

# Polarised foregrounds (synchrotron, dust and AME) and their effect on the detection of primordial CMB B-modes

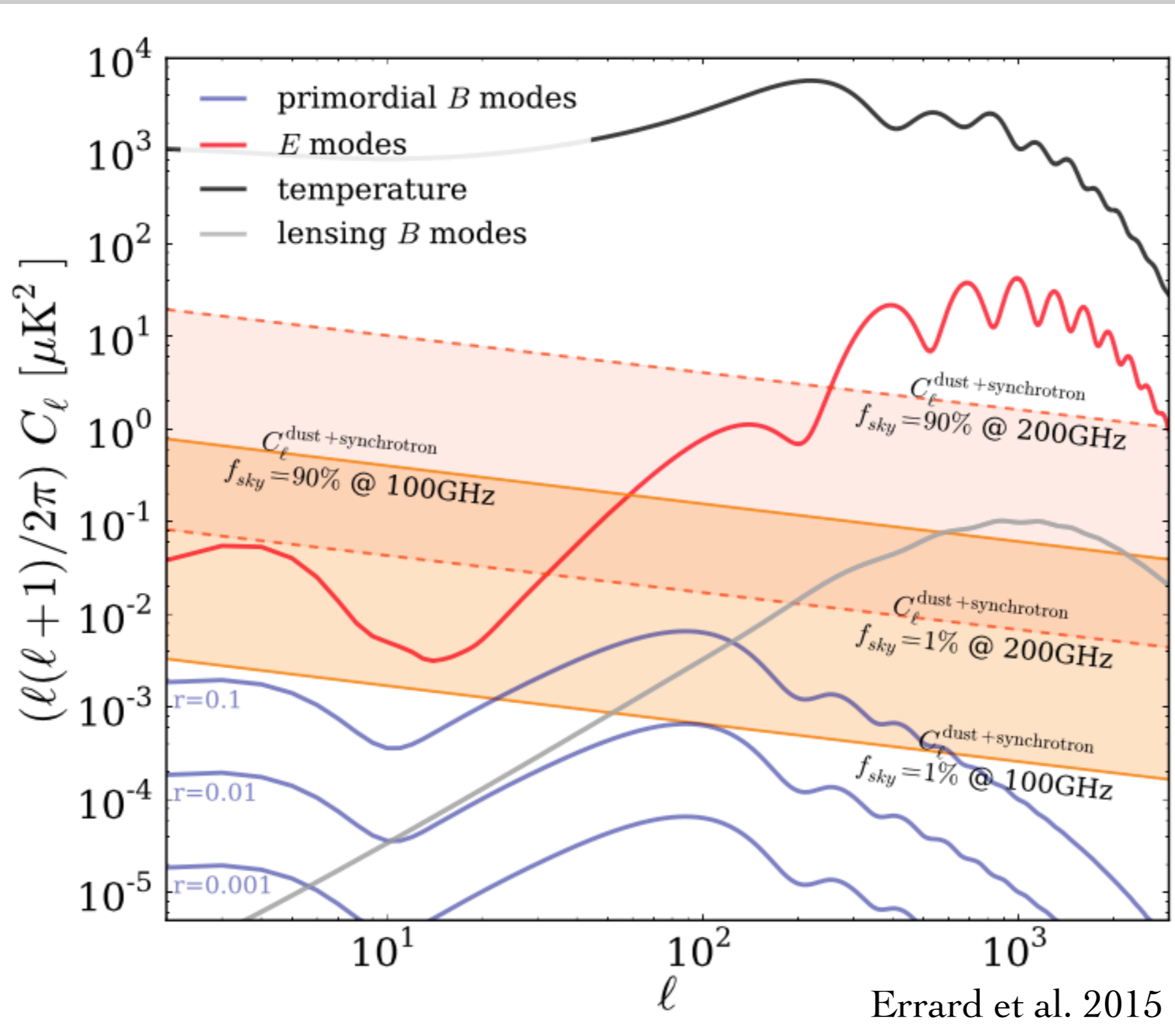


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## Impact of foregrounds on the CMB

★ Synchrotron+dust power spectra compared to EE power spectra and BB power spectra for different  $r$



## Foreground types

★ Foregrounds: any physical mechanism intervening between the LSS and us and producing radiation in the same frequencies of interest for CMB observations

	Foreground	Polarization	Angular scales
Local	Atmosphere	~ 0 %	Large scales
	Ground spill over	Varies	Large scales
	Radio Frequency Interference	0-100 %	All
Solar system	Sun/Moon	Low	All
	Planets / Solar system objects	Low	Small scales
	Zodiacal light	Low	Large scales
Galactic	Galactic synchrotron radiation	~ 10-40 %	Large scales
	Galactic free-free radiation	Low	Large scales
	Galactic electric dipole emission	<1 %	Large scales
	Galactic magnetic dipole emission	0-35 %	Large scales
	Galactic thermal dust radiation	~2-20 %	Large scales
	Galactic light emission (CO)	Low	Large scales
Extra galact	Radio galaxies	Few %	Small scales
	Sub-mm IR galaxies	Low	Small scales
Cosmolog ical	Cosmic Infrared background	Low	Small to intermediate
	Secondary anisotropies	Low	All
	Lensing	High	Small scales

## Need to understand foregrounds!

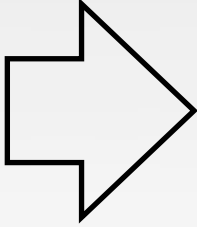
- ★ Definitely *must worry* about polarised foregrounds, but...
- ★ Even unpolarised foregrounds are harmful, as they increase the white noise

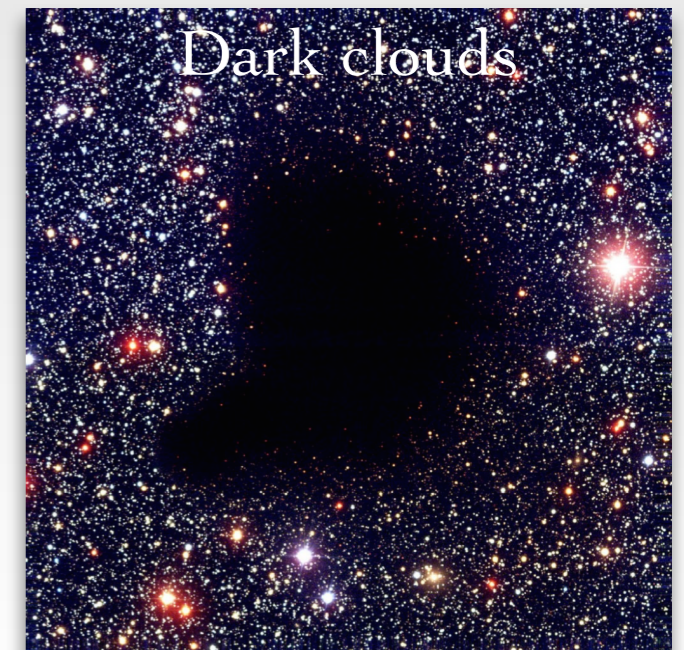
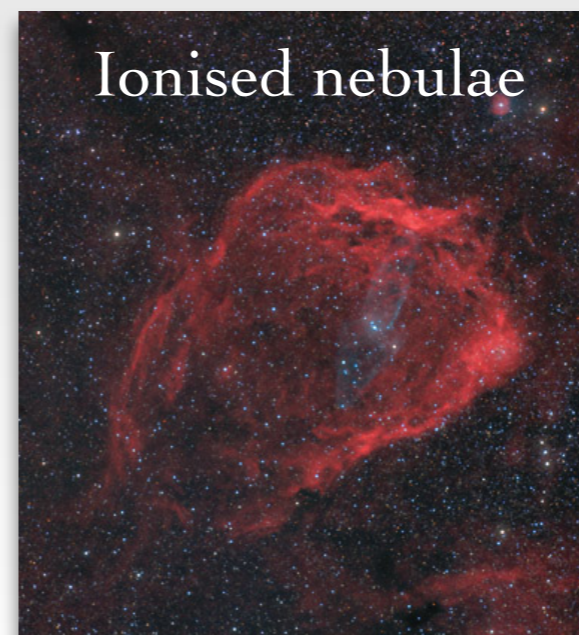
$$\Delta T_{\text{RMS}} = \frac{T_{\text{sys}}}{\sqrt{\Delta\nu t}} \quad \text{Radiometer ideal equation}$$

$$T_{\text{sys}} = T_{\text{gal}} + T_{\text{atm}} + T_{\text{rfi}} + T_{\text{spill}} + T_{\text{rec}} + T_{\text{cmb}} \dots$$

Global system temperature

- ★ In addition, *instrumental effects* can lead to I→P leakage, i.e. unpolarised signals are seen as polarised by the instrument

- 
- Need *accurate modelling* of the *spectrum* and of the *spatial distribution* of all possible foregrounds, both in intensity and in polarisation
  - They are of astrophysical interest in their own right!





## Foreground types

★ Let's focus in the large-scale Galactic foregrounds covering wide frequency ranges

	Foreground	Polarization	Angular scales
Local	Atmosphere	~ 0 %	Large scales
	Ground spill over	Varies	Large scales
	Radio Frequency Interference	0-100 %	All
Solar system	Sun/Moon	Low	All
	Planets / Solar system objects	Low	Small scales
	Zodiacal light	Low	Large scales
Galactic	<b>Galactic synchrotron radiation</b>	<b>~ 10-40 %</b>	<b>Large scales</b>
	Galactic free-free radiation	Low	Large scales
	<b>Galactic electric dipole emission</b>	<b>&lt;1 %</b>	<b>Large scales</b>
	<b>Galactic magnetic dipole emission</b>	<b>0-35 %</b>	<b>Large scales</b>
	<b>Galactic thermal dust radiation</b>	<b>~2-20 %</b>	<b>Large scales</b>
	Galactic light emission (CO)	Low	Large scales
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## Synchrotron emission

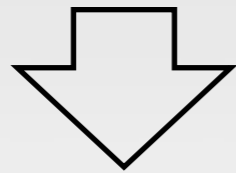
★ *Magnetic bremsstrahlung* from cosmic-ray relativistic (high-energy) electrons spiraling and accelerated by the strong magnetic fields

★ SNRs, radio galaxies, QSOs

★ For a power-law distribution of electron energies  $N(E) \propto E^{-p}$

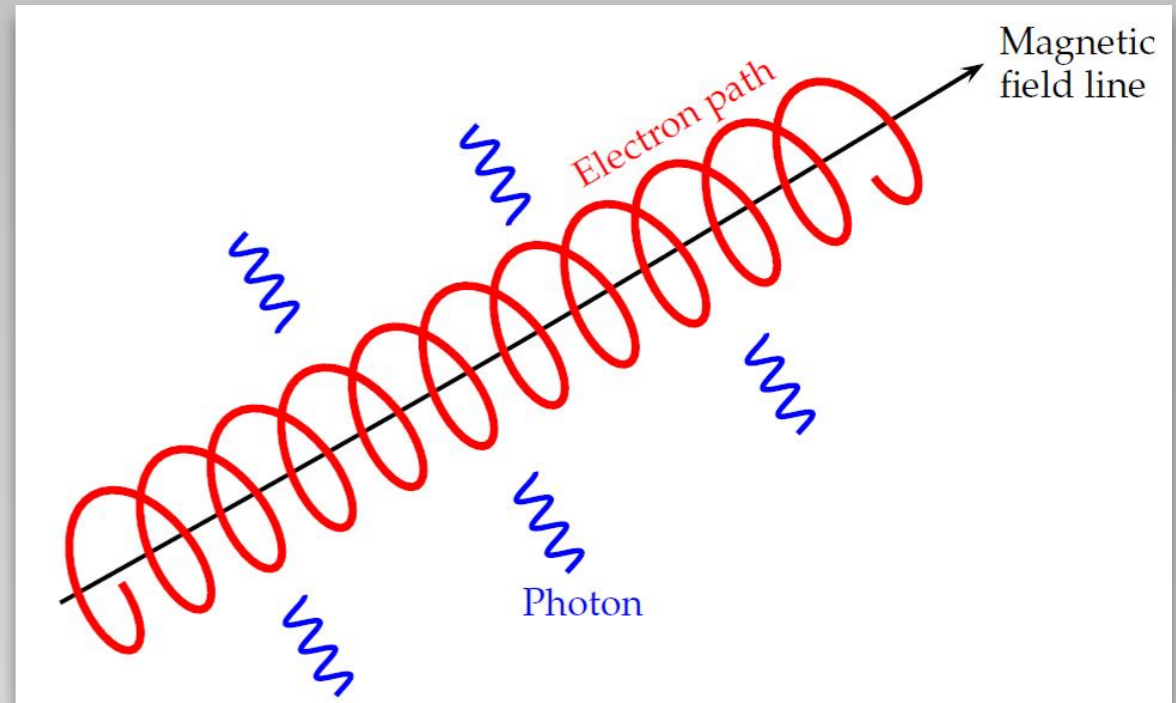
- Spectral index:  $\beta = -\frac{p+3}{2}$

- Polarisation fraction:  $\frac{P}{I} = \frac{p+1}{p+7/3}$

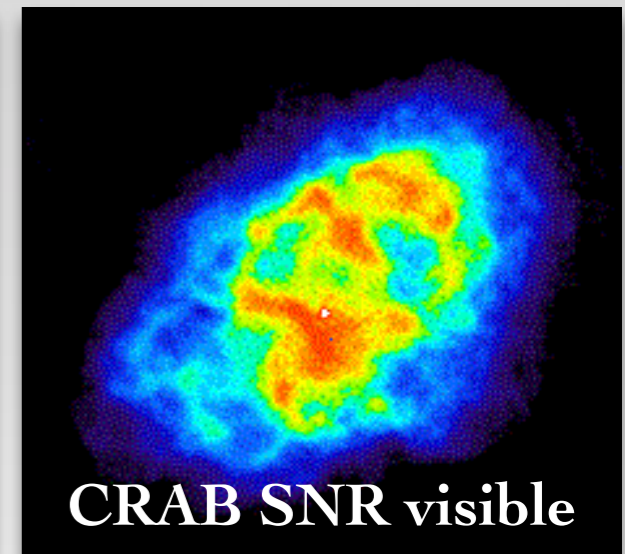


- However, due to incoherence of the magnetic field, and beam depolarisation, the observed polarisation fractions are typically much lower

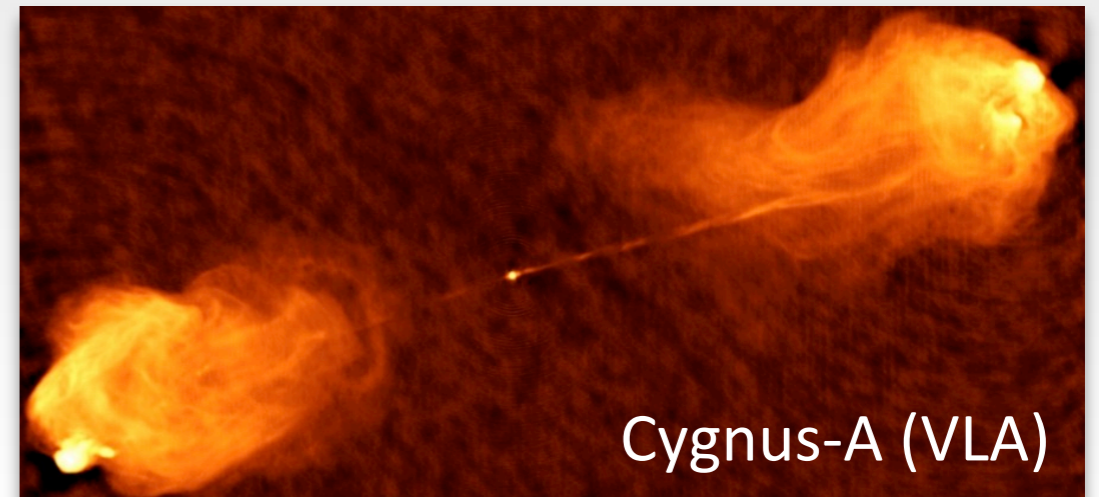
- Typically  $P/I < 40\%$



CRAB SNR radio



CRAB SNR visible

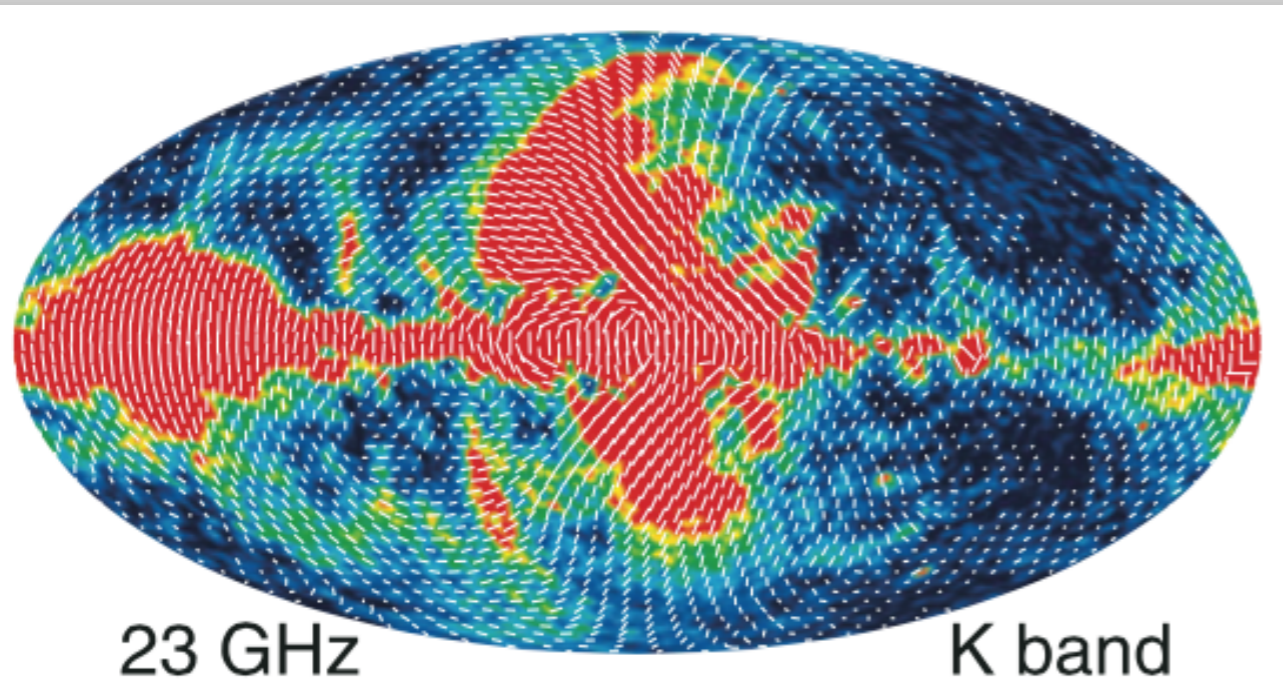


Cygnus-A (VLA)



