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Demonstrator for the Tilt-To-Length coupling measurement in the LISA experiment

Frédéric Cleva¹ (cleva@oca.eu), J.P. Coulon¹, M. Nardello¹, O. Grosjean²

¹ Université Côte d'Azur, Observatoire de la Côte d'Azur, CNRS, ARTEMIS, NICE., ² Centre national d'études spatiales, Toulouse

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OVERVIEW

We present some of the key functions of a setup aimed at measuring the Tilt-To-Length (TTL) coupling on the LISA optical benches

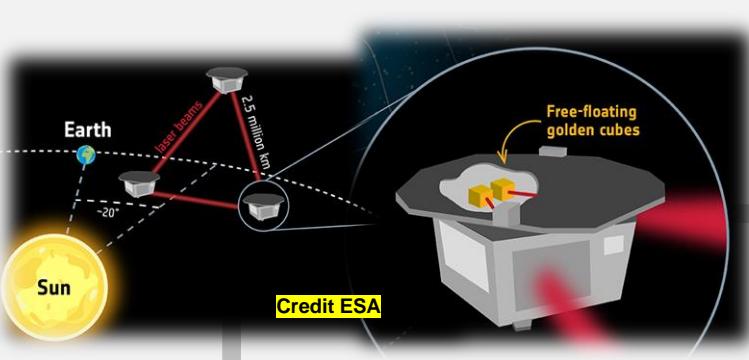
It integrates off-the-shelf components, a metallic breadboard, servo-loops and position memories for beam alignments and obtained straightforward alignments with submicrometric accuracy

The setup demonstrates an optomechanical stability better than a few microns (130 hours), compliant with the specifications for LISA

I - LISA mission for Gravitational Waves (GW) detection and TTL coupling

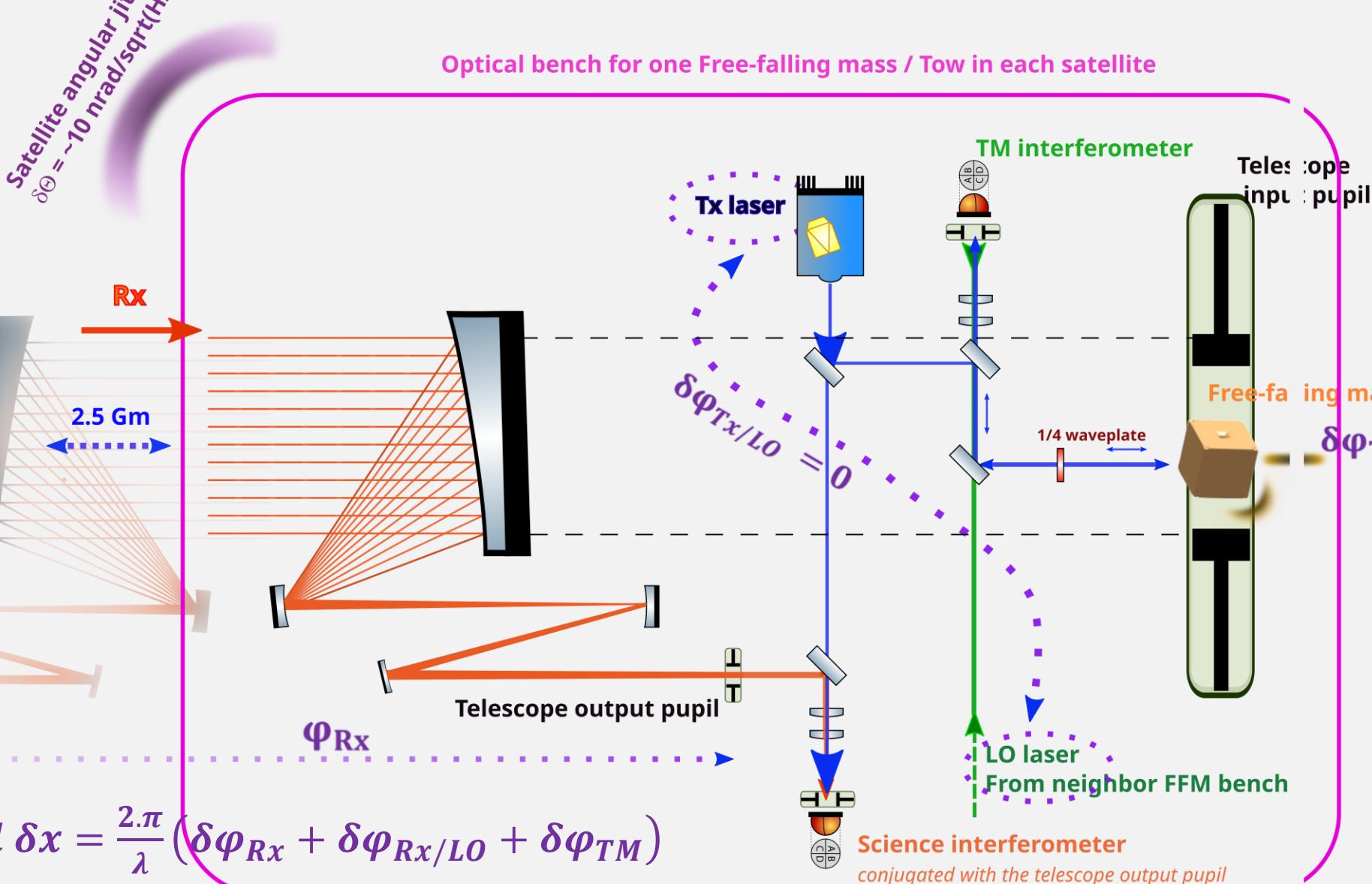
Laser ranging between Free-Falling Masses in space (FFM), 2.5 Mkm length optical link, it targets $\sim \text{few picometer}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$

