

The lecture slides are available at  
[https://www.mpa.mpa-garching.mpg.de/~komatsu/  
lectures--reviews.html](https://www.mpa.mpa-garching.mpg.de/~komatsu/lectures--reviews.html)

# Physics of the Cosmic Microwave Background

**IMPRS Advanced Course**

**Eiichiro Komatsu (Max-Planck-Institut für Astrophysik), November 3–December 3, 2020**

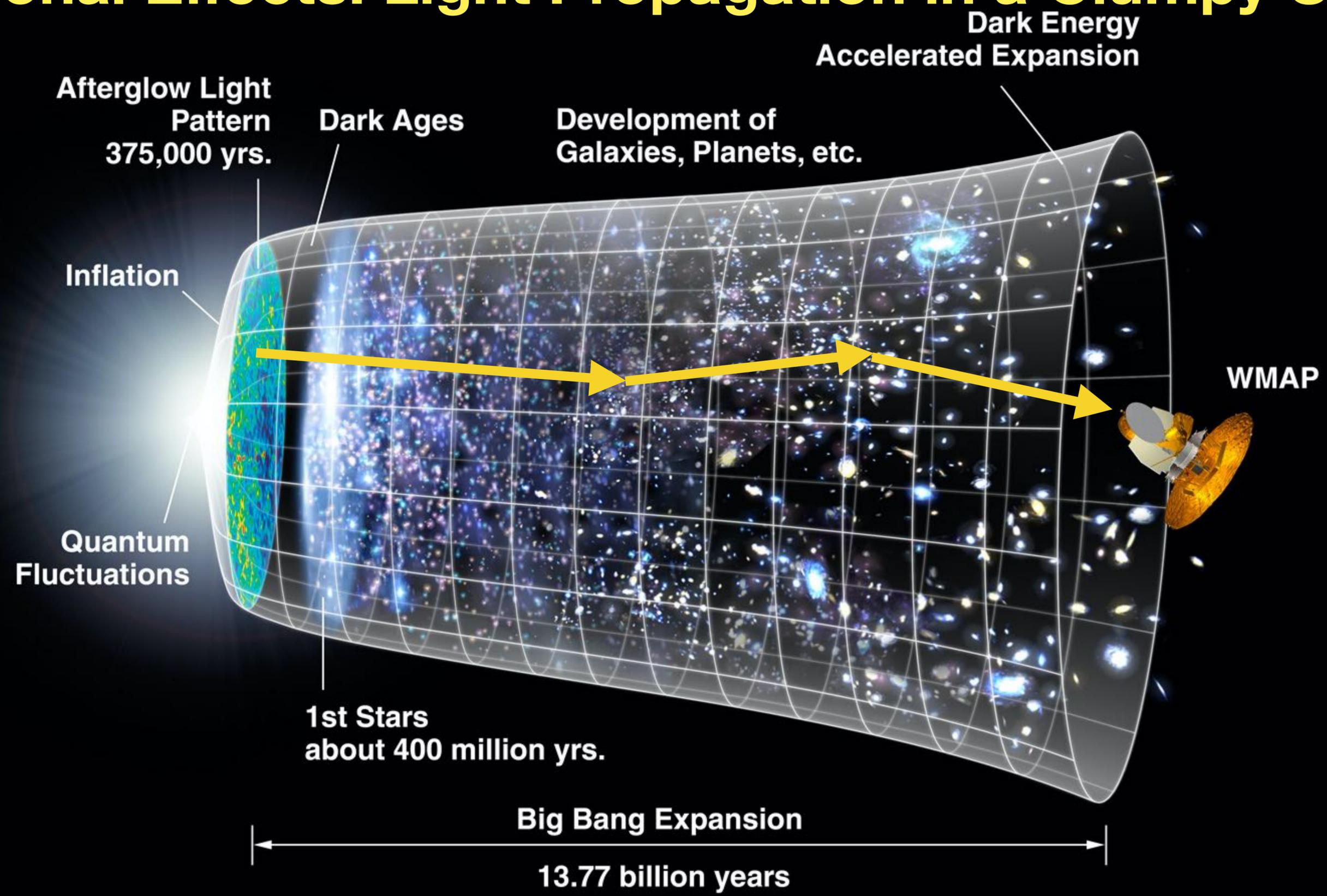
# Basic information

- The lectures are given on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 10:00–11:30 (90 minutes)
  - Starting on November 3, ending on December 3
- Except for today, the format is 40+10+40, i.e.,
  - 10:00–10:40, 10 minutes break, and 10:50–11:30
- Today is 60+10+20.

