



Center for Quantum Technologies of NNSTU

Institute for Physics of Microstructures of RAS

Cold-Electron Bolometers for Radio Astronomy Missions

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S. Masi⁴ and P. de Bernardis⁴

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4 La Sapienza University, Rome

Moscow,
2021

Investigation of cosmic microwave background



Planck (2009-2013): NEP $\sim 2 \cdot 10^{-17}$ W/Hz $^{1/2}$, 100 mK

Maximal estimates of B-mode ~ 0.1 μ K

COrE (2015-2025): NEP $\sim 10^{-18}$ W/Hz $^{1/2}$, 100 mK

Problems of deep cooling in space

Temperatures of order 100 mK and below are a serious challenge for space applications since the conventional closed-cycle dilution refrigerators require gravity for their operation. In particular, the open-cycle dilution refrigerator (OCDR) aboard the Planck satellite operated in zero gravity by ejecting the $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ mixture into space. The lifetime of this OCDR with 0.1 μW of cooling power at 100 mK was about two years. Instruments aboard future space missions such as SPICA and CORe require higher cooling powers of the order 1–3 μW at 100 mK and longer operating times of about five years.

Observation of photon noise by cold-electron bolometers

A. V. Gordeeva,^{1,2,3,a)} V. O. Zbrozhek,¹ A. L. Pankratov,^{1,2,3} L. S. Revin,^{1,2,3}

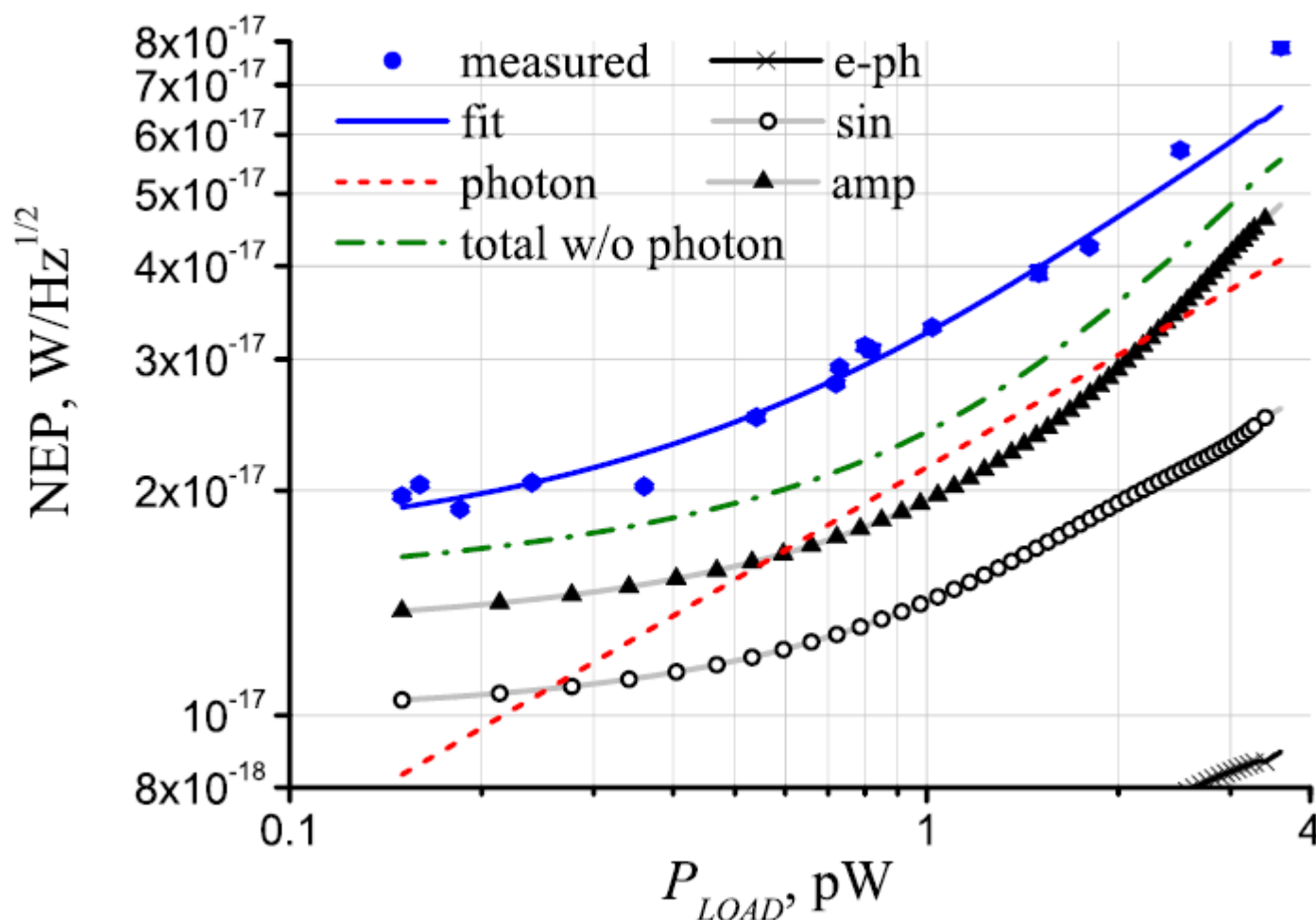
V. A. Shamporov,^{1,2,3} A. A. Gunbina,¹ and L. S. Kuzmin^{1,4}

¹Nizhny Novgorod State Technical University n.a. R.E. Alekseev, GSP-41, Nizhny Novgorod 603950, Russia

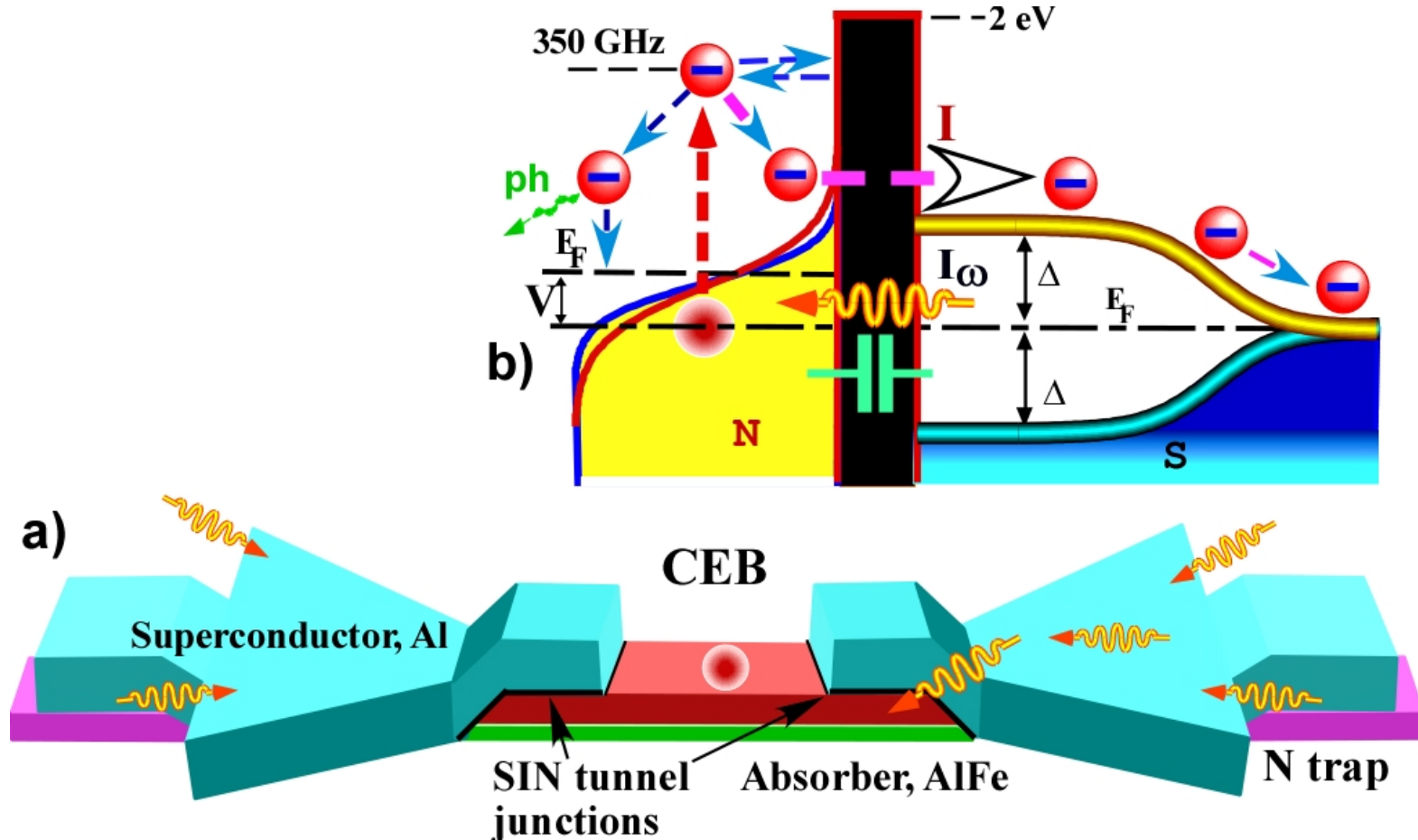
²Institute for Physics of Microstructures of RAS, GSP-105, Nizhny Novgorod 603950, Russia

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Cold-Electron Bolometers for Radio Astronomy



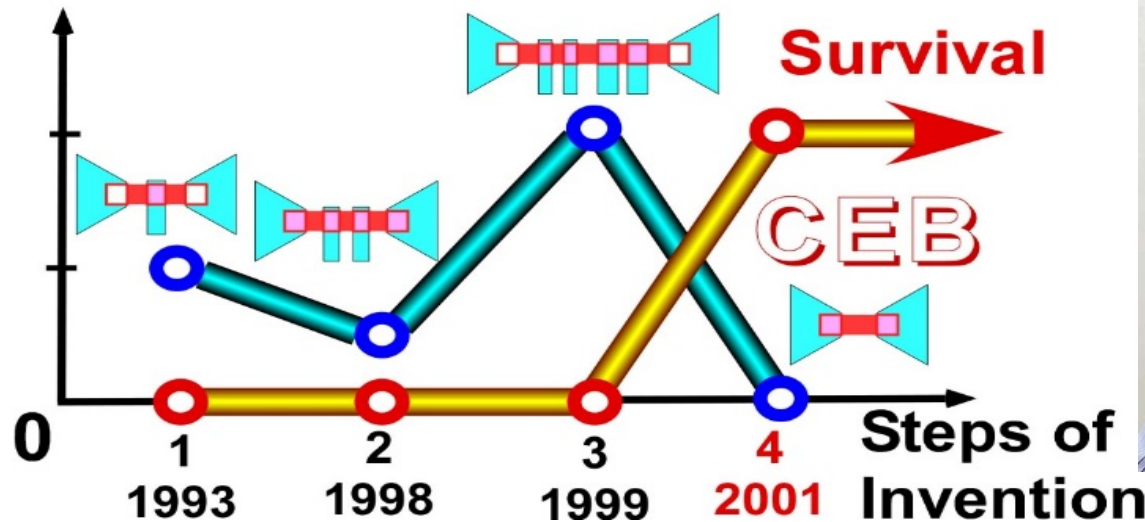
Tunnel SIN junctions perform 4 functions:

- 1) capacitive AC connection, 2) thermal isolation, 3) thermometry
4) electron cooling.**

Comment in **Nature Research Communities** blog [BEHIND THE PAPER](https://astronomycommunity.nature.com/channels/1490-behind-the-paper/posts/53529-story-of-the-invention-of-a-cold-electron-bolometer)
with CEB progress description
«**Story of the Invention of a Cold-Electron Bolometer**»

<https://astronomycommunity.nature.com/channels/1490-behind-the-paper/posts/53529-story-of-the-invention-of-a-cold-electron-bolometer>

Complexity & Awkwardness



4. Cold-Electron Bolometer (CEB) with SIN tunnel junctions as the thermometer, electron cooler, RF capacitive coupling and thermal isolation. L. Kuzmin (2002).

