

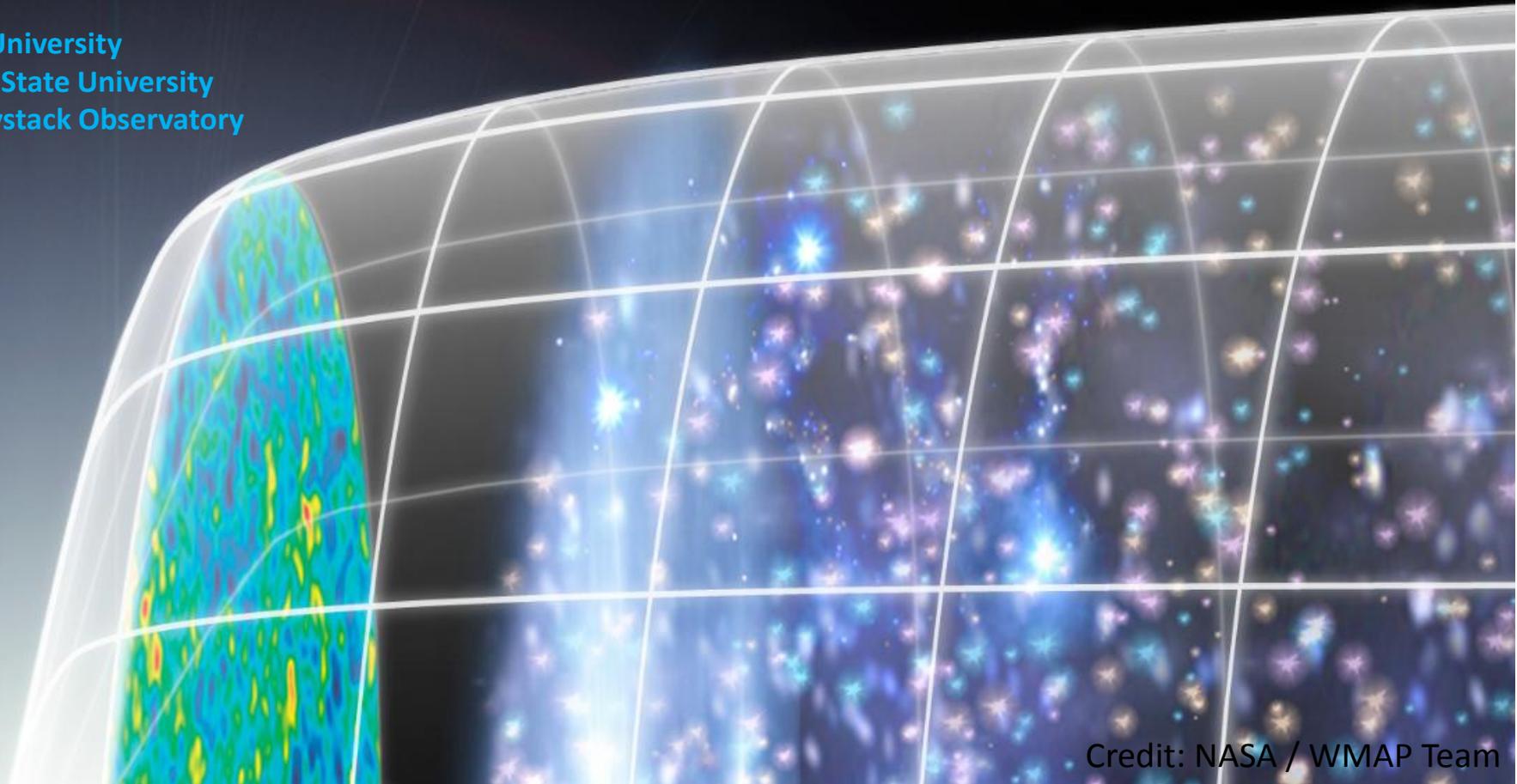
An Absorption Signal in the Sky-Averaged Radio Spectrum

Raul Monsalve¹, Judd Bowman², Alan Rogers³, Thomas Mozdzen², Nivedita Mahesh²

¹McGill University

²Arizona State University

³MIT Haystack Observatory



Summary

- 1) The **EDGES experiment** has **detected an absorption feature** in the sky-averaged spectrum centered at 78 MHz.
- 2) This is **consistent with stars forming by 180 Myrs after the Big Bang**.
- 3) Feature is **deeper and sharper** than expected.
- 4) We **remain agnostic** regarding the **interpretation**.
- 5) We are **working to verify the measurement**.
- 6) Also, **constraining high-z astrophysical parameters**, including properties of X-rays that heat the IGM.

Time

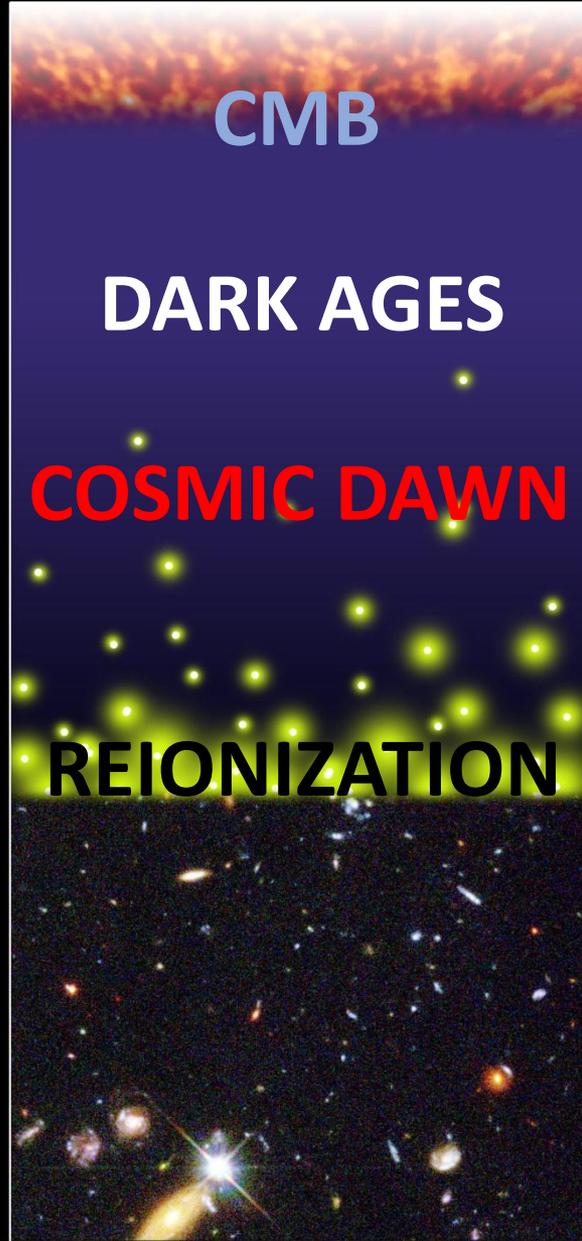
380.000 years

100 million years

300 million years

1 Gyr

13.8 Gyr



Redshift

1100

30

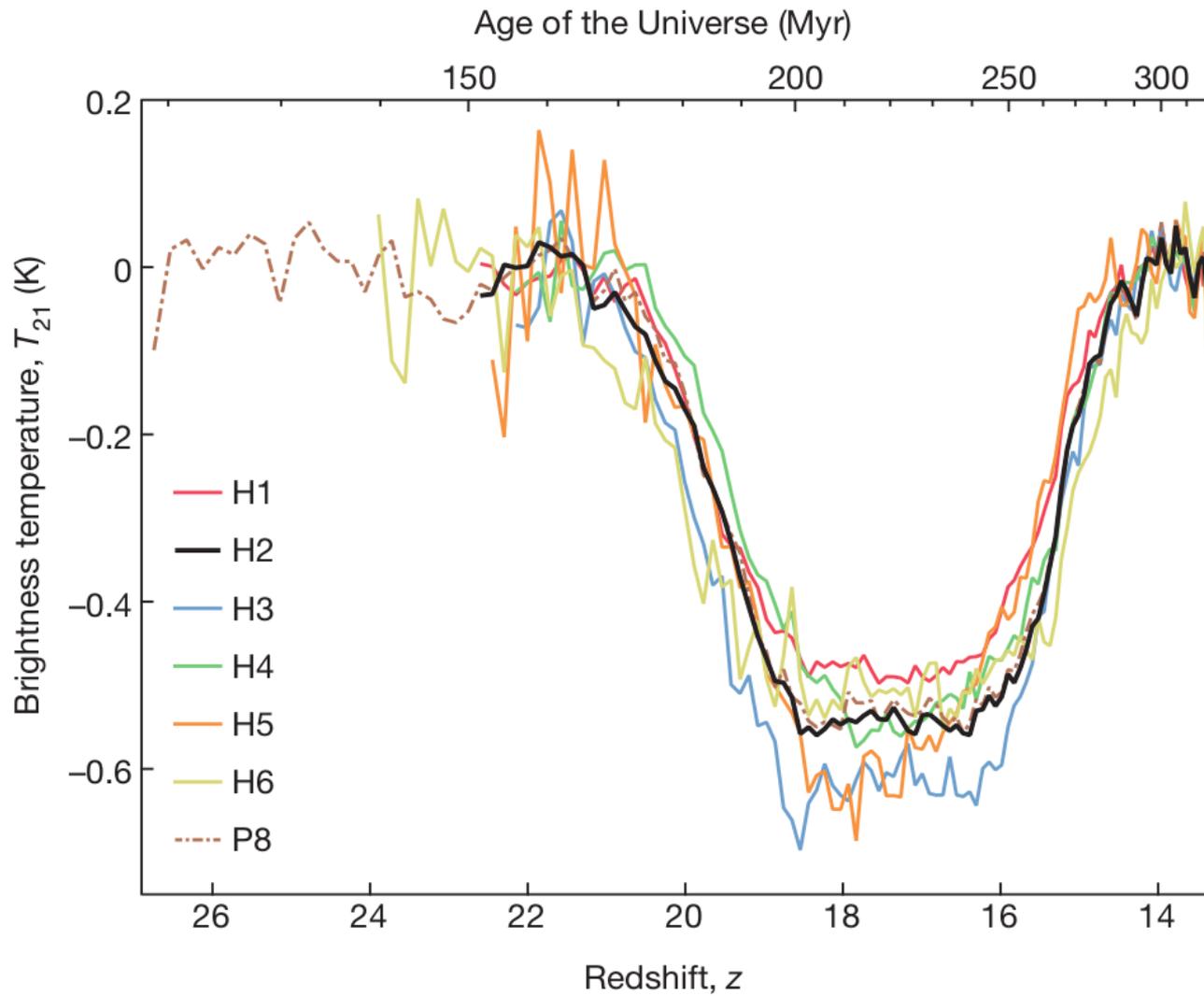
14

6

0

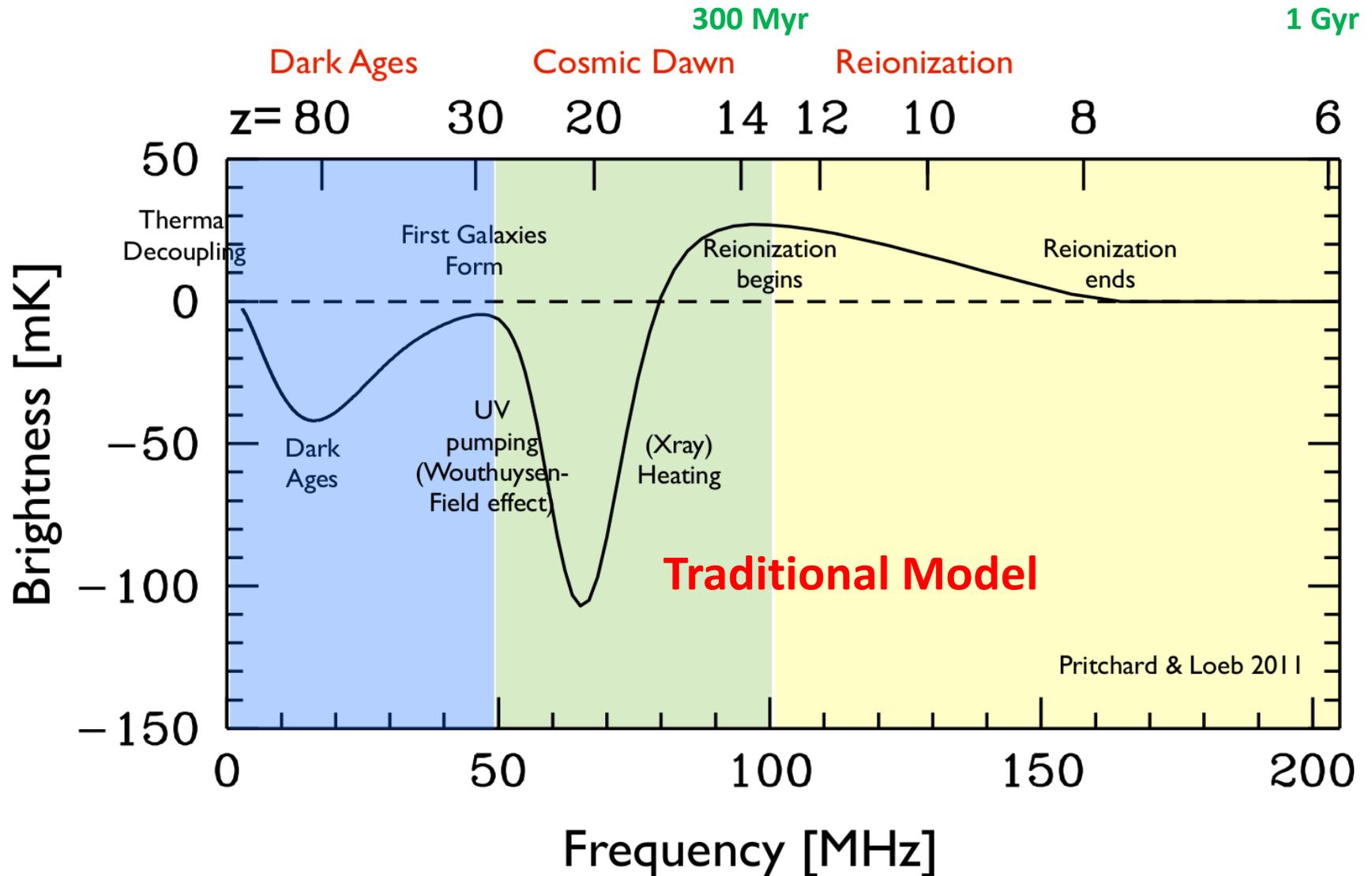
Neutral Hydrogen in the Intergalactic Medium (IGM)

Fraction of neutral hydrogen < 6%
McGreer et al. (2015)



Bowman, Rogers, Monsalve, Mozdzen, Mahesh 2018, **Nature**, 555, 67

Global (sky-average) 21-cm Signal



Global 21-cm Measurement

- 1) **One of few current alternatives** to access **Cosmic Dawn** ($z > 14$) period.

