

**Working with Dave Wilkinson &  
Measuring the Cosmic Microwave  
Background.**

L. Page

Marcel Grossmann 15, La Sapienza, 2018

# Dave Wilkinson 1935-2002

PhD with Richard Crane at U. Michigan on "A Precision Measurement of the g-Factor of the Free Electron," (1962)

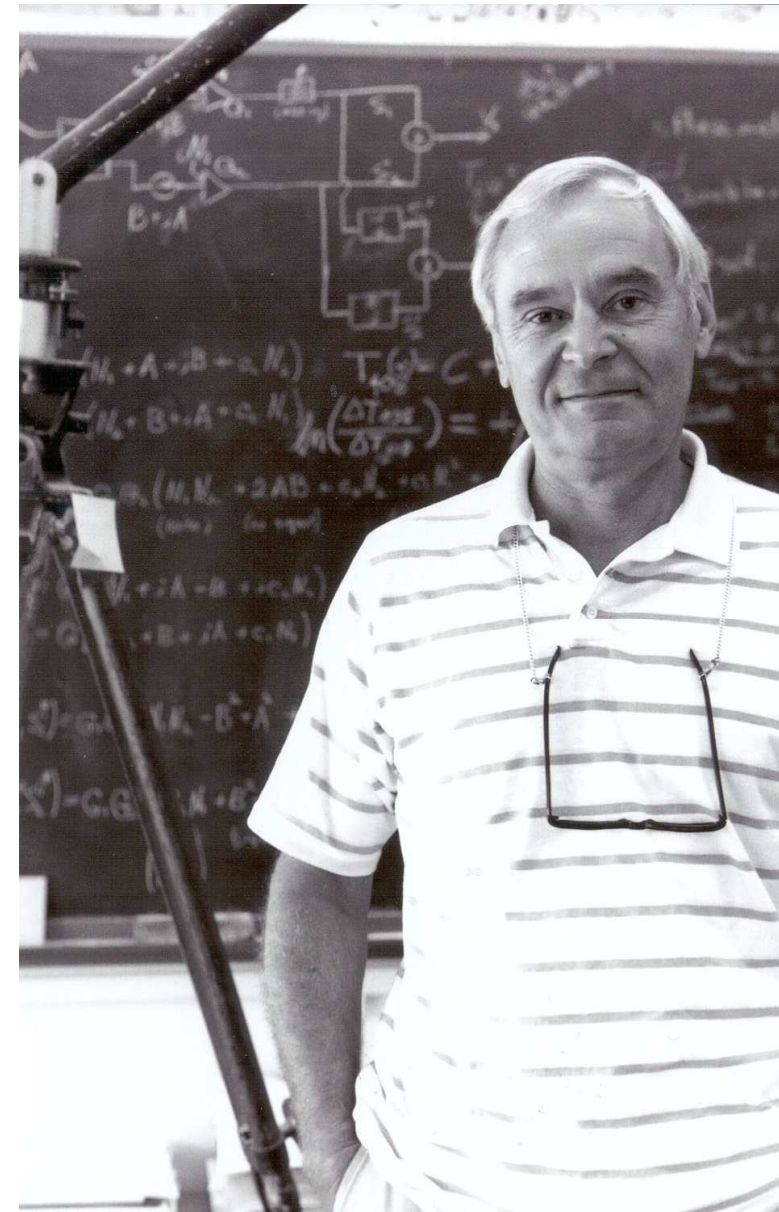
Moved to Princeton to work with Bob Dicke in 1963.

Working with Peter Roll to search for the CMB when it was discovered by Penzias and Wilson in 1965.

Many pioneering CMB measurements, including first dedicated anisotropy measurement with Bruce Partridge (1967).

Founding member of the COBE satellite. First proposal (October 1974) with John Mather, Pat Thaddeus, Rai Weiss, Dirk Muehlner, Dave Wilkinson, Mike Hauser and Bob Silverberg.

Came to know Dave through MIT. Rai Weiss, lab head, was also part of Dicke's group ('62-'64); my advisor, Steve Meyer, was Dave's student, "my postdoc" Ed Cheng was Dave's student, David Cottingham was Steve Boughn's student (Steve was in the gravity group), Peter Saulson was Dave's student. When Dave asked if I wanted to come to Princeton after graduate school....



**DELTA T OVER TEA  
WORKSHOP**

**1-2 May, 1987  
Toronto, Canada**

Sponsored by  
The Canadian Institute for Theoretical Astrophysics and  
The Canadian Institute for Advanced Research

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**Topics**

*Present and Future Experiments of  
Cosmic Microwave Background Anisotropies and  
Their Theoretical Interpretation  
on very small ( $< 1'$ ), small ( $1' - 1^\circ$ ),  
intermediate ( $1^\circ - 10^\circ$ ) and large ( $> 10^\circ +$  multipoles)  
angular scales*

Contact: Dick Bond

CITA, McLennan Labs, University of Toronto  
60 St George St., Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M5S 1A1

Phone (416) 978 6879 or 6874

Bitnet BOND@UTORPHYS

The first meeting on CMB  
phenomenology.

(1987)

Organized by Dick Bond  
with the helpful hand

Dave for the  
experimentalists.

Covered GWs,  
Polarization, SZ...



**Princeton University: Physics Department**

**Jadwin Hall**

**To:** Nancy Weiss Malkiel

**From:** David Wilkinson

**Subject:** AAS Meeting in Washington

**Date:** June 10, 1994

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Nancy,

You have probably already heard from Shirley that I can go to the AAS/NSF meeting on undergraduate science education, "Science Dean's Colloquium." (Please take note that this should in no way be construed to indicate any interest in future service to Princeton.)

In your reply, you might indicate that Princeton has 5 years of experience with a Science and Technology Council. If the steering committee wishes, I could 1) bring a written description of the Council and what we've learned; or 2) discuss our experience with the group or a sub-group.

Who pays for the travel? (I hate these "conference" hotels in Crystal City, etc. I couldn't bring myself to suffer and pay.)

David

DW:mrf

Dave was passionate  
about undergraduate  
teaching ...but not  
about meetings in  
general

~~DRAFT~~

Dave

# Dave's White Paper for CMB satellite for a NASA workshop, March 1991. 5 Pages!

## Mission Concept

Principal investigator/ Co-investigator address and phone number:

Prof. David Wilkinson  
Physics Department, PO Box 708  
Princeton University  
Princeton NJ 08544

Supporting institution:

Princeton University

Science objectives:

The universe as seen today is very clumpy in its matter distribution -- galaxies, sheets and voids, empty voids -- yet extremely smooth in its radiation component, the 2.735 K cosmic microwave radiation (CMR). Measurements show that the CMR is isotropic to  $\Delta T/T \leq a$  few  $\times 10^{-5}$  on all angular scales between 5 arcminutes and  $180^\circ$ , where the Sun's velocity with respect to the CMR gives a  $\Delta T/T \sim 10^{-3}$ . The current limits on CMR anisotropy provide strong constraints on theories of large-scale structure formation within the standard Big Bang cosmological model. Indeed, if the anisotropy is not seen at  $\Delta T/T \sim$  a few  $\times 10^{-6}$ , most people agree that the standard model is in serious trouble. On the other hand, measurements of the CMR anisotropy, and its angular power spectrum, are the key to understanding the density perturbations that led to mass structure and the fundamental processes in the early universe that caused those perturbations. Most workers in the field would rank the discovery of CMR anisotropies as one of the two or three most important problems in cosmology.

