

SUB-KELVIN COOLING FOR SPACE AND GROUND-BASED TELESCOPES



FROM RESEARCH TO INDUSTRY

cea

GRENOBLE

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What is essential is invisible to the eye ...



Cat's paw (or bear claw) nebula (NGC 6334)

Andromeda (M31)

Two things needed
(1) to be able to "see"
(2) to be able to measure



From ground

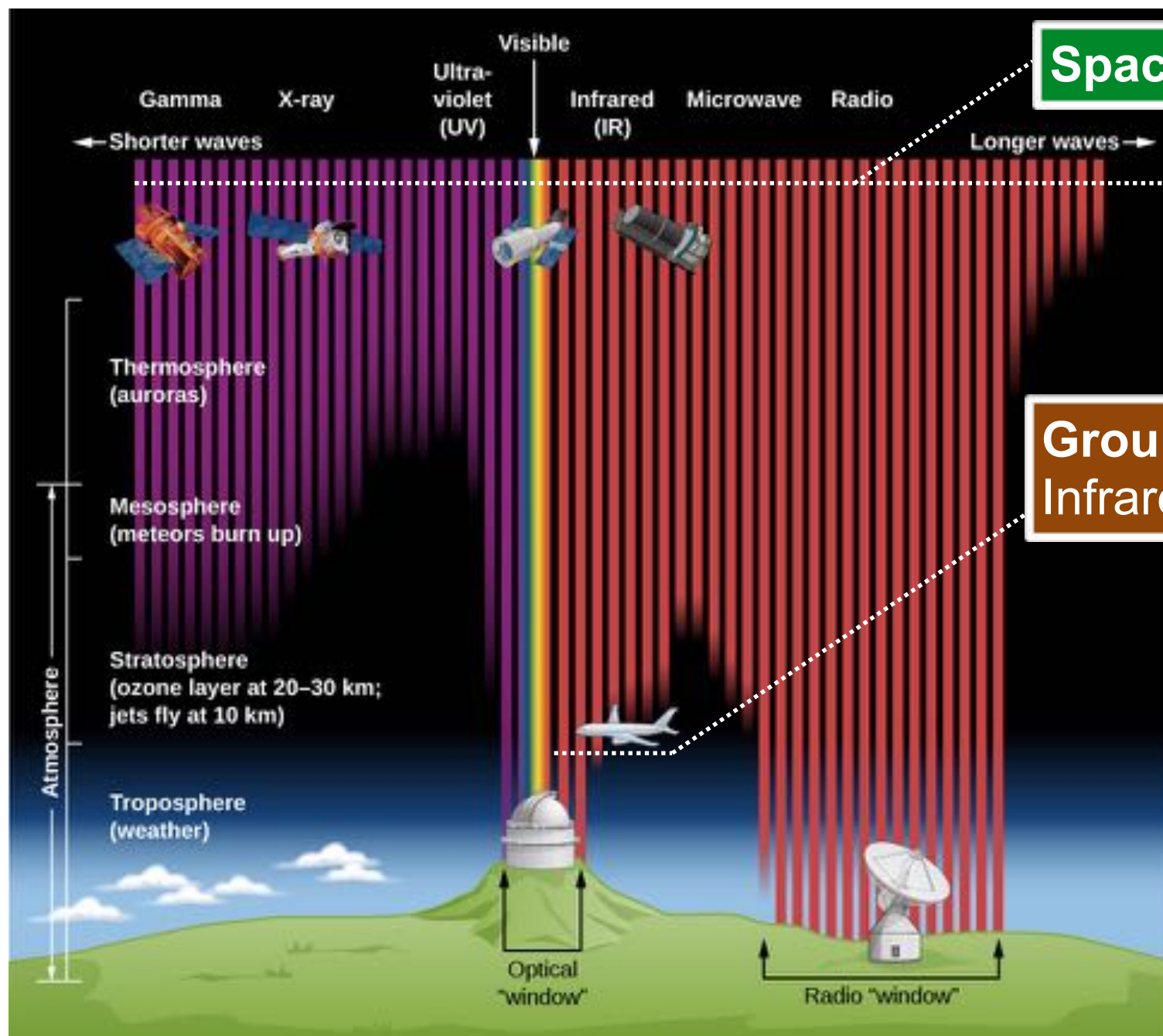
ArTeMiS APEX + ESO's VISTA telescope



From space

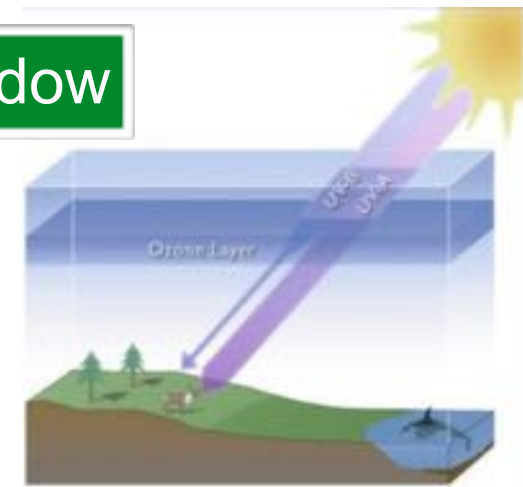
Composite: Visible + XMM Newton + Herschel

Visible to the instruments ?

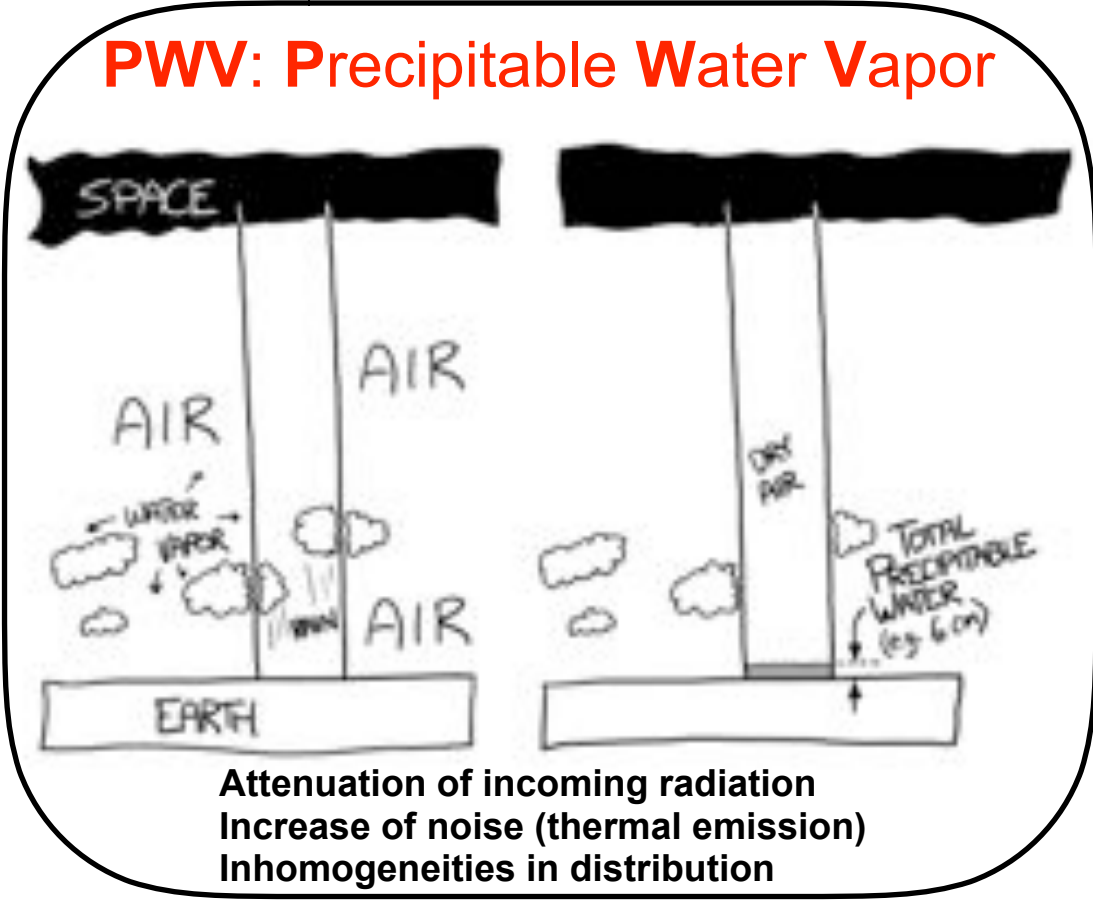


Space opens up the full window

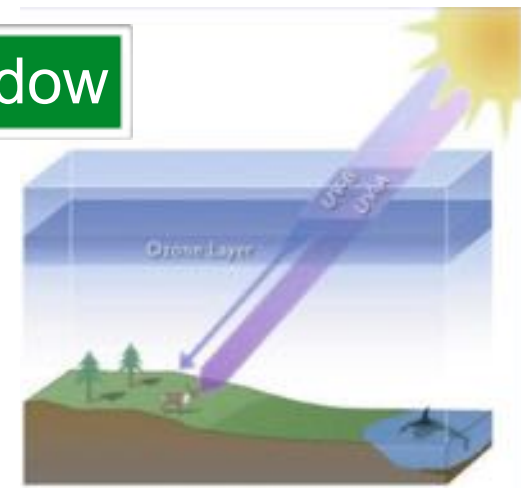
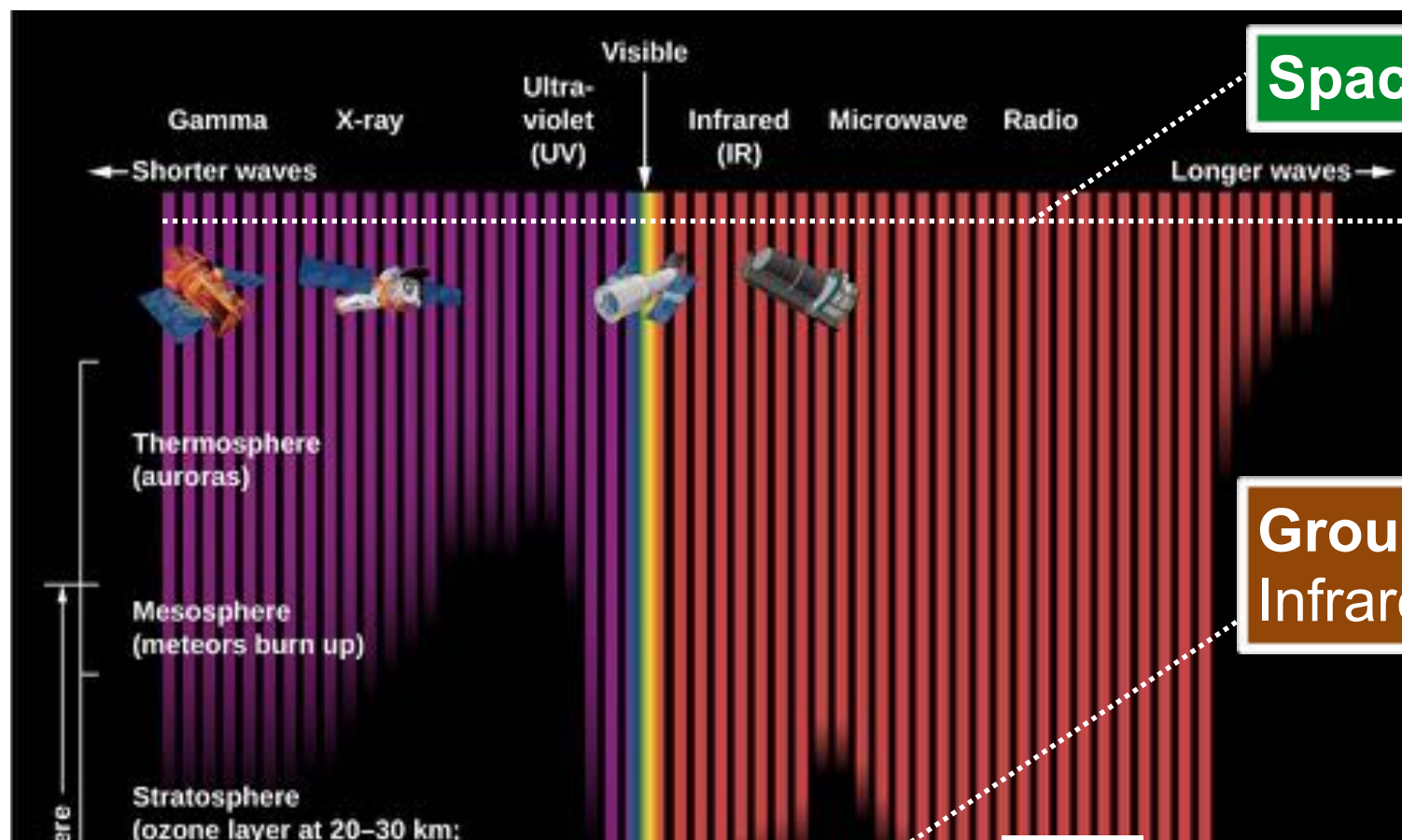
Atmospheric filter
Fortunately for us !



Ground based telescope
Infrared spectrum: few "windows" accessible

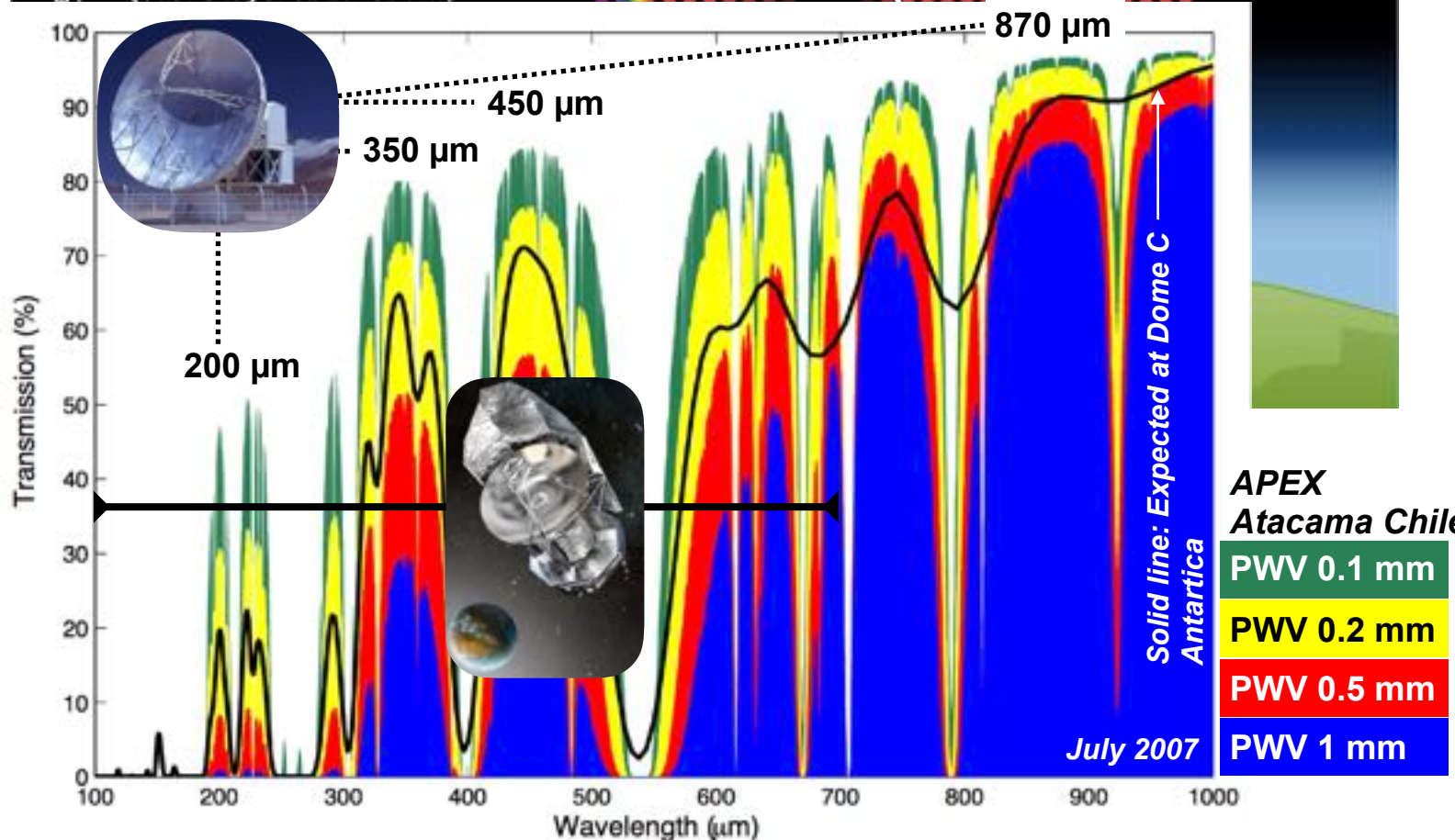


Visible to the instruments ?

