



# Superconducting Integrated Spectrometer for TELIS

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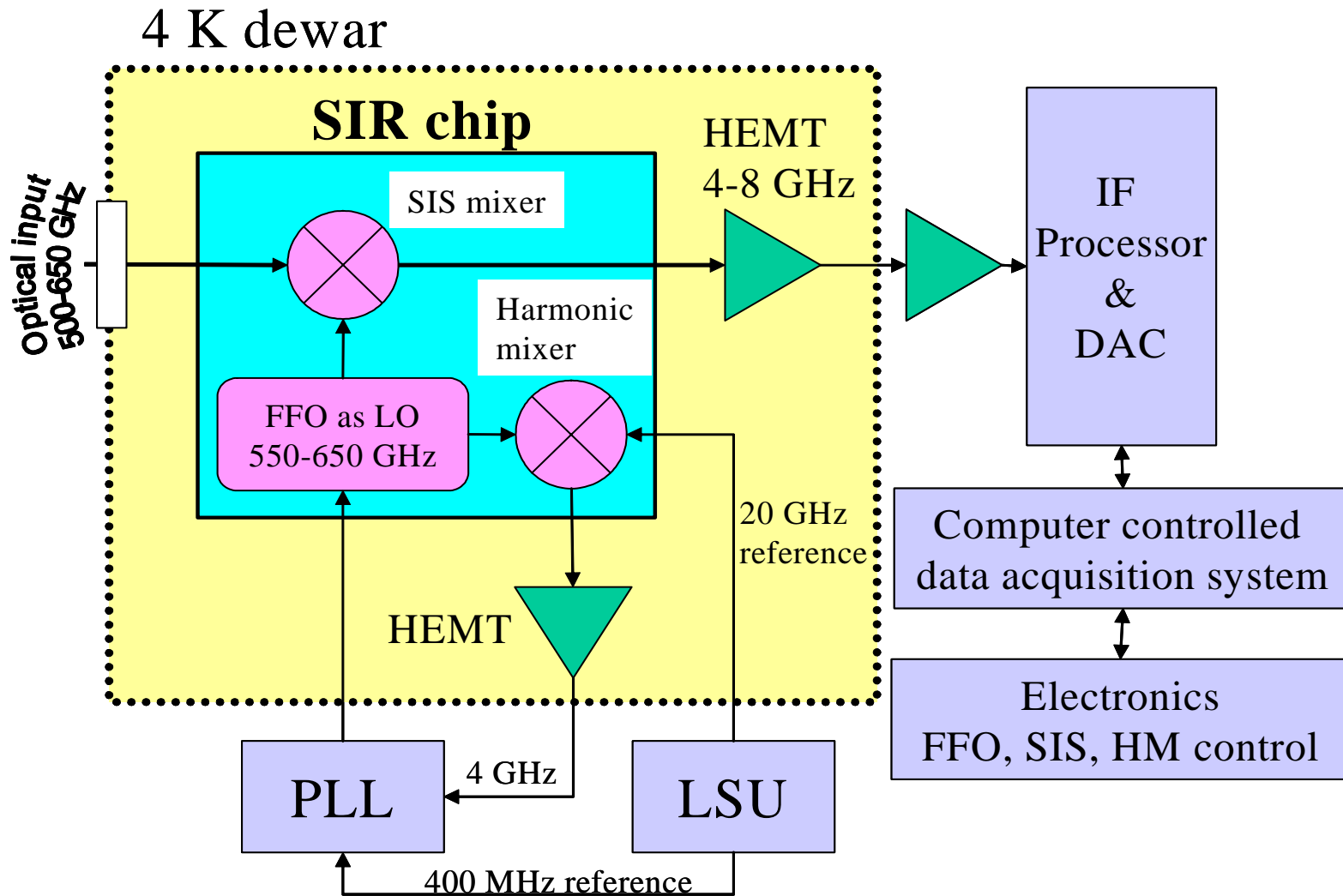


# Superconducting Integrated Spectrometer for TELIS

## Outline

- **Superconducting Integrated Receiver (SIR)**
- **Flux Flow Oscillator (FFO) for the SIR**
- **TErahertz Limb Sounder (TELIS) project**
- **TELIS SIR channel design**
- **SIR channel performance**
- **Future SIR applications**
- **Conclusion**

# Superconducting Integrated Receiver (SIR) with phase-locked FFO





# Superconducting Integrated Receiver (SIR)

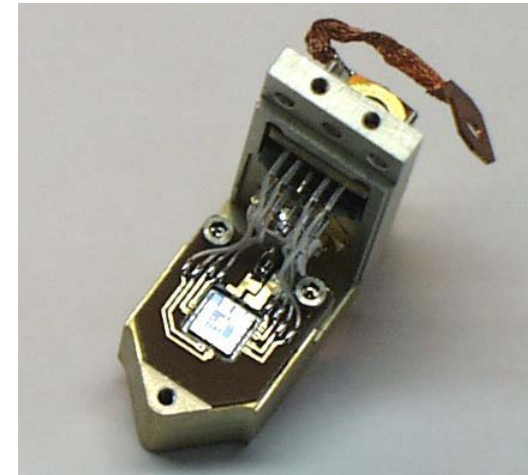


## STATE OF THE ART (2002)

- Single chip Nb-AlOx-Nb SIS receivers with superconducting FFO have been studied at frequencies from **100 to 700 GHz**;
- A DSB receiver noise temperature as low as **90 K** has been achieved **at 500 GHz**;
- **9-pixel** Imaging **Array** Receiver has been successfully tested;
- FFO Phase Locking (**PLL**) up to 700 GHz.

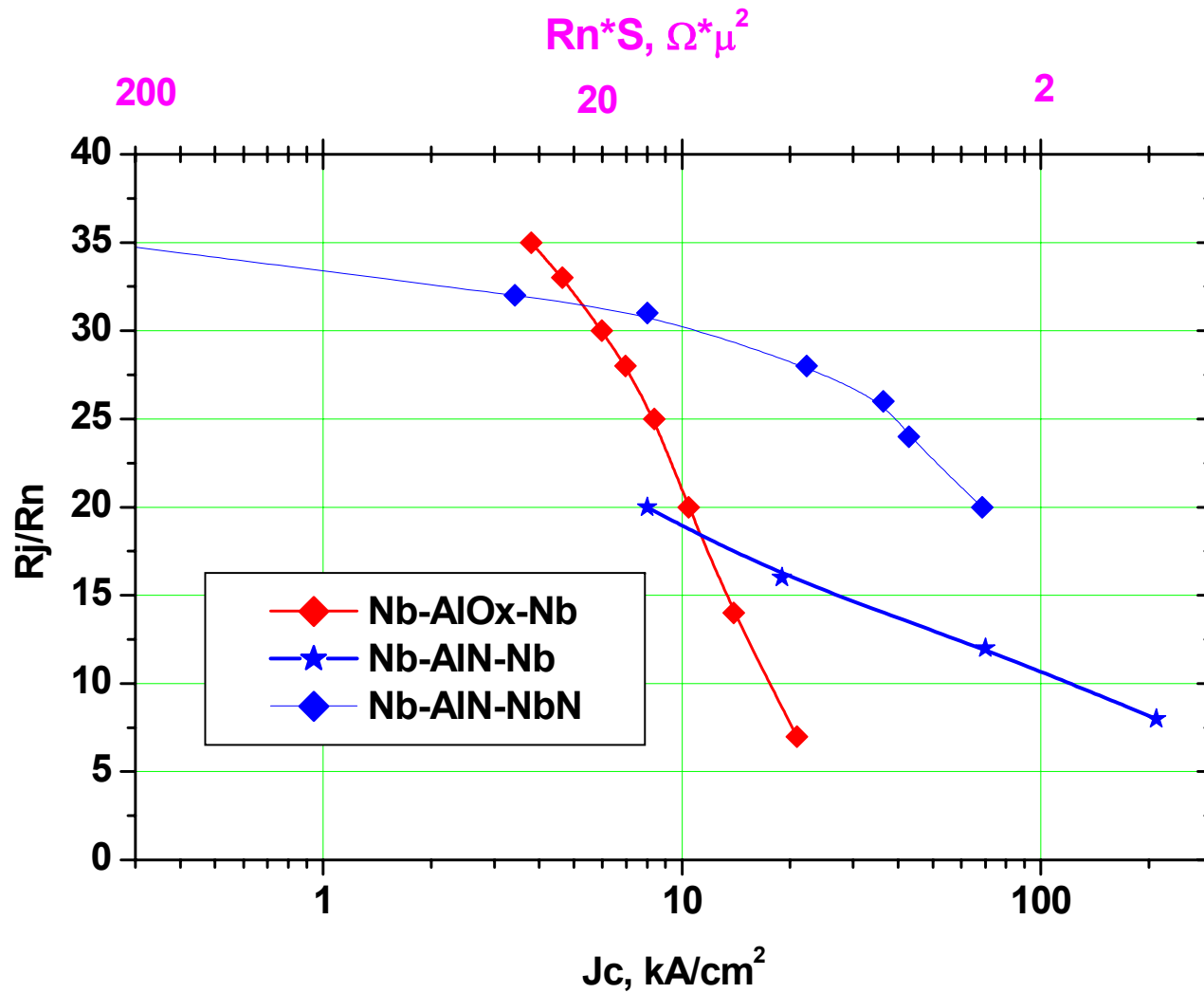
## APPLICATIONS

- Airborne Receiver for Atmospheric Research and Environmental Monitoring; Radio Astronomy
- Focal Plane Array Receivers;
- Laboratory submm wave Spectrometers.

