

The background of the slide is a Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB) polarization map. It features a complex pattern of blue and orange/yellow speckles and filaments against a dark blue background, representing the polarization of the CMB. The left side of the image is brighter and more textured, while the right side is darker and shows more distinct filamentary structures.

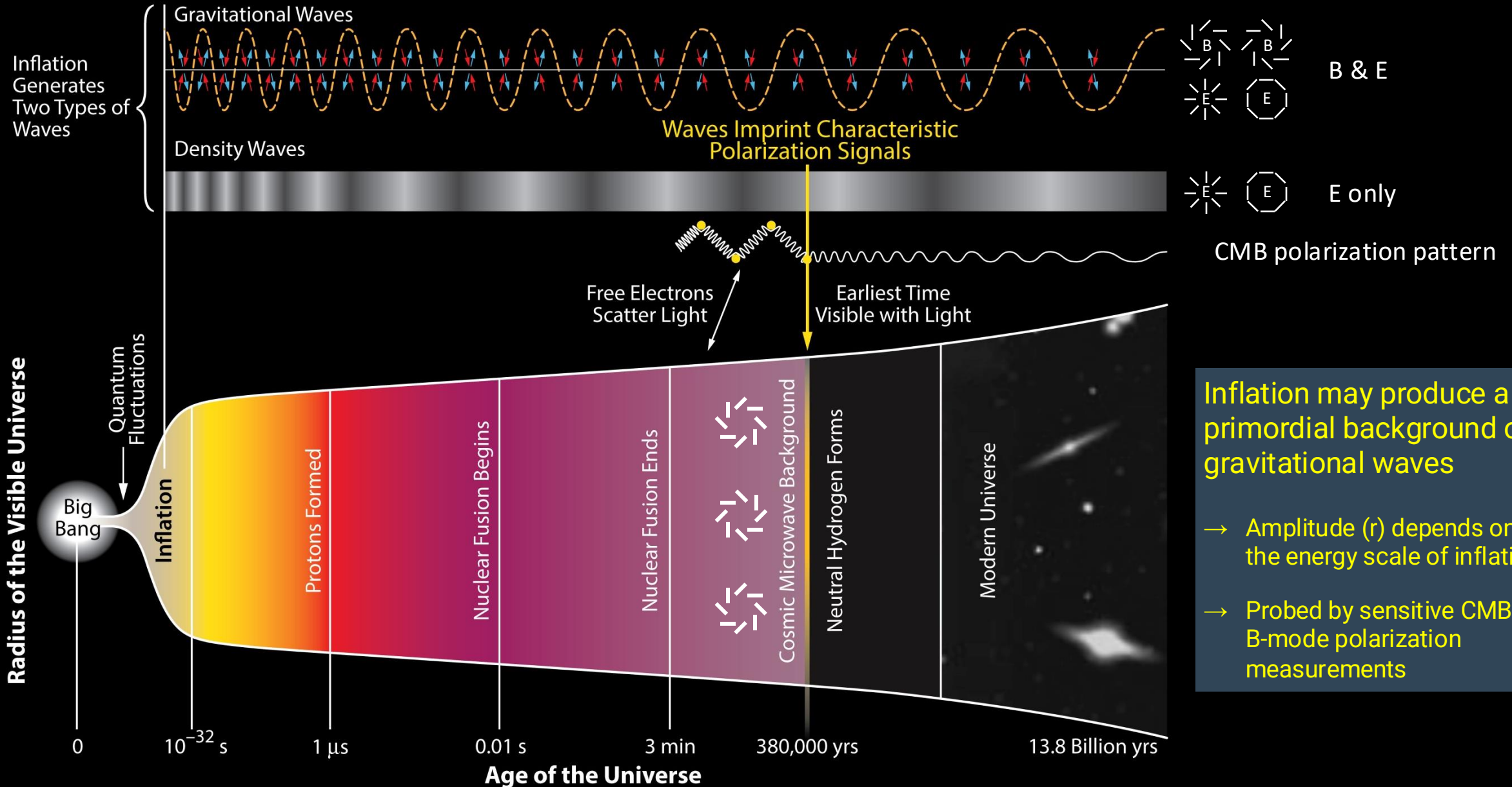
CONSTRAINING INFLATIONARY POLARIZATION FROM THE GROUND AND SPACE

Jamie Bock

California Institute of Technology
Jet Propulsion Laboratory

CMB@60
Turin, Italy
28-30 May 2025

SEARCHING FOR INFLATIONARY B-MODES



