



# Exploring Fundamental Physics through Cosmic Microwave Background Measurements

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Fermilab Users Meeting 2023

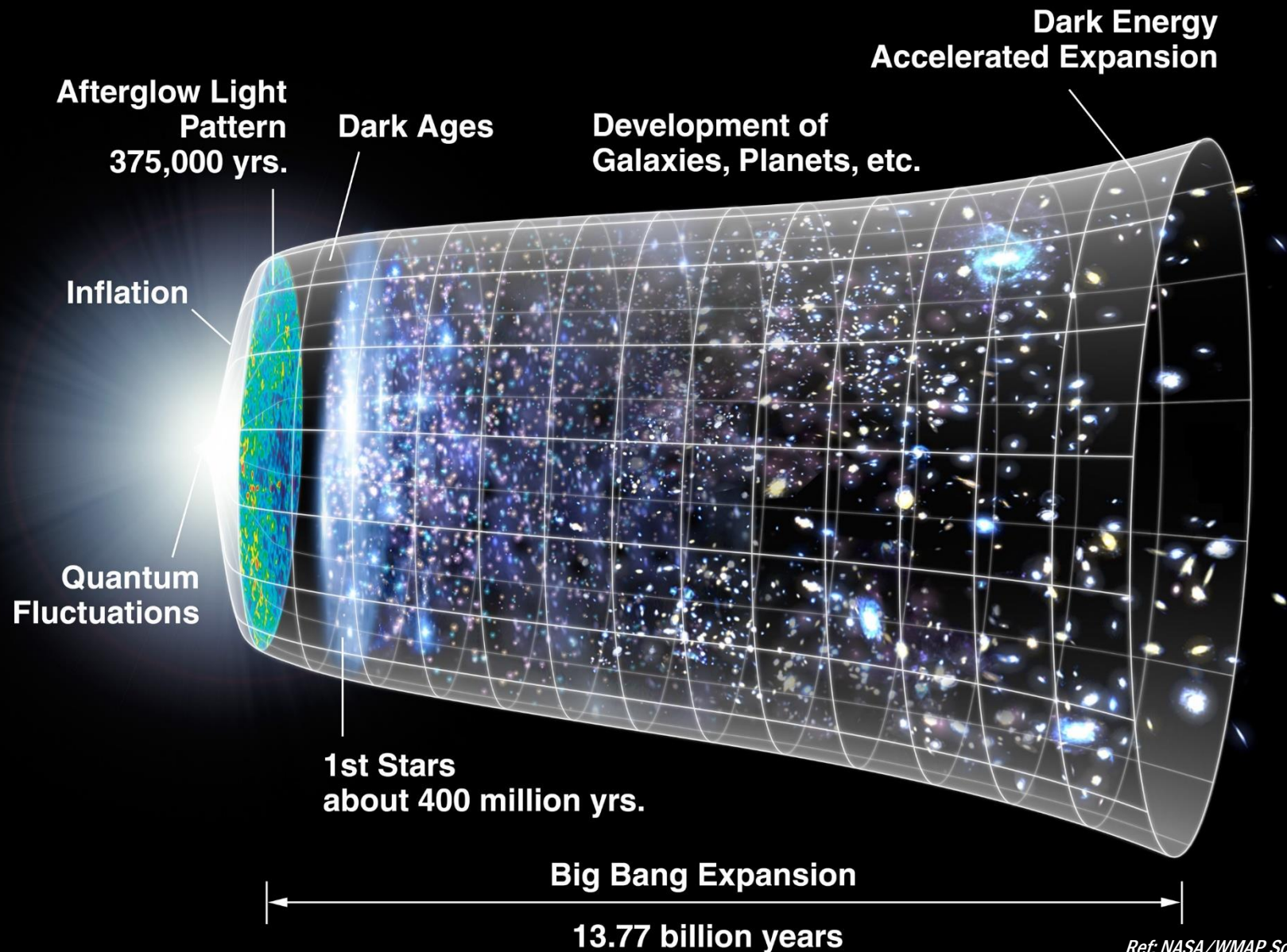
June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023



# ***1. Why Study the Cosmic Microwave Background?***



# “The story so far...”



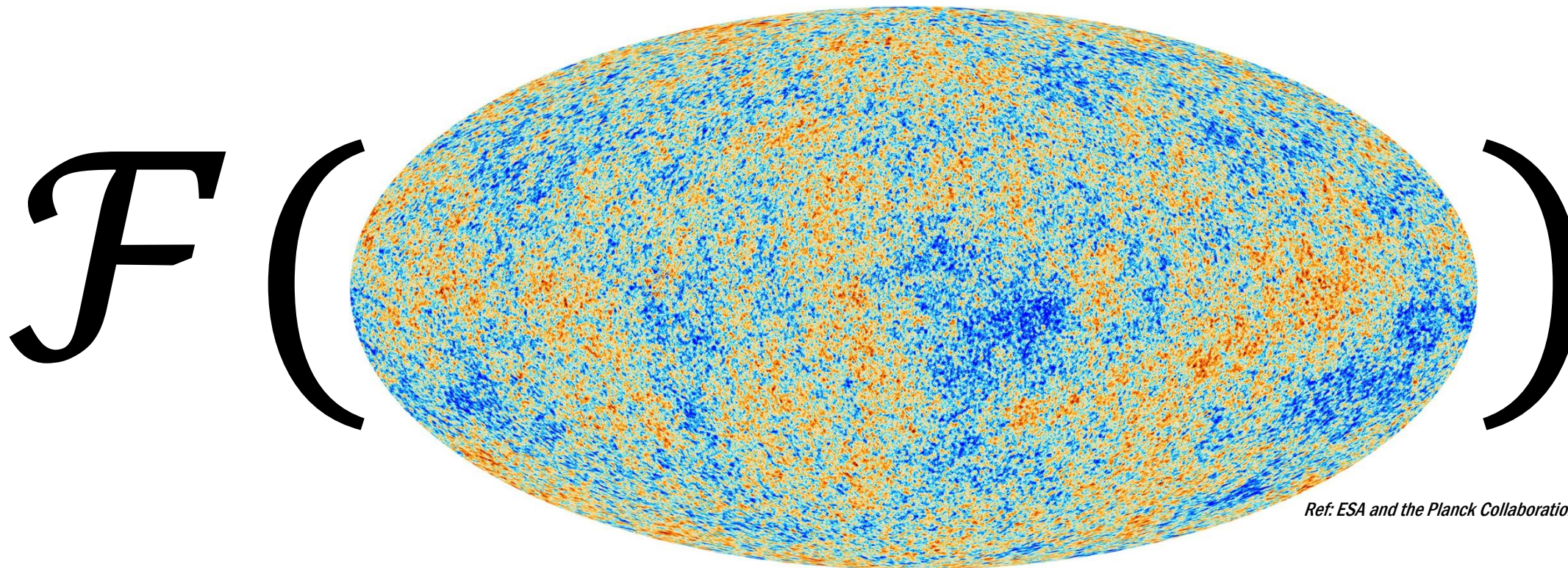
Ref: NASA/WMAP Science Team

- CMB measurements provide an early-time anchor ( $z \approx 1100$ ) for constraining cosmological models, complementing other cosmic surveys ( $z < 10$ ).
- The CMB encapsulates the universe's conditions prior to the first atoms forming – its features are a result of physics at the highest energy scales.



