

ATACAMA COSMOLOGY TELESCOPE

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Center for Computational Astrophysics



CMB-S4 summer 2024 meeting

07-31-2024

ATACAMA COSMOLOGY TELESCOPE

2007-2022



image credit: Mark Devlin



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2022 collaboration meeting, Princeton



160 collaborators



ATACAMA COSMOLOGY TELESCOPE

Altitude of 5200 m in the Atacama desert in northern Chile

- ▶ Access to ~70% of the sky (ACT maps ~40%)

6 m telescope

- ▶ ~5 times *Planck* resolution



PI: Suzanne Staggs, Co-Director: Mark Devlin
image credit: Debra Kellner



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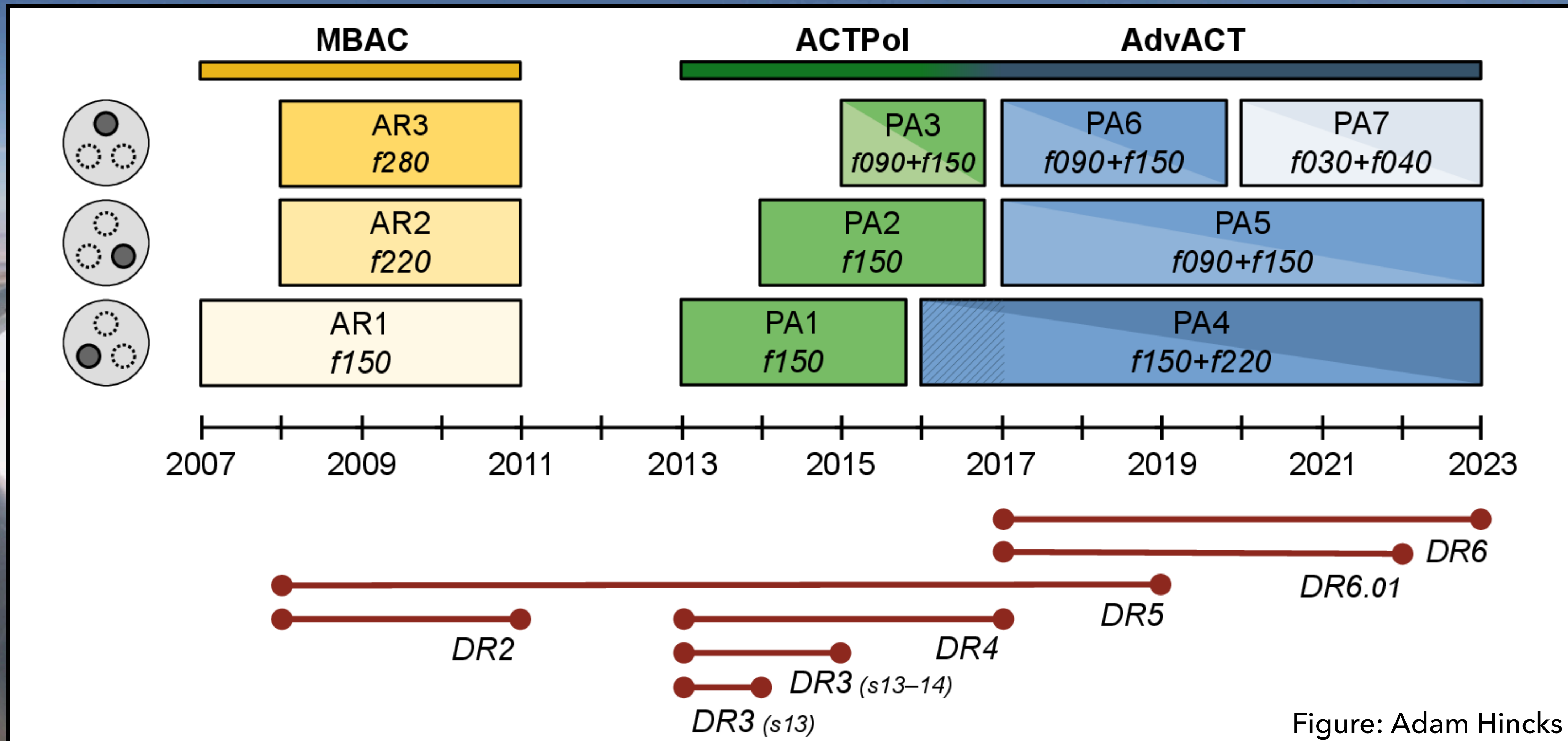


Figure: Adam Hincks

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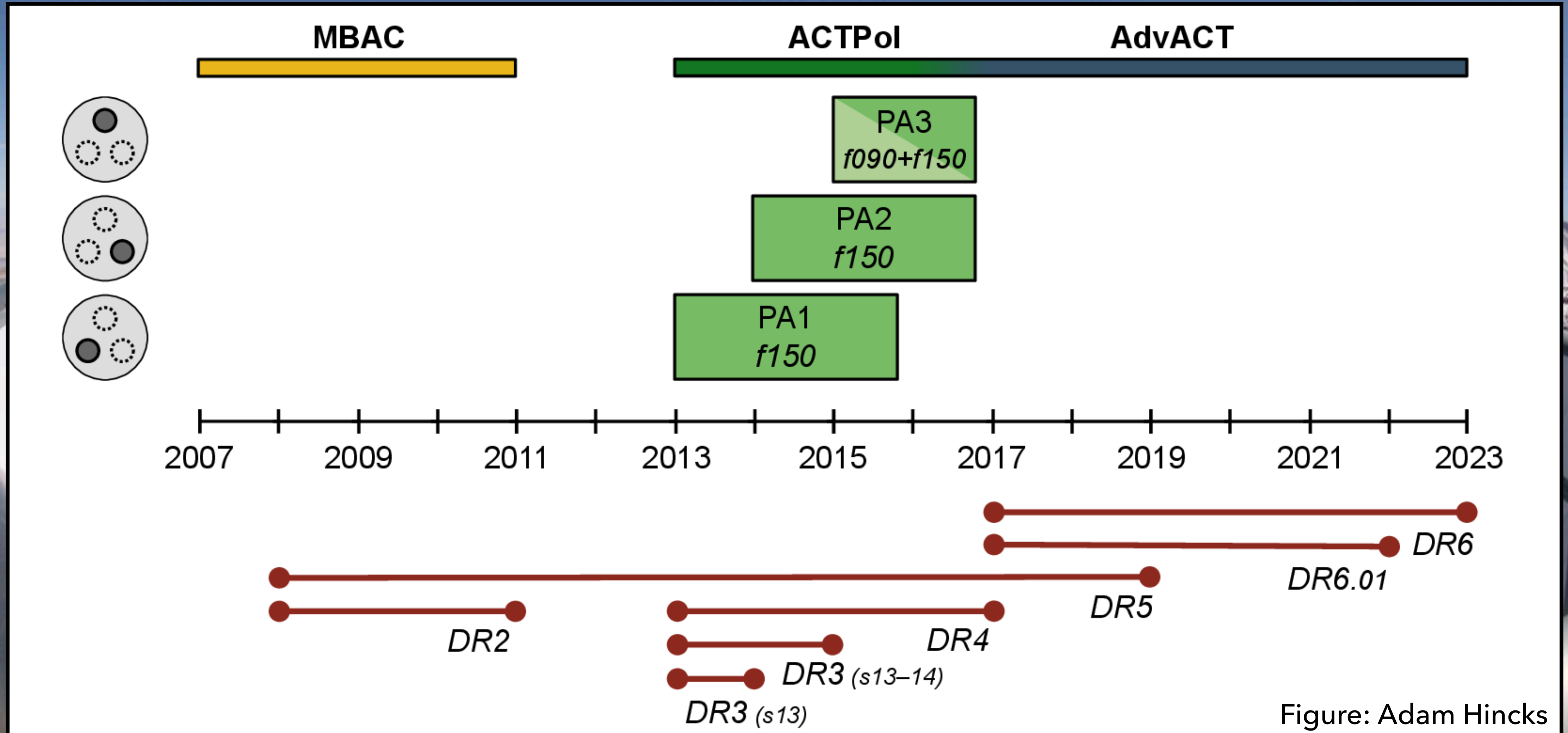
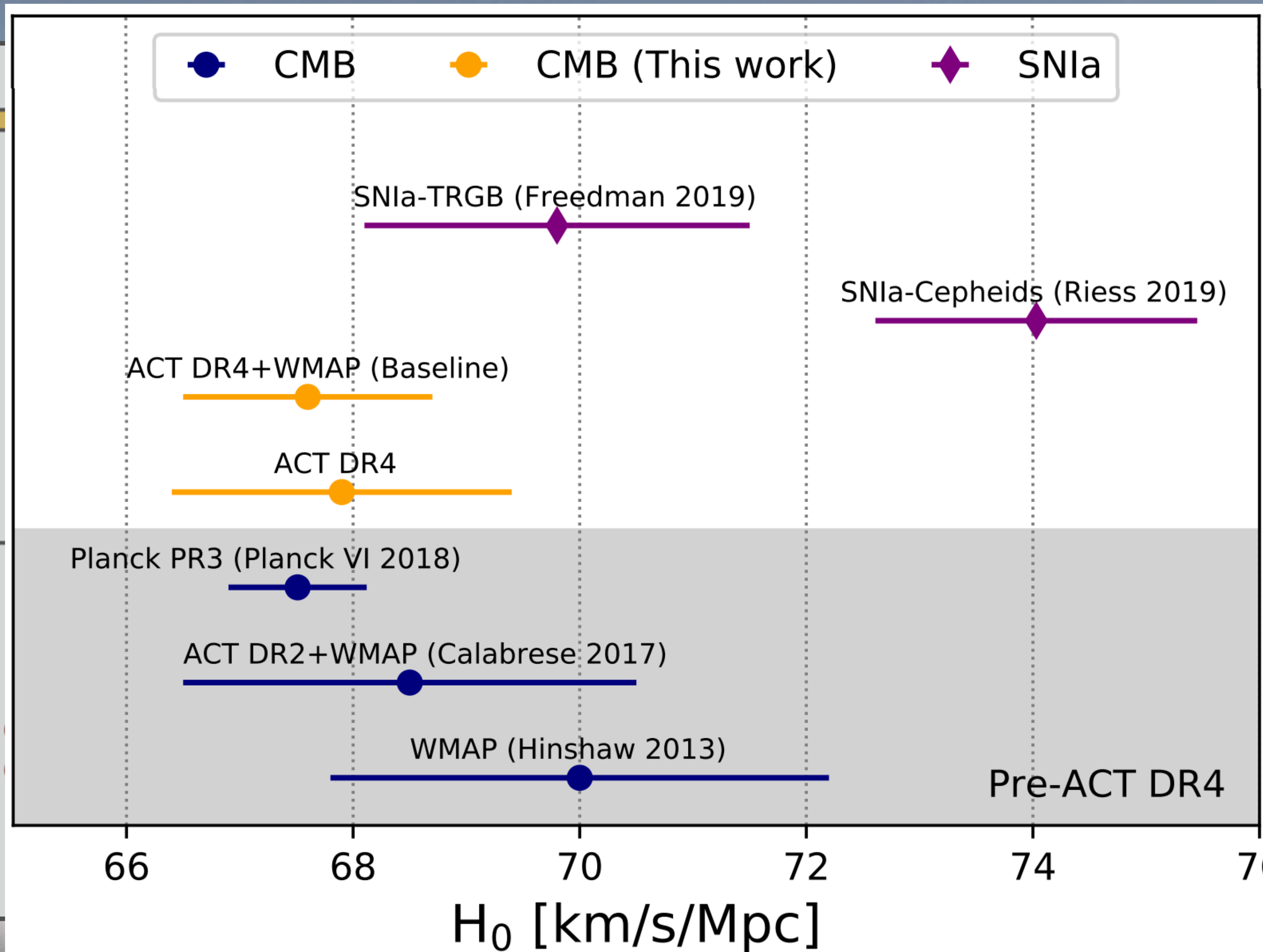