SOUTH POLE: THE CLOSET THING TO SPACE ON THE EARTH



High and dry site

1 diurnal cycle per year: low-noise and stable atmosphere

Featureless horizon

24/7 observing access to deep sky regions

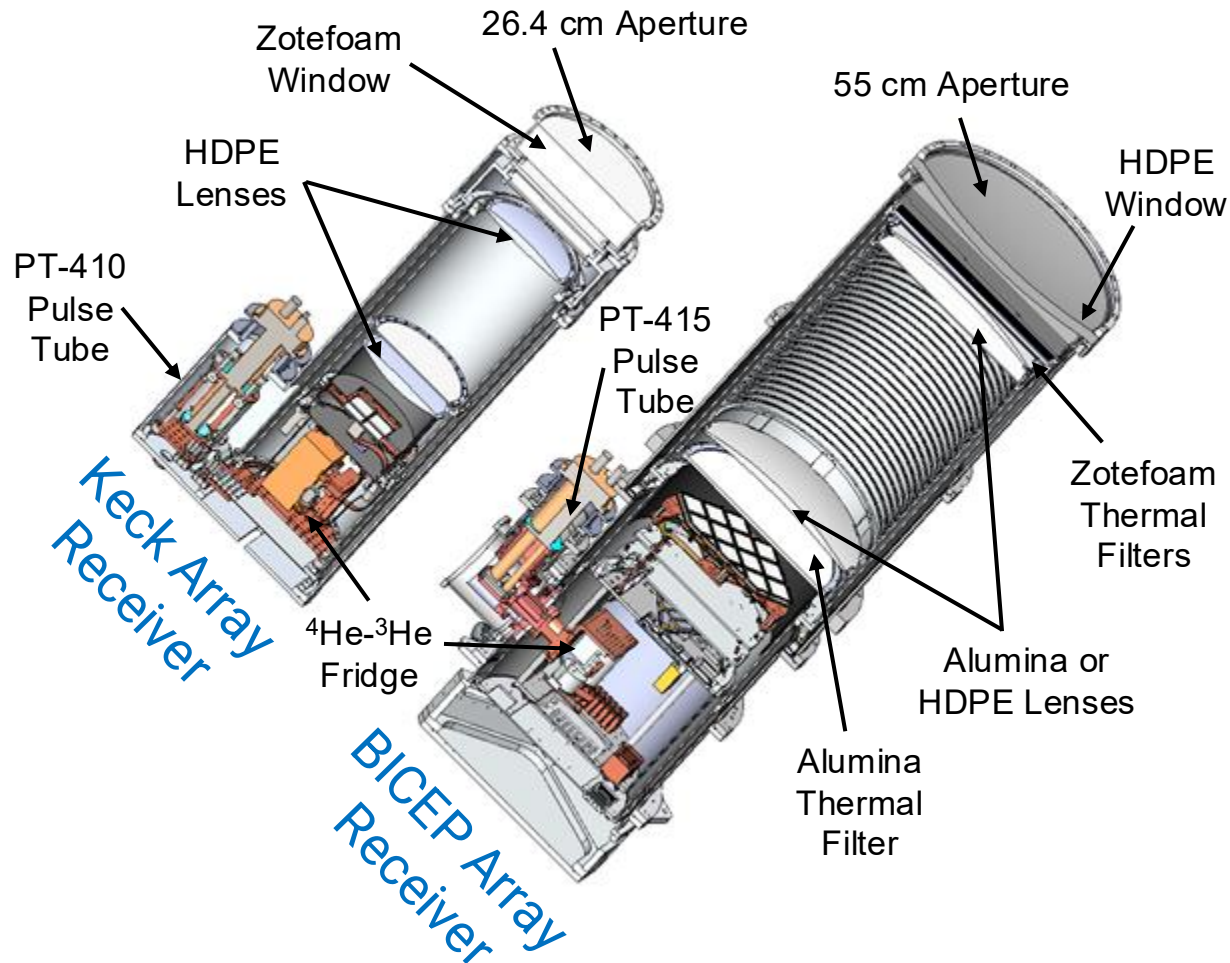
Excellent logistics for power, data, & cargo

THE SOUTH POLE OBSERVATORY



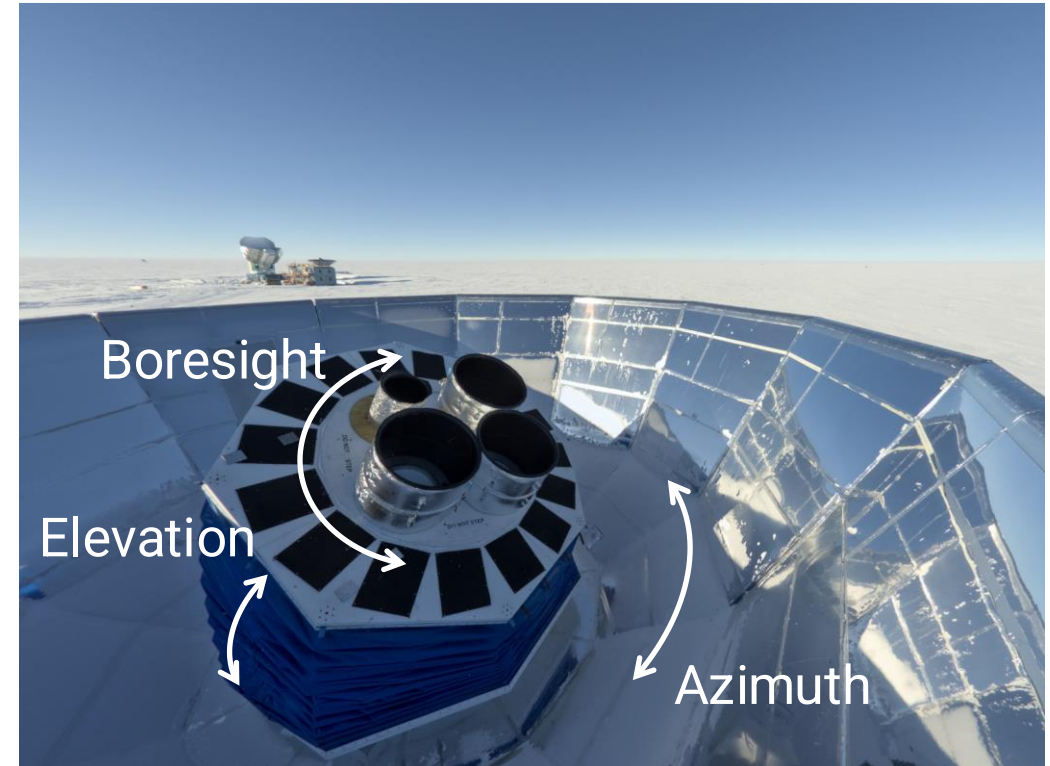
Observatories use existing telescope systems and remain state of the art by upgrading focal planes!

BICEP SMALL APERTURE CONCEPT



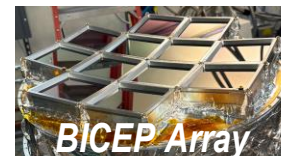
- Small aperture, large field of view
- Refracting 4K optics with low sidelobes
- 55-cm design increases mapping speed by $\sim 15\times$

