

Title: Improved constraint on primordial gravitational waves with delensing

Speakers: Kimmy Wu

Series: Cosmology & Gravitation

Date: May 11, 2021 - 11:00 AM

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Abstract: Inflation generically predicts a background of primordial gravitational waves, which generate a primordial B-mode component in the polarization of the cosmic microwave background (CMB). The measurement of such a B-mode signature would lend significant support to the paradigm of inflation. Observed B modes also contain a component from the gravitational lensing of primordial E modes, which can obscure the measurement of the primordial B modes. We reduce the sample variance in the BB spectrum contributed from this lensing component by a process called 'delensing.' In this talk, I will show results from the first demonstration in an improved constraint on primordial gravitational waves with delensing using data from BICEP/Keck, the South Pole Telescope (SPT), and Planck. In addition, I will provide an outlook of joint-analysis efforts of the BICEP/Keck and the SPT collaborations (the South Pole Observatory) to constrain primordial gravitational waves.



# Improved constraint on primordial gravitational waves with delensing

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Associate Scientist | Panofsky Fellow  
SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory

May 11, 2021  
Perimeter Institute Seminar

# *Outline*

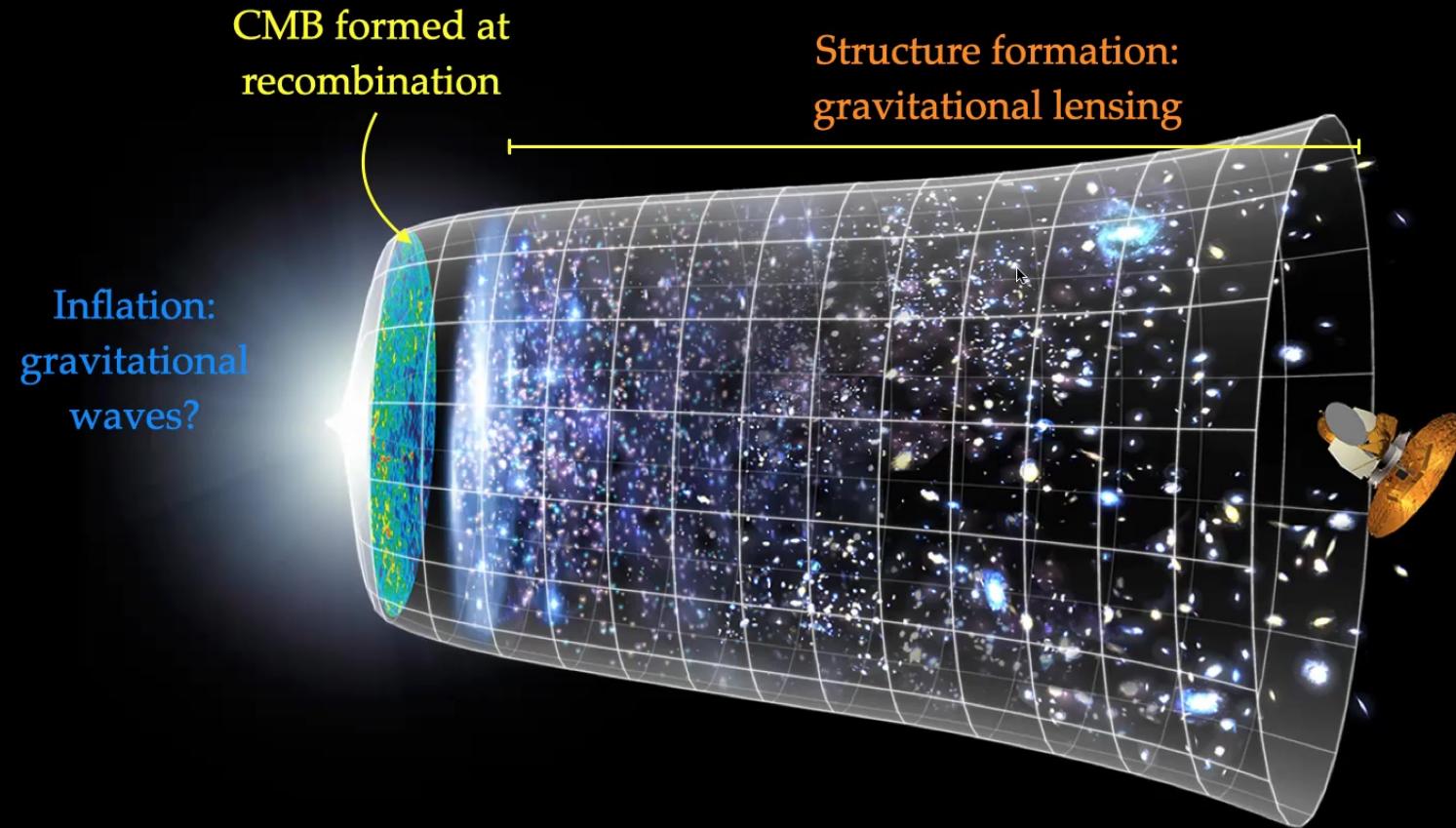


- ❖ Inflation, the cosmic microwave background (CMB), and CMB lensing
- ❖ The BICEP/Keck Array and South Pole Telescope (SPT)
- ❖ Improving constraints of inflation from BICEP/Keck through “delensing”
- ❖ The Future: from BICEP/Keck + SPT to CMB-S4



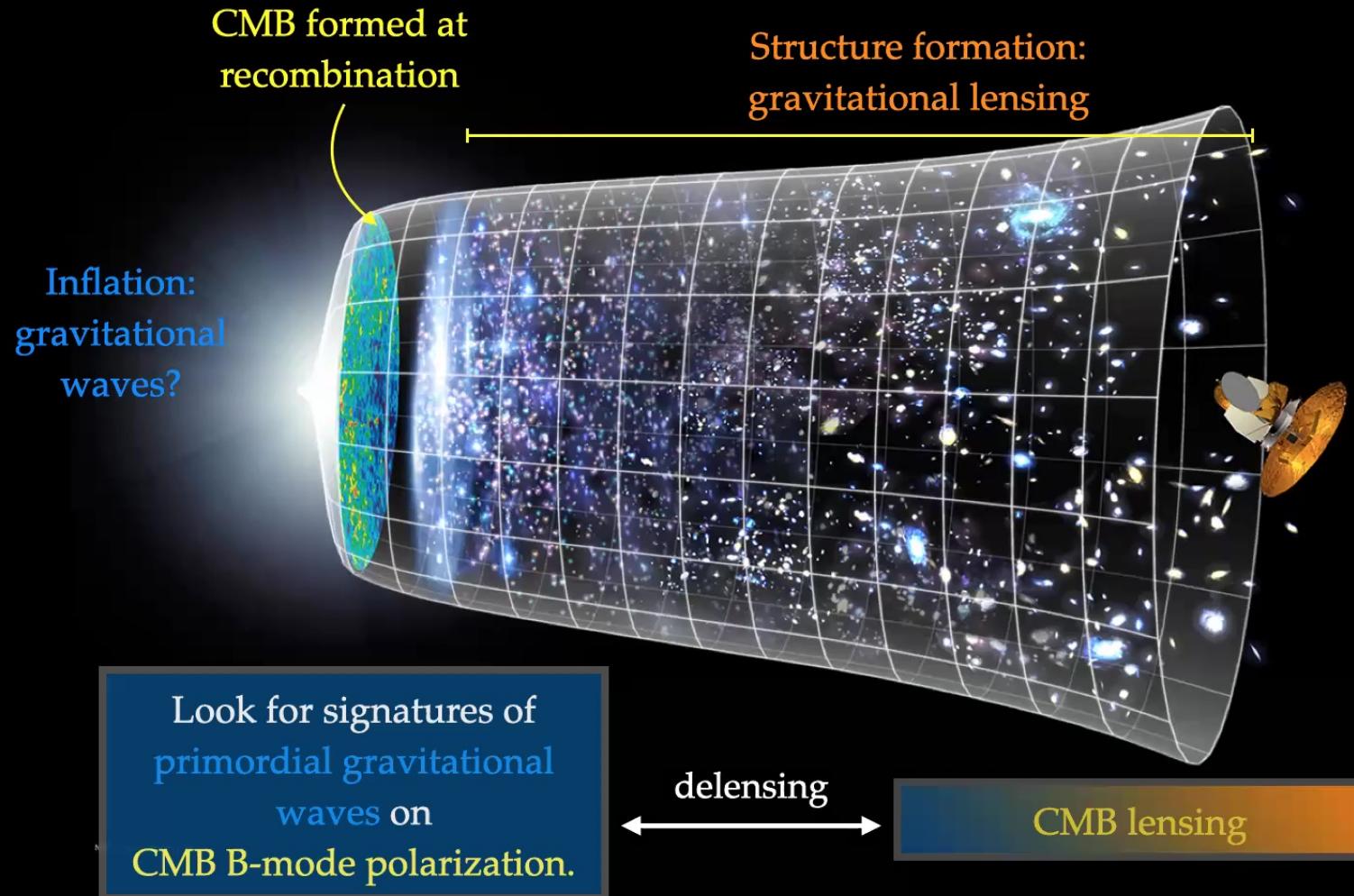
Background: the South Pole Telescope  
and double sun dog (credit: A. Lowitz)

# *CMB: sensitive to physics of the **early** and late universe*



NASA/WMAP Science Team

# CMB: sensitive to physics of the *early* and *late* universe



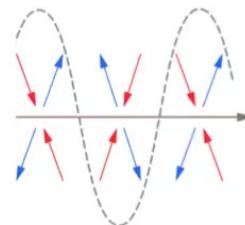


*Inflation generically predicts PGW exist;  
B-mode polarization at recombination is window to PGW.*

**Perturbation of metric at inflation**

tensor perturbations

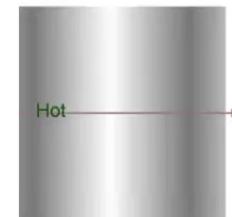
**Classical waves generated**



**Polarization type generated at the CMB**



scalar perturbations





*Inflation generically predicts PGW exist;  
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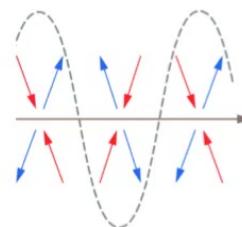
**Perturbation of metric at inflation**

