

# **Intensity Mapping with 21cm Observations**

**H. Cynthia Chiang**  
**Dept of Physics, McGill University**

**CCA Intensity Mapping Workshop**  
**20 February 2019**

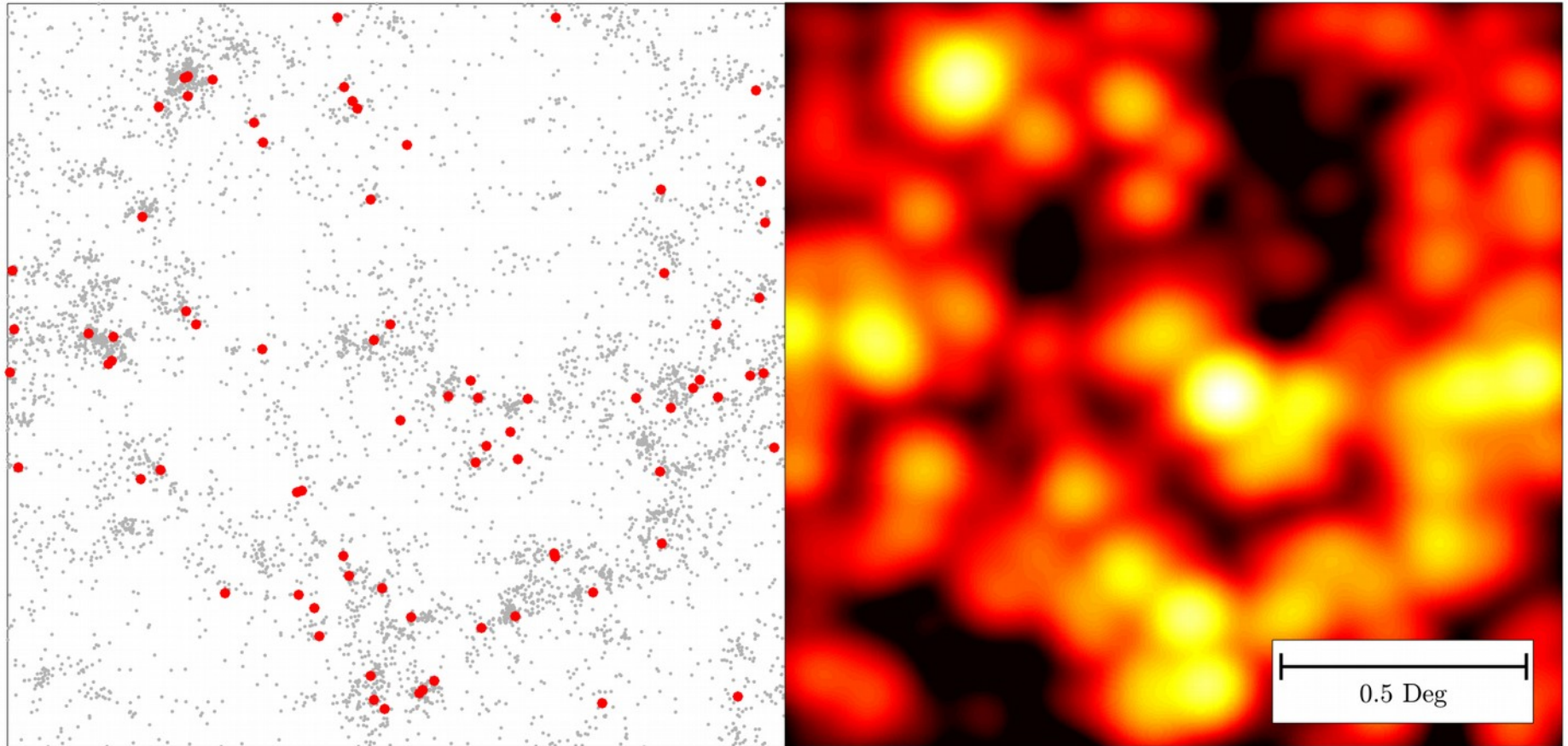
# *Intensity mapping in a nutshell*

**~4500 hours**

VLA detects ~1% of CO-emitting galaxies

**~1500 hours**

COMAP maps intensity fluctuations across field



*Image: P. Breyesse*

**Use intensity mapping to map 3D specific intensity from line emission  
and obtain statistical properties of the emitting objects**



**Big bang, inflation**

**Formation of CMB**

**Dark ages**

**Cosmic dawn**

**Reionization**

**Structure growth**

**Dark energy domination**

$z = 1100$   
150  
50

20

10

2.5

0.5





Big bang, inflation

Formation of CMB

Dark ages

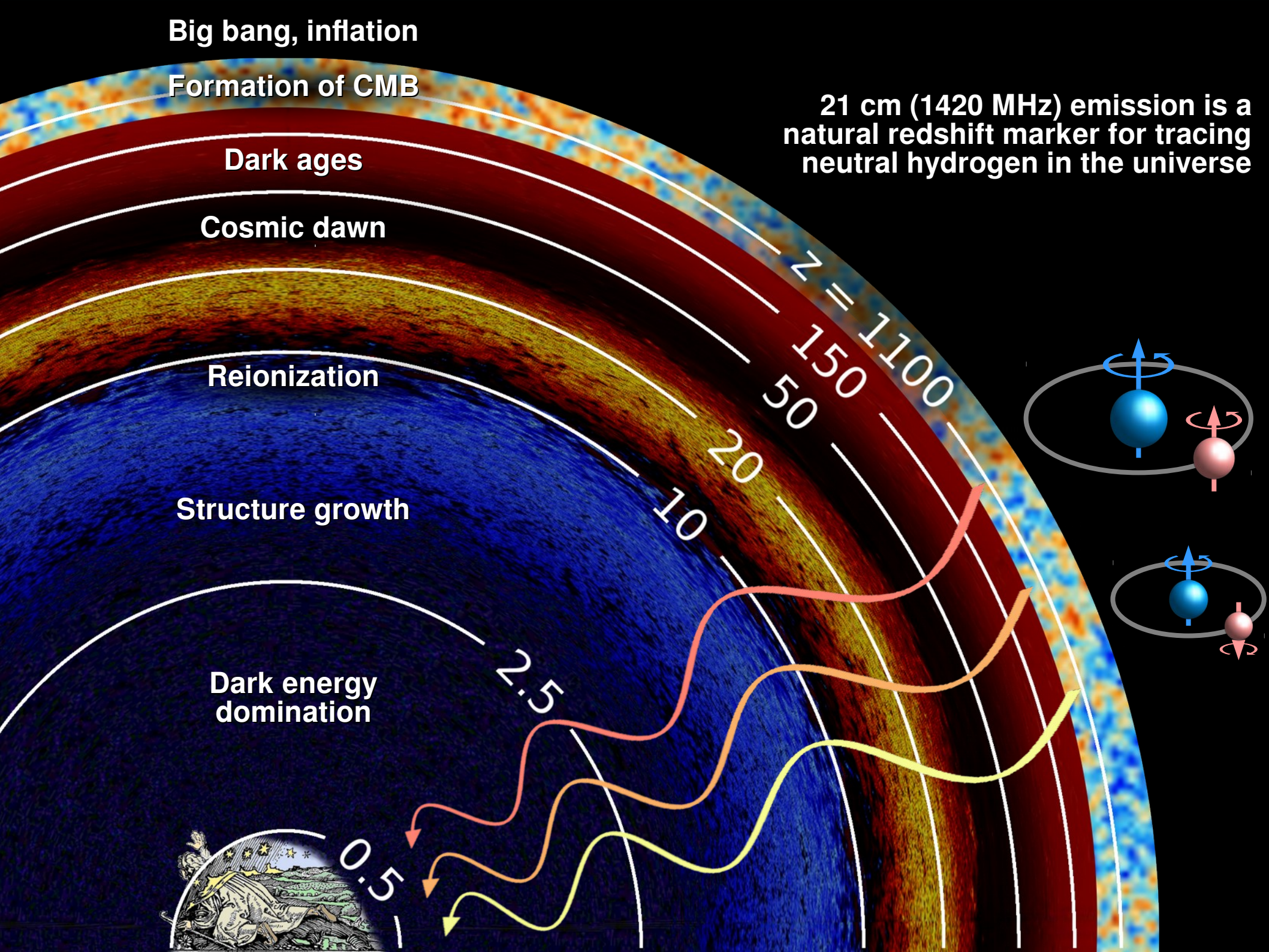
Cosmic dawn

Reionization

Structure growth

Dark energy domination

21 cm (1420 MHz) emission is a natural redshift marker for tracing neutral hydrogen in the universe





