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# The Tianlai Project

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# The Tianlai (Heavenly Sound) Project: 21cm intensity mapping experiment in China

The concept of "tianlai" (the heavenly sound) was introduced by ancient Chinese philosopher Chuang-Tzu (369BC-286BC)



The Collaboration in China (mainland):

Science: NAOC, XAO Hangzhou Dianzi U

Technology: Institute of Automation, CETC-54,  
Hangzhou Dianzi U

## Tianlai Collaboration

NAOC: X. Chen, H. Shi, H. Tian, F. Wu, Y. Wang,  
CITA: U.L. Pen

CMU: J. Peterson

FNAL: J. Marriner, A. Stebbins

Hangzhou Dianzi Univ: Z. Chen, J. Zhang

IRFU-CEA: C. Magneville, C. Yèche

LAL/IN2P3: R. Ansari, J.E. Campagne, M. Moniez

Obs. Paris: P. Colom, J.M. Martin

Univ. Wisconsin: P. Timbie

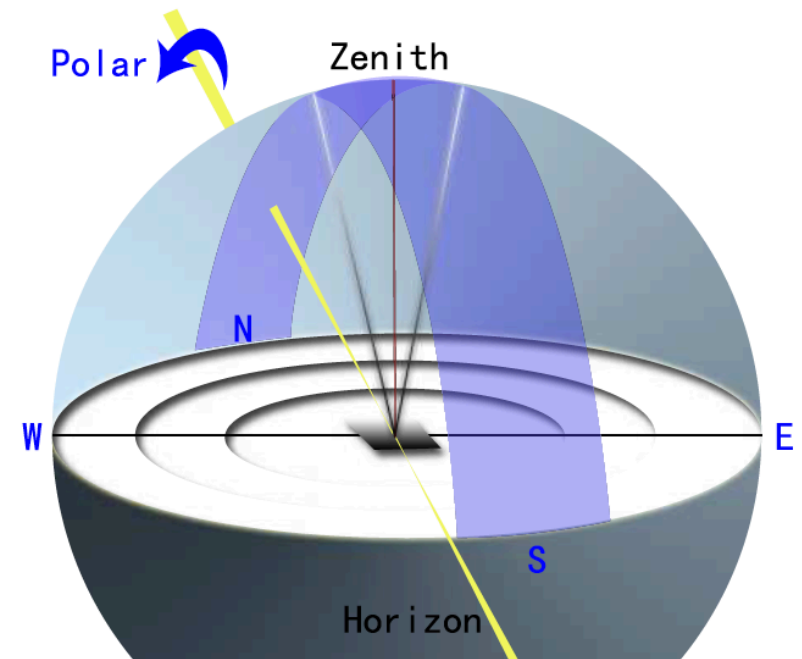
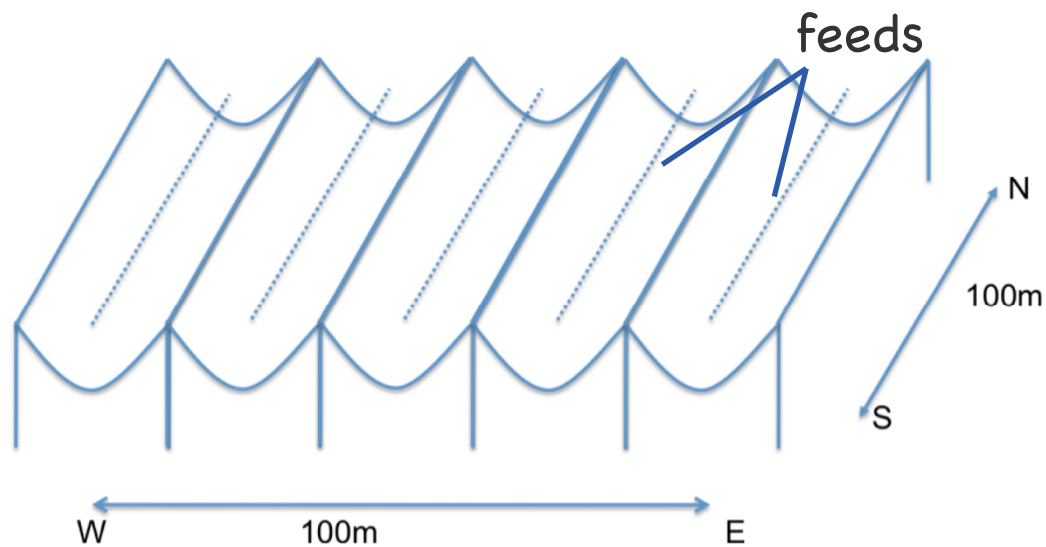




# Dedicated Telescope: Cylinder?

cylinders:

CHIME (Canada)  
Tianlai (China)



instant field of view

# The Pittsburgh Cylinder Experiment



See also Ansari and Mechel-Martin's talk on the BAOradio experiment

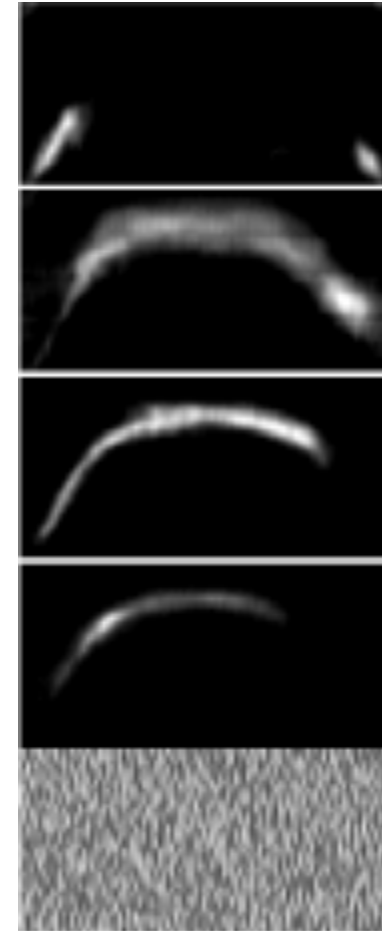


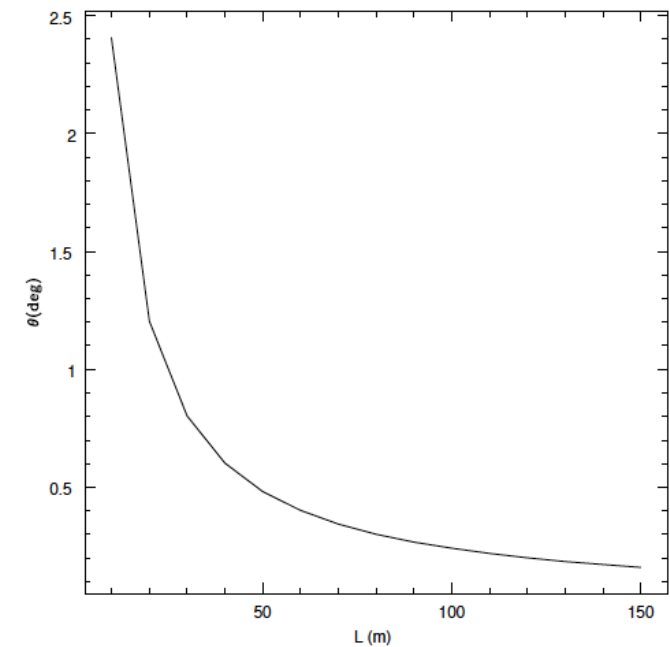
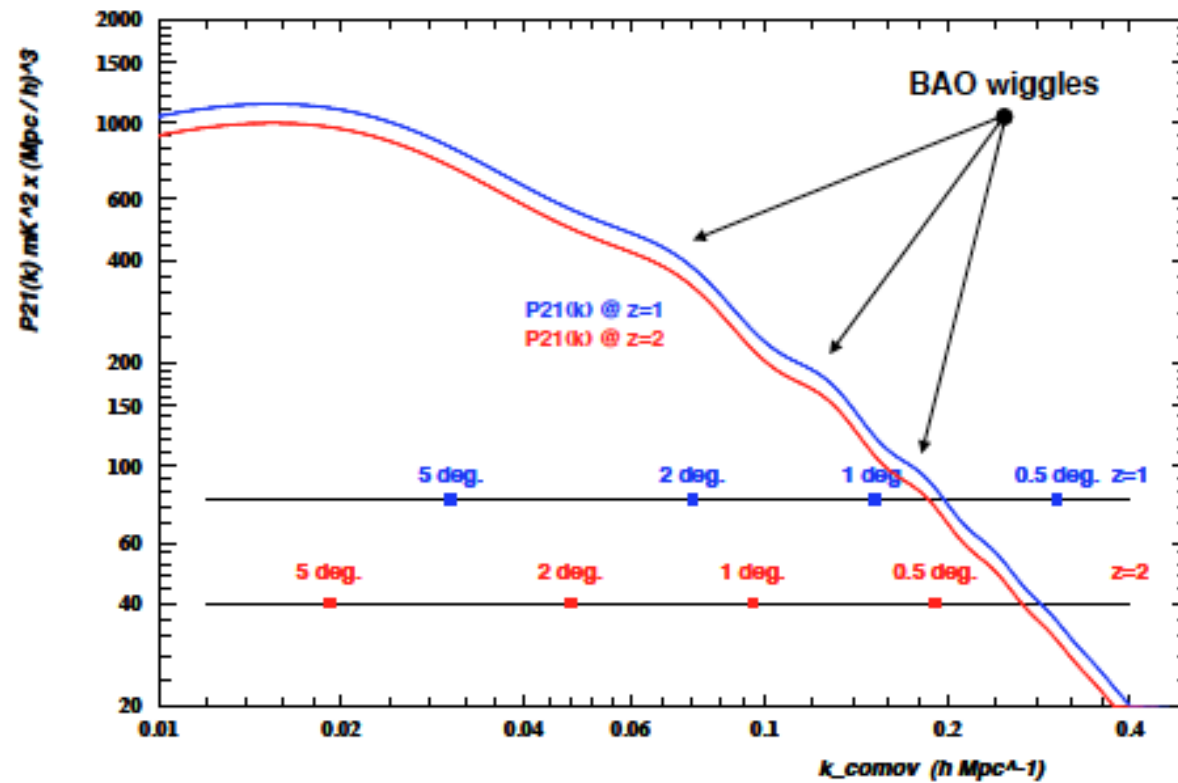
Image of Milky Way HI  
(Bandura et al.)

