



Dark Cosmology: Searching for Dark Matter in the Dark Ages using the Global 21-cm Spectrum

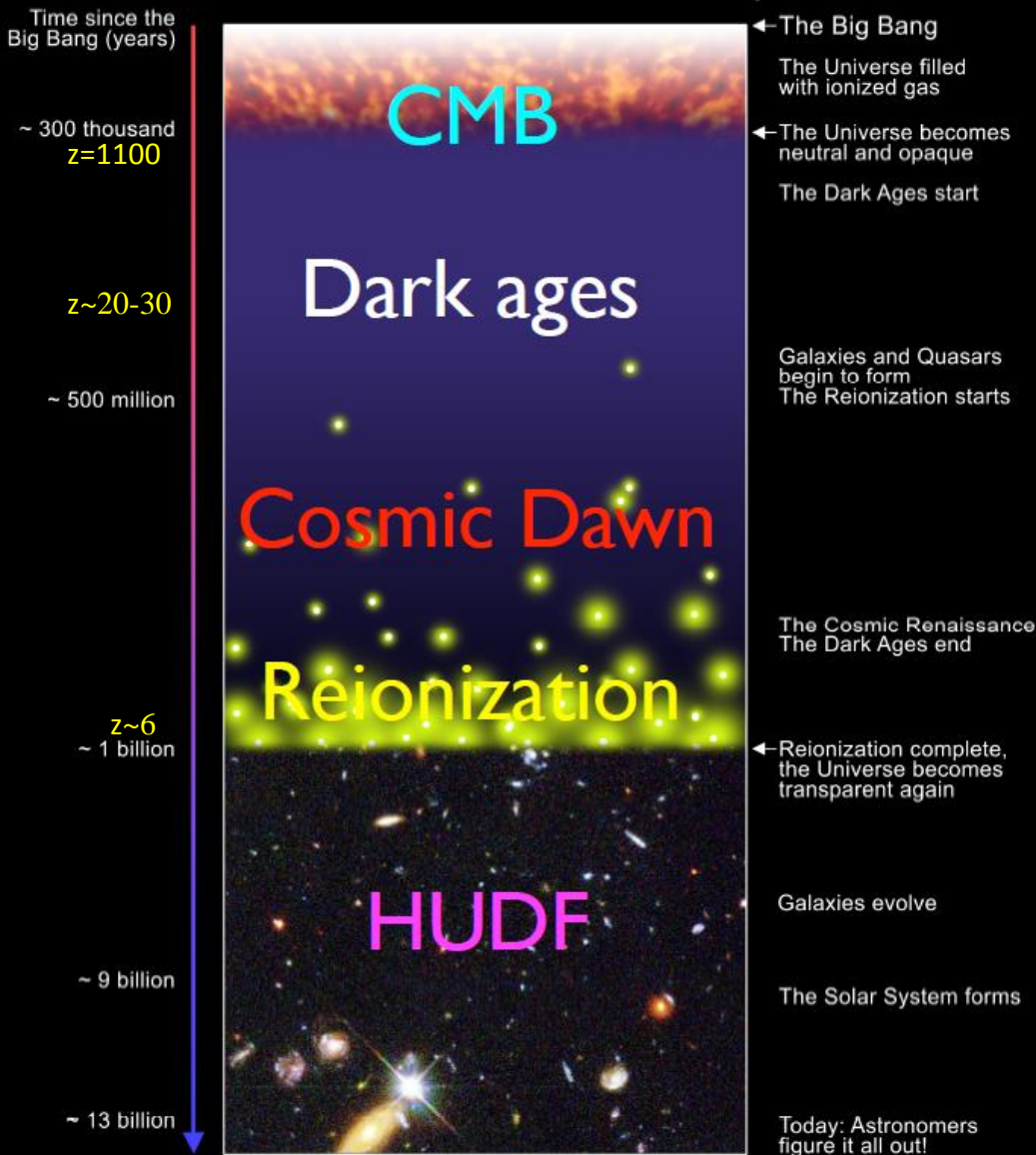
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Jordan Mirocha³

¹University of Colorado Boulder, ²NASA ARC, ⁴UCLA



The First Half-Billion Years

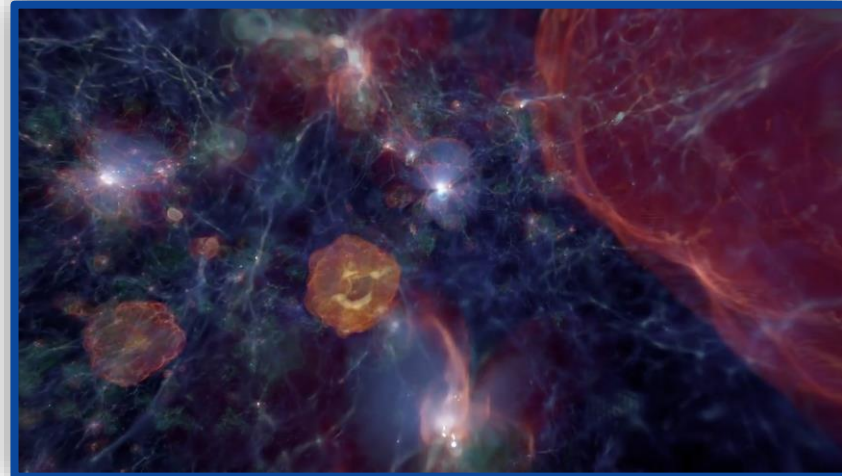
A Schematic Outline of the Cosmic History



S.G. Djorgovski et al. & Digital Media Center, Caltech

The First Stars

M. Norman, B. O'Shea et al.



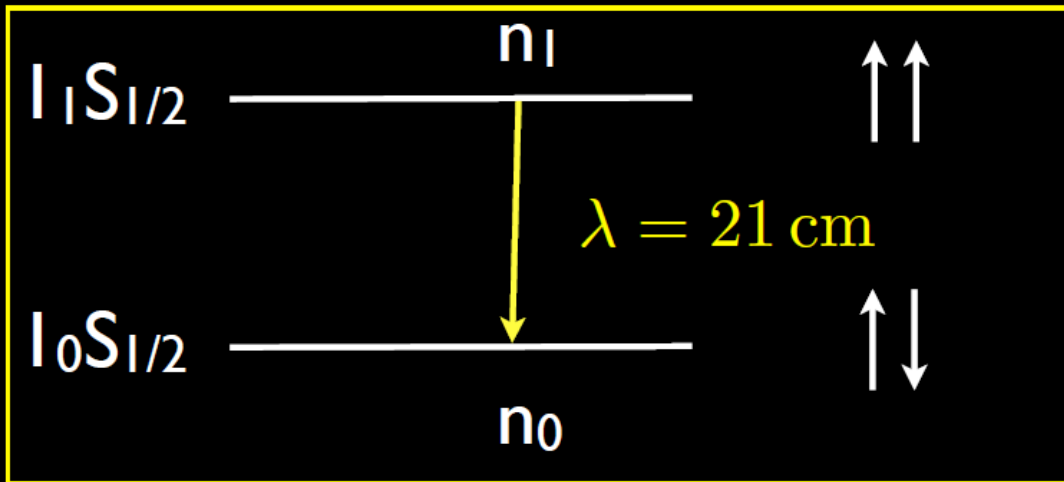
Science Questions

- When did the First Stars ignite and what were their characteristics?
- When did the first Black Holes begin accreting and what were their characteristics?
- What was the Reionization history of the early Universe?
- Is there any evidence for exotic physics, e.g. Dark Matter in the Dark Ages?

