

***Cosmic Microwave Background
Observations from the South Pole
SPT & BICEP:
The South Pole Observatory (SPO)***



**Bradford Benson
Fermilab, U. Chicago**



The BICEP/Keck Collaboration



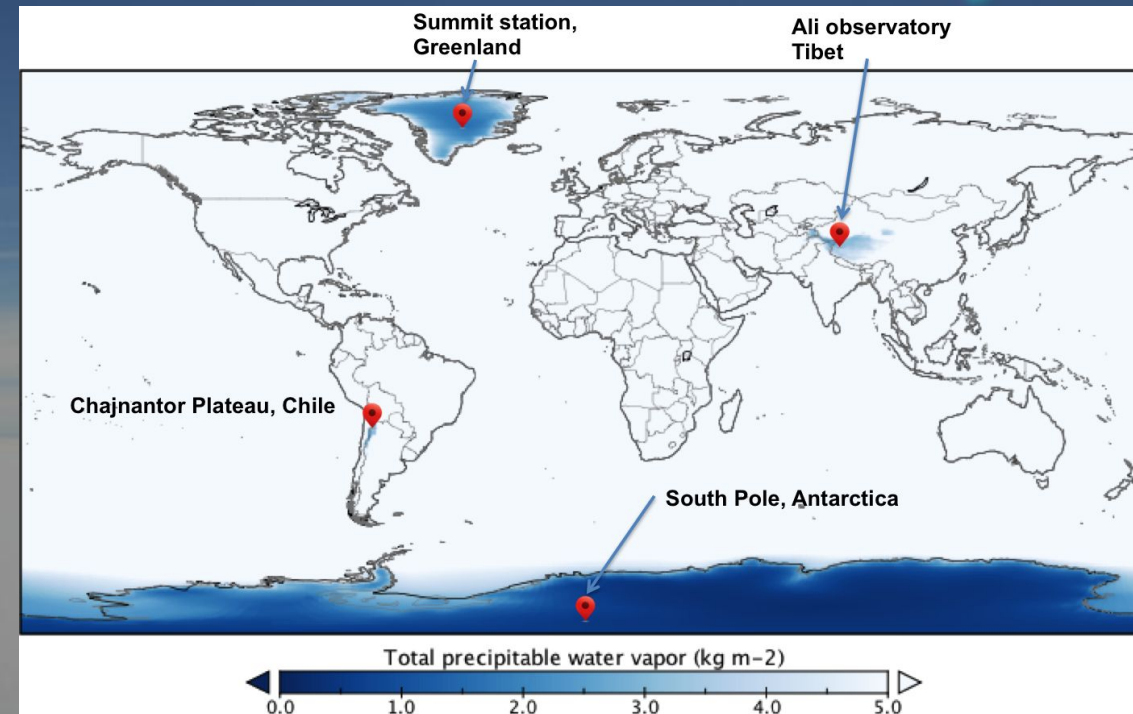
The South Pole Telescope Collaboration



Funded By:



The South Pole is a unique window to the CMB... like being in space!



South Pole Environment

- **High Altitude (~10,000 ft) with unique Polar Vortex**
- **Driest desert on Earth with most stable atmosphere**
 - At Pole, the water vapor is 4x lower with a ~30-100x more stable atmosphere than the Chilean Atacama desert.
- **Relentless Observing**
 - 24/7 year-round access to Southern Sky, e.g., including the Black Hole at the Milky Way's center for the Event Horizon Telescope
- **Annual Access for rapid technology deployment**

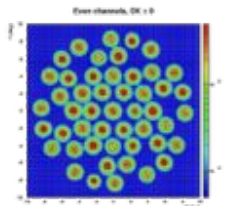


BICEP Experimental Program

Telescope and Mount
Focal Plane
Beams on Sky

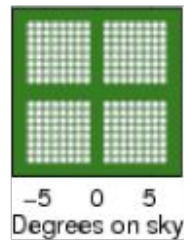
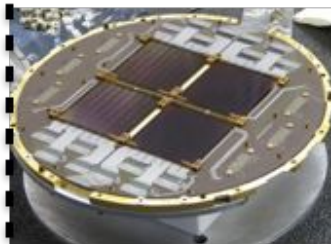
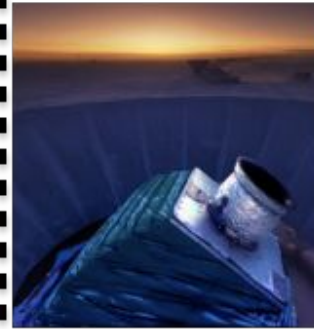
Stage 1

BICEP1
(2006-2009)

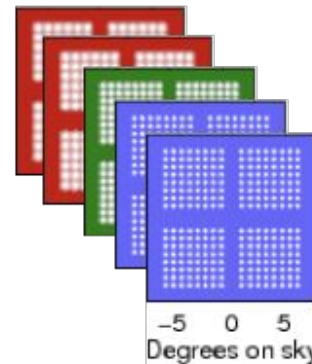
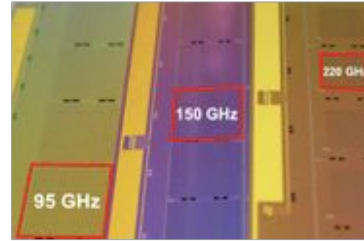
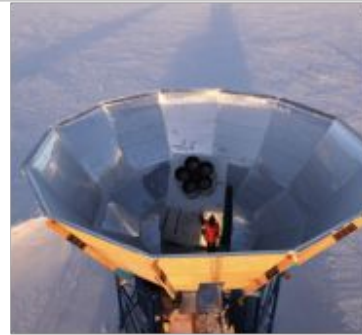


Stage 2

BICEP2
(2010-2012)

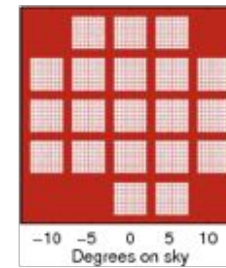
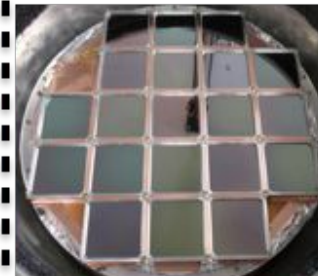
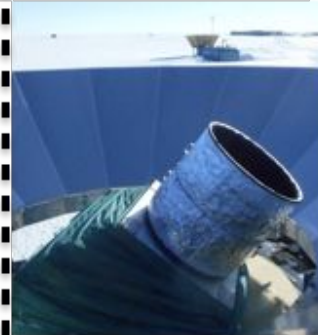


Keck Array
(2012-2019)

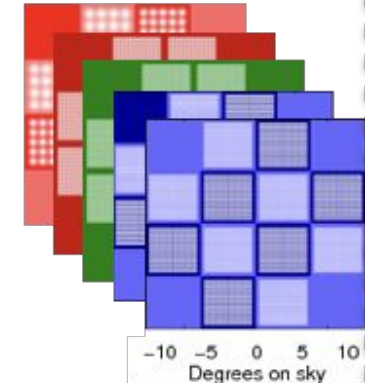
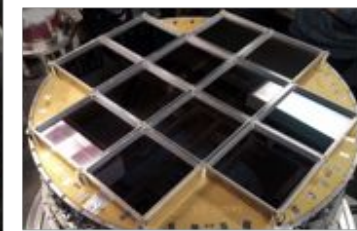


Stage 3

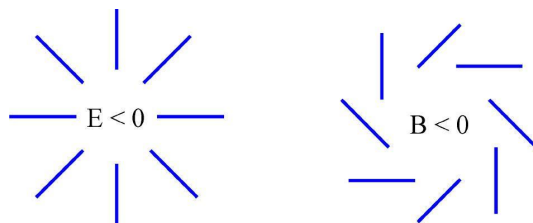
BICEP3
(2016-)



