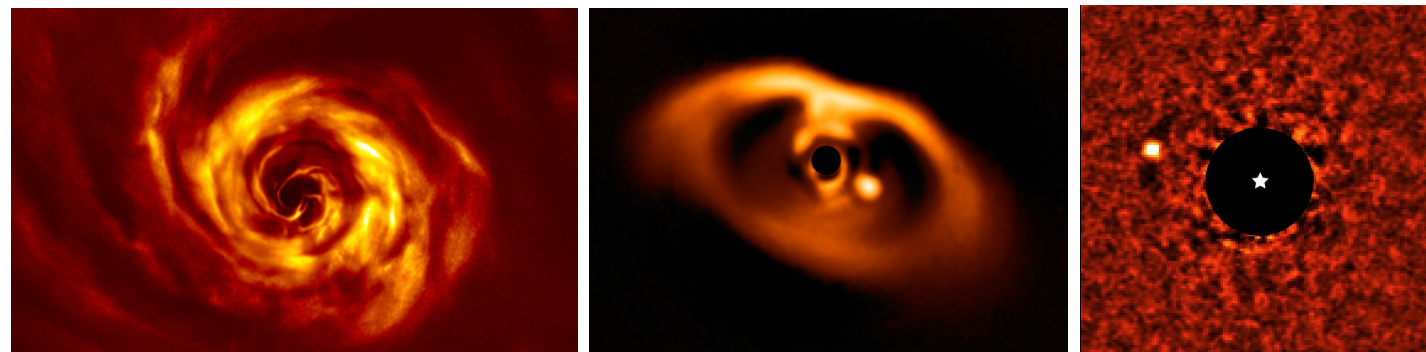




SAXO+: a technology demonstrator and science precursor for PCS

from very young to young exoplanetary systems ...



Anthony Boccaletti (LIRA, Obs. Paris)
on behalf of the SAXO+ consortium

G. Chauvin, M. Langlois, E. Diolaiti, M. Loupiaz, G. Barbary, M. Feldt, M. Tallon, F. Ferreira, E. Stadler, S. Rochat, O. Boebion, M. N'Diaye, G. Zins, F. Wildi, J. Milli, J. Mazoyer, L. Schreiber, C. Kulcsar, C. Bechet, H.F. Raynaud, I. Bernardino, M. Lombini, F. Cortecchia, R. Gratton, M. Kasper, C. Goulas, F. Vidal, P. Delorme, M. Bonnefoy, D. Segransan, R. Galicher, A. Vigan



SPHERE+ motivations

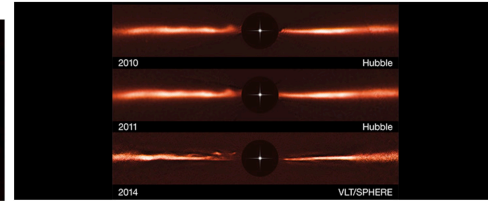


SPHERE contrast limits translate to:
 > few Mass of Jupiter
 > few tens of AU

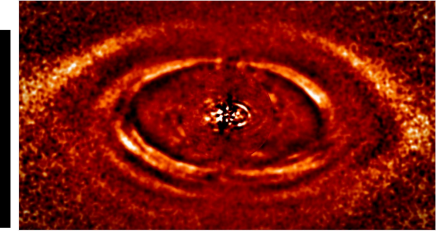
eso1821 — Science Release
 First Confirmed Image of Newborn Planet Caught with ESO's VLT
 Spectrum reveals cloudy atmosphere
 2 July 2018
[Mueller et al. 2018](#)



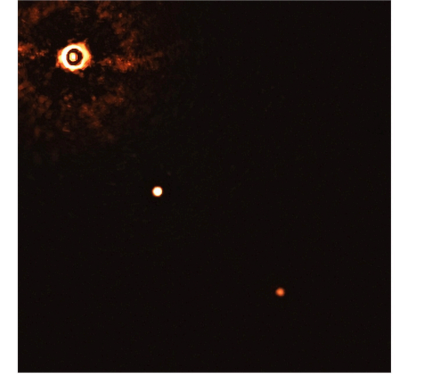
Mysterious Ripples Found Racing Through Planet-forming Disc
 Unique structures spotted around nearby star
 7 October 2015



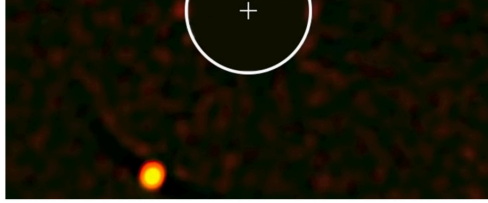
Boulevard of broken rings [Perrot et al. 2016](#)



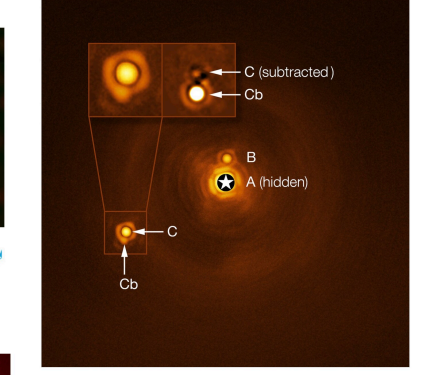
First ever image of a multi-planet system around a Sun-like star
[Bohn et al. 2020](#)



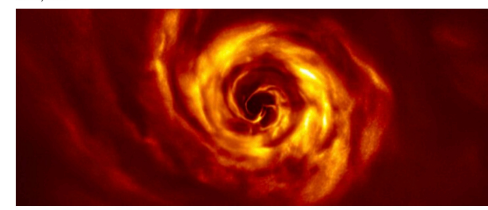
Announcement
 ESO's SPHERE Unveils its First Exoplanet
 6 July 2017
[Chauvin et al. 2017](#)



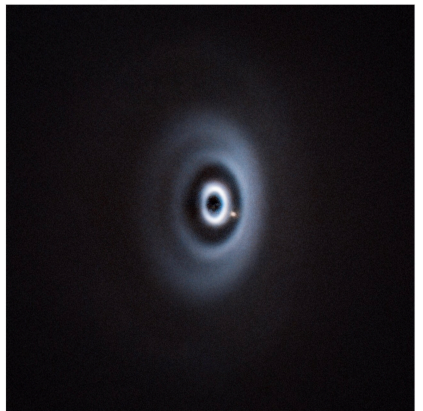
New planetary-mass object found in quadruple system
[Chomez et al. 2023](#)



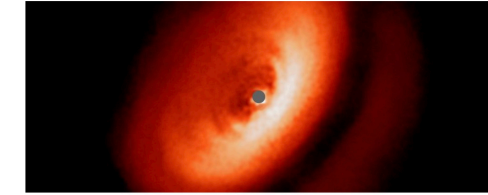
ESO Telescope Sees Signs of Planet Birth
 The Twist Marks the Spot
 20 May 2020
[Boccaletti et al. 2020](#)



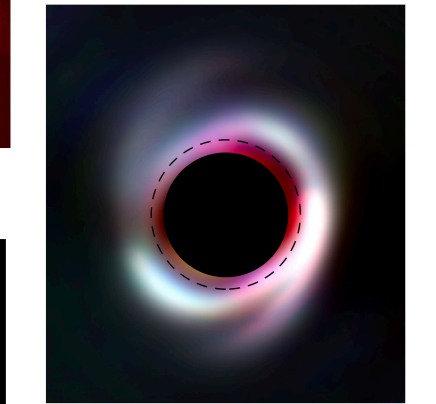
A very hungry planet [Van Capelleveen et al. 2025](#)



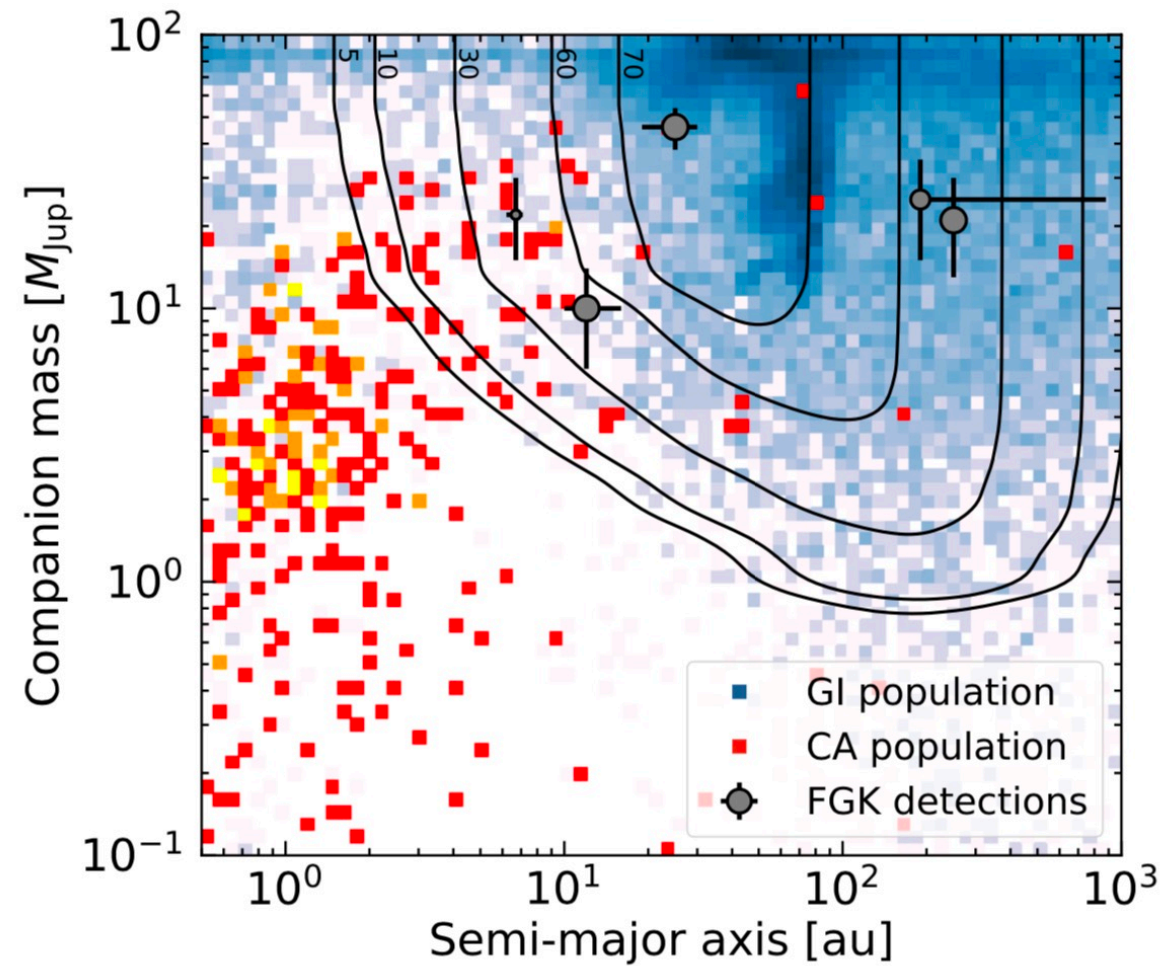
SPHERE Reveals Fascinating Zoo of Discs Around Young Stars
 11 April 2018
[Avenhaus et al. 2018](#)



