



Astro 500

*Techniques of Modern  
Observational Astrophysics*

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*University of Wisconsin*

# Lecture Outline

## *Spectroscopy from a 3D Perspective*

- ✓ Basics of spectroscopy and spectrographs
- ✓ Fundamental challenges of sampling the data cube
- Approaches and example of available instruments
  - I: Grating-dispersed spectrographs
    - Echelles
    - Bench Spectrograph (WIYN 3.5m)
    - Robert Stobie Spectrograph (SALT 11m)
  - II: Fabry-Perot interferometry
  - III: Spatial heterodyne spectroscopy

# Approaches

## Examples of available instruments

- Interferometry-I: Fabry-Perot imaging
  - the bull's eye: implications for design and use
  - sky stability: calibration design
- Interferometry-II: Spatial-heterodyne spectroscopy
  - low-cost, diffraction-limited high-resolution capability
  - multi-plex disadvantage: implications for design and use

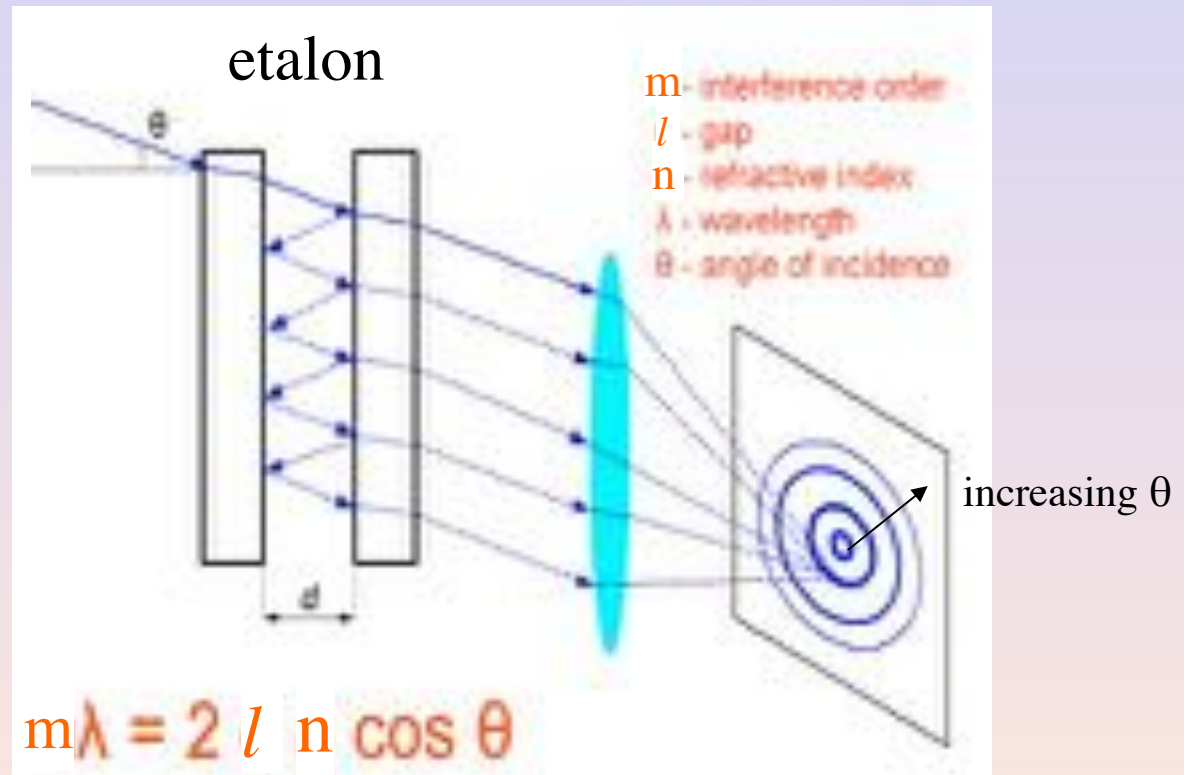
# Fabry-Perot

- A type of interferometer

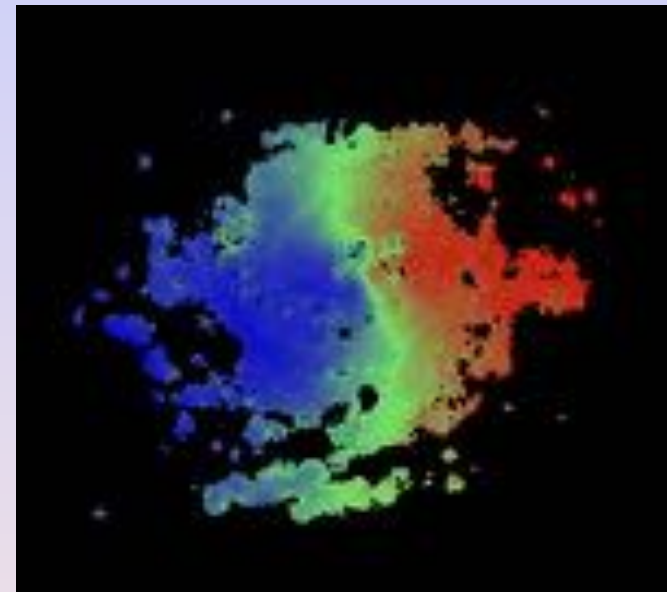
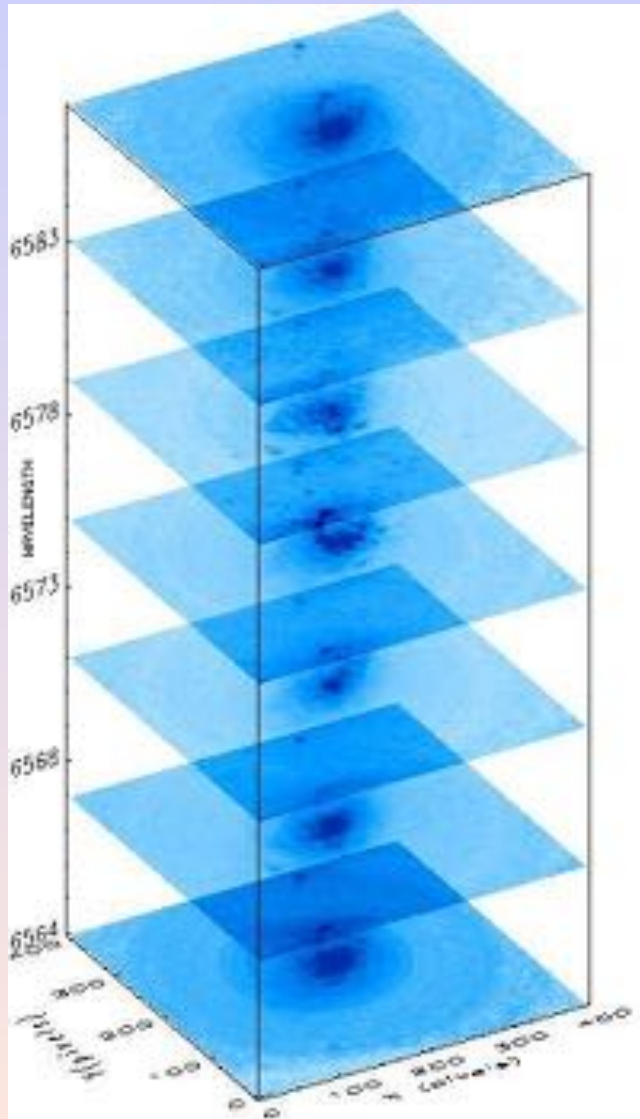
- *Remember:* angles in a collimated beam correspond to different field points at a focus.

- So what happens if the etalon is not in a collimated beam?

What about the apex angle of the diverging/  
converging  
beams?



# F-P data cube for an imaging system

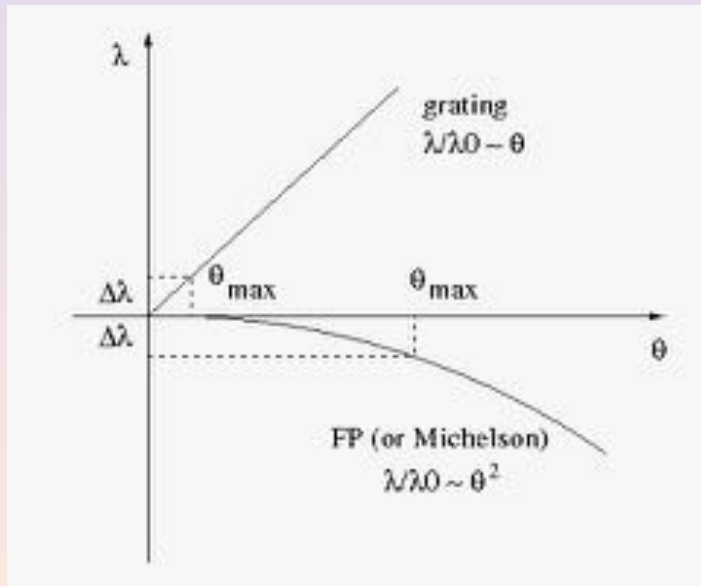
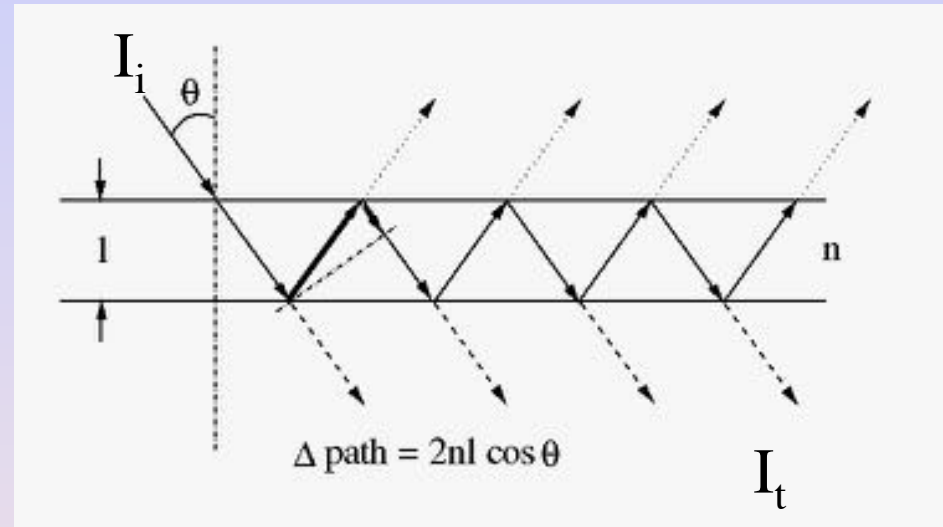


Color-coded velocity map

But in reality each “snap-shot” with etalon-gap  $d$  is only monochromatic at a given field point from the optical axis, i.e., the observed data-cube is curved and has to be wavelength-rectified.

# Interferometry-I: Fabry-Perot imaging Basics

- **Etalons** (flat glass plates) are spaced by some distance  $l$ , filled with gas of refractive index  $n$ , and coated to have high reflectivity.
- Light incident at some angle,  $\theta$ , produces internal reflections, with transmission when  $\Delta\text{path}$  yields positive interference.