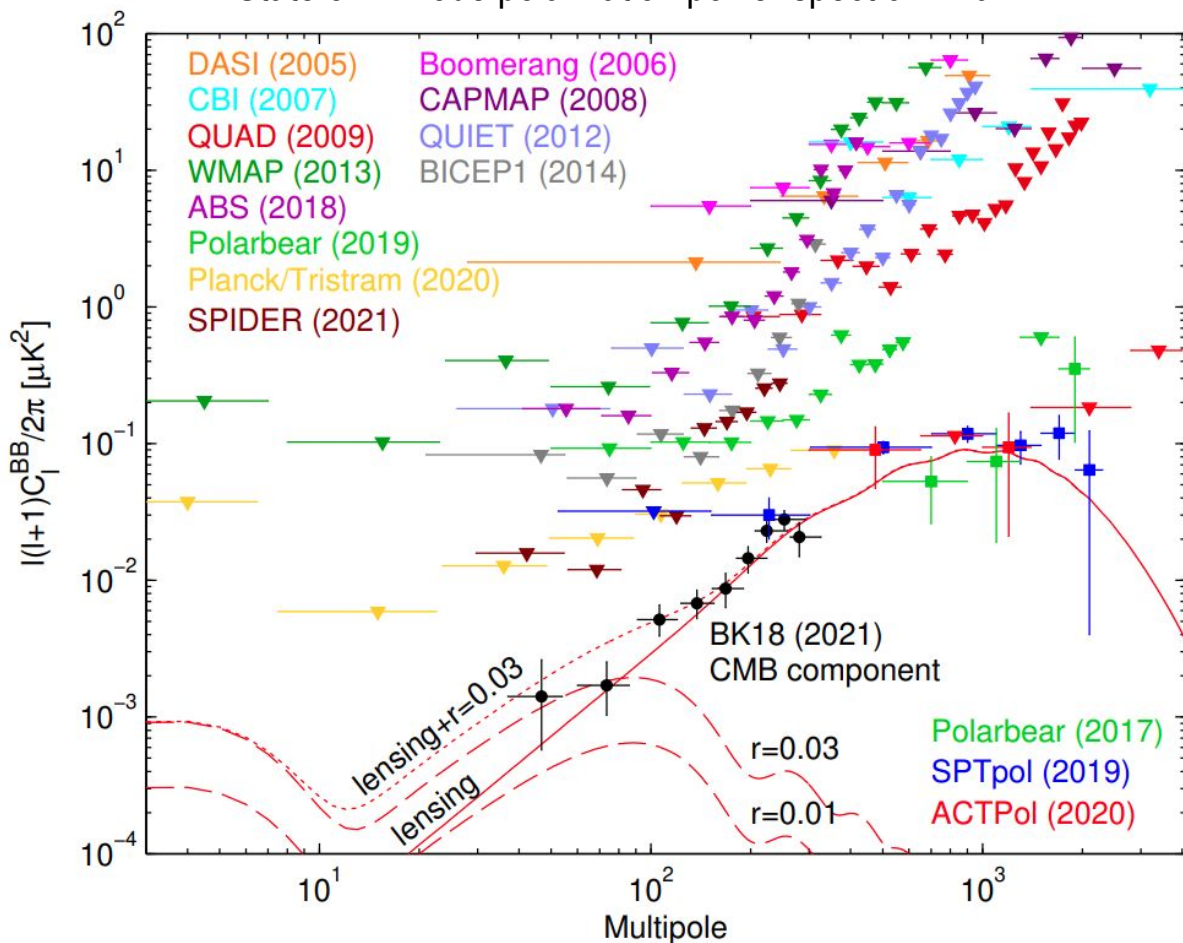
BICEP Array
(2020-)



Constraints on Inflation to Date



State of B-mode polarization power spectra in 2021



r = tensor to scalar ratio, i.e. amplitude of inflationary gravitational-wave background

Posted B-Mode Sensitivity to r

Experiment	arxiv post	Bands [GHz]	$\sigma(r)$
DASI	0409357	26...36	7.5
BICEP1 2yr	0906.1181	100, 150	0.28
WMAP 7yr	1001.4538	30...60	1.1
QUIET-Q	1012.3191	43	0.97
QUIET-W	1207.5034	95	0.85
BICEP1 3yr	1310.1422	100, 150	0.25
BICEP2	1403.3985	150	0.10
BK13 + Planck	1502.00612	150 + Planck	0.034
BK14 + WP	1510.09217	95, 150 + WP	0.024
ABS	1801.01218	150	0.7
Planck	1807.06209	30...353	0.2
BK15 + WP	1810.05216	95,150,220+WP	0.020
Polarbear	1910.02608	150 + P	0.3
SPTpol	1910.05748	95 + 150	0.22
Planck/Tristram	2010.01139	30...353	0.07
SPIDER	2103.13334	95 + 150	0.13
BK18 + WP	2110.00483	95,150,220+WP	0.009
BK18+Planck PR4	2112.07961	95,150,220+PR4	0.010
Polarbear	2203.02495	150 + P	0.16

$r < 0.036$ at 95% conf. (BK18+WP)

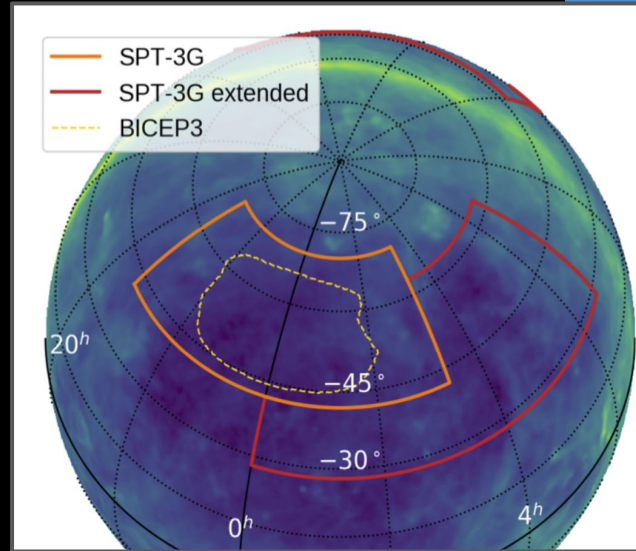
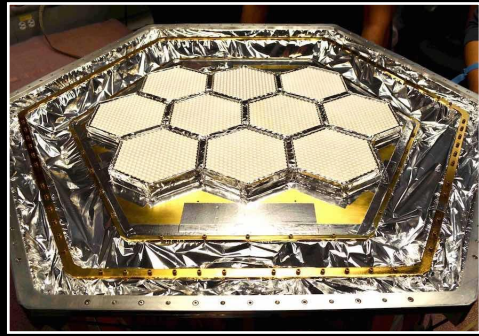
The South Pole Telescope (SPT)