This mission would map the CMR in Galactic pole regions to an accuracy of  $\Delta T/T \sim$  a few  $\times 10^{-6}$  at angular scales of  $1^\circ - 10^\circ$  scales where mass structure similar to that of the great attractor, the great wall, or giant voids would cause measurable anisotropy in the CMR. As a secondary objective, the entire sky could be mapped at wavelengths not available from the ground.

Measurement objectives:

The DMR experiment on COBE is searching for CMR anisotropy on scales from  $7^\circ$  to  $180^\circ$  by mapping the entire sky. The goal is to reach  $\Delta T \sim 100 \mu K$  in each  $7^\circ \times 7^\circ$  sky pixel. Using radiometers 25 times more sensitive than the best DMR, this mission would map the Galactic polar caps with  $1^\circ$  angular resolution and an average instrumental sensitivity of  $\Delta T \sim 6 \mu K$  per  $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$  pixel. Maps of diameter (at least)  $20^\circ$  are highly desirable to study the distribution of anisotropy -- vital information about the early universe.

Nine frequency channels distributed between 40 GHz and 90 GHz would be used to measure and remove foreground Galactic synchrotron, bremsstrahlung, and dust emission. The minimum of Galactic emission is known to be in this band; by extrapolating measurements at lower and higher frequencies, we estimate the Galactic signal to be about  $90 \mu K$  at 40 GHz and  $10 \mu K$  at 90 GHz.

Using its distinctive frequency signatures, the Galactic emission would be removed to examine the CMR for anisotropy. Because Galactic emission is stronger at all other CMR frequencies, isotropy is best studied at these frequencies. Unfortunately, ground-based measurements are severely hampered between 45 GHz and 85 GHz by a strong absorption line in oxygen.

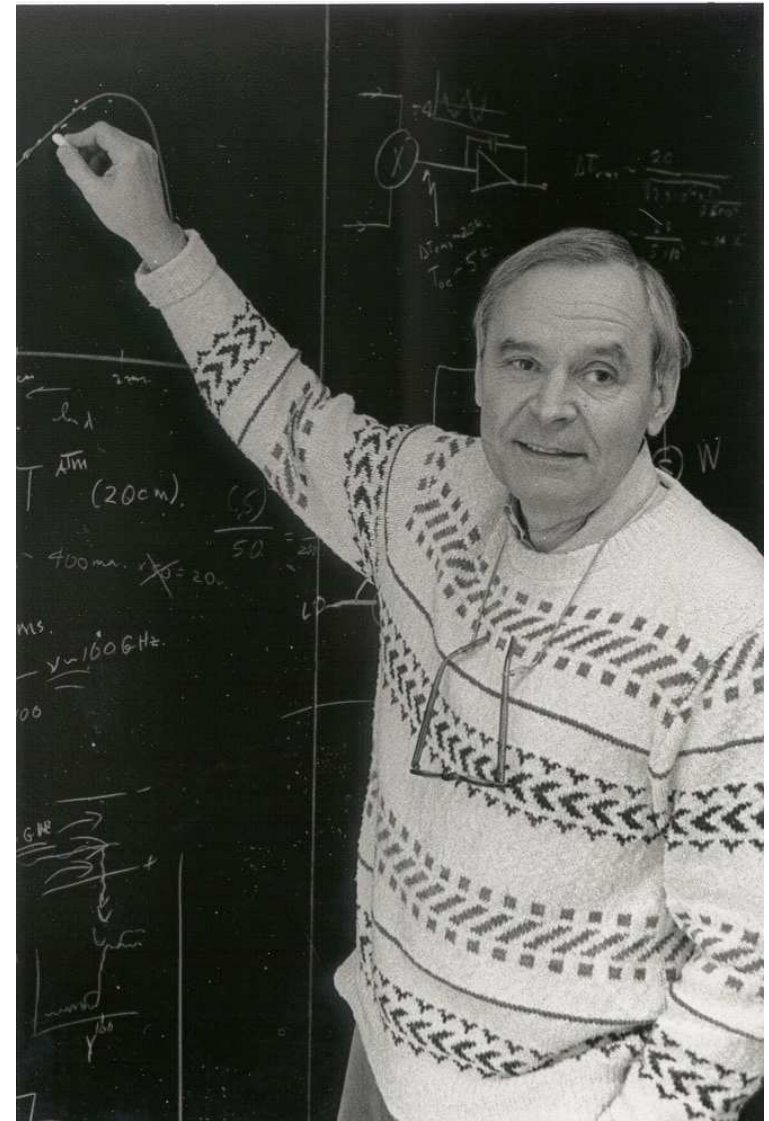
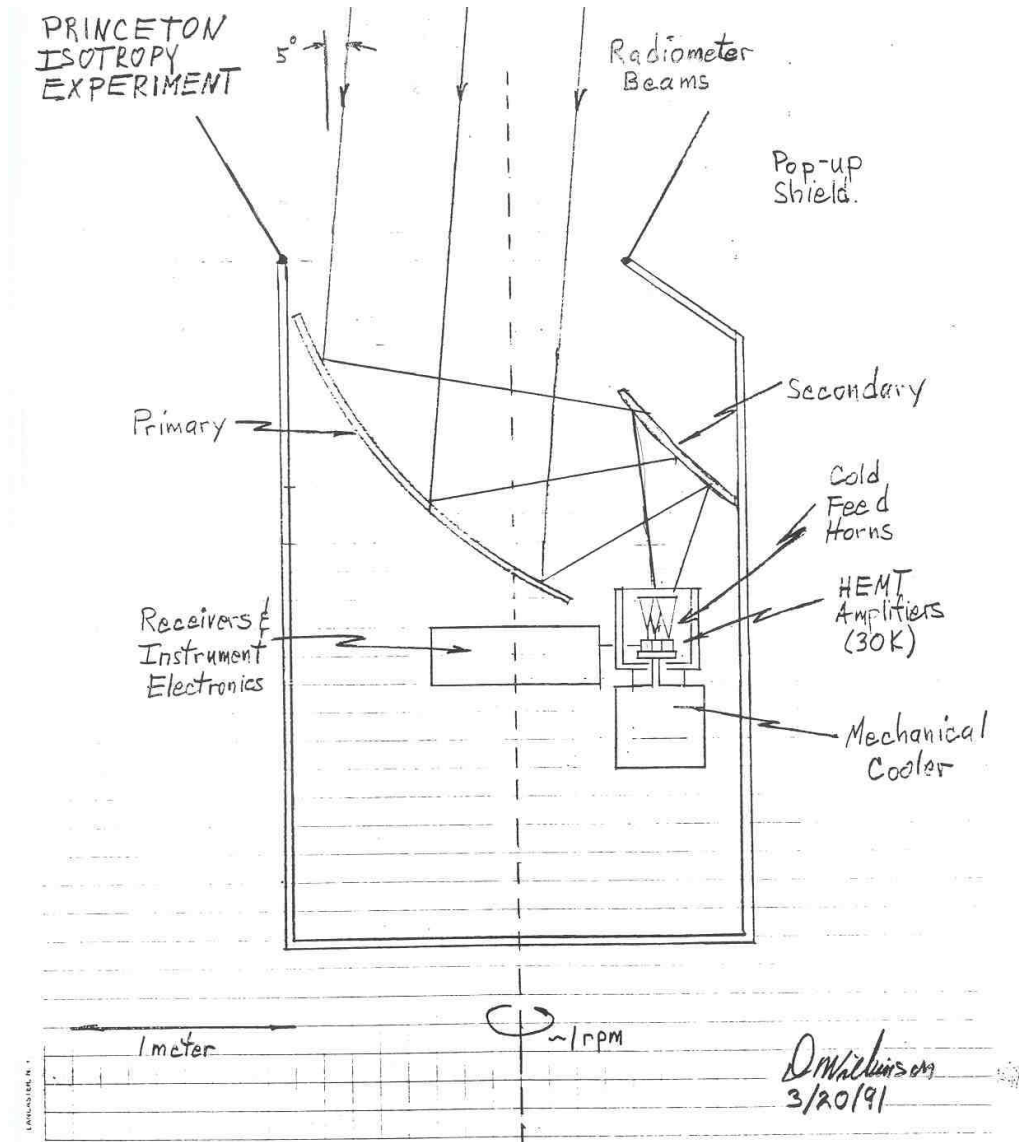
# COBE/DMR Discovery, April 1992

