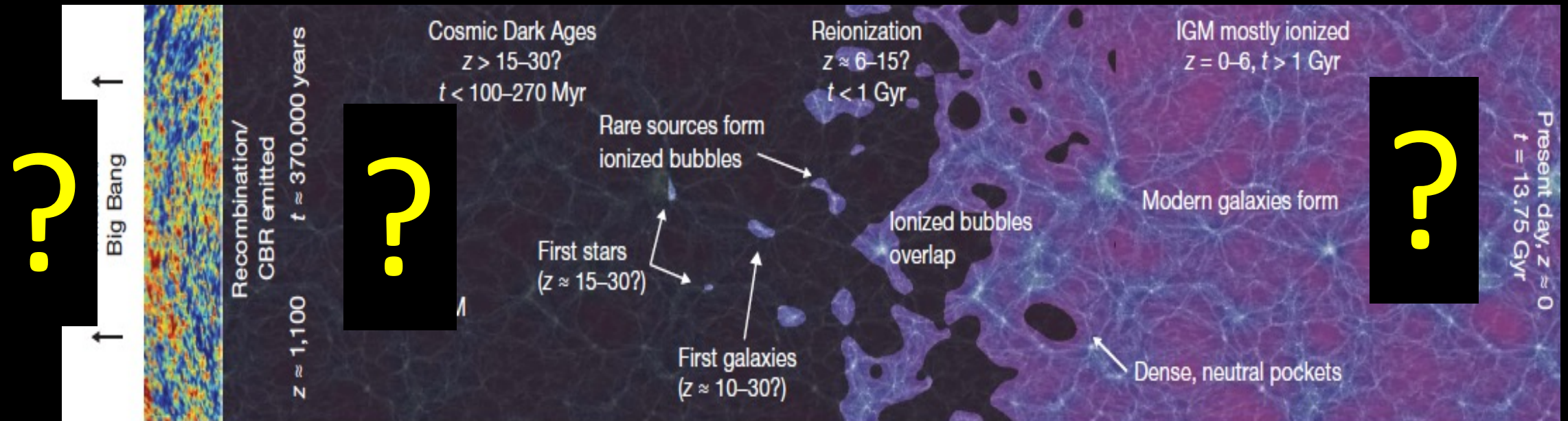


LUNAR COSMOLOGY

CAA, March 29, 2023

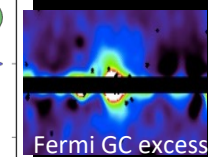
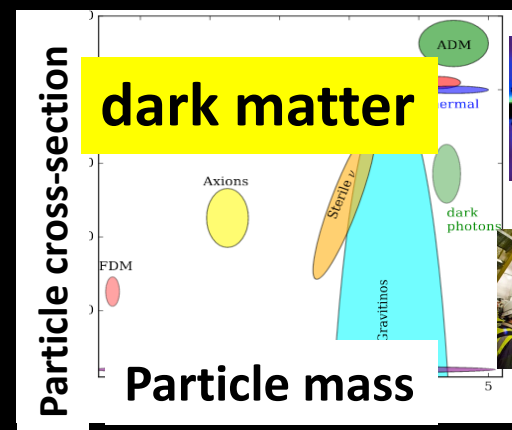
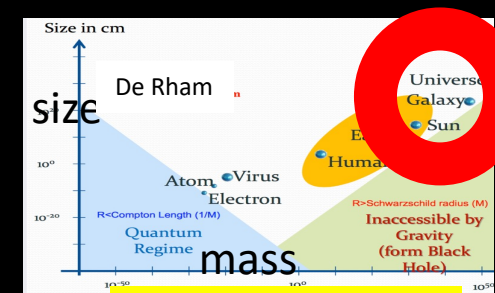
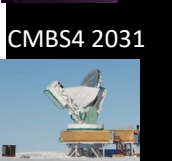
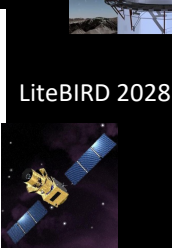
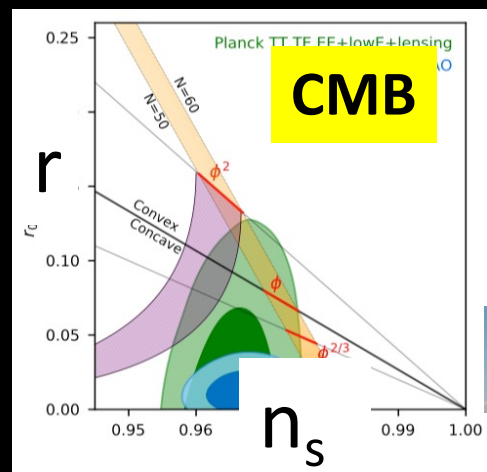
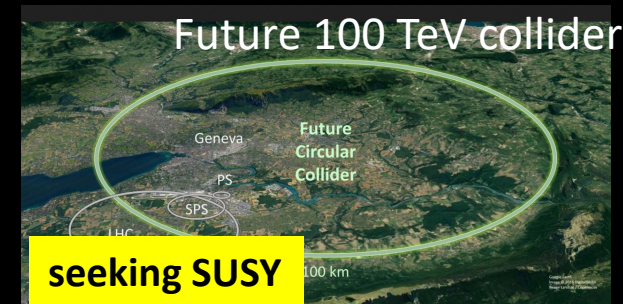
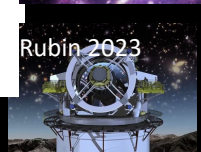
