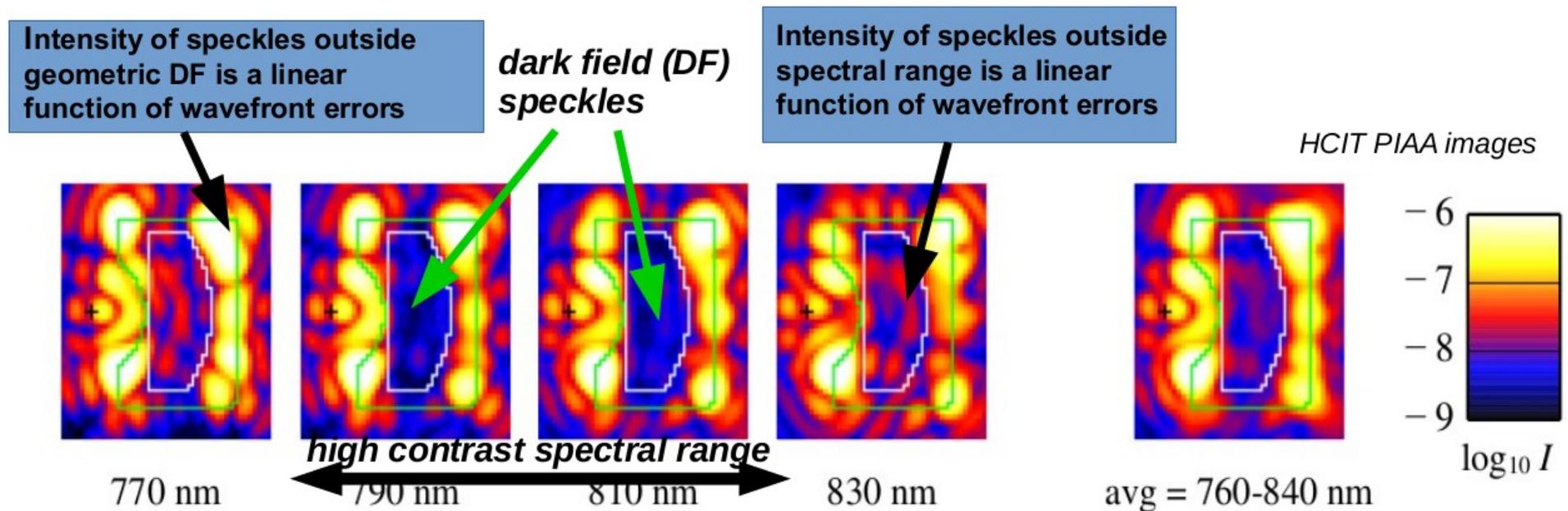
→ remove speckles in  $\frac{1}{2}$  field dark hole



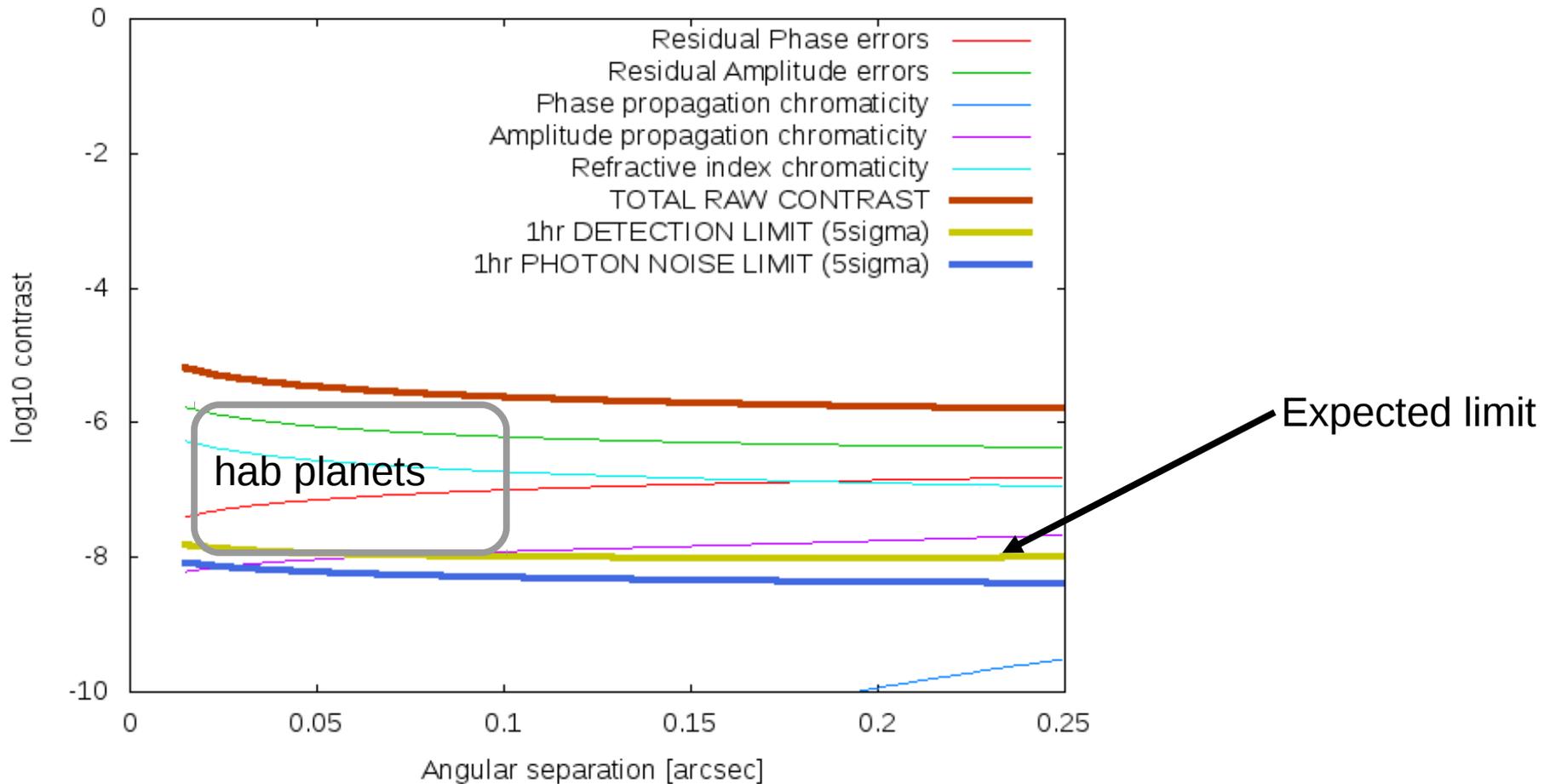
# Linear Dark Field Control (LDFC)

Speckle intensity in the DF are a non-linear function of wavefront errors  
→ current wavefront control technique uses several images (each obtained with a different DM shape) and a non-linear reconstruction algorithm (for example, Electric Field Conjugation – EFC)

**Speckle intensity in the BF are linearly coupled to wavefront errors → we have developed a new control scheme using BF light to freeze the wavefront and therefore prevent light from appearing inside the DF**



# CURRENT technologies



300Hz speckle control loop (~1kHz frame rate) is optimal

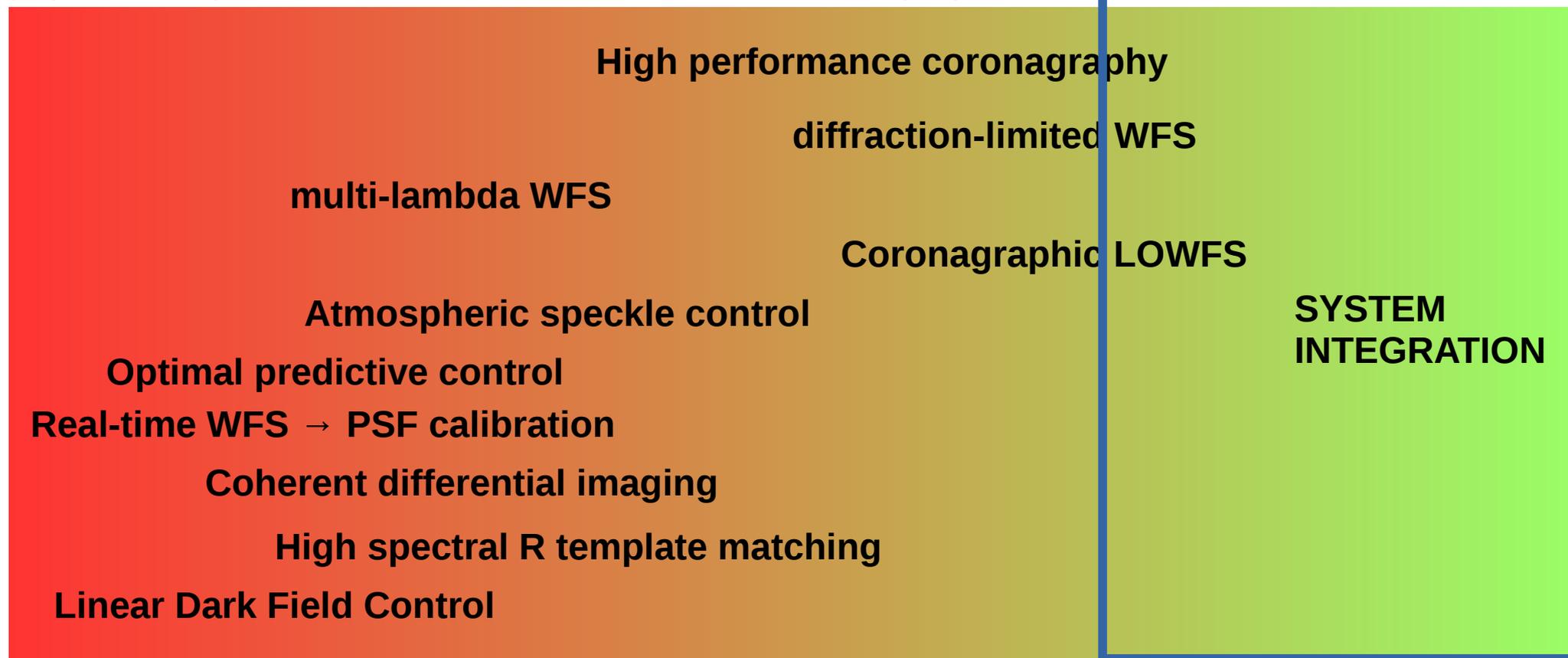
Residual speckle at ~1e-6 contrast and fast → good averaging to detection limit at ~1e-8

# Key technologies need rapid maturation from paper concepts to system integration

paper concept

Lab demo

on-sky operation





# Subaru Coronagraphic Extreme Adaptive Optics

- **Flexible** high contrast imaging platform
- Meant to **evolve to TMT instrument** and validate key technologies required for direct imaging and spectroscopy of habitable exoplanets

Core system funded by Japan

Modules/instruments funded by Japan + international partners:

- IFS funded by Japan, built by Princeton Univ
- MKIDs funded by Japan, built by UCSC
- SAPHIRA camera provided by UH
- VAMPIRES instrument funded and built by Australia
- FIRST instrument funded and built by Europe

***SCEXAO is an international platform to prepare ELT imaging of habitable planets around M-type stars***

# Modules

The wavefront control feeds a high Strehl PSF to various modules, from 600 nm to K band.