- 2) Probes the (sky-averaged) interaction of :
 - **IGM Neutral Hydrogen Fraction**
 - **IGM Kinetic and 21-cm Spin Temperature**
 - **Background Radiation Temperature**

- 4) Provides constraints on:
 - **Timing** and **strength** of UV coupling and X-ray heating
 - **Type** of early sources (PopII vs PopIII, Black Holes, X-Ray Binaries, etc.)
 - Star formation **cooling and feedback mechanisms**
 - **Redshift** and **Duration** of epoch of **Epoch of Reionization**

Challenges

- 1) **Hard instrument calibration** problem.
- 2) **Strong diffuse foregrounds** compared to 21-cm signal.

EDGES

Experiment to **D**etect the **G**lobal **E**oR **S**ignature

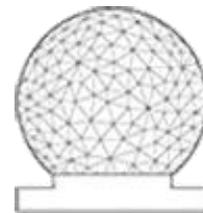
Prof. Judd Bowman (PI)

Dr. Alan Rogers

Dr. Raul Monsalve

Dr. Thomas Mozdzen

Ms. Nivedita Mahesh



Western Australia

Radio-Quiet Site

Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory (MRO)

ASKAP



MWA



SKA-Low

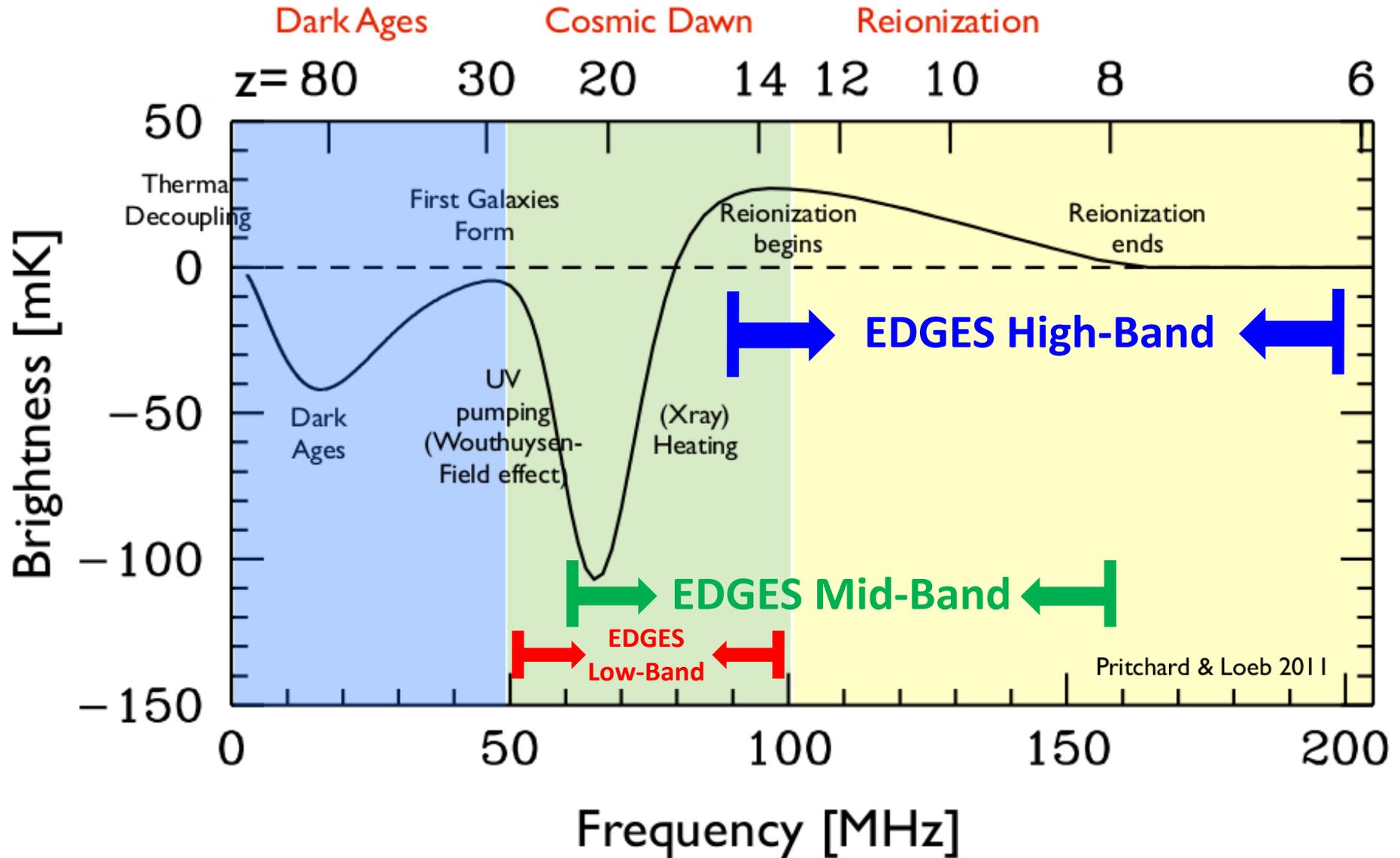


EDGES

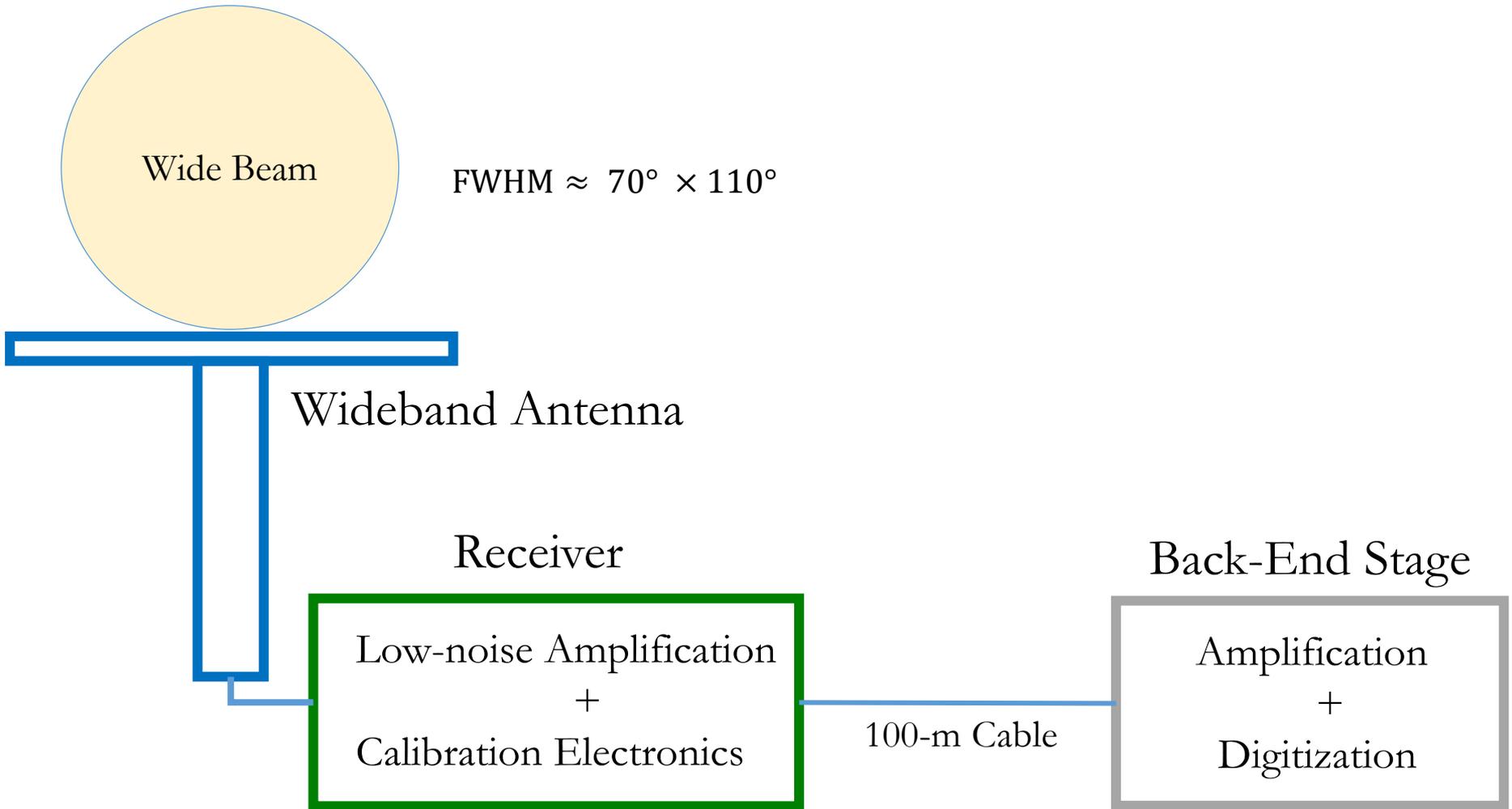
MRO



EDGES Instruments



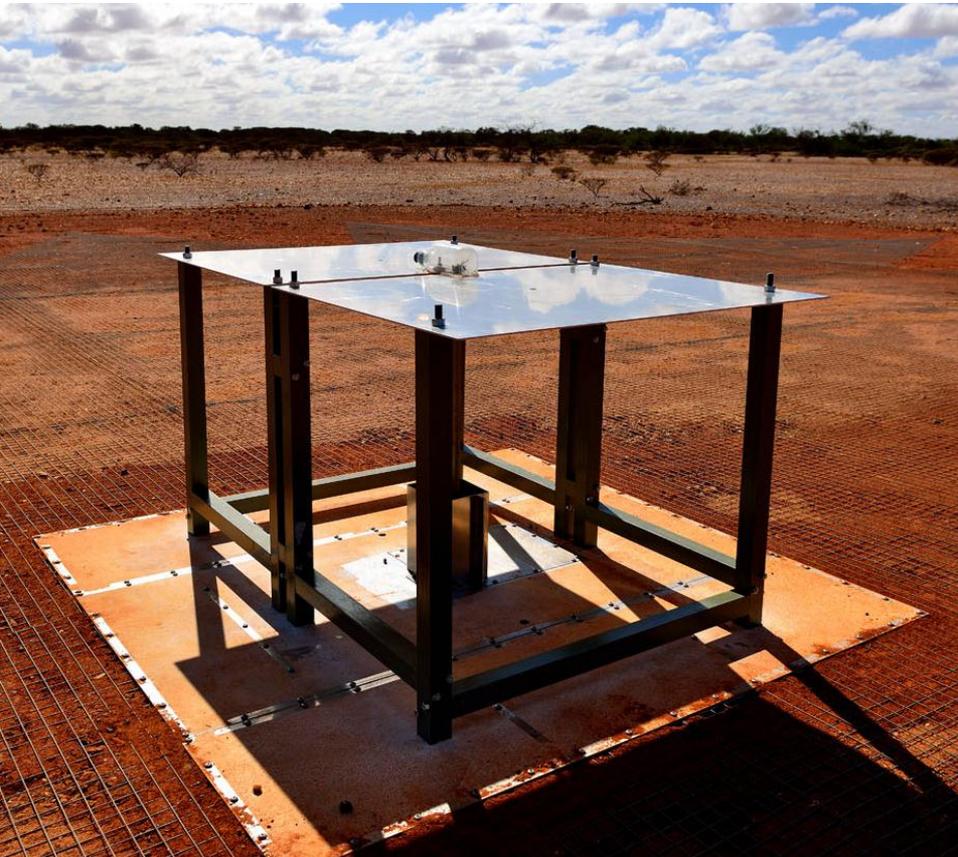
EDGES Block Diagram



Instrumental Calibration

- 1) **Receiver gain and offset.**
- 2) **Impedance mismatch between receiver and the antenna.**
- 3) **Antenna and ground losses.**
- 4) **Frequency-dependence of the antenna beam.**

EDGES **Low-Band**



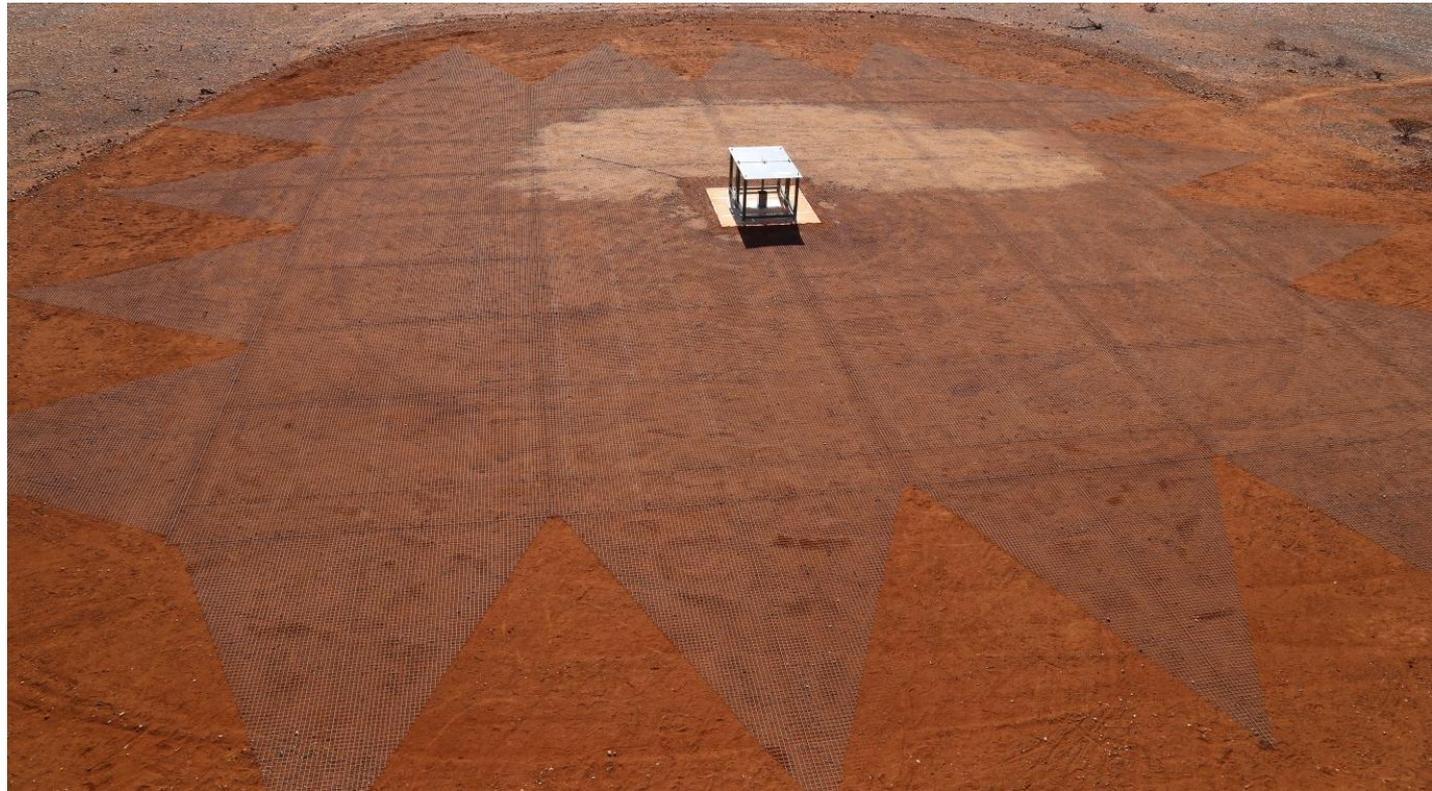
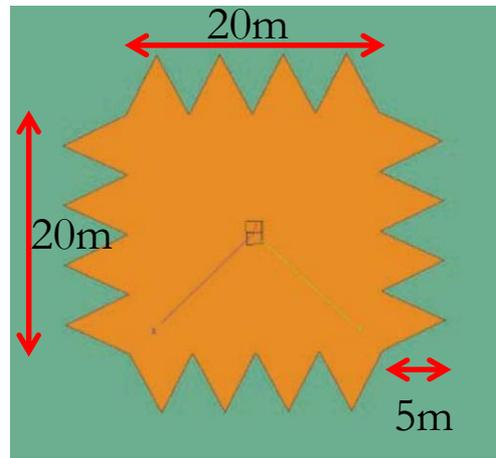
Antenna size:
2m long / 1m high

