

# Subaru Coronagraphic Extreme Adaptive Optics (SCExAO): Wavefront Control Optimized for High Contrast Imaging

*Olivier Guyon [1,2,3], Ruslan Belikov [4], Julien Lozi [2], Nemanja Jovanovic [5], Jared Males [3], Frantz Martinache [6], Ben Mazin [7], Barnaby Norris [8], Prashant Pathak [2], Tyler Groff [9]*

*[1] Japanese Astrobiology Center, National Institutes for Natural Sciences (NINS)*

*[2] Subaru Telescope, National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NINS)*

*[3] University of Arizona*

*[4] NASA Ames Research Center*

*[5] Caltech*

*[6] Observatoire de la cote d'Azur*

*[7] University of California Santa Barbara*

*[8] University of Sydney*

*[9] NASA GSFC*

**k**







# Subaru Coronagraphic Extreme Adaptive Optics

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

Telescope time available to US community (Keck & Gemini time exchange) and non-US through collaborations with team

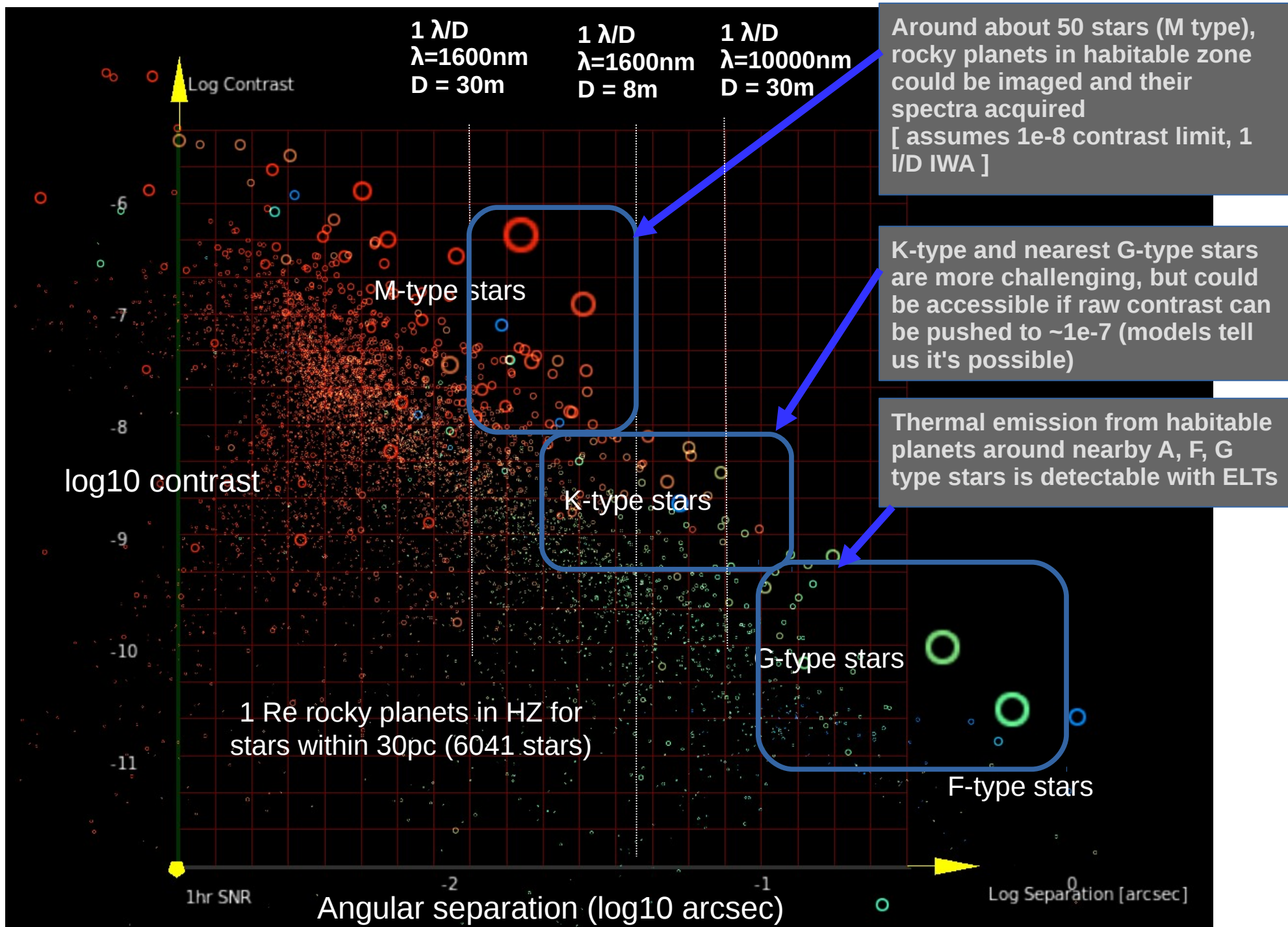
Modules/instruments funded by Japan + international partners:

- MKIDS IFU built by Princeton Univ (Japan-funded)
- MKIDS built by UCSC (Japan-funded)
- SAPHIRA camera provided by UH
- VAMPIRES instrument funded and built by Australia
- FIRST instrument funded and built by Europe
- RHEA IFU provided by Australian team

Strong research collaborations with multiple groups:

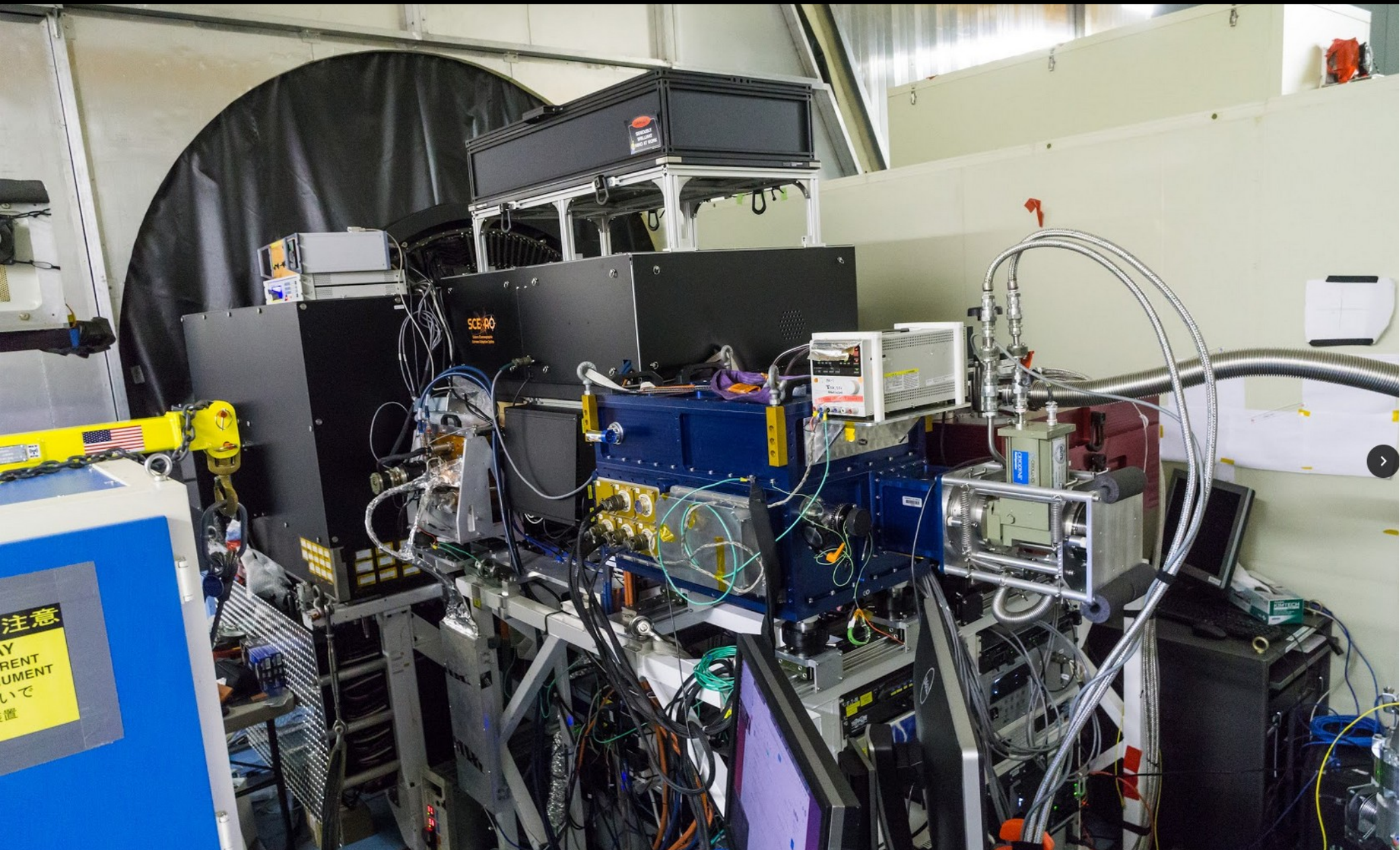
- Univ. of Arizona / MagAO(-X) (shared dev., wavefront control, coronagraphy)
- Kernel group @ Observatoire de la Cote d'Azur (wavefront control)
- Leiden Univ, JPL (coronagraphy)
- Northwestern Univ (detector dev)
- Univ. of Sydney (Photonics techs, nulling interferometry)
- Keck (near-IR WFS)

# Contrast and Angular separation





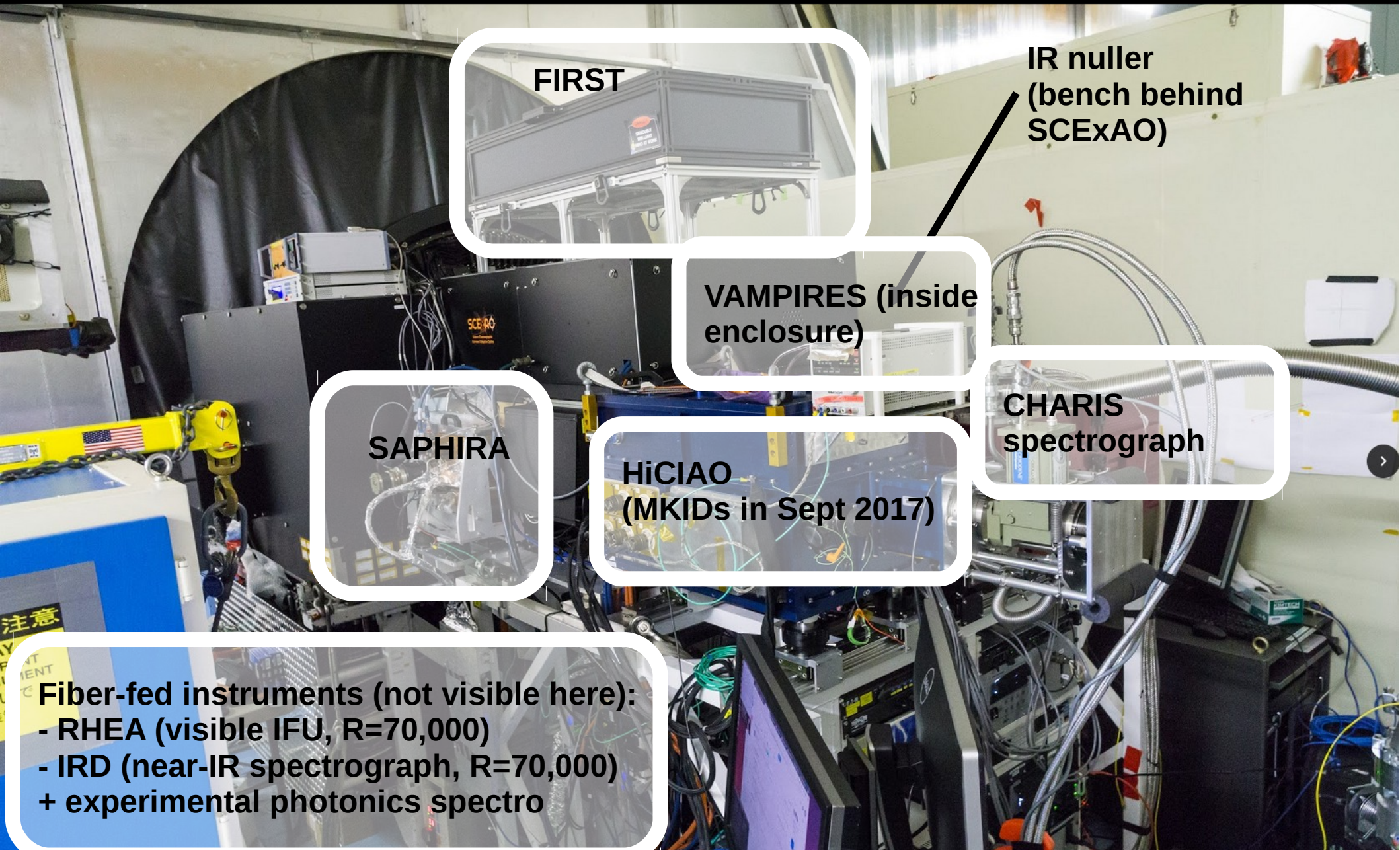
# SCEXAO Subaru Coronagraphic Extreme Adaptive Optics







# Subaru Coronagraphic Extreme Adaptive Optics



**FIRST**

**IR nuller**  
(bench behind  
SCEXAO)

**VAMPIRES** (inside  
enclosure)

**CHARIS**  
spectrograph

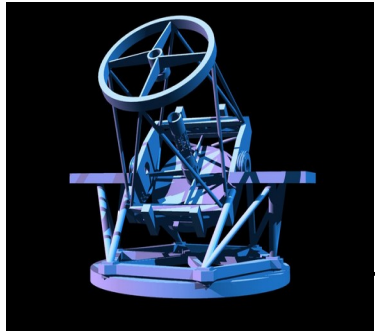
**SAPHIRA**

**HiCIAO**  
(MKIDs in Sept 2017)

**Fiber-fed instruments (not visible here):**

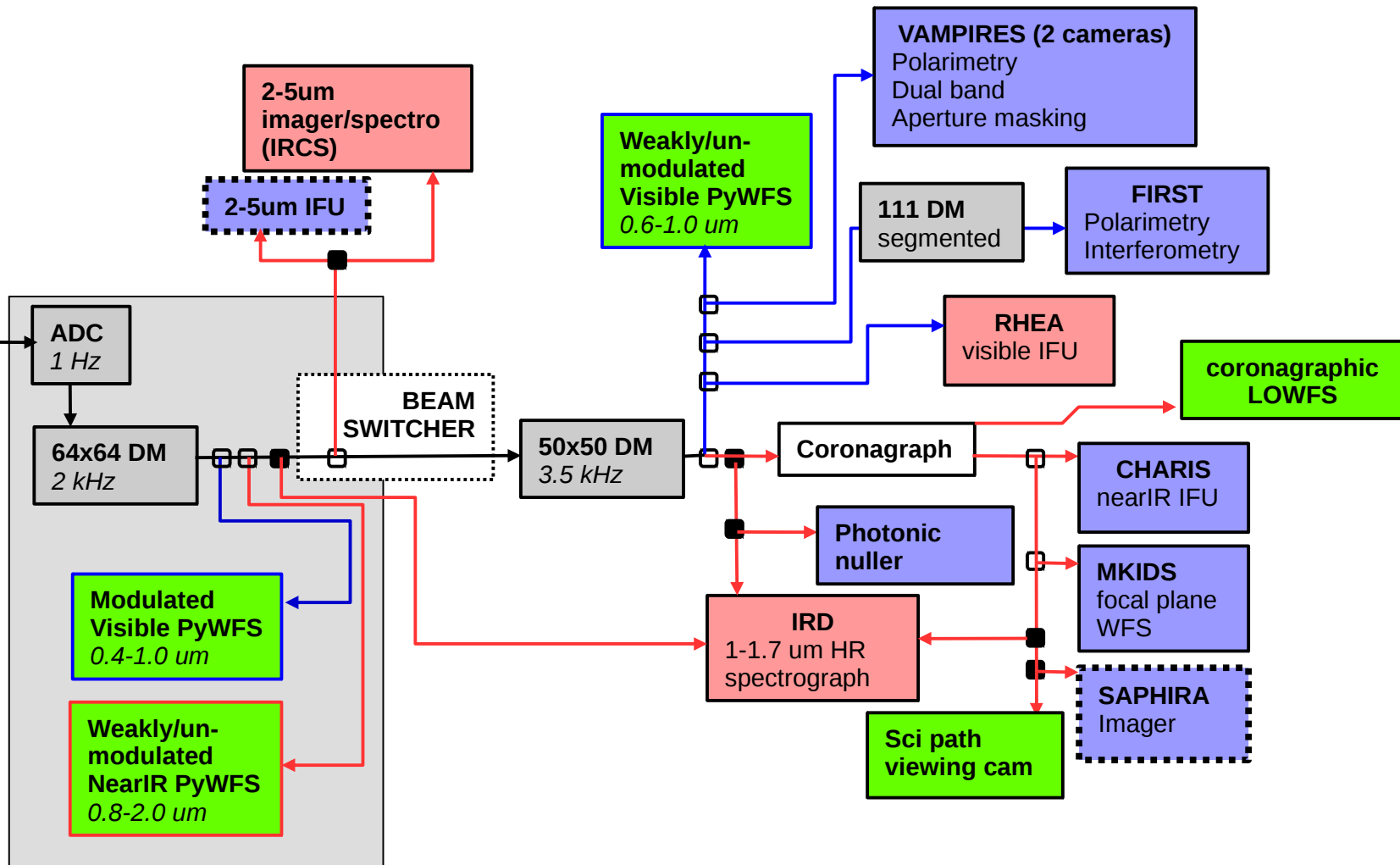
- RHEA (visible IFU,  $R=70,000$ )
- IRD (near-IR spectrograph,  $R=70,000$ )
- + experimental photonics spectro

# SCEXAO Light path



## Facility AO

[yr 2020 configuration shown here]  
Under heavy development:  
Currently curvature WFS, 188 elements  
Ongoing upgrade to high performance RTS, new WFSs and DM