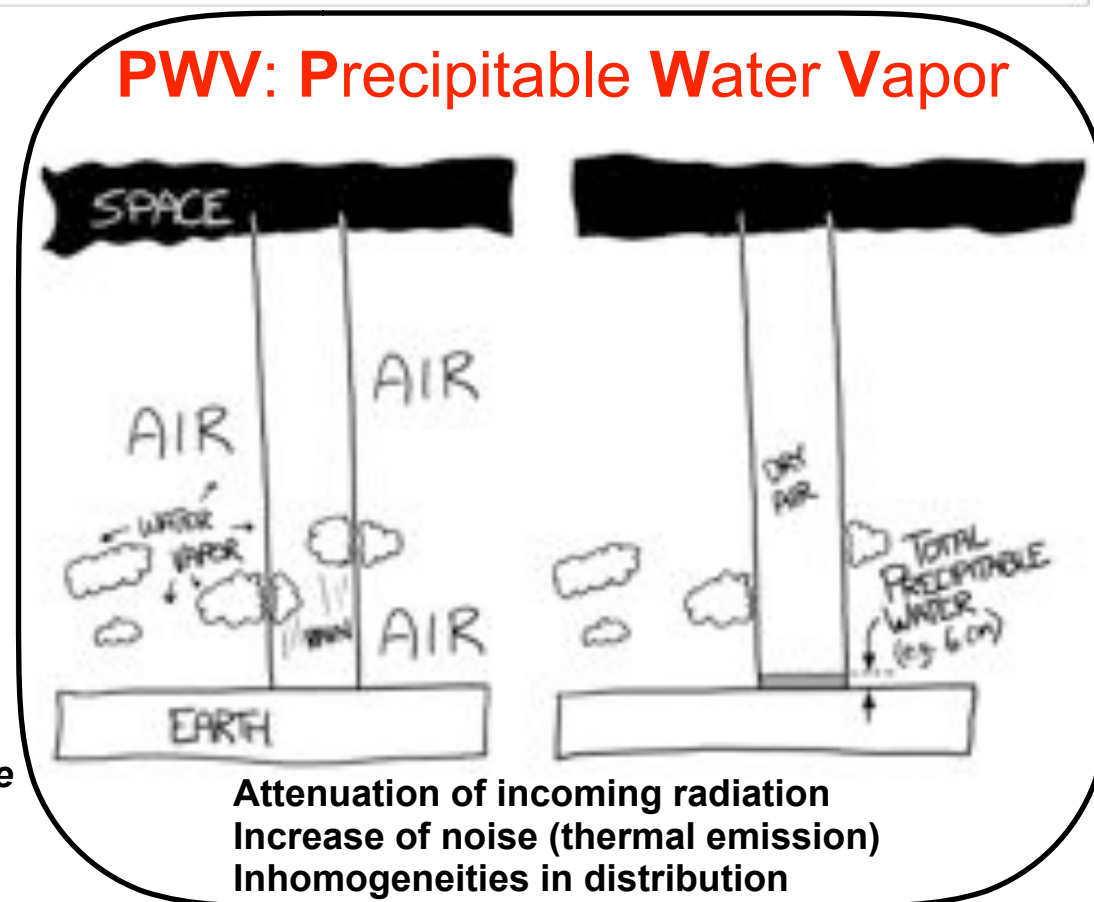


**Atmospheric filter
Fortunately for us !**

**Ground based telescope
Infrared spectrum: few "windows" accessible**



PWV: Precipitable Water Vapor

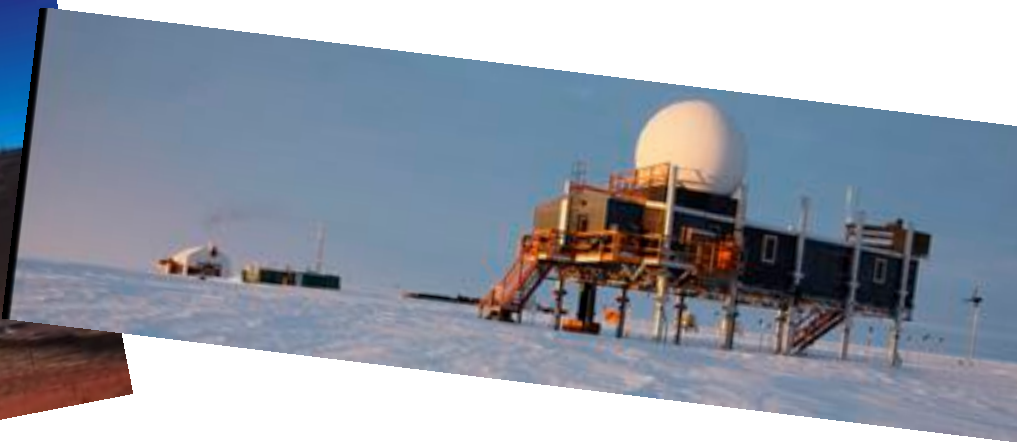


Reasonable transmission

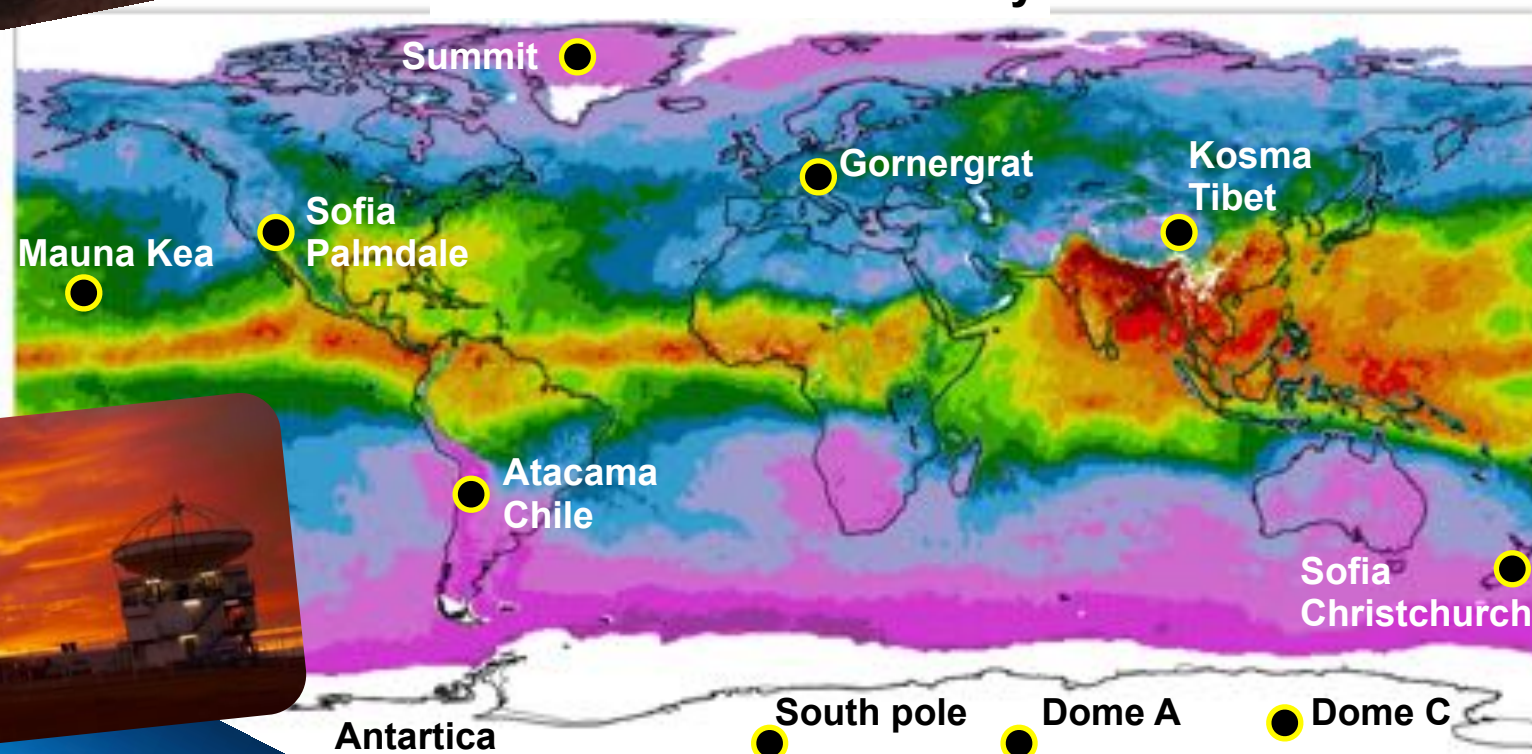


Very low PWV

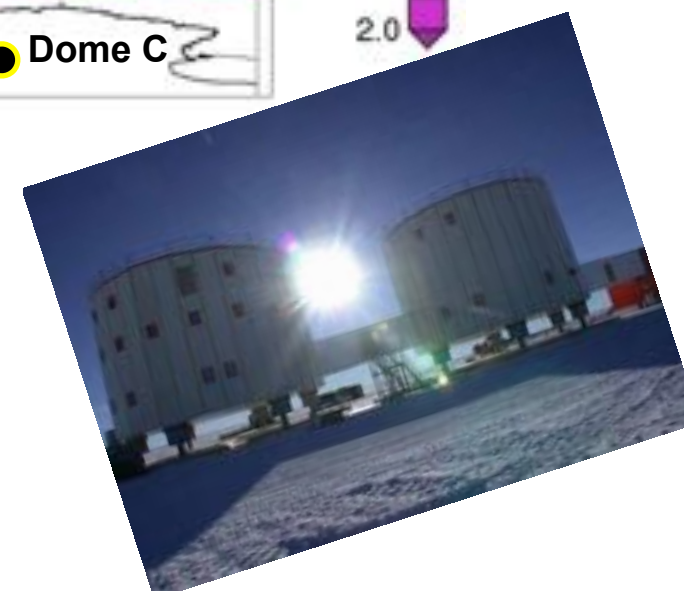
To be able to see: harsh environment or space



Submillimetric Astronomy

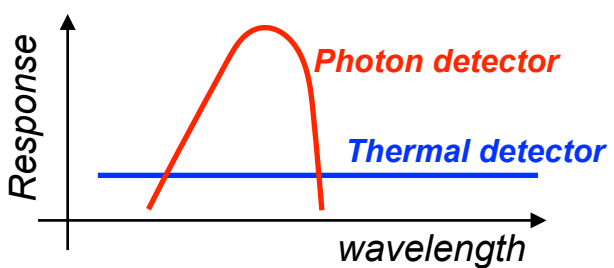


- Remote location
 - High altitude and/or cold
 - Complicated logistic
- Could be tough to get there !



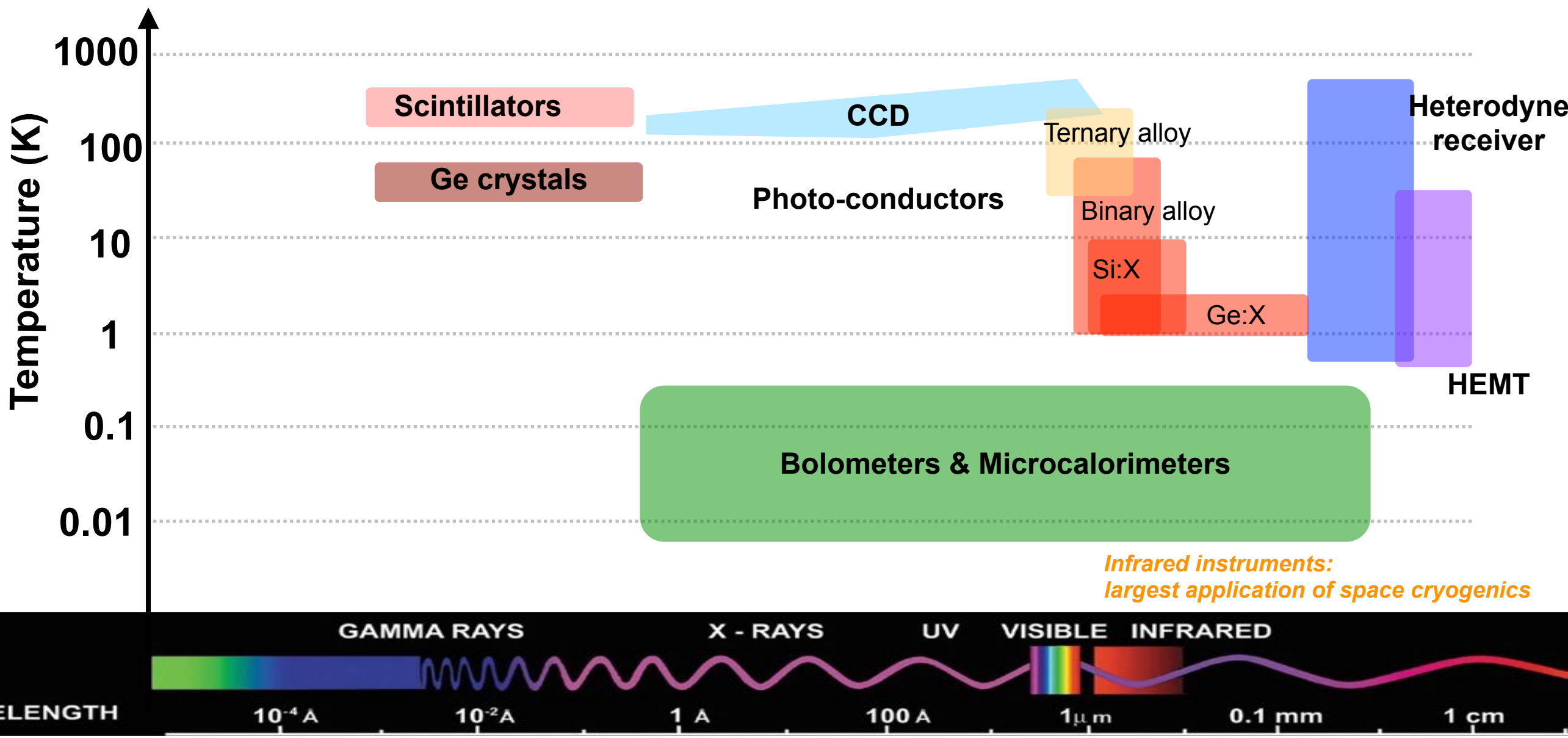
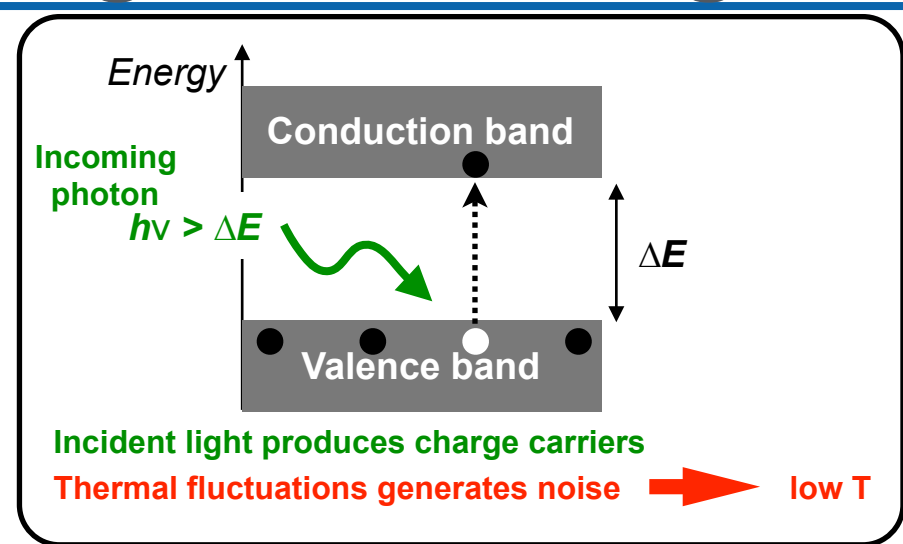
To be able to measure: Shh ! faint signals coming in

| | Photon detectors | Thermal detectors |
|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Incoming radiation | Interaction with electrons | Temperature change |



wavelength dependent
 $E \rightarrow \Delta I, \Delta V, \Delta R$

≈ wavelength independent
 $E \rightarrow \Delta T$

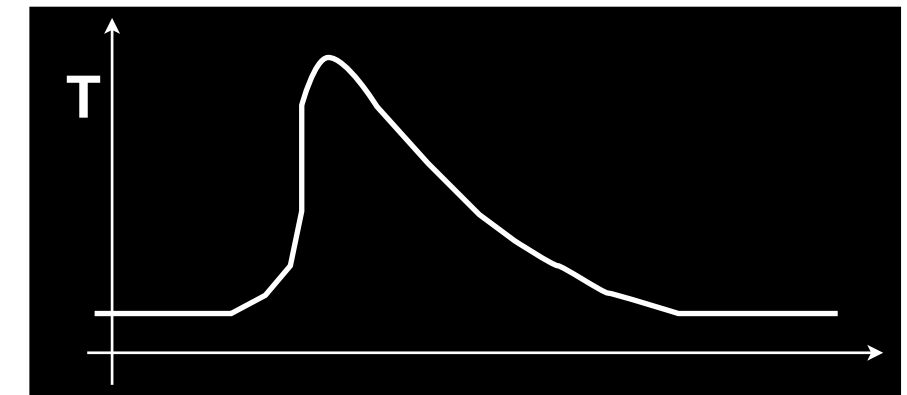
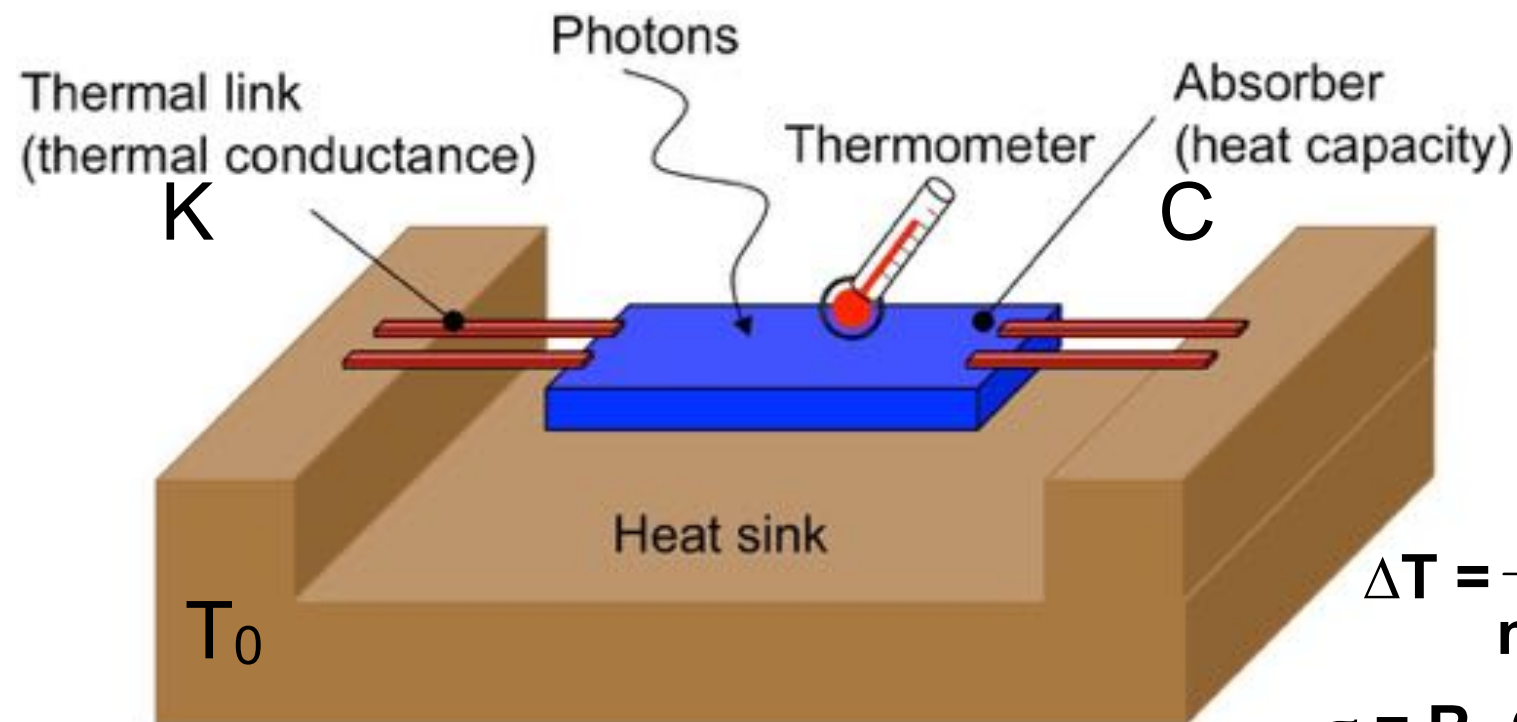


