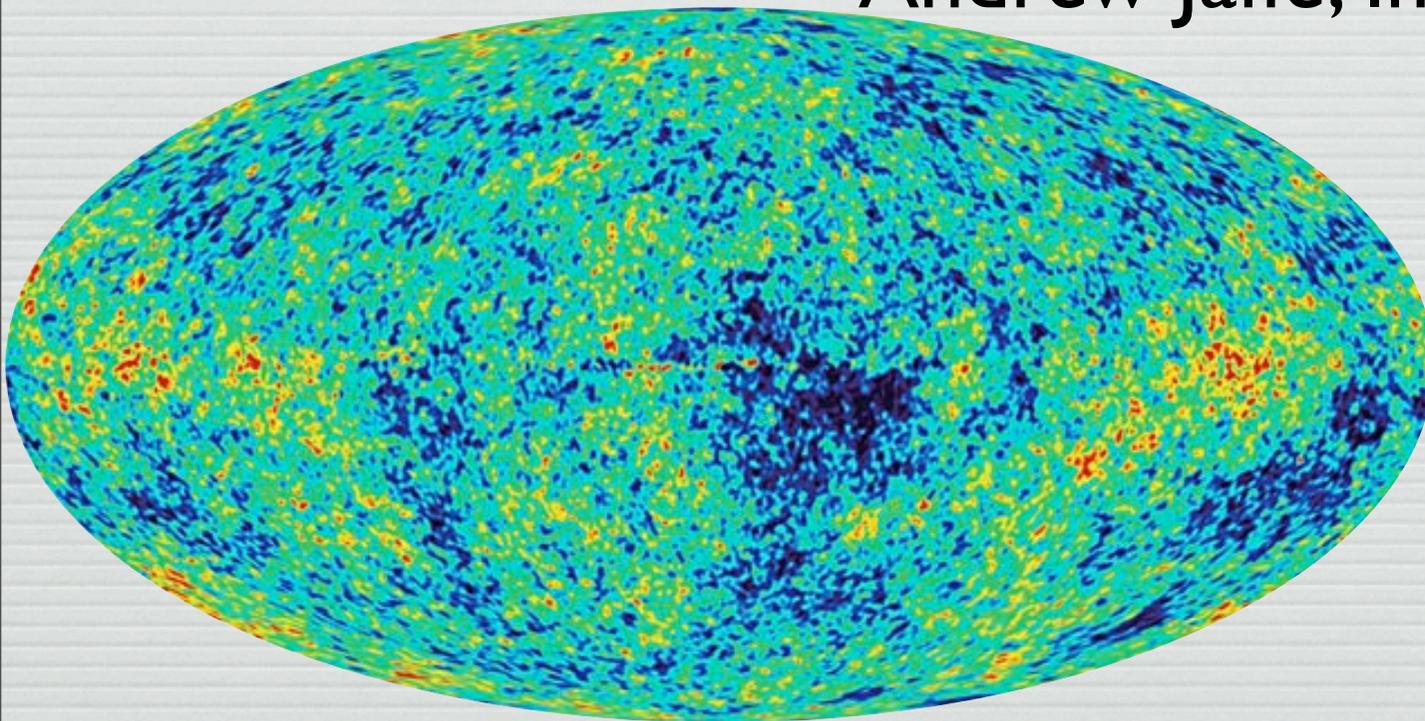


The CMB: Cosmology, Topology & Probability

Andrew Jaffe, Imperial College

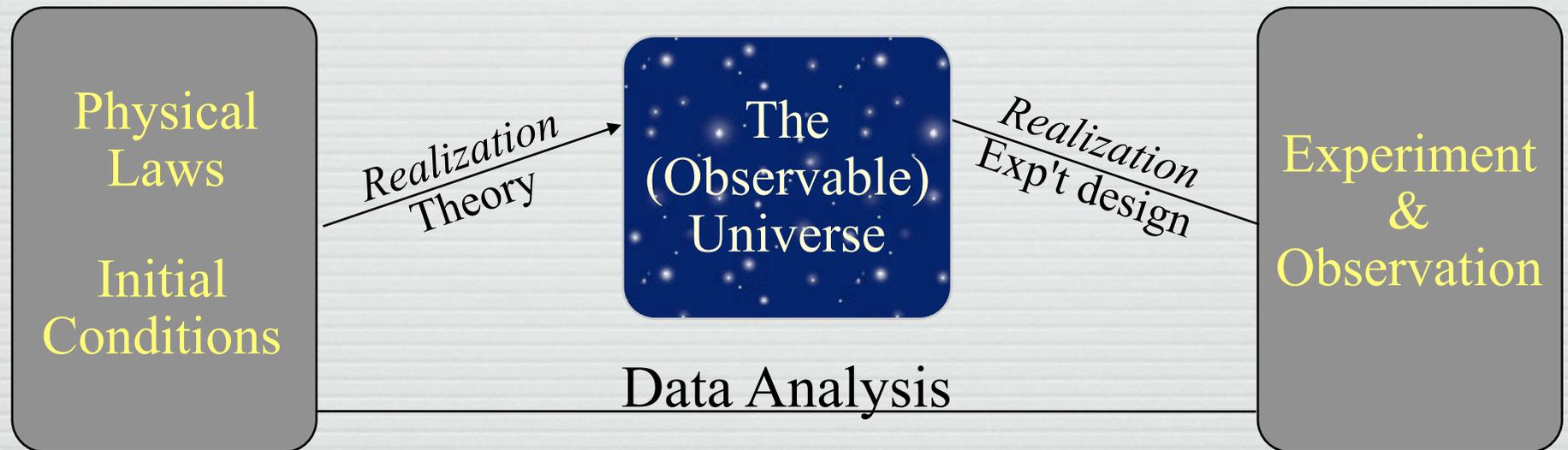


Edinburgh
March 2007

Road map

- The **physics** of the **CMB** (Cosmic Microwave Background)
- **CMB Observations**
 - Cosmological **parameters**
 - The **topology** of the Universe
- **Future experiments** & the background gravitational radiation
- ... philosophical excursions...
 - probability
 - the anxxxrpxc principle

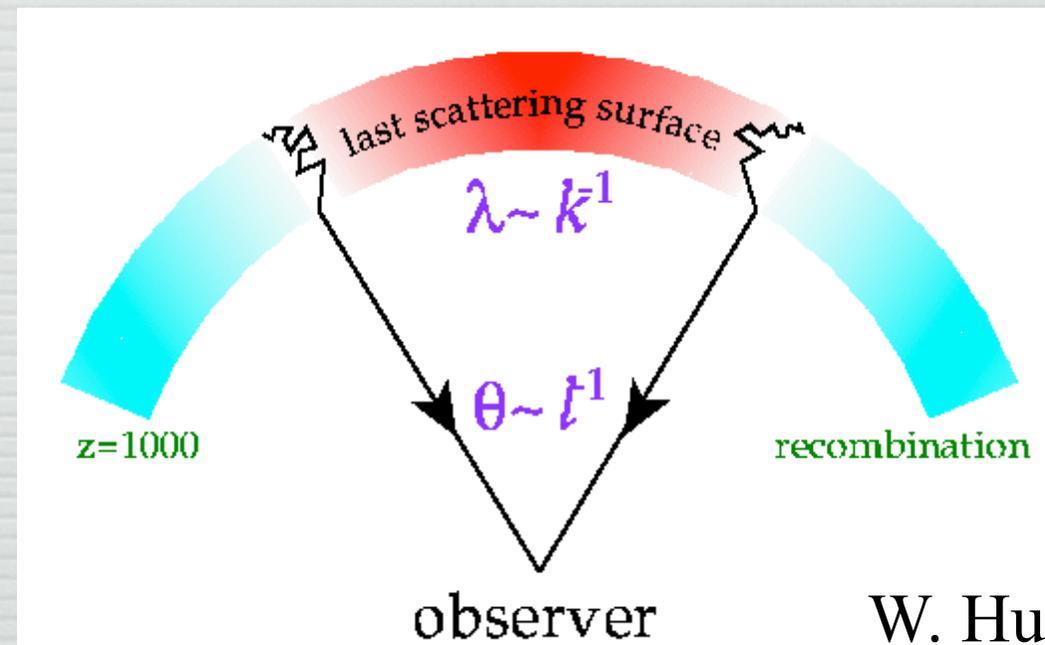
Statistical Cosmology



- 21st C. cosmology:
 - Redshift surveys
 - CMB (Cosmic Microwave Background)
 - Weak lensing
 - ...

The Physics of the CMB

- As Universe cools, $p^+e^- \rightarrow H$, when
 $kT=0.3 \text{ eV} \sim 13.6 \text{ eV}$ [400,000 yrs]
 - “last scattering” \sim “recombination”
- Rapid transition
 - $p^+ + e^- \rightarrow H$
ionized \rightarrow *neutral*
opaque \rightarrow *transparent*
- Penzias & Wilson 1964
(+ Dicke, Peebles, Roll & Wilkinson)
- COBE/DMR (Mather & Smoot)



Cosmological Horizons

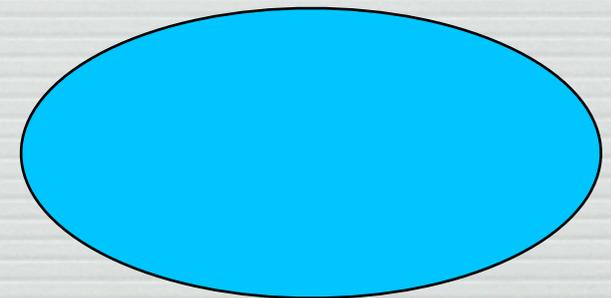
- Physics works at the speed of light:
- No “causal influence” from more than

- Horizon distance

$$d_H = (\text{age of universe}) \times (\text{speed of light})$$

- [Sound] horizon at LSS $\sim 1^\circ$
- In the standard big bang, the *horizon always grows*
- But here’s what Penzias & Wilson saw:
 - $T = 3\text{K}$, \sim constant over sky

Oscillations in primordial plasma (*sound waves*)



How did everything get to be the same temperature????

Inflation

- Expand the universe by a factor $\gg 10^{30}$ at $t \sim 10^{-30}$ sec.
 - $a \propto e^{Ht}$
- Makes the universe **flat** ($\Omega=1$)
- Puts it all into “causal contact” (so the CMB can be **isotropic**)
- Generates **perturbations** that become galaxies, clusters, etc.
- But: no way yet to choose among **specific models** within particle physics, string theory,



Perturbations from inflation

- Rapid expansion blows up quantum scales to astrophysical size:
 - weakly-coupled (\sim free) **scalar field**
 $\langle \varphi(x)\varphi(x') \rangle = F(x-x')$ (\sim Gaussian)
 - **quantum** fluctuations become “frozen in”, generating
 - **scalar** (density/curvature) fluctuations, and
 - **tensor** (gravitational radiation) fluctuations
 - $+/X$ polarization — handedness — curl-like pattern in CMB photon polarization

Inflation Predicts

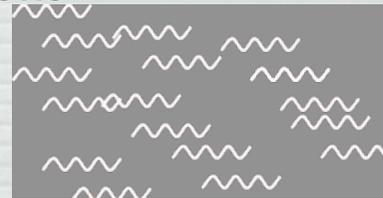
- Thermalized, uniform CMB
- Flat:
 - $\Omega_{\text{tot}} = \Omega_{\text{m}} + \Omega_{\Lambda} = 1$
- (Approximately) *scale-invariant + adiabatic* initial spectrum of density fluctuations
 - $P(k) \propto k^{n_s}, n_s \approx 1$
- Gravitational radiation
 - (Need CMB polarization to detect)
- Corollaries
 - Dark baryons, dark matter
- Caveats
 - Open inflation
 - Quintessence
 - Isocurvature fluctuations
 - Trace defects

What affects the CMB temperature?

$$\frac{\Delta T}{T}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}) \simeq \frac{1}{4} \frac{\delta \rho_\gamma}{\rho_\gamma} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \int_{\eta_{rec}}^{\eta_0} d\eta h_{ij} \hat{x}_i \hat{x}_j$$

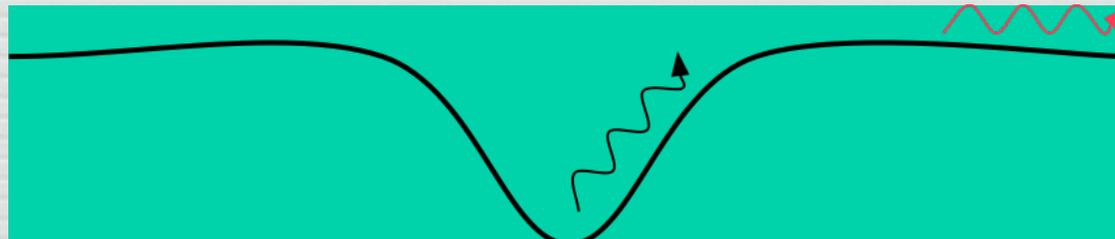
- Initial temperature (density) of the photons

Cooler



Hotter

- Doppler shift due to movement of baryon-photon plasma
- Gravitational red/blue-shift as photons climb out of potential wells or fall off of underdensities



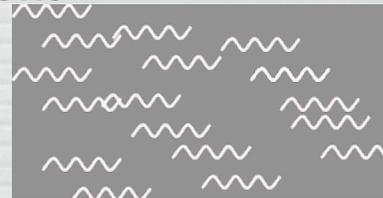
- Photon path from LSS to today
- All linked by **initial conditions** $\Rightarrow 10^{-5}$ fluctuations

What affects the CMB temperature?

$$\frac{\Delta T}{T}(\hat{x}) \approx \frac{1}{4} \frac{\delta \rho_\gamma}{\rho_\gamma} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \hat{x} + \int_{\eta_{rec}}^{\eta_0} d\eta h_{ij} \hat{x}_i \hat{x}_j$$

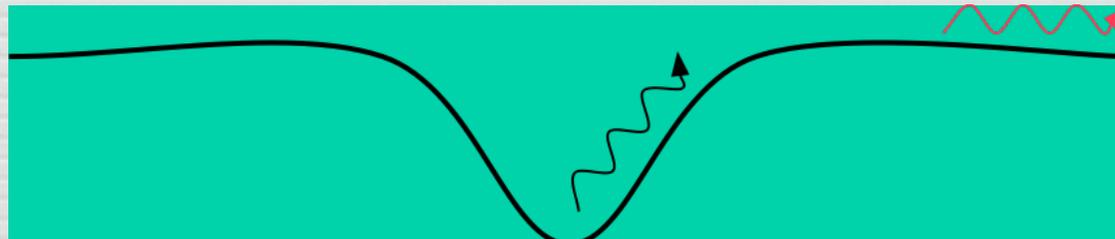
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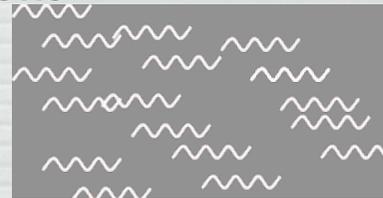
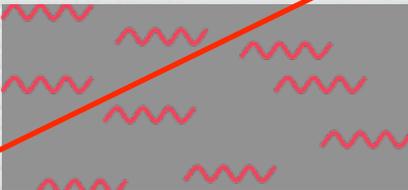
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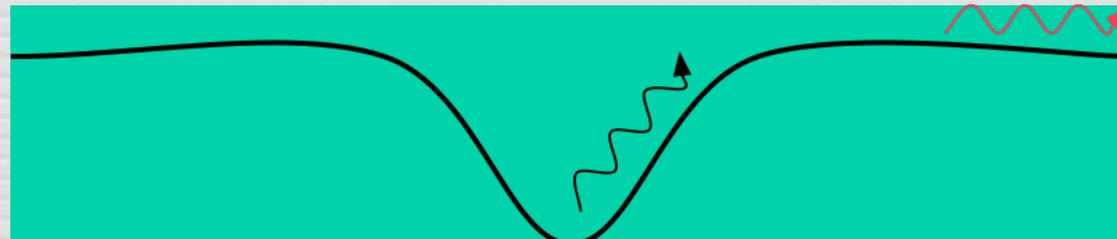
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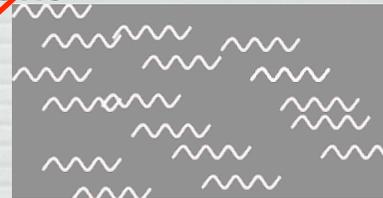
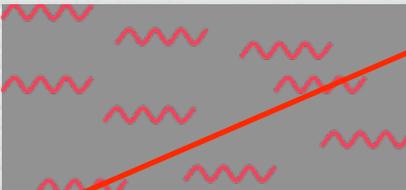
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What affects the CMB temperature?

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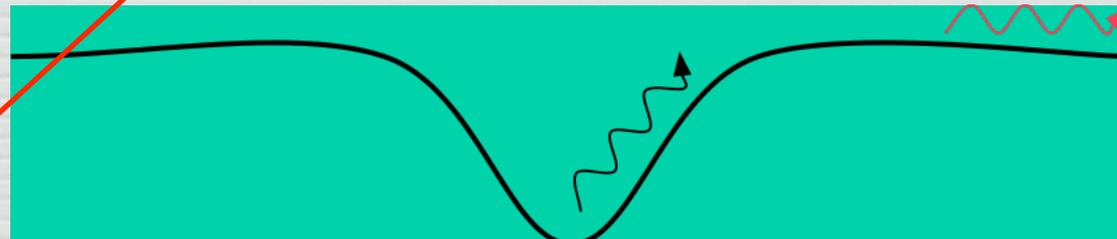
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Hotter

- Doppler shift due to movement of baryon-photon plasma
- Gravitational red/blue-shift as photons climb out of potential wells or fall off of underdensities



- Photon path from LSS to today
- All linked by initial conditions $\Rightarrow 10^{-5}$ fluctuations

Describing the (CMB) Universe

$$\frac{T(\hat{x}) - \bar{T}}{\bar{T}} \equiv \frac{\Delta T}{T}(\hat{x}) = \sum_{\ell m} a_{\ell m} Y_{\ell m}(\hat{x})$$

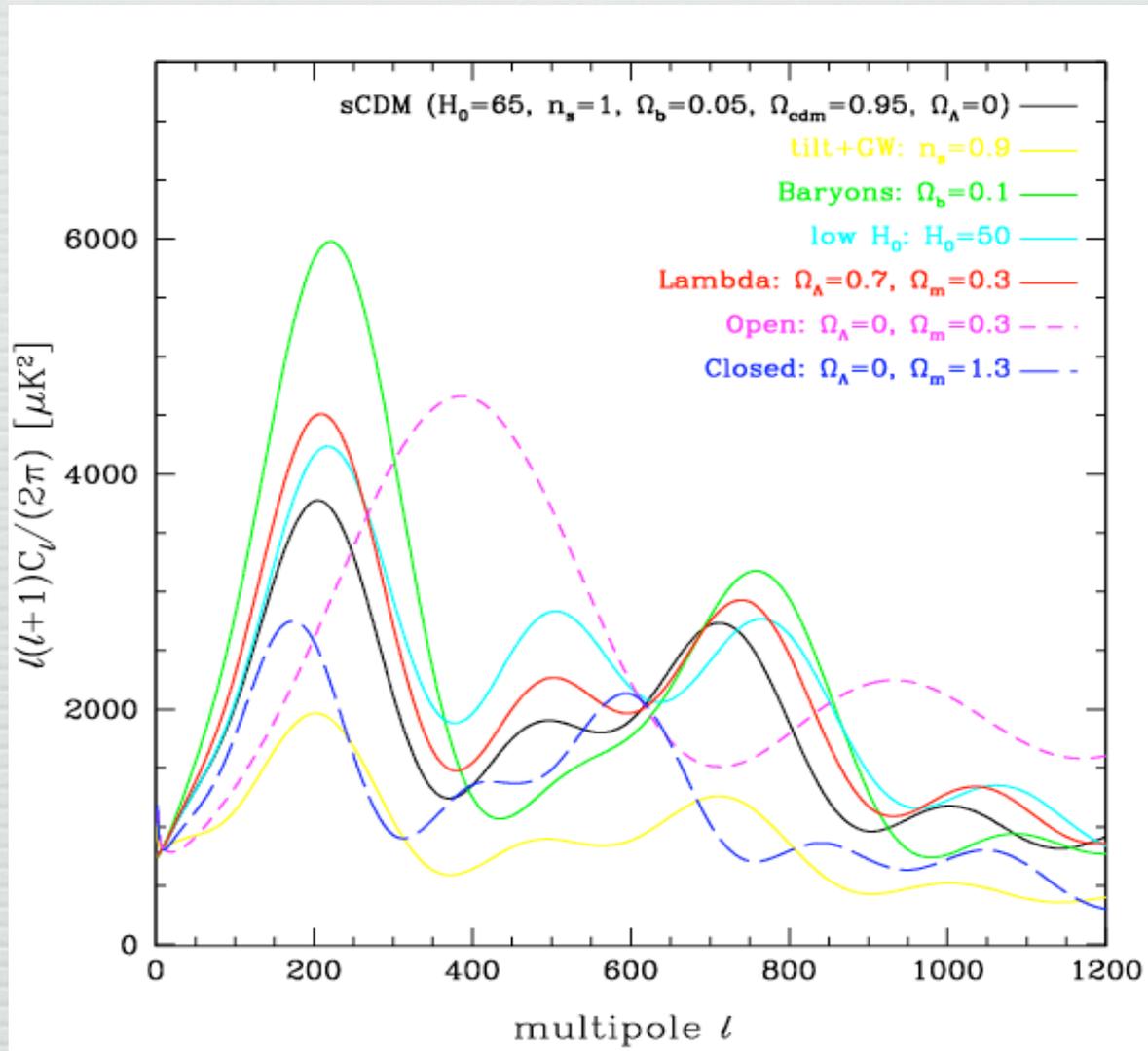
“Fourier transform”
on a sphere

- Allows us to define the **power spectrum**, C_ℓ
 $\langle a_{\ell m}^* a_{\ell' m'} \rangle = \delta_{\ell\ell'} \delta_{mm'} C_\ell$
 - Assumes **isotropy** (no absolute orientation)
 - If we also assume **Gaussianity** (e.g., inflation):

$$P(a_{\ell m} | C_\ell) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi C_\ell}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \frac{|a_{\ell m}|^2}{C_\ell}\right)$$

Power Spectrum of fluctuations

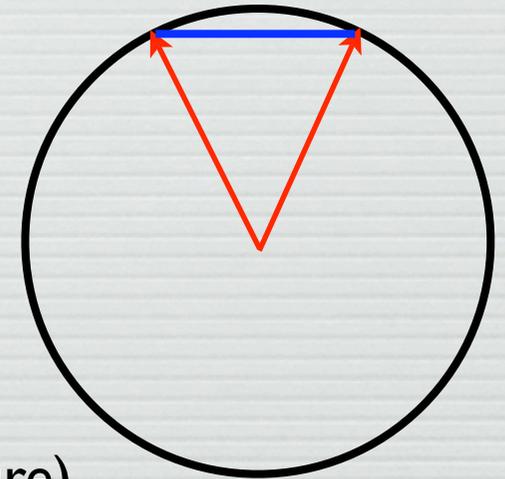
Mean square fluctuation



$\sim 180^\circ/\text{Angular Scale}$

CMB Fluctuations

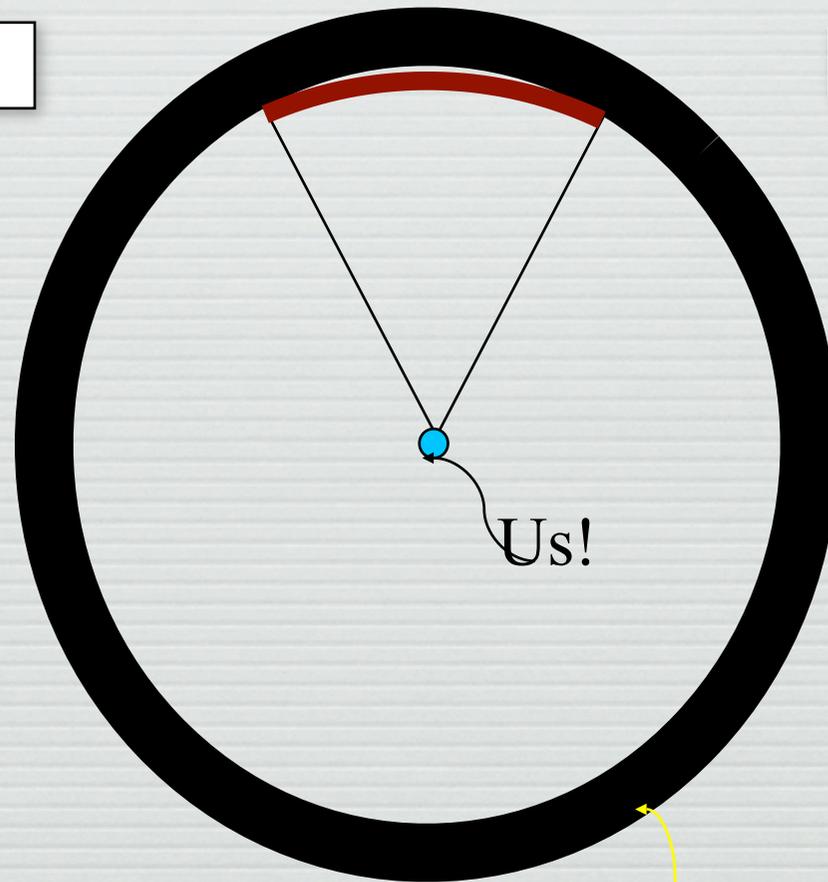
- Sound Horizon at last-scattering surface is a **standard ruler** (degree-scale fluctuations)
 - angular diameter distance at $z \approx 1300$,
Constrains ratio of
 - “**sound horizon**” at LSS, to
 - (matter content)
 - **angular-diameter distance to LSS**
 - (curvature, matter, quintessence: total curvature)
 - (approximately) constrains $\Omega_m + \Omega_{\Lambda/Q}$ ($= 1 - \Omega_k$)
 - “geometrical degeneracy”



Measuring Curvature with the CMB

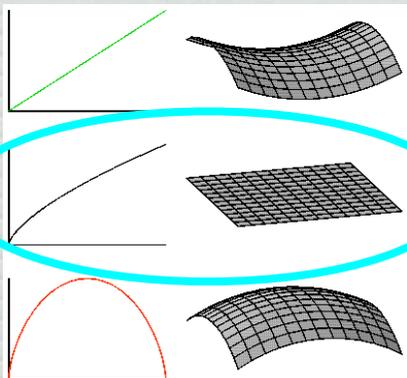
Flat

$\Omega=1$



Us!

