

Cosmic Microwave Background Lecture I

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Lectures plan

LECTURE I

- A first overview
 - A very short historical introduction
 - CMB maps: monopole, dipole, anisotropies
 - CMB statistics

LECTURE II

- CMB physics (temperature)
 - Recombination and decoupling
- CMB physics (temperature) (cont'd.)
 - Initial conditions and inhomogeneities, from inhomogeneities to anisotropies
- CMB polarization
 - Map characterization
 - Polarization physics

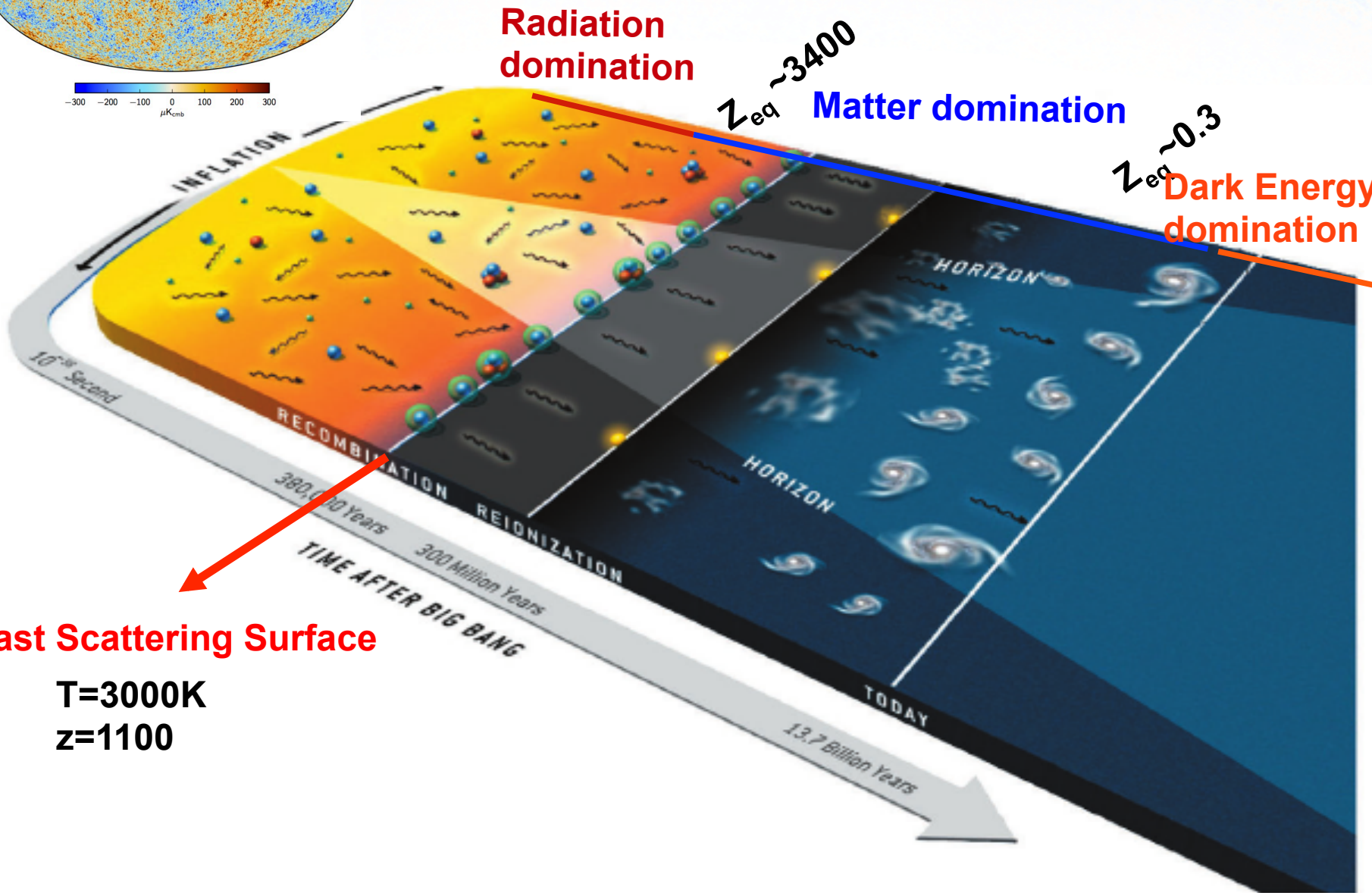
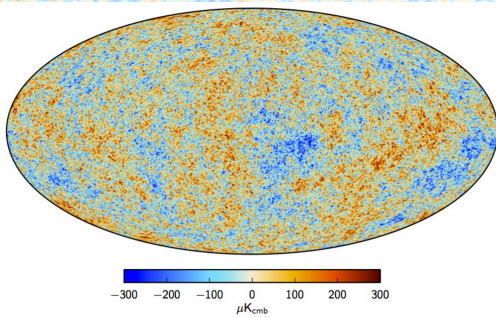
LECTURE III

- How to compare theory and data: likelihood!
- A practical example: the Planck satellite

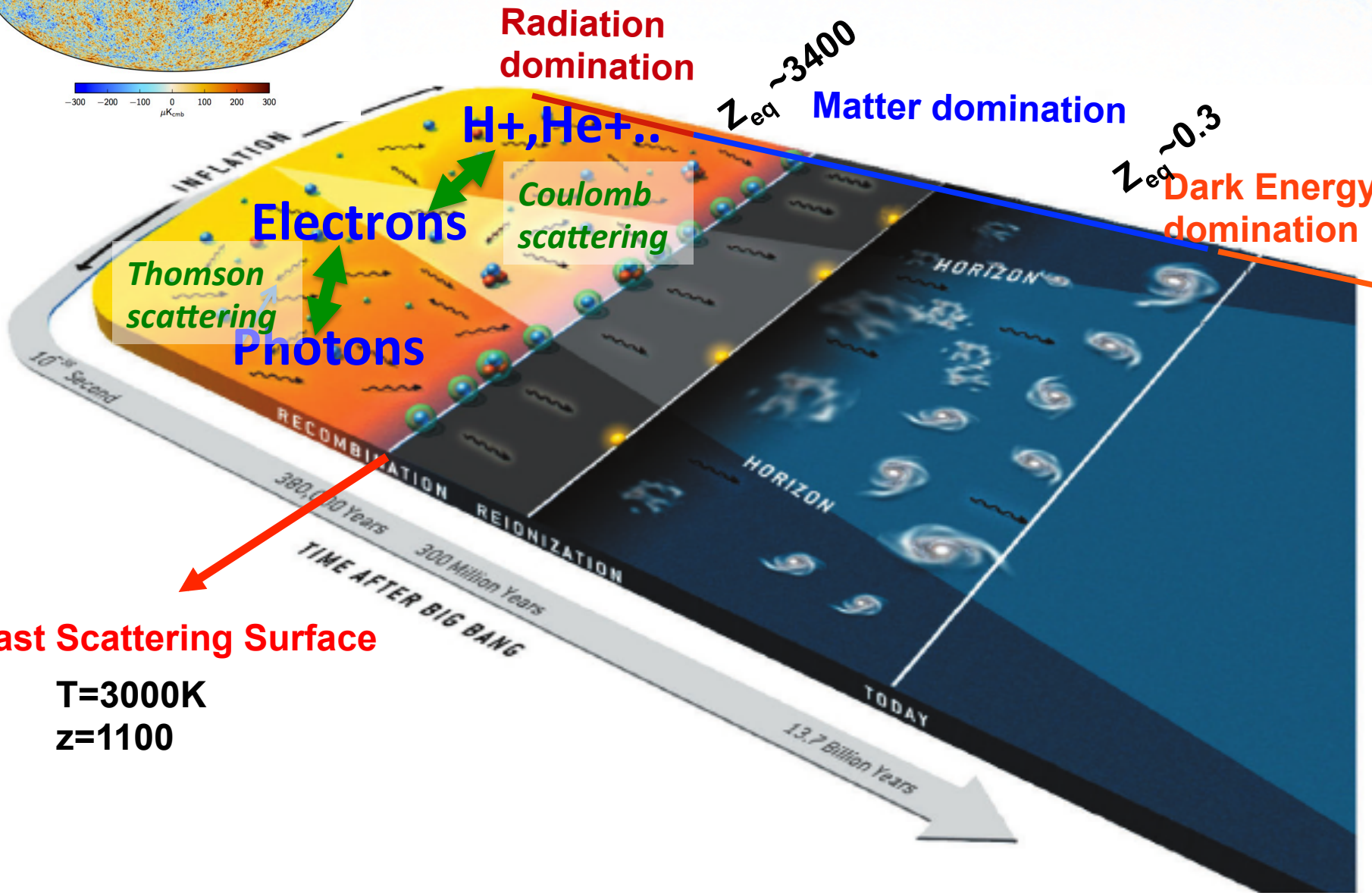
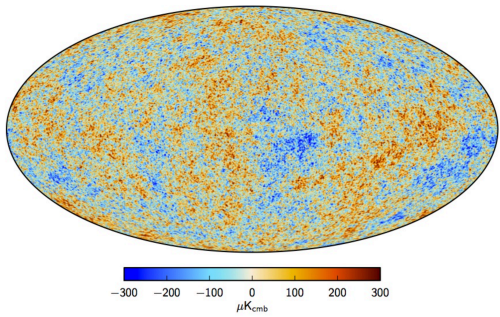
The CMB

- It is an image of the universe at the time of recombination (baryon-photon decoupling), when the universe was just a few hundred thousands years old ($z \sim 1100$).
- The CMB frequency spectrum is a perfect blackbody at $T=2.725$ K: confirmation of the hot big bang model!