Heterodyne detection of the optical phase between the incoming & local beams attached to the far / local FFM's



II - LISA optical bench

□ Aimed at detecting the Opt. Path Length "Input pupil"-to-FFM (" $\delta\phi$ " in rad)

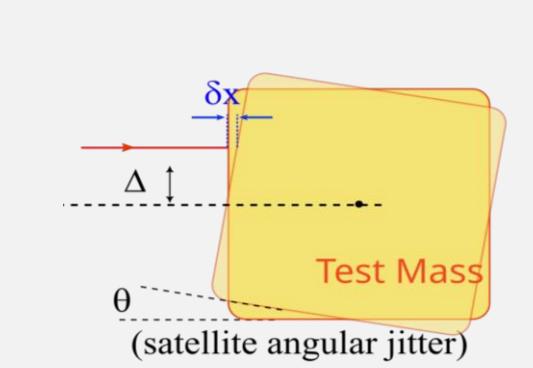


III - TTL coupling : One of the major noise source in LISA

Pupil's-to-Test Mass conjugation → OPL FFM-to-detectors unaffected by the bench/satellite angular jitter

$$\text{!! Residual pupil misalignments} \rightarrow \text{deleterious "Tilt-To-Length" coupling } \text{TTL} = \frac{\partial \delta x}{\partial \theta} = \Delta, \text{ in } \frac{\text{m}}{\text{rad}}$$

