



# Some challenges of contemporary Astrophysics

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7th INFIERI

INtelligent signal processing for FrontIer Research and Industry

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**some big  
questions in  
Astronomy today**

**and the  
telescopes that  
will help answer  
them**



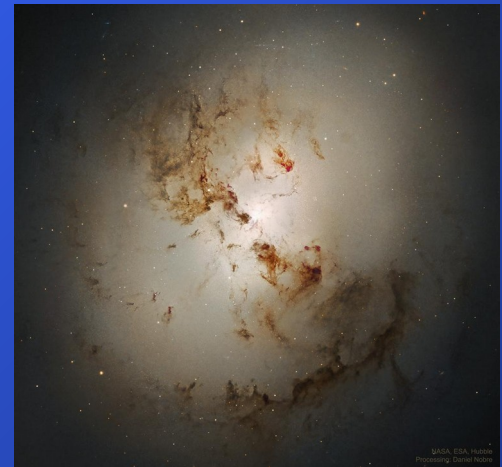
**GMT**  
**Giant Magellan Telescope**



**on large scales the universe  
is populated by galaxies**

# galaxies

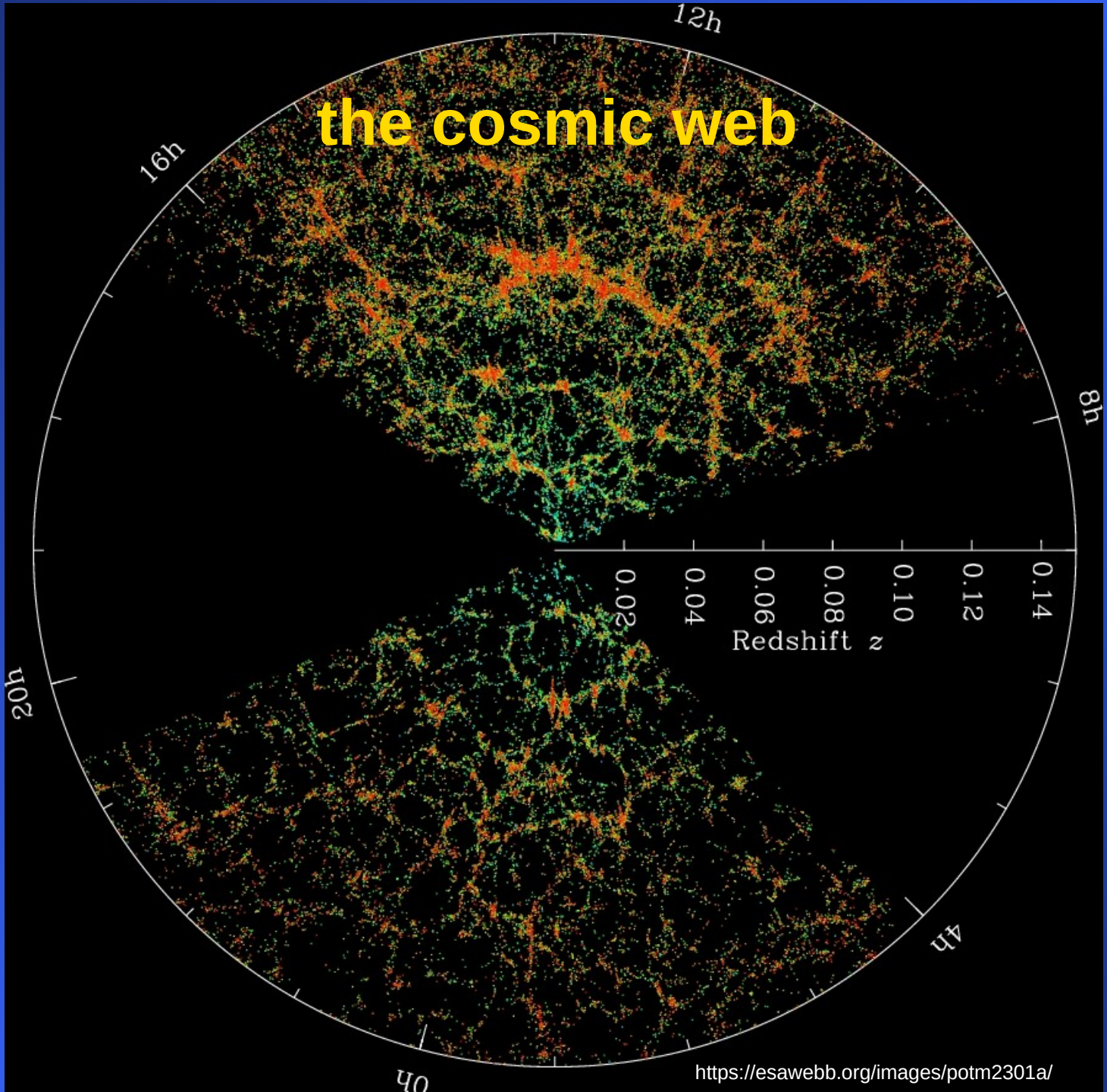
- many forms
- many sizes
- many masses
- many stellar populations



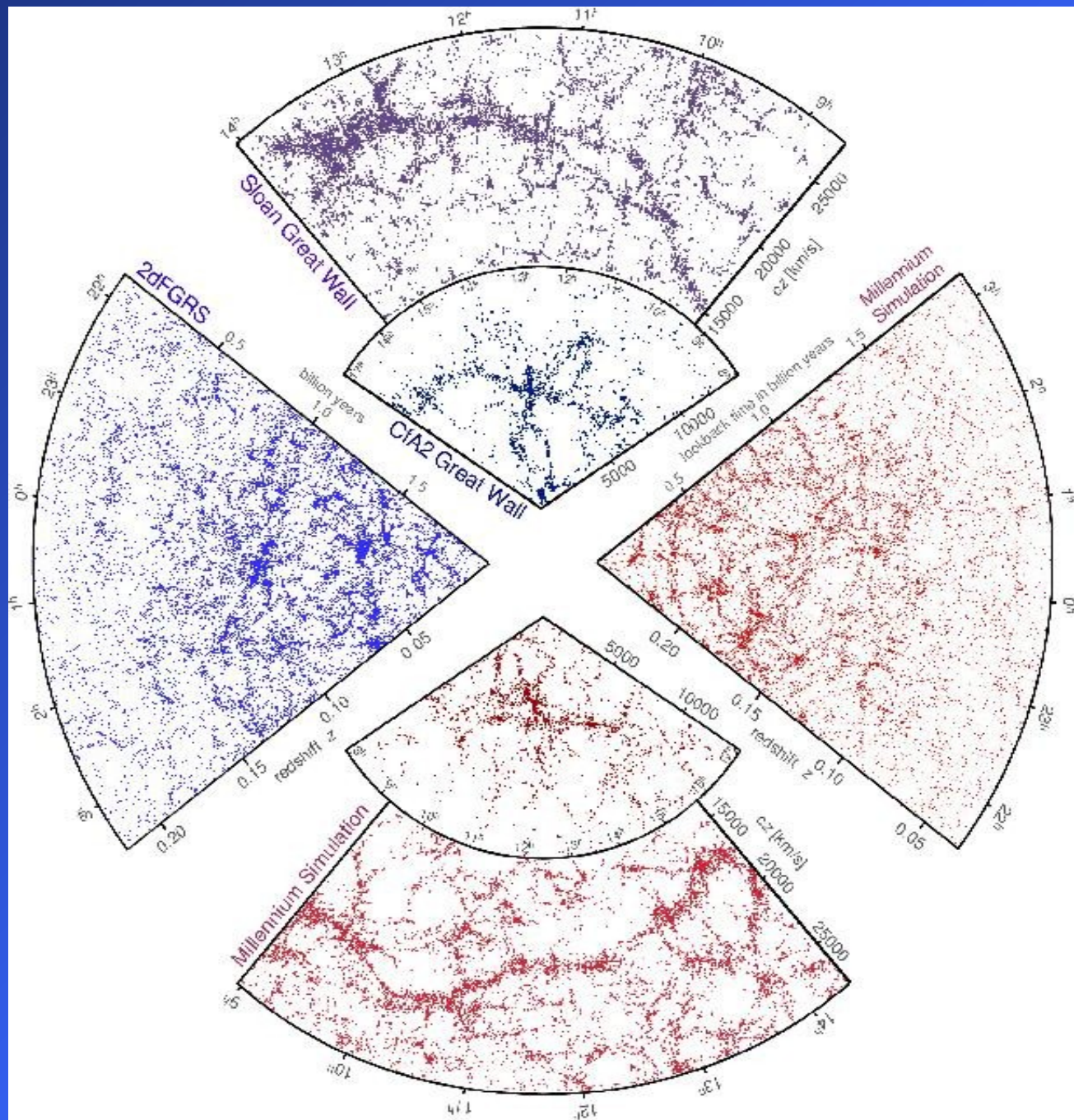
- stars
- cold & hot gas
- dust
- dark matter



