

# SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

## THE PRIMEVAL FIREBALL

The earth is bathed in radio waves that appear to have originated at the time of the primordial "big bang." This radiation provides the cosmologist with a rare new clue to the nature of the universe

by P. J. E. Peebles and David T. Wilkinson

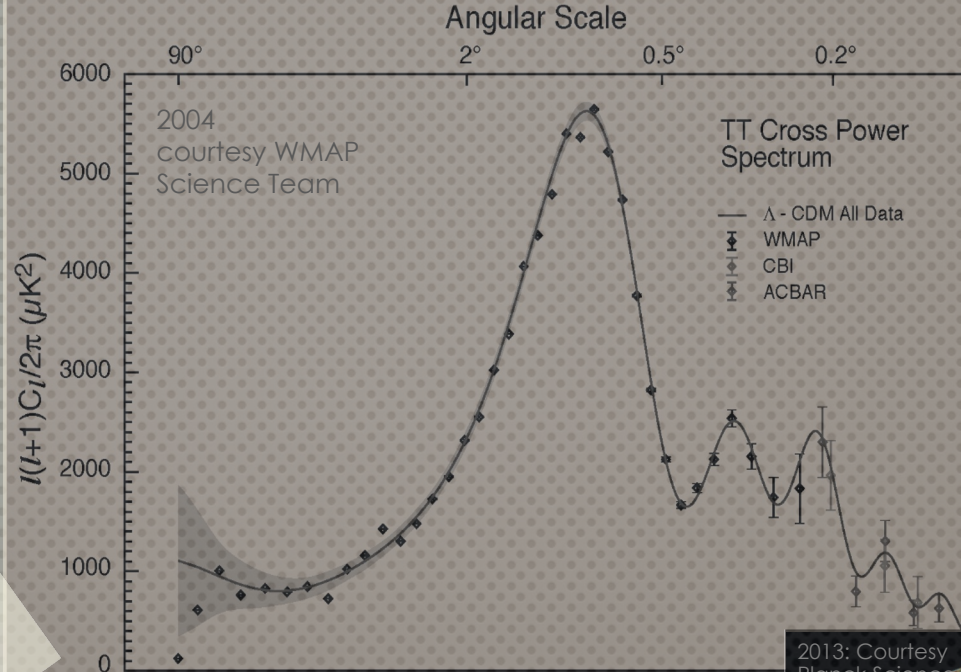
GOLDFISH IN TRAINING BOXES

SIXTY CENTS

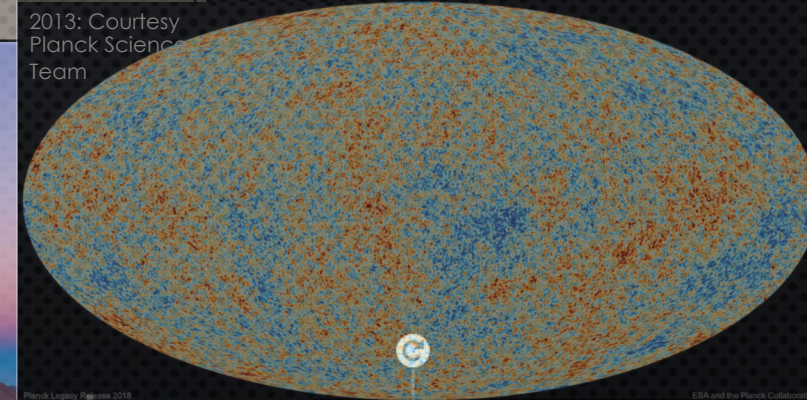
June 1967

[https://www.scientificamerican.com/index.cfm/\\_api/render/file/?method=inline&fileID=2813AF59-5D11-412F-B8255A077D30D029](https://www.scientificamerican.com/index.cfm/_api/render/file/?method=inline&fileID=2813AF59-5D11-412F-B8255A077D30D029)

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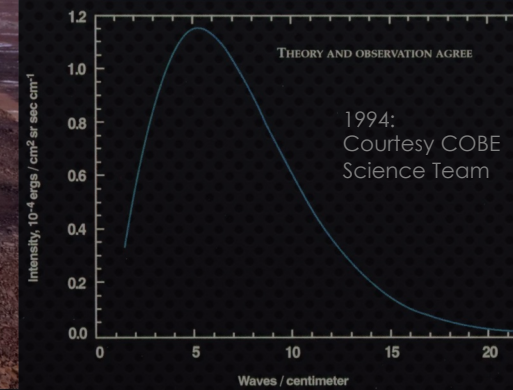


# CMB PHYSICS

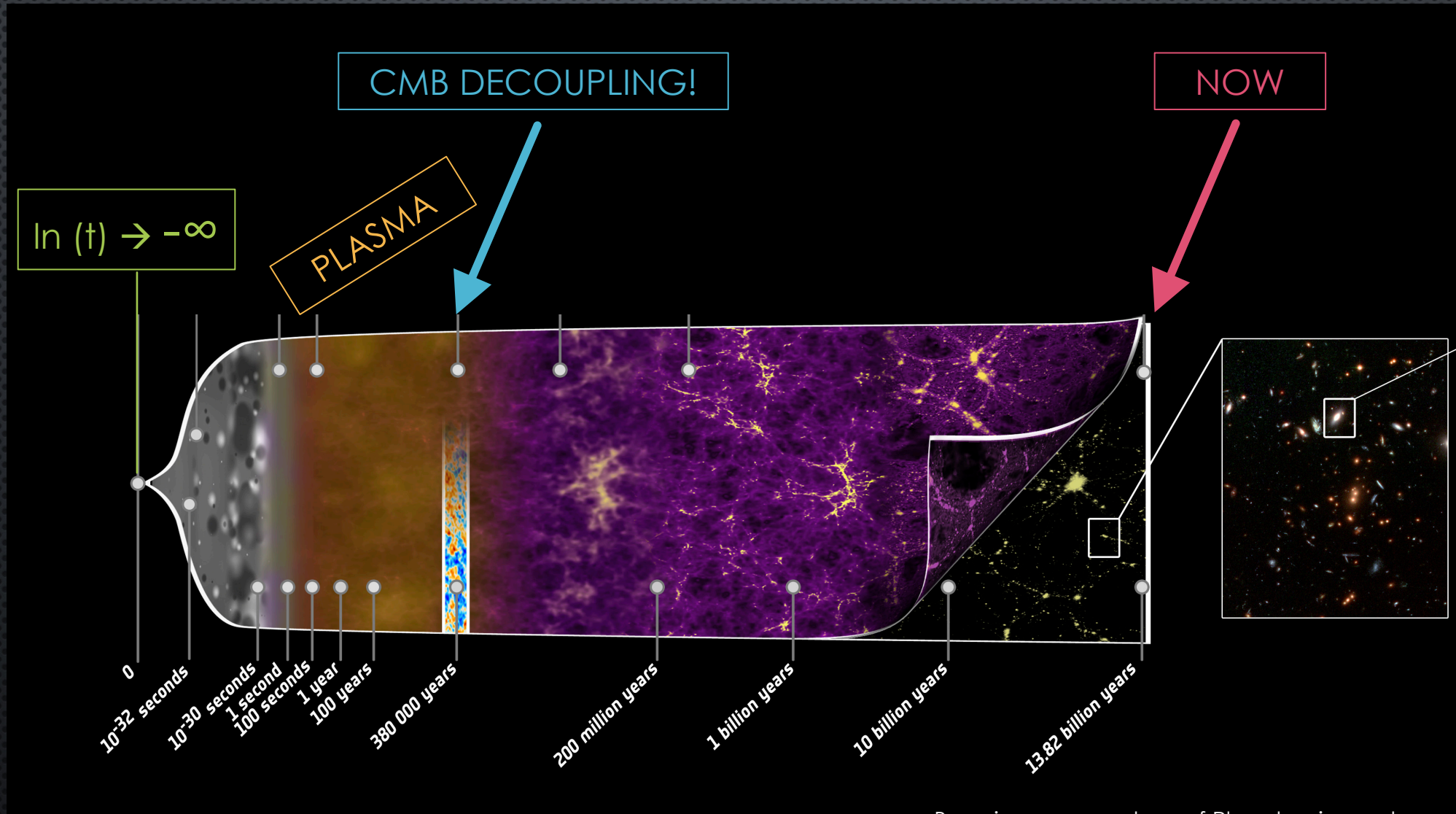


SUZANNE STAGGS

6 JUNE 2022 @ PPC

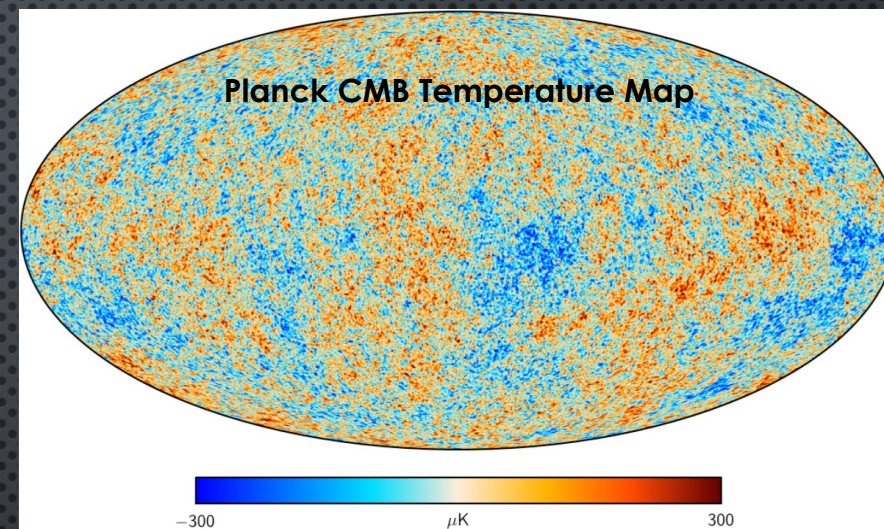
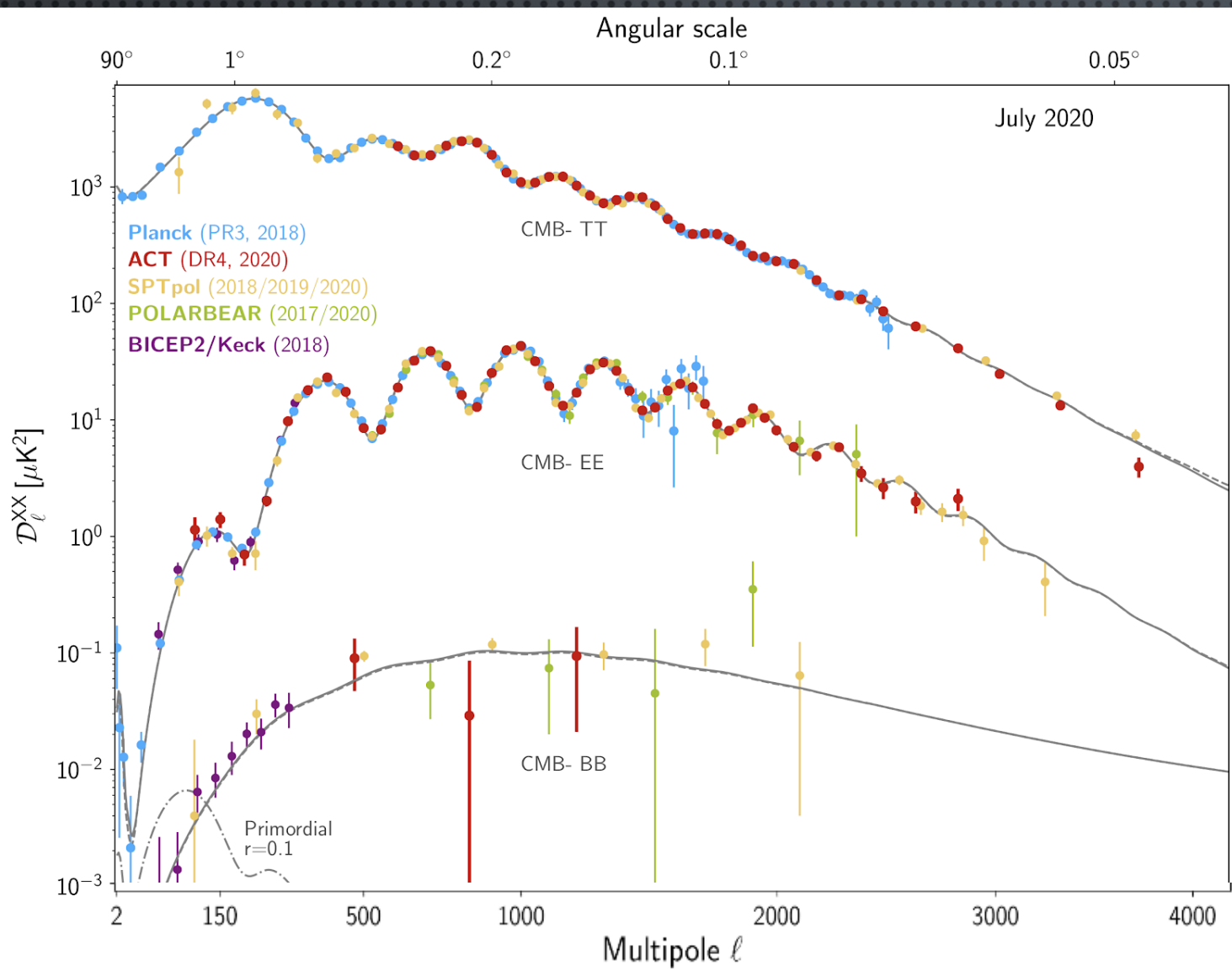