→ FOGOB optical bench demonstrator for TTL measurement

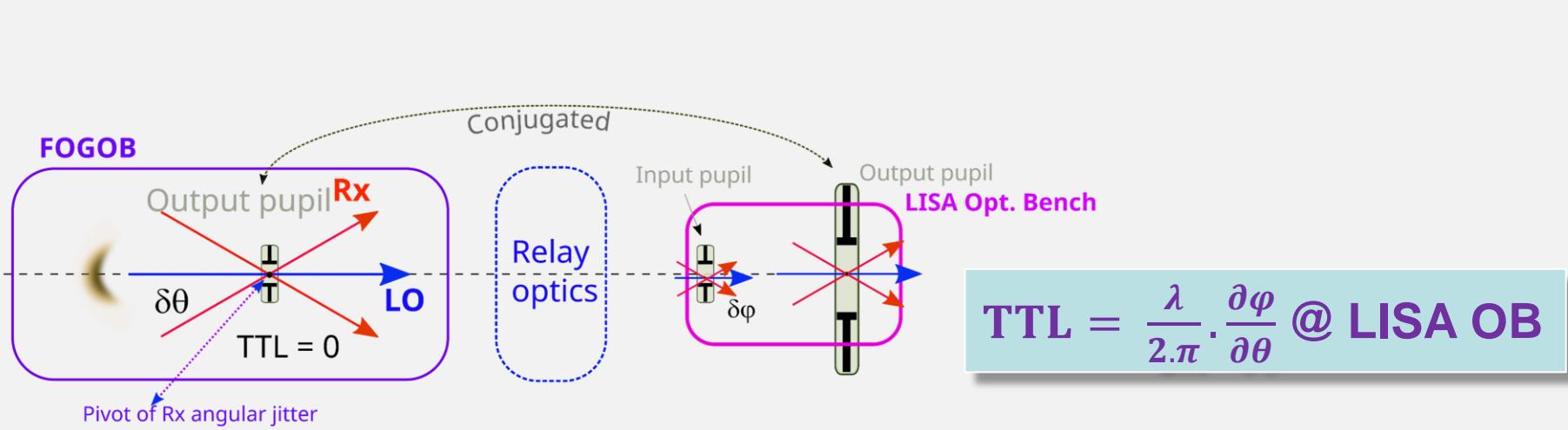


IV - FOGOB – Measurement principle

Provides Rx & LO beams, $\lambda = 1064 \text{ nm}$, $\sim 10 \text{ mW}$

Rx is tilted ($\theta_0 \times \sin(2\pi f_0 t)$) at the output pupil center

We conjugate the FOGOB pupil with the LISA OB pupil



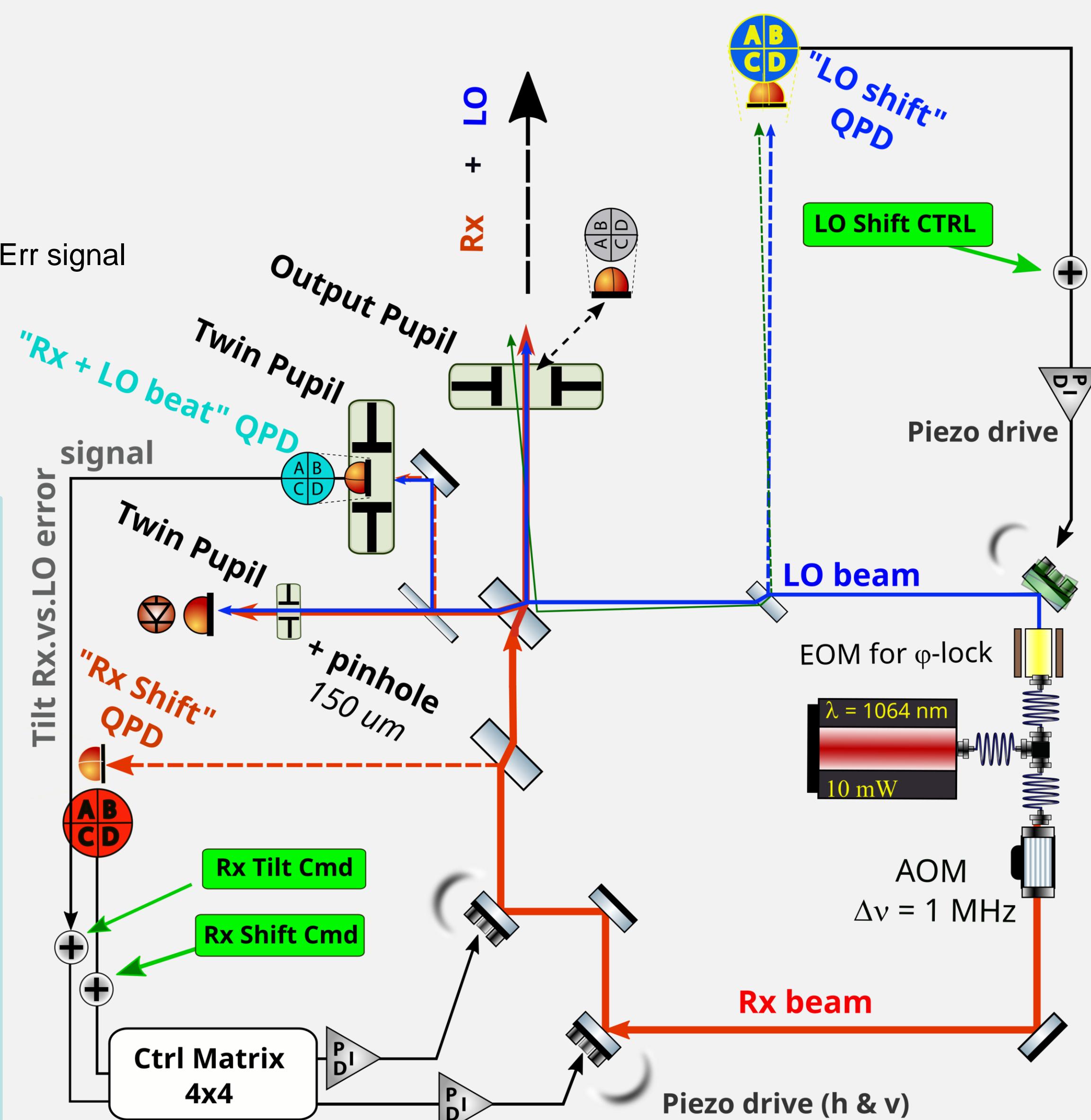
Specification: $\text{Rx} = (\theta_0 \sim 150 \mu\text{rad}) \times \sin(2\pi \cdot \text{few Hz} \cdot t)$, Pivot point centring accuracy $< 15 \mu\text{m}$, TTL @ FOGOB pupil accuracy $< 10 \mu\text{m}/\text{rad}$, over days. Std(TTL) $< 10^{-7} \text{ m}/\text{rad}$ for few minutes trends

Rx flattop intensity profile

V - FOGOB demonstrator - Detection scheme

Heterodyne detection scheme, data of interest: $\phi = \text{Rx-to-LO } 1 \text{ MHz beat phase}$

- Detection @ Output pupil, with a Quadrant Photo-Detector (QPD) delivers: residual "piston" $= \sum_{i=1 \dots 4} \phi_i$
 - Detection @ Twin output pupil, with a QPD delivers: Tilt Rx-wrt-LO, $\theta = \sum_{i=1 \dots 4} \pm \phi_i$
 - Detection @ Twin output pupil, with a pinhole Single Element PhotoDiode (SEPD), centered @ pupil, delivers: Rx-vs-LO phase lock Err signal
- TTL = piston @ $f_0 / \theta @ f_0$ meter/radian