# the cosmic web

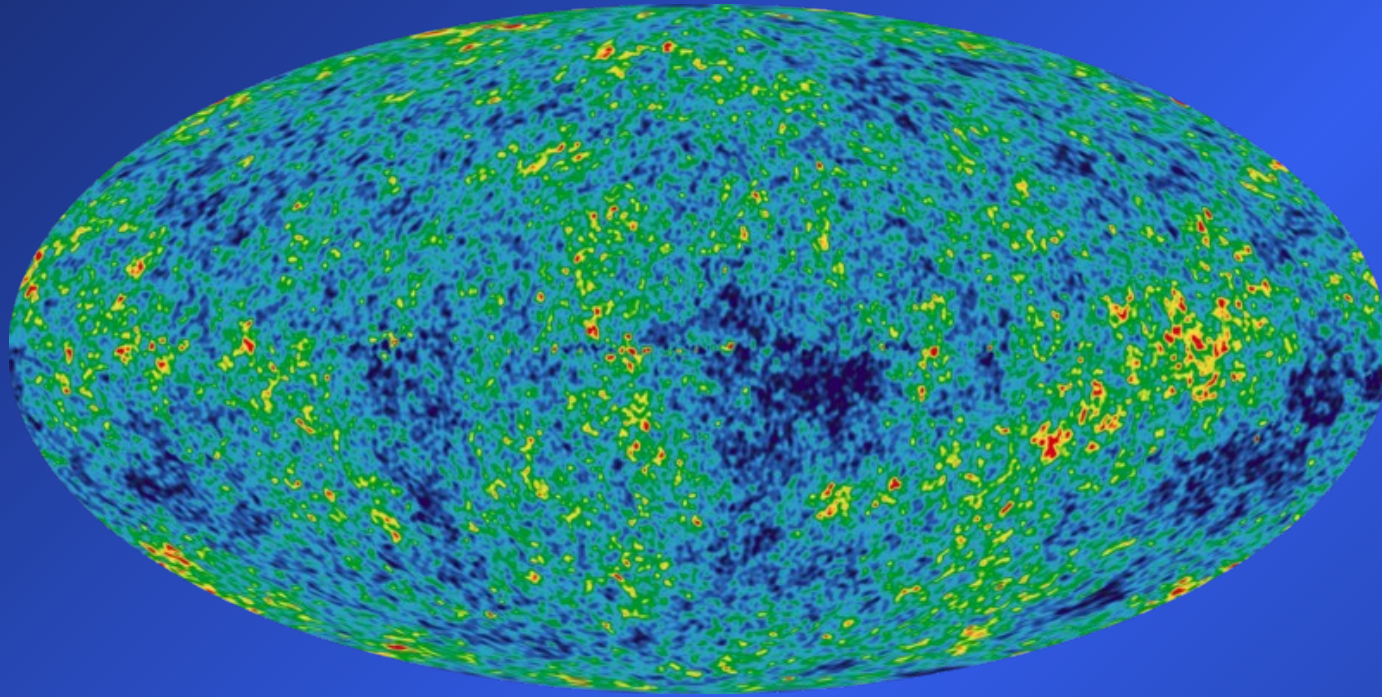








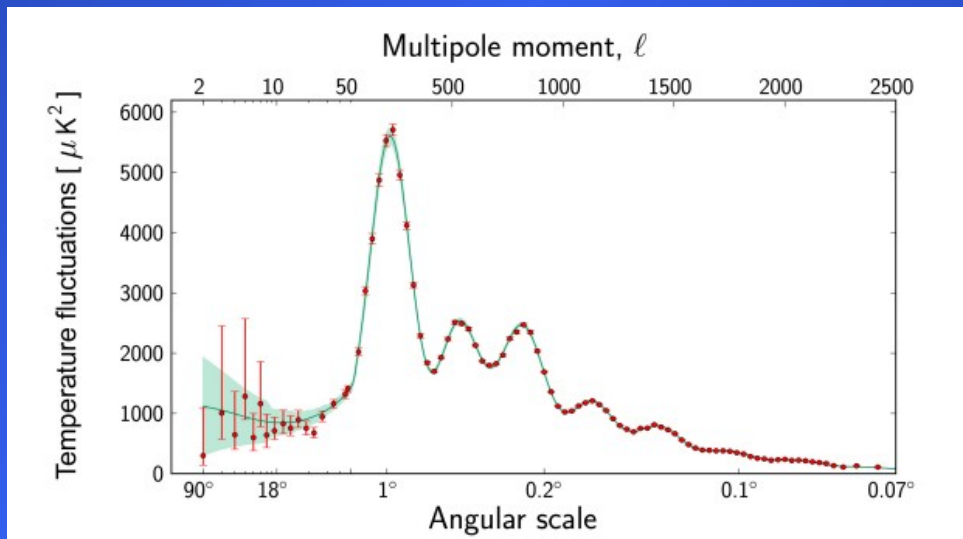
# cosmic microwave background



$z \sim 1100$

$T \sim 380,000$  yrs

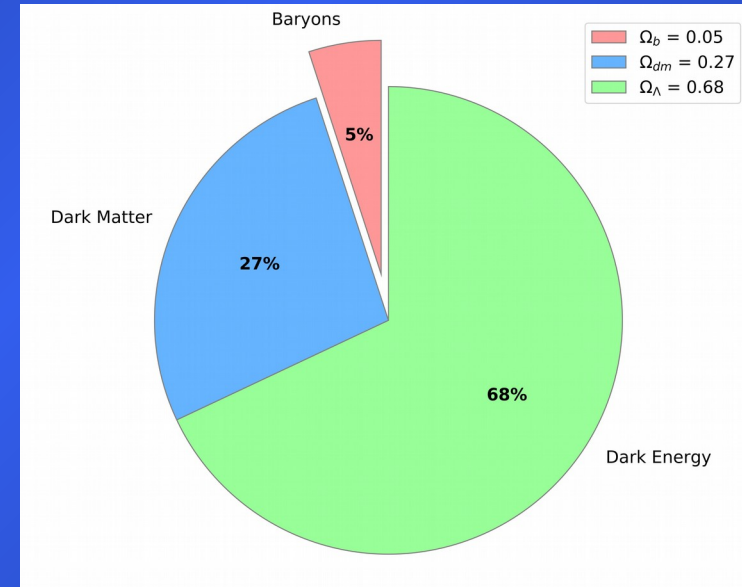
rms of fluctuations  
 $\sim 18 \mu\text{K}$



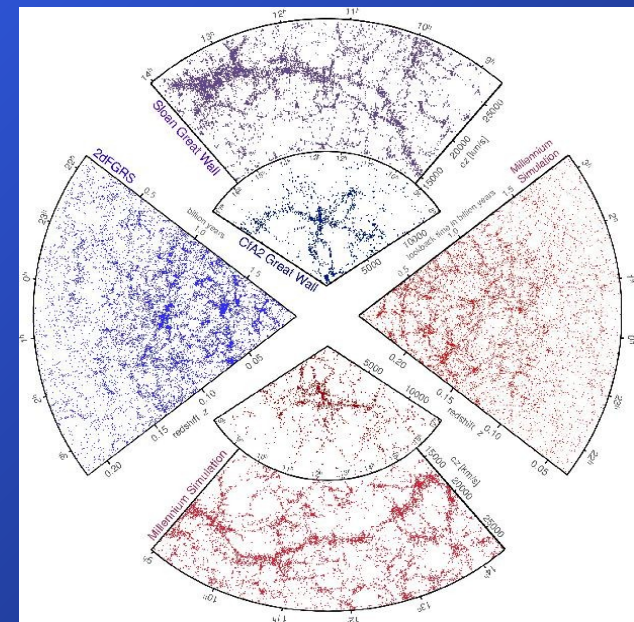
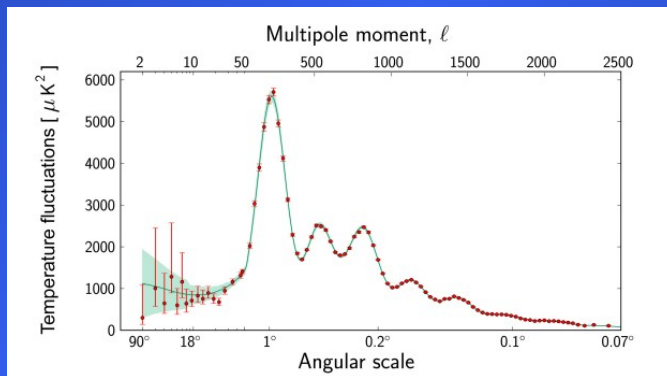
# the cosmological model: $\Lambda$ CDM universe

Described by Einstein's General Relativity with:

- *zero curvature*
- *dominated by dark energy  $\Lambda$  (~68%)*
- *with cold dark matter, CDM (~27%)*
- *A bit of baryons (~5%)*
- *+ fotons, neutrinos...*  
(% in units of the critical density)



Universe with accelerated expansion!





# cosmic tensions

**what is the dark matter?  
What is the dark energy?**

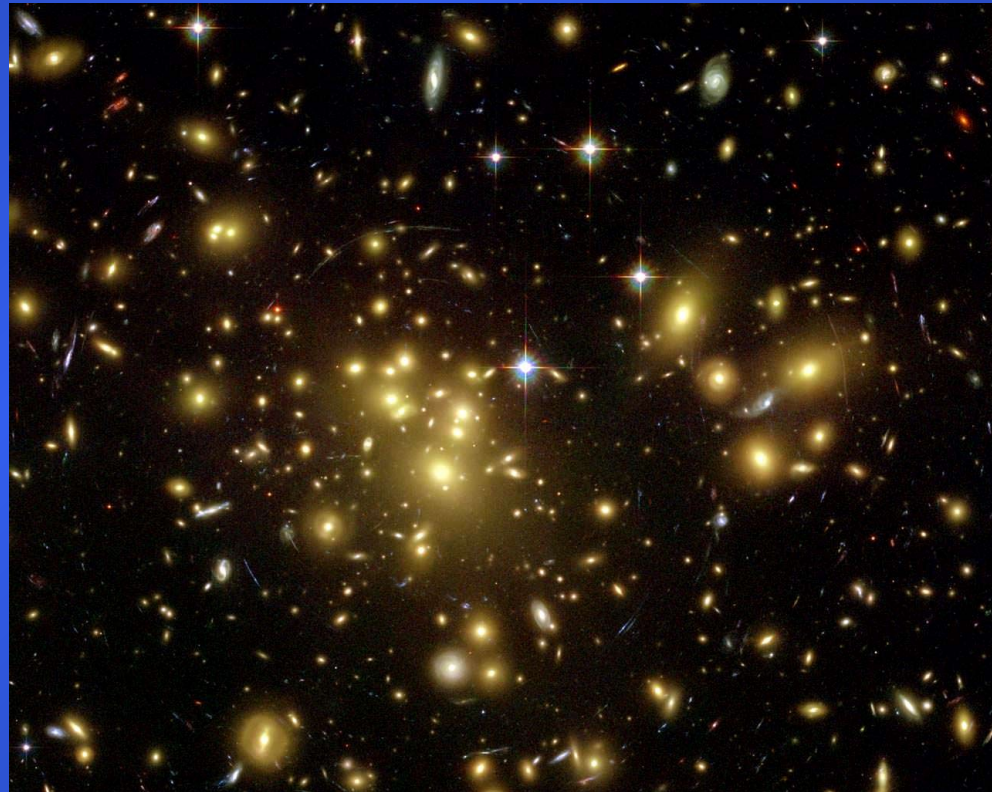
# Dark Matter

Fritz Zwicky (1933)

Virial Theorem:

$$M \sim v^2 R / G$$

*There is much more mass  
in galaxy clusters than we  
can attribute to known  
matter!*

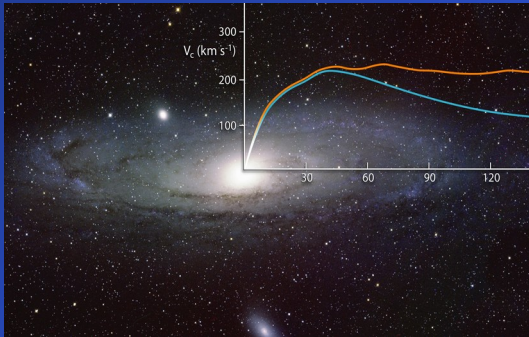




# Dark Matter

Fritz Zwicky (1933)

- rotation curves of spiral galaxies



cold dark matter (CDM):

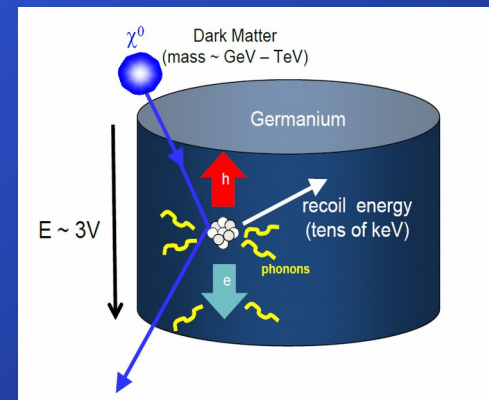
- non relativistic
- interacts gravitationally
- does not interact with light

## Candidates

- ◆ neutralino:  $m \sim 100 \text{ GeV}$
- ◆ axion:  $m \sim 10^{-6} \text{ eV}$
- ◆ ...???

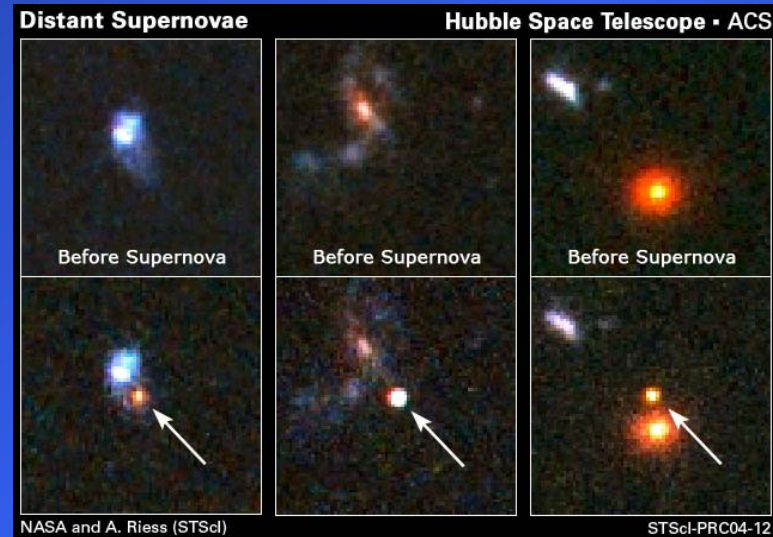
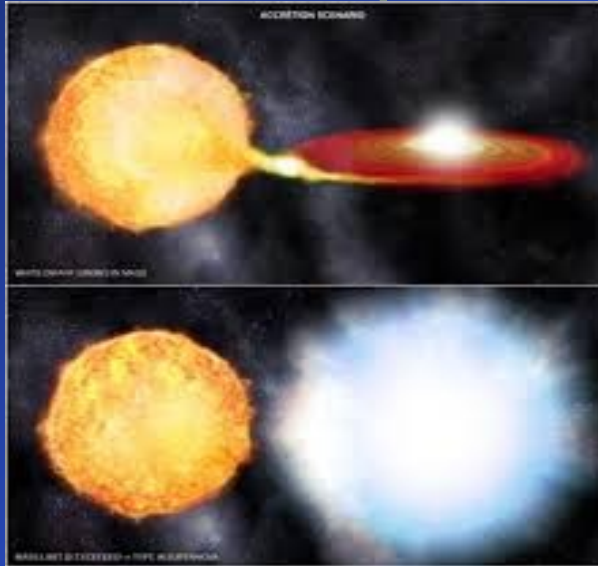
- gravitational lensing

*So far unsuccessful detection attempts!!*



# Dark Energy

## Distances to Supernovae Ia



**The expansion of the universe is accelerating!**

- excellent distance indicators
- luminous
- standard candles

- GR: a “cosmological constant  $\Lambda$ ” or a fluid of negative pressure(!) can produce an accelerated universe

- Weak field limit of GR:

$$F = -GM/r^2 + \Lambda r/3$$

anti-gravity or energy/fluid?



# cosmic tensions...

- The universe is expanding faster than expected!

CMB:  $H_0 = 67.4 \pm 0.5$  km/s/Mpc (Planck 2018)

local universe:  $H_0 = 73.3 \pm 0.9$  km/s/Mpc (Murakami+ 2023  
arXiv:2306.00070)

tension  $> 5.7$  sigmas...

