

# Testing structure growth with new CMB lensing measurements

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European Research Council  
Established by the European Commission



UK Research  
and Innovation

for the Atacama Cosmology  
Telescope Collaboration



# Unsolved problem: is something wrong with large-scale structure growth?

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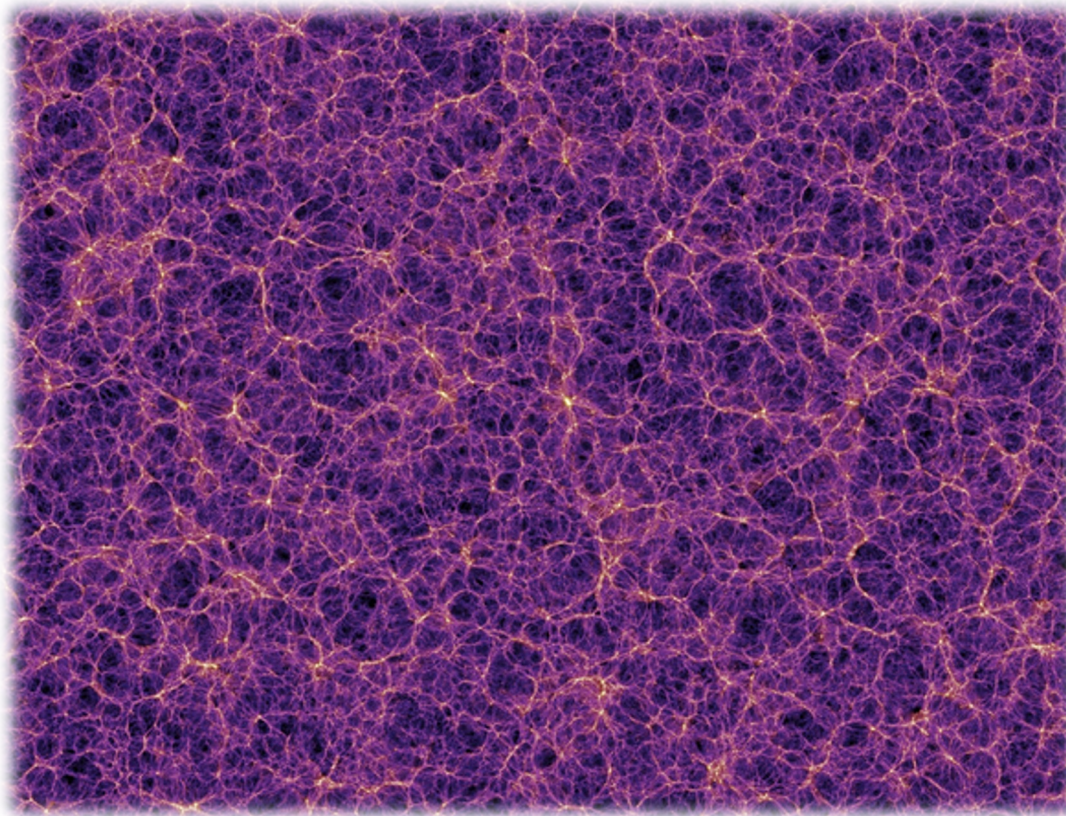
UK Research  
and Innovation

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Telescope Collaboration



# Cosmic mass maps: a powerful observable

- Want to probe mass distribution in detail, as contains clean information on open questions in cosmology and physics:



←  
1. Is standard structure growth correct?

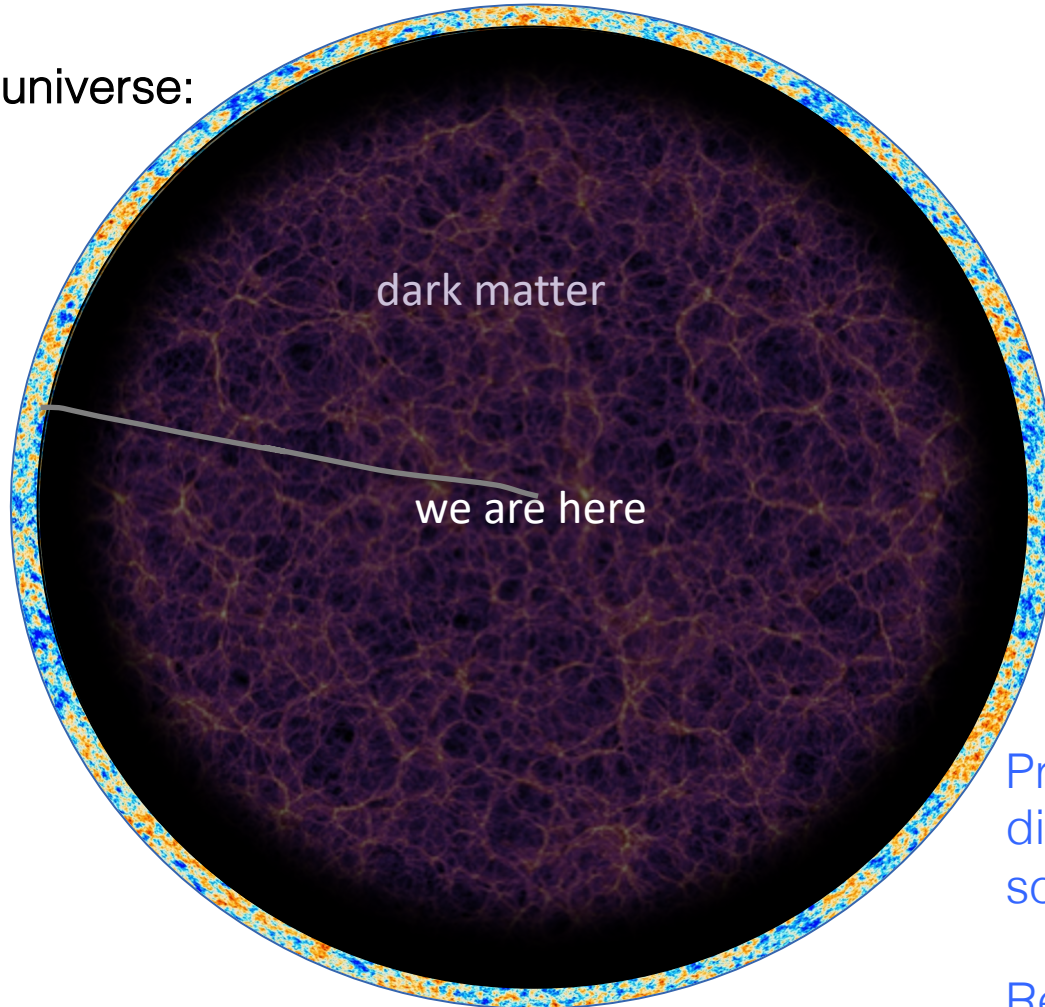
E.g., dark matter, dark energy = cosmological constant, GR

→  
2. What are the masses of neutrinos?

# CMB: A Unique Source for Gravitational Lensing

The observable universe:

CMB photon  
path

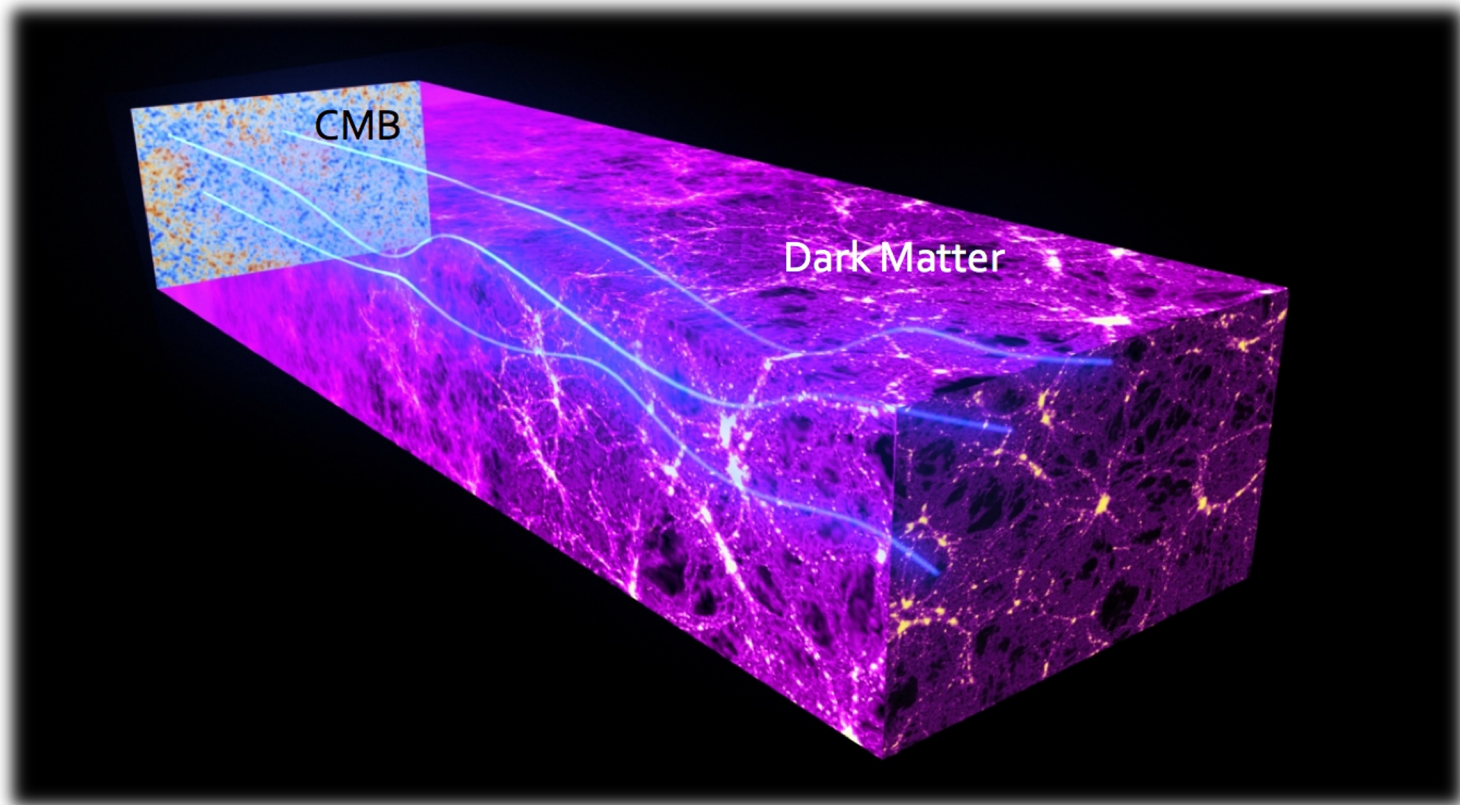


Primordial CMB (most  
distant and oldest  
source of radiation)

