

CALTECH



# High Resolution Spectrometers



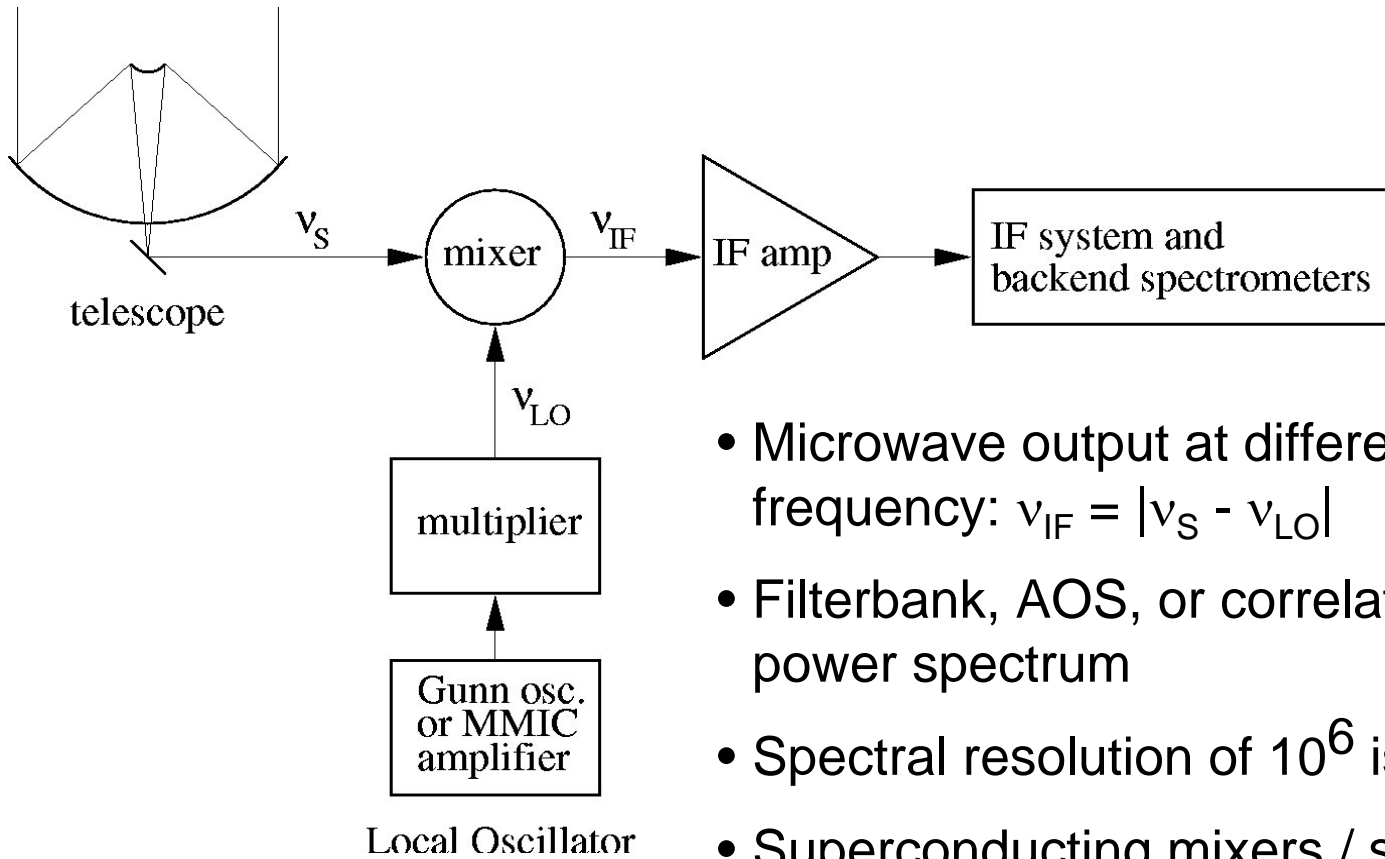
(Heterodyne Receiver Development)

- Very strong effort at JPL/CIT
- SIS mixers up to 1.2 THz (limit ~ 1.6 THz)
- Solid-state LO's beyond 1.5 THz (JPL)
- Herschel / HIFI – 1.2 THz SIS
- SOFIA / CASIMIR
- CSO facility receivers (200 – 900 GHz)
- New developments



# High Resolution Spectrometers

## Heterodyne Spectroscopy



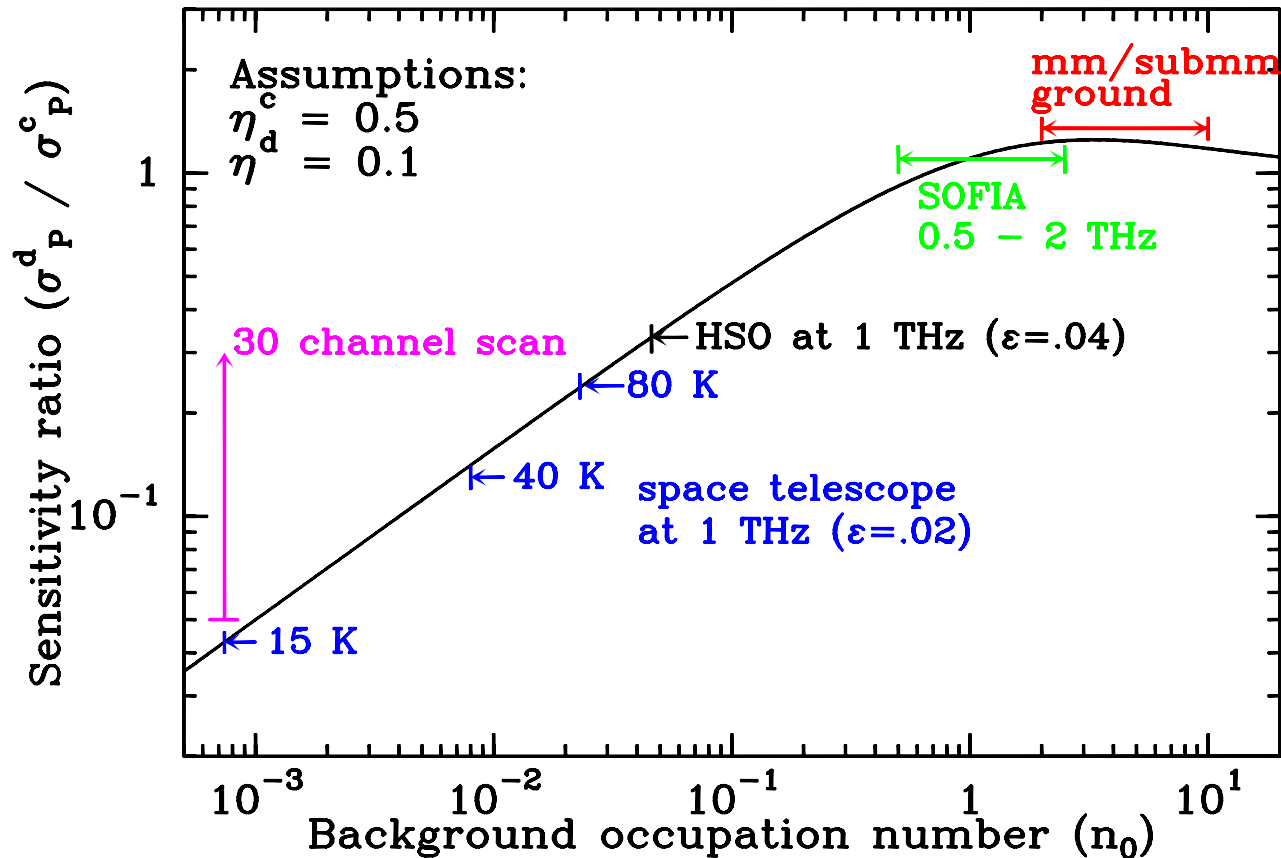
- Microwave output at difference (IF) frequency:  $\nu_{IF} = |\nu_S - \nu_{LO}|$
- Filterbank, AOS, or correlator measures IF power spectrum
- Spectral resolution of  $10^6$  is easy
- Superconducting mixers / solid-state LO's
- "Quantum Limit" to sensitivity:  $T_n > hf/k$