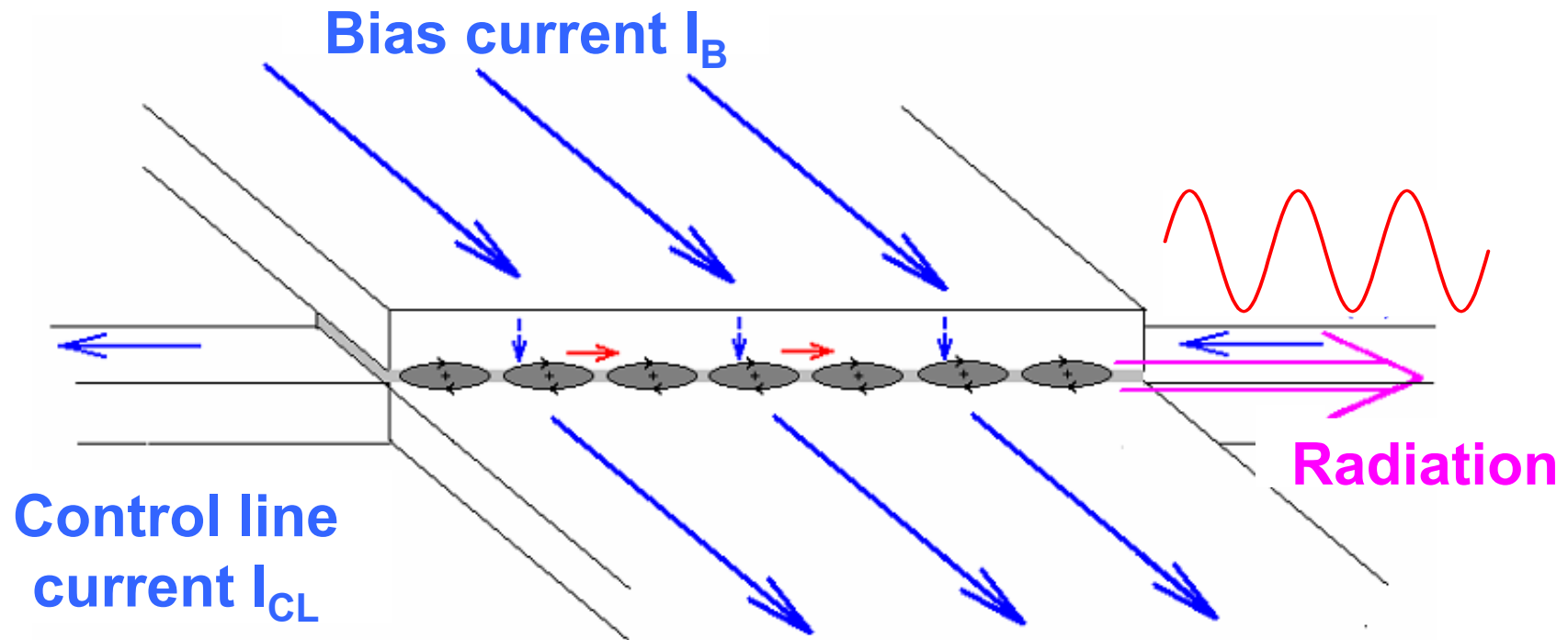




# Quality of the AlOx and AlN tunnel barriers on the current density

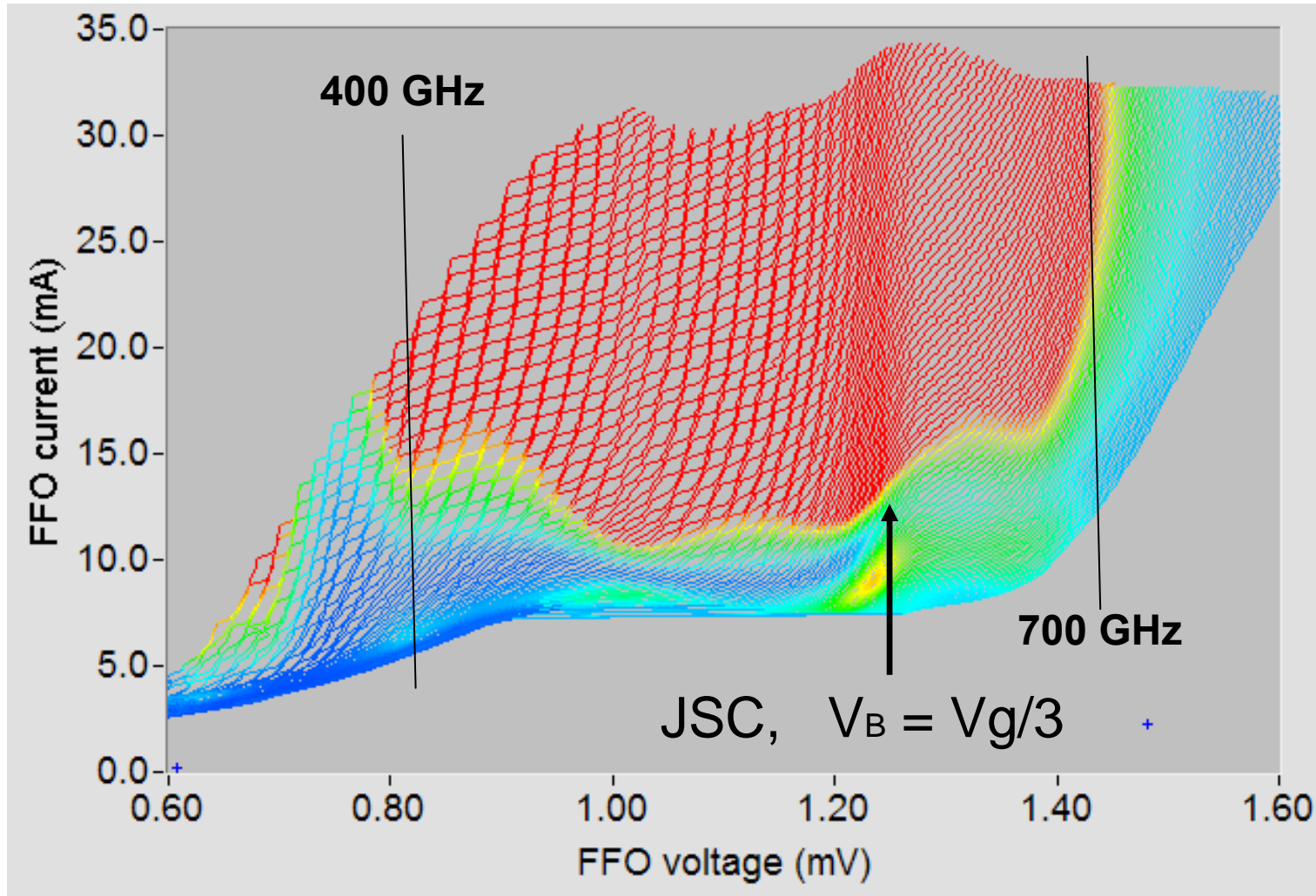


# Flux Flow Oscillator based on Long Josephson Junction





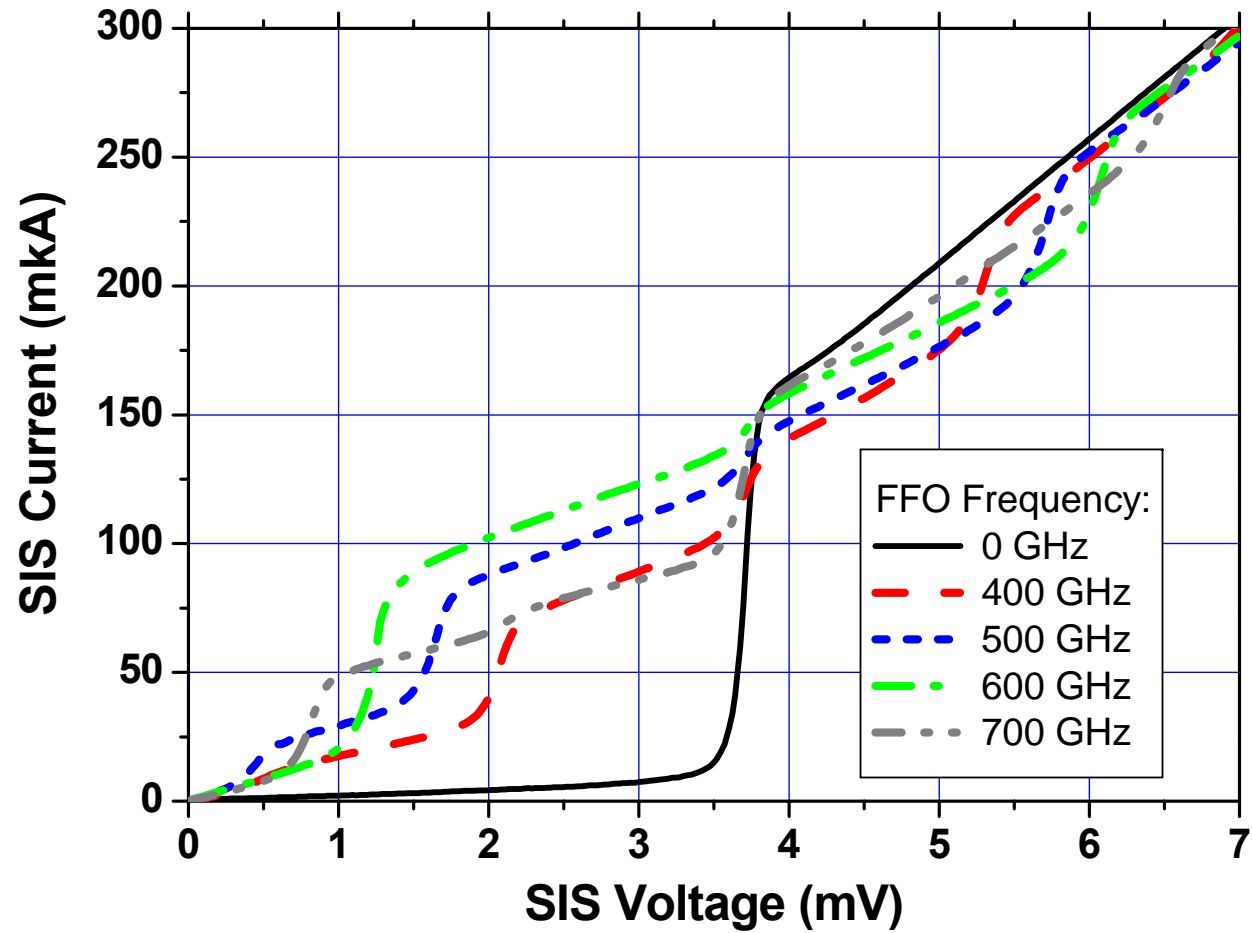
# Nb-AlN-NbN FFO for SIR; new features





# Nb-AlN-NbN SIS pumped by FFO; FFO frequency tuning

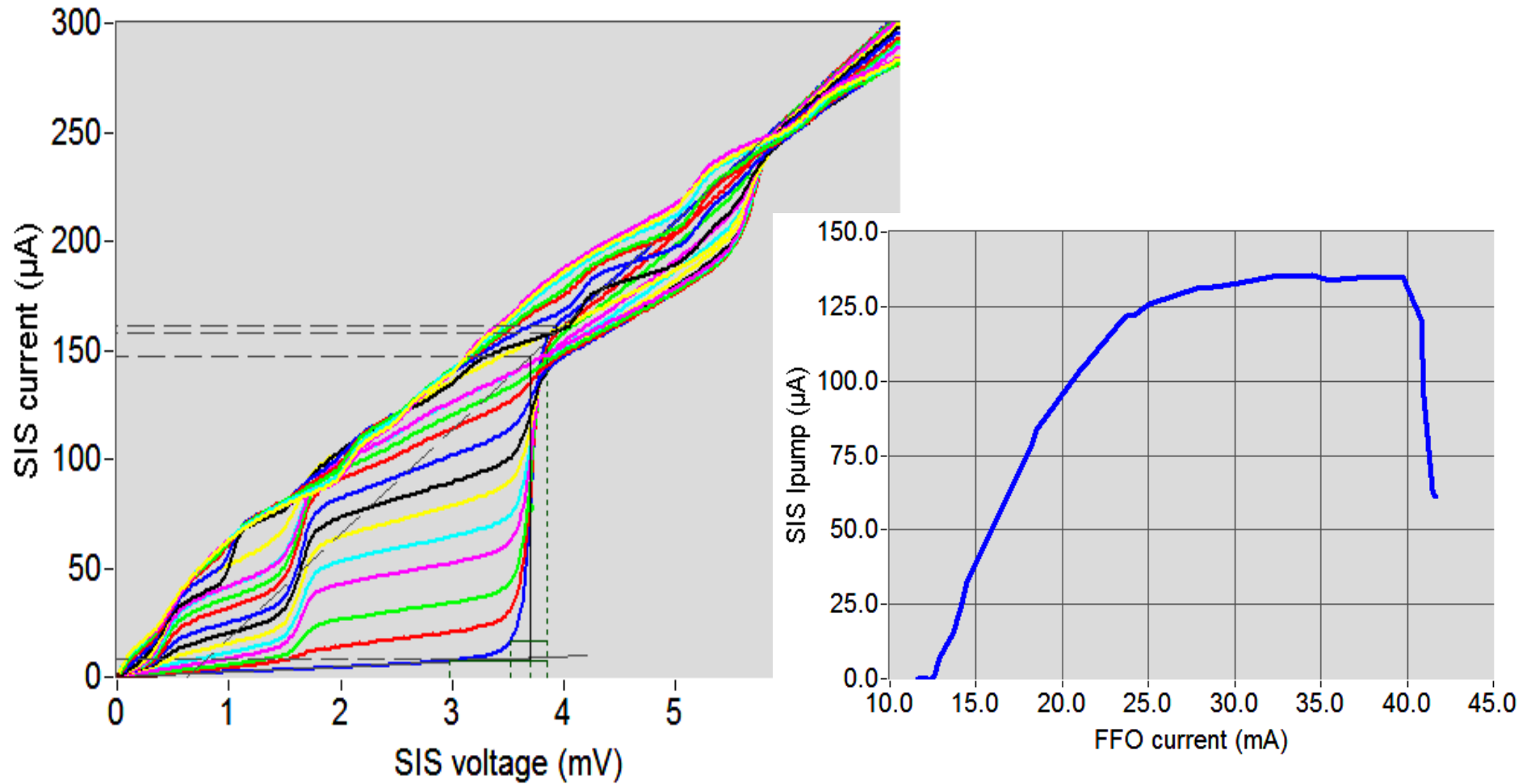
HD13-09#26 ( $V_g=3.7\text{mV}$ ,  $R_n=21\ \text{Ohm}$ )





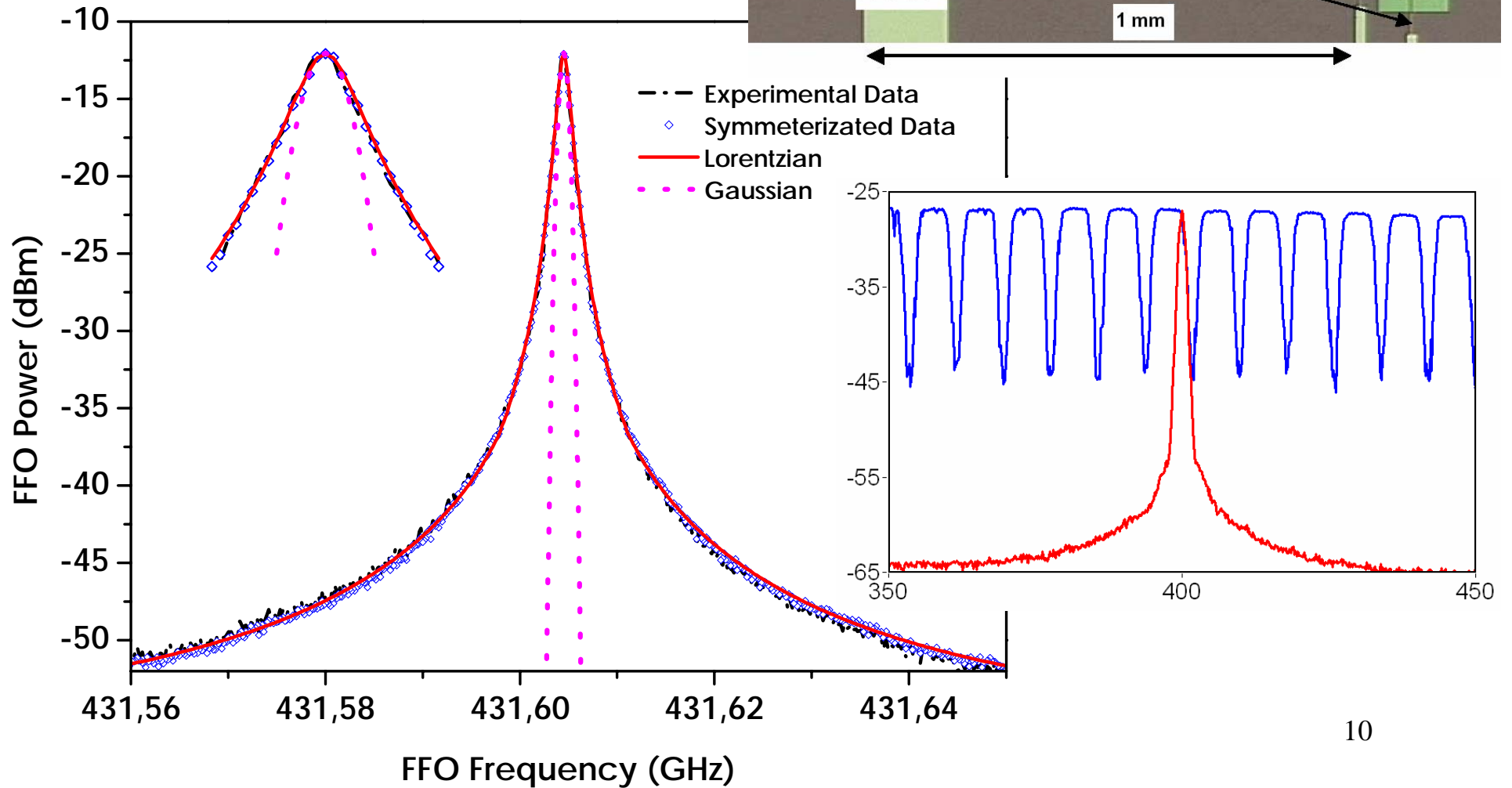
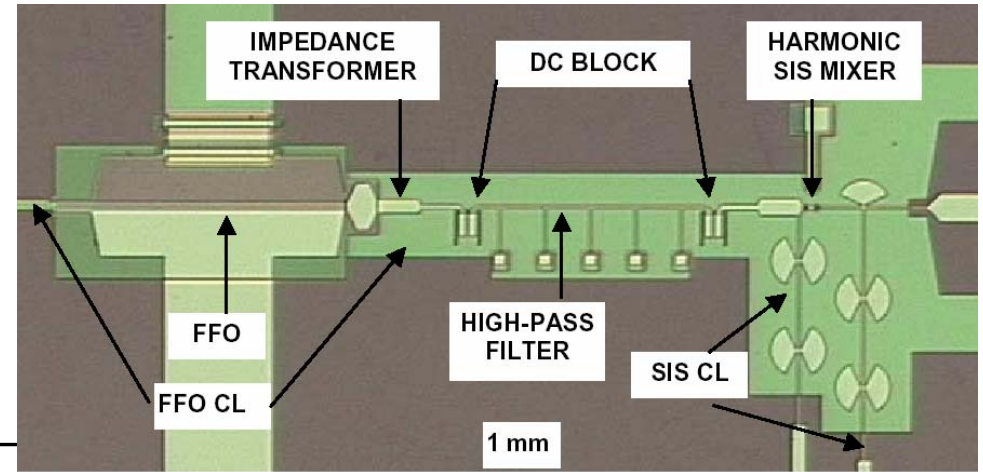


# Nb-AlN-NbN SIS pumped by FFO; FFO power tuning ( $f = 500$ GHz)



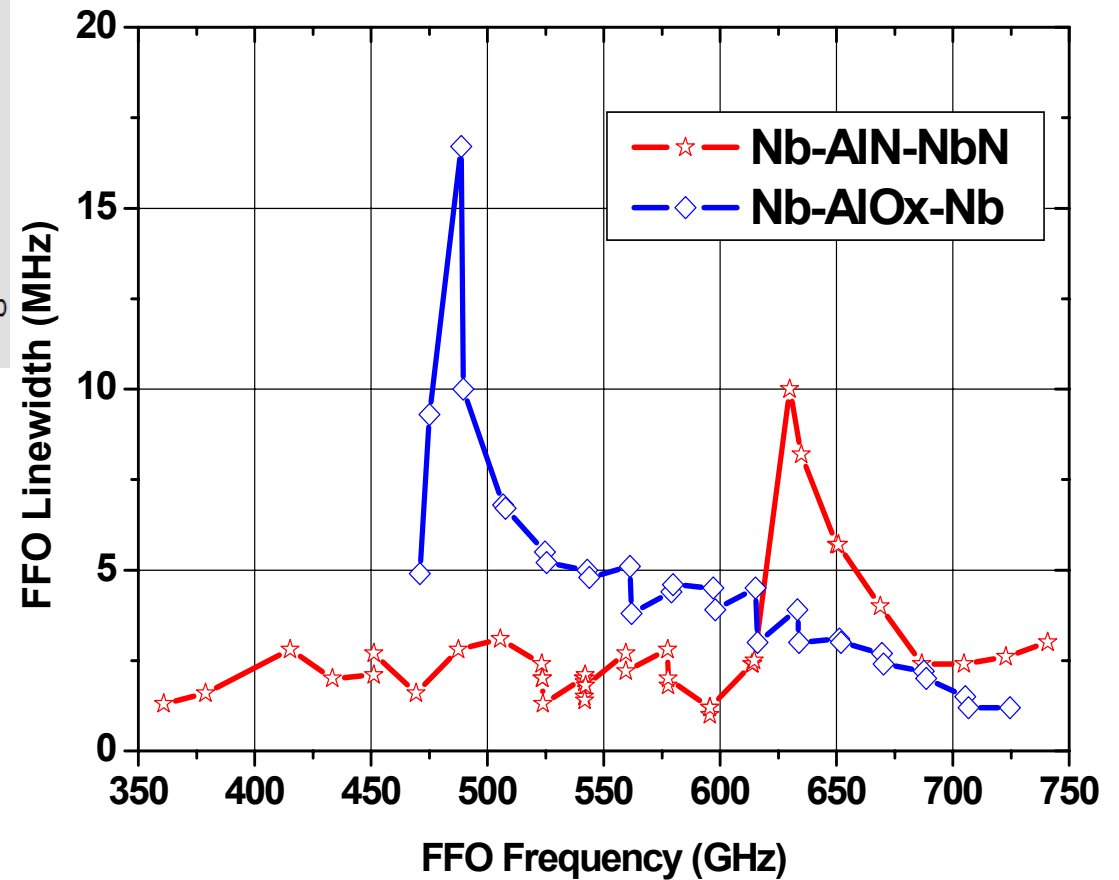
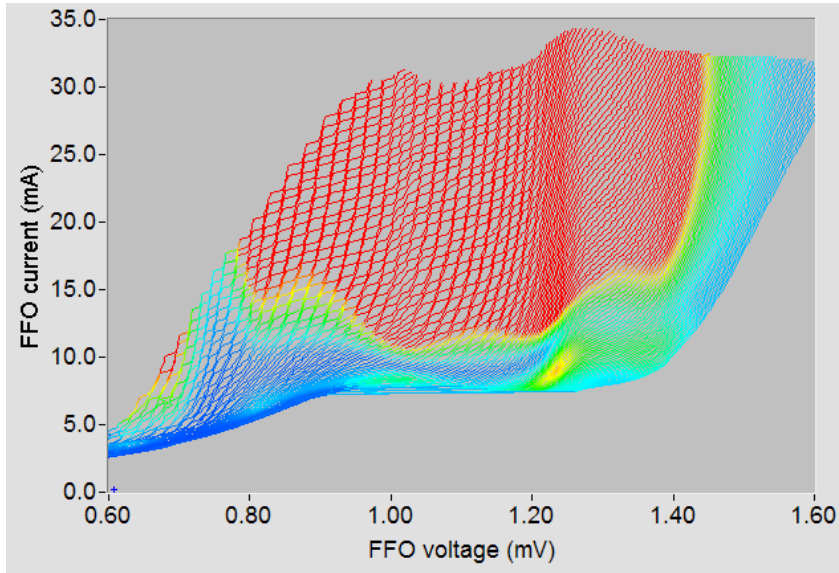