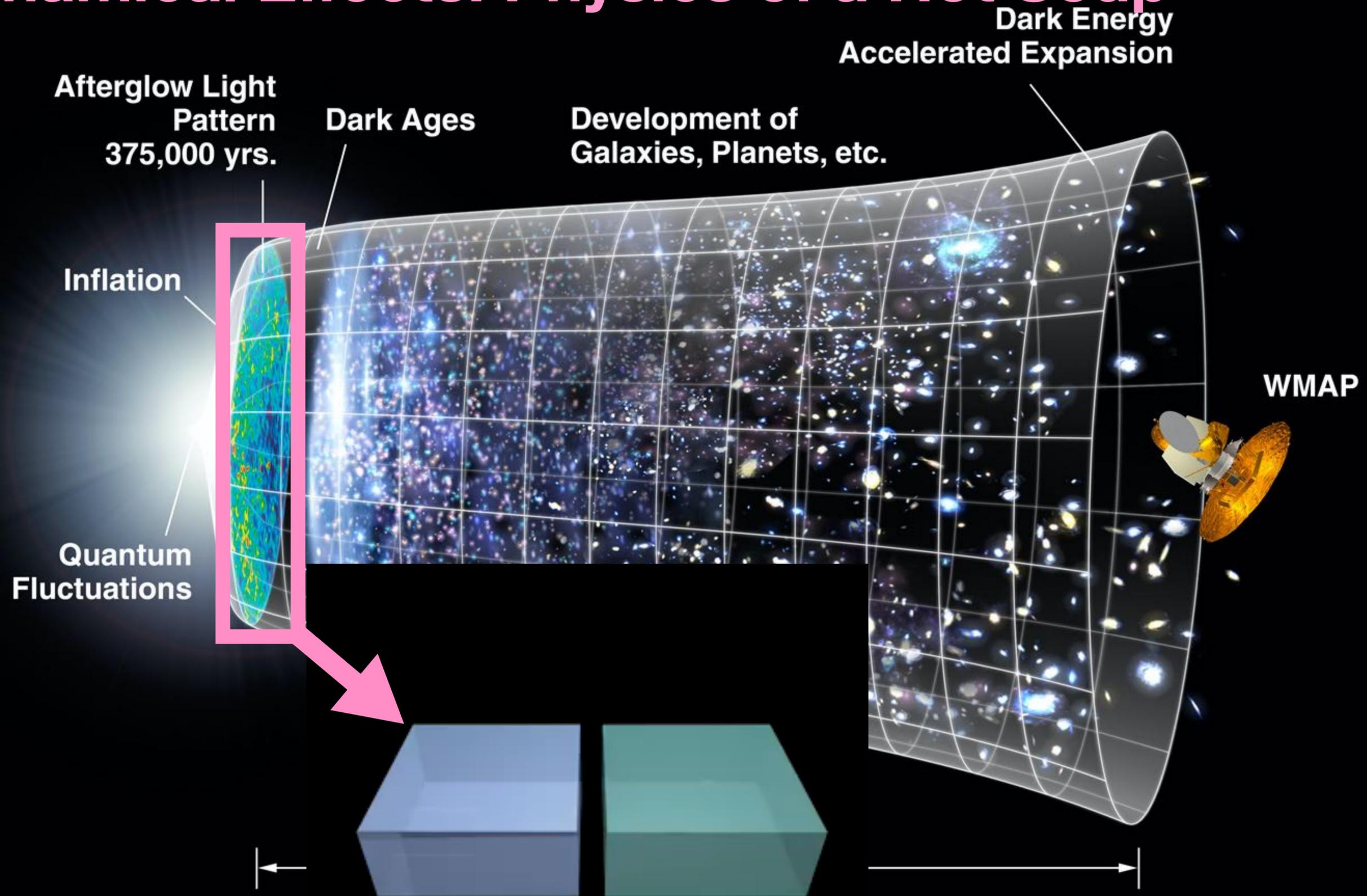
# Syllabus

- This lecture covers all essential aspects of the physics of **primary anisotropies** (both temperature and polarisation) of the cosmic microwave background (CMB).
  - We do not cover the physics of recombination.
  - We also do not cover anisotropies generated in a late time Universe, such as the thermal and kinetic Sunyaev-Zeldovich effect.
- There will be equations; but the focus of the lecture is to **understand** the underlying physics. The goal: You will be able to explain all essential aspects of the physics of CMB **in words**.

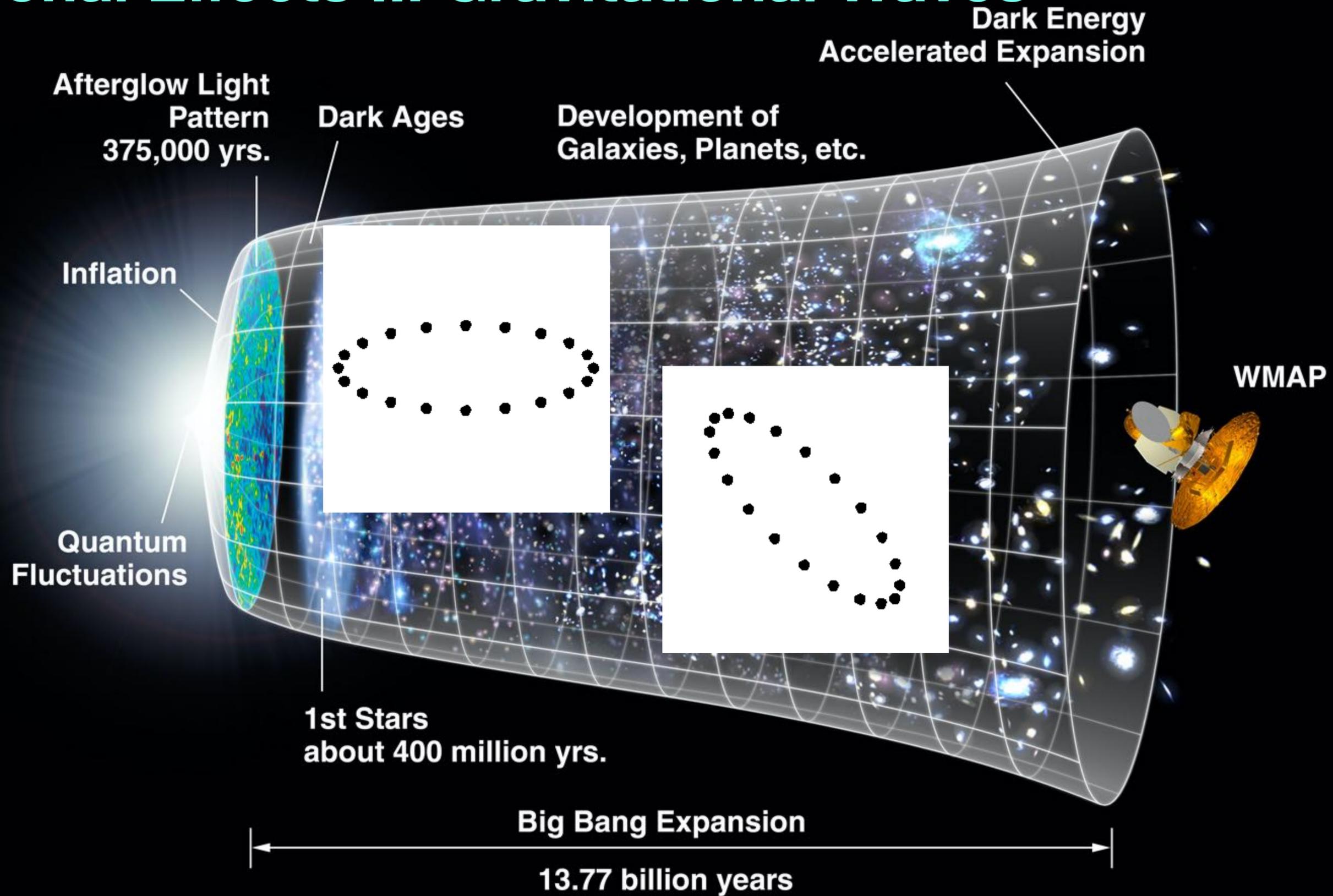
# Gravitational Effects: Light Propagation in a Clumpy Universe



# Hydrodynamical Effects: Physics of a Hot Soup



# Gravitational Effects II: Gravitational Waves



# Tip: Download lecture notes in advance

<https://wwwmpa.mpa-garching.mpg.de/~komatsu/lectures--reviews.html>

- It does not make sense to take notes when the complete lecture notes are available already.
  - Download the lecture notes before each lecture and have them ready.
  - Limit note taking to complementing the lecture notes, i.e., the things that I say but are not written in the notes.
- You certainly do not need to take notes of the equations. Focus on physics.