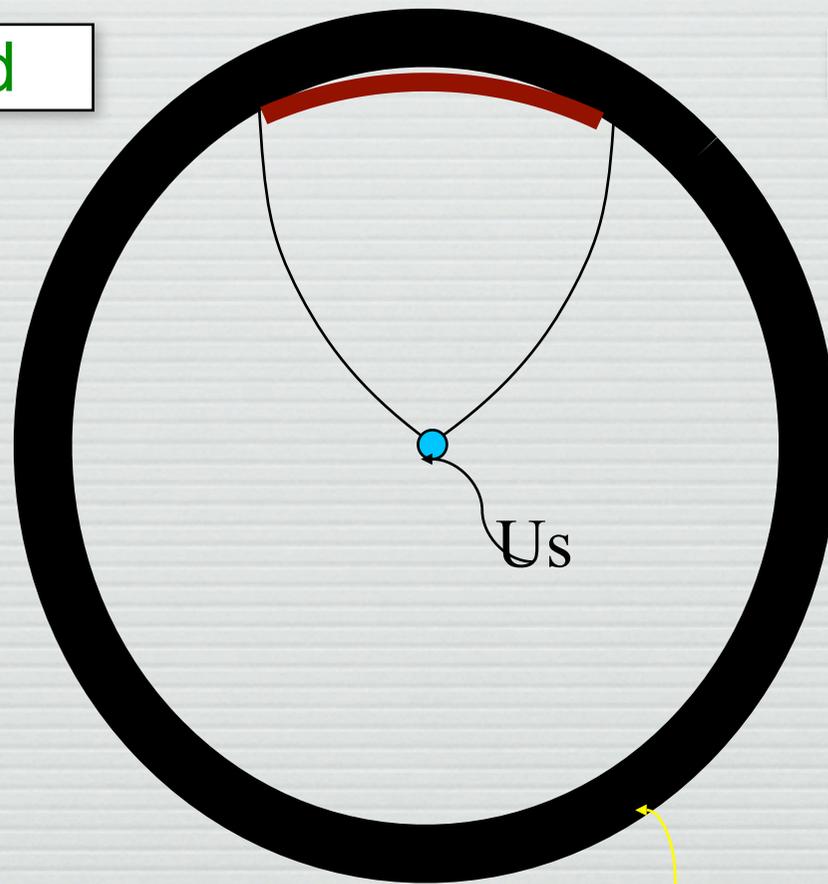
Last Scattering Surface



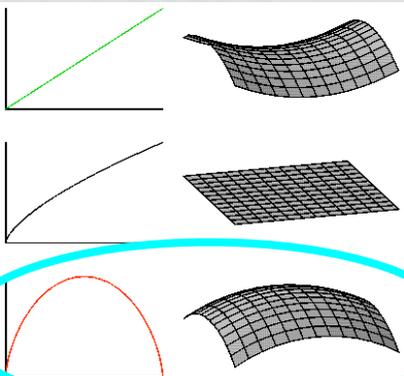
Measuring Curvature with the CMB

Closed

$\Omega > 1$



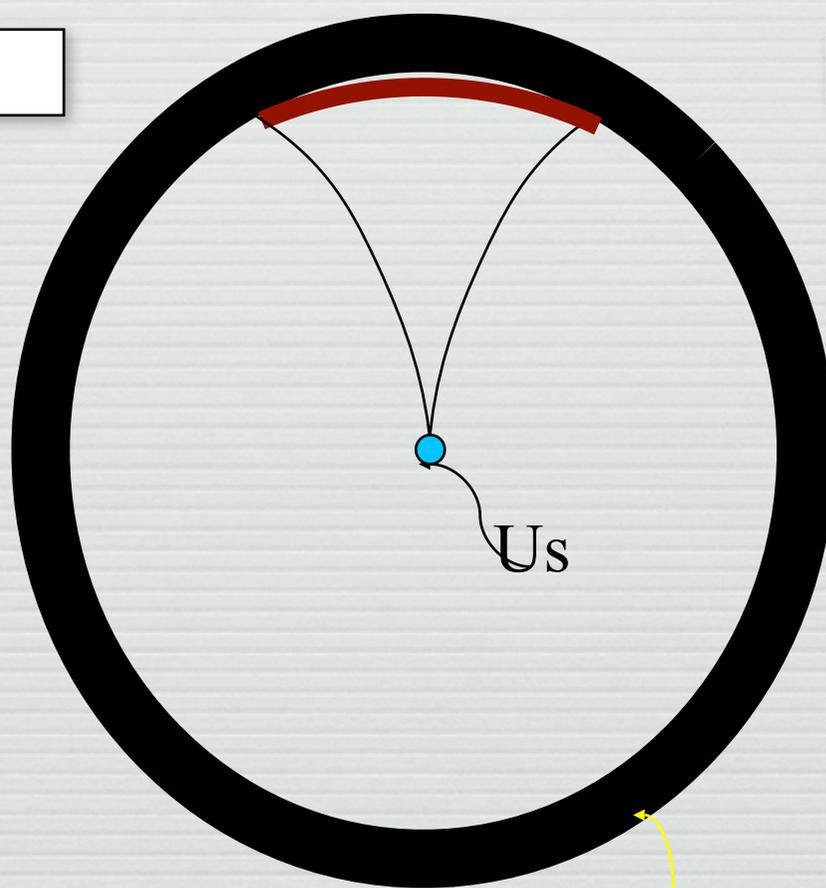
Last Scattering Surface



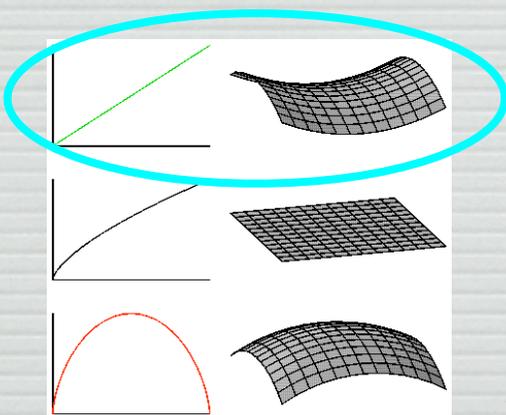
Measuring Curvature with the CMB

Open

$\Omega < 1$



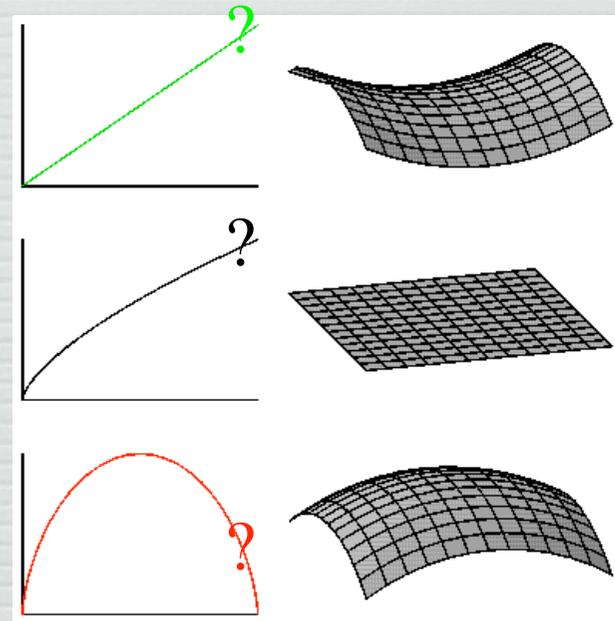
Last Scattering Surface

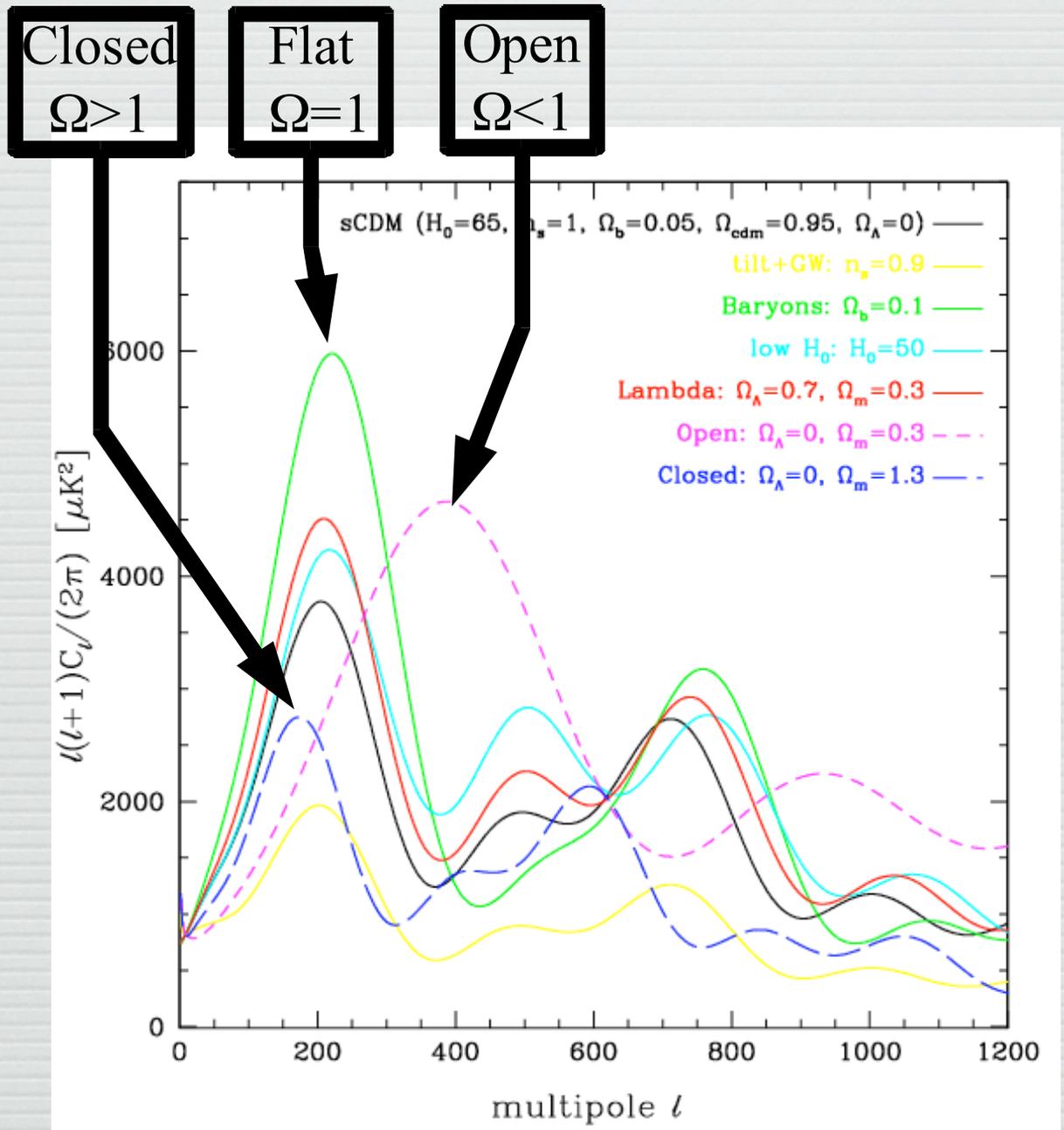


Fluctuations & Geometry

- Total density determines geometry – but geometry doesn't determine the fate of the Universe if we allow a cosmological constant (or quintessence)

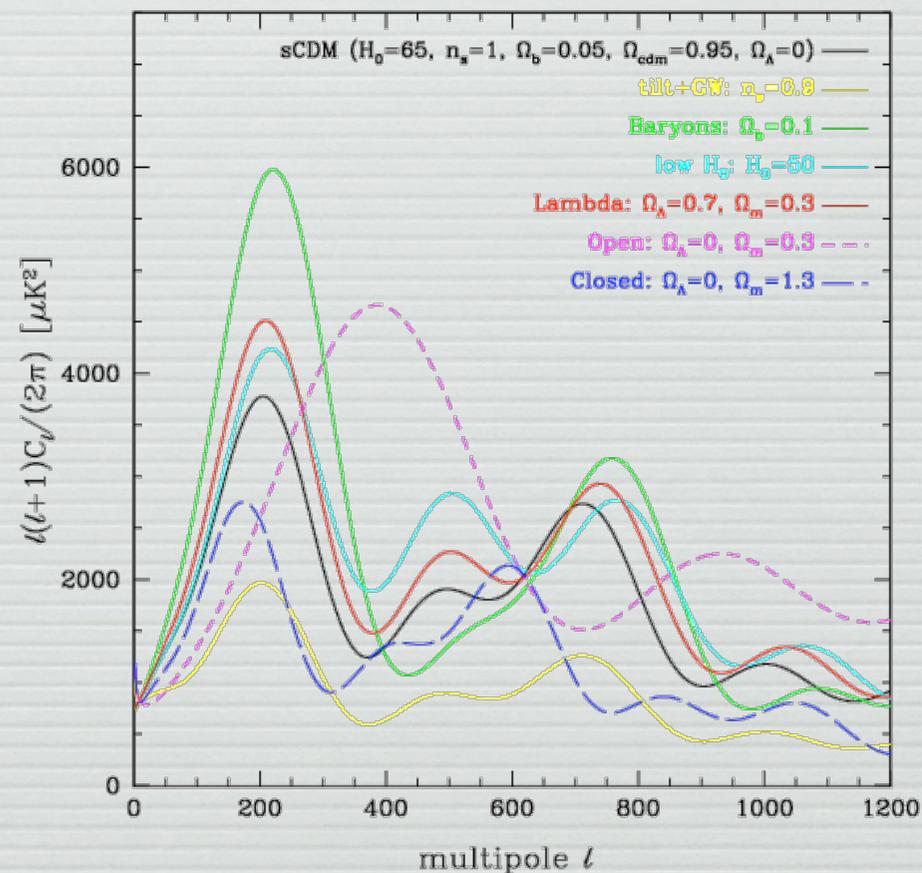
$$\Omega \begin{cases} < 1 & \text{open} \\ = 1 & \text{flat} \\ > 1 & \text{closed} \end{cases}$$





Oscillations in the primordial plasma: The Acoustic Peaks

- Before **recombination**, a tightly-coupled plasma of matter (p, e) and photons
- Primordial/inflationary **perturbations on all scales**—can only collapse when in causal contact
- **Pressure** determined by mix of baryons and radiation ($\sim 10^{10}$ photons/baryon!): baryon “doping” lowers c_s from $1/\sqrt{3}$.
- Higher Ω_b decreases rebound force; lowers 2nd peak relative to first

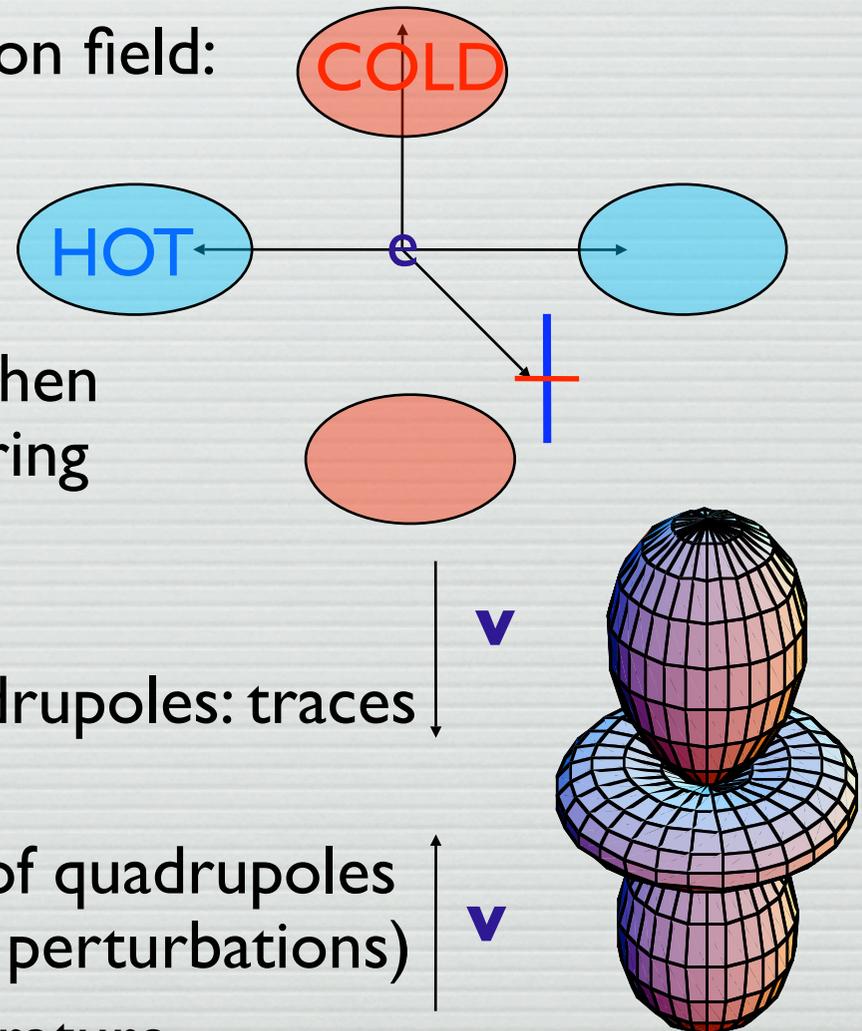


CMB Polarization: Generation

- **Ionized** plasma + **quadrupole** radiation field:

- Thomson scattering
⇒ **polarized** emission

- Unlike intensity, only generated when ionization fraction, $0 < x < 1$ (i.e., during transition)



- **Scalar** perturbations — aligned quadrupoles: traces
~gradient of velocity

- **Tensor** perturbations: +, × patterns of quadrupoles
(impossible to form via linear scalar perturbations)

- same underlying physics as temperature perturbations

Learning from Data: Bayes' Theorem

$$P(H | DI) = \frac{P(H | I)P(D | HI)}{P(D | I)}$$

Posterior \propto Prior \times Likelihood

- Linking **ontology** (what is out there?) with **epistemology** (how do we know it?)
- Solves *Hume's* problem of induction?
 - but all probabilities are (at least) **conditional** if not downright **subjective**:
 - science is about doing experiments and **coming to agreement** about the world (irrespective of your priors)

