

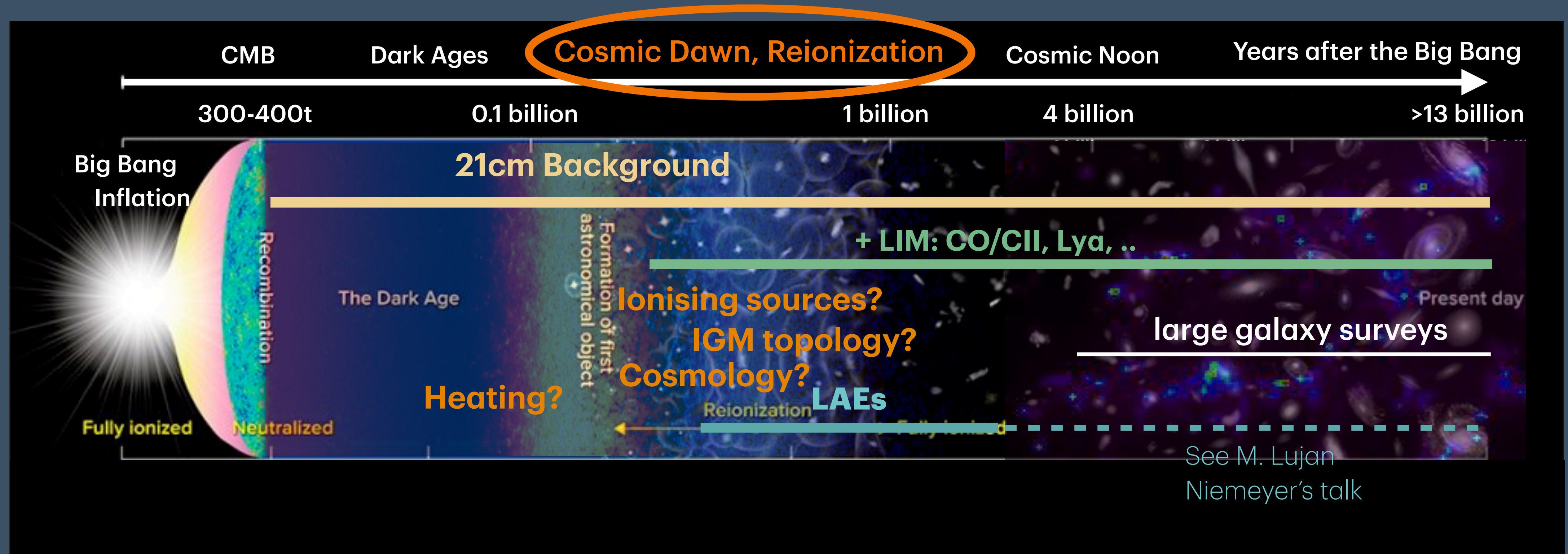
Unveiling the EoR with LIM and galaxy synergies

Caroline Heneka

Research Group Leader, Heidelberg University

LIM2025, Annecy, June 5th 2025

Closing the gap in cosmic evolution

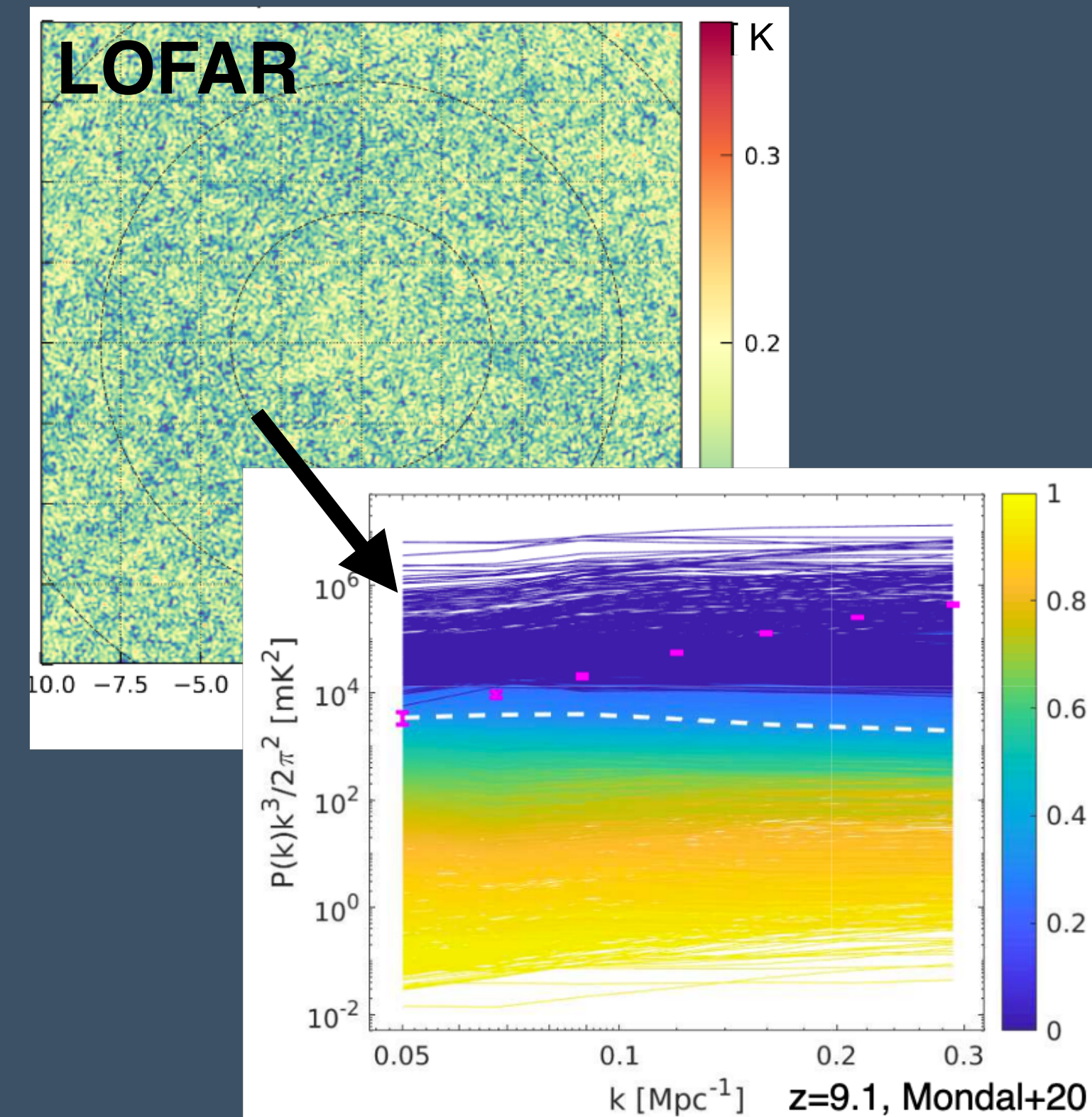
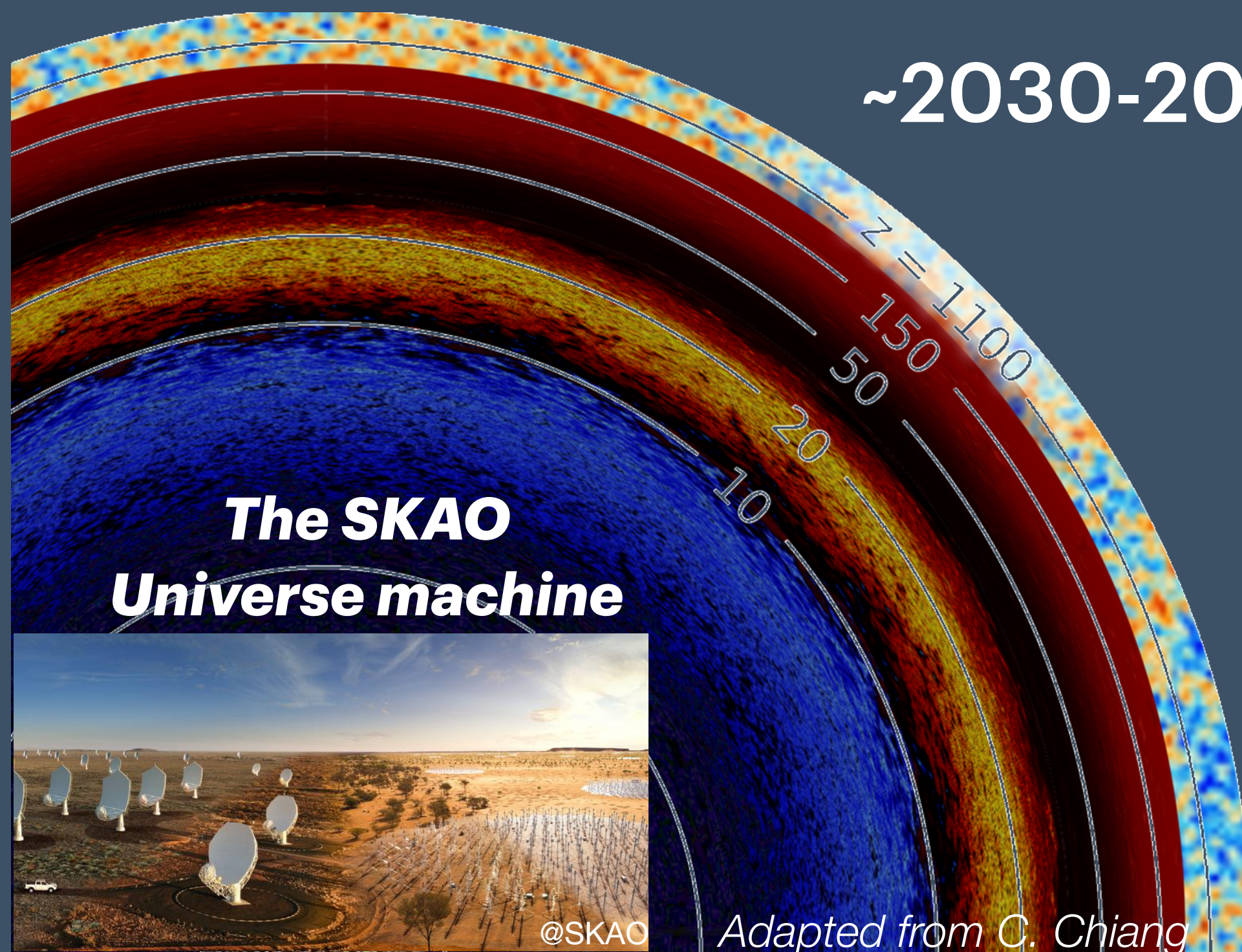


Map up to >50% of the observable Universe.

21cm Observable Universe Roadmap

High S/N map of >50% of
the observable Universe

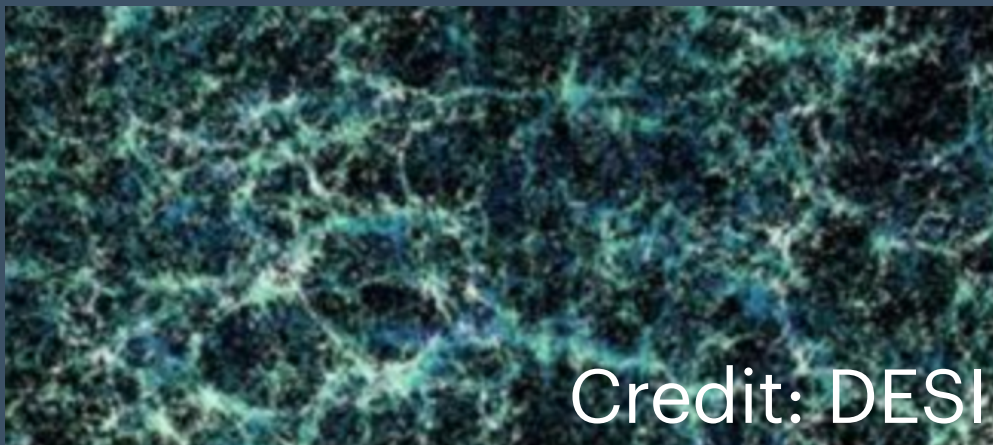
~2030-2040?



Now: upper limits on power spectra

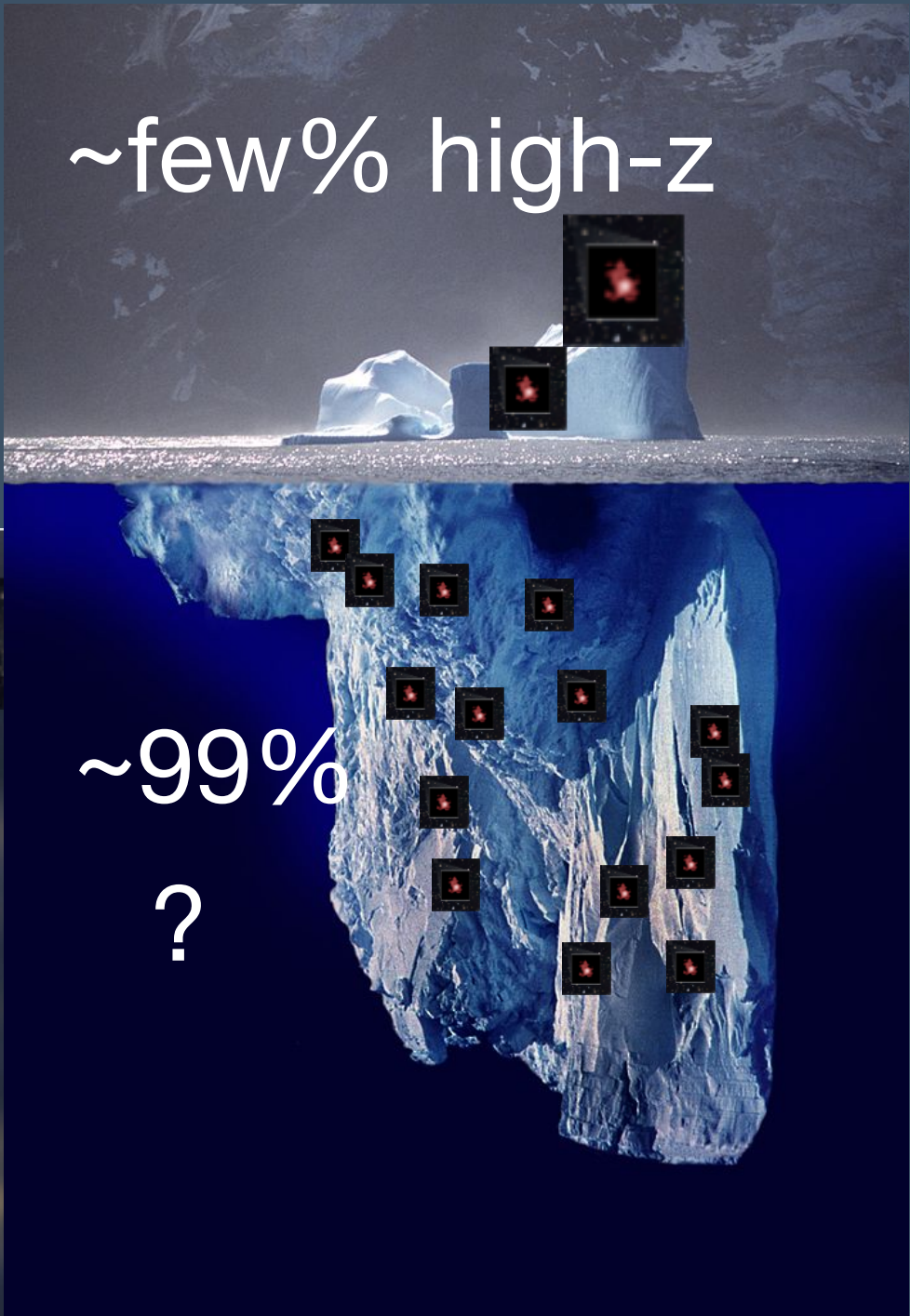
Soon: Low S/N detection, **cross-correlation?**

What is the Large-Scale-Structure?
Distribution of gas + sources.