Active WF correction

Dedicated science instrument

Mixed science/WFS

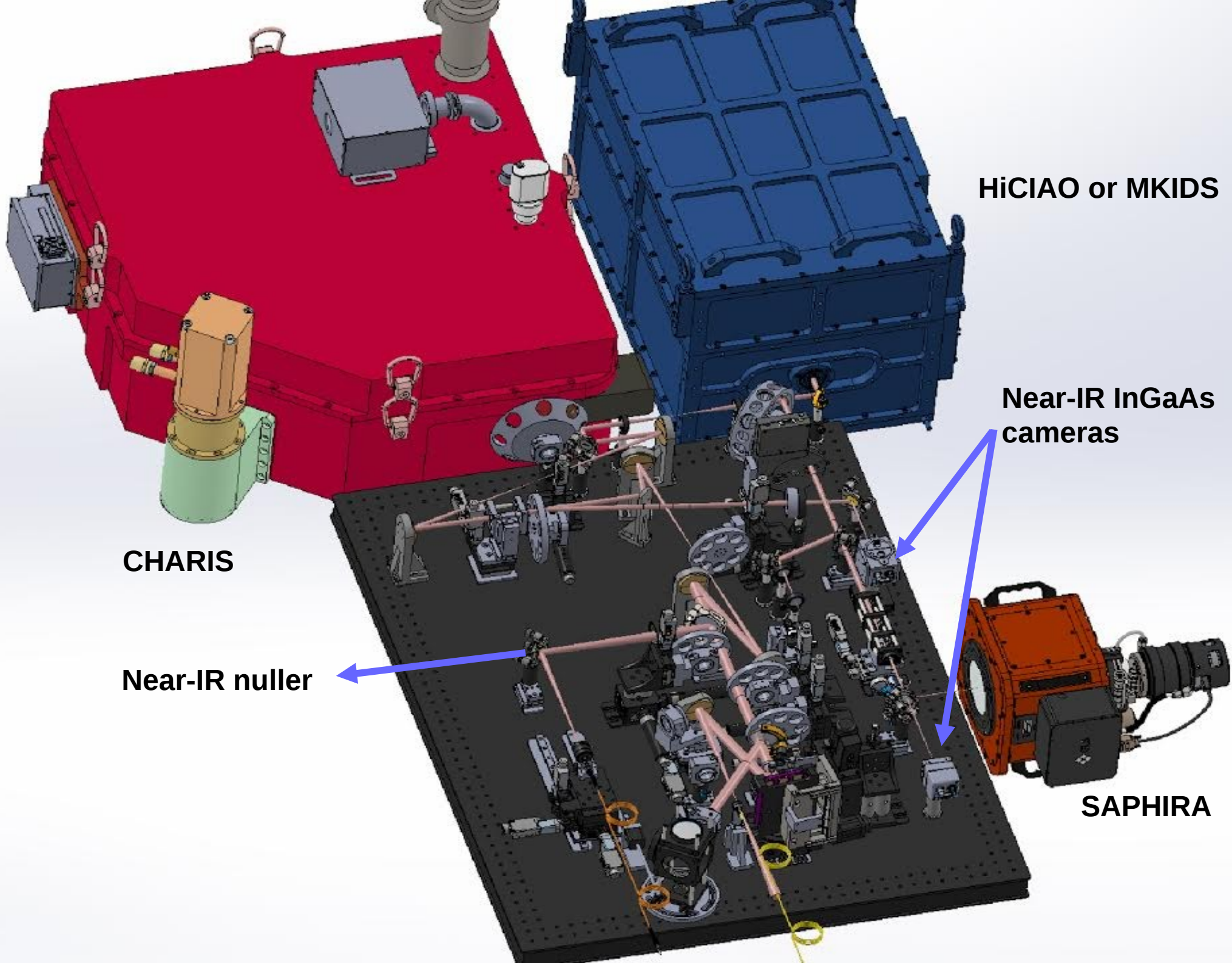
Dedicated WFS

Visitor port

□ *dichroic*

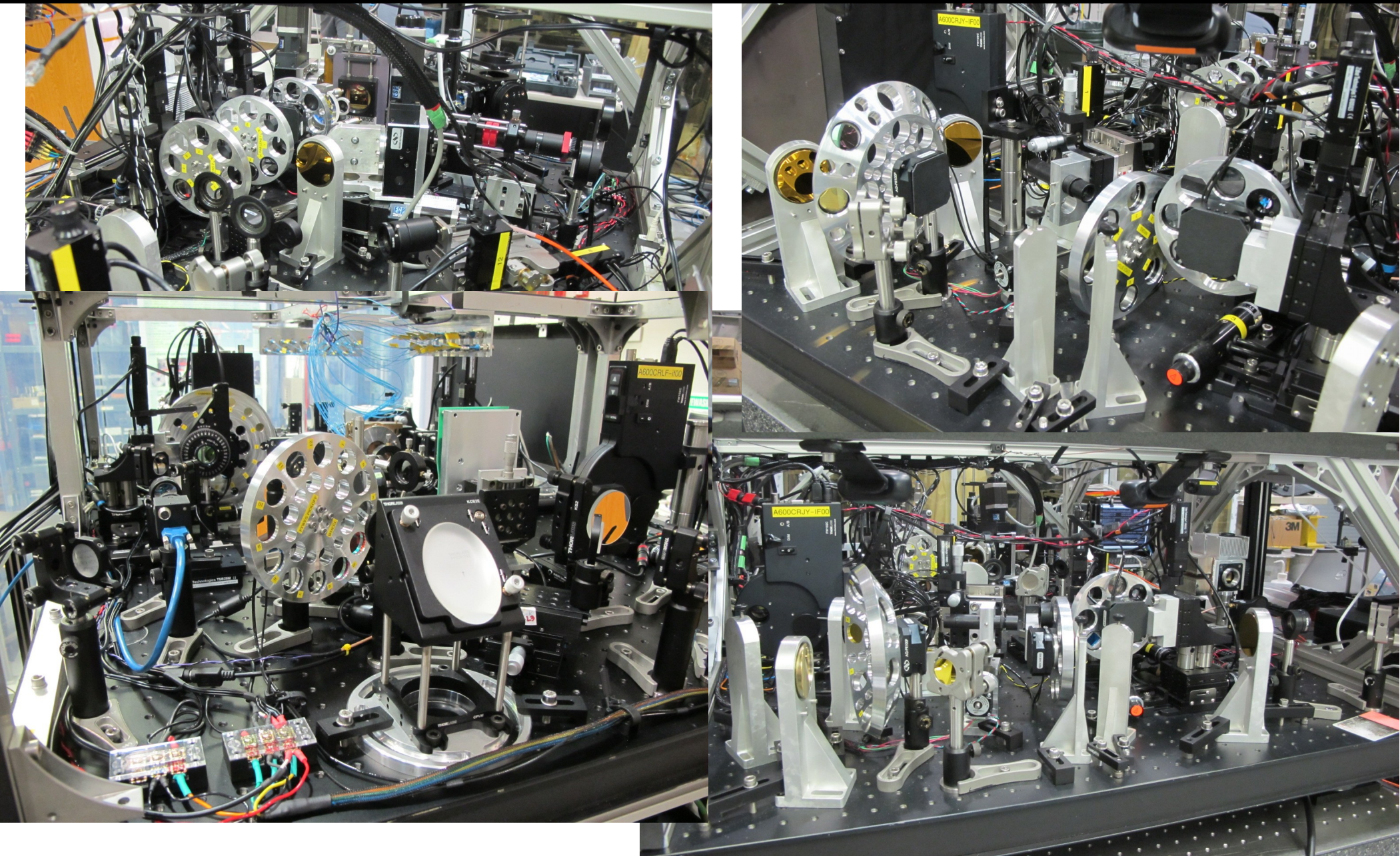
■ *beam switch*





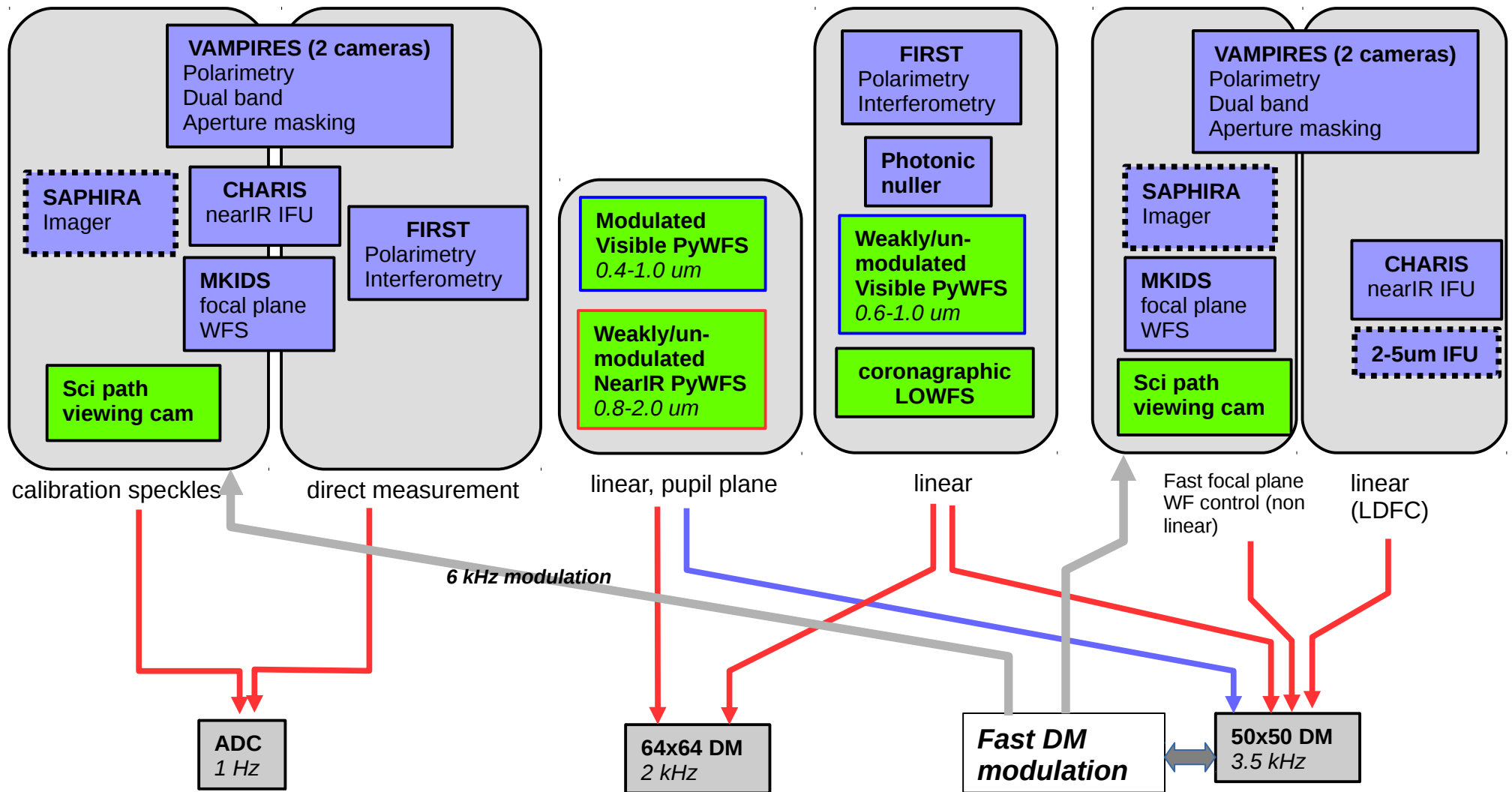


# SCEXAO Subaru Coronagraphic Extreme Adaptive Optics



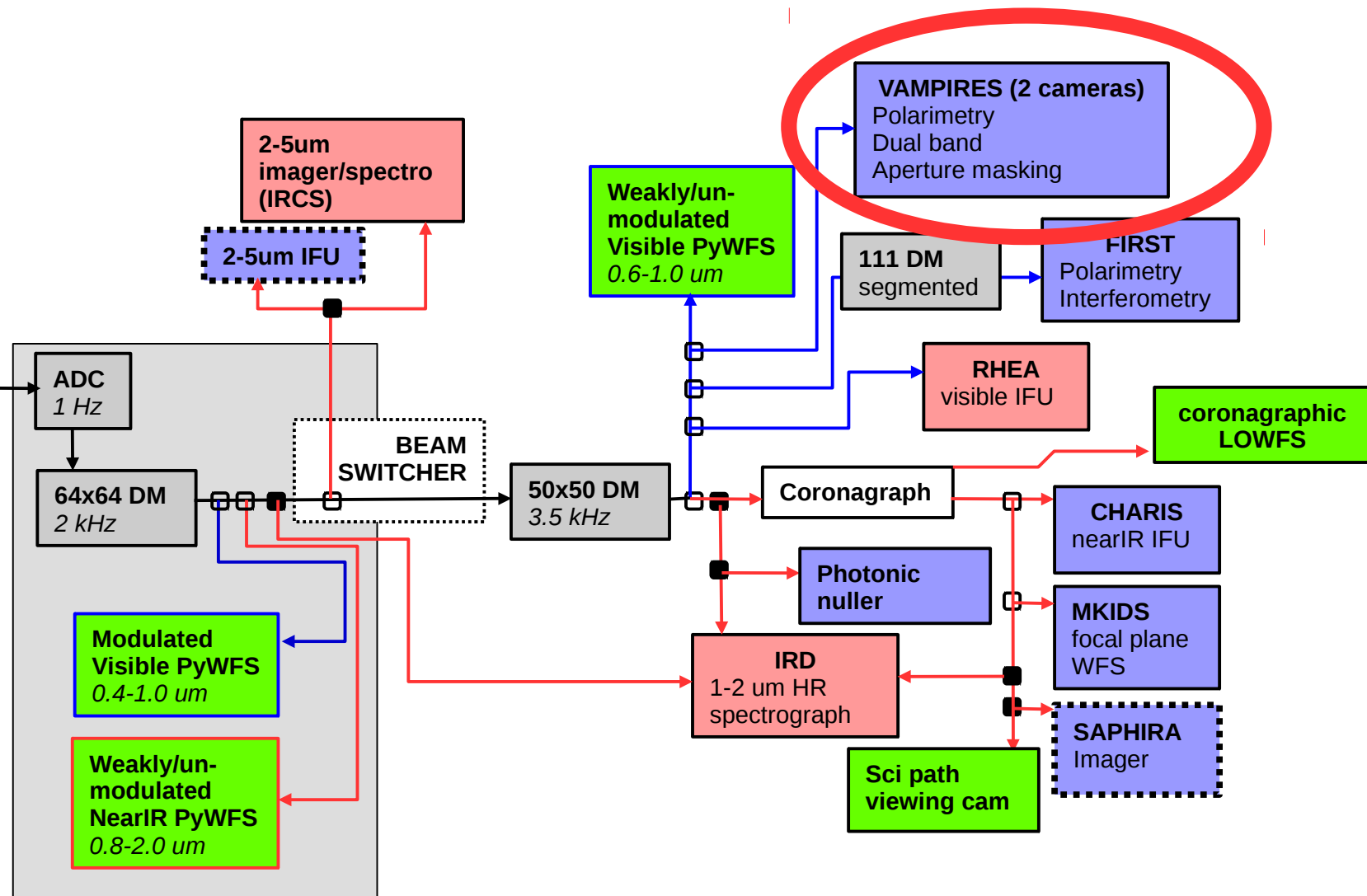


# Wavefront Control loops



→ Open loop control  
→ Open loop control







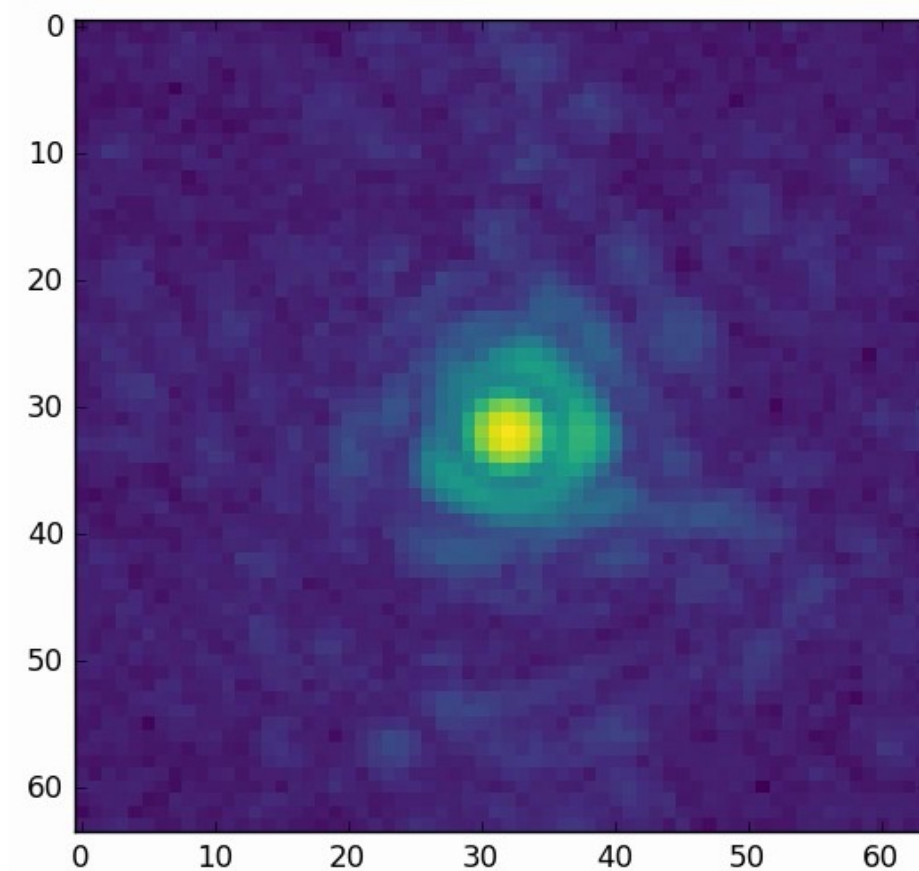
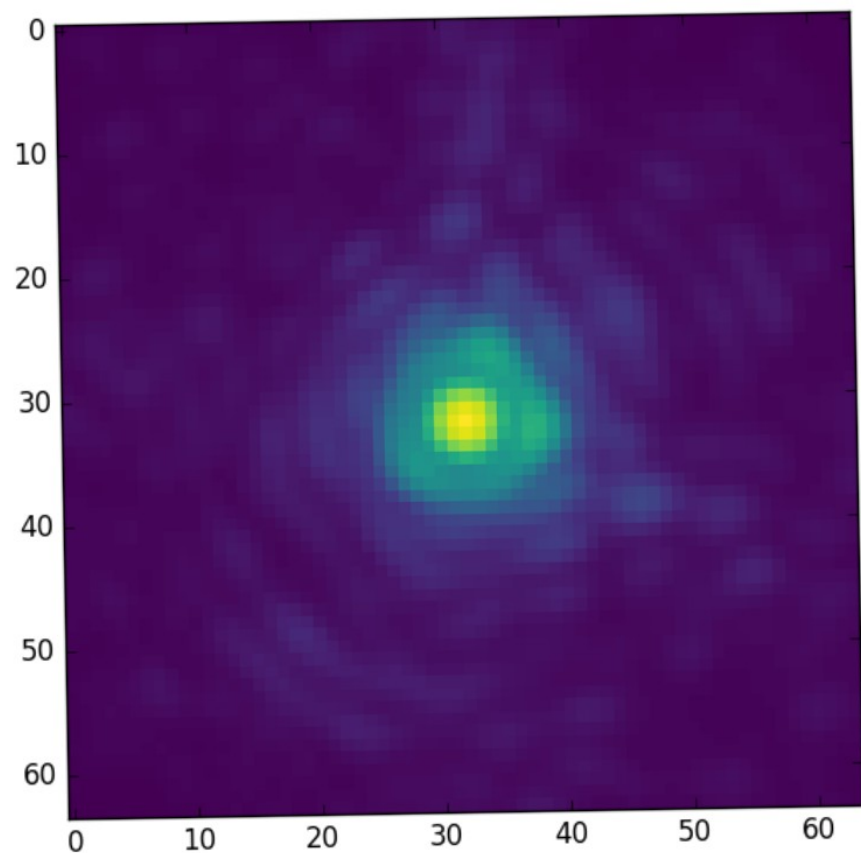
# Preliminary VAMPIRES science