SPHERE reveals spiral disc around nearby star



[Wagner et al. 2015](#)



[Vigan et al. 2020](#), [Desidera et al. 2021](#), [Langlois et al. 2021](#), [Chomez et al. 2025](#)

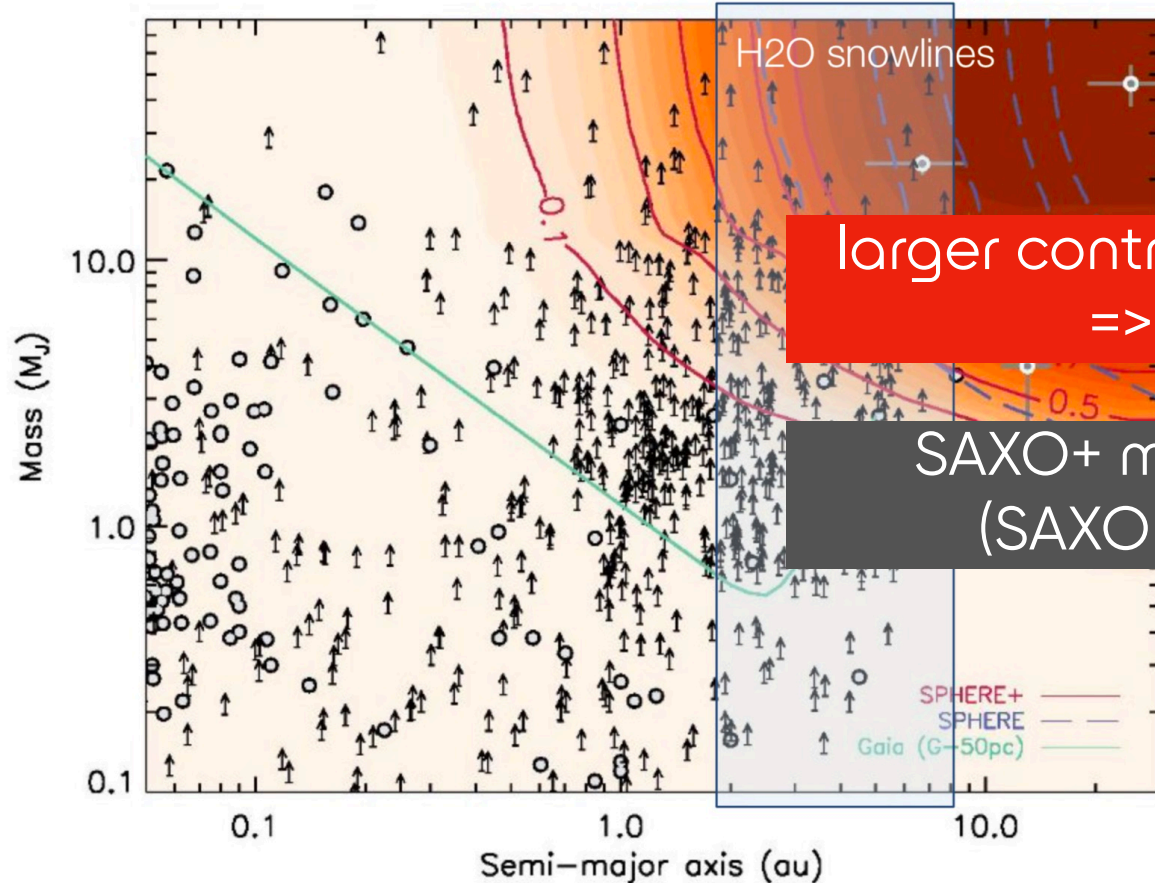
SAXO+ science drivers

Synergy: RV, Gaia



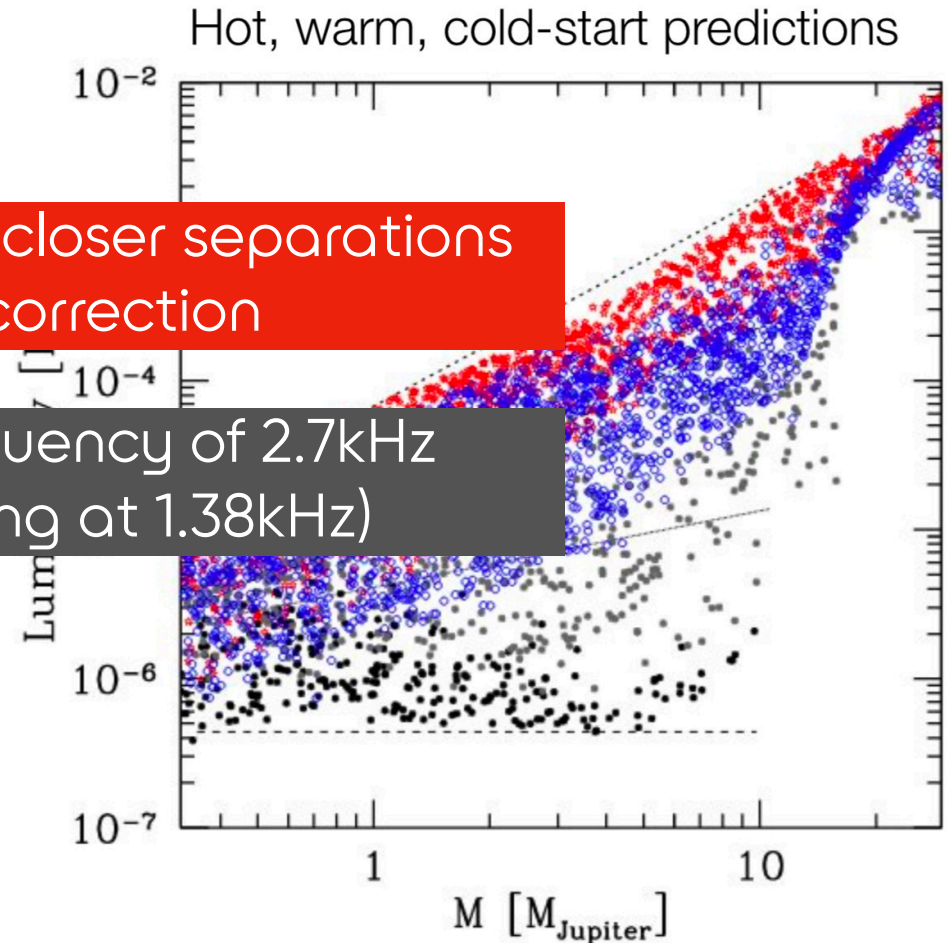
1. DEEPER/CLOSER: to access the bulk of RV/Gaia giant planet population