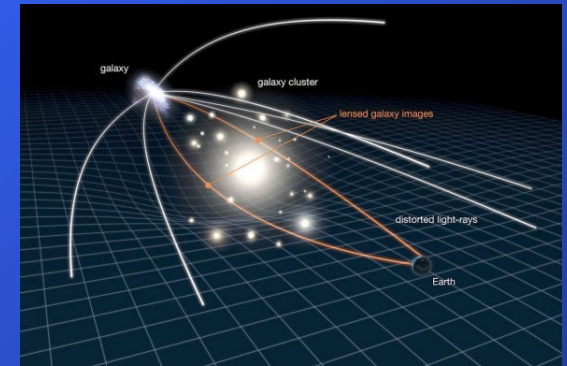
- but... Refsdal supernovae:

$$H_0 = 66.6^{+4.1}_{-3.3} \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$$

Kelly+ (2023)  
arXiv:2305.06367

# Refsdal SN

- The cluster acts as a gravitational lens



- multiple images of a background galaxy



Galaxy cluster MACS J1149.5+2223  
 $z = 0.54$



# Refsdal SN

Lensing galaxy



SN host galaxy

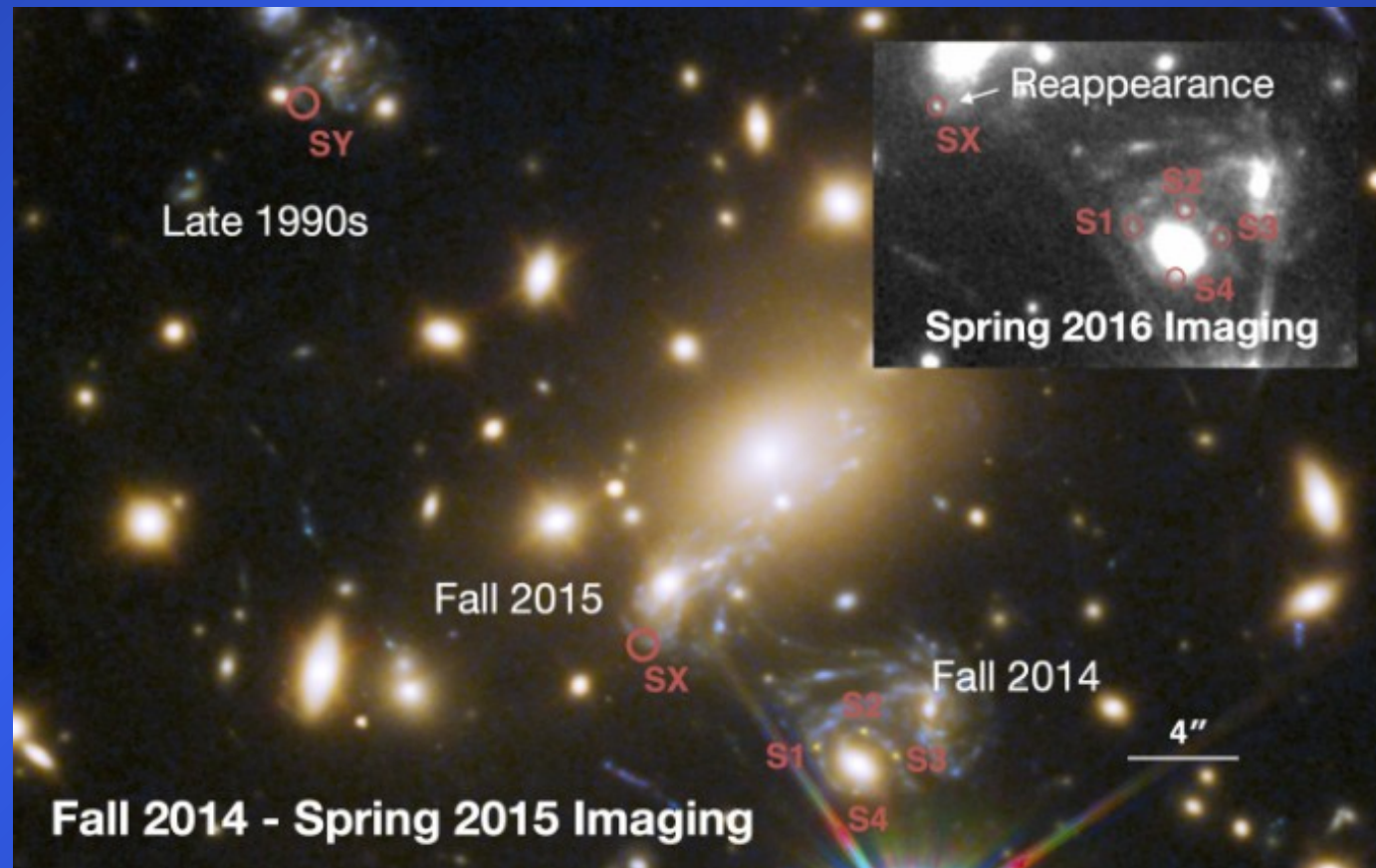


$\text{km s}^{-1} \text{Mpc}^{-1}$ , where Mpc is the megaparsec. Using the two models most consistent with the observations, we find  $H_0 = 66.6^{+4.1}_{-3.3} \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{Mpc}^{-1}$ . Models that assign dark-matter halos to individual galaxies and the overall cluster best reproduce the observations.

Kelly+ (2023)



Einstein cross

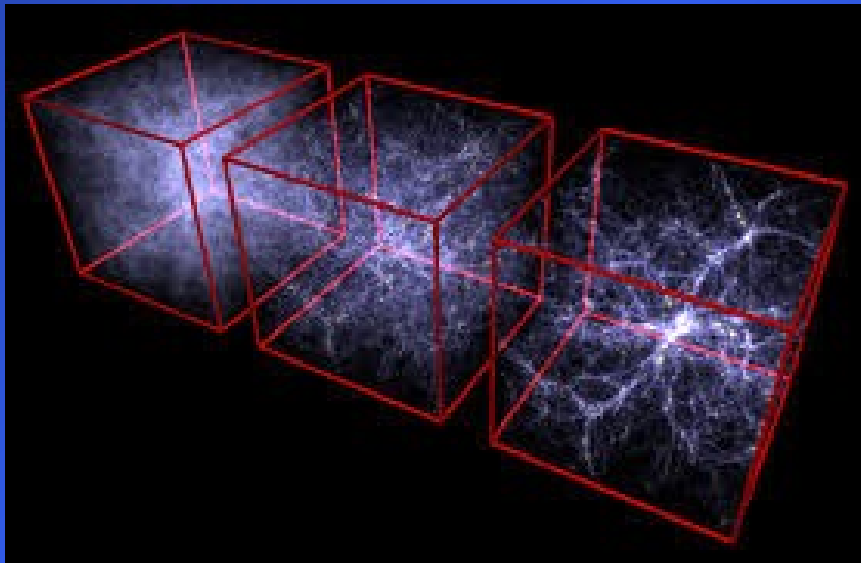


# a big question: how galaxies form and evolve?

- We can observe galaxies in the past, at high redshifts
- problem: observational bias

the dominant populations vary with the redshift and it is not clear how galaxies at different redshifts are related

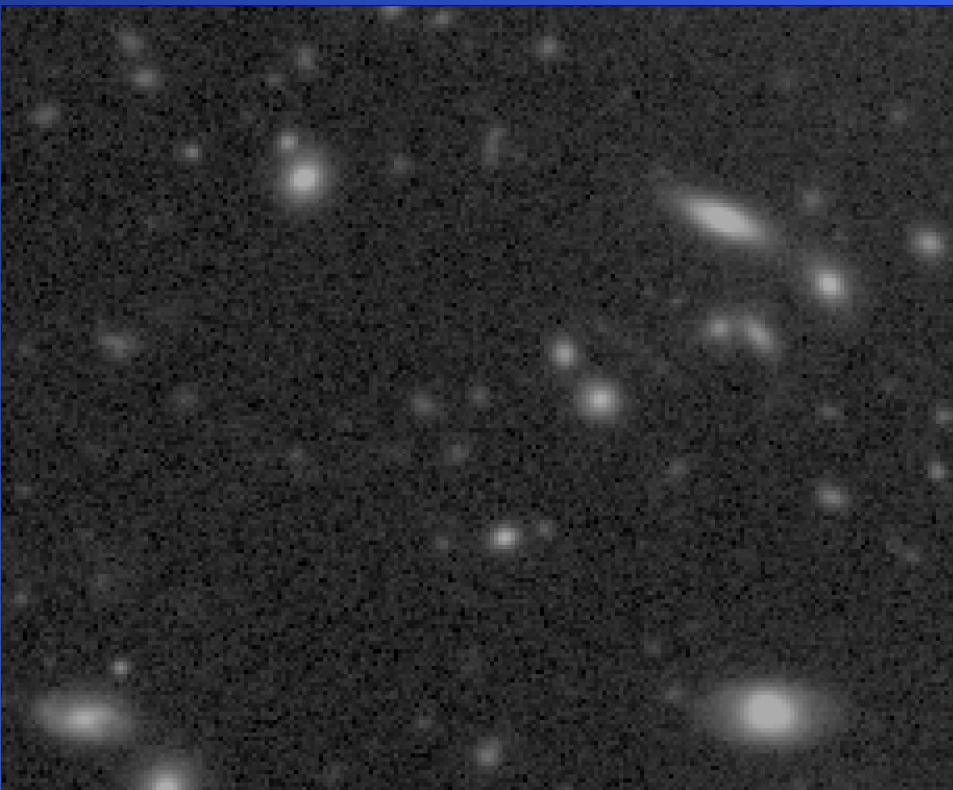
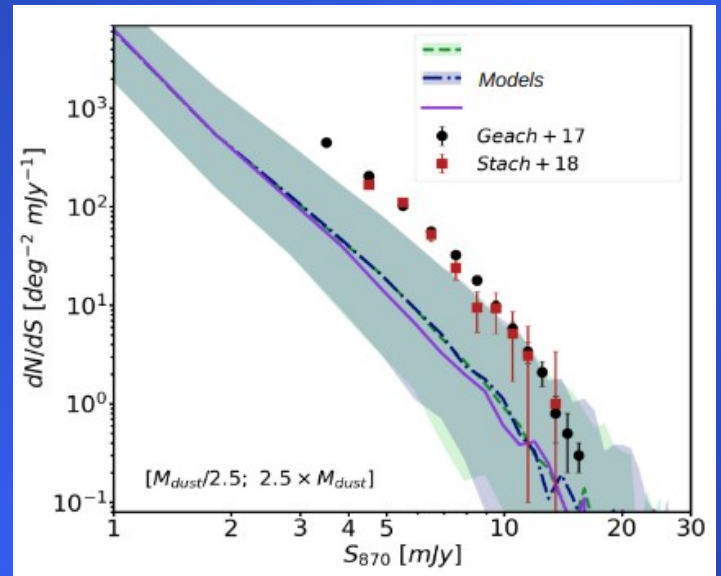
*we need models to unveil how a given population has evolved*





# cosmic tensions

galaxies shrouded in dust



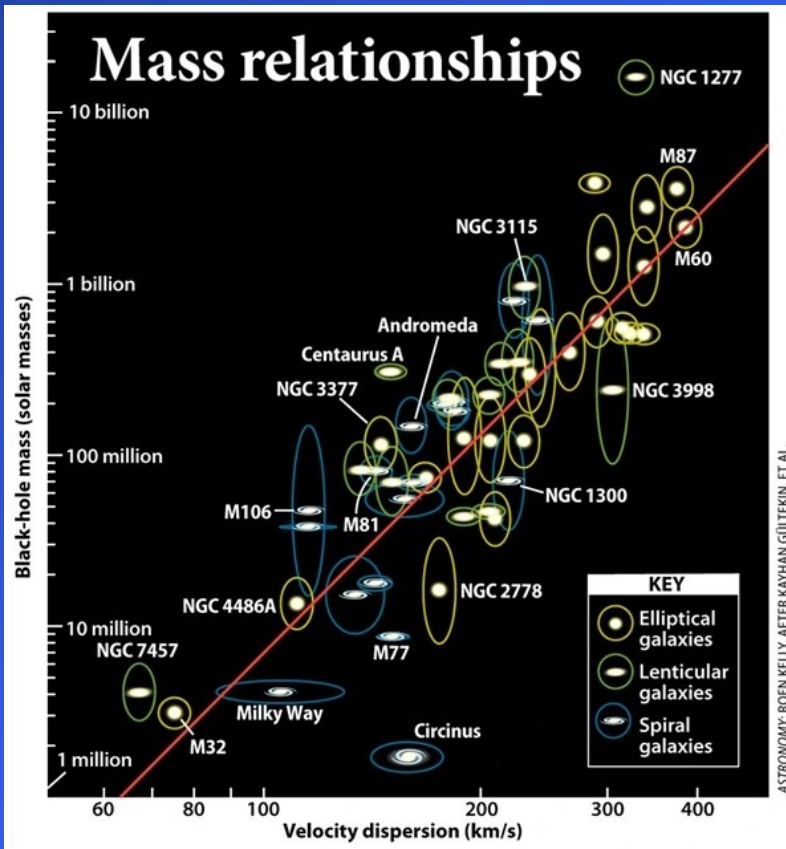
optical



medium IR

# cosmic tensions

- how do supermassive black holes form and evolve?
- collapse of a star cluster? Collapse of a gas cloud?
- how do they co-evolve with galaxies?