10-meter sub-mm quality telescope

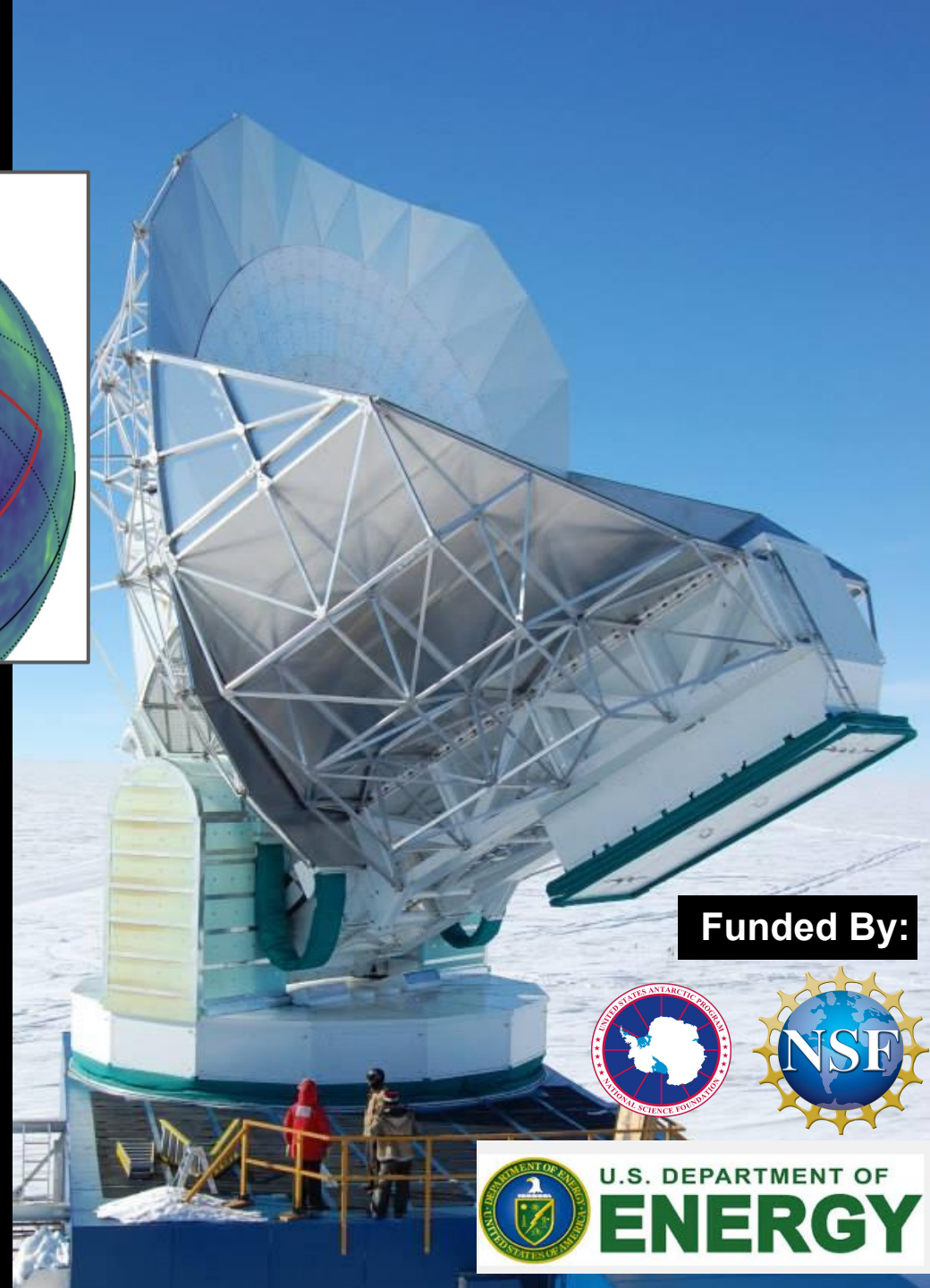
100, 150, 220 GHz and
1.6, 1.2, 1.0 arcmin resolution

SPT-3G Camera

~16,200 detectors
100, 150, & 220 GHz
+Polarization



- SPT-3G is a NSF & DOE partnered project & experiment
- In 2018, SPT-3G began its main 1500 deg² survey, designed to overlap with the BICEP survey
 - In addition to a 3000 deg² “extended” survey
- SPT is key part of the Event Horizon Telescope (EHT)
- SPT is a potential platform for future Line Intensity Mapping (LIM) experiments, e.g.,
 - SPT-SLIM (LIM pathfinder) deploying later this year ([Karkare et al. 2021](#))



Funded By:



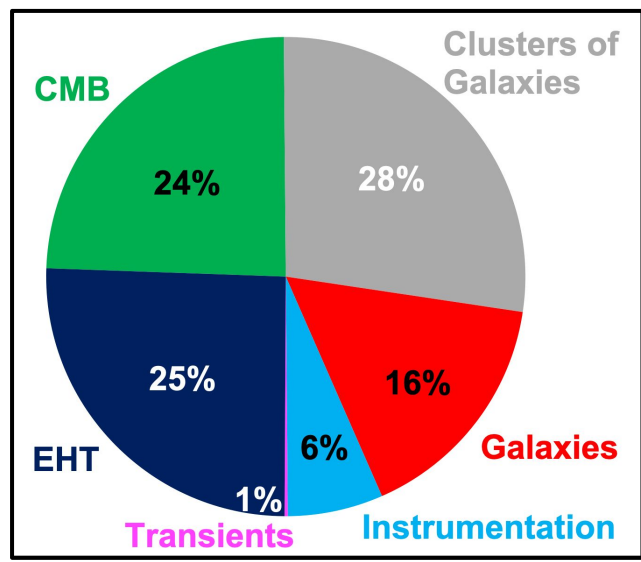
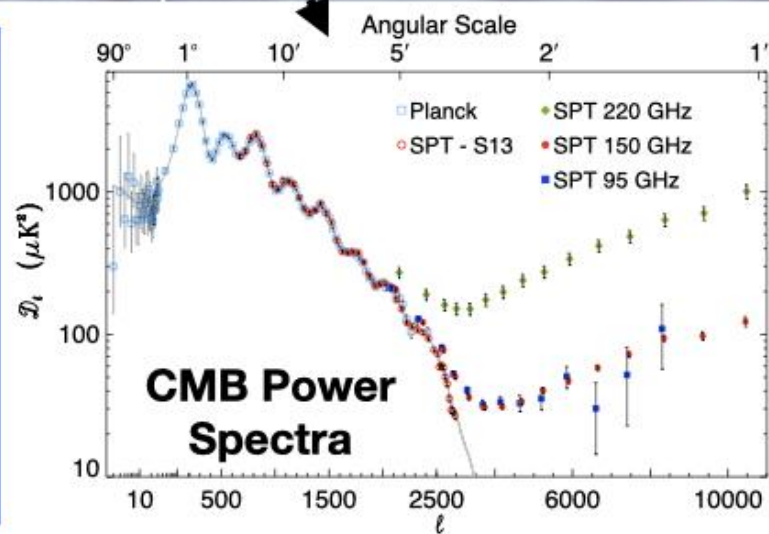
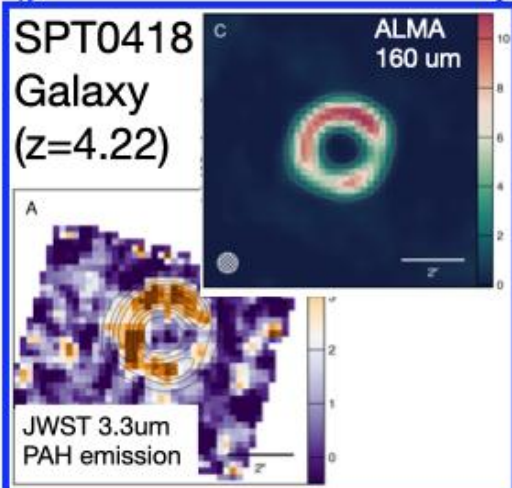
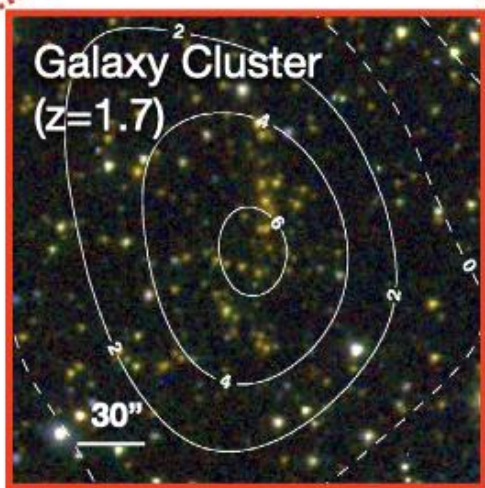
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