# FFO Spectrum

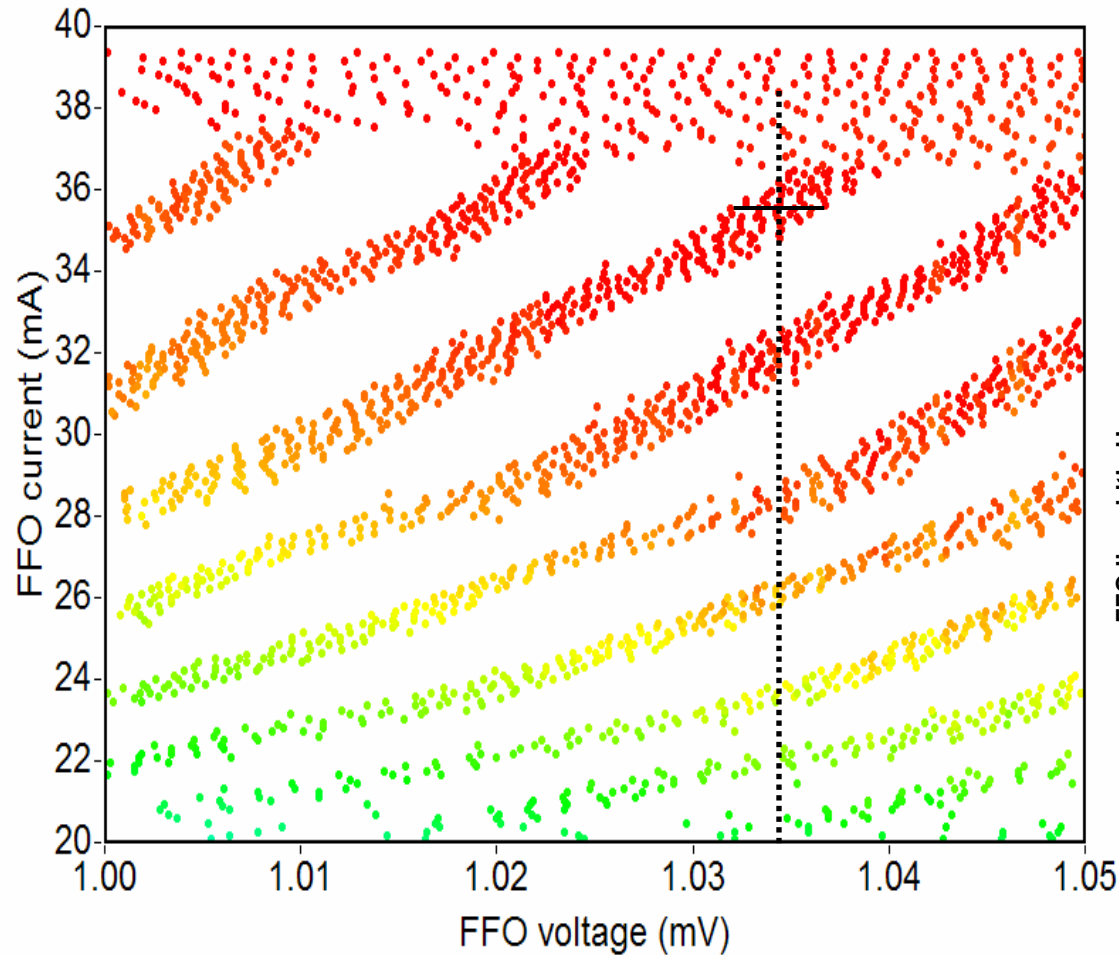




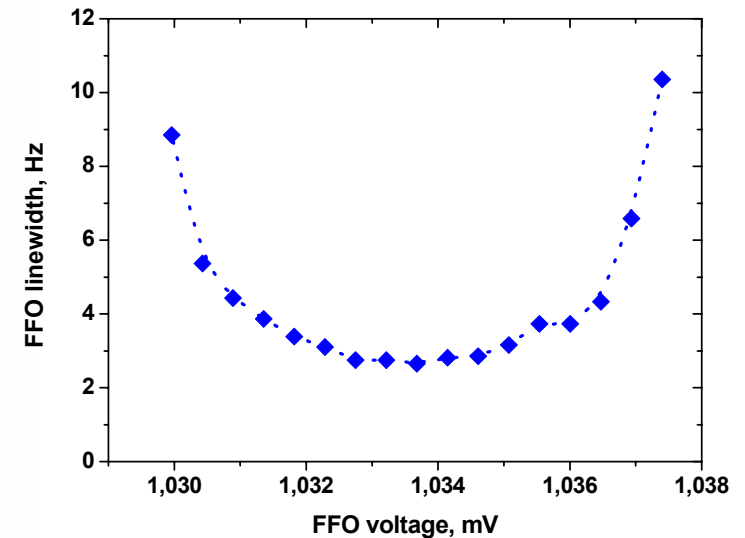
# Frequency dependence of the FFO: Nb-AlOx-Nb and Nb-AlN-NbN circuits



# SIR for TELIS – remote operation on the Fiske steps

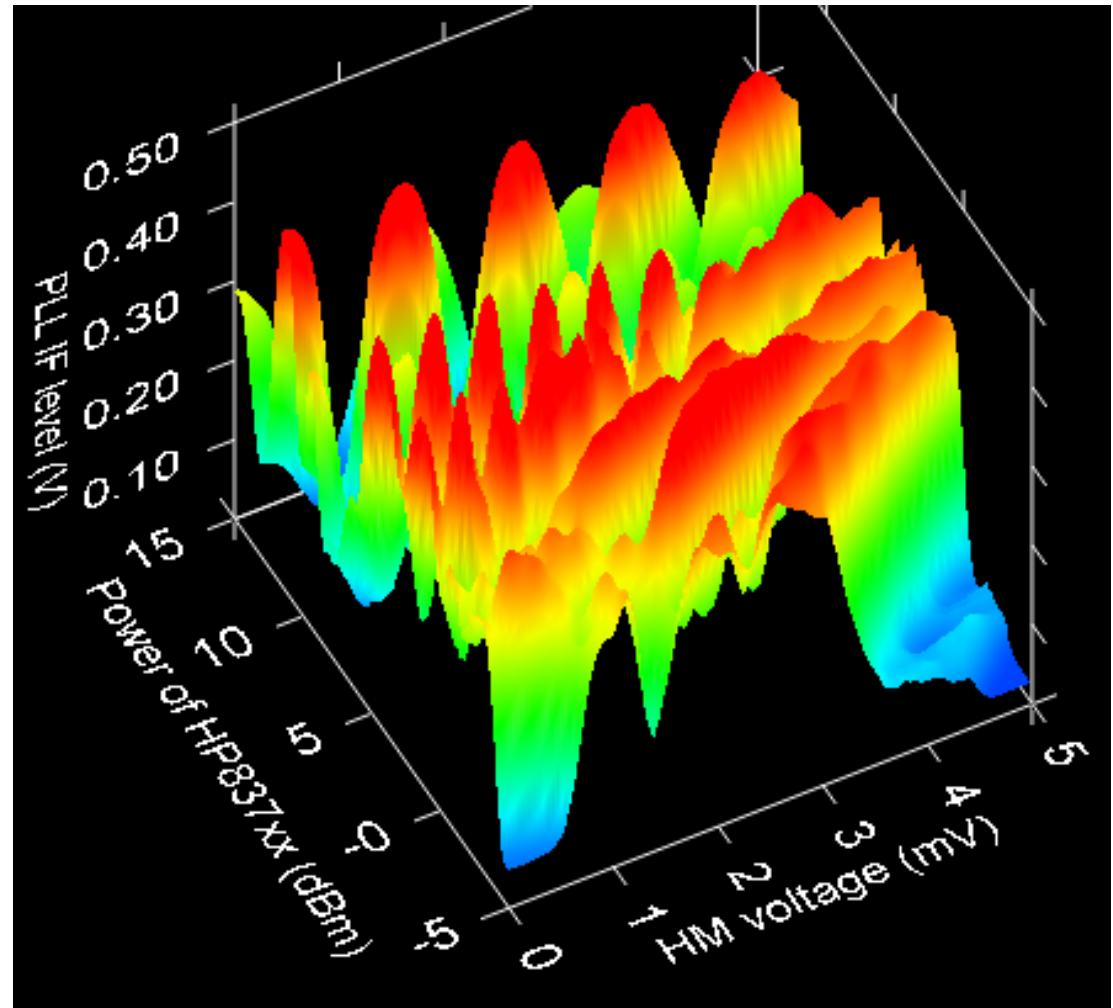
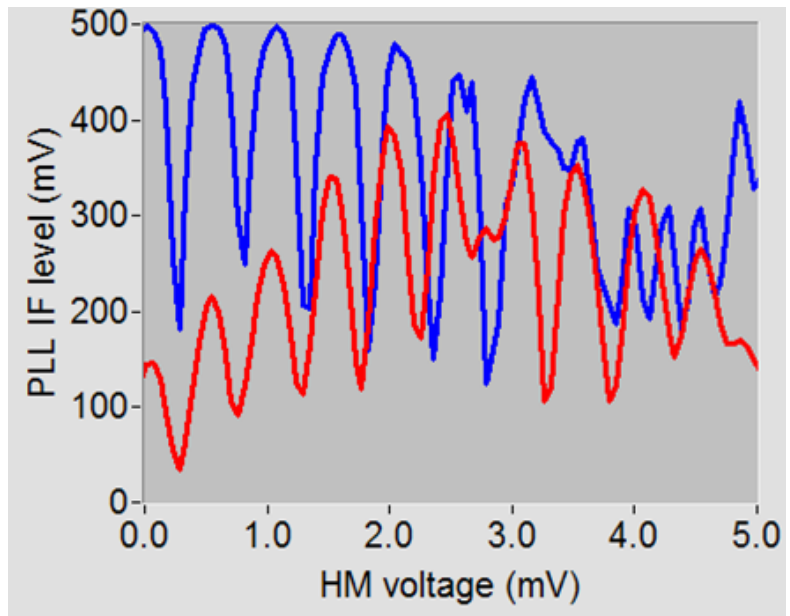
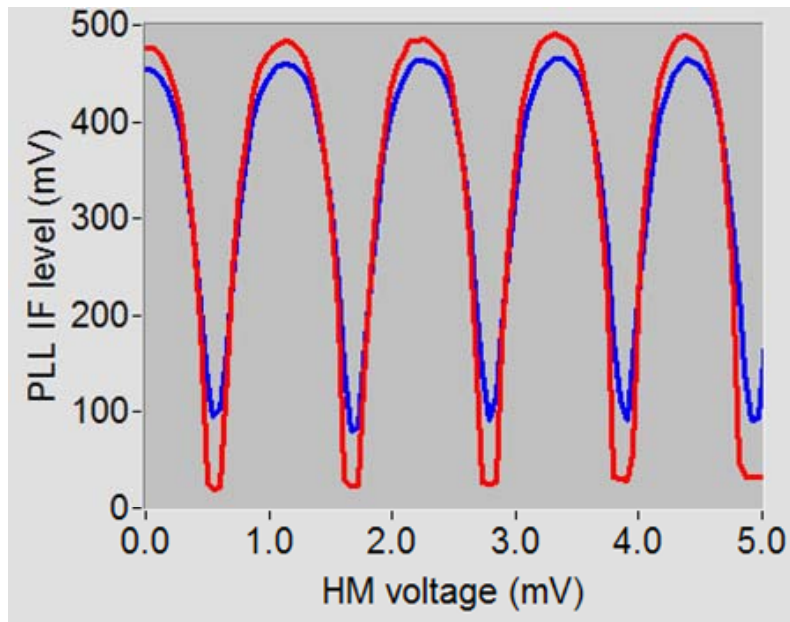


FFO frequency of about 500 GHz



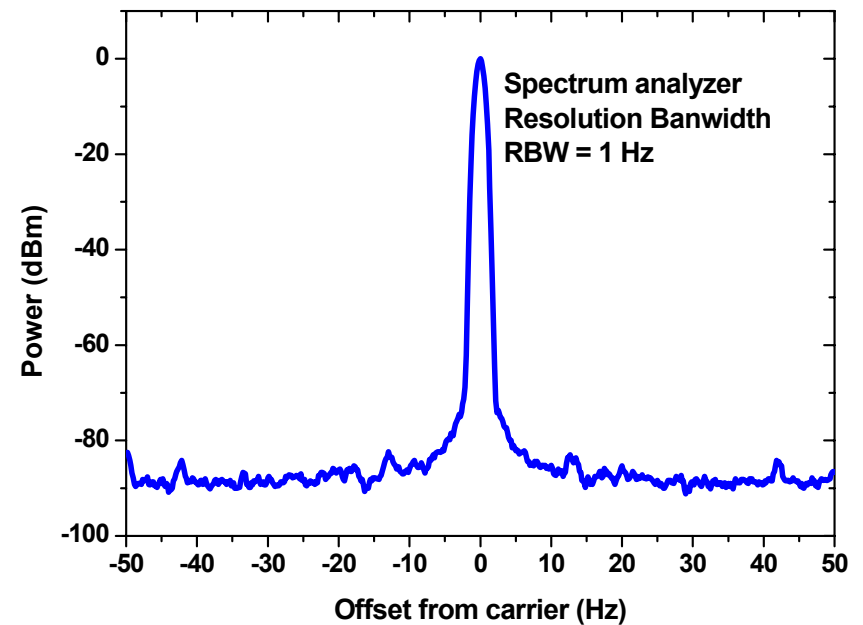
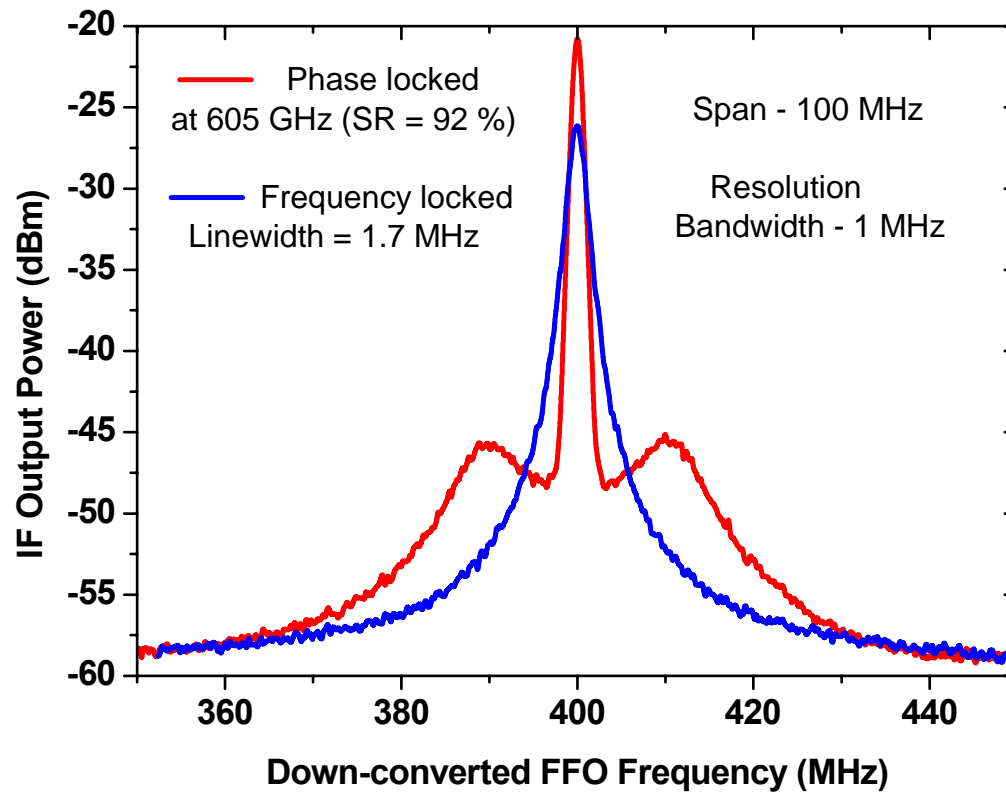
Cryogenic Phase Locking Loop System for Flux-Flow Oscillator  
*Poster P6-7 by Andrey Ermakov*