Figure: Adam Hincks

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2007

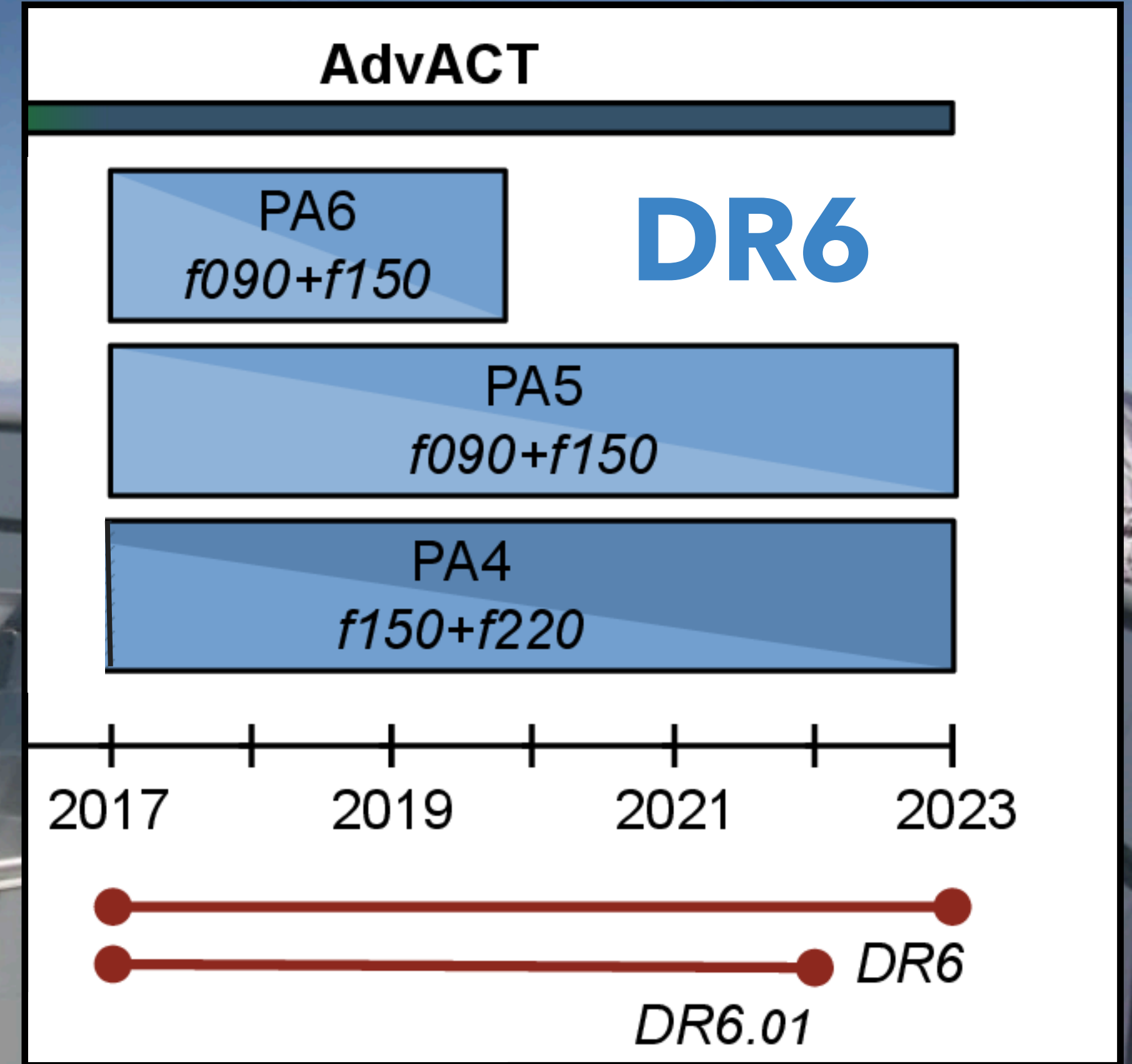
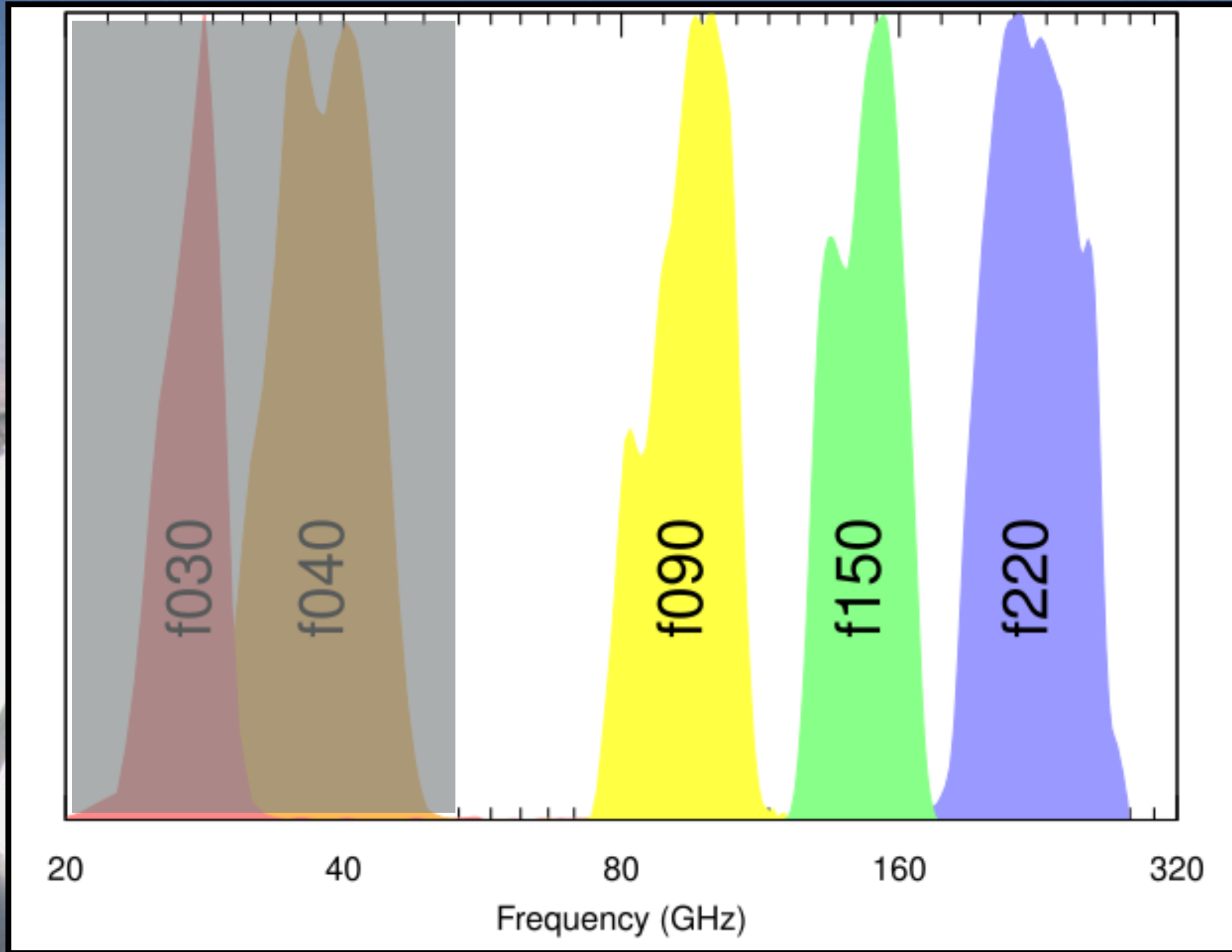
2023