Big bang, inflation

Formation of CMB

Dark ages

Cosmic dawn

Reionization

Structure growth

Dark energy  
domination

$z = 1100$   
150

50

20

10

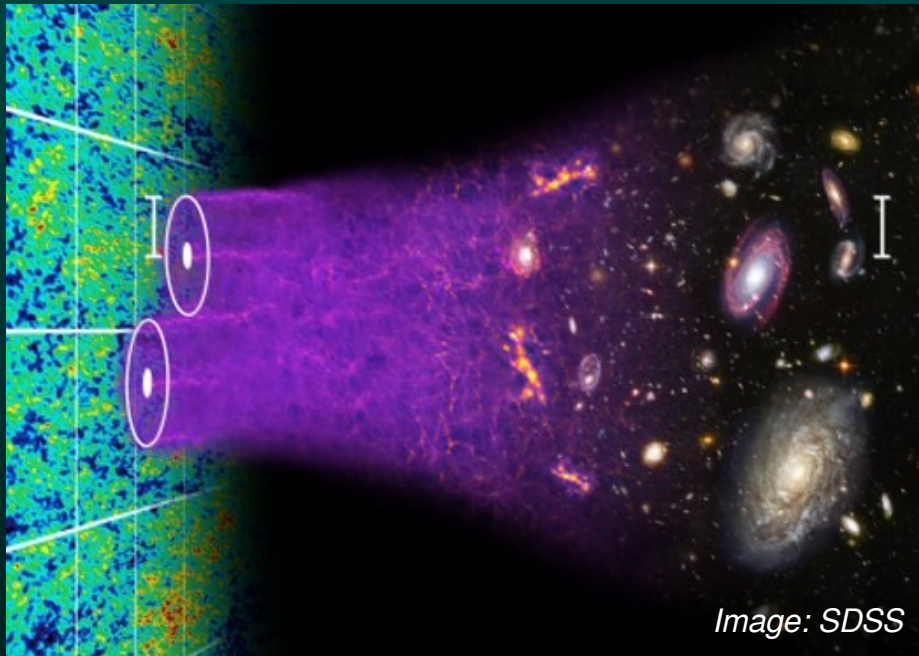
2.5

0.5  
1





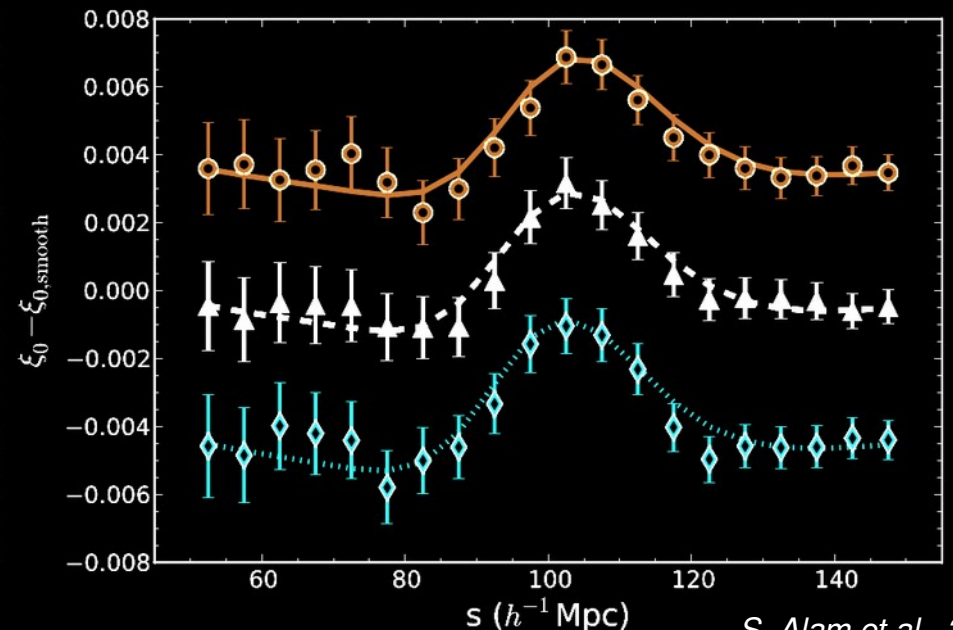
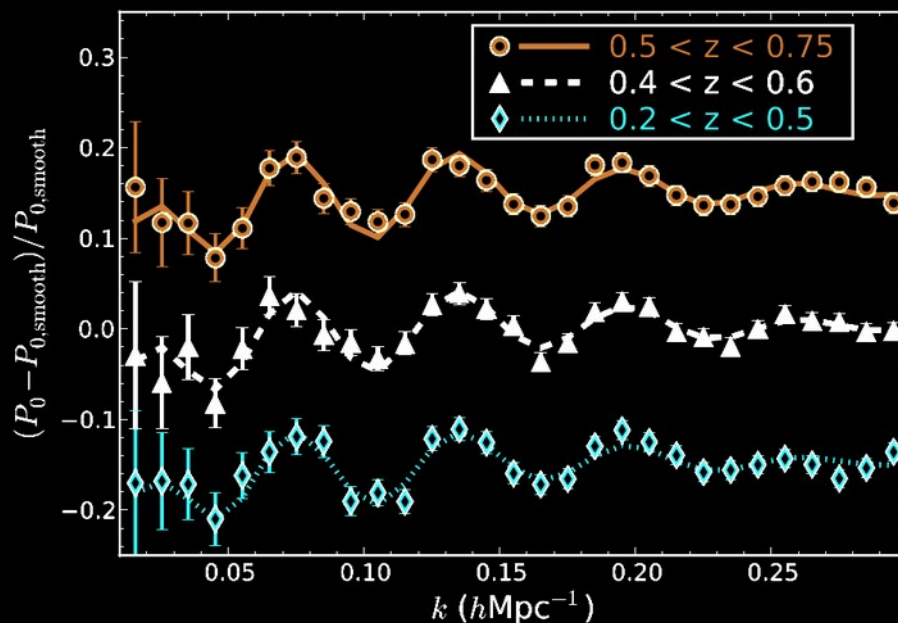
# Baryon acoustic oscillations



Galaxy positions “remember” acoustic waves from the early universe: sound horizon sets characteristic 150 Mpc scale

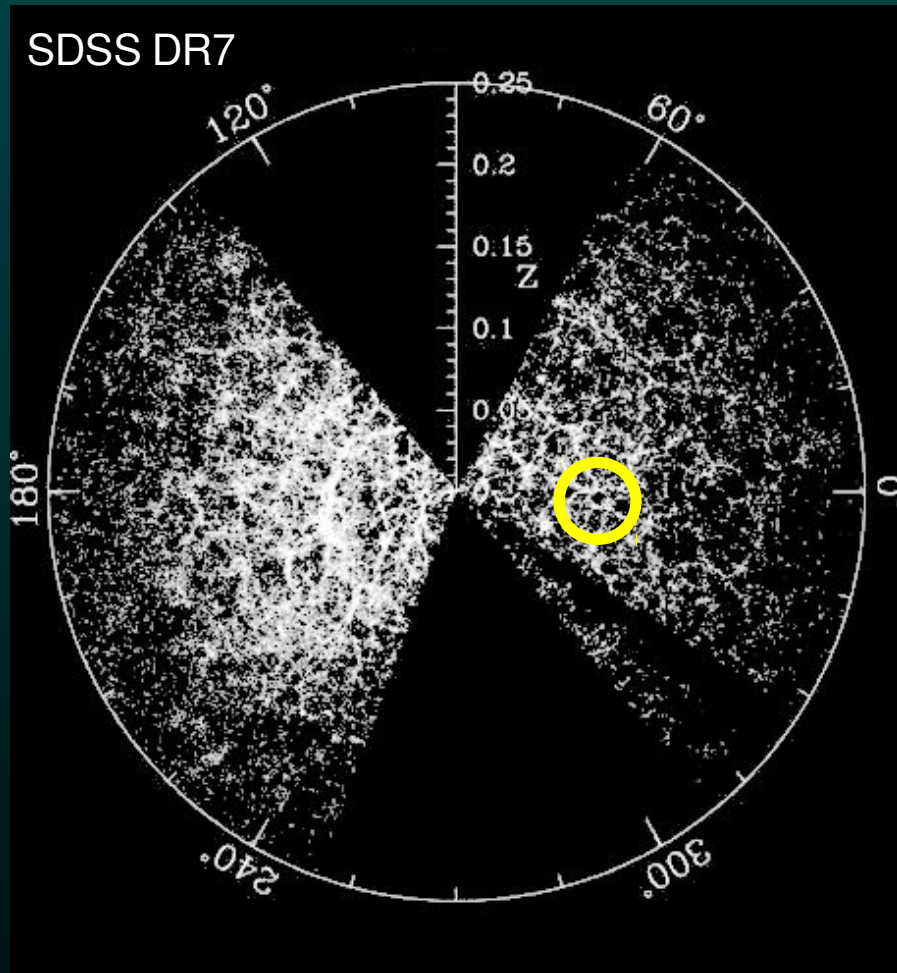
Measure galaxy positions → should see ripples in the power spectrum, peak in the correlation function

DR12 release from SDSS-III shown below, redshift range  $0.2 < z < 0.75$





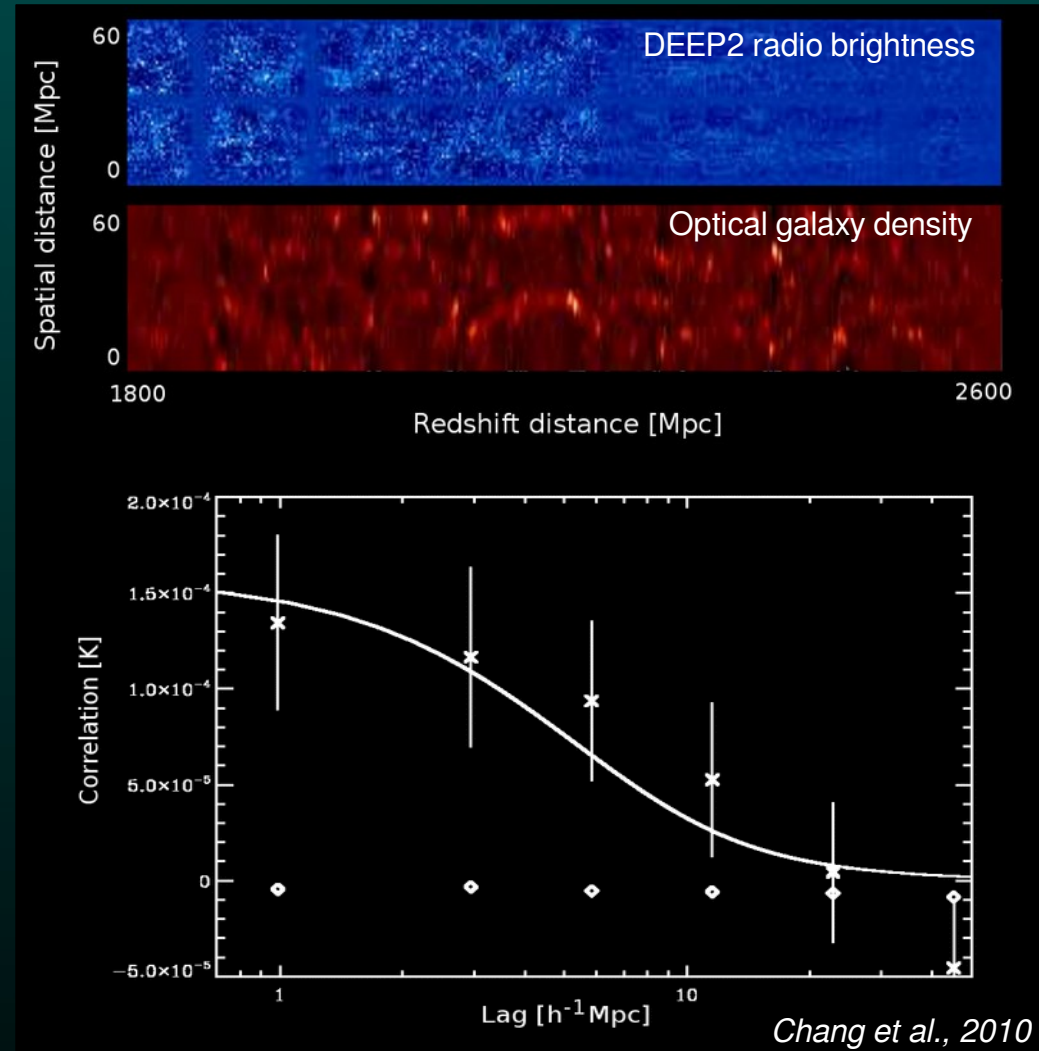
# BAOs with hydrogen intensity mapping



We want large volumes (large sky, large  $z$  range) for precision cosmology

...but counting individual galaxies is hard, and getting to high redshifts is challenging

150 Mpc scale is big (degree scale)

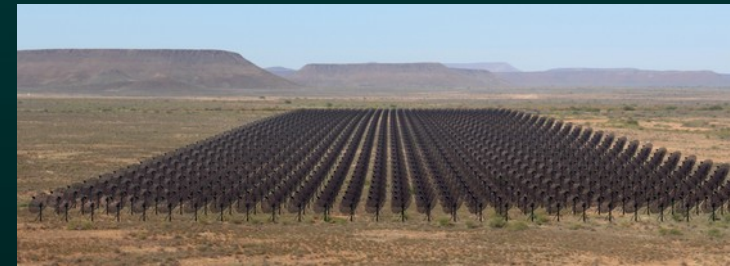
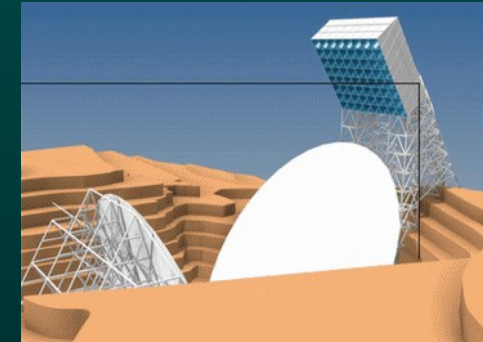


Throw away resolution: use HI intensity mapping to measure matter distribution AND obtain redshift information.

Use BAO peak as a standard ruler to chart the universe's expansion history, probe dark energy.



# Experiments at $z < 2.5$



	MeerKAT	Tianlai	BINGO	GBT	CHIME	HIRAX
<b>Site</b>	Karoo	Xinjiang	Brazil	Green Bank	DRAO, Canada	Karoo
<b>Type</b>	Dish array	Cylinder+dish	Multi-feed dish	Single dish	Cylinder array	Dish array
<b>Freq (MHz)</b>	580 – 1670	400 – 1500	960 – 1260	670 – 910	400 – 800	400 – 800
<b>z range</b>	$0 < z < 1.45$	$0 < z < 2.5$	$0.13 < z < 0.48$	$0.53 < z < 1.12$	$0.8 < z < 2.5$	$0.8 < z < 2.5$
<b>FOV</b>	$1^\circ$	NS x $3^\circ$	$15^\circ$	15 arcmin	$100^\circ \times 1^\circ - 2^\circ$	$5^\circ - 10^\circ$
<b>Resolution</b>	10 arcsec	14 arcmin	40 arcmin	15 arcmin	14 – 32 arcmin	6 – 12 arcmin
<b>Coll. area</b>	9000 m <sup>2</sup>	10,000 m <sup>2</sup>	>500 m <sup>2</sup>	9300 m <sup>2</sup>	8000 m <sup>2</sup>	28,000 m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Coverage</b>	4000 deg <sup>2</sup>	North	3000 deg <sup>2</sup>	2 x DEEP2 + ?	North	South



