

21 CentiMeter Array (21CMA)

Current Status

Bo Qin on behalf of Xiang-Ping Wu
(NAOC)



June 2006: construction completed

10287 antennas @ 4x6 km arms

Effective area: 25000 m²

Total cost: 3M USD



Single scientific purpose: Probe of EOR



Location



China

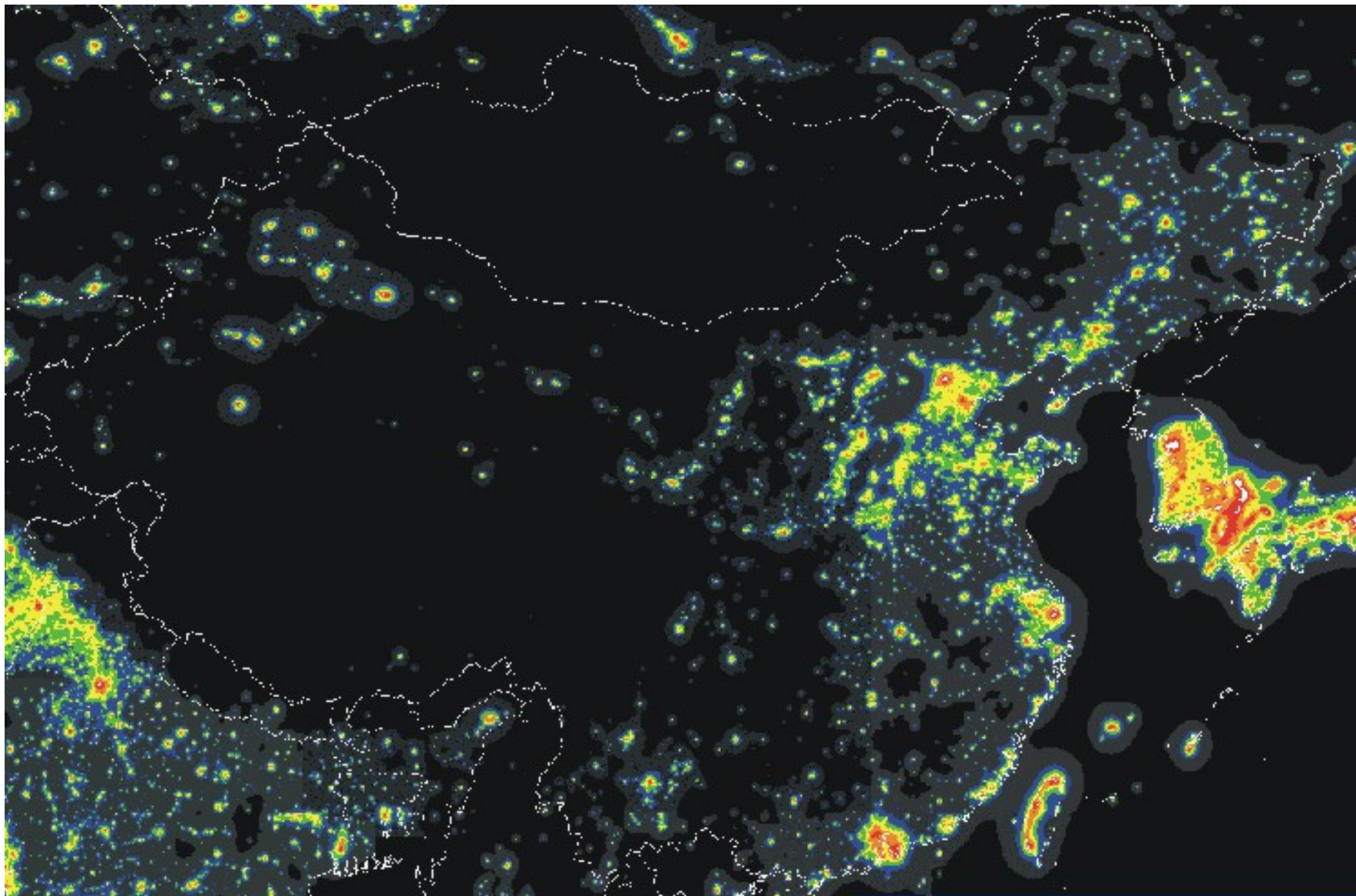
- International boundary
- Province-level boundary
- ★ National capital
- Province-level capital
- +— Railroad
- Road

0 500 Kilometers
0 500 Miles

Lambert Conformal Conic Projection, SP 23N/45N

Boundary representation is not necessarily authoritative.