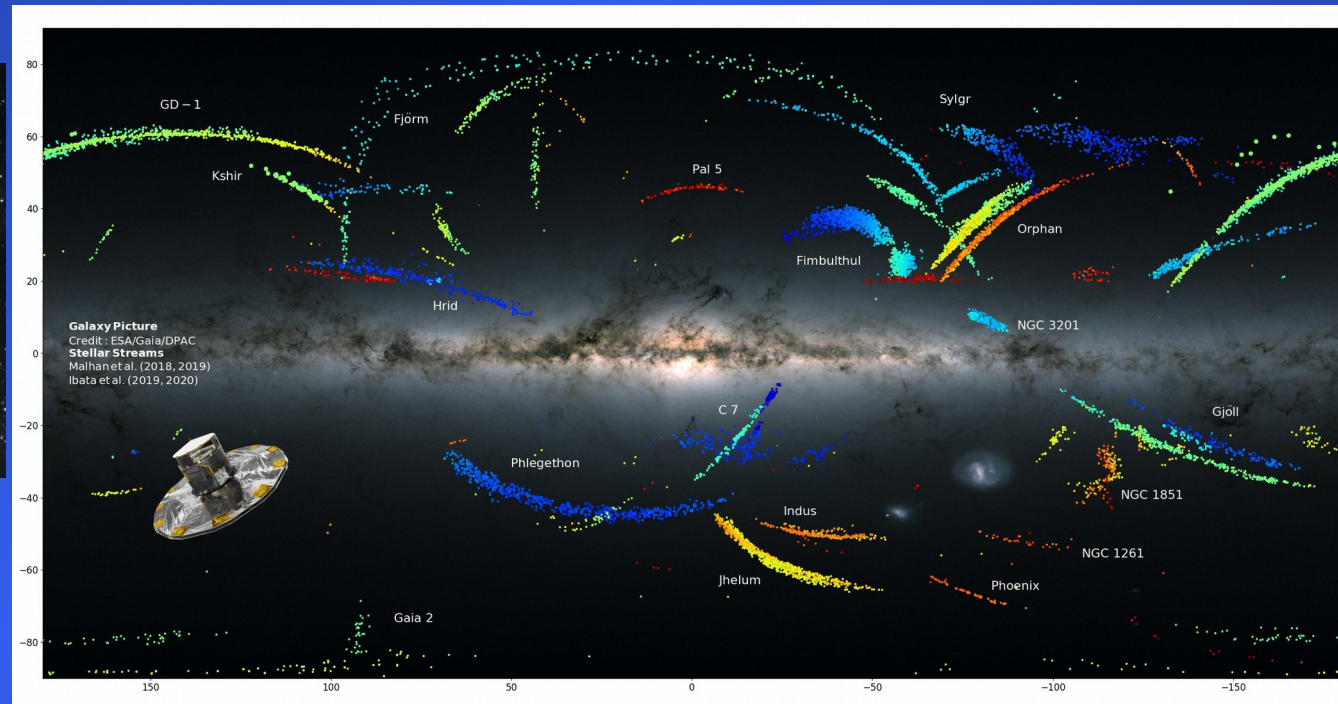
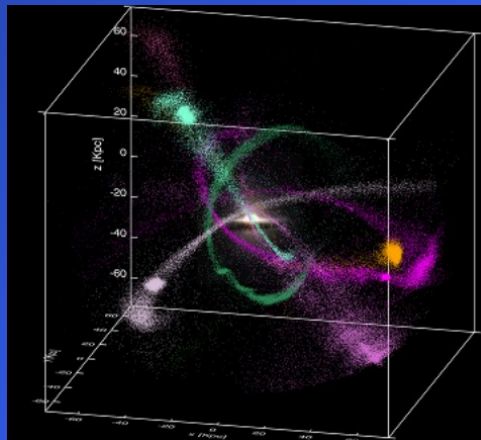
Cen A in X-rays



# a big question: how did the Milk Way form?

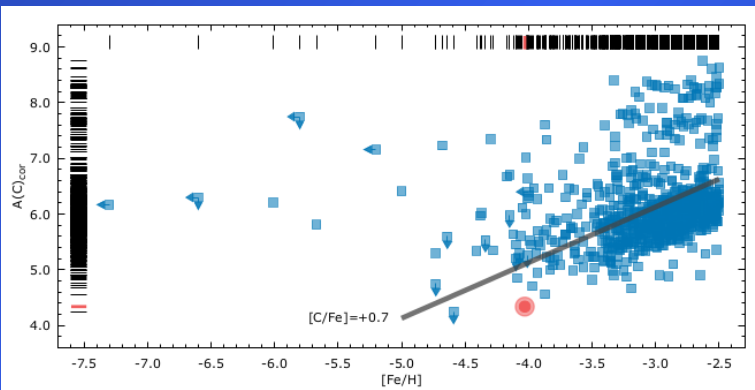
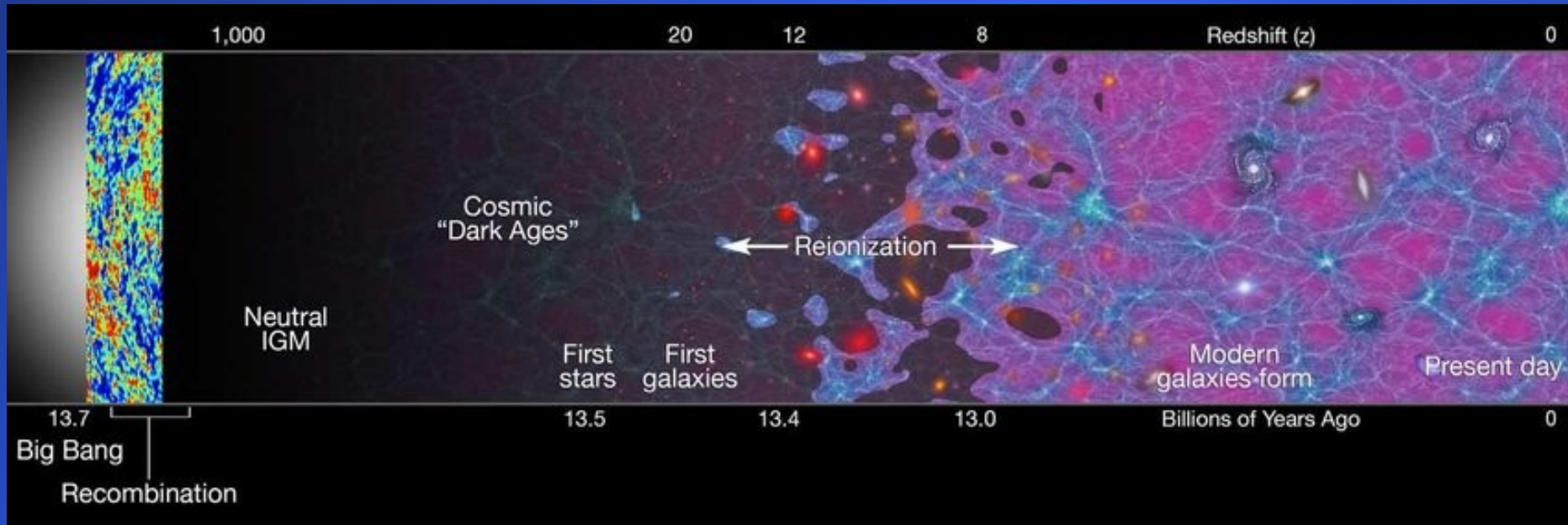
## galactic archeology

- *galaxy streams*



# galactic archeology: how did the Milk Way form?

- *where are the first stars?*



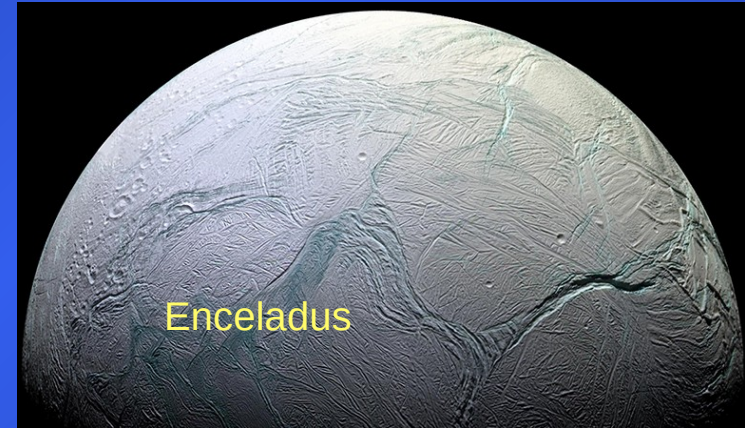
**SPLUS J210428.01-004934.2: An Ultra Metal-Poor Star Identified from Narrowband Photometry\***

VINICIUS M. PLACCO <sup>1</sup>, IAN U. ROEDERER <sup>2,3</sup>, YOUNG SUN LEE,<sup>4</sup> FELIPE ALMEIDA-FERNANDES,<sup>5</sup>  
FÁBIO R. HERPICH <sup>5</sup>, HÉLIO D. PEROTTONI <sup>5</sup>, WILLIAM SCHOENELL <sup>6</sup>, TIAGO RIBEIRO,<sup>7</sup> AND ANTONIO KANAAN<sup>8</sup>