# THE COSMIC MICROWAVE BACKGROUND IN CONTEXT



Base image courtesy of Planck science team

# THE ALL-MIGHTY CMB POWER SPECTRA



The CMB appears forgettable in maps but remarkable in harmonic space

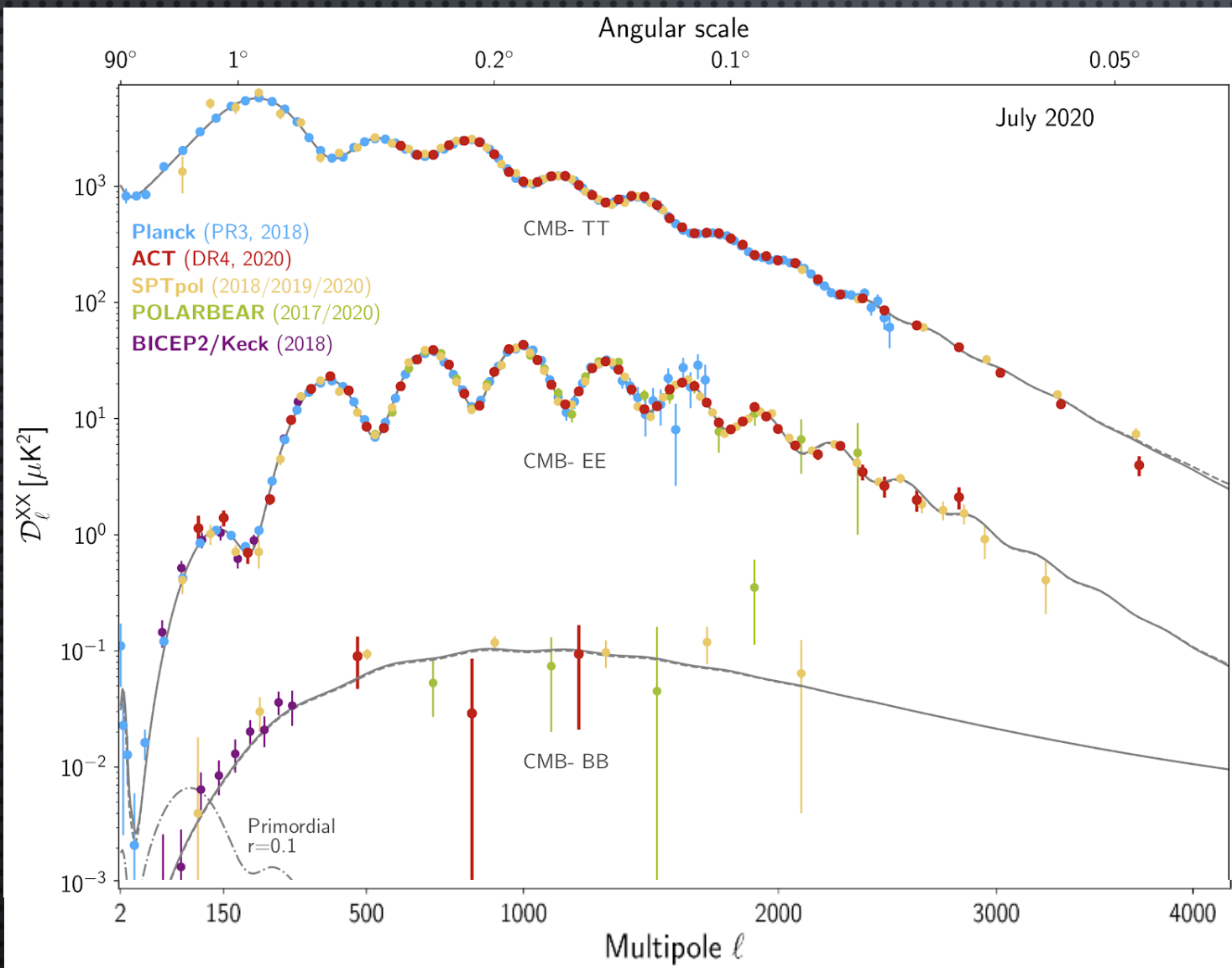
TT: intensity fluctuations  
EE, BB: polarization fluctuations

Compilation from Choi et al, 2020

DOI: [10.1088/1475-7516/2020/12/045](https://doi.org/10.1088/1475-7516/2020/12/045)

but already there are more data, and more coming!

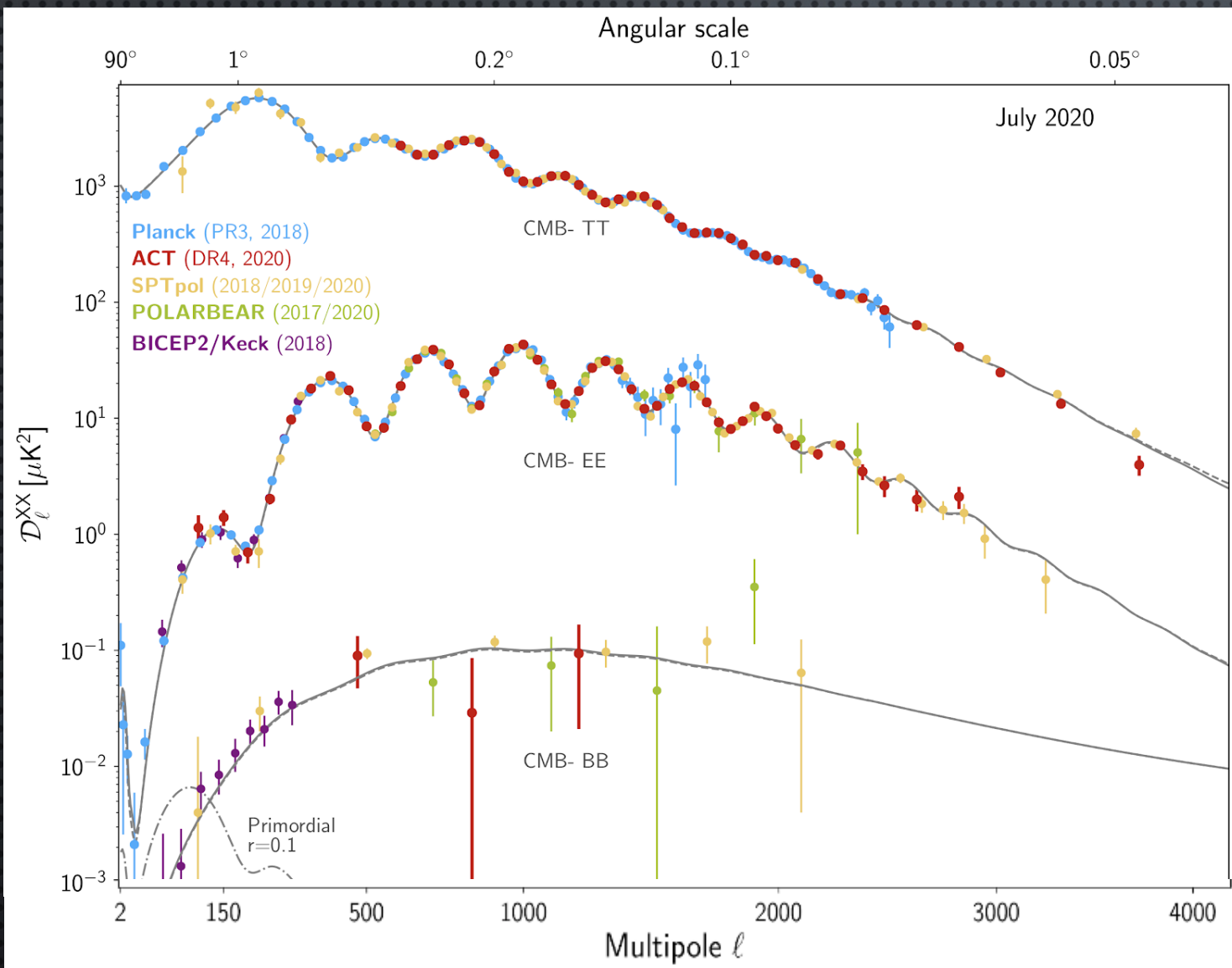
# STRUCTURE IN THE CMB POWER SPECTRA



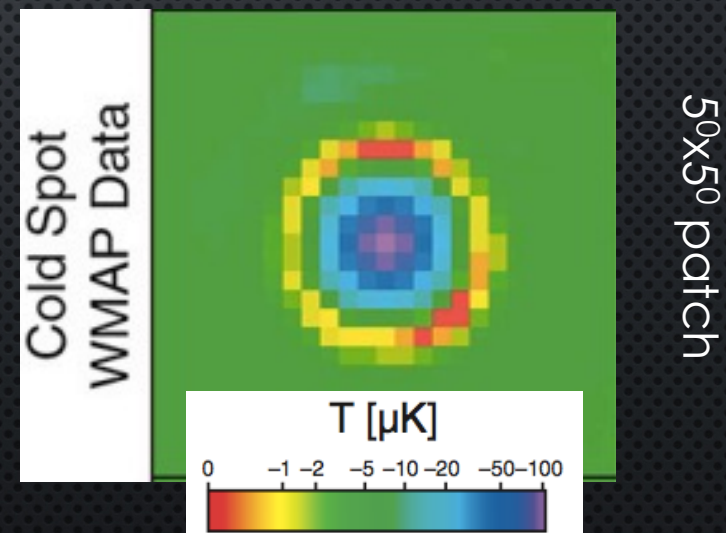
1. INFLATION\* engenders dark matter density fluctuations on SUPERhorizon scales.
2. TIME reveals these previously superhorizon dimples in the metric ... at time  $t^*$ , a superhorizon fourier mode of  $k^*$  is revealed.
3. ACOUSTIC OSCILLATIONS ensue: quasi simple harmonic motion of the photon-baryon fluid associated with mode  $k^*$ . The plasma is sucked into the metric dimples by gravity and forced out by radiation pressure.
4. COOLING of the expanding universe congeals the plasma, releasing the CMB radiation, bearing patterns of the SHM oscillations.