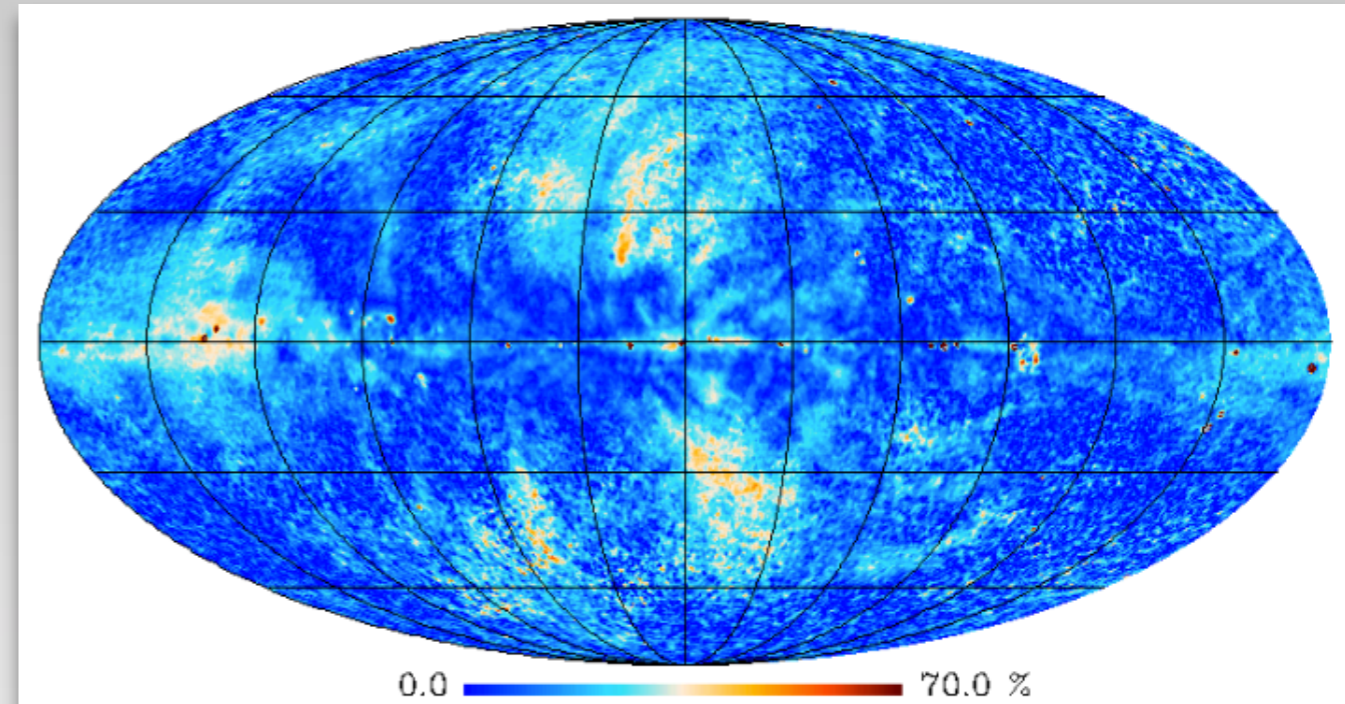
## Synchrotron emission

P at 23 GHz, WMAP9



Bennet et al. (2013)

P/I at 23 GHz, from Commander/Planck



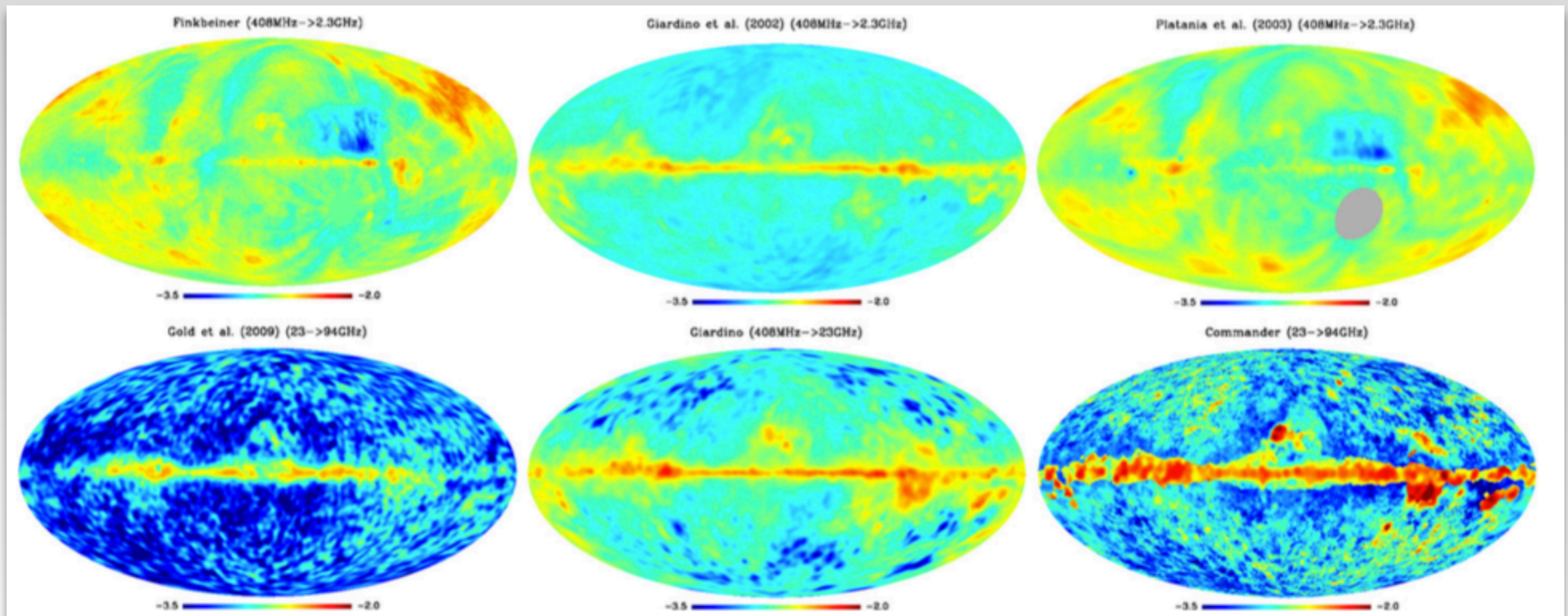
Planck 2015 results, XXV

- Maximum polarisation fractions of the order of **50%**, on average **≈10-40%**
- Decrease at lower frequencies ( $\approx 5$  GHz) due to **Faraday depolarisation**
- Difficult to measure at higher frequencies due to the presence of free-free and AME
- Higher polarisation fractions in the high-b filaments
- Masking the Galactic plane should not be enough for B-modes! Need also to mask the filaments, or to correct the synchrotron (Vidal et al. 2015)



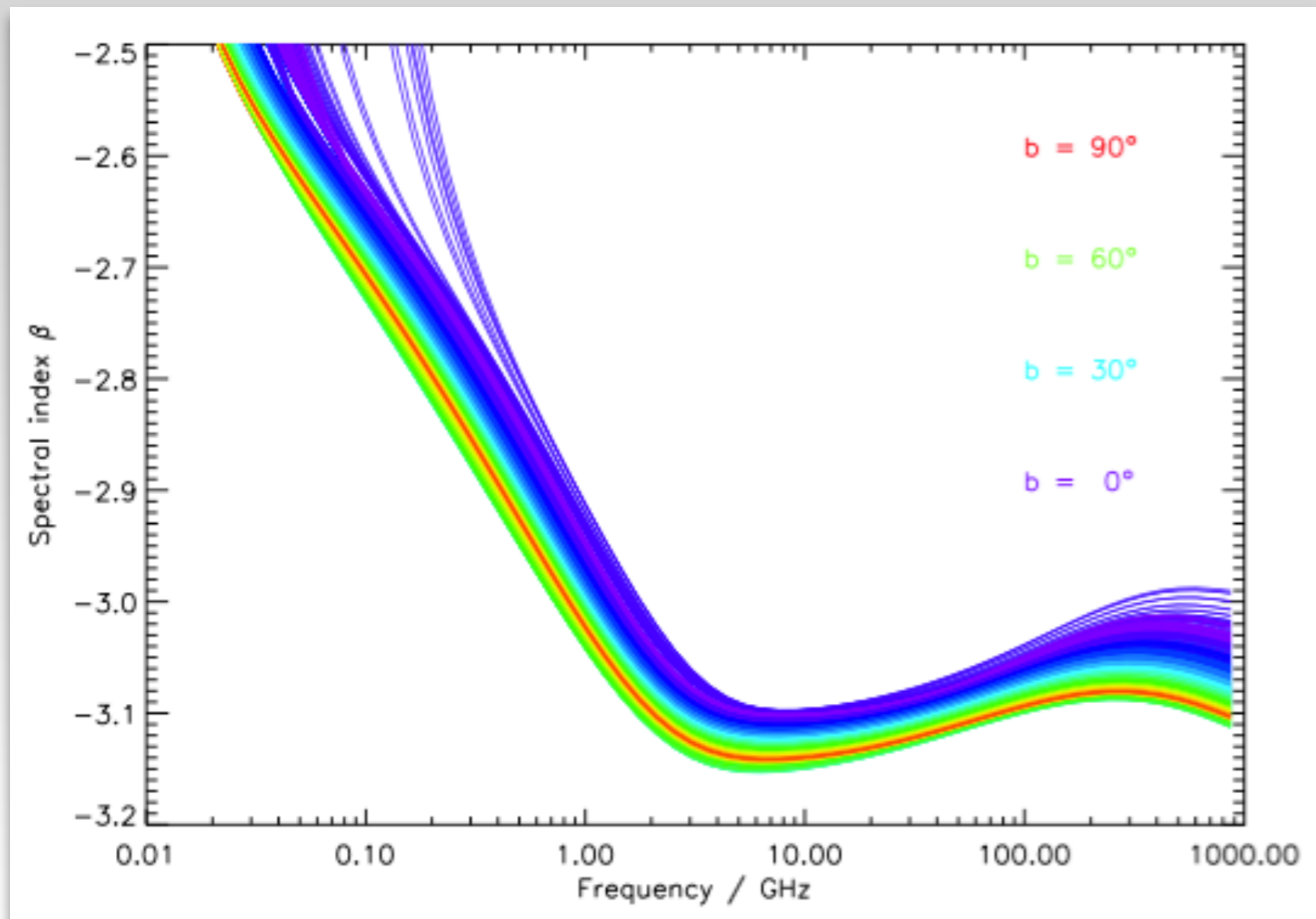
## Synchrotron emission

- ★ Normally modelled with two parameters ( $A$ ,  $\beta$ )
- ★ Typical spectral indices  $\beta \sim -3.2$  to  $-2.5$  (important at low frequencies,  $\approx 10$  GHz)
- ★ However, there are big uncertainties in the determination of the spectral index
  - Low frequency data: low quality (systematics)
  - High frequencies: component separation



## Synchrotron emission

- ★ Curvature (steepening) of the synchrotron spectrum
- ★ Energy losses from cosmic-ray propagation steepens the cosmic-ray spectrum
- ★ Predicted to change from  $\beta \sim -2.8$  at 1 GHz to  $\beta \sim -3.1$  at 100 GHz (Strong et al. 2007)

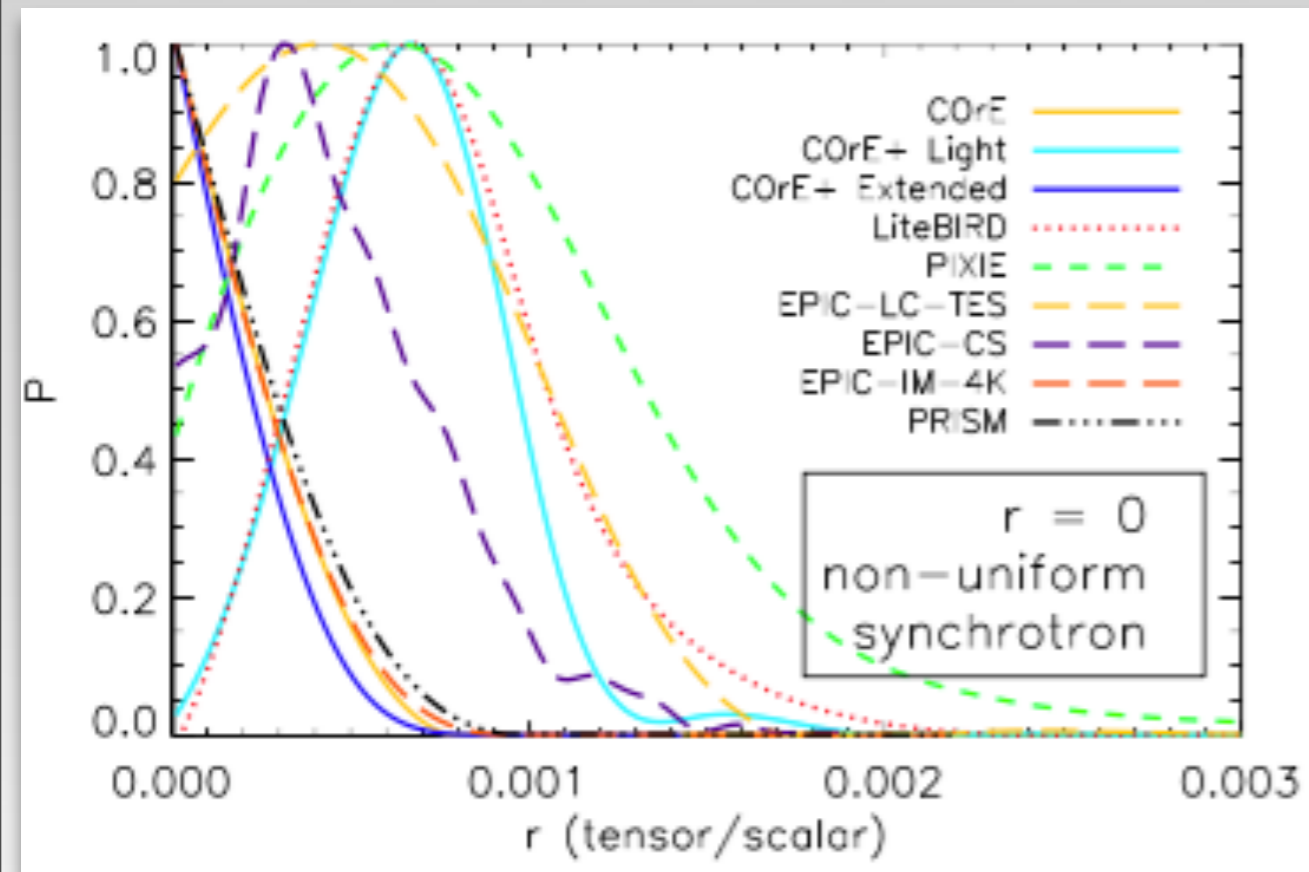


- ★ Maybe fitting a single power law will not be enough
- ★ Need to fit for the curvature, or at least two power laws

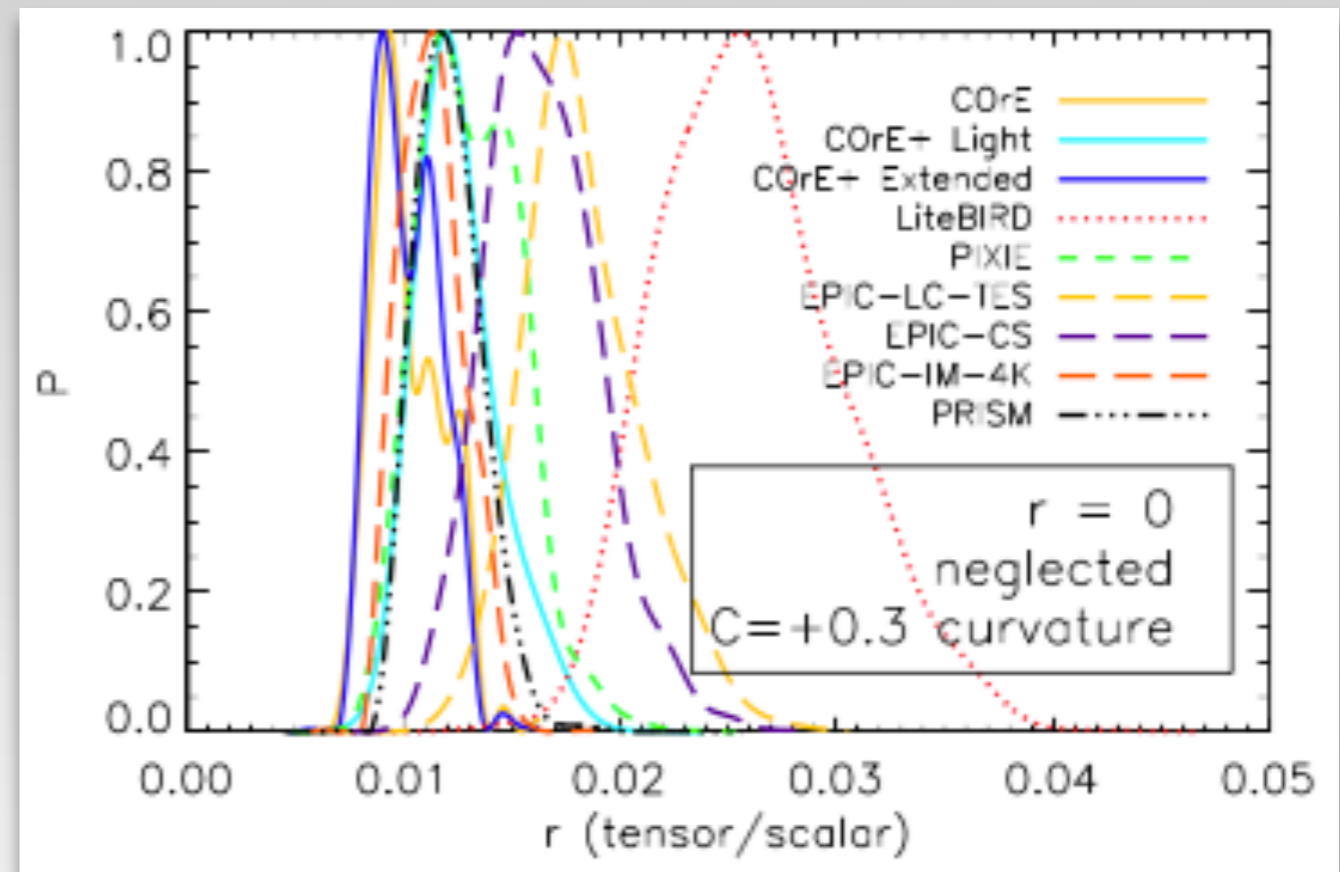


## Impact of incorrect synchrotron subtraction

Ignoring spatial variations of  $\beta$



Ignoring synchrotron curvature



(Remazeilles et al. 2016)

## Free-free emission

★ Thermal bremsstrahlung (“braking radiation”) arising from the interaction (without capture) between free electrons and ions (proton or alpha particle)

★ Inevitably produced in **warm** ( $\sim 10^4$  K) **ionised gas** (HII regions, molecular clouds)

★ Can be mostly explained by classical electromagnetism, with small quantum mechanical corrections at high frequencies (Gaunt factor) - see Oster 1960

