

# CO Intensity Mapping for Capturing the Star-formation History in the Early Universe

김준한 Junhan Kim ([junhan@kaist.ac.kr](mailto:junhan@kaist.ac.kr))

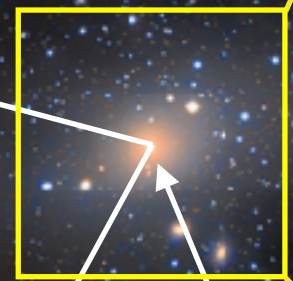
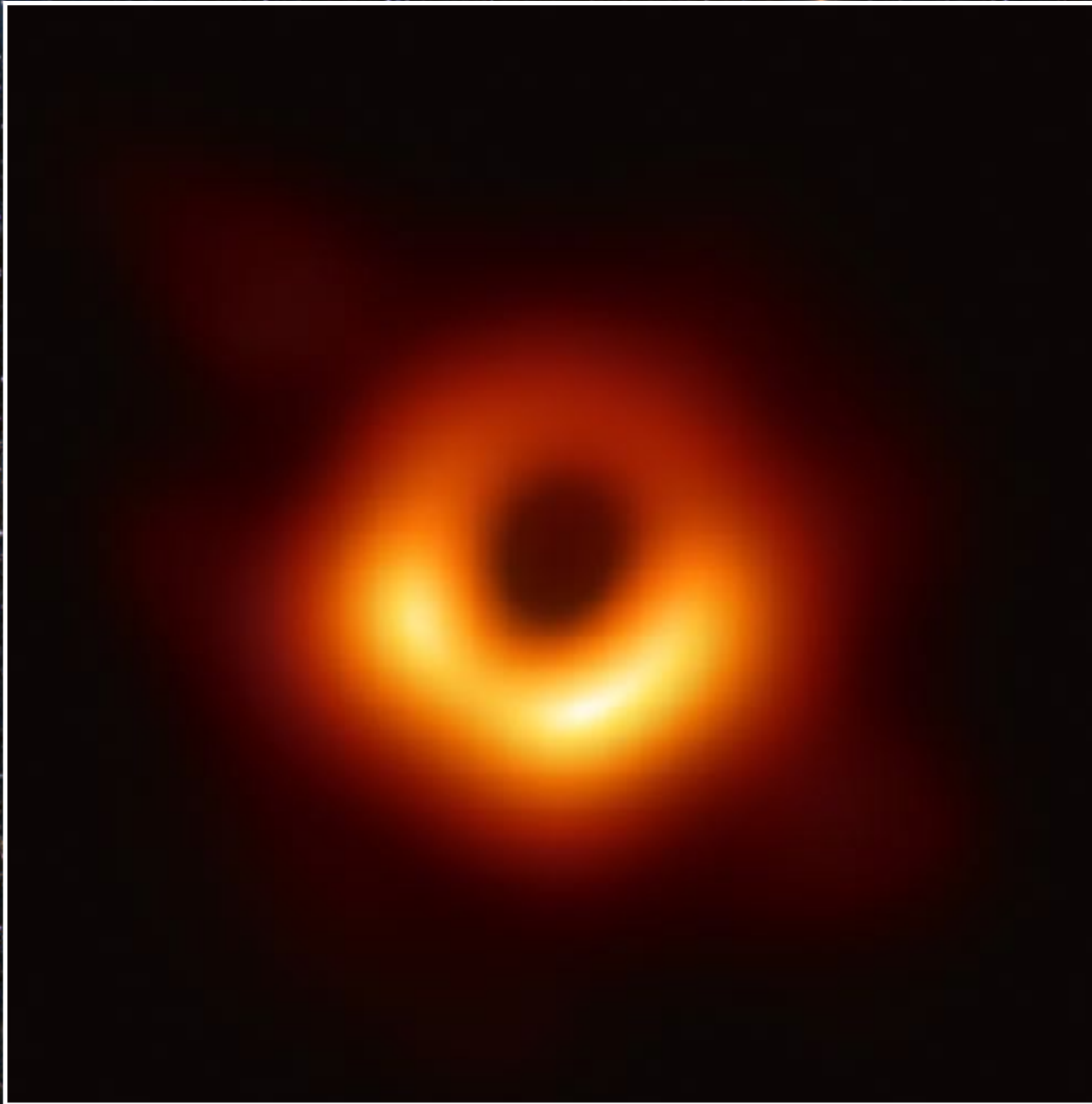
Department of Physics

Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST)

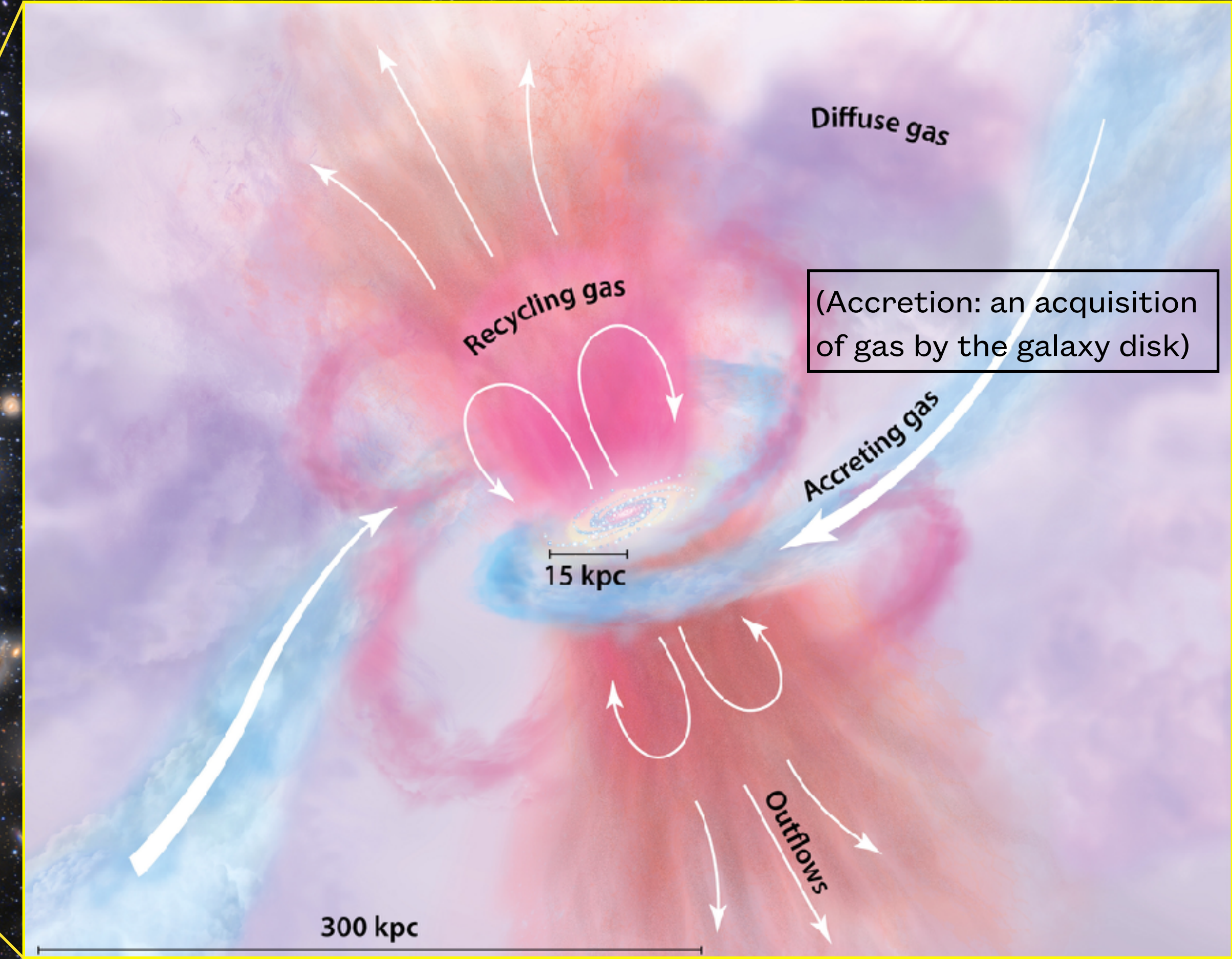


Circumgalactic/Intergalactic/Intracluster medium

Supermassive black holes



M87



Tumlinson, Peeples, Werk (2017)

# Studying Baryonic Flow Across the Cosmic Scales Using *Radio and Millimeter Wavelength Experiments*

Event Horizon Telescope VLBI:  
Supermassive black holes



South Pole Telescope  
(South Pole Station, Antarctica)

Line-intensity mapping with CO:  
Spatial distribution of galaxies



COMAP (Owens Valley  
Radio Observatory, California)

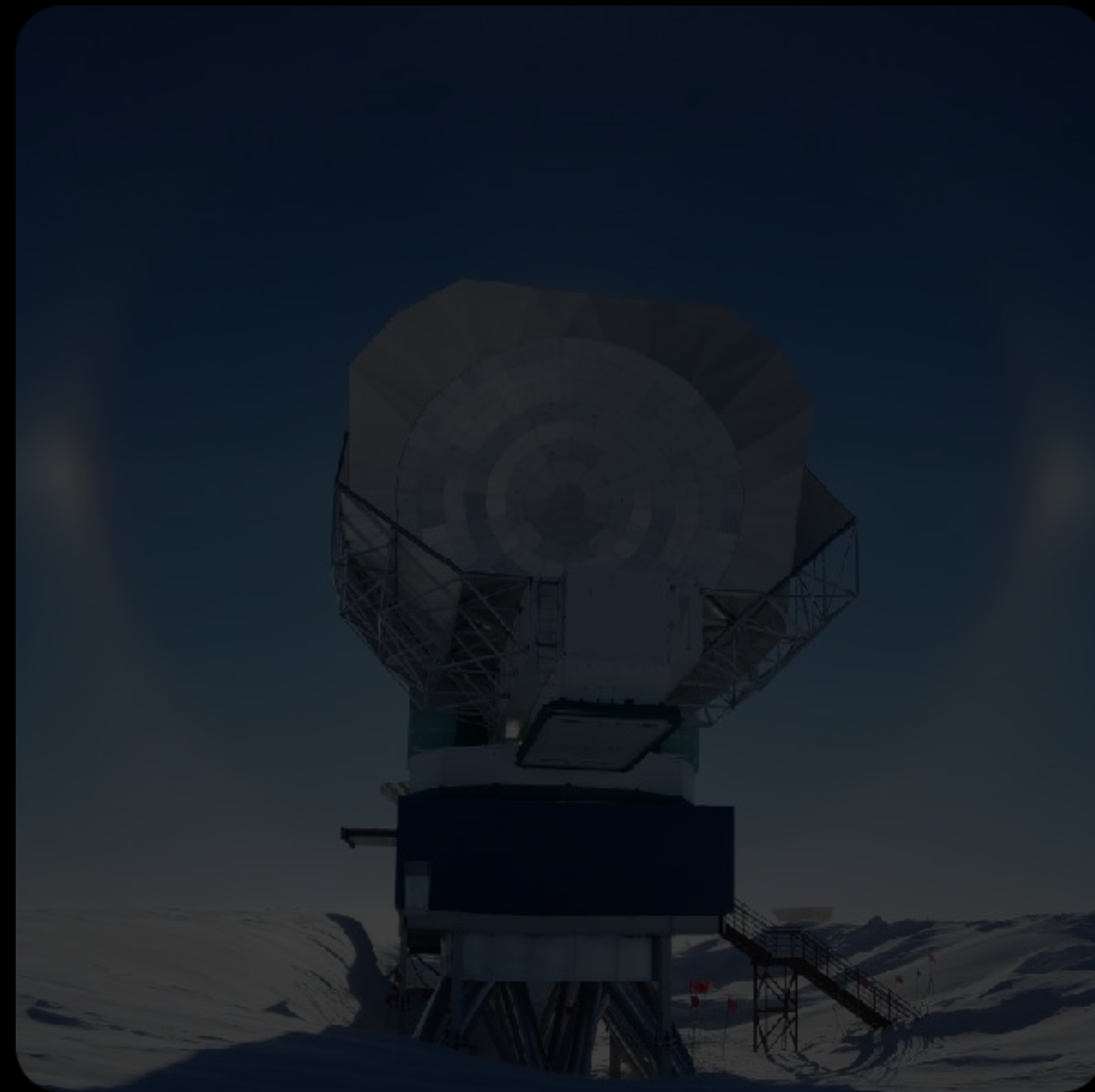
Sunyaev-Zel'dovich effect:  
Circumgalactic & intracluster media



Leighton Chajnantor Telescope  
(Mauna Kea, Hawaii → Atacama desert, Chile)

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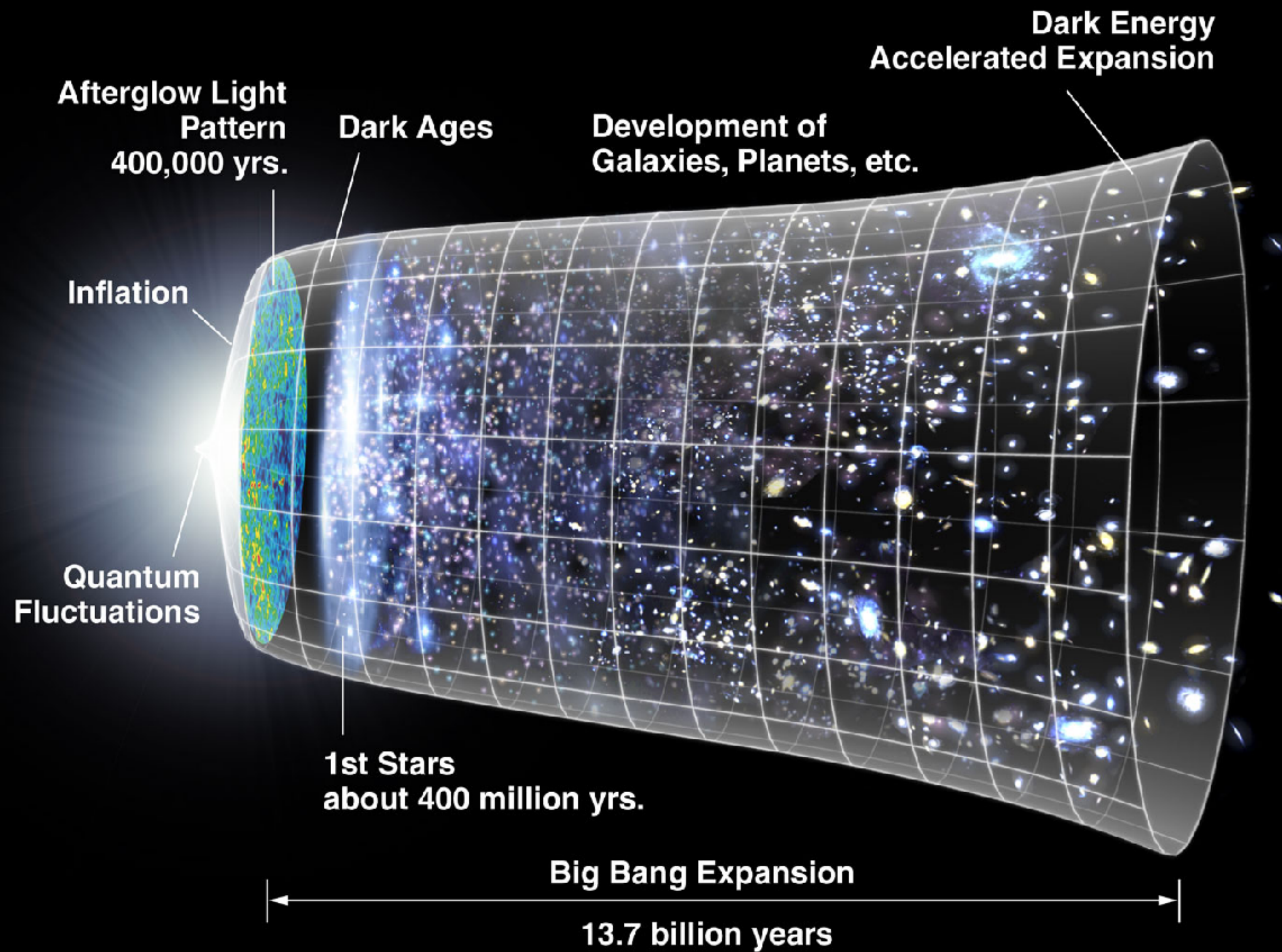


COMAP (Owens Valley  
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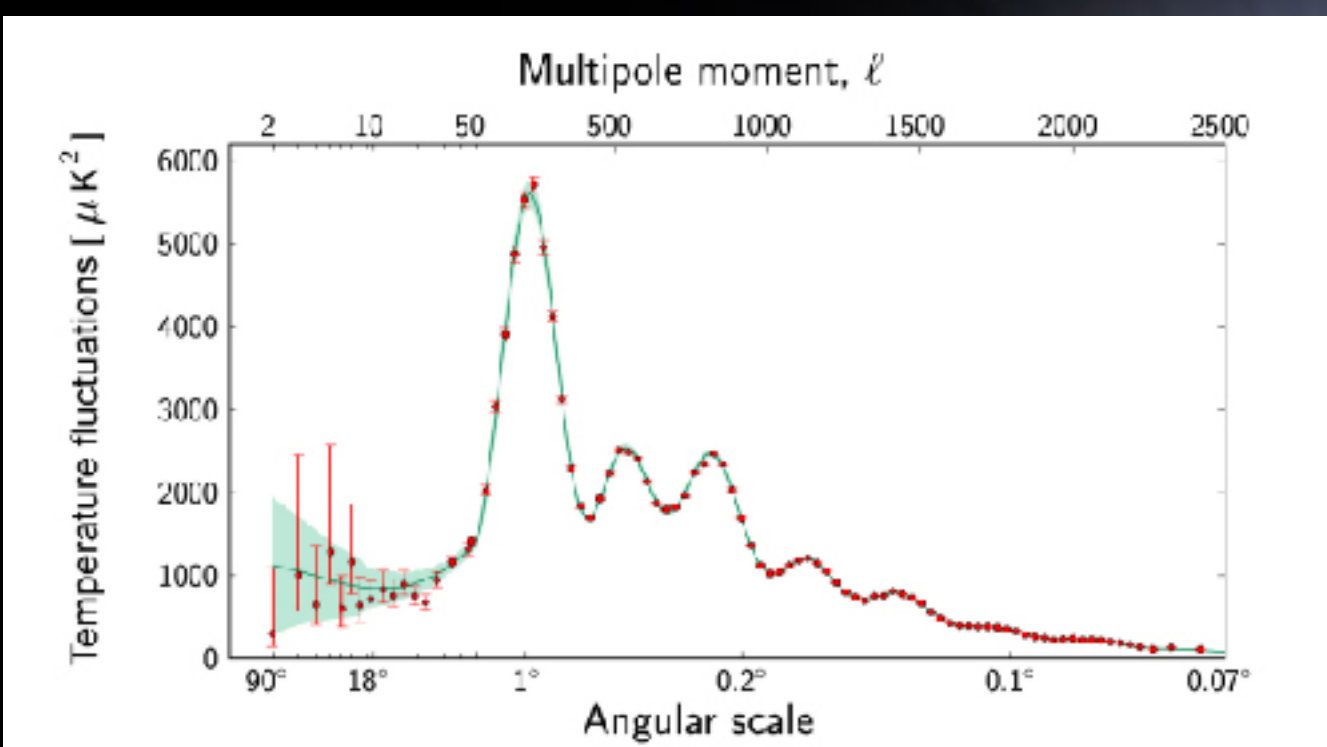
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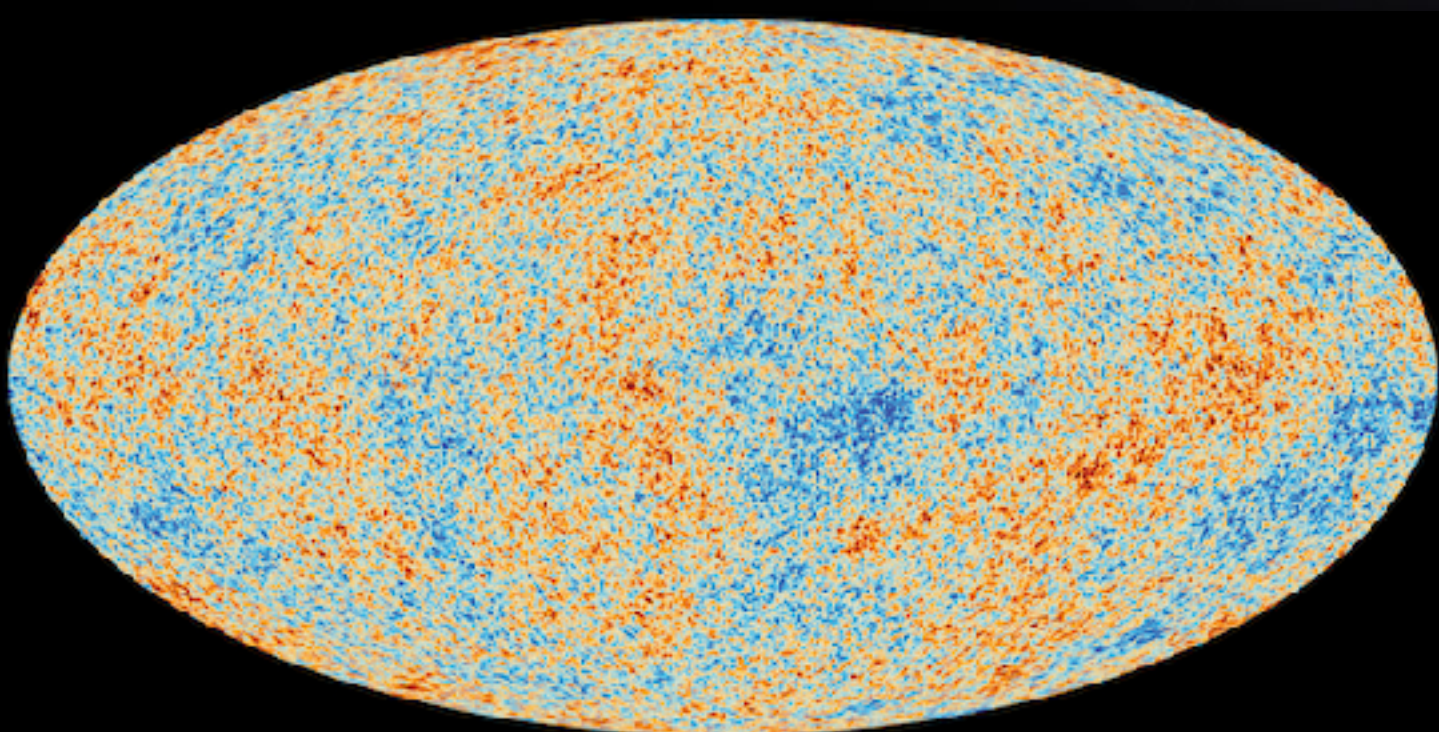


Afterglow Light  
Pattern  
400,000 yrs.



Fluctuations

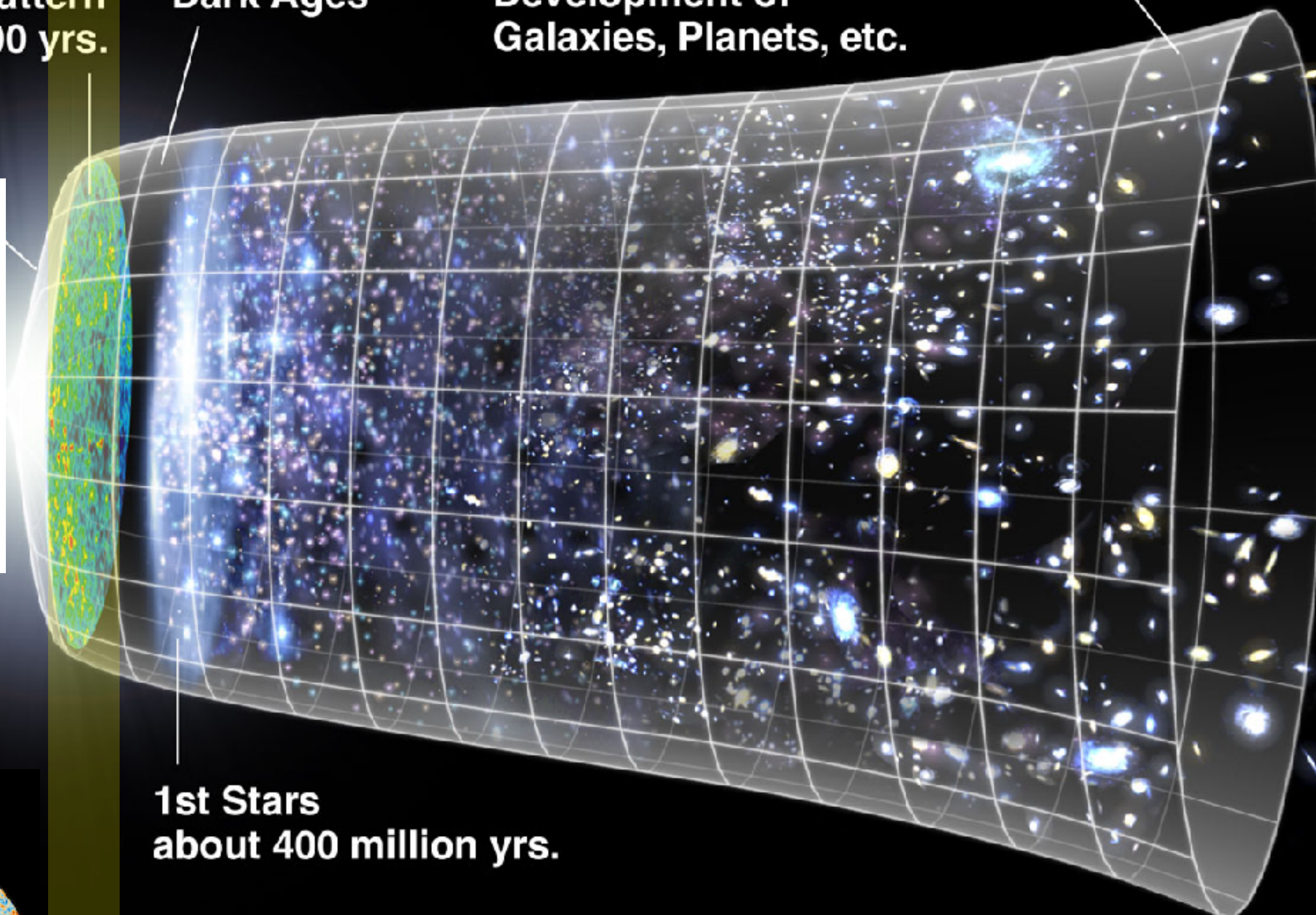
Cosmic Microwave  
Background (CMB)



Dark Ages

Development of  
Galaxies, Planets, etc.

Dark Energy  
Accelerated Expansion



1st Stars  
about 400 million yrs.

Big Bang Expansion

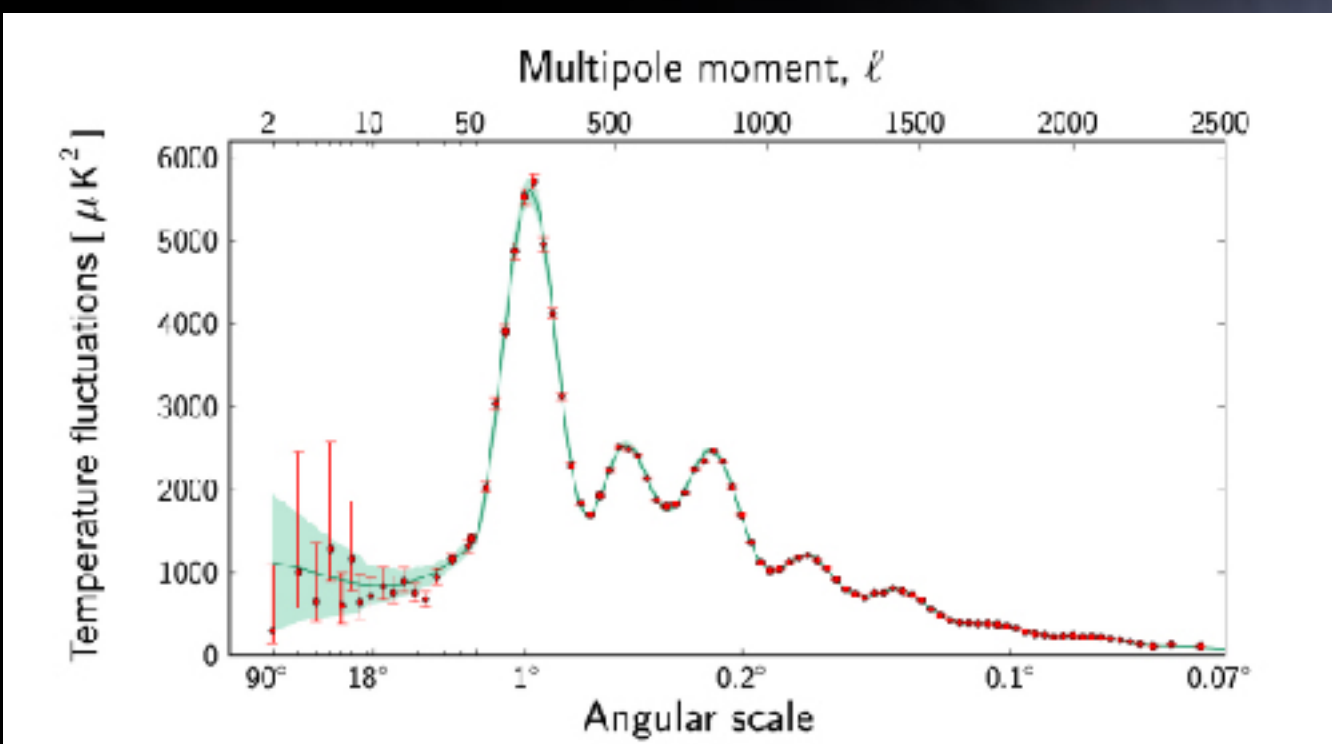
13.7 billion years

Afterglow Light  
Pattern  
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Dark Ages

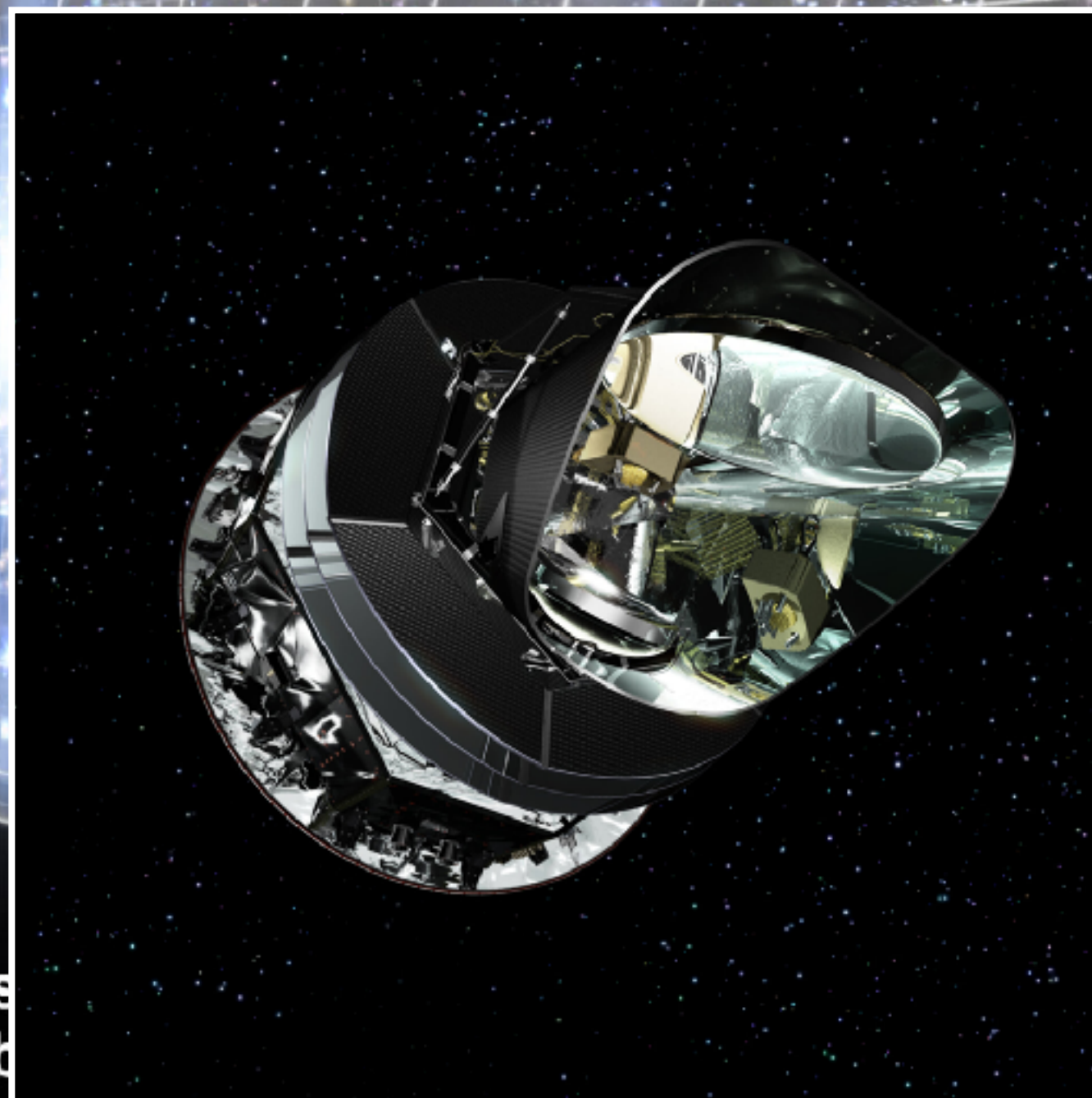
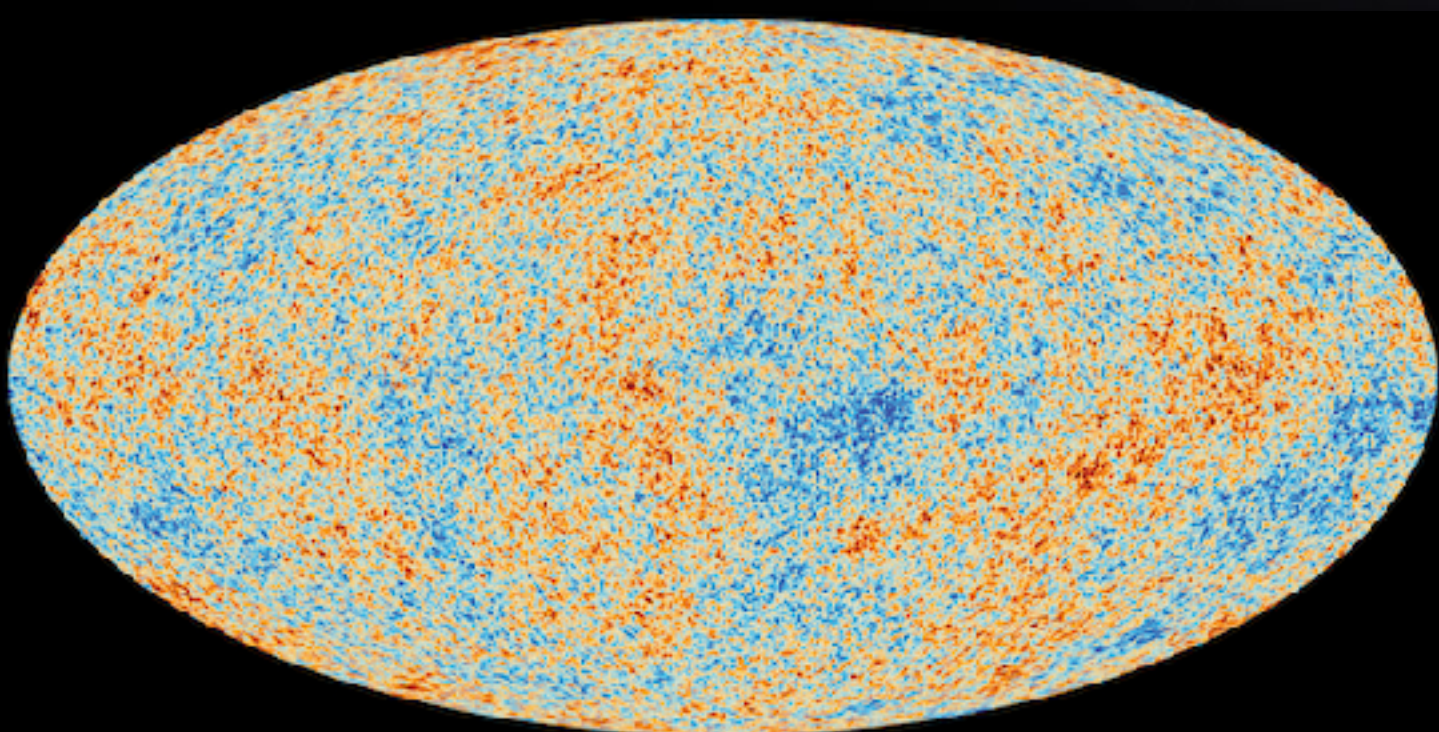
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Accele