\* Or other

# STRUCTURE FROM ACOUSTIC OSCILLATIONS

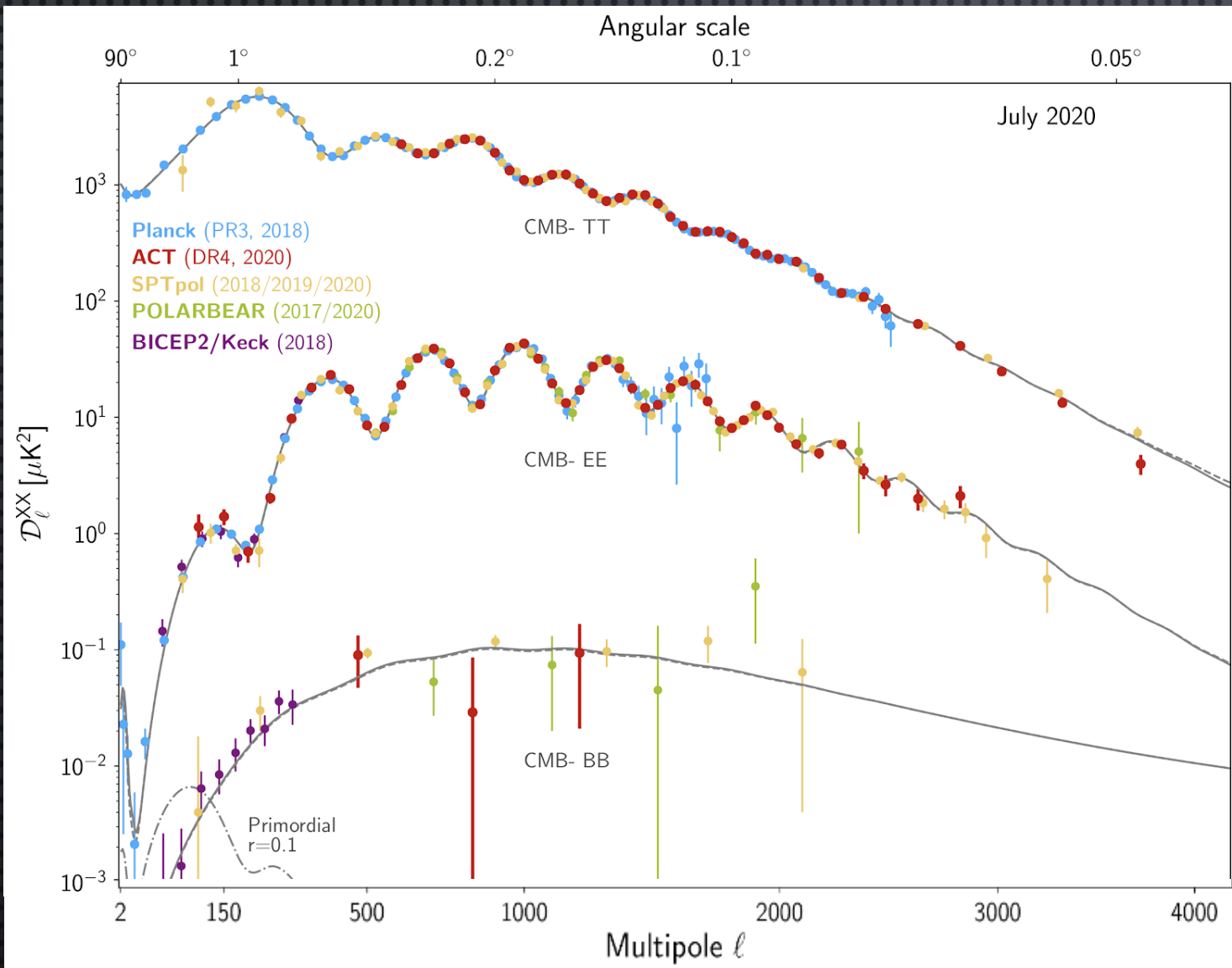


Structure:



WMAP7 stacking on overdense spots; Komatsu et al, 2011.

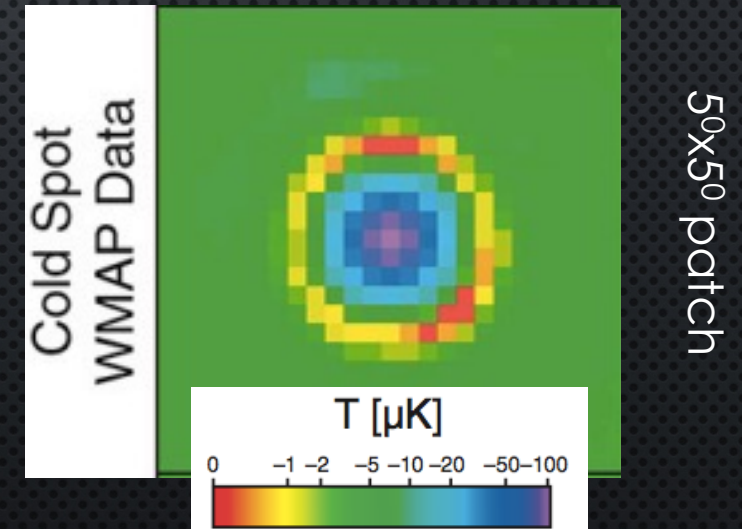
# TRANSFER FUNCTION ON INITIAL INITIAL CONDITIONS



Structure in the form of transfer function assumed to act on:

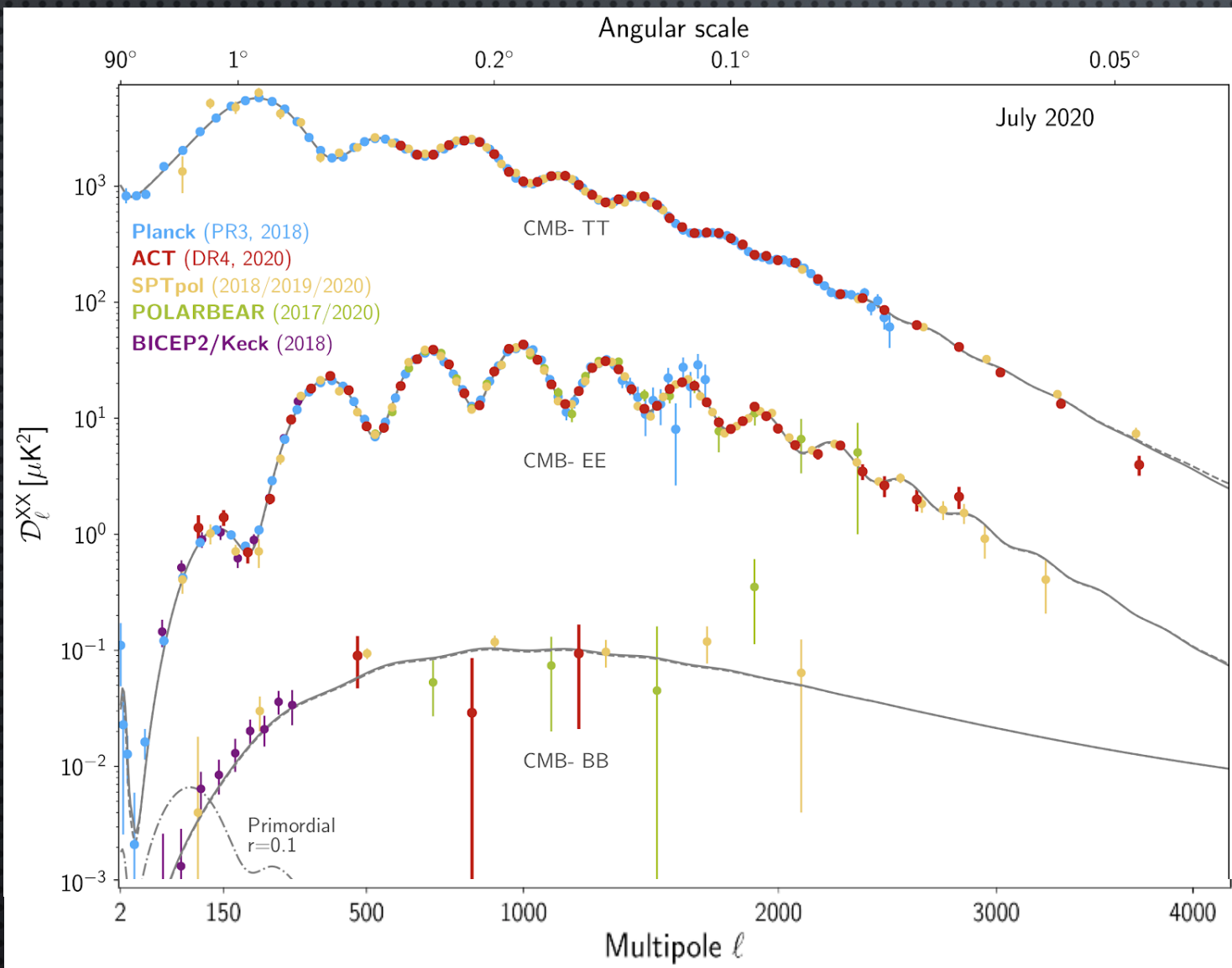
$$P(k) = A_S \left( \frac{k}{k_0} \right)^{\tilde{n}_s - 1}$$

$k$  = 3d wave-vector in the then universe



WMAP7 stacking on overdense spots; Komatsu et al, 2011.

# TRANSFER FUNCTION ITSELF COMMUNICATES INITIAL CONDITIONS



Structure in the form of transfer function assumed to act on:

$$P(k) = A_S \left( \frac{k}{k_0} \right)^{\tilde{n}_s - 1}$$

2 params

$k$  = 3d wave-vector in the then universe

ACOUSTIC OSCILLATIONS :  
 Then density of baryons  
 Then density of dark matter

2 params

ADDITIONAL EFFECTS:  
 Rescattering due to reionization  
 Geometry (if flat  $\rightarrow$  dark energy)

2 params

+1: Damping tail, running, etc

# CMB SPECTRA AND SIX BASIC COSMOLOGY PARAMETERS

Planck 2018 Paper I; Planck + BAO Results – **including EE, TE, & Lensing**

$\Omega_b h^2$	baryon density	2.24% +/- 0.01%
$\Omega_c h^2$	cold dark matter density	11.93% +/- 0.09%
$\Theta$	angular scale of acoustic horizon at decoupling	0.5965 <sup>0</sup> +/- 1''
$\tau$	reionization optical depth	0.056 +/- 0.007
$n_s$	spectral index of primordial adiabatic fluctuations	0.966 +/- 0.004
$A_s$	amplitude of perturbations	3.047 +/- 0.014

where  $H_0 = h * 100$  km/s/Mpc, and the geometry is taken as flat.

From the above, in the context of  $\Lambda$ CDM, can derive  $\Omega_\Lambda$ ,  $\Omega_m$ ,  $\sigma_8$ ,  $t_0$ ,  $H_0$ .