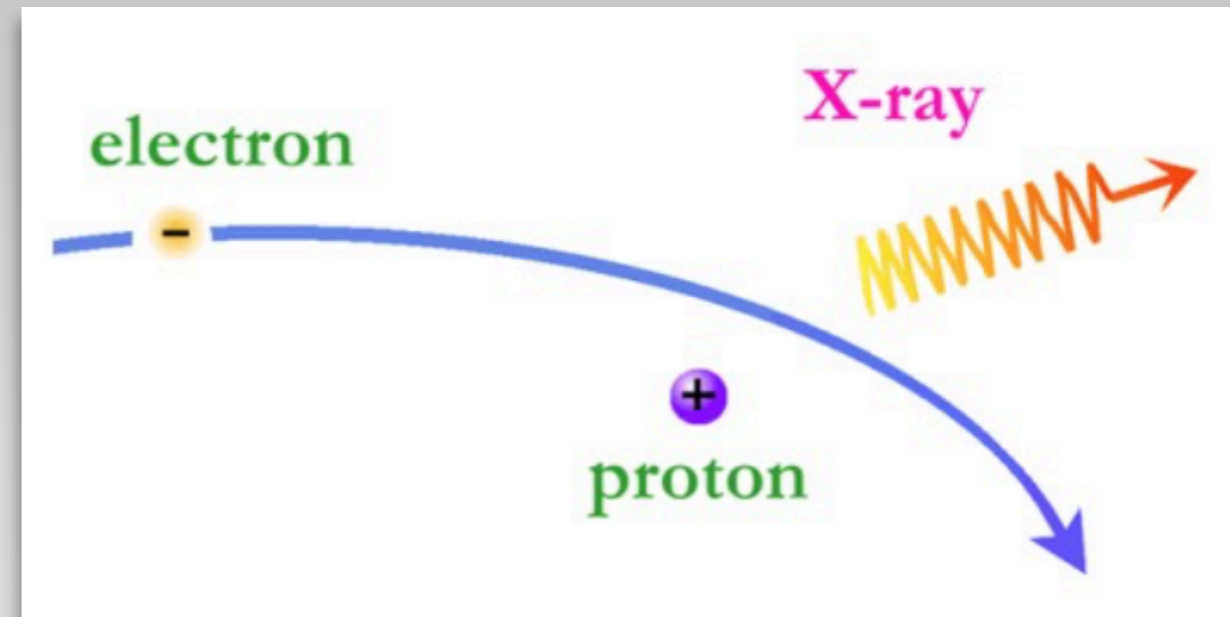
Volume emission coefficient

$$j_\nu = 5.444 \times 10^{-41} n_e n_i Z_i^2 T_4^{1/2} g_{\text{ff},i} e^{-\frac{h\nu}{kT}}$$

Gaunt coefficient

$$g_{\text{ff}} = \ln \left( \exp \left[ 5.960 - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\pi} \ln \left( Z_i \nu_9 T_4^{-3/2} \right) \right] + e \right)$$

(Draine 2011)



Orion nebula



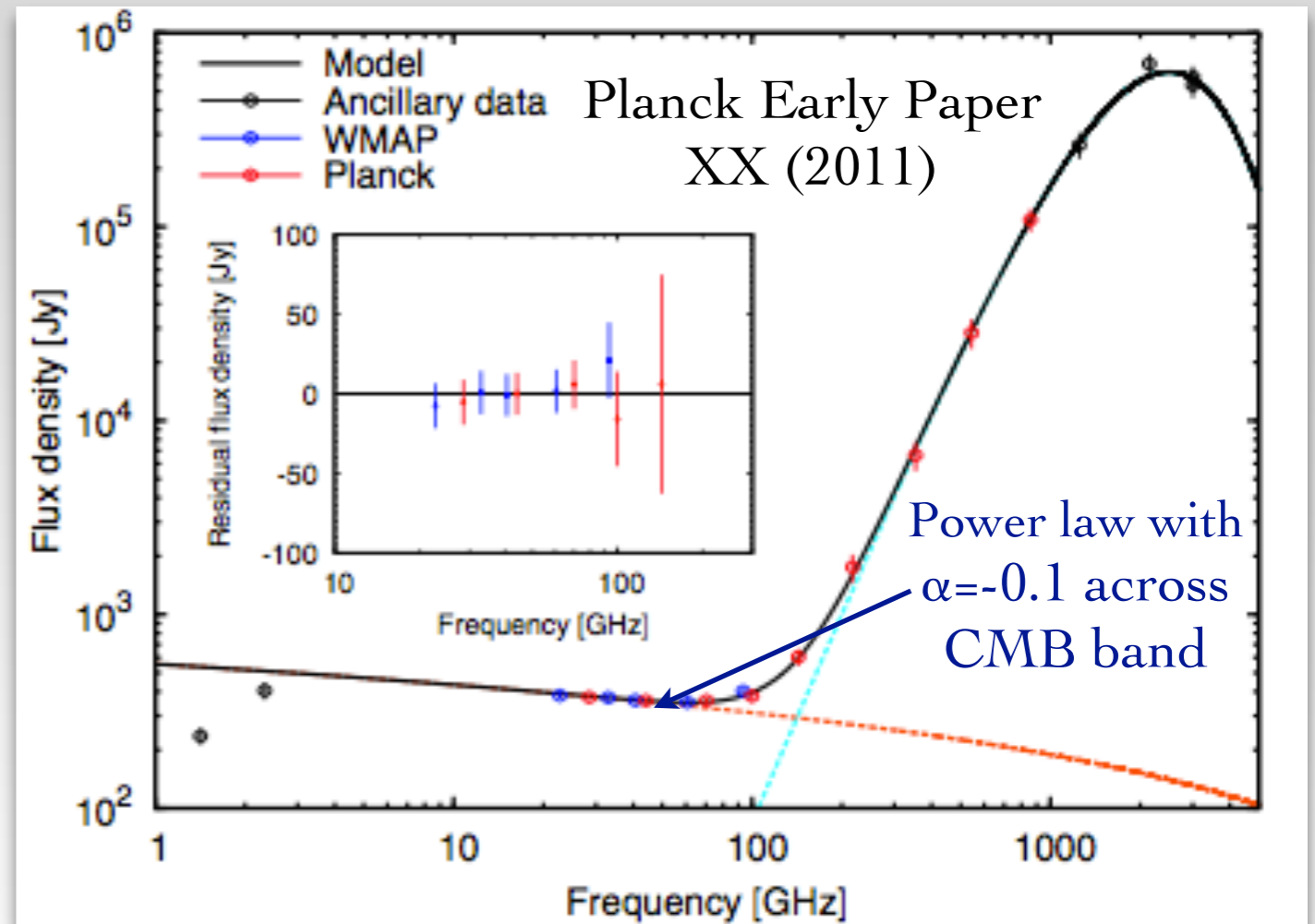
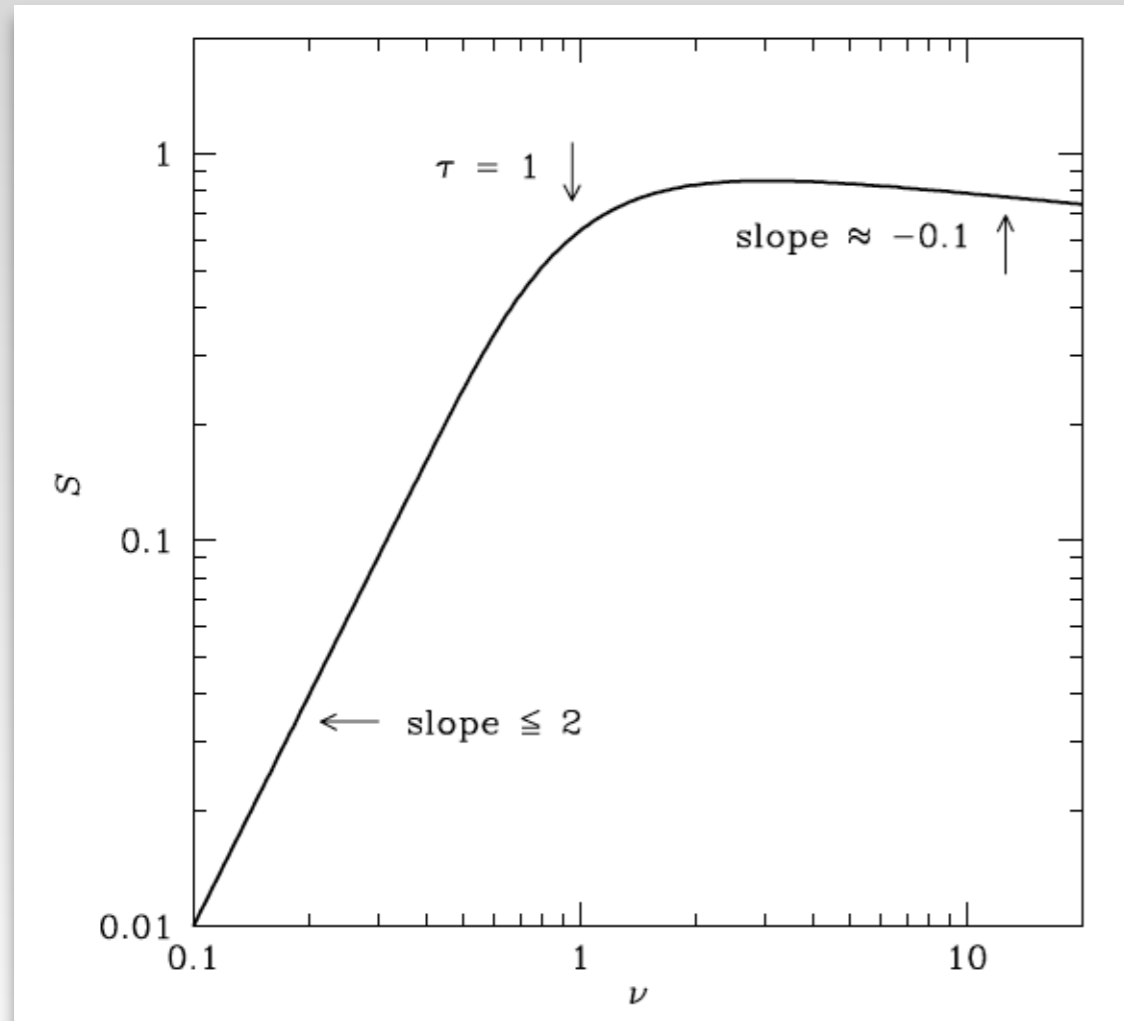
© Anglo-Australian Observatory



## Free-free emission

### ★ Spectrum:

- Low frequencies,  $\tau > 1$ , to give RJ spectrum,  $\propto \nu^2$ , fixed by the temperature of the plasma
- At high microwave frequencies,  $\tau \ll 1$ , spectrum close to  $\beta = -2.10$  ( $\alpha = -0.10$ ), stepping to  $\beta = -2.15$  at 100 GHz
- In practice, a **power law** at CMB frequencies
- Need to fit **only one parameter** (EM)



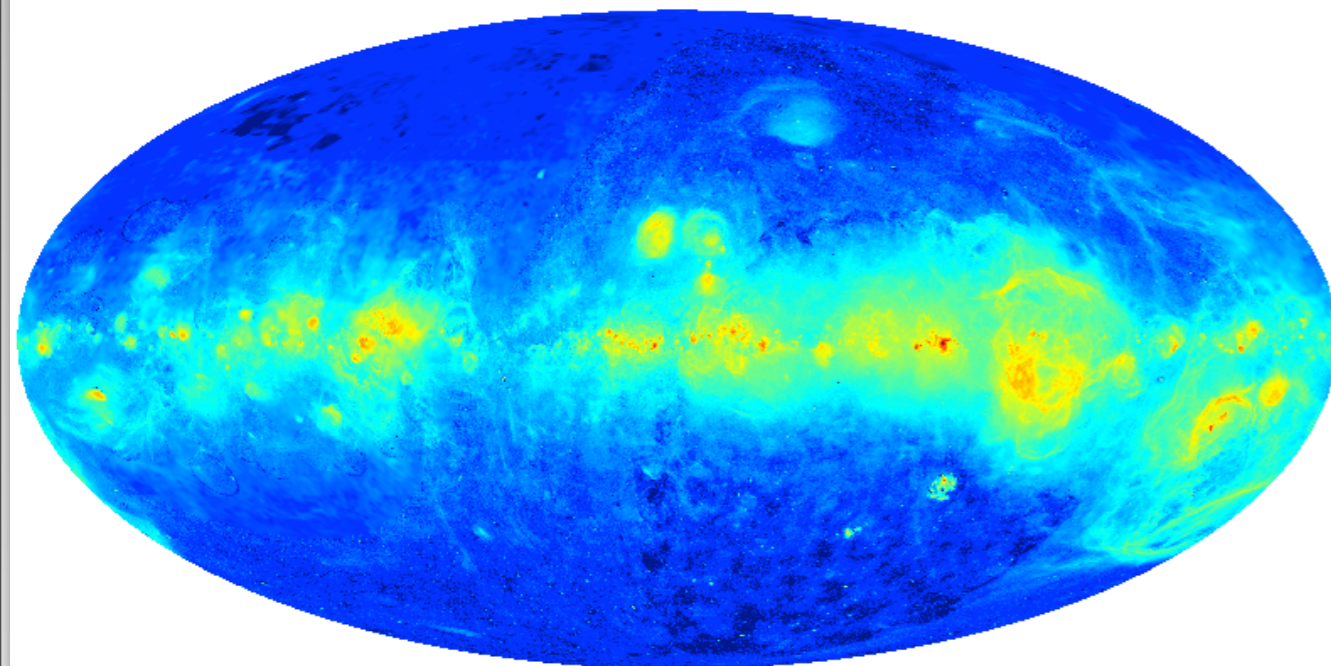
- Important at low frequencies, typically dominant at 10-100 GHz. Could be the dominant foreground at  $\approx 70$  GHz

## Free-free emission

- Mostly concentrated in the Galactic plane
- Well correlated with H $\alpha$  emission

H $\alpha$  emission (Finkbeiner 2003)

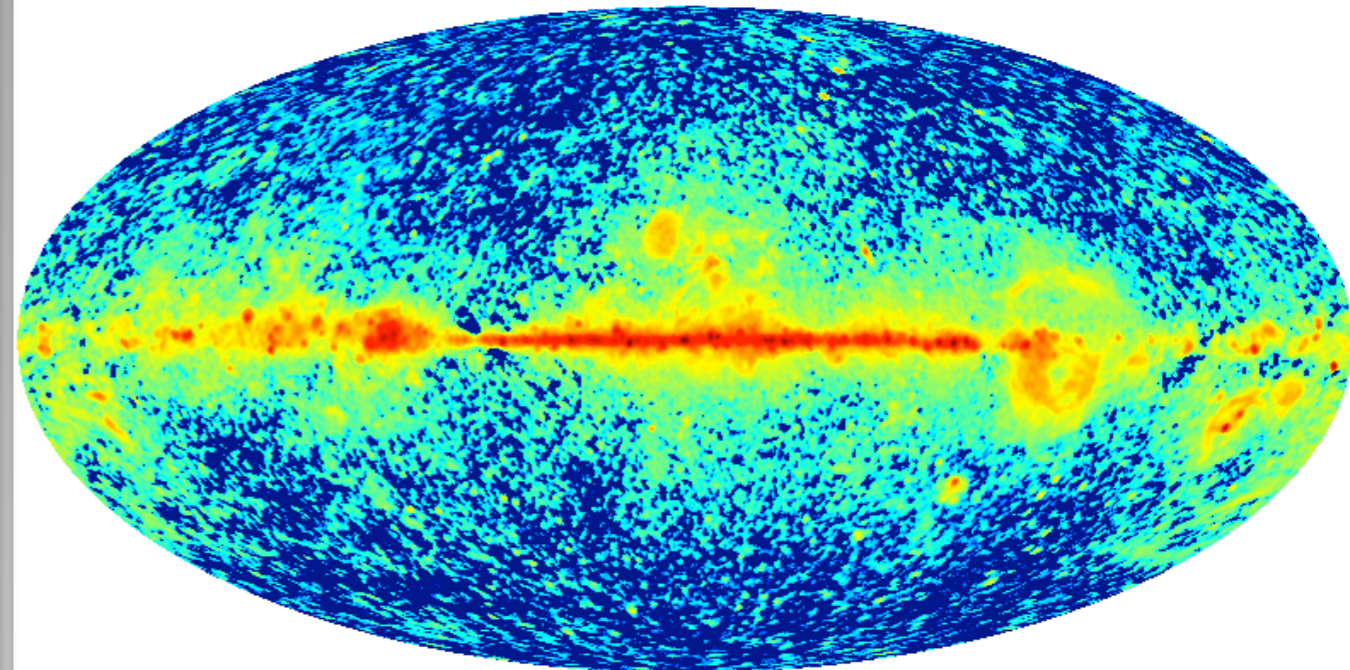
Halpha Finkbeiner



-1.0  3.9 Log (R)

Free-free solution from Commander, at  
20 GHz (Planck 2015 results)

Free-free from Commander 20 GHz



-5.7  0.3 Log (Jy/sr)

- Free-free emission is **practically unpolarised**, as in a Maxwellian distribution of electrons the scattering directions are random
- Residual polarisation (up to  $\sim 10\%$ ) at the borders of HII regions due to Thomson scattering could occur
- However, HII regions are soft, and beam effects make them softer, so in practice we expect  $P/I < 1\%$