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# Design Considerations

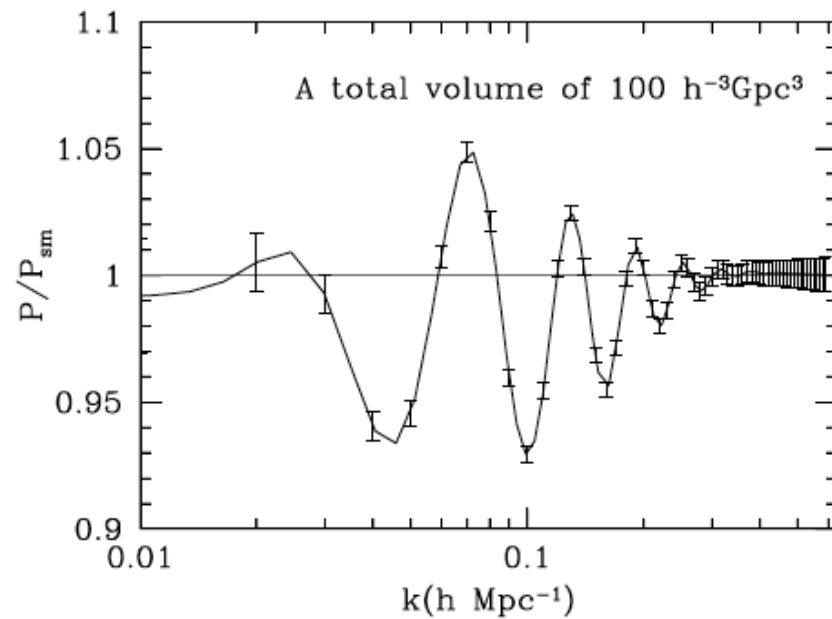
- Dedicated experiment, moderate cost
  - Drift Scan (less cost, more stable)
  - $0 < z < 3$ , first probably  $z=1$  (sensitive to dark energy, avoids cell phone band at 850–950 MHz)
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# Angular Resolution

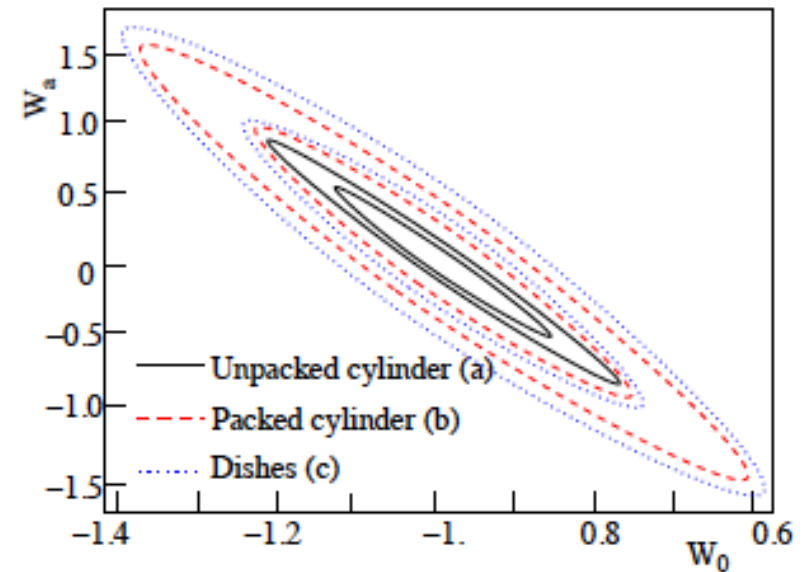


Ansari et al., 1108.1474

# Experimental Design Study



H. Seo et al. 2009



R. Ansari et al. (2008)

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# Tianlai pathfinder experiment

- A small pathfinder experiment to check the basic principles and designs, find out potential problems
  - 3x15x40m cylinders, 96 dual polarization receiver units
  - 16x6m dish, steerable, possibly with tracks
  - pathfinder: construction+ commission 2014-2015
  - Cost: \$1.5M from MOST + site construction (NAOC)
  - If successful: expand to 120mx120m, 1000~ 3000 units
-



# Forecast on Dark energy parameters

$$F_{\alpha\beta} = \sum_k \left[ \frac{\partial P_{\text{obs}}(k)}{\partial \alpha} \frac{\partial P_{\text{obs}}(k)}{\partial \beta} \right] / \underline{[\Delta P_{\text{obs}}(k)]^2}$$



$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{N_c}} \underline{[P_{\text{obs}}(k) + N(k)]}$$



$$P_{\text{obs}}(k_{\text{ref}\perp}, k_{\text{ref}\parallel}) = \frac{D_A(z)_{\text{ref}}^2 H(z)}{D_A(z)^2 H_{\text{ref}}(z)} \left( 1 + \beta \frac{k_{\parallel}^2}{k_{\perp}^2 + k_{\parallel}^2} \right)^2 \times \underline{(b_1^{\text{HI}})^2 G(z)^2 P_{\text{m0}}(k)} + P_{\text{shot}}$$



$$b_i^{\text{HI}}(z) = \frac{\int_{M_{\text{min}}}^{M_{\text{max}}} dM n(M, z) M_{\text{HI}}(M) b_i(M, z)}{\rho_{\text{HI}}}$$

# Tianlai...

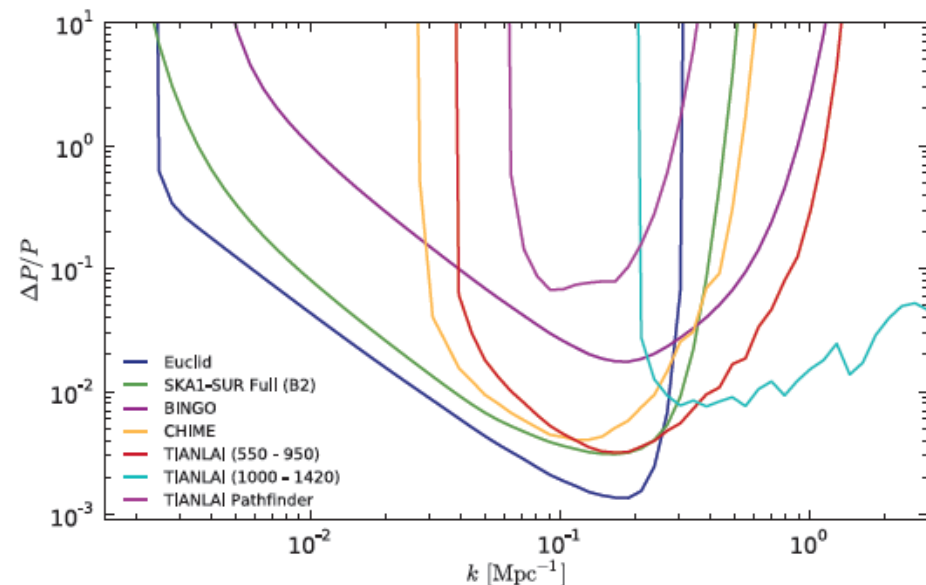
## Assumptions – Pathfinder:

Number of cylinders	3
Cylinder width [m]	15
Feeds per cylinder	32 (dual-pol)
Feed spacing [m]	0.5
Tsys [K]	50
Bandwidth [MHz]	700 - 800
Channel width [MHz]	6.25
Number of Channels	16
Telescope latitude	45 degree

## Assumptions – Full:

- 8 x 15m x 120m cylinders,
- ~ 256 feeds per cylinder dual polarisation – spacing ~ 42cm
- T<sub>inst</sub>=50K
- 450MHz–1420MHz (400 MHz bandwidth)
- survey area 10,000 deg<sup>2</sup>

Slide from M. Santos



Credit: Phil Bull

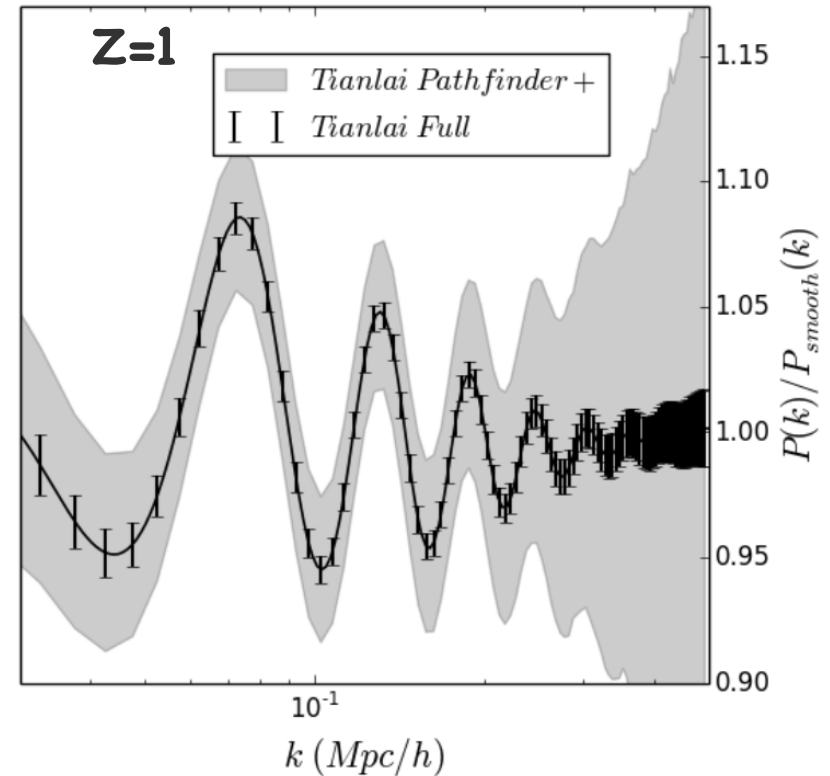
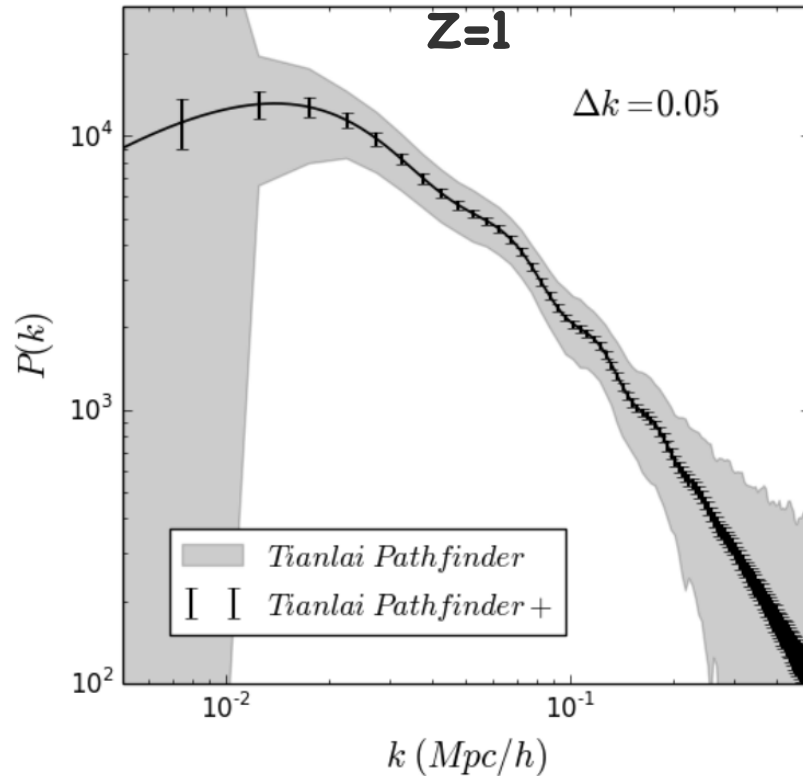
Power spectrum constraints

# Forecast on Dark energy parameters

Y. Xu, X. Wang, XC, in preparation

Table 1: The experiment parameters for Tianlai.

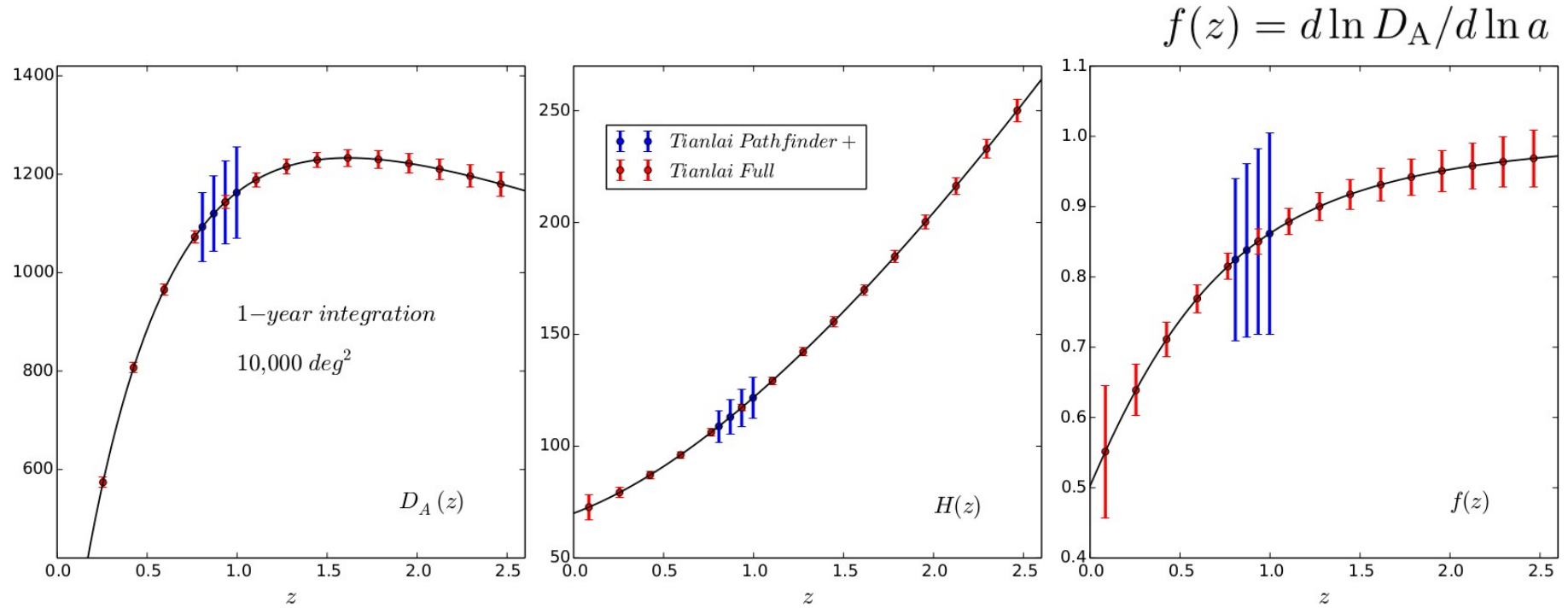
	No. of cylinders	cylinder width	cylinder length	dual pol. units/cylinder	bandwidth
Pathfinder	3	15m	40m	32	700-800MHz
Pathfinder+	3	15m	40m	72	700-800MHz
Full scale	8	15m	120m	256	400-1420 MHz