To be able to measure: Shh ! faint signals coming in

➔ **Cryogenics** ➔



Thermal detector: Bolometer



$$\Delta T = \frac{E}{mC}$$
$$\tau = R_{th} C = \frac{C}{K}$$

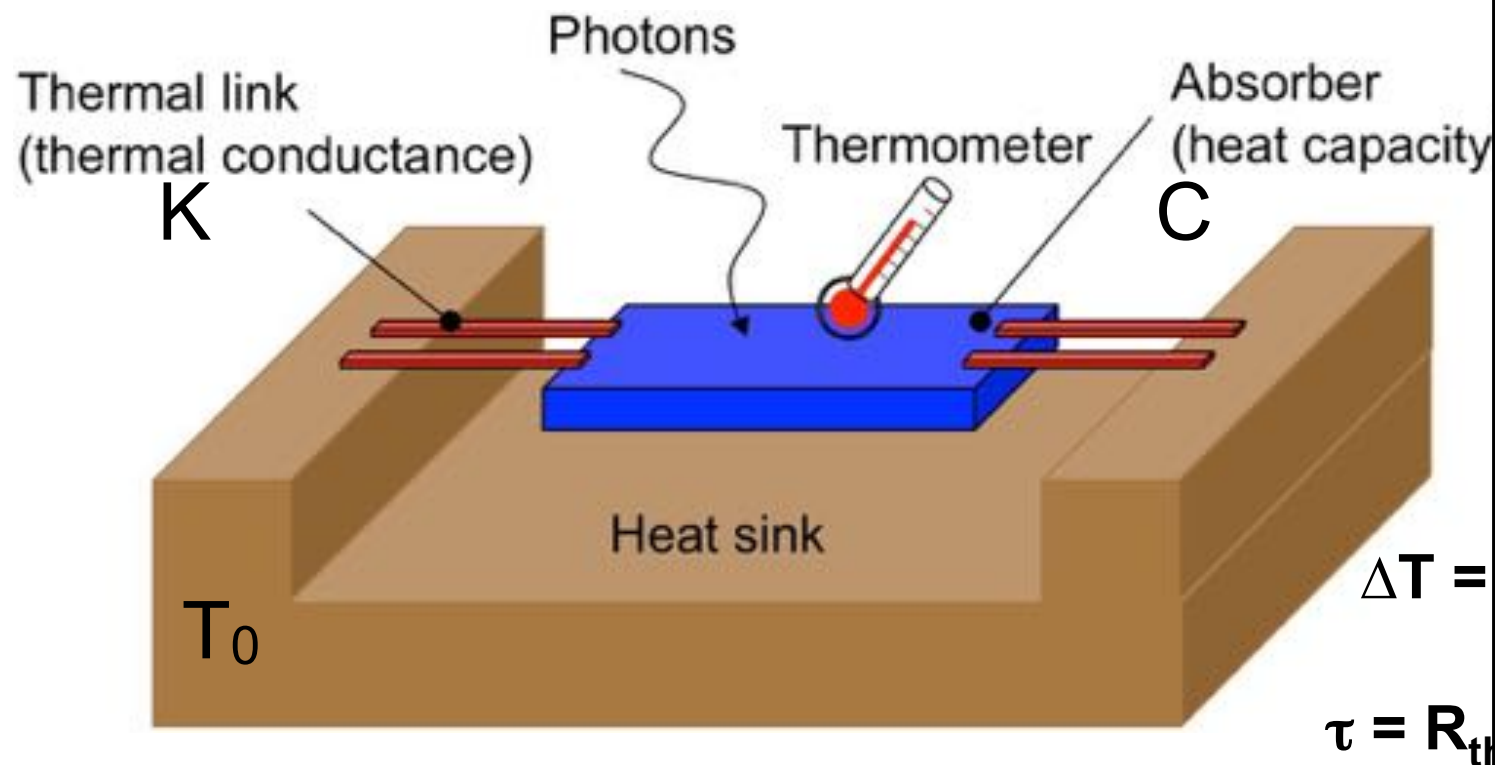
Measurable ΔT ? ➔ Minimize C ➔ Low Temperature

To be able to measure: Shh ! faint signals coming in

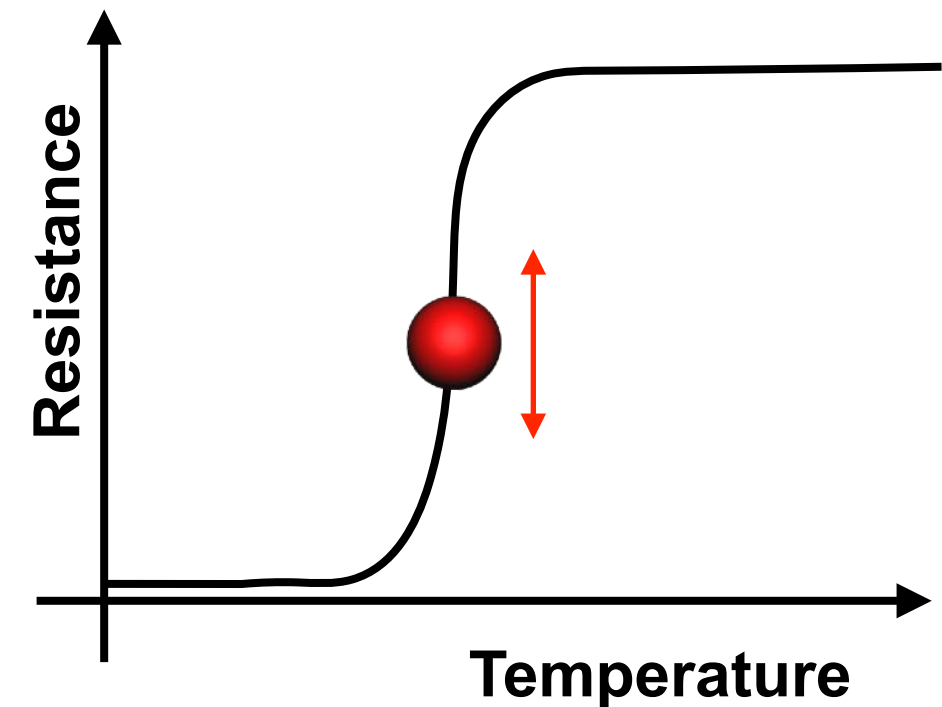
➔ **Cryogenics** ➔



Thermal detector: Bolometer



Transition Edge Sensor (TES)



small change in T



big change in R

Measurable ΔT ? ➔ Minimize

Drivers for the cryogenic chain

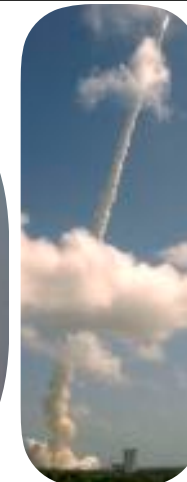
Ground based *harsh environment*

Space borne

Survive transport
(much easier !)



Survive launch
(and transport)



Gravity



Can be used to move things !

Microgravity



*Liquid ?
Tricks needed*

Mass



HEAVY OK

Light required



Maintenance *limited if possible*



~~Maintenance~~



Reliability

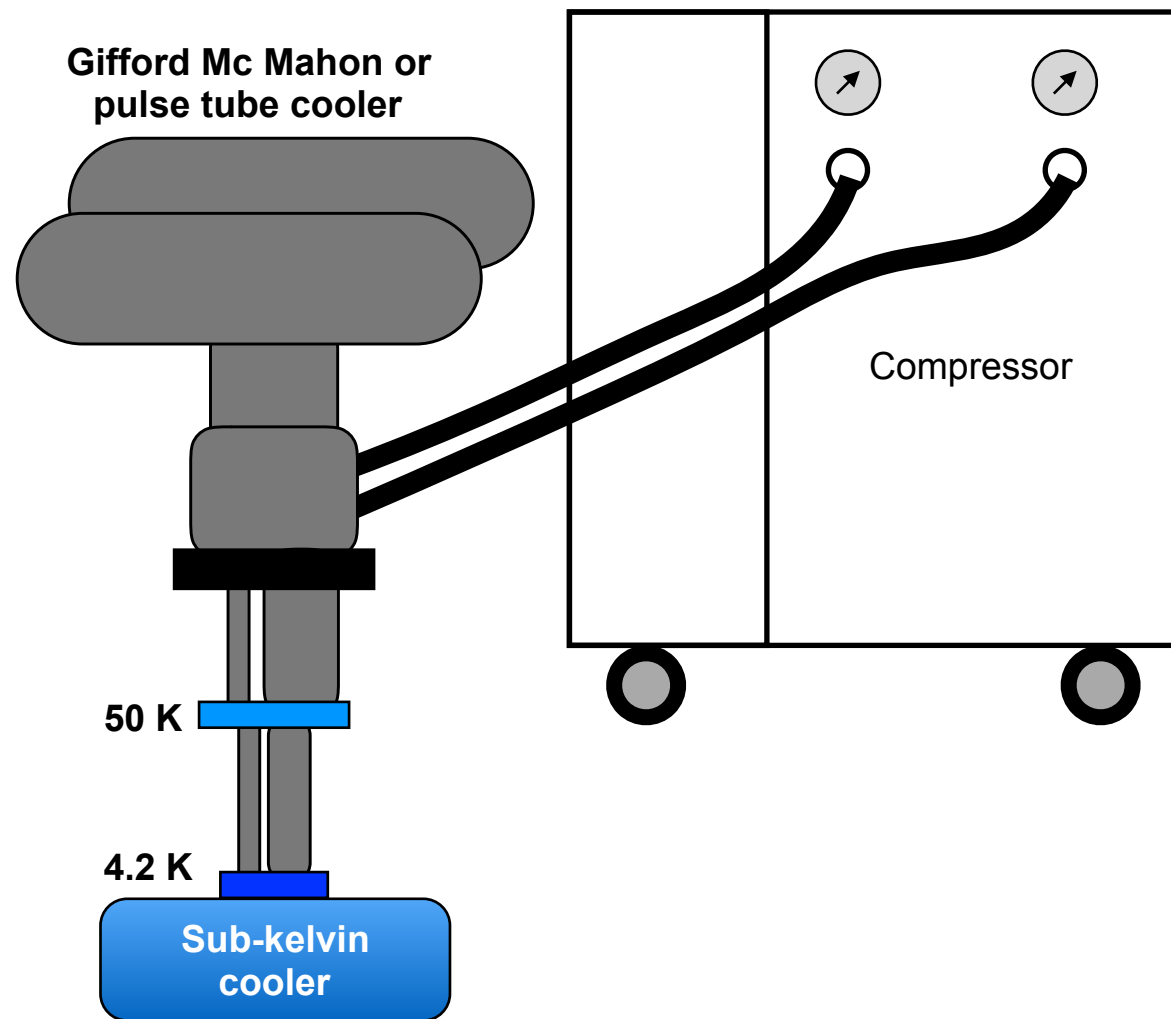


Preferably no consumable
(electricity only - cryogen free)



Typical cryogenic chain

Ground based *harsh environment*

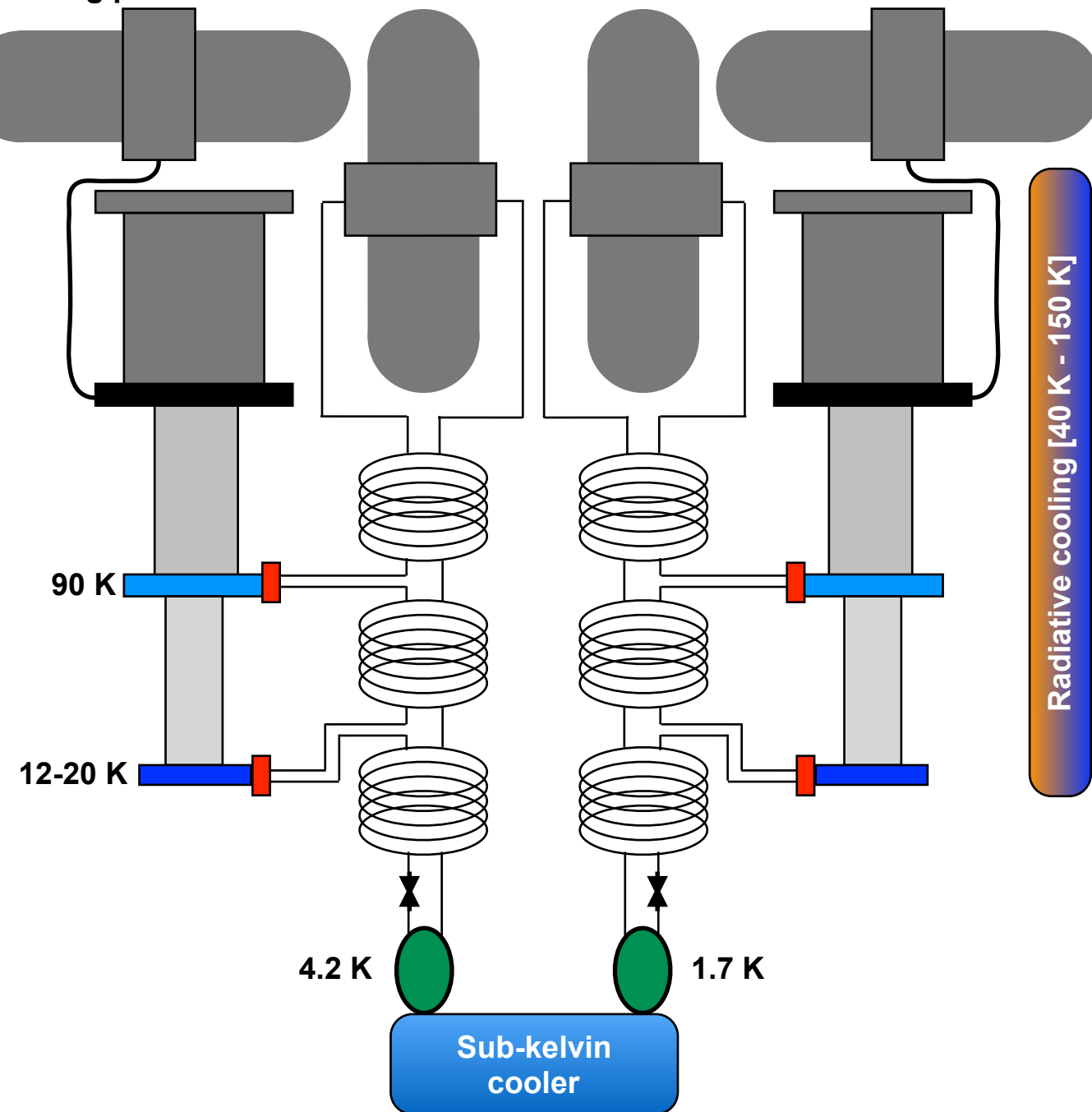


Not to scale

Space borne

High frequency multi stages
Stirling/pulse tube cooler

Joule Thomson loop

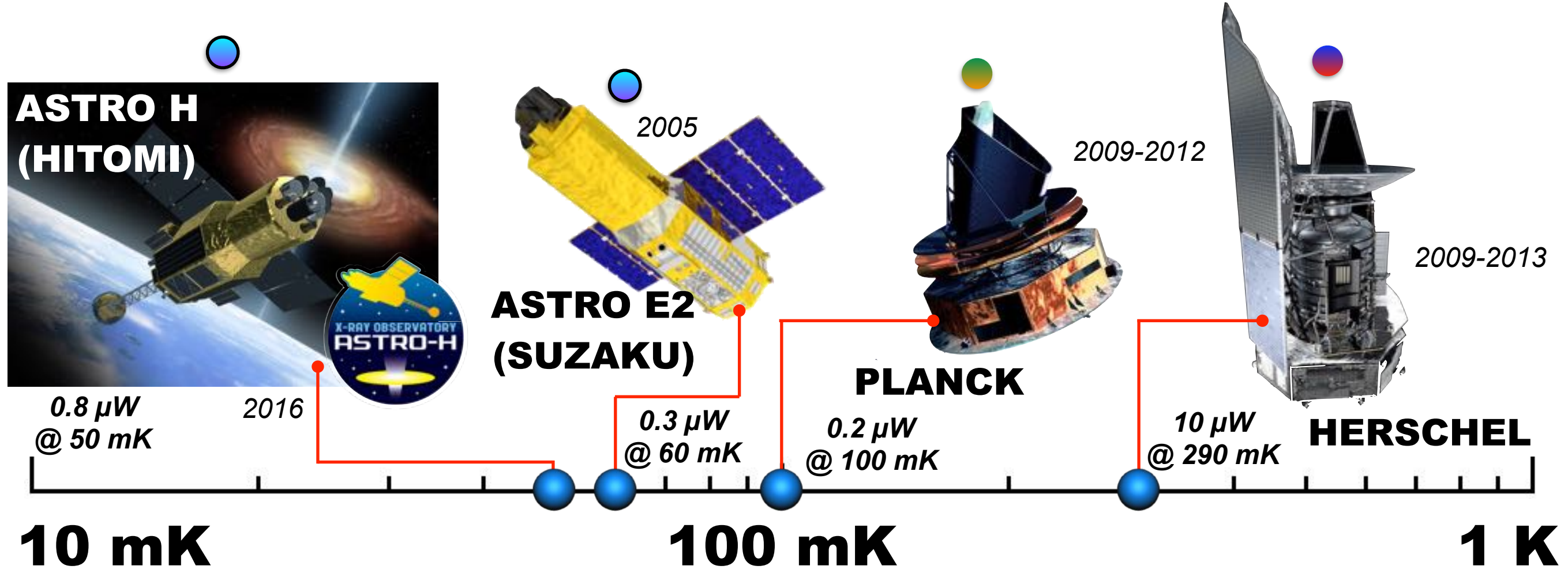
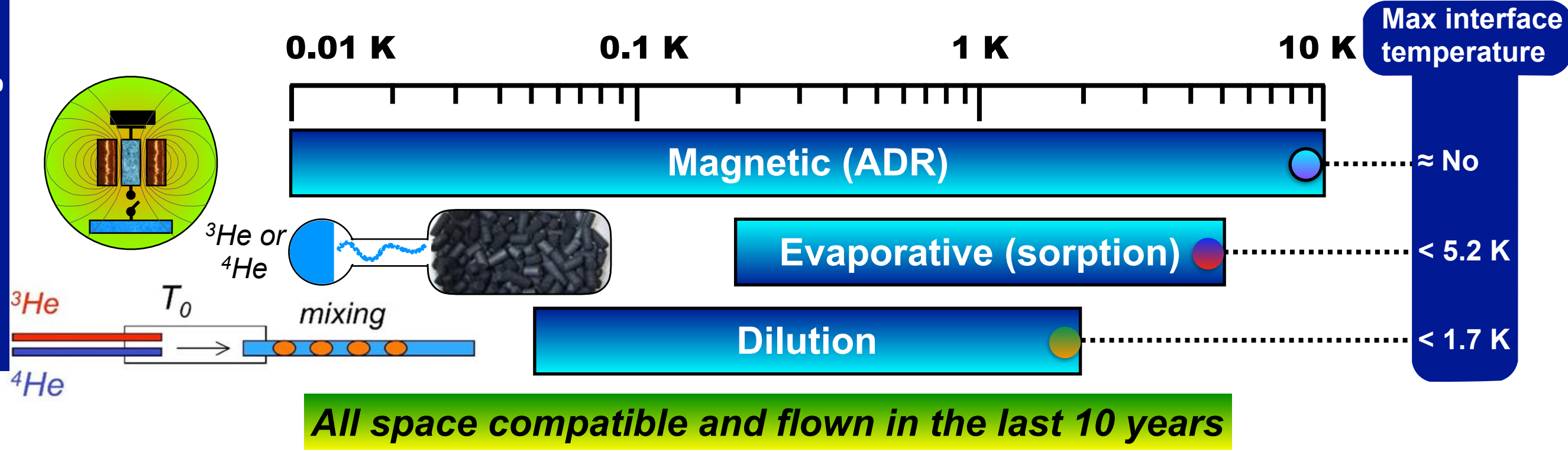