# High Resolution Spectrometers

But QL is not an issue from the ground:

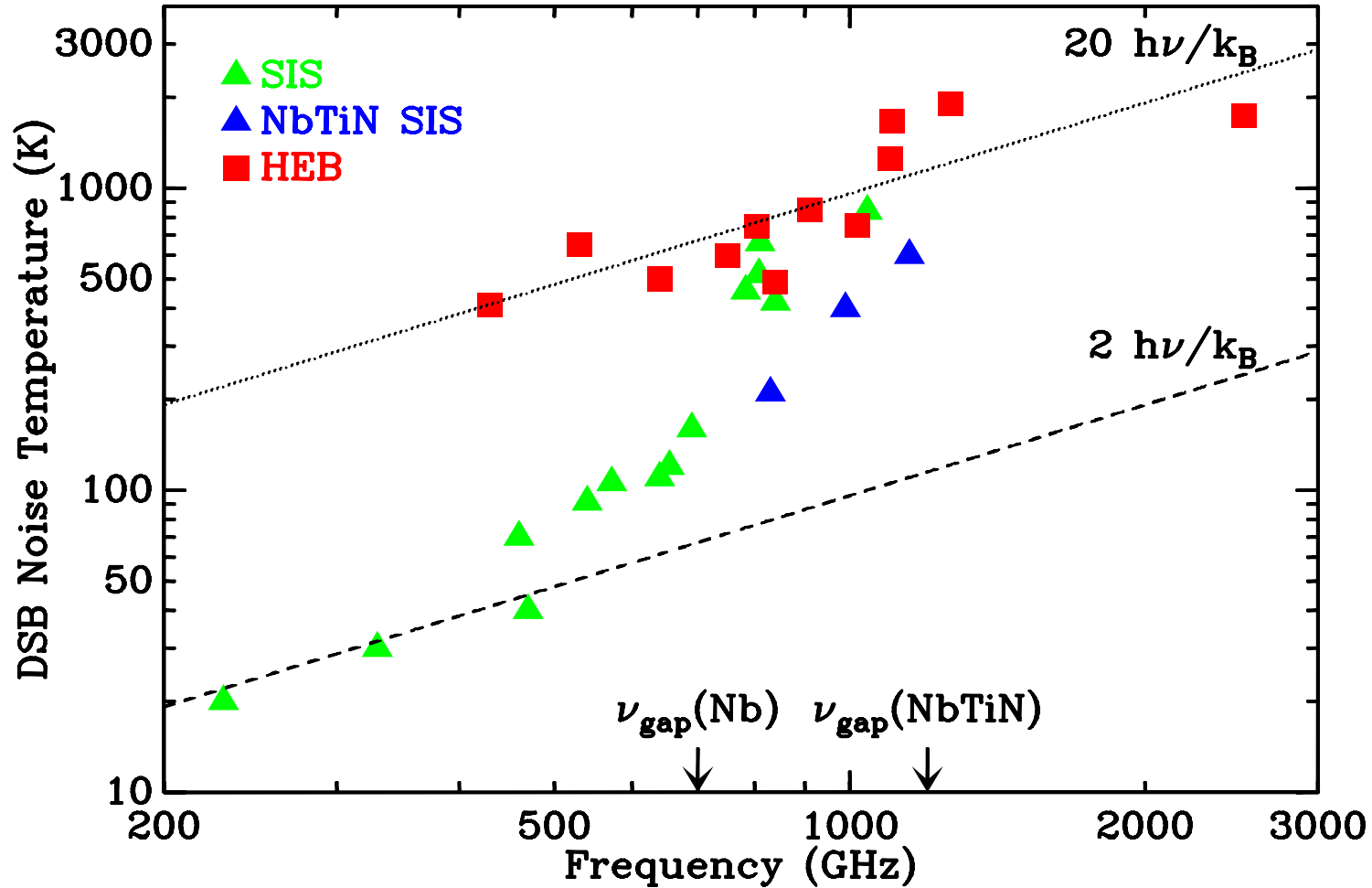
Coherent vs. Direct Detection





# High Resolution Spectrometers

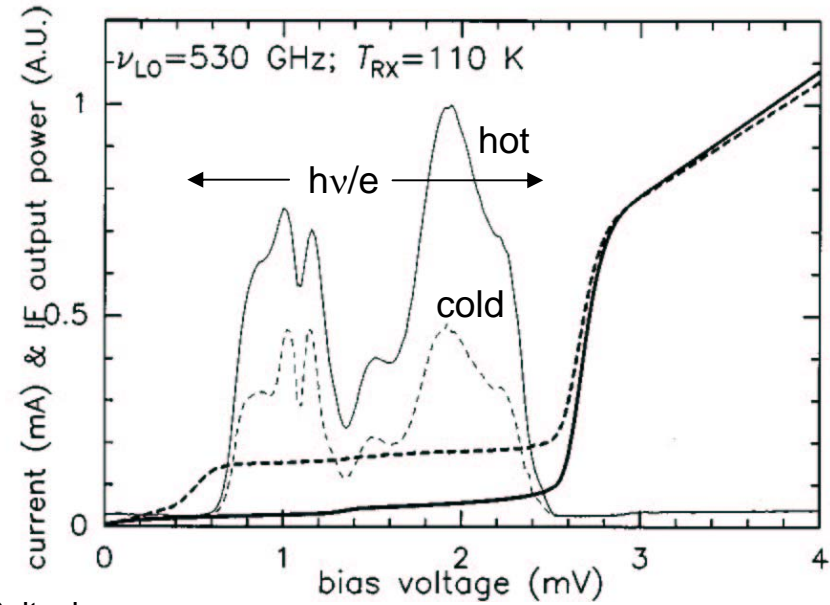
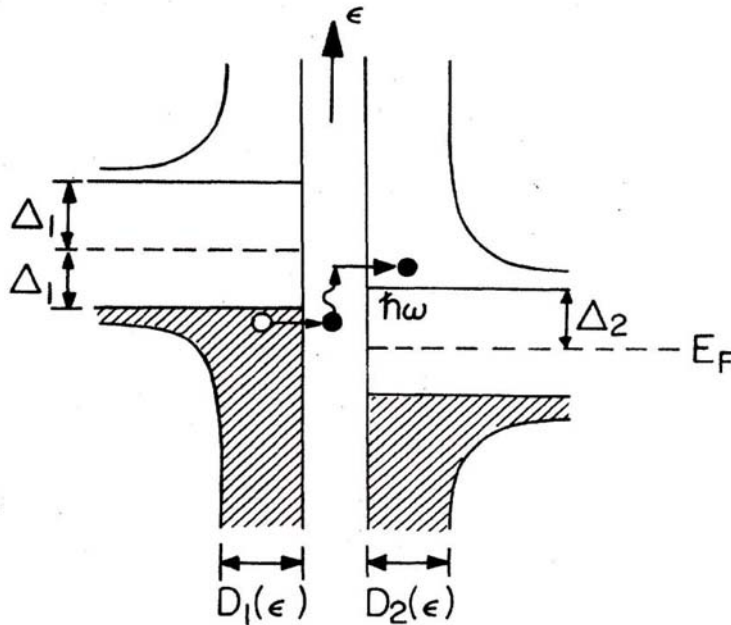
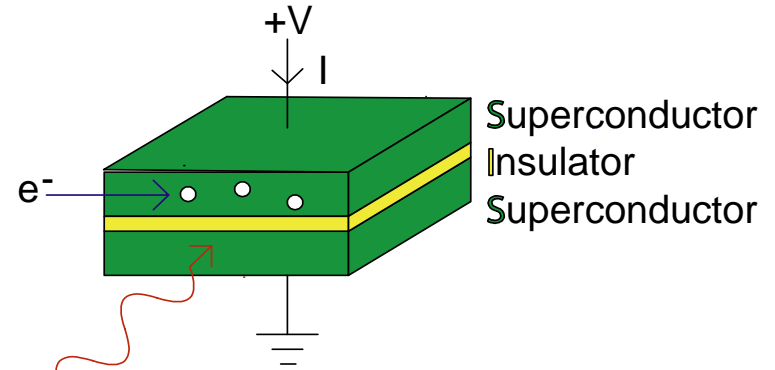
## SIS receivers are near quantum limit





