



# Waveguide superconducting single-photon detectors for Integrated Quantum Photonic devices

KOBIT- 1

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**EPSRC**

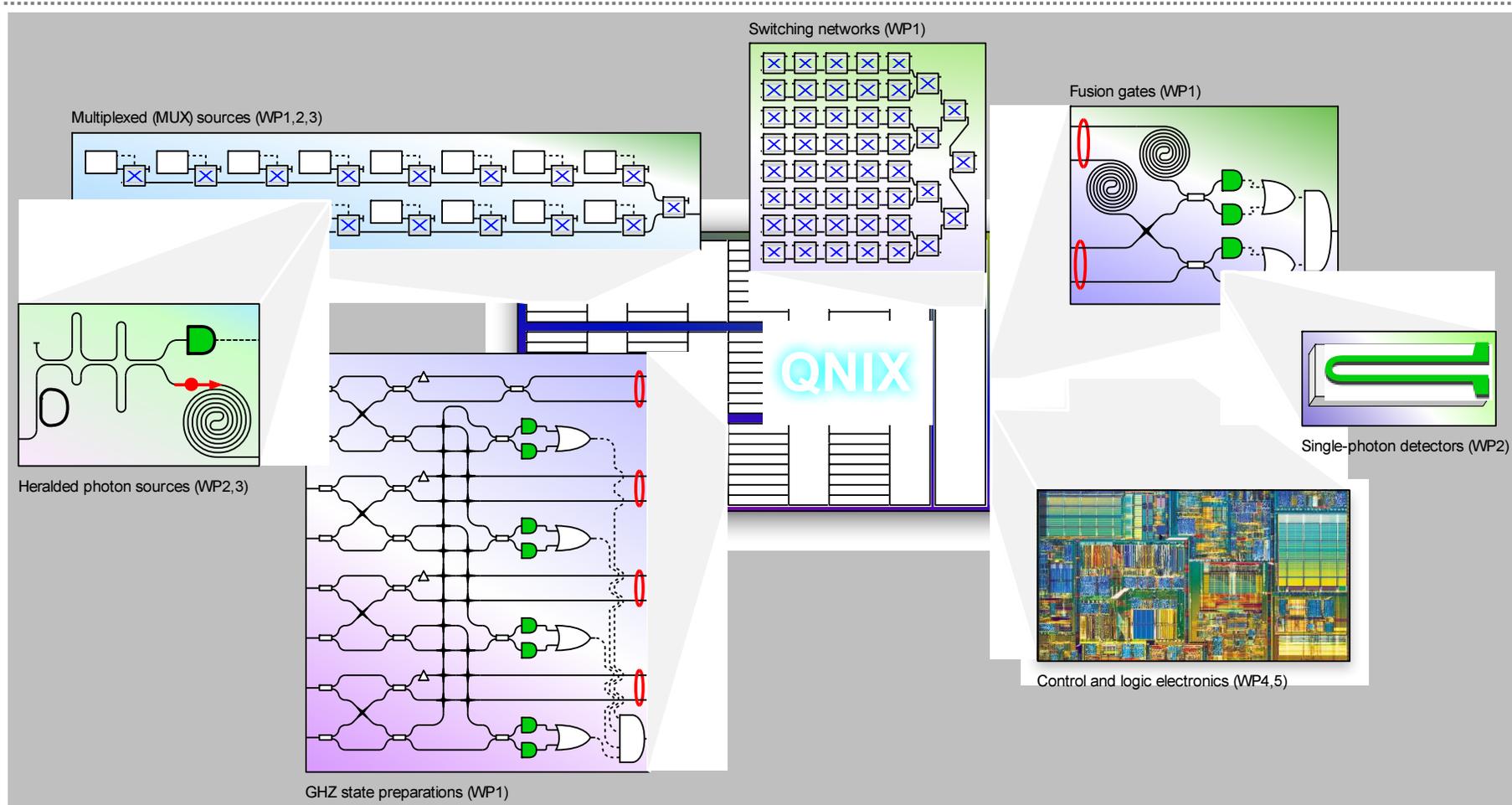
Engineering and Physical Sciences  
Research Council





