

26<sup>ème</sup> Congrès général de la SFP

Mini-colloque Astrophotonique : optique moderne pour l'instrumentation astronomique

# Astrophotonics for visible interferometry

Elsa Huby

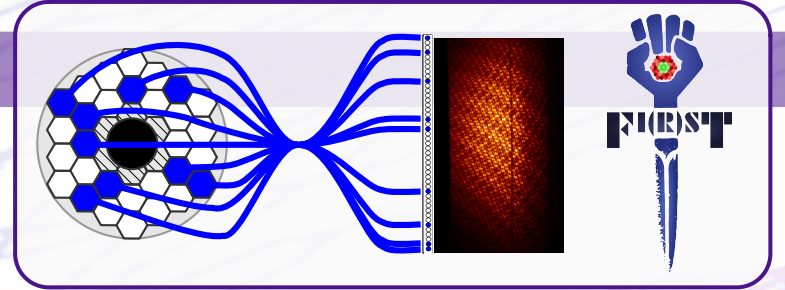
M. Lallement, H.-D. Kenchington-Goldsmith, S. Lacour, G. Martin, K. Barjot, V. Lapeyrere, D. Rouan, G. Perrin,  
S. Vievard, O. Guyon, N. Jovanovic, J. Lozi, N. Cvetojevic, T. Kotani,  
F. Marchis, G. Duchêne, J. Woillez, É. Choquet, L. Gauchet, P. Fédou, O. Lai



# Outline

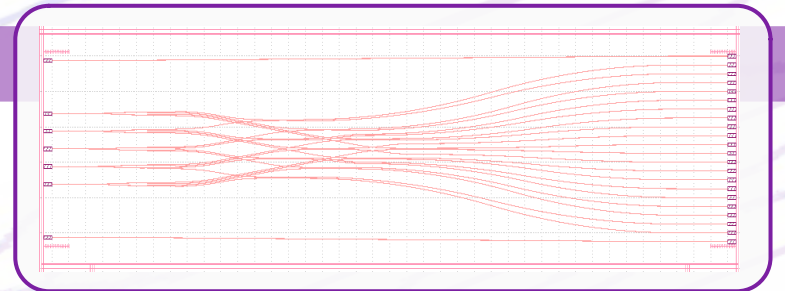
## ◆ The FIRST instrument, visible spectro-interferometer

- Direct detection of exoplanets
- Instrument principle: pupil masking / pupil remapping
- Science case: detection of protoplanets



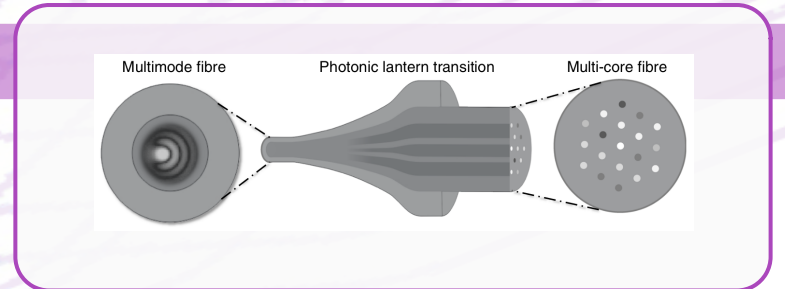
## ◆ Planar combiners for the visible

- 5-input chip prototypes
- Low vs high contrast index chip
- Laboratory characterization

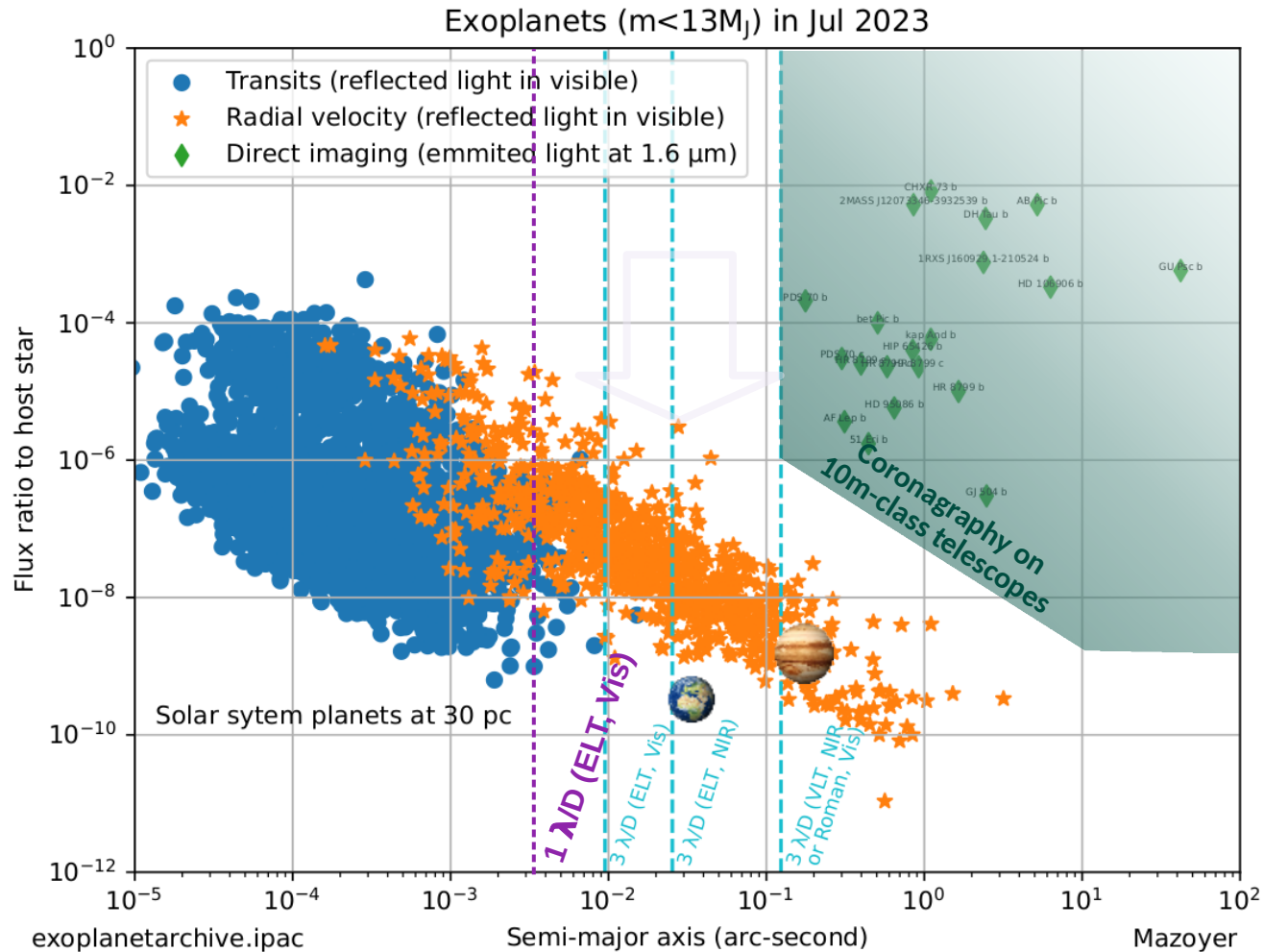


## ◆ Photonic developments in the visible

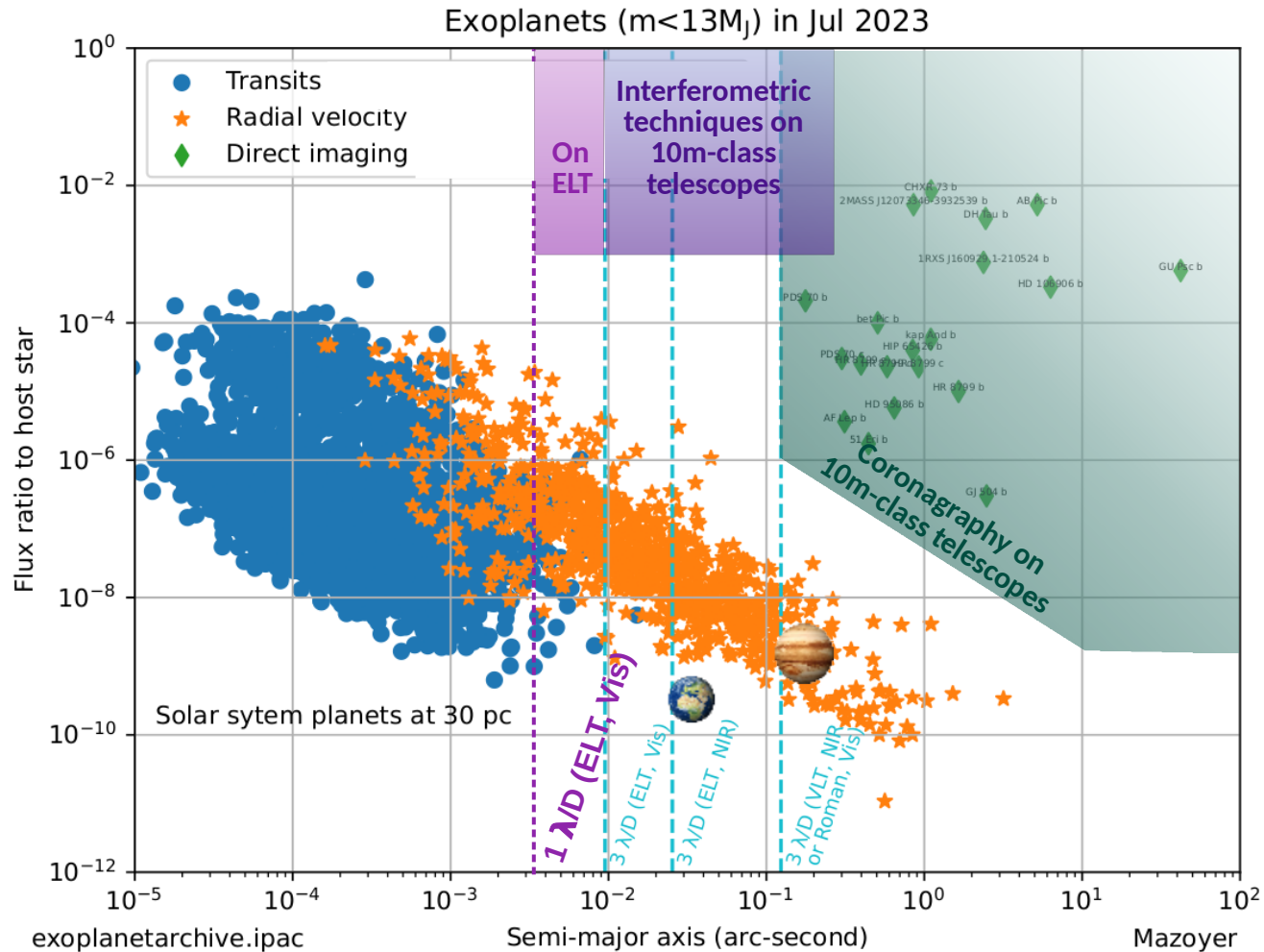
- Active phase shifters
- 3D chip
- Photonic lantern



# Direct detection of exoplanets



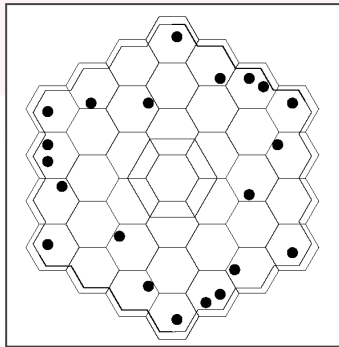
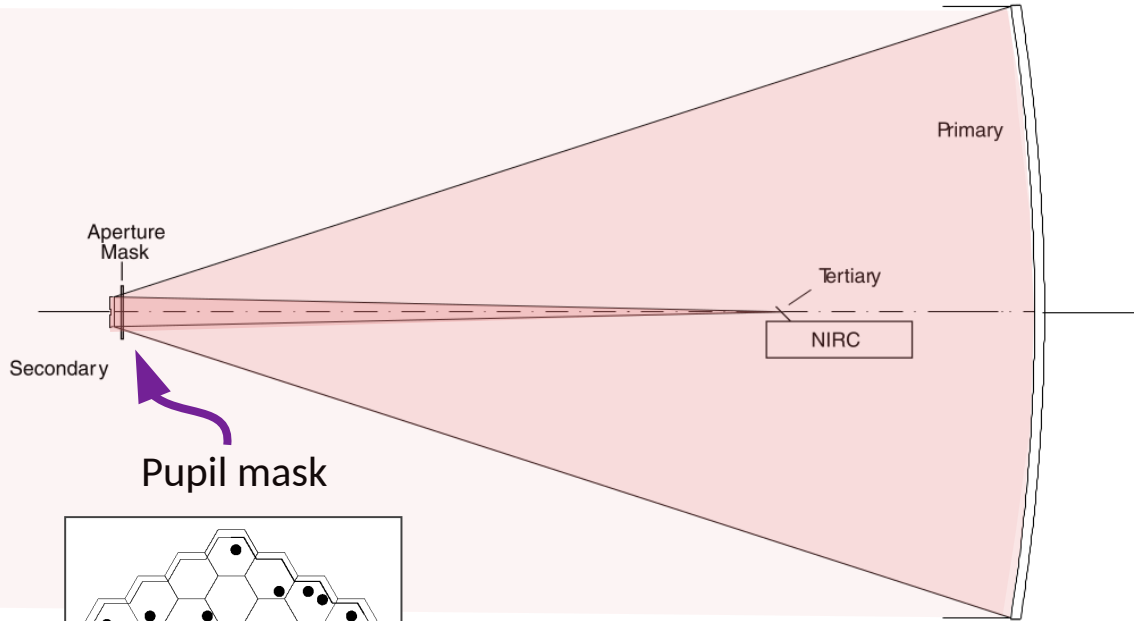
# Direct detection of exoplanets



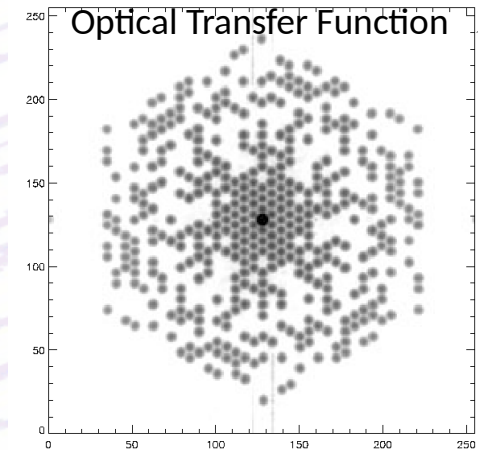
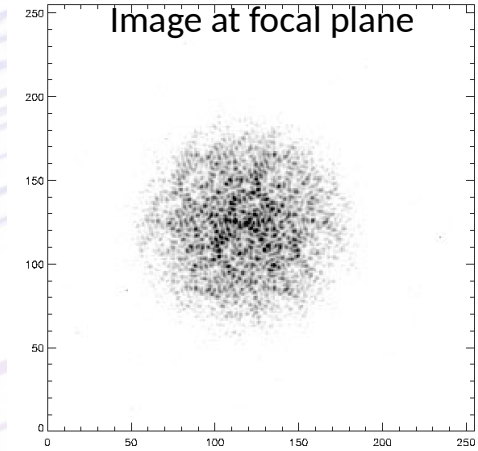
# Interferometric technique on monolithic telescopes

