

Development of Multi-pixel On-Chip Spectrometer Array for future CMB missions



14th October, 2025

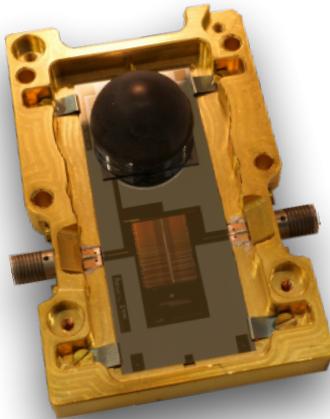
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Jochem Baselmans**

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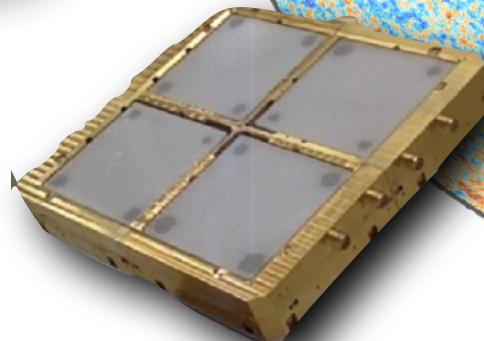
Potential of Integrated Superconducting Spectrometer (ISS)

- Combining KID Imager + On-chip Filterbank

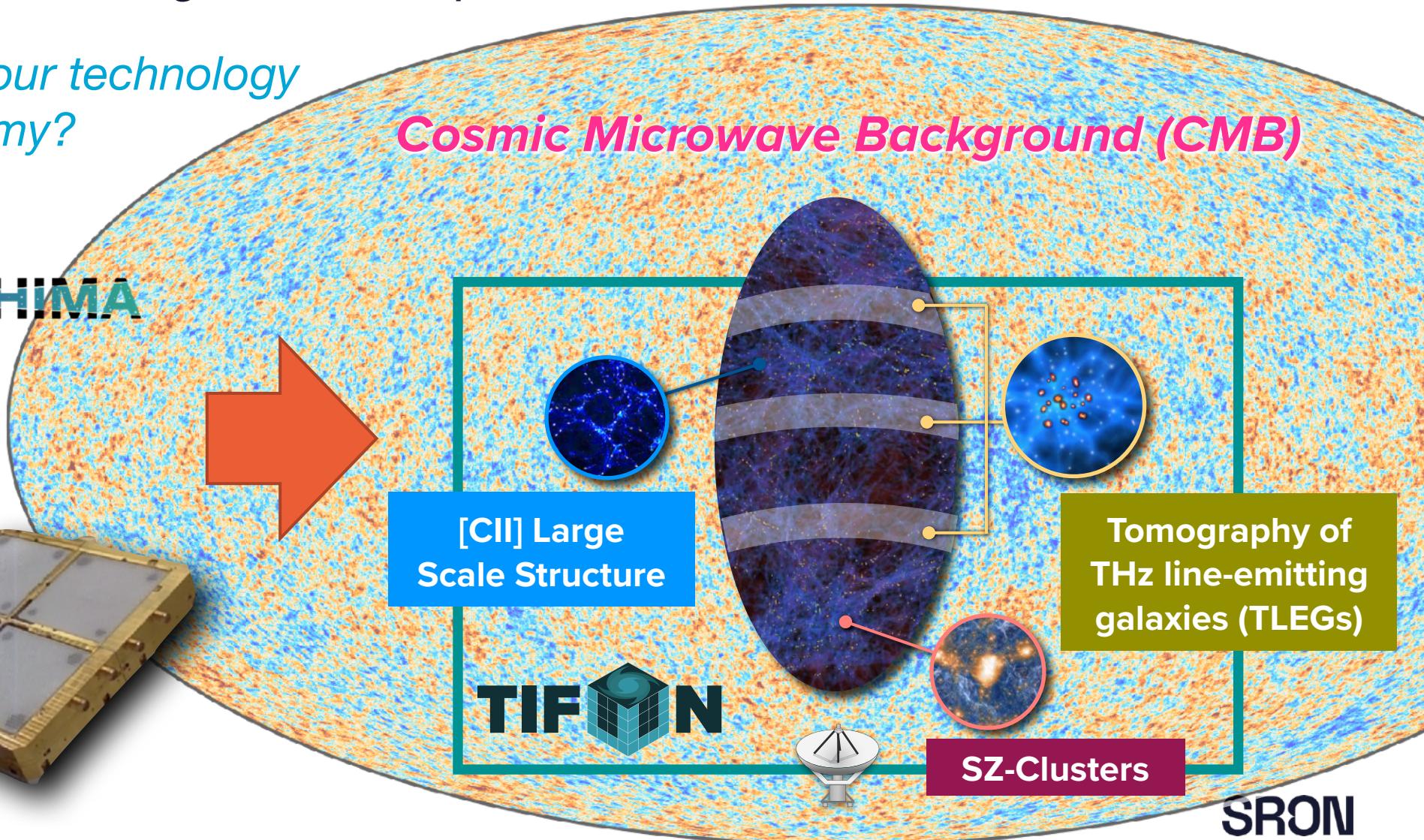
How can we use our technology
for future astronomy?



DESHIMA



A-MKID



CMB Sciences

(1) Sunaev-Zeldovich effect (SZE):

Mapping the distribution of hot gas, its temperature, and large-scale velocity flows

(2) CMB deflections by gravitational lensing:

Mapping the mass distribution in the entire Hubble volume

(3) Primary CMB anisotropies:

Probe for recombination era, and cosmic inflation

(4) Distortion of CMB:

The thermal history of the Universe

Simons
Observatory

GroundBIRD

LiteBIRD

FOSSIL

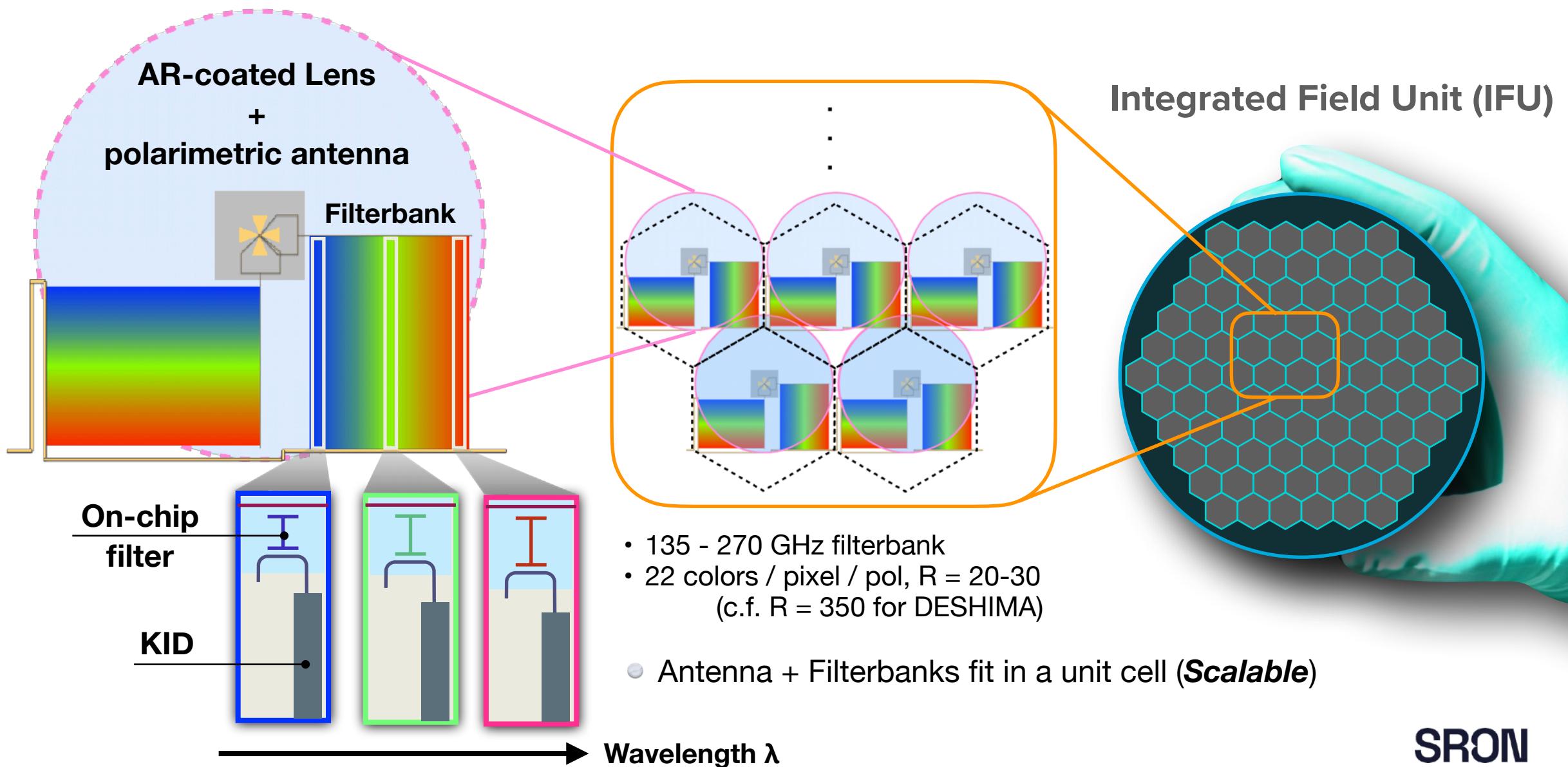
Requirement to Focal Plane Detector

- Photon noise limited performance
- Large format imager (multi-pixel array)
- Polarimetric detection
- Broadband spectrometer