The 21-cm Hyperfine Line of Neutral Hydrogen

$$\nu_{21cm} = 1,420,405,751.768 \pm 0.001 \text{ Hz}$$

Hyperfine transition of neutral hydrogen



Spin temperature describes relative occupation of levels

$$n_1/n_0 = 3 \exp(-h\nu_{21cm}/kT_s)$$

Useful numbers:

$$200 \text{ MHz} \rightarrow z = 6$$

$$100 \text{ MHz} \rightarrow z = 13$$

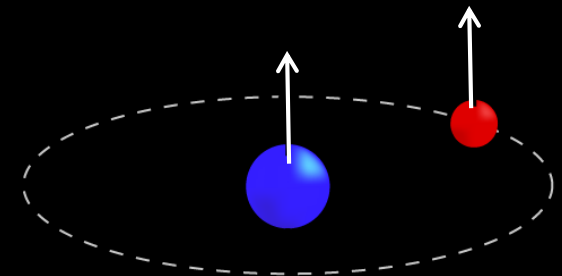
$$70 \text{ MHz} \rightarrow z \approx 20$$

$$40 \text{ MHz} \rightarrow z \approx 35$$

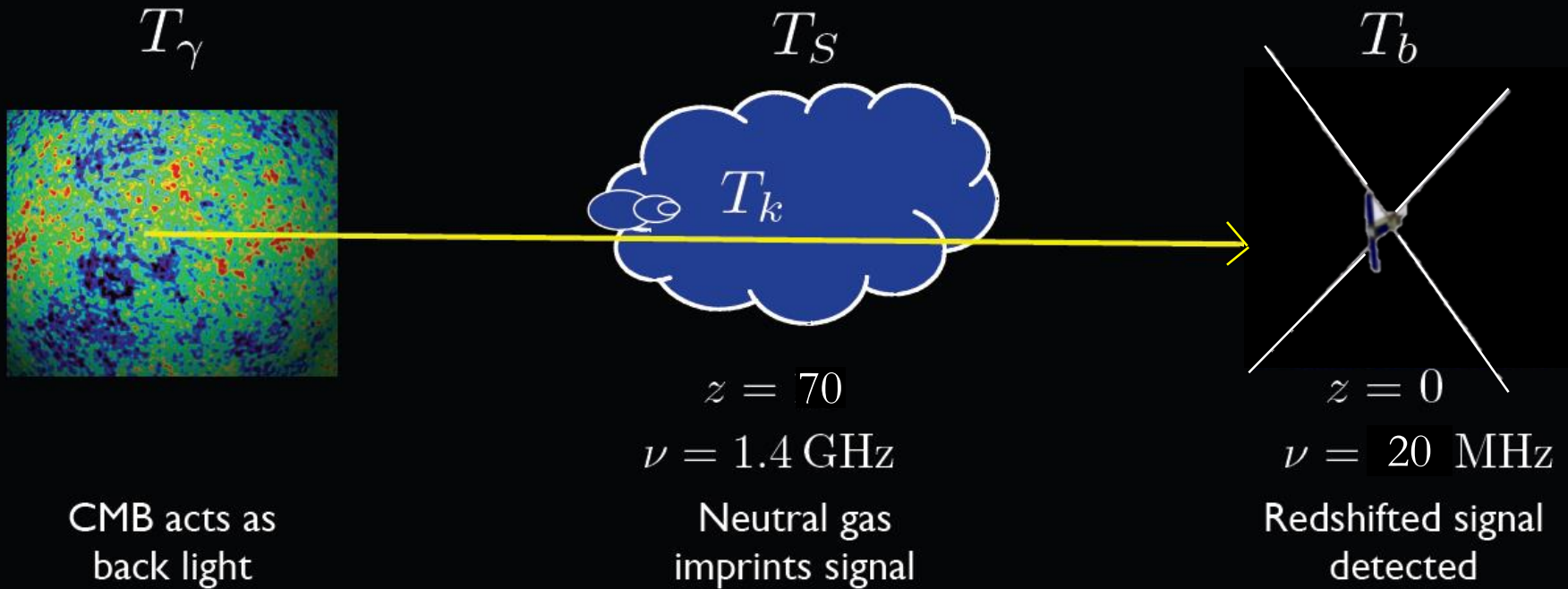
$$t_{\text{Age}}(z = 6) \approx 1 \text{ Gyr}$$

$$t_{\text{Age}}(z = 10) \approx 500 \text{ Myr}$$

$$t_{\text{Age}}(z = 20) \approx 150 \text{ Myr}$$



The 21-cm Line in Cosmology



brightness temperature (P=kT_bΔν) $T_b = 27 x_{\text{HI}} (1 + \delta_b) \left(\frac{T_S - T_\gamma}{T_S} \right) \left(\frac{1+z}{10} \right)^{1/2} \left[\frac{\partial_r v_r}{(1+z)H(z)} \right]^{-1} \text{ mK}$

neutral fraction baryon density spin temperature peculiar velocities

spin temperature set by different mechanisms:
 Radiative transitions (CMB)
 Collisions
 Wouthysen-Field effect

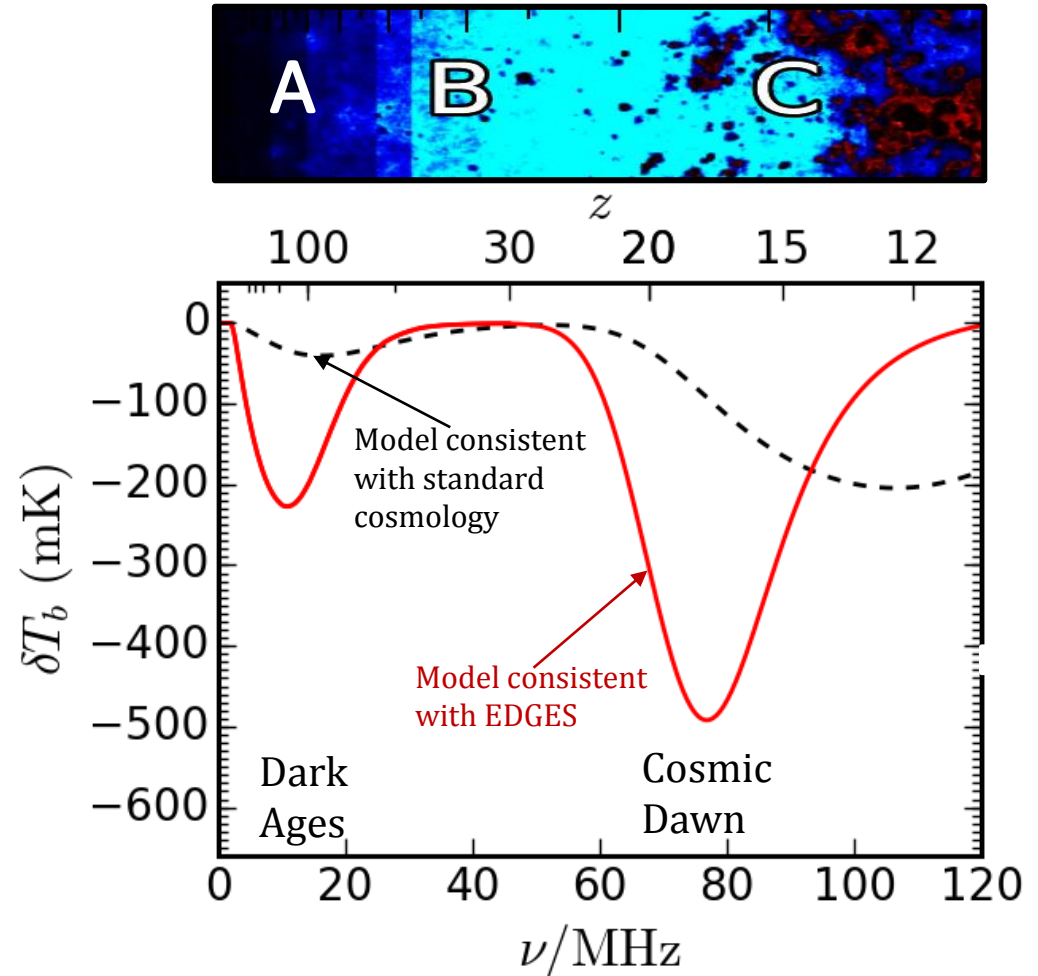
What is the 21-cm Global signal?