## Sparse Aperture Masking (SAM) / Non Redundant Masking (NRM)

Baldwin et al., 1986  
Haniff et al., 1987



Tuthill et al. 2000

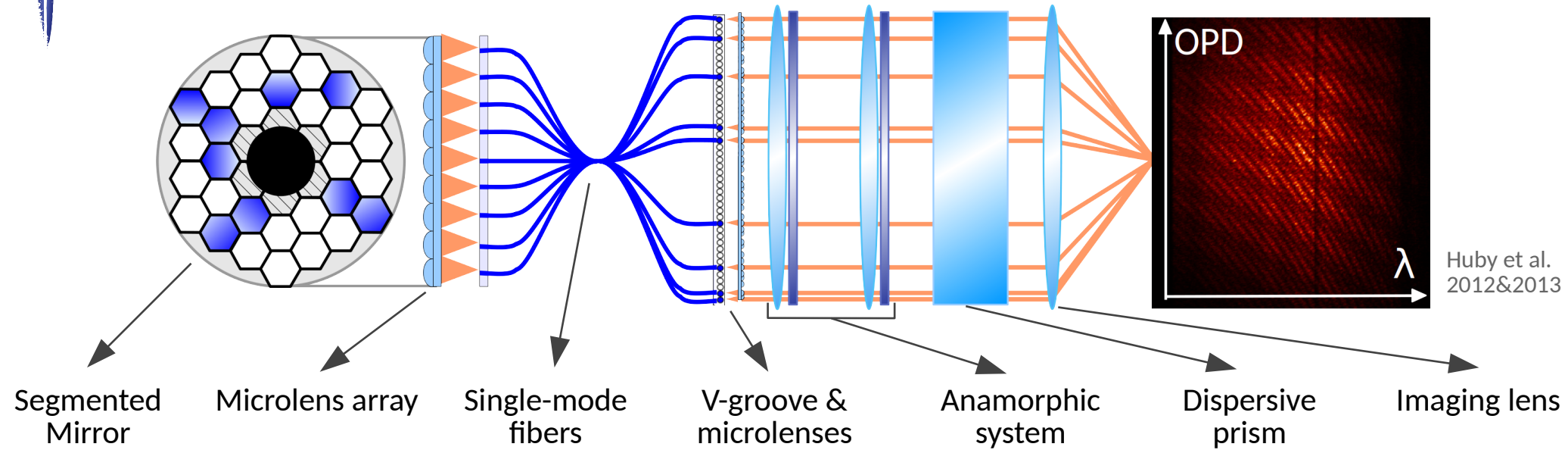


FT



# The FIRST instrument: spectroscopy at the diffraction limit (and below)

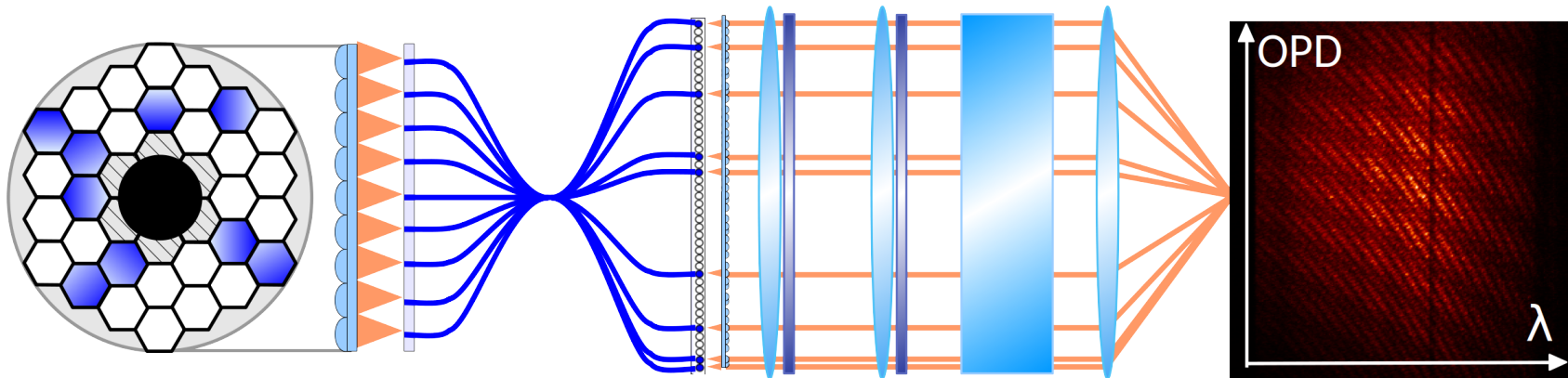
## Pupil remapping



Huby et al.  
2012&2013

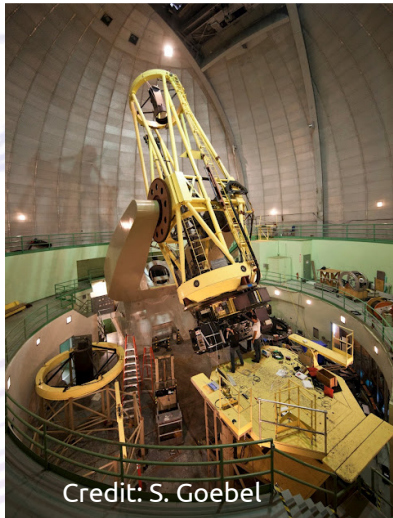
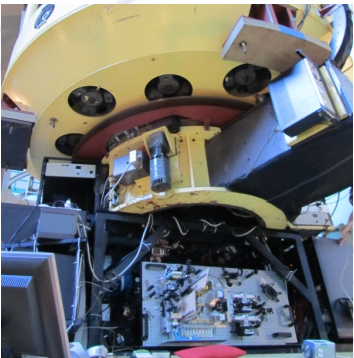
# The FIRST instrument: spectroscopy at the diffraction limit (and below)

## FIRSTv1



Huby et al.  
2012&2013

2010 - 2013:  
Lick Observatory  
3m-Shane telescope



Credit: S. Goebel

Currently:  
Subaru Telescope  
8m-Subaru telescope  
→ SExAO platform

Vievard et al. submitted



2023 July 7<sup>th</sup>

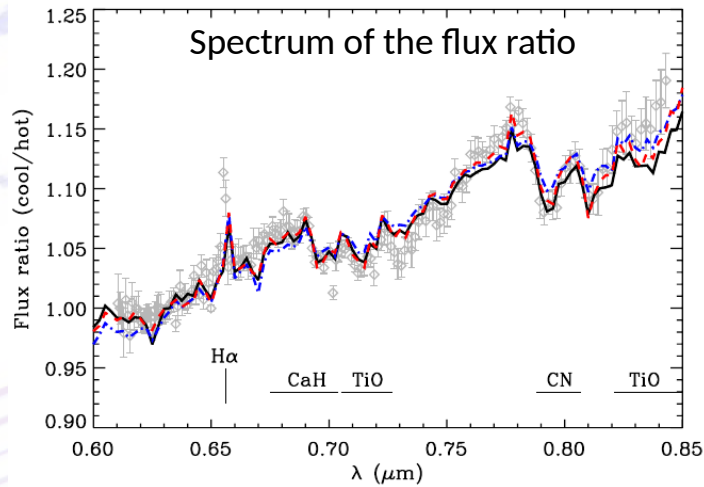
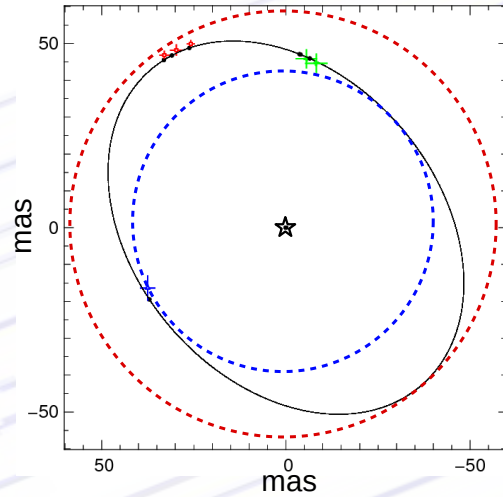


Credit: S. Vievard

# The FIRST instrument: spectroscopy at the diffraction limit (and below)

## FIRSTv1

At the diffraction limit:  
Capella results on  
the 3-m Shane  
telescope



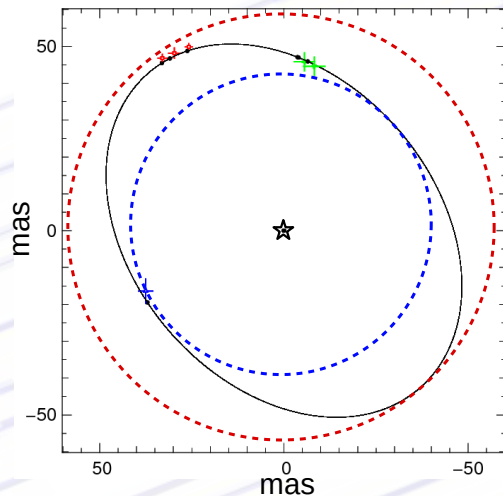
Huby et al. 2013



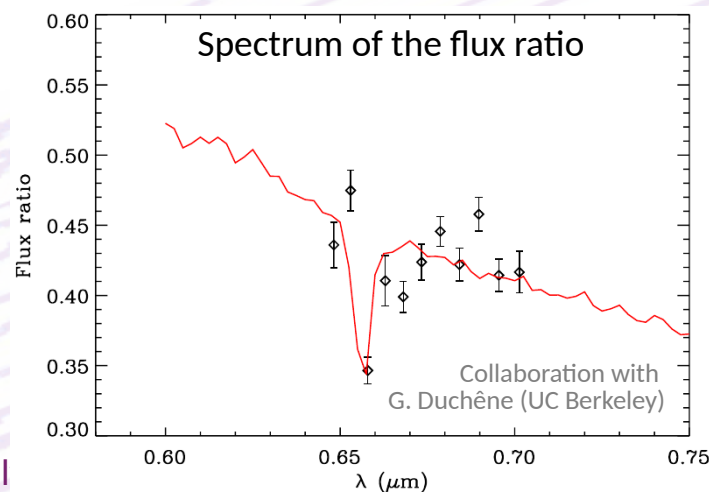
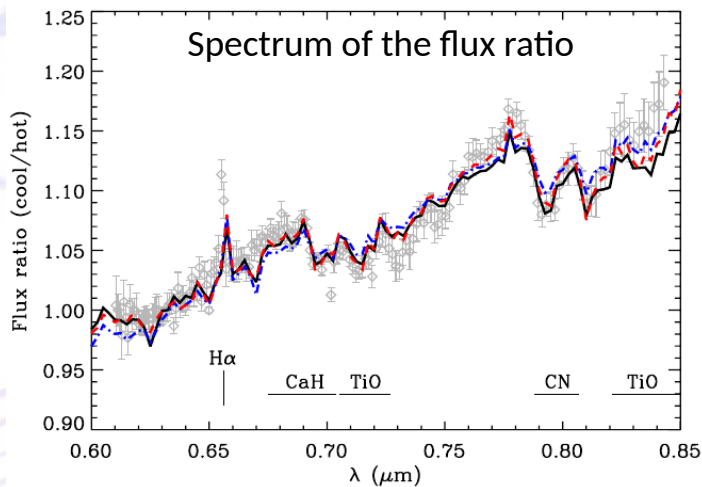
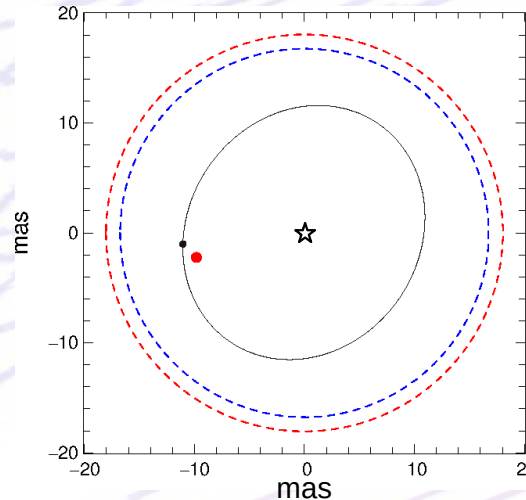
# The FIRST instrument: spectroscopy at the diffraction limit (and below)

## FIRSTv1

At the diffraction limit:  
Capella results on the 3-m Shane telescope



Below the diffraction limit: Alpha Equu results on the 8-m Subaru telescope

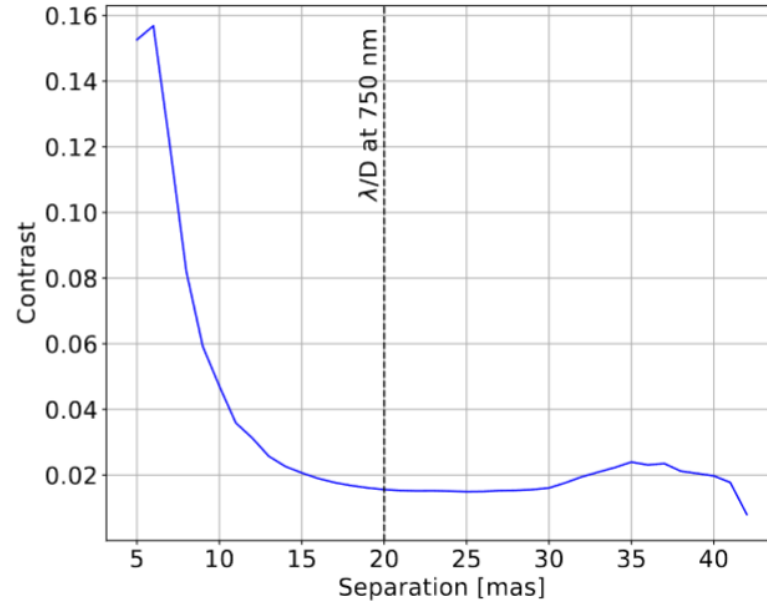
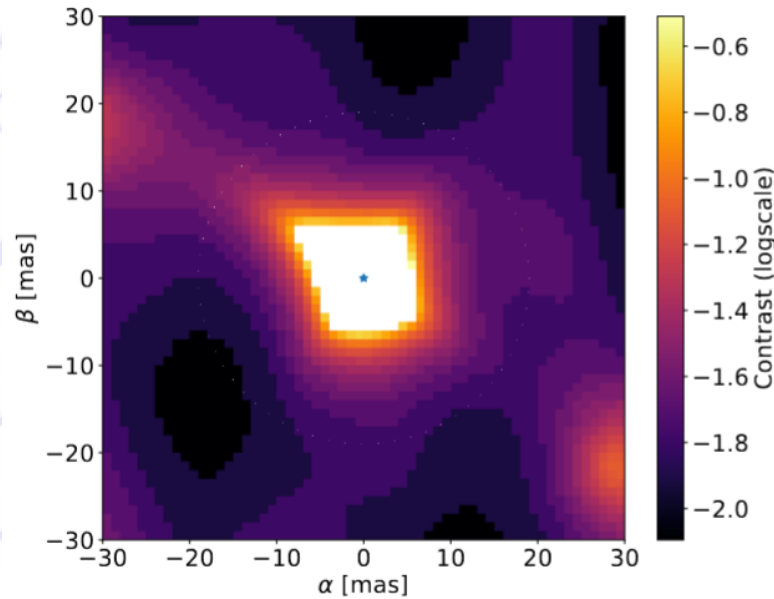


Huby et al. 2013

# The FIRST instrument: spectroscopy at the diffraction limit (and below)

## FIRSTv1

### Sensitivity map at the 8m-Subaru telescope

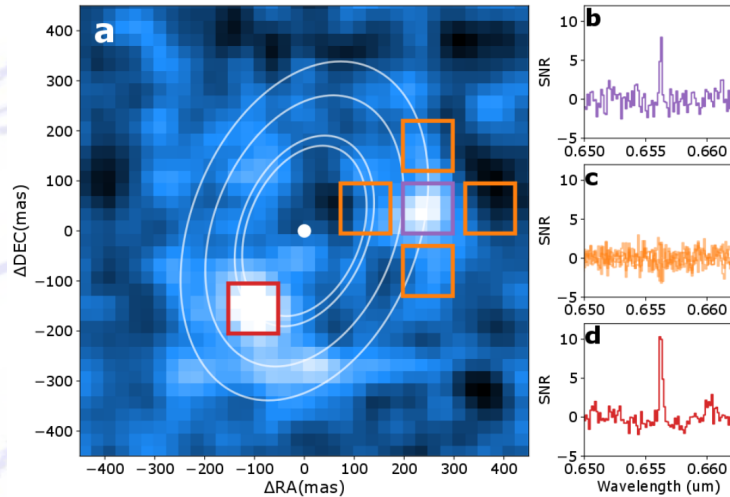


3- $\sigma$  sensitivity map around **Keho'oea (Vega)**  
Total integration time of 500s on target

# The FIRST instrument: the detection of protoplanets

## FIRSTv2

- ◆ H $\alpha$  emission, a signature for accreting matter



Haffert et al. 2019

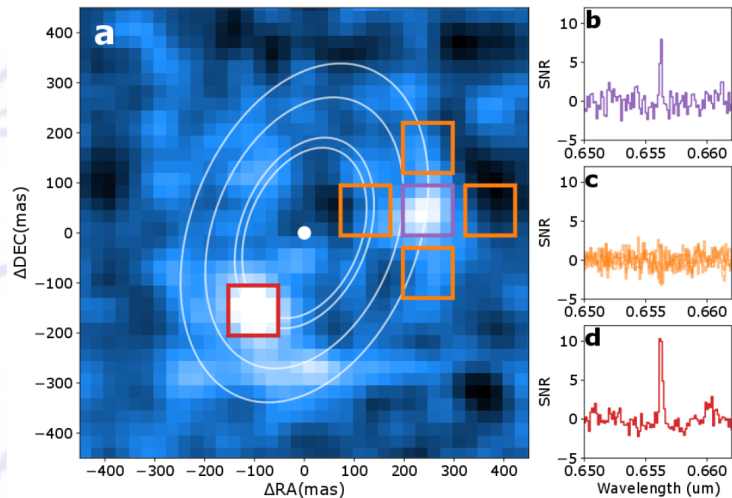
### MUSE observations:

- Integral field spectroscopy
- Spectral resolution  $\sim 3000$
- H $\alpha$  Spectral Differential Imaging (subtraction of the continuum)

# The FIRST instrument: the detection of protoplanets

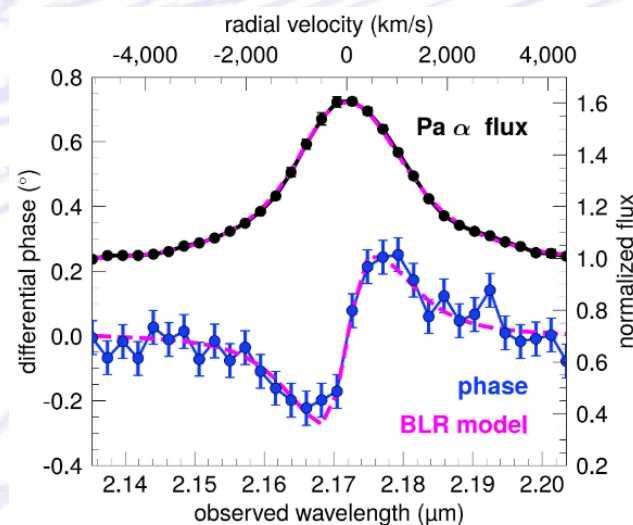
## FIRSTv2

◆ H $\alpha$  emission, a signature for accreting matter



Haffert et al. 2019

◆ Interferometric equivalent: **differential phase**



GRAVITY collab., Sturm et al. 2018

### MUSE observations:

- Integral field spectroscopy
- Spectral resolution  $\sim 3000$
- H $\alpha$  Spectral Differential Imaging (subtraction of the continuum)

