

In the beginning of the Dark Ages, electrically neutral hydrogen gas filled the universe. As stars formed, they ionized the regions immediately around them, creating bubbles here and there. Eventually these bubbles merged together, and intergalactic gas became entirely ionized.

Latest developments in EoR Science and the Requirements for SKA Phase 1

Jonathan Pritchard

Imperial College
London

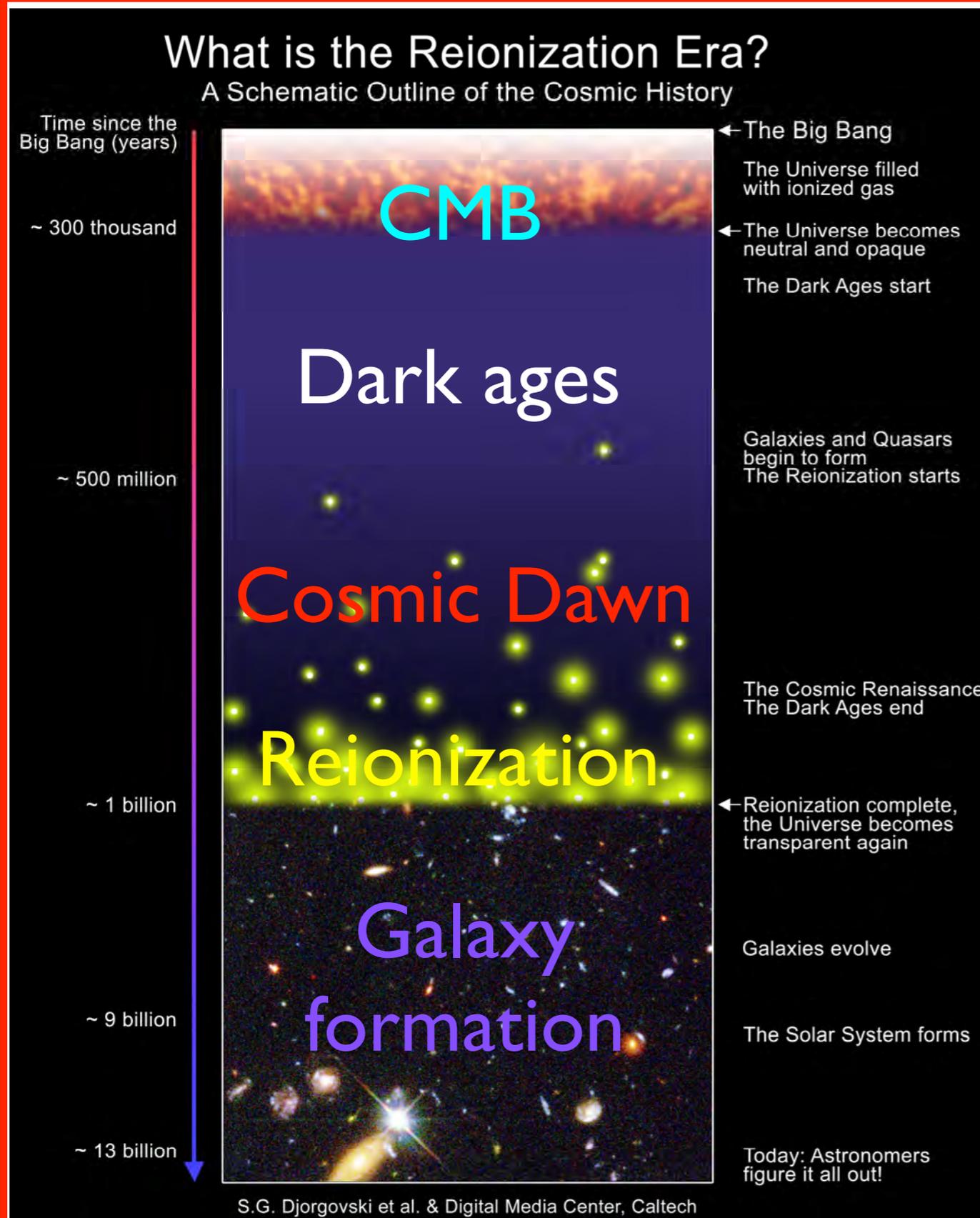


21 cm tomography

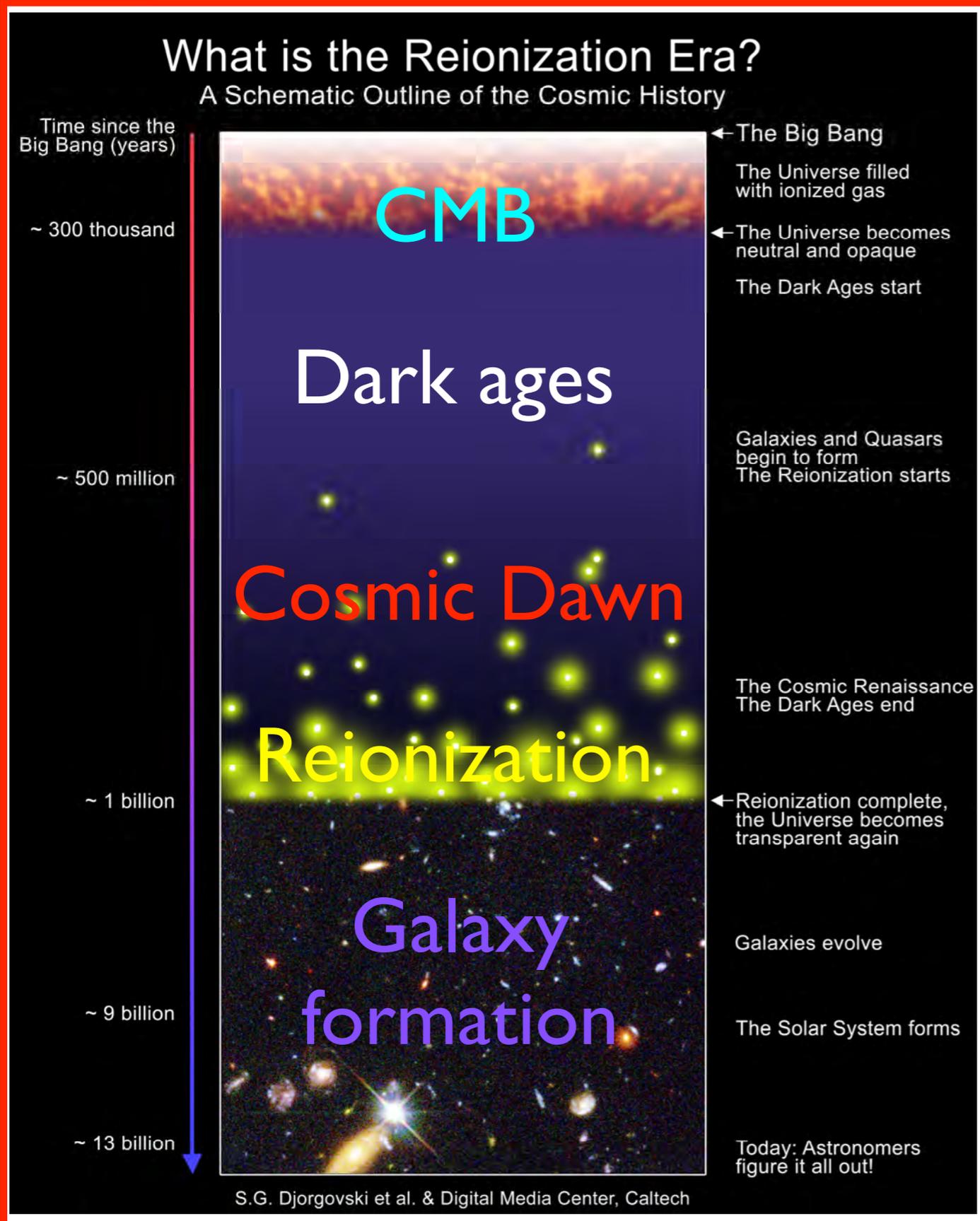
DRM Ch 2: Probing the Neutral Intergalactic Medium During the Epoch of Reionization

21 cm forest

DRM Ch 4: Probing the Epoch of Reionization Using the 21-cm forest



Reionization marks the limits of current observations



Reionization marks the limits of current observations

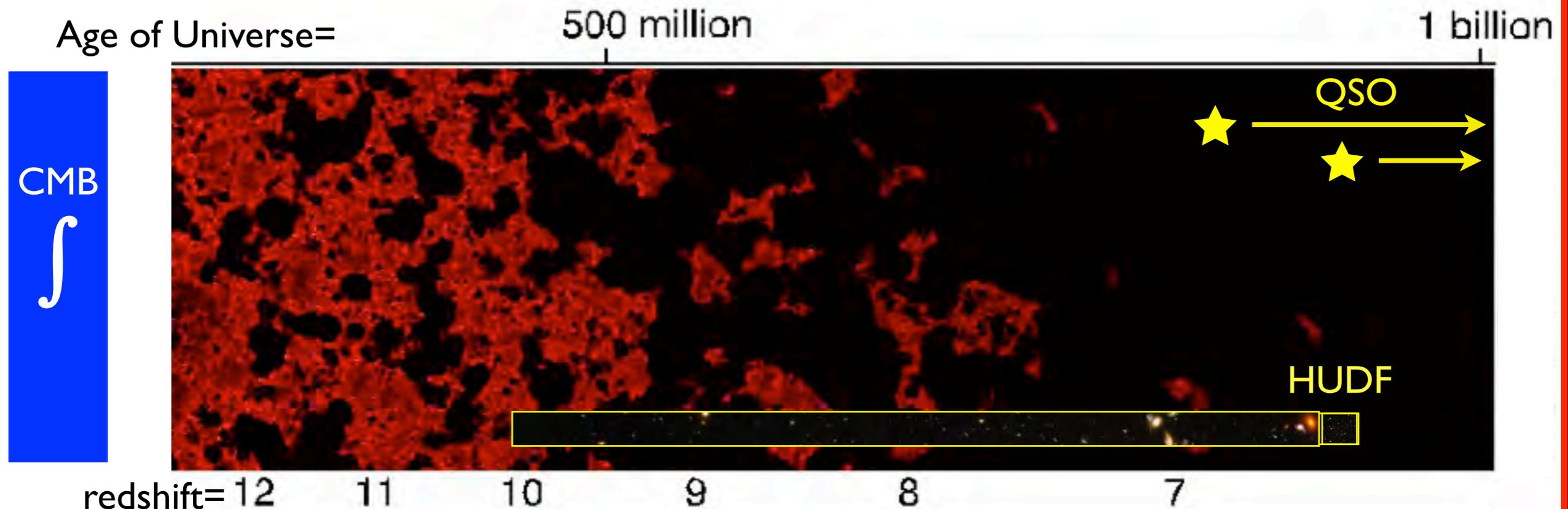
When did the first galaxies form?

When did the first black holes form?

How and when did reionization proceed?

How do galaxies form and evolve?

More data needed...



Existing observations leaves much unanswered:

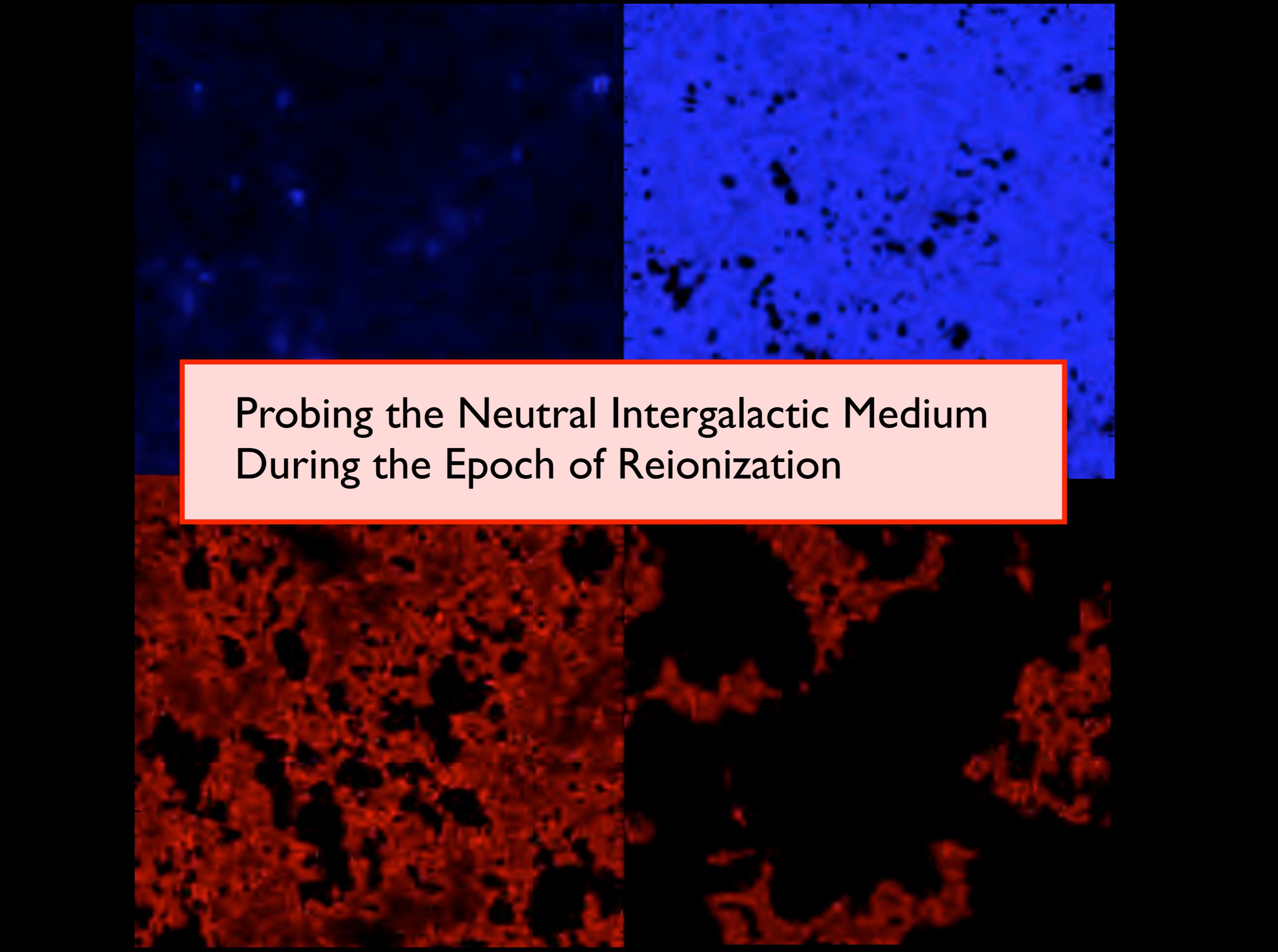
- CMB integral constraint only
- HST probes only brightest galaxies
- QSO spectra only probe small neutral fractions

Progress can be made by more consistently combining observations to constrain models

[Pritchard, Wyithe, Loeb 2010](#); [Mitra, Choudhury, Ferrara 2011](#)

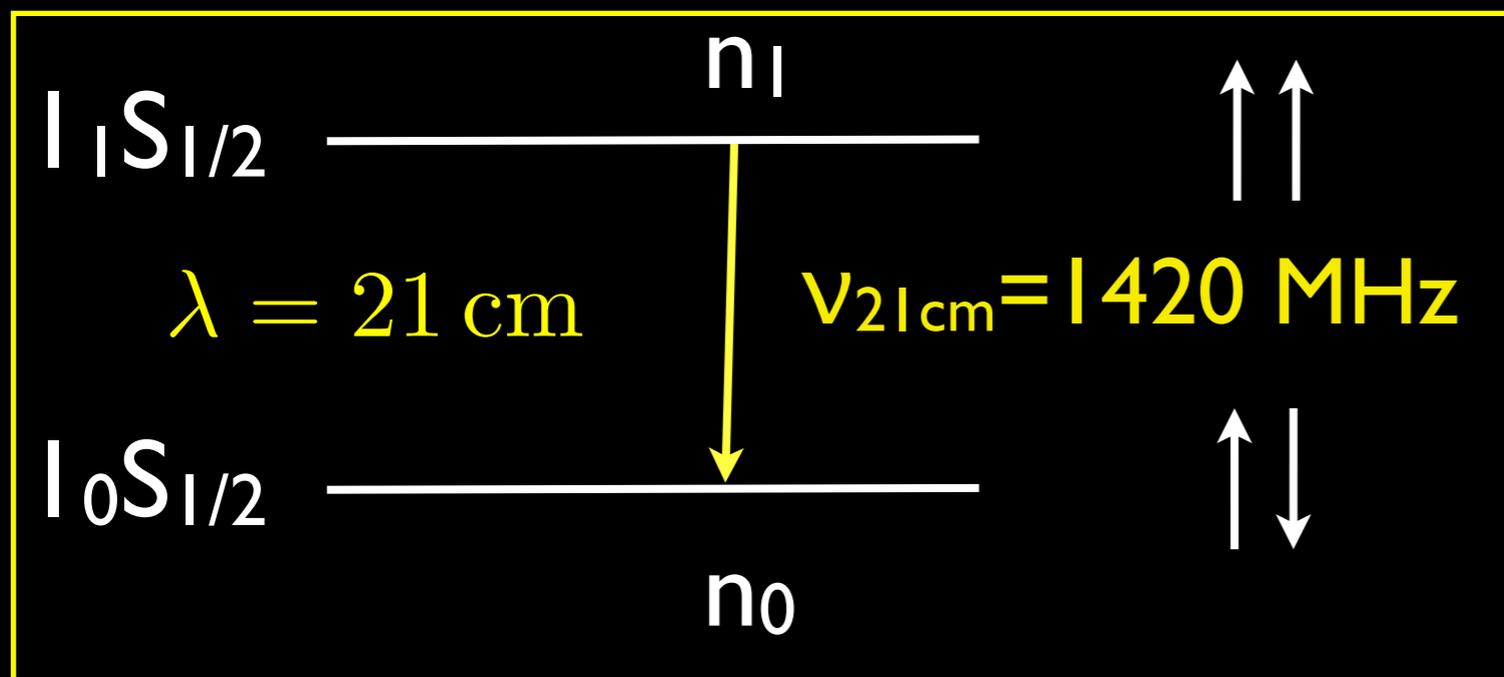
Fundamental need for new types of observation to understand details of reionization

New observations needed to probe $z > 12$ Universe



Probing the Neutral Intergalactic Medium
During the Epoch of Reionization

Hyperfine transition of neutral hydrogen



Useful numbers:

$200 \text{ MHz} \rightarrow z = 6$
 $100 \text{ MHz} \rightarrow z = 13$
 $70 \text{ MHz} \rightarrow z \approx 20$

$t_{\text{Age}}(z = 6) \approx 1 \text{ Gyr}$

$t_{\text{Age}}(z = 10) \approx 500 \text{ Myr}$

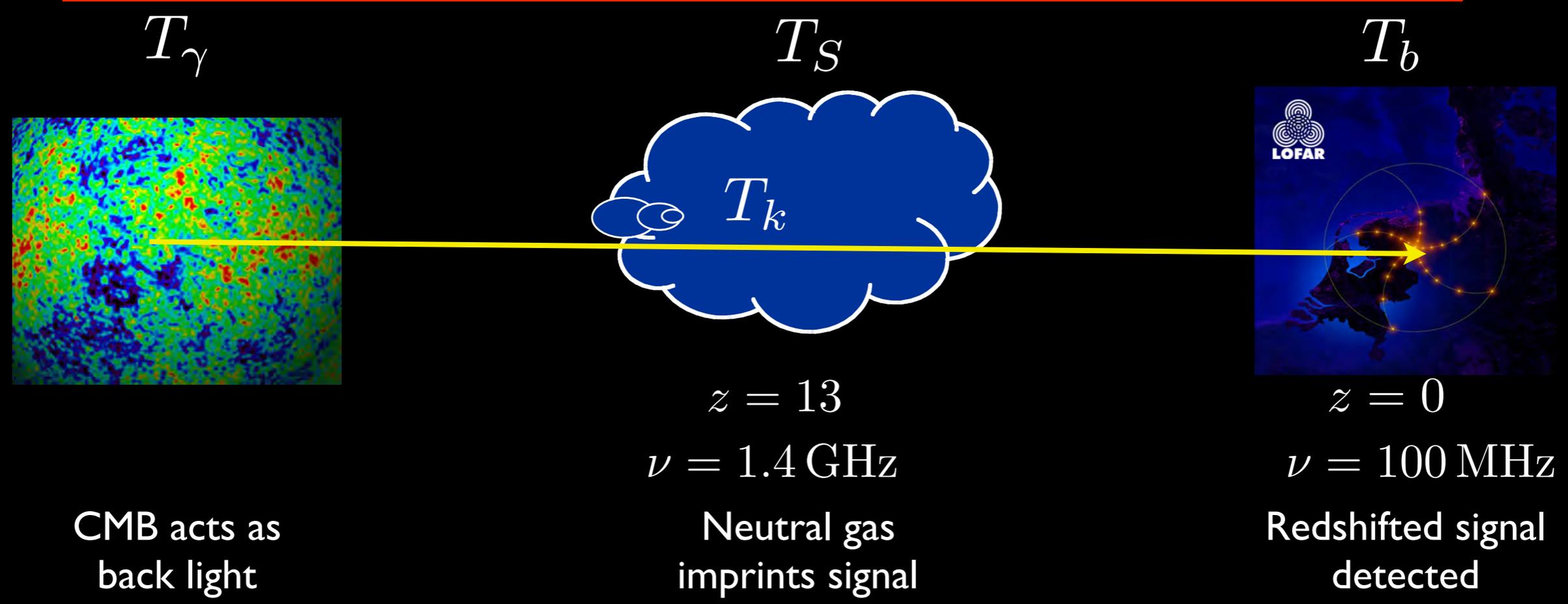
$t_{\text{Age}}(z = 20) \approx 150 \text{ Myr}$

$t_{\text{Gal}}(z = 8) \approx 100 \text{ Myr}$

Spin temperature describes relative occupation of levels

$$n_1/n_0 = 3 \exp(-h\nu_{21\text{cm}}/kT_s)$$

21 cm line in cosmology



brightness temperature

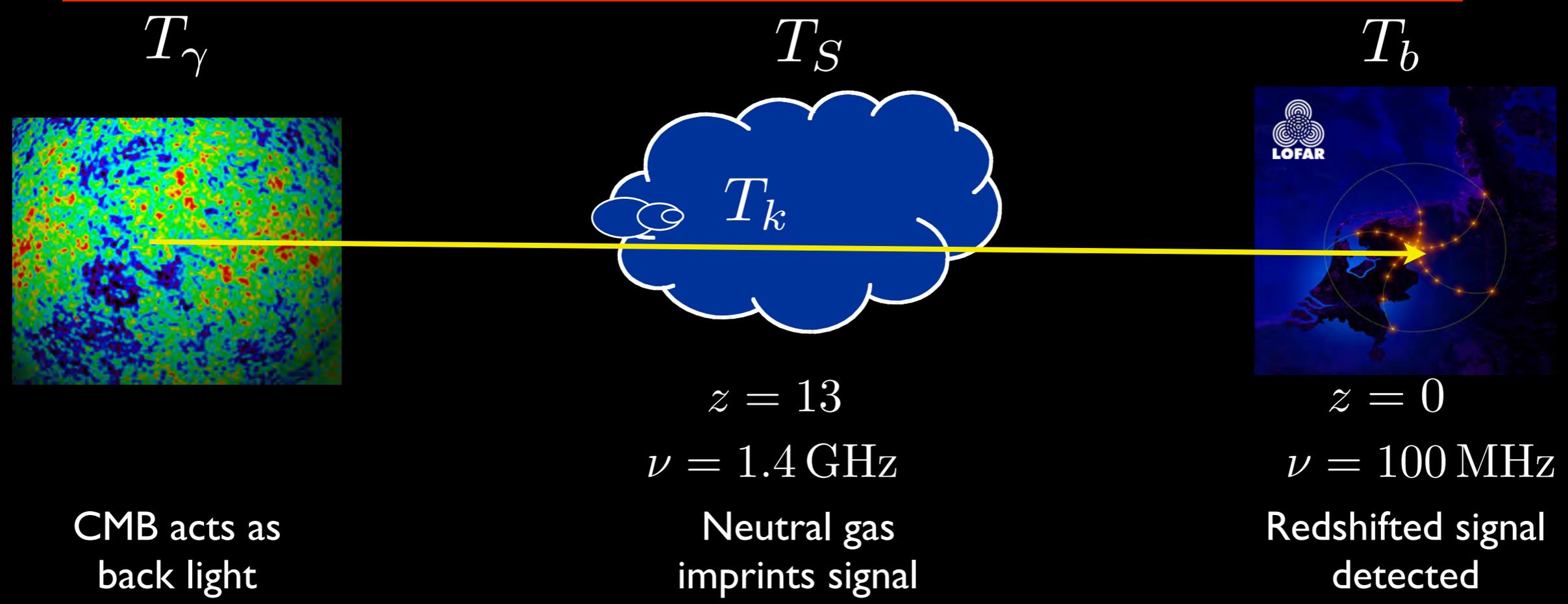
$$T_b = 27 x_{\text{HI}} (1 + \delta_b) \left(\frac{T_S - T_\gamma}{T_S} \right) \left(\frac{1+z}{10} \right)^{1/2} \left[\frac{\partial_r v_r}{(1+z)H(z)} \right]^{-1} \text{ mK}$$

Radiative transitions (CMB)

spin temperature set by different mechanisms: Collisions

Wouthysen-Field effect (resonant scattering of Ly α)

21 cm line in cosmology



neutral fraction

brightness temperature

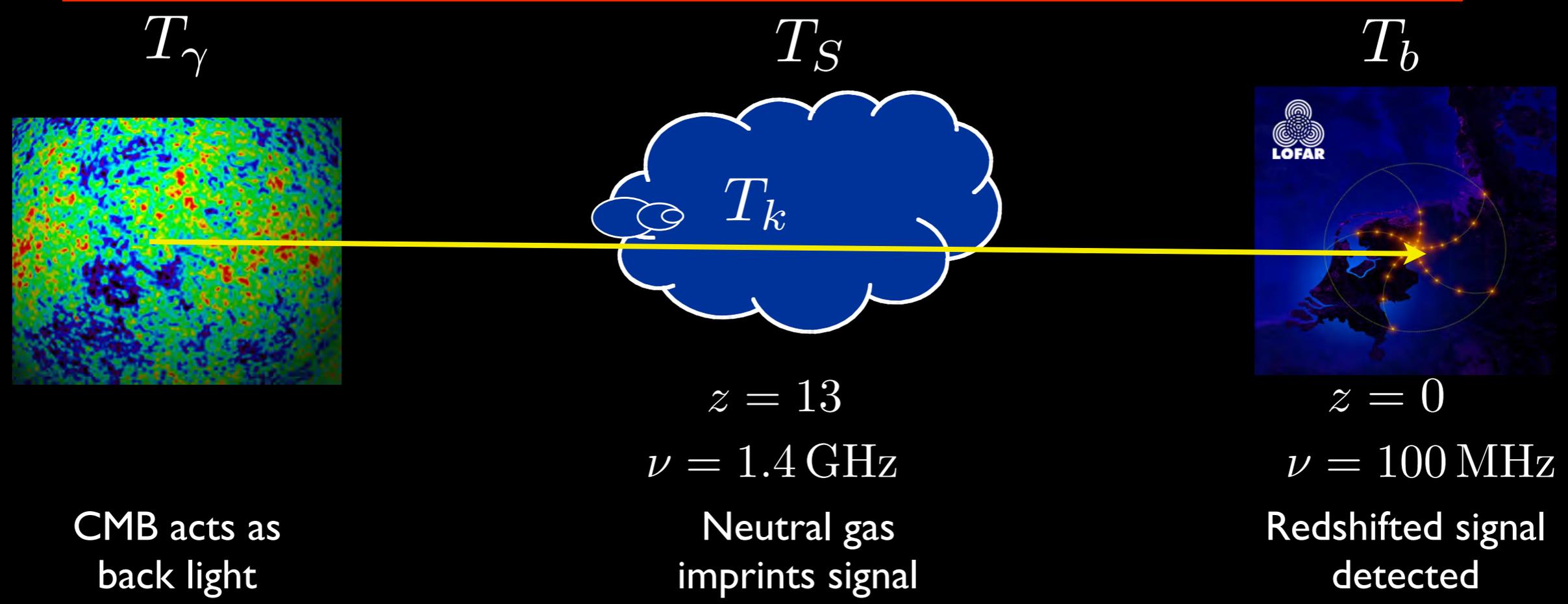
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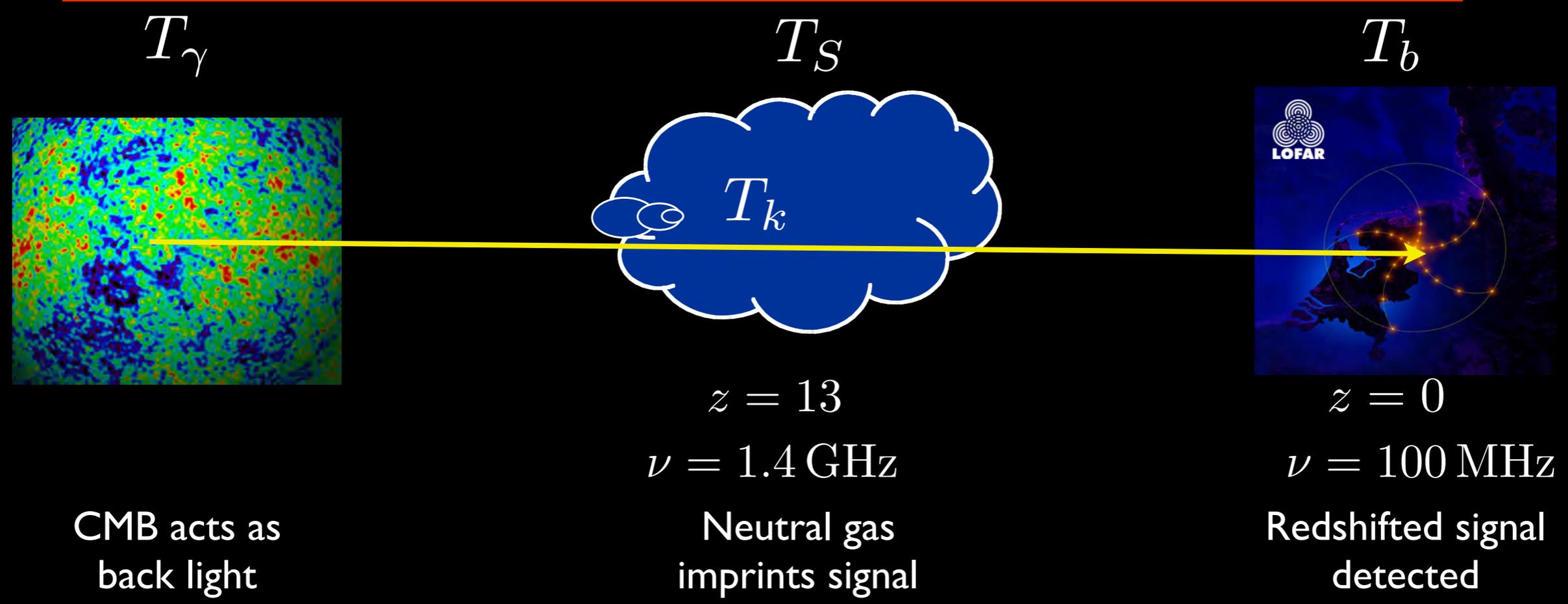
neutral fraction ↓ baryon density ↓