## Visible (600 - 950 nm):

**VAMPIRES**, non-redundant masking, polarimetry, with spectral differential imaging capability (h-alpha, SII)

**FIRST**, non-redundant remapping interferometer, with spectroscopic analysis

**RHEA**, single mode fiber injection, high-res spectroscopy, high-spatial resolution on resolved stars

## IR (950-2400 nm):

**HiCIAO** - high contrast image (y to K-band)

**SAPHIRA** - high-speed photon counting imager, (H-band for now)

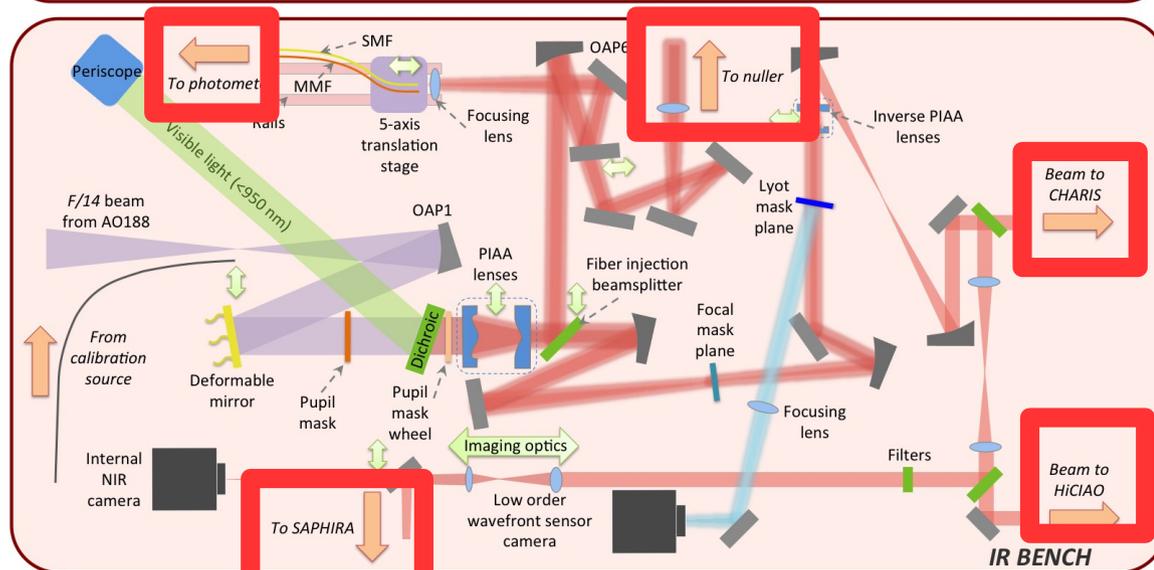
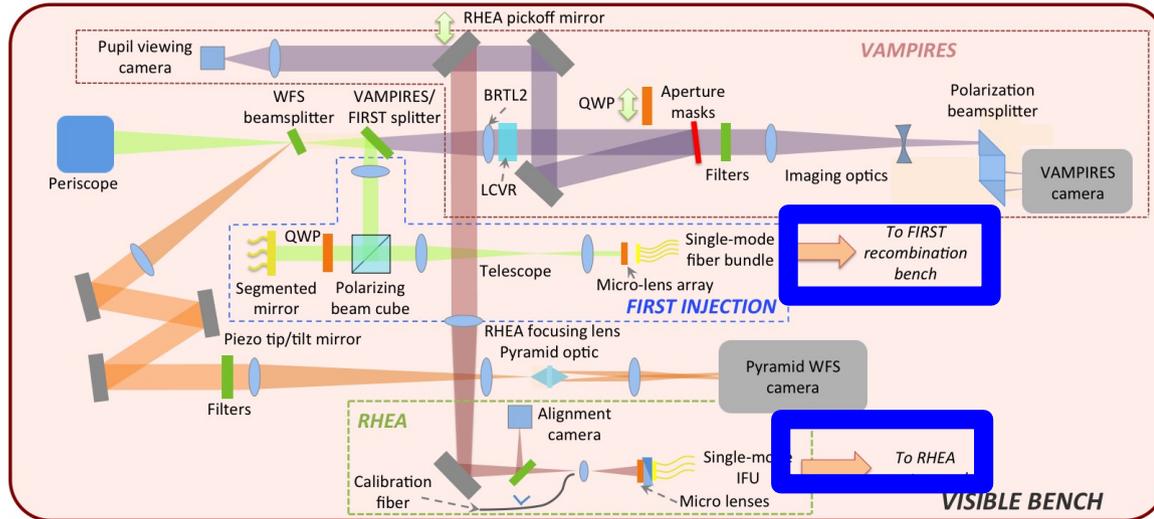
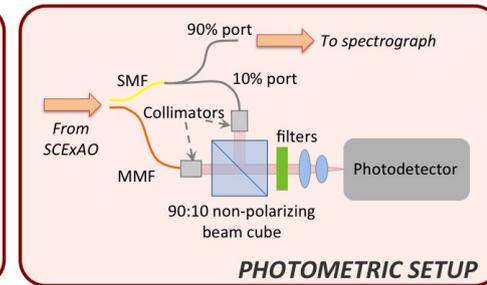
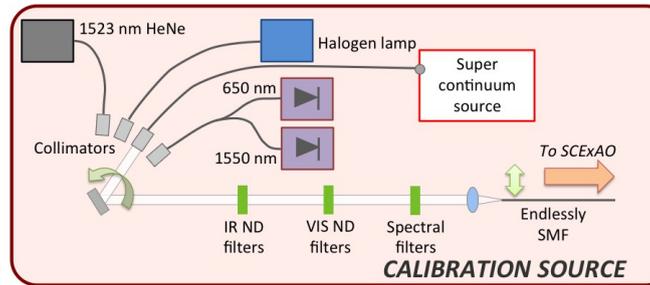
**CHARIS** - IFS (J to K-band)

**MEC - MKIDs** detector, high-speed, energy discriminating photon counting imager (y to J-band)

**NIR single mode injection**, high throughput high resolution spectroscopy. Soon will be connected to the new IRD

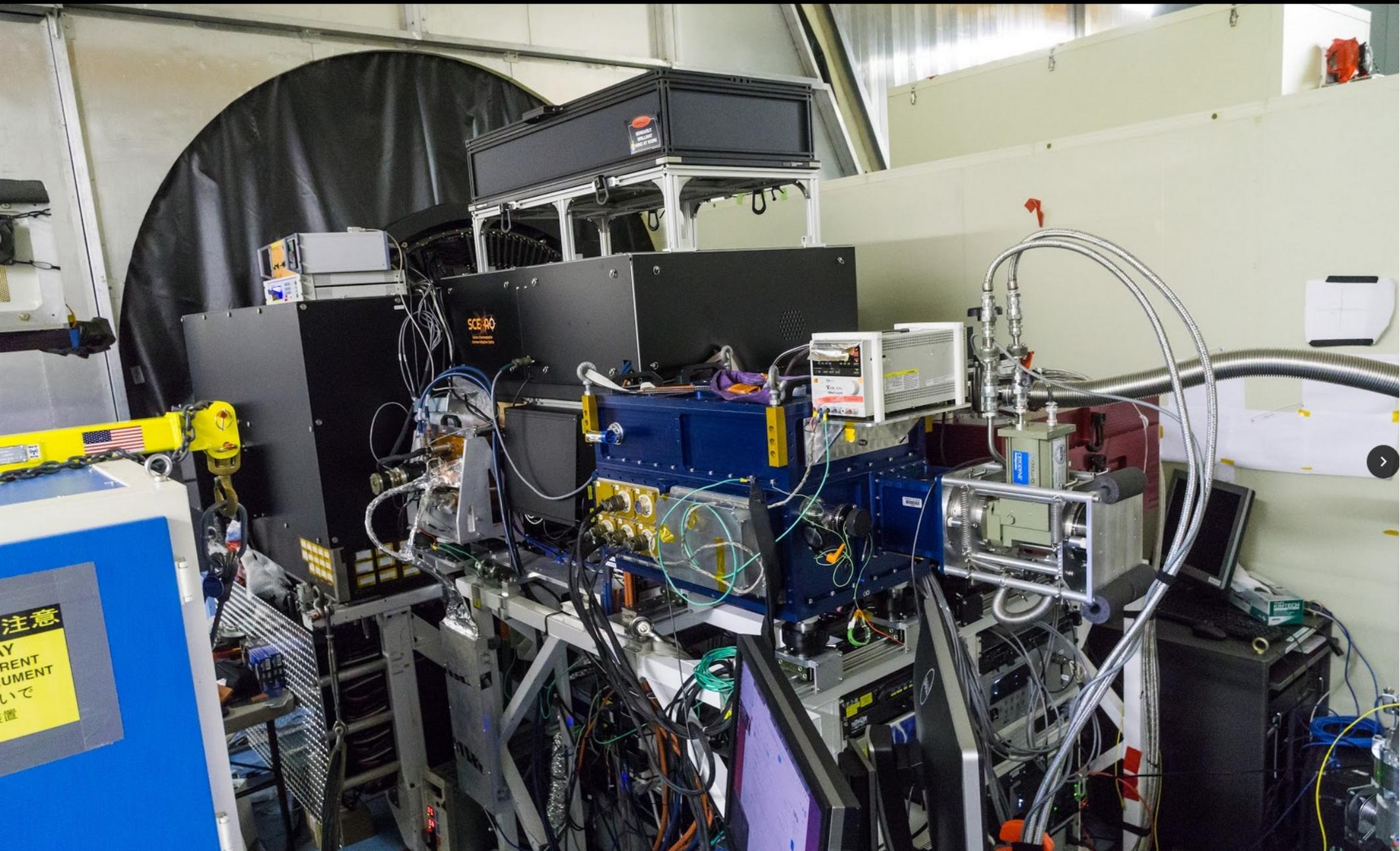
**Various small IWA (1-3 I/D) coronagraphs** for high contrast imaging - PIAA, vector vortex, 8OPM

**GLINT** - NIR nulling interferometer based on photonics



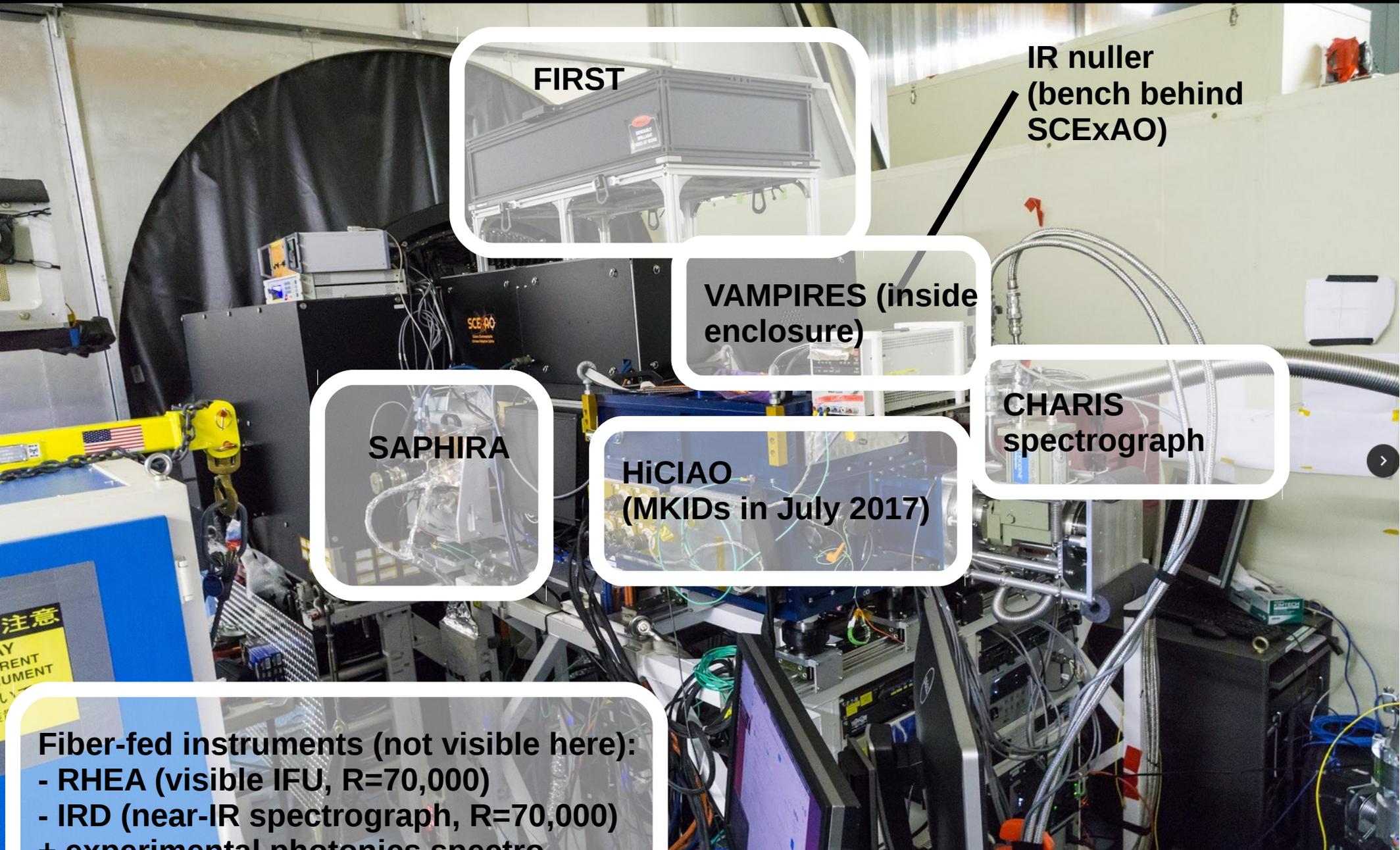


# Subaru Coronagraphic Extreme Adaptive Optics





# Subaru Coronagraphic Extreme Adaptive Optics



FIRST

IR nuller  
(bench behind  
SCEXAO)