### FIRSTv2 objectives:

- High **spectral resolution**:  $\sim 3000$
- Improve the **contrast**:  $10^{-2} - 10^{-3}$
- Improve the **sensitivity**: **Rmag 7 (AB Aur)**  
**Rmag 11-12 (PDS70)**

## FIRSTv2: the move to photonics

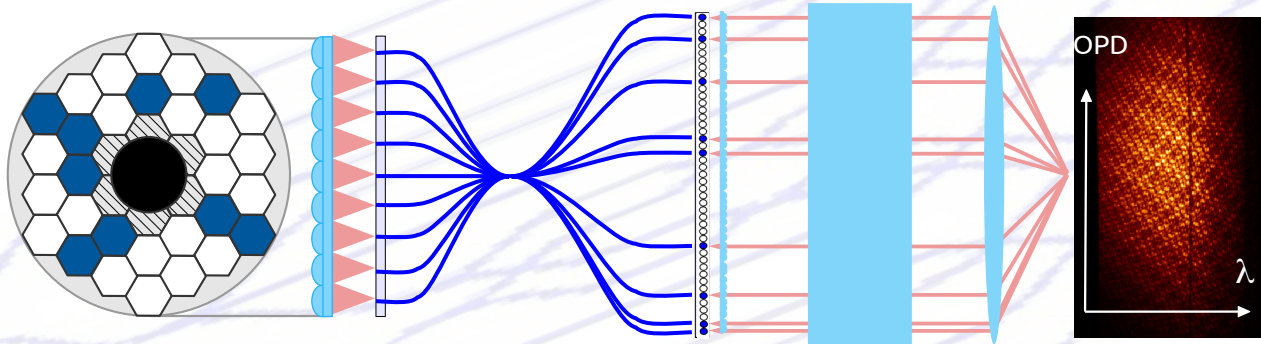
FIRSTv1

Path length  
matched single  
mode fibers

Non  
redundant  
array

Anamorphic  
syst. + Disp.  
prism

Focal plane  
recombination



Science case objectives:

- High **spectral resolution**:  $\sim 3000$
- Improve the **contrast**:  $10^{-2} - 10^{-3}$
- Improve the **sensitivity**: **Rmag 7** (AB Aur)



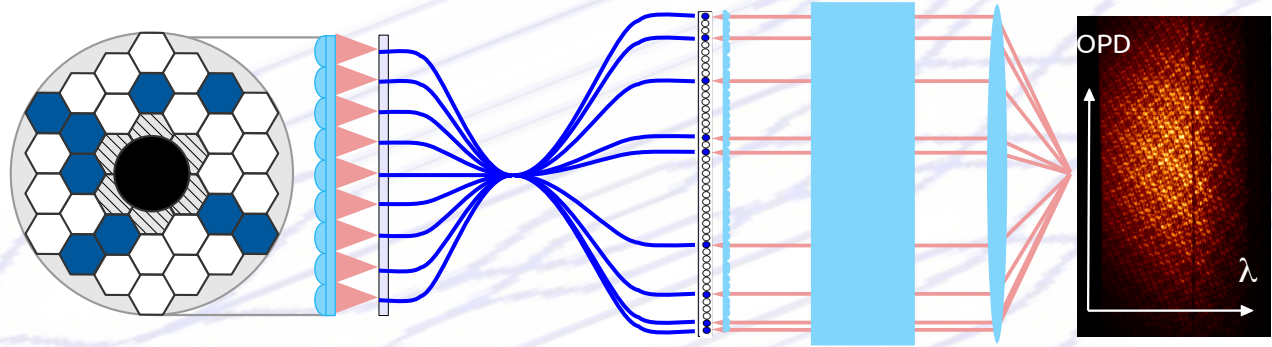
**Photonic Integrated Circuit**

- ♦ Stability to mechanical and temperature variations
- ♦ Flux concentration
- ♦ Scalable to more inputs
- ♦ Active phase control

# FIRSTv2: the move to photonics

FIRSTv1

- Path length matched single mode fibers
- Non redundant array
- Anamorphic syst. + Disp. prism
- Focal plane recombination

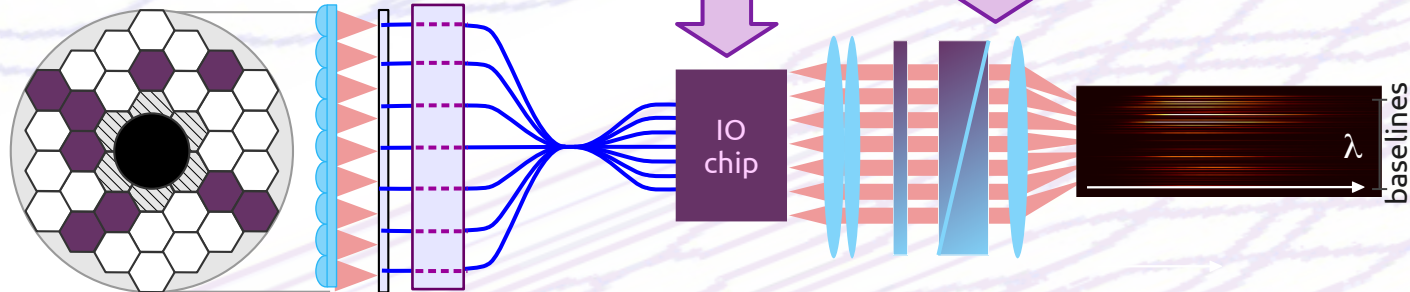


## Science case objectives:

- High spectral resolution:  $\sim 3000$
- Improve the contrast:  $10^{-2} - 10^{-3}$
- Improve the sensitivity: Rmag 7 (AB Aur)

FIRSTv2

- Optical delay lines
- Integrated optics chip combiner
- New spectrometer

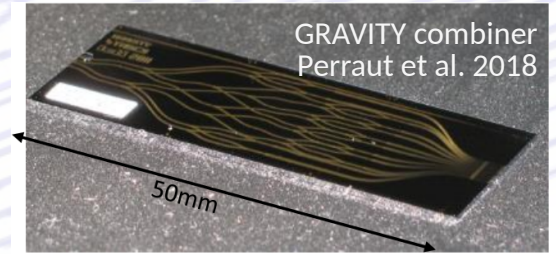


- ## Photonic Integrated Circuit
- Stability to mechanical and temperature variations
  - Flux concentration
  - Scalable to more inputs
  - Active phase control

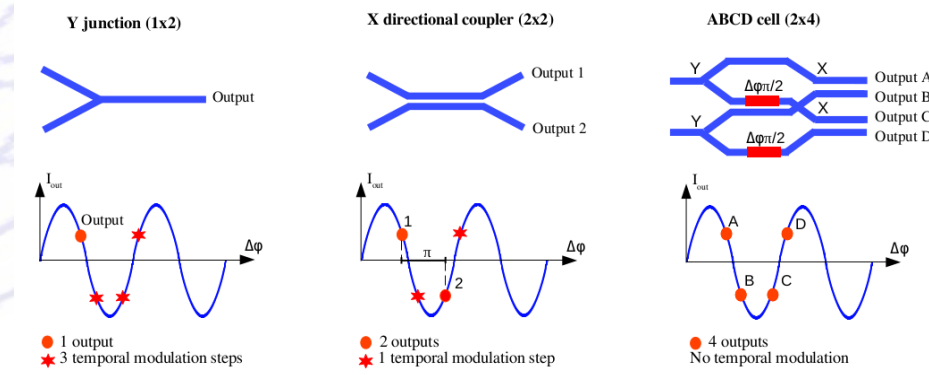
# Photonic Integrated Circuit

Waveguides are created within a piece of glass (silicon)

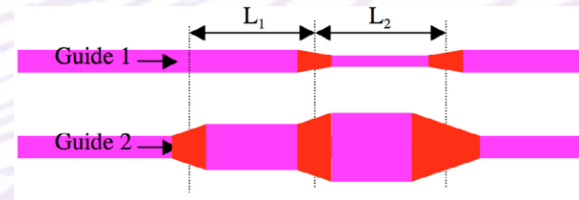
→ Kern et al. 1996, Berger et al. 1999, Malbet et al. 1999



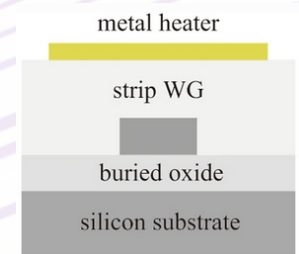
- ◆ Straight and curved waveguides
- ◆ Splitters: Y junctions
- ◆ Combiners:
  - Reverse Y-junction
  - X-junction
  - Directional coupler or evanescent wave coupler
  - Tricouplers
  - Multimode Interference (MMI) Coupler
- ◆ Phase shifters
- ◆ Thermo-electric phase shifter / Electro-optic phase shifter



Lallement et al. 2023



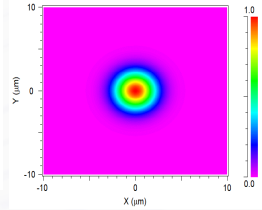
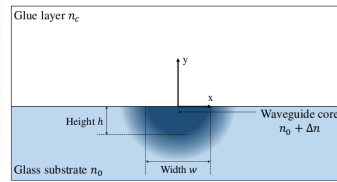
Benisty et al. 2009



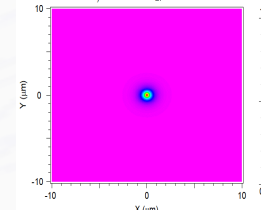
Liu et al., 2022

# Photonic developments for the visible

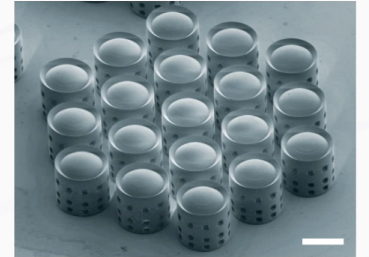
## Low index contrast



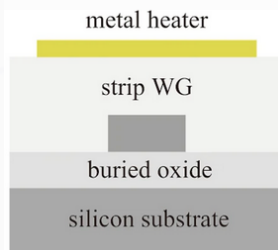
## High index contrast



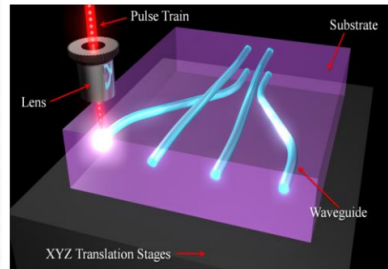
## Printed microlenses



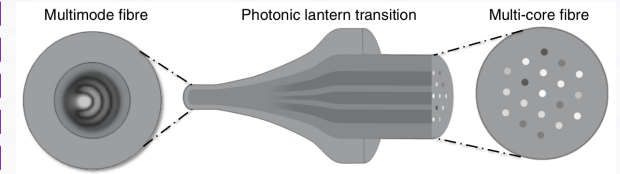
## Active phase shifters



## 3D-chips



## Photonic lantern





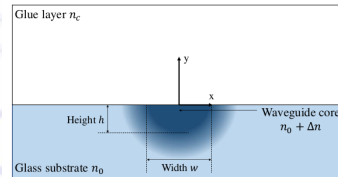
# Low vs high refractive index contrast

## Low index contrast

### TEEM photonics



- ◆ Diffused material: ion diffusion



- ◆ Low index contrast  $\approx 0.023$
- ◆ Bend Radius = **30 mm**
- ◆ Waveguide mode size (MFD equivalent) = **5.4x3.2  $\mu\text{m}$**
- ◆ Expected insertion loss  $\sim$  **10%** (0.5 dB)
- ◆ Material loss = 0.24 dB/cm

Good fiber coupling  
High bend radius  
→ large chip

## High index contrast

### LioniX



- ◆ Step index: etching

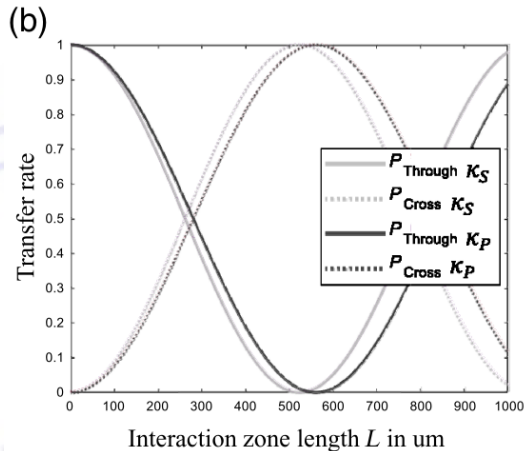
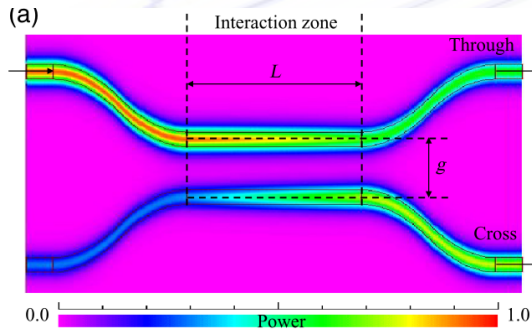


- ◆ High index contrast = **0.137**
- ◆ Bend Radius  $\approx$  **150  $\mu\text{m}$**
- ◆ Waveguide mode size (MFD equivalent) = **0.7 to 0.9  $\mu\text{m}$**
- ◆ Expected insertion loss  $\sim$  **50%** (3 dB)
- ◆ Material loss = 0.1 to 0.5 dB/cm

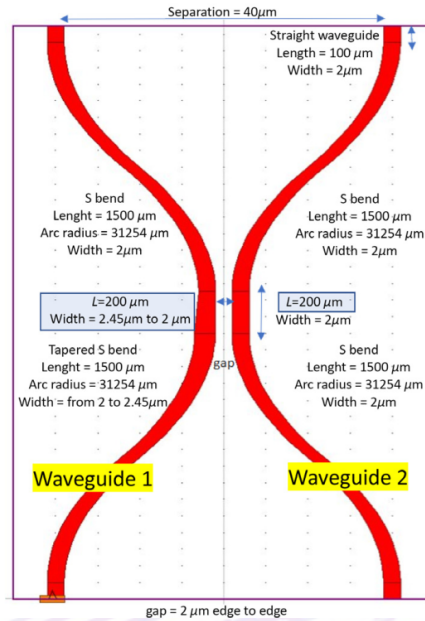
Bad fiber coupling  
Low bend radius  
→ compact & complex chip

◆ Beamprop modeling and design optimization by  
**Manon Lallement**

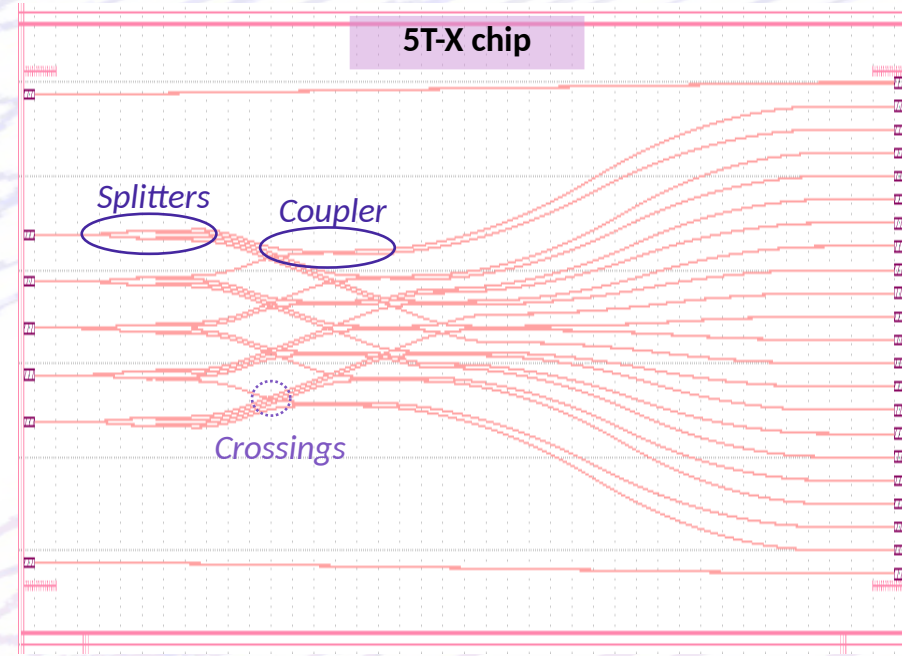
## Symmetric coupler



## Asymmetric coupler



Lallement et al. 2023

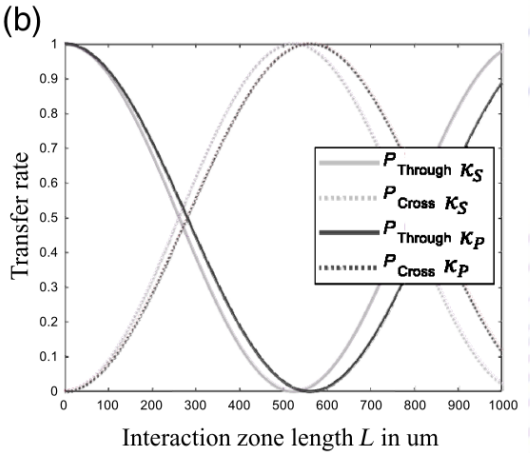
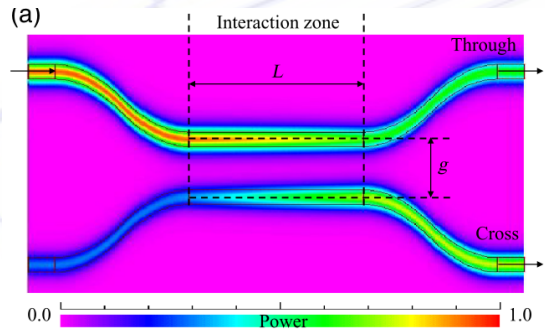