Two **Low-Band** Instruments



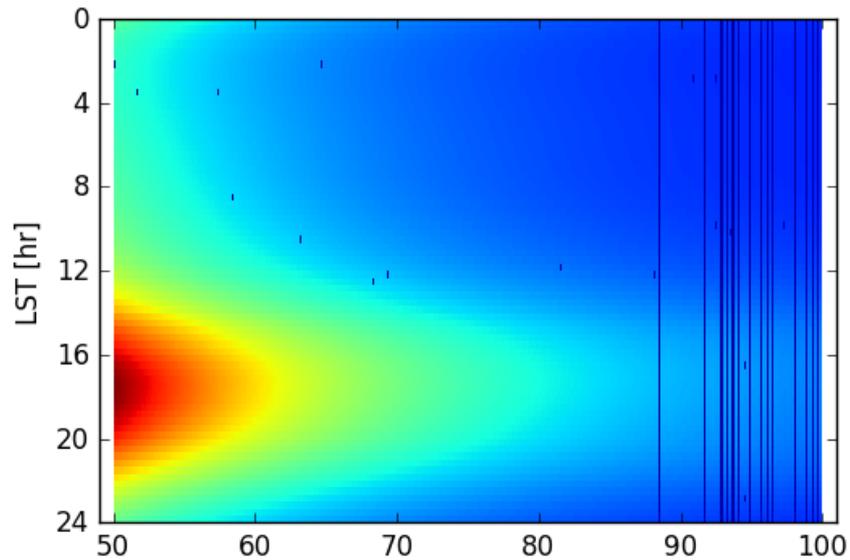
Low-Band Ground Plane

Extended Ground Plane:
Central Square: 20m x 20m
16 Triangles: 5m-long

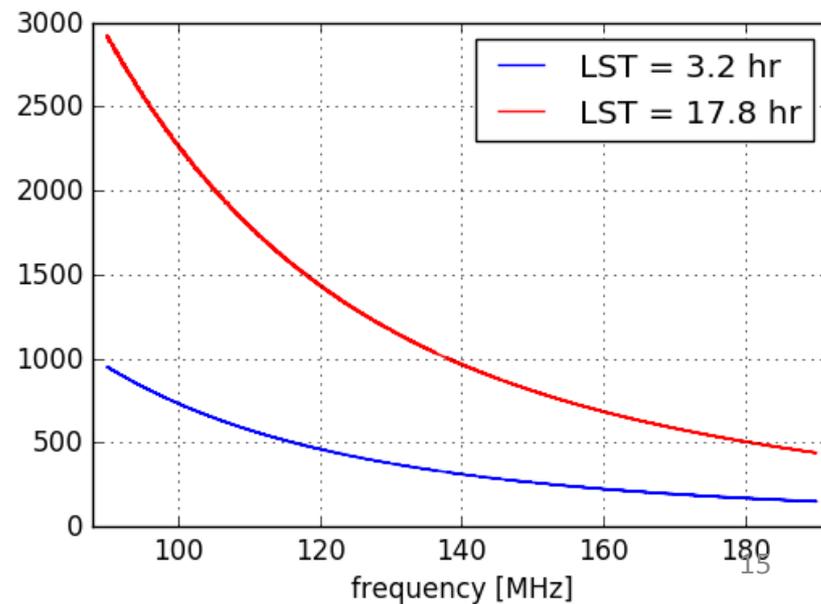
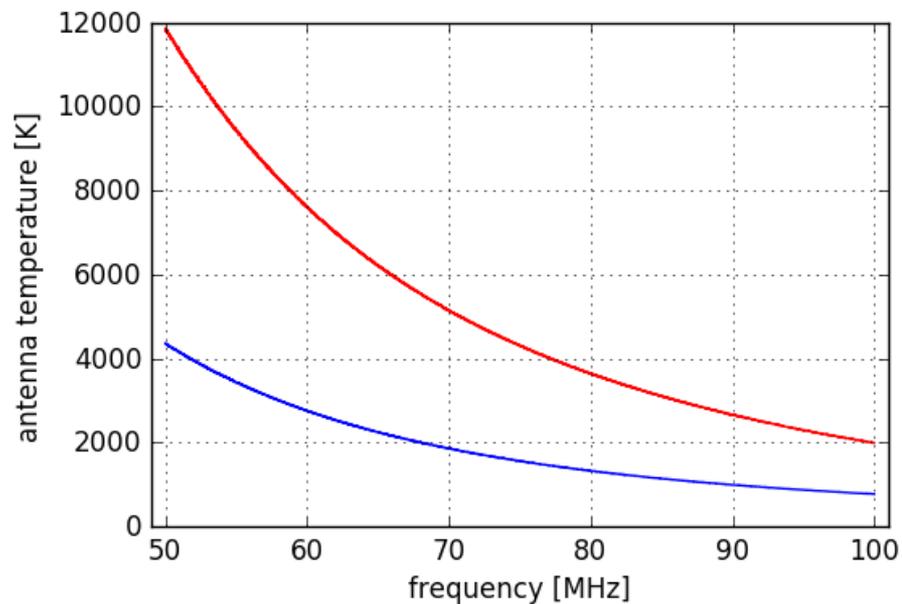
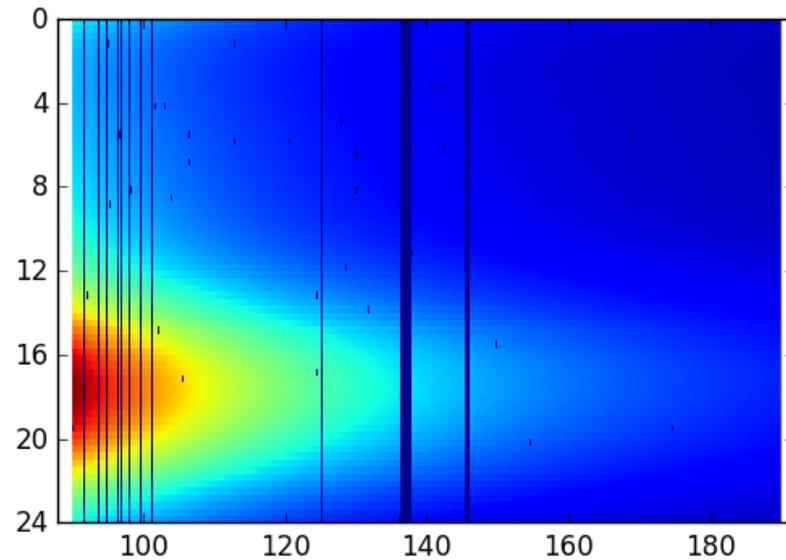


Observations

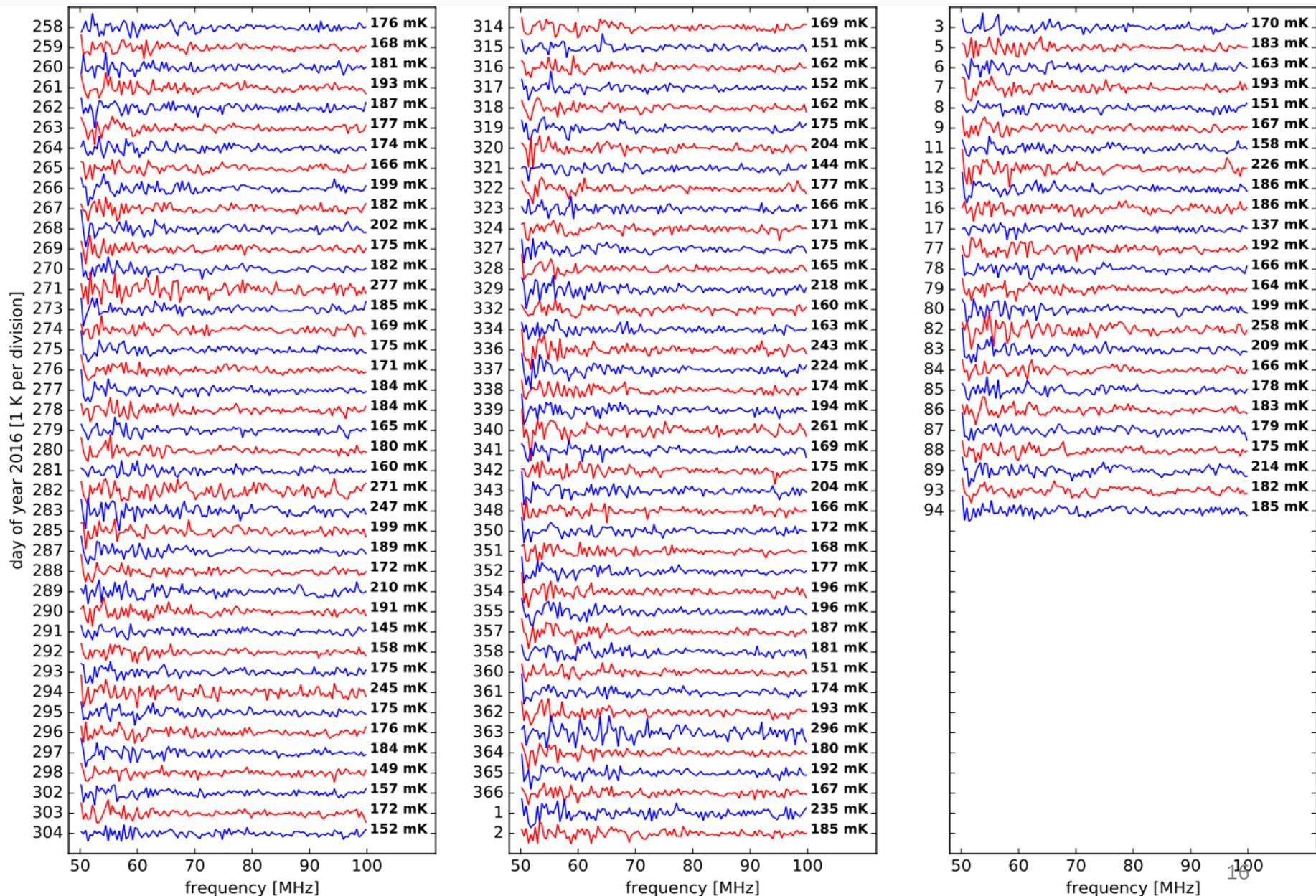
EDGES Low-Band



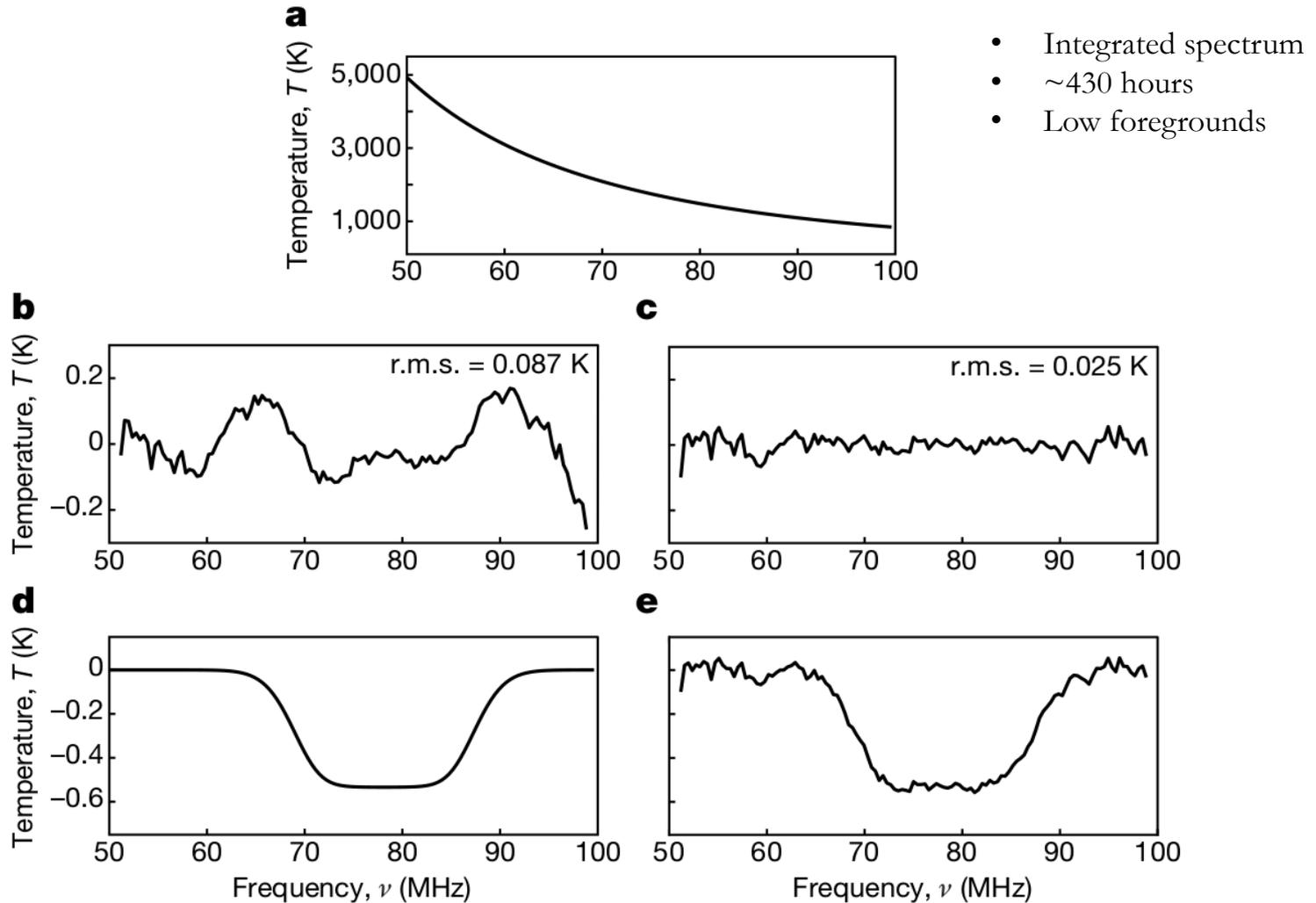
EDGES High-Band



Daily **Low-Band** Residuals



Summary of the Detection



Phenomenological 21-cm Model “Flattened Gaussian”

$$m_{21}(\nu, \theta_{21}) = -A \left(\frac{1 - e^{-\tau e^B}}{1 - e^{-\tau}} \right)$$

$$B = \frac{4(\nu - \nu_0)^2}{w^2} \ln \left[-\left(\frac{1}{\tau} \right) \ln \left(\frac{1 + e^{-\tau}}{2} \right) \right]$$