$\Omega_\Lambda = 68.9\% \pm 0.6\%$ ;  $\Omega_m = 31.1\% \pm 0.6\%$ ;  $\sigma_8 = 0.810 \pm 0.006$ ;  $t_0 = 13.79 \pm 0.02$  Gyr;  $H_0 = 67.7 \pm 0.4$  km/s/Mpc



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9

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6+1

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$A_s$	amplitude of perturbations	3.047 +/- 0.014	

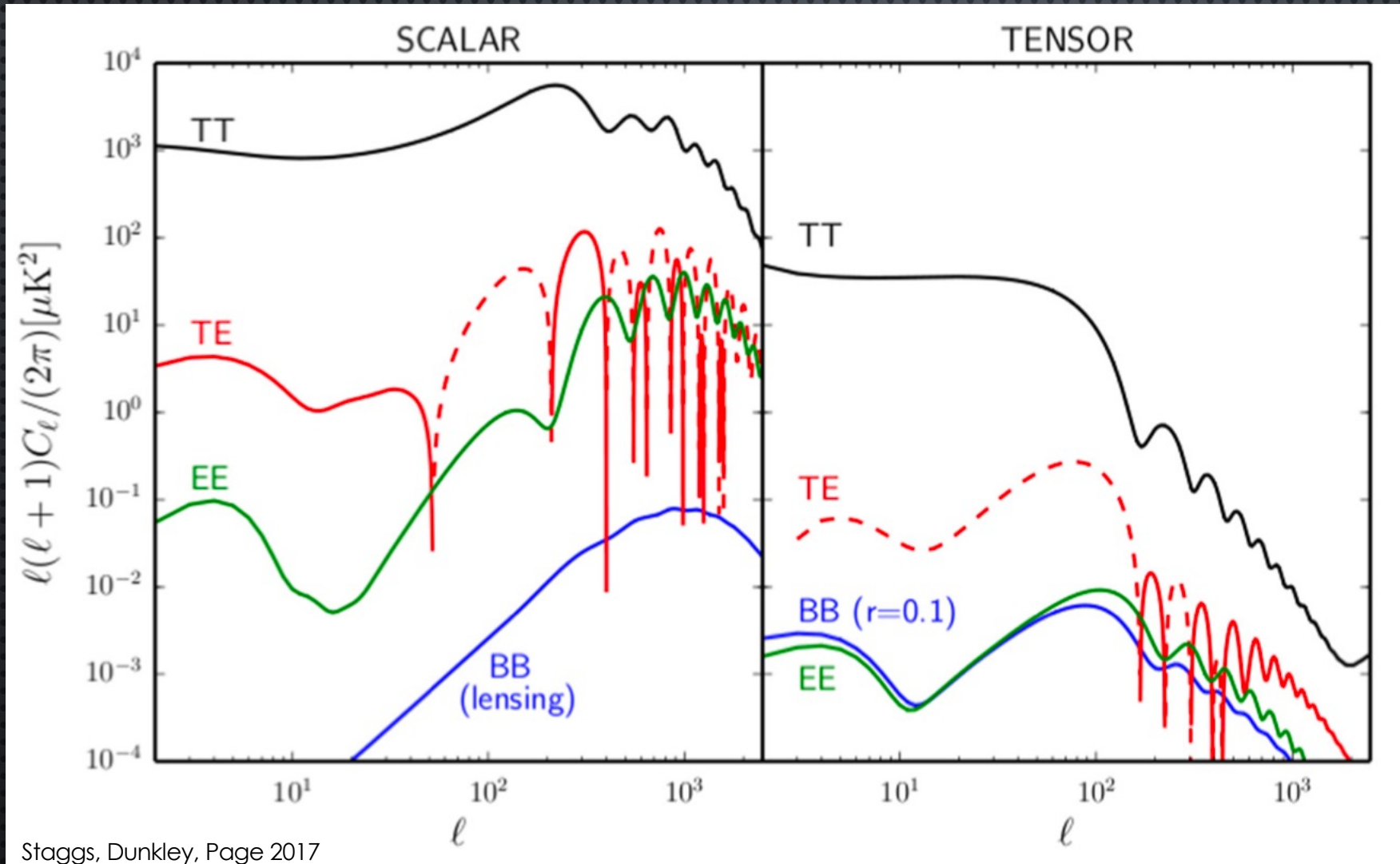
and <2% variance isocurvature

where  $H_0 = h * 100$  km/s/Mpc, and the geometry is taken as flat.

From the above, in the context of  $\Lambda$ CDM, can derive  $\Omega_\Lambda$ ,  $\Omega_m$ ,  $\sigma_8$ ,  $t_0$ ,  $H_0$ .

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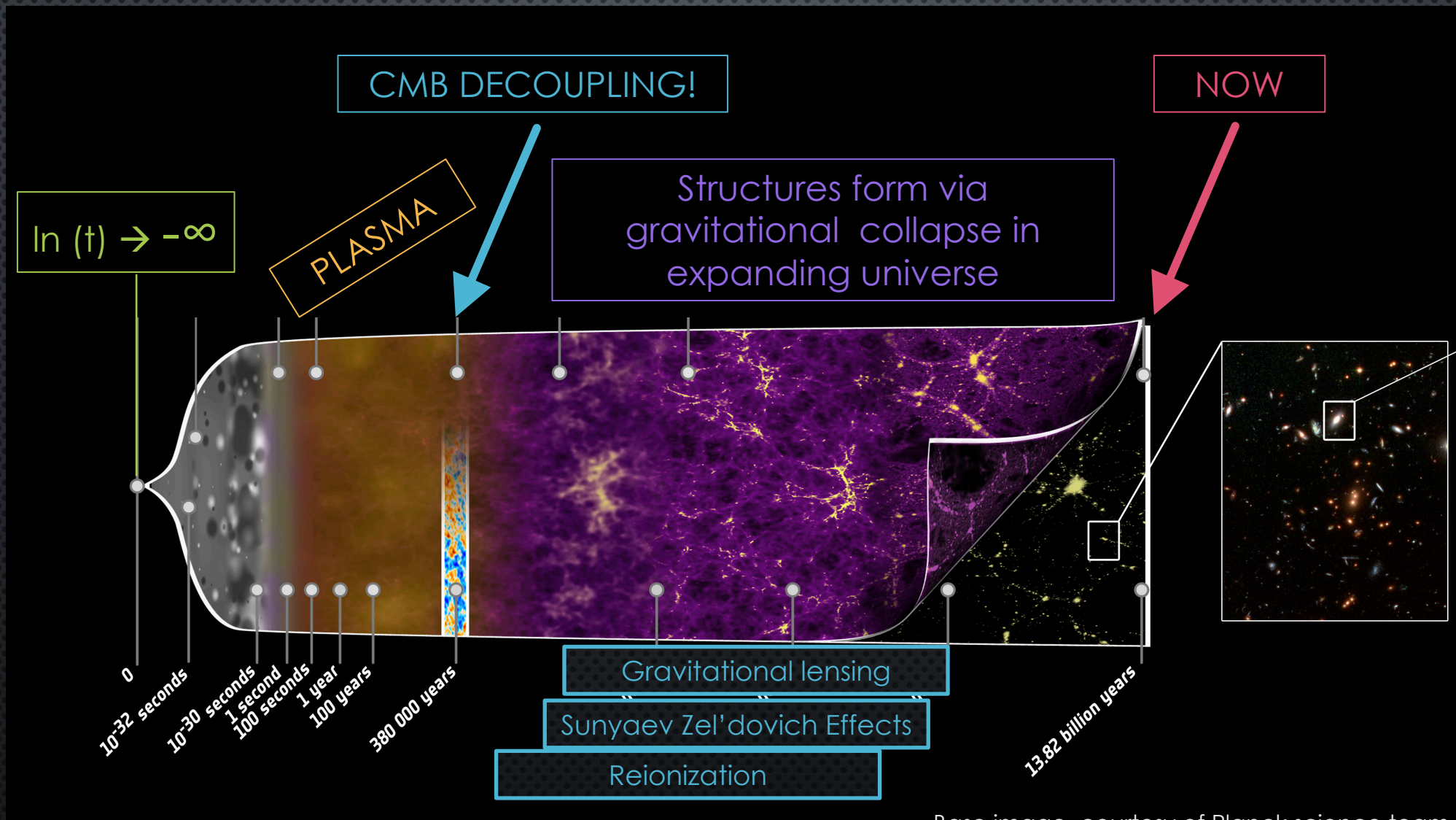
# TENSOR PERTURBATIONS (GRAVITATIONAL WAVES)



$r < 0.035$  (BB from BICEP/Keck only, 2021z0)

$r < 0.056$  (BB with TT, EE, TE from Planck, Tristram et al 2021)

# THE CMB: INITIAL CONDITIONS & BEYOND



Base image courtesy of Planck science team

# COSMOLOGY & CONTENTS OF UNIVERSE

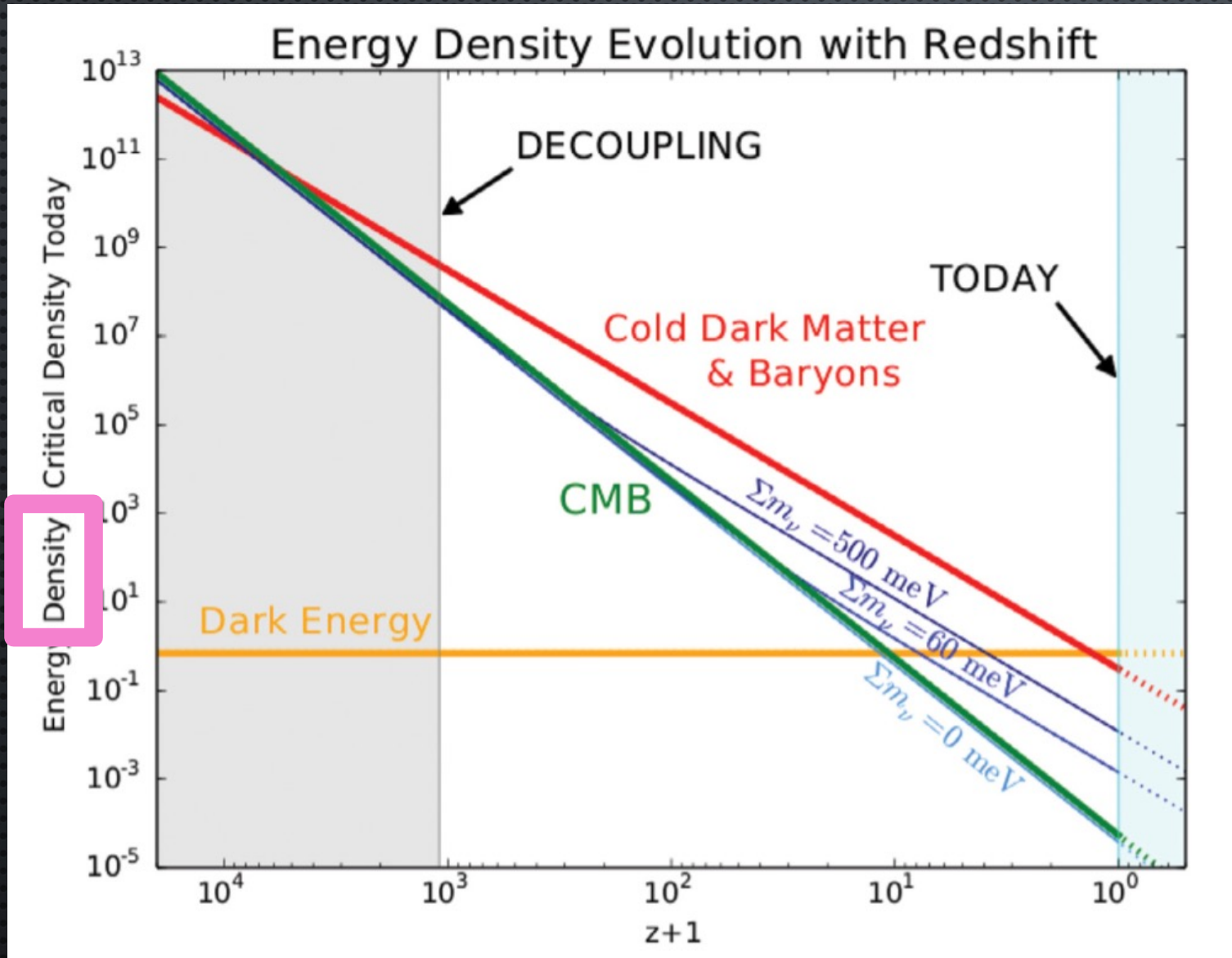


Figure from Staggs, Page & Dunkley, RoPP, 2018.