Spectral Features:

A: Dark Ages: test of standard cosmological model

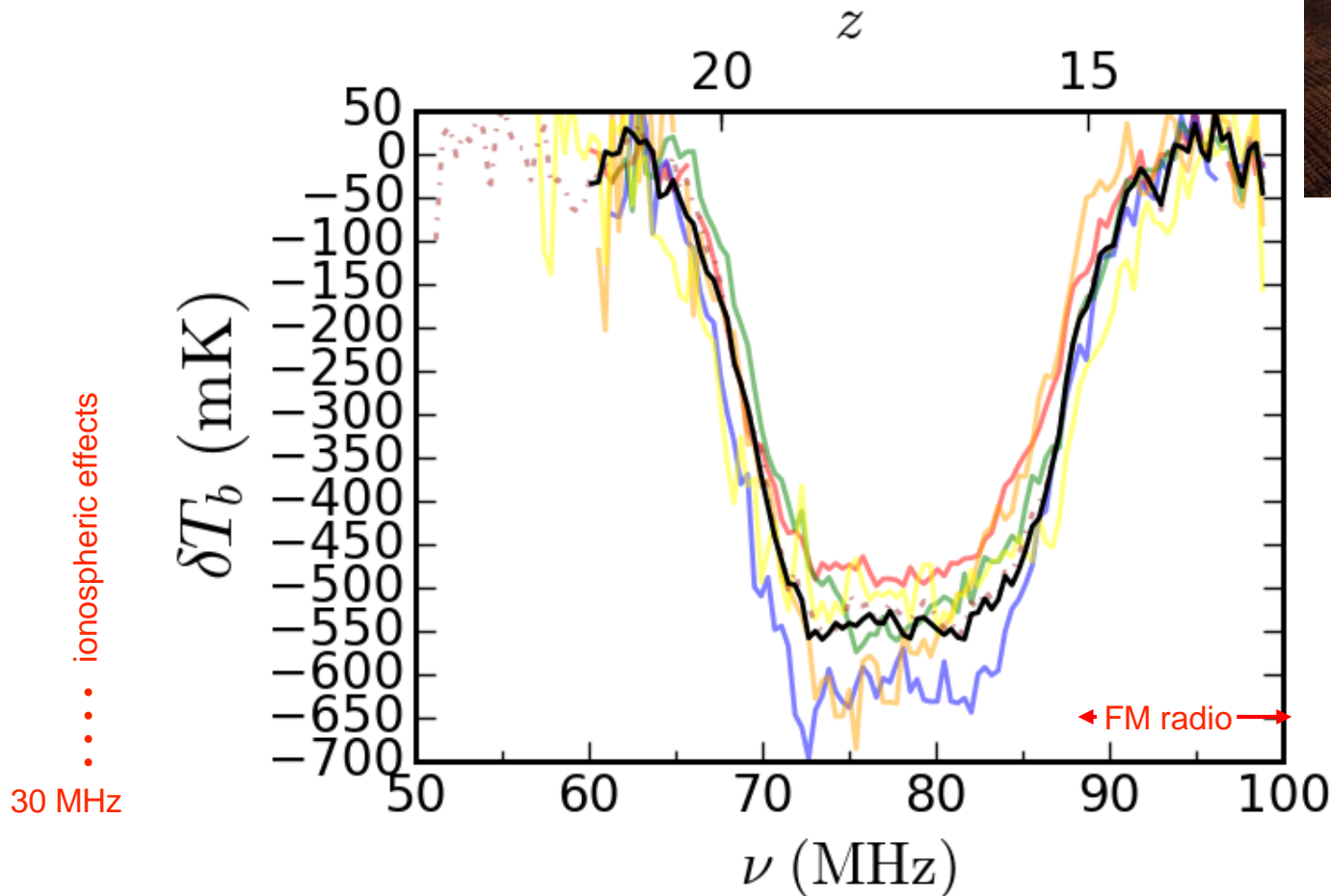
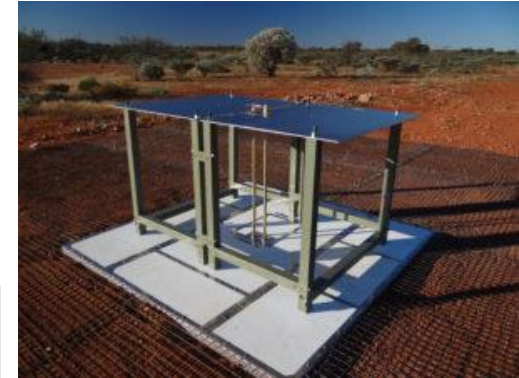
B: Cosmic Dawn: First stars ignite

C: Black hole accretion begins

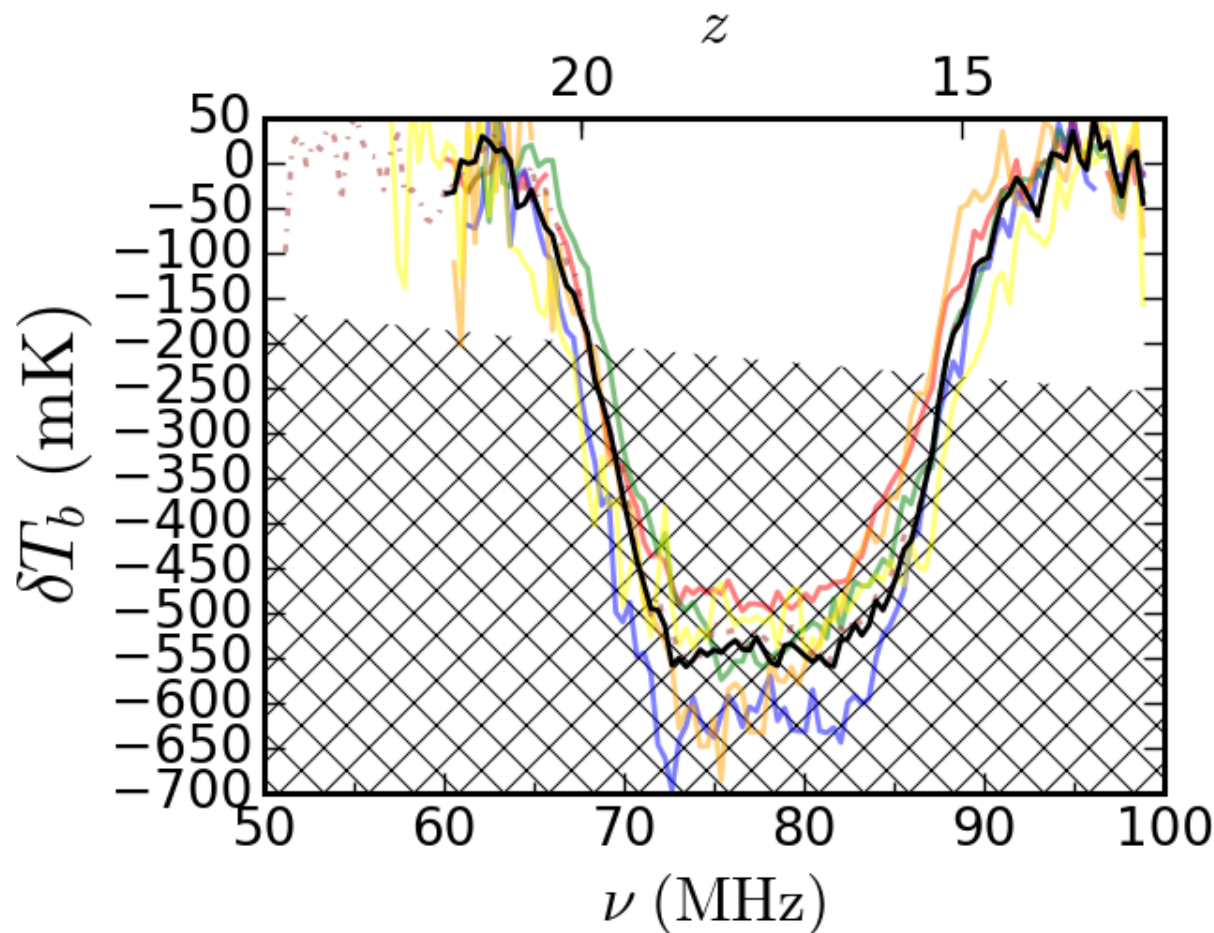


EDGES: Key Features

Bowman et al. 2018, Nature, 555, 67
& next talk by Alan Rogers



EDGES: Key Features



Requires temperatures colder than those predicted in \sim adiabatically cooling of intergalactic medium

Initial Considerations

$$\delta T_b \simeq 27 \bar{x}_{\text{HI}}(1 + \delta) \left(\frac{\Omega_{b,0} h^2}{0.023} \right) \left(\frac{0.15}{\Omega_{m,0} h^2} \frac{1+z}{10} \right)^{1/2} \left(1 - \frac{T_R}{T_S} \right) \text{ mK}$$