CMB Data

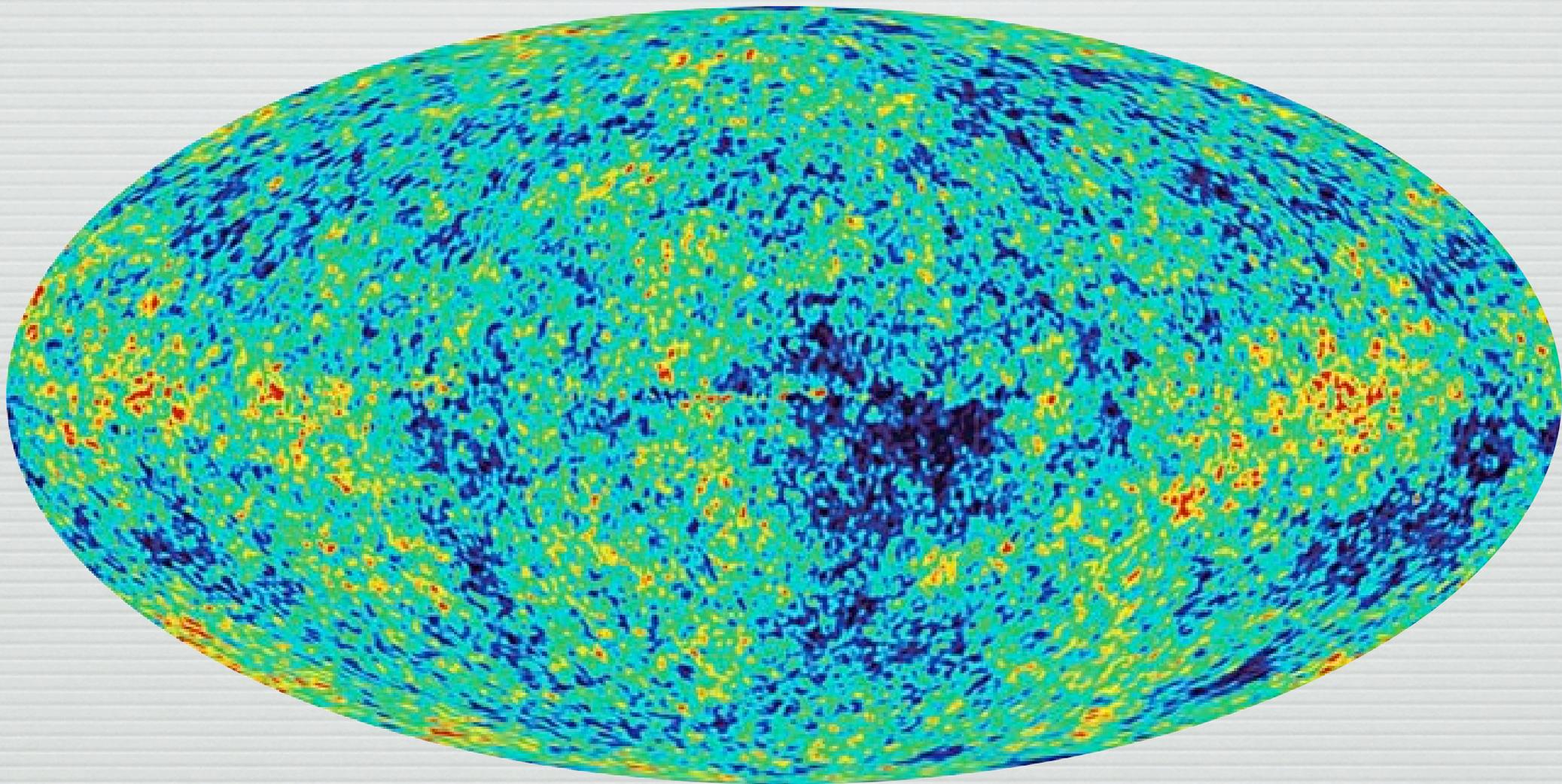
- data = signal + noise
- $d_t = A_{tp} s_p + n_t$ w/ correlations:

$$\langle s_p s_{p'} \rangle = S_{pp'} = \sum_{\ell} \frac{2\ell + 1}{4\pi} B_{\ell}^2 C_{\ell} \quad (\text{scanning temperature experiments})$$

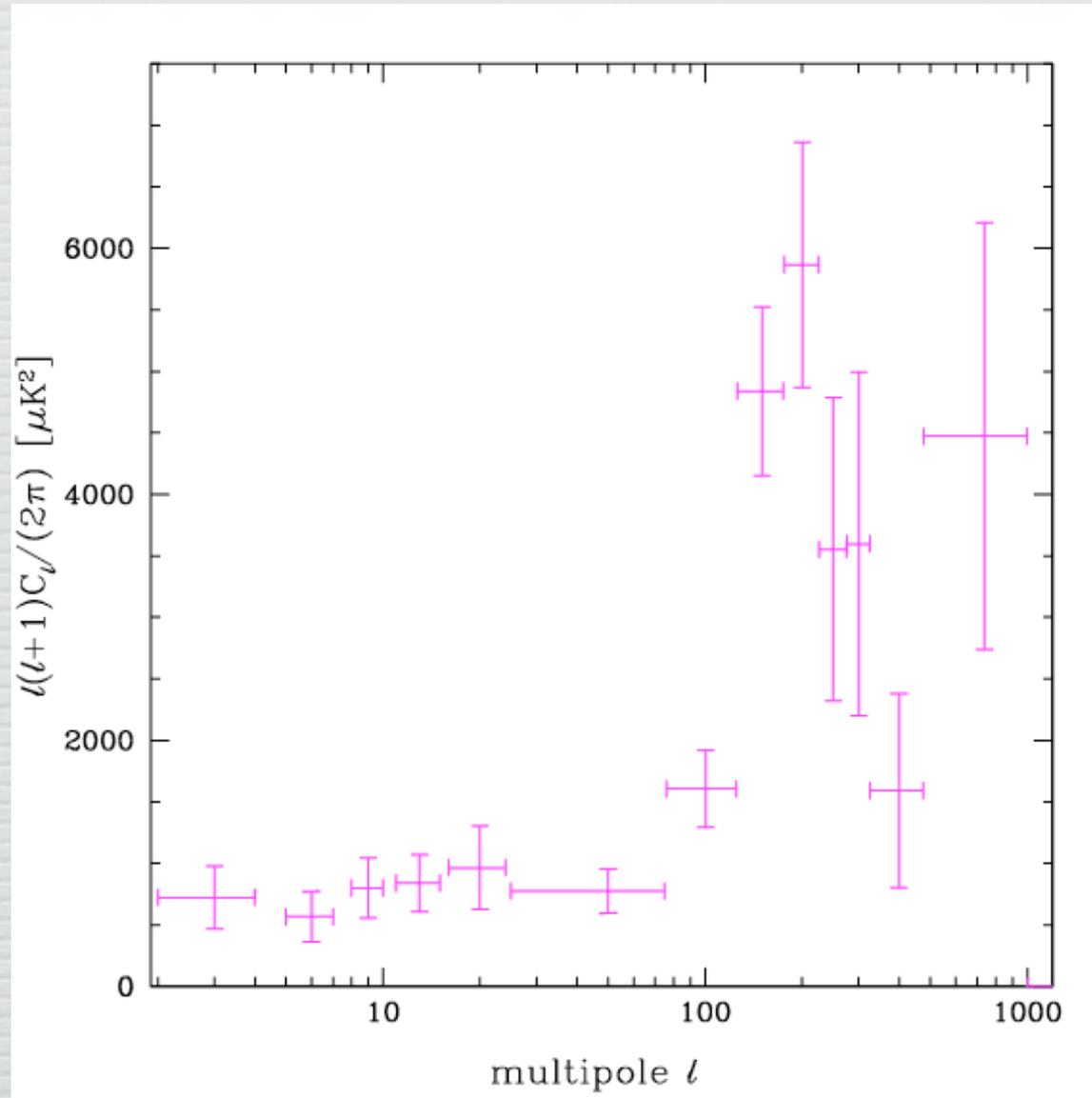
$$\langle n_t n_{t'} \rangle = N_{tt'} = N(t - t')$$

- Polarization: $S_{pp'}$ is linear combination of $C_l^{XX'}$
- Task: measure C_l and preserve *all sky information for parameter estimation*

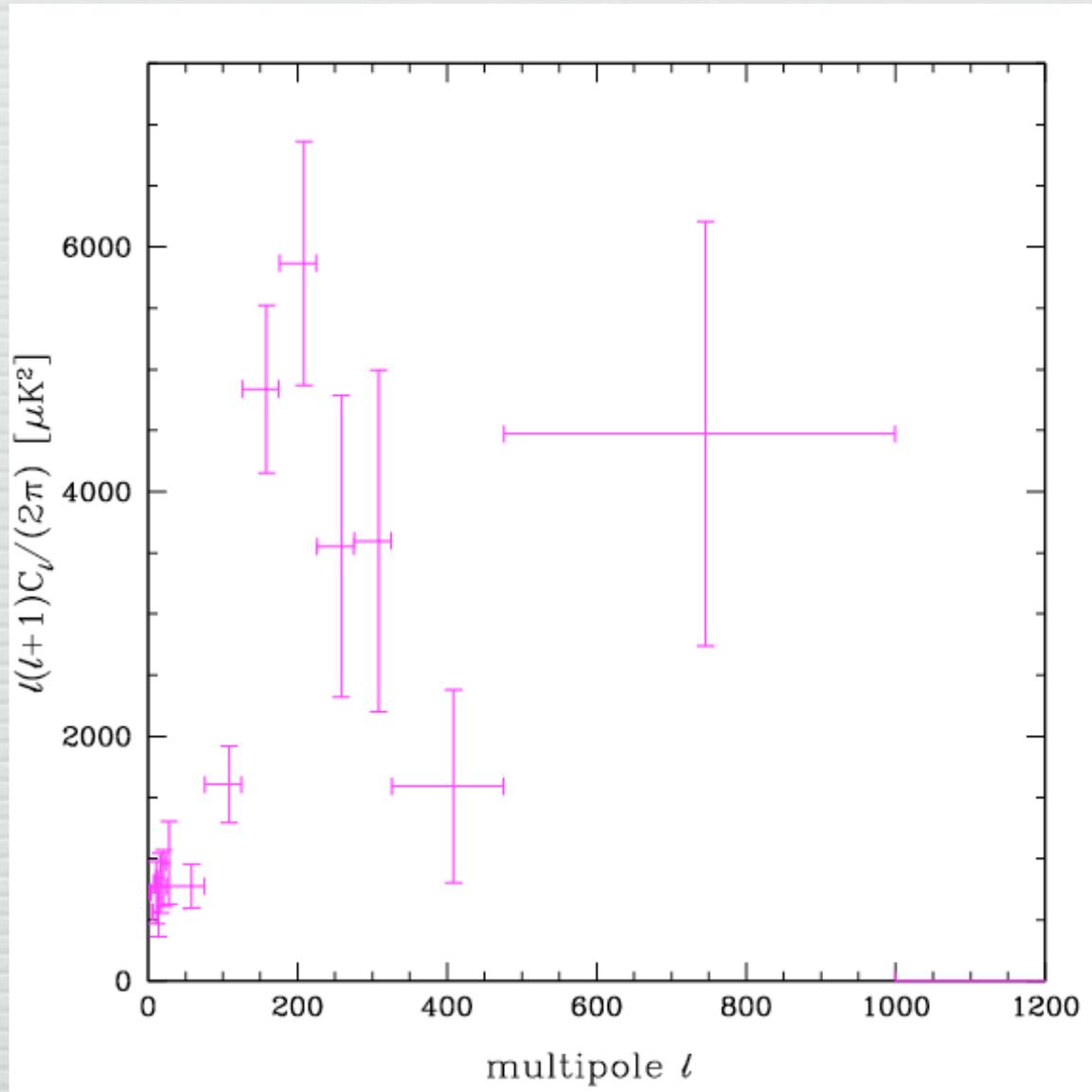
$$P(d | SNI) = \frac{1}{|2\pi(S + N)|^{1/2}} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2} d^T (S + N)^{-1} d\right]$$