## Basic Principles of SIS mixers

- SIS: superconducting tunnel junction
- SIS is a “submillimeter photodiode”
  - One electron per photon absorbed
  - “photon-assisted tunneling”



CALTECH



# High Resolution Spectrometers

## SIS device fabrication at JPL's MDL

JPL



October 11, 2003

Cornell/Caltech  
Large Submillimeter Telescope Workshop

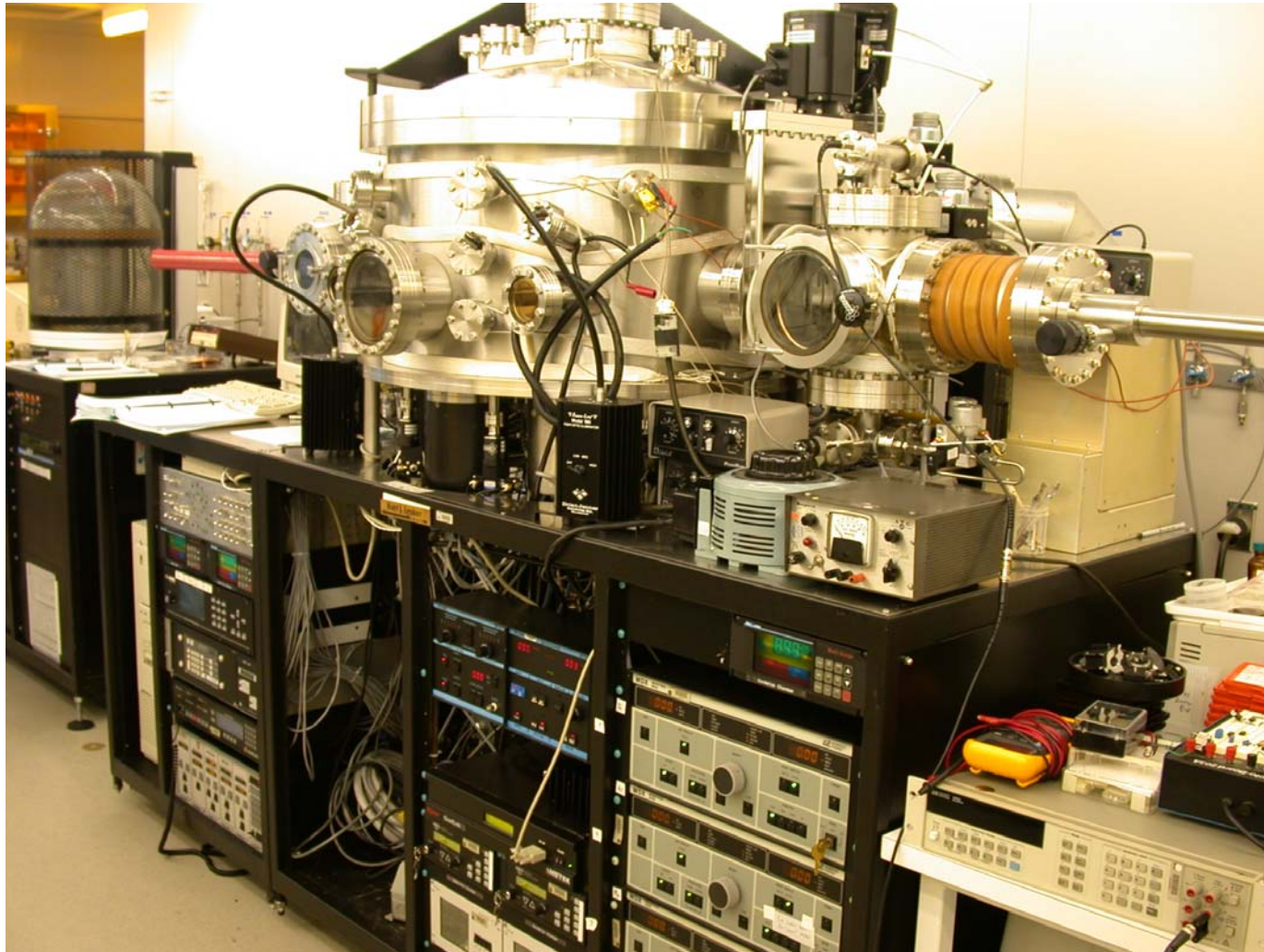
CALTECH



# High Resolution Spectrometers

JPL

## Nb sputtering system for SIS trilayer deposition



October 11, 2003

Cornell/Caltech  
Large Submillimeter Telescope Workshop



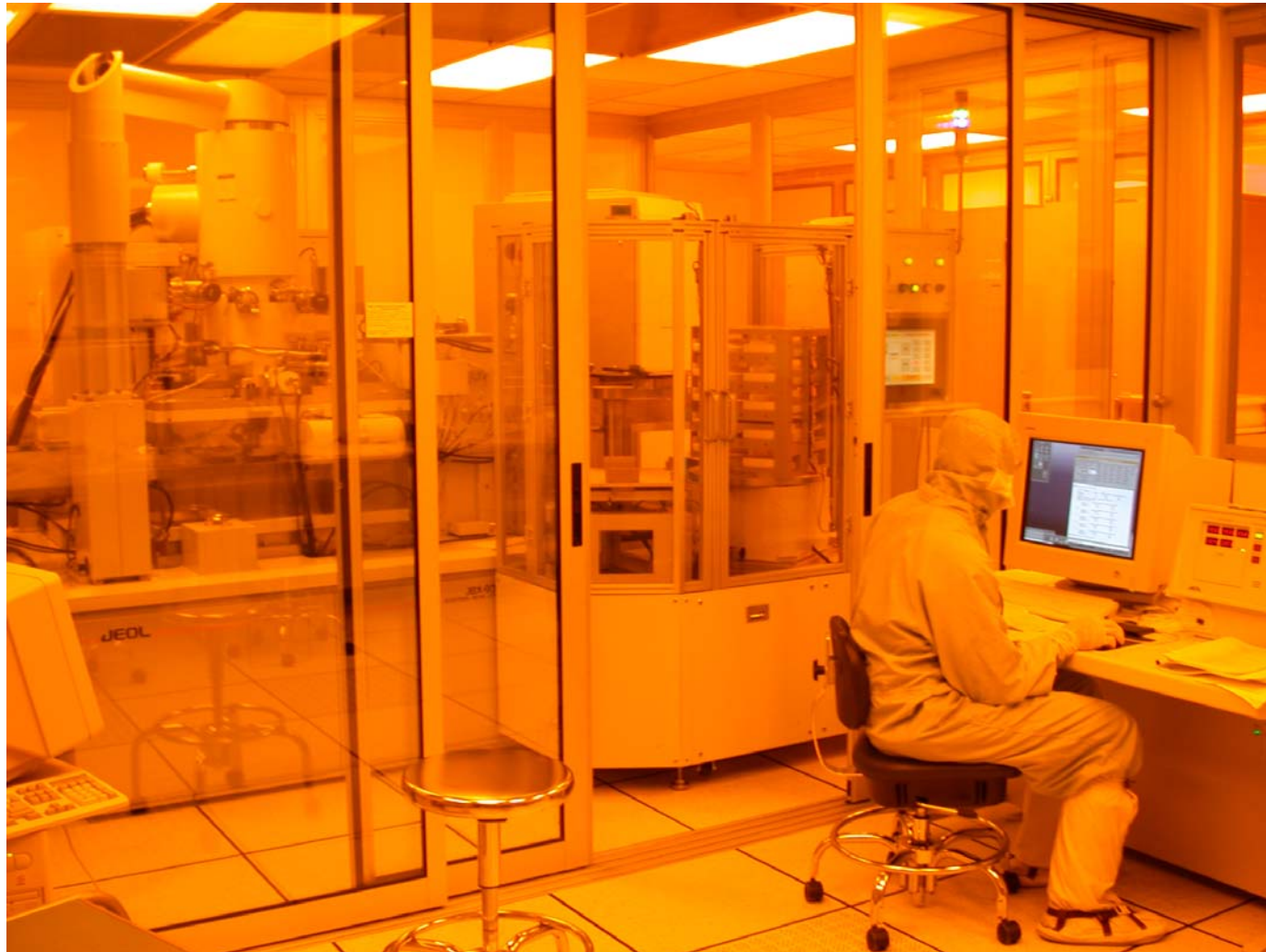
CALTECH



# High Resolution Spectrometers



Electron-beam lithography for sub-micron features