Input power \approx several kW

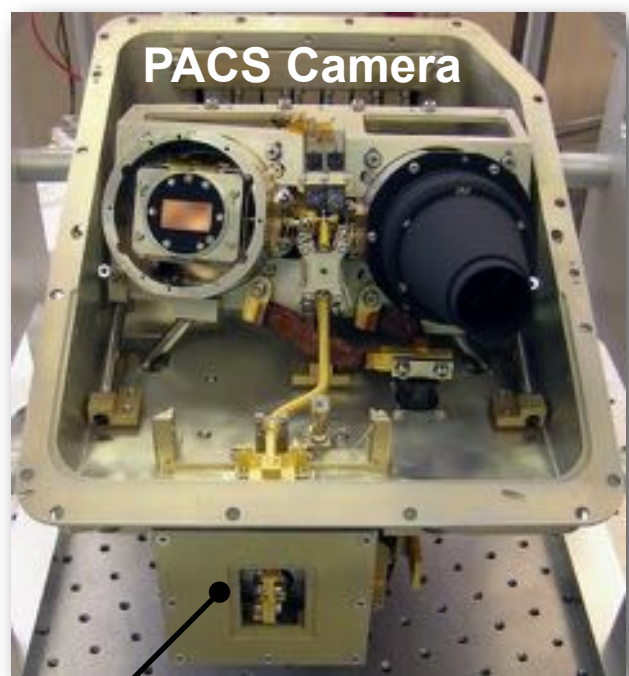
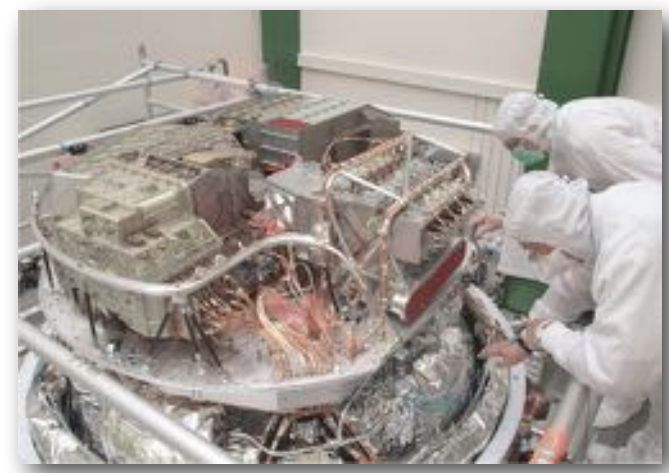
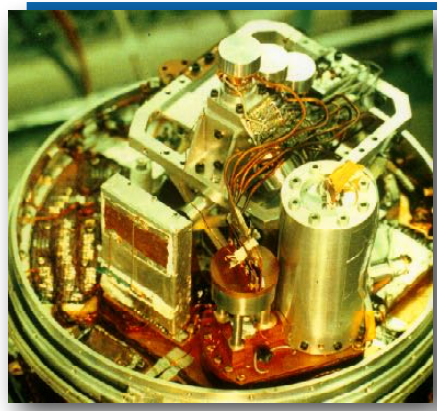
Input power \approx several hundreds of W

Sub-kelvin: 3 proven and extensively used techniques

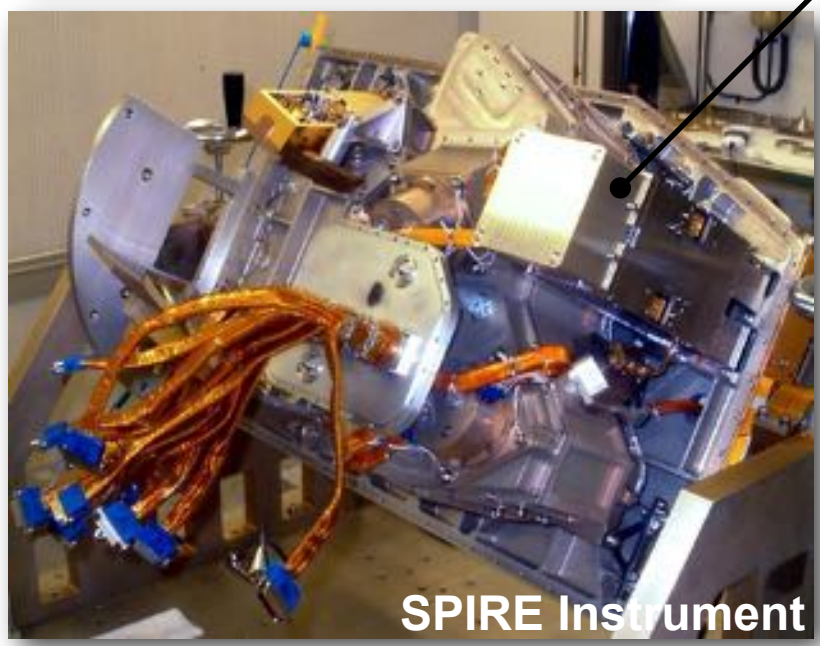
Can be combined together



Evaporative cooling: from rockets to satellite



Two units (SPIRE & PACS Instruments) 3.8 years in orbit at L2



SPiRE Instrument



HERSCHEL Cryogenic chain - In flight

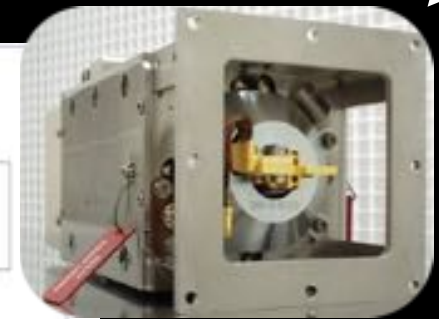
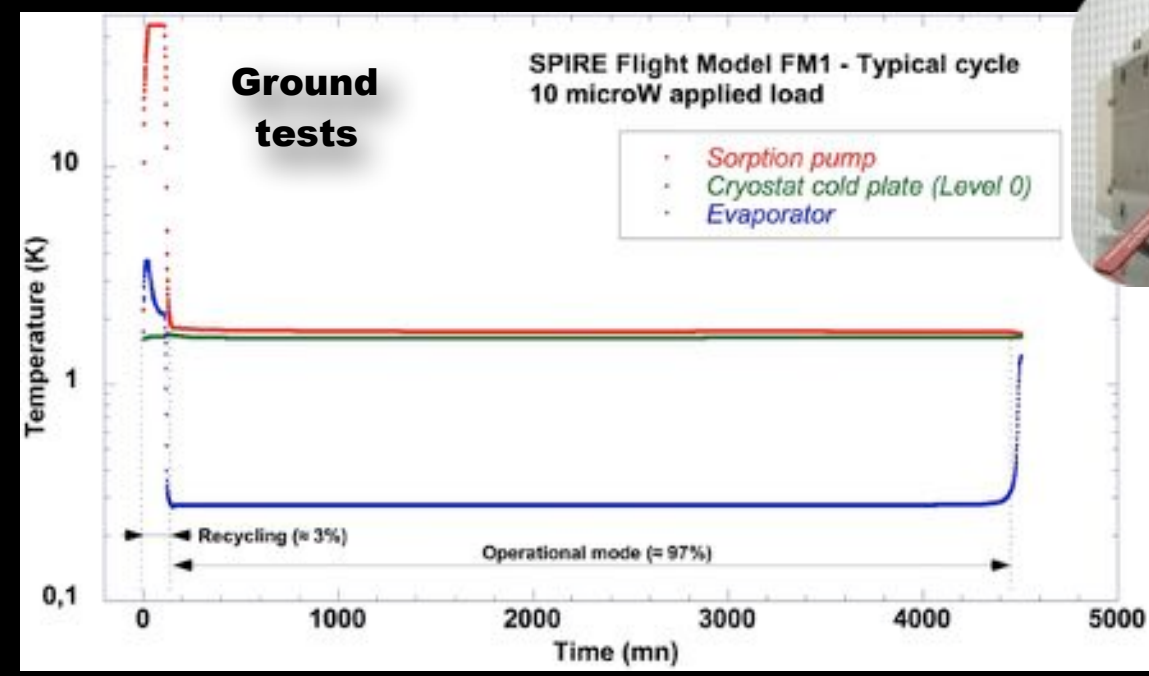
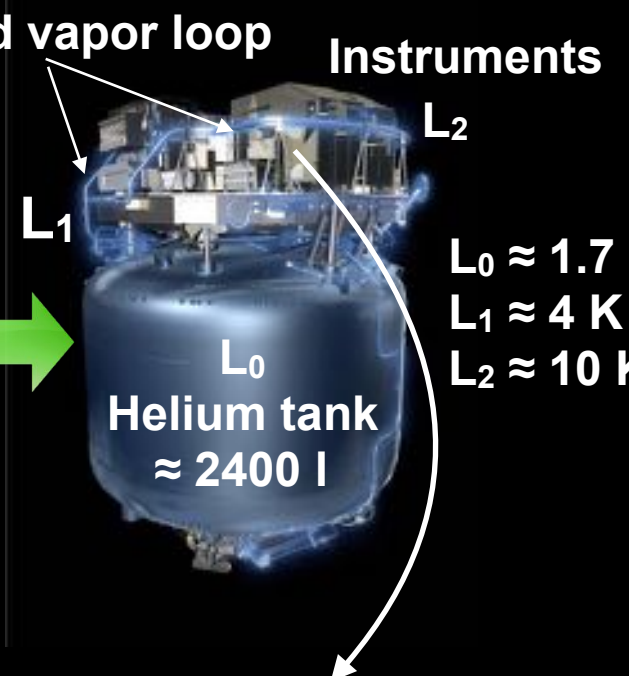
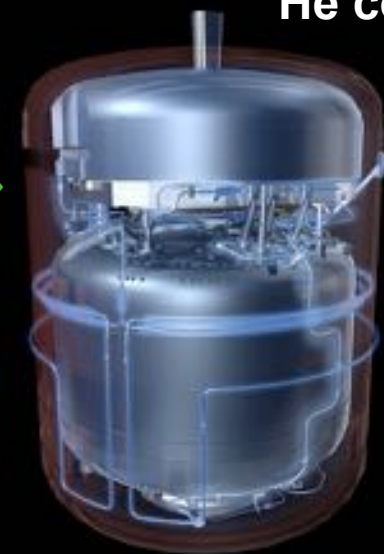


192 K

80 K

293 K

80 K passive cooling
+ 1.7 K He superfluid tank
+ 300 mK He sorption cooler

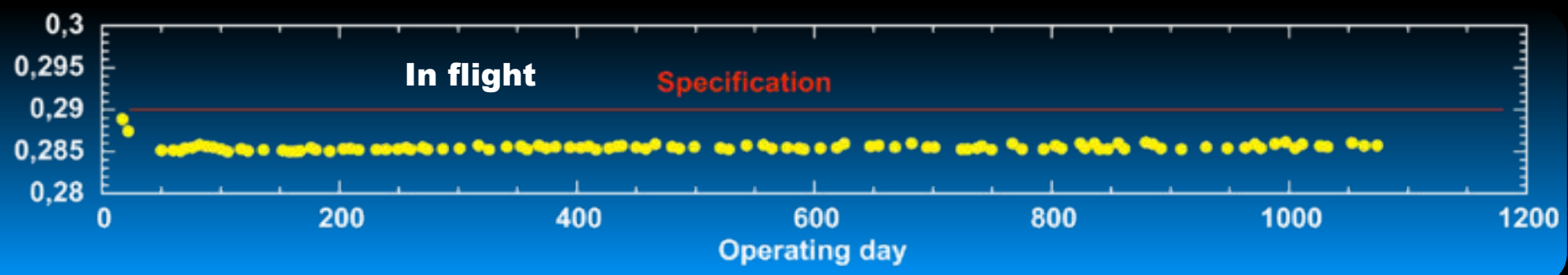


SBT

300 mK Helium sorption cooler

10 μW @ 290 mK
≈ 2 days autonomy
"Unlimited" lifetime
Vibration free

HERSCHEL SPIRE Sorption unit



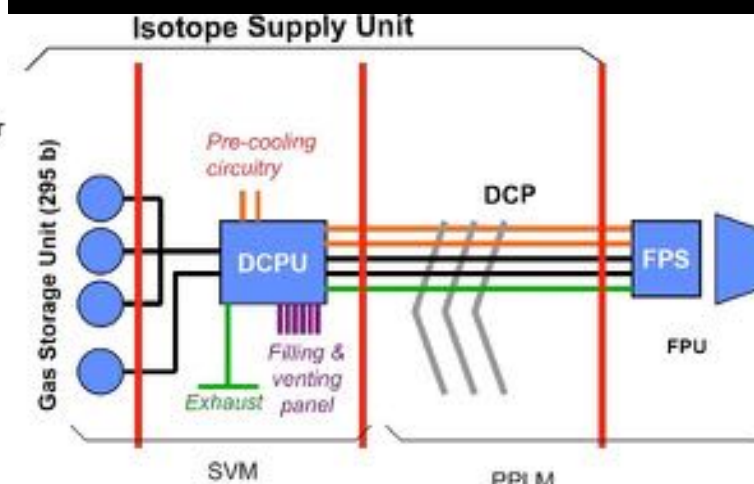
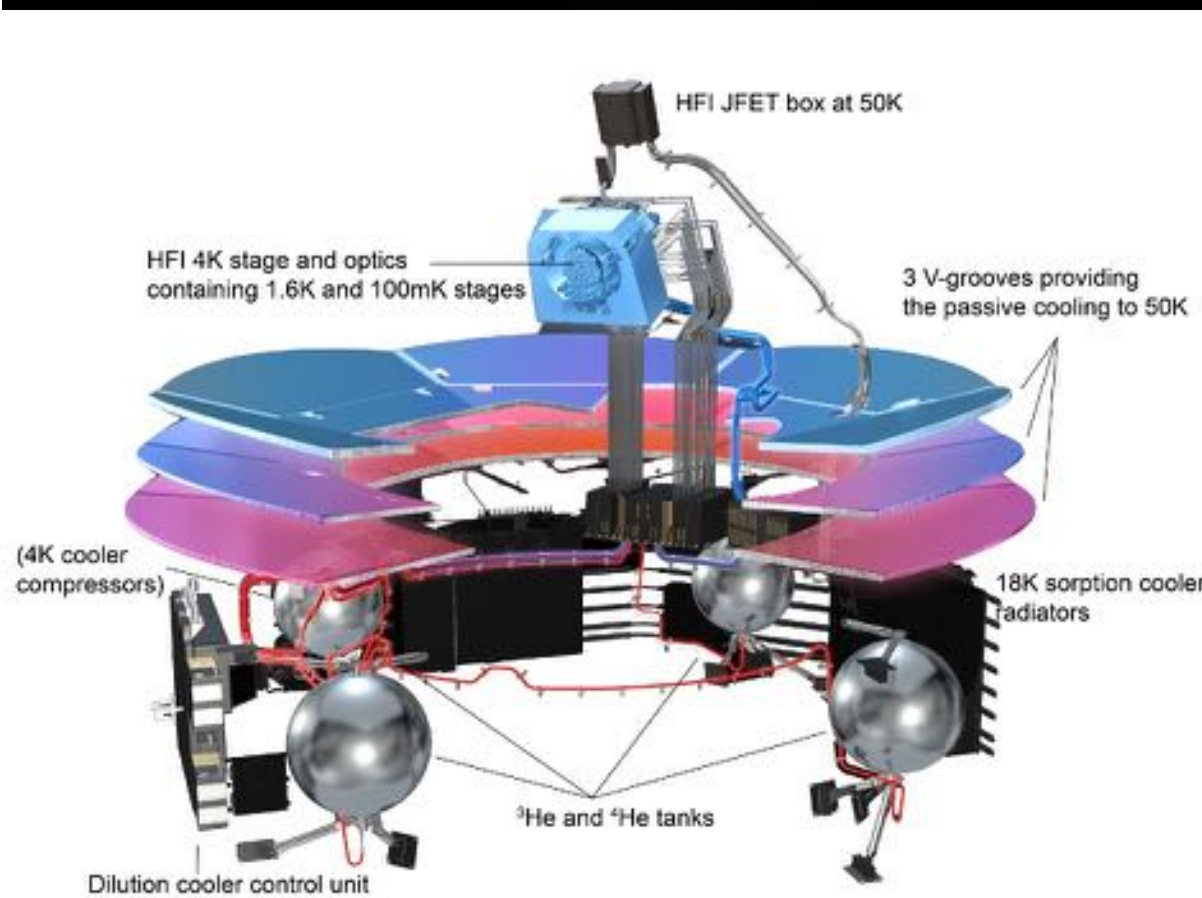
PLANCK Cryogenic chain - In flight



Combination of passive cooling
+ 18 K H₂ sorption cooler
+ 4K JT loop
+ dilution (incl. 1.6 K JT loop)