West China: World's best clear dark sky





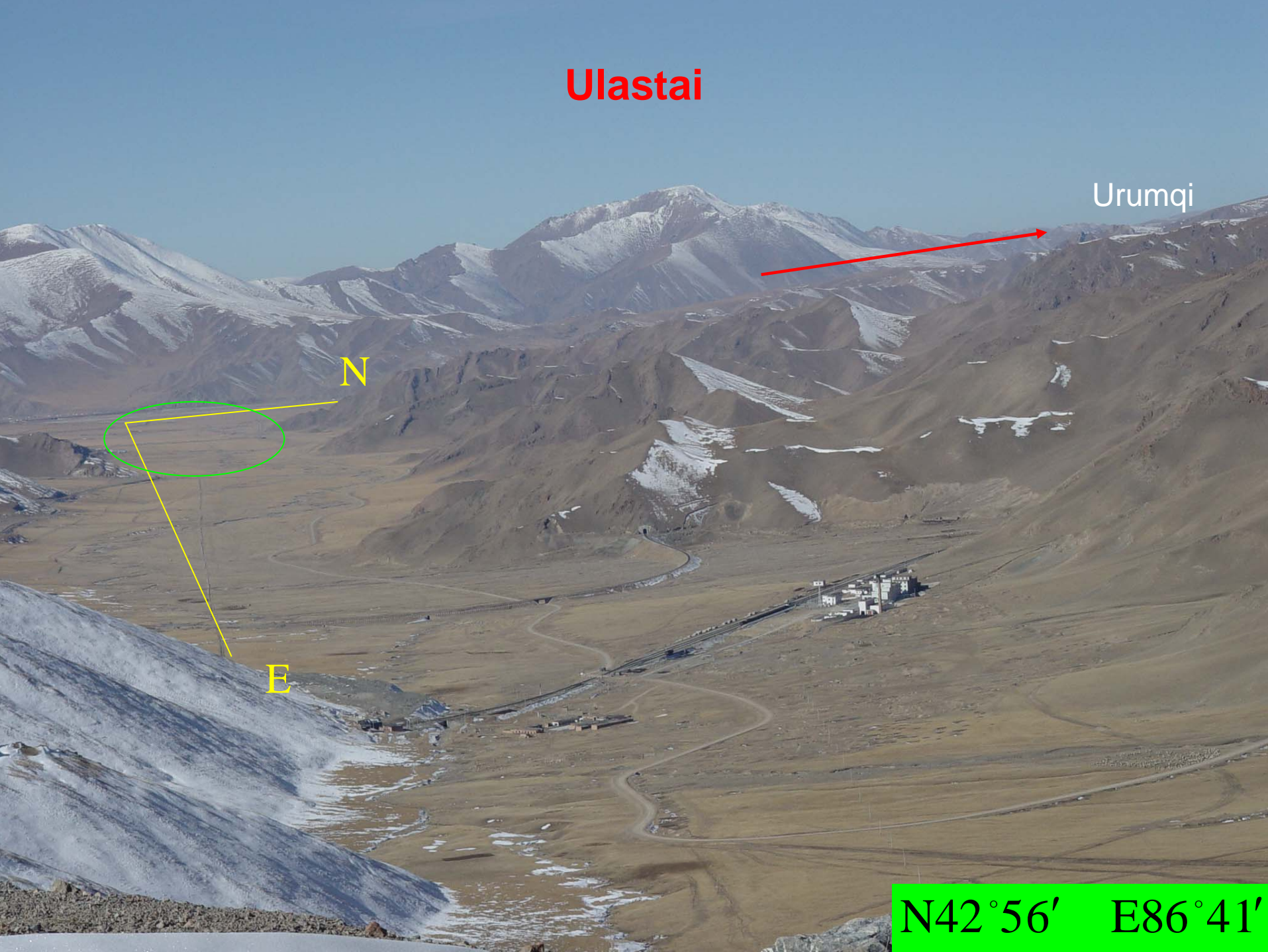
Ulastai

Urumqi

N

E

N42°56' E86°41'



S

N

W



1 pod=127 antennas



control room



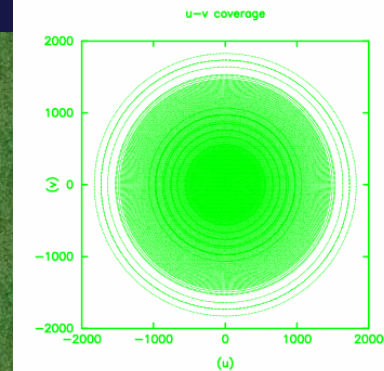
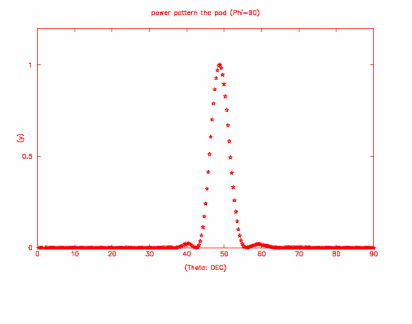
21CMA Layout

81 pods along two perpendicular arms (6km+4km)