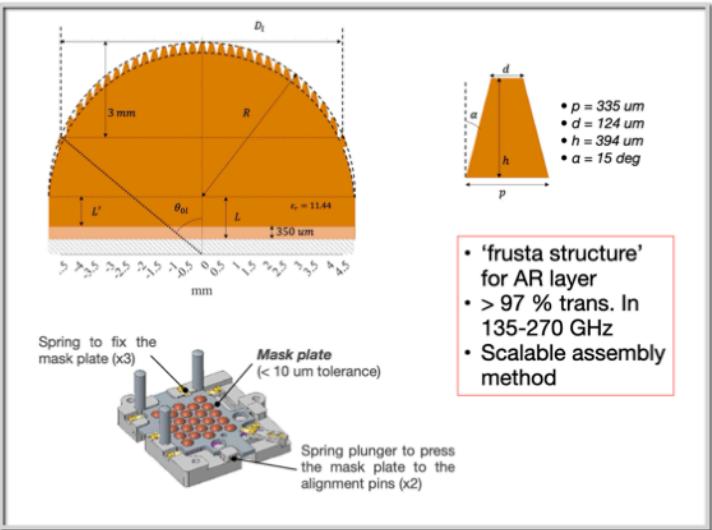
SRON

Spectro-polarimetric IFU with KID: Compact and Scalable

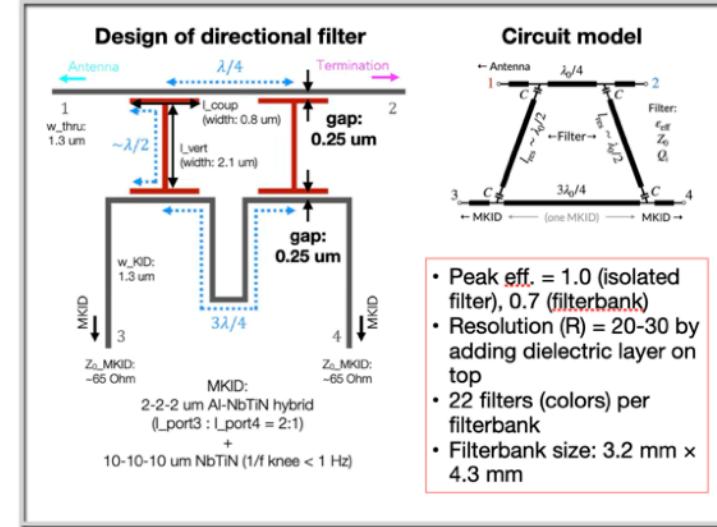


ESA project: Work Packages and Breadboards

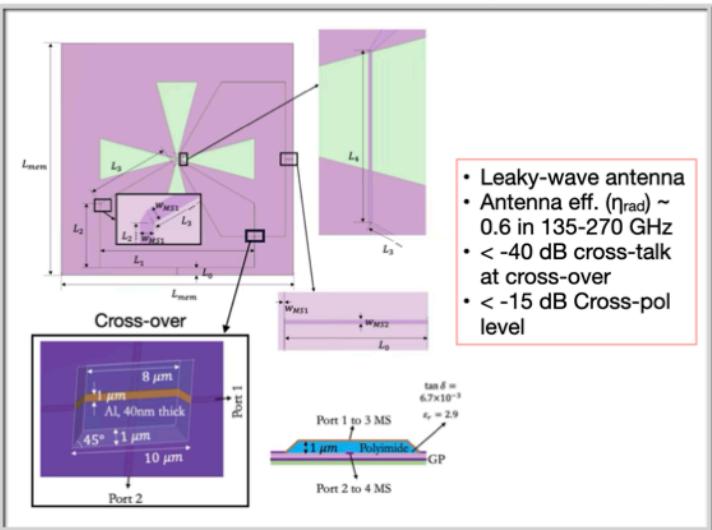
WP3: AR-coated Lens Array (Breadboard 1)



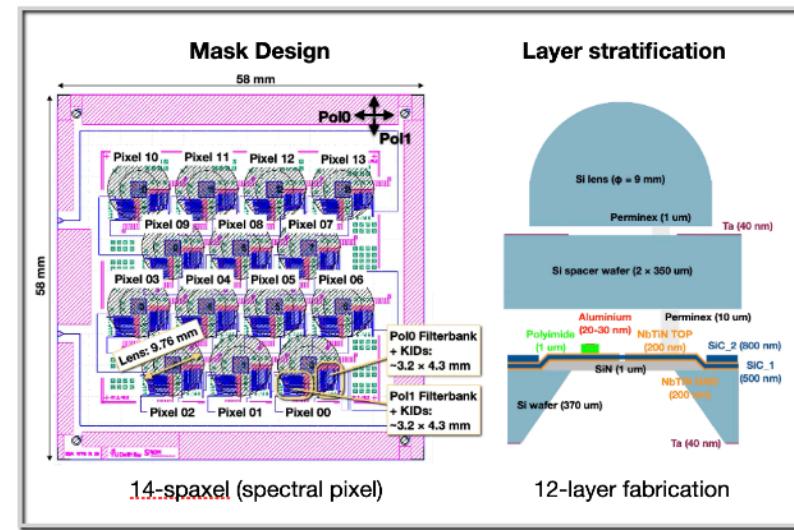
WP5: Low-R, High-eff. Filter (Breadboard 3)



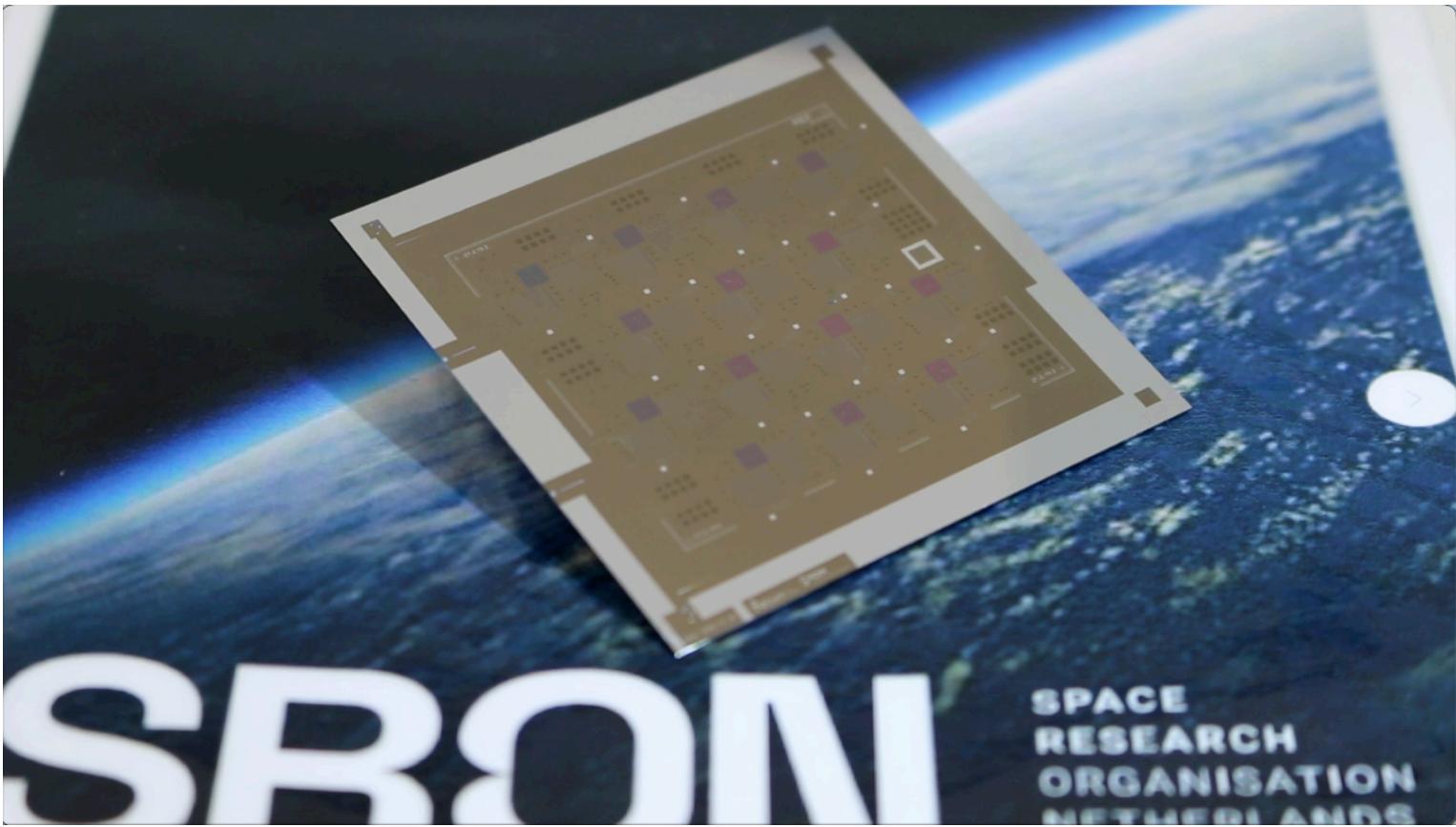
WP4: Polarimetric Wideband Antenna (Breadboard 2)