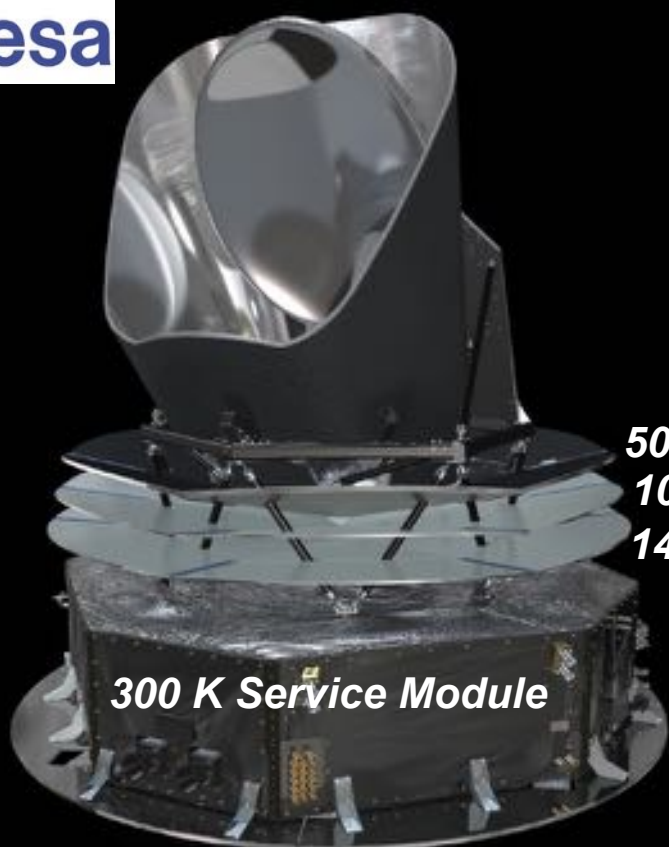


100 mK dilution cooler



200 nW @ 100 mK continuous cooling from 1.6 K ($\approx 8 \mu\text{W}$)
Open cycle: Lifetime limited ≈ 2 years mission

PLANCK Cryogenic chain - In flight



300 K Service Module

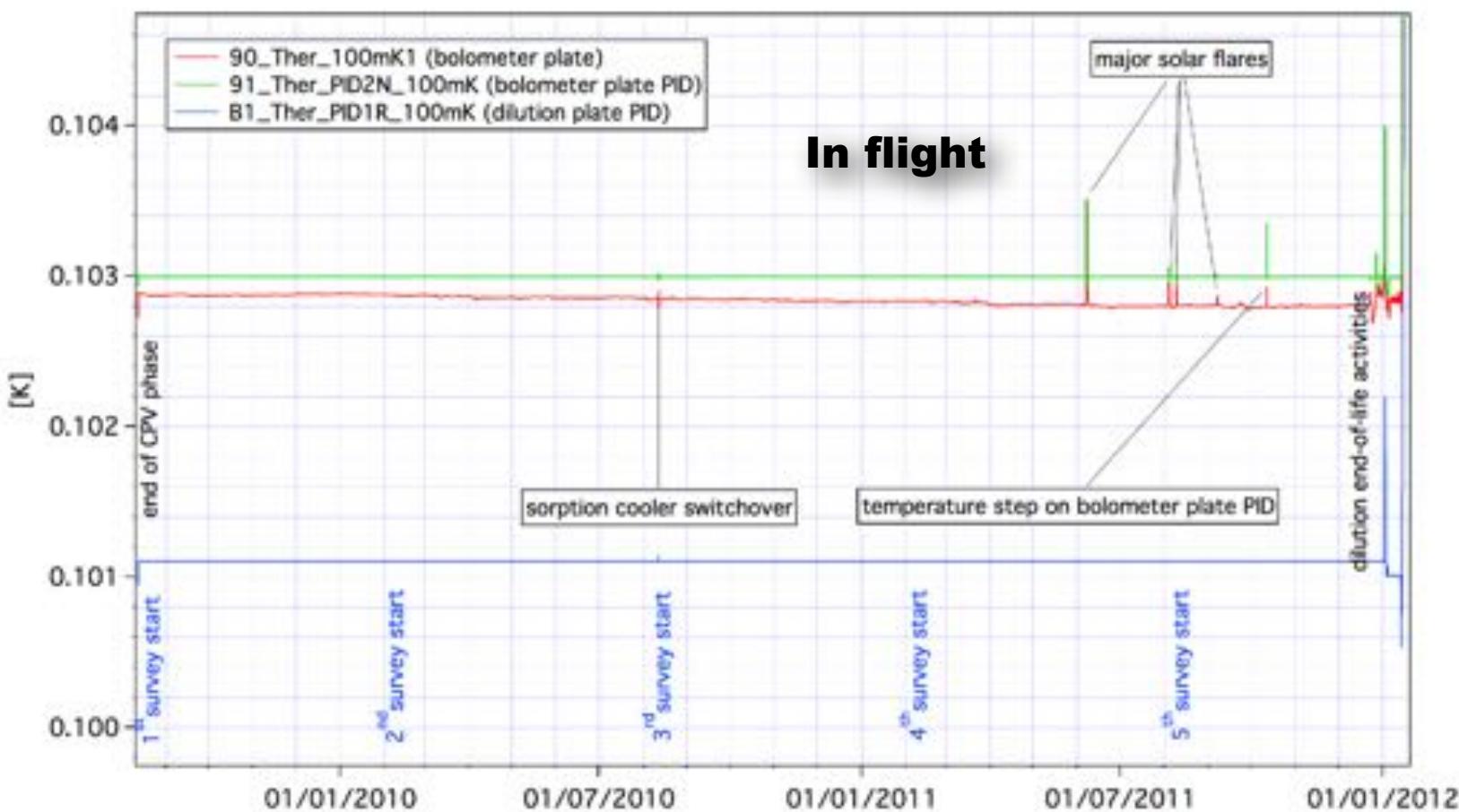
50 K
100 K
140 K



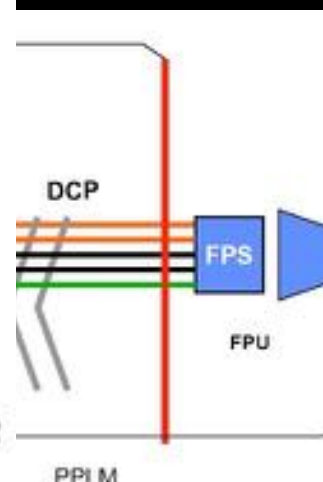
Combination of passive cooling
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100 mK dilution cooler

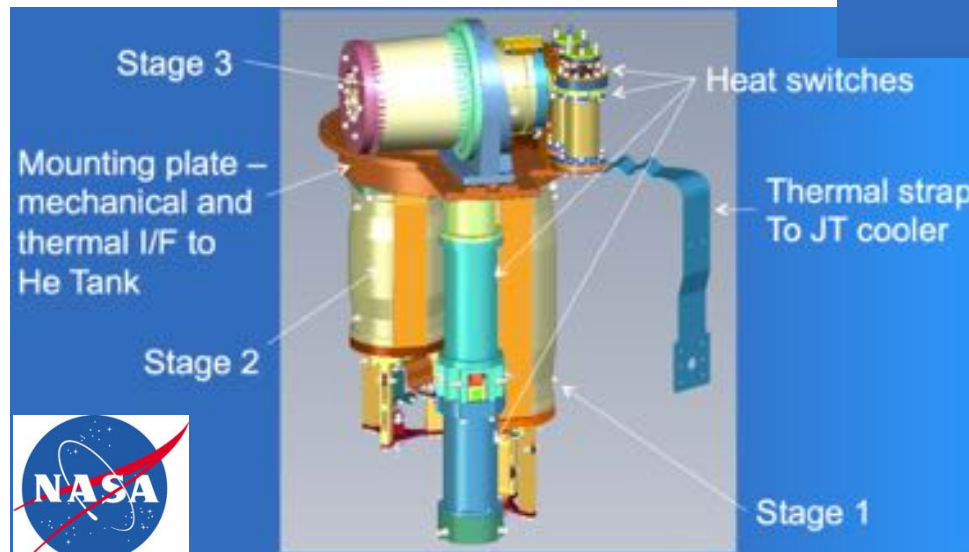
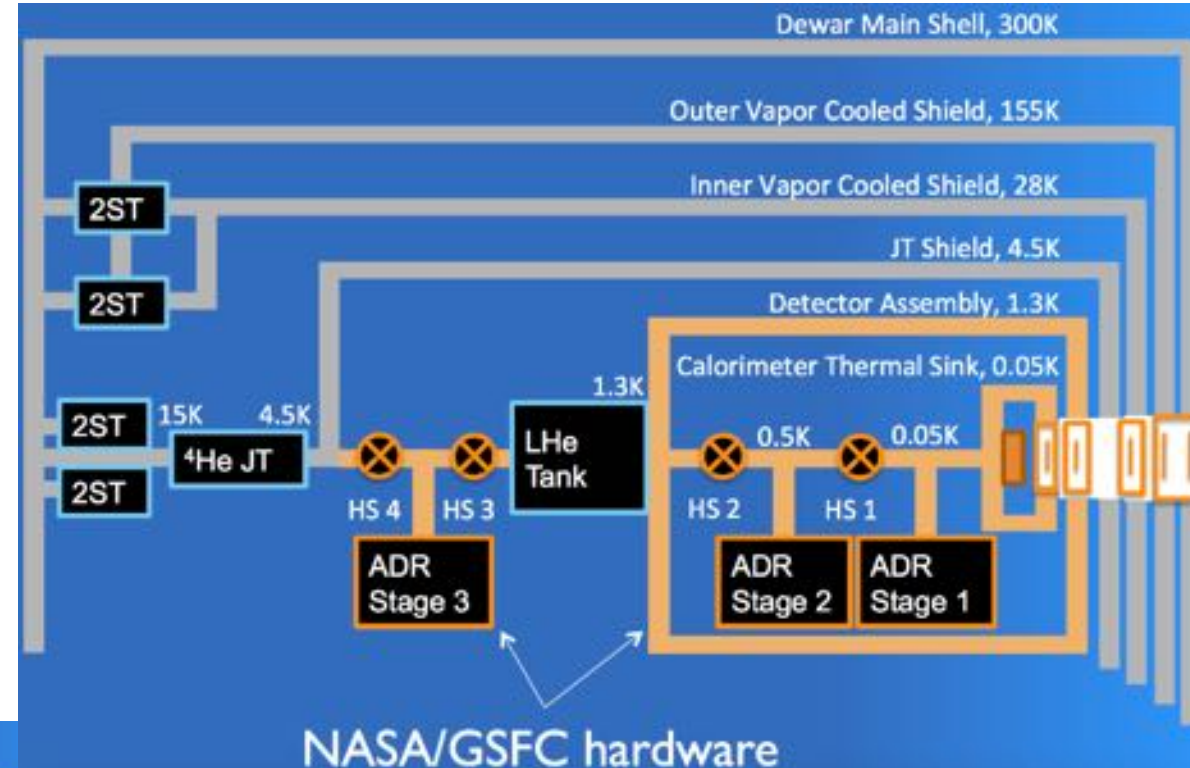
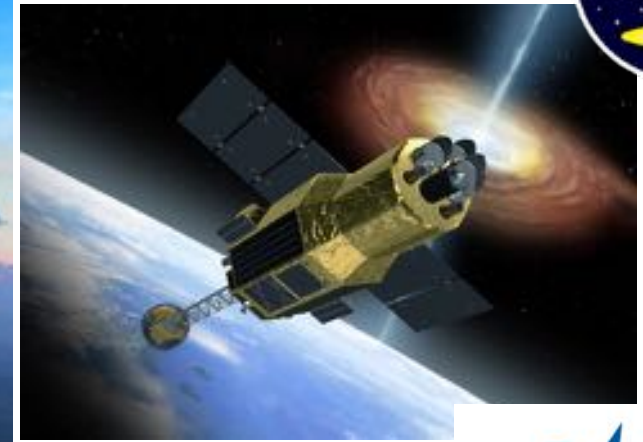


In flight



200 nW @ 100 mK continuous cooling from 1.6 K ($\approx 8 \mu\text{W}$)
Open cycle: Lifetime limited ≈ 2 years mission

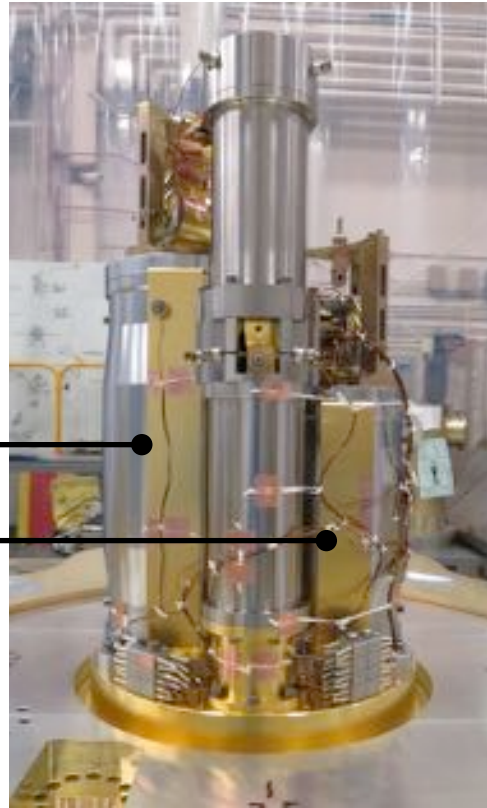
HITOMI (ASTRO-H) Cryogenic chain



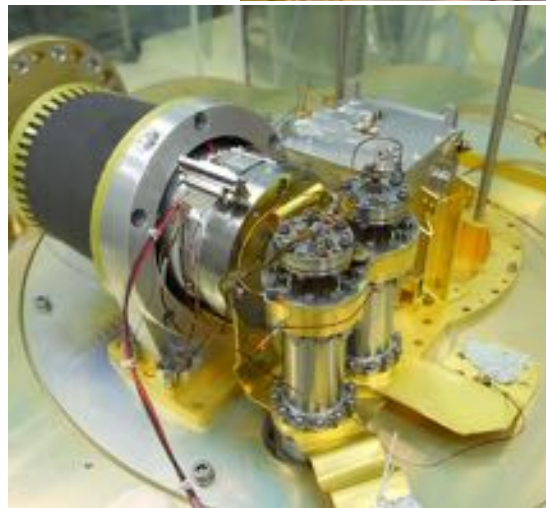
**Combination of passive cooling
+ Multistage stirling coolers
+ 4K JT loop
+ 1.3 K He Superfluid reservoir
+ 3 stages ADR (2 stages used with SHE,
3 stages when reservoir out of helium)**



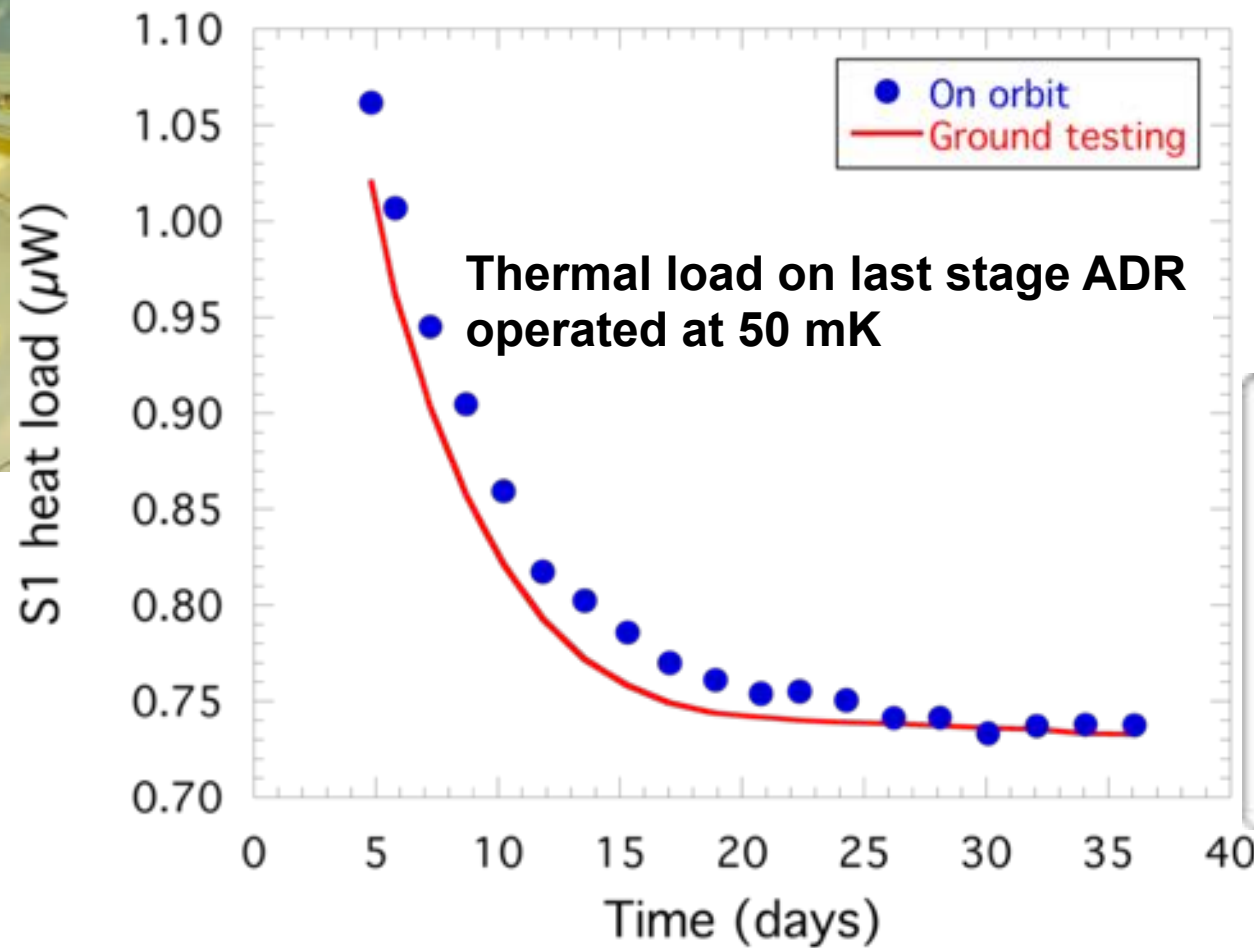
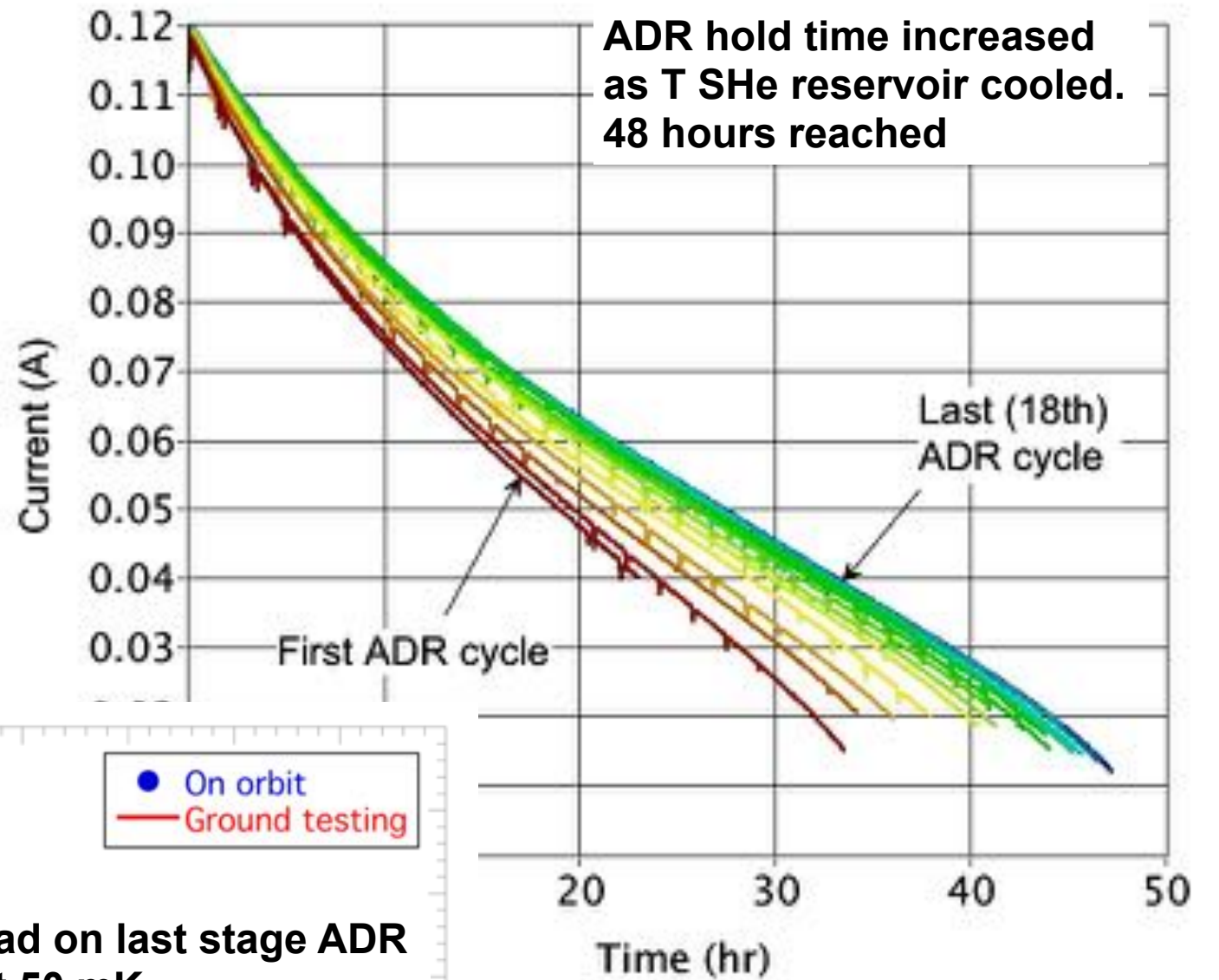
HITOMI (ASTRO-H) - In flight