## Payload Data Sheet

Estimated science instrument characteristics

Mass (150-300 kgs)	175 kg including structure
Width/Diameter (less than 200 cm, launch configuration)	200 cm
Height (under 300 cm, launch configuration)	See Sketch
Power (up to 250 Watts)	250W (with 2 mechanical coolers)
Average Data Rate (less than 100 kbits/sec)	5 kbits/sec
Pointing accuracy (up to 1 arcsecond with input from science instrument, 30 arcseconds without)	Pointing 10 arcminutes Pointing Readout 5 arcminutes
Lifetime needed to complete science investigation (1-3 years)	1-3 years
Optimum orbit: -Apogee -Perigee -Inclination -Period	42,000 km 42,000 km 63° to equator 1 day
Time required for mission development (3-4 years)	4 years (mechanical cooler)
Instrument payload cost (FY91 dollars)	\$10-15 M <del>if managed from Princeton</del> including subcontracts and data analysis software

# Page 5, white paper



Dave Wilkinson

Princeton University

Department of Physics: Joseph Henry Laboratories  
Jadwin Hall  
Post Office Box 708  
Princeton, New Jersey 08544

S. Weirich  
Martin Marietta Laboratories  
Baltimore, MD.

FAX # 301-247-4939

Sandy,

Schedule for May 23 looks fine. We will probably travel by Metroliner, arriving in Baltimore @ 2:25 am and take a cab to M.M.H. The best train to take back will be leaving Baltimore at 5:30 pm. My colleagues, who helped write the concept and will help with the presentations & discussion are:

Norm Jarosik (Instructor)  
Lyman Page (Instructor)  
Ed Wollack (Ph.D. Thesis student)

Thanks for arranging all of this; we're looking forward to the visit.

Steve

cc Jarosik  
Page  
Wollack

Our first meeting outside  
of Princeton.



Our first  
proposal.  
Aug 1991

Independently, Chuck  
Bennett was working at  
NASA/GSFC to make a  
path for a CMB mission  
and associated RFP.

Research Proposal Submitted to the National Aeronautics  
' and Space Administration

by

Princeton University  
Department of Physics  
P. O. Box 708  
Princeton, N.J. 08544-0708  
An Educational Organization

**A NOVEL APPLICATION OF FOURIER TRANSFORM SPECTROSCOPY  
WITH HEMT AMPLIFIERS AT MICROWAVE FREQUENCIES**

August 1991

RFP: NRA-91-OSSA-13:ASTROPHYSICS

Period Covered: Jan. 1, 1992 to Dec. 31, 1995

Amount Requested:

This proposal not submitted to any other agency.

Endorsements:

Principal Investigators:


David T. Wilkinson  
Lyman Page, Jr.

Chairman

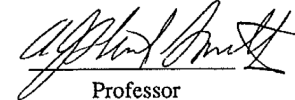
A. J. S. Smith

Administrative Officer

A. J. Sinisgalli



Professor  
609-258-4406



Professor  
609-258-4402

Director - ORPA  
609-258-3090



Assistant Professor  
609-258-5578

# This funded "SASK" on which WMAP was based.

L2

HEMTs 30-90 GHz

There are two main problems with making these maps. (1) Instrument sensitivity has been the main limitation to date. The CMB temperature is only 2.735 K (according to COBE) so to clearly see the expected anisotropy the error per map pixel should be  $\pm 3 \mu\text{K}$  or less. The most promising technologies for reaching this level are bolometers for  $\lambda \leq 2 \text{ mm}$  and high electron mobility transistor (HEMT) amplifiers at longer wavelengths. (2) Foreground radiation sources from Galactic electrons and dust will ultimately limit the accuracy of CMB anisotropy measurements. The Galactic window is around  $\lambda = 3 \text{ mm}$  (100 GHz), but even here it will be necessary to subtract Galactic emission to reach the desired sensitivity. Therefore, course spectral information is needed in any high precision anisotropy project.

Another important idea that is being pursued by several groups is to develop a multi-beam observing system. Since integration times are long (hours) for even the lowest-noise instruments, having an array of detectors is a huge advantage for a mapping project. Bolometers and HEMTs show considerable promise for elements of arrays and several groups are working on this. Finally, since remote observations (South Pole, balloons, satellites) are involved in CMB isotropy experiments, system simplicity and reliability are important considerations. Here HEMTs have a significant advantage over other low-noise mm-wave detectors.