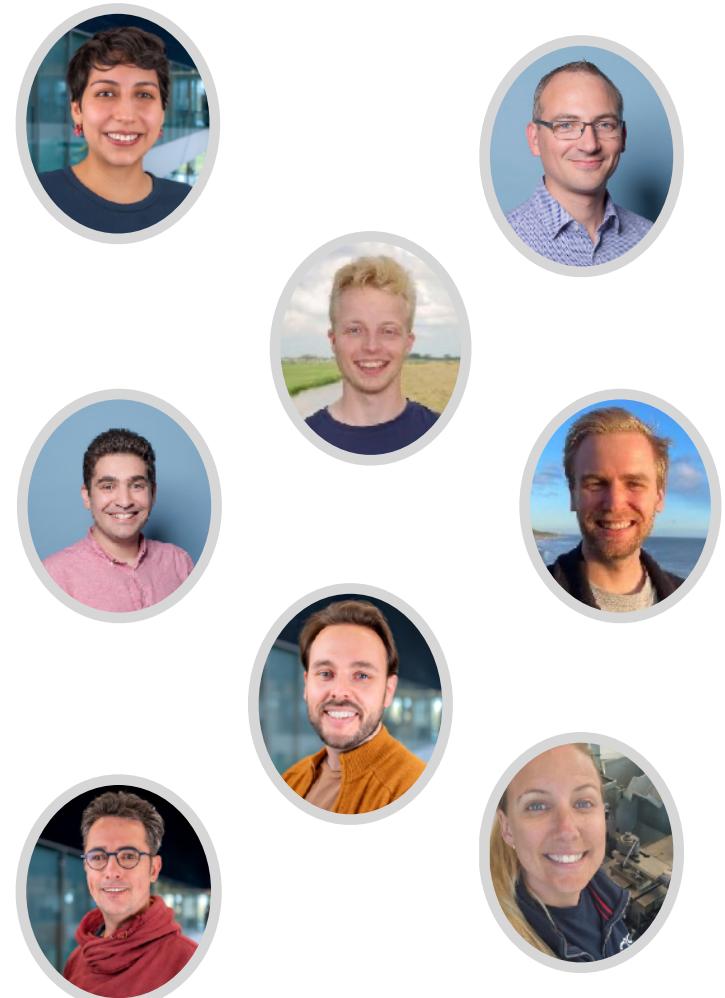
WP7: Spectro-Polarimetric FPA (Final Demonstrator)



State-of-the-art IFU

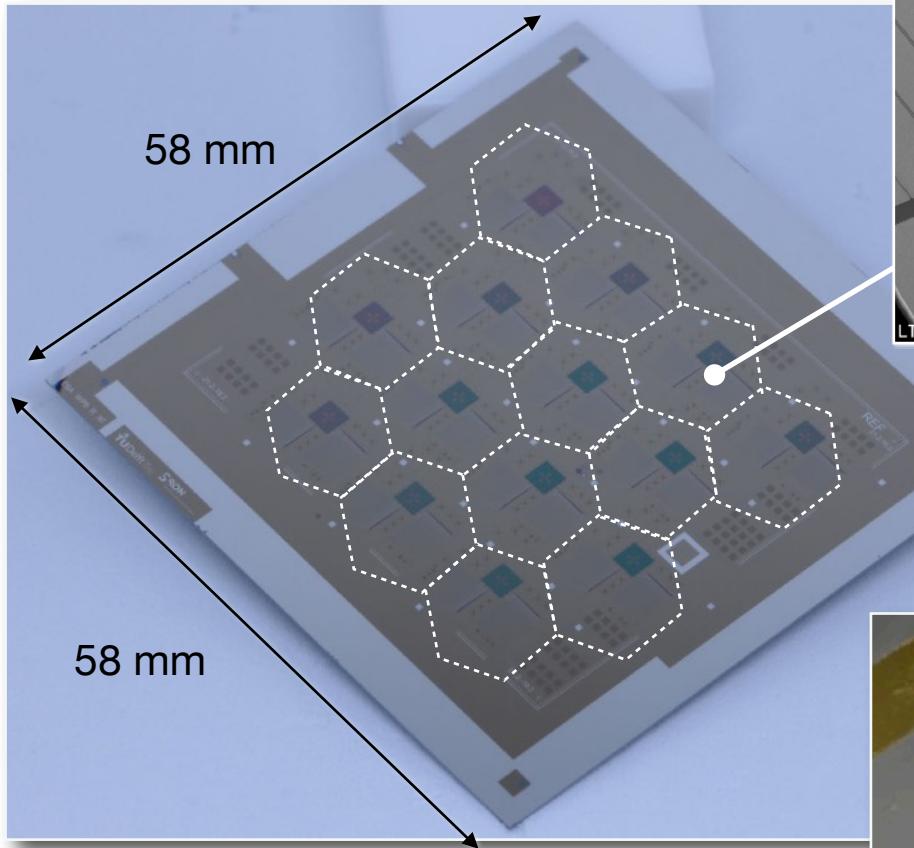


14-pixel (\sim 600 KIDs) Spectro-Polarimeter

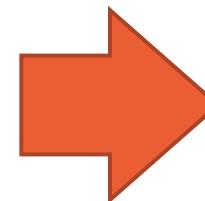
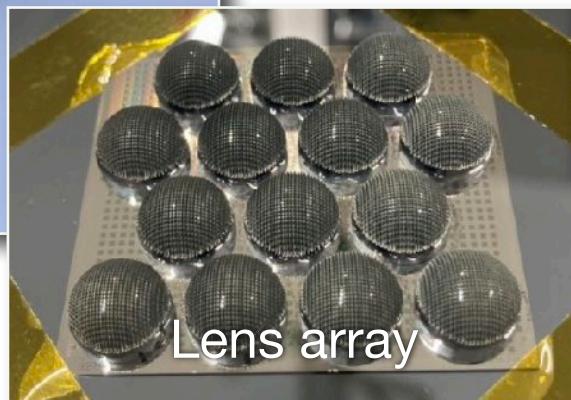
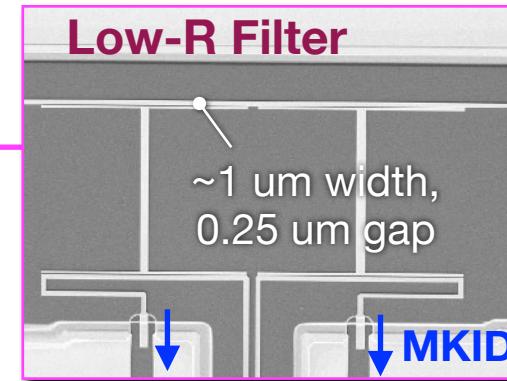
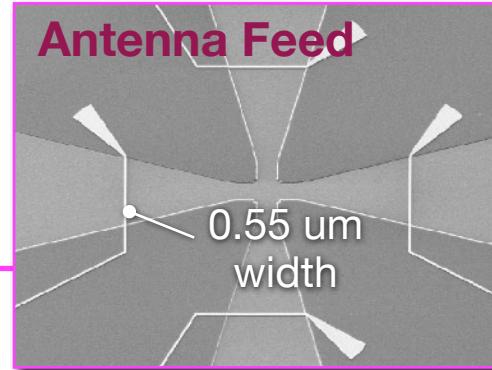
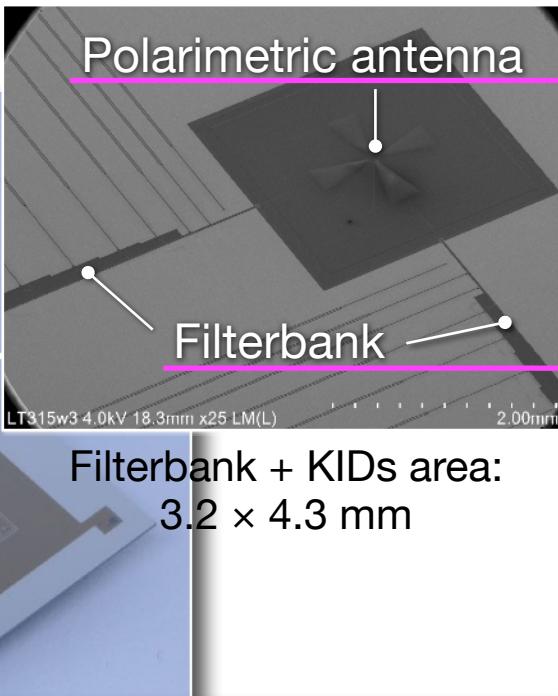