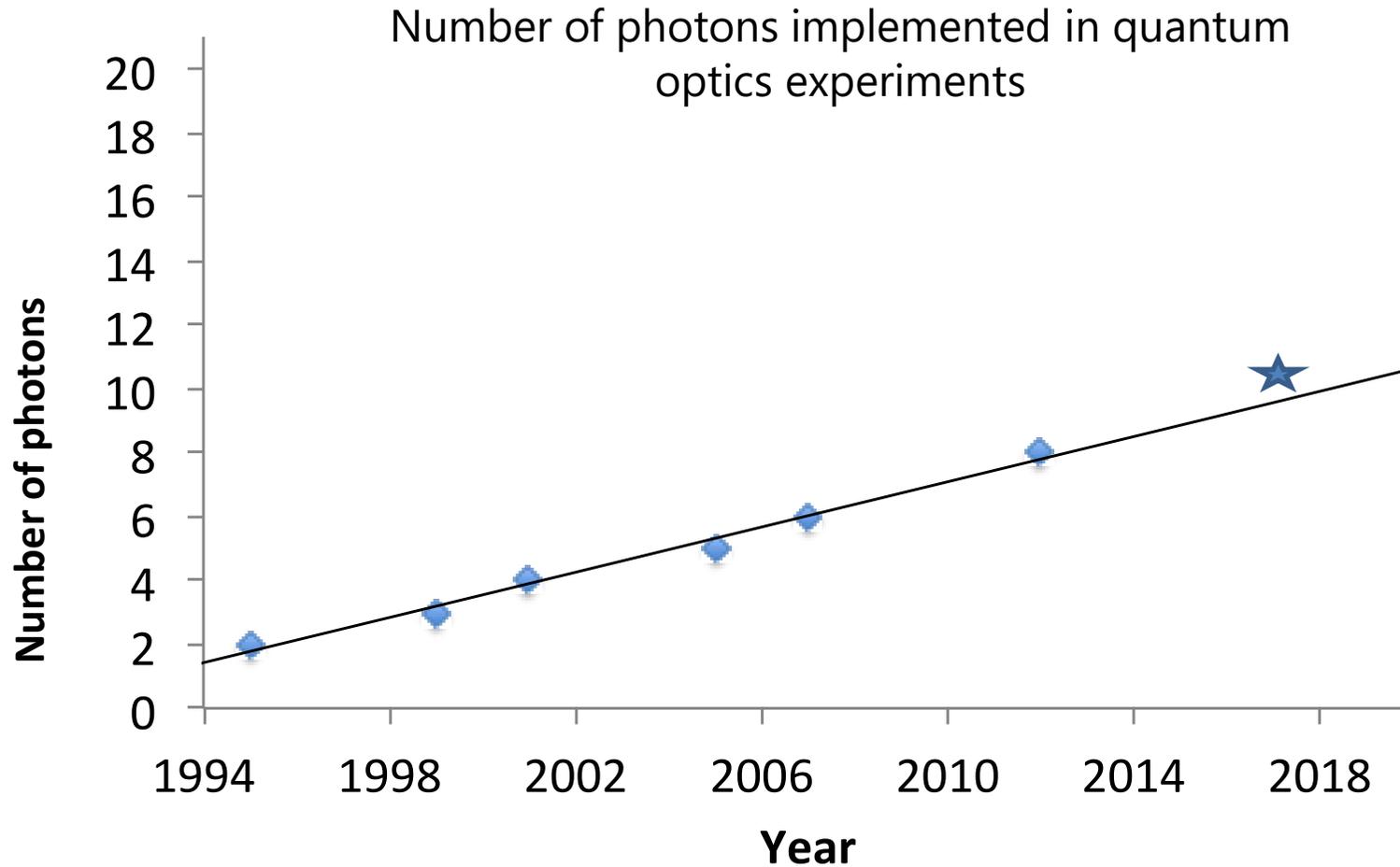
University of  
BRISTOL

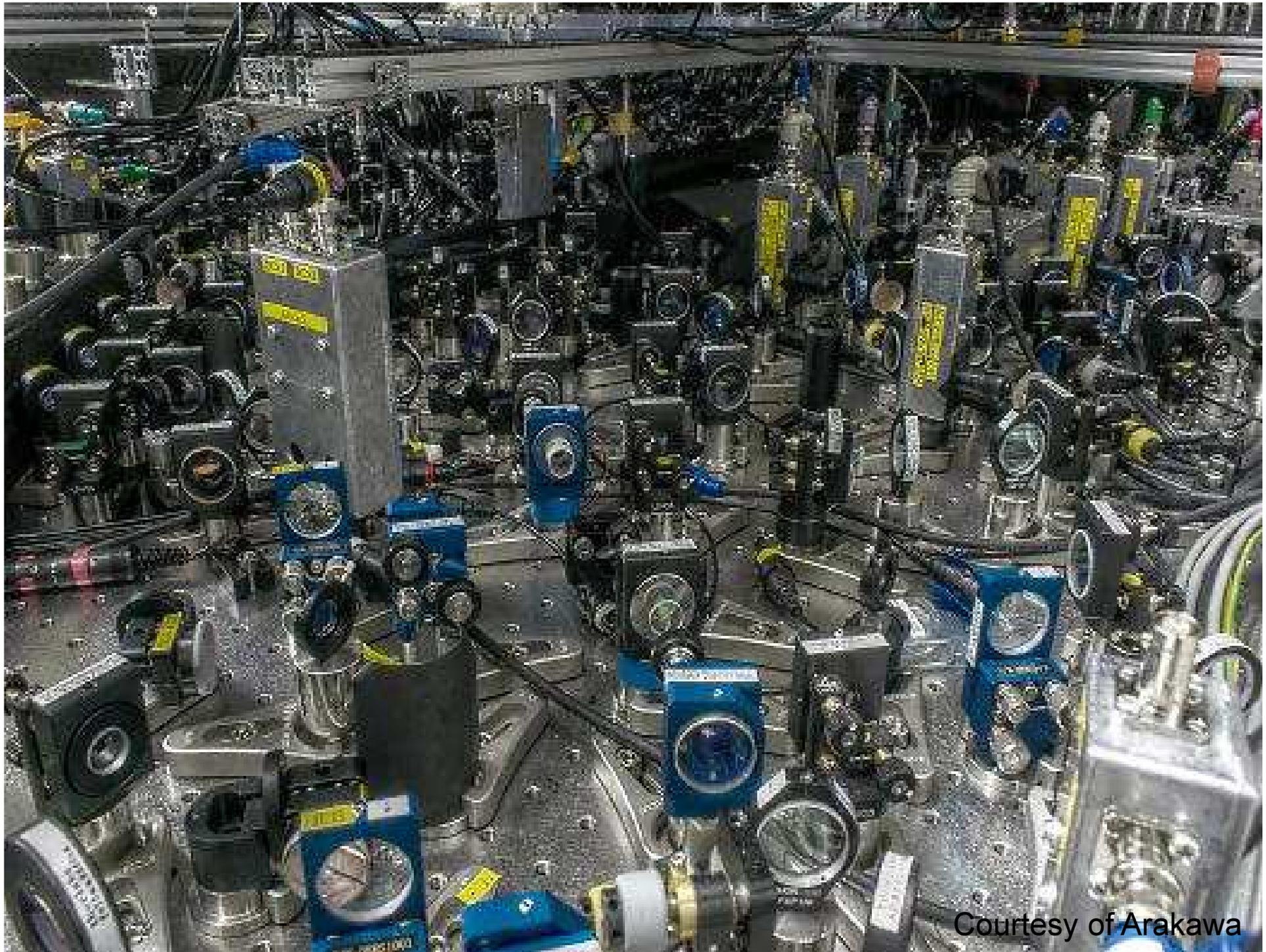
# Implementing QNIX on Si



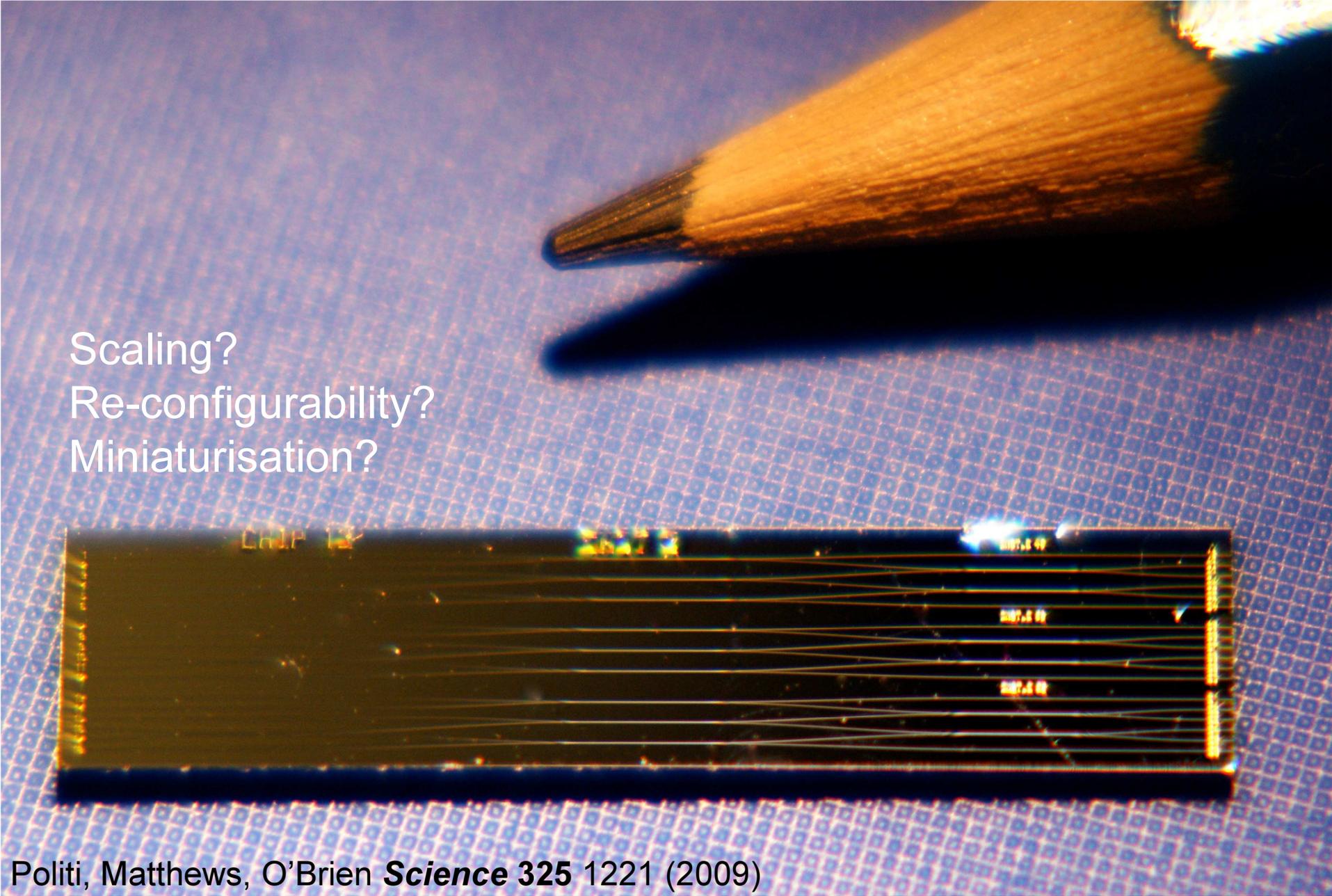
Bristol QET Labs, > 100 people

KOBIT 1 - February 3, 2017 / D. SAHIN





Courtesy of Arakawa

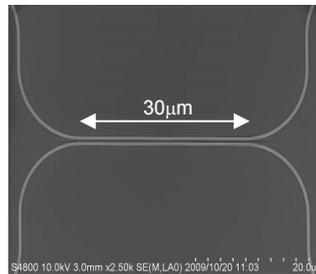
A photograph showing a pencil tip pointing towards a small, rectangular microchip. The background is a blue grid pattern. The text 'Scaling?', 'Re-configurability?', and 'Miniaturisation?' is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Scaling?  
Re-configurability?  
Miniaturisation?

Politi, Matthews, O'Brien **Science** 325 1221 (2009)

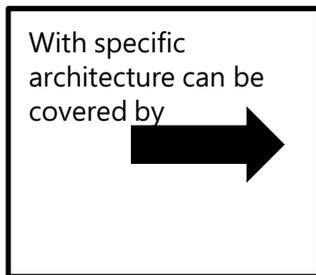
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Coupled waveguides

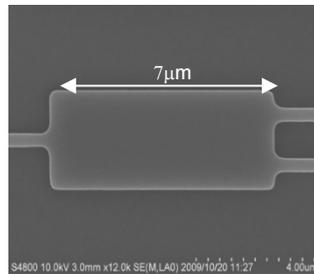


✓ Foundry available

Memory

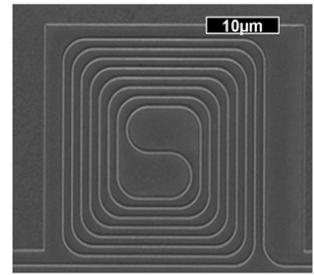


Splitter



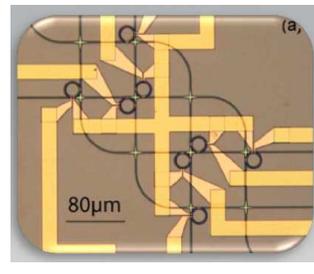
✓ Foundry available

Delay line



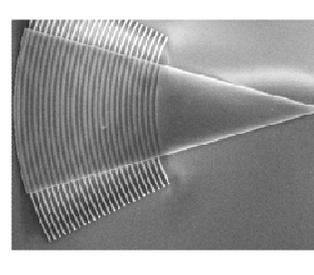
✓ Foundry available

Switches



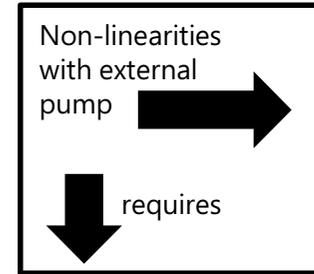
✓ Foundry available

Chip-coupling



✓ Foundry available

Sources

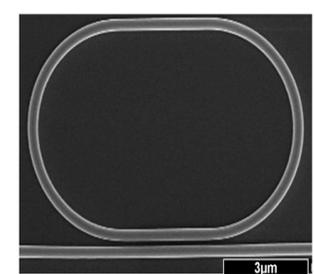


Filters



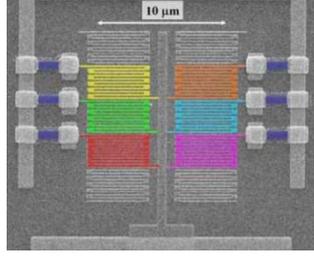
✓ Foundry available

Ring resonator



✓ Foundry available

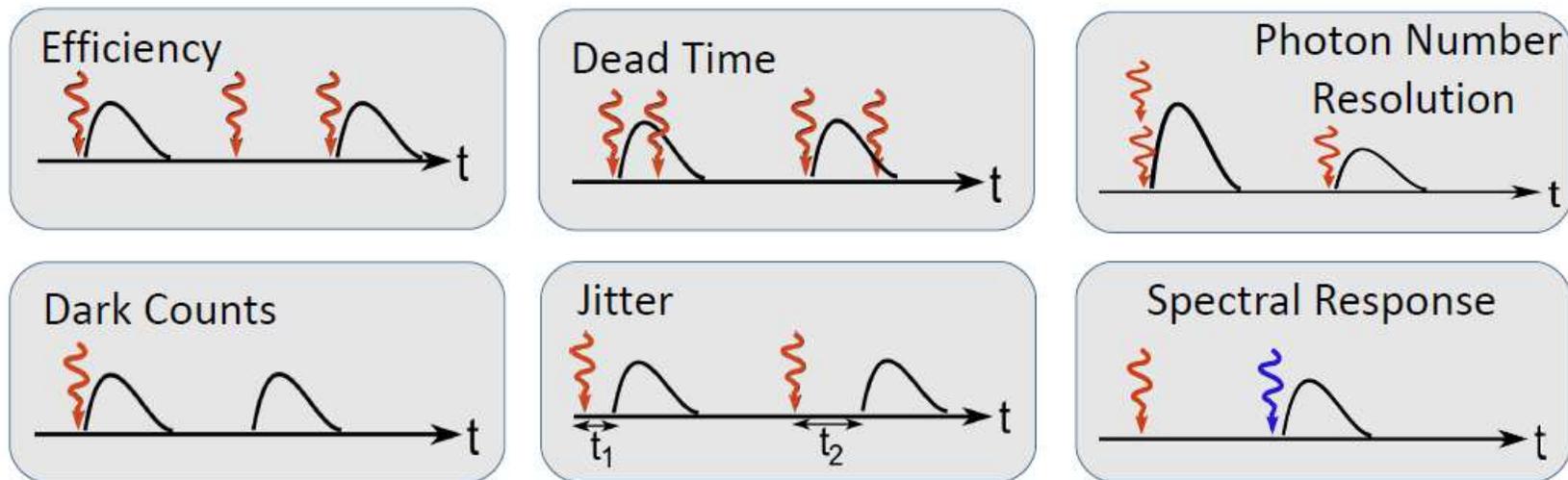
Detectors



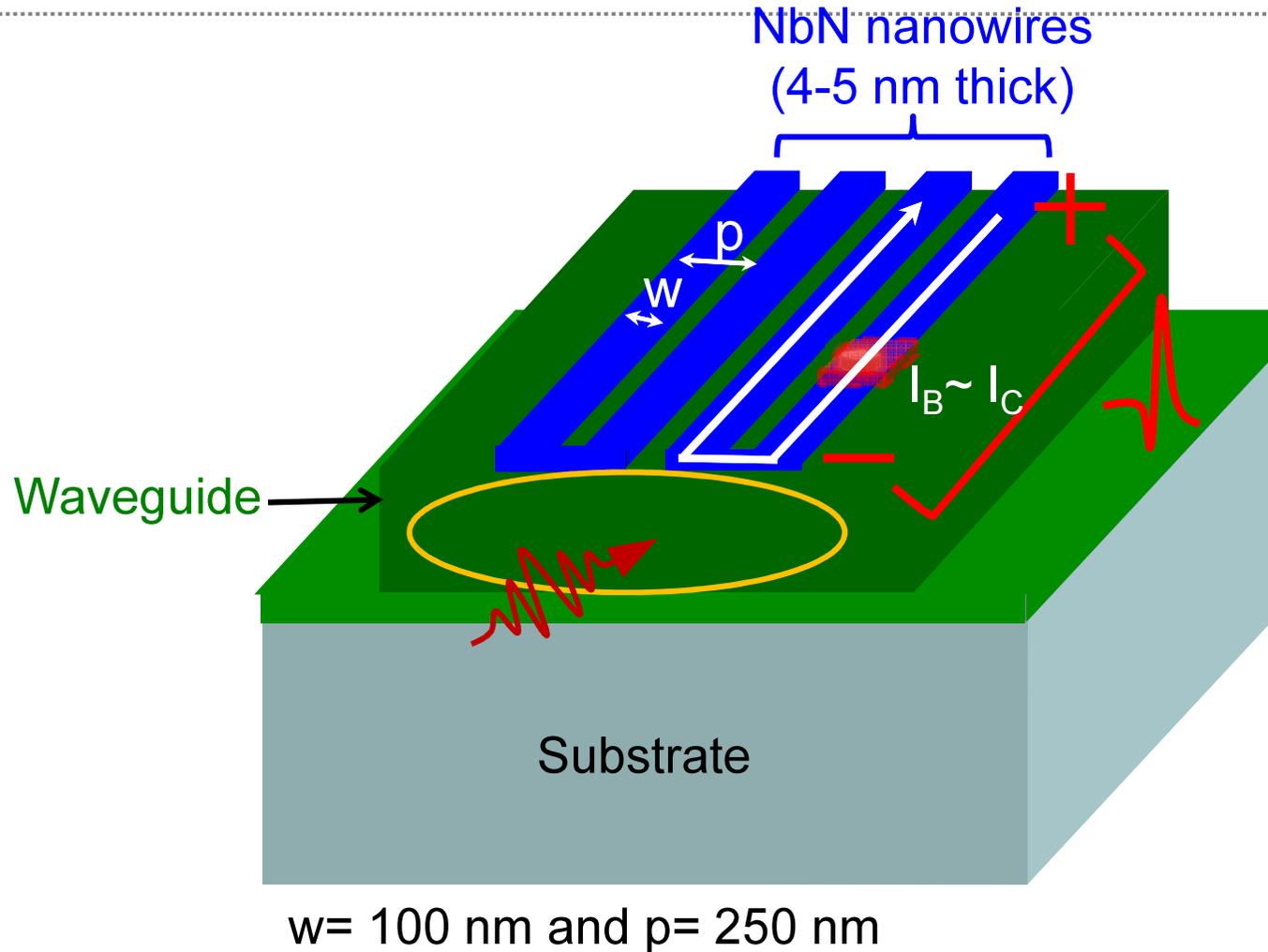
✗ Foundry NOT available

# Why SNSPDs ?

- Efficiency (as high as possible, maximum 100 %) ☺
- Dead time (detector cannot register any photon) ☺
- Dark count (false counts) ☺
- Jitter (uncertainty in detection) ☺
- Spectral response (visible up to 5  $\mu\text{m}$ ) ☺

