

# Ground-based **Thermal** imaging of Habitable Exoplanets

Christian Marois  
NRC Astronomy & Astrophysics



KISS  
Pasadena, USA  
20161205



# Why 10 microns?

## Flux from the planet (a closer look)



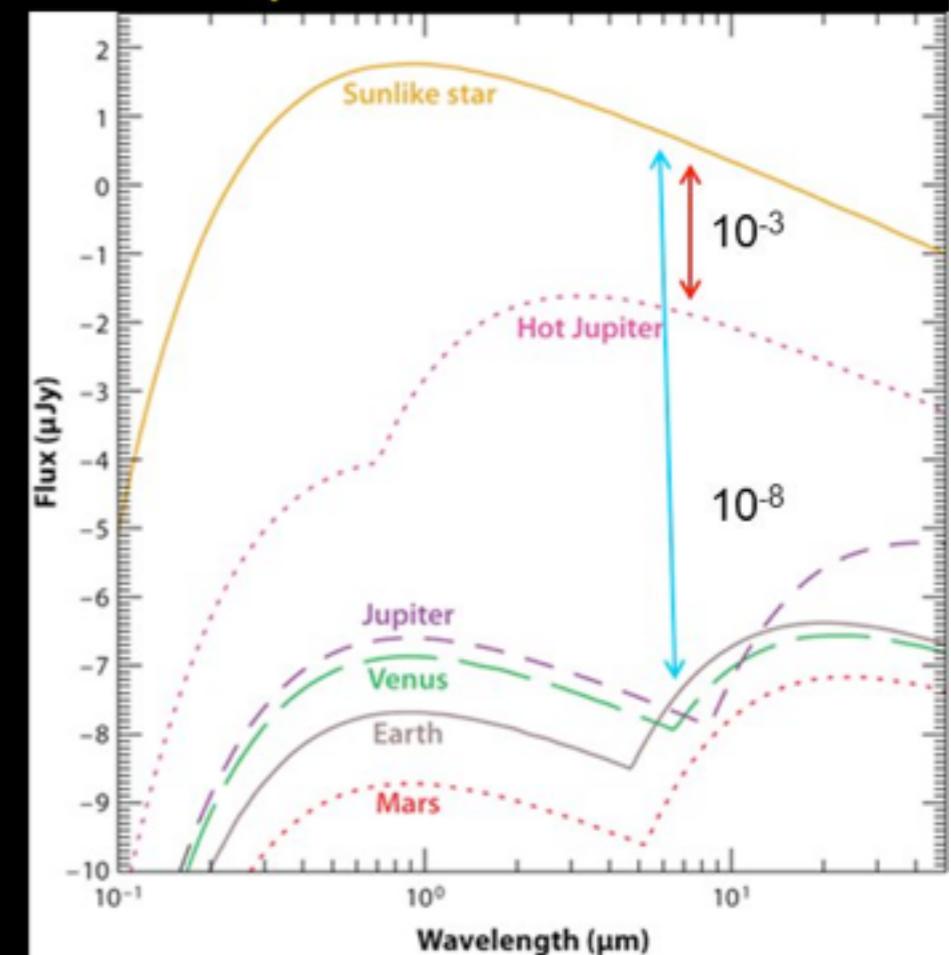
Peak flux:

Sun ~ 0.58 micron  
Hot-Jupiter > 3 micron  
Earth ~ 10 micron

Flux ratio (~ 8 micron):

Hot-jupiter/Sun ~  $10^{-3}$   
Earth/Sun ~  $10^{-8}$  !!!

Also, the flux ratio is favorable where the flux from the star & planet is high (more photons)



A Seager S, Deming D. 2010.  
R Annu. Rev. Astron. Astrophys. 48:631–72

Ground-based observations/characterization of habitable planets around Sun-like stars.

Tab. 1 Exo-Earth sensitivity calculation table for 10-micron imaging spectroscopy

	T-RECS/ MICHELLE	8-m ExAO	30-m ExAO
On sky limit (5 sigma) 2h on sky	11.1	-	-
Detector QE	20%	80% (+0.75 mag)	80% (+0.75 mag)
FWHM (arcsec)	0.50 (70%-ile)	0.26 (+0.7 mag)	0.069 (+4.3 mag)
Time for orbit to move by I/D at 1 arcsec around Alpha Centauri	28 days	14 days	4 days
Obs. efficiency <sup>1</sup>	50%	90% (+0.32 mag)	90% (+0.32 mag)
Sequence length (hours)	2	100 (+2.12 mag)	30 (+1.47 mag)
Inst. throughput	50%	30% (-0.28 mag)	30% (-0.28 mag)
Warm low emissivity optics <sup>2,3,4,5</sup>	1 + 2 surfaces from telescope	1 + 3 at 5C + 2 surfaces from telescope (-0.12 mag)	1+ 3 at 5C + 3 surfaces from telescope (-0.12 mag)
Optimize 10-13 microns filter for detection	-	1.5x SNR (+0.44 mag)	1.5x SNR (+0.44 mag)
5 sigma limit Basic characterization	11.1	15.0	18.0
3 sigma limit Detection only	11.7	15.6	18.6

Optimize instrument

- Higher QE detector
- No dither/chop
- AO with gold coated optics
- Coronagraph
- Dedicated campaign

Earth at Alpha Cent  
N=15.2

Tab. 2 Apparent magnitude and required time for detection at 10-13 microns of various types of exo-Earth at 1.325pc (Alpha Centauri system)

	Radius (Earth)	Temp. (K)	App. Mag. 10 microns	Time on 8m 3.0 sig. det.(h)	Time on 30m 5 sig. det.(h)	Charact ?
Earth	1	288	15.2	50	0.17	Y (30m)
Super-Earth (Kepler 22b)	2	288	13.7	3	0.01	Y
Warm Earth (Dune planet)	1	320	14.8	23	0.08	Y

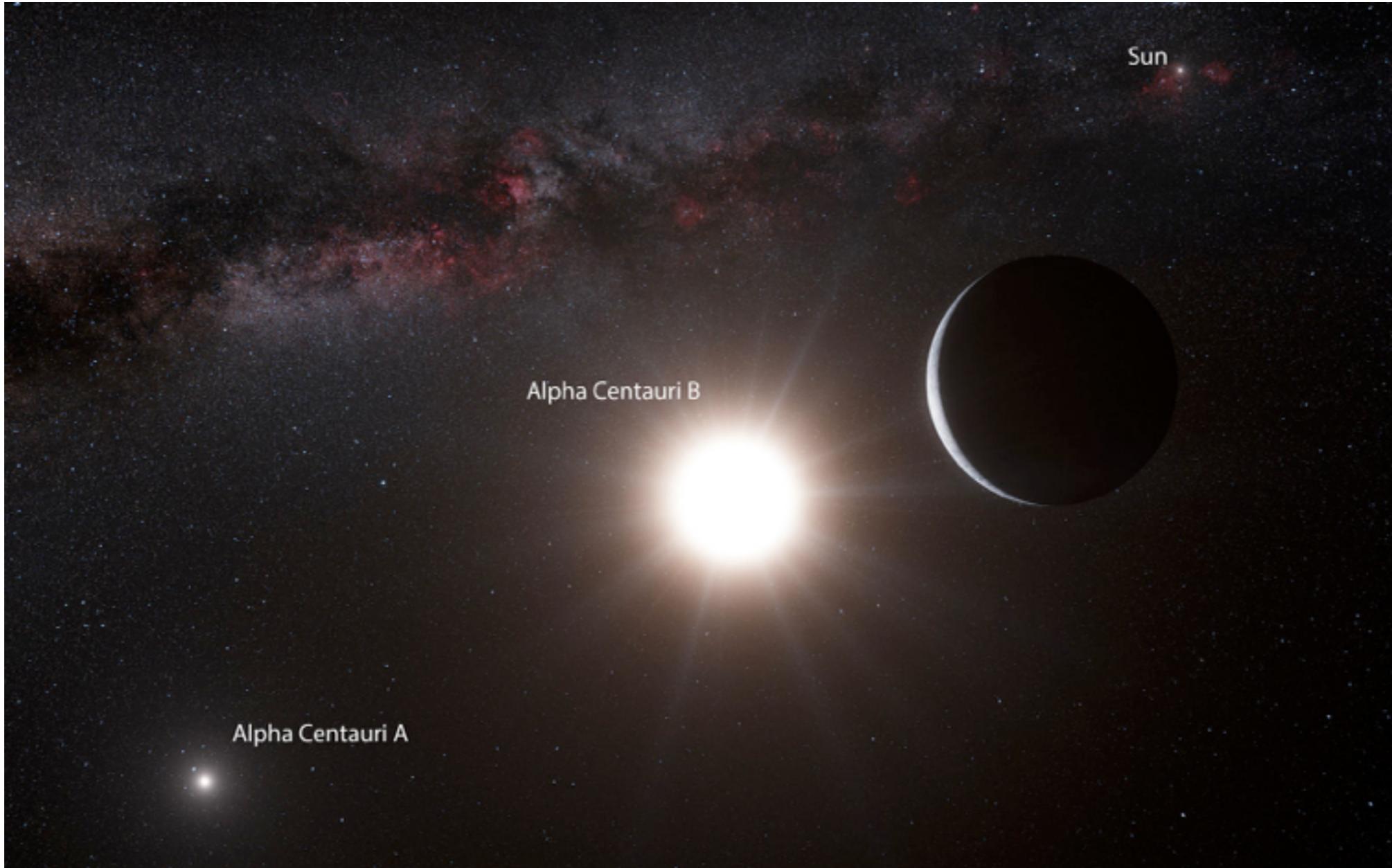
Tab. 3 Apparent magnitude and required time at 10-13 microns of exo-Earth planets at 5pc

	Radius (Earth)	Temperature (K)	App. Mag. 10 microns	Time on 30m 5 sig. det. (h)	Charact ?
Earth	1	288	18.1	36	~Y
Super-Earth (Kepler 22b)	2	288	16.6	2	Y
Warm Earth (Dune planet)	1	320	17.7	17	Y

Tab. 4 Apparent magnitude and required time at 10-13 microns exo-Earth at **10pc**

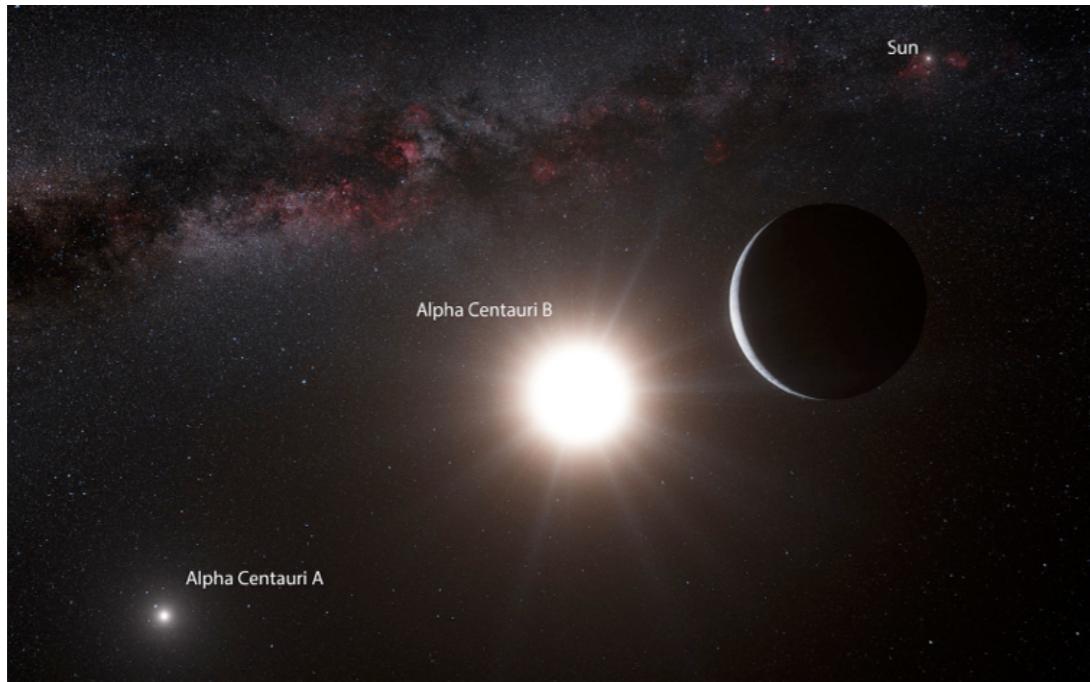
	Radius (Earth)	Temperature (K)	App. Mag. 10 microns	Time on 30m 5 sig. det. (h)	Charact ?
Earth	1	288	19.6	<b>571</b>	~Y
Super-Earth (Kepler 22b)	2	288	18.2	<b>43</b>	~Y
Warm Super-Earth (Kepler 22b)	2	320	17.7	<b>17</b>	Y

# Thermal imaging of planets around Alpha Centauri A & B



For Alpha Centauri, HZ rocky planet imaging at 10 microns requires a contrast comparable to GPI/SPHERE at similar separations.