- A : absorption amplitude
- ν_0 : center frequency
- w : width
- τ : flattening parameter

“Foreground” Models

Linearized version of Physically-Motivated foreground model

$$m_{\text{fg}}(\mathbf{a}_i) = \mathbf{a}_0 \left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_n}\right)^{-2.5} + \mathbf{a}_1 \left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_n}\right)^{-2.5} \left[\log\left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_n}\right)\right] + \mathbf{a}_2 \left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_n}\right)^{-2.5} \left[\log\left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_n}\right)\right]^2 \\ + \mathbf{a}_3 \left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_n}\right)^{-4.5} + \mathbf{a}_4 \left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_n}\right)^{-2}$$

Alternative Polynomial Model

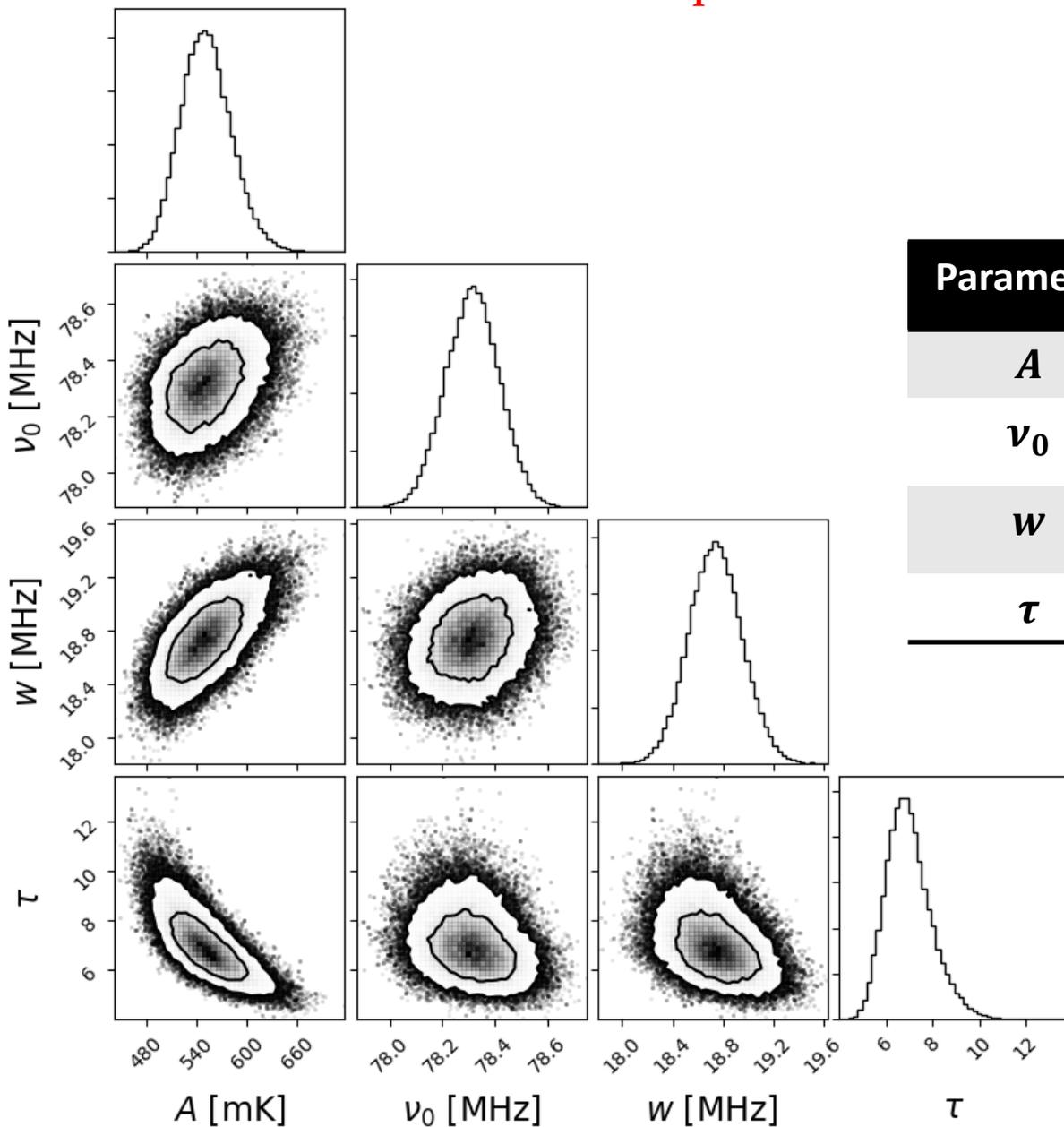
$$m_{\text{fg}}(\mathbf{a}_i) = \left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_n}\right)^{-2.5} \sum_{i=0}^{N_{\text{fg}}-1} \mathbf{a}_i \left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_n}\right)^i$$

Smooth sets of basis functions that model well, with few terms, the spectrum over wide frequency ranges.

Linear fit coefficients **not intended to be assigned physical interpretation.**

Parameter Estimates

Estimates from Nominal Spectrum



Reported Estimates Including All Cases

Parameter	Best Fit	Uncertainty (3σ)
A	0.5 K	+0.5/-0.2 K
ν_0	78 MHz	+/-1 MHz
w	19 MHz	+4/-2 MHz
τ	7	+5/-3

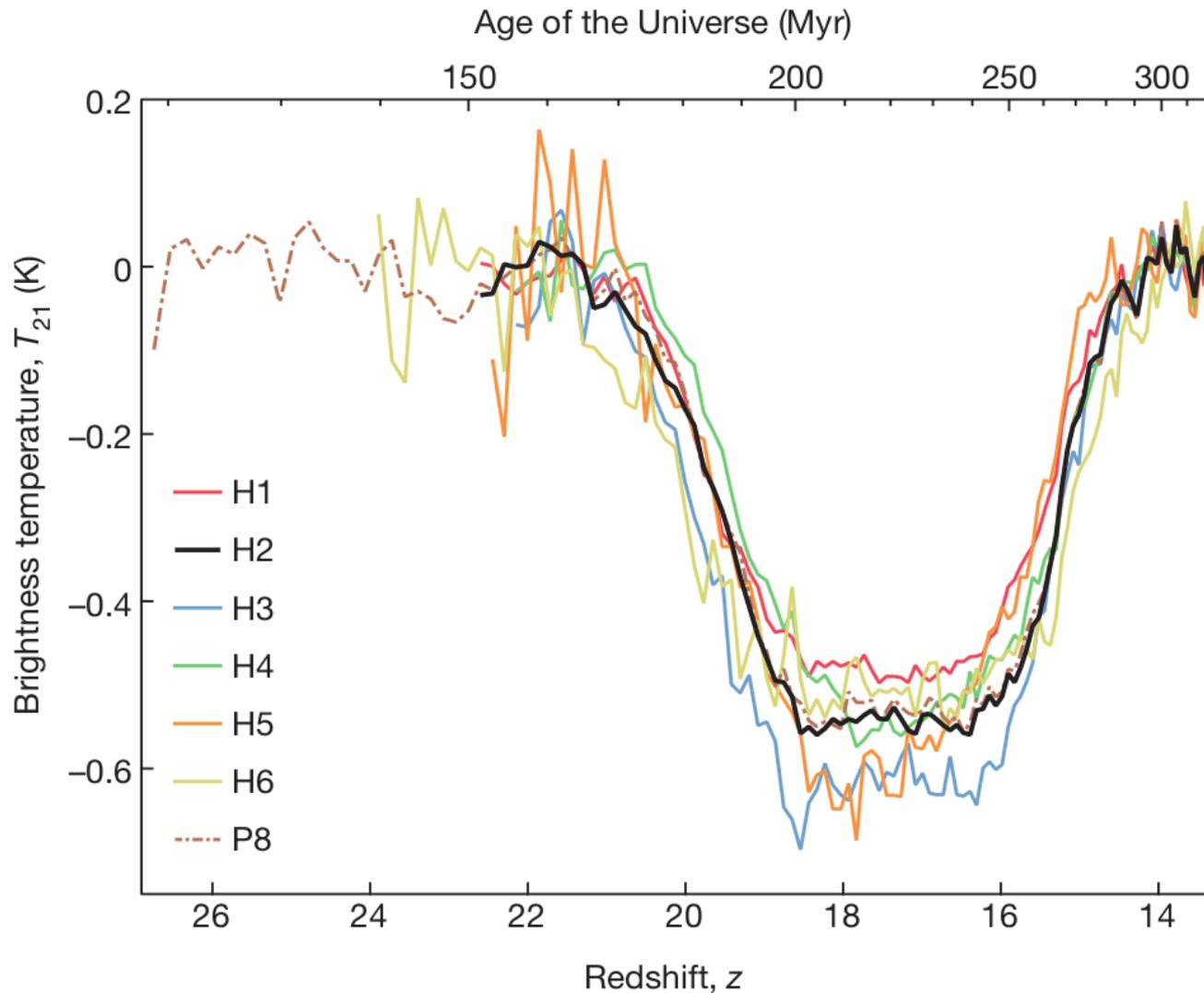
Sensitivity to Possible Calibration Errors

Error source	Estimated uncertainty	Modelled error level	Recovered amplitude (K)
LNA S11 magnitude	0.1 dB	1.0 dB	0.51
LNA S11 phase (delay)	20 ps	100 ps	0.48
Antenna S11 magnitude	0.02 dB	0.2 dB	0.50
Antenna S11 phase (delay)	20 ps	100 ps	0.48
No loss correction	N/A	N/A	0.51
No beam correction	N/A	N/A	0.48

Hardware and Processing Cases

Configuration	Sky Time (hours)	SNR	Centre Frequency (MHz)	Width (MHz)	Amplitude (K)
Hardware configurations (all P6)					
H1 – low-1 10x10 ground plane	528	30	78.1	20.4	0.48
H2 – low-1 30x30 ground plane	428	52	78.1	18.8	0.54
H3 – low-1 30x30 ground plane and recalibrated receiver	64	13	77.4	19.3	0.43
H4 – low-2 NS	228	33	78.5	18.0	0.52
H5 – low-2 EW	68	19	77.4	17.0	0.57
H6 – low-2 EW and no balun shield	27	15	78.1	21.9	0.50
Processing configurations (all H2 except P17)					
P3 – No beam correction		19	78.5	20.8	0.37
No beam correction (65-95 MHz)		25	78.5	18.6	0.47
HFSS beam model		34	78.5	20.8	0.67
FEKO beam model		48	78.1	18.8	0.50
P4 – No loss corrections		25	77.4	18.6	0.44
P7 – 5-term foreground polynomial (60-99 MHz)		21	78.1	19.2	0.47
P8 – Physical foreground model (51-99 MHz)		37	78.1	18.7	0.53
P14 – Moon above horizon		44	78.1	18.8	0.52
Moon below horizon		40	78.5	18.7	0.47
P17 – 15°C calibration (61-99 MHz, 5-term)		25	78.5	22.8	0.64
35°C calibration (61-99 MHz, 5-term)		16	78.9	22.7	0.48

Different Instruments/Hardware Cases



Absorption Amplitude for Various GHA

Galactic Hour Angle (GHA)	SNR	Amplitude (K)	Sky Temperature (K)
6-hour bins			
0	8	0.48	3999
6	11	0.57	2035
12	23	0.50	1521
18	15	0.60	2340
4-hour bins			
0	5	0.45	4108
4	9	0.46	2775
8	13	0.44	1480
12	21	0.57	1497
16	11	0.59	1803
20	9	0.66	3052

How to Explain Deep Absorption?

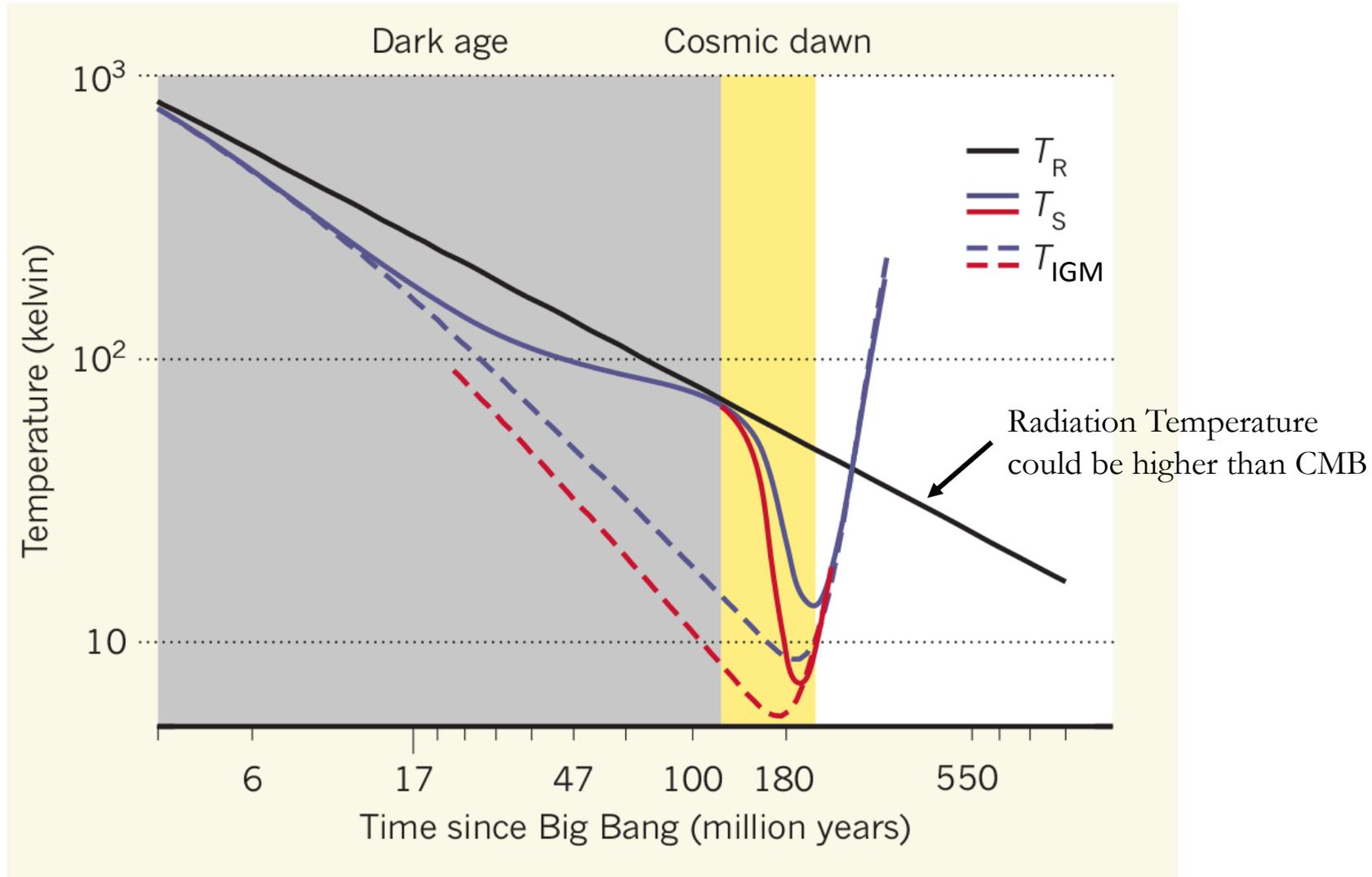
$$T_{21}(z) \propto \left(1 - \frac{T_{\text{CMB}} + T_{\text{EXCESS}}}{T_{\text{S}}} \right)$$