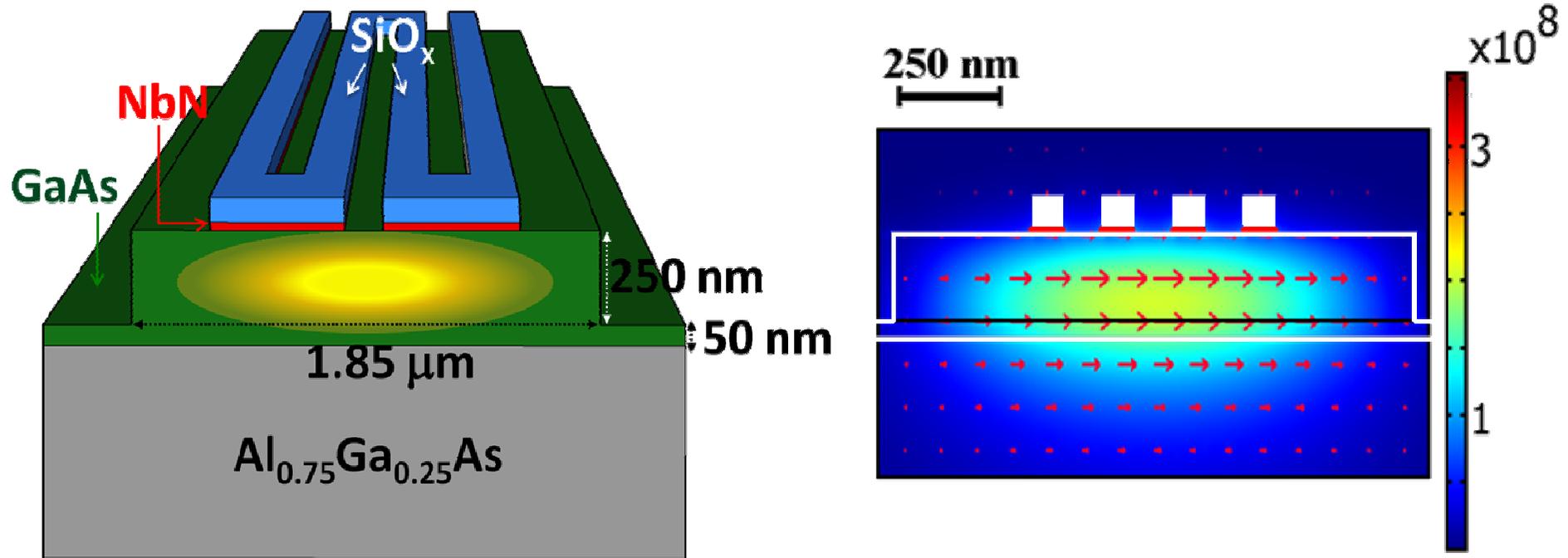


# Photon detection principle



Golts'man et al., APL (2001)

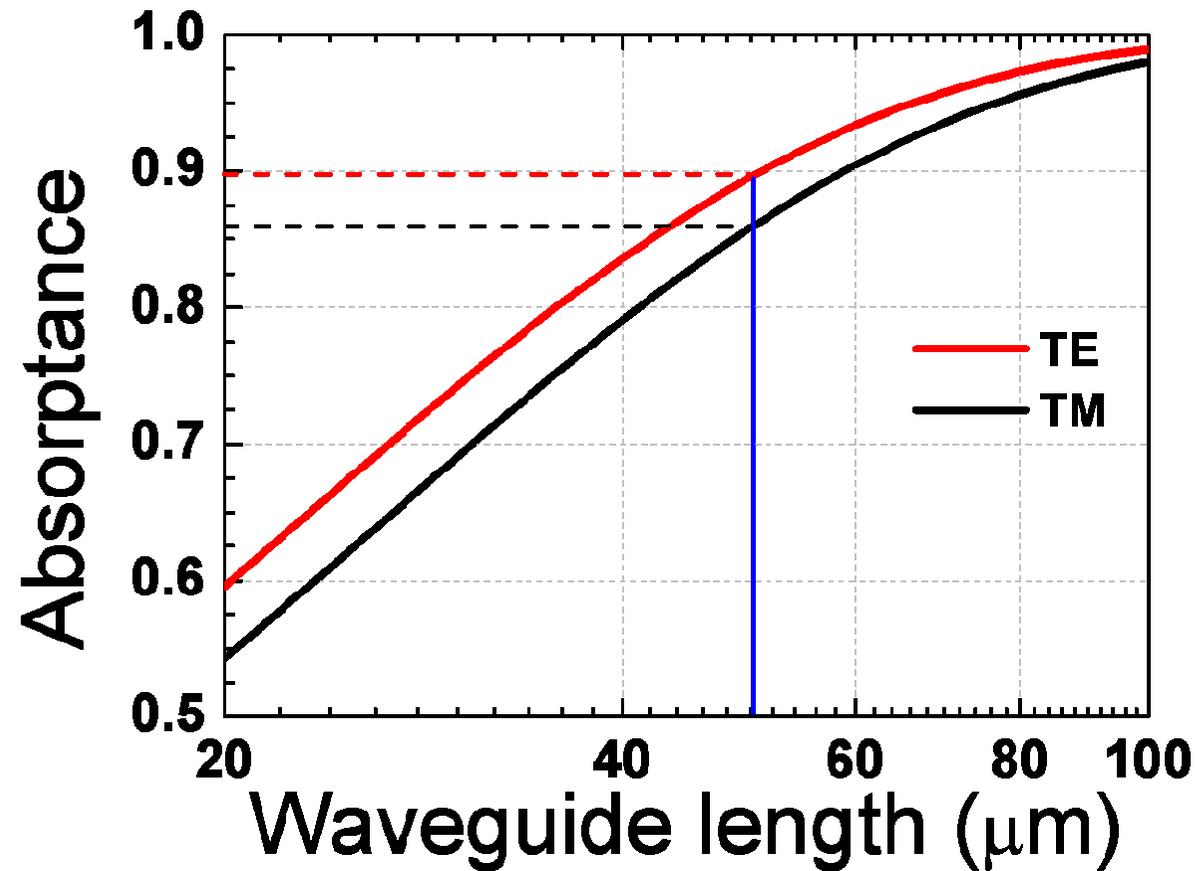
# Design of waveguide single-photon detector (WSPD)



Finite-element simulation

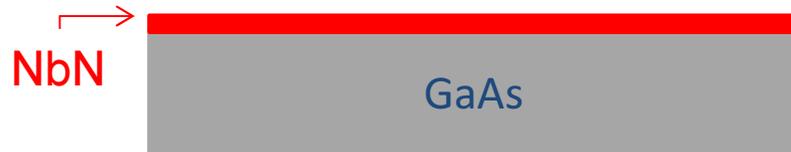
JP Sprengers et al. Appl. Phys. Lett. 99, 181110 (2011)

Book: Optical waveguide Theory by A.W. Snyder & J. Love or any other books



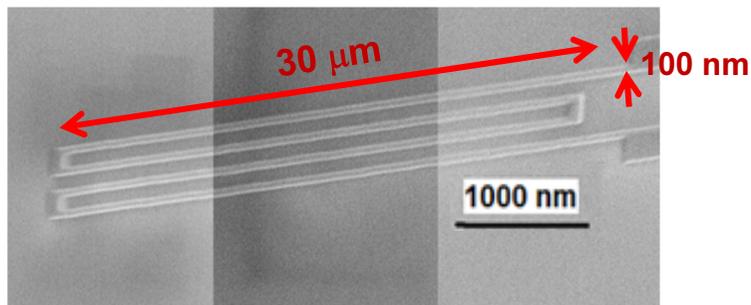
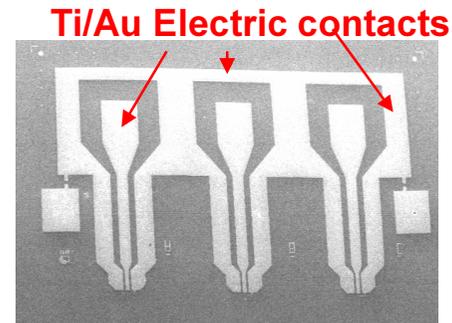
JP Sprengers et al. Appl. Phys. Lett. 99, 181110 (2011)

# Processing of WSPDs



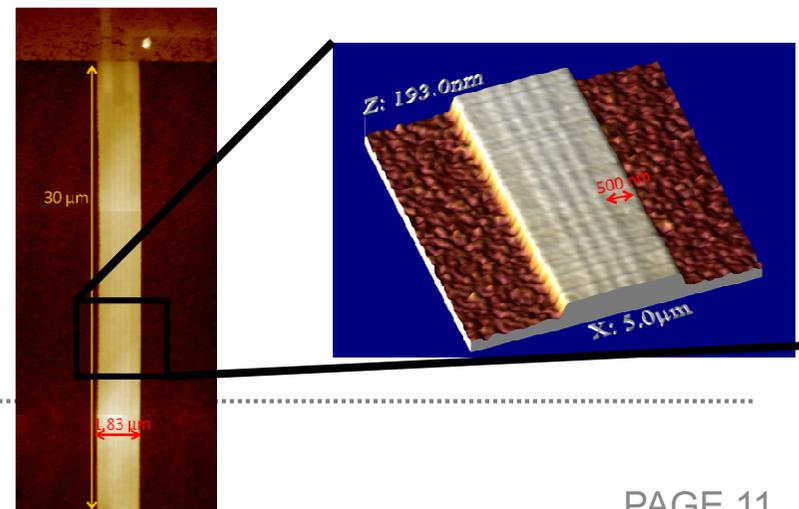
**1. Deposition of NbN films  
(DC magnetron sputtering technique)**

**2. Definition of contact pads  
(e-beam lithography and lift-off)**

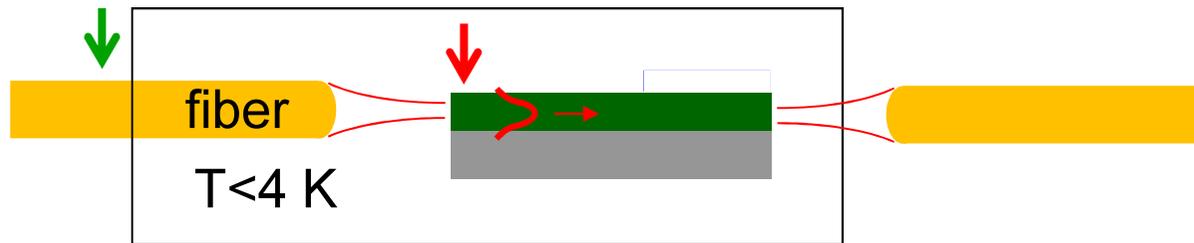


**3. Definition and etching of nanowires  
(e-beam lithography and RIE etching)**

**4. Definition and etching of waveguides aligned to nanowires  
(e-beam lithography and RIE)**



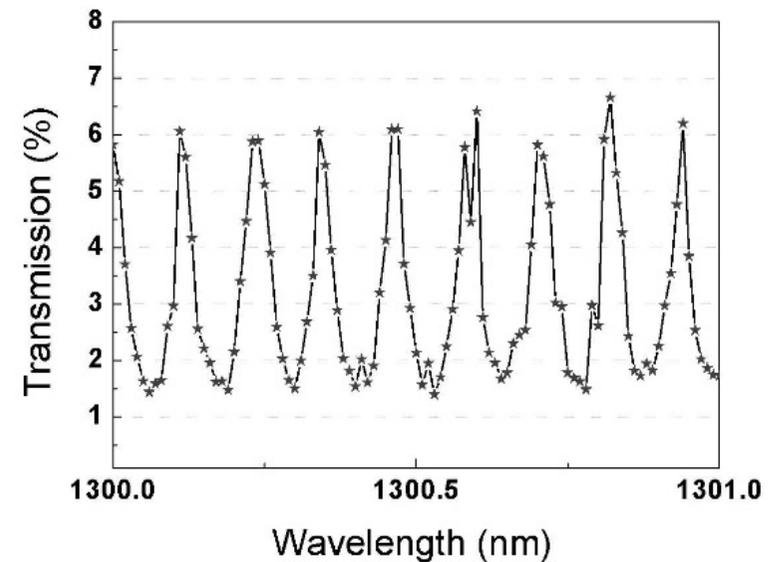
# Measurement set-up & efficiency calculations



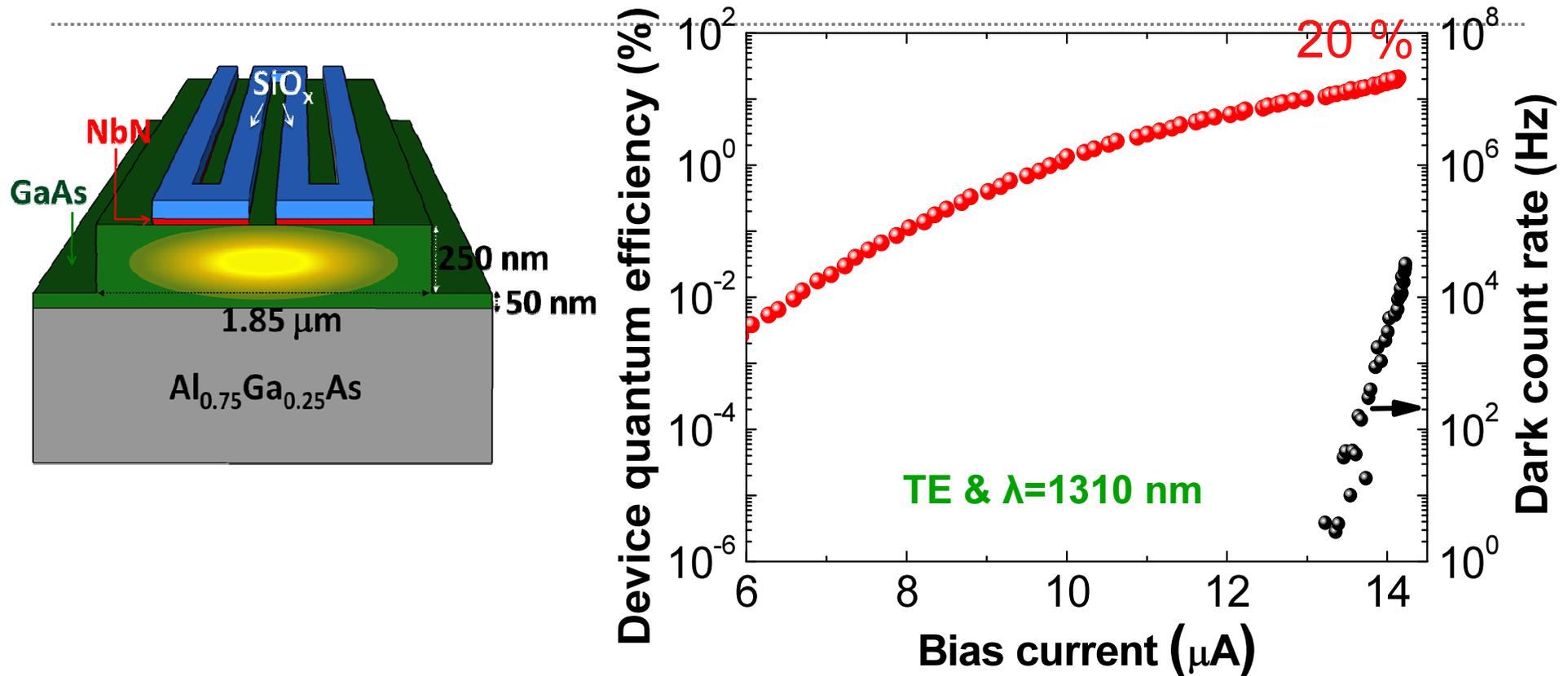
System quantum efficiency (SQE) = Numb of counts/ Numb of photons coupled