1.1 Demographics down to the snowline



sample: young (<500Myr), nearby (<150pc) stars

1.2 Mass luminosity relation for young Jupiters



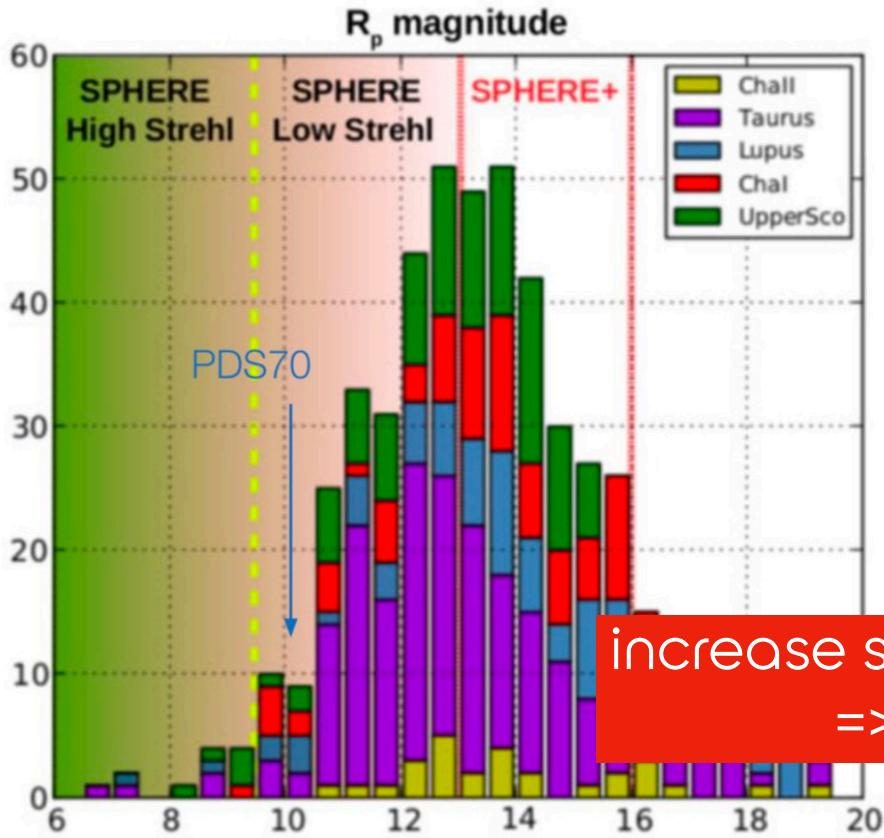
Mordasini et al. 2016

SAXO+ science drivers



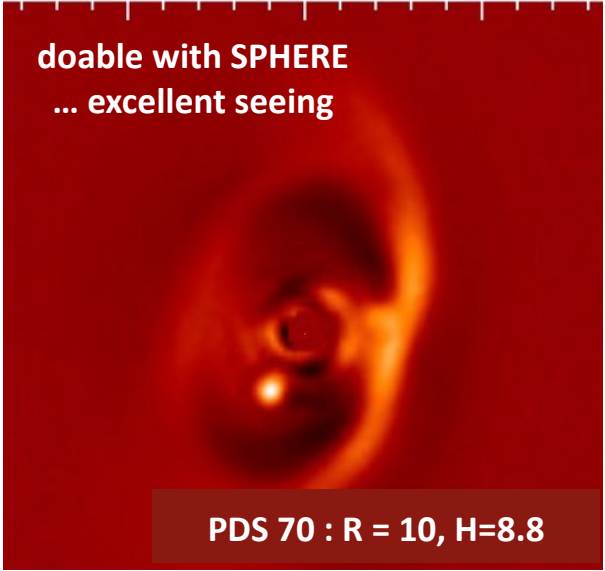
Synergy: ALMA, JWST

2. FAINTER/REDDER: architecture of young planetary systems

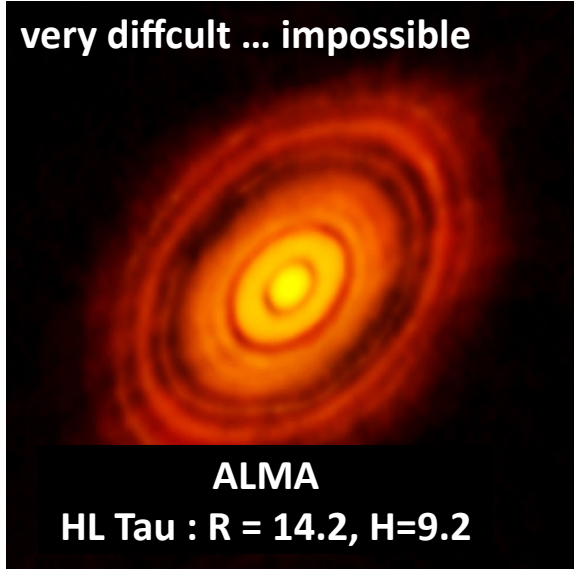


increase statistics to younger/farther systems
=> improve sensitivity in the IR

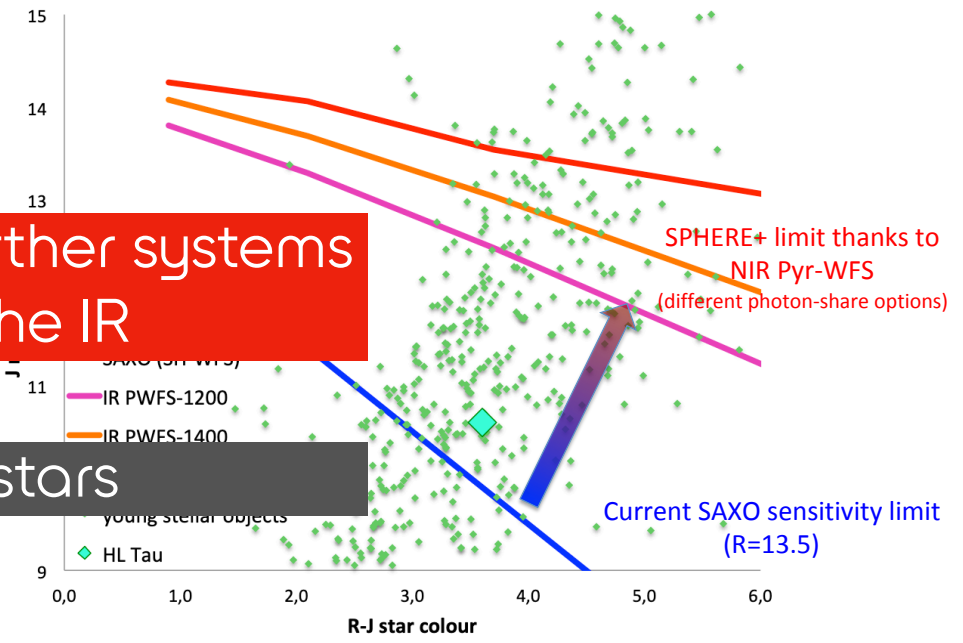
SAXO+ will observe J<12 stars



Mueller et al. 2018



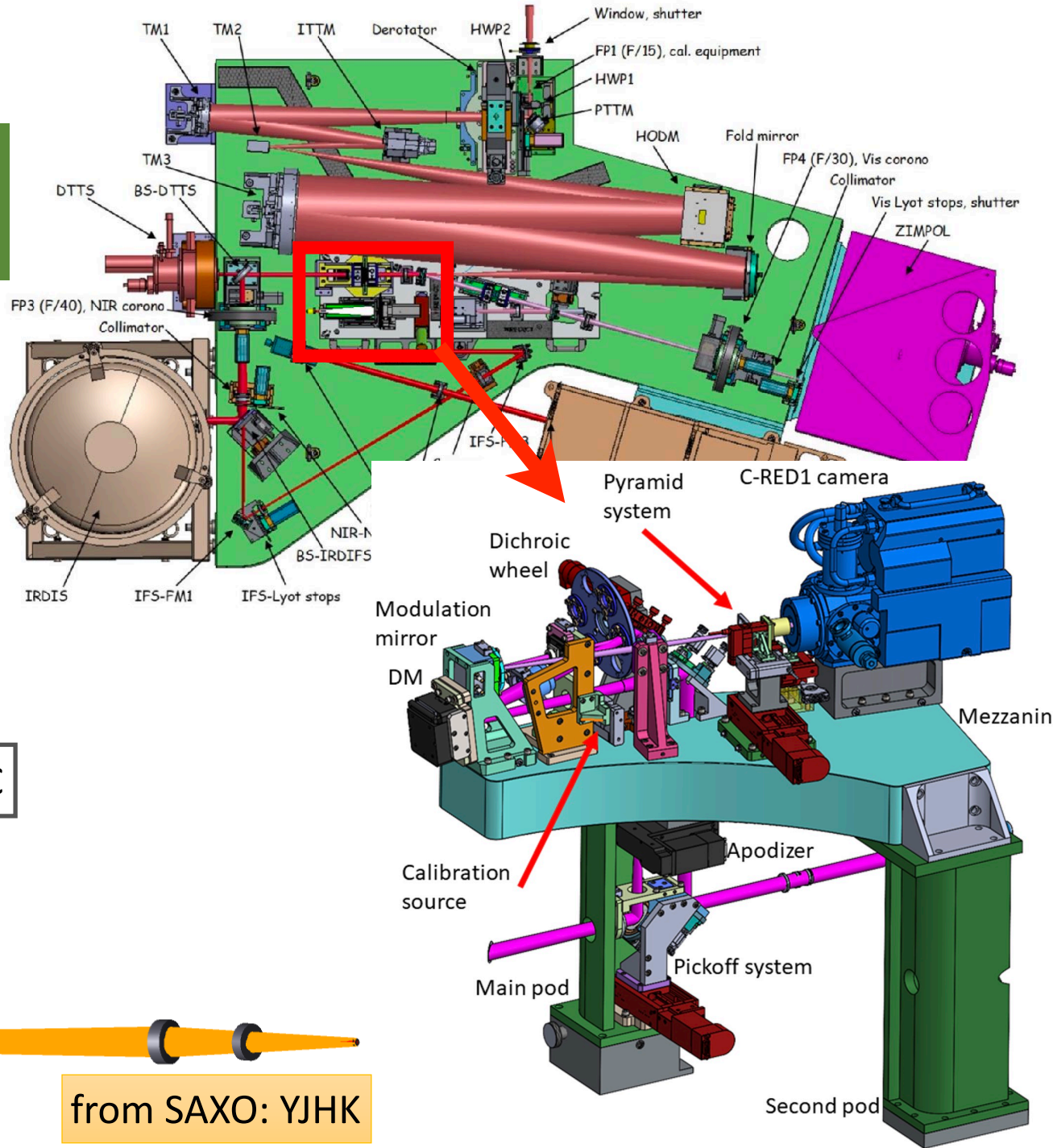
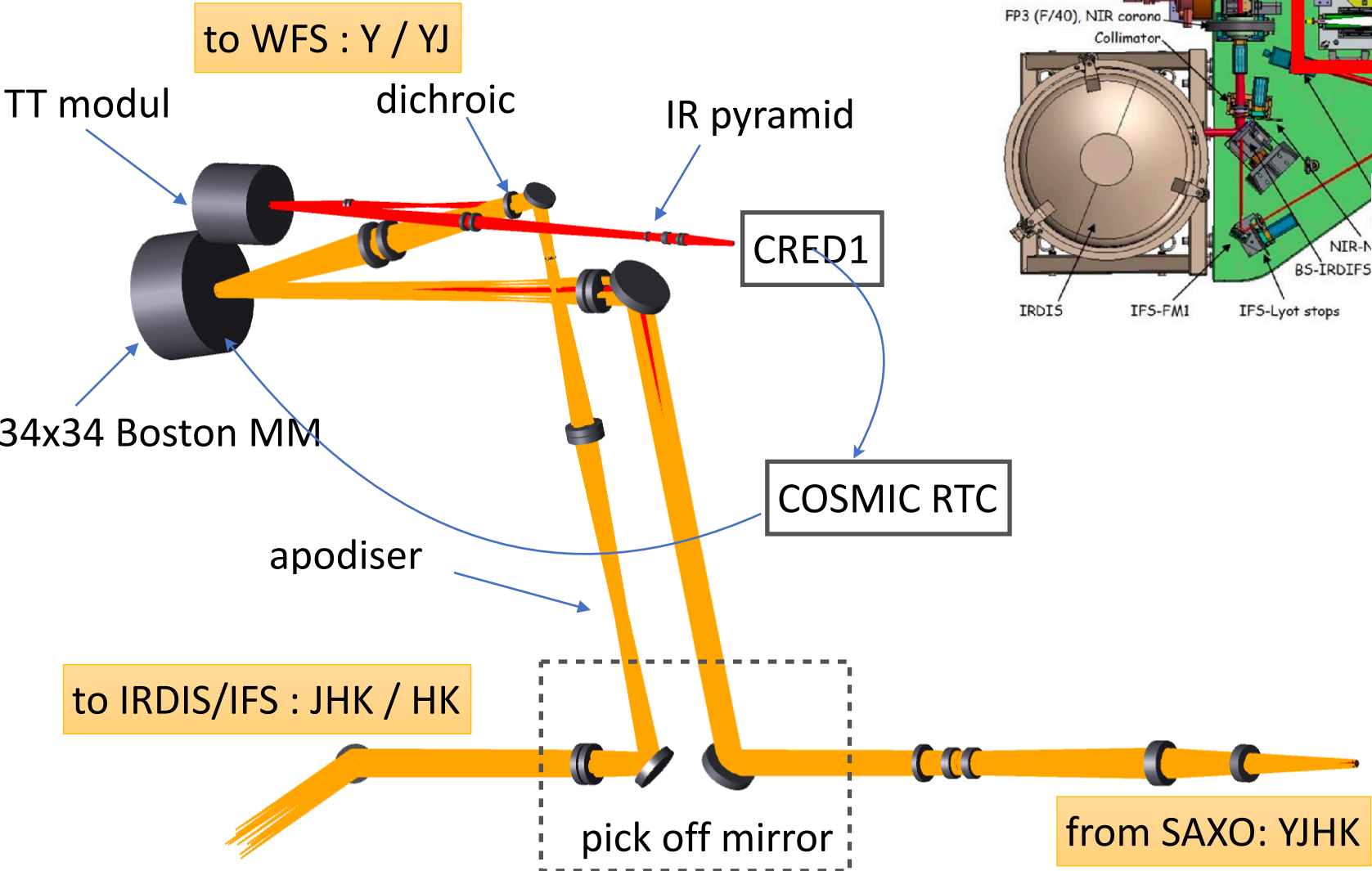
ALMA part. et al. 2014