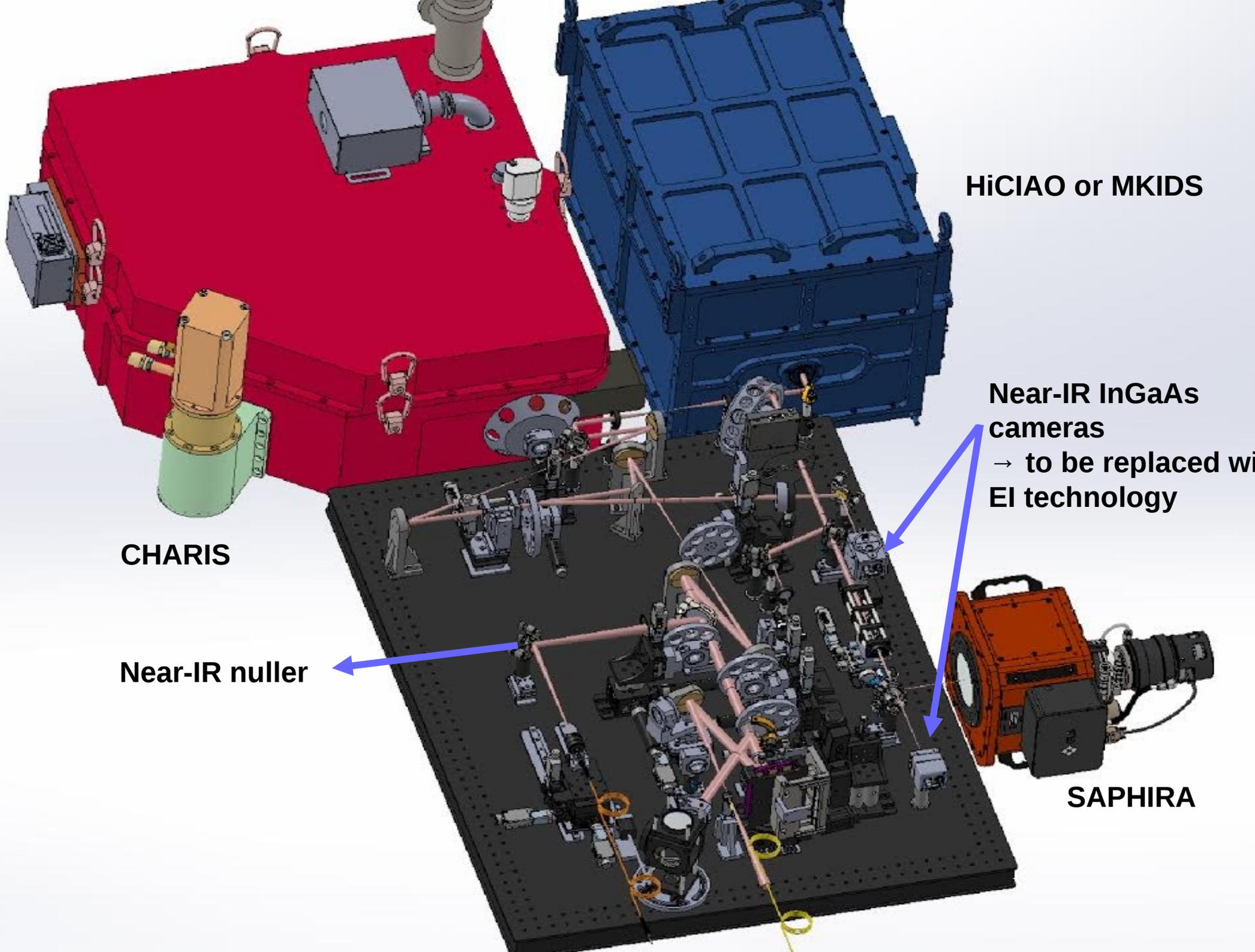
VAMPIRES (inside  
enclosure)

SAPHIRA

HiCIAO  
(MKIDs in July 2017)

CHARIS  
spectrograph

Fiber-fed instruments (not visible here):  
- RHEA (visible IFU, R=70,000)  
- IRD (near-IR spectrograph, R=70,000)  
+ experimental photonic spectro



**HiCIAO or MKIDS**

**Near-IR InGaAs  
cameras**  
→ to be replaced with  
EI technology

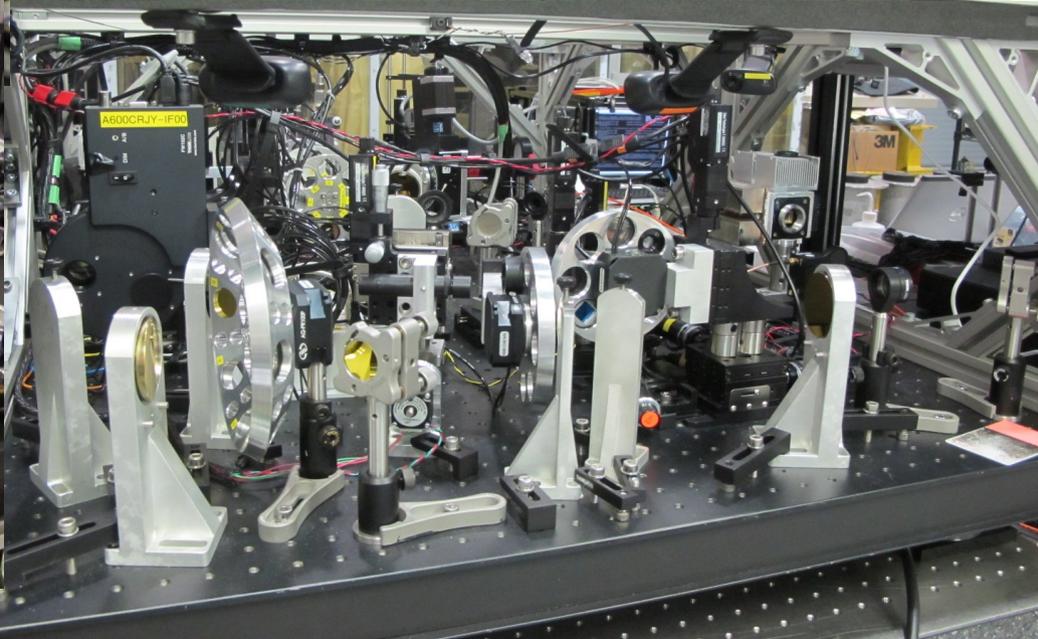
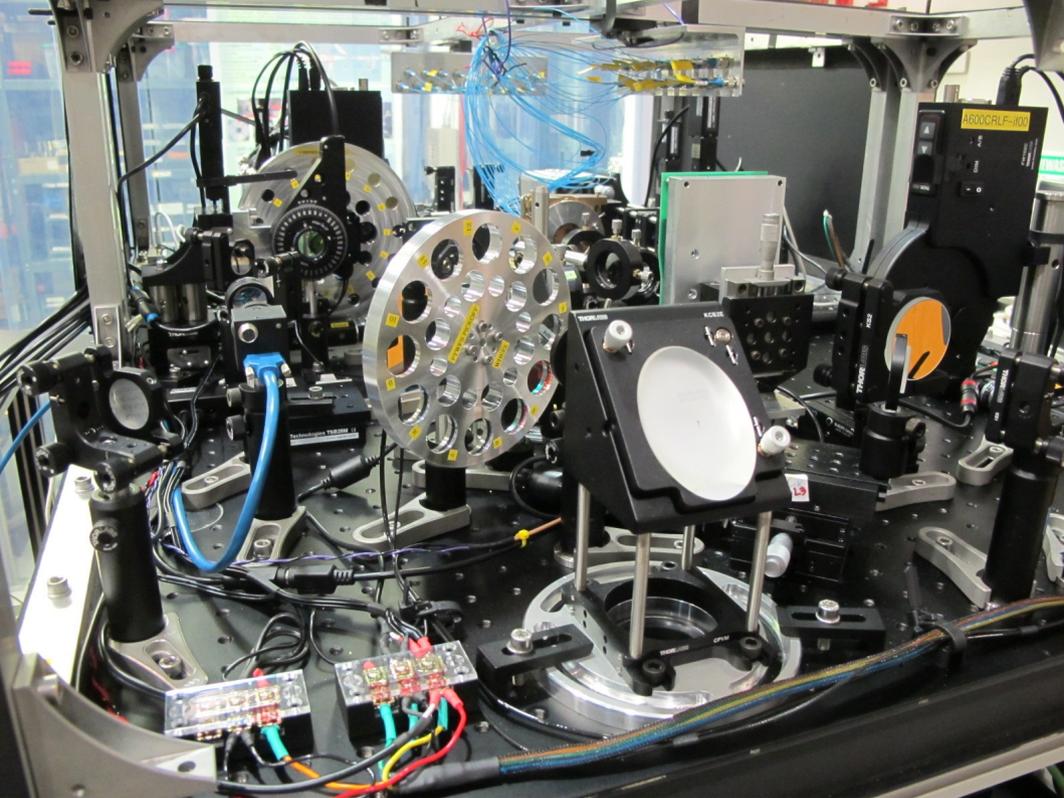
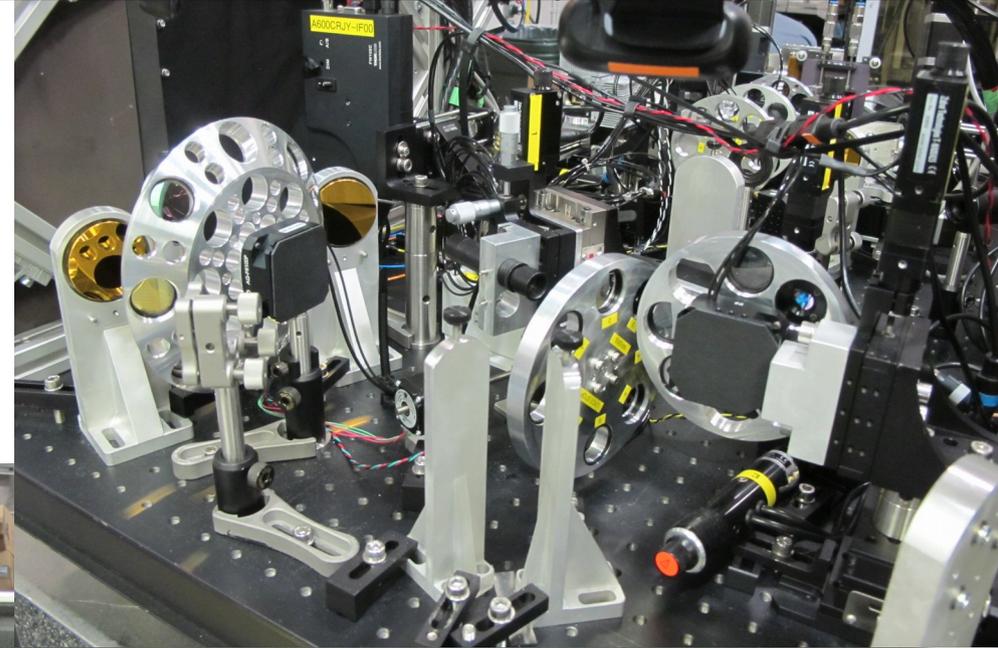
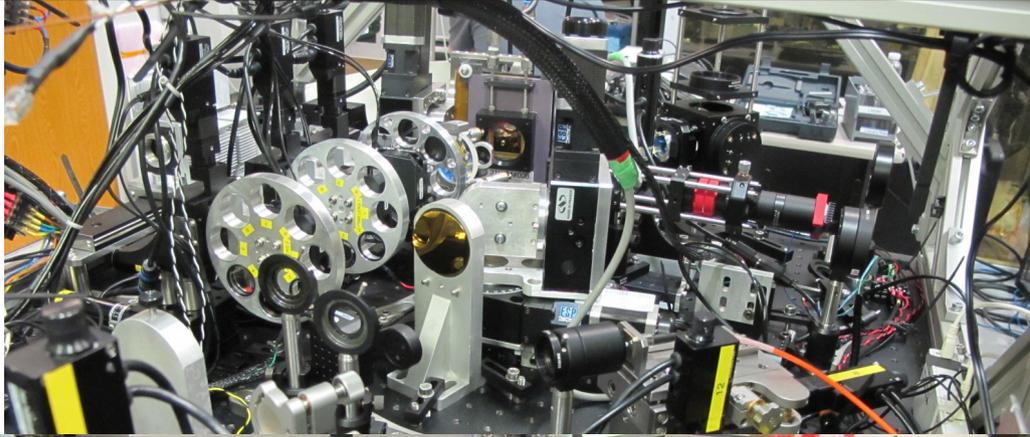
**CHARIS**