(Device) Quantum efficiency (QE) = SQE /  $\eta_c$

$$T = \eta_c^2 \frac{e^{-\alpha L}}{1 + R^2 e^{-2\alpha L} - 2R e^{-\alpha L} \cos(2kL)}$$



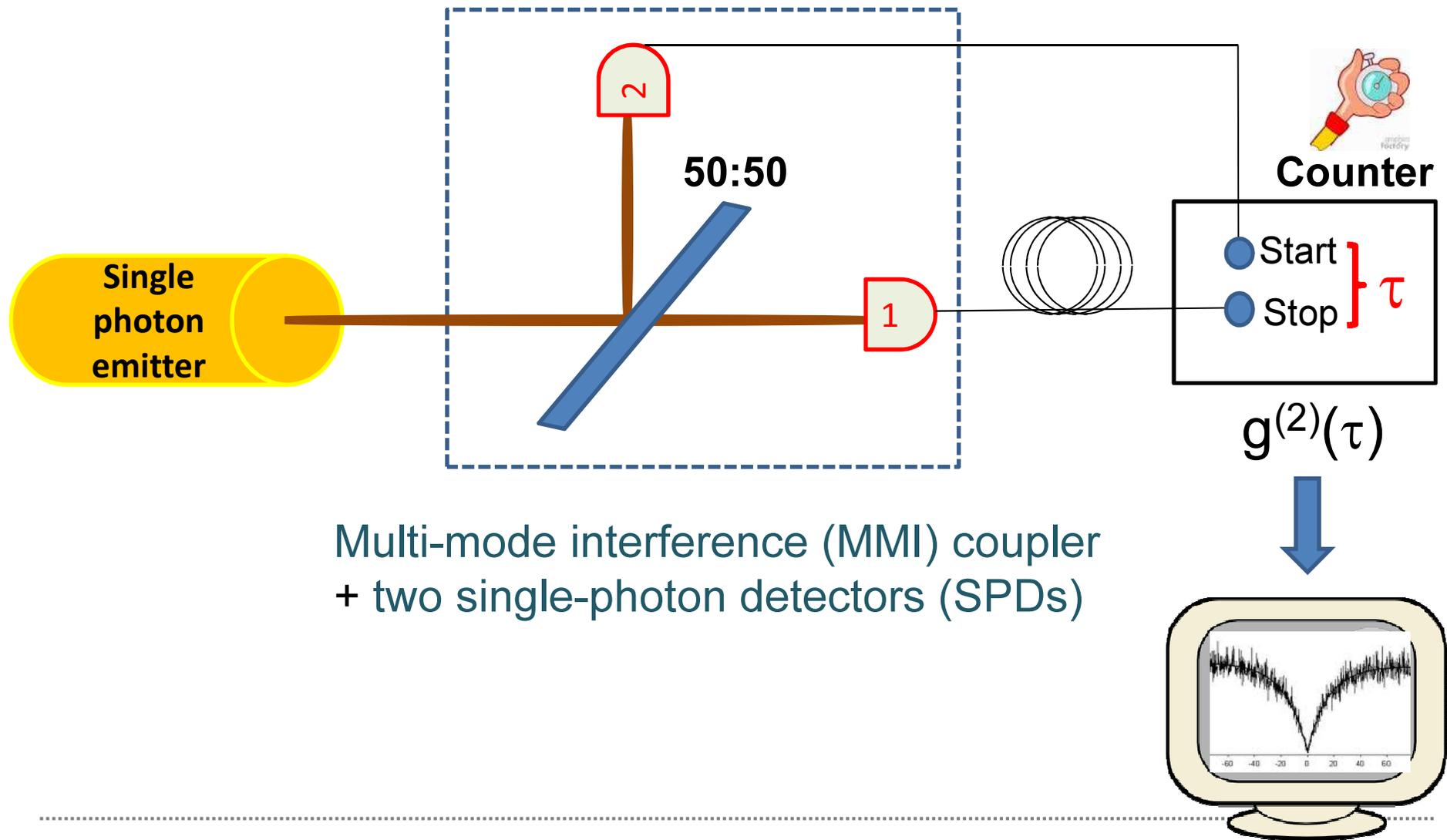
# WSPD performance



The first demonstration of waveguide SNSPDs on III-V that is compatible with single-photon sources and passive circuit.

Sprengers et al. Appl. Phys. Lett. 99, 181110 (2011)

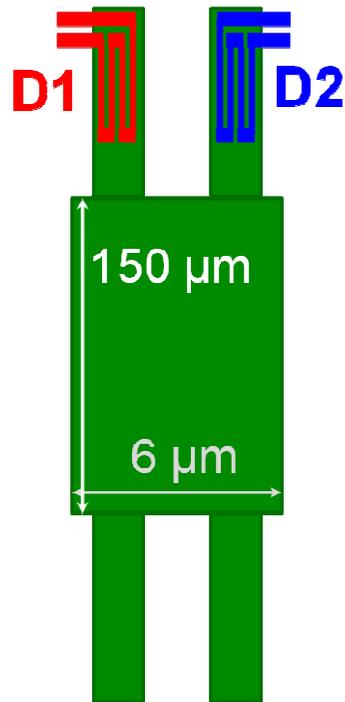
# Hanbury-Brown and Twiss interferometer: $g^{(2)}(\tau)$ measurements



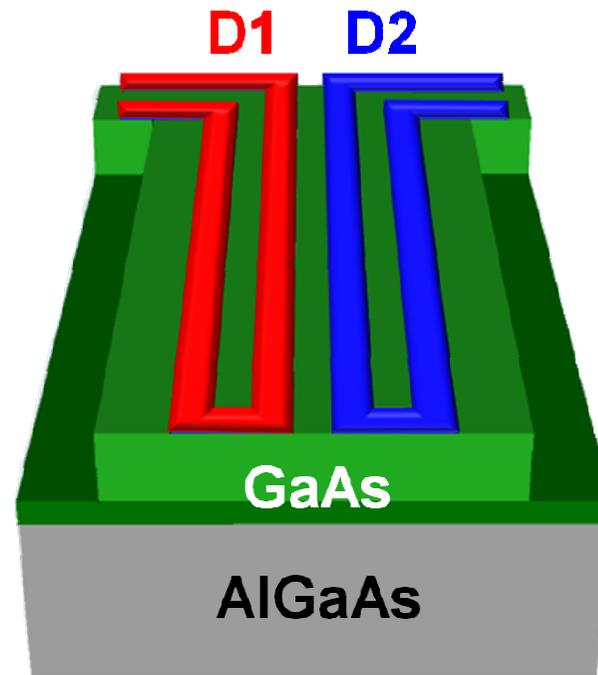
Multi-mode interference (MMI) coupler  
+ two single-photon detectors (SPDs)

# Waveguide single photon autocorrelators

Waveguide HBT



Waveguide autocorrelator

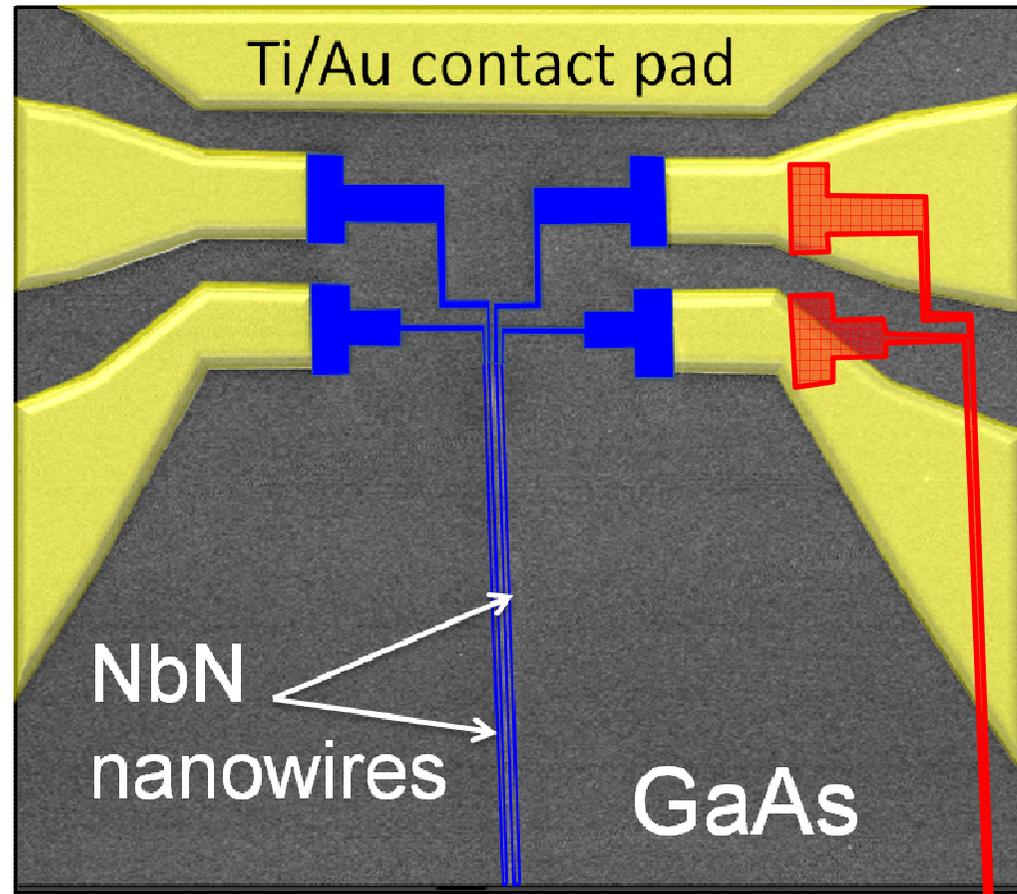


$$h_{\text{ridge}} = 300\ \text{nm}$$

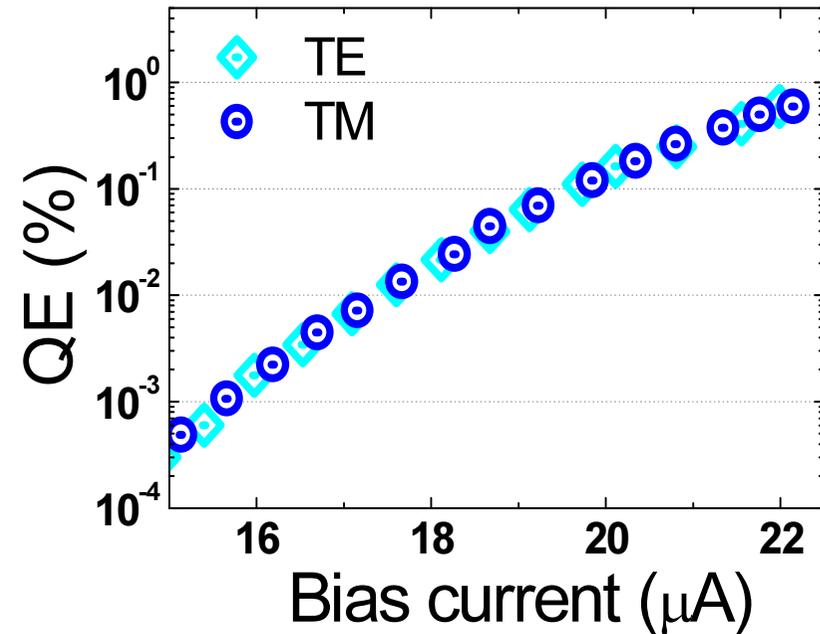
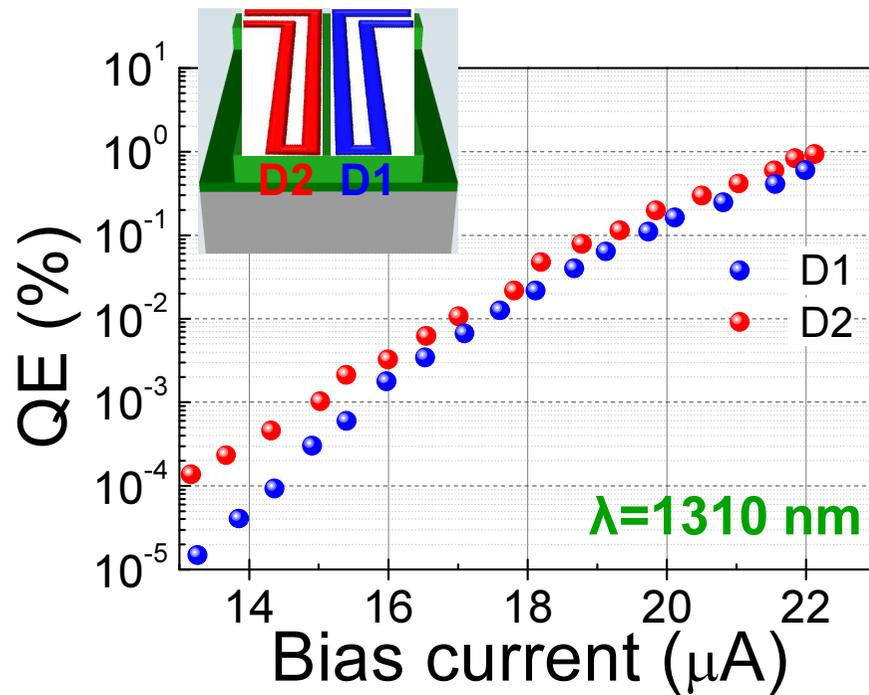
$$w_{\text{ridge}} = 1.85\ \mu\text{m}$$

