What future for European large format IR detectors?

FOCUS, Saclay December 7th 2022

Some high-level messages from talks

- Astro applications: small numbers, low flux
- > 10-yr investment (CNES, ESA, FOCUS, H2020 / LETI-IRFU-Lynred-ESO): large format, low flux. « size matters », full-chain combination of know-how; strong equipment-expertise needed
- A lot works well; some items still to be improved (QE = 0.6; RON_CDS: 70e-, not reducing as sqrt(readouts), some ROIC functional issues)
- Already usable for astronomy (CAGIRE, not very demanding in DC, RON, but interest in high dynamic and small persistence)
- Complementary technos→ complementarity SFD-CTIA; on-going work for LmAPD (widen bandgap → reduce DC)
- Current astronomical use: HxRG!!! (> 20 for ground and space each) + Geosnap + LmAPD
- ESA needs analysis, from proposals (selection from 50-60 / calls,) and long term consultation process

Some high-level questions

- Know-how: status, expected future actions? Identified show-stoppers?
- Infrastructure/expertise: test platforms, evolution? Complementarity?
- Situation wrt programmatic issues, astronomical use cases?
- Position in workd-wide context ?
- Development plan?