A strained silicon cold electron bolometer using Schottky contacts

T. L. R. Brien,^{1,a)} P. A. R. Ade,¹ P. S. Barry,¹ C. Dunscombe,¹ D. R. Leadley,² D. V. Morozov,¹ M. Myronov,² E. H. C. Parker,² M. J. Prest,² M. Prunnila,³ R. V. Sudiwala,¹ T. E. Whall,² and P. D. Mauskopf^{1,4}

¹*School of Physics and Astronomy, Cardiff University, Queen's Buildings, The Parade, Cardiff CF24 3AA, United Kingdom*

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³*VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland, P.O. Box 1000, FI-02044 VTT Espoo, Finland*


⁴*Department of Physics and School of Earth and Space Exploration, Arizona State University, 650 E. Tyler Mall, Tempe, Arizona 85287, USA*

(Received 20 May 2014; accepted 23 July 2014; published online 31 July 2014)

J Low Temp Phys (2016) 184:231–237
DOI 10.1007/s10909-016-1569-x



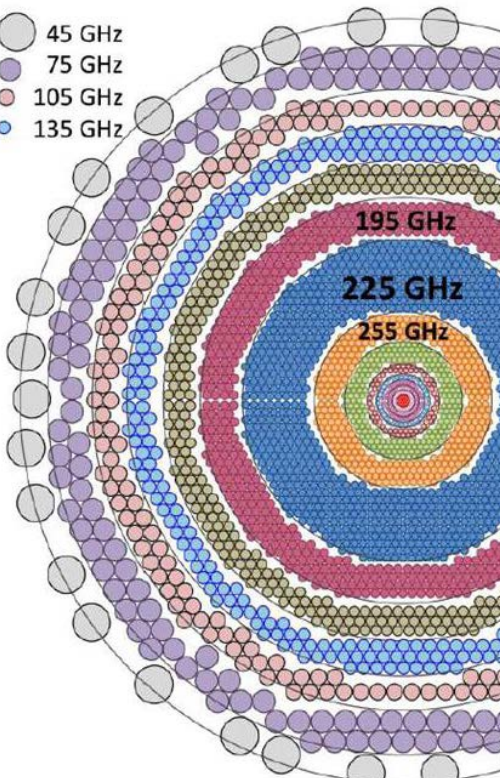
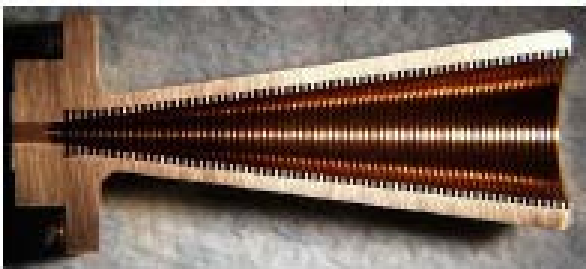
Optical Response of Strained- and Unstrained-Silicon Cold-Electron Bolometers

T. L. R. Brien¹  · P. A. R. Ade¹ · P. S. Barry¹ · C. J. Dunscombe¹ · D. R. Leadley² · D. V. Morozov¹ · M. Myronov² · E. H. C. Parker² · M. J. Prest³ · M. Prunnila⁴ · R. V. Sudiwala¹ · T. E. Whall² · P. D. Mauskopf^{1,5}

Shortcomings of current technologies:

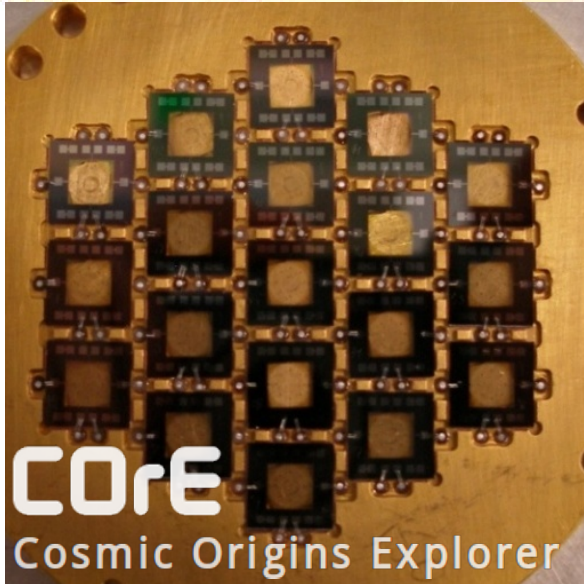
Focal plane of Planck mission

Focal plane of COrE mission



| Central Frequency (GHz) | Bandwidth (GHz) | Angular Resolution (arcmin) | Q&U Sensitivity ($\mu\text{K} \cdot \text{arcmin}$) | Out of band Rejection (above 1THz) | Beam Ellipticity (% @ -3dB) | Cross - polarisation (dB) |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|---|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 45 | 15 | 23.3 | 9.0 | > 120 dB | < 1% | < -30 dB |
| 75 | 15 | 14 | 4.7 | > 120 dB | < 1% | < -30 dB |
| 105 | 15 | 10 | 4.6 | > 120 dB | < 1% | < -30 dB |
| 135 | 15 | 7.8 | 4.5 | > 120 dB | < 1% | < -30 dB |
| 165 | 15 | 6.4 | 4.6 | > 120 dB | < 1% | < -30 dB |
| 195 | 15 | 5.4 | 4.5 | > 120 dB | < 1% | < -30 dB |
| 225 | 15 | 4.7 | 4.5 | > 120 dB | < 1% | < -30 dB |
| 255 | 15 | 4.1 | 10.4 | > 120 dB | < 1% | < -30 dB |
| 285 | 15 | 3.7 | 17 | > 120 dB | < 1% | < -30 dB |
| 315 | 15 | 3.3 | 46 | > 120 dB | < 1% | < -30 dB |
| 375 | 15 | 2.8 | 117 | > 120 dB | < 1% | < -30 dB |
| 435 | 15 | 2.4 | 255 | > 120 dB | < 1% | < -30 dB |
| 555 | 195 | 1.9 | 589 | > 120 dB | < 1% | < -30 dB |
| 675 | 195 | 1.6 | 3420 | > 120 dB | < 1% | < -30 dB |
| 795 | 195 | 1.3 | 20881 | > 120 dB | < 1% | < -30 dB |

The total optical efficiency shall be larger than 50% (TBC). This includes any (quasi-optical) filter, lens/reflector spillover loss etc, and include the (bolometer) coupling.



Receiving system for OLIMPO 350 GHz



Requirements:

Focal plain power:

Band 3 – 38 pW (photometr), 66 pW (spectrometer)

Frequency band: 330-360 GHz

Ratio of photon noise power to the self-noise of detector: 1.5-2 or more

Bias regime: current bias

Amplifier noise:

Voltage: $5 \text{ nV/Hz}^{1/2}$

Current: $15 \text{ fA/Hz}^{1/2}$

Detector working temperature: 300 mK



Cryostat Triton 200

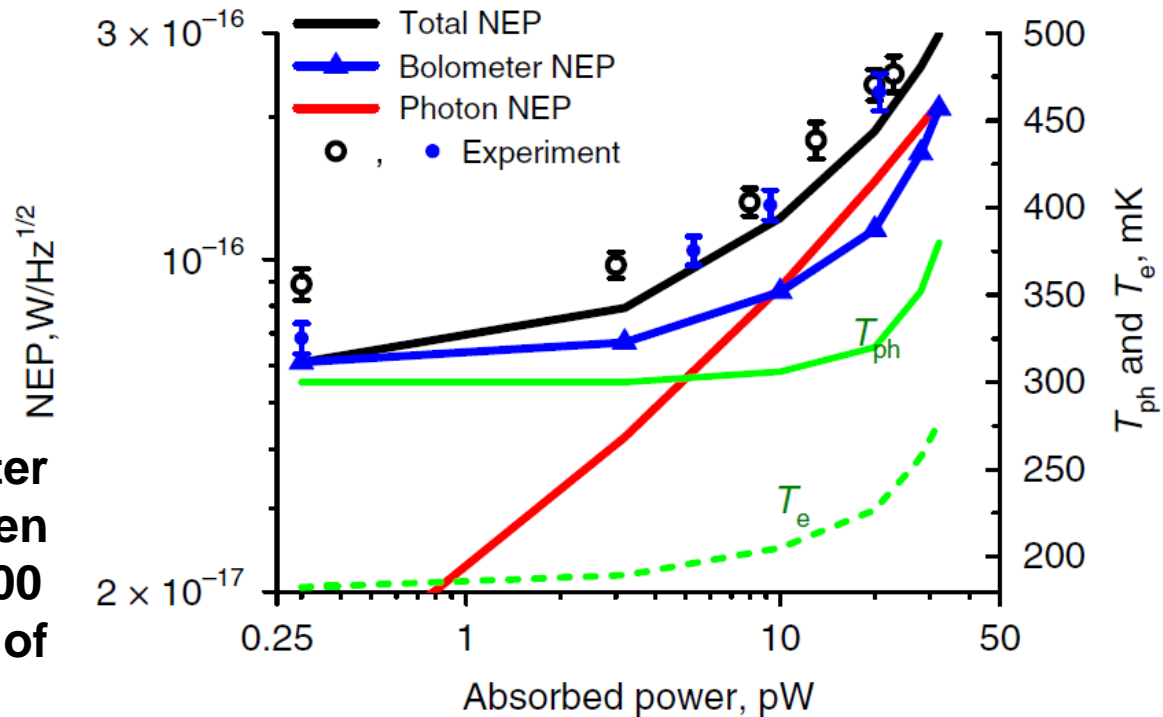
Heating of BB source, attached to **4 K** plate, up to **58 K** at stabilized low plate temperature of **0.3 K** allows to perform tests with a high power load up to 50pW

Moving of BB source to **1 K** plate allows to greatly improve NEP and responsivity due to less background power, but then only **12 K** BB temperature can be reached.



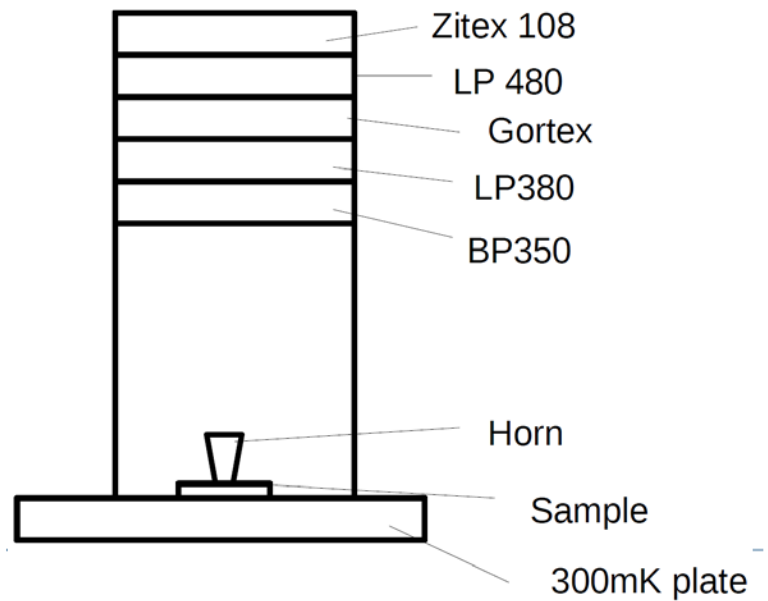
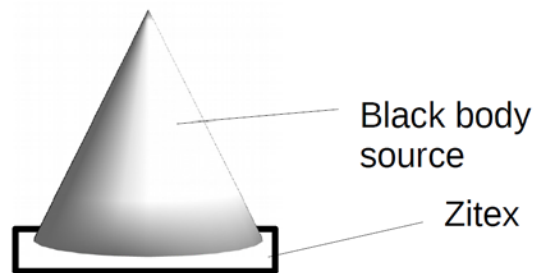
A. Paiella *et al* JCAP01(2019)039

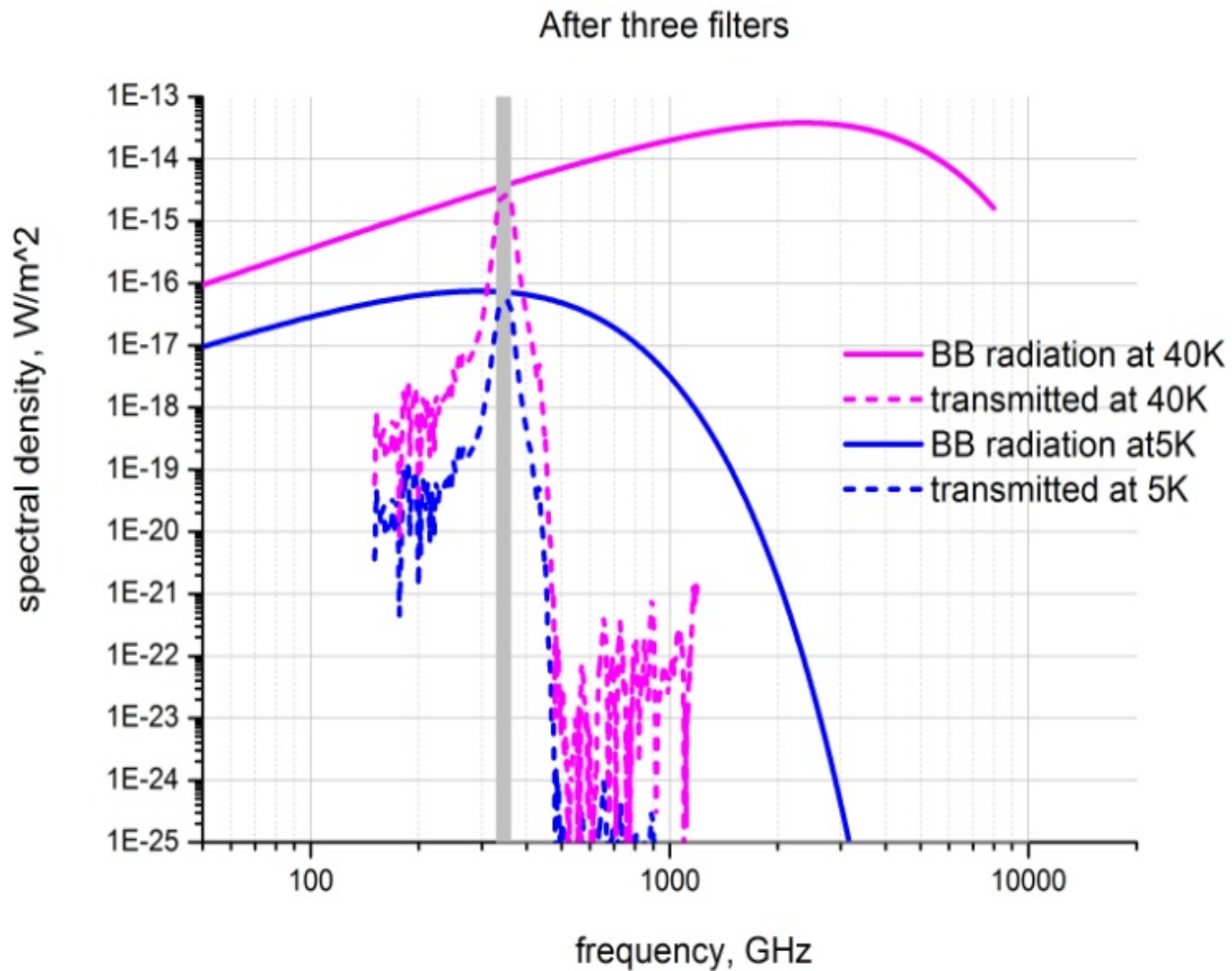
| OLIMPO configuration | Photometric | | | | Spectrometric | | | |
|---|-------------|-----|-----|-----|---------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Channel [GHz] | 150 | 250 | 350 | 460 | 150 | 250 | 350 | 460 |
| Background Power [pW] | 2.7 | 14 | 4.9 | 13 | 7.6 | 50 | 15 | 33 |
| optical NEP $\left[\text{aW}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}\right]$ | 65 | 140 | 90 | 140 | 110 | 260 | 160 | 240 |