DR6
5.01

Aiola et al., 2020, Choi et al., 2020

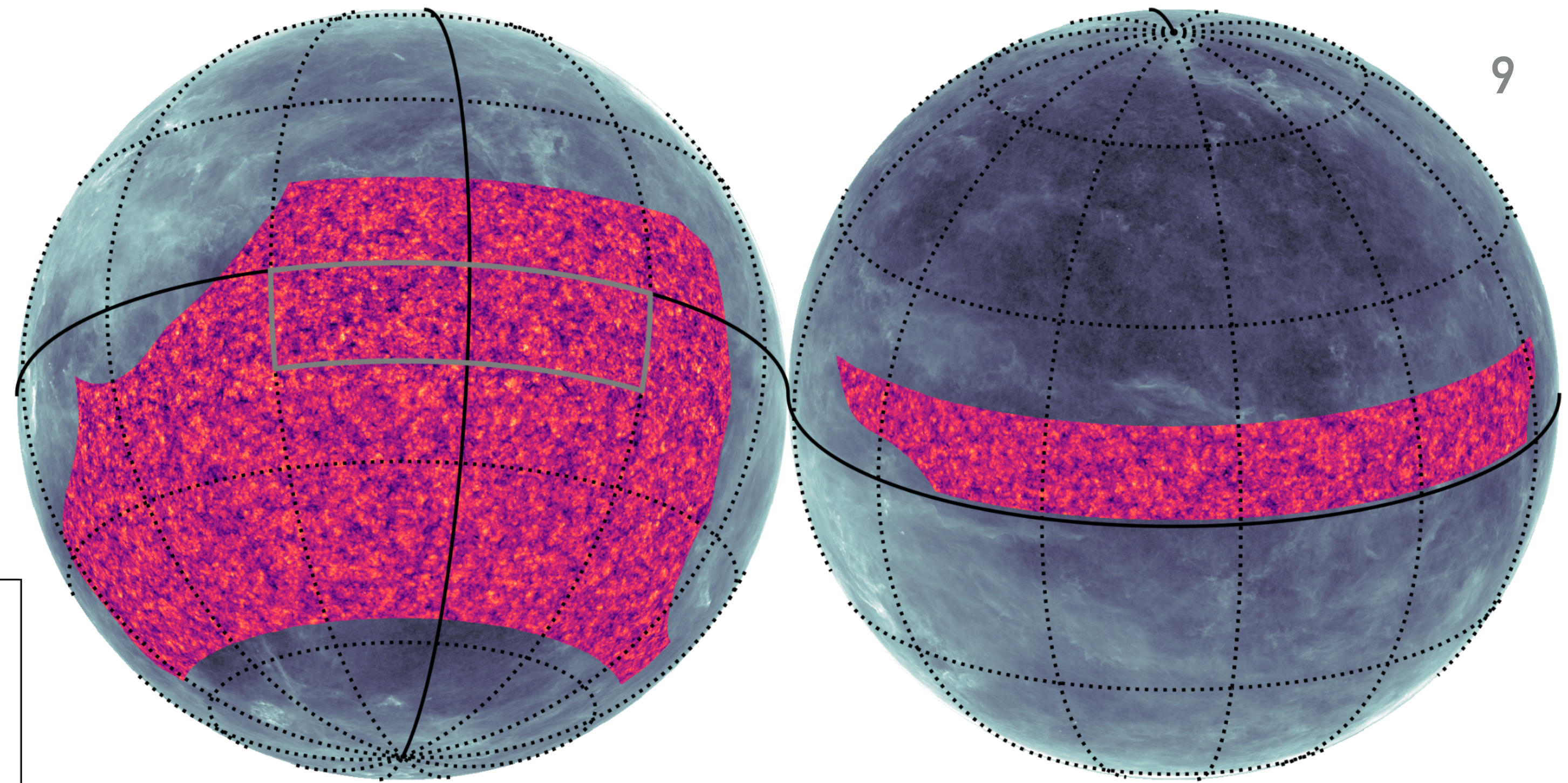
re: Adam Hincks

ATACAMA COSMOLOGY TELESCOPE, DR6

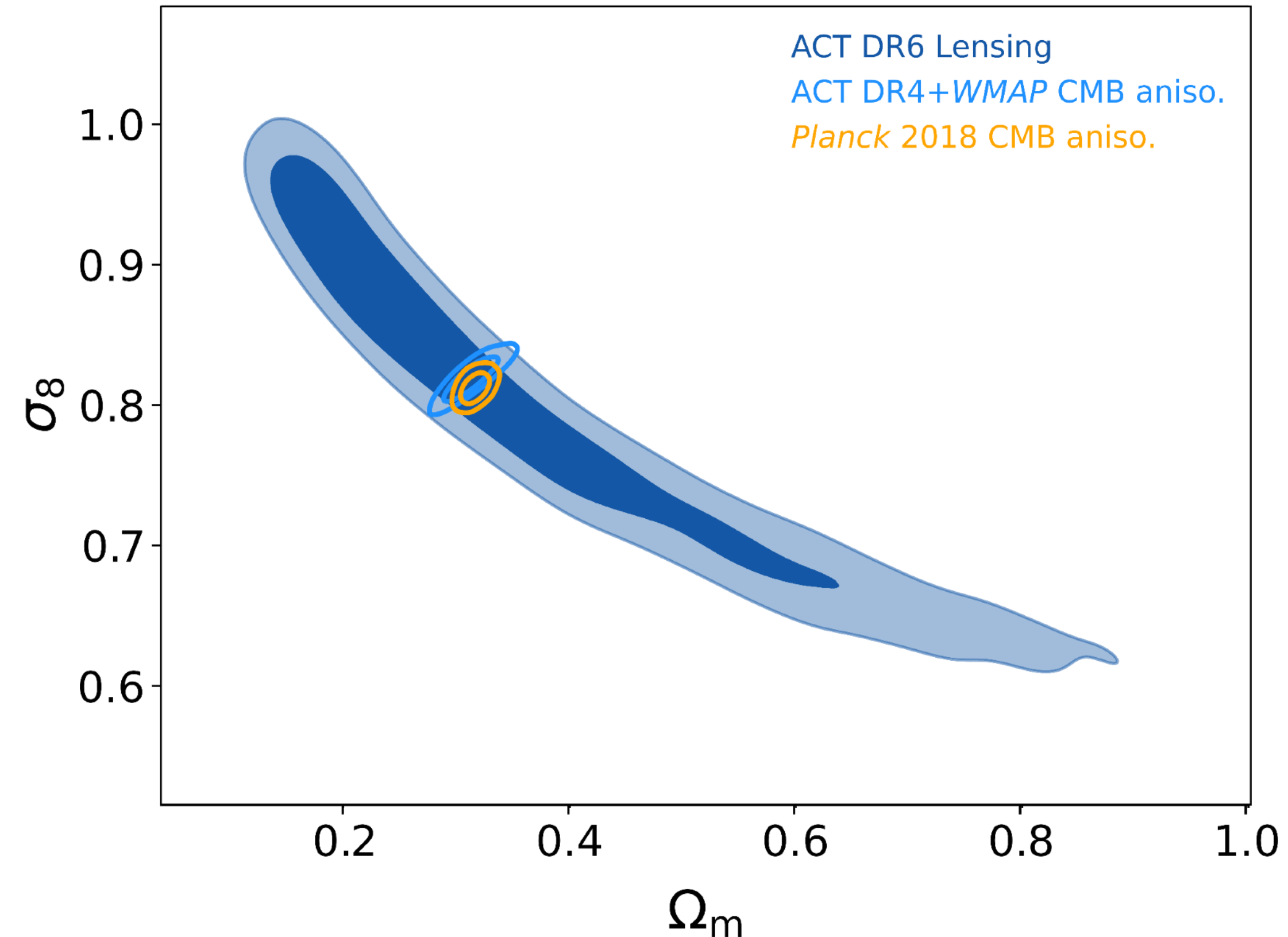


DR6 LENSING RESULTS

Late time structure formation as measured by ACT CMB lensing agrees with extrapolation from early universe



9

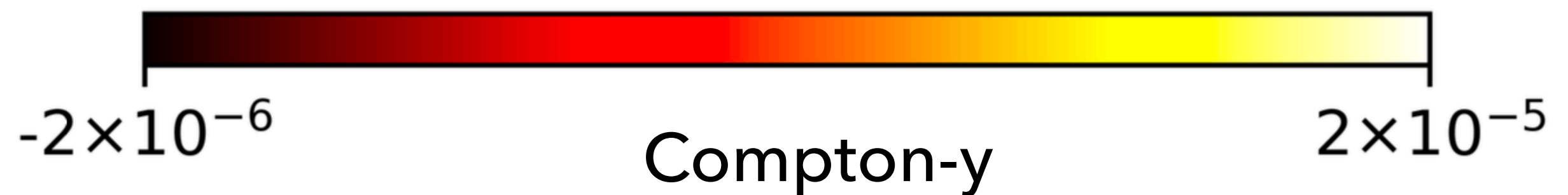
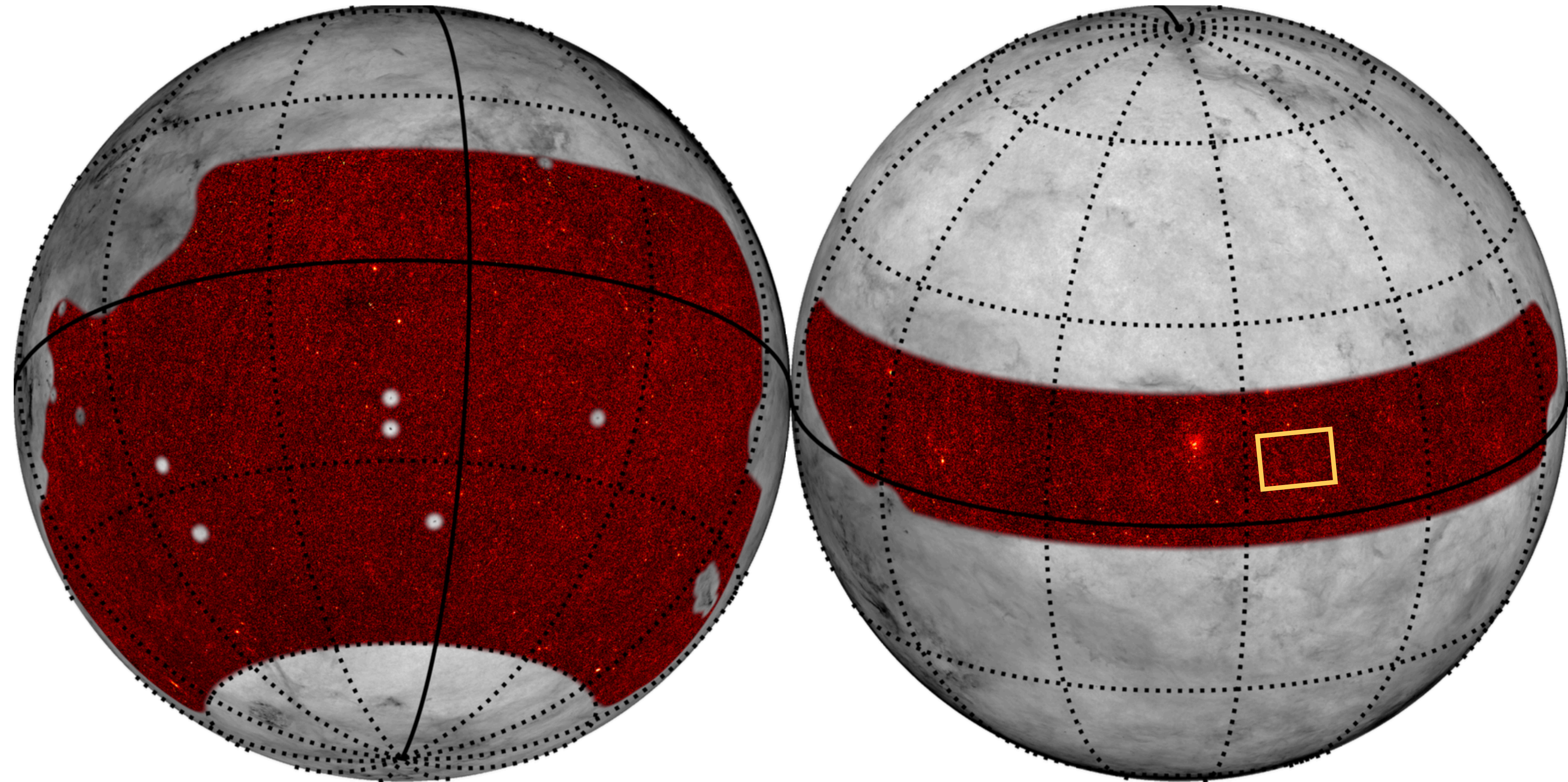


Described in [Qu++, 2023], [Madhavacheril++, 2023] and [MacCrann++, 2023] ACT lensing papers. Maps and likelihood available on Lambda