## Anomalous Microwave Emission

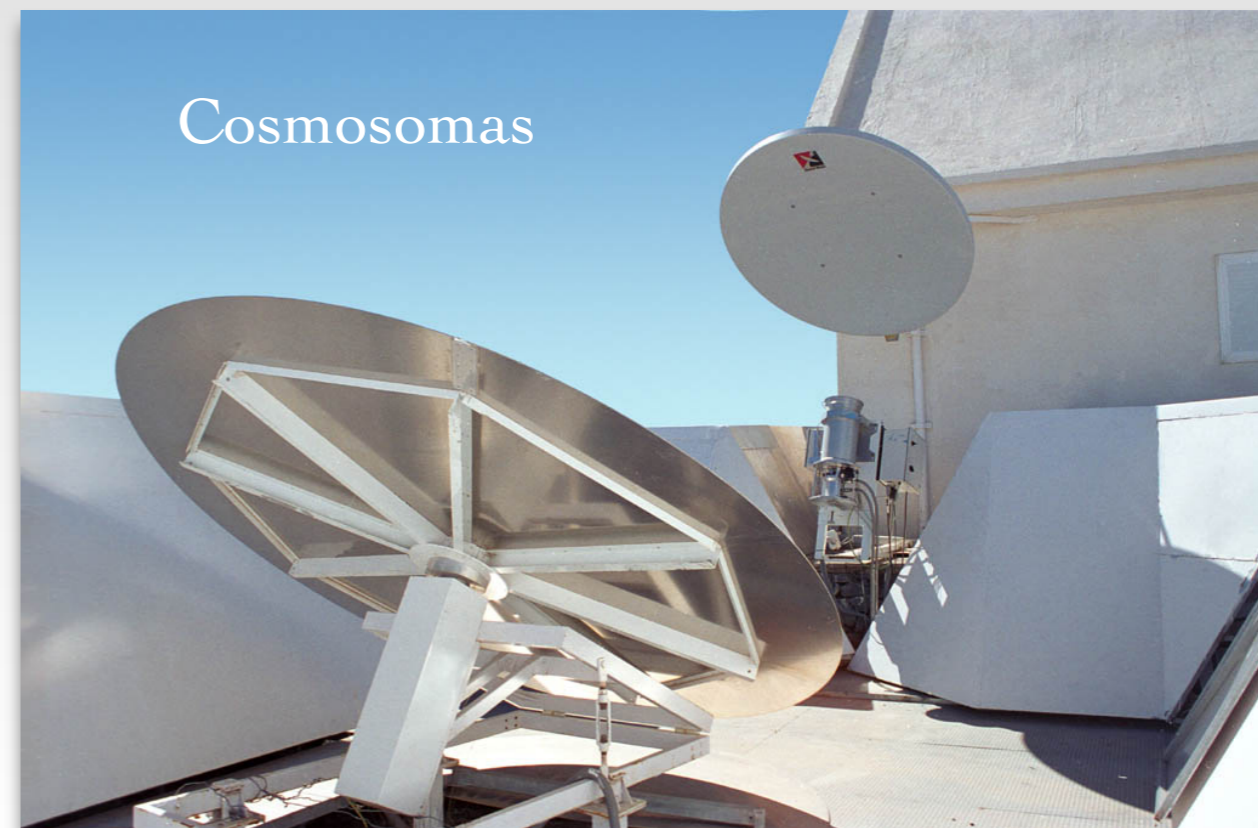
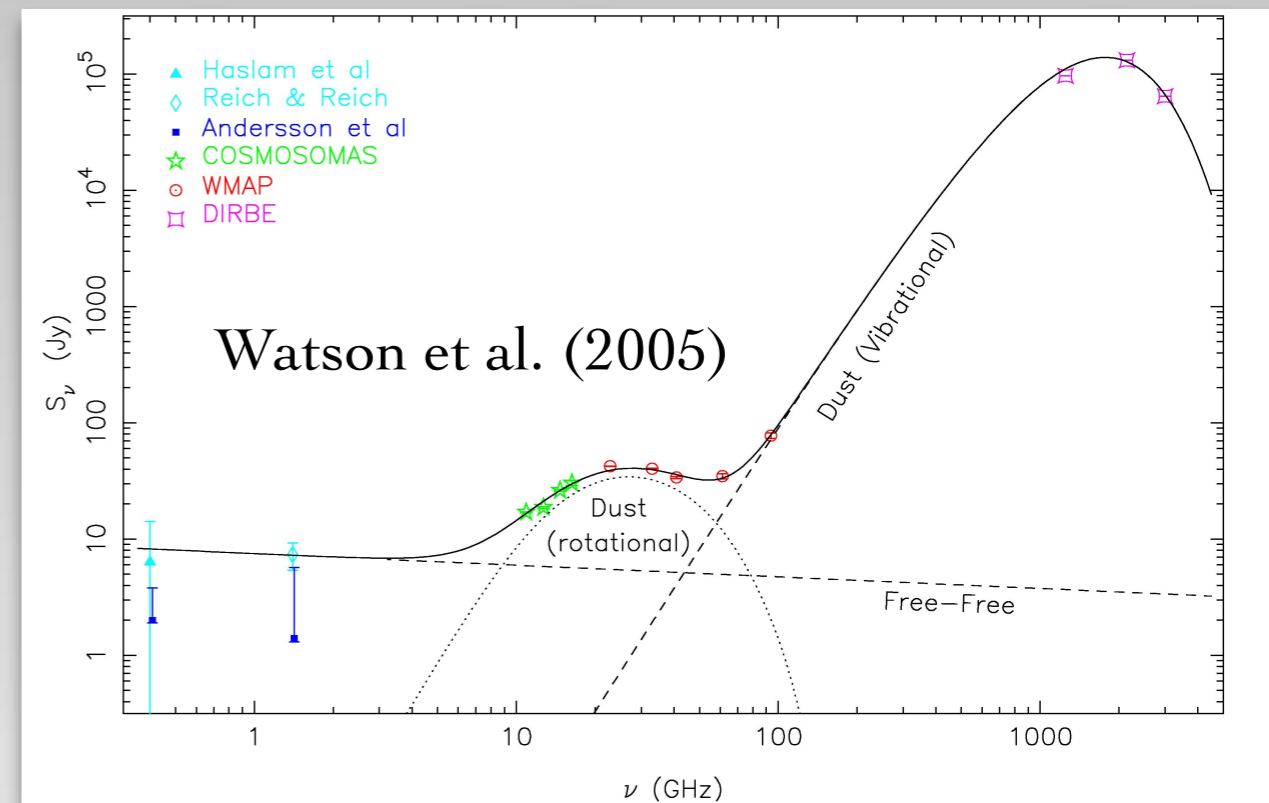
★ **Dust correlated emission**, first detected in COBE data at 30-90 GHz (Kogut et al. 1996)

★ Right afterwards by other experiments: **OVRO** at 14.5 and 32 GHz (Leitch et al. 1997), **Saskatoon** at 30 GHz (de Oliveira-Costa et al. 1997), **19 GHz experiment** (de Oliveira-Costa et al. 1998), **Tenerife** at 10 and 15 GHz (de Oliveira-Costa et al. 1999, 2002, 2004)

★ Later, characterisation of the spectrum:

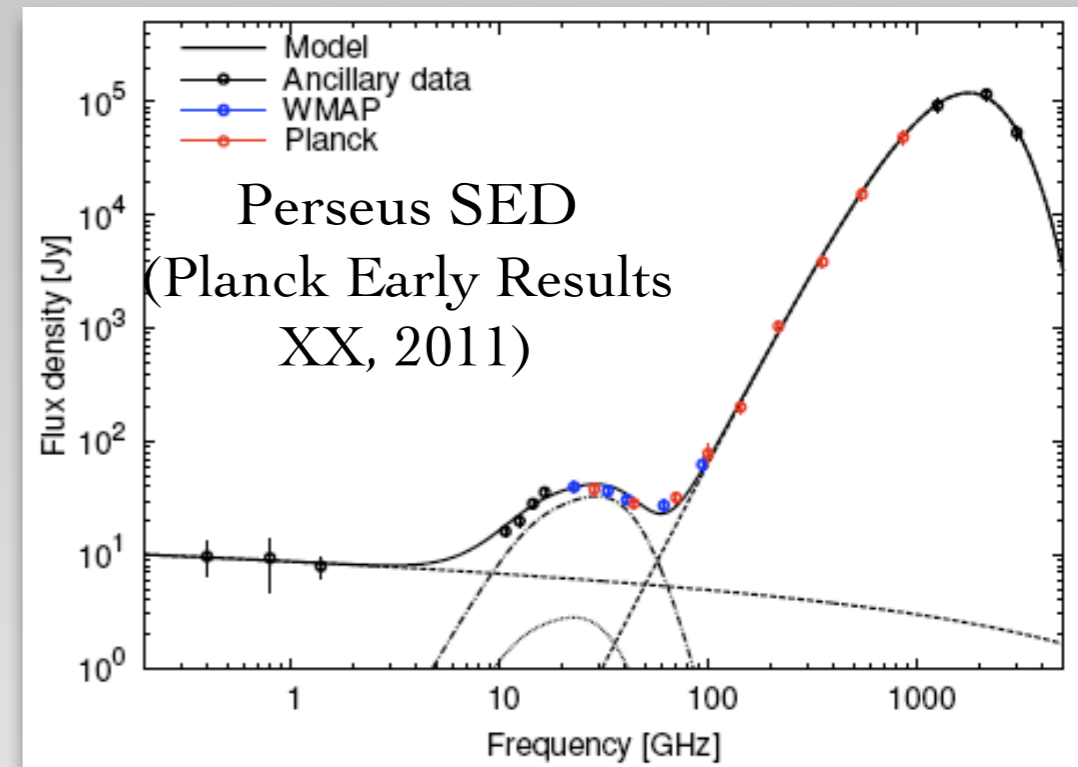
- **LDN1622** (Finkbeiner et al. 2002) with **GBT**
- **Perseus** molecular complex (Watson et al. 2005), with **Cosmosomas**
- **LDN1622** (Casassus et al. 2006) and  $\rho$ -**Ophiuchus** (Casassus et al. 2008) with **CBI**
- **LDN1111** with **AMI** (Scaife et al. 2009)
- **Pleiades** RN with **WMAP** (G nova-Santos et al. 2011)

## SED Perseus molecular complex

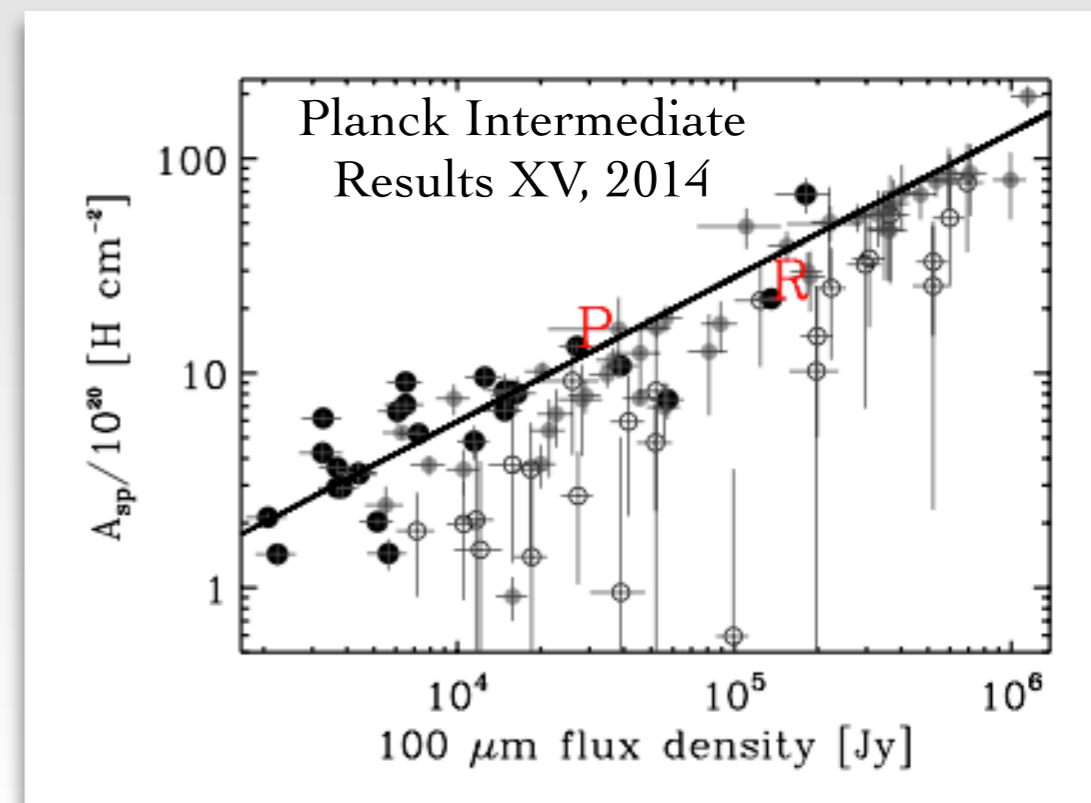
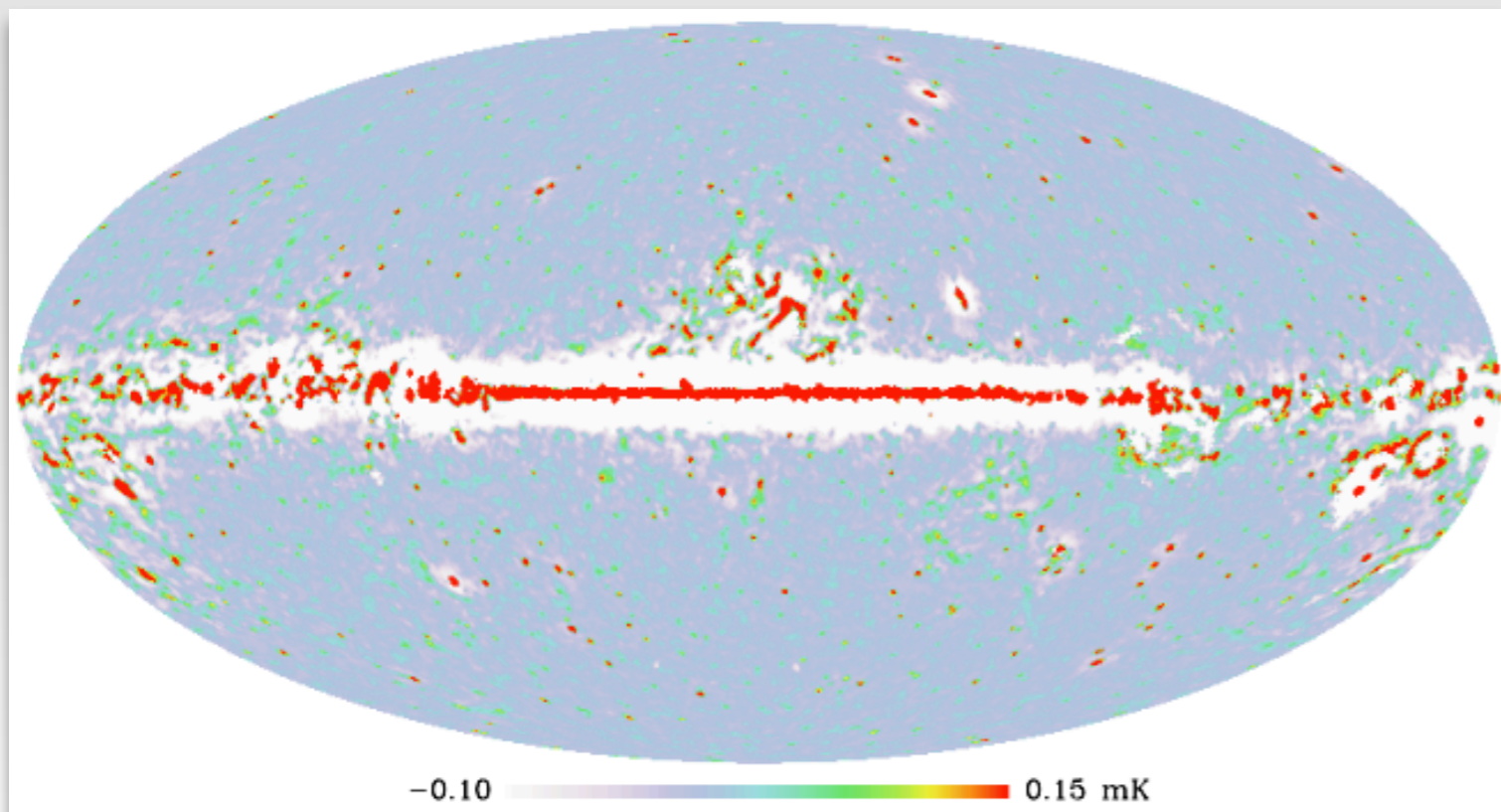


## Anomalous Microwave Emission - Planck results

- ★ First systematic search of AME in the **full sky**
- ★ Confirmed early detections in Perseus and  $\rho$ -Ophiuchus, and identified  $\approx 50$  new candidates (PER XX, 2011)
- ★ Presented a study of AME in 98 regions, and studied physical properties of these regions in an statistical way (PIR XV, 2014)



Full sky AME map (Planck Intermediate Results XV, 2014)

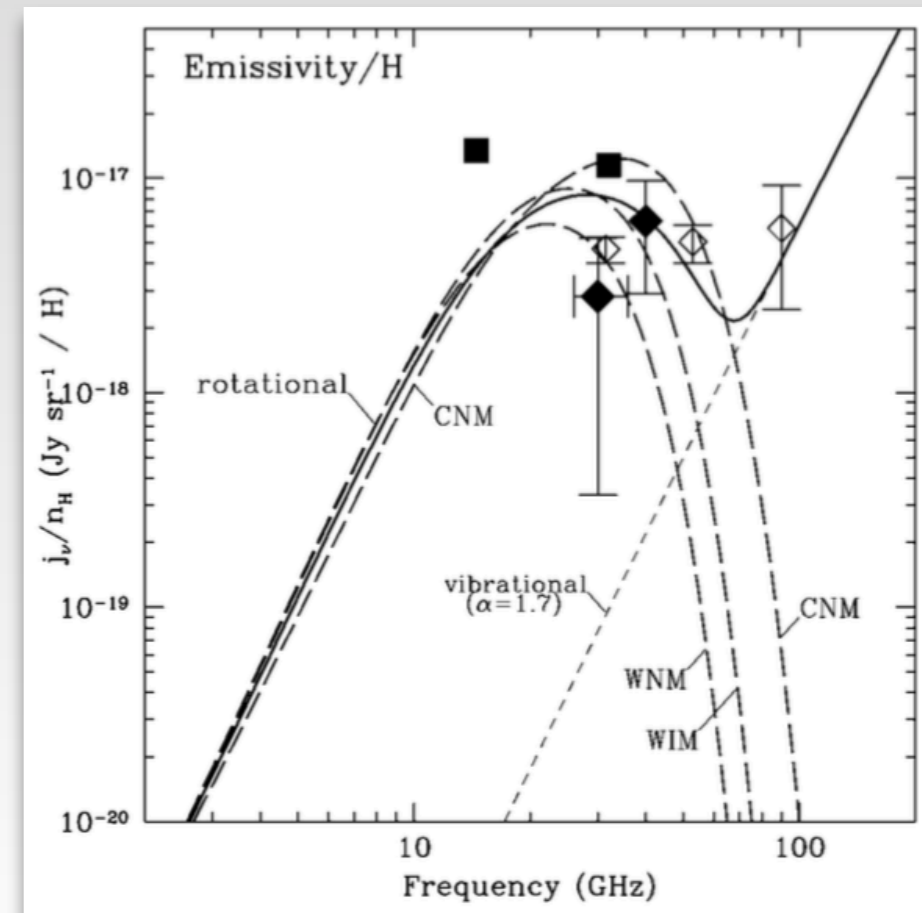
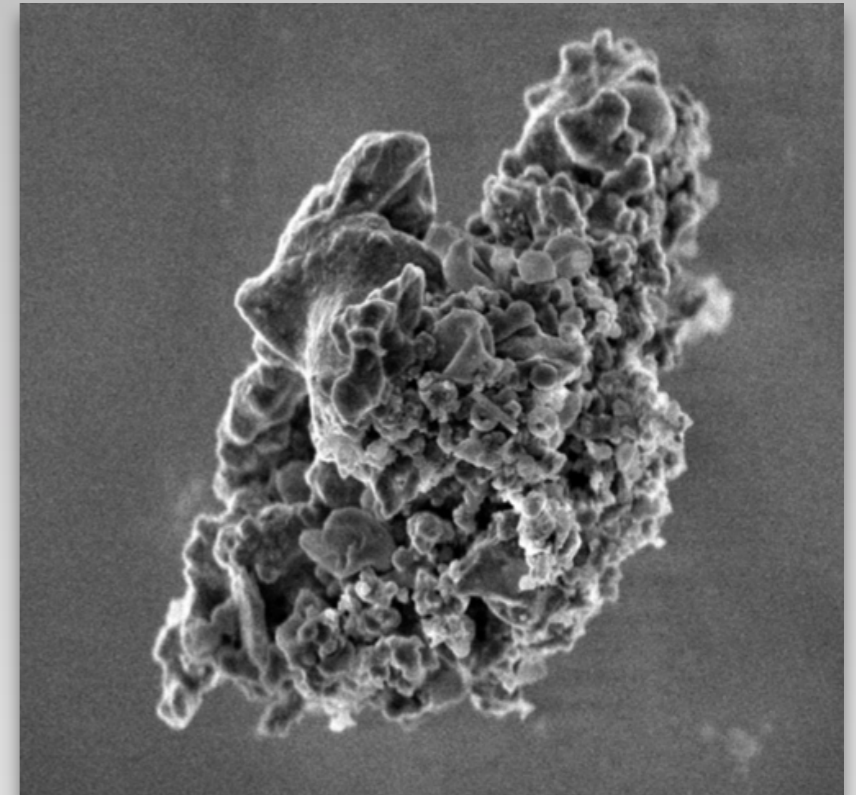