Cosmic History



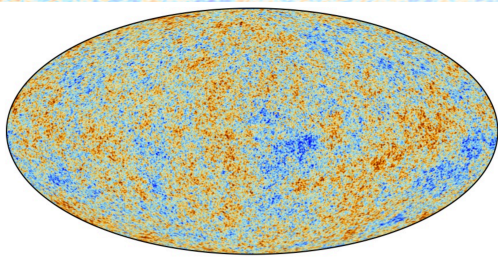
Cosmic History



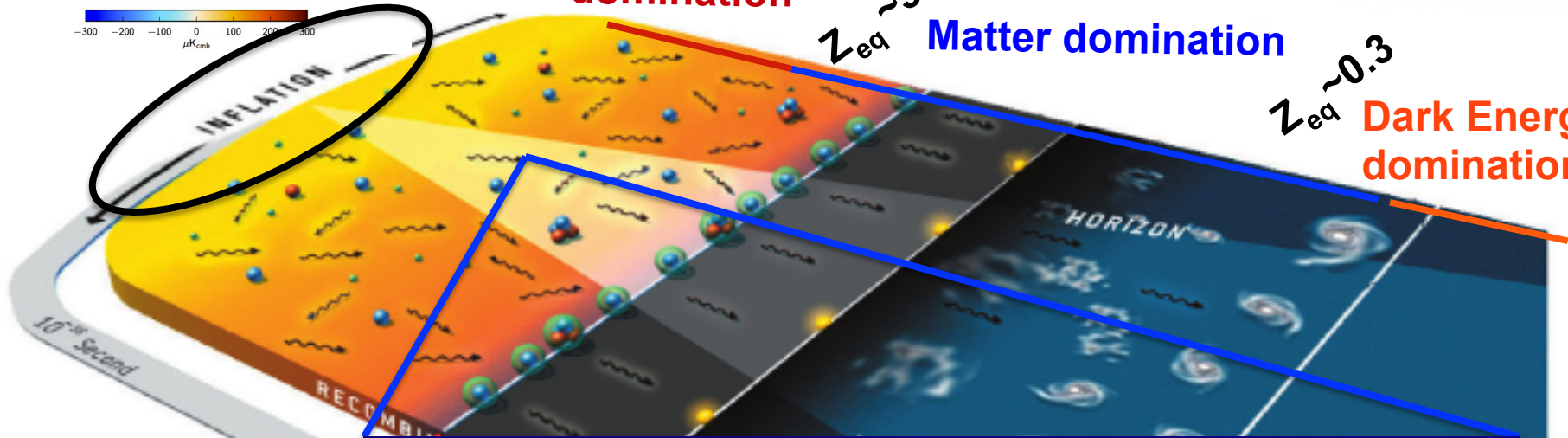
Last Scattering Surface

T=3000K
z=1100

Cosmic History



-300 -200 -100 0 100 200 300
μK_{cmb}



Radiation
domination

$z_{eq} \sim 3400$

Matter domination

$z_{eq} \sim 0.3$

Dark Energy
domination

Last Scattering Surface

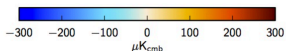
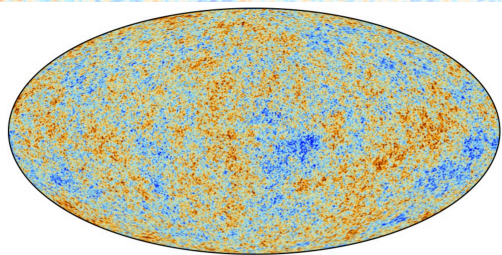
$T=3000K$

$z=1100$



Credit: W. Hu

Cosmic History



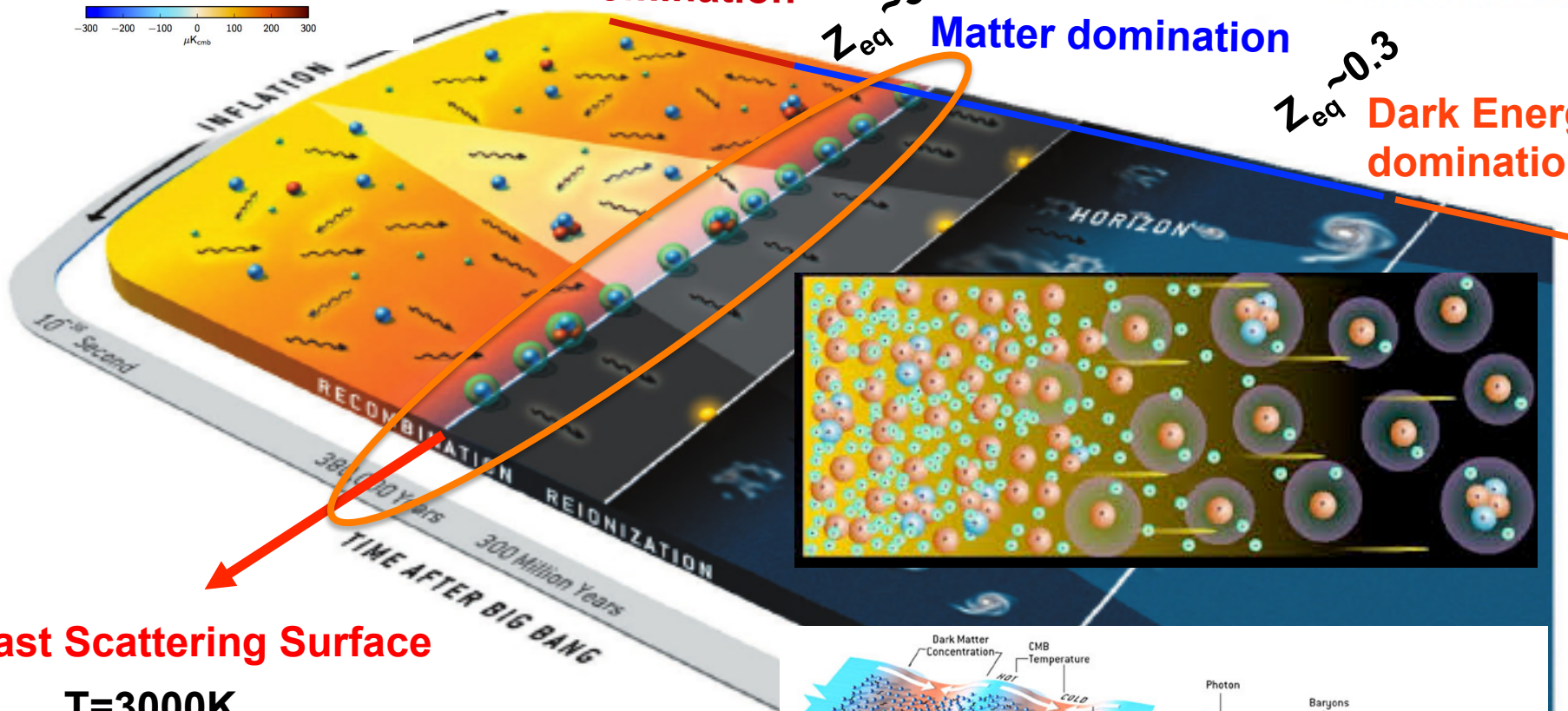
Radiation
domination

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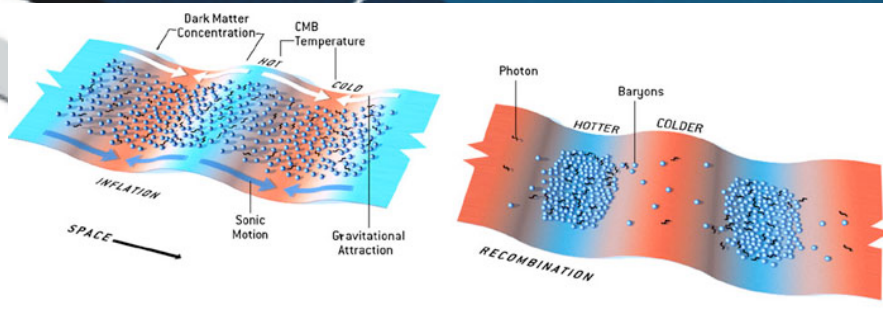
Dark Energy
domination