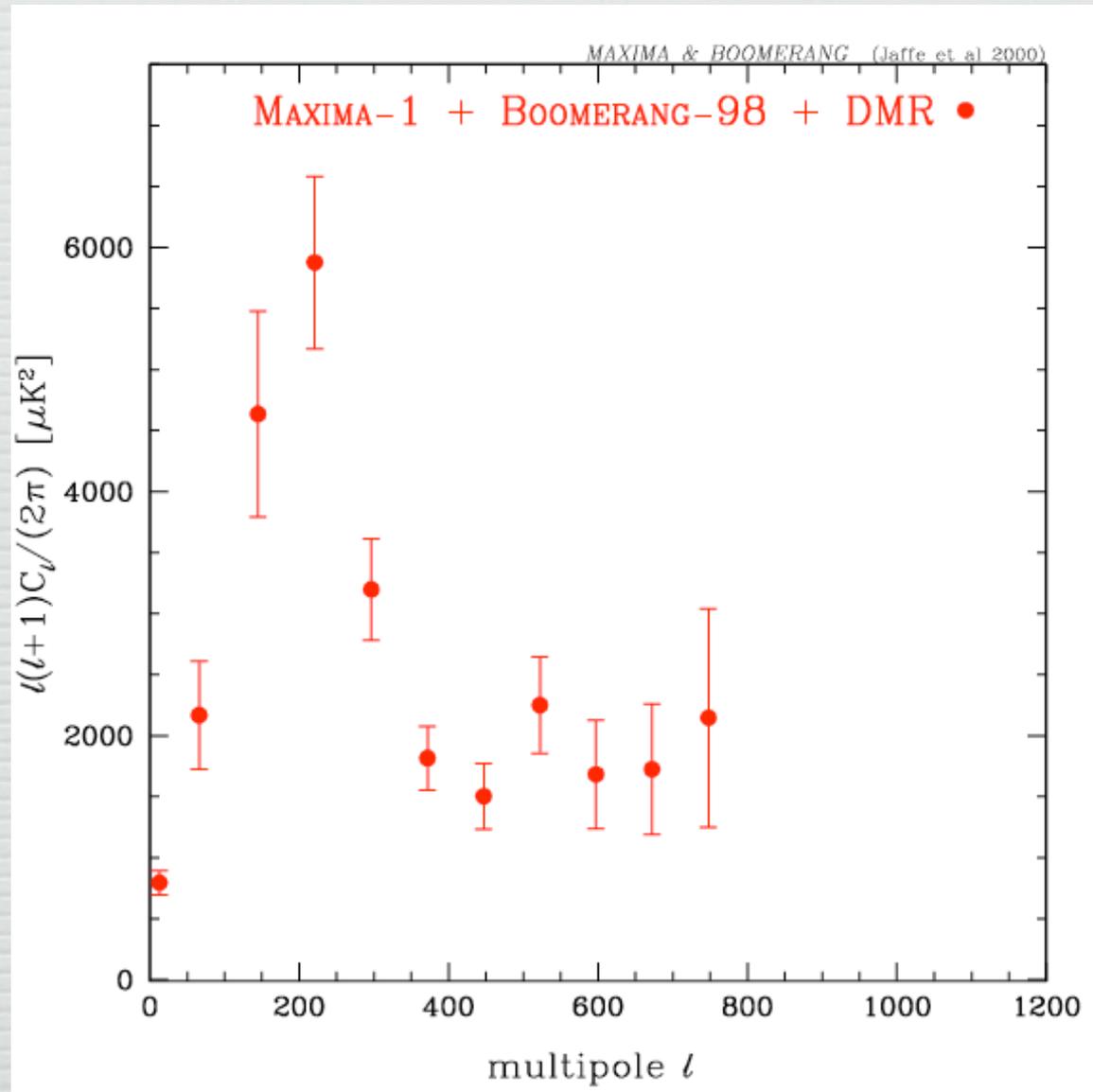
February, 2000



February, 2000

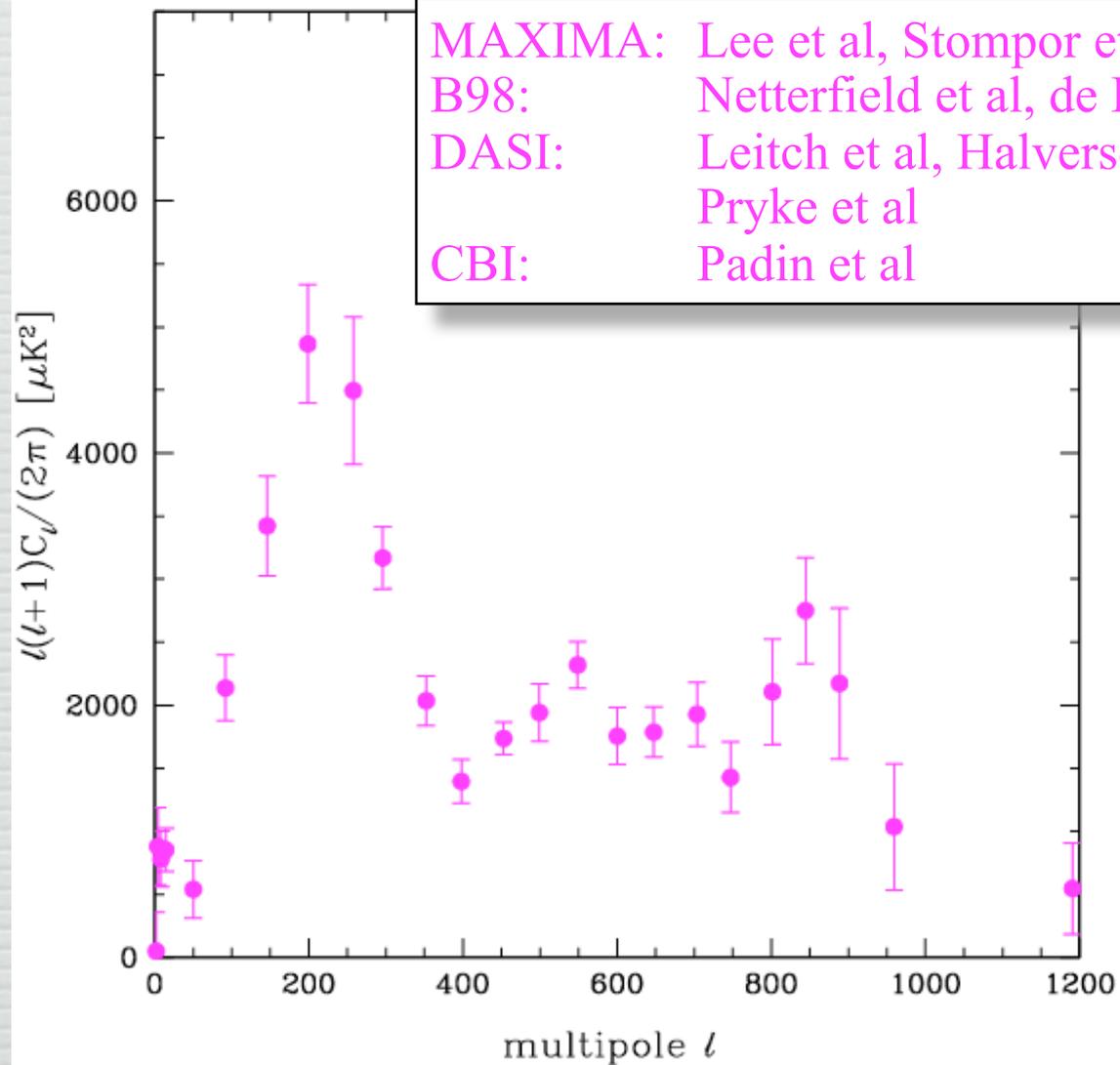


July, 2000

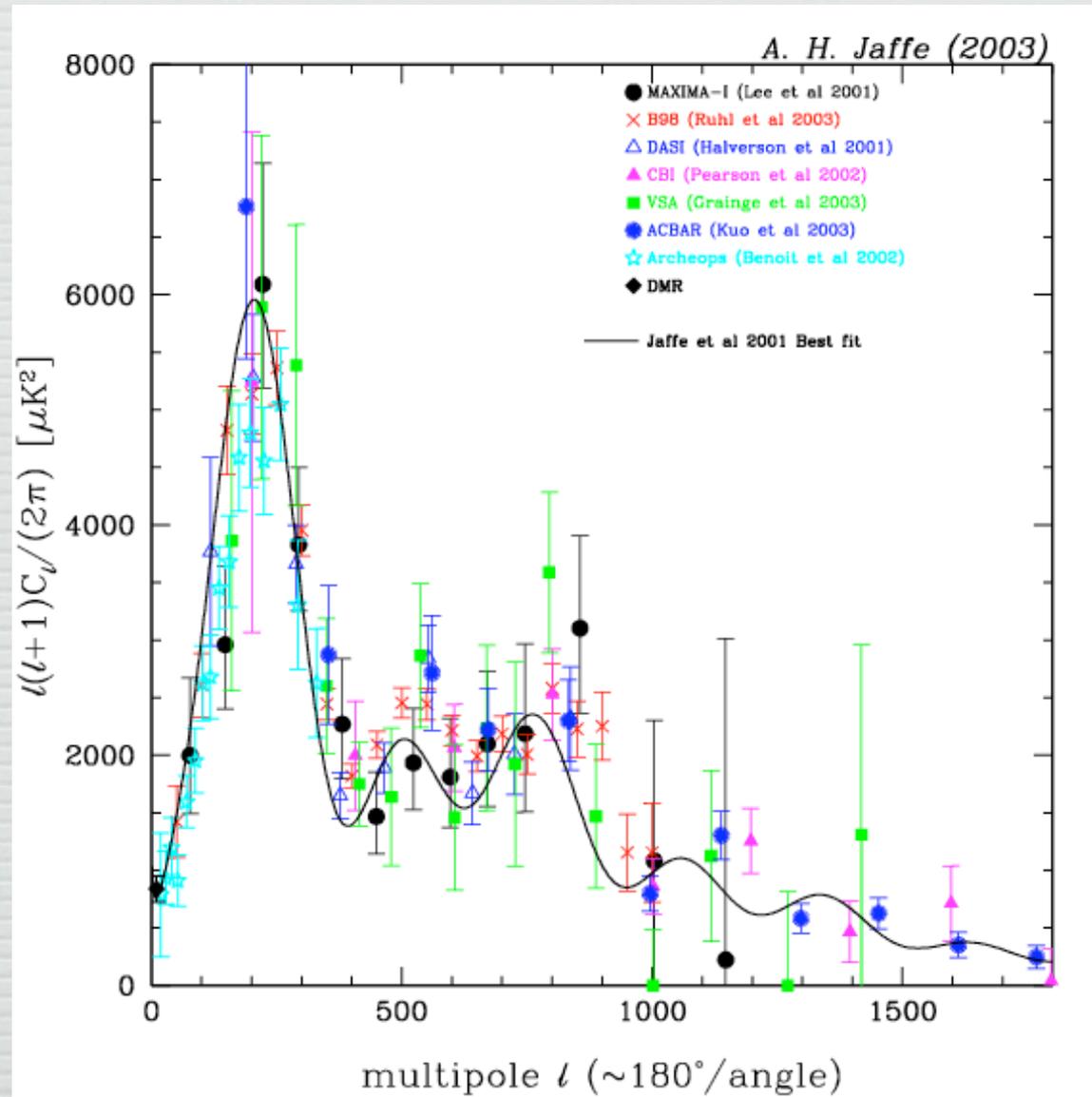


May, 2001

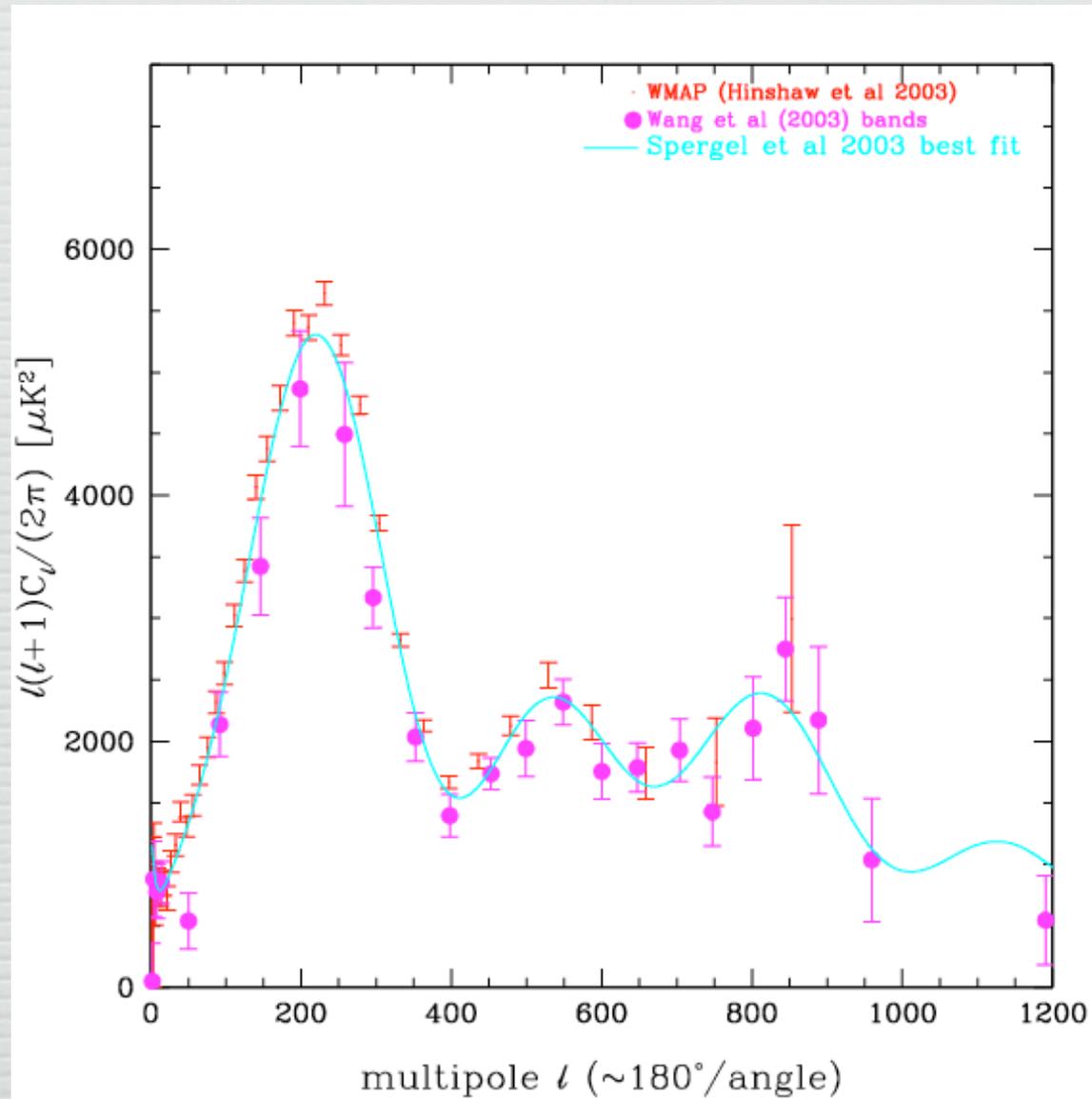
Wang, Tegmark & Zaldarriaga, 2001



January, 2003

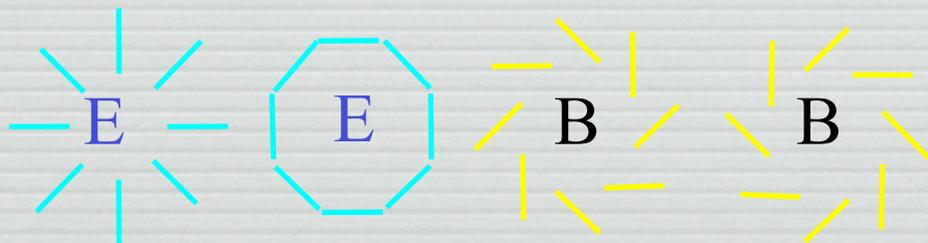
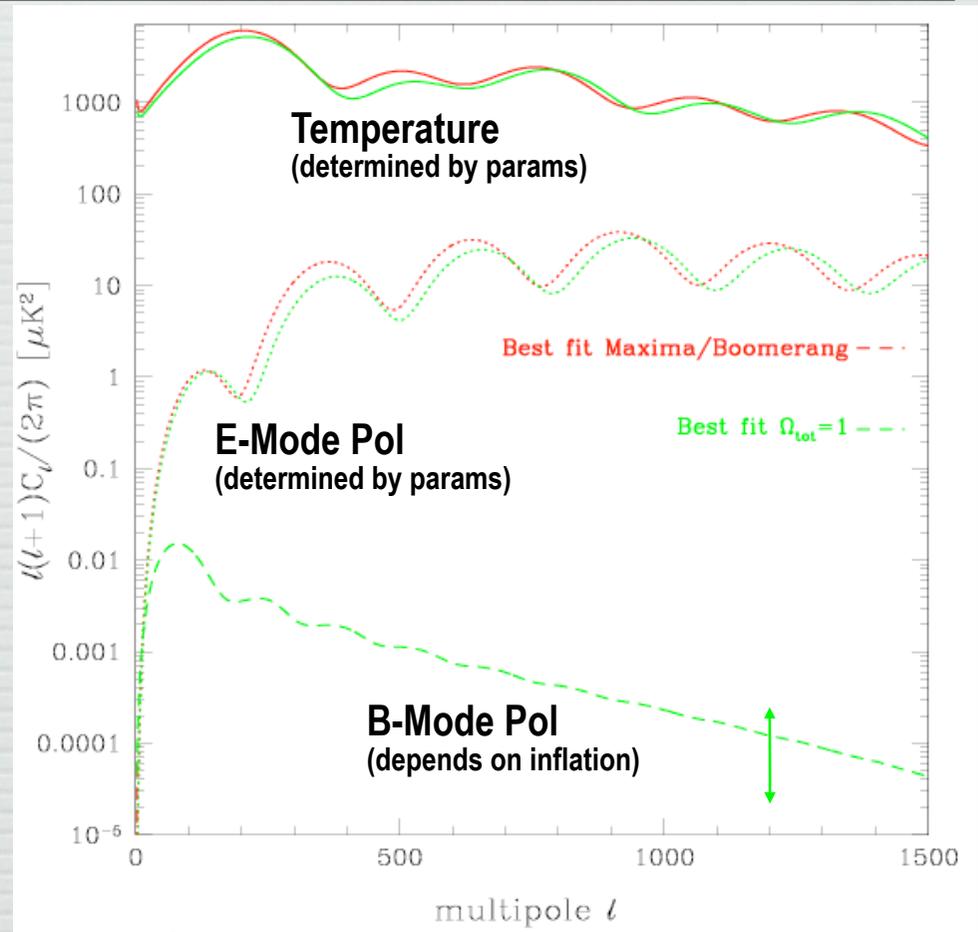


WMAP!



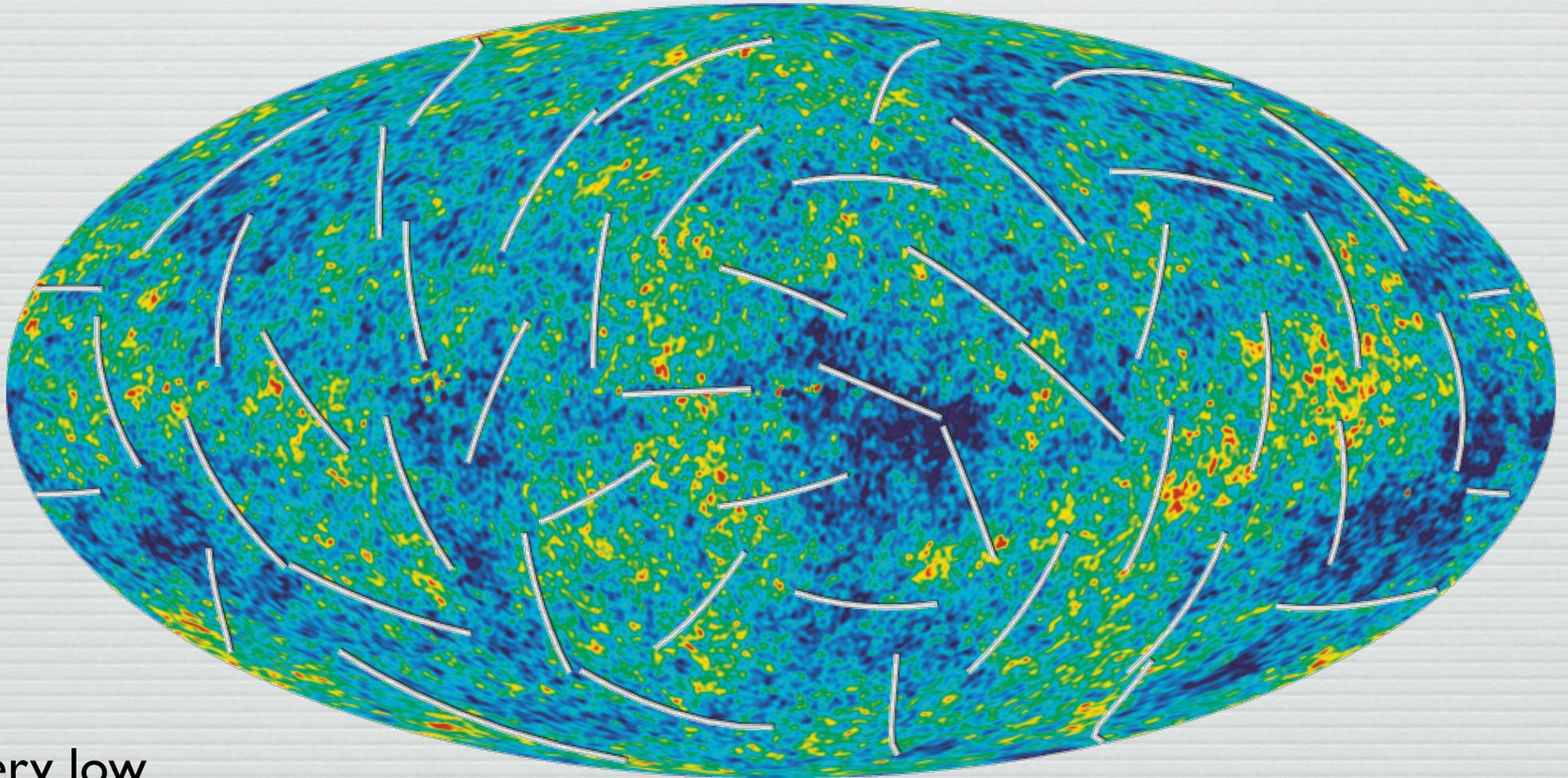
The Polarization of the CMB

- Anisotropic radiation field at **last scattering** → polarization
 - “Grad” or *E* mode
 - Breaks degeneracies
 - New parameters:
 - reionization
- “Curl” or *B* sensitive to **gravity waves**
 - “Smoking gun” of inflation?
 - Very low amplitude
- Need better handle on systematics, and...
- Polarized foregrounds?



- DASI
- MAXIPOL, B2K
- MAP
- Planck
- Future satellites?

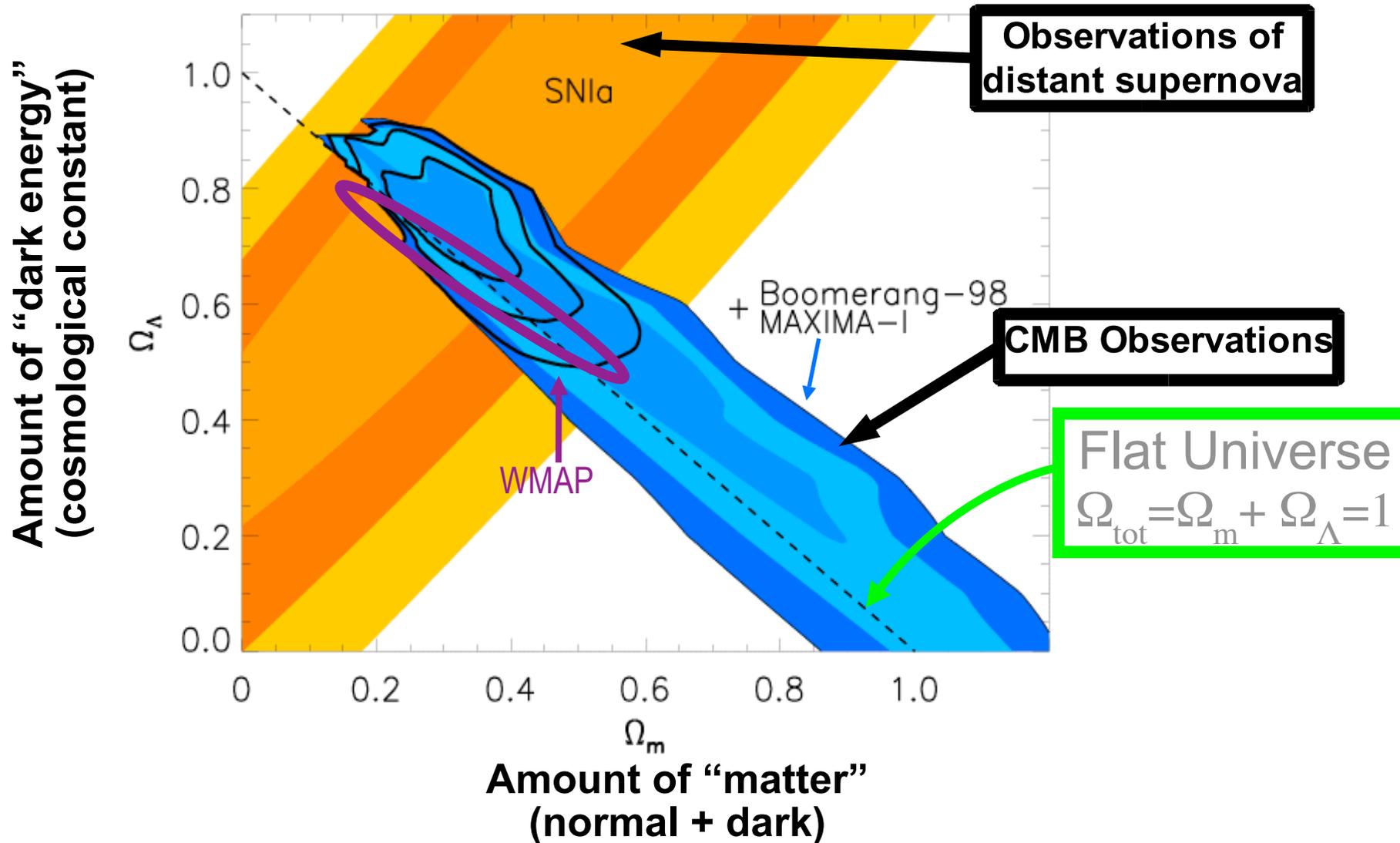
The CMB 2006: WMAP &c



Very low
Signal/“noise” on polarization —
dominated by foregrounds and systematic effects

WMAP Science team 2006

Measuring the geometry of the Universe

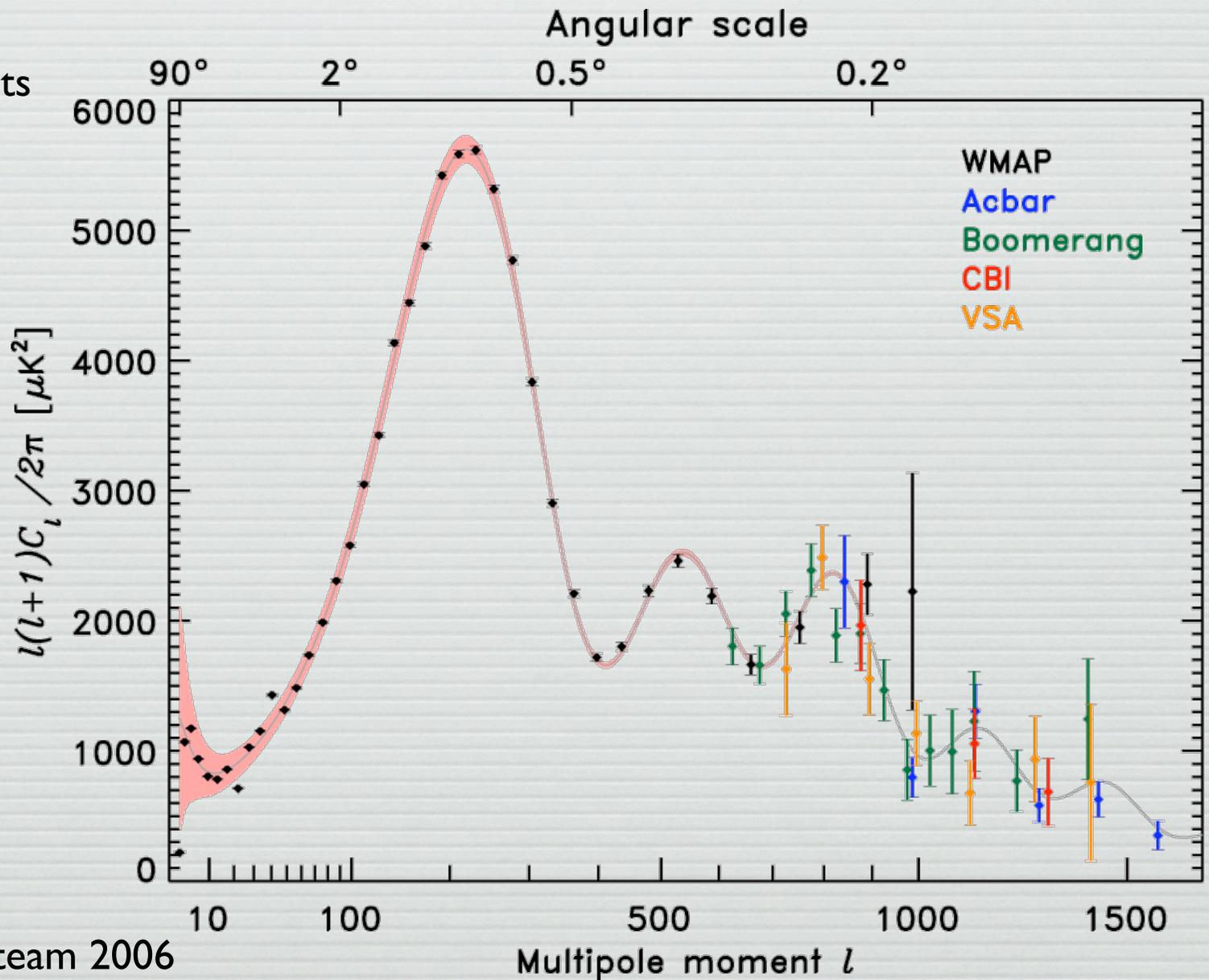


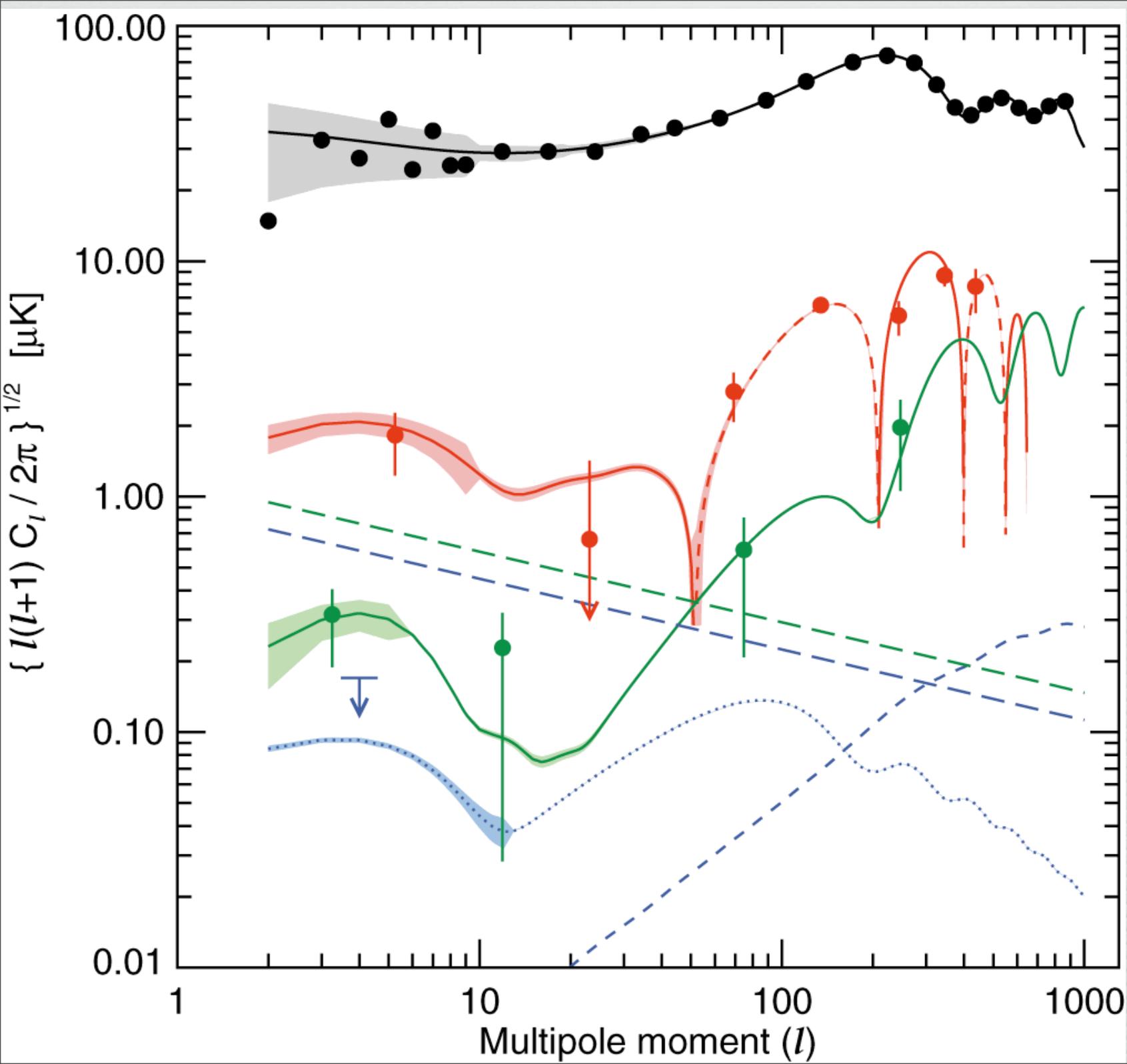
The CMB 2006: WMAP &c

High-res experiments confirm and extend WMAP results

see also recent MAXIPOL results

- Wu et al, astro-ph/0611392
- Johnson et al, astro-ph/0611394





Temperature
/Temperature

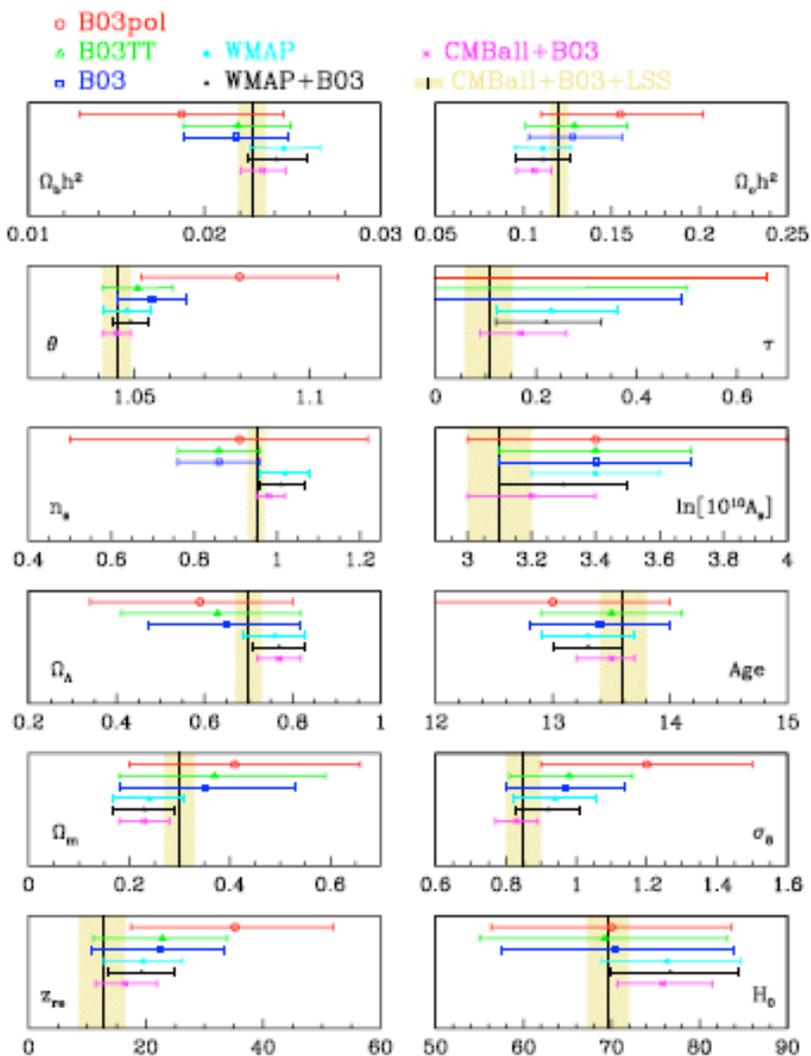
Temperature
/Polarization

Polarization
/Polarization

Polarization
consistent with
and extended by
DASI,
BOOMERaNG,
&c.