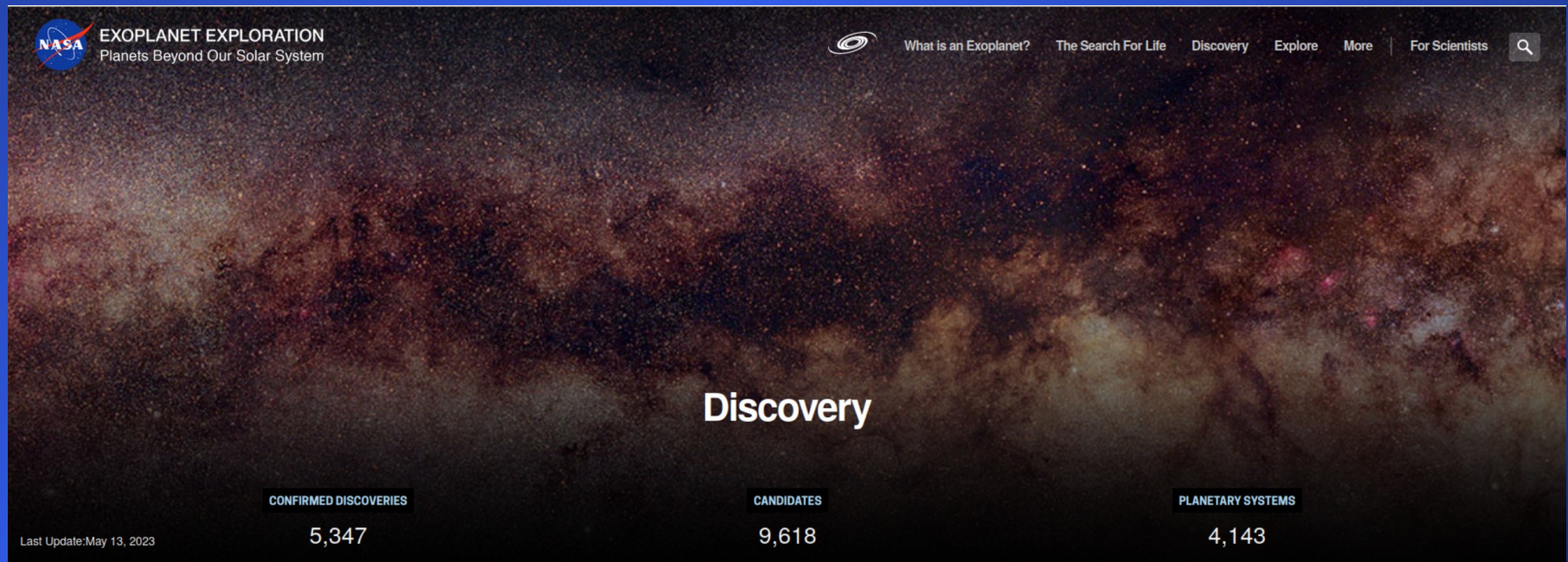


# a very big question: is there life outside the Earth?

- oceans in some moons in the Solar system



- thousands of known exoplanets



# is there life outside the Earth?

## EXOPLANET POPULATIONS

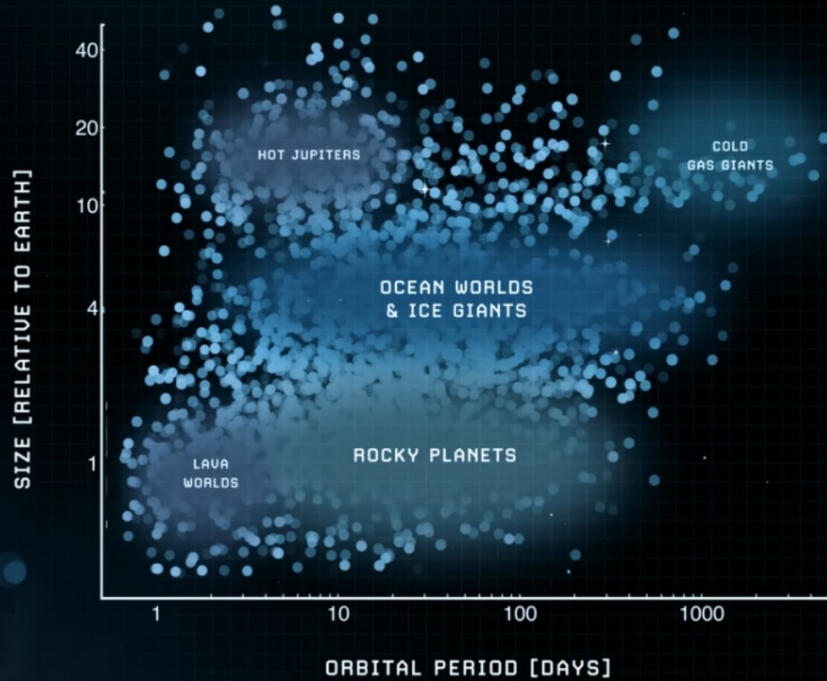
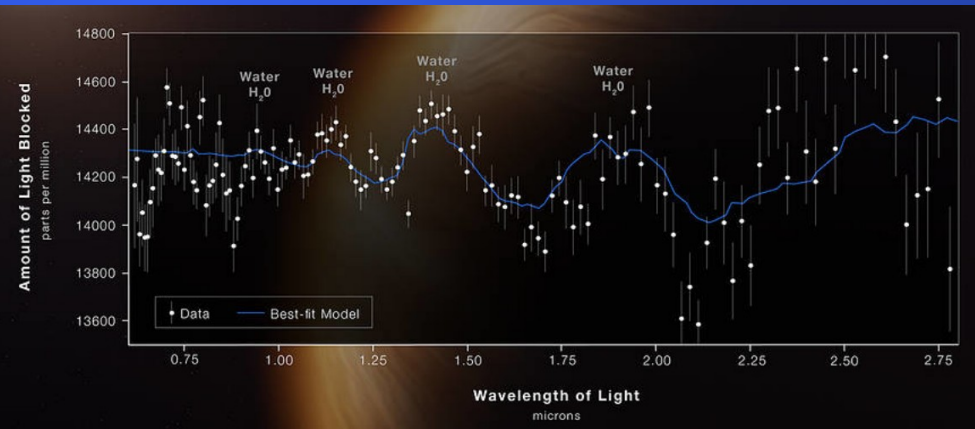


IMAGE CREDIT: NASA/AMES RESEARCH CENTER/NATALIE BATALHA/WENDY STENZEL

## James Webb water in WASP 96b

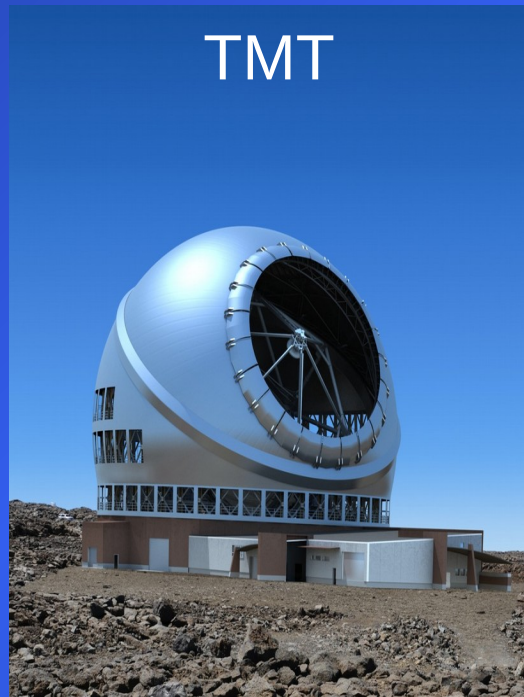


**challenge: find biomarkers in the atmosphere of exoplanets**

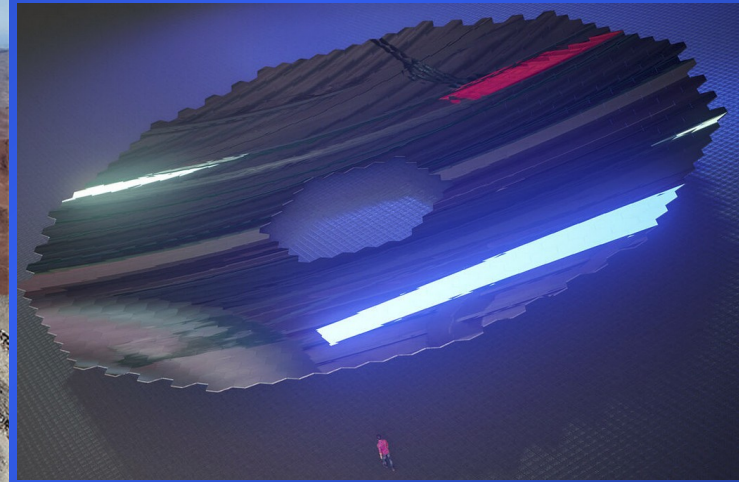
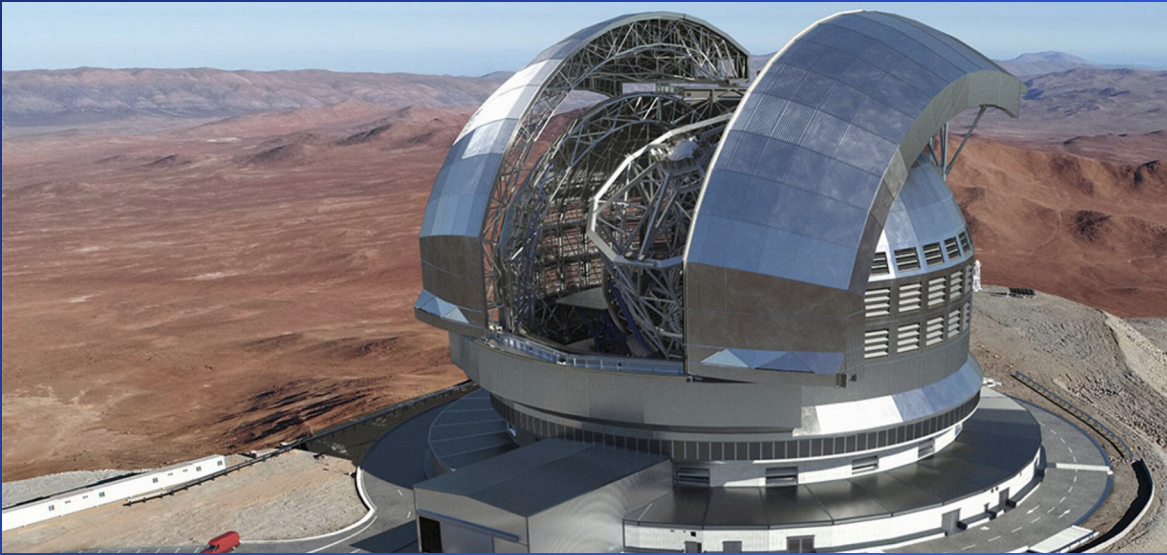
**water, O<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>3</sub>, methane, complex organic molecules**



# The new generation megatelescopes



# E-ELT: ESO EXTREMELY LARGE TELESCOPE



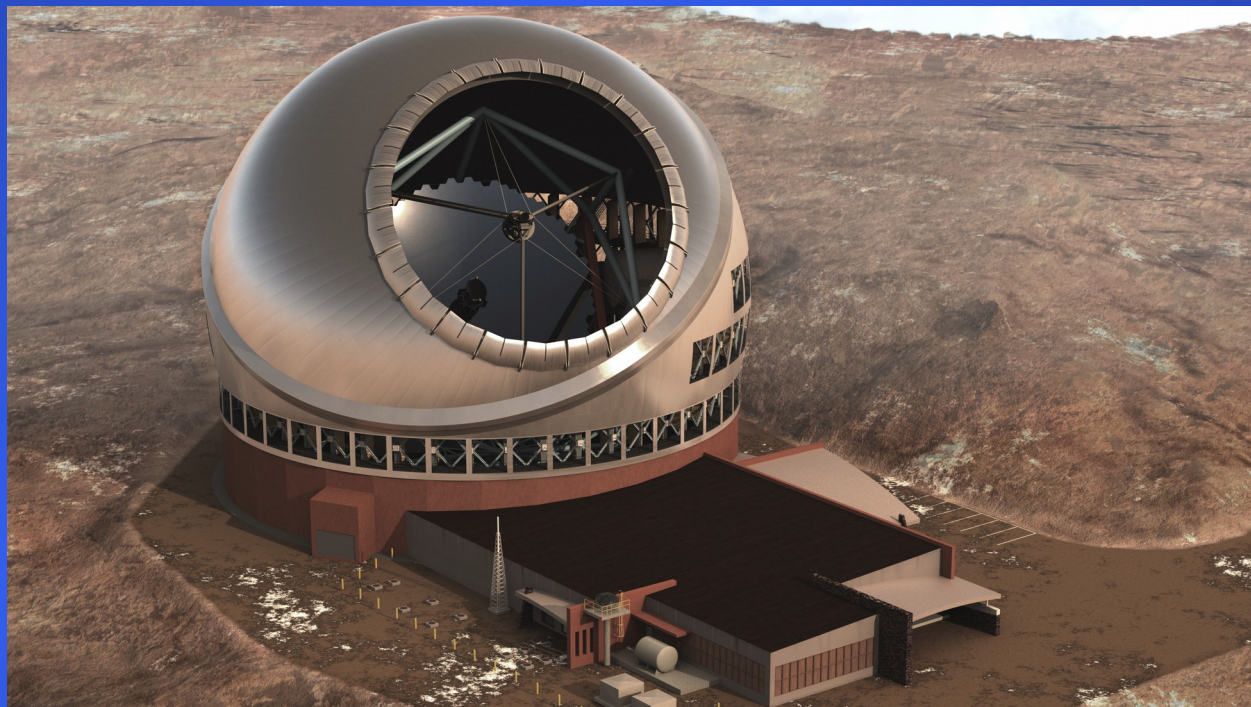
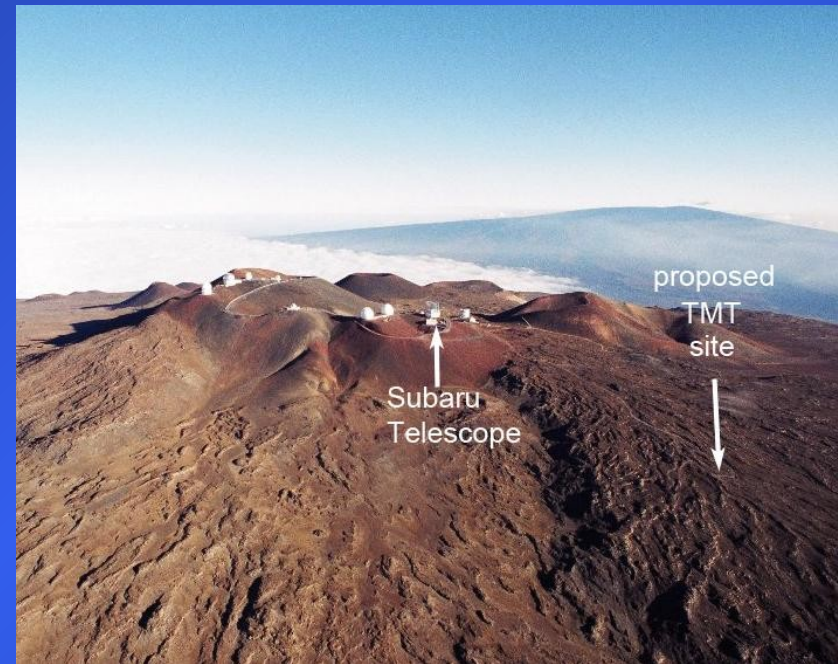
- @Cerro Amazonas (Chile)
- diameter of primary mirror: 39.3 m
- mosaic of 798 hexagonal segments of 1.4 m diameter, positioned with a precision of tens of nanometers
- FOV 10 arcmin