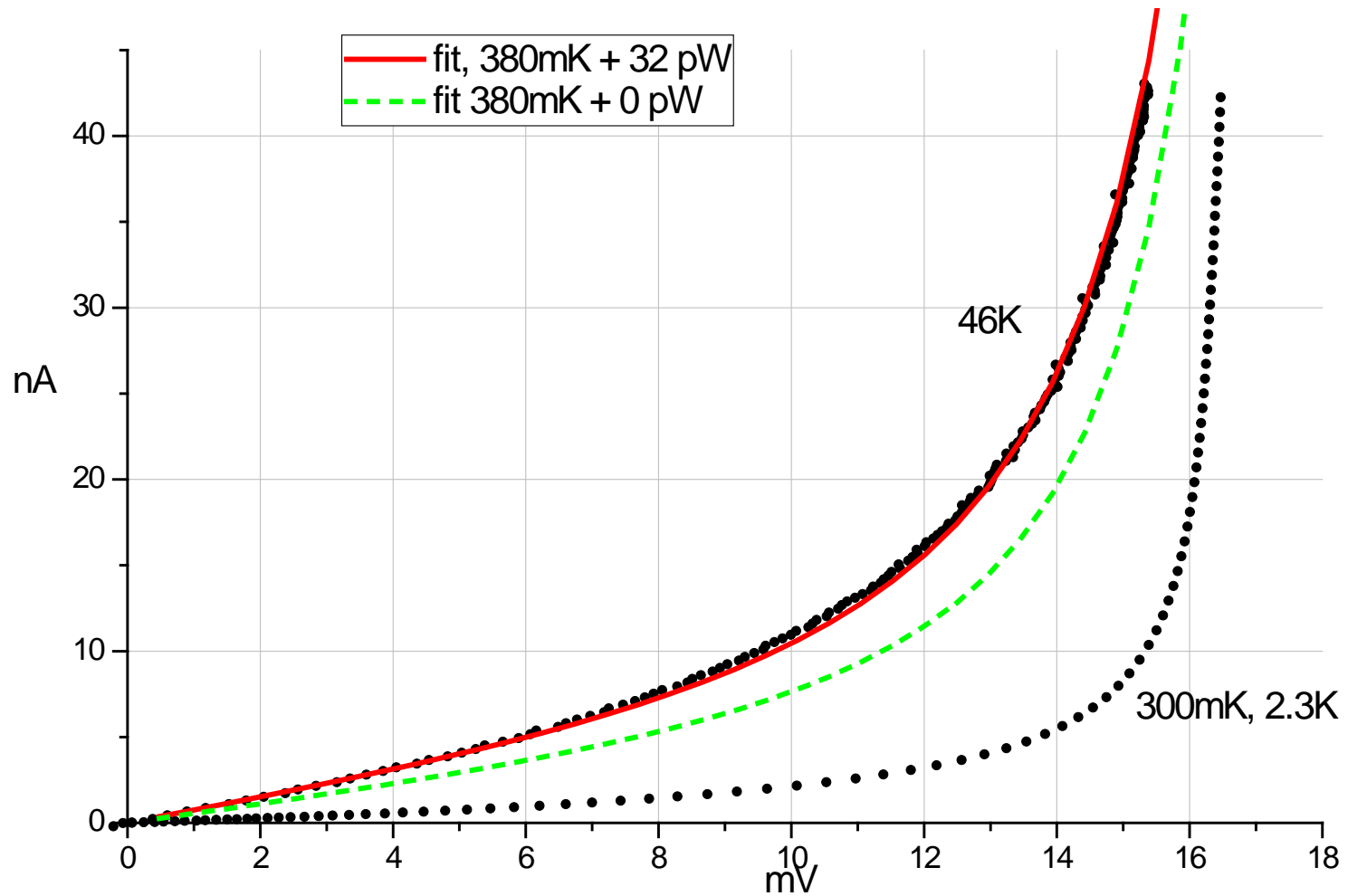
With a cold-electron bolometer the required NEP has been reached at **310 mK** in Triton 200 dry cryostat in spite of compressors, pumps, etc.







**Bandwidth of 3 filters LP 480, LP 380 и BP 350,
fabricated in Cardiff.**



Current-voltage characteristics of CEB at various black-body temperatures. The temperature of the chip is precisely controlled by the on-chip thermometer.



COMMUNICATIONS PHYSICS

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ARTICLE

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s42005-019-0206-9>

OPEN

Photon-noise-limited cold-electron bolometer based on strong electron self-cooling for high-performance cosmology missions

L.S. Kuzmin^{1,2}, A.L. Pankratov^{2,3}, A.V. Gordeeva^{2,3}, V.O. Zbrozhek², V.A. Shamporov^{2,3}, L.S. Revin^{2,3}, A.V. Blagodatkin^{2,3}, S. Masi⁴ & P. de Bernardis⁴

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s42005-019-0206-9>





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Photon-noise-limited cold-electron bolometer based on strong electron self-cooling for high-performance cosmology missions

A scanning electron microscope image of the Cold-Electron Bolometer with on-chip self-cooling, integrated into a gold antenna. Credit: Leonid Kuzmin

Announcement

Travel Grant for Early Career Researchers

Early Careers and no funds to attend your dream conference? Applications are now open for grants to support travel in 2020.



Announcement

Dario Bercioux joins our Editorial Board

A warm welcome to our new Editorial Board Member Dario Bercioux. Dario will work with the journal editors in... [show more](#)



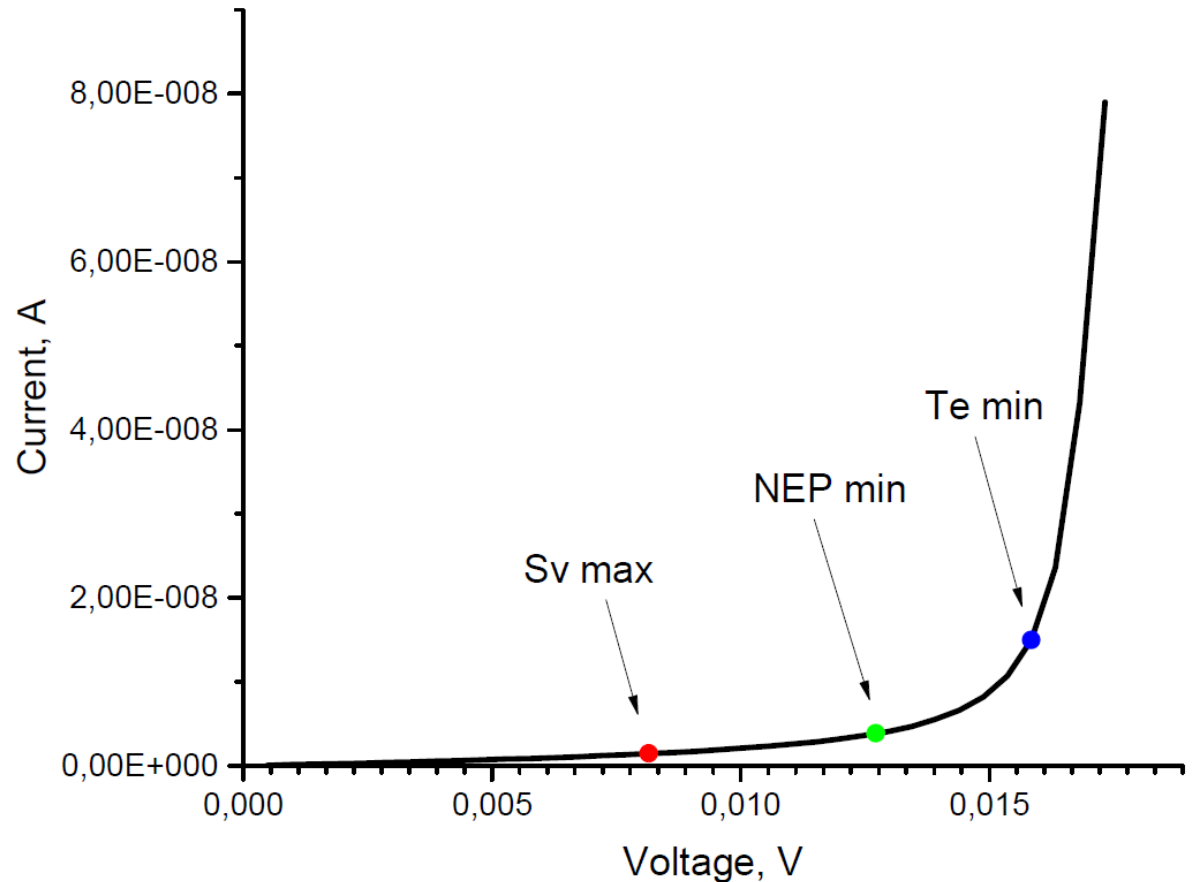
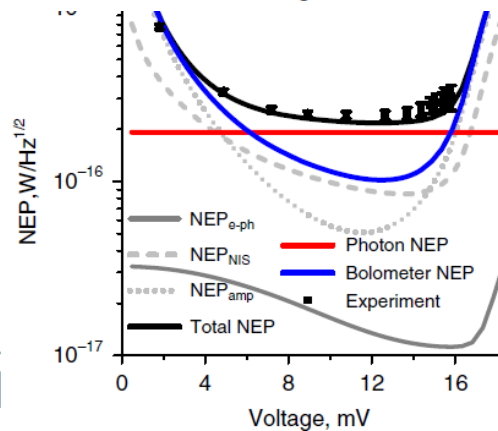
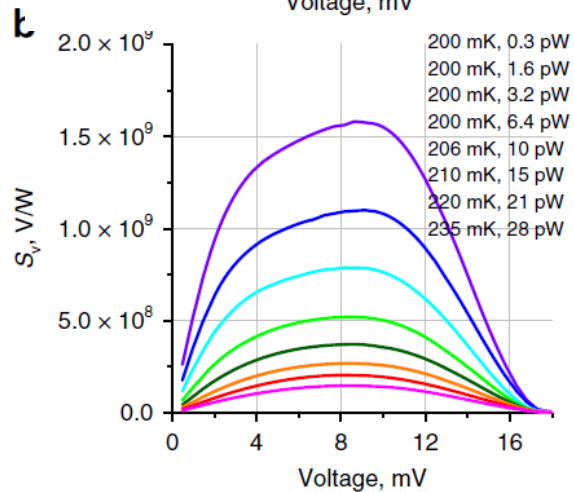
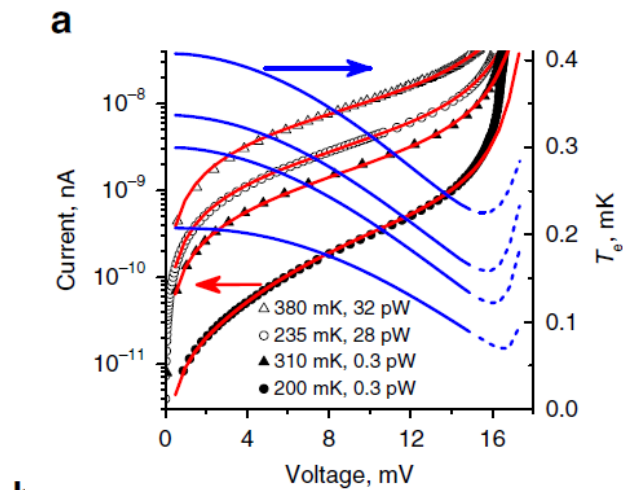
Announcement