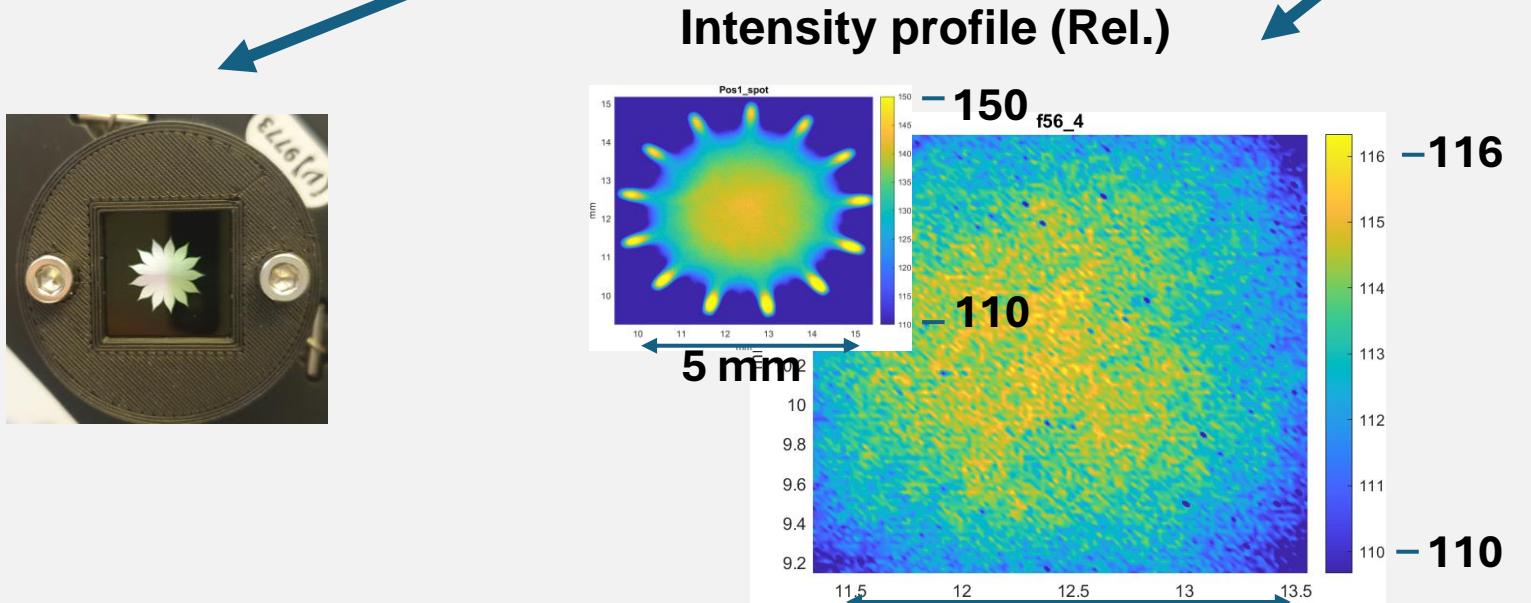


VI - FOGOB demonstrator - Flattop generation / Beam alignment Ctrl / Mechanical Stability

Flat Top intensity profile (Rx beam)

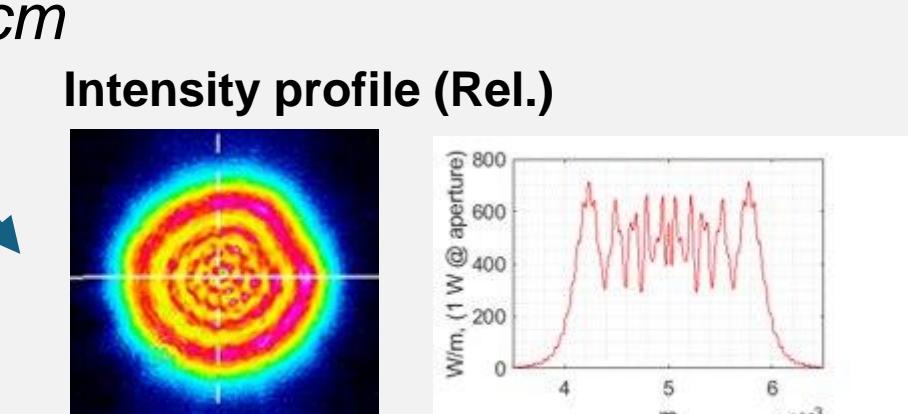
Goal: mimic a plane wave over a 2.5 mm diam. pupil. The pupil is located $\sim 80 \text{ cm}$ away from the source

Setup: SM fiber collimated using a 30 cm lens & apodizatio for diffraction mitigation (transmissive mask), detection @ 0.8 m



Would have been an Airy diffraction pattern with a naïve setup:

2.5 mm disk diffraction @ 80 cm

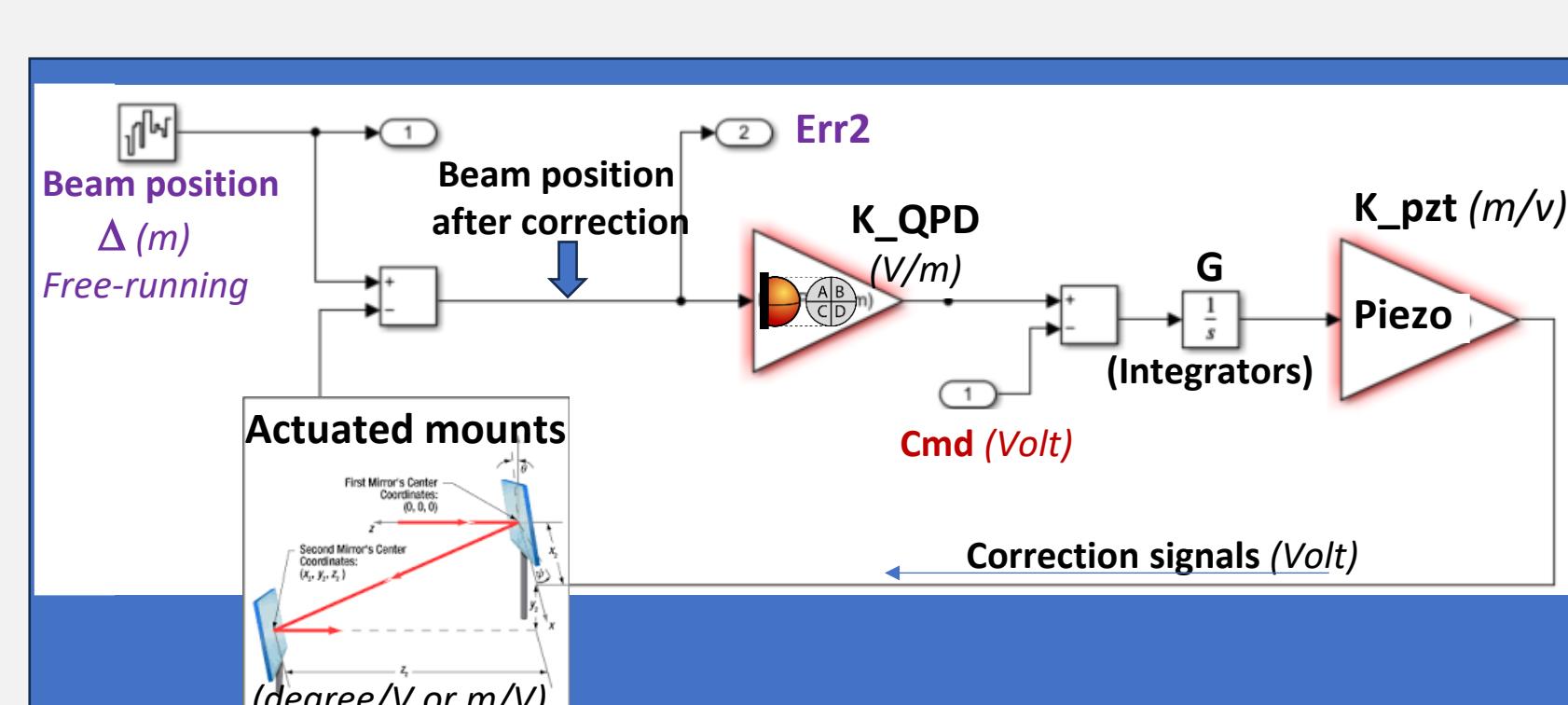


Results

- Intensity variations $< 3 \% \text{ P.V.}$ over 3 mm
- rms. intensity variations $< 1 \% \text{ rms}$
- Wavefront error $< \lambda/100 \text{ rms}$ (1064 nm)

→ Associated TTL $< 0.1 \mu\text{m}/\text{rad}$

Beam position Ctrl



$$\text{Err2} = \Delta / \text{OLTF} + \text{Cmd} / K_{\text{QPD}} \approx \text{Cmd} / K_{\text{QPD}}$$