**Technology: Ka+/Na+ ion exchange in glass**  
 Single-mode spectral range: 530 nm - 820 nm  
 Propagation loss: 0.24 dB/cm @ 656 nm  
 0.3 dB/cm @ 780 nm  
 Insertion loss (SM630) : 0.13 dB @ 635nm (97% coupling)

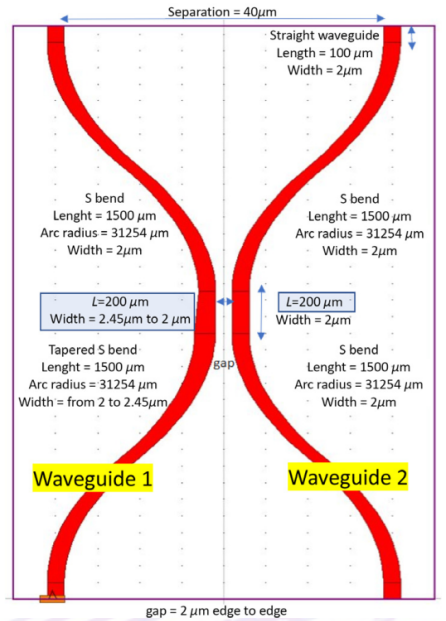
◆ Beamprop modeling and design optimization by  
**Manon Lallement**

5T-X chip

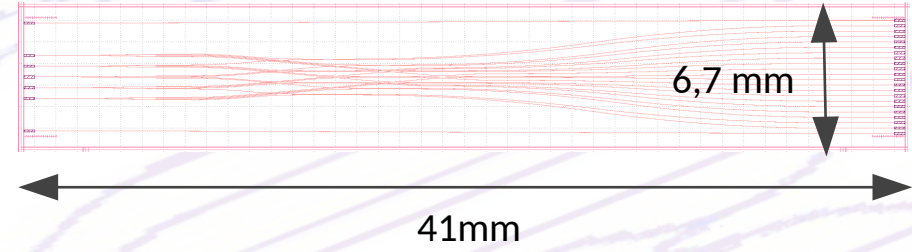
Symmetric coupler



Asymmetric coupler

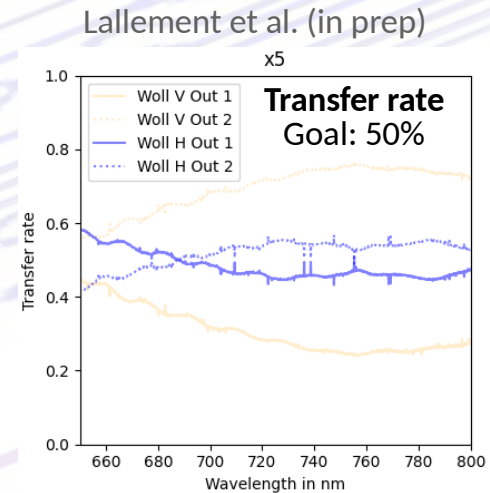
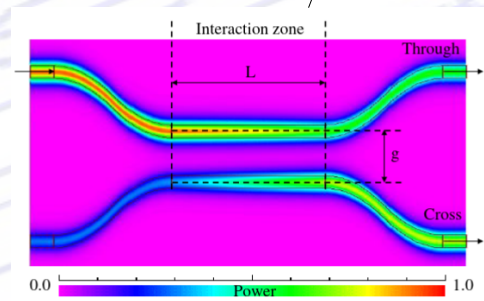
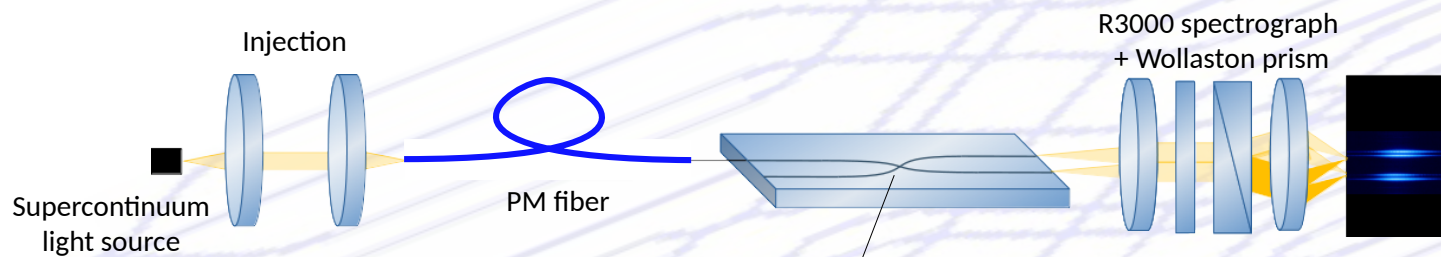


Lallement et al. 2023

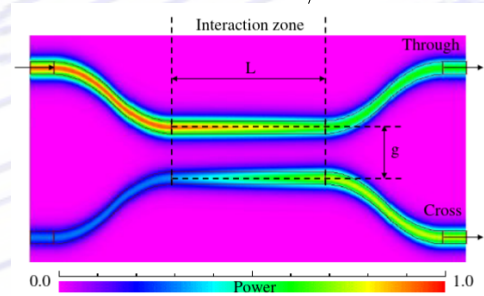
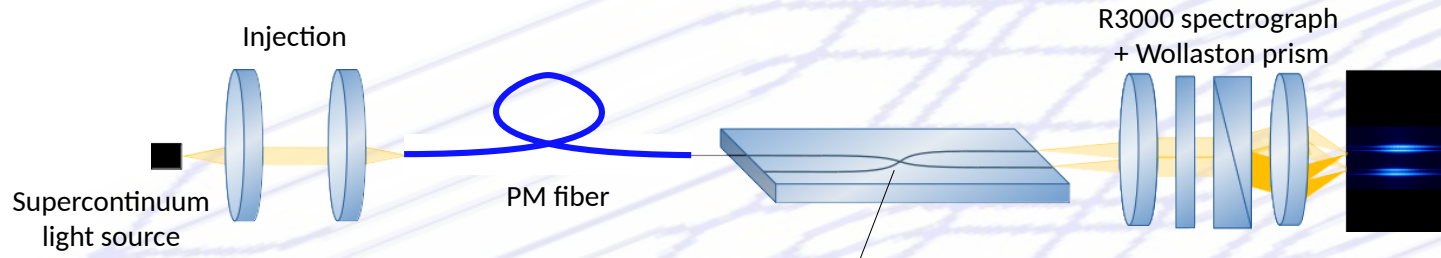


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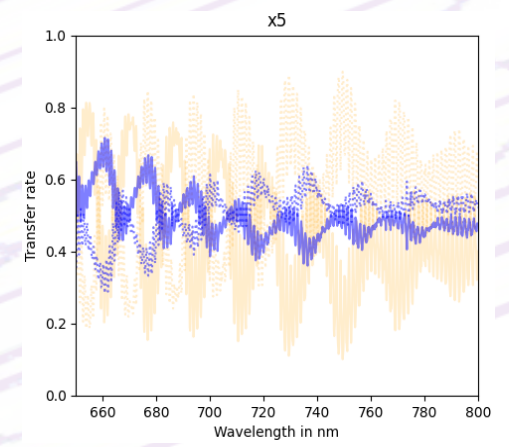
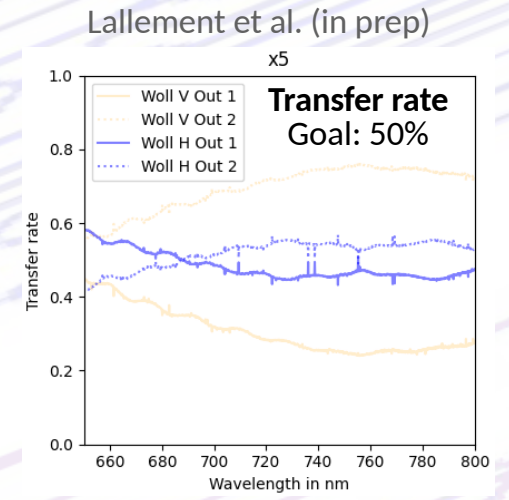
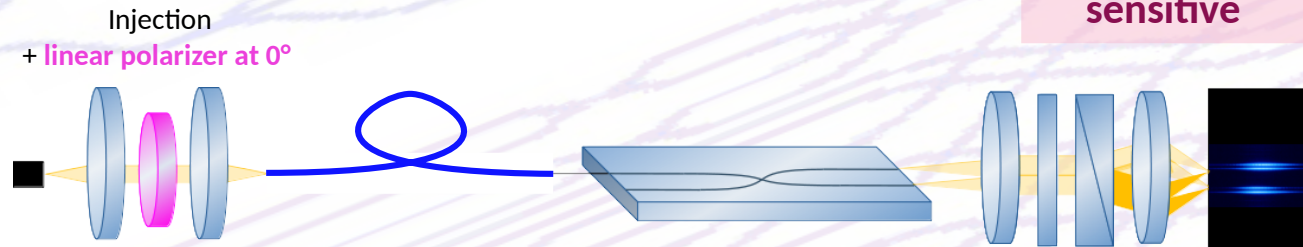
# Low refractive index contrast Polarization study



# Low refractive index contrast Polarization study



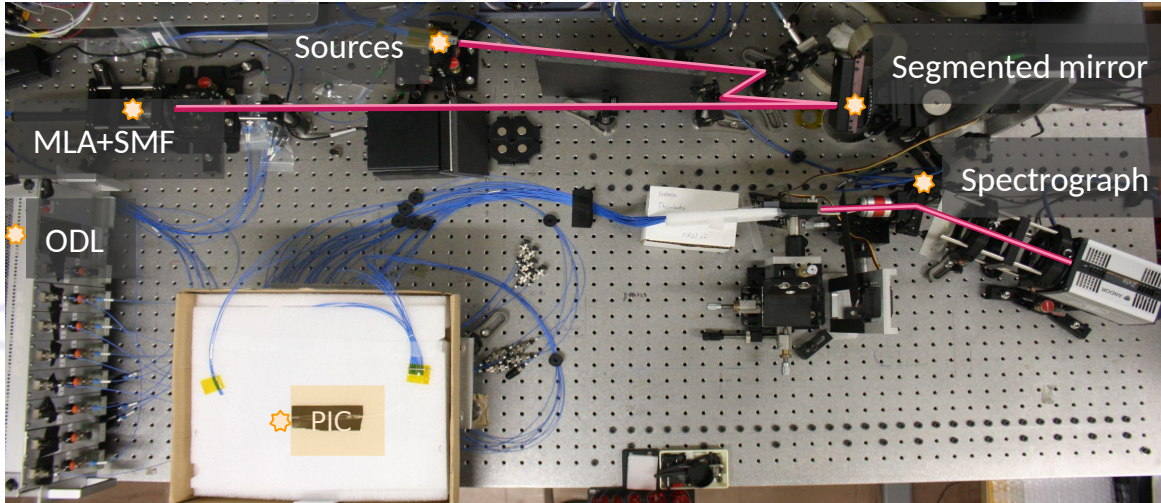
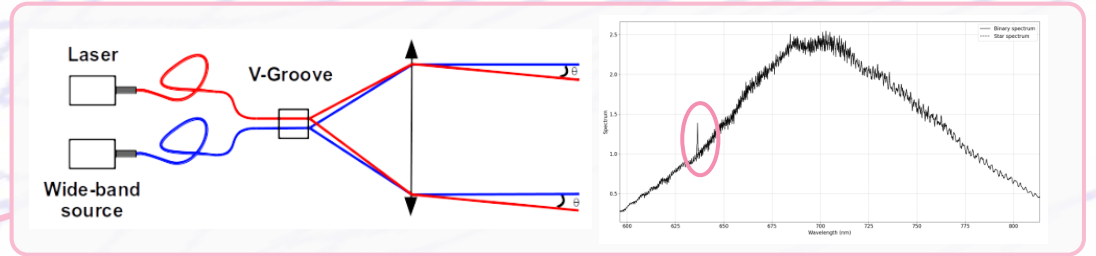
Polarization sensitive



# Low refractive index contrast TEEM Photonics

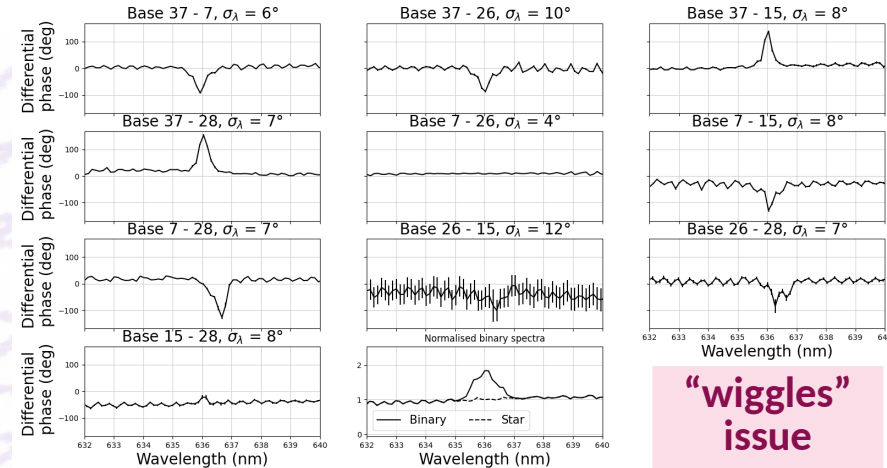
- ◆ Laboratory characterization with a **binary simulator** (K. Barjot's PhD thesis)

*Star: supercontinuum light source*  
*Companion: LASER @ 635nm*



K. Barjot' PhD thesis

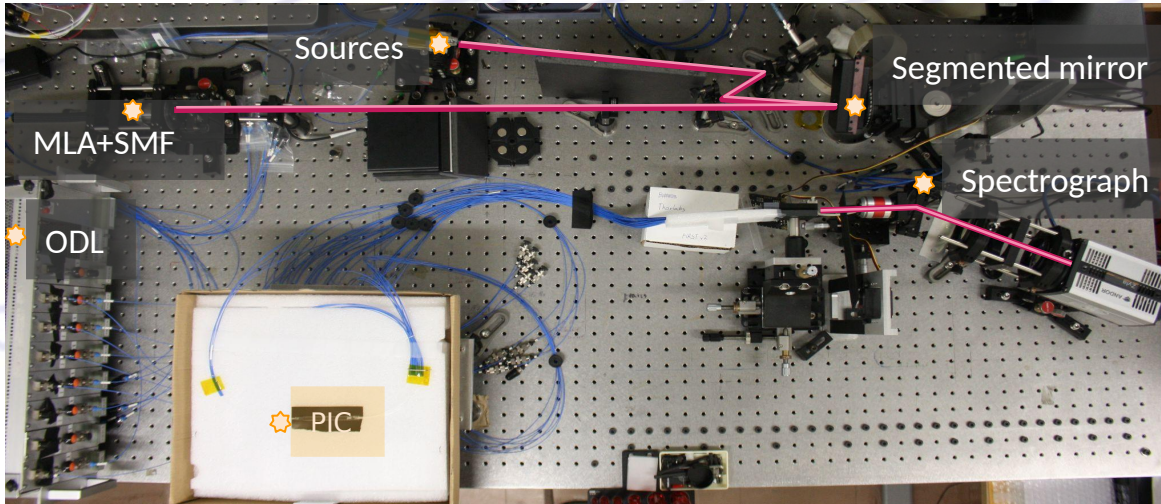
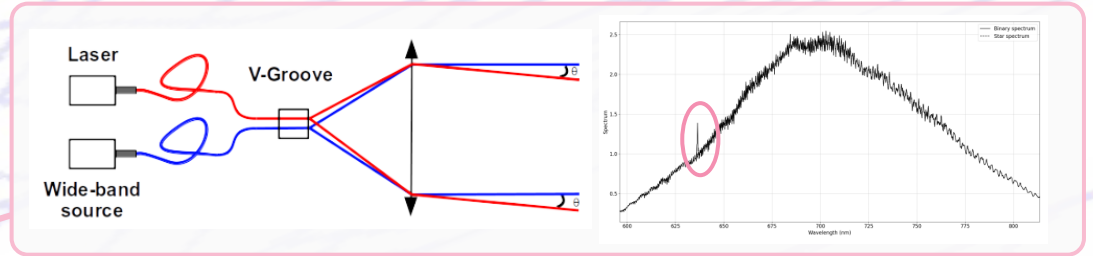
## Differential phase measurement



# Low refractive index contrast TEEM Photonics

- Laboratory characterization with a **binary simulator** (K. Barjot's PhD)

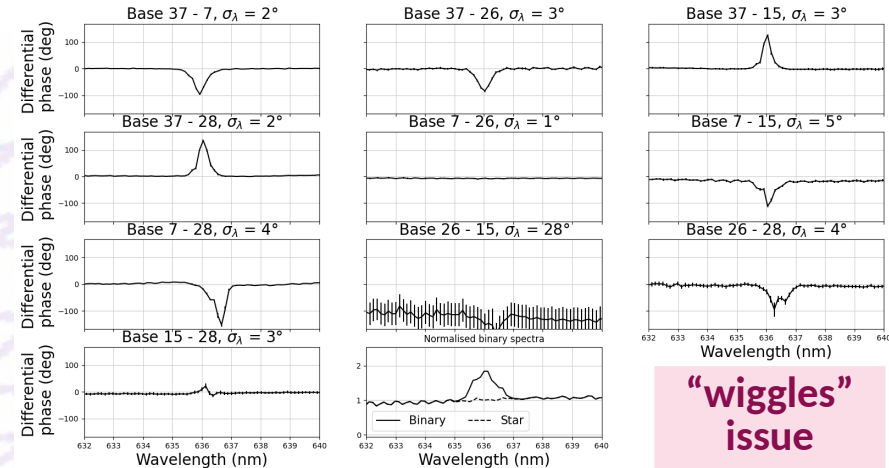
*Star: supercontinuum light source*  
*Companion: LASER @ 635nm*