Radiative transitions (CMB)

spin temperature set by different mechanisms: Collisions

Wouthysen-Field effect (resonant scattering of Ly α)

21 cm line in cosmology

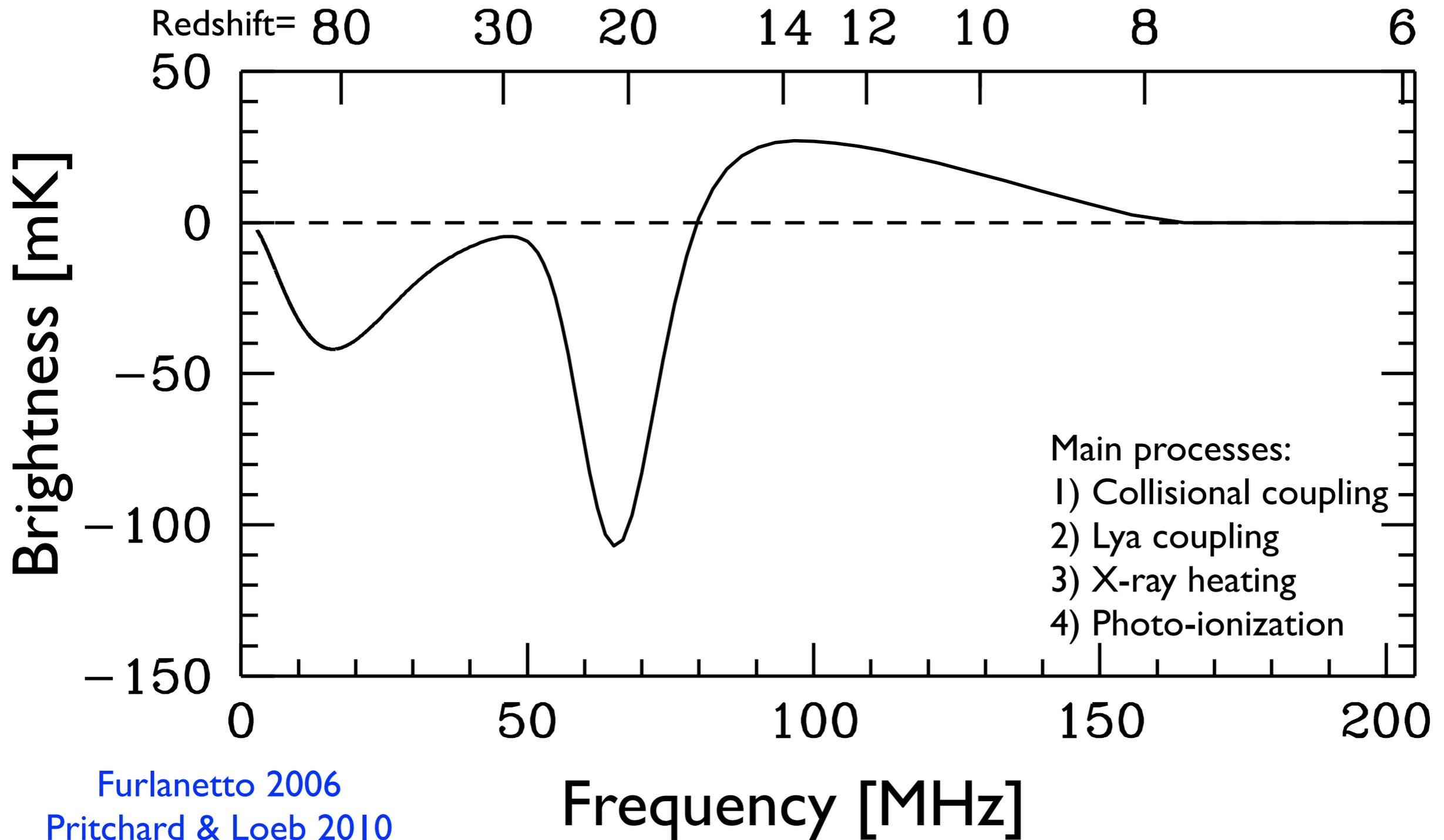


brightness temperature $T_b = 27 x_{\text{HI}} (1 + \delta_b) \left(\frac{T_S - T_\gamma}{T_S} \right) \left(\frac{1+z}{10} \right)^{1/2} \left[\frac{\partial_r v_r}{(1+z)H(z)} \right]^{-1} \text{ mK}$

neutral fraction (yellow arrow) baryon density (purple arrow) spin temperature (red arrow)

spin temperature set by different mechanisms: Radiative transitions (CMB)
 Collisions
 Wouthysen-Field effect (resonant scattering of Ly α)

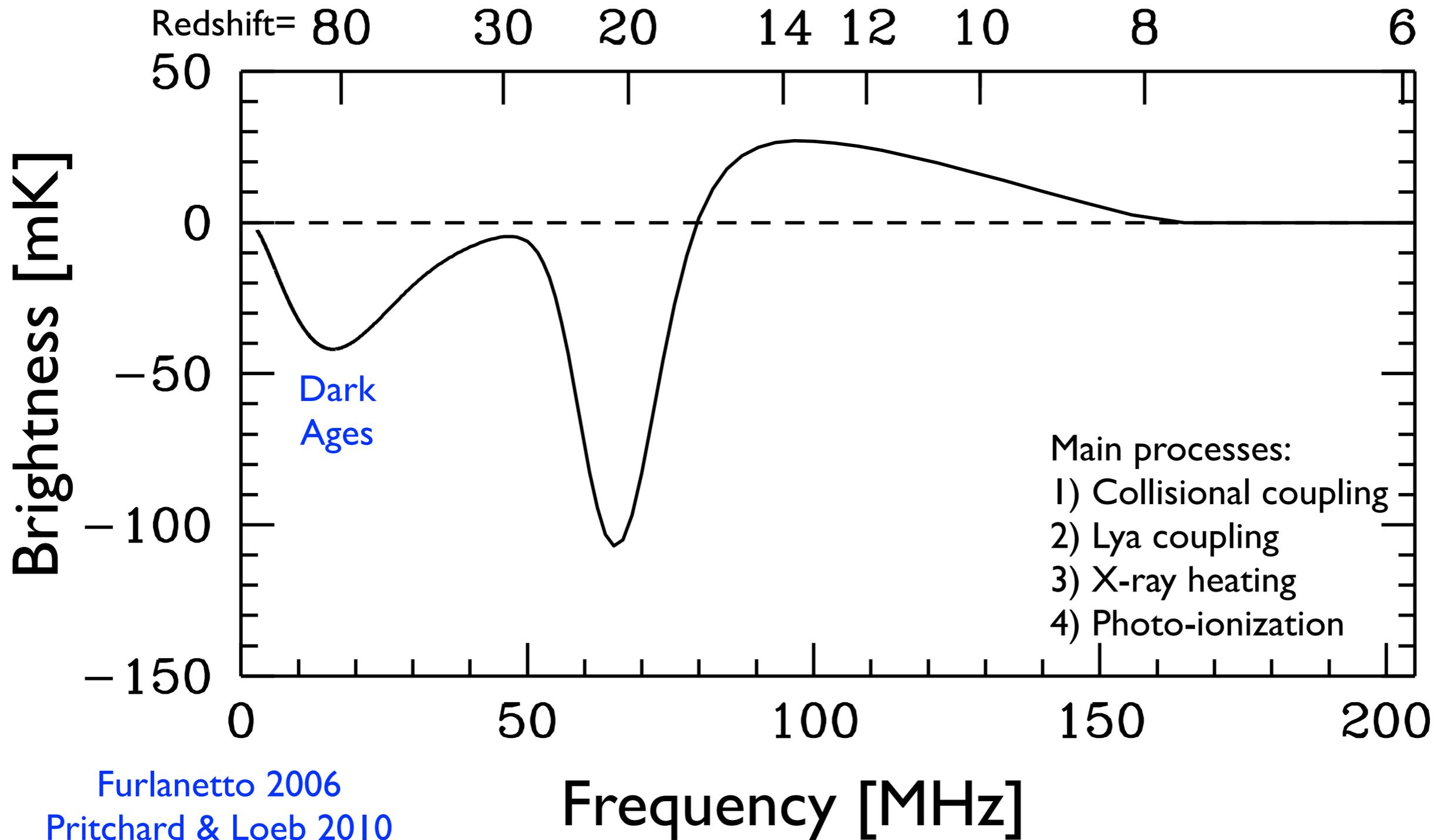
21 cm global signal



Furlanetto 2006

Pritchard & Loeb 2010

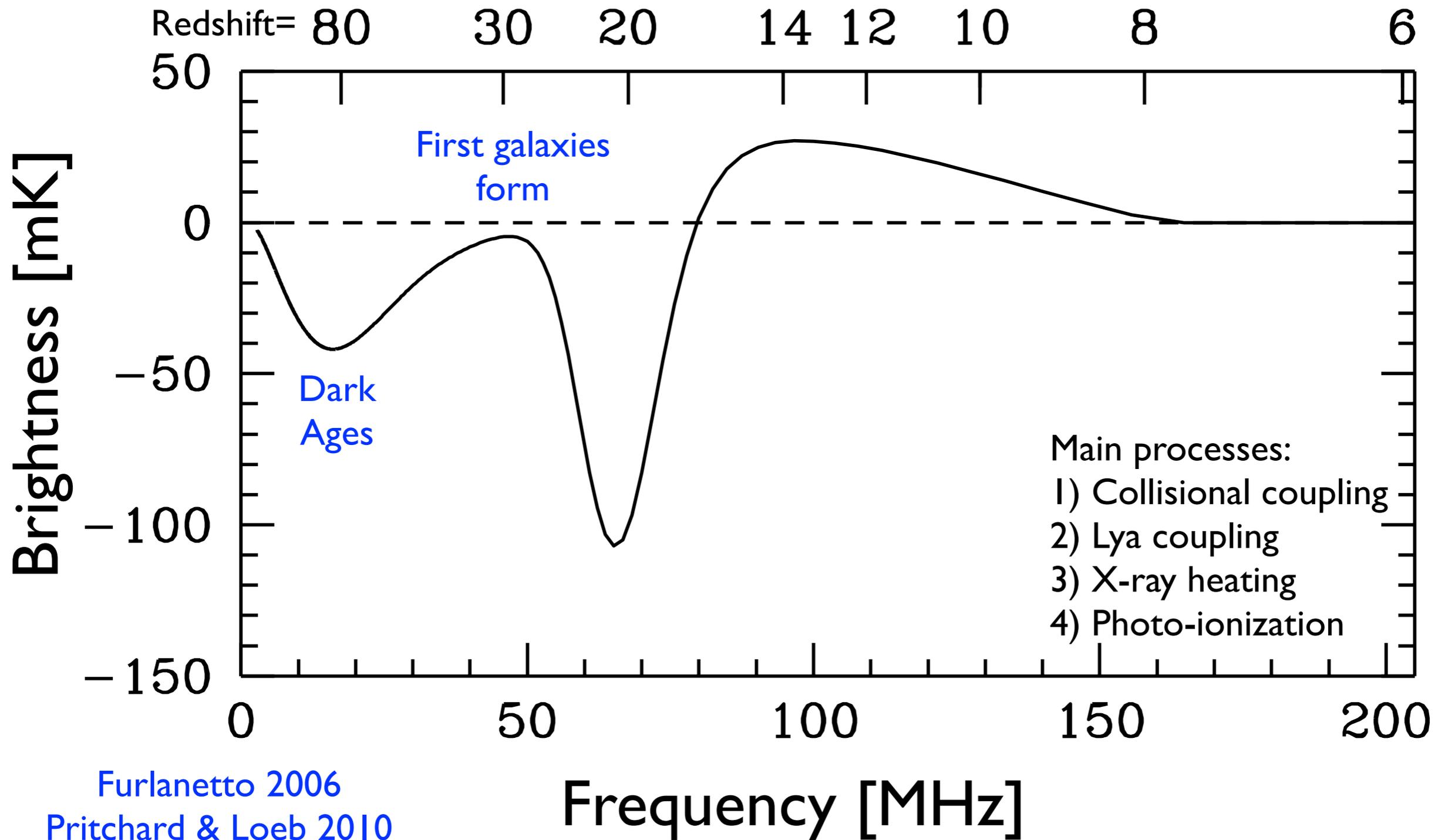
21 cm global signal



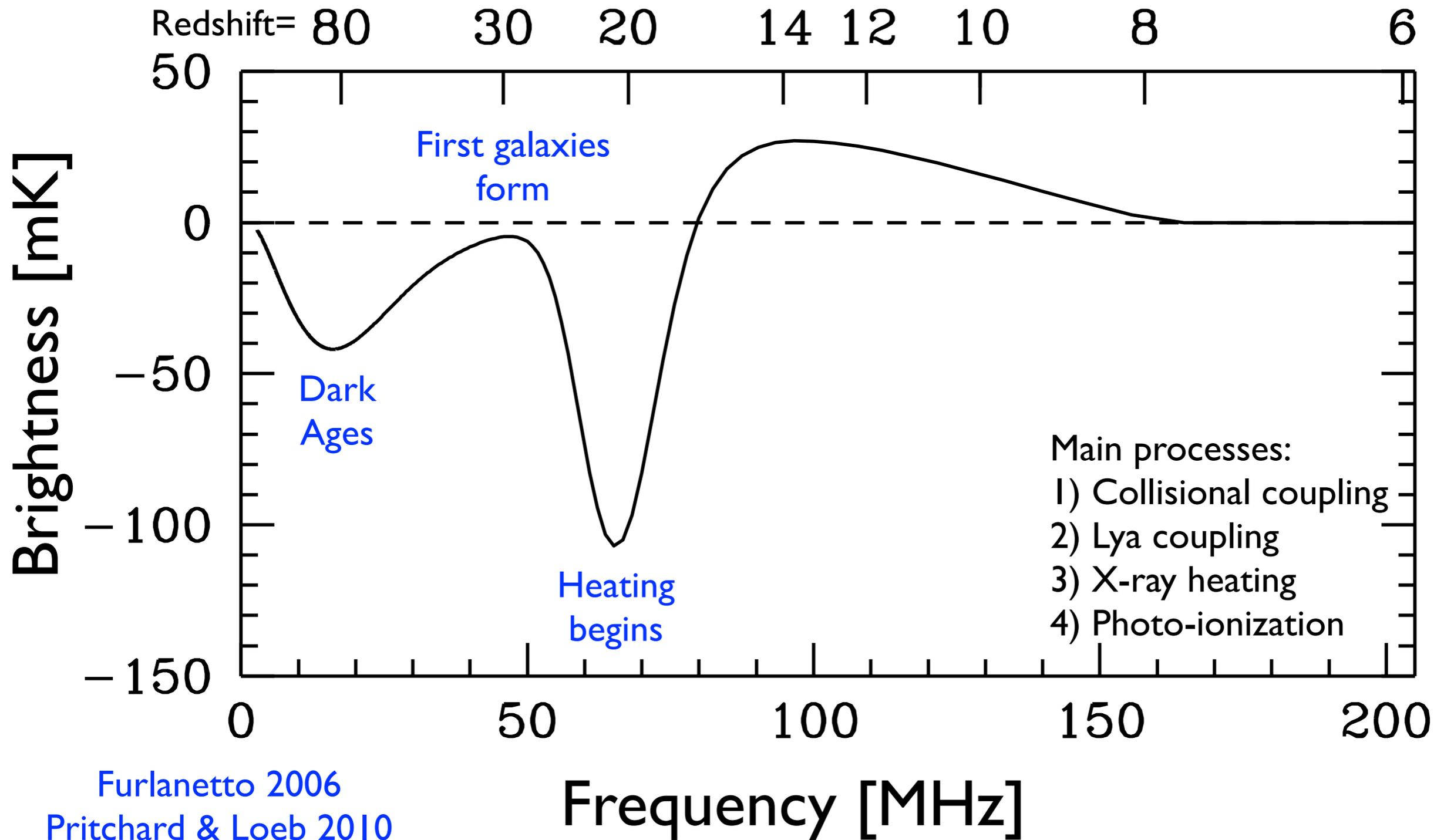
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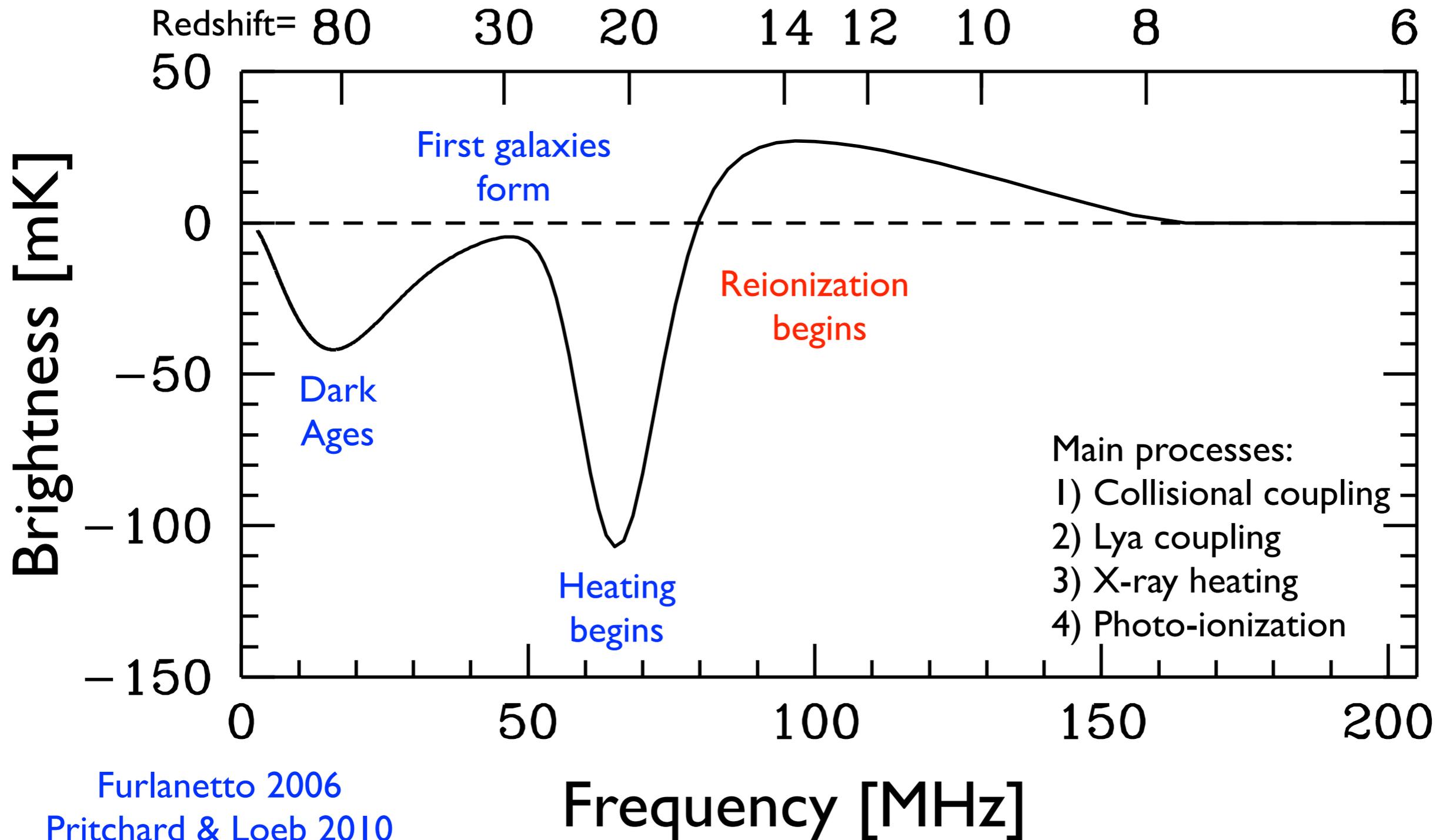
21 cm global signal