Q. How to amplify signal by a factor of 2-3?

1. Decrease T_S via baryon-Dark Matter interactions.

- Barkana, Munoz & Loeb, Fialkov et al., Berlin et al., Slatyer & Wu

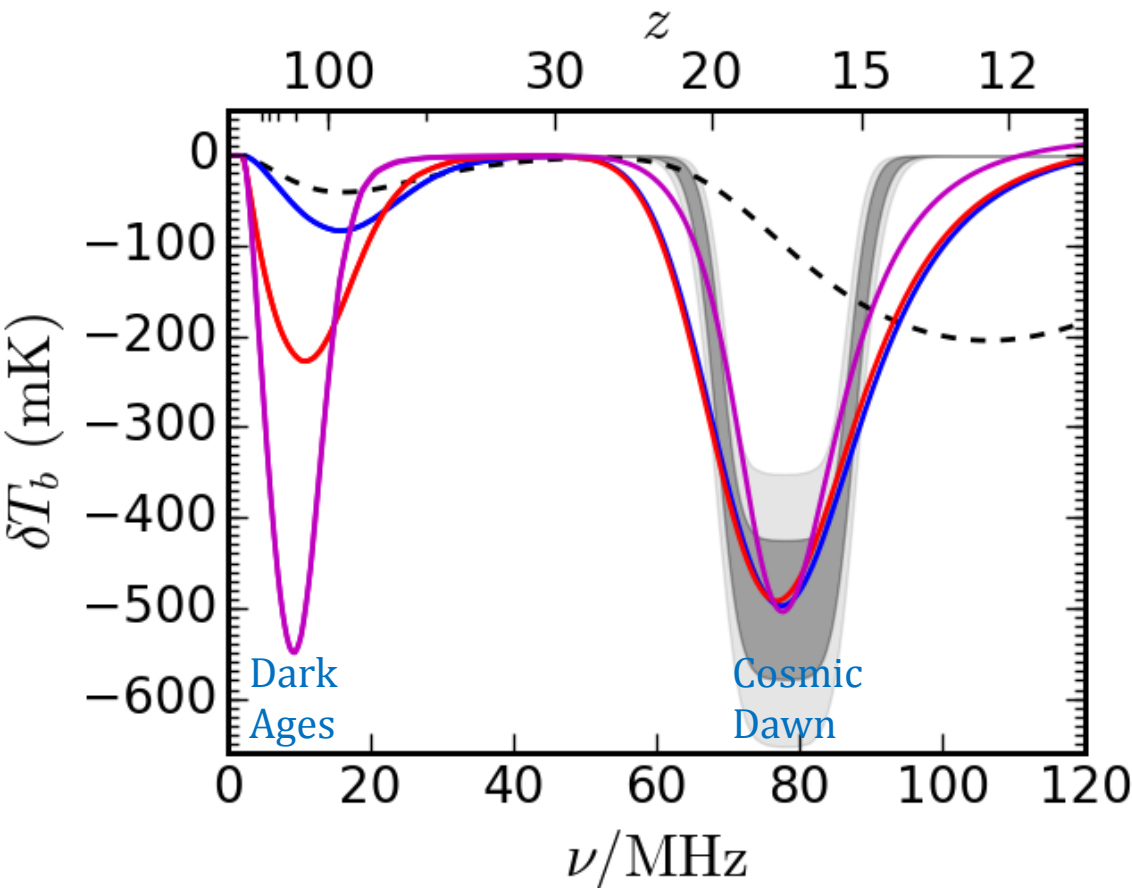
2. Increase T_R via Dark Matter decay or synchrotron radiation from black holes, galaxies.

- Feng & Holder, Ewall-Wice et al., Fraser et al., Mirocha & Furlanetto

3. Alter the cosmology.

- McGaugh, Costa et al., Hill et al.

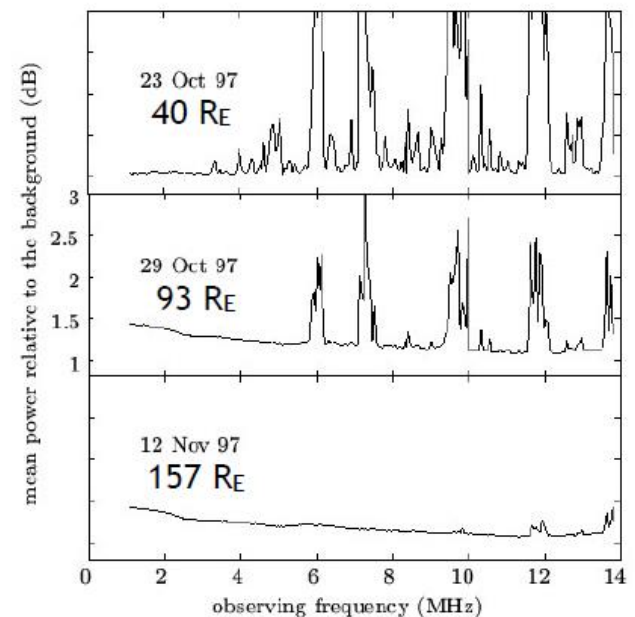
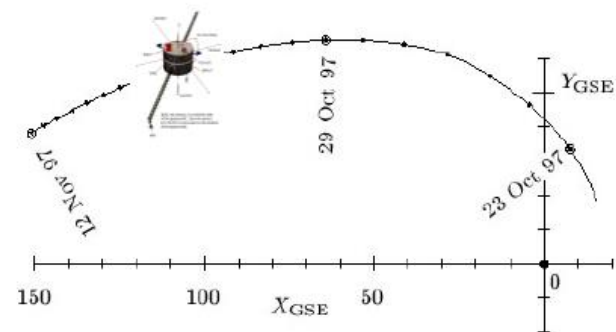
Extrapolation into the Dark Ages based upon EDGES Results



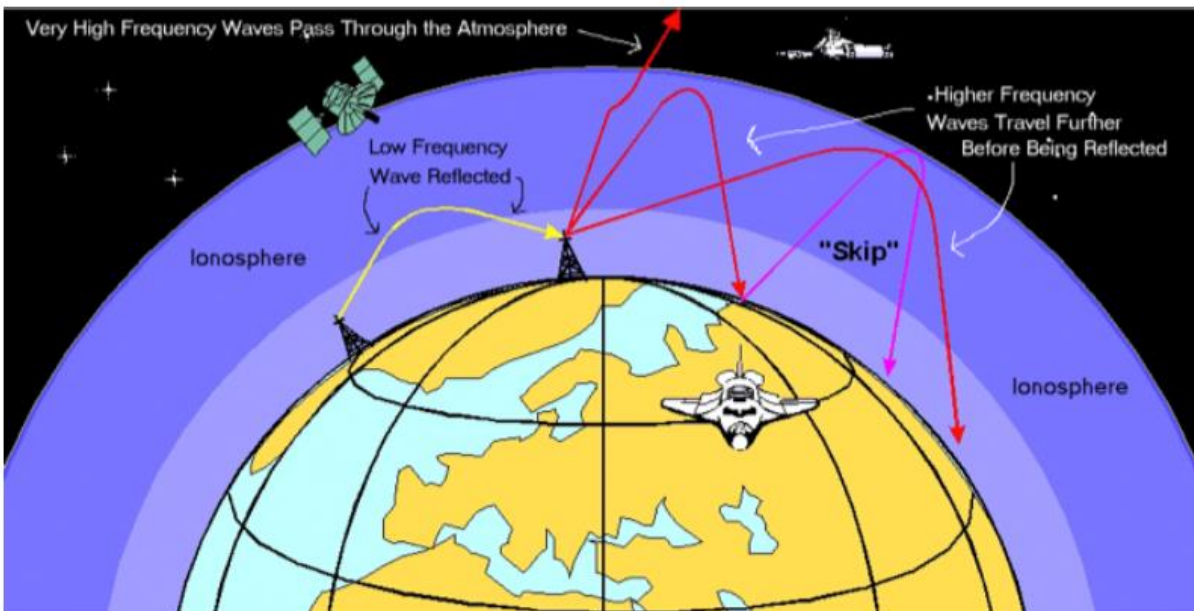
- **68 and 95% (dark and light gray) bands:** EDGES measurements of **Cosmic Dawn**.
- **Black, dashed curve:** Example of the **standard** astrophysical models ***inconsistent with EDGES results***.
- EDGES results (Bowman et al. 2018, Nature, 555, 67) *require exotic physics* such as e.g. interactions between baryons and dark matter particles.
- *Beyond-standard-physics* models of the **Dark Ages** trough consistent with the EDGES Cosmic Dawn signal:
 - Blue curve:** Maximum cooling rate is the adiabatic rate, but occurring earlier.
 - Red curve:** Cooling rate both lower and earlier.
 - Magenta curve:** Cooling rate not monotonically declining (i.e. there is a 'preferred epoch' of excess cooling).