**Near-IR nuller**

**SAPHIRA**

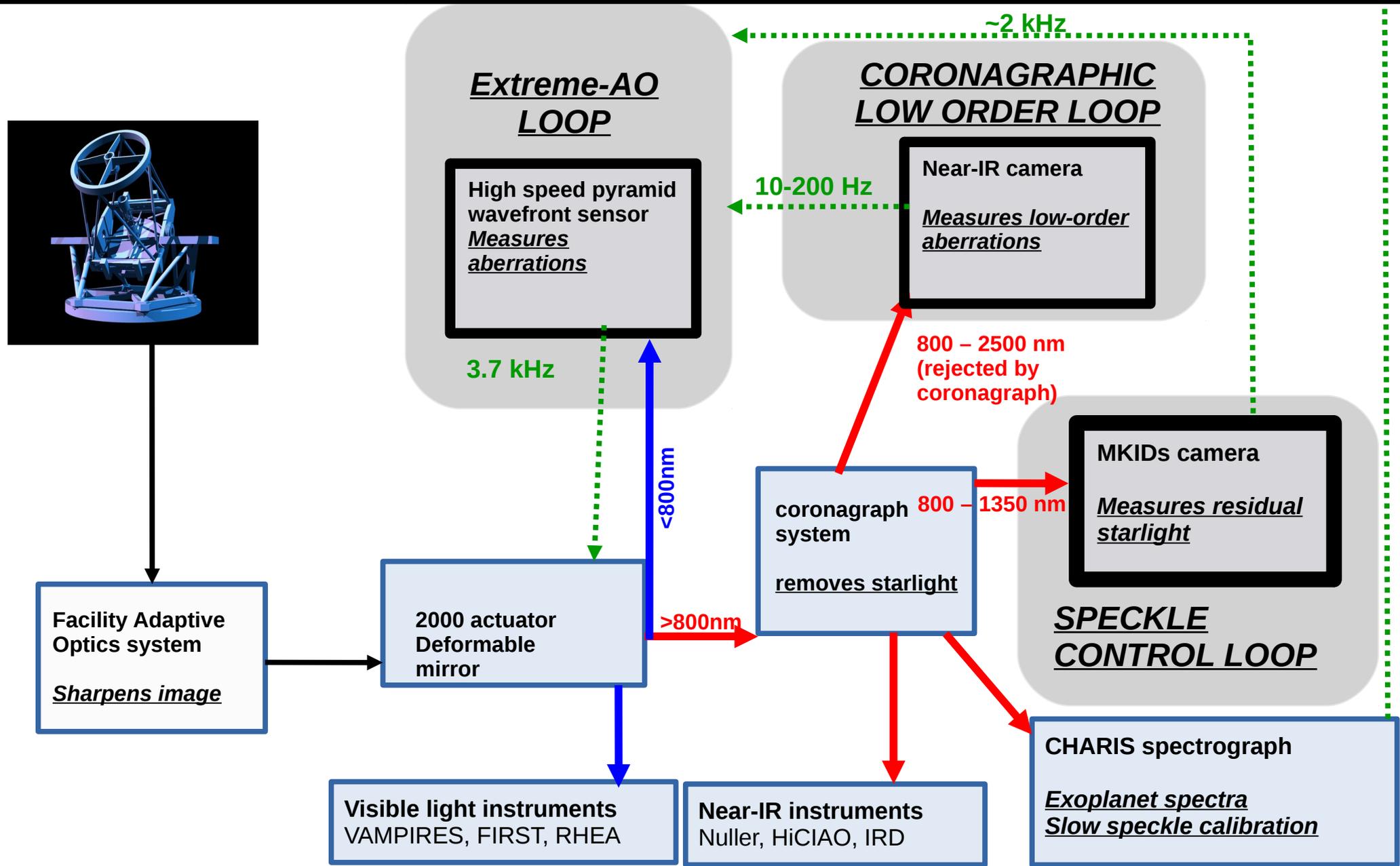


# Subaru Coronagraphic Extreme Adaptive Optics

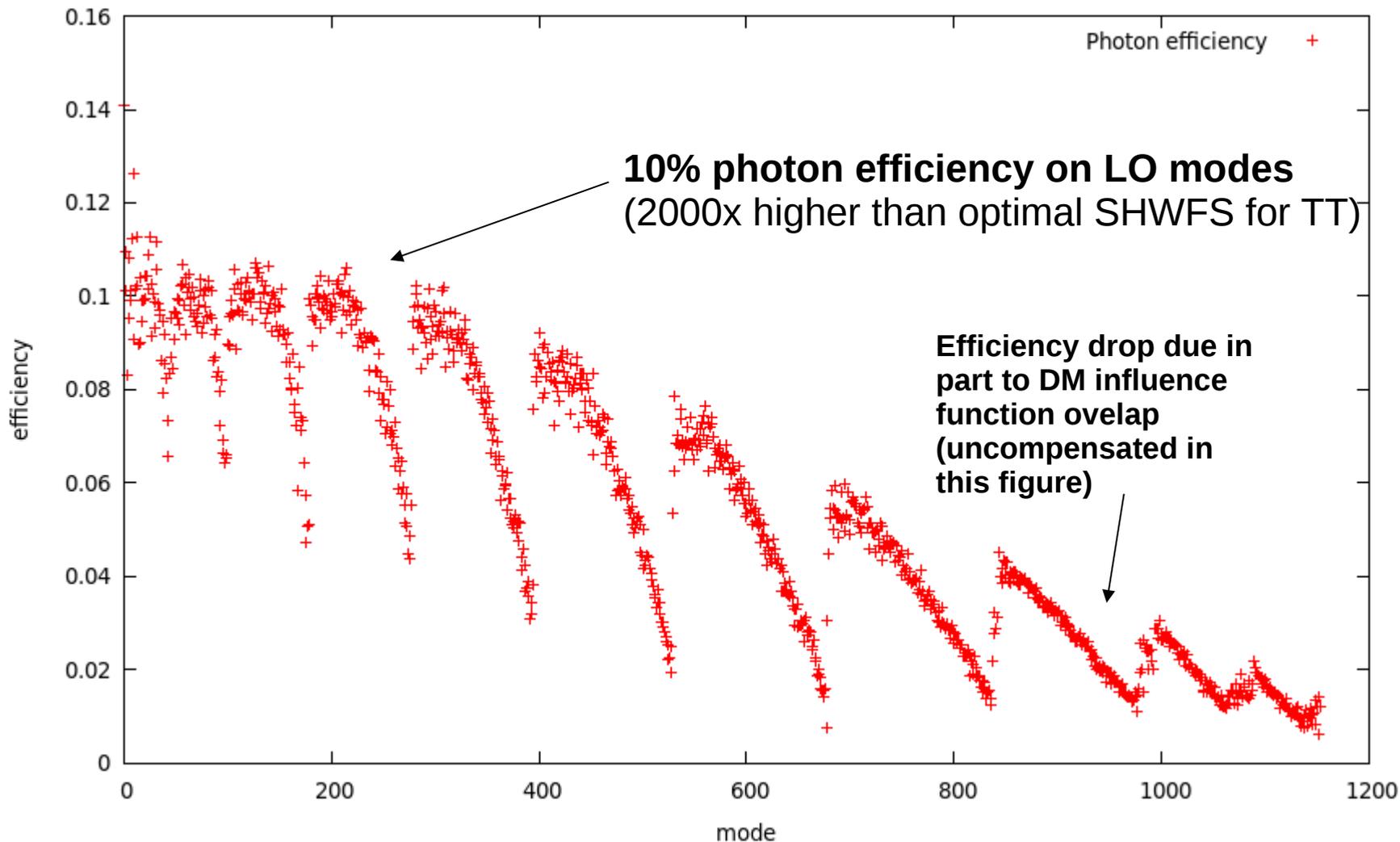




# Subaru Coronagraphic Extreme Adaptive Optics

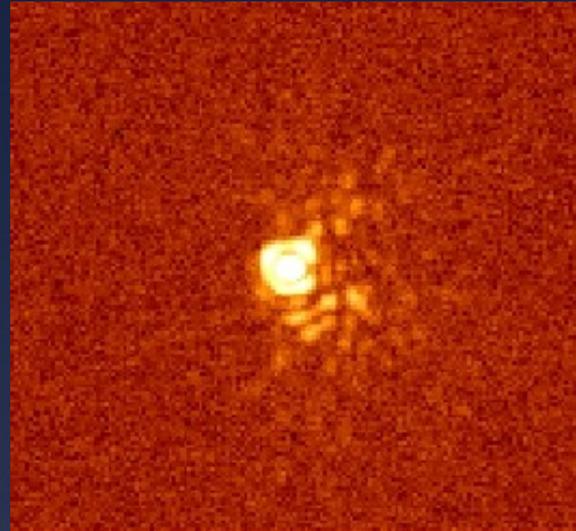
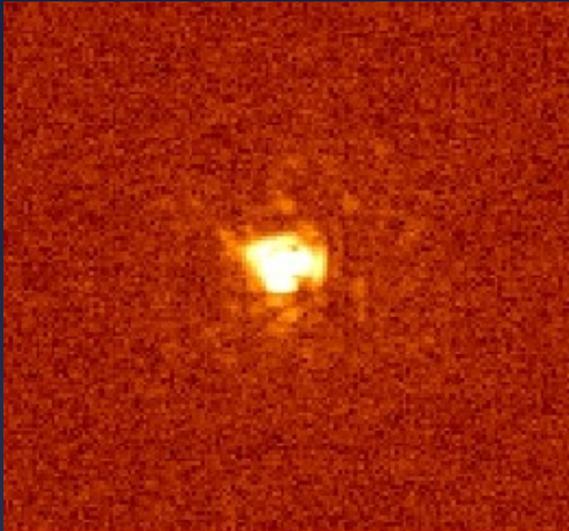


# Measured photon efficiency (SCExAO, sub-I/D modulation pyramid)

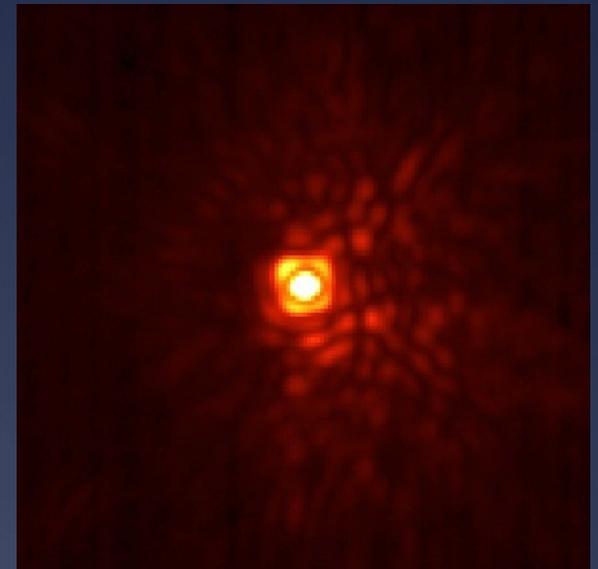
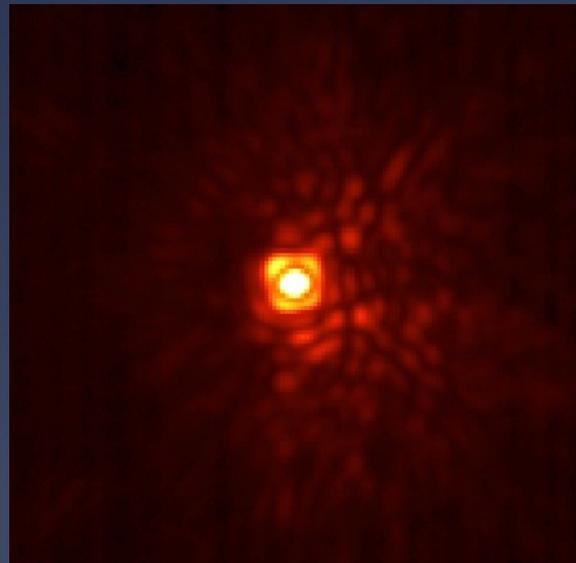
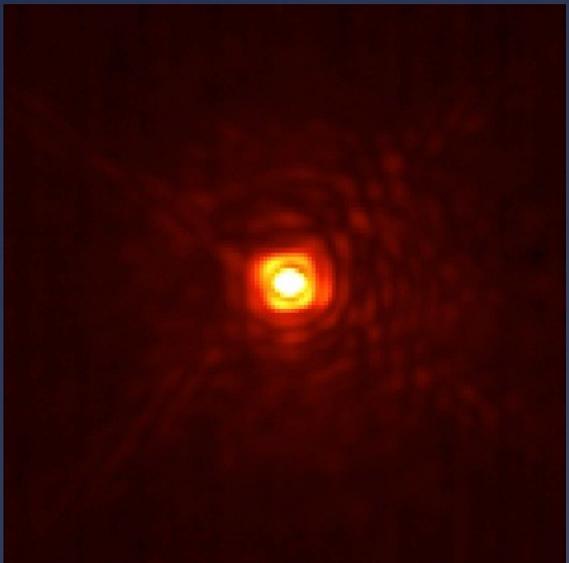