SPT

Planck

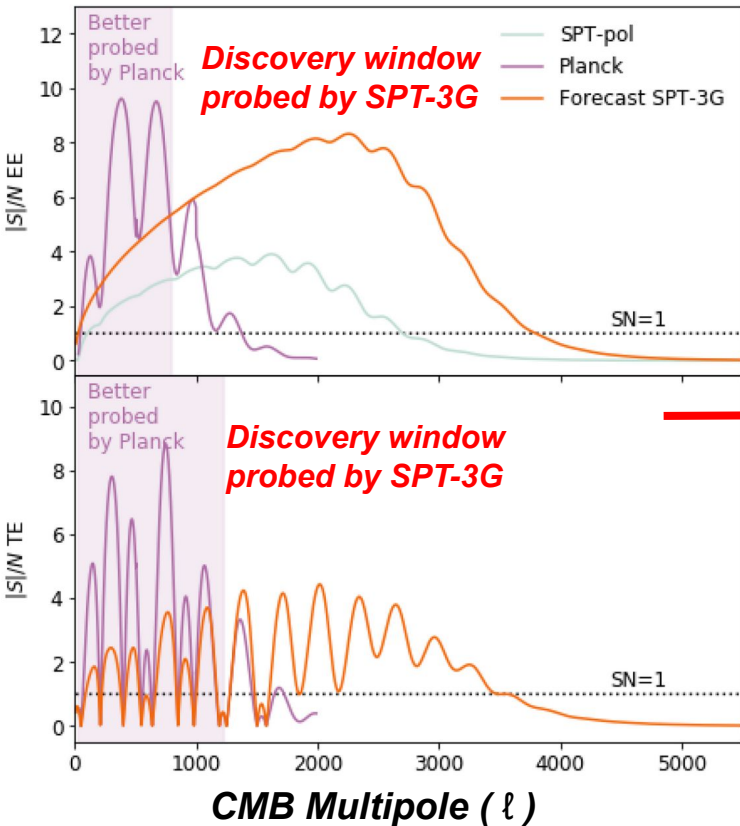
Science Breadth from SPT:

- *Over 300 science, or technical publications with more than 20,000 citations*



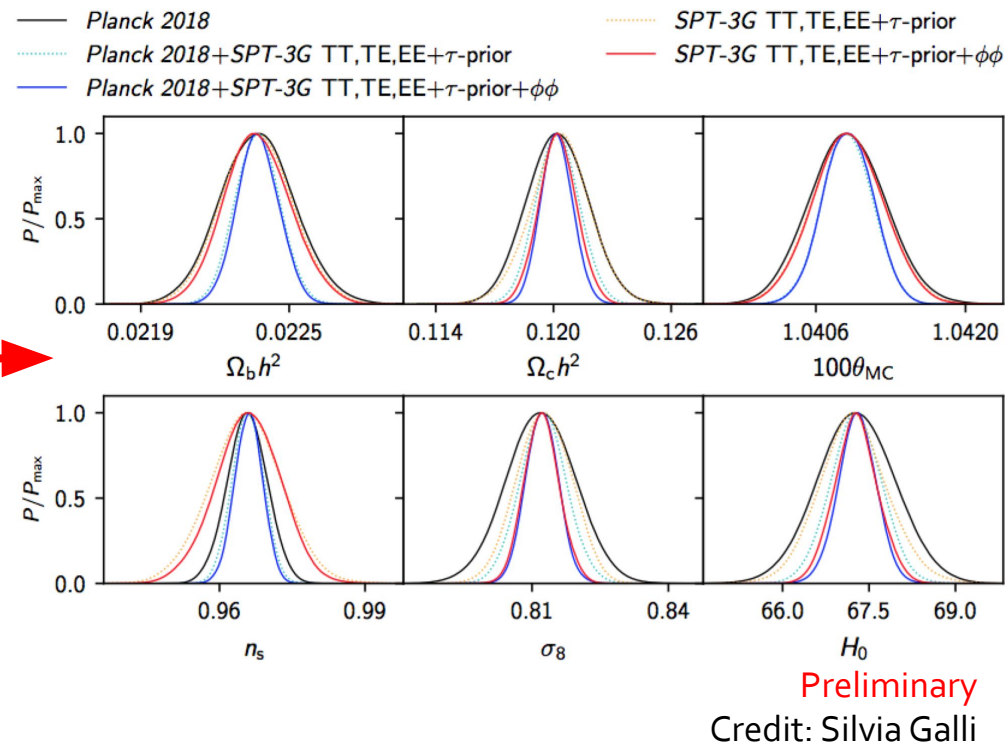
SPT-3G Projected Science Constraints

CMB Power Spectra S/N by Multipole: Planck vs SPT-3G



Forecasted Cosmology Constraints (from main SPT-3G 1500 deg² survey)