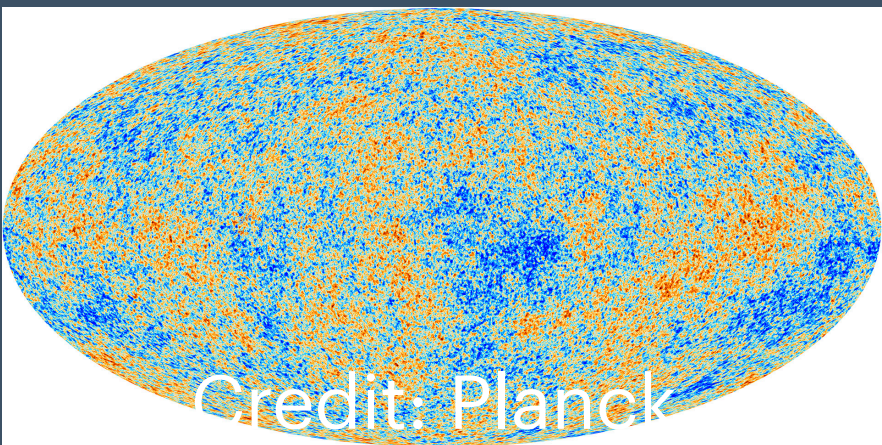


Credit: DESI

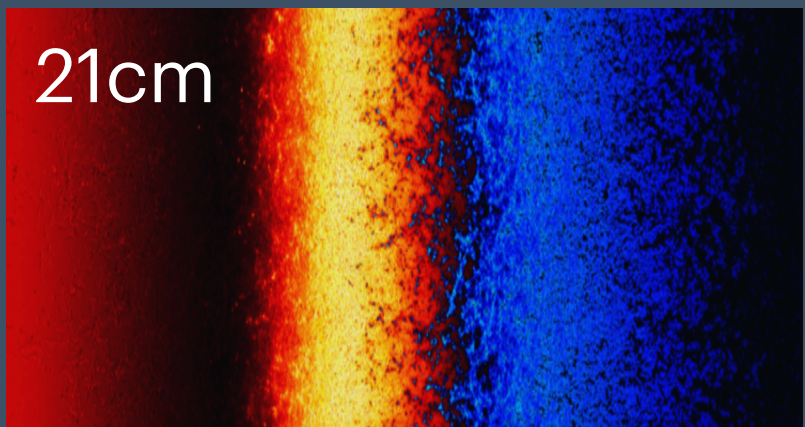
A) Individual sources
~ peaks in the DM field



Created by Uwe Kils (iceberg) and User:Wiska Bodo (sky).
CC BY-SA 3.0 <<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>>
Wikimedia Commons: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Iceberg.jpg>



Credit: Planck



21cm

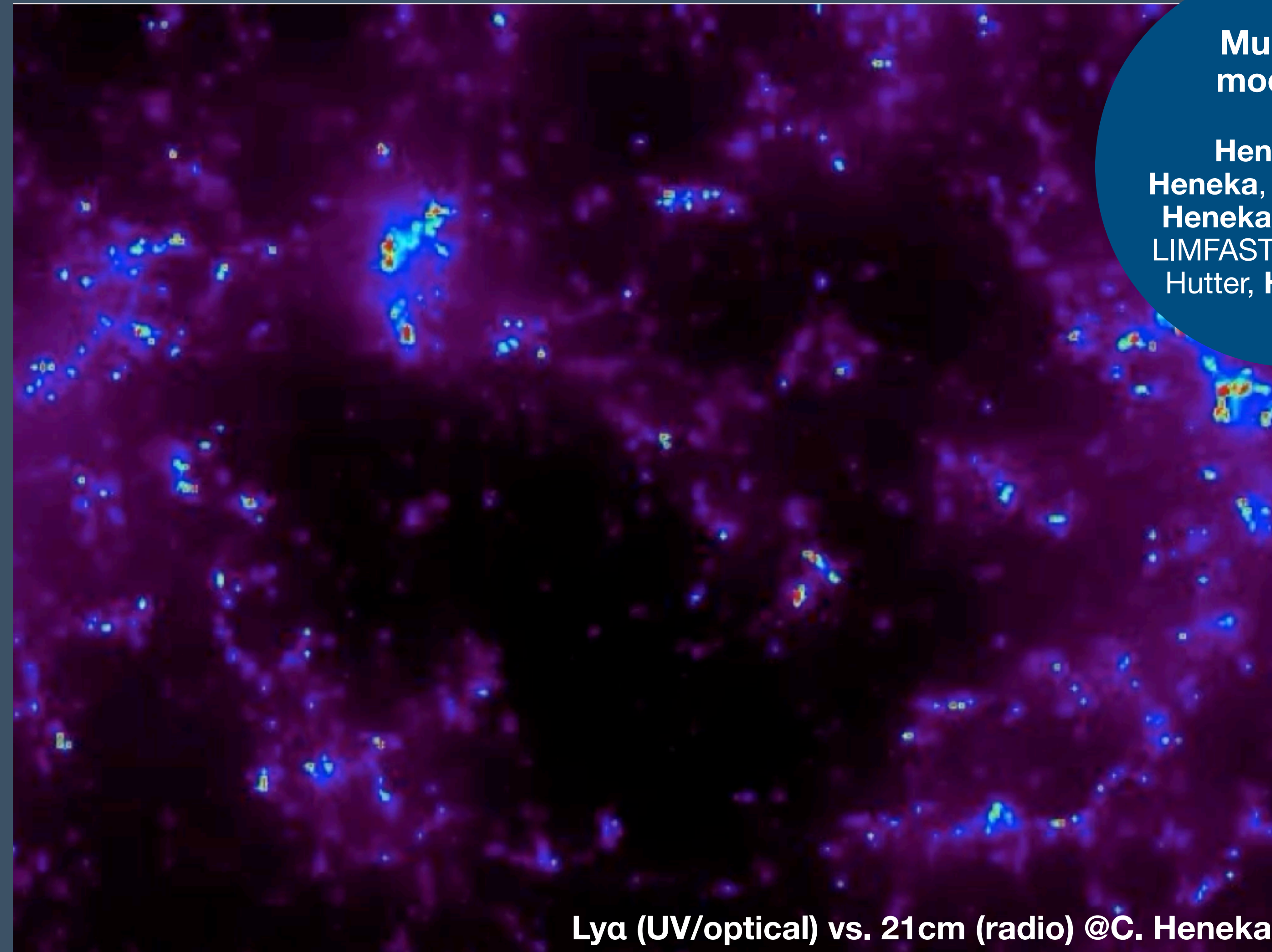
B) Intensity Mapping
~ tracer of fluctuations



Credit: A. Cooray

The Universe is multi-colour

The multi-line signal during CD/EoR is a rich signal



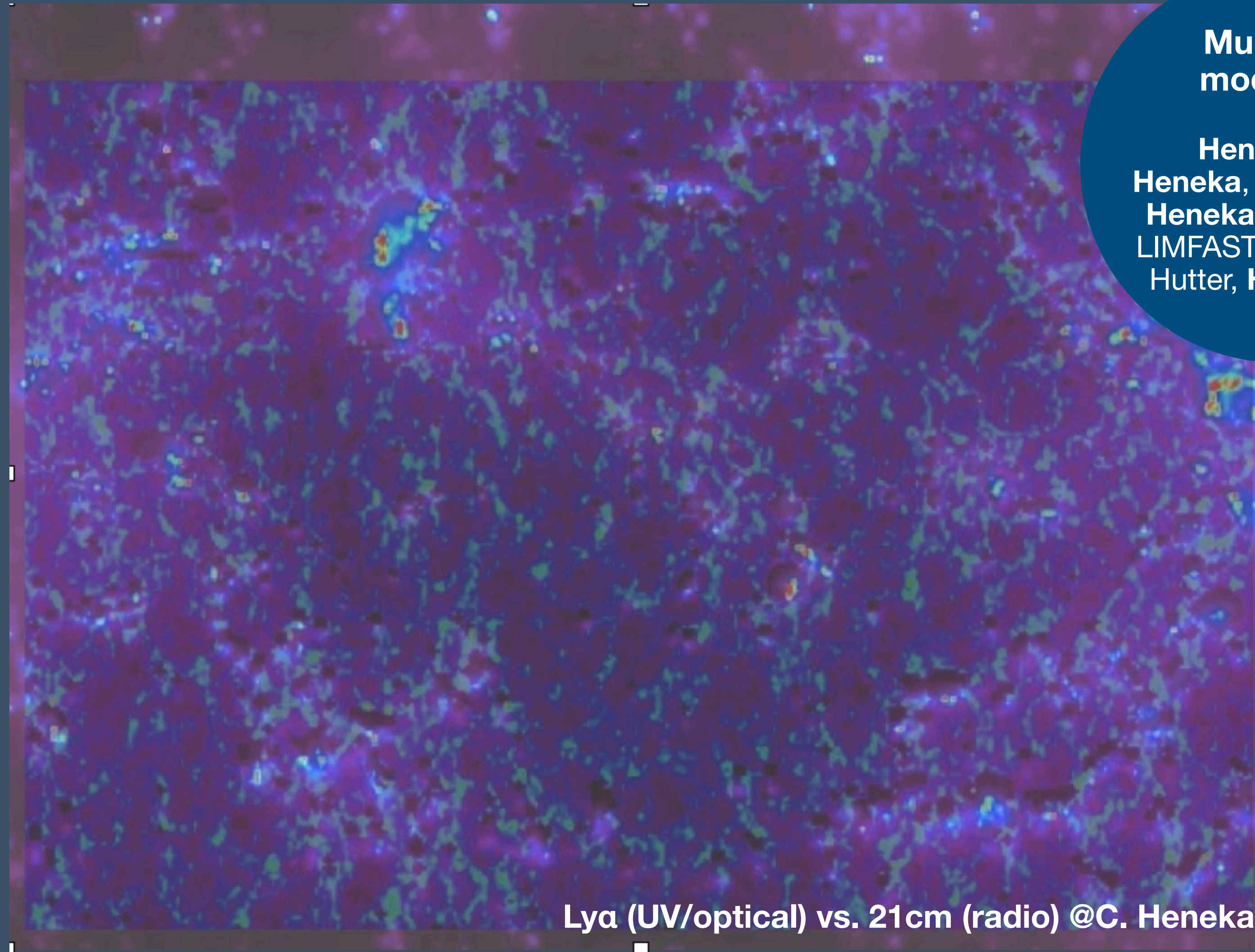
**Multi-line
modelling**

Heneka+17
Heneka, Mesinger 20
Heneka, Cooray 21
LIMFAST (Bernal+23)
Hutter, **Heneka+23**

Ly α (UV/optical) vs. 21cm (radio) @C. Heneka

The Universe is multi-colour

The multi-line signal during CD/EoR is a rich signal



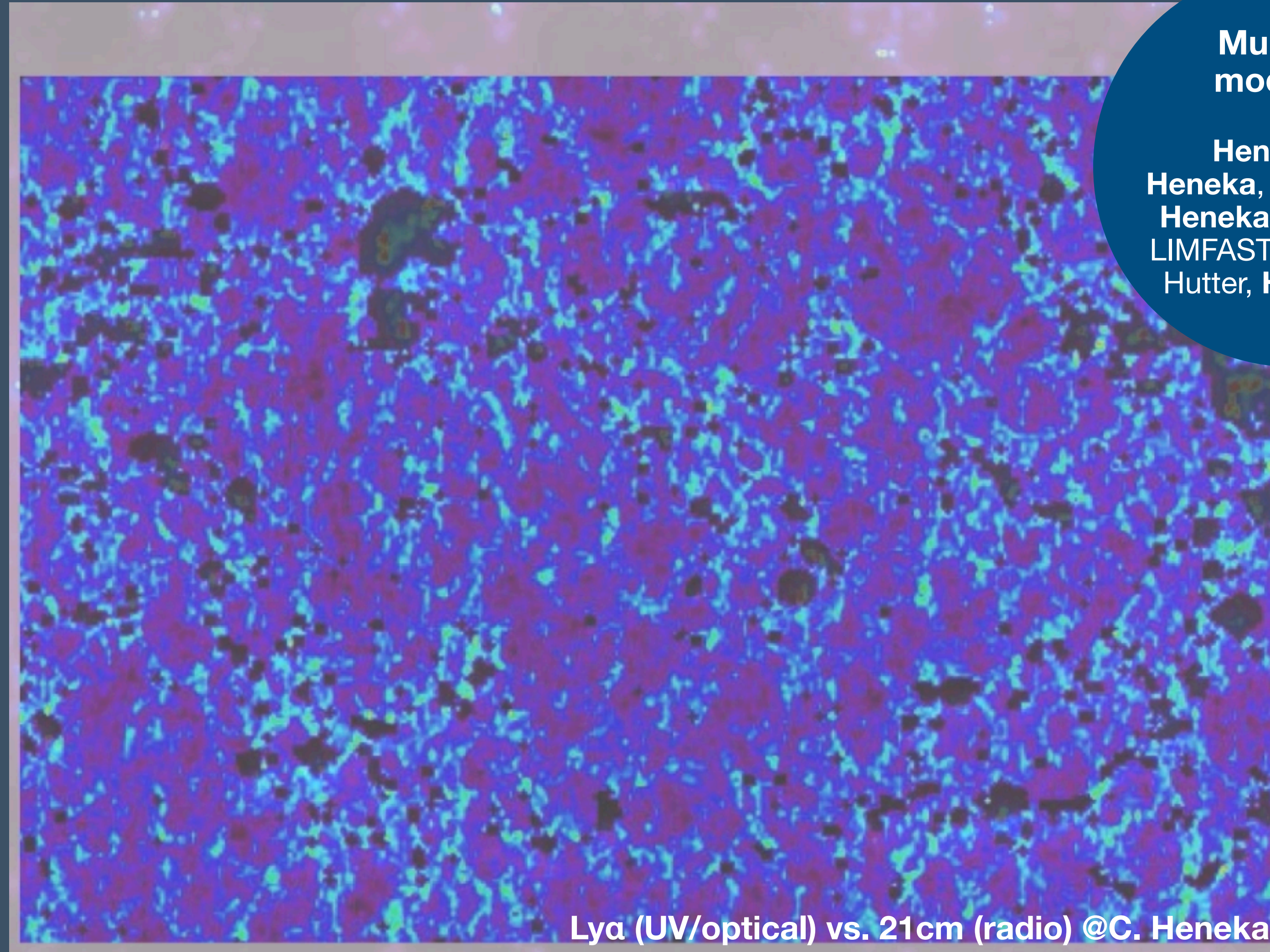
**Multi-line
modelling**

Heneka+17
Heneka, Mesinger 20
Heneka, Cooray 21
LIMFAST (Bernal+23)
Hutter, **Heneka+23**

Ly α (UV/optical) vs. 21cm (radio) @C. Heneka

The Universe is multi-colour

The multi-line signal during CD/EoR is a rich signal



**Multi-line
modelling**

Heneka+17
Heneka, Mesinger 20
Heneka, Cooray 21
LIMFAST (Bernal+23)
Hutter, **Heneka+23**

Lya (UV/optical) vs. 21cm (radio) @C. Heneka

The Universe is multi-colour

Multi-line modelling

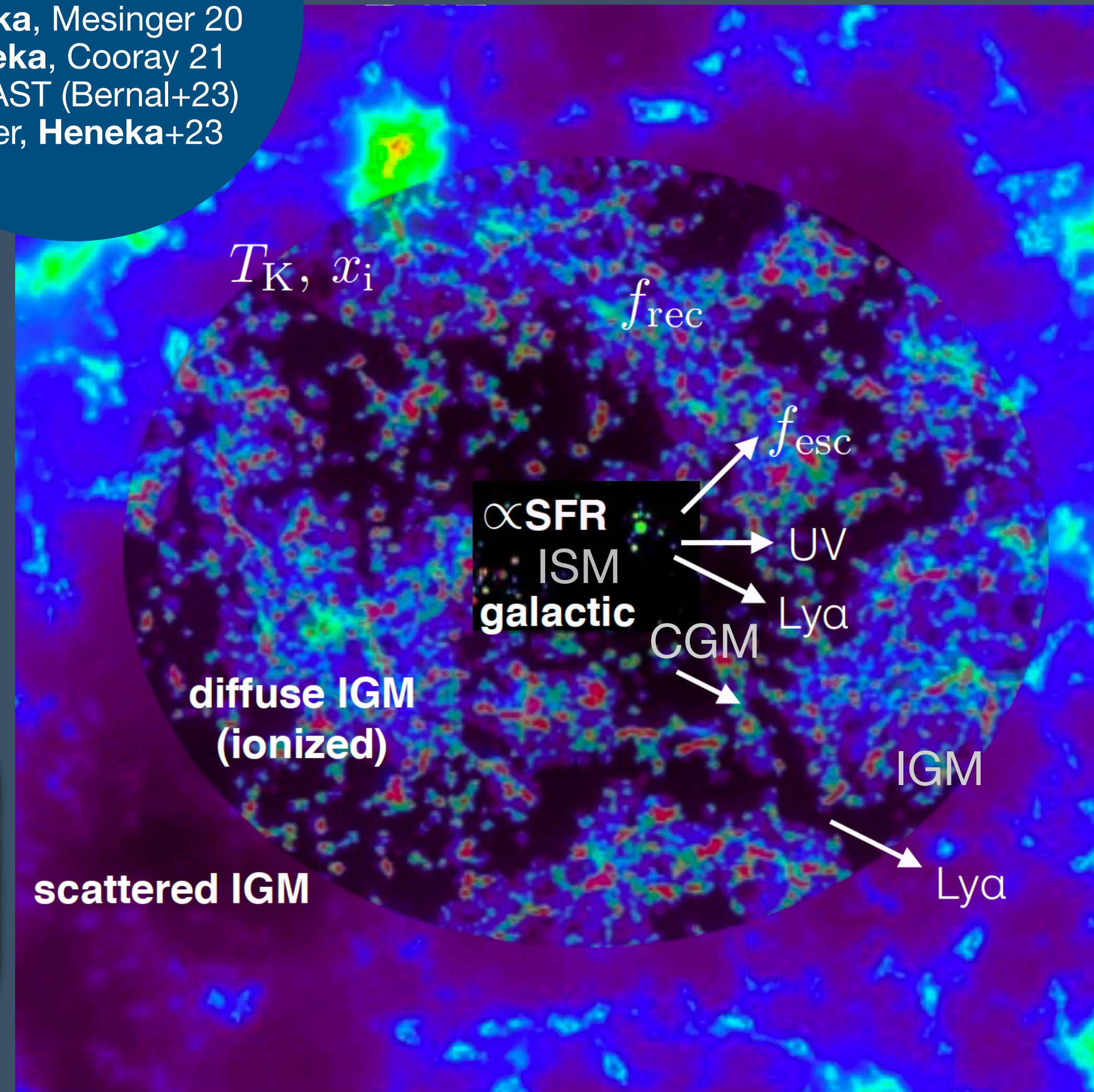
Heneka+17
Heneka, Mesinger 20
Heneka, Cooray 21
LIMFAST (Bernal+23)
Hutter, **Heneka+23**