# speckle nulling results on-sky (June 2014)

Single frames: 50 us



Meta data:  
Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> or June  
Target: RX Boo (also repeated on Vega)  
Seeing: <math><0.6''</math>  
AO correction: 0.06'' post-AO corrected in H- band (0.04'' is diffraction-limit)  
Coronagraph: None (used Vortex on Vega)



Sum of 5000 frames: shift and add

*Martinache, et. al.*

# SAPHIRA Infrared APD array

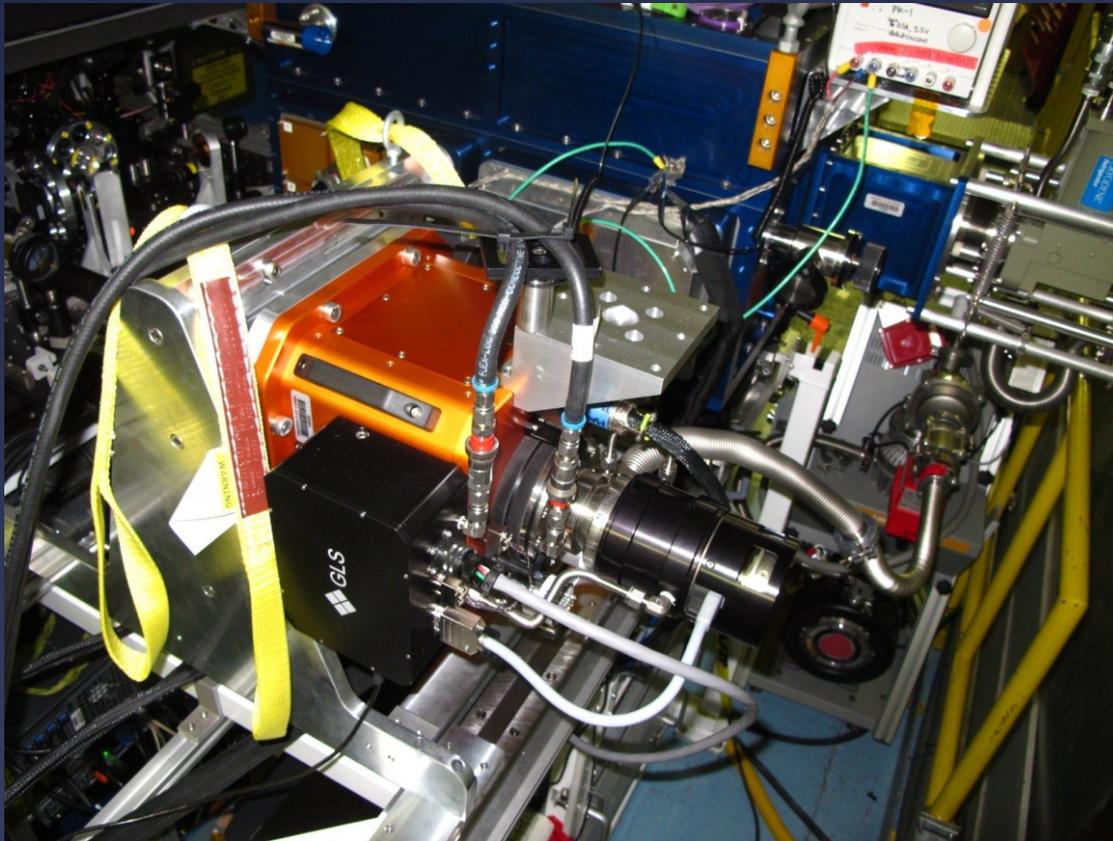
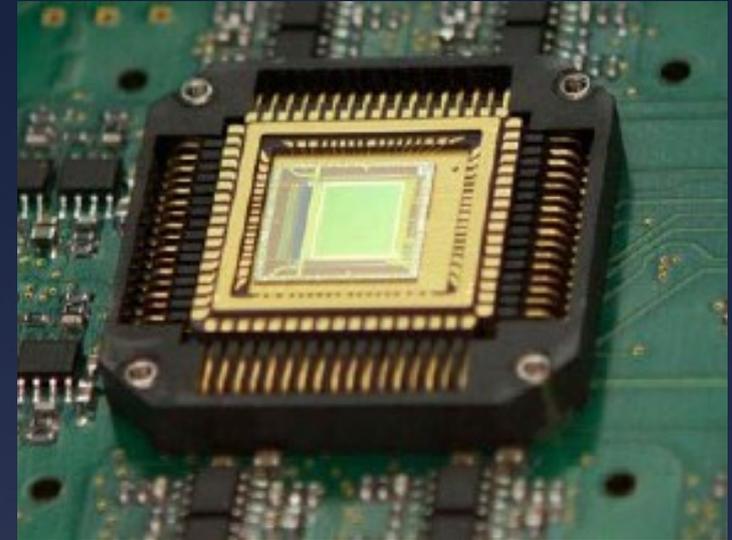
HgCdTe avalanche photodiode  
manufactured by Selex

## Specifications

320 x 256 x 24 $\mu$ m

32 outputs

5 MHz/Pix

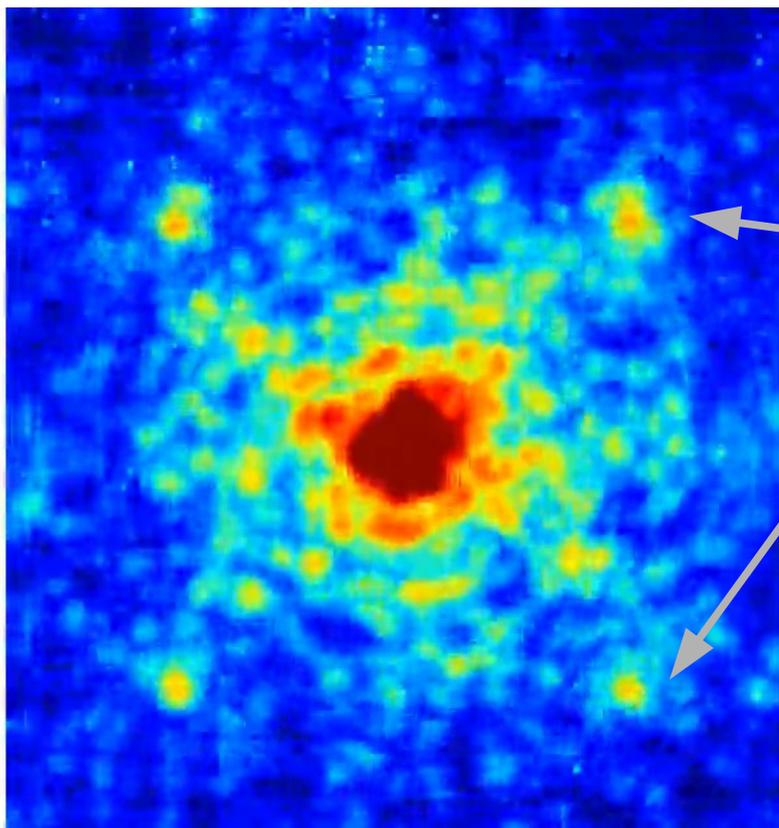


50 frame average



# High speed speckle modulation

1.6 kHz frame rate, H-band  
(played at 30 Hz)

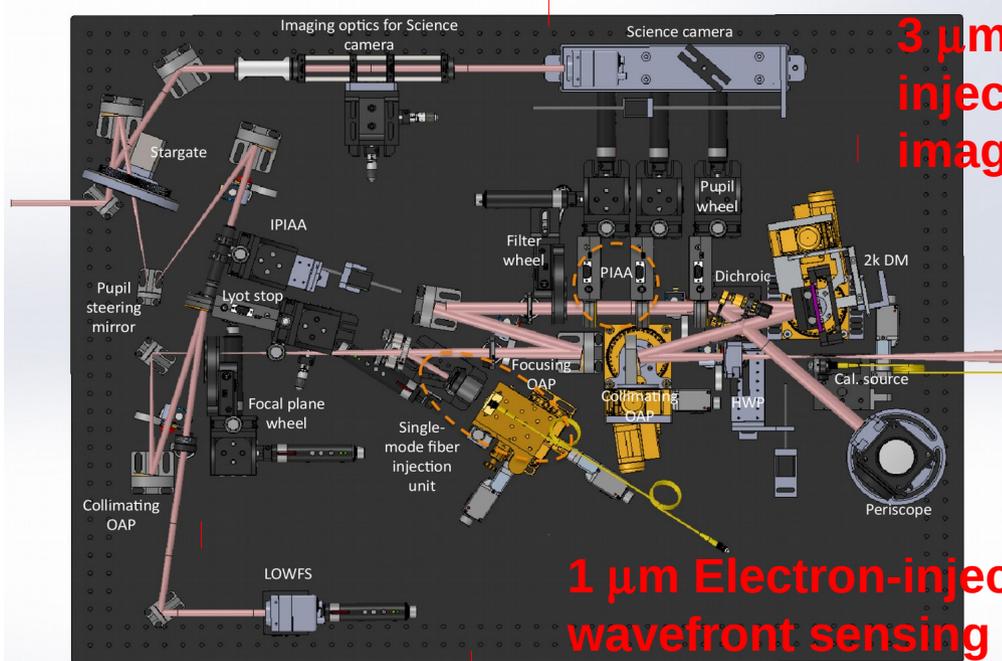
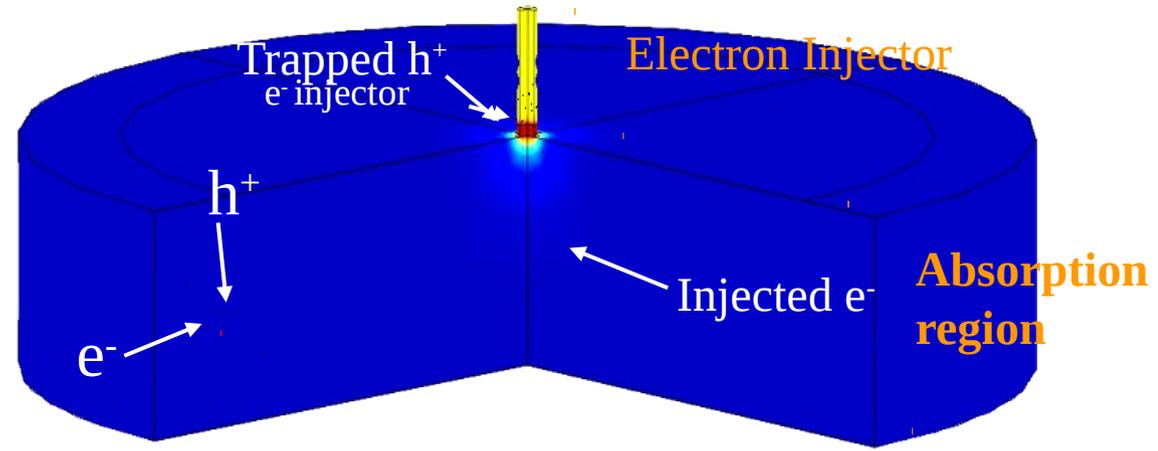