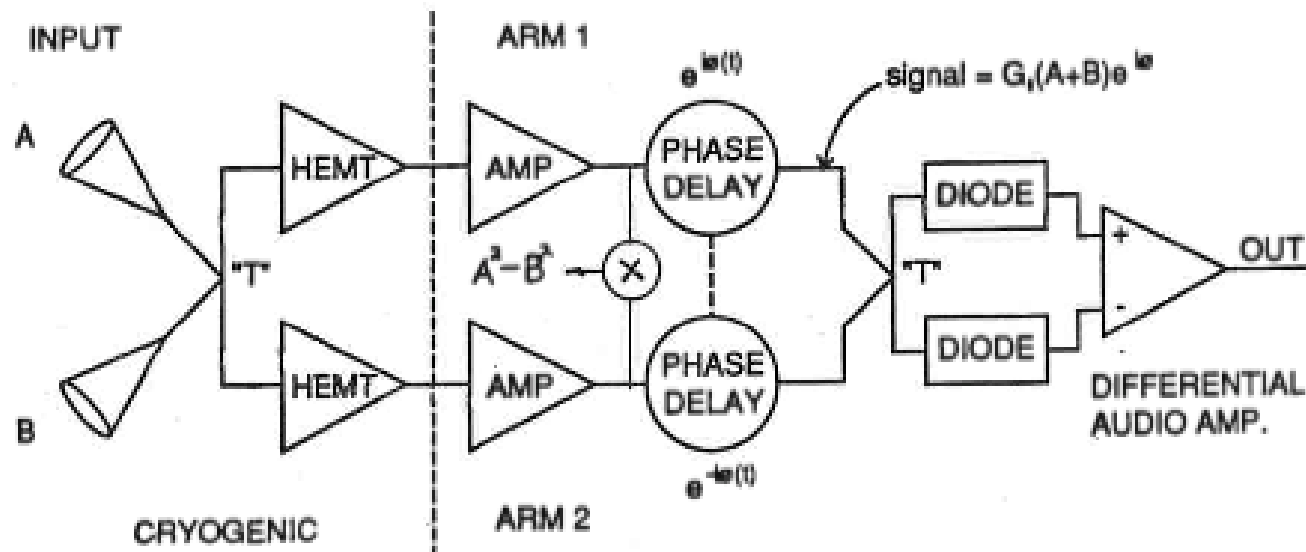
Most observations of CMB anisotropy at angular scales below  $5^\circ$  have been made from the ground. The atmosphere seriously degrades these measurements in two ways: (1) lumpy water vapor emission creates a large noise signal on most days, and (2) the smooth component of atmospheric emission increases system noise – the main limitation on  $\Delta T$  for most well-designed experiments. Cold sites, balloons, and satellites are currently being used. To us (and to the Soviets) it is clear that a satellite at the solar L2 point is the ultimate platform for an anisotropy experiment. No atmosphere, greatly reduced Earth and Sun emission, simplified pointing, and long integration time are important advantages of a remote satellite.

The work proposed here is part of a program to capitalize on recent and expected advances in high-frequency, cryogenic HEMT technology. Viewed from the perspective of the problems mentioned above, HEMT amplifiers are very promising for high-precision mapping of the CMB anisotropy. We plan to help NRAO engineers to evaluate HEMTs for use at 90 GHz, and simultaneously to build radiometers using available 30 GHz and 40 GHz amplifiers. These radiometers will be evaluated on the ground and from balloons, with the ultimate goal a proposal to NASA for a Small Explorer mission to map the CMB anisotropy in the Galactic polar regions.

## II. Project Description

### HEMTs

HEMT amplifiers have become the detectors of choice for frequencies between 1 and 45 GHz wherever low noise, broadband, and stable amplifiers are required. They are relatively cheap and rugged devices well suited to satellite or remote observing applications. Their



HEMT FTS  
FIGURE 1

The radiometer is now differential and includes phase switching.

Norm Jarosik independently proposed the version in WMAP.

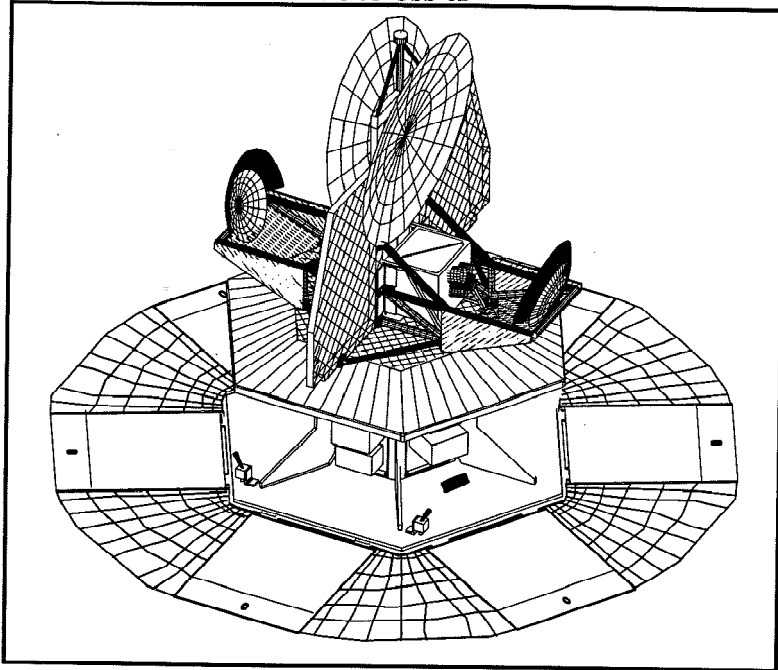
CONFIDENTIAL

LYMAN PAGE

# MICROWAVE ANISOTROPY PROBE MAP

A MIDEX Mission Proposal

submitted in response to  
AO-95-OSS-02



Submitted June 1995 by

Charles L. Bennett, Principal Investigator

Goddard Space Flight Center  
Greenbelt, MD 20771

*in  
partnership  
with*

Princeton University  
Princeton, NJ 08544

## WMAP Proposal (1995)

Chuck Bennett (PI)