K. Barjot' PhD thesis

## Differential phase measurement

Cal spe diff phase of binary 1, pola 2  $\sigma_m=5\pm 2^\circ$ : 0.84 (20221020\_Binary\_01)



**"wiggles"  
issue**

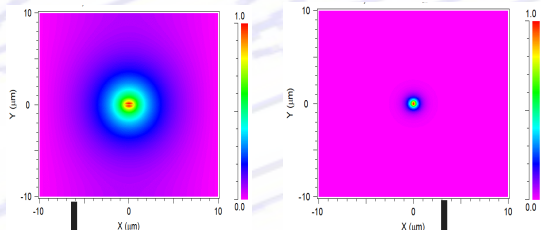
# High refractive index contrast LioniX

## ◆ Design optimization by Harry-Dean Kenchington Goldsmith

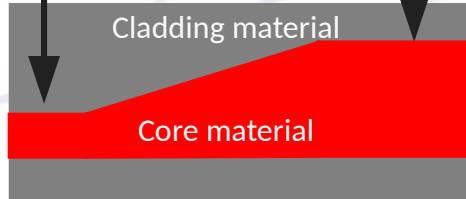
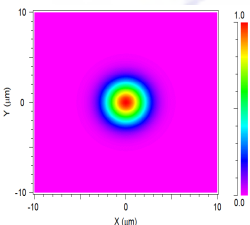
### Insertion loss: tapers required

**Low confinement TE:TM**  
MFD = 2.7  $\mu\text{m}$  : 6  $\mu\text{m}$   
 $\Delta n_{\text{eff}} = 0.002 : 0.008$

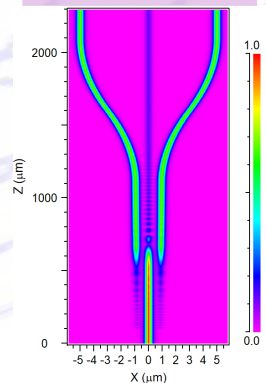
**High confinement TE:TM**  
MFD = 1.2  $\mu\text{m}$  : 1.8  $\mu\text{m}$   
 $\Delta n_{\text{eff}} = 0.049 : 0.021$



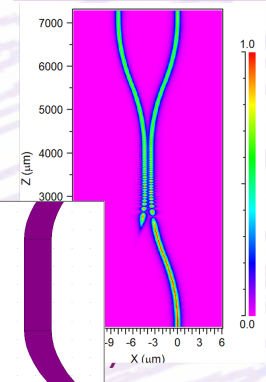
Fibre mode  
MFD = 4.5  $\mu\text{m}$



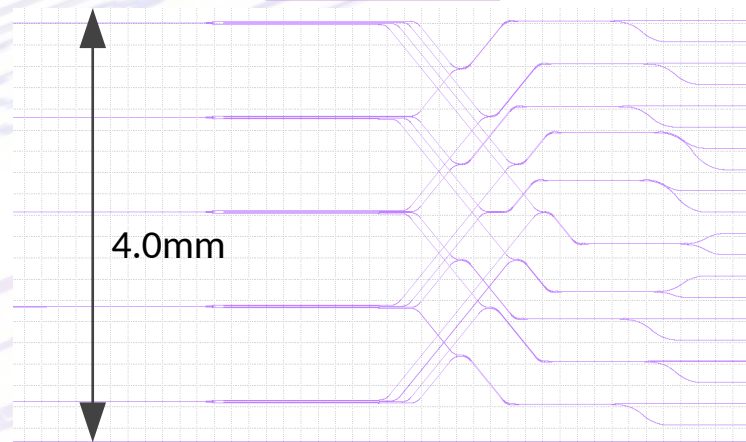
### Splitter



### Coupler



### 5T design



### Technology: TripleX

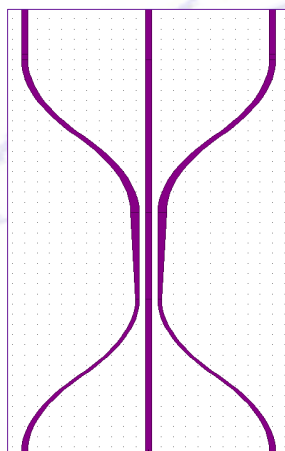
Single-mode spectral range: ~600 nm - 850 nm  
Propagation loss: 0.1 to 0.5 dB/cm  
Insertion loss (SM630) : 3 dB (50% coupling)

Simulations by H.-D. Kenchington Goldsmith using  
RSoft FemSIM & BeamPROP

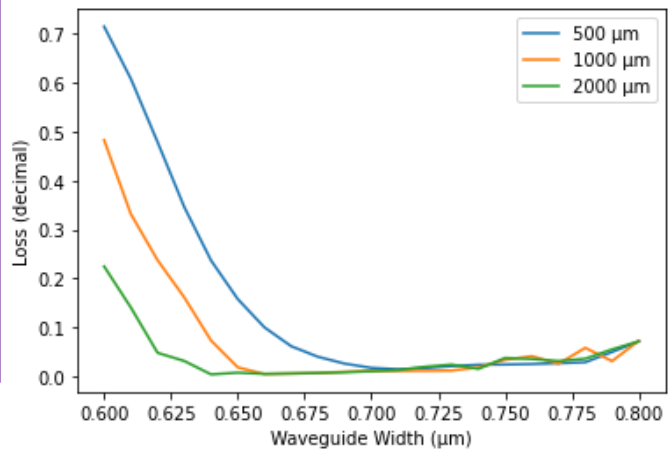


◆ Design optimization by Harry-Dean Kenchington Goldsmith

## Tricoupler design (splitter)

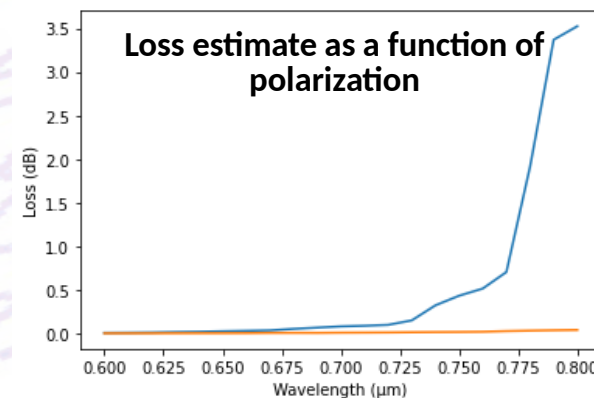
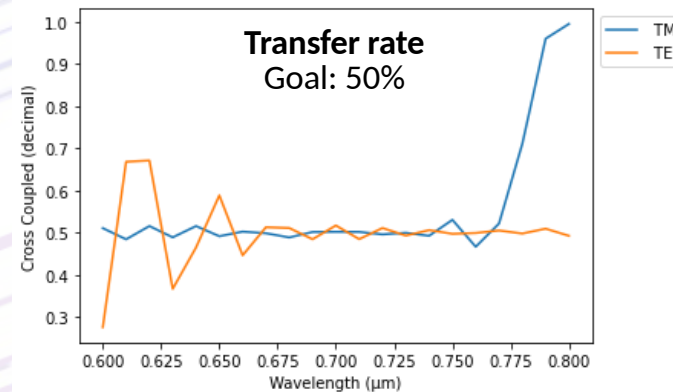
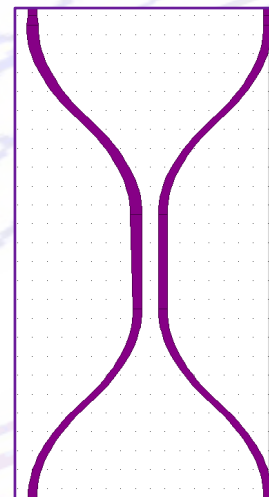


Loss estimate (output in the center wg)  
Changing the interaction length

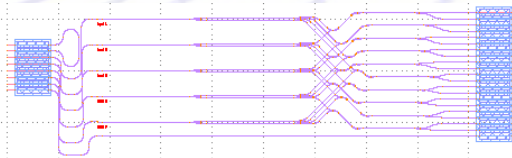


→ Equal splitting by design and low loss

## Tapered coupler design



# Low vs high refractive index contrast

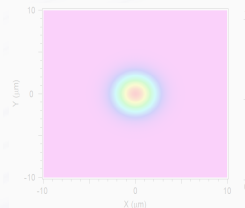
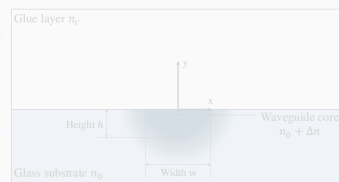


**Low index contrast**  
Good fiber coupling  
High bend radius  
→ large chip

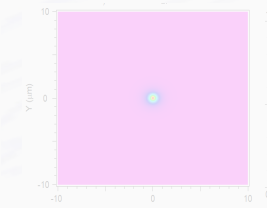
**High index contrast**  
Bad fiber coupling  
Low bend radius  
→ compact & complex chip

# Photonic developments for the visible

## Low index contrast



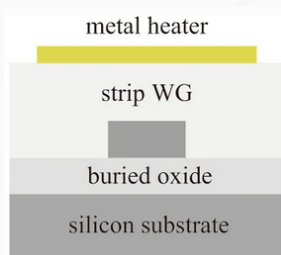
## High index contrast



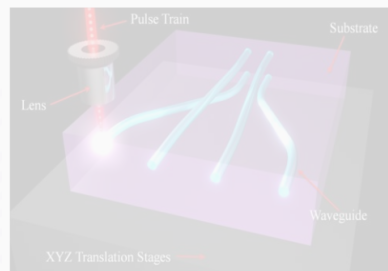
## Printed microlenses



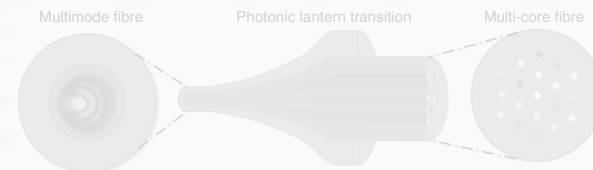
## Active phase shifters



## 3D-chips

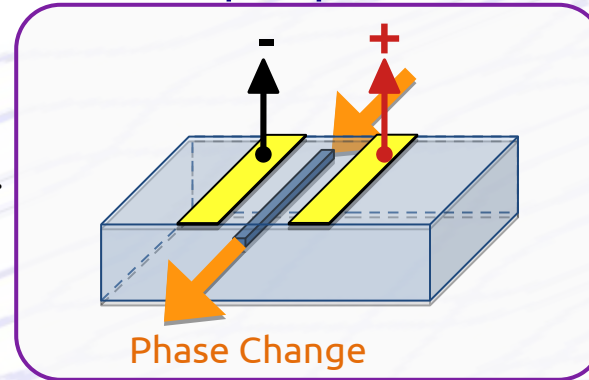


## Photonic lantern

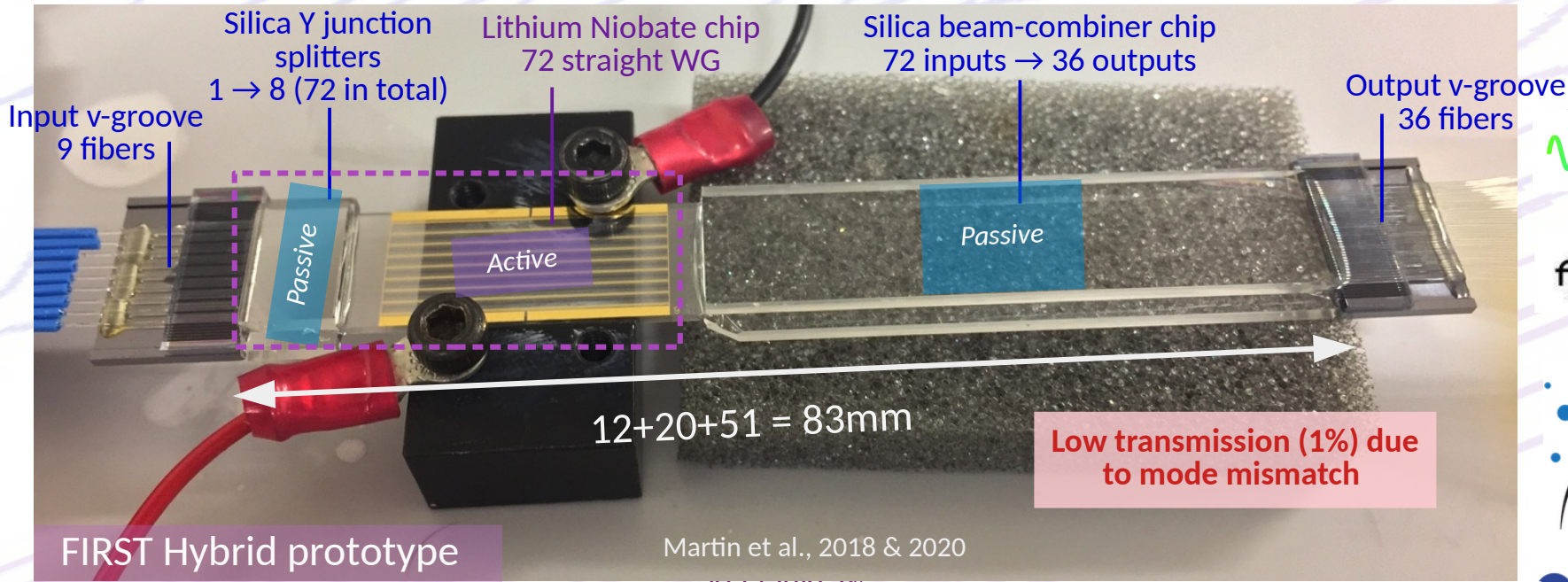


# Electro-optic phase shifter

- ◆ **Electro-optic material:**  
**Lithium Niobate Crystal** – LiNbO<sub>2</sub>.  
 Voltage changes the effective refractive index