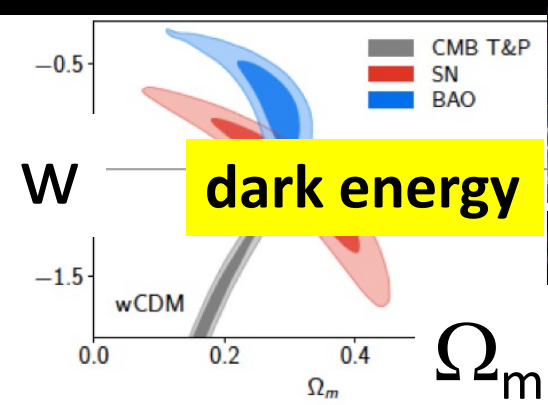
Joseph Silk

JHU, IAP, Oxford



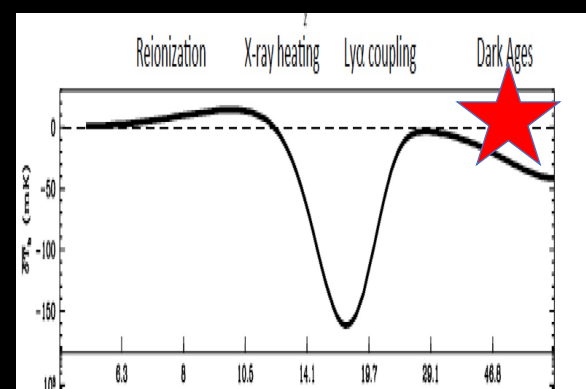
progress in cosmology

- nature of dark matter, dark energy?
- new frontier is the dark ages
- our origins? inflation needs verification

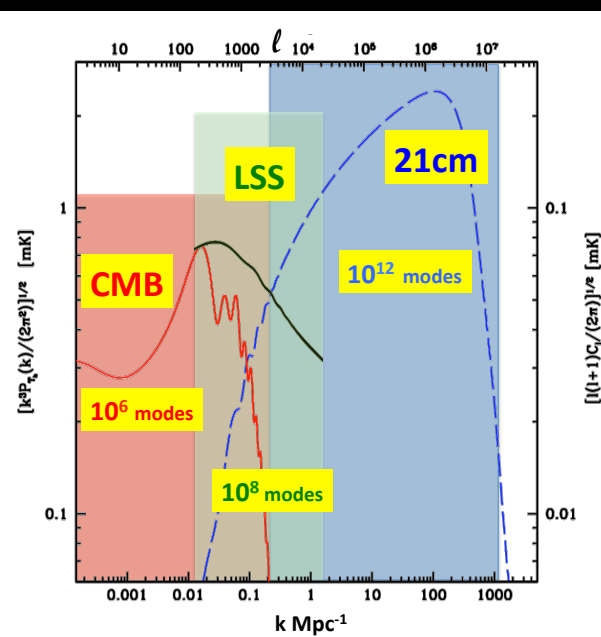


one common feature
of all current or planned
cosmology experiments:
no guaranteed return!

neutrino mass excepted....