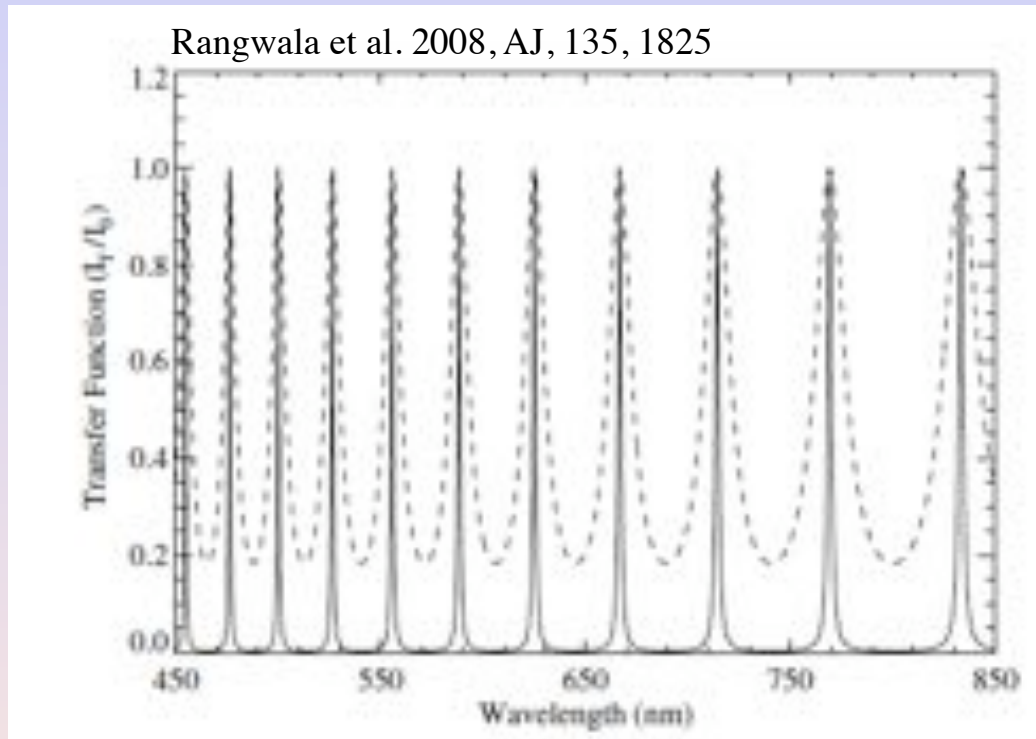
- $I_t/I_i$  given by Airy function with peaks  $I_t=I_i$  when  $\Delta\text{path} = m\lambda$ , or
 
$$\lambda_\theta = (2nl/m) \cos \theta$$

$$= \lambda_0 \cos \theta$$
- Compare to grating equation:
 
$$\lambda = (2 \sigma/m) \sin \theta \quad (\text{Littrow})$$

➤ *FP is field-widened for same spectral resolution*

# Interferometry-I: Fabry-Perot imaging

## Transmission



**Airy function transmission profiles** with  $l = 5 \mu\text{m}$  and coatings with reflectivity  $\mathcal{R}$  of 0.8 (solid) and 0.45 (dashed)

$$I_t = I_i \frac{T^2}{(1-R)^2} \frac{1}{1 + F \sin^2(\Delta/2)}$$

$$\Delta = 4\pi l \cos \theta / \lambda$$

$$\mathcal{F} = 4\mathcal{R} (1-\mathcal{R})^2$$

↑  
*Finesse (bien sur)*

# Interferometry-I: Fabry-Perot imaging

## Useful relations

- **Tune** gap ( $l$ ) or pressure (index  $n$ ) to control/scan central wavelength

- $\lambda_0 = (2nl/m) \cos \theta$

- **Q** = free spectral range

$$= \lambda^2 / 2l \sim 1 / 2n l \cos \theta$$

- order blocking filters are needed

- **R** =  $\lambda / d\lambda = 2l \mathcal{F}_R / \lambda = m \mathcal{F}_R$

*spectral resolution*

*reflectivity*

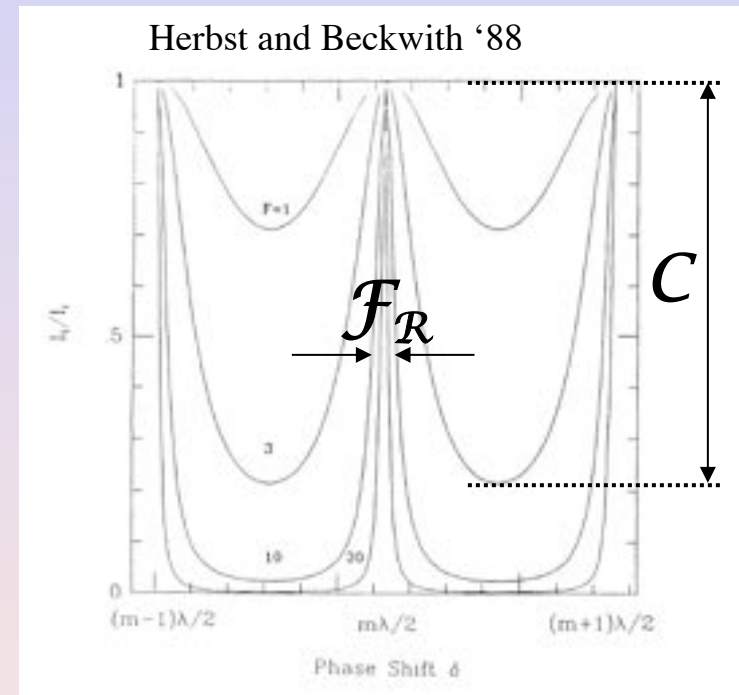
- $\mathcal{F}_R$  = reflective finesse =  $\pi \mathcal{R}^{1/2} / (1 - \mathcal{R})$

- ~ number of back/forth reflections;
  - typical values of 20 to 30 in astro. apps.

- $R \sim$  total path difference divided by  $\lambda$ .

- High resolution requires:  
large gaps and high finesse.

- **C = Contrast** =  $I_{\max} / I_{\min} = (1 + \mathcal{R})^2 / (1 - \mathcal{R})^2 = 1 + 4(\mathcal{F}_R / \pi)^2$





# Interferometry-I: Fabry-Perot imaging

## Bull's eye (Jaquinot spot) and rings

Hartung et al.'04 NACO, VLT 8m

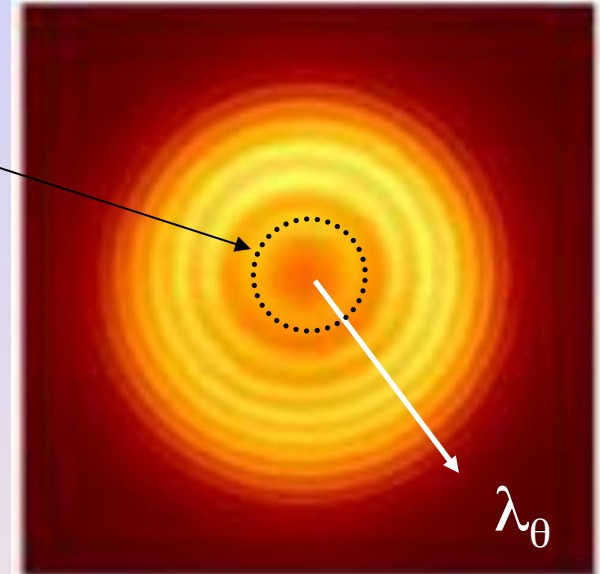
- **The bull's eye:**

- What  $\theta$  so that  $\lambda_0/|\lambda_0-\lambda_\theta| < R$  ?
- $\theta_{\max} = (2/R)^{1/2}$
- This quantity is *independent* of the telescope, and is a property of the etalon.

Where does this come from?

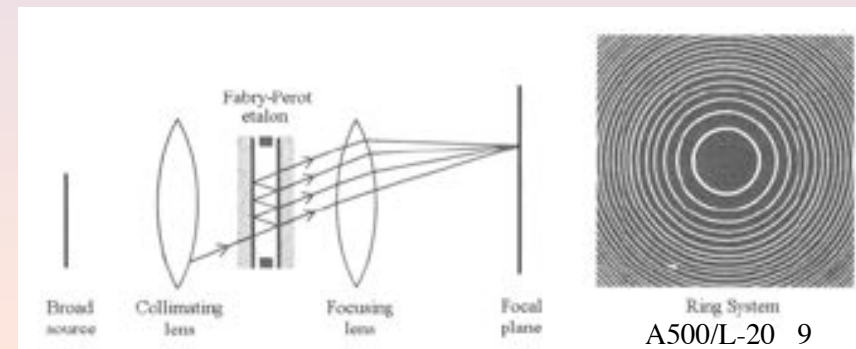
What's the angle of the nth ring?

How does the ring area (within the resolution element) change with n?



- Couple to a telescope to modify angular resolution:

- $A\Omega$  is conserved
- $\alpha = \theta D_e / D_T$ 
  - o  $\alpha$  = angle on the sky
  - o  $\theta$  = angle on the etalon
  - o  $D_e$  = etalon diameter
  - o  $D_T$  = telescope diameter



# Interferometry-I: Fabry-Perot imaging

## Finesse

*Finesse:*  
(mais oui)

$$\frac{1}{\mathcal{F}^2} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{F}_R^2} + \frac{1}{\mathcal{F}_D^2}$$

Reflective finesse

Defect finesse:

See: Atherton et al. 1981  
Opt. Eng. 806, 20

$$\frac{1}{\mathcal{F}_D^2} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{F}_{Dc}^2} + \frac{1}{\mathcal{F}_{Dr}^2} + \frac{1}{\mathcal{F}_{Dp}^2}$$

$$\mathcal{F}_{Dc} = \frac{\lambda}{2\delta t_c}$$

Plate curvature

$$\mathcal{F}_{Dr} = \frac{\lambda}{4.7\delta t_r}$$

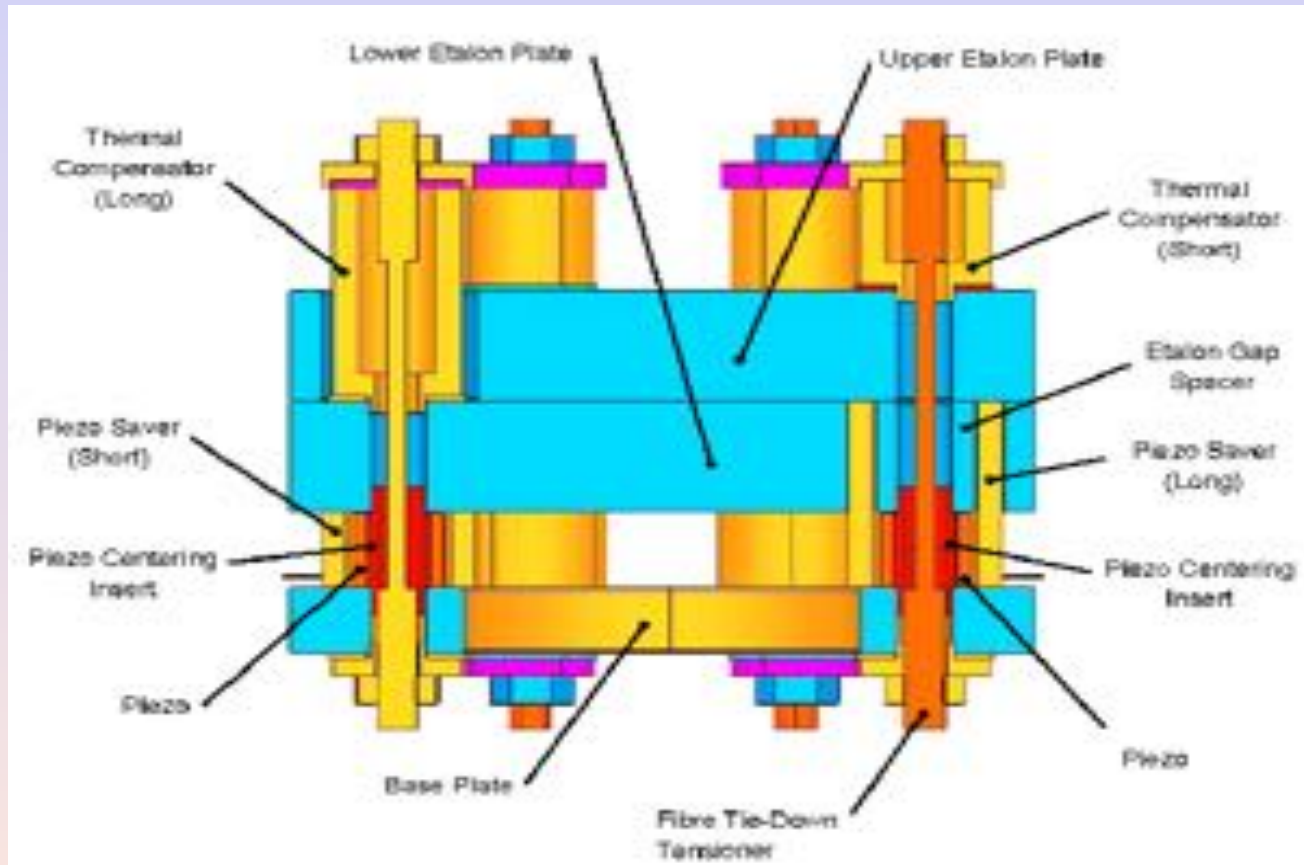
Surface irregularities/roughness

$$\mathcal{F}_{Dp} = \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{3}\delta t_p}$$