Stage 1
Stage 2

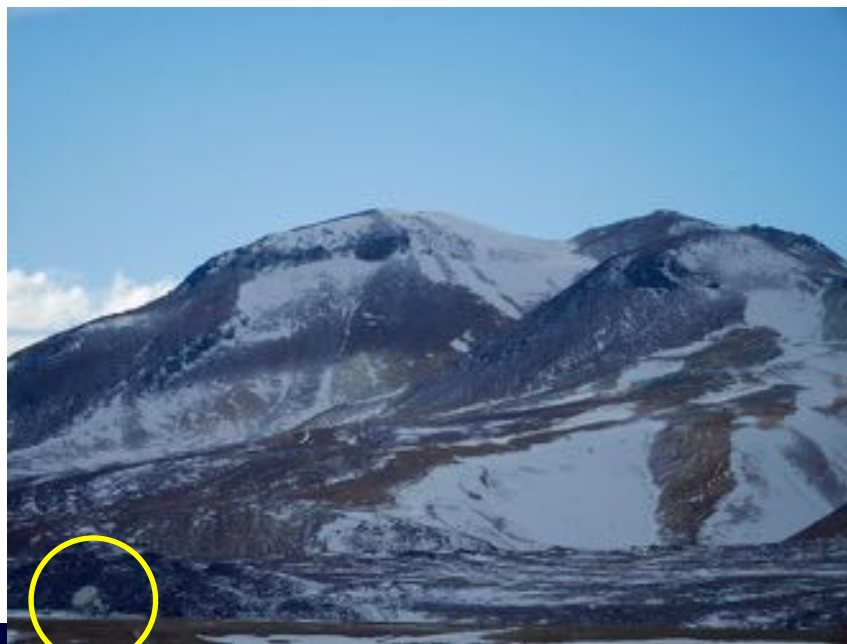


Stage 3



Cryogenics performed as expected but mission failed due to attitude control anomaly resulting in uncontrolled spin of spacecraft

Ground based telescopes - ARTEMIS APEX

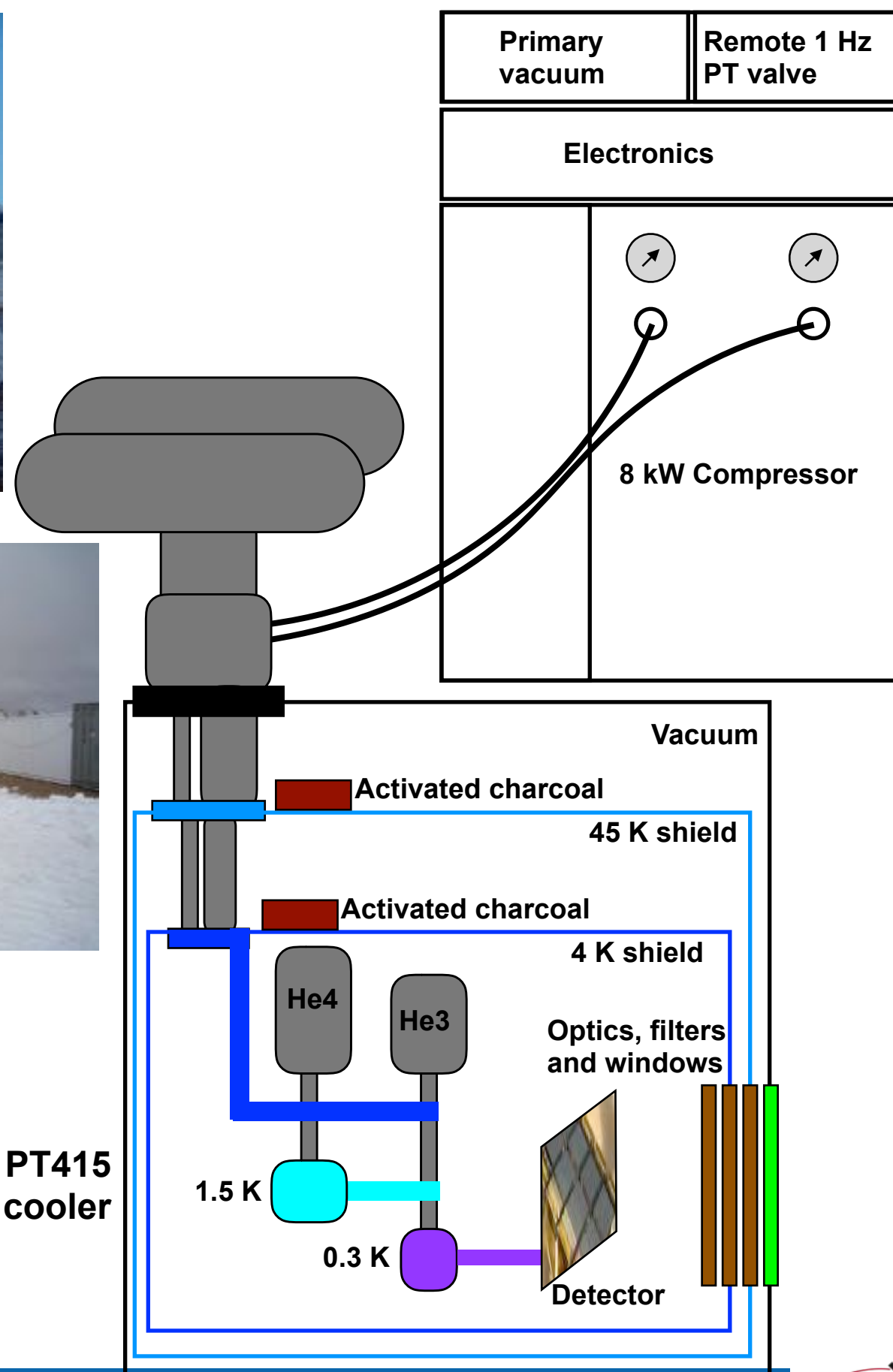


Altitude 5100m

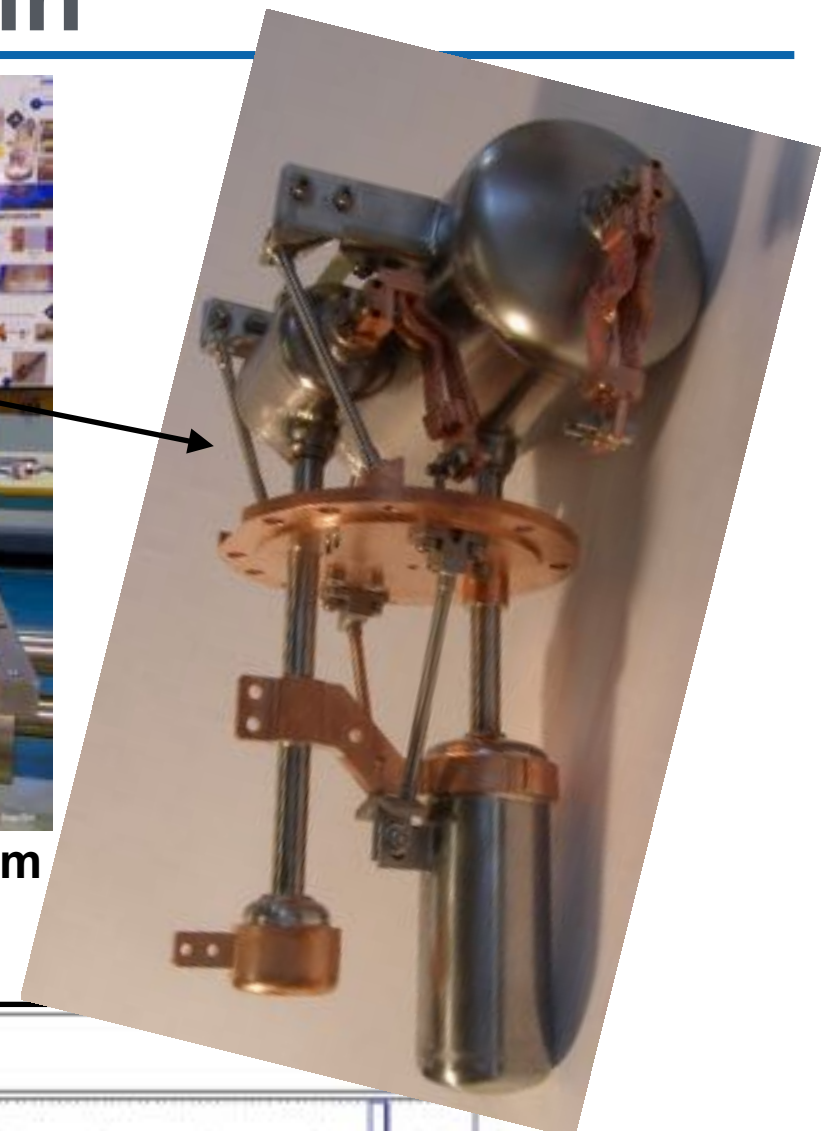
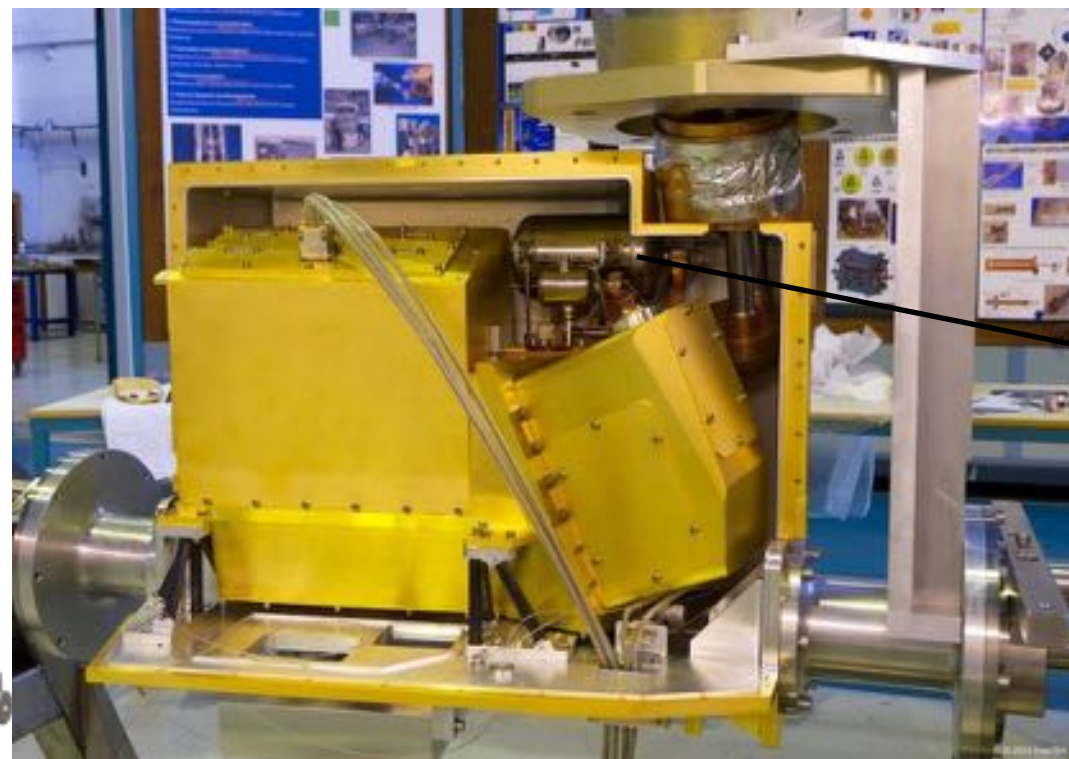
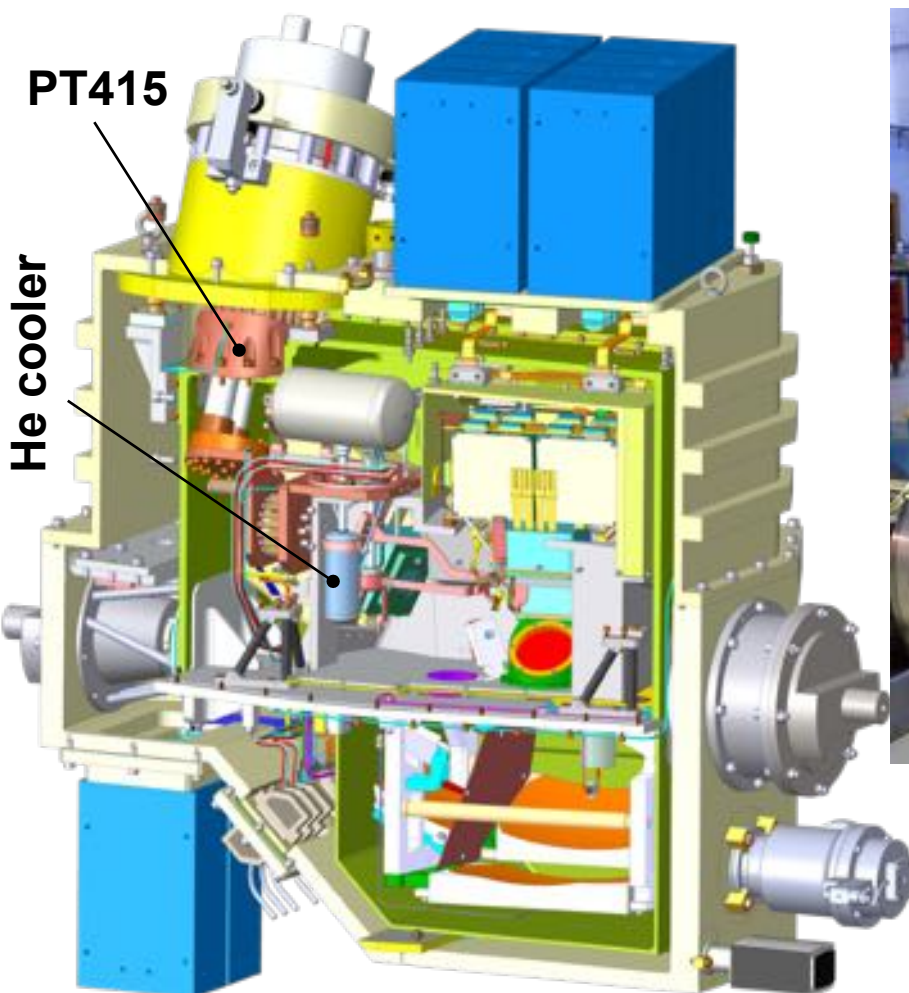
12m



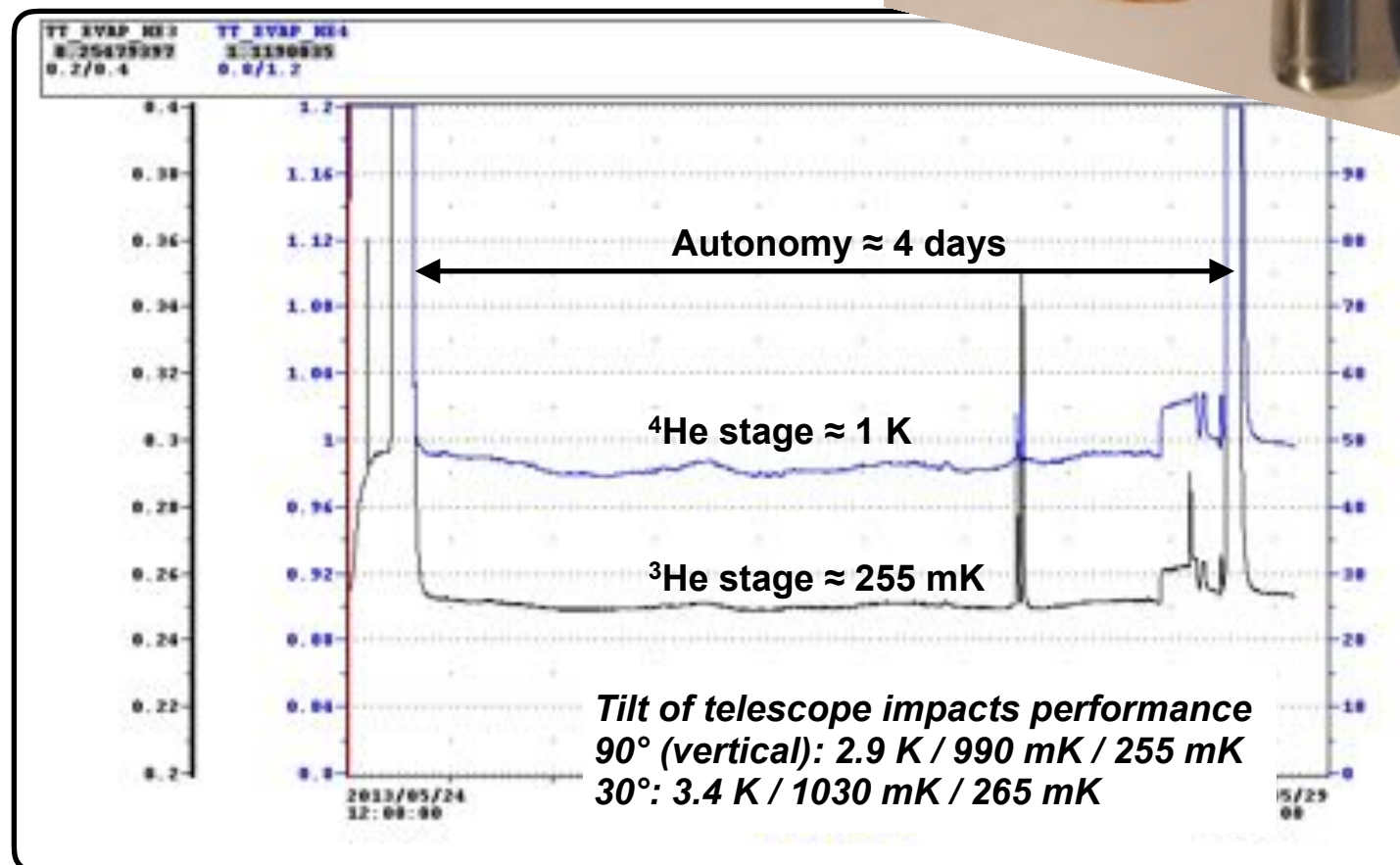
CryoMech PT415
+ 2 stages He sorption cooler