More recently: [Farren++, 2023] (ACT x UNWISE): structure formation at $z \sim 0.6$ and $z \sim 1.1$ also agrees with early universe

ACT + PLANCK MAP OF THE THERMAL SUNYAEV ZEL'DOVICH EFFECT

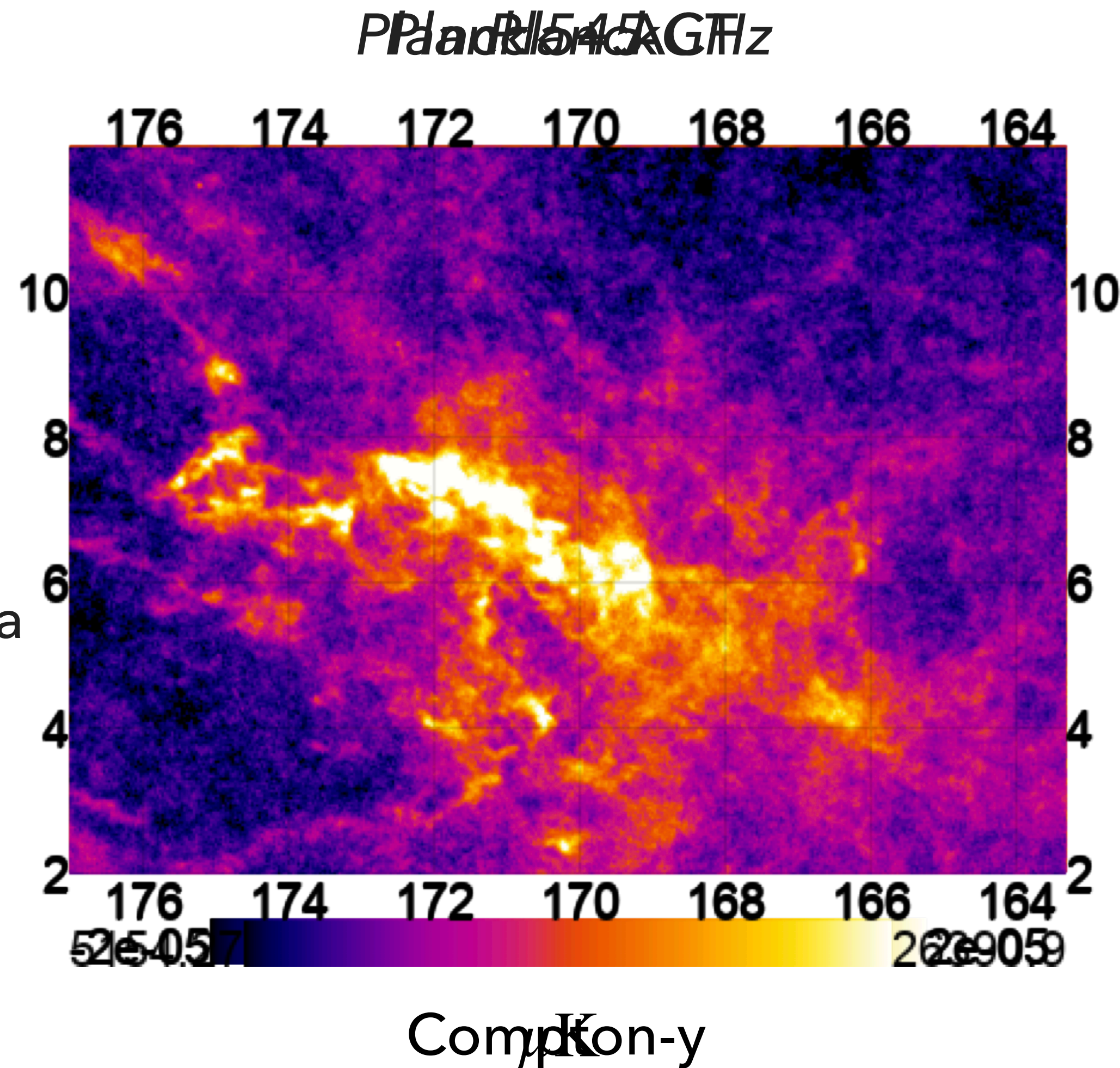
- ▶ Combine the 90, 150 and 220 GHz ACT bands with Planck NPIPE to form a map of the **total thermal SZ signal**
- ▶ A map of the integrated electron pressure in our universe



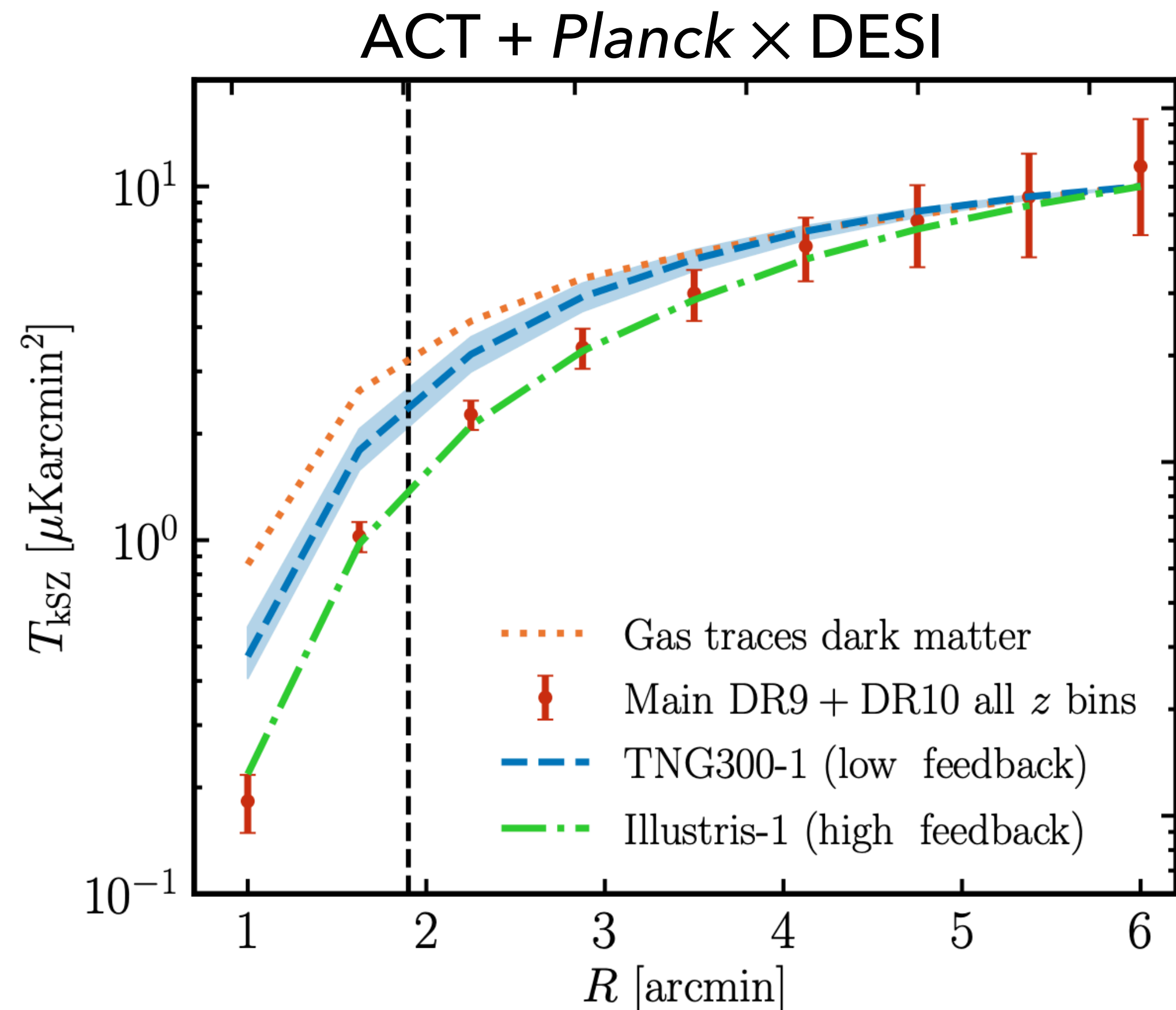
Coulton++, 2024
See also Hilton++, 2020 for
cluster catalog

ACT + PLANCK MAP OF THE THERMAL SUNYAEV ZEL'DOVICH EFFECT

- ▶ High-res ACT data helps with foreground contamination
- ▶ Several "deprojection" options available that explicitly remove contamination
- ▶ Maps available on Lambda