$$t_{\text{NbN}} = 5.9\ \text{nm}$$

# Waveguide single photon autocorrelators



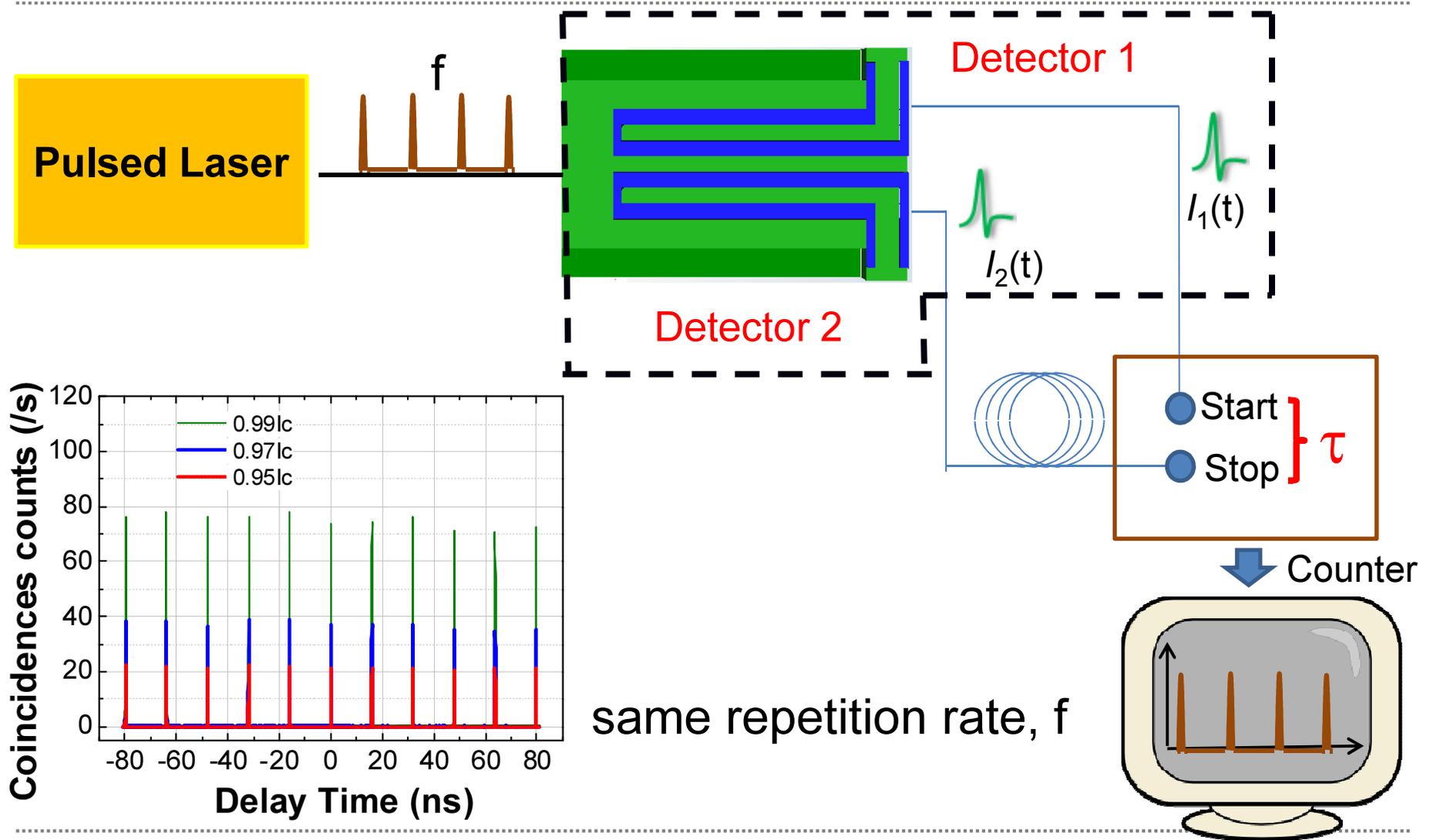
D. Sahin et al. OpEx 21, 11162 (2013)



Very high absorptance (>90% for both TE&TM)  
of 50  $\mu\text{m}$  long waveguide

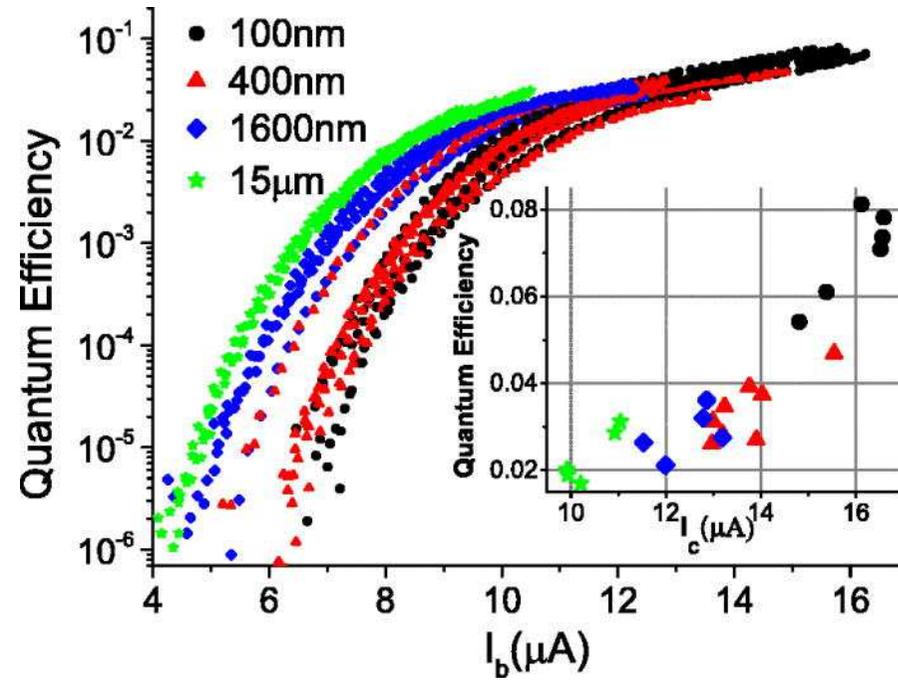
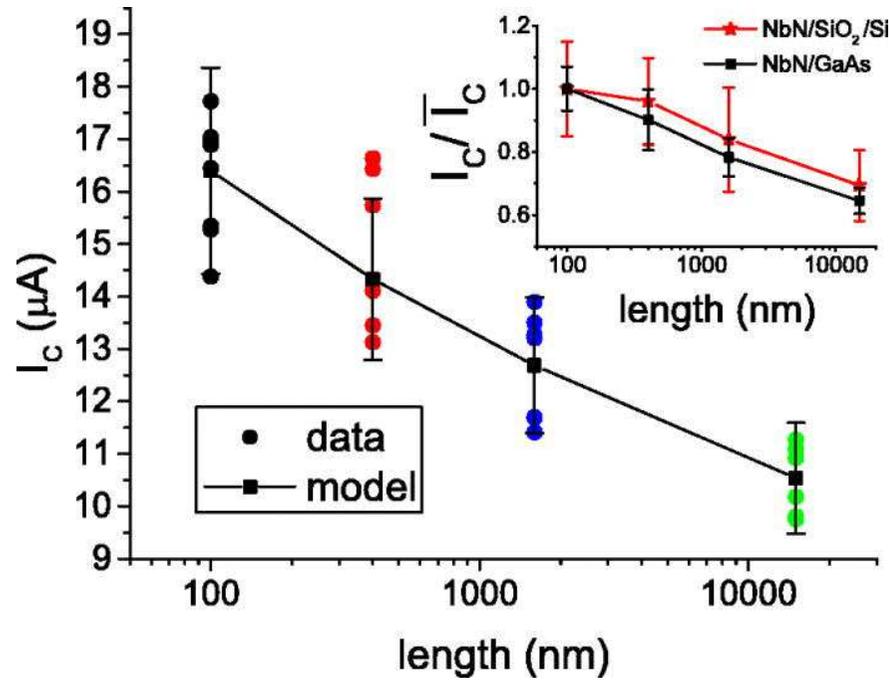
D. Sahin et al. OpEx 21, 11162 (2013)

# $g^{(2)}(\tau)$ measurements



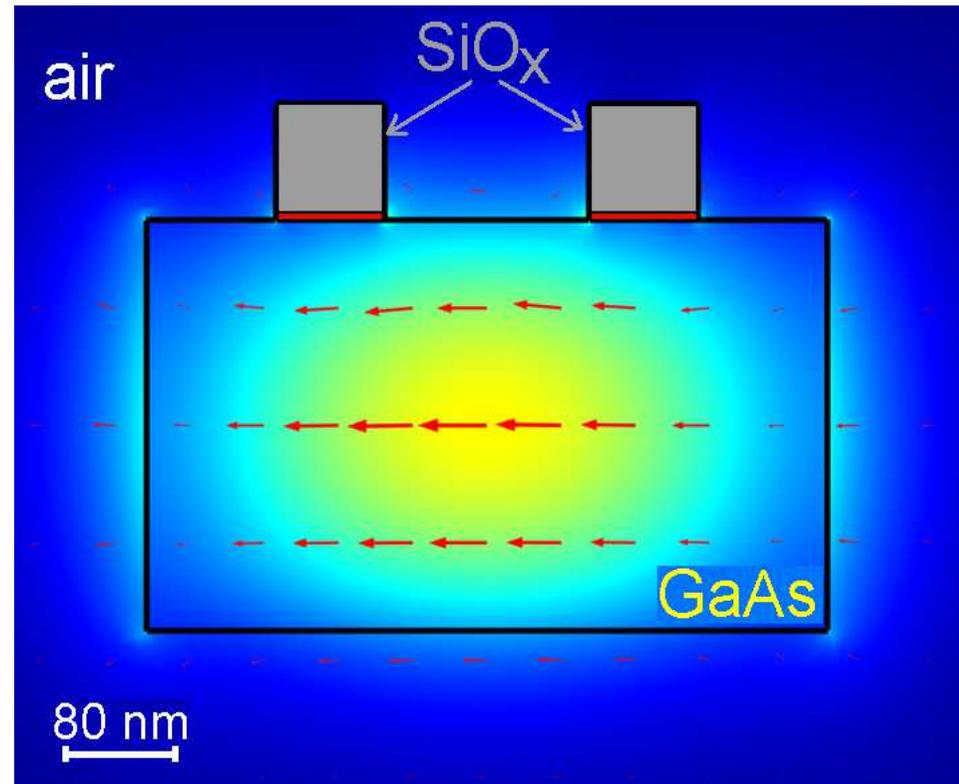
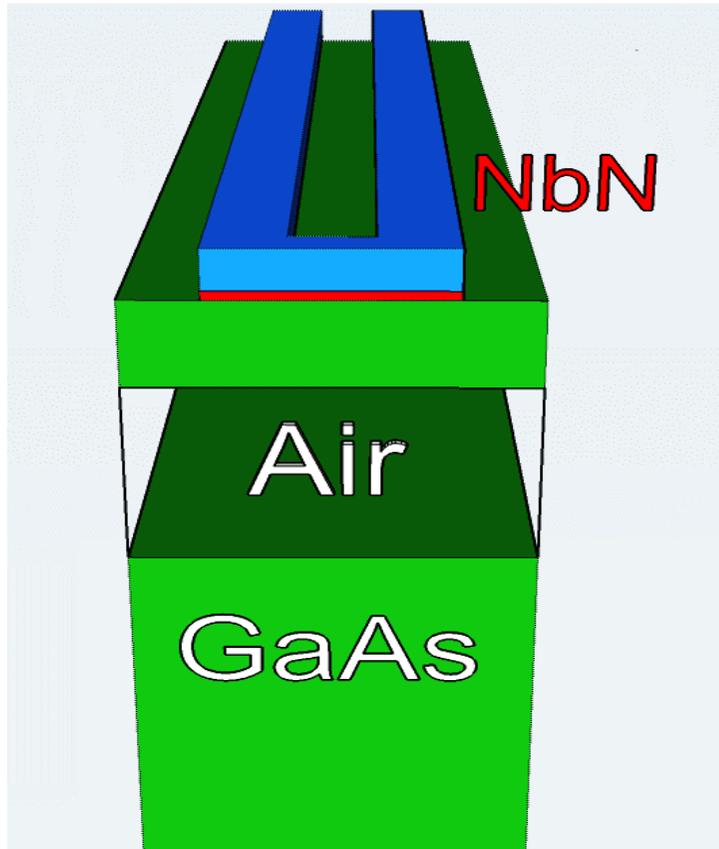