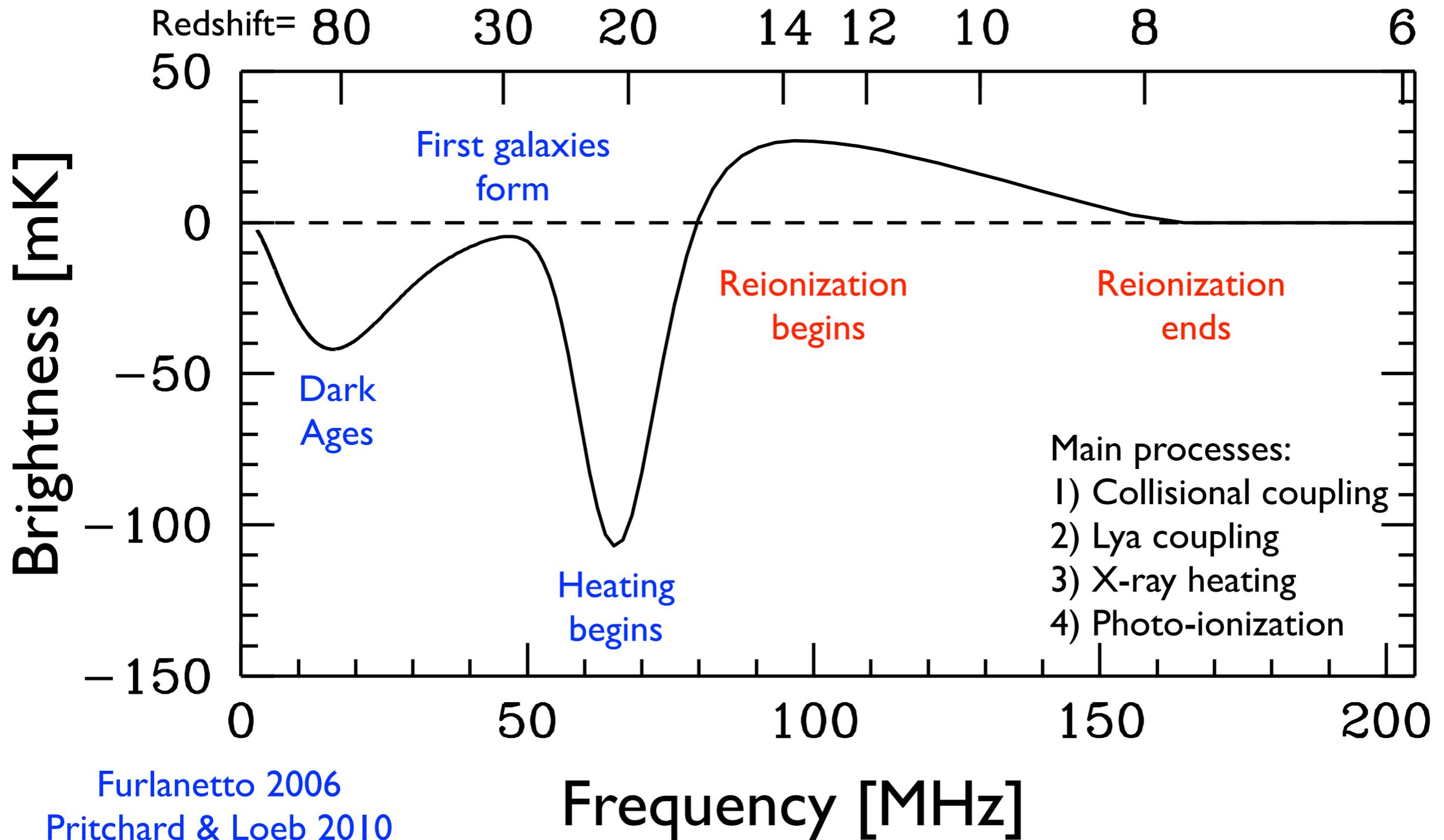
21 cm global signal



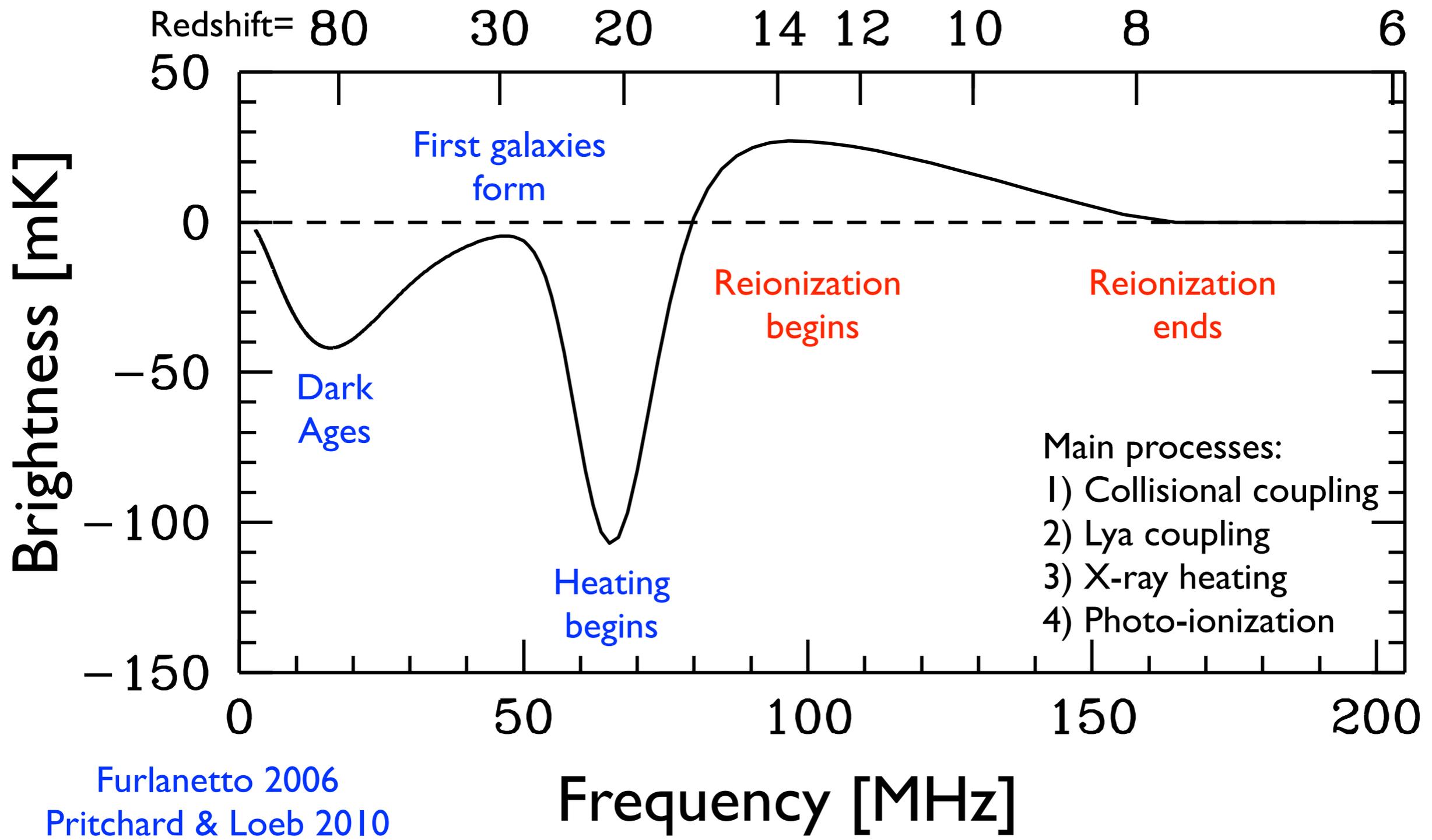
21 cm global signal



21 cm global signal



21 cm global signal



Furlanetto 2006
Pritchard & Loeb 2010

measurement would constrain **basic features of first galaxies**

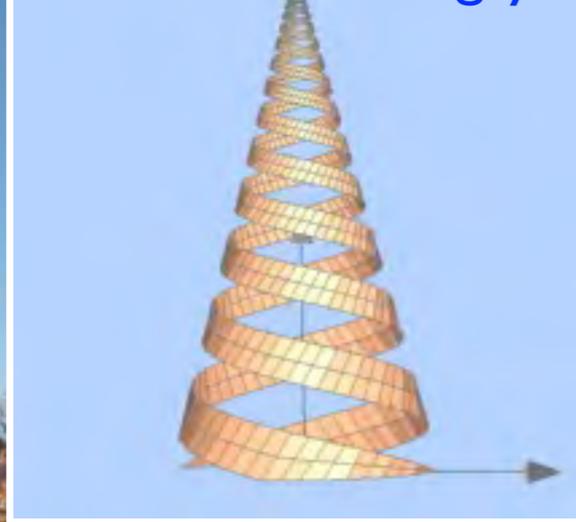
Absolute temperature measurements

EDGES



Bowman & Rogers 2010

BIGHORNS - Tingay+

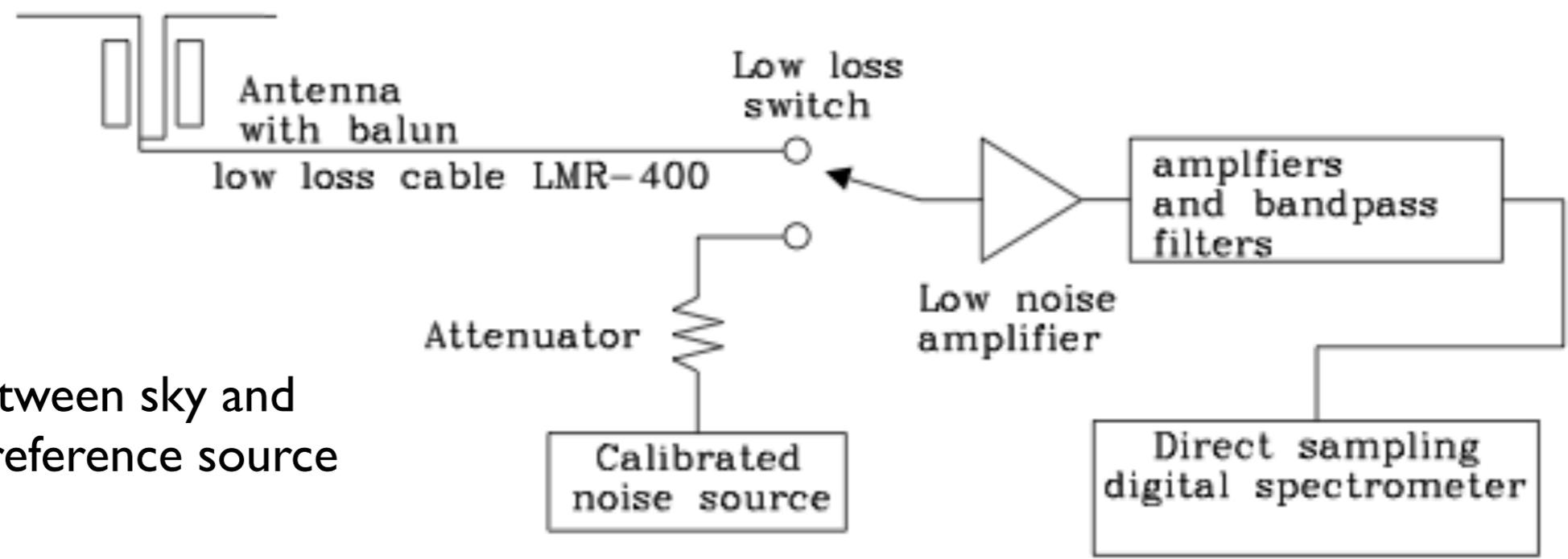


ZEBRA - Subrahmanyan+



Burns+

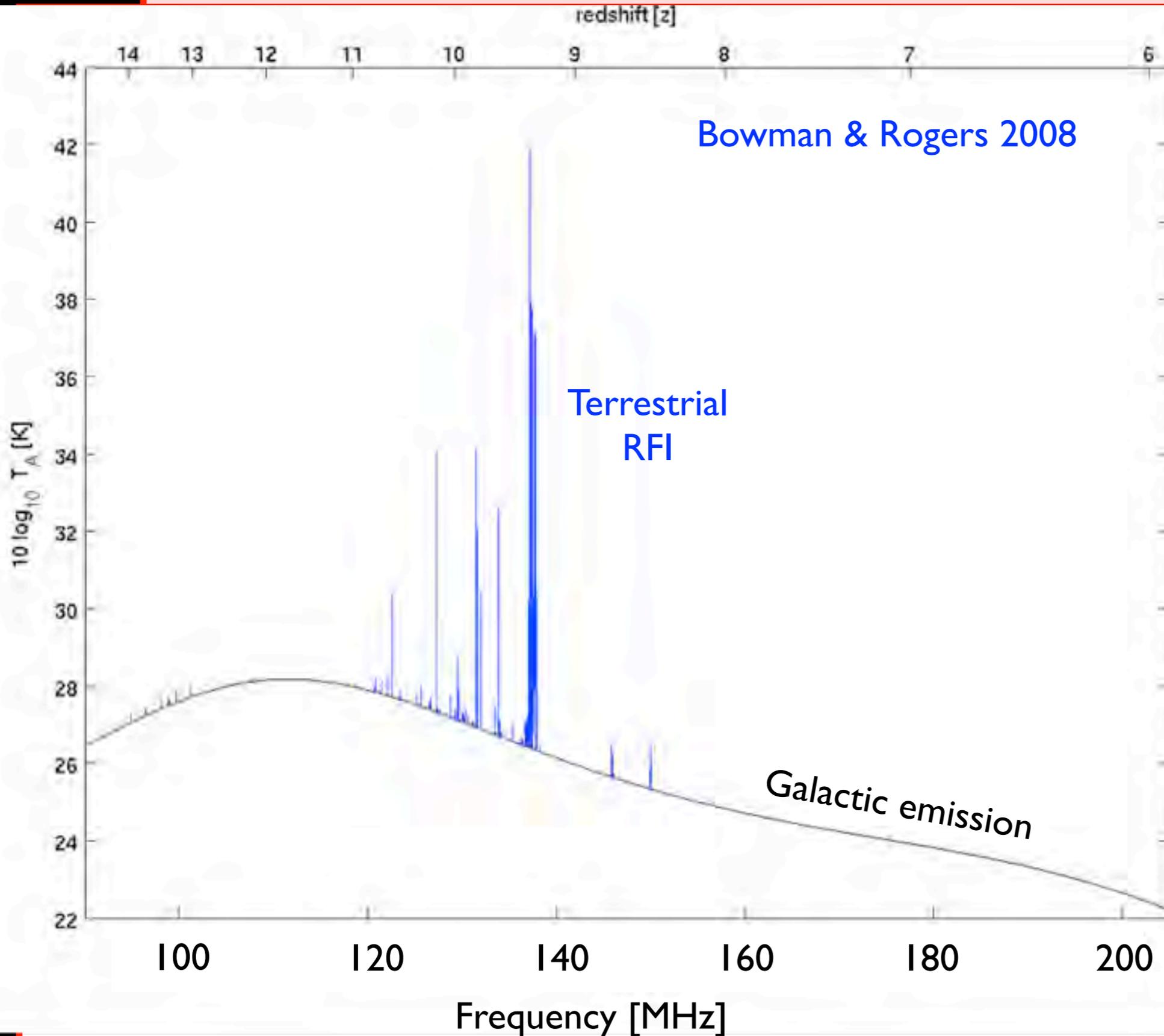
also CoRE - Ekers+



Switch between sky and calibrated reference source

Large (smooth) foregrounds must be removed \Leftrightarrow instrumental calibration is crucial

EDGES observations



~50 hours
integration

100-200 MHz
in 2 MHz channels

Absence of sharp features
excludes reionization
scenarios with duration
 $\Delta z < 0.06$

Brightness Fluctuations

brightness temperature

density

neutral fraction

gas temperature

Lyman alpha flux

peculiar velocities

$$\delta T_b = \beta \delta_b + \beta_x \delta x_{HI} + \beta_T \delta T_k + \beta_\alpha \delta \alpha - \delta \partial v$$