# A Modern CMB Measurement

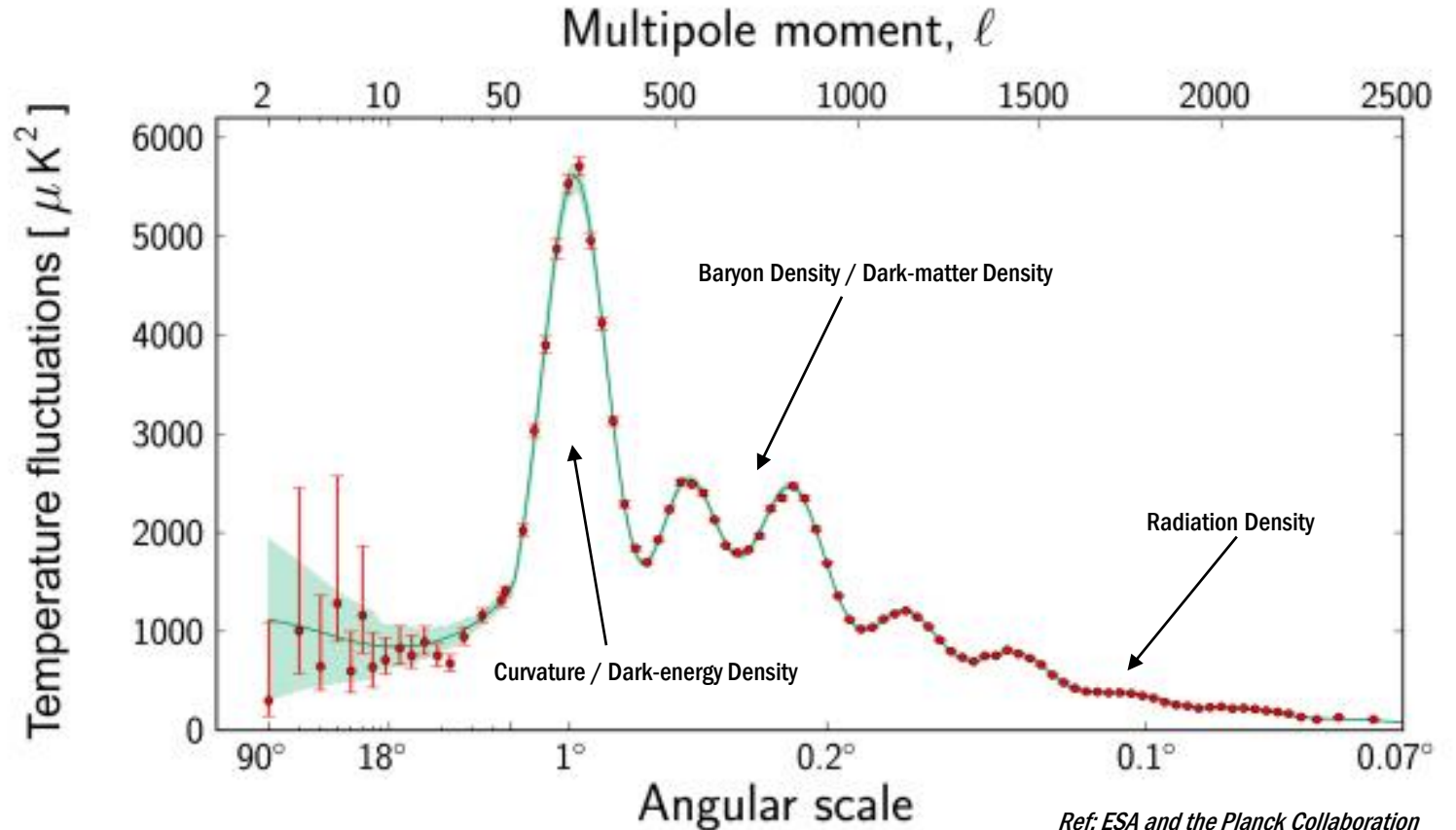
Planck Satellite All-Sky Survey (2013)



30- $\mu$ K RMS fluctuations about 3-K blackbody signal  
(largest fluctuations on  $\leq 1$ -deg scales)

# CMB Power Spectra

- CMB features at different angular scales encode information about the **composition** and **expansion history** of the universe.
  - CMB power spectra measurements are in strong agreement with  $\Lambda$ CDM, the concordance standard model of cosmology.
- Modern experiments are largely focused on measuring the **fainter polarization features** of the CMB (typically decomposed into  $E$ - and  $B$ -modes).
  - Provide an independent consistency check for temperature-derived parameter constraints.
  - In addition, can probe additional physics not well constrained by temperature anisotropies alone.



# Exploring High-Energy Physics with the CMB

- Probing physics at energy scales of grand-unified theories (GUT-scale,  $\sim 10^{16}$  GeV physics).
  - Searching for a remnant, unique polarization signal sourced by primordial gravitational waves during an early period of [cosmic inflation](#).
  - Detection of this signal would provide the first evidence of quantum gravity.
- Detecting the sum of neutrino masses.
  - A combination of CMB lensing and galaxy cluster data will detect  $\Sigma m_\nu$ , and potentially rule between a normal or inverted [neutrino mass](#) hierarchy.
  - CMB experiments complement long-baseline neutrino oscillation experiments (e.g. NOvA, DUNE), which measure the differences between neutrino masses.
- Understanding the nature of dark energy.
  - CMB observables of large-scale structure (LSS) formation throughout our universe's history will differentiate between models involving a [cosmological constant, evolving dark energy, or modified gravity](#).
  - Complementary datasets to other LSS probes (e.g. DES, DESI, Rubin/LSST).
- Exploring evidence for Beyond-Standard-Model (BSM) physics.
  - Improved polarization and arcminute-scale CMB data will shed new light on current tensions in  $\Lambda$ CDM and extension models ( $\Lambda$ CDM+).
  - Potentially motivate the case for [new, light relic particles \( \$N\_{\text{eff}}\$ \)](#) through a model-independent constraint on light degrees-of-freedom in the early universe.