Priors and Parameters

MacTavish et al.



VSA: Rebolo et al 2004

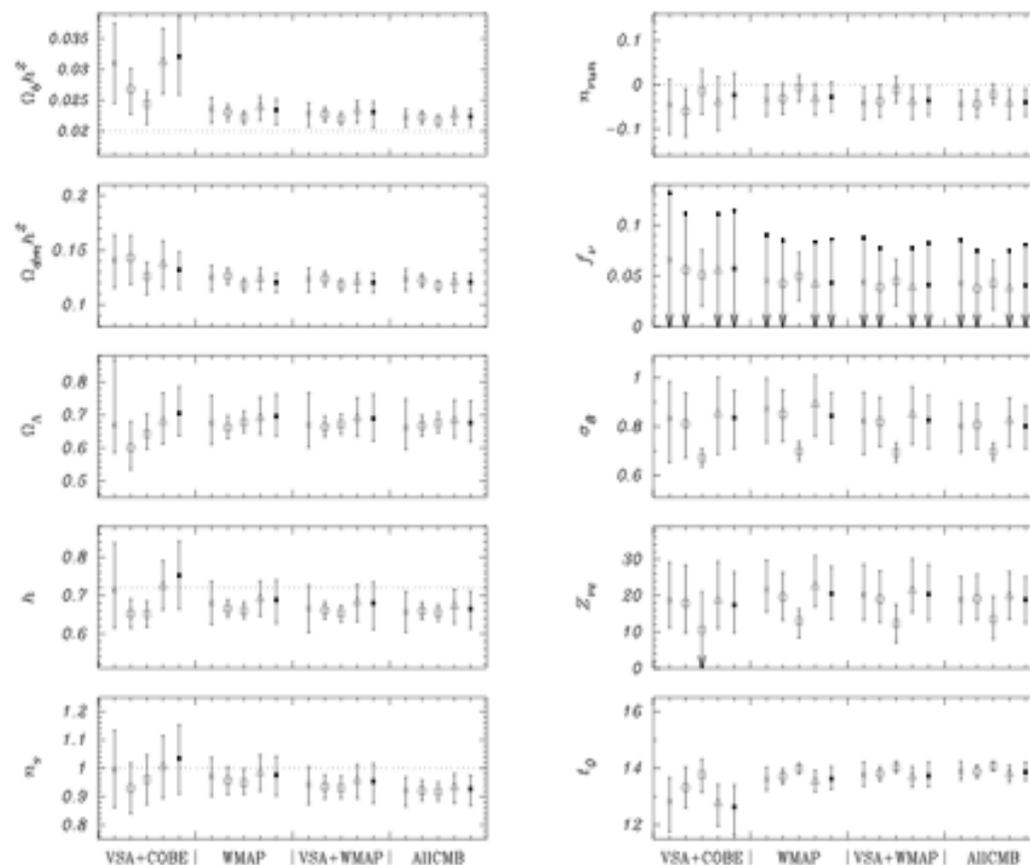


Figure 6. Estimates for cosmological parameters in the flat Λ CDM running spectral index model, extended to include f_ν . Four CMB data sets are considered and, for each data set, four determinations are plotted, corresponding to different combinations of external priors. From left to right the external priors are: 2dF; 2dF+ f_{gas} ; 2dF+ f_{gas} +XLF; 2dF+HST and 2dF+CS. The points indicate the median of the corresponding marginal distributions. The error bars denote 68% confidence limits. If a distribution peaks at zero then the 95% upper limit is shown. The horizontal dashed lines plotted in some of the panels indicate BBN values for $\Omega_b h^2$, the value of h given by the HST key project, the Harrison-Zel'dovich value of the spectral index of fluctuations and a zero value for the running index.

Cosmological Parameters

- Detailed parameter estimates depend upon
 - Data considered
 - Theoretical context
 - (i.e., prior information)
- General picture ~robust (at least w/in *nearly**-scale-invariant, moderately expanding FRW models)
- *inflationary prediction, but requires large-scale polarization and “lever arm” between different experiments.

Table 5: Λ CDM Model: Joint Likelihoods

Parameter	WMAP Only	WMAP +CBI+VSA	WMAP+ACBAR +BOOMERanG	WMAP + 2dFGRS
$100\Omega_b h^2$	$2.233^{+0.072}_{-0.091}$	$2.203^{+0.072}_{-0.090}$	$2.228^{+0.066}_{-0.082}$	$2.223^{+0.066}_{-0.083}$
$\Omega_m h^2$	$0.1268^{+0.0073}_{-0.0128}$	$0.1238^{+0.0066}_{-0.0118}$	$0.1271^{+0.0070}_{-0.0128}$	$0.1262^{+0.0050}_{-0.0103}$
h	$0.734^{+0.028}_{-0.038}$	$0.738^{+0.028}_{-0.037}$	$0.733^{+0.030}_{-0.038}$	$0.732^{+0.018}_{-0.025}$
A	$0.801^{+0.043}_{-0.054}$	$0.798^{+0.047}_{-0.057}$	$0.801^{+0.048}_{-0.056}$	$0.799^{+0.042}_{-0.051}$
τ	$0.088^{+0.028}_{-0.034}$	$0.084^{+0.031}_{-0.038}$	$0.084^{+0.027}_{-0.034}$	$0.083^{+0.027}_{-0.031}$
n_s	$0.951^{+0.015}_{-0.019}$	$0.945^{+0.015}_{-0.019}$	$0.949^{+0.015}_{-0.019}$	$0.948^{+0.014}_{-0.018}$
σ_8	$0.744^{+0.060}_{-0.060}$	$0.722^{+0.044}_{-0.056}$	$0.742^{+0.045}_{-0.057}$	$0.737^{+0.033}_{-0.045}$
Ω_m	$0.238^{+0.027}_{-0.045}$	$0.229^{+0.026}_{-0.042}$	$0.239^{+0.025}_{-0.046}$	$0.236^{+0.016}_{-0.029}$

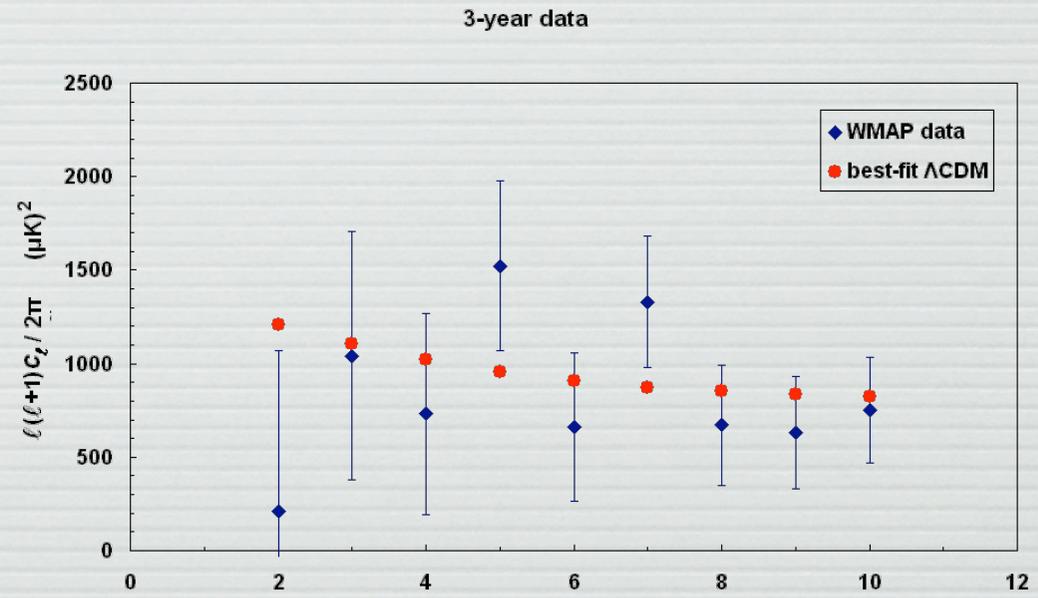
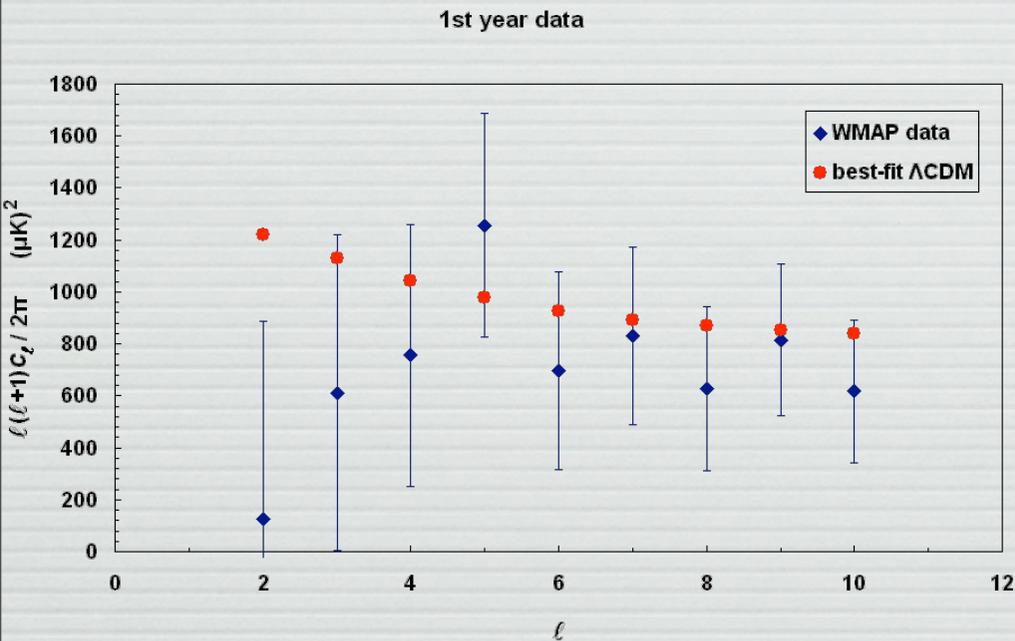
Table 6: Λ CDM Model

Parameter	WMAP+ SDSS	WMAP+ LRG	WMAP+ SNLS	WMAP + SN Gold	WMAP+ CFHTLS
$100\Omega_b h^2$	$2.233^{+0.062}_{-0.086}$	$2.242^{+0.062}_{-0.084}$	$2.233^{+0.069}_{-0.088}$	$2.227^{+0.065}_{-0.082}$	$2.247^{+0.084}_{-0.082}$
$\Omega_m h^2$	$0.1329^{+0.0057}_{-0.0109}$	$0.1337^{+0.0047}_{-0.0098}$	$0.1295^{+0.0055}_{-0.0106}$	$0.1349^{+0.0054}_{-0.0106}$	$0.1410^{+0.0042}_{-0.0094}$
h	$0.709^{+0.024}_{-0.032}$	$0.709^{+0.016}_{-0.023}$	$0.723^{+0.021}_{-0.030}$	$0.701^{+0.020}_{-0.026}$	$0.686^{+0.017}_{-0.024}$
A	$0.813^{+0.042}_{-0.052}$	$0.816^{+0.042}_{-0.049}$	$0.808^{+0.044}_{-0.051}$	$0.827^{+0.045}_{-0.053}$	$0.852^{+0.036}_{-0.047}$
τ	$0.079^{+0.029}_{-0.032}$	$0.082^{+0.028}_{-0.033}$	$0.085^{+0.028}_{-0.032}$	$0.079^{+0.028}_{-0.034}$	$0.088^{+0.021}_{-0.031}$
n_s	$0.948^{+0.015}_{-0.018}$	$0.951^{+0.014}_{-0.018}$	$0.950^{+0.015}_{-0.019}$	$0.946^{+0.015}_{-0.019}$	$0.950^{+0.015}_{-0.019}$
σ_8	$0.772^{+0.036}_{-0.048}$	$0.781^{+0.032}_{-0.045}$	$0.758^{+0.038}_{-0.052}$	$0.784^{+0.035}_{-0.049}$	$0.826^{+0.023}_{-0.035}$
Ω_m	$0.266^{+0.025}_{-0.040}$	$0.267^{+0.017}_{-0.029}$	$0.249^{+0.023}_{-0.034}$	$0.276^{+0.022}_{-0.036}$	$0.301^{+0.018}_{-0.031}$

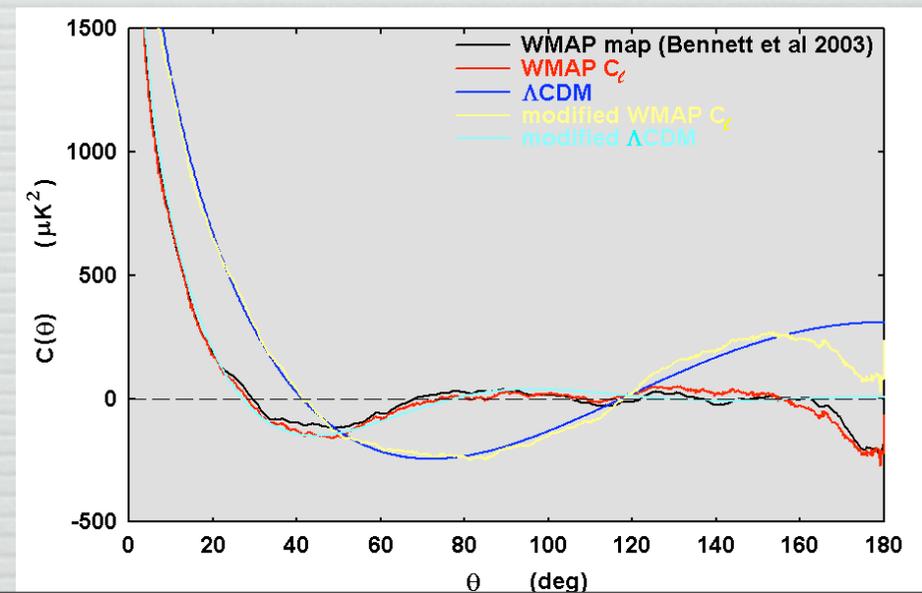
Cosmological Parameters c. 2007

- Big picture: consistent with **inflation**
 - **Flat** Universe
 - nearly-**scale-invariant** fluctuations
 - **adiabatic, gaussian** fluctuations
 - 5% Baryons, 25% **dark** matter, 70% **dark** energy
 - consistency with “direct” measurements of expansion rate (H_0) and baryon density (BBN)
- requires **external data** for measurements of all parameters
- details depend on **priors**
- no “evidence” for physics beyond the standard model?

First hints of a problem: Large-scale CMB power



- Efstathiou; Contaldi et al;
de Oliveira-Costa, Tegmark,
Hamilton; Copi et al; Land,
Magueijo, ...
- (Originally noticed in COBE/
DMR)



Model Comparison

- Model posteriors: marginalize over all parameters

$$\text{evidence : } P(D | I_m) = \int P(\theta | I_m) P(D | \theta I_m) d\theta$$

$$\frac{P(m | DI)}{P(n | DI)} = \frac{P(m | I)}{P(n | I)} \frac{P(D | I_m)}{P(D | I_n)}$$



depends on prior
Information for
whole model

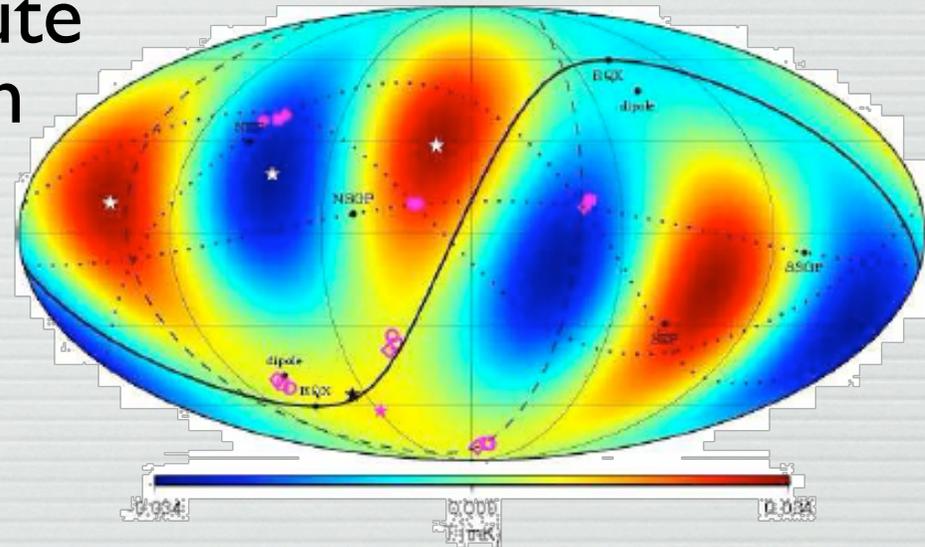
Bayes factor (B_{mn}): model
likelihoods ("evidence") depend
on experimental information and
parameter priors

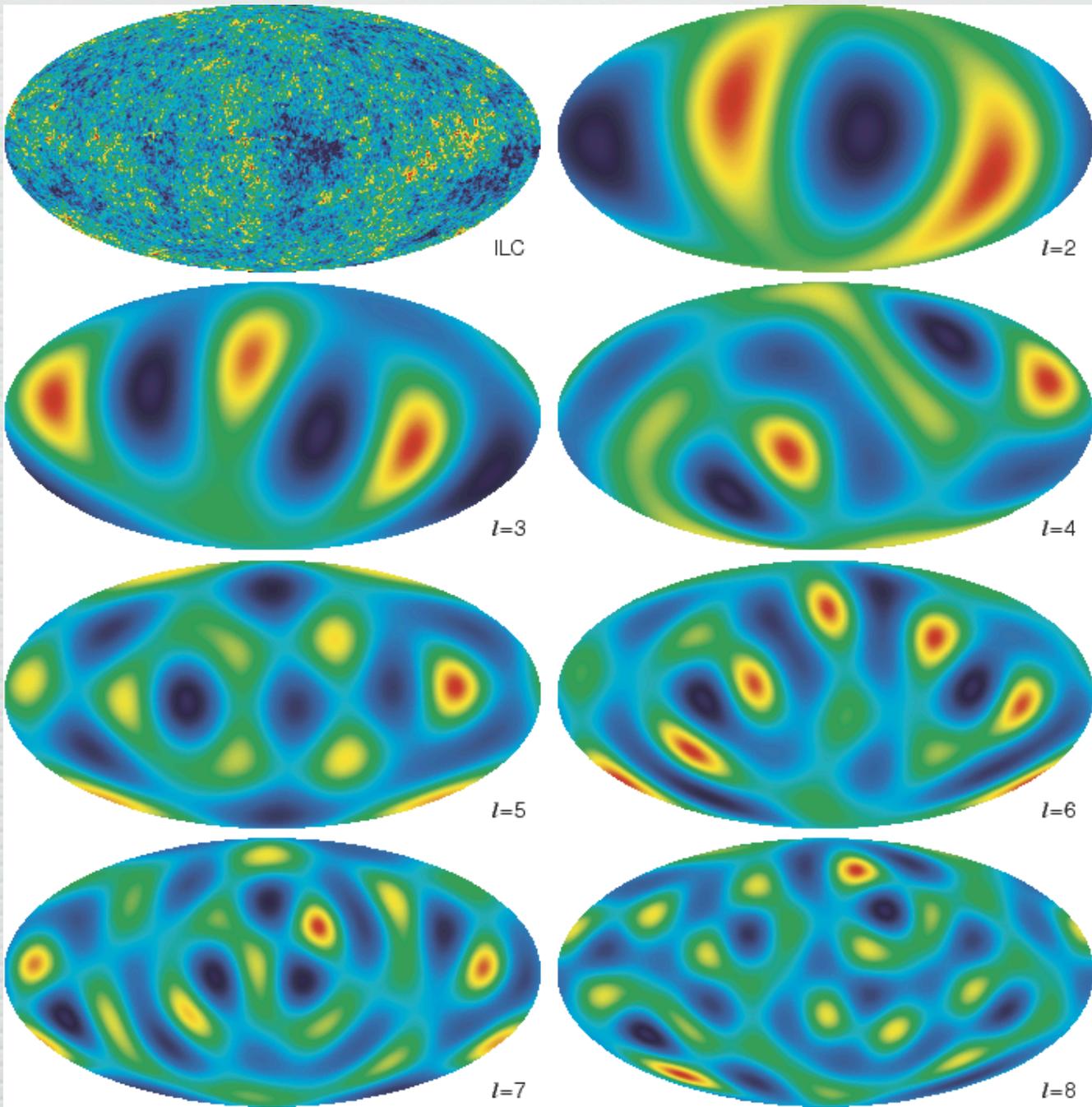
$$\text{model } m \text{ favoured by : } \nu\sigma = \sqrt{2 |\ln B_{mn}|}$$

Anisotropy (from topology?)