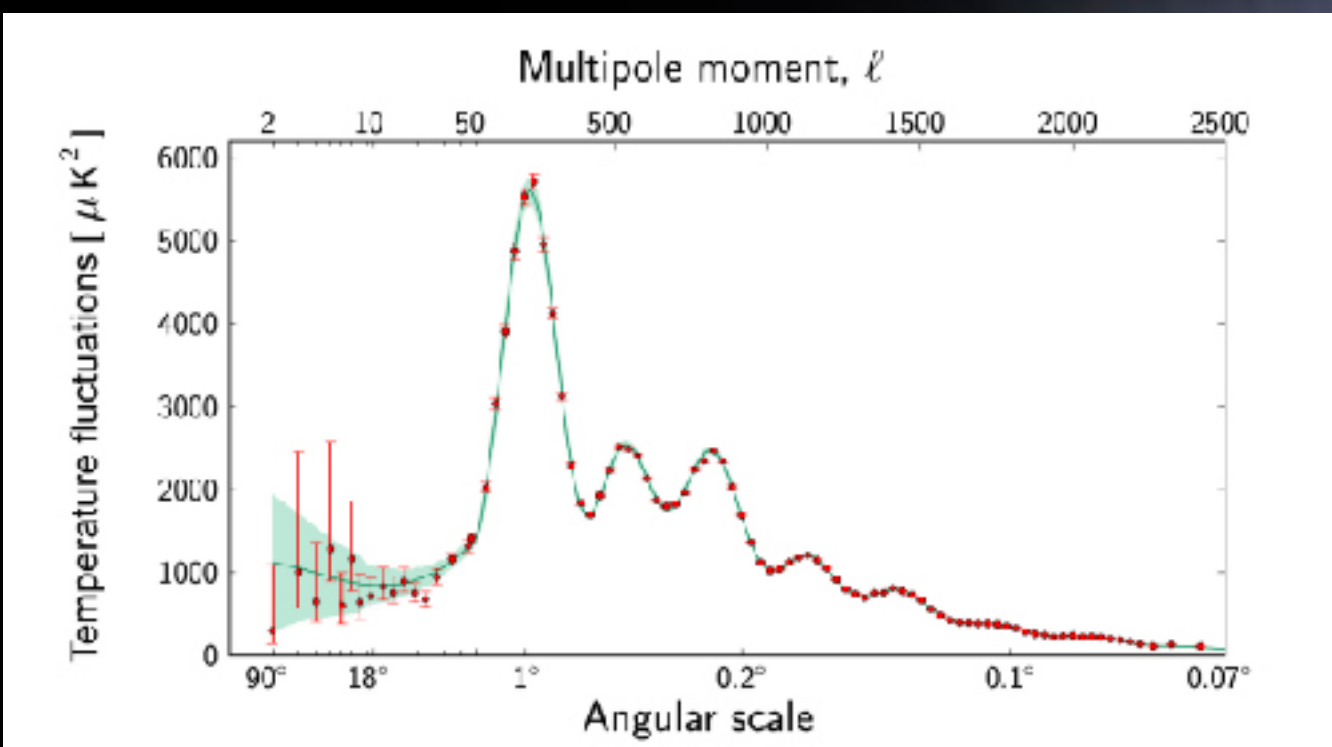
Fluctuations

Cosmic Microwave  
Background (CMB)



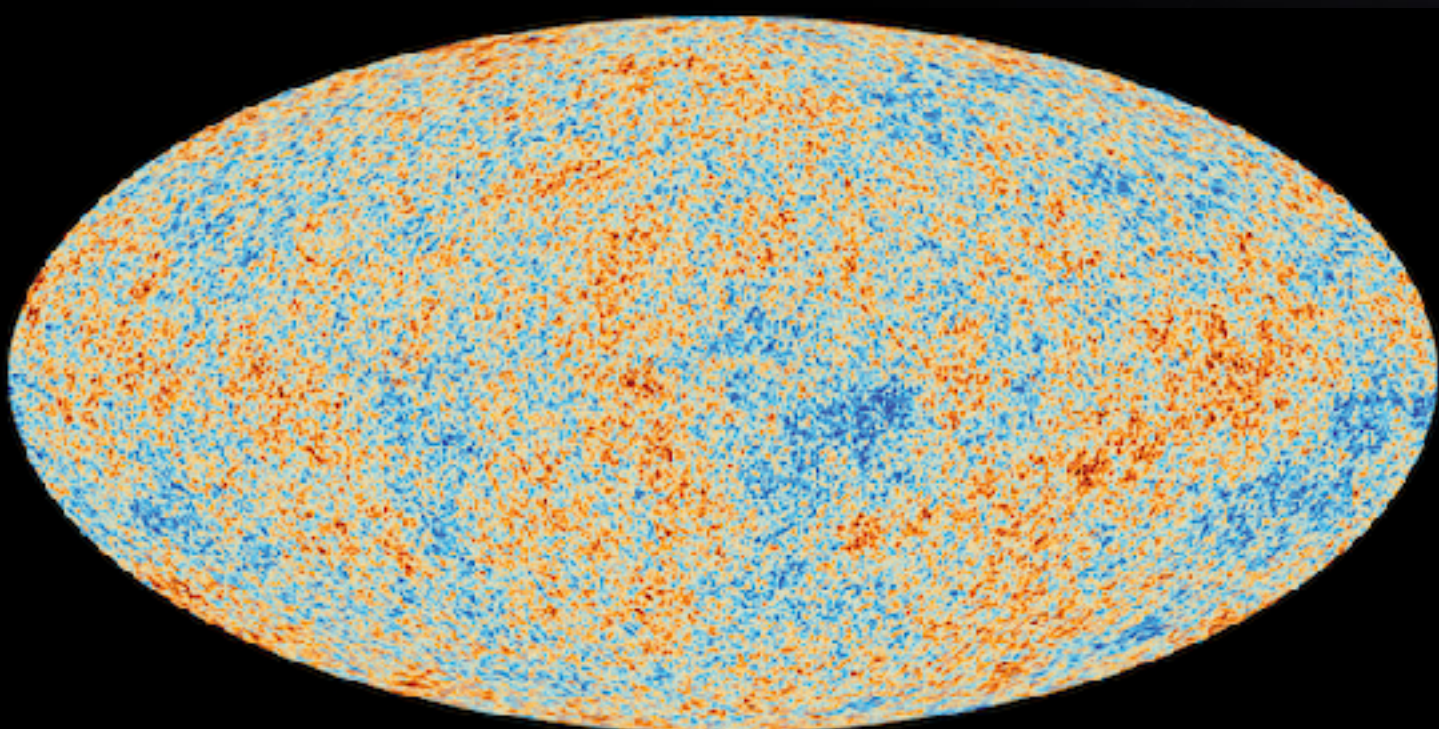
Big Bang Expansion  
13.7 billion years

Afterglow Light  
Pattern  
400,000 yrs.



Fluctuations

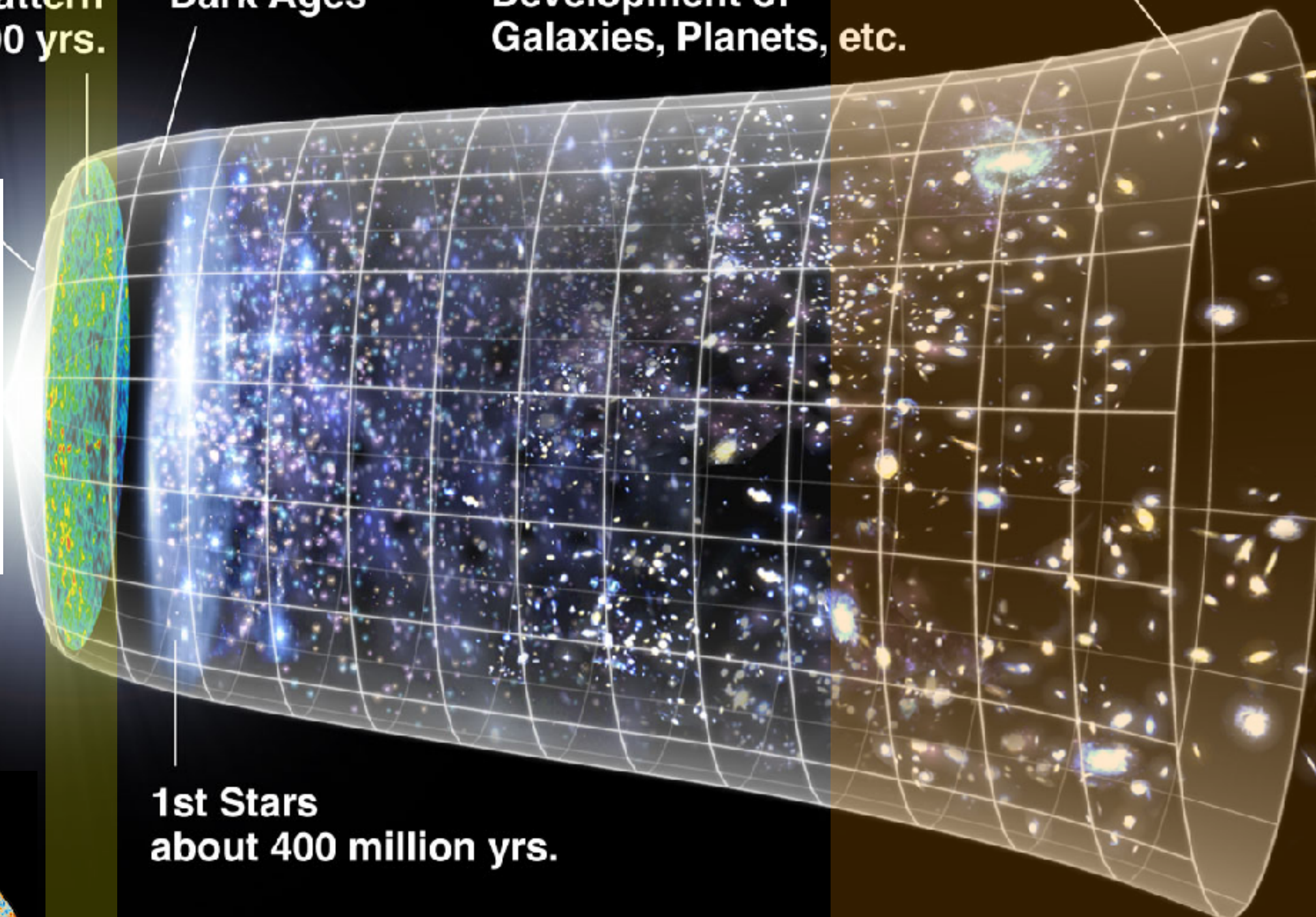
Cosmic Microwave  
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Dark Ages

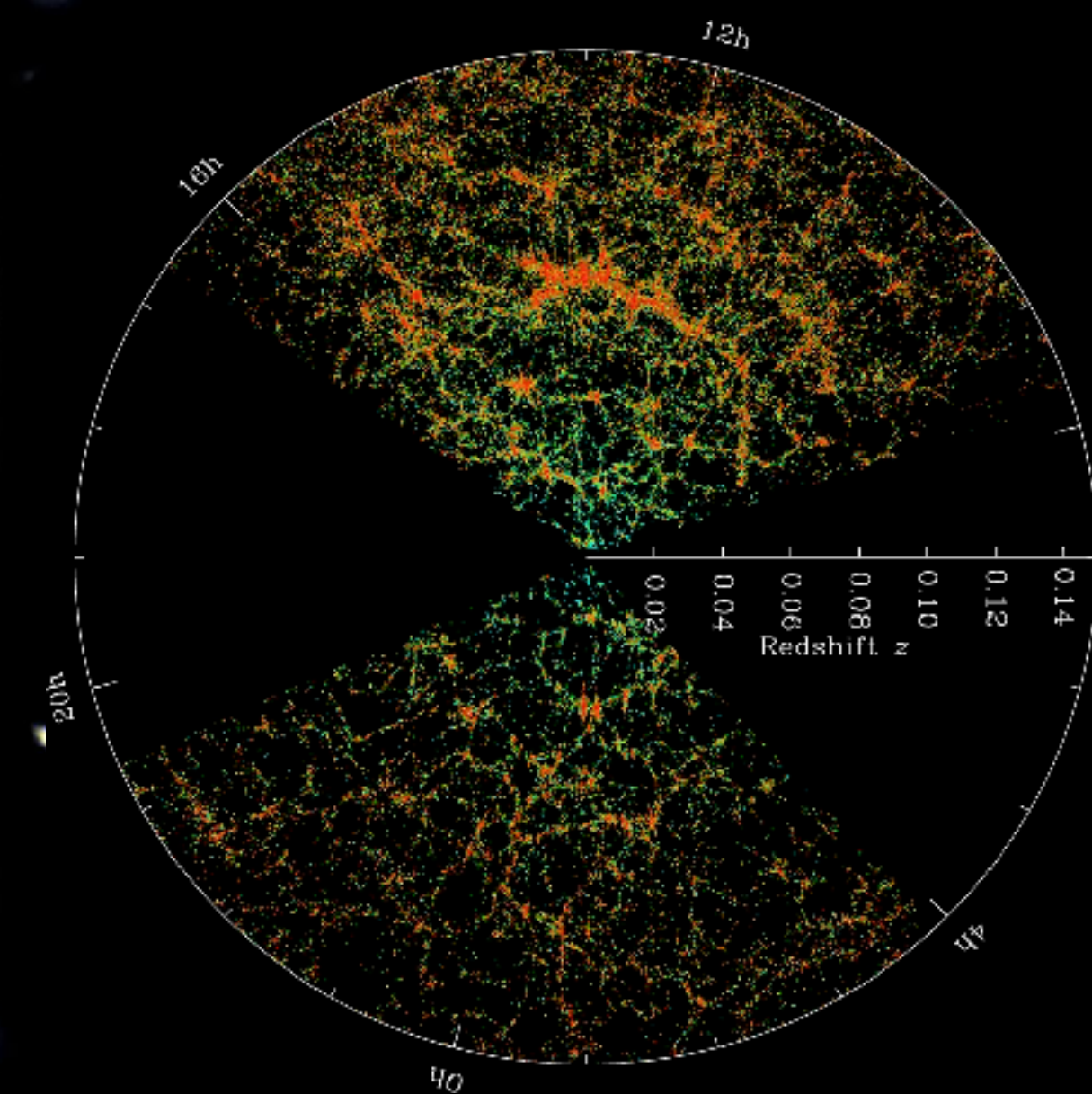
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Dark Energy  
Accelerated Expansion



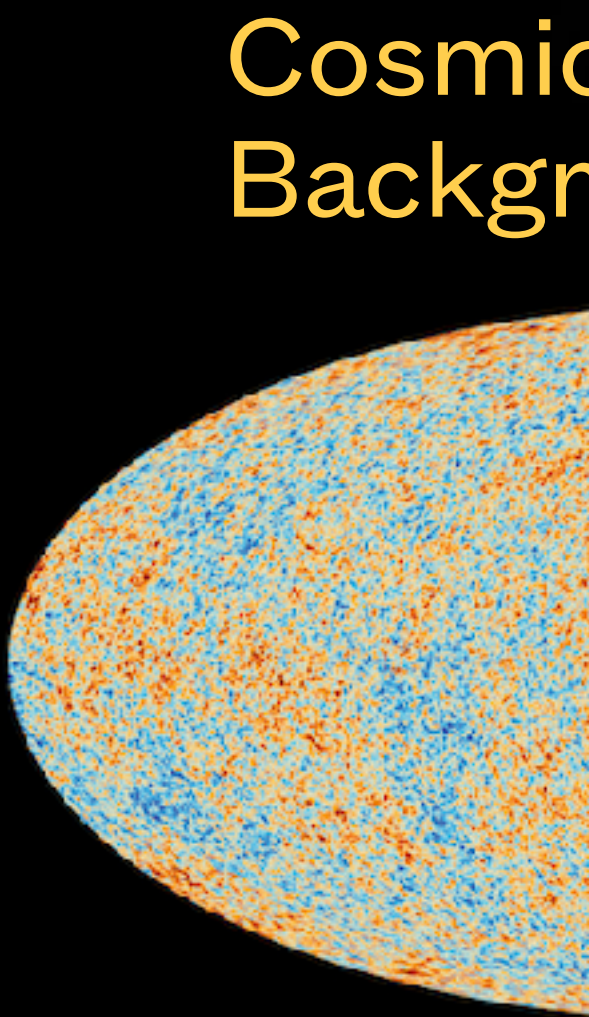
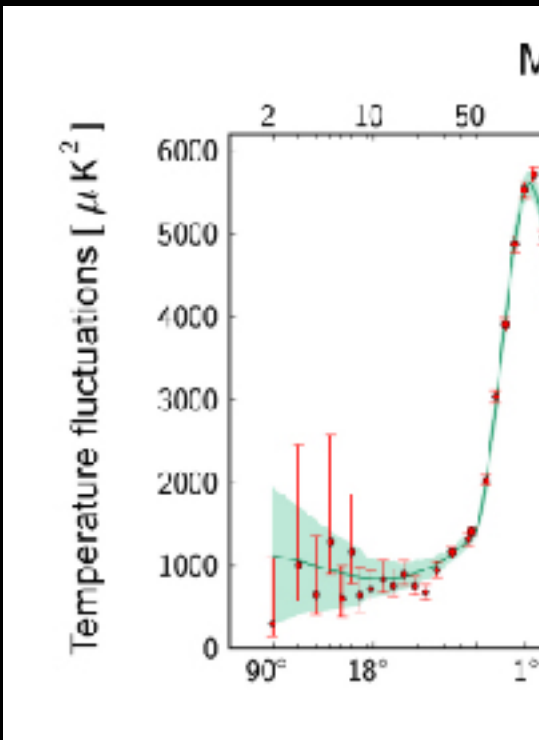
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Big Bang Expansion  
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Galaxy surveys  
 $z = 0-1+$

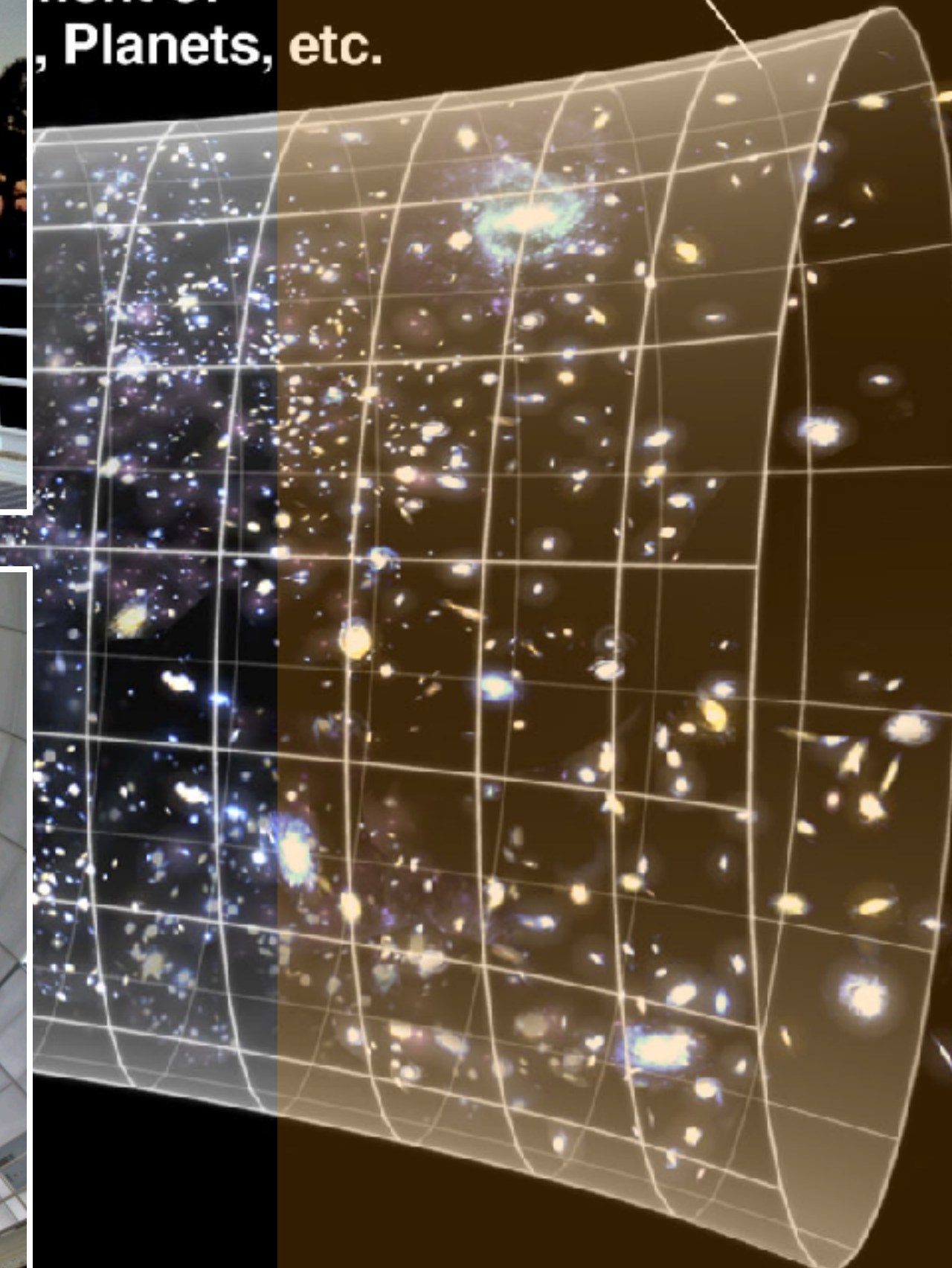




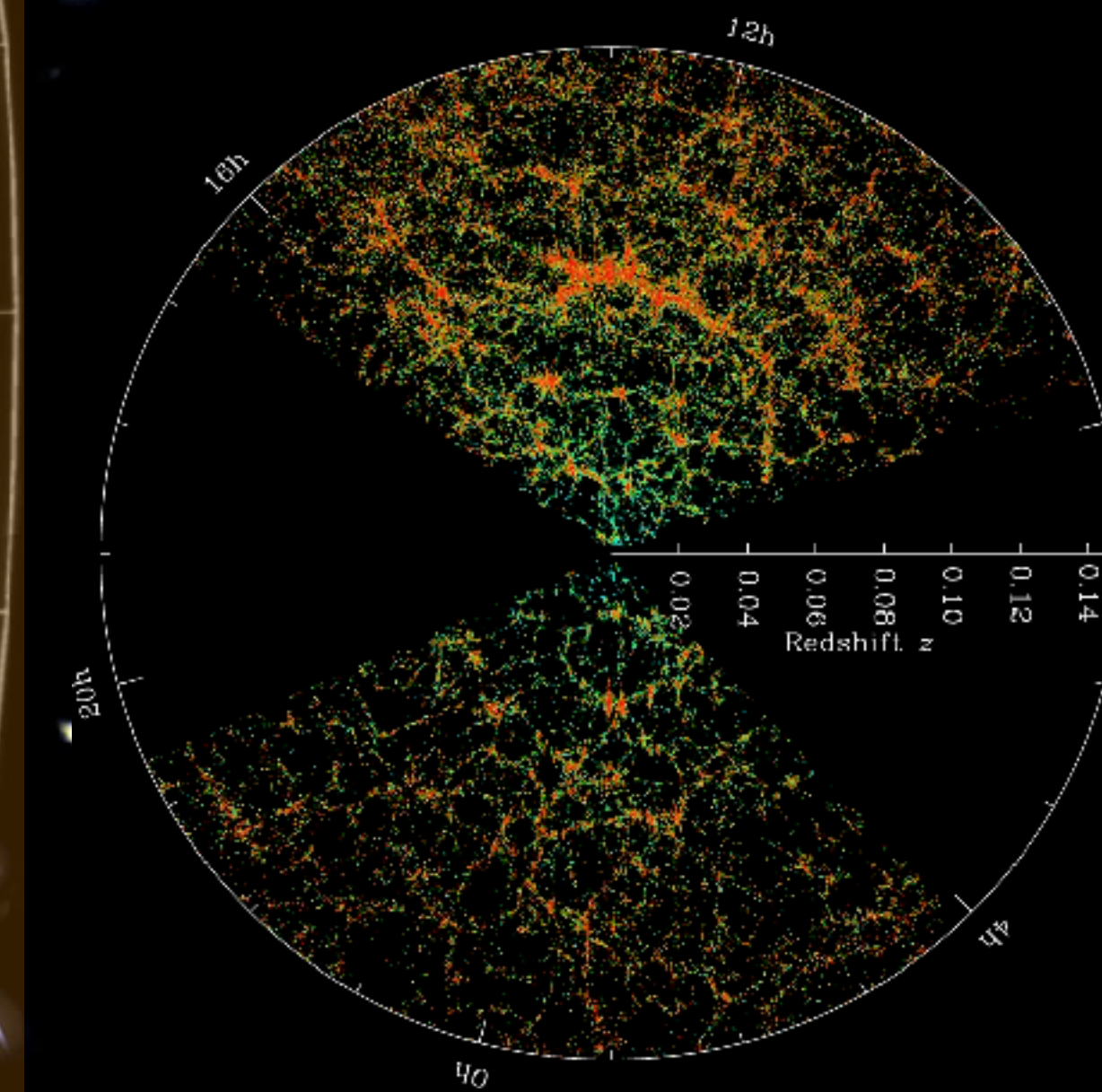
Cosmic  
Backgr

Dark Energy  
Accelerated Expansion

ment of  
, Planets, etc.

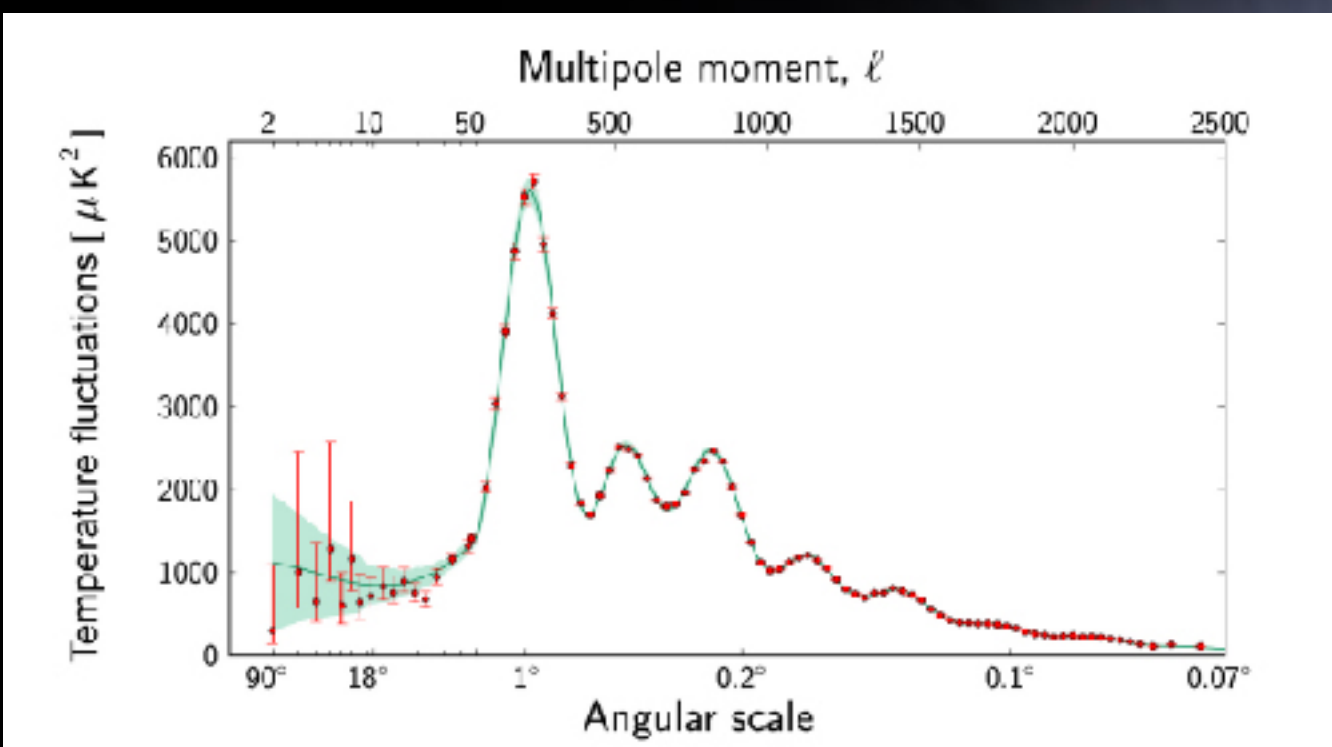


Expansion  
in years

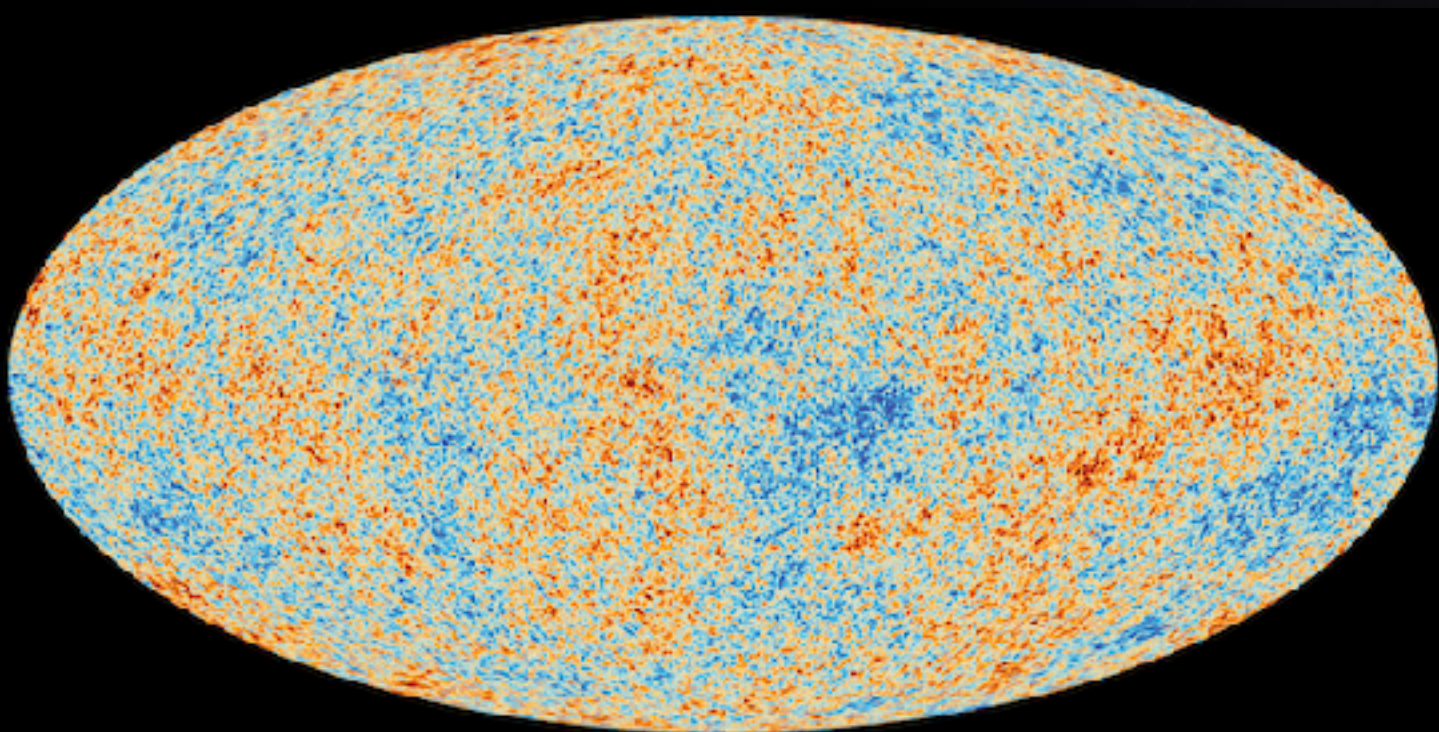


Galaxy surveys  
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Afterglow Light  
Pattern  
400,000 yrs.