tensor perturbations

scalar perturbations

$$r = \text{tensor spectrum/scalar spectrum at } k^*$$

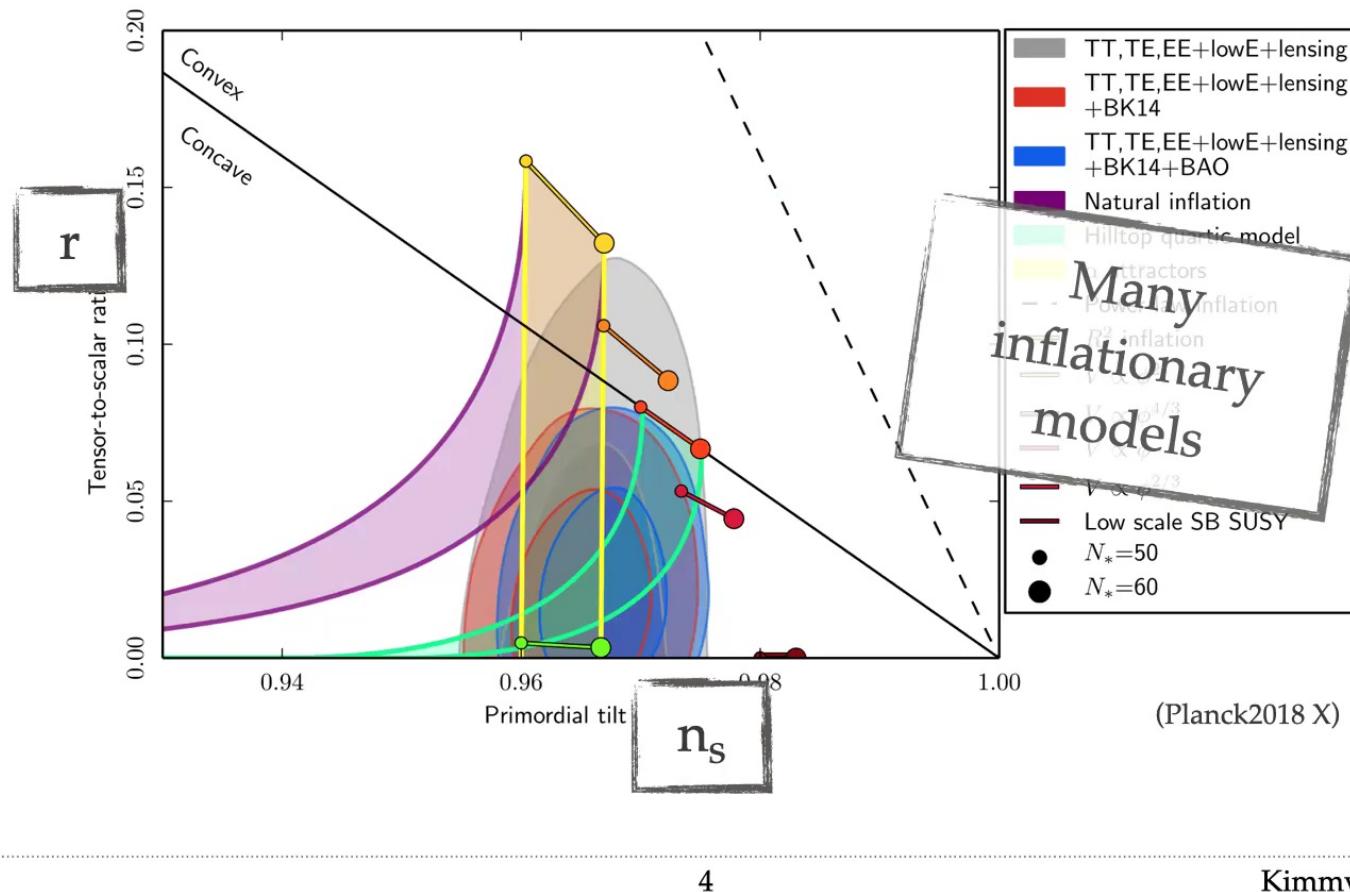
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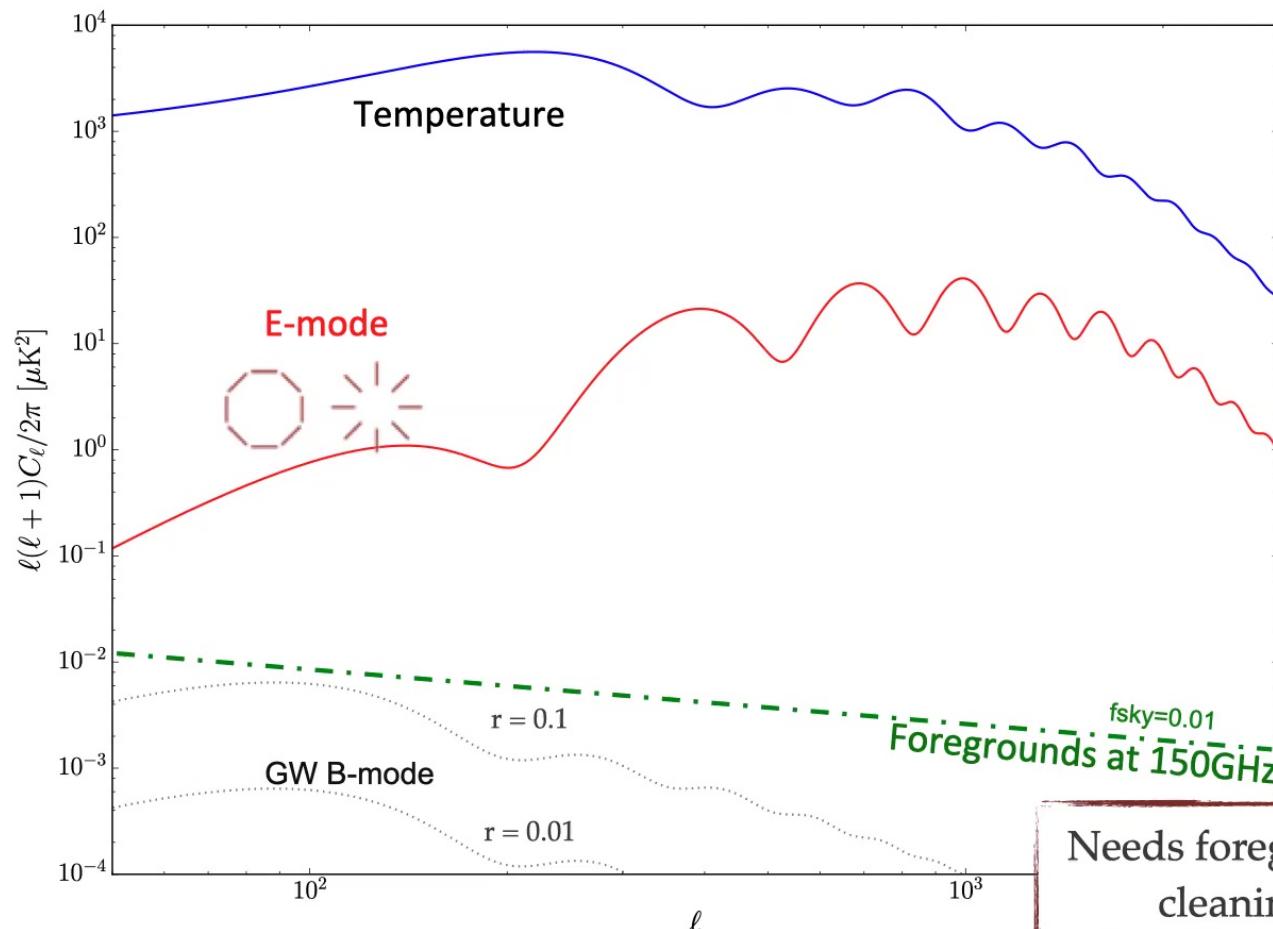




## The challenges of measuring PGW B modes

- Extremely faint signal ( $T \sim 300\text{uK}$ ,  $B (r=0.1, \ell \sim 100) \sim \text{nK}$ )
  - Build more sensitive instruments
  - Polarized Galactic foregrounds
    - Observe in multiple mm-wave bands
  - Lensing B modes —> delensing

# *Galactic foregrounds drown the faint signal*

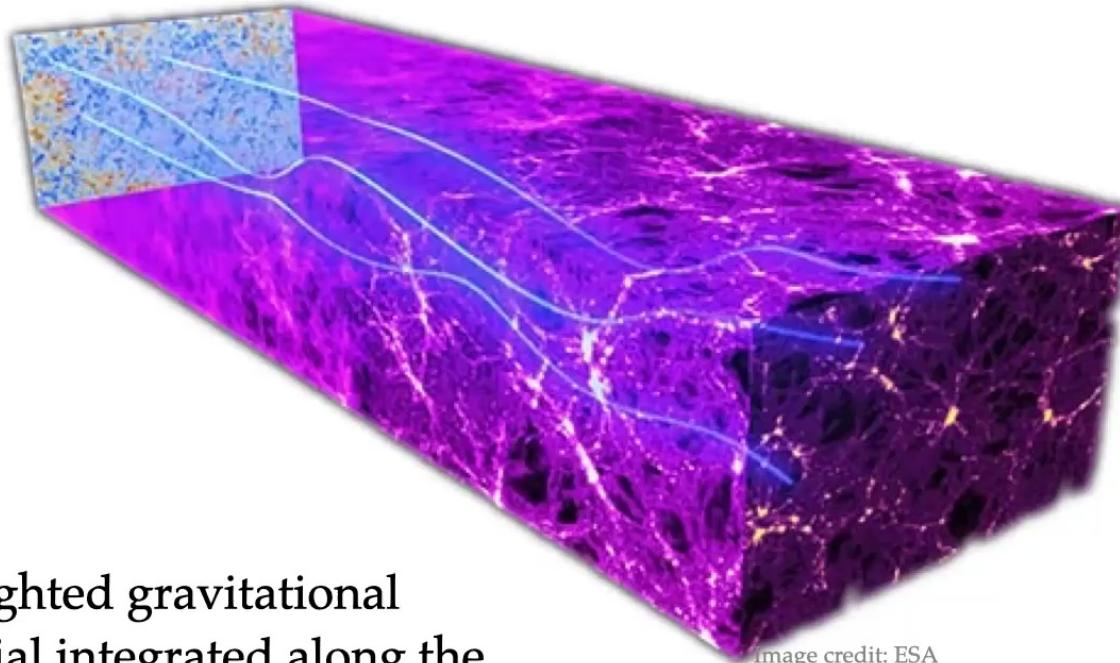


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# *CMB lensing*



$$\text{lensed field}(\hat{n}) = \text{unlensed field}(\hat{n} + \nabla\phi)$$



$\phi$ : weighted gravitational potential integrated along the line of sight

Image credit: ESA

$T(\hat{n})$  ( $\pm 350\mu K$ )



$E(\hat{n})$  ( $\pm 25\mu K$ )

$B(\hat{n})$  ( $\pm 2.5\mu K$ )

(no primordial B-modes)

unlensed

$T(\hat{n})$  ( $\pm 350\mu K$ )



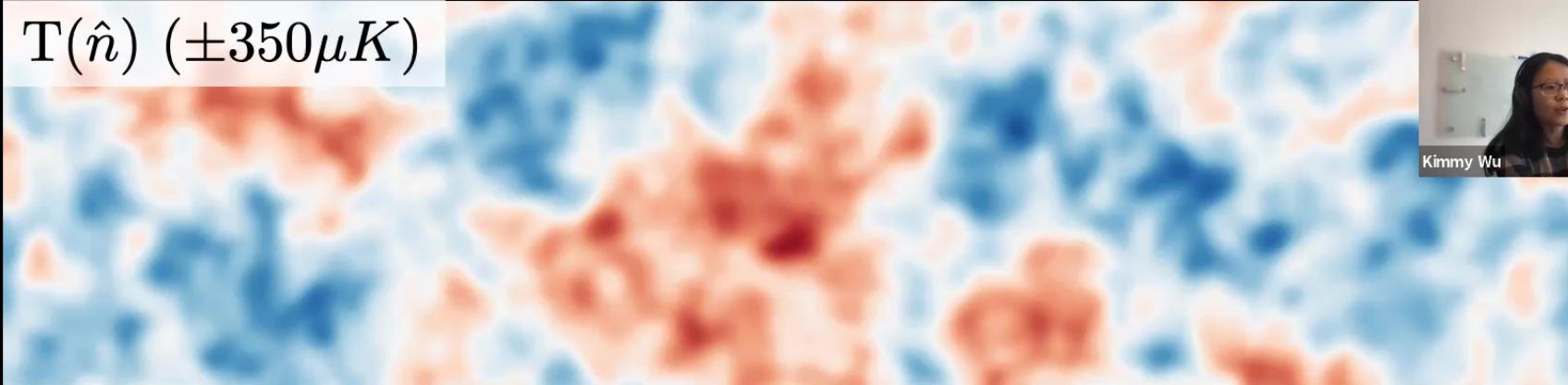
$E(\hat{n})$  ( $\pm 25\mu K$ )

$B(\hat{n})$  ( $\pm 2.5\mu K$ )

(no primordial B-modes)

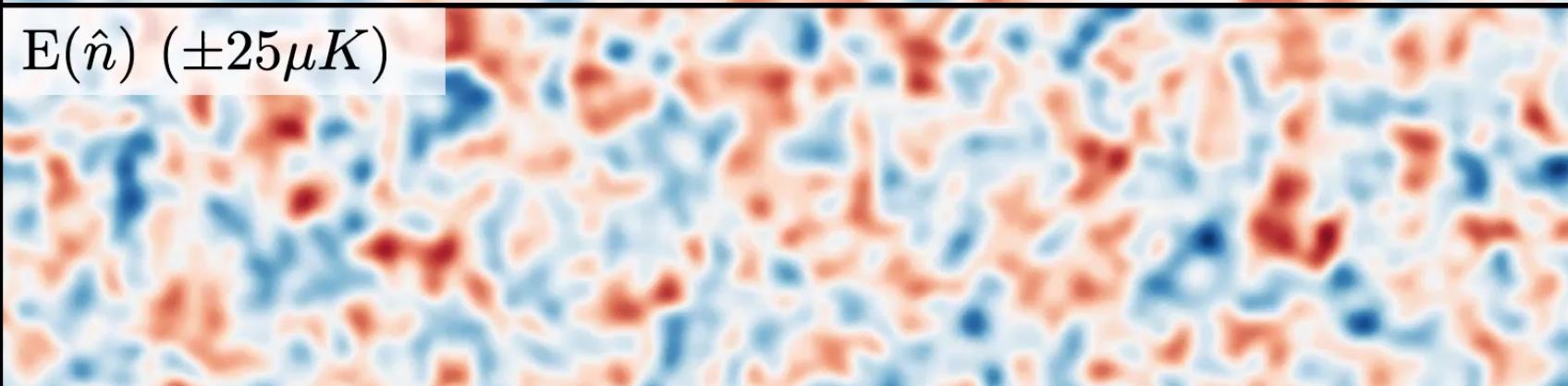
lensed

$T(\hat{n})$  ( $\pm 350\mu K$ )



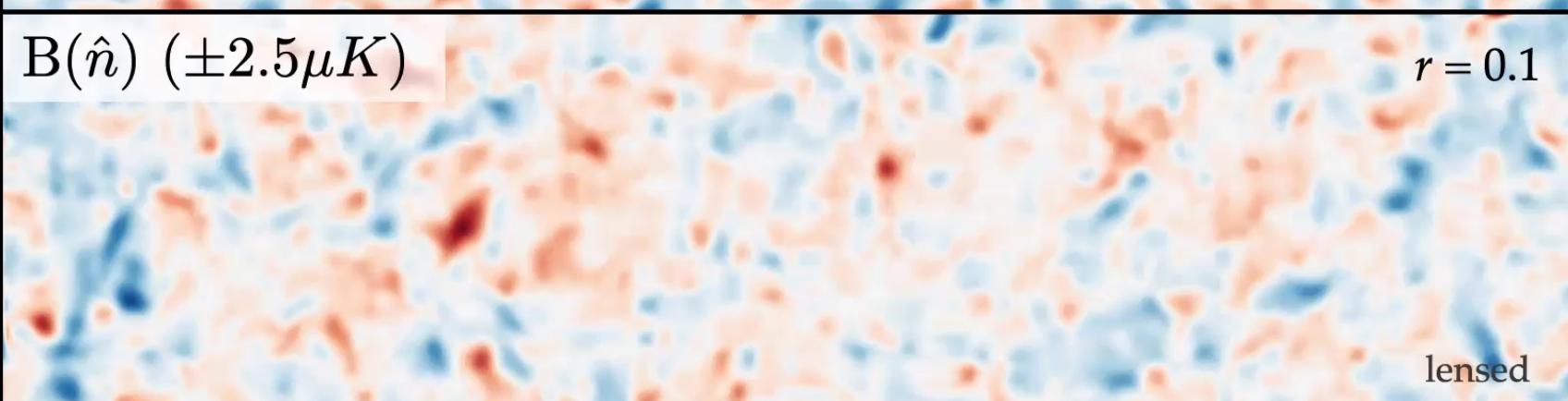
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$E(\hat{n})$  ( $\pm 25\mu K$ )