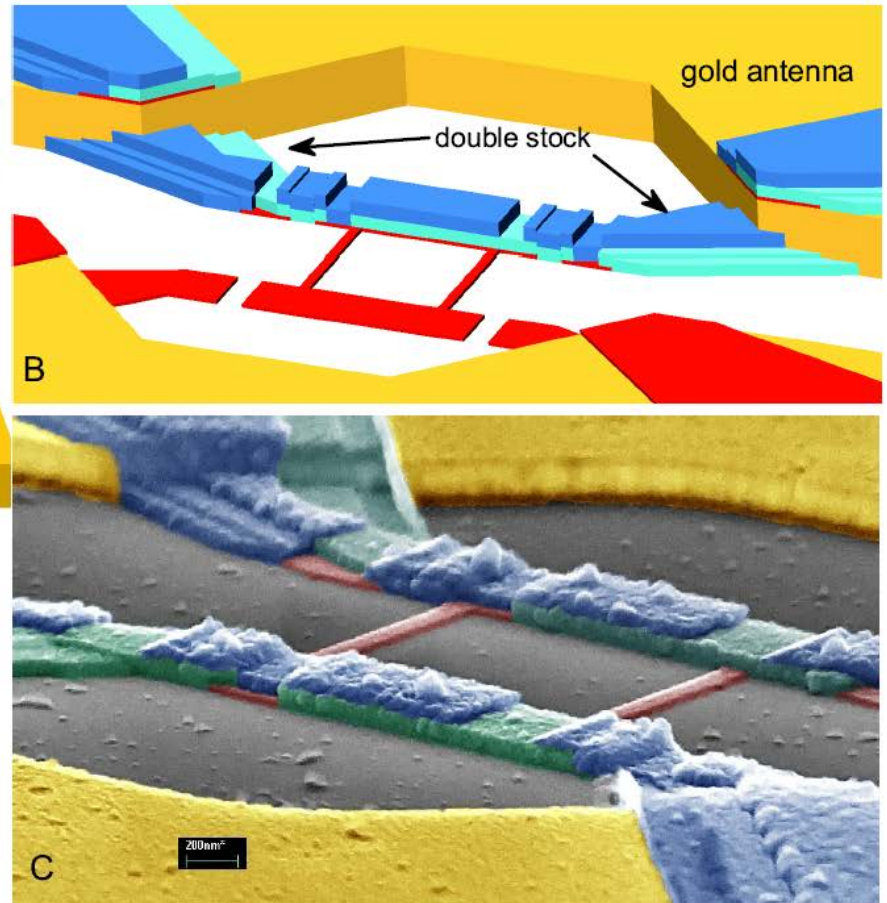
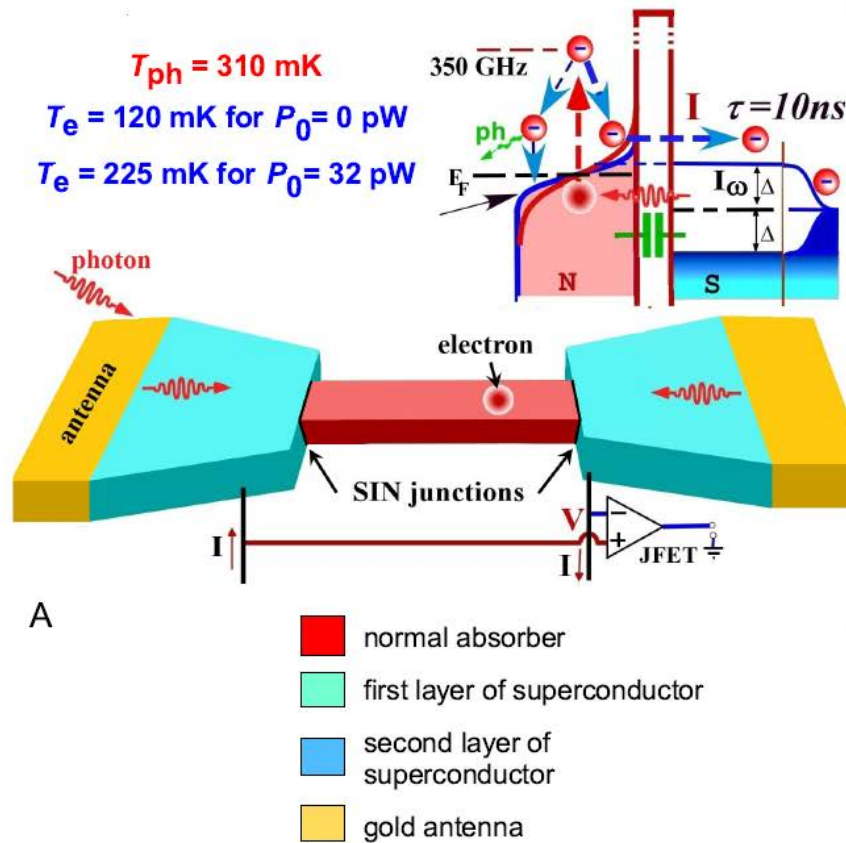
Carl Ganter is our reviewer of the month

Carl Ganter provided an exceptionally thorough review, stretching to verify the calculations presented in the paper.

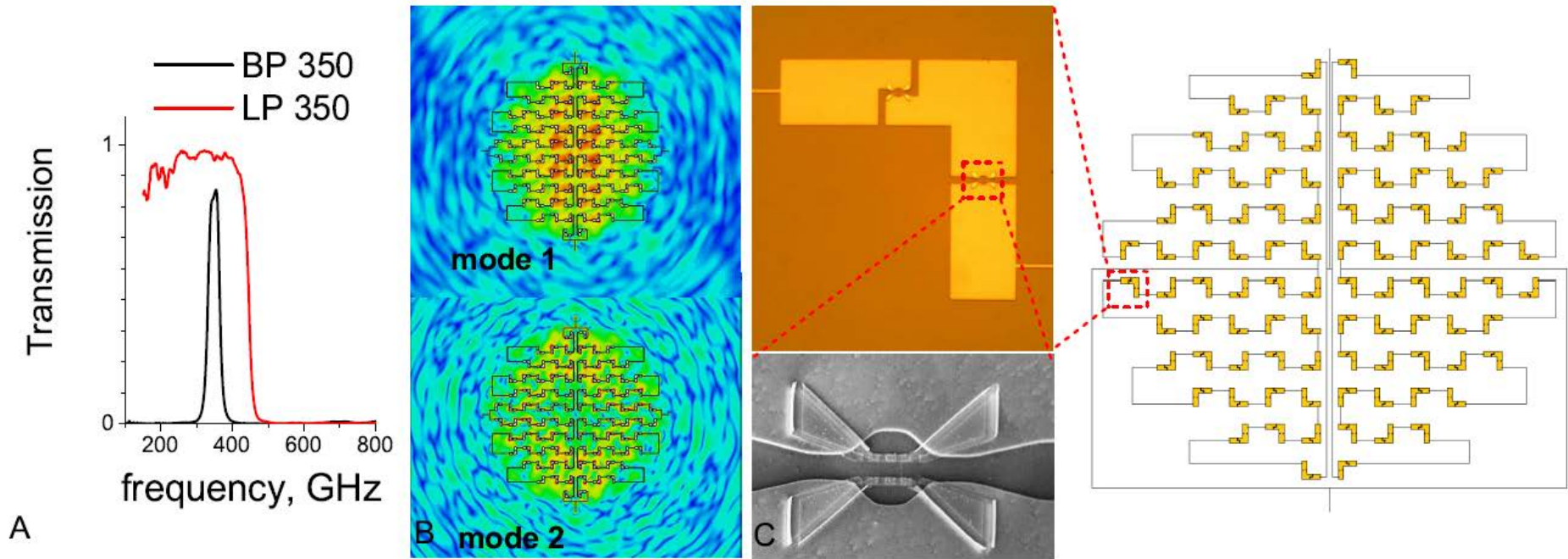


Effective electron cooling decreases NEP





L.S. Kuzmin, A.L. Pankratov, A.V. Gordeeva, V.O. Zbrozhek, V.A. Shamporov, L.S. Revin, A.V. Blagodatkin, S. Masi, P. de Bernardis, [Photon-noise-limited cold-electron bolometer based on strong electron self-cooling for high-performance cosmology missions](#), **Comm. Phys.**, 2, 104 (2019).

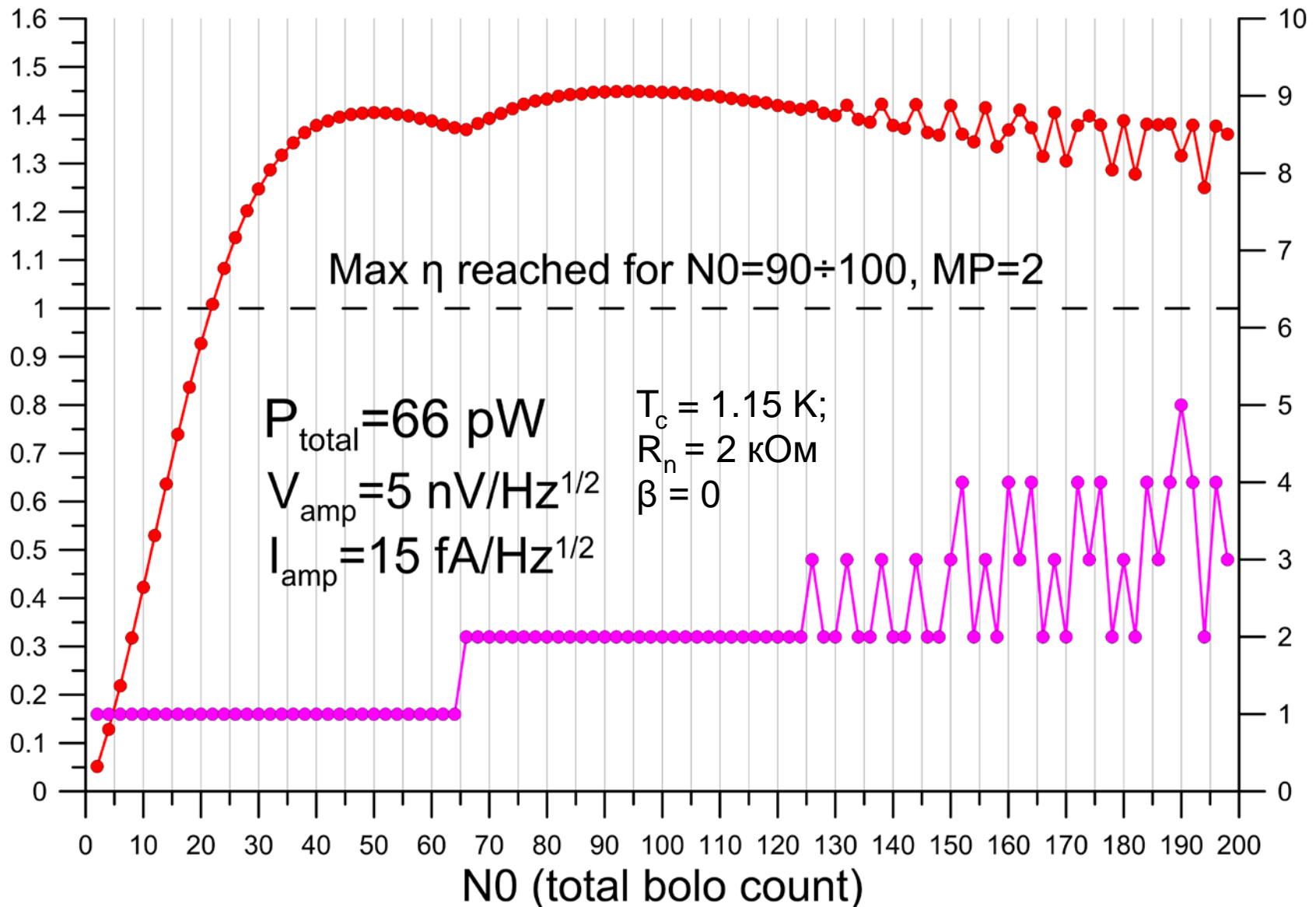


L.S. Kuzmin, A.L. Pankratov, A.V. Gordeeva, V.O. Zbrozhek, V.A. Shamporov, L.S. Revin, A.V. Blagodatkin, S. Masi, P. de Bernardis, **Photon-noise-limited cold-electron bolometer based on strong electron self-cooling for high-performance cosmology missions**, **Comm. Phys.**, 2, 104 (2019).