Big bang, inflation

Formation of CMB

Dark ages

Cosmic dawn

Reionization

Structure growth

Dark energy domination

$z = 1100$   
150  
50

20

10

2.5

0.5





**Big bang, inflation**

**Formation of CMB**

**Dark ages**

**Cosmic dawn**

**Reionization**

**Structure growth**

**Dark energy domination**

$z = 1100$   
150

50

20

10

2.5

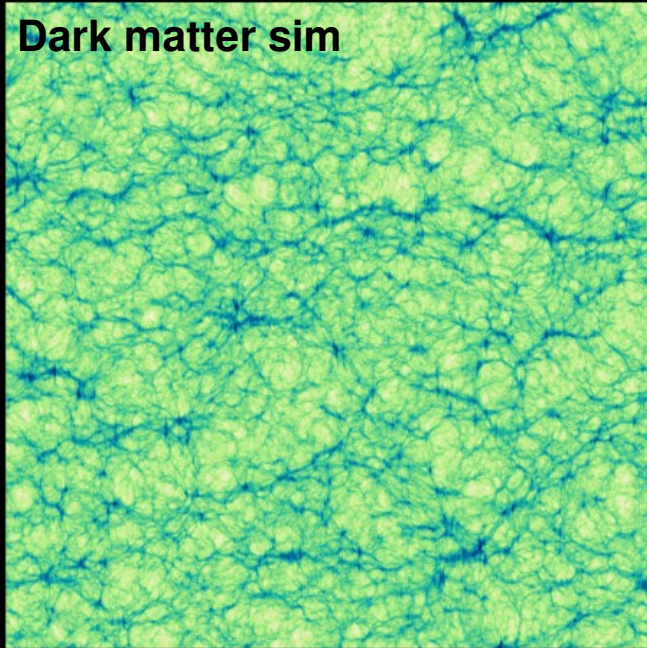
0.5



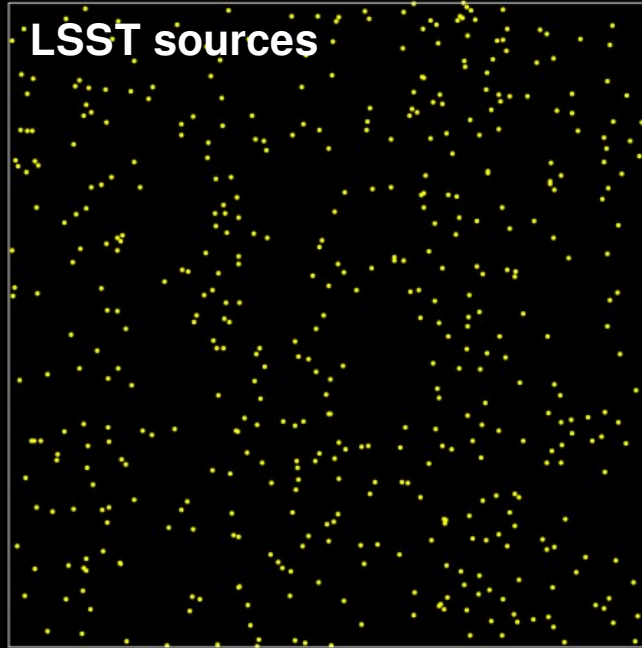


# *Pre-acceleration, post-reionization era*

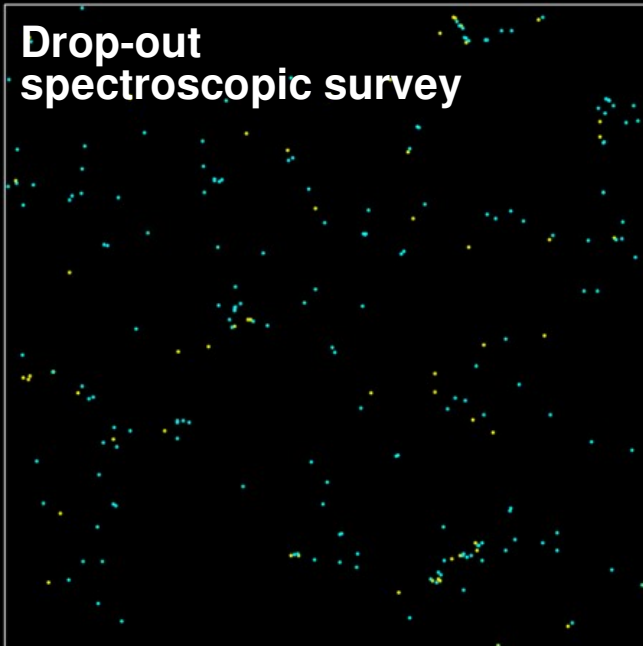
**Dark matter sim**



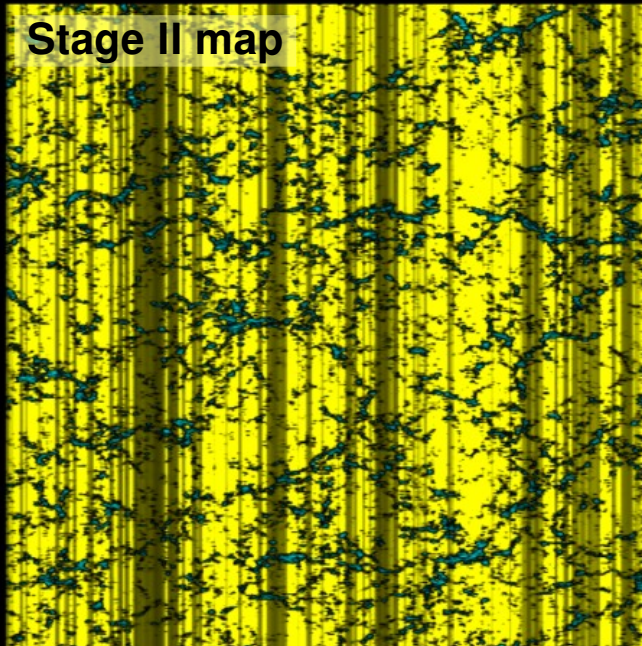
**LSST sources**



**Drop-out spectroscopic survey**



**Stage II map**



Extend characterization of universe's expansion history to this era

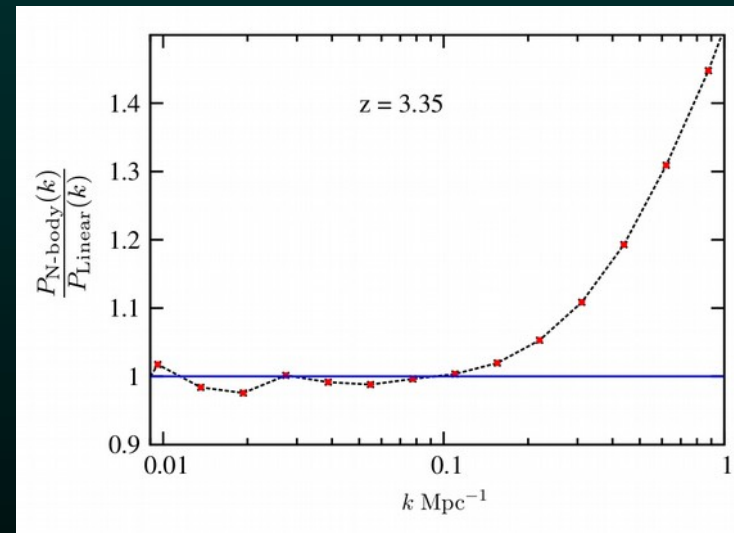
Constrain inflationary relics via primordial power spectrum features

Improved constraints on primordial non-Gaussianity



# Experiments at $2 < z < 10$

- No dedicated HI experiments spanning  $2 < z < 5$ 
  - Lots of experiments in this range for other line emission
  - Several HI experiments at  $z > 5$  (coming up in a few slides)
- A couple experiments in the redshift gap:
  - GMRT @  $z = 3.37$  (325 MHz)
  - Ooty Wide Field Array @  $z = 3.35$  (327 MHz)



Density fluctuation PS ratio: N-body vs linear

- Future and proposed experiments:
  - SKA-LOW @  $3 < z < 27$  (50 – 350 MHz)
  - Cosmic Visions Dark Energy Stage II experiment @  $2 < z < 6$  (200 – 500 MHz)



Big bang, inflation

Formation of CMB

Dark ages

Cosmic dawn

Reionization

Structure growth

Dark energy domination

$z = 1100$   
150

50

20

10

2.5

0.5





**Big bang, inflation**

**Formation of CMB**

**Dark ages**

**Cosmic dawn**

**Reionization**

**Structure growth**

**Dark energy domination**

$z = 1100$   
150  
50

20

10

2.5

0.5



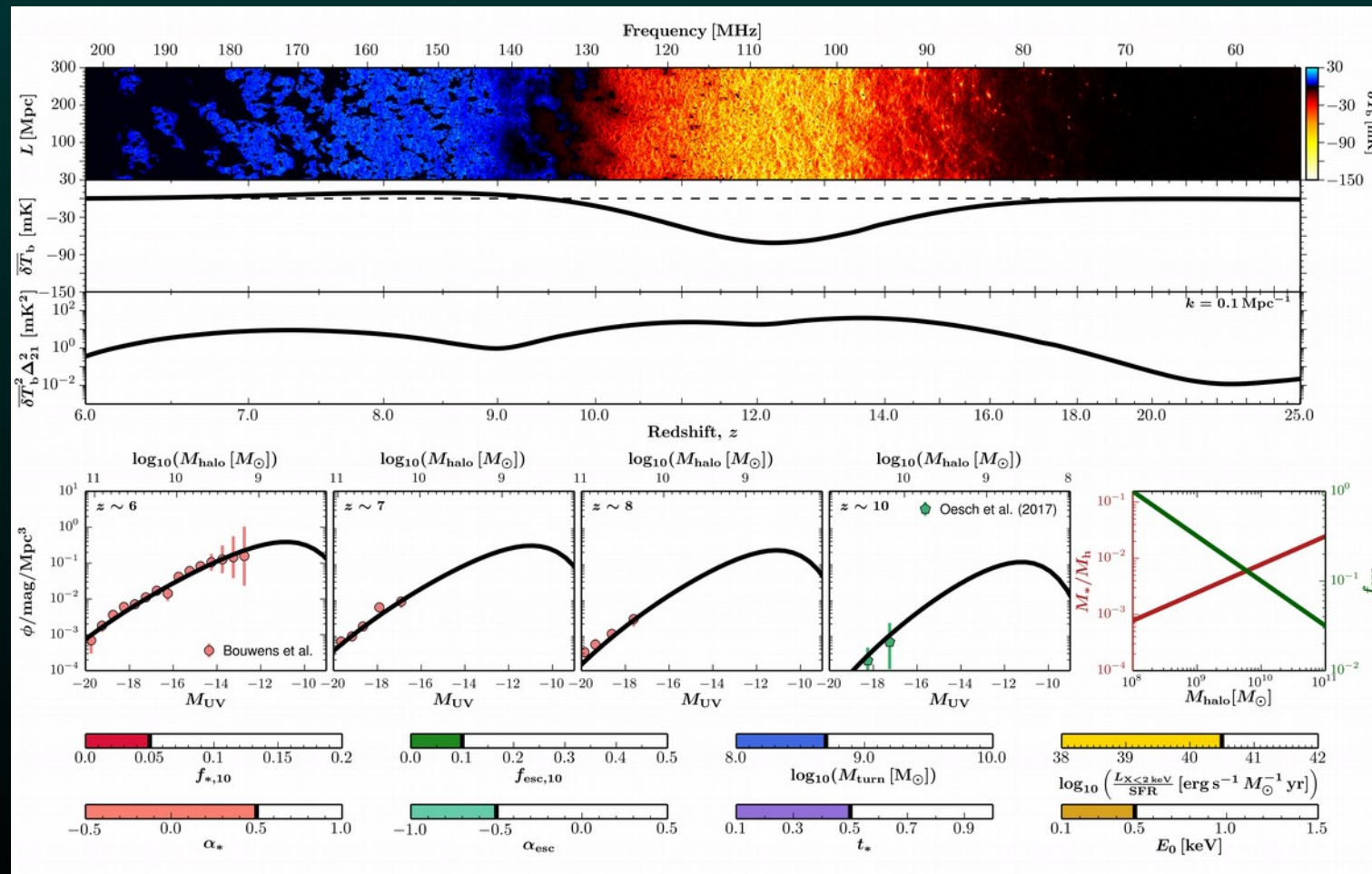


# Reionization and cosmic dawn

- First luminous objects create patchy structure containing a wealth of information
  - Lyman alpha fluctuations → star formation rate and first galaxies
  - Temperature fluctuations → X-ray sources and first black holes
  - Neutral fraction fluctuations → topology of reionization