BICEP Array Telescope Mount

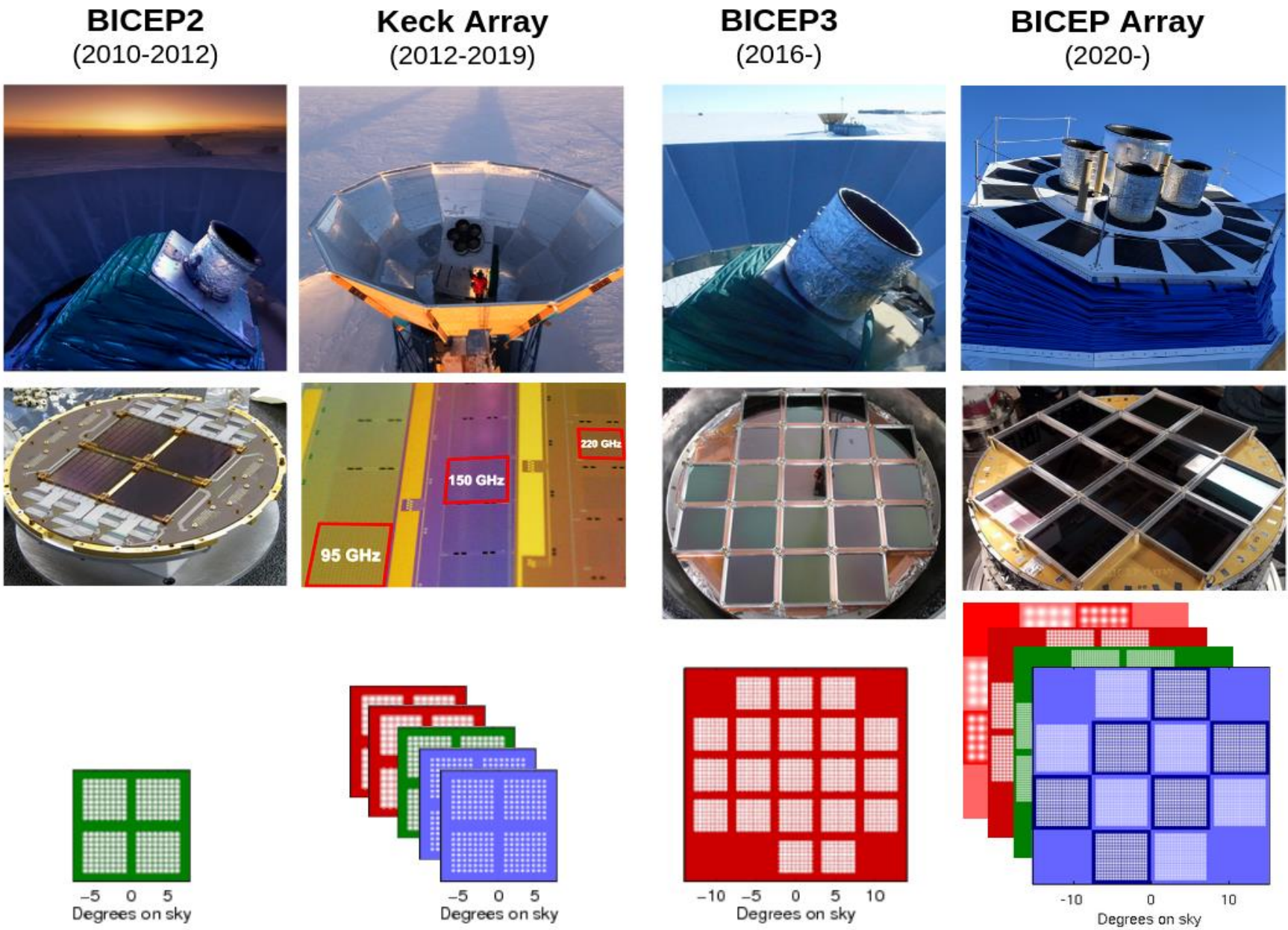


- Small aperture enables boresight rotation
- Co-rotating absorbing forebaffle
- Reflecting ground shield