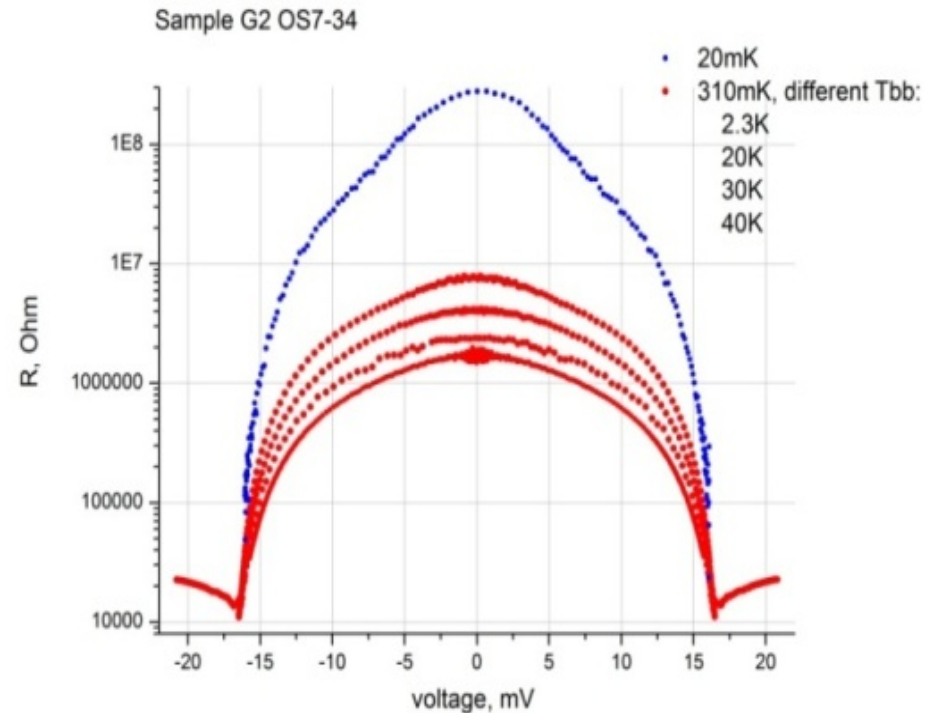
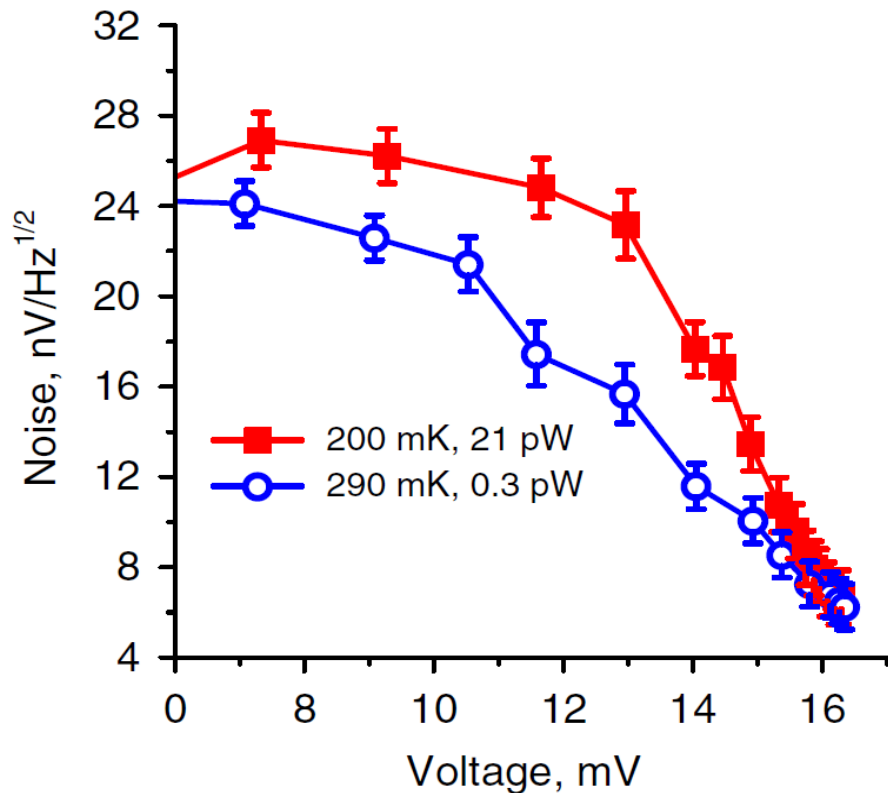
Optimization of the full bolometer number in series-parallel arrays

Max η =(Photon noise) / (other noise)

Optimal MP (number of parallel rows)



Measurements of a single pixel – photon noise contribution



Measurements of a single pixel

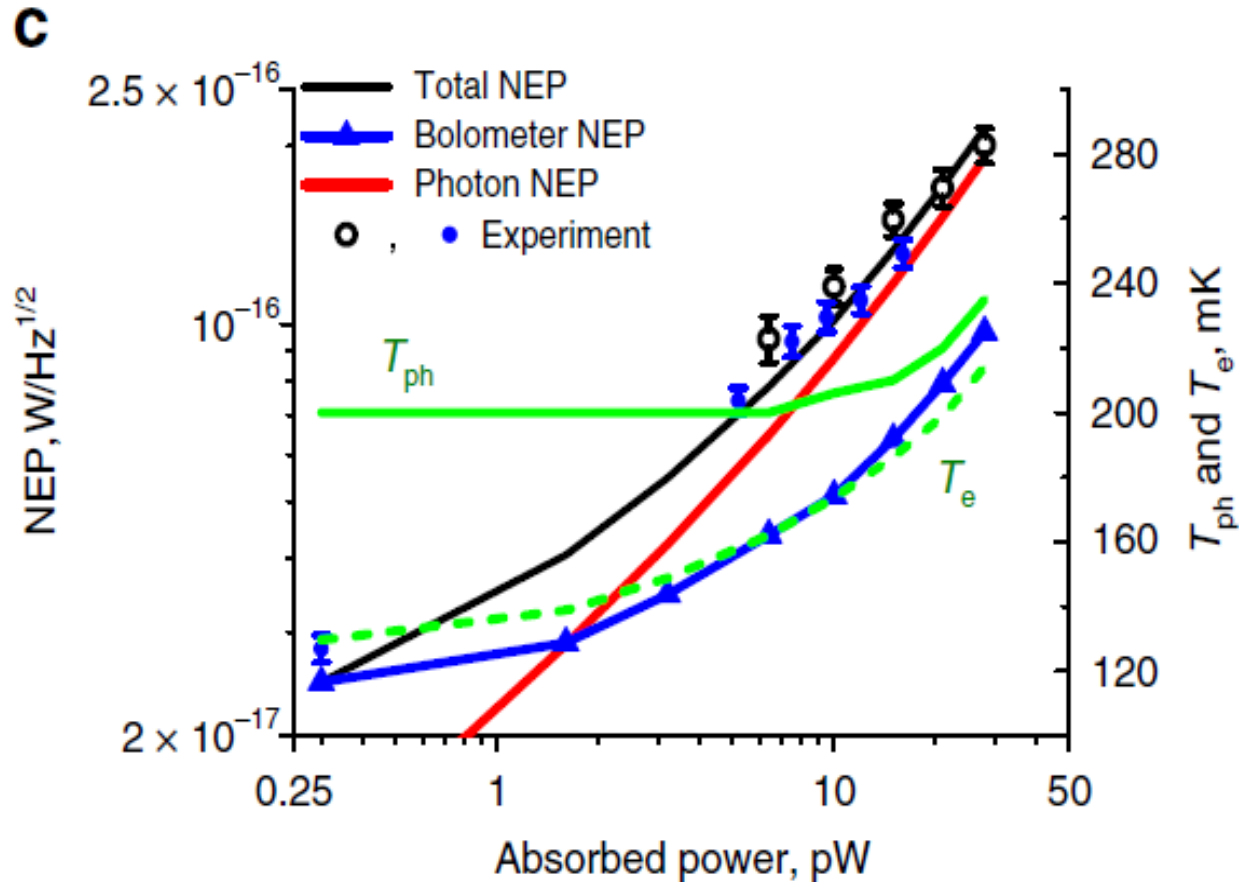
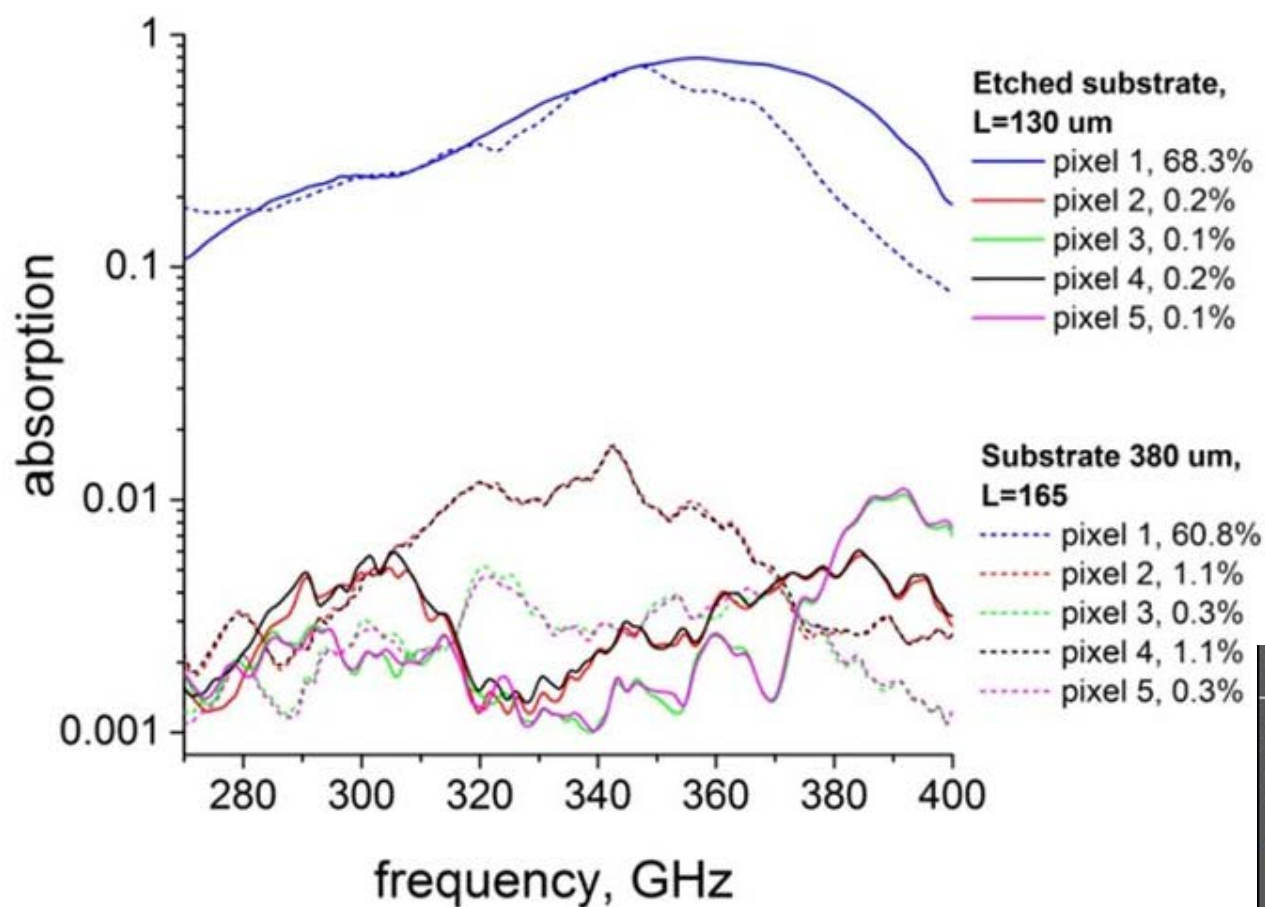


Fig.3c. NEP of the receiver. Red curve - photon NEP described by formula

$$NEP_{ph} = \sqrt{P_0 h f + P_0^2 / \delta f}$$

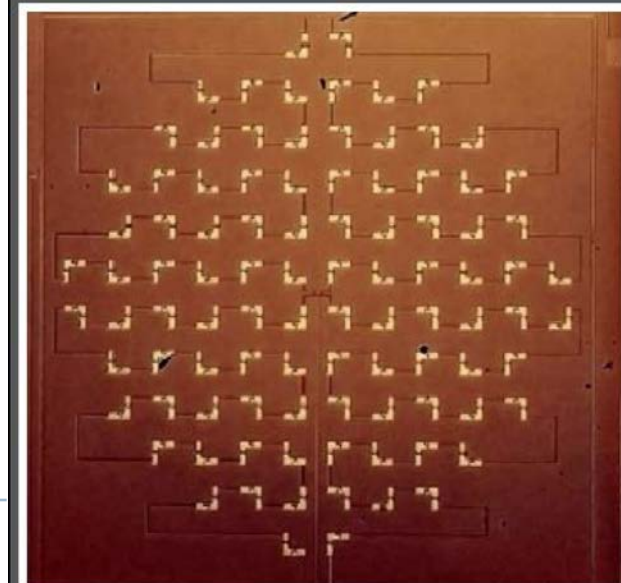


Volume 32 Number 8 August 2019

Featured article

Absorption and cross-talk in a multipixel receiving system with cold electron bolometers