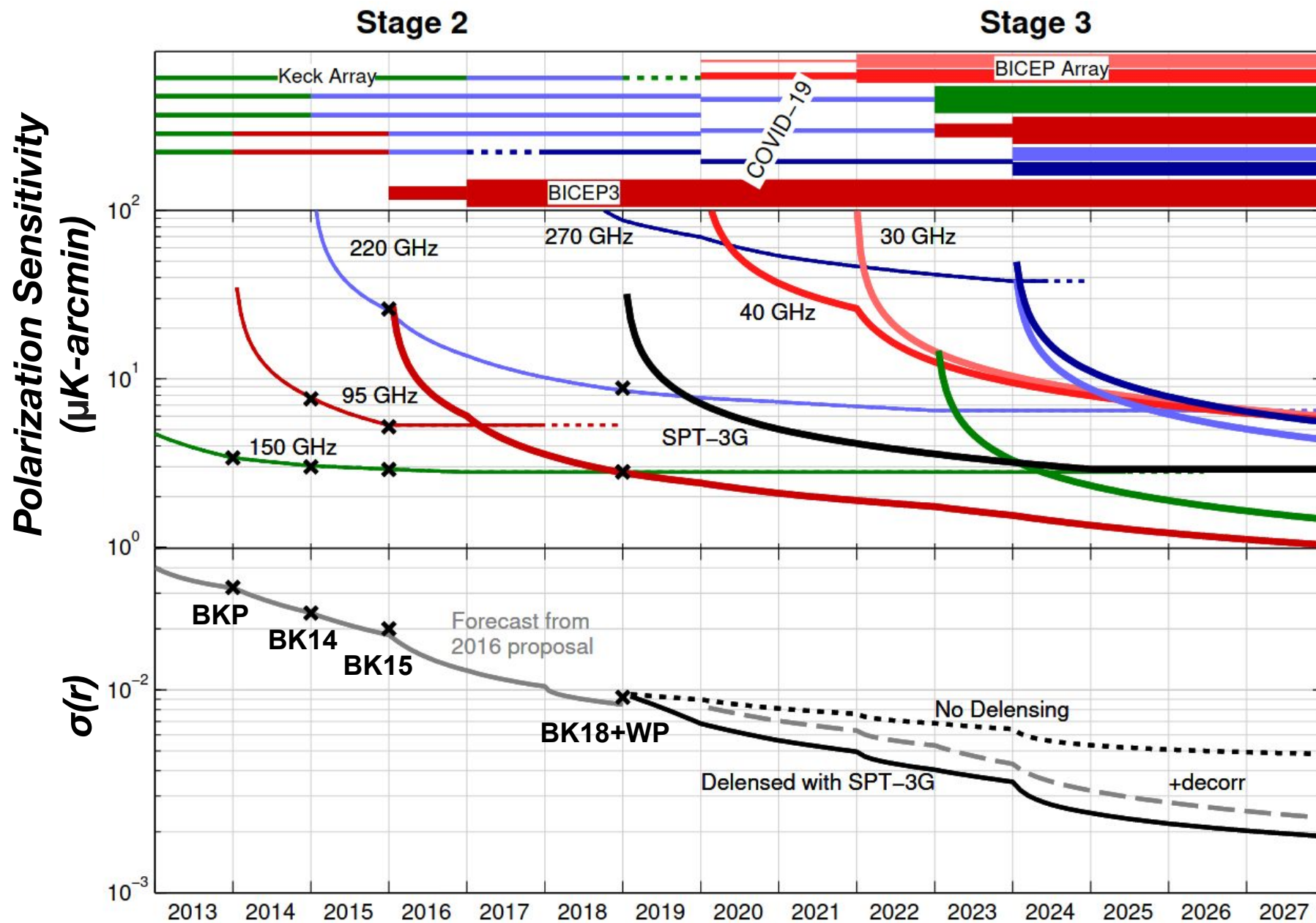
Planck → SPT-3G



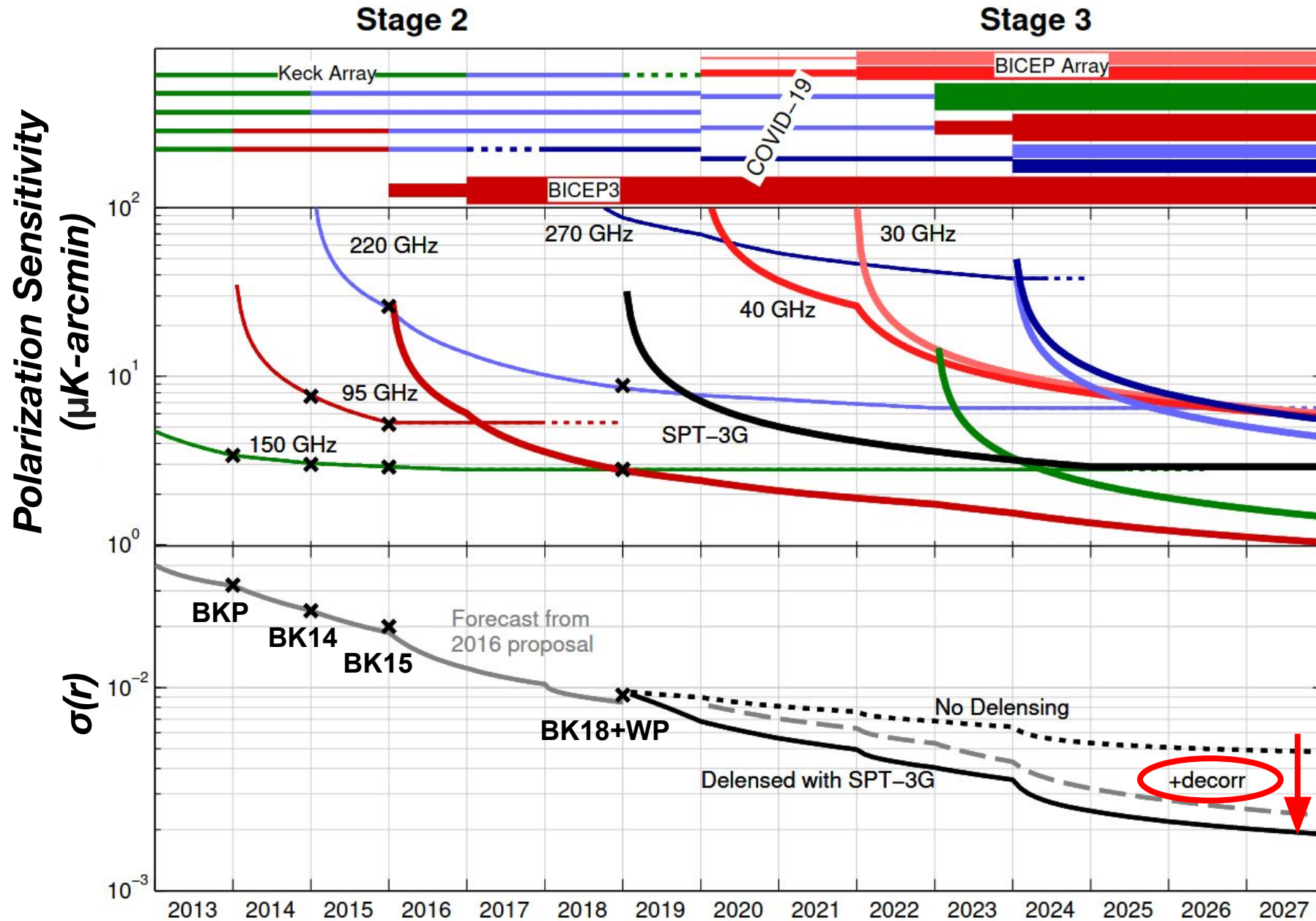
SPT-3G goals through 2024 observing season:

- Noise levels:
2.8, 2.6, 6.6 $\mu\text{K-arcmin}$ (T) at 95, 150, 220 GHz
- ΛCDM constraints from SPT-3G TT/EE/TE 1500d survey comparable to Planck !
- SPT-3G TT/EE/TE + Planck will improve (most) parameters by a factor 2 !
 - ◆ Enabled by deep data, SPT-3G provides new high- ℓ CMB polarization measurements that provide a new test of the ΛCDM model!

SPO (BICEP+SPT) Projected Inflationary Constraints

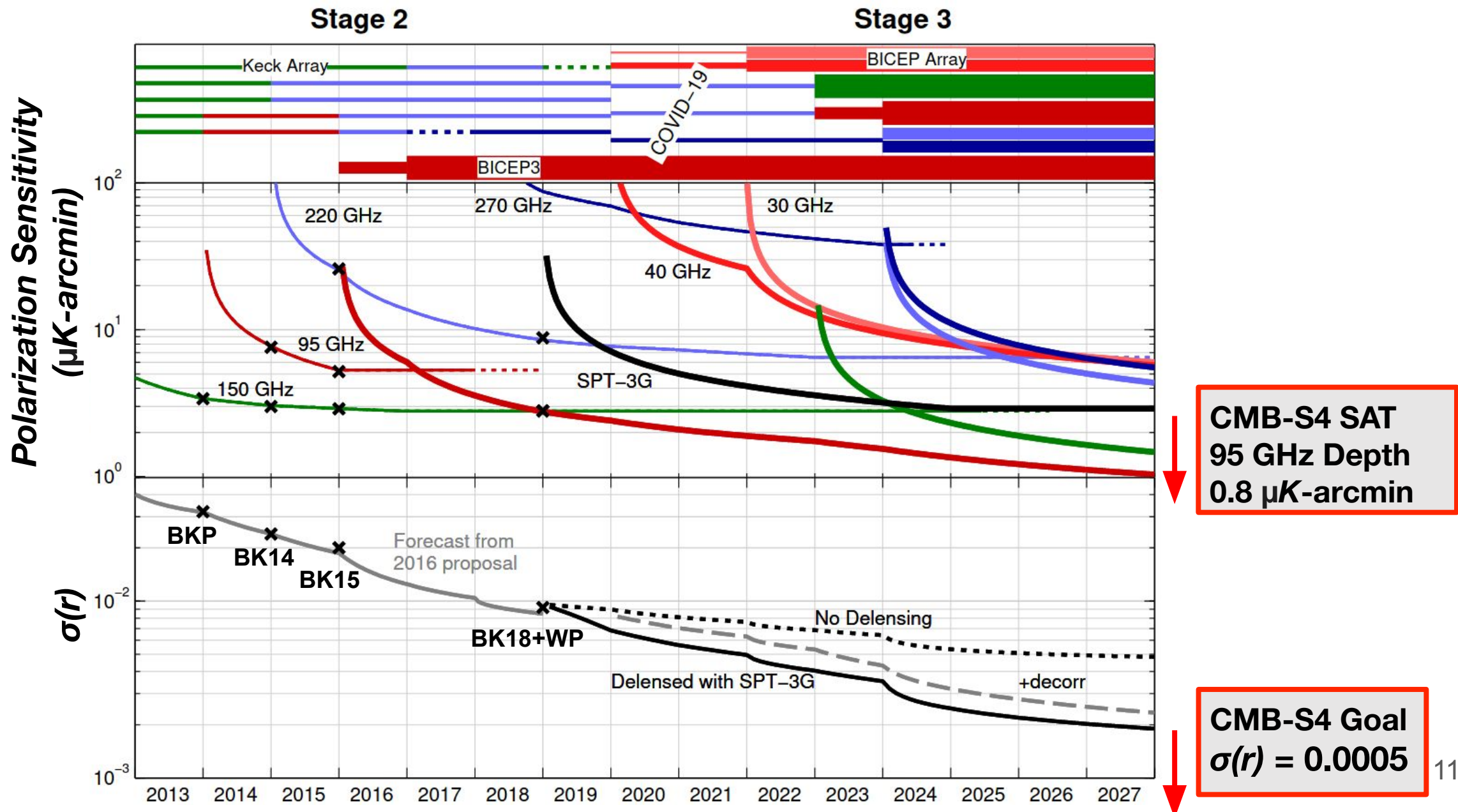


SPO (BICEP+SPT) Projected Inflationary Constraints



SPT-3G data used to “de-lens” BICEP data to improve constraints by ~3x to $\sigma(r) \sim 0.003$