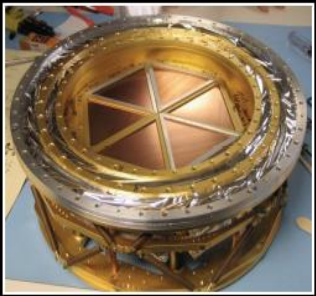
## ***2. Significant Advances with SPT-3G***



# The South Pole Telescope (with SPT-3G)

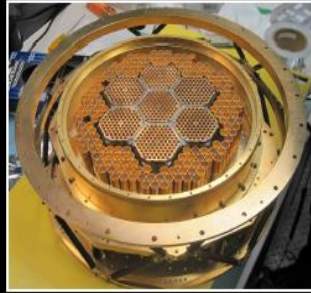
## The 10-meter South Pole Telescope (SPT)

SPT-SZ (2007-2012)



960 detectors at 95, 150, 220 GHz

SPTpol (2012-2017)



1500 detectors at 95, 150 GHz  
w/polarization

SPT-3G (2018-2024)



15,000 detectors at 95, 150, 220 GHz  
w/polarization

Photo: A. Bender

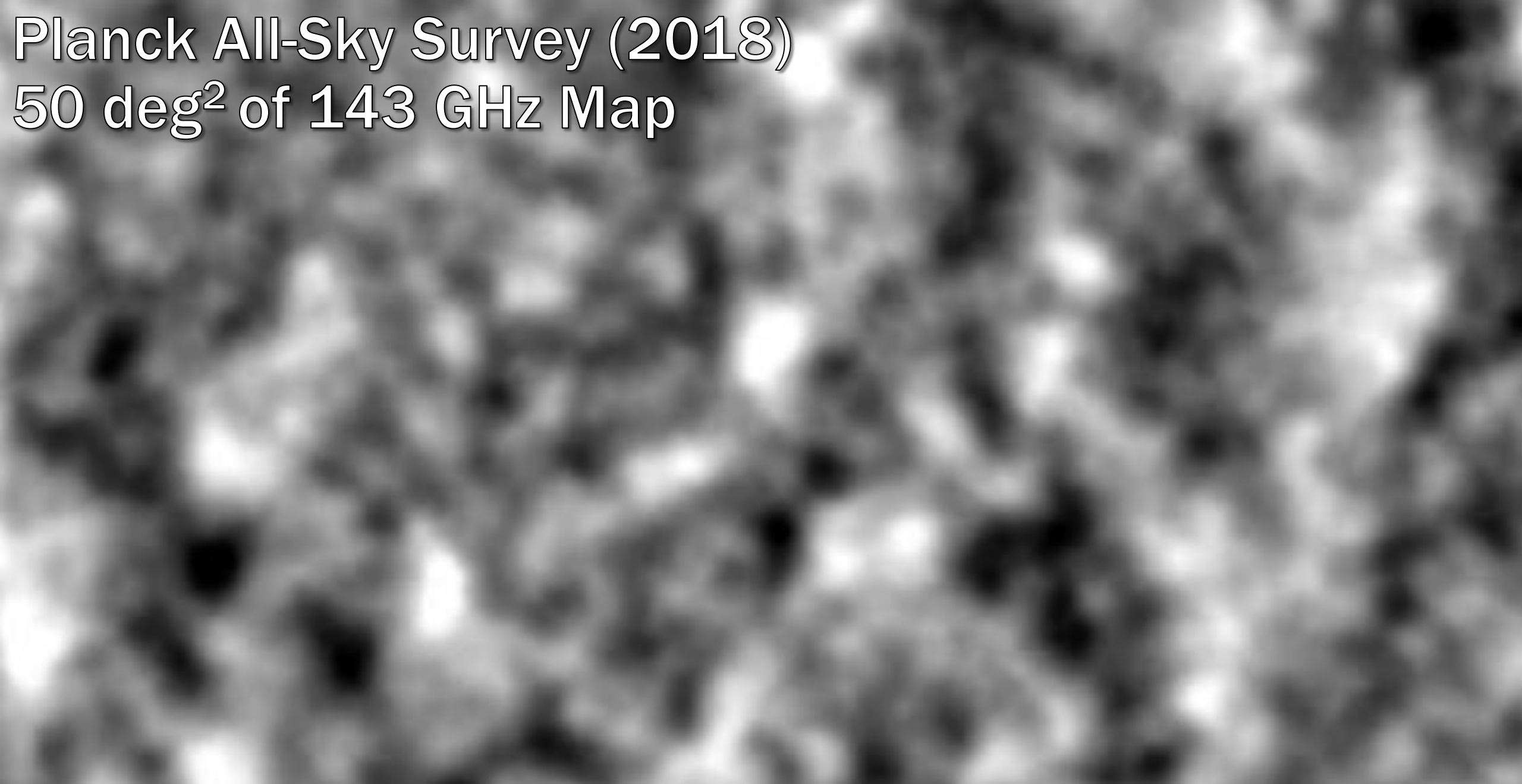


- The South Pole is the best developed place on the planet to observe the CMB:
  - Best atmospheric conditions.
  - Capability of surveying targeted fields at all times of day and year.
- The SPT-3G design provides **low-noise**, **high-resolution** maps of CMB temperature and polarization signals, enabling a **wide variety of science goals**.



# Planck All-Sky Survey (2018)

## 50 deg<sup>2</sup> of 143 GHz Map



# SPT-3G Main Survey (2023)

## 50 deg<sup>2</sup> of 150 GHz Map

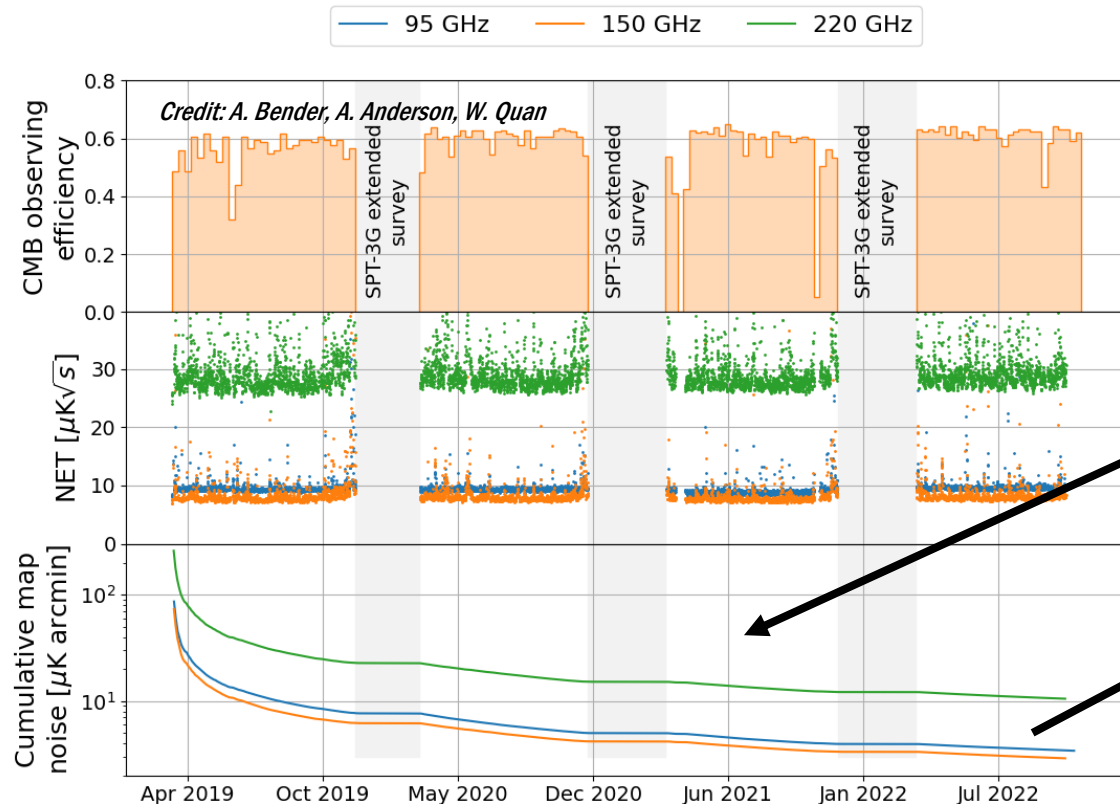
- 6.5X finer angular resolution
  - Larger, 10-m primary mirror
- 10X lower noise
  - Smaller, 1500 deg<sup>2</sup> survey area
  - Increased detector count