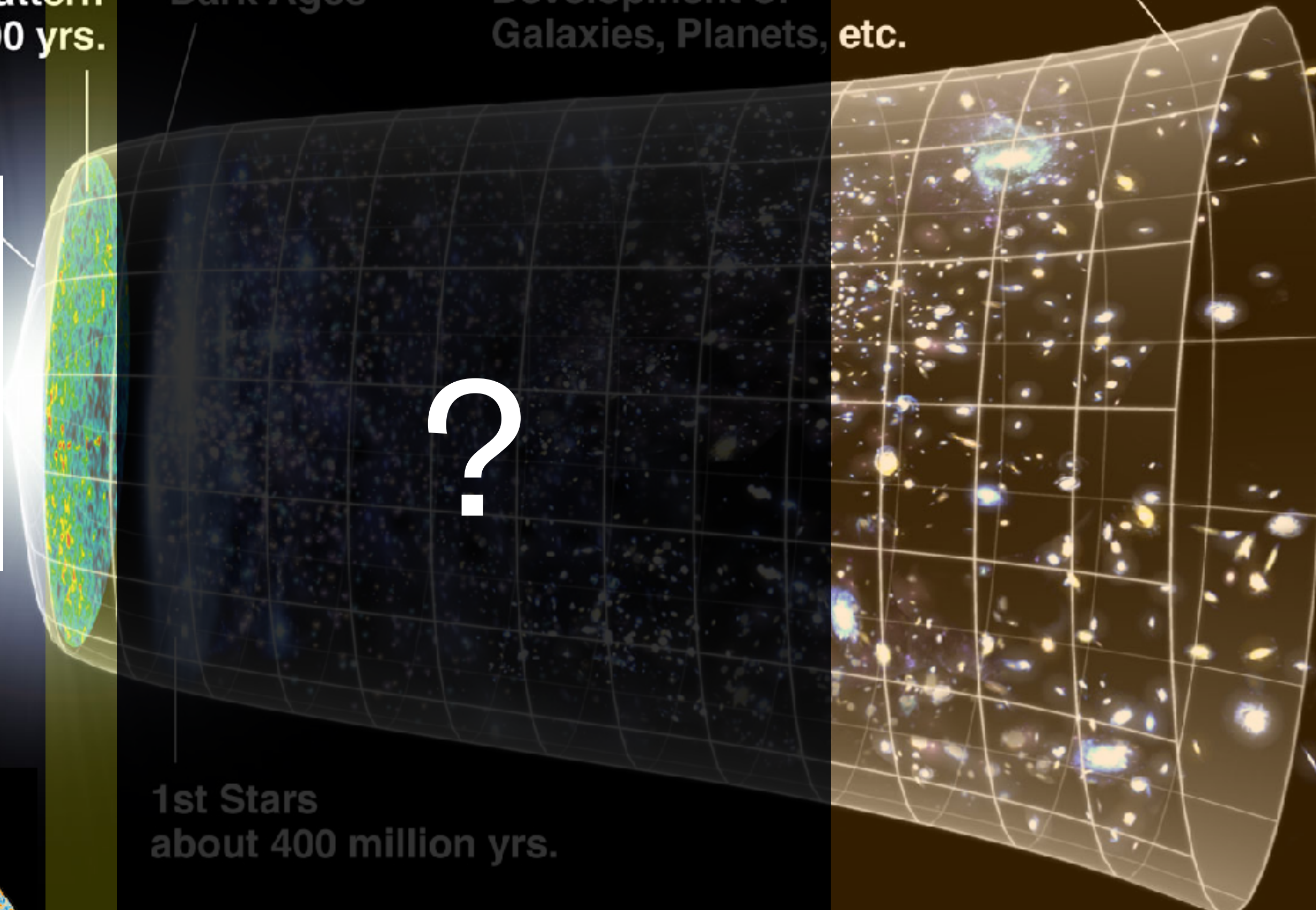
Fluctuations  
Cosmic Microwave  
Background (CMB)



Dark Ages

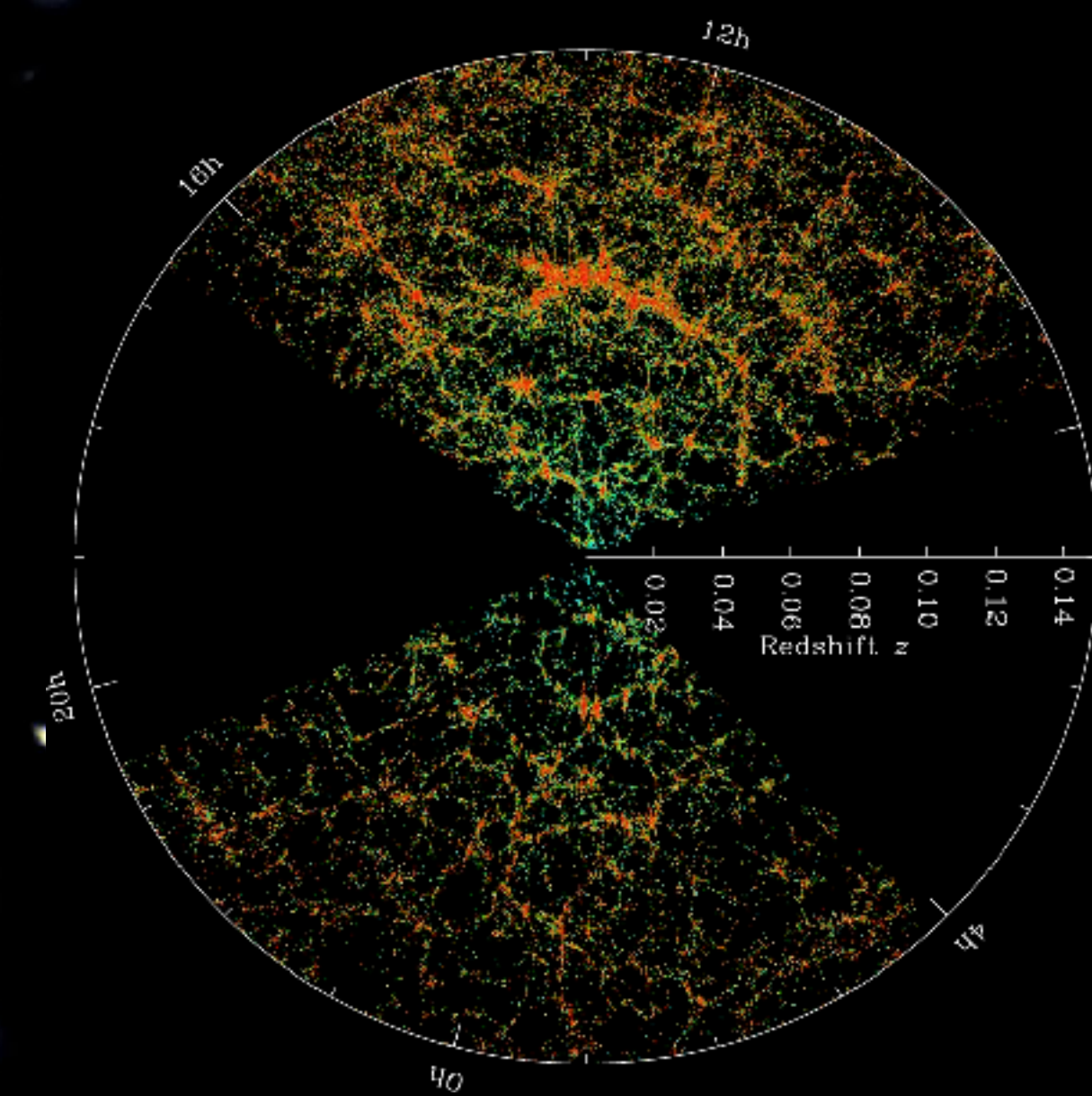
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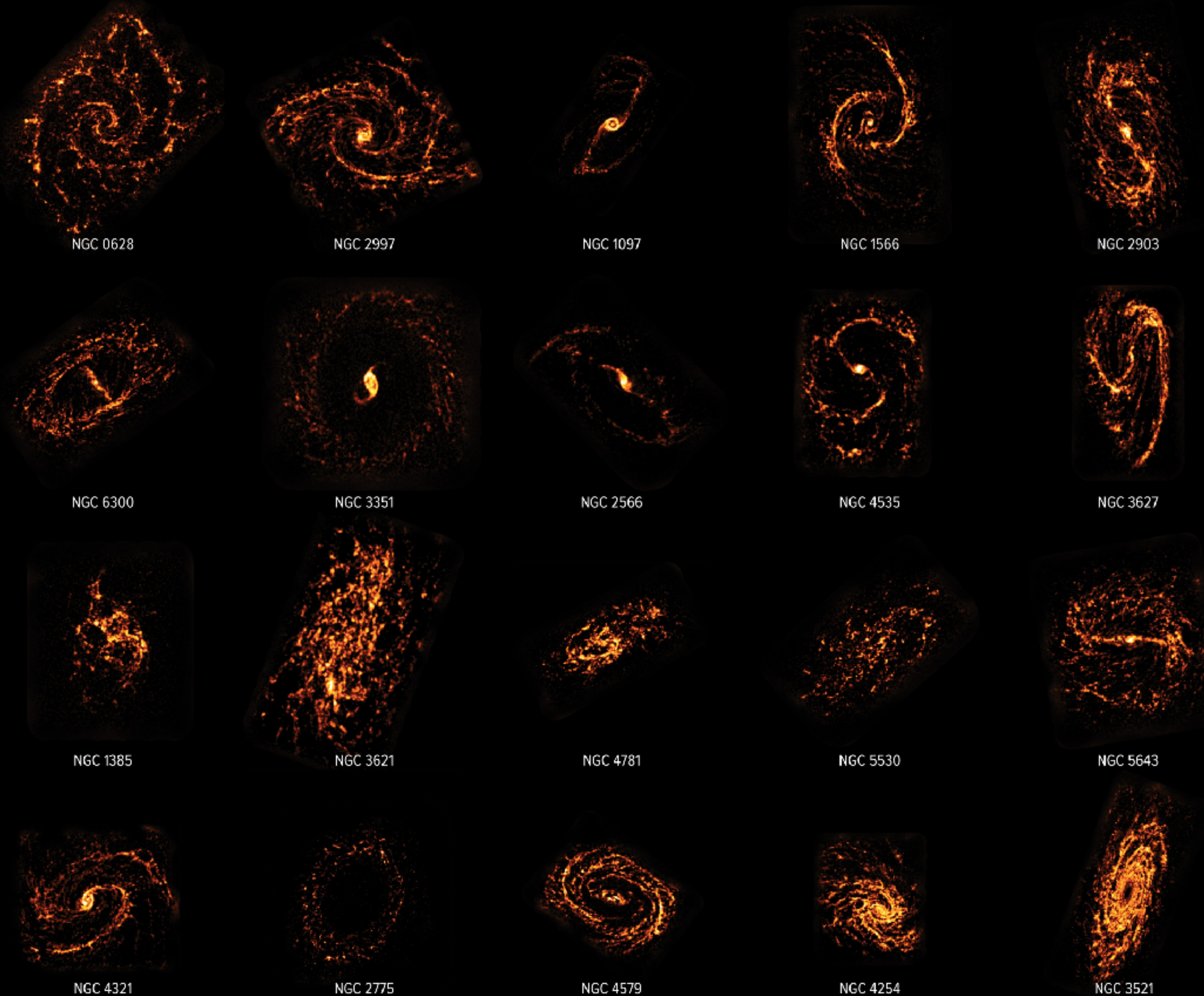
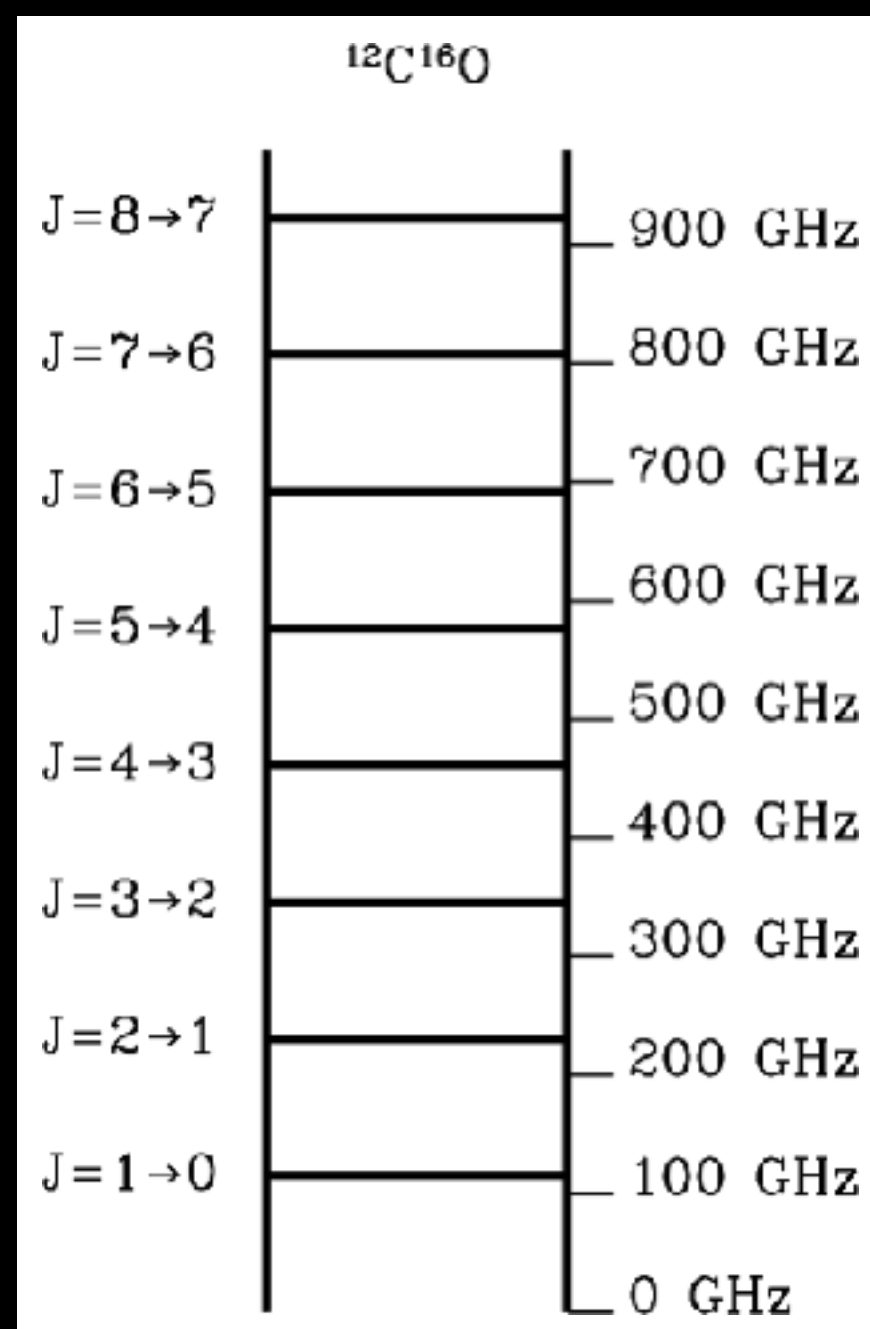
Big Bang Expansion  
13.7 billion years



Galaxy surveys  
 $z = 0-1+$

# Carbon Monoxide (CO)

- Tracer of cold molecular gas, the fuel for star formation.
- The second most abundant molecule in the gas phase.
- Line emissions at multiples of ~115 GHz.



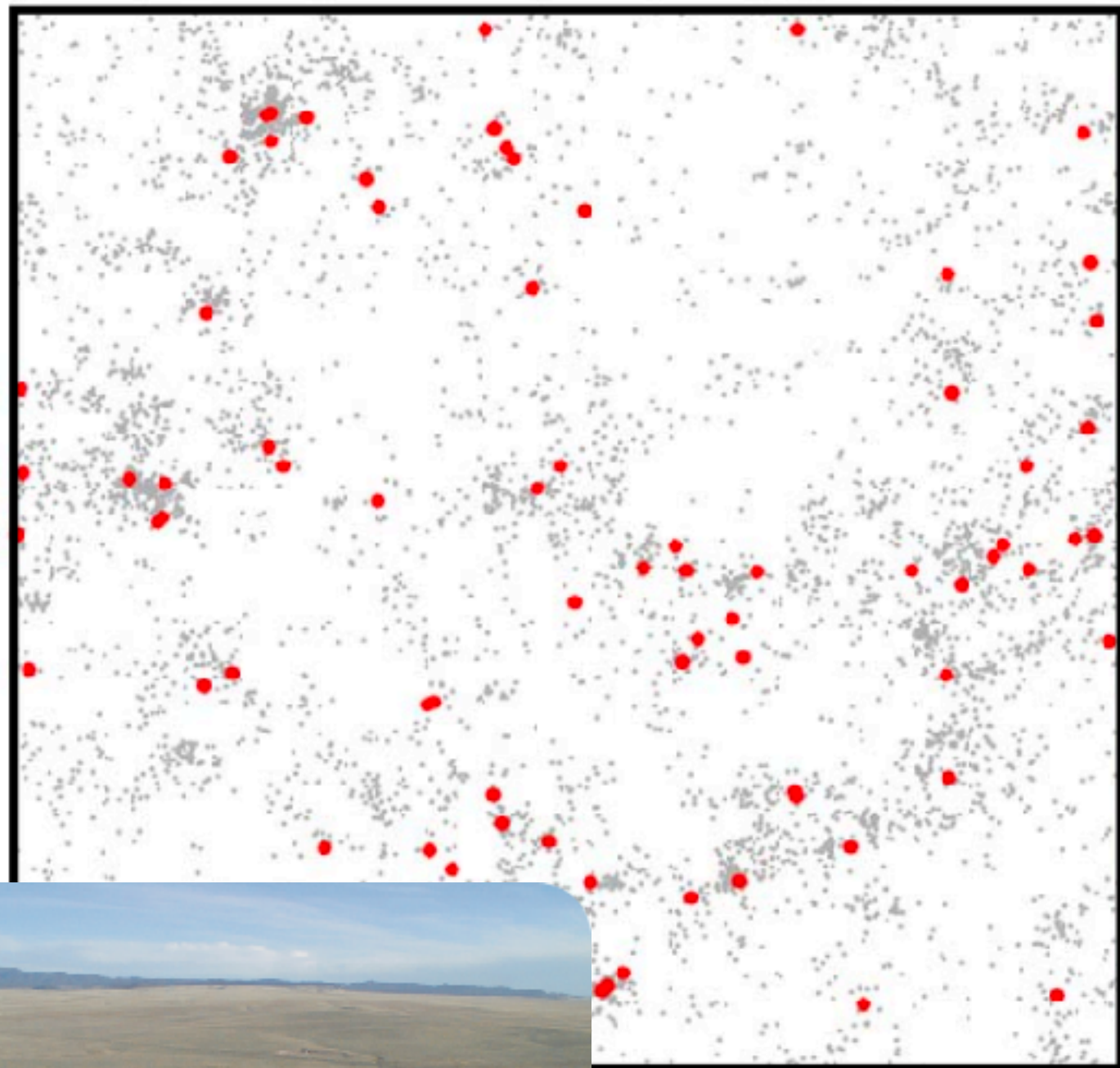
# Line Intensity Mapping (LIM, ‘선 세기 매핑’)

- LIM is sensitive to the “aggregate line emission from all galaxies in the line of sight”.

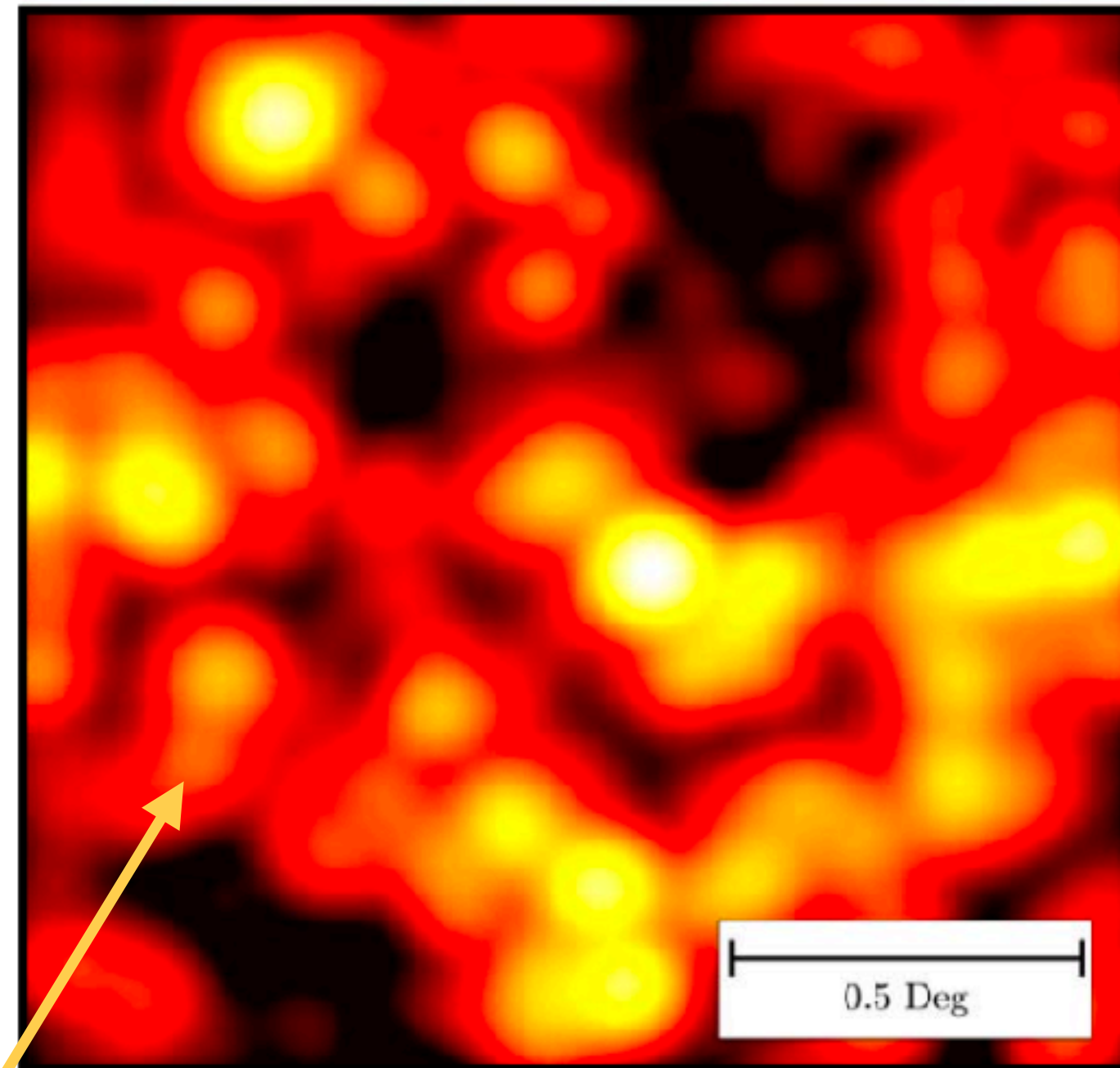
CO(1-0) at  $z \sim 3$

(convolved with  $\sim 5$  arcmin beam)

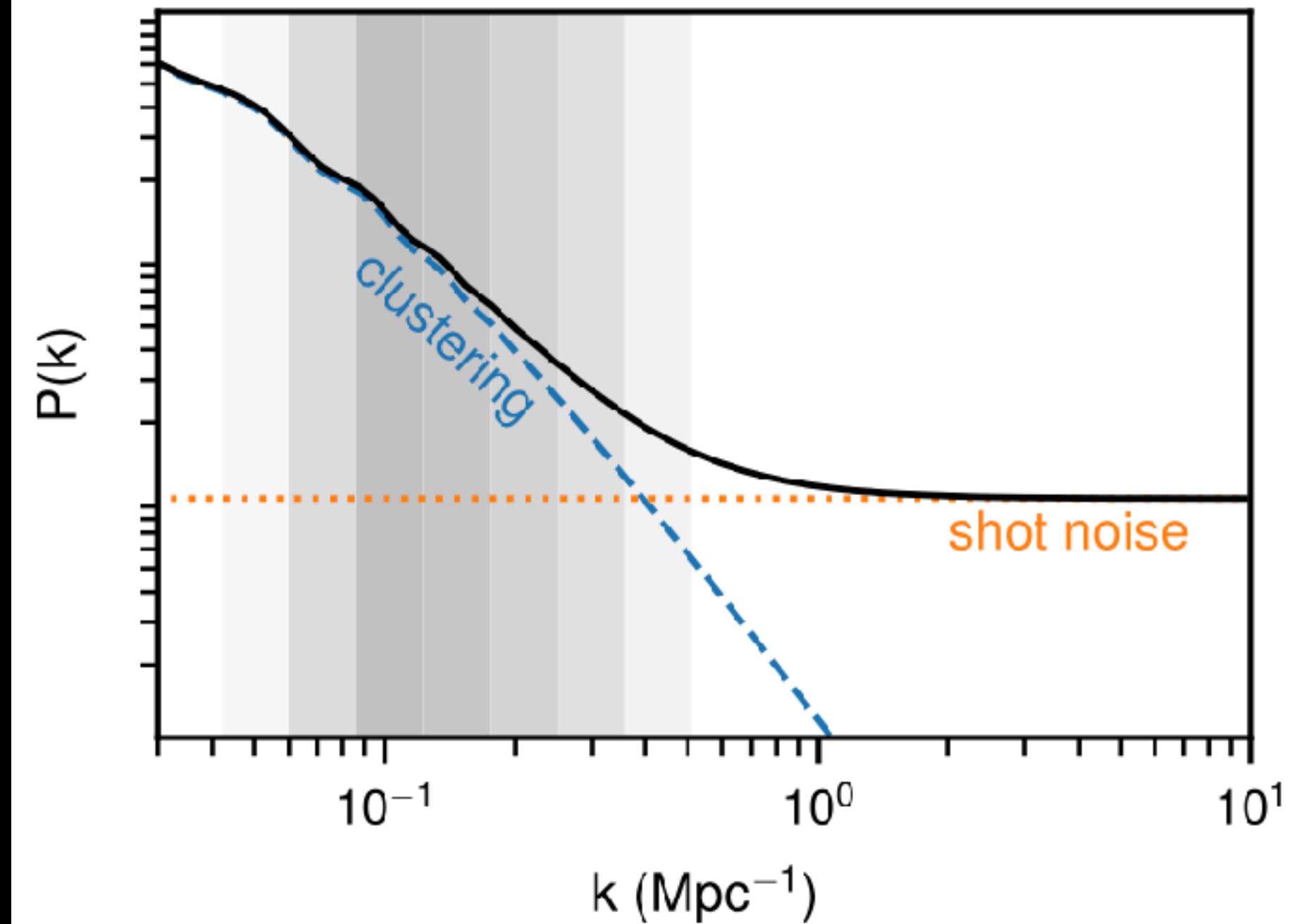
CO Galaxies



CO Intensity Map



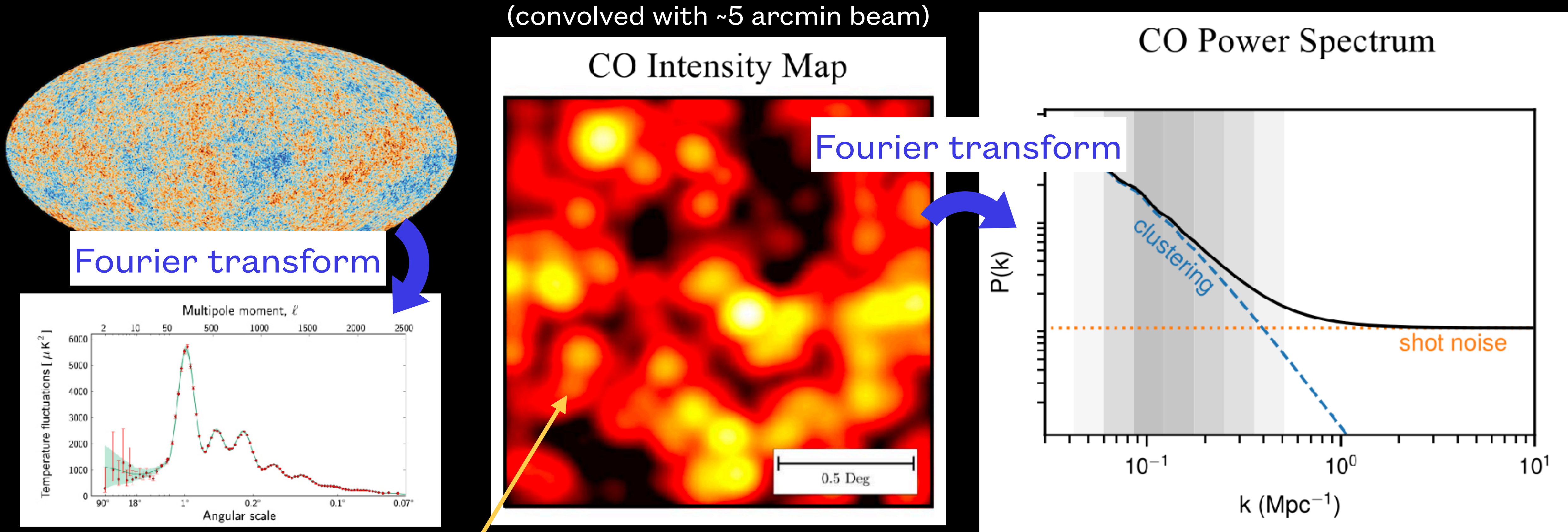
CO Power Spectrum



all of the photons!

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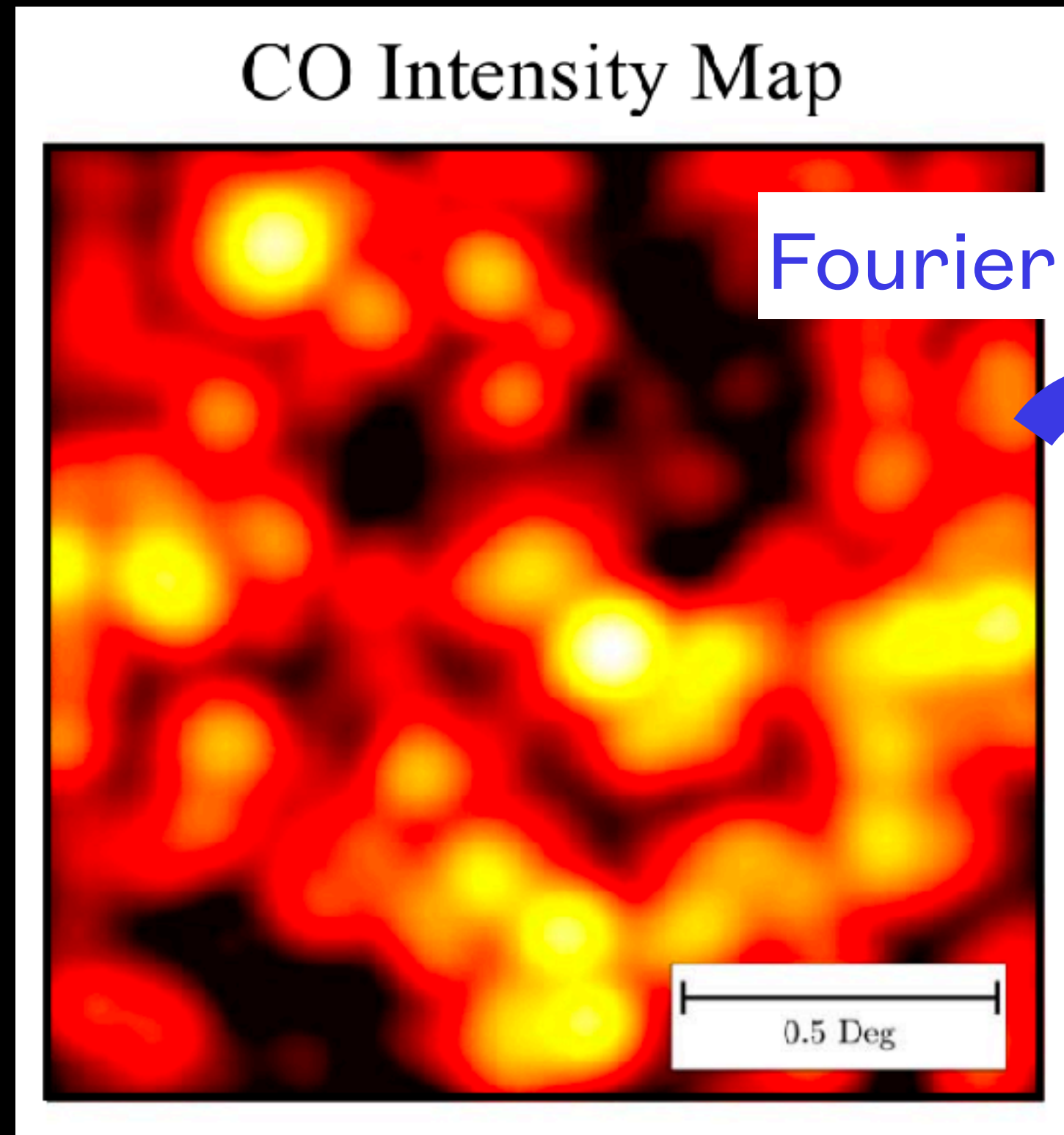


all of the photons!

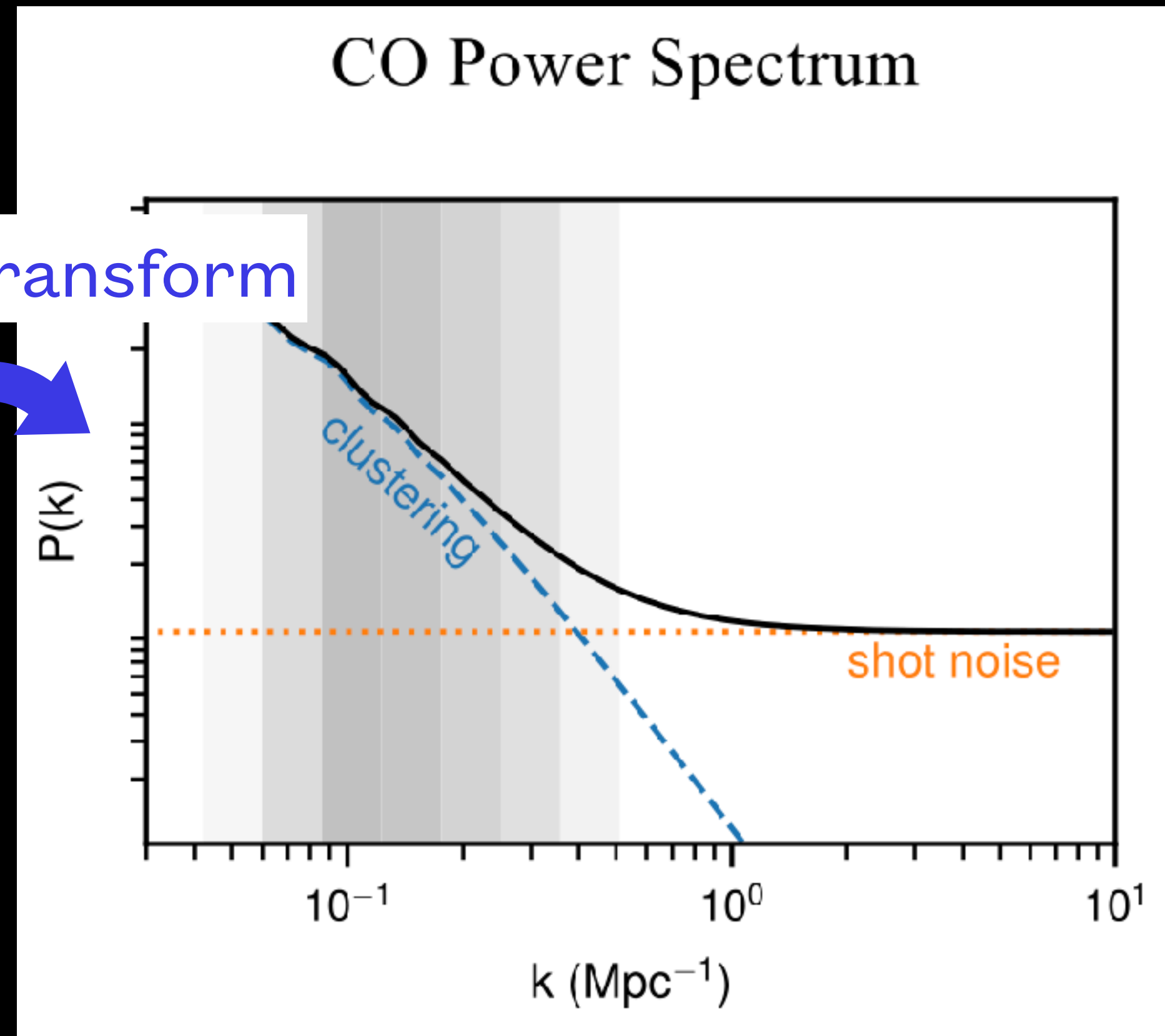
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- LIM is sensitive to the “aggregate line emission from all galaxies in the line of sight”.