Higher than zero

Lower than expected

T_{IGM} Lower than expected

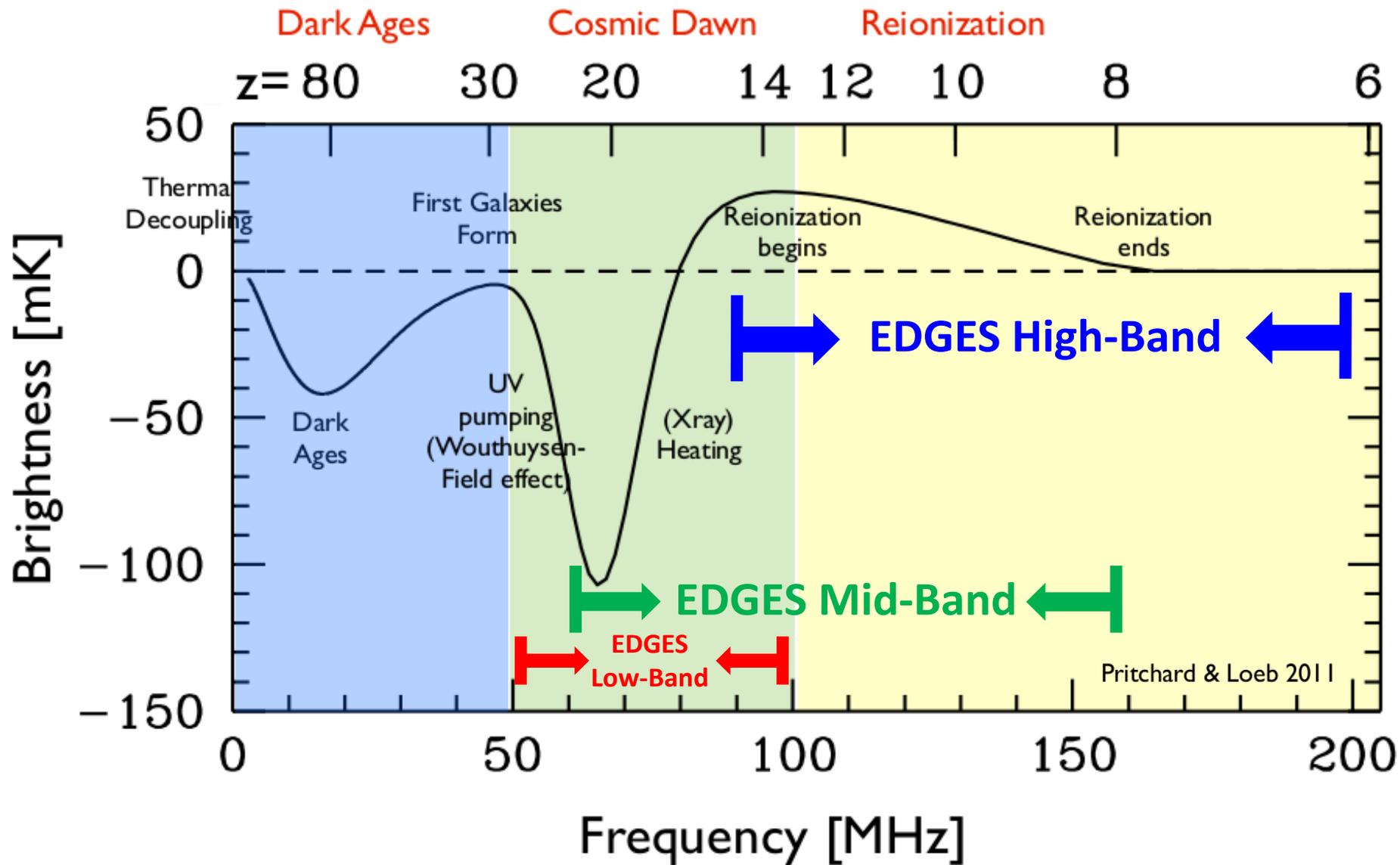
Producing a Deep Absorption



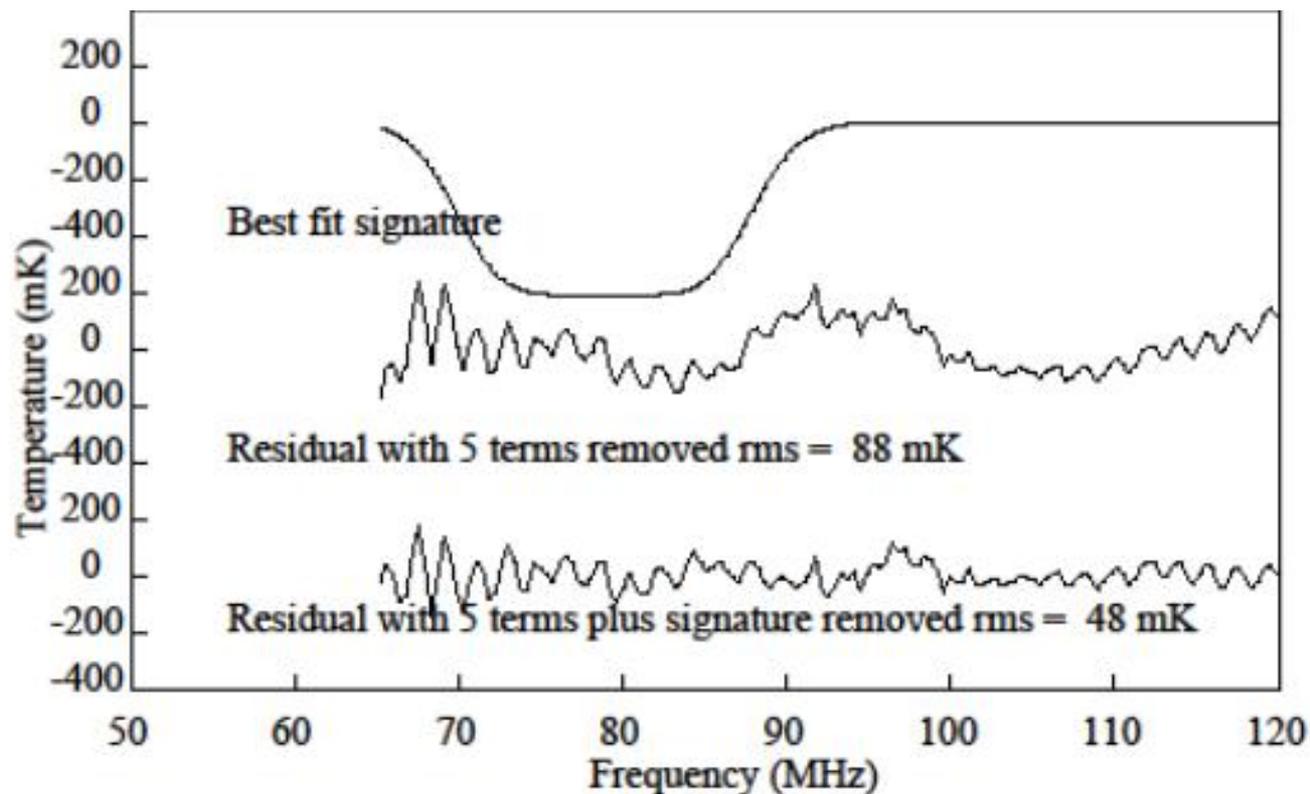
With EDGES **we remain agnostic** about the cosmological/astrophysical explanations, and focused on the verification of our measurement.

Other experiments trying to verify the measurement include
PRIZM, LEDA, and SARAS 2

EDGES Instruments



Preliminary Mid-Band Results with Imperfect Data



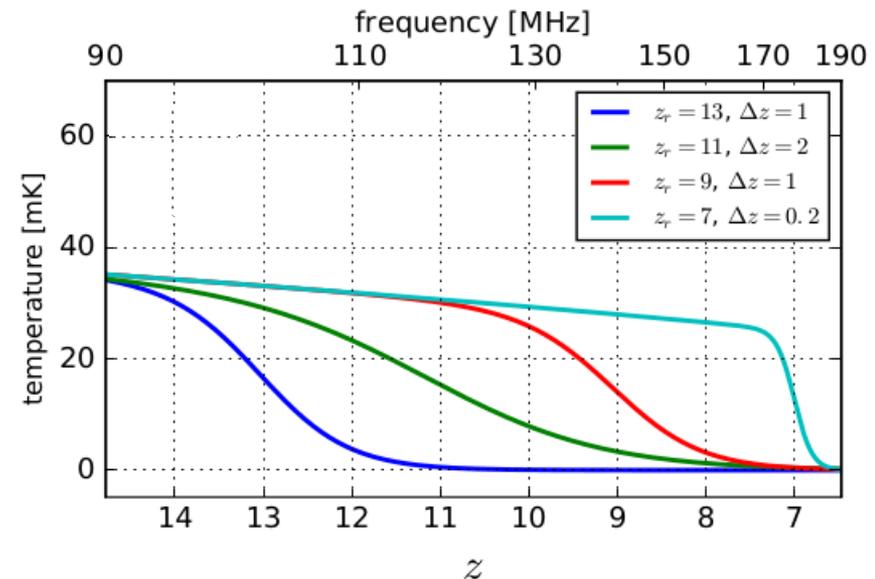
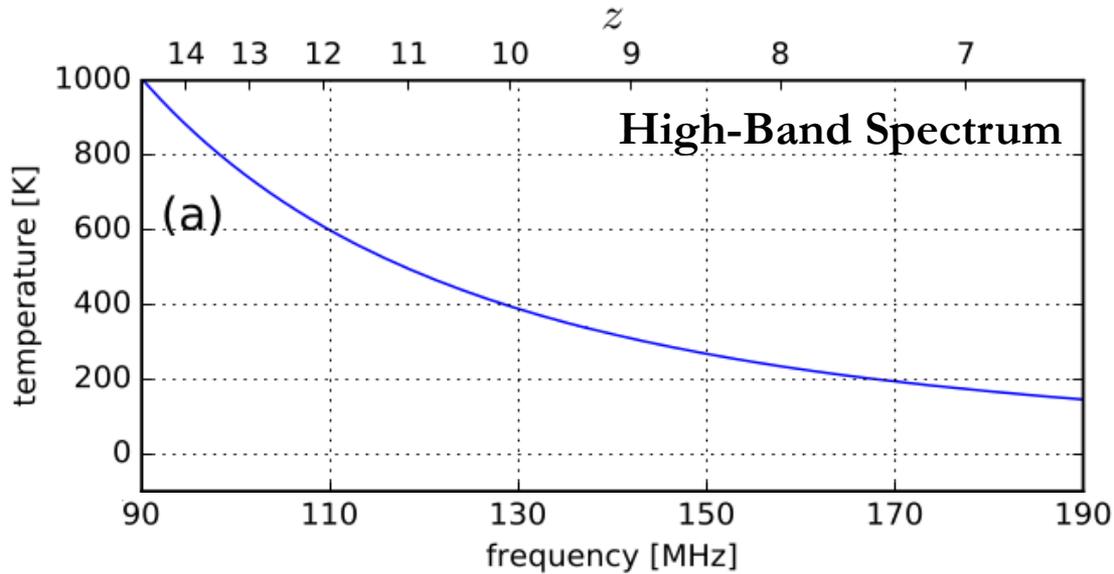
- 1) Data from **November 2017-February 2018**.
- 2) **Imperfect calibration** (noise source level too low).
- 3) Frequency range **65-120 MHz**.
- 4) **5-term linear “physical” foreground model**.

Best-fit parameters:

- **A** : 0.61 K
- **ν_0** : 78.9 MHz
- **ω** : 18.2 MHz
- **τ** : 7

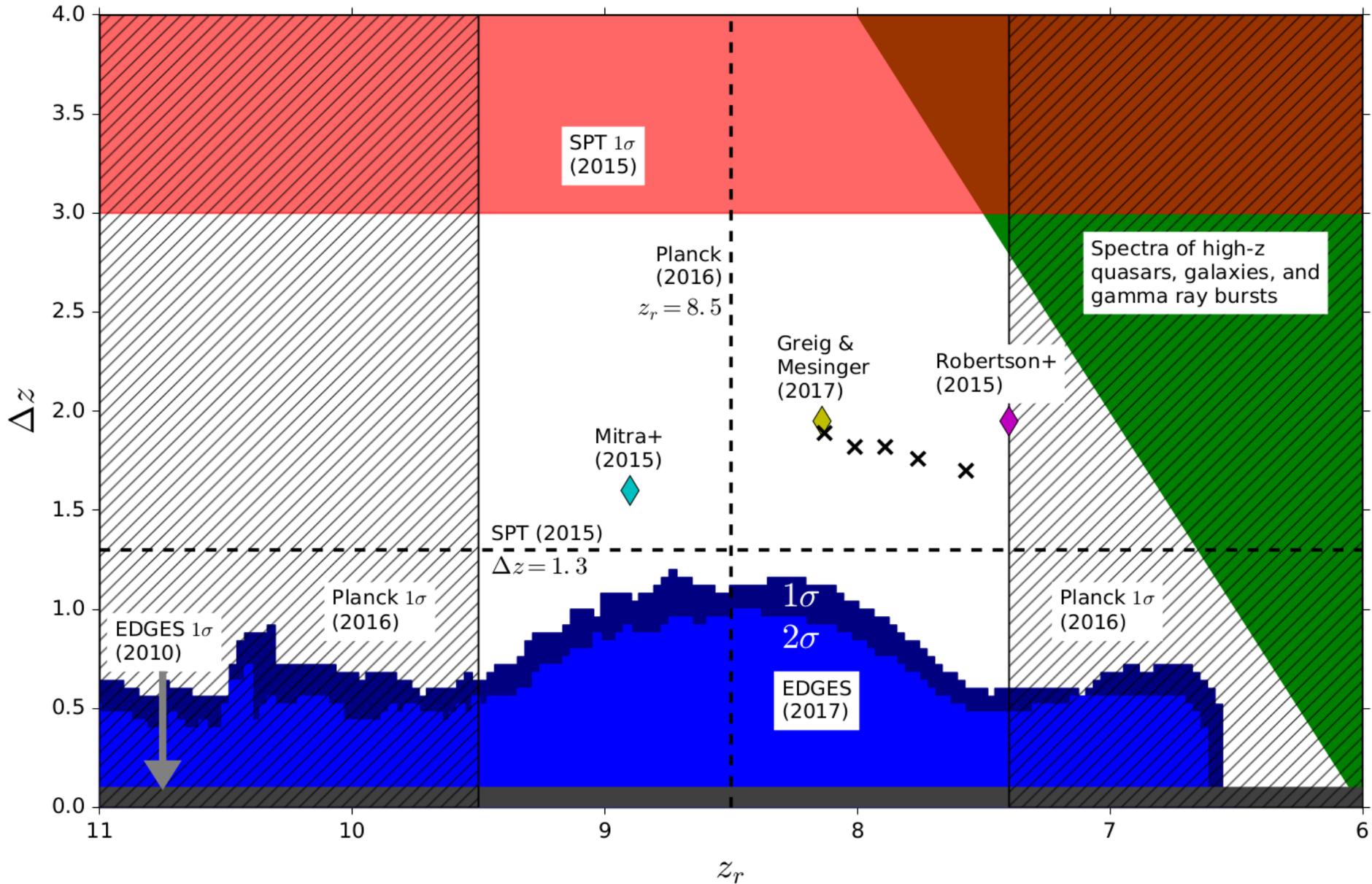
Recent EDGES High-Band Analyses

Monsalve, Rogers, Bowman, & Mozdzen (2017b)



- 1) Evaluate **EoR models** based on **Tanh function**
- 2) Emission **amplitudes** < 40 mK
- 3) Parameters probed are **Redshift (z_r)** and **Duration (Δz)**

Epoch of Reionization Constraints (Hot IGM)



Constraining High-z Astrophysical Parameters

- 1) We test **traditional models** that assume **standard temperatures** for the **IGM and radiation background** in the Early Universe.
- 2) **Do NOT assume** that absorption feature of Bowman et al. (2018) **is the cosmological signal**.
- 3) 10,000 models from semi-numerical simulations with the **21cmFAST** code.