$$H^2 = \frac{8\pi}{3} G \rho$$

In FLRW universe: but see upcoming talk from Subir Sarkar

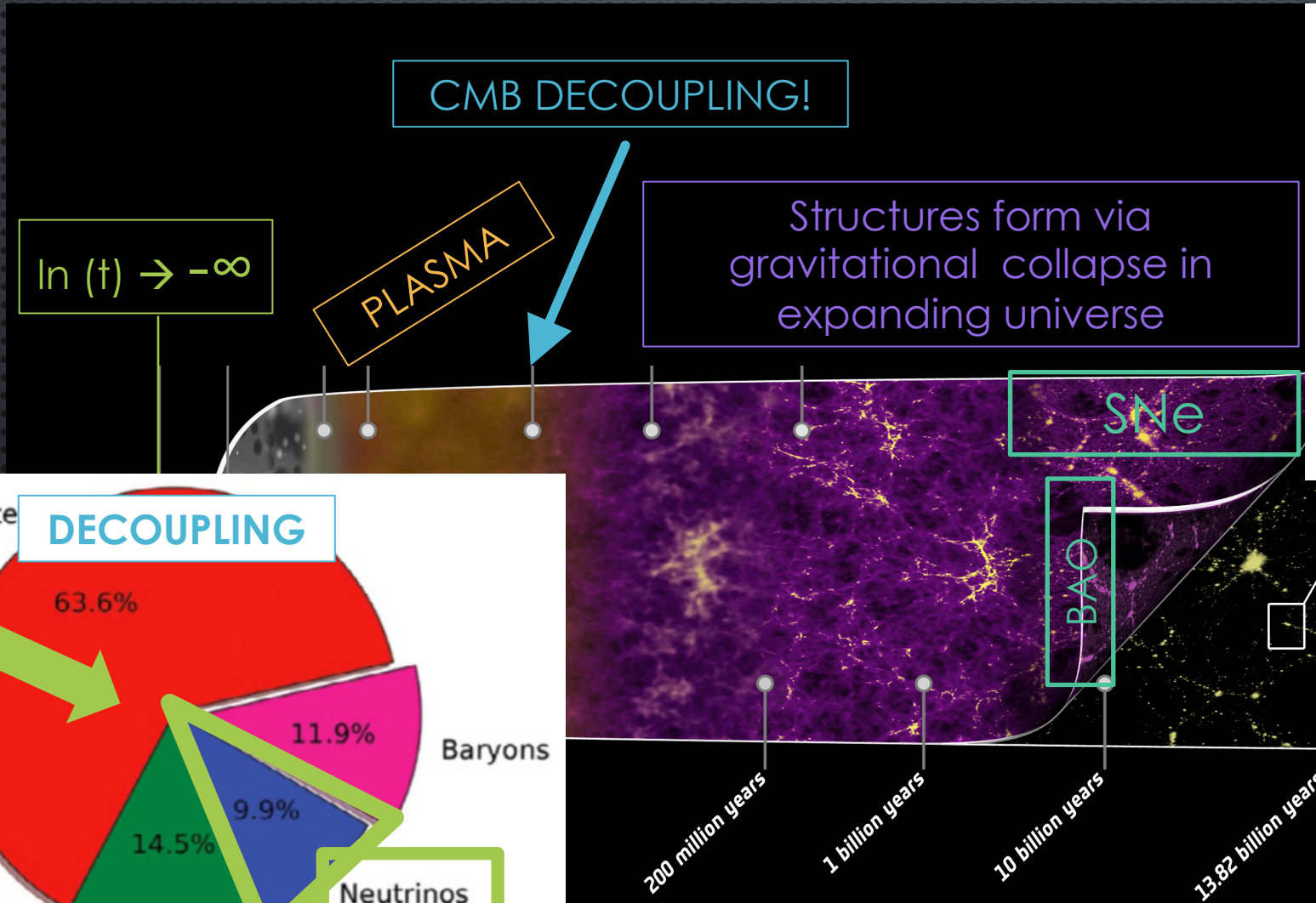
$H(t)$  dynamics depend on  $\rho(t)$

NEUTRINOS AND OTHER LIGHT PARTICLES ARE RELATIVISTIC IN THE EARLY HOT UNIVERSE  $\rightarrow$  RADIATION

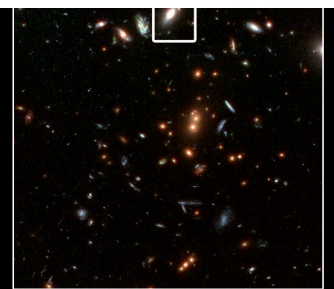
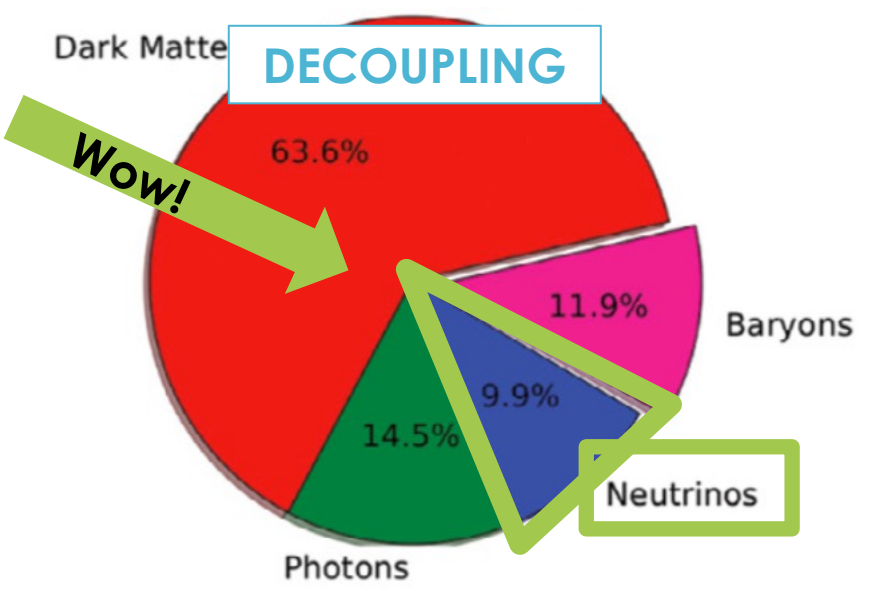
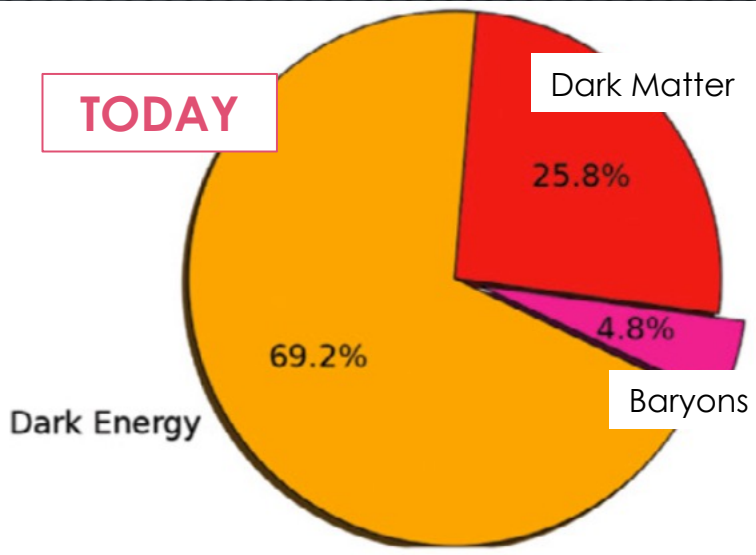
$\Sigma m_\nu$  matters later!

See upcoming talk from Shun Saito.

# THE COSMIC MICROWAVE BACKGROUND IN CONTEXT



$\ln(t) \rightarrow -\infty$



Base image courtesy of Planck science team

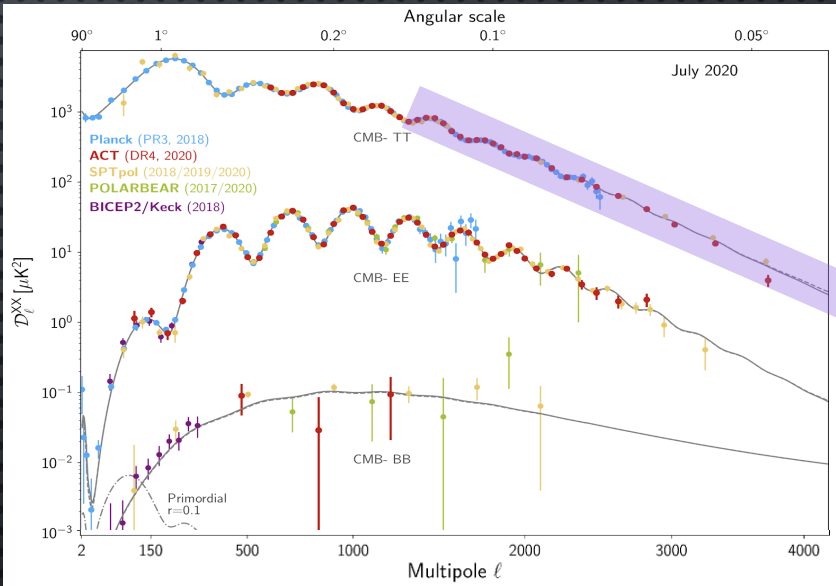
# HIGH RESOLUTION SPECTRA: NEUTRINOS AND LIGHT RELICS

Definition of  $N_{\text{eff}}$

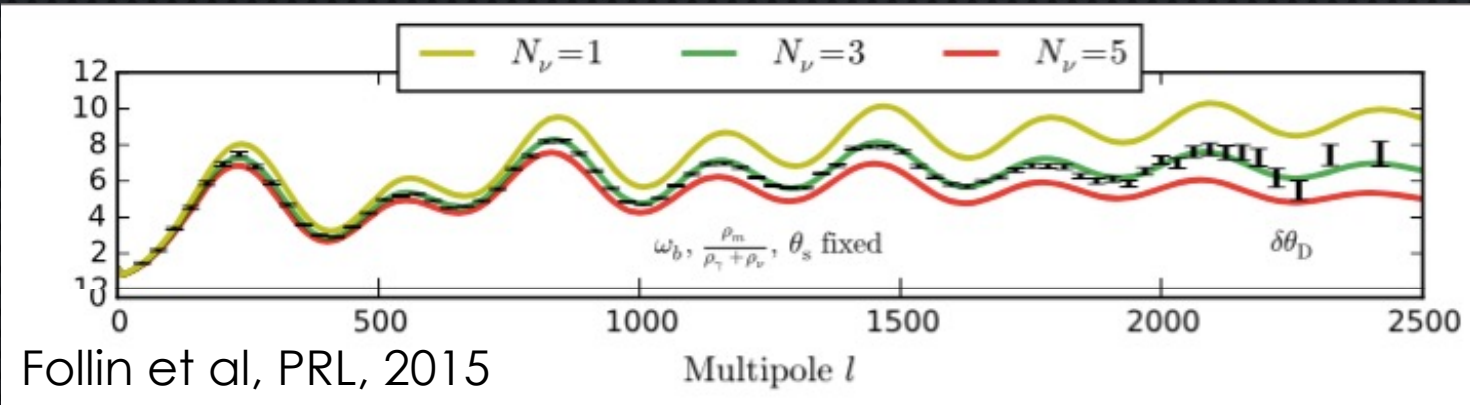
$$\rho_R = \frac{\pi^2}{15} T_\gamma^4 (1+z)^4 \left[ 1 + \frac{7}{8} N_{\text{eff}} \left( \frac{4}{11} \right)^{4/3} \right]$$

Planck 2018 (1807.06209)  
 $N_{\text{eff}} = 2.99 \pm 0.17$  (95% CL)  
 (cf 3.046 for SM neutrinos)

4/11 assumes instantaneous decoupling of the neutrinos...



Damping tail envelope from photon diffusion. Higher  $\rho_R \rightarrow$  later matter domination  $\rightarrow$  shallower potential wells.