(convolved with ~5 arcmin beam)



Fourier transform



Clustering amplitude ×  
(Underlying matter  
power spectrum)

=

+

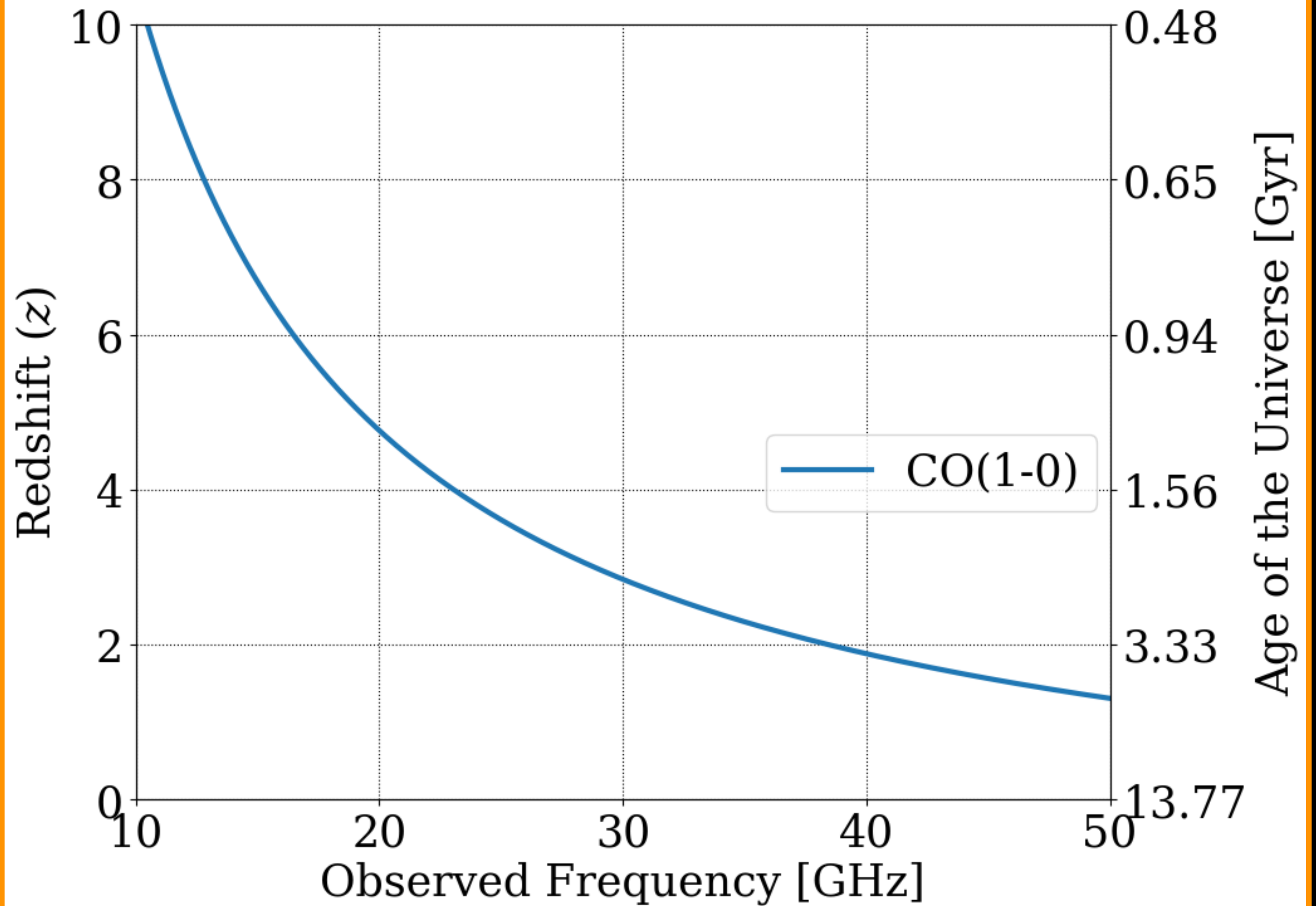
shot noise

$$P_{\text{CO}}(k) = A_{\text{clust}} P_m(k) + P_{\text{shot}}$$

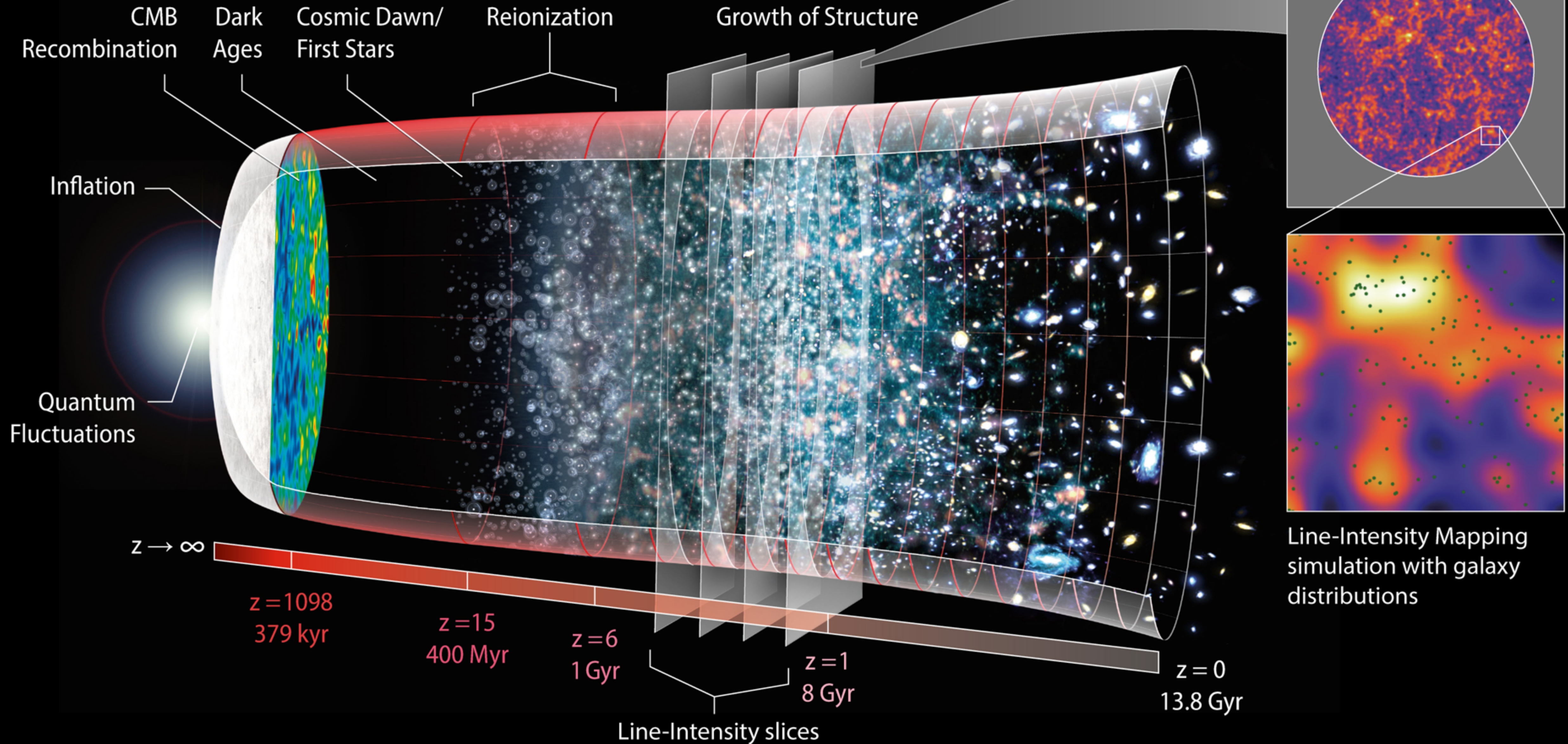
- **Cosmological Redshift:** The observed frequency of a specific spectral line corresponds to the redshift, which in turn indicates the age of the Universe!

CO(1-0): 115.27 GHz  
(2.6 mm)

$$\nu_{\text{obs}} = 115.27 \text{ GHz} / (1 + z)$$

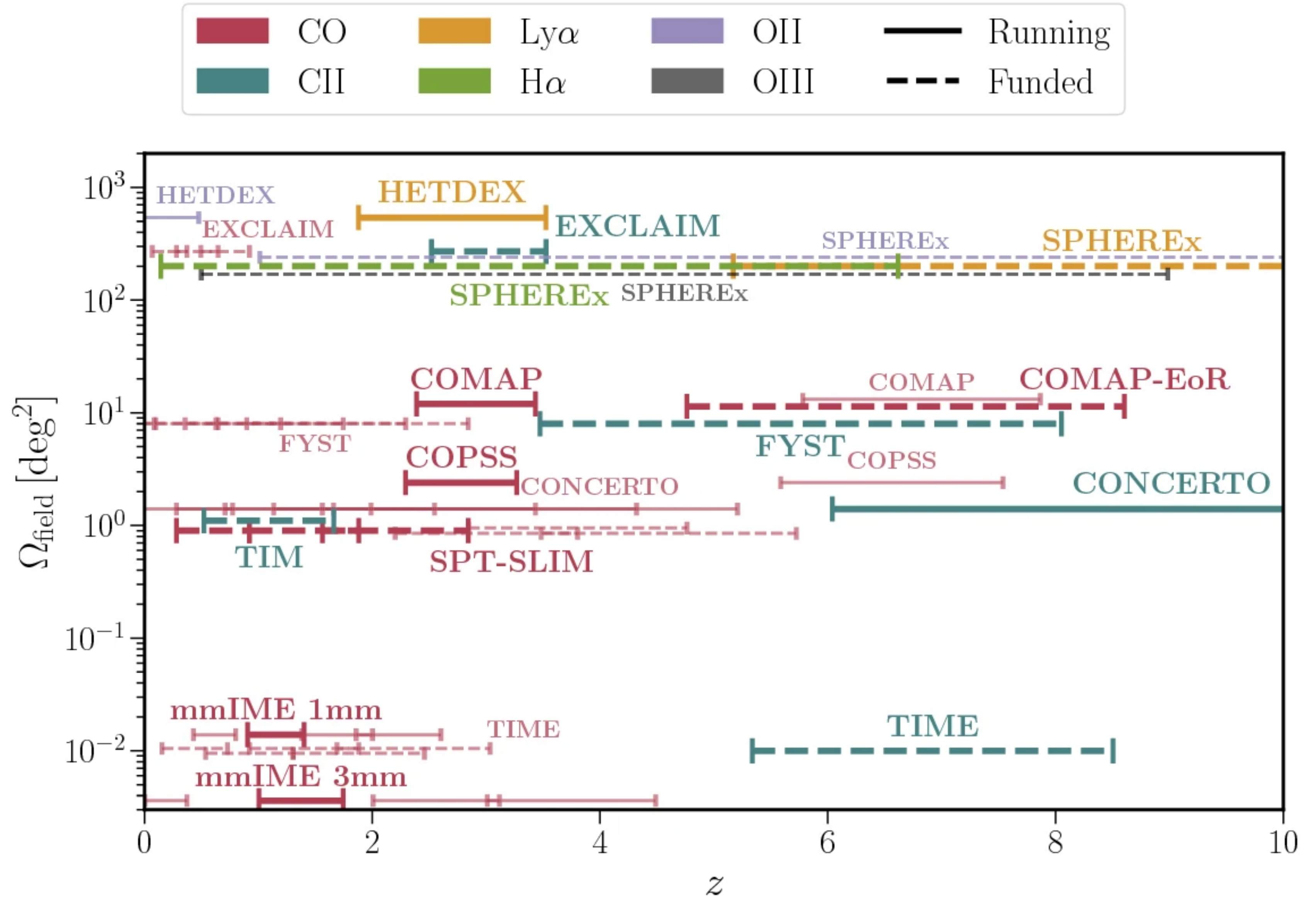


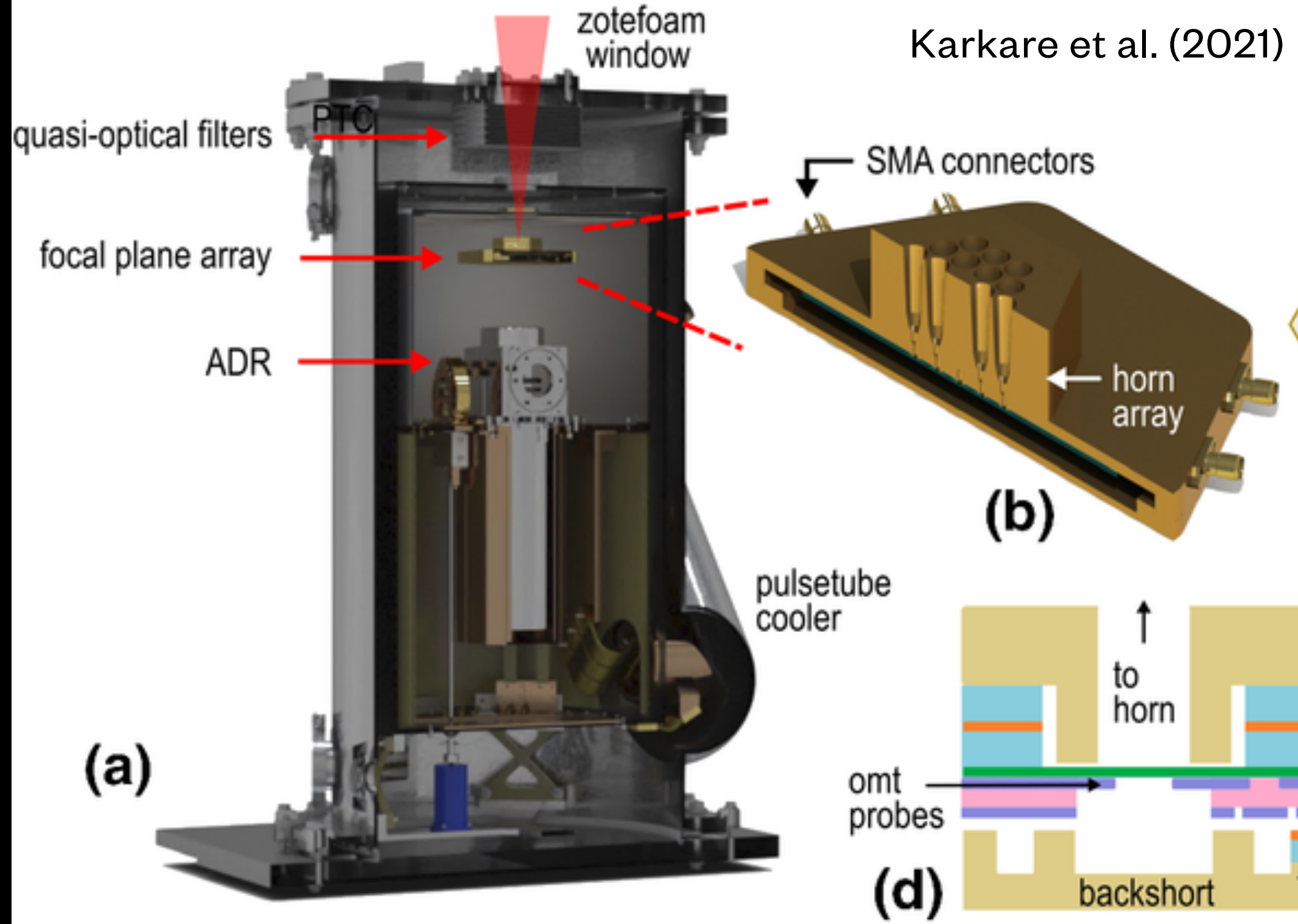
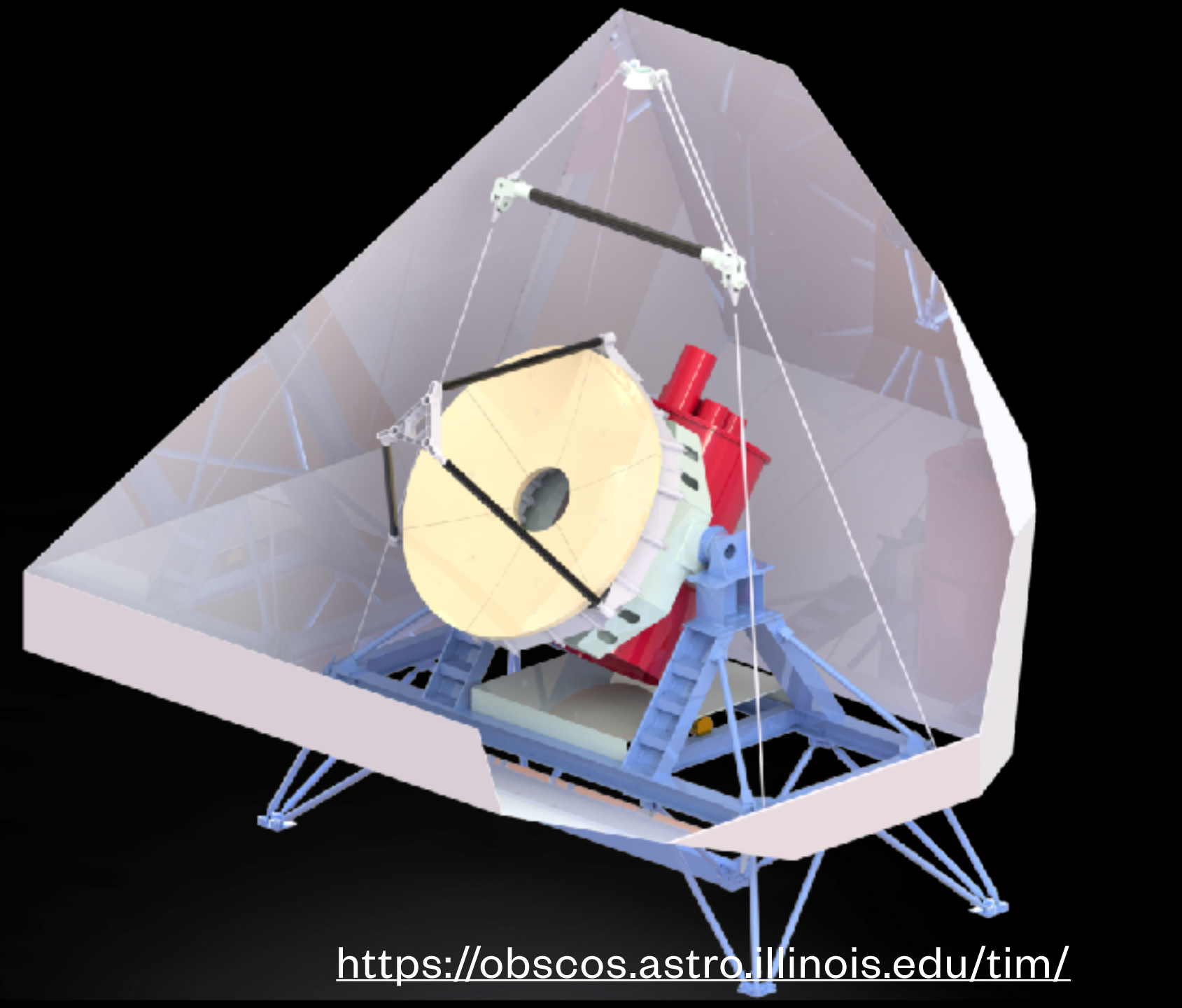
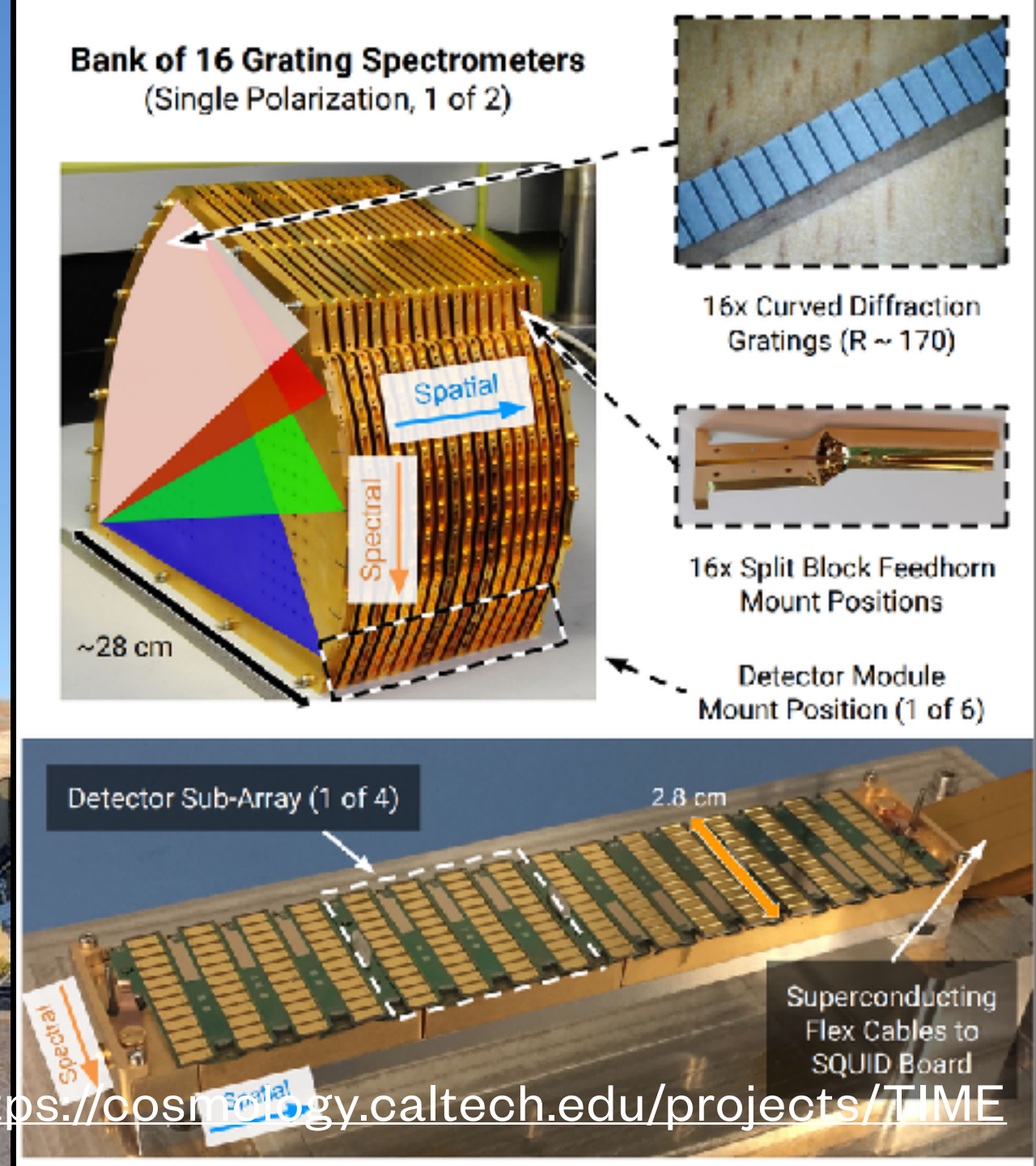
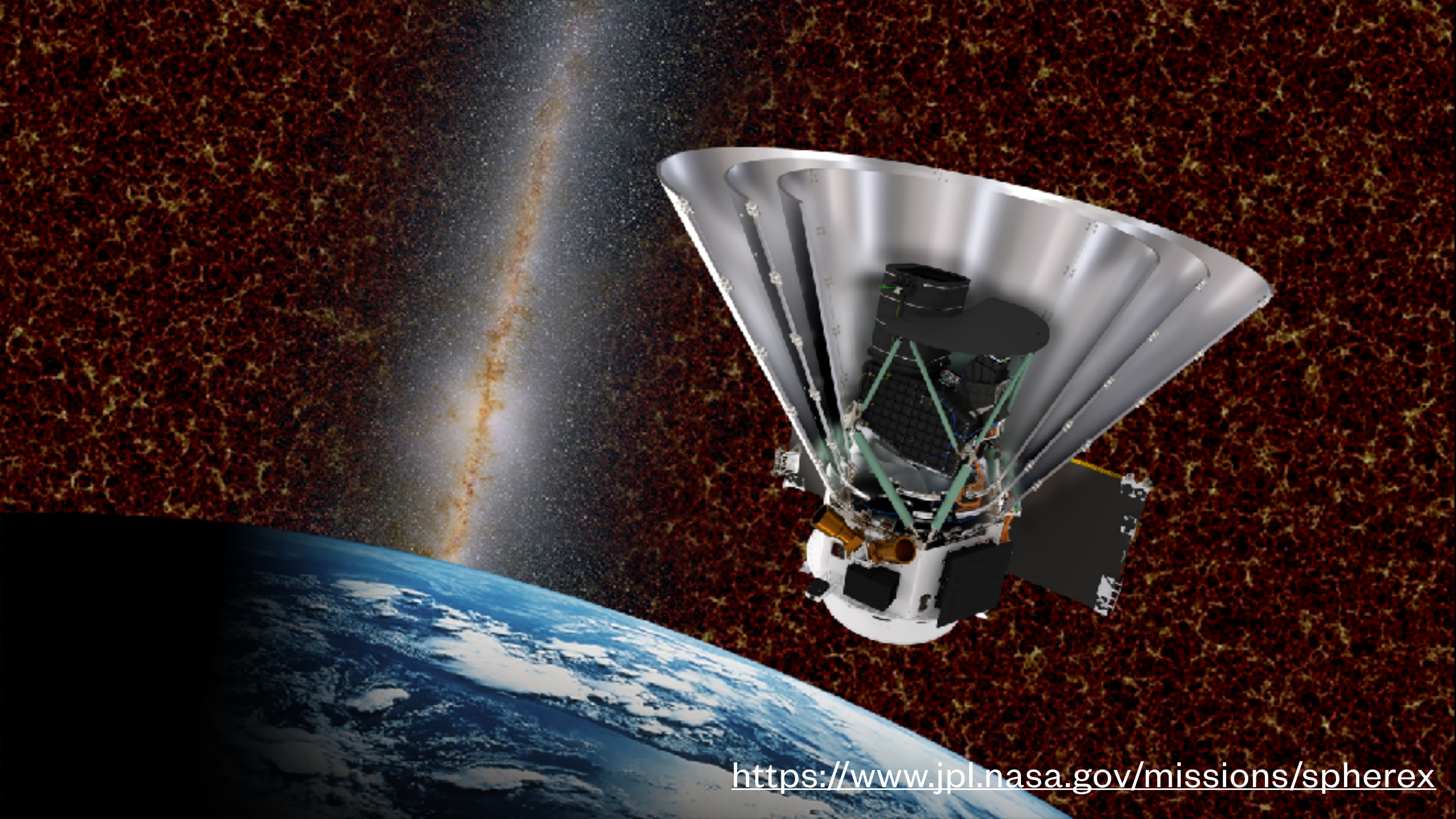
# Line Intensity Mapping (LIM)





- Sub-mm: Rotational carbon-monoxide (CO) transitions
  - Far-IR: Bright fine-structure lines such as [CII]
  - Optical/UV: Hydrogen H $\alpha$  and Ly $\alpha$  lines
- +
- Radio: HI 21 cm line originating from the neutral hydrogen





# CO Mapping Array Project (COMAP)

**Caltech**

Kieran Cleary (PI)  
Delaney Dunne  
Rick Hobbs  
James Lamb  
Timothy Pearson  
Anthony Readhead  
David Woody

**UiO : Universitetet i Oslo**

Ingunn Wehus  
Hans Kristian Eriksen  
Jonas Lunde  
Nils-Ole Stutzer

**SMU**

Patrick Breysse



**Cornell University**

Dongwoo Chung



Clive Dickinson  
Stuart Harper

**KAIST**

Junhan Kim



**THE UNIVERSITY  
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

Thomas Rennie



**UNIVERSITÉ  
DE GENÈVE**

Hamsa Padmanabhan



Richard Bond  
Norman Murray  
Doğa Tolgay



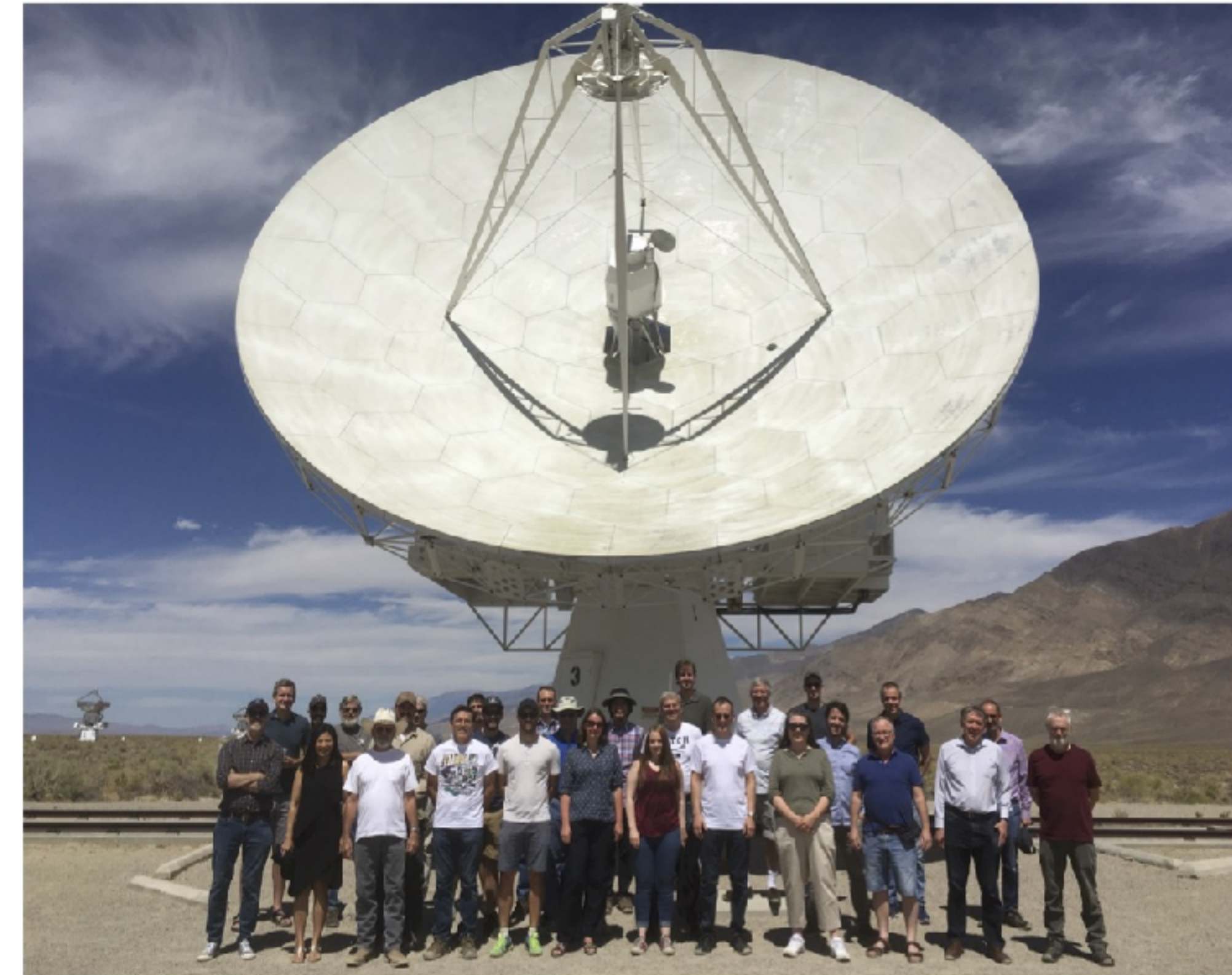
Joshua Gundersen



Andrew Harris



Charles Lawrence  
Todd Gaier  
Brandon Hensley  
Joseph Lazio



# COMAP Early Science Results

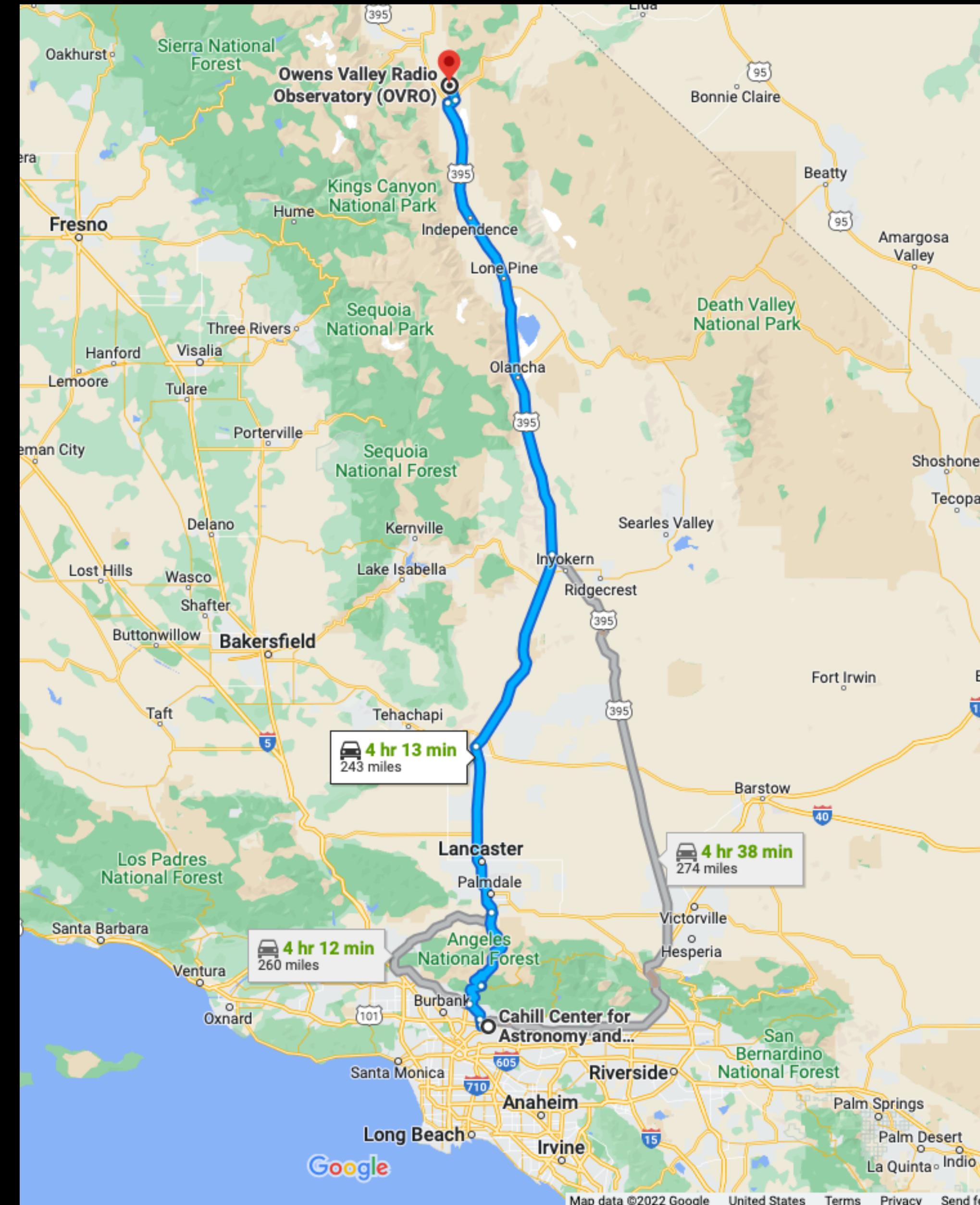


COMAP  
Pathfinder



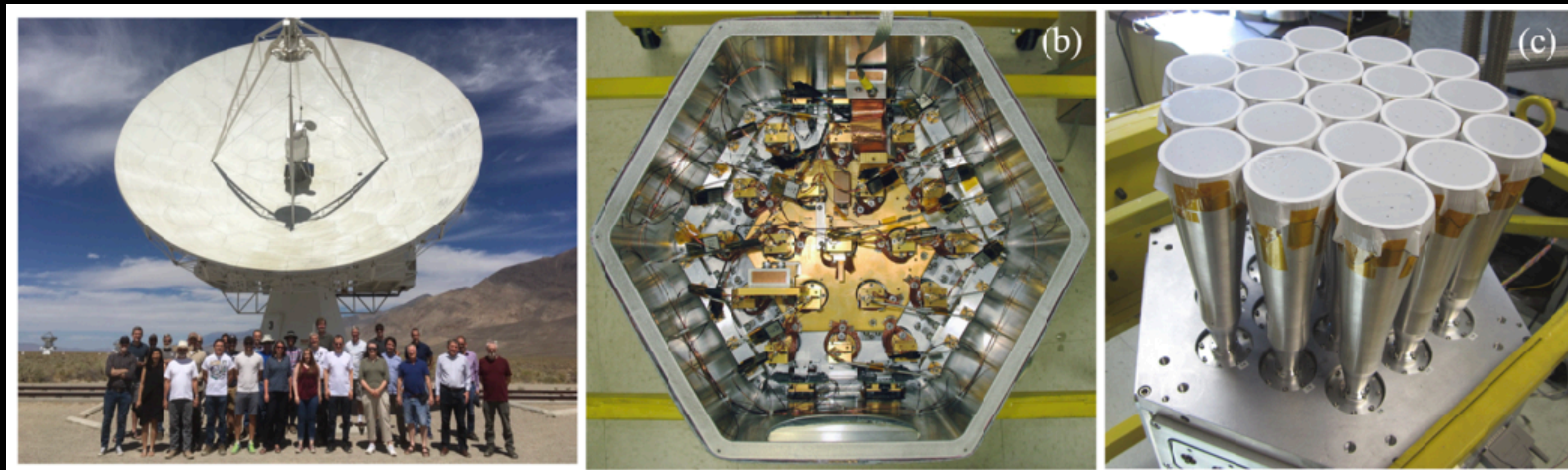
# COMAP Pathfinder

- Site: Owens Valley Radio Observatory (OVRO), CA
- Telescope: “Leighton” dish (10.4 m)
- Receiver: **26-34 GHz ( $z=2.4-3.4$ )**
  - 19-pixel, single-polarization focal plane array
  - High electron mobility transistor (HEMT) amps
- Backend digitization
  - 38 ROACH2 spectrometers, 2 MHz resolution