# SIR for TELIS – remote operation: QP vs Josephson





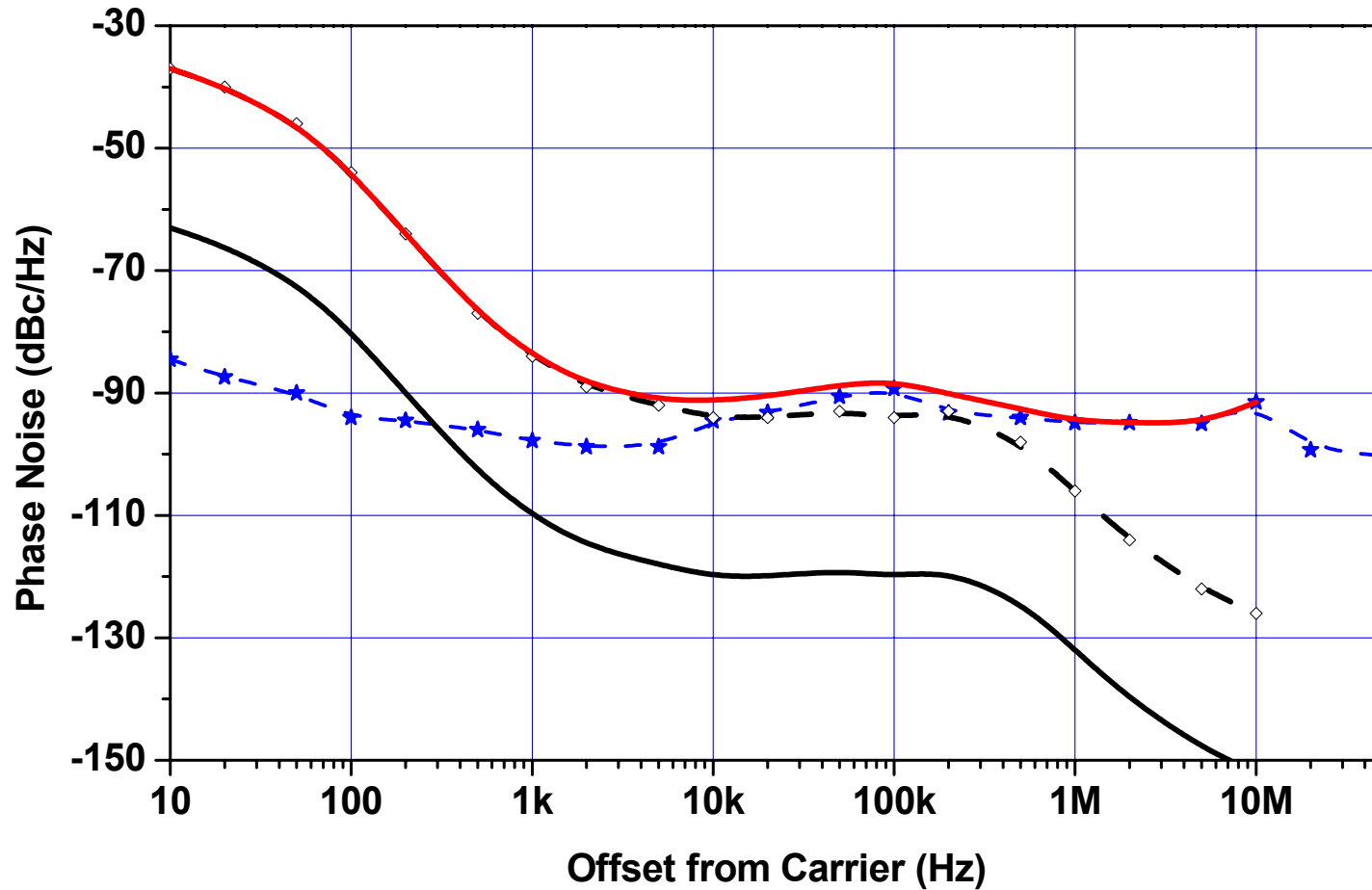
# Frequency and Phase Locked spectra of the Nb-AlN-NbN FFO





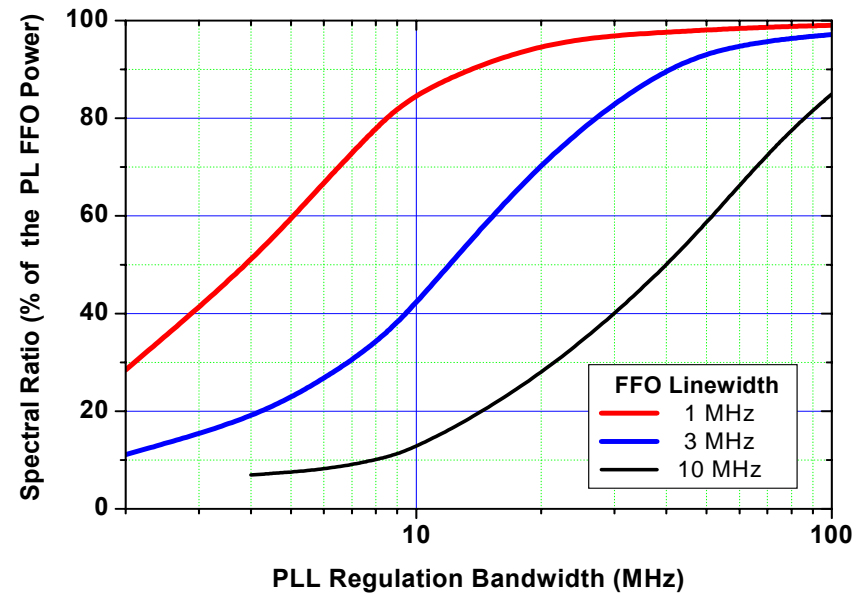
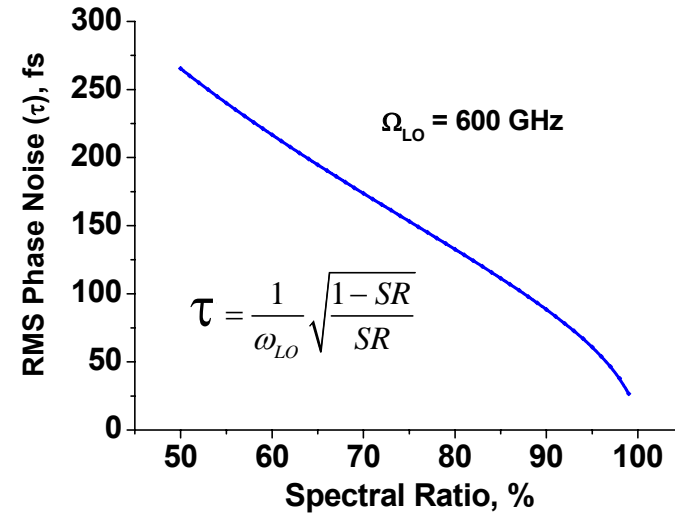
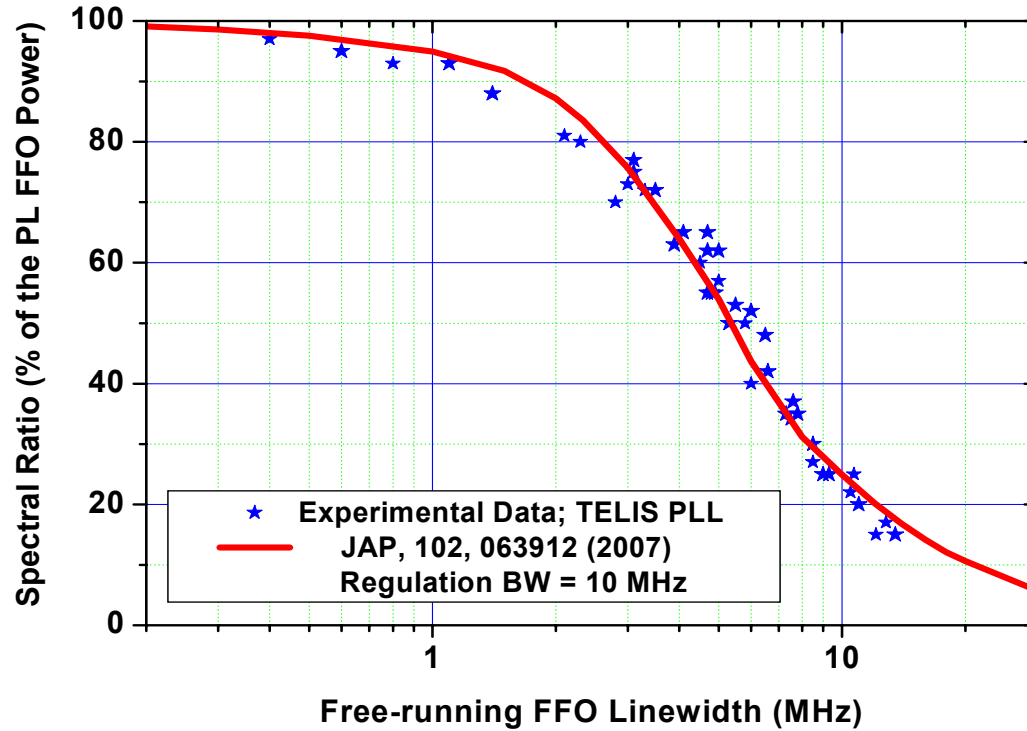
# Phase Noise of the PL FFO

- Absolute FFO phase noise, ( $n = 20$ ); SR = 96.7%
- ◇- R&S Synthesizer at 22 GHz \*  $n^2$  ( $n = 20$ )
- ★- Phase locked FFO,  $f_{\text{FFO}} = 450$  GHz ( $\delta f_{\text{aut}} = 0.5$  MHz; SR = 97.7%)
- R&S Synthesizer at 22 GHz (Specification)





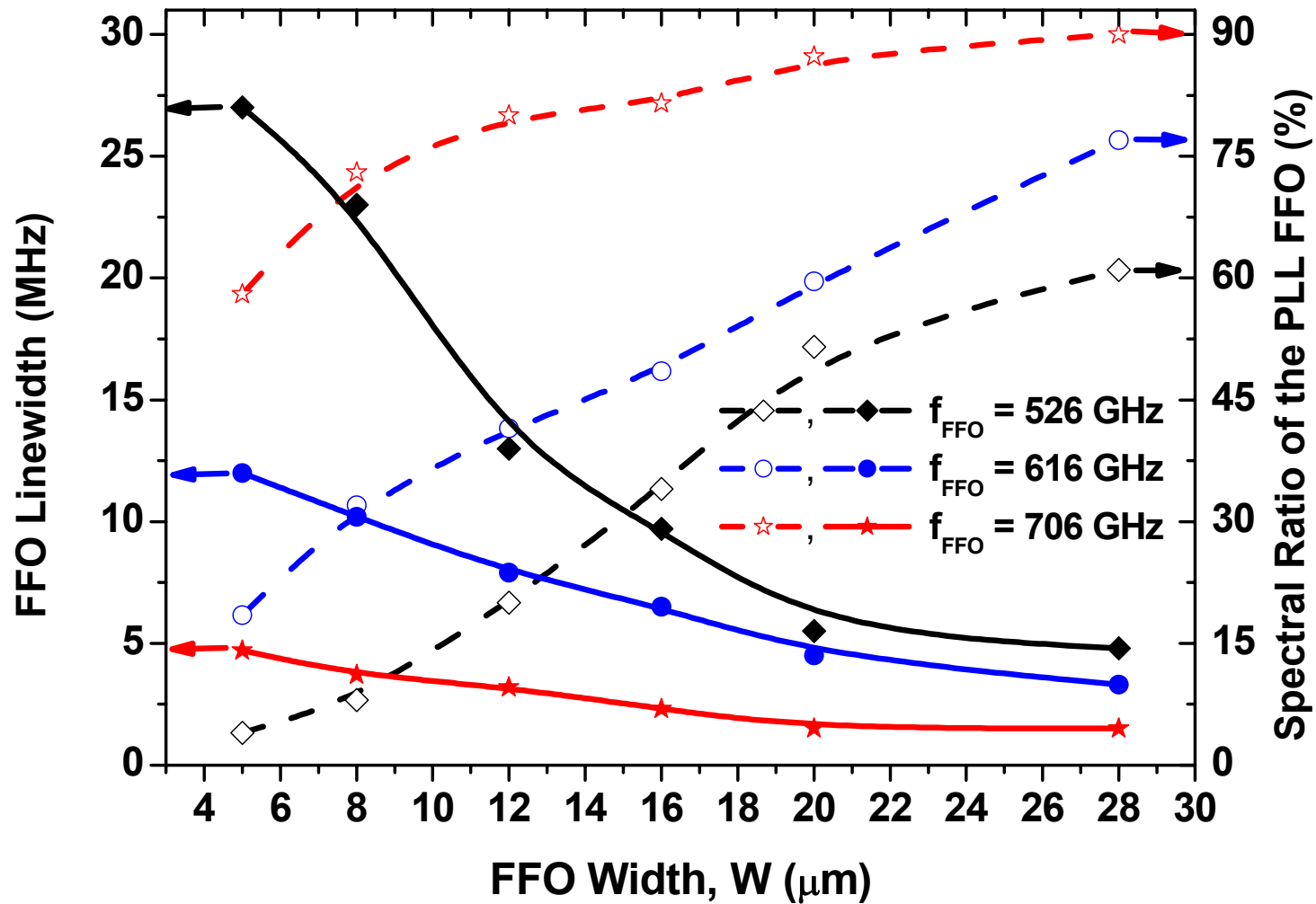
# PL FFO Phase Noise and Spectral Ratio





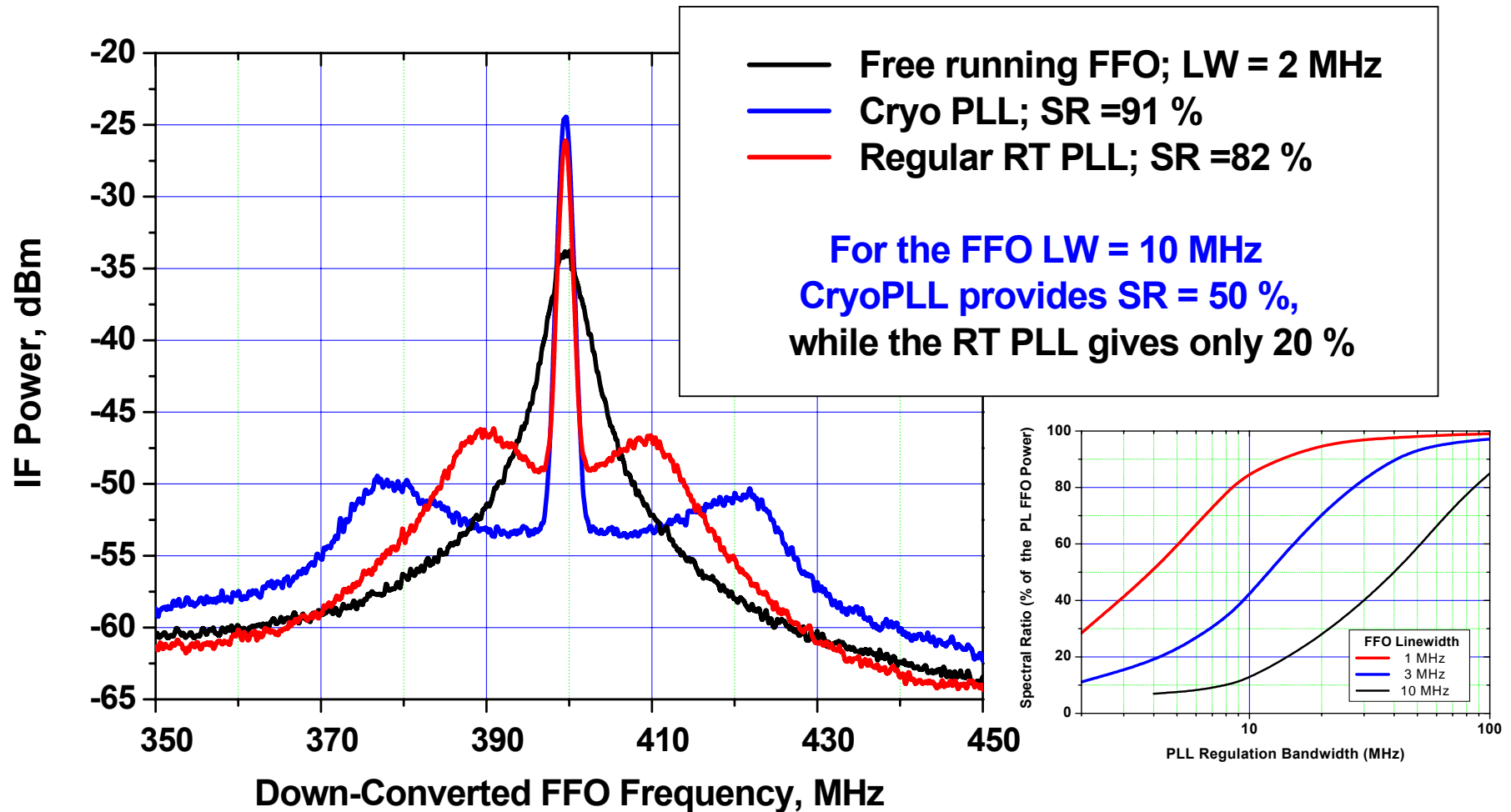


## Linewidth of free-running FFOs and SR for the PL FFO as a function of FFO width ( $RnS = 30 \Omega \cdot \mu\text{m}^2$ )