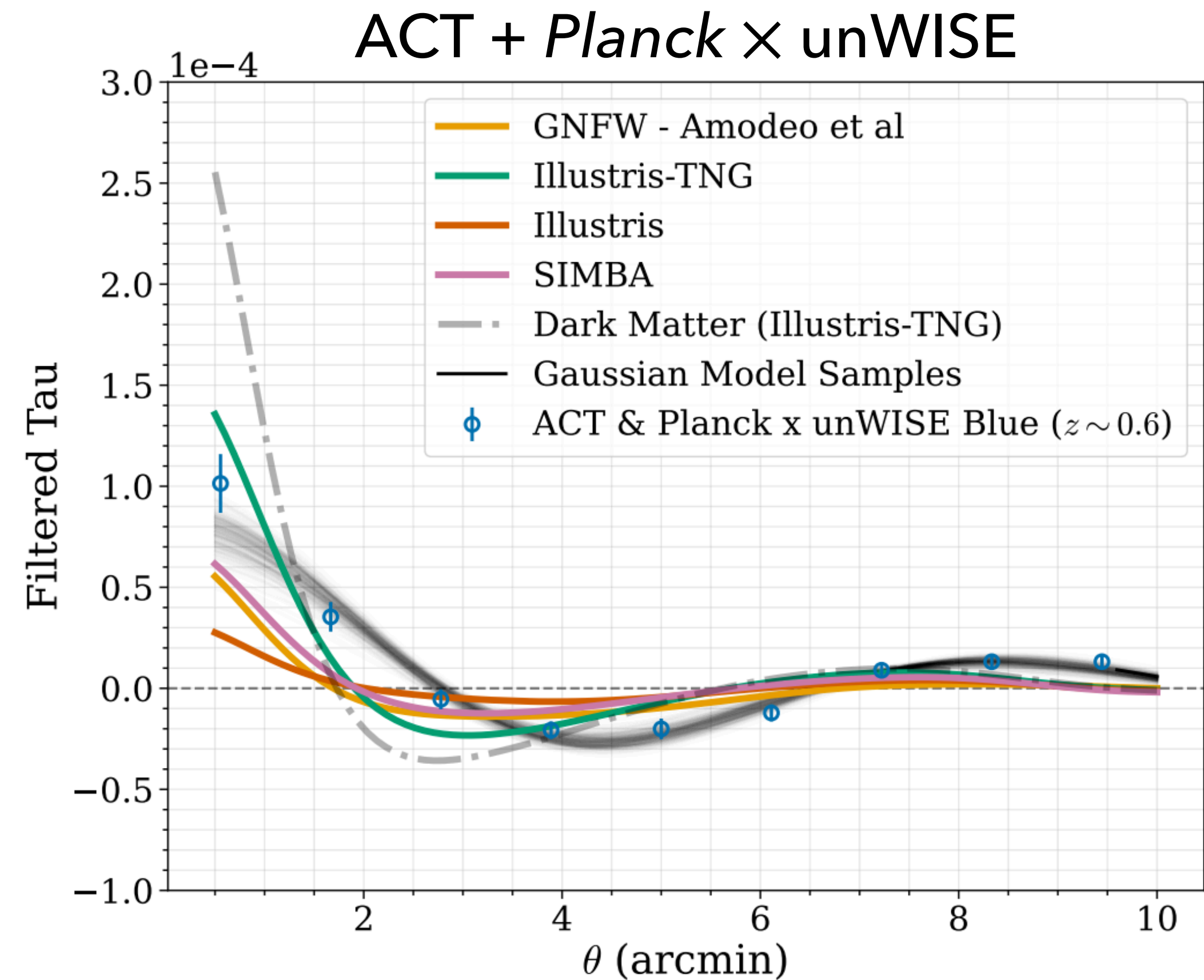


- ▶ Kinetic SZ effect starts to seriously constrain cosmology



Hadzhiyska++, 2024

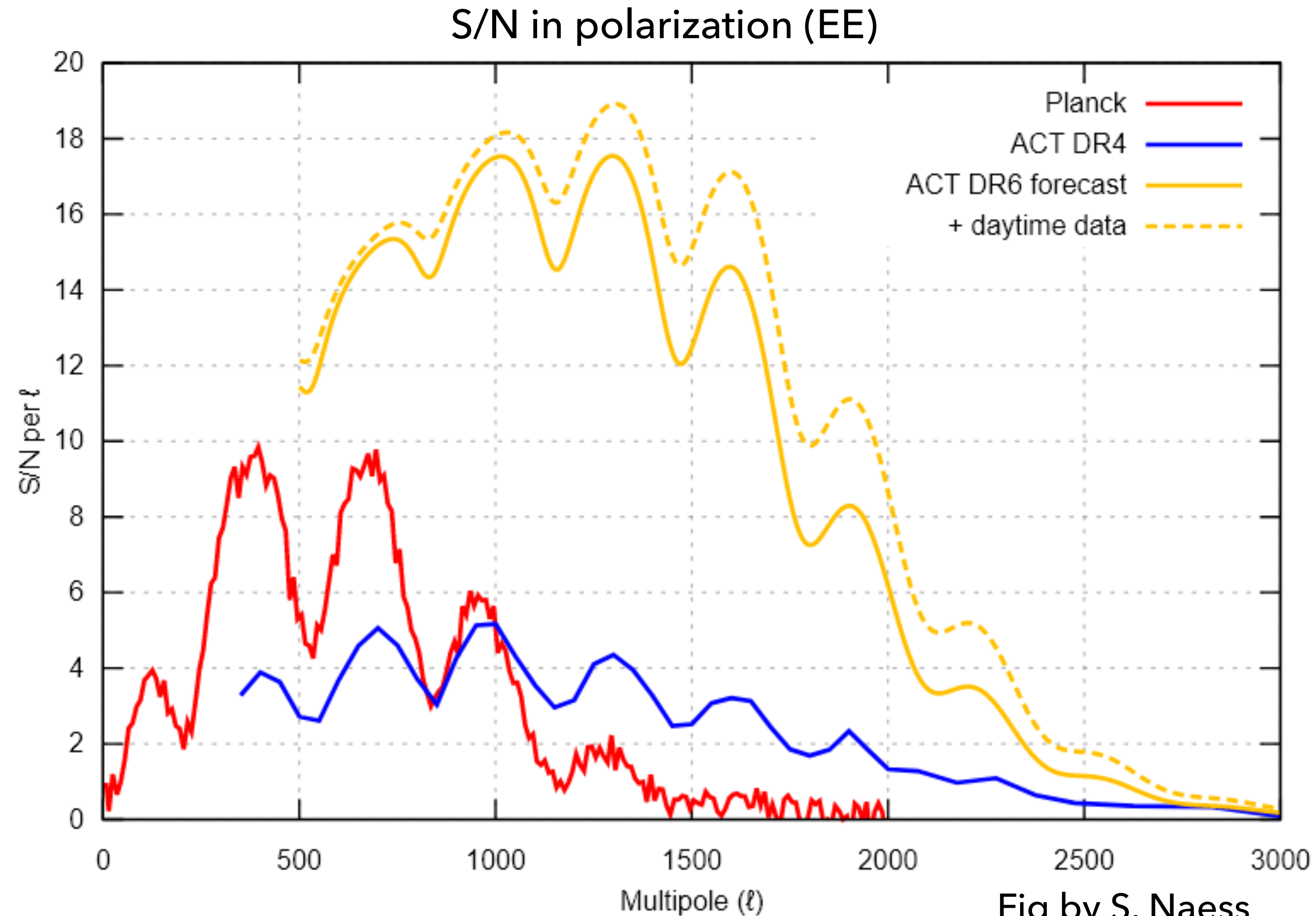
- ▶ First detection of patchy screening



Coulton++, 2024

Power spectrum analysis Internal null tests are passing. Final analysis of the data in progress

- ▶ CMB power spectrum results are significantly more sensitive than *Planck*
- ▶ Temperature-polarization correlation (TE) becomes most sensitive channel



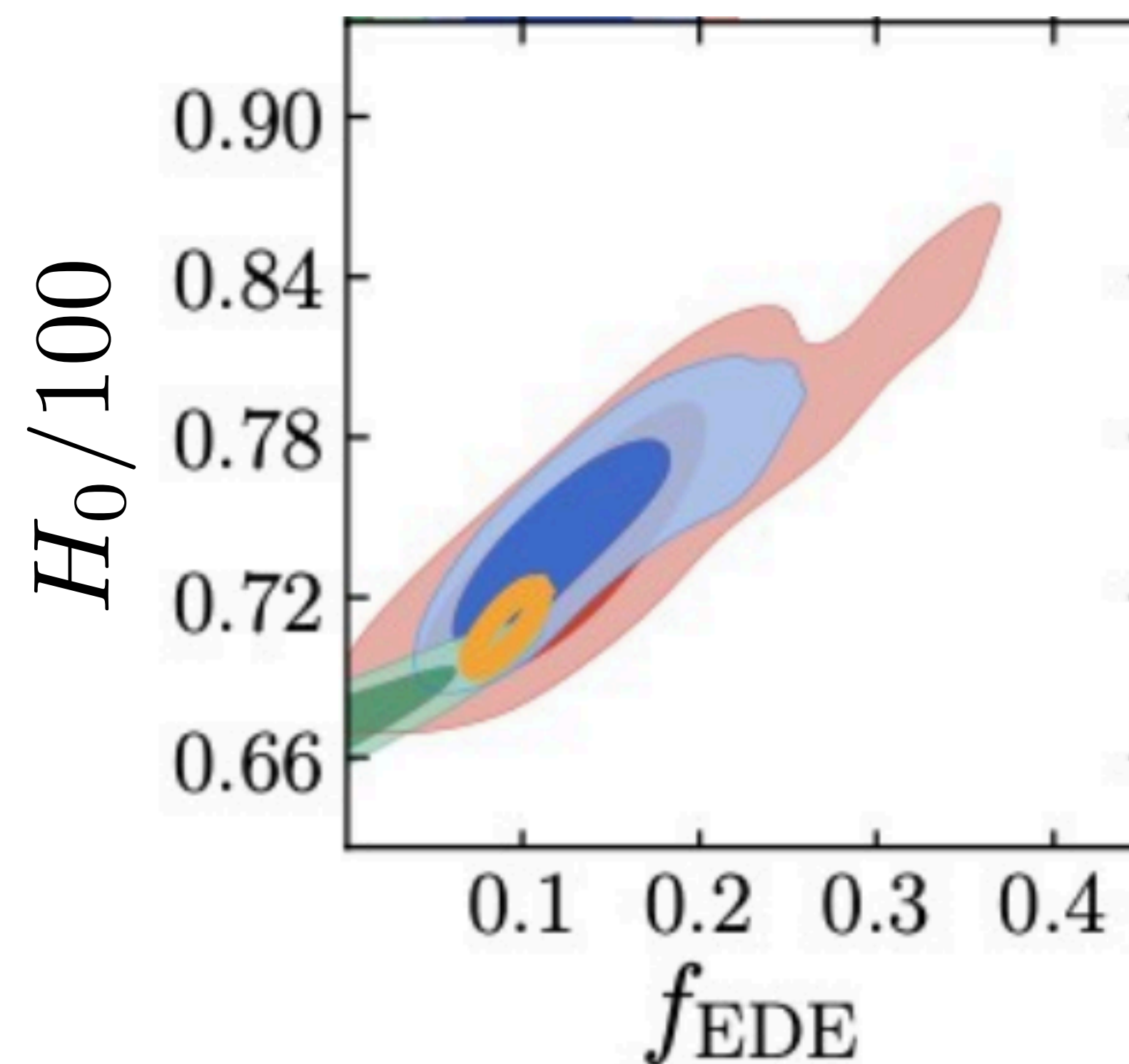
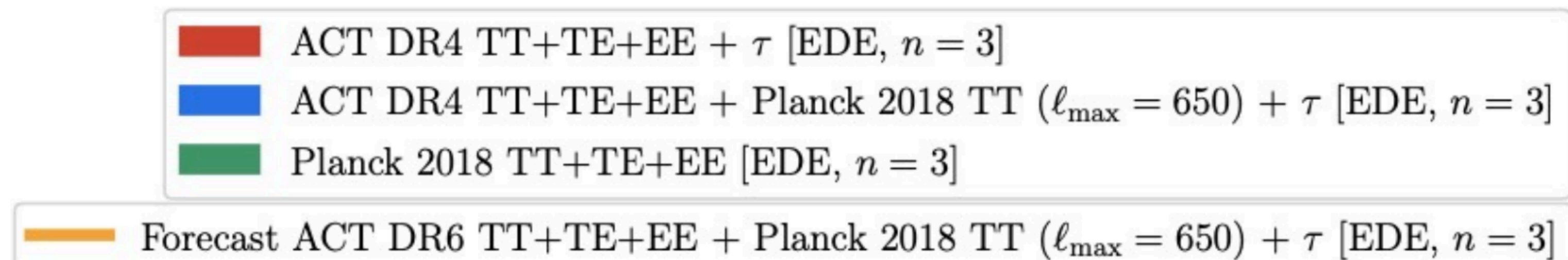
- ▶ Addition of small scale and polarization data enables testing of a range of extensions to Λ CDM
- ▶ 2x more sensitive to extra relativistic species (N_{eff}) compared to *Planck* alone