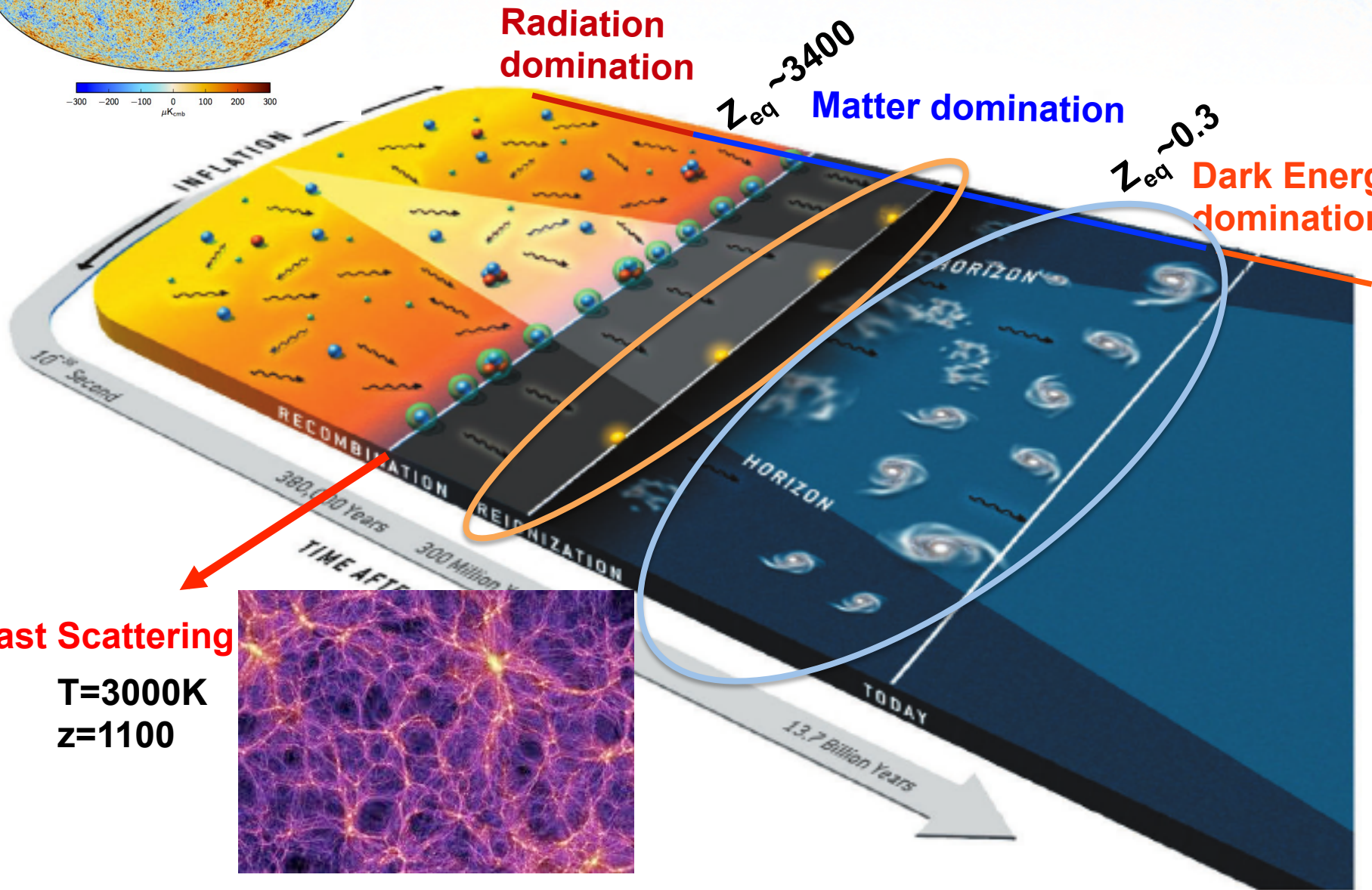
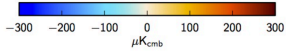
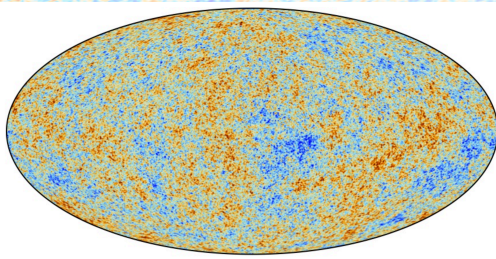
Last Scattering Surface

$T=3000K$

$z=1100$



Cosmic History



Last Scattering

T=3000K
z=1100





A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY

A (very) short history of modern cosmology

- 1917 Albert Einstein: Matter bends space. Need a cosmological constant to keep universe steady?
- 1922 Aleksandr Friedman: Universe could be expanding (1)
Solution to Einstein's equations in expanding universe.
- 1927 Georges Lemaître: Universe could be expanding (2),
Expansion can cause redshift of galaxies (Hubble's law).
First idea of an initial « creation » event.
- 1929 Edwin Hubble: Universe is expanding! Measured redshift of galaxies and their distance (through cepheids).

The Hot Big Bang

- 1946-48 George Gamow: hot Big Bang. Early universe was hot, radiation dominated over matter.
- 1948: Ralph Alpher, Hans Bethe and George Gamow: Primordial nucleosynthesis
- 1948: Alpher and R. Herman: prediction of CMB (at 5K)
- 1964 Doroshkevich and Novikov: detectability of CMB as a proof of Big Bang

The Origin of Chemical Elements

R. A. ALPHER*

*Applied Physics Laboratory, The Johns Hopkins University,
Silver Spring, Maryland*

AND

H. BETHE

Cornell University, Ithaca, New York

AND

G. GAMOW

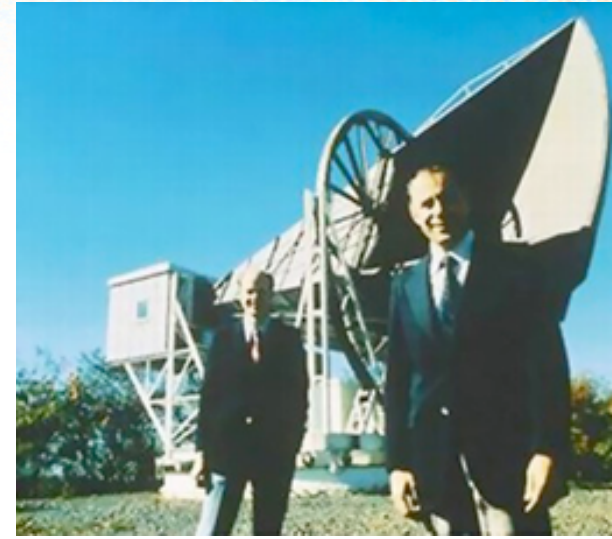
The George Washington University, Washington, D. C.

February 18, 1948

The term "Big Bang" was first used by F. Hoyle at a BBC radio broadcast in 1949 .

Discovery

- 1965: Arno Penzias and Robert Wilson, radio astronomers at Bell Labs in Crawford, New Jersey. Microwave horn radiometer first used for telecommunications, then for astronomy.
- Found uniform noise source (birds nests in the horn?!). From the sky!
- Princeton group (Jim Peebles, Robert Dicke, Peter Roll, and David Wilkinson) was working on CMB detection. Princeton group confirmed Penzias and Wilson discovery.