## Anomalous Microwave Emission - Models

- ★ Initial proposals (hard synchrotron, free-free emission) not able to explain the observed spectrum
- ★ **Electric dipole emission** (spinning dust)
  - Originated in dust grains with high rotation speeds (due to interactions with the ISM), containing a residual electric dipole moment
  - First suggested by Erickson (1957), later revisited by Draine & Lazarian (1998)
  - Very complicated physics! Many free parameters (grain size distribution, electric dipole moments, angular velocity distribution function, total hydrogen number density, gas temperature, intensity of the radiation field...)
  - Usually fix the model spectrum and fit only **one parameter** ( $N_H$ )

Typical interstellar dust grain



Spinning dust models (Draine & Lazarian 1998)

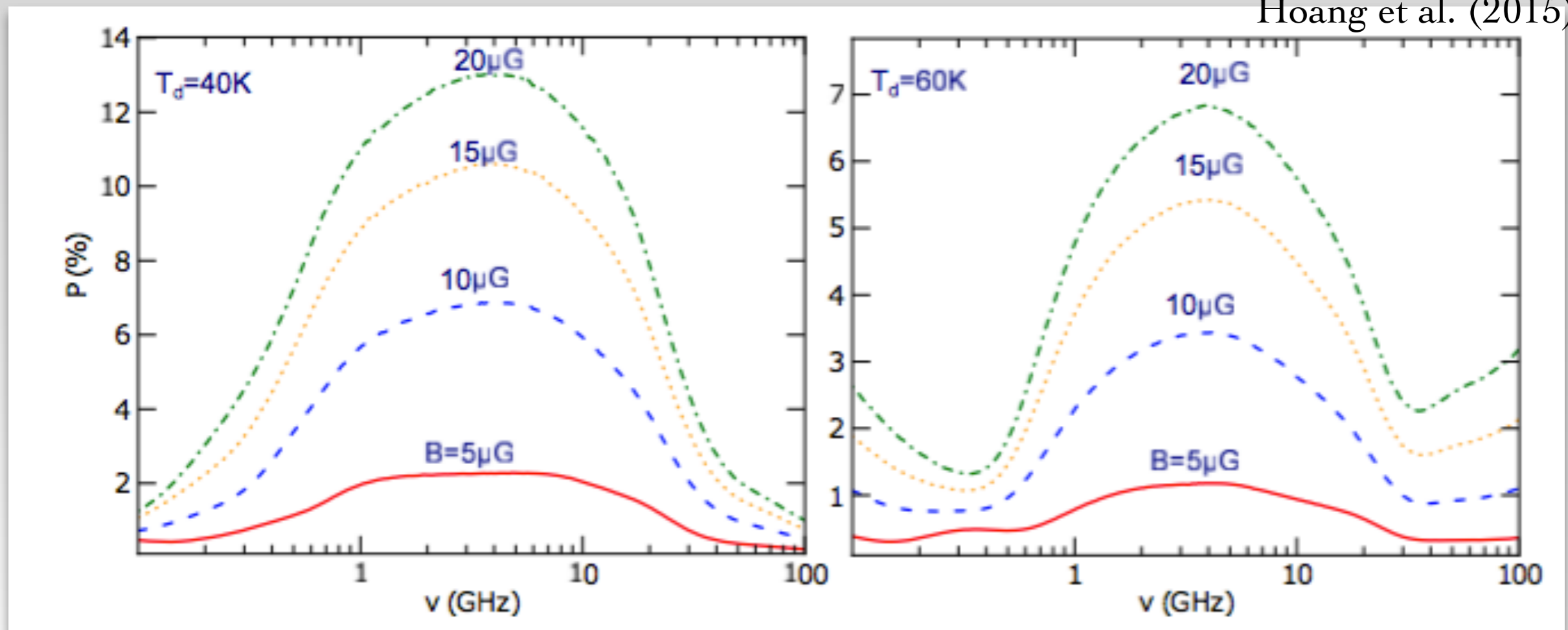
- ★ **Magnetic dipole emission**
  - Thermal fluctuations in the magnetization of the grains (Draine & Lazarian 1999)
  - Black-body like spectrum at 70-100 GHz  $\Rightarrow$  potentially a killer for CMB component separation

## Anomalous Microwave Emission - Models

### ★ Models of AME in polarisation:

- Spinning dust polarisation typically predicted to be **very low**
- Lazarian & Draine (2000): 6-7% at 2-3 GHz, 4-5% at 10 GHz
- Hoang et al. (2013): peak of **1.5% at 3 GHz**, dropping at higher frequencies. Slightly higher values for strong magnetic fields (Hoang et al. 2015)

Hoang et al. (2015)



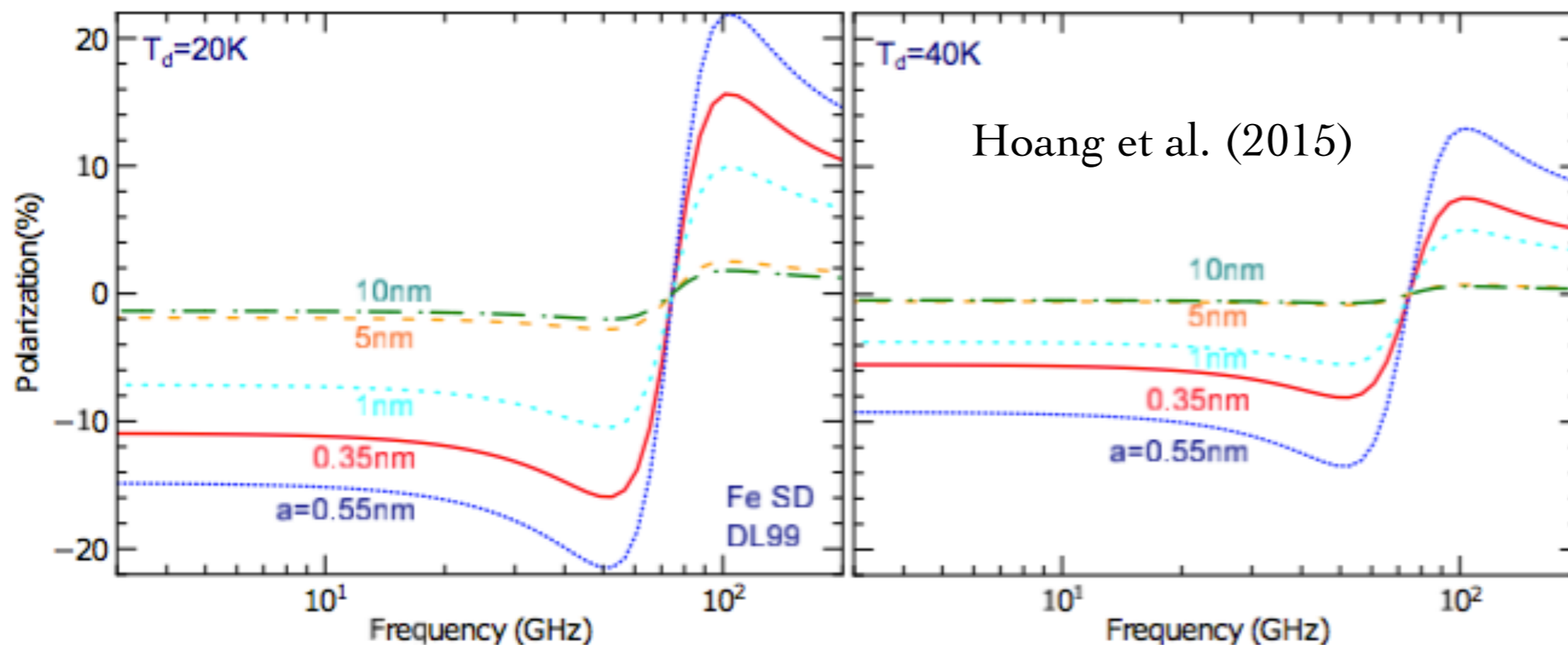
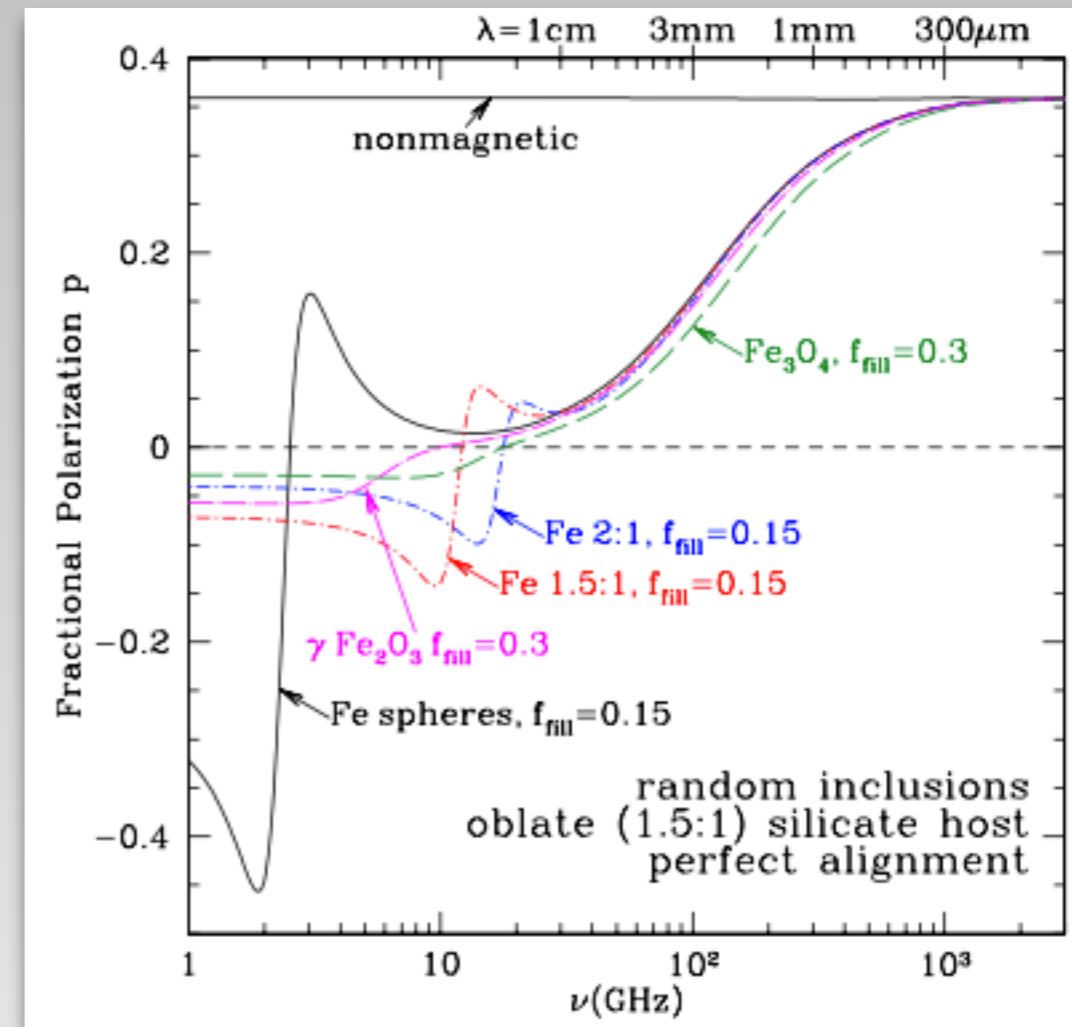
- Difficult to predict. Many free parameters!
- Also: Draine & Hensley (2016) have recently suggested that quantum dissipation of alignment will lead to practically zero polarisation



## Anomalous Microwave Emission - Models

### ★ Models of AME in polarisation:

- Magnetic dust polarisation expected to be higher
- Up to 40 % if grains are oriented in a single magnetic domain (Draine & Lazarian 1999)
- More realistic model with randomly oriented magnetic inclusions predict lower levels, <5% at 10-20 GHz (Draine & Hensley 2013)
- Also lower levels found by Hoang et al. (2015)



- Again, difficult to predict! These models contain many underlying assumptions

★ Compact sources:

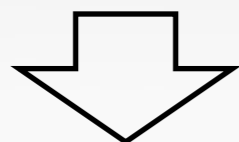
- Battistelli et al. (2006) found marginal polarisation with  $\Pi = 3.4 \pm 1.7\%$  at 11 GHz, using **COSMOSOMAS**
- Upper limits from,  $\Pi < 1\%$  (95% CL) from **WMAP** 23 GHz (López-Caraballo et al. 2011, Dickinson et al. 2011)

★ Diffuse:

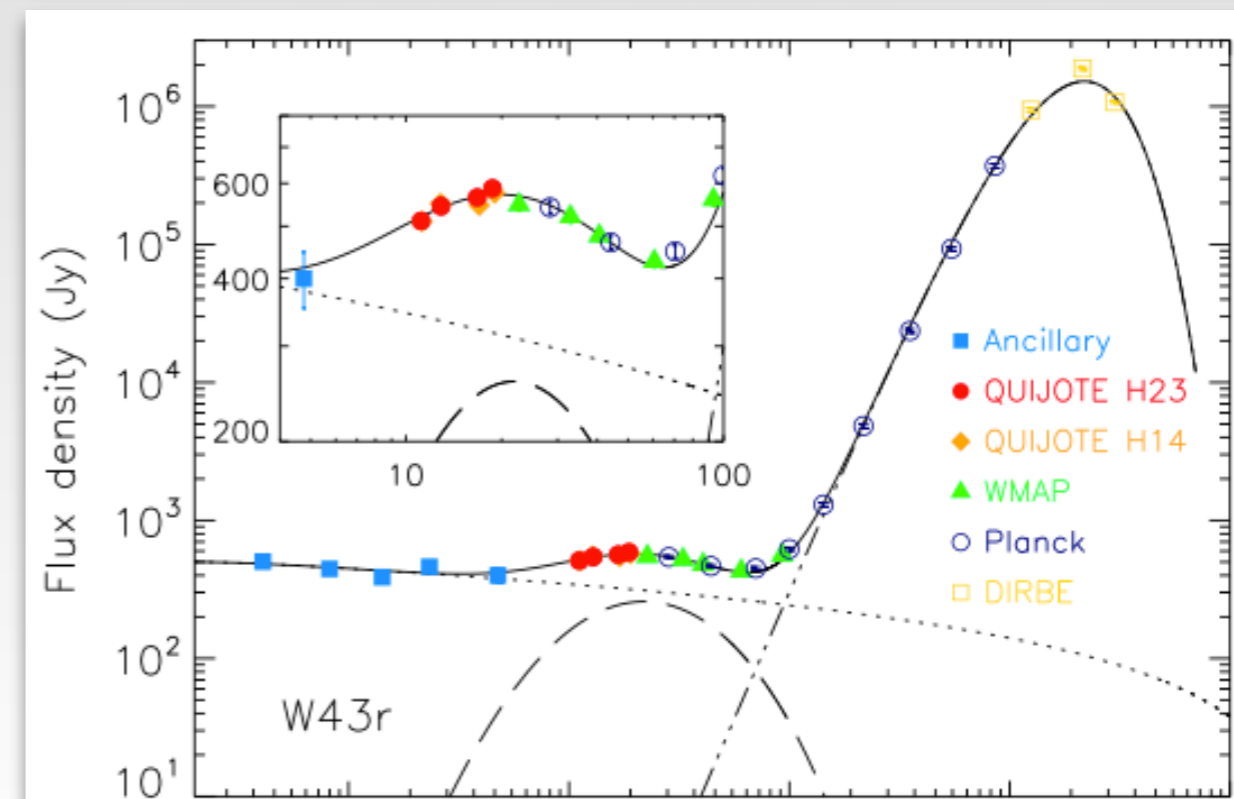
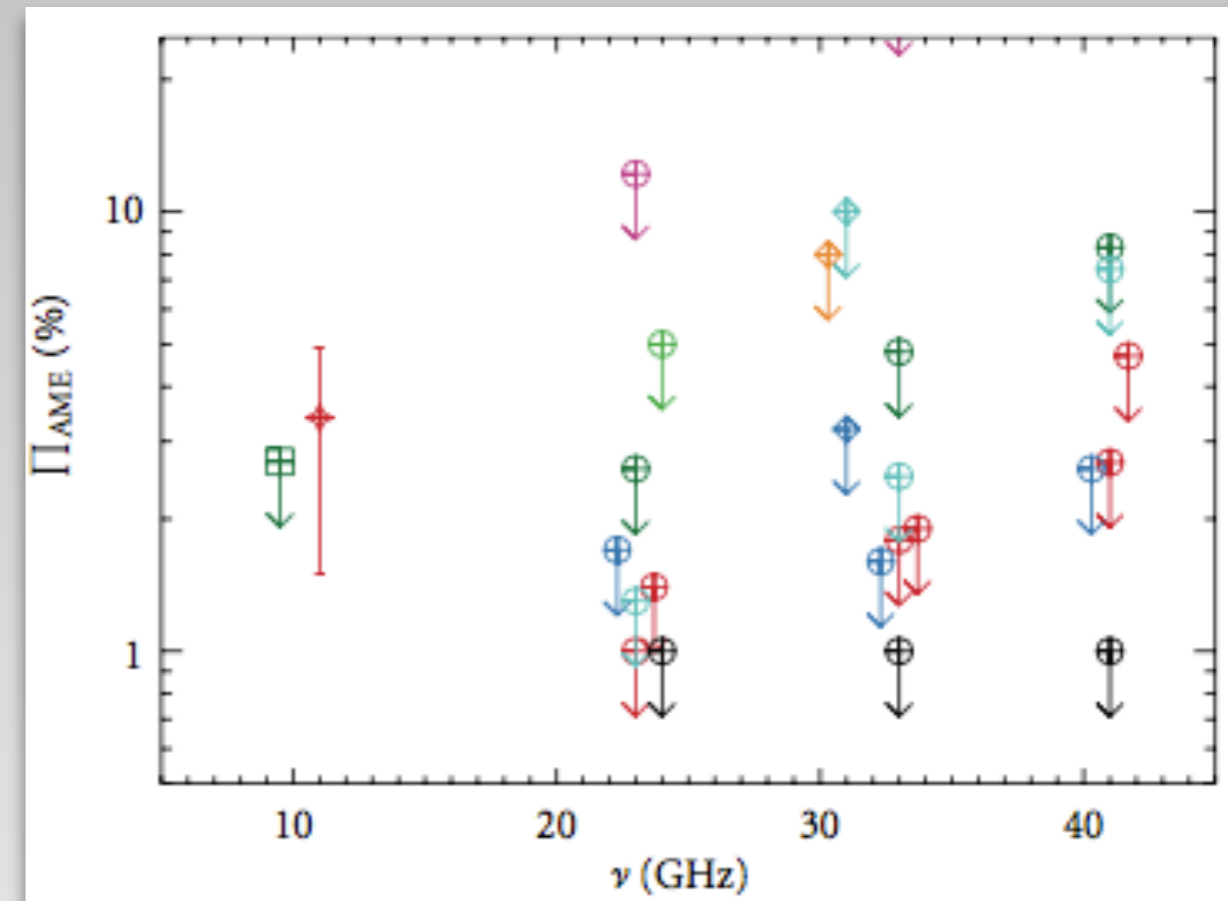
- $\Pi < 5\%$  (Macellari et al. 2011), at 22.8 GHz with WMAP
- $\Pi = 0.6 \pm 0.5\%$  (Planck 2015 results, XXV)

★ **QUIJOTE**:

- Perseus molecular complex:  $\Pi_{AME} < 6.3\%$  at 12 GHz and  $\Pi_{AME} < 2.8\%$  at 18 GHz (Génova-Santos et al. 2015)
- W43 molecular complex:  $\Pi_{AME} < 0.39\%$  at 18.7 GHz and  $< 0.22\%$  at 40.6 GHz (Génova-Santos et al. 2017)



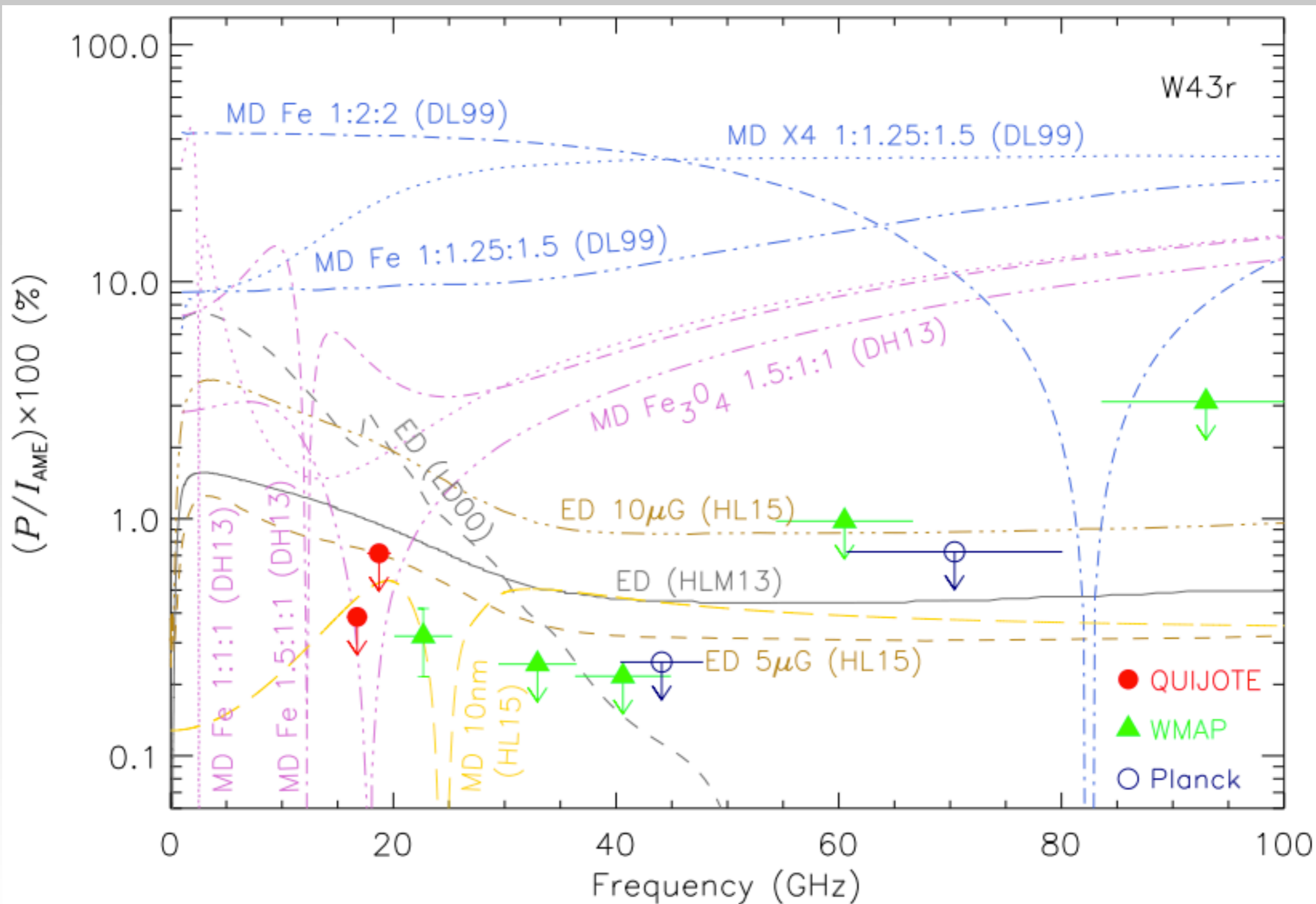
Best constraints to date! improving previous constraints by a **factor 5**





# Anomalous Microwave Emission - Polarisation constraints

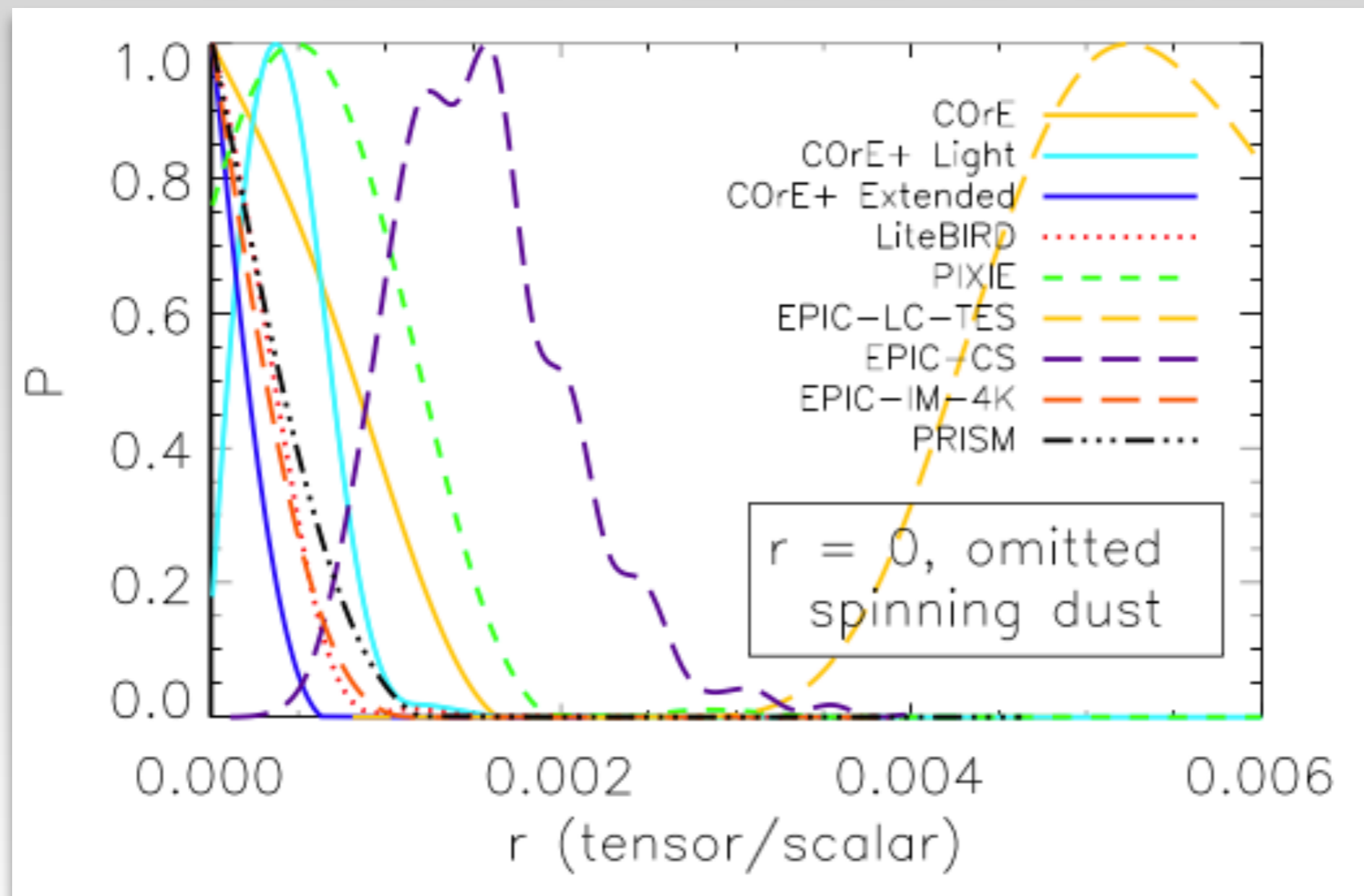
Genova-Santos et al. (2017)



## Impact of ignoring the AME

★ We may not have to worry about AME in polarisation. But:

- Previous upper limits have been obtained in individual regions
- Ignoring a AME component with  $\Pi=1\%$  may lead to significant biases in  $r$  (Remazeilles et al. 2016)



(Remazeilles et al. 2016)



## Thermal dust emission

★ Thermal IR vibrational emission from different ISM dust grain populations, heated up ( $T_d \sim 20$  K) by UV radiation

★ Dominant foreground at  $>100$  GHz

★ Black-body spectrum, but with opacity effects

➔ Modelled as a modified black-body (grey-body) spectrum at the relevant frequencies

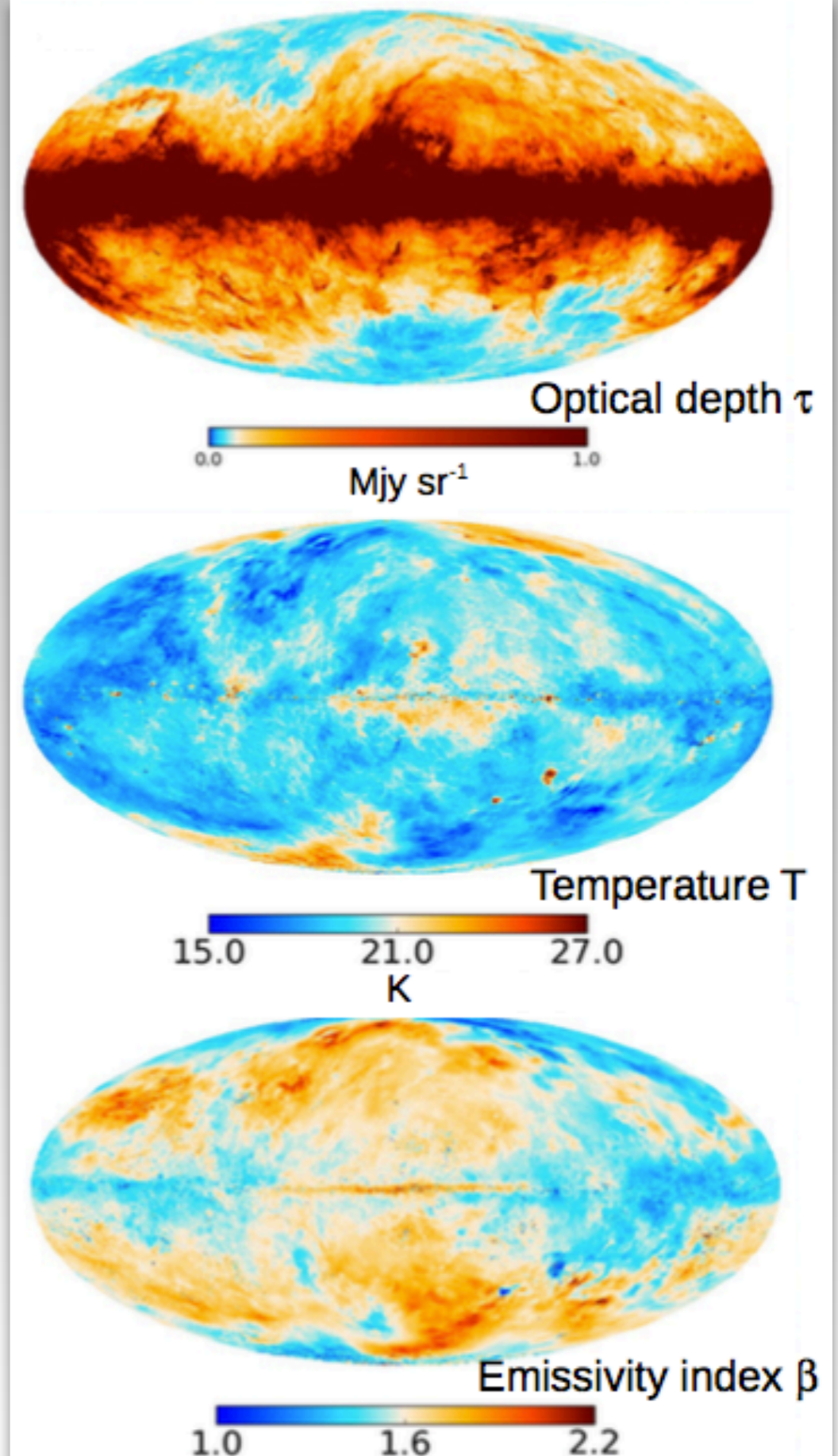
$$I_\nu = \tau_{\nu 0} \left( \frac{\nu}{\nu_0} \right)^{\beta_d} B_\nu(T_d)$$

➔ 3 free parameters

• Average values from Planck:  $T_d \approx 19$  K,  $\beta_d \approx 1.6$

★ Complications:

- How many dust components we need to fit?
- Significant variation of the emissivity index over the sky



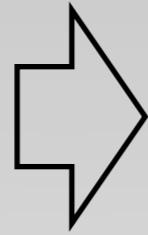
Planck dust model (Planck intermediate results XLVIII, 2016)



## Thermal dust emission - Polarisation

### Planck results

★ Dust intensity map at 353 GHz, showing the magnetic field directions, derived from Planck component separation



★ Polarisation fraction up to **20%** in some areas

★ On average  $\approx 10\%$  at high Galactic latitudes, inferred from Planck. Higher than previous measurements (Archeops)

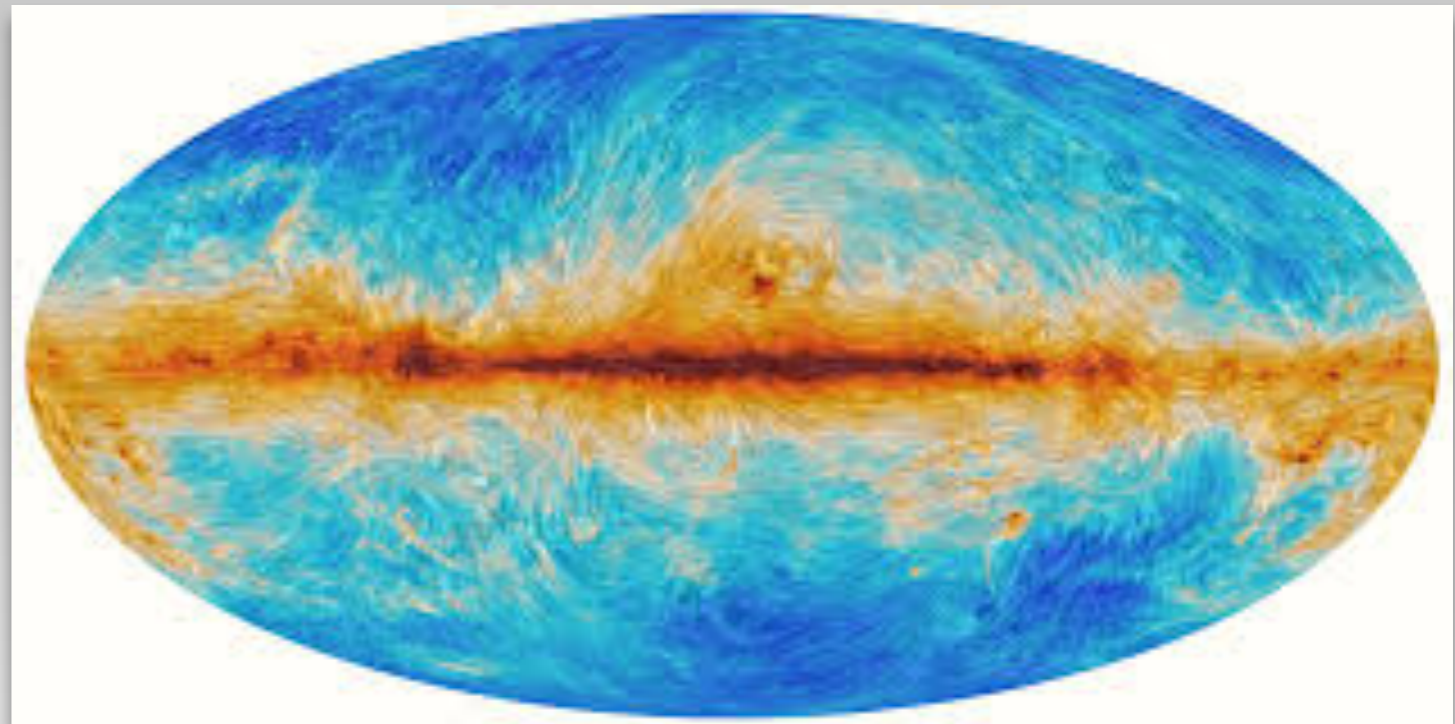
★ Lower column density lines of sight (high Galactic latitudes) have higher polarisation fractions!

- Bad for CMB studies!

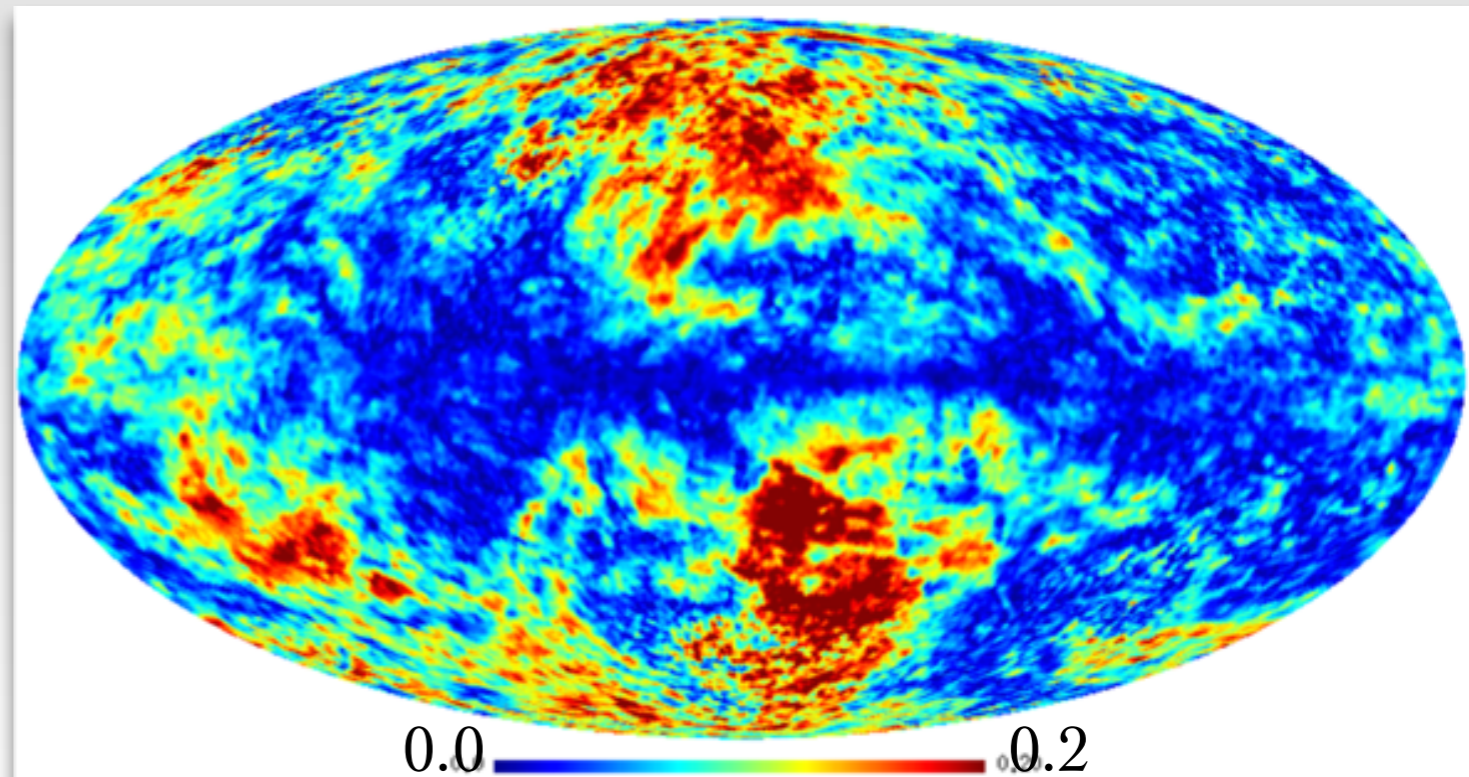
★ Very complicated modelling of the polarisation (magnetic field, turbulence,...)