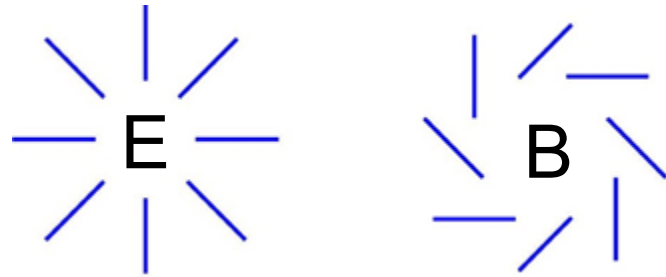
EXPERIMENTAL PHASES SINCE 2010



Telescope and Mount
Focal Plane
Beams on Sky



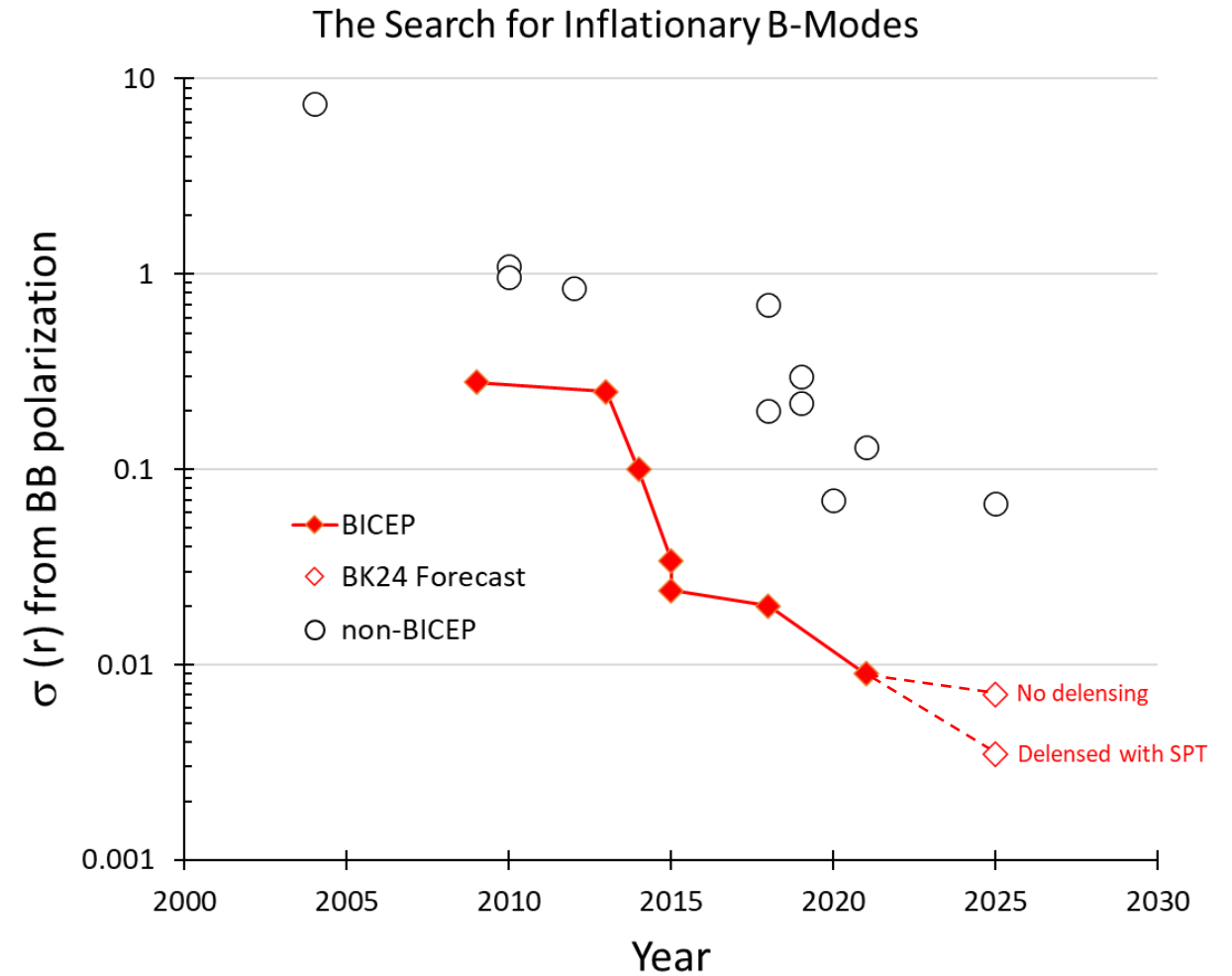
BICEP-KECK SENSITIVITY PROGRESSION

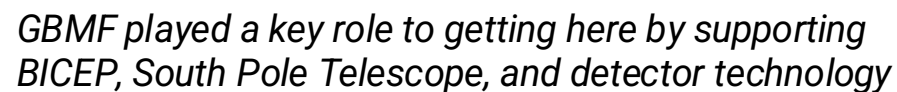


CMB Polarization Patterns



BICEP Array Deployment 2023-4





BK24 LARGE-AREA MAPS

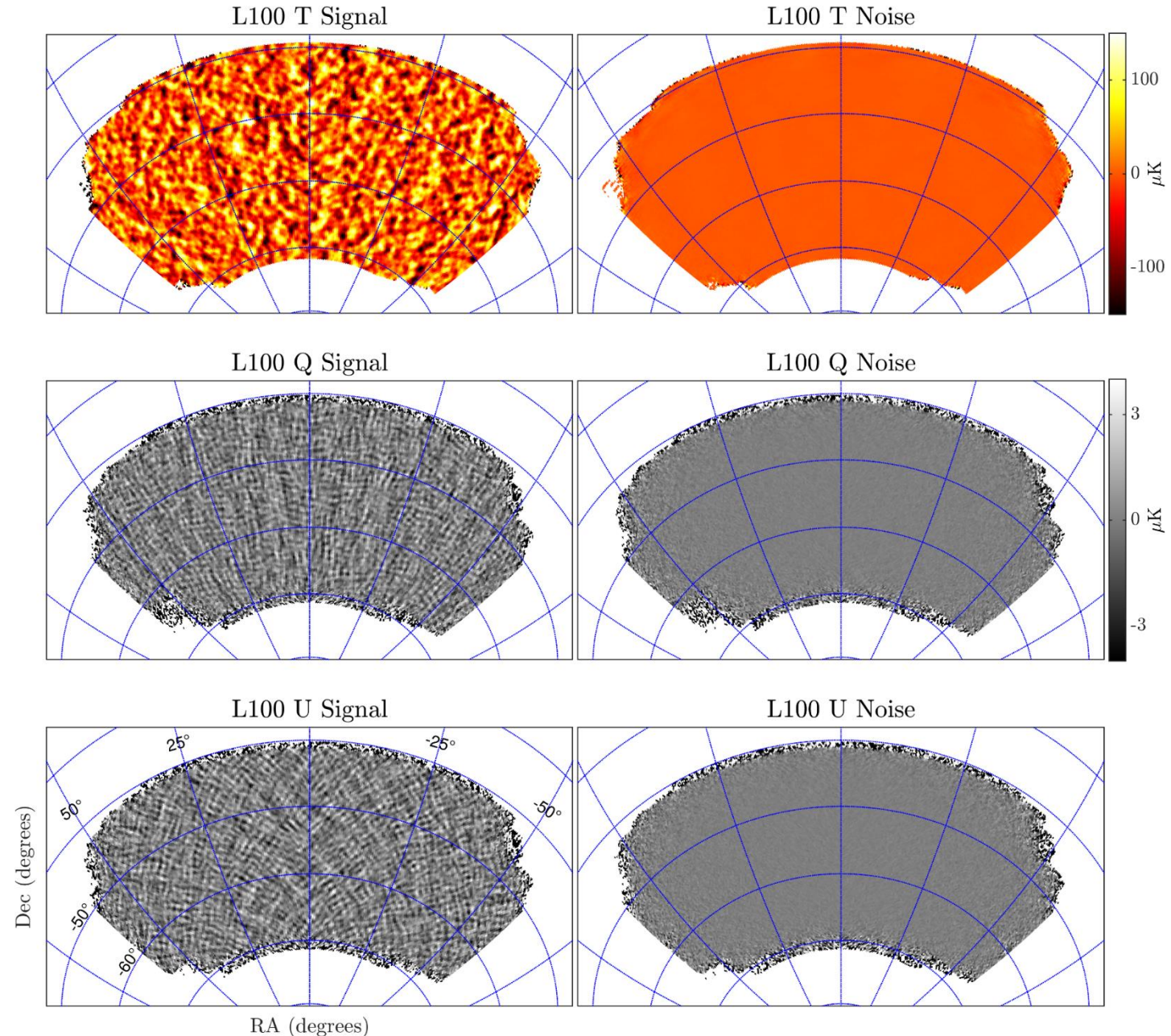


BICEP3 95 GHz
9-year temperature and
polarization

Note change in scale bar

Effective polarized depth
 $1.65 \mu\text{K-arcmin}$

→ Deepest maps of CMB
polarization made to date...
although you really can't tell
anything from Q&U maps!