Dark ages in absorption



Seek building blocks



Dark ages is new frontier¹

wealth of information

$z=30-100$ before any galaxies or stars

seek global signal

power spectrum of fluctuations

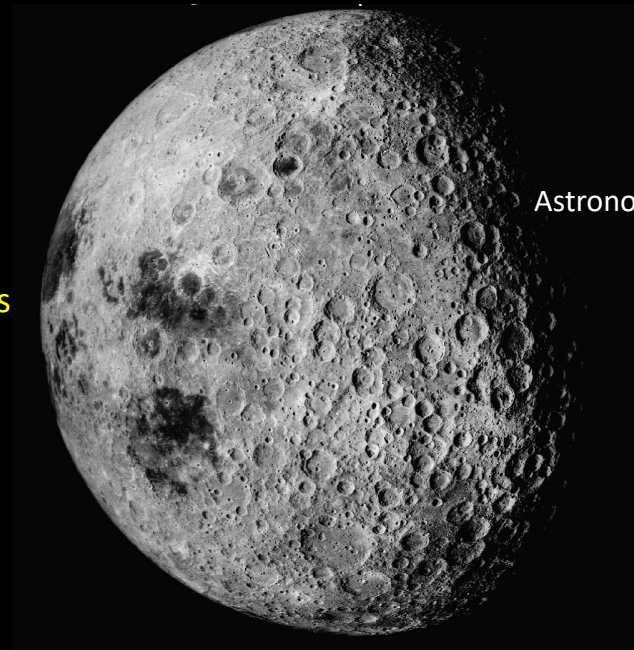
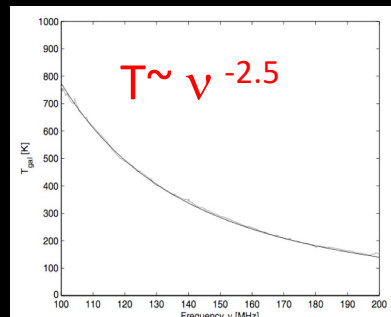
nongaussianity from inflation

far side of MOON is most radio quiet environment in inner solar system @ 30 MHz + no ionosphere

ultimate experiment
lunar radio interferometer

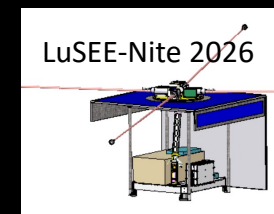
21cm: probe $z=50$ at $\lambda \sim 10$ m
100 x CMB resolution $\ell \sim 10^5$ or $k \sim 10 \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$
array $\ell \lambda/2\pi$ over $D \sim 100$ km + millions of 10 m dipoles