Speckles modulated at 1 kHz

# Electron-injector nearIR camera (Northwestern Univ / Keck foundation)



NORTHWESTERN  
UNIVERSITY

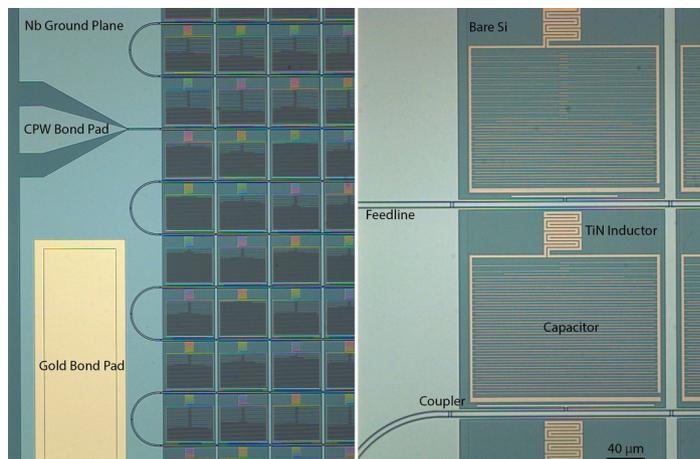
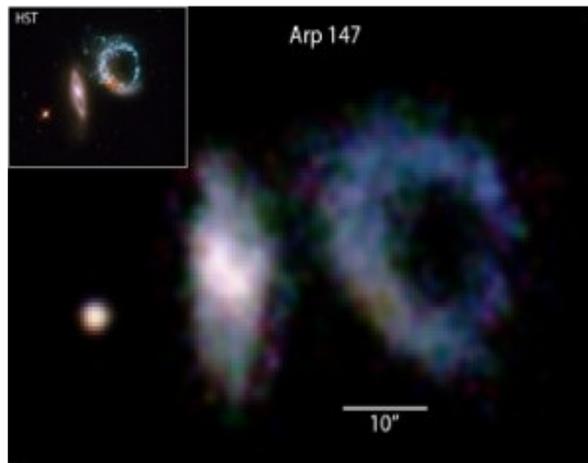
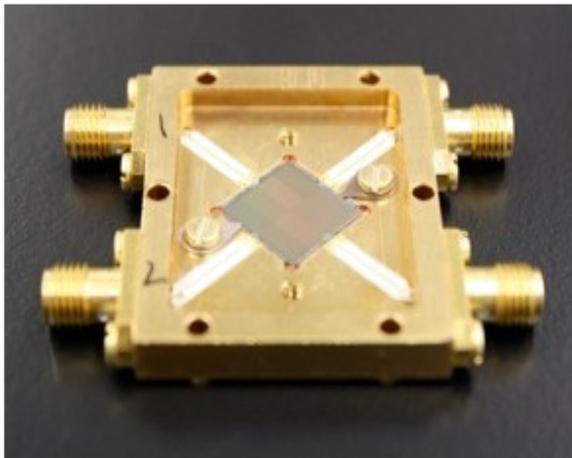


**3  $\mu\text{m}$  Electron-injection speckle imaging camera**

**1  $\mu\text{m}$  Electron-injection low-order wavefront sensing (pointing) camera**

# MKIDS camera (built by UCSB for SCEExAO)

Photon-counting, wavelength resolving 100x200 pixel camera



Pixels are microwave resonators at  $\sim 100\text{mK}$   
photon hits  $\rightarrow$  resonator frequency changes



Photon-counting near-IR MKIDs camera for kHz speed speckle control under construction at UCSB

Delivery to SCEExAO in CY2017

# From Subaru to TMT

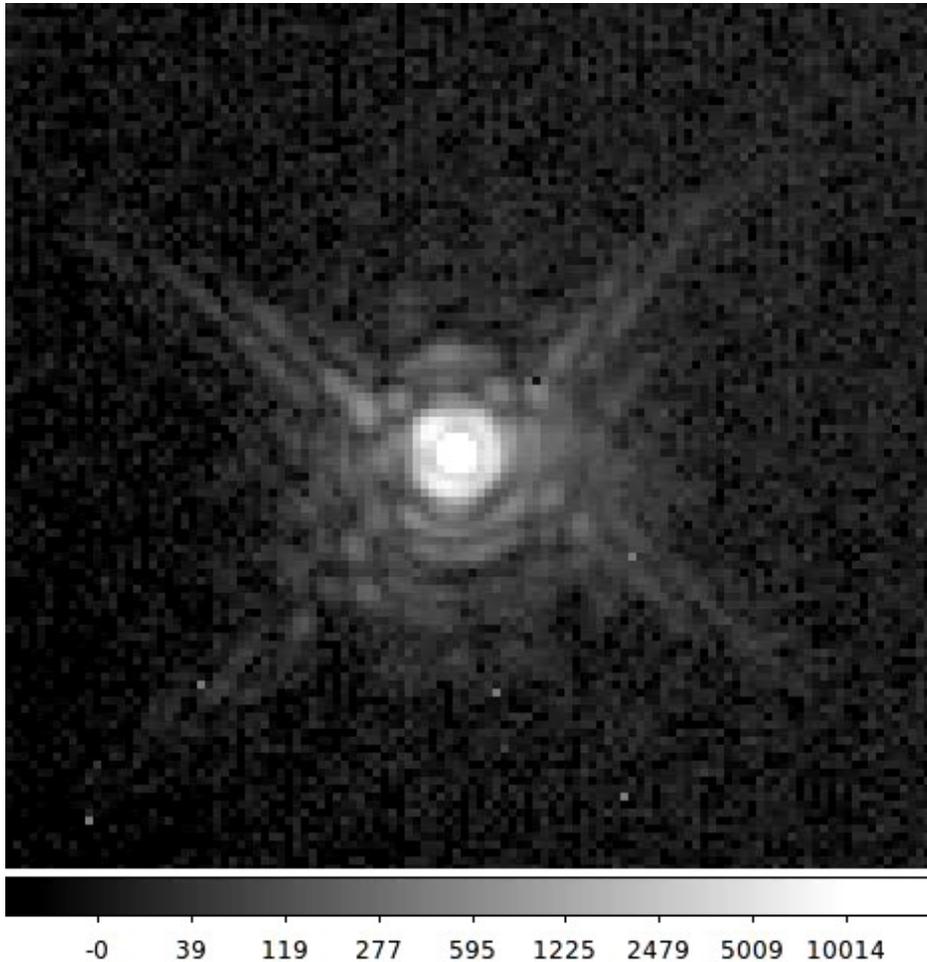
**Demonstrate and validate performance on Subaru prior to deployment on TMT**

- **ready to go as first light visitor instrument**, well understood
- **mitigates risks**, minimizes need for engineering time on TMT
- **benefits from yrs of experience** on Subaru (loop control, data reduction algorithms, observing strategy)
- Subaru provides path to quickly and safely integrate/validate new technologies prior to instrument deployment on TMT

***Open international effort engaging TMT partners.*** Expected overlap with development team of 2<sup>nd</sup> generation, more capable ExAO system. Re-use experience/technologies and possibly hardware to reduce schedule/cost/risk of 2<sup>nd</sup> generation instrument.

# Current PSF stability @ SCExAO

Highly stable PSF for coronagraphy  
SCExAO provides sensing and correction at 3.5 kHz



1630nm (SCExAO internal camera)  
3 Hz sampling

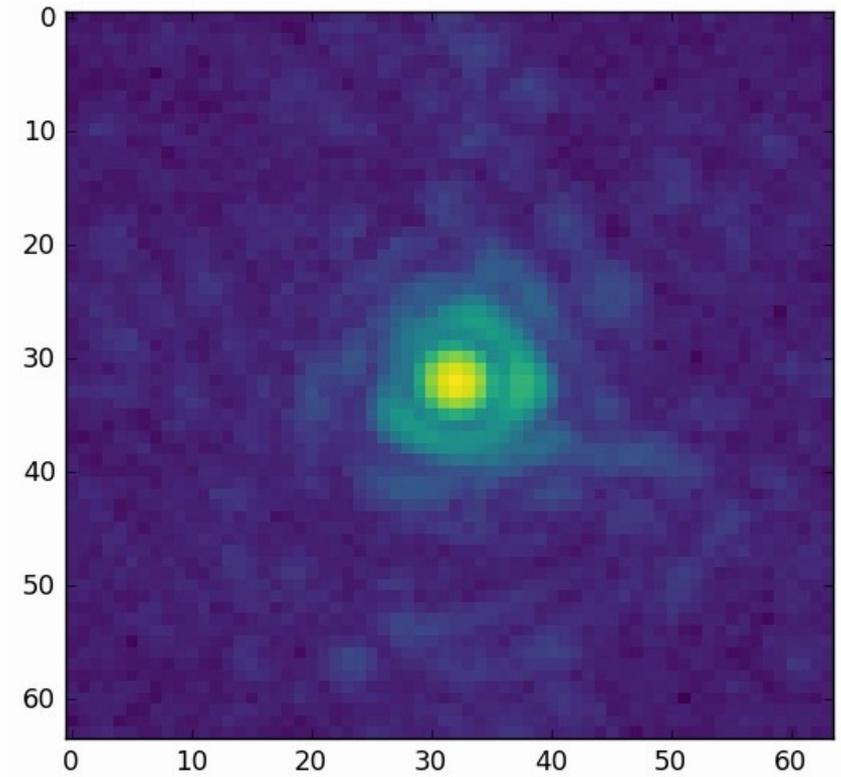
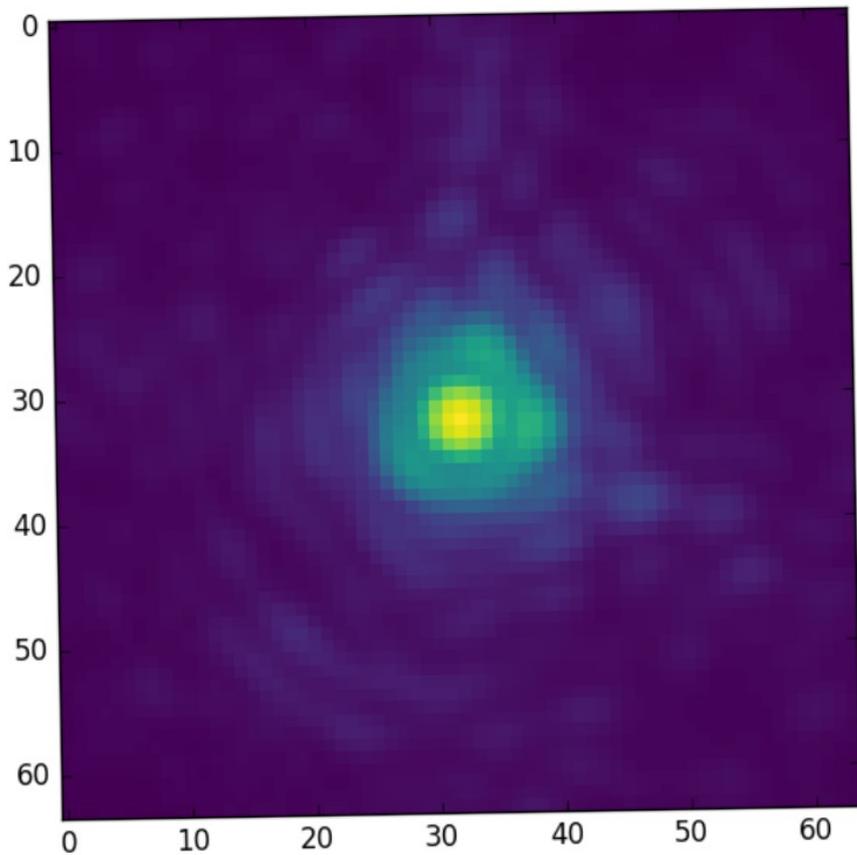
# Preliminary VAMPIRES science