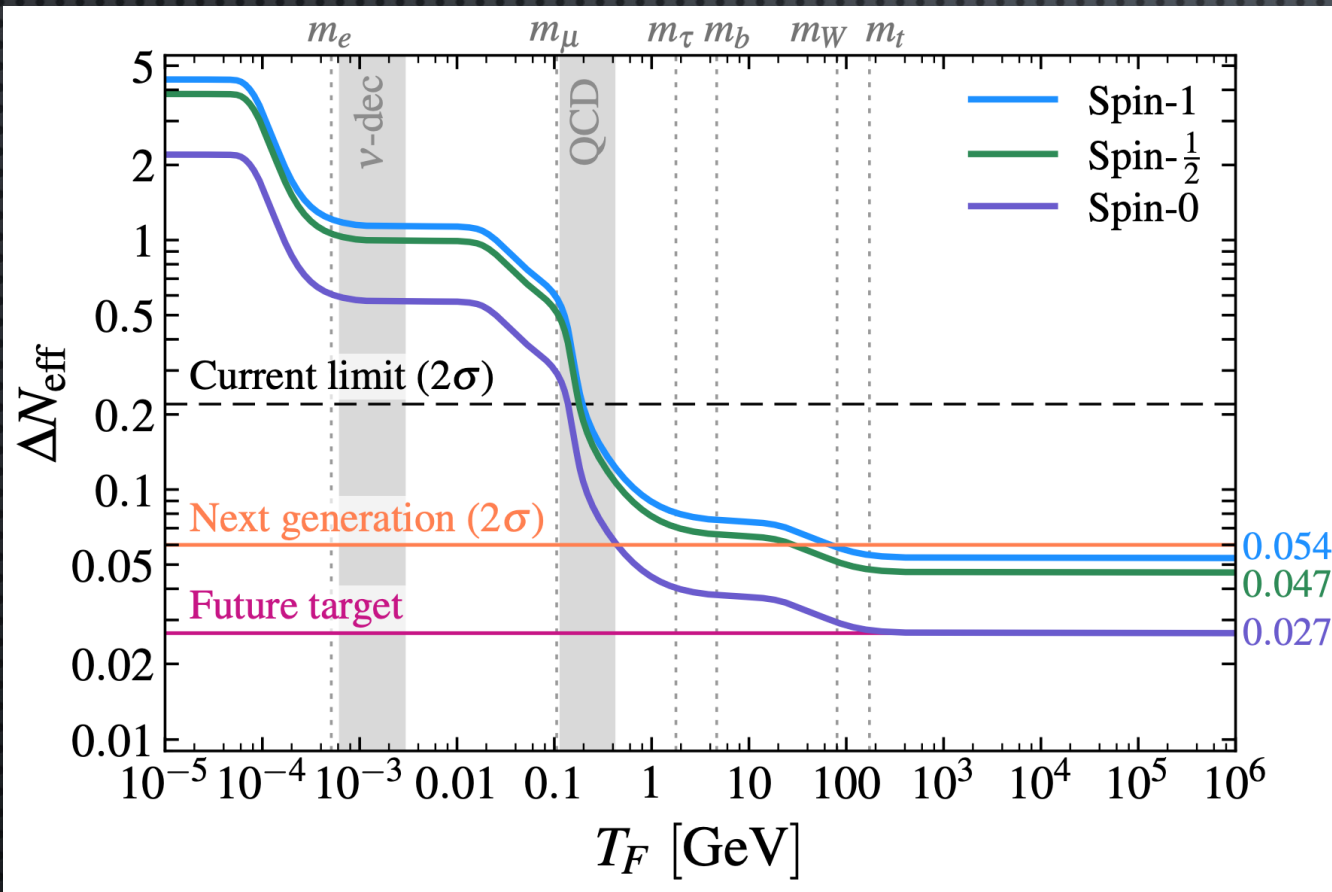


Follin et al, PRL, 2015

(Plot has damping tail suppressed.)

# DISCOVERY POTENTIAL FOR LIGHT RELICS

AXIONS, STERILE NEUTRINOS, HIDDEN PHOTONS, GRAVITINOS



$$\rho_R = \frac{\pi^2}{15} T_\gamma^4 (1+z)^4 \left[ 1 + \frac{7}{8} N_{\text{eff}} \left( \frac{4}{11} \right)^{4/3} \right]$$

$N_{\text{eff}}$  does not have to be an integer with this definition!

Particles that decouple earlier will end up relatively colder but can still contribute!

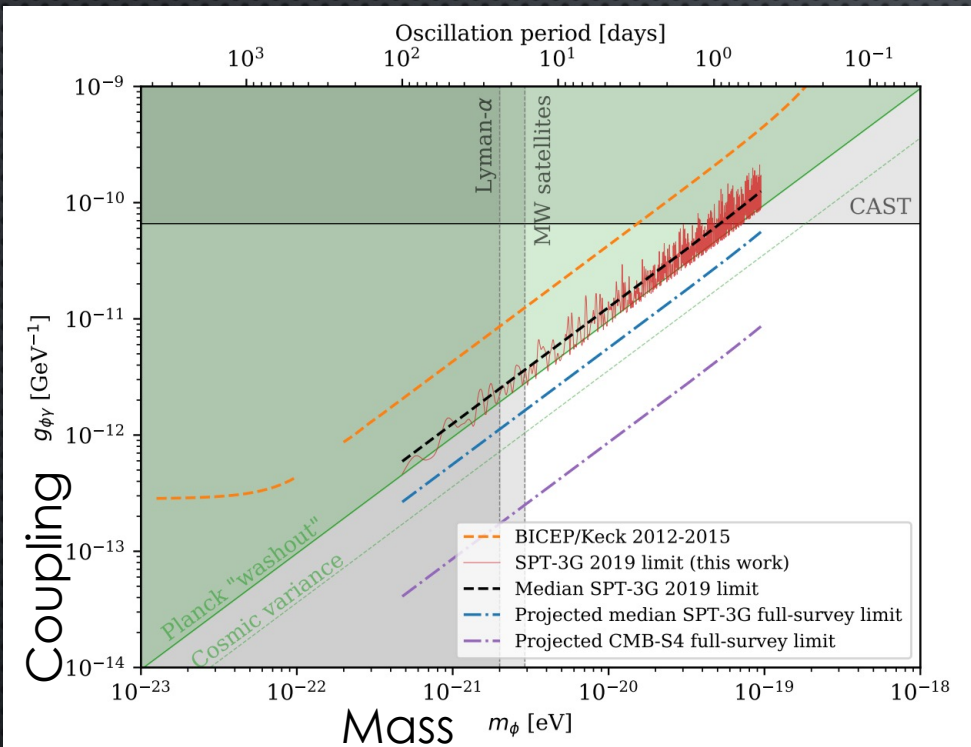
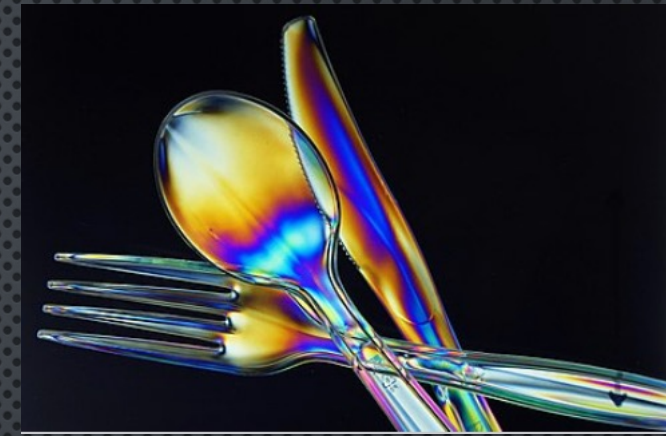
Saturates at 0.03/DOF.

“light” means  $< 0.1$  eV



# THE CMB & BIREFRINGENCE

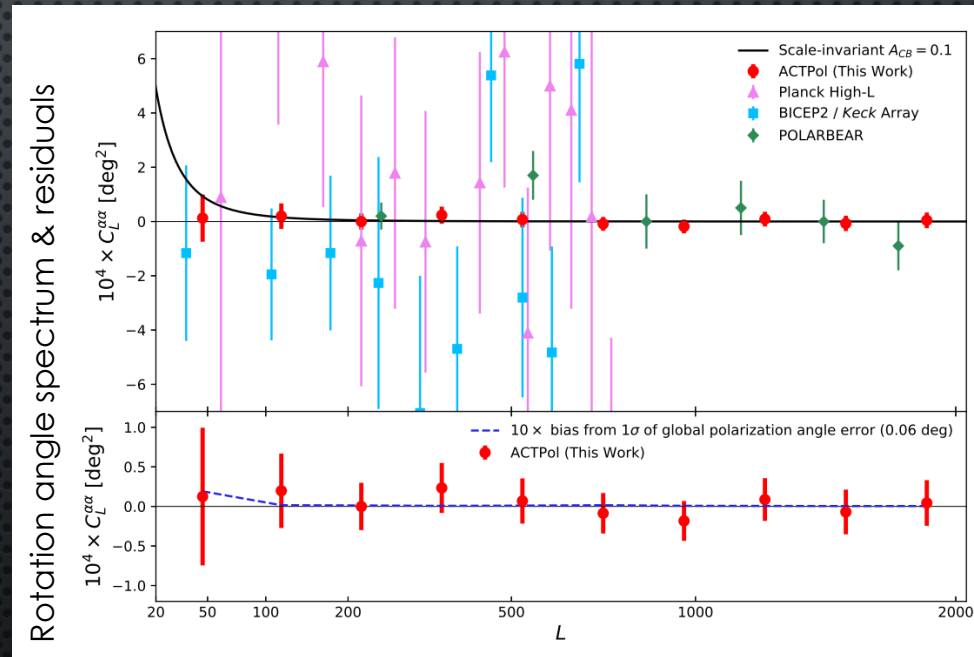
Axion-Like Dark Matter  
(nonthermally produced)



BICEP/Keck XII, 2020

Ferguson et al, 2022, 2203.16567.pdf

## Birefringence Angular Power Spectrum



Also a monopole limit from  
Planck + WMAP:

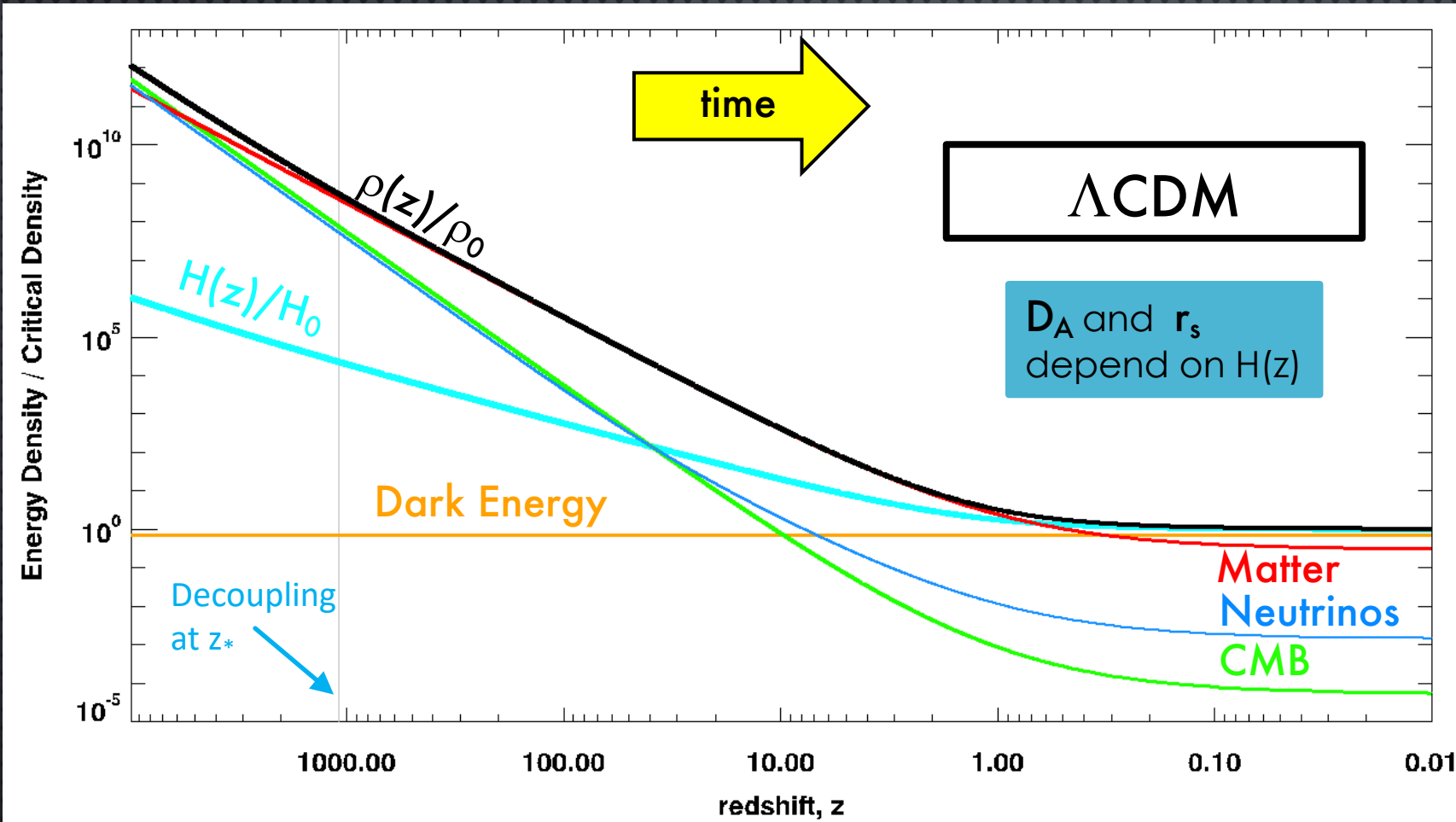
$$\beta = 0.34^\circ \pm 0.09^\circ$$

(Eskilt & Komatsu, 2022,  
2205.13962.pdf)

Namikawa et al, 2020, DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevD.101.083527](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevD.101.083527)

See later talks in this meeting!