Near Earth Radio Environment

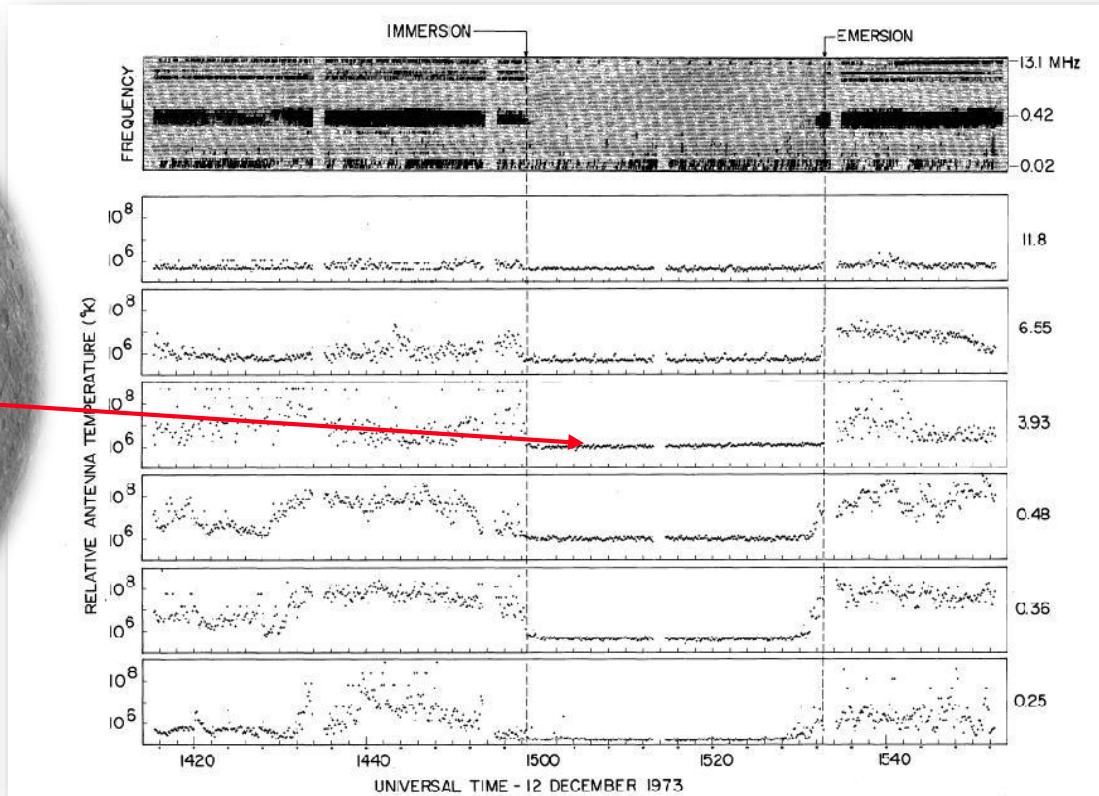
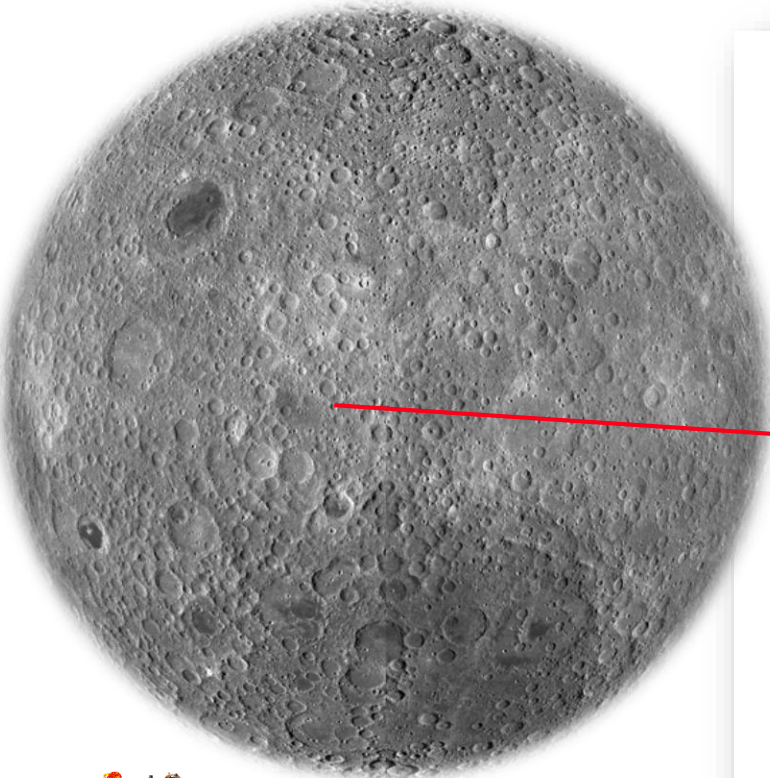
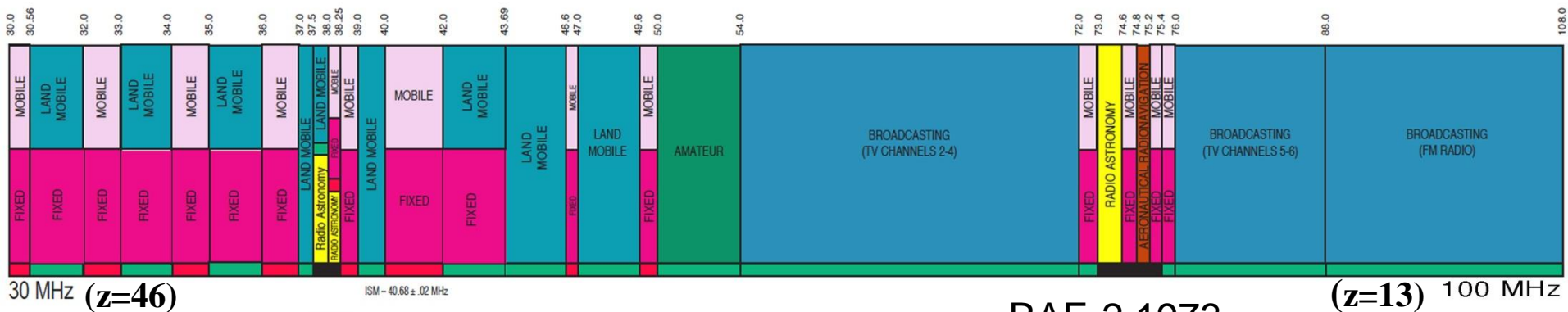
No place on/near Earth is Dark
at Low Frequencies (LF radio "smog")