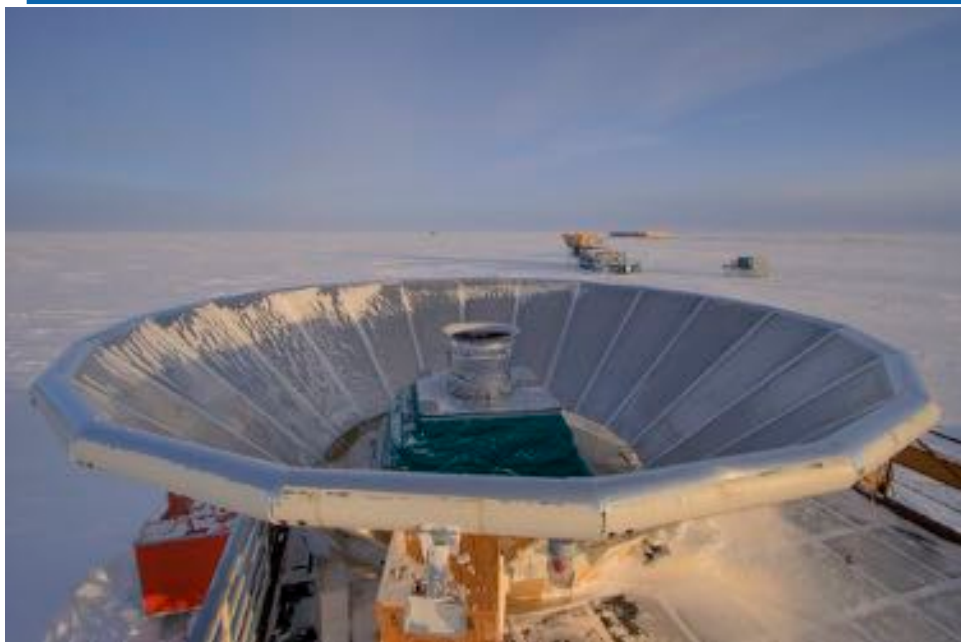
ARTEMIS cryogenic chain



Irfu **SBT** Double stage helium sorption cooler



Gravitational waves ... cryogenics needed



BICEP2
(2010-2012)



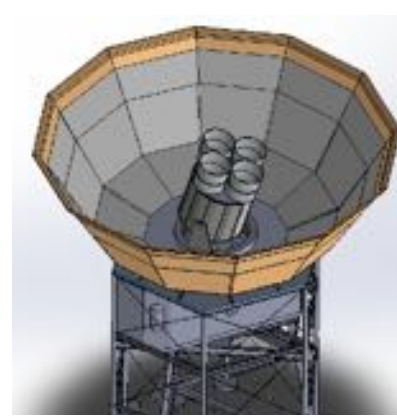
Keck Array
(2012-2017)



BICEP3
(2015-)



BICEP Array
(2018-)



If you are a night owl, the South pole is for you !

6 months long ...

Altitude: 2850 m

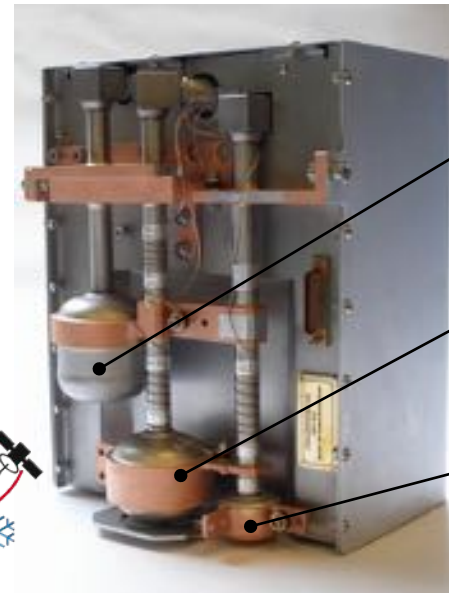
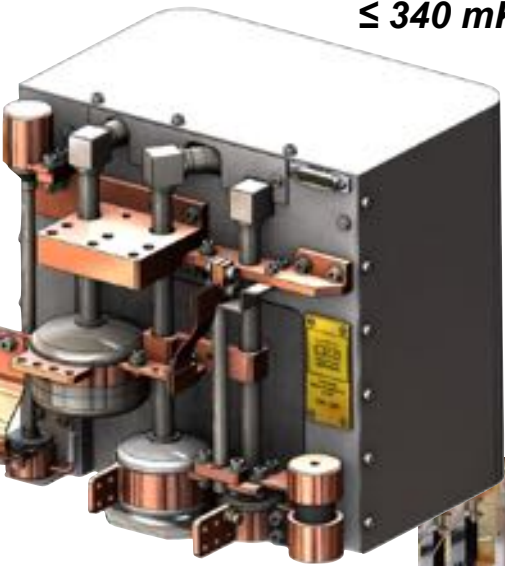
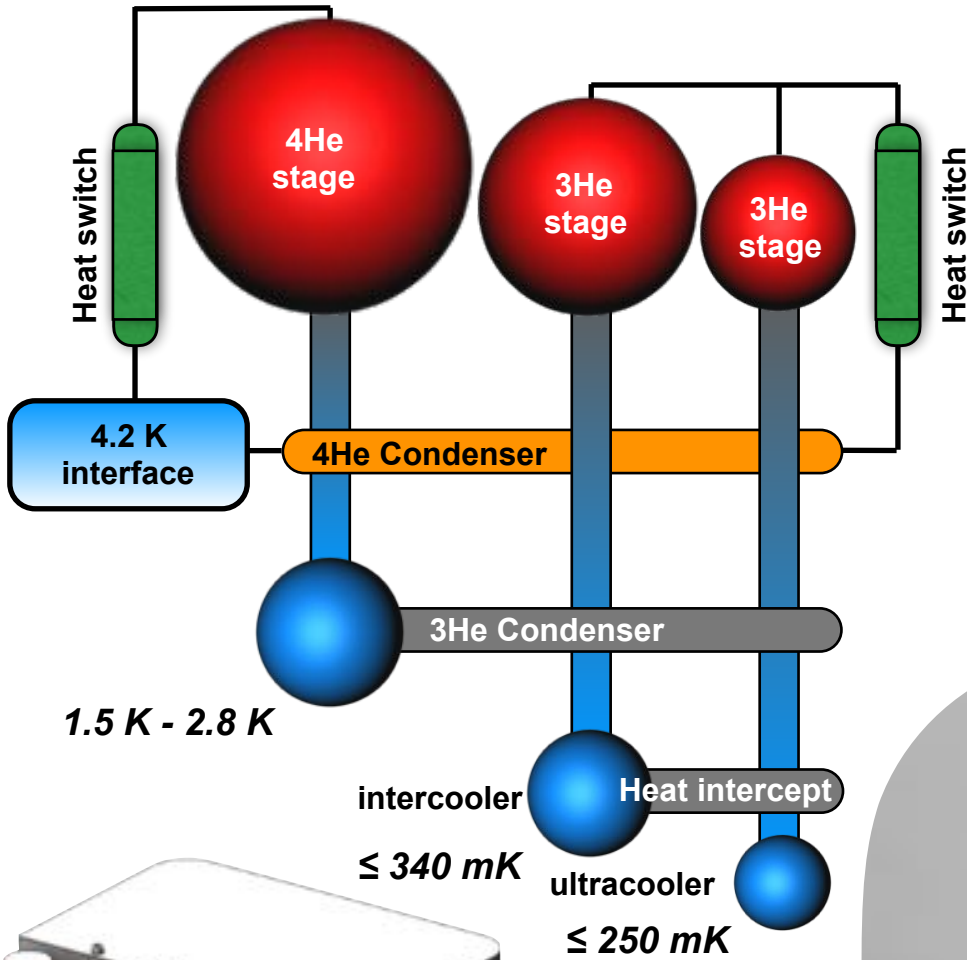
Average temperature: -50°C

Lowest T: -82°C

Highest T: -12°C



BICEP series: 3 stages He sorption coolers (He10)



Helium "10" cooler:

^4He provides condensation interface for ^3He stages

4

+

1st ^3He stage acts as an intercept

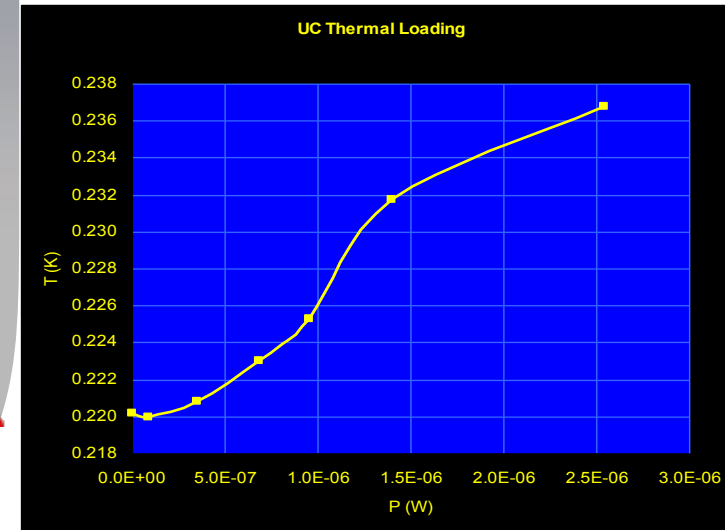
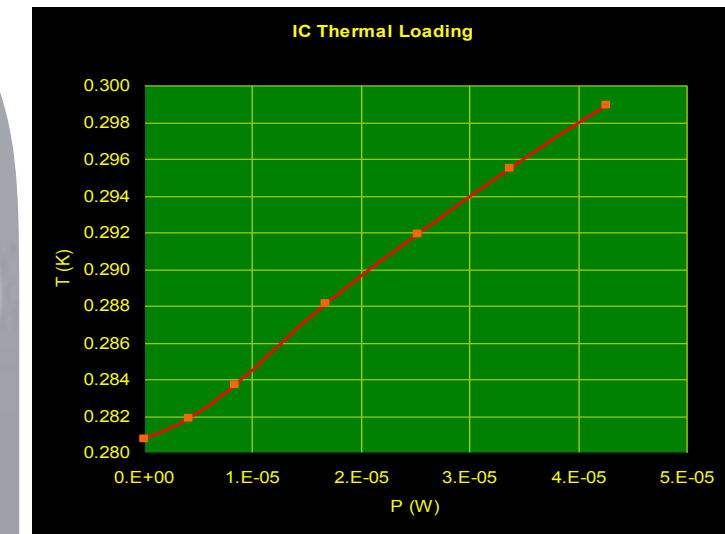
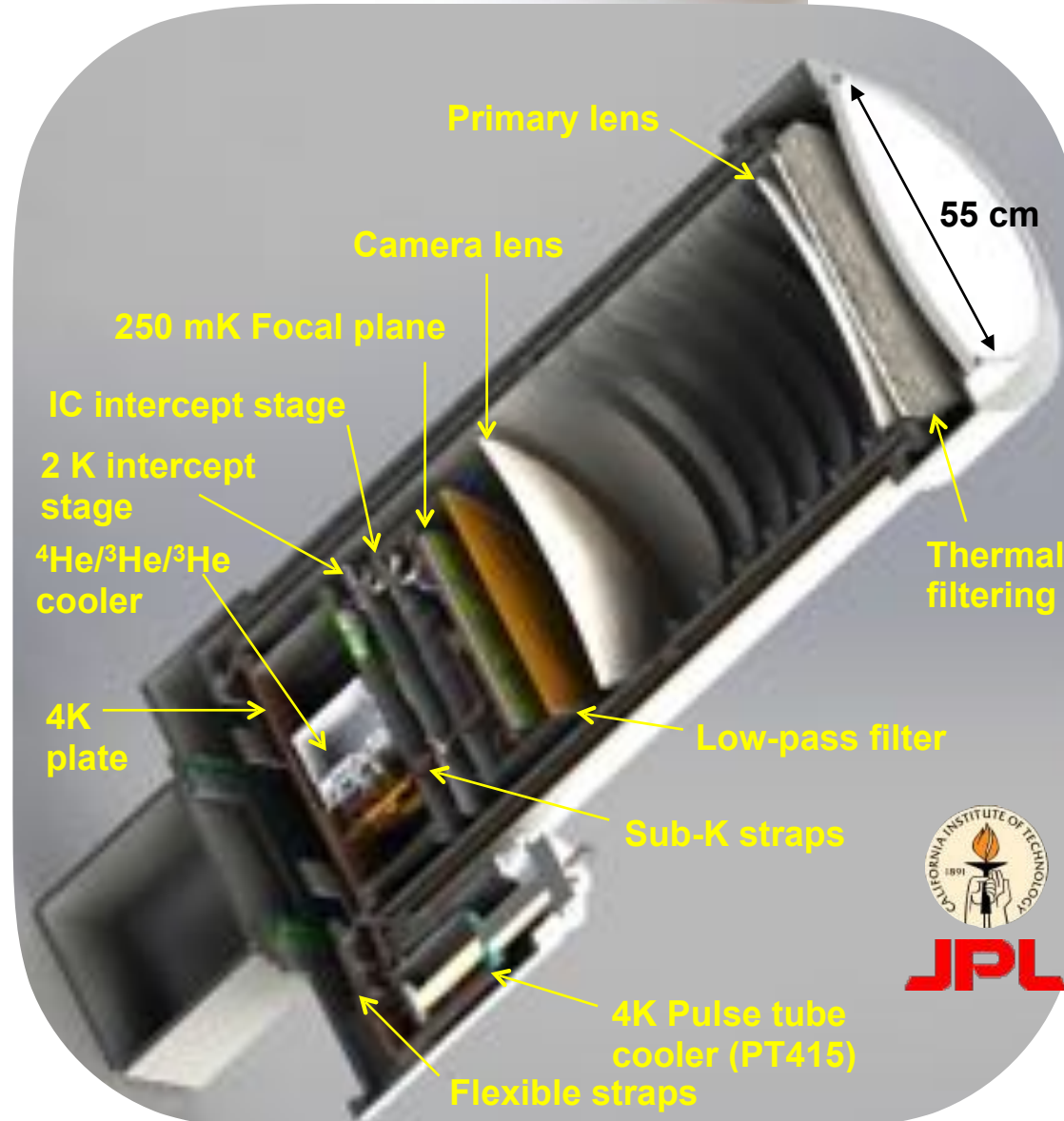
3

+

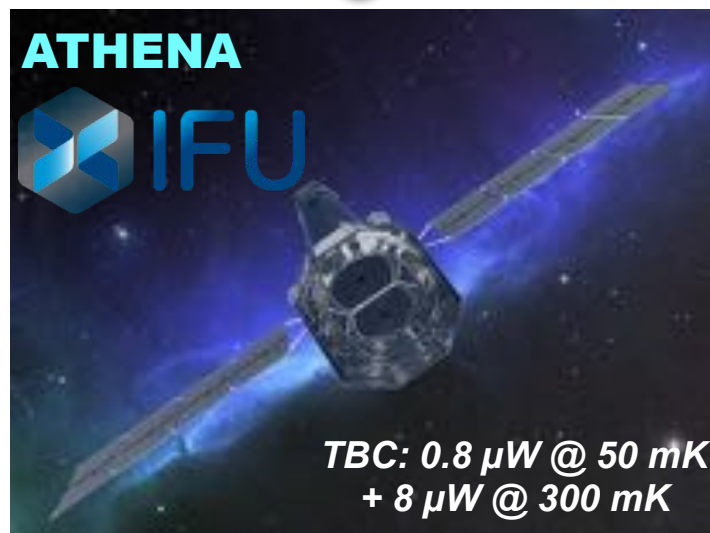
2nd ^3He stage provides cooling down to 220 mK