21cmFAST

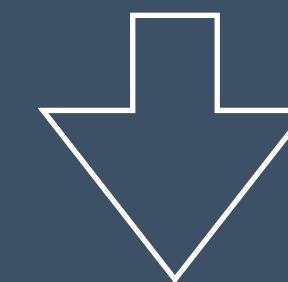
- Density/halo fields
Velocity fields
Ionisation fields
- Spin, gas
temperature fields



LINE BRIGHTNESS
COSMOLOGY
IGM EVOLUTION



- SFR, L-SFR/M-SFR
relations
- Escape fraction
- (UV) Luminosity function



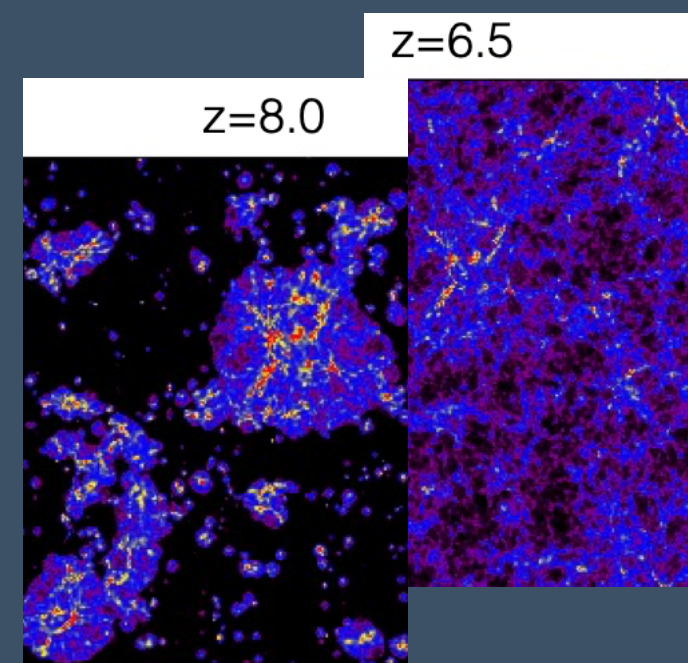
SOURCE (GALAXY)
PROPERTIES

+ available: H α , PAH

The Universe is multi-colour

The multi-line signal during CD/EoR is a rich signal

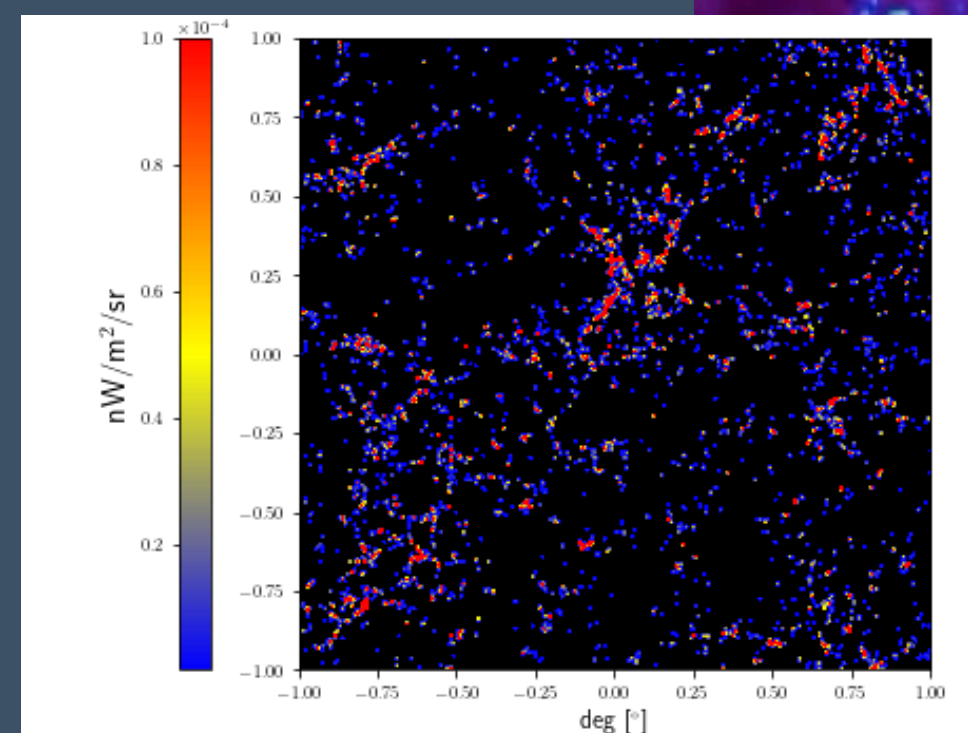
Example:
Comparison with hydro+MC-RT
(with B.Ciardi@MPIA)



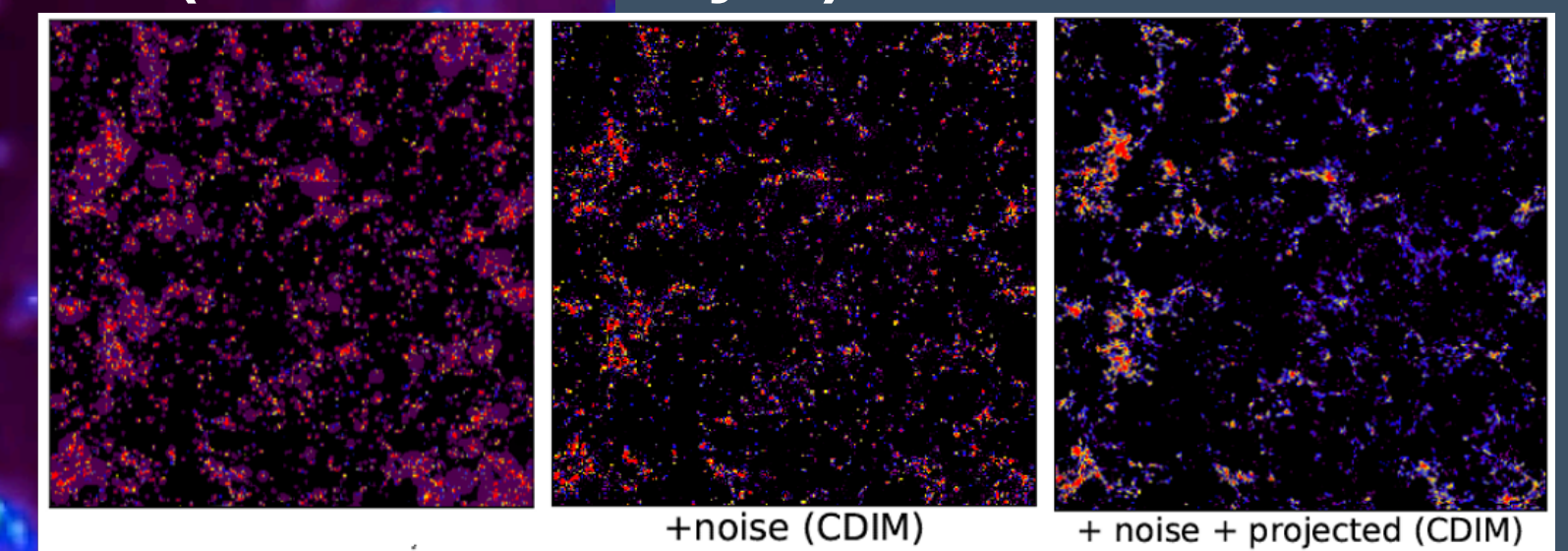
**Multi-line
modelling**

Heneka+17
Heneka, Mesinger 20
Heneka, Cooray 21
LIMFAST (Bernal+23)
Hutter, **Heneka+23**

Example:
PAH 11.3 μ m at $z\sim 6$, S/N (Pk) ~ 100
(with A. Cooray, FIRSST proposal 2024)



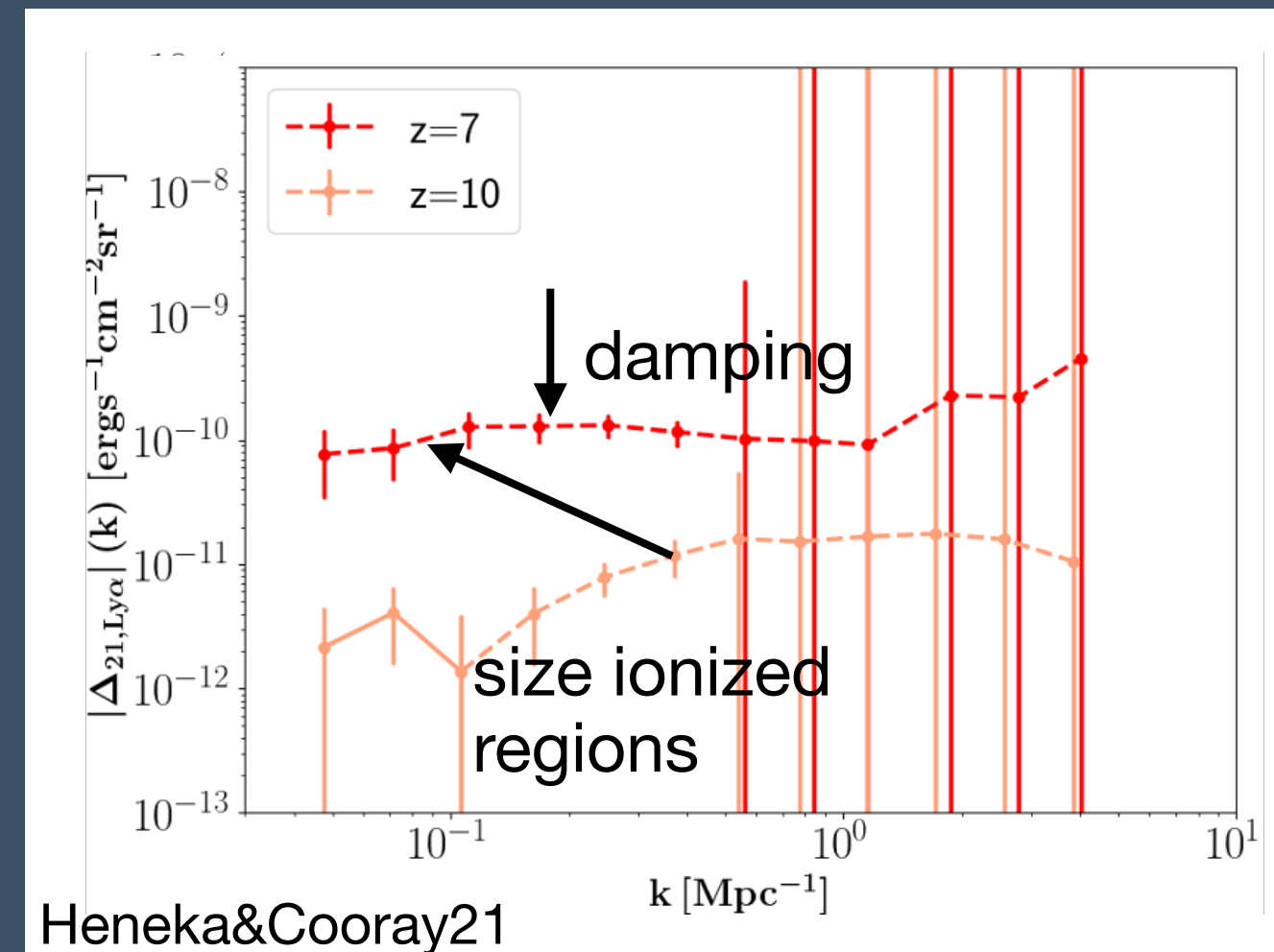
Example:
A mock $\text{Ly}\alpha$ sky with wide-field surveys
(Heneka&Cooray21)



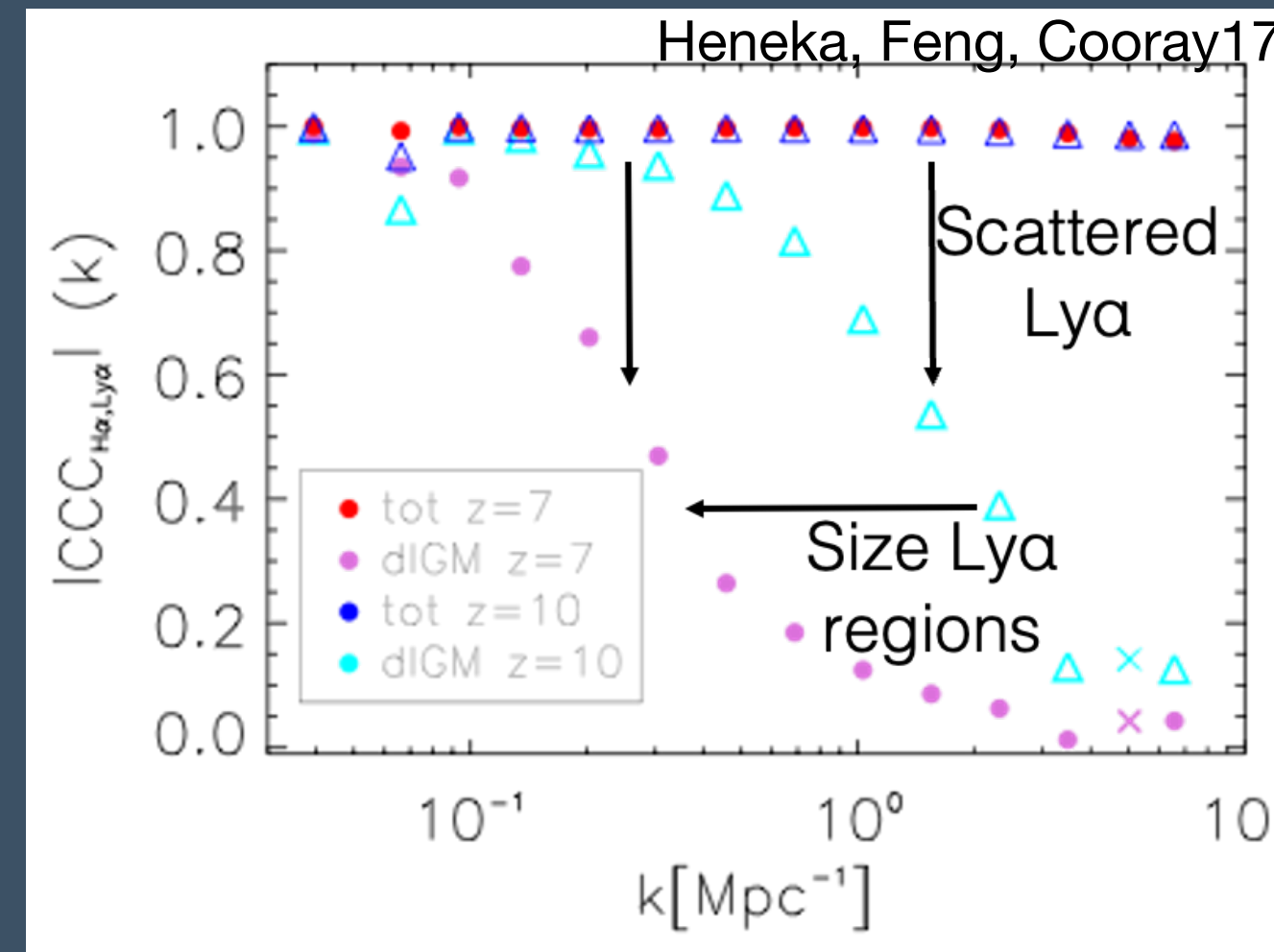
$\text{Ly}\alpha$ (UV/optical) vs. 21cm (radio) @C. Heneka