SRON

Spectro-Polarimetric IFU

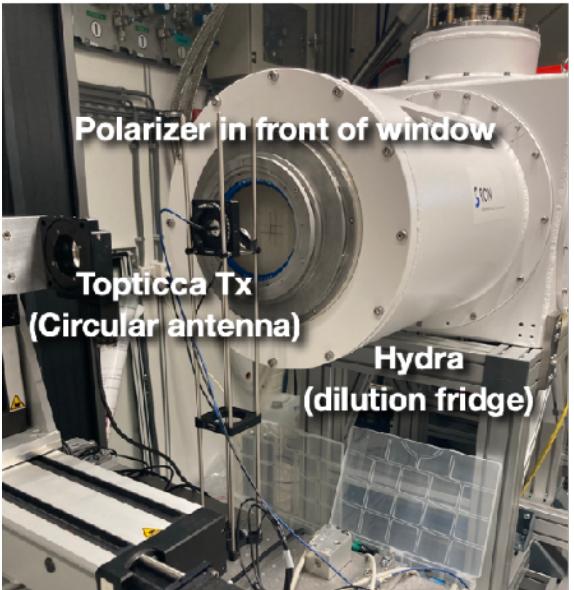


Membrane around antenna:
 $1.8 \times 1.8 \text{ mm}$



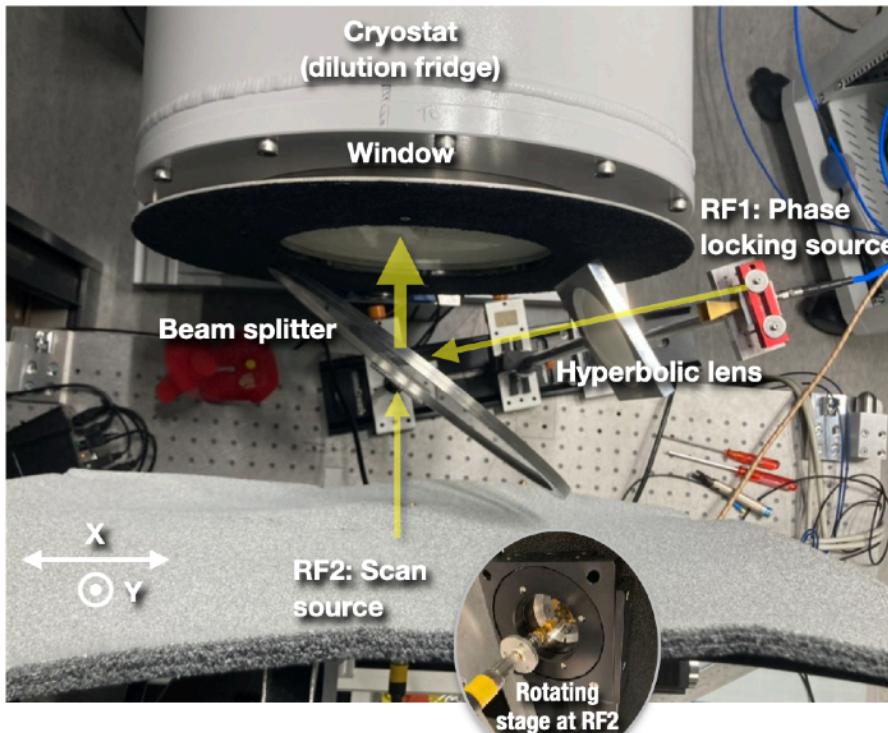
Performance Evaluation: Measurement setups

- THz frequency sweep measurement



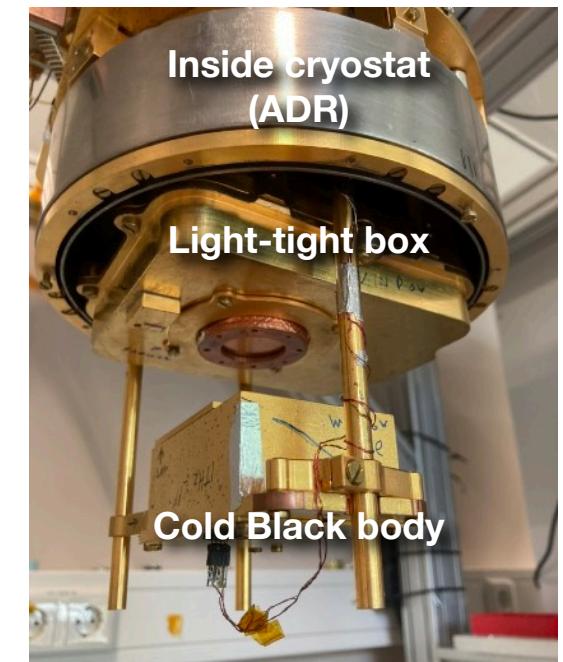
Dilution fridge in TU Delft Cryolab

- Phase & amplitude beam pattern measurement



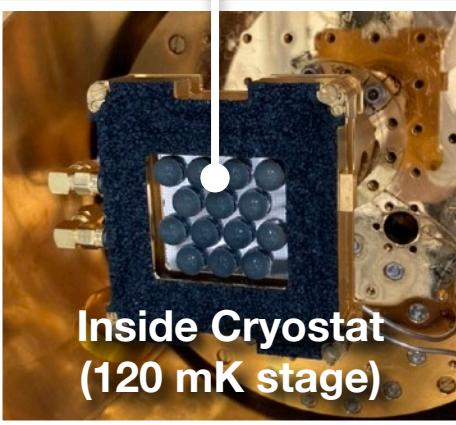
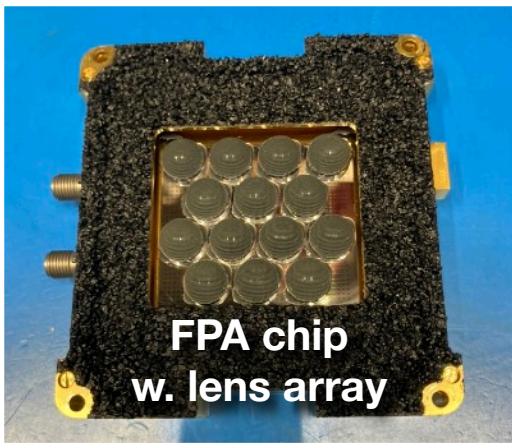
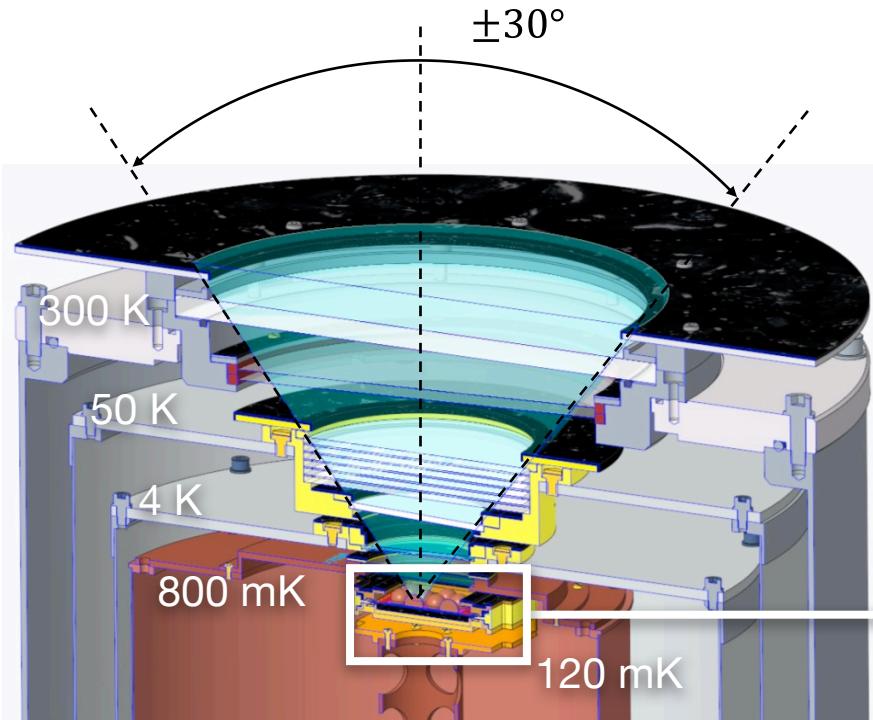
Dilution fridge in TU Delft Cryolab

- Optical sensitivity measurement

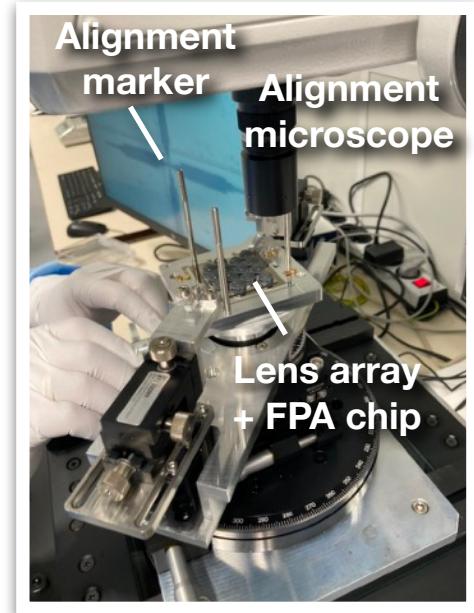


ADR in SRON Leiden

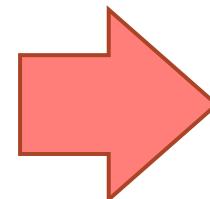
Performance of Spectro-Polarimetric FPA



All pixels are visible from outside
thanks to the large aperture

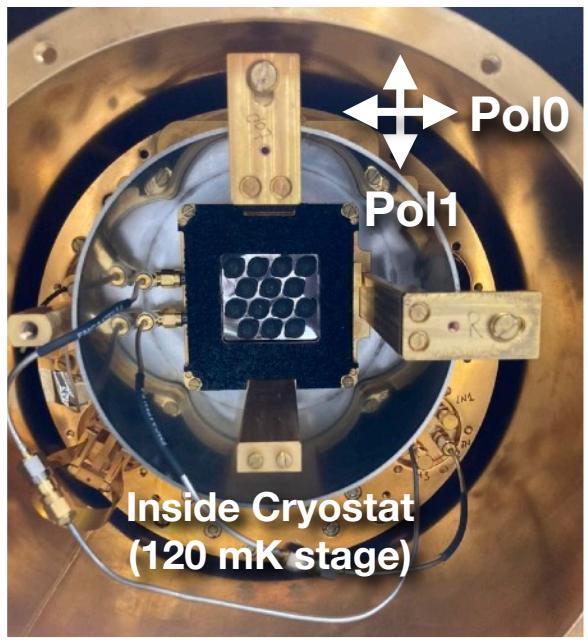


Mount lens array with
alignment tool (alignment
accuracy: 10-20 μm)