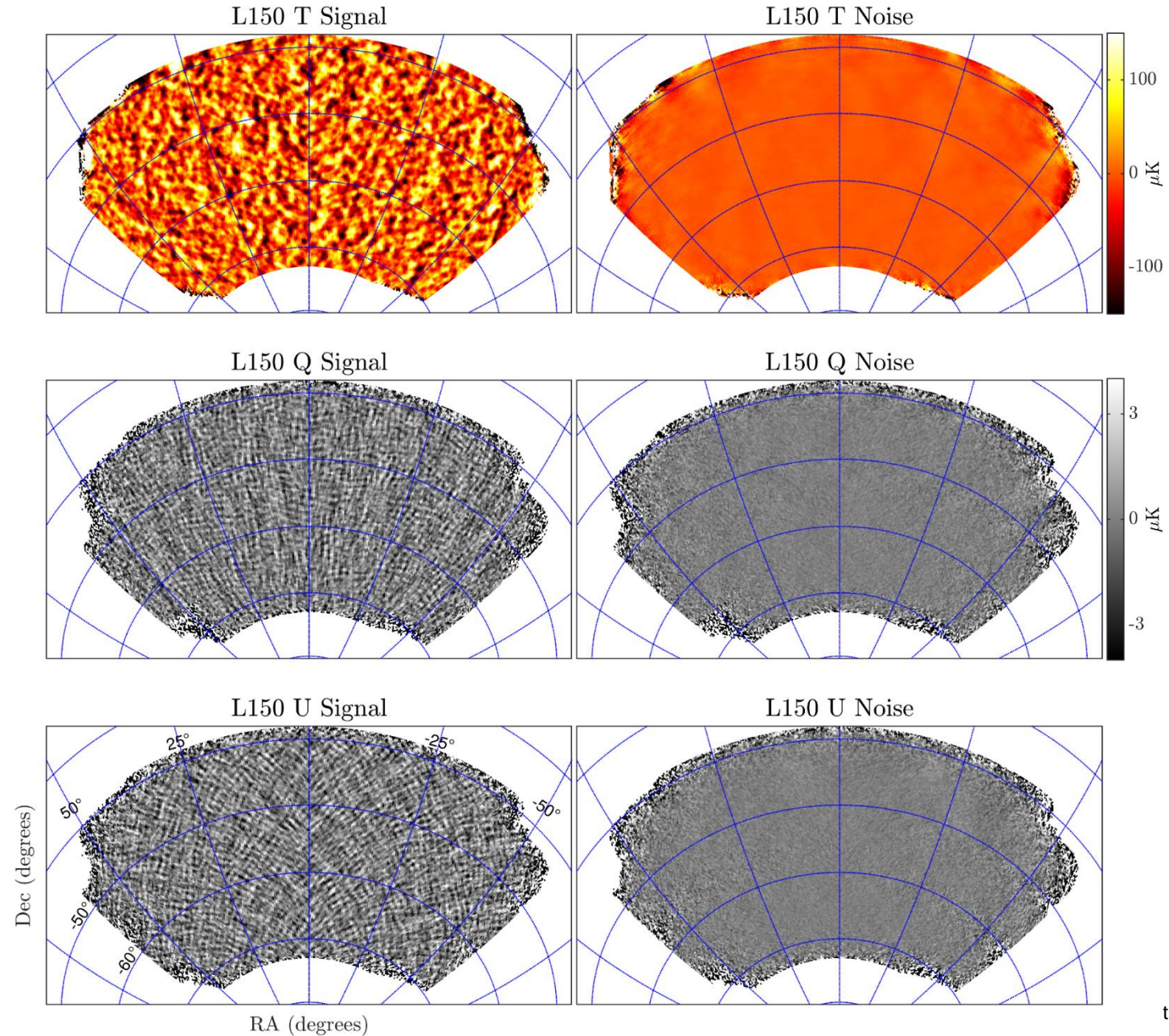


BK24 LARGE-AREA MAPS



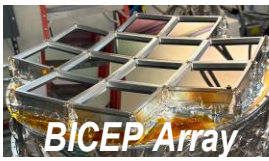
BICEP Array 150 GHz
2-year temperature and
polarization

→ Overlaps existing deep
150 GHz maps from
BICEP2 & Keck Array in a
smaller survey area