Synergies: LIM cross-correlations

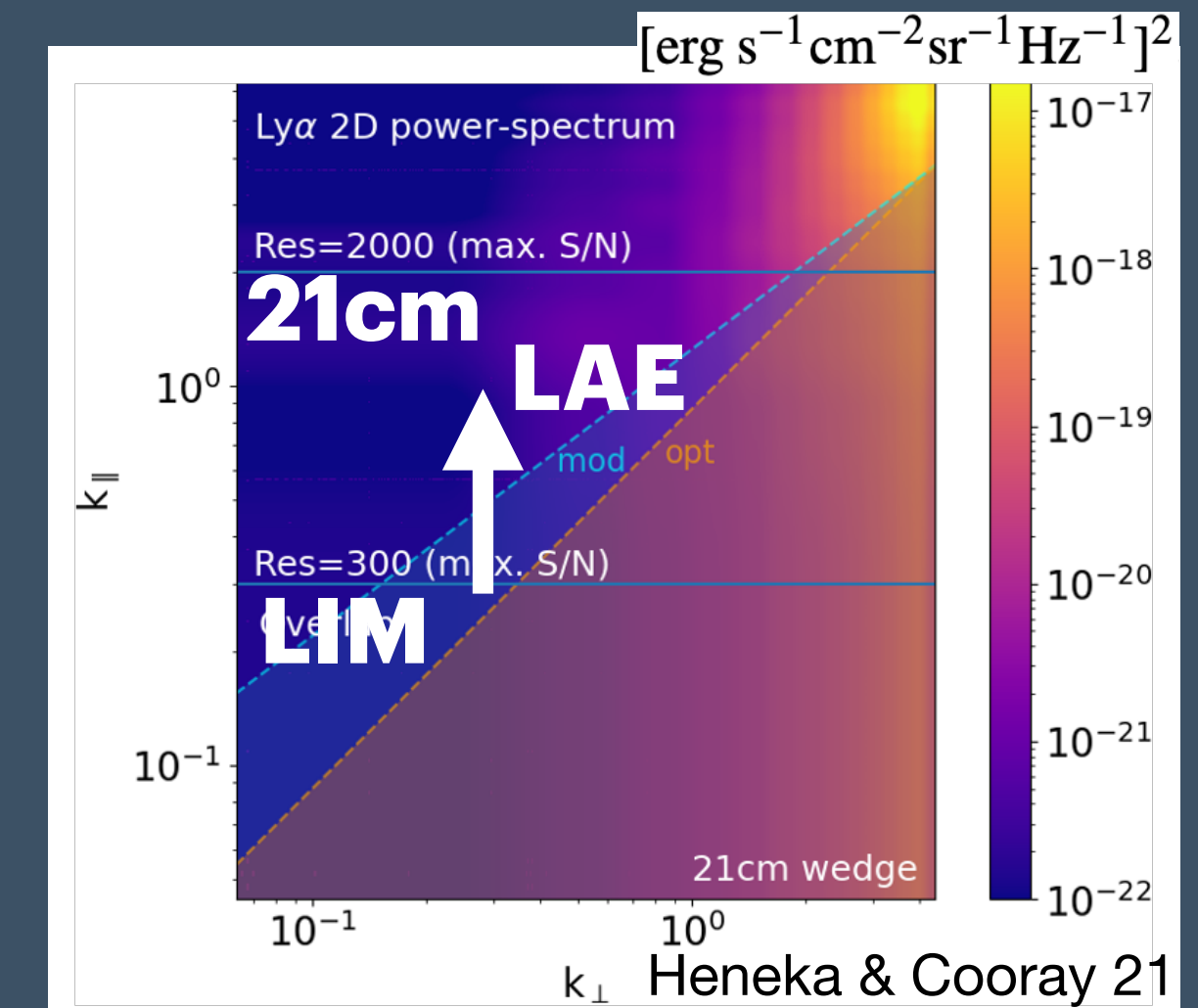
Cross-power encodes additional information:



21cm x Ly α
Size distribution
of ionised regions



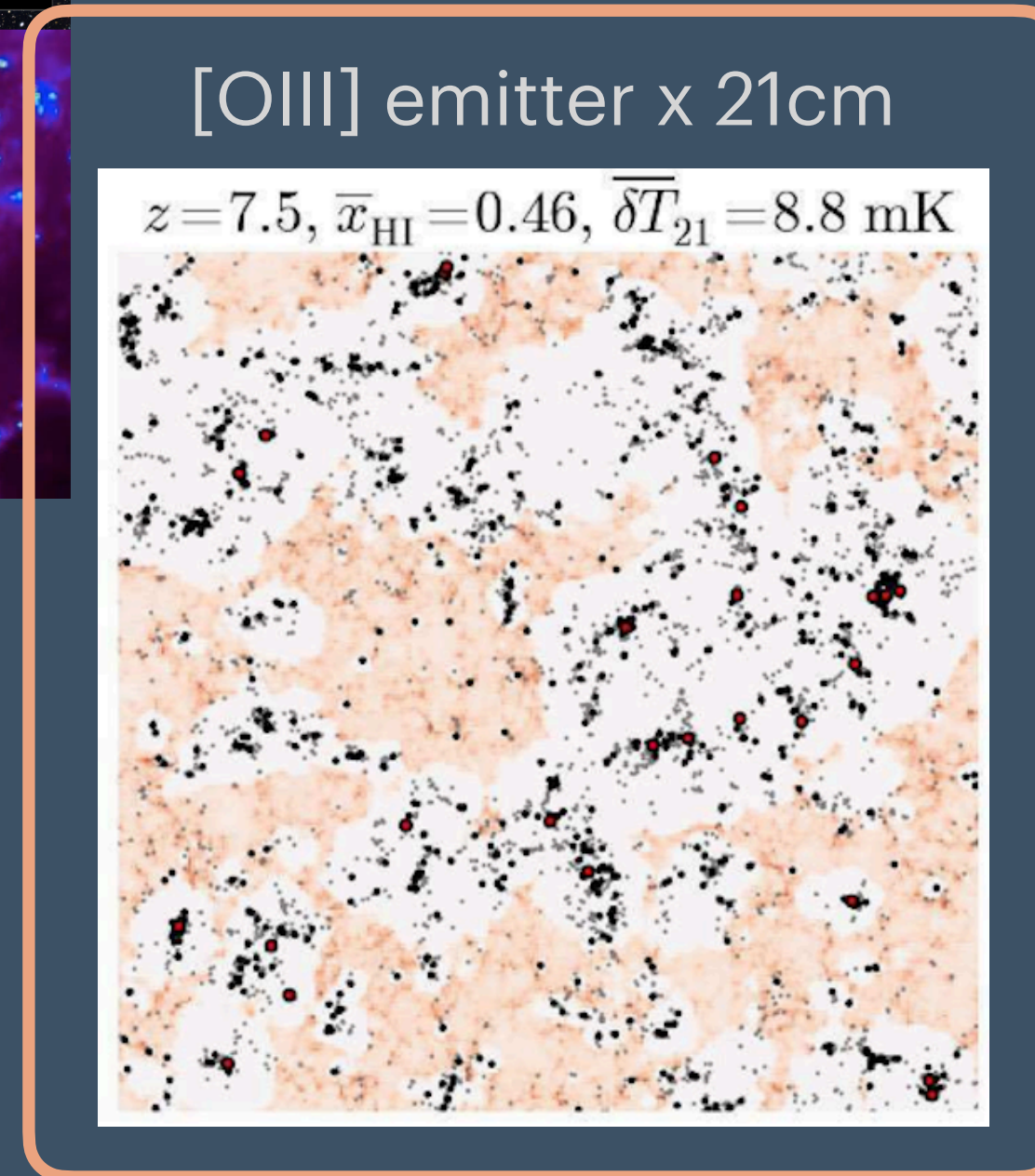
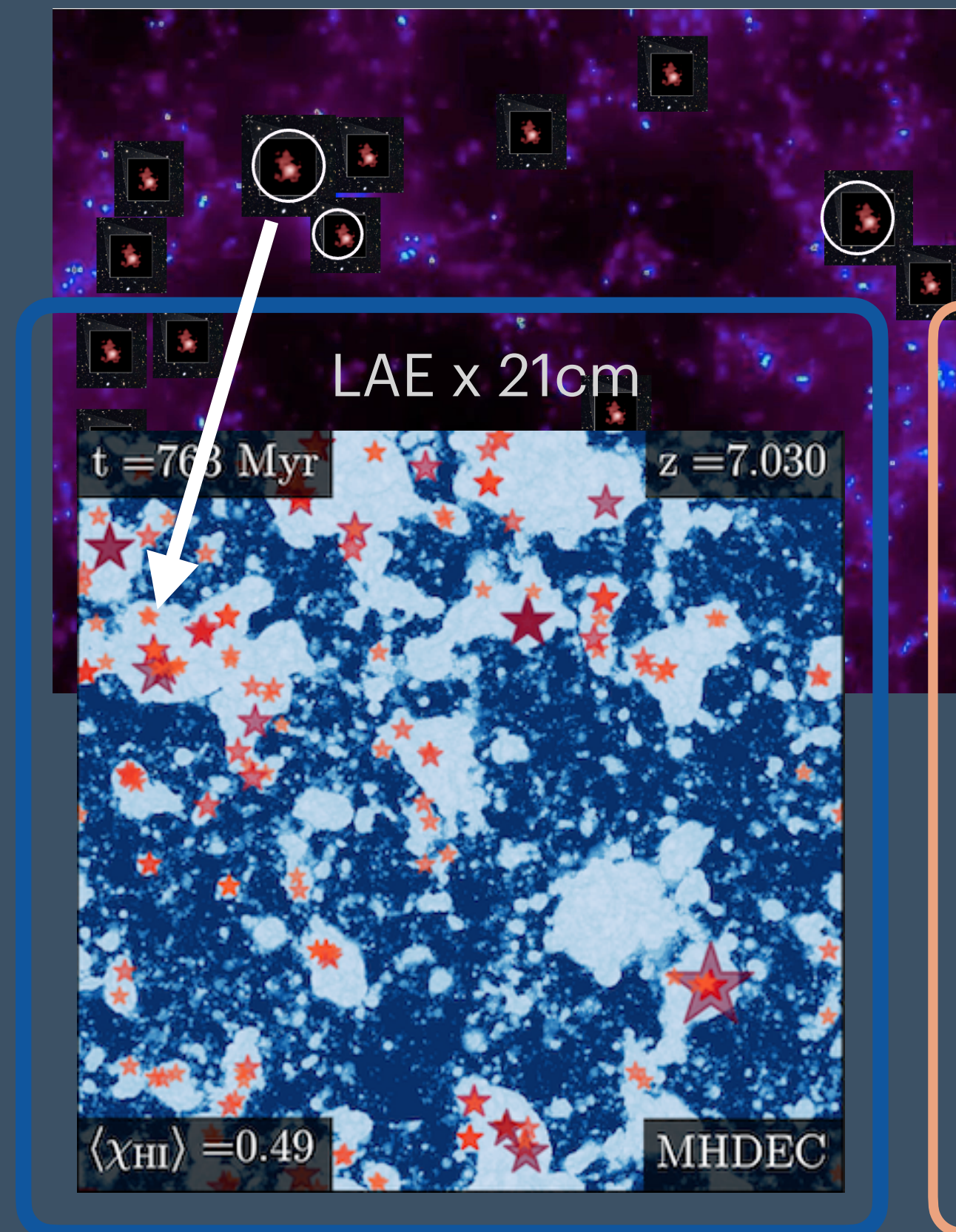
Ly α x Ha
Size of Ly α regions
Radiative escape



Ly α -IM vs. LAE
Scales probed vs.
signal-to-noise

+ damping is important!

Synergies: Galaxy cross-correlations



Modelling framework should be:

- **Fast**

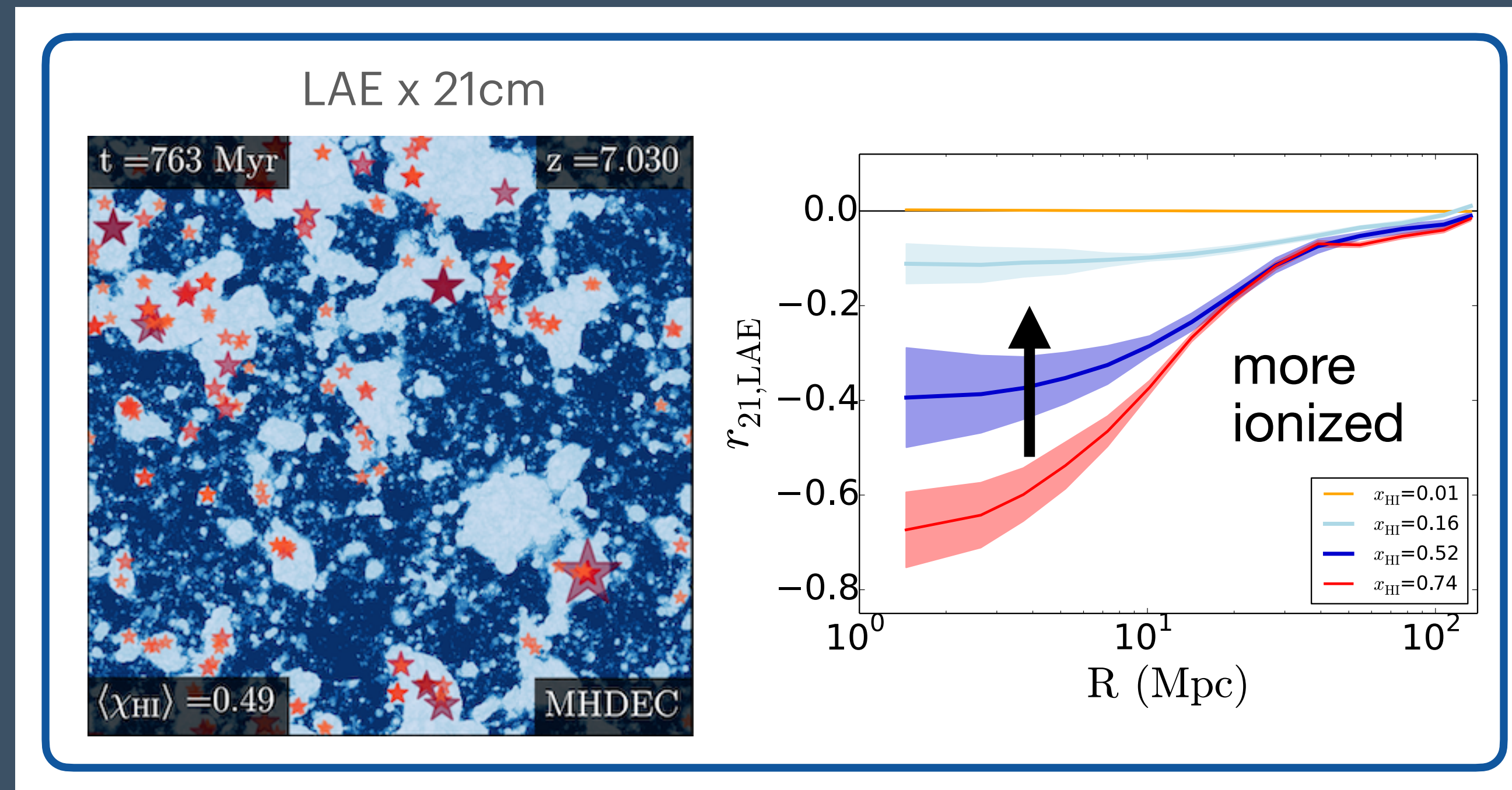
Suitable for forward-modelling
& model exploration

- **Consistent**

Model lines, galaxies &
intensity maps (mocks) alongside

Upcoming new SKA Red Book: Synergies for the Epoch of Reionization and Cosmic Dawn

Synergies: Galaxy cross-correlations



Modelling framework should be:

- **Fast**

Suitable for forward-modelling
& model exploration

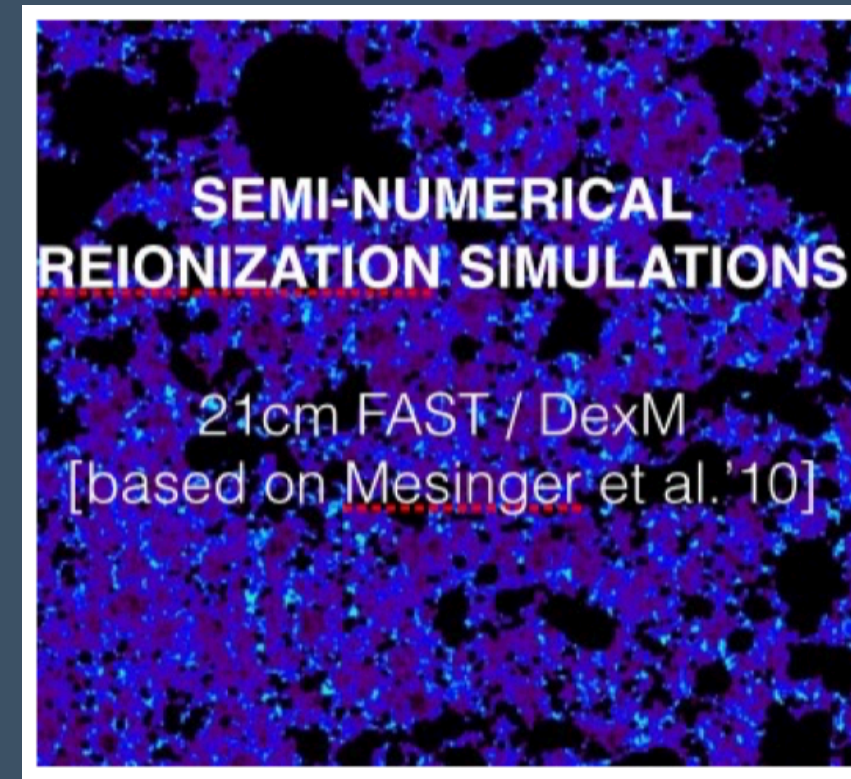
- **Consistent**

Model lines, galaxies &
intensity maps (mocks) alongside

Upcoming new SKA Red Book: Synergies for the Epoch of Reionization and Cosmic Dawn

Synergies: Galaxy cross-correlations

2 setups:



+

Intrinsic luminosities:

$$L_{\alpha}^{intr} = L_{\alpha}^{min} \left(\frac{M_h}{M_{\alpha}^{min}} \right)^{\beta} \chi \downarrow f_{duty}$$

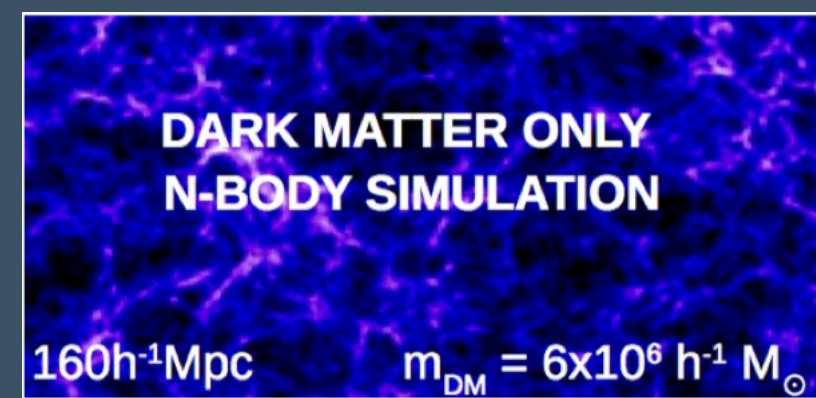
Lya damping:

$$L_{\alpha} = L_{\alpha}^{intr} e^{-\tau_{IGM}}$$

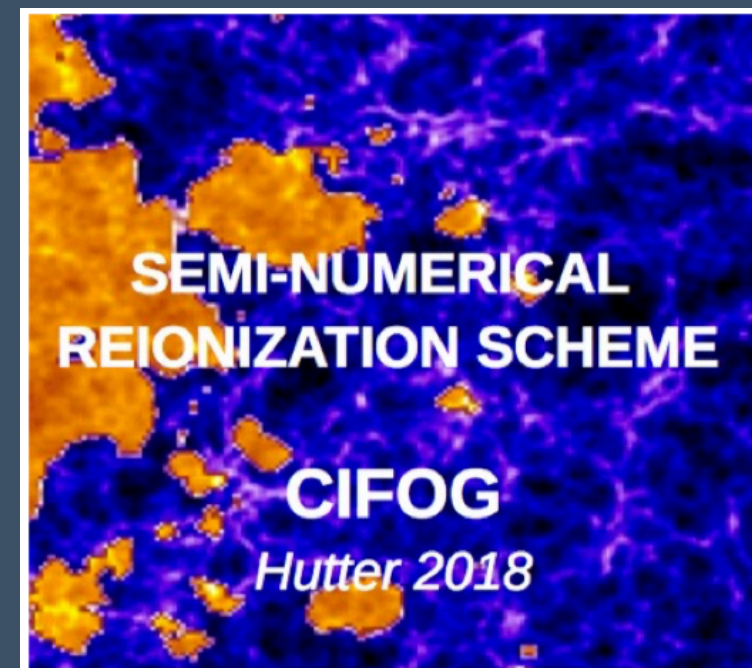
A. 'Semi-numerical'

Semi-numerical simulations
21cmFAST (Mesinger+10, Murray+20, Davies+25)

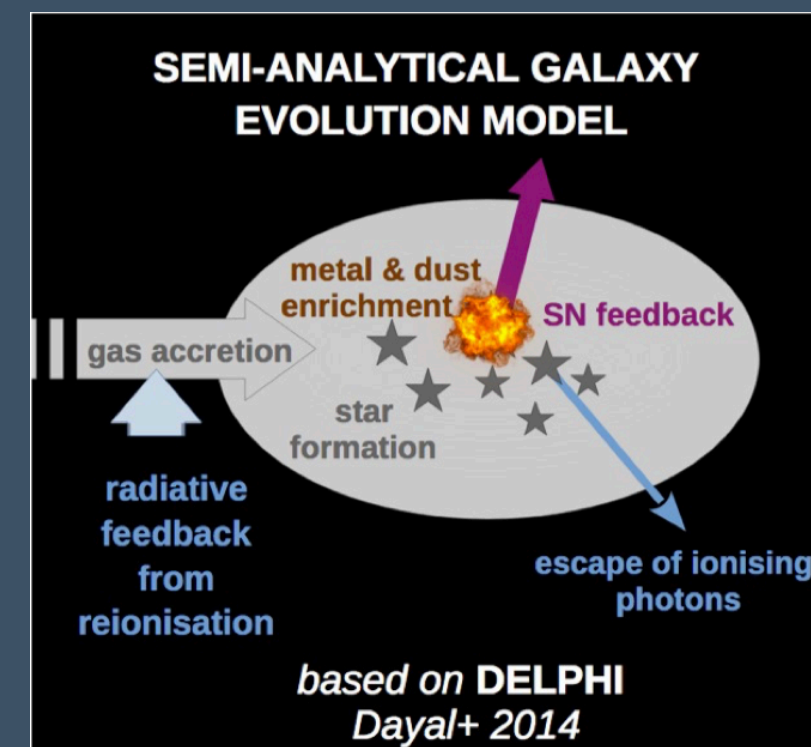
+ galaxy properties calibrated
with observations
(e.g., Heneka&Mesinger20, Gagnon-Hartman+25)



+



+



B. 'Hybrid'

N-body + semi-numerical (CIFO)

+ analytical galaxy evolution model

= Astraeus (I. Hutter+20 - X. Hutter+25)

Do these setups agree?

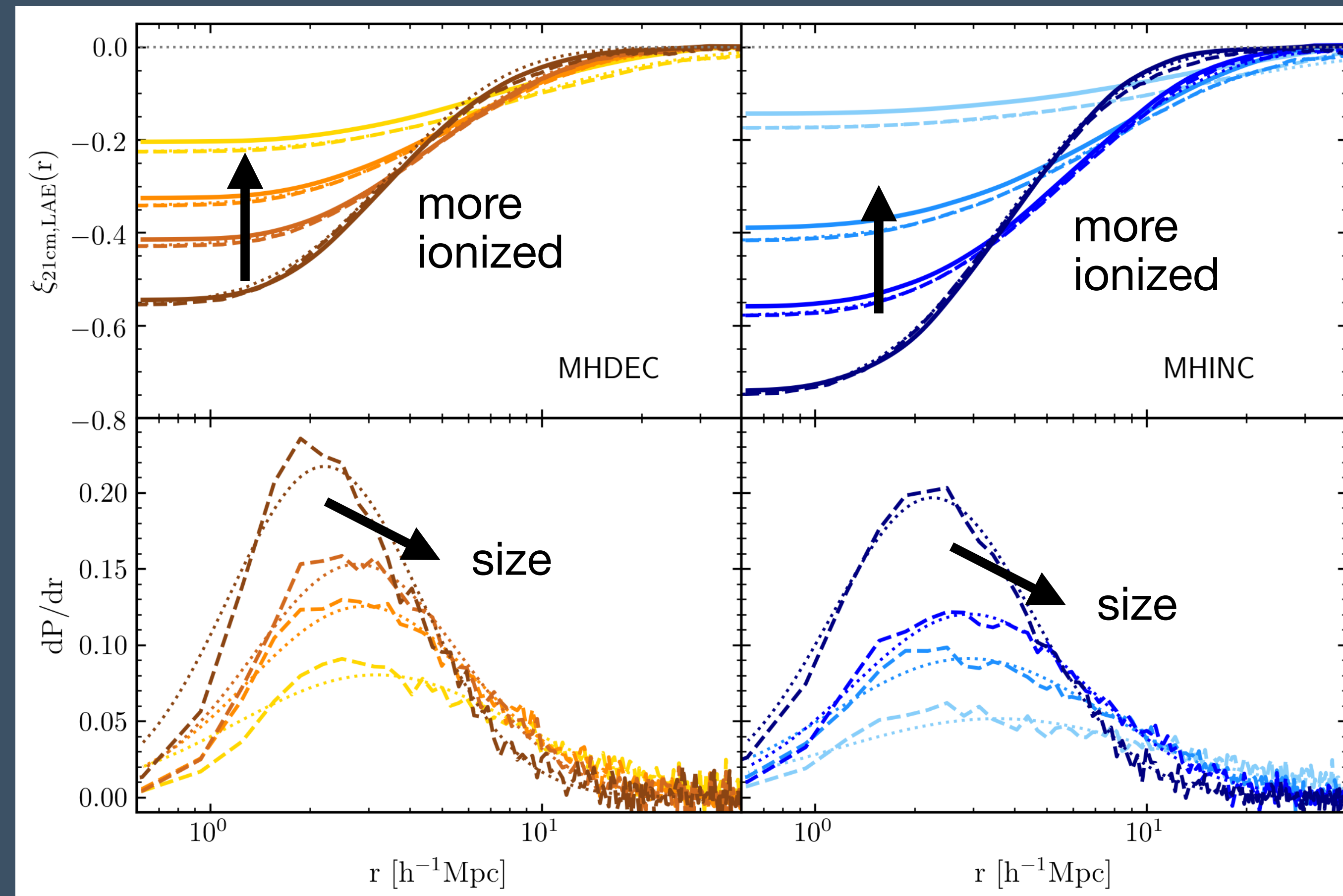
Synergies: Galaxy cross-correlations

Analytical function: $\xi_{21,\text{LAE}}(r) = - \langle \chi_{\text{HI}} \rangle \langle 1 + \delta \rangle_{\text{HI}} [1 - \text{CDF}(r)]$

Hutter, Heneka+24
arXiv:2306.03156

21cm-LAE cross-
correlation fct.

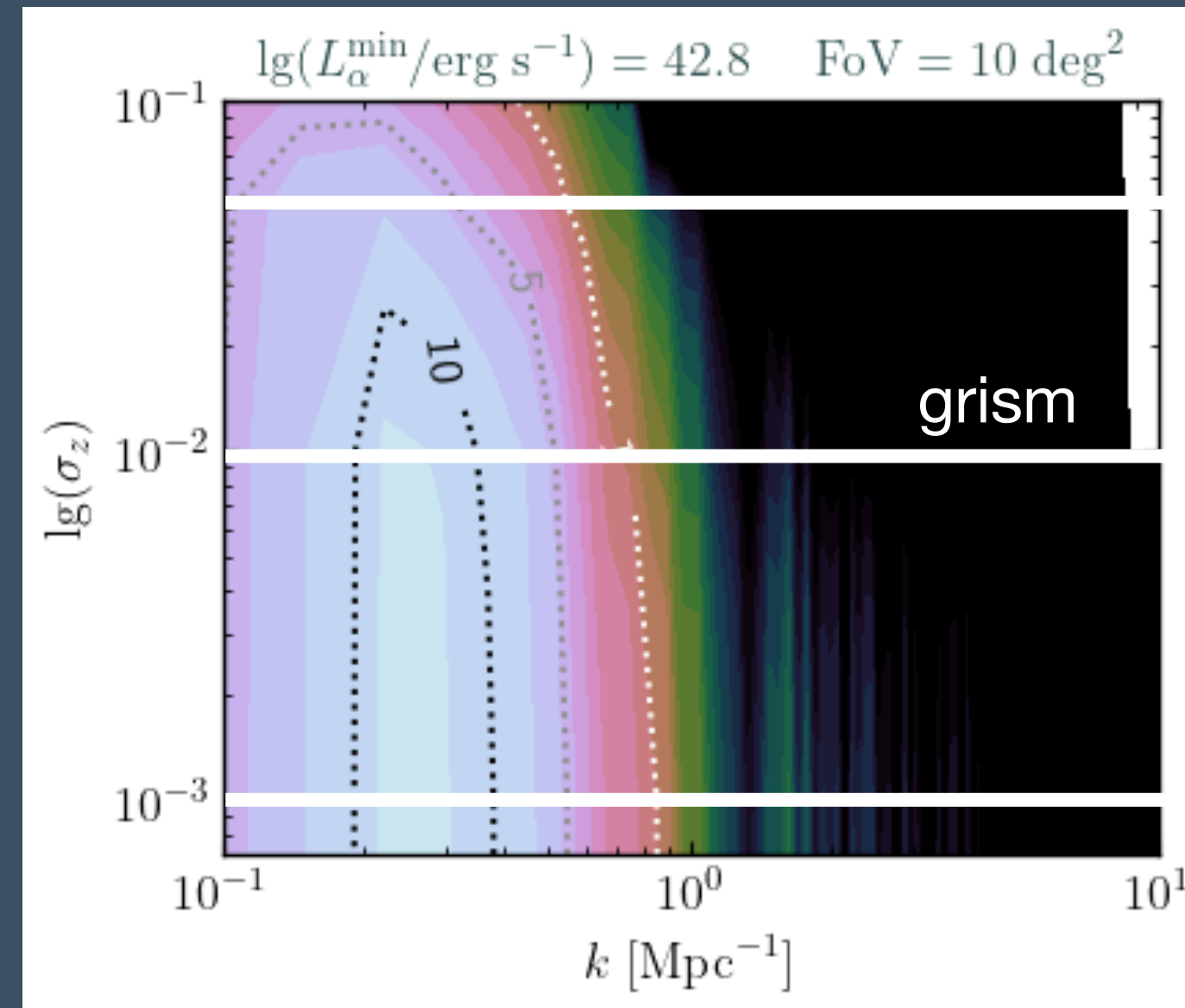
21cm x LAE
Size distribution
of ionised regions



Analytic formalism allows to 'standardise' different models (simulators).