# Forecast on Dark energy parameters

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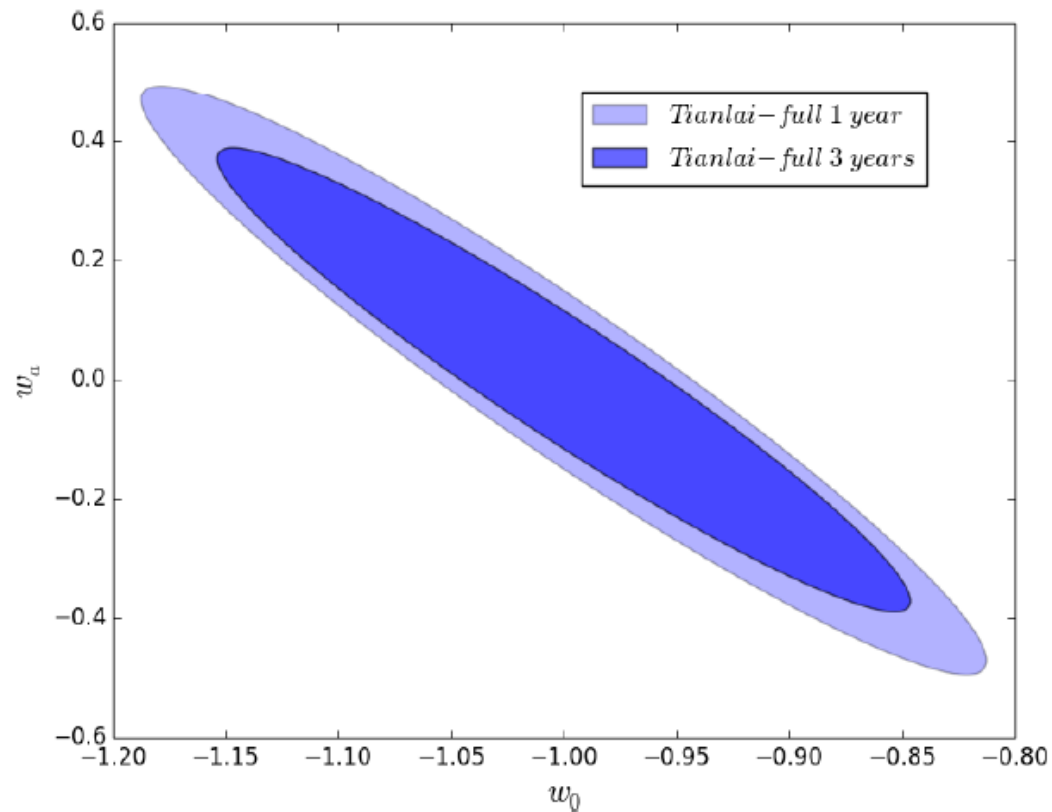
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# Forecast on Non-gaussianity

WMAP-9-year data(Giannantonio et al.2013):

$$f_{NL}^{local} = 5 \pm 21 \quad 1\sigma$$

Planck:

$$f_{NL}^{local} = 2.7 \pm 5.8, f_{NL}^{equil} = -42 \pm 75,$$

$$f_{NL}^{ortho} = -25 \pm 39 \quad 1\sigma$$



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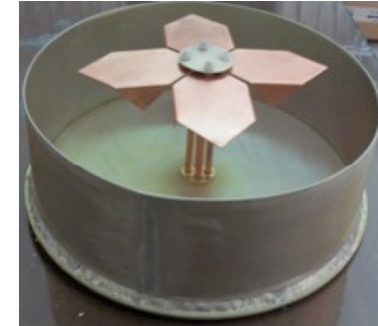
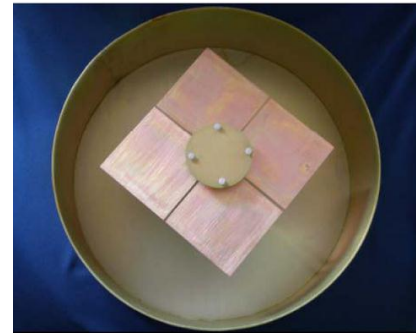
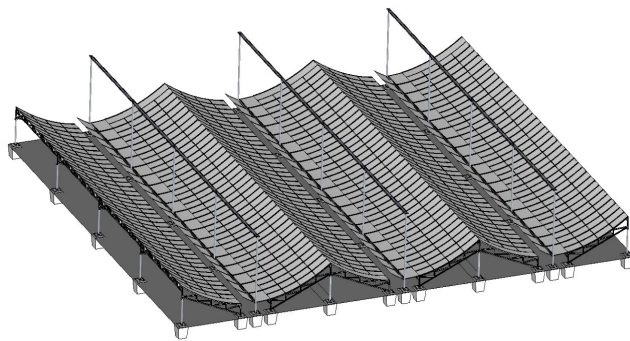
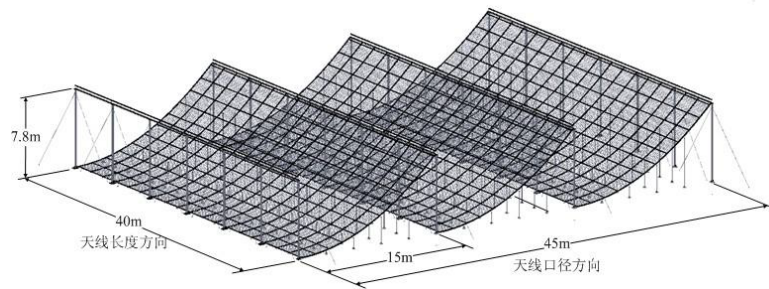
Table 2. The predicted  $1 - \sigma$  errors of  $f_{\text{NL}}$  using HI power spectrum measured by Tianlai

	Pathfinder	Pathfinder+	Full scale
$N_{\text{feed}}$ per cylinder	32	72	256
$\sigma_{f_{\text{NL}}}^{\text{local}}$	1180	173	13.0

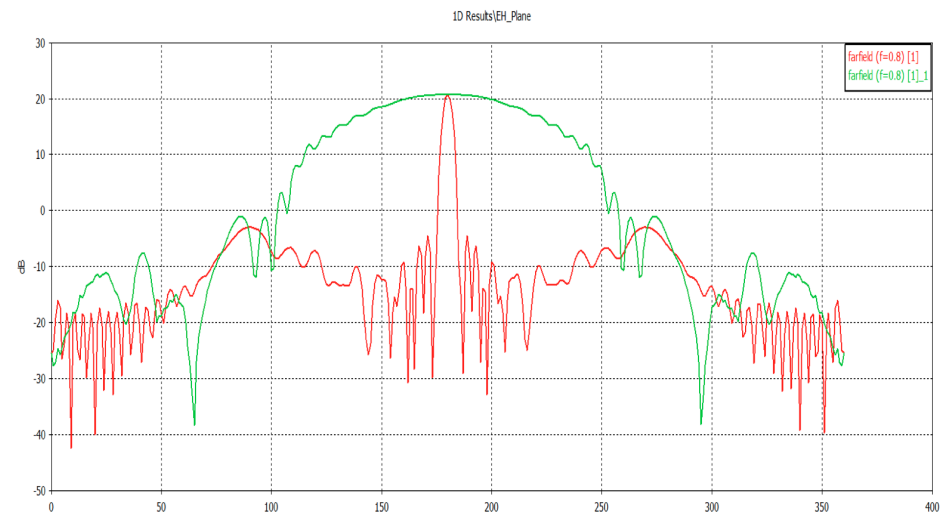
Table 3. The marginalized  $1 - \sigma$  errors of  $f_{\text{NL}}$  using HI bispectrum measured by Tianlai

	Pathfinder	Pathfinder+	Full scale
$N_{\text{feed}}$ per cylinder	32	72	256
$\sigma_{f_{\text{NL}}}^{\text{local}}$	42504	2776	21.3
$\sigma_{f_{\text{NL}}}^{\text{equil}}$	48022	3284	150