A MEASUREMENT OF EXCESS ANTENNA TEMPERATURE AT 4080 Mc/s

Astrophysical Journal, vol. 142, p.419-421

A. A. PENZIAS
R. W. WILSON

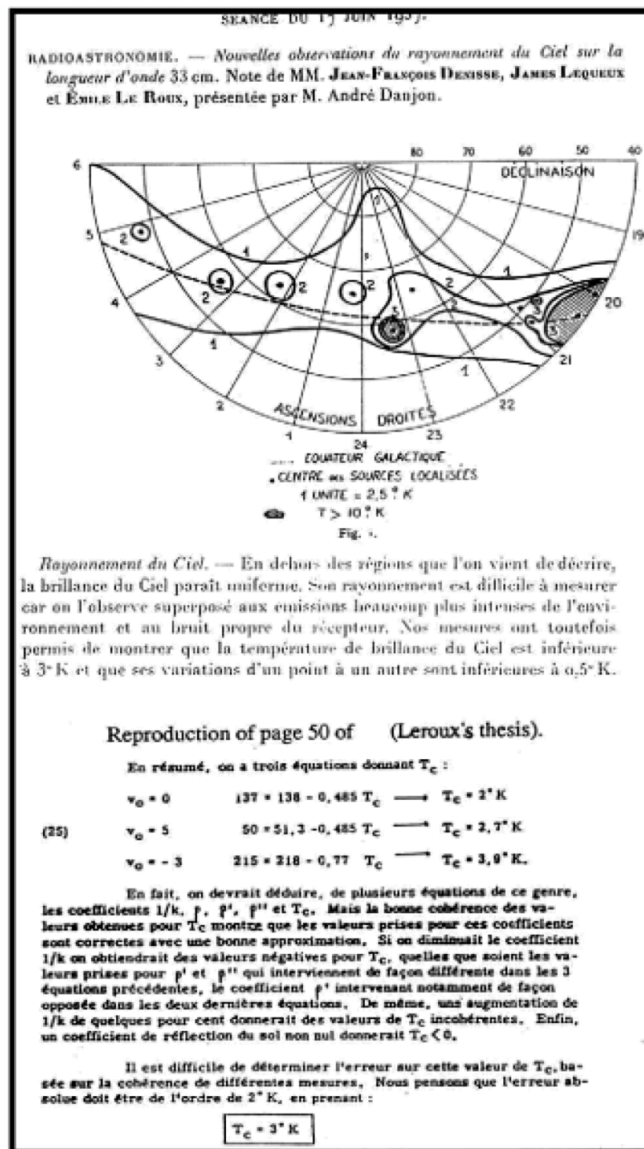
COSMIC BLACK-BODY RADIATION*

Astrophysical Journal, vol. 142, p.414-419

R. H. DICKE
P. J. E. PEEBLES
P. G. ROLL
D. T. WILKINSON

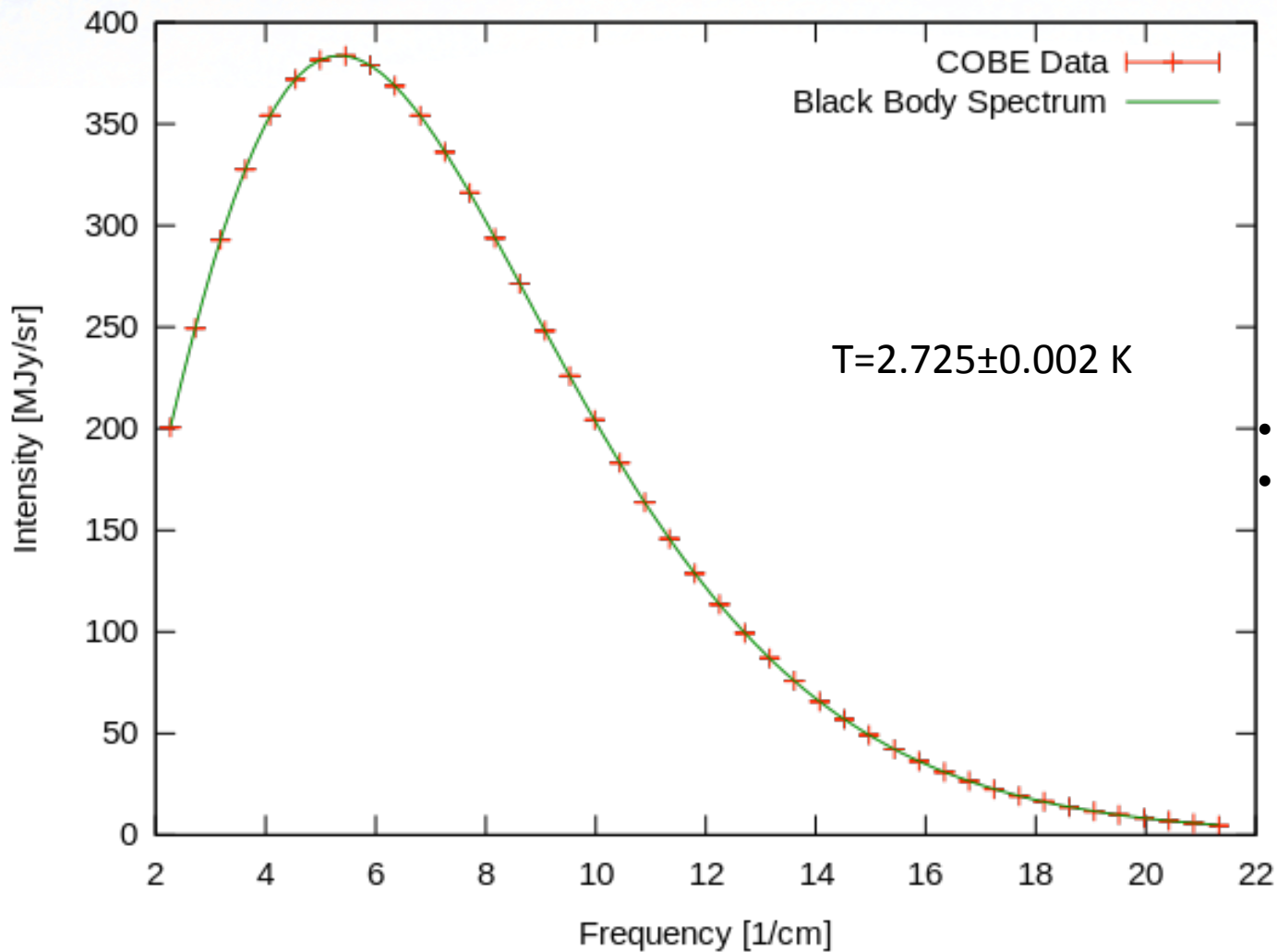
Earlier detections?

- 1940 Andrew McKellar observed excited rotational states of CN molecules in interstellar absorption lines. In thermal equilibrium at $T \sim 2.3\text{K}$ (see also W. Adams 1941)
- 1955 Émile Le Roux: survey at $\lambda = 33\text{ cm}$ (Nançay Radio Observatory). Near-isotropic background at $3 \pm 2\text{K}$ (Denisse, Lequeux, Le Roux 1957, Le Roux PhD thesis 1957).



The most accurate measurement to date: COBE

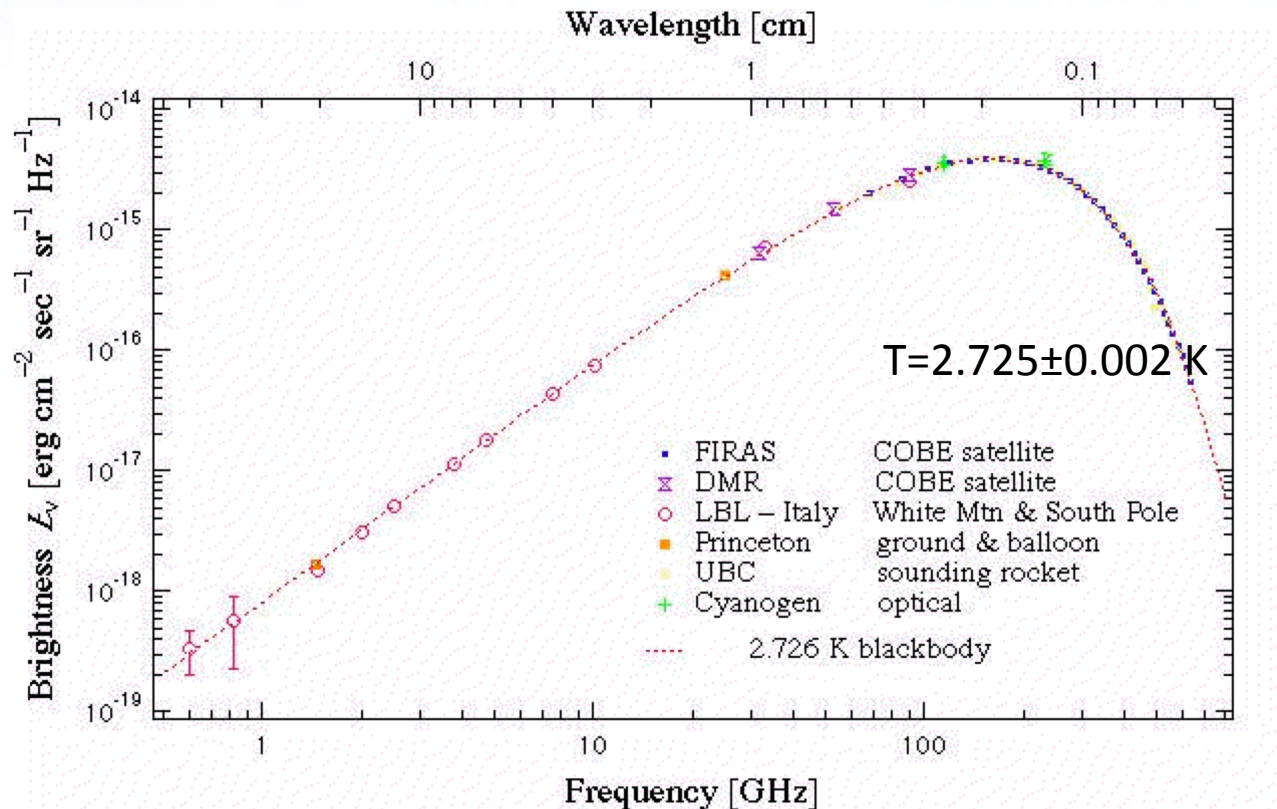
Cosmic Microwave Background Spectrum from COBE



- Launched in 1989.
- Three instruments:
 - FIRAS (BB spectrum) [60-2880GHz], 1yr
 - DMR (anisotropies) [31.5, 53, 90GHz], 4yr
 - DIRBE (CIB) [infrared]

FIRAS measurements. Mather et al. (1994, 1996), Fixten 1996
Peak $BB(\nu)$ at ~ 160 GHz.

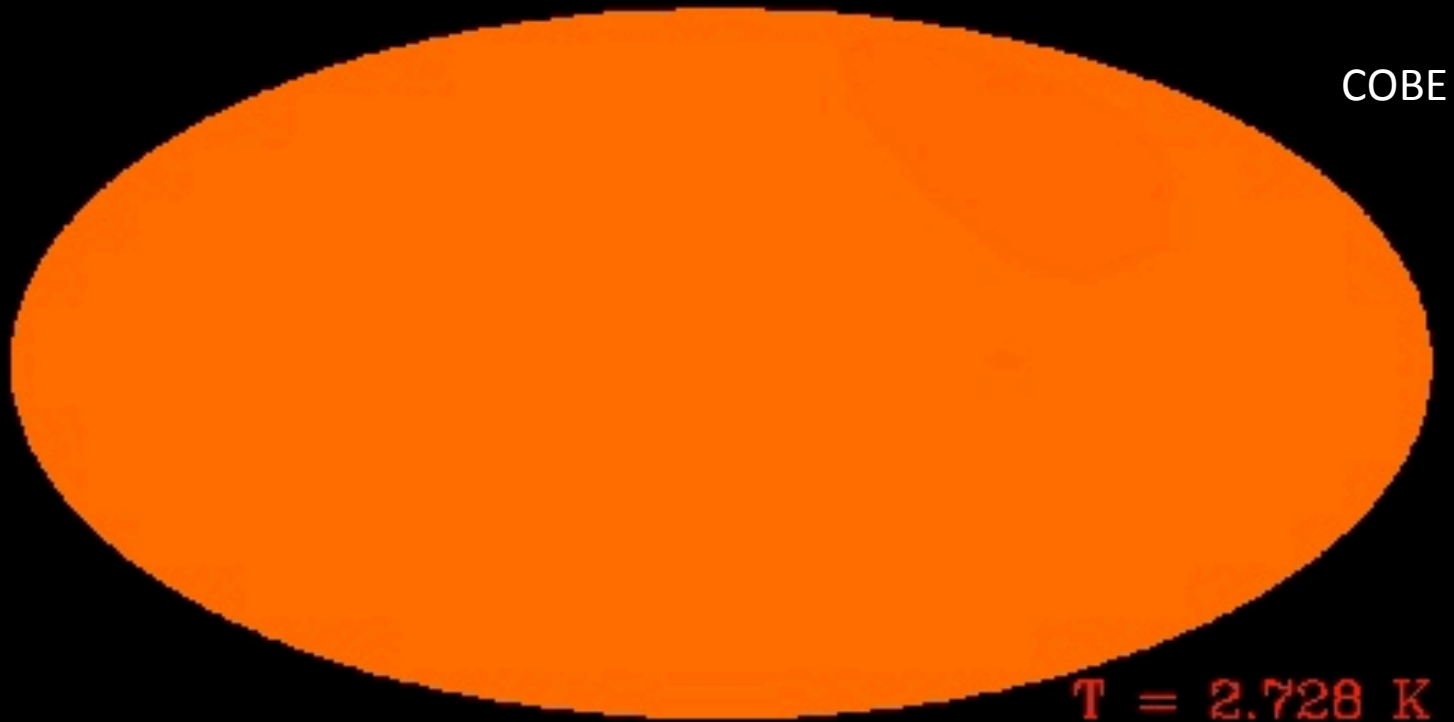
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FIRAS measurements. Mather et al. (1994, 1996), Fixten 1996
Peak $BB(\nu)$ at $\sim 160\text{GHz}$.