sample: faint members of SP

SAXO+ concept

- Technical goals (in preparation for PCS):
- demonstrate the gain in contrast with a cascaded AO system
 - compare several control algorithms in same conditions
 - Improve NCPA correction at low freq. (FP-WFS)



Frequency optimisation 1st vs. 2nd stages



PAOLA simulations

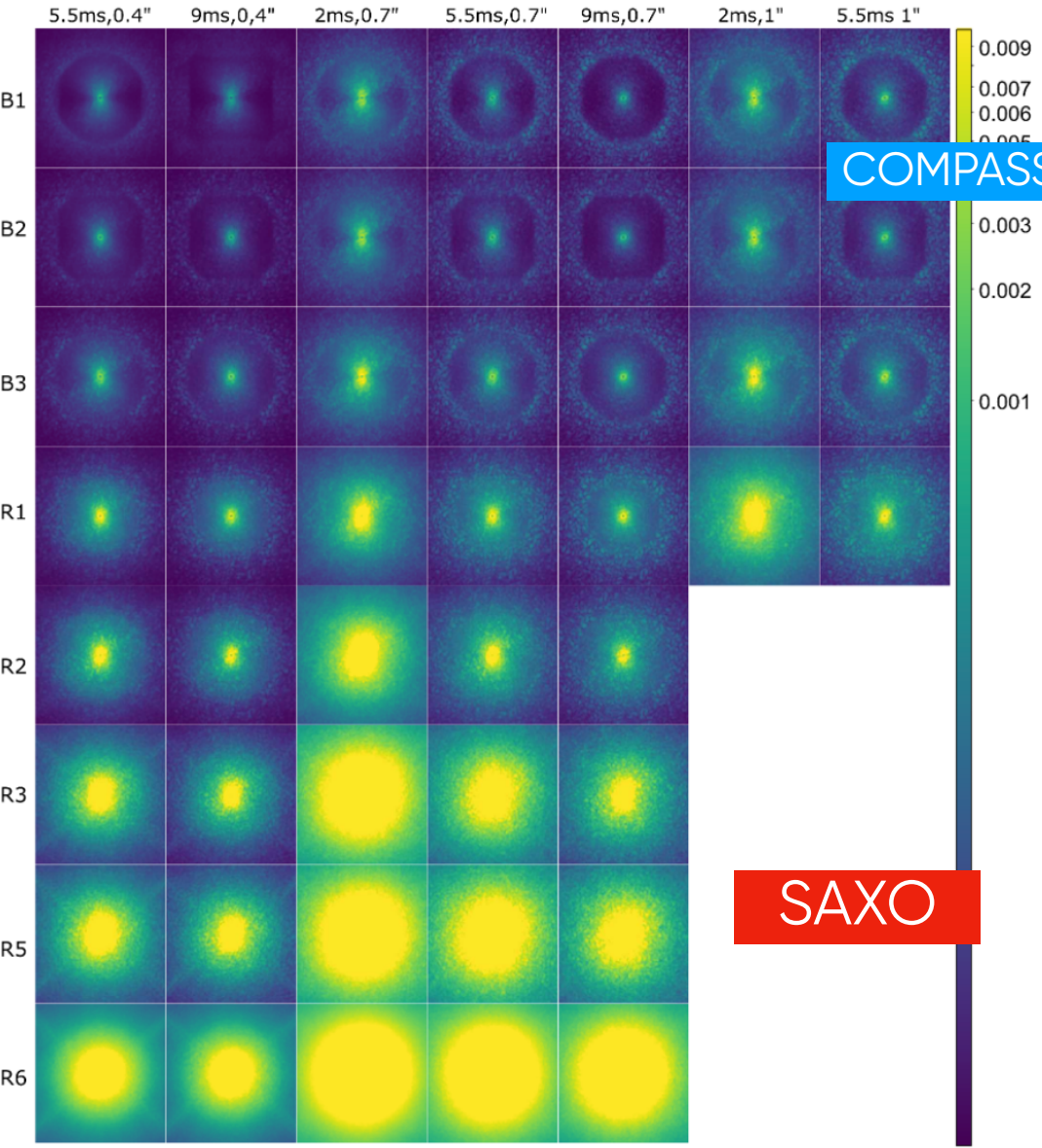
max frequency on 1st/2nd stage

Science Case	Seeing = 0.4''			Seeing = 0.7''			Seeing = 1.0''		
	$\tau_0=2\text{ms}$	$\tau_0=5.5\text{ms}$	$\tau_0=9\text{ms}$	$\tau_0=2\text{ms}$	$\tau_0=5.5\text{ms}$	$\tau_0=9\text{ms}$	$\tau_0=2\text{ms}$	$\tau_0=5.5\text{ms}$	$\tau_0=9\text{ms}$
Bright-1 G=5, J=5	1380, 3000	1380, 3000	1380, 3000	1380, 3000	1380, 3000	1380, 3000	1380, 3000	1380, 3000	1380, 3000
Bright-2 G=7.6, J=7.2	1380, 3000	1380, 3000	1380, 2000	1380, 3000	1380, 2500	1380, 2000	1380, 3000	1380, 2500	1380, 1750
Bright-3 G=9.6, J=7.8	600, 3000	600, 2250	600, 1500	600, 3000	600, 2000	600, 1500	600, 3000	600, 2000	600, 1500
Red-1 G=11.9, J=8.5	300, 3000	300, 2000	300, 1500	300, 3000	300, 2000	300, 1500	300, 3000	300, 1750	300, 1250
Red-2 G=12.8, J=10.1	150, 2000	150, 1250	150, 750	150, 2000	150, 1250	150, 750	150, 2000	150, 1000	150, 750
Red-3 G=14.5, J=10.1	50, 2000	50, 1250	50, 750	50, 2000	50, 1250	50, 750	50, 2000	50, 1000	50, 750
Red-4 G=15.3, J=11.4	25, 1000	25, 500	25, 450	25, 1000	25, 500	25, 450	25, 1000	25, 500	25, 450
Red-5 G=16.8, J=12.5	10, 500	10, 300	10, 300	10, 500	10, 300	10, 300	10, 500	10, 300	10, 300