# *Alpha Centauri*



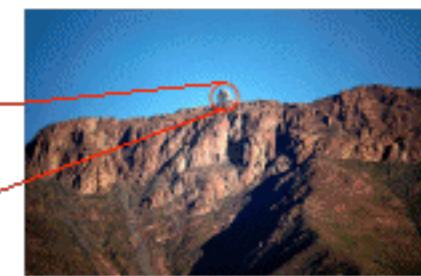
South America



Chile



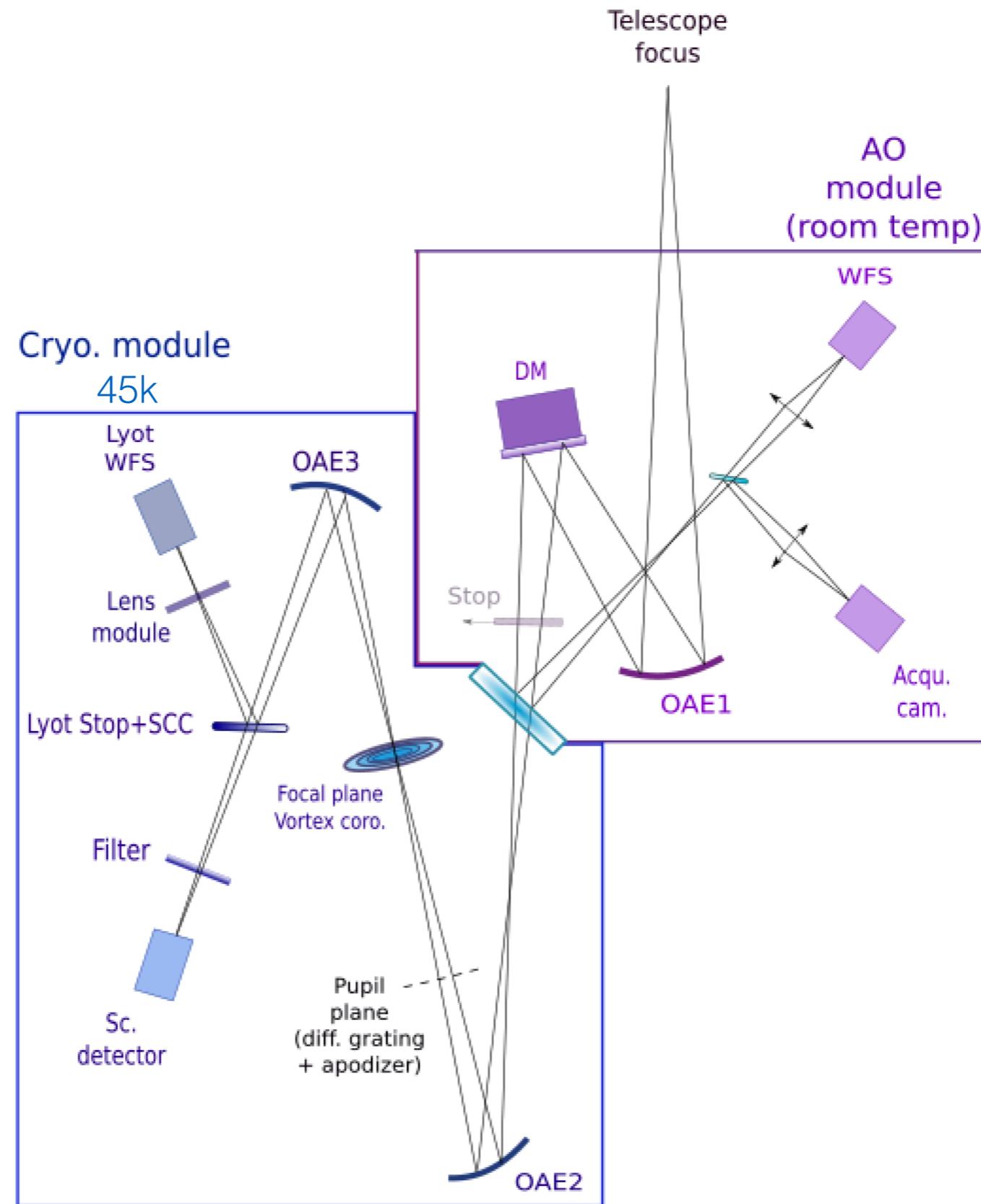
Region de  
Coquimbo



Summit of Cerro Pachon -  
The Gemini South  
Observatory

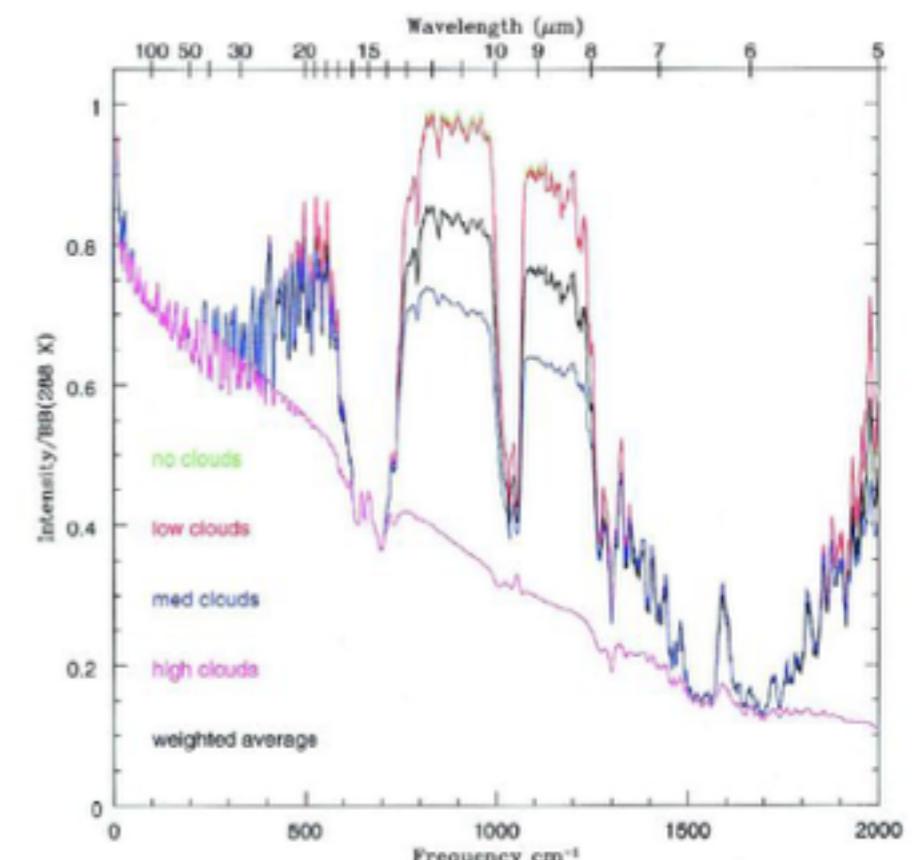
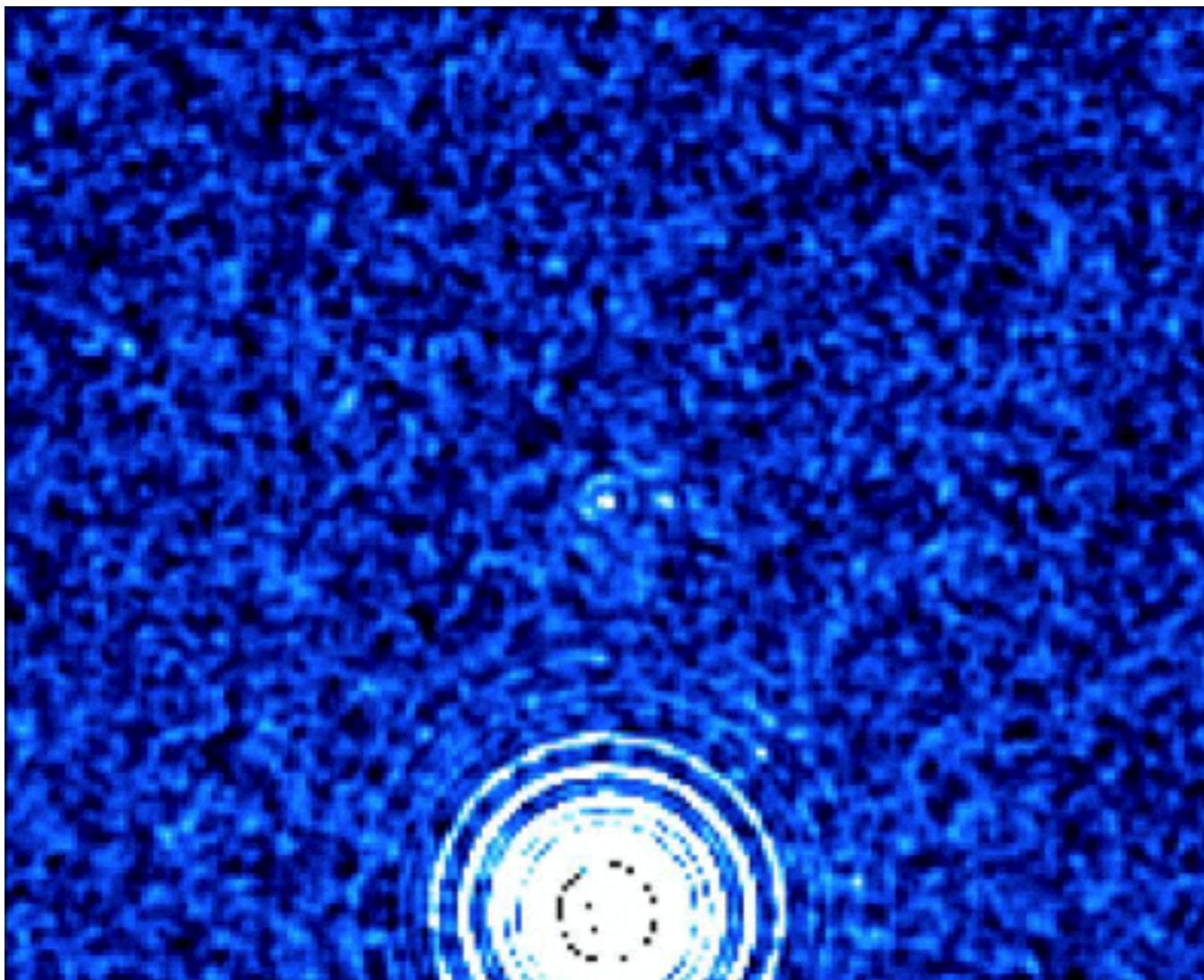