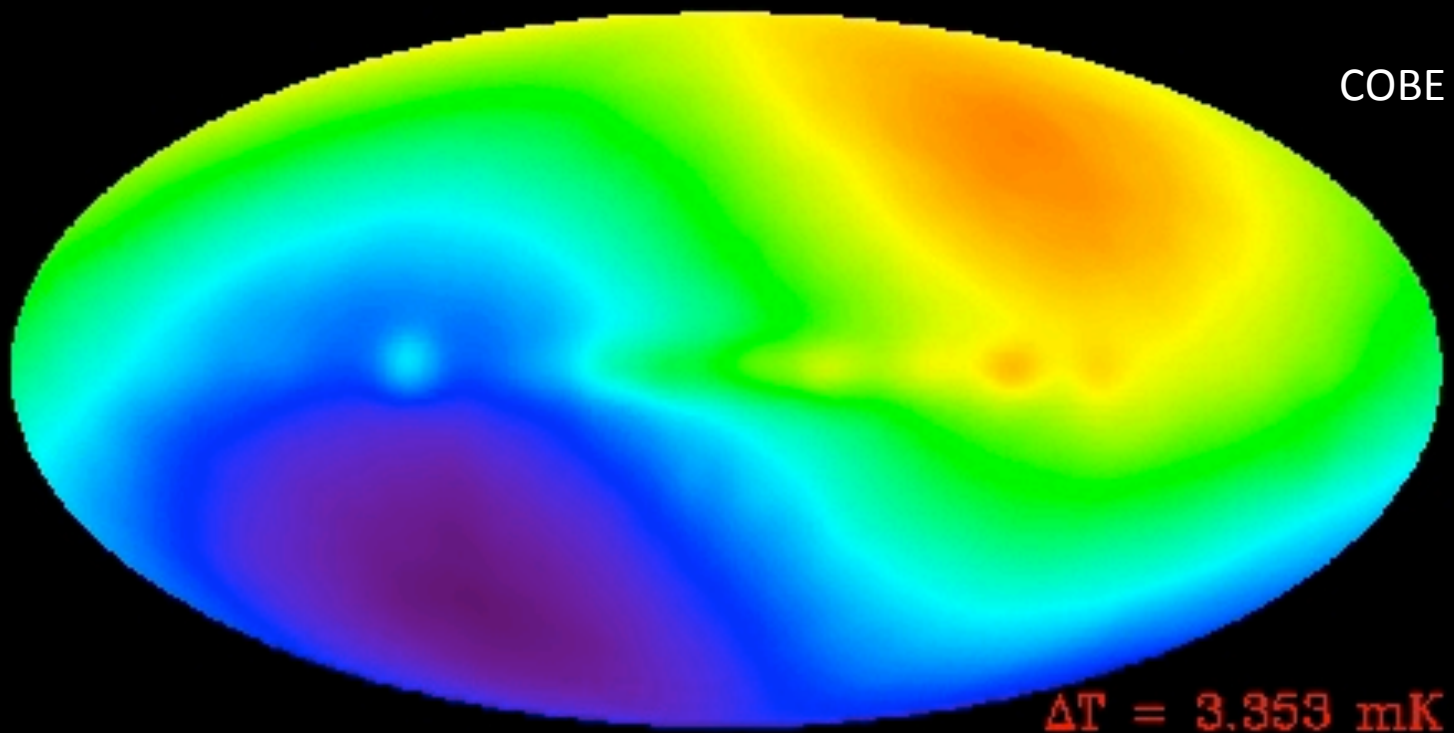
The monopole

- The CMB has a black body spectrum with average temperature of $T=2.725\pm 0.002$ K (COBE, Mather et al.)



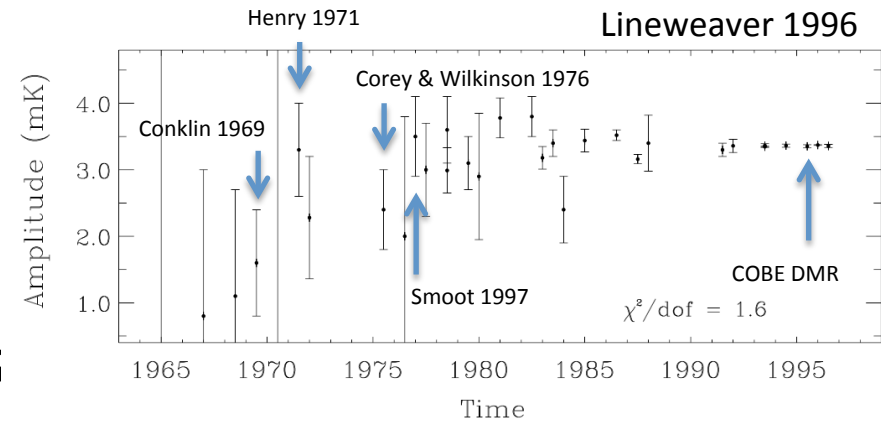
The dipole

- The motion of the sun w.r.t. the CMB reference system produces a dipole of $\Delta T = 3.3645 \pm 0.002$ mK (Planck 2015)



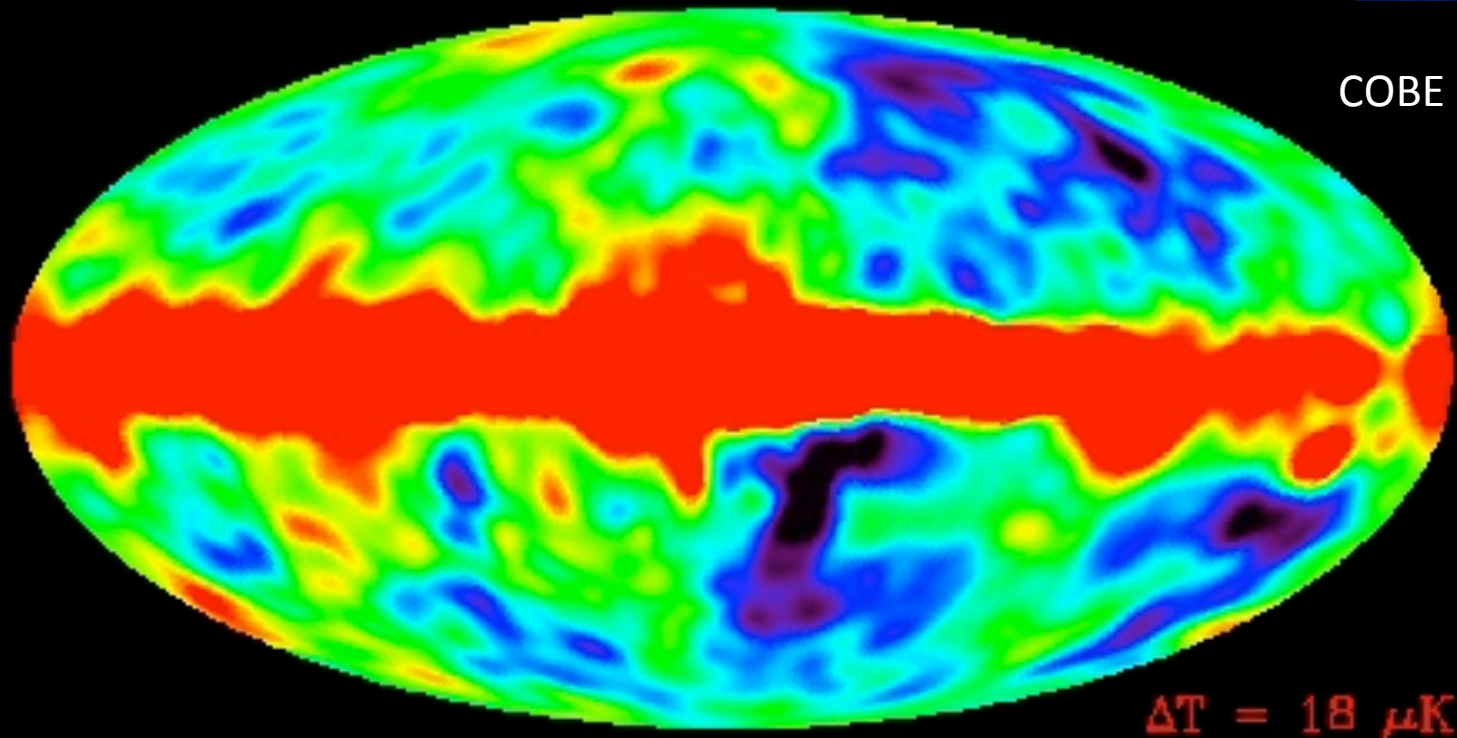
The dipole

- Detected shortly after Penzias and Wilson discovery.
- Due to the Doppler shift induced by the sun motion at $v=370.5\pm 0.2$ km/s (Planck 2015)
- Earth motion w.r.t. sun produces a dipole 10 times smaller, $v\sim 30$ km/s