SPO (BICEP+SPT) Projected Inflationary Constraints

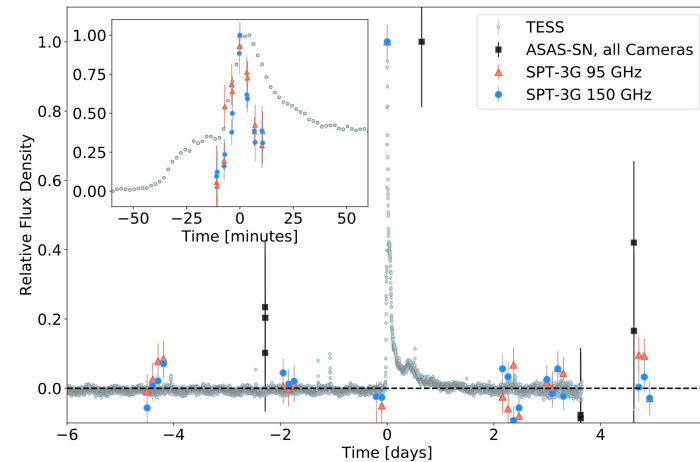


BICEP/SPT/SPO informs CMB-S4

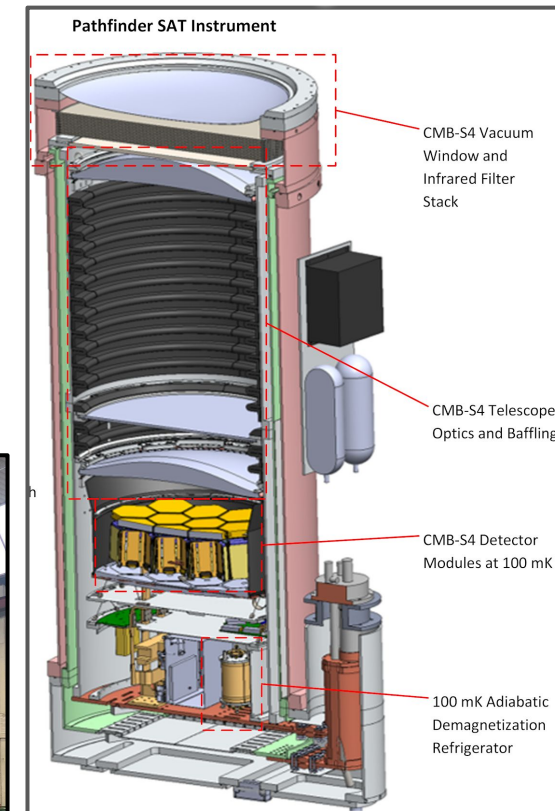
BICEP/SPT/SPO program is providing *demonstrations, data sets, software, and prototype components* relevant for CMB-S4 (S4), e.g.,

- **Demo:** BICEP+SPT data set is being used to motivate S4 approach, and is scaled for the LAT+SAT instrument model
- **Software:** SPT-3G software and transient analysis pipelines have been provided to (and are used as the baseline) for the S4 pipelines
- **Data:** BICEP data are explicitly being included in S4 Inflation/ r forecasts, to provide additional constraining power on r
- **Proto Components:** BA Receiver Tower (BART) planned to deploy to Pole as the prototype for S4 SAT tower and mount
- **Proto Components:** PSAT planned to deploy on BA at South Pole, to demonstrate S4 detector modules and readout

Stellar flare light-curves from Guns et al. 2021 (SPT-3G)

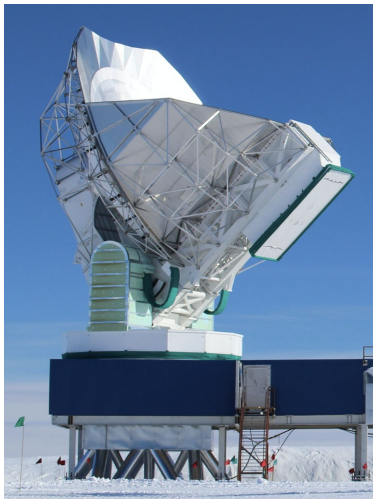
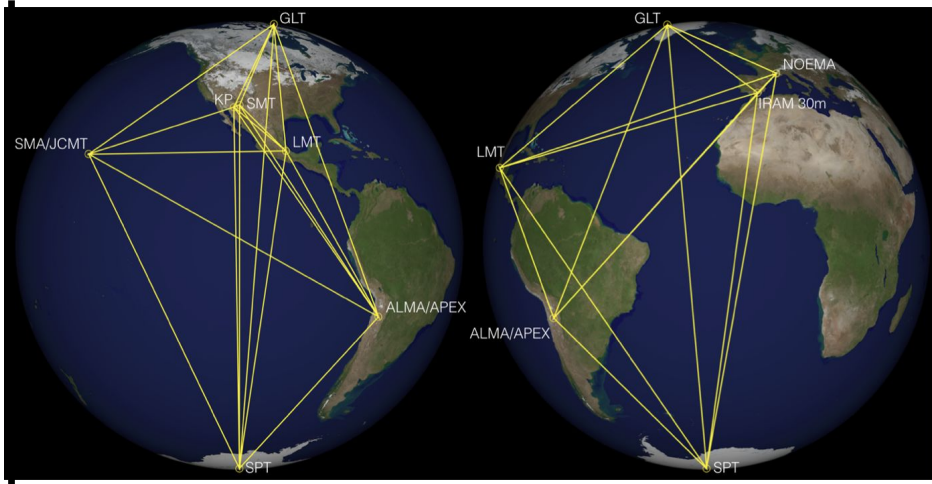


Pathfinder SAT (PSAT) Instrument Design



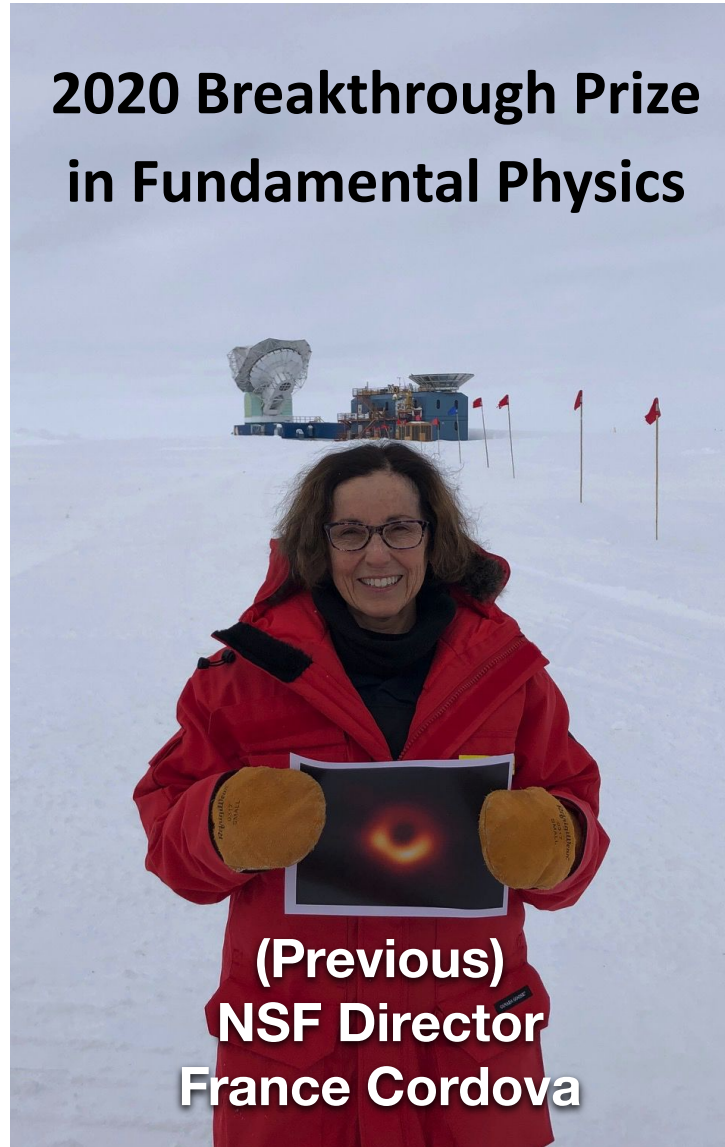
Extras

South Pole is central to the Event Horizon Telescope



SPT provides 24/7 observing of the Black Hole at the Center of the Milky Way, anchoring the EHT measurements and providing the highest angular resolution.