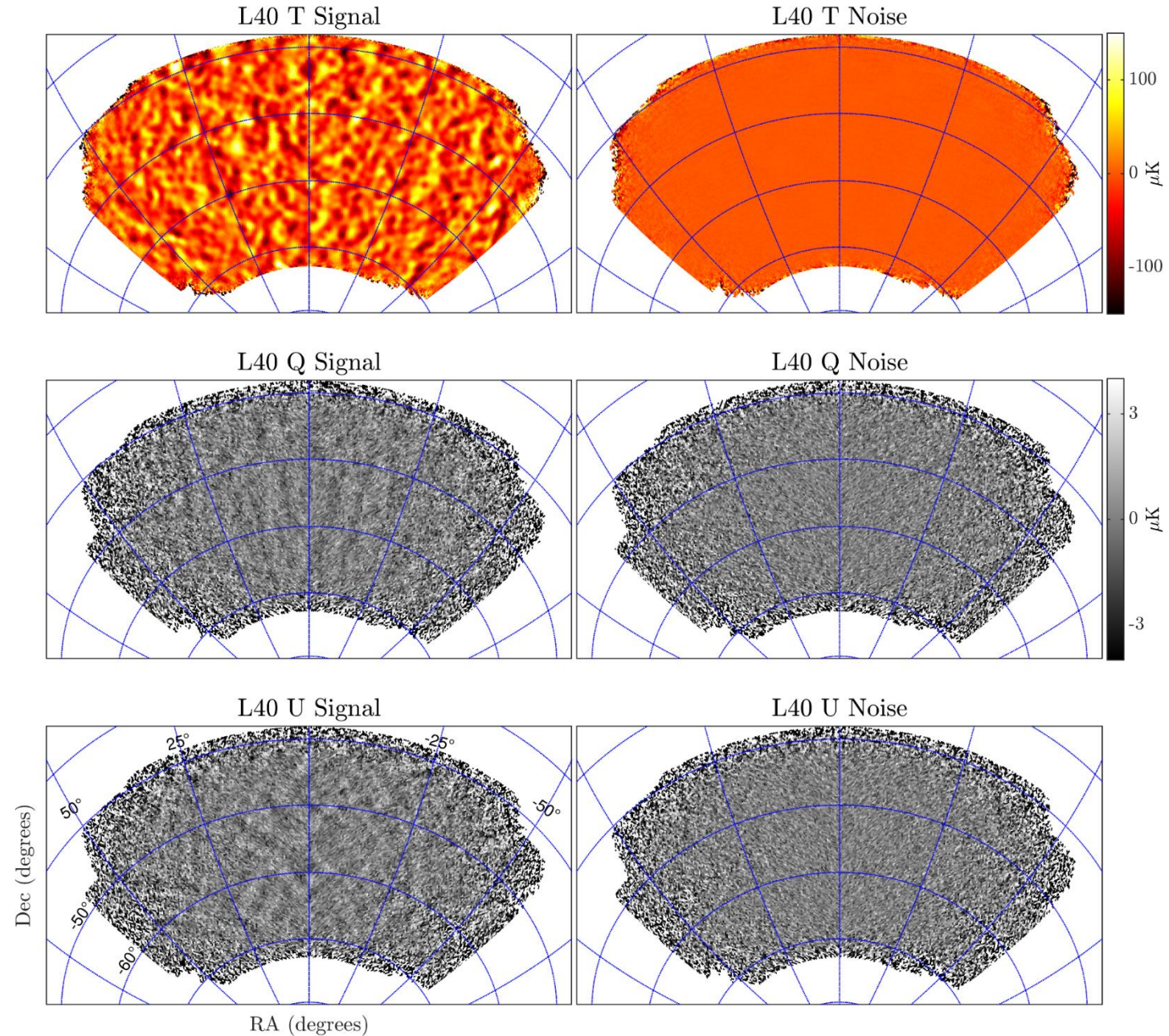
tion

BK24 LARGE-AREA MAPS



BICEP Array 40 GHz
5-year temperature and
polarization

→ New low-frequency
bands added for control of
synchrotron emission



BK23 SENSITIVITY



Progression of noise level in science-driving $\ell \sim 80$ bandpower

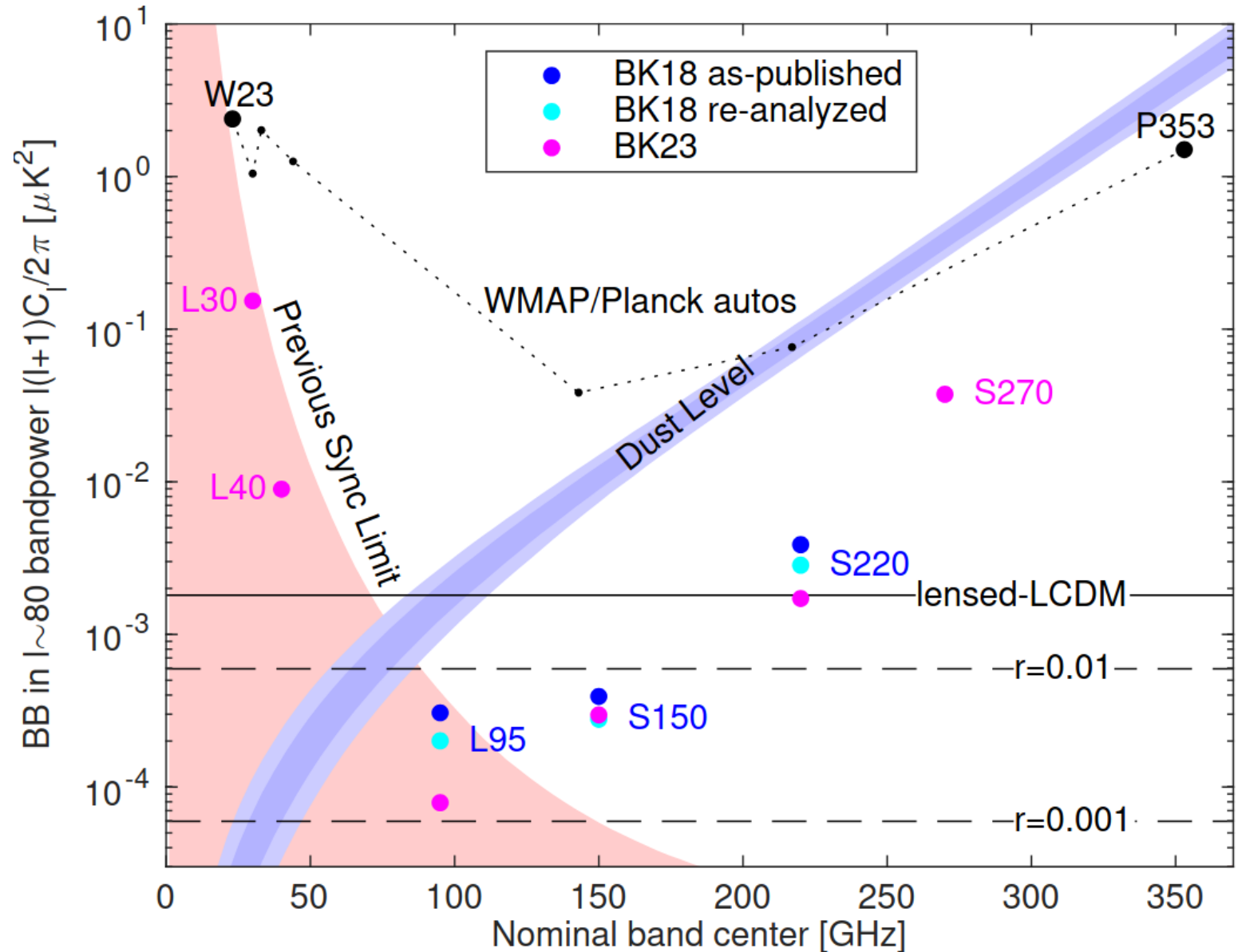
Multi-frequency observations have dramatically improved understanding of foregrounds

BK23 in analysis

- New data at 30, 40 & 270 GHz
- 4x improved sensitivity at 95 GHz

→ Gravitational lensing is now the dominant error source

- Delensing demonstrated using SPT and BK data in 2021 paper





CMB-S4 and CMB Program

Importance of CMB science was highlighted in both Astro2020 and P5

CMB-S4 ranked #2 (tied) in Astro2020, #1 for new construction in P5

After extensive analysis, the NSF has made the decision not to move the CMB-S4 project in its current form into the NSF Major Facility Design Stage at this time.