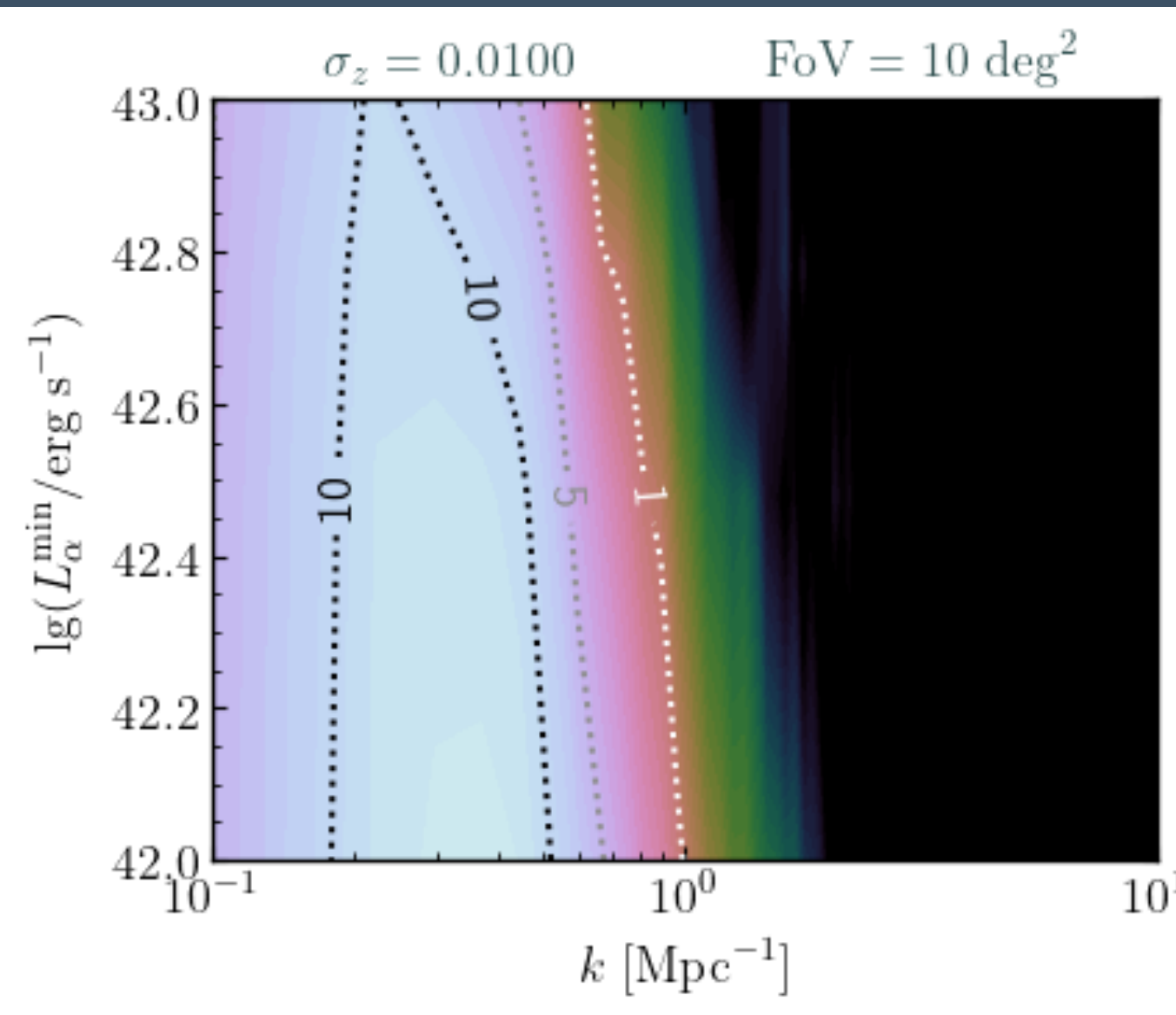
Synergies: Galaxy cross-correlations

Redshift uncertainty



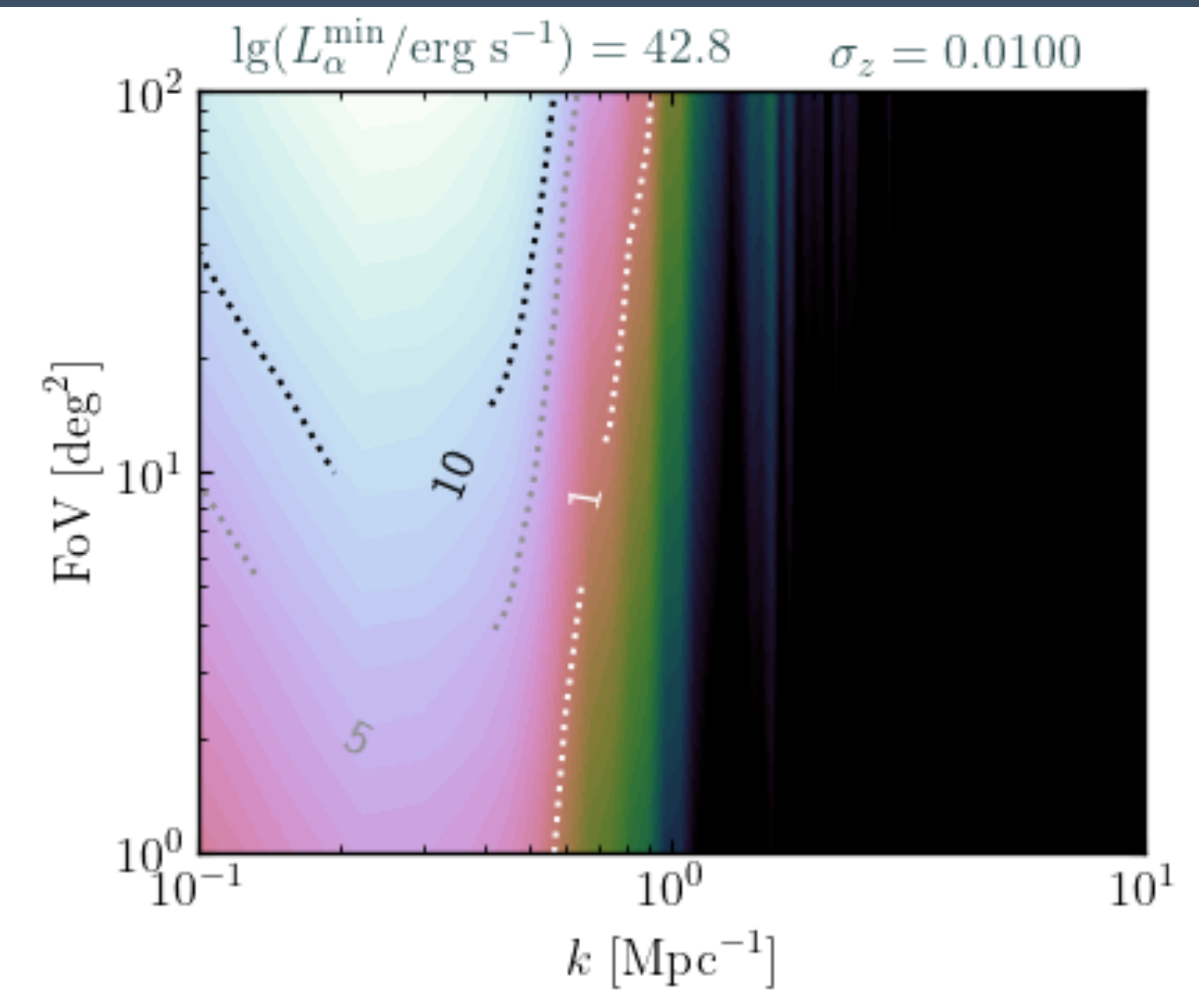
narrow-band (Subaru/HSC)
grism (Roman, JWST NIRCам)
spectroscopic (VLT/ELT)

Luminosity threshold



Depth $m_{\text{AB}} > 25$

Field-of-view



> few 100 arcmin fields

Upcoming new SKA Red Book: Synergies for the Epoch of Reionization and Cosmic Dawn

21cm lessons: More information with Intensity Mapping

Challenges:

- **Data volume** (>TB/s for radio)
- Number of modes (> 10^9)
- Noise, foregrounds, systematics
- **Non-Gaussian signal**

TB/s, few EB/day
Archive: ~700 PB/yr

> LHC



The SKAO Universe machine

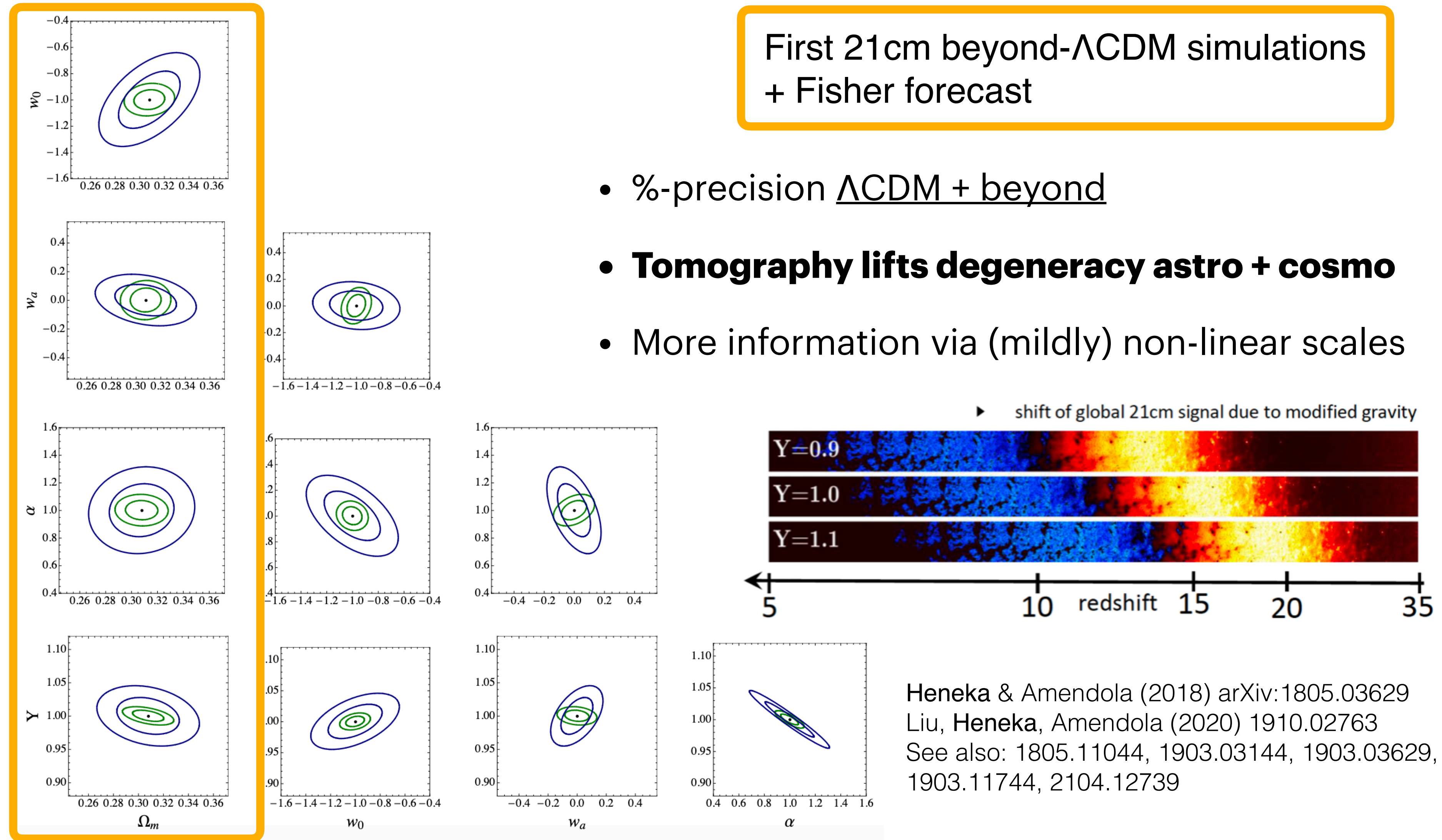
Are we up for the challenge?

- Solutions (non-exhaustive list, Credit: Adélie Gorce):
 - Minkowski functionals & topology [Giri+2020](#), [Thélie+2022](#)
 - Higher-order statistics, bispectrum [Watkinson+19](#), [Hutter+20](#)
 - Scattering transforms [Greig+22](#), [Hothi+22](#), [Prelogovic+24](#)
 - **AI/ML techniques** [Neutsch](#), [Heneka+22](#), [Schosser](#), [Heneka+25](#)

21cm lessons: Cosmology at $z > 6$

First 21cm beyond- Λ CDM simulations
+ Fisher forecast

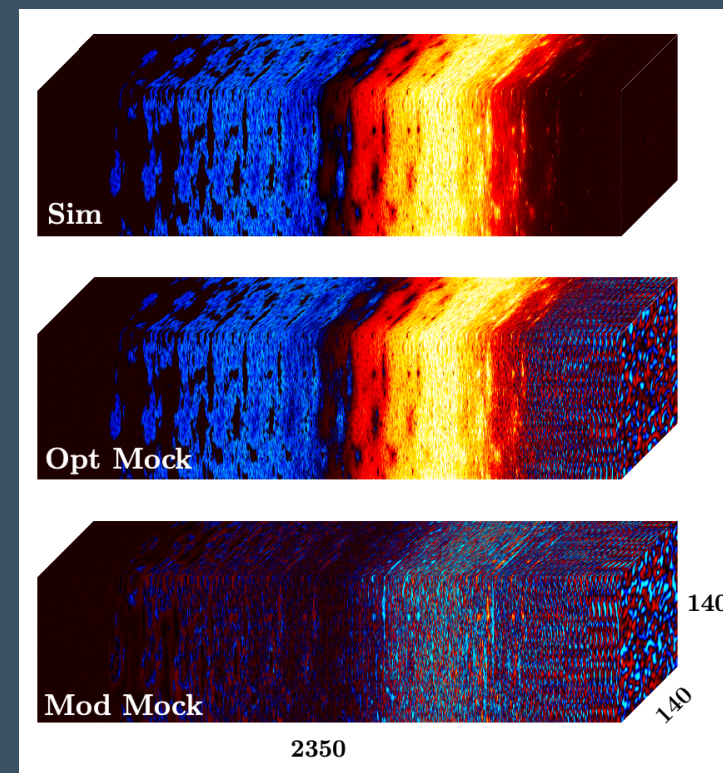
- %-precision Λ CDM + beyond
- **Tomography lifts degeneracy astro + cosmo**
- More information via (mildly) non-linear scales



21cm lessons: Unbiased inference

Likelihood-free inference from intensity maps

21cm light cone



mocks

Data
Compression

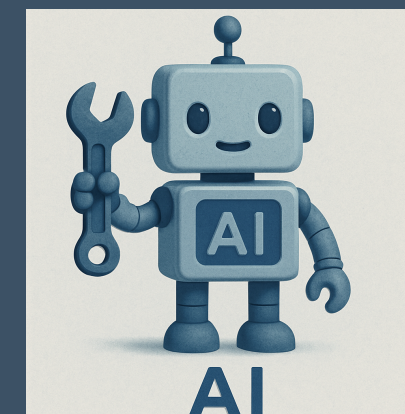
Summary

Parameter
Estimation

~~POWER SPECTRUM~~

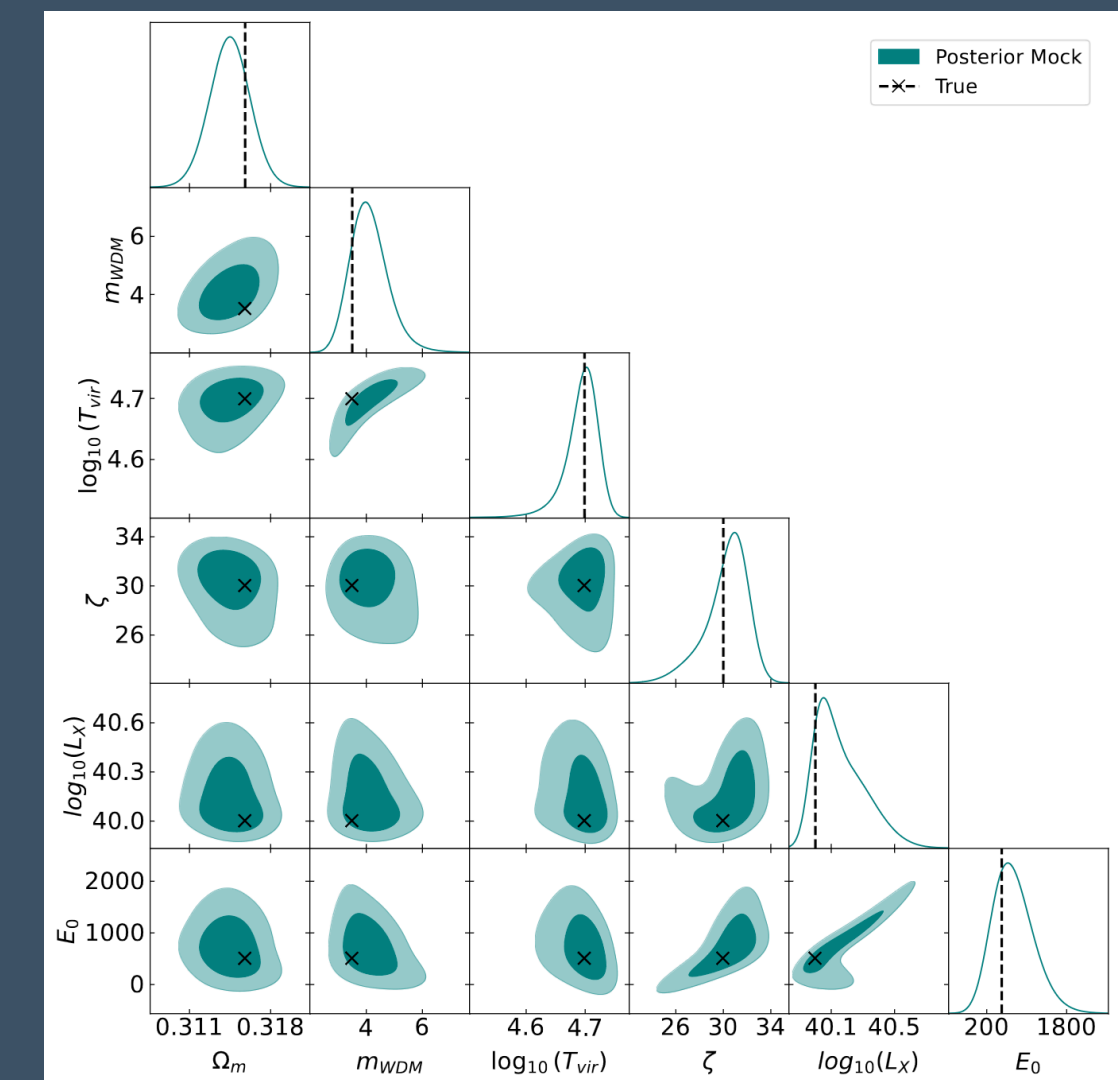
Gaussian, MCMC biased

OTHER?