# Tip: Ask Questions

- **You are most welcome to ask questions anytime during the lecture.**
- Asking questions is the easiest way to learn, but I know that you are too shy to ask...
  - “Is my question too simple?” “Is my question too naive?” The simple and naive questions are the **best** questions!
- The on-line lecture format makes it difficult to ask questions.
  - The best option is to write your questions in “*Public Chat*”.
  - I will answer questions in the order that I receive them.
  - But, you are also always welcome to ask questions directly without writing in Chat.

# Plan: Today

## Movie! (41 minutes)

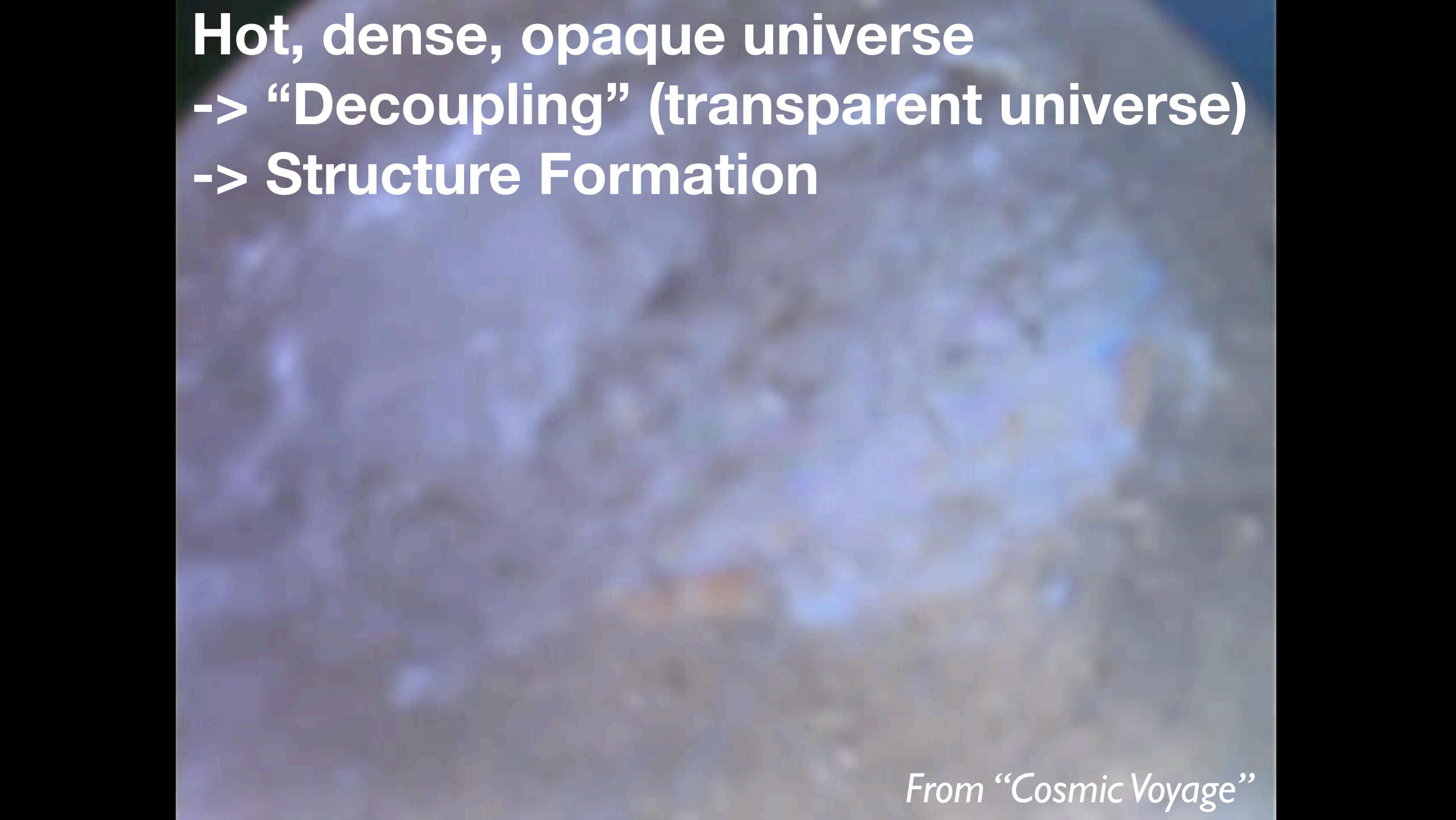
- After briefly introducing the CMB, we will watch the world's first movie on CMB, which was created for a full dome projection.
  - Title: "*HORIZON: Beyond the Edge of the Visible Universe*"
    - Director: Mr. Hiromitsu Kohsaka
    - Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CQbZi4wfoaw>
    - Actors/actresses are humans, but the others are computer graphics. The music is original.

# Plan: Your Work Today

## While watching the movie...

- You should watch the movie critically. The movie will show you:
  - The remarkable history of the Hubble-Lemaitre law and the CMB research
  - Intuitive explanation of the “power spectrum”, and how we used this to determine the composition of the Universe
- The target audience of the movie is the general public. While the movie is pretty accurate scientifically, many important details are dropped.
  - If you wondered anything about the contents of the movie (both scientific and otherwise), write them down. Pretend that you are a critique of the movie.
- We spend the rest of today’s lecture discussing your critique.

# Lecture 1: Introduction

The background of the slide is a Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB) radiation map, showing a mottled pattern of blue and white with some reddish-brown spots, representing temperature fluctuations in the early universe.