Forecast

	DR4 + WMAP	Planck	DR6 + Planck
$\sigma(H_0)$	1.1	0.5	0.4
$\sigma(n_s)$	0.006	0.004	0.003
$\sigma(N_{\text{eff}})$	0.3	0.2	0.1

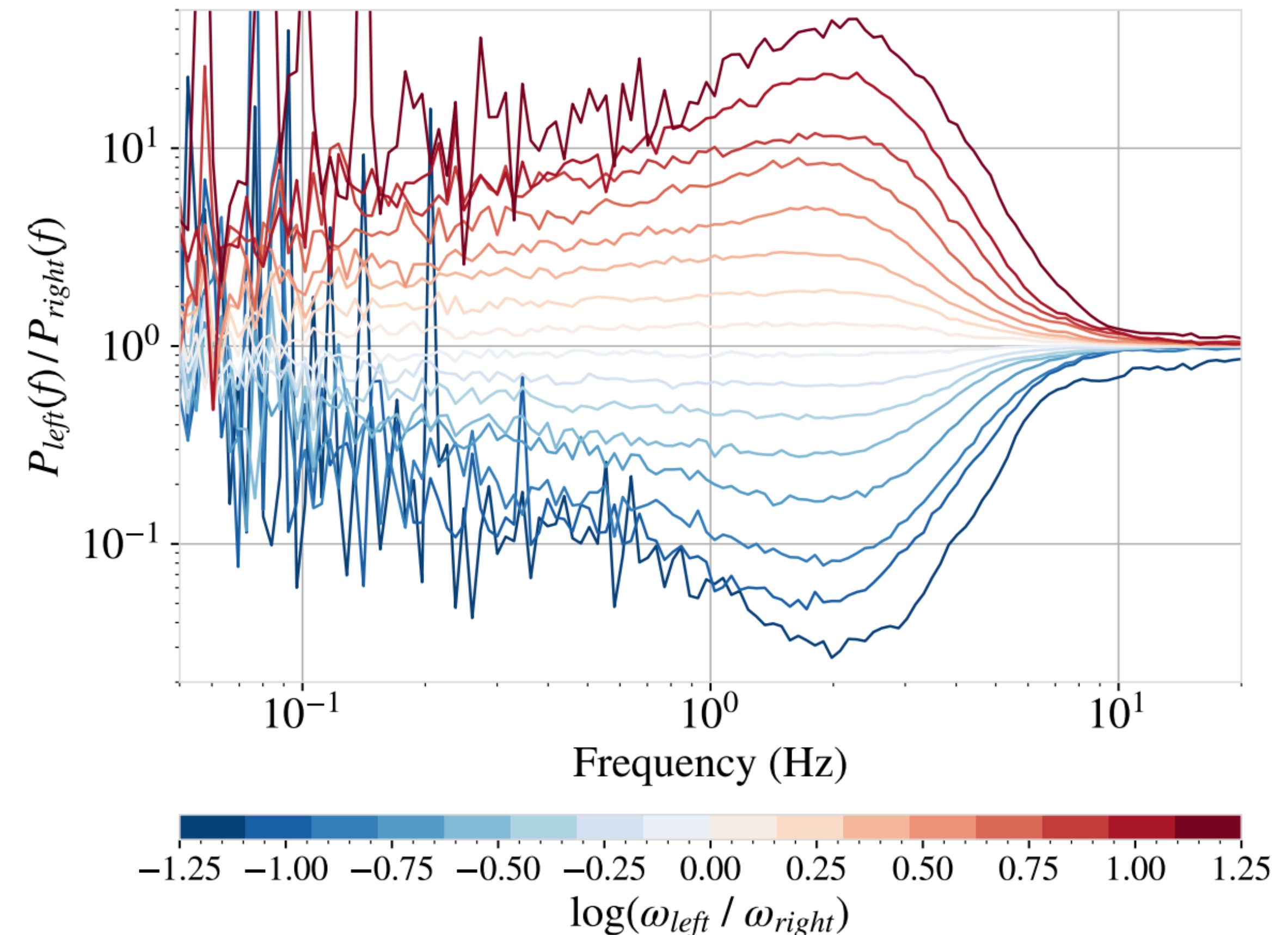
- ▶ Addition of small scale and polarization data enables testing of a range of extensions to Λ CDM
- ▶ Early dark energy” (EDE) solution to the “Hubble tension”



See e.g. V. Poulin, T. L. Smith, T. Karwal and M. Kamionkowski Phys. Rev. Lett. 122 (2019) 221301

Forecast by C. Hill

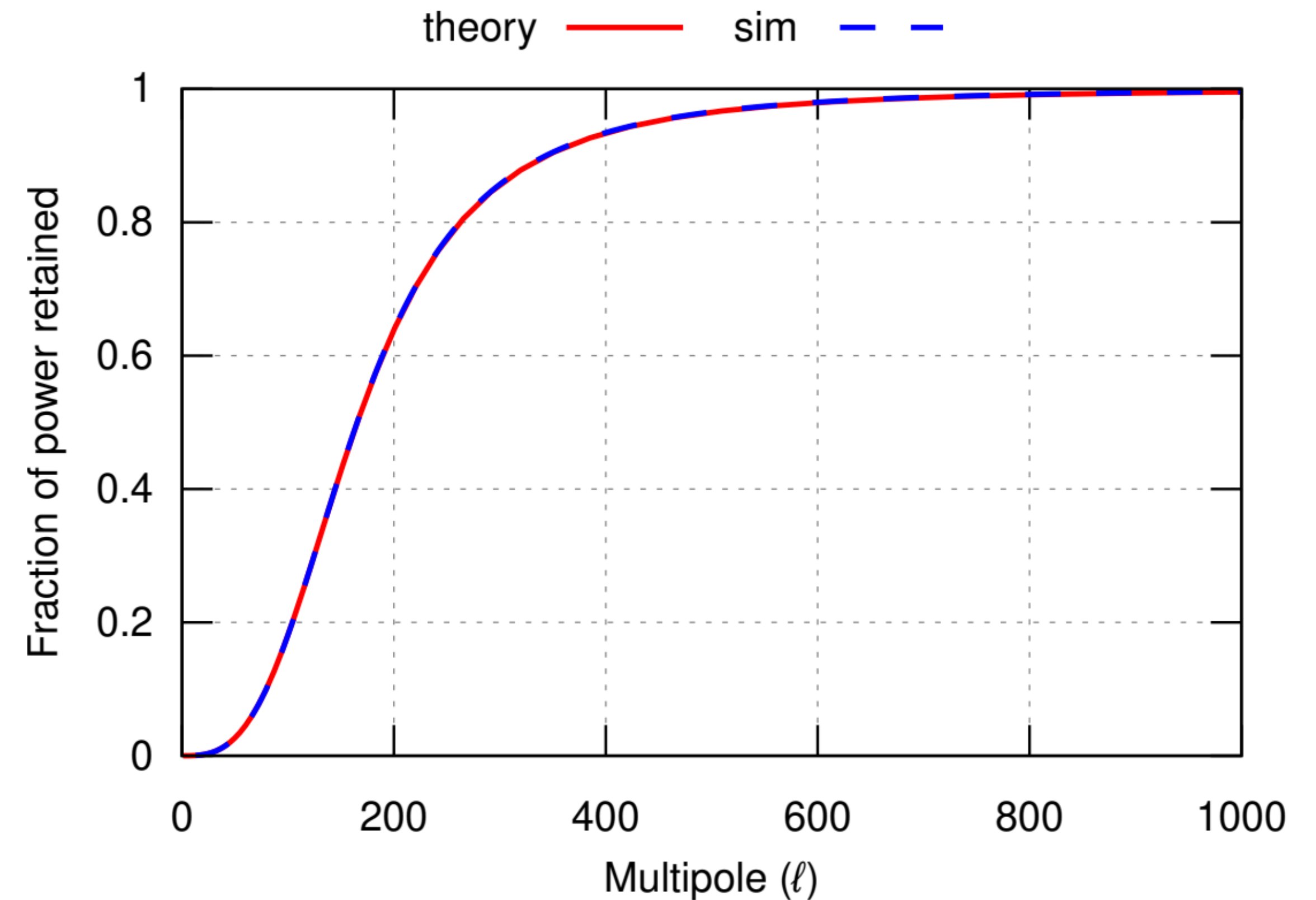
- ▶ ML maps, very expensive but (approximately) unbiased
- ▶ Downsides: complicated noise properties and limited ability to produce time-ordered end-to-end simulations
- ▶ Atmosphere modeled as stationary in time-domain. Crucial to include correlations between detectors in noise model
- ▶ Example of possible improvement from [Morris++, 2022]: take wind direction into account



Noise power spectrum changes significantly as one scans with or against the wind direction

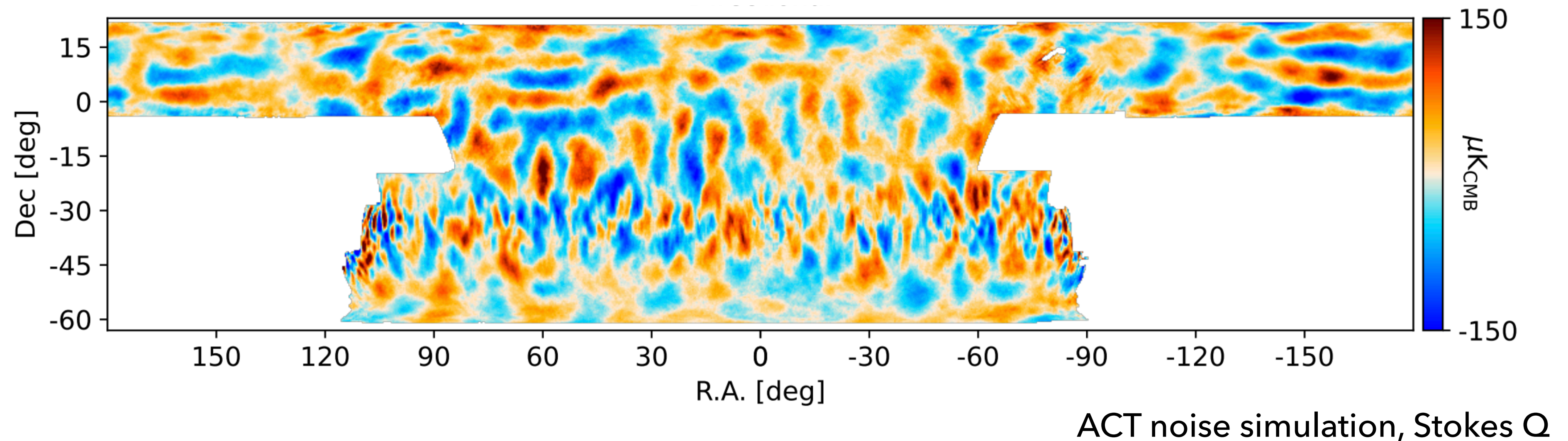
LESSONS LEARNED: MODEL ERRORS

- ▶ As dynamic range in noise covariance increases, seemingly benign model errors start to cause large biases during mapmaking
 - ▶ Examples: pixelization and relative gain errors between the detectors
- ▶ For ACT, the lack of hardware calibrator leaves planet- or atmosphere-based gain calibration
 - ▶ Planet sensitive to per-detector beams
 - ▶ Atmosphere sensitive to passband differences between detectors
- ▶ Having overlapping angular scales with Planck is important. Accurate gain calibration should be very high priority for upcoming experiments