only $\sim 10 \text{ mK}$ signal in bright foreground



s central unit
s - Ideal: 128*128 elements
Astronomical Lunar Observatory

Chang'e 4 2019 on far side

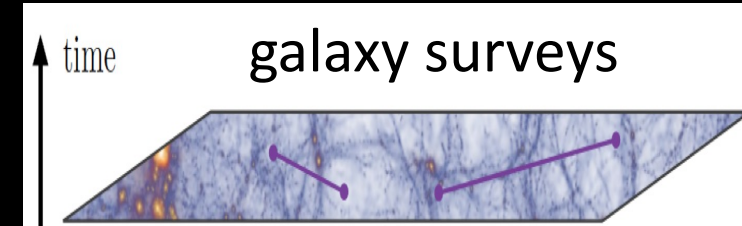


How to explore the dark ages

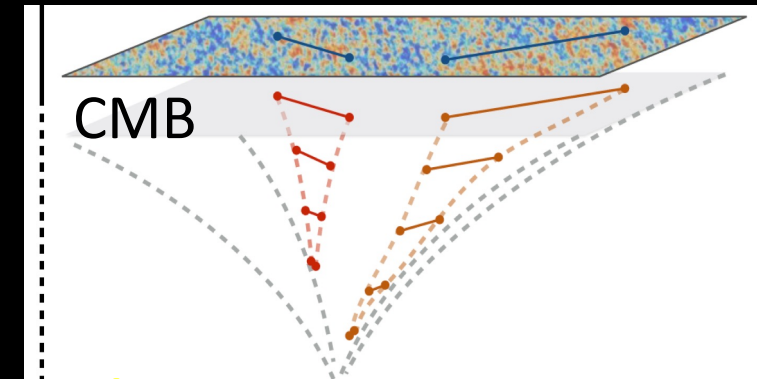
$$\delta T/T (1 + f_{\text{NL}} \delta T/T) \quad f_{\text{NL}} \sim -5/12 (n_s - 1) \sim 0.01 \quad n_s = 0.96 (9 \sigma)$$

Maldacena 2003, Cabass + 2017; Mattarese + 2021

CMB modes	$N \sim 10^6$	$f_{\text{NL}} \sim 10$
Galaxy surveys	$N \sim 10^8$	$f_{\text{NL}} \sim 1$
21 cm $z \sim 50$	$N \sim 10^{12}$	$f_{\text{NL}} \sim 0.01$



dark ages 21cm



Test inflation via primordial nongaussianity: ultimate precision cosmology

bottom-up formation is fundamental

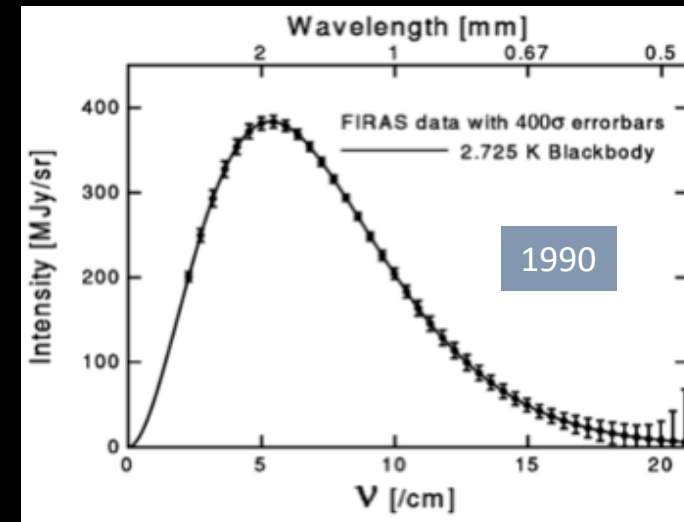
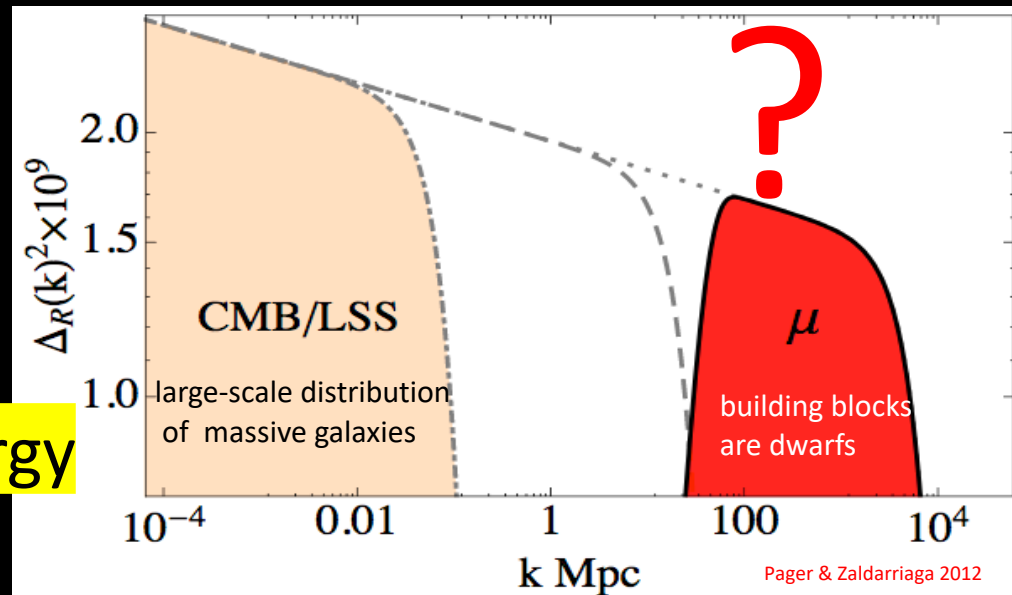
2