October 11, 2003

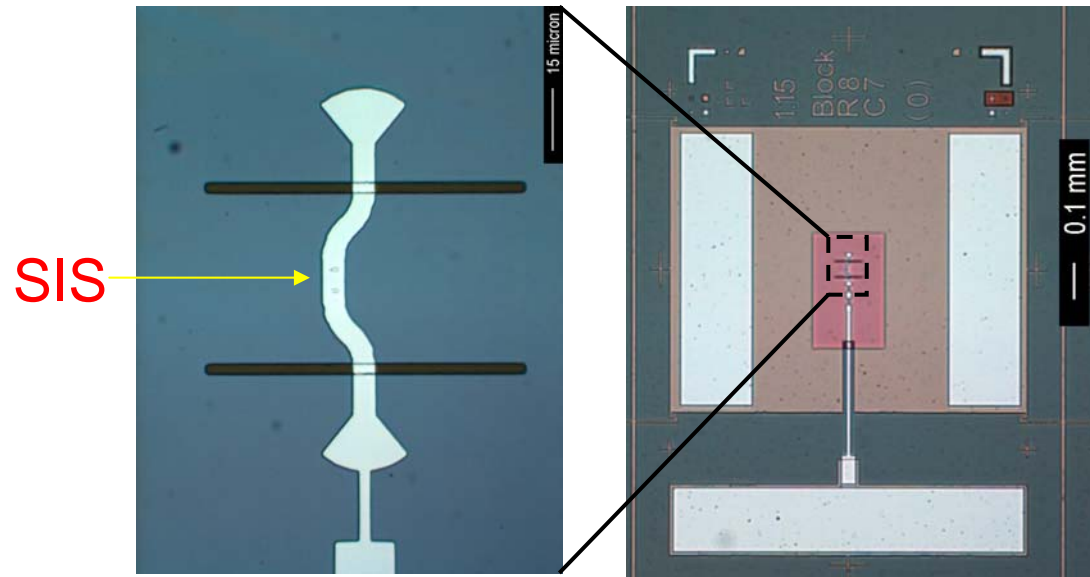
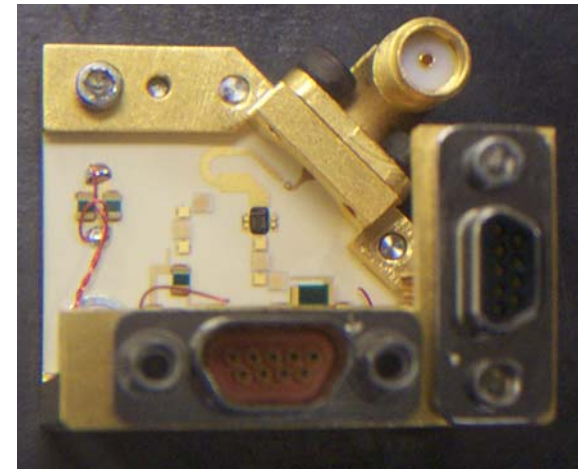
Cornell/Caltech  
Large Submillimeter Telescope Workshop





# High Resolution Spectrometers

## 1.2 THz SIS mixers for HIFI/Herschel



A. Karpov, J. Stern, D. Miller, J. Zmuidzinas, F. Rice, H. G. LeDuc, W. Hatch, J. Pearson

October 11, 2003

Cornell/Caltech  
Large Submillimeter Telescope Workshop

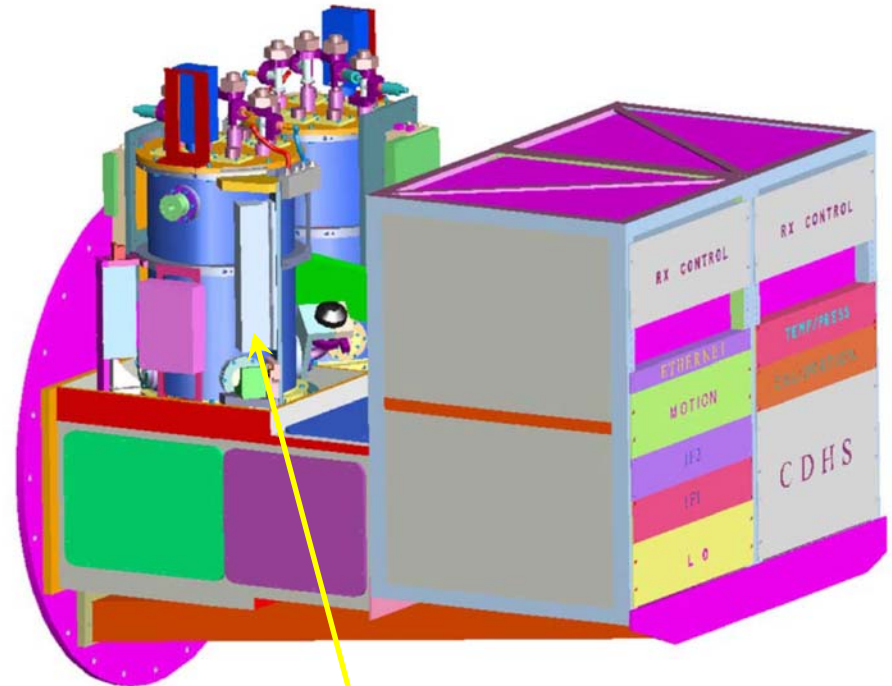
CALTECH



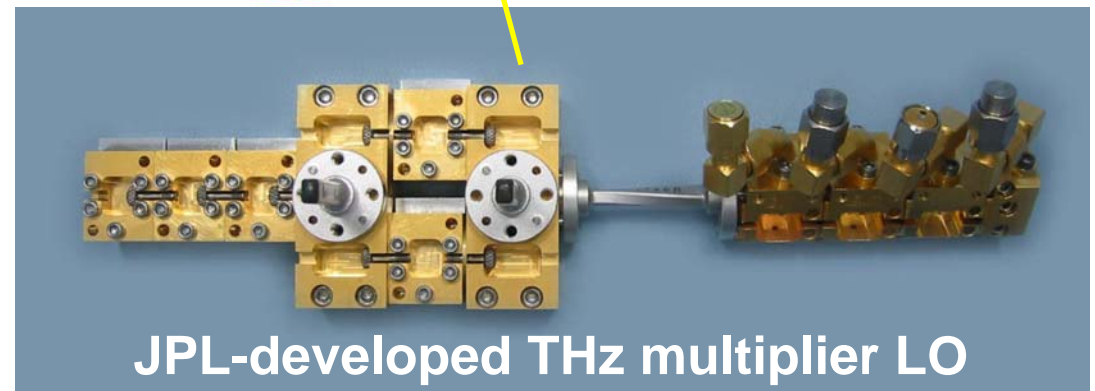
# High Resolution Spectrometers

JPL

CASIMIR – a 500-1200 GHz SIS Receiver for SOFIA



- 4 Bands: 500-600, 700-800, 900-1050, and 1050-1200 GHz
- First flights in summer 2005



