Development of next-generation LEKIDs and Instruments at Cardiff



Astronomical Instrument Development Meeting Dublin, 2nd September 2019 CARDIFF UNIVERSITY PRIFYSGOL CAERDYD

The Cardiff AIG





Three main areas:

Cryogenics

- **Quasi-optical filters & metamaterials**
- **Detectors**

Prof. Matt Griffin





Prof. Peter Ade

Dr Erminia



Dr Simon Doyle



Prof. Pete Hargrave





Prof. Carole Tucker

7 dedicated technical staff + 2 soon

2 dedicated administrative staff

Giampaolo

Pisano

5 PhD students

6 post doctoral staff

Calabrese



The Cardiff AIG



- Science-driven approach to developing technology for astronomy.
 - We develop technology and instruments for studies of: the Early Universe; CMB science; Star Formation and Evolution.
- Enabling technology for IR-FIR/Sub-mm Instrumentation.
 - Hardware on virtually ALL astronomical satellite instruments working > 60µm
 - Earth-based, balloon-based and space-borne observatories.
 - 'THz' technology

Instrument-level system optical/cryogenic design & engineering.

- Lead institute for Herschel-SPIRE, ISO-LWS.
- Focal plane integration & testing for Planck-HFI
- Focal-plane characterisation and integration.
 - Cleanroom, semi-cleanroom facilities; spectroscopy lab (FTS + VNA); anechoic chamber for detector and QO device characterisation.

• Instrumentation for Earth observation.

- Met-Op SG; EU-MetSat MWS; Chinese Meterological Feng-Yun 4.
- Optical design for ESA FORUM instrument concept.
- ICEMuSIC instrument concept for Climatology to constrain the essential climate variables.
- Transfer of Technology to Industry for other applications.

Detector Sub-Group: Current Main Projects



- MUSCAT
 - 1.1-mm receiver for LMT (Mexico) Newton Fund
- Sequestim
 - Passive security scanner Home Office & DfT + investment
- Multi-chroic antenna-coupled LEKIDs
 - Target application: CMB science PhD/STFC
- TiN arrays
 - Target application: commercial (Sequestim); with Glasgow – EPSRC

MUSCAT

- Funded by STFC & CONACYT (Mexico) under Newton Fund
- First continuum instrument on 50-m LMT
- 1,500 single-color pixels
- Currently fully integrated and undergoing final-stage lab commissioning
- Novel He3-light cooling system down to approx. 100 mK



MUSCA

UNIVERSI

AFK

PRIFYSGOL

Brien et al., SPIE (2018) arXiv: 1807.08637 Brien et al., JLTP (2018) arXiv: 1801.07442 Castillo-Dominguez, JLTP (2018) arXiv: 1806.10400

SEQUESTIM



- Passive security scanning
- Applications in airport security and maritime truck screening
- Non-public demo at Cardiff Airport
- AI analytics for threat identification
- Currently pursuing funding to upgrade and continue commercialisation and explore SoC (no new ROACH-II from next year)
- Also pursuing private investment



Rowe et al., Rev. Sci. Inst. (2015), arXiv: 1511.06011 Rowe, PhD Thesis (2015) BBC and other news outlets, see: sequestim.com

SEQUESTIM













Α



Detector Development



- Development of multi-chroic pixels for CMB science
 - Hornsby et al., JLTP (in review)
- Array uniformity and yield improvements
 - In prep.
- Higher $T_{\rm C}$ materials (TiN)
 - Morozov & Brien et al., JLTP (2018)