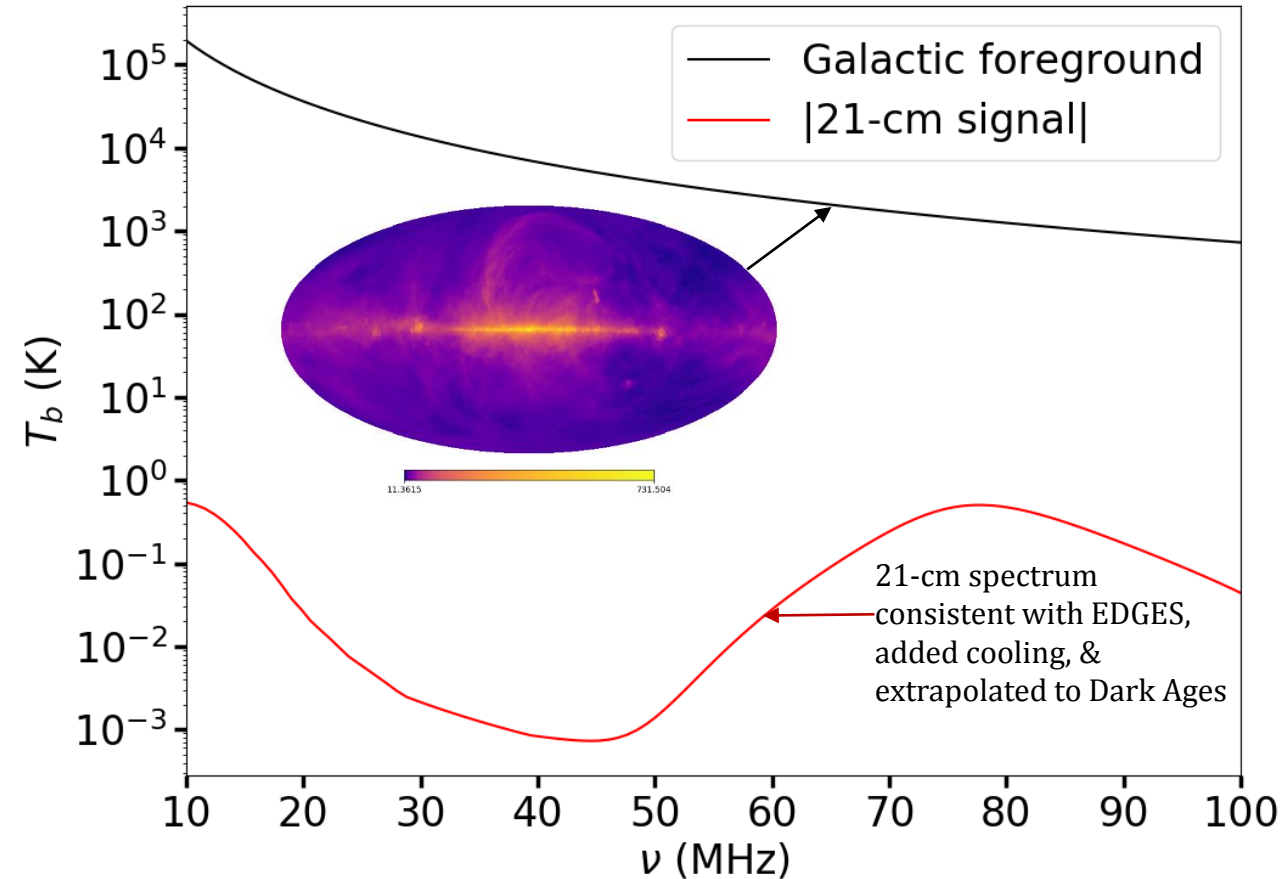
24h averages from Wind/WAVES



Lunar Farside: No RFI or Ionosphere!



Why is this a Challenging Observation?



Foreground Characteristics

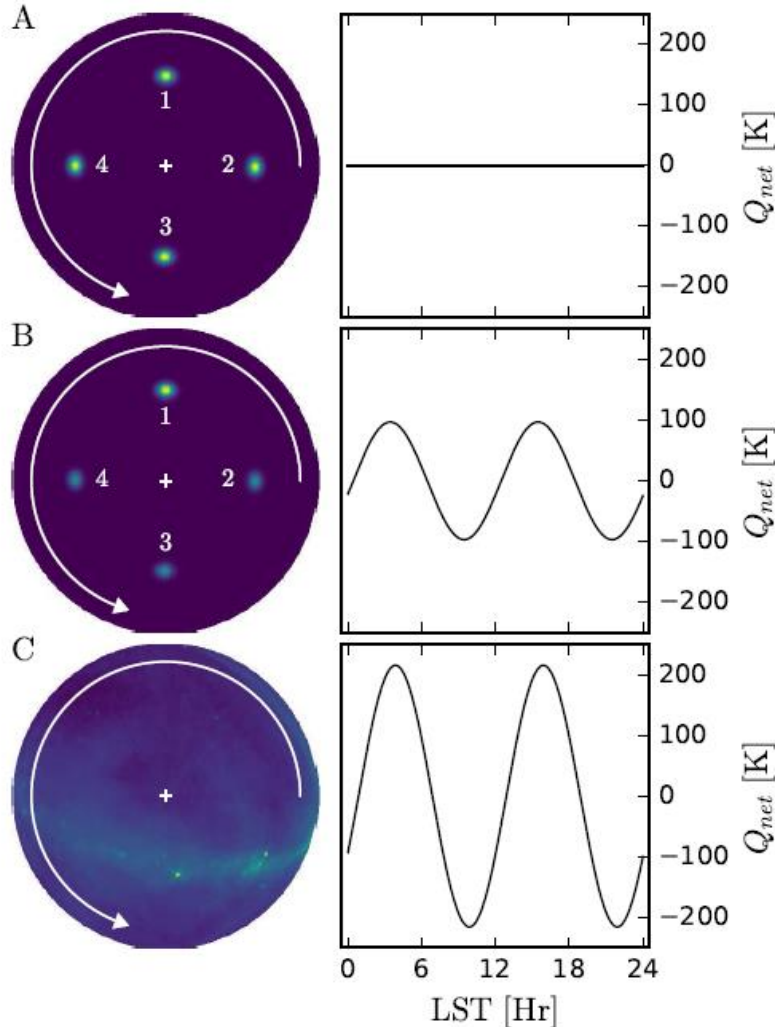
- Spectrally smooth
- Spatial structure
- Polarized

Signal Characteristics

- Spectral structure
- Spatially isotropic
- Unpolarized

How Can Polarimetry Help?

Projection-Induced Polarization (Nhan, Bradley, Burns, 2017, ApJ, 836, 90)



Ideal Simulation of the Dynamic & Asymmetric Foreground

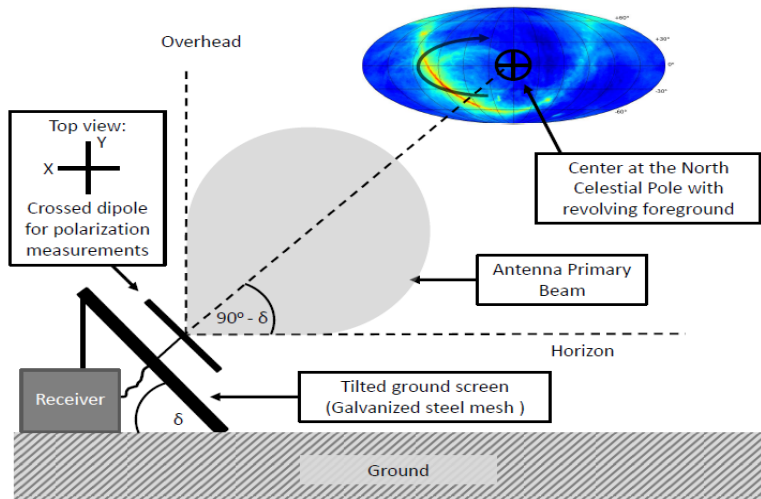
A. 4 symmetric point sources revolving about pointing center

B. 3 weak sources & 1 strong source revolving

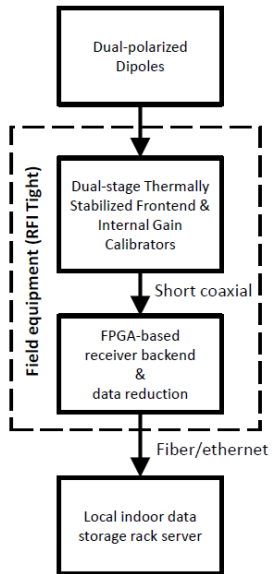
C. Actual sky map (Haslam et al. 1982) centered on North Celestial Pole