JPL-developed THz multiplier LO

October 11, 2003

Cornell/Caltech  
Large Submillimeter Telescope Workshop



# High Resolution Spectrometers

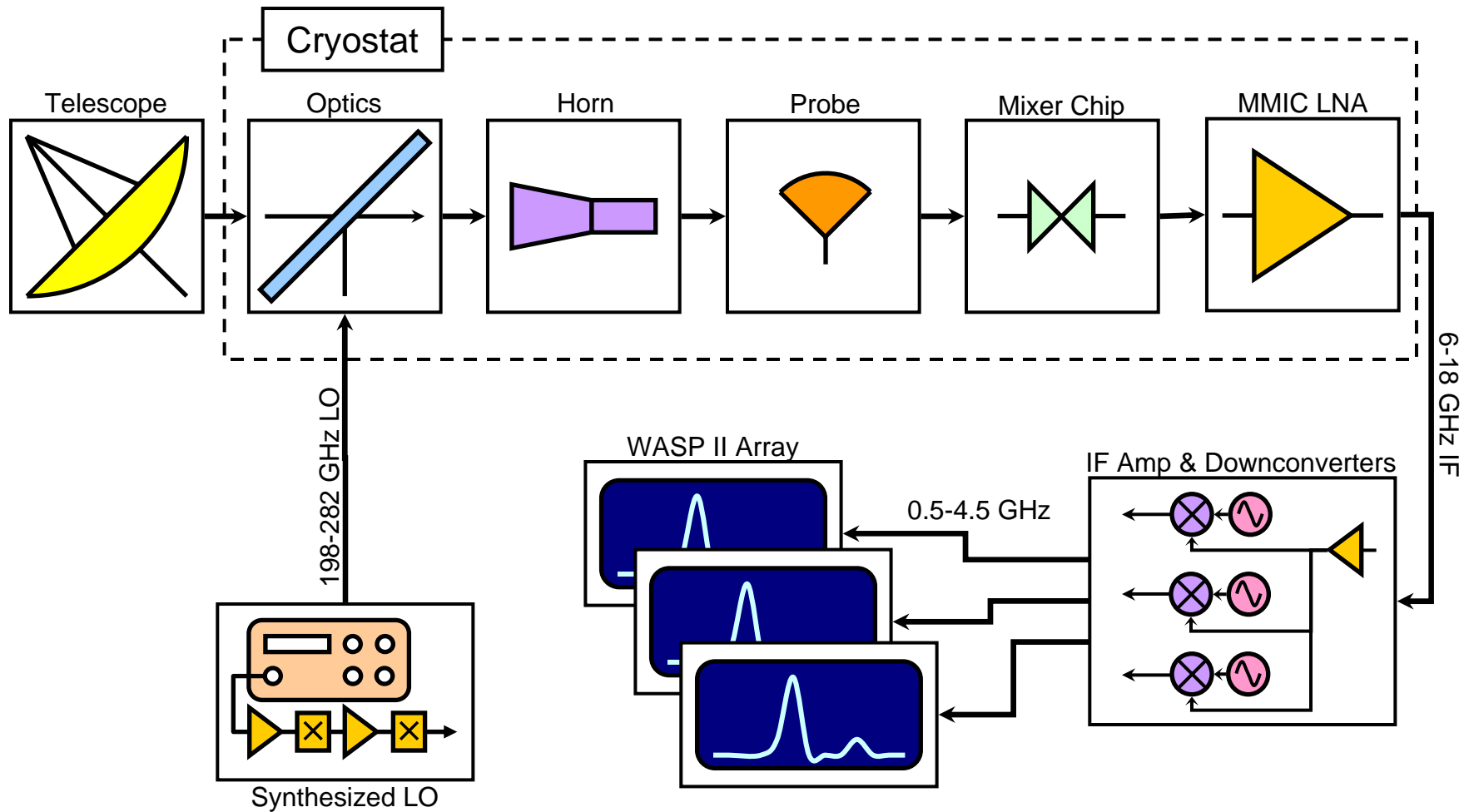
## CSO Facility Receivers (Kooi et al.)

- Cover 200-900 GHz
- State of the art sensitivity
  - 200 K DSB @ 810 GHz (quasioptical NbTiN)
- 4-8 GHz IF upgrades in progress
- New tunerless mixers in progress
  - Wideband radial waveguide probe design
  - Balanced mixers
- Dual-beam, dual pol 350 GHz system