Redshift and CMB  
source well known,  
matter mildly nonlinear

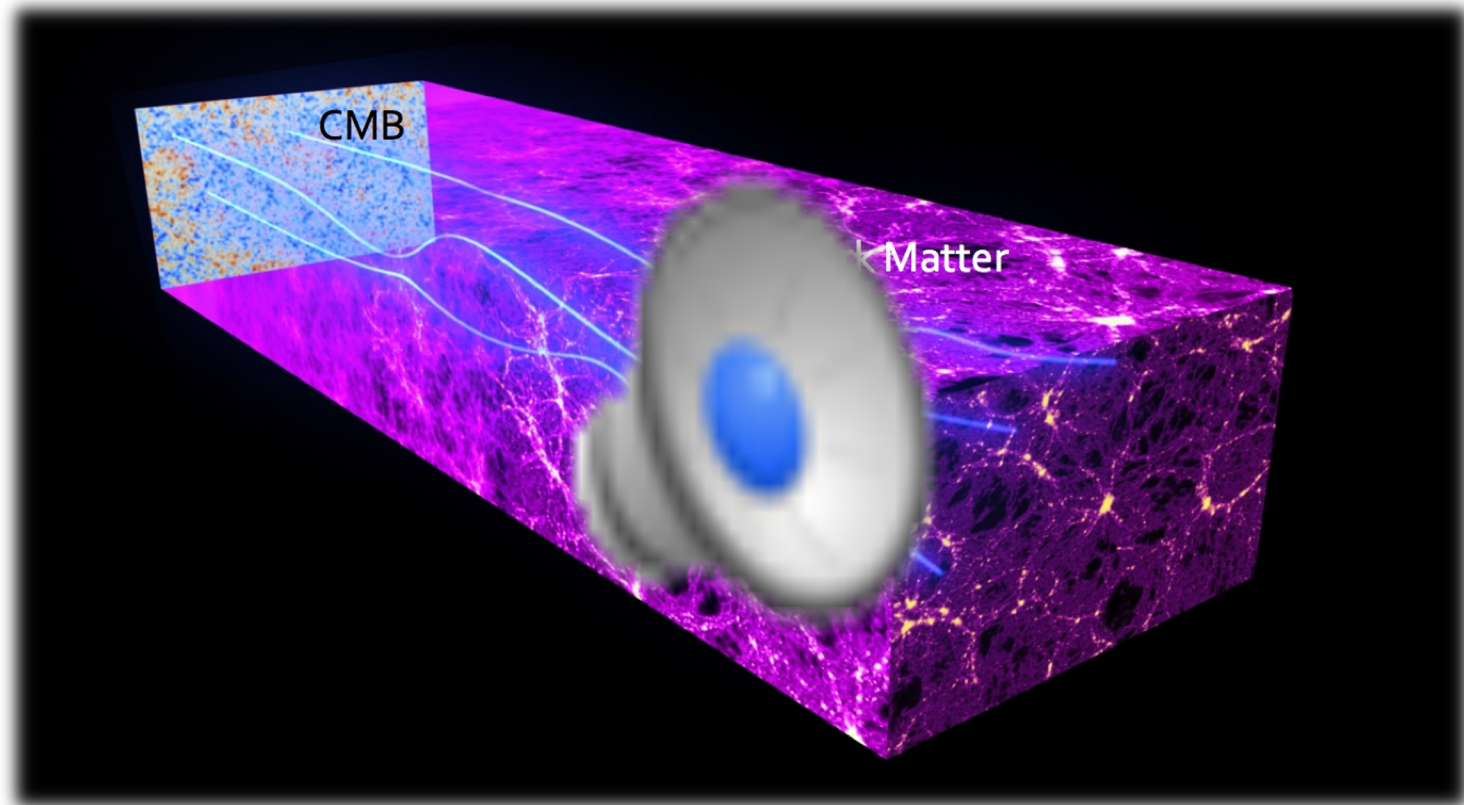
# CMB Gravitational Lensing

- Distribution of dark matter deflects CMB light that passes through

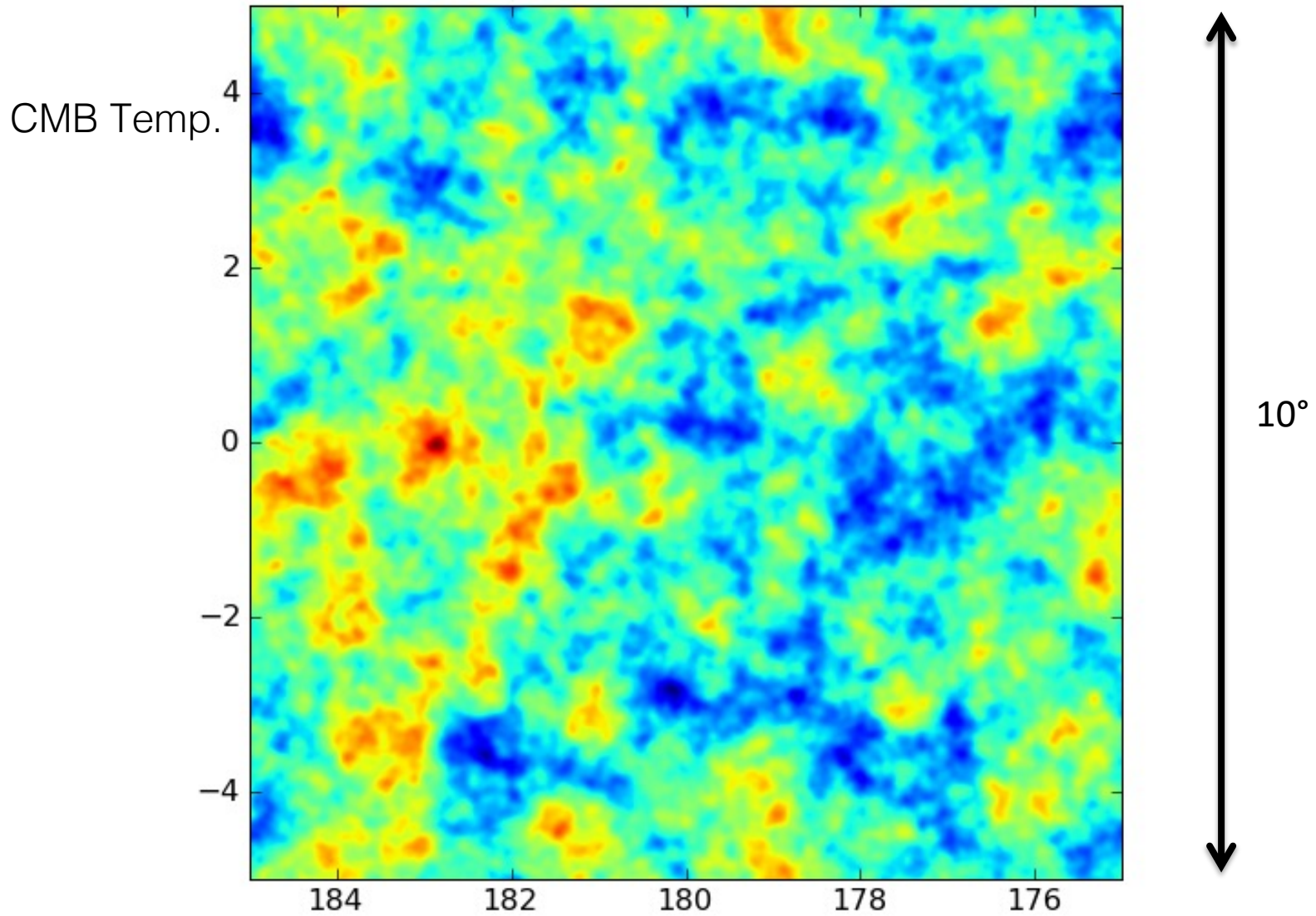


# “Light” Source for Lensing: The Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB)

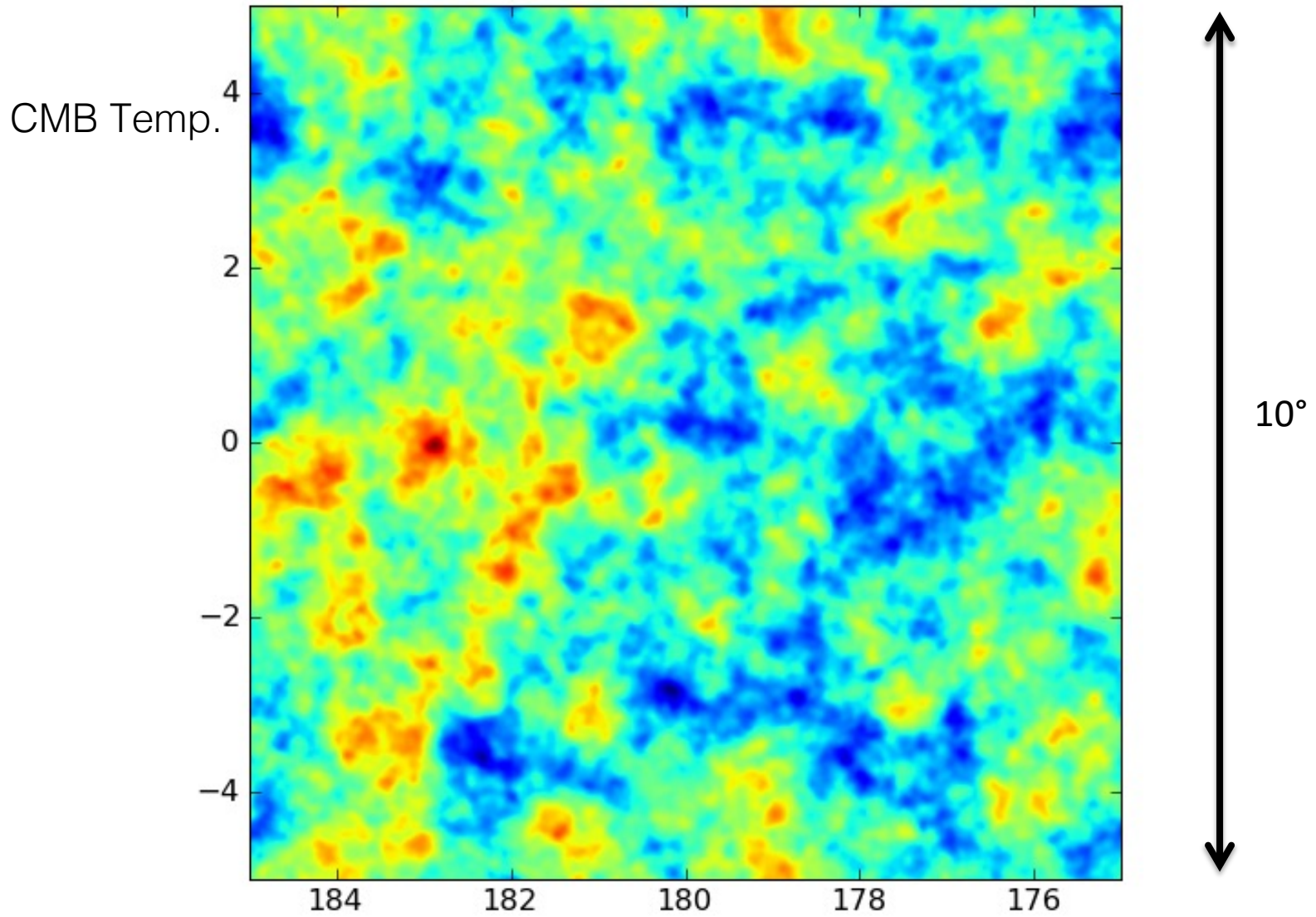
- Distribution of dark matter deflects light that passes through