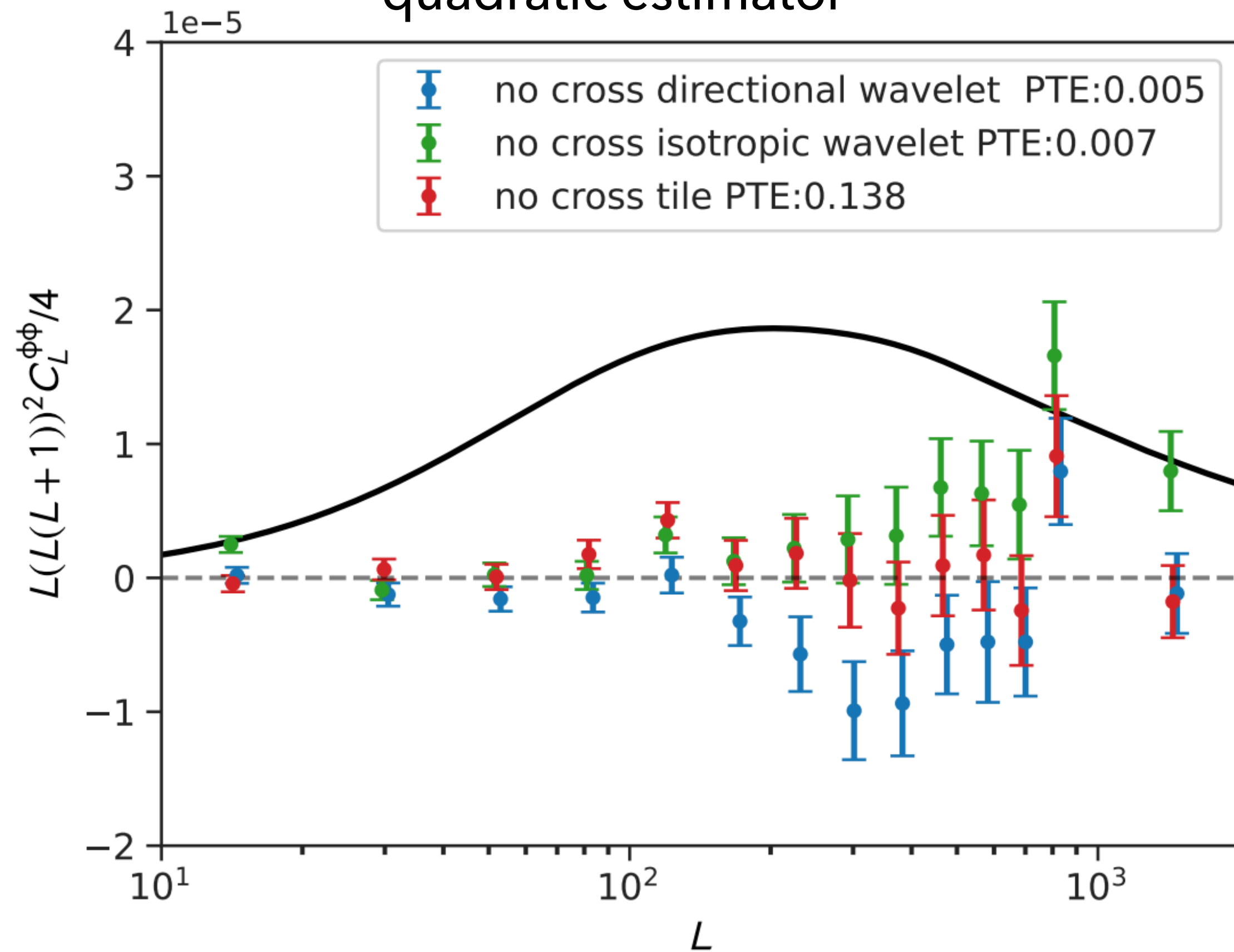
Toy model from Naess, Louis, 2023 showing the bias due to detector gain errors

- ▶ Time-domain noise simulations are too expensive for ACT (and unclear how accurate they would be)
- ▶ Developed wavelet-based method to efficiently draw accurate noise simulations [Atkins++, 2023] from model estimated directly from map differences
- ▶ Crucial for recent ACT CMB lensing results and other upcoming cosmological results