Planck



# SPT-3G's Improved Sensitivity Over Time

SPT-3G observing efficiency, instantaneous sensitivity, and co-added map noise



Consistently high observing efficiency  
+ Overall stable, low instrument noise

Fast improvement in sensitivity over time

Map Noise in  $\mu\text{K-arcmin}$

	Obs. Years	Area (deg <sup>2</sup> )	95 GHz	150 GHz	220 GHz
SPT-SZ	2007-11	2500	40	17	80
SPTpol	2012-16	500	12	5	...
<b>SPT-3G (Main)</b>	<b>2019-23</b>	<b>1500</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>8.8</b>
SPT-3G (Summer)	2019-23	2650	8.5	9.0	31

# Science Results from SPT-3G

- Primary CMB temperature and polarization anisotropy measurements ([J. Zebrowski](#))
    - arXiv: 2101.01684, 2212.05642
  - Detection of galactic and extragalactic millimeter-wavelength time-varying/transient sources ([A. Rahlin](#))
    - arXiv: 2103.06166
  - **Cosmological constraints from CMB power spectra measurements**
    - arXiv: 2103.13618, 2212.05642
  - Constraints on axion-like dark matter ([A. Anderson](#))
  - Measurement of pairwise kinematic Sunyaev-Zeldovich effect
    - arXiv: 2207.11937
  - **Catalog of Galaxy Clusters selected via the Sunyaev-Zeldovich effect ([J. Sobrin](#), [B. Benson](#))**
    - *Coming soon...*
- Key analysis contributions by Fermilab scientists!**
- 

***Many more analyses with current data underway!***



# SPT-3G Main Survey (2023)

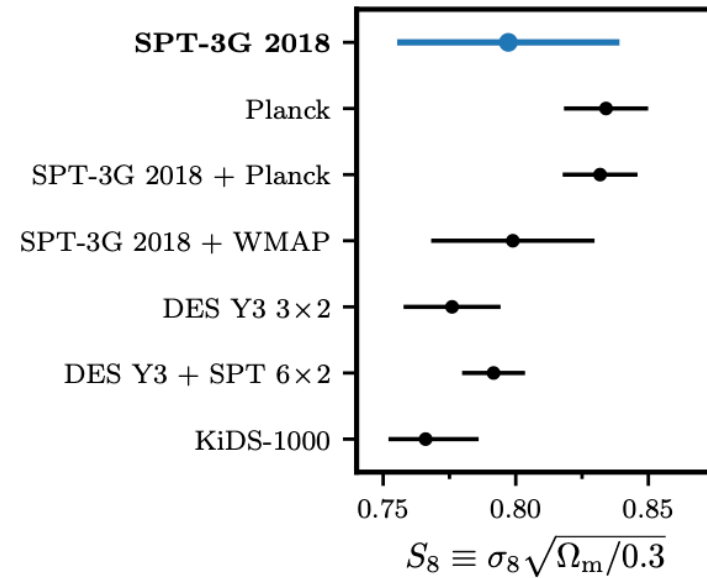
## 50 deg<sup>2</sup> of 150 GHz Map



**Primary  
Anisotropies**

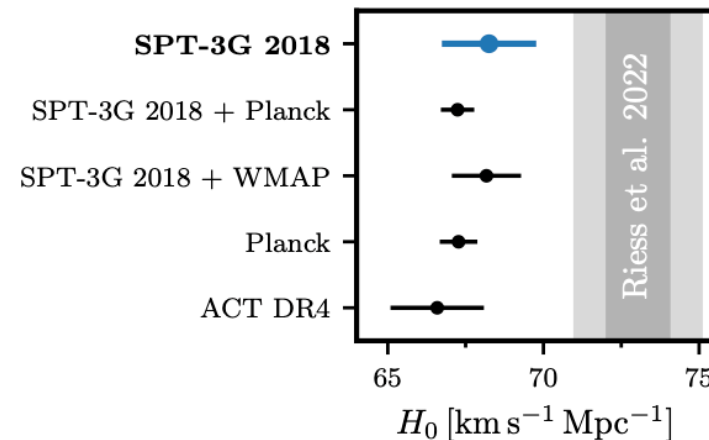
# Cosmology with SPT-3G Power Spectra Data

- Constraints for both the expansion rate ( $H_0$ ) and amplitude of matter fluctuations on large scales ( $S_8$ ) derived from CMB data ( $z \approx 1100$ ) and local-universe surveys ( $z < 10$ ) are in disagreement.
  - True discrepancies could motivate the need for BSM or  $\Lambda$ CDM+ physics to resolve tensions.
- **4 months** of SPT-3G primary temperature and polarization power spectra data were used to constrain  $\Lambda$ CDM cosmology.
  - Parameter constraints were in good agreement with Planck and best current ground-based measurements (ACT DR4).
  - Constraints were not as strong as Planck yet, but provided a crucial consistency check by utilizing SPT-3G's improved arcminute-scale and polarization-sensitive data to derive constraints.
- **20X** more data now on disk, and upcoming 2019-2020 SPT-3G data release will either compare-to or surpass Planck's constraining power.
  - Ground-based CMB experiments have a strong future in ruling between new, proposed physics models.