# Unlensed CMB



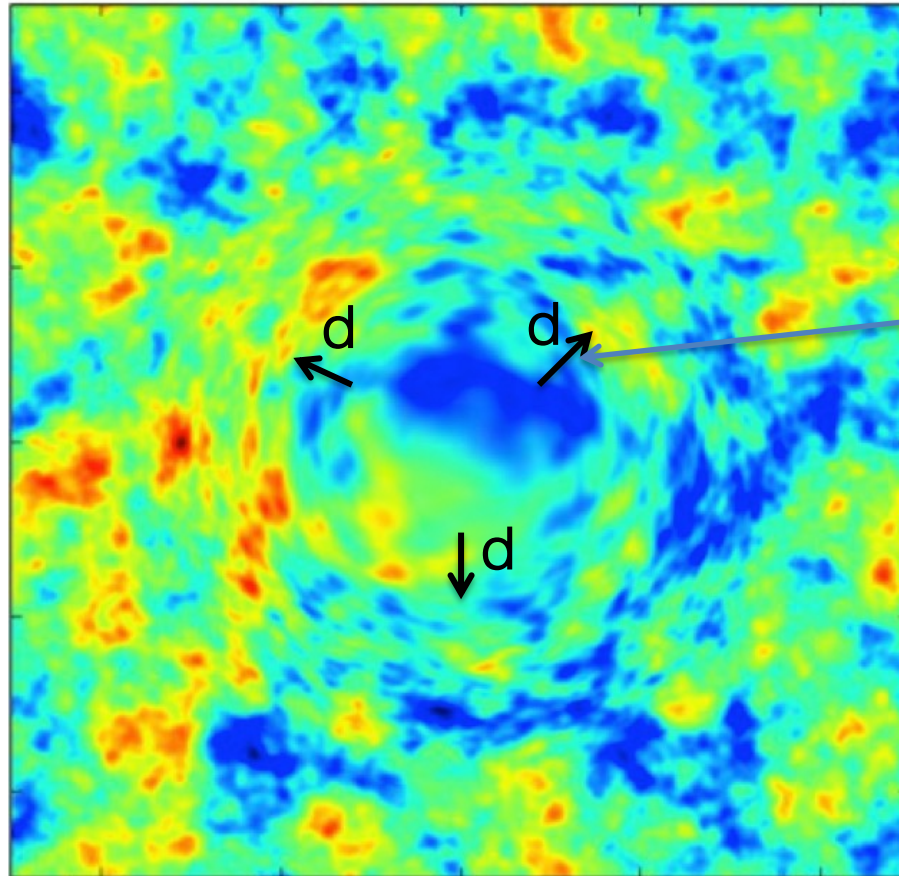
# Lensed CMB





# CMB Lensing: An Approximate Picture

$$T^{lensed}(\hat{\mathbf{n}}) = T^0(\hat{\mathbf{n}} + \mathbf{d})$$

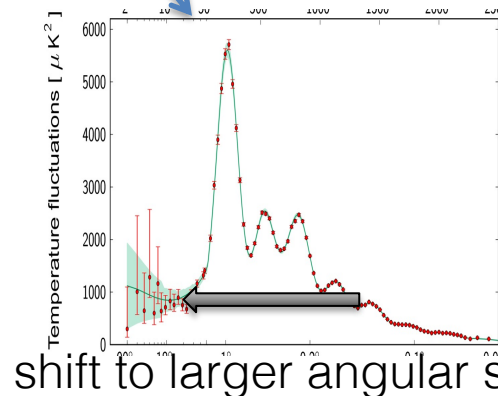
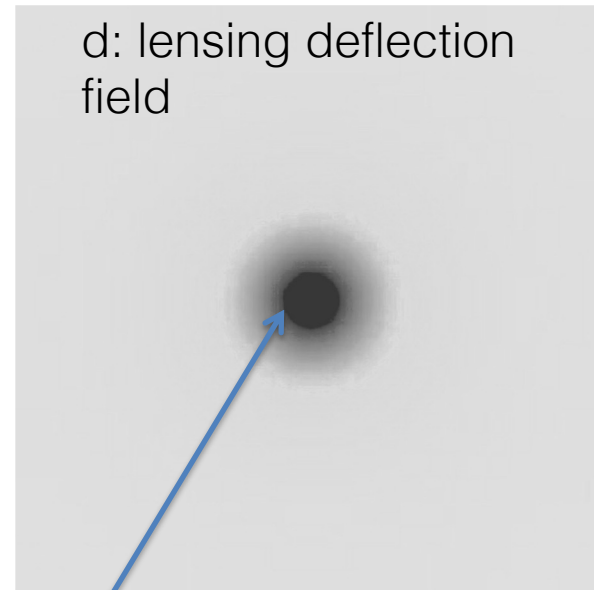
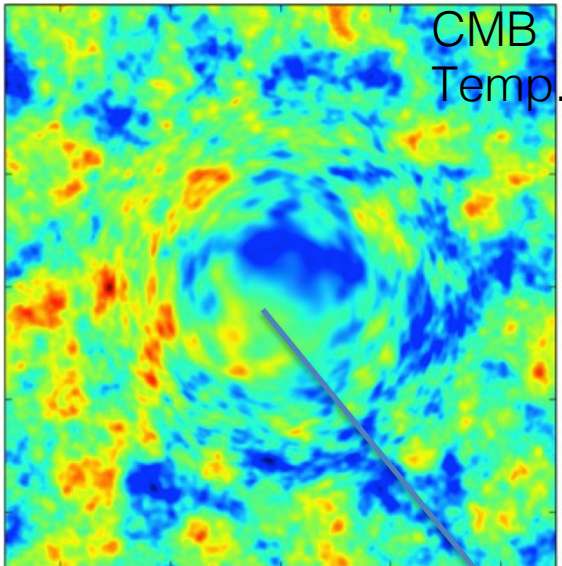


described by  
lensing  
deflection  
field:  $\mathbf{d}$

(very small:  
here  
exaggerated  
by  $x \sim 100$ ,  
actually a  
few arcmins)

- Dark matter causes lensing magnification feature in the CMB

# CMB Lensing Measurement: An Approximate Picture



Infer lensing from  
stretching/shearing of the local  
CMB two-point function  
Full version: quadratic estimator

$$\hat{d}(\mathbf{L}) \sim \int d^2\mathbf{l} T(\mathbf{l})T^*(\mathbf{l} - \mathbf{L})$$

# What Does CMB Lensing Tell Us?

- Lensing probes projected total mass density (of which most is dark matter)

$$d(\hat{\mathbf{n}}) = \int_0^{r_{\text{CMB}}} dr W(r) \delta(\hat{\mathbf{n}}, r)$$

lensing deflection

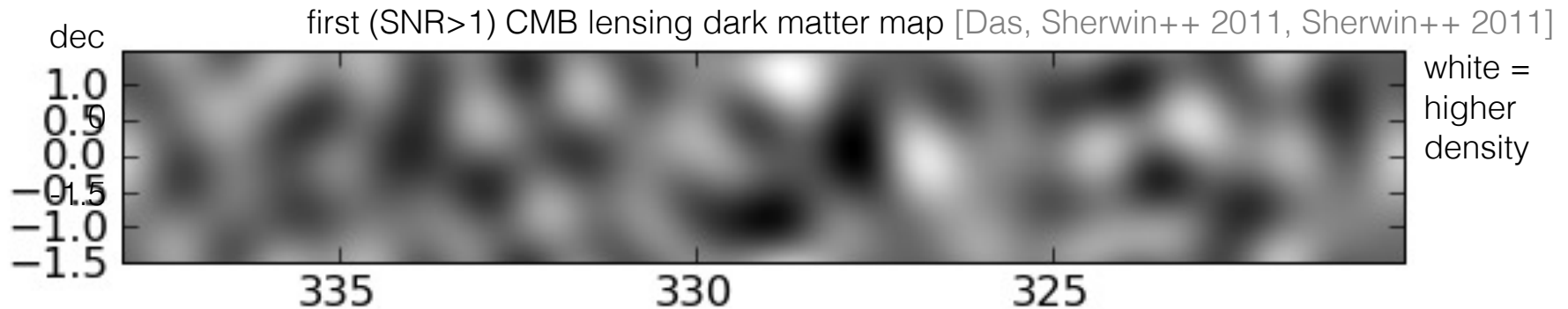
radial distance

geometric projection kernel

$\delta$  : fractional mass overdensity  
 $\delta = (\rho - \bar{\rho}) / \bar{\rho}$

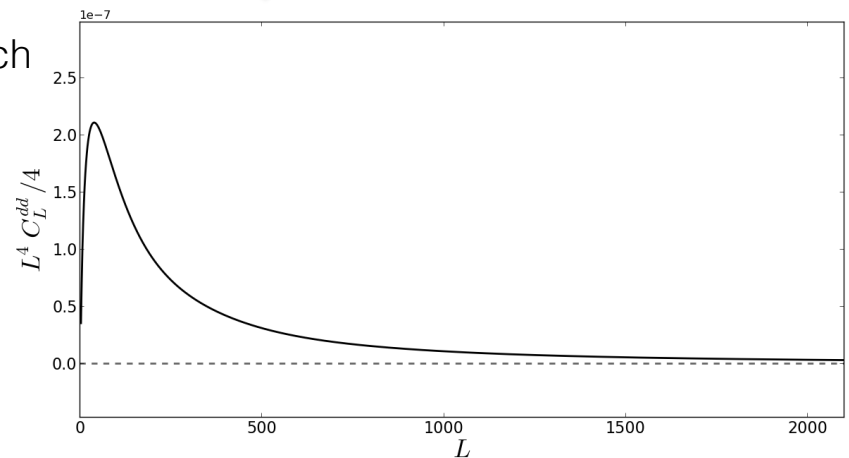
- Sensitivity to  $z \sim 0.5-6$ , peak at  $z \sim 2$

# Key Observable: CMB Lensing Power Spectrum $C_L^{dd}$



Y axis: “How much lensing ....”

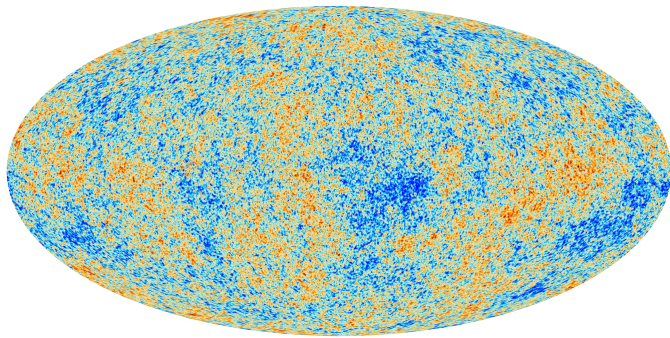
Describe lensing maps statistically with **lensing power spectrum**.  
Probes “clumpiness”  
 $\sim \sigma_8$



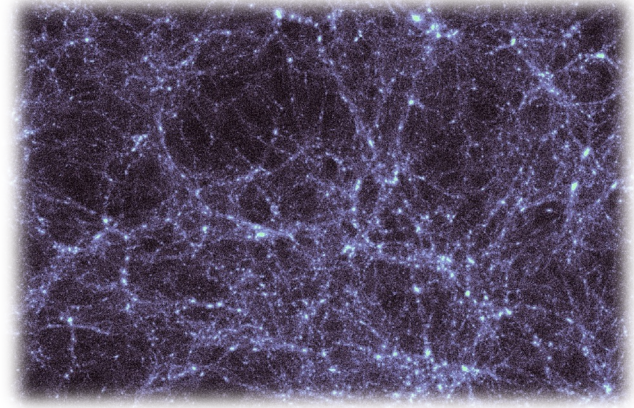
X axis: “for a lens of this angular scale?”

# Motivation 1: is something wrong with large-scale structure growth?

- Do observations match predictions of standard-model structure growth? Particularly powerful test:



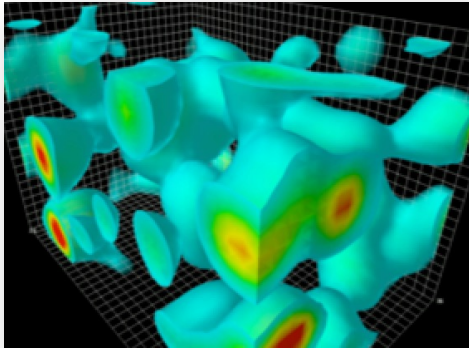
Fit model to CMB at **early times**



Predict structure at **late times**  
+ compare with lensing observations

- Describe structure size today with “clumpiness”  $\sigma_8$ , RMS matter density fluctuation smoothed on scale of 8 Mpc/h

# Motivation 1: is something wrong with large-scale structure growth?

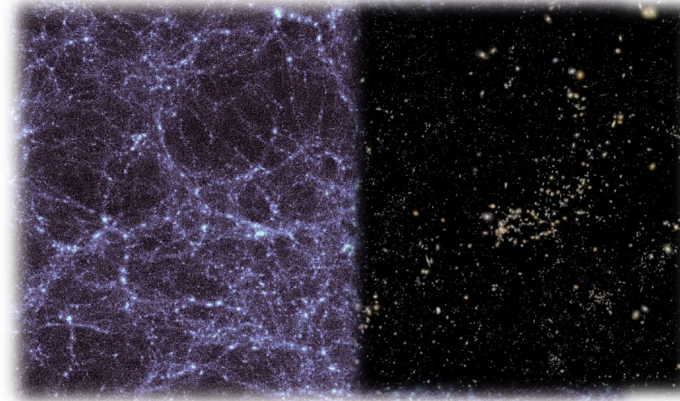


Primordial fluctuations

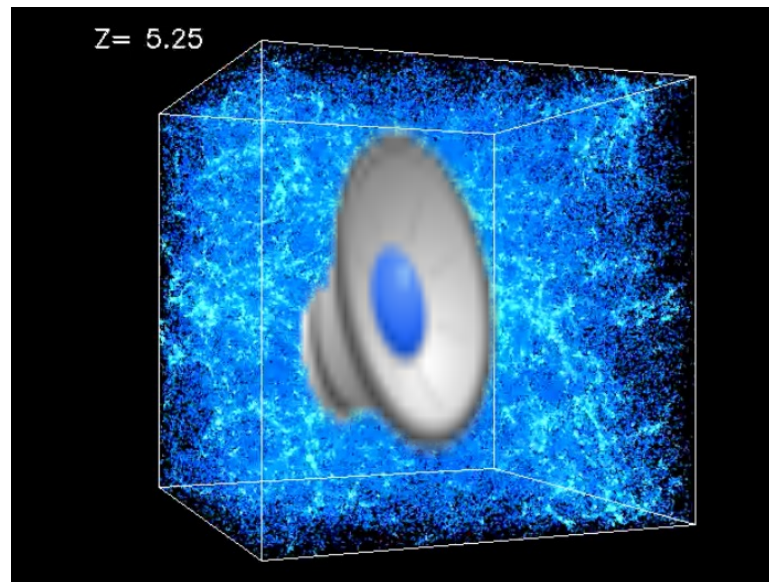
Growth due to gravity.