# THE CMB & $H_0$



$$H^2 = \frac{8\pi}{3} G \rho$$

$r_s$  = sound horizon

$$r_s^* = \int_0^{t_*} \frac{dt}{a(t)} c_s(t) = \int_{z_*}^{\infty} \frac{dz}{H(z)} c_s(t)$$

Sound horizon depends on dynamics **before** decoupling.

$D_A$  = angular diameter distance

$$D_A^* = \int_0^{z_*} \frac{dz}{H(z)}$$

$D_A$  depends on dynamics **after**.

Recall  $a = (1+z)^{-1}$

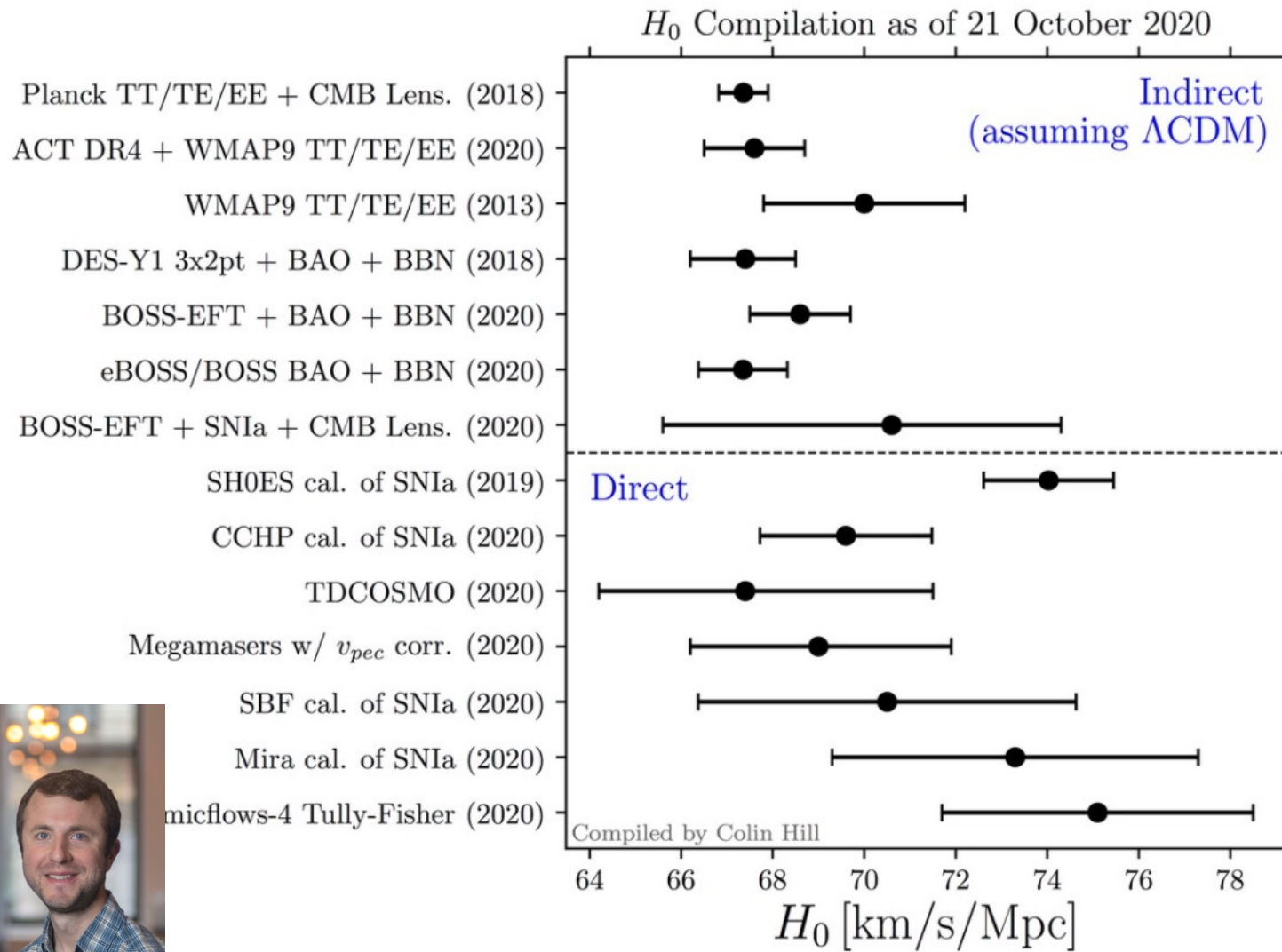
CMB spectra determine  $\theta_s$

$$D_A = r_s / \theta_s$$

Sound speed  $c_s$  depends on baryon density of c (but BBN!)

See also Knox & Millea, Phys. Rev. D 101, 043533 (2020); arXiv:1908.03663

# WHAT NOW?

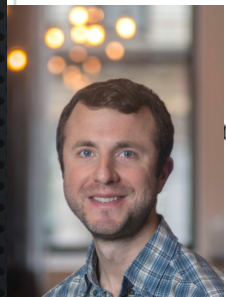


Recall the plan:

- CMB defines initial contents of the universe
- Which determines how the universe expands
- Which lets the CMB predict the future

Interpretation of status:

- Tension!
- And: all the measurements are (still) hard
- And: it doesn't have to be the CMB that sets the initial conditions
- But: maybe the model needs more!



# WHAT MIGHT BRIDGE THE GAP?

Quoting Colin Hill quoting Knox & Millea (2020):

“We single out the set of solutions that increase the expansion rate in the decade of scale factor expansion just prior to recombination as the least unlikely [to be successful].”

$$D_A = r_s / \theta_s$$

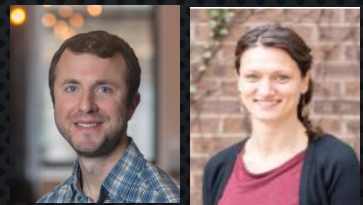
CMB spectra  
determine  $\theta_s$

$r_s$  = sound horizon

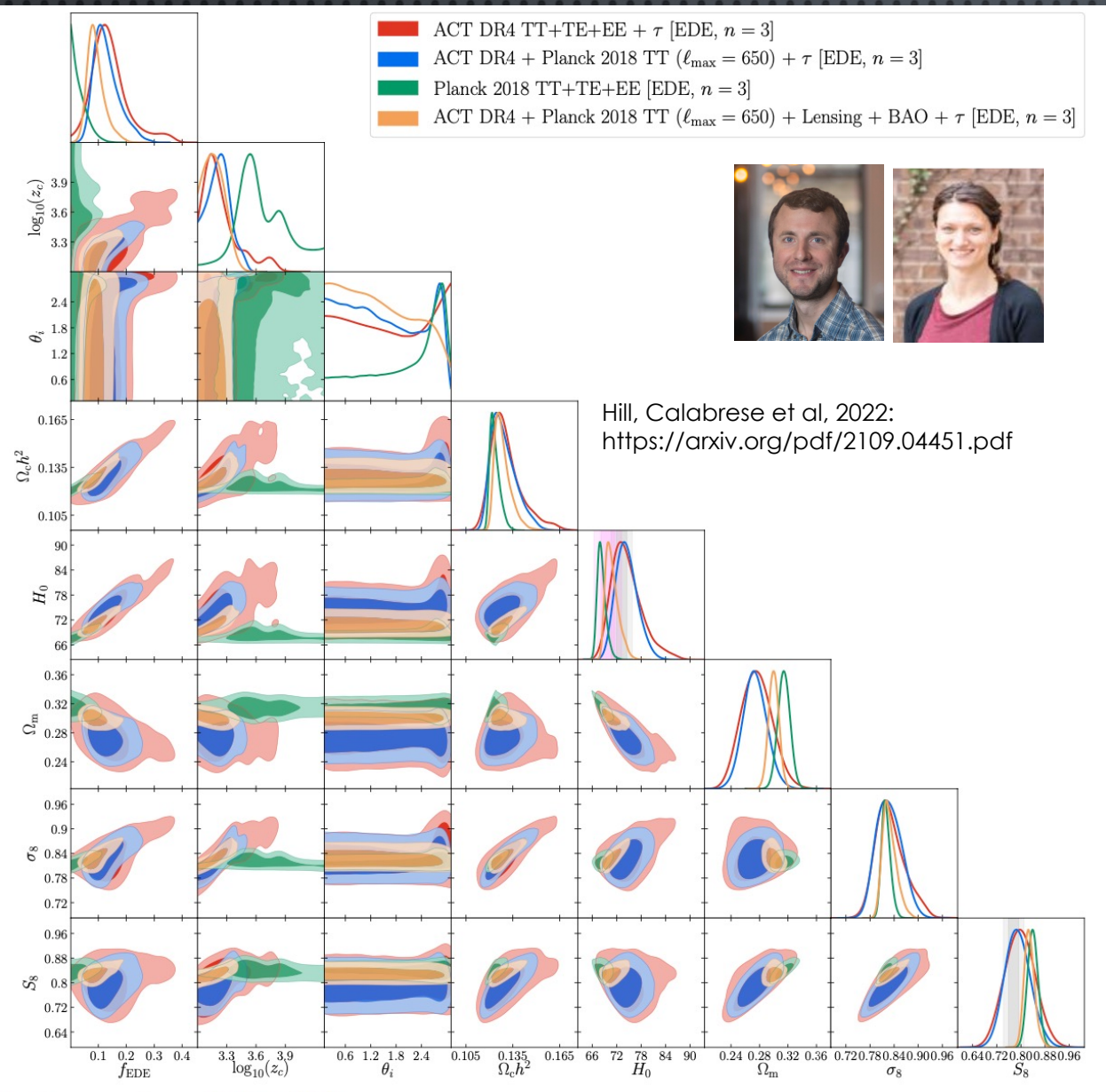
$$r_s^* = \int_0^{t_*} \frac{dt}{a(t)} c_s(t) = \int_{z_*}^{\infty} \frac{dz}{H(z)} c_s(t)$$

Sound horizon depends on  
dynamics **before** decoupling.

Early Dark Energy (EDE) postulates a scalar field with a potential defined so as to cause additional expansion before decoupling, decreasing  $r_s$  & thus  $D_A$ , leading to increased  $H_0$ .