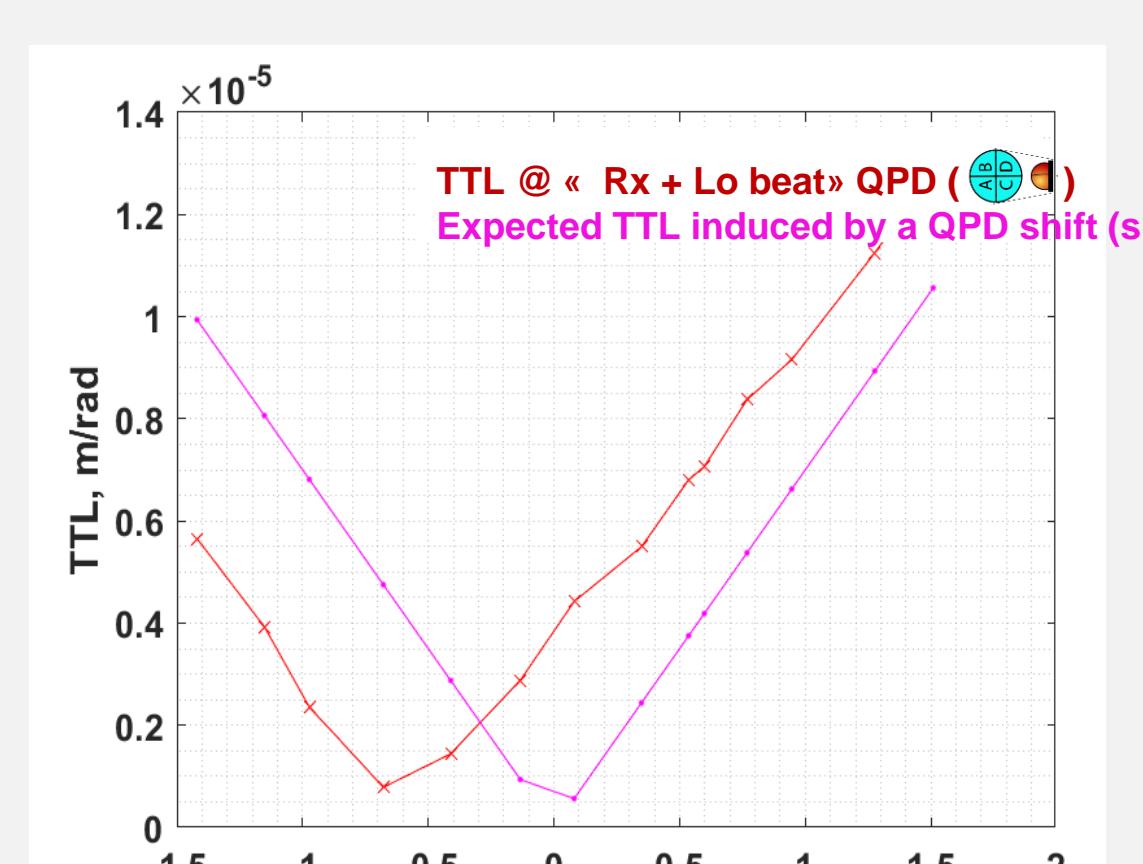
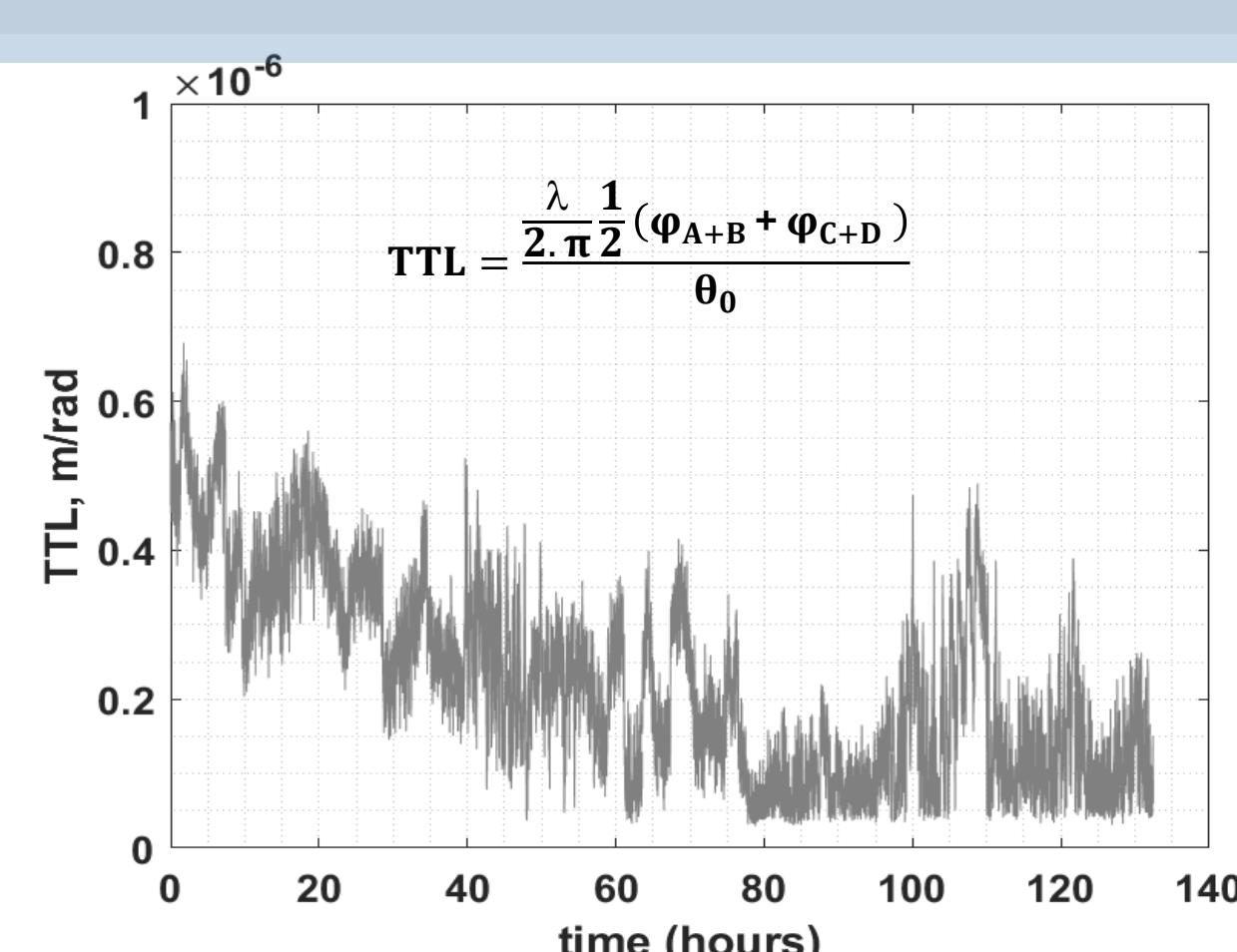
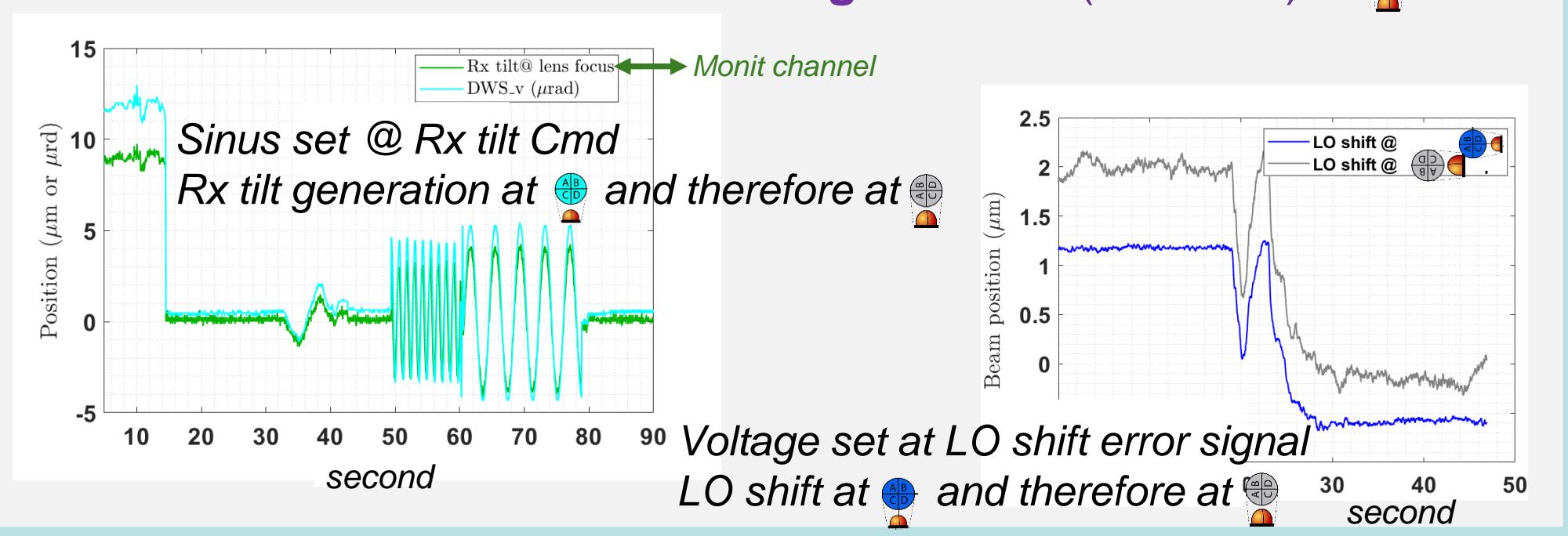
- "Err2": in-loop error signal
- $\text{OLTF} = G \cdot K_{\text{pzt}} \cdot K_{\text{QPD}}$
- $\text{OLTF} \propto 150/f$
- $K_{\text{QPD}} \propto P/w$
- "Cmd"