Assumptions:

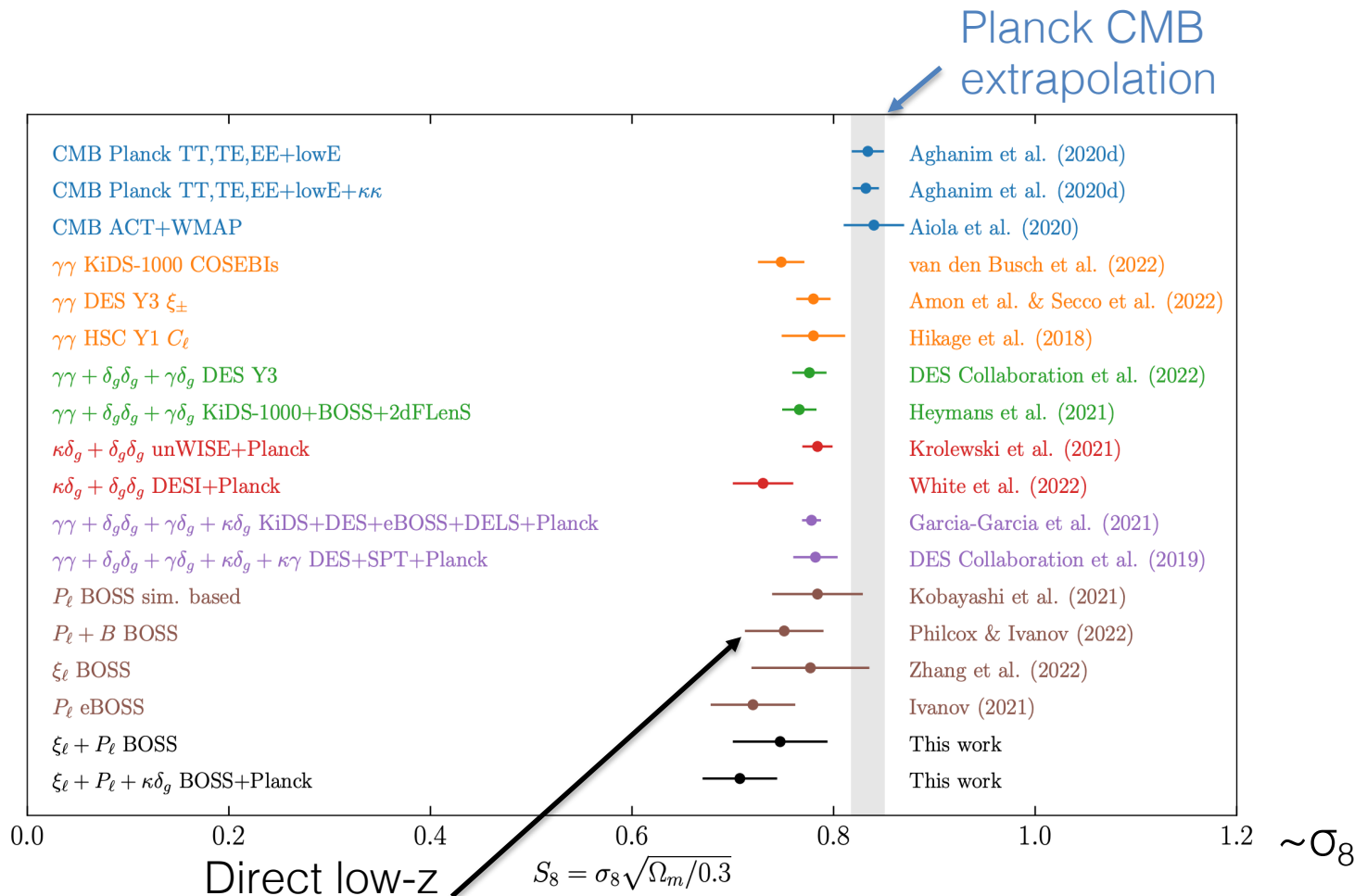
- Standard GR
  - Dominated by Cold Dark Matter
  - Constant Dark Energy
- Sensitive to new physics!



Cosmic structure today



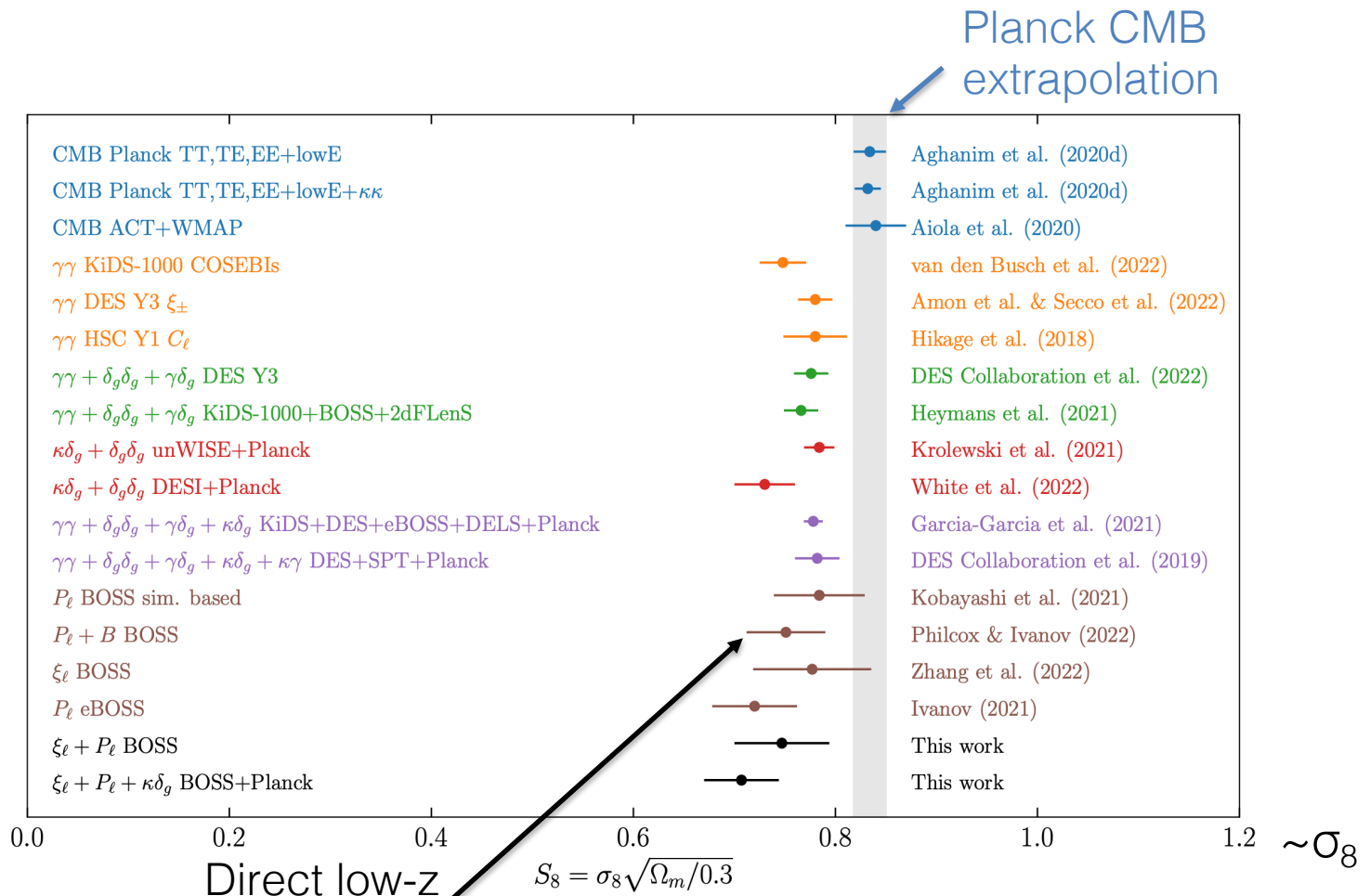
# Motivation 1: is something wrong with large-scale structure growth? "σ<sub>8</sub> tension"



[Chen++ 2022]

Direct low-z measurements from galaxy surveys: 2-3 sigma low in several channels

# Motivation 1: is something wrong with large-scale structure growth? "σ<sub>8</sub> tension"



[Chen++ 2022]

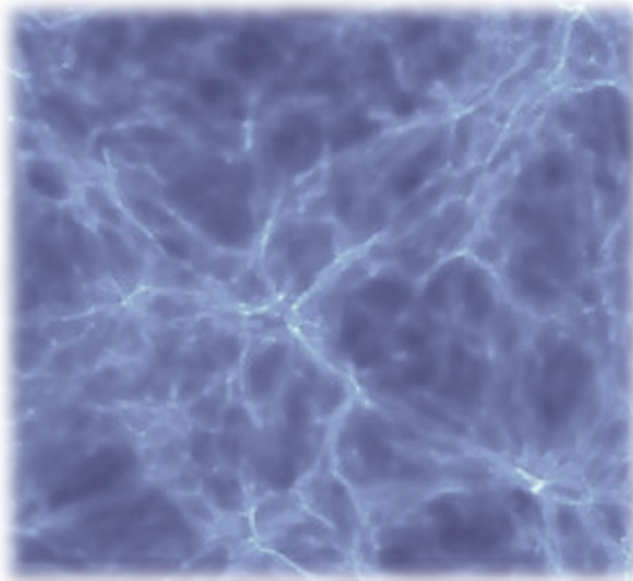


## Motivation 2: What is the Mass of Neutrinos?

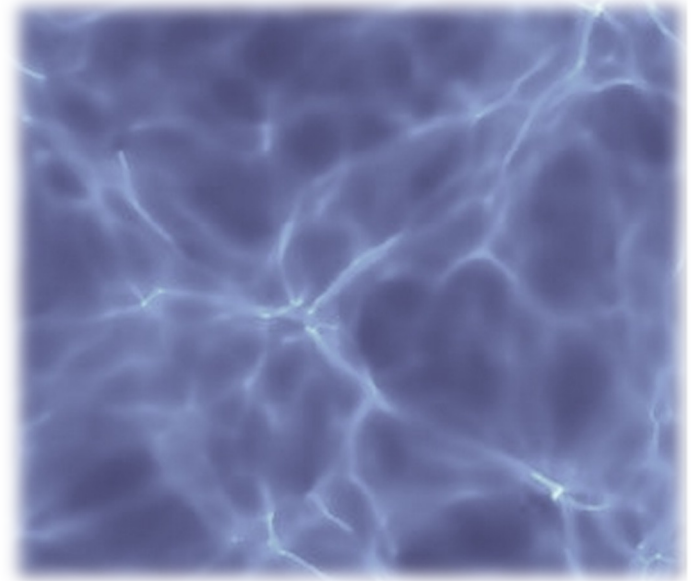
- The more massive neutrinos are, the more small-scale structure growth is suppressed.

Large-scale  
mass  
distribution:

Image:  
Viel++  
2013



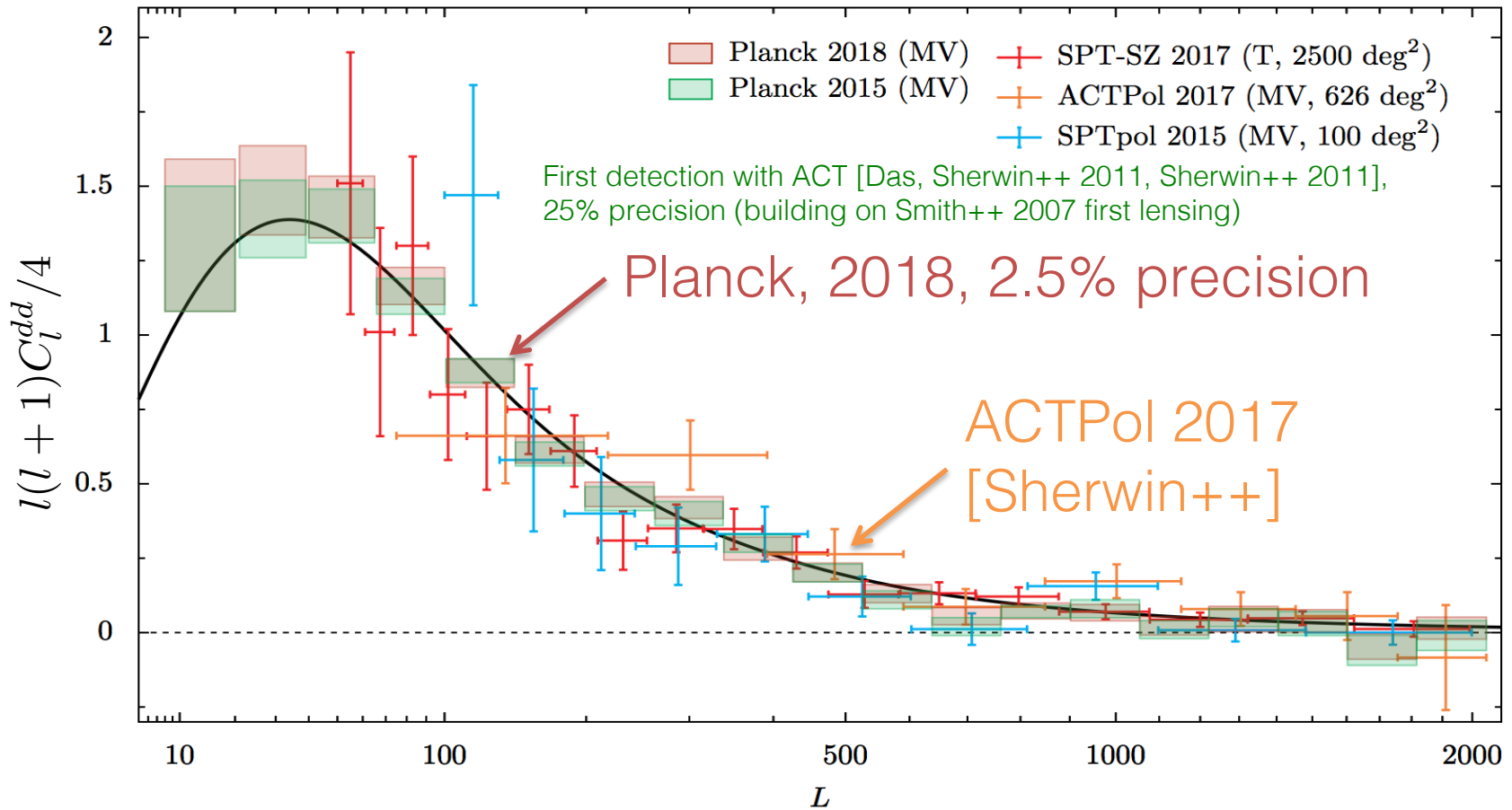
No neutrinos



Massive neutrinos

- Probes approaching detection limit!