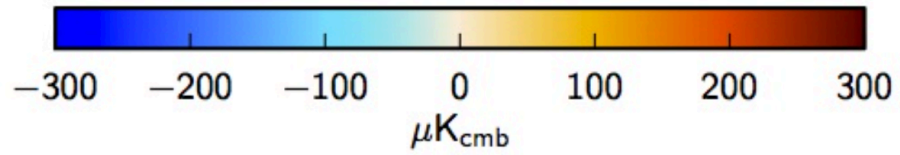
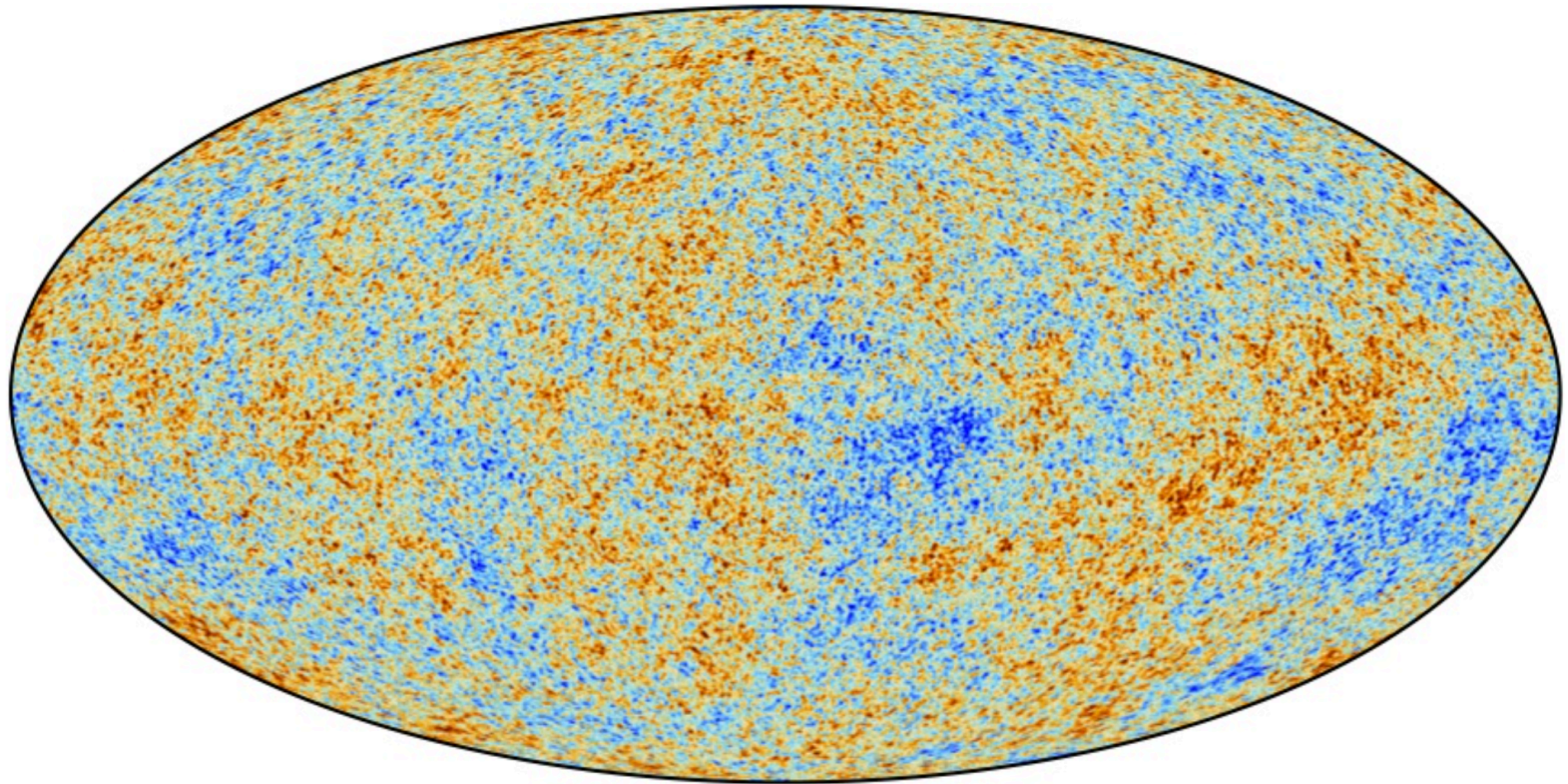


Anisotropies

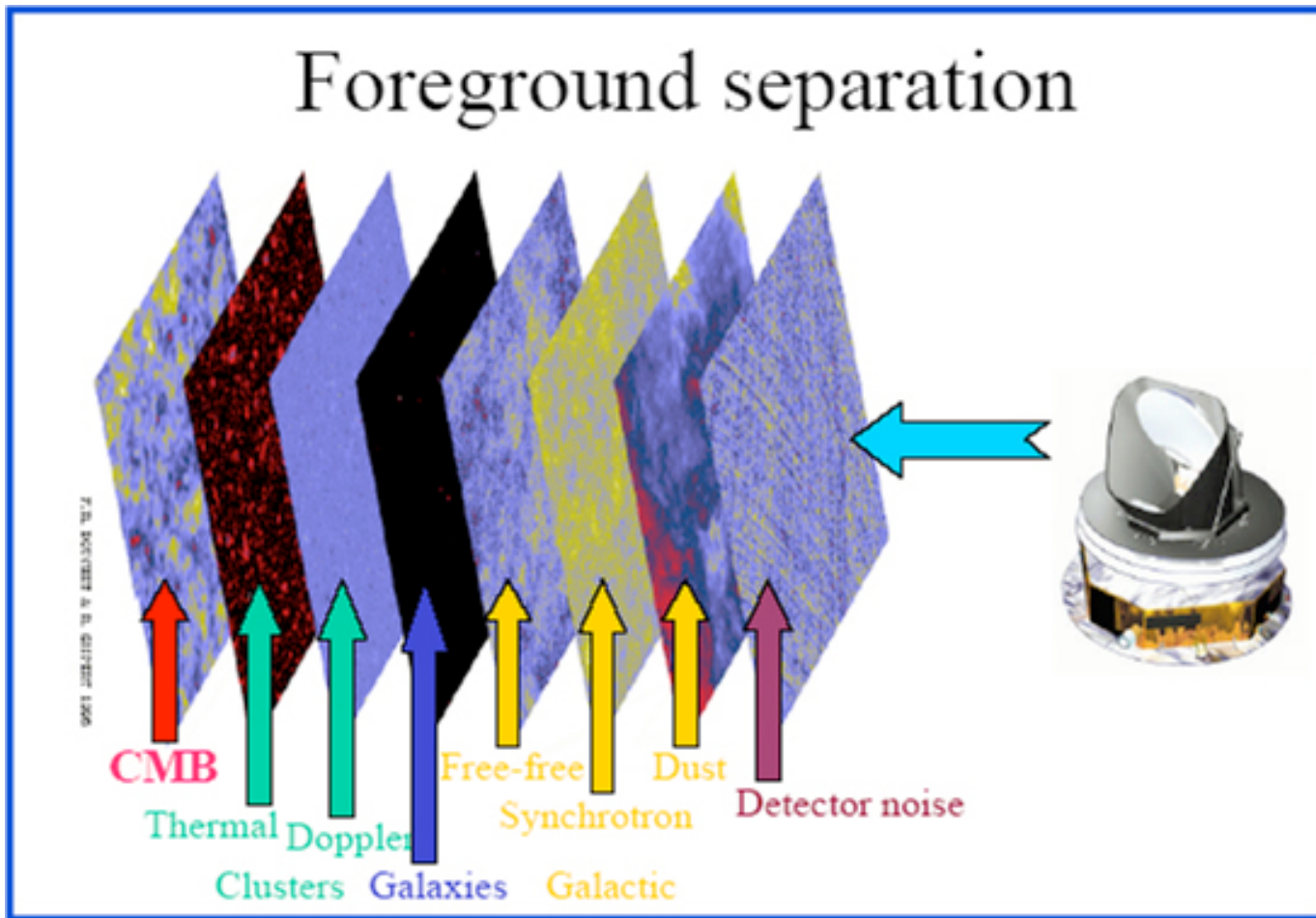
- At the μK level, CMB anisotropies (and foregrounds)!



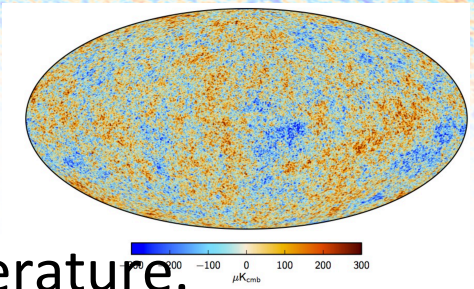
The Planck map



Not only CMB...