**Hot, dense, opaque universe**

**-> “Decoupling” (transparent universe)**

**-> Structure Formation**

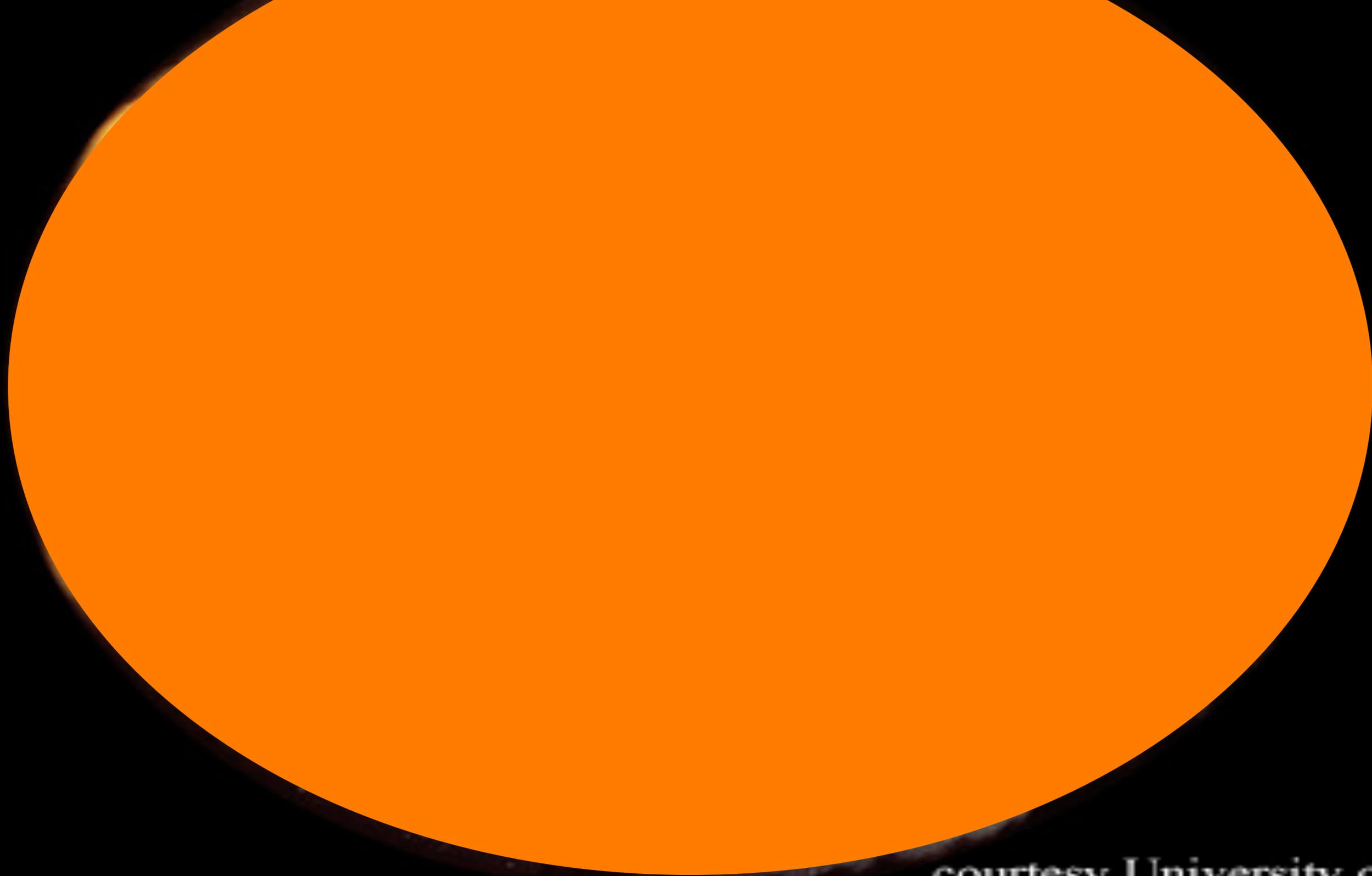
*From “Cosmic Voyage”*

# Sky in Optical ( $\sim 0.5\mu\text{m}$ )



courtesy University of Arizona

# Sky in Microwave ( $\sim 1\text{mm}$ )



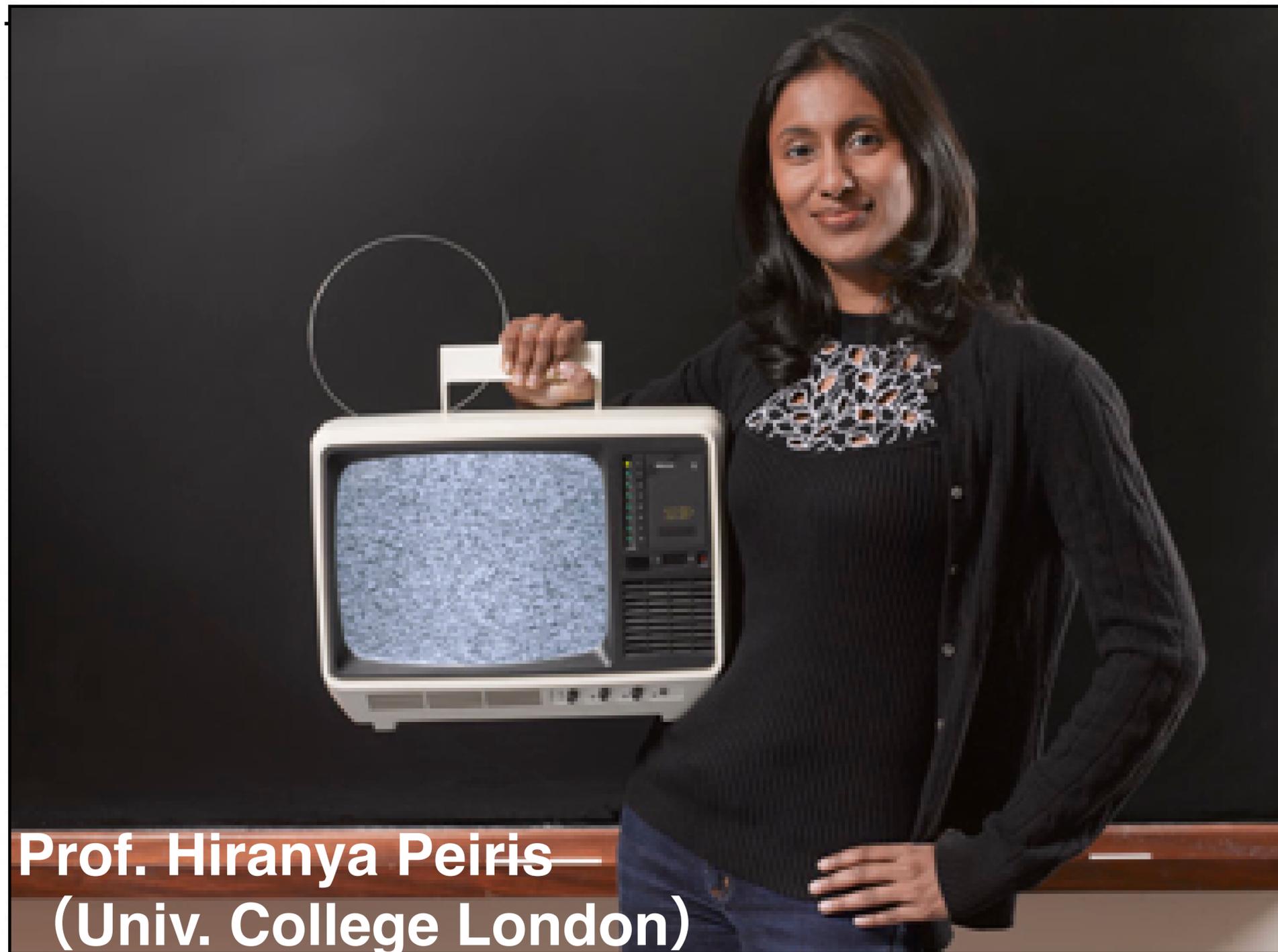