Baselines: 3240 Freq channels: 4096

Total data size: 4 terabytes / day

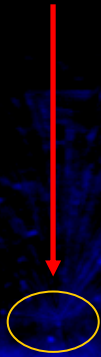
E



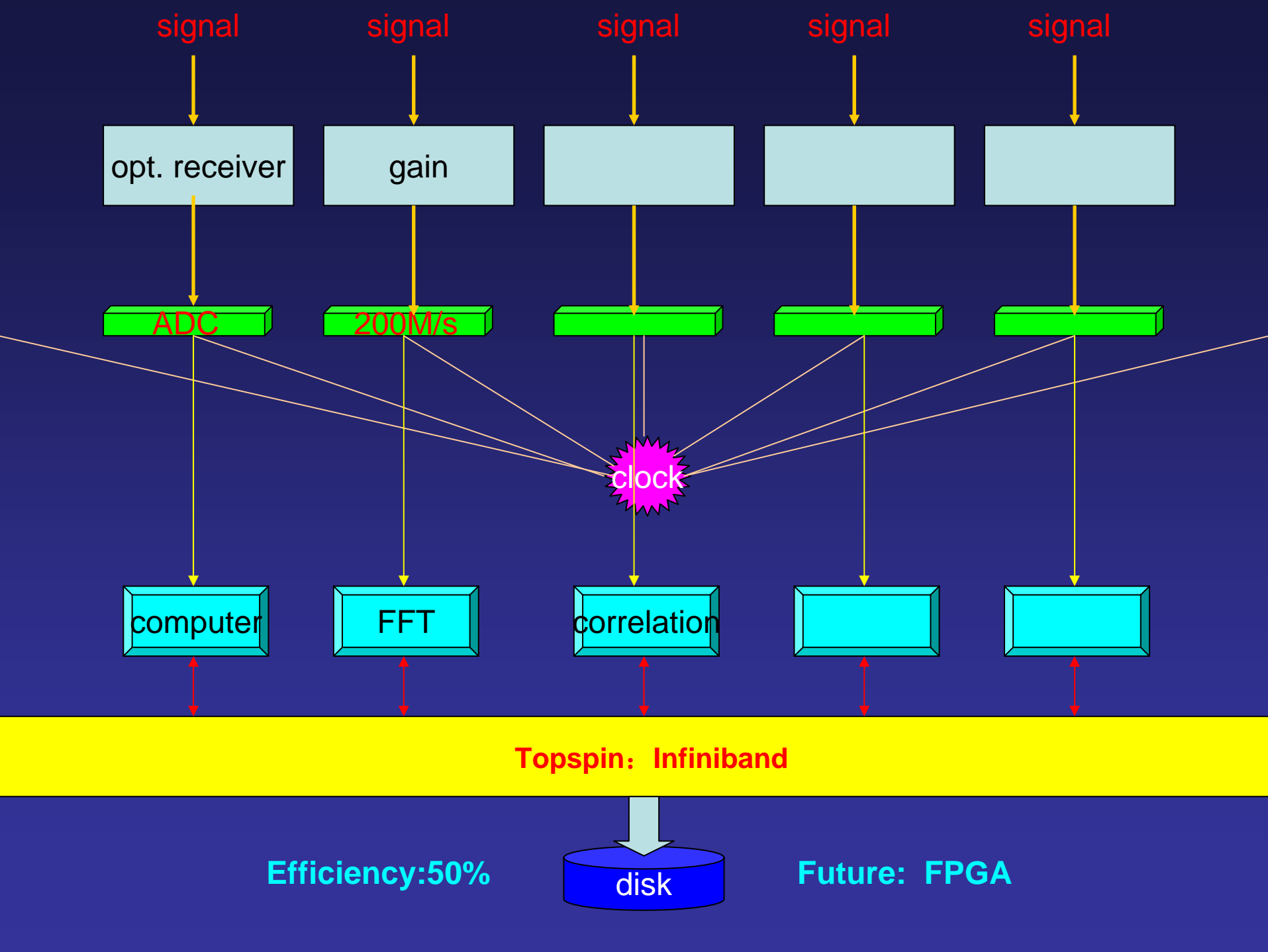
Log-Periodic
Antenna

The VHF Sky Brightness

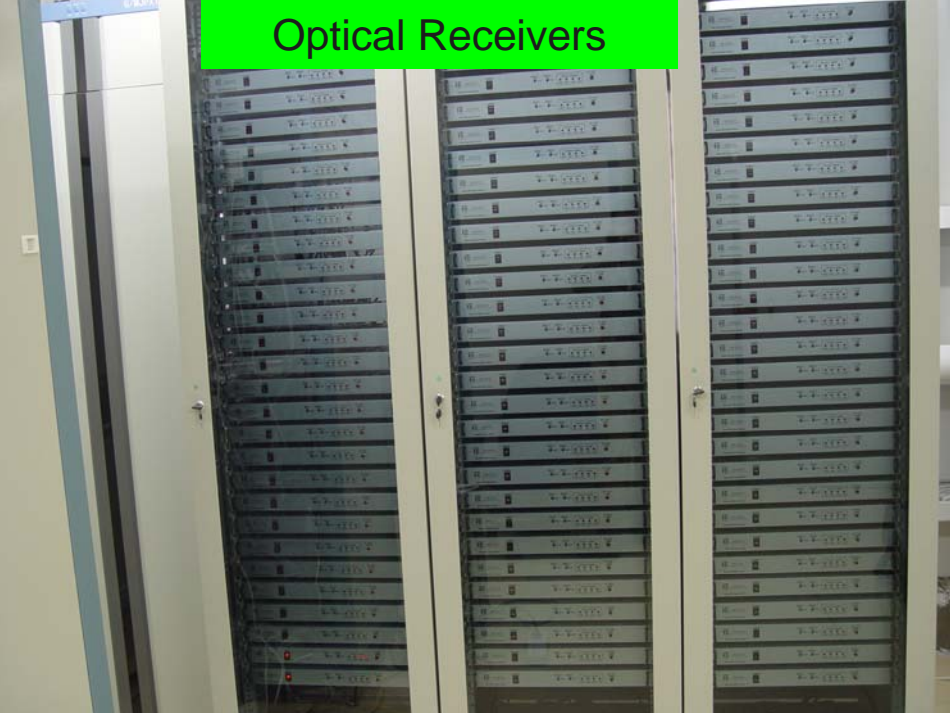