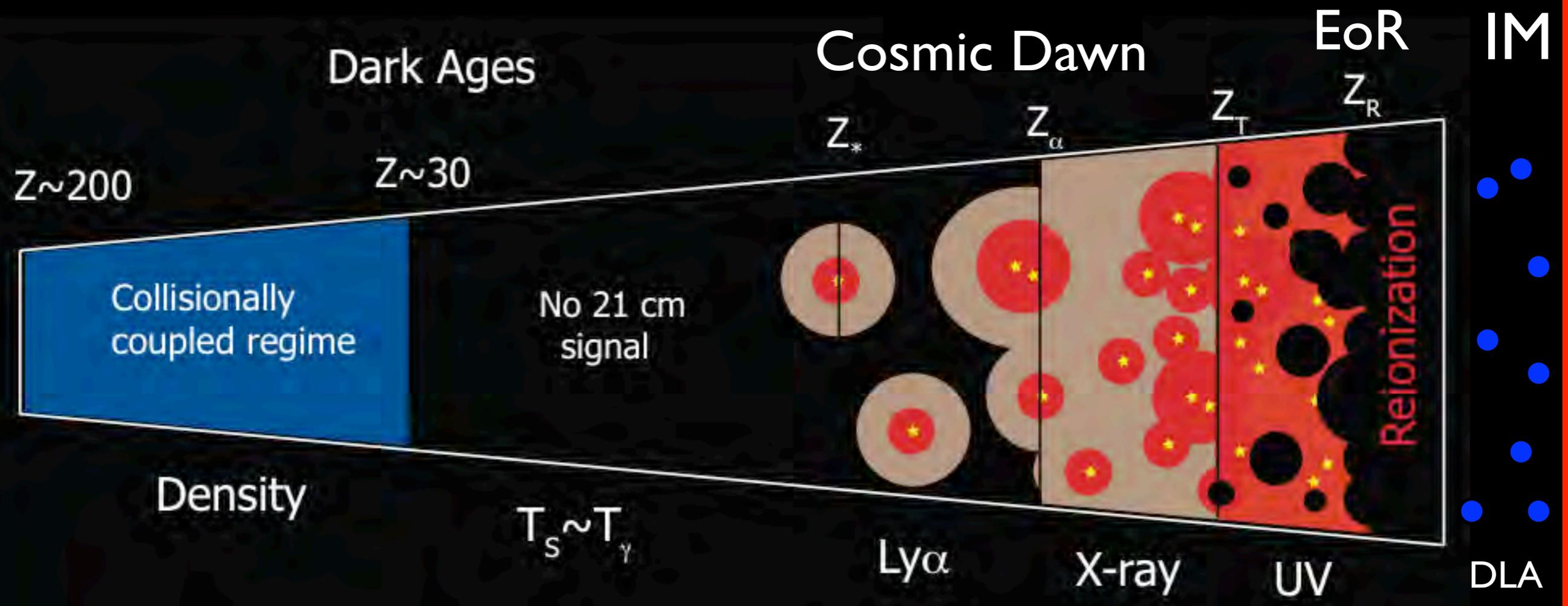
cosmology

reionization

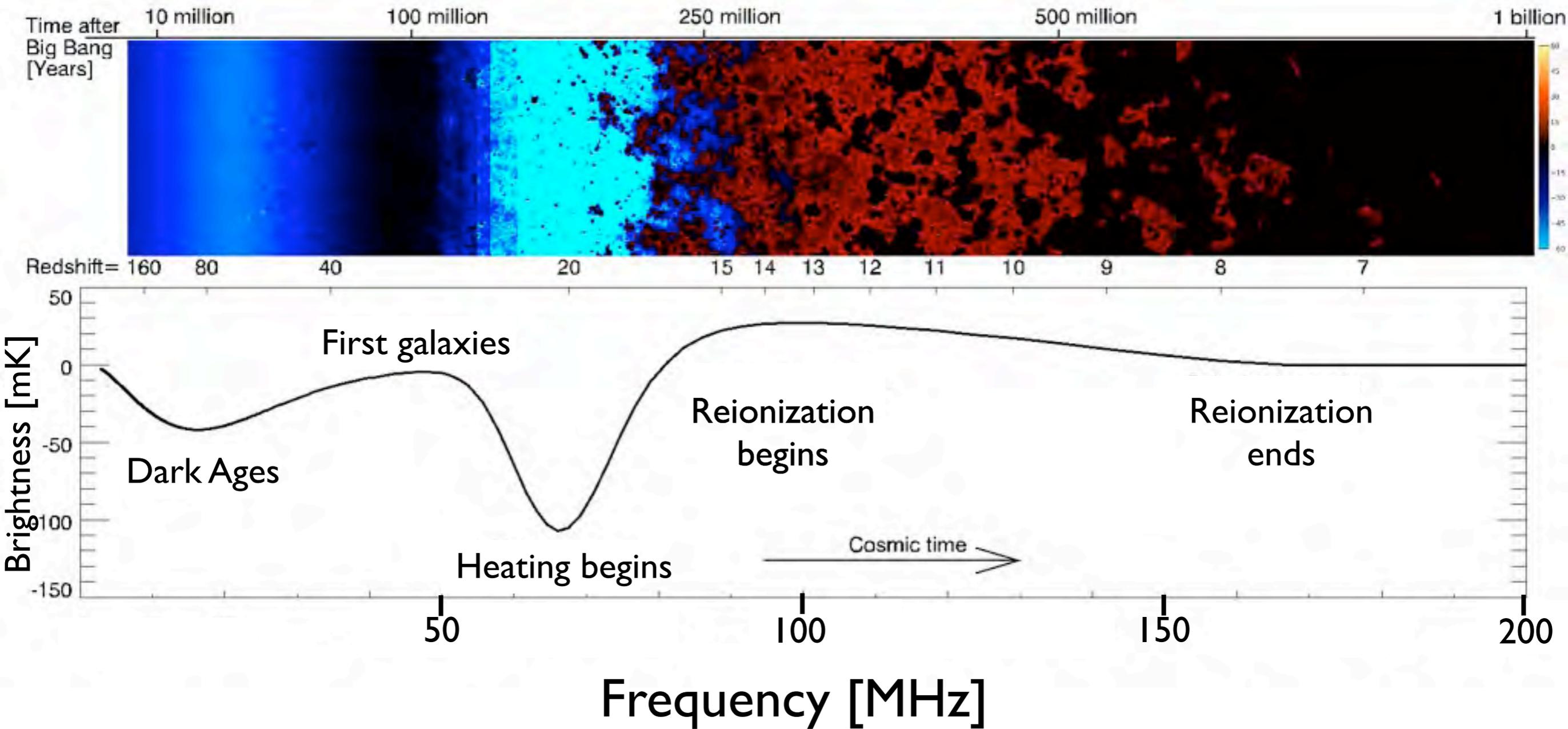
X-ray heating

Lya sources

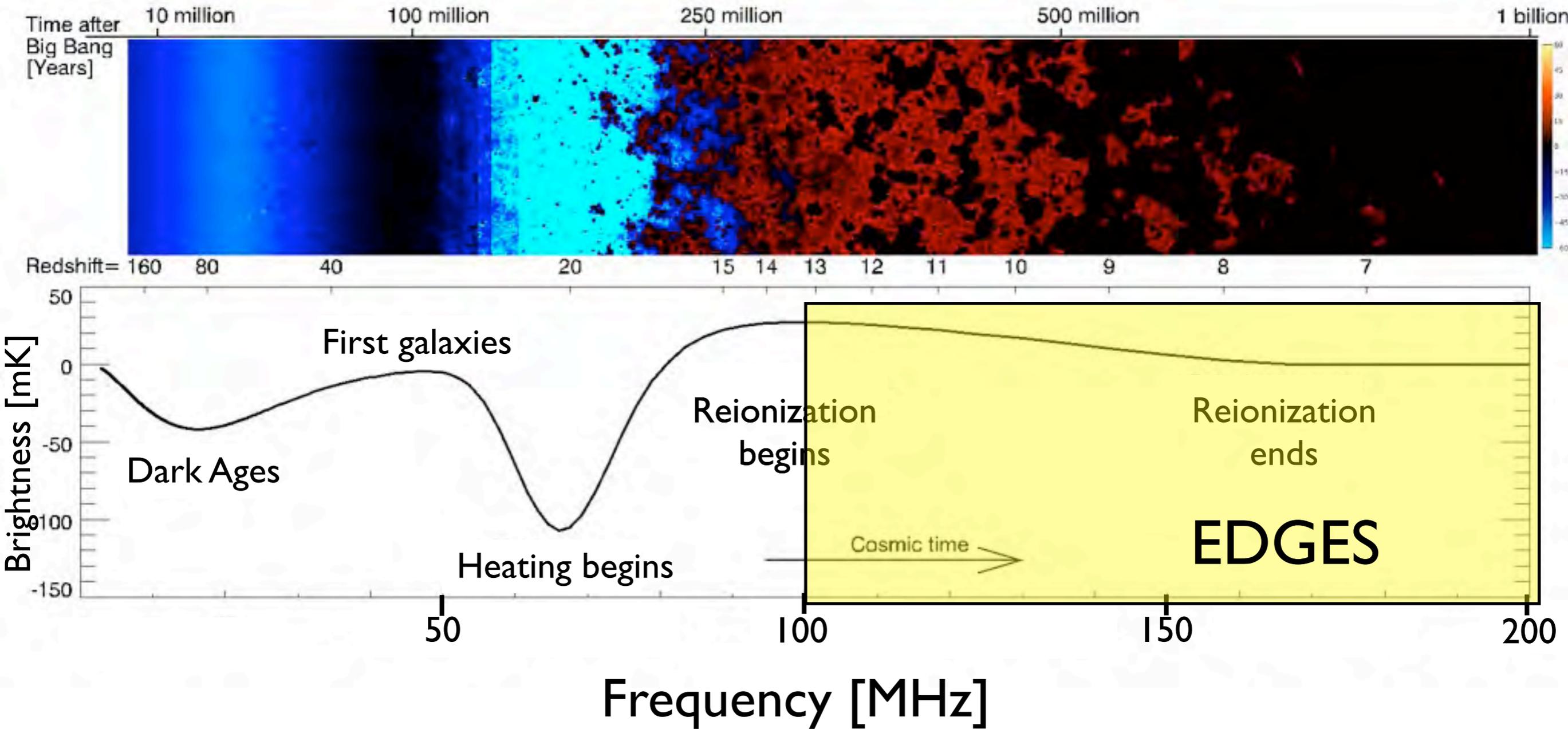
cosmology



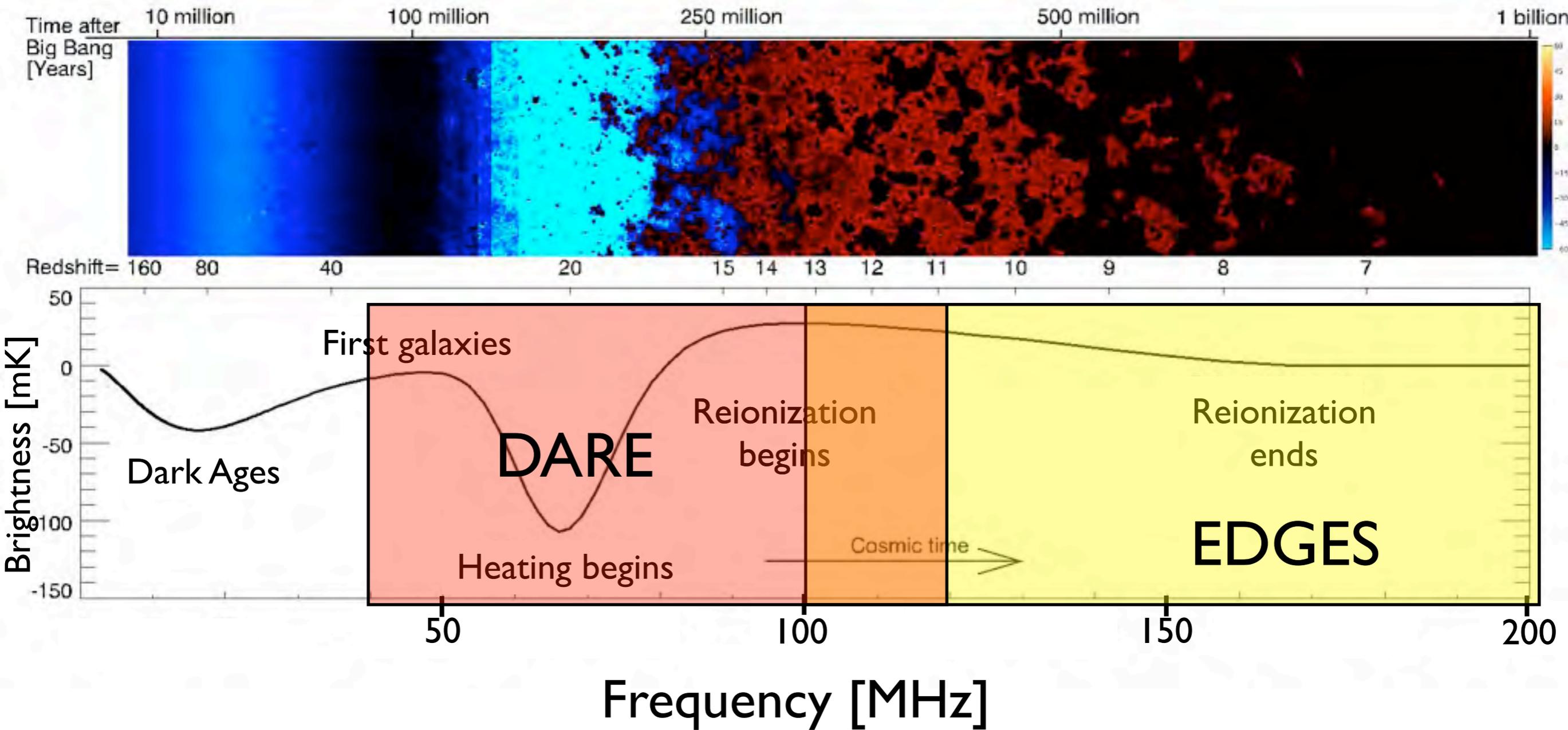
Pritchard & Loeb 2010



Pritchard & Loeb 2010

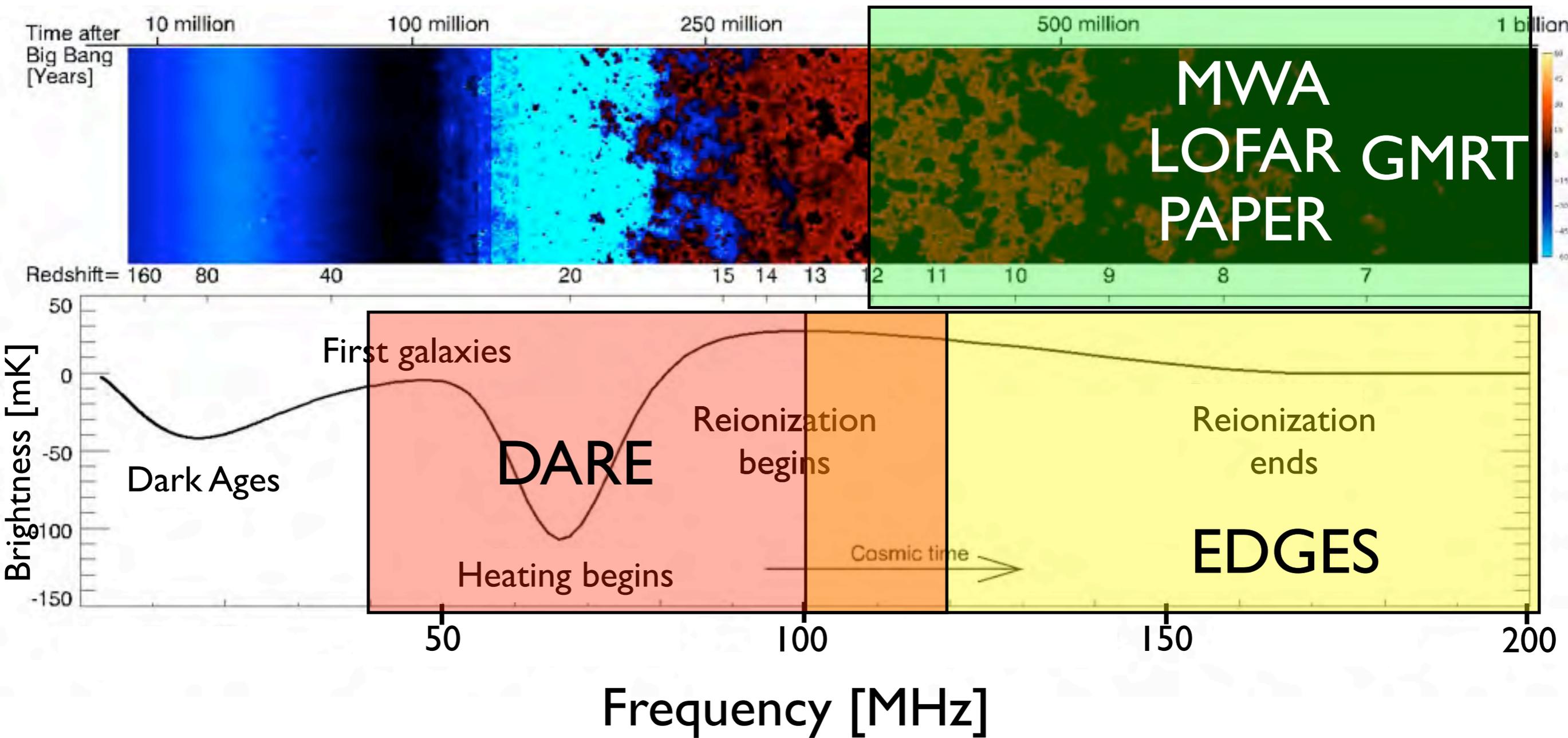


Pritchard & Loeb 2010



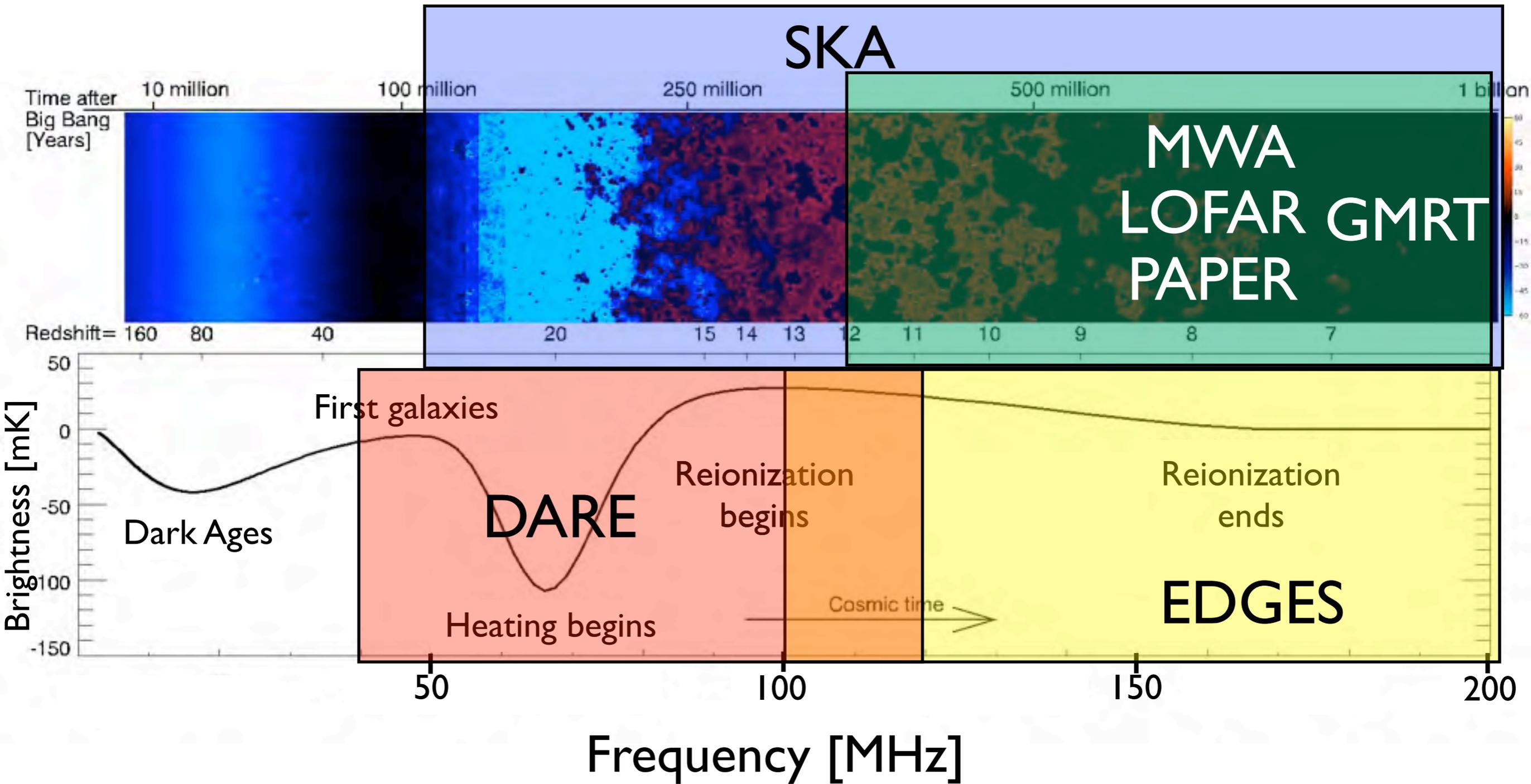
21 cm summary

Pritchard & Loeb 2010



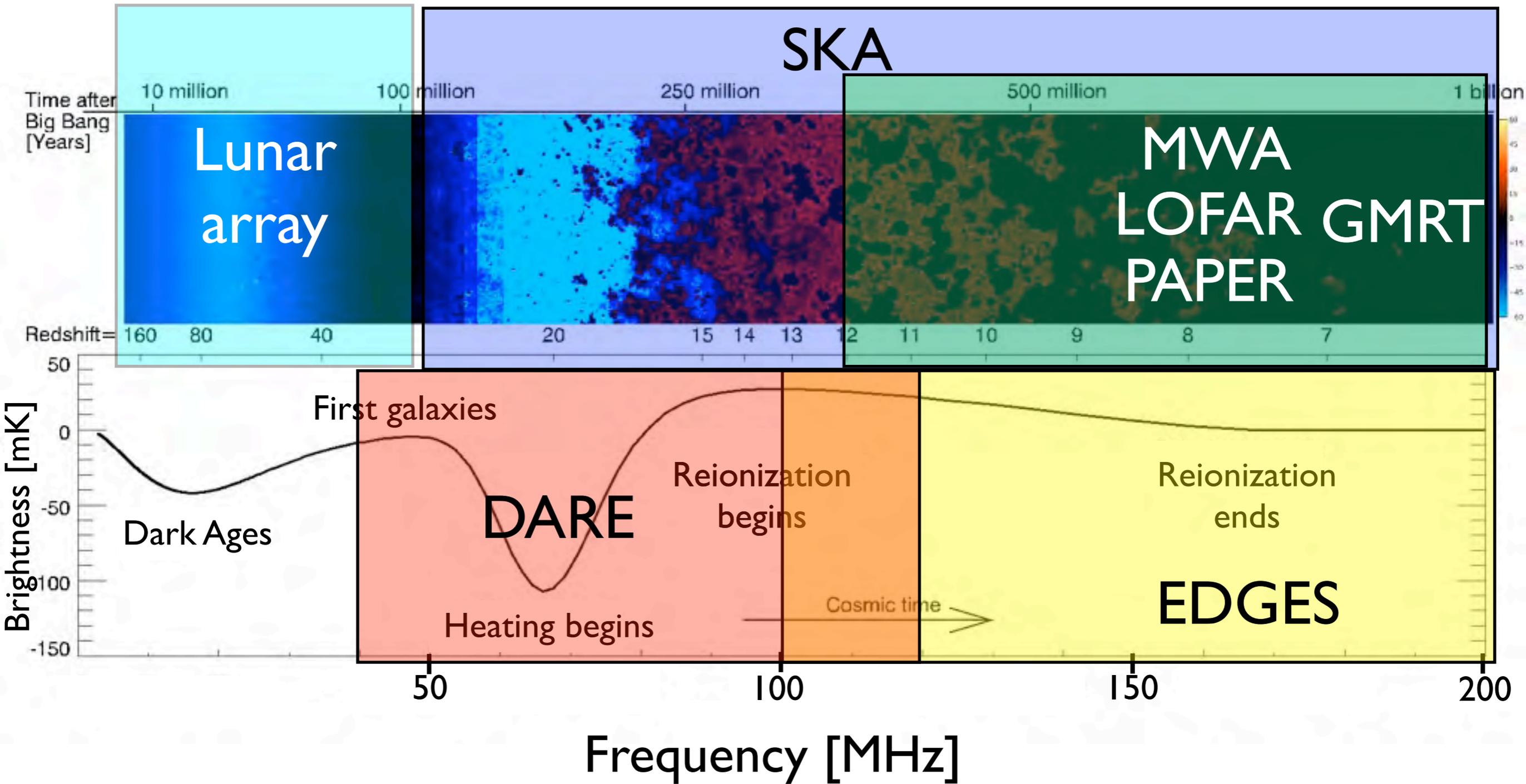
21 cm summary

Pritchard & Loeb 2010



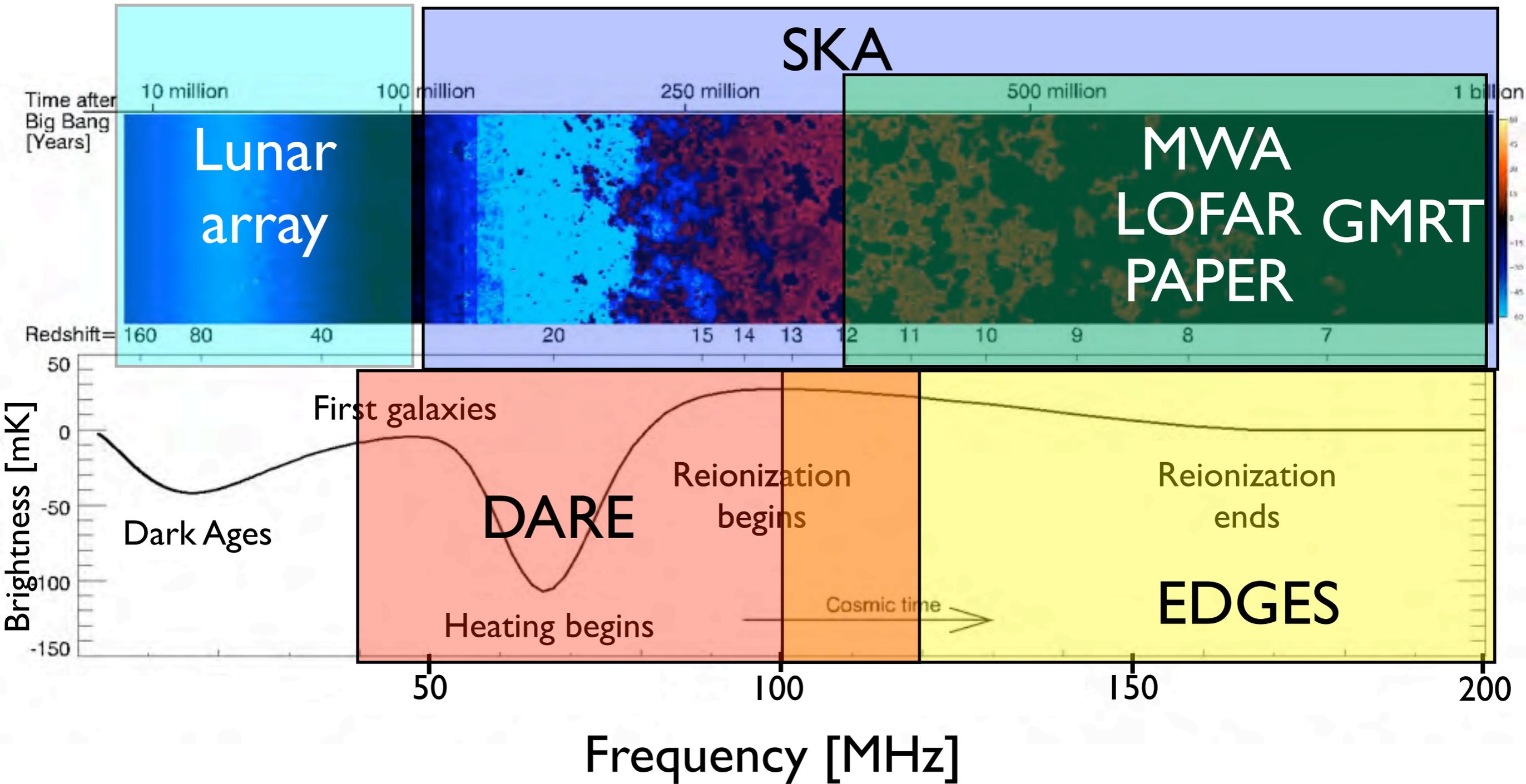
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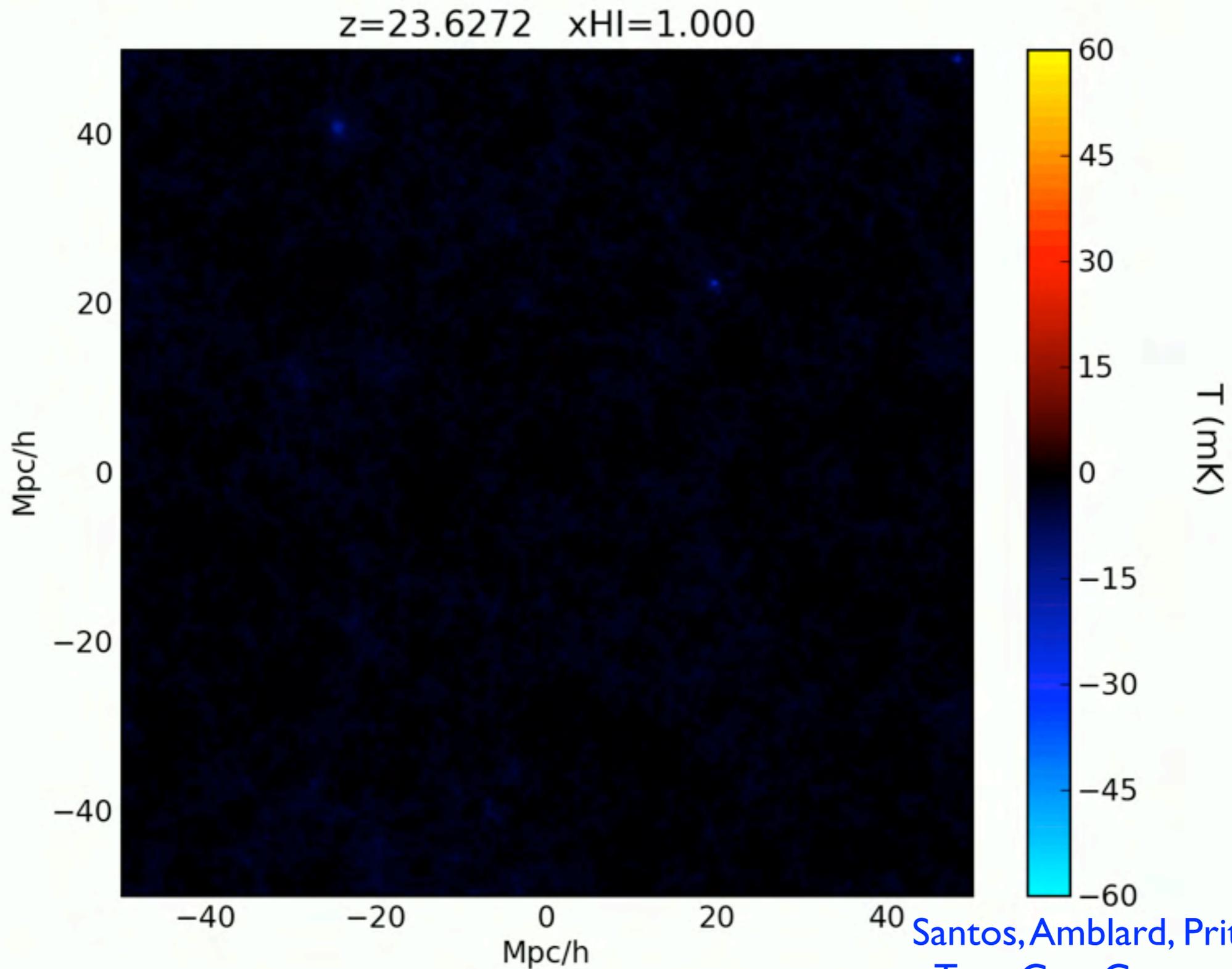


21 cm summary

Pritchard & Loeb 2010

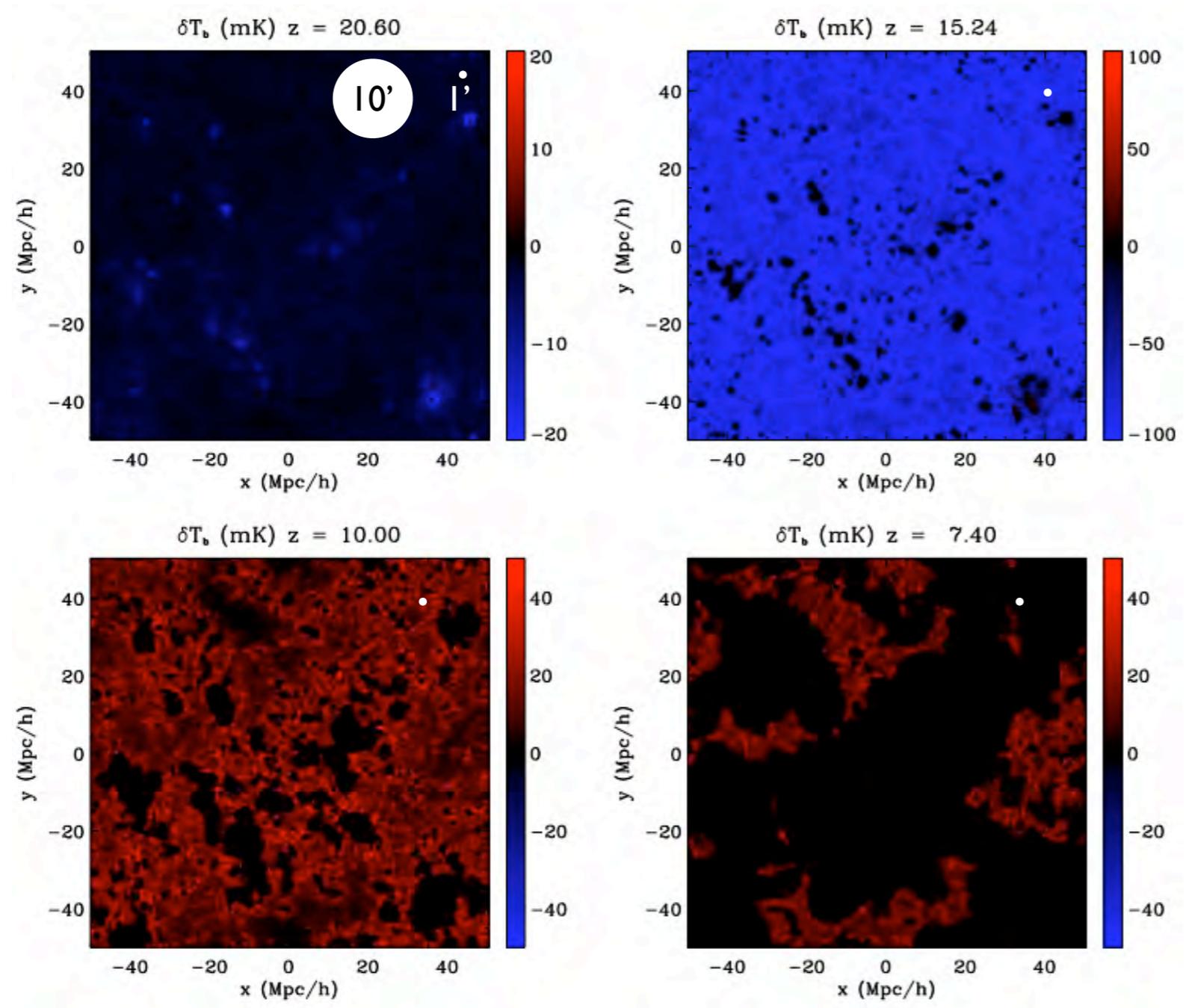


Science requirement 1: cover full redshift range accessible



Santos, Amblard, Pritchard,
Trac, Cen, Cooray 2008

Imaging brightness fluctuations



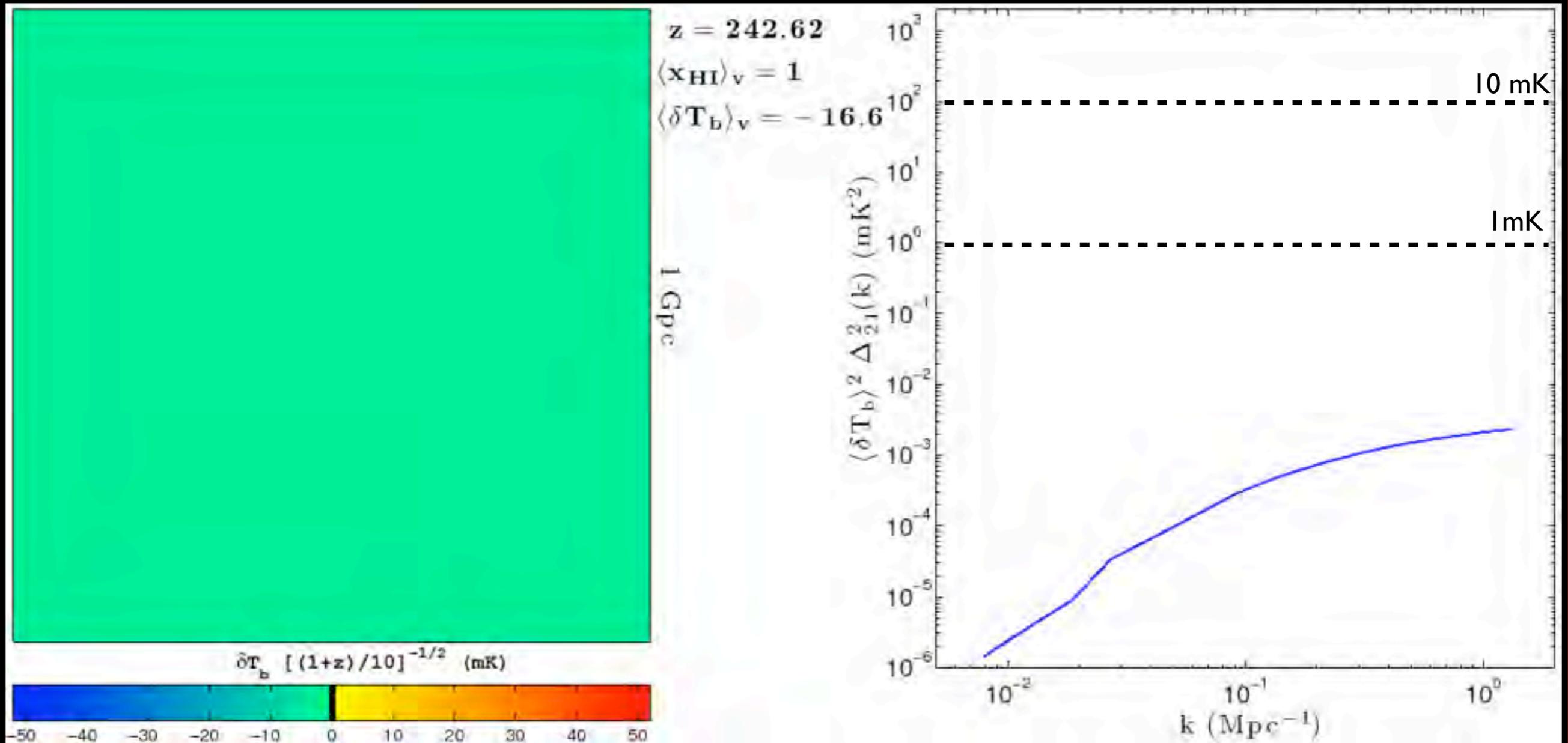
At $z=8$ (150 MHz)

1 arcmin ~ 0.3 pMpc
 ~ 2 cMpc

0.1 MHz ~ 0.3 pMpc
 ~ 2 cMpc

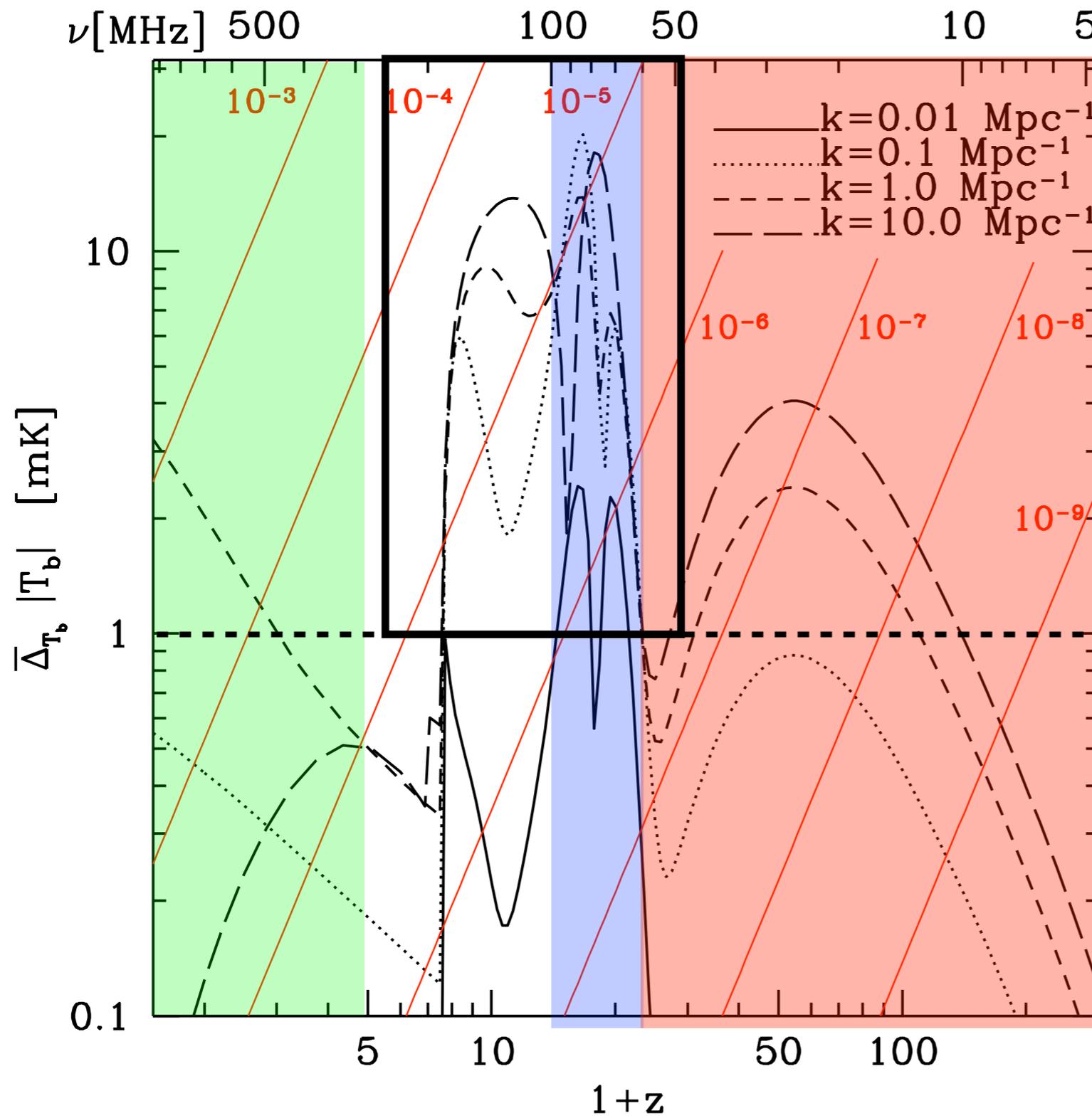
Imaging requires
 $S/N > 1$ per mode

Science requirement 3+4: Resolve bubbles in 3D



Science requirement 2: 1 mK sensitivity on arcmin scales for imaging and power spectrum

Mesinger+ 2010



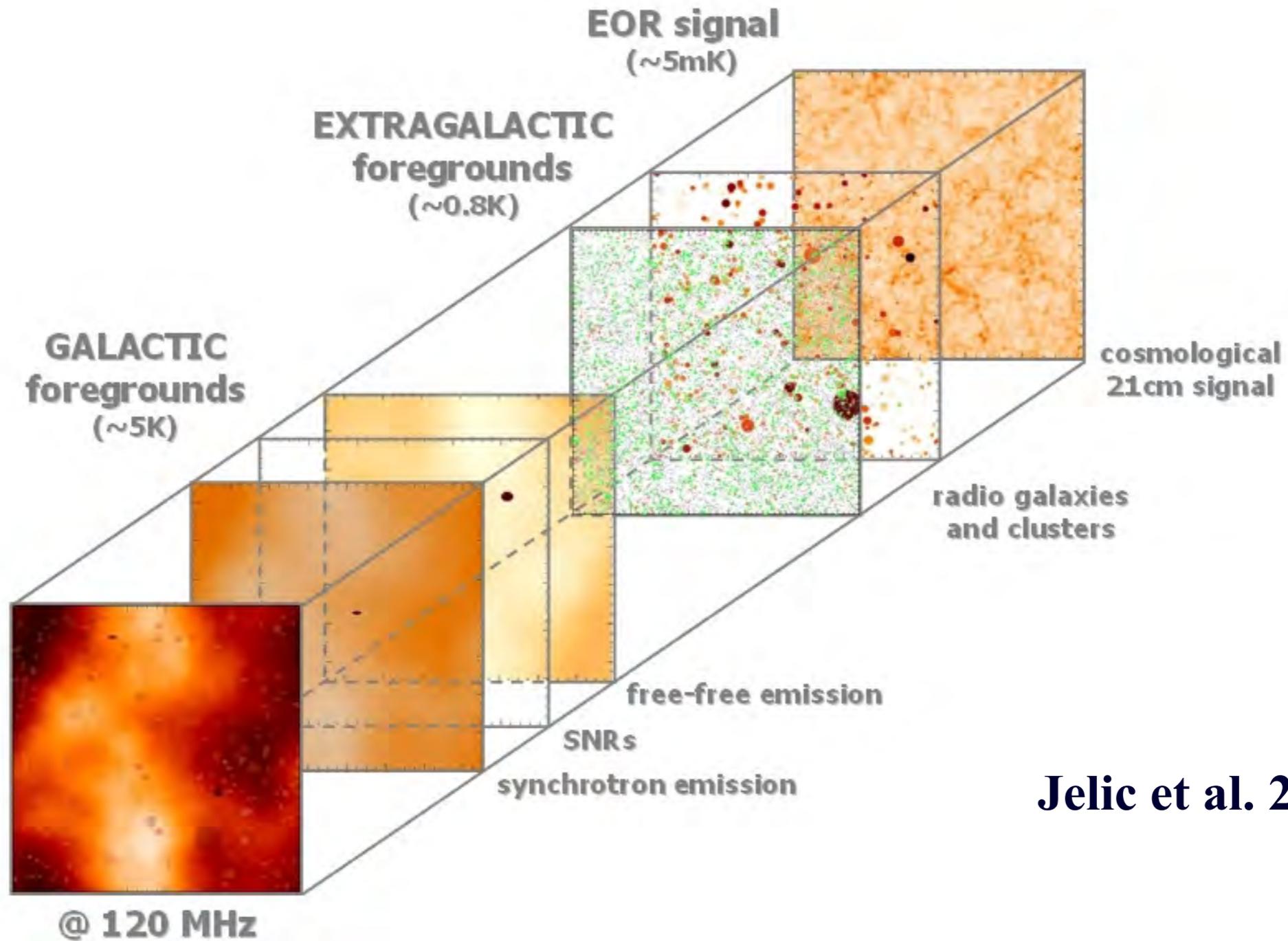
Evolution of signal means dynamic range requirements $\sim 1:100,000$ similar between $z=6$ and $z=20$

1 mK sensitivity at 1 arcmin scale enough to probe full range

Pritchard & Loeb 2008

Foreground removal

Foregrounds $\sim 10^3 - 10^5$ signal

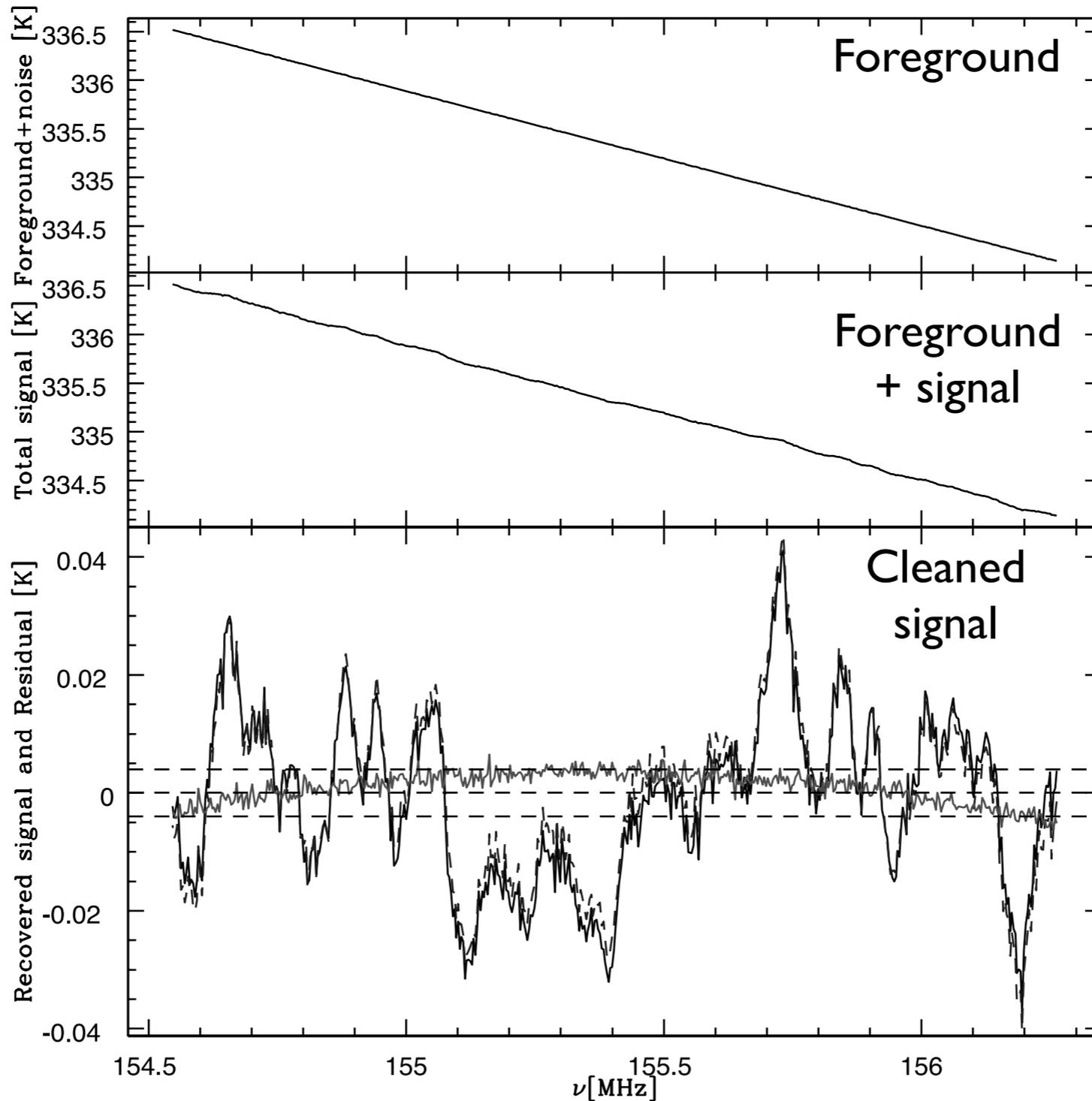


Jelic et al. 2008



Diffuse foregrounds

Diffuse foregrounds readily removed if spectrally smooth
e.g. galactic synchrotron emission