A note about units



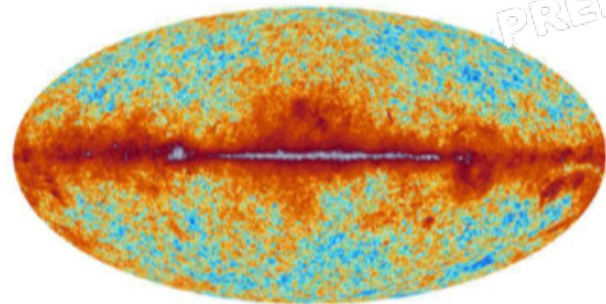
- These maps are in units of thermodynamic temperature.
- Brightness to **thermodynamic temperature** K_{cmb} assuming a black body spectrum:

$$BB_{\nu}(T) = \frac{dE}{d\nu d\Omega dA dt} = \frac{2h\nu^3}{c^2} \frac{1}{\exp(h\nu/kT) - 1}$$

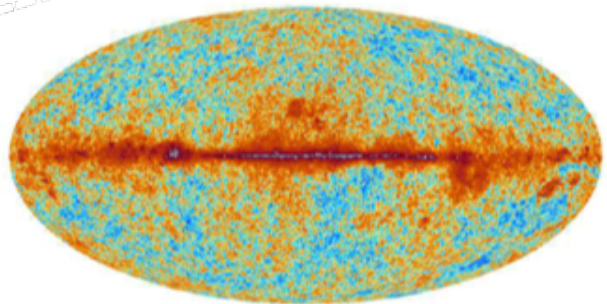
- In these units, the CMB has the same temperature at all frequencies, while foregrounds with different emission spectra have different thermodynamic temperatures at different frequencies

PRELIMINARY

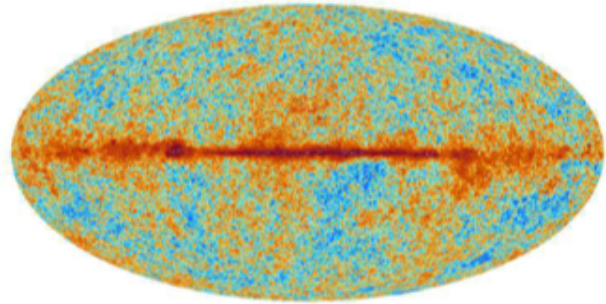
30 GHz



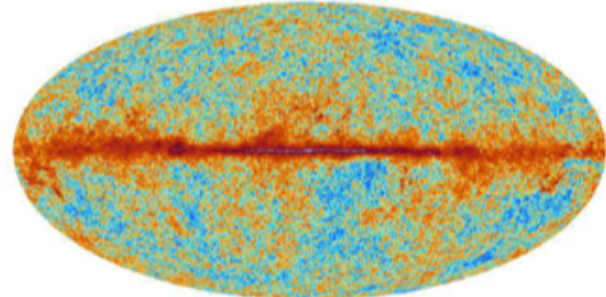
44 GHz



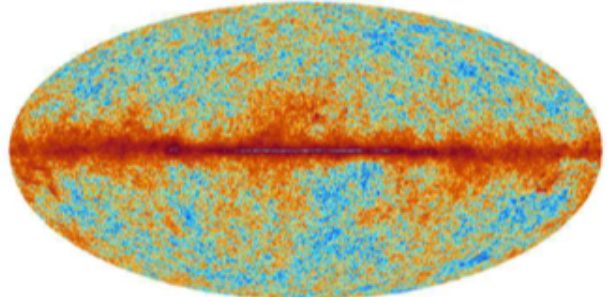
70 GHz



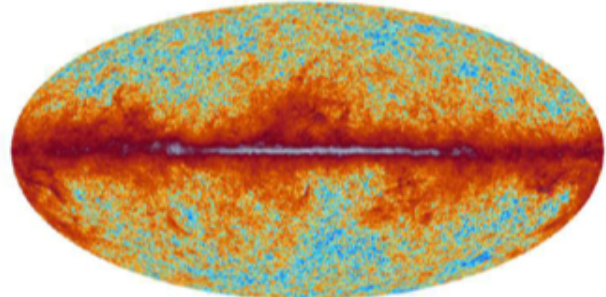
100 GHz



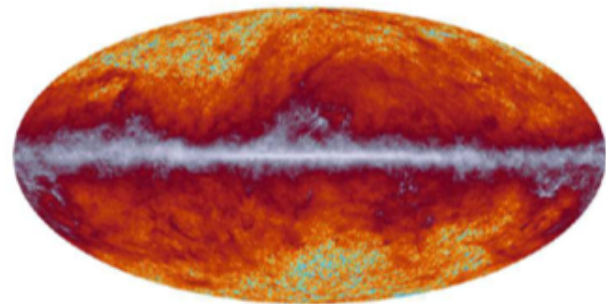
143 GHz



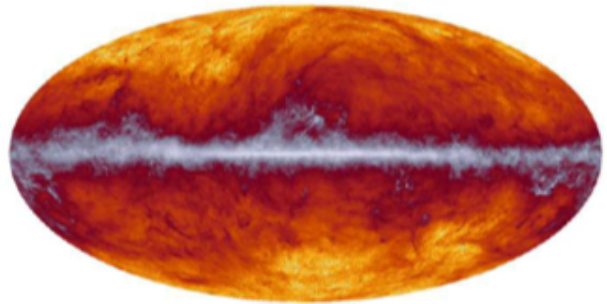
217 GHz



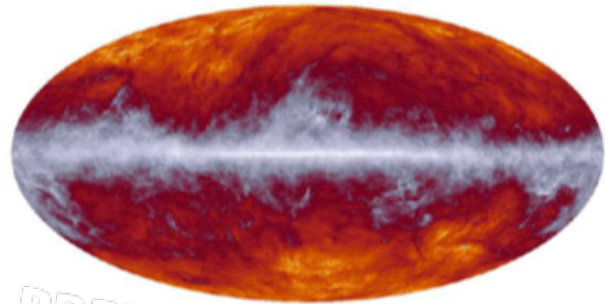
353 GHz



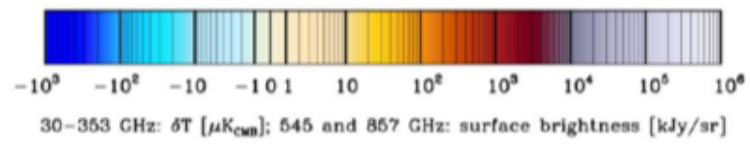
545 GHz



857 GHz



PRELIMINARY

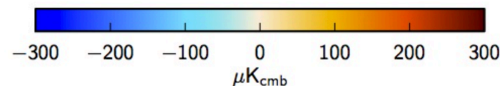
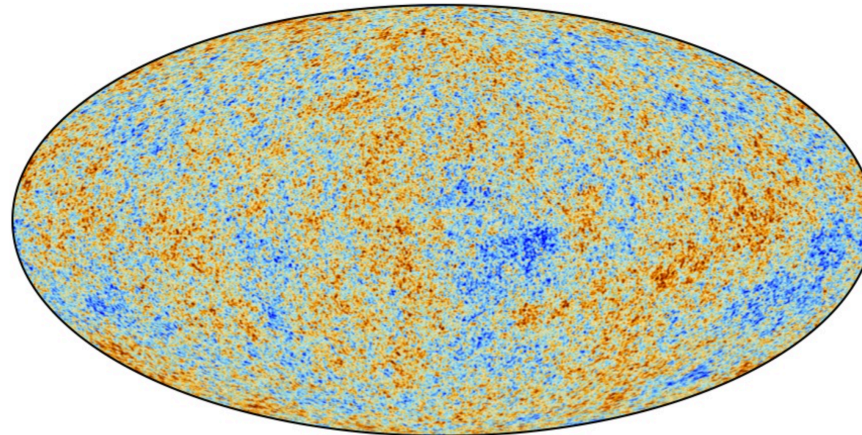


Planck 2015
Microwave sky



CMB STATISTICS

- CMB anisotropies are expected to be distributed as a **gaussian random field**.
- We cannot theoretically predict the value of the temperature in the pixels, but only predict their statistical properties.



- A gaussian distribution is fully characterized by a **mean and variance**. All higher odd moments are 0, even moments can be written in terms of the variance (Wick's theorem)

Spherical harmonics

- We can decompose the temperature maps in spherical harmonics.
- SH are a **ortho-normal basis of functions on the sphere**. They are the eigenfunctions of the angular part of the Laplace operator in spherical coordinates.
- They are a orthogonal and complete basis.

$$\nabla^2 Y_\ell^m = -[l(l+1)]Y_\ell^m$$

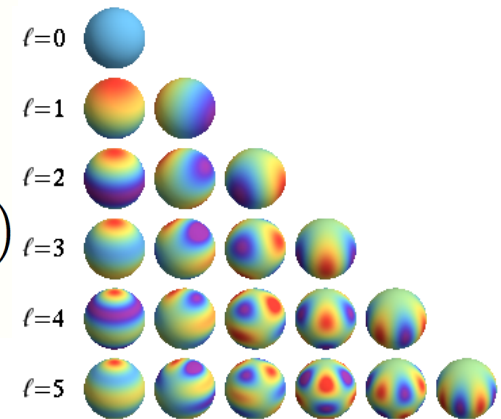
$$\int d\hat{\mathbf{n}} Y_\ell^{m*}(\hat{\mathbf{n}}) Y_{\ell'}^{m'}(\hat{\mathbf{n}}) = \delta_{\ell\ell'} \delta_{mm'}$$

$$\sum_{\ell m} Y_\ell^{m*}(\hat{\mathbf{n}}) Y_\ell^m(\hat{\mathbf{n}}') = \delta(\phi - \phi') \delta(\cos \theta - \cos \theta')$$

- Complex. Conjugation:

$$Y_\ell^{m*} = (-1)^m Y_\ell^{-m}$$

- Characterized **the degree (multipole) ℓ and the order m** .
- **$\ell \sim \pi/\theta$** , with the θ angular separation in the sky.
- For each ℓ , $-\ell \leq m \leq \ell$. There **are $2\ell+1$ m-modes for each ℓ** .
- The projection on the m-modes depends on the reference system.