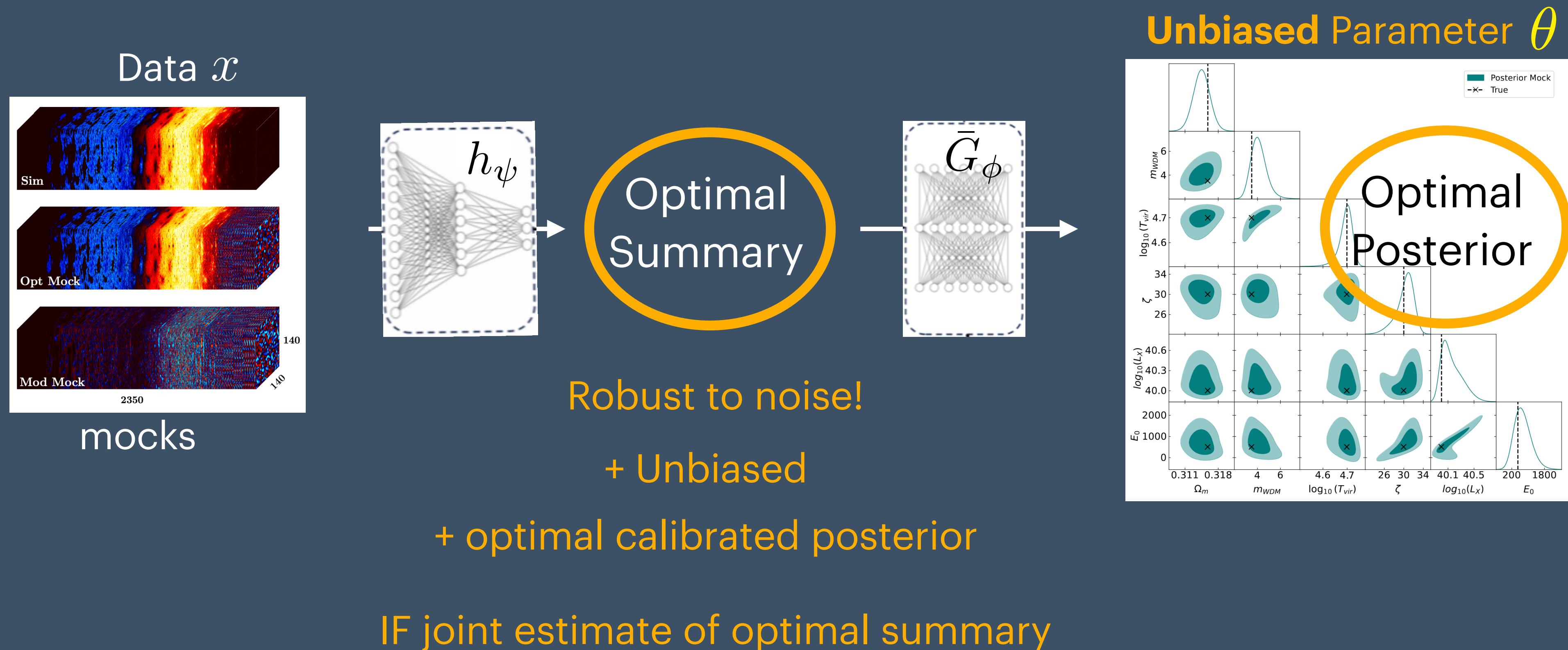
Created with AI

Astro + Cosmo



21cm lessons: Unbiased inference

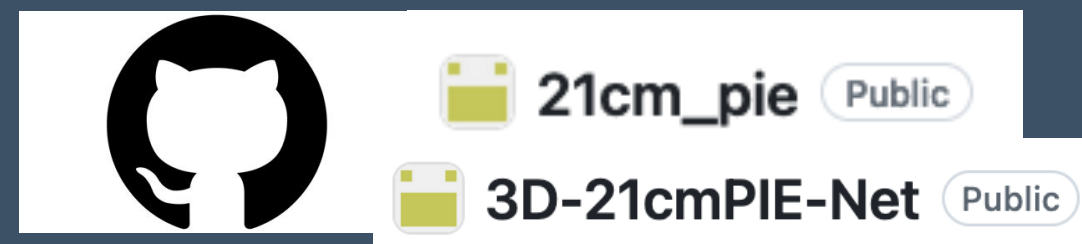
Likelihood-free inference from intensity maps



21cm lessons: Unbiased inference

1 frame = 1 MCMC

For any model in prior range

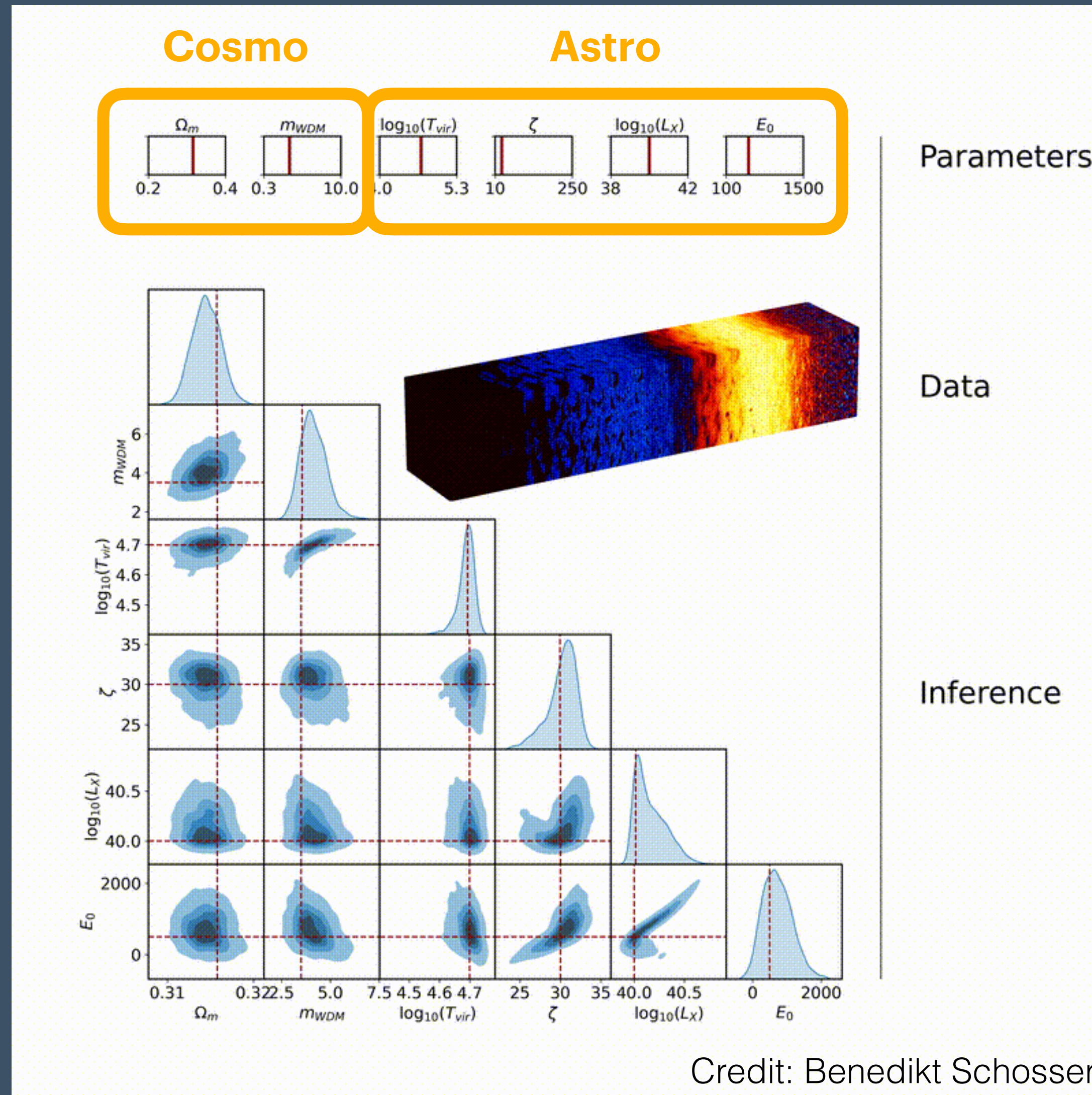


**'Optimal, fast, and robust
inference of reionization-era
cosmology with the 21cmPIE-INN'**

Schossler, Heneka, Plehn 2025

Neutsch, Heneka, Brüggemann 2022

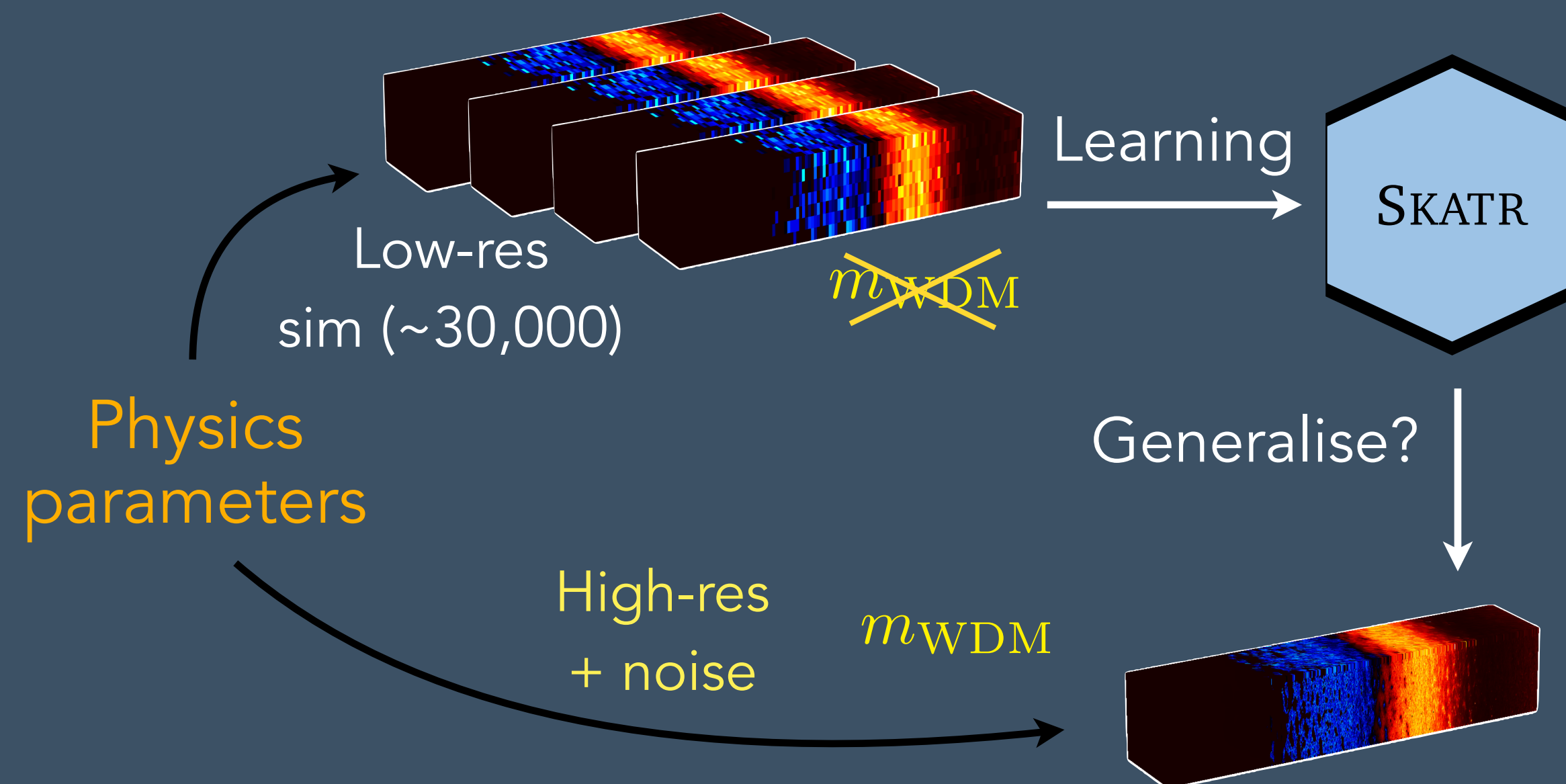
**See also new SKA Red Book:
Machine Learning for the SKA**



21cm lessons: Transfer (model + noise)

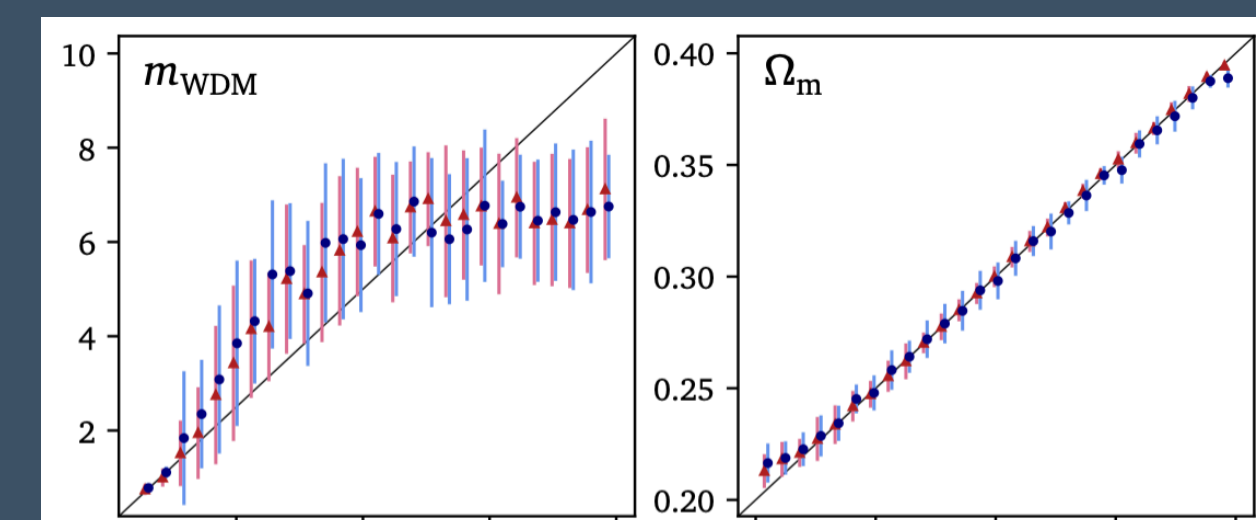
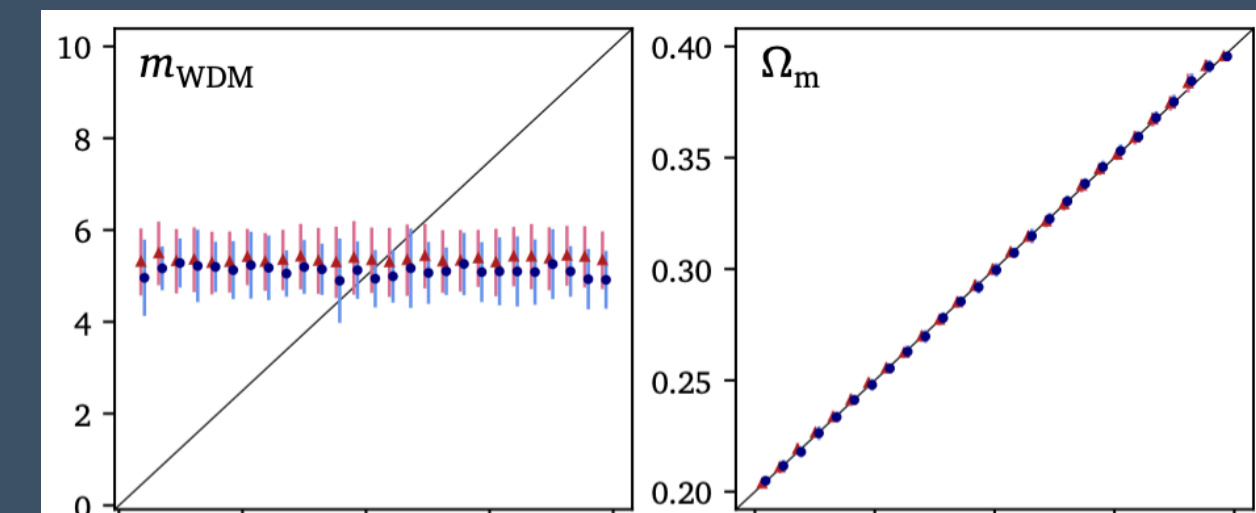
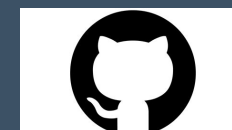
→ **Self-supervised learning:**