*Diffraction-limited imaging in visible light*

750nm, 1kHz imaging  
log scale

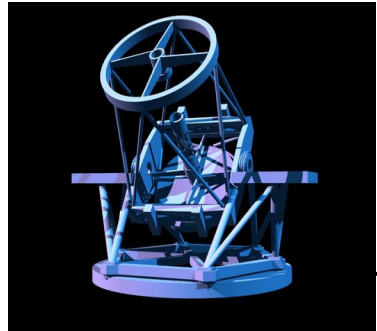
Summed image

Video

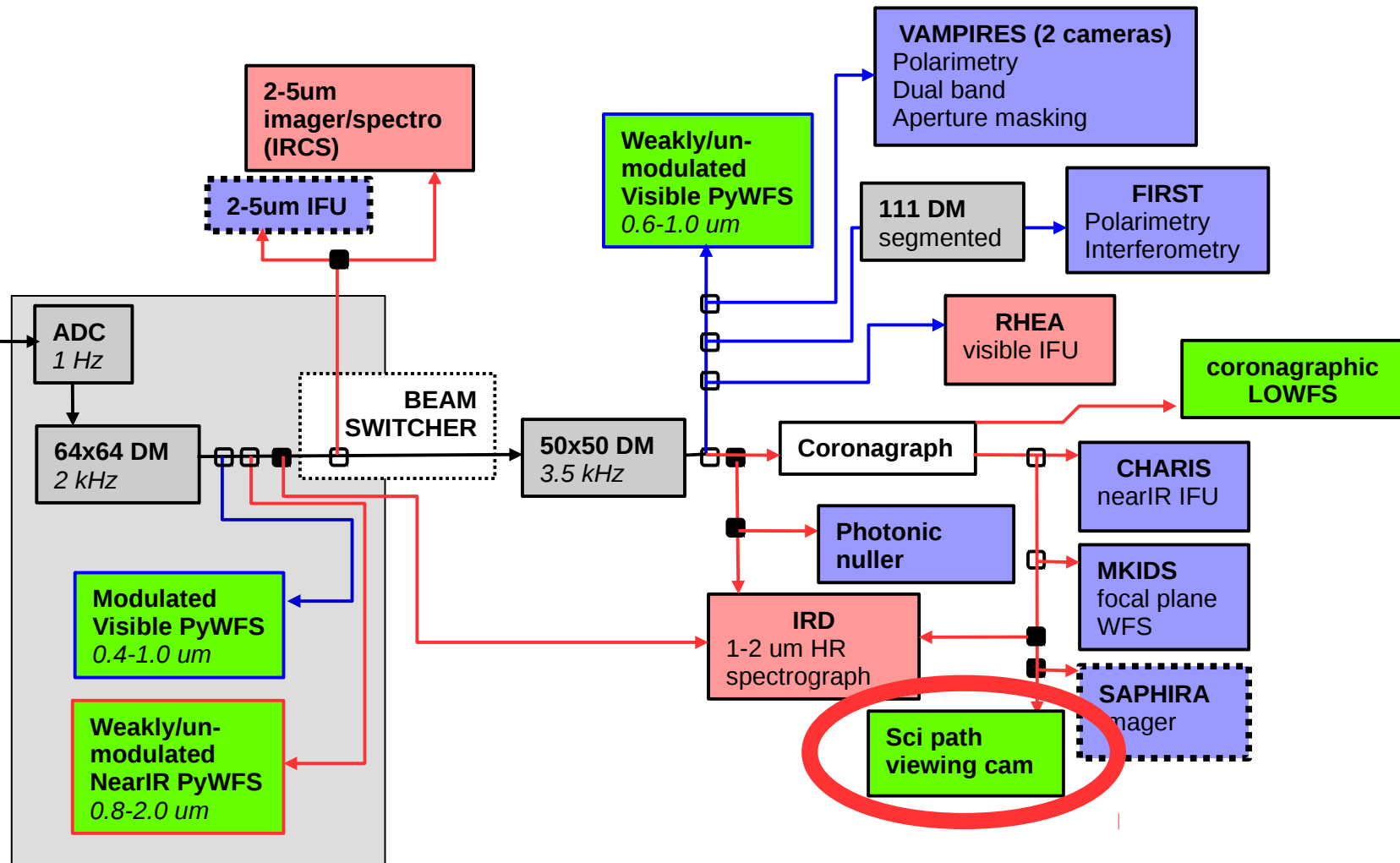




# SCExAO Light path



Facility AO



Active WF correction

Dedicated science instrument

Mixed science/WFS

Dedicated WFS

Visitor port

□ *dichroic*

■ *beam switch*

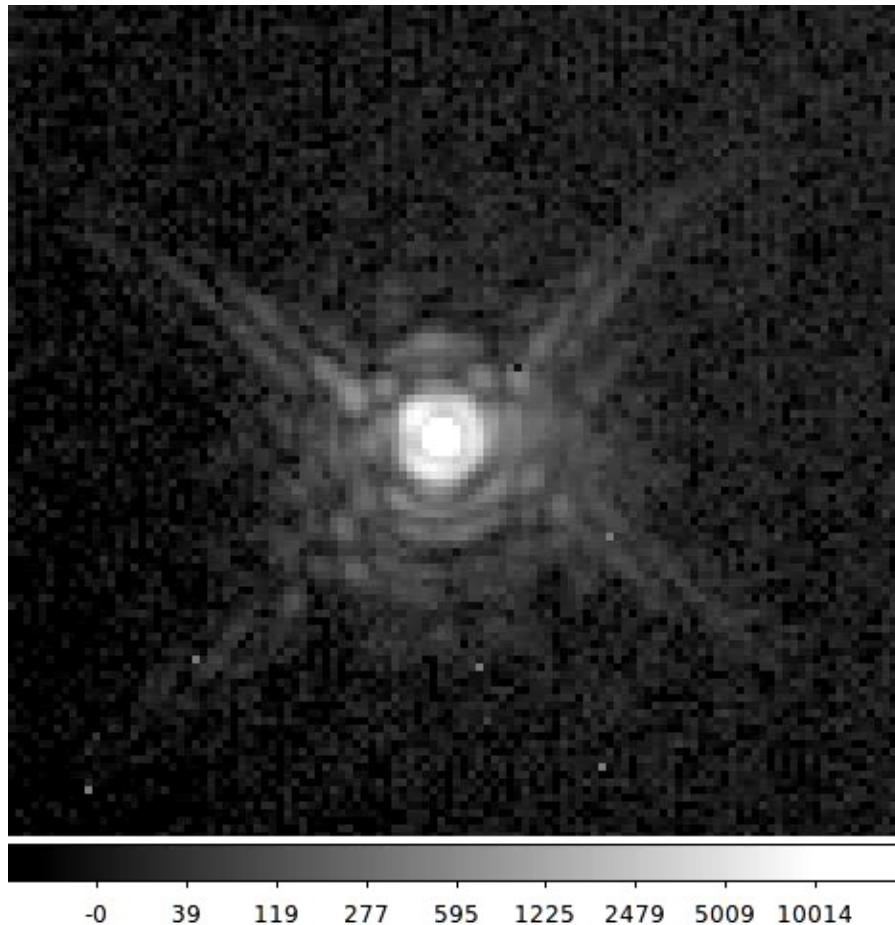


# Current PSF stability @ SCExAO

**Stable PSF for coronagraphy**

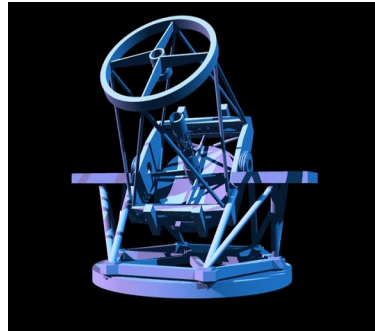
**SCExAO provides sensing and correction at 500 Hz - 3.5 kHz**

**14,400 pixel WFS → 2000 actuators**

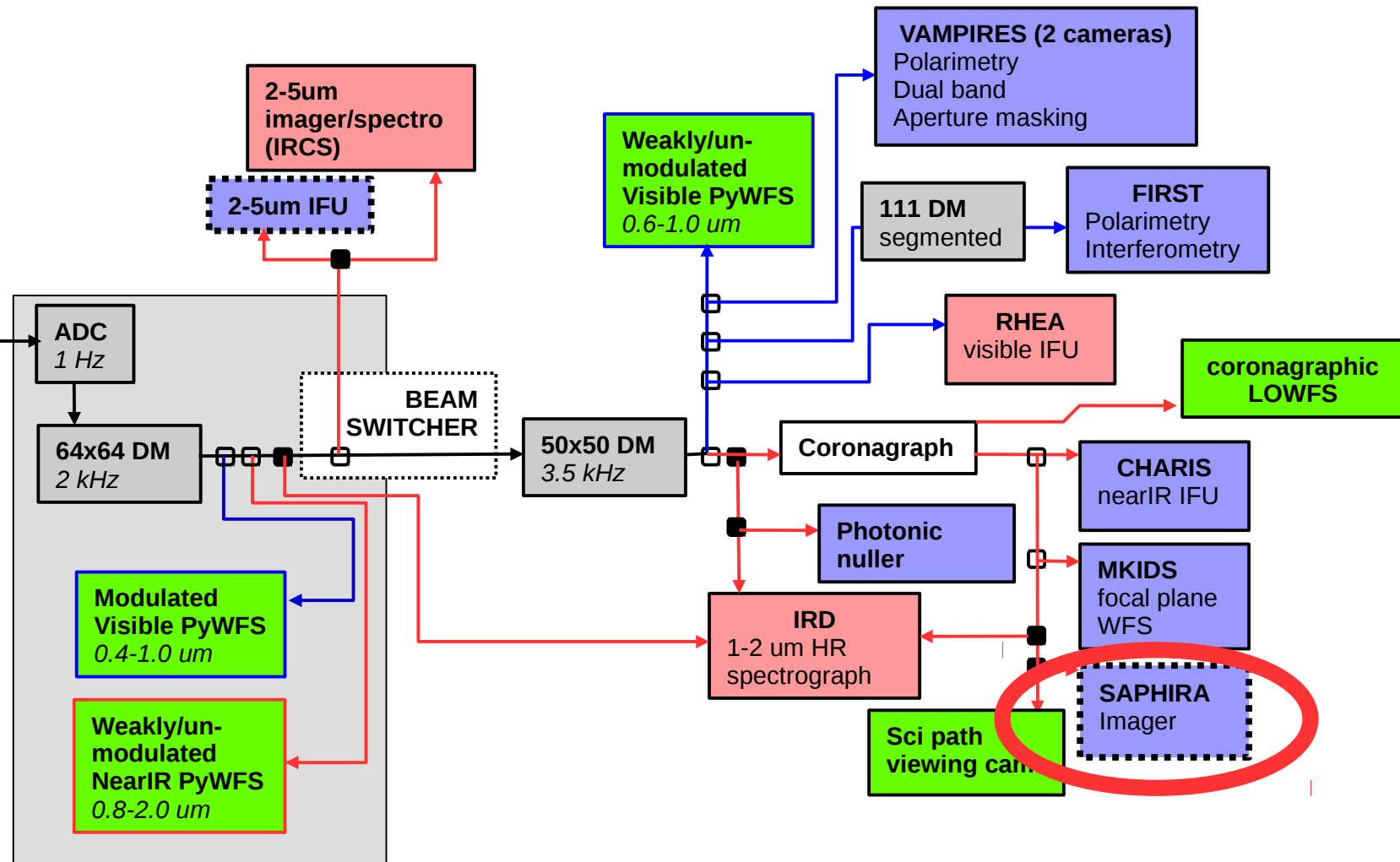


**1630nm (SCExAO internal camera)  
3 Hz sampling**

# SCExAO Light path



Facility AO



Active WF correction

Dedicated science instrument

Mixed science/WFS

Dedicated WFS

Visitor port

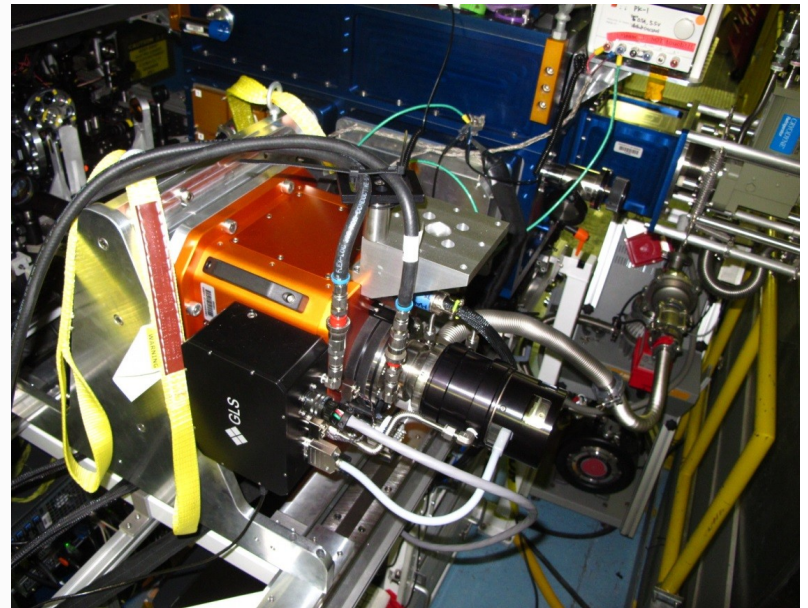
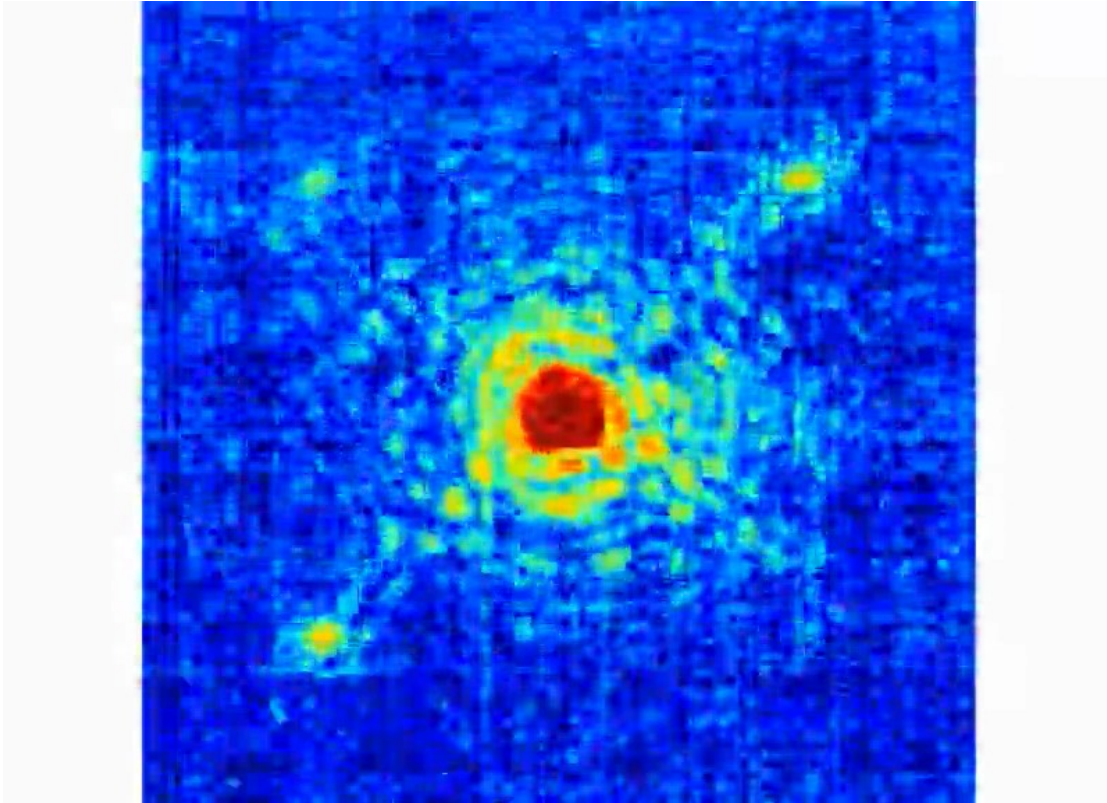
□ *dichroic*

■ *beam switch*

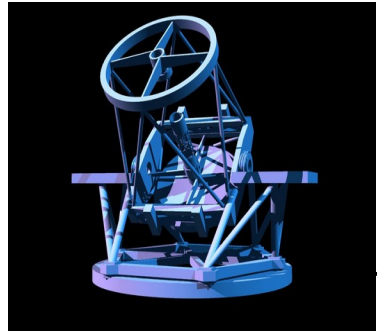


# SAPHIRA camera

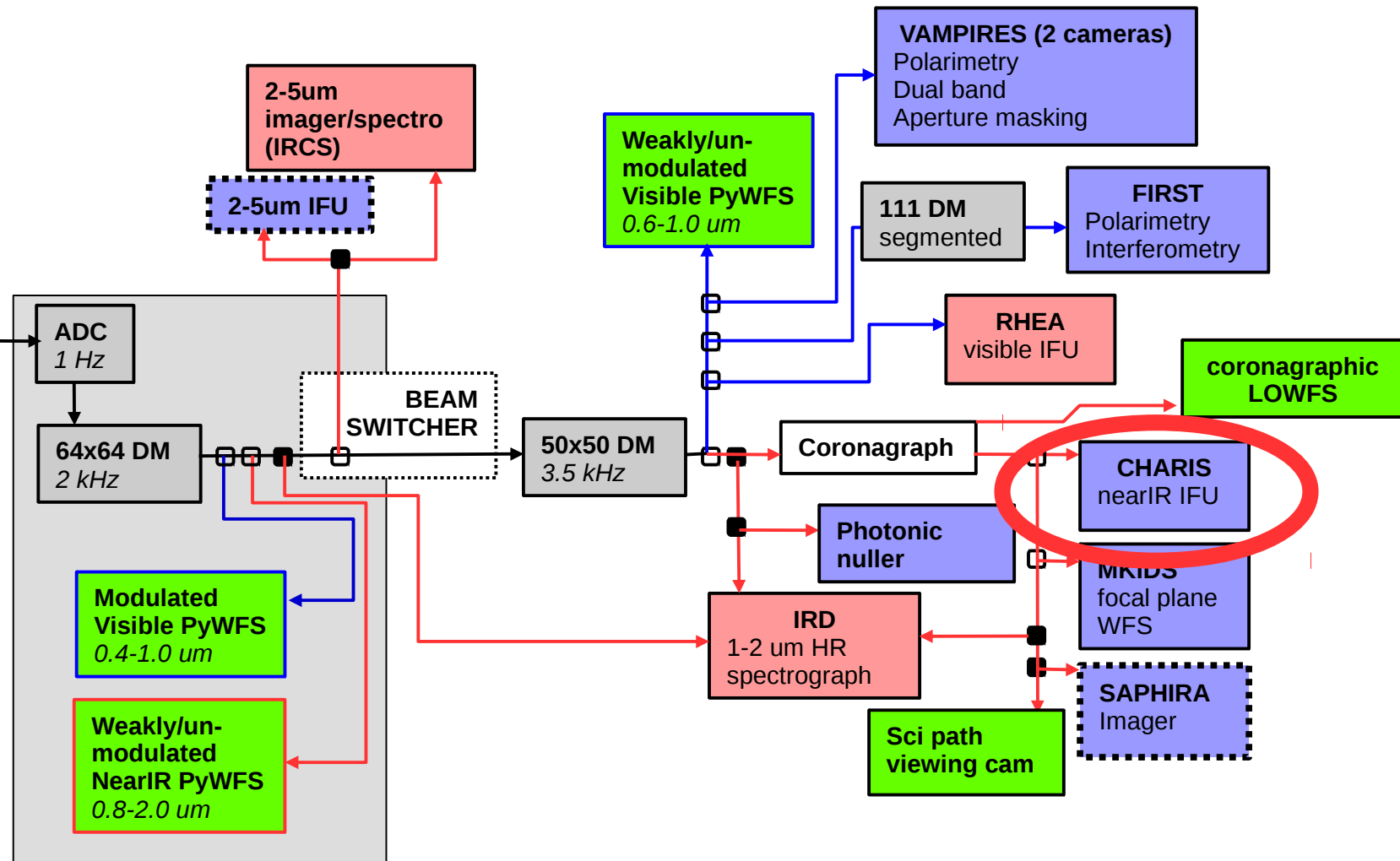
1.68 kHz frame rate, H-band  
(played at 90 Hz)  
SCExAO PyWFS ON → OFF