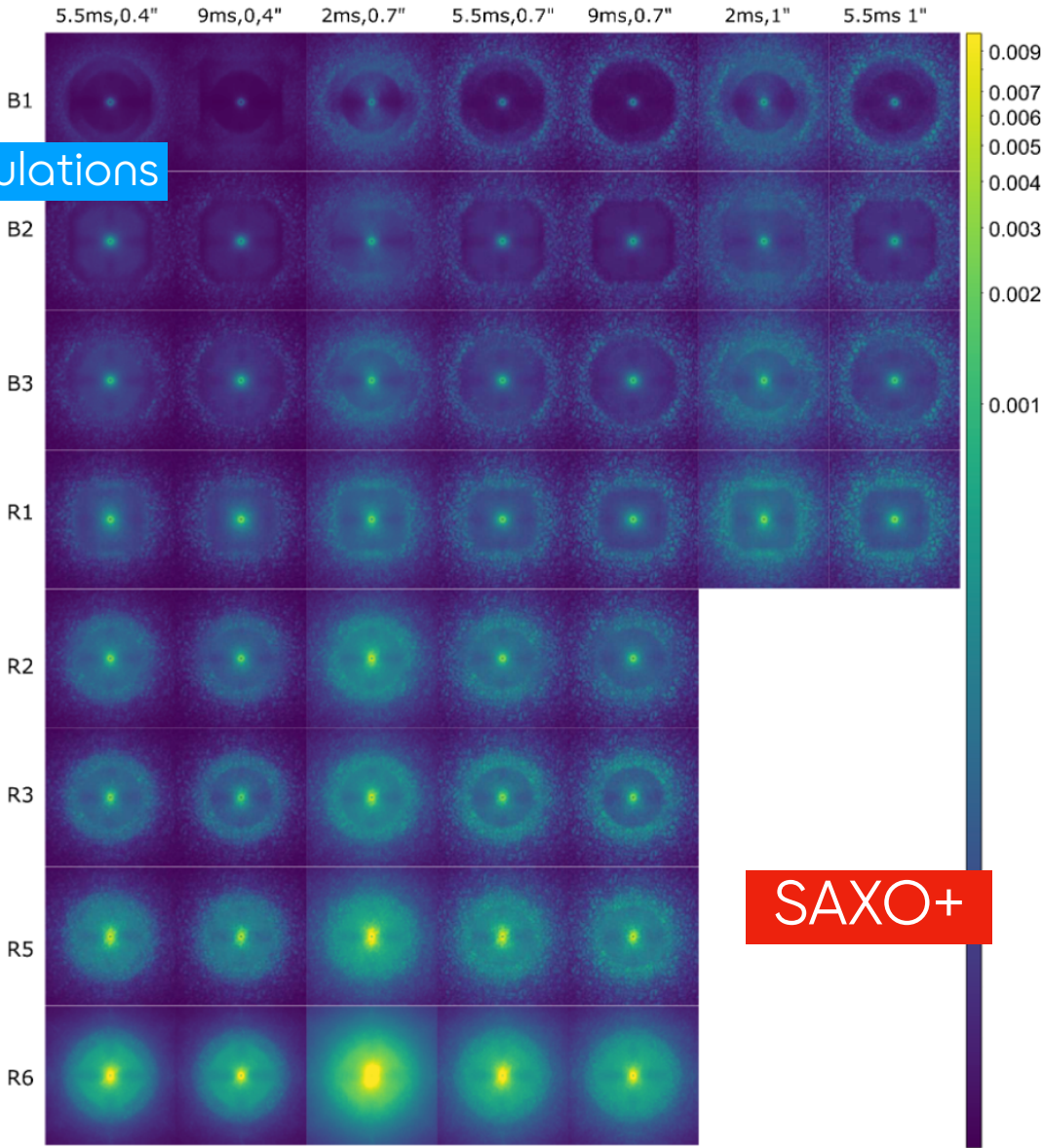
very low frequency on the 1st stage

2 simulation approaches
 - **semi-analytical PAOLA** : error budget, 2nd stage frequency optimisation
 - **E2E COMPASS** : optimisation combined to semi-analytical + global parametric exploration
 - SAXO/SAXO+ parameters: frequencies and gains 1st/2nd stage, modulation amplitude ...

Coronagraphic images SAXO/SAXO+



SAXO

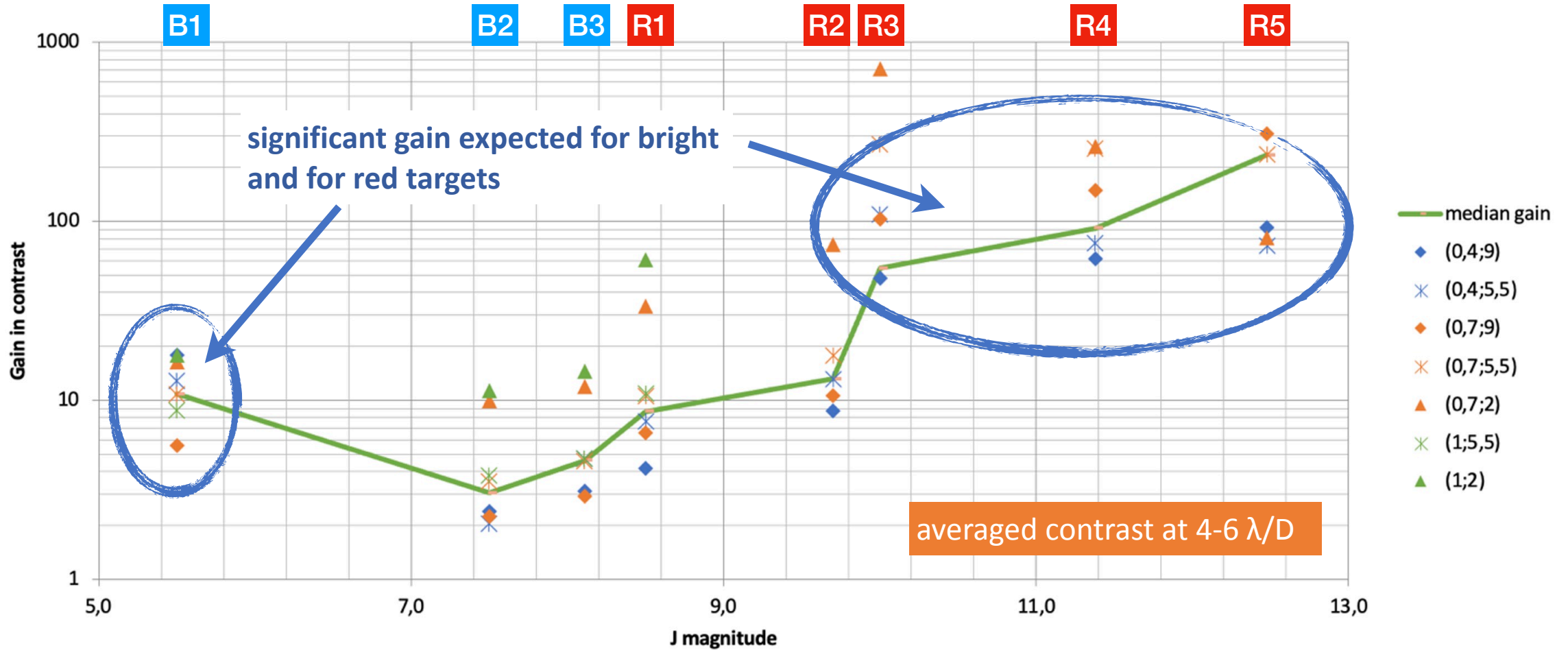


SAXO+

Gain in contrast SAXO/SAXO+



COMPASS E2E simulations

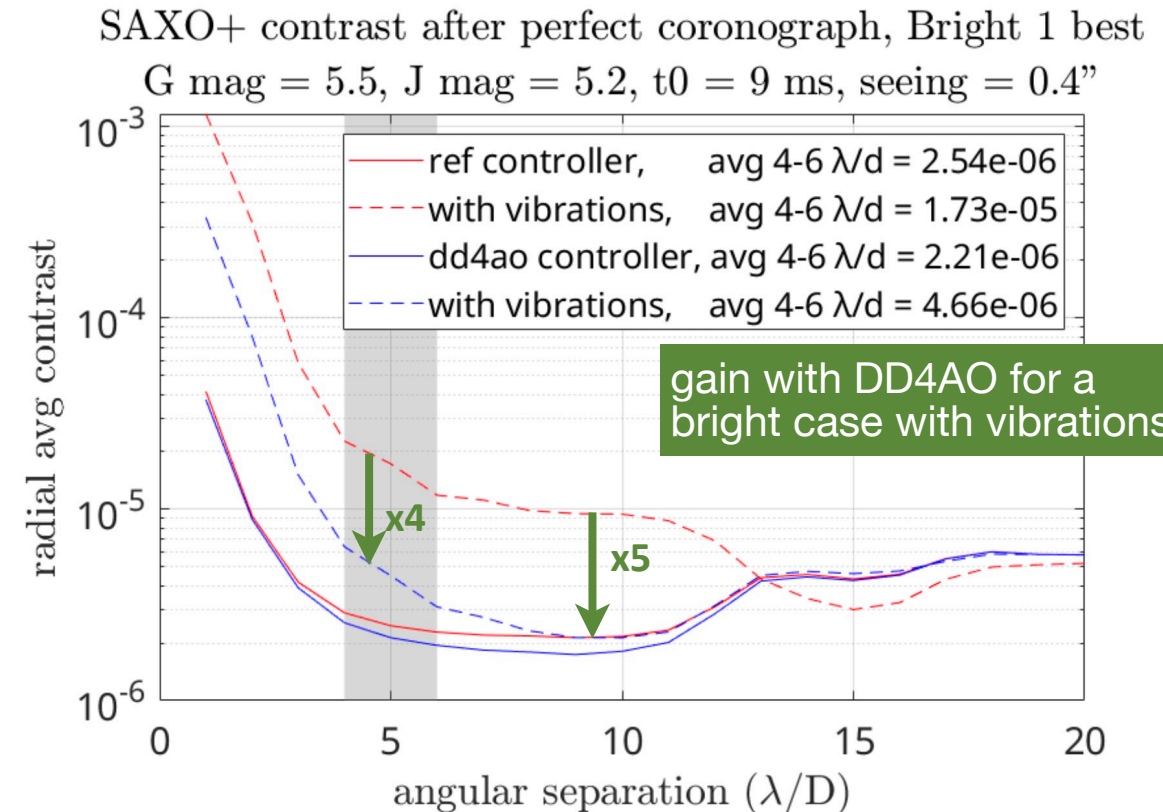


Control algorithms



- Baseline: two integrators in “cascade” (**standalone**)
 - **REF** – reference controller => **scalar gains on 1st stage (SPARTA) - Optimized Modal Gains on 2nd Stage (COSMIC)**
- Other controllers (1st stage integrator + ...)
 - **Linear + machine learning, standalone** or **standalone+**
 - **LQGSPH / LQGSPH+** – Linear Quadratic Gaussian for SPHERE (IOGS)
 - **DD4AO / DD4AO+** – Data driven for AO (Obs. Geneva)
 - **TAO1 / TAO1+** – Themis AO number 1 (CRAL)
 - **Nonlinear + neural networks, standalone**
 - **PO4AO** – Policy Optimization for AO (ESO)
 - **DSRL** – Dual-stage Supervised & Reinforcement Learning (LIRA)

- **Gain**
 - important gain with vibrations
 - reduce DM stroke
 - tolerance in the tuning of the first stage
 - standalone+ (feedforward of the HODM commands) provides very limited gain