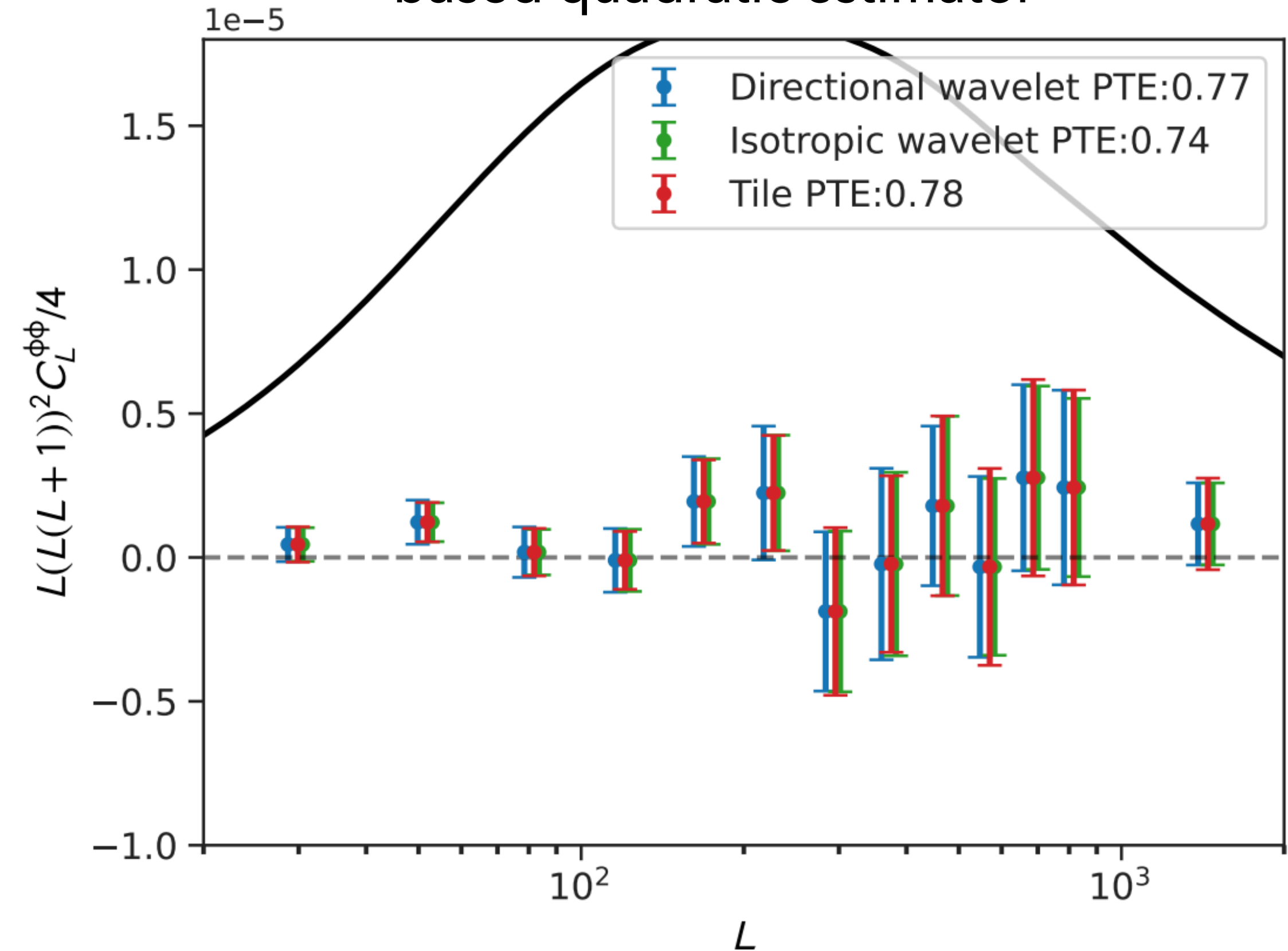


LESSONS LEARNED: SPLIT-BASED ESTIMATORS

Lensing null with normal quadratic estimator



Lensing null with cross-spectrum-based quadratic estimator

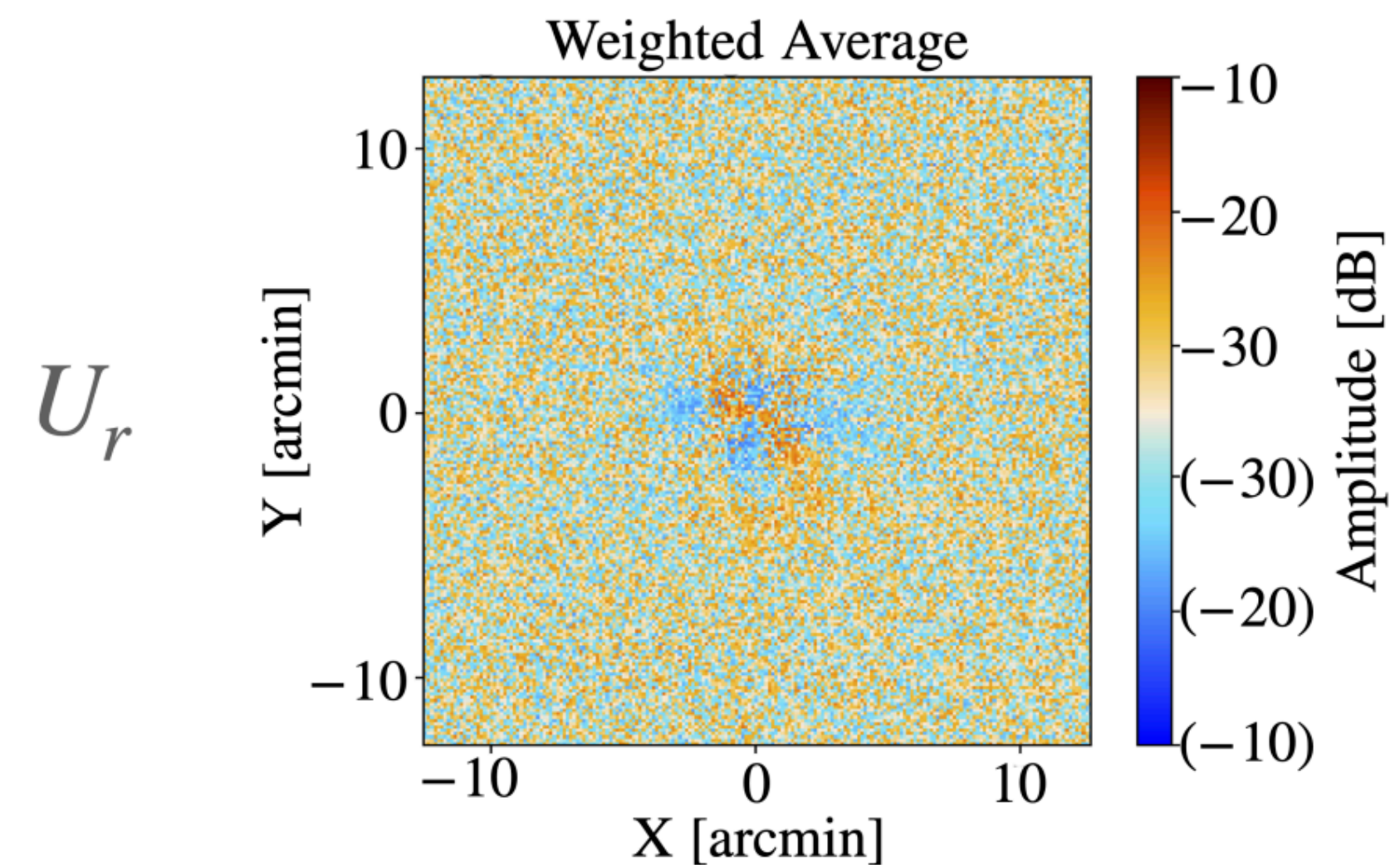
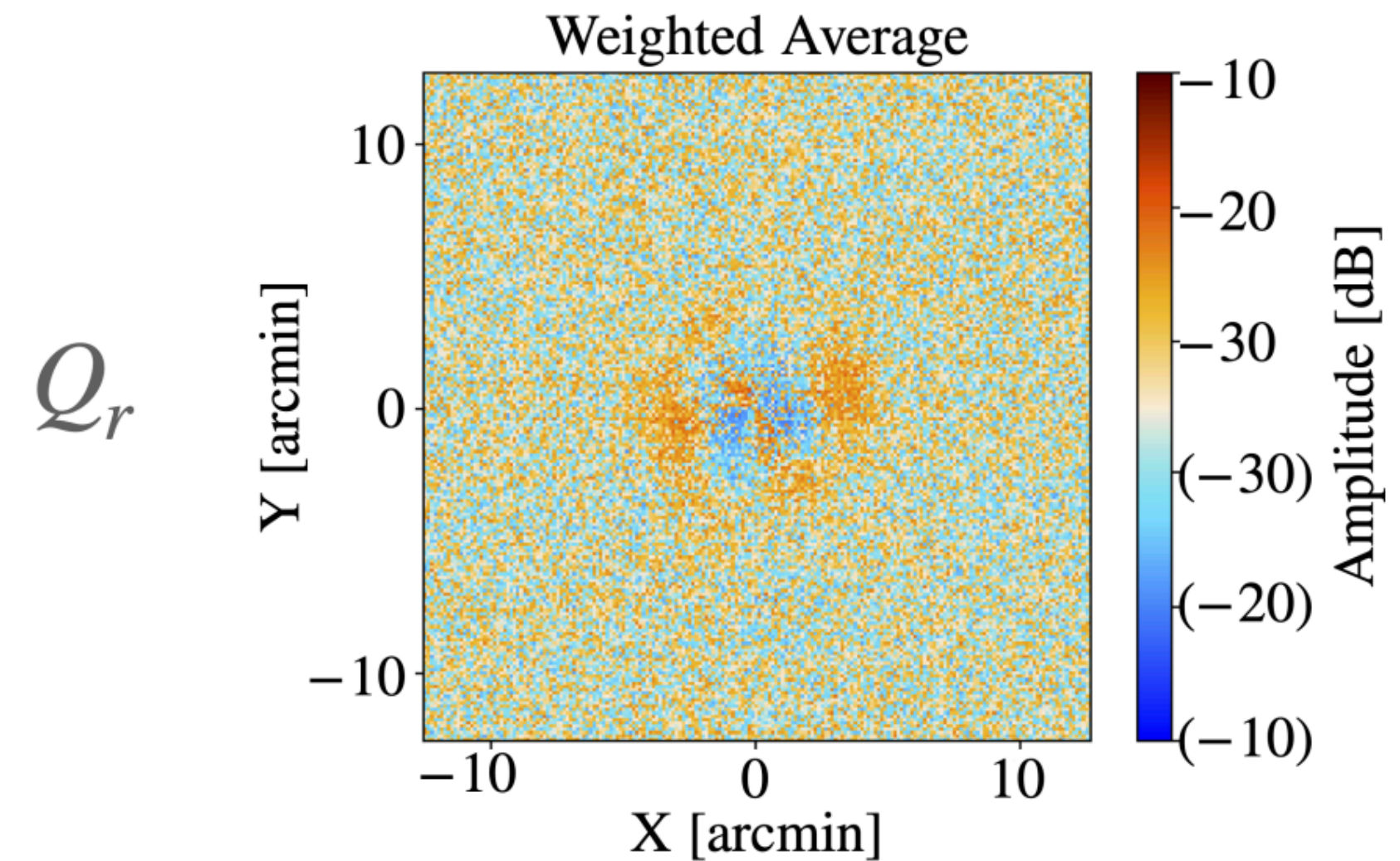


Plots from [Qu++, 2023]

See [Madhavacheril, Smith, Sherwin, Naess, 2020]

LESSONS LEARNED: BEAM LEAKAGE

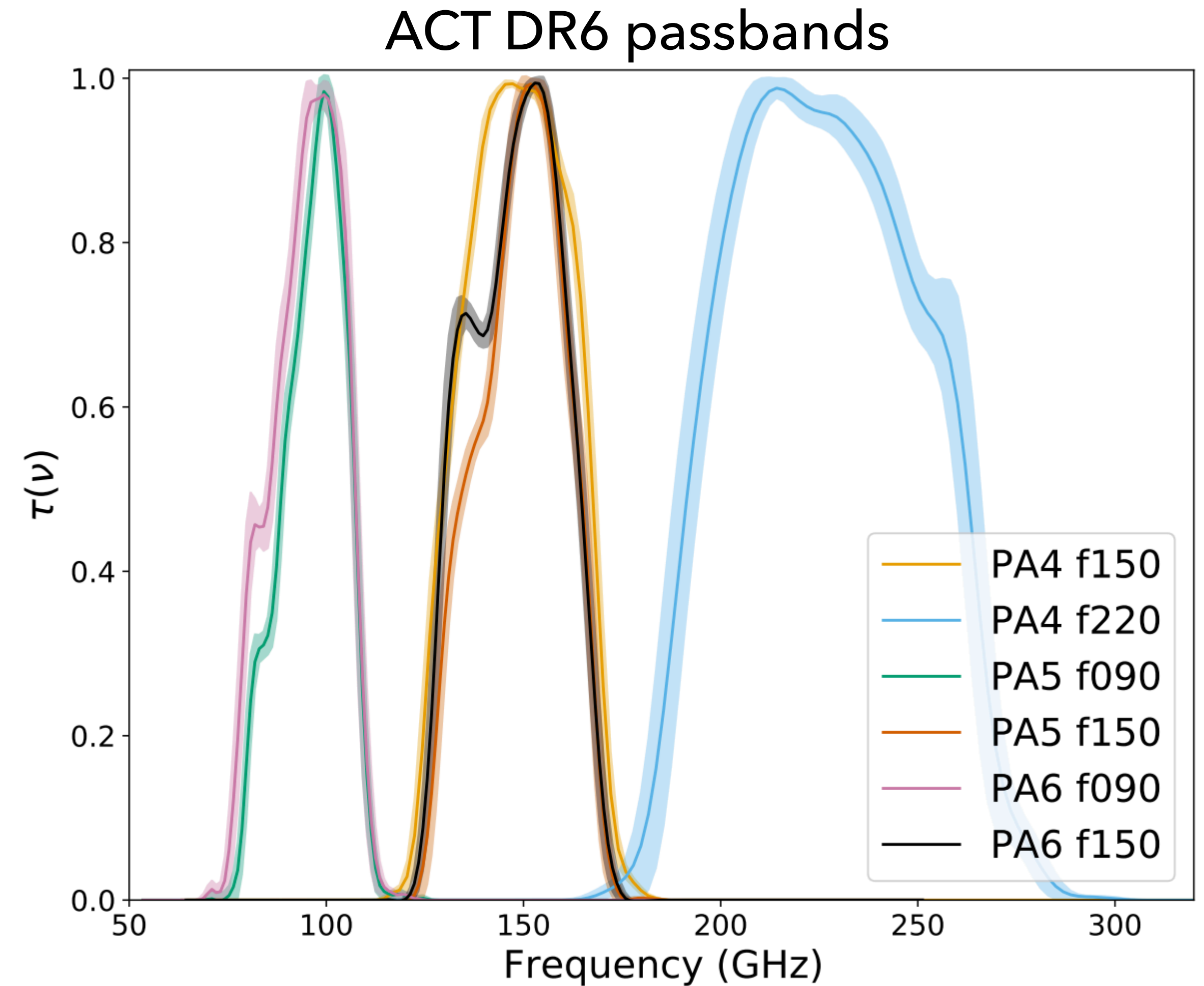
- ▶ The uncertainty in the estimates of temperature-to-polarization leakage starts to dominate the error budget at large scales
- ▶ One should be very generous with scheduling planet observations (and again, detector gain calibration!)



ACT DR4 leakage beams from Lungu++, 2022

LESSONS LEARNED: PASSBANDS

- ▶ Foreground modeling becomes sensitive to 1 GHz shifts in the central passbands
- ▶ 1 GHz is comparable to the current systematic uncertainty
- ▶ More accurate measurements of the passbands are vital to go beyond ACT sensitivity



- ▶ ACT DR6 is a quite dramatic improvement over ACT DR4
 - ▶ Power spectrum analysis in final stage. Many other analyses (updated lensing, bispectrum, cluster catalogs, cross-correlations) also in prep
 - ▶ We will release all of the DR6 maps
- ▶ Error budgeted starts to become systematics dominated, rethinking of calibration strategies will be vital for upcoming experiments
- ▶ We still have very sensitive 30 and 40 GHz data that has been mapped but not yet seriously analyzed