*Balkenhol et al. 2022*  
(Accepted by PRD)

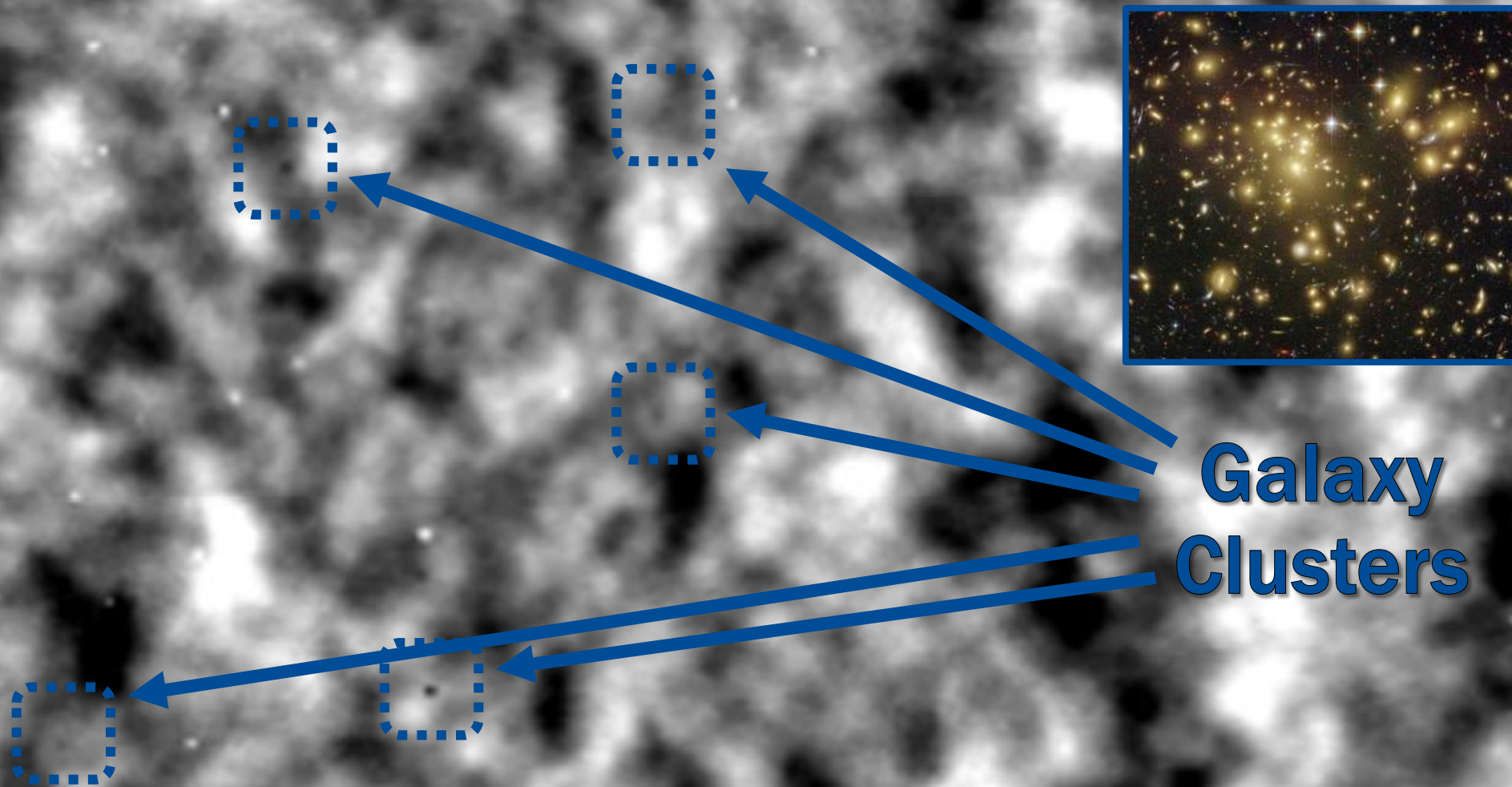
Compilations of  $H_0$  and  $S_8$  constraints from several CMB and local-universe surveys.





# SPT-3G Main Survey (2023)

## 50 deg<sup>2</sup> of 150 GHz Map

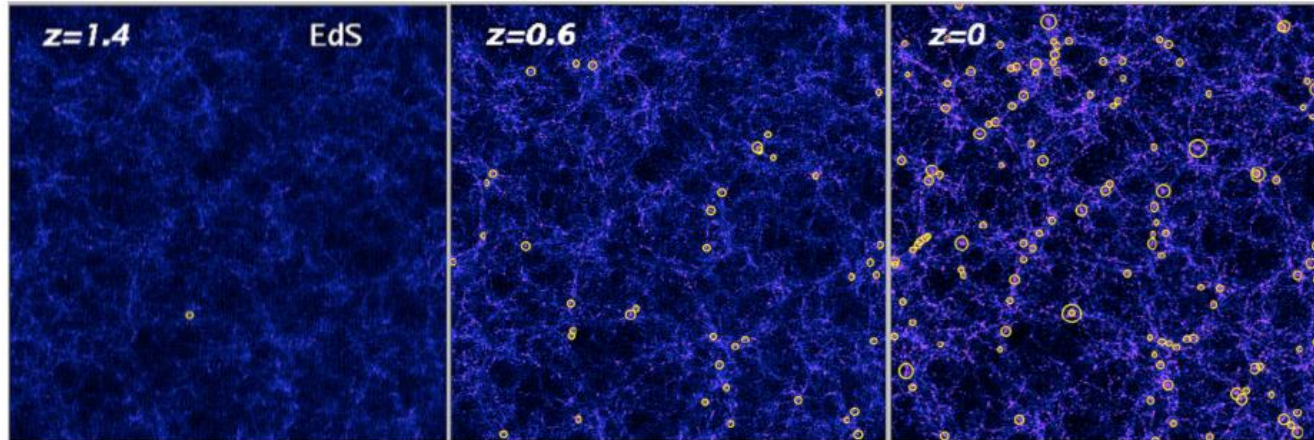




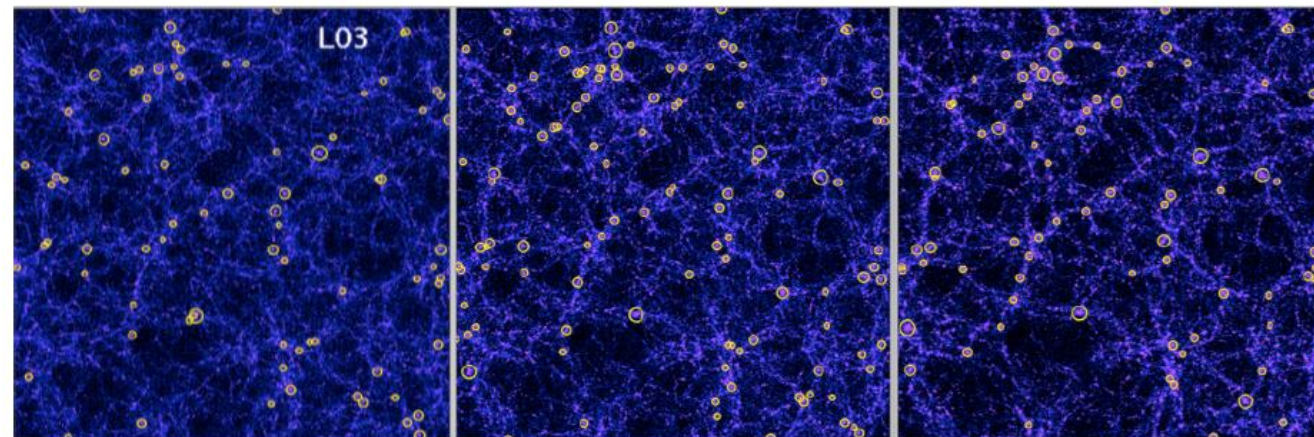
# Galaxy Clusters as Tracers of Structure Formation