Credit: J. Pritchard

- Multiple observables and constrainable parameters – see e.g. 21CMMC



Ultimate dream:  
image fluctuations

Globally averaged  
brightness temperature

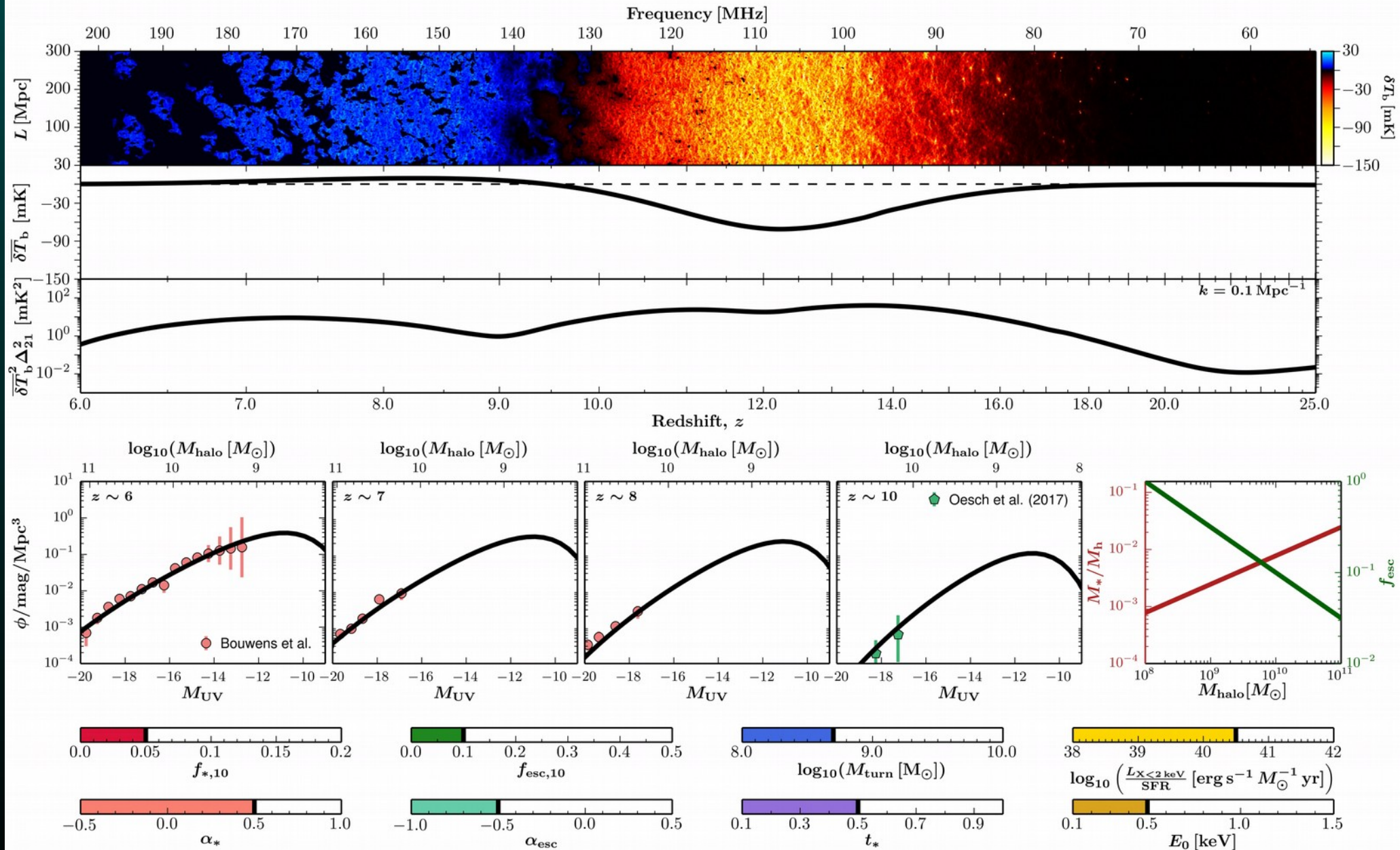
Fluctuation power  
spectrum amplitude

Luminosity functions,  
stellar mass per halo  
mass, escape fraction

Astrophysical  
parameters



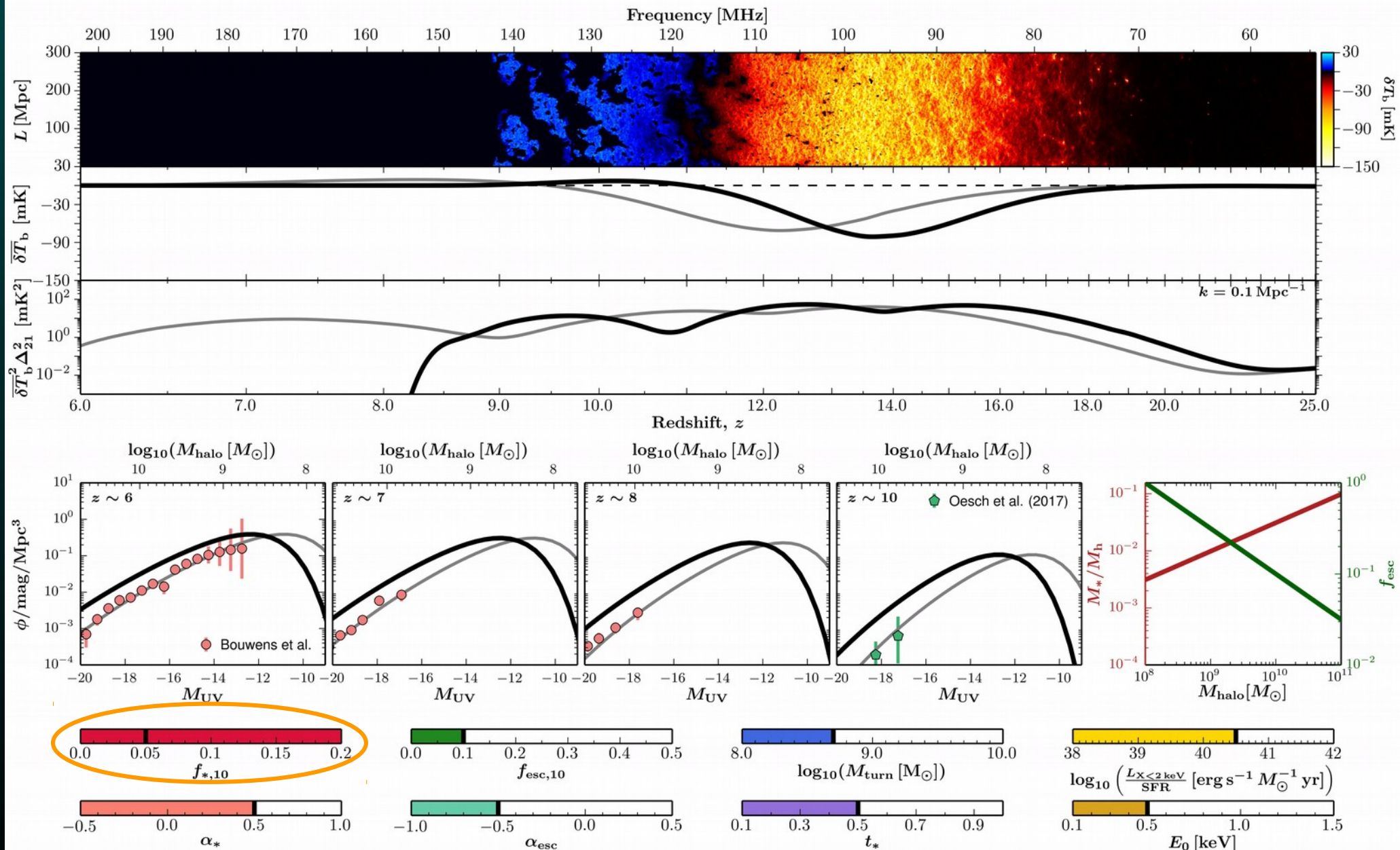
# Example observables and parameters



Nominal parameters



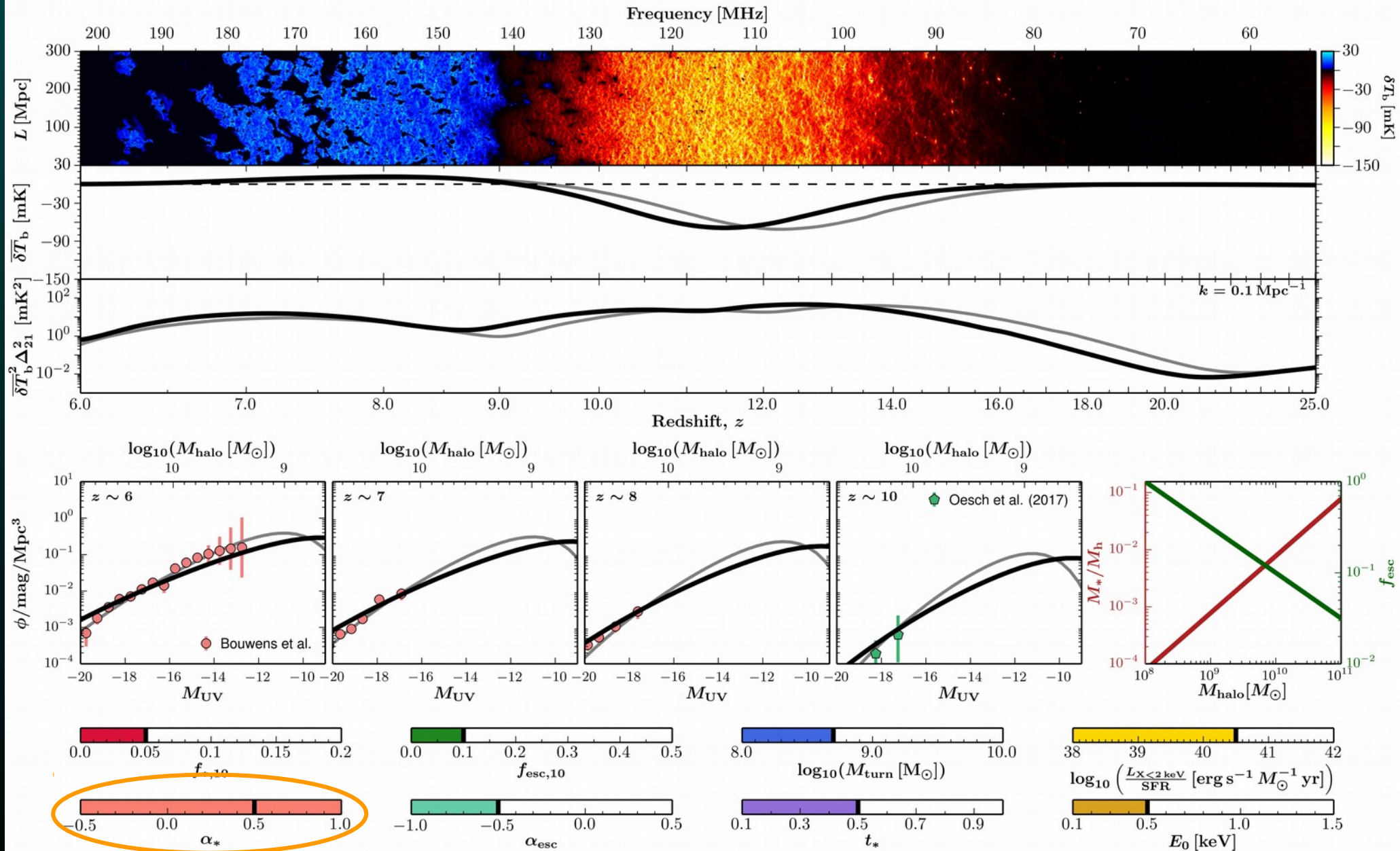
# Example observables and parameters



Fraction of galactic gas in stars at high- $z$



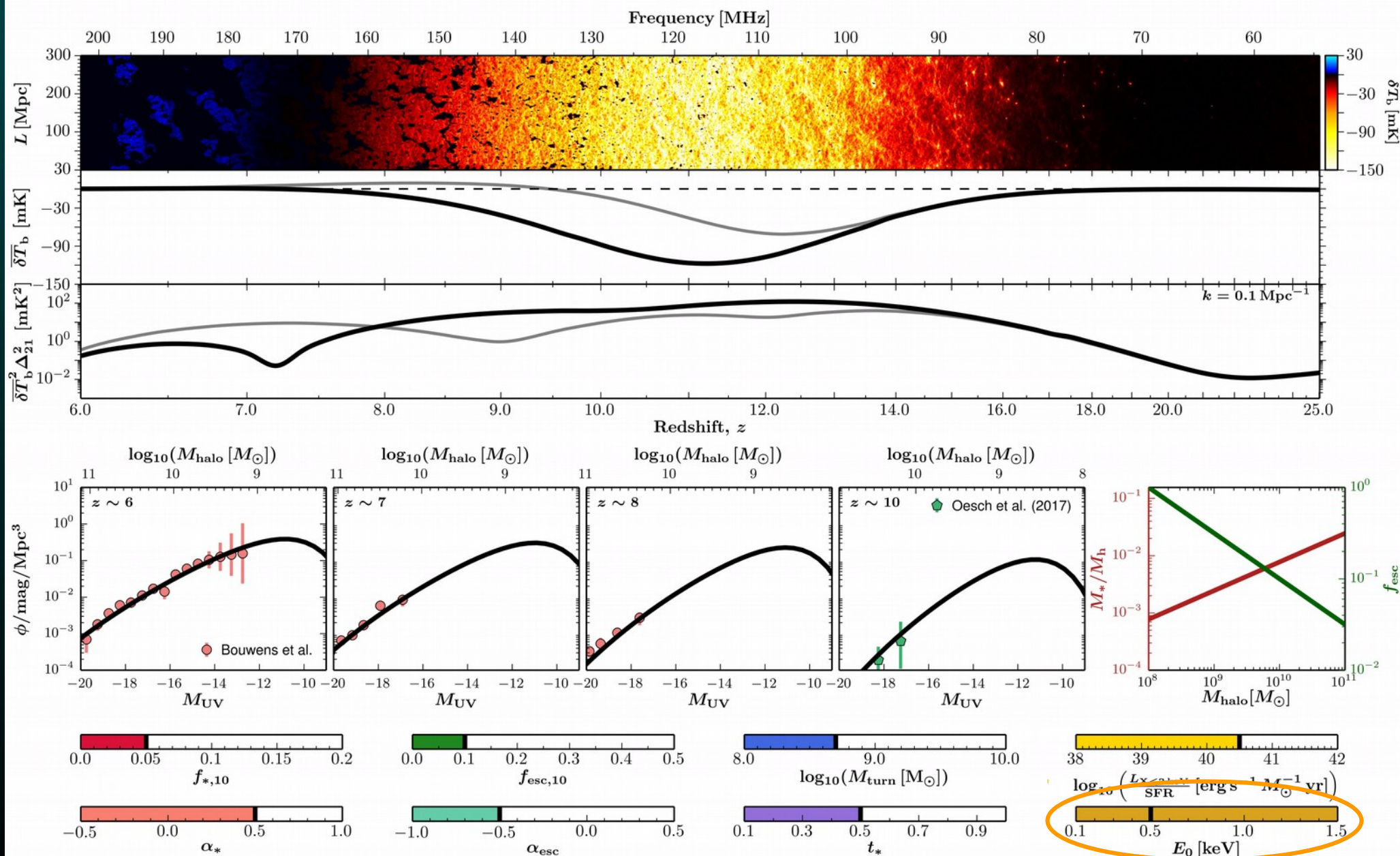
# Example observables and parameters



Power law scaling of gas fraction with halo mass



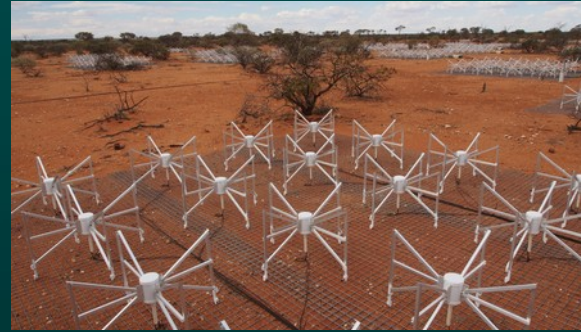
# Example observables and parameters



Minimum X-ray photon energy capable of escaping galaxy



# Experiments at $5 < z < 27$

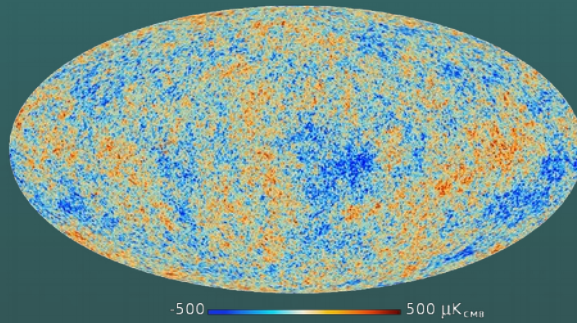
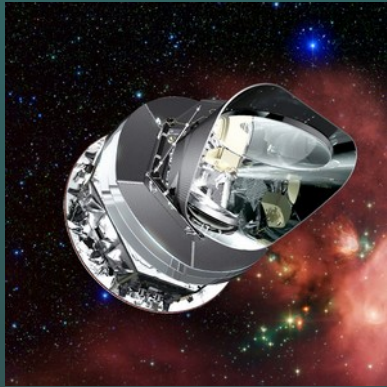


	GMRT	MWA	HERA	OVRO-LWA	LOFAR
<b>Site</b>	Khodad	Murchison	Karoo	Owens Valley	Netherlands
<b>Type</b>	Dish array	Dual-pol dipoles	Dish array	Crossed dipoles	Dipoles
<b># elements</b>	30	2048 (128 tiles)	350	288	18+18+8 stations