# Antenna and Feeds



made in CETC-54



T. Liu, CST simulation

# Cylinder Structure

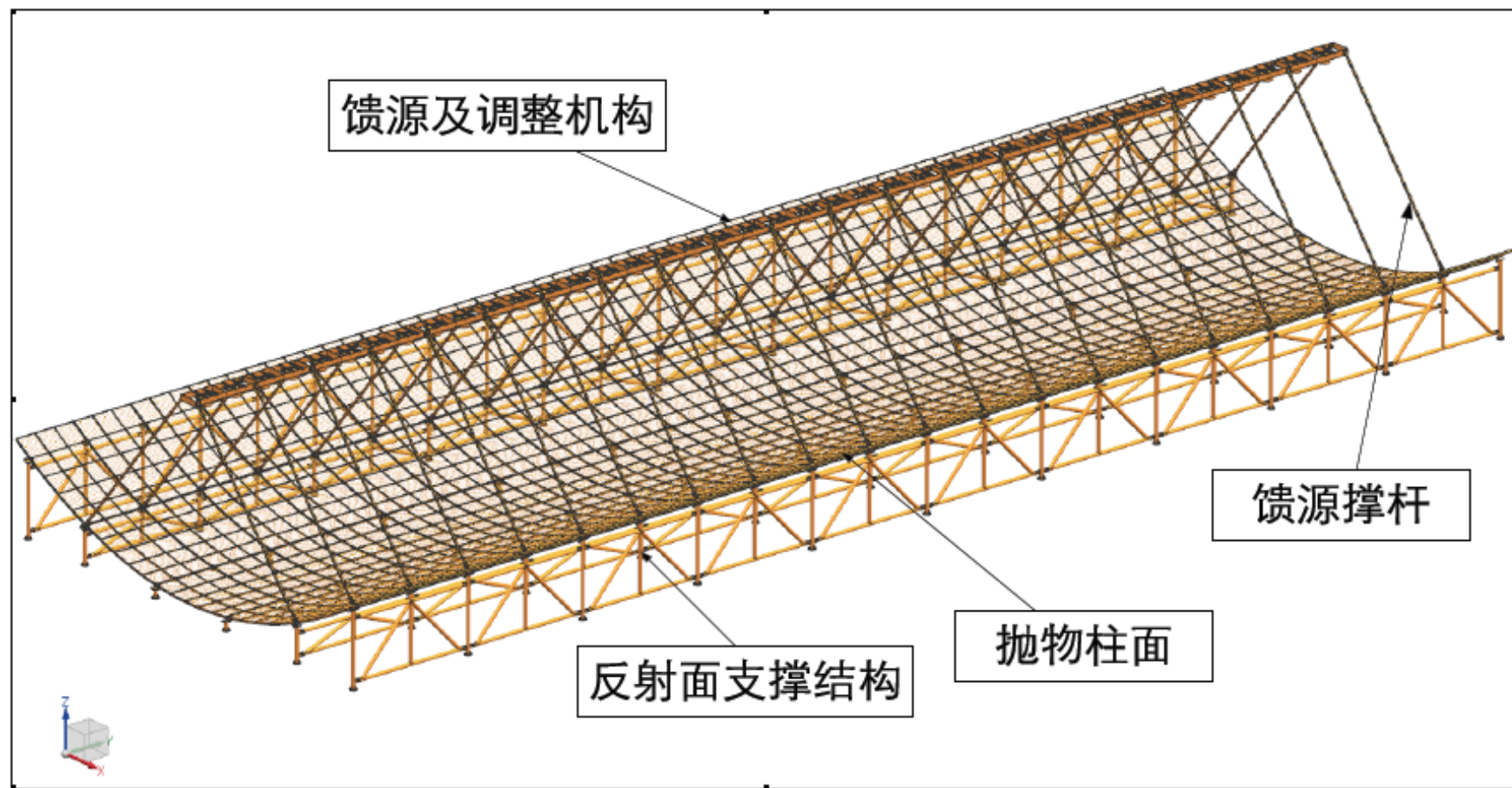


图 2 15m×40m 抛物柱面天线组成



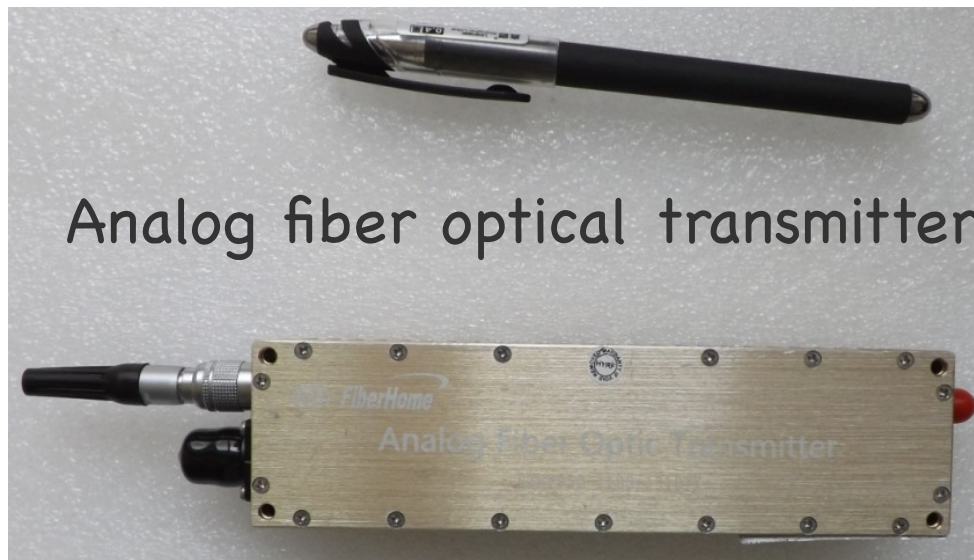
# 6m dish





LNA

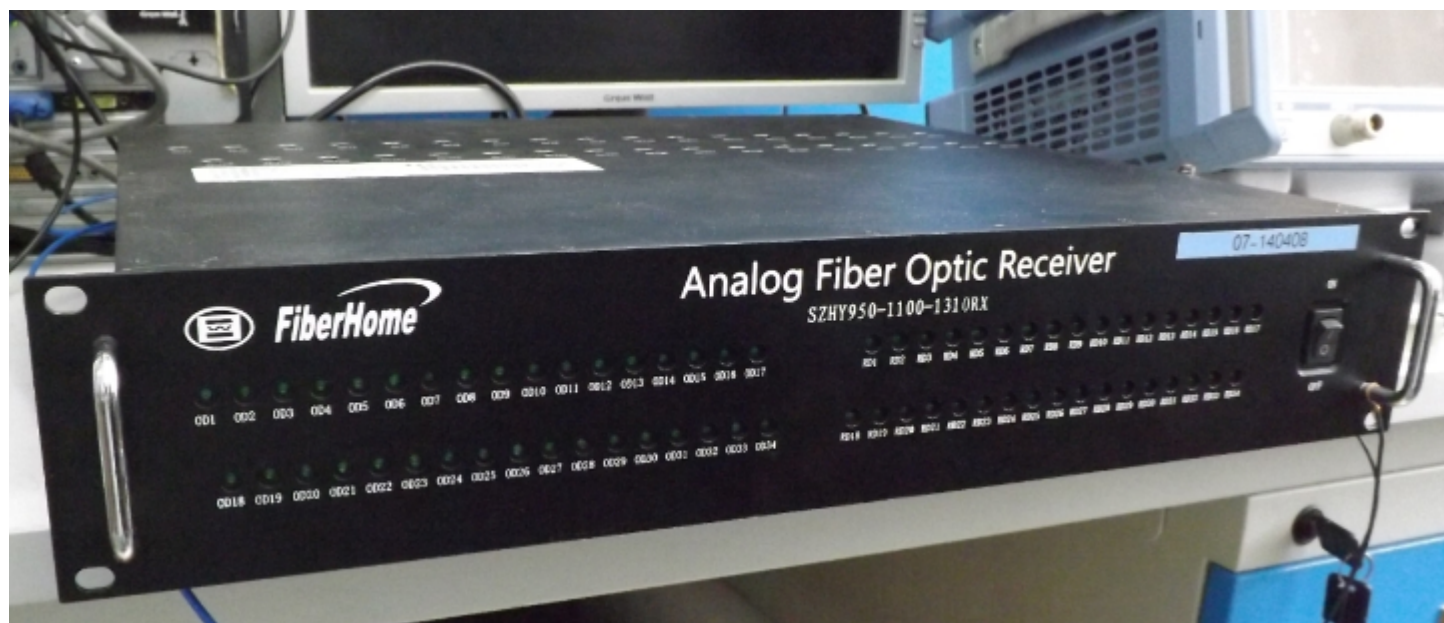
Frequency: 0.4–1.5 GHz  
 NF=0.6  $T_n=43K$  @750 MHz  
 Gain > 53 dB  
 Coaxial cable power supply



Analog fiber optical transmitter

Frequency: 0.4–1.5 GHz  
 DFB Laser, no thermostat system  
 Gain > 18 dB  
 $P_n = -130 \text{ dBm}$   
 DC 28V power  
 Power of light > 2.0 dBm