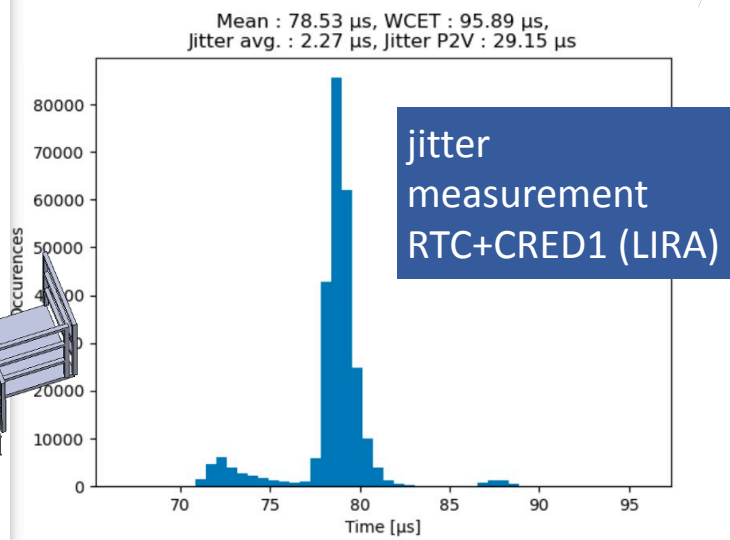
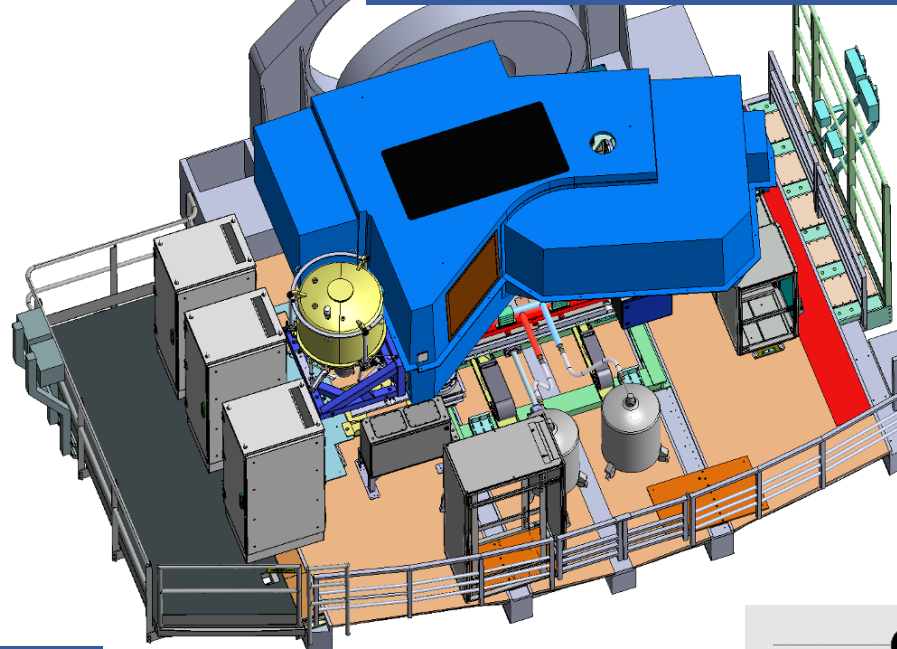
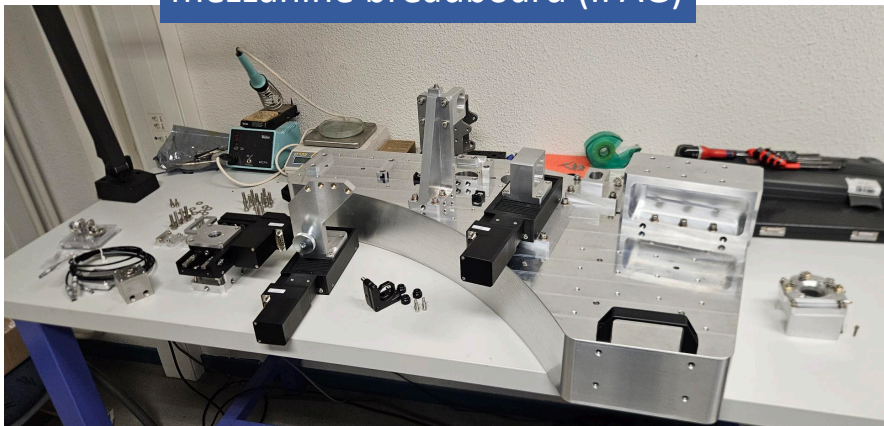


Activities in progress...

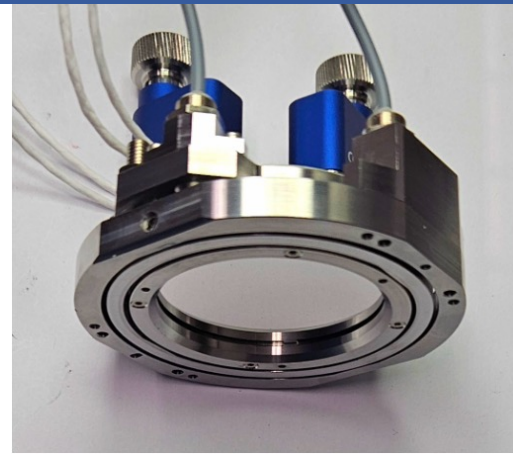


design for the platform extension + new cabinets

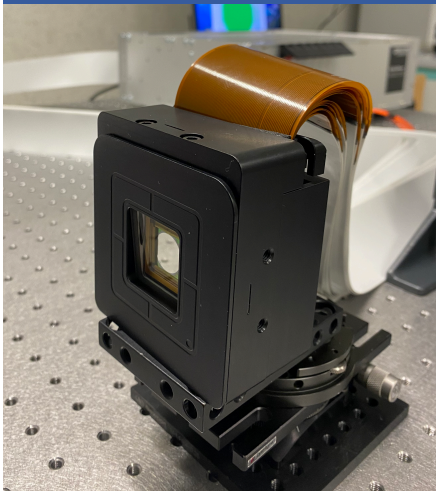
mezzanine breadboard (IPAG)



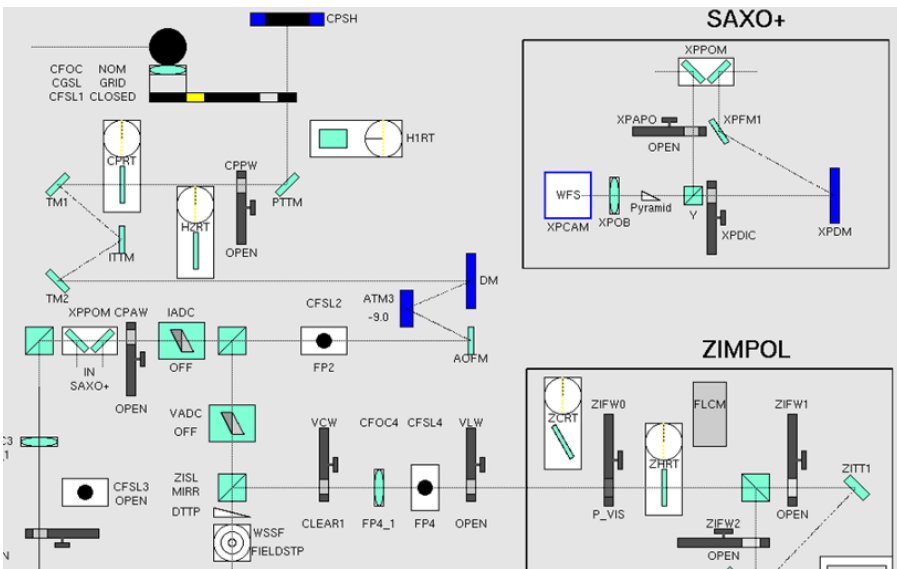
Gimbal mount of Pick off mirror (IPAG)



34x34 BMM testing (INAF)

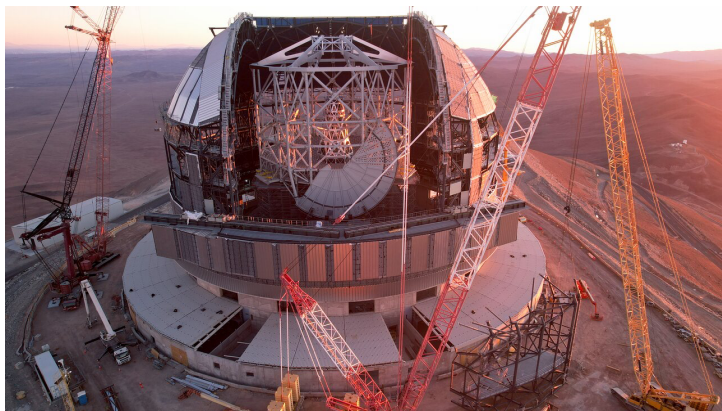


CRED1 WFS camera (U. Geneva, Lagrange, LIRA)