# TIKI preliminary optical design





# *Alpha Centauri @ 10 microns*

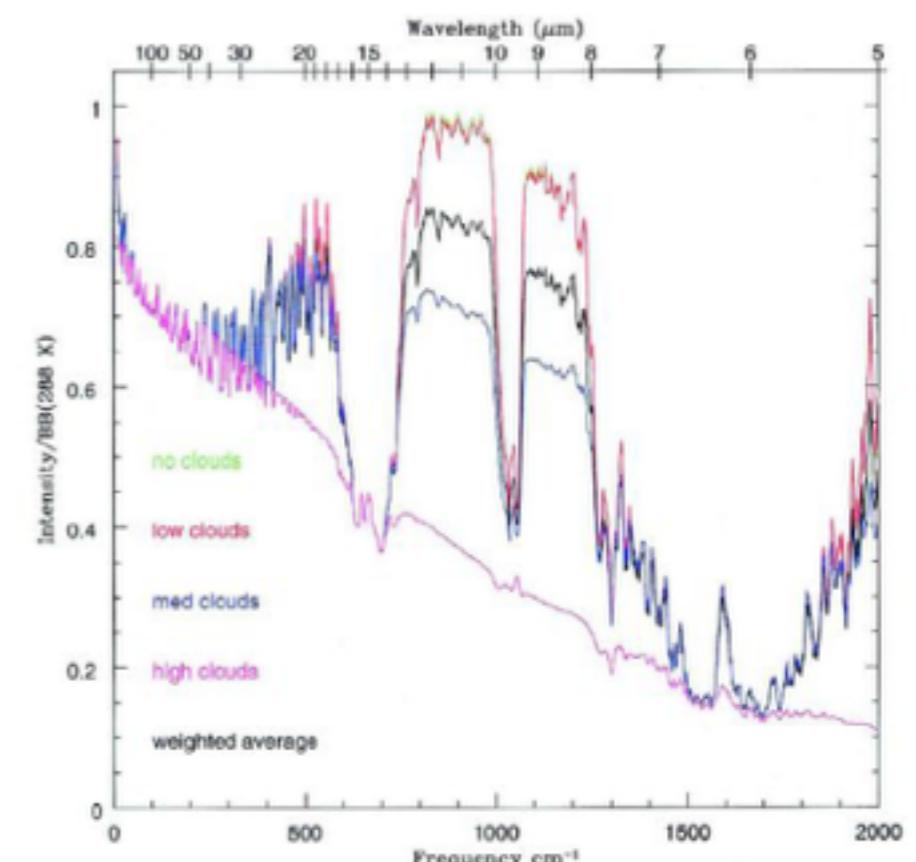
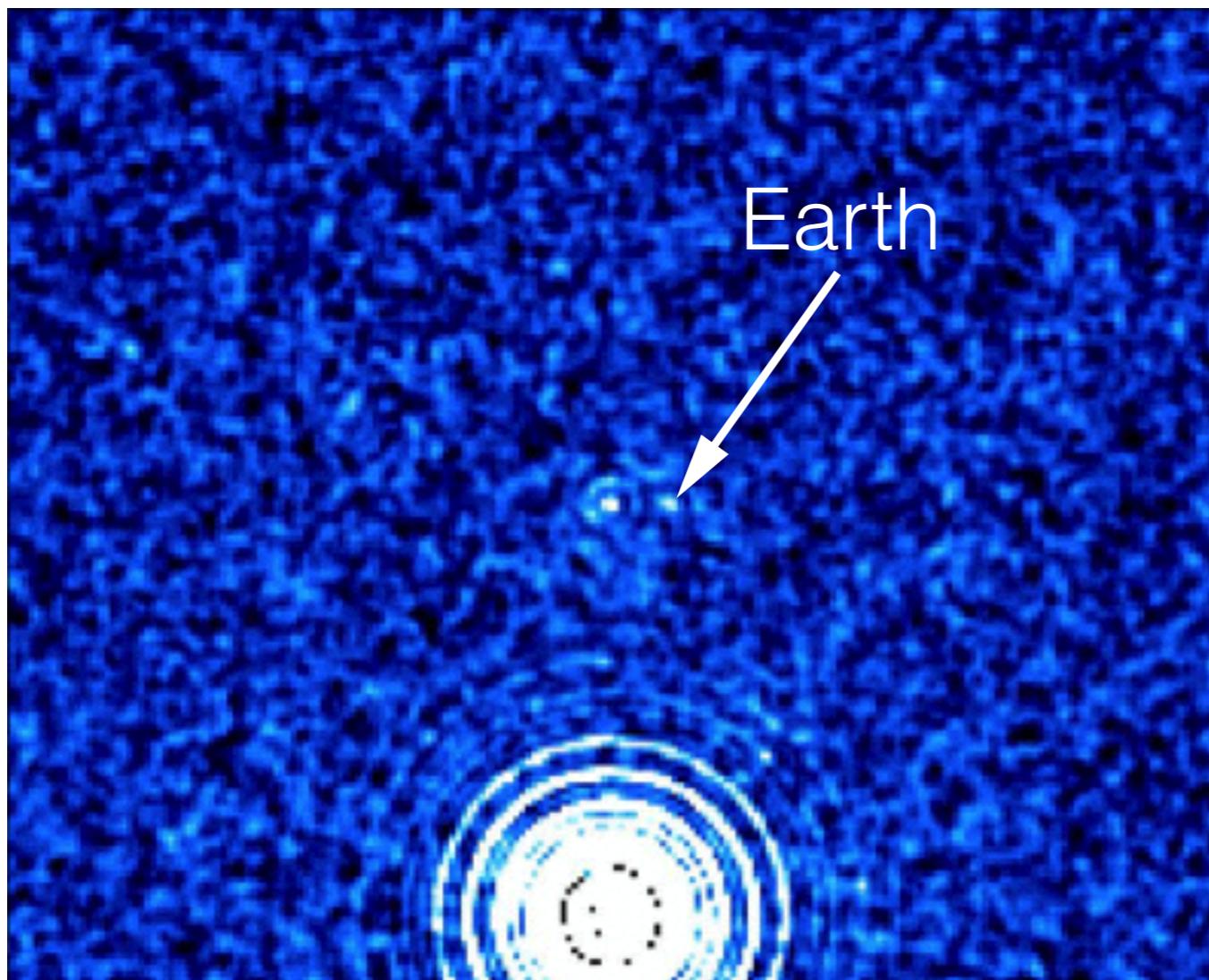


Des Marais et al. (2002)

Tiki @ Gemini South  
~2019, ~50h



# *Alpha Centauri @ 10 microns*

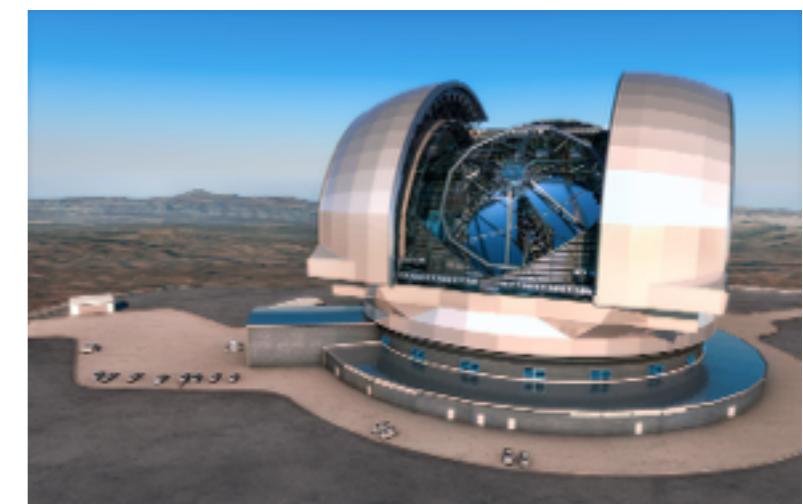
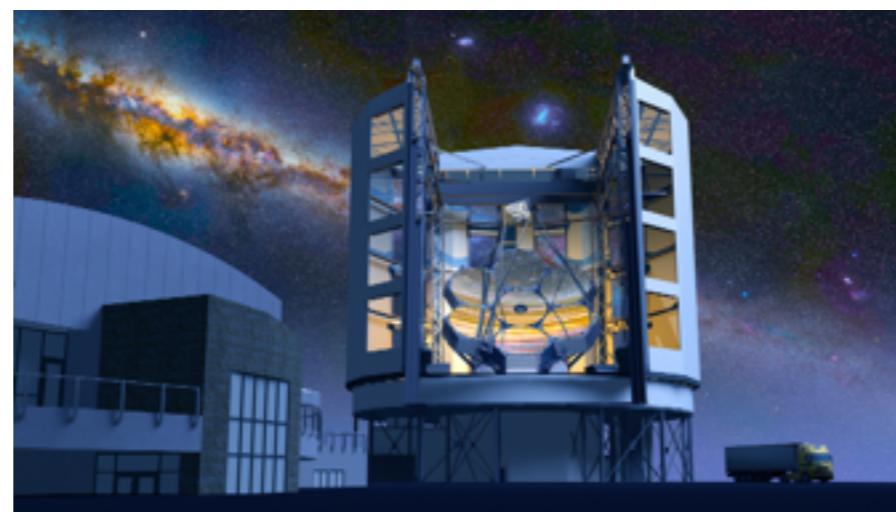


Des Marais et al. (2002)

Tiki @ Gemini South  
~2019, ~50h

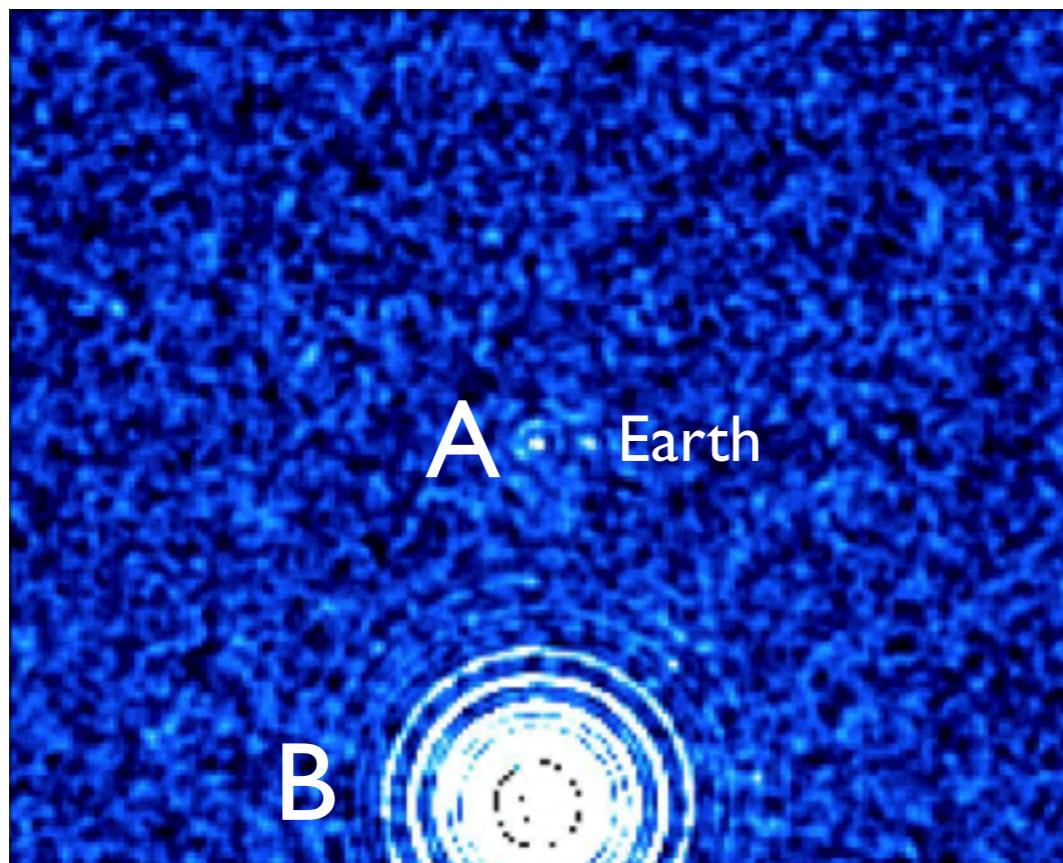
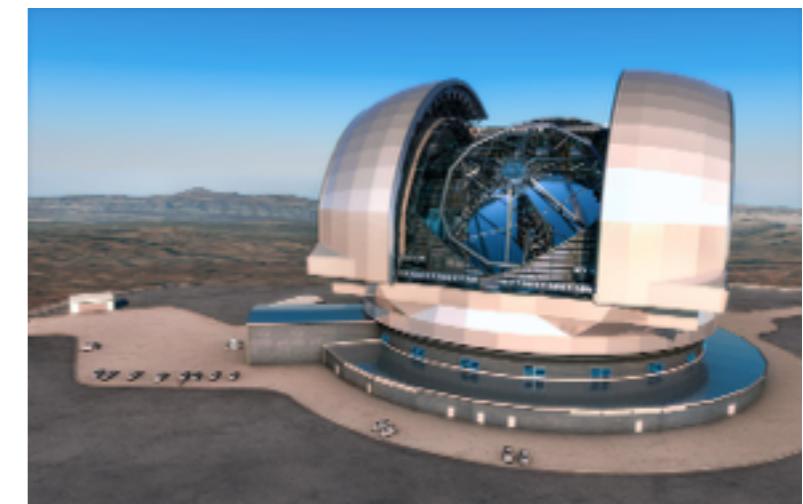
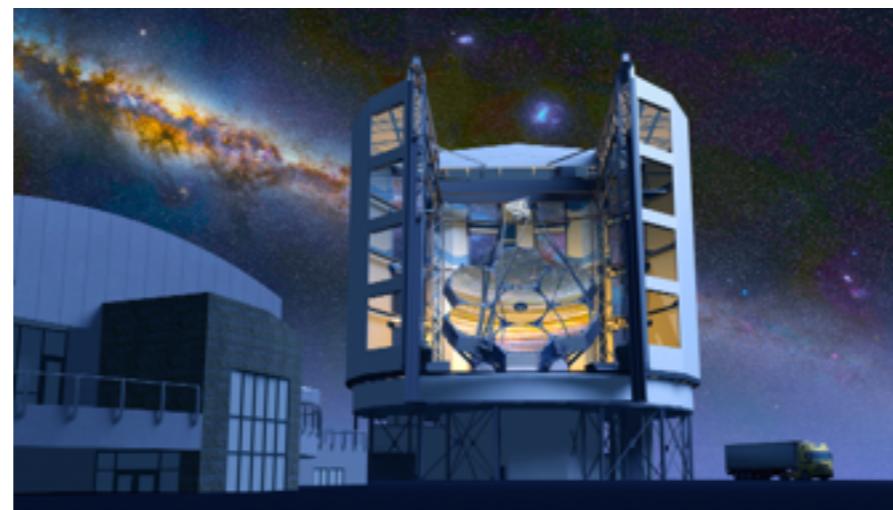