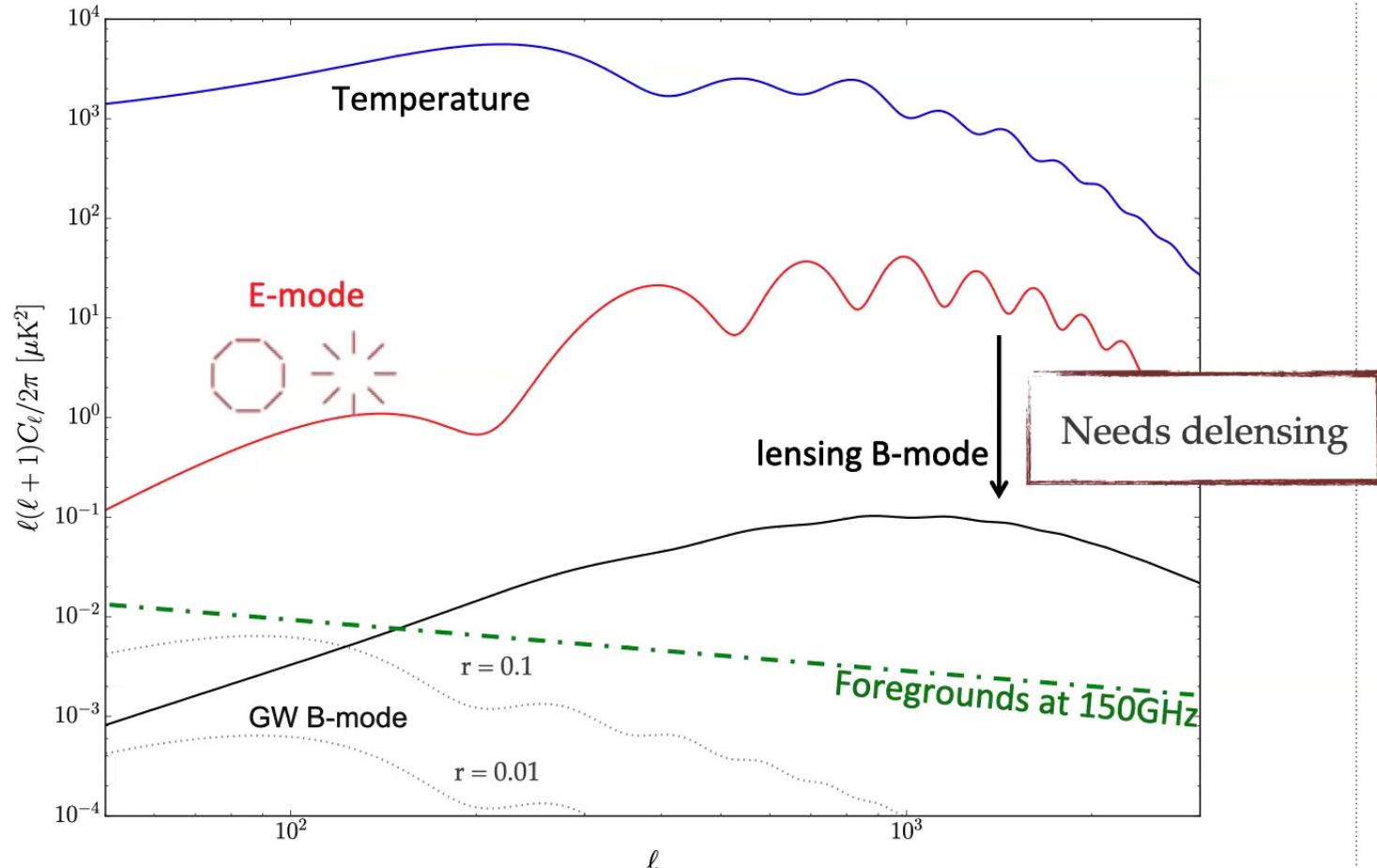
$B(\hat{n})$  ( $\pm 2.5\mu K$ )

$r = 0.1$





# Lensing B modes add fuel to the fire





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# The telescopes

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The South Pole has excellent conditions for mm-wave observations



# *What make the South Pole a great site for mm-wave observations?*



- A. It is a desert.
- B. It has high elevation
- C. It has little light pollution.
- D. The sun only rises and sets once every year
- E. It has great seeing.
- F. Penguins.

# The South Pole has excellent conditions for mm-wave observations



- Extremely dry
- High altitude (~10,000 feet)
- Stable atmosphere during its 6-month long night

# The South Pole has excellent conditions for mm-wave observations



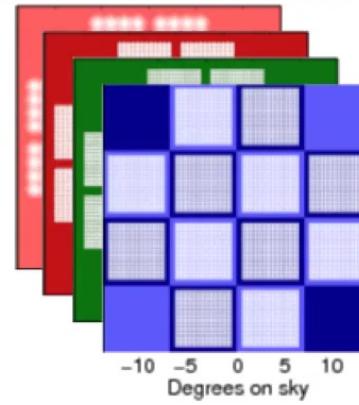
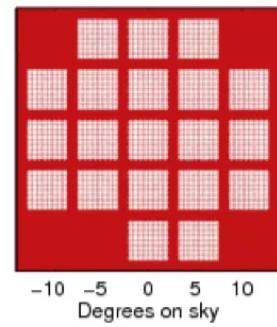
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**BICEP3**  
(2016-)



**BICEP Array**  
(2020-)



16

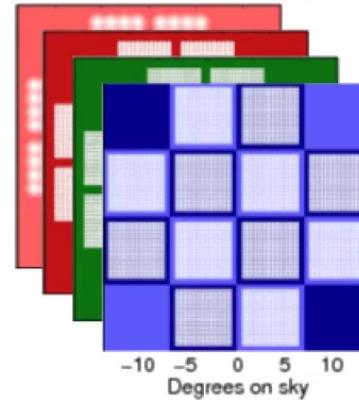
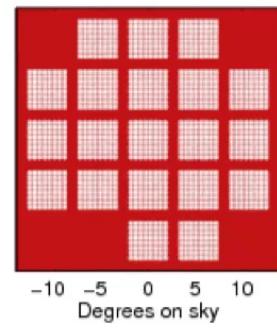


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**BICEP3**  
(2016-)



**BICEP Array**  
(2020-)



16

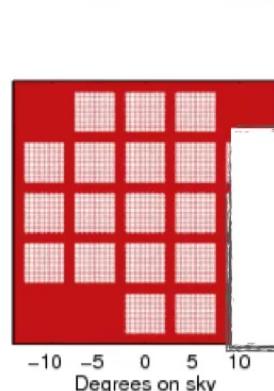


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**BICEP3**  
(2016-)

**BICEP Array**  
(2020-)

small aperture;  
1/4 deg resolution  
to resolve GW B-mode bump



multi-frequency for  
Galactic foreground  
cleaning

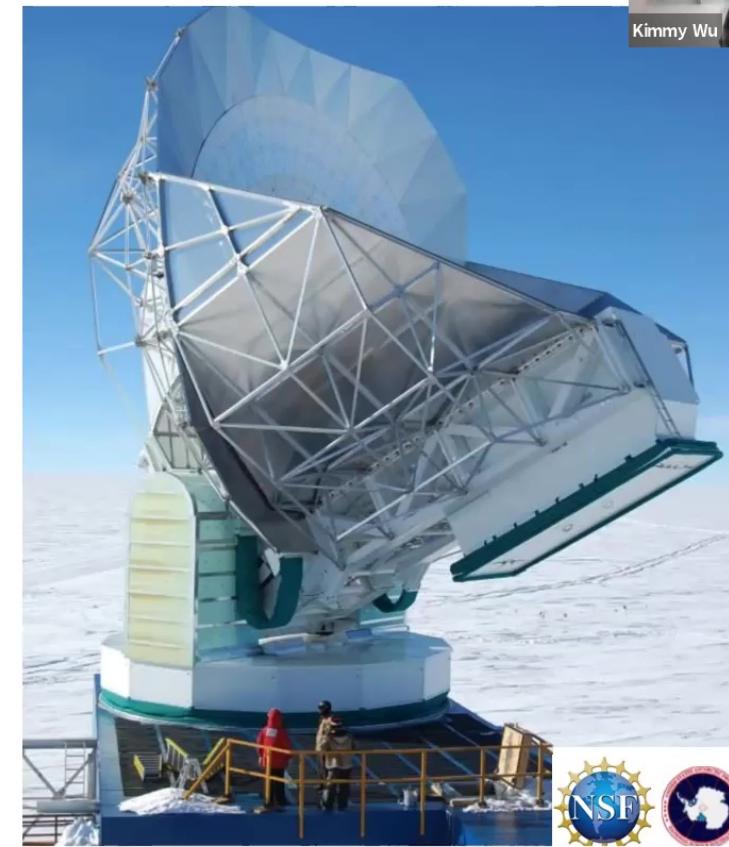
-10 -5 0 5 10  
Degrees on sky

16

## South Pole Telescope



Kimmy Wu



- ❖ Highest resolution CMB Telescope (1').
- ❖ Produced the largest deep CMB polarization maps in sub-degree scales

Kimmy Wu, SLAC

*Planck*  
143 GHz  
50 deg<sup>2</sup>



Kimmy Wu

The moon  
(for scale)