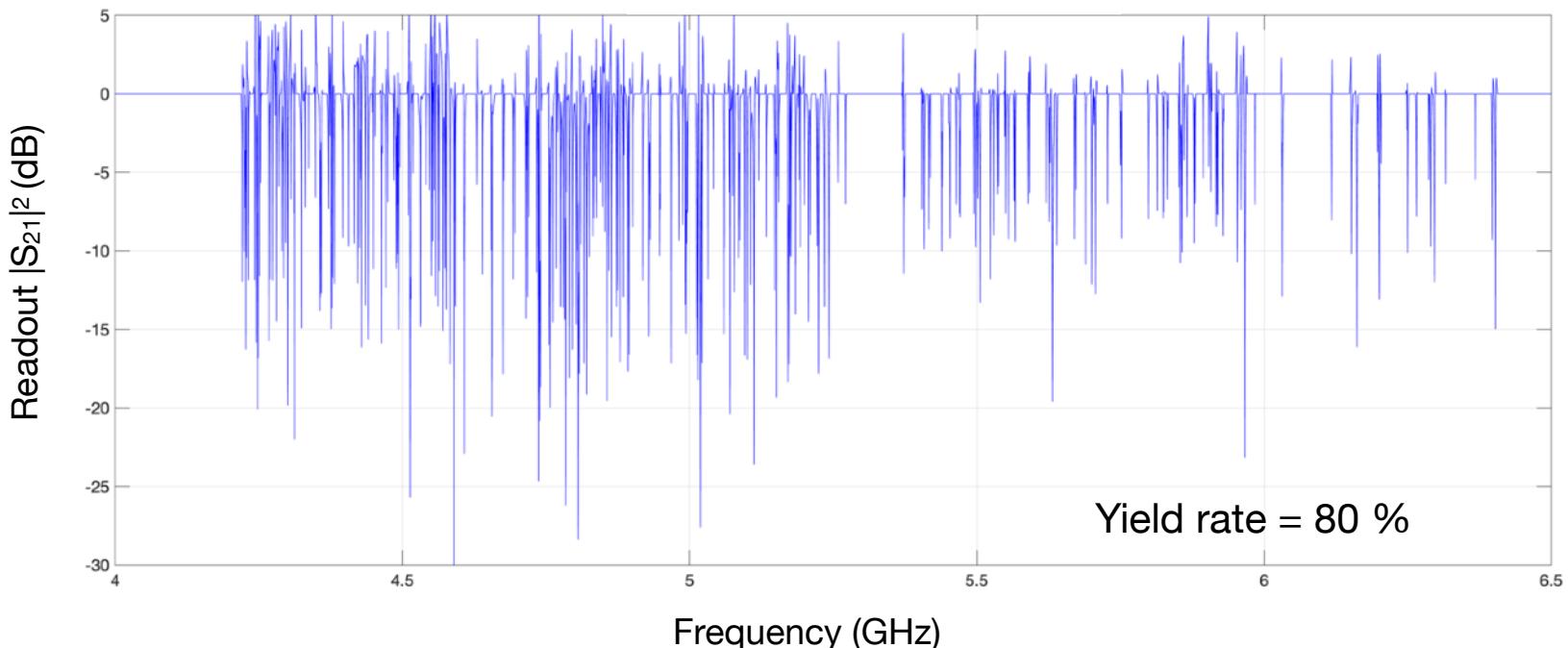


Too much power
coupling, not
measurable...

Performance of Spectro-Polarimetric FPA

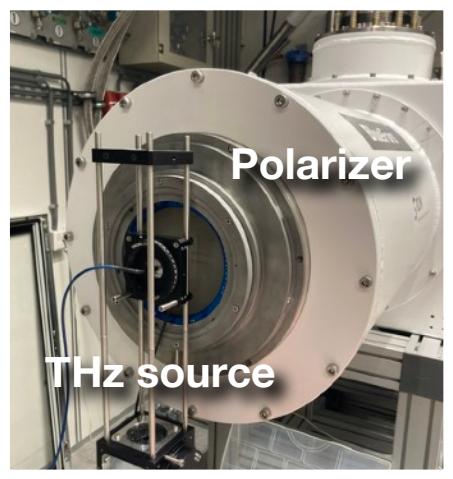


Put ~100 mm away from
the cold aperture

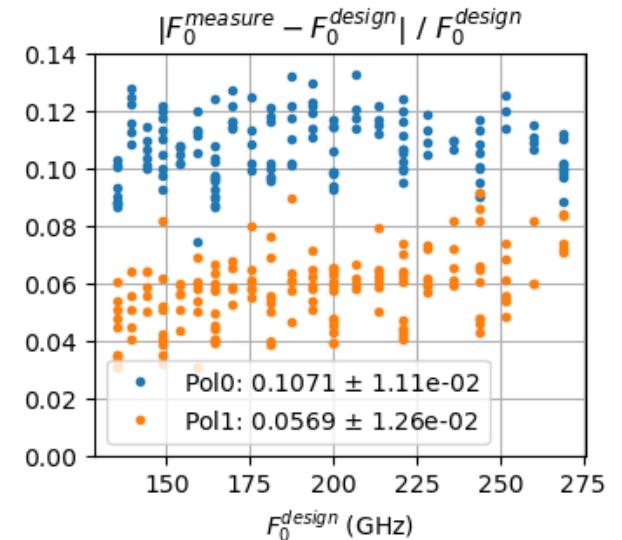
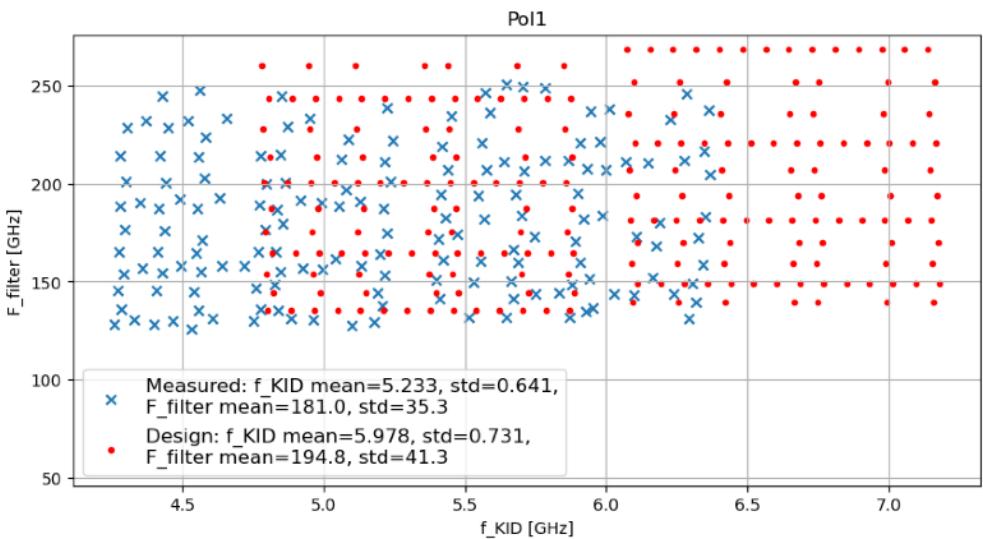
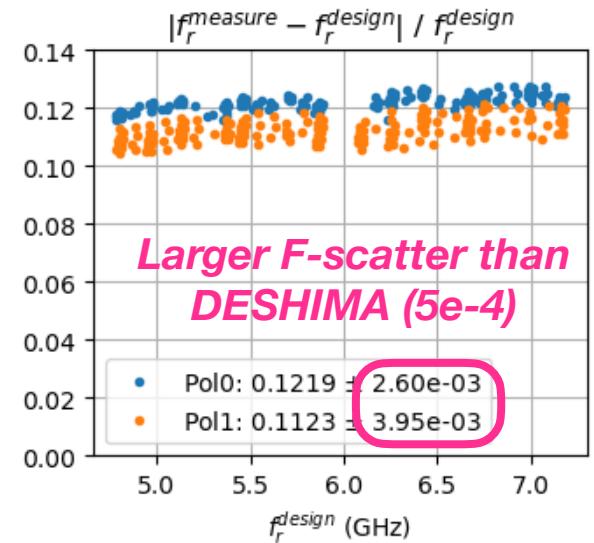
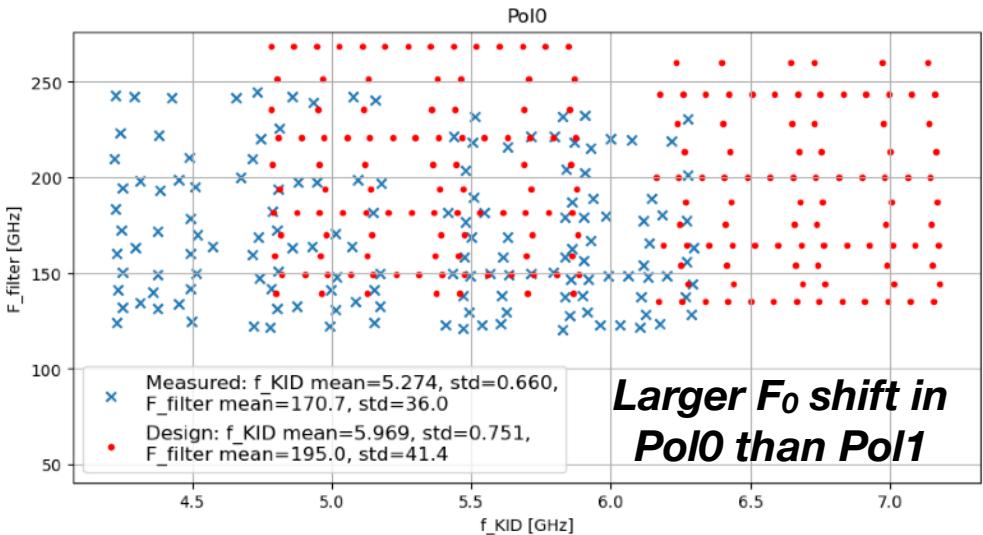