*Diffraction-limited imaging in visible light*

750nm, 1kHz imaging  
log scale

Summed image

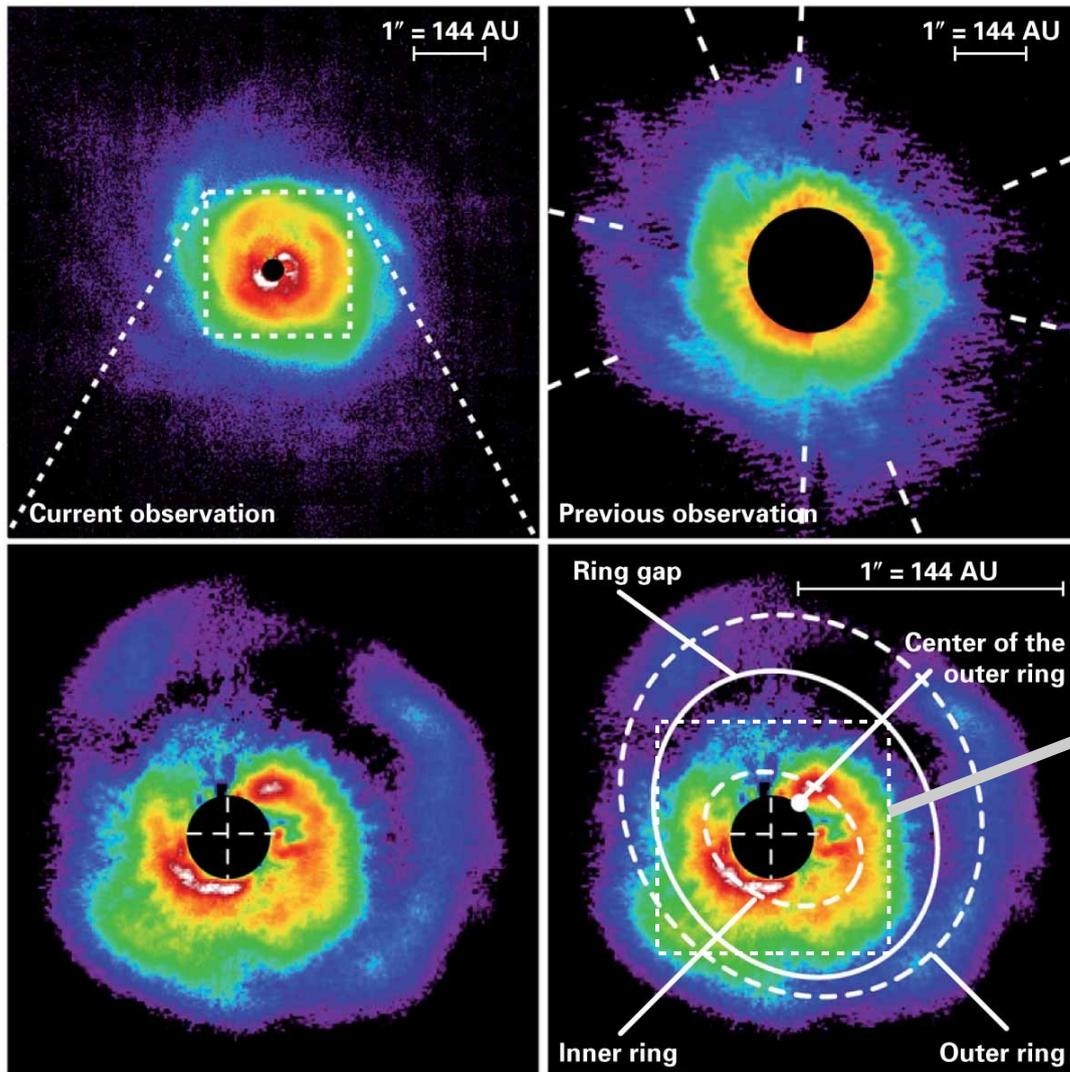
Video



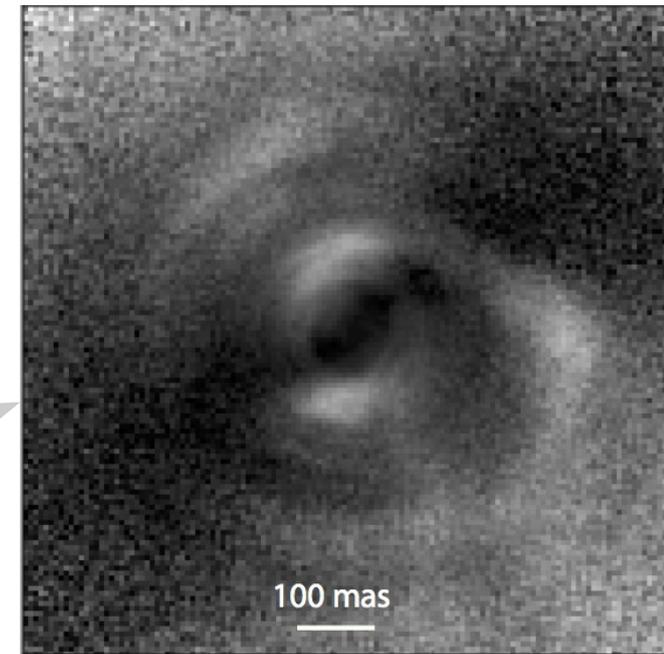
# Preliminary VAMPIRES science

*AB Aur star, polarimetric imaging mode*

HiCIAO, near-IR



VAMPIRES  
(preliminary data reduction)



# Preliminary VAMPIRES science

## *Circumstellar dust around Red Supergiant $\mu$ Cephei*

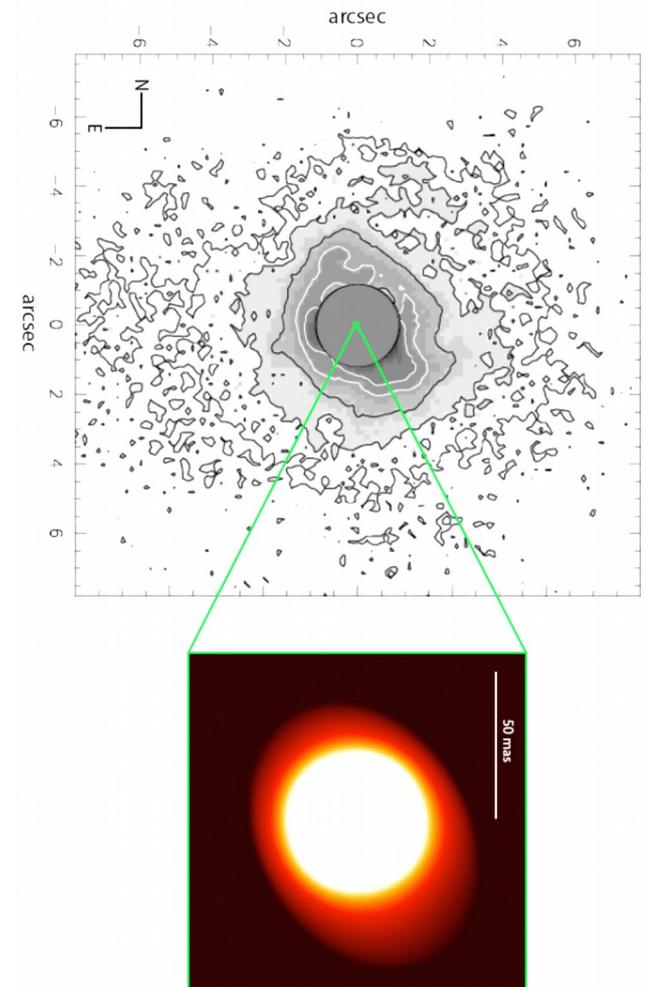
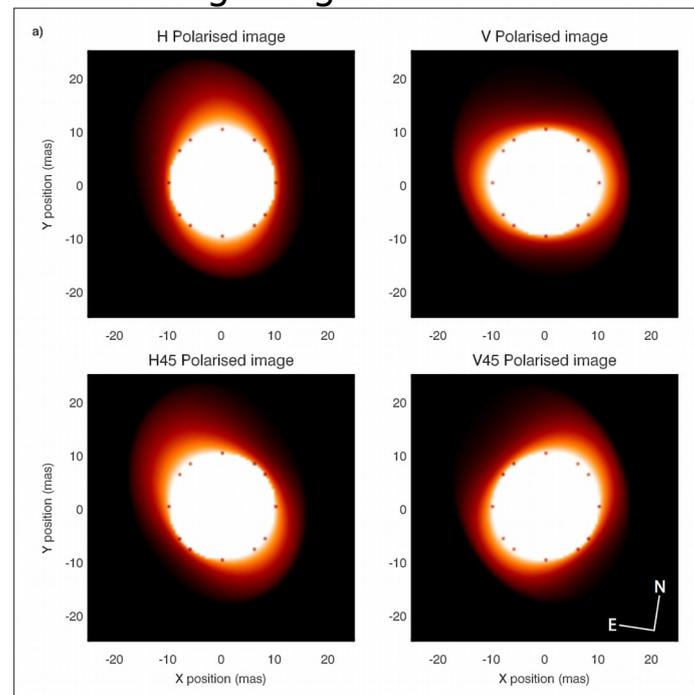
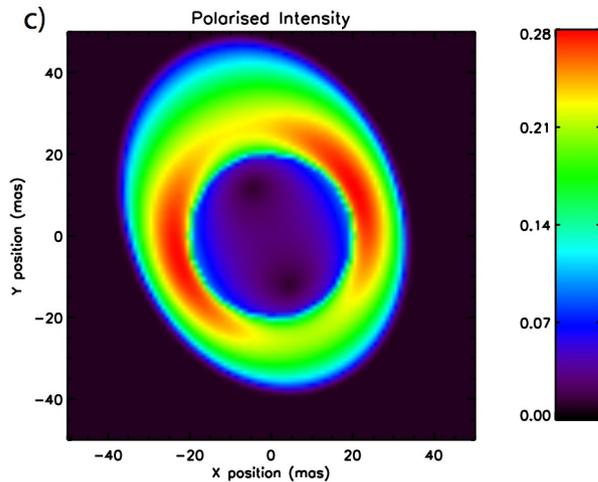
Model-fitting reveals extended, asymmetric dust shell, originating within the outer stellar atmosphere, without a visible cavity. Such low-altitude dust (likely  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ ) important for unexplained extension of RSG atmospheres.

*Inner radius:  $9.3 \pm 0.2$  mas (which is roughly  $R_{star}$ )*

*Scattered-light fraction:  $0.081 \pm 0.002$*

*PA of major axis:  $28 \pm 3.7^\circ$  • Aspect ratio:  $1.24 \pm 0.03$*

**Left:** model image, shown in polarized intensity. **Middle:** model image show in four polarisations. **Right:** Model image (intensity), shown with wide field MIR image (from de Wit et al. 2008 - green box shows relative scales. Axis of extension in MIR image aligns with the close-in VAMPIRES image.