21CMA



408MHz



Optical Receivers



Data Acquisition System

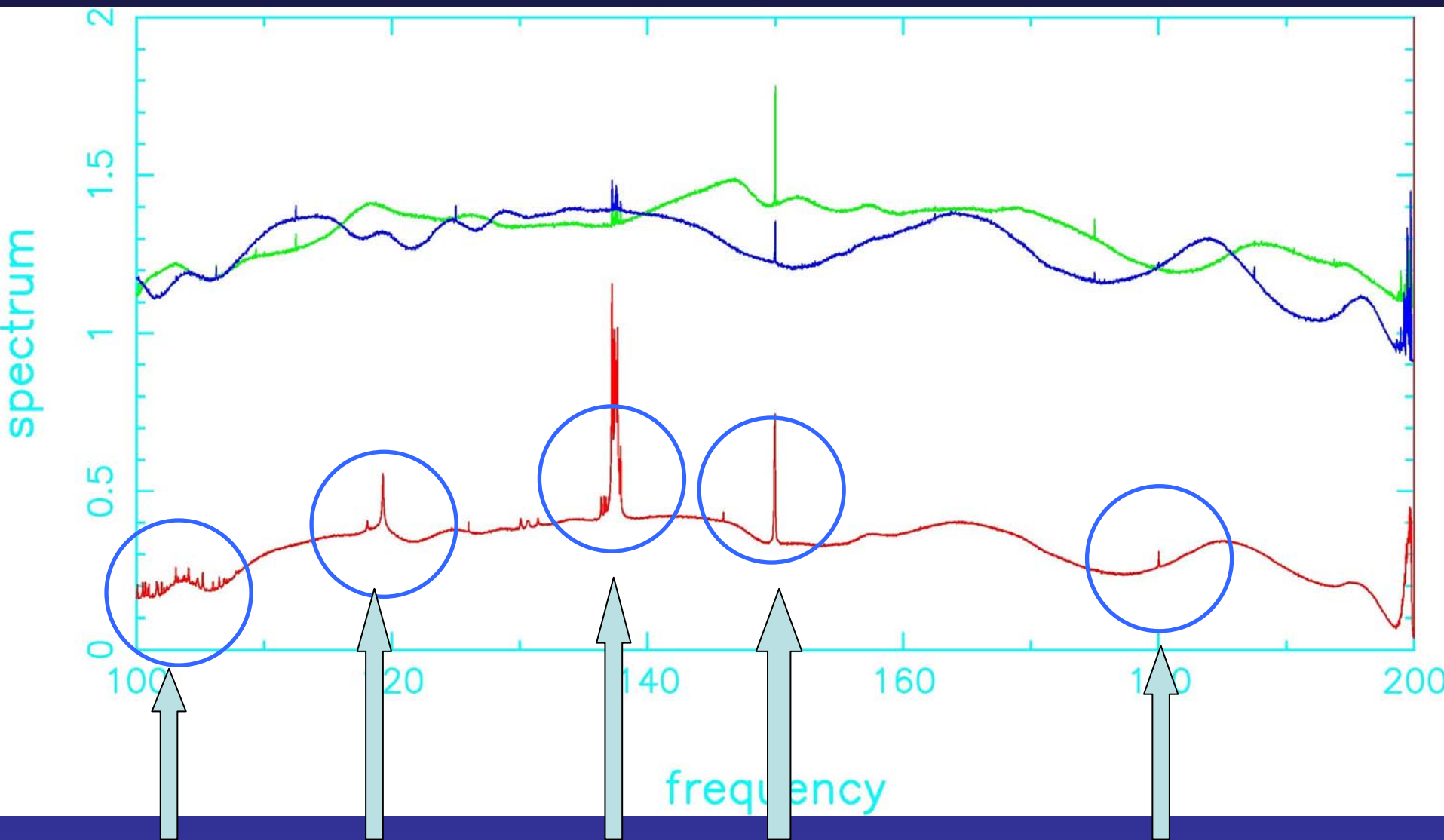