- ***Not optimal position (away from window)***, but all pixels are still visible from outside
- Only THz sweep measurement is valid, but still possible to map KID frequency to pixel-filter information thanks to the implemented encoding

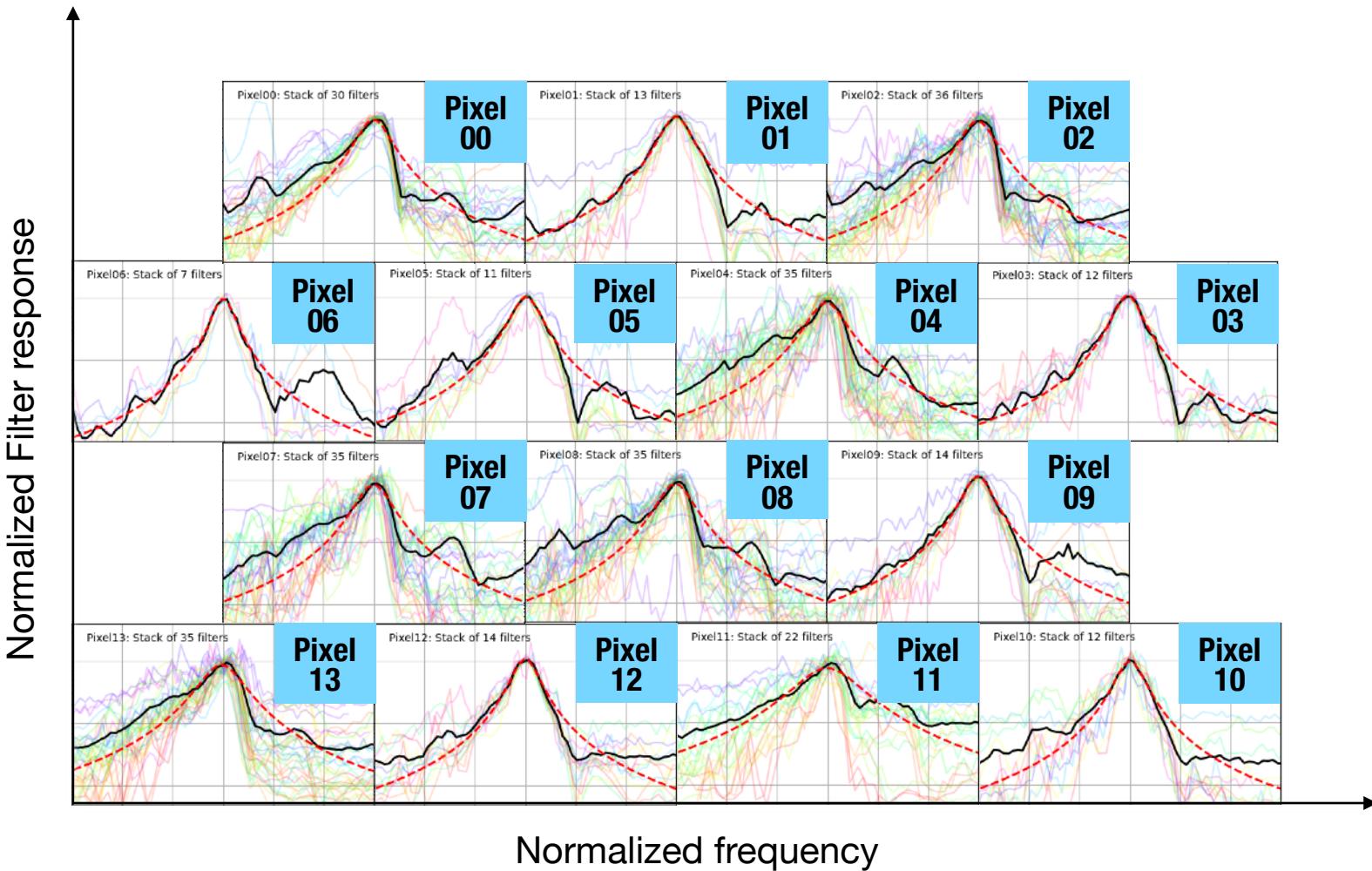
THz sweep experiment & KID correspondence: Pol0, Pol1



THz sweep with Polarizer
in front of window



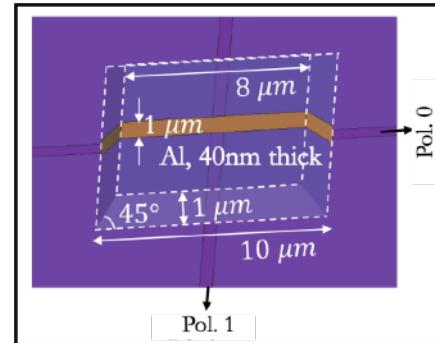
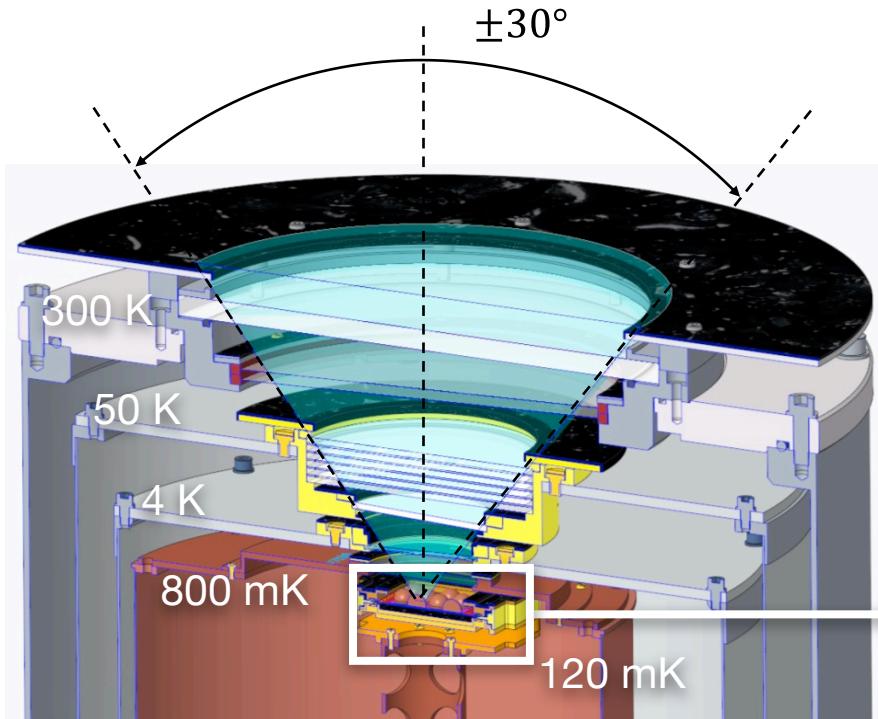
Performance of Spectro-Polarimetric FPA



Averaged filter response: Yield rate = 80 %, R = 20

Performance of Single Spaxel Chip (from same wafer with FPA chip)

- Use single spaxel for full characterization (filter characteristics, beam pattern and optical efficiency measurement)

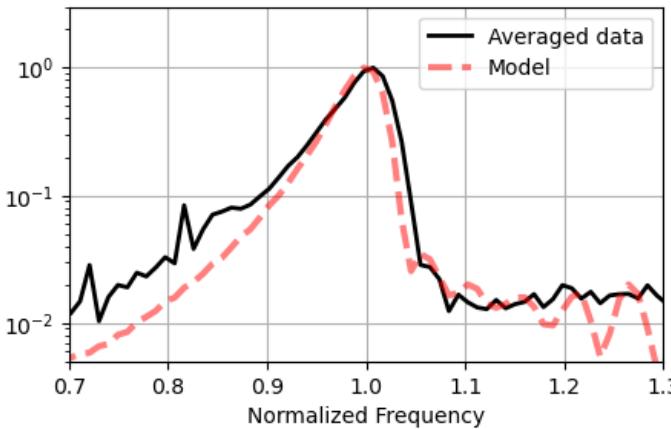
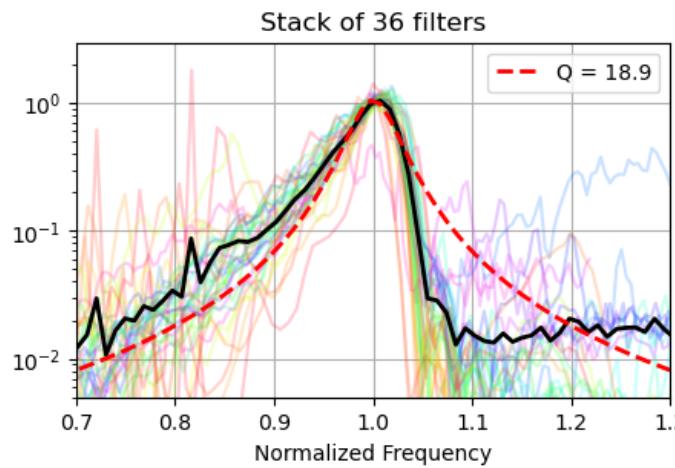
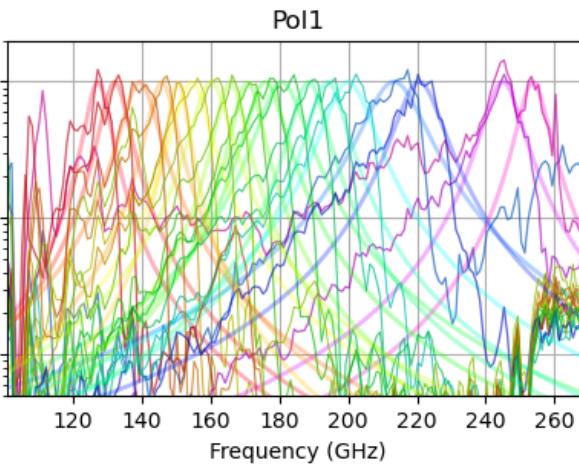
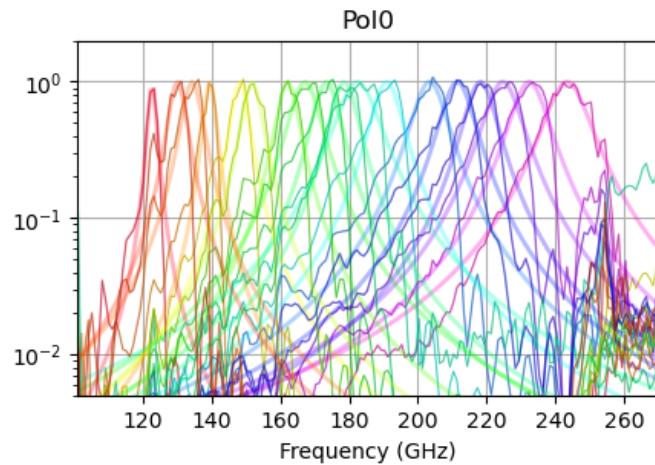