How to test this?

CMB can't be a perfect blackbody

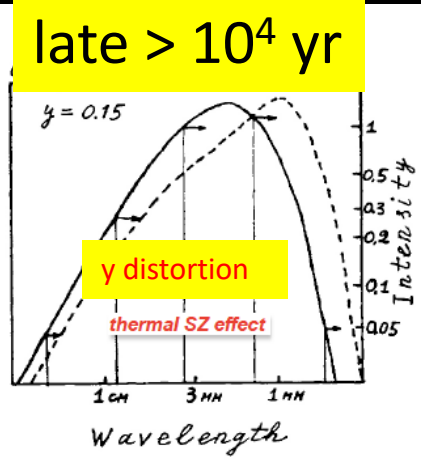
$$T_0 = 2.725 \pm 0.001 \text{ K}$$
$$|y| \leq 1.5 \times 10^{-5}$$
$$|\mu| \leq 9 \times 10^{-5}$$

Friction of fluctuations
against radiation in first
months injects early energy

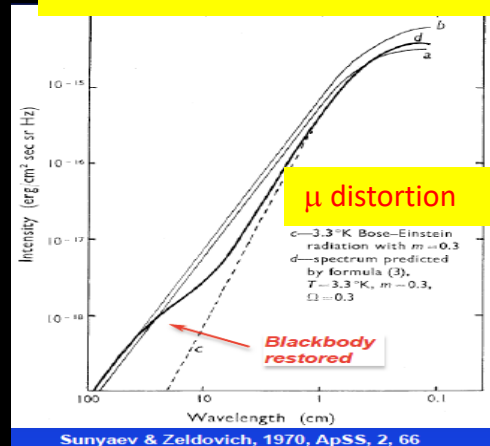


seek spectral distortions

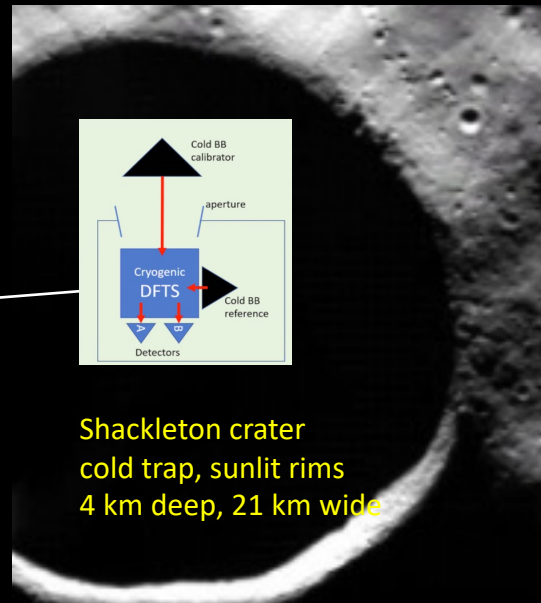
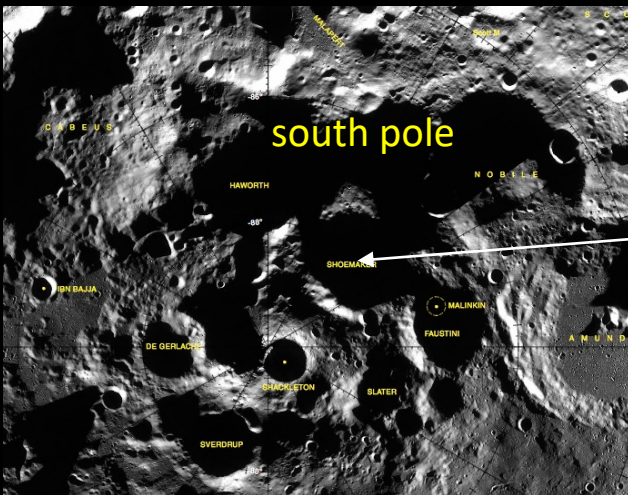
late $> 10^4$ yr