<b>Freq (MHz)</b> <b>z range</b>	150 – 1500 $z < 8.5$	70 – 300 $4 < z < 19$	50 – 250 $5 < z < 27$	27 – 85 $16 < z < 50$	30 – 240 $5 < z < 50$
<b>FOV</b>	3°	15 – 50°	9°	Full hemisphere	1.3 – 19.5°
<b>Resolution</b>	20 arcsec	~few arcmin	25 arcmin	9 – 23 arcmin	0.3–1031 arcsec, 150 MHz
<b>Coverage</b>	North	South	1440 deg <sup>2</sup>	North	North

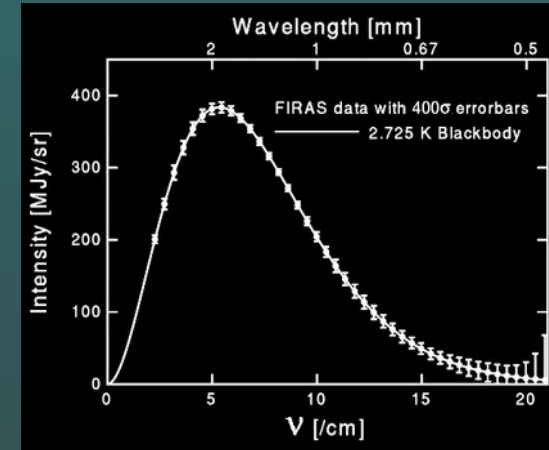


# Fluctuations vs global signals

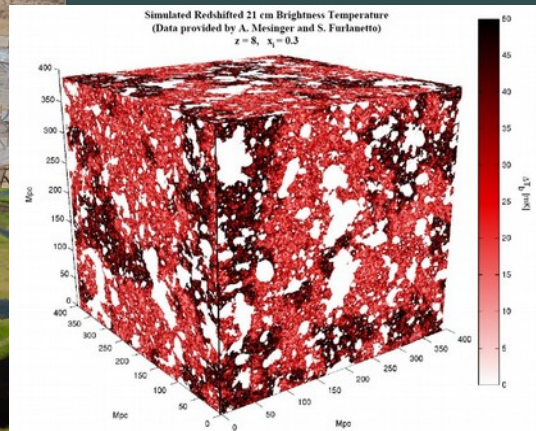
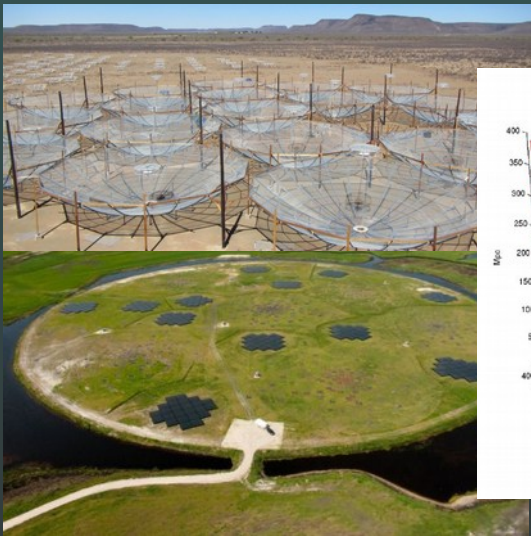
Planck, WMAP, etc



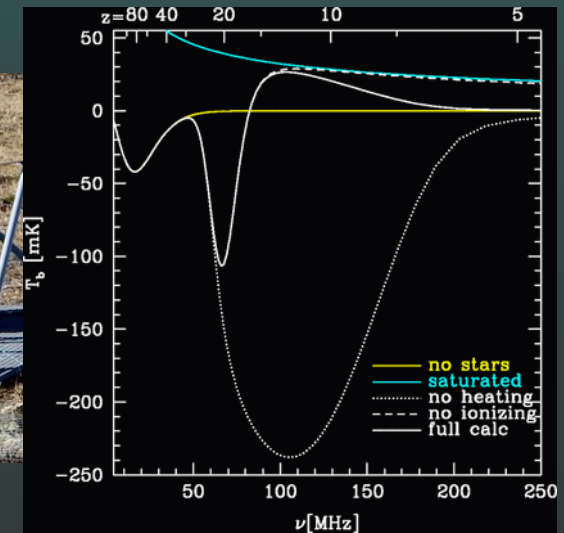
COBE/FIRAS



HERA, LOFAR, etc



Global 21cm experiments

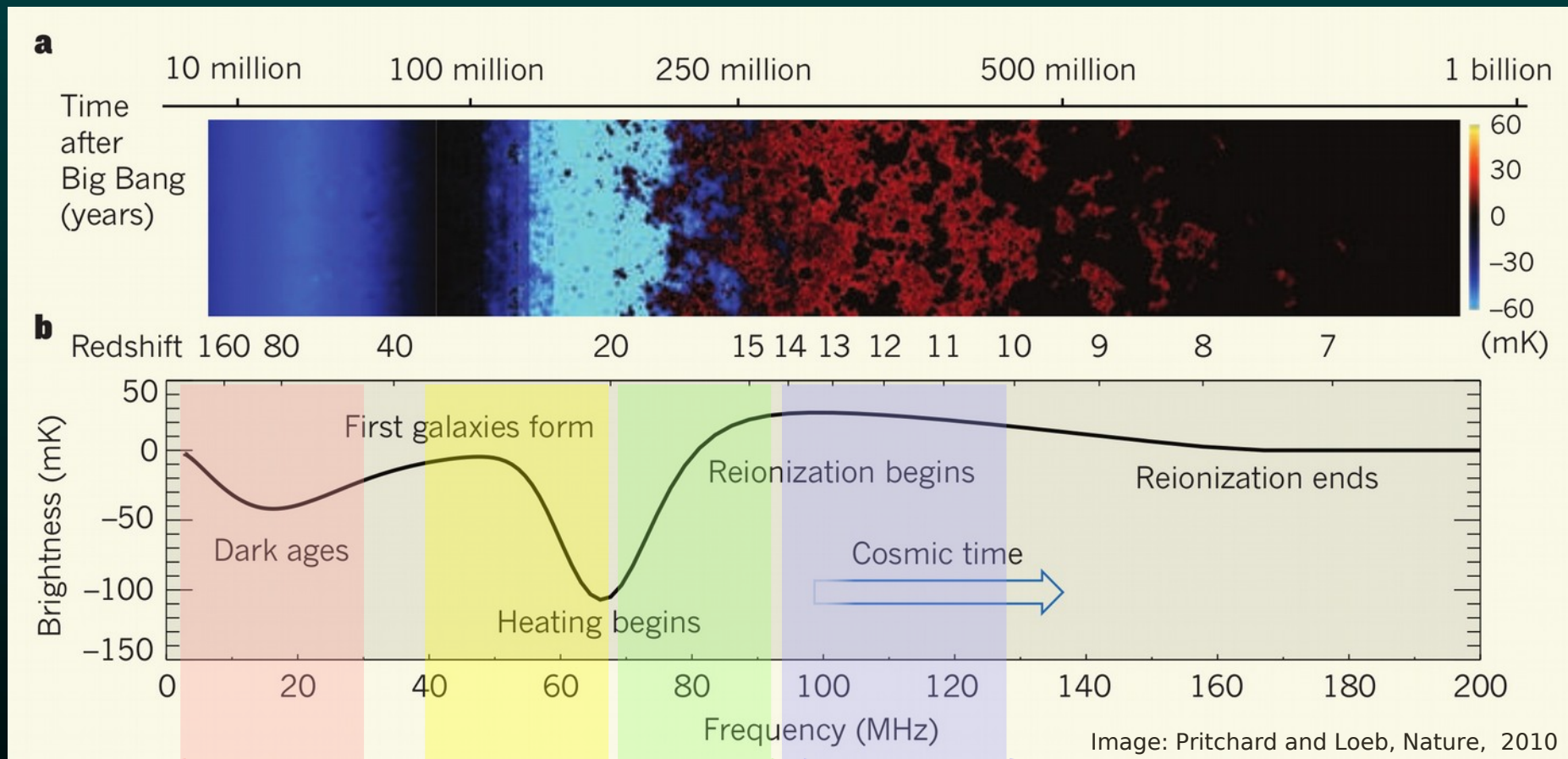


21cm signal evolution is a “thermometer” that can probe heating processes and energy injection in the early universe, depends on neutral hydrogen fraction and spin/kinetic temperature coupling



# Global 21cm signal evolution

$$\delta T_b \propto x_{\text{HI}} (1+z)^{1/2} (T_s - T_{\text{CMB}}) / T_s$$



HI gas kinetic temp ( $T_K$ ) below  $T_{\text{CMB}}$ . Collisions couple  $T_K$  and  $T_S$  at first. Later, CMB photons drive  $T_S \rightarrow T_{\text{CMB}}$ .