# High Resolution Spectrometers

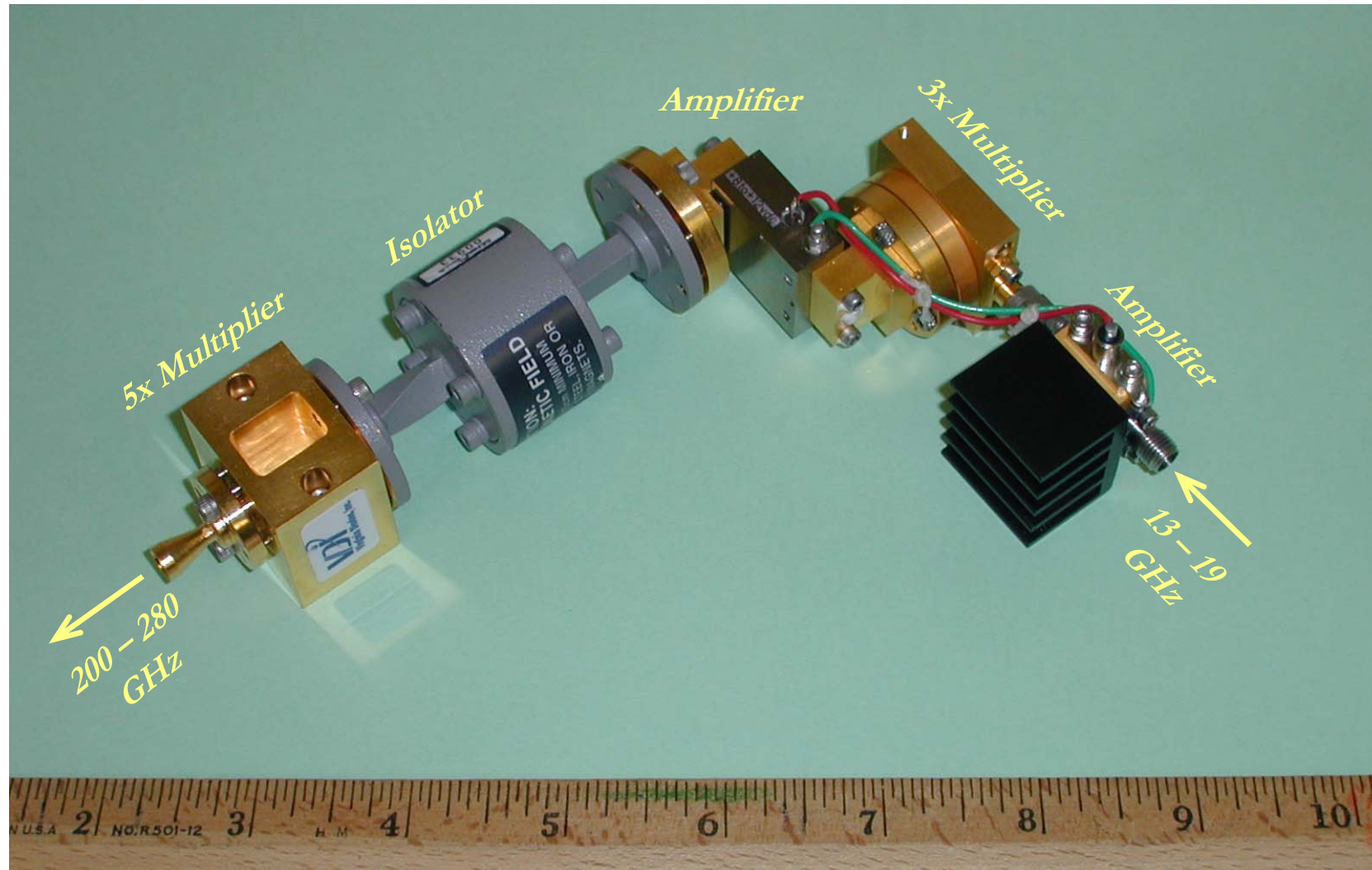
## 230 GHz Wideband Receiver System







# High Resolution Spectrometers 15x Frequency Multiplier LO



October 11, 2003

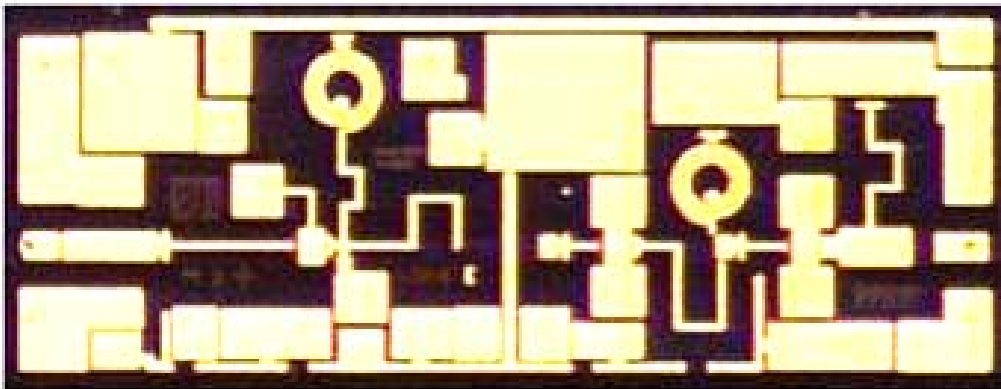
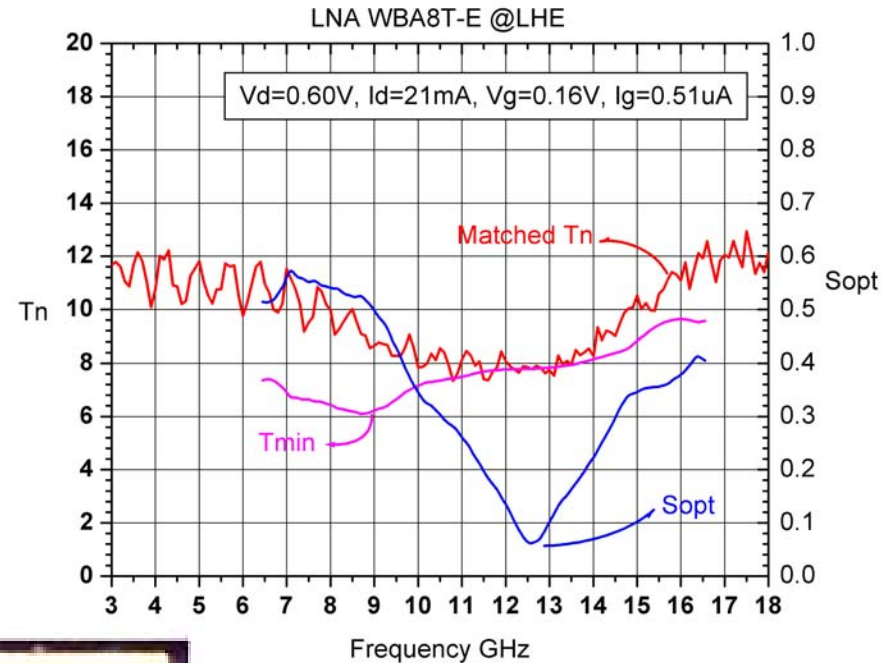
Cornell/Caltech  
Large Submillimeter Telescope Workshop



# High Resolution Spectrometers

## Wideband MMIC IF LNA

- 3-stage InP HEMT
- 200 um gate width
- Inductive feedback
- JPL/Caltech design
- Fabricated at TRW



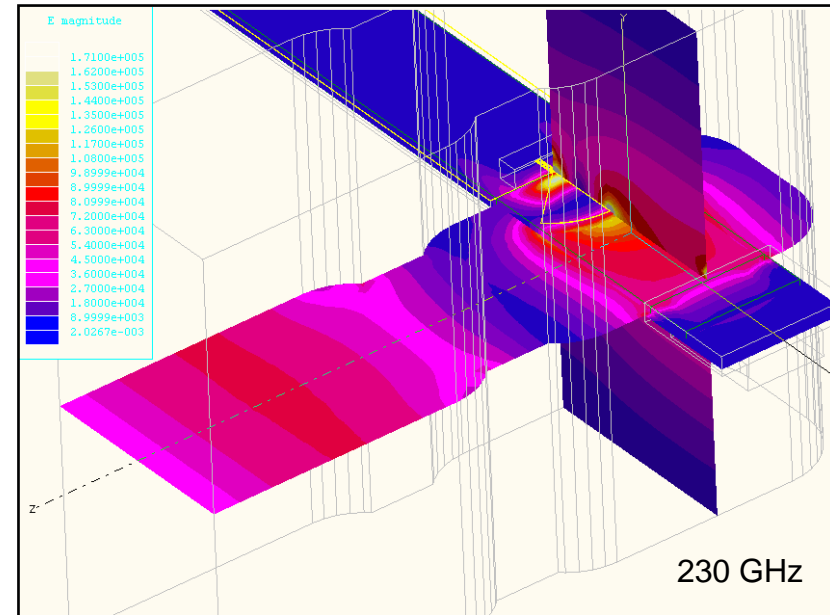
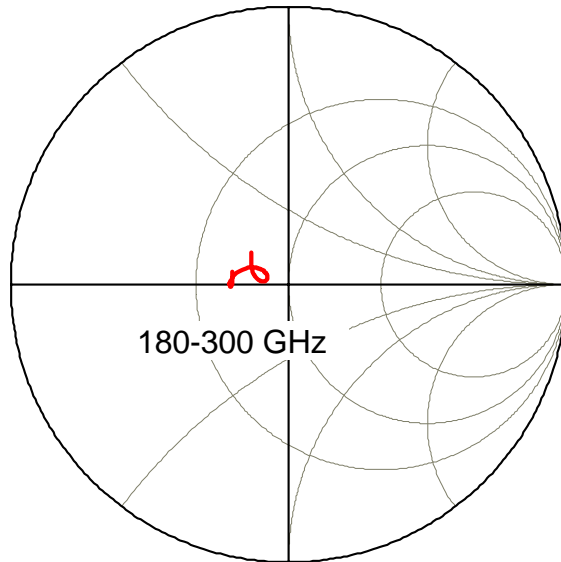
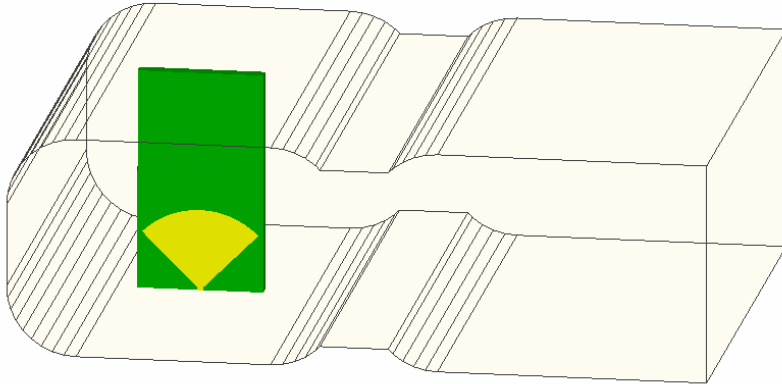
R. Hu (U. of Michigan/Caltech),  
S. Weinreb (JPL)





# High Resolution Spectrometers

## Probe Design: 3D EM Modeling



- **Ansoft HFSS**
- **Probe design: 109,000 tetrahedra; 637,000 matrix elements**
- **24 mins/solution using 1.3 GHz Athlon**