E A Matrozkova, A L Pankratov, A V Gordeeva, A V Chiginev and L S Kuzmin

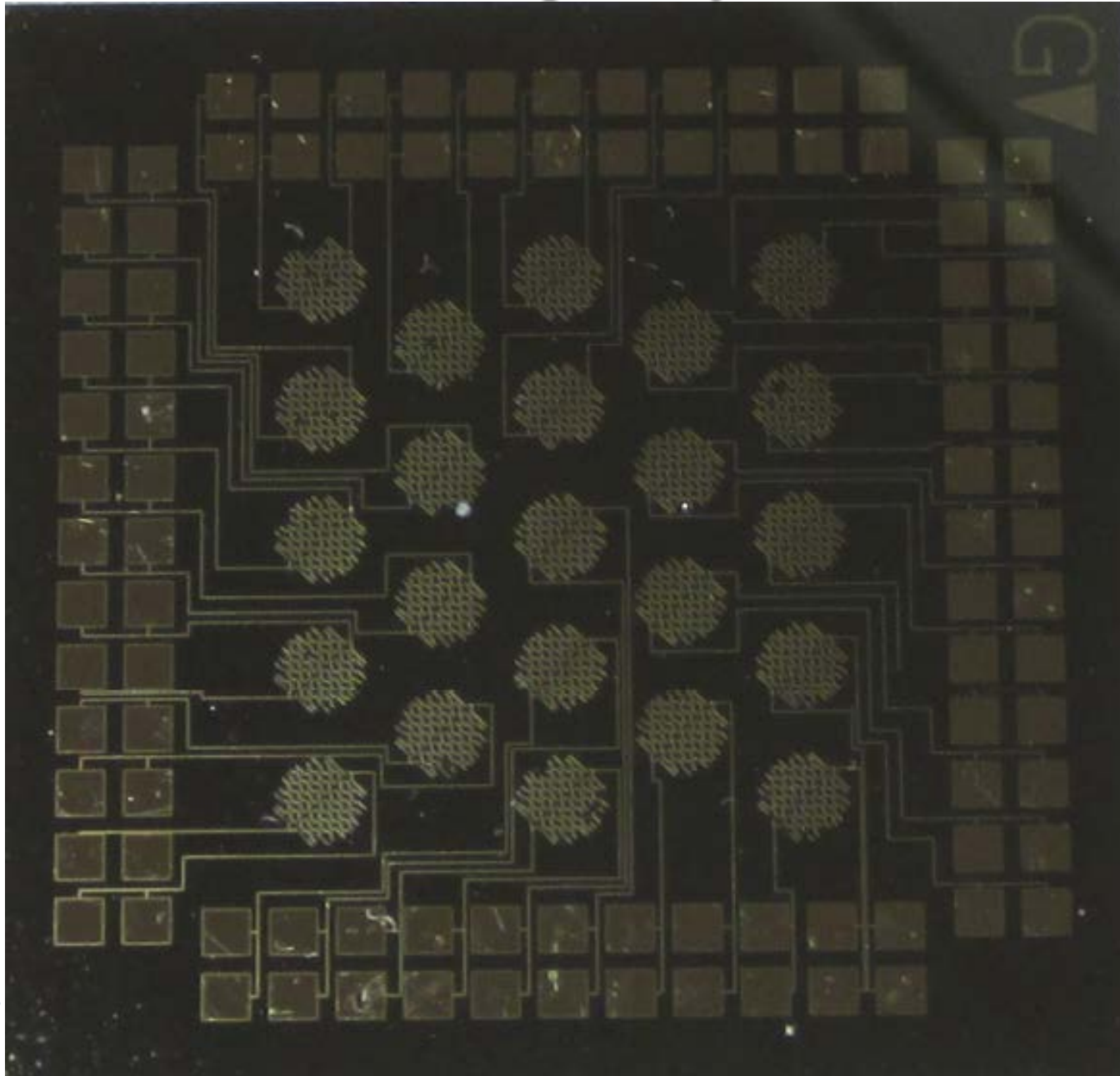


Comparison of $\lambda/2$ and $3\lambda/2$ substrates

Cross-talk in multi-pixel systems

<https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1361-6668/ab151d>

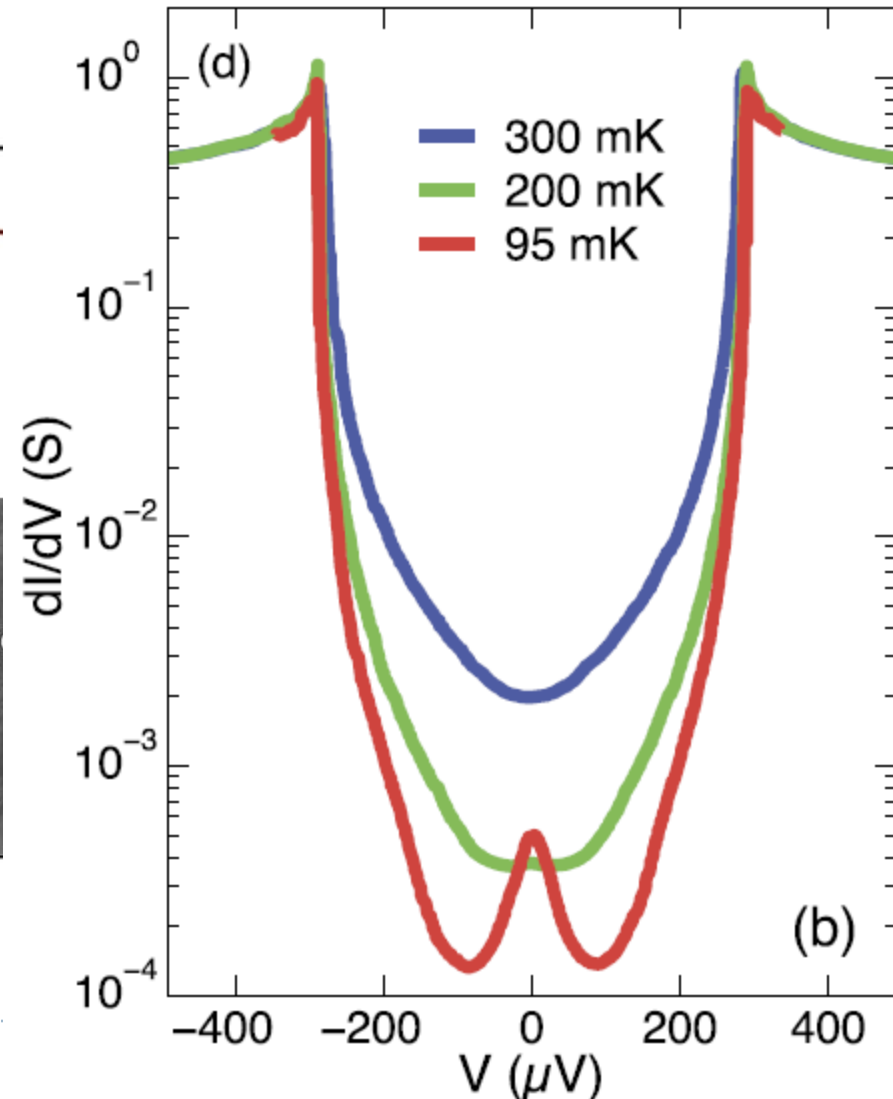
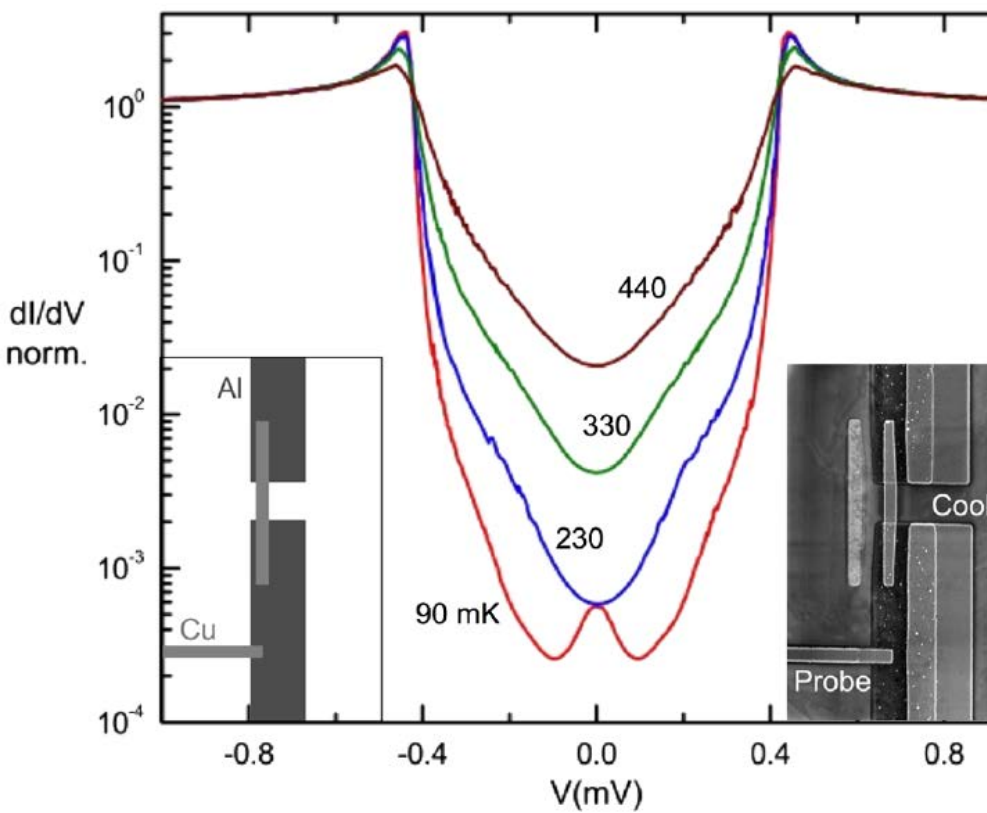
Photo of 23 pixel system



Effect of Andreev current (overheating)

B. J. van Wees, P. de Vries, P. Magnee, T. M. Klapwijk, Phys. Rev. Lett., 69, 510 (1992).

H. Courtois, H. Q. Nguyen, C. B. Winkelmann, J. P. Pekola, Comp. Ren. Phys. 17, 1139 (2016).



Suppression of Andreev current

APPLIED PHYSICS LETTERS **103**, 032602 (2013)



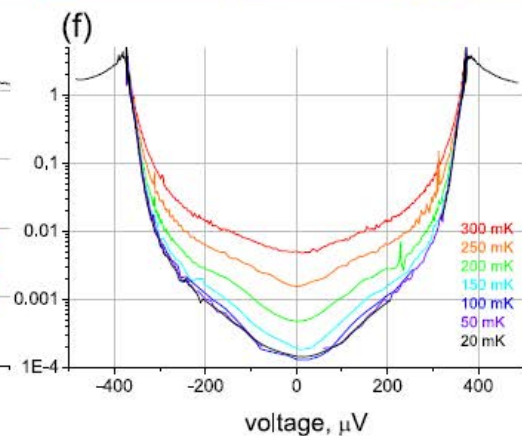
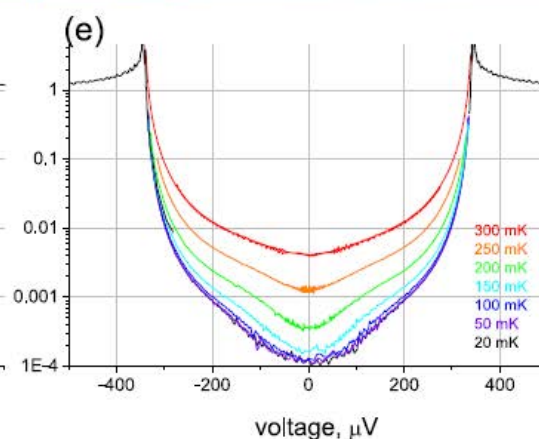
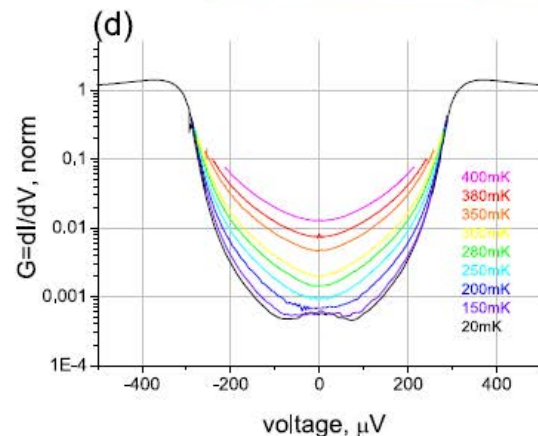
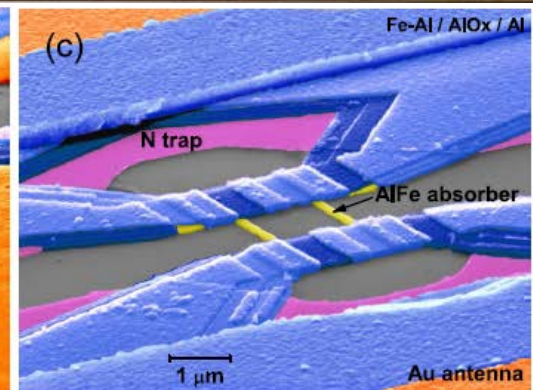
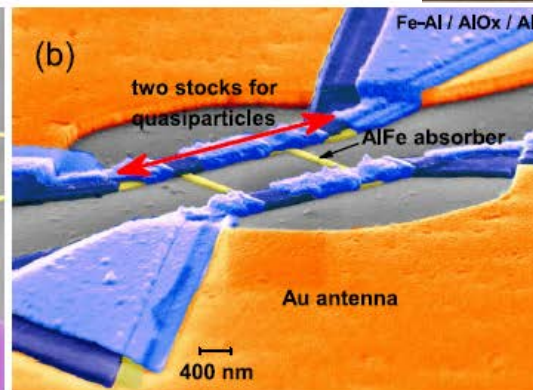
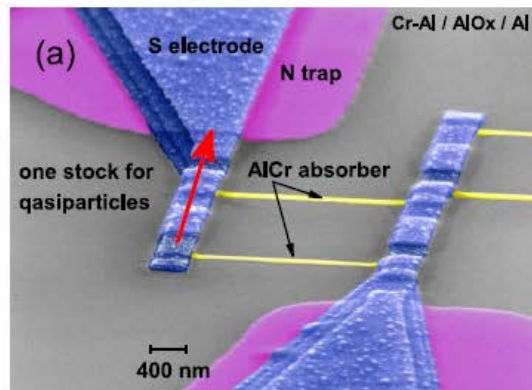
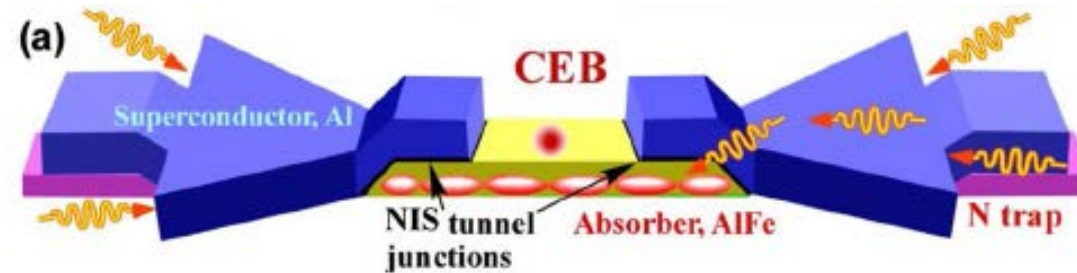
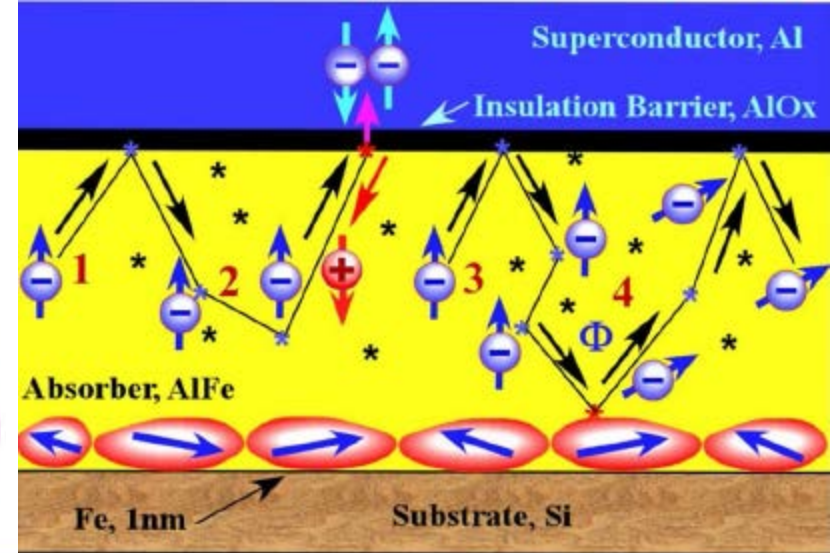
Efficient electron refrigeration using superconductor/spin-filter devices