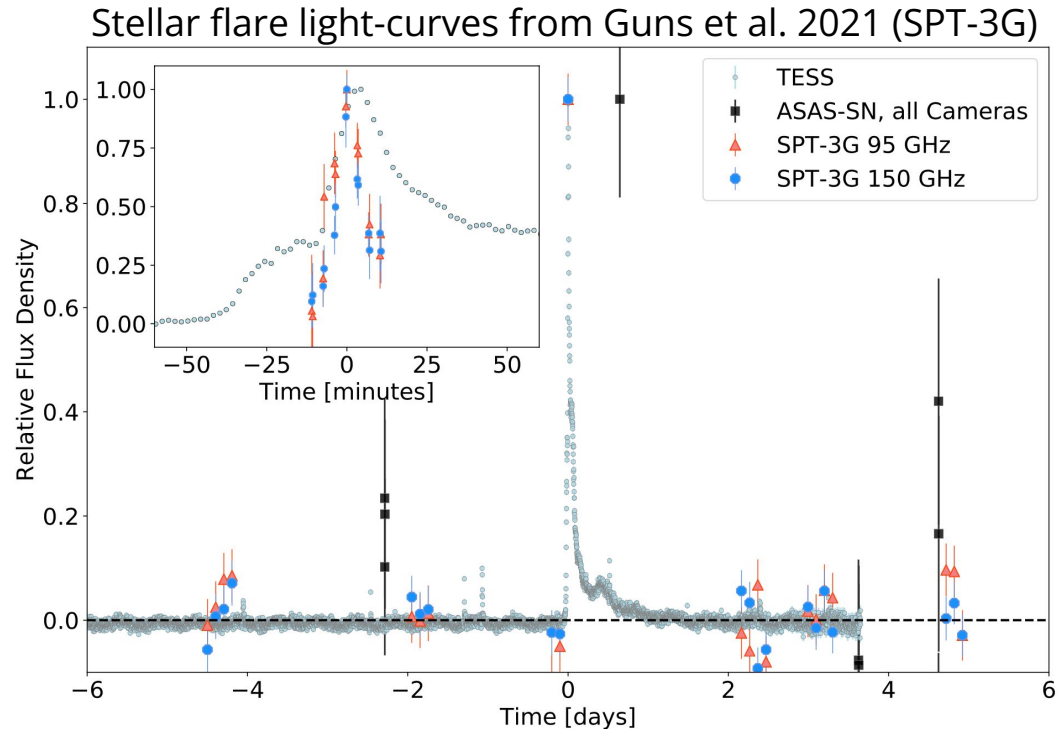
2020 Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics



(Previous)
NSF Director
France Cordova



Transients and the Time-VARIABLE mm-Wave Sky



SPT-3G has made pioneering measurements of the time-variable mm-wave sky;

- **Guns et al. (2021):** First catalog of 10 transients, a combination of new stellar and extragalactic sources.
- **Transient alert pipeline (and public [webpage](#))** to produce quasi-realtime high-confidence astrophysical transients.
- **Characterizing** terrestrial (e.g., satellites) and astrophysical **backgrounds** (e.g., flaring stars, variable AGN, etc.)

NSF'S 10 BIG IDEAS

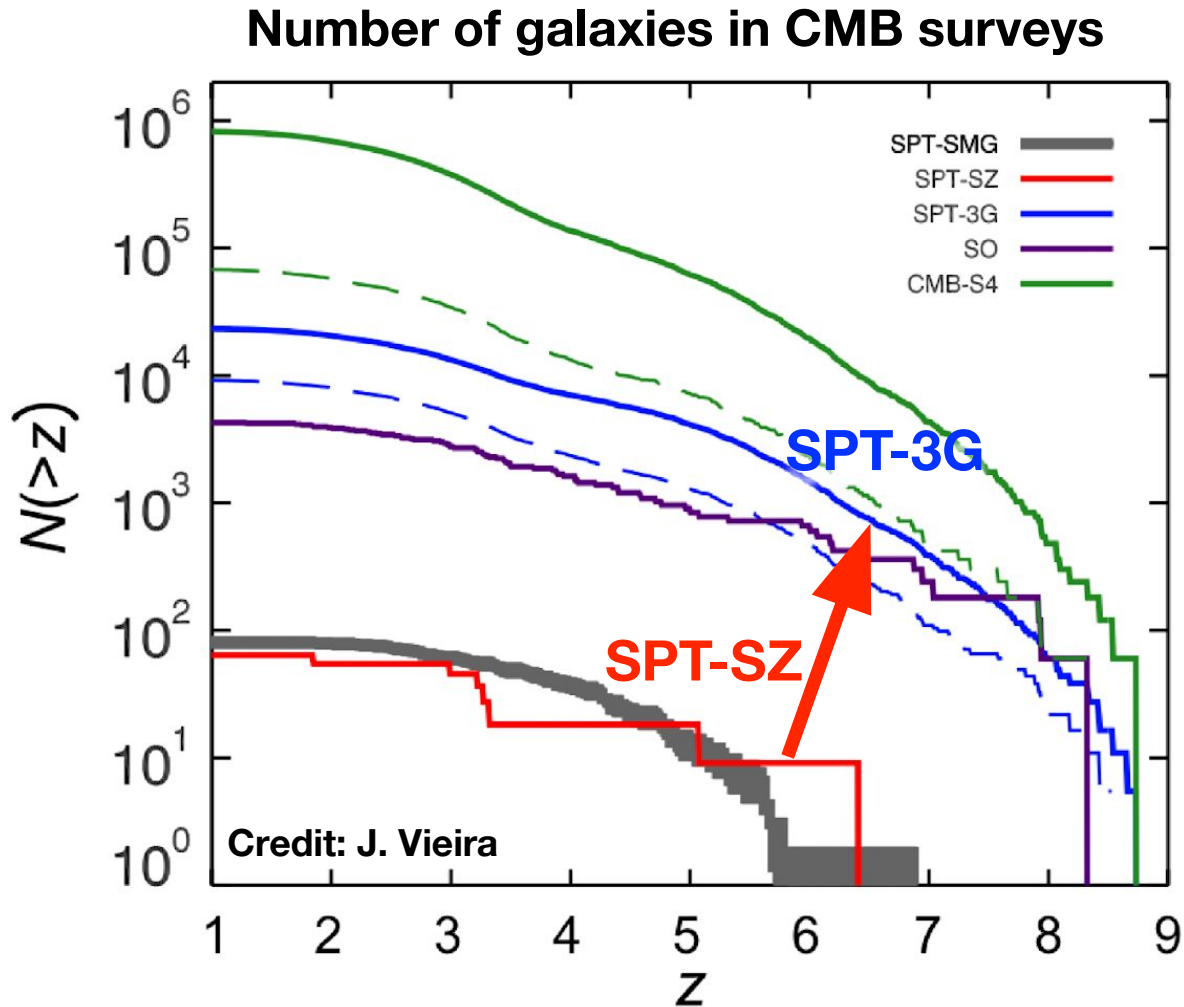
Windows on the Universe

Using powerful new syntheses of observational approaches to provide unique insights into the nature and behavior of matter and energy and help to answer some of the most profound questions before humankind.

For years, we have been making observations across the known electromagnetic spectrum -- from radio waves to gamma rays -- and many great discoveries have been made as a result. Now, for the first time, we are able to observe the world around us in fundamentally different ways than we previously thought possible. Using a powerful and synthetic collection of approaches, we have expanded the known spectrum of understanding and observing reality.