# SCExAO Light path



Facility AO



Active WF correction

Dedicated science instrument

Mixed science/WFS

Dedicated WFS

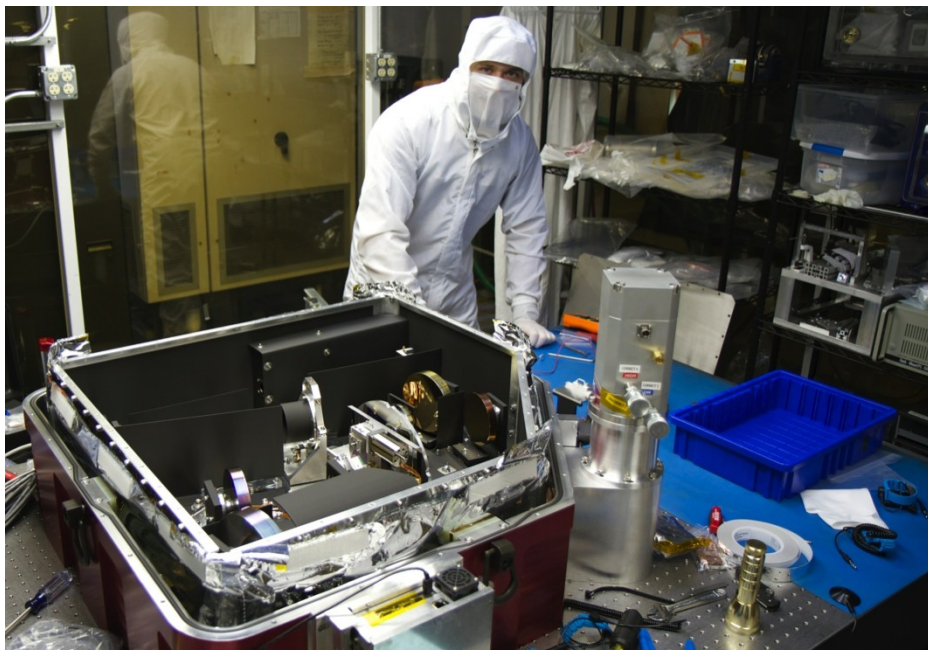
Visitor port

□ *dichroic*

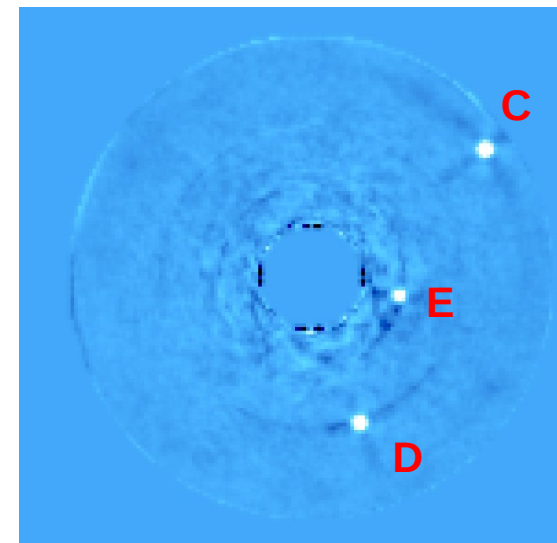
■ *beam switch*



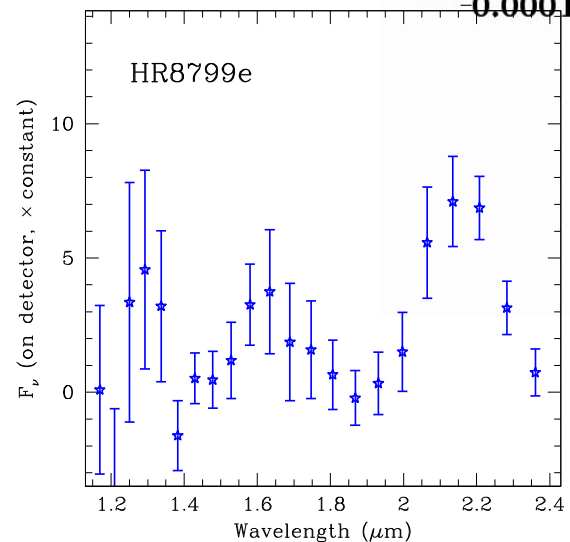
# CHARIS IFS



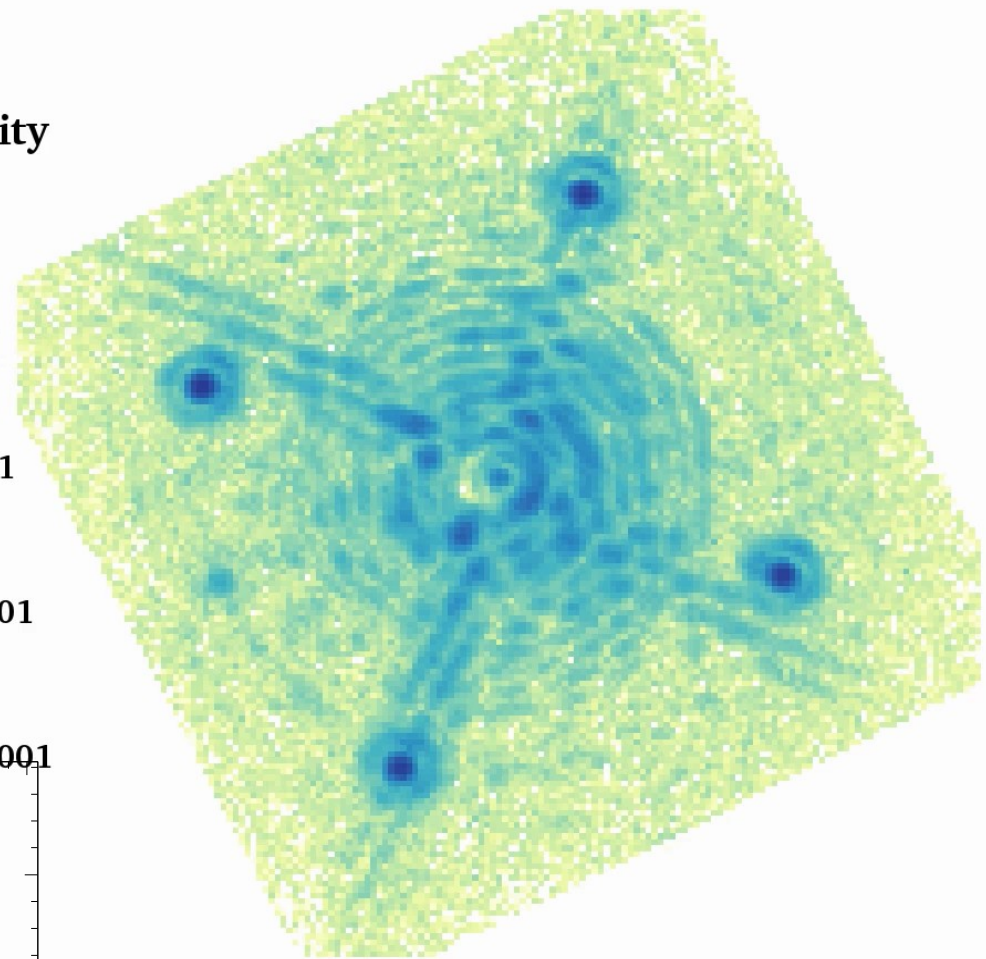
HR8799



HR8799 Observations by J. Chilcote & T. Groff  
preliminary data processing  
by T. Brandt

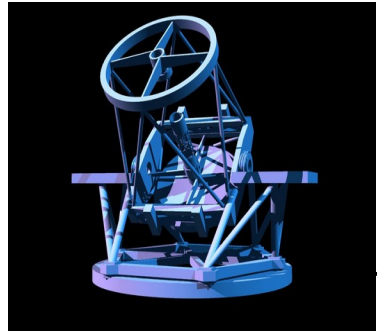


Intensity

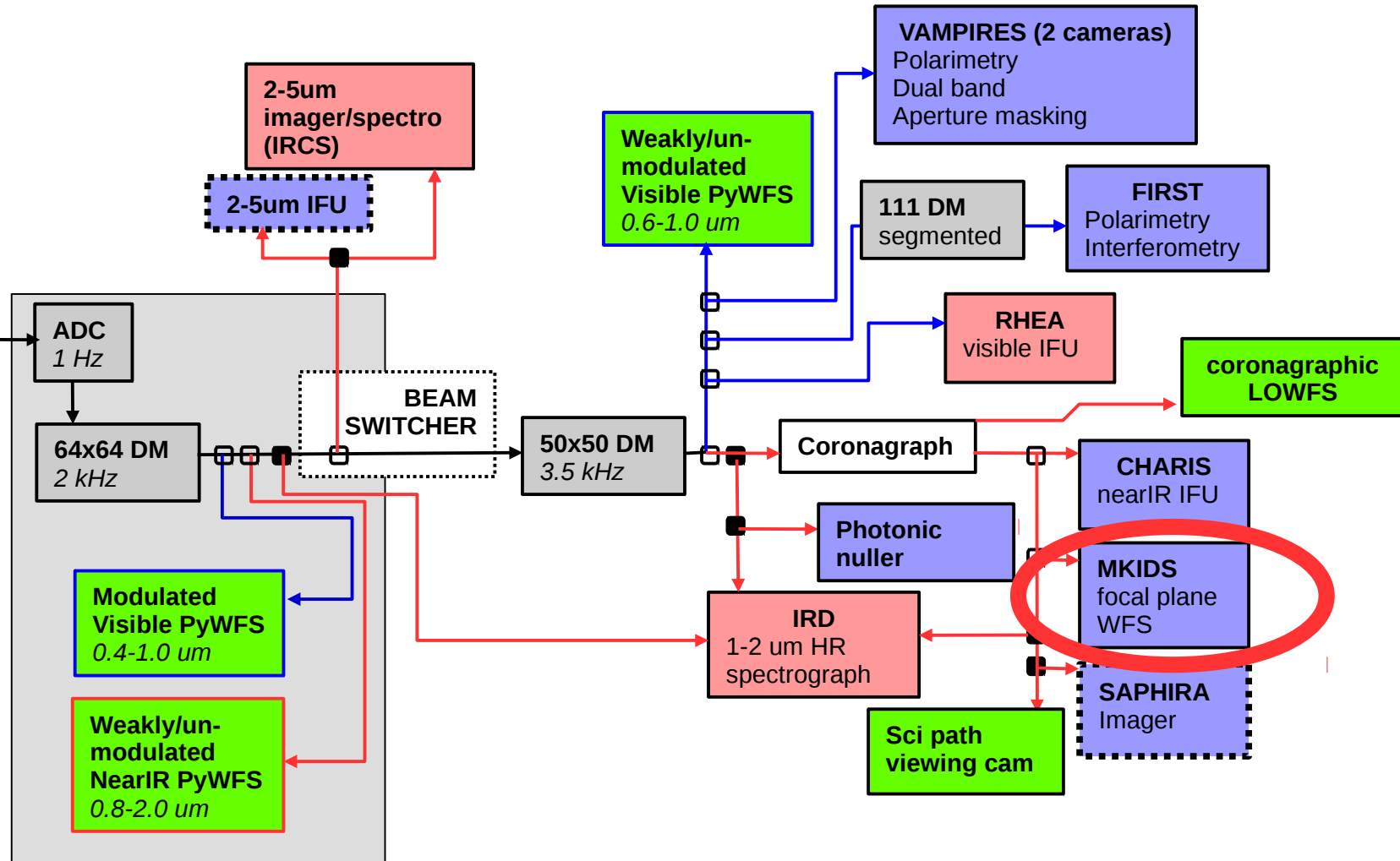


$\lambda = 1.93 \mu\text{m}$

# SCExAO Light path



Facility AO



Active WF correction

Dedicated science instrument

Mixed science/WFS

Dedicated WFS

Visitor port

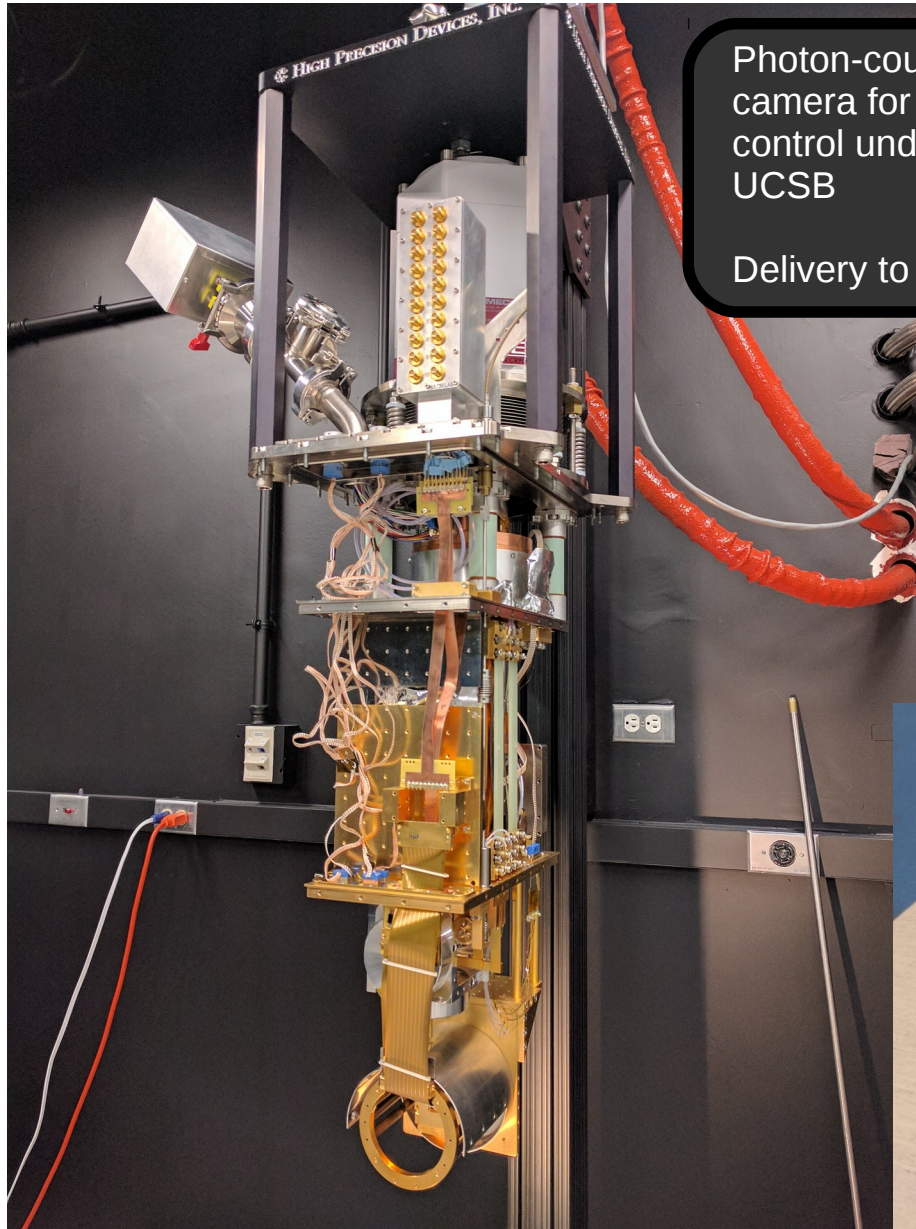
□ *dichroic*

■ *beam switch*



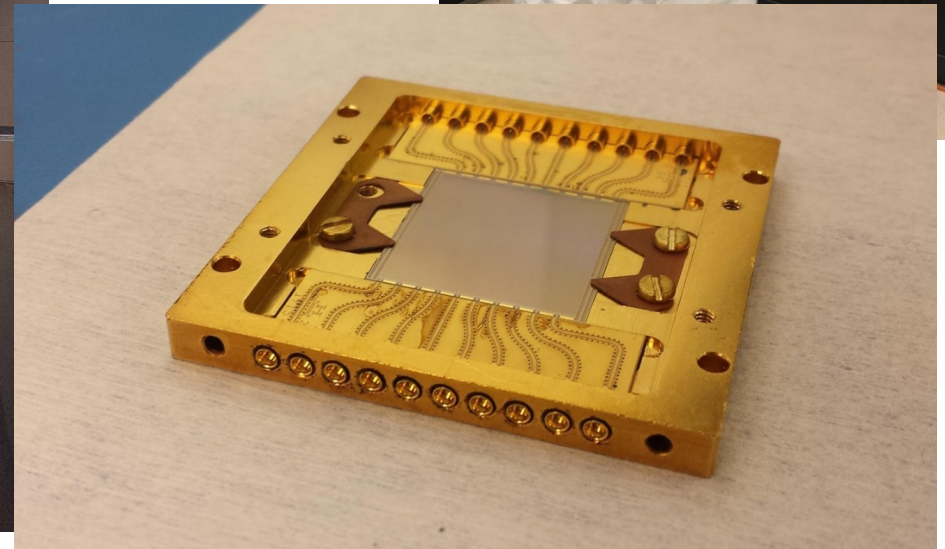
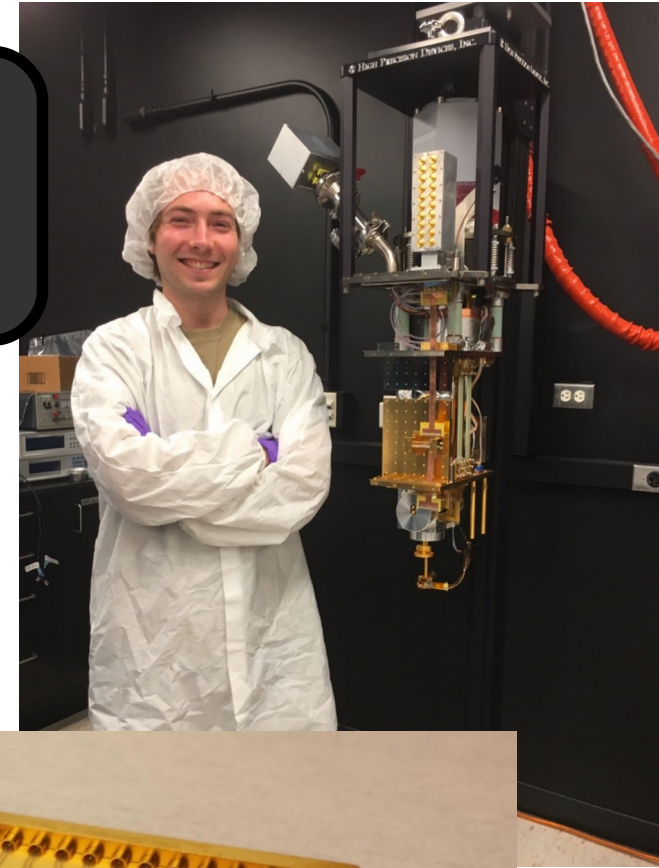
# MKIDS camera (built by UCSB for SCEExAO)

Photon-counting, wavelength resolving 140x140 pixel camera

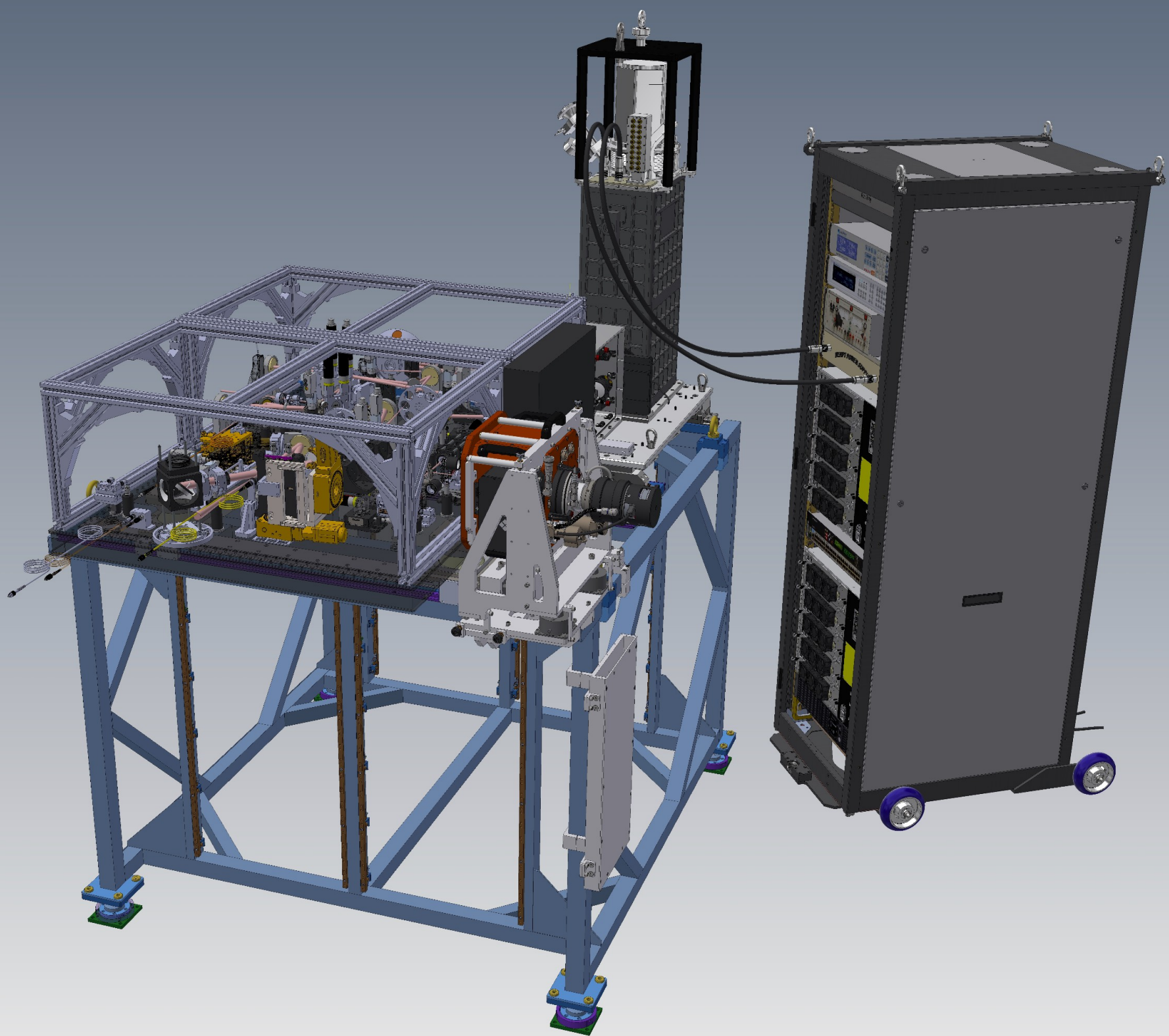


Photon-counting near-IR MKIDs camera for kHz speed speckle control under construction at UCSB