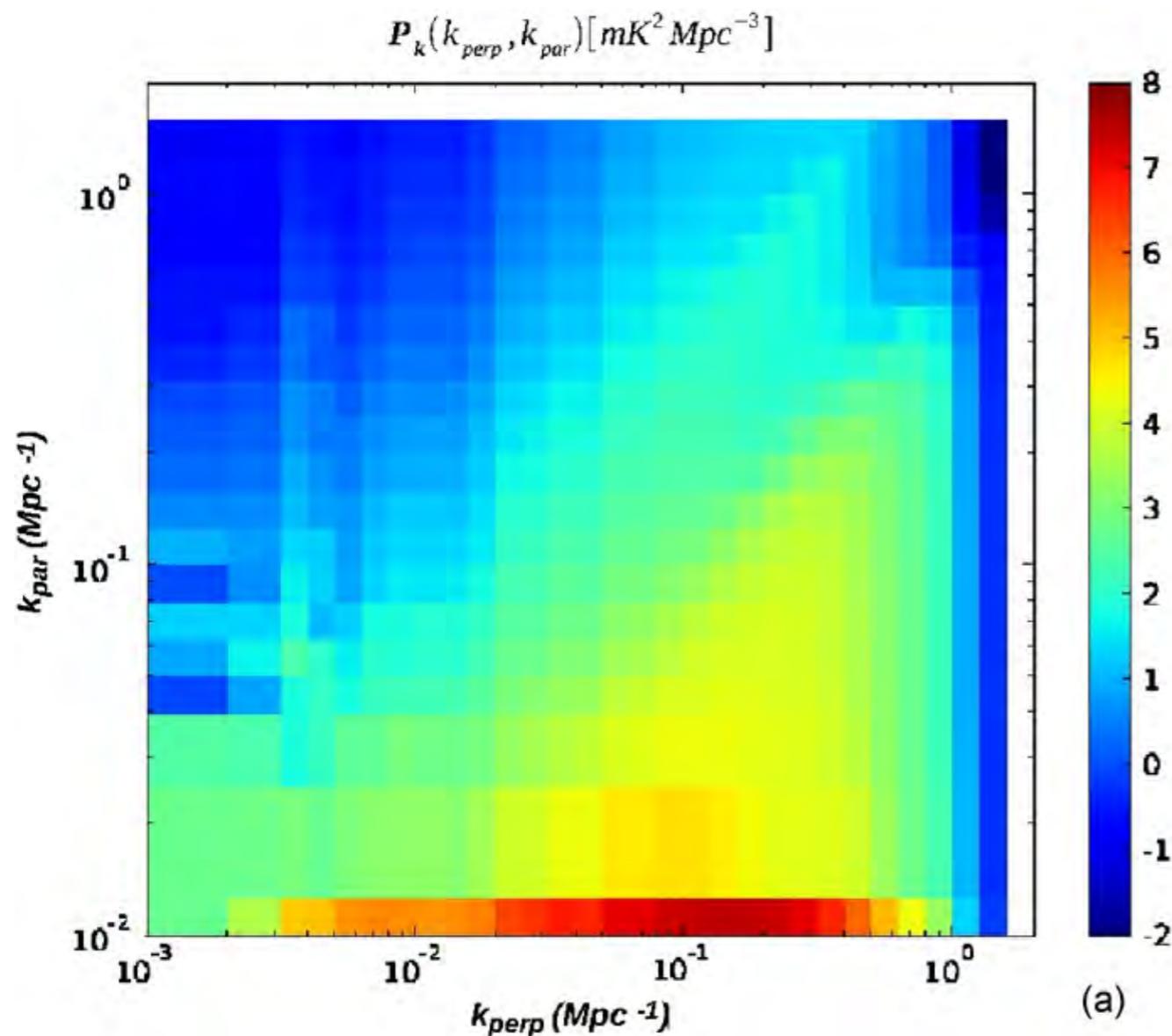
Wang+ 2006

Point source subtraction/ionosphere

Confusion floor from point source removal needs to be below sensitivity

Point source modeling of extended e.g. double lobe sources maybe important

Ionospheric corrections across field of view $\sim 10''$ across 5 deg field



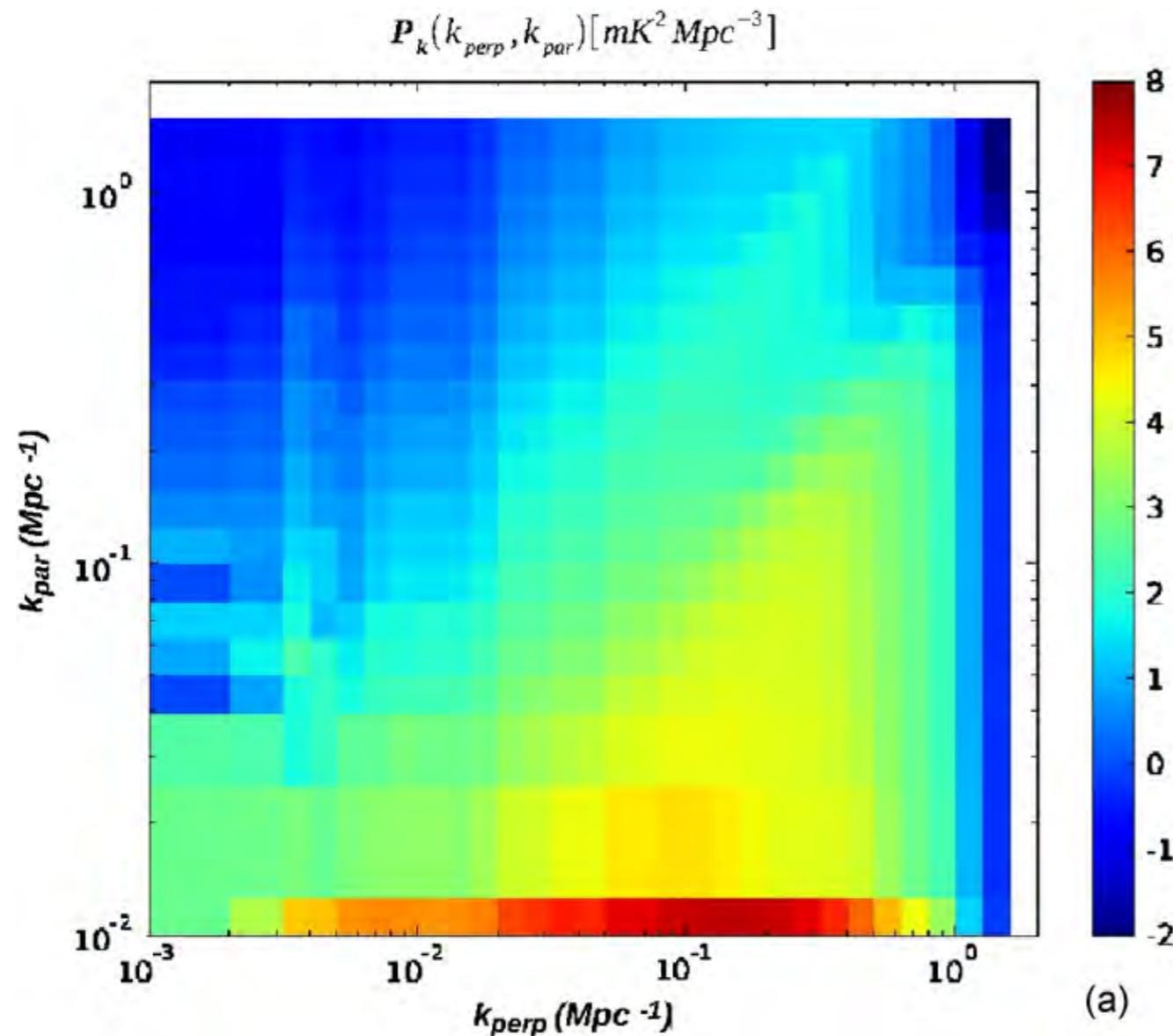
Point source localisation errors
at $1''$ [Datta+ 2010](#)

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Point source localisation errors
at $1''$ [Datta+ 2010](#)

Tech. 3: Outer baselines $> 5\text{km}$ (maybe as long as 50km)

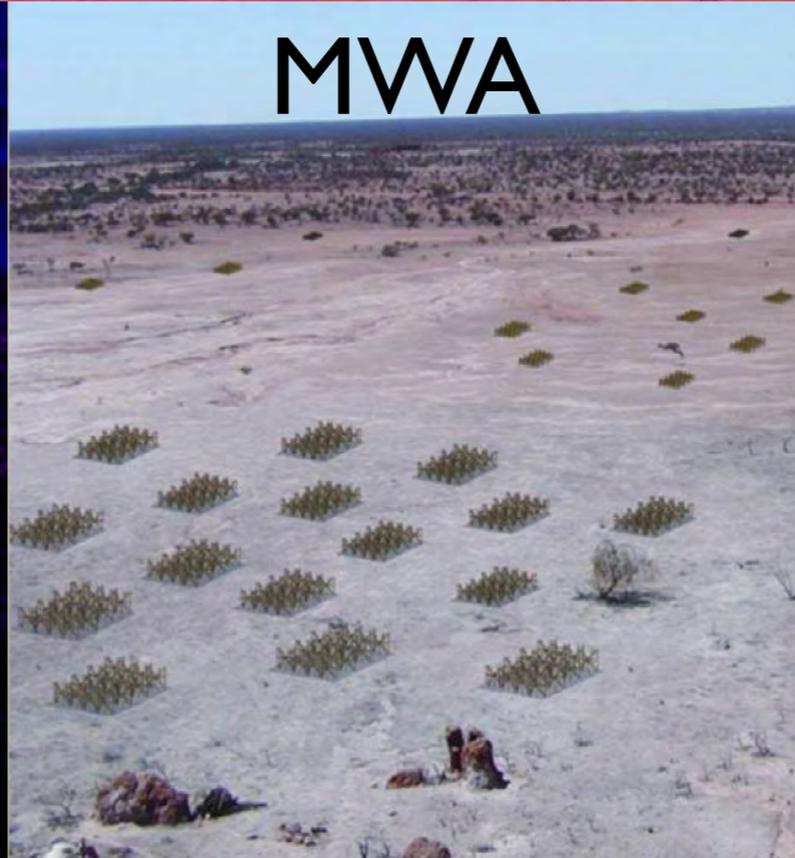
GMRT



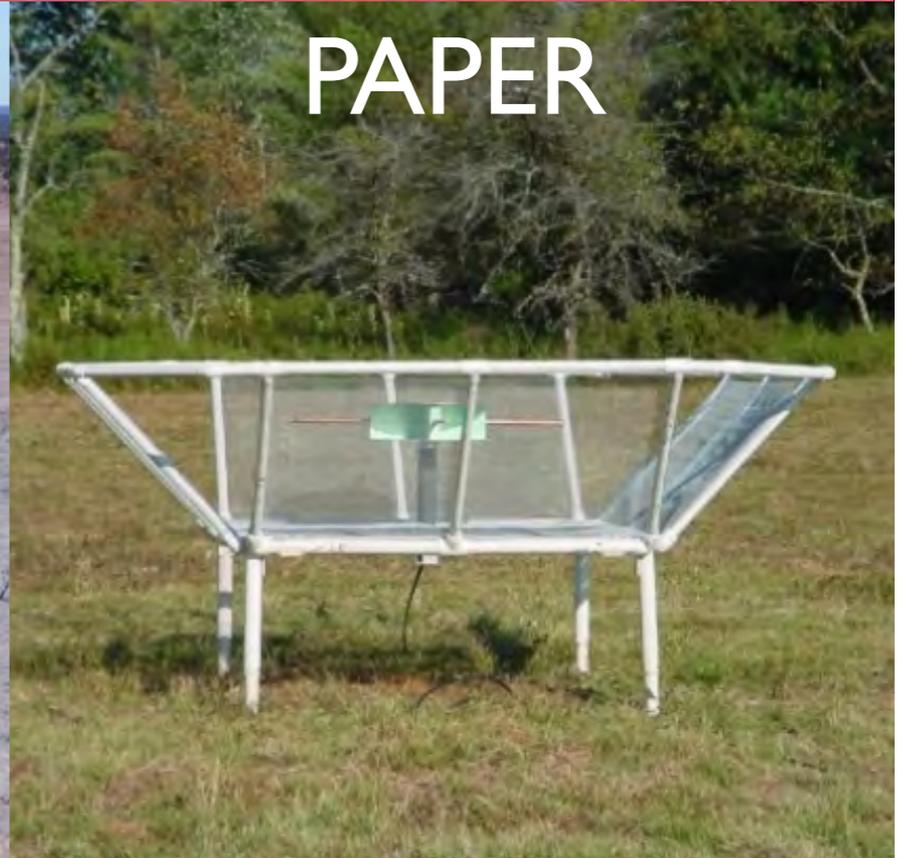
LOFAR



MWA



PAPER

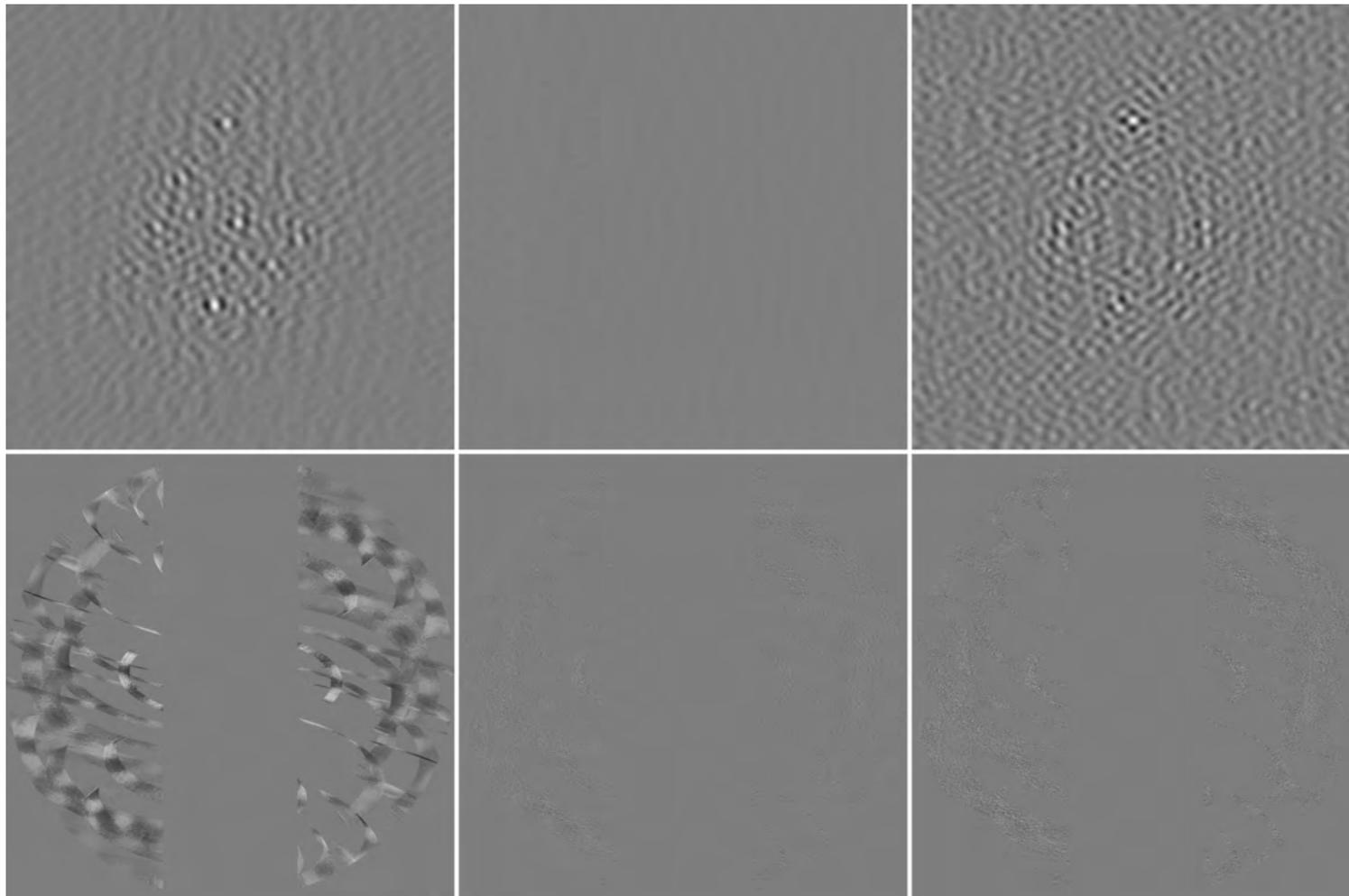


Several interferometers taking data to probe **reionization** ($z < 12$)

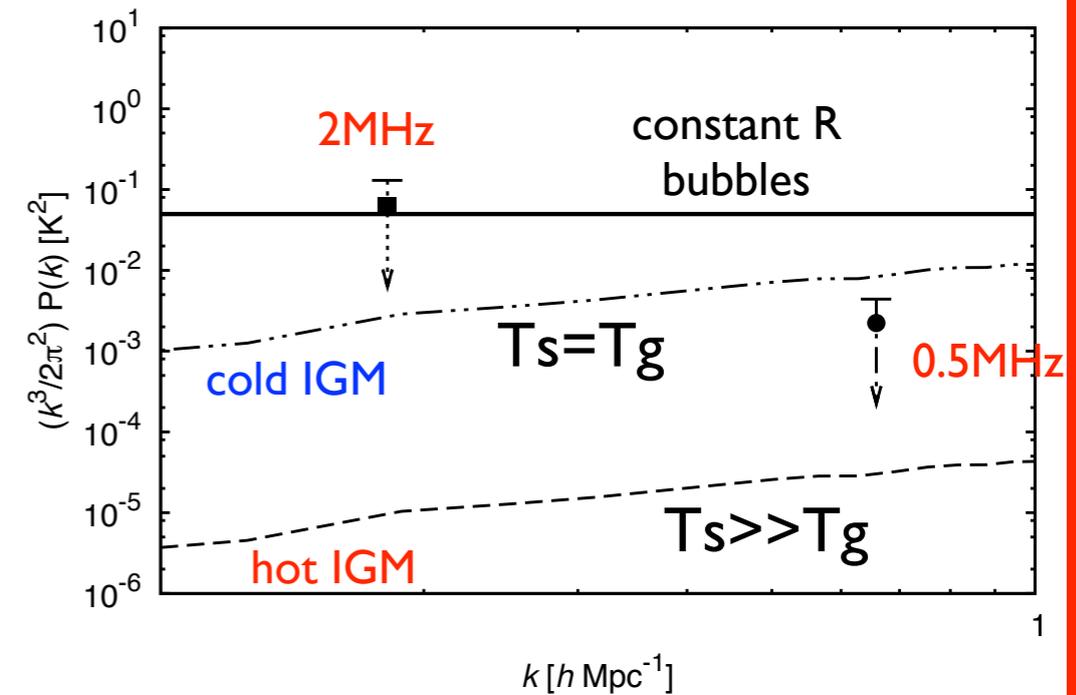


GMRT

Sky map Sky map - foregrounds Sky map-foregrounds zoom



Upper limits on power spectrum of cold IGM



50 hours integration
~50 mK uncertainties

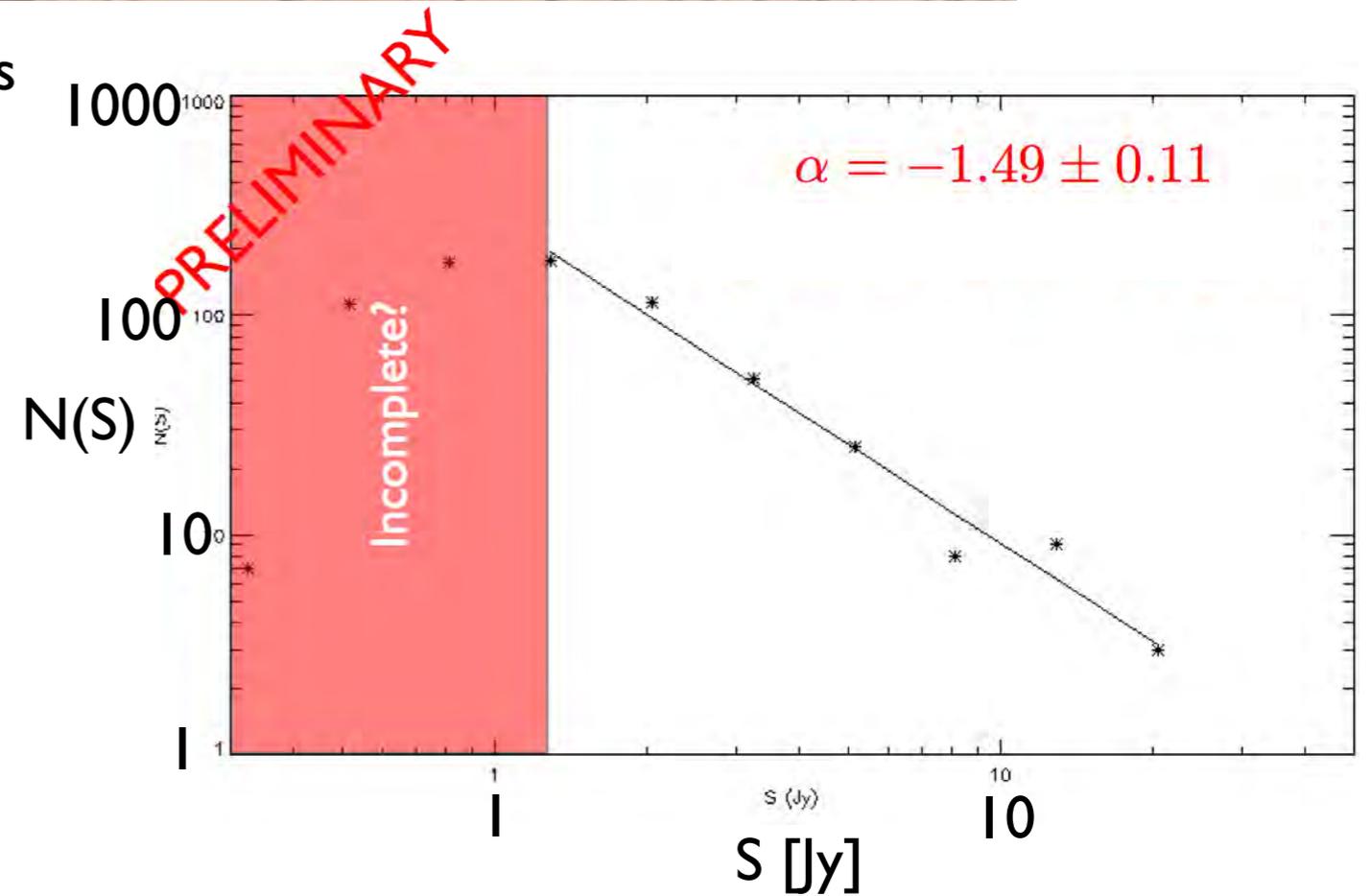
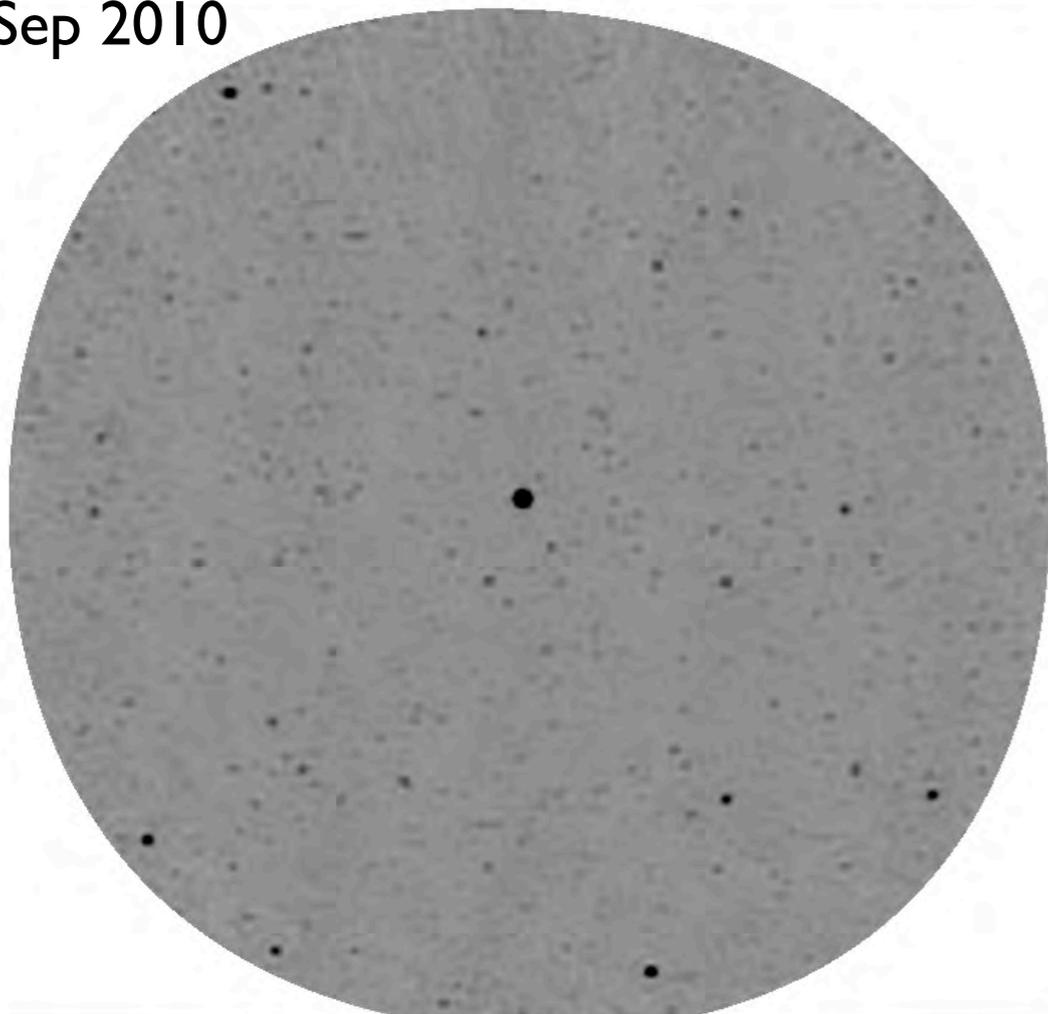
Data of the required sensitivity acquired with GMRT
=> first serious limits on 21 cm signal at $z \sim 8.5$

Paciga+ 2010



Hydra A
121 MHz
Sep 2010

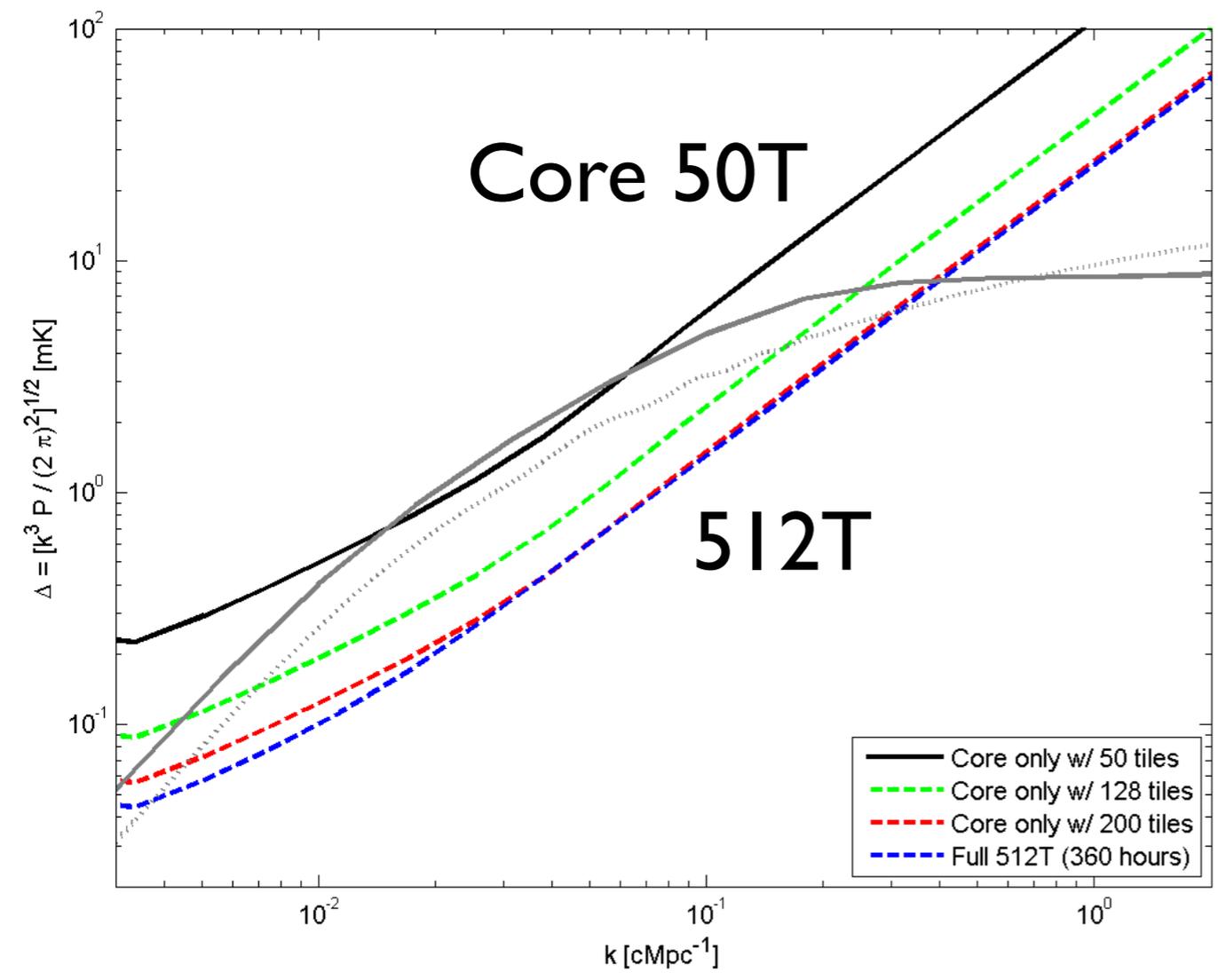
Confusion limited maps
7000:1 dynamic range