Decomposition in spherical harmonics

- Decompose the fractional temperature variation in spherical harmonics

$$\frac{\Delta T}{T}(\hat{n}, \vec{x}, \eta) = \Theta(\hat{n}, \vec{x}, \eta) = \sum_{\ell m} \Theta_{\ell m}(\vec{x}, \eta) Y_{\ell}^m(\hat{n})$$

Line of sight \hat{n}
Position in the sky ($u, s, x=0$) \vec{x}
Conformal time ($u, s, \eta=\eta_0$) $\eta \equiv \int dt/a$

Also often called $a_{\ell m}$ in the literature

- Applying the orthogonality of spherical harmonics:

$$\Theta_{\ell m}(\vec{x}, \eta) = \int_{\Omega} d\hat{n} \Theta(\hat{n}, \vec{x}, \eta) Y_{\ell m}^*(\hat{n})$$

- In the simplest models of inflation, $\Theta(\hat{n})$ is a **gaussian random field**. Then, $\Theta_{\ell m}$ are **statistically independent** and **randomly distributed**, each described by a gaussian distribution.

Cl's in theory

- To characterize the statistical properties of a gaussian random field, we can calculate the mean and the variance of the field. For the CMB, the mean of the anisotropies is zero (by definition). The variance can be calculated either as the 2-point correlation function in real space, or equivalently, as the **angular power spectrum in harmonic space**.

$$\langle \Theta_{\ell m} \rangle = 0 \quad \langle \Theta_{\ell m} \Theta_{\ell' m'} \rangle = \delta_{\ell\ell'} \delta_{mm'} C_\ell$$

- $\langle \rangle$ are **ensemble averages over many realizations of the sky**.
- Because of **isotropy**, $\Theta_{\ell m}$ with same ℓ and different m are extracted from gaussian distribution with the same variance C_ℓ

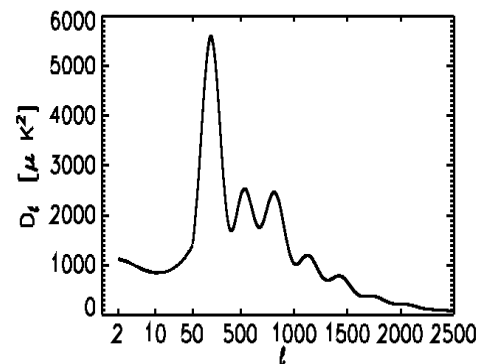
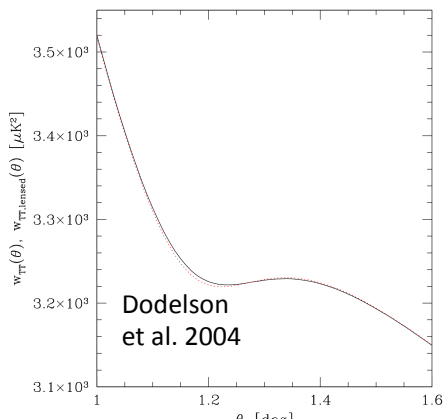
Cl's and 2-point correlation function

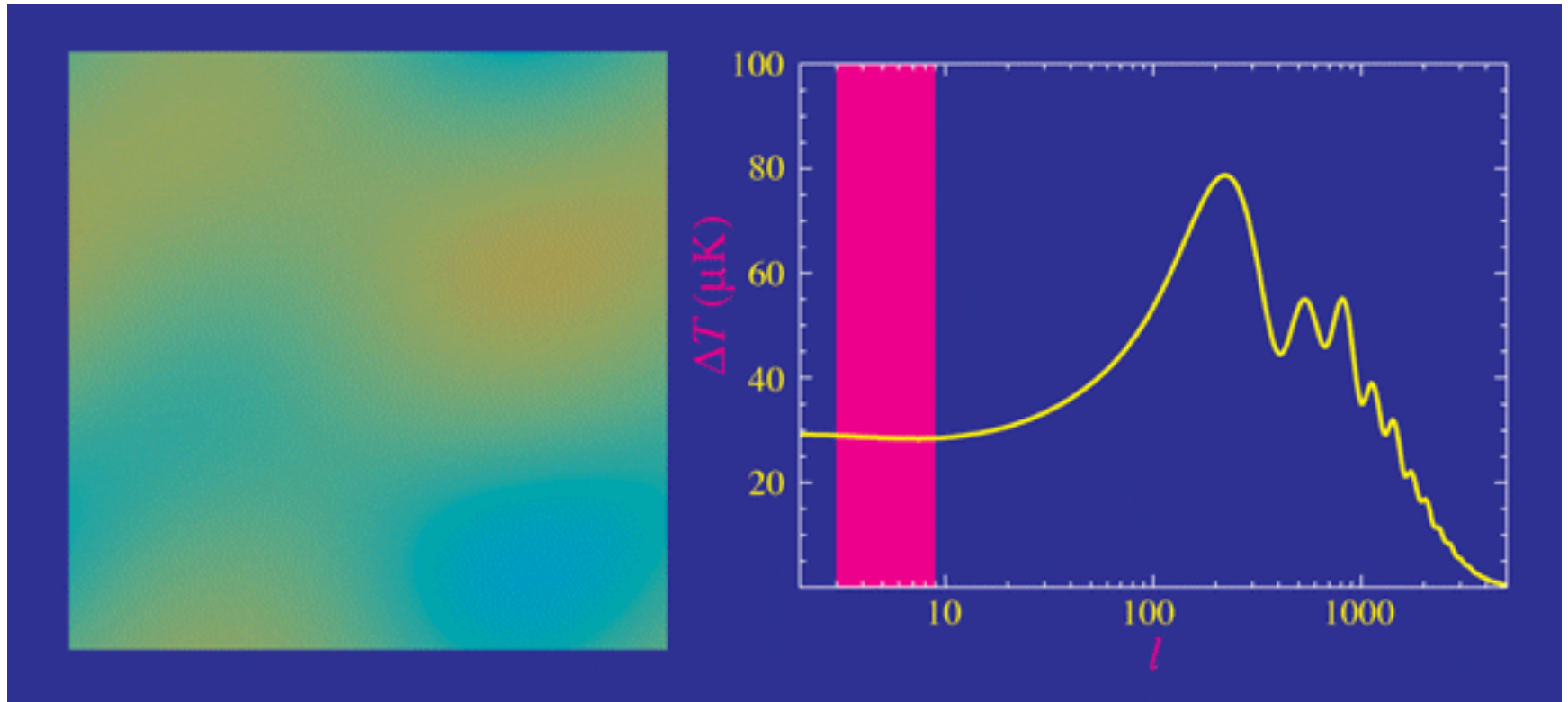
- We can relate the angular power spectrum to the 2-point correlation function in real space using the Legendre polynomials and the addition theorem:

$$\sum_m Y_{\ell m}^*(\mathbf{n}_i) Y_{\ell m}(\mathbf{n}_j) = \frac{2\ell + 1}{4\pi} P_\ell(\hat{\mathbf{n}}_i \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_j)$$

$$\langle \Theta_i \Theta_j \rangle = \sum_\ell \frac{2\ell + 1}{4\pi} C_\ell P_\ell(\hat{\mathbf{n}}_i \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_j)$$

- Because of isotropy, the two-point correlation function depends only on the angular separation in the sky θ , not on the orientation of the separation.





Each of these maps are extracted from gaussian distributions with 0 mean and variance given by the CI in the corresponding pink band. There is an infinite number of possible realizations.

An estimator for the Cl's

$$\langle \Theta_{\ell m} \rangle = 0 \quad \langle \Theta_{\ell m} \Theta_{\ell' m'} \rangle = \delta_{\ell \ell'} \delta_{m m'} C_\ell$$

- We only observe one universe \Rightarrow ensemble average not possible.
- Because of isotropy, all the m-modes $\Theta_{\ell m}$ with the same ℓ have the same theoretical C_ℓ . An estimator of C_ℓ is then:

$$\hat{C}_\ell = \frac{1}{2\ell + 1} \sum_m \Theta_{\ell m} \Theta_{\ell m}^*$$

Cosmic Variance

- The expected value is $\langle \hat{C}_l \rangle = C_l$
- Since we only have $2l+1$ samples for each l , there is an **intrinsic uncertainty!**

$$\hat{C}_l = \frac{1}{2l+1} \sum_m \Theta_{lm} \Theta_{lm}^*$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\sigma_{C_l}^2}{C_l^2} &= \frac{\langle (\hat{C}_l - C_l)(\hat{C}_l - C_l) \rangle}{C_l^2} = \frac{\langle \hat{C}_l \hat{C}_l \rangle - C_l^2}{C_l^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{(2l+1)^2 C_l^2} \langle \sum_{mm'} \Theta_{lm}^* \Theta_{lm} \Theta_{lm'}^* \Theta_{lm'} \rangle - 1 \\ &= \frac{1}{(2l+1)^2} \sum_{mm'} (\delta_{mm'} + \delta_{m-m'}) = \frac{2}{2l+1} \end{aligned}$$

For a gaussian field, Wick's theorem says that any N-point (N even) statistics can be written as a function of the 2-point correlation function

$$\sigma_{C_l}^2 = \frac{2}{2l+1} C_l^2$$