# Neptune with CHARIS + SCEXAO

1173.3 nm

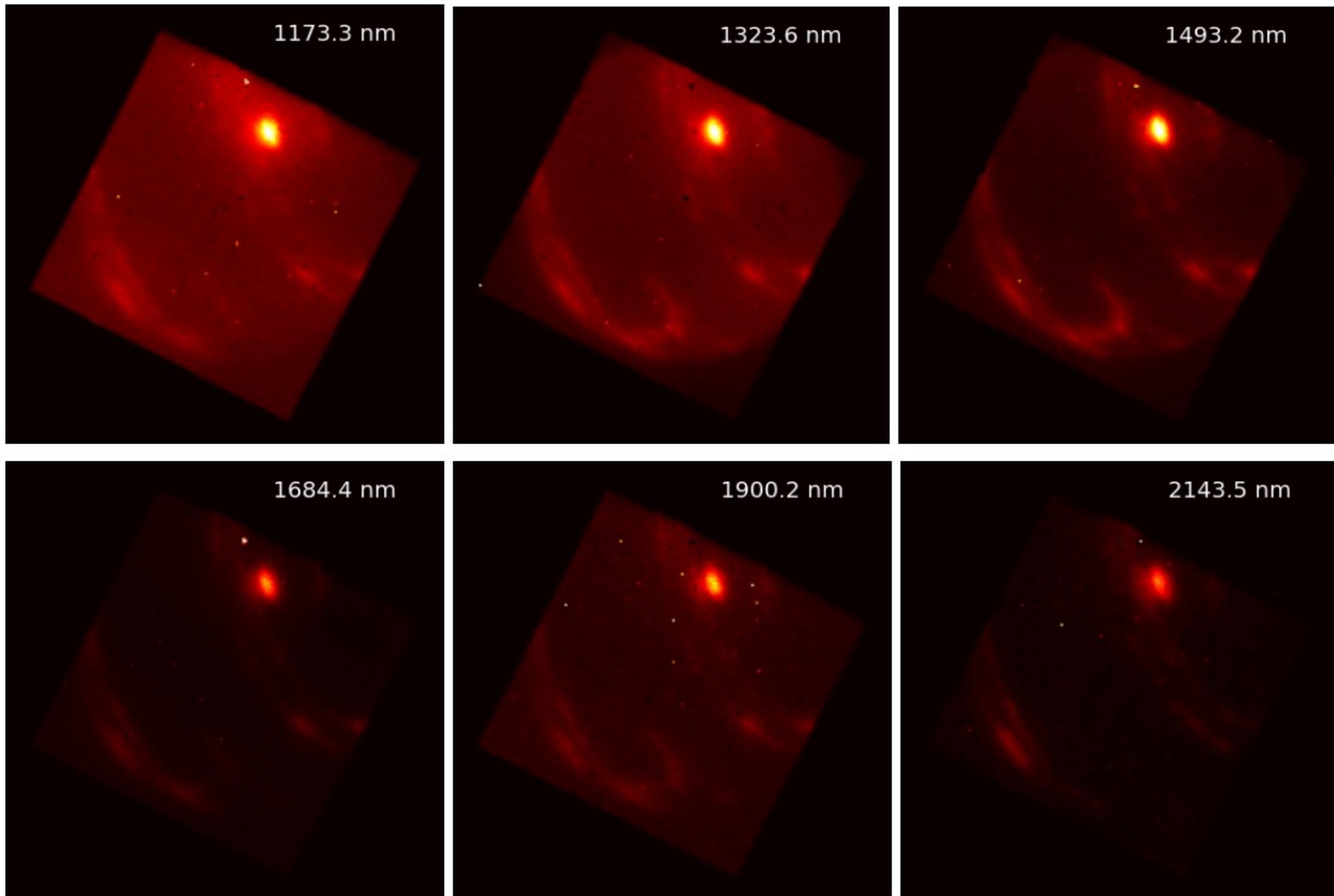
1323.6 nm

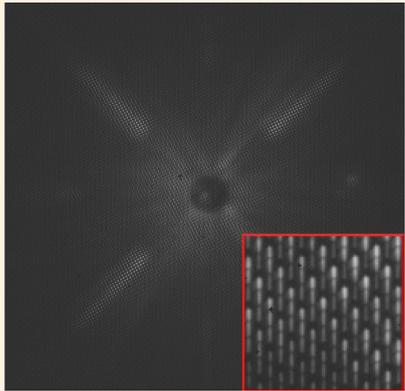
1493.2 nm

1684.4 nm

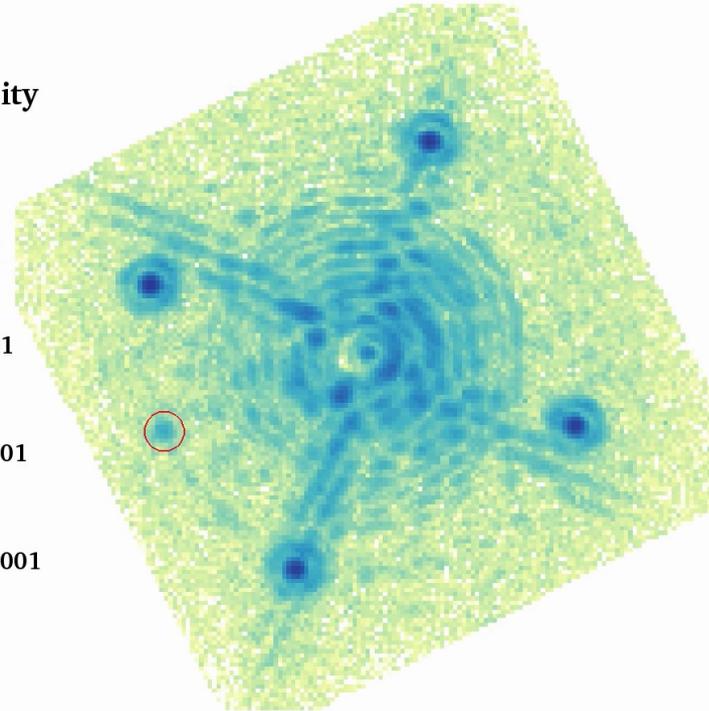
1900.2 nm

2143.5 nm





Intensity



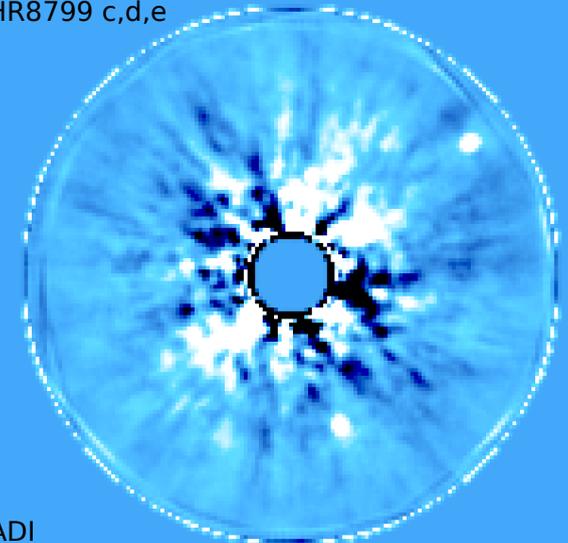
$\lambda = 1.93 \mu\text{m}$

- HD1160 easily visible in the speckle halo with a basic data reduction thanks to large wavelength range

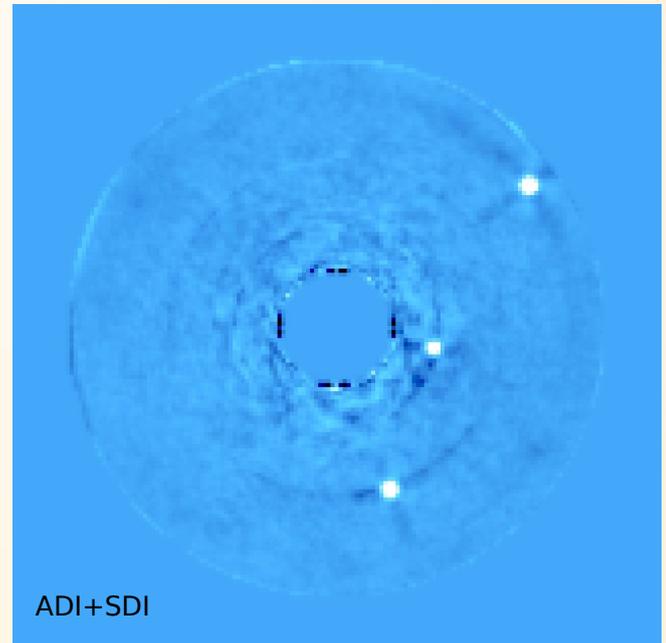
- HR8799 c,d,e easily extracted with ADI+SDI.

- SNR of 70, 35 and 15

HR8799 c,d,e



ADI

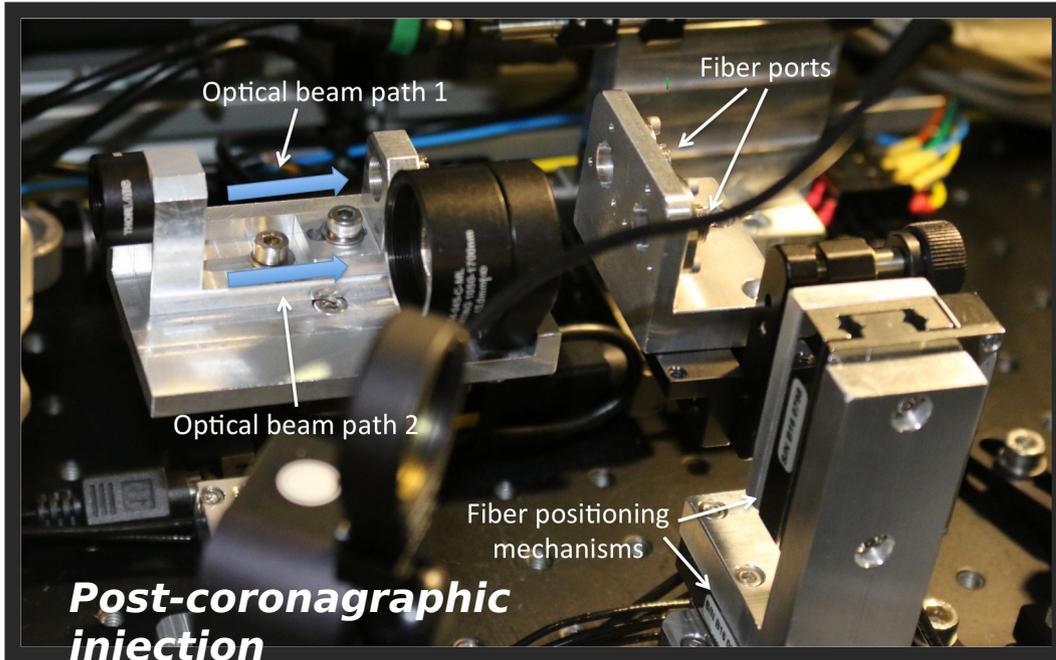


ADI+SDI

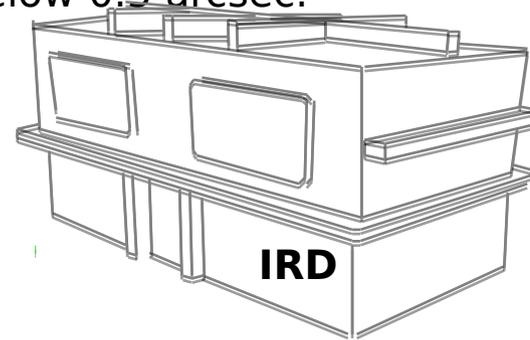
# Post-Coronagraphic spectroscopy

**Aim:** Detection of atmospheric molecules and planetary radial velocity using post-coronagraphic high-dispersion spectroscopy

**Targets:** self-luminous planets whose separation are below 0.5 arcsec.

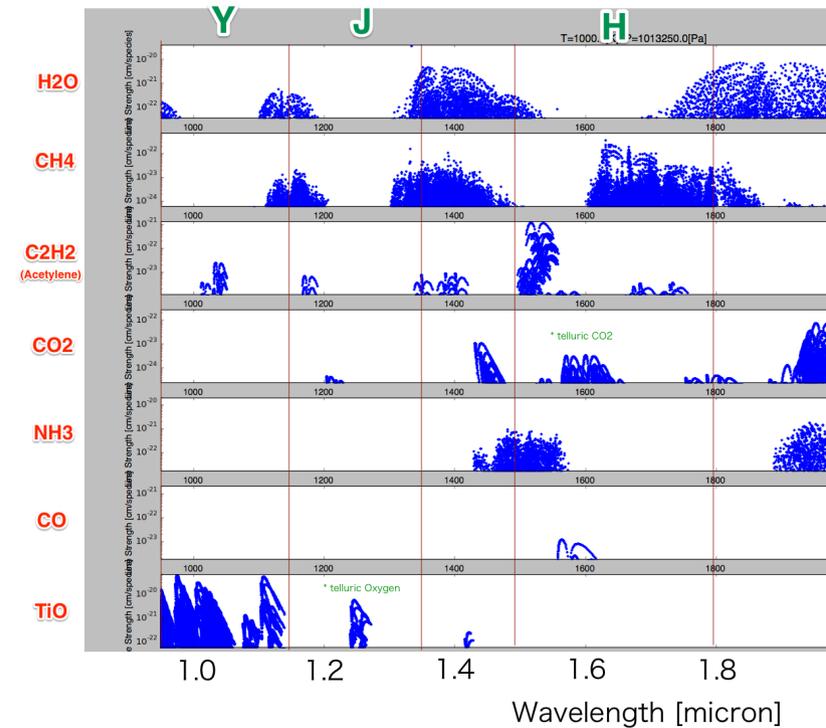


*Jovanovic et al.*

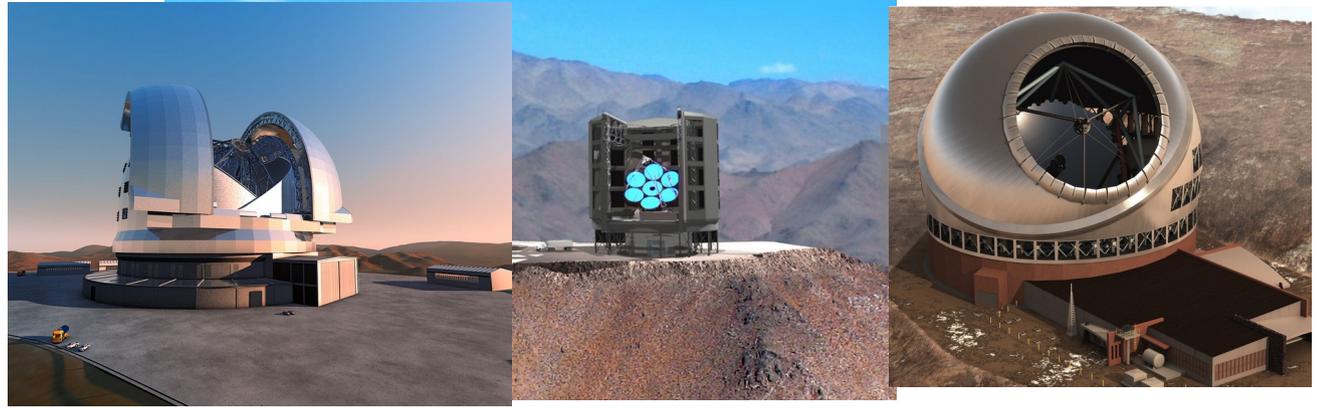


$R \sim 70,000$ ,  
Y, J, H  
bands,  
laser comb

Molecular lines in Y, J, and H band



# Conclusions



**Low-hanging fruits (Prox Cen B !) can be imaged on ELTs with current technology (... possible even with VLT with high resolution spectroscopy)**

ELTs can probably operate at  $\sim 1e-5/1e-6$  raw contrast and photon-noise limited detection limit

→ characterization (spectroscopy) of  $1e-8$  habitable planets accessible around  $>100$  nearby stars, mainly near-IR/visible

**Near-complete sample of M0-M5 stars within 5pc**

BUT: ELTs instrument development process is slow compared to the pace of science in technology progress in our field

→ Schedule for (near-)first light instrument on ELT is very challenging

(No “extreme-AO” currently planned as ELT 1<sup>st</sup> generation instrument)