Gary Hinshaw

Norm Jarosik

John Mather

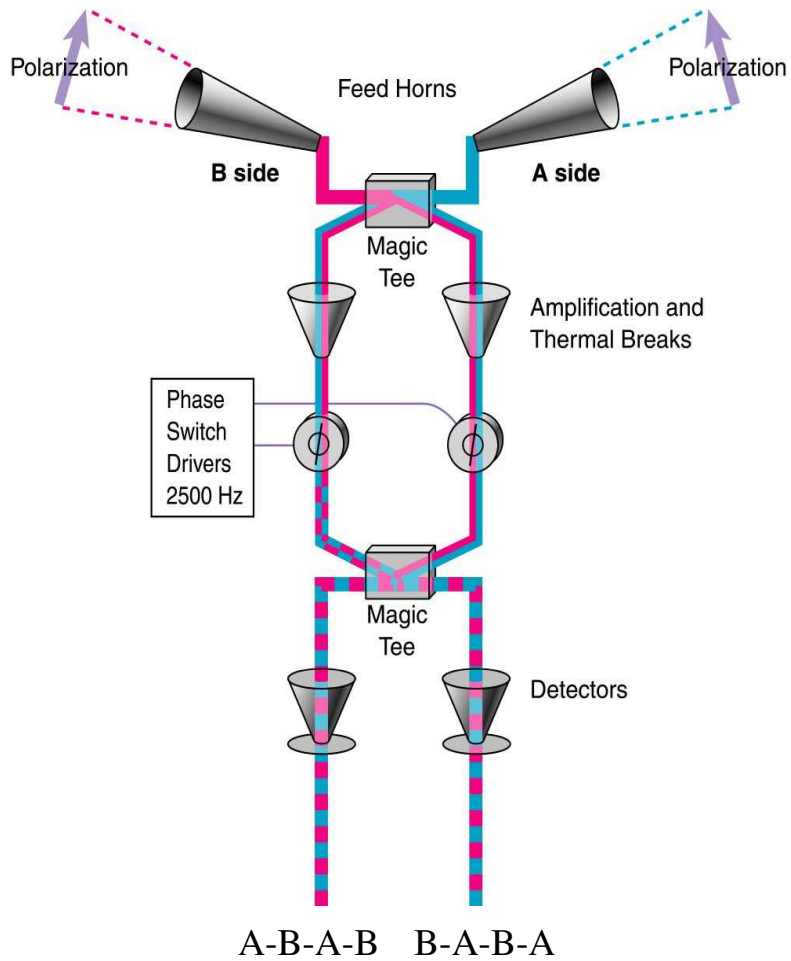
Steve Meyer

Lyman Page

David Spergel

Dave Wilkinson

Ned Wright



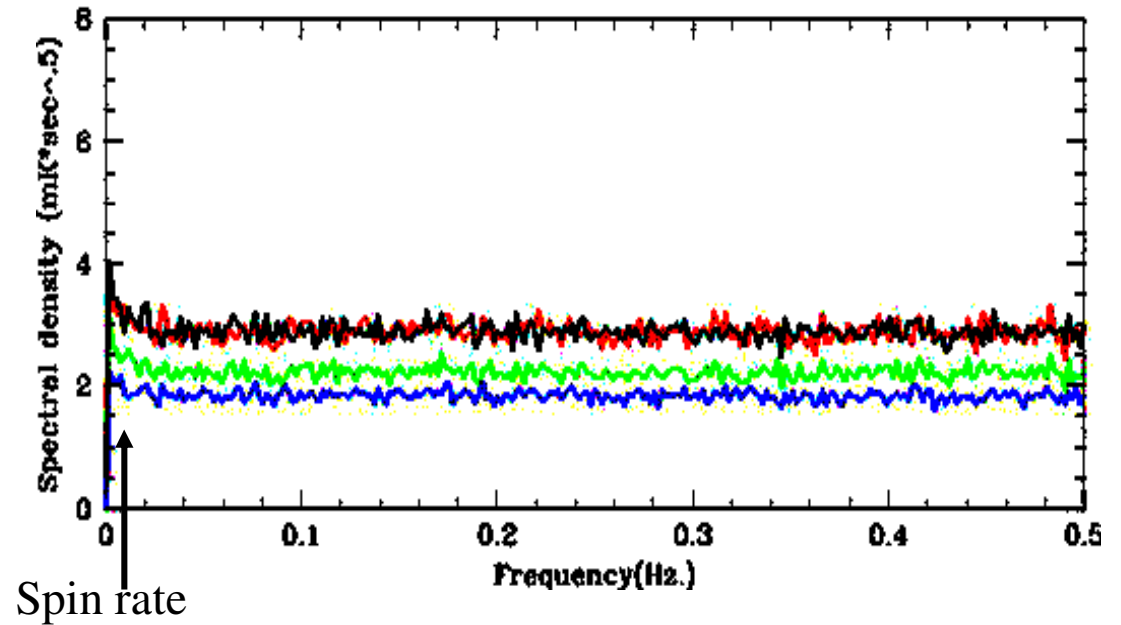
One of 20

Amplifiers from NRAO,  
M. Pospieszalski design

# Why low $1/f$ ?

Differential design...

....mK thermal stability



Noise in maps Gaussian over five decades.

Jarosik et al.

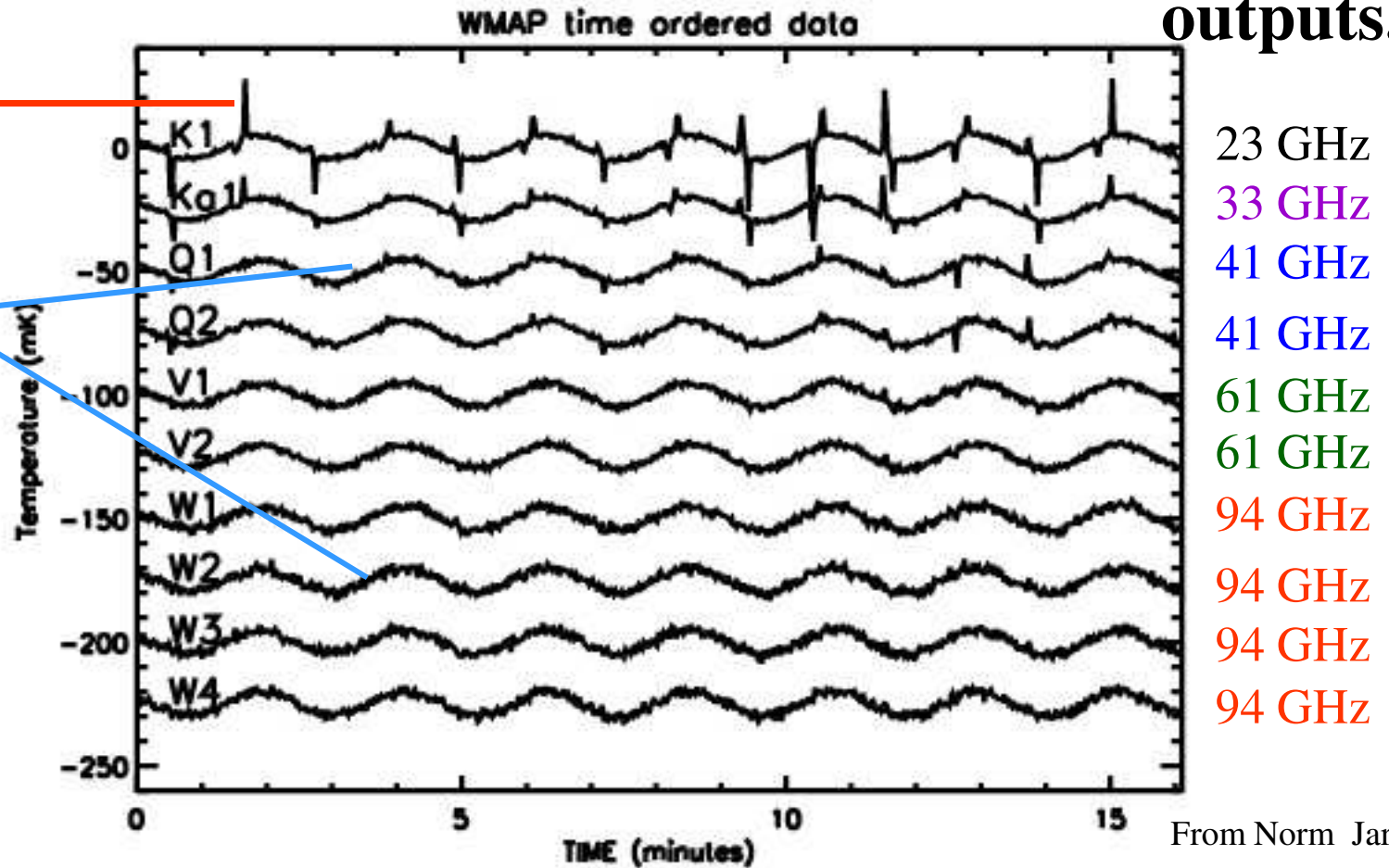


Raw data w/1.5s smoothing.