F. Rice, J. Kooi, G. Chattopadhyay , S. Withington

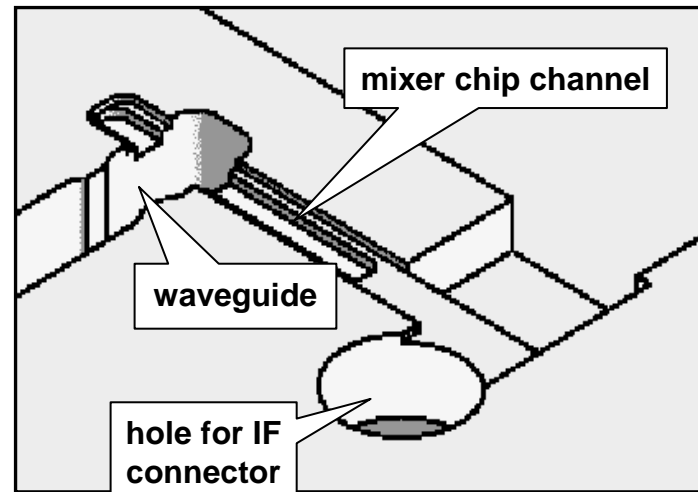
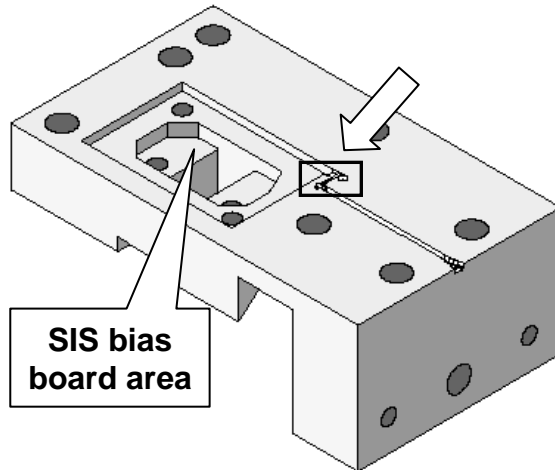
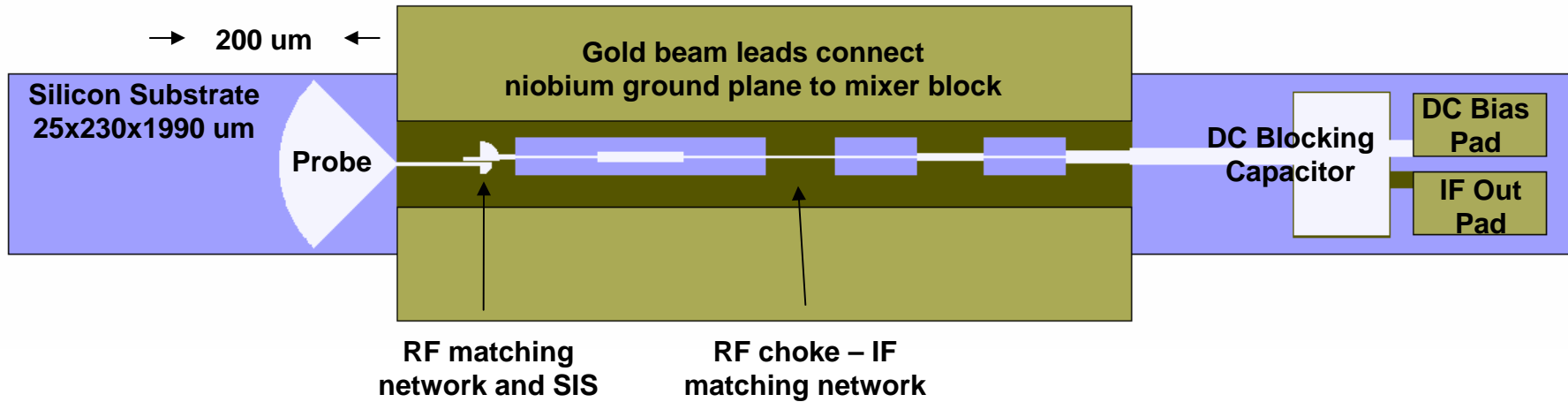
Cornell/Caltech

Large Submillimeter Telescope Workshop



# High Resolution Spectrometers

## RF chip and mixer block





# High Resolution Spectrometers

## SuperMix simulation software

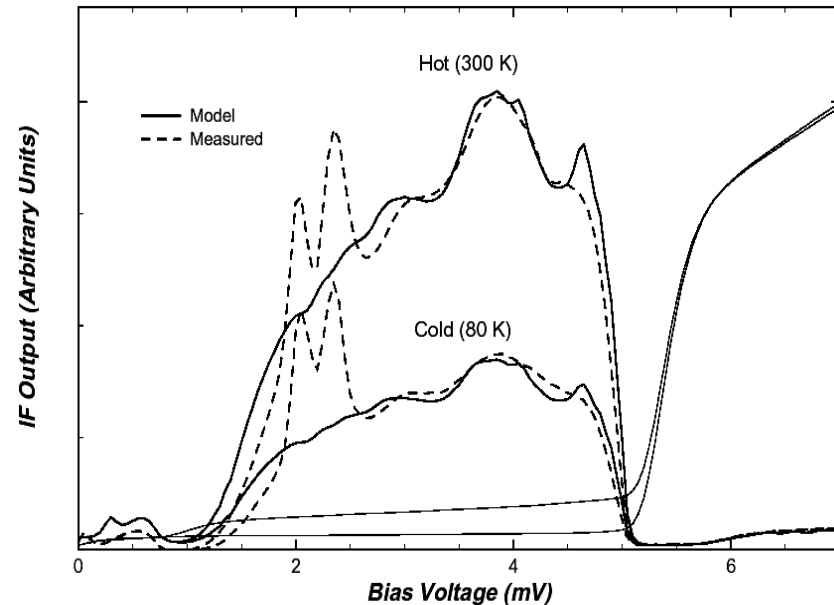
### *Powerful circuit modeling tool:*

- C++ class library
- 47,000+ lines of code
- Linear and nonlinear modeling
- Arbitrarily complex designs
- Superconducting transmission lines
- SIS junctions – Tucker theory
- **Developed at Caltech, 1997 to present**
- **Most powerful tool available for SIS development**

#### SuperMix website:

[www.submm.caltech.edu/supermix](http://www.submm.caltech.edu/supermix)

October 11, 2003



Plot shows a comparison of measured data and model results for a 530 GHz receiver

- 4-slot, 8-junction, balanced mixer
- 45-port, 2-harmonic simulation

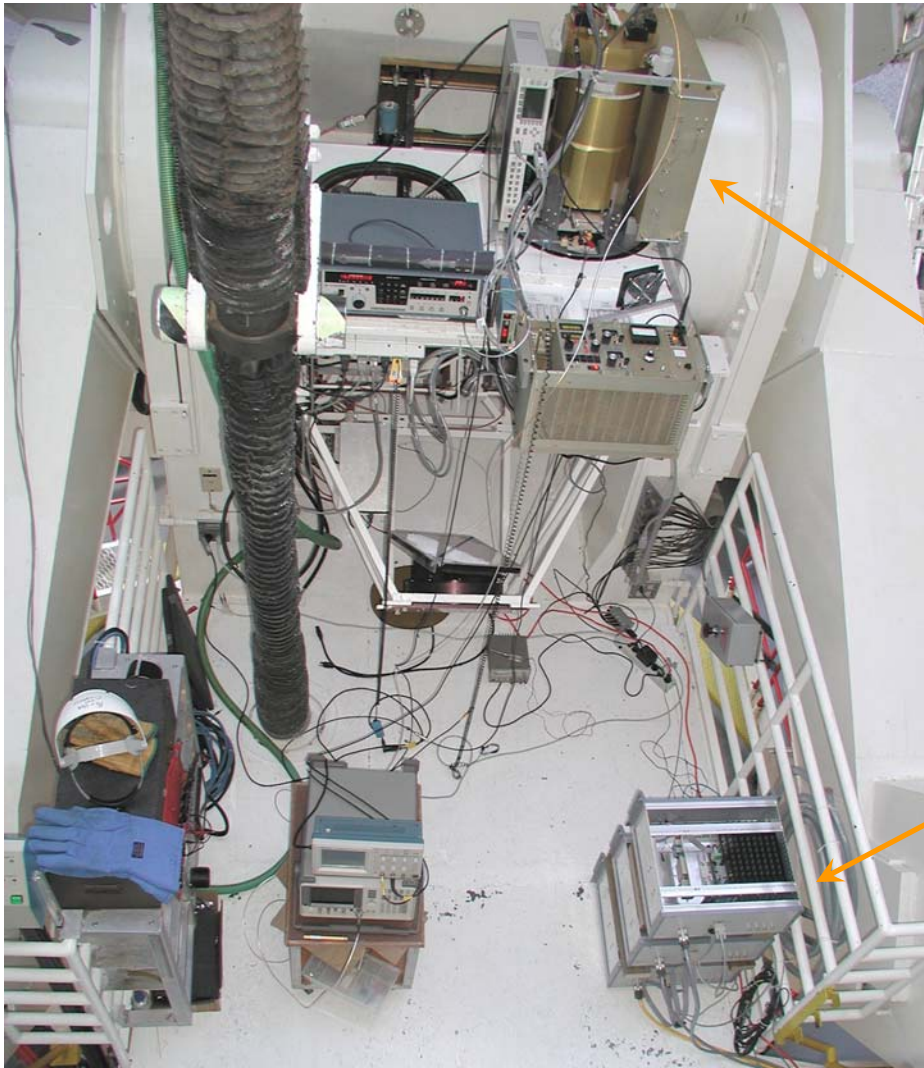
**F. Rice, J. Ward, G. Chattopadhyay, J. Zmuidzinas**