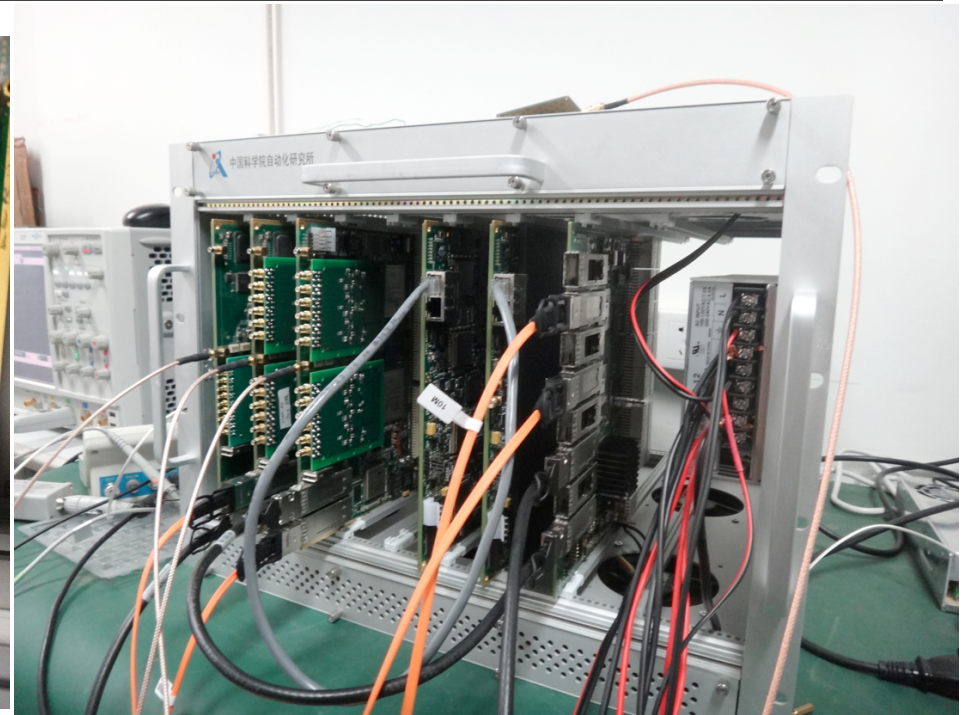
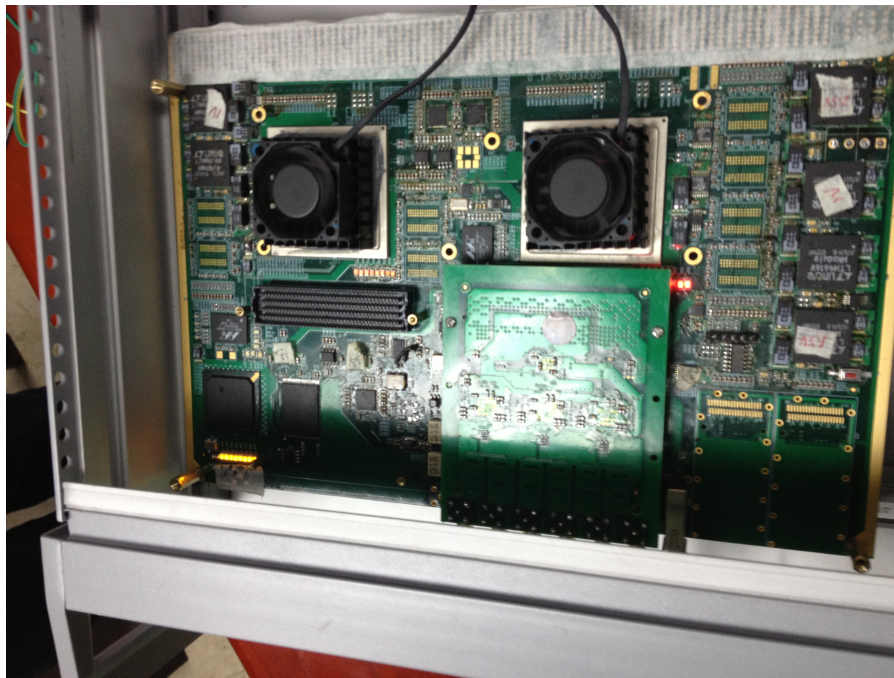








# Digital Components

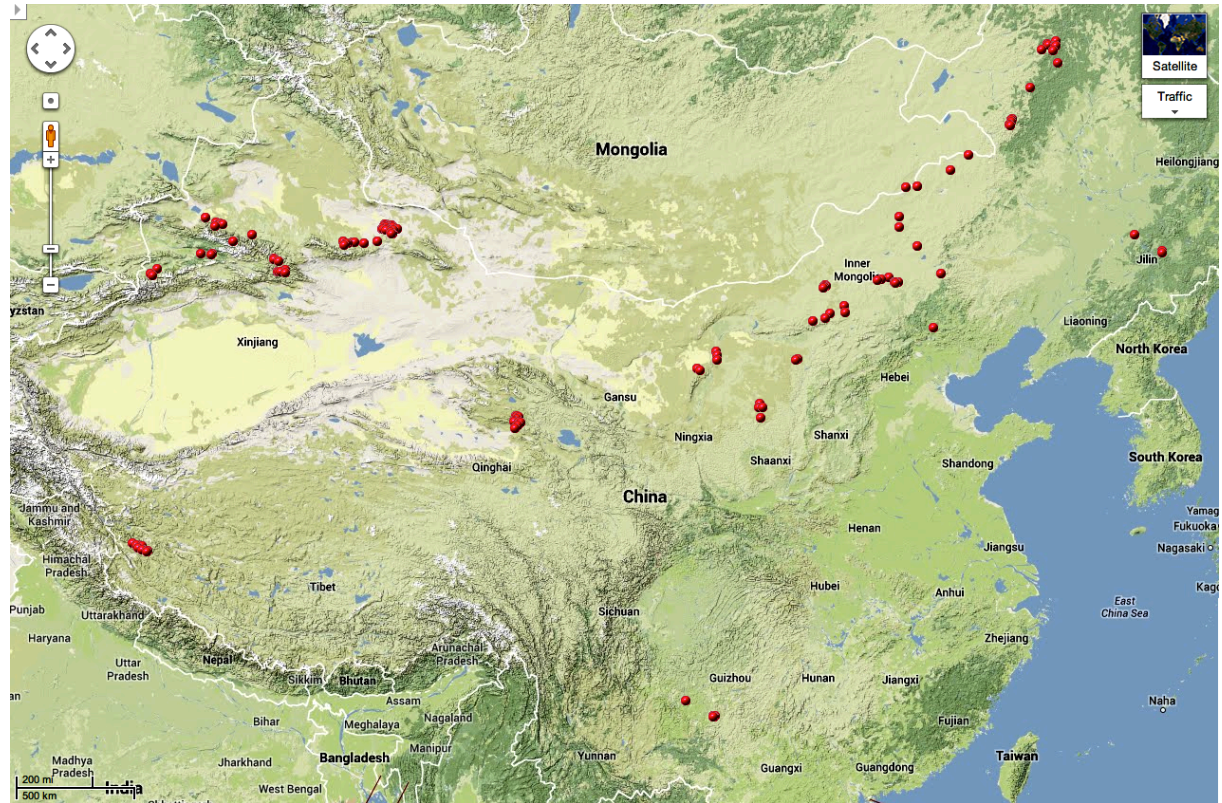


Developed by the Institute of Automation, we are also experimenting with GPUs for larger array



# Site Surveys in China

- Low RFI (low population density, shielded by mountains)
- wide open terrain
- convenience in logistics, electricity, communication
- We checked for about 100 potential sites (found on Google Earth) near existing astronomical research facilities