First stars form, Ly $\alpha$  photons couple  $T_K$  and  $T_S$  via Wouthuysen-Field mechanism

Heating by X-rays, gamma rays from first sources drives  $T_K$  above  $T_{\text{CMB}}$

Reionization erases HI signal



# Global 21cm experiments

**EDGES**  
50 – 200 MHz  
Murchison Radio Obs.



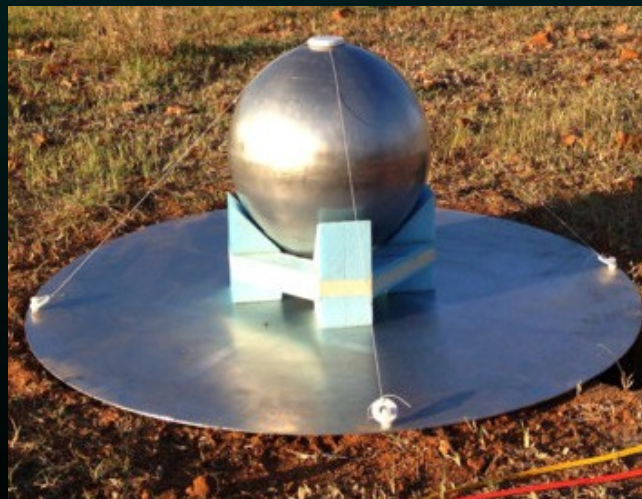
**PRIZM**  
30 – 200 MHz  
Marion Island



**LEDA**  
30 – 88 MHz  
Owens Valley



**SARAS2**  
87.5 – 175 MHz  
Gauribidanur Obs., India



**CTP**  
60 – 120 MHz  
Green Bank + ...





Big bang, inflation

Formation of CMB

Dark ages

Cosmic dawn

Reionization

Structure growth

Dark energy domination

$z = 1100$   
150  
50

20

10

2.5

0.5





**Big bang, inflation**

**Formation of CMB**

**Dark ages**

**Cosmic dawn**

**Reionization**

**Structure growth**

**Dark energy domination**

$z = 1100$   
150  
50

20

10

2.5

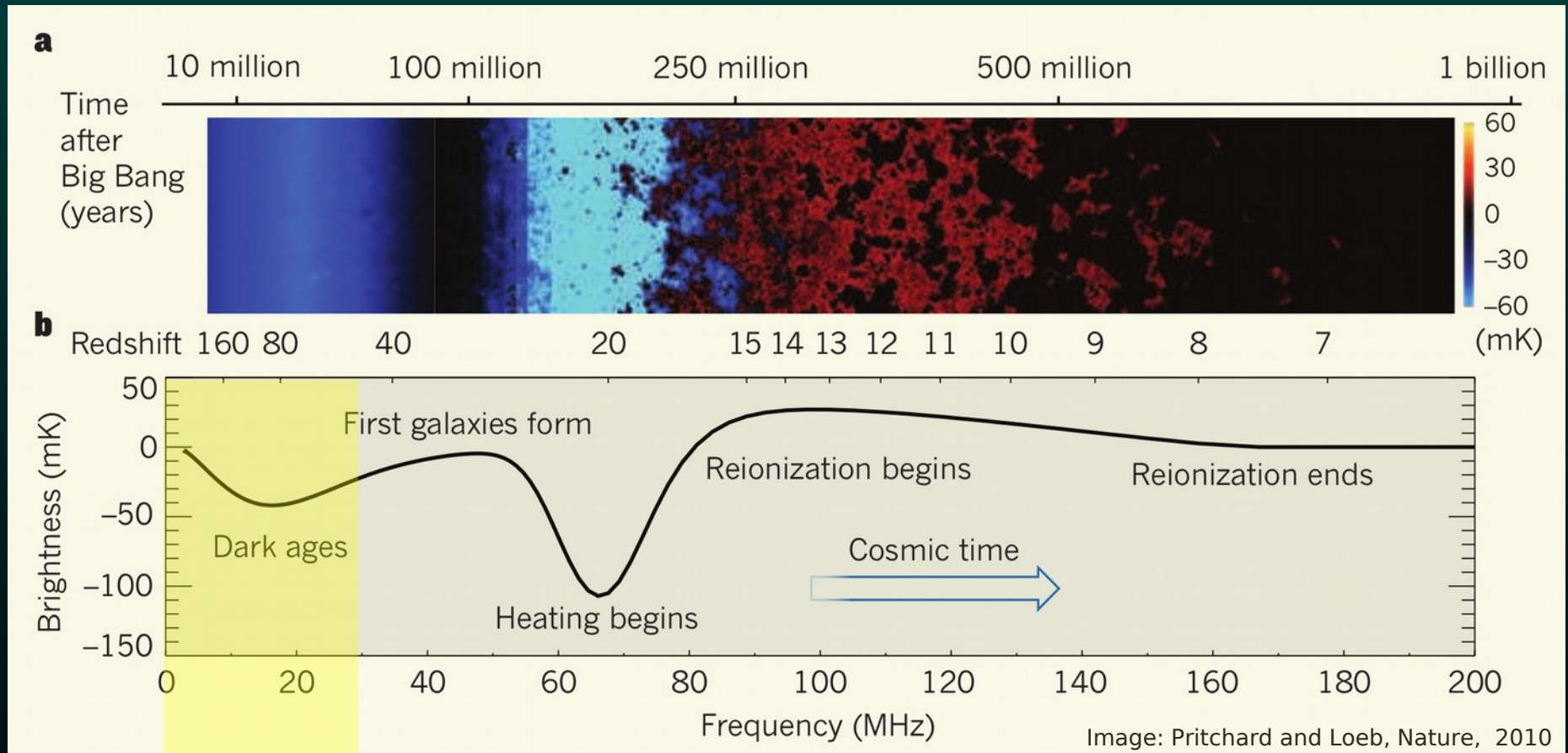
0.5





# The final frontier: dark ages

$$\delta T_b \propto x_{HI} (1+z)^{1/2} (T_s - T_{CMB}) / T_s$$



What lurks down here...?

Most experiments operate here and above.

The dream: lay groundwork for exploring dark ages

Ultimate dream: image the fluctuations



# The state of the art at low frequencies

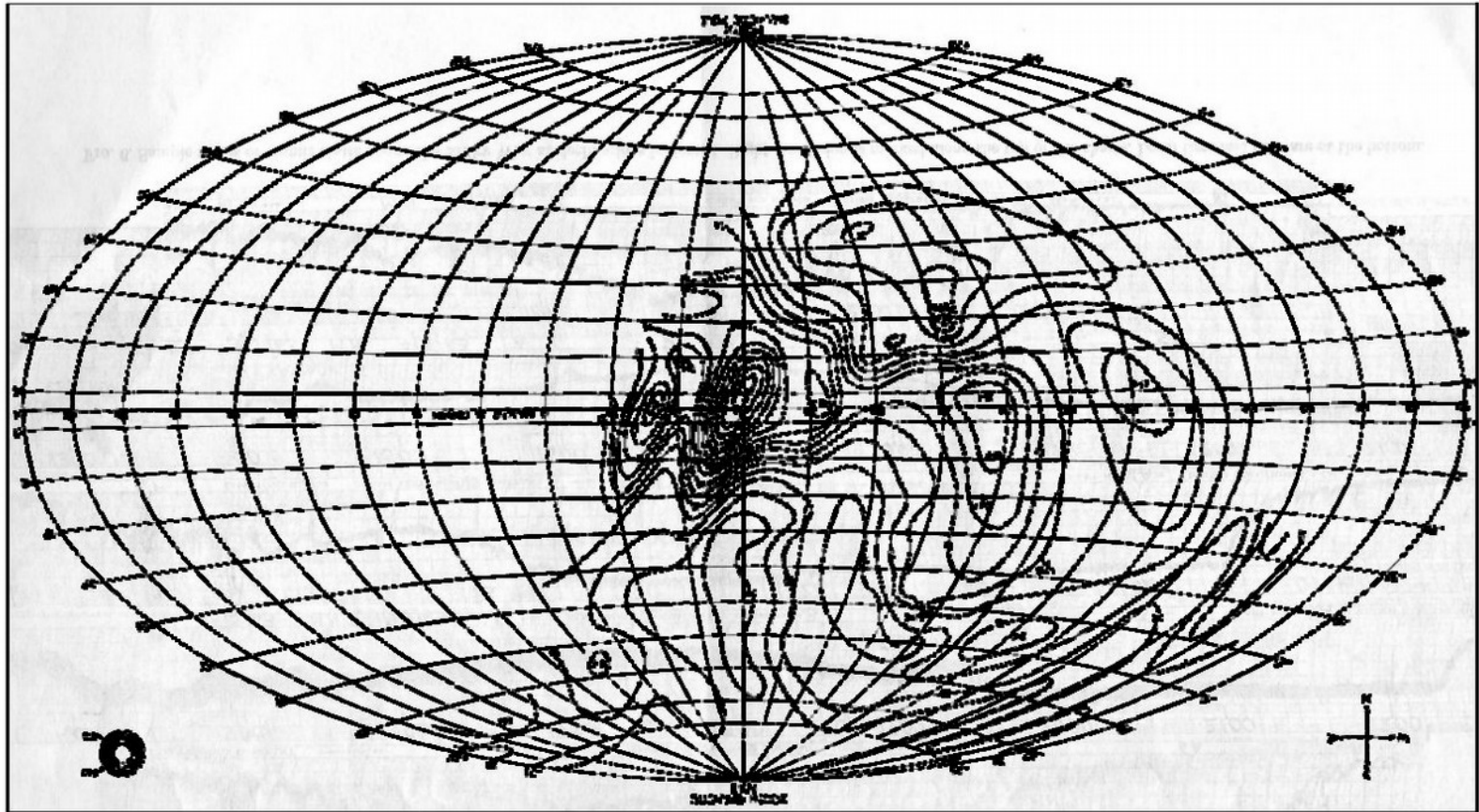
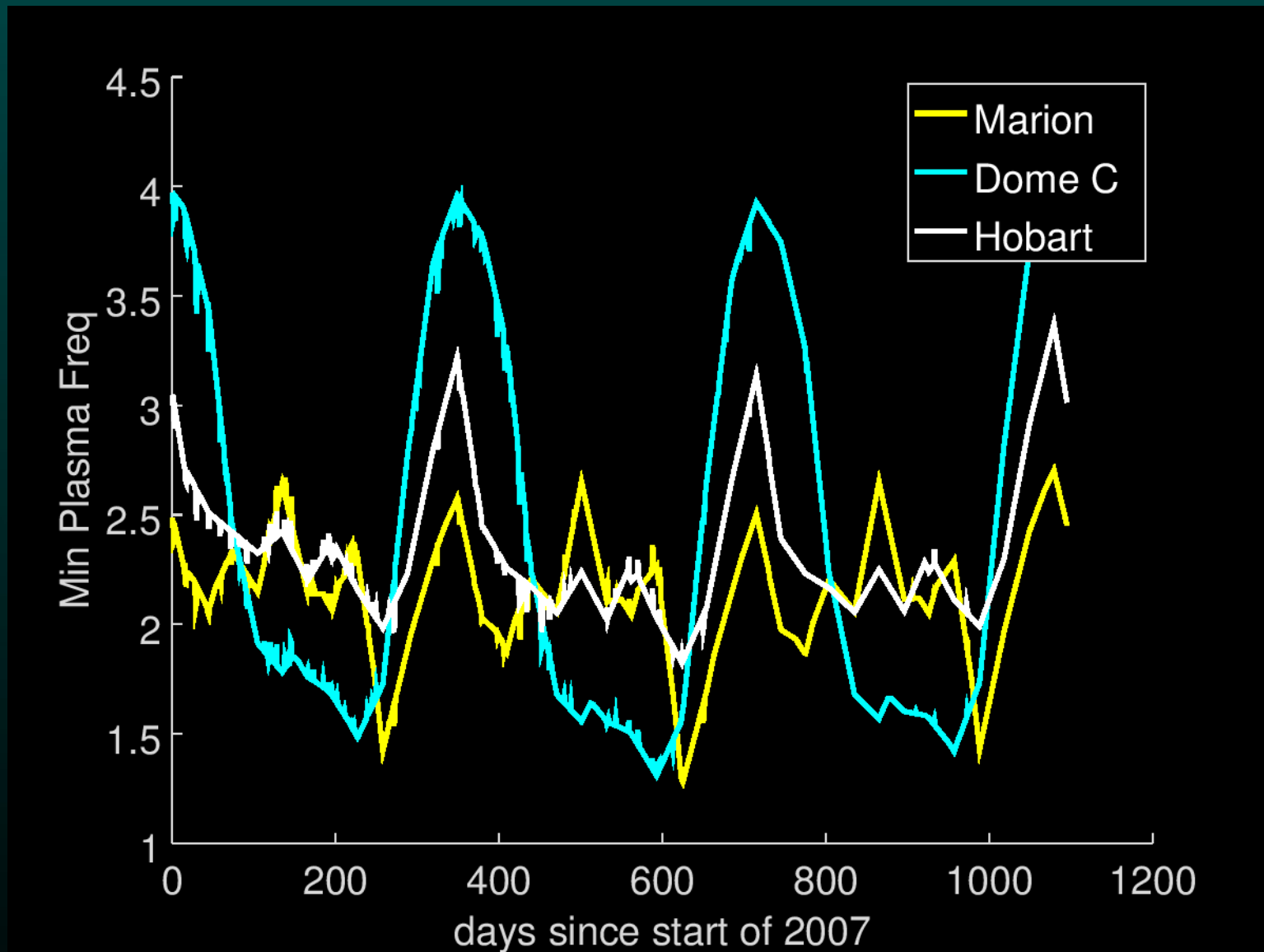