*SPTpol*  
150 GHz  
50 deg<sup>2</sup>

6x deeper

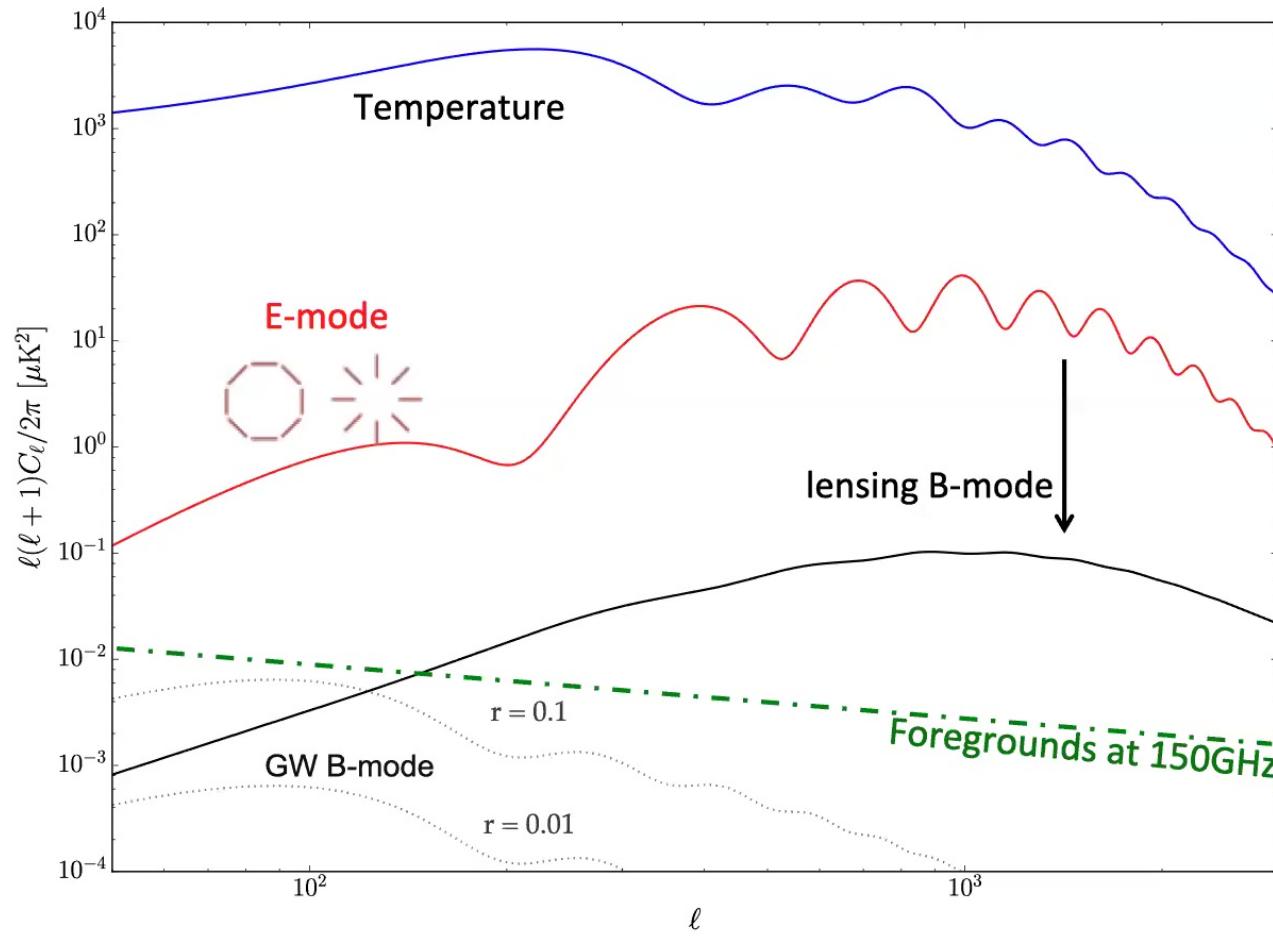
6x finer angular  
resolution



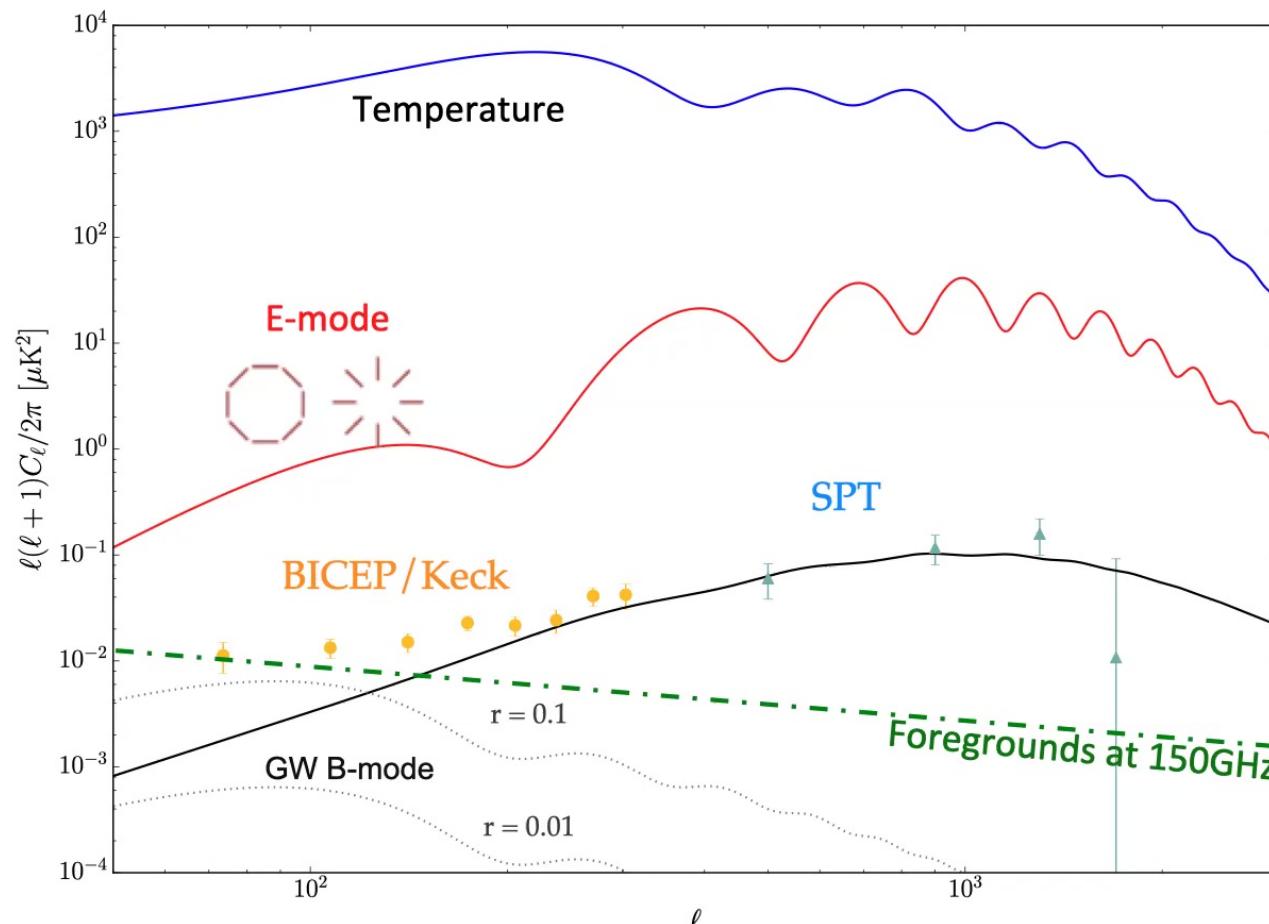
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The moon  
(for scale)

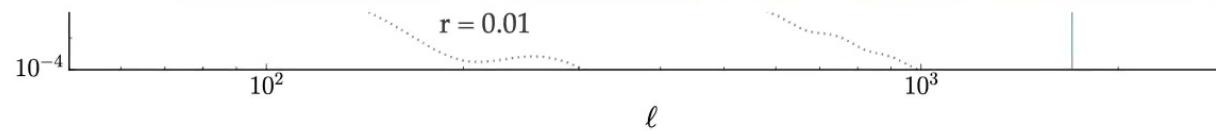
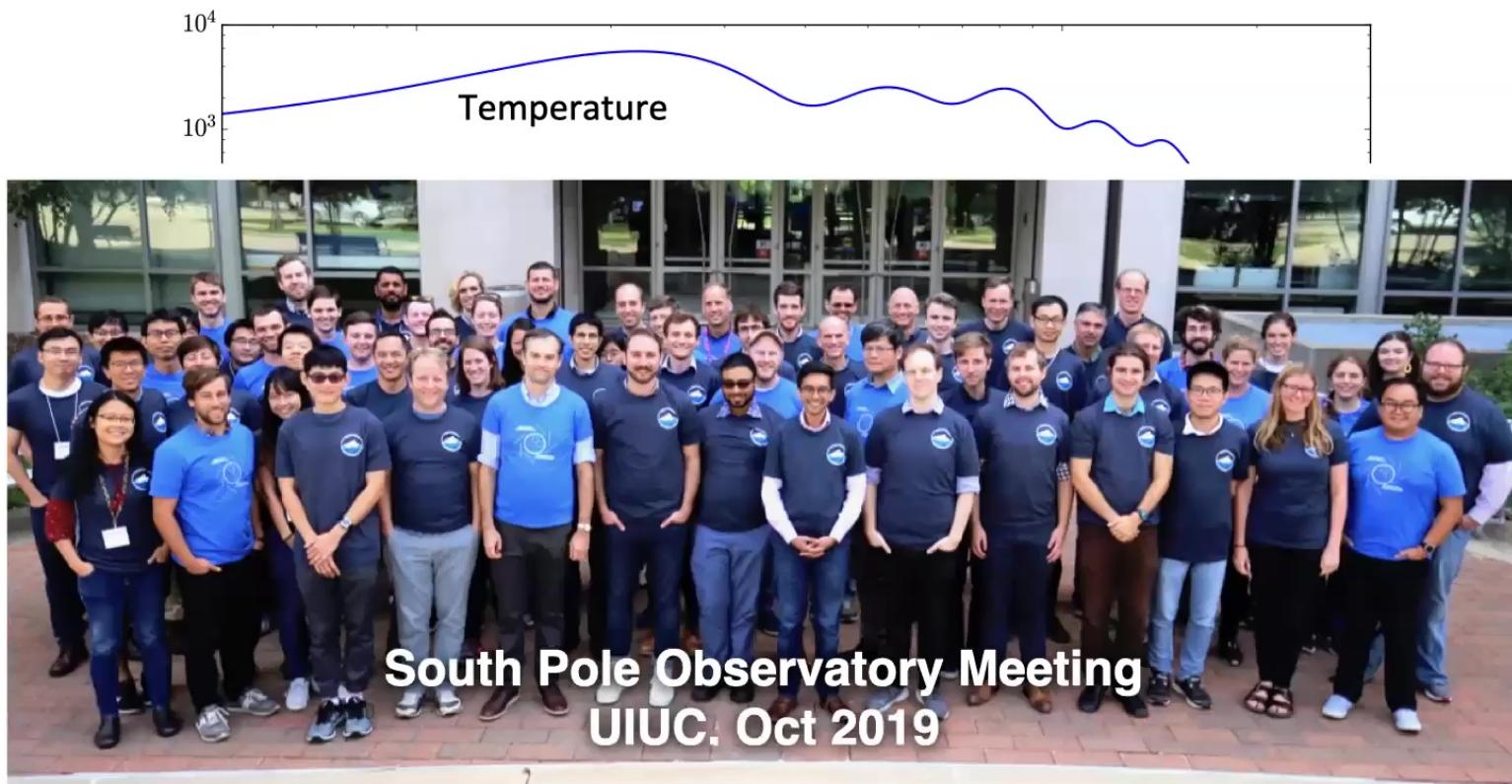
# *High resolution: small angular scales*



# *High resolution: small angular scales*



# Complementary information from BK and SPT





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# Delensing BICEP/Keck B-mode maps

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# How does lensing degrade the $r$ estimate?

Lensing, foreground, (PGW B-modes)

$$\sigma(r)^* \propto C_\ell^{\text{BB}} + N_\ell$$

Instrument noise

Delensing for  $r$  = reduce the sample variance  
contributed by lensing when measuring  $r$

\*assuming diagonal covariance & brutally simplified

$$\sigma(r) \propto \sum_\ell \sqrt{\frac{1}{\# \text{ of modes}}} \left( \frac{C_\ell^{\text{BB}} + N_\ell}{\partial C_\ell^{\text{BB}} / \partial r} \right)$$

# *Why now for BICEP/Keck?*



Contributions to  $\sigma(r)$ :

$$C_\ell^{\text{BB,fg}} + C_\ell^{\text{BB,lens}} + N_\ell$$

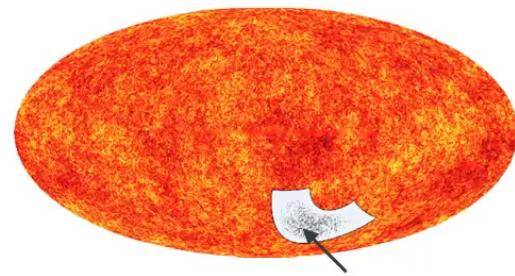
↑  
Foregrounds  
becoming sample-  
variance limited

For current BICEP/Keck data set:

↑  
Noise variance  
becoming comparable/  
lower than lensing  
variance at 90 / 150 GHz

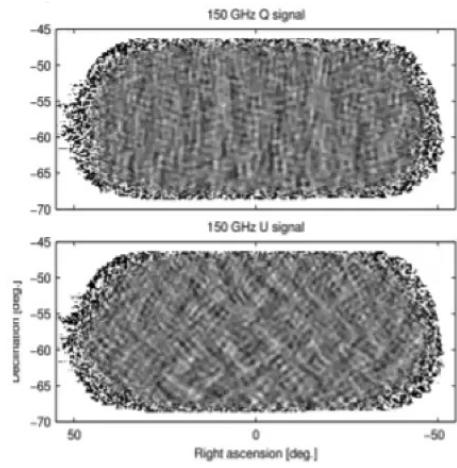
In regime where delensing can begin to improve  $\sigma(r)$

## *Reminder of the BICEP/Keck $r$ analysis: input maps*

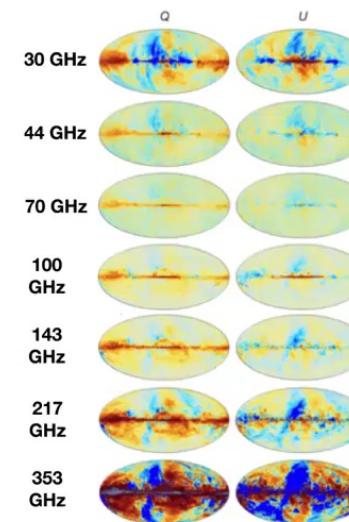


BK/SPTpol patch;  $\sim 500 \text{ deg}^2$

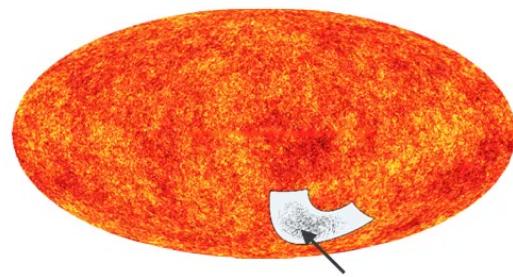
### Maps from BICEP/Keck (95/150GHz)



### Maps from Planck/WMAP

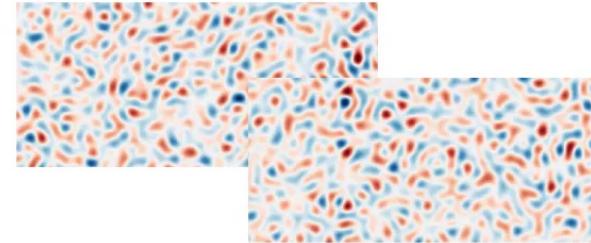


## *Reminder of the BICEP/Keck $r$ analysis: input maps*



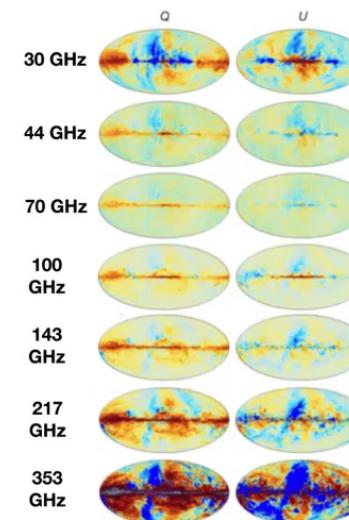
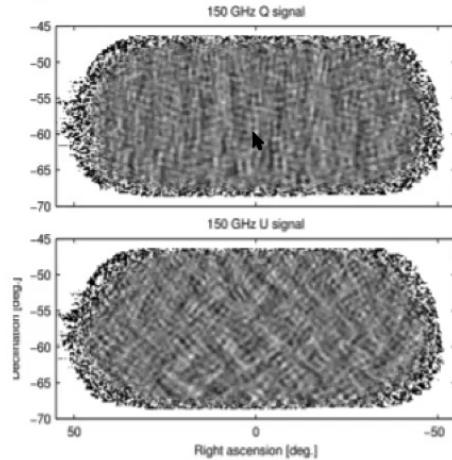
BK/SPTpol patch;  $\sim 500 \text{ deg}^2$

+ lensing template



### Maps from Planck/WMAP

#### Maps from BICEP/Keck (95/150GHz)

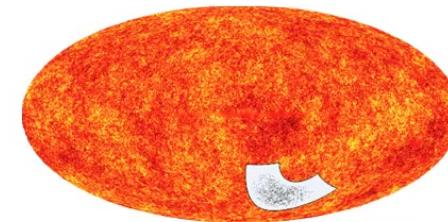


# Lensing template inputs: Q/U maps for E mode

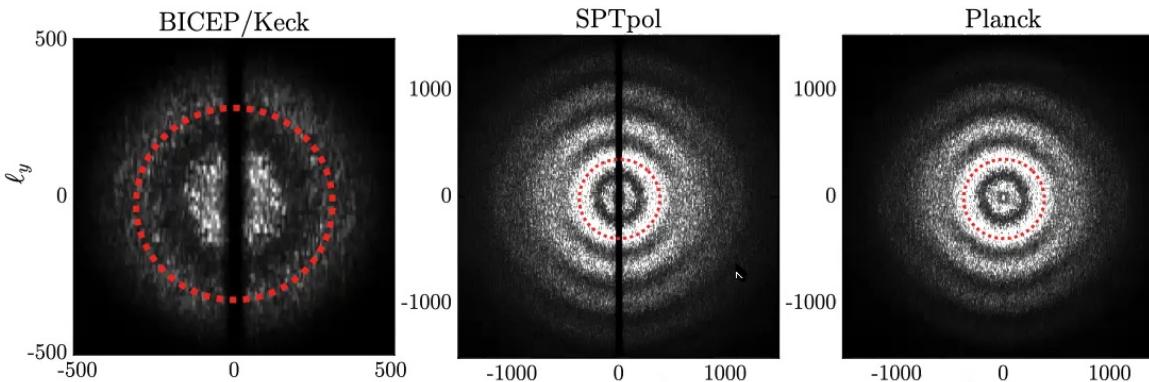


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E modes: combine Q/U maps from BICEP/Keck 150GHz, SPTpol 150GHz, and *Planck* 143GHz



E mode 2D angular power spectra (signal simulation)

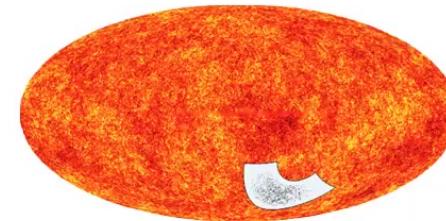


Cover broader multipole range than BK;  
SPTpol contributes most S/N to the final lensing template.