# Inhomogeneity of NbN SNSPDs

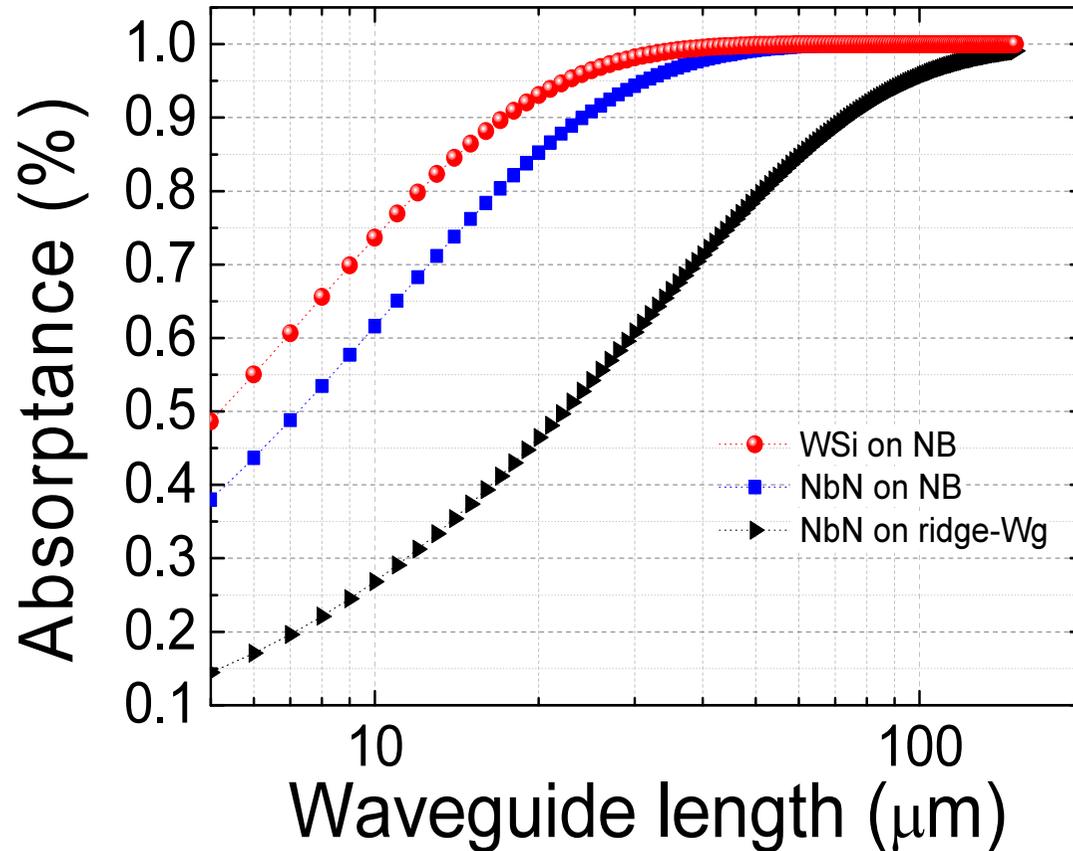


R Gaudio et al., APL **105**, 222602 (2014)

Addresses inhomogeneity of NbN nanowires, especially on GaAs



D Sahin et al., JSTQE **21** (2015)



Simulated for TE  
polarized light at 1310 nm.

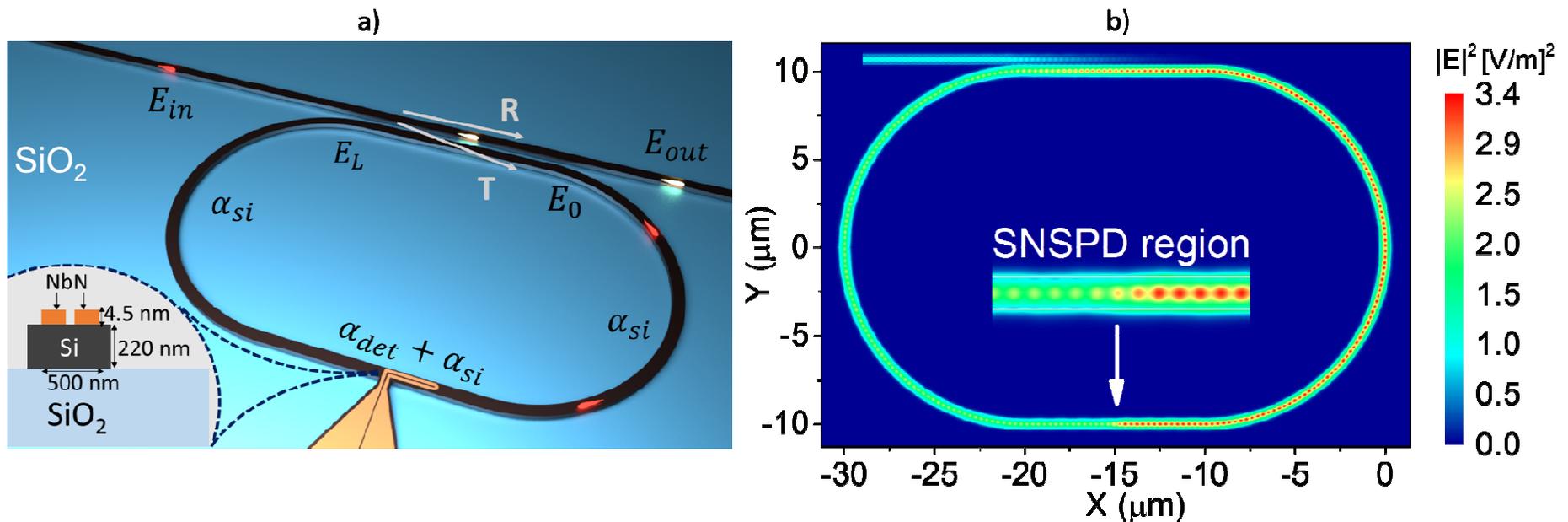
A = 90%  
17 μm-long for TE  
6 μm-long for TM

$$\alpha_{\text{abs}}^{\text{TE}} = 1333 \text{ cm}^{-1} \text{ \& } \alpha_{\text{abs}}^{\text{TM}} = 3810 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

D Sahin et al., JSTQE **21**, 1-10 (2015)

## Cavity enhanced efficiency as well as yield enhancement

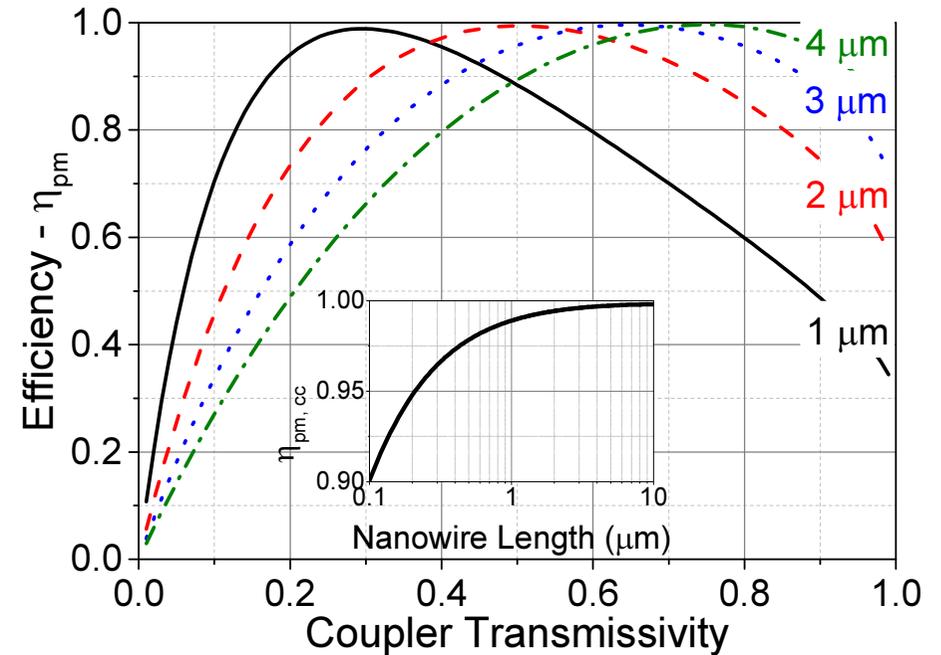
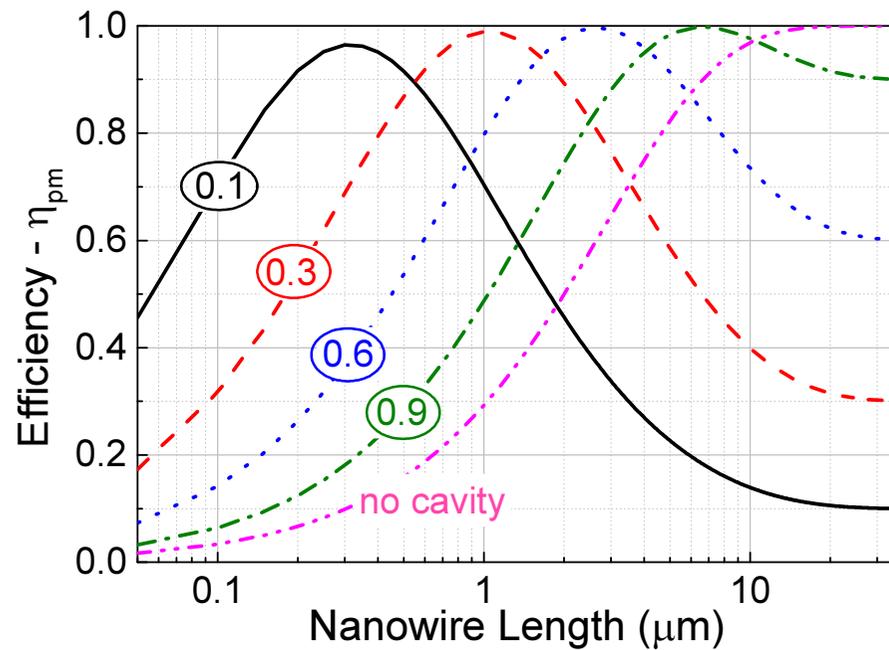
WG: 220 nm thick, 500 nm wide on 1  $\mu\text{m}$   $\text{SiO}_2$   
 NW: NbN, 4.5 nm thick, 100 nm wide



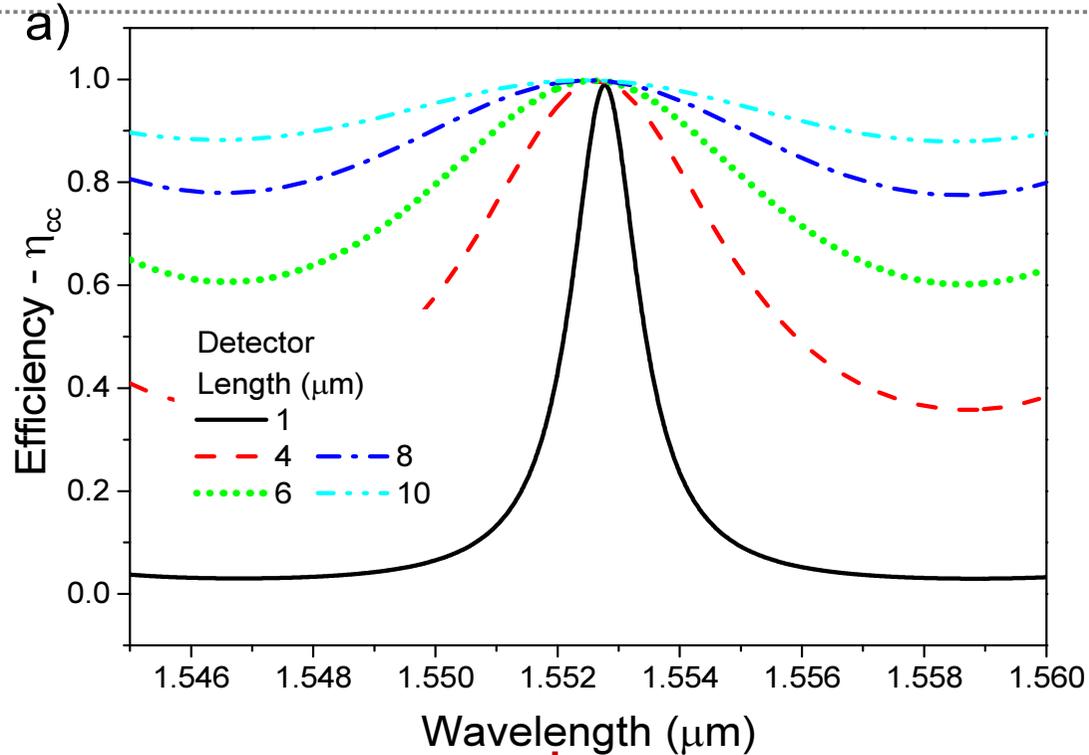
*N. A. Tyler et al. OPEX, 24 , p: 8797 (2016)*