Departure from parallelism

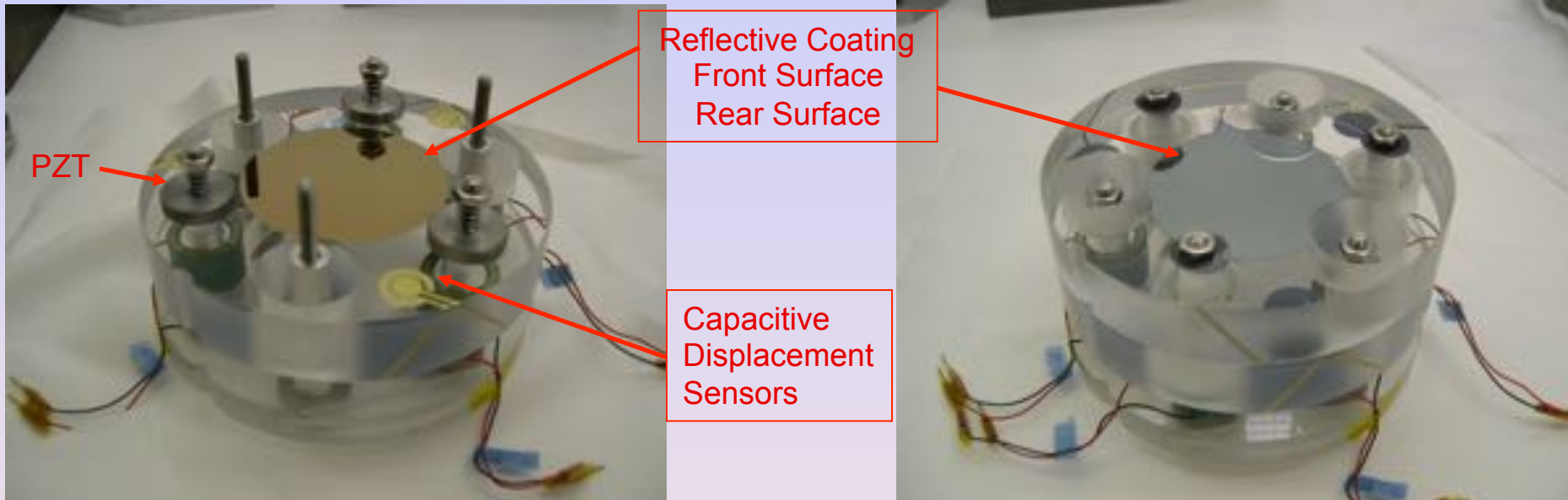
# An Example: JWST Etalon Design

[Courtesy: Bob Abraham and the F2T2 Team]



# Etalon Prototype

[Courtesy: Bob Abraham and the F2T2 Team]



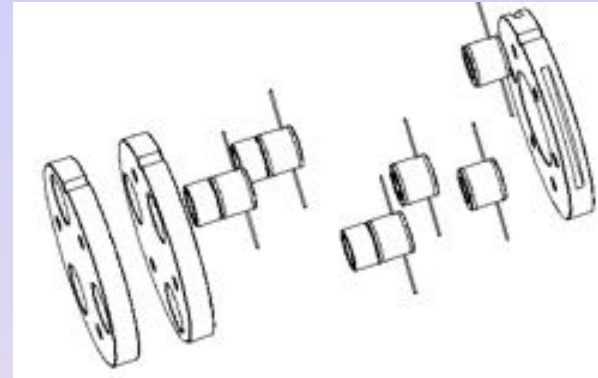
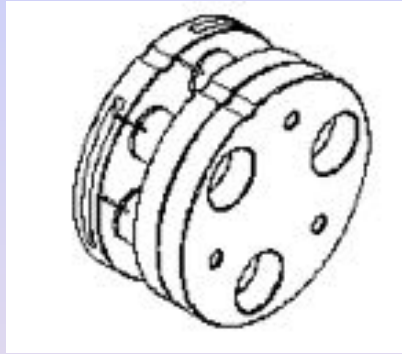
Bottom Plate & Mounting Ring

Completed Etalon

- The etalon consists of two 20 mm thick  $\text{SiO}_2$  plates with the reflective coating applied in the central  $\sim 50$  mm
- There are three piezo-electric transducers supporting the bottom plate and three PZTs + spacers supporting the top plate
- Capacitive displacement sensors are used to control the spacing of the etalon plates

# JWST Etalon

## Basic Design Features



- Etalon plates surface figure better than 11 nm before coating (32 nm after).
  - Meets optical requirement of finesse.
  - Optical materials are silicon for LW etalon and silica for SW.
- 7.5  $\mu\text{m}$  nominal gap parallel over clear aperture.
  - Translates to a 4.5  $\mu\text{m}$  gap between the coatings, because of coating thickness.
  - Nominal gap is set by precise manufacture of spacers made of plate material.
- Gap to be stepped using piezoelectric actuators.
  - Six actuators in total, three for the top plate, three for the bottom.
  - Larger of two available sizes selected for higher bearing area.
- Gap spacing feedback provided by capacitive displacement sensors.

# JWST TFI Etalon Requirements

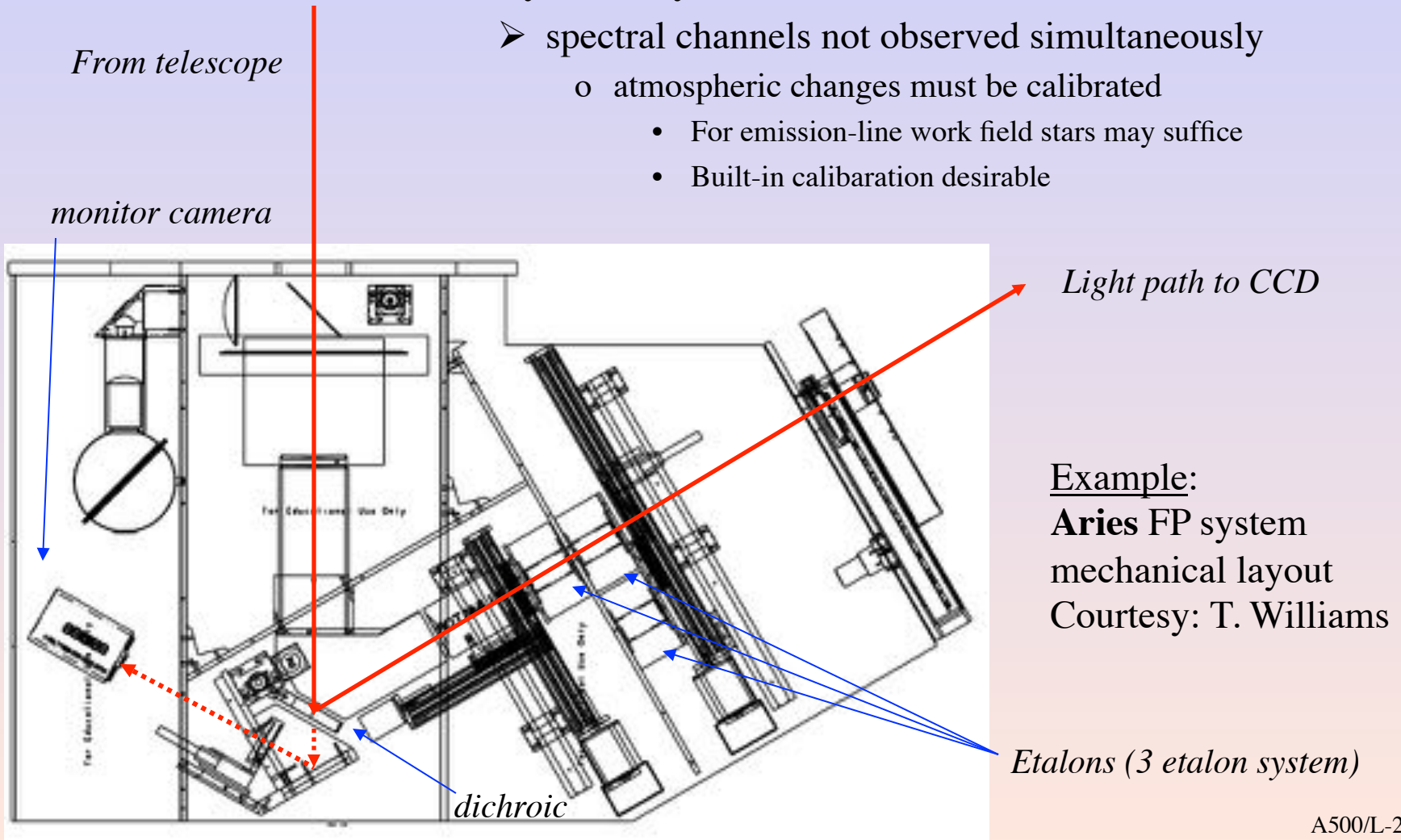
Parameter	Shortwave Etalon	Longwave Etalon	Notes
Wavelength Range	1.2 to 2.1 $\mu\text{m}$	2.0 to 4.8 $\mu\text{m}$	Wavelength ranges are not finalized, transition wavelength may be lower
Spectral Resolution	R > 80		Etalon intrinsic resolution higher than requirement on FGS-TF channels.
Clear Aperture	56 mm		Pupil size ~40 mm. Set by etalon location in optical path
Finesse	~30		Compromise between fabrication challenges & minimizing # of blockers
Surface Figure (P-V)	< 30 nm	< 60 nm	Coated etalon surface figure must support reflectance finesse.
Transmittance	> 75%		Will be set primarily by achieved surface figure.
Contrast	> 100		Peak transmittance divided by minimum between spectral peaks
Passband Shift with FOV	< 5%		Ideal air spaced etalon has < 1.2%, typical designs have < 2.5%
Number of Blocking Filters	< 6	< 6	Goal is to minimize filter wheel size and simplify operations.