courtesy University of Arizona

Sky in Microwave ( $\sim 1\text{mm}$ )

*Light from the fireball Universe,  
filling our sky (2.7K)*

**The Cosmic Microwave Background  
(CMB)**

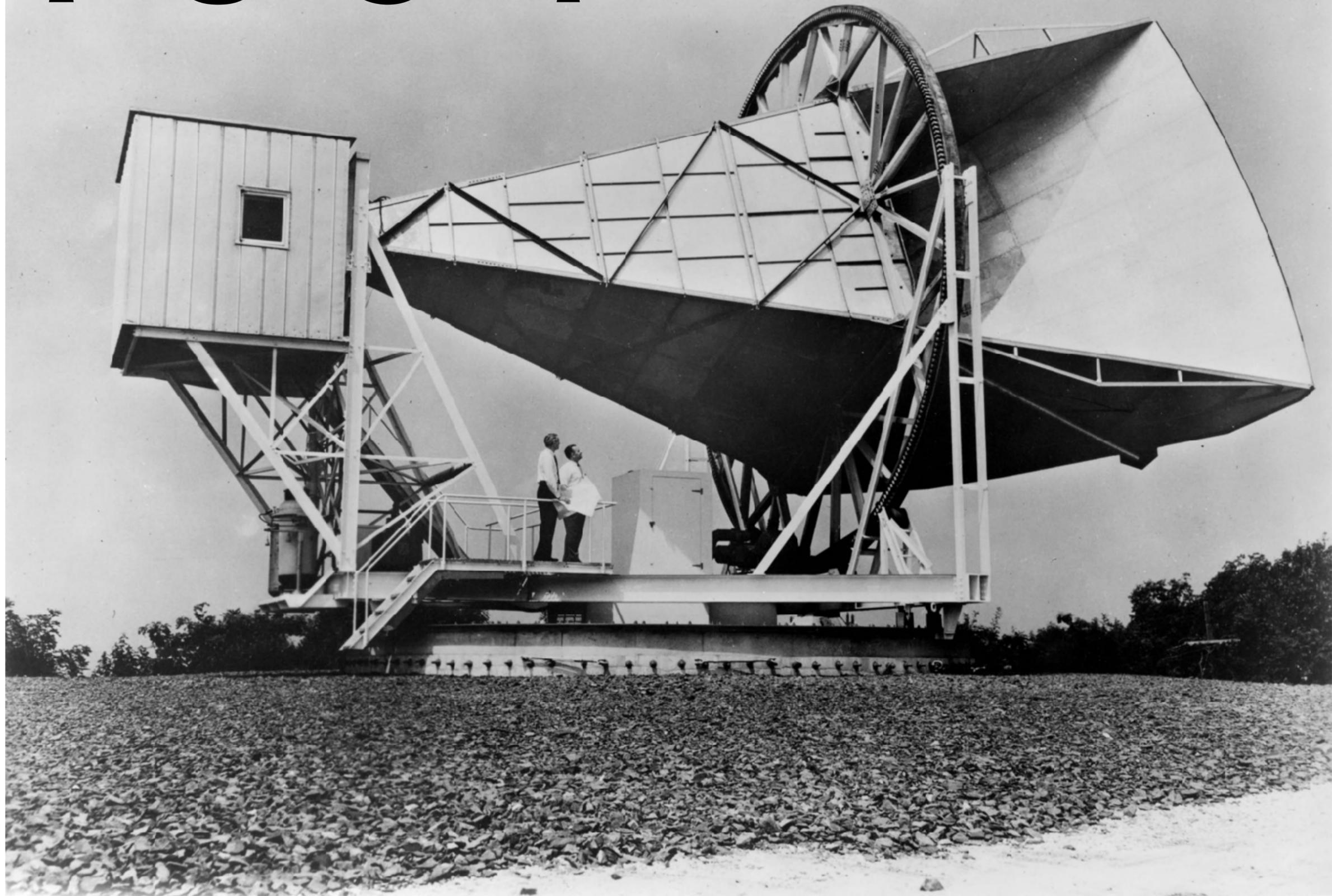
**410 photons**  
per  
cubic centimeter!!