# CMB Lensing Power Spectra: From First Measurements...to a Precise Probe



- Rapid progress – but only just beginning. New ground-based experiments such as AdvACT, Simons Observatory!

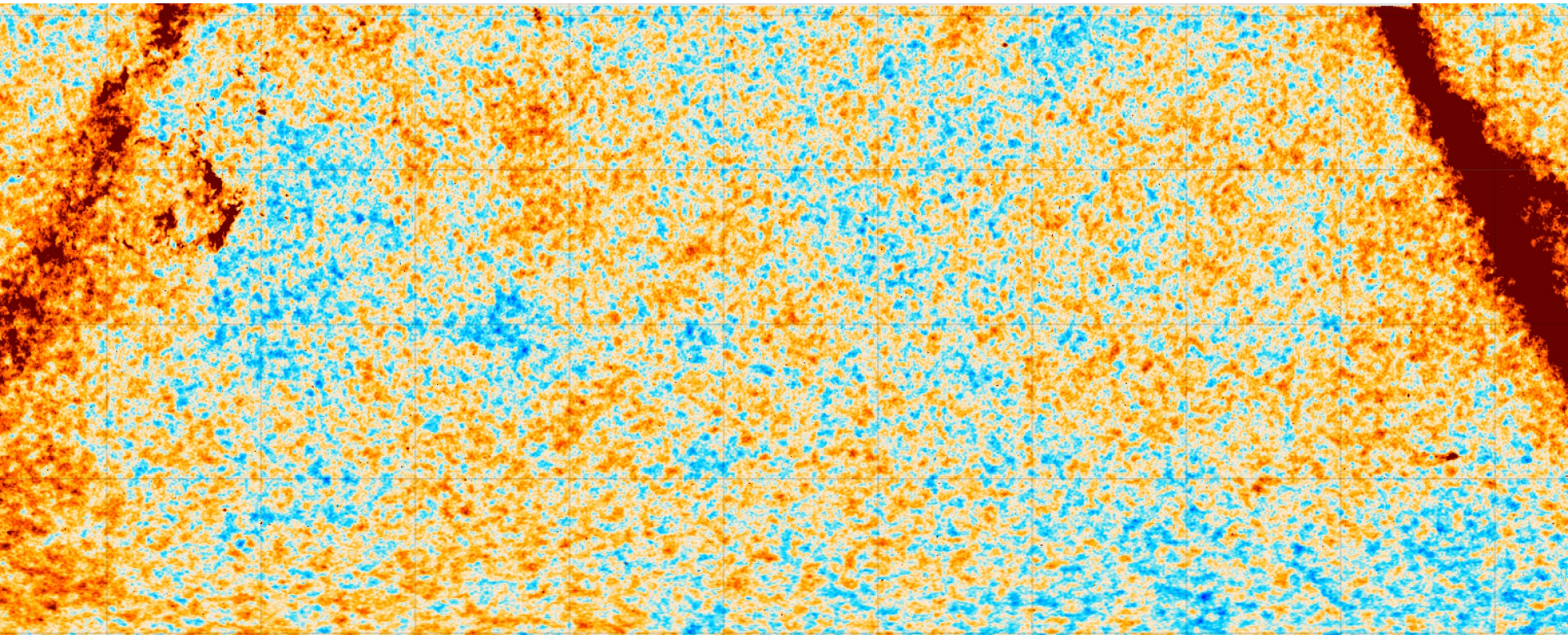
# Atacama Cosmology Telescope (ACT) – RIP ☹



- Arcminute resolution CMB telescope high in the Chilean Atacama desert, with arrays of sensitive (TES bolometer) detectors

# ACT Data Release (DR) 6: new, state of the art CMB and lensing maps!

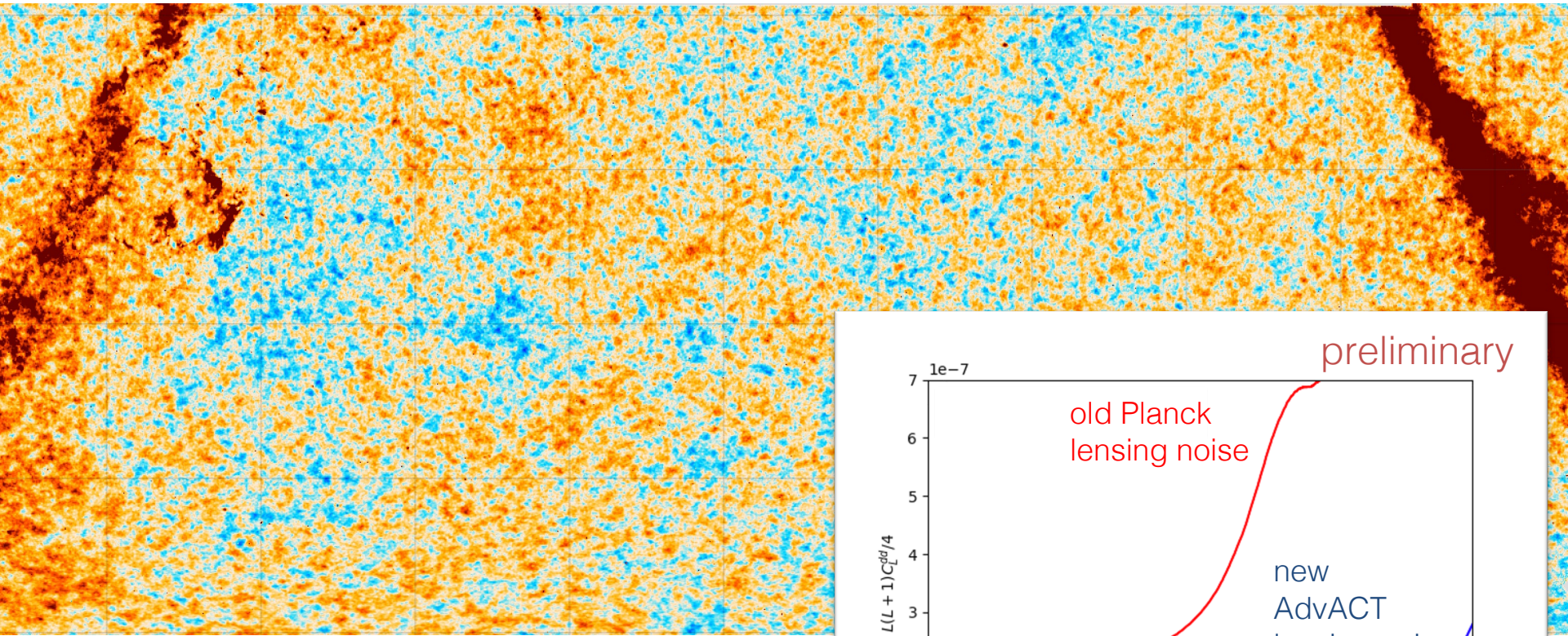
ACT DR6 CMB map



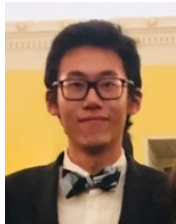
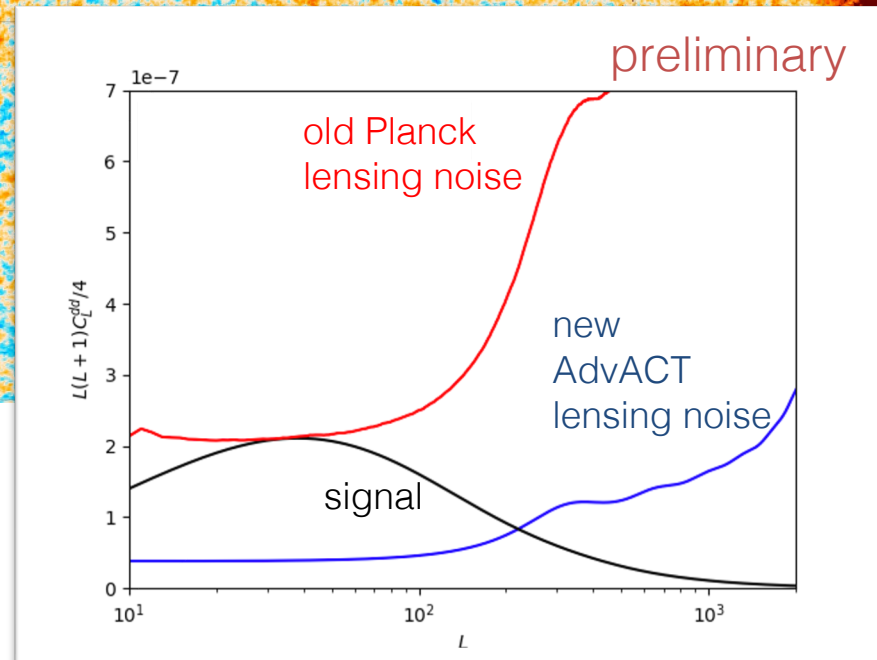
- New ACT polarized data through 2020 (DR6): 16000 deg<sup>2</sup> at high resolution  
~10 x more data volume than previous release!

# ACT DR6: new, state of the art CMB and lensing maps!

AdvACT CMB map



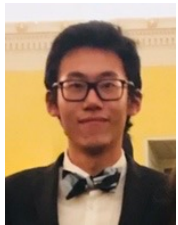
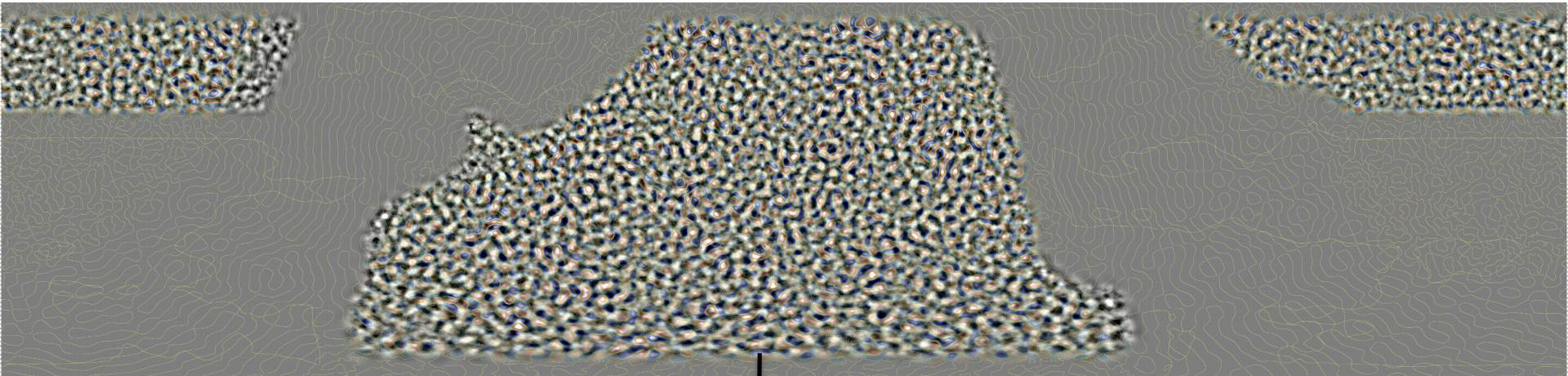
- Gives powerful lensing map! ([link](#))



Frank Qu

# ACT DR6: new, state of the art lensing mass maps!

AdvACT CMB lensing map: 10000 deg<sup>2</sup> total



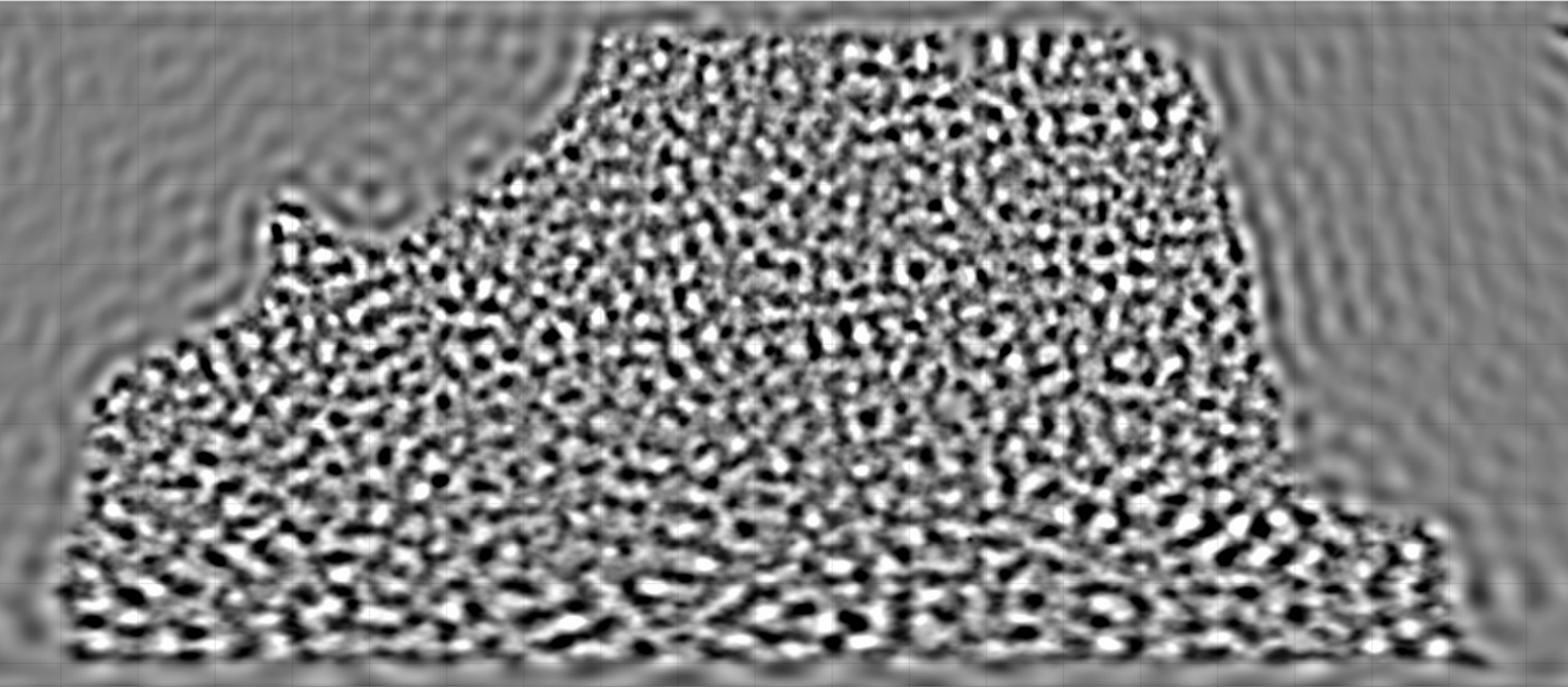
Frank Qu

- Gives powerful lensing map! ([link](#))