early > 1 month



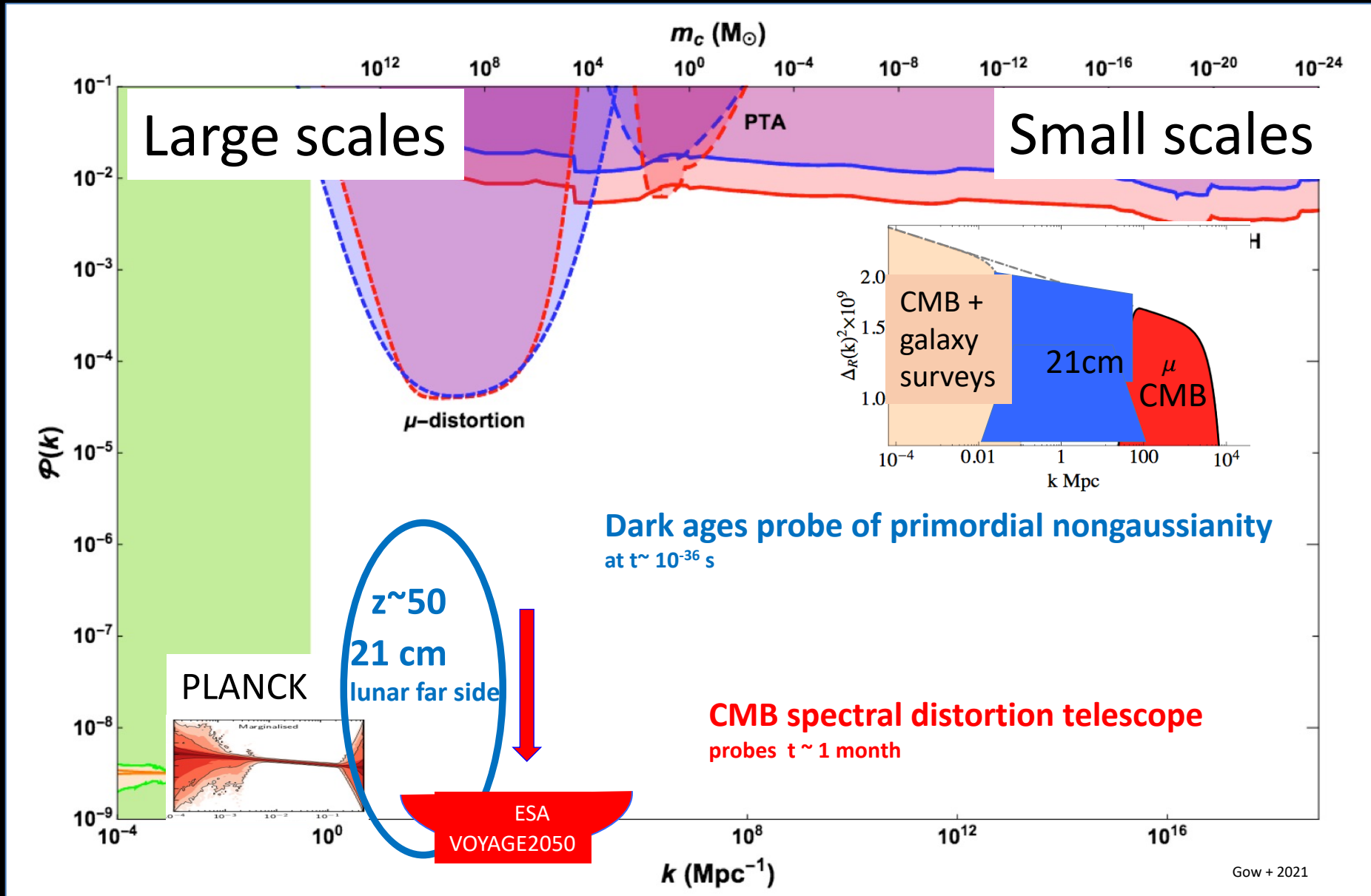
look again with FIR spectrometer



Fourier transform interferometer
90--2000 GHz bolometer array
in $\sim 30\text{K}$ permanently dark crater
