### **CCAT:** An Introduction

Jonas Zmuidzinas, Caltech on behalf of the CCAT consortium

# CCAT: quick facts

- 25m diameter
- 20' to 1 degree FOV
- 12 µm rms surface rms
- 0.2 2 mm wavelength range
- Cerro Chajnantor, Chile (5600 m)
- University consortium
  - Cornell, Caltech/JPL, Colorado, Canada, Cologne (& Bonn)
  - Will likely include US community participation, through NSF
- Key personnel
  - CCAT Board Chair: Jack Burns, Colorado
  - Director: Riccardo Giovanelli, Cornell
  - Project Manager: Jeff Zivick, Cornell
  - Project Engineer: Steve Padin, Caltech

# A brief history of CCAT

- October 2003
  - Cornell & Caltech/JPL hold a workshop to discuss the case for a large, widefield (25 m) submm telescope
- 2004
  - Cornell & Caltech sign MOU to perform feasibility study
  - hire PM and DPM
- 2005: Site selection & characterization
- January 2006
  - Feasibility study review, ~ \$100M cost estimate
- 2007-2010
  - Add partners (Colorado, Canada, Germany)
  - Continue technical work
- 2010
  - Astro2010 top-ranked medium-scale project
  - \$120M to \$140M cost estimate
- 2011: Entering detailed engineering design phase
- 2013: Start construction
- 2018: First Light

### Early mm-wave astronomy

- 1961: Frank Low invents the Ge bolometer
- 1963: Sun, Moon, bright planets



### Low & Tucker, 1968

VOLUME 21, NUMBER 22

#### PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

25 NOVEMBER 1968

#### CONTRIBUTION OF INFRARED GALAXIES TO THE COSMIC BACKGROUND\*

Frank J. Low

Department of Space Science, Rice University, Houston, Texas, and Lunar and Planetary Laboratory, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona

and

Wallace H. Tucker Department of Space Science, Rice University, Houston, Texas (Received 12 July 1968)

The far-infrared background due to a superposition of infrared galaxies of the type recently observed is computed. It is shown that these galaxies contribute an amount of energy to the universe roughly equal to that radiated by the other galaxies and produce a far-infrared background peaking beyond 50  $\mu$ . It is likely that they account for most of the observed extragalactic radio background but not the 3°K microwave background.





### **Richards' First Law**





### The present: SCUBA 2 with 10k pixels







Credit: S. Padin

## CCAT's wide field in context





Credit: S. Padin



#### Strehl ratio vs. field angle with tertiary corrector



#### **Camera relay with small HDPE lenses**

# Frequency-multiplexed superconducting microresonator detectors (MKIDs)



### Response to 200 $\mu$ m blackbody



### Readout electronics are available now

- CASPER/UCB ROACH hardware
- Custom ADC/ DAC/IF boards
- 500 MHz bandwidth
- > 10<sup>6</sup> spectral channels using 2-stage FFT
- Used in MUSIC and NIKA





### **MUSIC & NIKA**

(Maloney et al 2010, Proc SPIE 7741; Monfardini et al 2011, arXiv:1102.0870v2)

"... the 150 GHz LEKID array sensitivity is now comparable to the existing IRAM instrument MAMBO2 at Pico Veleta."



#### **Primary surface**



Use rings of keystone-shaped segments, so we have the option of replicating segments.

For simple 3-point support, segment size is limited to ~2m, so 6 rings, for a total of 162 segments.



Credit: S. Padin

#### Prototype tile & subframe



Tile surface error 2.5  $\mu m$  rms Tile + subframe areal density 19 kg  $m^{\text{-}2}$ 

Vertex Antennentechnik

Credit: S. Padin



### CCAT vs Herschel

#### **350** µm



Credit: J. Glenn/U. Colorado

#### Cerro Chajnantor 5612 m

G. Gull/Corne

### Cerro Chajnantor 5612 m



Negrello et al., Science 330, 800, Nov 5 2010

#### Z-Spec: wideband mm-wave direct detection spectroscopy

# WaFIRS Grating: $62 \times 48 \times 3.3$ cm



<sup>3</sup>He/<sup>4</sup>He Fridge

#### Parameters

- $\lambda = 1.0$  to 1.5 mm (CSO)
- 160 bolometers
- $\Delta\nu\sim900$  MHz,  $\Delta v\sim1,000$  km s^-1

#### Background

- In 1998, the need for wideband mm/submm spectroscopy was clear following Scuba detections
- 1 mm window best choice for CSO
- Options: optical grating spectrometer, superconducting spectrometer chip
- Machined parallel-plate waveguide grating was the middle ground: Z-spec
- Superconducting spectrometer chip now appears very attractive Golwala talk

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(Salt pill courtesy Peter Timbie's group)

60 mK ADR

Credit: M. Bradford

# Summary

- CCAT is designed for submm surveys
  - Wide field of view
  - High sensitivity (25 m, excellent site)
  - Good angular resolution (3".5 at 350  $\mu m$ )
  - Broad wavelength coverage
- Leading-edge instruments
  - Wide-field cameras
  - Multi-object or integral-field spectrometers
- Aiming for completion by 2018
- See www.submm.org