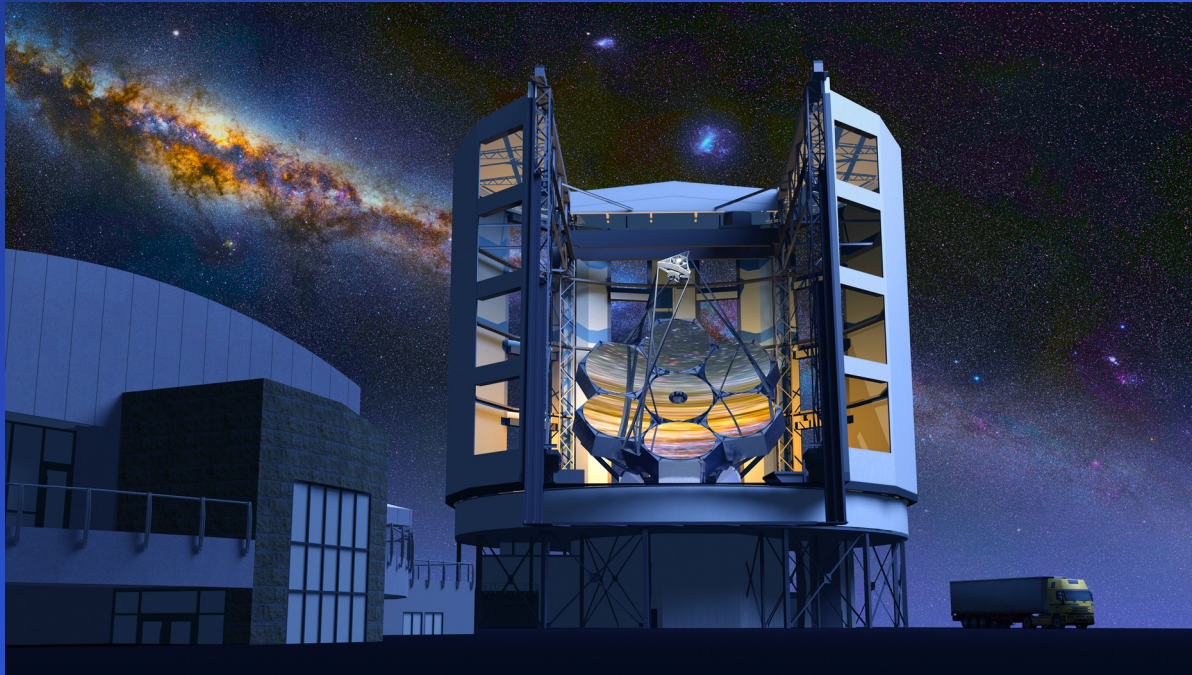
# Thirty Meter Telescope

- site: Mauna Kea???
- primary mirror: 30m  
492 segments of 1.4m each
- FOV: 15 arcmin





# GMT – Giant Magellan Telescope

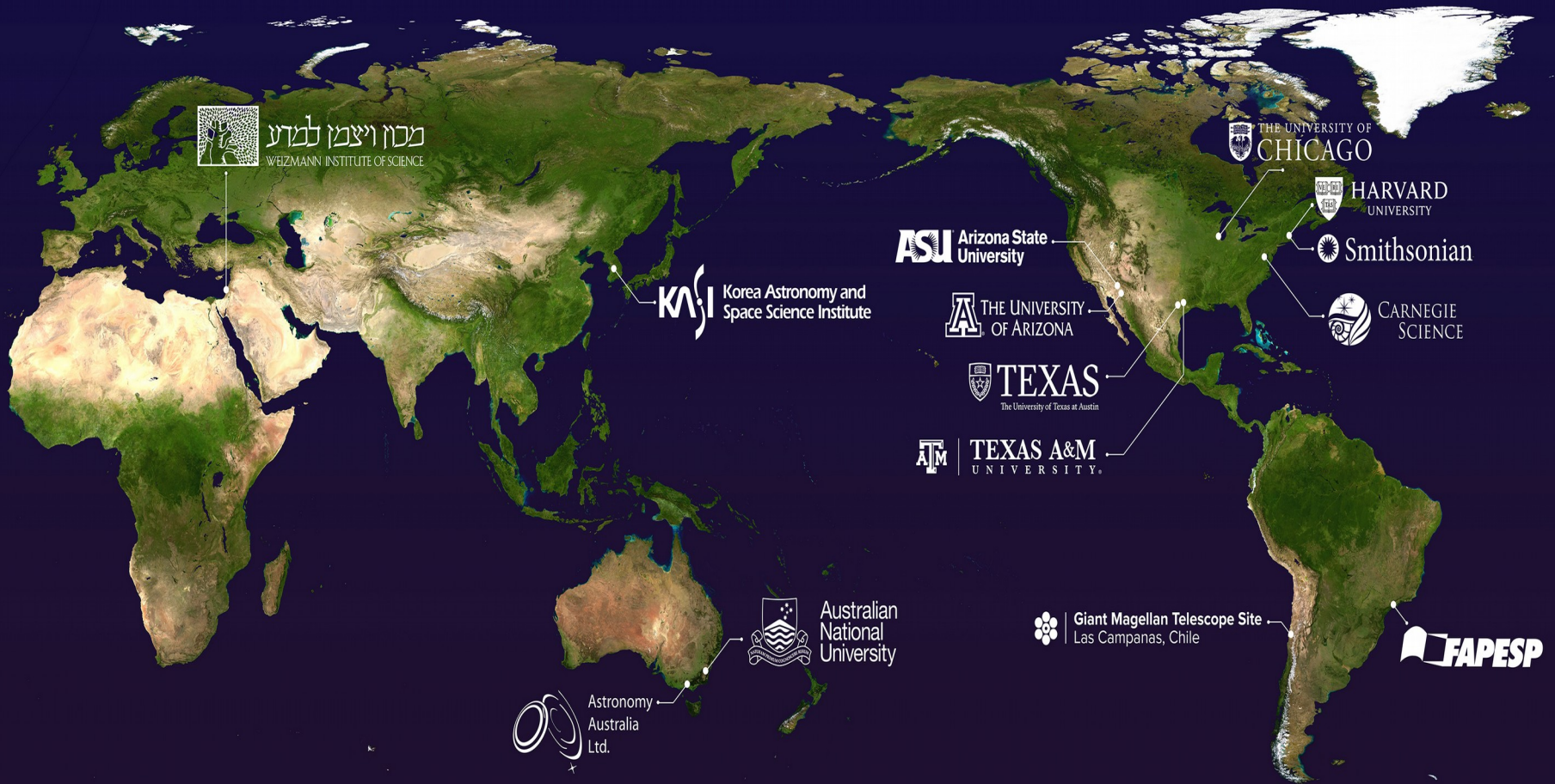


- 7 8.4m primary mirrors, equivalent to ~24.5 m diameter
  - FOV: 20 arcmin
- first light ~2030





# FAPESP is a GMT Founder



13 international research institutions and universities. GMT Corp (formed 2006)



# Main design features

- Gregorian focus (concave M2)
- FOV: ~20 minutos
- Segmented in 1:1 mirror pairs
  - M1: 7x 8.4m segments
  - M2: 7x 1.1m segments
- Adaptive secondary mirrors

***10x the area and 4x the JWST resolution***





# secondary mirrors

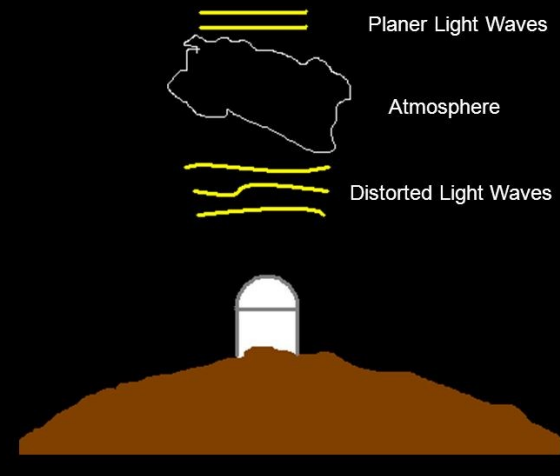
## 7 x 1.1m



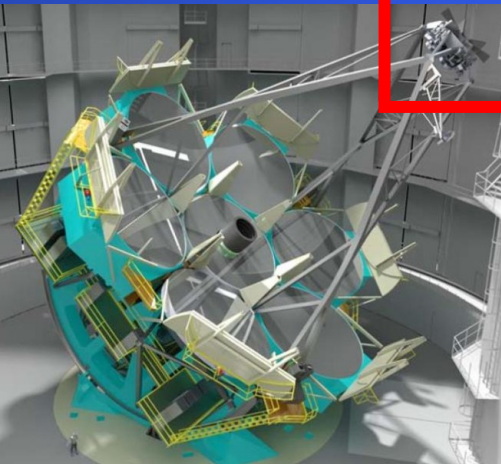
the 7 secondary mirrors are *adaptive*

- atmospheric turbulence distorts images
- adaptive optics aim to dynamically correct them by *deforming* the mirrors

### Atmospheric Distortion



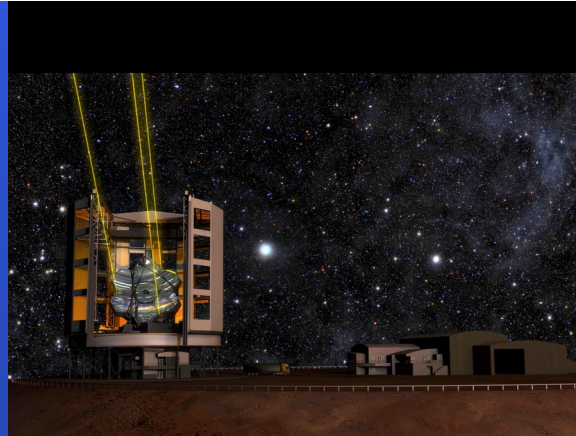
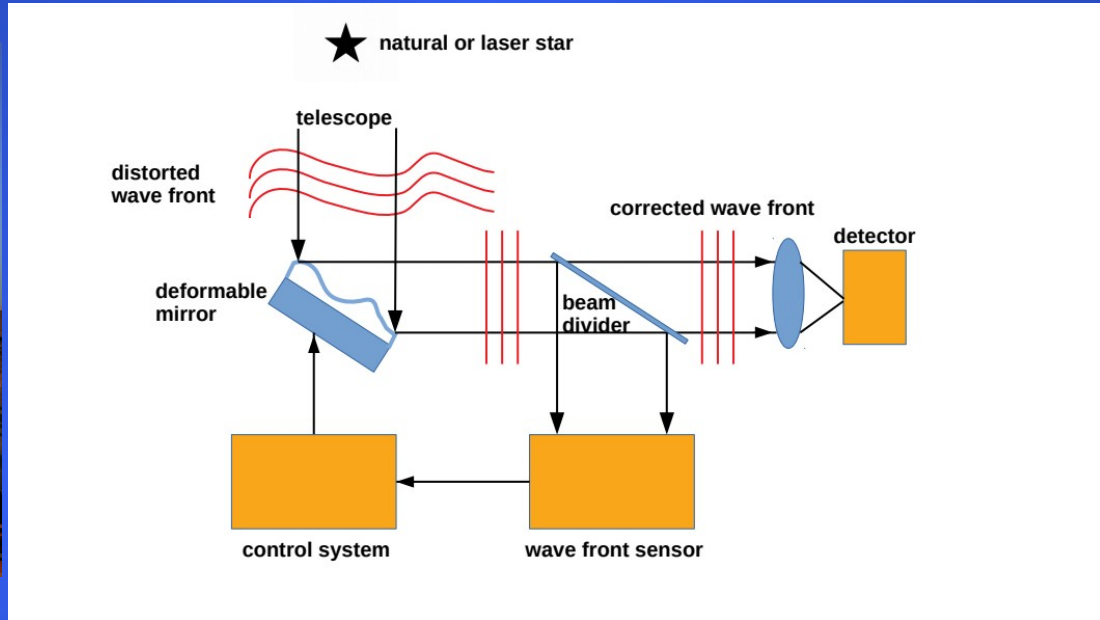
- more than **7000** independent actuators, acting at a rate more than **1000** times per second