# Alpha Cent A & B with ELTs

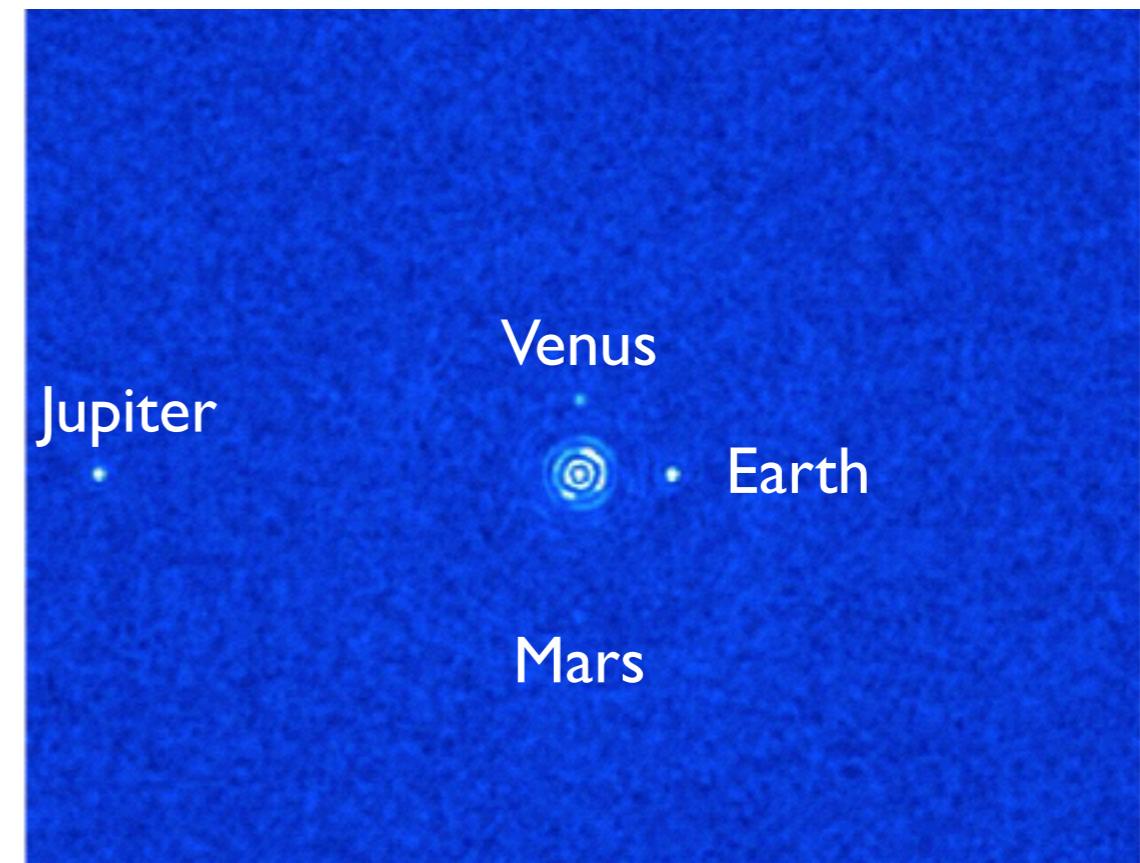




# Alpha Cent A & B with ELTs



50h 8m

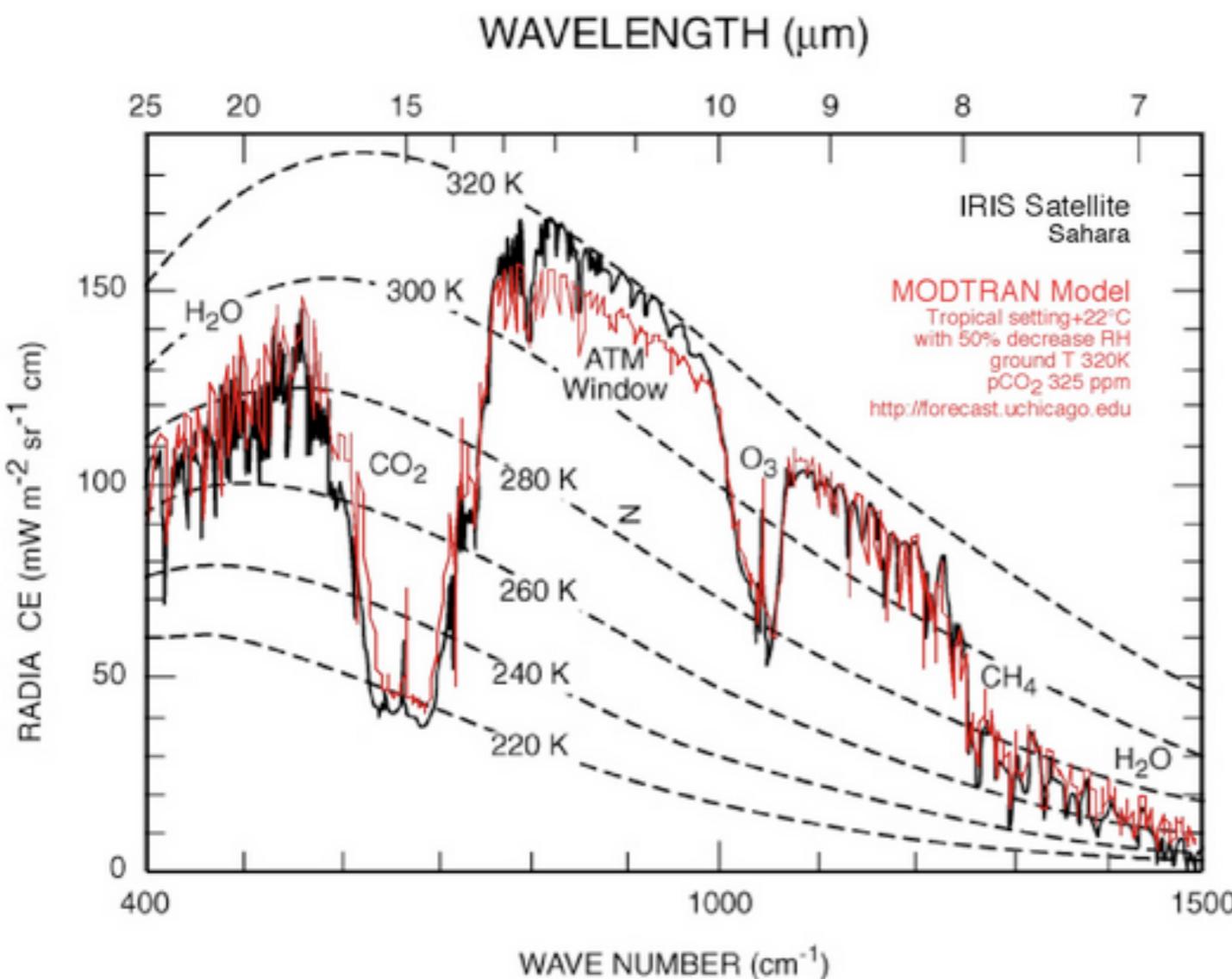


25h TMT



# What IF we find something?

Earth like



10 microns remote sensing

- Orbit
- Surface temperature
- O<sub>3</sub>
- Water
- CO<sub>2</sub>
- CH<sub>4</sub>
- Clouds/radius