Astro2020: “An important requirement for our strong endorsement is that the project broadly engage astronomers beyond the traditional CMB community... It is essential that CMB-S4 produce transient alerts...”

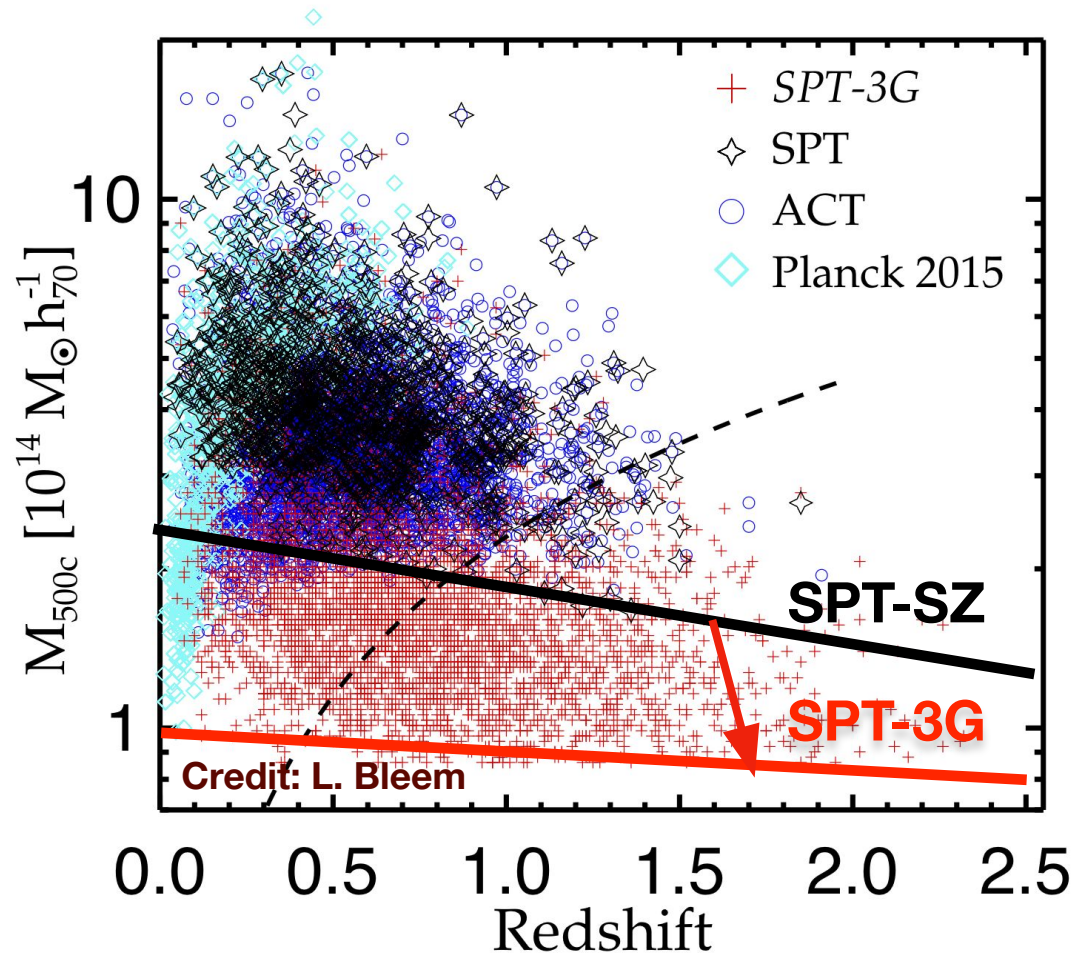
High- z Proto-clusters from CMB surveys



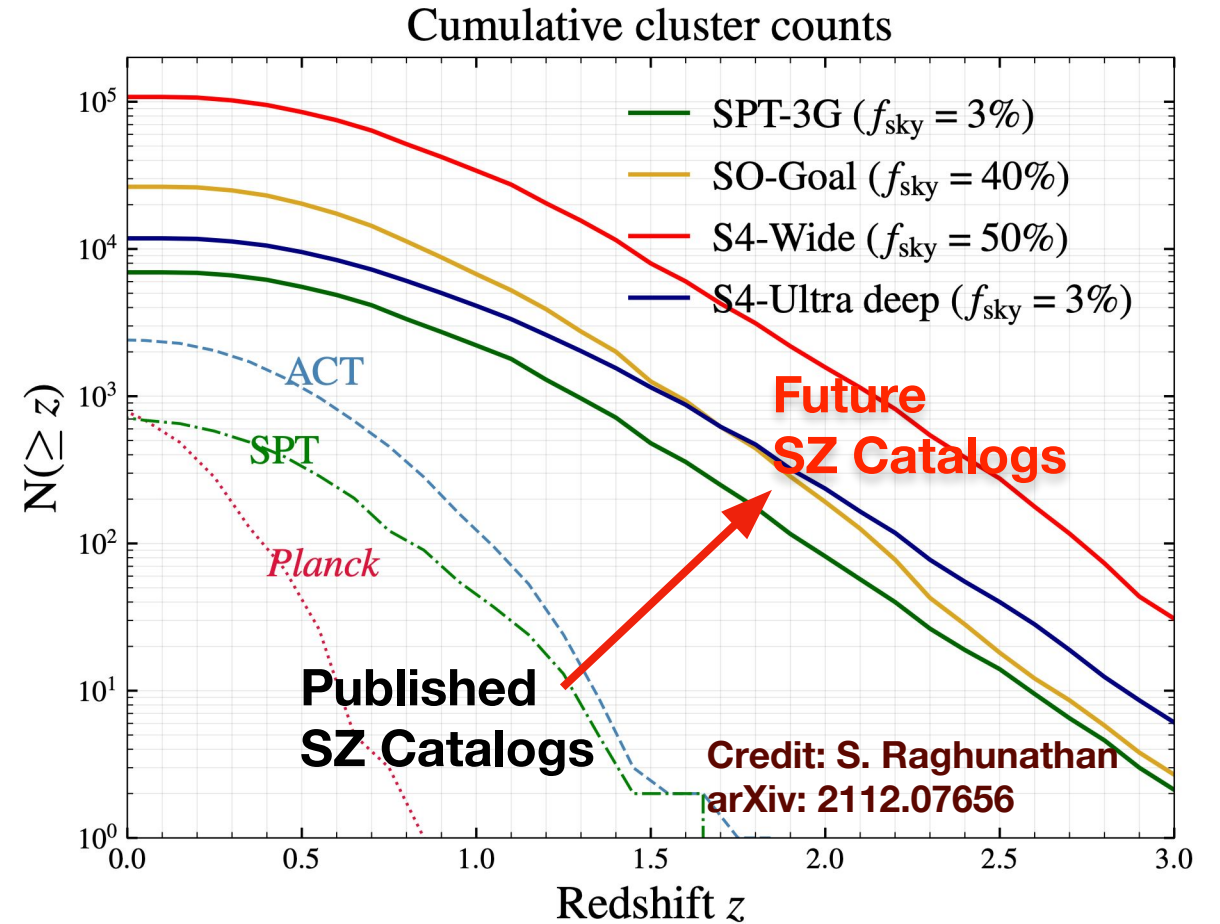
- **SPT-3G will detect $\sim 100x$ more galaxies than the SPT-SZ survey:**

- Dusty galaxies to $z \sim 9$
 - 100s of galaxies at $z > 6$
 - **~ 100 protoclusters at $z > 4$**
- From detecting SZ and dusty emission, CMB surveys can identify progenitors of most massive clusters from $1 < z < 5$!
 - With multiwave follow-up, can further trace history of gas virialization and infall, stellar quenching, AGN feedback, etc., back to earliest epochs of cluster formation

High- z Galaxy Clusters from CMB surveys



In the near future, SZ surveys will push down a factor of $\sim 3x$ in mass, below 10^{14} Msun



SZ surveys will extend highest- z reach significantly, by a factor of 1000 at $z > 1.5$