Delivery to SCEExAO in sept 2017









# Building community RTC / Software Ecosystem to support WFC development

## **Provide low-latency to run control loops**

→ Use mixed CPU & GPU resources, configured to RTC computer system

On SCExAO, control matrix is  $14,000 \times 2000$ . Matrix-vector computed in 100us using 15% of RTC resources @ 3kHz

## **Portable, open source, modular, COTS hardware**

→ No closed-source driver

→ std Linux install (no need for real-time OS)

→ using NVIDIA GPUs, also working on FPGA use

→ All code on github: <https://github.com/oguyon/AdaptiveOpticsControl>

## **Easy for collaborators to improve/add processes**

→ Hooks to data streams in Python or C

→ Template code, easy to adapt and implement new algorithms

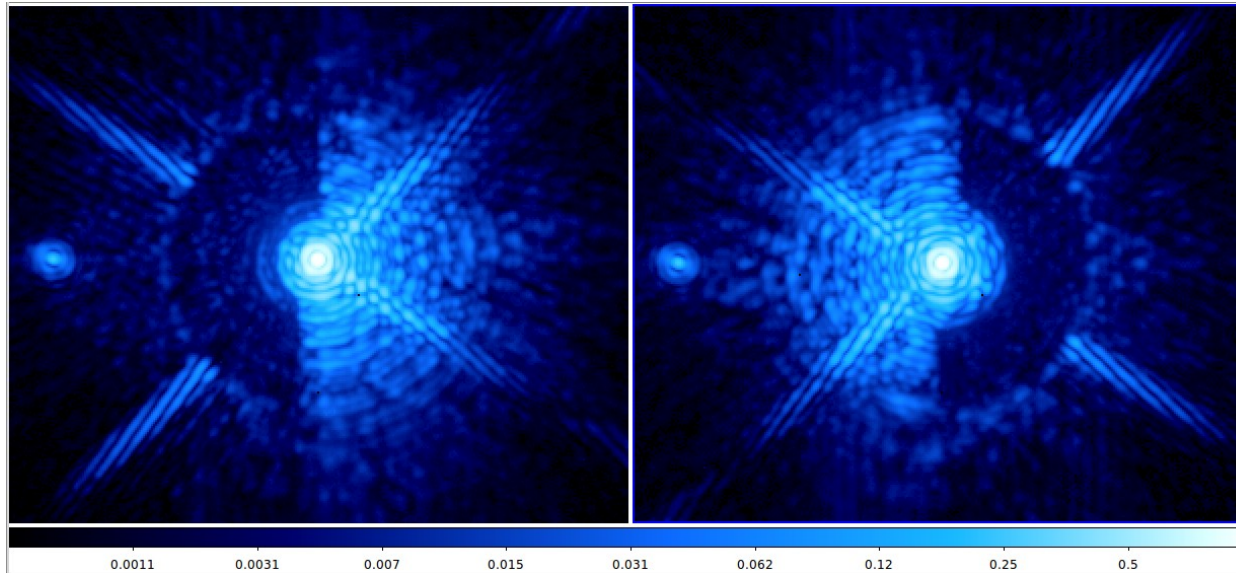
→ Provide abstraction of link between loops

→ Toolkit includes viewers, data logger, low-latency TCP transfer of streams

***RTC code used at Keck, MagAO-X, OCA ...***

***→ community support and development***

# Collaboration with OCA: speckle



Speckle nulling, in the lab and on-sky (no XAO).

Experience limited by detector readout noise and speed.

KERNEL project: C-RED-ONE camera.

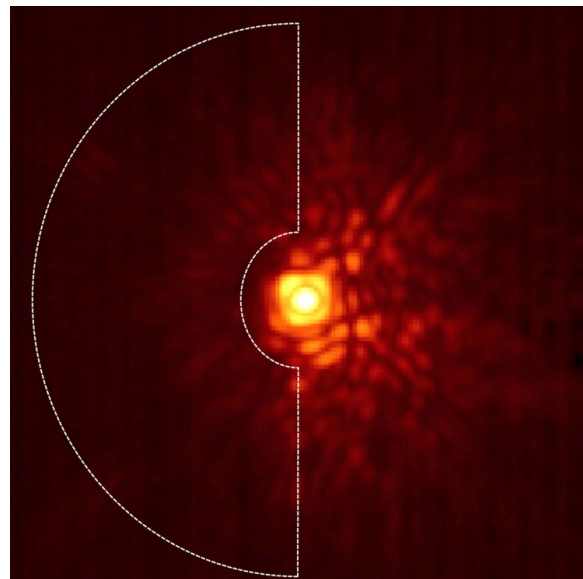
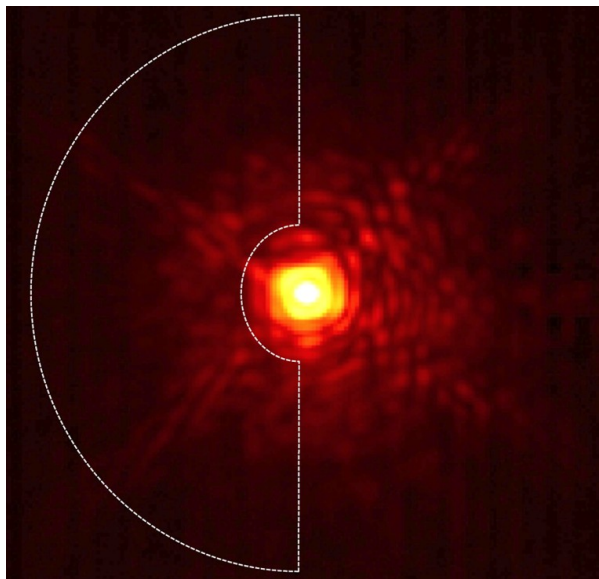
From:

- 114 e- RON
- 170 Hz frame rate

To:

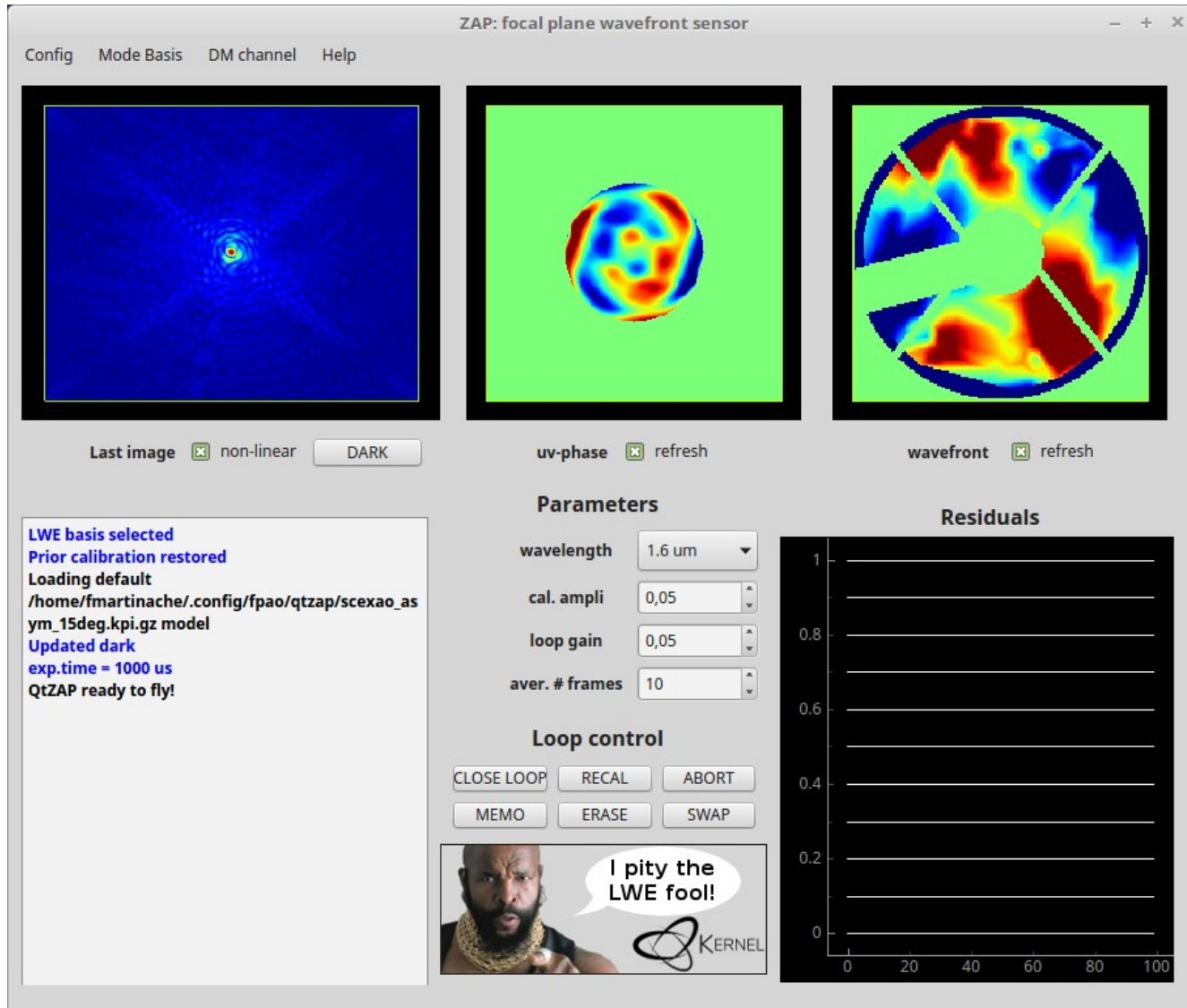
- 0.8 e- RON
- 3500 Hz frame rate

Expect some updates





# OCA/KERNEL – developed software



- Address NCPA
- Asymmetric mask (pupil)
- On-sky closed-loop control
- Focal plane based WFS  
Low-order (Zernike and LWE) modes.
- mode compatible with coronagraphy in development

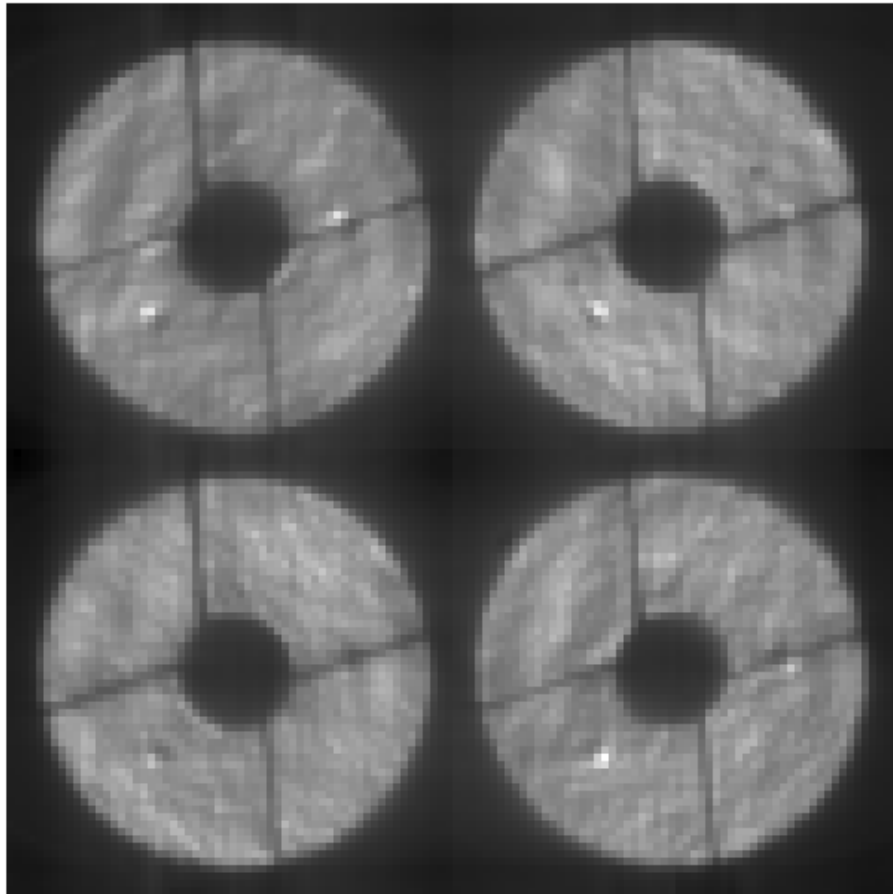


# Measuring system response matrix at 3kHz

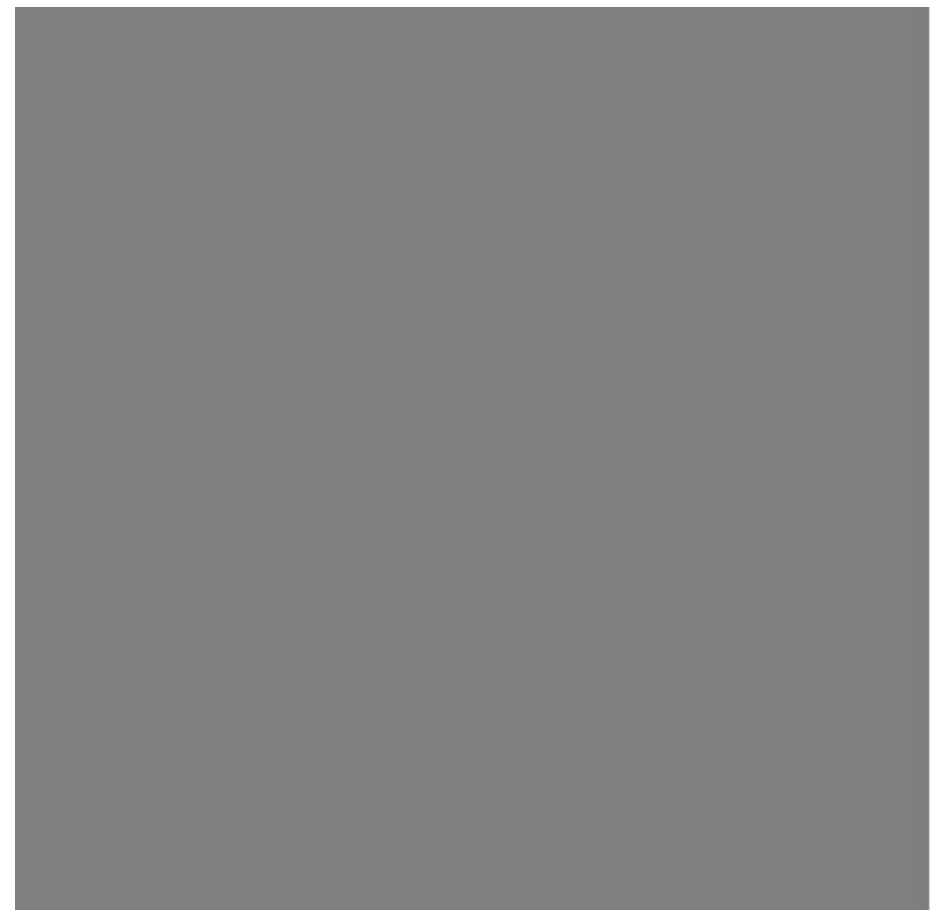
Full speed DM modulation to measure response matrix

DM motion occurs during EMCCD frame transfer

2000 modes measured in 1.33 sec @ 3kHz, 2sec @ 2kHz. Multiple cycles averaged to build up SNR



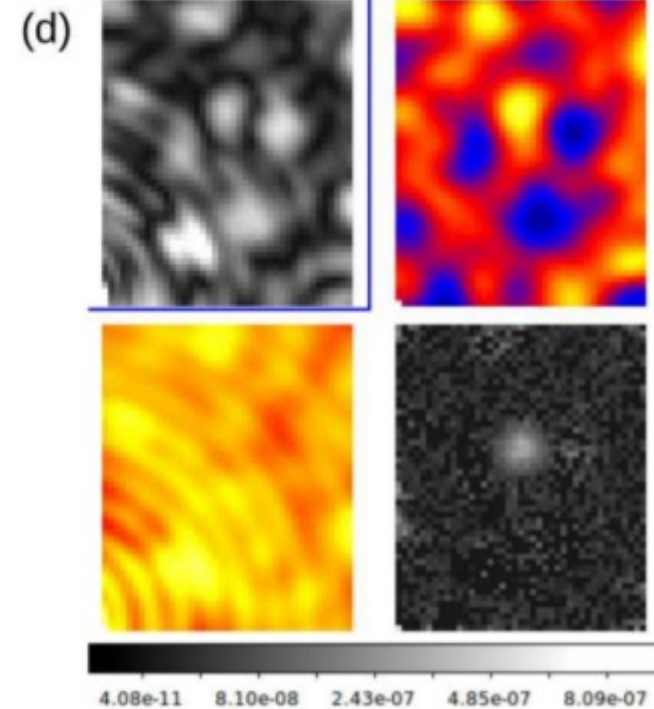
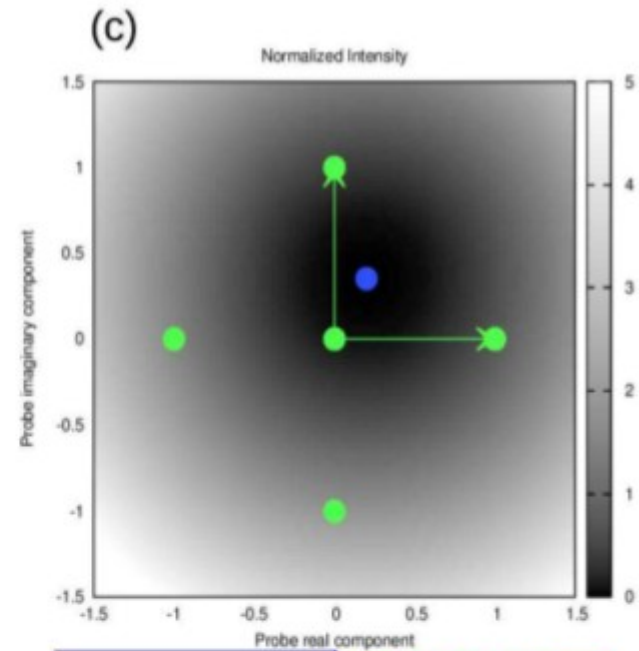
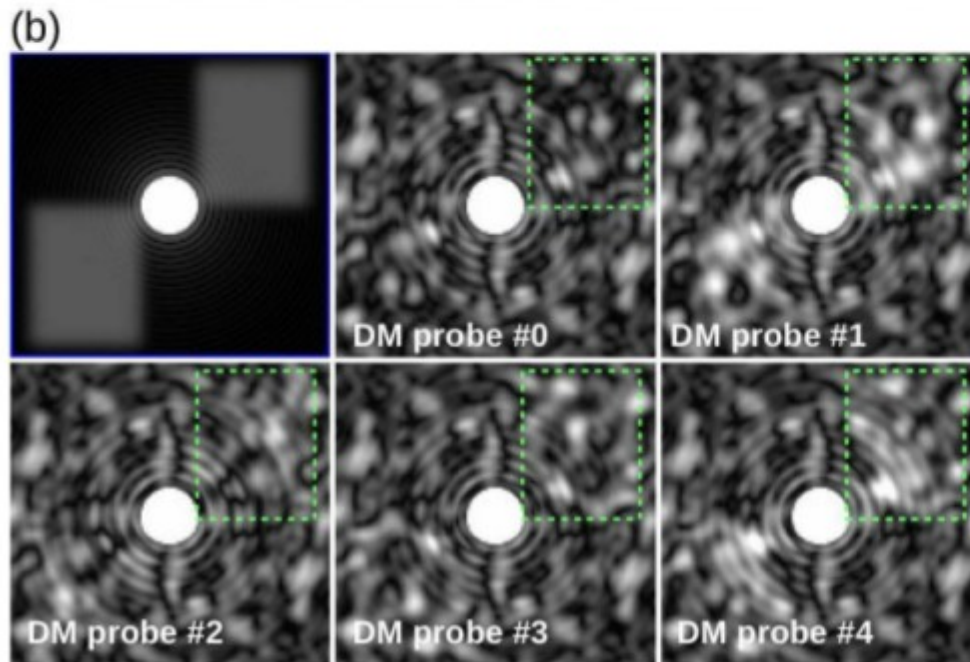
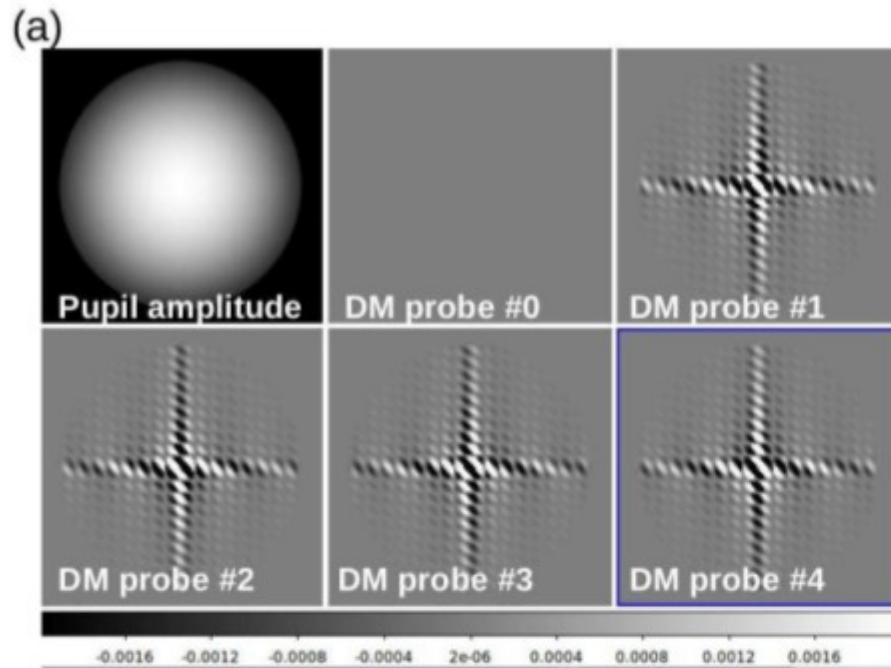
-1.48e-06    3.78e-05    1.16e-04    2.34e-04    3.91e-04