# Not Earth-like

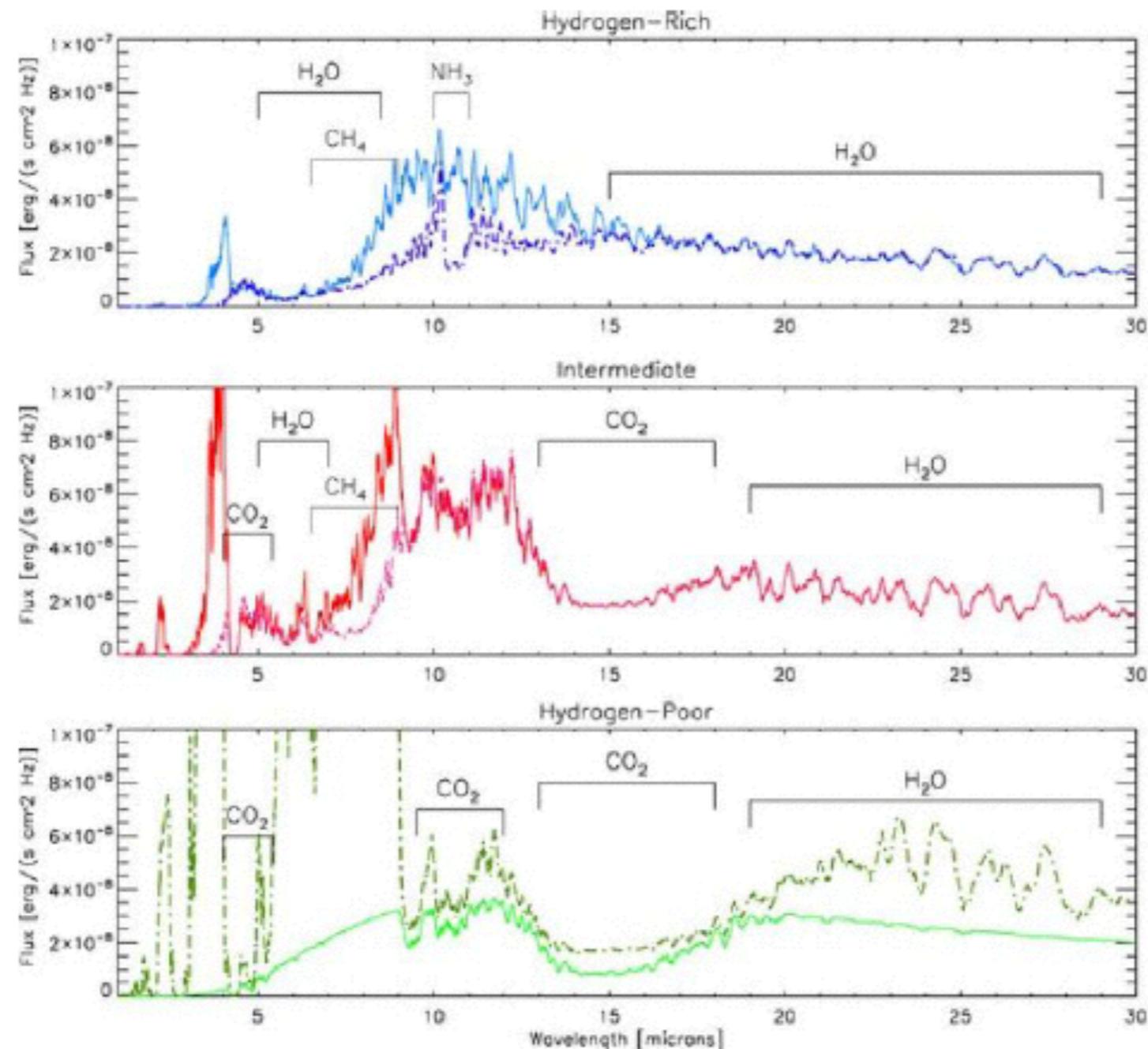
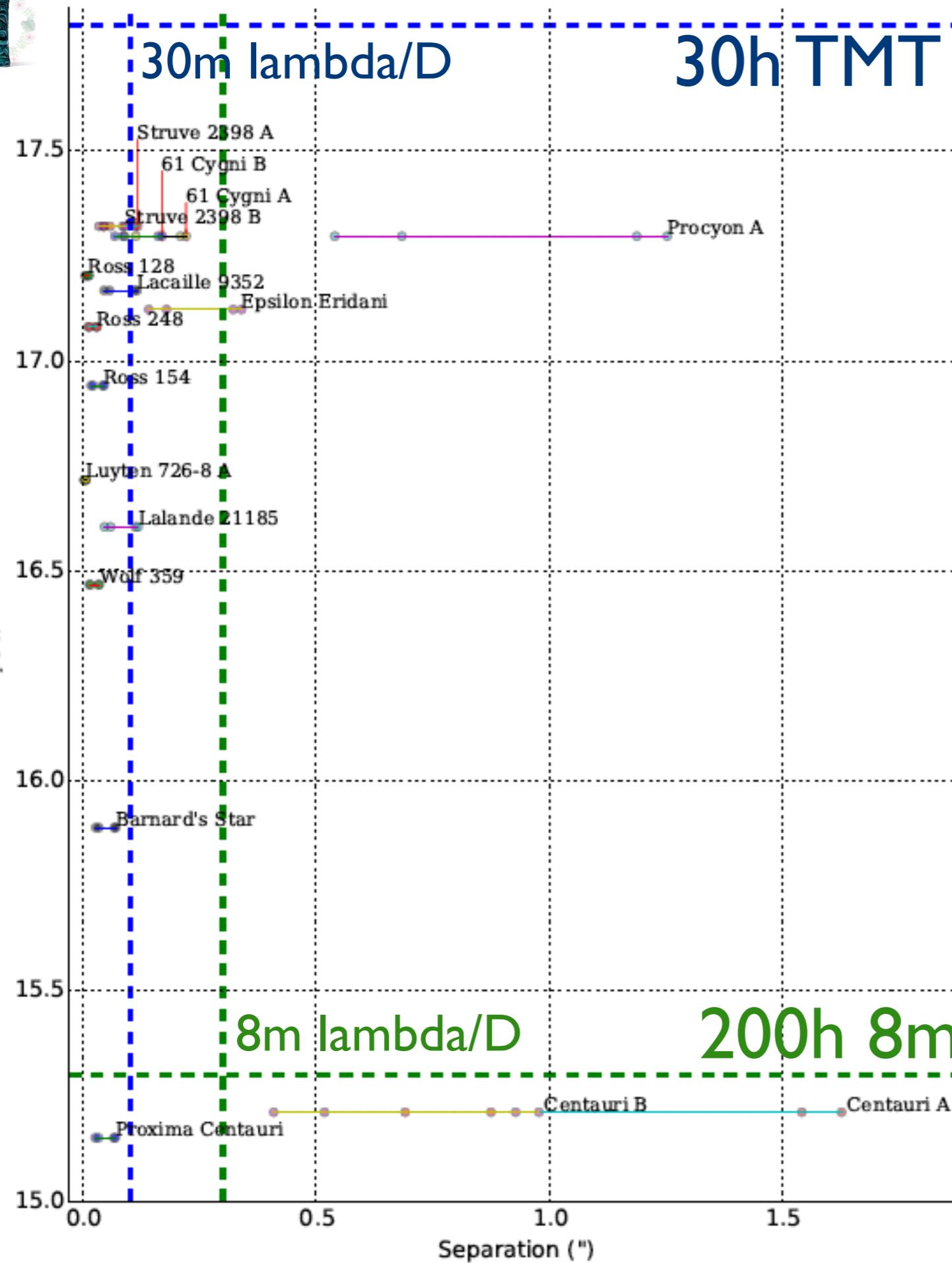
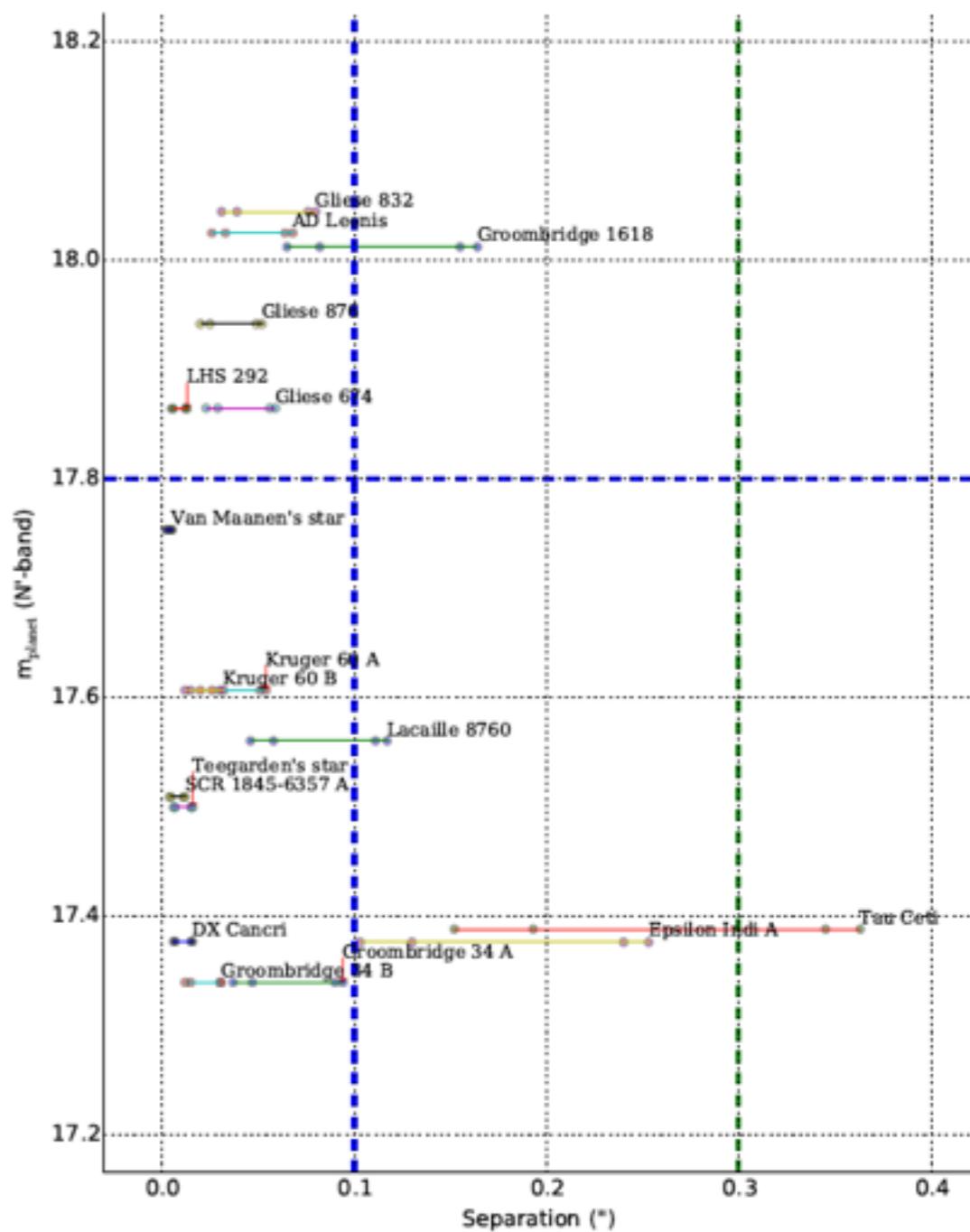
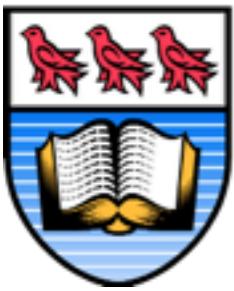


Fig. 8. Expected spectrum for exo-Earth having various types of atmospheres. From Kempton et al. 2009