1.5 m telescope cooled to 2.5 K.

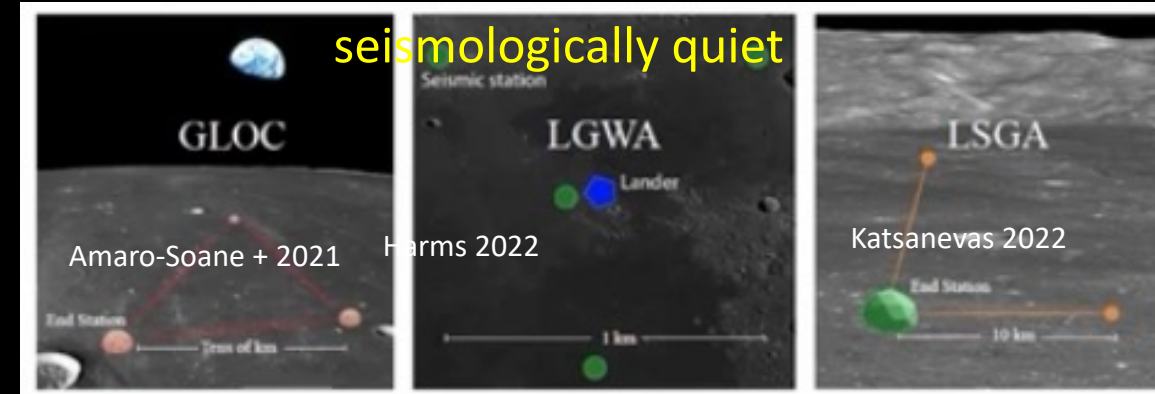
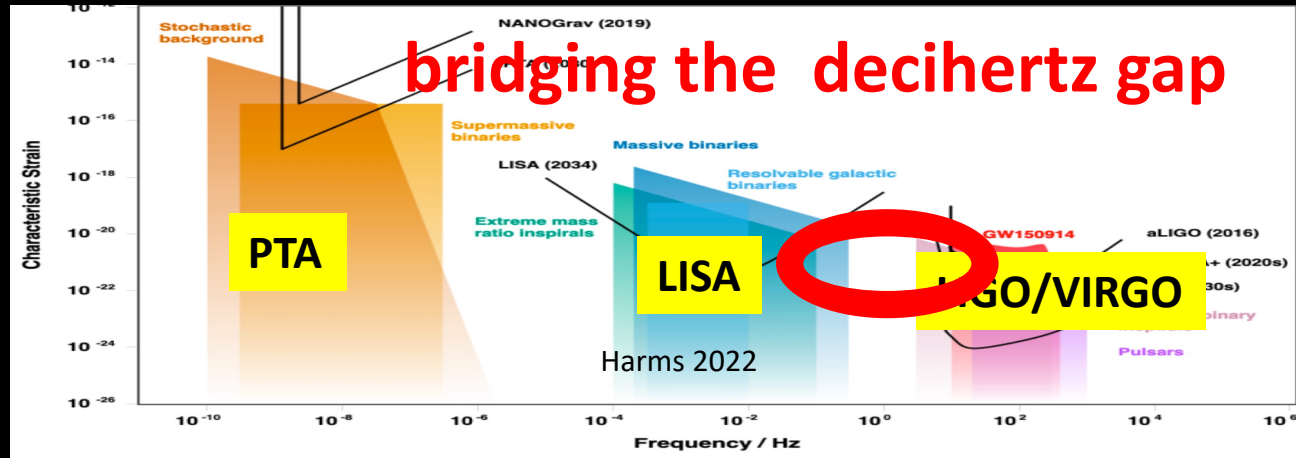
Scan sky by lunar rotation
Sunlit rims for solar power