The agency **must prioritize the recapitalization of critical infrastructure** at the South Pole so that the groundbreaking research it enables can continue to thrive. The South Pole Master Plan will outline proposed infrastructure investments and will be placed in the federal register and open for public comment later this month. **NSF is committed to cosmic microwave background science and will continue to support current CMB activities at the South Pole and in Chile.**



UPGRADE ELEMENTS FOR SOUTH POLE OBSERVATORY

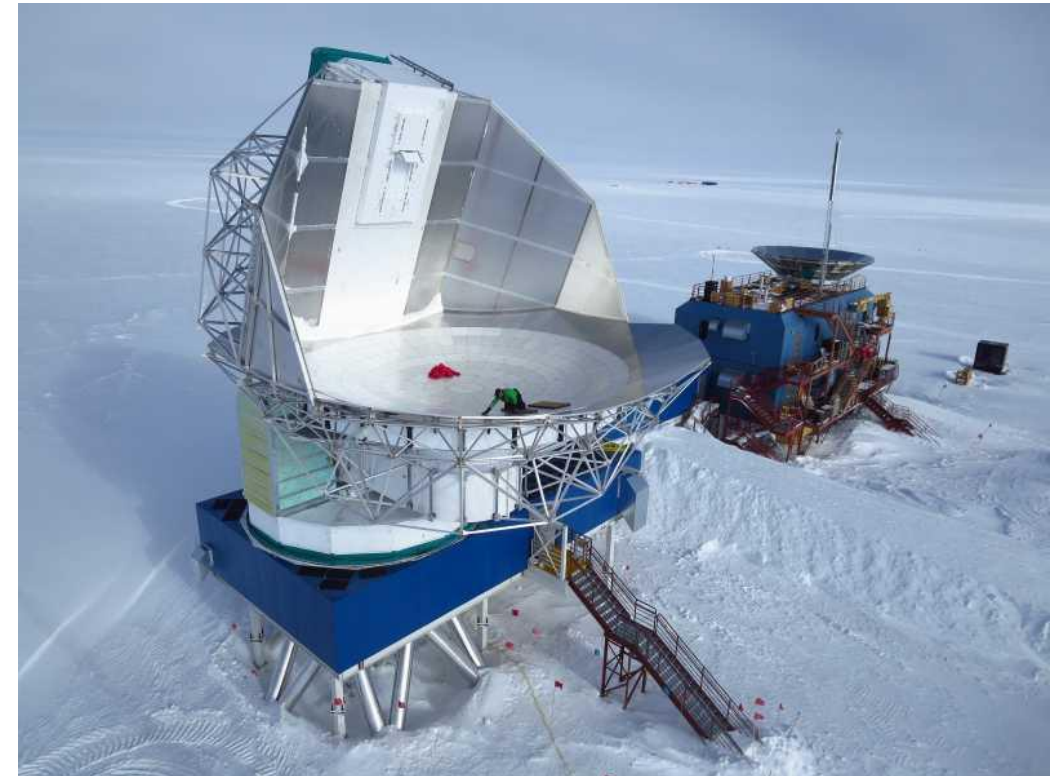


BA receivers
• 30/40 GHz
• 150 GHz
• 220/270 GHz

Heritage Keck
270 GHz receiver



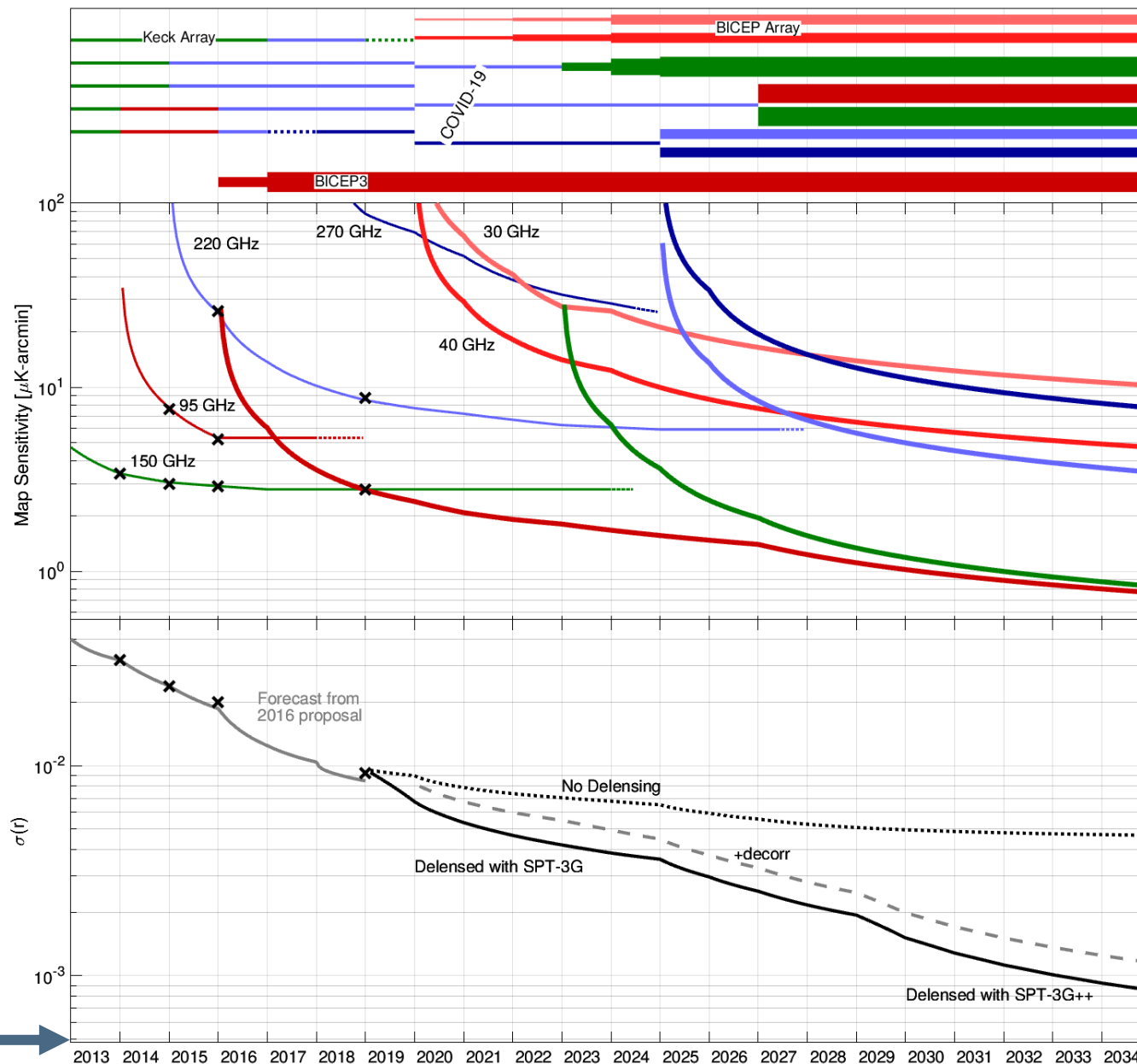
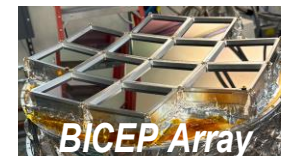
BICEP Array in 2025