- The free spectral range is maximized by using a low order: small gap spacing
- A finesse of ~30 and a spectral resolution of  $R \sim 100$  suggest operating in 3<sup>rd</sup> order.

# Interferometry-I: Fabry-Perot imaging

## Ground-based instruments

- Sky stability:
  - spectral channels not observed simultaneously
    - atmospheric changes must be calibrated
      - For emission-line work field stars may suffice
      - Built-in calibration desirable



# Interferometry-I: Fabry-Perot imaging

## Ground-based instruments: RSS

- RSS, SALT 9.2m
  - Imaging FP
  - 150 mm etalons
  - 9200 mm telescope
  - 8 arcmin FoV, 0.2 arcsec sampling
  - R = 300 to 9000 in 4 modes
  - 430-860 nm

3 Etalons:  $l = 5-11, 27, \text{ and } 135 \mu\text{m}$

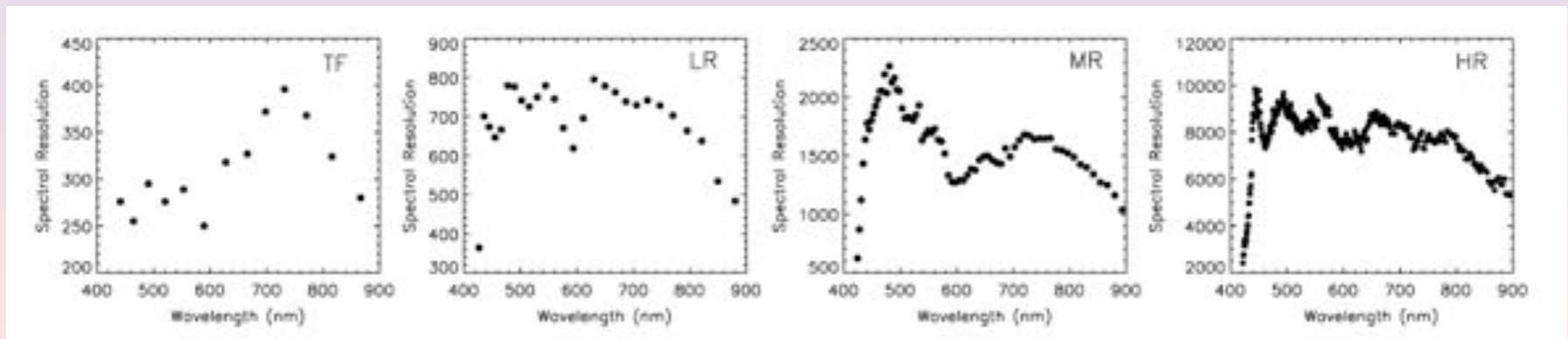
$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}_D &\sim 50 \\ \mathcal{F}_R &= 30, \\ \longrightarrow \mathcal{F} &\sim 25 \end{aligned}$$

SG etalon  $l=5-7 \mu\text{m}$

SG etalon  $l=9-11 \mu\text{m}$

SG+  
MG etalon  $l=22-28 \mu\text{m}$

SG+  
LG etalon  $l=130-136 \mu\text{m}$



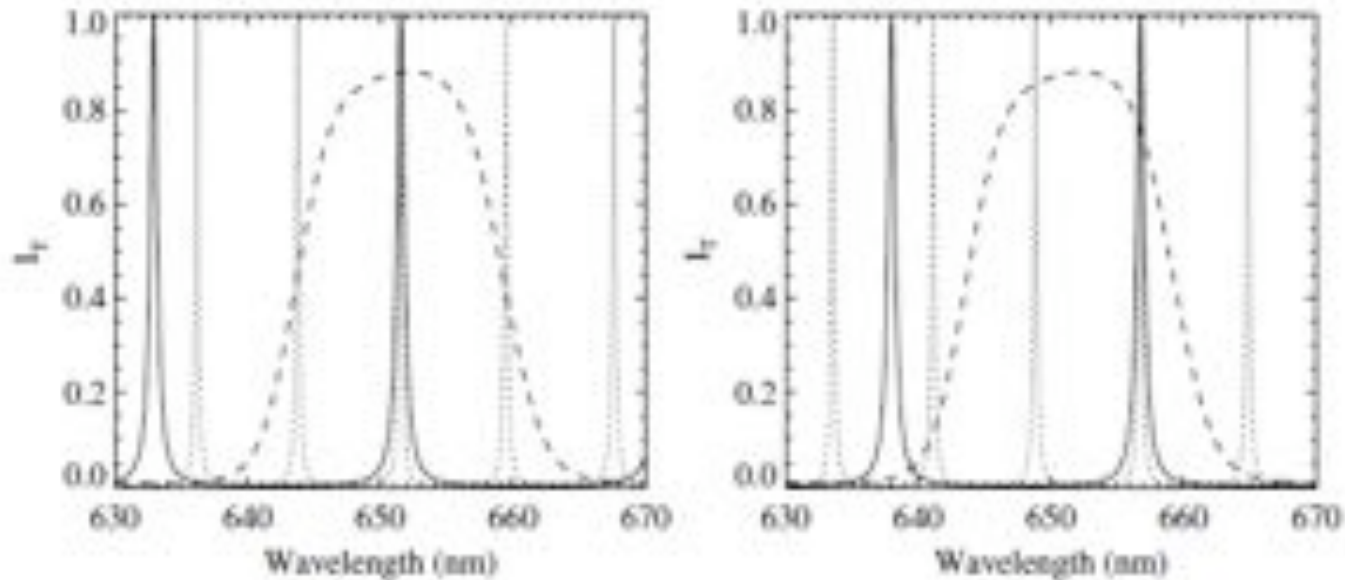
Rangwala et al. 2008, AJ, 135, 1825



# Interferometry-I: Fabry-Perot imaging

## Ground-based instruments: RSS

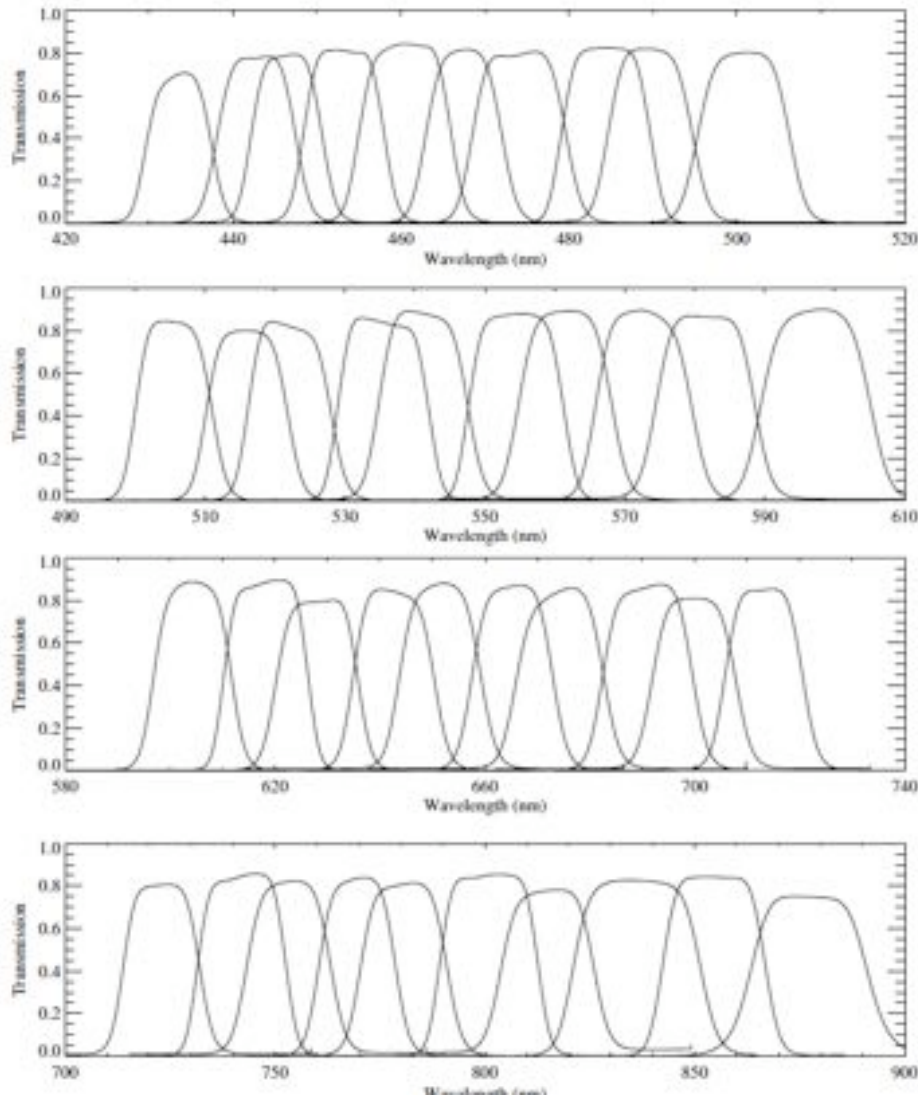
### Dual-etalon + filter order blocking scheme



Order selection with interference filter and dual etalons. Solid curve: SG etalon; dashed curve: filter; dotted curve: MG etalon.

# Interferometry-I: Fabry-Perot imaging

## Ground-based instruments: RSS

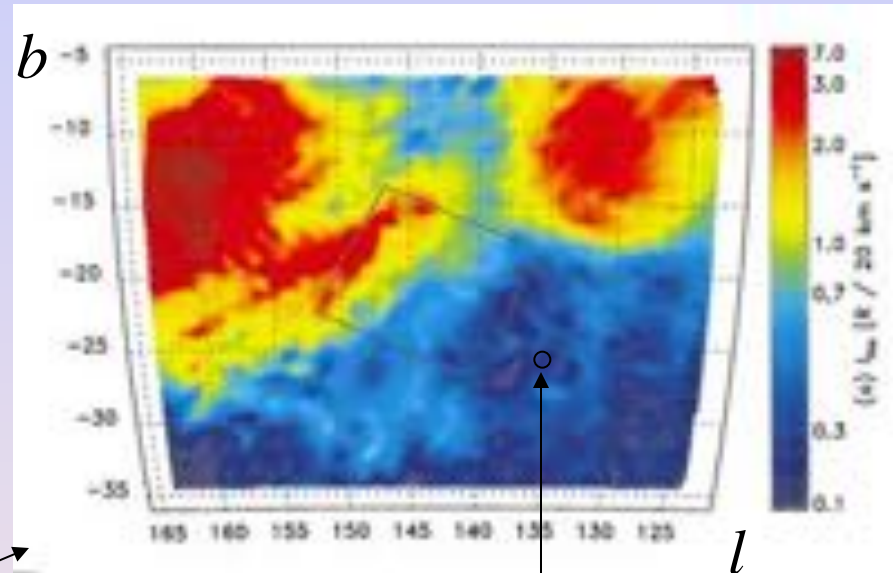


Suite of NB filters for FP ...  
...but remember you can use them for imaging or for filtered spectroscopy (MMS mode)