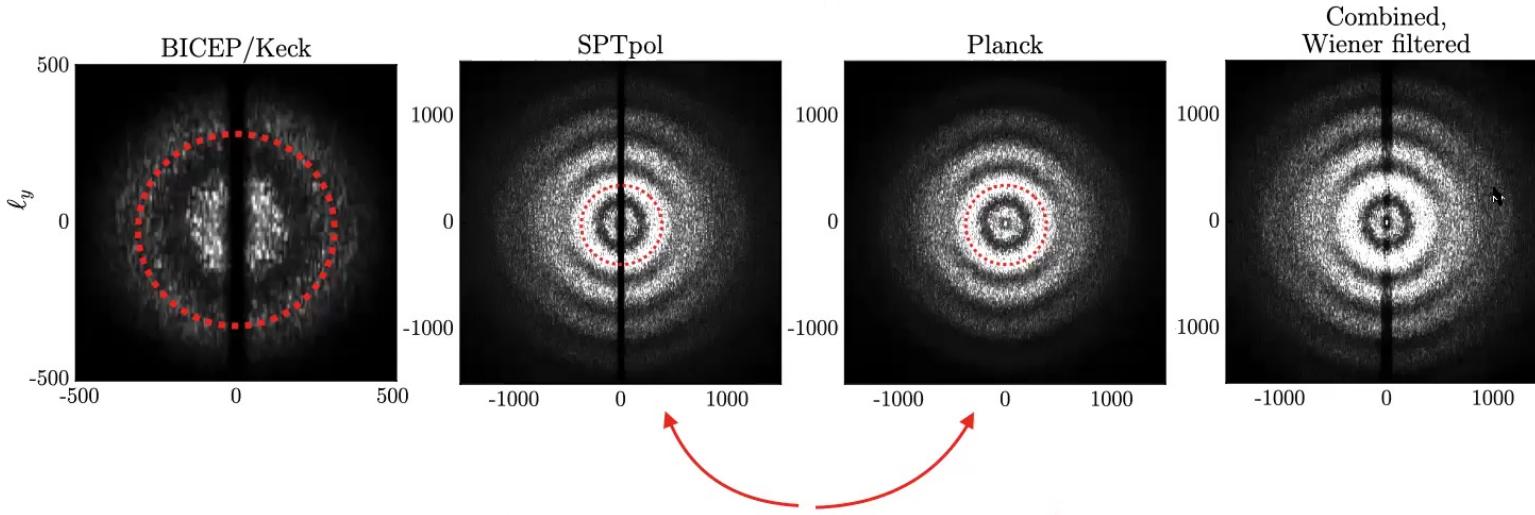
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E mode 2D angular power spectra (signal simulation)

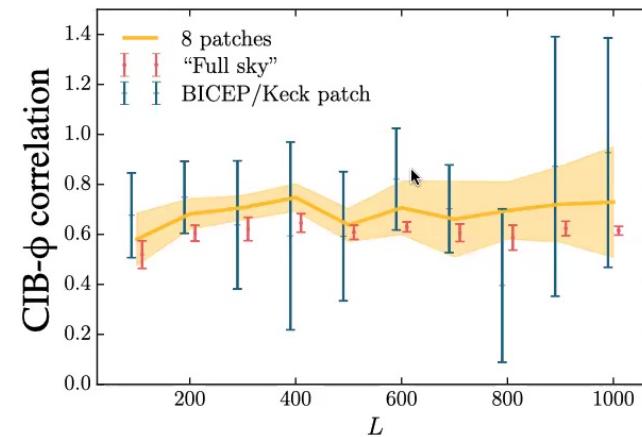
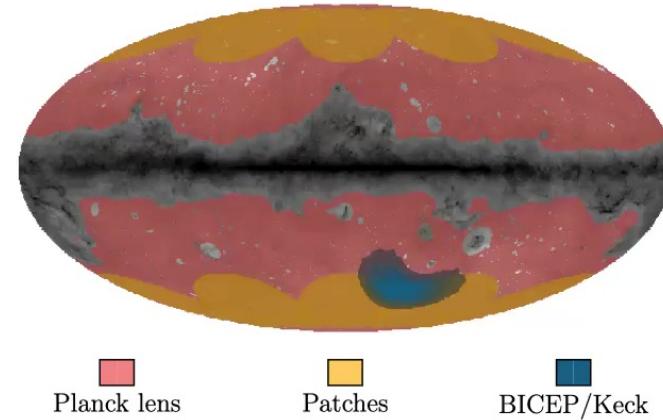


Cover broader multipole range than BK;  
SPTpol contributes most S/N to the final lensing template.

# *Lensing template inputs: CIB for $\phi$ tracer*



- CIB map: Planck GNILC
- Need CIB auto-spectrum and CIB $\times\phi$  for filtering and generating simulated CIB realizations.
  - CIB $\times\phi$  measure with Planck  $\phi$  reconstruction.
- Use high Galactic latitude areas to estimate the CIB auto-spectrum and CIB $\times\phi$  to ensure similar levels of dust contamination.
- Generate CIB realizations by rescaling the simulated  $\phi$  and adding Gaussian noise given the CIB auto-spectra and CIB $\times\phi$ ; distribution drawn from the covariance of the spectra measured from the 8 patches.