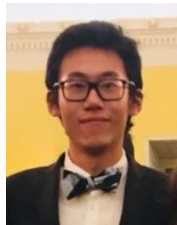
[Qu, Sherwin++ in prep., MacCrann, Sherwin++ in prep.  
Madhavacheril, Qu, Sherwin in prep.]

# ACT DR6: new, state of the art lensing mass maps!

AdvACT CMB lensing map: 10000 deg<sup>2</sup> total



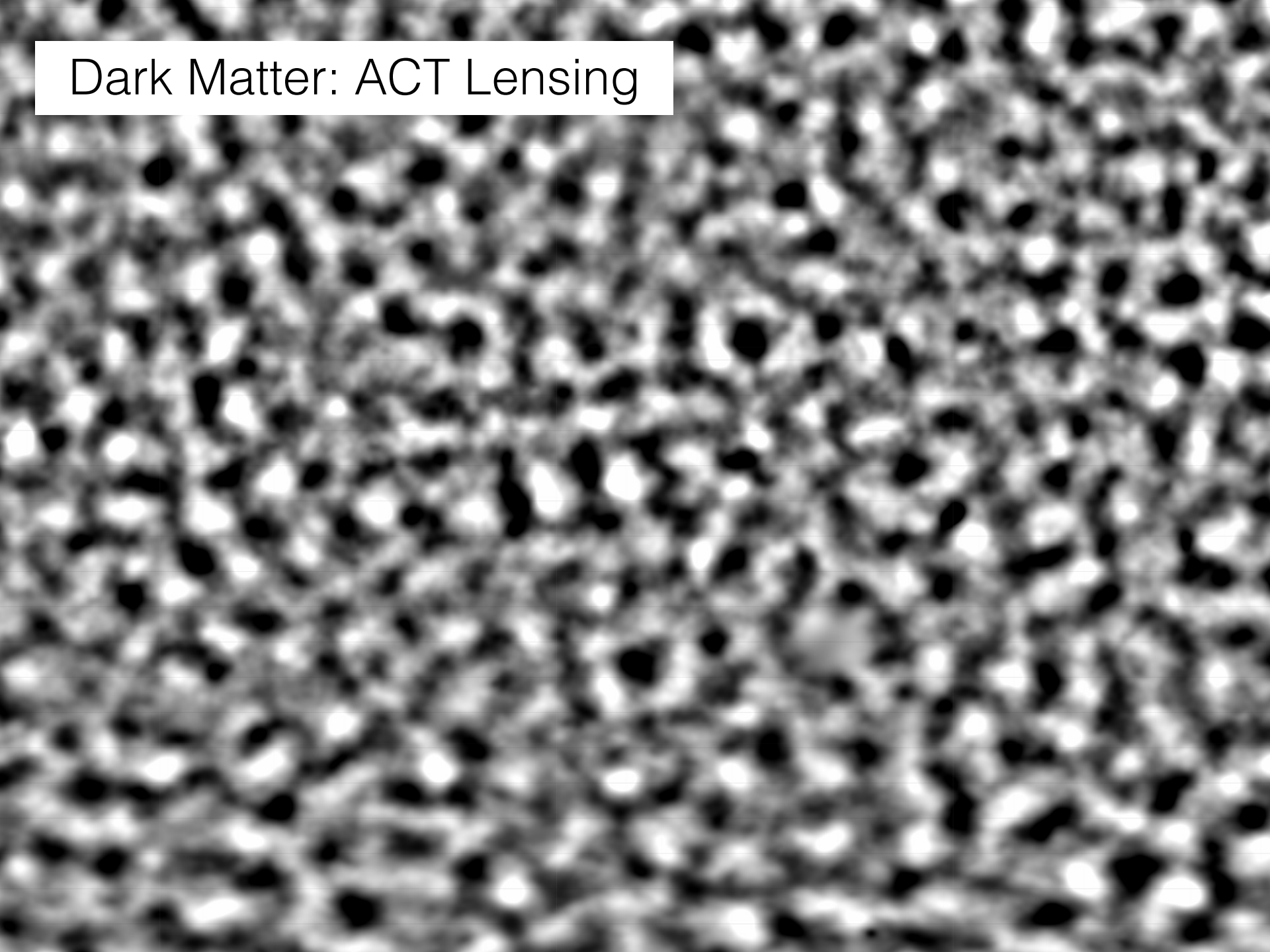
- Gives powerful lensing map! ([link](#))



Frank Qu

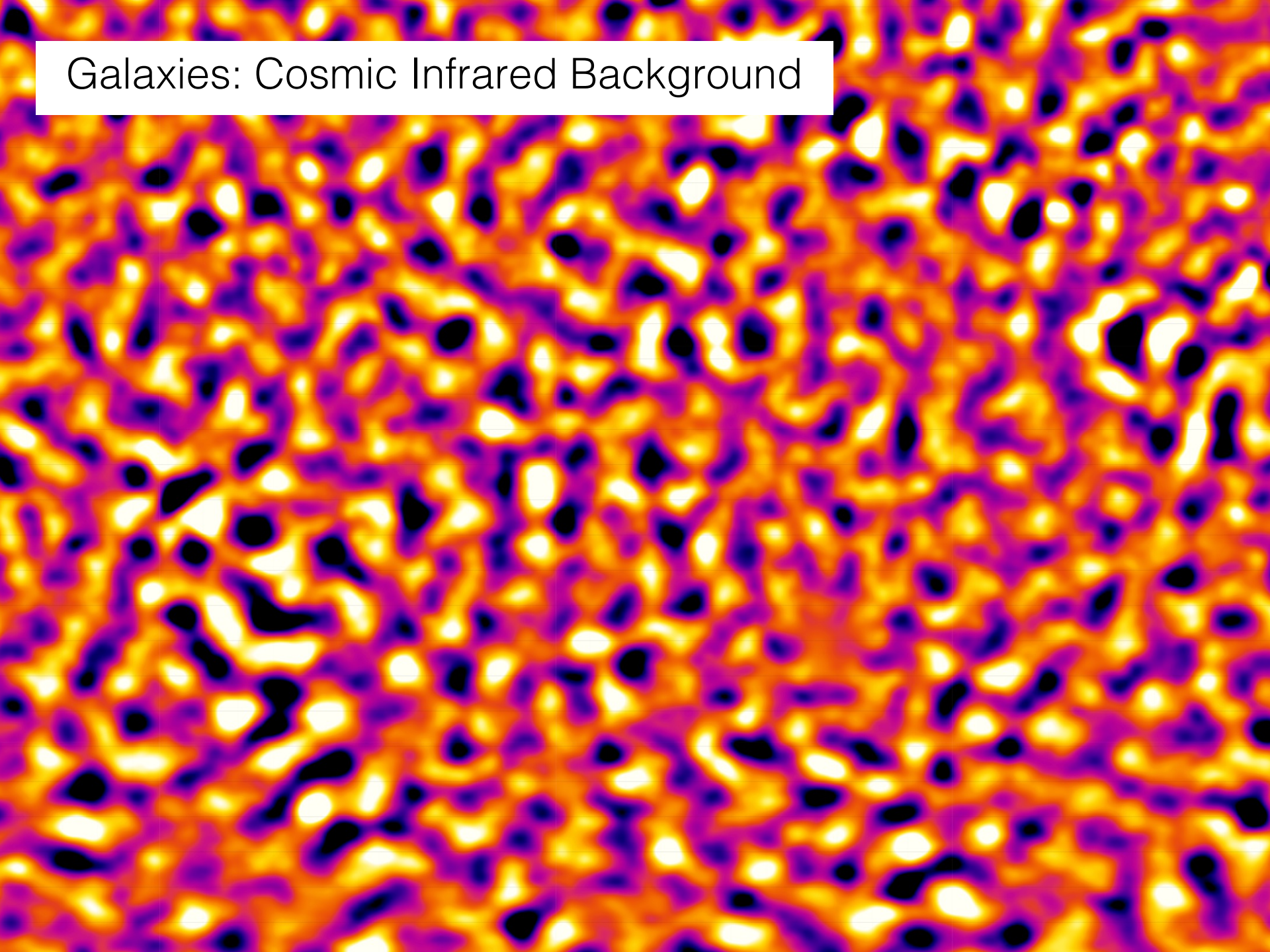
[Qu, Sherwin++ in prep., MacCrann, Sherwin++ in prep.  
Madhavacheril, Qu, Sherwin in prep.]

# Dark Matter: ACT Lensing

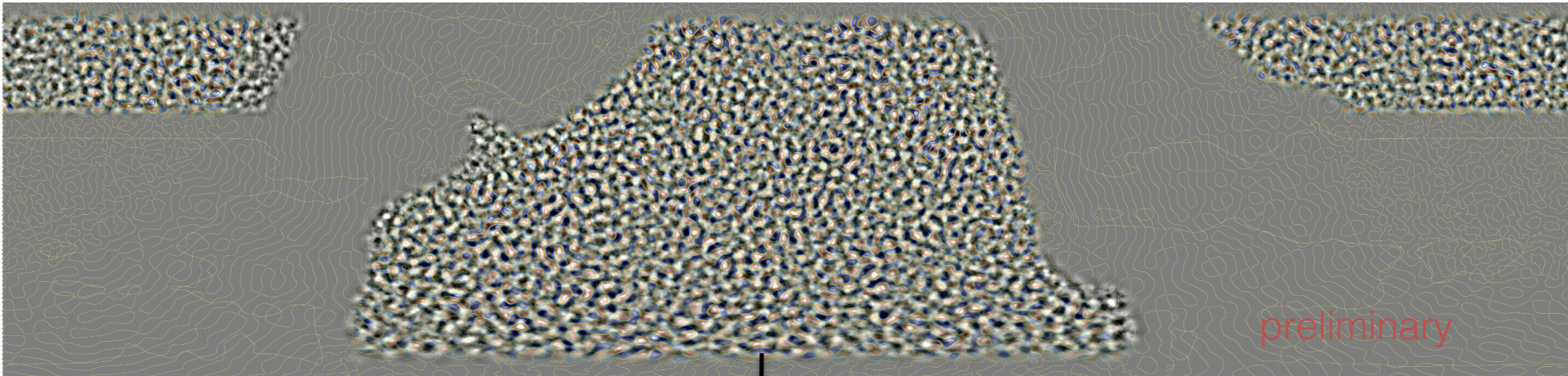




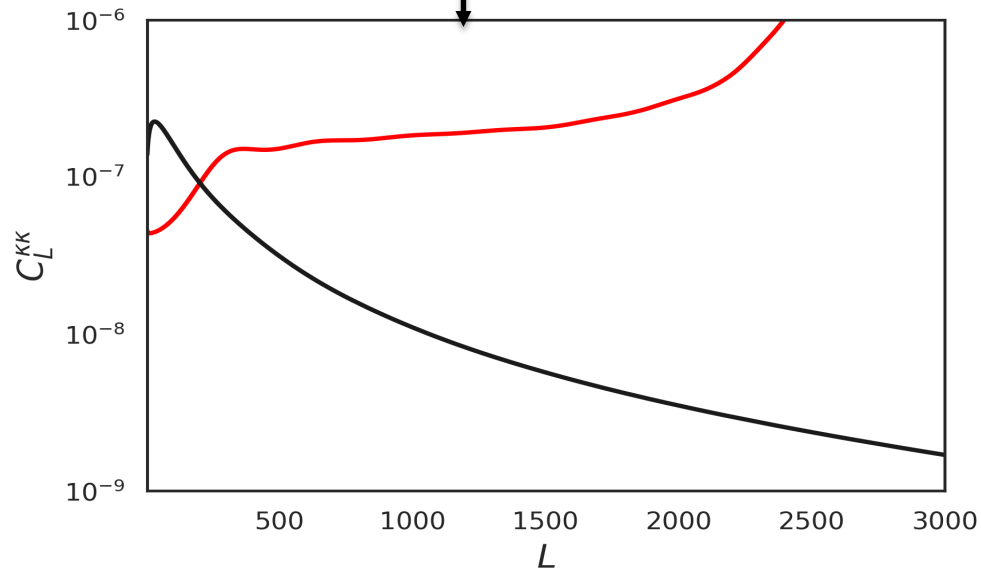
# Galaxies: Cosmic Infrared Background



# Measuring the CMB Lensing Power Spectrum



$$C_L^{dd} \sim \langle \hat{d}_L^* \hat{d}_L \rangle - \text{biases} \sim \langle TTTT \rangle - \langle TT \rangle \langle TT \rangle_{\text{gauss}} - \dots$$



[Qu++ in prep.]