-8e-06    -4e-06    9.8e-09    4e-06    8e-06



# Coherent Speckle Differential Imaging



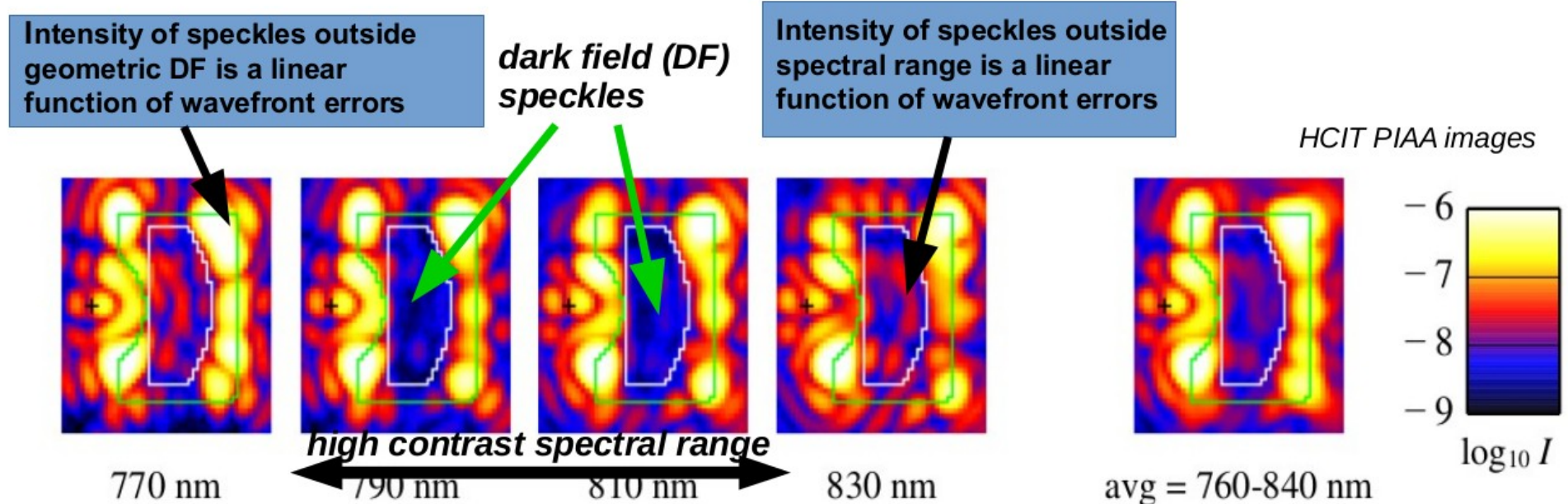
# Linear Dark Field Control (LDFC)

See also: Miller et al. 2017, Guyon et al. 2017 (astro-ph)

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**








December 19th, 2016


 **bnorris** 1:34 AM  
Crap! Yes sounds like it's best to leave it off. Well if you do go up be sure to look out for snow kangaroos. They're deadly.


 **olivier** 1:36 AM  
it's low probability that a significant leak would develop... but I prefer to play it safe  
I'll go up in the day with DC if I can and then we can both test with the DM  
I'm in simulator software mode, so you can use the superK as you wish


 **bnorris** 1:38 AM  
Ok cool, thx. I'll turn it off when I'm done.


 **olivier** 1:38 AM  
OK

 **olivier** 1:45 AM  
I'll try (later tonight) to run the DM at reduced voltage - this should be safe and should allow enough stroke for the dmflat

 **bnorris** 1:49 AM  
ok cool

 **olivier** 3:20 AM  
B: let me know if you need flat - I'm set it up so that is uses 80V instead of 120V. The flat may not be perfect but it's close.


 **bnorris** 3:21 AM  
It's ok for now, I don't need it flat at the moment.


 **olivier** 3:21 AM  
OK - let me know when you need it


# Using SCExAO instrument


← slack channel to coordinate instrument use over multiple continents


December 20th, 2016


 **bnorris** 6:13 AM  
Can I turn on the superk?


 **olivier** 7:54 AM  
yes... I see you just did  
do you need a DM flat (I keep the DM off ... haven't been able to go to summit check things out)


 **bnorris** 7:56 AM  
Yeah that would be good. I'm going to stop in < 1 hr. Also was wondering about turb simulator.


 **olivier** 7:56 AM  
mmm... I prefer to keep the DM off for now. Can you wait another 12hr ?


 **bnorris** 7:57 AM  
Yep sure.


 **olivier** 7:57 AM  
OK - feel free to use bench as you need (without DM) for now. I am working on a "simulated" SCExAO for now.  
just turn off superK when done


 **bnorris** 7:58 AM  
Ok. I like the sound of the simulated scexao - let's just use that all the time, instead of the real one.


 **olivier** 9:15 PM  
B: DM can be used safely

 **nem** 9:15 PM  
great, what was the humidity? like 2% right

 **olivier** 9:21 PM  
14%  
a bit high, but safe

 **nem** 9:22 PM  
hmm, thats high for the vac pump being on

 **olivier** 9:24 PM  
B: let me know when you need DM flat

 **olivier** 10:17 PM  
OK - I'm keeping full control of DM until someone else screams

# Conclusions

SCEXAO is a flexible platform for testing and deploying new techniques (hardware, algorithms).

Allows for smooth evolution from Daytime testing with internal source to nighttime on-sky validation

Coordinated development with MagAO-X (→ GMT), Keck (→ TMT), SPHERE upgrades (→ ELT), + fundamental research in WFC for space missions

Major ongoing effort to develop software ecosystem to facilitate algorithm development and test across observatories/instruments/labs.

Multiple opportunities to get involved:

Test algorithms, reduce data, new hardware, looking for exoplanets, cool project for postdoc fellowship ?

→ talk to us

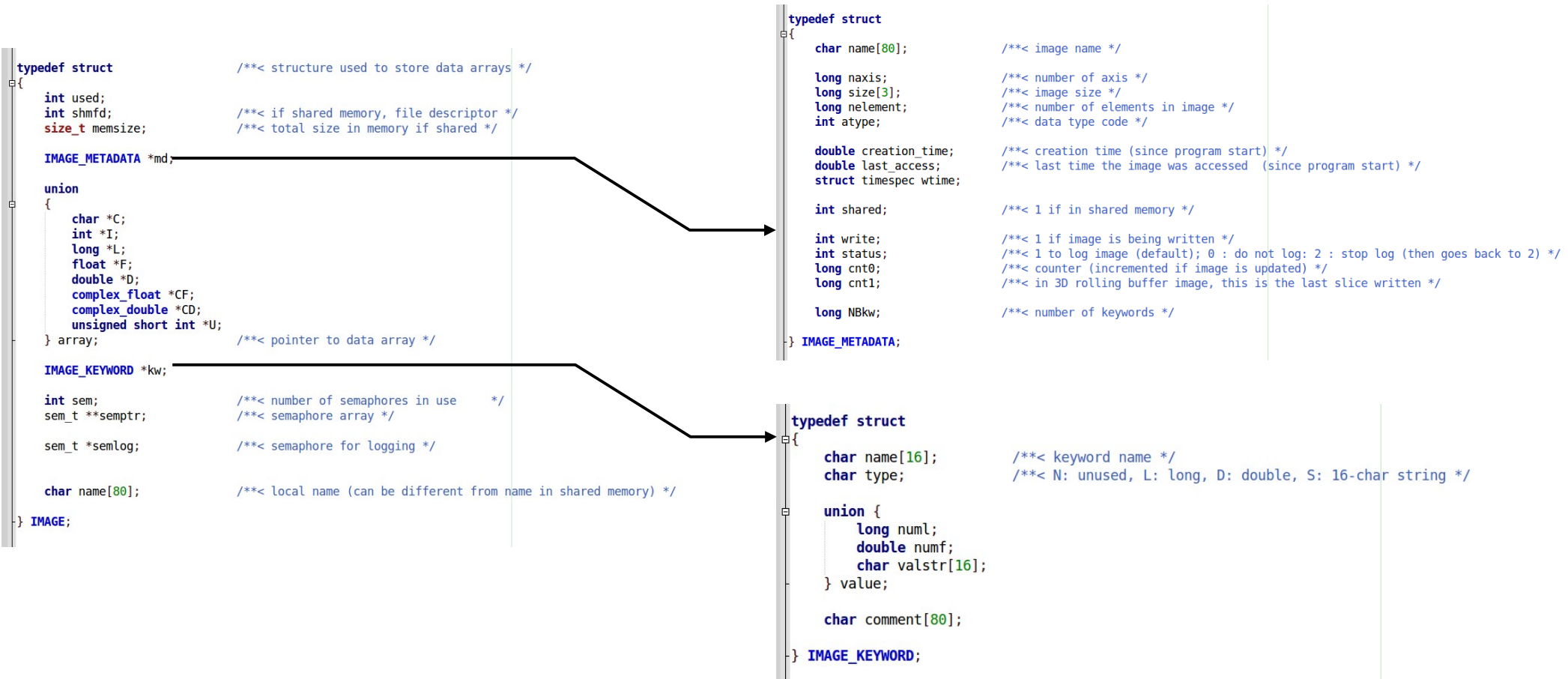


**Backup slides**

# Data Stream Format

Uses file-mapped POSIX shared memory → multiple processes have access to data

Supports low latency IPC through semaphores → us-level latency



Drivers written for:

OCAM2k, BMC DM, SAPHIRA camera, InGaAs cameras



**ao10RT** : CPU set

## Data flow from WFS to DM

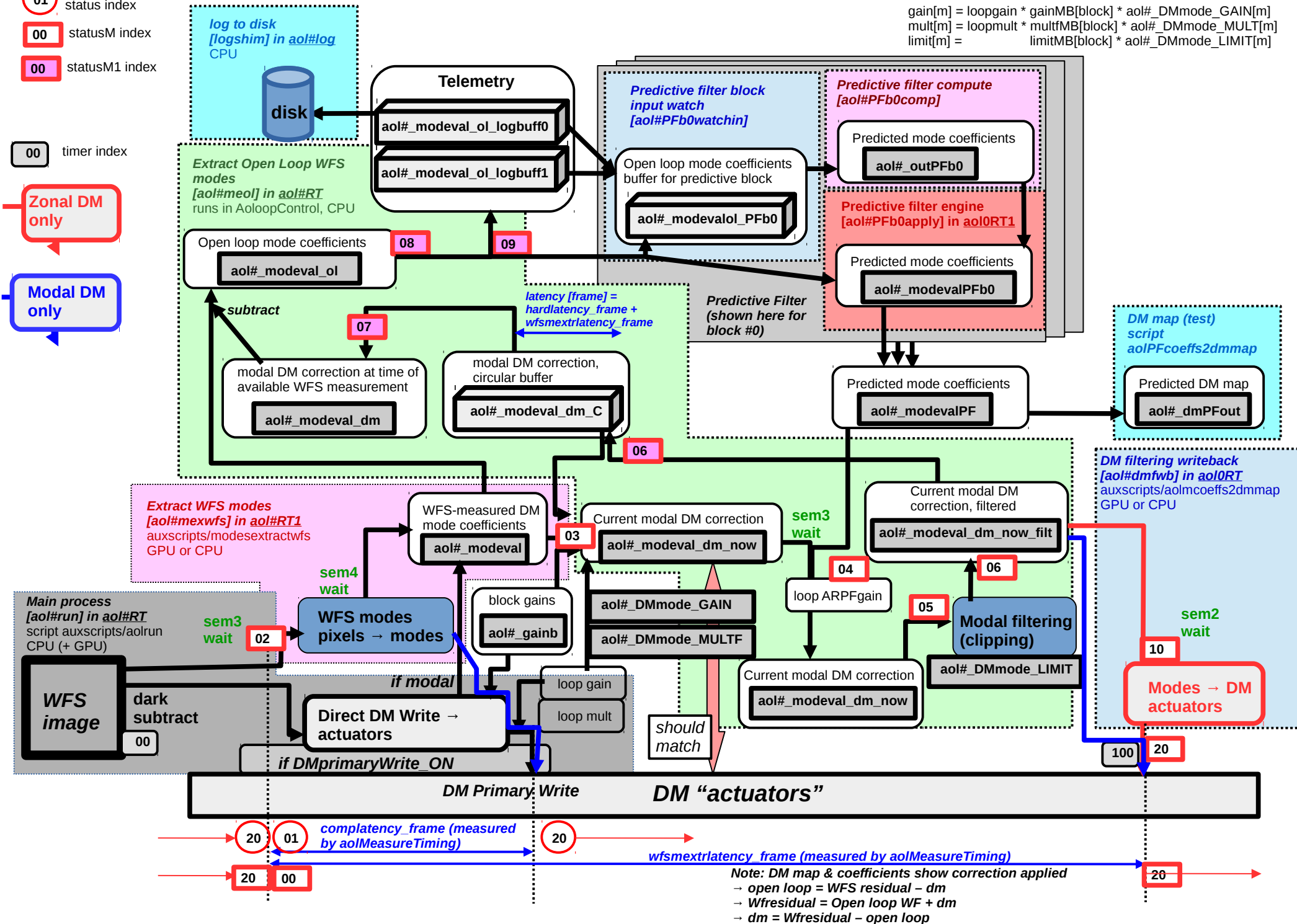
```
gain[m] = loopgain * gainMB[block] * aol#_DMmode_GAIN[m]
mult[m] = loopmult * multfMB[block] * aol#_DMmode_MULT[m]
limit[m] =          limitMB[block] * aol#_DMmode_LIMIT[m]
```

- 01 status index
- 00 statusM index
- 00 statusM1 index

00	timer index
----	-------------

**Zonal DM only**

Moda  
only



# Hardware Latency measured on SCExAO

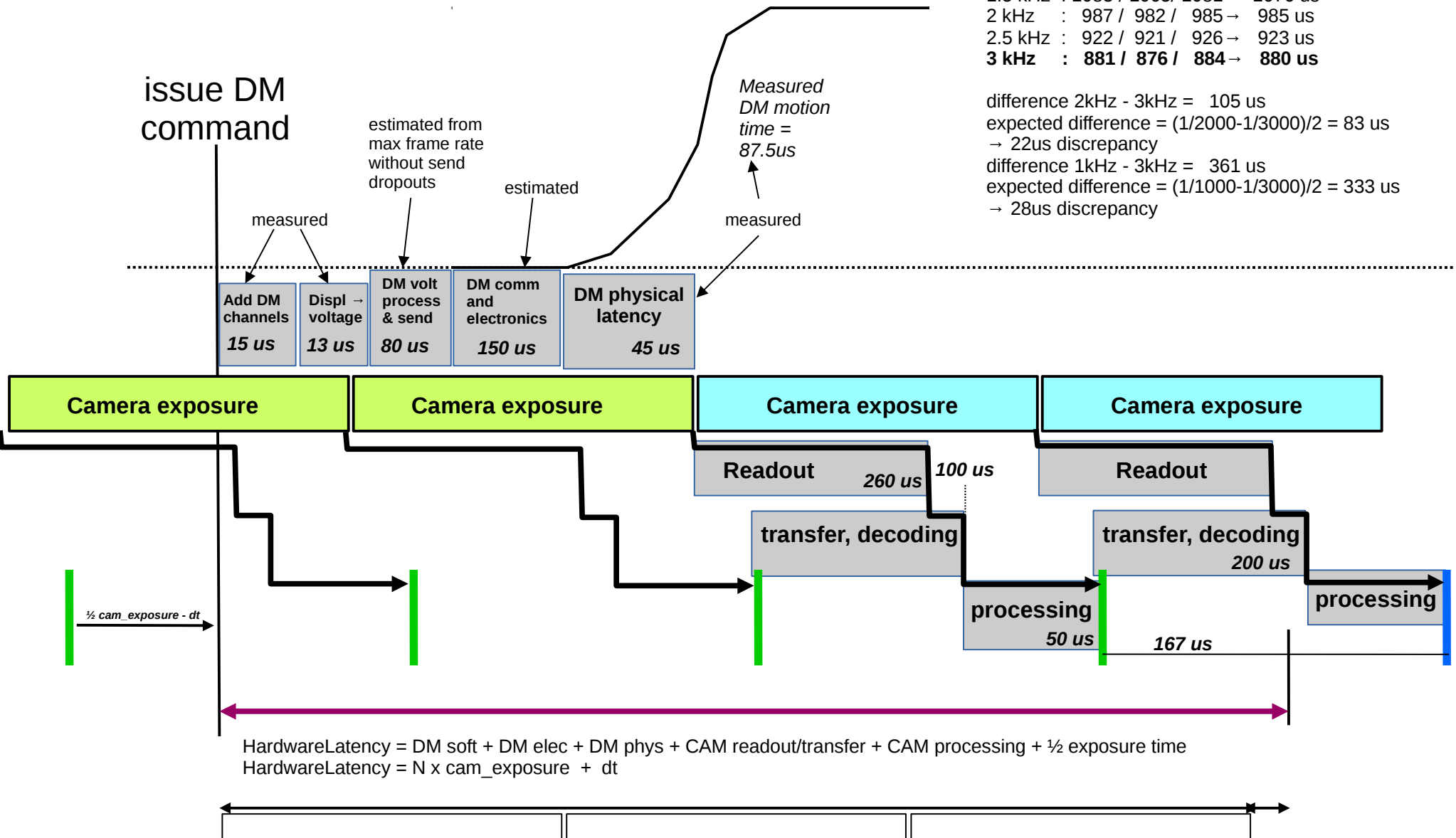
*Definition:*

*Time offset between **DM command issued**, and **mid-point between 2 consecutive WFS frames with largest difference***