Earth-size  
280K





# University of Victoria

C. Bradley PM/coPI  
C. Blain  
(Masen Lamb)  
Ben Gerard  
(J. Kennedy)  
(D. Gamroth)  
(J. Reynolds)



C. Marois PS/coPI  
O. Lardiere  
J. Pazder  
J.-P. Veran



F. Marchis  
(Jeff Chilcote)



D. Mawet



G. Serabyn



C. Packham



R. Galicher



C. Melis



UNIVERSITÉ  
**LAVAL**

S. Thibault



M. Chun



O. Absil



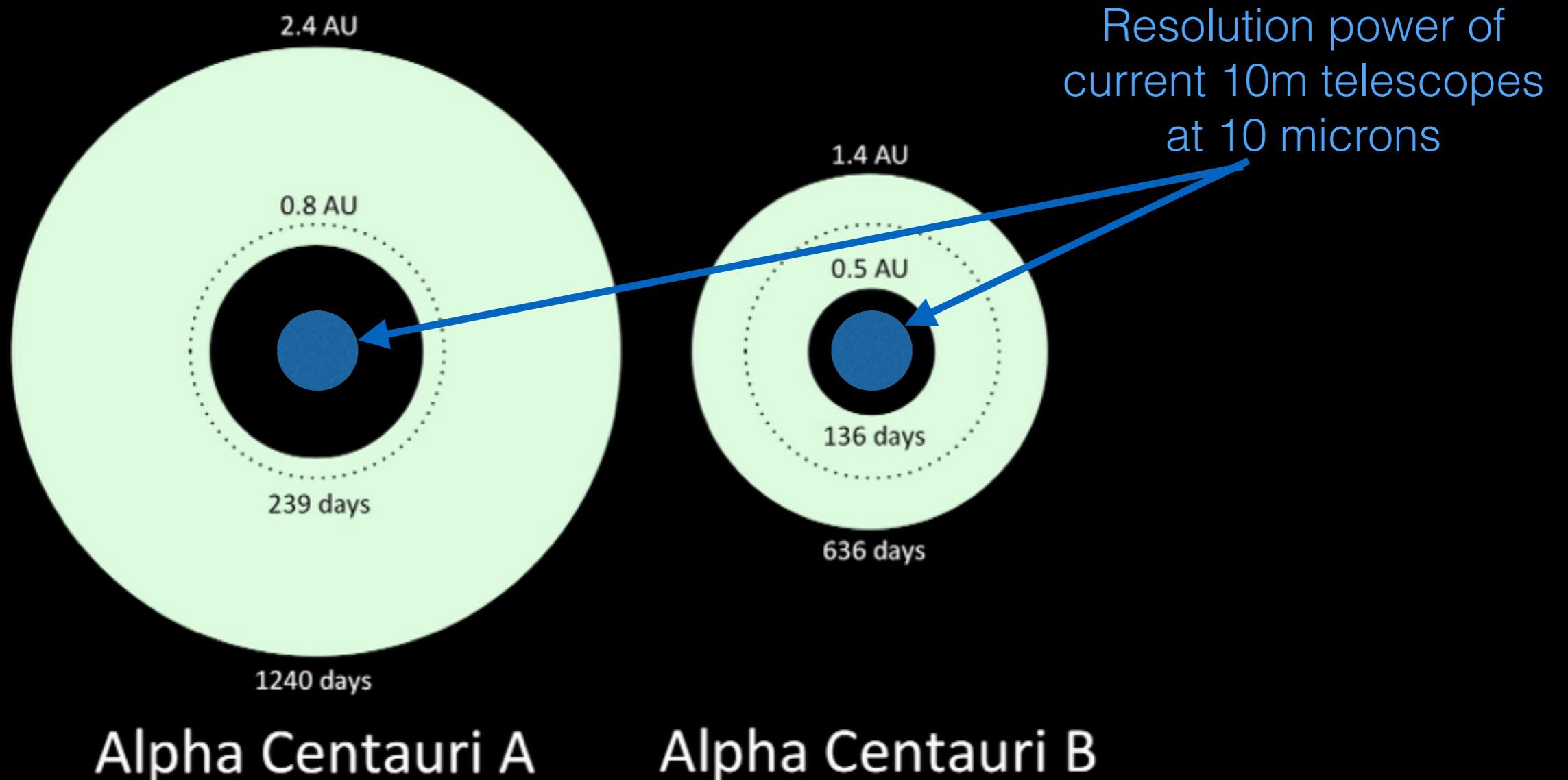
A. Skemer



T. Hayward

# Are 10m telescopes big enough?

## Stellar Habitable Zone of Alpha Centauri A and B



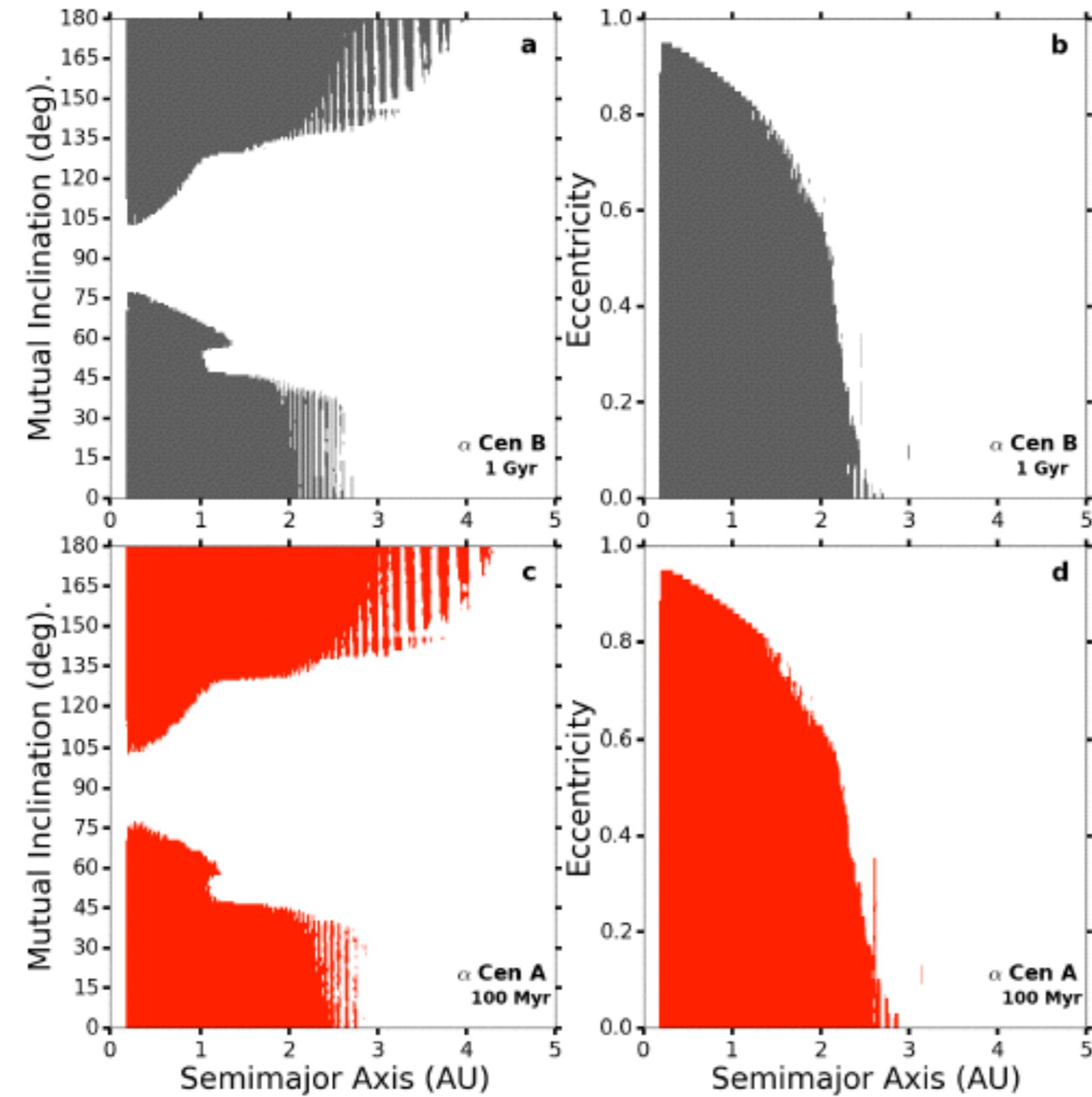
NOTE: Stars to scale, but not with size of the habitable zone. Dotted circle corresponds to an orbit of 1 AU.

CREDIT: PHL @ UPR Arecibo

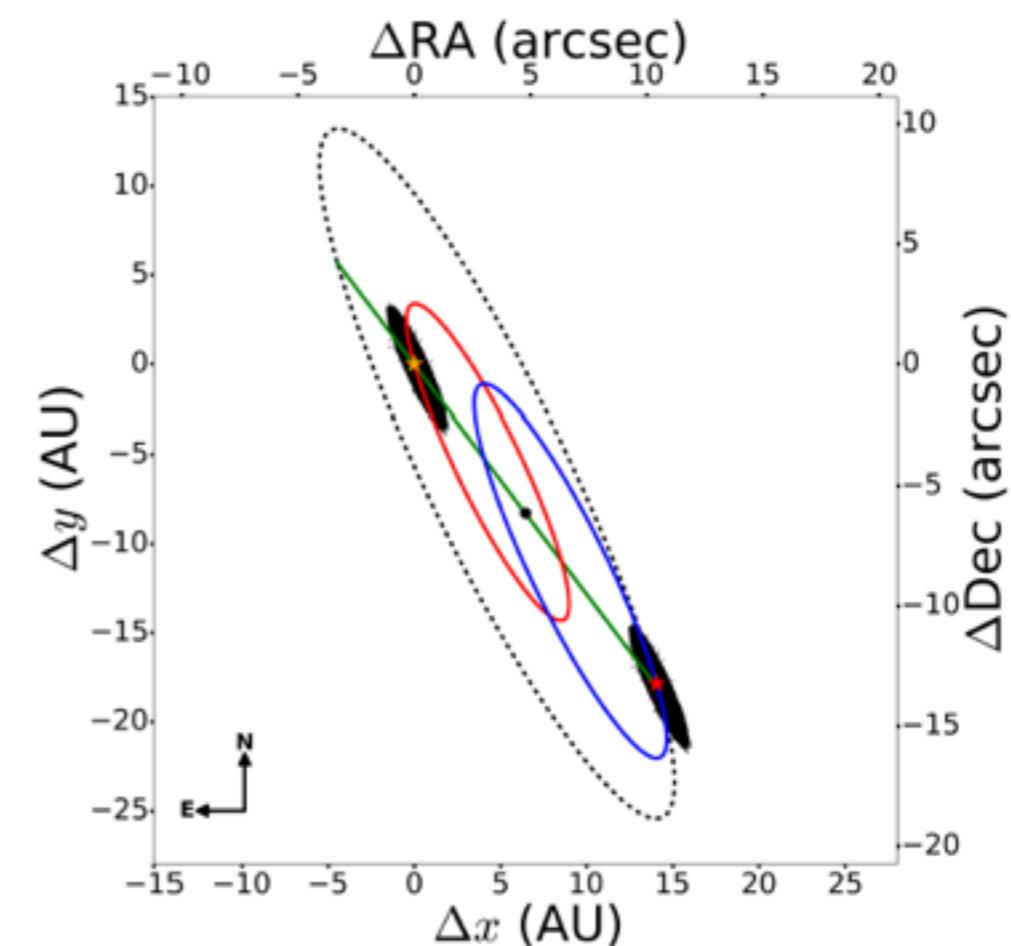
Two stars in the sky that we can do this NOW (not 0...)!

# Stable orbits?

Quarles & Lissauer 2016 (astroph April 17, 2016)