Shiro Kawabata,¹ Asier Ozaeta,² Andrey S. Vasenko,³ Frank W. J. Hekking,^{3,4}
and F. Sebastián Bergeret^{2,5}

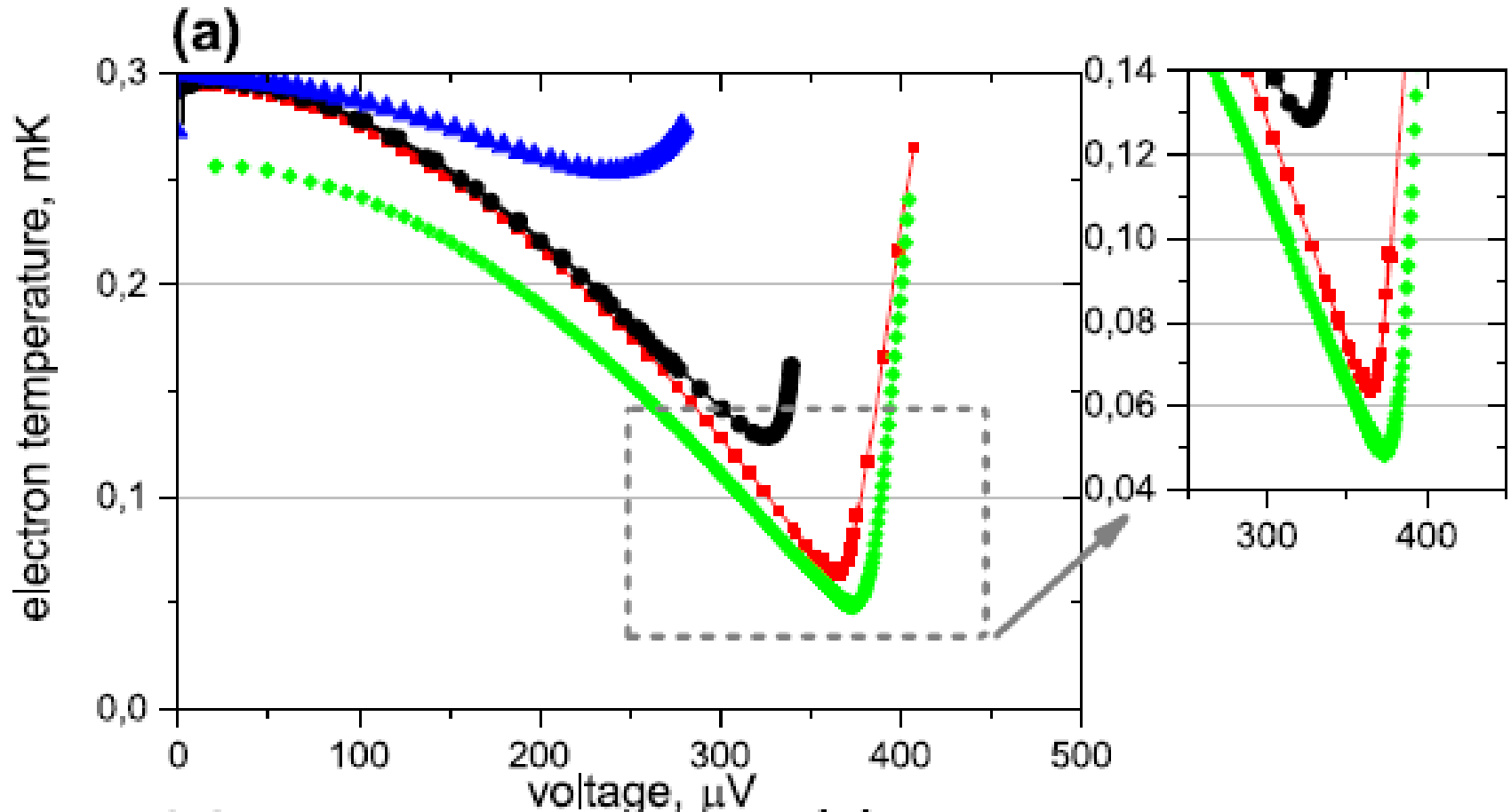
It is proposed to use hybrid superconductor/ferromagnet structures to increase the efficiency of electron cooling. It is argued that in this case, cooling from **300 to 50 mK** is possible!



Suppression of Andreev current



Design 1 - Design 2 - Design 3



Record electron cooling from 300 to 65 mK!
And from 256 to 48 mK, by a factor of 5.3!

A.V. Gordeeva, A.L. Pankratov, et al, **Scientific Reports**, 10, 21961 (2020)
<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-020-78869-z>



Cosmic rays – dramatic problem!

M. Salatino, P. de Bernardis, L. Kuzmin, S. Mahashabde, S. Masi, *J. of Low Temperature Physics* (2014).

-137Cs source (660 keV photons)

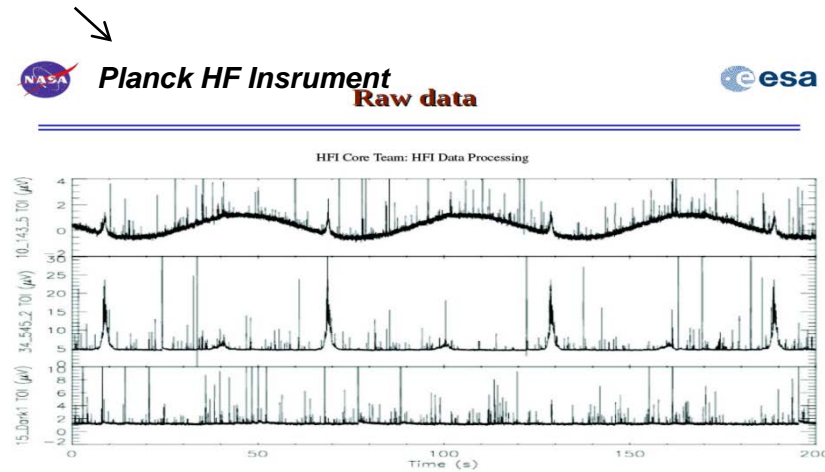
- in front of the window

- No single glitch was detected!

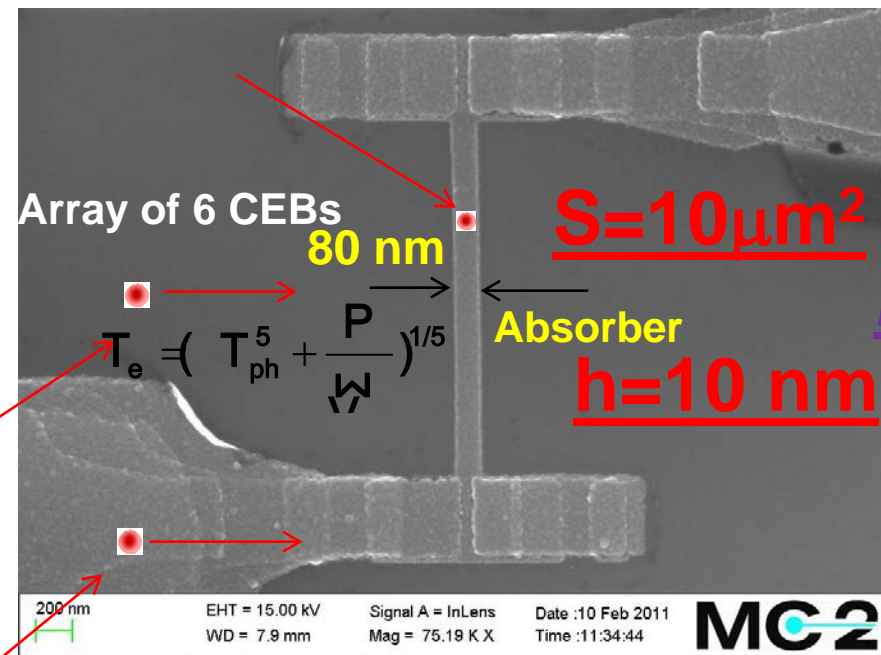
**Expectation time for
a single glitch – 40 days!**

Double protection against Cosmic Rays
by extremely small volume of absorber and
decoupling of electron and phonon systems!