South Pole Telescope and BICEP3

- Make the most of existing facilities at the South Pole
- Continue using field-proven methods from years of experience in deep polarization measurements
- Install a fourth BICEP Array receiver for improved CMB sensitivity
- Upgrade SPT focal plane (SPT-3G++) for improved CMB delensing capability

A FUTURE BASED ON EXISTING FACILITIES AT SOUTH POLE



Three BICEP Array receivers have now been installed:

- 30/40 GHz (2019)
- 150 GHz (2022)
- 220/270 GHz (2024)
- Plan for a new 4th 95/150 GHz receiver (2026)

SPT is observing with SPT-3G focal plane now

- Opportunity for upgraded delensing capability with a new SPT-3G++ focal plane (2028)

Program achieves $\sigma(r) = 1 \times 10^{-3}$ with an empirically validated sensitivity model and decorrelation in polarized Galactic dust

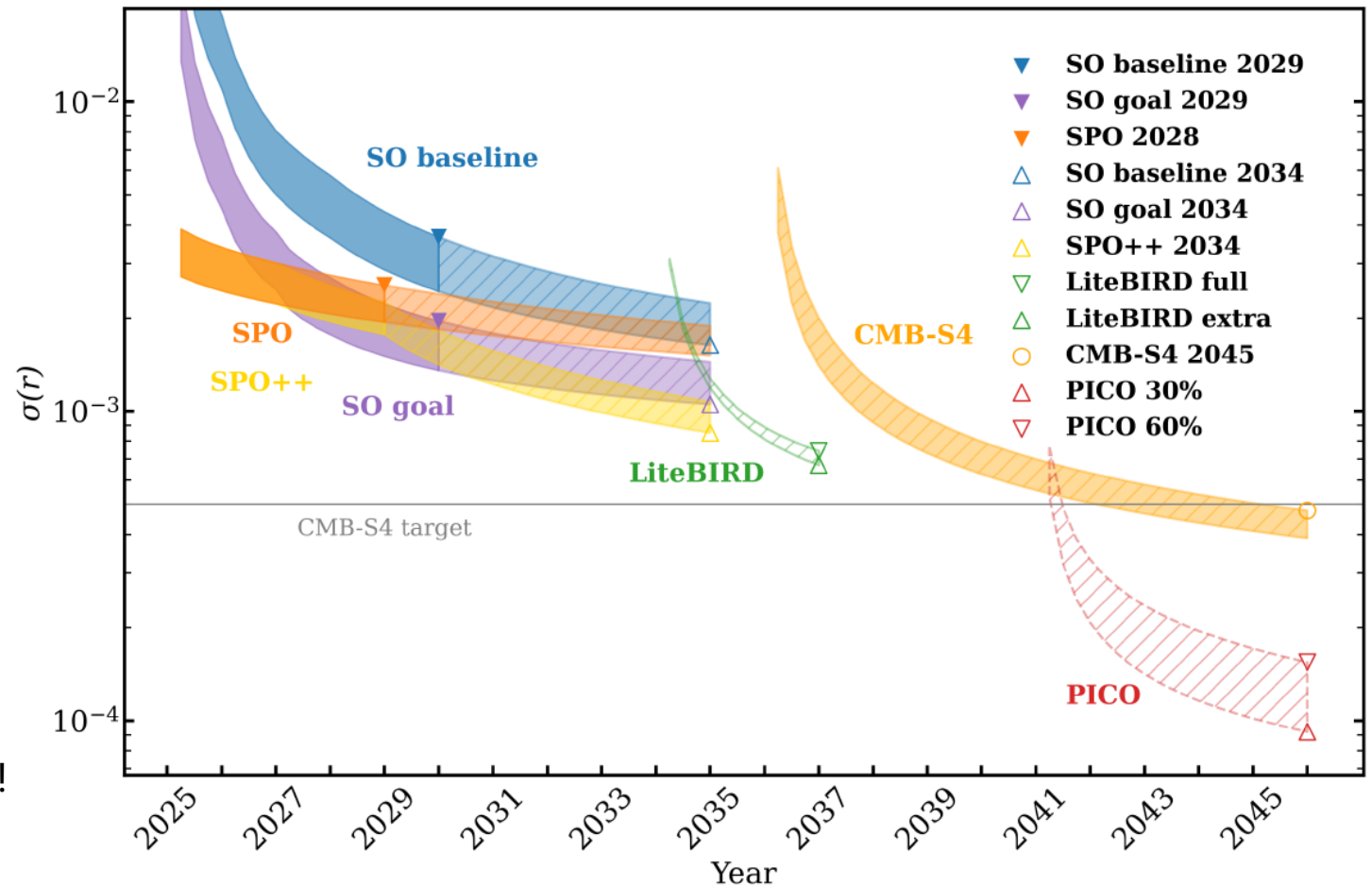
CMB-S4 science goal: $\sigma(r) = 5 \times 10^{-4}$

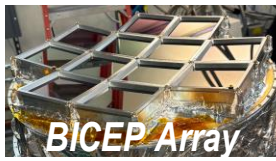
A FORECAST FOR CMB@80



- Clear roles for South Pole Observatory (SPO) and Simons Observatory (SO) over the next decade
 - Both target $\sigma(r) \sim 1e-3$ by the mid-2030s
 - Fraction of the cost of CMB-S4 or a satellite
 - Complementary: SO is wider, SPO deeper
 - Uncertainties remain in sensitivity, systematics, foregrounds, funding
- CMB Stage-4 is evolving from the full version given in the plot
 - Redesign incorporates SPO/SO surveys
 - Deployments staged in 2 experiment phases, and phase 1 starts and finishes faster than full version
 - Redesign is still in active development
- What is the next step for the 2040s?
- The usual assumptions aren't necessarily valid!
 - Ground and space are roughly comparable in cost and timescale

Survey of Current CMB Experiments
- CMB Stage 4 Collaboration





BACKUP