SCExAO measured hardware latencies:

1 kHz : 1253 / 1260 / 1269 → 1261 us  
 1.5 kHz : 1083 / 1065 / 1081 → 1076 us  
 2 kHz : 987 / 982 / 985 → 985 us  
 2.5 kHz : 922 / 921 / 926 → 923 us  
 3 kHz : **881 / 876 / 884 → 880 us**

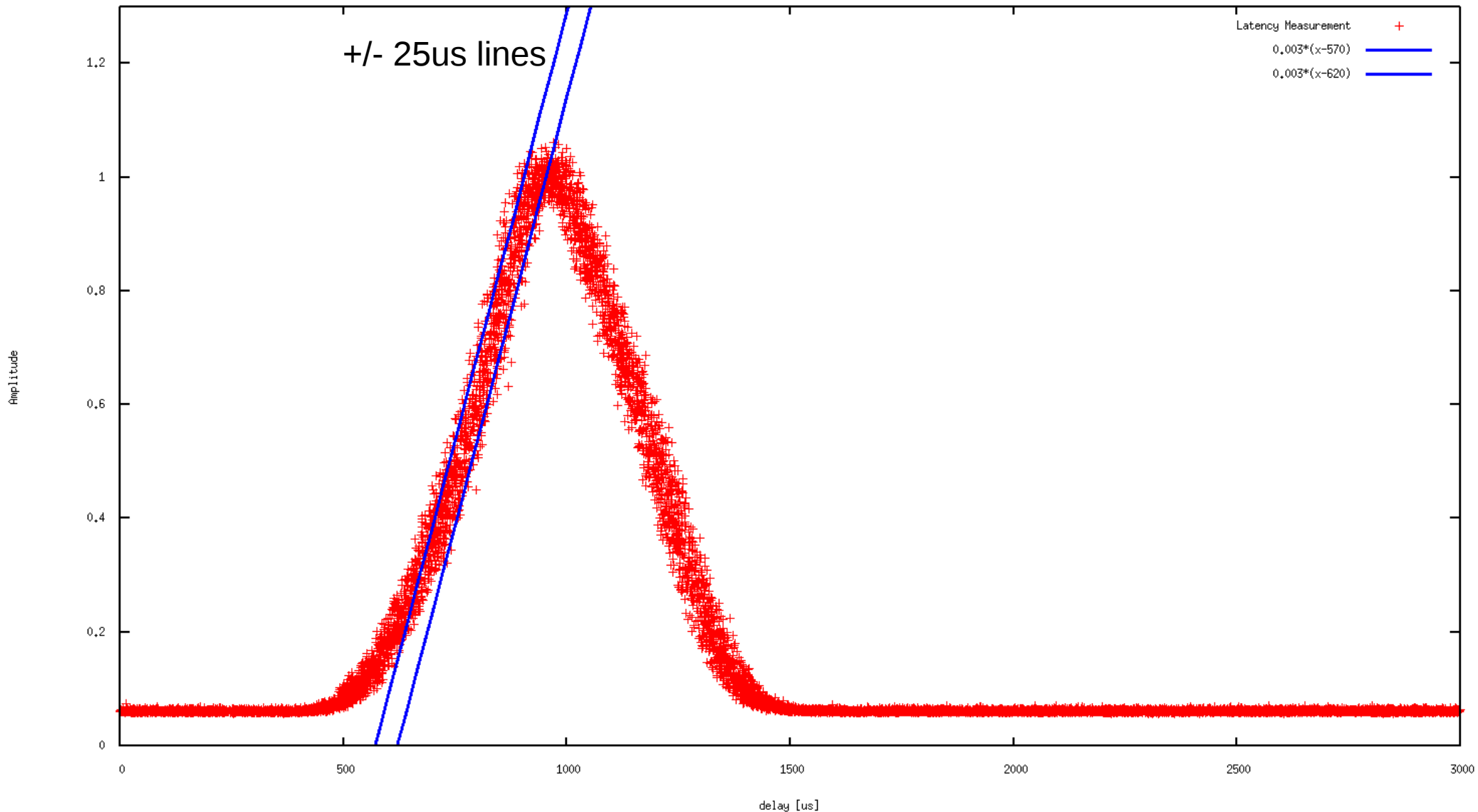
difference 2kHz - 3kHz = 105 us  
 expected difference =  $(1/2000 - 1/3000)/2 = 83$  us  
 → 22us discrepancy  
 difference 1kHz - 3kHz = 361 us  
 expected difference =  $(1/1000 - 1/3000)/2 = 333$  us  
 → 28us discrepancy





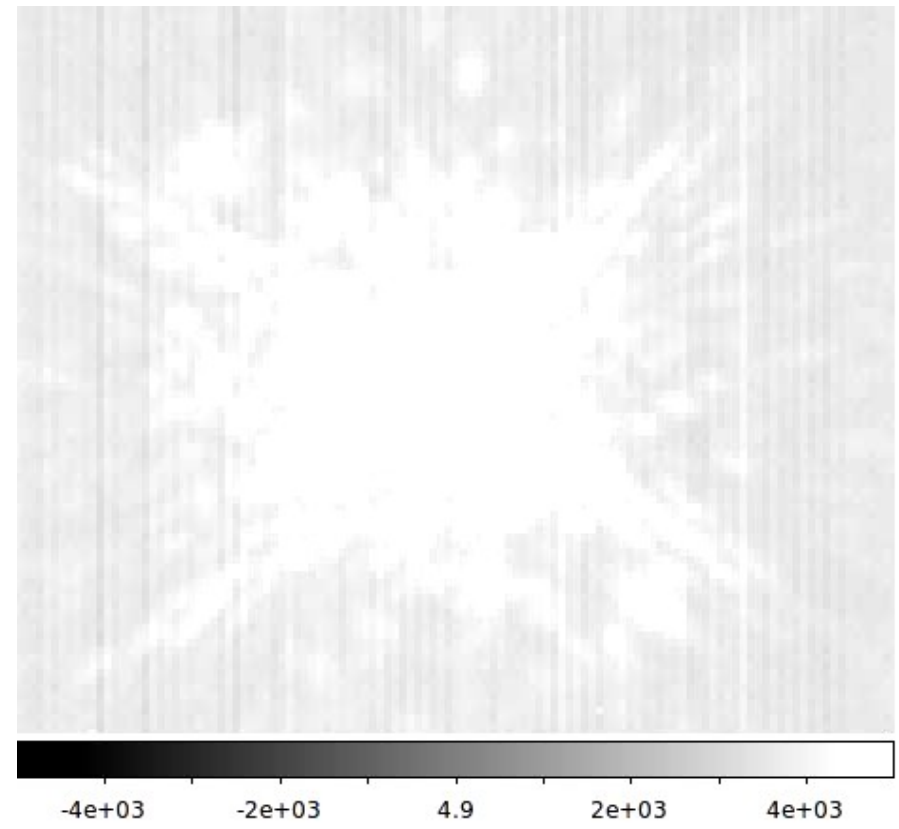
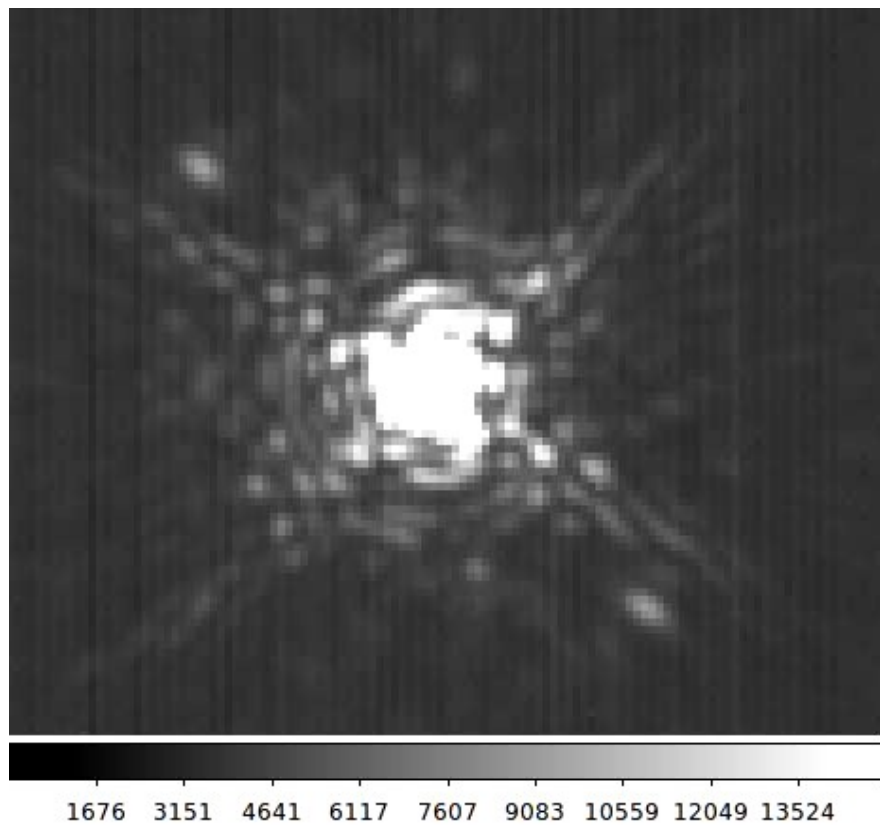
# Hardware Latency measured on SCExAO

Total jitter <20us RMS = 6% of loop iteration @ 3kHz  
(Camera readout + TCP transfer + processing + DM electronics)  
Max jitter <40us



# Synchronizing camera stream to DM (170 Hz)

6kHz DM modulation swaps between 2 diag patterns



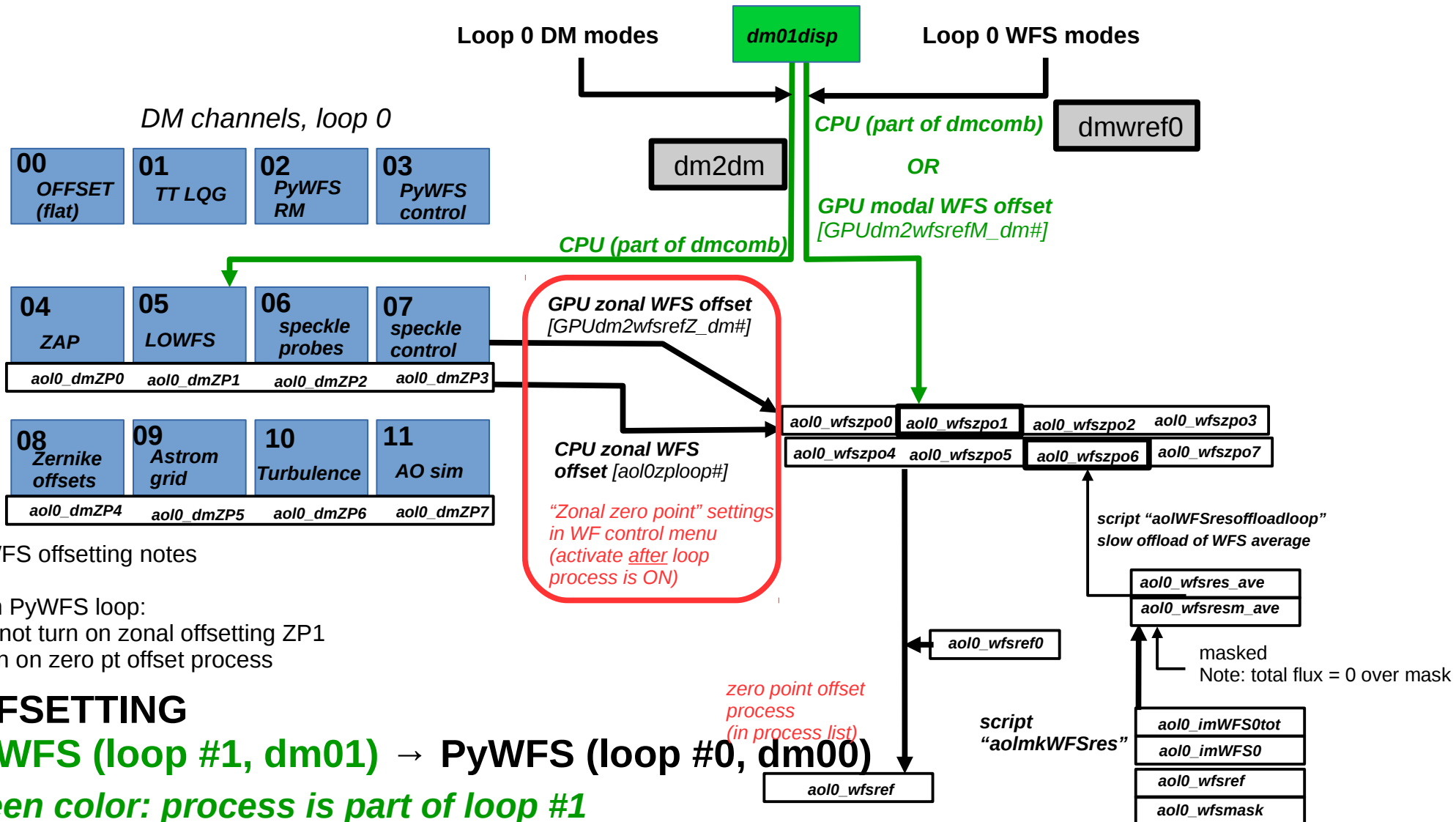


## Linking multiple control loops (zero point offsetting)

A control loop can offset the convergence point of another loop @> kHz (GPU or CPU)

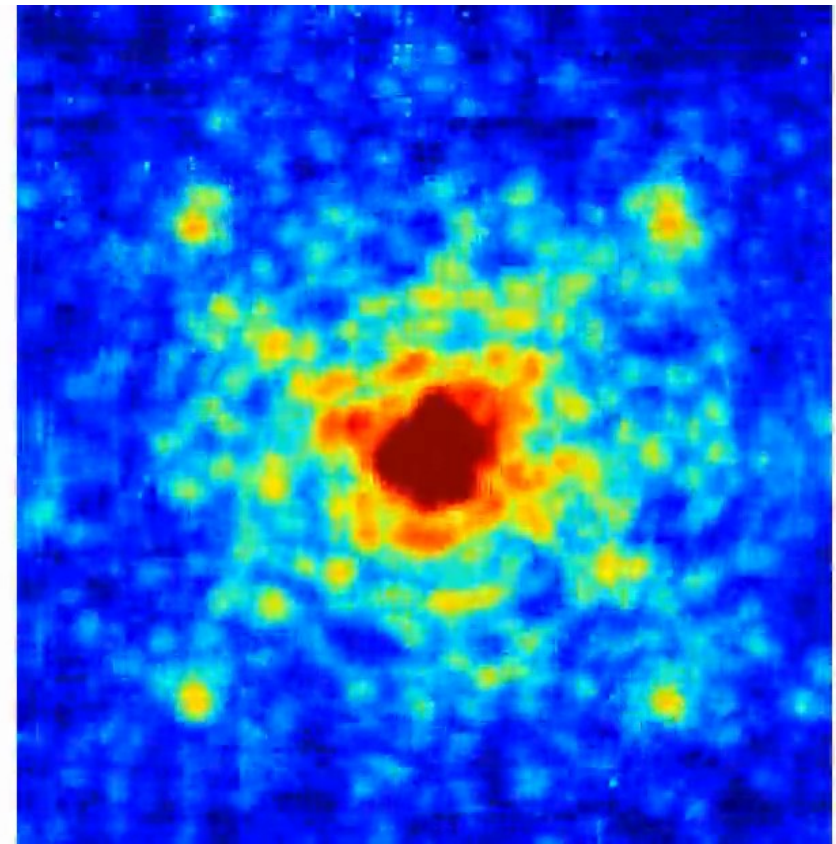
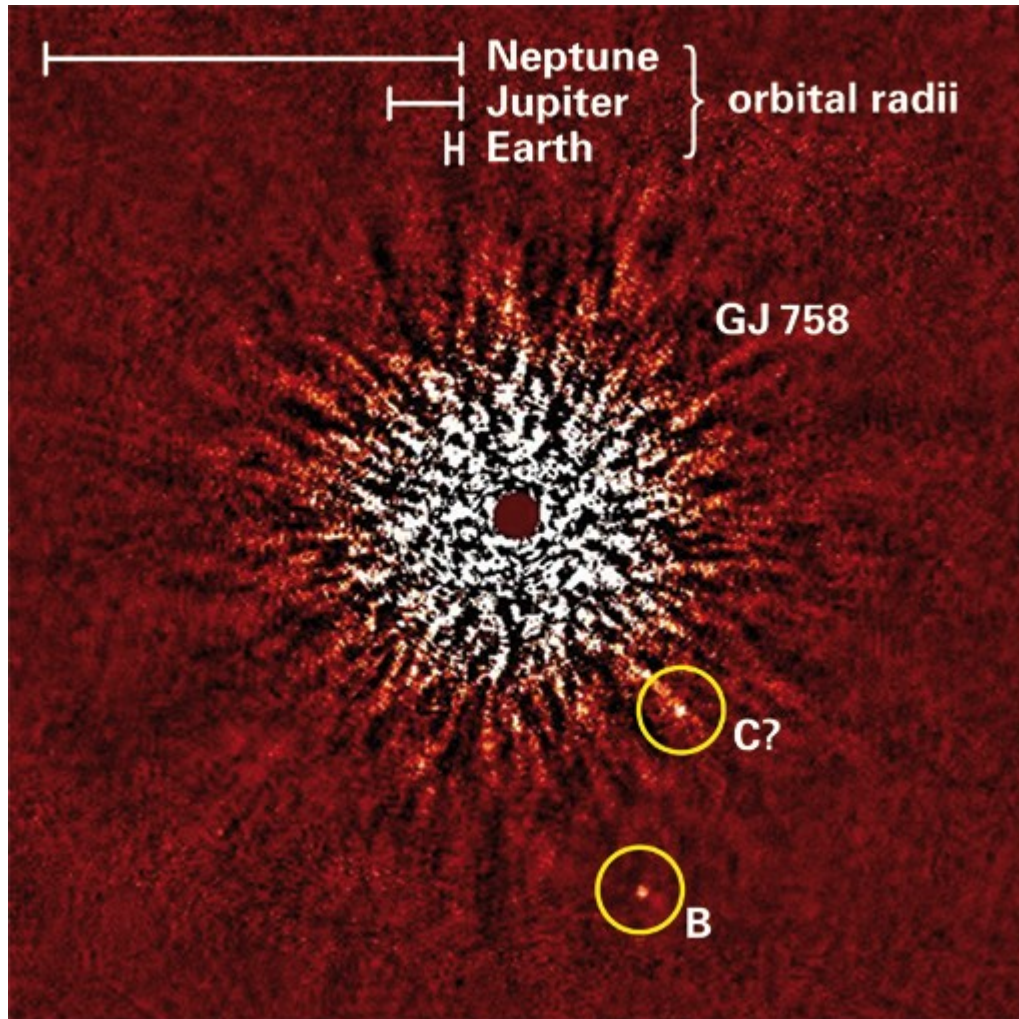
Example: speckle control, LOWFS need to offset pyramid control loop