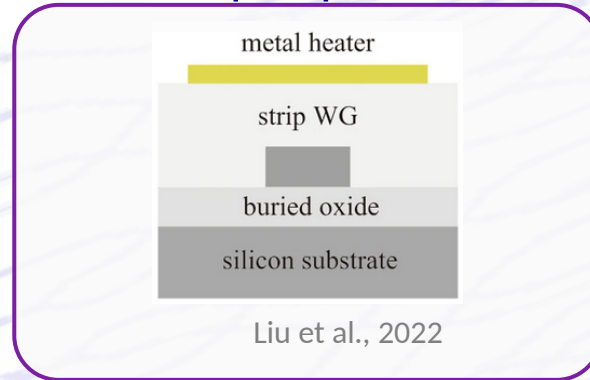


Low transmission (1%) due to mode mismatch



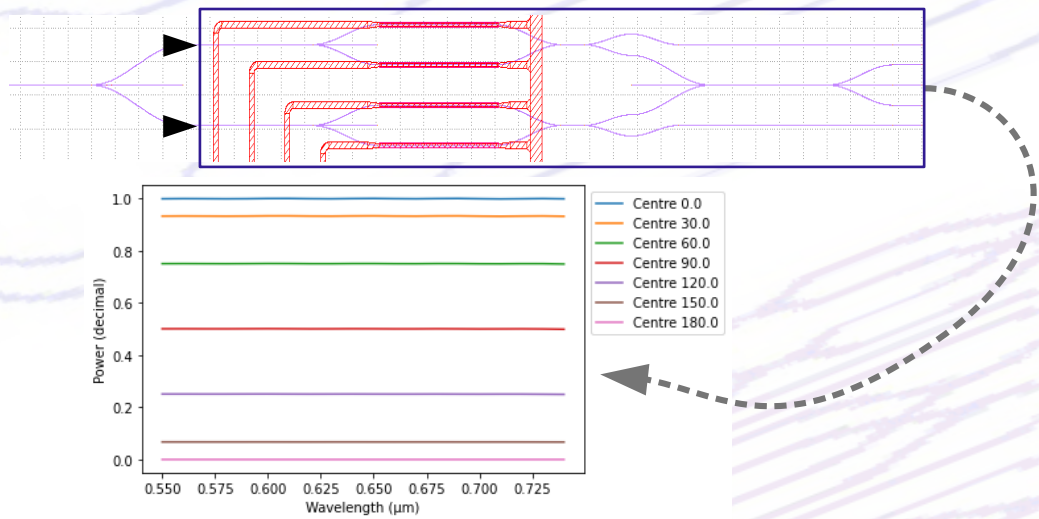
# Thermo-optic phase shifter

- ◆ **Metal heater** above the waveguide to change the refractive index

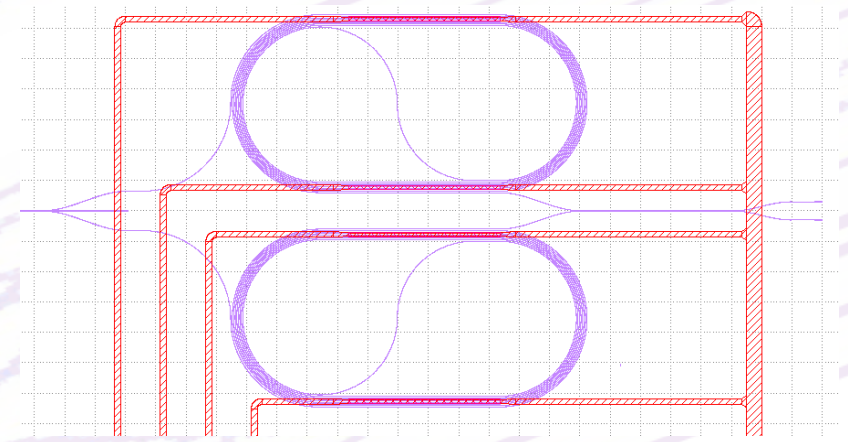


Chip prototype will be manufactured by October 2023

## Nuller design proposed by H.D. Kenchington Goldsmith

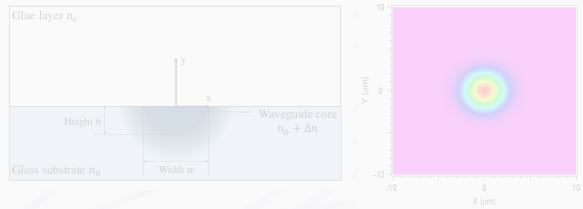


## On-chip ODL proposed by H.D. Kenchington Goldsmith

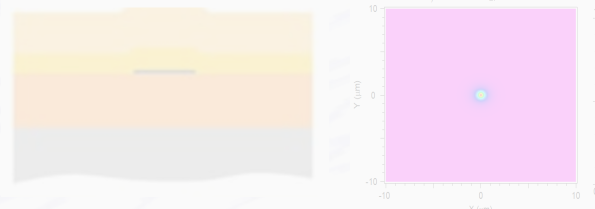


# Photonic developments for the visible

## Low index contrast



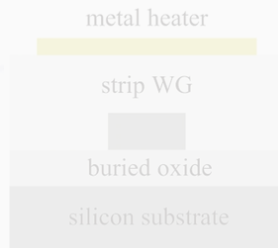
## High index contrast



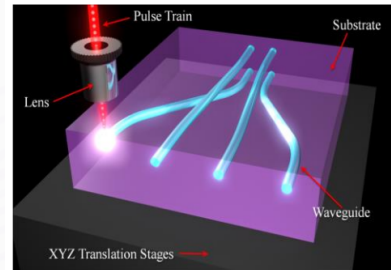
## Printed microlenses



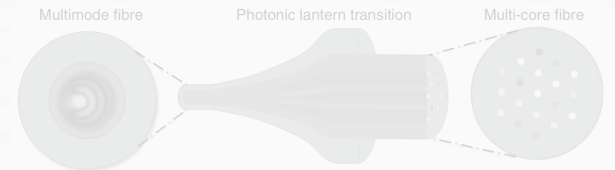
## Active phase shifters



## 3D-chips

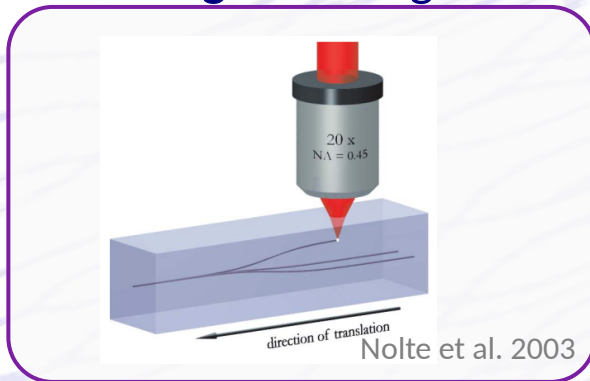


## Photonic lantern



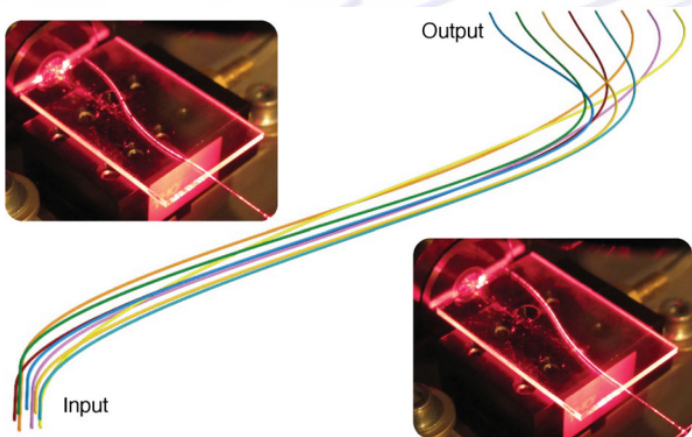
# Laser writing: enabling 3D design

- ◆ **Ultra-short laser pulses** focused inside the substrate  
 → non linear absorption  
 Collab. C. D'Amico, R. Stoian  
 (Laboratoire Hubert Curien)



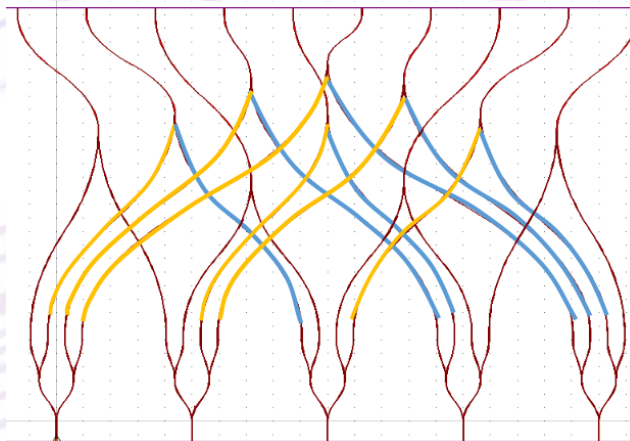
5T-3D chip characterization on interferometric bench in Meudon's lab  
*Data analysis in progress*

Dragonfly 3D pupil remapper (IR)  
 2D array → 1D array

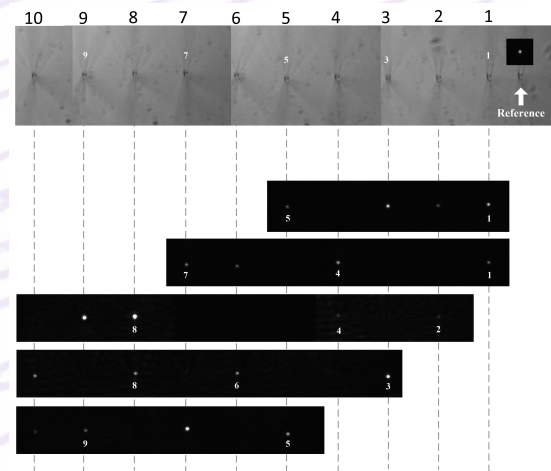


Jovanovic et al. 2012

FIRST 3D 5-beam combiner (visible)  
 1D array → 1D array  
 No in-plane guide crossing

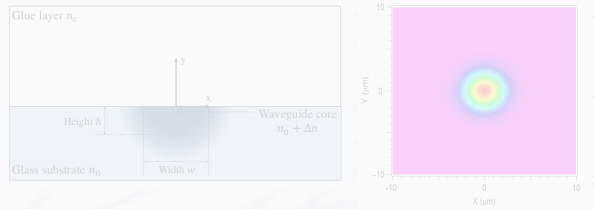


Martin et al. 2022

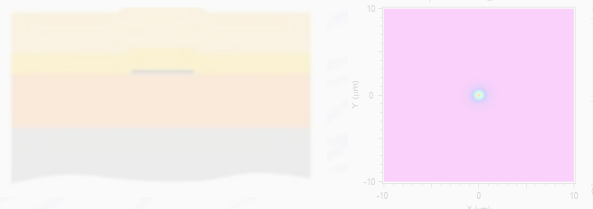


# Photonic developments for the visible

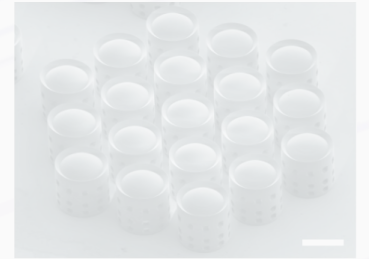
## Low index contrast



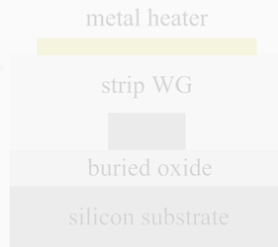
## High index contrast



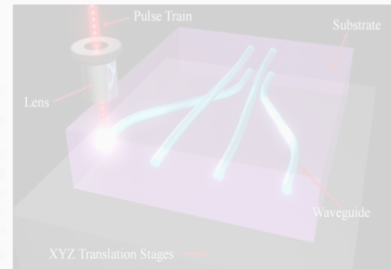
## Printed microlenses



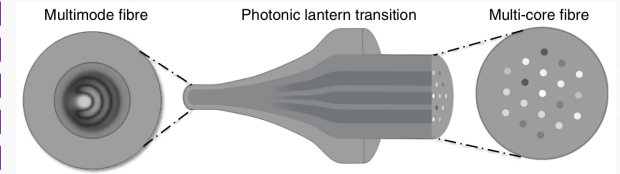
## Active phase shifters



## 3D-chips

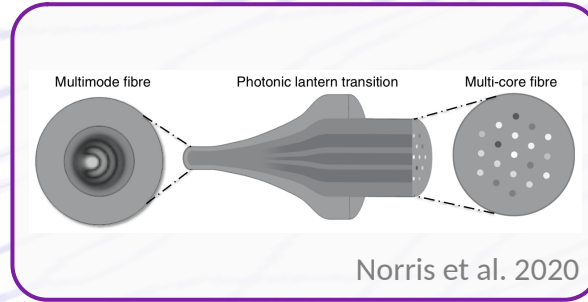


## Photonic lantern





# Photonic lantern



Increased throughput

- ◆ Visible photonic lantern: **another way to sample the wavefront**  
Collab. **S. Leon-Saval, C. Better**  
(University of Sydney)
- ◆ Wavefront sensing demo

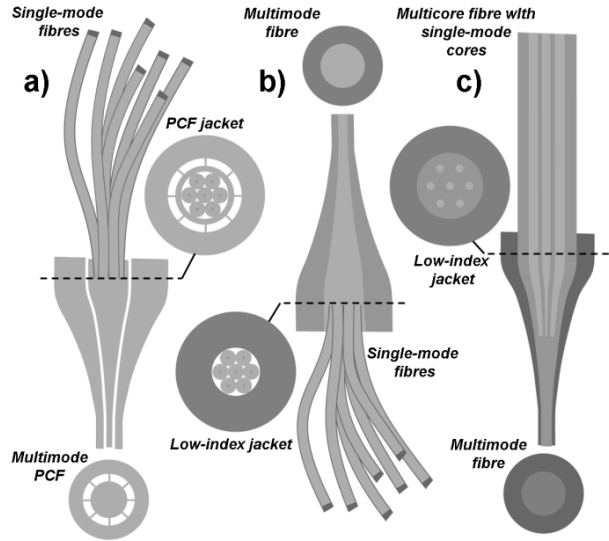
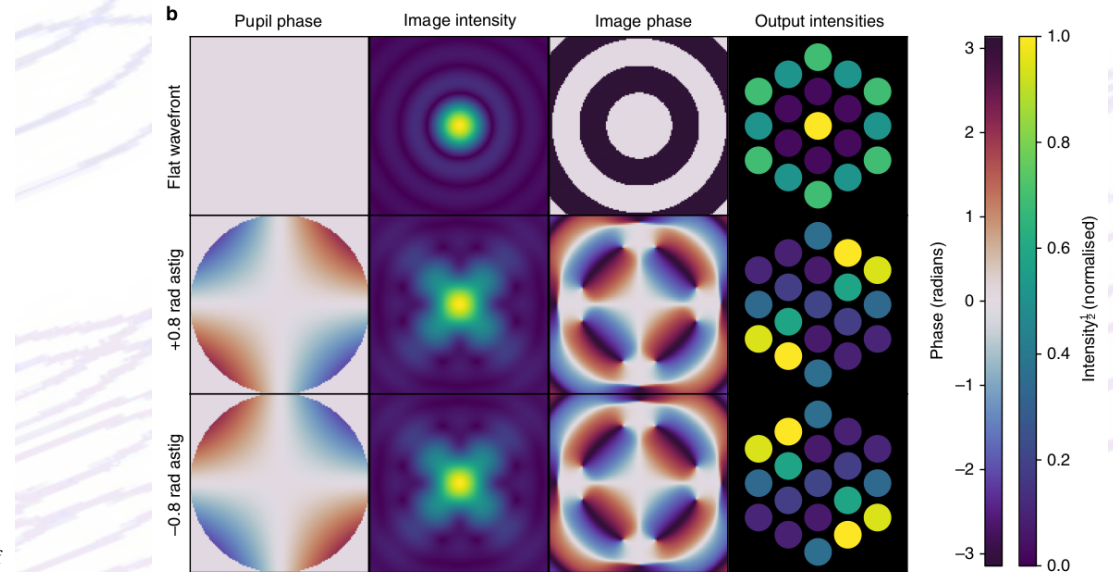


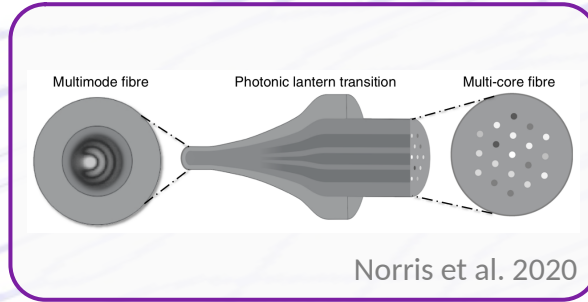
Fig. 1. Schematic representation of the three different approaches for the fabrication of Photonic lanterns; a) PCF technique; b) Standard single-mode fibre combiner/splitter technique; and c) Multicore fibre approach.

Leon-Saval et al. 2010



Norris et al. 2020

# Photonic lantern

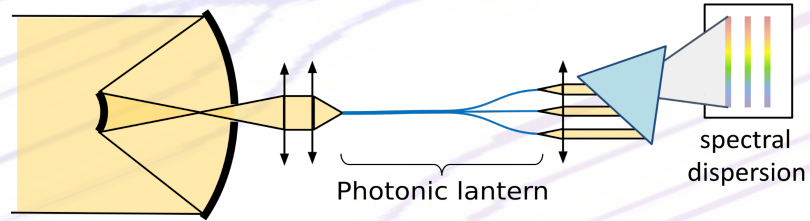


**Increased throughput**  
**Visible Photonic lantern (19 SMF)** soon to be integrated and tested with FIRST spectrometer (at Subaru)

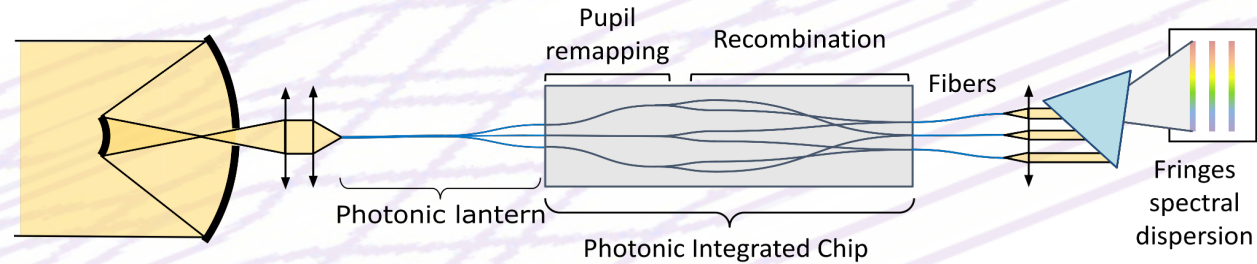
- ◆ Visible photonic lantern: **another way to sample the wavefront**  
Collab. **S. Leon-Saval, C. Better**  
(University of Sydney)