# SNSPDs in cavity - efficiency



*N. A. Tyler et al. OPEX, 24 , p: 8797 (2016)*

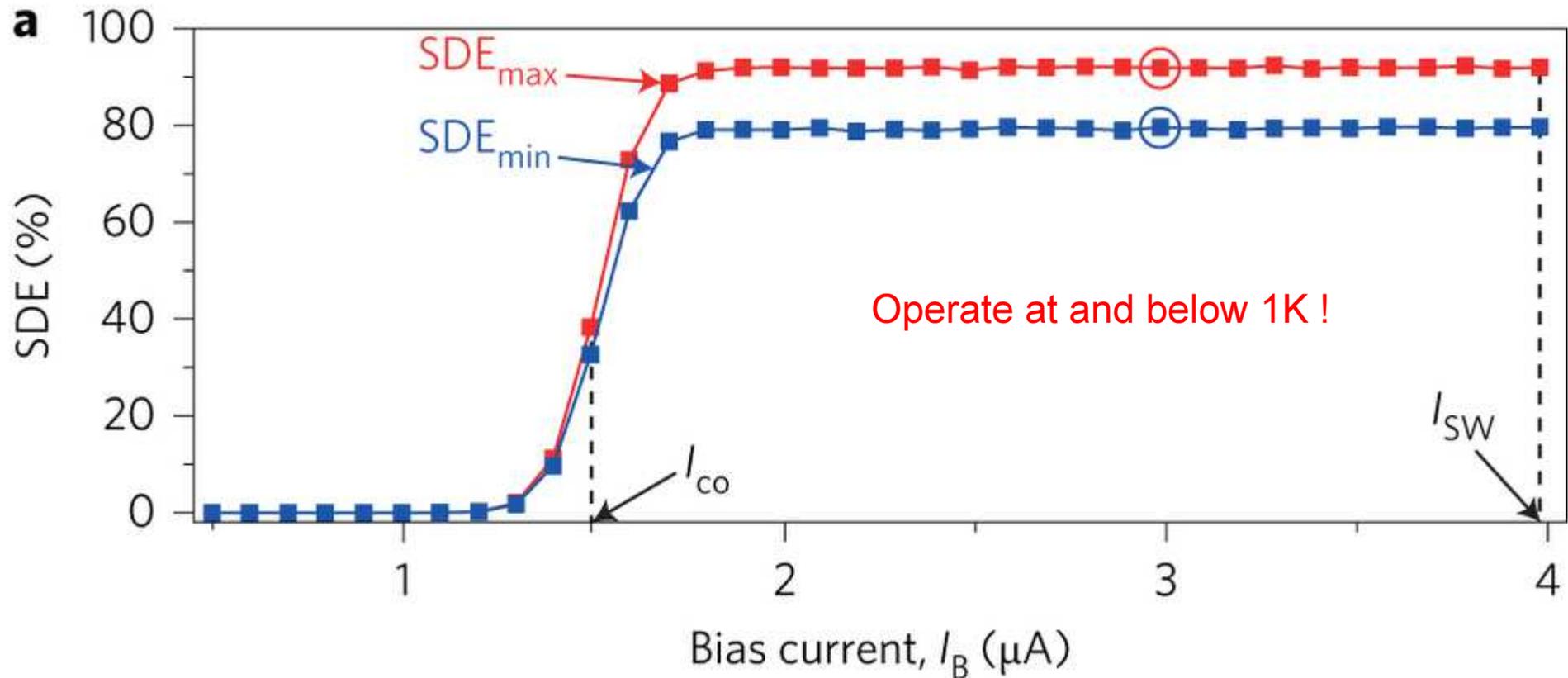


Bandwidth can be modified, narrow bands are ideal for spectrometers at single-photon sensitivity.

*N. A. Tyler et al. OPEX, 24, p: 8797 (2016)*

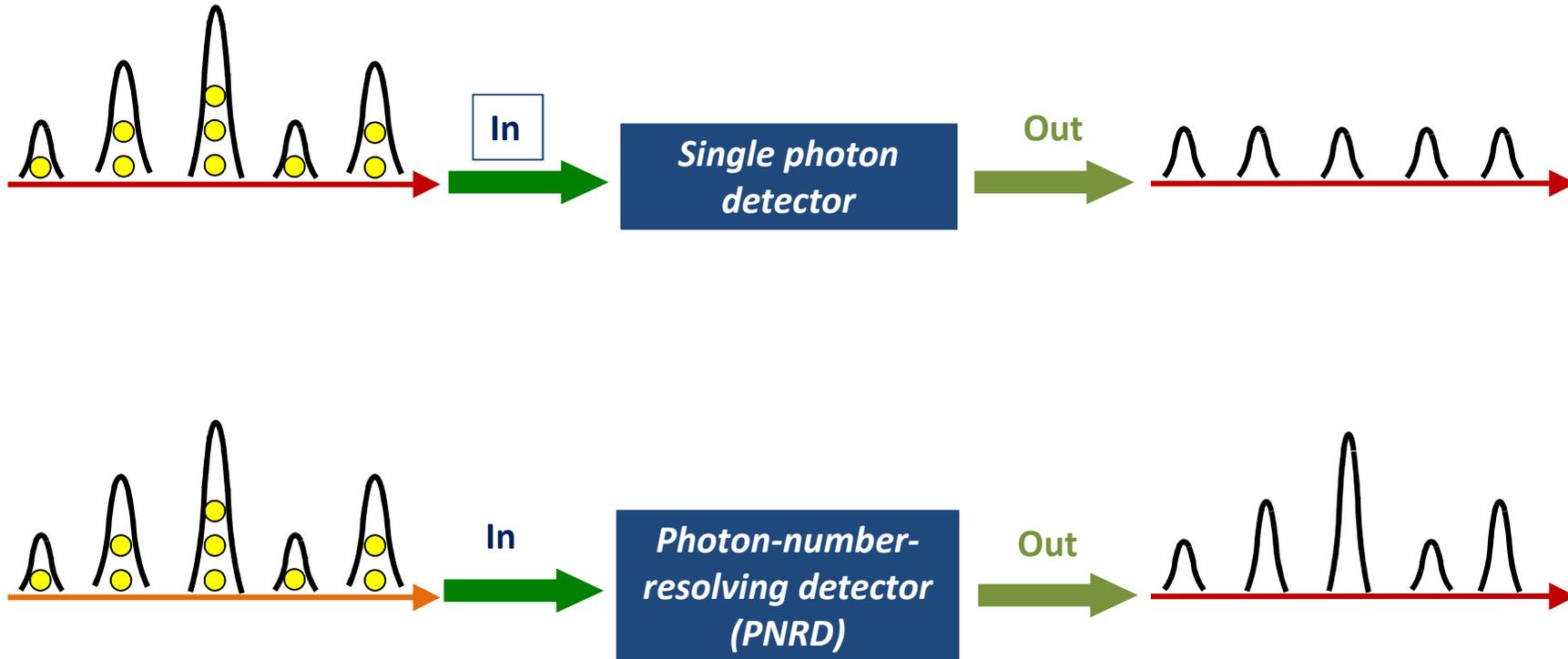
# Recent advancements: SNSPD with WSi nanowires on Si