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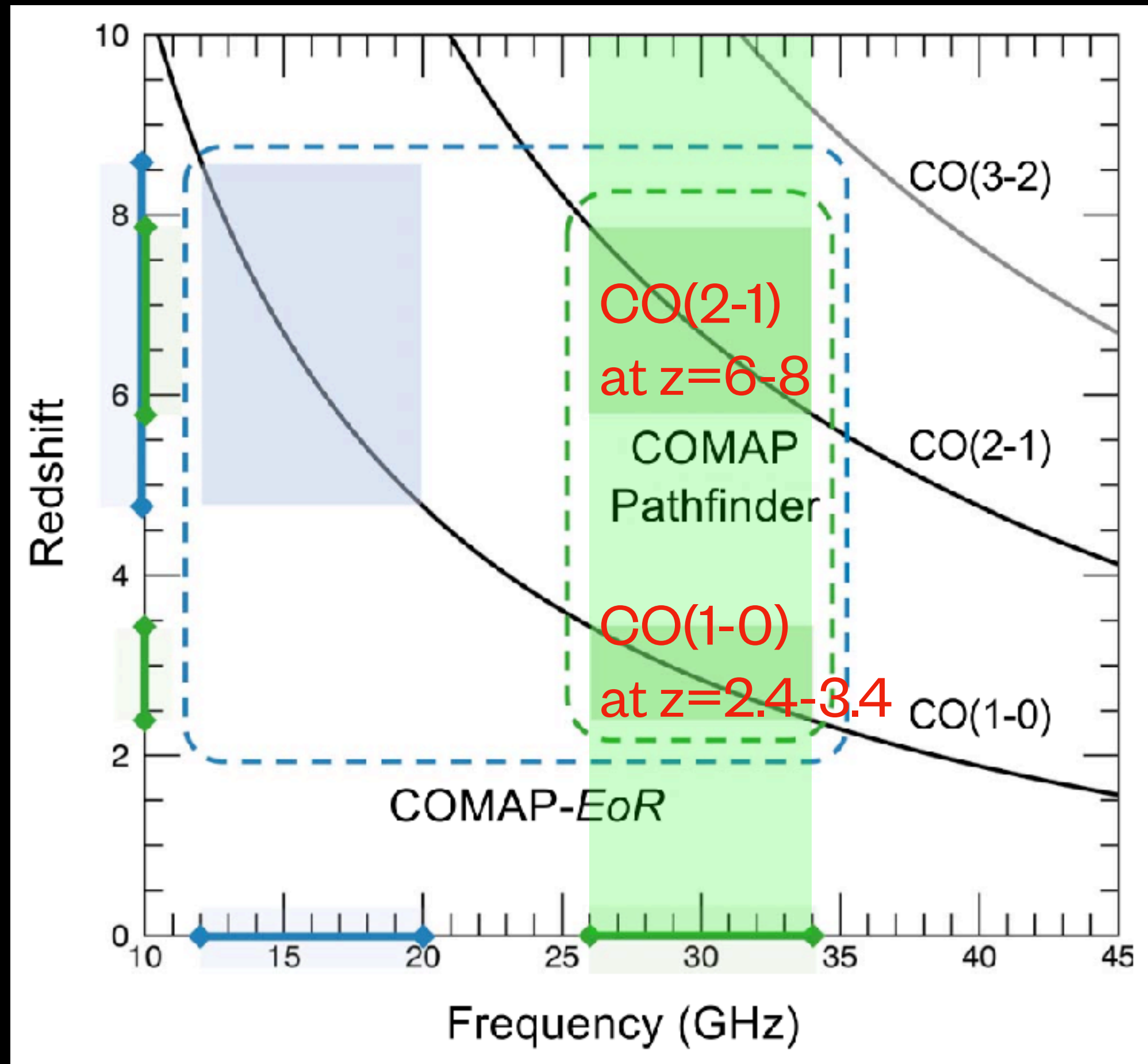
Cleary et al. (2022), Lamb et al. (2022)



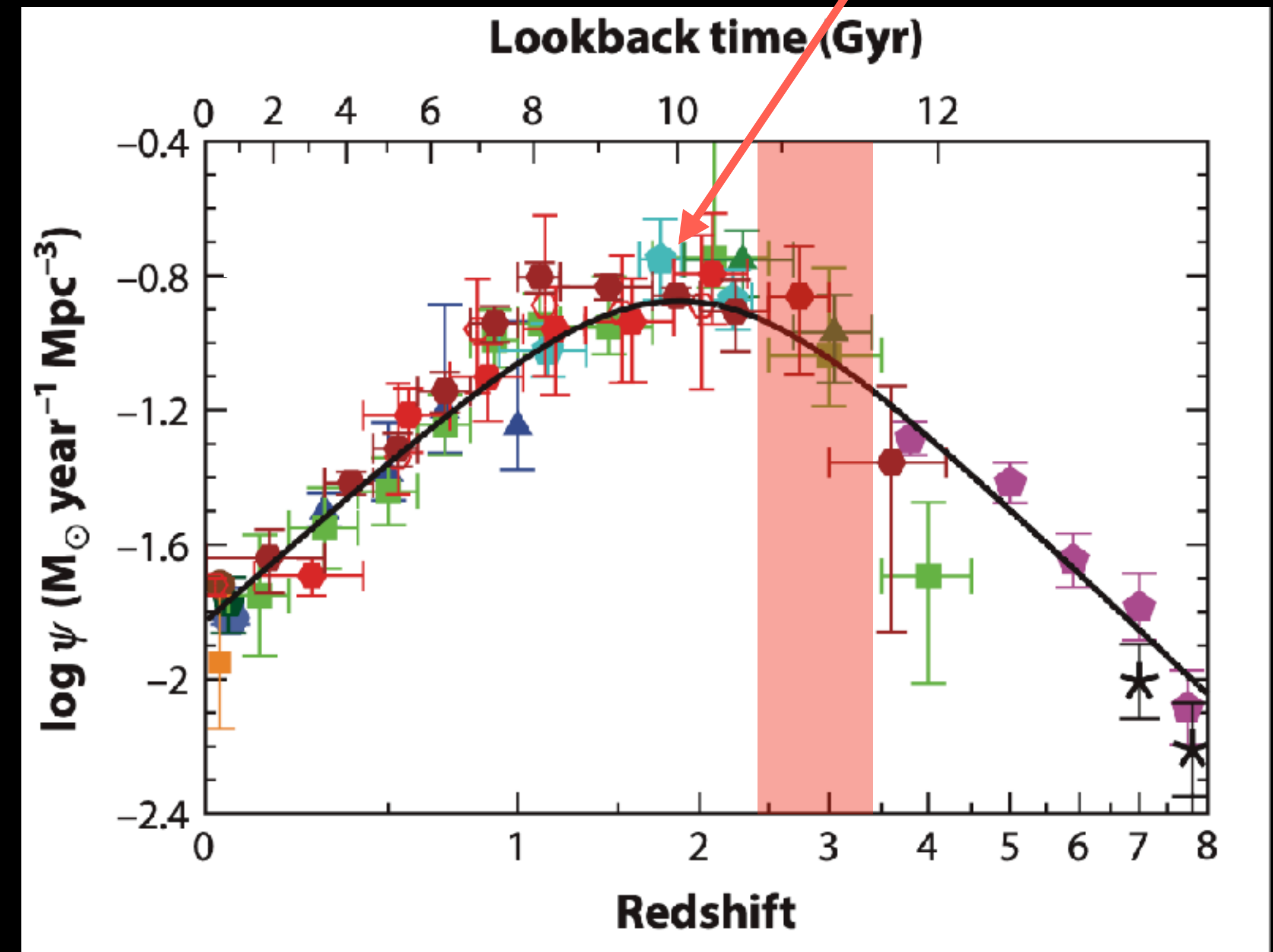
# COMAP Pathfinder

- CO probes cold molecular gas, the fuel for star formation.

Peak of the  
Star-formation History

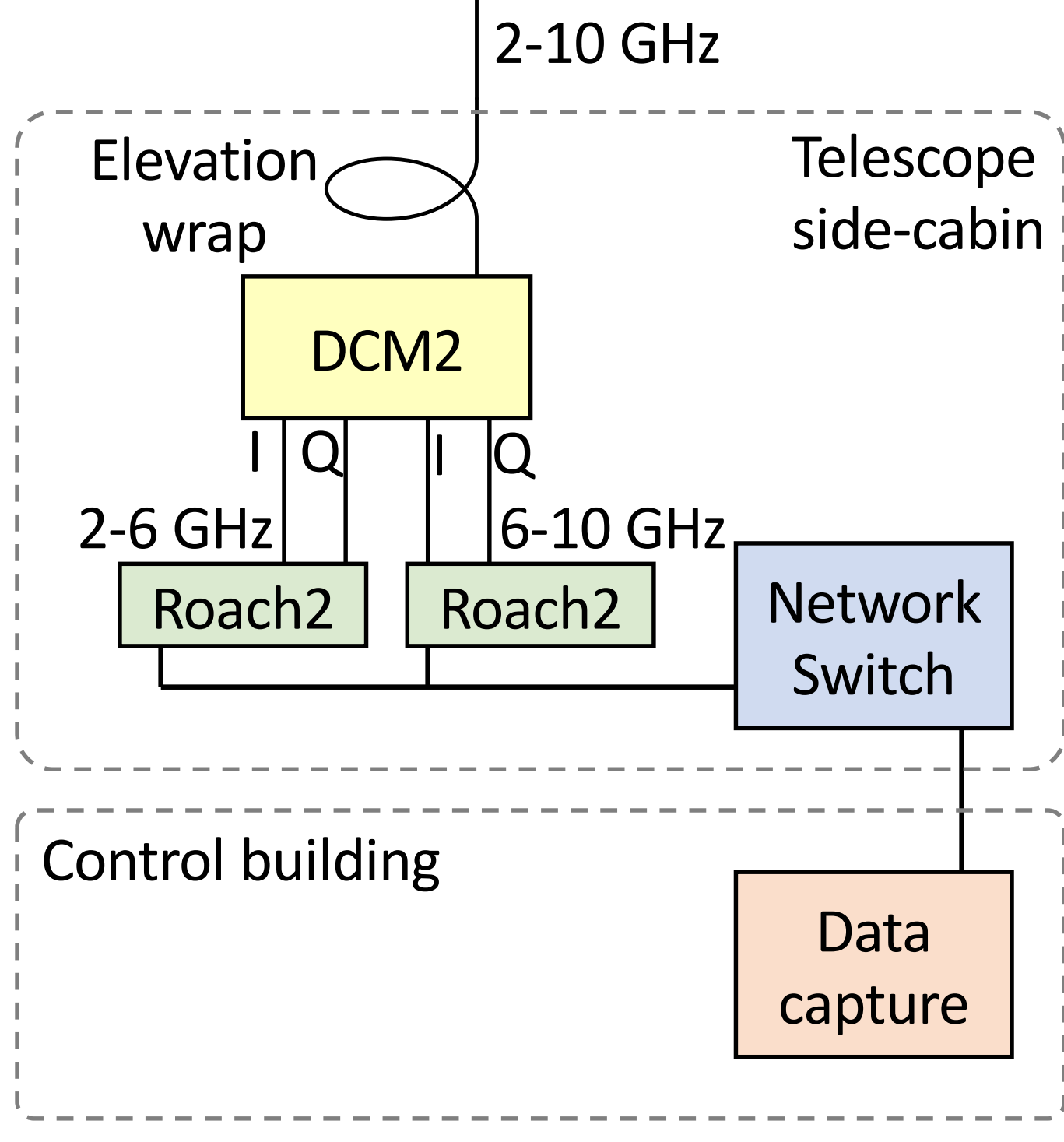
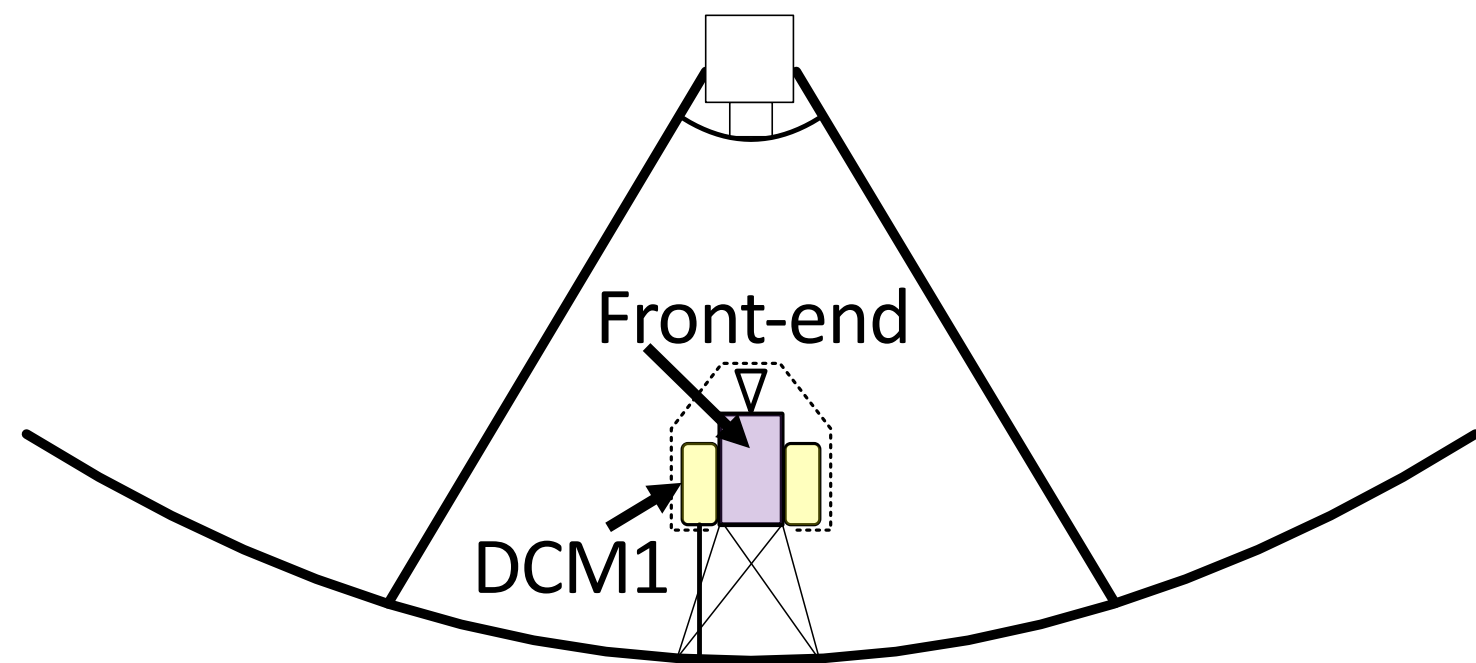


Cleary et al. (2022)

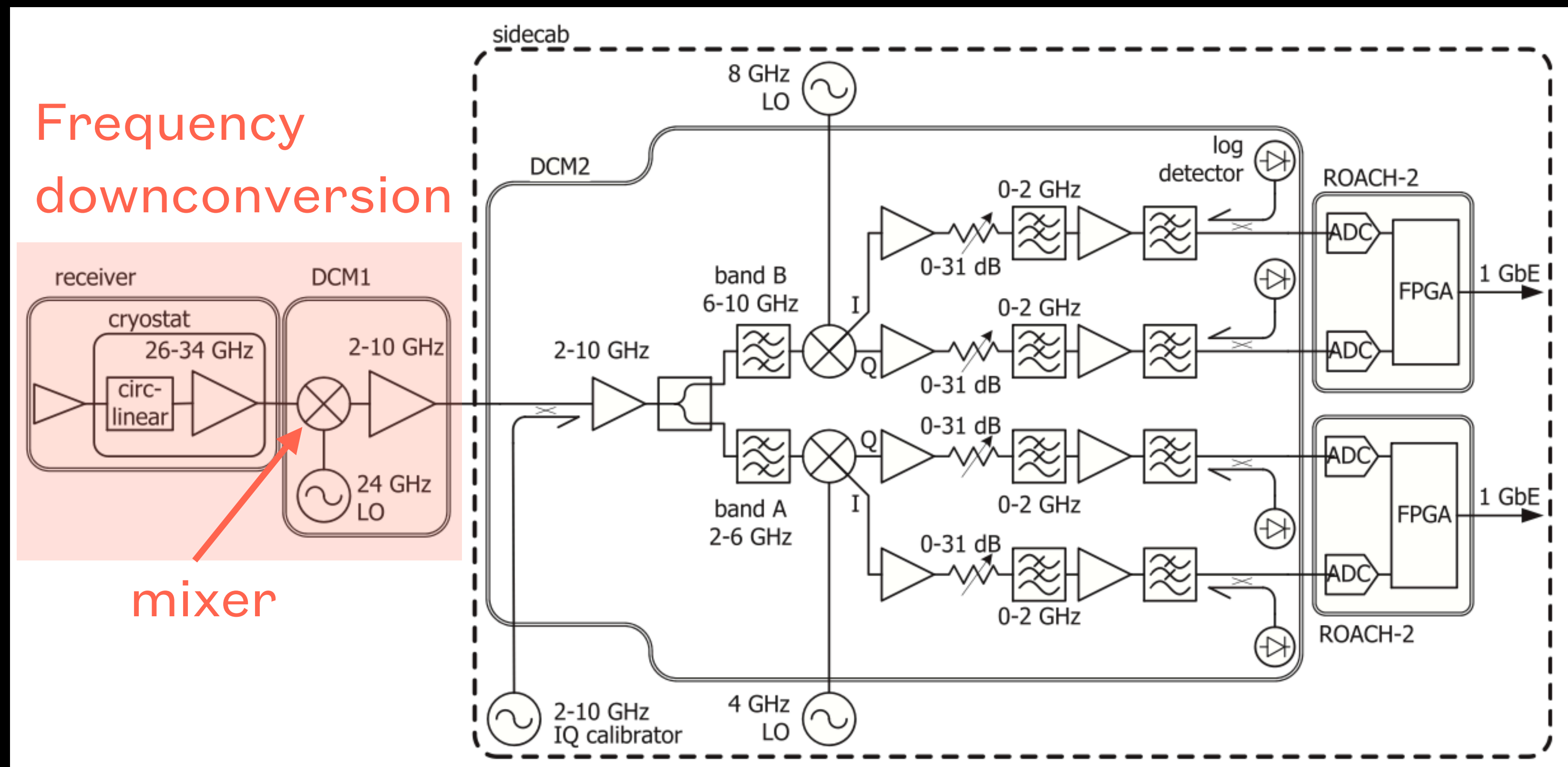
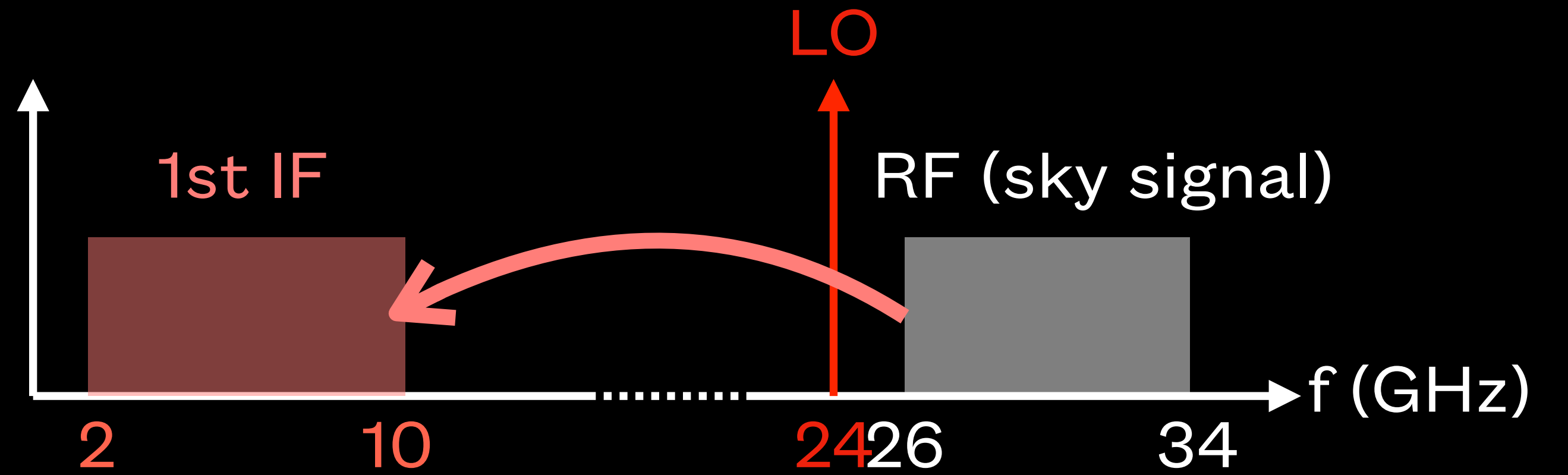


Madau & Dickinson (2014)

# COMAP Pathfinder: Instrument



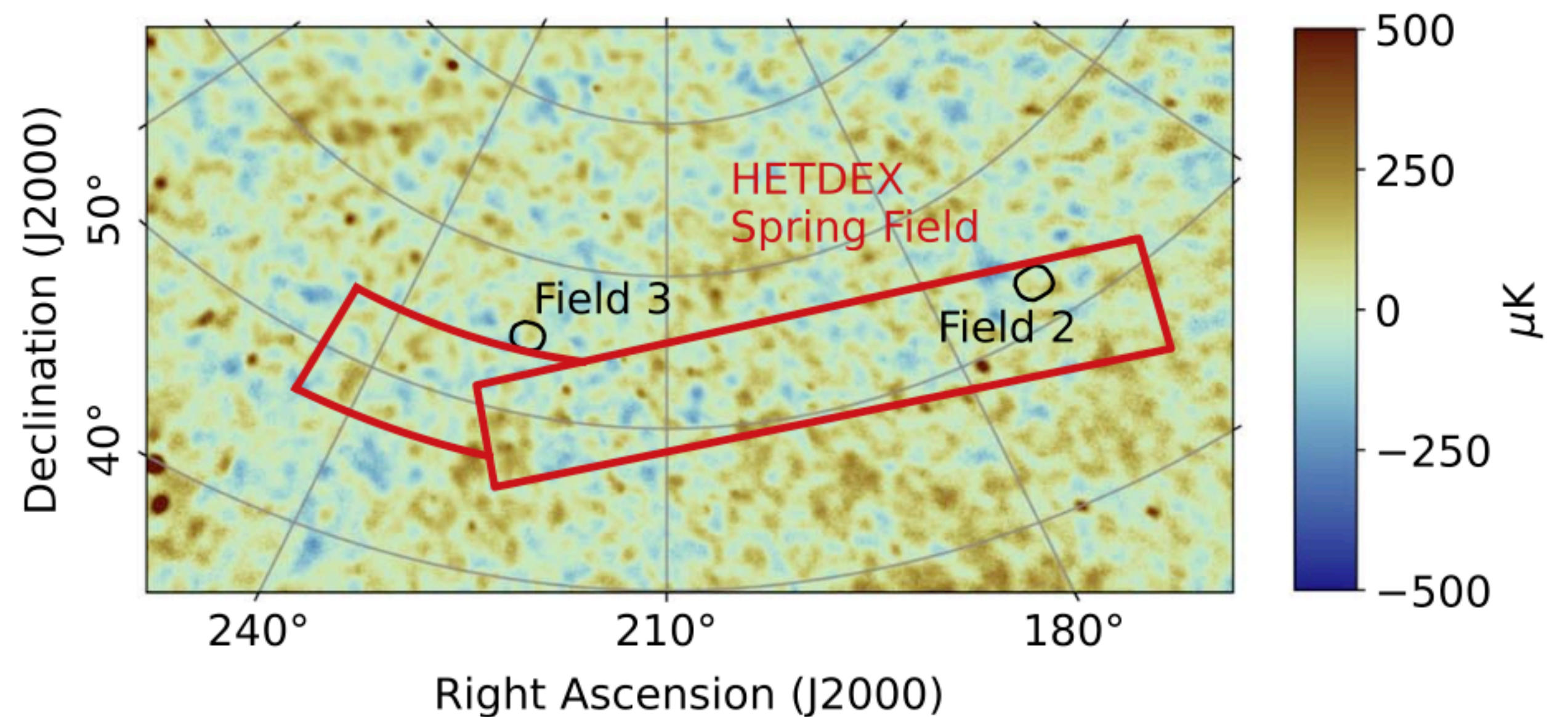
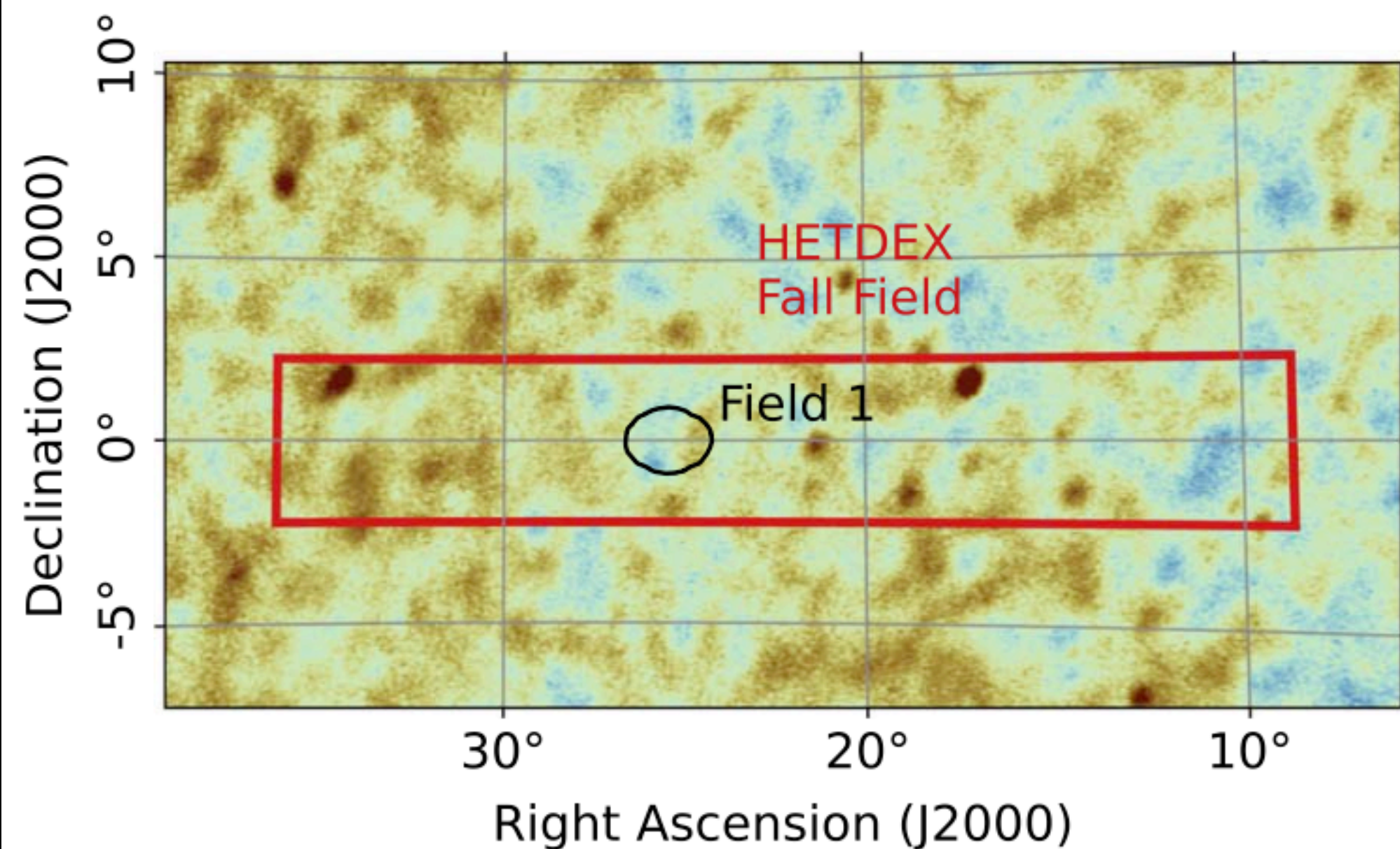
Lamb et al. (2022)





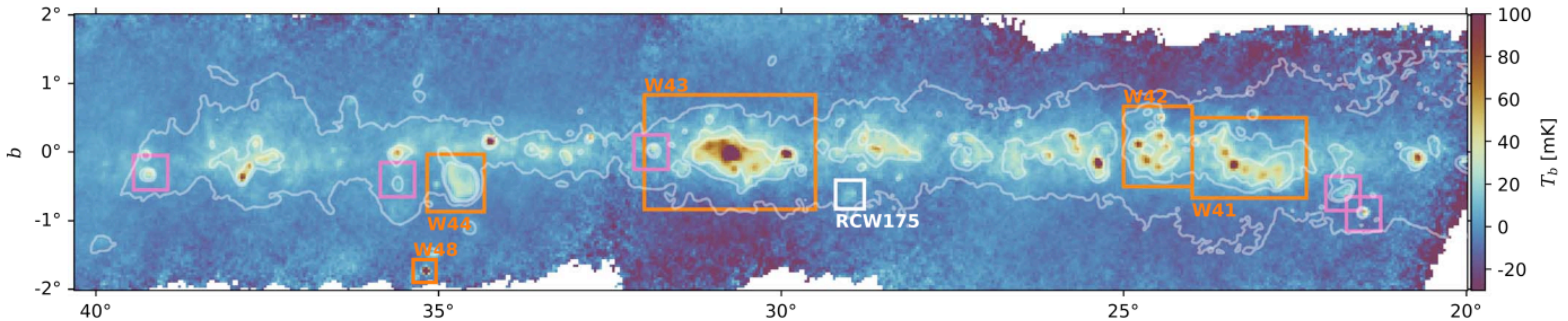
# COMAP Pathfinder: Observation

- 5-year observing campaign (started 2019)
- Three observing fields (~4 deg<sup>2</sup>)
  - Distributed in R. A. to maximize observing efficiency
  - Overlap with Hobby-Eberly Telescope Dark Energy Experiment (HETDEX; Gebhardt et al. 2021, Hill et al. 2021)



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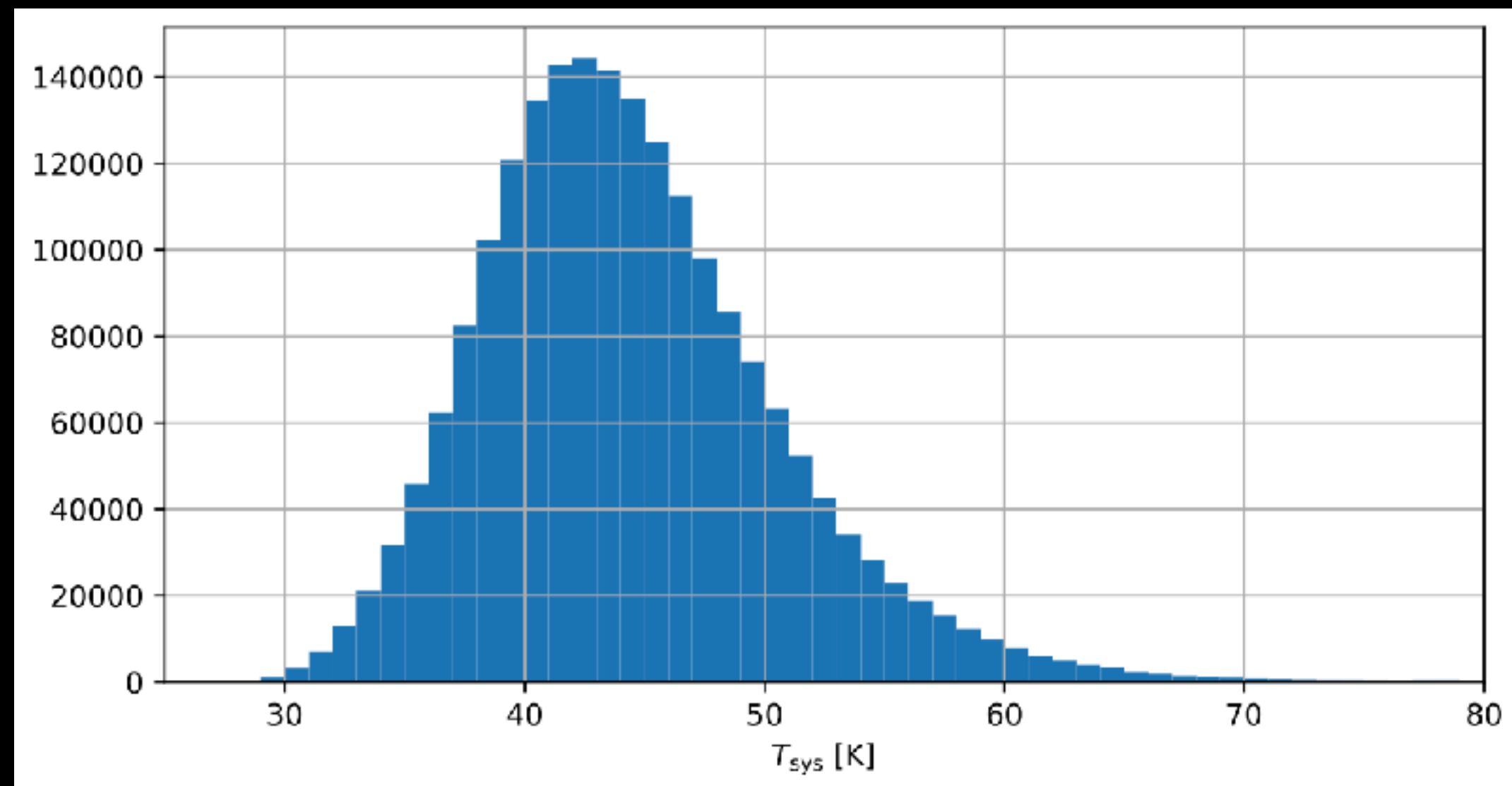