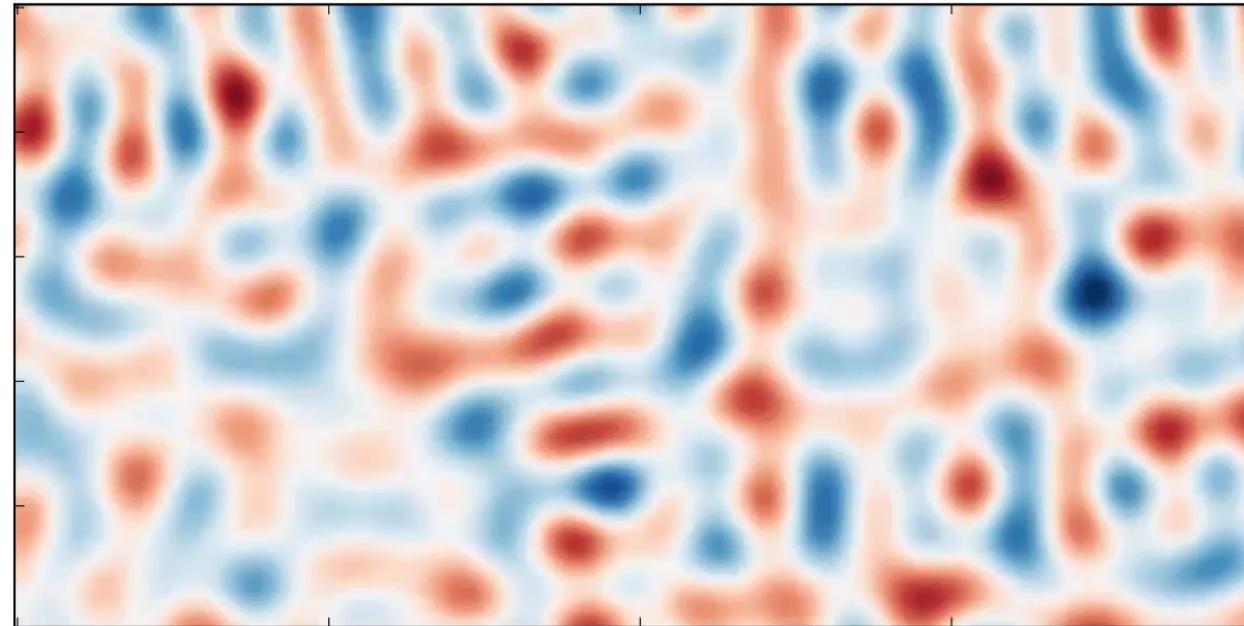


## *Making the lensing template: undeflect-and-difference*



$\pm 3.5 \mu K$

Undeflect by  $-\nabla \hat{\phi}$



Sim

1) Lensed Q map; 2) Undeflected Q map; 3) Lensed-Undeflected Q map

Same for U map

## *Making the lensing template: undeflect-and-difference*



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$\pm 3.5 \mu K$

Undeflect by  $-\nabla \hat{\phi}$



1) Lensed Q map; 2) Undeflected Q map; 3) Lensed-Undeflected Q map

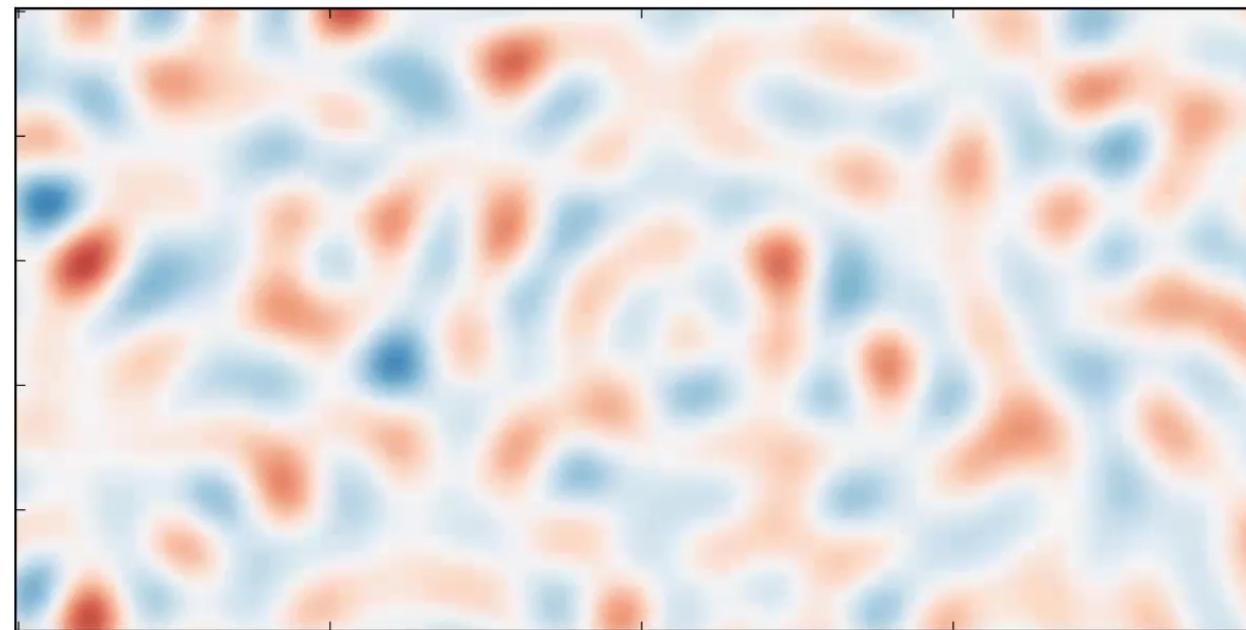
Same for U map

## *Making the lensing template: undeflect-and-difference*



$\pm 0.35\mu K$

Undeflect by  $-\nabla \hat{\phi}$

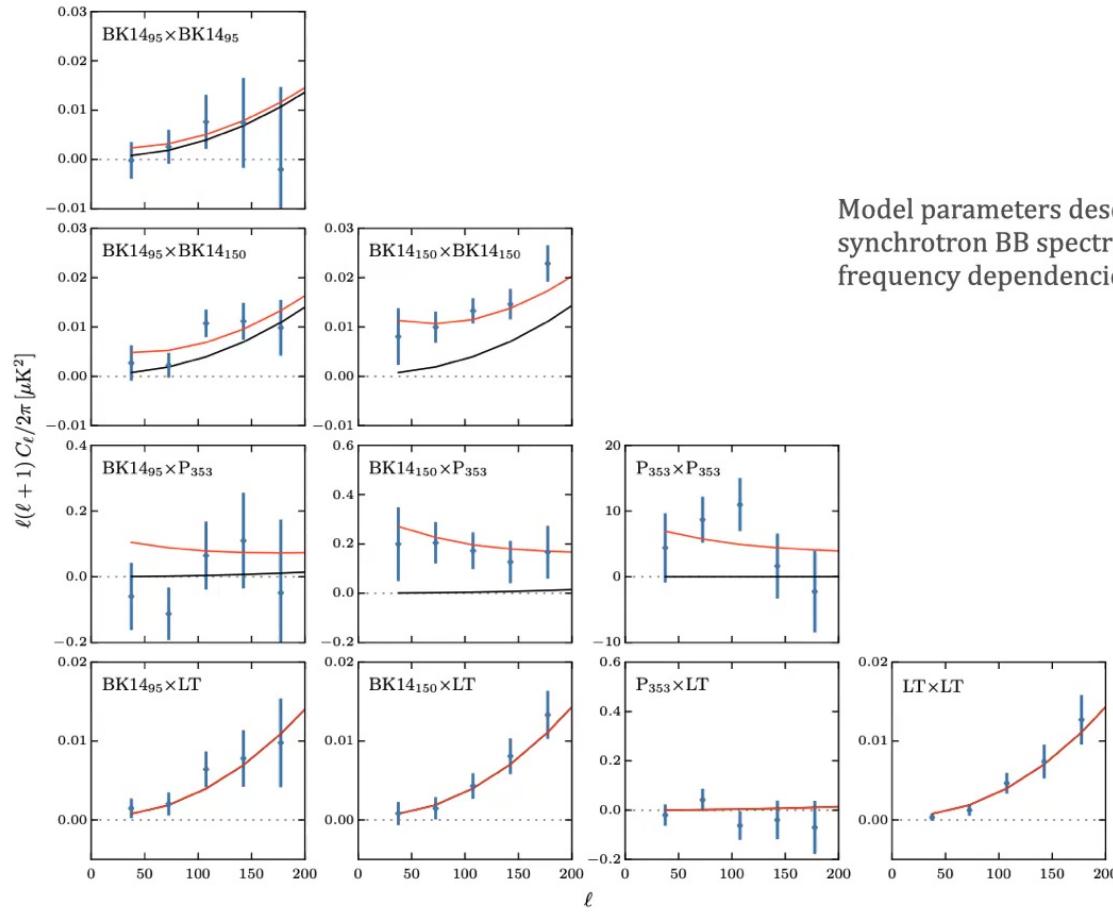


Sim

1) Lensed Q map; 2) Undeflected Q map; 3) Lensed-Undeflected Q map

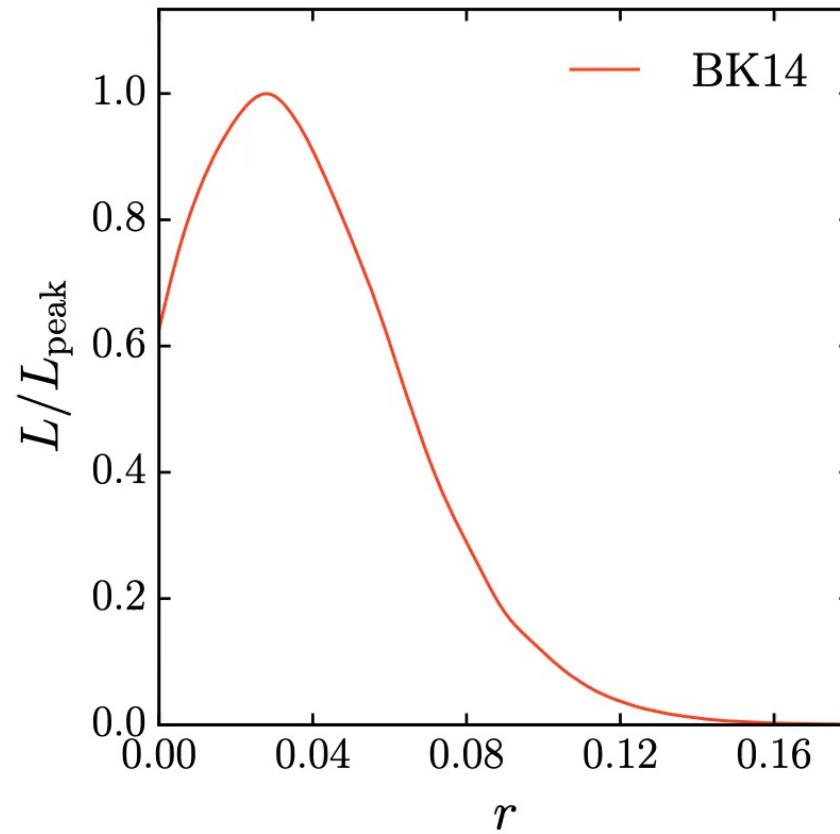
Same for U map

# *Reminder of the BICEP/Keck r analysis: spectra*



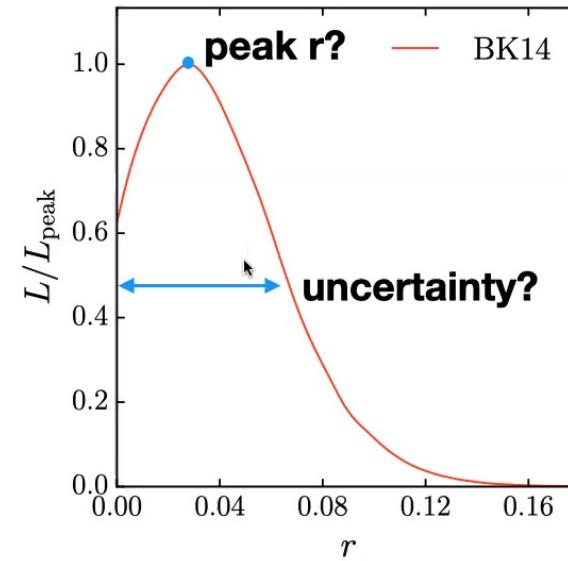
Model parameters describe  $r$ , lensing, dust and synchrotron BB spectrum amplitudes, shapes, frequency dependencies, and correlations.

## $r$ posterior without delensing



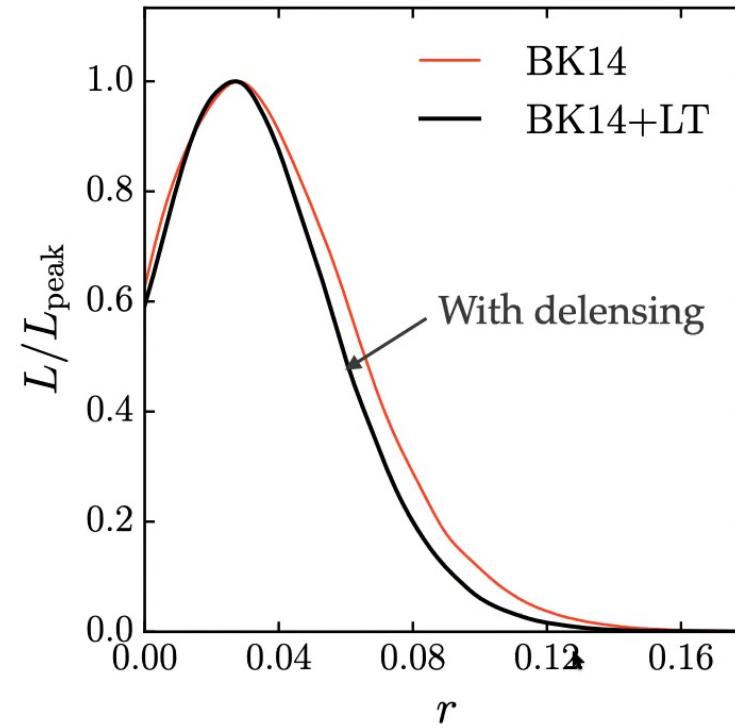
*Which of the following you think best describes  
the post-delensing marginalized  $r$  posterior?*

- A. reduced uncertainty, lower peak  $r$ ;
- B. reduced uncertainty, higher peak  $r$ ;
- C. increased uncertainty, lower peak  $r$ ;
- D. increased uncertainty, higher peak  $r$ .



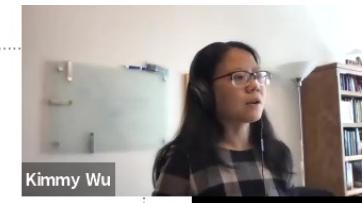
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## *r posterior with and without delensing*



The 95% C.L. upper limit on  $r$  is reduced from  $r < 0.090$  to  $r < 0.082$ .

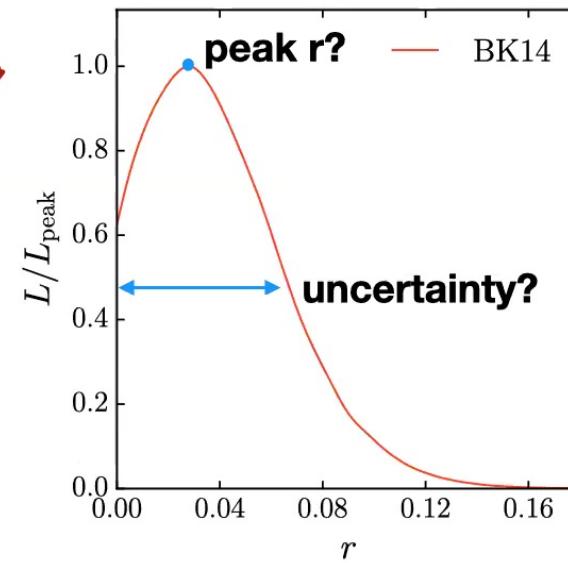
(K. Wu; BK+SPTpol Collaborations; arXiv:2011.08163)



*Which of the following you think best describes  
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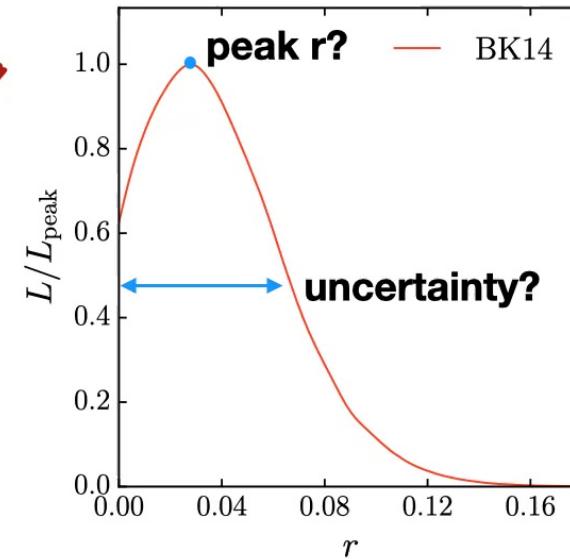
- A. reduced uncertainty, lower peak  $r$ ; ✓
- B. reduced uncertainty, higher peak  $r$ ;
- C. increased uncertainty, lower peak  $r$ ;
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*Which of the following you think best describes  
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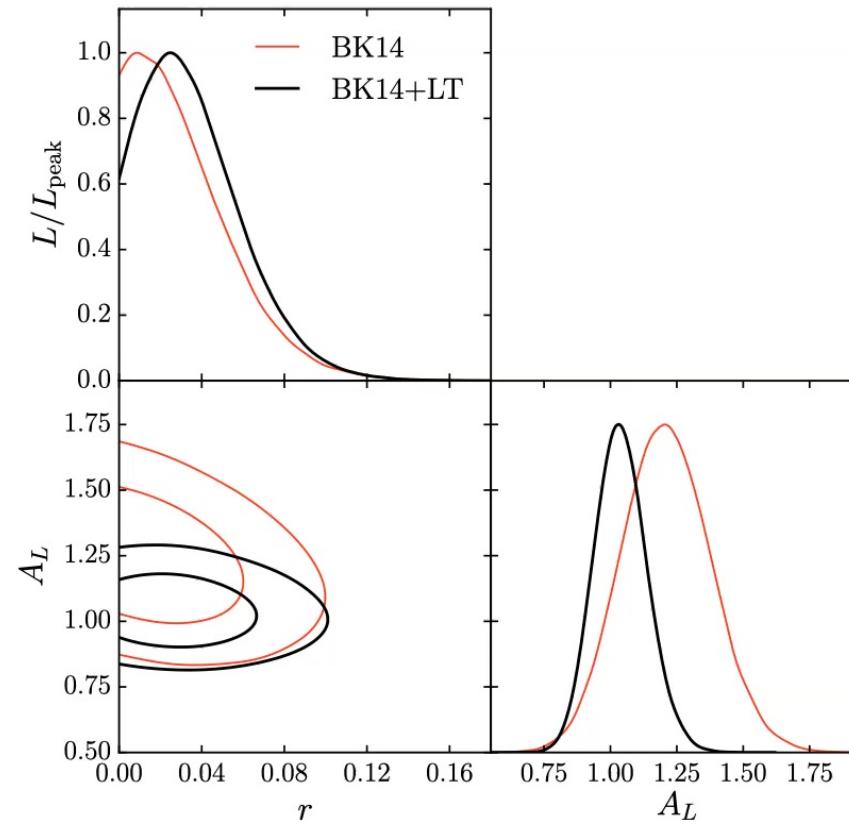


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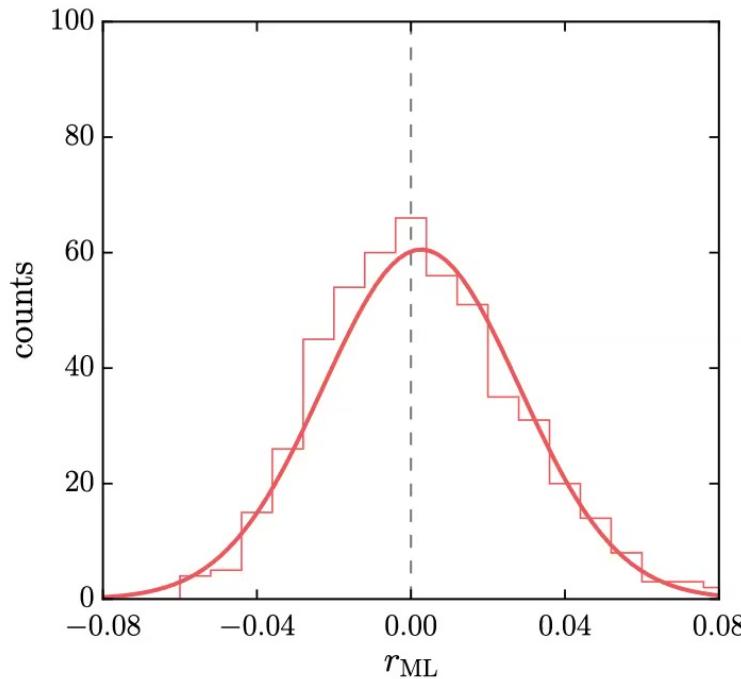
~30% probability this data set gives higher peak  $r$ .