8 C.J. Copi, D. Huterer, D.J. Schwarz and G.D. Starkman

- Problem becomes more acute beyond the power spectrum
- Multi-connected topology?
- Finite universe
 - Cutoff at large scales induces power deficit
 - In closed universe **cutoff determined by curvature** alone
- Intrinsic **anisotropy** (orientable manifolds)
 - Possible apparent non-Gaussianity
- Effects only present at **large scales** – at smaller scales standard Λ CDM power spectrum recovered





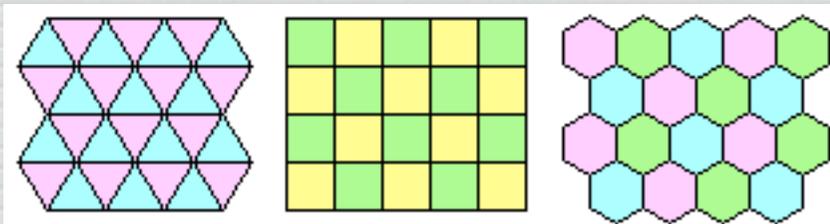
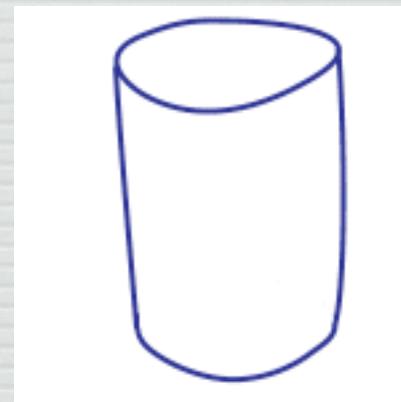
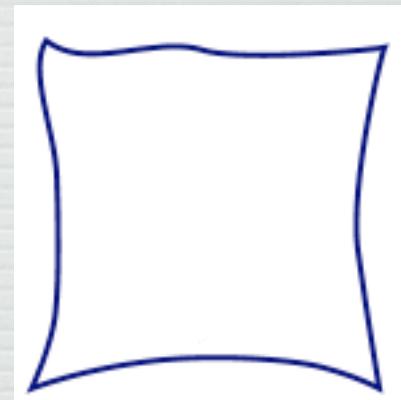
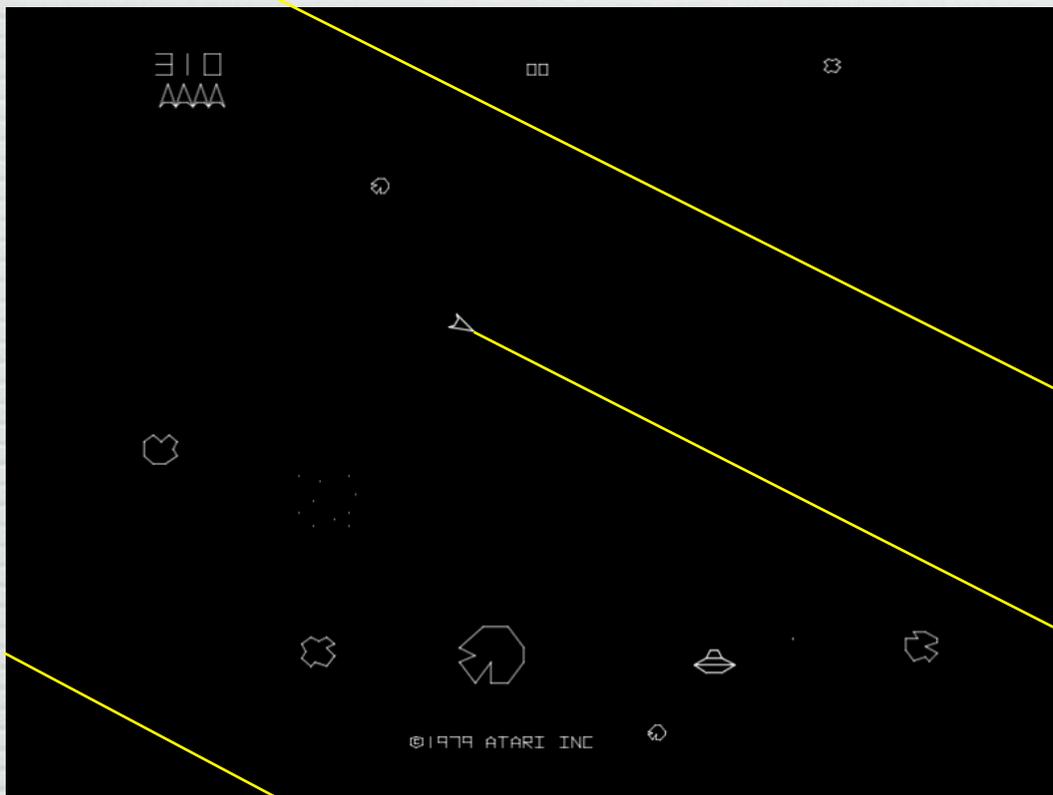
Geometry and Topology

- GR links mass-energy with **curvature** (geometry)
- **Topology** determined in early Universe?
- “Topology scale” $> H_0^{-1}$ (Hubble Scale)
 - Can’t see the back of our head!
- Infinitely many multiply-connected topologies...

Closed (3-sphere) universes:

- finite number of [well-proportioned] tilings
- *topology scale linked to curvature scale* (one fewer “coincidence”).

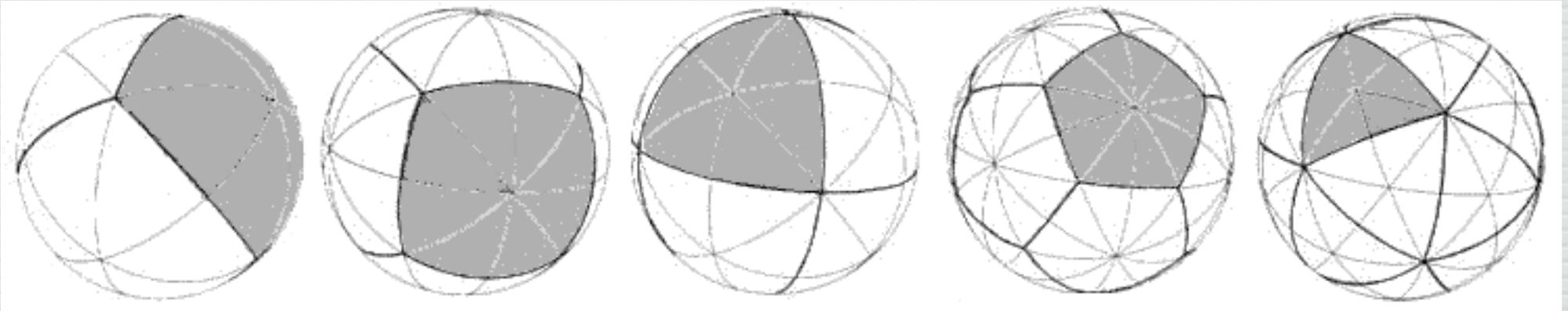
Topology in a flat “universe”



“tiling the plane”

Don't *need* to “embed” the square to have a connected topology.

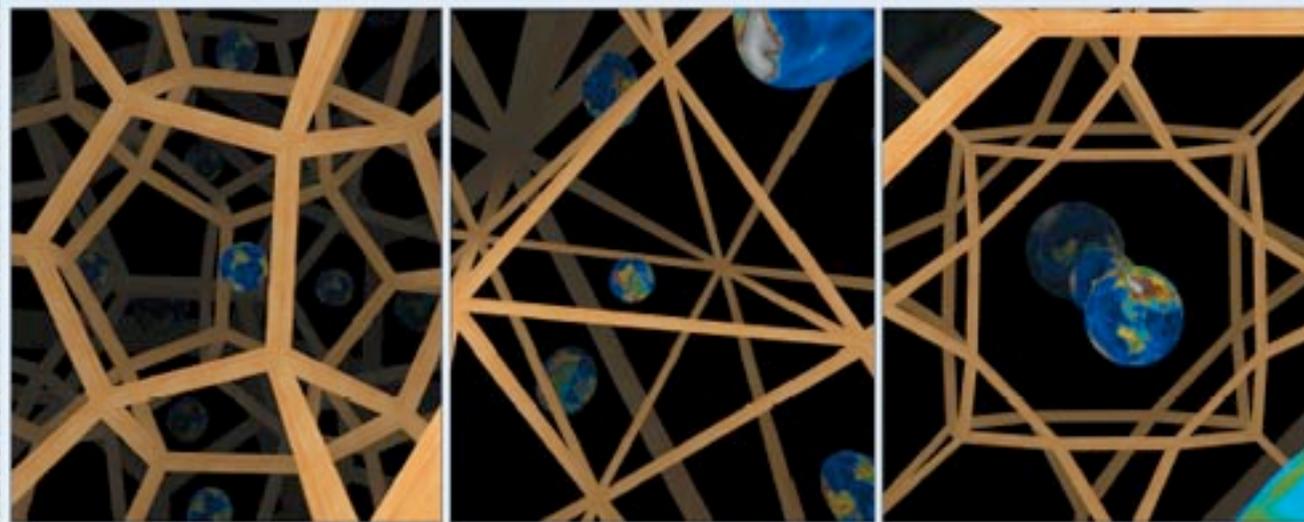
Topology + geometry



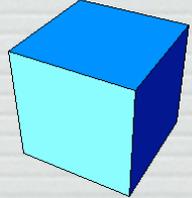
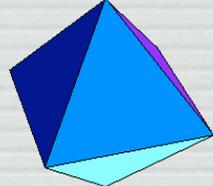
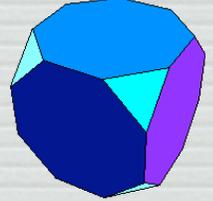
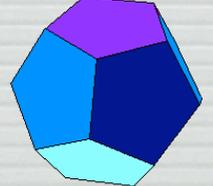
- Tile the 2-sphere with different **fundamental domains**

Topology in 3-d

- Flat space: infinitely many possibilities
- Curved space: fundamental domains are constrained by geometry (Thurston, Weeks)



Multiply-connected Spherical Topologies

Space	Fundamental group	Order	Elements	F.P.
Quaternionic	Binary Dihedral	8	order 2 rotations about 2 perpendicular axes	
Octahedral	Binary Tetrahedral	24	symmetries of r. tetrahedron	
Truncated Cube	Binary Octahedral	48	symmetries of r. octahedron	
Poincaré	Binary Icosahedral	120	symmetries of r. icosahedron	

Effects of non-trivial topology

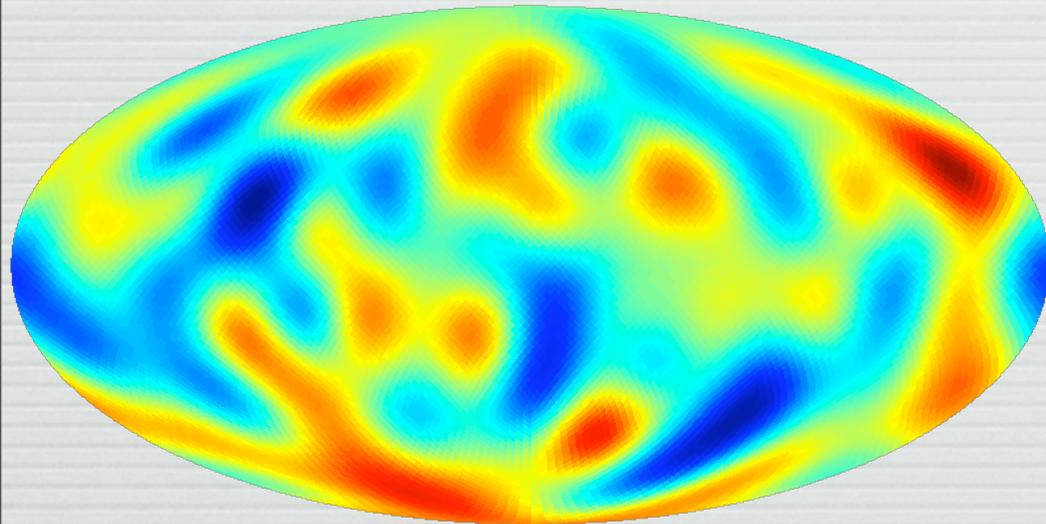
- Orientability of manifolds
- **breakdown of global isotropy**
 - apparent non-Gaussianity in the CMB
- Finite size of fundamental domains
 - Fewer wavenumbers

Niarchou & Jaffe 07

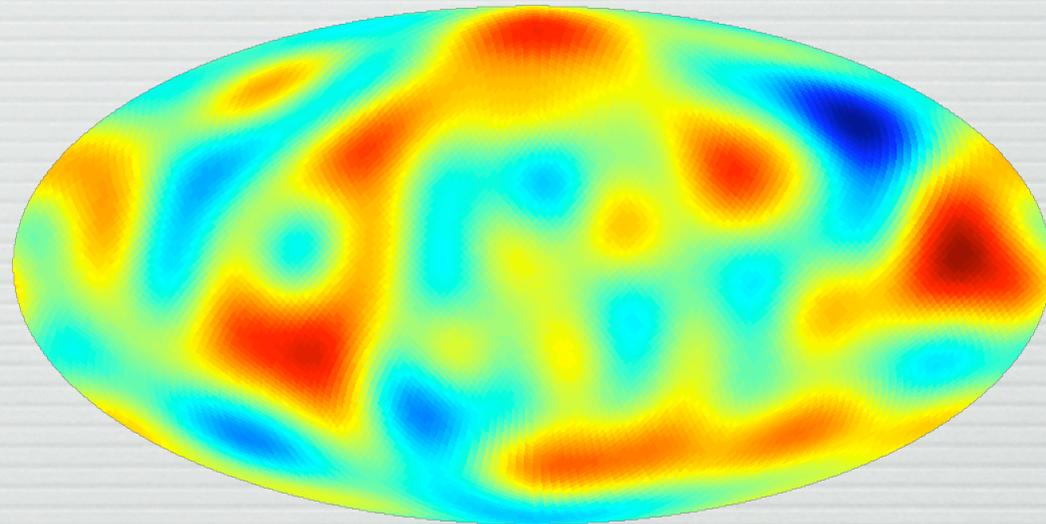
simply connected	multi-connected
$Y_{\beta \ell m}$	$Y_{\beta}^s = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\beta-1} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} \xi_{\beta \ell m}^s Y_{\beta \ell m}$
$a_{\ell m} = i^{\ell} \int d\beta \beta^2 \sqrt{P(\beta)} \Delta_{\ell}(\beta) \varepsilon_{\beta \ell m}$	$a_{\ell m} \propto \sum_{\beta} \sqrt{P(\beta)} \Delta_{\ell}(\beta) \sum \xi_{\beta \ell m}^s \varepsilon_{ks}$
$\langle a_{\ell m} a_{\ell' m'} \rangle = C_{\ell} \delta_{\ell \ell'} \delta_{m m'}$	$\langle a_{\ell m} a_{\ell' m'} \rangle = C_{\ell m}^{\ell' m'}$ $C_{\ell} \equiv \sum_m C_{\ell m}^{\ell m}$

Simulated Maps ($\Omega_k = -0.063$)

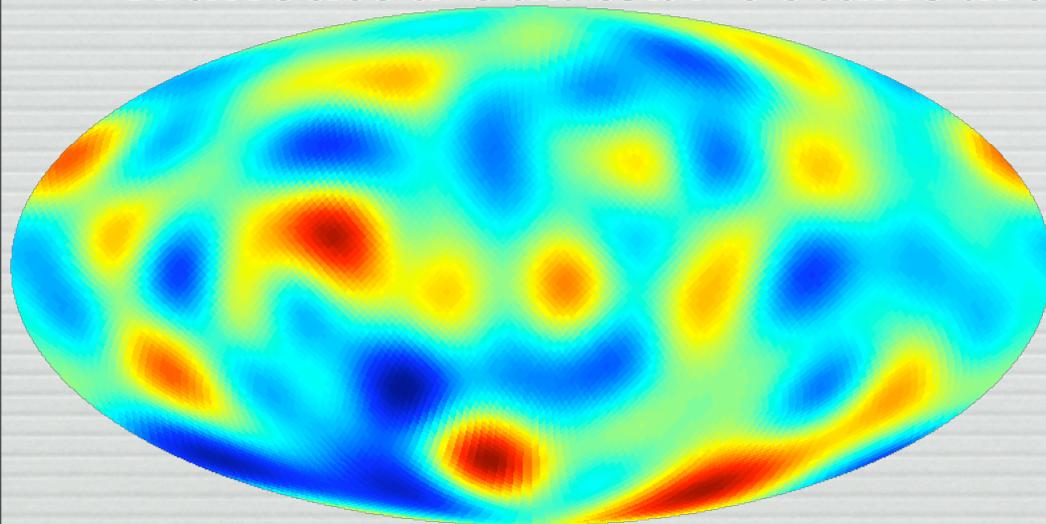
Quaternionic/bi-dehedral



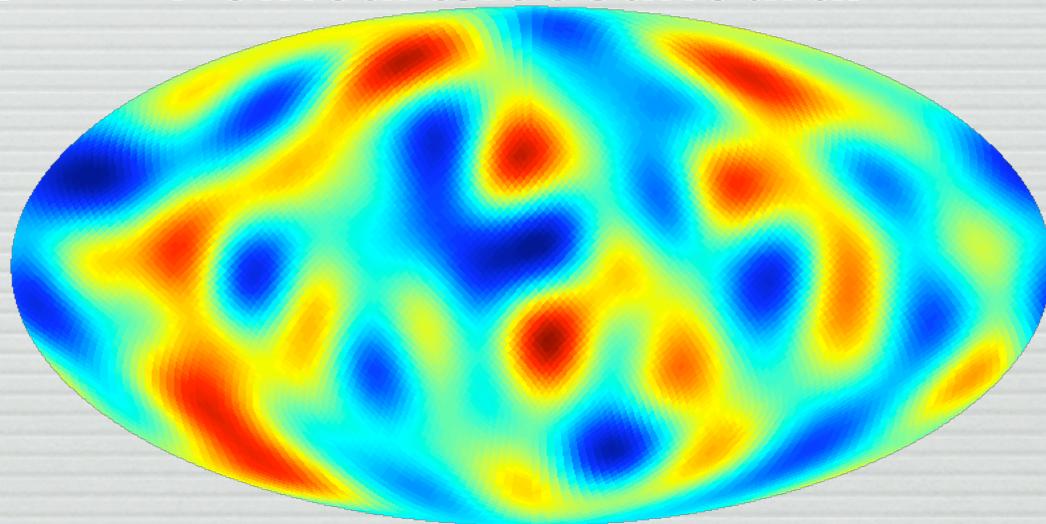
Octahedral/bi-tetrahedral



Truncated cube/bi-octahedral

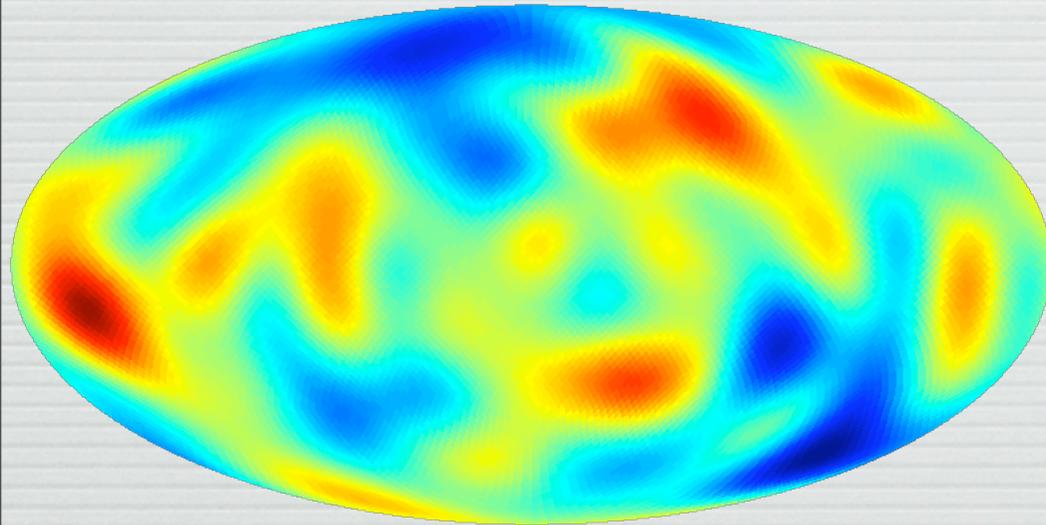


Poincaré/icosahedral

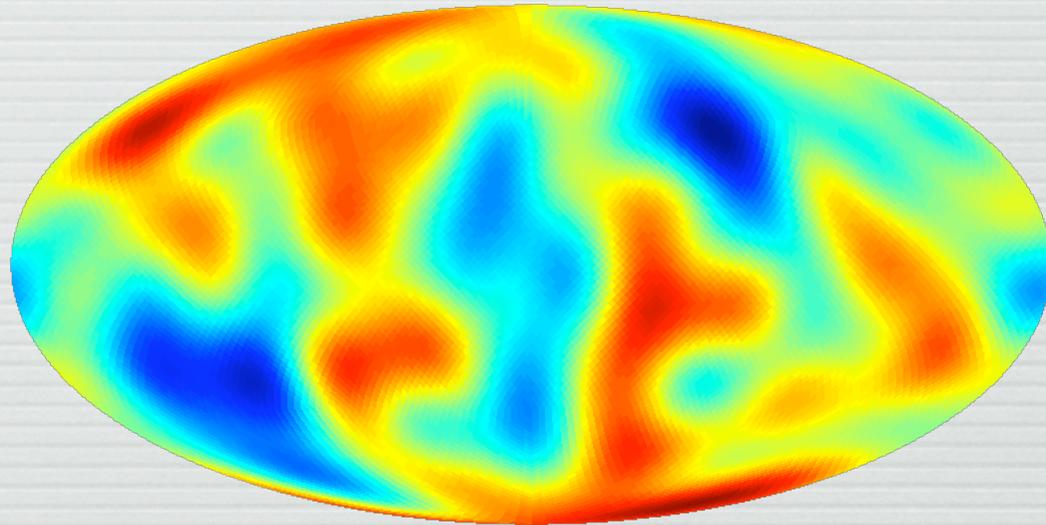


Simulated Maps ($\Omega_k = -0.017$)