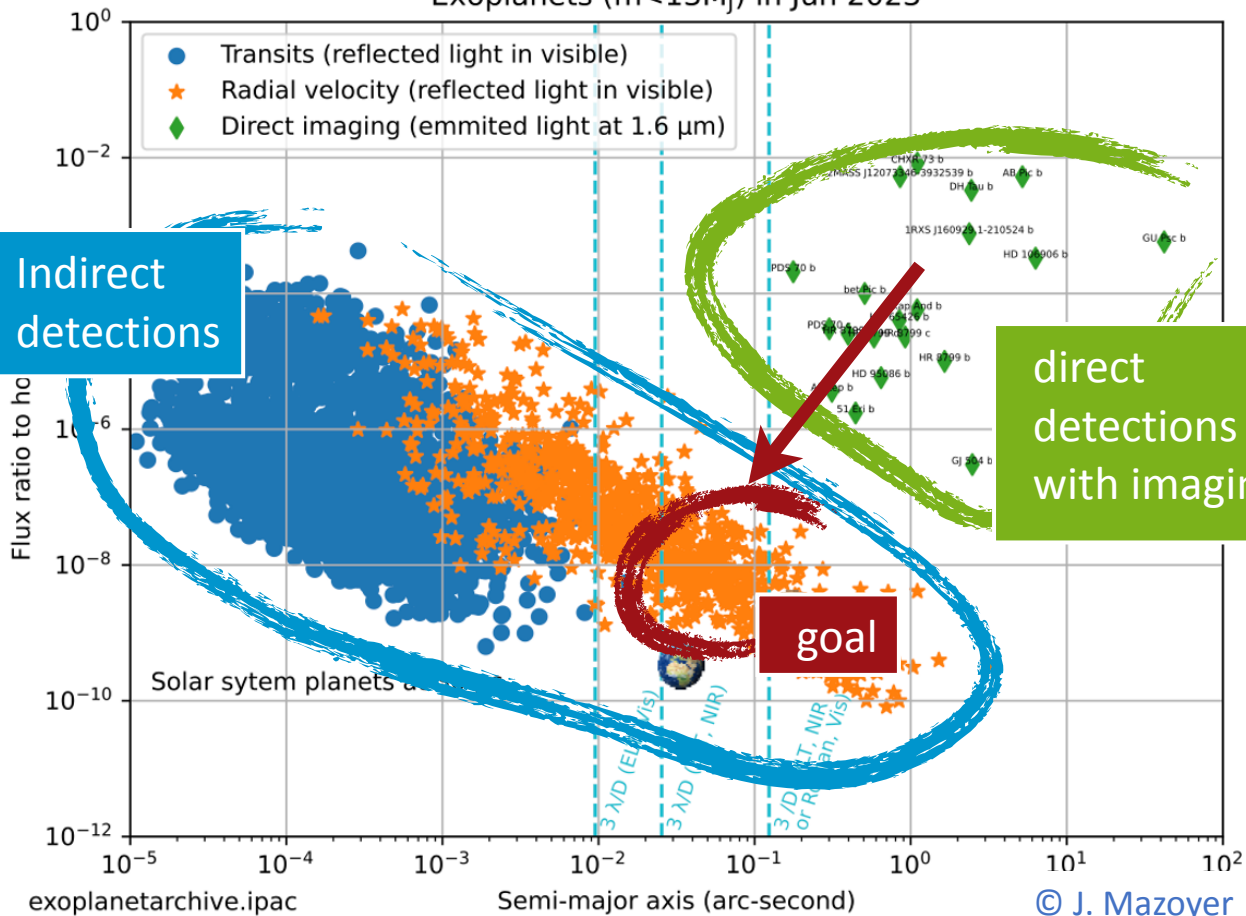
synoptic SPHERE panel (Lagrange)

PCS @ ELT



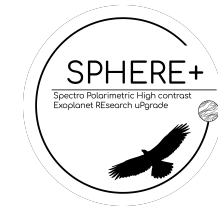
Gain :
1-2 orders of mag in separation
2-3 orders of mag in contrast

Exoplanets ($m < 13M_J$) in Jun 2023

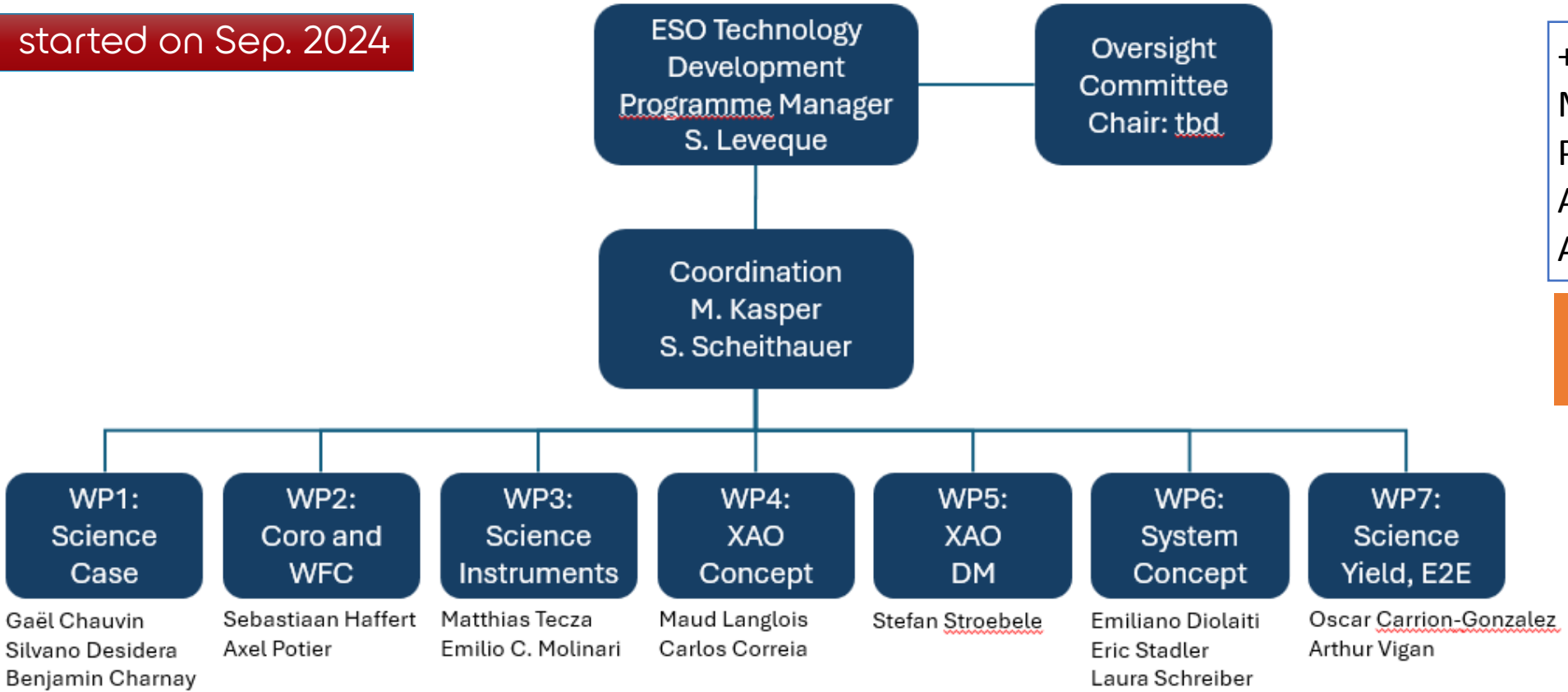


- **Rocky planets:** detection, orbit determination, habitability - presence of (liquid) H_2O , biosignatures (O_2 , CH_4)
- **Sub-Neptunes – Giant Planets:** characterization in reflected light, orbits, compositions
- **Planet formation:** $\text{H}\alpha$ imaging, accreting Exoplanets in transitional disks
- **Young Giant Exoplanets:** photometric variability, Doppler imaging
- **Exomoons:** detection by RV, transits, imaging
- **Circumstellar disks:** ~ 5 mas resolution with 15 mas inner working angle

PCS R&D roadmap



started on Sep. 2024

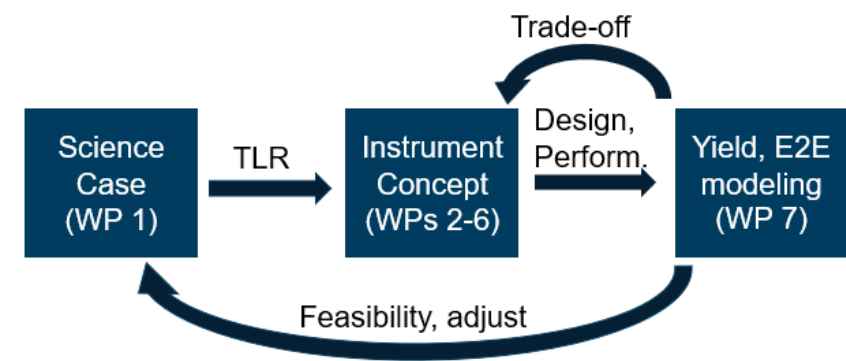


+ INSU representatives:
M. Bonnefoy (IPAG)
P. Martinez (Lagrange)
A. Vigan (LAM)
A. Boccaletti (LIRA)