High-z Astrophysical Parameters:

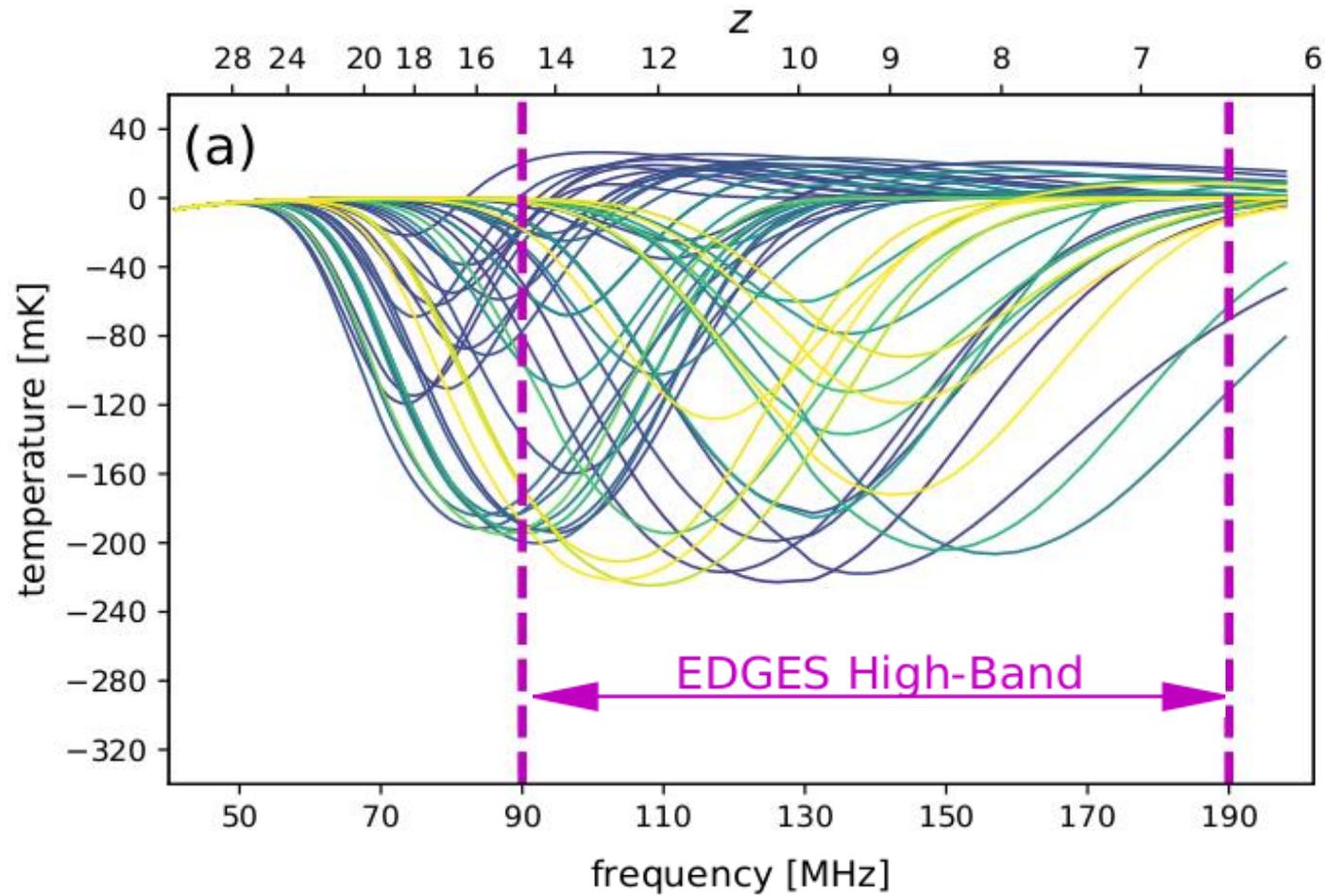
ζ : Ionizing efficiency of halos that host galaxies

$T_{\text{vir}}^{\text{min}}$: Minimum virial temperature of halos that host star-forming galaxies

L_X/SFR : X-ray luminosity per star-formation rate from galaxies (up to 2 keV)

E_0 : Minimum energy of X-rays

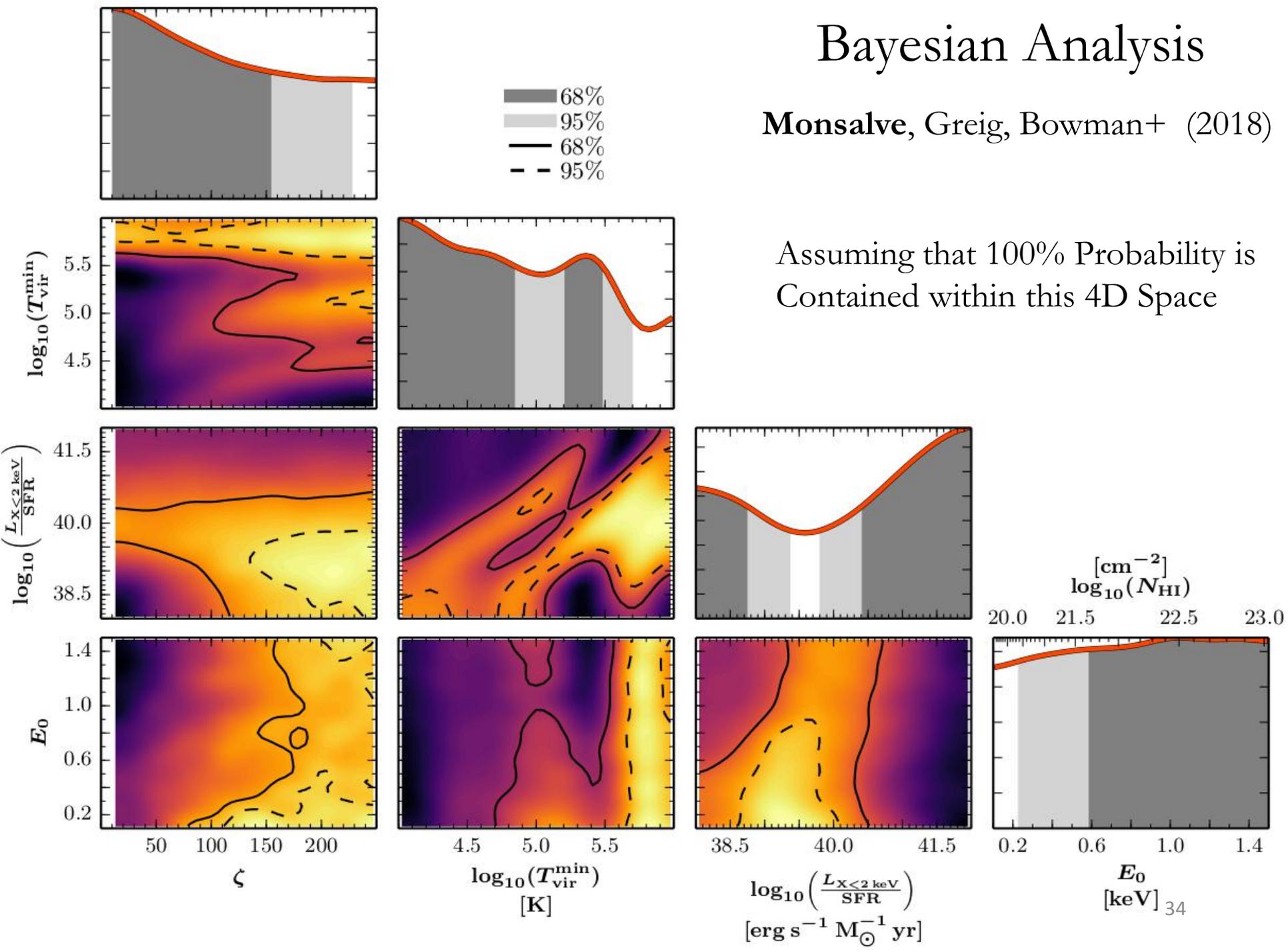
Sample of Models from 21cmFAST



Bayesian Analysis

Monsalve, Greig, Bowman+ (2018)

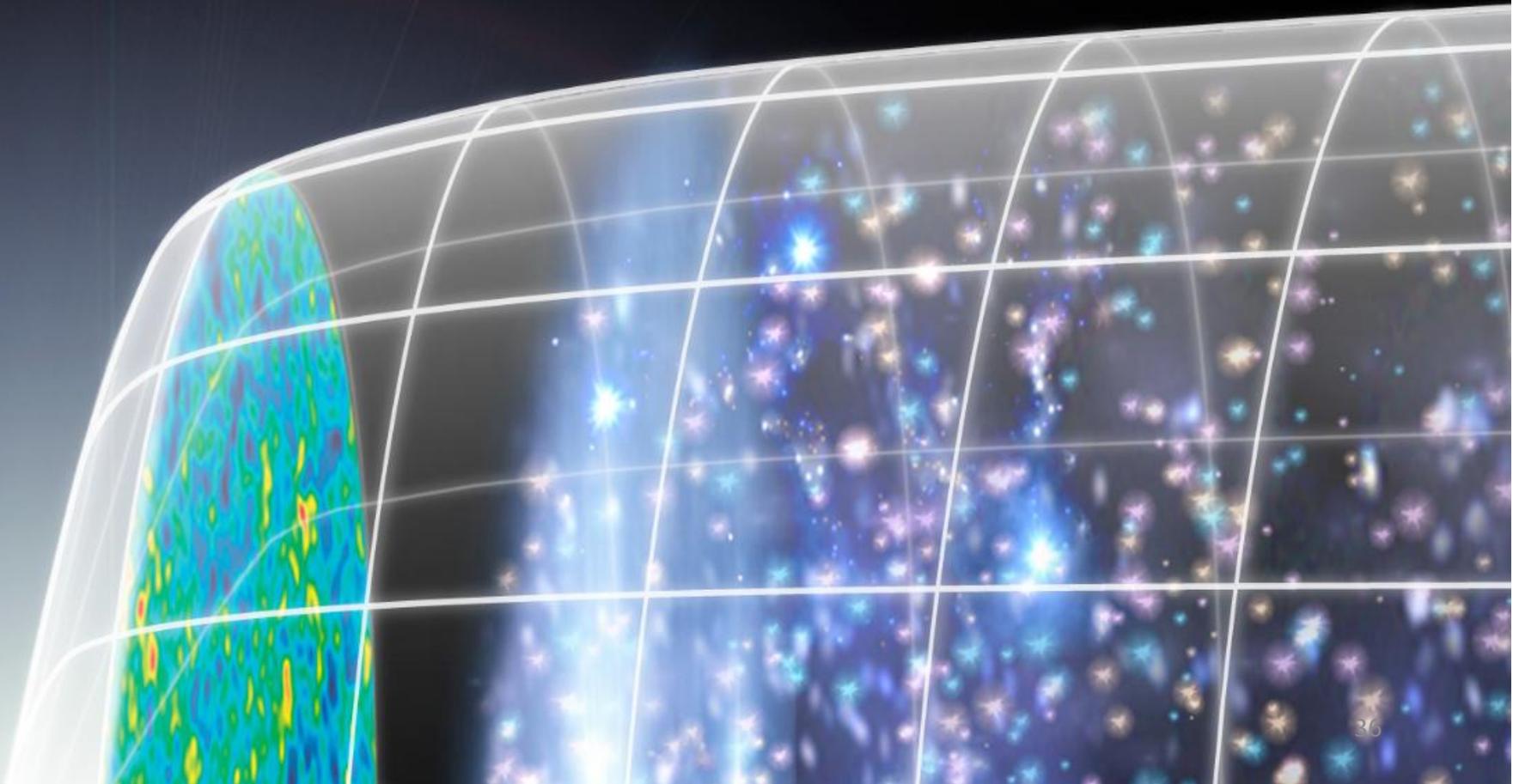
Assuming that 100% Probability is Contained within this 4D Space



Summary

- 1) The **EDGES experiment** has **detected an absorption feature** in the sky-averaged spectrum centered at 78 MHz.
- 2) This is **consistent with stars forming by 180 Myrs after the Big Bang**.
- 3) Feature is **deeper and sharper** than expected.
- 4) We **remain agnostic** regarding the **interpretation**.
- 5) We are **working to verify the measurement**.
- 6) Also, **constraining high-z astrophysical parameters**, including properties of X-rays that heat up the IGM.