Chris Williams & MWA Collaboration

MWA build out to 128T

- Funding constraints prevent build out to 512T. Rescoped to 128T (infrastructure allows extension to 256T)
- 128T construction to be completed Sep 2012

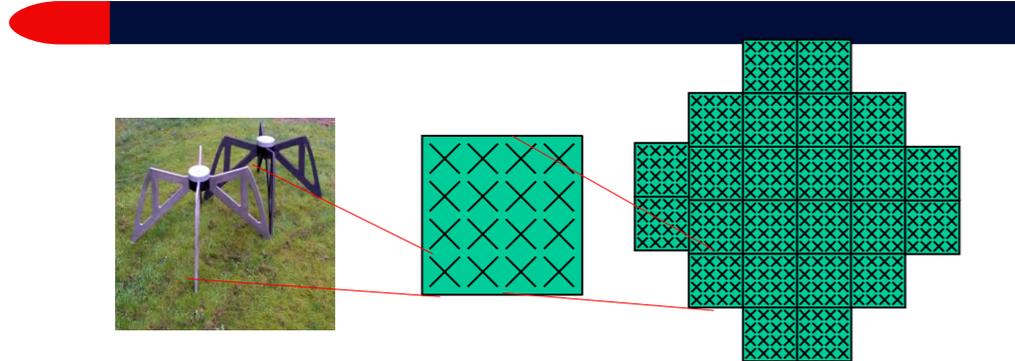
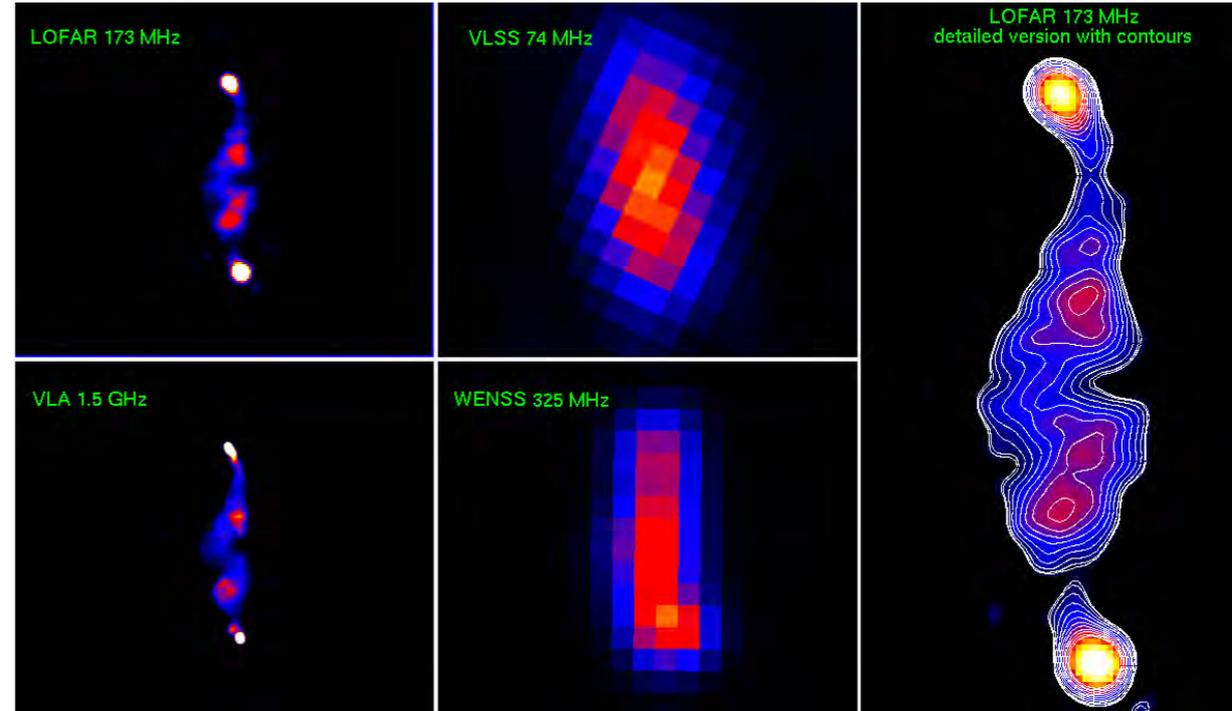


Limited ability to **detect** EoR. Strong **constraints**.

Test bed for large N, small D concept

Lots of other science...

J. Bowman & MWA collaboration



Core	2 km	23+ stations
NL	80 km	18+ stations
Europe	>1000 km	8+ stations

Total # of HBA dipoles: ~ 50000.

Timeline:

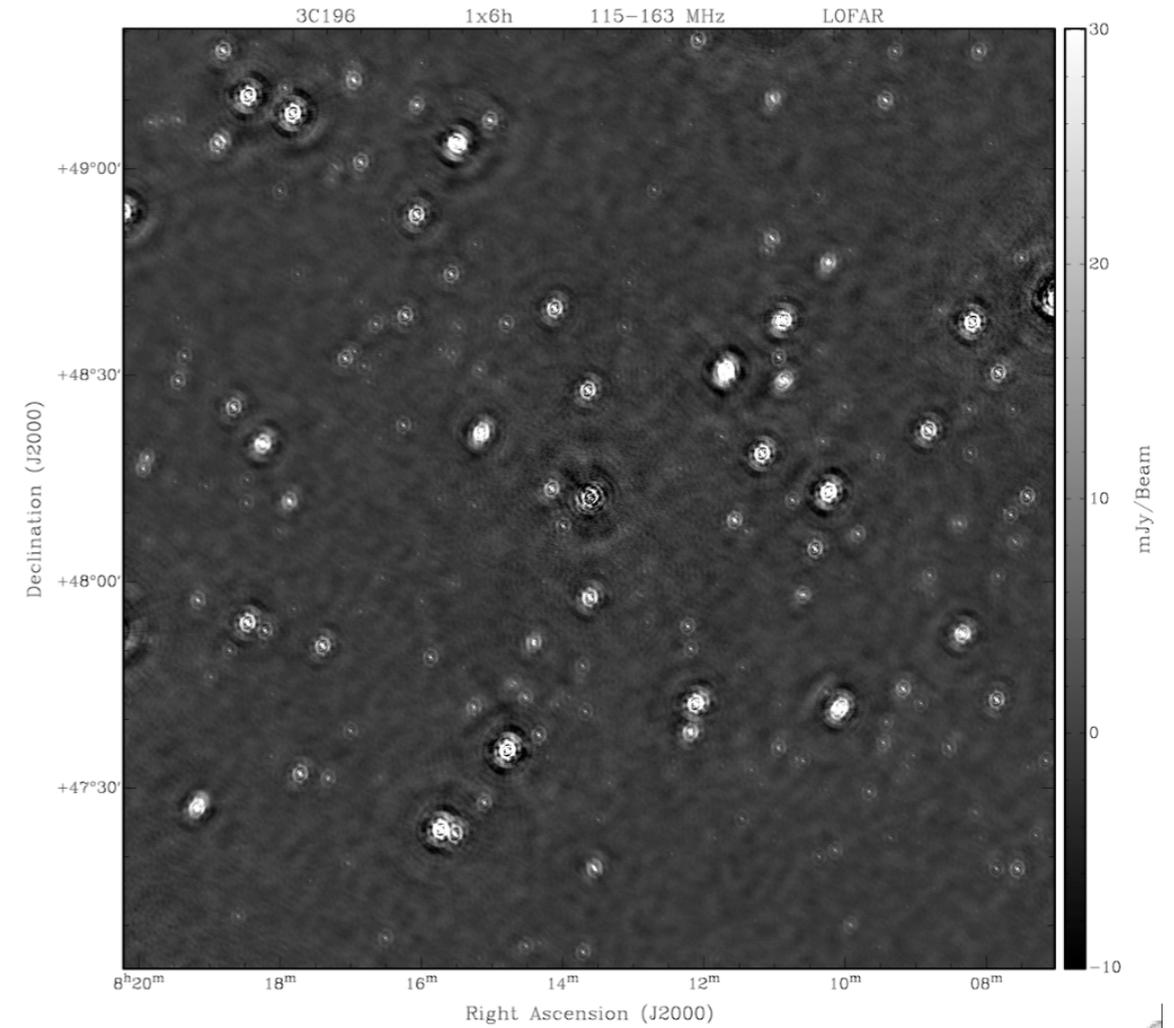
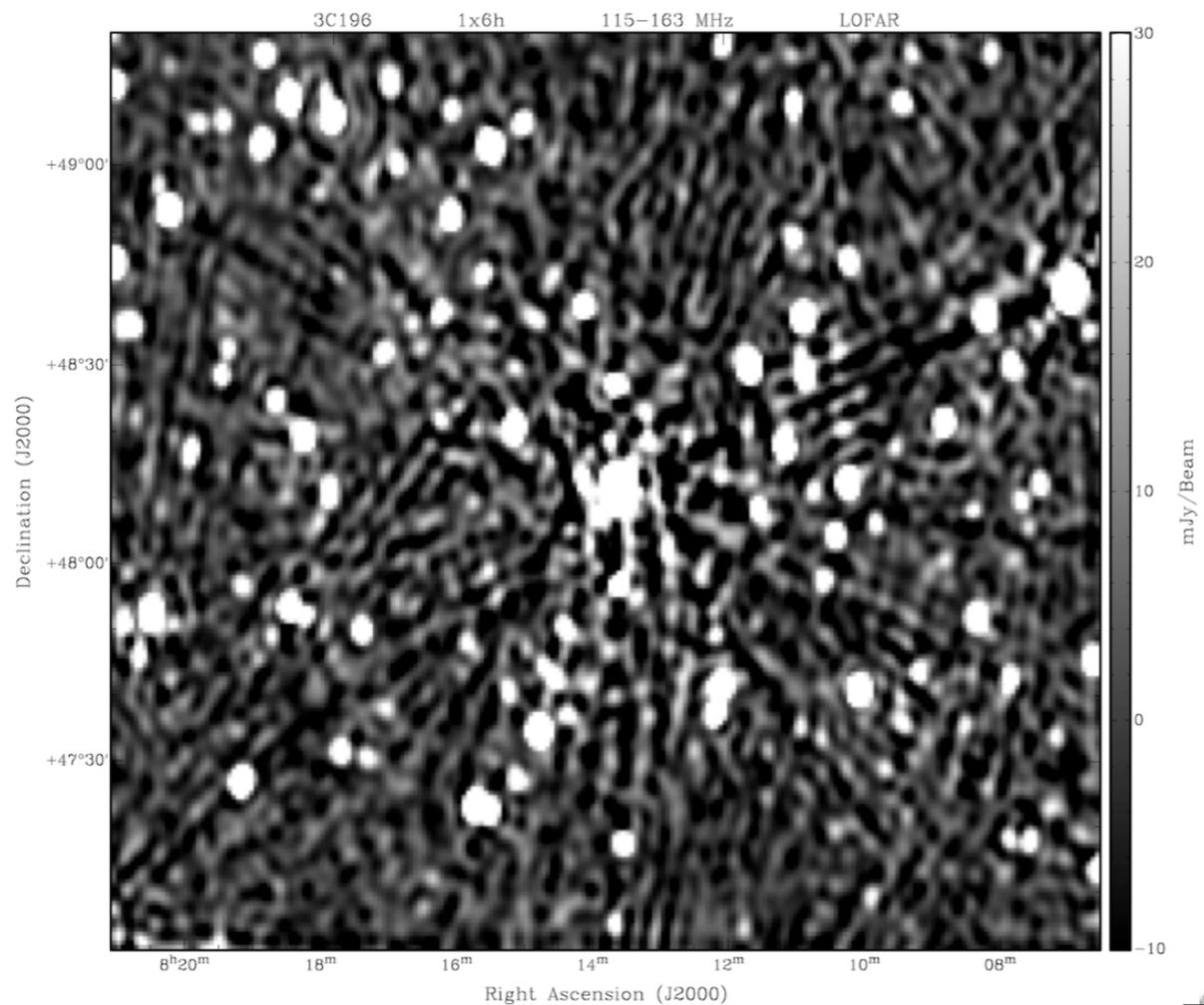
1. Official opening: June 2010
2. Data for our project starts: Jan. 2011
3. First results (hopefully) mid 2012



Slide from S. Zaroubi

LOFAR images

3C196: WSRT versus LOFAR 115-163 MHz



WSRT **72 h** thermal noise 0.6 mJy
 confusion noise 3 mJy

Gianni Bernardi et al (2010)

LOFAR **6h** thermal noise ~ 0.1 mJy
 image noise $\sim 0.3-0.7$ mJy
CS +RS, ~ 30 km ! 244 subbands
DR ~ 83 Jy/0.5 mJy $\sim 200,000:1$ average

(300.000:1 edges, 180.000:1 close to brightest sources)

Labropoulos et al., in prep.

Slide from
 P. Labropoulos

PAPER

PGB: PAPER Green Bank

- PGB-4: 2004
- PGB-8: 2006
- PGB-16: 2008
- PGB-32: 2010

PSA: PAPER South Africa

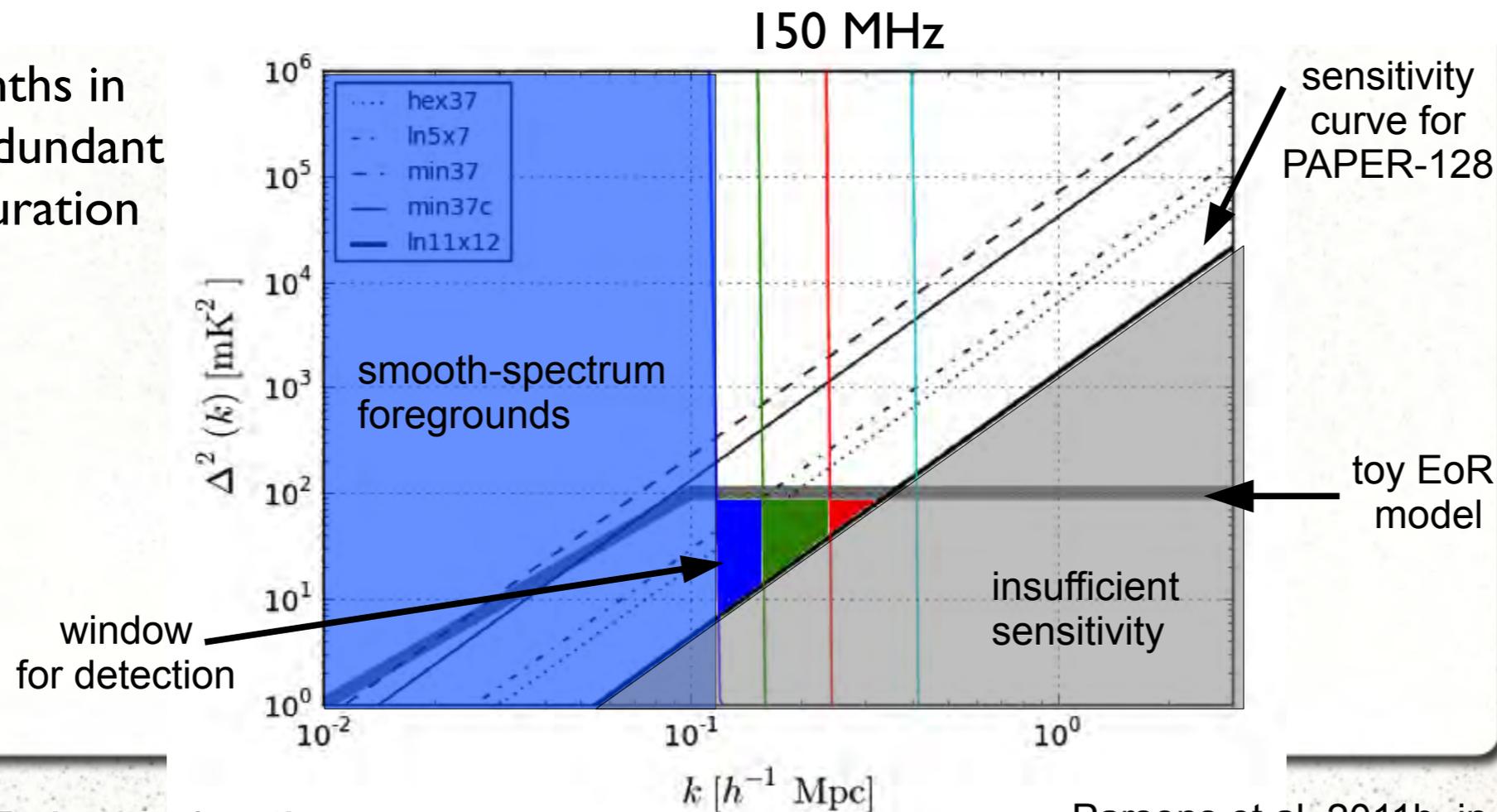
- PSA-16: 2009
- PSA-32: 2010
- PSA-64: 2011
- (PSA-128: 2012)



PAPER is producing maps of the radio sky in both hemispheres

Maximum redundant array to maximise sensitivity to single UV mode

4 months in
max. redundant
configuration



Redshift evolution
key to proving
detection

From J. Pober IoA talk

Parsons et al. 2011b, in prep

Track evolution of IGM through reionization to the first galaxies

SCI-S-REQ-0010: The SKA Phase 1 shall be able to observe the H I line over at least the redshift range of 6–19, with the goal of observing over the redshift range of 6–30.

Achieve S/N for power spectrum and imaging

SCI-S-REQ-0020: The SKA Phase 1 shall provide a brightness temperature noise level, typically taken as the root-mean-square value, of 1 mK on arcminute angular scales.

Resolve ionized bubbles in angle and depth

SCI-S-REQ-0030: The SKA Phase 1 shall provide an angular resolution at least as high as 1'.

SCI-S-REQ-0040: The SKA Phase 1 shall provide a radial resolution over the required frequency range for these observations of 0.1 Mpc.

Probe representative volumes of Universe

SCI-S-REQ-0050: The SKA Phase 1 shall provide a field of view large enough to mitigate cosmic variance.

Ensure desired redshift range is covered

SCI-T-REQ-0010: The SKA Phase 1 shall provide frequency coverage of at least 70 to 200 MHz, with a goal of covering 50 to 200 MHz.

Resolve bubbles in depth direction (RFI excision...)

SCI-T-REQ-0020: The SKA Phase 1 shall provide a frequency resolution of at least as fine as 100 kHz.

Resolve bubbles in angle (longer baselines for ionospheric calibration + point source removal)

SCI-T-REQ-0030: The SKA Phase 1 shall provide a maximum baseline of at least 5 km, and potentially as large as 50 km (TBC).

Polarised foreground removal (e.g. to prevent polarisation leaking into intensity)

SCI-T-REQ-0040: The SKA Phase 1 shall provide full polarization capabilities.

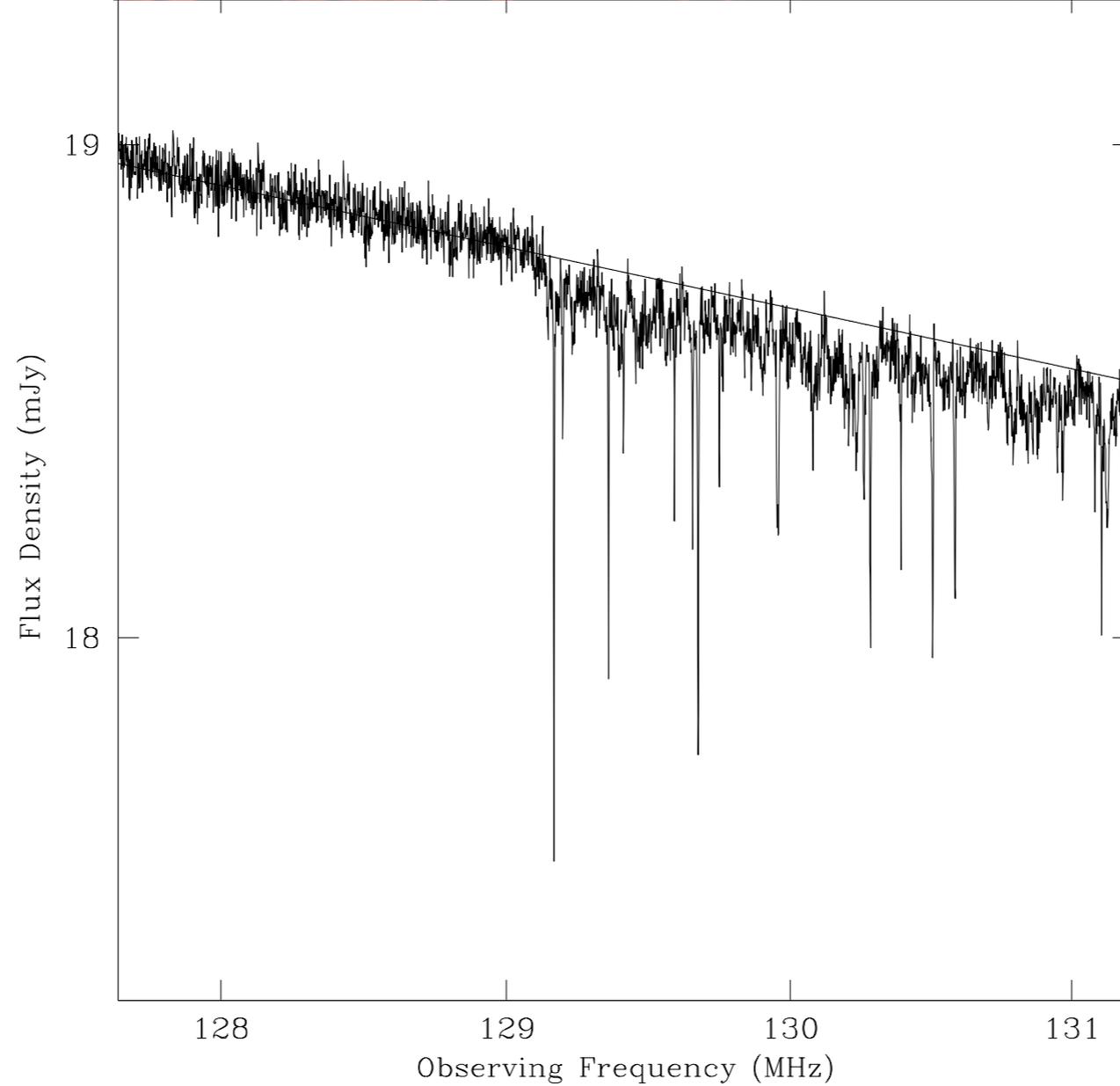
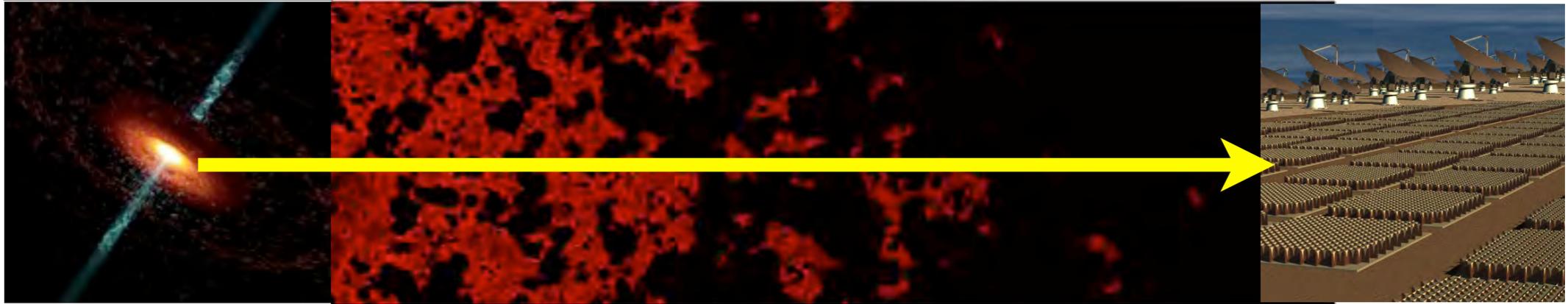
Integration time: More the better... > 1000 hrs

SCI-T-REQ-0050: TBD

Limit instrumental systematics to less than desired 1 mK sensitivity

SCI-T-REQ-0060: The SKA Phase 1 shall be designed so that any spatial structure within the sky area of interest that results from an instrumental contribution is much less than 1 mK on arcminute scales.