Ref: Borgani and Guzzo (2001)

Matter-dominated universe with no dark energy



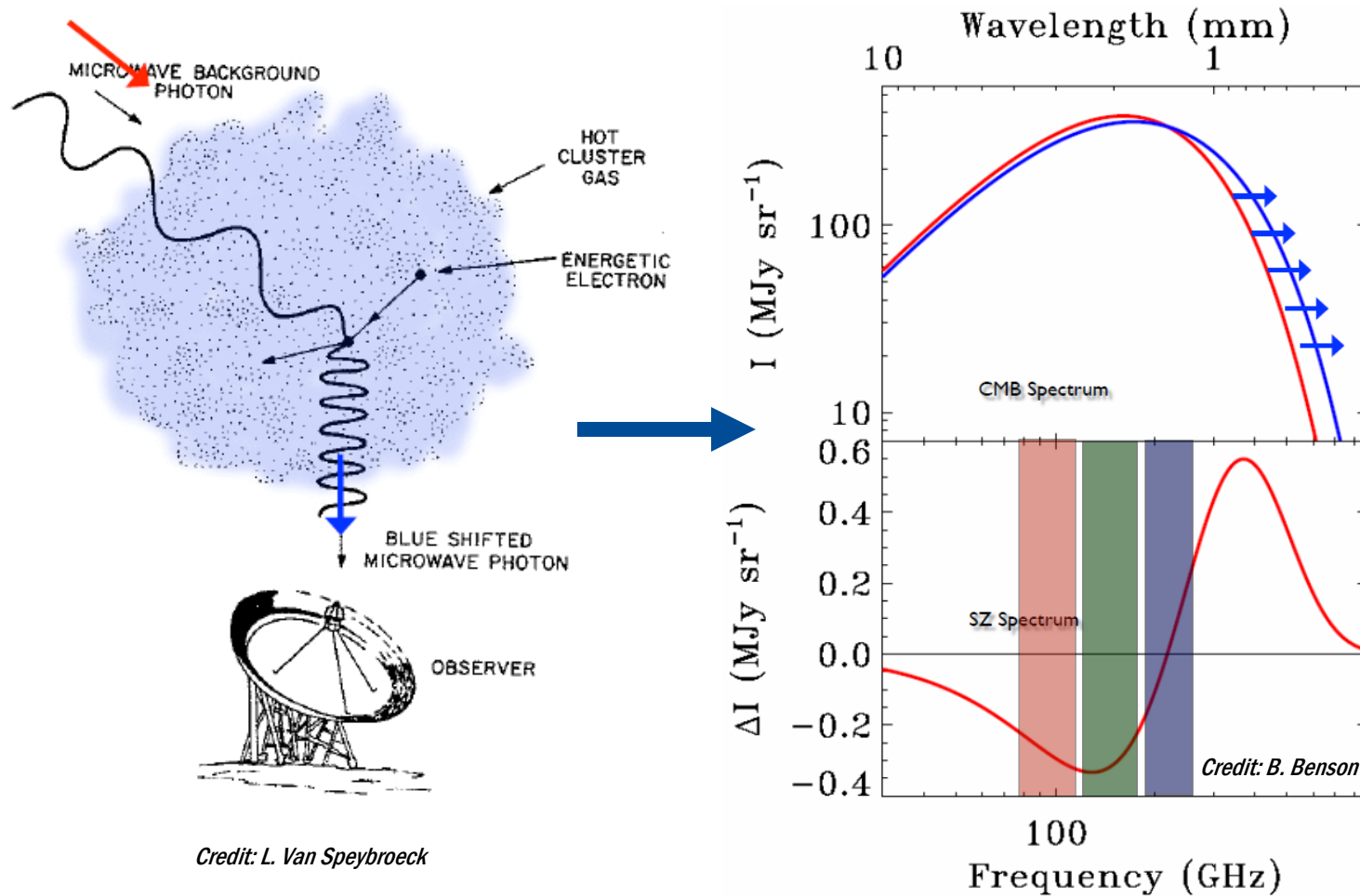
Universe with 70% dark energy and 30% matter



Time

- Galaxy-cluster formation history has been strongly dependent on the universe's physical conditions through cosmic time.
  - Potentially one of the strongest cosmological probes of **dark energy** and **neutrino mass**.
- Measuring the **abundance** and **masses** of clusters **across redshift space** provides a promising way to constrain physical cosmology with independent systematics.
  - However, cluster selection functions and mass calibrations are not well characterized at high redshift ( $z > 1$ ) by surveys measuring cluster emission.