**Prof. Hiranya Peiris—  
(Univ. College London)**

**All you need to do is to detect radio waves. For example, 1% of noise on the TV is from the fireball Universe**

1964



1:25 model of the antenna at Bell Lab  
The 3rd floor of Deutsches Museum

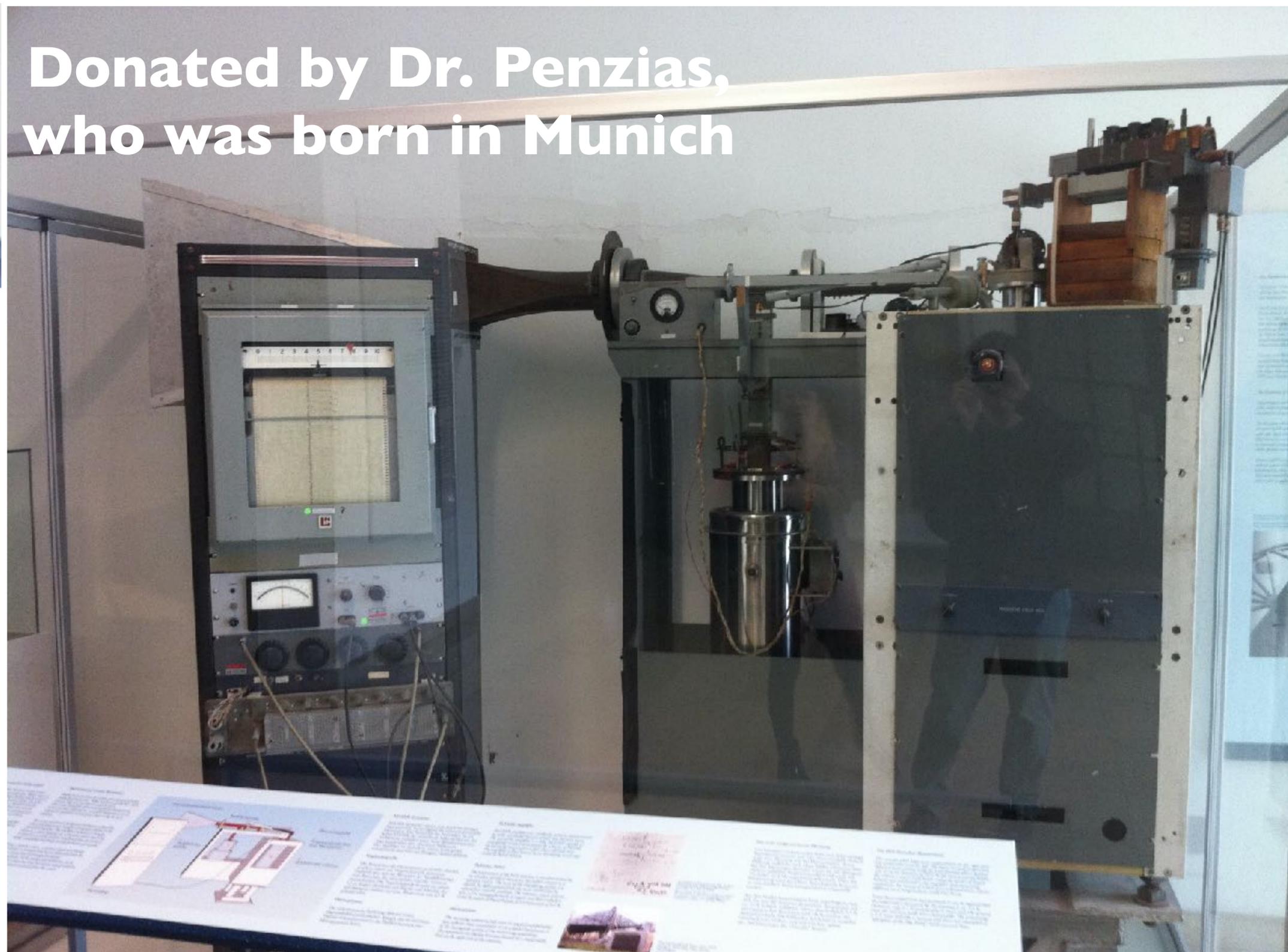


# The real detector system used by Penzias & Wilson The 3rd floor of Deutsches Museum

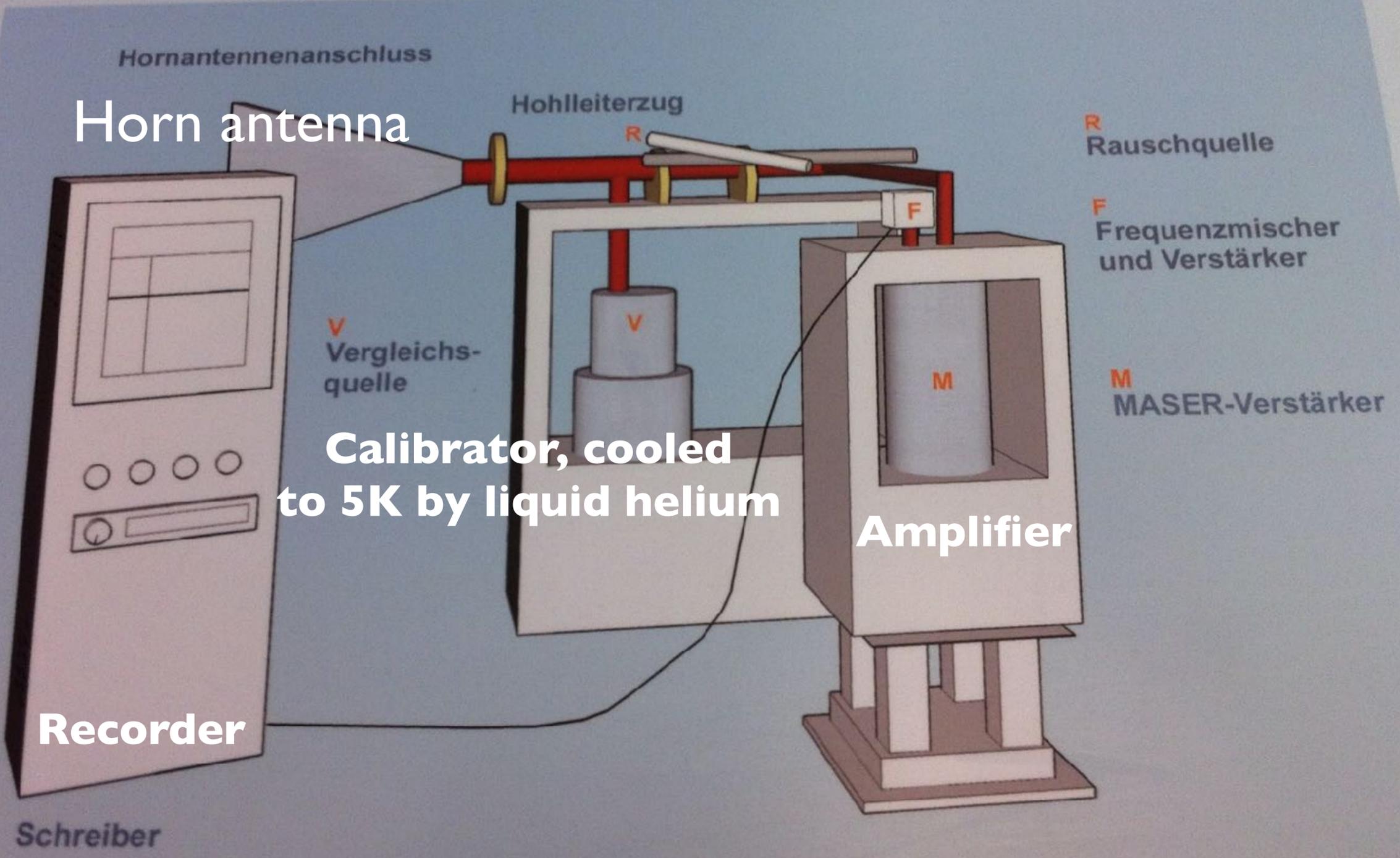
Arno  
Penzias



**Donated by Dr. Penzias,  
who was born in Munich**



Horn antenna