# Lensing template breaks $r$ degeneracy with $A_L$



(K. Wu; BK+SPTpol Collaborations; arXiv:2011.08163)

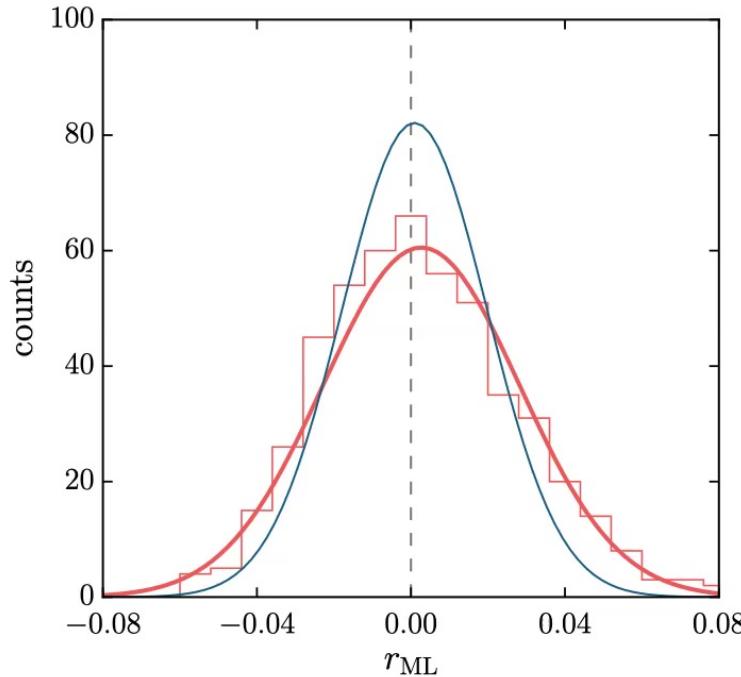
# *How much do we improve $\sigma(r)$ ?*



No delensing  
Perfect delensing  
This analysis

- With perfect  $\varphi$  map and E modes, adding a lensing template to the BK14 data set improves  $\sigma(r)$  from 0.024 to 0.018.
  - $\sim 26\%$  of  $C_l^{\text{BB}}$  variance is from lensing
- Using CIB  $\varphi$  tracer to form the lensing template,  $\sigma(r)$  improves by  $\sim 10\%$  from BK14 to 0.022.
- Template from SPTpol Q/U map alone gives  $\sigma(r) = 0.022$ .

# *How much do we improve $\sigma(r)$ ?*

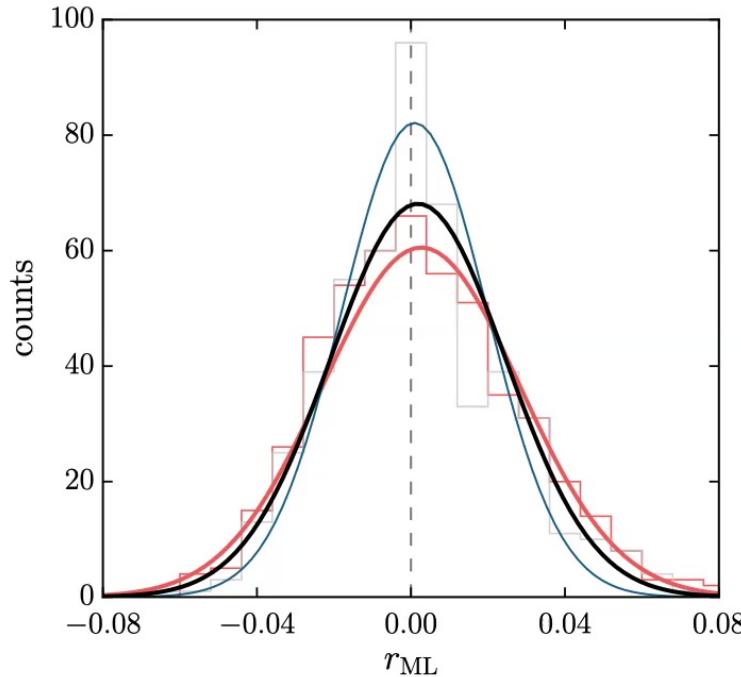


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First demonstration of  $\sigma(r)$  reduction through delensing!



# Systematics considerations

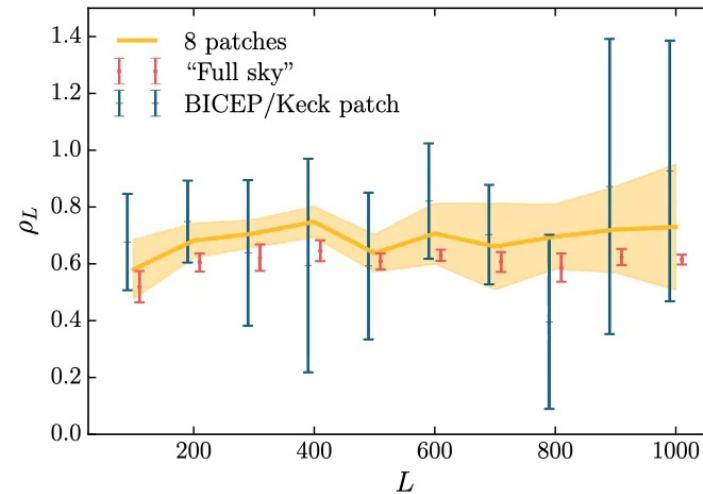
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- CIB-phi cross-correlation
- CIB non-Gaussianity
- Galactic dust contamination in Q/U maps and in CIB map

# *Misestimation in CIB- $\phi$ correlation*

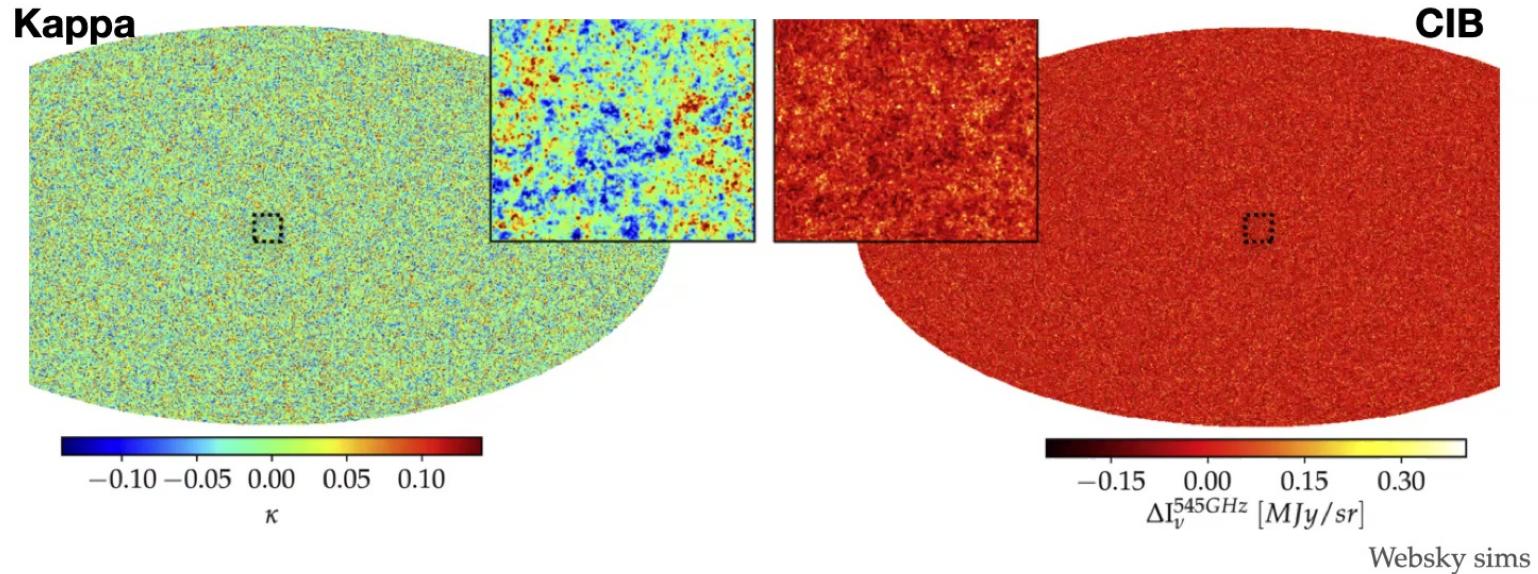


- Analyze simulations generated with  $0.5\sigma_{sp}$  shift in CIB- $\phi$  cross-power as if they were the baseline.
- End-to-end result shows a bias on  $r$  by  $0.2\sigma$ .
- $0.5\sigma_{sp}$  shift is expected to be larger than what the  $\phi$  field and the CIB map could have, given that  $\phi$  comes from a component separated map.
- Future delensing with CIB combined with CMB- $\phi$  would have less contribution from CIB; smaller impact.
- Can marginalize over this uncertainty.



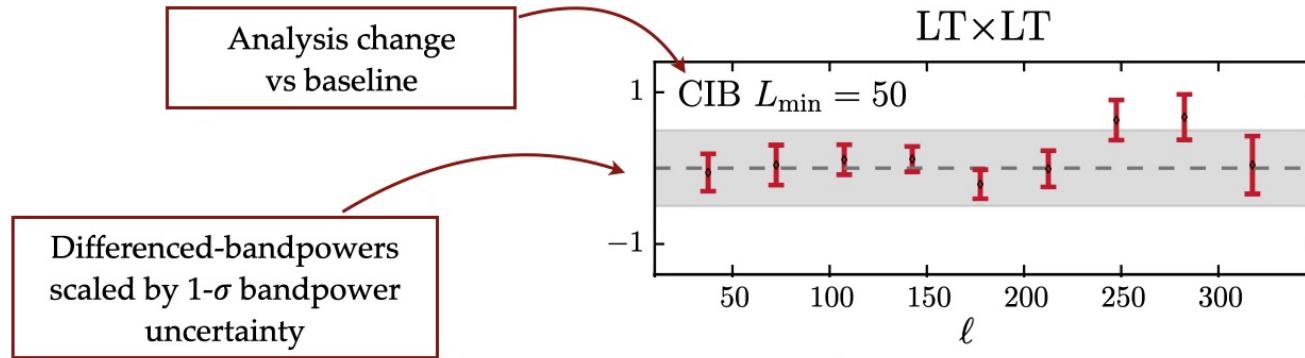


## CIB non-Gaussianity



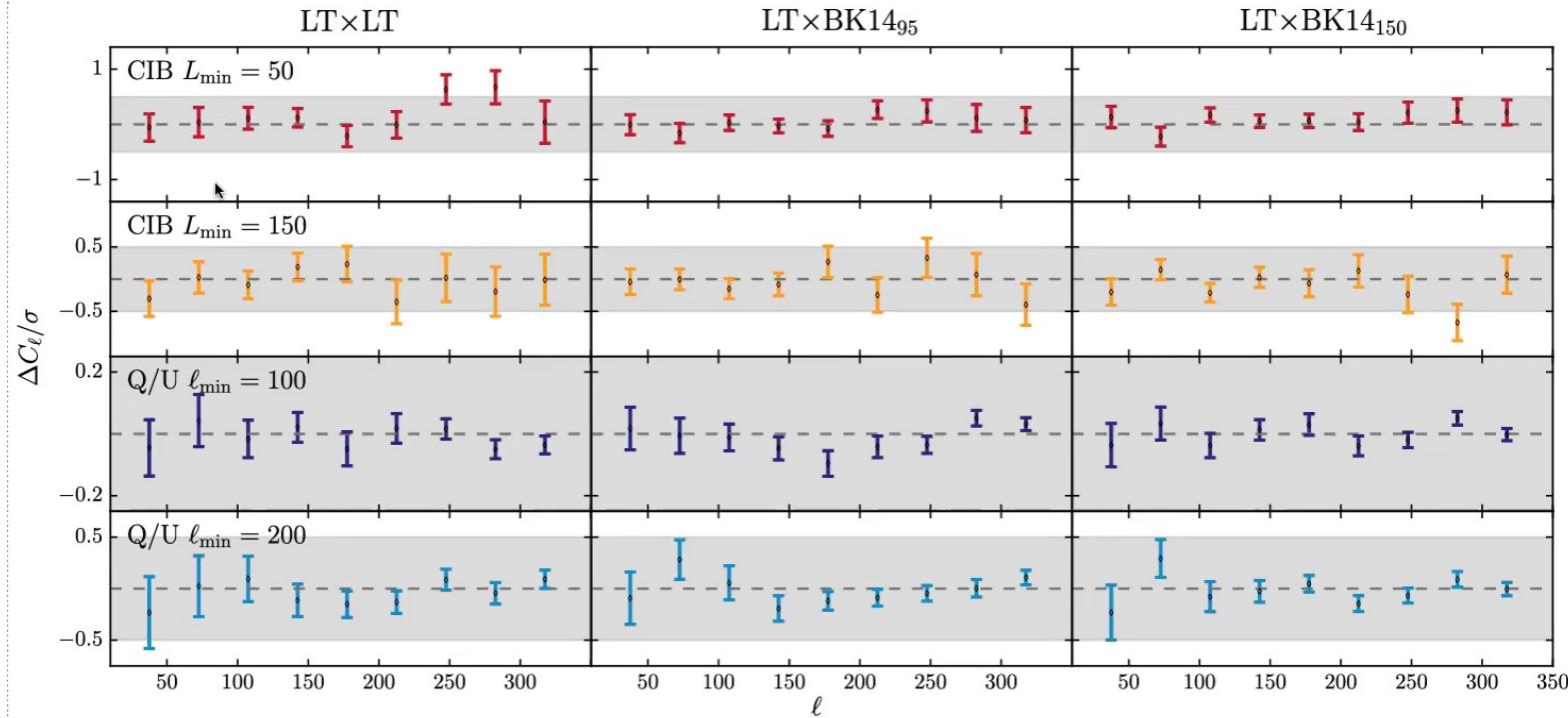
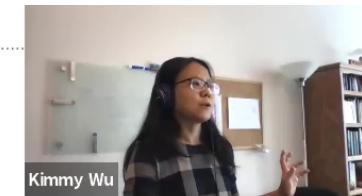
- Model CIB signal (part that correlates with  $\phi$ ) and noise (part that does not correlate with  $\phi$ ) to be both Gaussian;
- Compare lensing template bandpower variance given Gaussian vs non-Gaussian CIB simulations (from Websky); find no statistically distinguishable difference between the two.
- Artificially increase the lensing template bandpower variance in the covariance matrix and find negligible difference in  $\sigma(r)$ .

# Galactic dust in Q/U and CIB maps



- Unmodelled non-Gaussian Galactic dust fluctuations could exist in Q/U maps and in CIB map
- Are they large enough to alter the lensing template auto- and cross-spectra beyond what is expected from noise?
- Test: cut out scales below  $L_{\min}$  and form difference-spectra with baseline; Galactic dust dominates large angular scales and this test would pick them out if they are large.