No WG but a mirror cavity structure is implemented

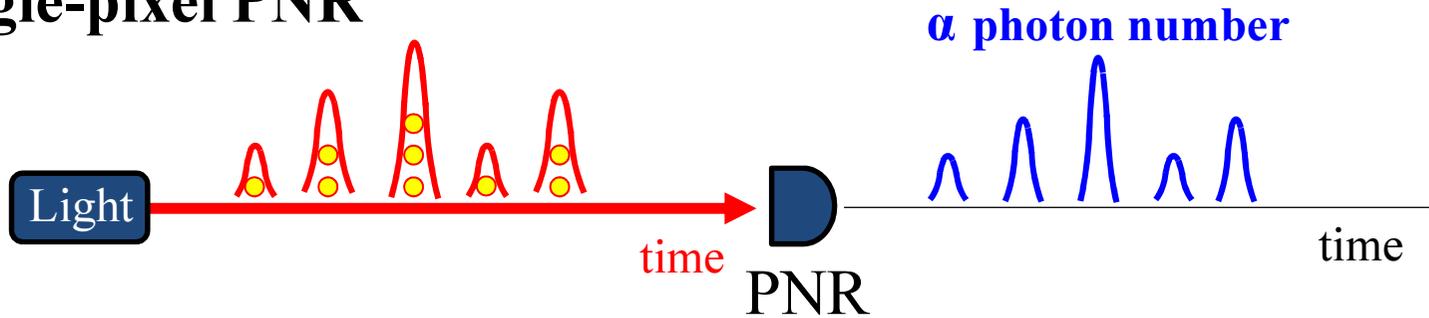


*F. Marsili et al. Nature Photon 7.3 (2013): 210-214*

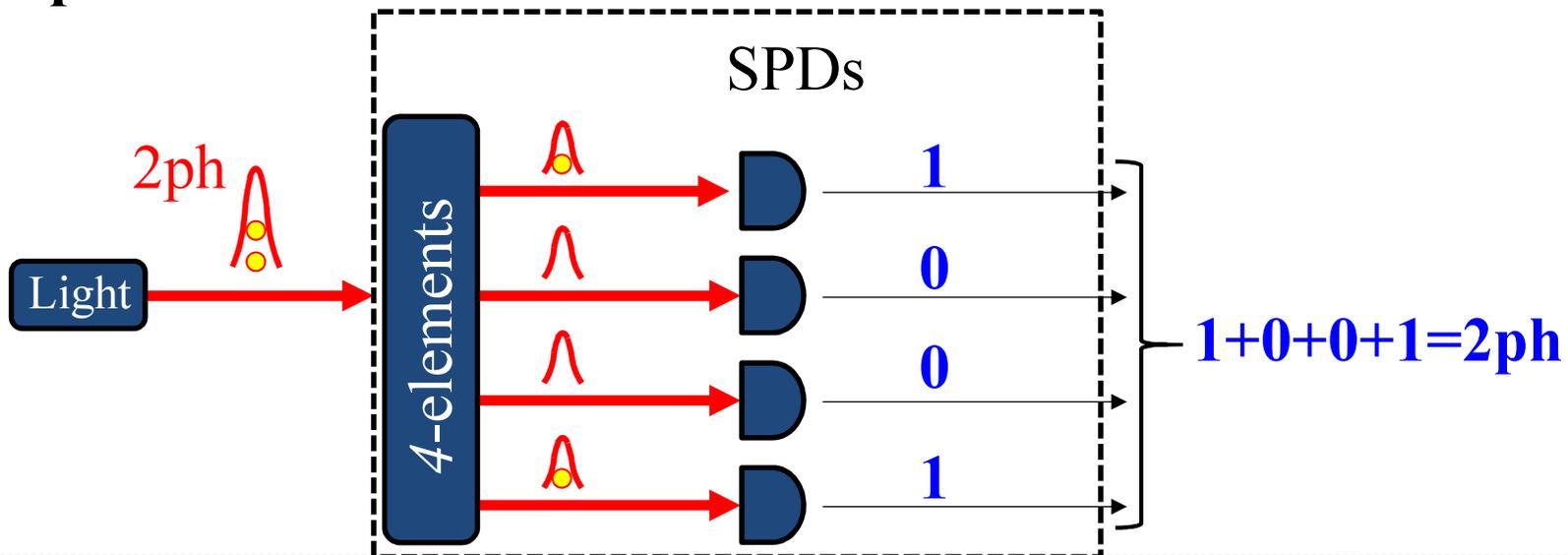
# Single-photon detector vs PNRD



## Single-pixel PNR

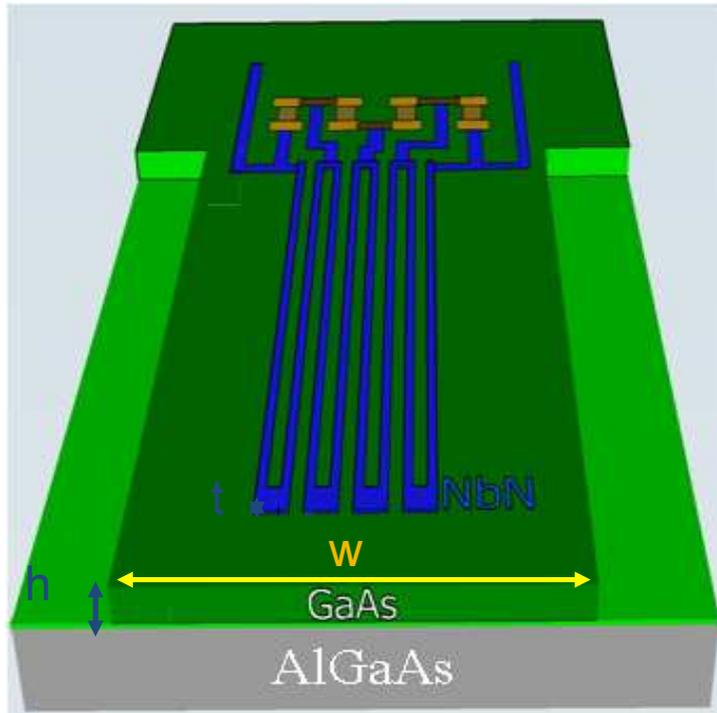


## Multiplexed PNR



Multiplexed PNR

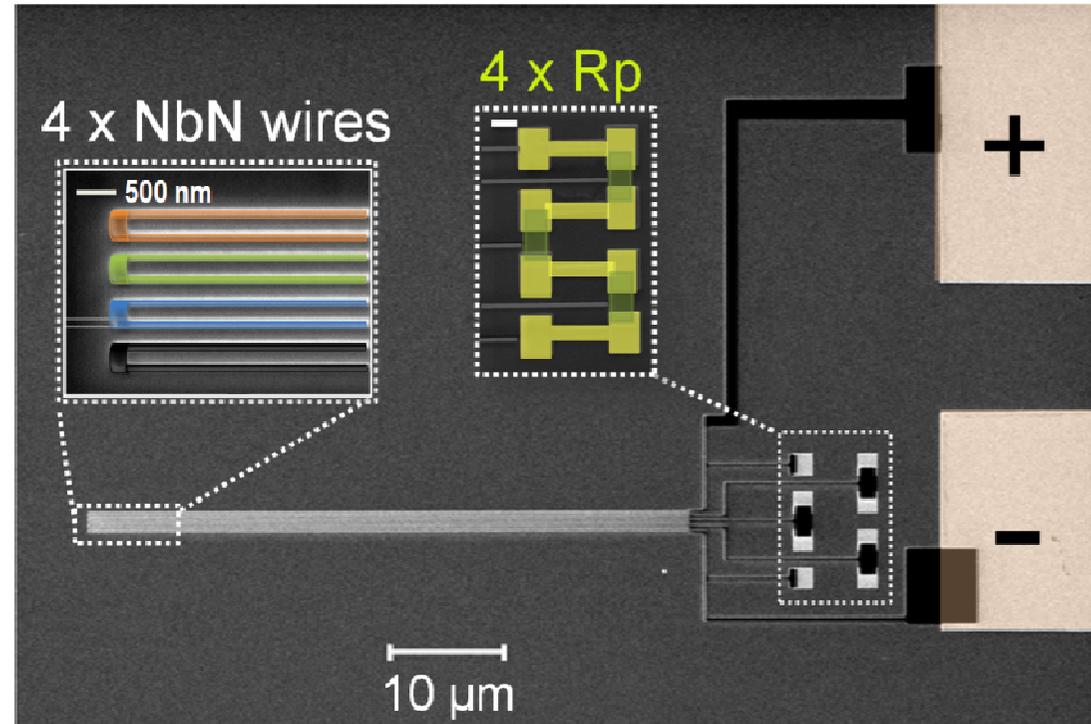
# Waveguide photon-number-resolving detectors (WPNR)



$$h_{\text{ridge}} = 260 \text{ nm}$$

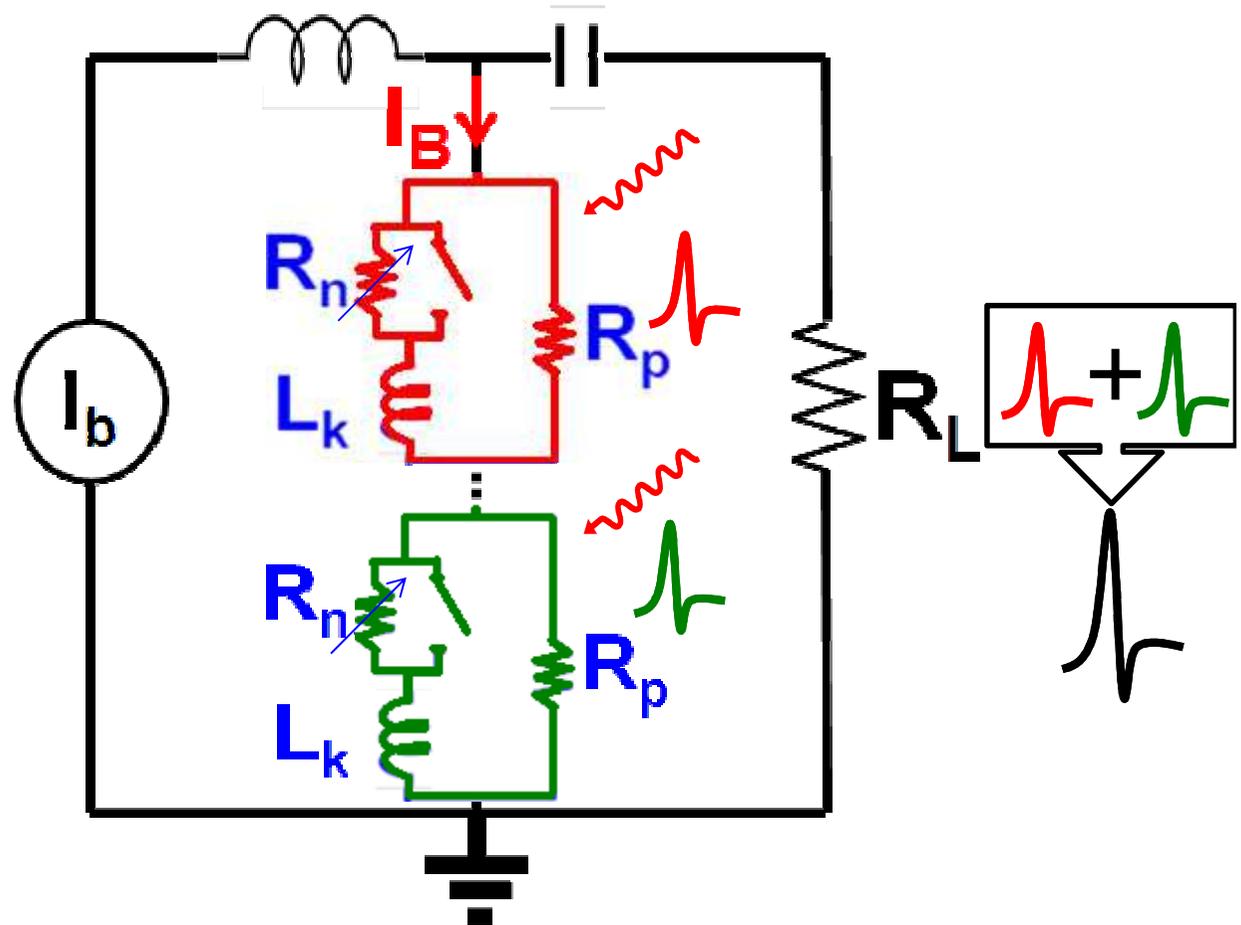
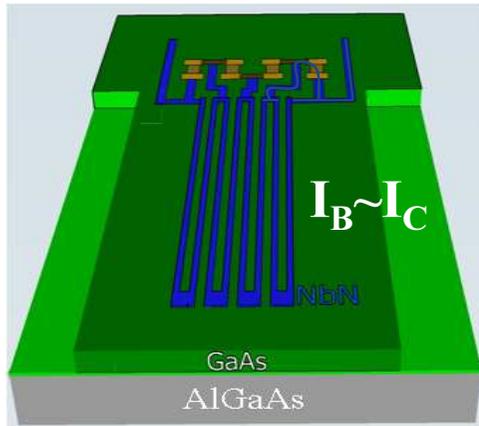
$$w_{\text{ridge}} = 3.85 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$$

$$t_{\text{NbN}} = 4.7 \text{ nm}$$

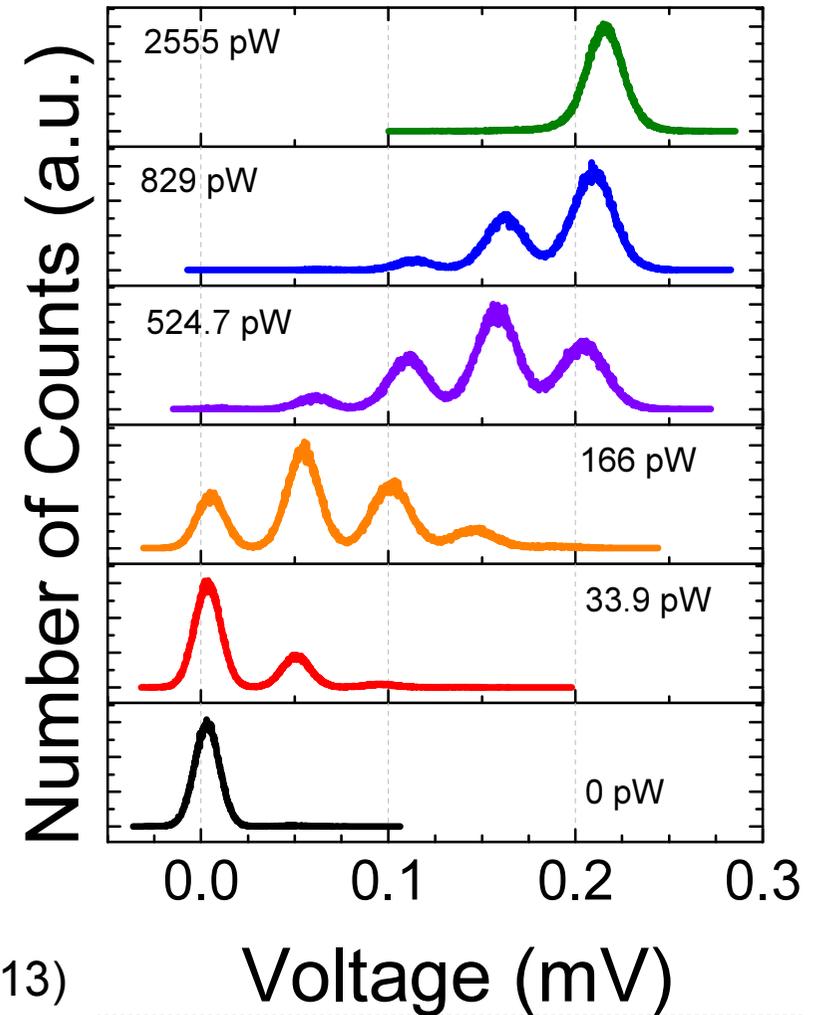
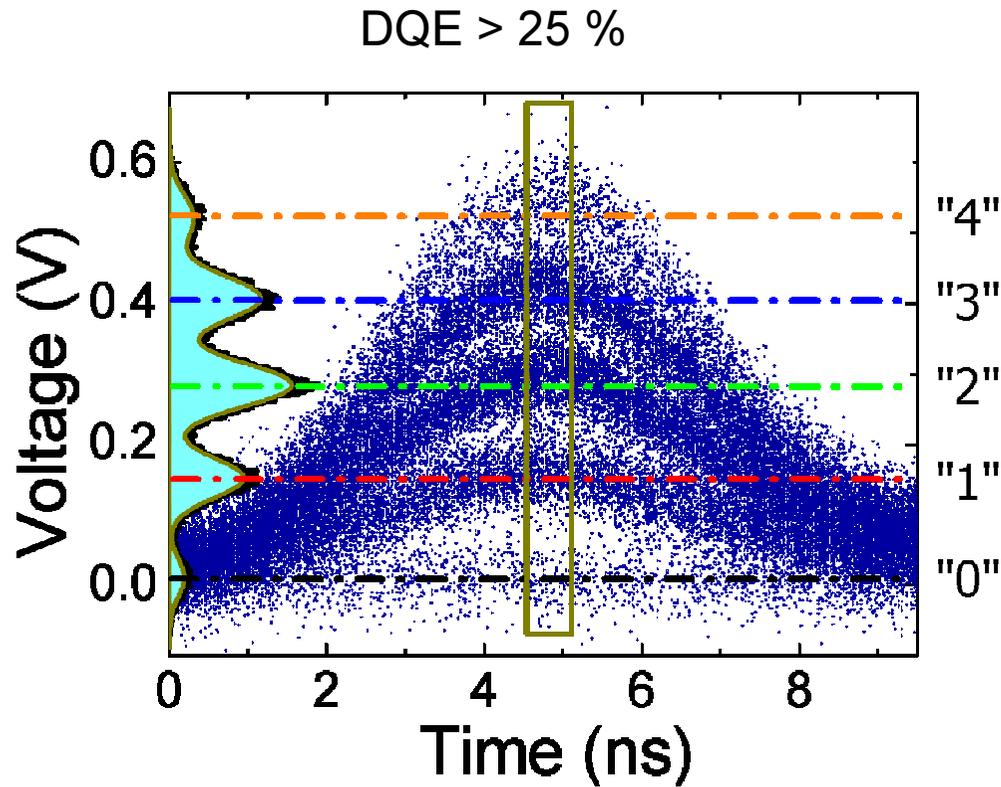


D. Sahin et al. Appl. Phys. Lett. 103, 111116 (2013)

# Circuit equivalent



D. Sahin et al. Appl. Phys. Lett. 103, 111116 (2013)



D. Sahin et al. Appl. Phys. Lett. 103, 111116 (2013)

# Bristol Team

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<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/physics/research/quantum/engagement/qcloud/>

THANKS VERY MUCH

Döndü Sahin  
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EPSRC

Engineering and Physical Sciences  
Research Council

stw

Technologische Wetenschappen STW



TU/e

Technische Universiteit  
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University of Technology

PICQUE