# Interferometry-I: Fabry-Perot imaging

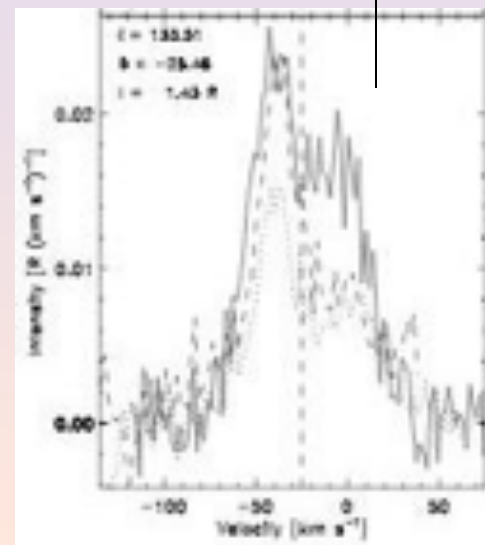
## Ground-based instruments

- Two extremes:
- RSS, SALT 9.2m
  - **Imaging FP**
  - 150 mm etalons
  - 9200 mm telescope
  - 8 arcmin FoV, 0.2 arcsec sampling
  - $R = 300-9000$



- WHAM  
*Wisconsin H $\alpha$  Mapper*

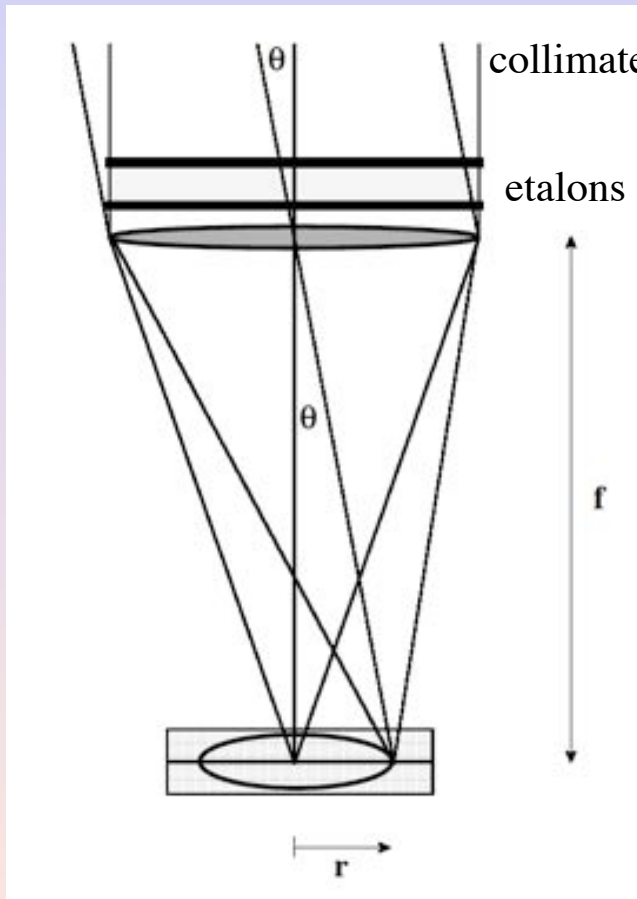
- **Non-imaging FP**
- 150 mm etalons
- 600 mm telescope
- 1 deg FoV and sampling
- $R = 25000$



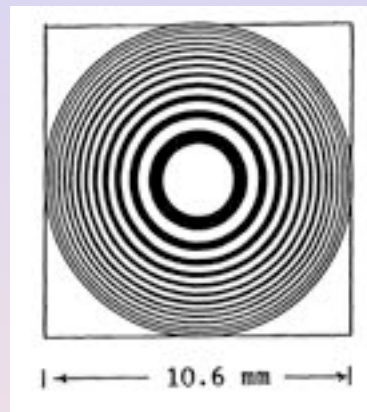
# Interferometry-I: Fabry-Perot imaging

## Ground-based instruments: WHAM

- An imaging FP

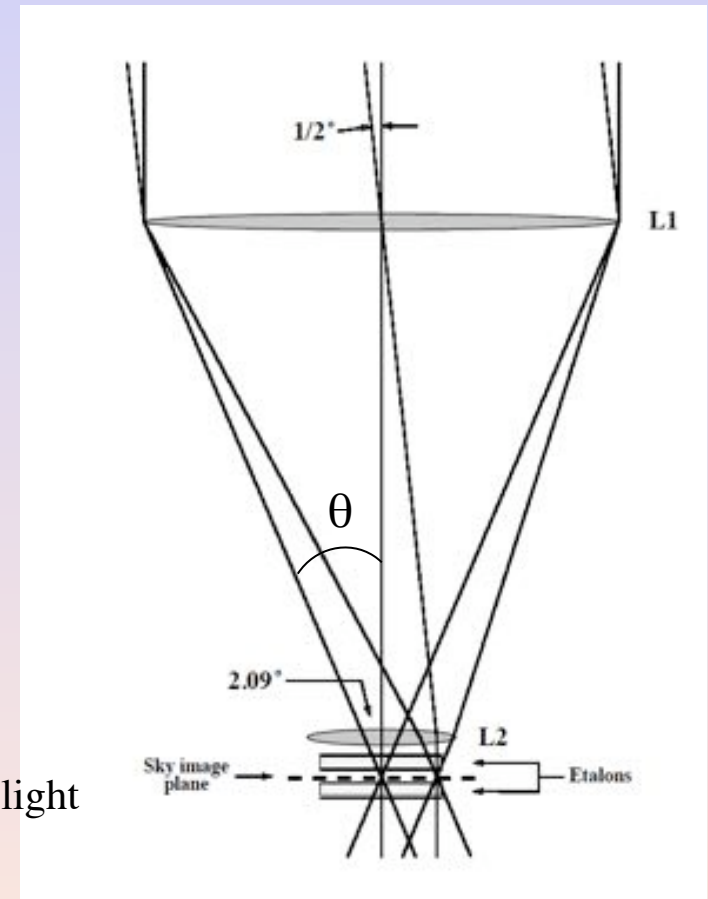


At the detector:



converging light

- A non-imaging FP



What determines the number of rings?

# Interferometry-I: Fabry-Perot imaging

## Bull's eye (Jaquinot spot) and rings - *revisitus*

Hartung et al.'04 NACO, VLT 8m

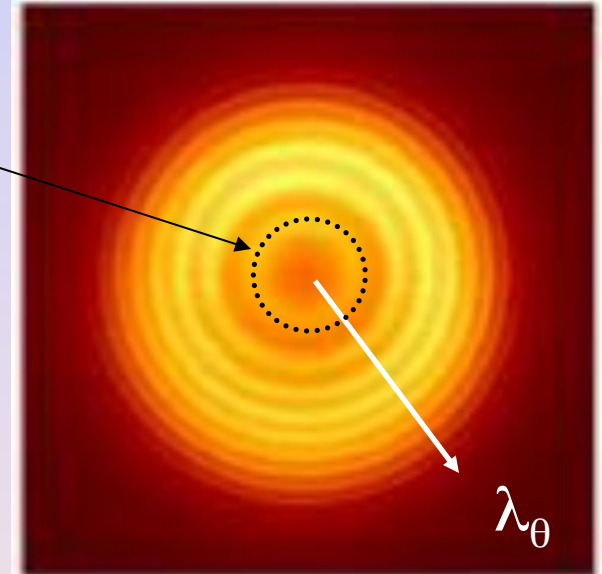
- **The bull's eye:**

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- This quantity is *independent* of the telescope, and is a property of the etalon.

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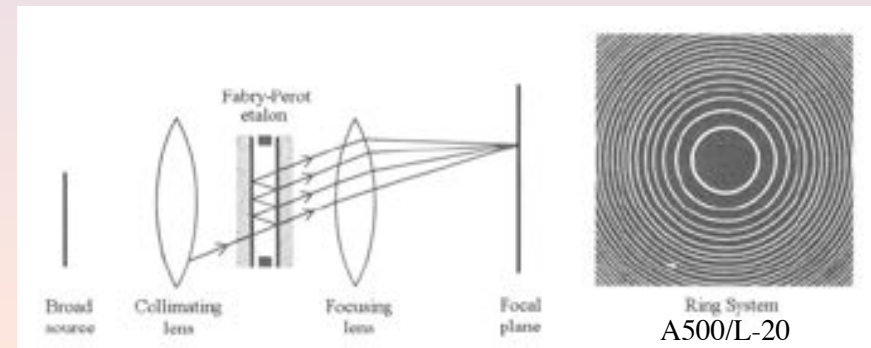
What's the angle of the nth ring?

How does the ring area (within the resolution element) change with n?

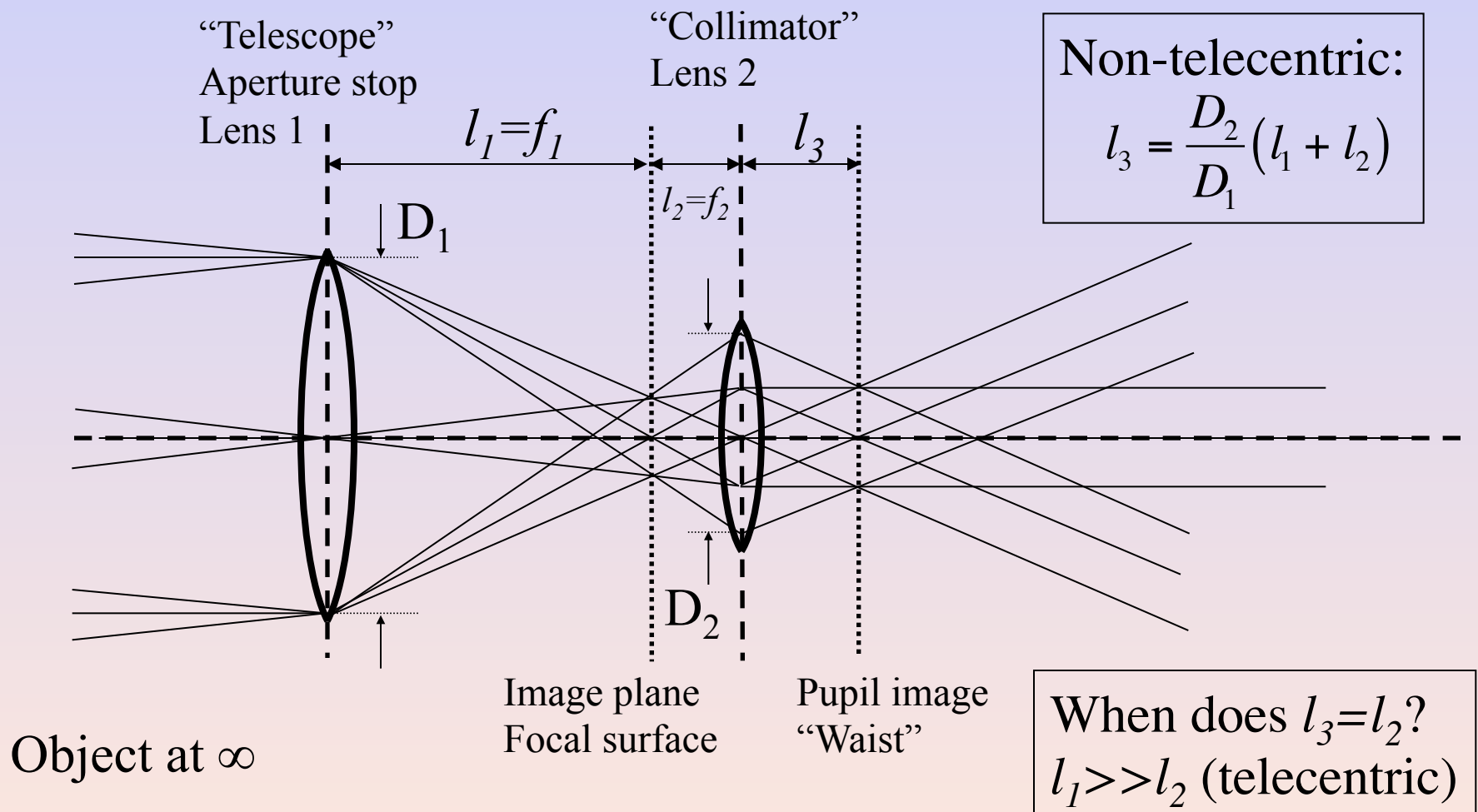


- Couple to a telescope to modify angular resolution:

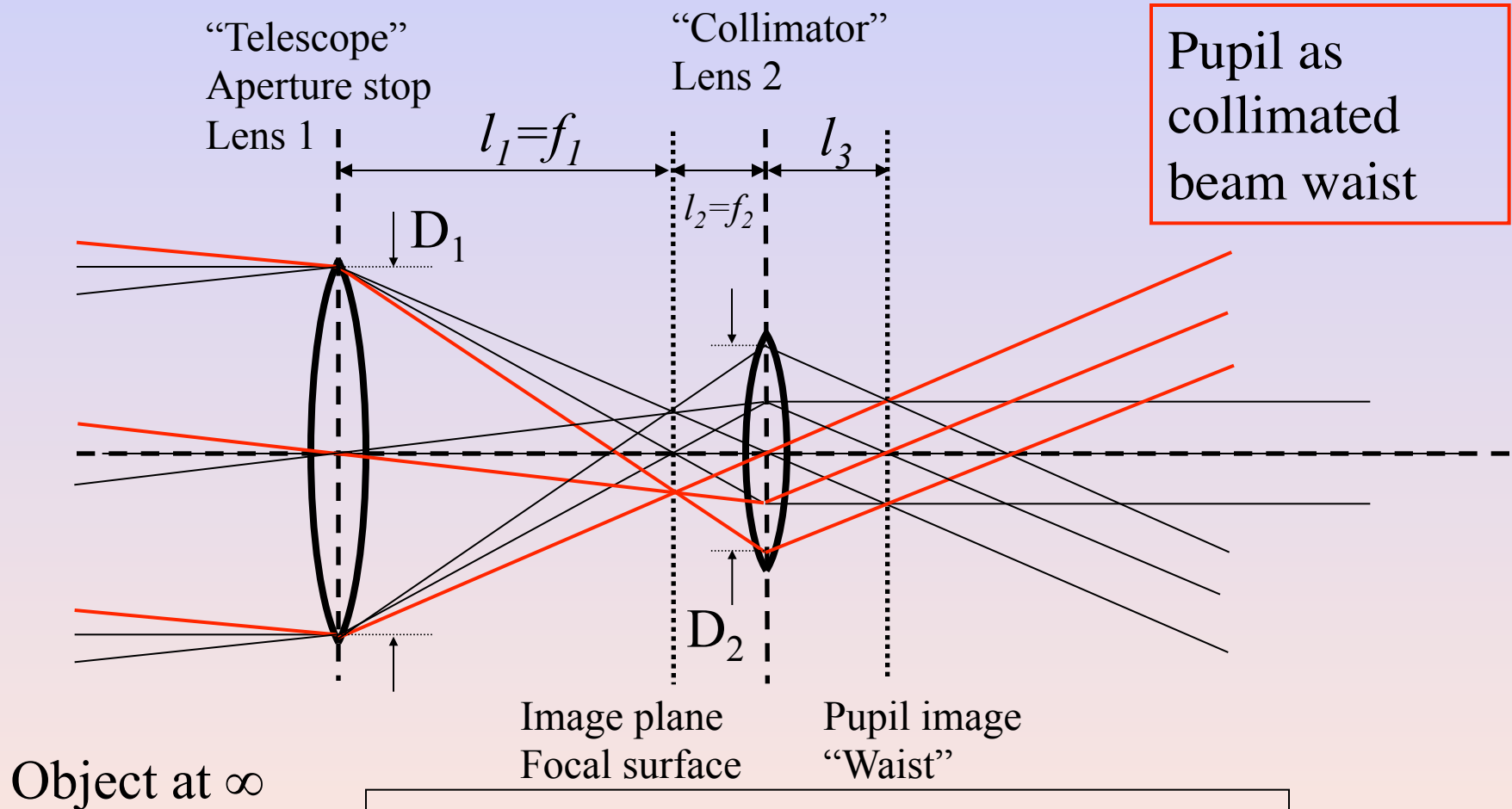
- $A\Omega$  is conserved
- $\alpha = \theta D_e / D_T$ 
  - o  $\alpha$  = angle on the sky
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# Objects, Images, Pupils

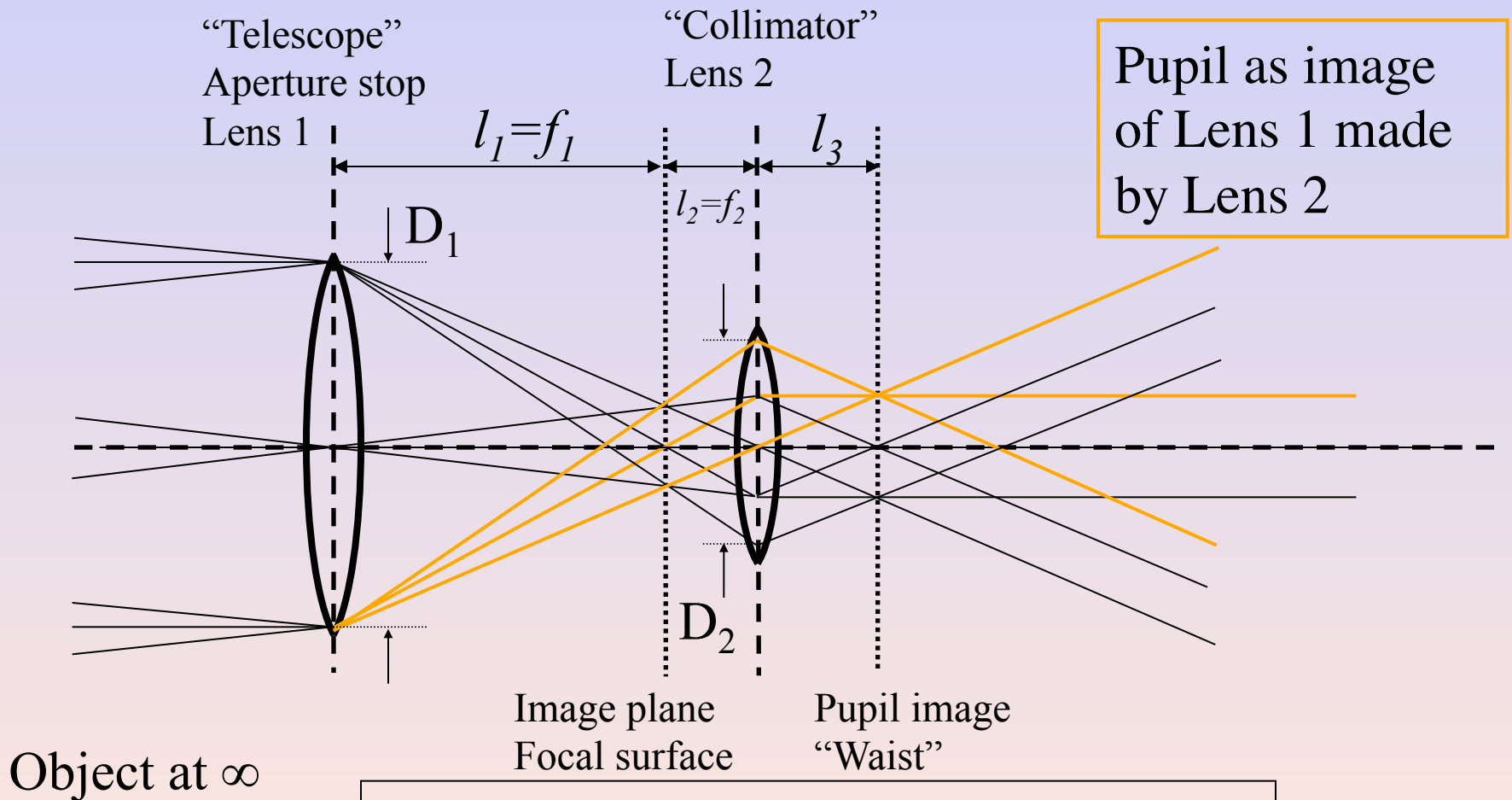


# Objects, Images, Pupils



Pupil: cross-section of light-bundle where light from all field angles in focal plane completely overlap. This is an image of the telescope primary and its associated stops.

# Objects, Images, Pupils



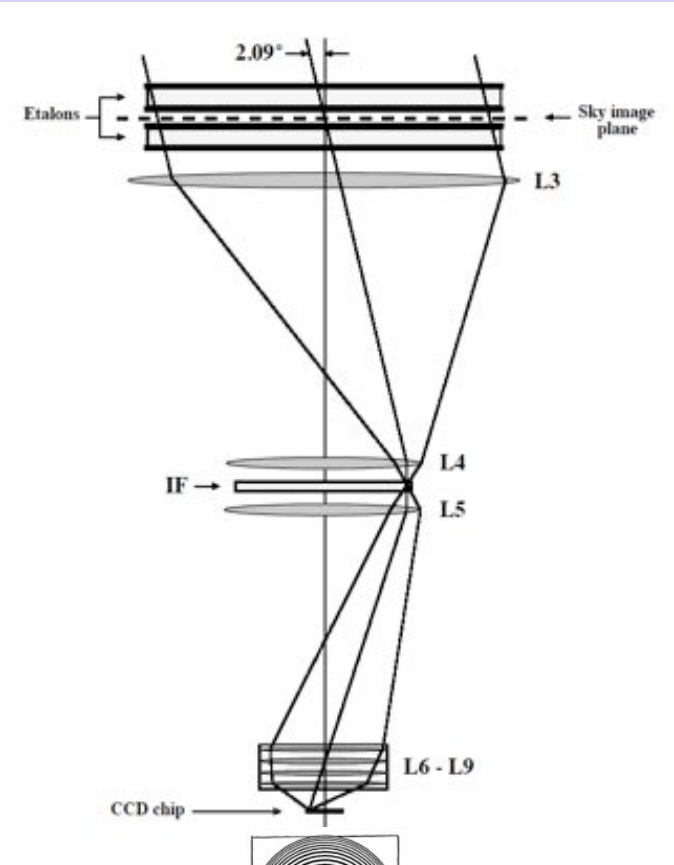
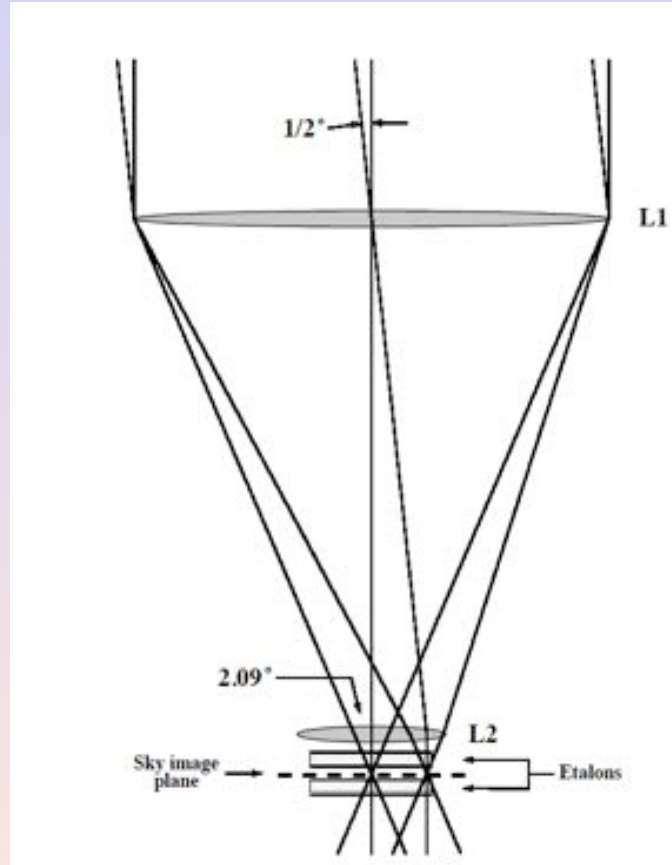
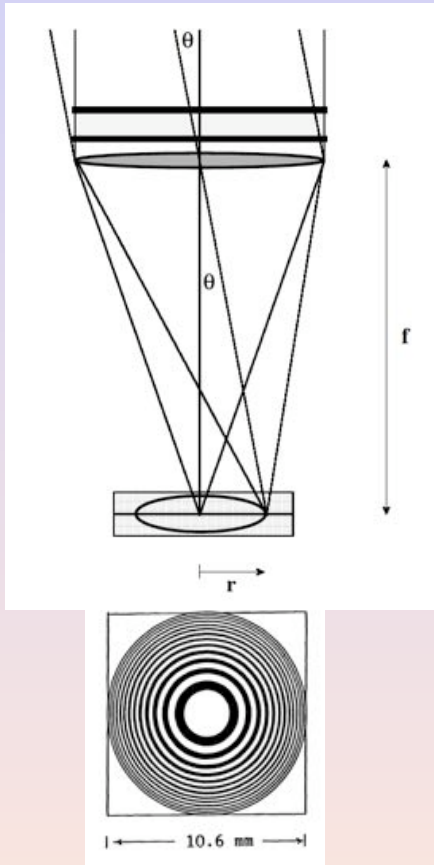
Pupil: cross-section of light-bundle where light from all field angles in focal plane completely overlap. This is an image of the telescope primary and its associated stops.