# Cryogenic PLL System



Cryogenic Phase Locking Loop System for Flux-Flow Oscillator  
*Poster P7-7 by Andrey Khudchenko*

# TELIS - TERAhertz LIMB Sounder

## TELIS Objectives:

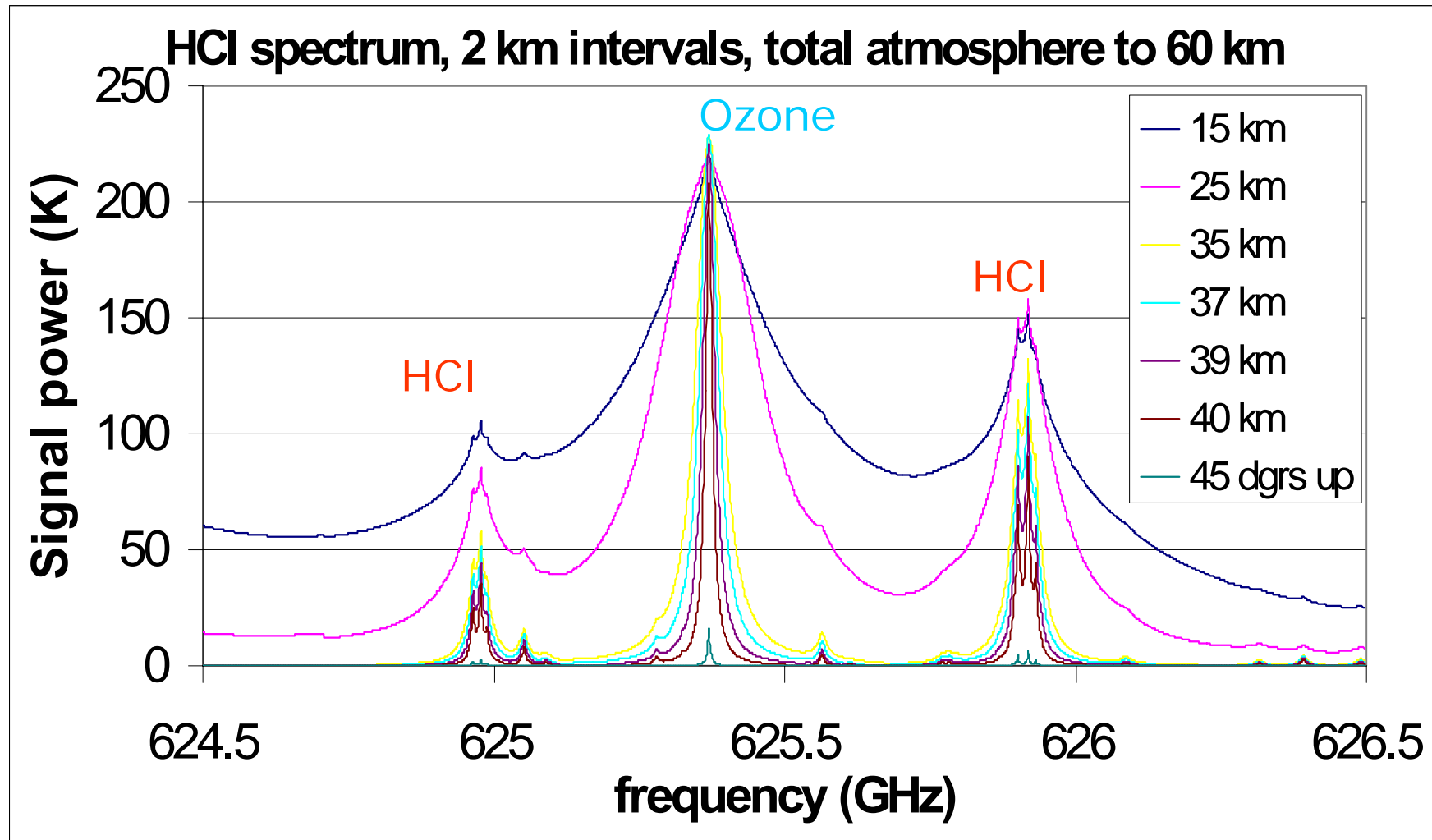
- Measure many species for atmospheric science (ClO, BrO, O<sub>3</sub>, HCl, HOCl, etc);
  - Chemistry, Transport, Climate
- Serve as a test platform for new sensors
- Serve as validation tool for future satellite missions

Three independent frequency channels, cryogenic heterodyne receivers:

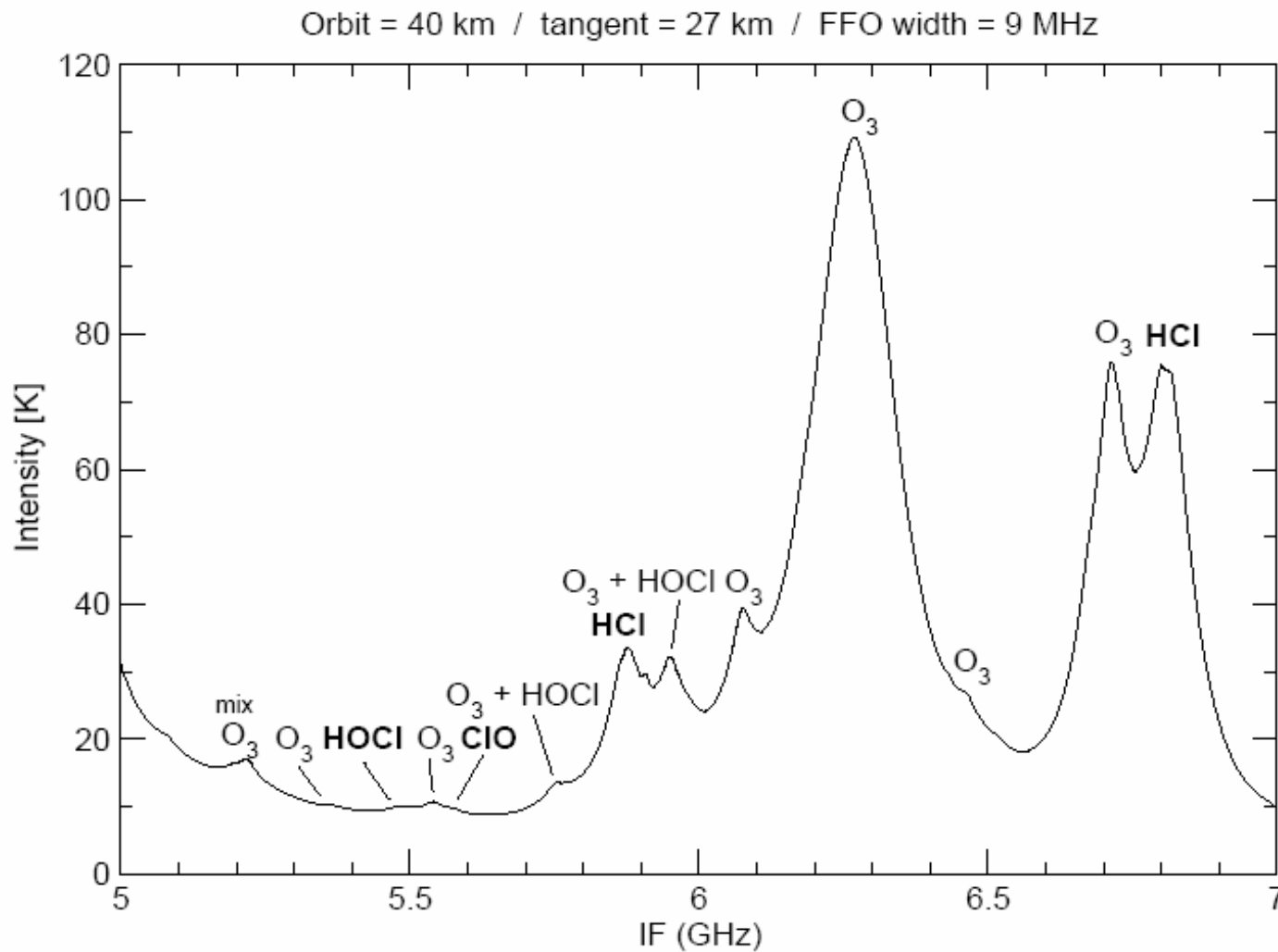
- 500 GHz by RAL
- **500-650 GHz by SRON-IREE**
- 1.8 THz by DLR (PI)



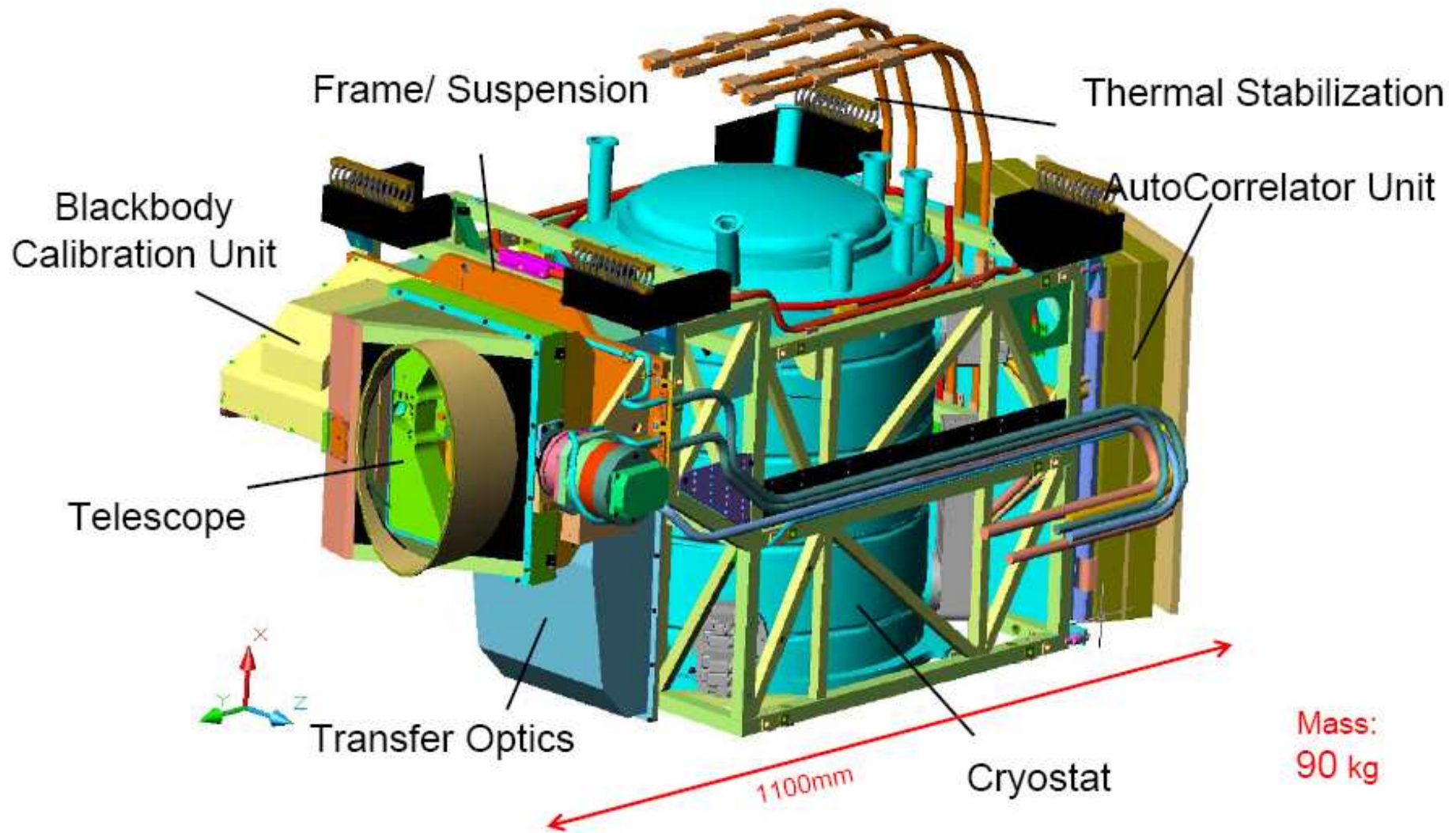
# Simulated spectra for Ozone and HCl at 625 GHz



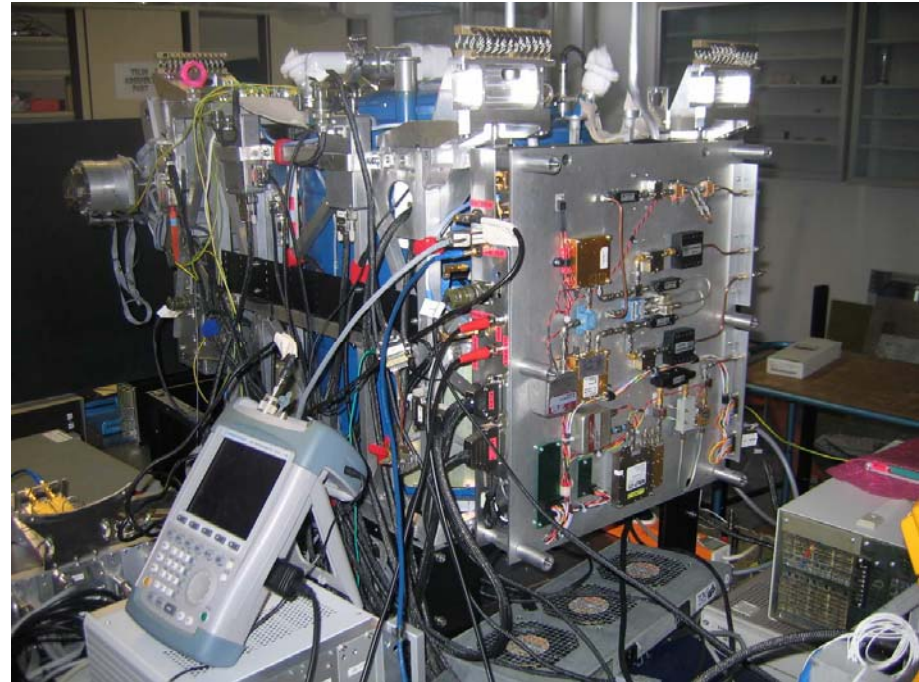
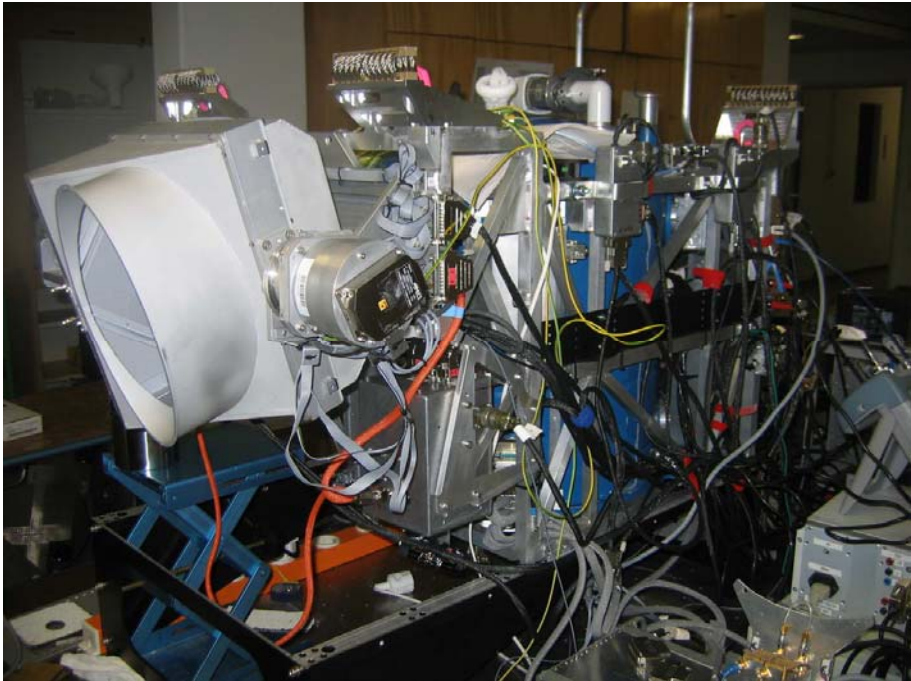
# Simulated atmospheric spectra (DSB) at 619 GHz