Data processing system



Ulastai Observatory





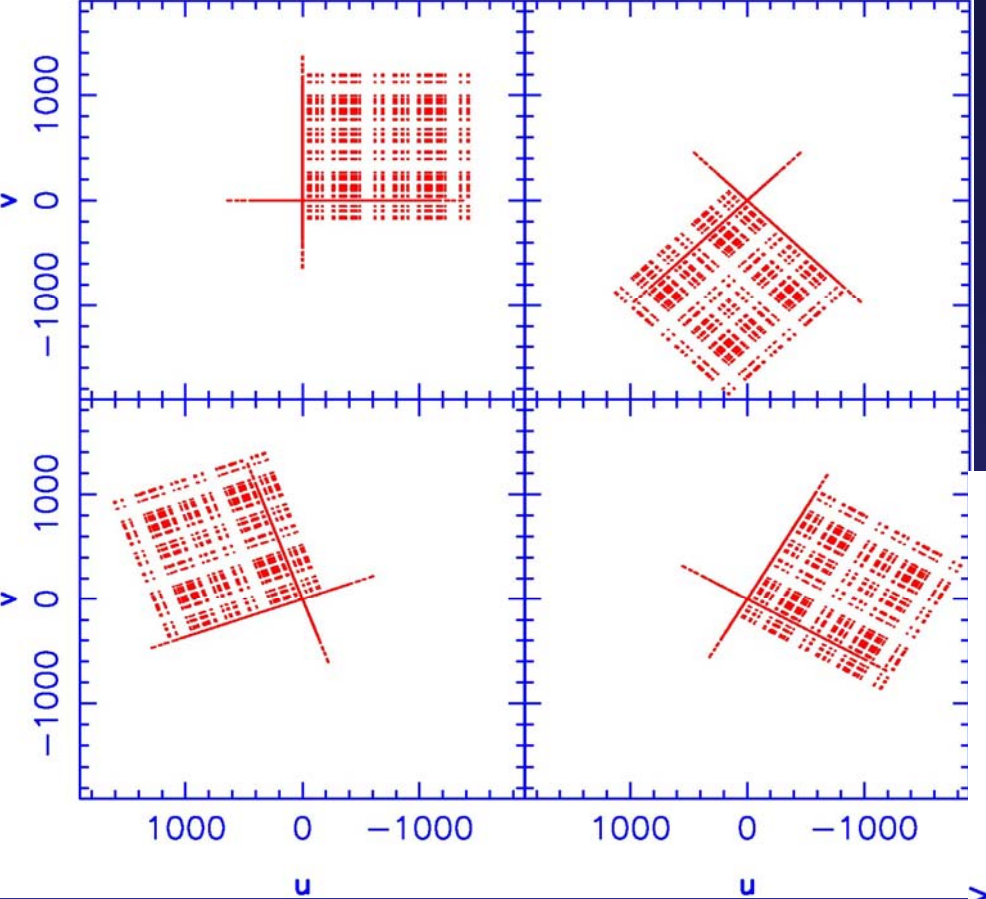
FM radio

Aviation commu.