Figure 11: A 2.085 MHz contour map of galactic radio emission (after Reber, 1968: 10).

Experiment	Frequency	Resolution	Year
Grote Reber	2.1 MHz	~5 deg	1968
RAE-B satellite	4.7 MHz	~10 (??) deg	1978
DRAO	22 MHz	1.1–1.7 deg	1999
LWA	36.5 MHz	15 arcmin	2017



# *Will the ionosphere let us see through?*

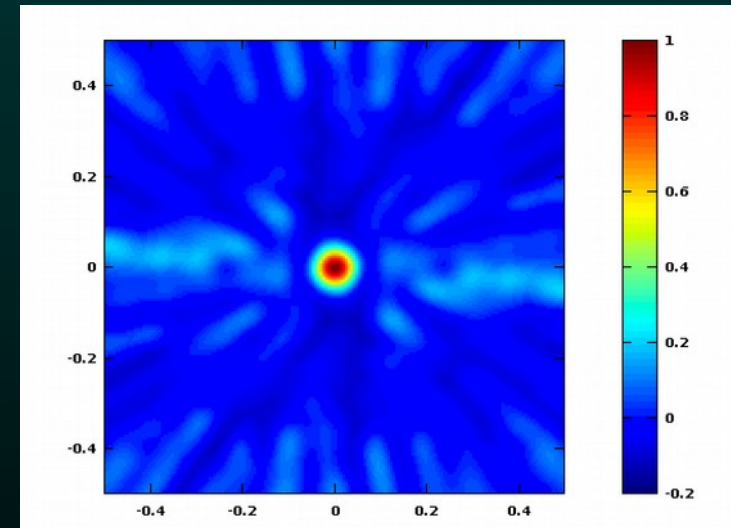


IRI model prediction: plasma frequency down to ~1.5 MHz during last solar minimum, next one is coming...



# Exploratory low frequency measurements

- Marion Island: 2000 km from South Africa and Antarctica, exceptionally radio quiet
- Infrastructure: 9 huts around island perimeter, convenient ring-like layout for imaging
- The plan: deploy antennas at huts, save lowest 10–20 MHz baseband, correlate offline



8' FWHM  
synthesized  
beam @ 5 MHz



# *Two-element pathfinder*

Low-freq antenna #1

PRIZM 100 MHz

PRIZM 70 MHz

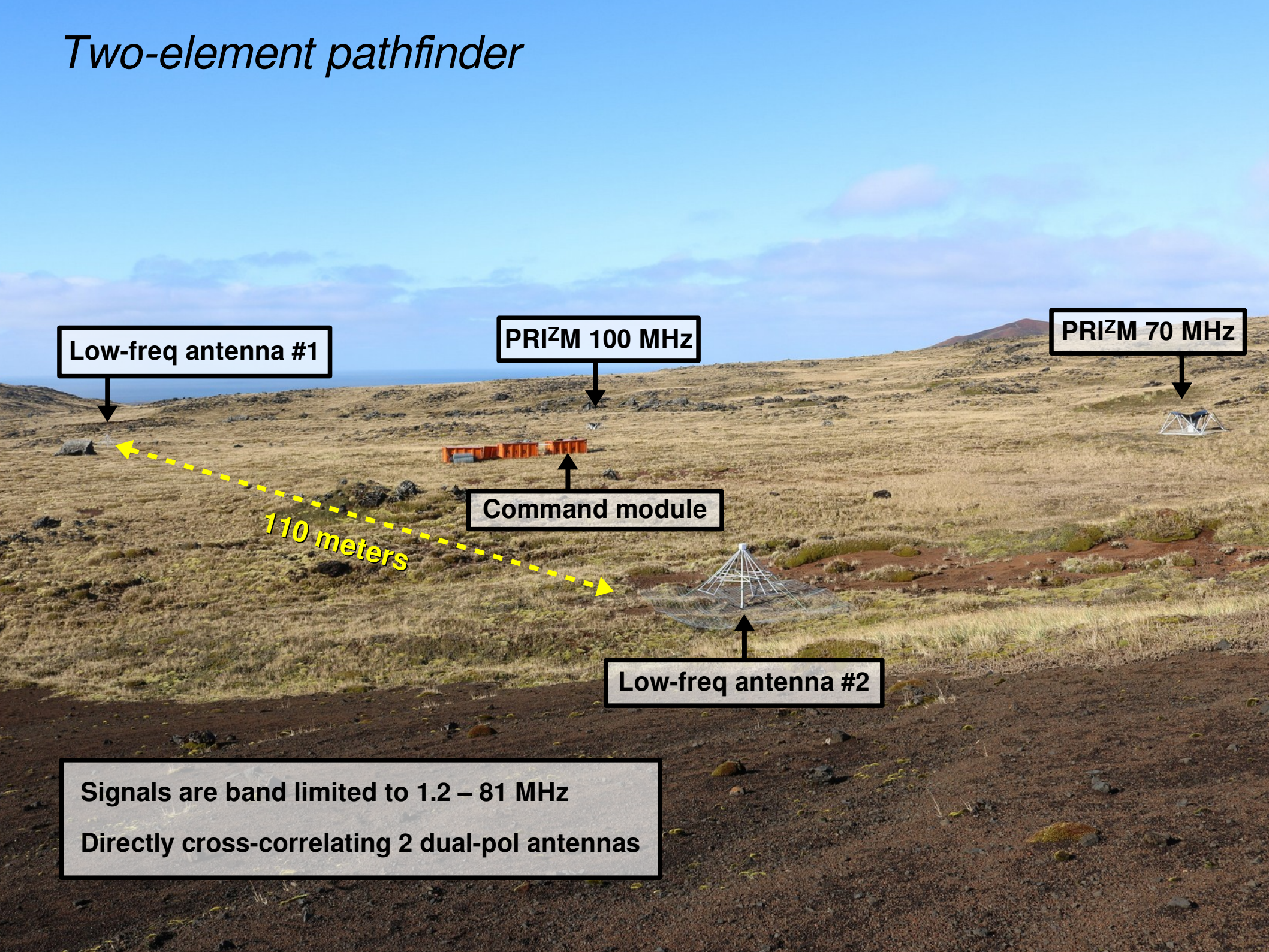
Command module

110 meters

Low-freq antenna #2

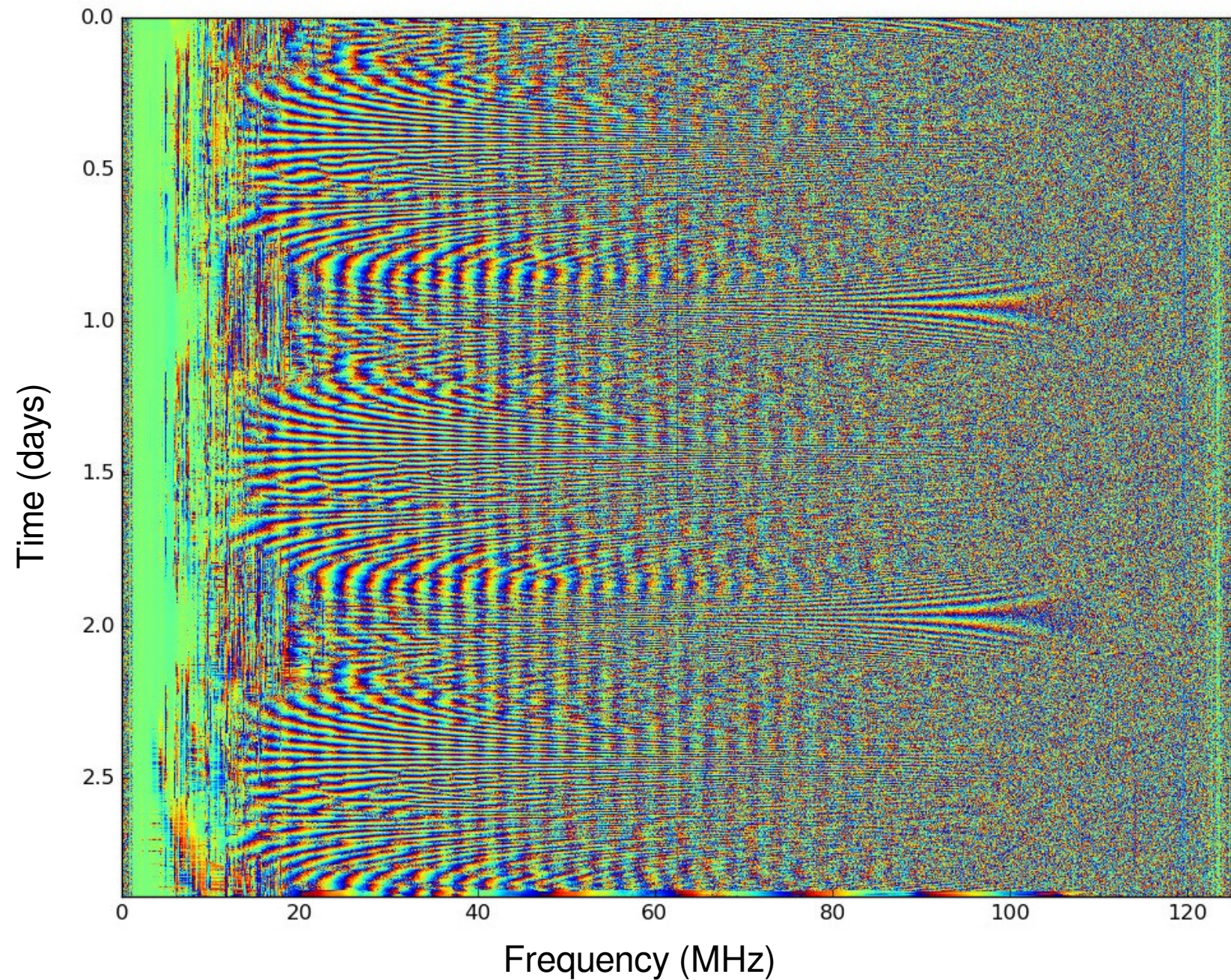
Signals are band limited to 1.2 – 81 MHz