Step 1



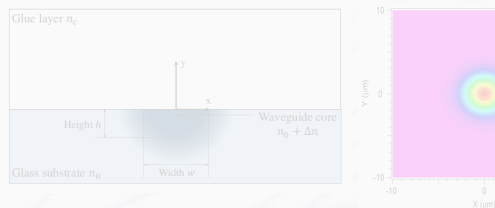
Step 2



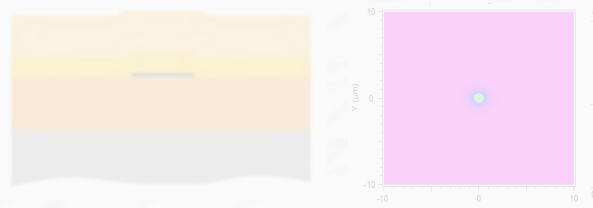
S. Leon-Saval

# Photonic developments for the visible

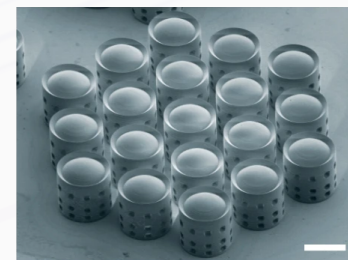
## Low index contrast



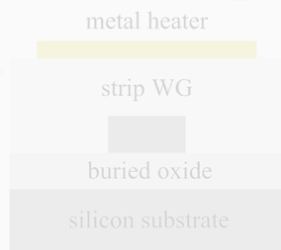
## High index contrast



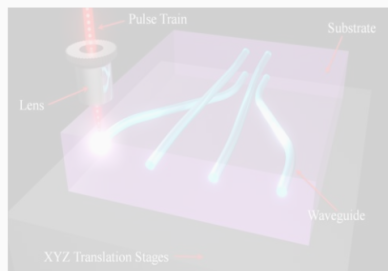
## Printed microlenses



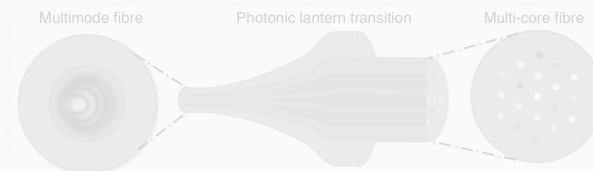
## Active phase shifters



## 3D-chips



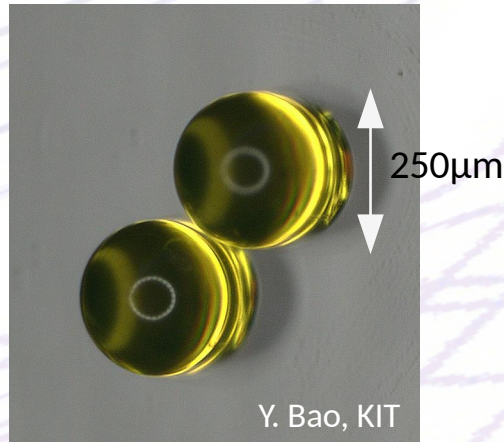
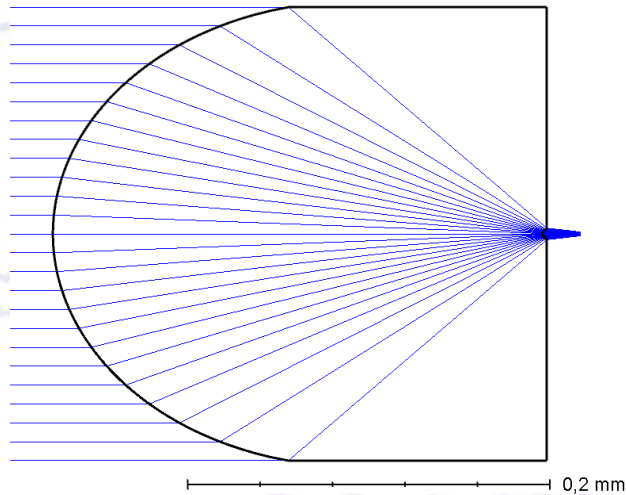
## Photonic lantern



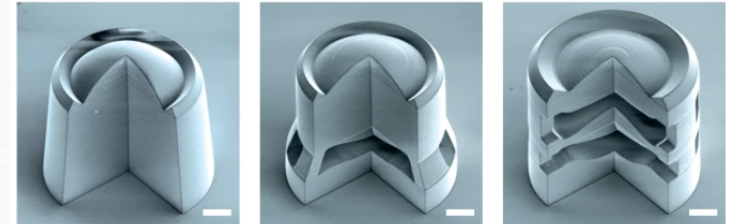
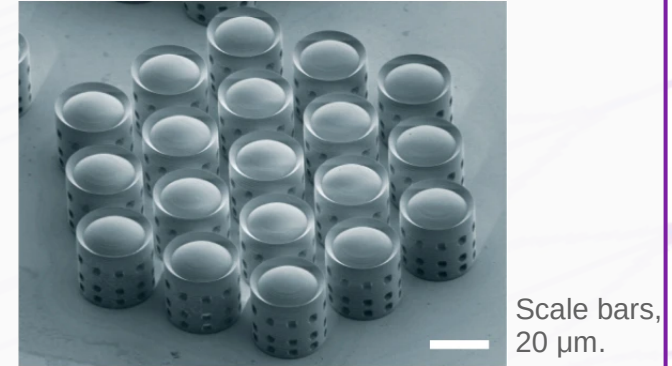
# 3D-printed microlens array

- ◆ Optimization of the coupling into the single mode fibers  
Collab. **R. Harris** at MPIA, now at Durham University, and  
**Y. Bao** at Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

Optical design by Manon Lallement



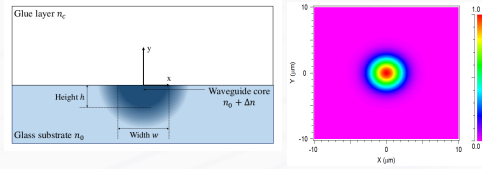
Two-photon direct laser writing of ultracompact multi-lens objectives, Gissibl et al. 2016



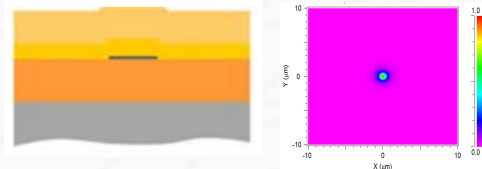
# Photonic developments for the visible...



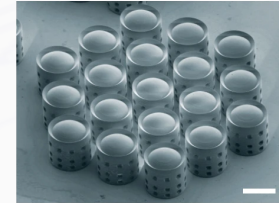
## Low index contrast



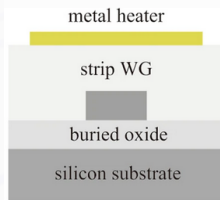
## High index contrast



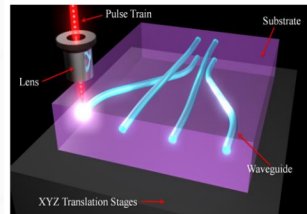
## Printed microlenses



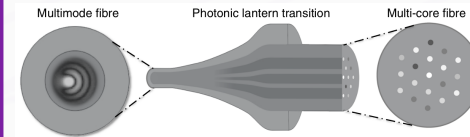
## Active phase shifters



## 3D-chips



## Photonic lantern



## Visible Photonic devices under development for FIRST:

- Increased throughput
- Better control of their polarization behavior
- Less chromaticity
- New functionalities (active functions, photonic lantern)

... to be continued!

**Thank you!**

# What's next for FIRST

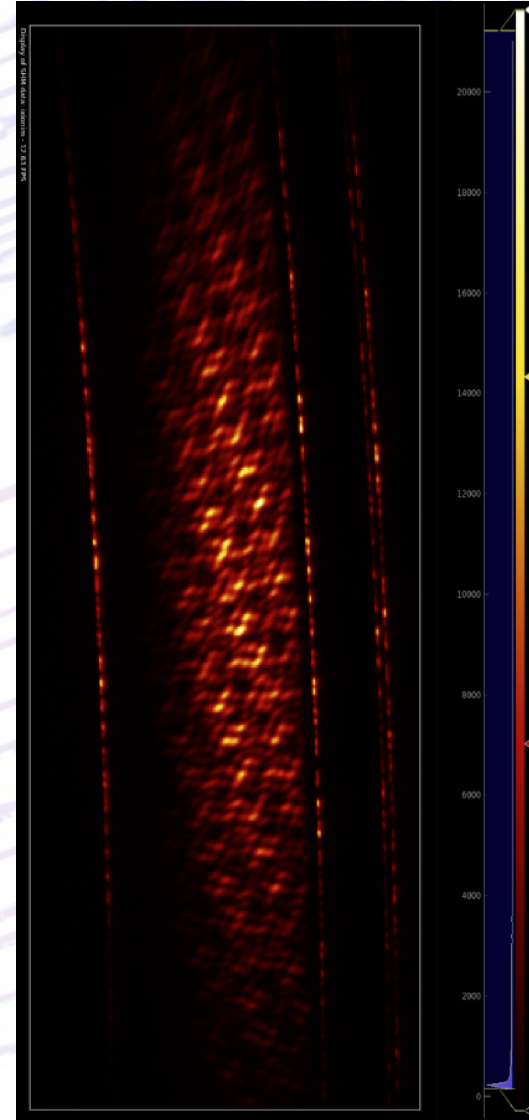
## ◆ Wavefront sensing

- Measurement of the complex coherence
  - complex visibility
  - incoherent fluxes
  - differential phase between sub-apertures

$$\mu_{ij} = V_{ij} e^{i\Psi_{ij}} A_i A_j e^{i\Delta\phi_{ij}}$$

### → Wavefront sensing!

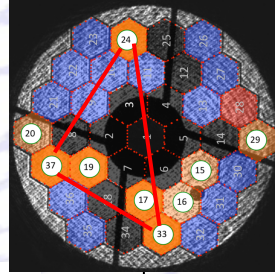
- Sense aberration modes related to the segmented nature of the aperture: “Petal modes”, island effects
- In FIRST:
  - Spectrally dispersed fringes: measurement of the path length difference
  - Injection of internal laser sources to disentangle the phase variations due to the AO residuals



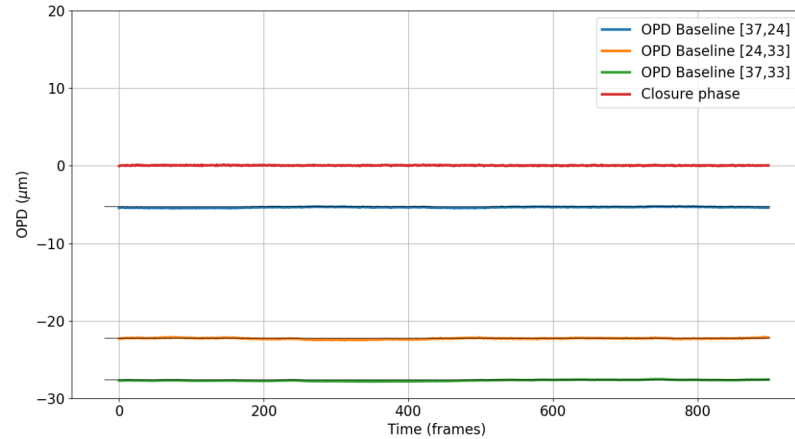
# What's next for FIRST

## Laboratory testing with internal source

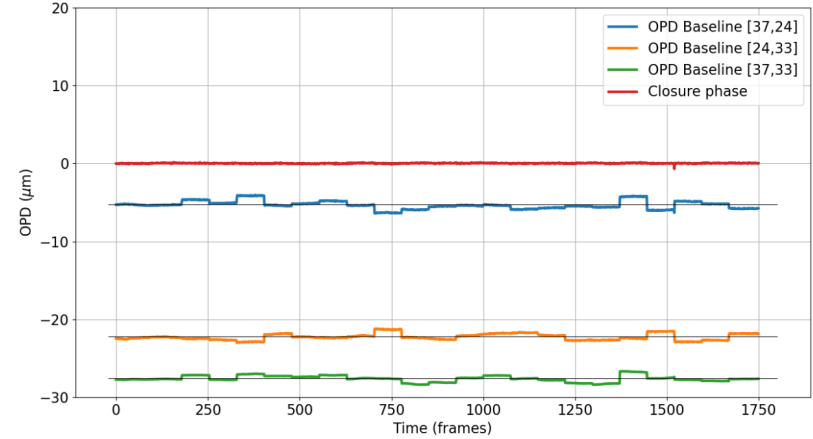
### Case 1 : no perturbation on the SCEXAO DM



### Case 2 : Petal modes applied on the SCEXAO DM



- Large static OPD
- Few microns of perturbation due to fiber instabilities



- Confirm sensitivity to petalling modes
- Analysis in progress...

Work of Sébastien Vievard



# Why taking a PIC?

## Photonic Integrated Circuit

### ◆ How is a PIC manufactured?

- Ion exchange or diffusion
- Ion etching
- Laser writing

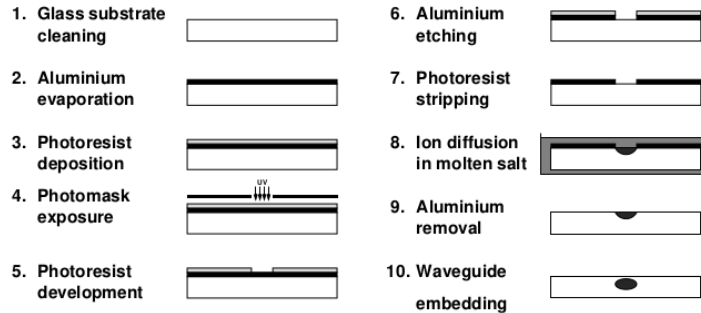


Fig. 4. Waveguide manufacture by ion exchange technique (Schanen-Duport et al. 1996).

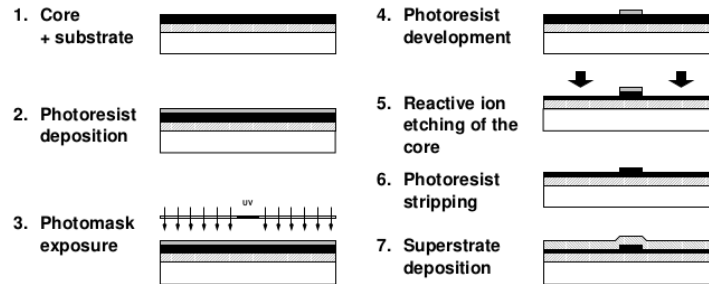


Fig. 5. Waveguide manufacture by etching technique (Mottier 1996).

Malbet et al. 1999

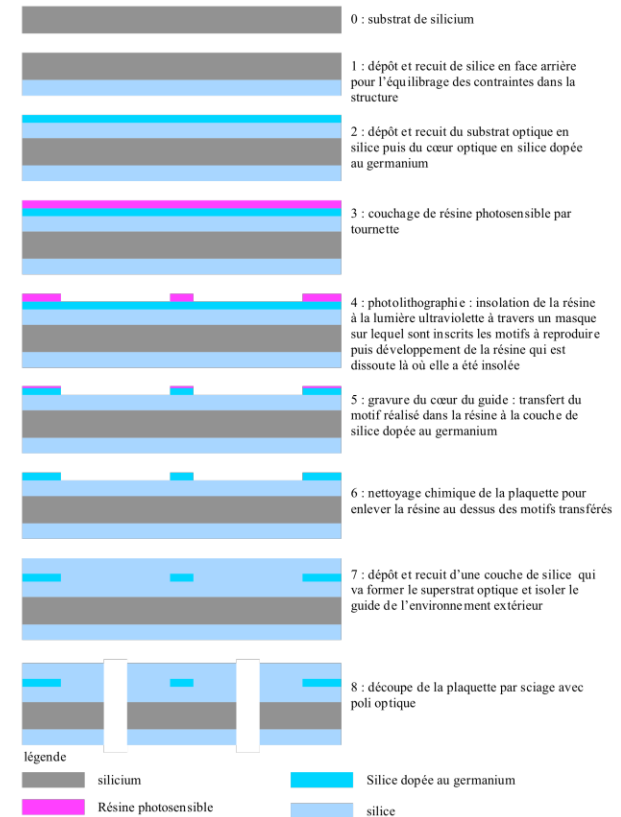


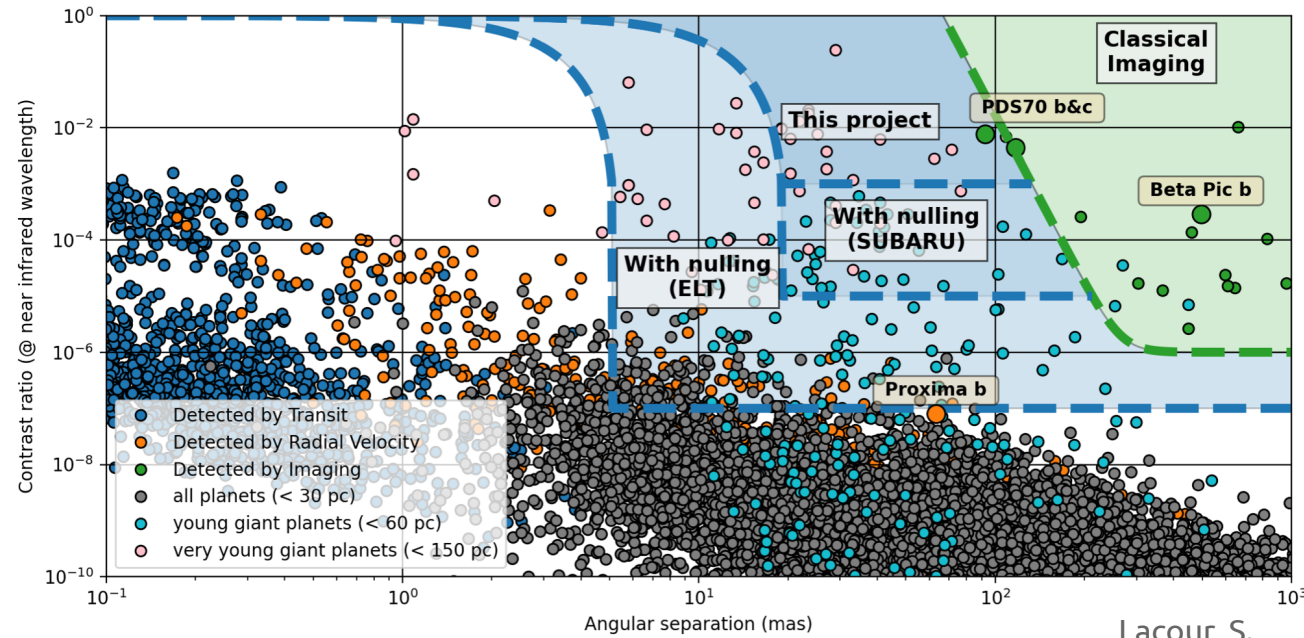
Figure III-1 : empilement technologique de réalisation des guides d'onde optique en silice sur substrat de silicium.