# Null and systematic test suite

200+ tests!

Array  
difference

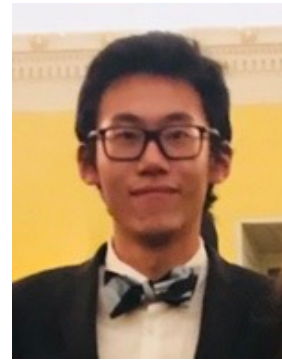
Temperature  
vs polarization

Frequency  
difference

Curl  
deflection

Sky region  
difference

Noise only  
map

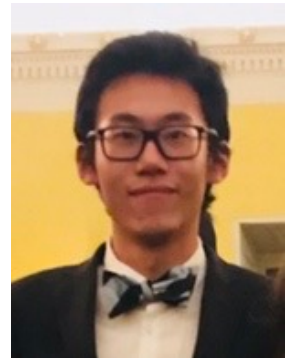
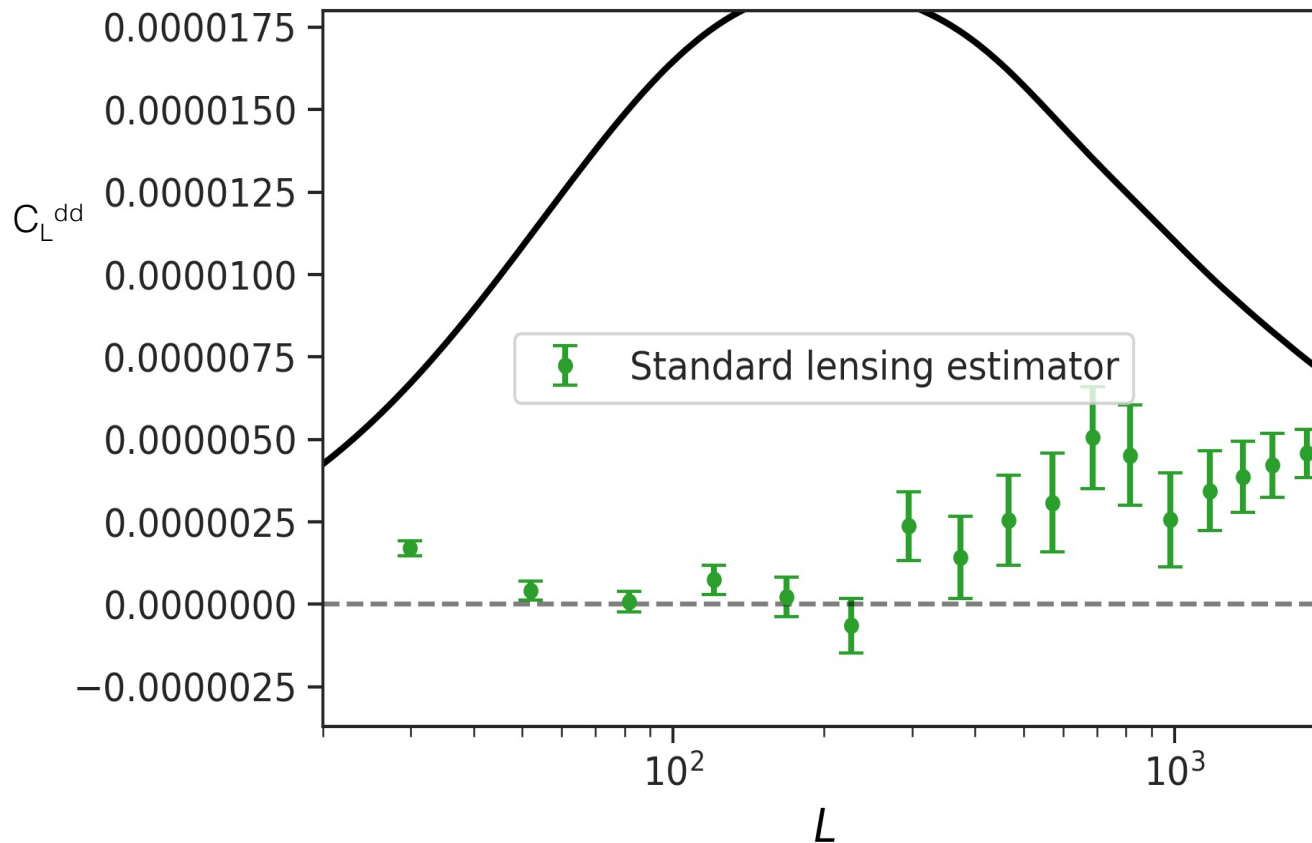


Frank  
Qu

[Qu, Sherwin++ in prep.]

# Null test problems...

- Problem: getting biased results from even basic null with data noise??

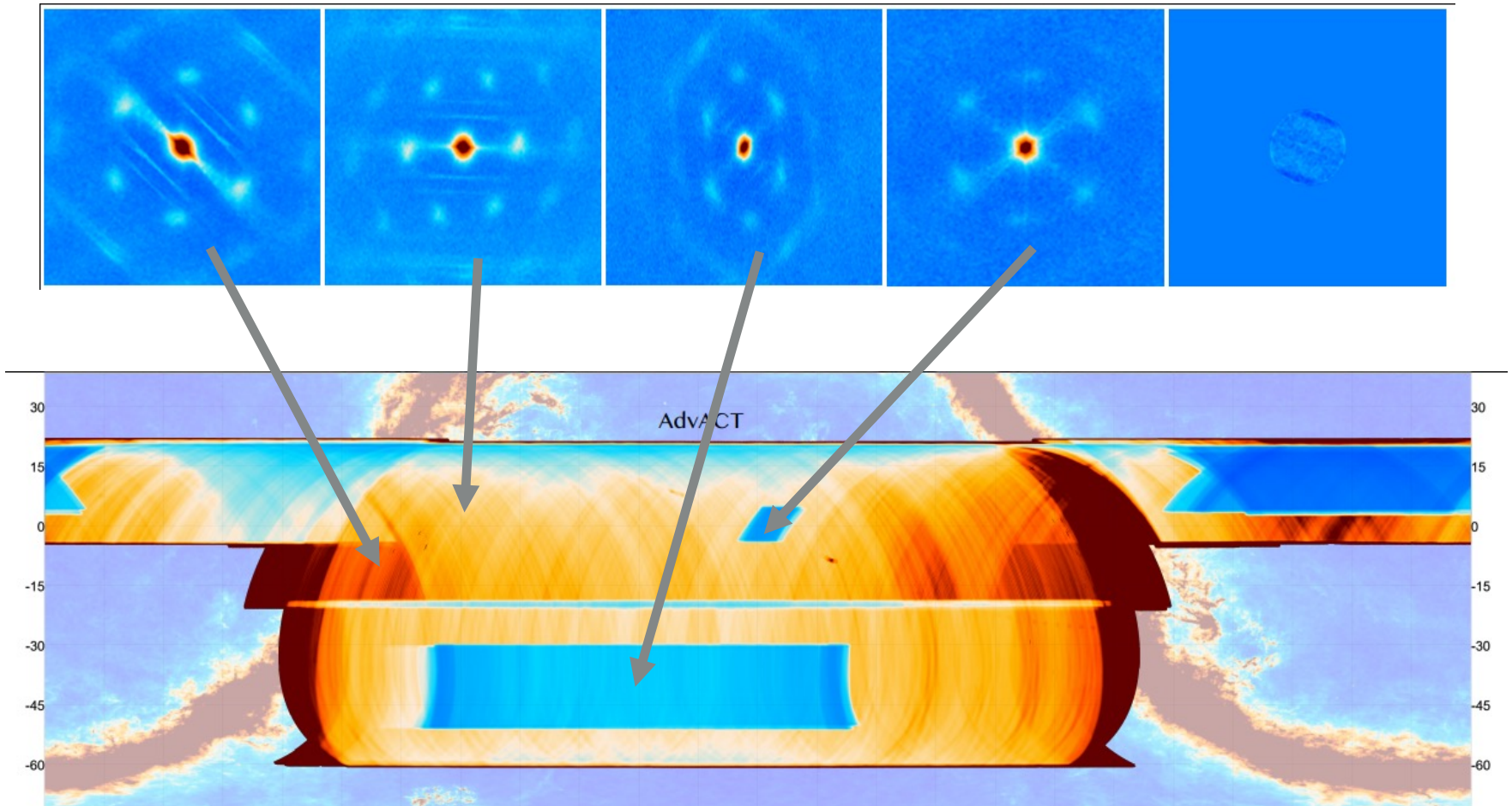


Frank  
Qu

[Qu, Sherwin++ in prep.]

# Null test problems...

- Ground-based noise is very complicated to model

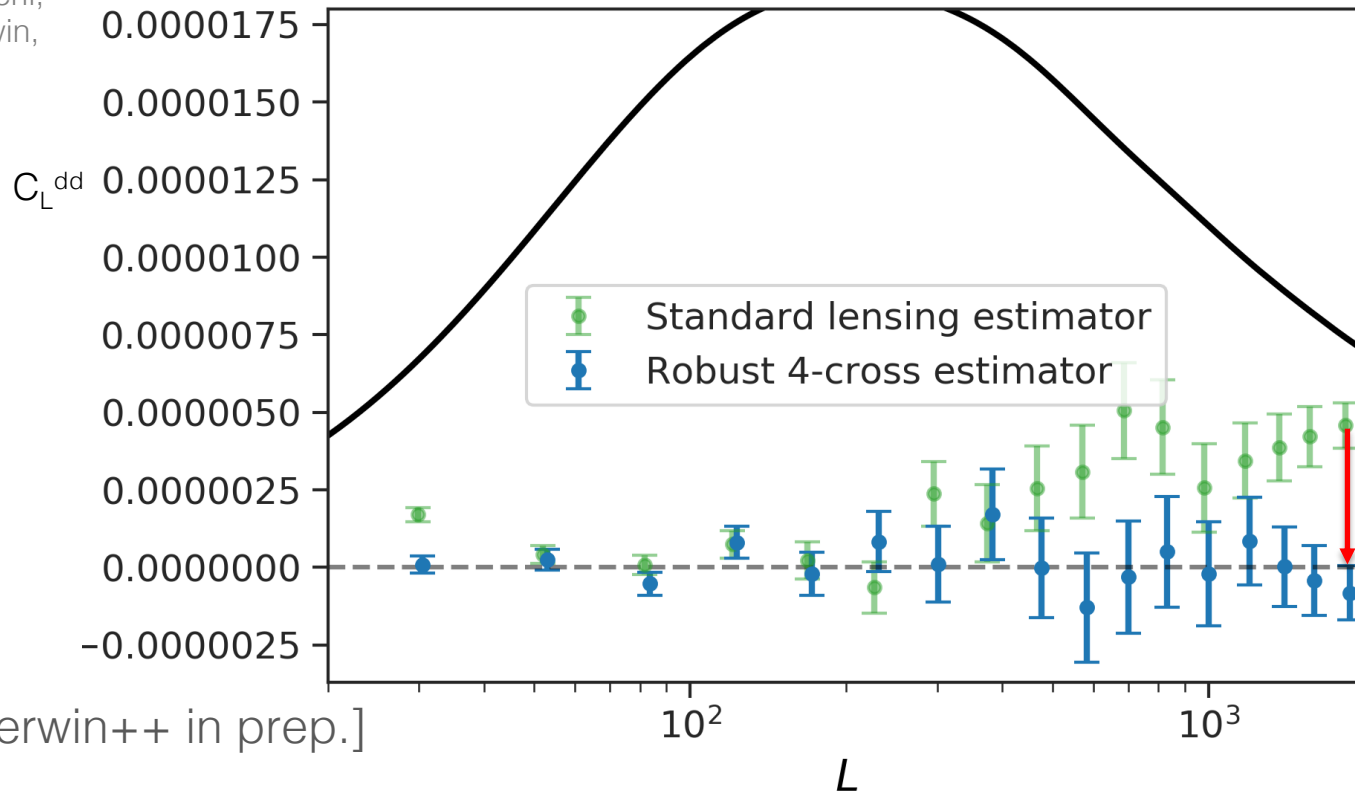


# and solutions

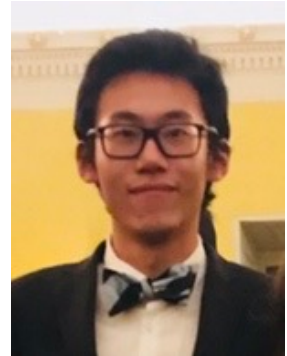
- New solution: divide data into many independent splits, perform 4-field equivalent of a cross-correlation

$$C_L^{dd} \sim \langle T_1 T_2 T_3 T_4 \rangle$$

[Madhavacheril, Smith, Sherwin, Naess 20]



[Qu, Sherwin++ in prep.]