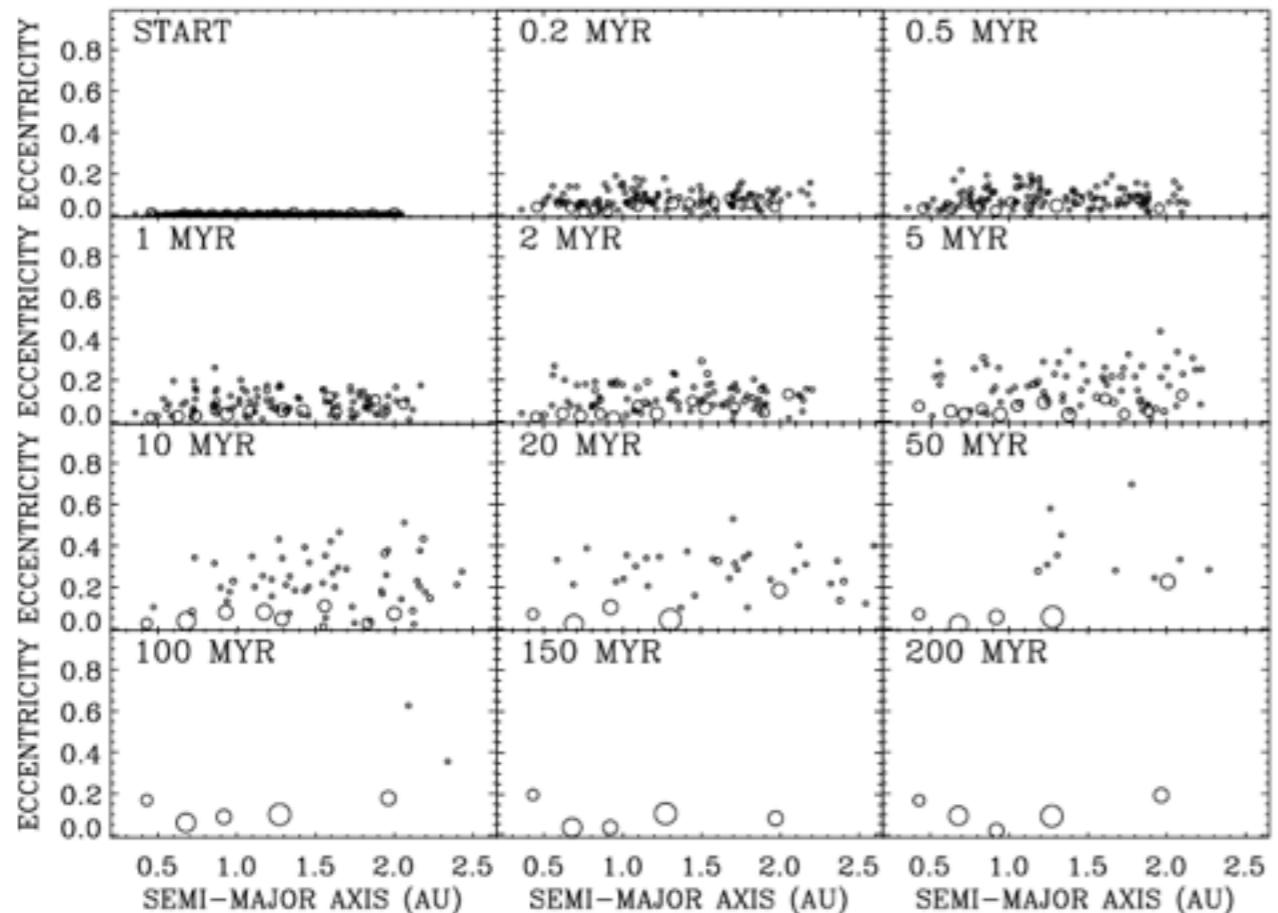
B HZ: 0.5-1.4 AU



A HZ: 0.8-2.4 AU

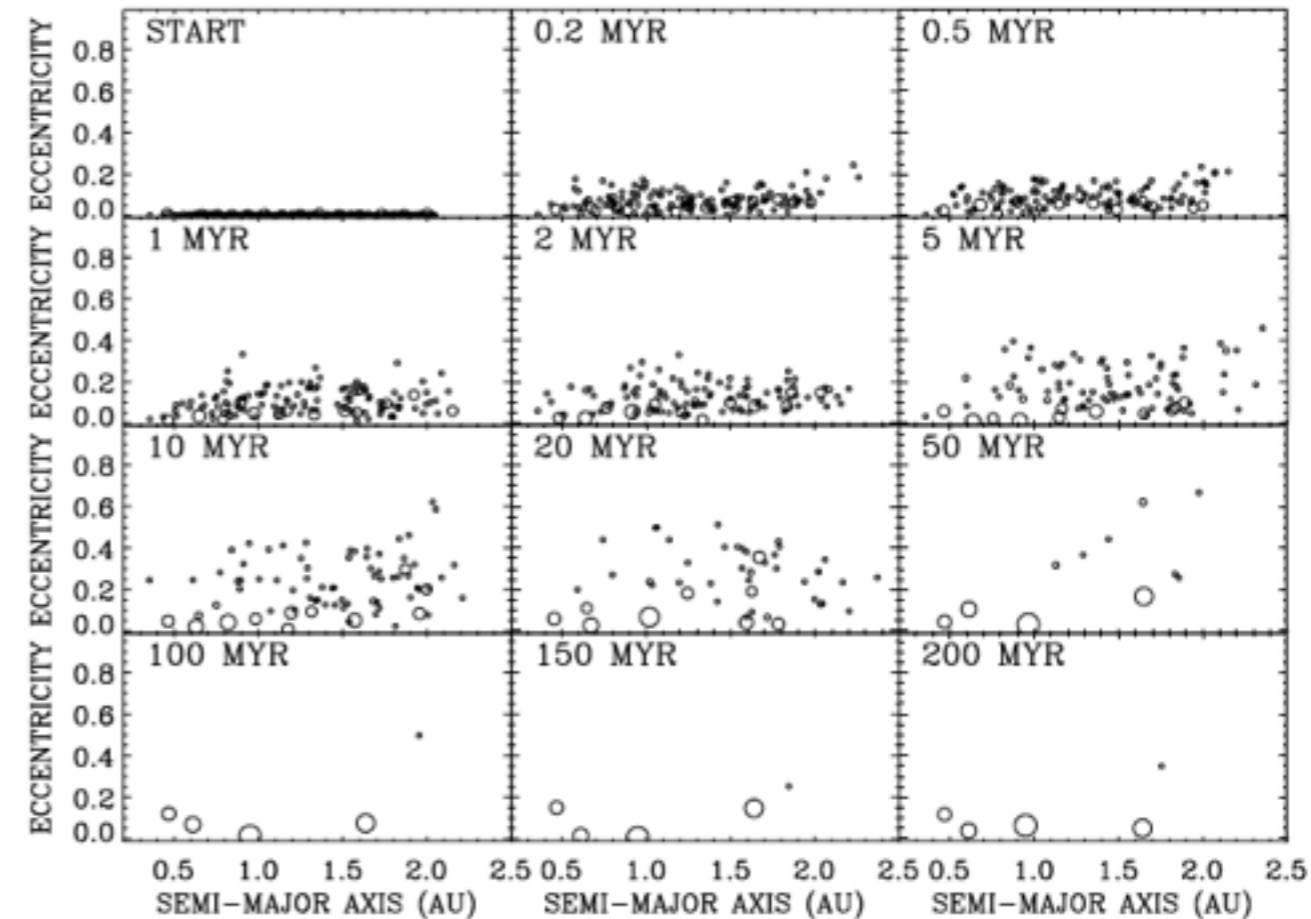
# Planet formation in a binary?

Qintana et al. 2002



Alpha Cent A

Qintana et al. 2003



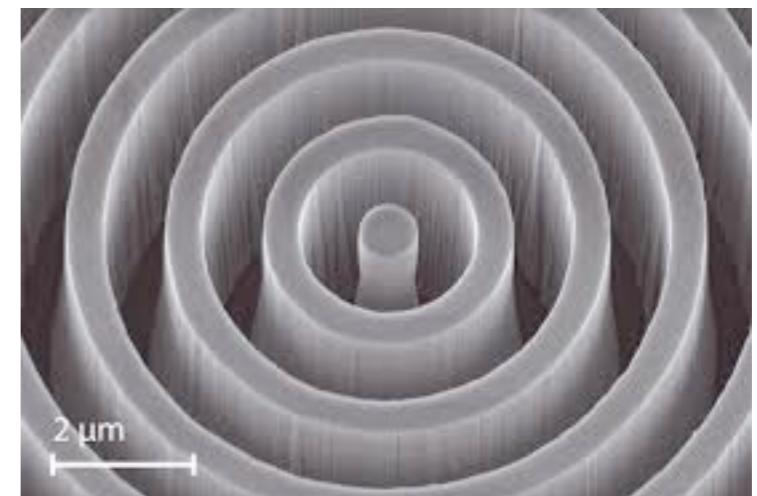
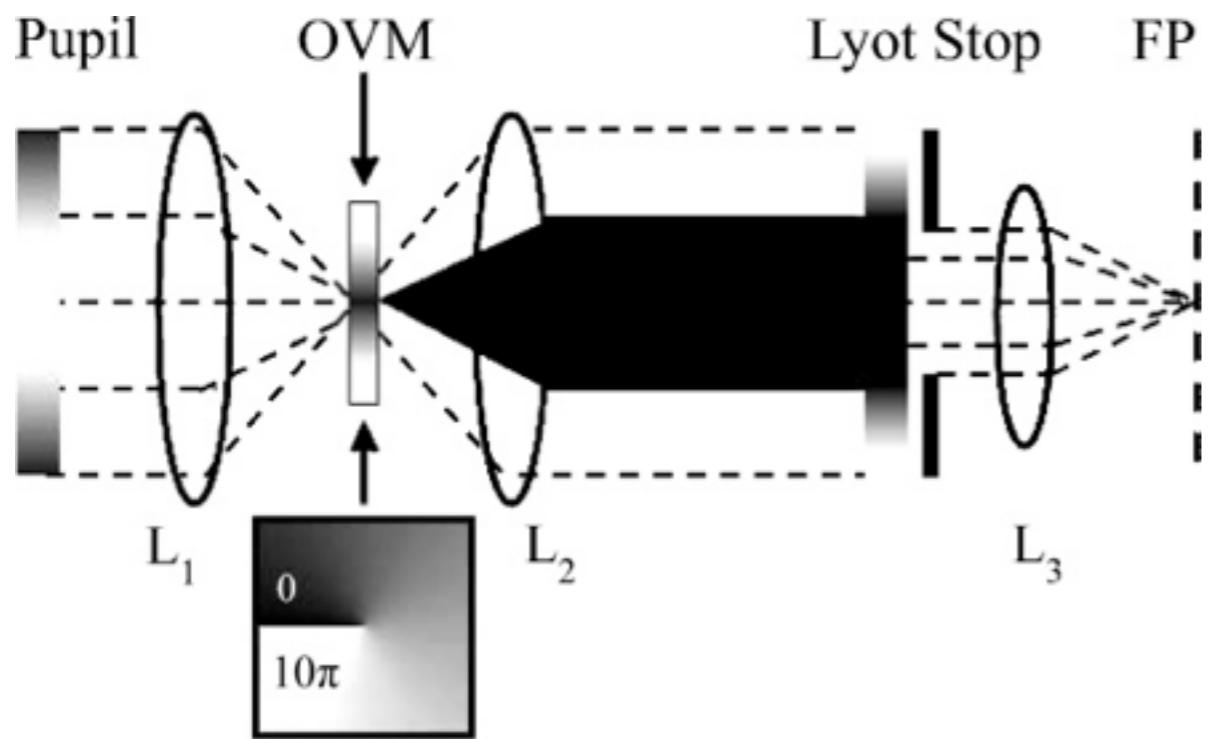
Alpha Cent B

Kepler statistics:

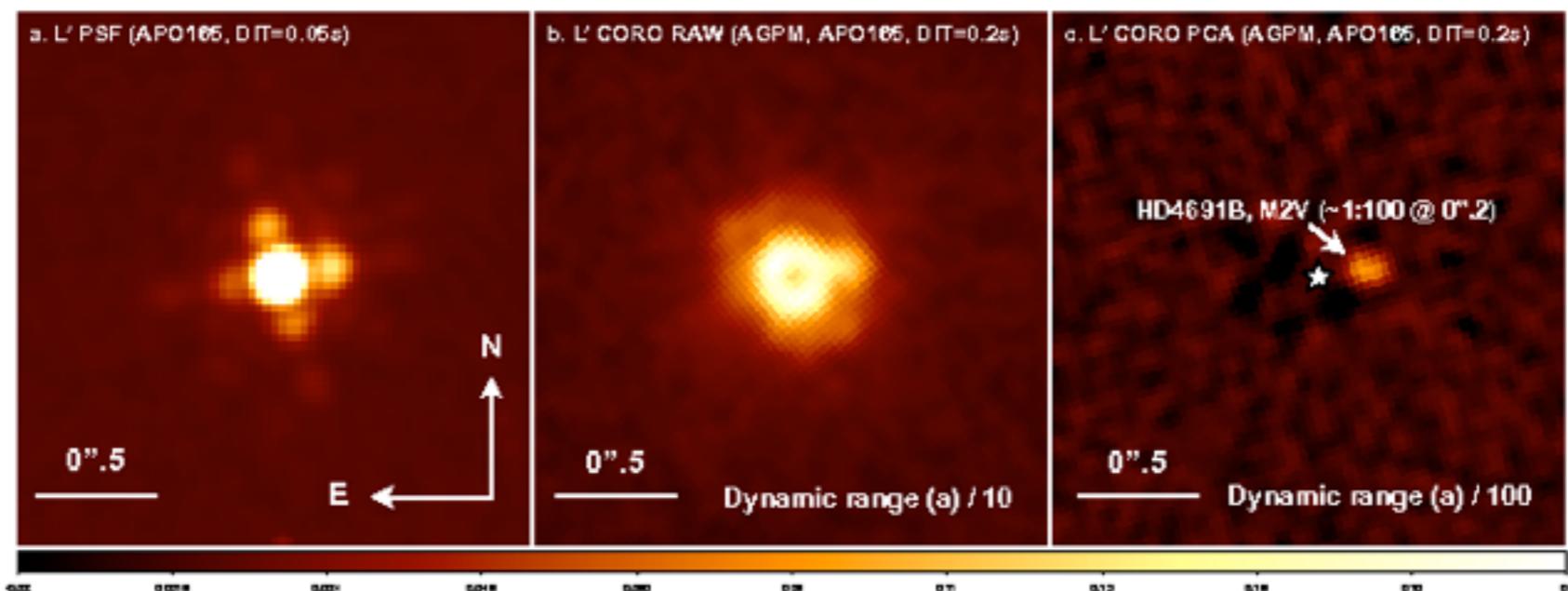
“Our findings do not suggest that inner transiting exoplanets are rare in binary systems”