# Interferometry-I: Fabry-Perot imaging

## Ground-based instruments: WHAM

- An imaging FP
- A non-imaging FP



# Interferometry-I: Fabry-Perot imaging

## Fabry-Perot instruments - summary list

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- Existing optical instruments
  - GHASP, HPO 1.9m
  - RFPI, CTIO 4m
  - RSS, SALT 9.2m
- Future optical instruments
  - OSIRIS, GTC 10.4m
- Existing infrared instruments
  - NACO, VLT 8,
- Future NIR instruments
  - FGS-TF, JWST 6.5m

*This list is incomplete*

# Interferometry-II: Spatial-heterodyne spectroscopy

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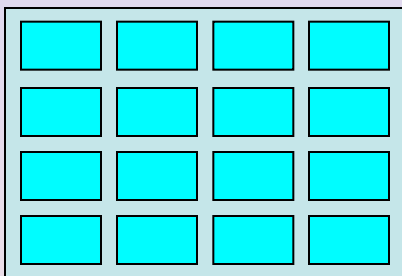
- What is an SHS?
  - A Michelson interferometer with gratings replacing the mirrors
  - Principles of operation
  - Advantage over Michelson: no stepping required
  - Field widening-possible
  - Long-slit and lenslet feeds possible
  - Non-lossy geometries possible
  - Cross-dispersion possible (tilt one grating), but the same fundamental limits apply concerning 3D information formatted into a 2D detector!
- low-cost, diffraction-limited high-resolution capability
- multiplex disadvantage: implications for design and use

# Interferometry-II: Spatial-heterodyne spectroscopy

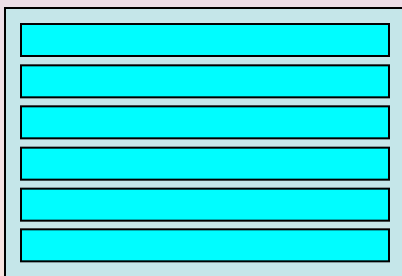
## Instrument lay out

Pupil, slit or lenslet array can be placed here

lenslets



slit



spatial  
or XD

spectral

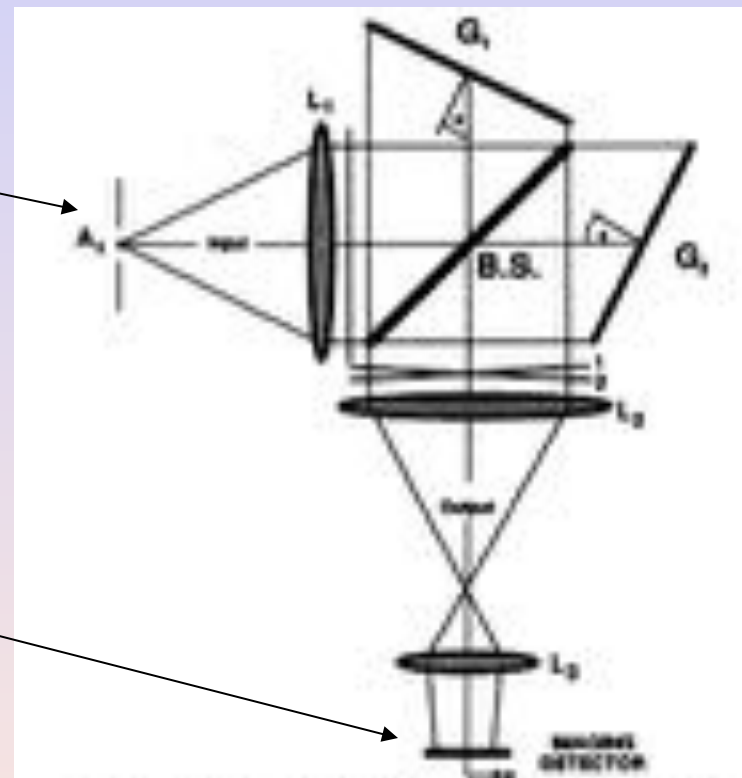
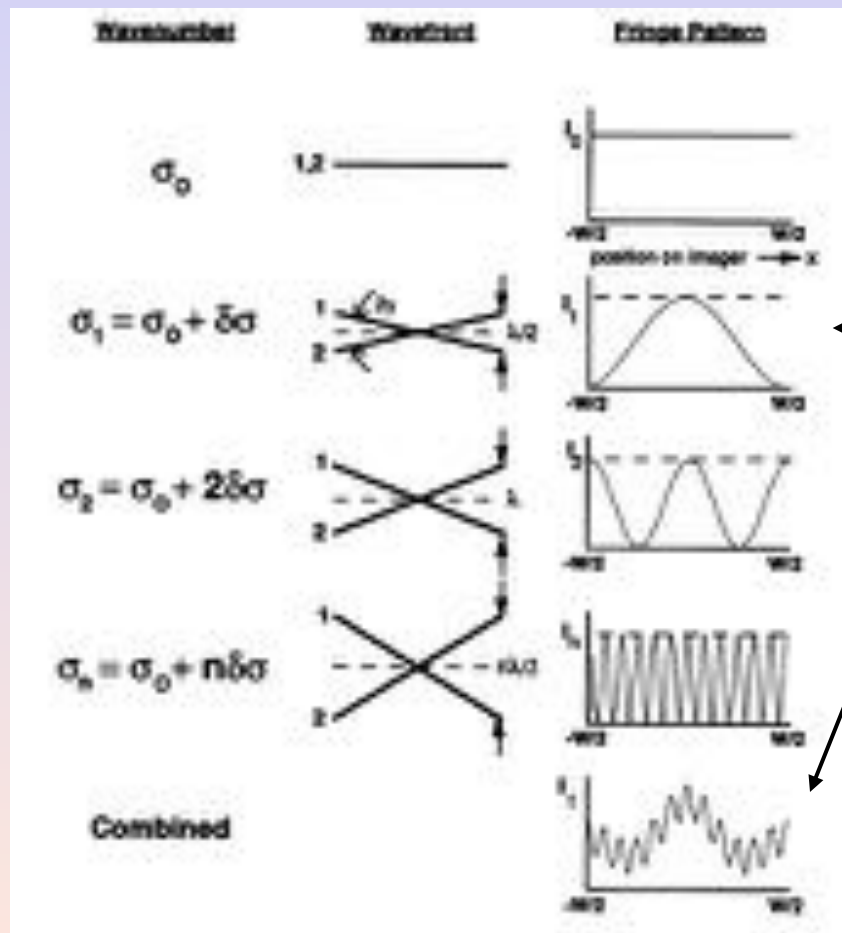


FIG. 1.—Schematic diagram of the basic SHS configuration. Wavelength-dependent Fresnel fringes which result from crossed wavefronts 1 and 2 at the exit of the interferometer are recorded along the x-direction by a position-sensitive detector. The Fresnel conditions of the fringe pattern encodes the spectrum.

# Interferometry-II: Spatial-heterodyne spectroscopy

## Principles of operation

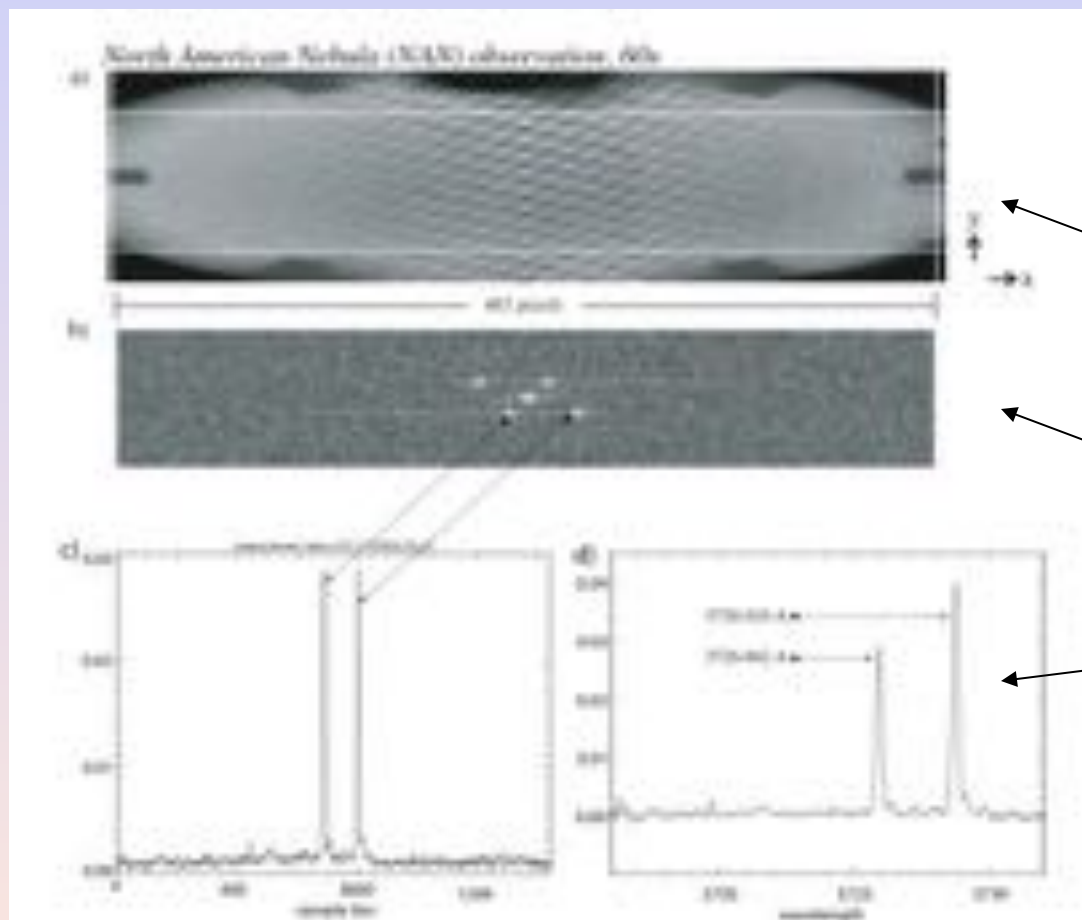


- Gratings diffract light at wavelength-dependent angles.
- Wavefronts produce interference patterns with frequencies set by wavelength.