Thank You



Bayesian Analysis

$$m(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = m_{21}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{21}) + m_{\text{fg}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{\text{fg}})$$

$$\mathcal{L}(d|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{N_v} |\Sigma|}} \times e^{\left\{-\frac{1}{2}[d-m(\boldsymbol{\theta})]^T \Sigma^{-1} [d-m(\boldsymbol{\theta})]\right\}}$$

d : data

m : model

Σ : covariance matrix of data (Noise + Systematic Uncertainty)

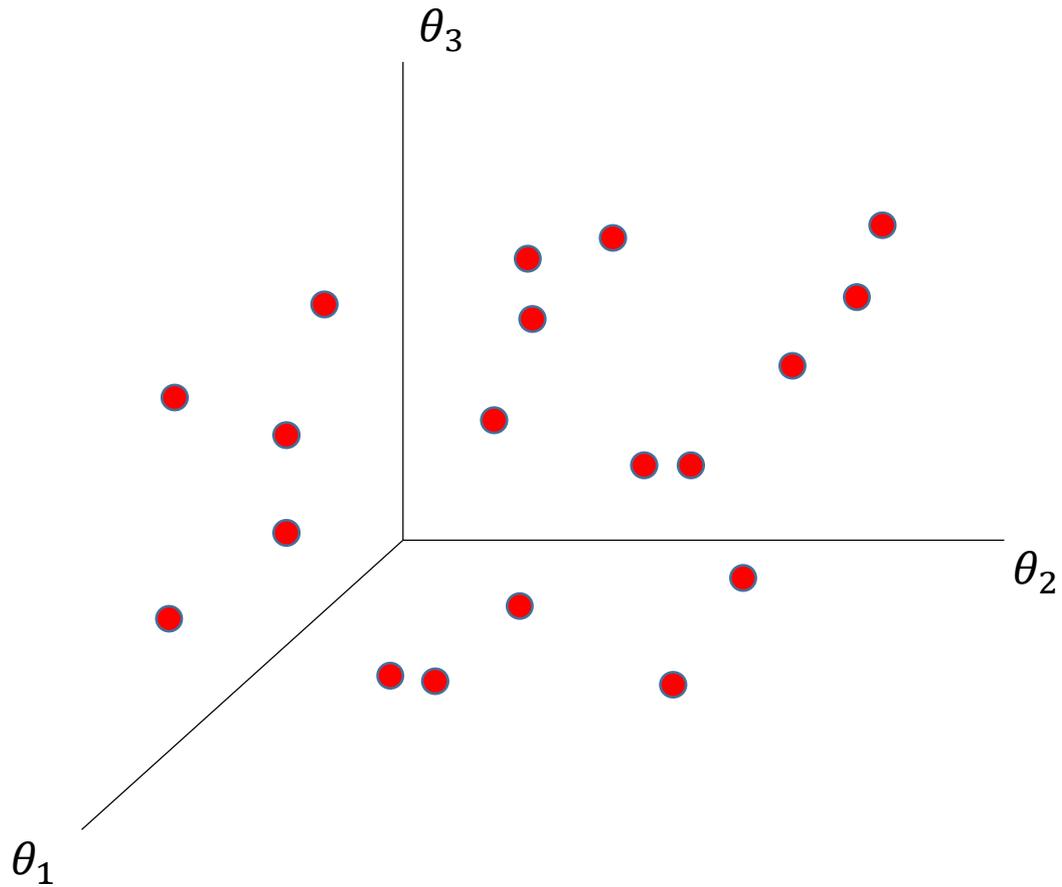
N_v : number of spectral channels

We Marginalize Uncertainty in the Foreground Model Parameters

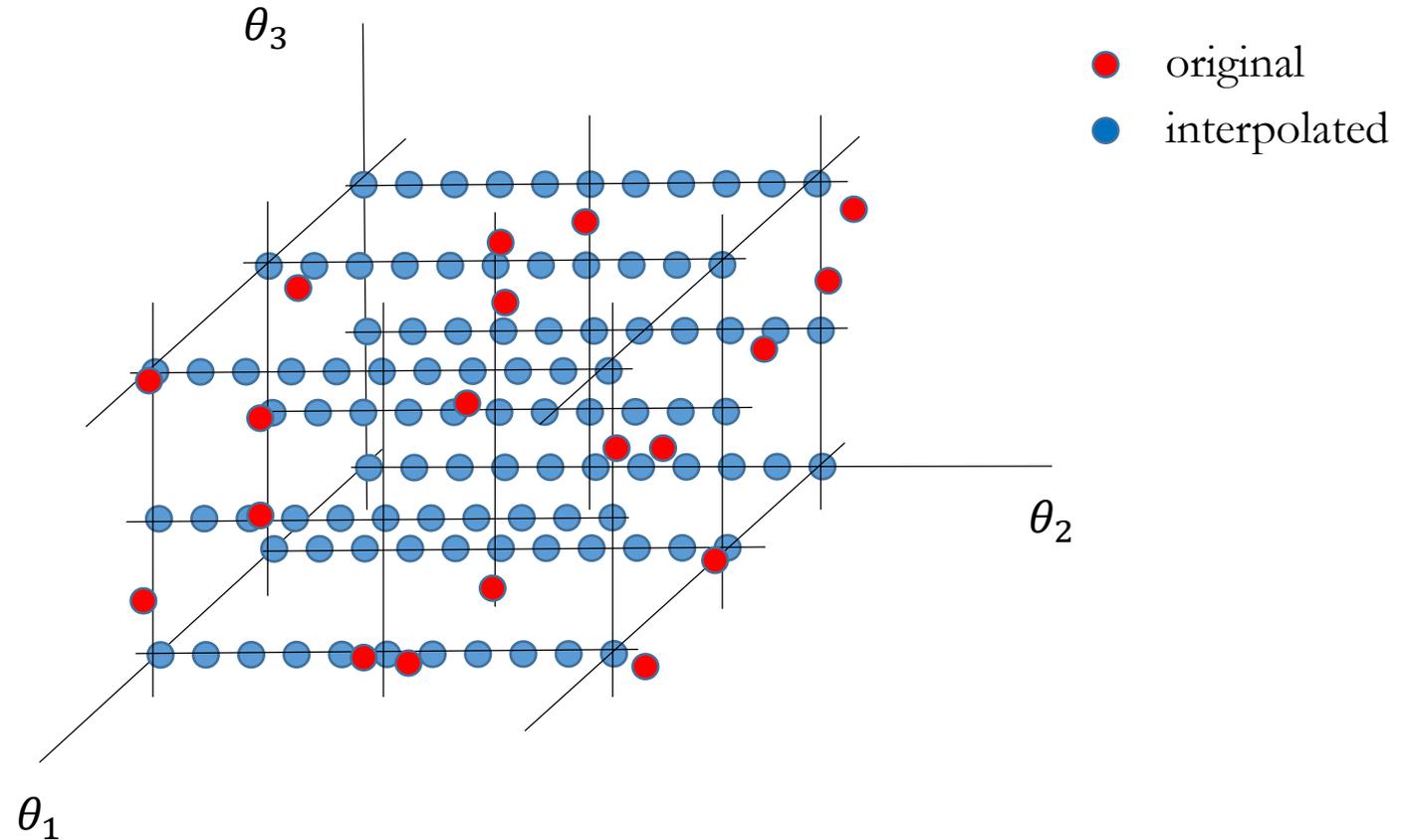
and Obtain:

Likelihood of each 21-cm Model: $\mathcal{L}(d|\boldsymbol{\theta}_{21})$

Likelihood for Original Models



Interpolation of Likelihood onto Regular Grid

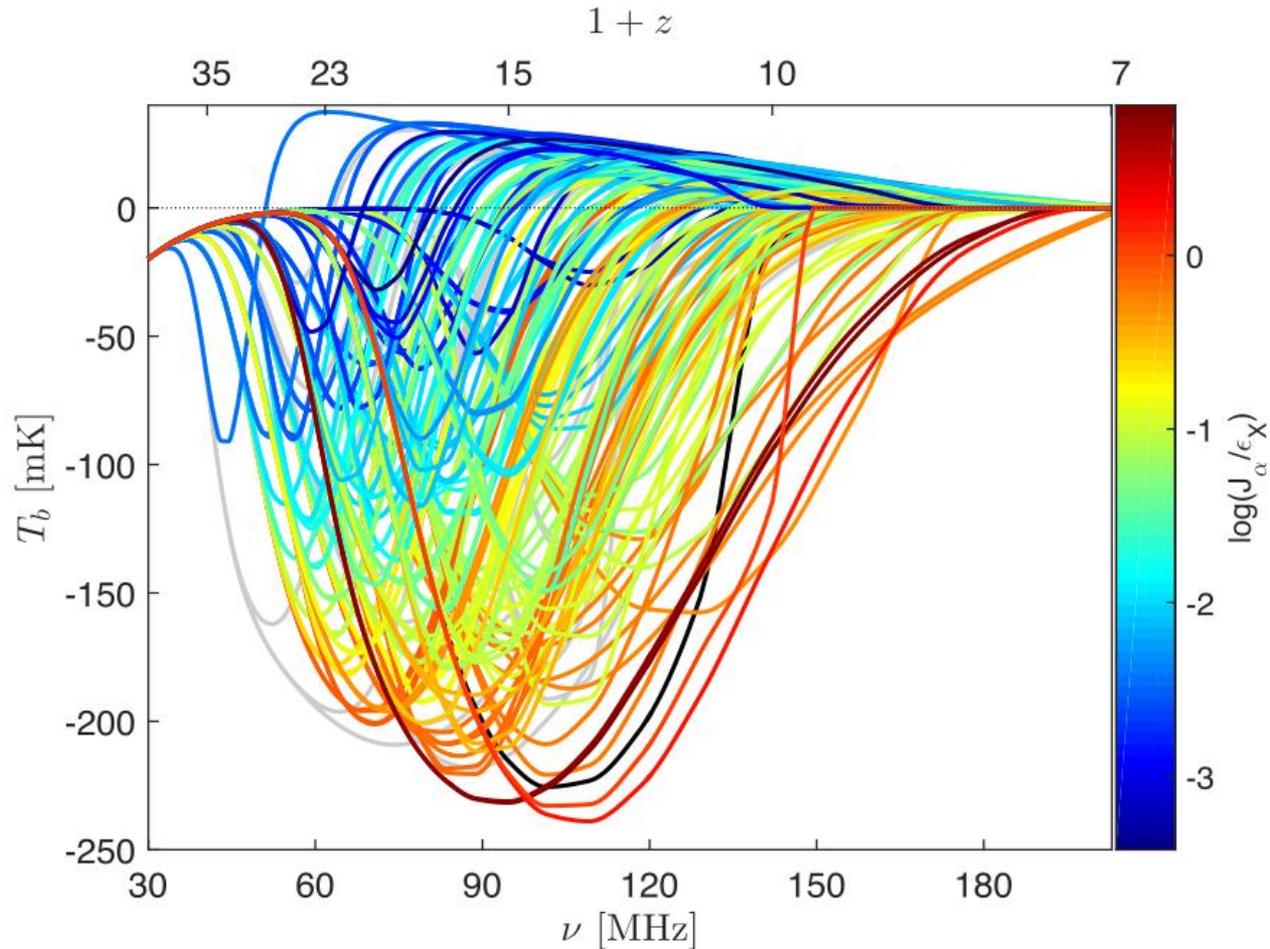


This Enables Rigorous Marginalization Over Parameters.

New Model Set

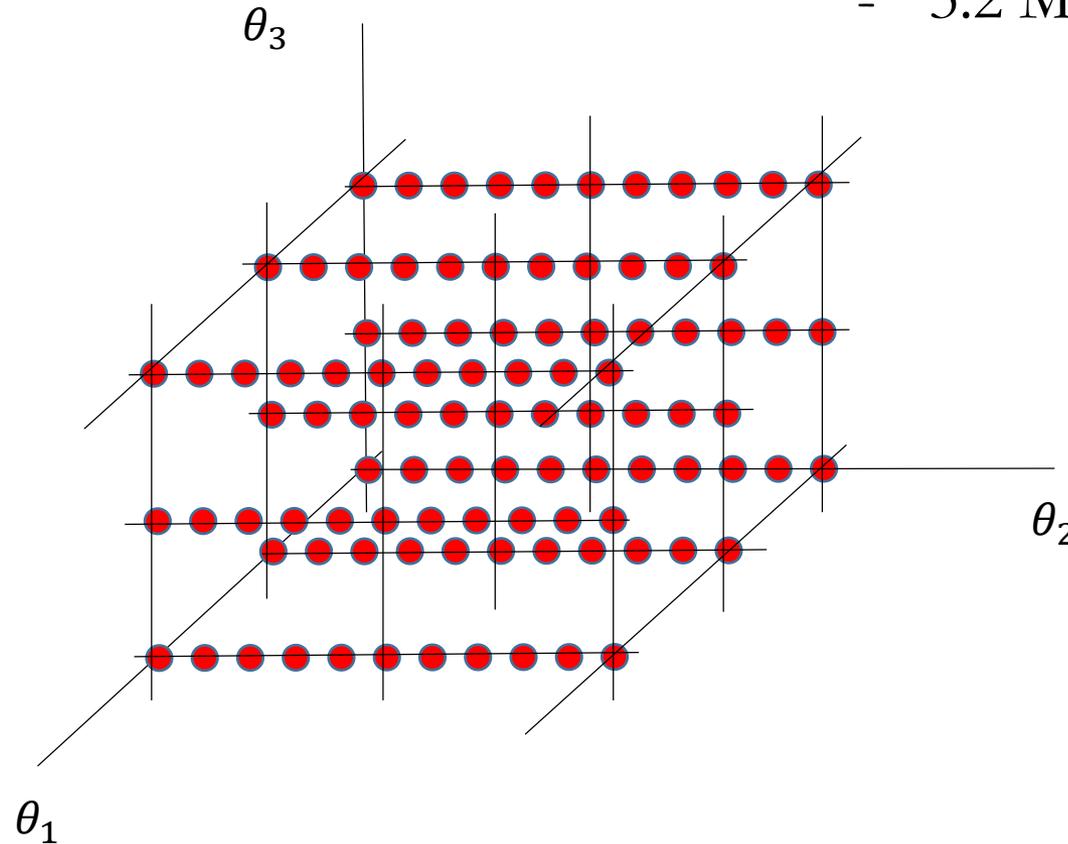
Interpolation of Standard Semi-Numerical Models from Cohen+ (2017)