# The Sunyaev-Zeldovich (SZ) effect

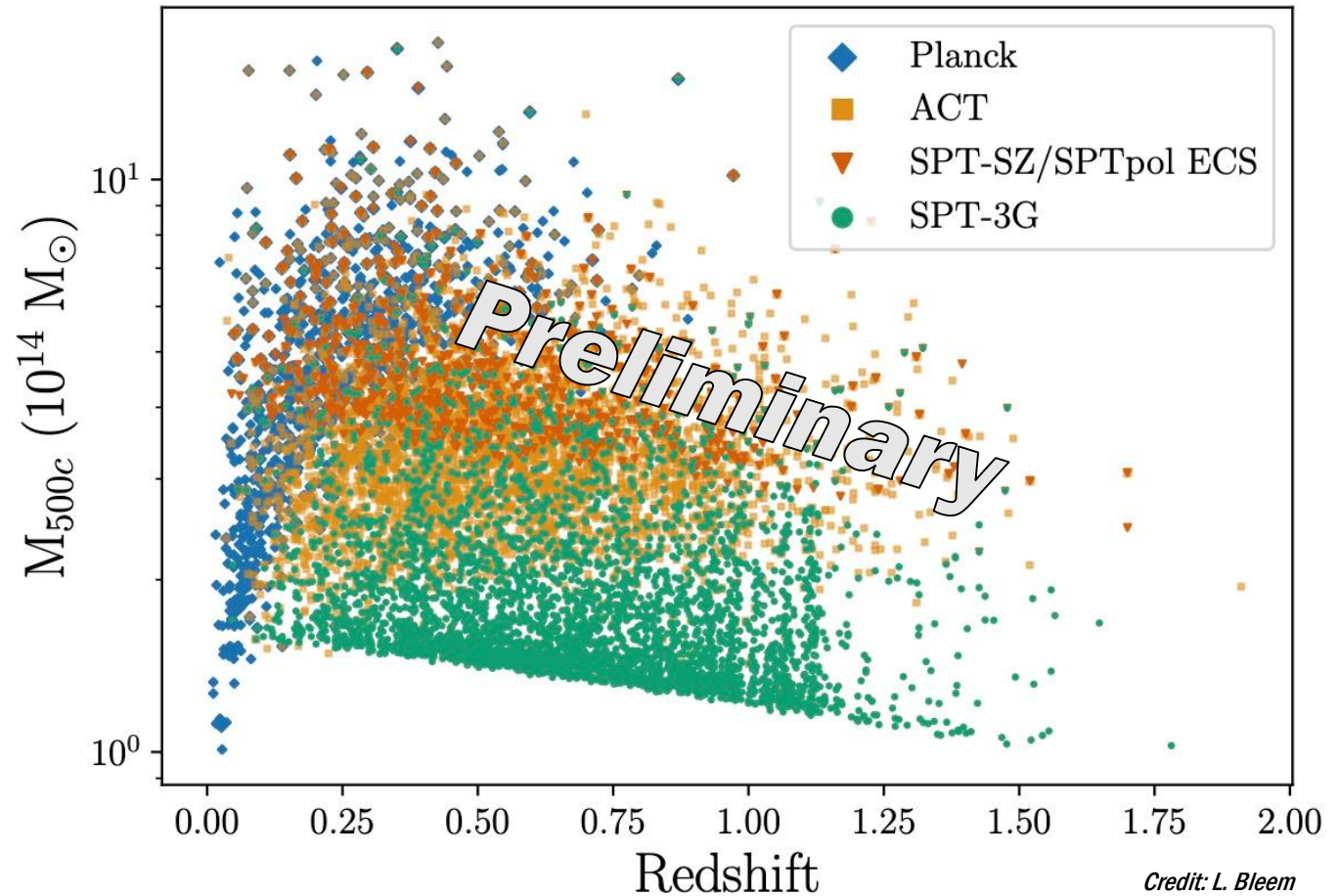


- When passing through a galaxy cluster, a portion of CMB photons inverse-Compton scatter off relativistic, ionized particles present in the intra-cluster medium.
- This process results in arcminute-scale intensity distortions in the CMB, which can be detected to identify and characterize galaxy clusters.
- Very importantly, this scattering effect is both **redshift-independent** and **cluster-mass sensitive**.
  - CMB SZ surveys provide an excellent complement to X-ray, optical, and infrared emission surveys.



# SPT-3G 2019-2020 Main-field Cluster Catalog

- **5891 candidates** detected with  $\text{SNR} > 3.85$  over  $1500 \text{ deg}^2$ , using 2 years of SPT-3G data.
  - 2457 candidates  $\text{SNR} > 5$  (more than 99% purity).
  - Candidates cross-matched with DES to validate low-redshift clusters ( $z < 1$ ). Additional promising candidates being followed-up with targeted Magellan FourStar NIR imaging (follow-up ongoing).
- Detection density is many factors higher than best previous SZ-effect cluster surveys.
- This forthcoming, partial cluster sample already demonstrates SPT-3G's significantly improved ability to **discover and characterize the lowest-mass, highest-redshift clusters**.



### ***3. The Future of CMB at Fermilab: CMB-S4***

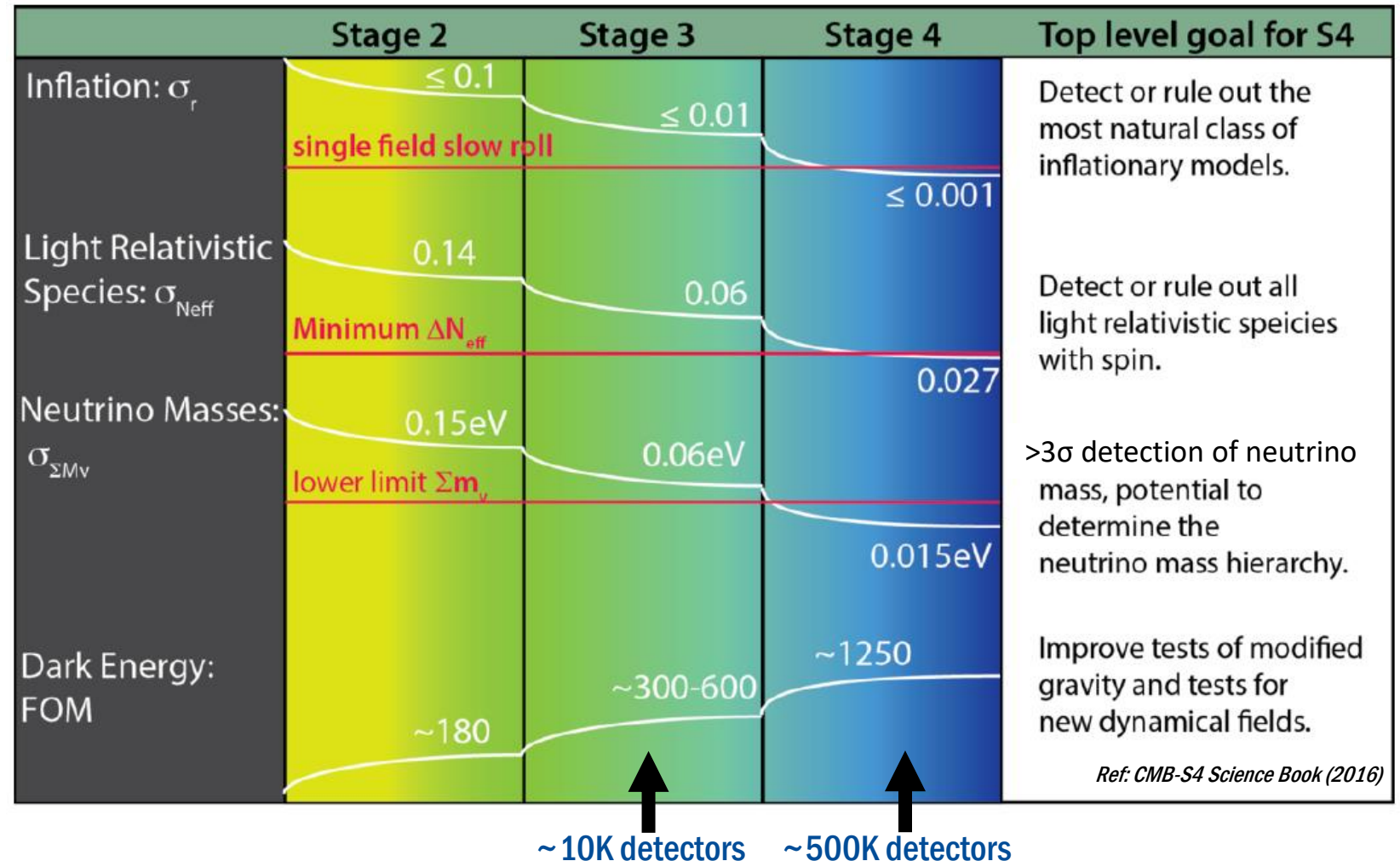
# New Physics or Not?

## Parameter Thresholds for Ruling Out New Physics

- For modern photon-noise dominated CMB experiments:

$$\text{Sensitivity} = \sqrt{N(\text{Detectors}) \times \text{Time}}$$

- While current experiments will either detect or set upper limits on BSM and LCDM+ physics, it is unlikely they will reach the necessary sensitivities to conclusively rule out new physics.
- A dramatic increase in experiment scale and improvement in systematics handling is necessary to answer questions about new physics decisively.