Differential outputs.

Galaxy

CMB  
Dipole



WMAP data  
are very clean.

There are no instrumental “corrections” [e.g., No ADC issues, <1.5% raw data cut] made in producing the maps.

# WMAP

## Combined Science Team:

### NASA/GSFC

Bob Hill  
Al Kogut  
Nils Odegard  
Ed Wollack

### Johns Hopkins

Chuck Bennett (PI)  
Ben Gold  
David Larson  
Janet Weiland

### UBC

Mark Halpern  
Gary Hinshaw

### Brown

Greg Tucker

### Cornell

Rachel Bean

### UCLA

• Ned Wright

### Chicago

• Stephan Meyer

### MPA

Eiichiro Komatsu

### Microsoft

Chris Barnes

### ICE

Licia Verde

### Princeton

Jo Dunkley  
• Norm Jarosik  
• Lyman Page  
• David Spergel

### JPL

Olivier Dore

### Penn

Michele Limon

### UCL

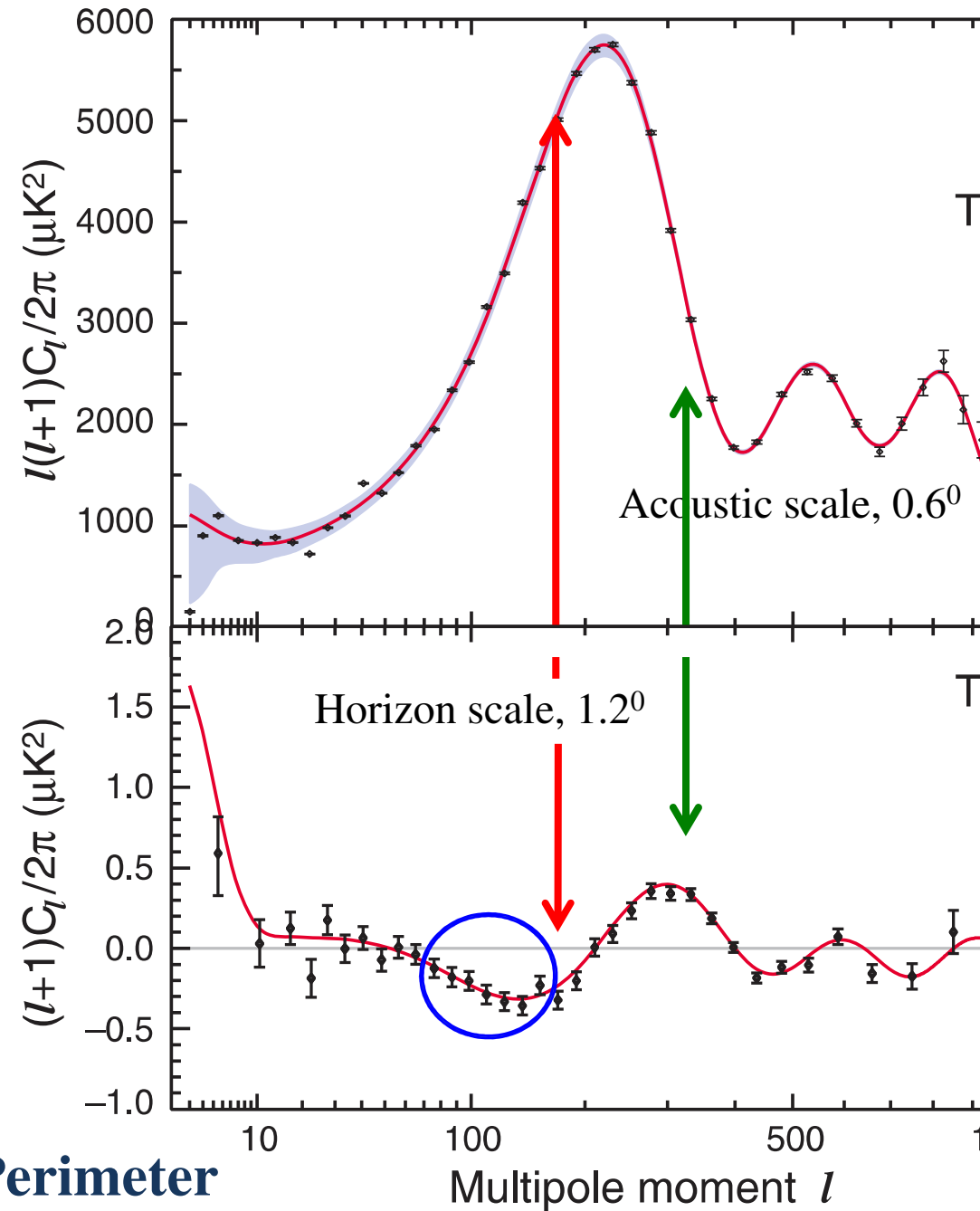
Hiranya Peiris

### CITA

Mike Nolta

### Perimeter

Kendrick Smith





# There's much more to learn from the CMB

## CMB Smörgåsbord

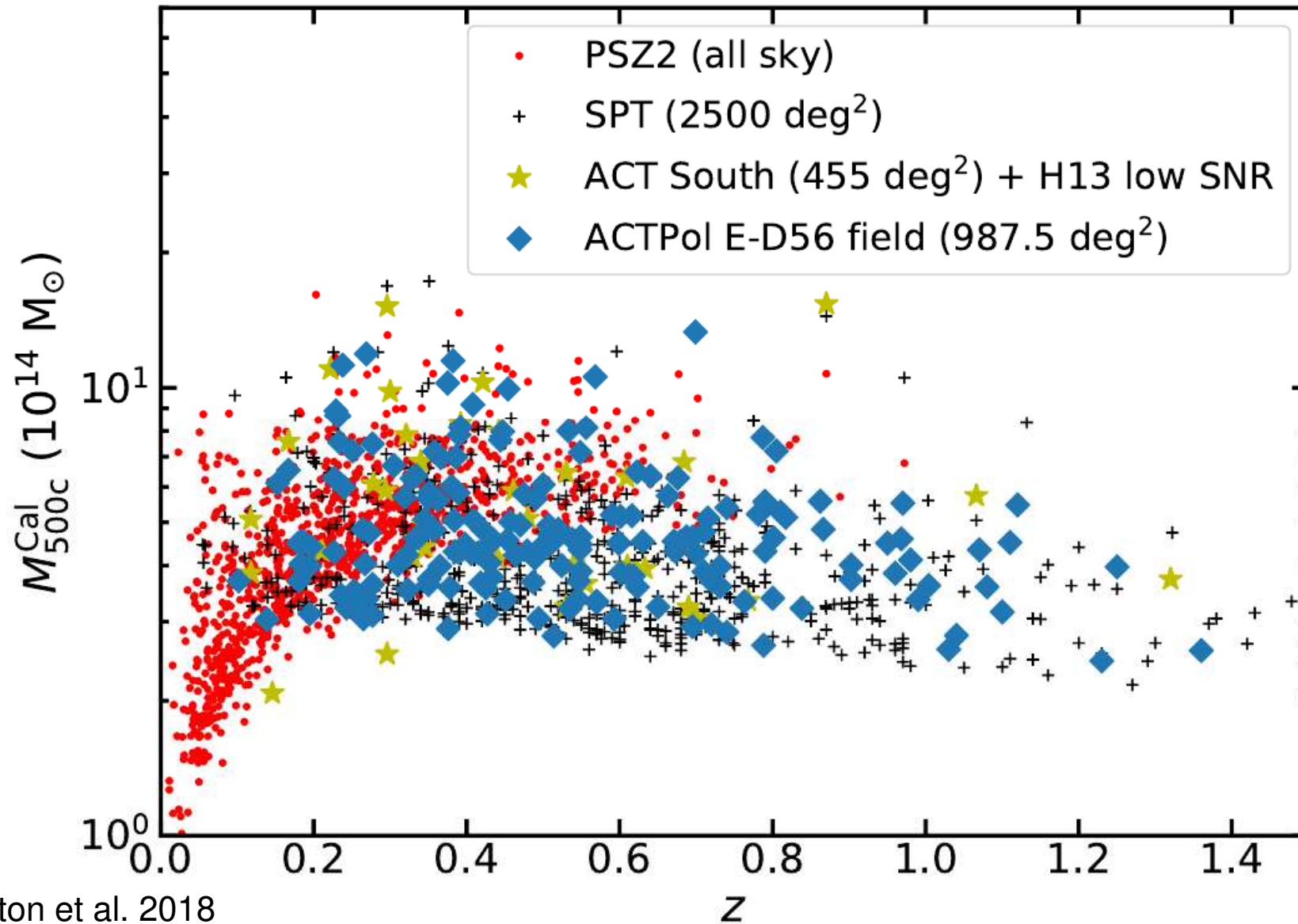
- Primordial B-modes: gravity acting on quantum scales.
- Independent assessment of cosmological parameters
- $H_0$
- Neutrino number and mass.
- Isocurvature modes from EE; the lowest hanging fruit?
- Testing GR/equation of state through the growth of structure.
- Calibrating LSST lensing and other surveys.
- Mass bias for quasars, radio sources, through lensing...
- Halo masses through stacking and lensing.
- Cosmic ionization history.
- Find thousands of galaxy clusters.
- Find high redshift dusty galaxies.
- .....
- **Something new!**