3

= 10



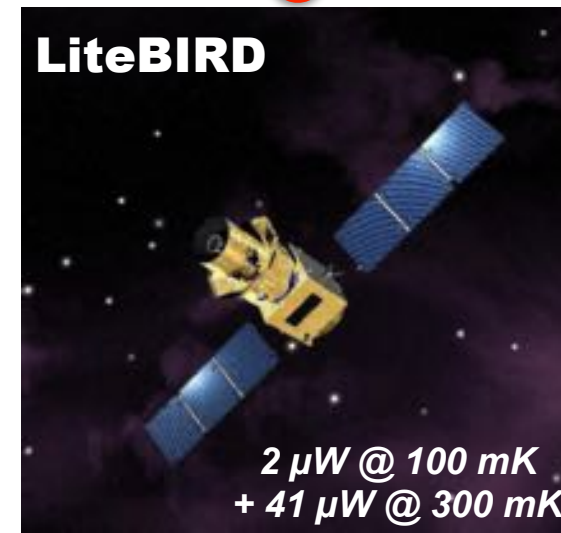
Sub-kelvin missions: what's coming up



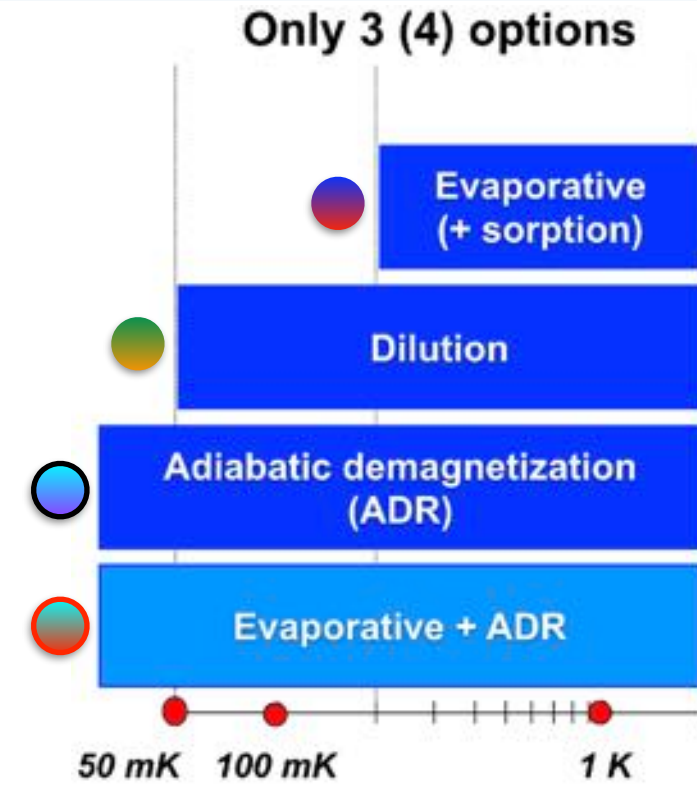
2028



2032



2025



2016



$0.3 \mu\text{W}$
@ 60 mK



$0.2 \mu\text{W}$
@ 100 mK



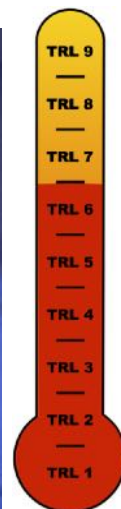
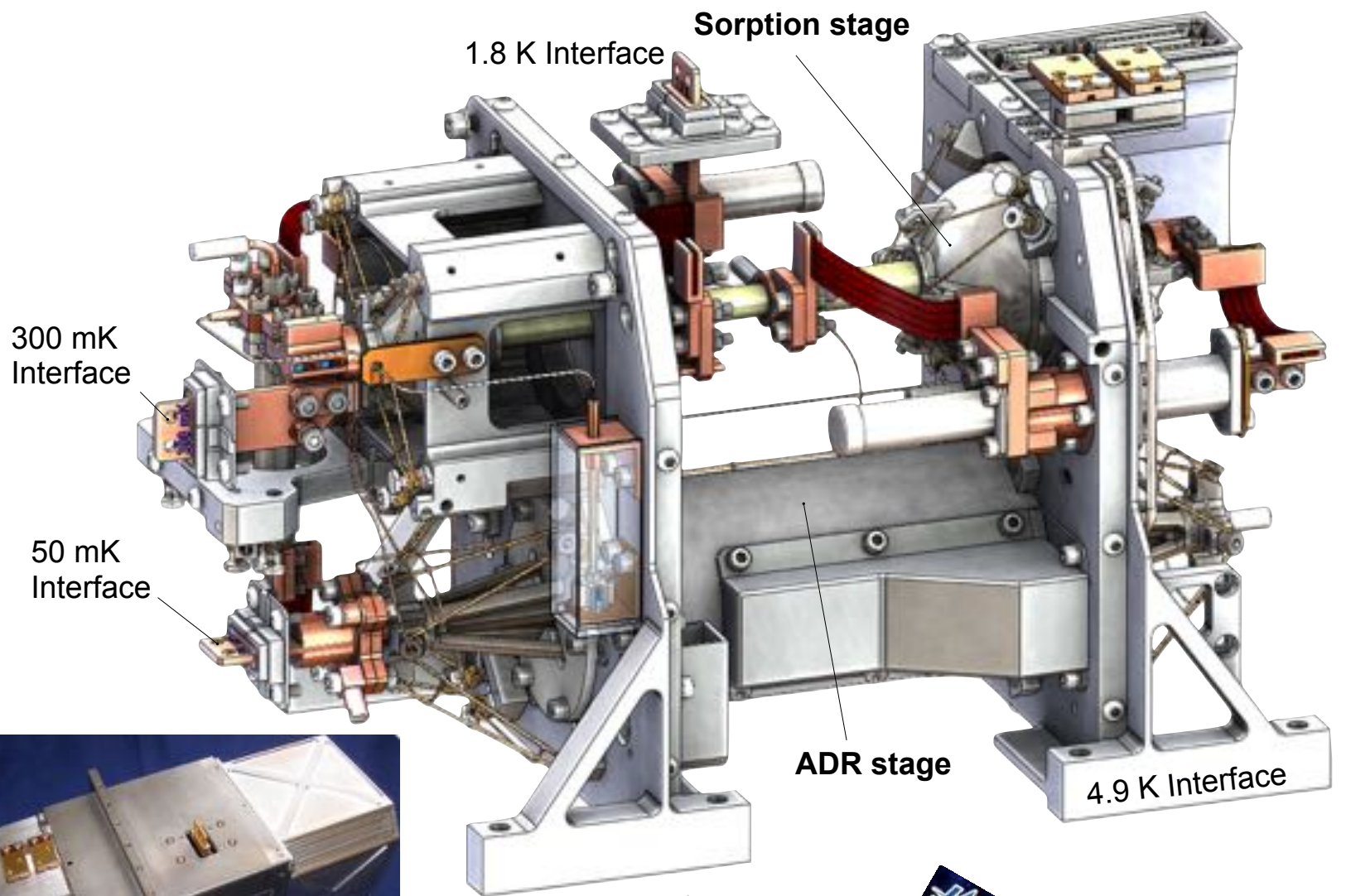
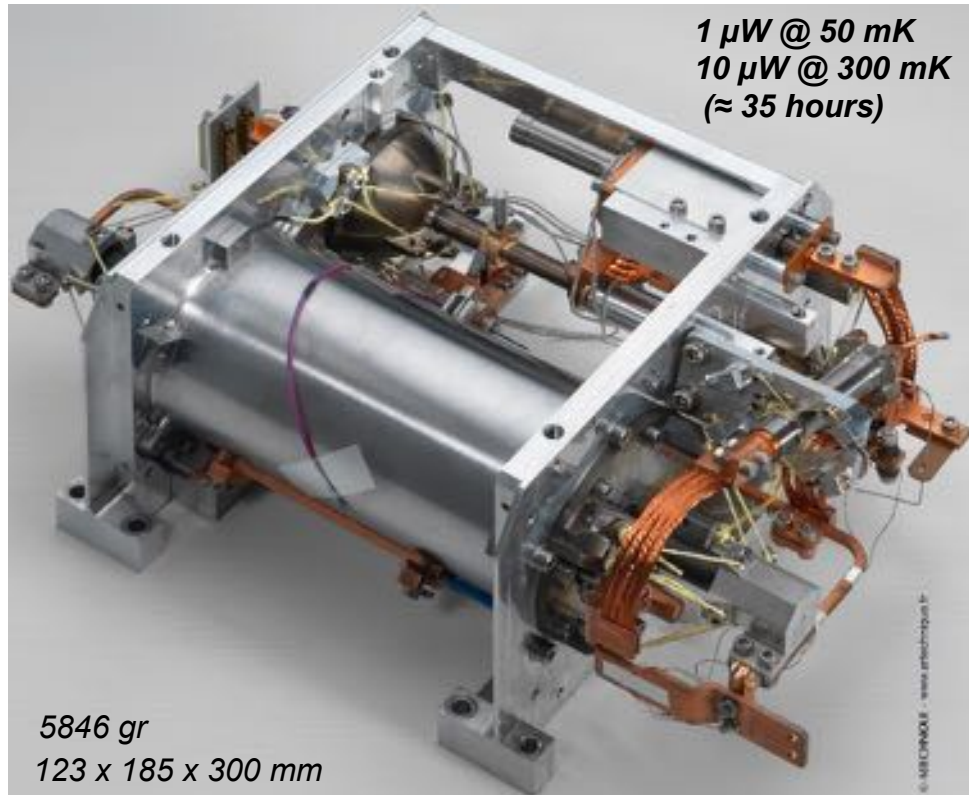
$10 \mu\text{W}$
@ 290 mK

10 mK

100 mK

1 K

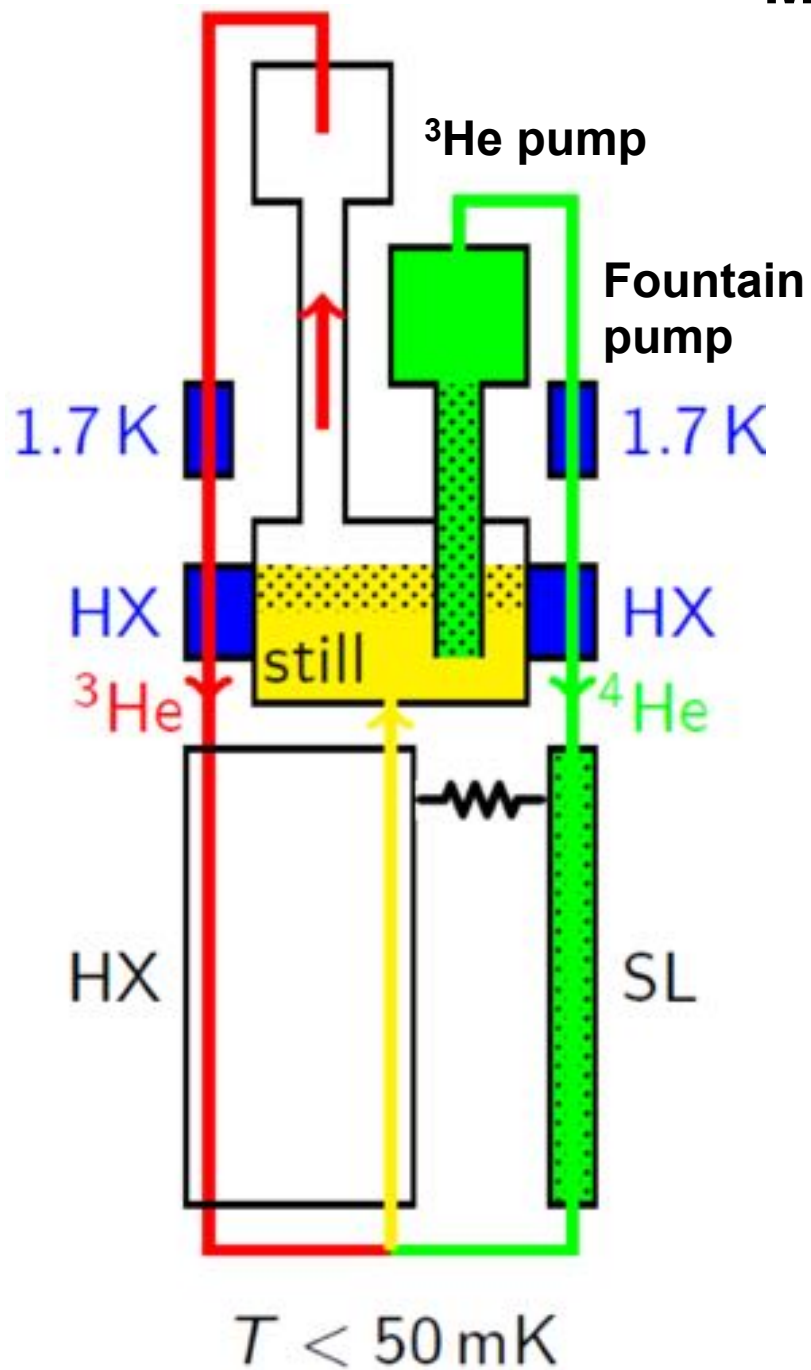
50 mK hybrid cooler: combination He sorption + ADR



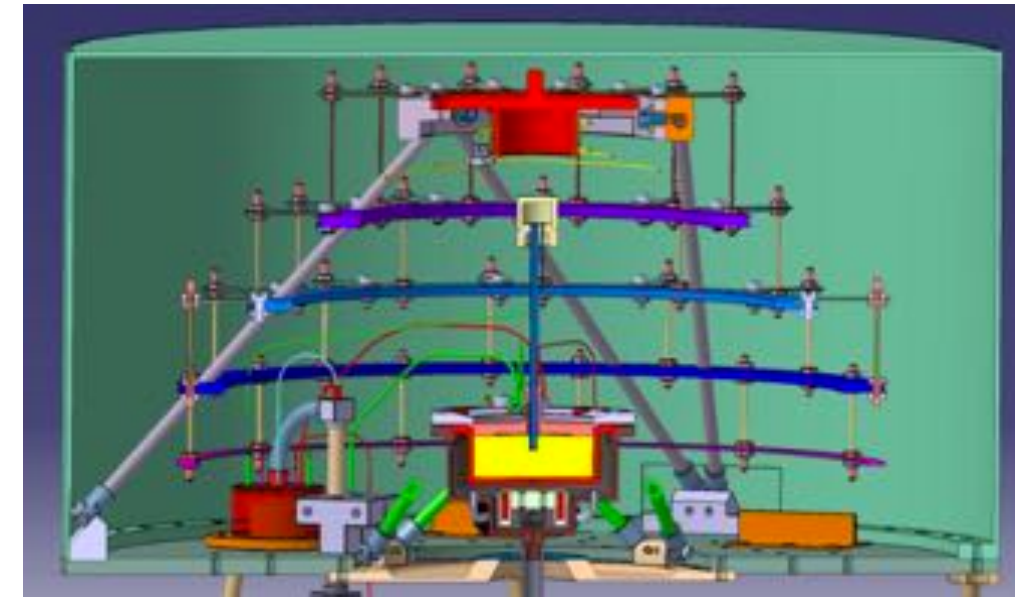
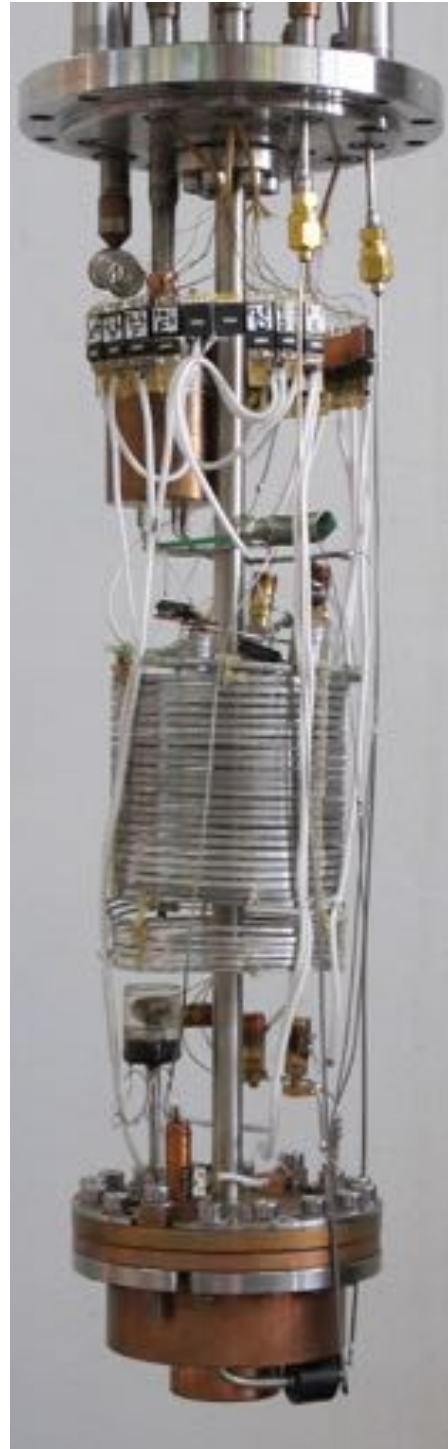
Continuous Dilution cooler

^3He - ^4He mixture: distillate the ^3He , extract the ^4He with a fountain pump

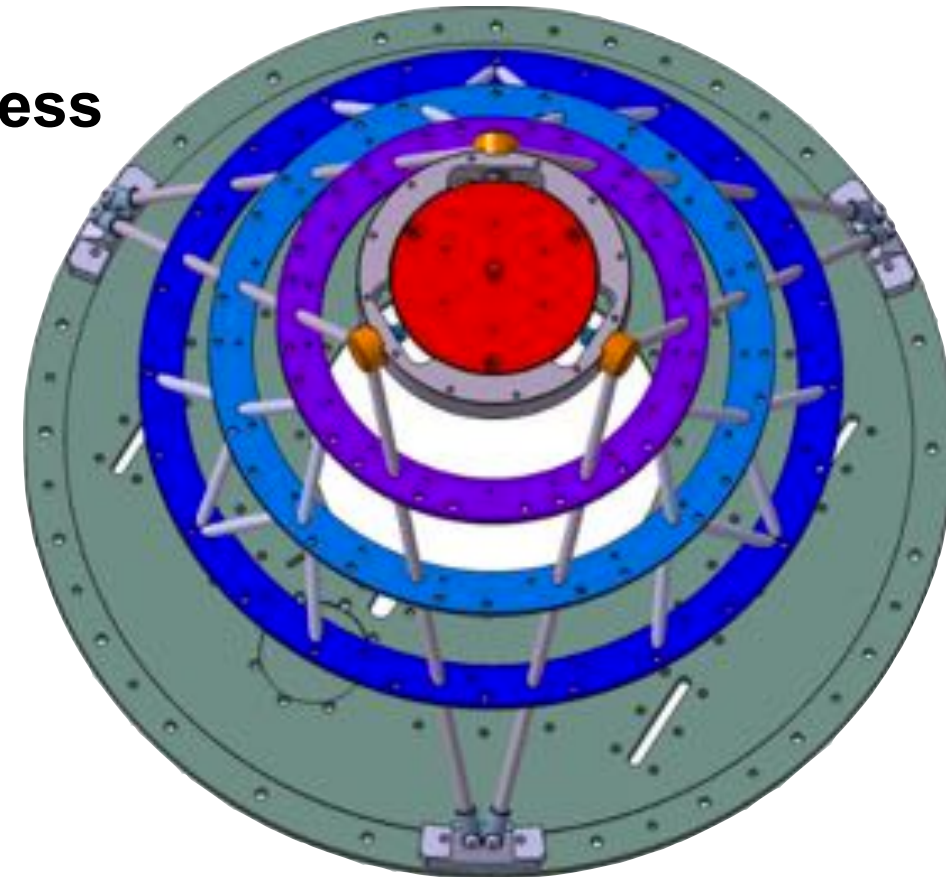
Mix again  Cooling effect



Latest result:
1 μW @ 51 mK (liquid T !)



Work in progress



Thank you for your attention



**Whether in the lab,
in harsh environment
or far away in space,
cryogenics is cool**