Labeyre PhD, 2008

# Conclusions & prospects

## ◆ Integrated instrument for an ELT:

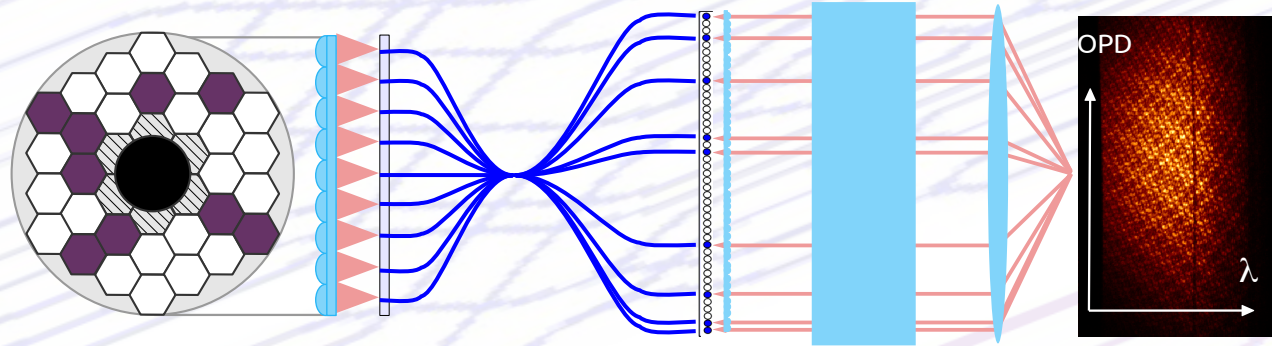
- some kind of nulling interferometer with tens of apertures
- angular resolution < 4mas in the visible
- providing wavefront sensing capability
- including on-chip phase modulation
- centimeter-size
- stable
- with little alignment



# The move to photonics

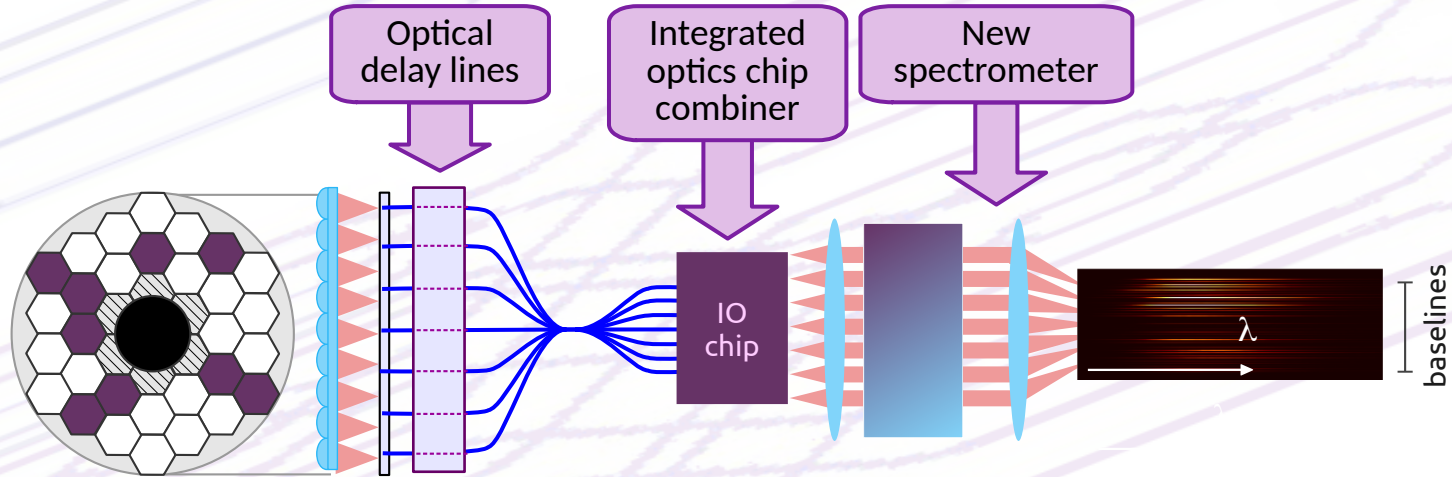
- ◆ **Contrast** performance is directly proportional to the error on the interferometric observables:

$$\text{Dynamic range} \propto \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sigma}$$



- ◆ Current limitations:  
~1deg error on the phase  
→ achievable **contrast of ~10**

- ◆ We want to improve our sensitivity **by a factor >10 in contrast**



- ◆ Stability to mechanical and temperature variations
- ◆ Flux concentration
- ◆ Possible densification
- ◆ Active phase control

2023 July 7<sup>th</sup>

# FIRSTv2 in practice

FIRSTv1

Path length matched single mode fibers

Non redundant array

Anamorphic syst. + Disp. prism

Focal plane recombination

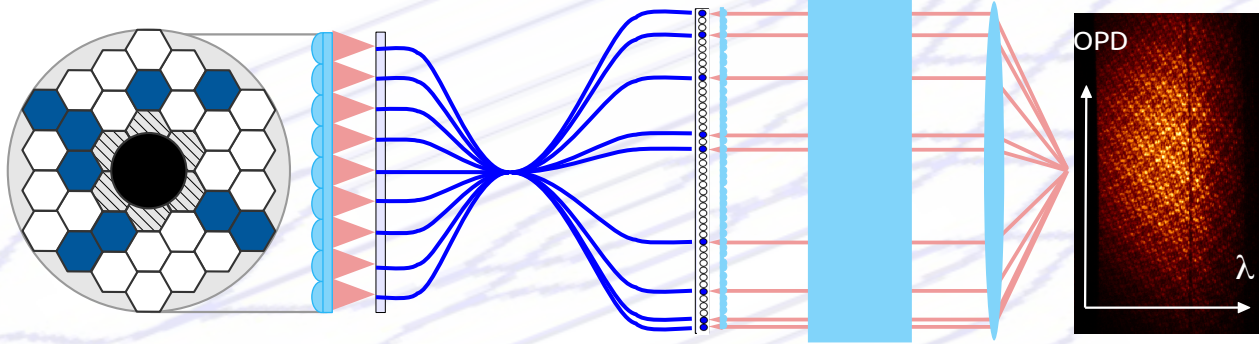
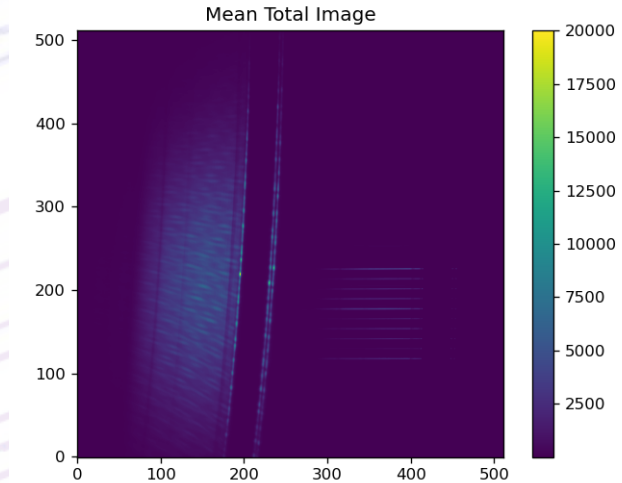


Image with FIRSTv1 and FIRSTv2 running in parallel

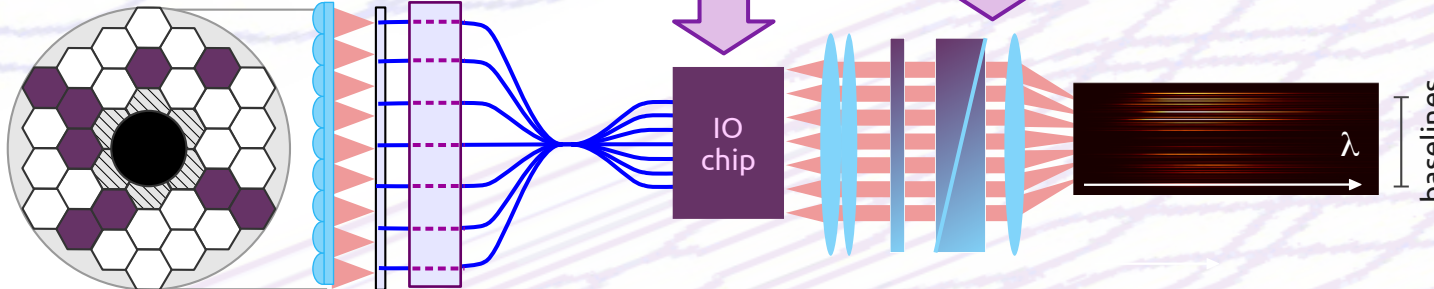


FIRSTv2

Optical delay lines

Integrated optics chip combiner

New spectrometer



# FIRSTv2 in practice

FIRSTv1

Path length matched single mode fibers

Non redundant array

Anamorphic syst. + Disp. prism

Focal plane recombination

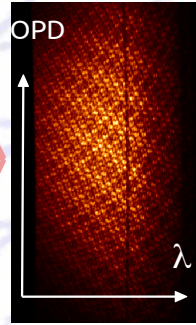
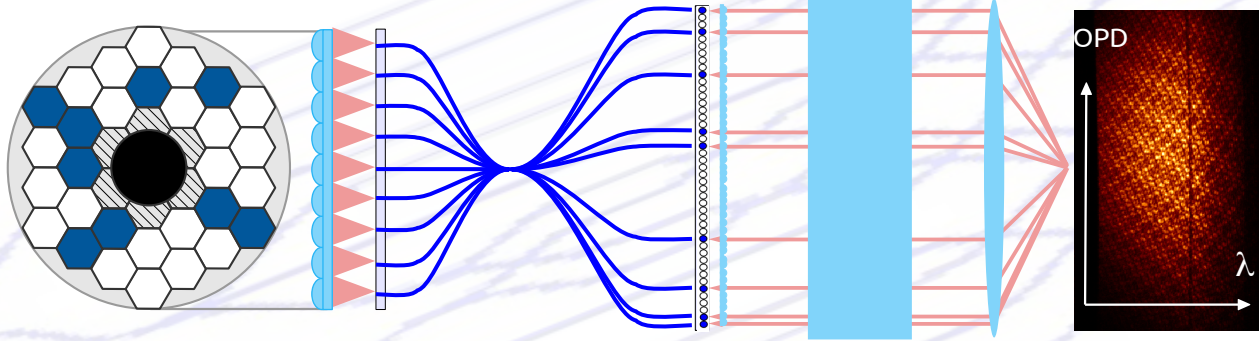
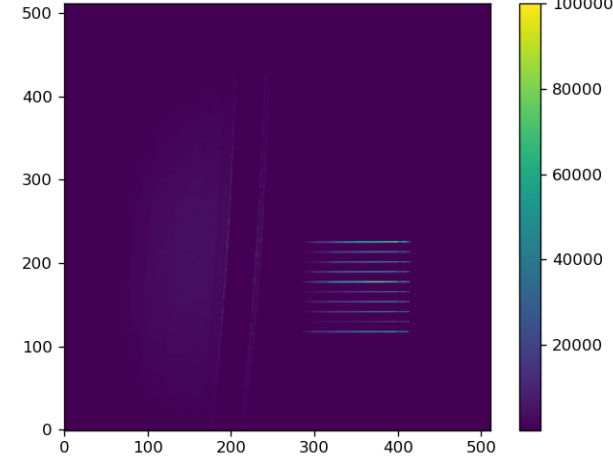


Image with FIRSTv1 and FIRSTv2 running in parallel

*Rescaled relative intensity*

Mean Total Image -- Throughput rescaled

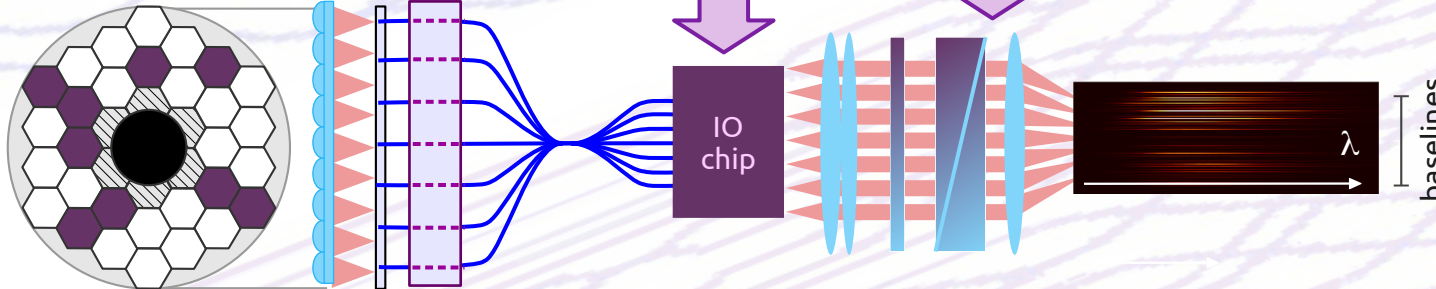


FIRSTv2

Optical delay lines

Integrated optics chip combiner

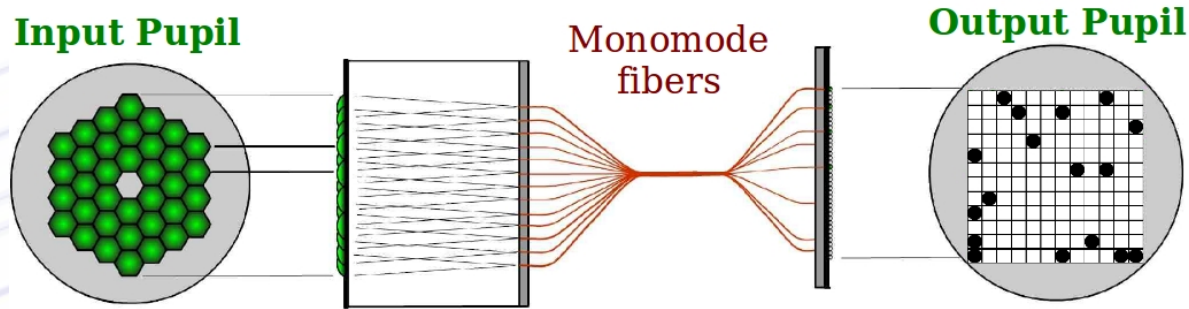
New spectrometer



baselines

# Interferometric techniques on monolithic telescopes

## Pupil remapping

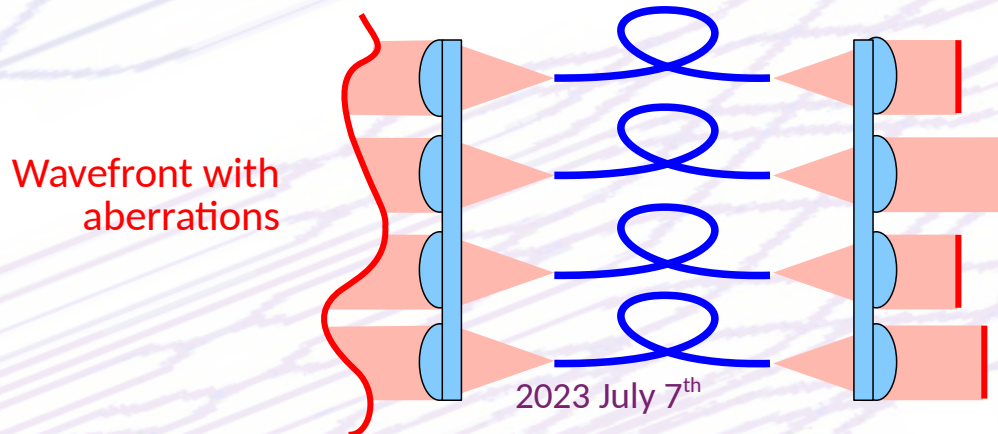


Redundant configuration  
+ Corrugated wavefront

**Non redundant** configuration +  
**Plane** wavefronts

Perrin et al. 2006  
Lacour et al. 2007  
Kotani et al. 2009

## Single-mode fibers: spatial filtering of the wavefront



- Coherent wavefronts across the sub-pupil areas
- Differential phase terms remain (piston)

# Why taking a PIC?

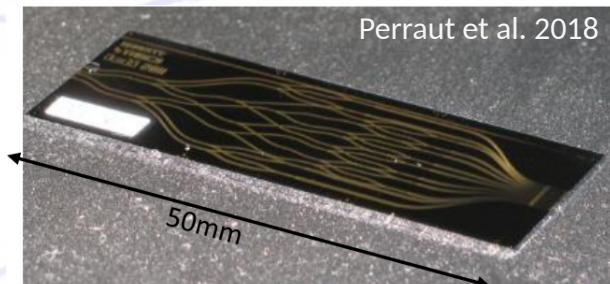
## Photonic Integrated Circuit

### ◆ What is a PIC?

- Analogue to an electronic integrated circuit for photons instead of electrons



- Waveguides are created within a piece of glass (silicon)



### ◆ How is a PIC manufactured?

- Ion exchange or diffusion
- Ion etching
- Laser writing

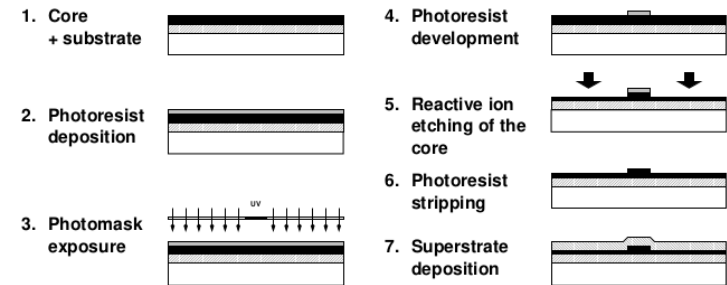


Fig. 5. Waveguide manufacture by etching technique (Mottier 1996).

Malbet et al. 1999