# The Atacama Cosmology Telescope Collaboration



**Suzanne Staggs is ACT's PI & Mark Devlin is ACT's co-director**

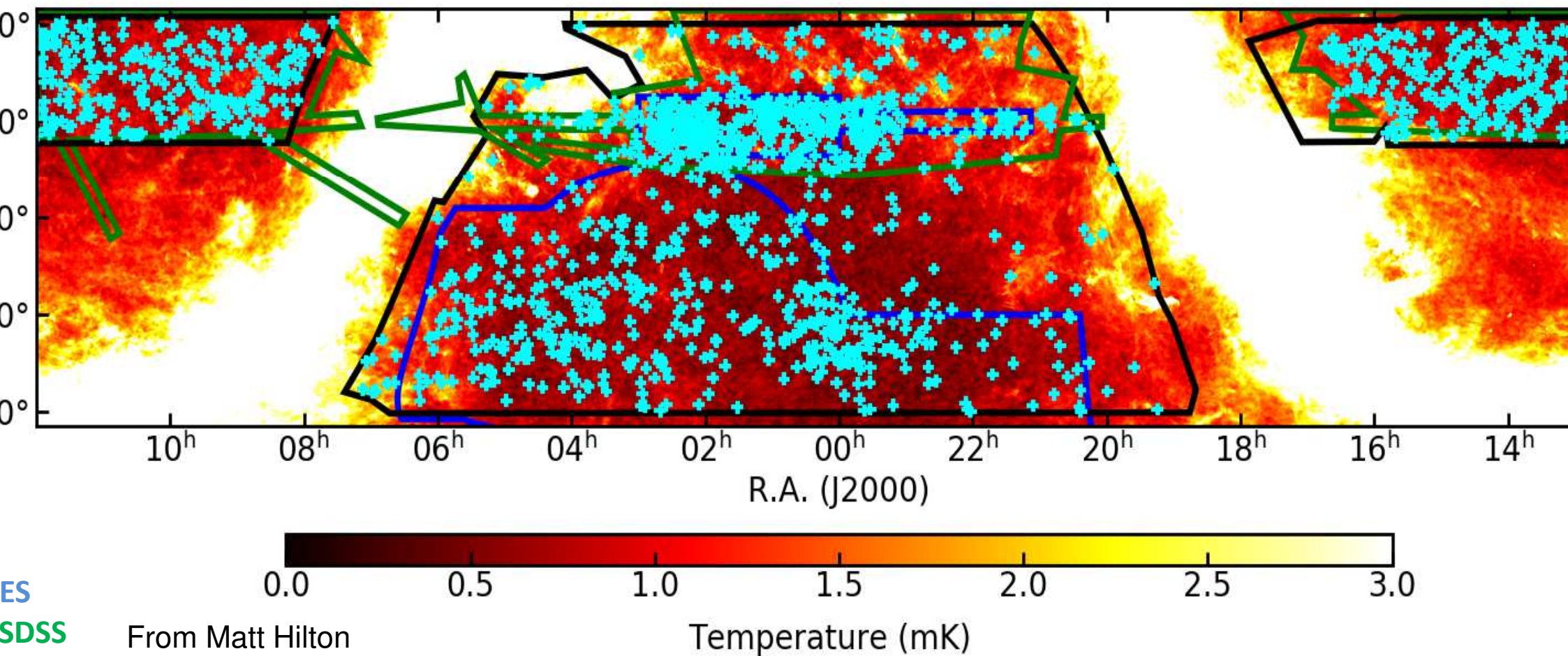
# Published ACT cluster sample



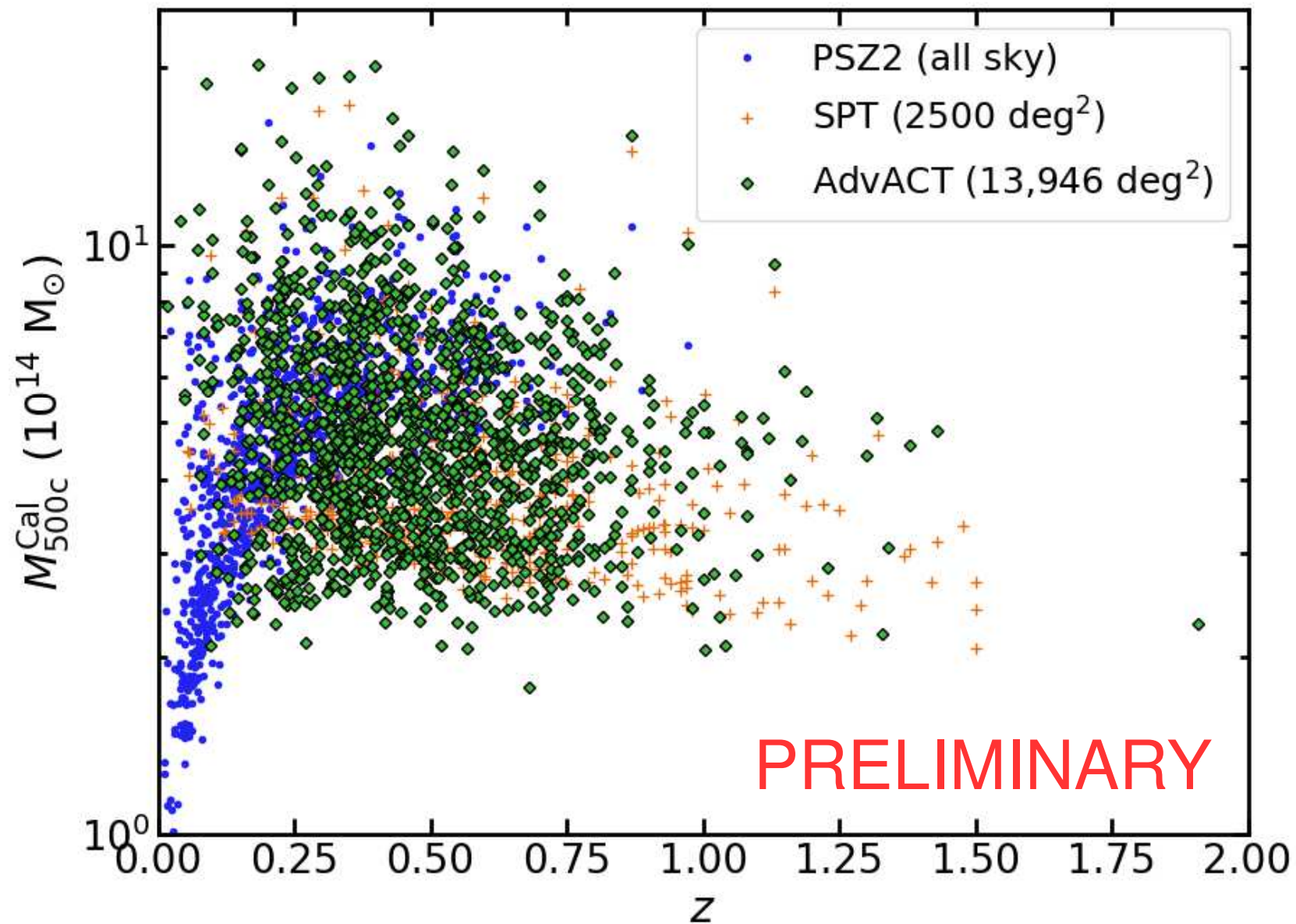
Hilton et al. 2018  