# COMAP Pathfinder: Calibration

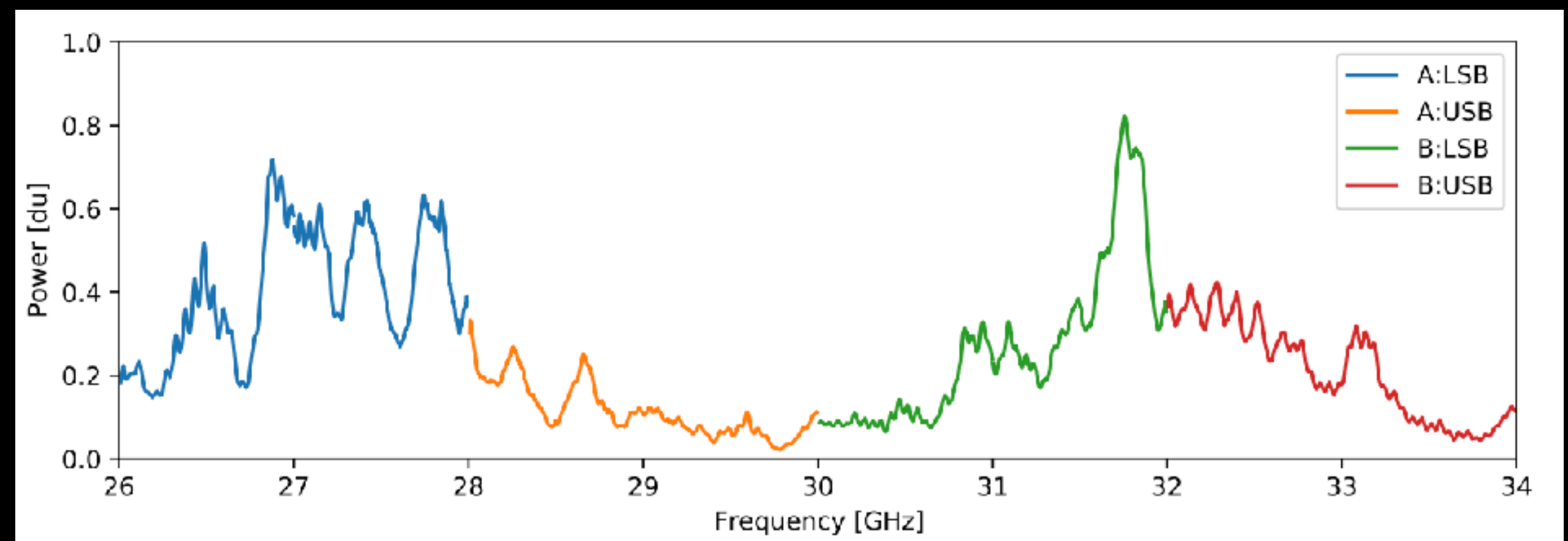
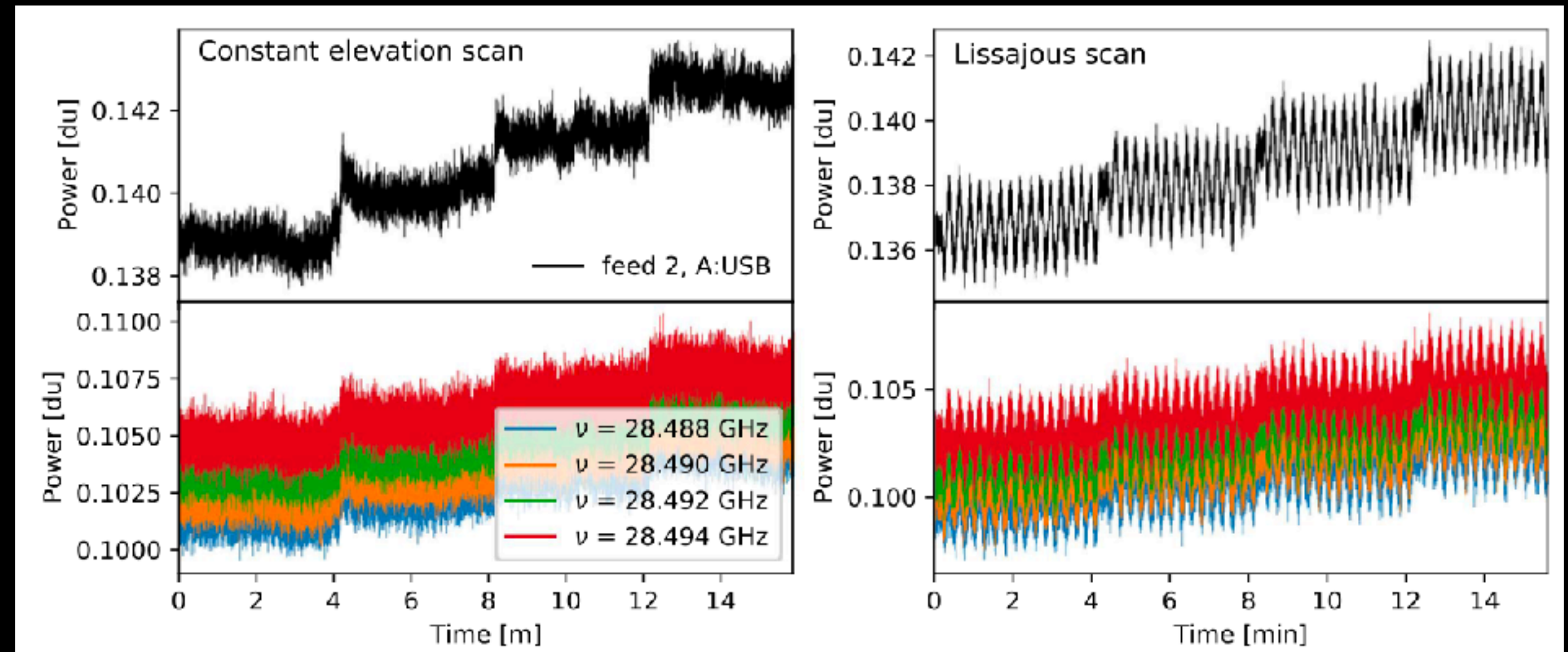
$$T_{\text{sys}} = T_{\text{receiver}} + T_{\text{atmosphere}} + T_{\text{ground}} + T_{\text{CMB}} + T_{\text{foregrounds}} + T_{\text{CO}}$$

(~10-30 K)    (~15-25 K)    (~5-6 K)    (2.7K)    (~1 mK)     $\mathcal{O}(1 \mu\text{K})$

Radiometer Equation:  $\sigma_T = \frac{T_{\text{sys}}}{\sqrt{\Delta\nu T}}$



Foss et al. (2022)



normalization

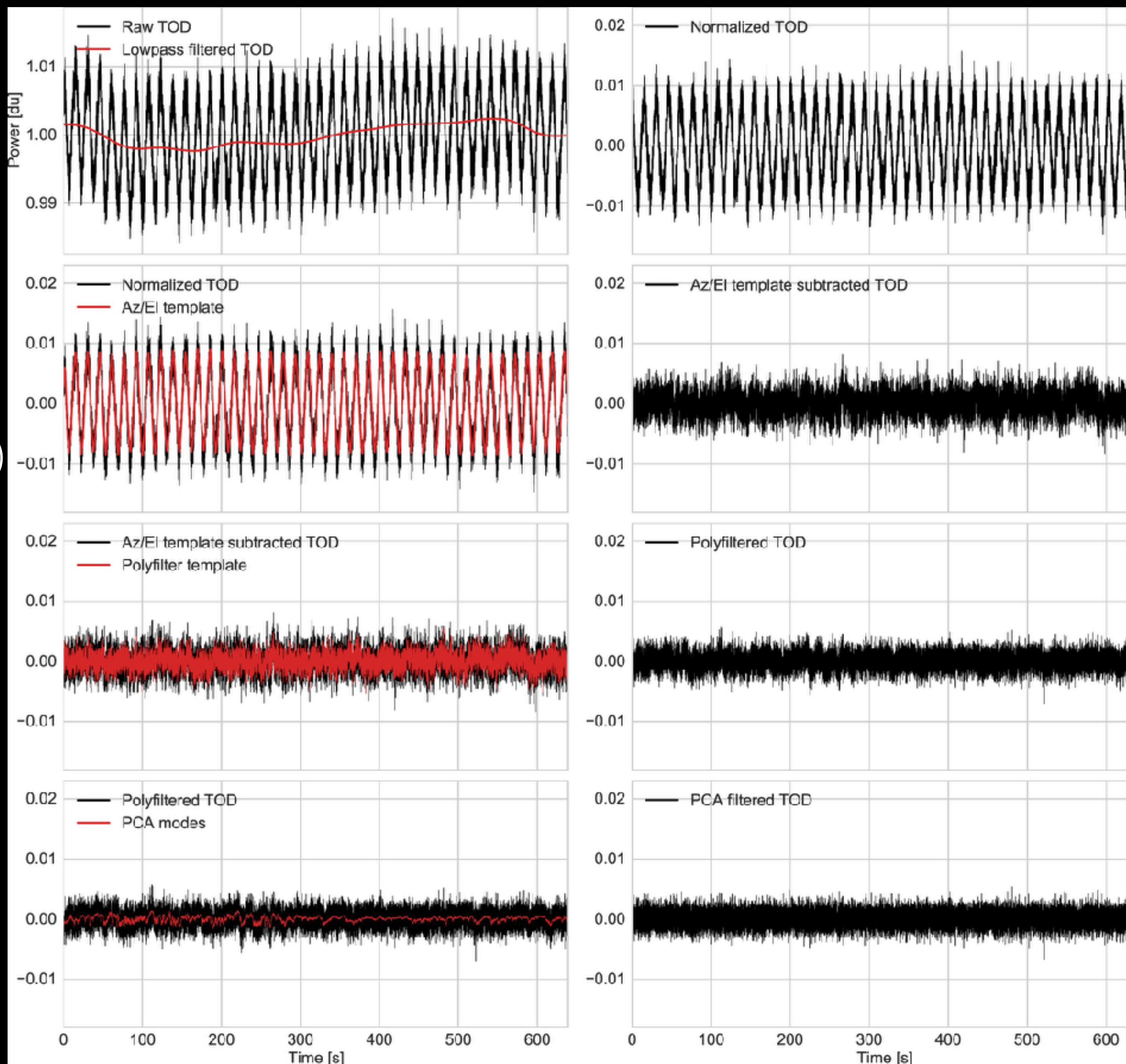
atmospheric  
template

$$\tau(e_l) = \tau_0 / \sin(e_l)$$

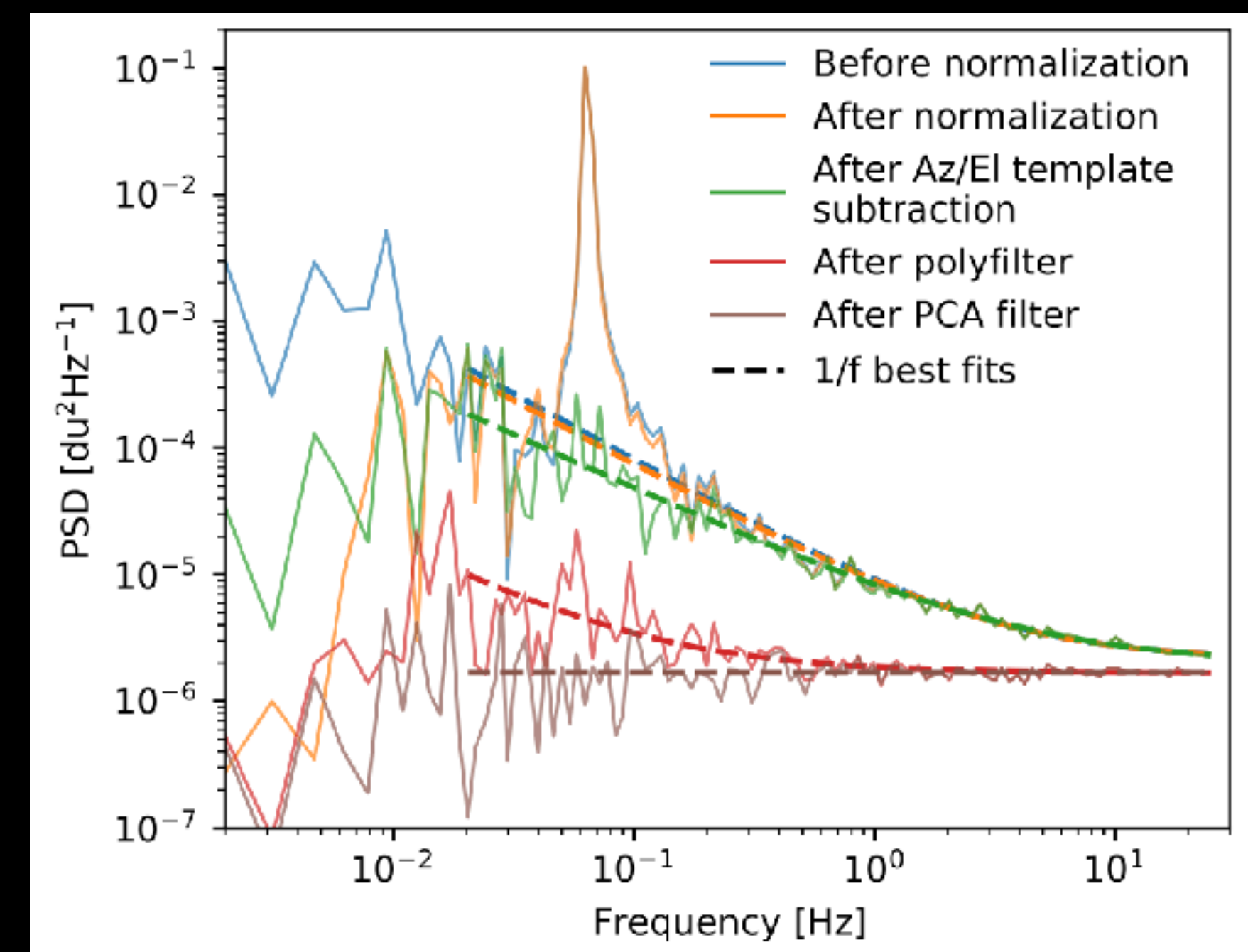
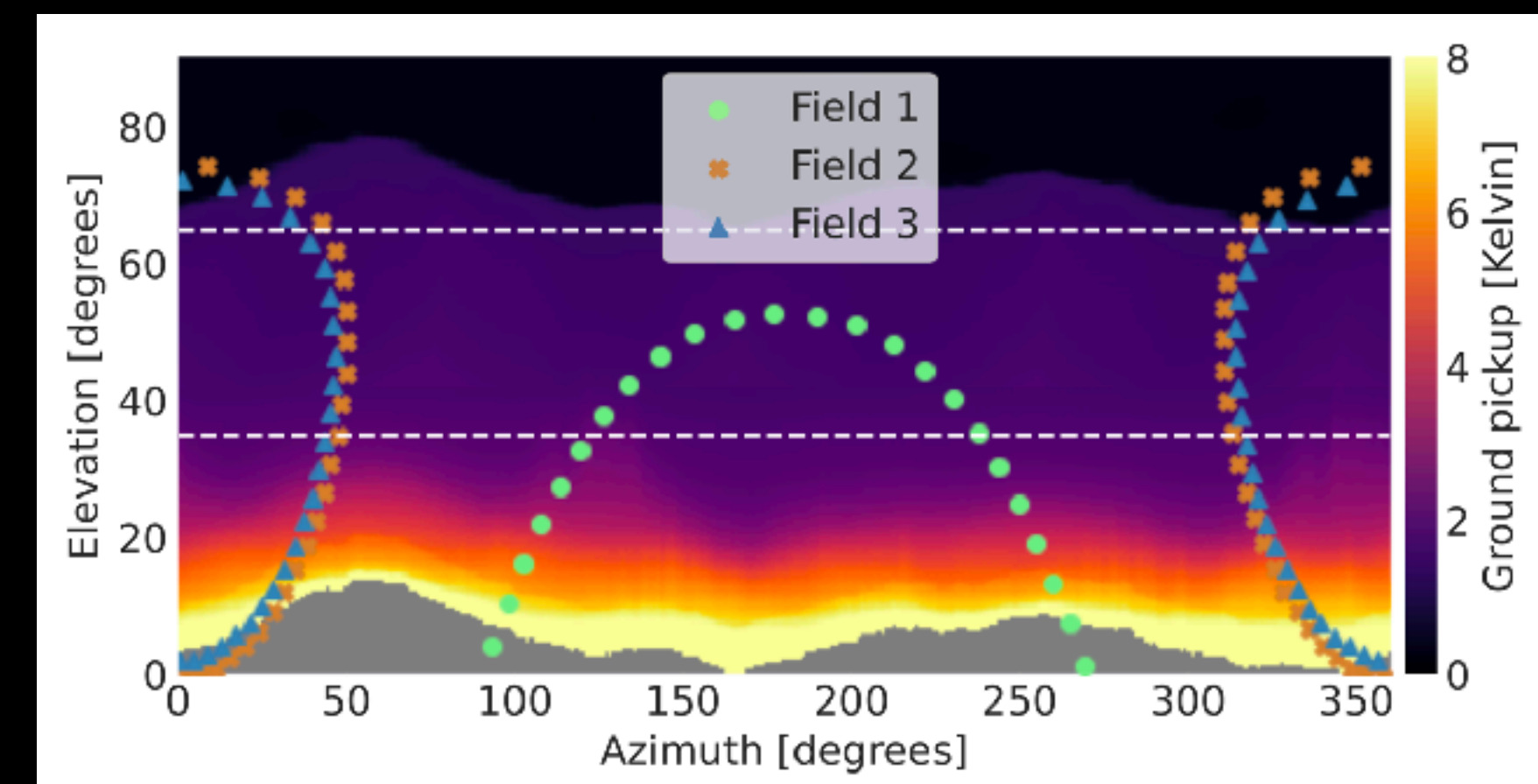
low-order  
polynomial

$$d_\nu = c_0 + c_1\nu + c_2\nu^2 + \dots$$

PCA filter



Foss et al. (2022)



Cleary et al. (2022)

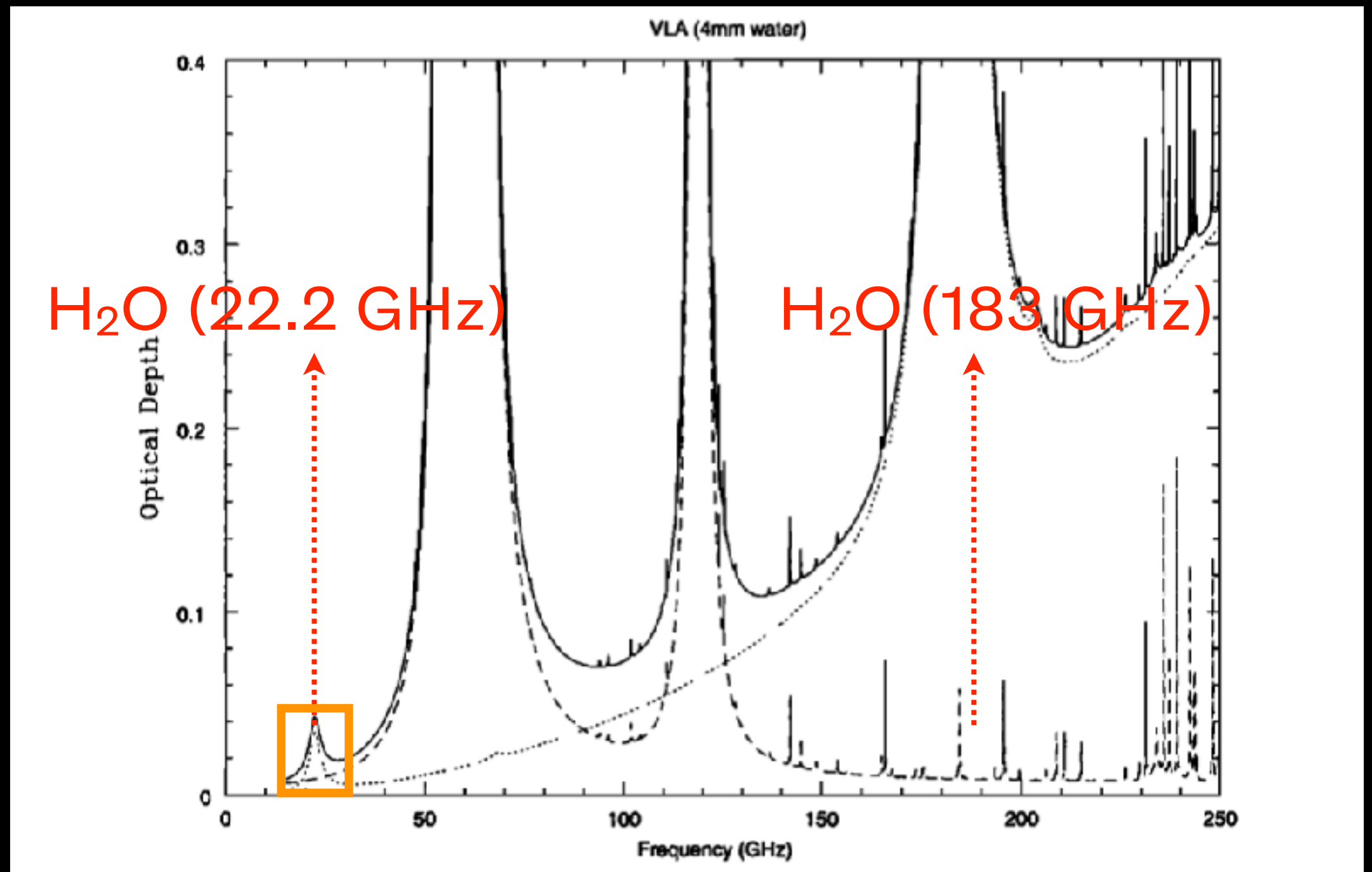
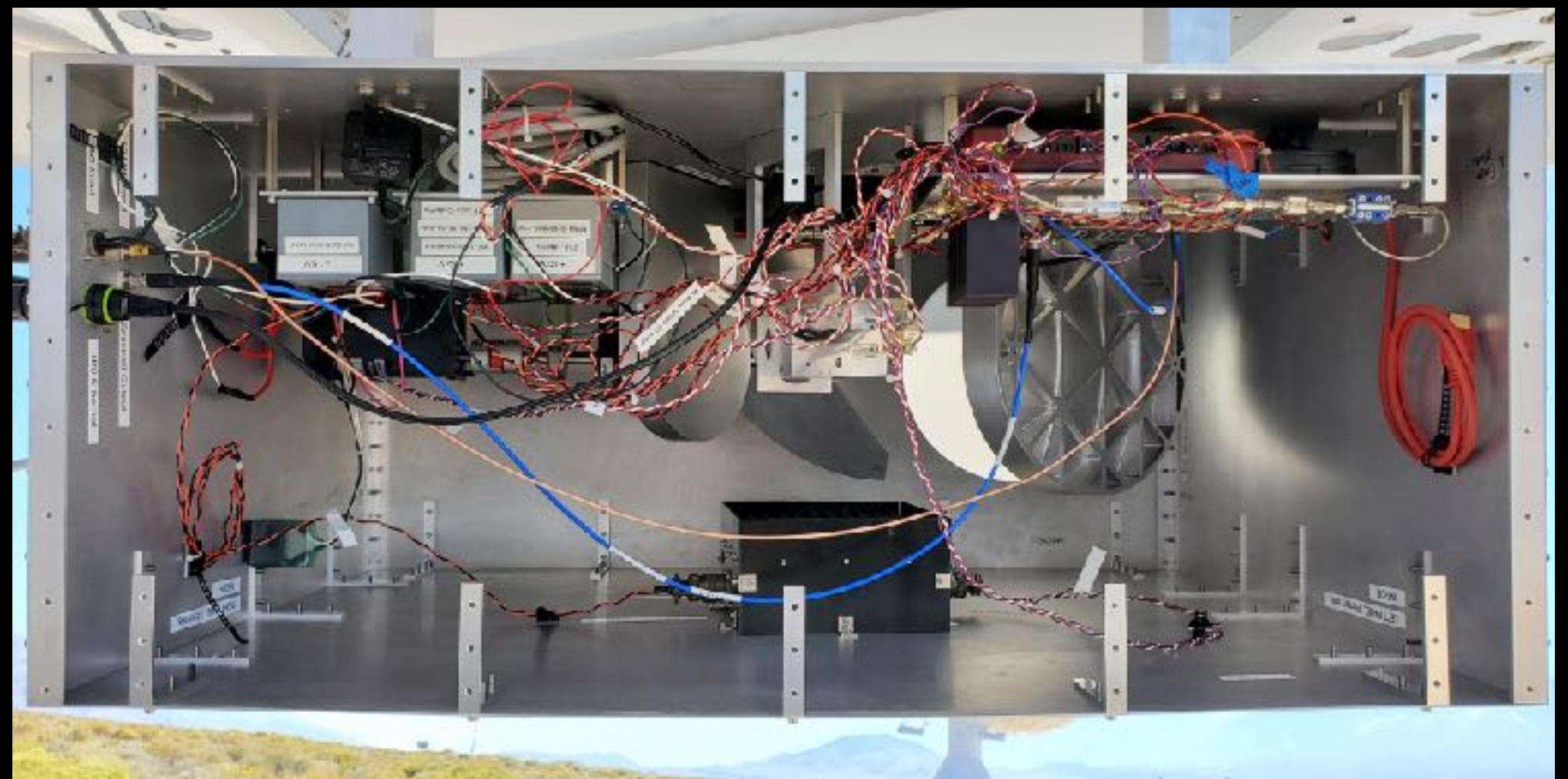
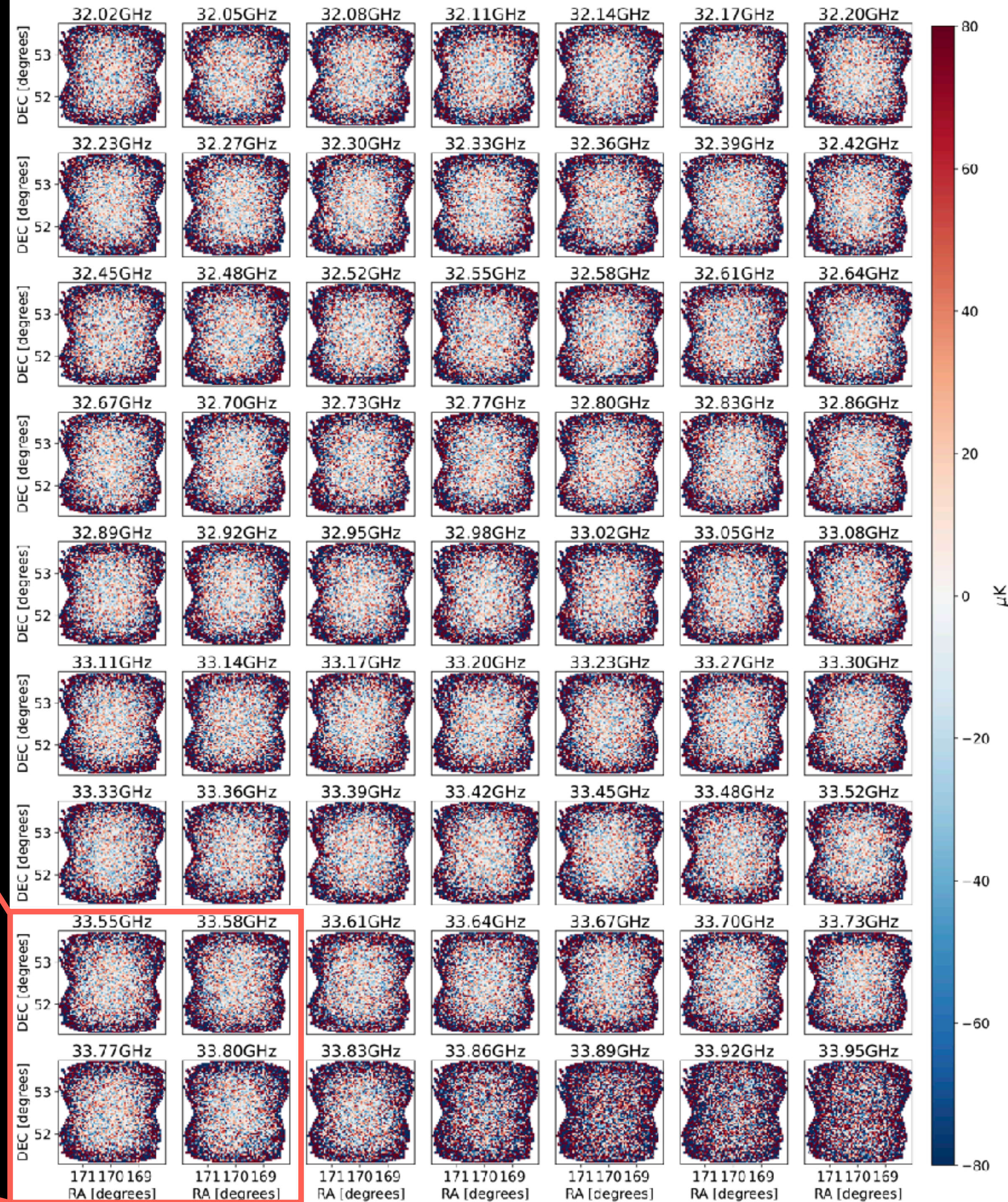
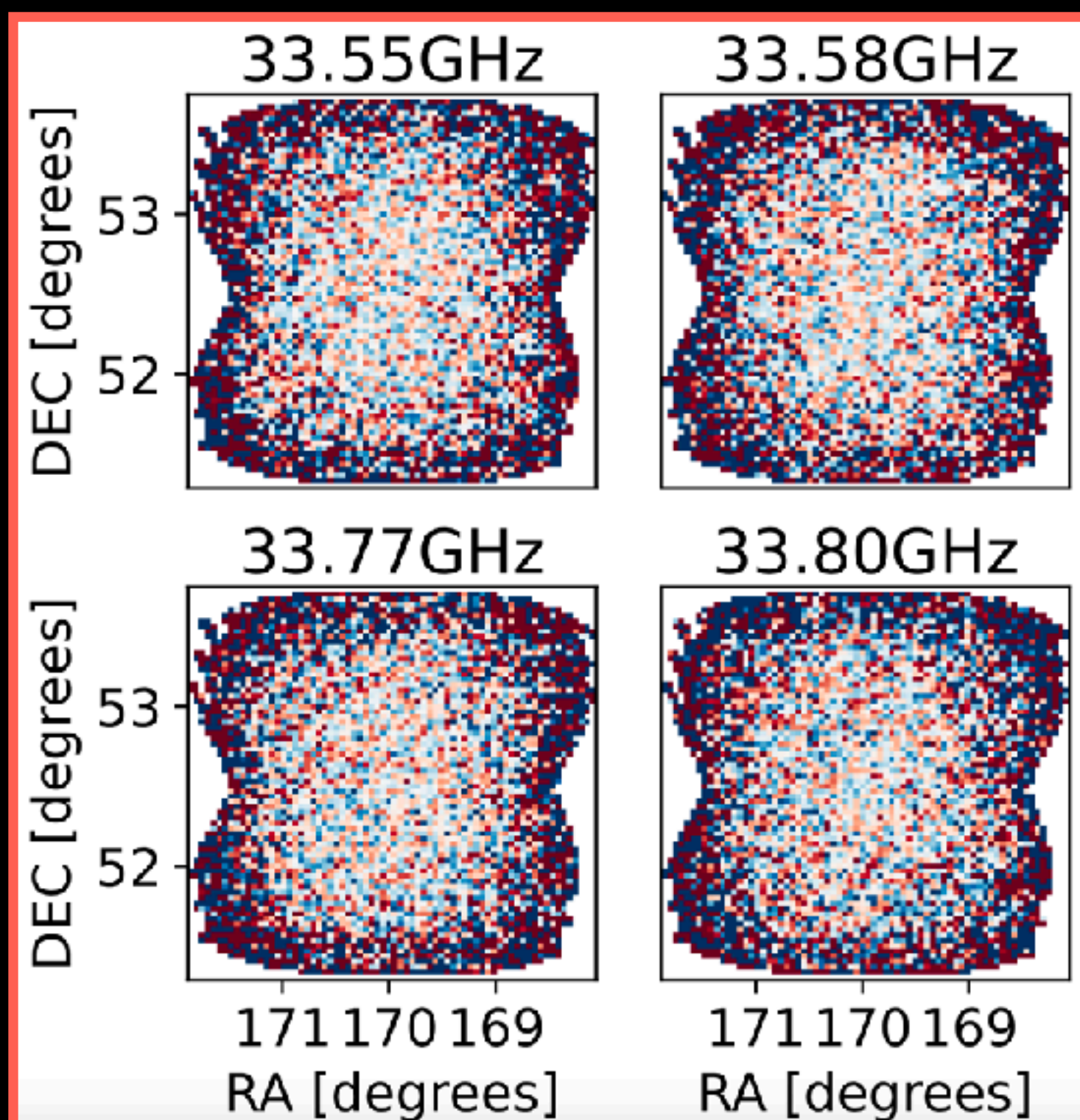


Figure 2. The optical depth for the VLA site assuming  $w_0 = 4$  mm. The solid line is the total optical depth. The dotted line is the optical depth due to water vapor. The dashed line is the optical depth due to dry air ( $O_2$  and other trace gases).