Probing the Epoch of Reionization Using the 21-cm forest



Radio bright point source as backlight => Targeted 1 dimensional skewer through IGM

Absorption by neutral hydrogen => flux decrement

Foregrounds much less of a problem - different systematics from 21 cm tomography

Size of decrement determined by optical depth

- 1) gas density
- 2) neutral fraction
- 3) gas temperature

density

neutral
fraction

$$\tau_{\nu_0}(z) \approx 0.009(1 + \delta)(1 + z)^{3/2} \frac{x_{\text{HI}}}{T_S}$$

spin
temperature

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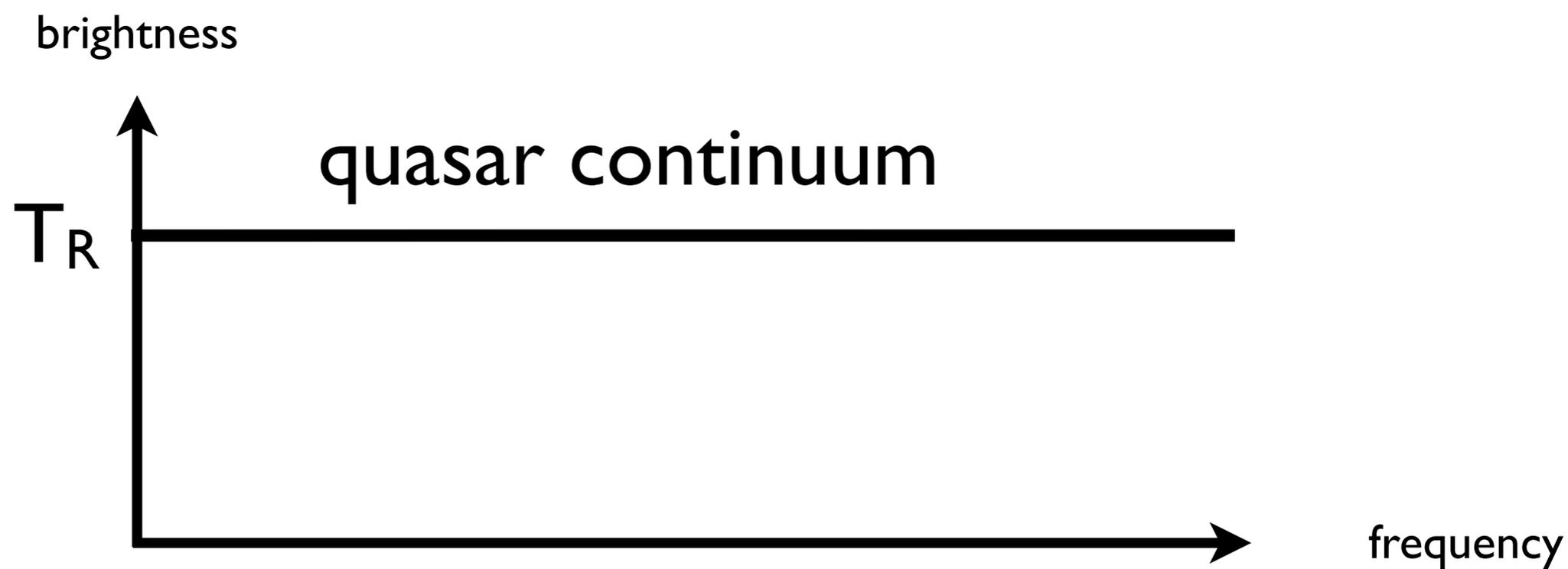
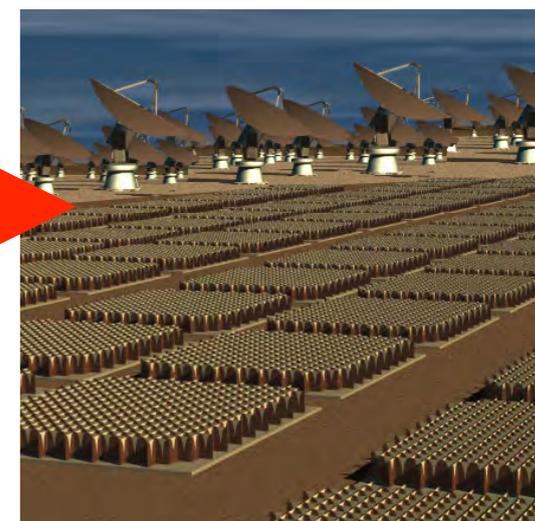
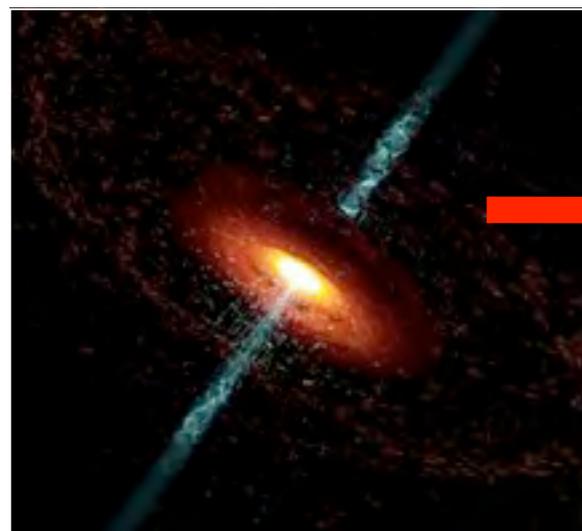
neutral
fraction

$$\tau_{\nu_0}(z) \approx 0.009(1 + \delta)(1 + z)^{3/2} \frac{x_{\text{HI}}}{T_S}$$

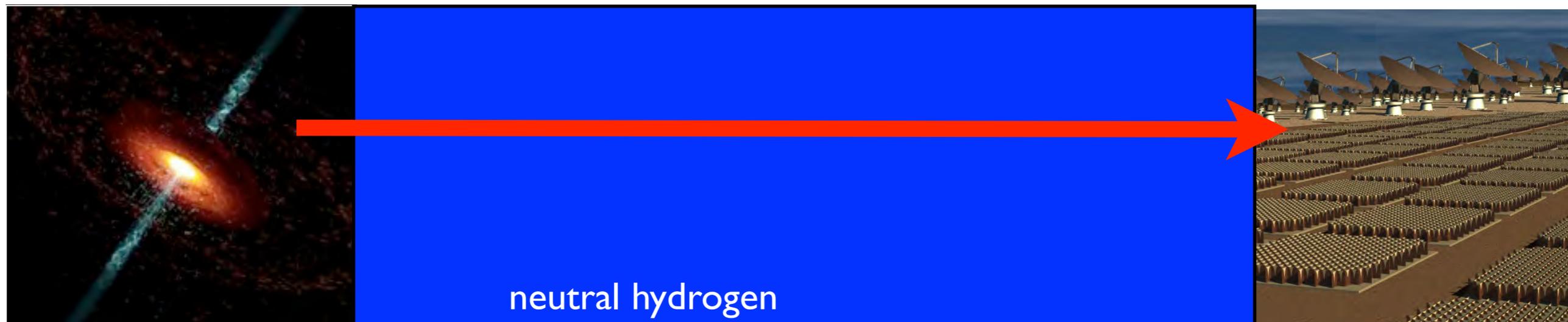
spin
temperature

Science requirement 3: detect $\tau=0.001$ or lower

$z=10$

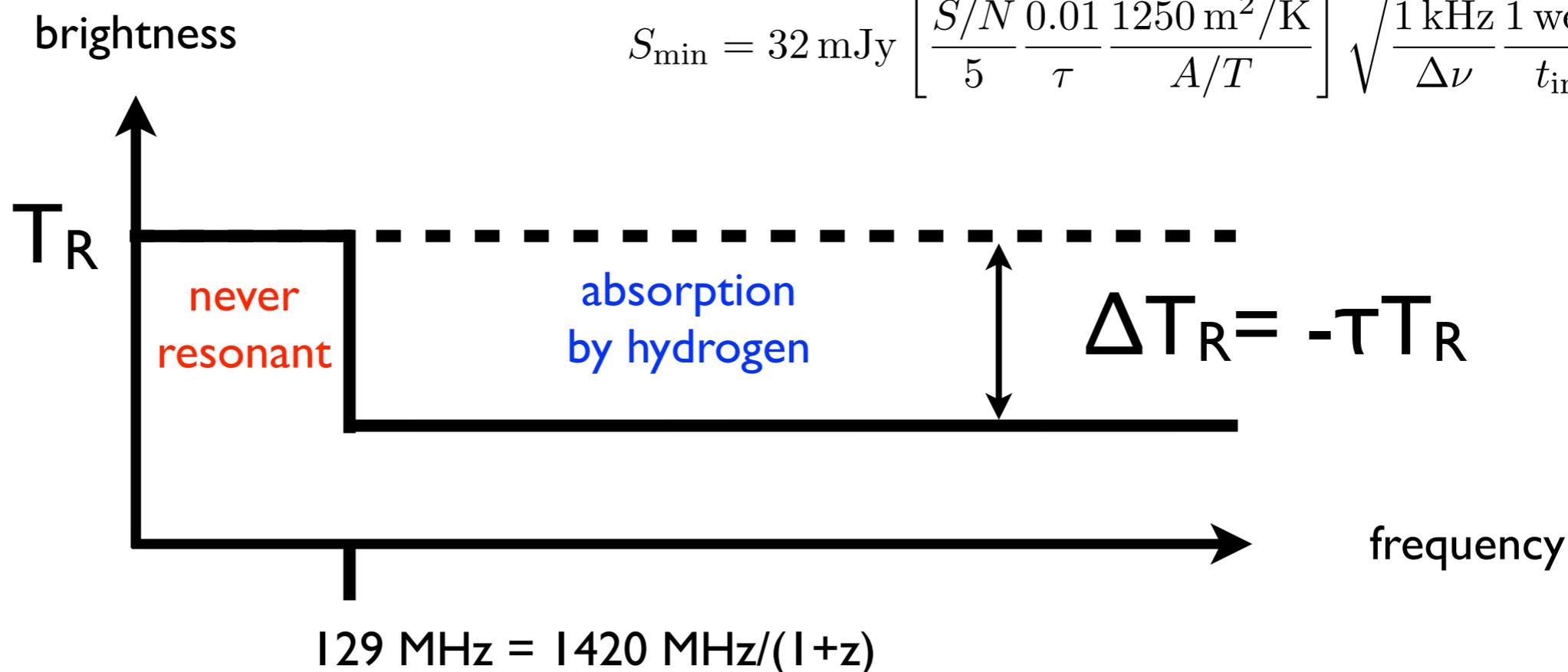


$z=10$



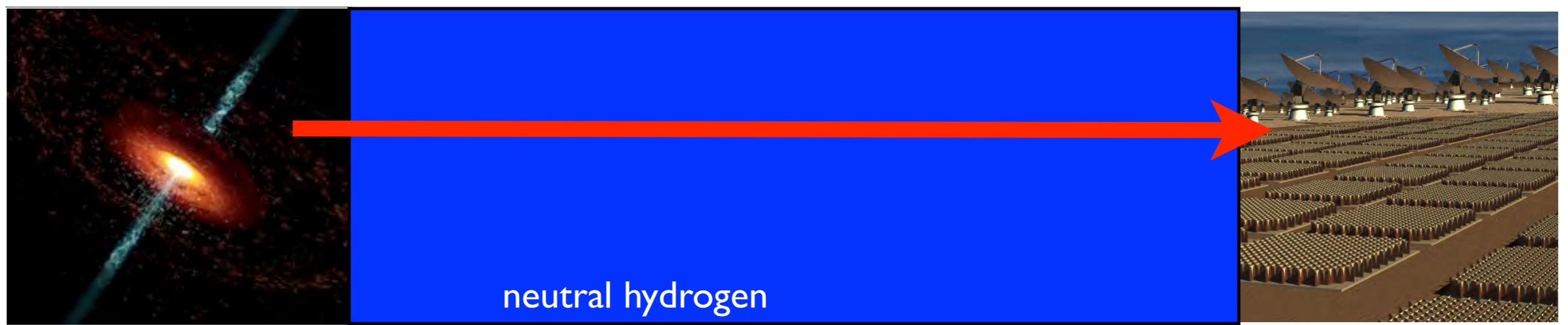
Forest easier to detect in brighter sources

$$S_{\min} = 32 \text{ mJy} \left[\frac{S/N}{5} \frac{0.01}{\tau} \frac{1250 \text{ m}^2/\text{K}}{A/T} \right] \sqrt{\frac{1 \text{ kHz}}{\Delta\nu} \frac{1 \text{ week}}{t_{\text{int}}}},$$



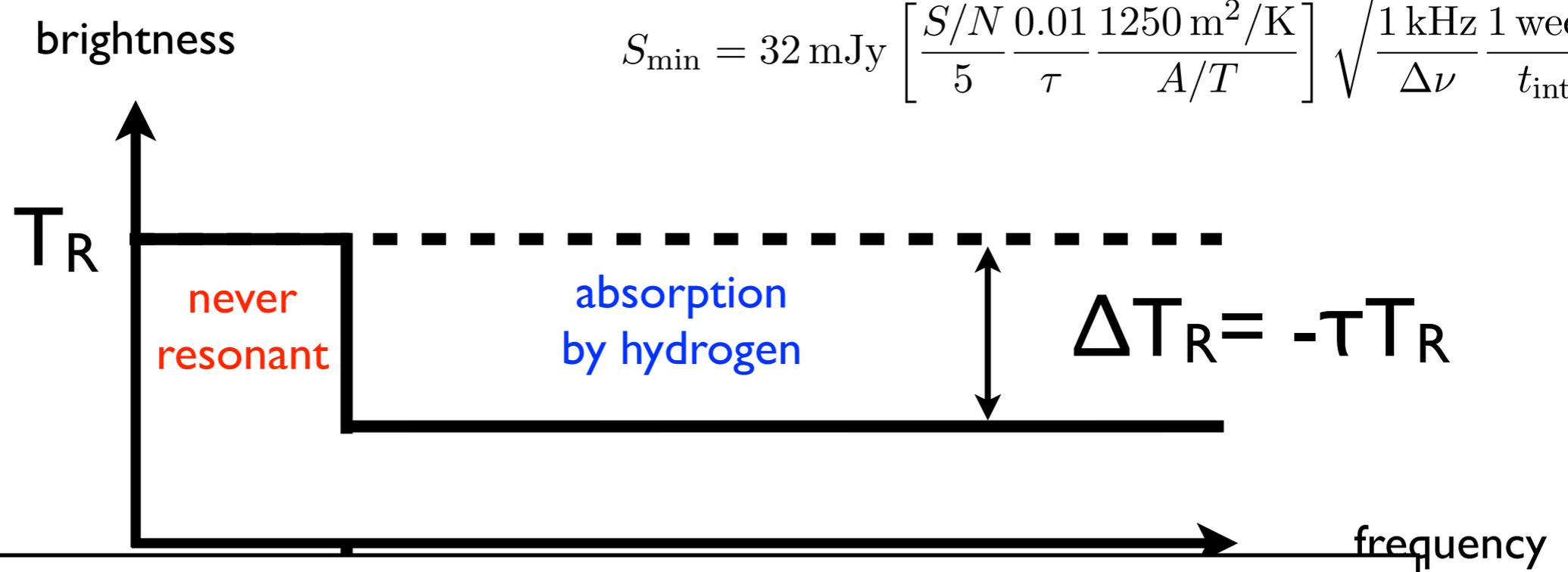
Absorption by hydrogen

$z=10$



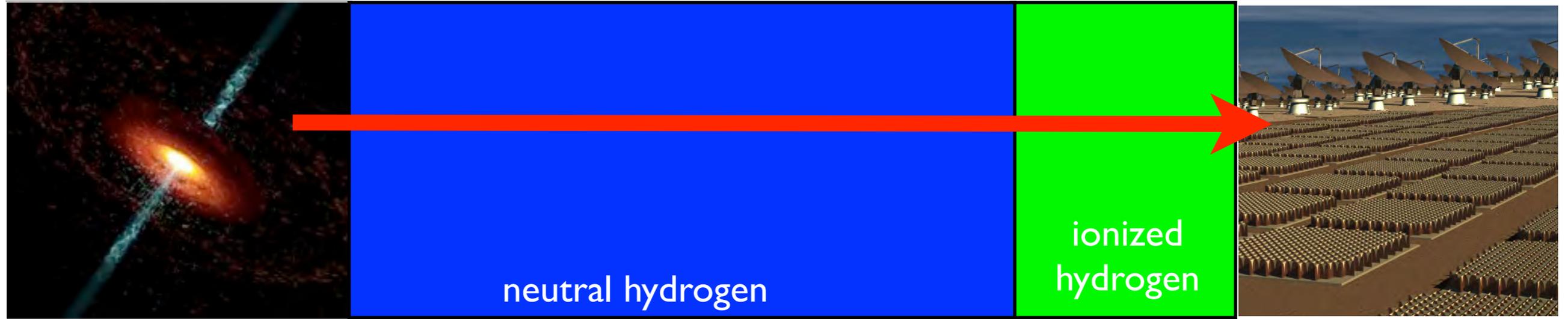
Forest easier to detect in brighter sources

$$S_{\min} = 32 \text{ mJy} \left[\frac{S/N}{5} \frac{0.01}{\tau} \frac{1250 \text{ m}^2/\text{K}}{A/T} \right] \sqrt{\frac{1 \text{ kHz}}{\Delta\nu} \frac{1 \text{ week}}{t_{\text{int}}}}$$

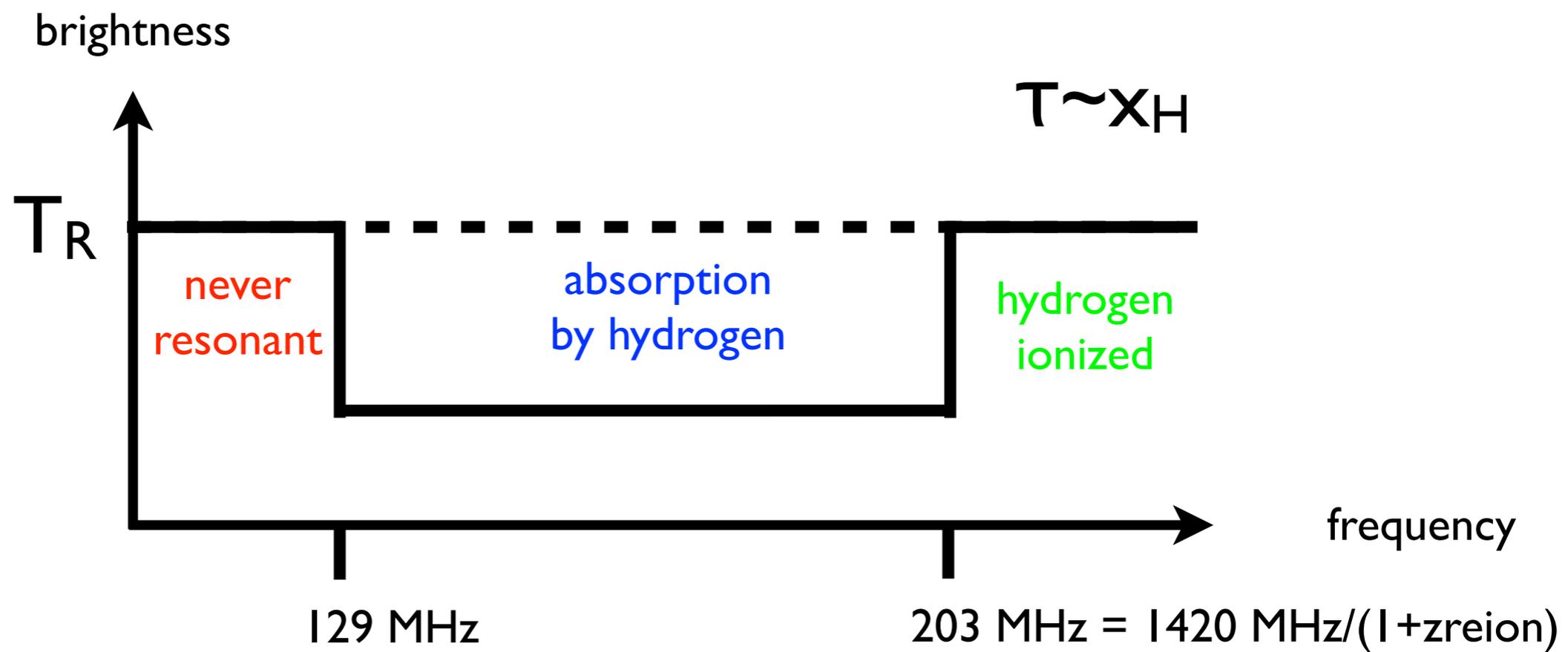


Tech requirement 3: $A/T > 1300 \text{ m}^2/\text{K}$

$z=10$

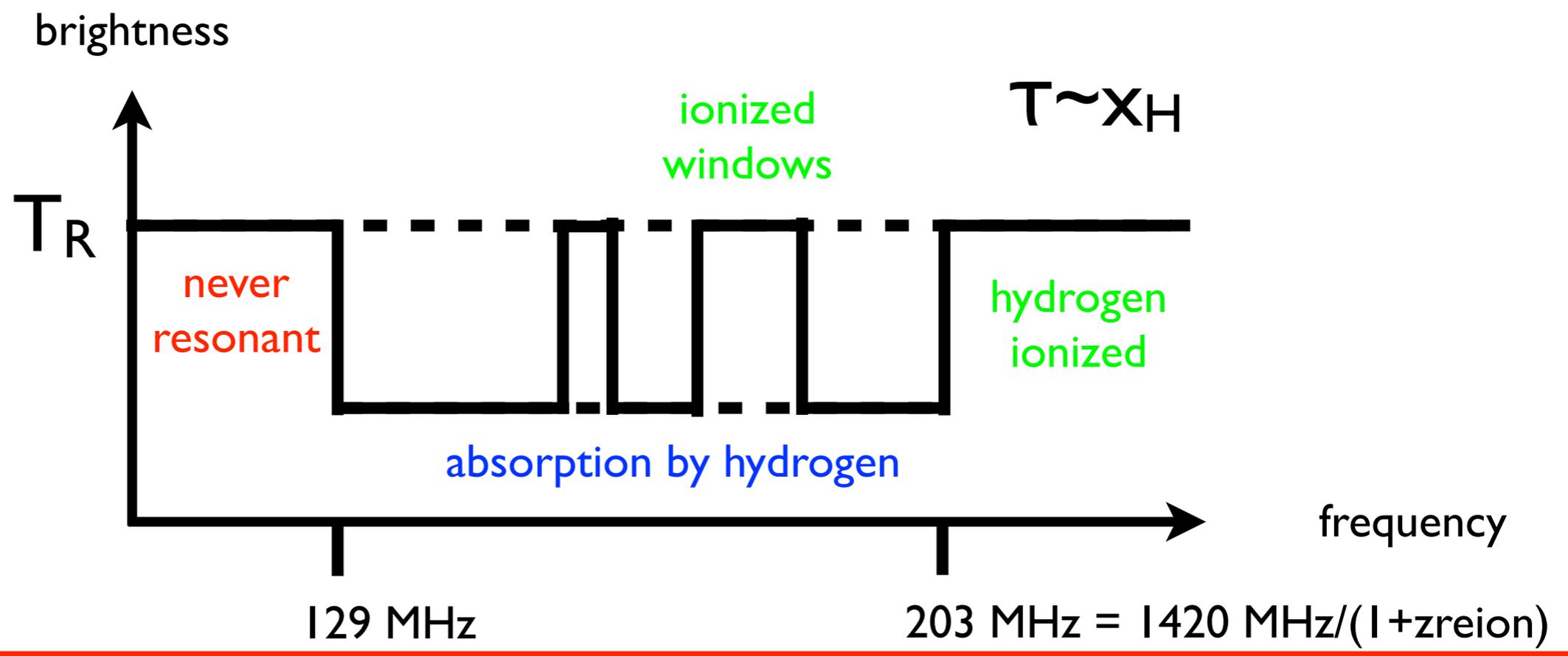
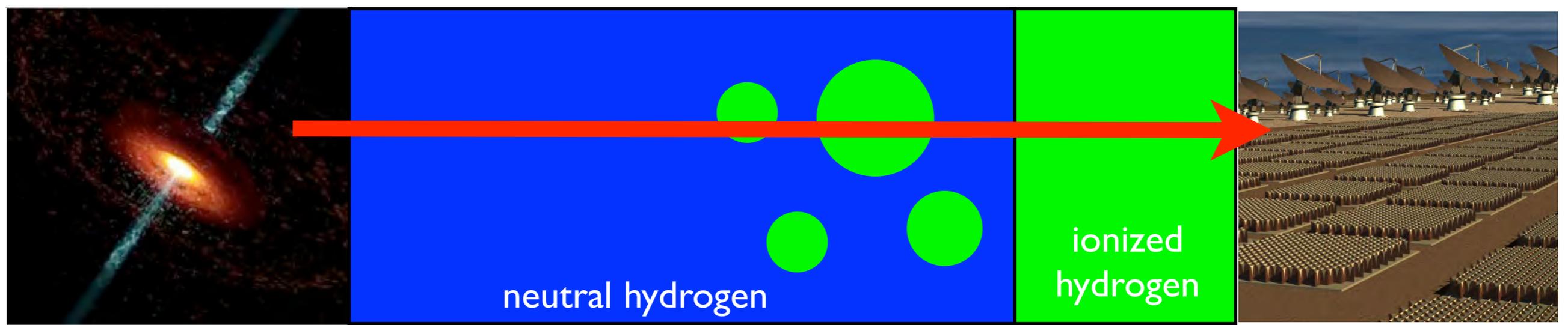


$z_{\text{reion}}=6$

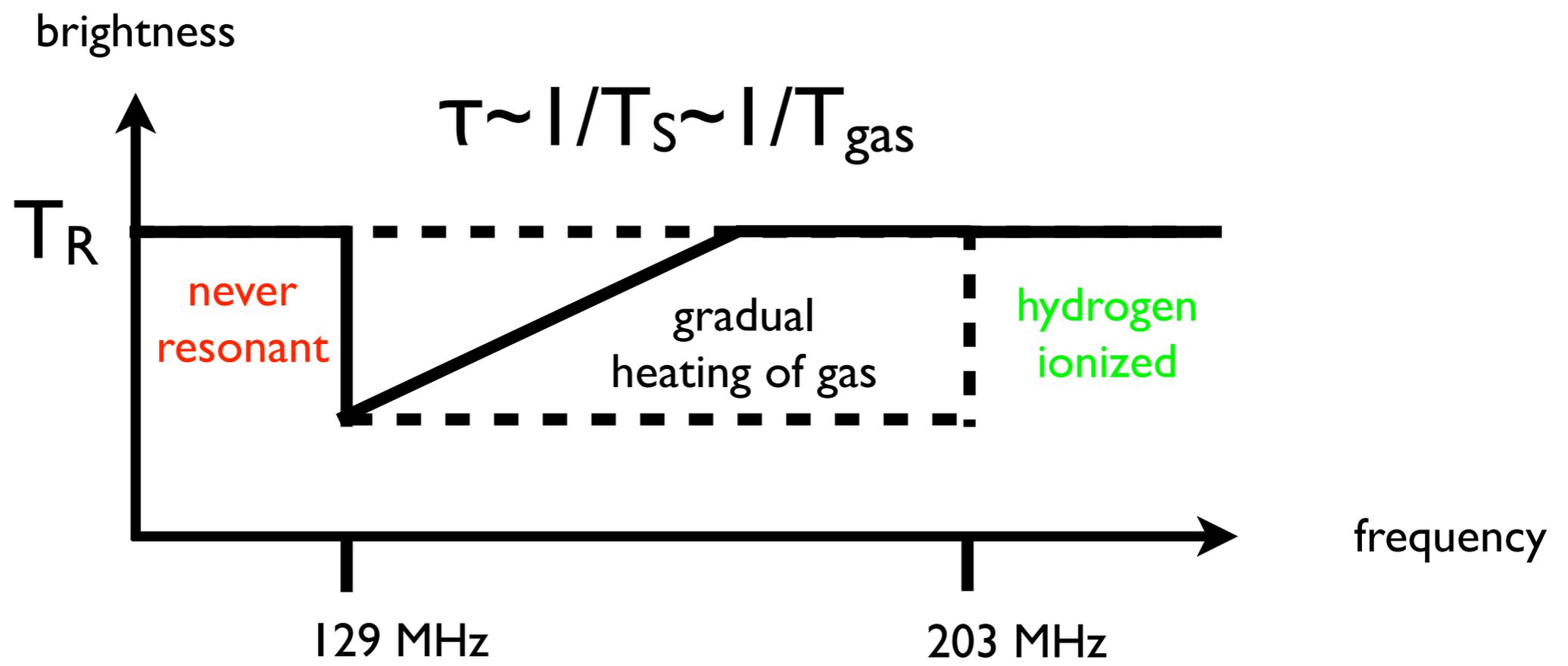
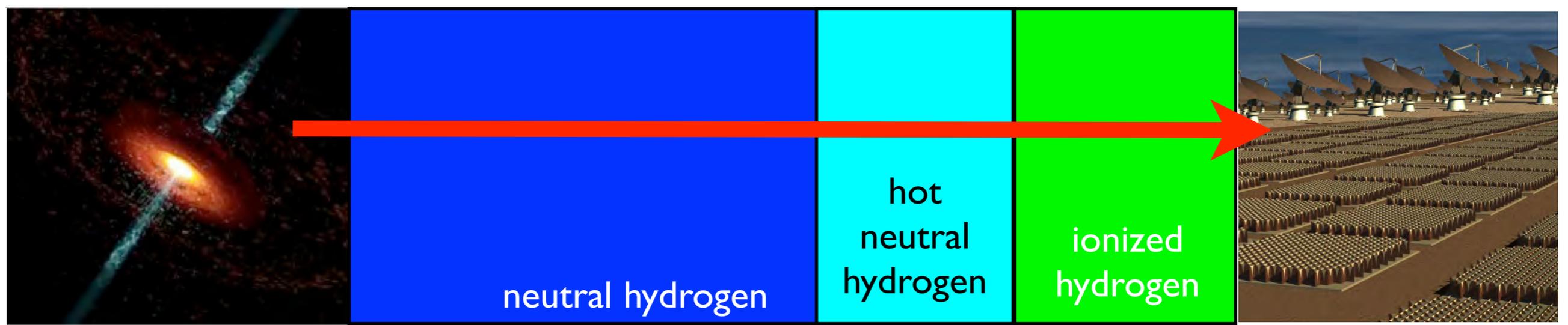


Patchy Reionization

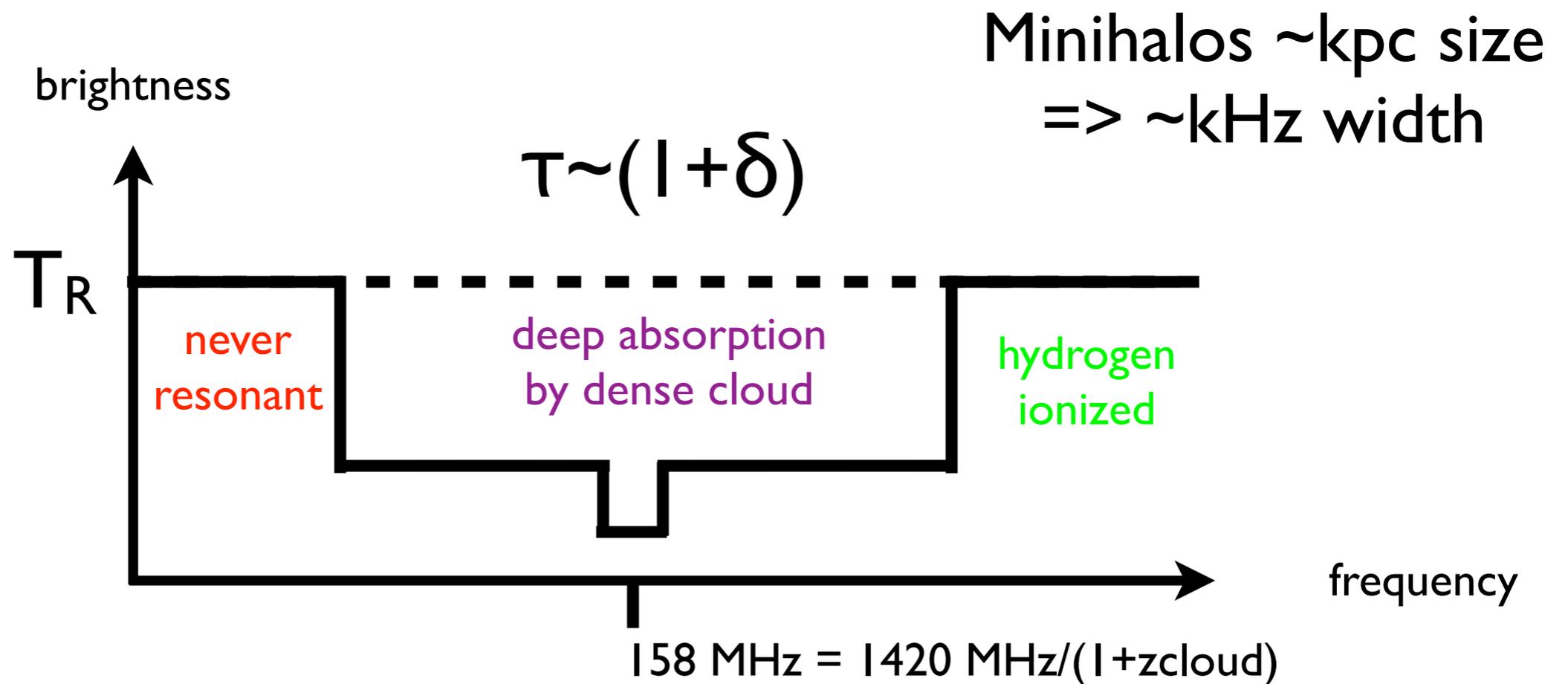
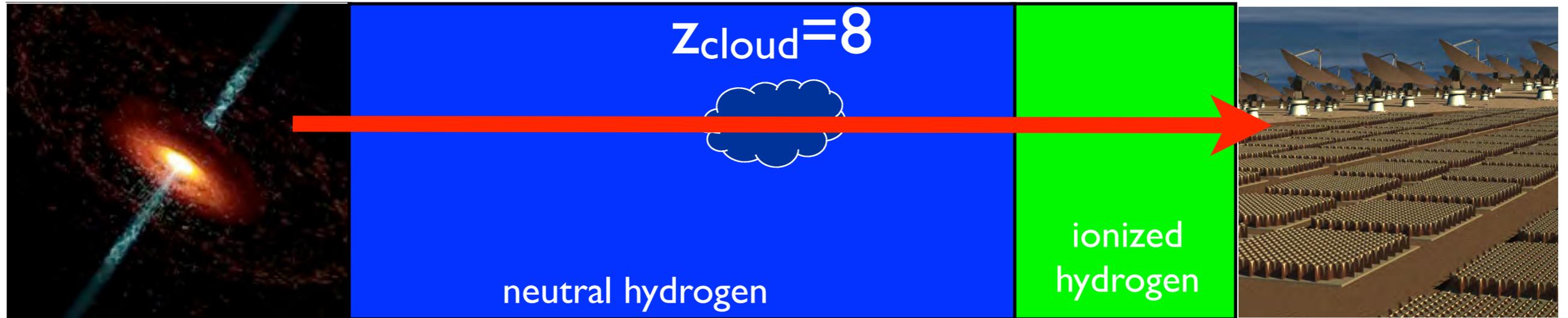
$z=10$