probing origins of galaxies



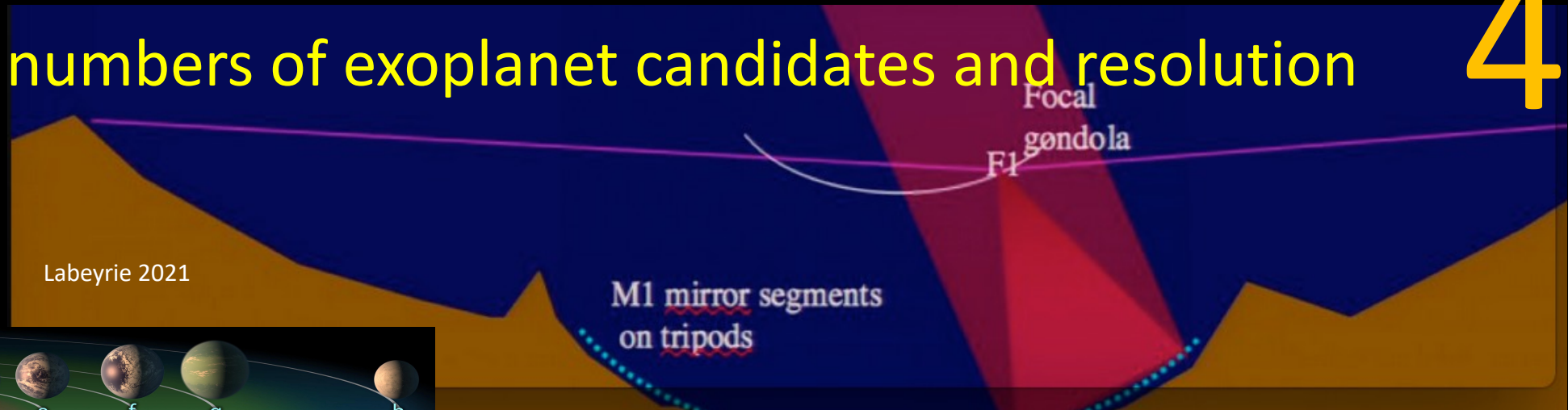
more than cosmology

3



telescope size counts
greatly increase numbers of exoplanet candidates and resolution

4



Compelling science

probe dark ages

far side of MOON is most radio-quiet environment in inner solar system, no ionosphere

CMB spectral distortions

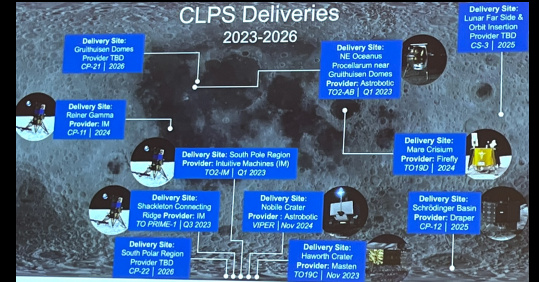
With perpetual solar power availability and permanent cold/darkness, no atmosphere

current renaissance in lunar science projects

Decreasing launch cost
NASA CLPS: ROLSES, LuSEE-Nite
ESA Argonaut lunar lander/Terrae Novae
CNSA: DSL, LARAF

larger lunar payloads

What were our cosmic origins?



number of suitable sites is limited

RADIO FAR SIDE

- 5-50 km scale
- smooth
- mild slopes
- far side for low terrestrial interference

GRAVITY WAVE/FIR PSCs

- Permanently shadowed polar craters
- cold to very cold
- low water content
- High rims for solar. Powe

ORBITING SATELLITES

- Radio noise

international coordination multidecadal planning