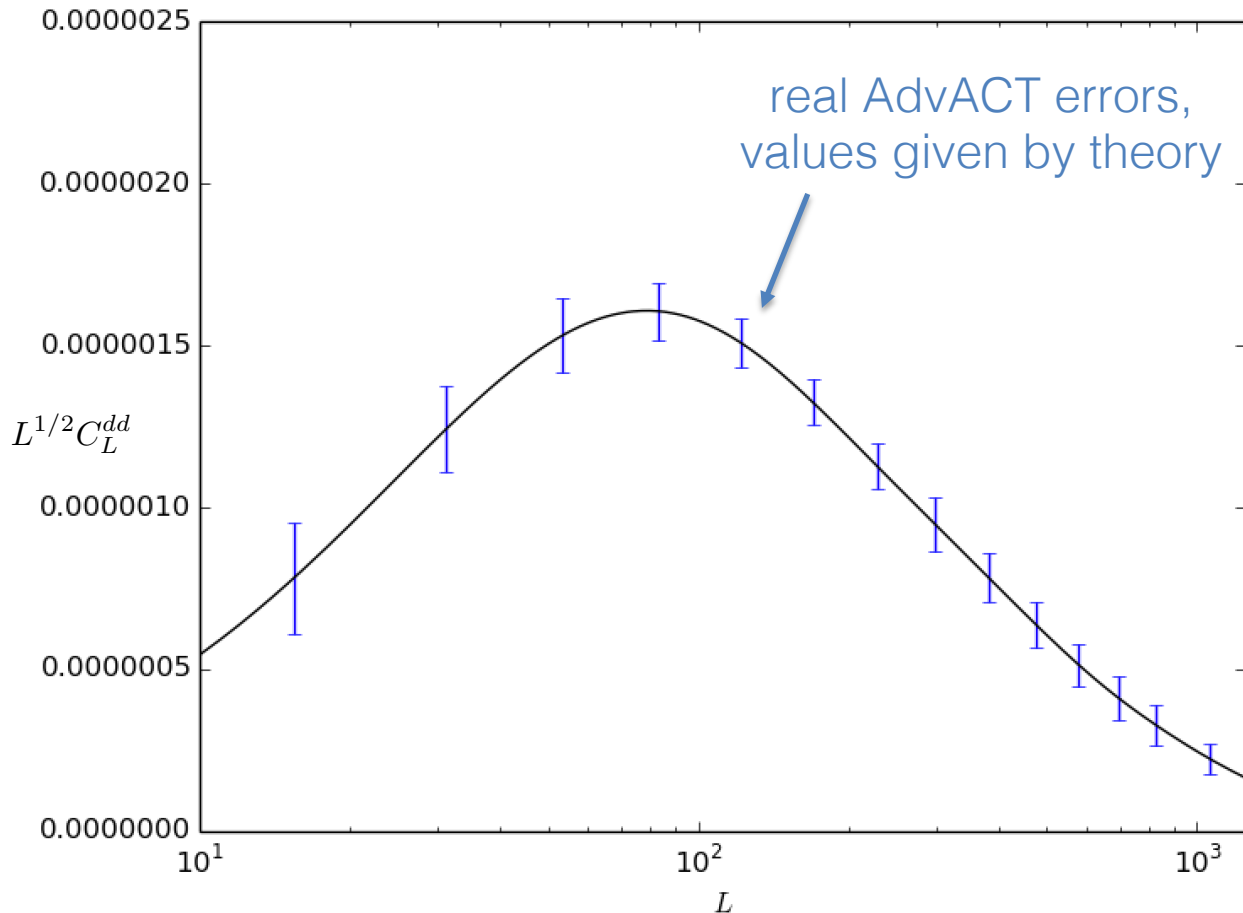


Frank Qu

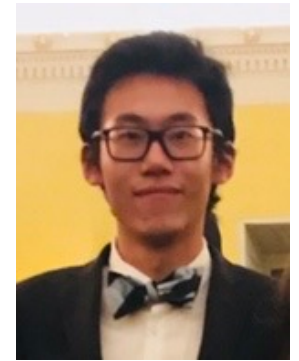
Split-estimator fixes null failure

- Suite of 200+ null tests look good – unblinded!

# New ACT DR6 lensing power spectrum errors



Frank  
Qu



+ Mat Madhavacheril,  
Niall MacCrann

preliminary

- SNR  $\sim 42-44$  (state of the art)

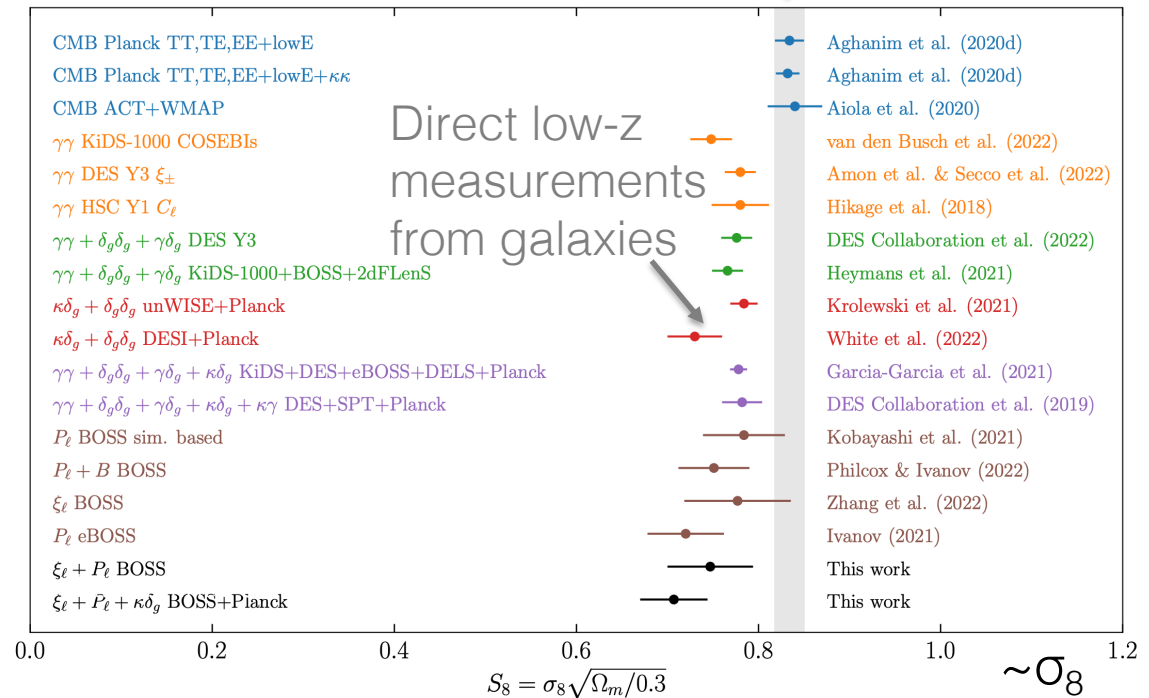
[Qu, Sherwin++ in prep.]

# Exciting applications: test $\sigma_8$ tension, neutrino mass...

- Competitive but independent constraints on  $\sigma_8$
- Expect new insights into  $\sigma_8$  tension!

Planck CMB extrapolation

[Chen++ 2022]



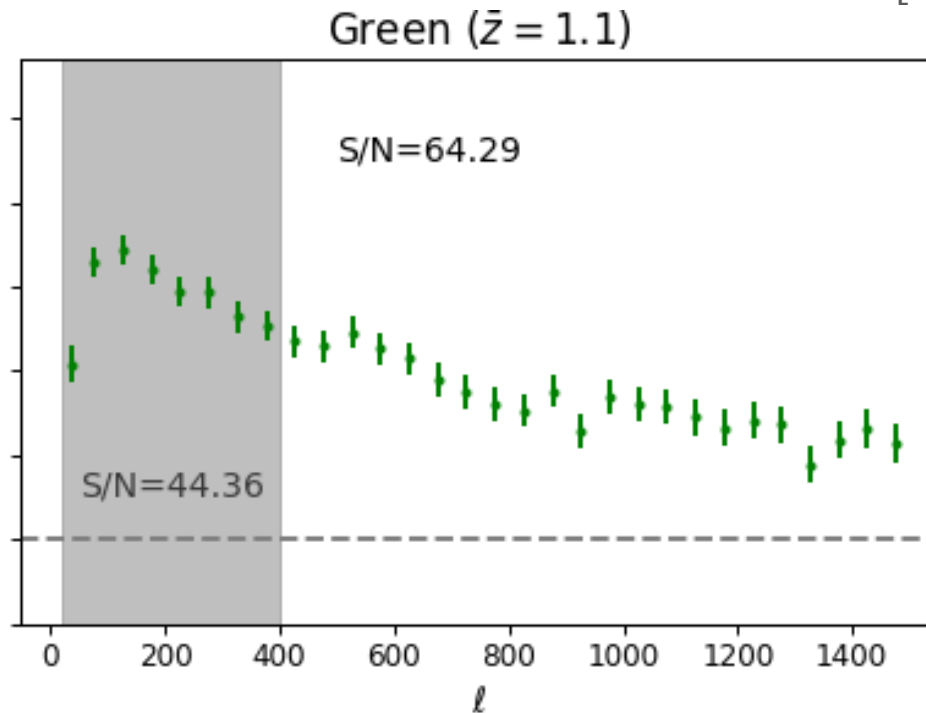
Our approx. error bar size  $\rightarrow$  —

- And: new, tightest (?) constraints on neutrino mass approaching minimum 60 meV

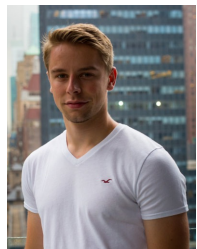


# Low-redshift structure growth from cross-correlations

- Not just projection: use cross-correlations with galaxies to restore  $z$ -dependence [Farren++ in prep.]



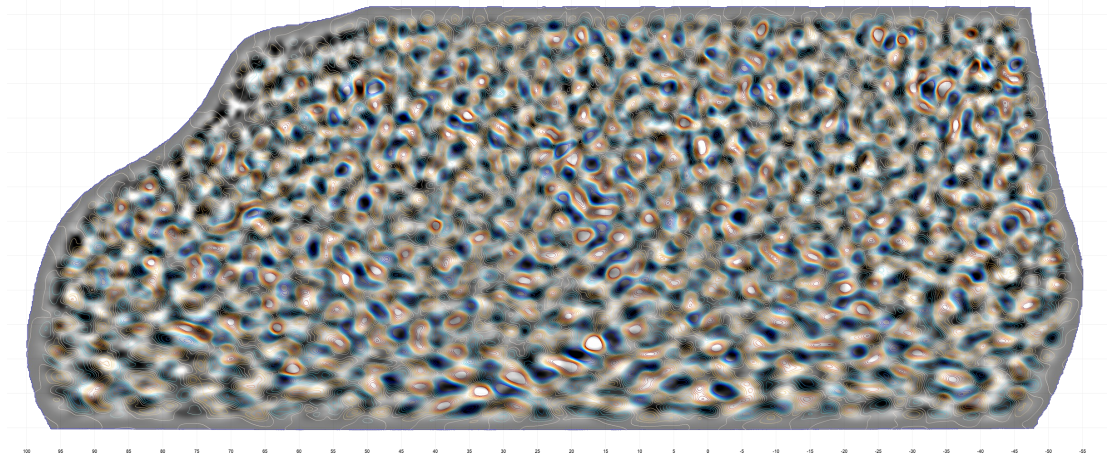
- UnWISE x ACT: comparable tests of structure growth but at lower redshift  $z \sim 0.6-1$ . Soon! (Future,  $z > 4$ ).



Gerrit Farren

# Summary

- AdvACT: new CMB lensing mass maps and spectra measured
- Provide tests of cosmic structure growth + neutrino masses
- Aim to clarify **unsolved problems**: is something wrong with large-scale structure growth? What is neutrino mass?



Also happy to discuss:

- Galaxy surveys and lensing surveys can measure Hubble constant without relying on sound horizon: a consistency test for new physics. New measurement  $H_0 = 64.8^{+2.2}_{-2.5} \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$  with BOSS/Planck (via new method to marginalize over BAO info.)

# Redshift Distribution

- Lensing maps probe matter density, projected over a wide redshift range peaking at  $z \sim 2$ .
- Some tomography vs. scale possible!