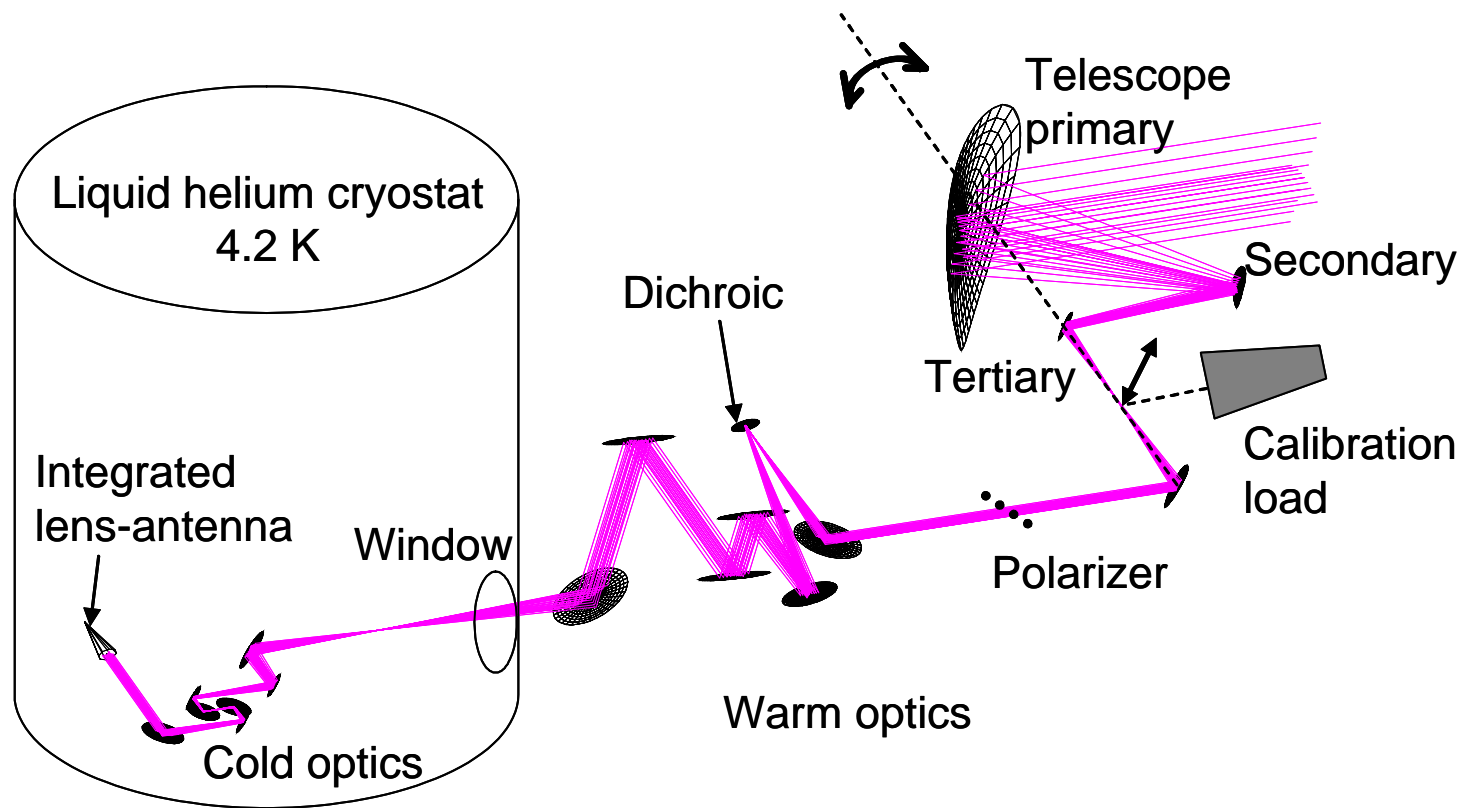
# TELIS – Instrument Model



## Last pre-flight tests at the DLR (Munich); 18 March 2008



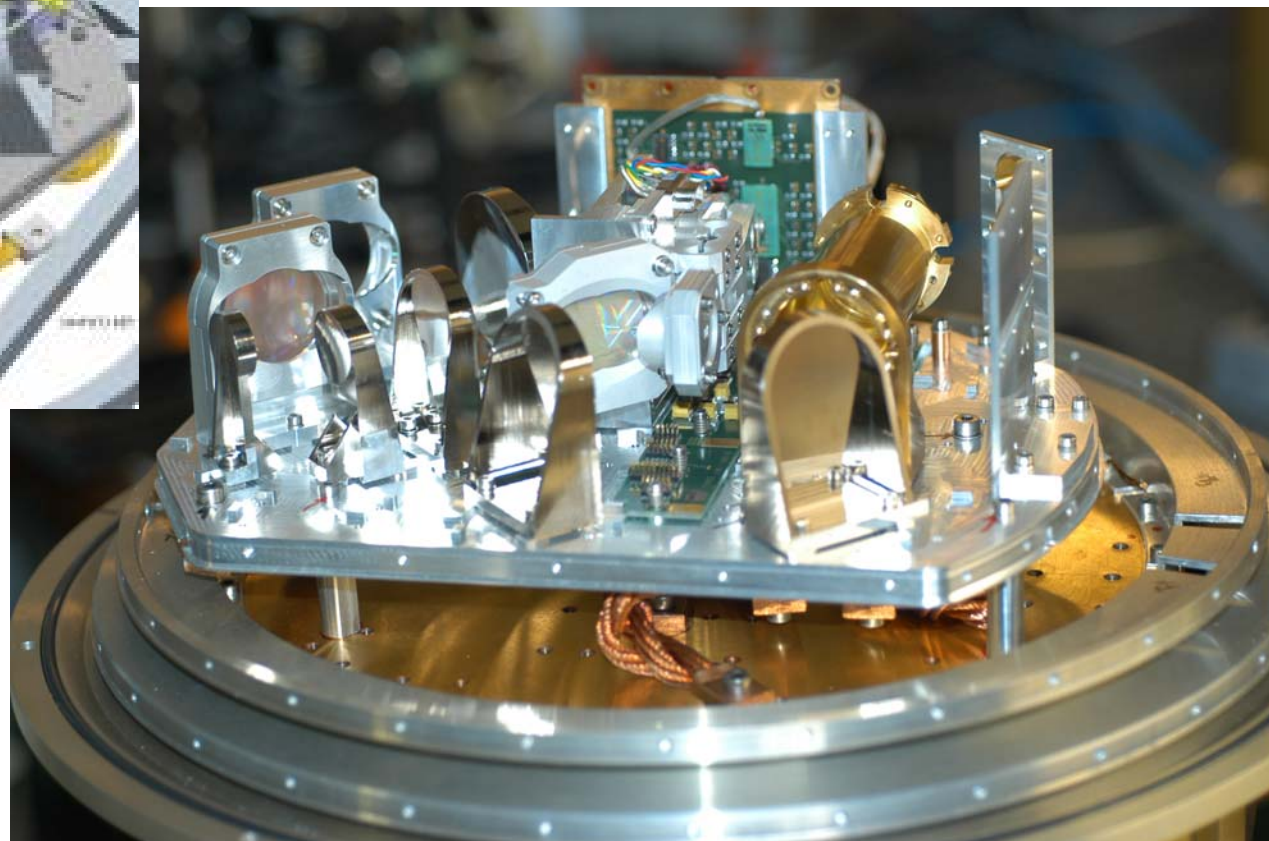
# Schematics of the 550-650 GHz channel optics



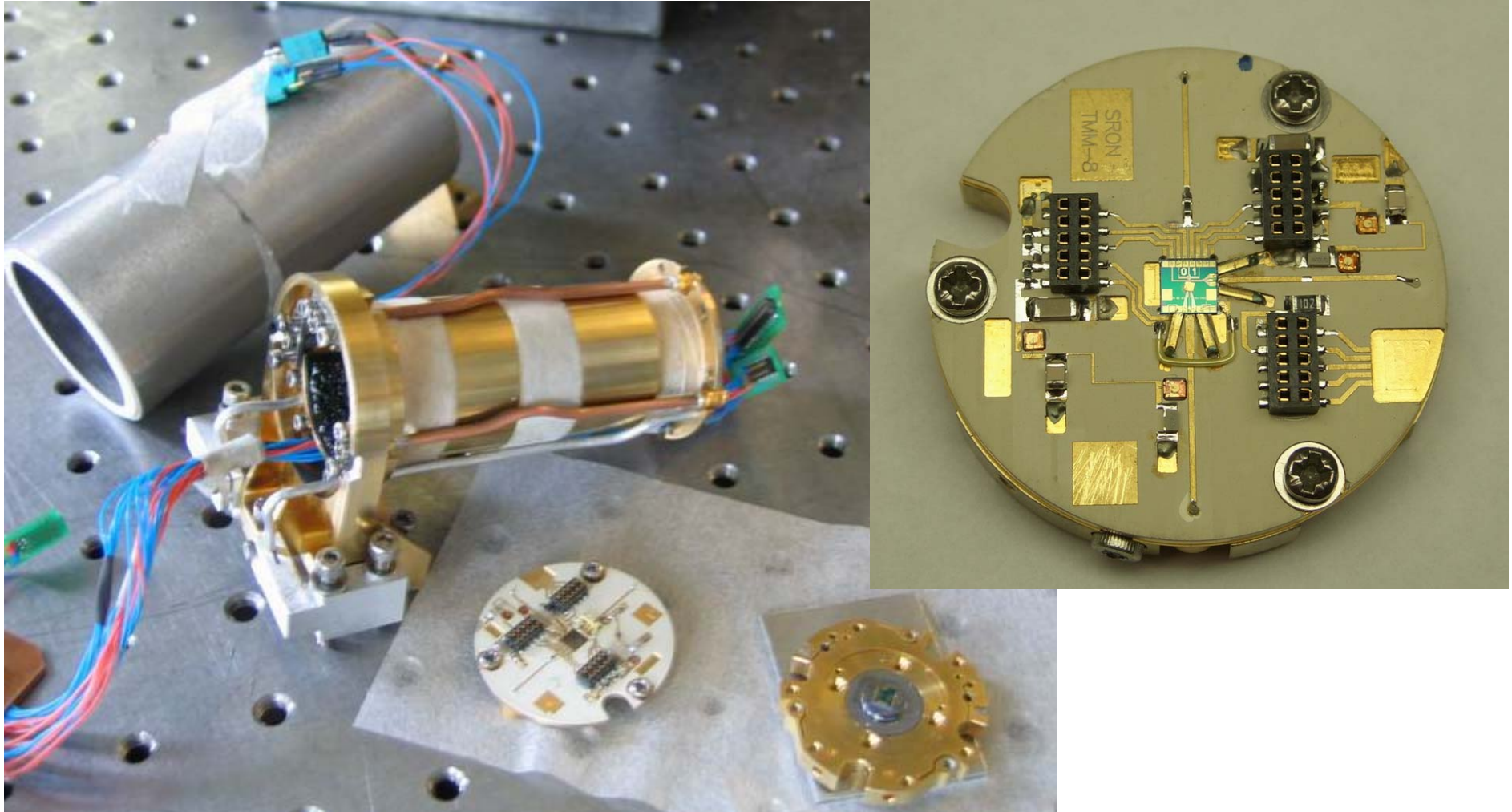
Wire grid polarizer and dichroic plate are used to separate this receiver from the two other frequency channels (not shown). The cold optics and mixer element are located inside the cryostat at the ambient temperature 4.2 K