# Vortex coronagraph



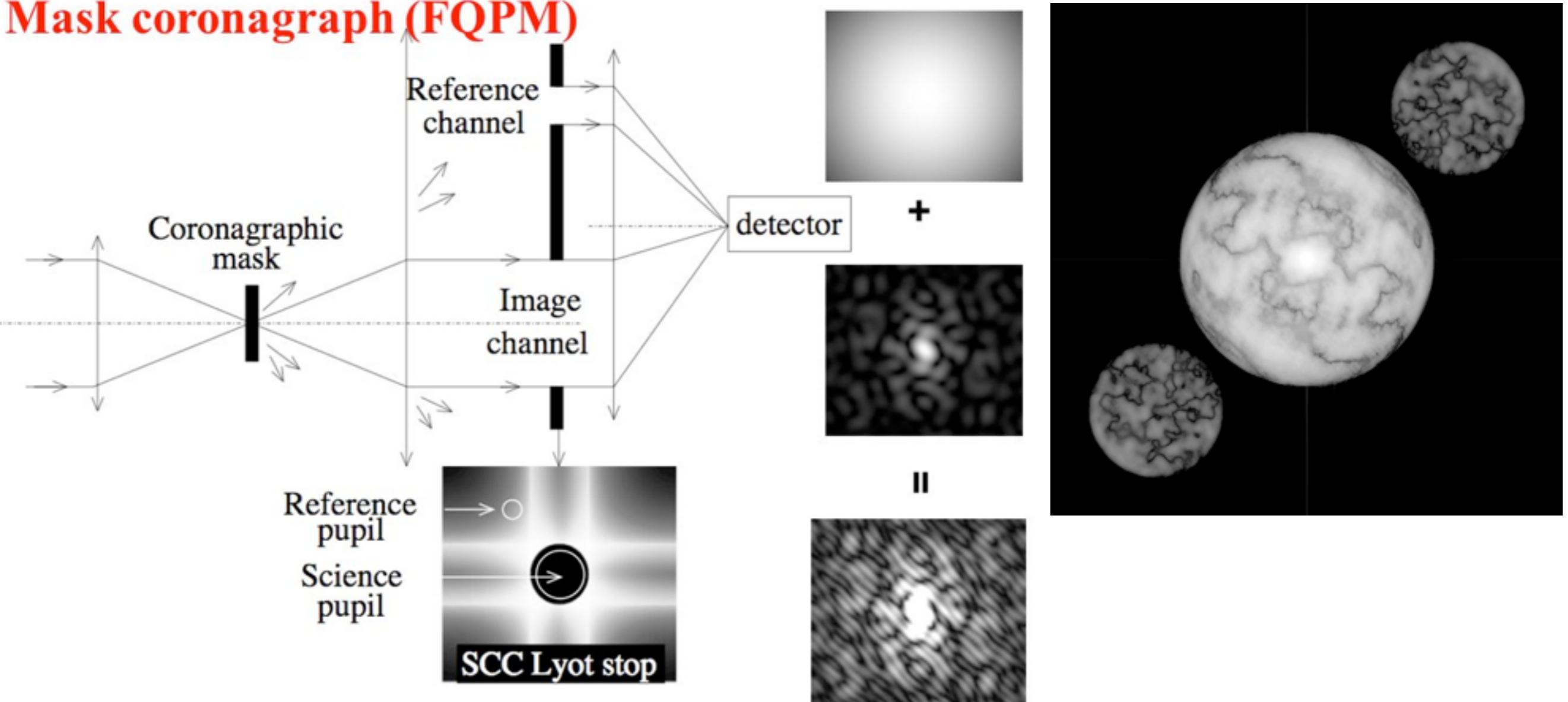
VLT NACO





# *Self coherent camera*

**Simple set-up : SCC + Four Quadrant Phase Mask coronagraph (FQPM)**





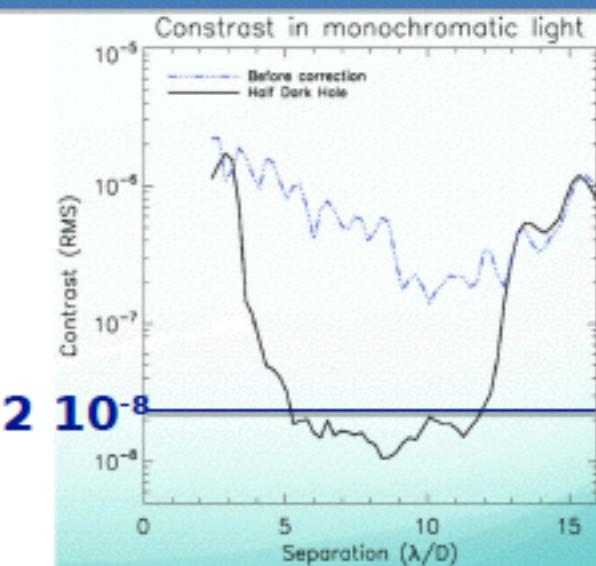
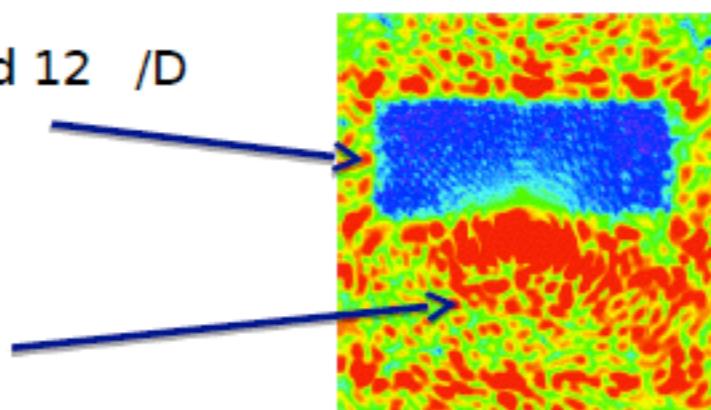
# Examples of Performance

More than 15 Publications (5 refereed or accepted papers)

## Monochromatic (bandwidth <10 nm) results

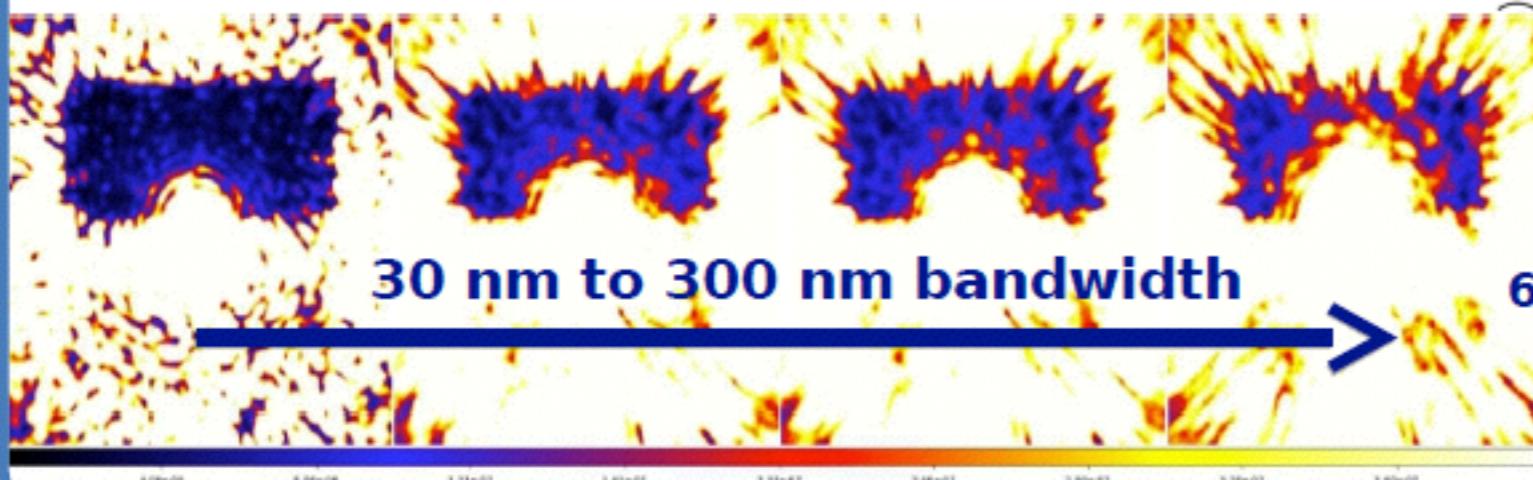
Contrast:  $< 2 \cdot 10^{-8}$  between  $5 \lambda/D$  and  $12 \lambda/D$

THD1 Limitation = amplitude errors  
Reduced by a factor >20 on THD2

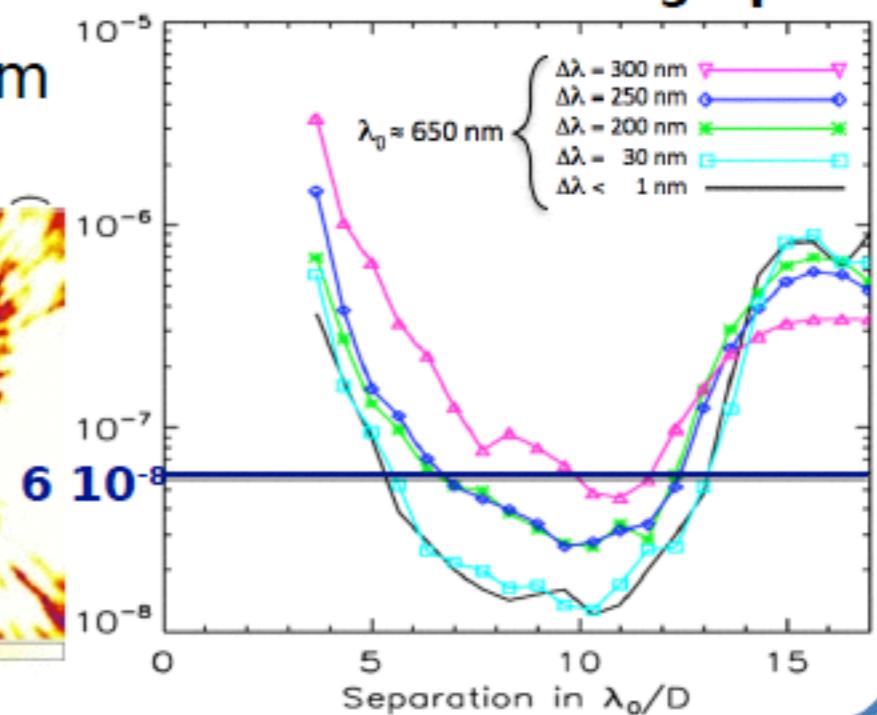


## Achromaticity of the testbed

Contrast degrades by only a factor 3 for 250 nm bandwidth (37%)

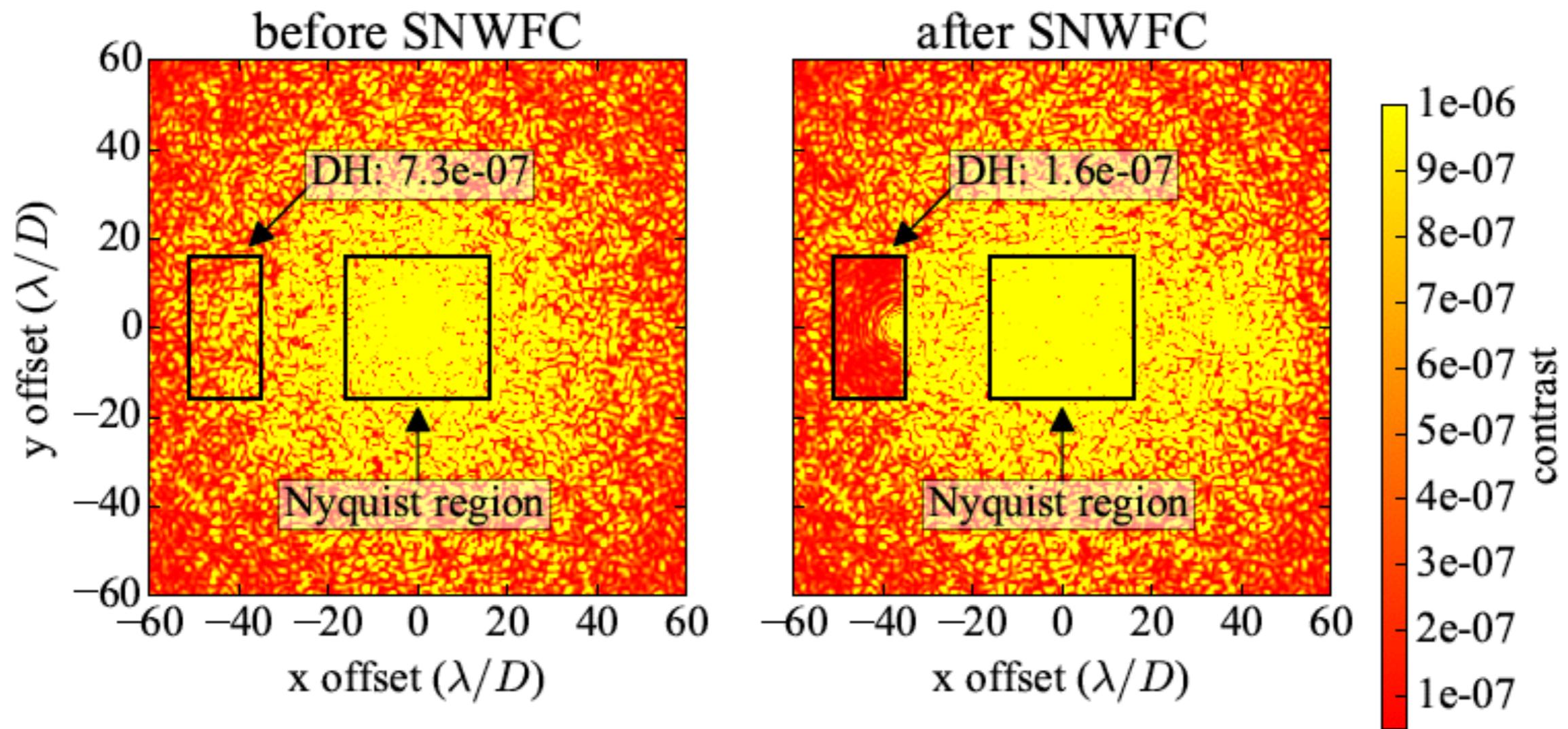


## DZPM coronagraph





# *SCC simulations @ UVic*





# Sky background Post-Processing