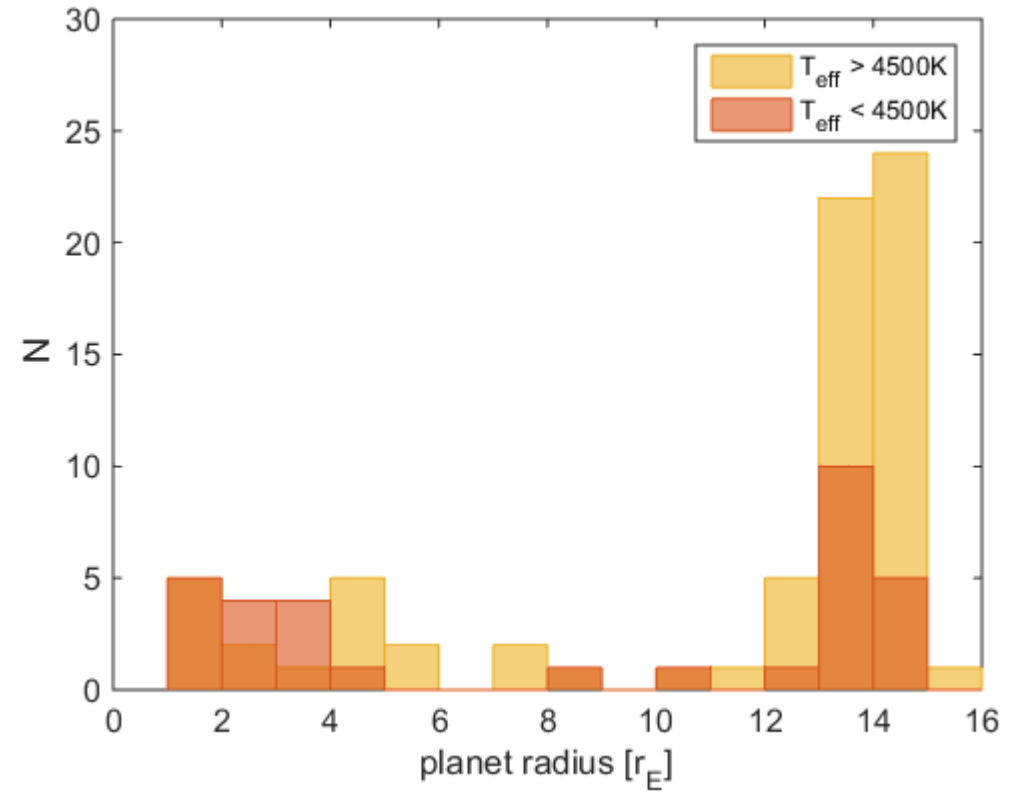
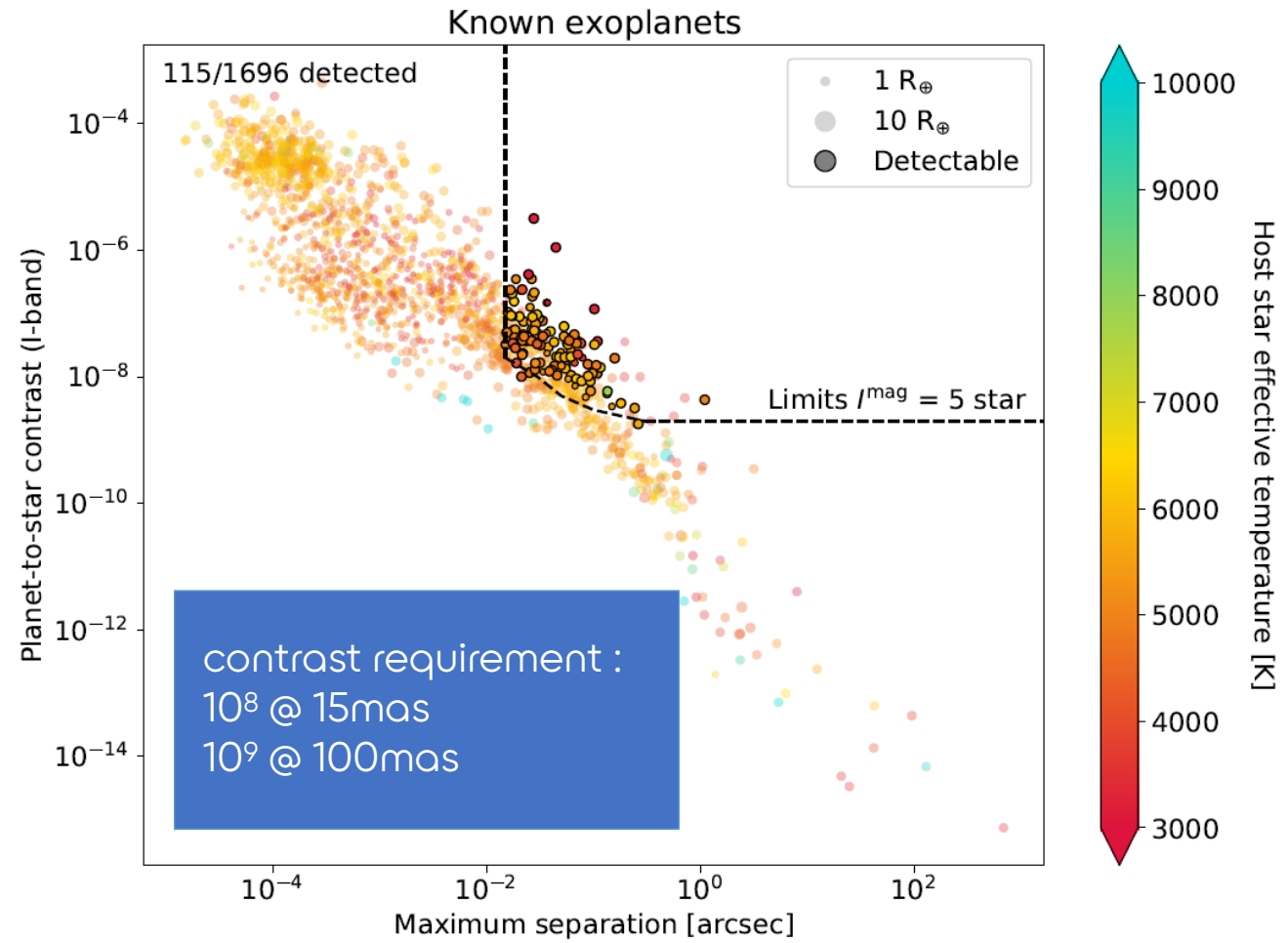
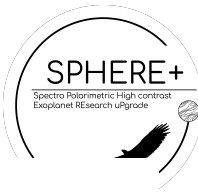
scientific animation / organisation ?

+ >140 contributors from the community !
Best effort, everyone can join

Interested ? ==> mkasper@eso.org



PCS detection performances



Exoplanet yield (already known planets) :

- ~ 10 Earth/Super Earths
- > 20 Sub Neptunes
- > 70 jovians

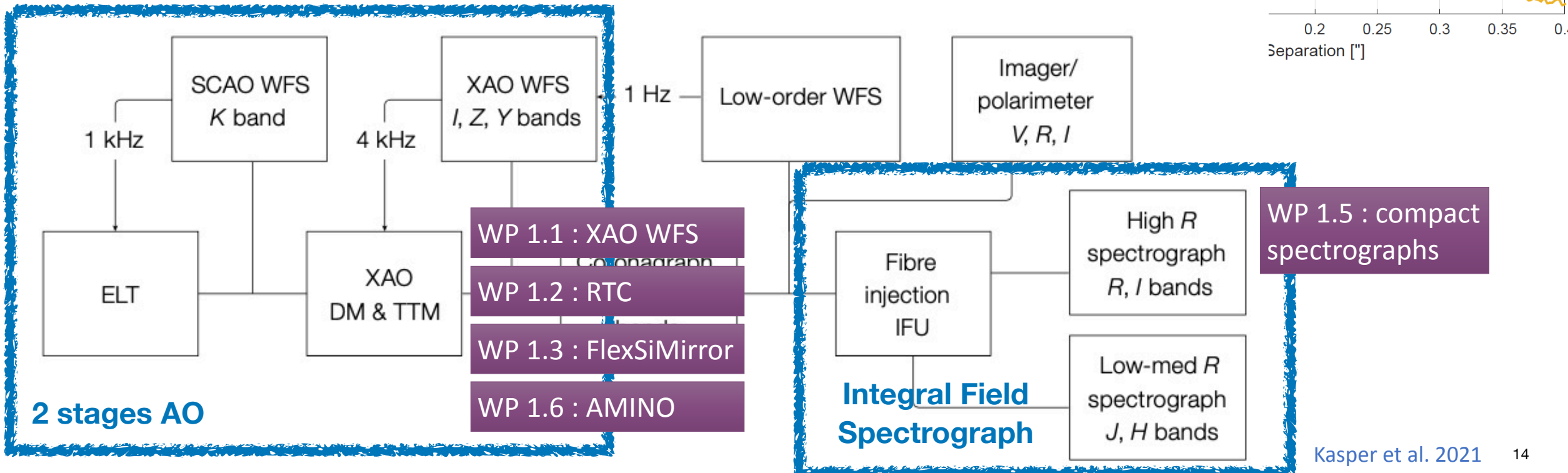
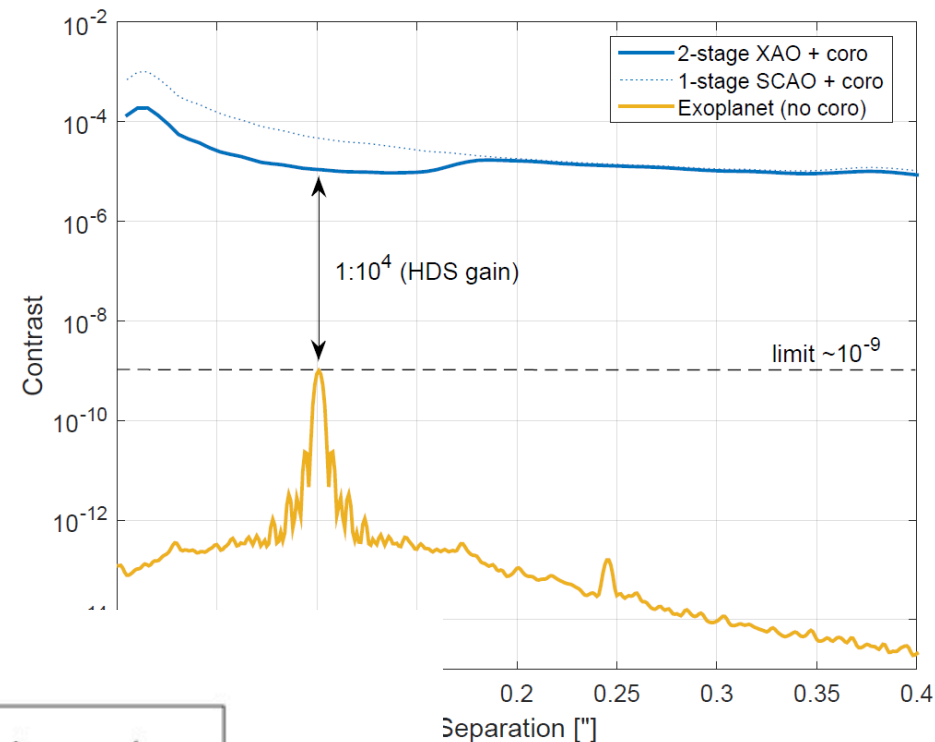
Simulation by Jens Kammerer

PCS design concept

- telescope size 8m => 39m : AO system complexity increases
- need to tackle "temporal delay error"

PCS will implement 3 solutions :

- faster AO : 1 to 4 kHz
- include prediction in the wavefront control (ML, RL)
- focal plane wavefront control (dark hole)



Summary and next steps



- **SAXO+** will demonstrate key techniques/strategies for **PCS** on a routine basis
 - **cascaded AO** in extreme AO regime with visible SH + IR Pyr
 - optimized control algorithms (comparison vs. conditions)
 - focal plane wavefront control
- Procurement is ongoing. optics delivery is on critical path (delivery June/July 2026)
- First tests of opto-electro-mecanic @INAF-Bologna, **July 2026 => ~6 months**
- AO tests @CNRS-CRAL in **2027 => ~12 months**
- aim to be **on-sky by early 2028** (phased with PCS R&D roadmap and possible start of PCS phase A)
- **Demonstration phase on-sky** (part of the PCS roadmap) : commissioning 20 nights + 5n/semester for 3 years
- **Exploitation phase** if **SAXO+** meets performance. in open time (add. work, templates, pipeline, ETC, ...)
- **PCS R&D roadmap is ongoing**
 - Timely for the french community to be involved
 - Crucial to determine future contributions when a phase A will start (~2030)