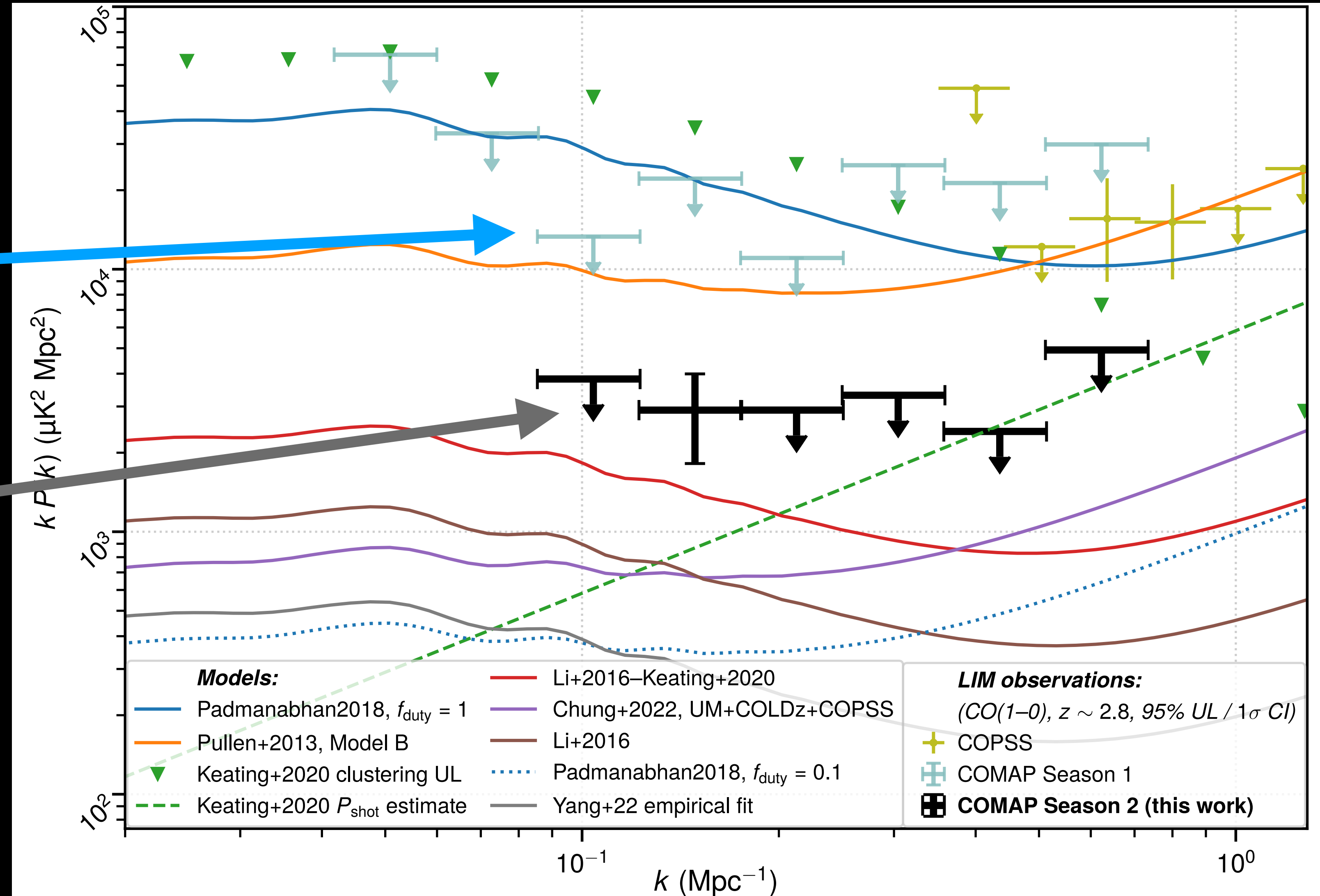
31.25 MHz frequency channel maps  
8 GHz / 31.25 MHz ~ 250 channels

$$\Delta z/z = 0.004$$



# COMAP Pathfinder: Season 2 Results

- Season 1 (May 2019 - August 2020; 5,200 on-sky observation hours)
- Season 2 (November 2020 - November 2023; 12,300 on-sky observation hours)



# COMAP Pathfinder: Season 2 Results

$$\langle T_{\text{CO}} \rangle = 0.72_{-0.30}^{+0.45} \mu\text{K}$$

(mean CO temperature)

$$\alpha_{\text{CO}} = 3.6 M_{\odot} (\text{K km s}^{-1} \text{ pc}^{-2})^{-1}$$

$$\rho_{\text{H}_2} = 5.0_{-2.1}^{+3.1} \times 10^7 M_{\odot} \text{Mpc}^{-3}$$

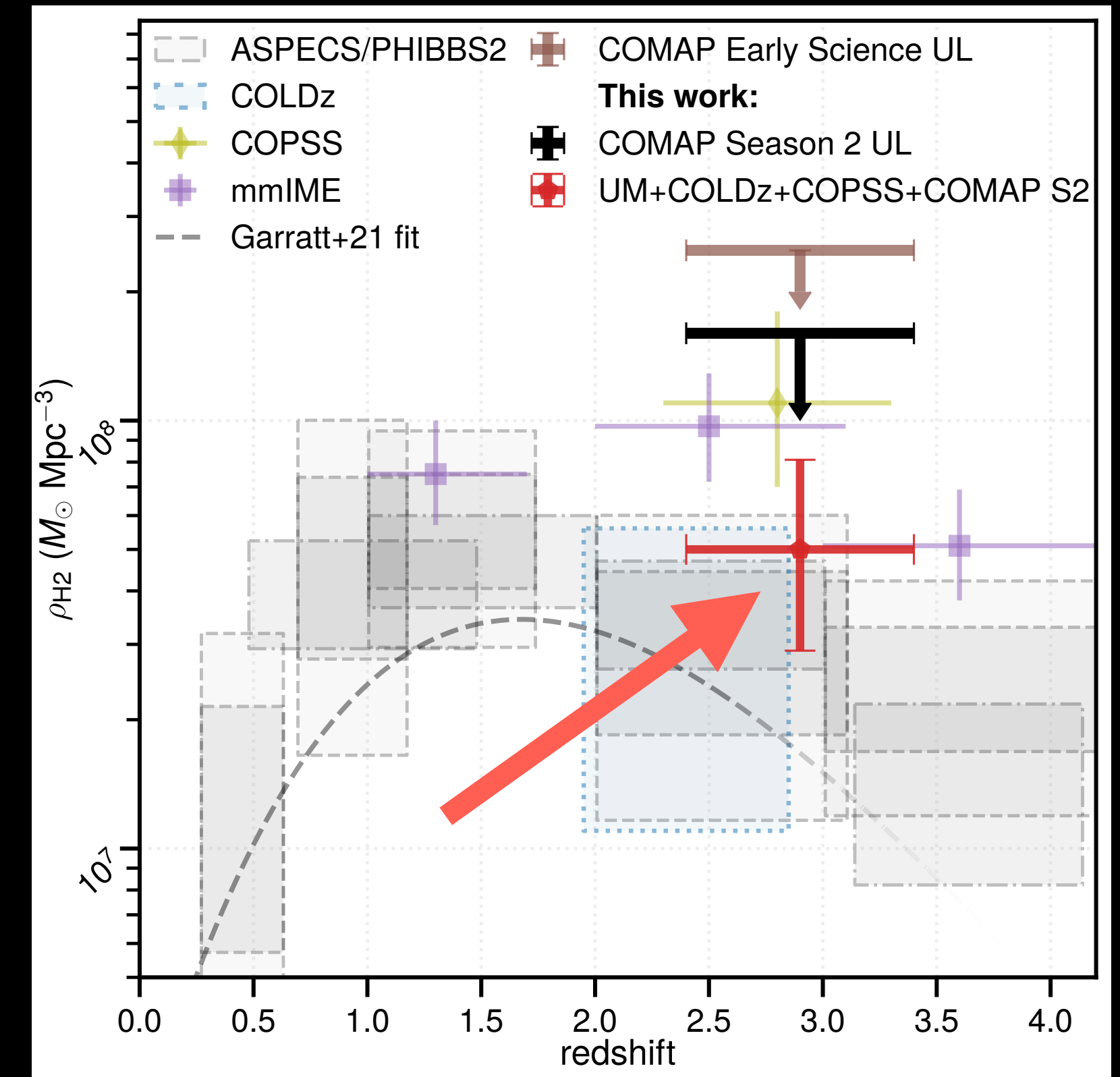
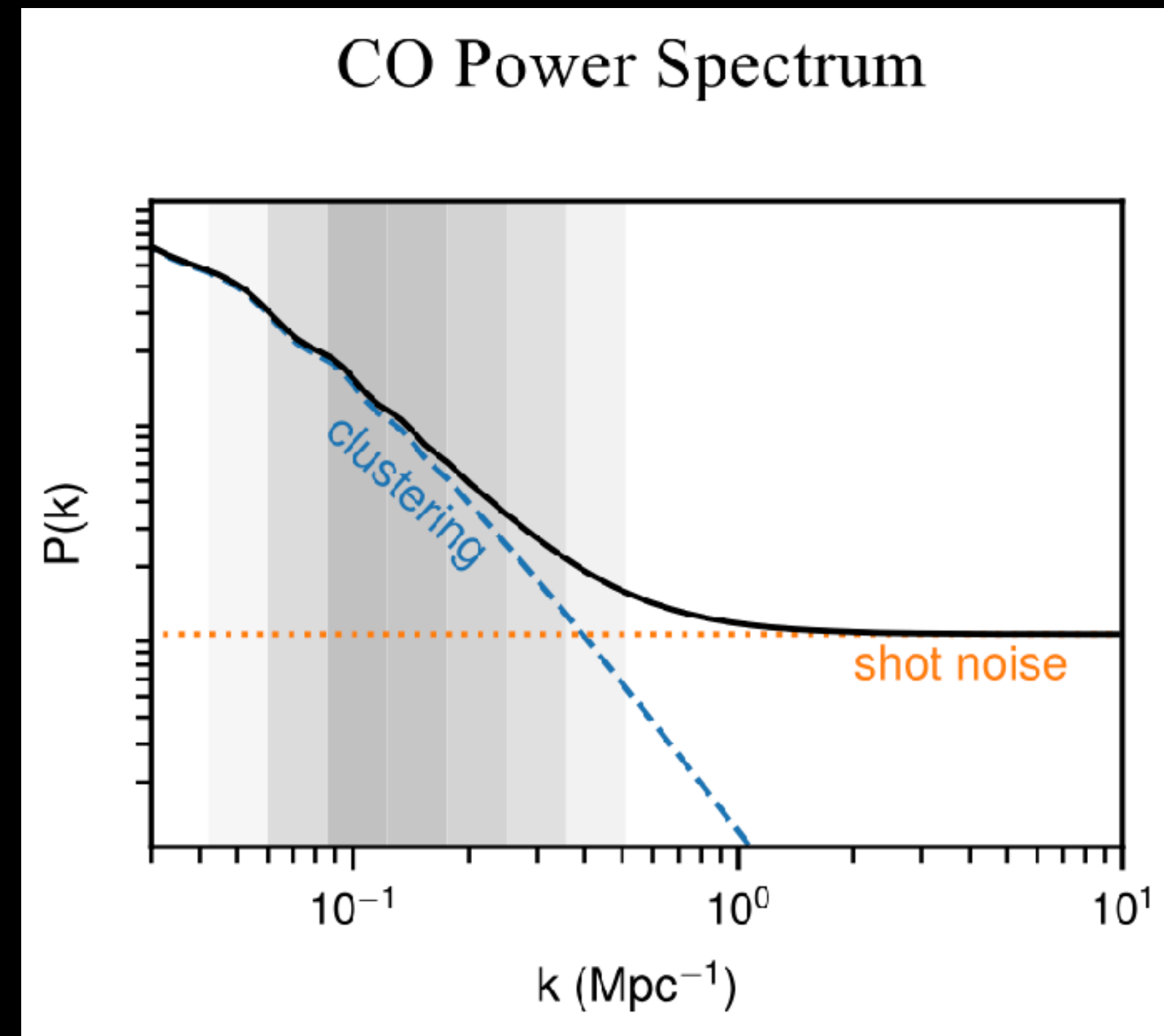
(molecular gas abundance)

Clustering amplitude  $\times$   
(Underlying matter  
power spectrum)

+

shot noise

$$P_{\text{CO}}(k) = A_{\text{clust}} P_m(k) + P_{\text{shot}}$$





# COMAP Pathfinder: Early Science Results (2022, 2024)

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL

## Focus on Early Science Results from the CO Mapping Array Project (COMAP)

Editor: Professor Christopher Conselice

PI: Kieran Cleary, California Institute of Technology

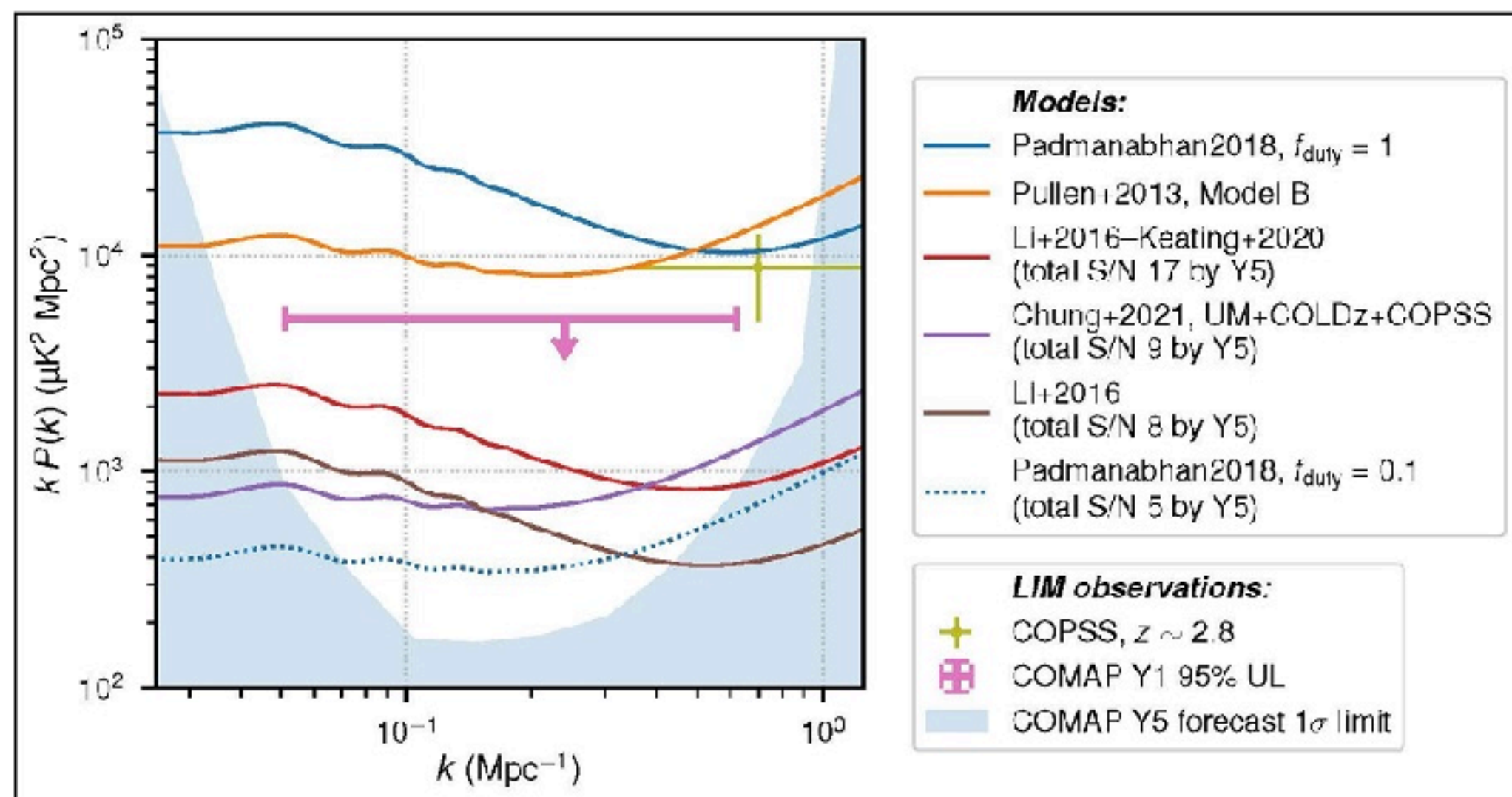


Figure 1. COMAP Pathfinder Season 1 constraint (pink) on the redshift-space CO(1–0) power spectrum at  $z \sim 3$ , alongside the predictions from various models and our Year 5 Pathfinder sensitivity forecast (blue shaded area). The models include (i) the fiducial COMAP data-driven model from Chung et al. (2021) ("UM+COLDz+COPSS"), (ii) an alternative model from Keating et al. (2020) ("Li+2016–Keating+2020") with emission from faint galaxies that may be missed by the surveys informing the fiducial model, and (iii) models based on  $L(M_h)$  relations from Padmanabhan (2017), Pullen et al. (2013), and Li et al. (2016). Also shown is the result from another CO LIM experiment, COPSS, that targeted the shot-noise component of the power spectrum (Keating et al. 2016). For each, the legend indicates the expected signal-to-noise ratio with which we would reject the null hypothesis (i.e., excluding sample variance from the calculation).

### COMAP Early Science. I. Overview

Authors: Kieran Cleary, Christopher Conselice, et al.

**Abstract:** The CO Mapping Array Project (COMAP) is a next-generation radio interferometer designed to map the CO(1-0) line emission from high-redshift galaxies. This paper provides an overview of the project's goals, science case, and current status. We describe the array configuration, which consists of 256 antennas with a maximum baseline of 100 km, and the survey strategy. We discuss the expected sensitivity and the science case for mapping CO emission from galaxies at  $z \sim 3$ . We also discuss the current status of the project, including the construction of the array and the initial observations.

### COMAP Early Science. VI. A First Look at the COMAP Galactic Plane Survey

Authors: Kieran Cleary, Christopher Conselice, et al.

**Abstract:** We present a first look at the CO(1-0) emission from the Galactic plane as observed by the COMAP Pathfinder. We describe the survey strategy, which includes a wide-field survey of the Galactic plane. We show the CO(1-0) emission and compare it to the 12CO(2-1) emission. We discuss the implications of the results for the CO-to-FIR conversion factor and the CO-to-H<sub>2</sub> conversion factor.

### COMAP Early Science. II. CO Data Processing

Authors: Kieran Cleary, Christopher Conselice, et al.

**Abstract:** We describe the data processing pipeline for the COMAP Pathfinder. We discuss the steps from raw data to calibrated data cubes. We describe the calibration process, including the use of a primary and secondary calibrator. We also discuss the data cleaning process, including the removal of RFI and the use of a self-calibration technique.

### COMAP Early Science. VII. Prospects for CO Intensity Mapping at Redshift $z \sim 3$

Authors: Kieran Cleary, Christopher Conselice, et al.

**Abstract:** We discuss the prospects for CO intensity mapping (CO-IM) at redshift  $z \sim 3$  with the COMAP Pathfinder. We discuss the expected sensitivity and the science case for CO-IM. We also discuss the current status of the project, including the construction of the array and the initial observations.

### COMAP Early Science. III. CO Data Processing (Continued)

Authors: Kieran Cleary, Christopher Conselice, et al.

**Abstract:** This paper continues the discussion of the data processing pipeline for the COMAP Pathfinder. We describe the calibration process in more detail, including the use of a self-calibration technique. We also discuss the data cleaning process in more detail, including the removal of RFI and the use of a self-calibration technique.

### COMAP Early Science. VIII. A First Look at the COMAP Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB) Signal

Authors: Kieran Cleary, Christopher Conselice, et al.

**Abstract:** We present a first look at the CMB signal as observed by the COMAP Pathfinder. We describe the survey strategy, which includes a wide-field survey of the sky. We show the CMB signal and compare it to the expected signal. We discuss the implications of the results for the CMB-to-FIR conversion factor and the CMB-to-H<sub>2</sub> conversion factor.

### COMAP Early Science. IV. Power Spectrum Methodology and Results

Authors: Kieran Cleary, Christopher Conselice, et al.

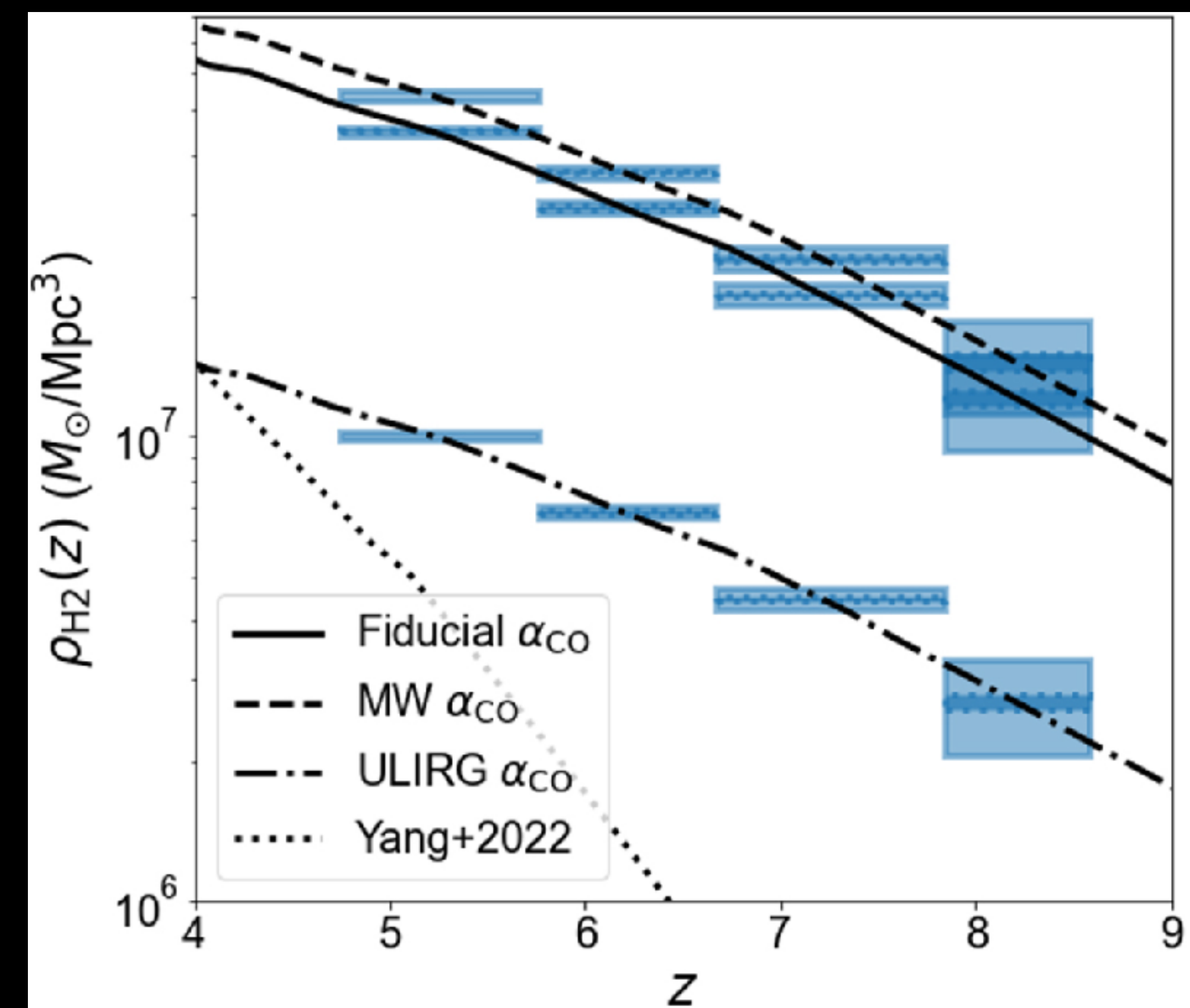
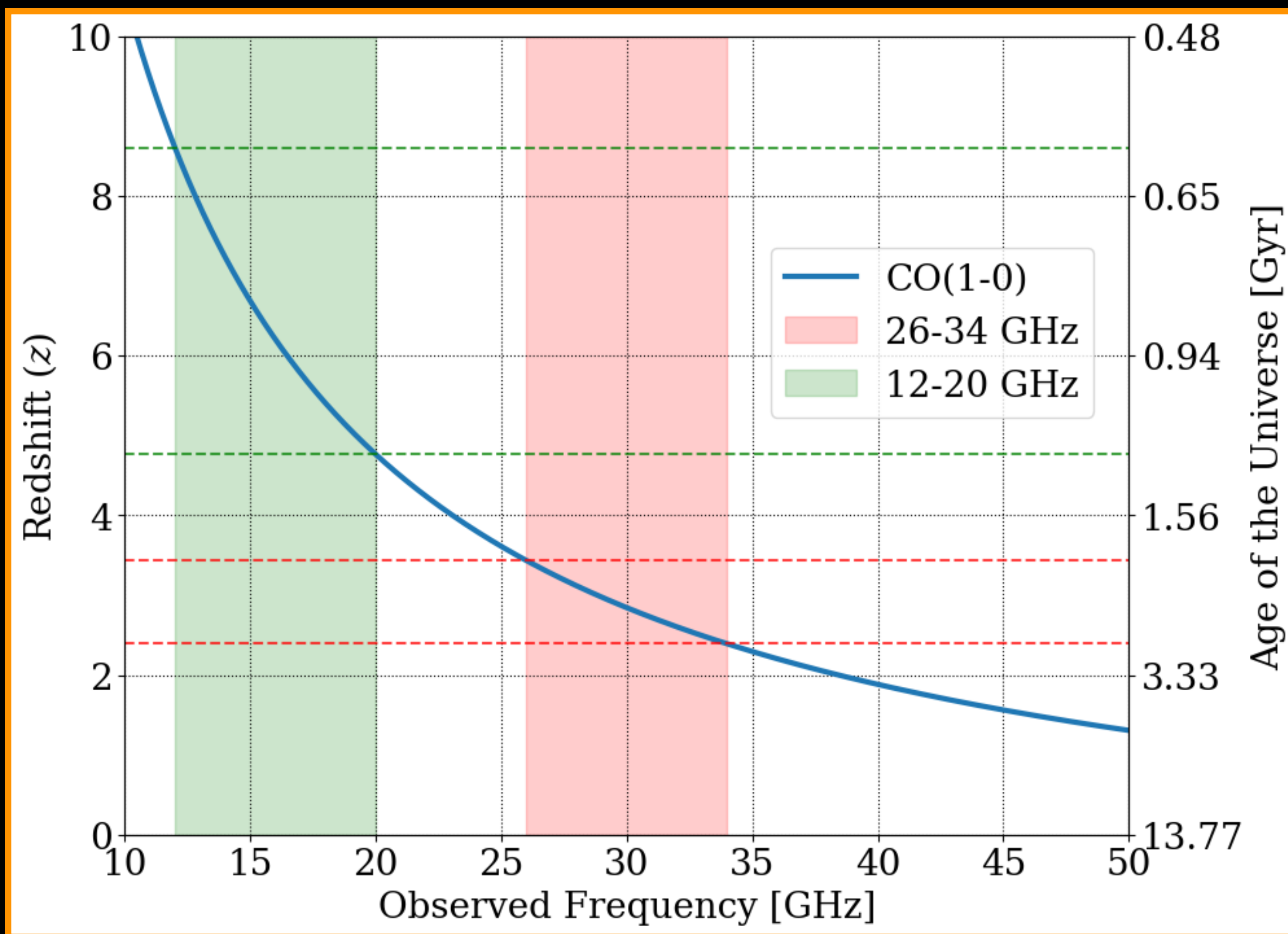
**Abstract:** We describe the power spectrum methodology used for the COMAP Pathfinder. We discuss the steps from raw data to the power spectrum. We describe the calibration process, including the use of a primary and secondary calibrator. We also discuss the data cleaning process, including the removal of RFI and the use of a self-calibration technique.

### COMAP Early Science. V. Constraints and Forecasts at $z \sim 3$

Authors: Kieran Cleary, Christopher Conselice, et al.

**Abstract:** We present constraints and forecasts for the CO(1-0) power spectrum at redshift  $z \sim 3$ . We discuss the expected sensitivity and the science case for CO-IM. We also discuss the current status of the project, including the construction of the array and the initial observations.





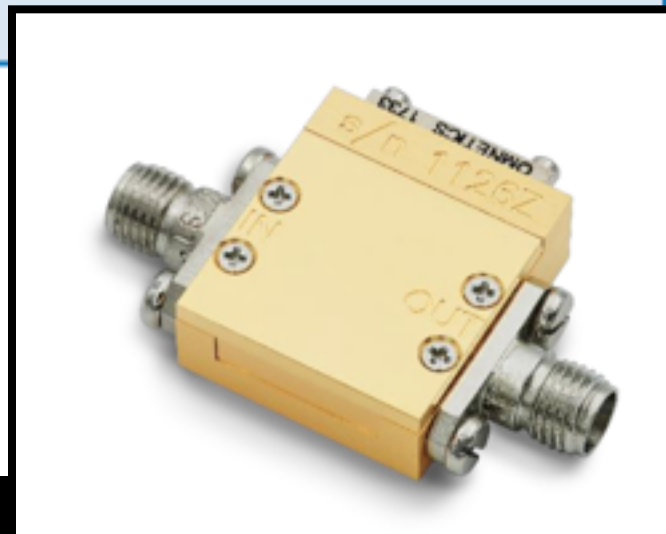
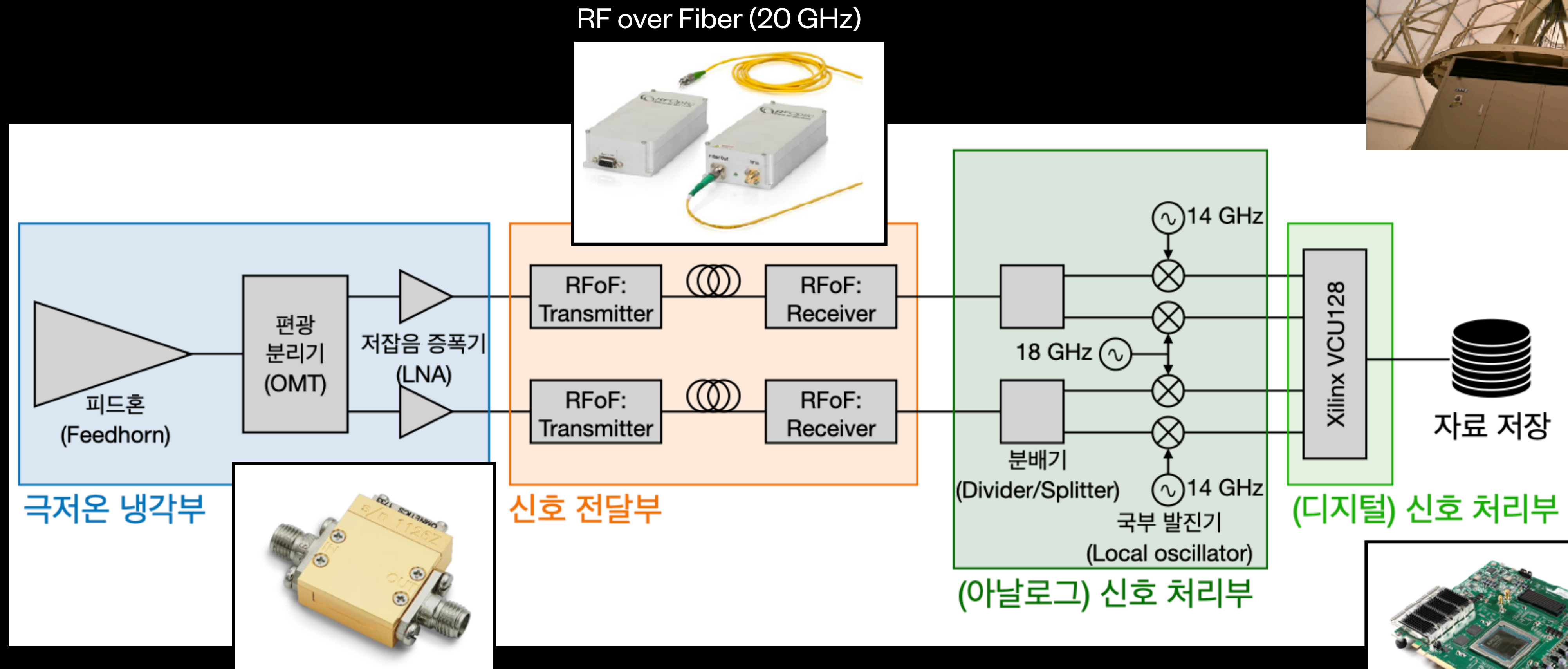
Breysse et al. (2022)

# COMAP EoR: 12-20 GHz (Ku-band)

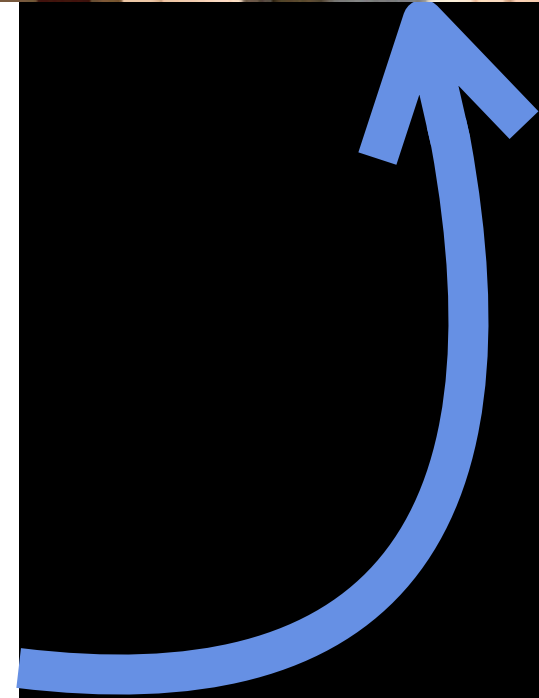
Taeduk Radio Astronomy Observatory (TRAO) 13.7 m



- Probing Epoch of Reionization: **CO LIM @12-20 GHz (z=4.8-8.6)**
- Development of a prototype receiver at KAIST (NRF funded)



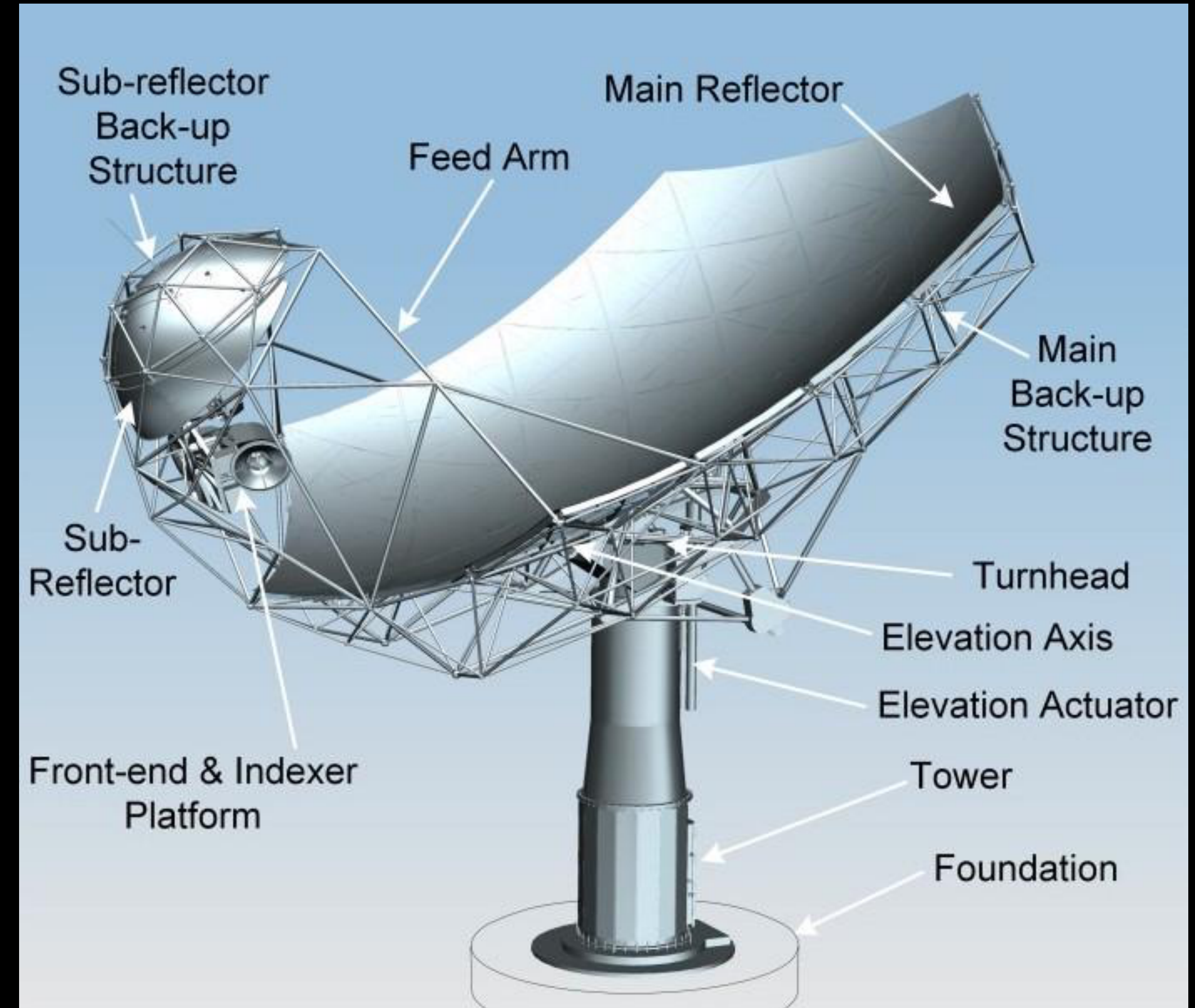
LNF-LNC6\_20C Cryogenic LNA





# (Future) Telescope Idea: SKA-Mid

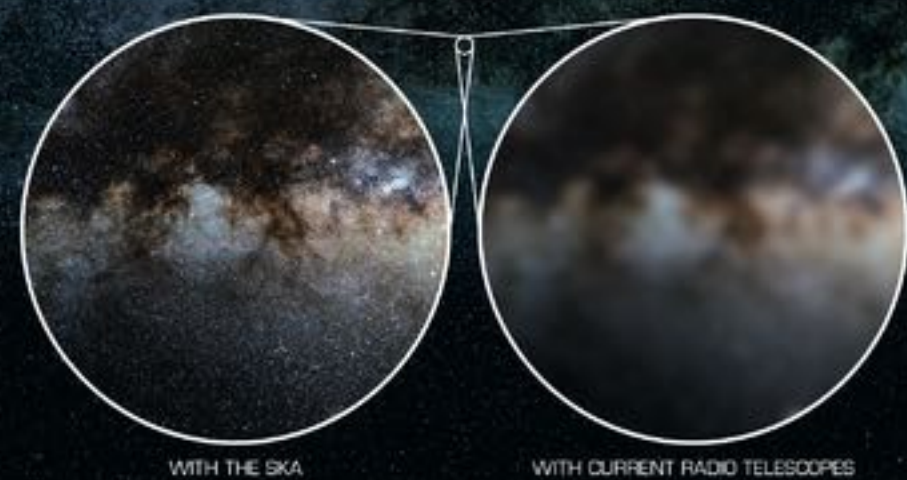
- The first prototype dish of the (15 m) SKA-Mid telescope constructed on site in South Africa has achieved first light.
- Frequency range: 350 MHz - 15.4 GHz (with a goal of 24 GHz)
- Focal plane array (~19 pixels) available
- Off-axis design: Standing wave ↓, Sidelobe performance ↑
- Southern hemisphere: Cross-correlation with SKA observations (or the other galaxy surveys)



# How will SKA1 be better than today's best radio telescopes?



Astronomers assess a telescope's performance by looking at three factors - **resolution**, **sensitivity**, and **survey speed**. With its sheer size and large number of antennas, the SKA will provide a giant leap in all three compared to existing radio telescopes, enabling it to revolutionise our understanding of the Universe.