★ Power spectrum  $\propto l^{-2.42}$  (Planck Intermediate Results XXX, 2016)

Planck dust emission 353 GHz



Planck polarisation fraction at 353 GHz



(Planck Intermediate Results IXX, 2015)

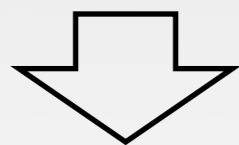


## Thermal dust contamination in BICEP2

### ★ BICEP2 results:

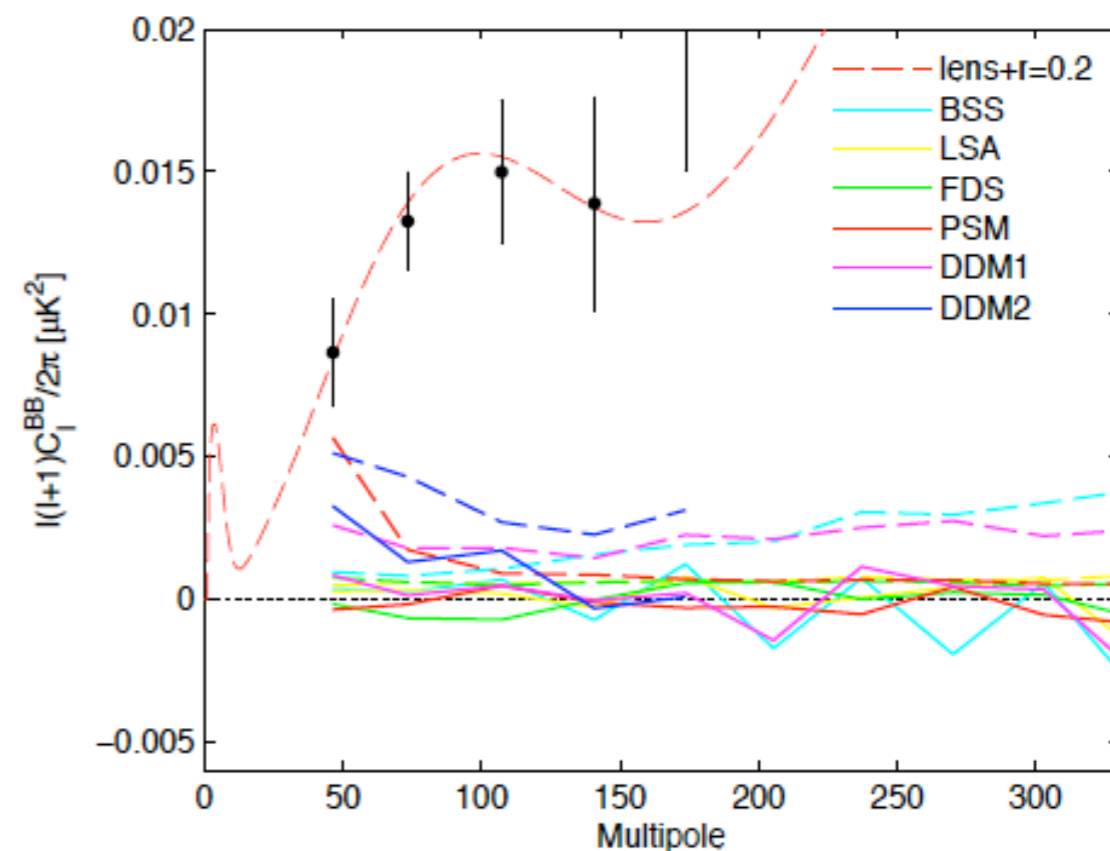
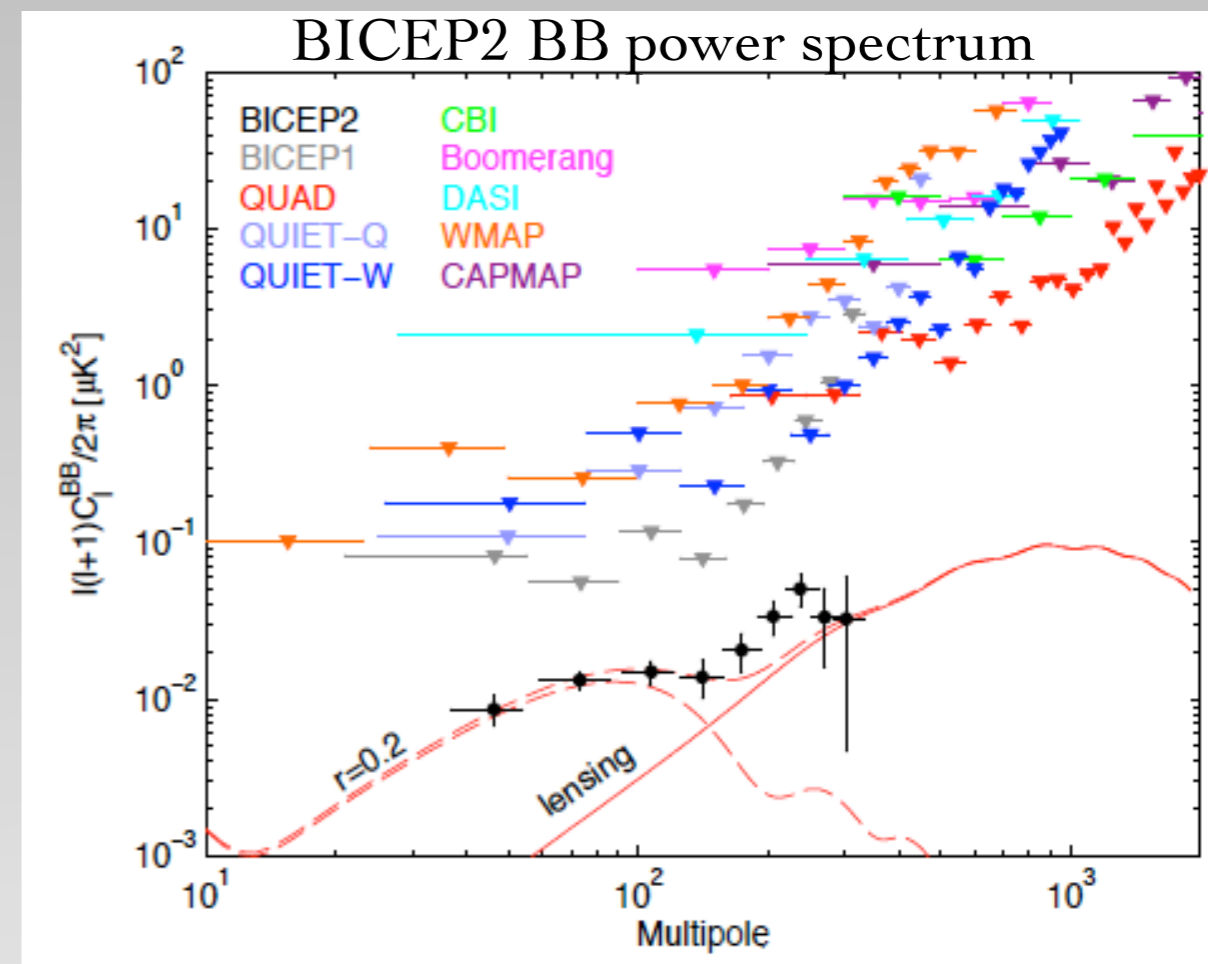
- Initially claimed a detection of primordial B-modes with  $r = 0.20^{+0.07}_{-0.05}$
- Their estimate of the foreground contributions to their detection:
  - Dust:  $r = 0.02$
  - Synchrotron:  $r < 0.003$
  - Point sources:  $r = 0.001$

★ Too simplistic modelling and assumptions of foreground components. Some cases assumed constant P/I=5% in the full sky for the dust



★ Planck 353 GHz polarisation demonstrated that the dust contamination was rather higher

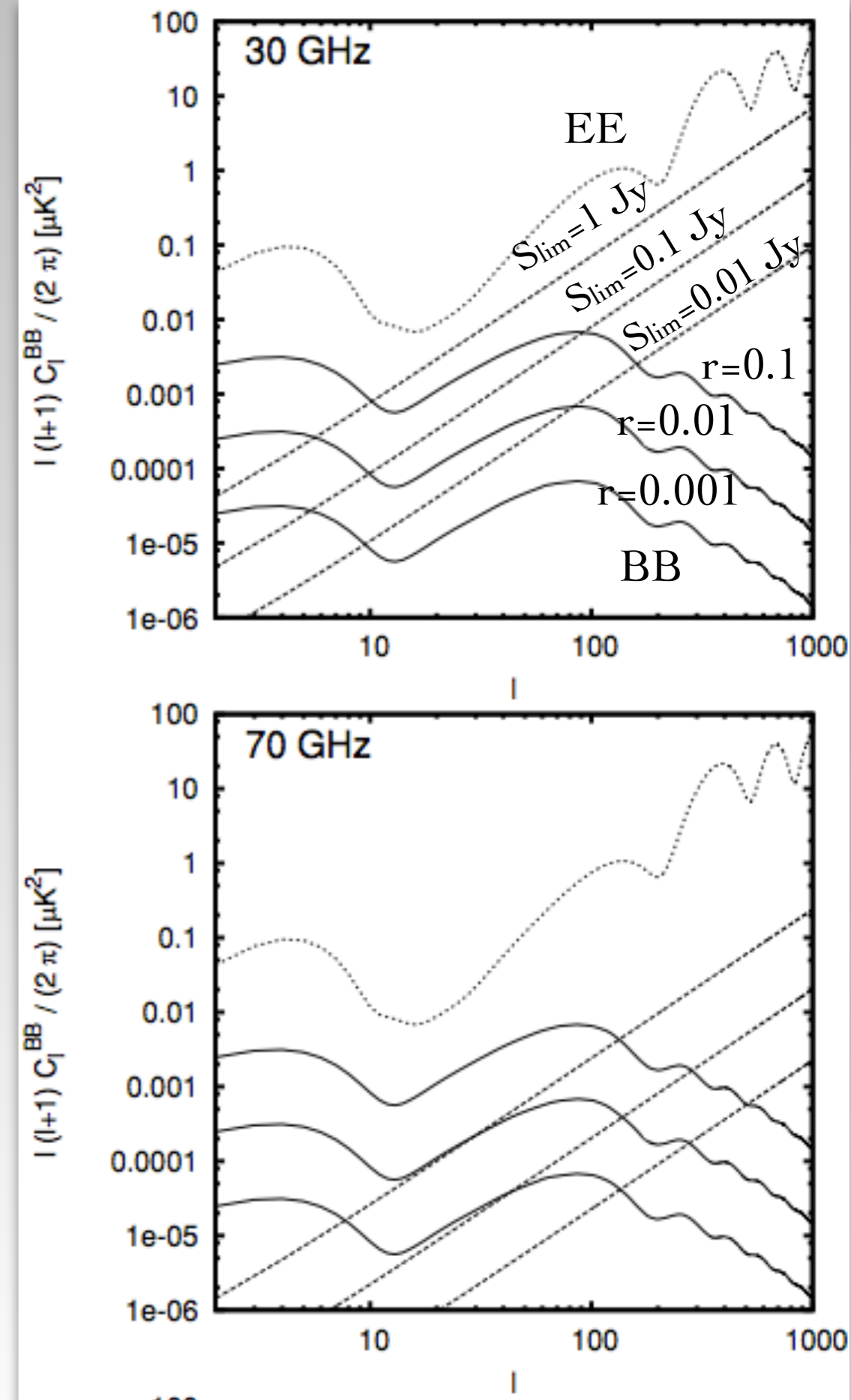
★ Joint Planck/BICEP2 reanalysis:  $r < 0.07$   
(BICEP2/Keck/Planck collaborations, 2015)



Dust residuals in the BICEP2 field

## Point sources

- ★ Affect only the small scales
- ★ Difficulties:
  - Good knowledge of radio sources properties in intensity, however there is insufficient information in polarisation.
  - Could rely on  $I$ , but then it would be difficult to estimate the residual confusion noise
  - **Variability** of sources  $\Rightarrow$  ideally need simultaneous monitoring of the polarised fluxes
- ★ Based on the measured statistical properties of the polarisation of a sample of 107 radio sources, Battye et al. (2011) concluded that:
  - Some level of source subtraction will be necessary to detect  $r \sim 0.1$  below 100 GHz, and at all frequencies to detect  $r \sim 0.01$
- ★ A possible solution is to **mask**. But needs to know positions!



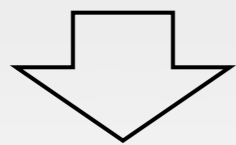


## Foreground cleaning

★ Need different frequencies, and knowledge of the foregrounds physics in order to set some priors to the fitted parameters

★ Total number of parameters to be fitted in each pixel of the sky:

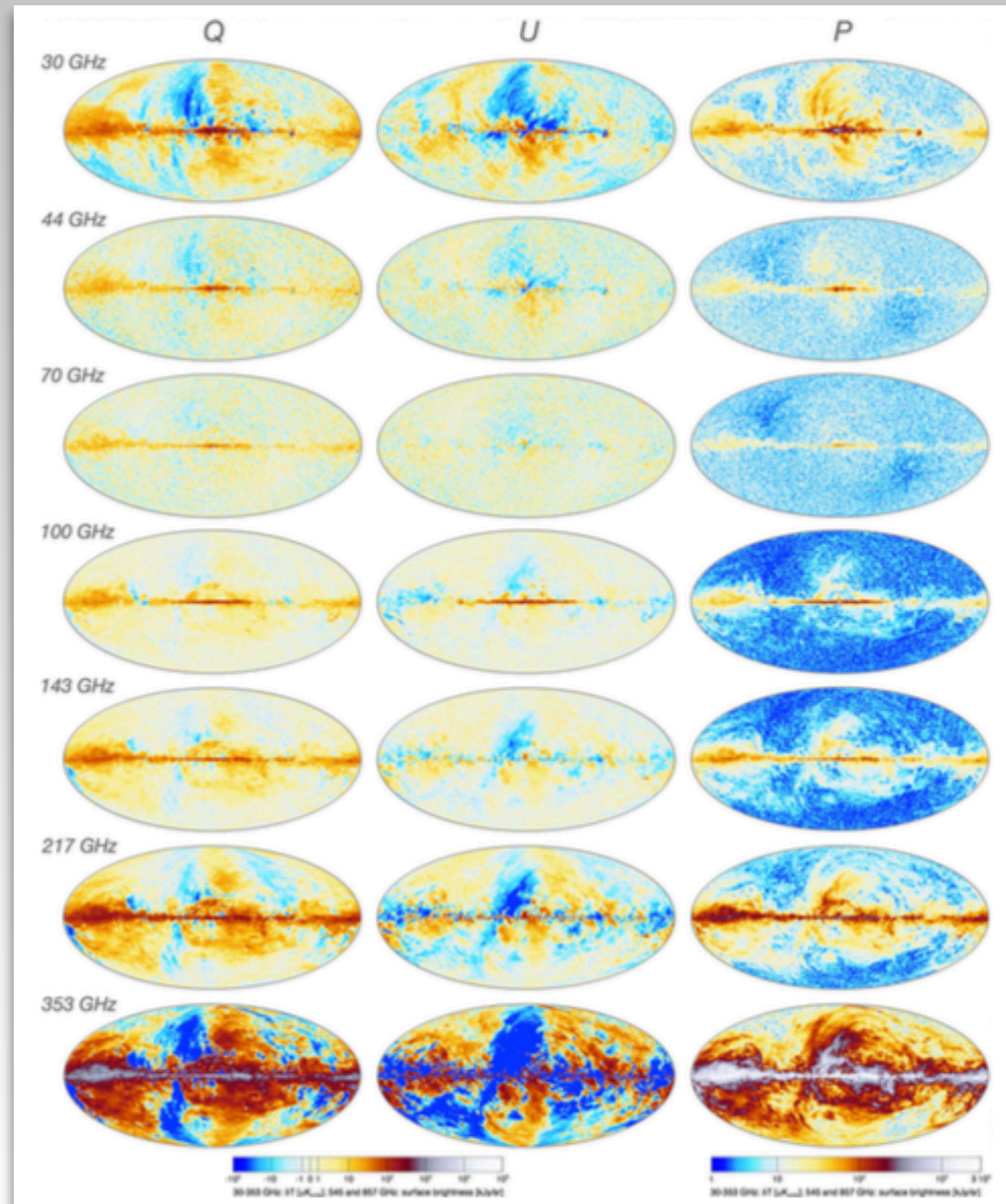
- Synchrotron: 2 parameters ( $A$ ,  $\beta$ )
- Free-free: 1 parameter (EM)
- AME: at least 3 parameters ( $N_H$ ,  $\nu_{\text{peak}}$ , width)
- Thermal dust: 3 parameters ( $\tau$ ,  $\beta_d$ ,  $T_d$ )