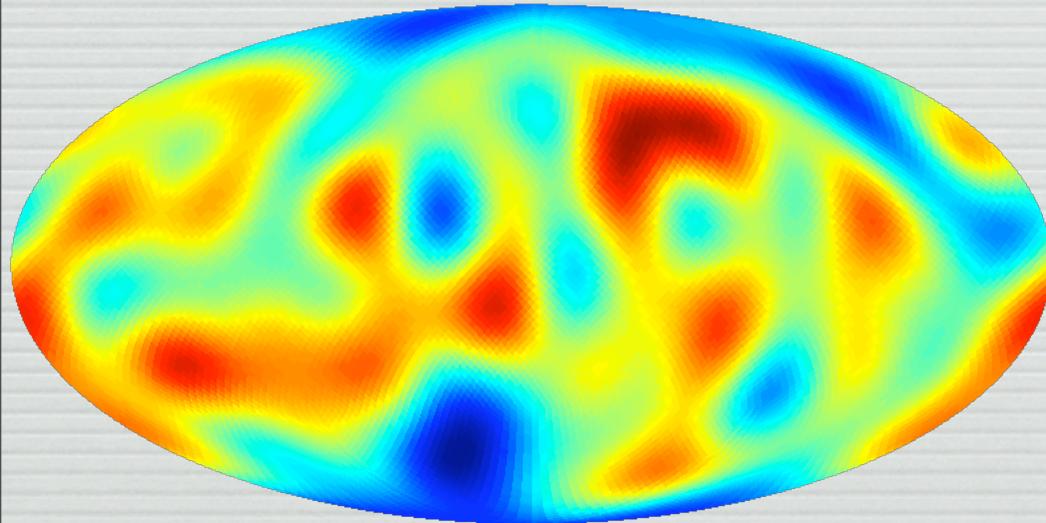
Quaternionic/bi-dehedral



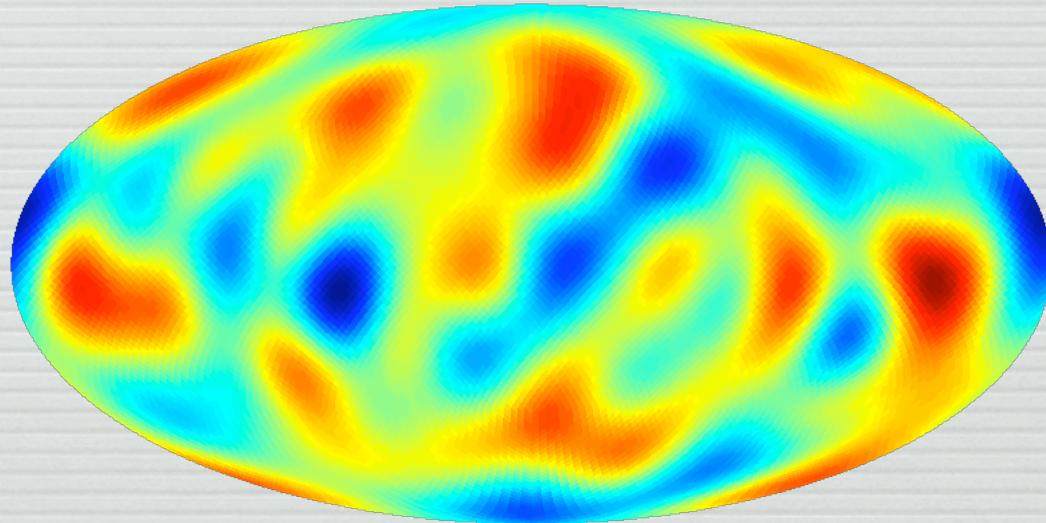
Octahedral/bi-tetrahedral



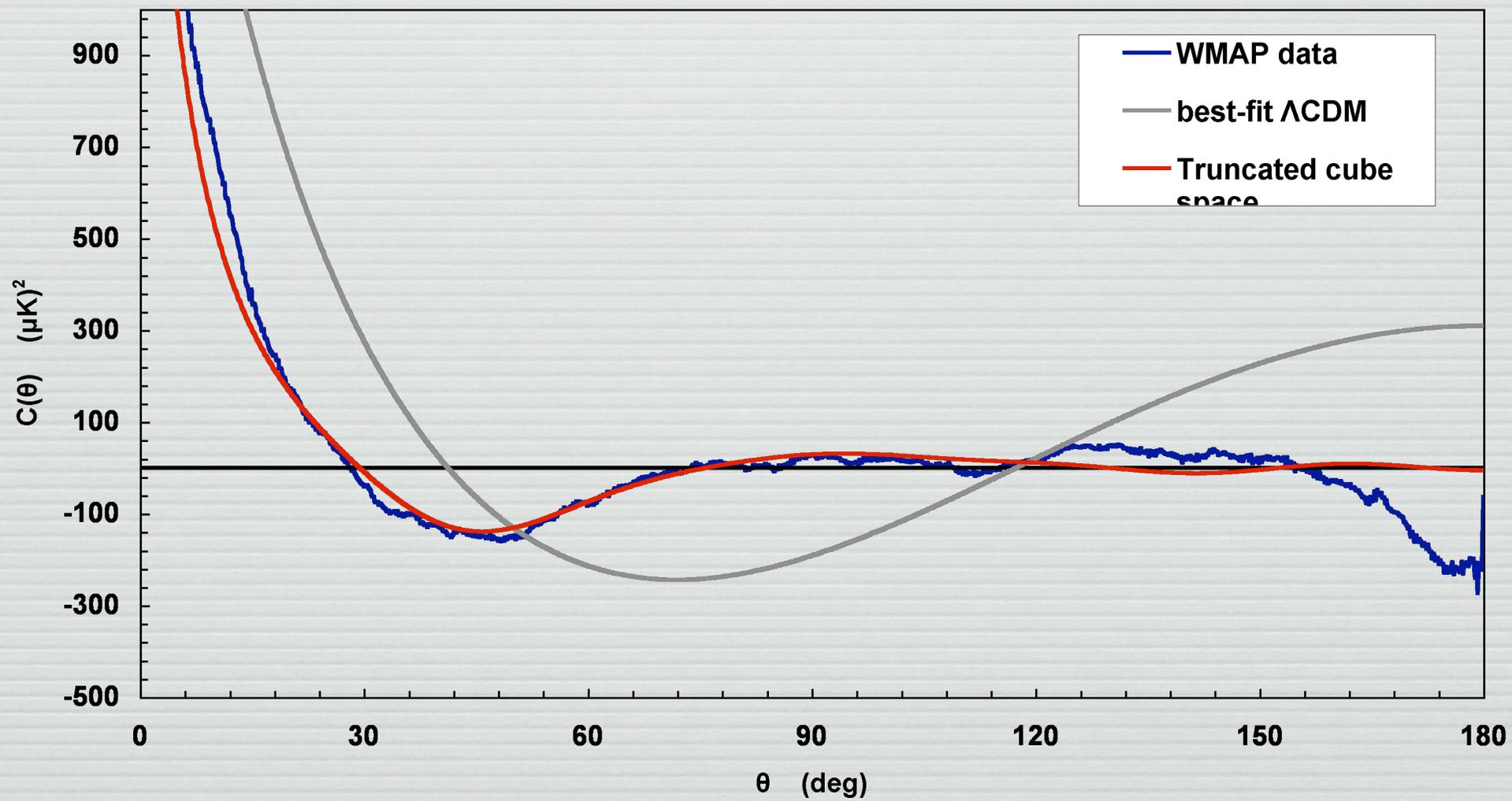
Truncated cube/bi-octahedral



Poincaré/icosahedral



Truncated cube space / $H_0 = 52$



Bayesian topology

- Power spectrum: likelihood code by WMAP team (accounting for correlations among ℓ 's)

- Full correlation matrix:

$$P(a | C) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi|C|}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} a^t C^{-1} a\right)$$

$$C = C_{\ell \ell', mm'} = C(\text{cosmology, topology})$$

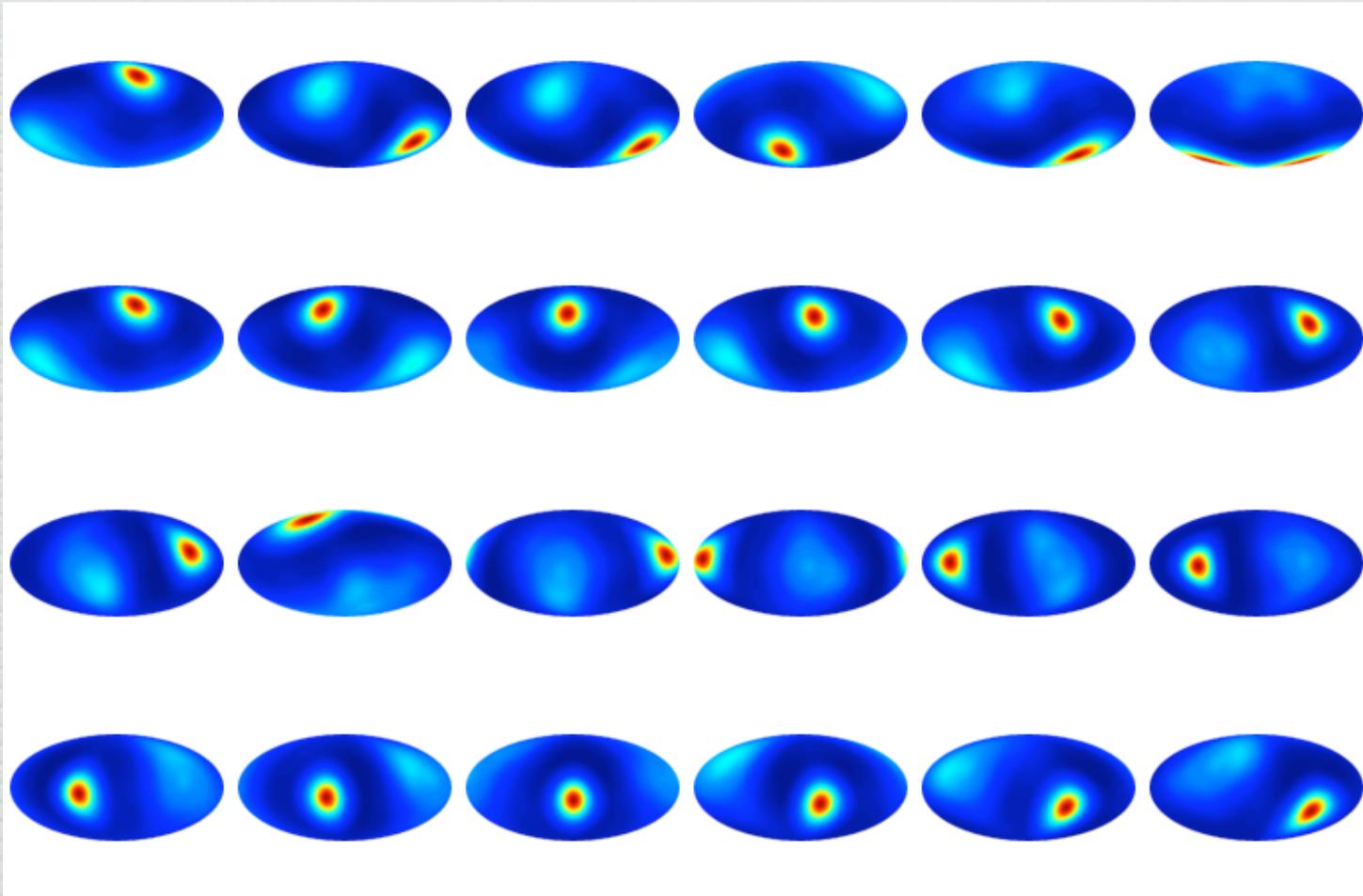
$$a = a_{\ell m} \text{ from ILC}$$

(Noise irrelevant on scales of interest)

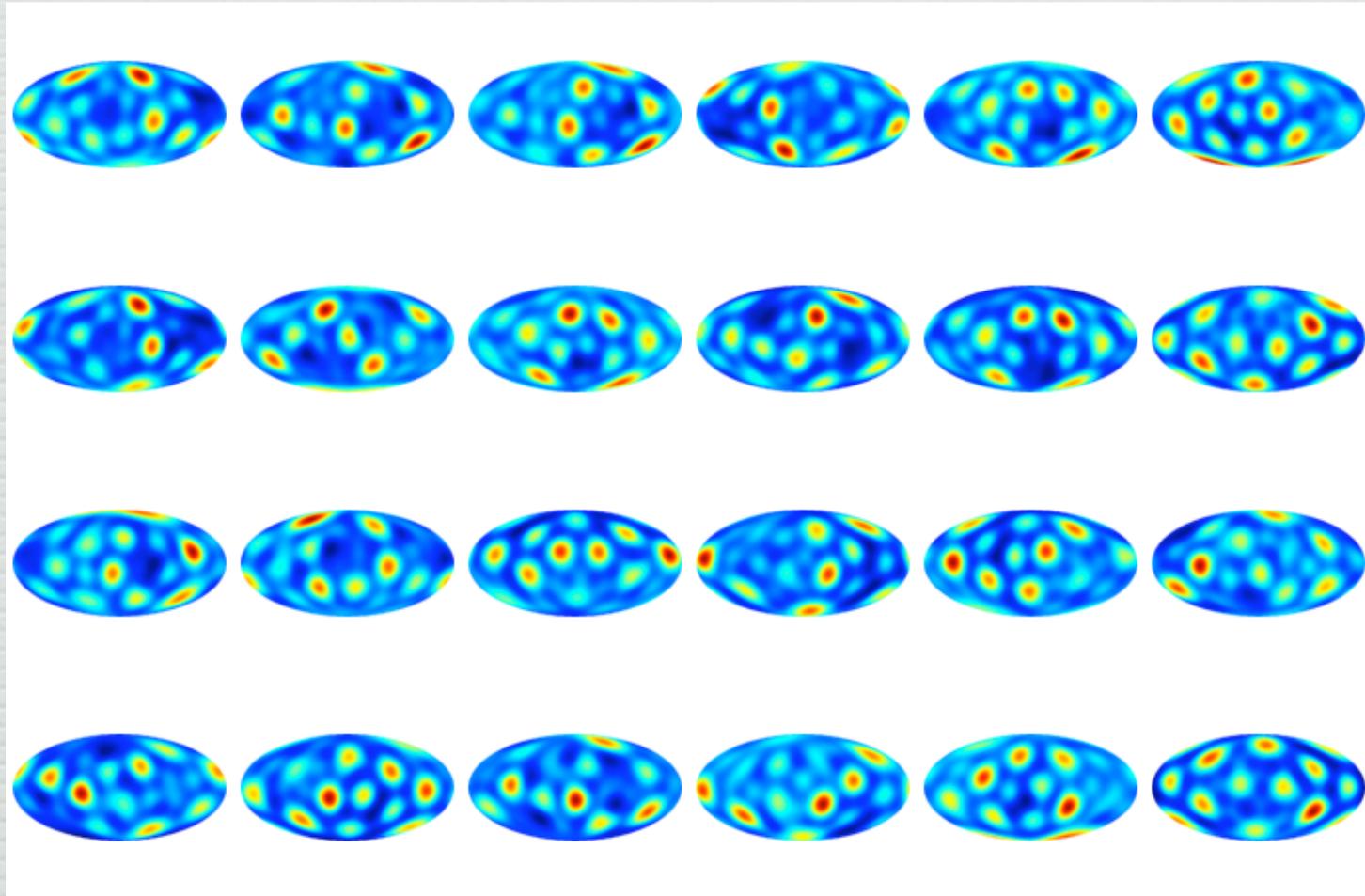
Suppressed power \Rightarrow stronger correlations

Pixel correlations

- Octahedral: $h=0.64$, $\Omega_k = -0.017$



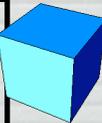
-
- Poincaré: $h=0.52$, $\Omega_k = -0.063$



Model Comparison

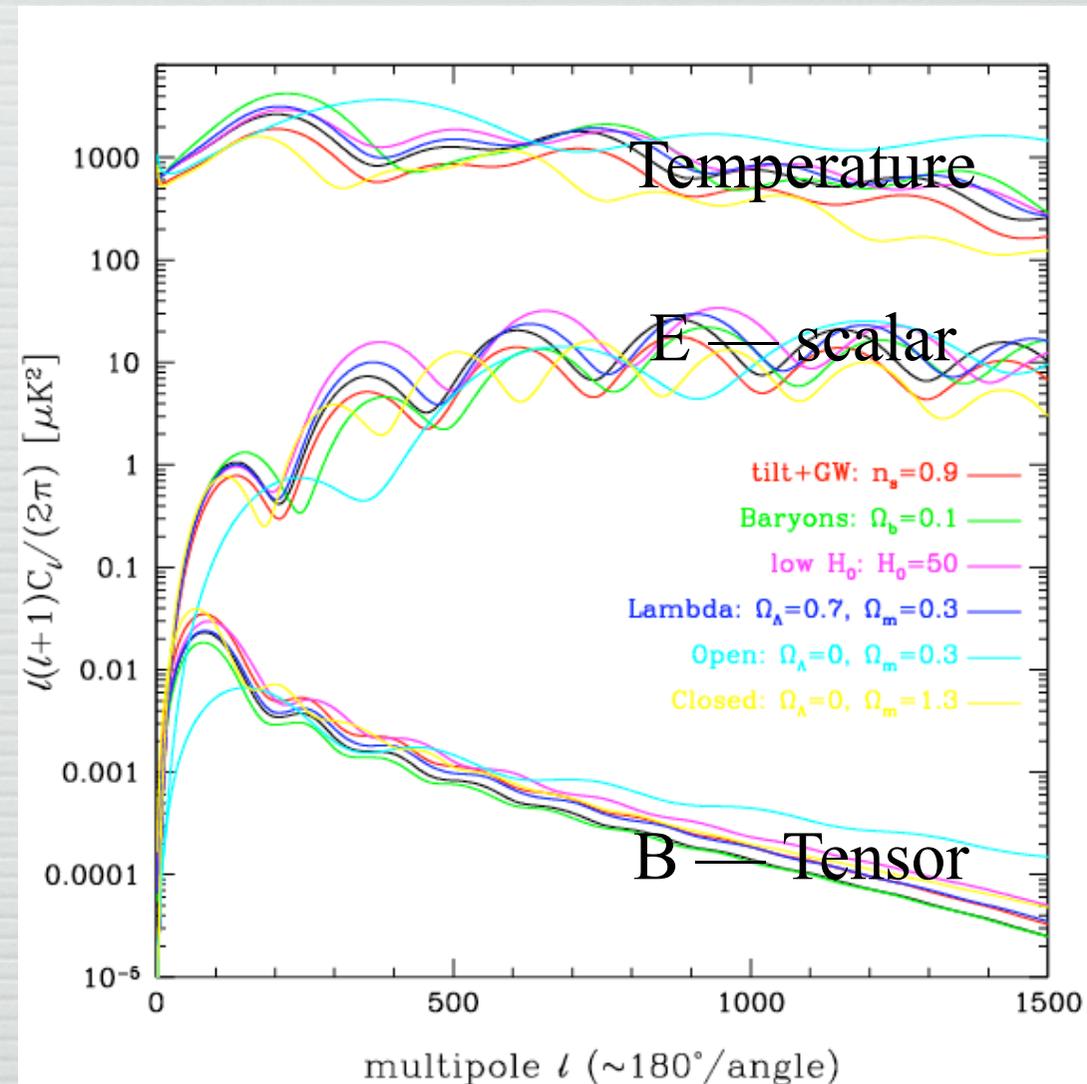
- WMAP 3-yr data
 - significant diffs from 1yr, e.g., octupole
 - First-year low **power** favors “small” fundamental domain to lower quadrupole (smooth low- l “decay”)
- Details depend on “priors”:
 - esp. H_0 for C_ℓ odds
- This is a topology-specific test (cf. “circles-in-the-sky” which purports to be more generic)
 - Difficult (impossible?) to test when (topology scale) \gg (Hubble

Model	Odds: C_ℓ alone	Odds: $C_{\ell m \ell' m'}$
Simply-connected	1	1
Quaternionic	0.07	0.04
Octahedral	0.32	0.005
Truncated Cube	0.14	0.0003
Poincaré	0.04	$\ll 1$



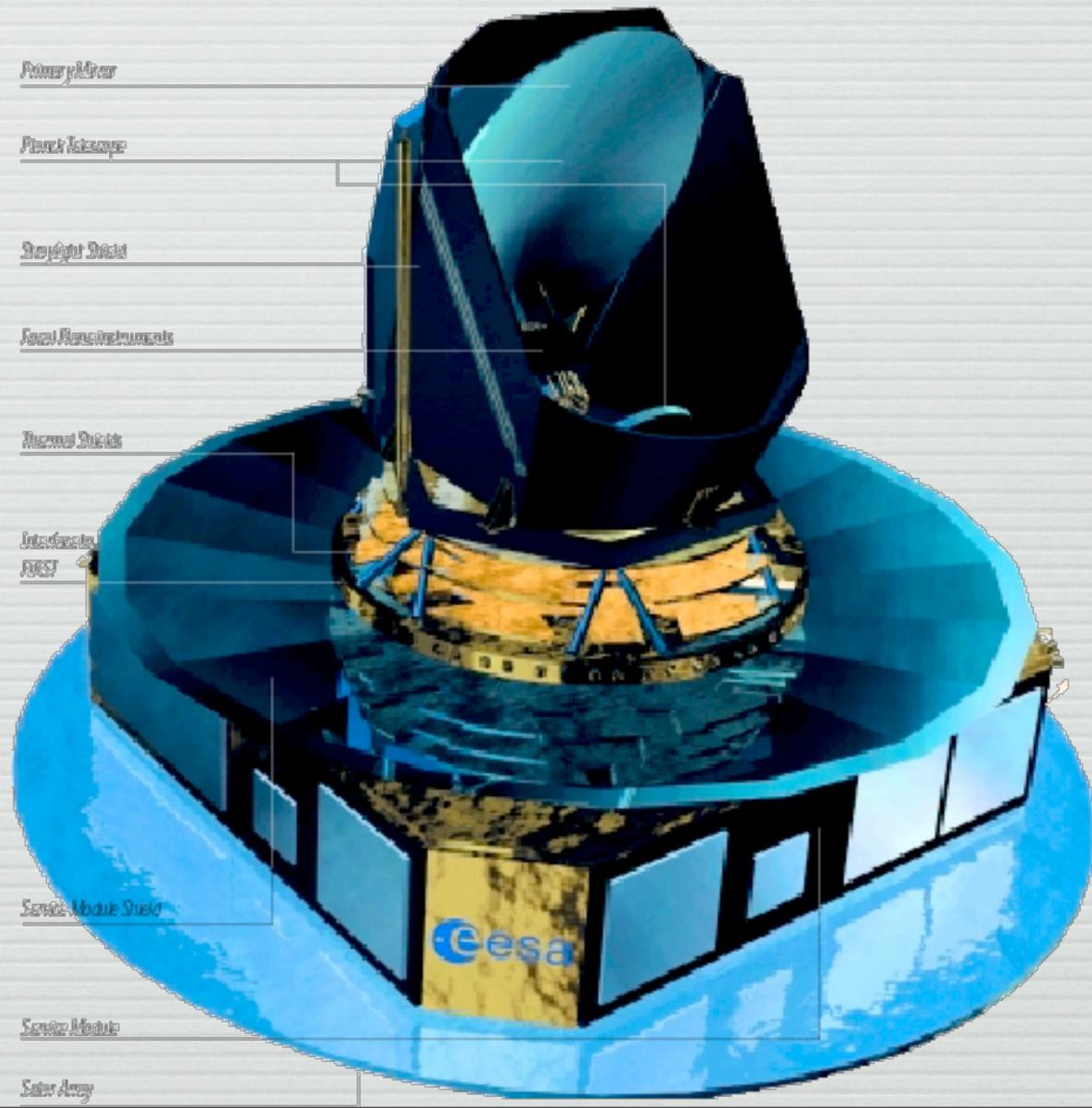
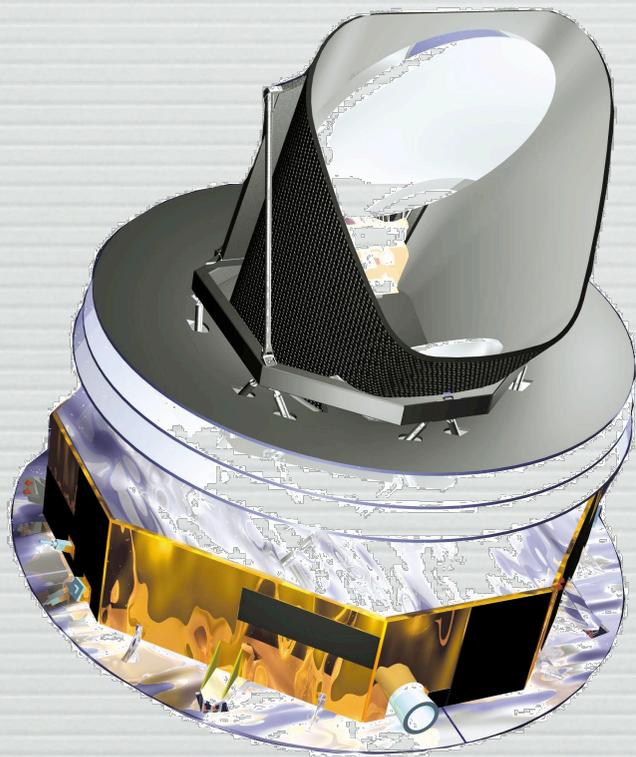
Polarization from Gravitational Radiation