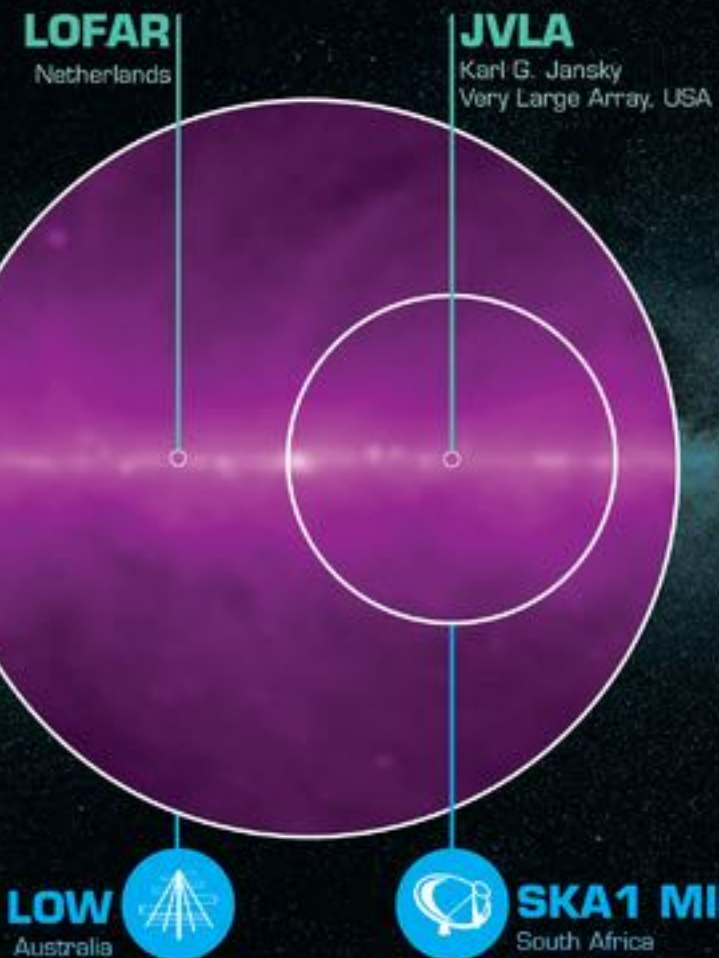


**SKA1 LOW x1.2** LOFAR NL  
**SKA1 MID x4** JVLA

## RESOLUTION

Thanks to its size, the SKA will see smaller details, making radio images less blurry, like reading glasses help distinguish smaller letters.

[www.skatelescope.org](http://www.skatelescope.org) [f](#) Square Kilometre Array [t](#) @SKA\_telescope [v](#) YouTube The Square Kilometre Array



**SKA1 LOW x135** LOFAR NL  
**SKA1 MID x60** JVLA

## SURVEY SPEED

Thanks to its sensitivity and ability to see a larger area of the sky at once, the SKA will be able to observe more of the sky in a given time and so map the sky faster.

The **Square Kilometre Array (SKA)** will be the world's largest radio telescope. It will be built in two phases - SKA1 and SKA2 - starting in 2018, with SKA1 representing a fraction of the full SKA. SKA1 will include two instruments - **SKA1 MID** and **SKA1 LOW** - observing the Universe at different frequencies.



**SKA1 LOW x8** LOFAR NL  
**SKA1 MID x5** JVLA

## SENSITIVITY

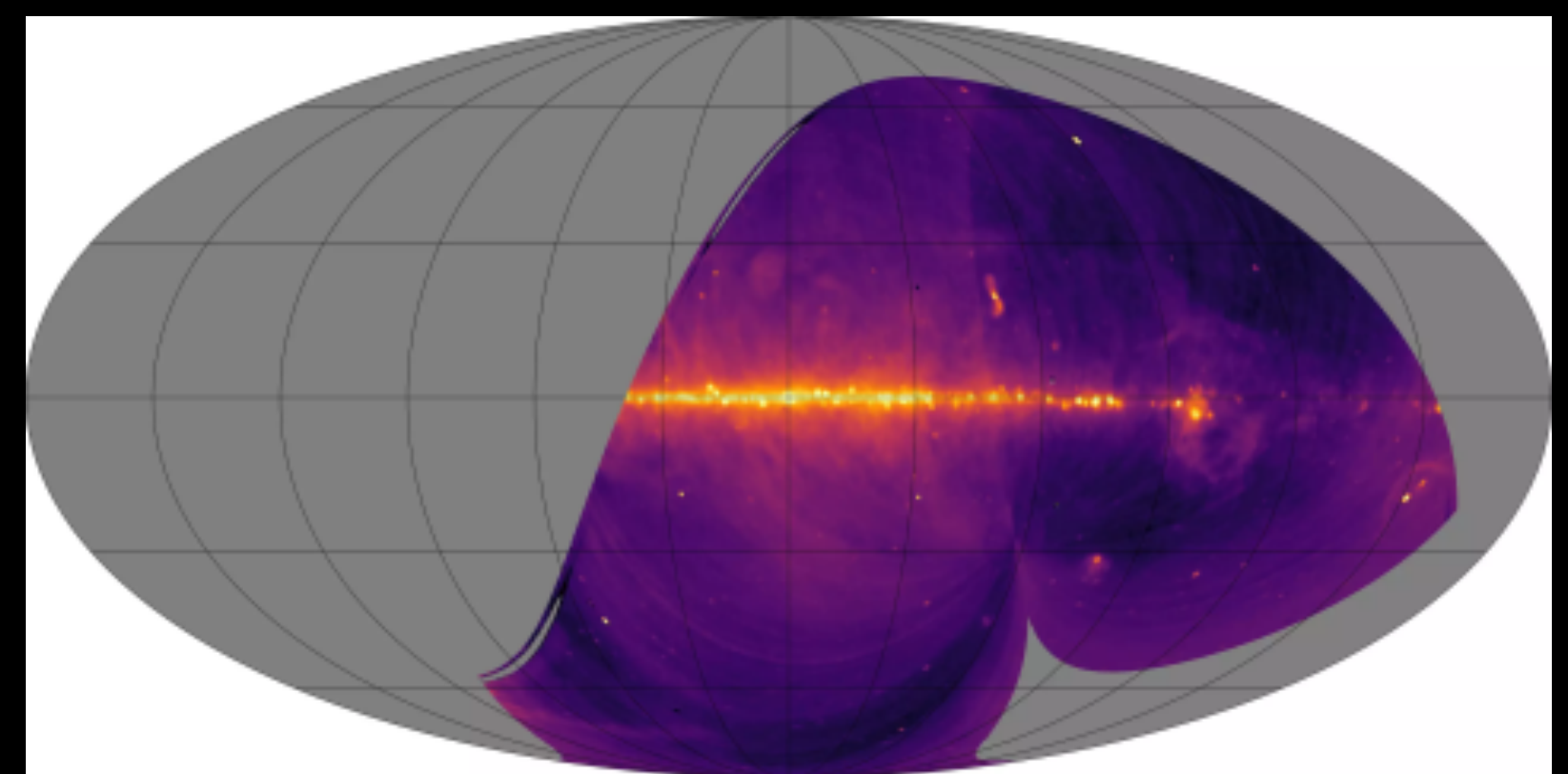
Thanks to its many antennas, the SKA will see fainter details, like a long-exposure photograph at night reveals details the eye can't see.

As the SKA isn't operational yet, we use an optical image of the Milky Way to illustrate the concepts of increased sensitivity and resolution.

# SKA-Mid prototype dish creates first light image

NEWS on 25 January 2024

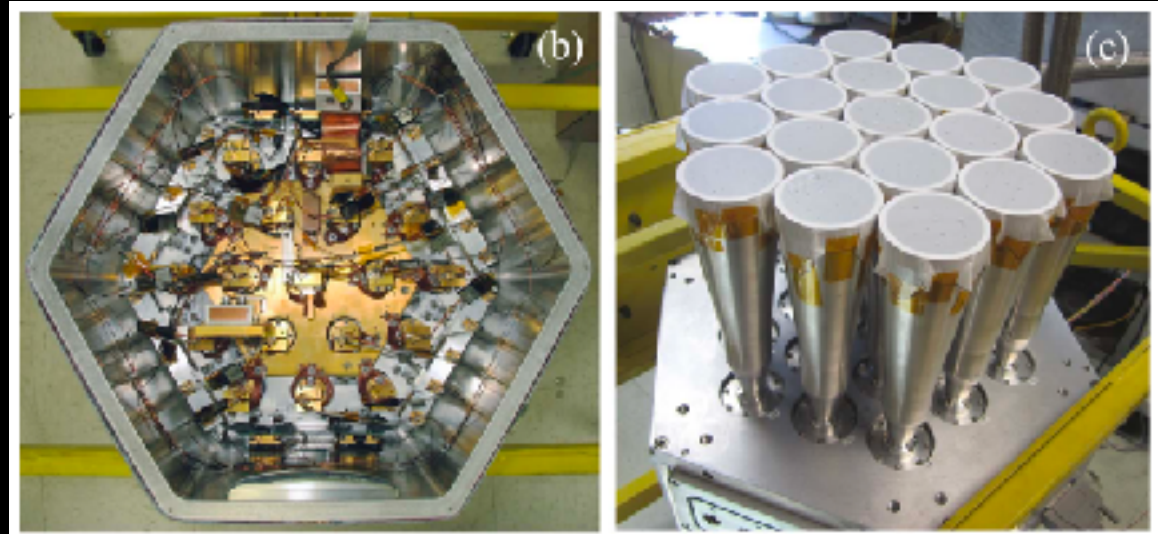
The first prototype dish of the SKA-Mid telescope constructed on site in South Africa has achieved first light.



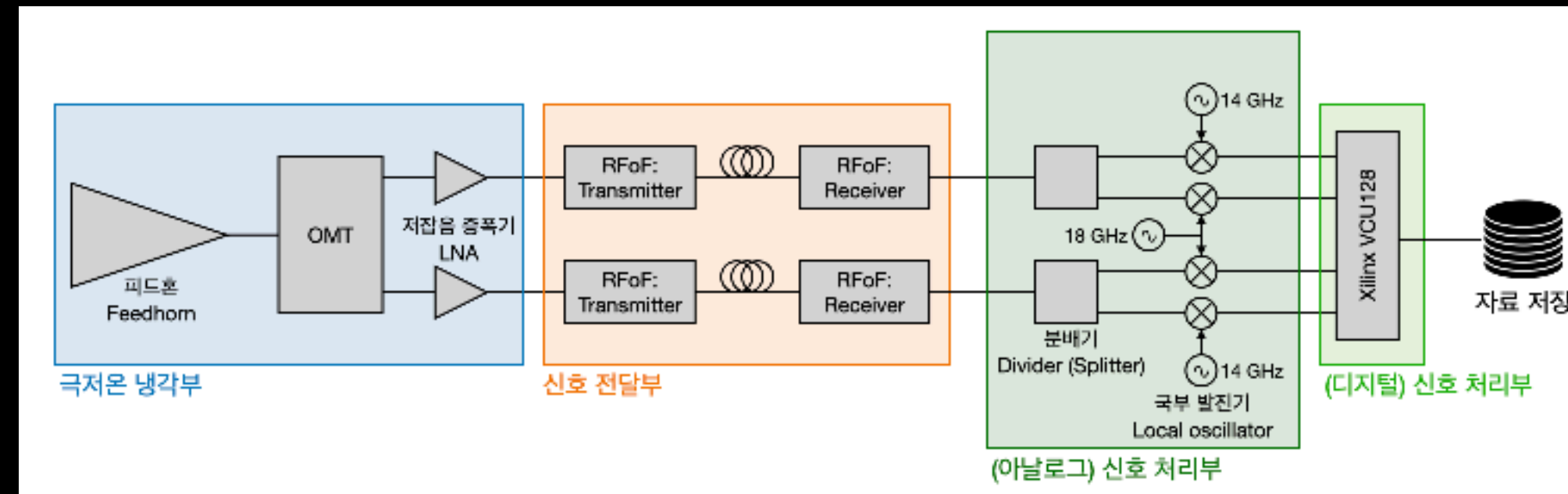
<https://www.roe.ac.uk/vdod2021/crawford-building/ska.html>

<https://www.skao.int/en/news/512/ska-mid-prototype-dish-creates-first-light-image>

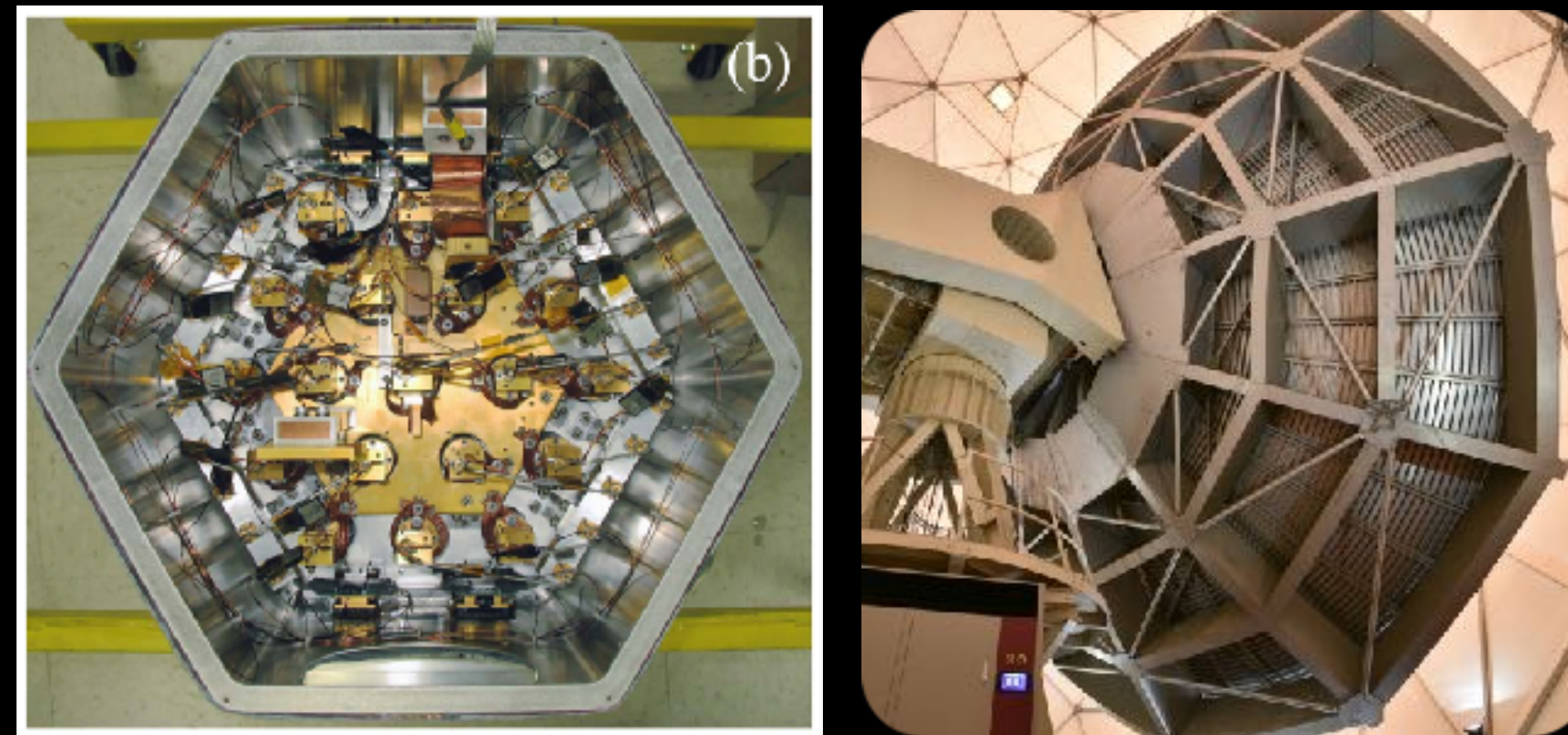
## COMAP Pathfinder 26-34 GHz ( $z=2.4 - 3.4$ )



### (1) Ku-band Prototype Receiver Development



### (2) Testing Signal Chain + Observation



## COMAP EoR 12-20 GHz ( $z=4.8 - 8.6$ )

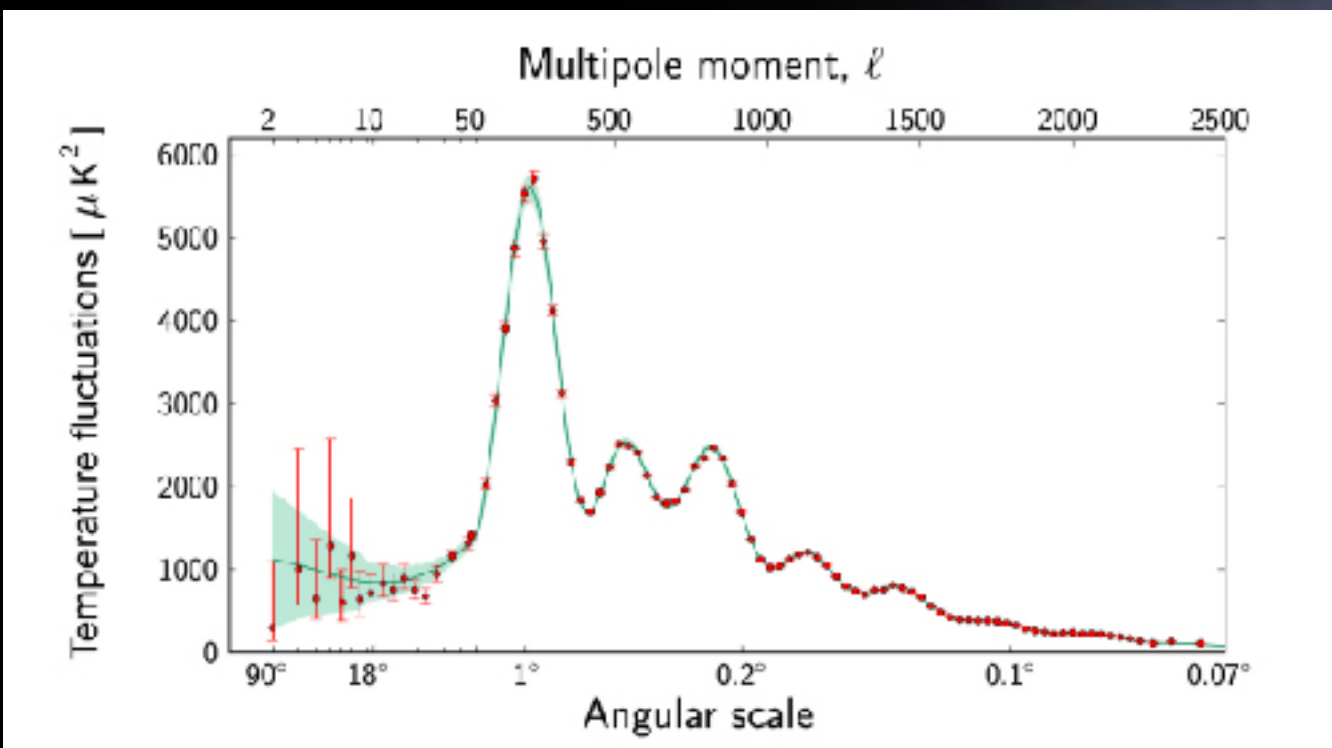


- Focal plane array
- CO LIM using single-dish radio telescopes (e.g., ngVLA, SKA)

**Exploring the History of Star and Galaxy  
Formation in the Early Universe from  $z=2.4$  to  $8.6$ ,  
Probing the 3D Large-Scale Structure**

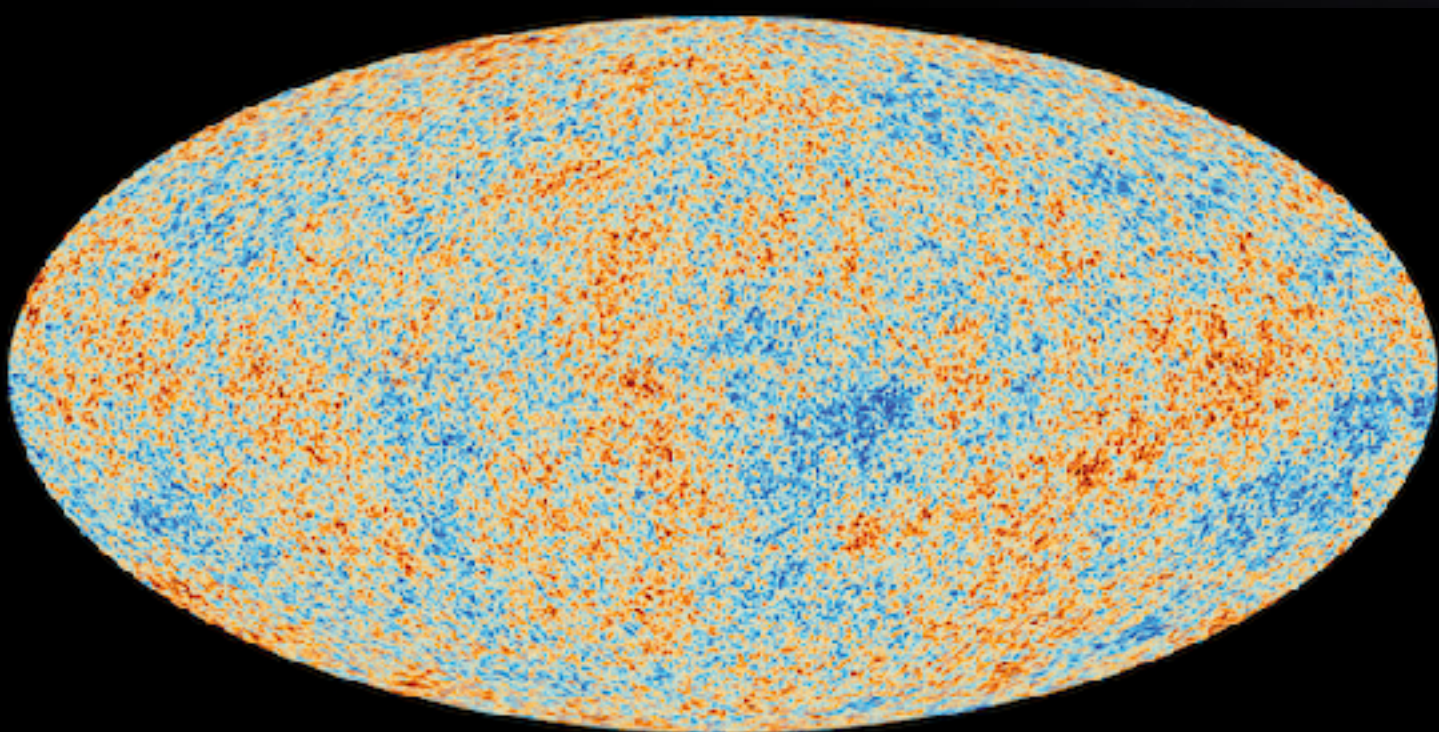


Afterglow Light  
Pattern  
400,000 yrs.



Fluctuations

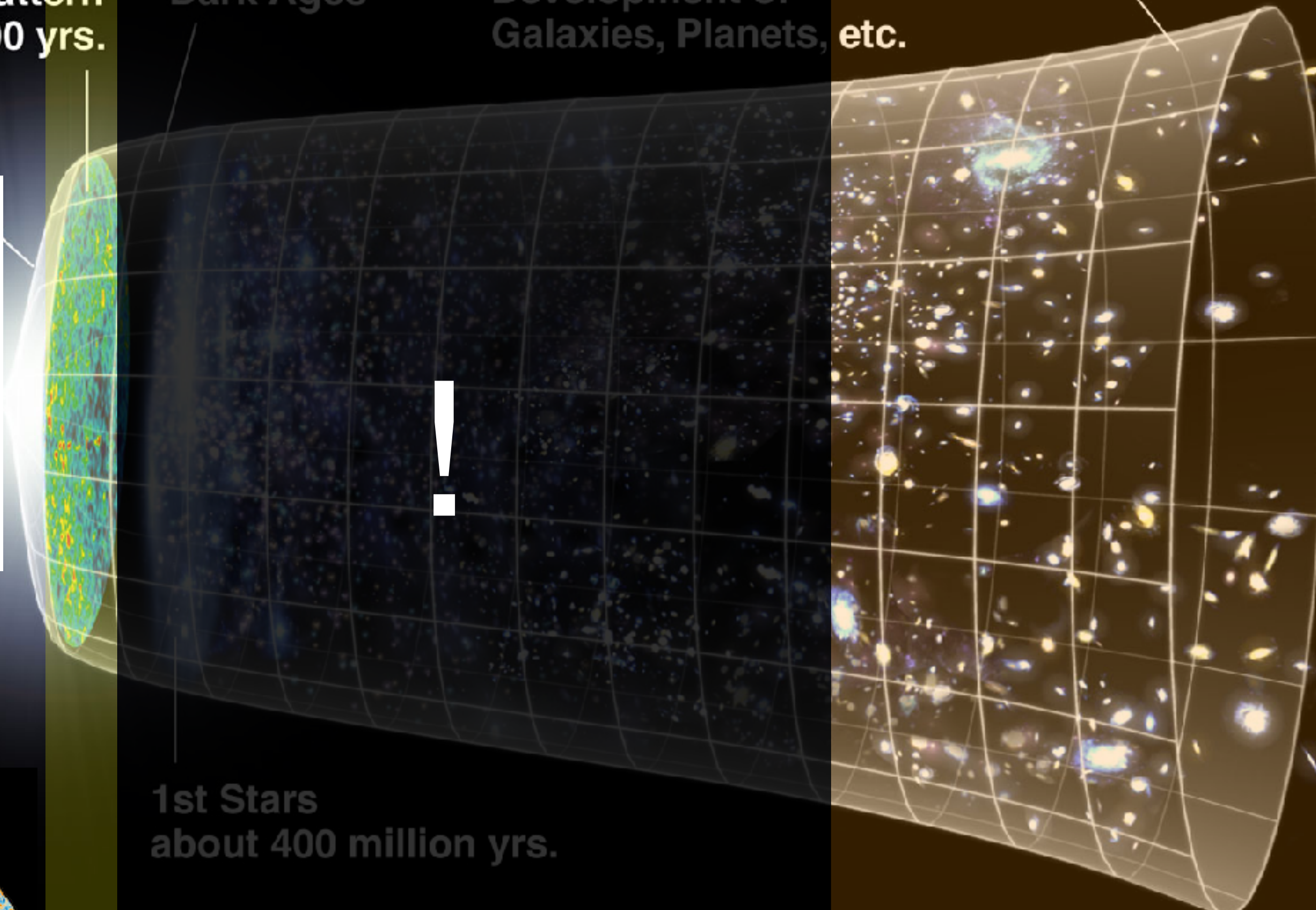
Cosmic Microwave  
Background (CMB)



Dark Ages

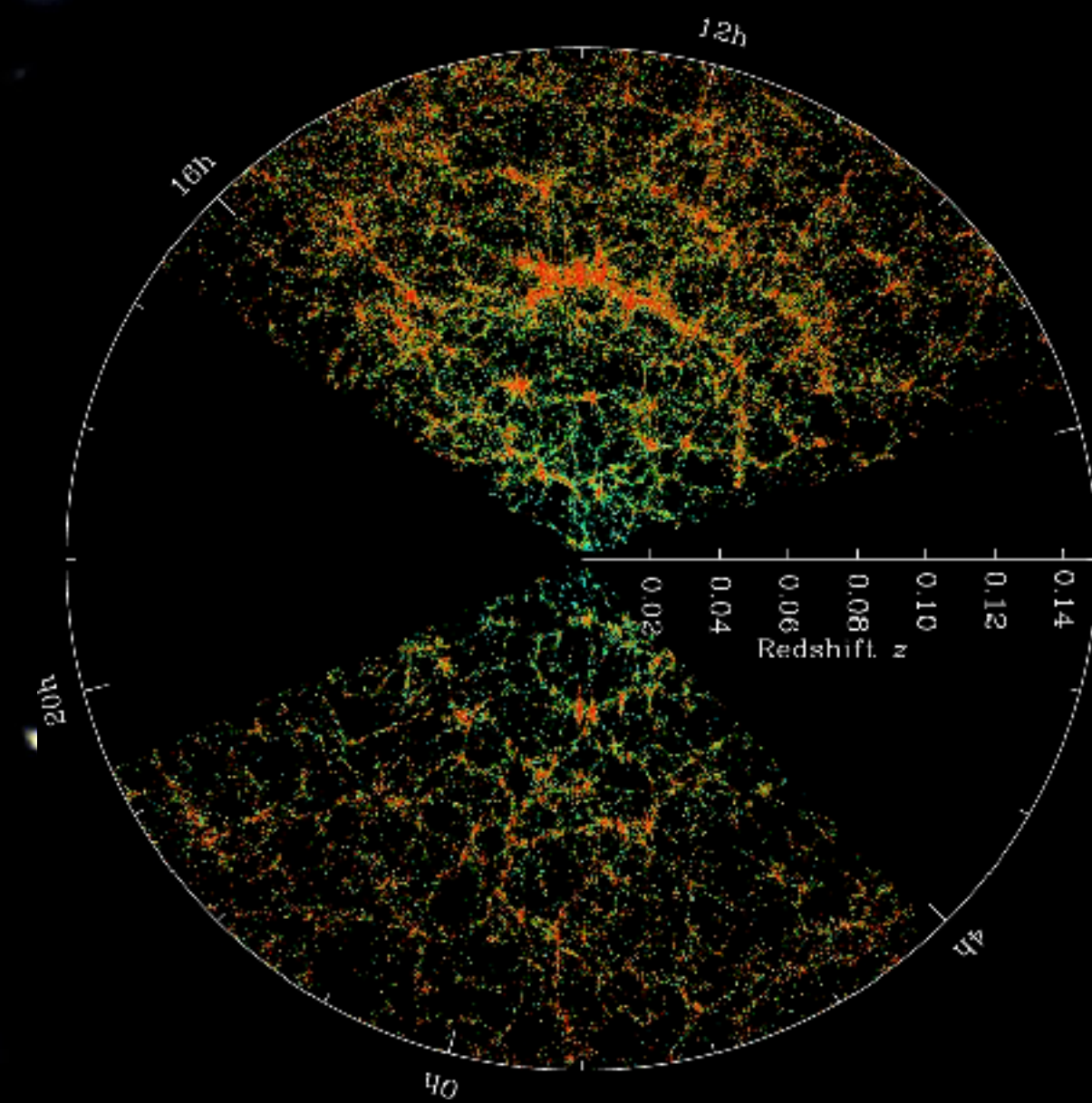
Development of  
Galaxies, Planets, etc.

Dark Energy  
Accelerated Expansion



1st Stars  
about 400 million yrs.

Big Bang Expansion  
13.7 billion years



Galaxy surveys  
 $z = 0-1+$