9 parameters in total for I

Maybe 5 could be sufficient in P, but need to get Q,U separately

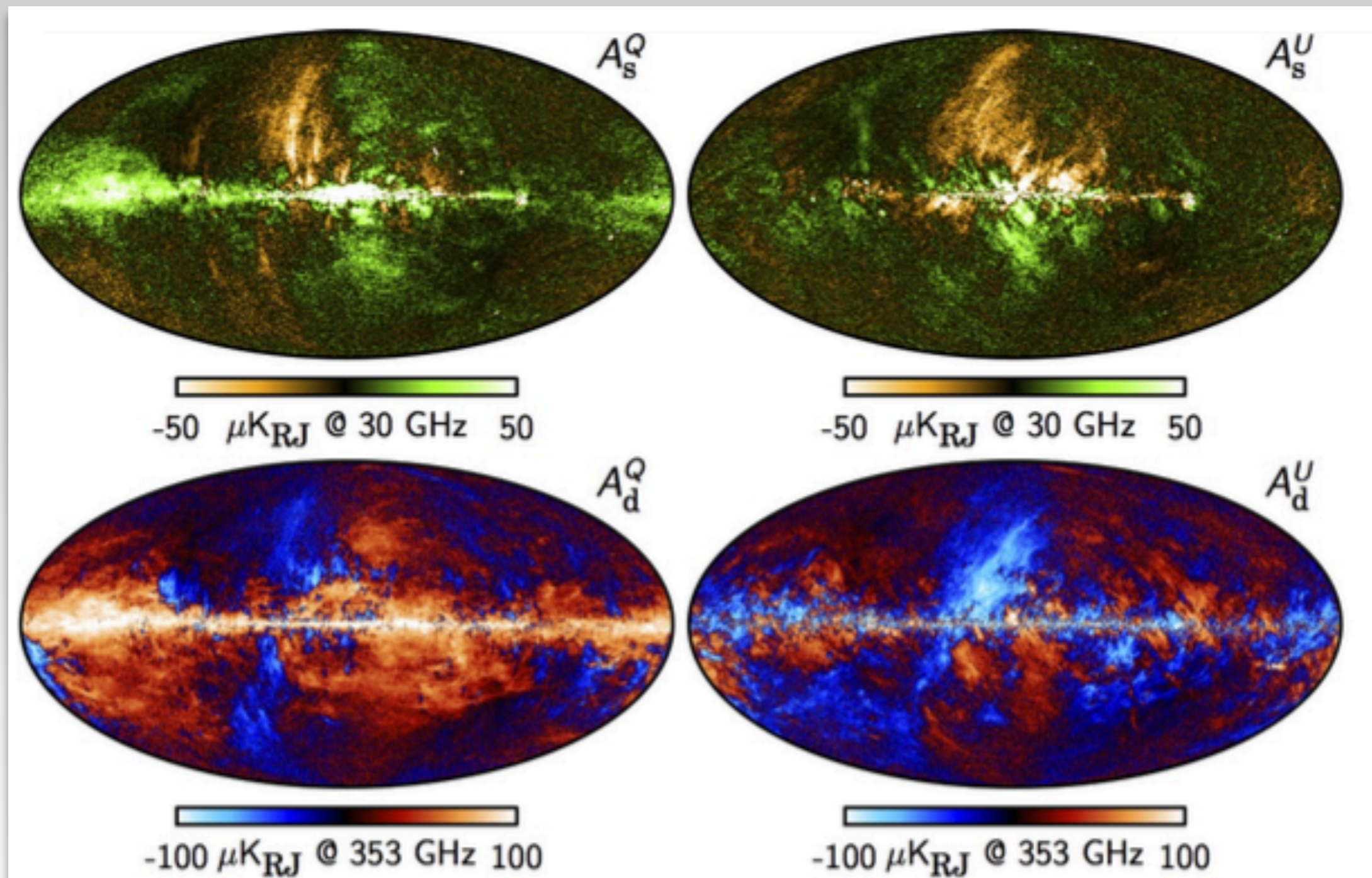
## Planck 2015 polarisation maps





## Foreground cleaning

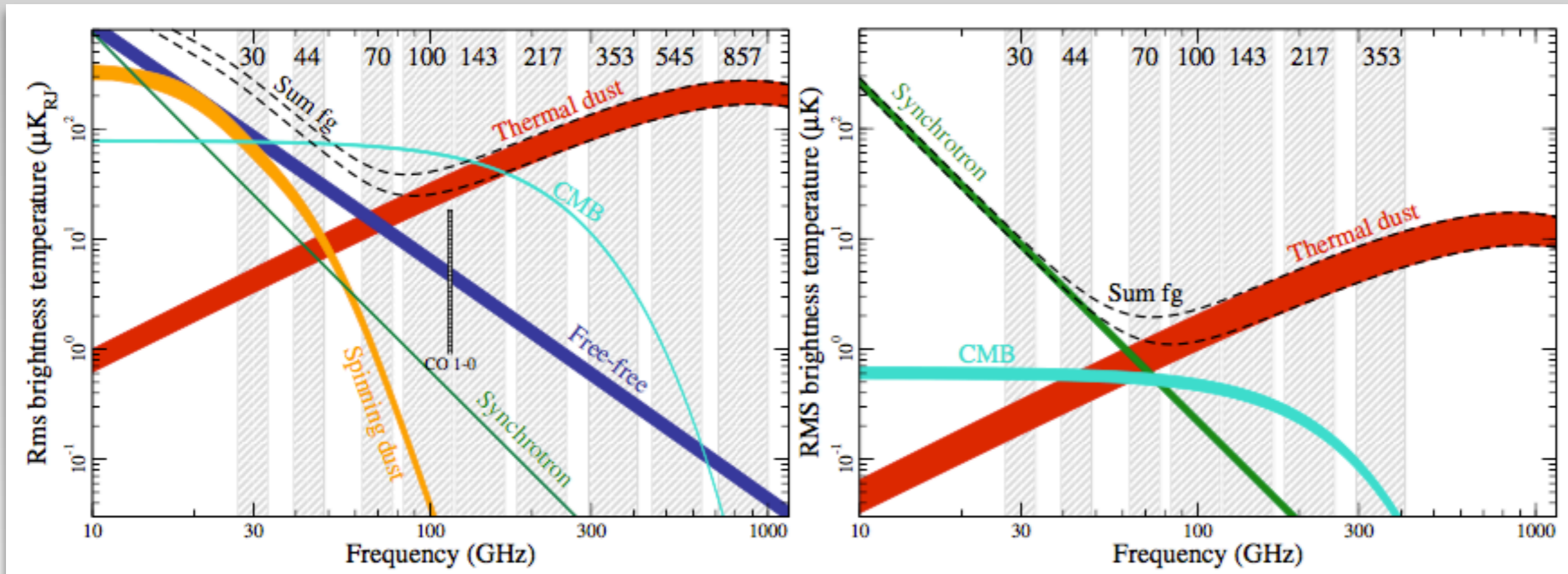
★ Planck wide frequency coverage made this possible, and allowed to separate the synchrotron and thermal dust polarisations:





## Foreground cleaning

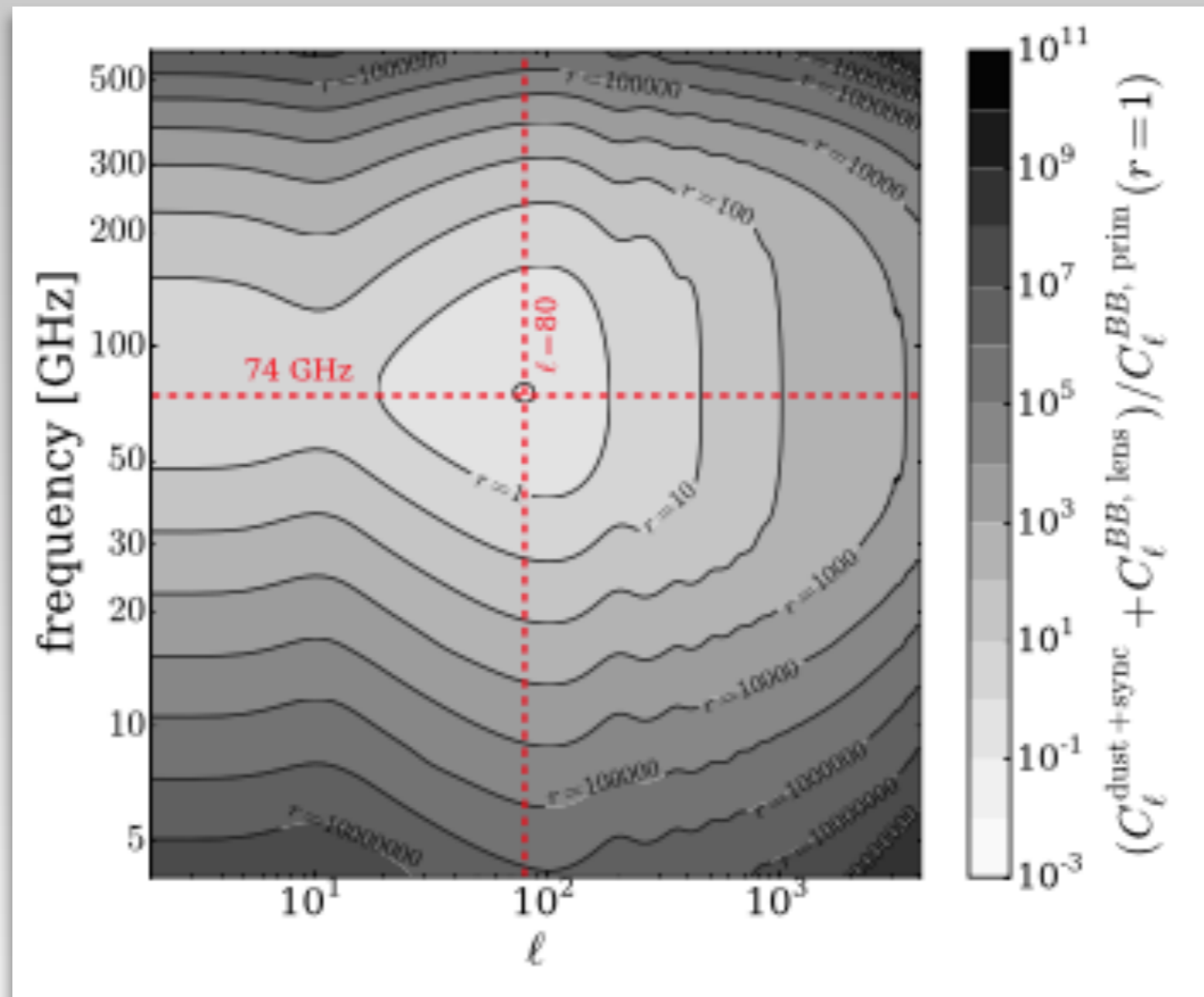
★ Average foreground contributions in the full sky, extracted from Planck data:



Planck 2015 results X, 2016

# What are the best frequency and angular scale?

$$f_{\text{sky}} = 0.5$$



Errard et al. (2015)

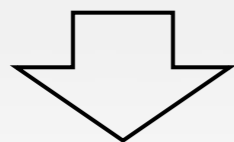
★ Maybe around 60-90 GHz, and  $\ell \sim 80$  (around the recombination peak)



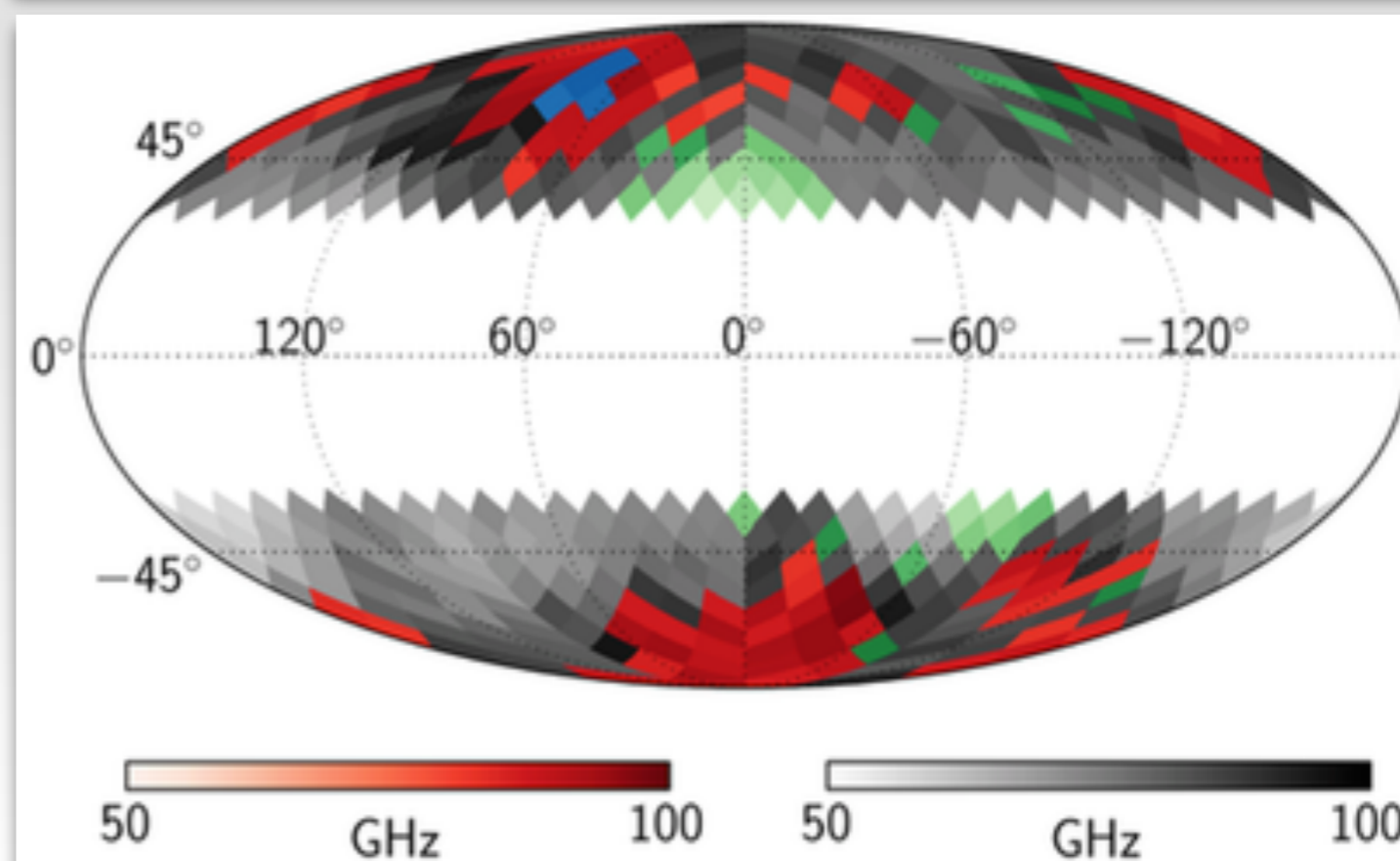
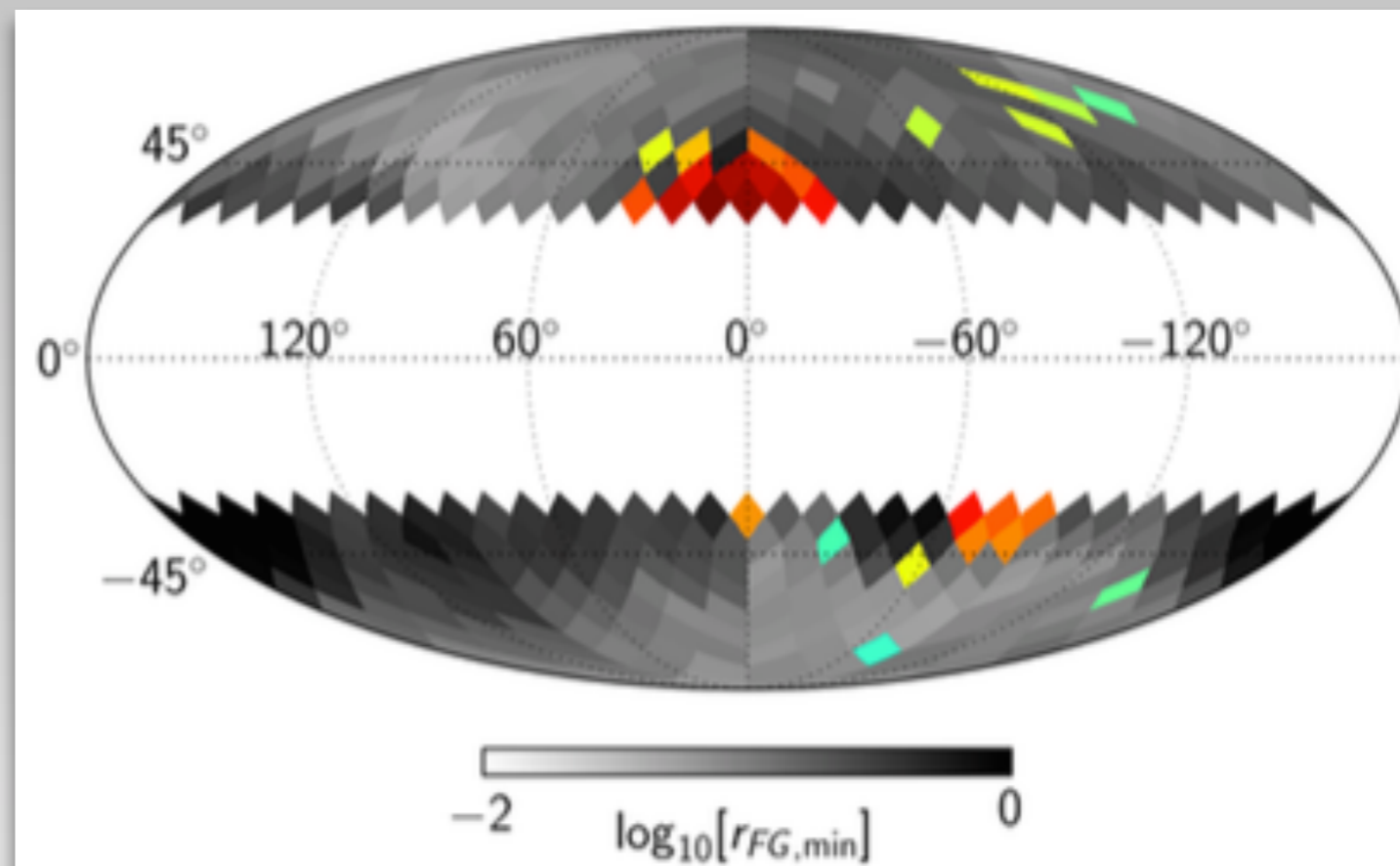
## Where to look and at what frequency?

Krachmalnicoff et al. (2016)

- ★ Krachmalnicoff et al. (2016) estimated the frequency and the amplitude of the foreground (dust+synchrotron) minimum in individual regions of the sky
- ★ Detected the foreground minimum at 60-100 GHz, with an amplitude  $r \sim 0.06-1$
- ★ Set upper limits of  $r < 0.05-1.5$  between 60 and 90 GHz in other regions
- ★ They concluded that
  - there is no region in the sky with foreground contamination  $r < 0.05$
  - synchrotron correction is needed to measure  $r \sim 0.01$  in any region of the sky at  $\nu < 100$  GHz



Need to jointly characterise dust  
+synchrotron



## Low-frequency polarisation surveys needed!

### Q-U-I JOint Tenerife Experiment (QUIJOTE)

11, 13, 17, 19, 30 and 40 GHz

Two telescopes at Tenerife

I, Q, U

Full northern sky

1 deg angular resolution

Target sensitivity  $\approx 4 - 25 \mu\text{K}/\text{deg}^2$

1 - 5  $\approx \mu\text{K}/\text{deg}^2$



Capable of characterising the synchrotron (including curvature) and AME spectra in polarisation, by its own

### C-Band All Sky Survey (C-BASS)

5 GHz

One telescope in California, other in ZA

I, Q, U

Full sky

45 arcmin angular resolution



Will help to determine the synchrotron amplitude, and spectral index, in combination with others



## Conclusions

- ★ The two main foregrounds, that may hinder the detections of polarised B-modes, are **synchrotron** and **thermal dust emissions**
- ★ AME seems to be polarised below 1%
- ★ Need physical understanding and modelling of these components, for which we need to combine **high-frequency** (e.g. Planck) with **low-frequency** (e.g. Quijote) surveys in **large regions of the sky**
- ★ However, physics is usually difficult:
  - Number of parameters usually high (e.g. AME)
  - Spatial variations of parameters
  - Incomplete models: curvature of the synchrotron spectrum, multiple components along the same line of sight, and in the beam (alternatives: see Chluba et al. 2017)
- ★ Care also be taken with missing any unexpected polarised foreground (e.g. AME, Haze/Fermi bubbles...)
- ★ **Need joint correction of the synchrotron and thermal dust in any region of the sky, and almost at any frequency range, if we want to push  $r$  below 0.01**