# *Galactic dust in Q/U and CIB maps*



# *Current limitation to delensing*



Kimmy Wu

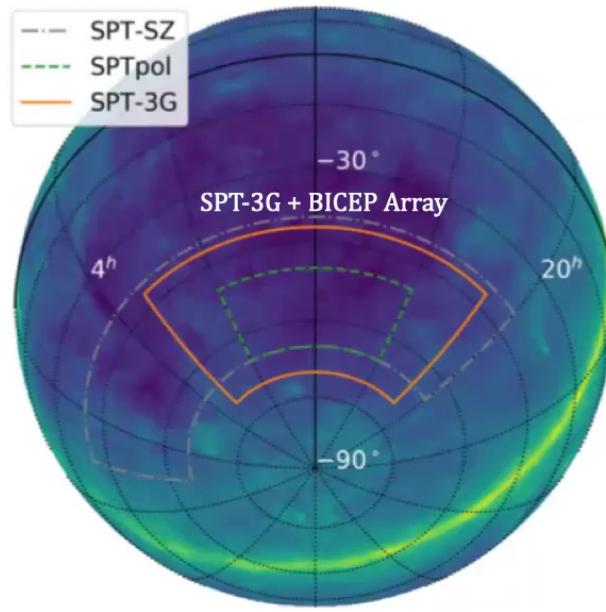
- B mode variance is dominated by galactic foregrounds; even with perfect delensing we do not improve  $\sigma(r)$  very significantly.
- Need better  $\phi$  tracer: CIB map we use has cross-correlation with underlying  $\phi$  at 60-80%. CMB-derived  $\phi$  from upcoming CMB experiments will do better!



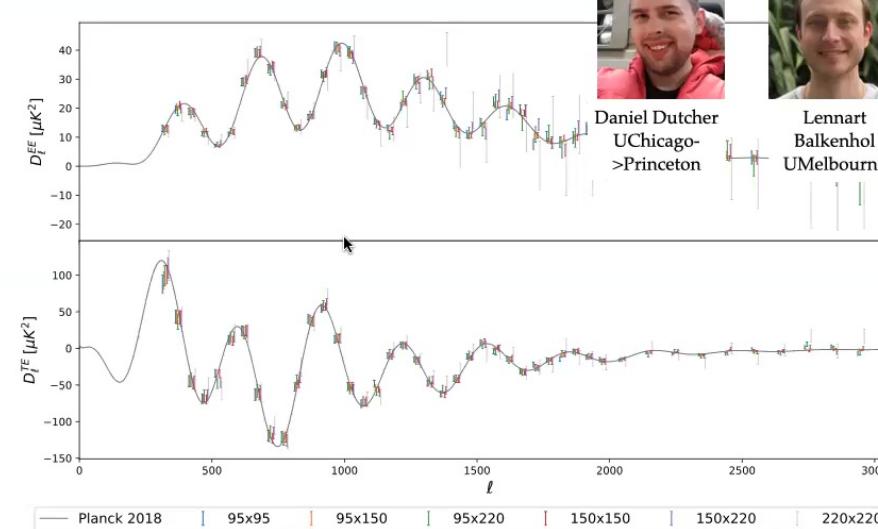
# How to get better $\phi$ ?

- $\phi$  reconstructed from lensed CMB will give better signal-to-noise (compared with e.g. using CIB) in the near future
  - 1) Make deeper high-res CMB polarization maps
  - 2) Extract lensing information more optimally

# SPT-3G status

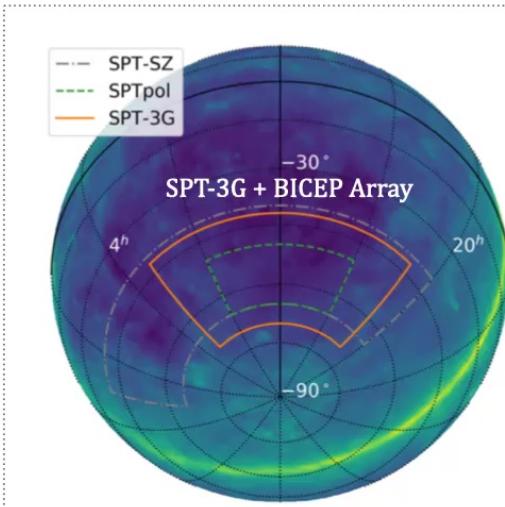


On-going observations on main CMB-field; noise levels on track to match projections; 1st science results out!



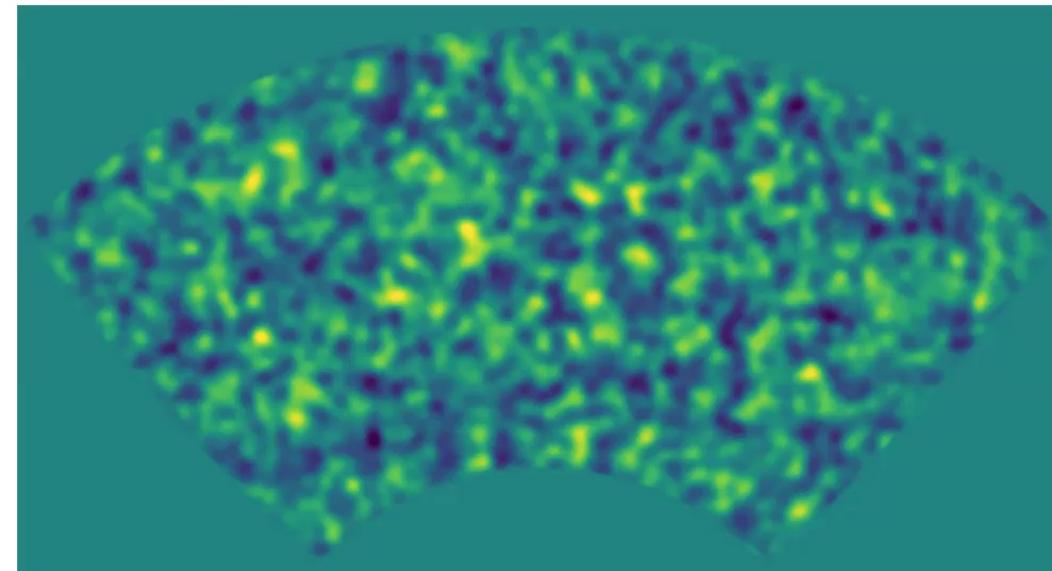
$H_0 = 68.8 \pm 1.5 \text{ km/s/Mpc}$ ; similar to most recent ACT DR4 release. Independent measurement of  $H_0$  from Planck. Explored LCDM model extensions.

(Dutcher & Balkenhol et al.; SPT3G Collaboration; arXiv:2101.01684 / 2103.13618)



# *SPT-3G lensing*

MV reconstruction on 1500 sq. deg. SPT3G footprint, 2018 noise level (simulation)

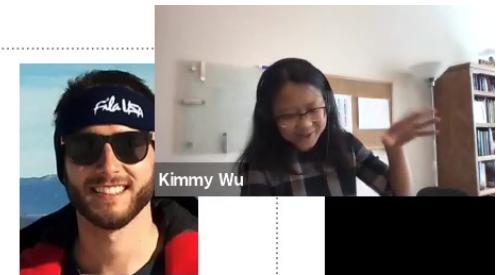


Zhaodi Pan  
UChicago->  
Argonne

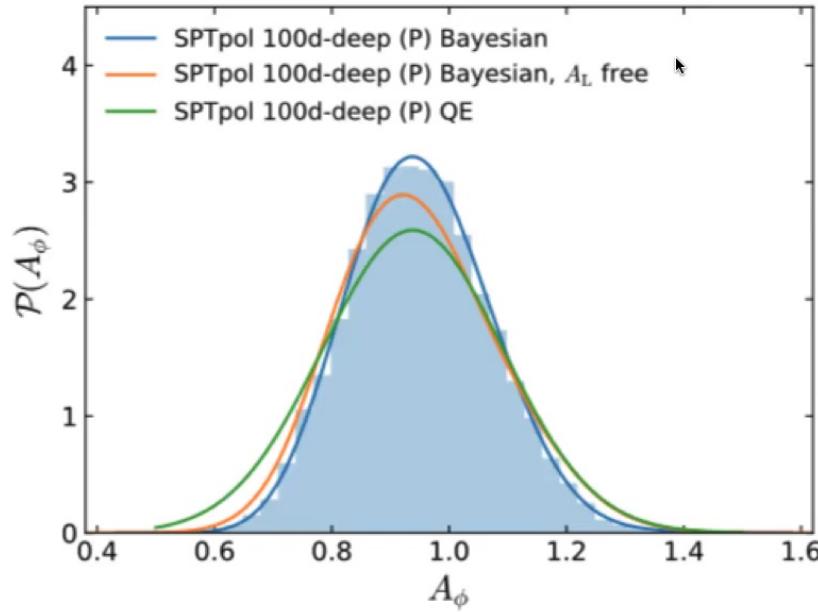


Kimmy Wu, SLAC

# *Bayesian (optimal) lensing estimate on SPTpol data*



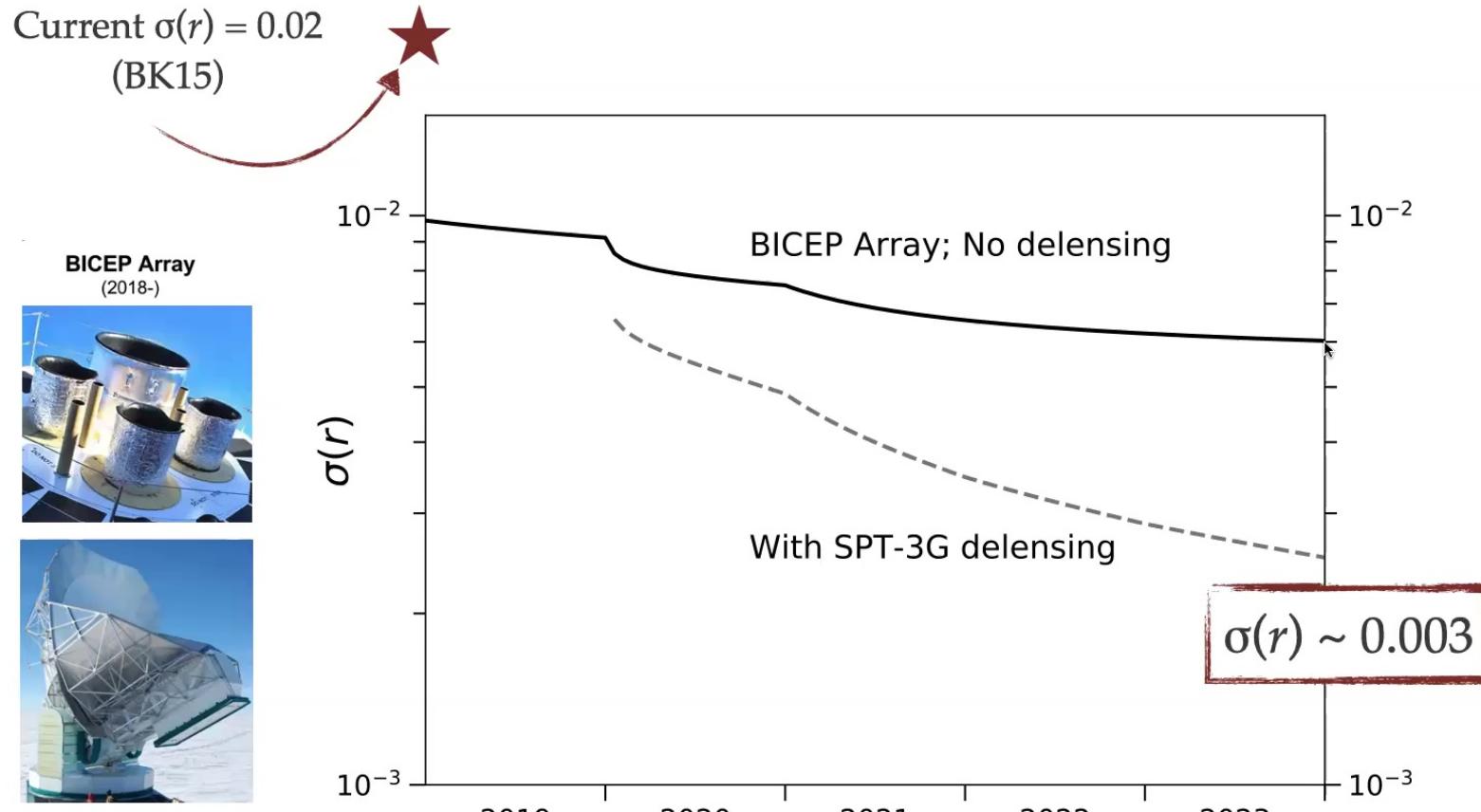
Marius Millea  
Berkeley



(Millea et al.; SPTpol Collaboration; arXiv:2012.01709)

- Bayesian analysis improves constraint on lensing amplitude by ~20% compared with standard methods on same SPTpol data set.
- Optimal reconstruction of lensing essential for next-generation CMB experiment CMB-S4 to achieve  $r$  goal.

# *Delensing BICEP/Keck B-mode maps using SPT-3G $\varphi$ improve $r$ constraint*





- ❖ ~500,000 detectors; begin survey in late 2020s
- ❖ deep survey (~3% sky) for  $r$ ; wide survey (> 40% sky) for lensing, cross-correlations, and multi-messenger
- ❖  $\sigma(r) \sim 0.0005$ ;  $\sigma(\sum m_\nu) < 20$  meV (joint with BAO)

CMB-S4 Science Book (incl. KW)

# Summary

- CMB B modes provide a unique window to early universe physics; e.g. tensor perturbation amplitude  $\rightarrow$  energy scale of inflation.
- Lensing B modes are one of the foregrounds of primordial B-mode measurements, and will be limiting the uncertainty of the  $r$  measurement  $\sigma(r)$  in the next 2-3 years.
  - We have demonstrated improved  $r$  constraints when delensing BICEP/Keck maps.
- Delensing of BICEP Array maps using SPT-3G lensing potentials improves  $\sigma(r)$  by 2-3x.
- More optimal techniques of lensing reconstruction/delensing are required to reach next-generation CMB experiment CMB-S4  $\sigma(r)$ .