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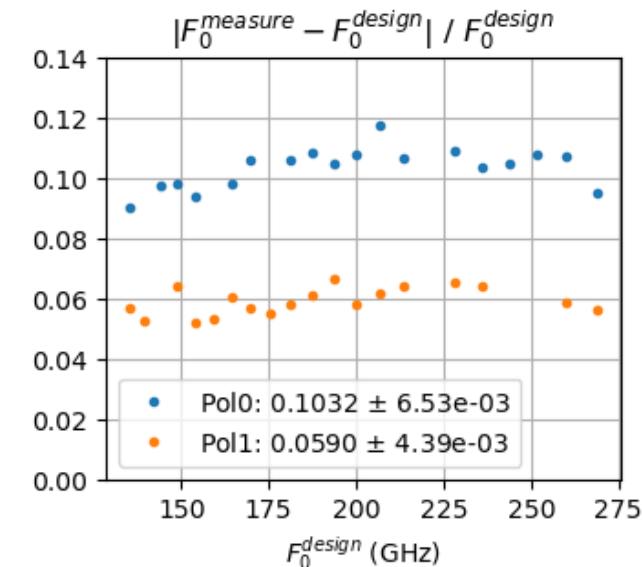
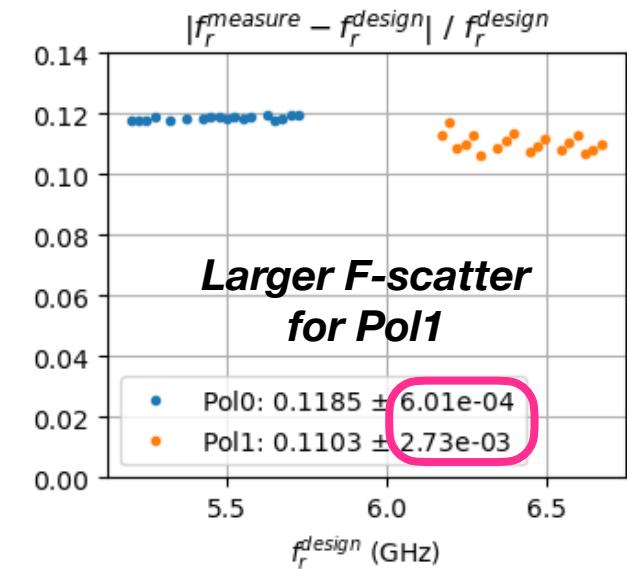
- Pol0 has Aluminium section
- Pol1 goes under Polyimide

- Copy of one spaxel from FPA
- Polarimetric antenna
- 22 filters/pol (directional filter)
- No AR frusta on lens

Performance of Single Spaxel Chip: Filter characteristics

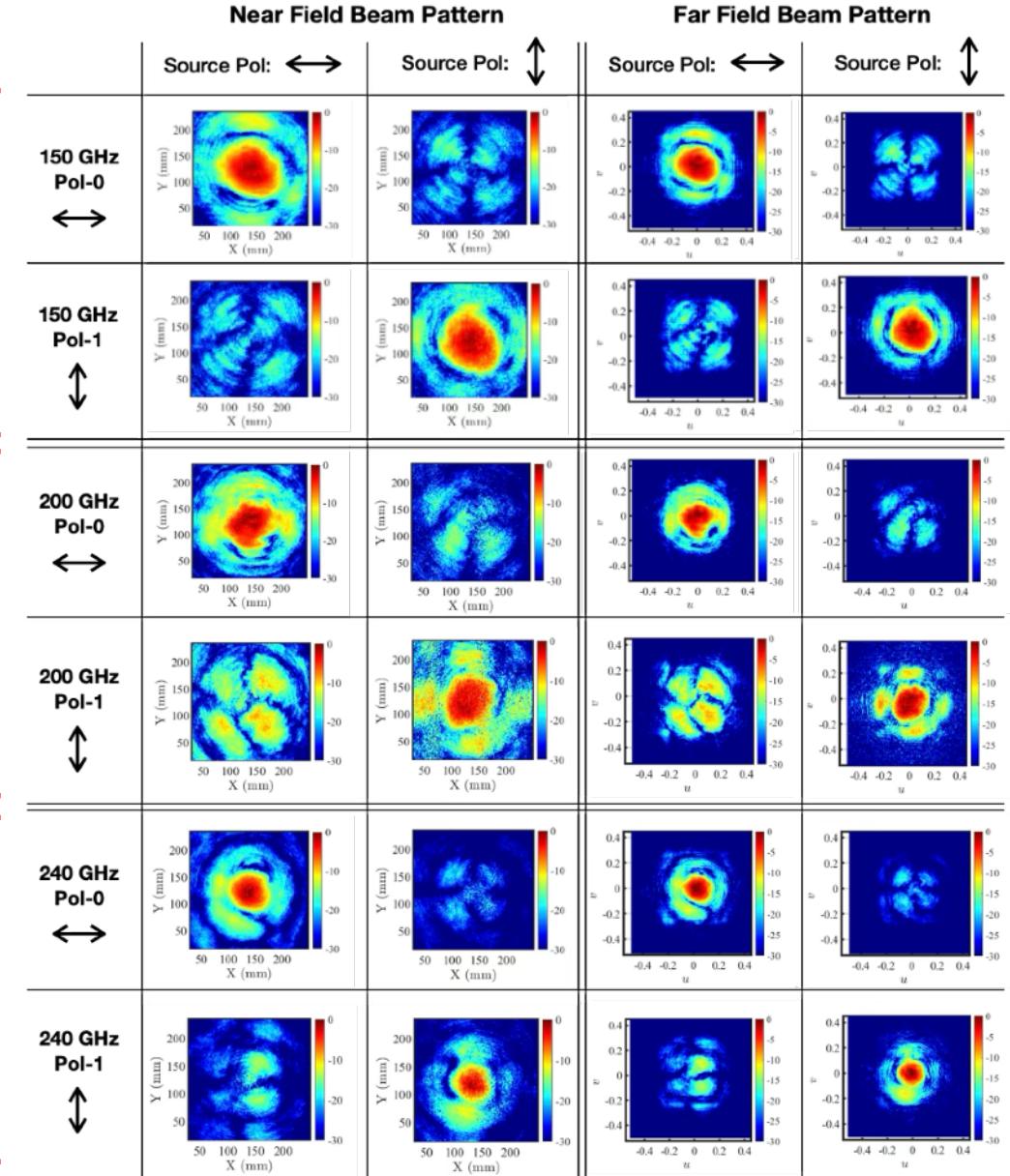


- 36 / 44 filters (~82 % yield rate), $R \sim 20$
- Systematic difference b.w. filter frequency of Pol0 and Po1 (**Larger F_0 shift for Pol0**)



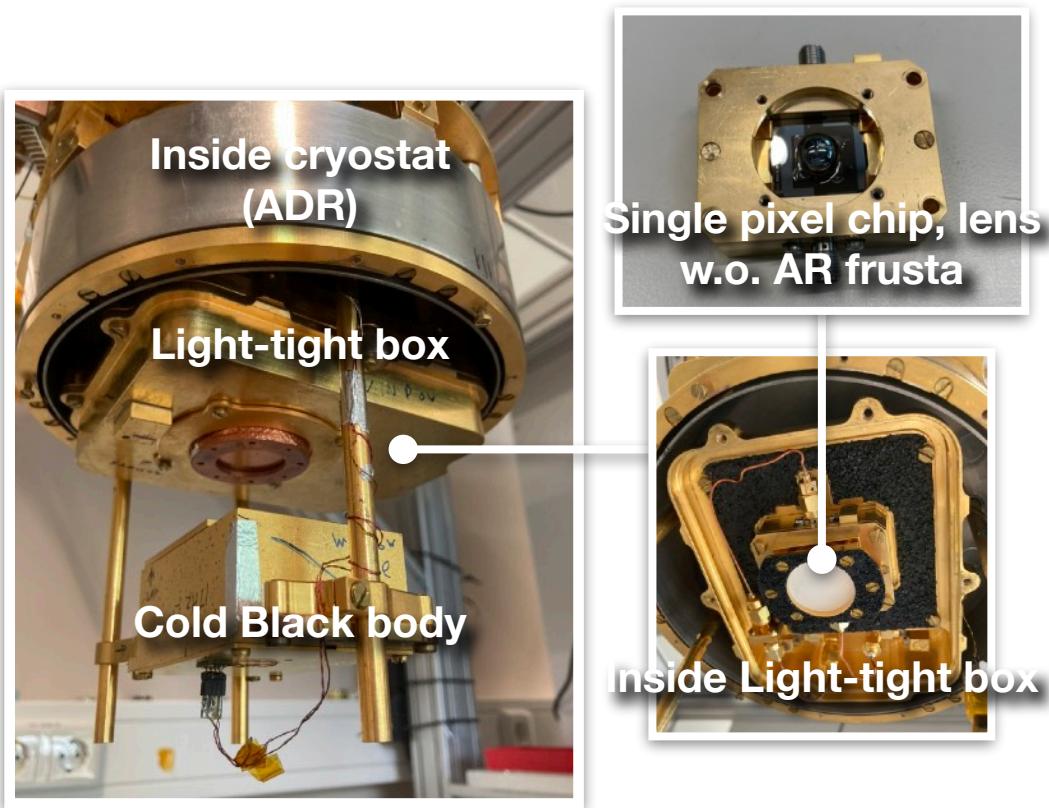
Performance of Single Spaxel Chip: Beam pattern