(arXiv:1709.05600)

# 1 season of Advanced ACT, 90 +105 GHz

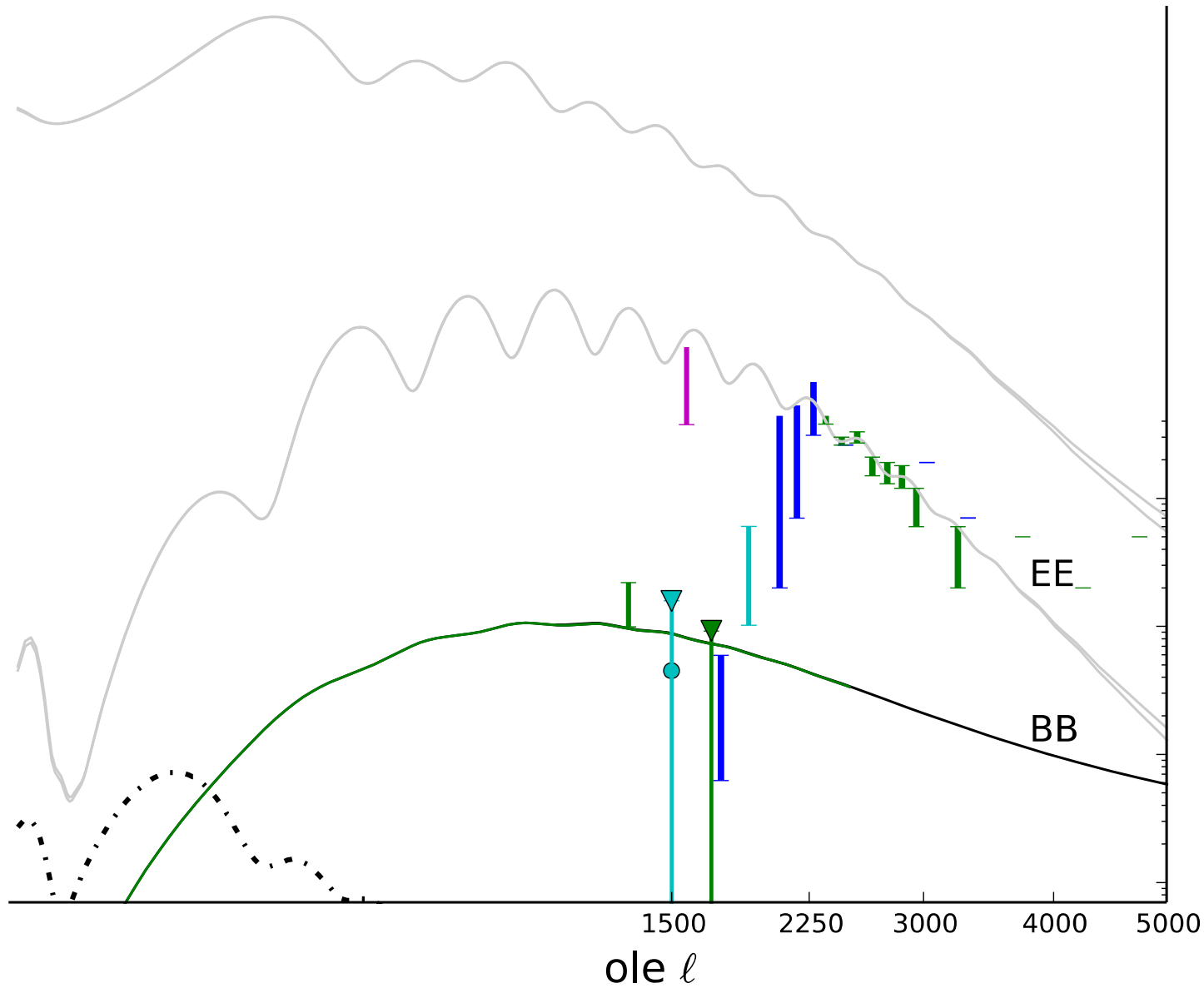
## >1000 clusters



# Preliminary Advanced ACT cluster sample



# Recent Results



th data in  
nd for ACT  
( smaller  
statistical  
error bars