**THIS IS DONE TRANSPARENTLY FOR USER** → don't pay attention to the diagram below !



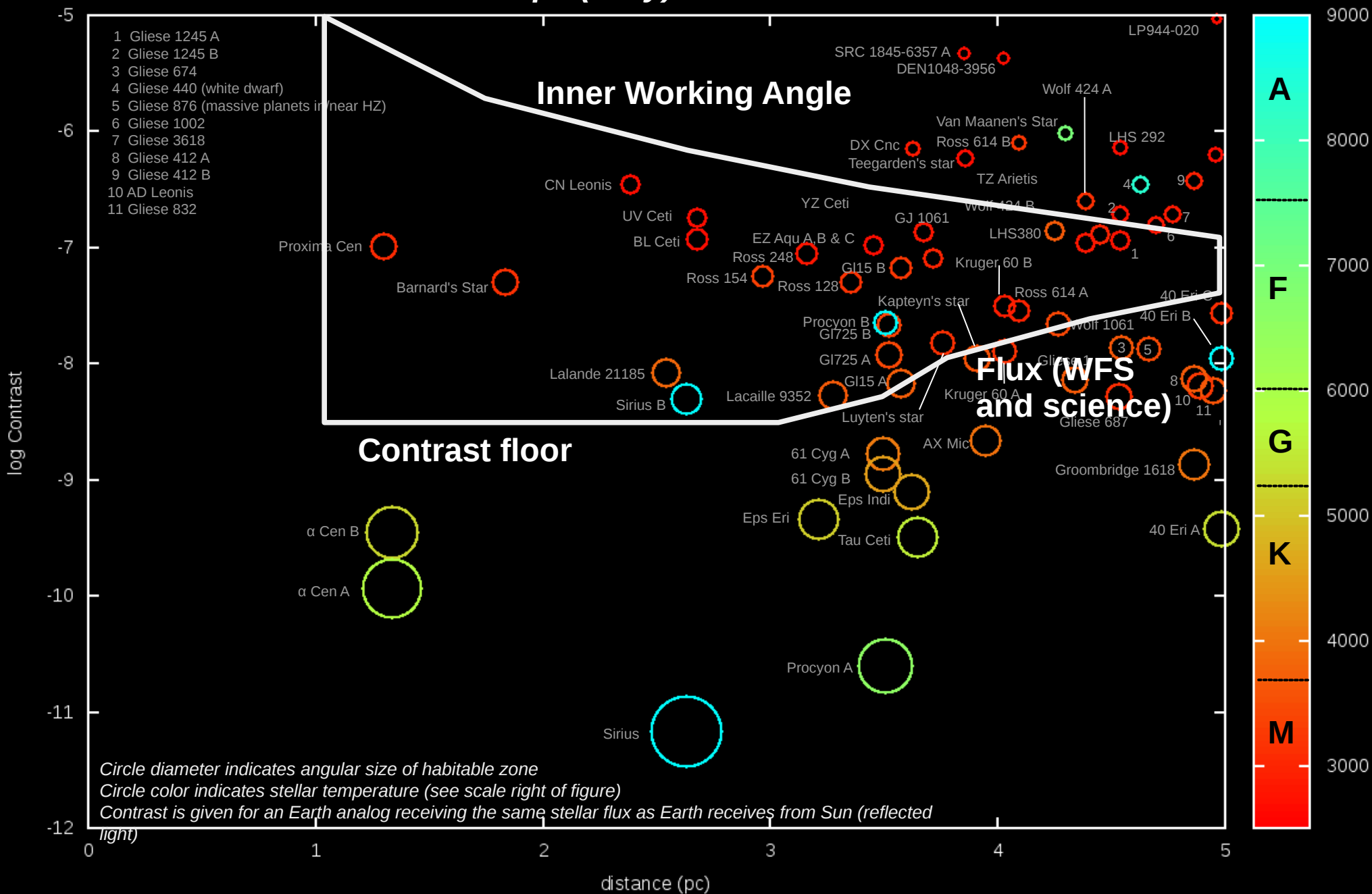
# The REAL challenge: Wavefront error (speckles)

H-band fast frame imaging (1.6 kHz)



# Habitable Zones within 5 pc (16 ly)

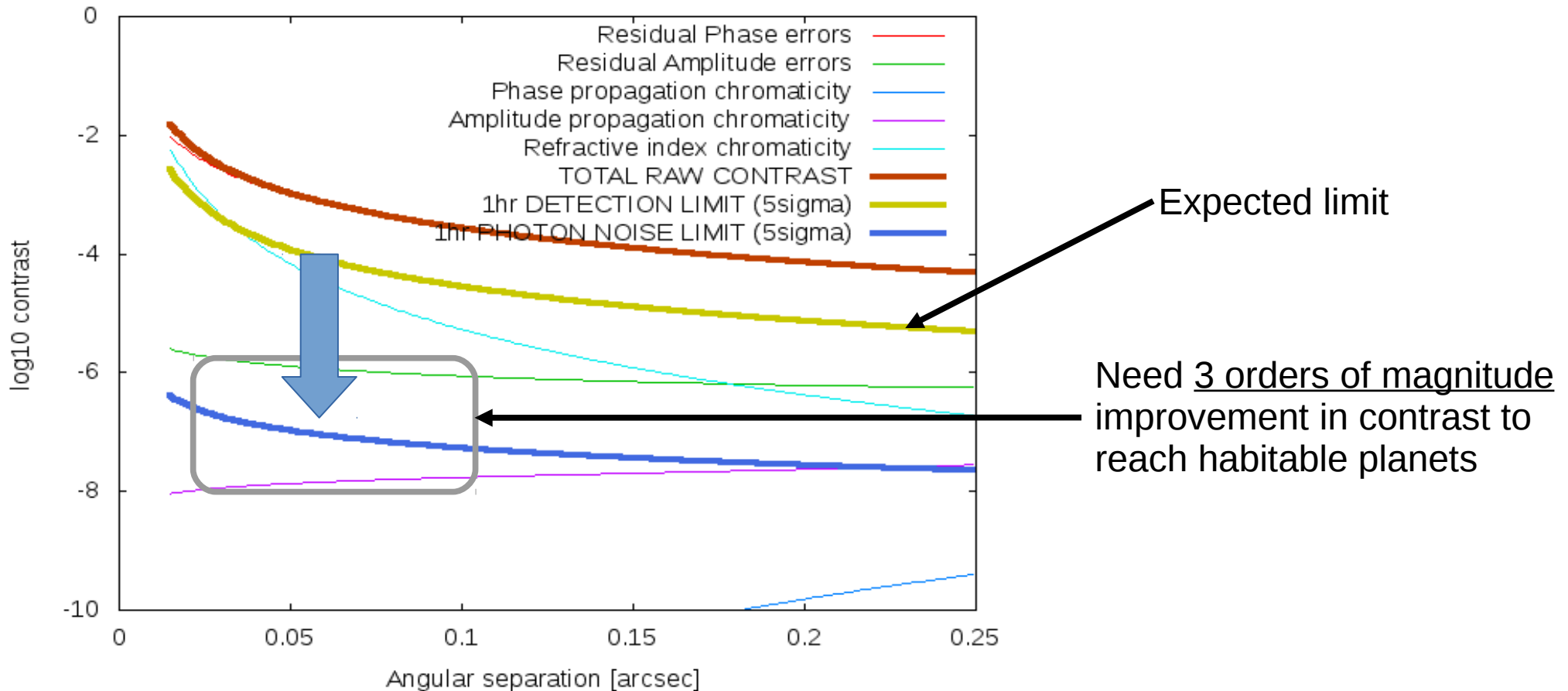
Star Temperature [K]





# PREVIOUS technologies

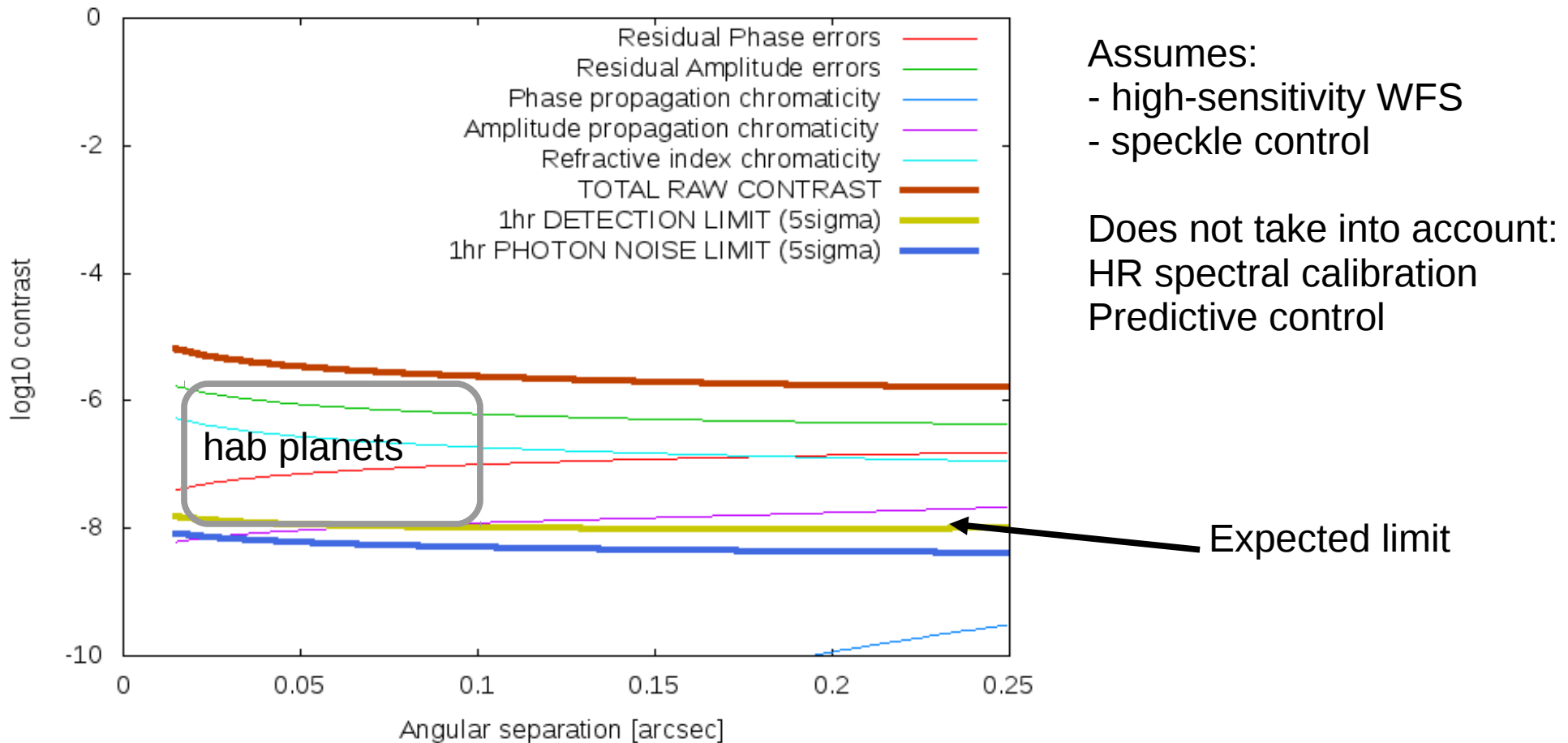
*30m: SH-based system, 15cm subapertures*



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  $\sim 10^{-3}$  at IWA, **POOR AVERAGING** due to crossing time

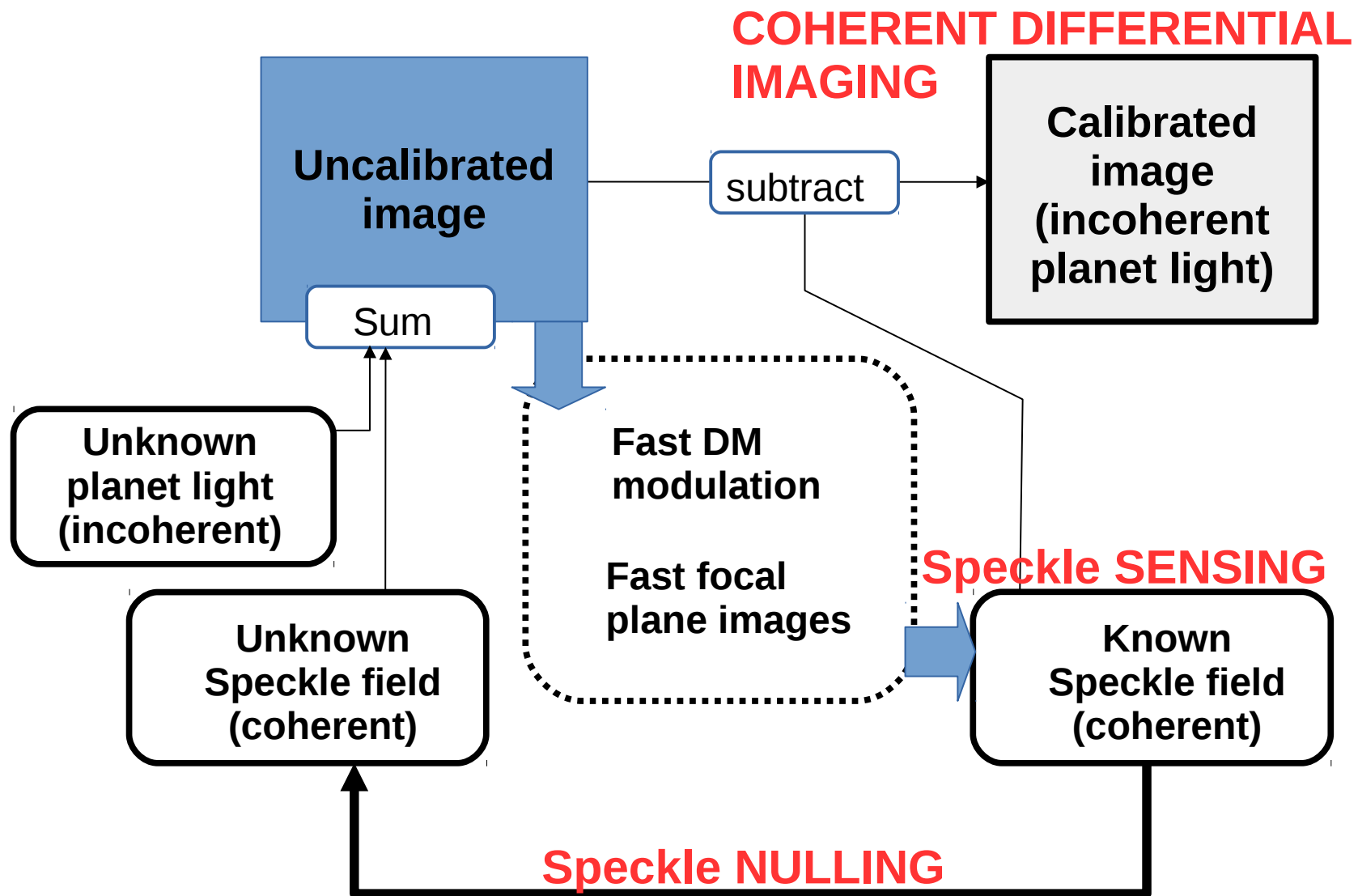
# CURRENT/NEW technologies



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

Residual speckle at  $\sim 10^{-6}$  contrast and fast  $\rightarrow$  good averaging to detection limit at  $\sim 10^{-8}$

# High Speed Speckle Control & Calibration





# Wavefront Control: challenges & solutions

## WFS efficiency

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

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

## Low latency WFC

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

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

## WF chromaticity

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

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

## Non-common path errors

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

## PSF calibration

What is a speckle, what is a planet ?

## Diffraction-limited pupil-plane WFS

Low or no modulation PyWFS is diffraction-limited

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

## Fast WFC loop

Fast hardware (Cameras, GPUs) can now run loop at  $\sim 5 \text{ kHz}$  on ELT

Example: SCExAO runs 2000 actuators, 14,400 sensors at 3.5kHz using  $\sim 10\%$  of available RTS computing power

## Predictive Control

Eliminates time lag, improves sensitivity

## Fast speckle control, enabled by new detector technologies

Addresses simultaneously non-common path errors, (most of) lag error, chromaticity, and calibration

## Real-time telemetry → PSF calibration

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

## Spectral discrimination (HR)

Especially powerful at high spectral resolution

# Predictive control & sensor fusion → 100x contrast gain ?

See also: Males & Guyon 2017 (astro-ph)

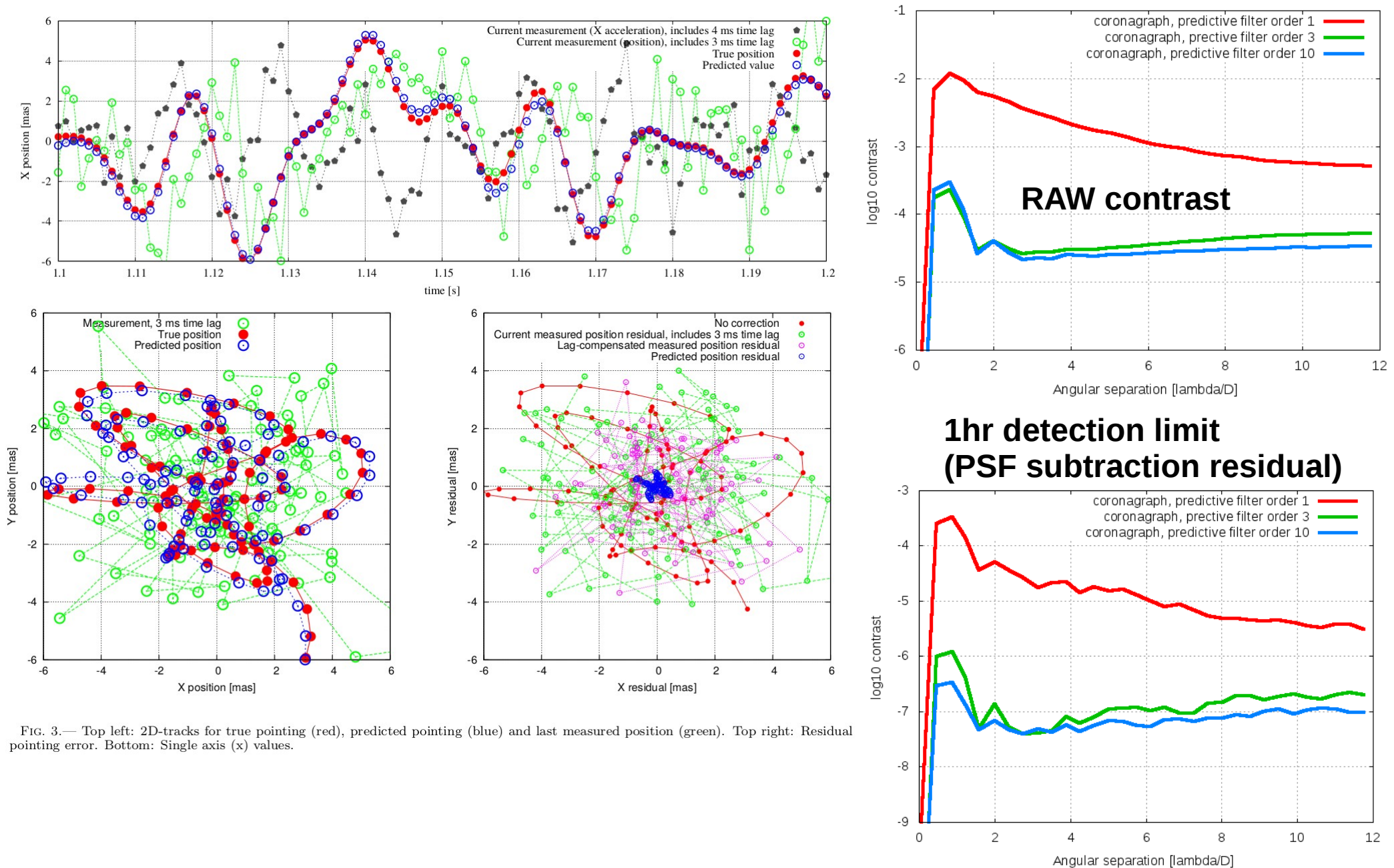


FIG. 3.— Top left: 2D-tracks for true pointing (red), predicted pointing (blue) and last measured position (green). Top right: Residual pointing error. Bottom: Single axis (x) values.