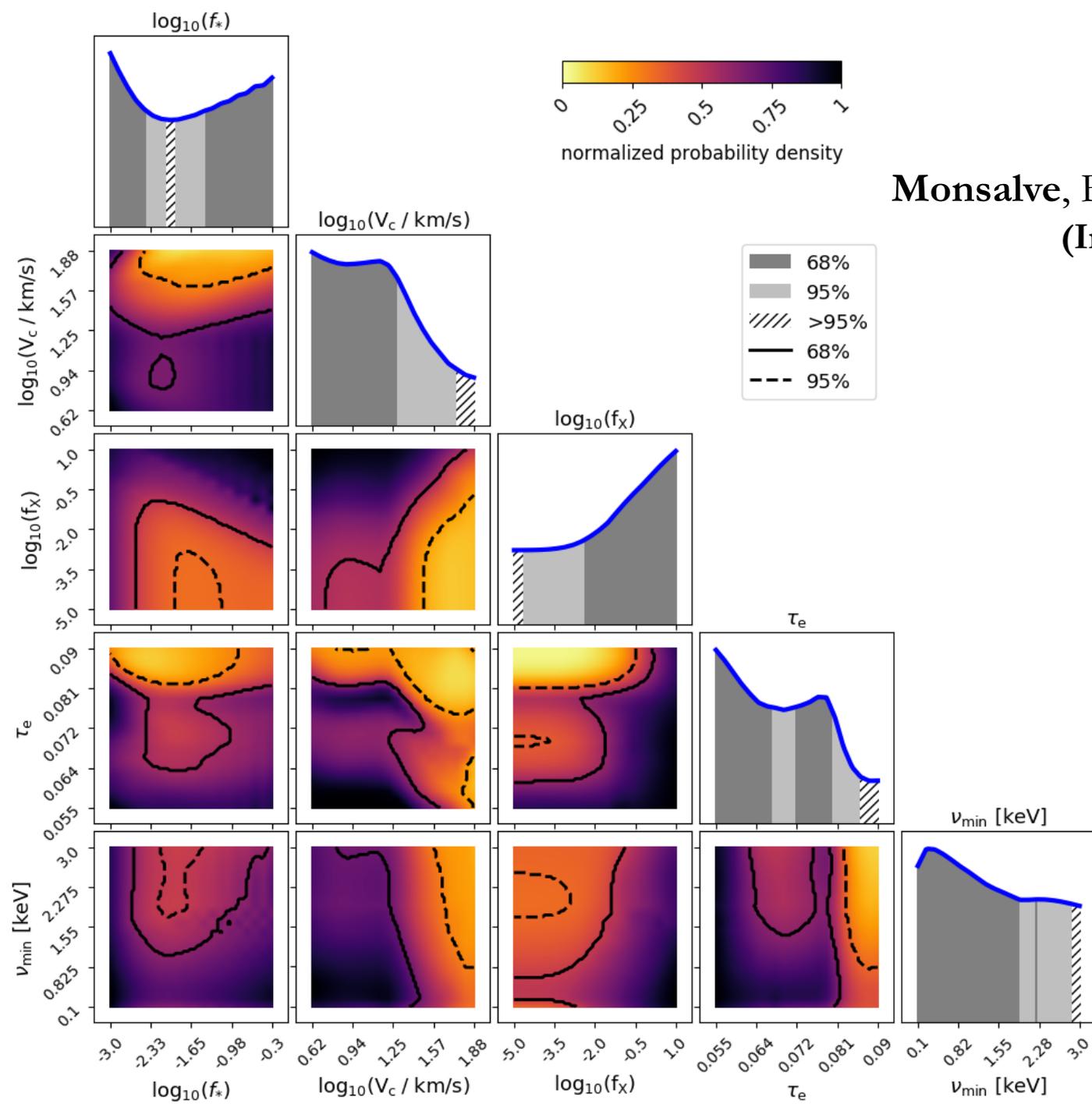
Description of Interpolation Code in Cohen+ (2018)



Direct Evaluation of Likelihood at High Resolution Grid Points

- 5 Parameters
- 3.2 Million Signals





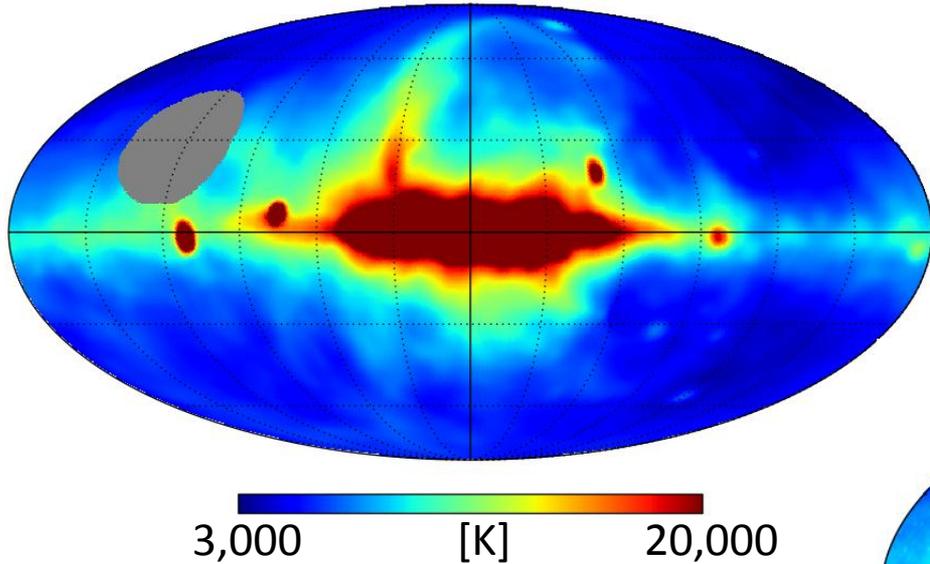
Monsalve, Fialkov, Bowman+(2018)
(In Preparation)

Expecting to Conduct **Similar Analyses**
Using Low- and Mid-Band Data once
Large Physical Model Sets are Available.

Diffuse Foregrounds

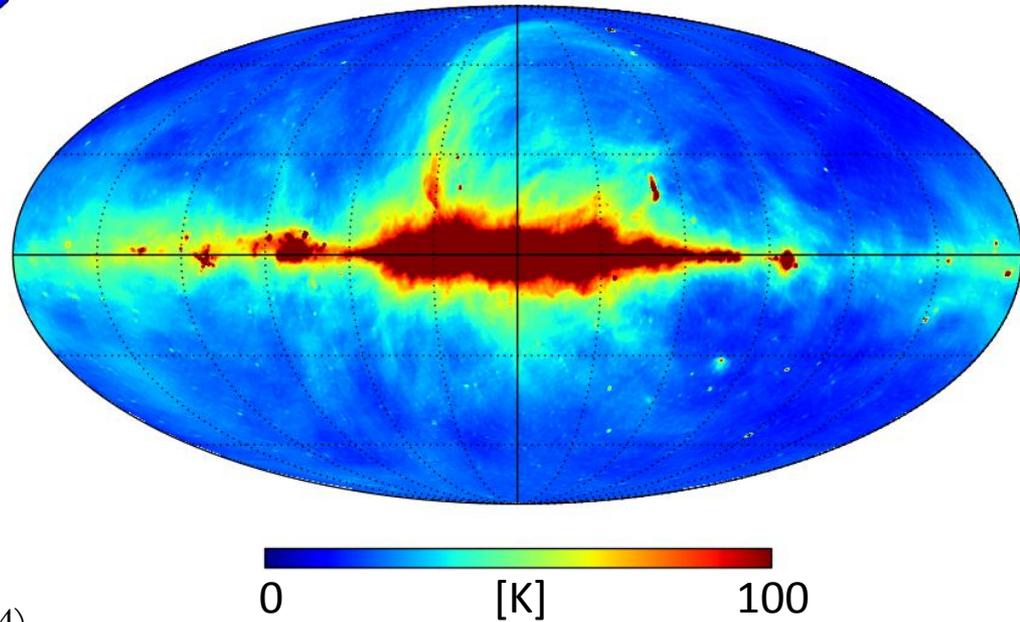
45-MHz Map

Guzmán et al. (2011)



408-MHz Map

Haslam et al. (1982)



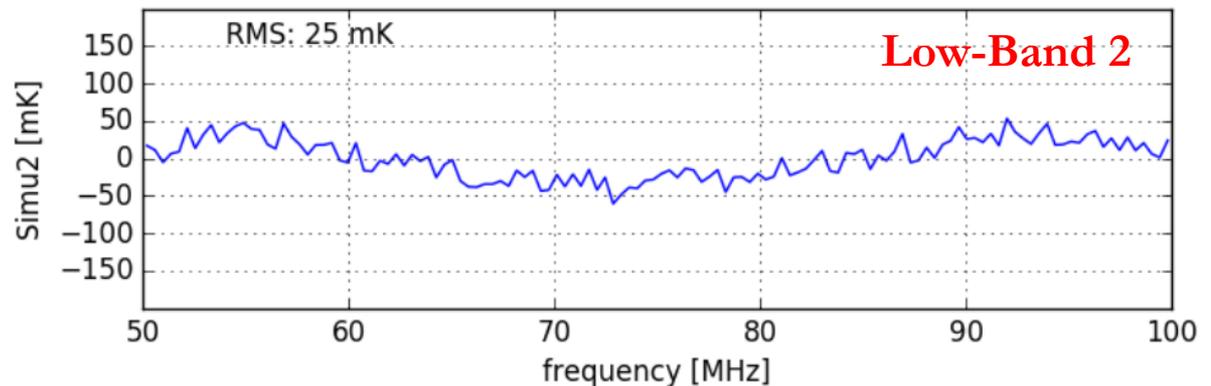
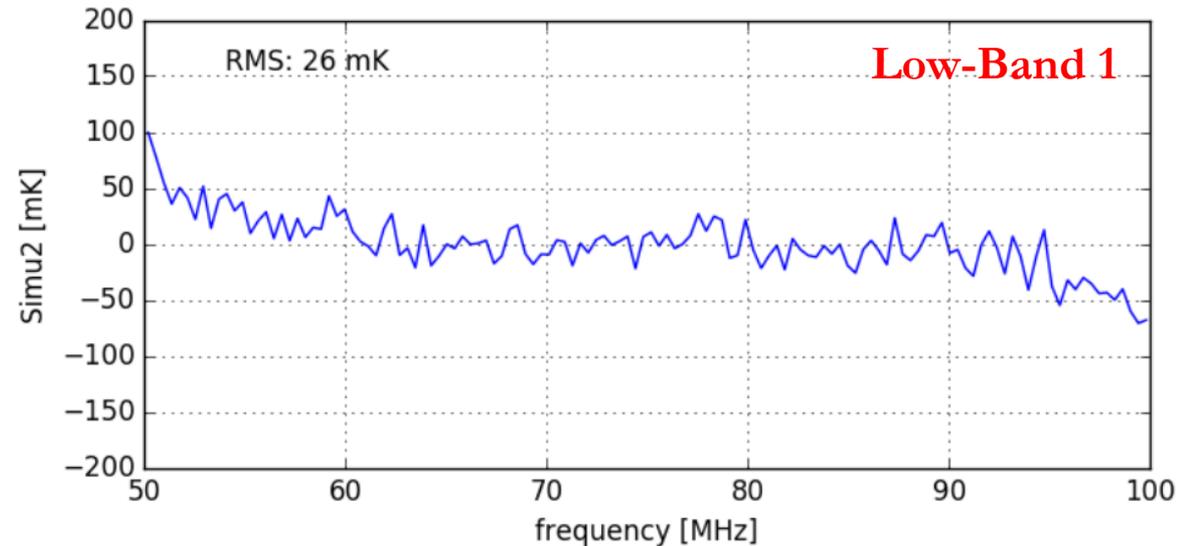
- 1) From **hundreds to thousands of Kelvins**.
- 2) Include **Galactic and Extragalactic**.
- 3) Mostly **Galactic synchrotron radiation**.
- 4) **Spectrally smooth** (e.g., Fornengo et al. 2014)
- 5) Might need **several terms** to model (Bernardi et al. 2015)
- 6) Large **spatial gradients**.

Verification Using ~300K Antenna Simulators

Residuals After Removing a Constant

At 75 MHz

$$\frac{1,500 \text{ K}}{300 \text{ K}} = 5$$



Global 21-cm Experiments

PRI^ZM

(Kwazulu-Natal, Sievers et al.)



SARAS 2

(RRI, Subrahmanyan et al.)



LEDA

(Harvard, Greenhill et al.)



SCI-HI

(Carnegie Mellon, Peterson et al.)



HYPERION

(Berkeley, Parsons et al.)



CTP

(NRAO, Bradley et al.)



Interactions of Baryons with Dark Matter?

LETTER

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-018-0151-x>

A small amount of mini-charged dark matter could cool the baryons in the early Universe

Julian B. Muñoz^{1*} & Abraham Loeb²

NATURE, 557, 31 MAY 2018

- 1) Enough IGM cooling achieved if **small fraction (<1%) of DM particles** possess **electric mini-charge ($\sim 10^{-6}$ the charge of an electron)**.
- 2) **Mass of these DM particles constrained to ~ 1 -60 MeV.**

EDGES Mid-Band

Low-Band



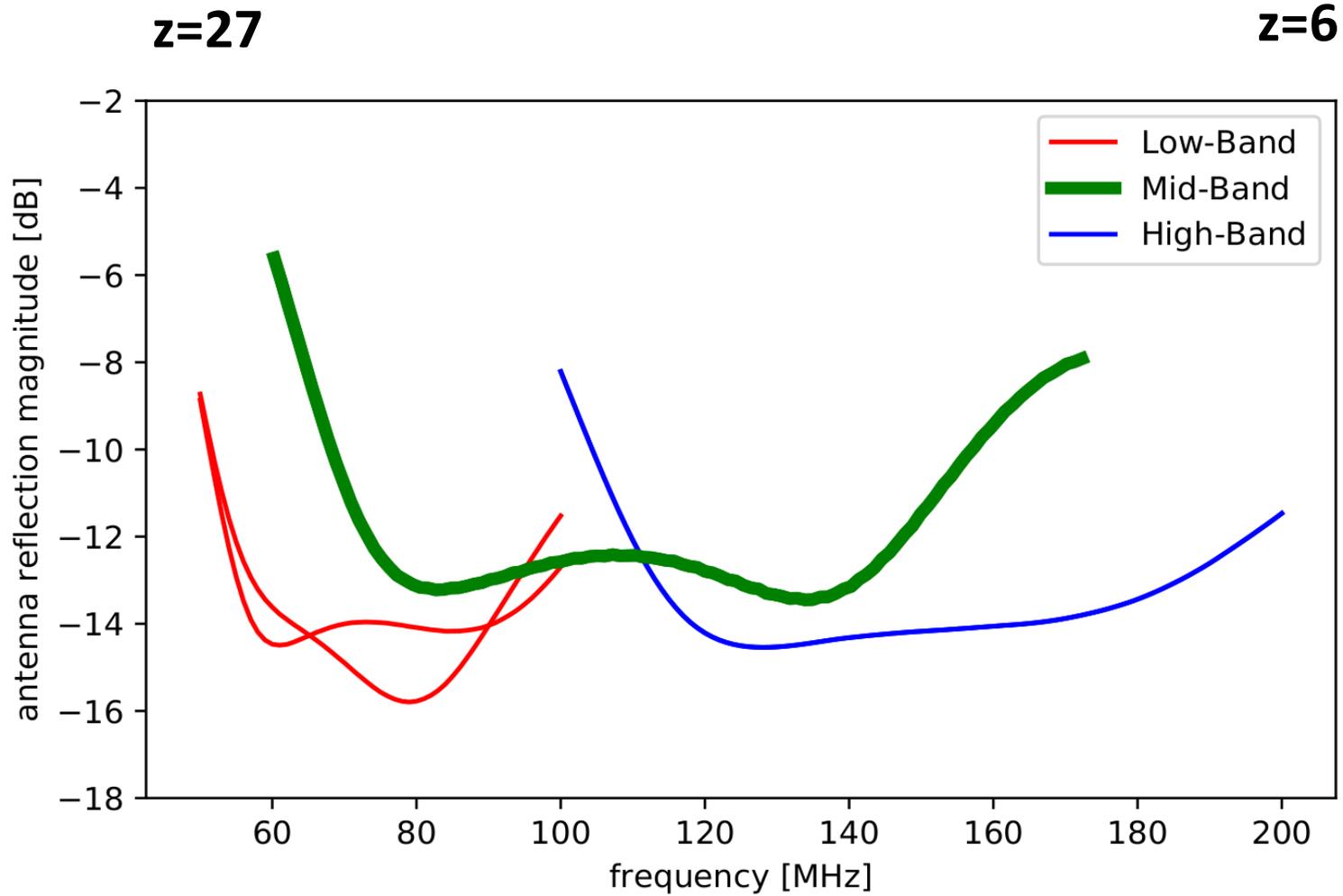
High-Band



Mid-Band



Antenna Reflection Coefficients



Preliminarily