- *Resolution* is set by the grating aperture diameter.
- *Bandwidth* is set by the length of the detector (how many frequencies can be sampled depends on the number of pixels)

The signal is heterodyned about the frequency of the central wavelength.

# Interferometry-II: Spatial-heterodyne spectroscopy



PBO SHS data  
courtesy Harlander, Roesler,  
and Reynolds

OII interferogram  
with cross-dispersion  
via grating tilt

FT power spectrum

Wavelength calibrated,  
filter-corrected [OII]  
spectrum

Resulting [OII] spectrum

# Interferometry-II: Spatial-heterodyne spectroscopy

## Field-widened Michelson

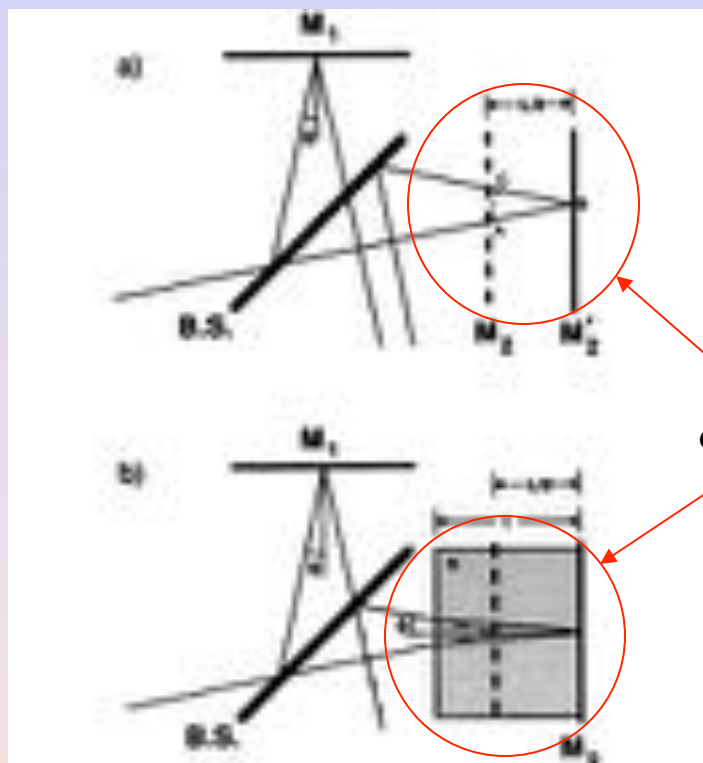


FIG. 3—(a) Off-axis property of a Michelson interferometer. When mirror  $M_2$  is moved to position  $M_2'$ , the path difference in the system becomes a function of off-axis angle  $\phi$ . If the path difference for axial rays is  $L$ , as shown in the figure, then the off-axis path difference, denoted in the figure by  $AB - BC$ , is  $L \cos \phi$ . (b) Field-widened Michelson interferometer. When a material with refractive index  $n$  and thickness  $i$  is placed in front of the displaced mirror  $M_2$ , the quadratic dependence on path difference with off-axis angle is eliminated. The thickness of the material is chosen so the geometric images of  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  appear coincident.

compare

## Field-widened SHS

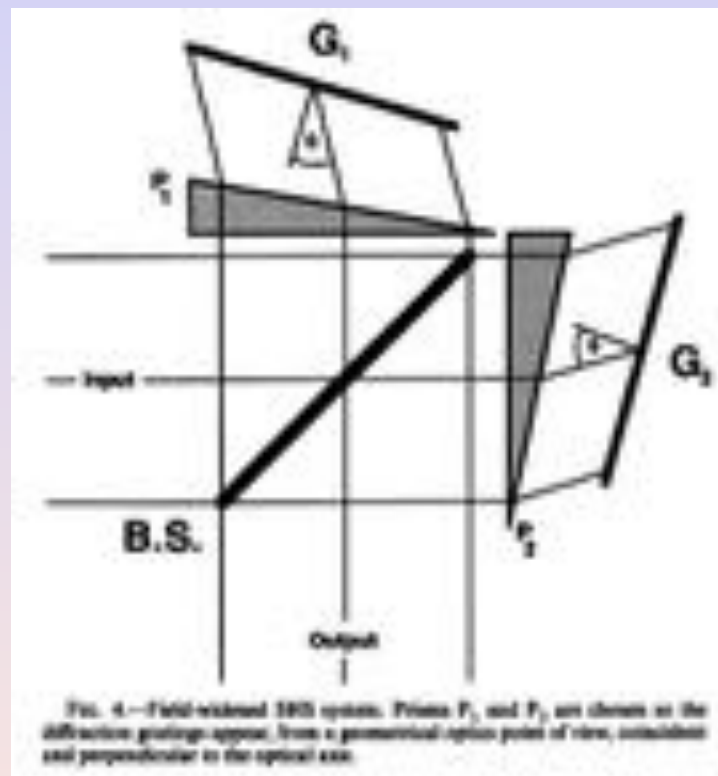


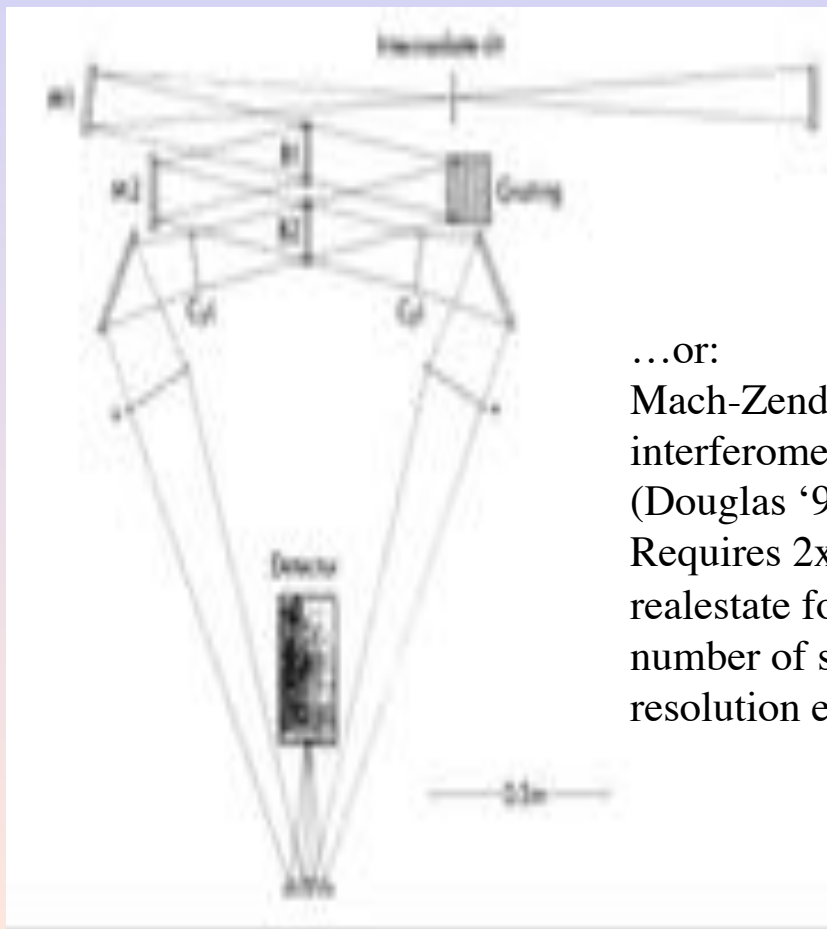
FIG. 4—Field-widened SHS system. Prisms  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  are chosen so the diffraction gratings appear, from a geometrical optics point of view, coincident and perpendicular to the optical axis.

*Prisms give gratings geometric appearance of being perpendicular to the optical axis.*

# Interferometry-II: Spatial-heterodyne spectroscopy

Standard Michelson and SHS lose half the light right from the start:

But efficient configurations do exist:



...or:  
Mach-Zehnder style interferometer (Douglas '90).  
Requires 2x detector real estate for same number of spectral resolution elements.

Add prisms for field-widening  
Or gratings for increased R

Perfect application for holographic grating

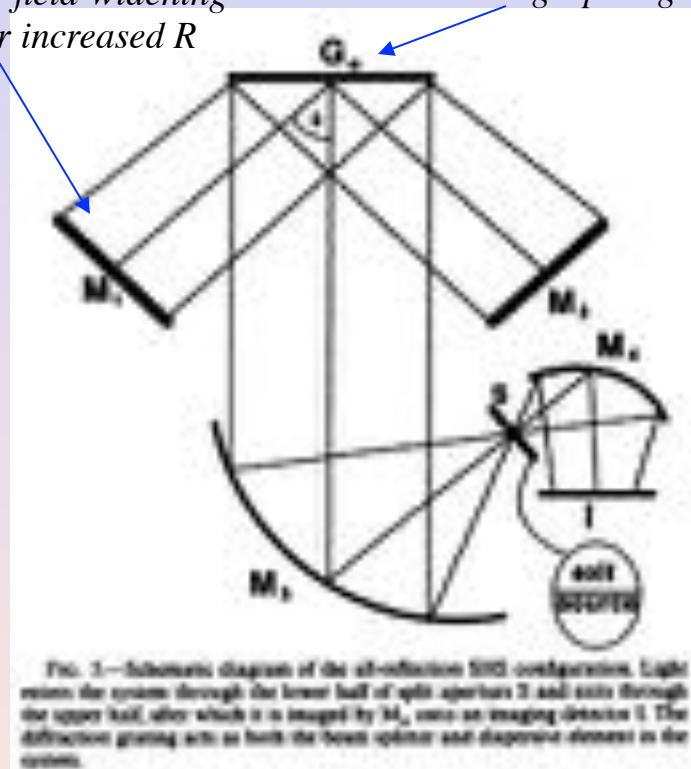


FIG. 1.—Schematic diagram of the all-reflection SHS configuration. Light enters the system through the lower half of split aperture 2 and exits through the upper half, after which it is imaged by  $M_3$  onto an imaging detector 1. The diffraction grating acts as both the beam splitter and dispersive element in the system.

Harlander et al. '92



# Interferometry-II: Spatial-heterodyne spectroscopy

- Low-cost, diffraction-limited high-resolution capability  
*but . . .*
- Multiplex disadvantage:
  - $S/N_{\text{SHS}} = S/N_{\text{GS}} * (f/2)^{1/2} (S_{\text{SHS}}/S_{\text{GS}})^{1/2}$ 
    - $S/N_{\text{SHS}}, S/N_{\text{GS}}$  = signal to noise in SHS and grating spectrometer
    - $S_{\text{SHS}}, S_{\text{GS}}$  = total photon signal “
    - $f$  = fraction of total signal in a given spectral channel
      - $f < 1$ , and decreases with bandwidth
  - filter out OH lines (make  $f$  as large as possible)
  - choose small band-width
- Implications for design and use:
  - Make  $f$  as large as possible
    - filter out OH lines (make  $f$  as large as possible)
    - choose small band-width -- but more than Fabry-Perot!

# The detector limit-I:

## Three into two dimensions revisited