A site in Baiqi, Inner Mongolia





A site in Pingtang, Guizhou, SW China





A site in Jiaohe, Jilin, NE China

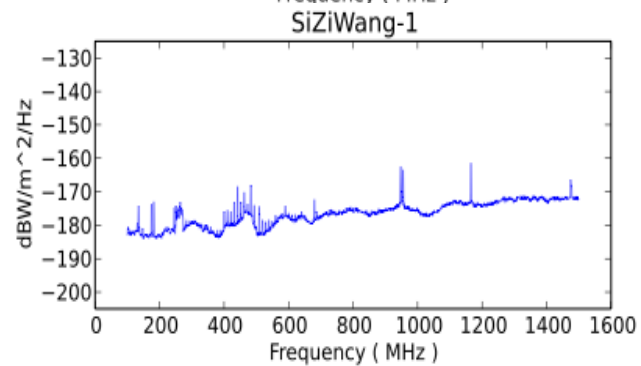
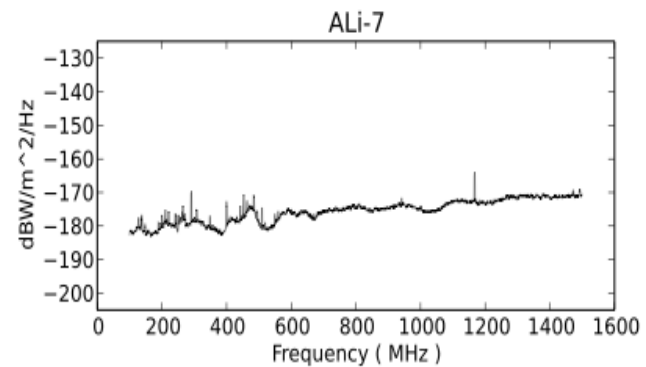
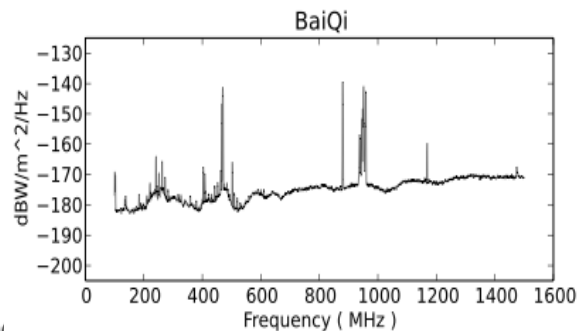
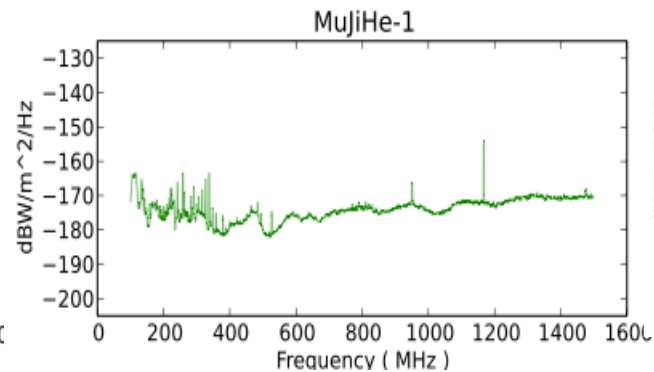
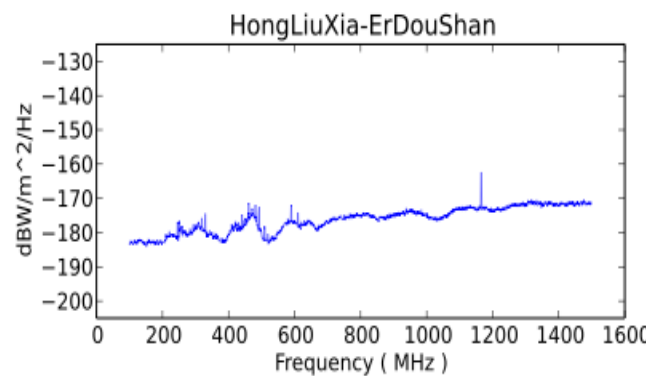
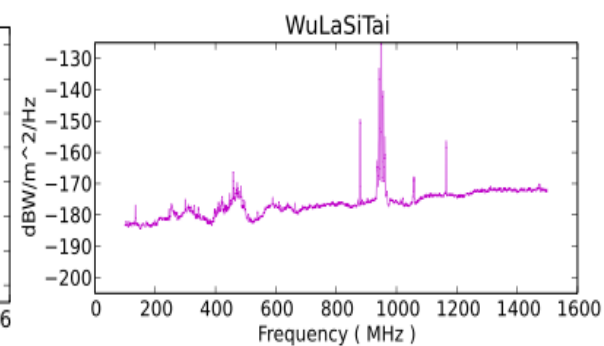
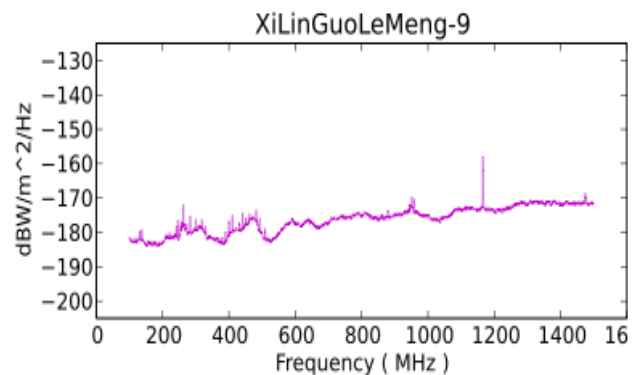
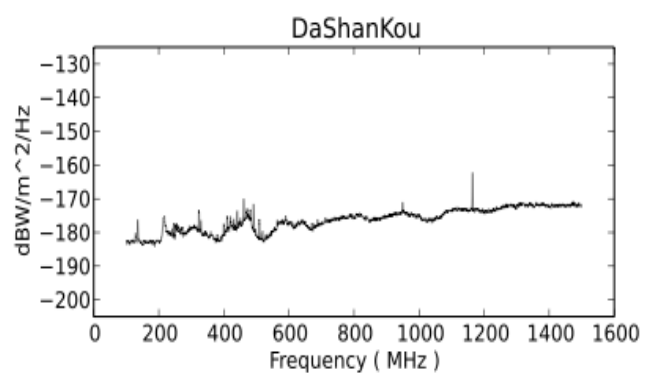