Remember: No net polarization expected from isotropic global 21-cm signal

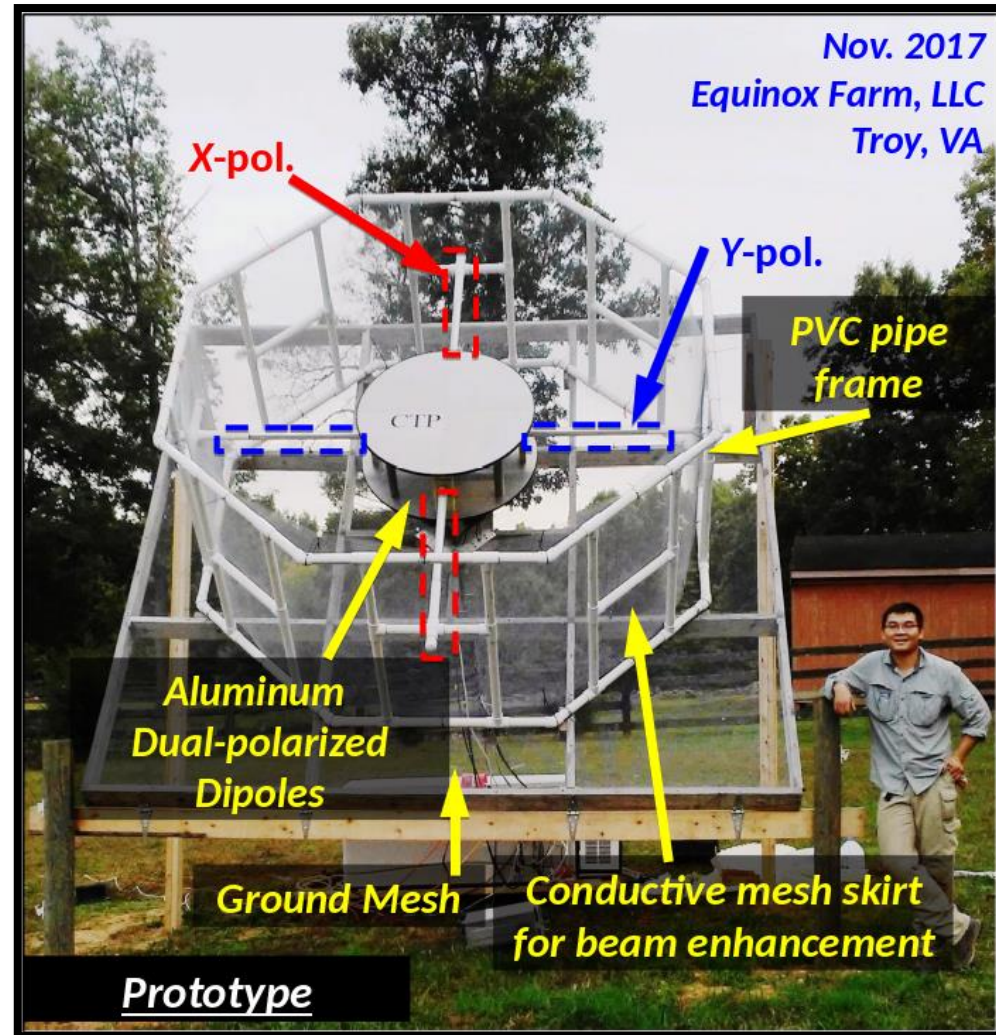
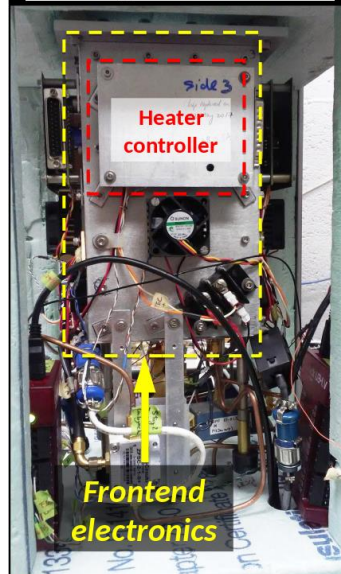
The Cosmic Twilight Polarimeter (CTP): Dynamic Polarimetry Testbed



System Block Diagram



Dual-stage thermal control



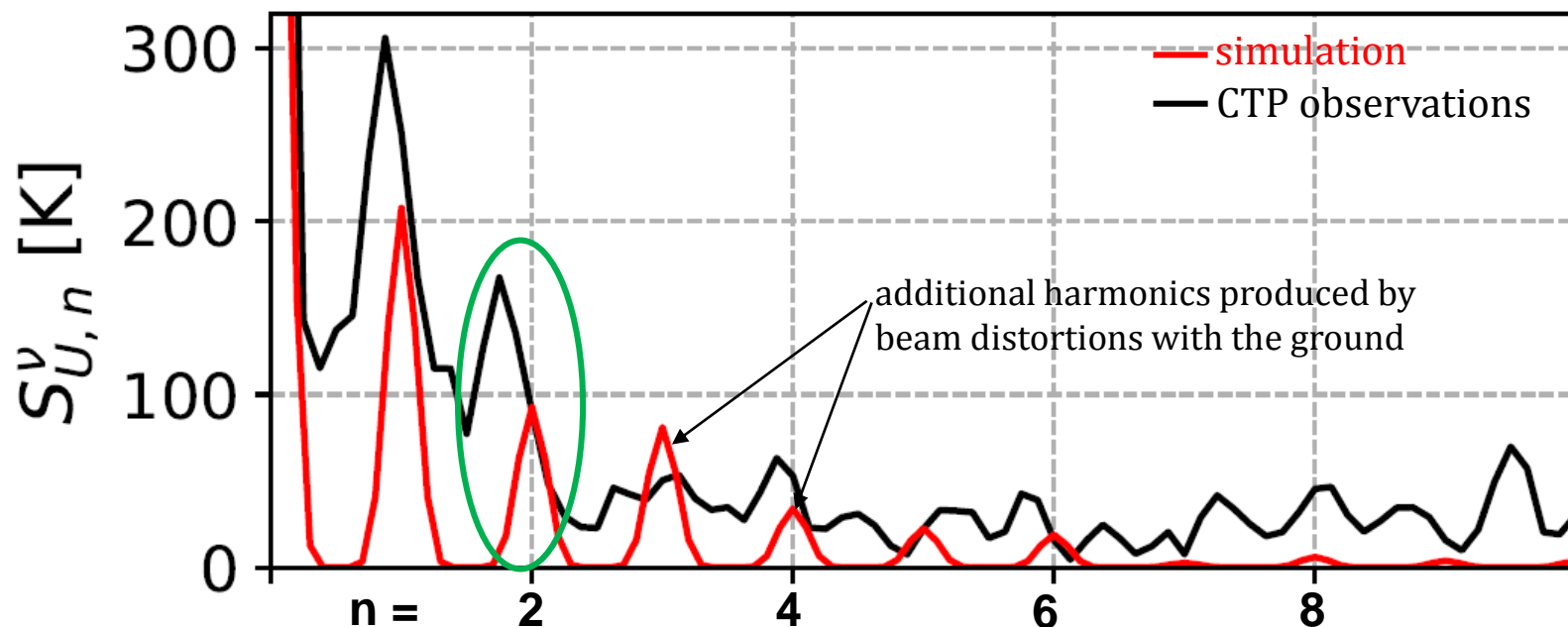
Operates over 60-80 MHz

Nhan, Bradley, & Burns, 2018



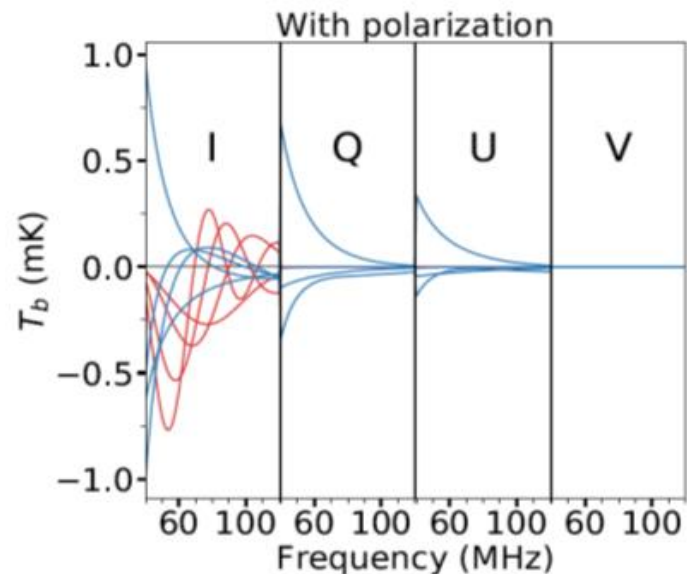
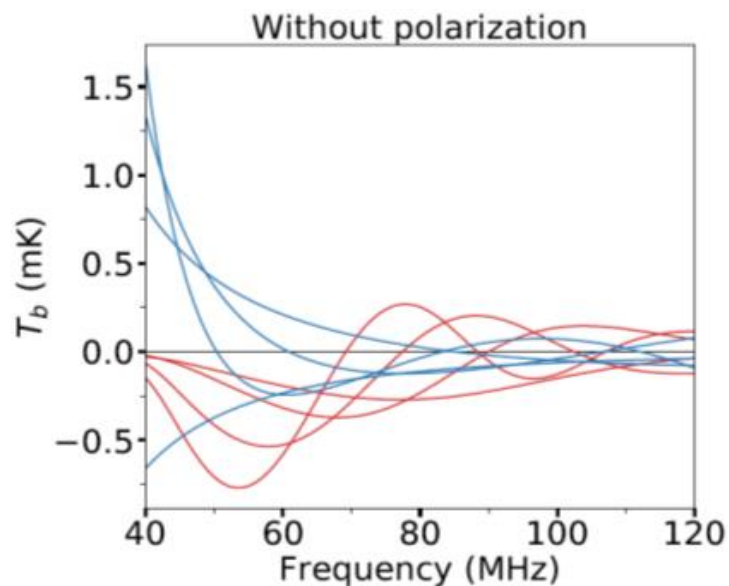
Initial Results from the Cosmic Twilight Polarimeter

Nhan, B., 2018, Ph.D. dissertation, U. Colorado



- Data consist of Stokes I,Q,U,V in frequency channels as a function of time at ≈ 82 MHz.
- After extensive RFI editing and averaging, Fourier transform binned data channels to measure dynamical frequencies (n) for Stokes Q,U.
- $n = 2$ is expected twice diurnal signal and is tentatively detected in these data.
- **Caveats:**
 - Simulation only contains first order models of beam distortions due to ground and horizon effects.
 - Very few clean channels due to severe RFI.