# Optical schema & photo of the SIR-TELIS channel



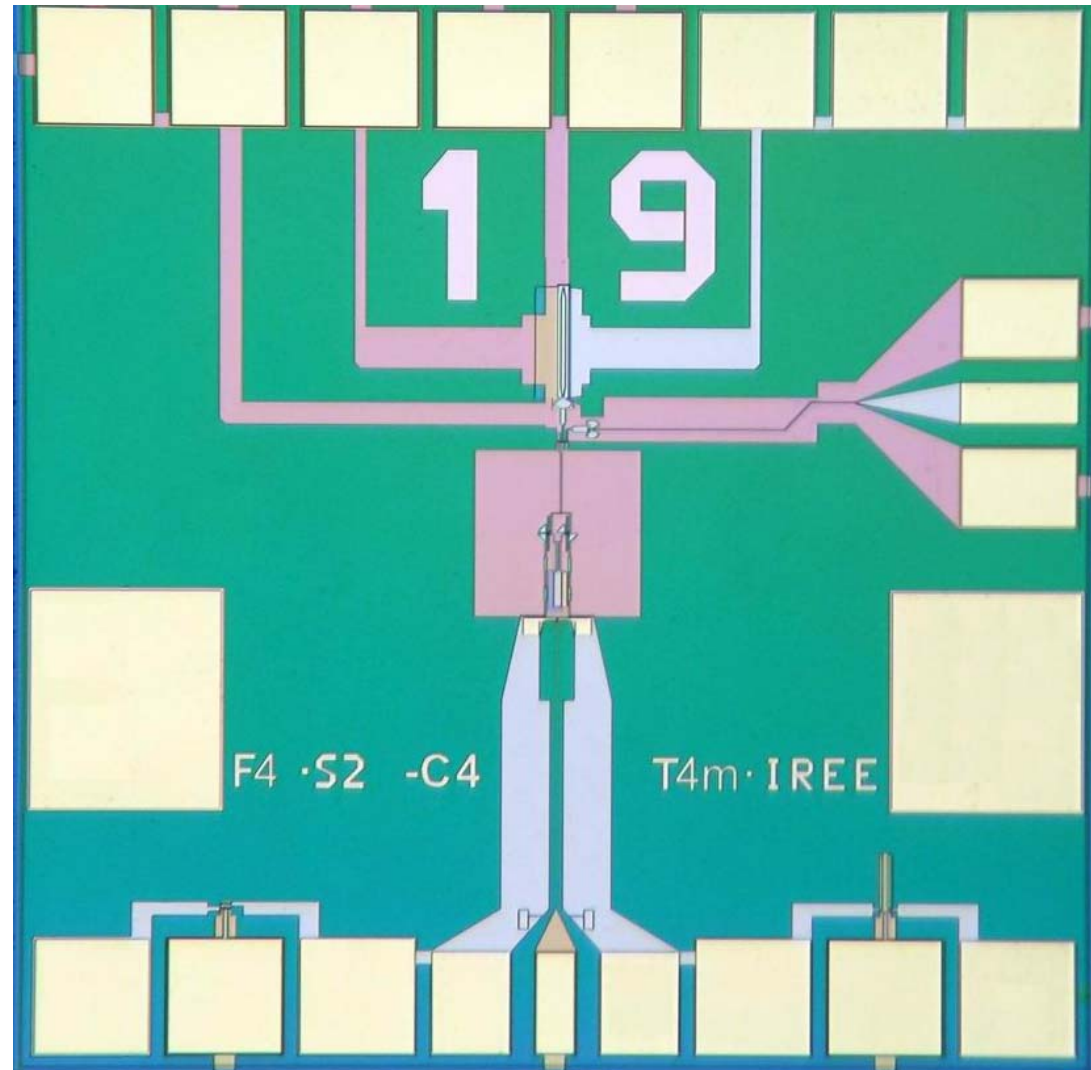
# SIR Mixer Block with Shields





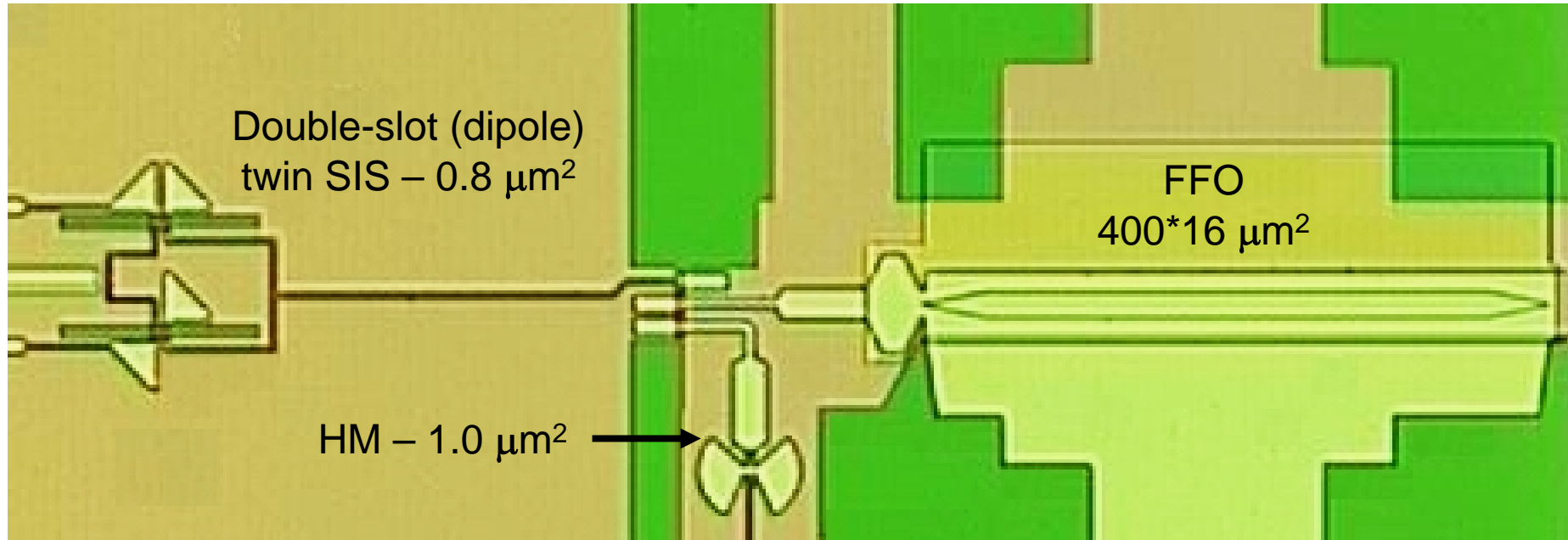
## Photo of the T4m SIR chip

**Silicon (Si);**  
**4 x 4 x 0.5 mm<sup>3</sup>**  
**Nb-AlOx-Nb or**  
**Nb-AlN-NbN;**





## Internal part of the SIR Microcircuit



**Nb-AlO<sub>x</sub>-Nb or Nb-AlN-NbN;  $J_c = 5 - 10 \text{ kA/cm}^2$**

**Optionally: SIS –  $J_c = 8 \text{ kA/cm}^2$ ; FFO + HM =  $4 \text{ kA/cm}^2$**



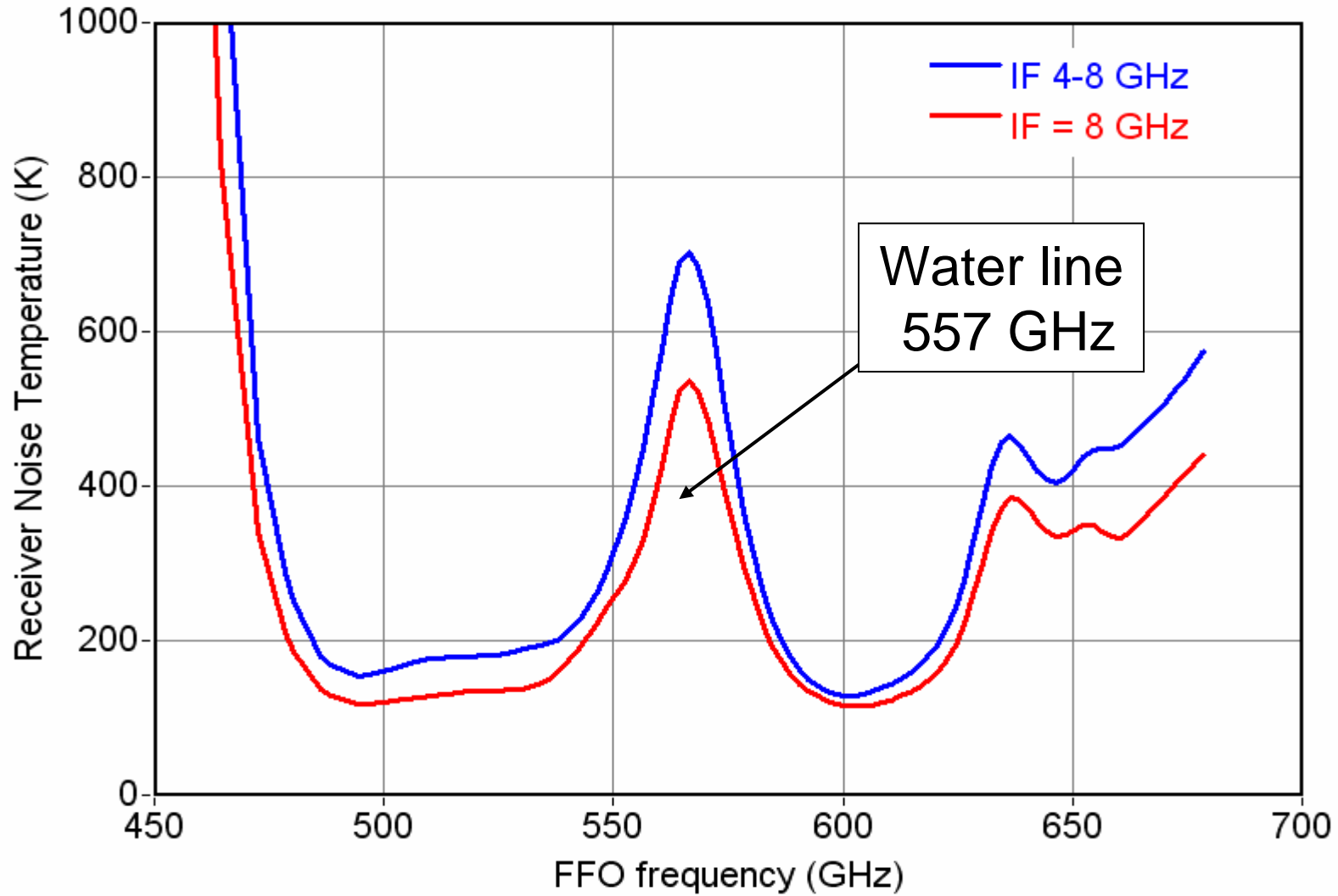
# TELIS-SIR Main Parameters



<b>##</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Value (Spec)</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Input frequency range, GHz</b>	<b>500 – 650 (550 – 650)</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Minimum noise temperature in the range (DSB), K</b>	<b>120 (250)</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Output IF range, GHz</b>	<b>4 - 8 (5 - 7)</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Spectral resolution (width of the spectral channel), MHz</b>	<b>&lt; 1 ( 2 )</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>LO frequency net, MHz</b>	<b>&lt; 300</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Dissipated power at 4.2 K stage (including IF amplifiers chain), mW</b>	<b>&lt;30 (100)</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Operation temperature, K</b>	<b>&lt; 4.5</b>

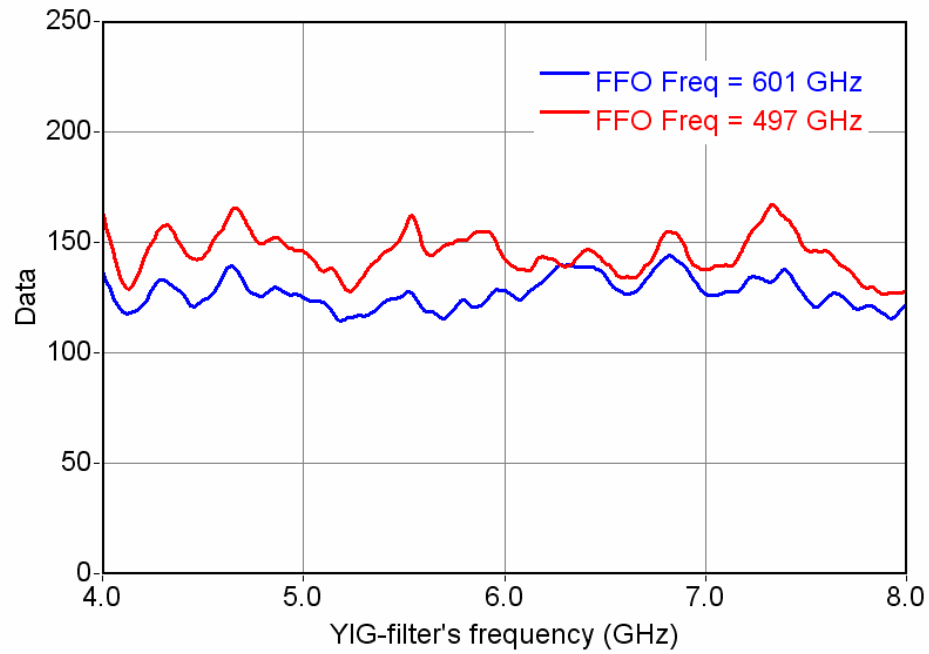
# Noise Temperature of the Flight SIR (DSB)

(T4m-093-05f, 17-Dec-2007)

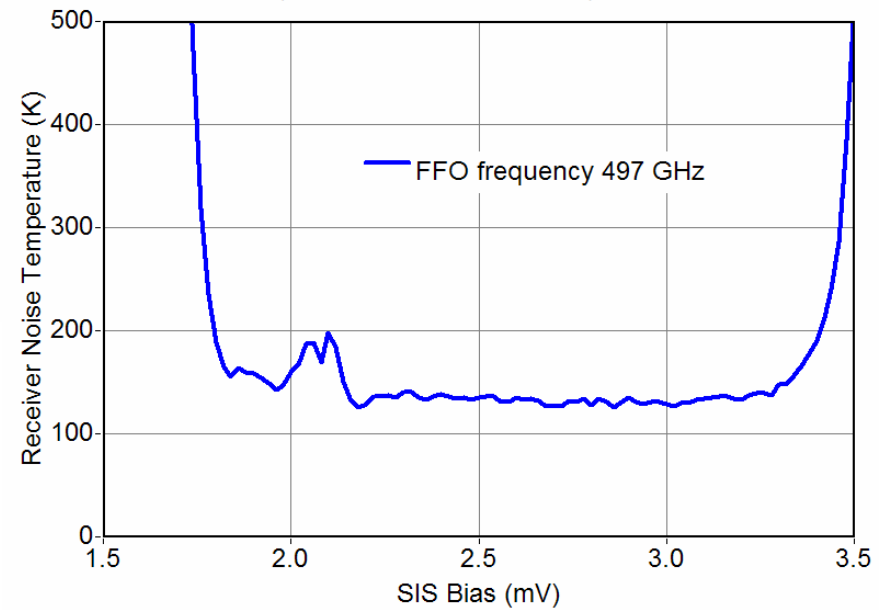


# SIR Noise Temperature on Intermediate Frequency and SIS Bias

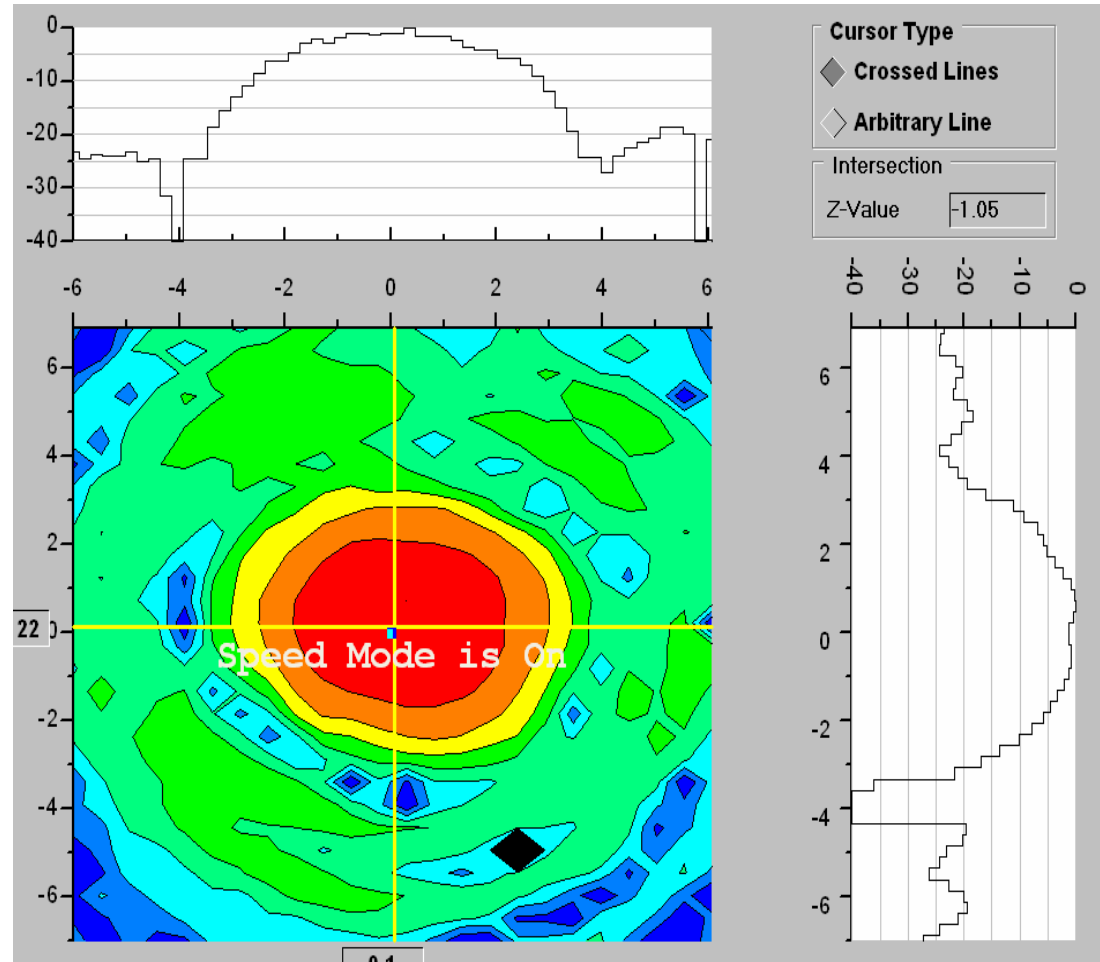
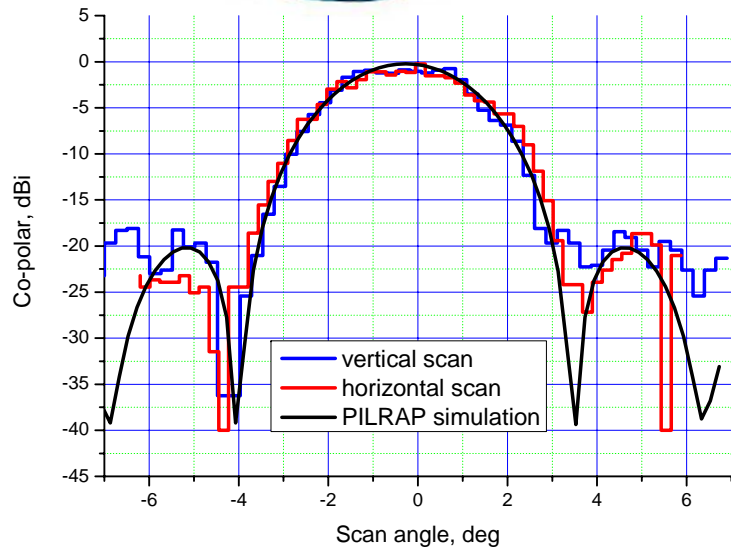
(T4m-093-05f, 14-Dec-2007)



(T4m-093-05f, 30-Mar-2008)