Open Loop Transfer Function
 f : the Fourier frequency
 w : beam waist, P : Laser power
Electronic setting

Results

- Beams position (shift & Tilt) locked at (all 3 conjugated)
- Beams tilt & shift : fine Cmd added to the servo loop error signals

→ Submicrometric & fast alignments (< 60 sec) at



VII - Conclusion

- TTL_{Meas.}⁵ accuracy $< 5 \mu\text{m}/\text{rad}$
- TTL_{Meas.}⁵ drifts $< 1 \mu\text{m}/\text{rad}$, 130 h run
- Std(TTL_{Meas.}, 60 s. data trends) $< 10^{-7} \text{ m}/\text{rad}$, 130 h run

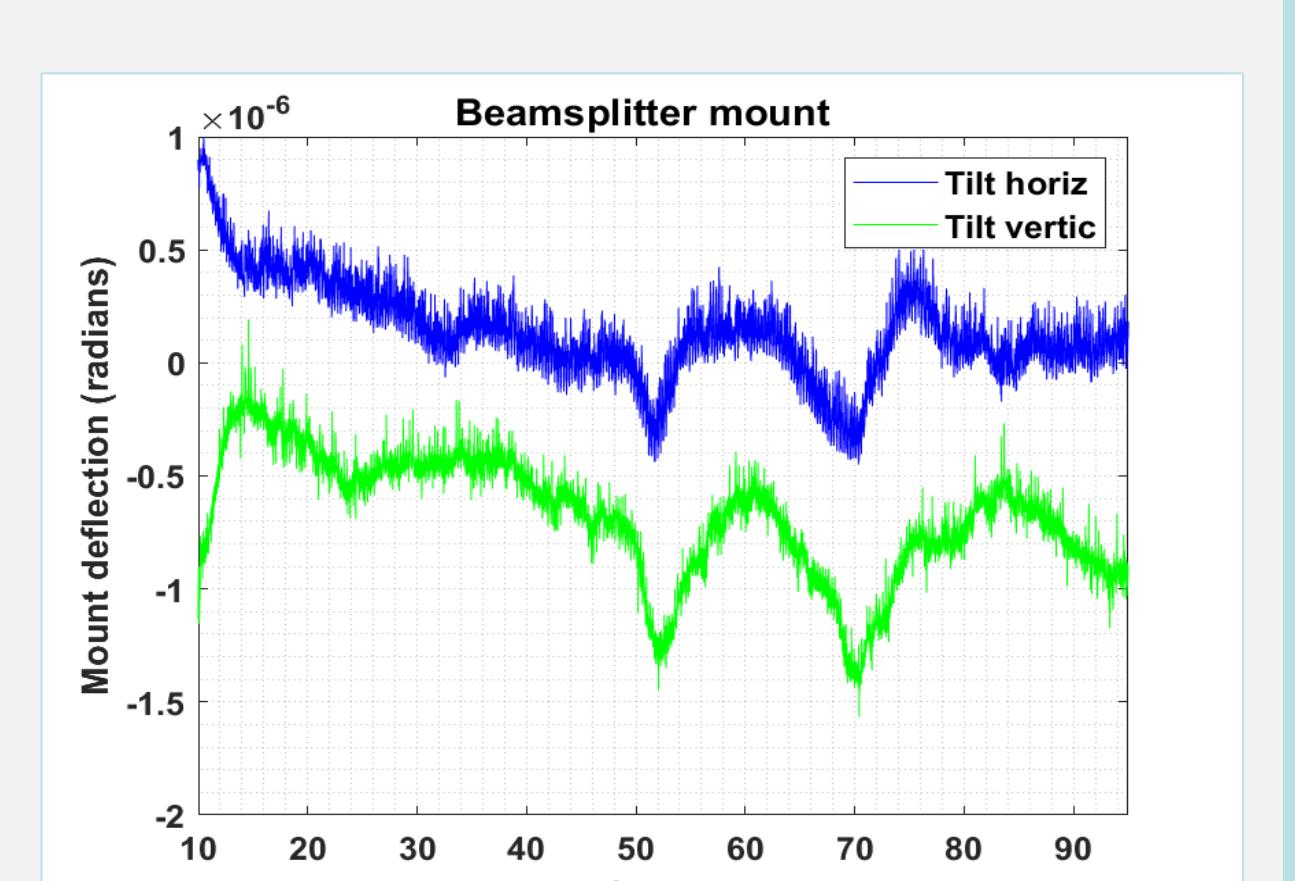
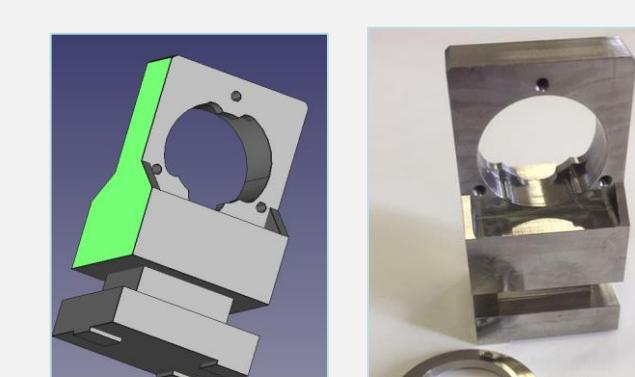
→ Compliant with the FOGOB specifications

- Sub-micrometric and straightforward beam alignments
- Operated with off-the-shelf components, in a "standard" Laboratory environment
- Missing
 - Flattop integration
 - TTL meas. @ output pupil

⁽⁵⁾ measured at the "Rx-to-LO" QPD, rather than at the output pupil

Opto-mechanical mounts stability *

Invar-based design



→ Beam deflection $< 2 \times 1.5 \mu\text{rad}$ over long term

ie 1 μm beam drift @ pupil (assuming $\approx 0.25 \text{ m}$ lever arms)