- Causal physics — scattering in baryon-photon plasma — same as intensity, E-mode polarization
- Specific predictions given primordial $P(k)$ + parameters



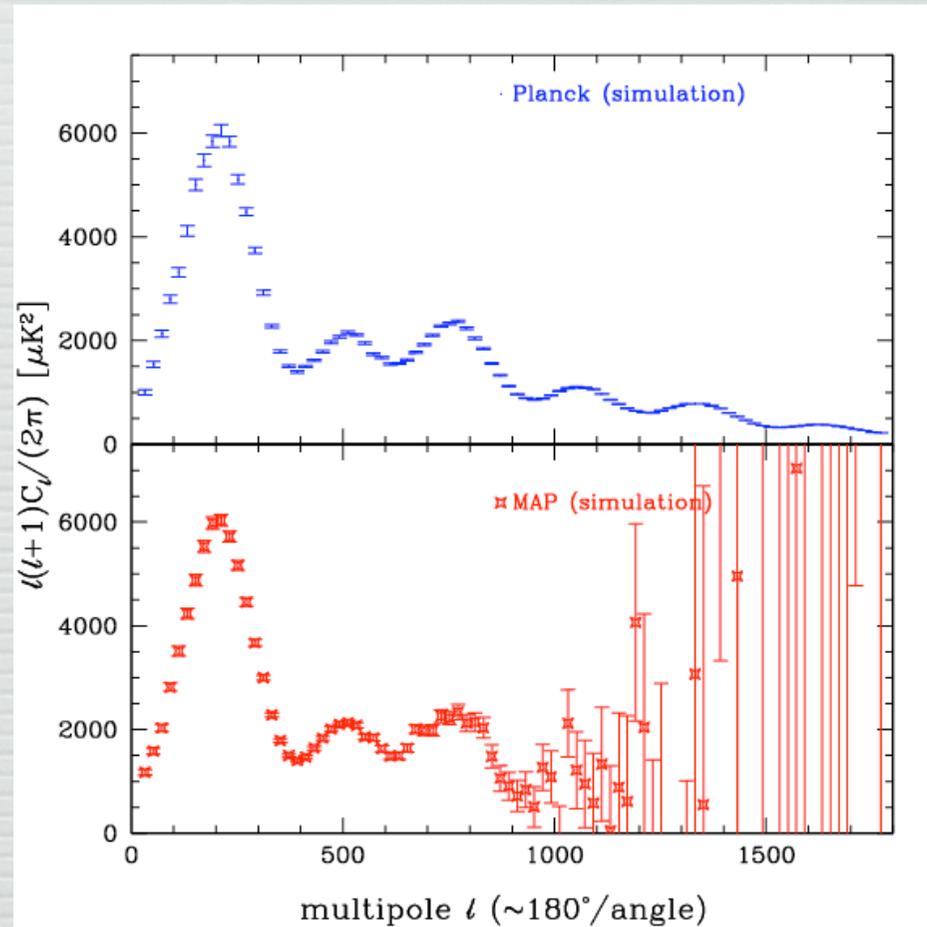


Planck Surveyor (2008++)



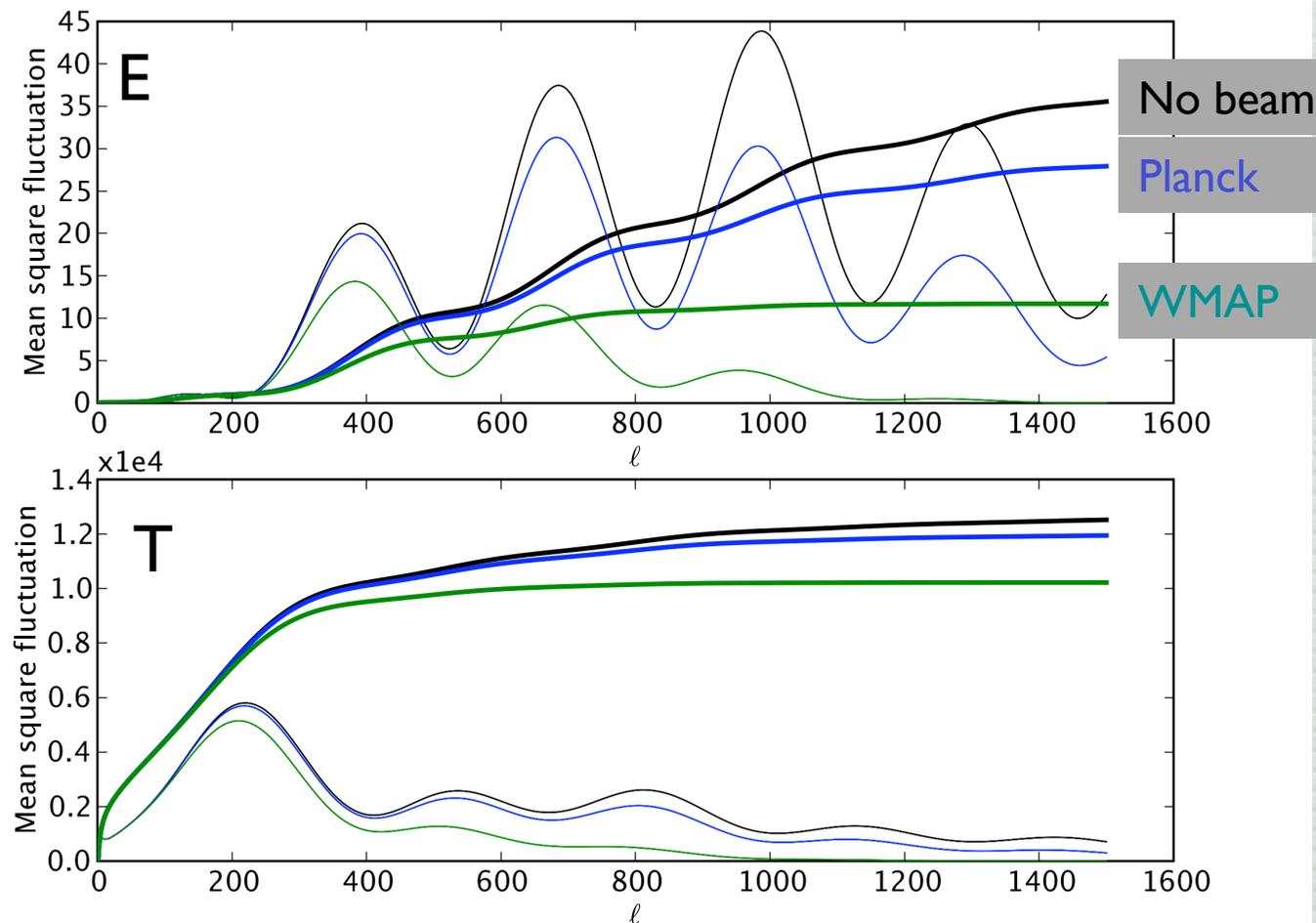
“Because it’s there”

- Heavy lines:
cumulative fluctuation
power in high S/N
regime
 - Much more to be seen
(esp E polarization,
which isn’t dominated
by large-scale
fluctuations)
 - Planck gets ~all of T,
most of E
 - But what about B
Modes (inflationary
gravitational radiation)?

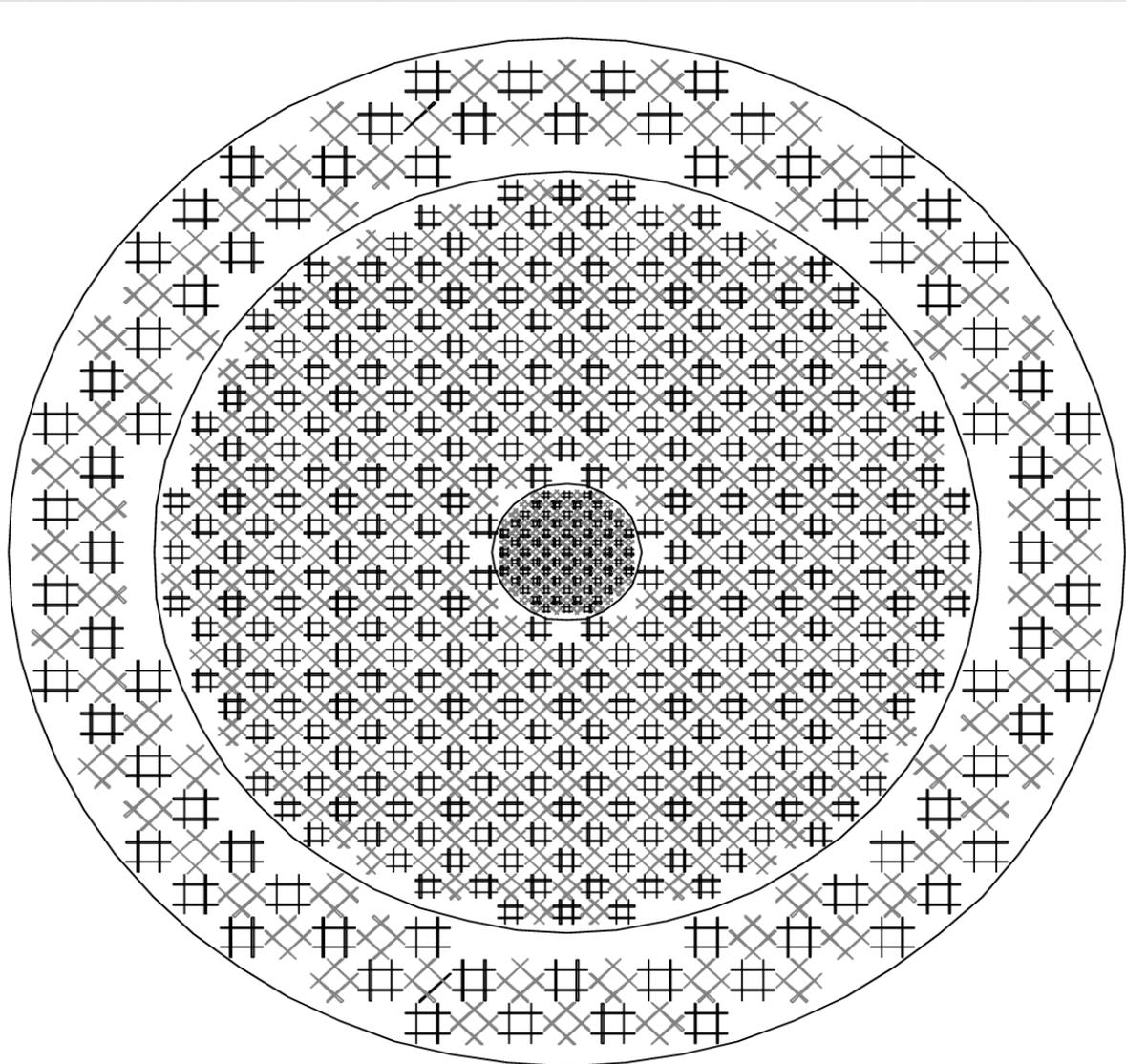


“Because it’s there”

- Heavy lines: cumulative fluctuation power in high S/N regime
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 - Planck gets ~all of T, most of E
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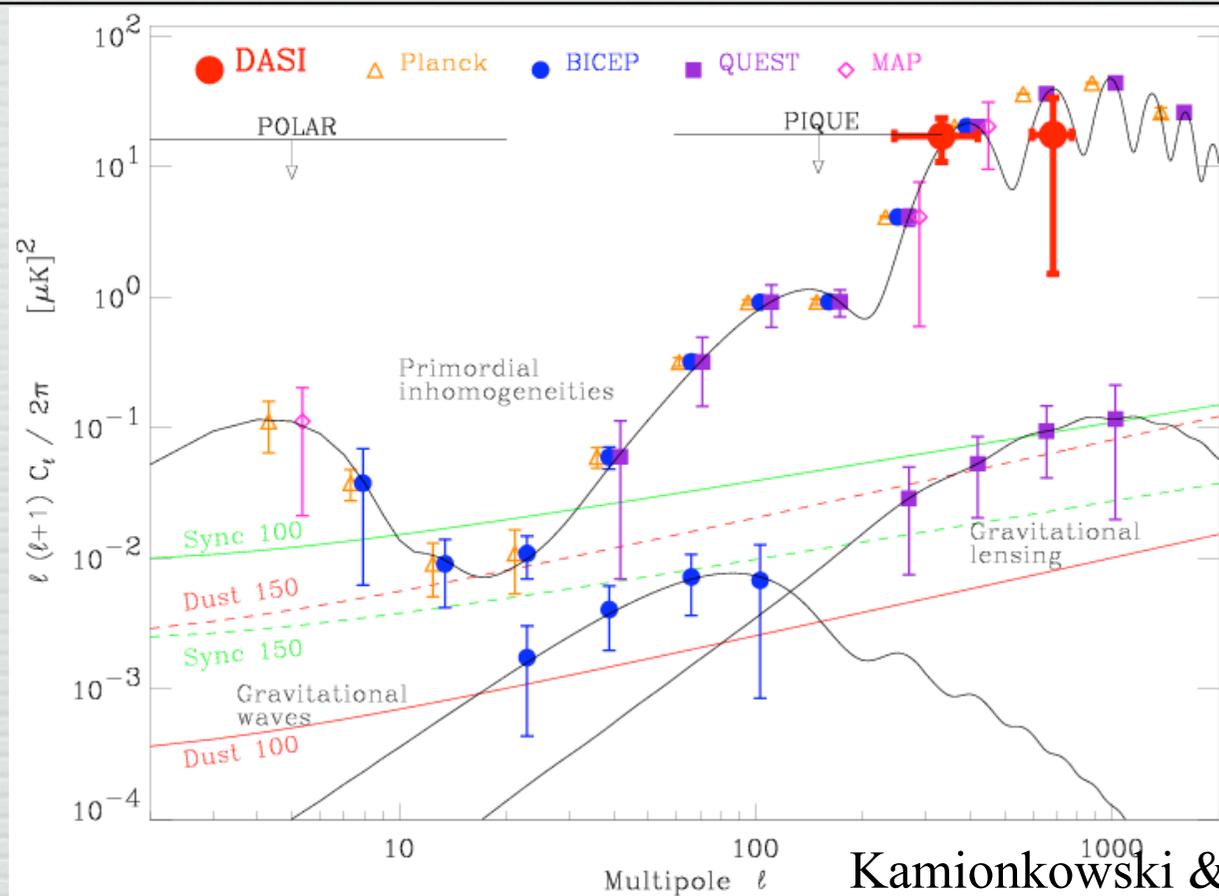


New Technologies



- PolarBear: AT Lee (Berkeley)
 - Antenna-coupled bolometers
 - 900 pixels @ 150 GHz, 3000 bolometers
 - Full use of useful 150 GHz Field-of-view

Further in the future?



- Primordial Gravitational Radiation (e.g., from Inflation) generates B (Curl) modes; scalar (density) fluctuations only generate E (grad) modes
- Crucial foreground signal from gravitational lensing via intervening structure: generates B modes, masks GW signal

Unanswered questions

- Cosmic coincidences (Dicke/Peebles):
 - Why $\Omega_m \sim \Omega_\Lambda \sim 1$ today??

- A very special time!

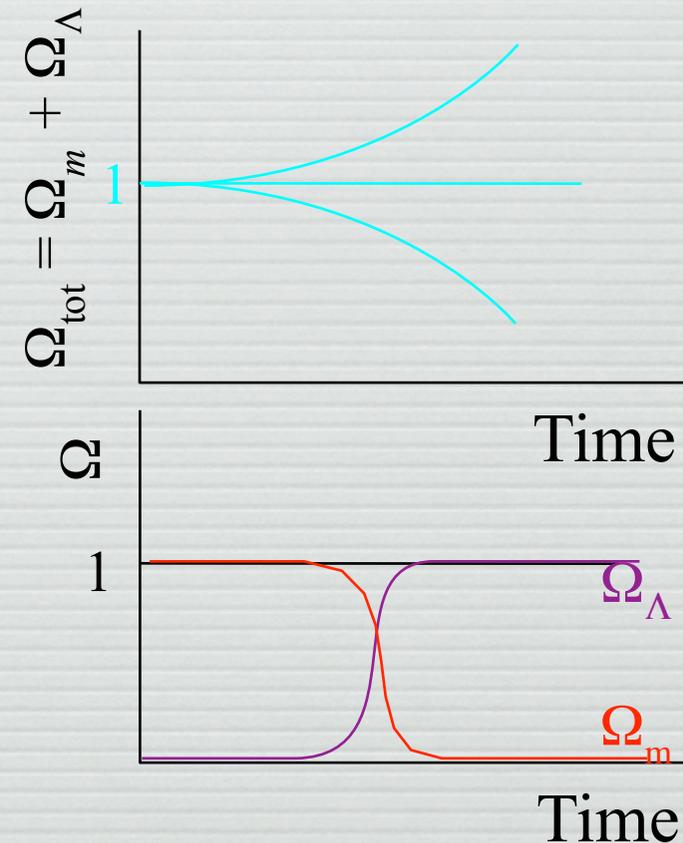
- Inflation can set

$$\Omega_{\text{tot}} = \Omega_m + \Omega_\Lambda = 1 \quad [\text{i.e., flat}]$$

- But simplest “theories” predict

$$\Omega_\Lambda \sim (m_{\text{Pl}}/L_{\text{Pl}}^3)/\rho_{\text{crit}} \sim 10^{120} \quad !!!$$

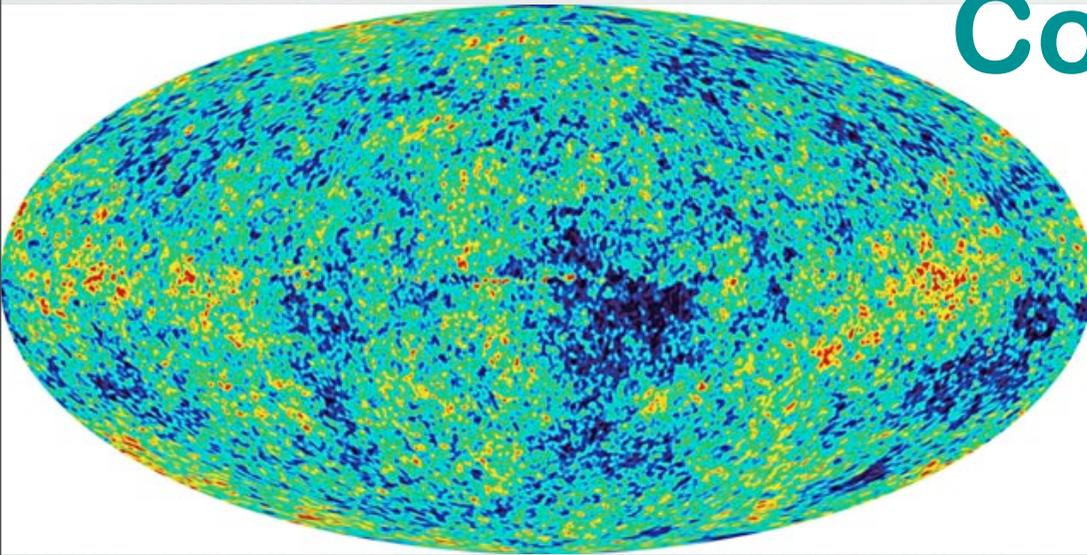
- String theory? Quintessence?
 - More fossils yet to be uncovered...



Can we go further?

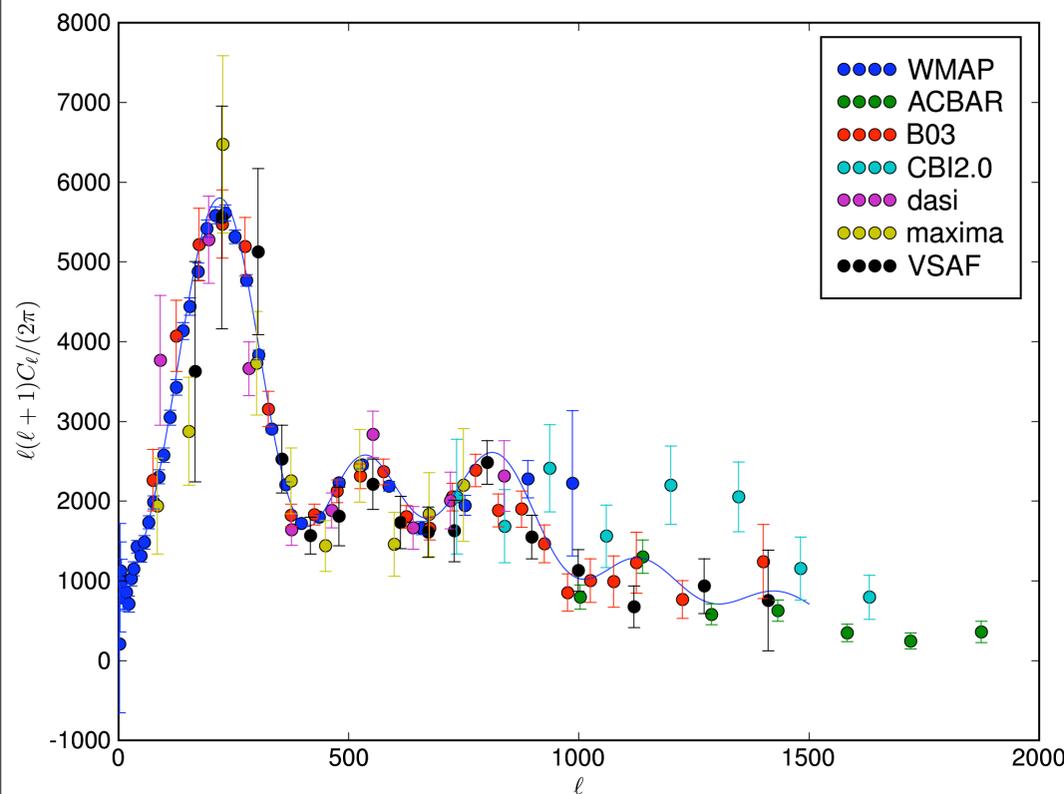
- Doomed to **phenomenology**?
- Or can we ask “why?”
- Back to conditional **probabilities**
 - the **string** landscape: 10^{100} vacua, each with its own physical laws
 - happy to measure one part in 10^{100}
 - in an infinite universe, is *everything* possible?
 - brains-in-vats, the Matrix, Boltzmann brains...
 - Do we need a get-out clause? (Davies’ “life principle”)
 - Condition on being Carbon-based beings on earth-like planets with sun-like stars? (Lineweaver & Egan 07)

Cosmology c. 2006



- The Hot Big Bang
- Flat Universe
- Dark Matter

Parameters measured to 2-3 decimal places!



- Cosmological Acceleration
- Adiabatic Initial conditions
- Inflation
- Dark Energy
- Gravitational radiation