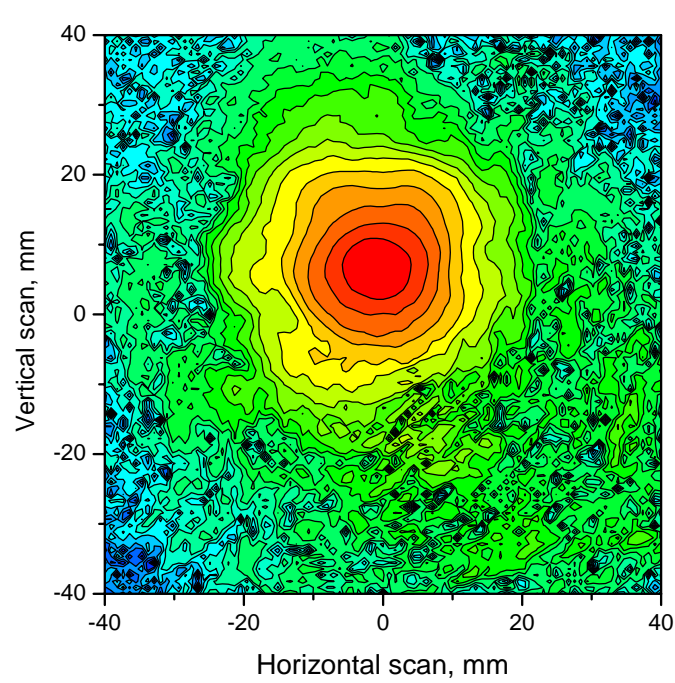
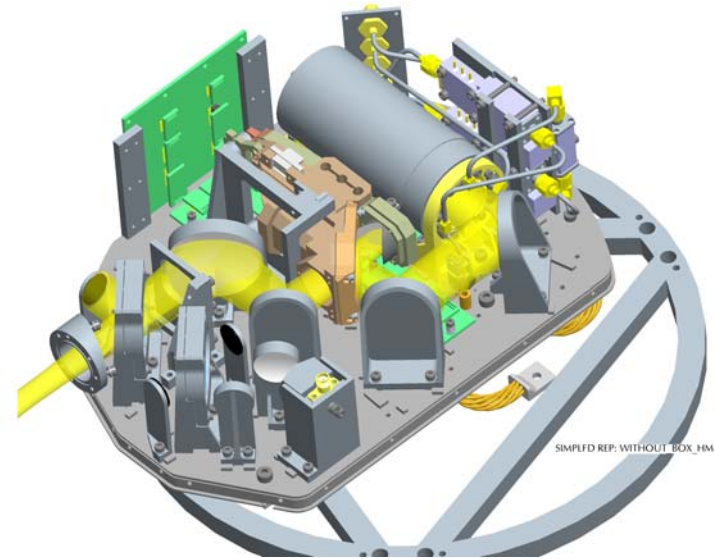


# Antenna-Lens Beam Pattern of the SIR at 625 GHz

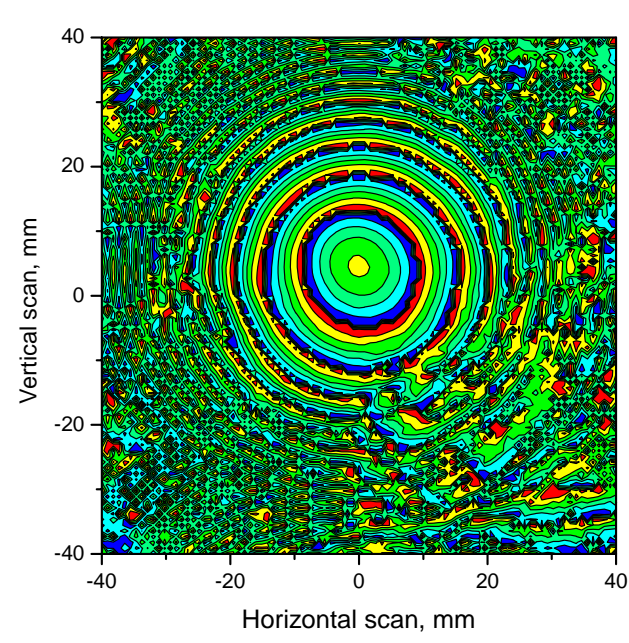




# Amplitude and phase APB of the SIR with cold optics

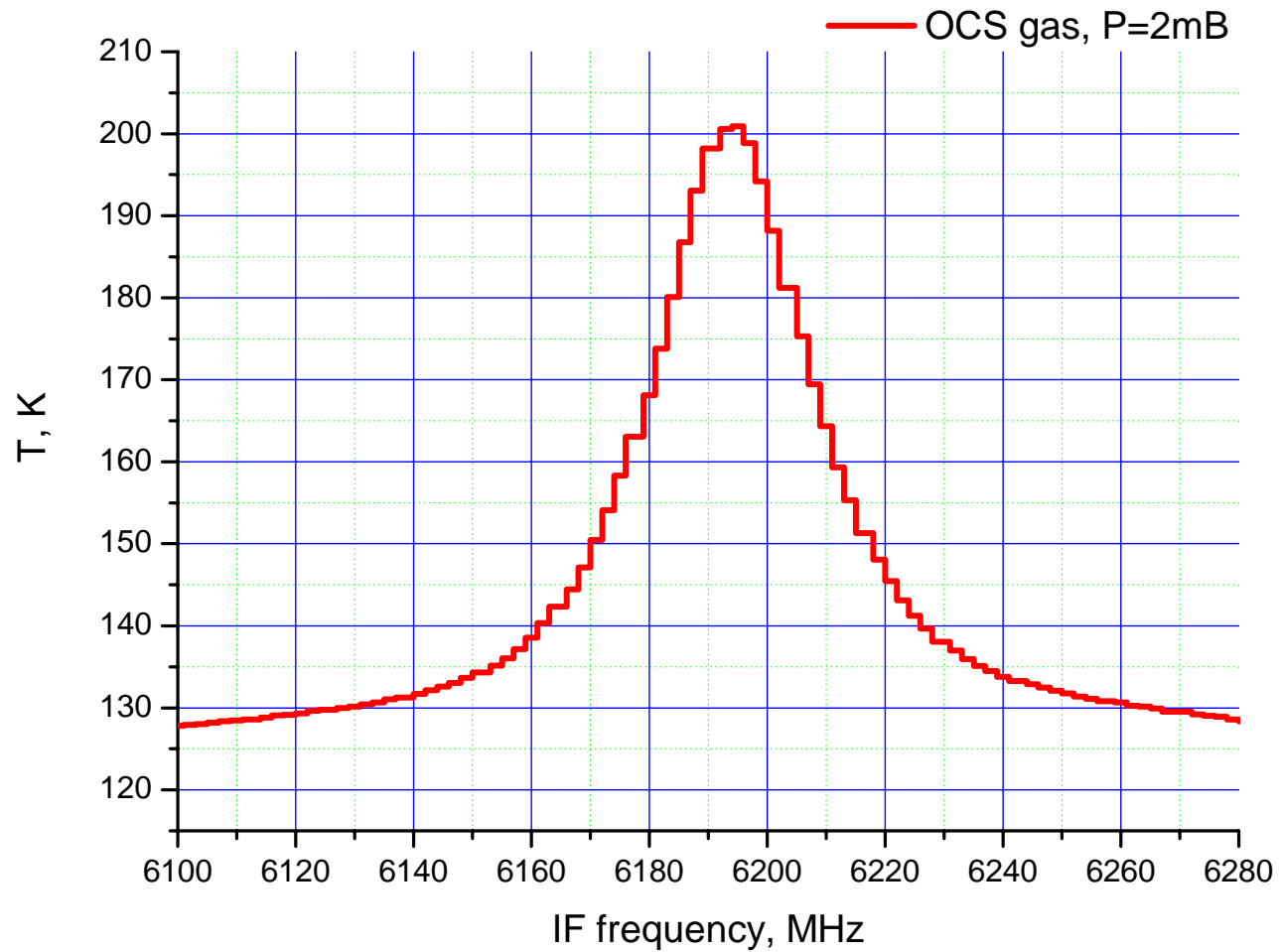


**Amplitude**

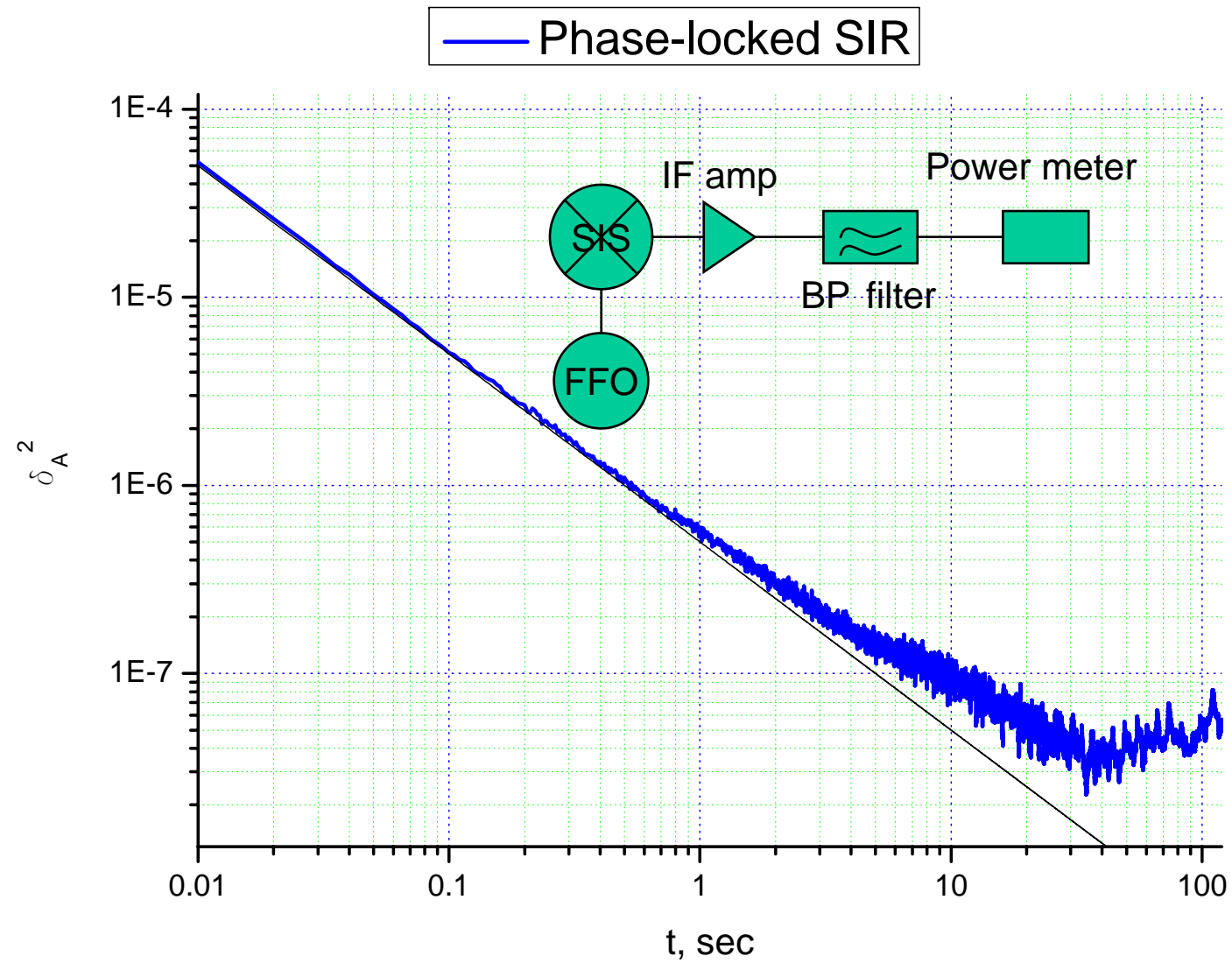


**Phase**

# Gas cell measurements; resolution determined by DAC



# SIR Stability: Allan variance test



# 30-cm POrtable Submillimeter Telescope (POST) *Purple Mountain Observatory; Nanjing.* Site: Delingha of Qinghai province (*altitude ~3200 m*)



2-stage GM type;  
cooling capacity –  
0.1 W;  
compressor – 42 kg;  
power consumption  
- 1.2 kW

# ESPRIT – Exploratory Submm Space Radio-Interferometric Telescope

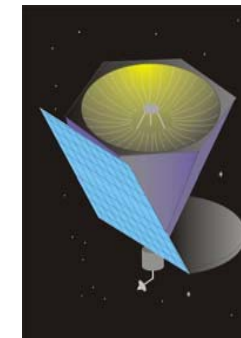
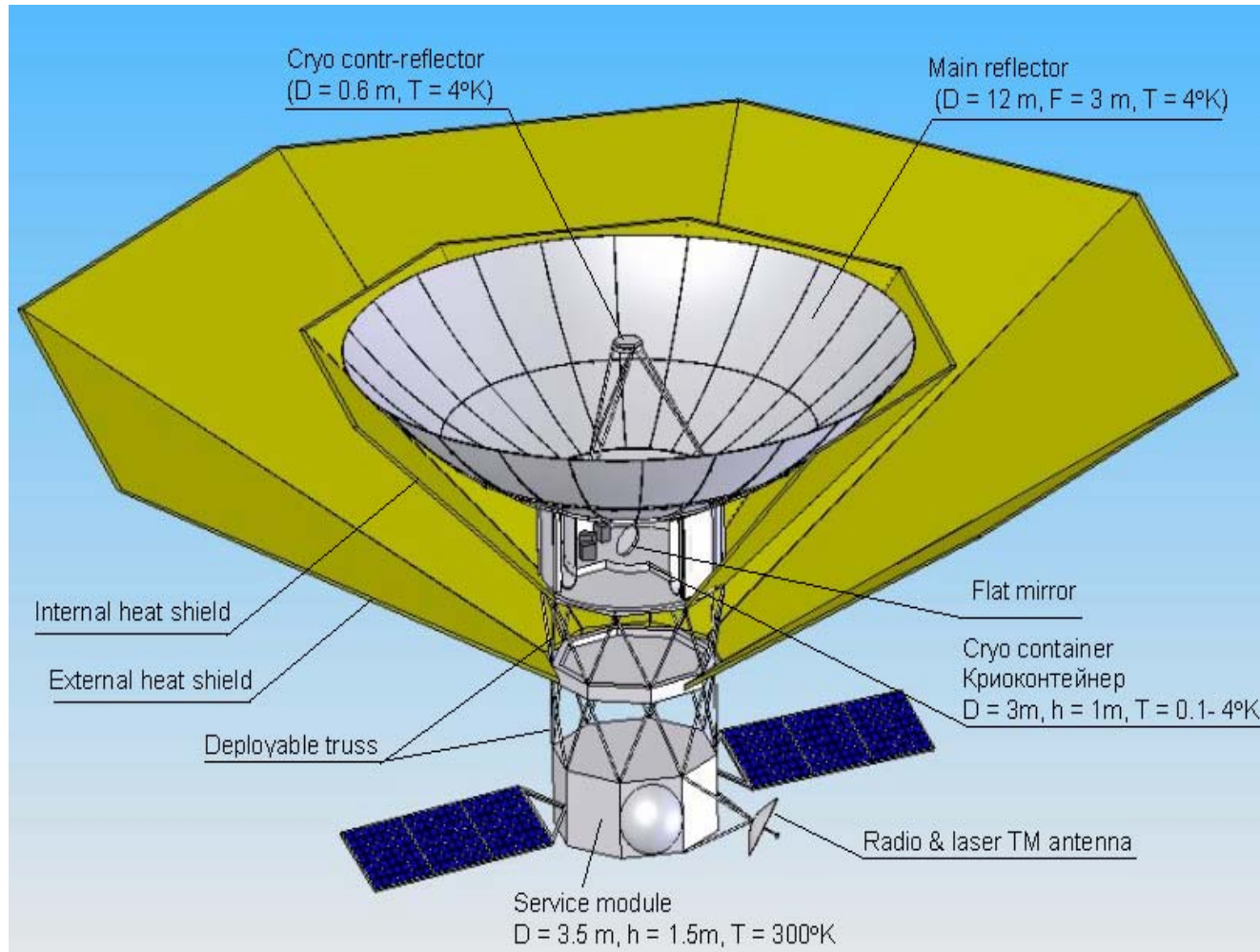


The six elements of  
ESPRIT in an Ariane 5

- Telescope sizes ~ 3.5 meter ; off-axis
- Number of elements  $N = 6$  (15 baselines)
- Projected baselines 200 - 1000 meter
- Frequencies:  
Spots in the range 0.5 – 6 THz
- Front Ends -  
(0.5 – 1.5 THz) SIS mixers, multiplier LO /  
**SIR = FFO + SIS + HM**  
(1.5 – 6 THz) HEB mixers, QCL as LO
- System temperature < 1000 K
- IF bandwidth > 4 GHz (goal 8 GHz)

# “Millimetron” – Russian Space Agency (> 2017)

## 12 m cryogenic mirror; $\lambda = 0,01- 20$ mm.



↕ Ground-space interferometer



# Conclusion

- Concept of the **Phase-locked SIR** is developed and tested.
- **Nb-AlN-NbN** FFO and SIR have been successfully implemented.
- Improved design of the FFO for TELIS has been developed and optimized; free-running **linewidth** from **1 to 10 MHz** recorded in the frequency range **350 – 740 GHz** that allows to phase lock from **35 up to 95 %** of the FFO power.
- 3-rd generation of the PL SIR for TELIS has been developed showing a possibility to realize **TELIS** requirements:  
Frequency range **500 – 650 ГГц**; Noise Temperature **< 150 K**;  
**IF** bandwidth **4 - 8 ГГц**; Spectral resolution better **1 МГц**;  
Beam Pattern - **FWHM = 3 deg**, with sidelobes **< - 17 dB**.  
Procedure for remote optimization of the PL SIR operation has been developed and experimentally proven.
- **First TELIS flight** is scheduled on **May 26, 2008 (Terezina, Brazil)**.
- **Future space** missions are under consideration.