# STATUS: INTERESTING BUT NOT HIGH S/N YET

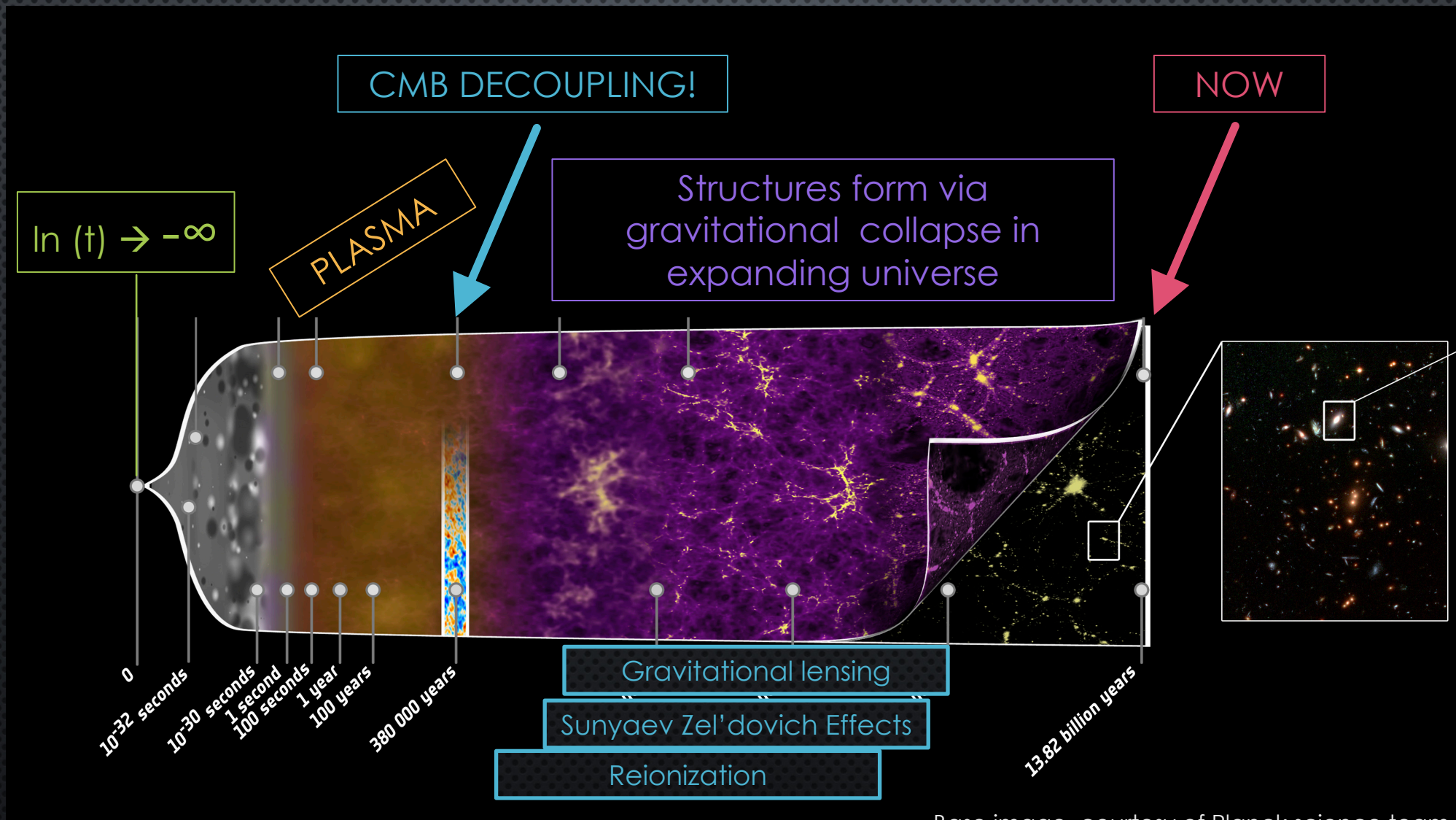


Planck does not need EDE  
ACT alone and ACT + low-ell and  
ACT + low-ell + ext data all show  
 slight preference for EDE  
Planck does not need EDE

Check out the paper for lots of detail and explanations!

Upcoming ACT DR6 is coming!  
 We have  $> \sim 4x$  more data in the wide regions.

# THE CMB: INITIAL CONDITIONS & BEYOND



Base image courtesy of Planck science team

# HUGE MAPS OF THE CMB WITH HIGH ANGULAR RESOLUTION

- **PRIMORDIAL INITIAL CONDITIONS:**

- CMB POWER SPECTRA

- **EVOLVING UNIVERSE:**

- CMB LENSING
- CLUSTERS (tSZ signatures)
- LARGE SCALE MOTIONS (kSZ)
- REIONIZATION (kSZ)

- **BONUSES:**

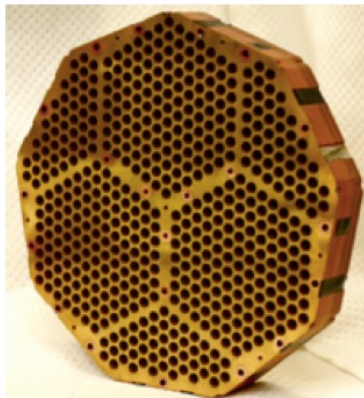
- DUSTY STAR-FORMING GALAXIES
- RADIO SOURCES
- TRANSIENT SCIENCE

New light relics:  $N_{\text{eff}}$   
Primordial gravitational waves  $\rightarrow$  new fields  
First cosmic ruler ( $H_0$ )  
Fundamental constants' constancy

Neutrino masses:  $\Sigma m_\nu$   
Growth rate of structure  $\rightarrow$  GR  
Growth rate of structure  $\rightarrow$   $H(a) \rightarrow$  DE  
Reionization  $\rightarrow$  baryon distribution  
Structure formation  $\rightarrow$  physics thereof

# THE ACTPOL/ADVACT CAMERA

Silicon feedhorn array

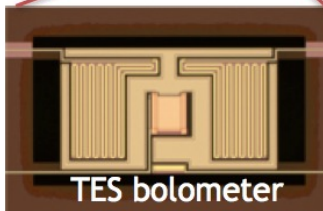
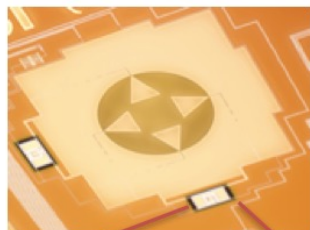


Nibarger et al JLTP (2011)  
Grace et al JLTP (2013)

Silicon detector array

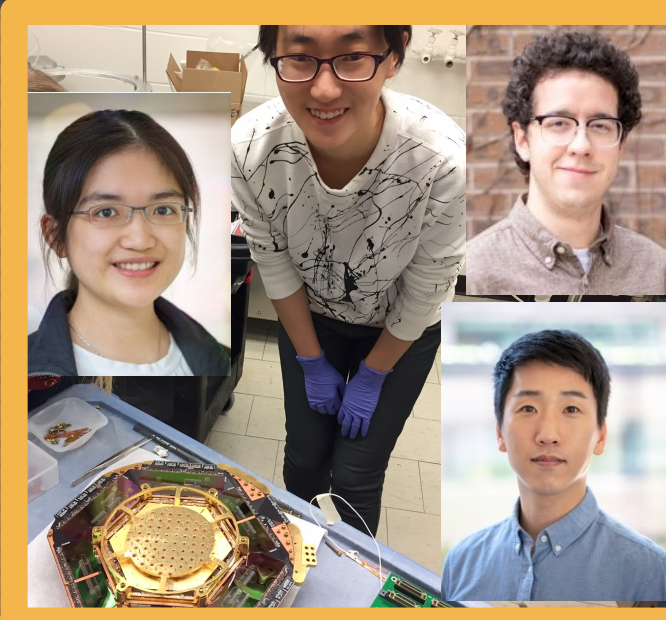


Single camera pixel



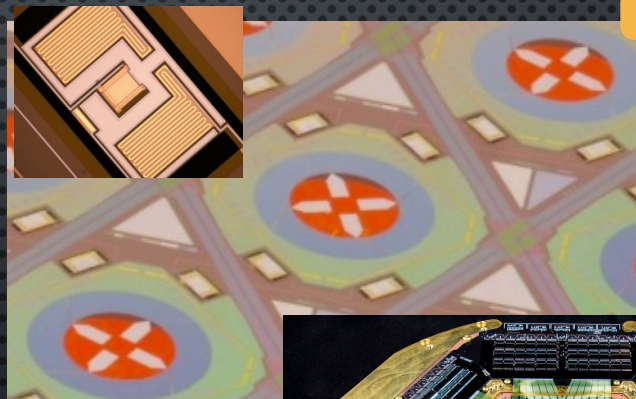
TES bolometer

Advanced ACTPol  
Focal Plane Array:

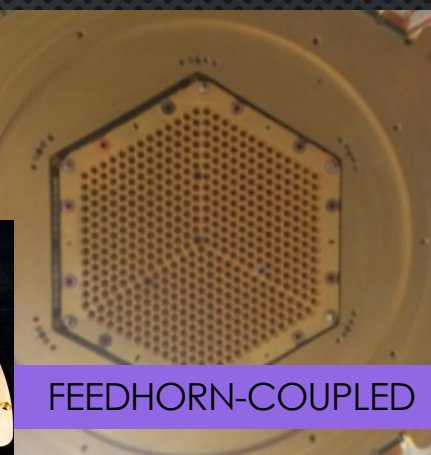
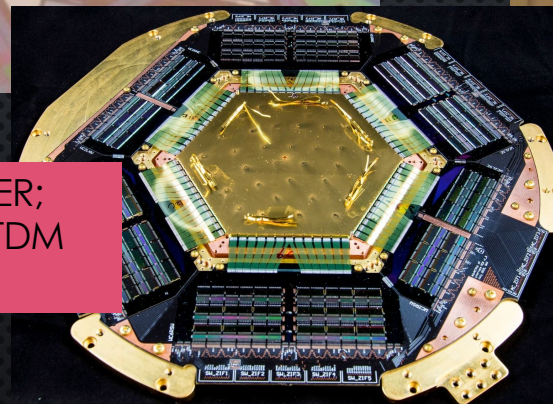


ACTPol Focal Plane Array

Superconducting  
devices fabricated  
at NIST



150 mm WAFER;  
SQUID-BASED TDM  
READOUT



FEEDHORN-COUPLED

MULTIPLE FREQUENCY BANDS BETWEEN 30 and 280 GHz



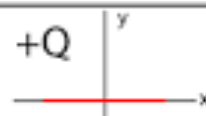
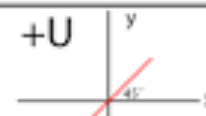
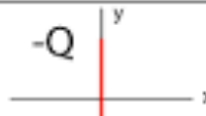
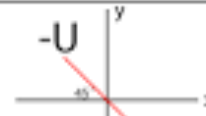


# ENDSLIDE

Staggs Lab

# CMB POLARIZATION: E-MODES & B-MODES

## STOKES PARAMETERS

100% Q	100% U
<p>+Q</p>  <p><math>Q &gt; 0; U = 0; V = 0</math> (a)</p>	<p>+U</p>  <p><math>Q = 0; U &gt; 0; V = 0</math> (c)</p>
<p>-Q</p>  <p><math>Q &lt; 0; U = 0; V = 0</math> (b)</p>	<p>-U</p>  <p><math>Q = 0; U &lt; 0; V = 0</math> (d)</p>

E-modes are symmetric wrt rotations around the wavevector...



ACOUSTIC OSCILLATIONS (SCALAR MODES)  
PRODUCE **ONLY** E-MODES!

Kamionkowski, Kosowsky & Stebbins; 1997

Seljak & Zaldarriaga 1997



E & B are GLOBAL not LOCAL since they are fundamentally defined in harmonic (not position) space.

# NEUTRINOS & HIGH RESOLUTION CMB SPECTRA

## NEUTRINOS

DECOUPLING:  $t \sim 1 \text{ s}$  ( $T \sim 1 \text{ MeV}$ )

PRESENT DENSITY:  $n \sim 100 / \text{cm}^3$

PRESENT TEMPERATURE:  $T \sim 2\text{K}$  ( $\sim 0.2 \text{ meV}$ )

PRESENT ENERGY EACH:  $E \sim m > 58 \text{ meV}$

PRESENT ENERGY DENSITY:  $r_n > 5.8 \text{ eV} / \text{cm}^3$

## PHOTONS

DECOUPLING:  $t \sim 380 \text{ kyr}$  ( $T \sim 1 \text{ MeV}$ )

PRESENT DENSITY:  $n \sim 400 / \text{cm}^3$

PRESENT TEMPERATURE:  $T \sim 3\text{K}$  ( $\sim 0.3 \text{ meV}$ )

PRESENT ENERGY EACH:  $E \sim T \sim 0.3 \text{ meV}$

PRESENT ENERGY DENSITY:  $r_g \sim 0.2 \text{ eV} / \text{cm}^3$