# SAMplus: upgrade of the adaptive system of SOAR telescope (4m)

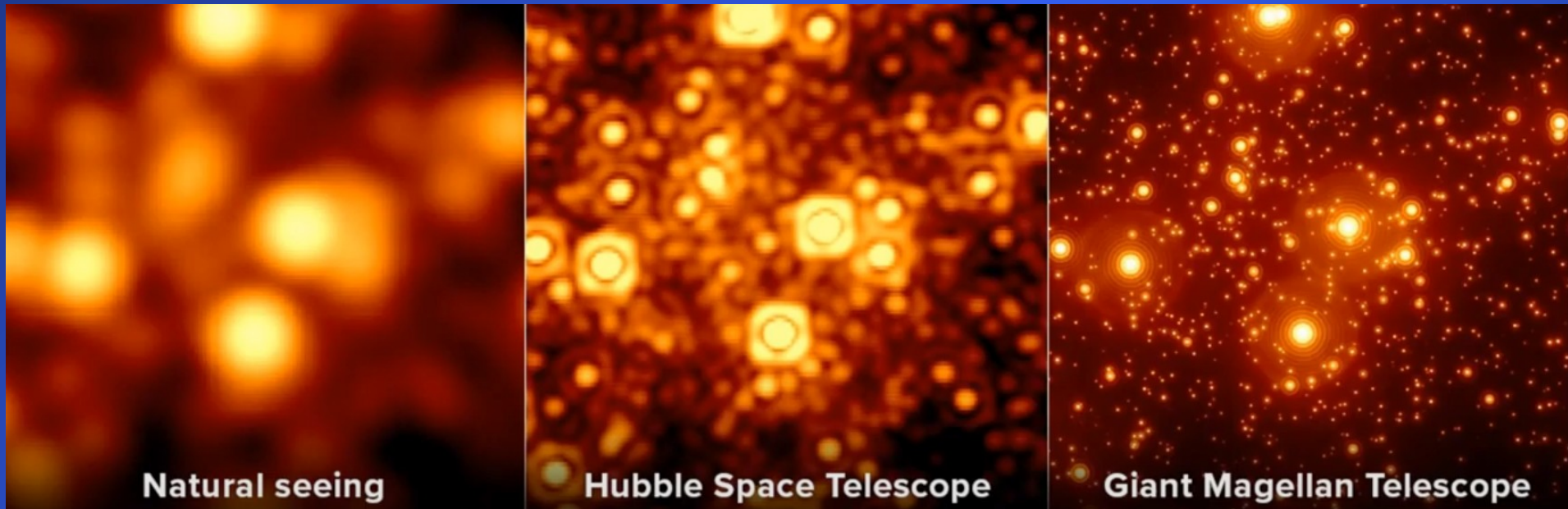


Cerro Pachon





# adaptive optics

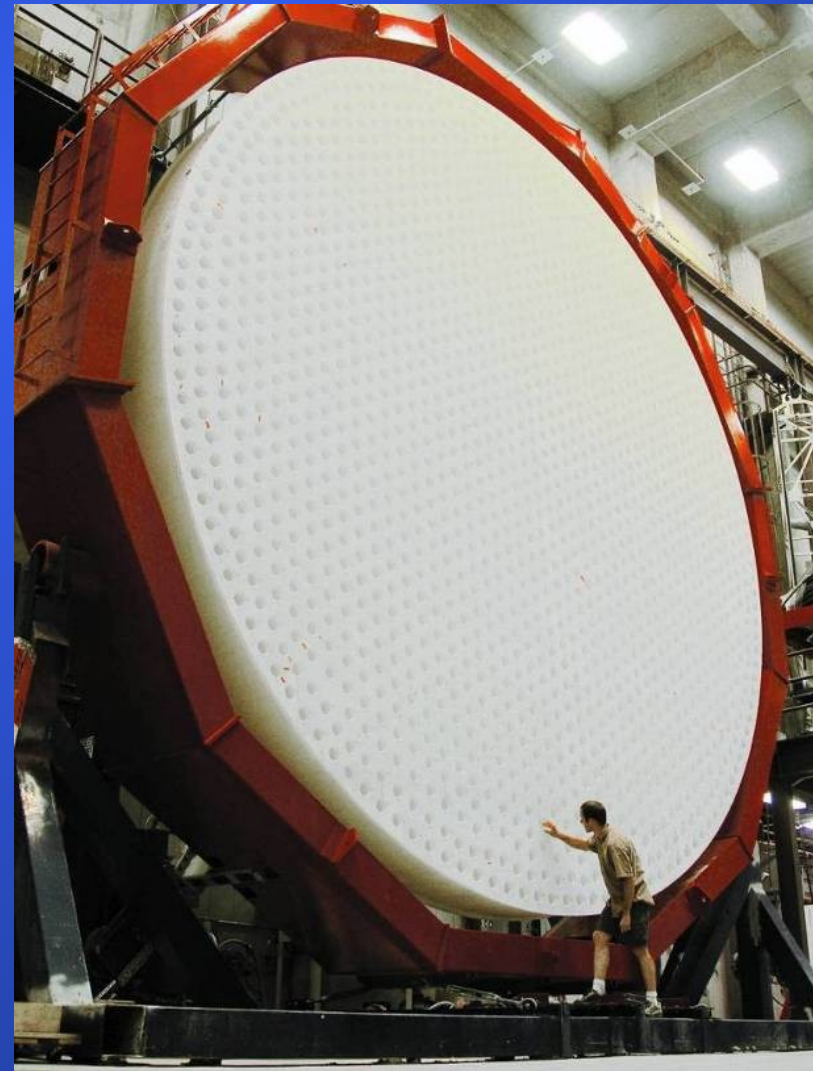


seeing: a measure of the width of point sources

# GMT: 7 primary mirrors of 8.4m

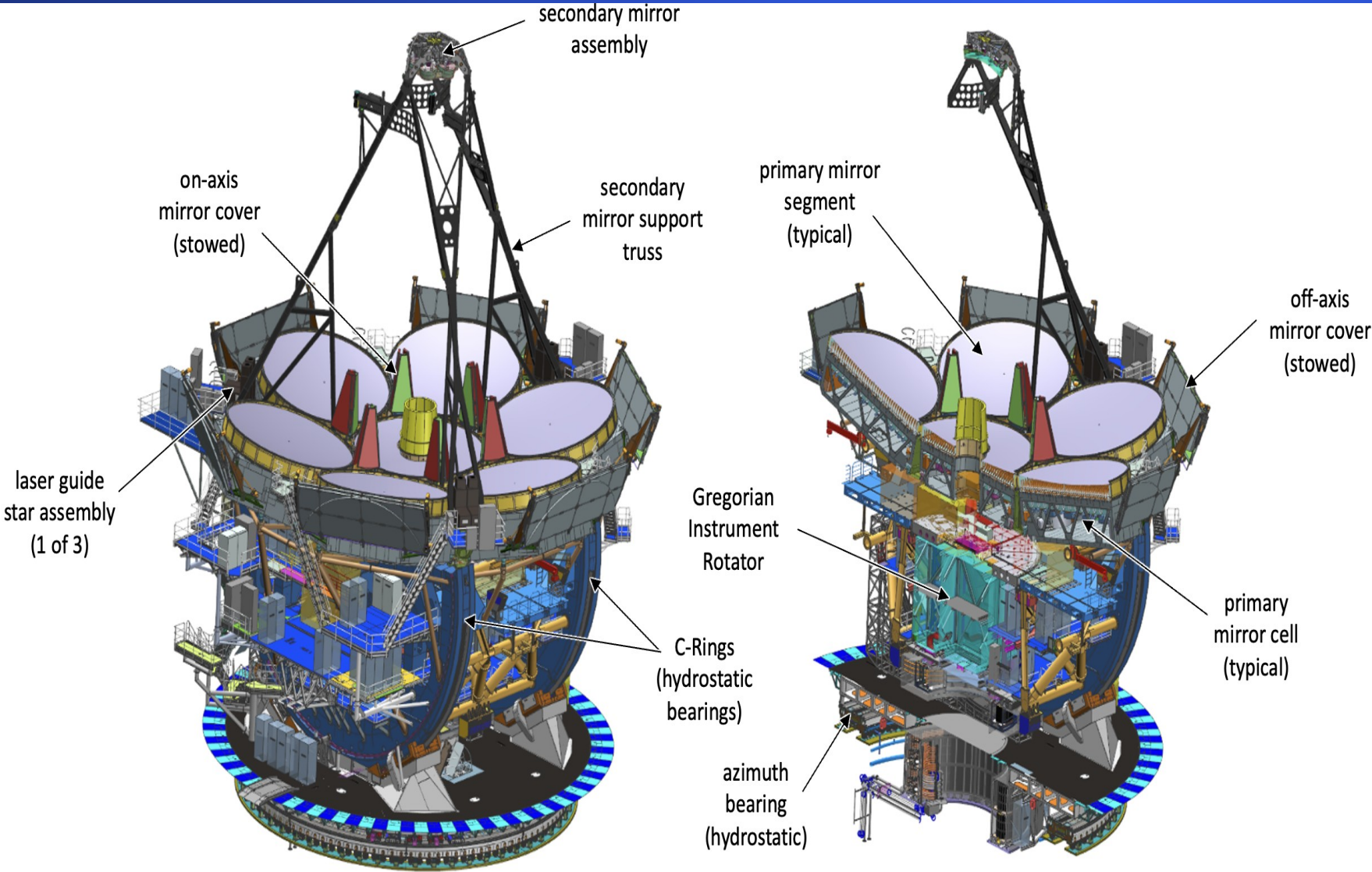
Each mirror takes ~3.5 yrs to be fabricated

2 ready, 1 in tests, 3 in processing, 2 to start





# structure



notice that Chile is a very active geological region!

# G-CLEF

## Optical Echelle spectrograph

$\lambda = 0.35\text{-}0.95\mu\text{m}$  blue and red arms

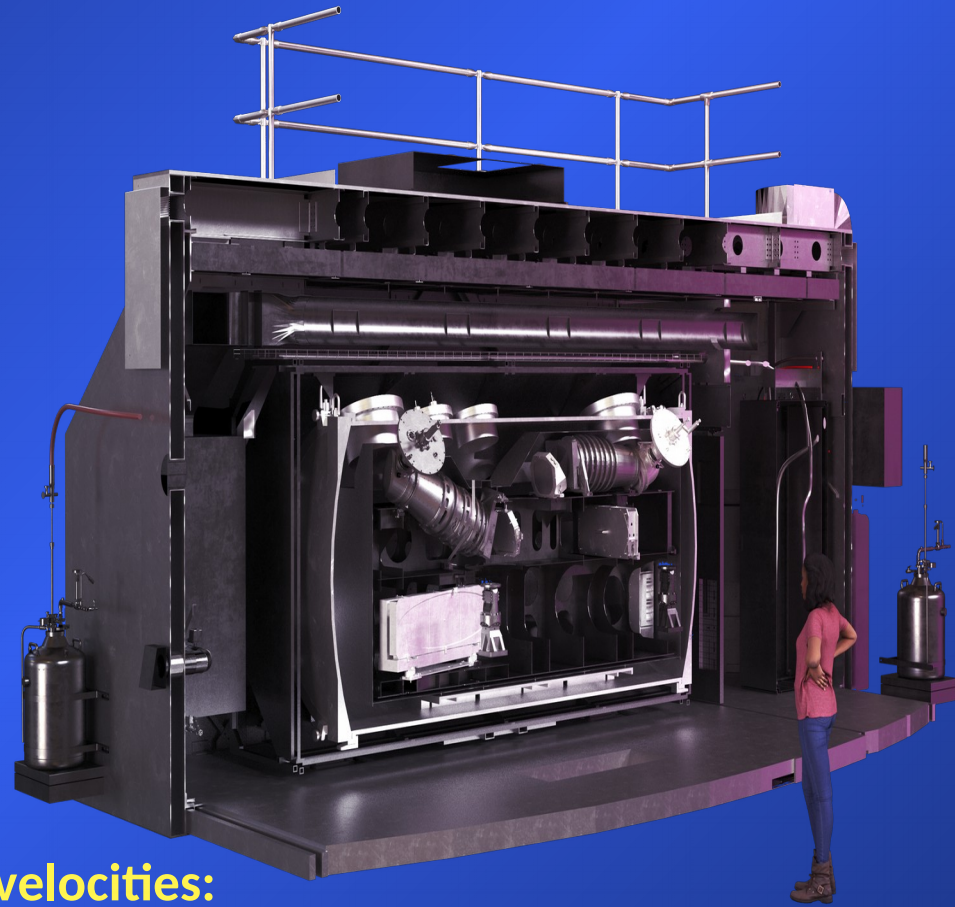
$R = 20,000\text{-}150,000$

FOV~1.5' for 1-7 objects

Performance in measurements of radial velocities:

< 50 cm/s per exposition

< 10 cm/s combined!