Directly cross-correlating 2 dual-pol antennas





# *First fringes from low freq antennas*





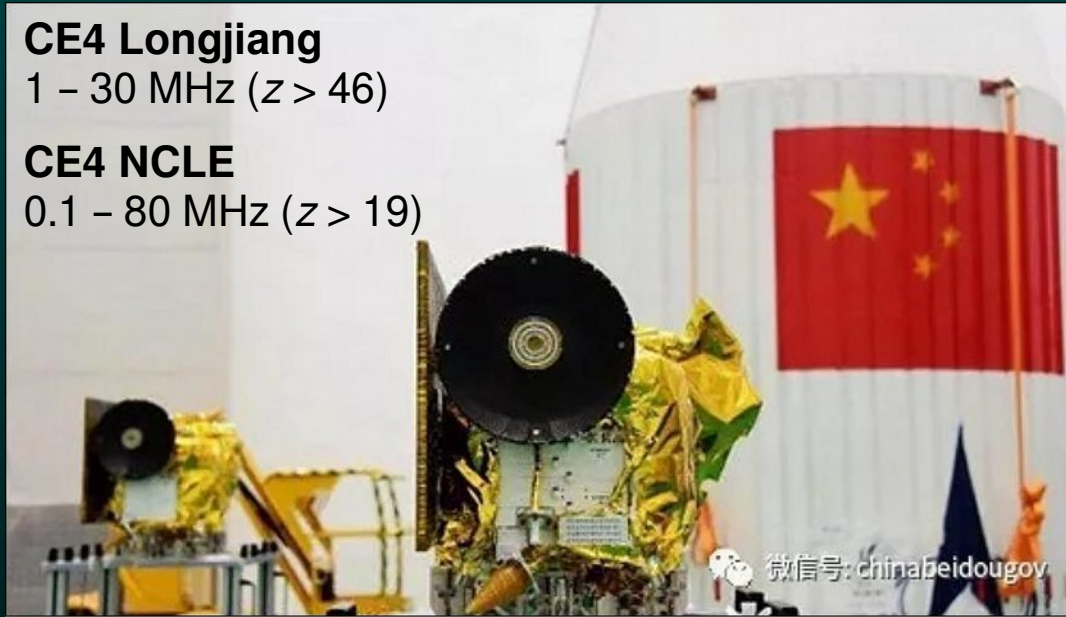
# Exploring low frequencies from lunar orbit

## CE4 Longjiang

1 – 30 MHz ( $z > 46$ )

## CE4 NCLE

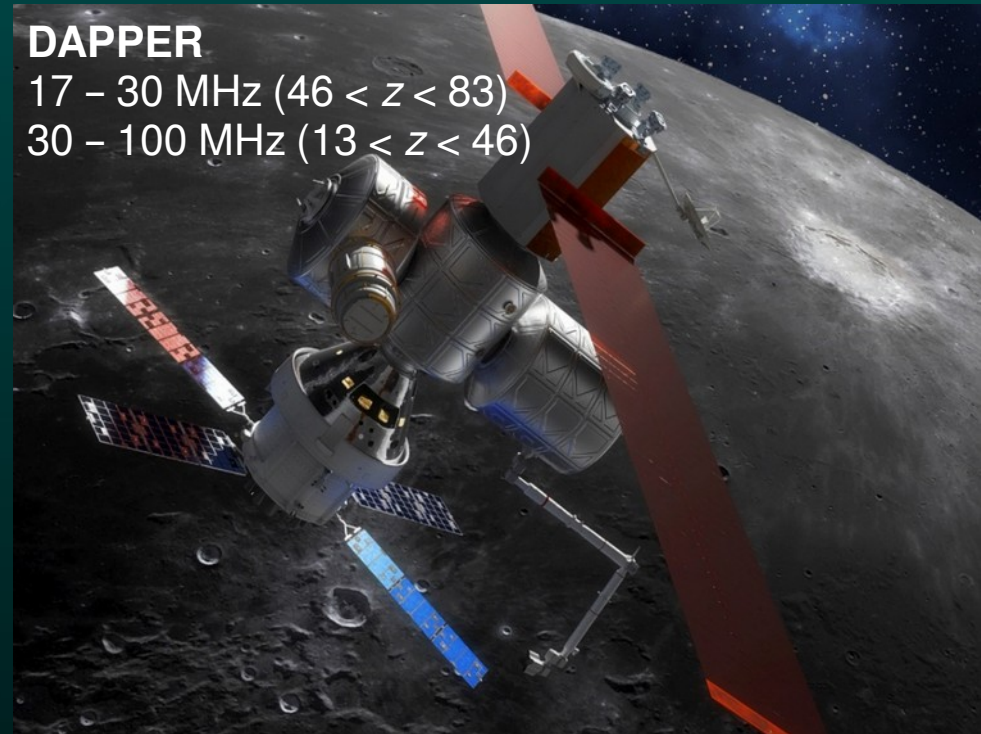
0.1 – 80 MHz ( $z > 19$ )



## DAPPER

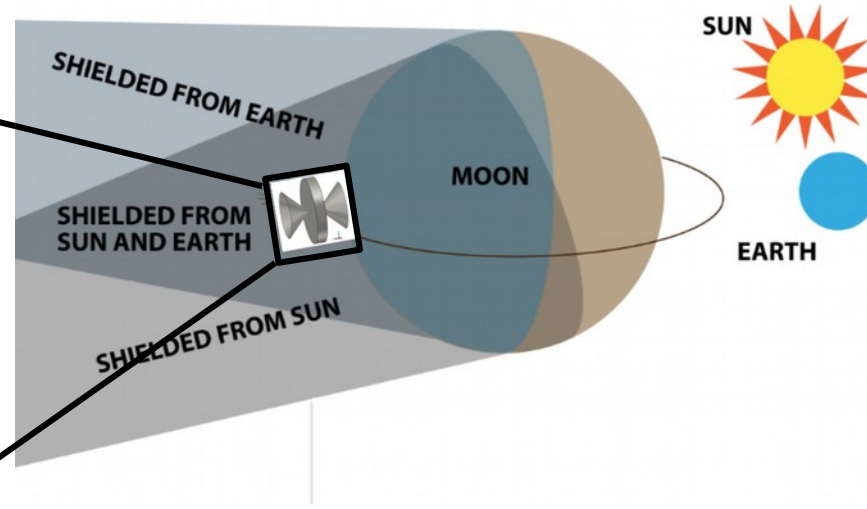
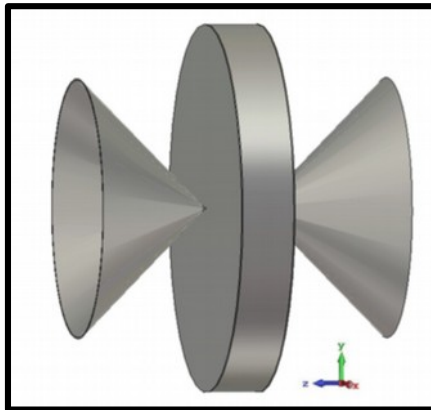
17 – 30 MHz ( $46 < z < 83$ )

30 – 100 MHz ( $13 < z < 46$ )



## PRATUSH

40 – 250 MHz ( $5 < z < 36.5$ )

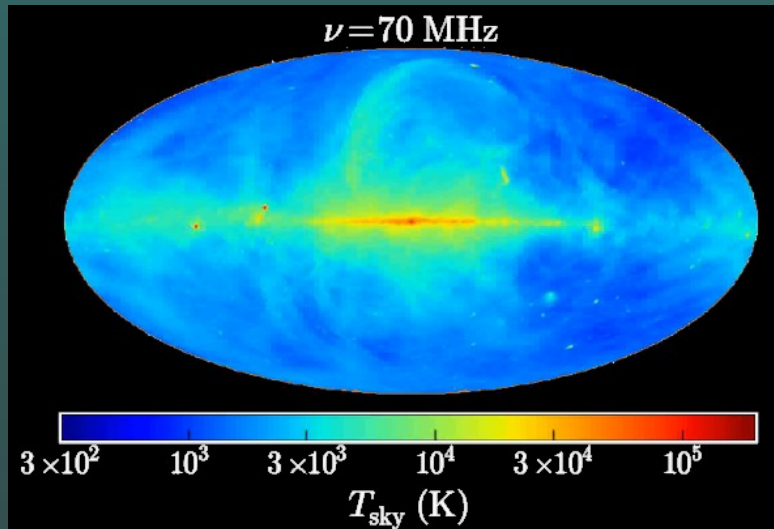




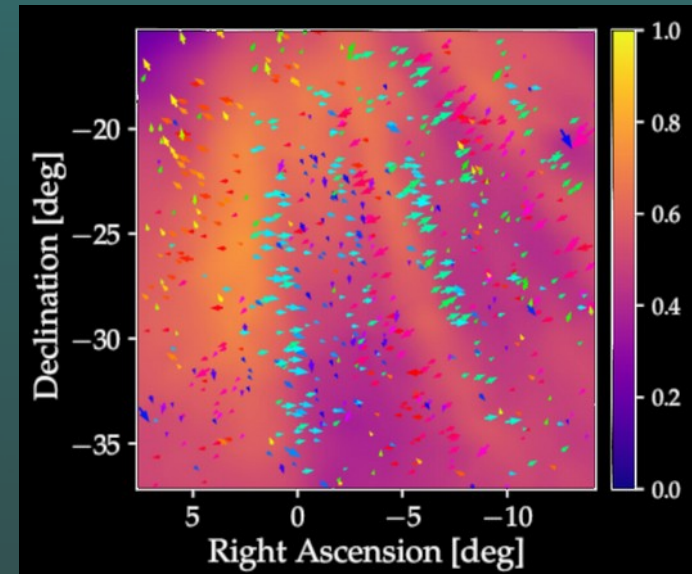
# Experimental challenges

## Foregrounds

4–5 orders of magnitude brighter



## Ionosphere refraction and attenuation



C. Jordan et al. 2017



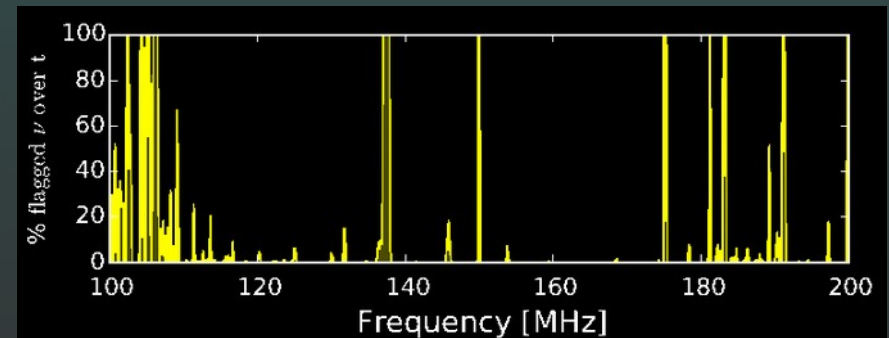
## Instrumental systematics

calibration, coupling to foregrounds, etc.



D. Jacobs

## Radio-Frequency Interference



S. Kohn



# *Summary & future prospects*

- Lots of new exciting opportunities in redshifted 21-cm observations, can probe a huge comoving volume
- Lots of experimental efforts:
  - Structure growth and dark energy domination at  $z < 2.5$
  - Post-reionization era at  $2 < z < 10$
  - Reionization and cosmic dawn at  $5 < z < 27$
  - Dark ages at  $z > 27$
- Technical challenges include foregrounds, ionosphere, RFI, instrumental effects and calibration – we'll hear more about these in later talks