Train a network to produce informative representations without using labels (physics parameters)



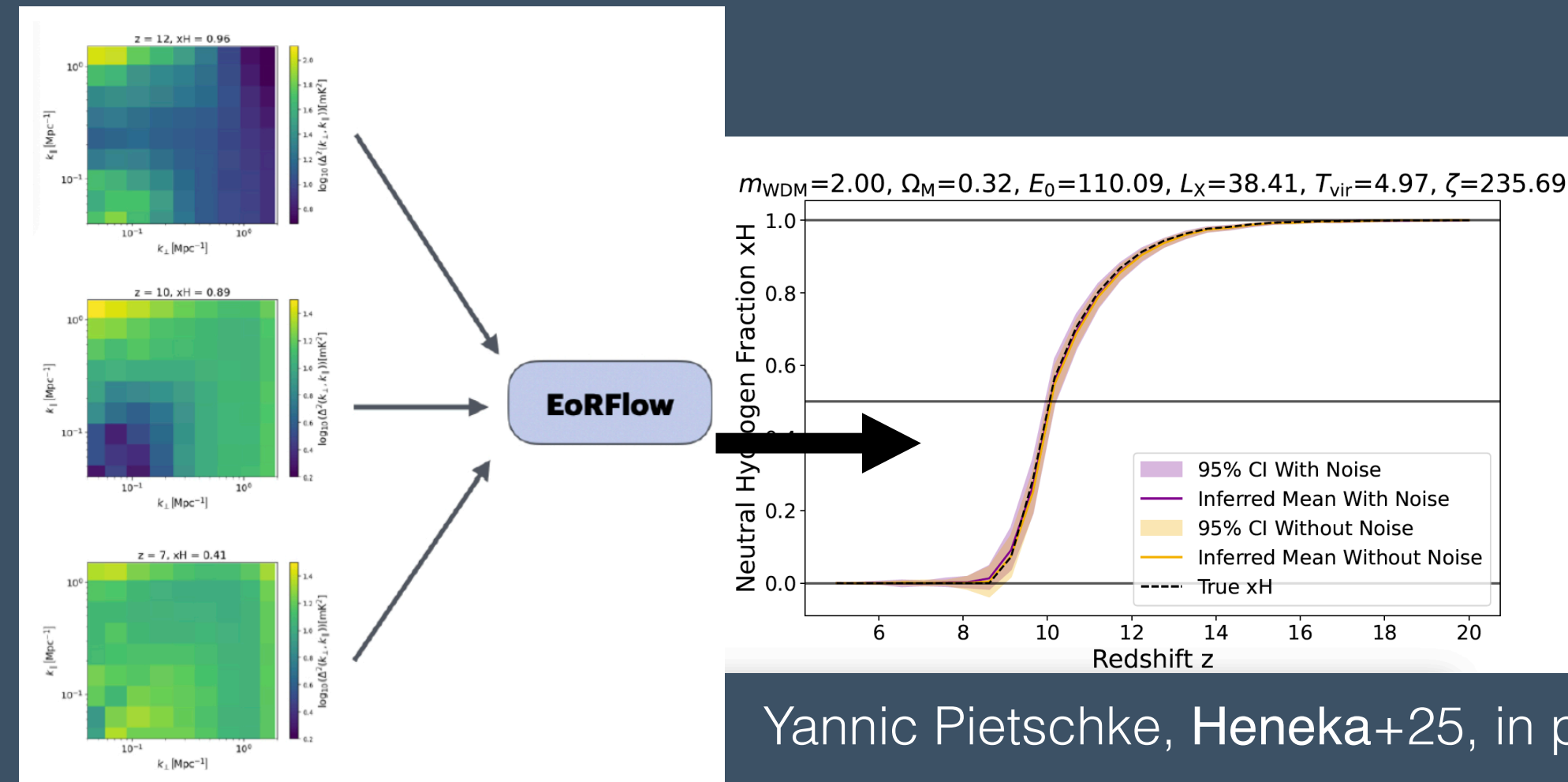
Ayodele Ore, Heneka, Plehn 2025

arXiv: 2410.18899

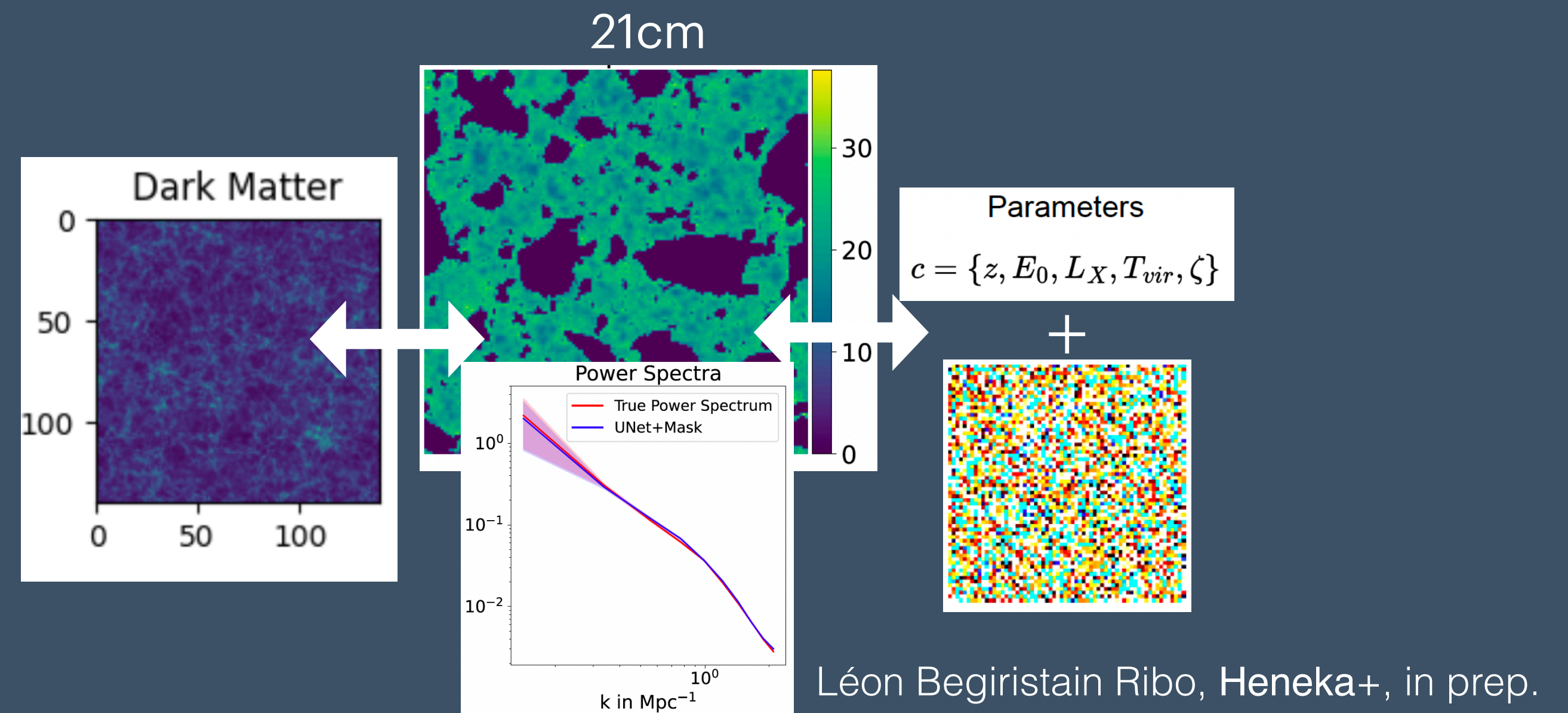


SKATR — A self-supervised summary transformer for the Square Kilometre Array

More 21cm highlights: Reconstructions & fast simulators

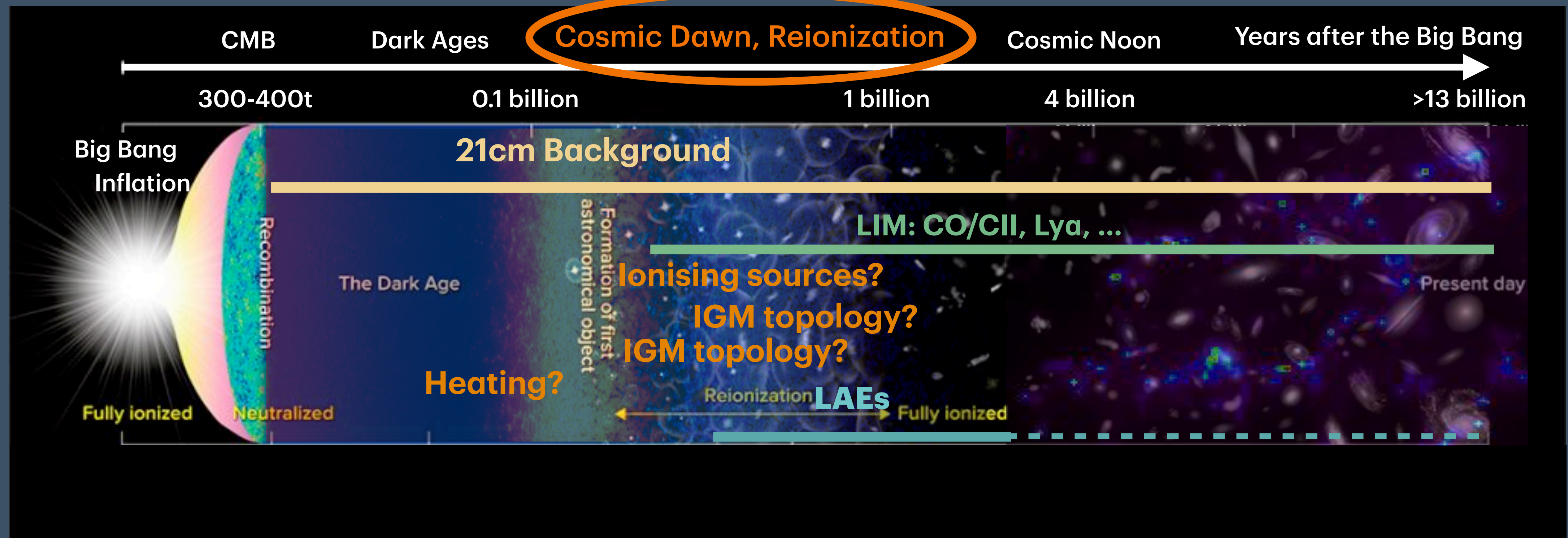


Diffusion-based simulators



The EoR with LIM and galaxy synergies

- 1) Cross-correlations add information, e.g. on size distribution of ionized regions, radiative escape
- 2) Galaxy and LIM correlations are complementary goals.
- 3) Exploiting the EoR 21cm signal: correlate, correlate + ML



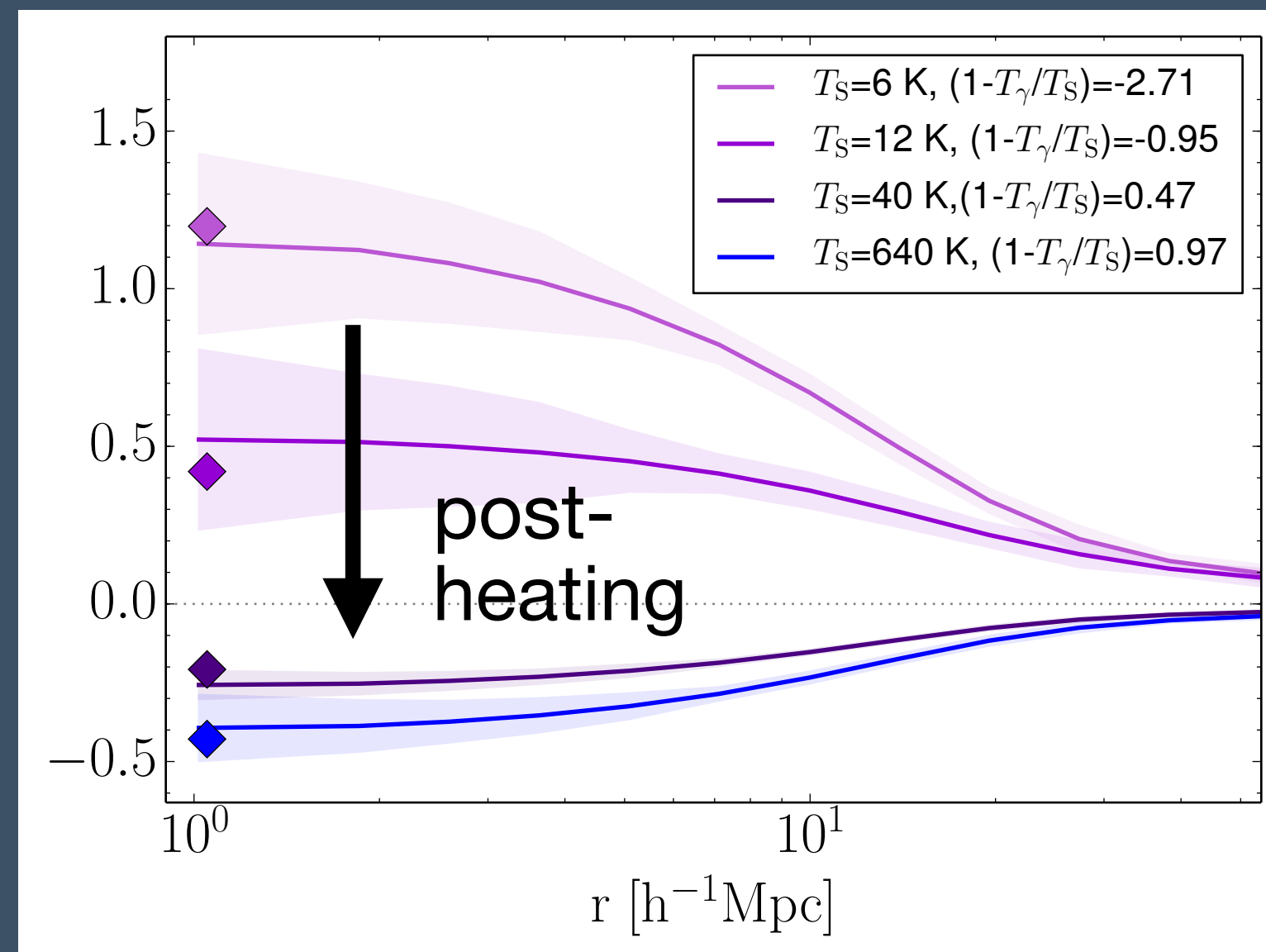
Synergies: Galaxy cross-correlations

Analytical limit: Also holds for positive 21cm-LAE correlation during heating.

Hutter, Heneka+24
arXiv:2306.03156

$$\xi_{21,\text{LAE}}(r=0) \simeq - \langle \chi_{\text{HI}} \rangle \langle 1 + \delta \rangle_{\text{HI}}$$

$$0.5 \lesssim \langle 1 + \delta \rangle_{\text{HI}} \lesssim 1.0$$



Small-scale amplitude
traces reionization topology

$$\xi_{21,\text{LAE}}(r=0) \simeq - \langle \chi_{\text{HI}} \rangle \left\langle \left(1 - \frac{T_\gamma}{T_s}\right) (1 + \delta) \right\rangle_{\text{HI}}$$

+ Heating state of the IGM