A site in Ali, Tibet, W. China





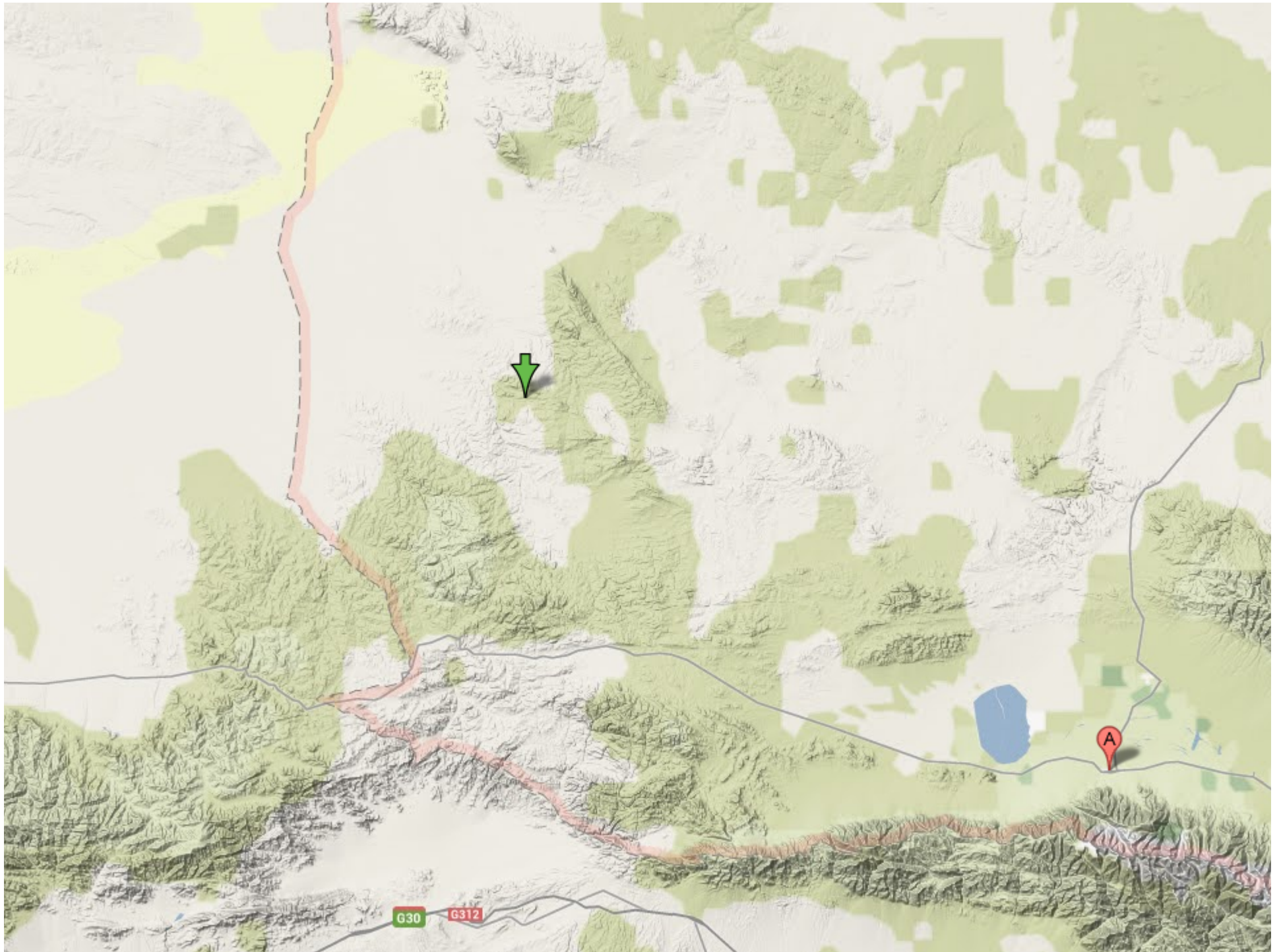


















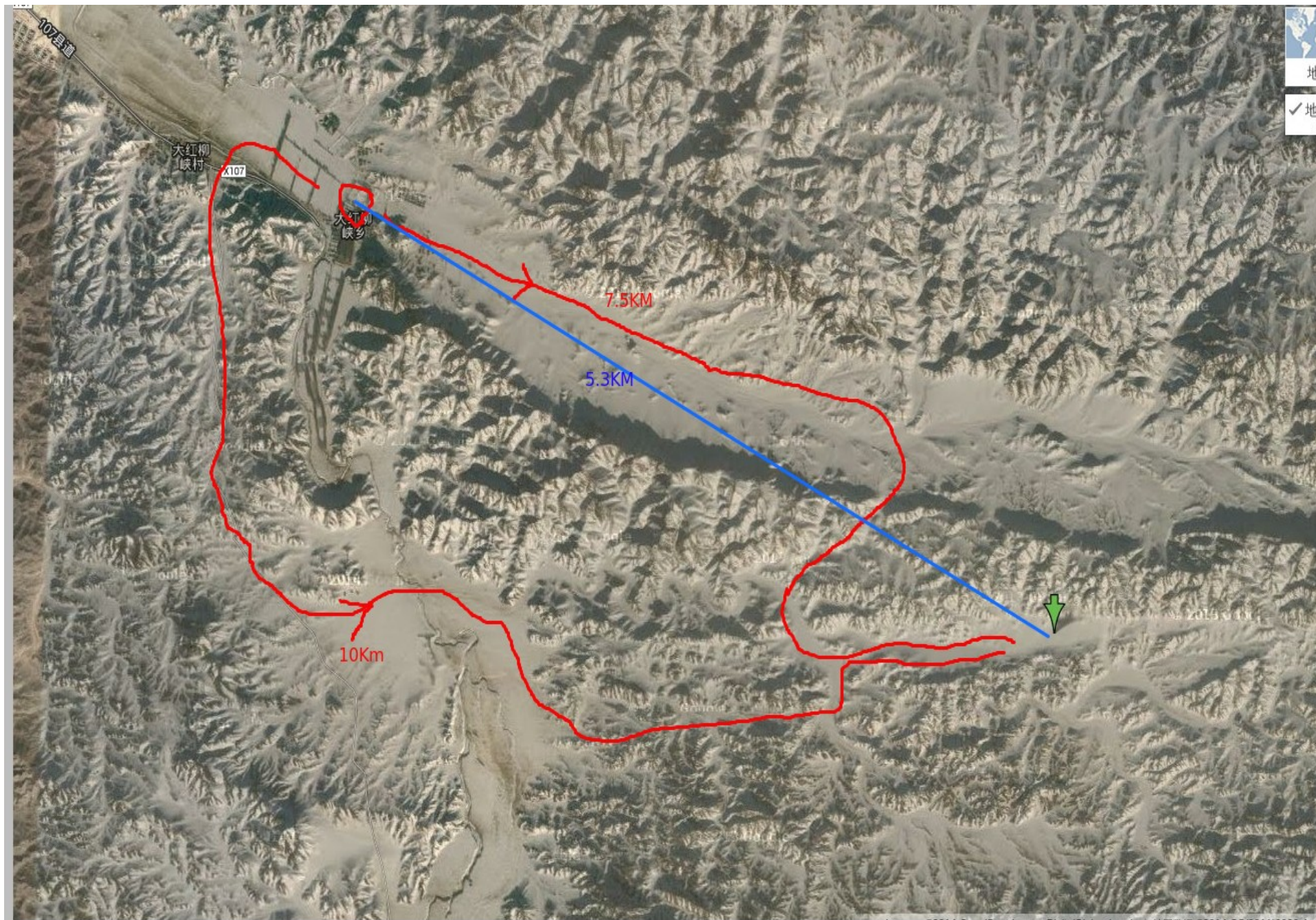
# A relic beacon tower in Balikun



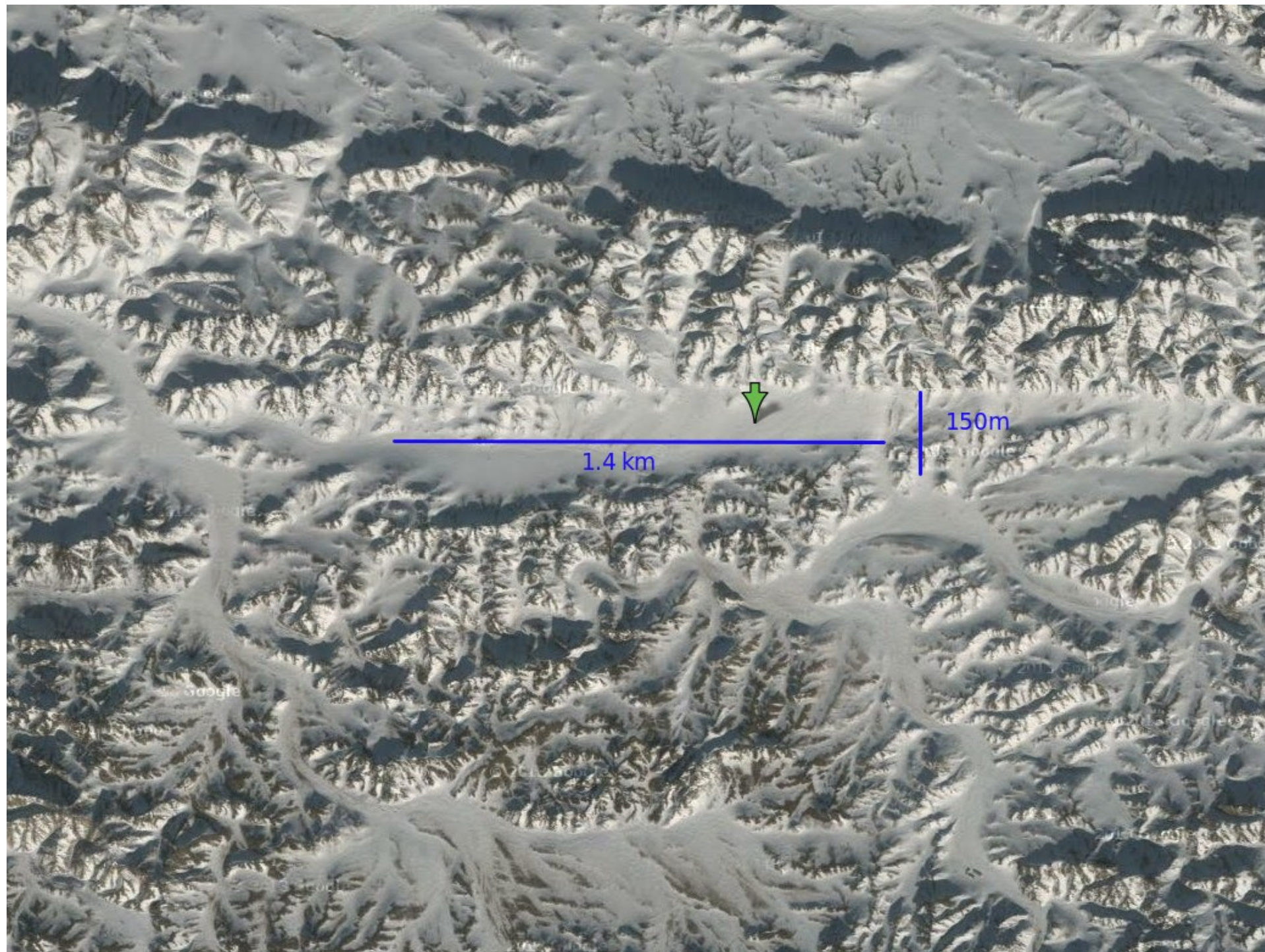
















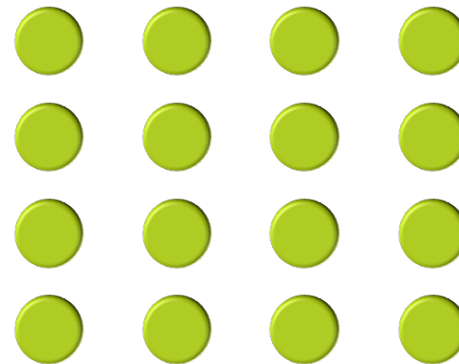








## Plan for site: Dish Array configuration?



# 4 unit Receiver experiment



Thanks