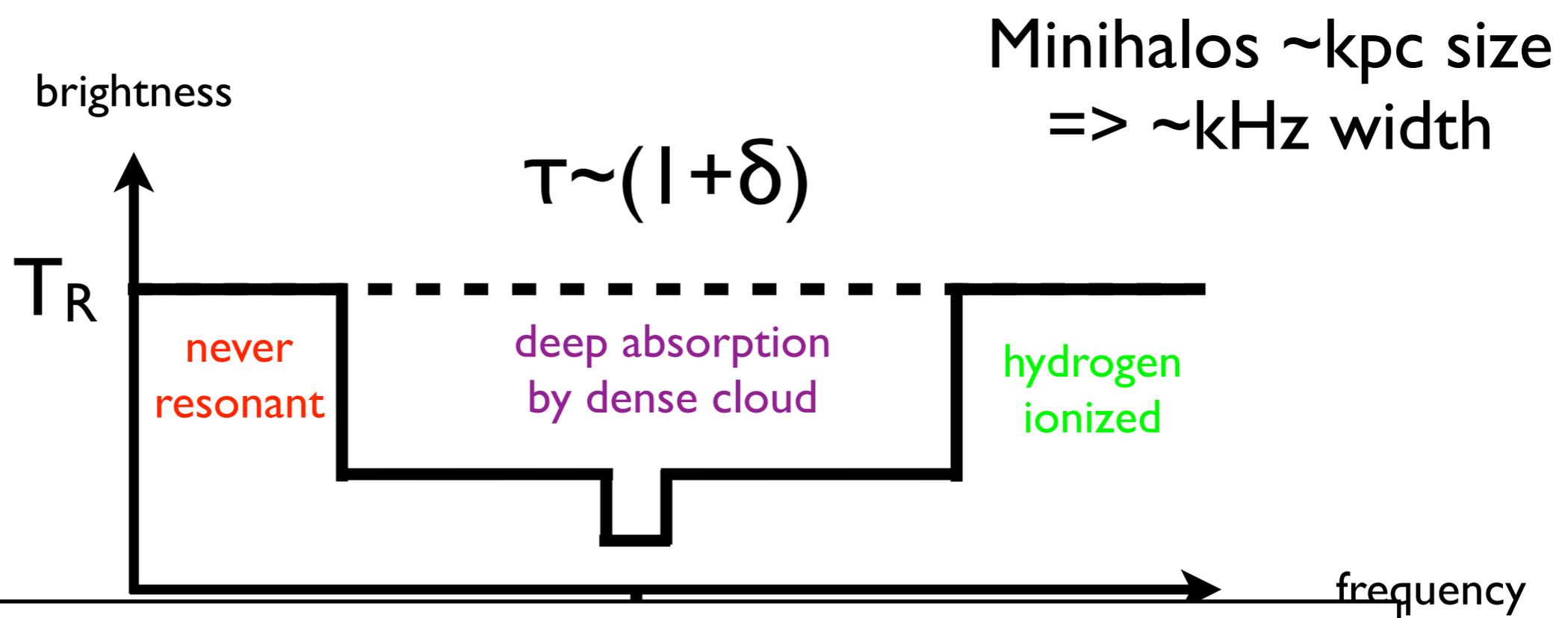
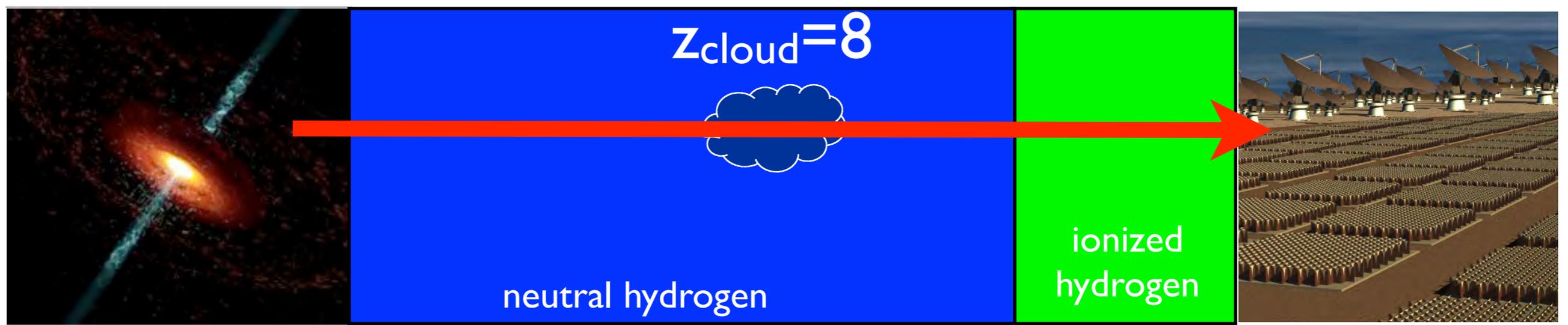
$z=10$



$z=10$

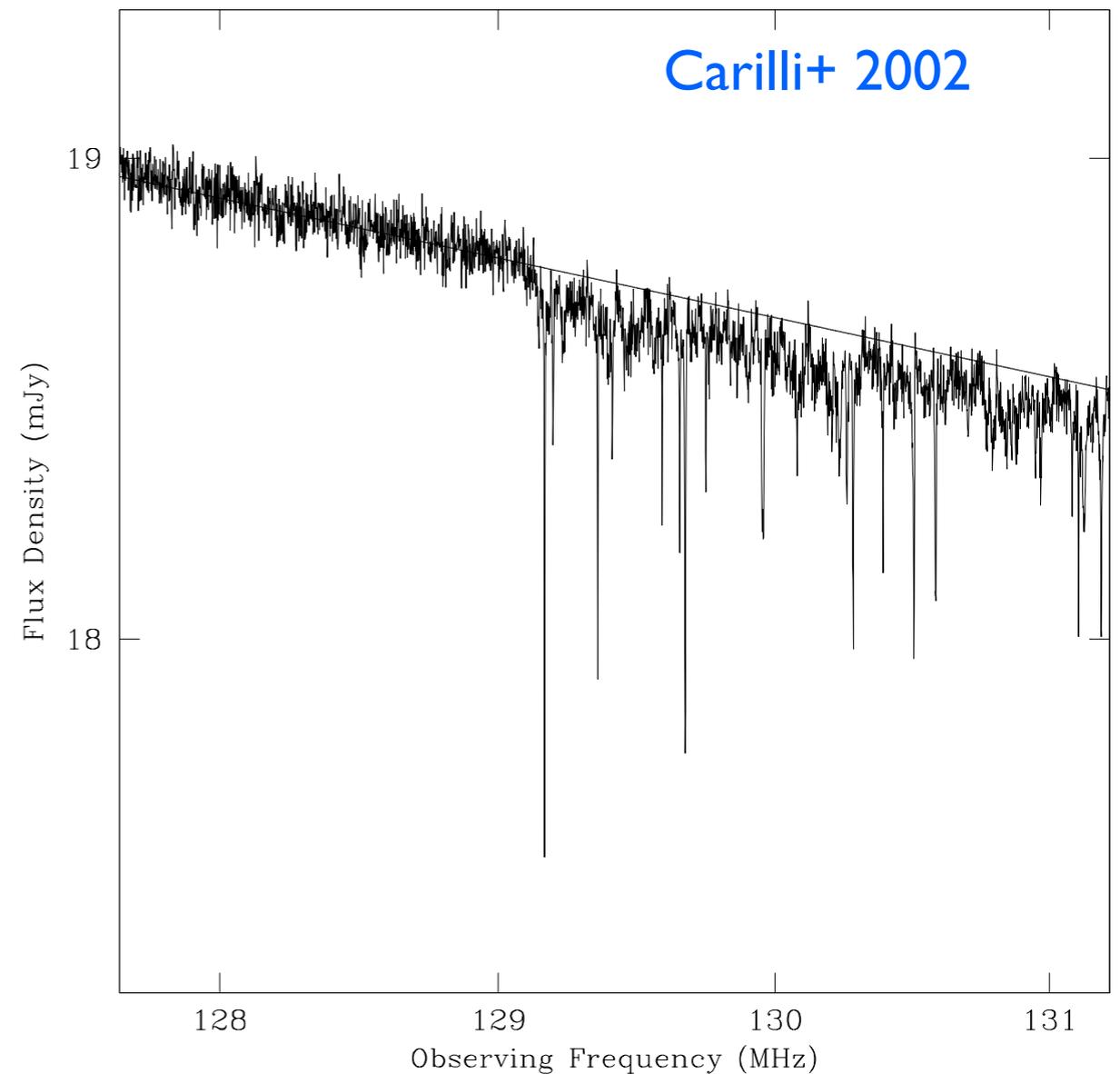
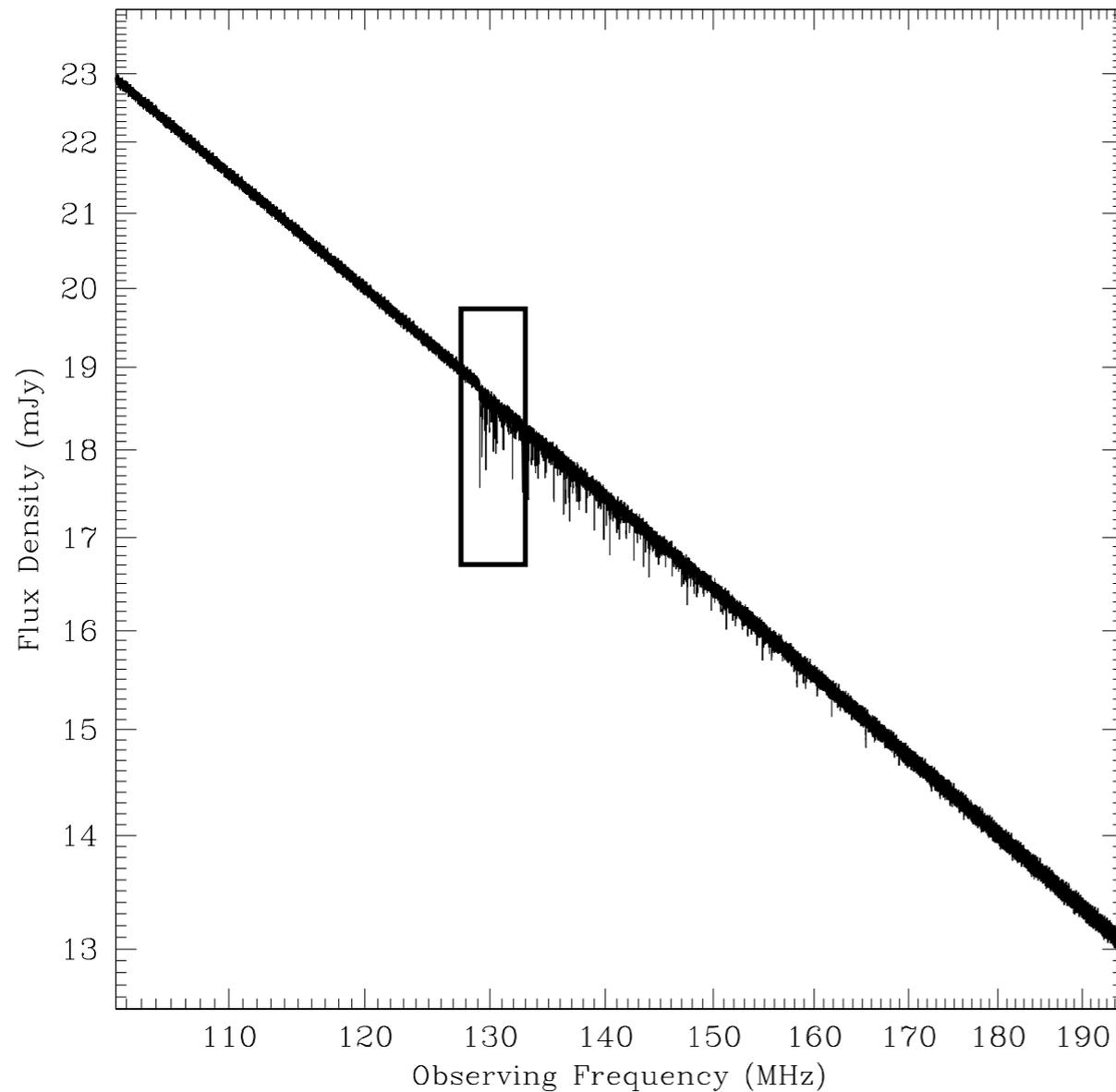


$z=10$



Tech requirement 2: resolve 0.1 kHz

Opportunity to study detailed structure of IGM



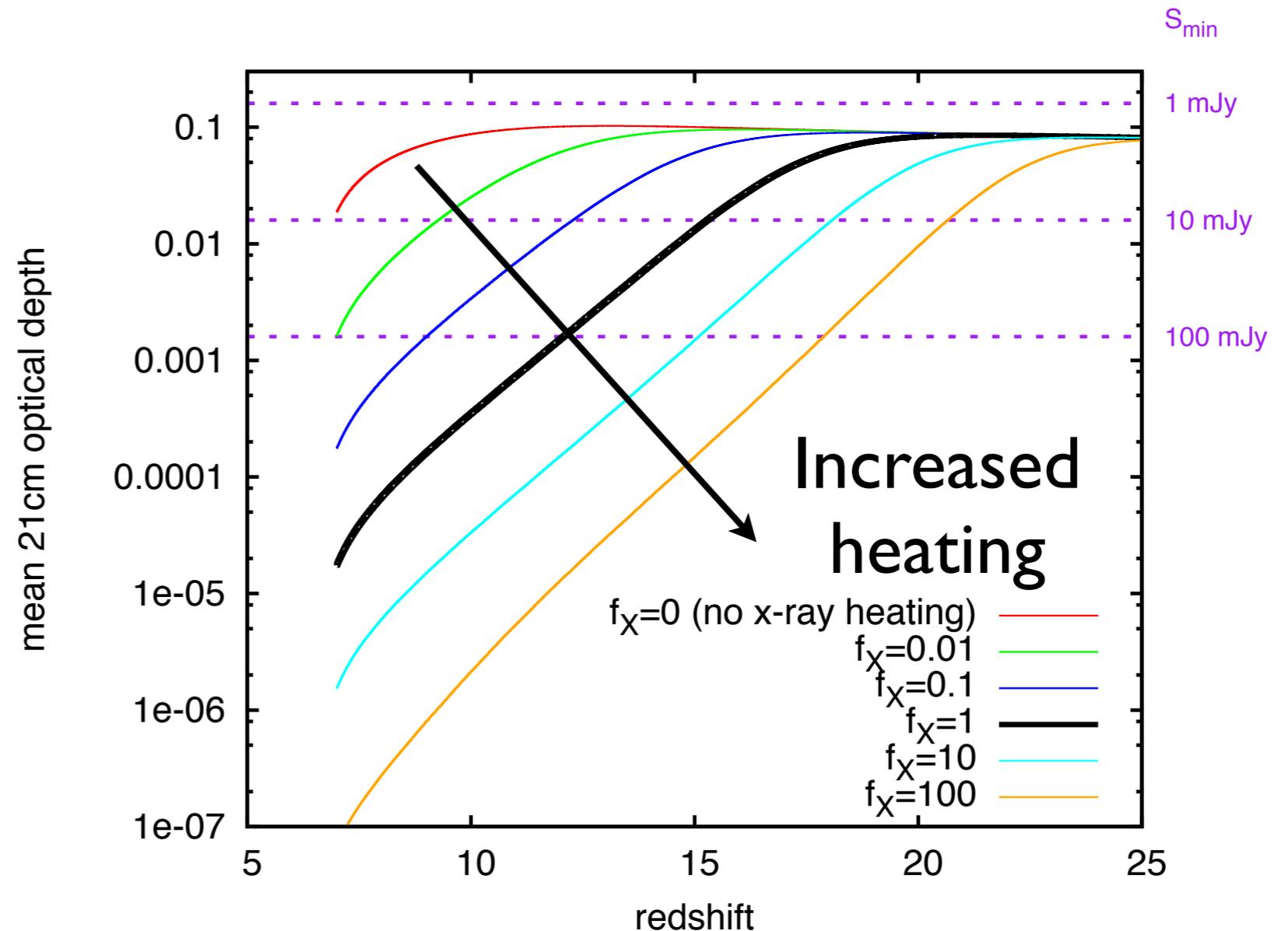
- When did reionization occur
- Statistics of ionized regions
- Properties of collapsed regions => dark matter

21 cm forest is a thermometer

Optical depth tracks
IGM temperature

Constrains early
X-ray heating

Mack & Wyithe 2011



High S/N, high resolution 21 cm forest observations require bright sources

Statistical techniques - e.g. variance - may make forest more accessible with fainter radio sources

Mack & Wyithe 2011

High redshift radio sources?

21 cm forest observations require existence of **high redshift** ($z > 6.5$) **radio loud** sources ($S_{\min} > 1$ mJy)

Do they exist?

Radio loud quasars

Radio loud supernovae/GRB

(many > 10 mJy sources in existing catalogues e.g. FIRST with no redshift)

Radio loud quasars?

NIR surveys are beginning to find $z > 7$ quasars

UKIDSS

(3800 deg² total)

$z \sim 7.05$

(~50% survey)

Mortlock+ 2011

VISTA-VIKING

(1500 deg² total)

$z \sim 6.8$

$z \sim 6.9$

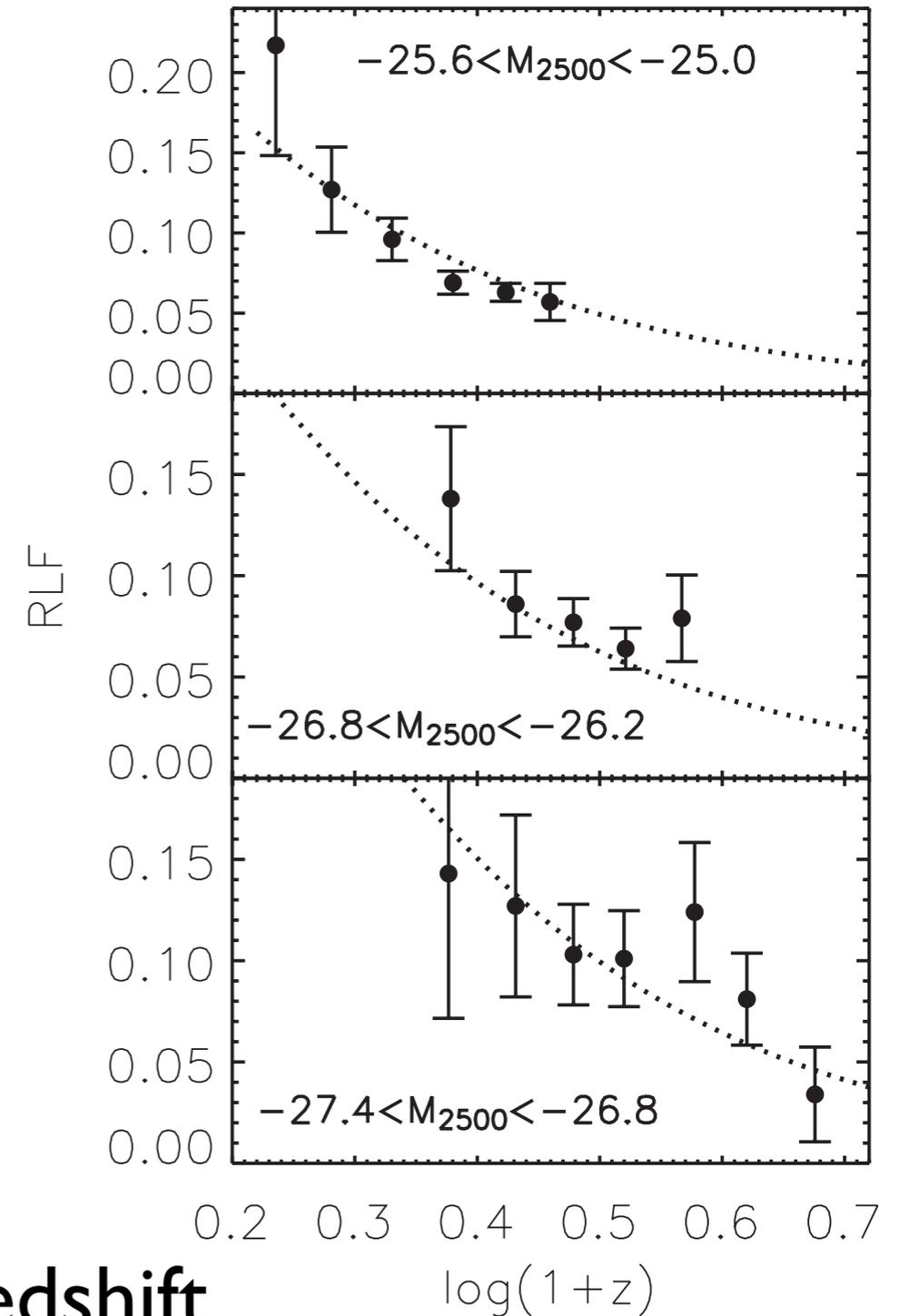
(<20% survey)

Venemans+

$2 * 10^9$ Msol black hole can form
~700 million yrs after big bang

~10-20% quasars are radio loud

Evidence for RLF decreasing at higher redshift



Jiang+ 2007

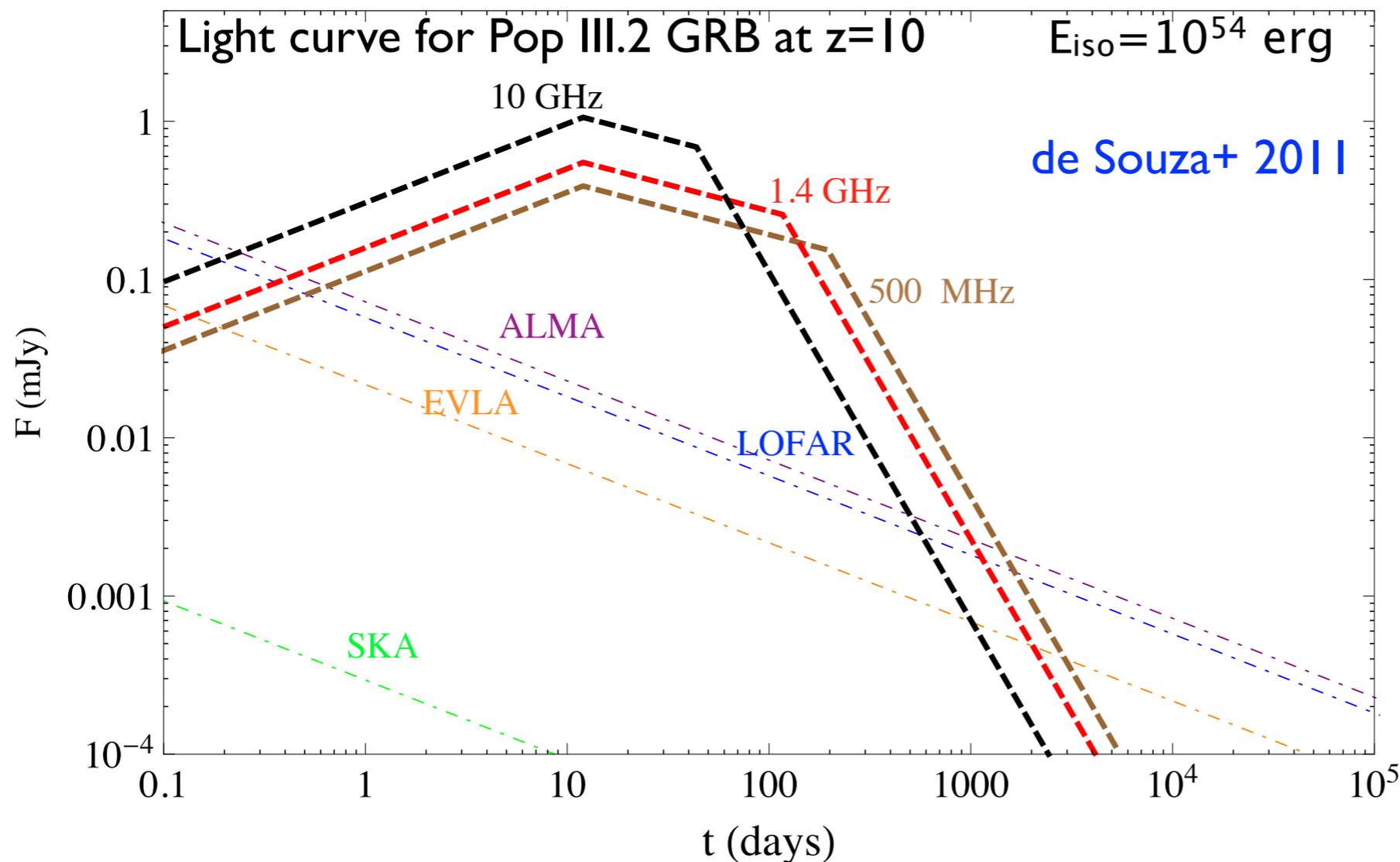
Radio loud SN/GRB?

Advantage: GRB have been seen at desired redshifts

$z=9.4$ (Cucchiara+ 2011), $z=8.6$ (Lehnert+ 2010), $z=8.26$ (Greiner+ 2009), ...

Disadvantage:

- 1) Lower radio brightness temperature
- 2) Finite duration limits integration time.



Intrinsic event rate
 $\sim 10-10^4 \text{ yr}^{-1}$

Transient surveys from
LOFAR, MWA,...
coming soon

Paradigm for first stars
currently unclear
e.g. Stacy+ 2011

Track evolution of IGM through reionization to first galaxies

SCI-S-REQ-0210: The SKA Phase 1 shall be able to access the H I line over at least the redshift range of 6 to 20.

Detect 21 cm forest for expected values of optical depth

SCI-S-REQ-0220: The SKA Phase 1 shall be able to detect H I absorption at optical depths of 0.001 or lower.

Resolve minihalos in forest

SCI-S-REQ-0230: The SKA Phase 1 shall be able to provide a velocity resolution of 0.2 km s^{-1} or better.

Ensure rare radio loud sources lie in survey

SCI-S-REQ-0235: The SKA Phase 1 shall be able to provide access as large a fraction of the sky as feasible, notionally at least 2π steradians.

Frequency coverage to match redshift range

SCI-T-REQ-0210: The SKA Phase 1 shall provide a frequency range of at least 70 to 200 MHz.

Frequency resolution to resolve minihalos

SCI-T-REQ-0220: The SKA Phase 1 shall provide a frequency resolution commensurate with the velocity resolution, with a fiducial value of 0.1 kHz at an observation frequency of 150 MHz.

Sensitivity needed to see 21 cm forest in a bright (~ 20 mJy) source at $z \sim 8$

SCI-T-REQ-0230 The SKA Phase 1 shall have a sensitivity of at least $1300 \text{ m}^2 \text{ K}^{-1}$.

Summary of science progress

- 21 cm tomography and forest are key probes of reionization and first galaxies
- Related science, but different strategy and complementary
- New NIR surveys are finding $z > 7$ quasars - hints of $x_H > 0.1$ (also LAE-LBG fraction evolution at $z \sim 7$)
- Global experiments taking baby steps - duration of reionization
- Pathfinders GMRT, MWA, LOFAR, PAPER making maps and measuring point sources

- For 21 cm tomography
 - Match redshift range $\Rightarrow z=6-30 \Rightarrow \nu=250-50$ MHz
 - Match size of bubbles \sim Mpc \Rightarrow 1 arcmin resolution & 0.1 MHz frequency resolution
 - High S/N \Rightarrow 1 mK thermal noise
 - Sample representative volume \Rightarrow large field of view
 - Ionosphere + calibration + point source removal
may force longer baselines >5 km for high angular resolution
- For 21 cm forest
 - Match redshift range $\Rightarrow z=6-30 \Rightarrow \nu=250-50$ MHz
 - Match size of minihalos \sim kpc \Rightarrow 0.1 kHz frequency res.
 - High S/N $\Rightarrow >1300$ m²/K
 - Find rare radio loud sources \Rightarrow large field of view
 $\sim 2\pi$ steradians.