CALTECH



# High Resolution Spectrometers Z-Rx and WASPs at the CSO

JPL



August 2003

Front-end:

RF: 200-300 GHz

IF: 6-20 GHz

(28 GHz DSB)

Downconverter splits  
IF into 4 sub-bands

WASPs' nest  
with 3 3.5 GHz  
WASPs

Rice, Sumner, Harris,  
LeDuc, Zmuidzinas, Blain

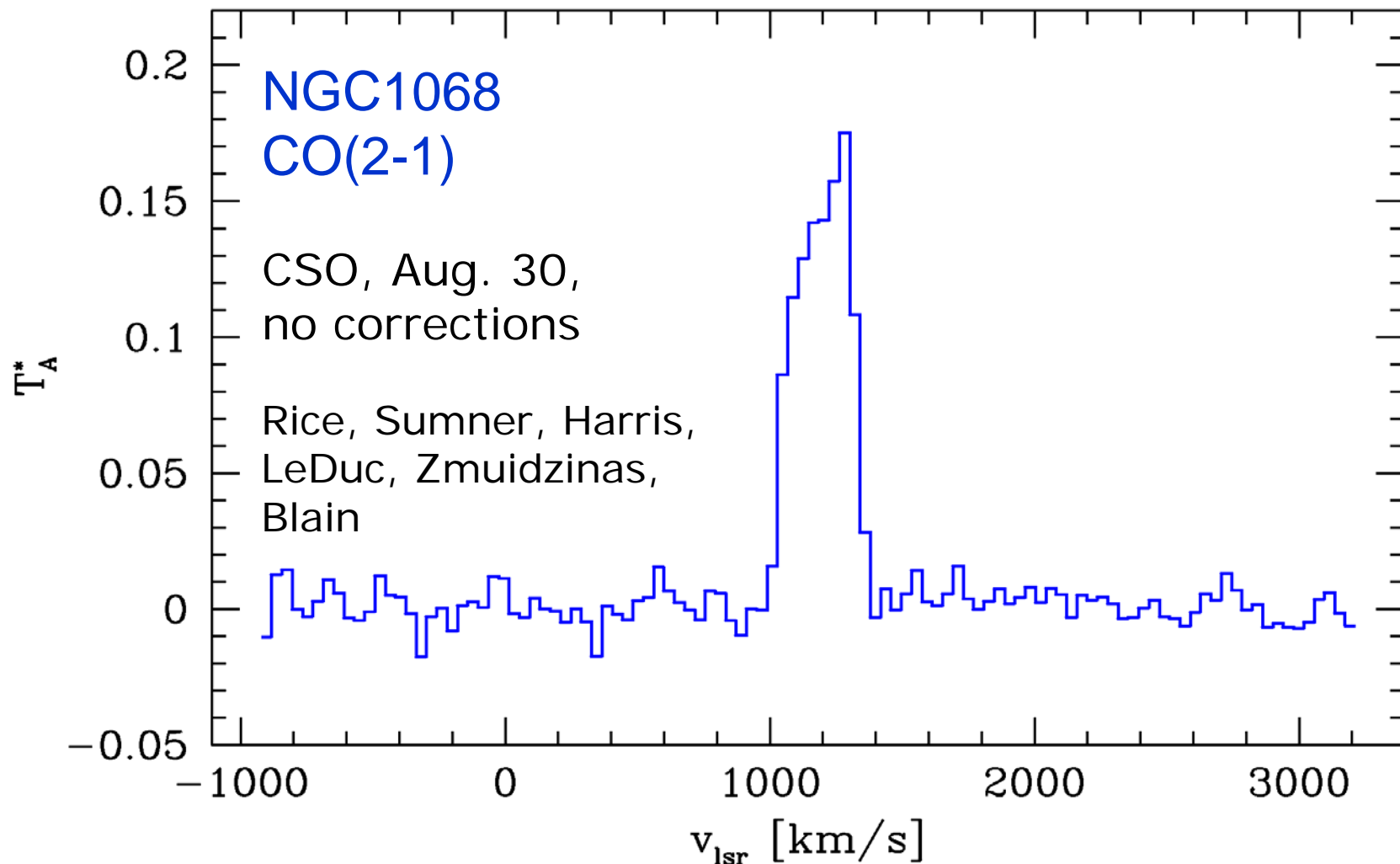
October 11, 2003

Cornell/Caltech  
Large Submillimeter Telescope Workshop



# High Resolution Spectrometers

## First-night Z-Rx and WASP spectrum



October 11, 2003

Cornell/Caltech  
Large Submillimeter Telescope Workshop



# High Resolution Spectrometers

## SIS-related personnel

|                         |                                    |                                  |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Mick Edgar</b>       | <b>Engineer</b>                    | <b>SOFIA Instrument Lead</b>     |
| <b>Robert Hu</b>        | <b>Ph.D. student</b>               | <b>MMIC IF amplifier</b>         |
| <b>Alexandre Karpov</b> | <b>Engineer</b>                    | <b>HIFI/Herschel Lead</b>        |
| <b>Attila Kovacs</b>    | <b>Ph.D. student</b>               | <b>CSO Receivers</b>             |
| <b>Jacob Kooi</b>       | <b>Engineer</b>                    | <b>CSO Receivers Lead</b>        |
| <b>Rick LeDuc</b>       | <b>JPL</b>                         | <b>Junction fabrication</b>      |
| <b>Sean Lin</b>         | <b>Engineer</b>                    | <b>SOFIA Instrument</b>          |
| <b>David Miller</b>     | <b>Engineer</b>                    | <b>HIFI/Herschel &amp; SOFIA</b> |
| <b>Tom Phillips</b>     | <b>Professor</b>                   |                                  |
| <b>Frank Rice</b>       | <b>Staff / Ph.D. student (LOA)</b> | <b>Wideband 230 Rx</b>           |
| <b>Jeff Stern</b>       | <b>JPL (CIT/TGP Ph.D.)</b>         | <b>Junction fabrication</b>      |
| <b>Chip Sumner</b>      | <b>Ph.D. student</b>               | <b>CSO &amp; Wideband 230 Rx</b> |
| <b>Doug Warden</b>      | <b>Technician</b>                  | <b>HIFI/Herschel</b>             |
| <b>Sandy Weinreb</b>    | <b>JPL/Caltech</b>                 | <b>MMIC IF amplifier</b>         |
| <b>Jonas Zmuidzinas</b> | <b>Professor</b>                   |                                  |