	Pol0	Pol1
141.0 GHz	○	○
150.4 GHz	○	○
159.8 GHz	-	○
169.2 GHz	○	○
178.6 GHz	-	○
188.0 GHz	-	○
197.4 GHz	-	○
206.8 GHz	○	-
216.2 GHz	○	-
225.6 GHz	○	○
235.0 GHz	○	-
244.4 GHz	○	○

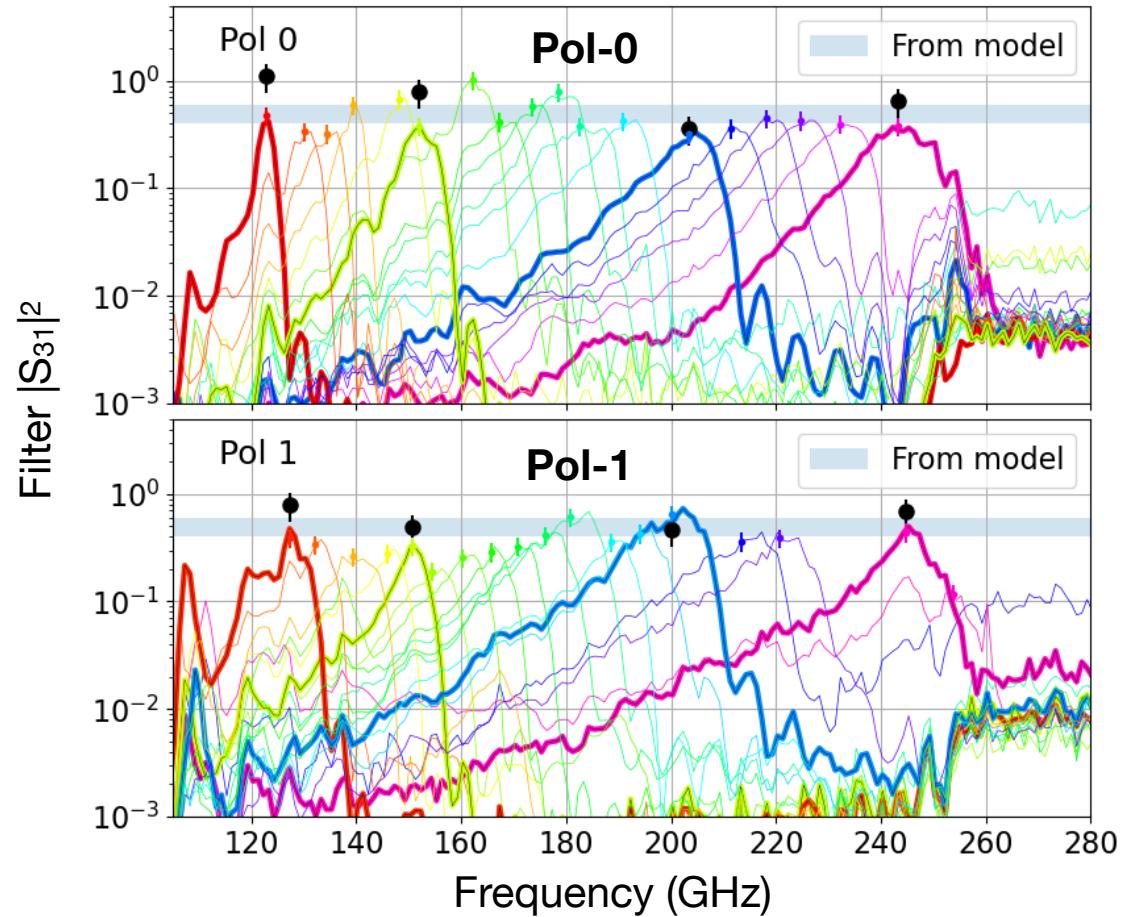


- Measure multiple frequencies at once thanks to the harmonic mixer sources

Performance of Single Spaxel Chip: Optical efficiency

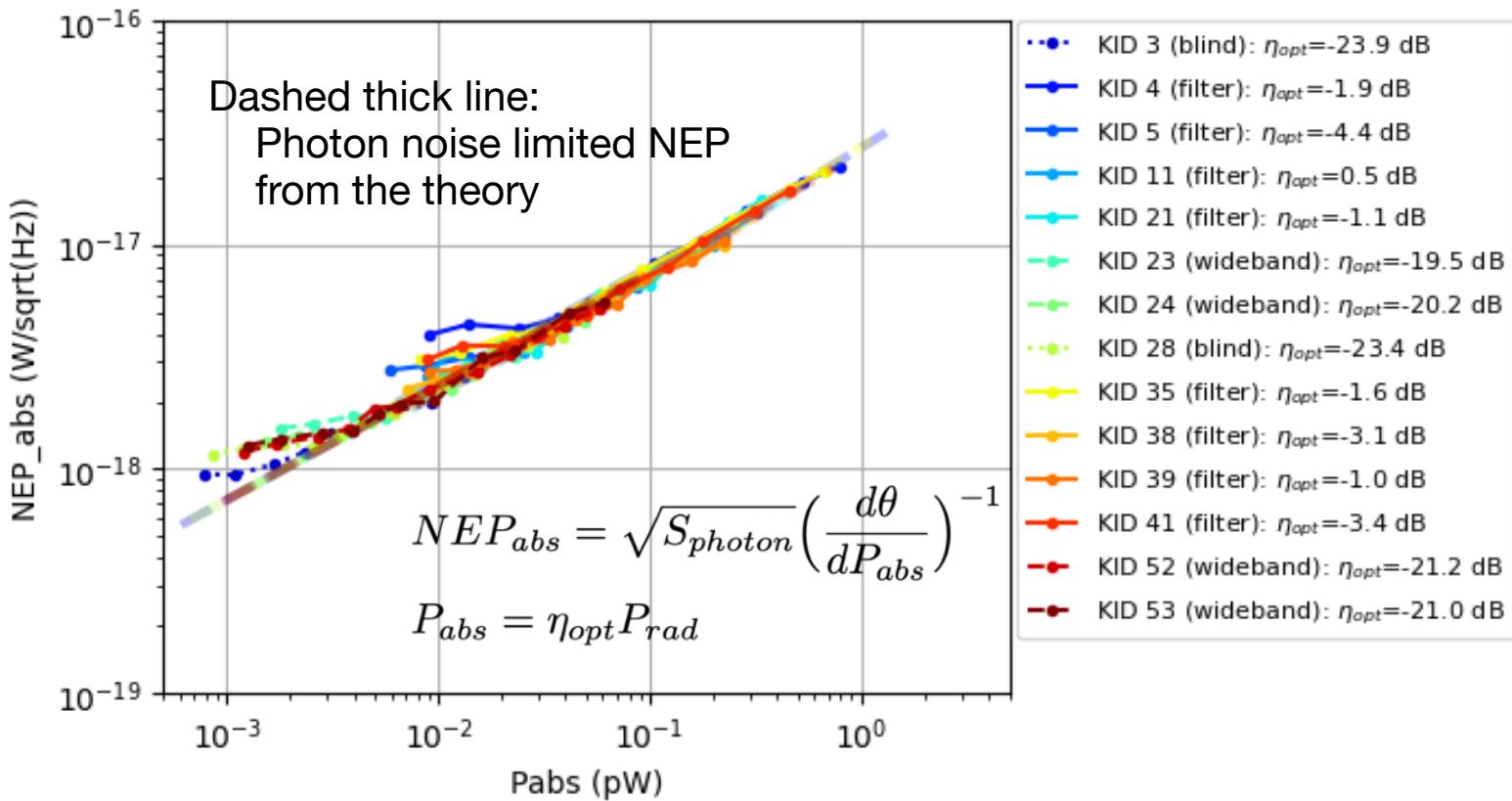


- Not all KIDs are measured due to capability of readout system
- Change cold black body temperature (T_{BB}) to measure responsivity ($d\theta/dP$) and noise (S_θ)
- Calculate Noise Equivalent Power (NEP) and optical efficiency



Filter efficiency (filterbank): 0.67 ± 0.22

Performance of Single Spaxel Chip: Optical NEP



Photon noise limited sensitivity for optical NEP > 1e-18 (Loading power 1-1000 fW)

Conclusion and Lesson Learned

- We have developed ***Compact*** and ***Scalable spectro-polarimetric IFU*** using the KID technology for future CMB missions
- Proof of concept of the IFU with single spaxel chip
- Lesson learned (need to improve):
 - KID f_r -scattering
 - 1/f noise
 - Careful design of test-bed (stray-light control)