Calibrator, cooled to 5K by liquid helium

Amplifier

Recorder

Schreiber

MASER-V

MASER-  
Eigenrau  
Messung  
Rubin-M  
10 000  
liegt k  
Der V  
unter

R  
Rauschquelle

F  
Frequenzmischer  
und Verstärker

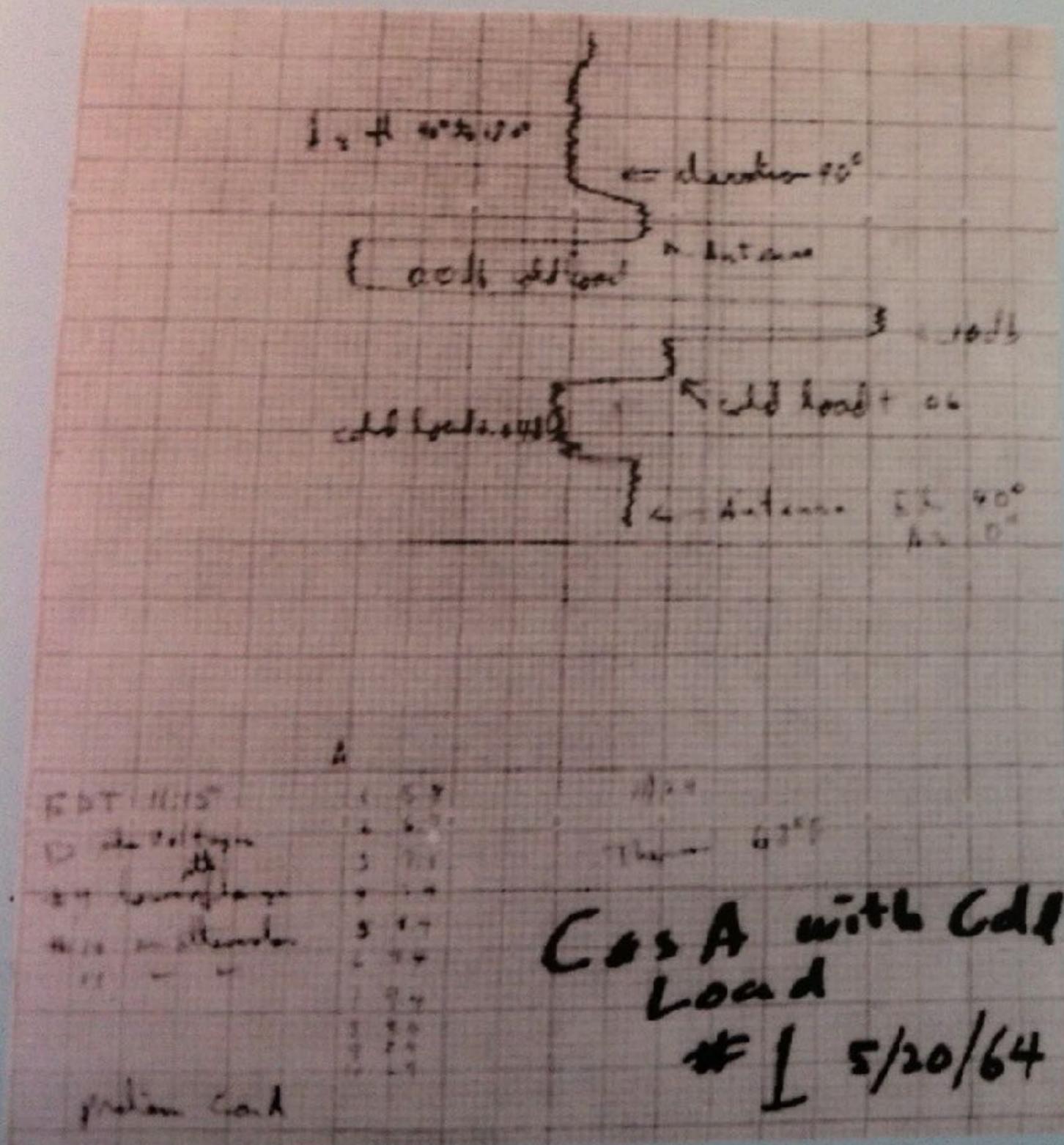
M  
MASER-Verstärker

Verg

Die  
so  
D  
v  
u

# May 20, 1964 CMB Discovered

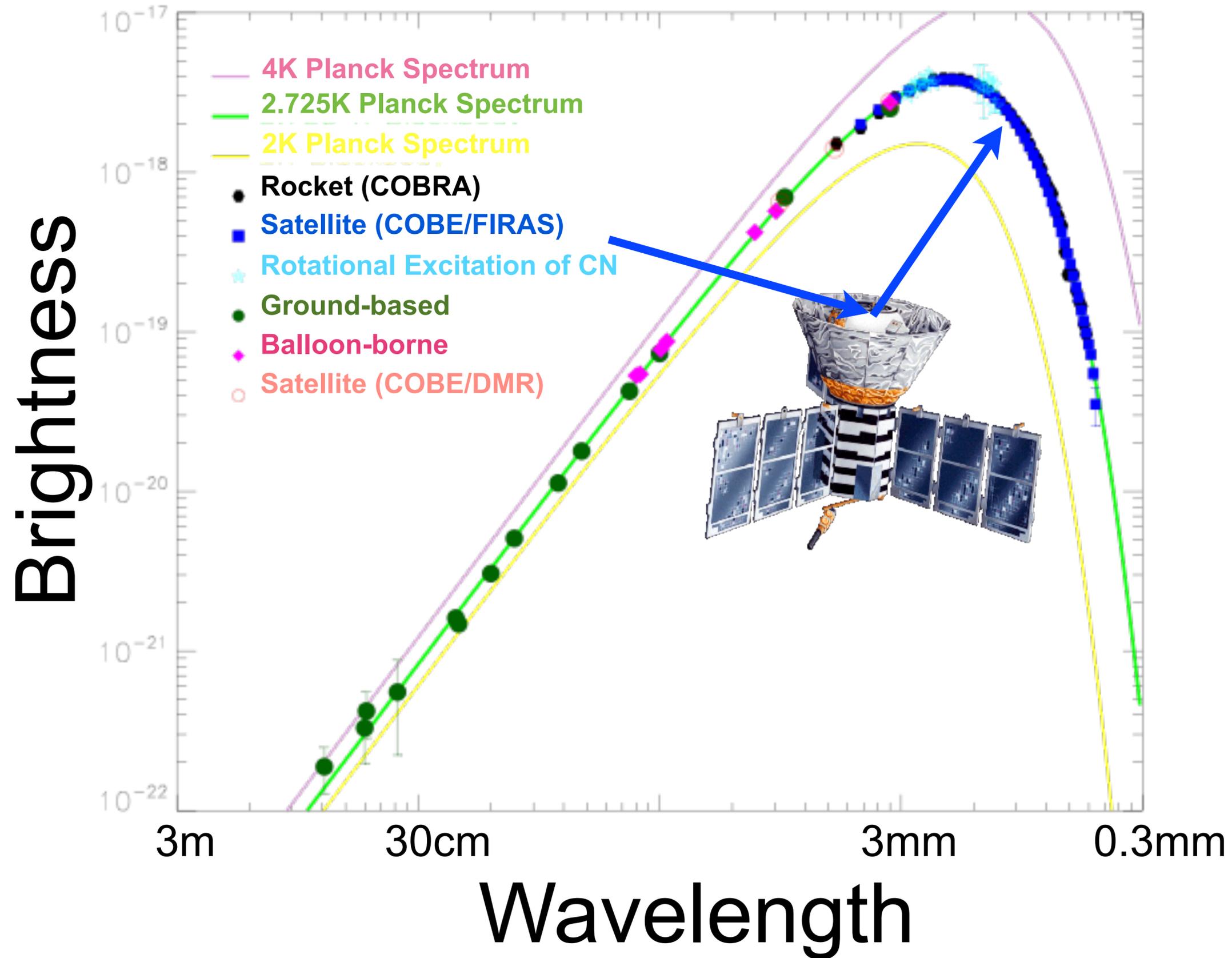
6.7-2.3-0.8-0.1  
= 3.5 ± 1.0 K

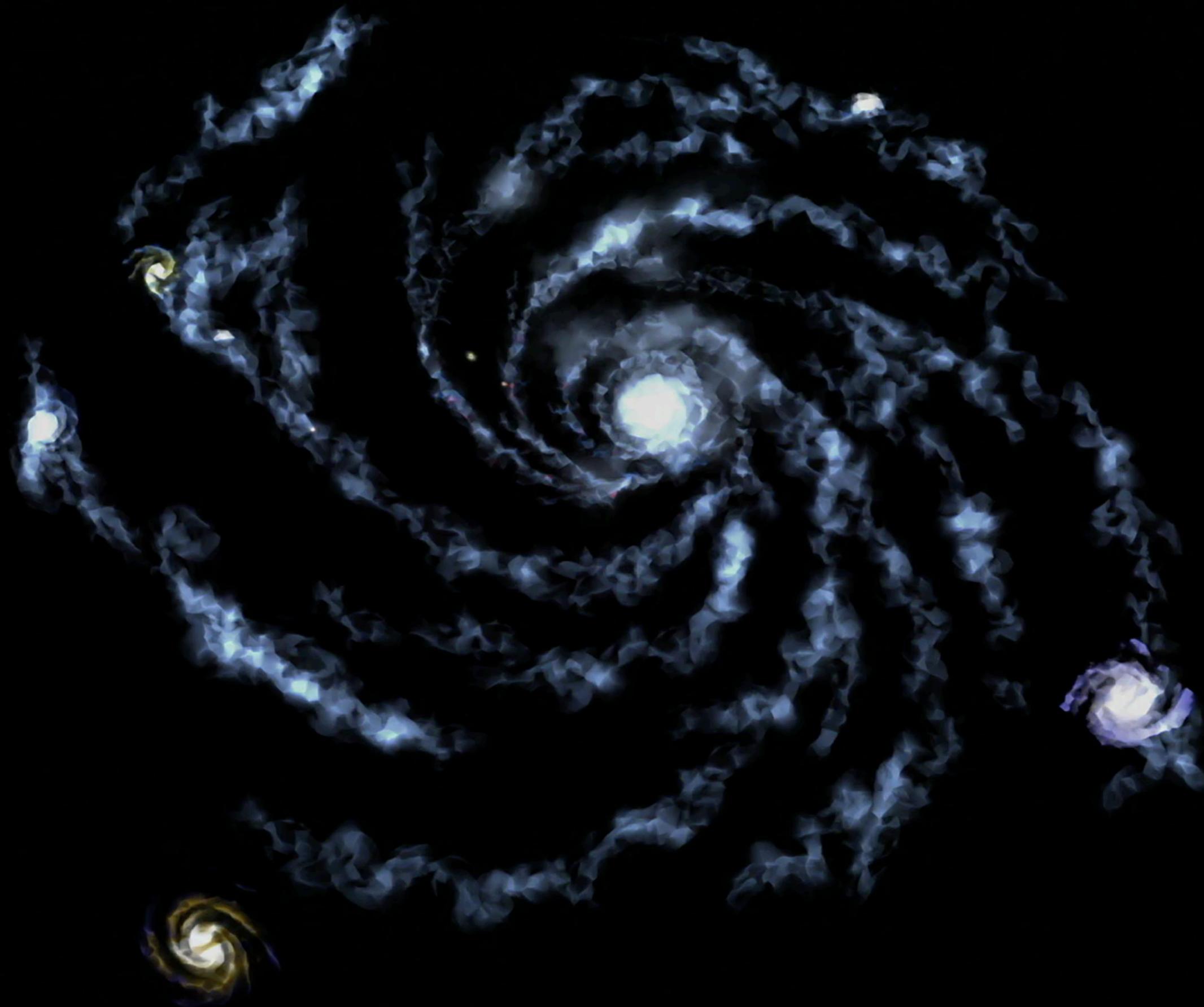


Schreiberaufzeichnung der ersten Messung des Mikrowellenhintergrundes am 20.5.1964

Recording of the first measurement of cosmic microwave background radiation taken on 5/20/1964.

# Spectrum of CMB = Planck Spectrum





# WMAP Science Team

## Princeton, July 19, 2002



- WMAP was launched on June 30, 2001
- The WMAP mission ended after 9 years of operation

**Let's watch**

***“HORIZON: Beyond the Edge of  
the Visible Universe”***

# Reminder: Your Work Today

## While watching the movie...

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