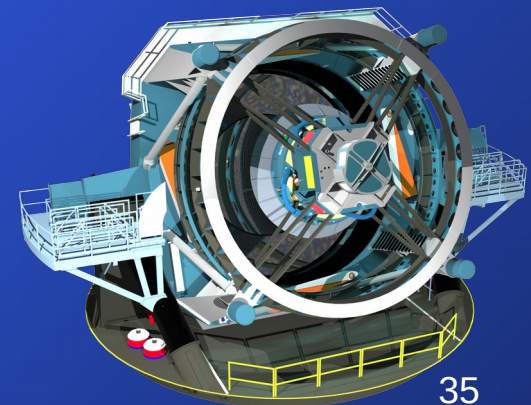


# Legacy Survey of Space and Time -LSST Vera C. Rubin Observatory

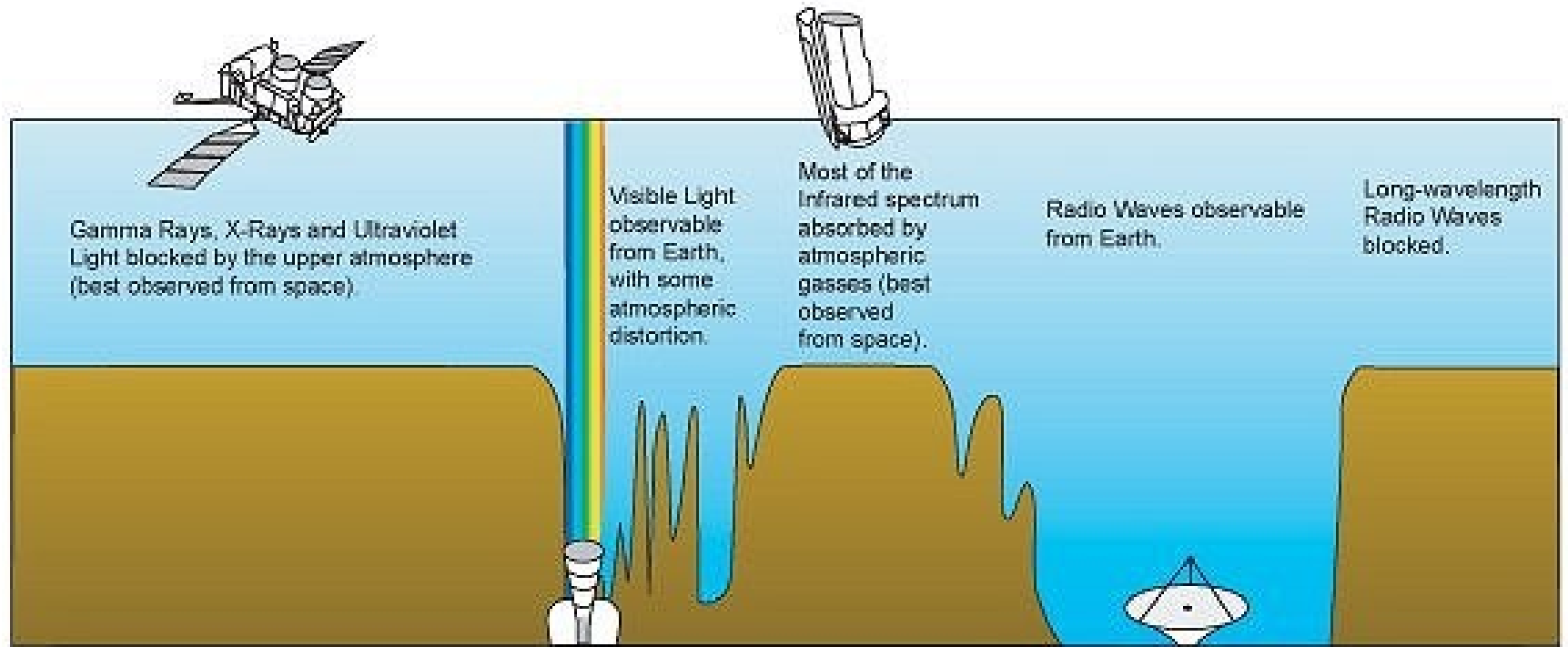
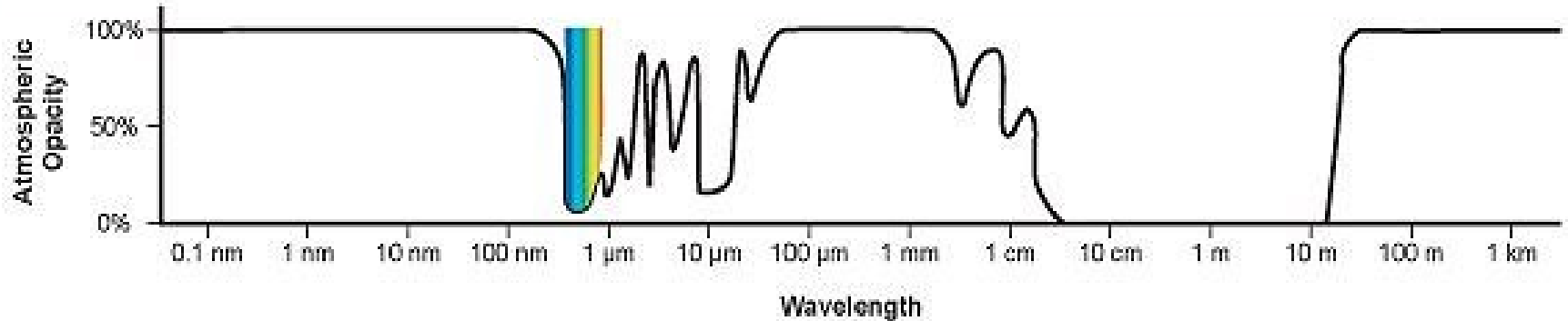
- ~20 terabytes of data per night
- each area of the visible night sky will be observed every few days and will be imaged 1000 times during
- the initial 10-year survey → deep images!
- film of the night sky → the variable universe!
- ~20 terabytes of data per night → data tsunami



*enormous opportunities for development and application of data science/AI tools*

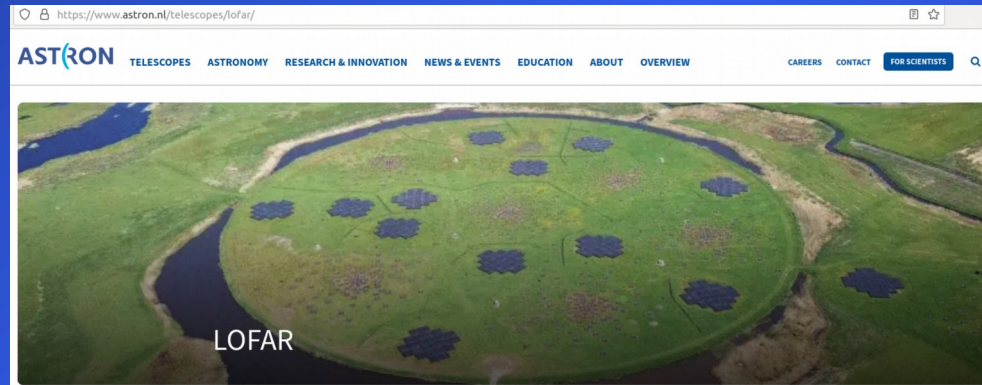
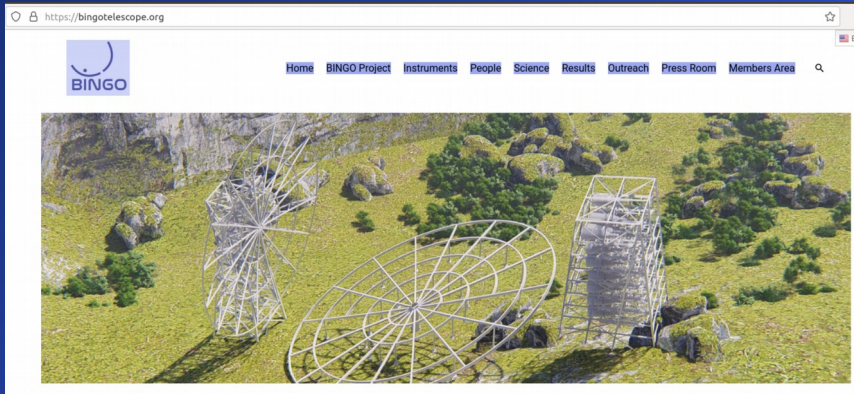


# but Astronomy goes beyond optical wavelengths!



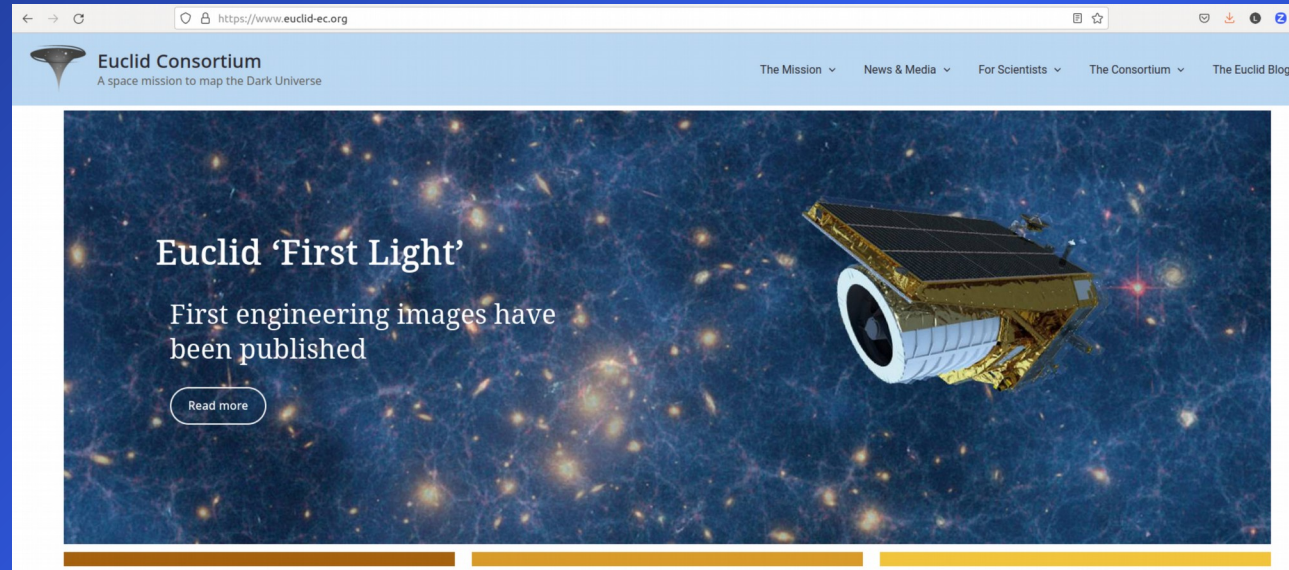


# Keep alert! Talks/labs on radio astronomy & space science



Artist's impression of the 5km diameter central core of Square Kilometre Array (SKA) antennas.

# Keep alert! Talks/labs on radio astronomy & space science

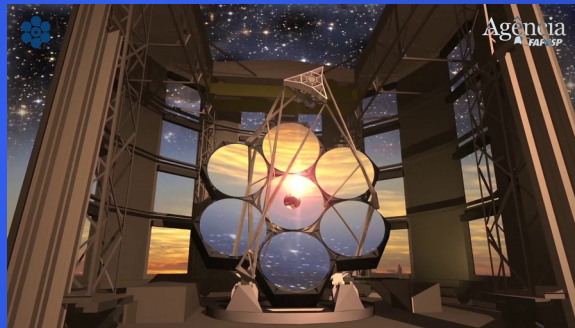


eXTP enhanced X-ray Timing and Polarimetry mission  
[http://english.ihep.cas.cn/nw/han/y18/201807/t20180704\\_298169.html](http://english.ihep.cas.cn/nw/han/y18/201807/t20180704_298169.html)



# summary

- Astronomy has many deep questions
- Astronomy makes use of cutting-edge technologies
- The data space of astronomical data is huge!  
enormous opportunities for data science



to know more:

GMT – Giant Magellan Telescope

<https://giantmagellan.org/>

<https://www.gmt.iag.usp.br/index.php/>

[https://youtu.be/l8Opckzn\\_aY](https://youtu.be/l8Opckzn_aY)

<https://noirlab.edu/public/products/books/books002/>