How can we extract the 21-cm signal?

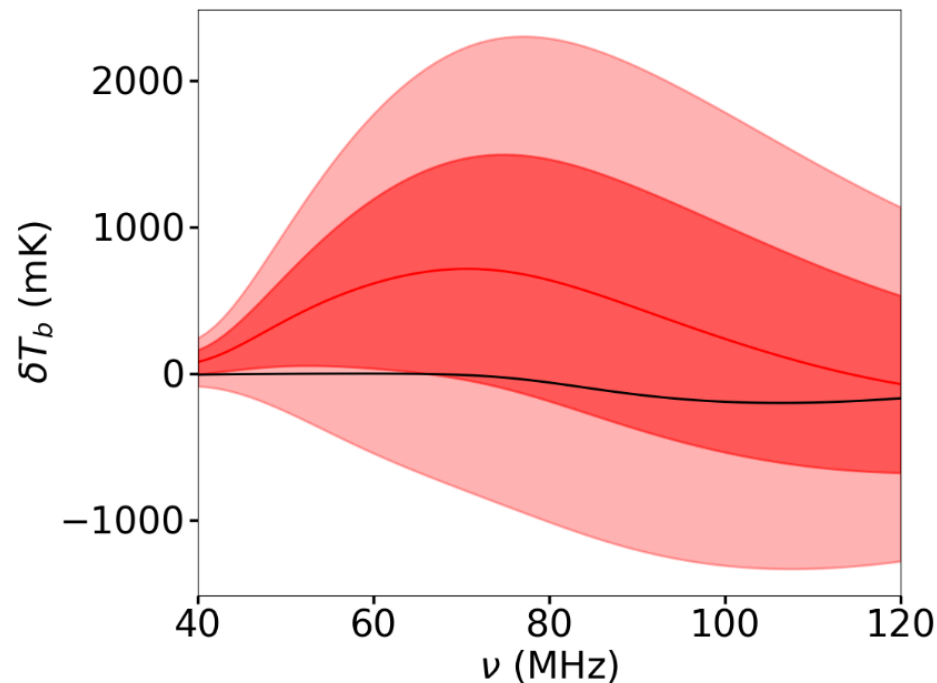


Employ Pattern Recognition Techniques:

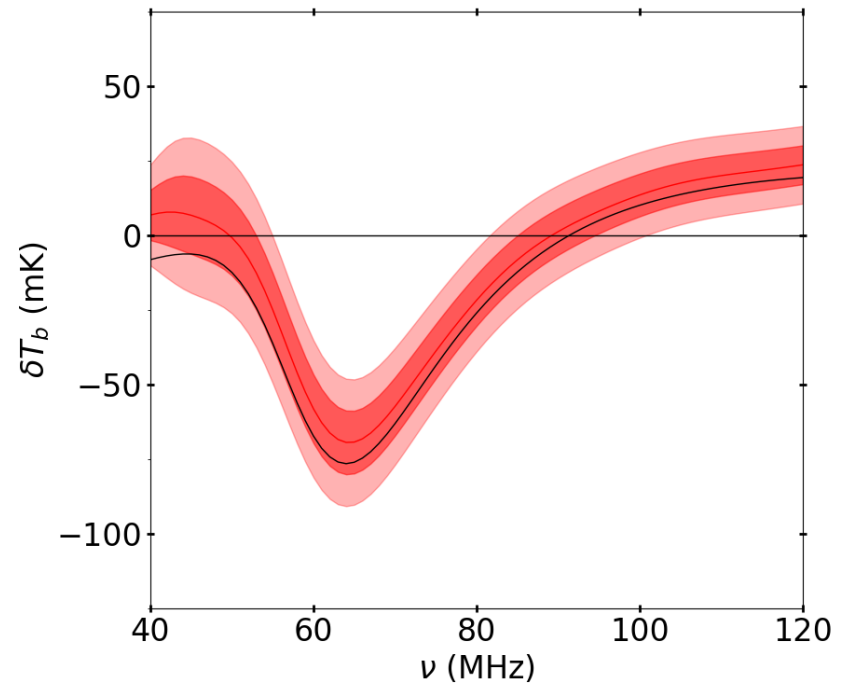
- Extract basis vectors from training sets using **Singular Value Decomposition (SVD)**
- SVD is a machine learning tool equivalent to:
 - Principal Component Analysis (PCA)
 - EigenVector Decomposition (EVD)

How much difference does polarization data make?

Stokes I Only



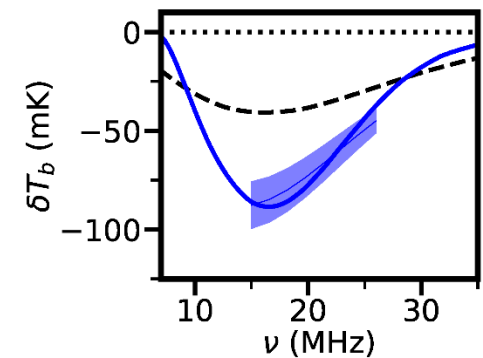
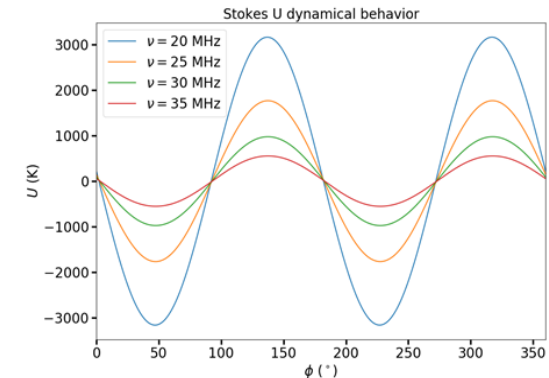
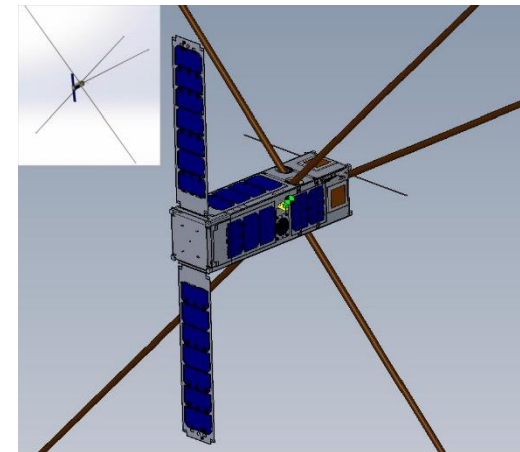
All 4 Stokes Parameters



- **Burns et al.** 2017, *A Space-based Observational Strategy for Characterizing the First Stars and Galaxies Using the Redshifted 21cm Global Spectrum*, ApJ, 844, 33.
- **Tauscher, K., Rapetti, D., Burns, J., Switzer, E.** 2018, *Global 21-cm Signal Extraction from Foreground & Instrumental Effects I: Pattern Recognition Framework for Separation Using Training Sets*, ApJ, 853, 187.

The Dark Ages Polarimeter Pathfinder (DAPPER): A Space-based SmallSat Testbed

- DAPPER will be placed in proximity to NASA's Lunar Gateway to reduce Earth-based RFI.
- Operates over bandwidth of 15-30 MHz ($93 \geq z \geq 46$).
- Dual orthogonal ≈ 7 -m tip-to-tip dipole antennas deployed successfully many times (e.g., WIND/WAVES).
- Low noise amplifiers & dual channel receiver to measure all 4 Stokes parameters. Based upon FIELDS instrument to be flown on Parker Solar Probe (collaboration with S. Bale, Berkeley).



Summary and Conclusions

- The redshifted 21-cm Global Spectrum at $\lesssim 30$ MHz offers the prospect of probing the nature & character of Dark Matter in the Dark Ages.
- These observations need to be conducted in space, in orbit of the Moon, to eliminate Earth ionospheric & RFI effects.
- Dynamic polarization provides an independent measure of the galactic foreground.
- We developed a method which transforms the 21-cm signal extraction task from one where *absolute knowledge of system parameters* is required to one of *composing training sets where knowledge of the modes of variation* are used.
- We are developing a SmallSat mission concept (DAPPER) to utilize both polarimetry and pattern recognition to detect deviations from the standard cosmology model.