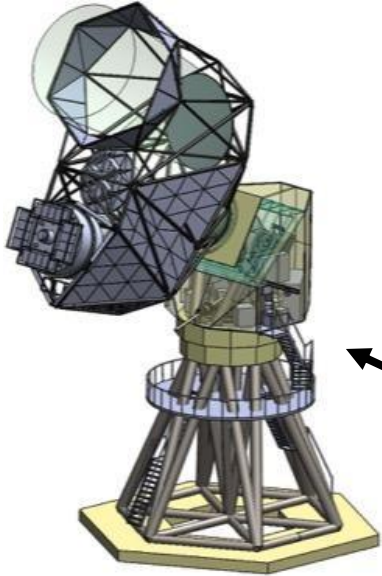


# CMB-S4 Experimental Plan

- A combination of large-aperture (LAT) and small-aperture (SAT) telescopes across two sites will optimally map degree- to arcminute-scale CMB temperature and polarization modes with **480,000 photon-noise limited detectors**:

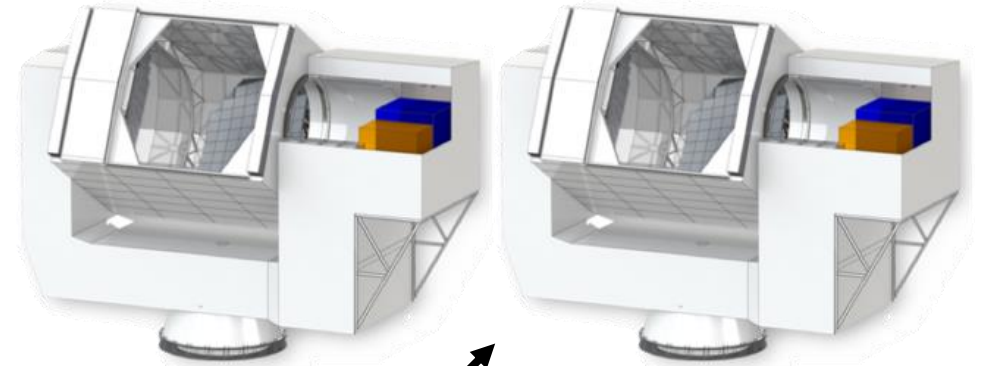
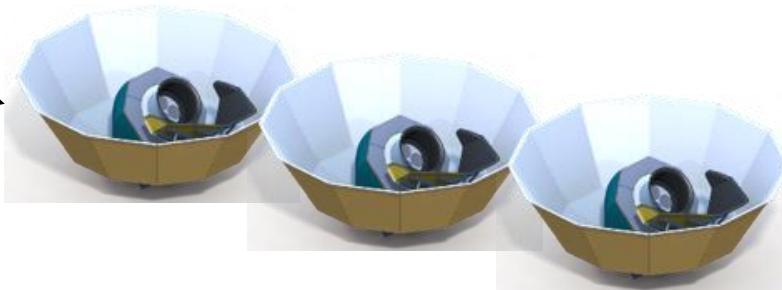
## South Pole:

- Deep survey of 3% of the sky to meet **inflation** science goals.



One 5m three-mirror anastigmat (TMA):  
130K detectors

Nine 0.5m refracting telescopes:  
80K detectors



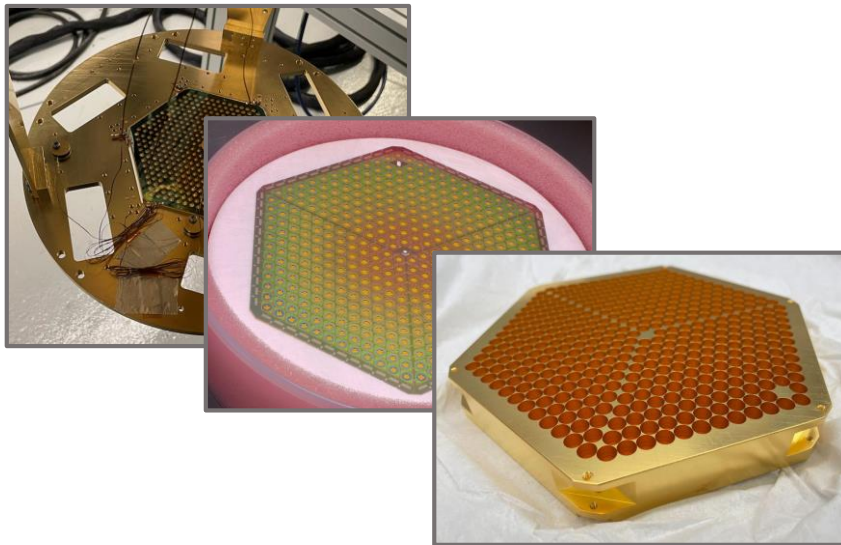
Two 6m crossed-  
Dragone telescopes:  
270K detectors

## Chile:

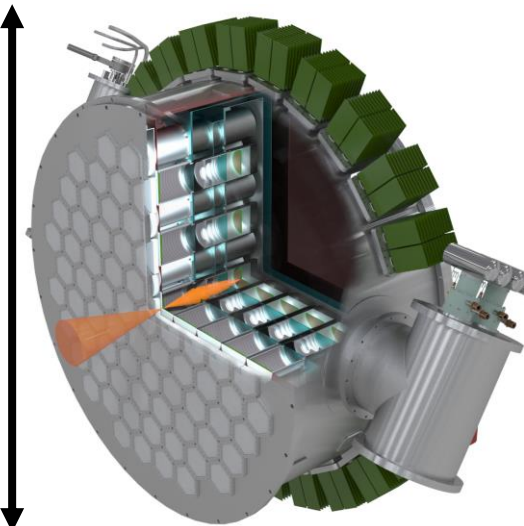
- Wide survey of 40% of the sky to meet **light relic** and **transient-science** science goals.

# Fermilab's Leading Contributions to CMB-S4

Module Design, Assembly, and Testing:

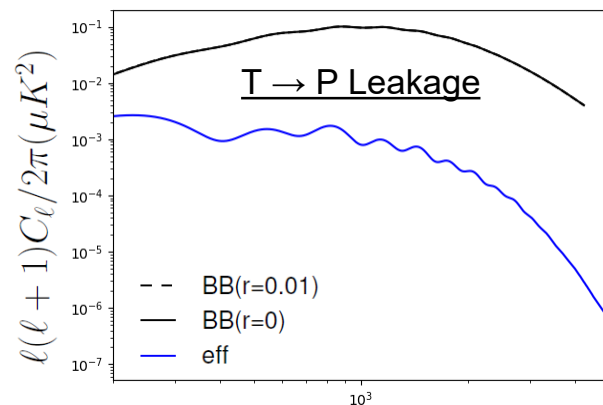


LAT Receiver Development and Anti-reflection Technologies:



2-m diameter,  
~4500 kg

Modeling Instrument Systematics:



Leveraging Fermilab's strong history in silicon-detector and cryogenic-receiver development!

**Thank You.**