CEB for LSPE



Spider-web with TES for LSPE



Gain
in Area

:1000

in thickness

:100

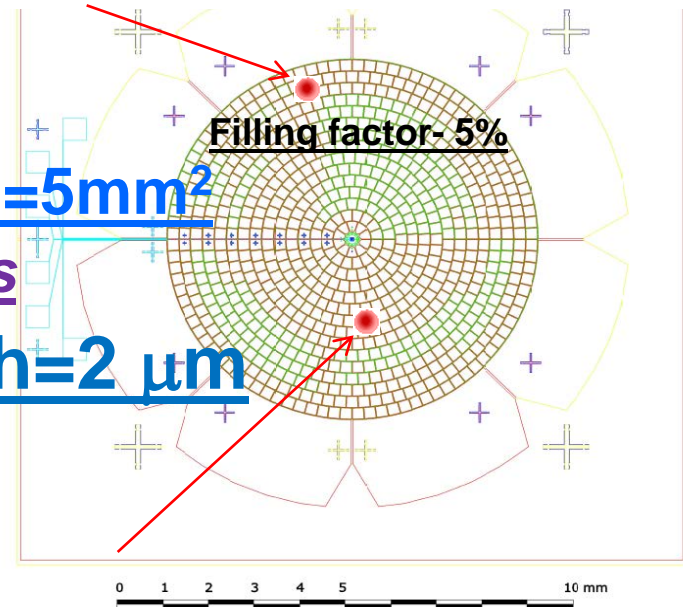
in volume

:10⁵

$S = 5 \text{ mm}^2$

$h = 2 \mu m$

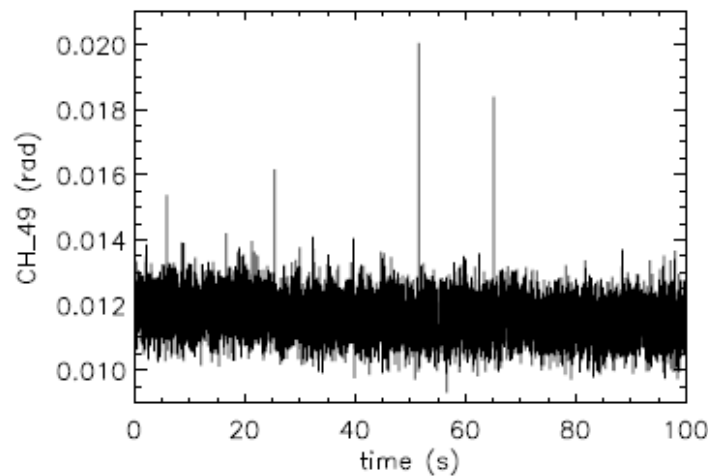
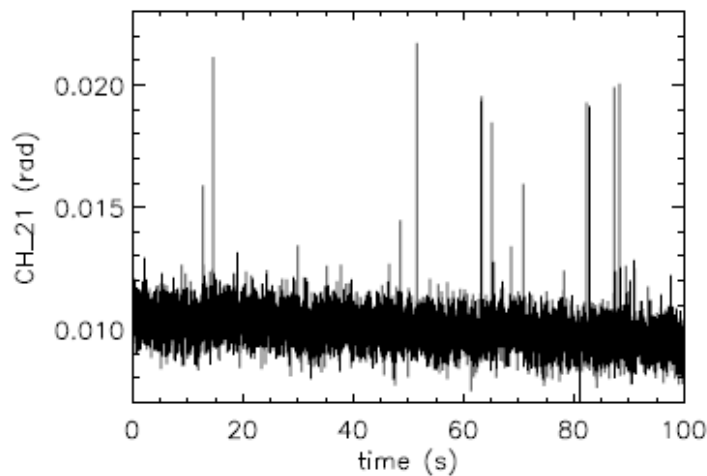
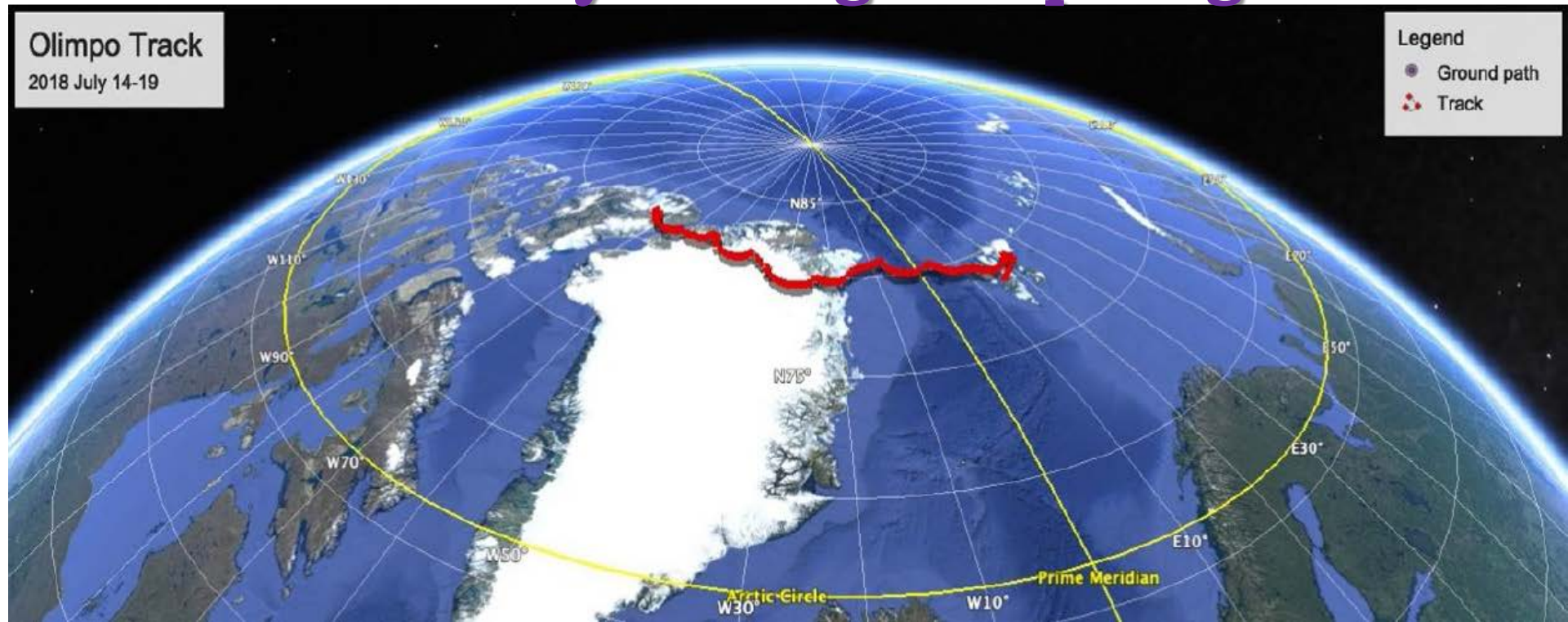
Filling factor - 5%



Cosmic rays during Olimpo flight

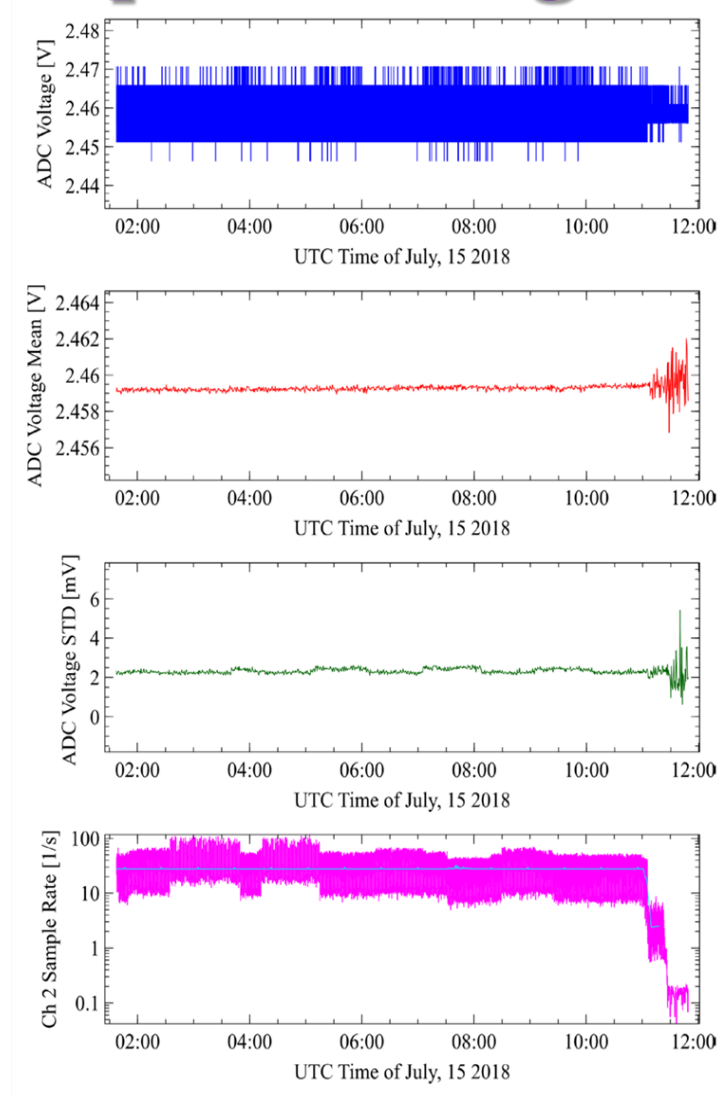
Olimpo Track
2018 July 14-19

Legend
● Ground path
▲ Track



For KIDs –
2-3 glitches
per minute!

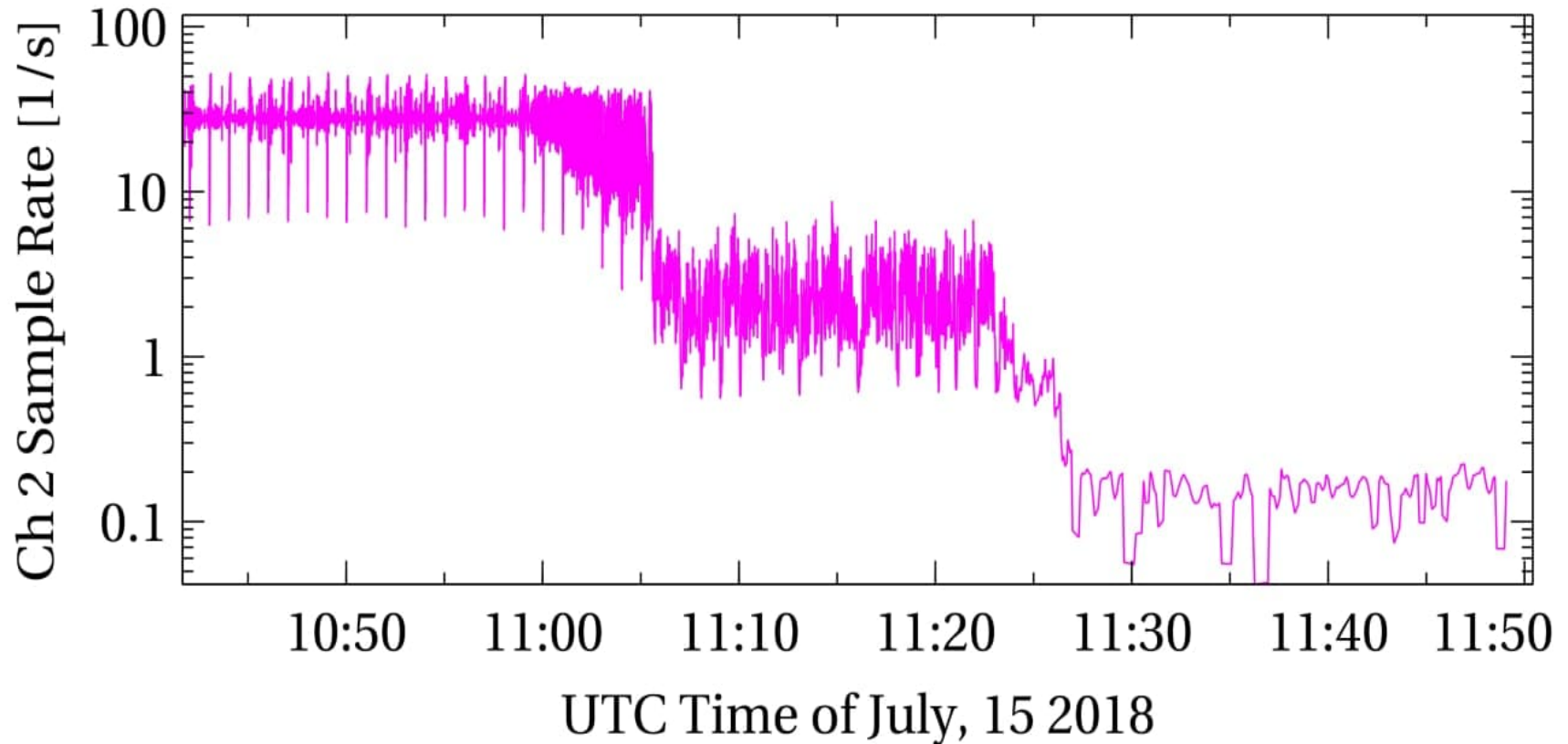
CEB dark pixel during Olimpo flight



No CR events were detected from the dark CEB. This would confirm the high CR immunity of the CEB. However, since we did not detect any other signal from this channel during the entire flight, we cannot be sure that it was working properly.



Risky flights around Northern pole due to many military radars, which can destroy electronics



Conclusions

CEB arrays can be designed to work at photon-noise limited mode at any frequency of mm and submm region for any power load at 300 mK (without dilution refrigerator) due to effective self-cooling mechanism.

CEBs demonstrate high immunity to cosmic rays.

This work was supported by the Russian Science Foundation (projects 16-19-10468 and 21-79-20227).



Indexing:
SCIE (IF 2.474);
Scopus (CiteScore 2.40)



23 Sections
EBM 1200+



Rejection Rate
69%



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(data from 2020)
Median Time to
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kuzmin@chalmers.se

**Prof. Dr. Andrey
Pankratov**

alp@ipmras.ru

Special Issue: Design and Application of Cold-Electron Bolometers

Submission Deadline: 31 May 2021

Bolometers have been extensively developed in recent years. The major pathway lowers the operating temperature to reach higher sensitivities. On-chip electron cooling by SIN (superconductor–insulator–normal metal) tunnel junctions decreases the electron temperature of the absorber, thus improving performance.

In this Special Issue, we invite submissions exploring the development of electron cooling, cold-electron bolometers, thermoelectric bolometers, and electron cooling platforms. Contributions can focus on different concepts and a variety of applications. Survey papers and reviews are also welcome.

Open Access
Fast
Publication
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Keywords

- cold-electron bolometer (CEB)
- electron cooling
- nanoabsorber