LEO Satellites

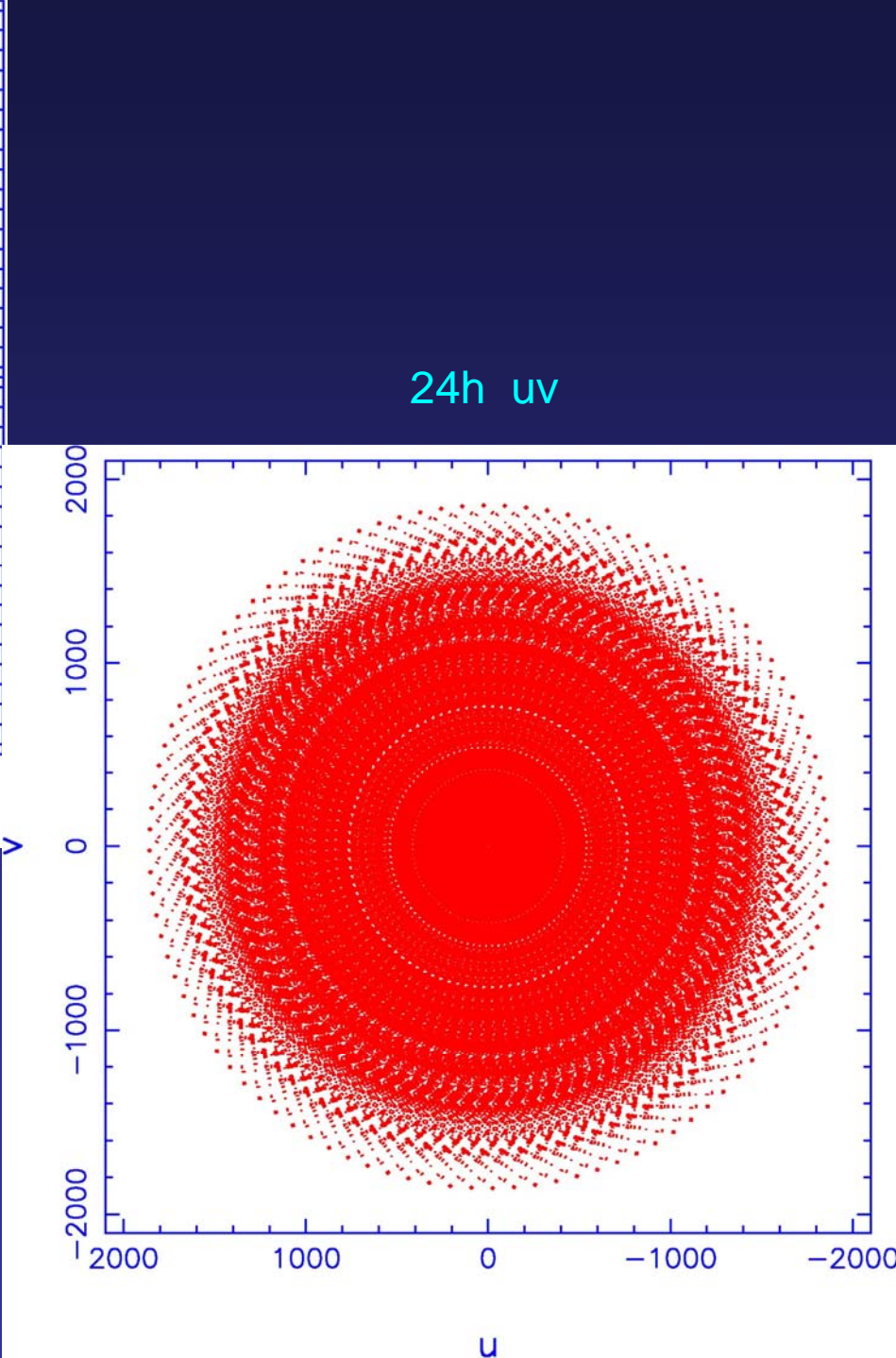
Satellite Beacons

LEO Satellites



Instantaneous uv

UV Coverage of 21CMA



S

N

W

baselines=3240 redundant baselines=212

$$\begin{cases} V_{ij}^{obs}(u, v) = G_i G_j^* V_{ij}^{true}(u, v) \\ V_{\alpha\beta}^{obs}(u, v) = G_\alpha G_\beta^* V_{\alpha\beta}^{true}(u, v) \end{cases}$$

$$G = [A^T A]^{-1} A^T V_{obs}$$

$$\begin{cases} A = [781 \times 146] & \text{N-S} \\ A = [820 \times 147] & \text{E-W} \end{cases}$$

E

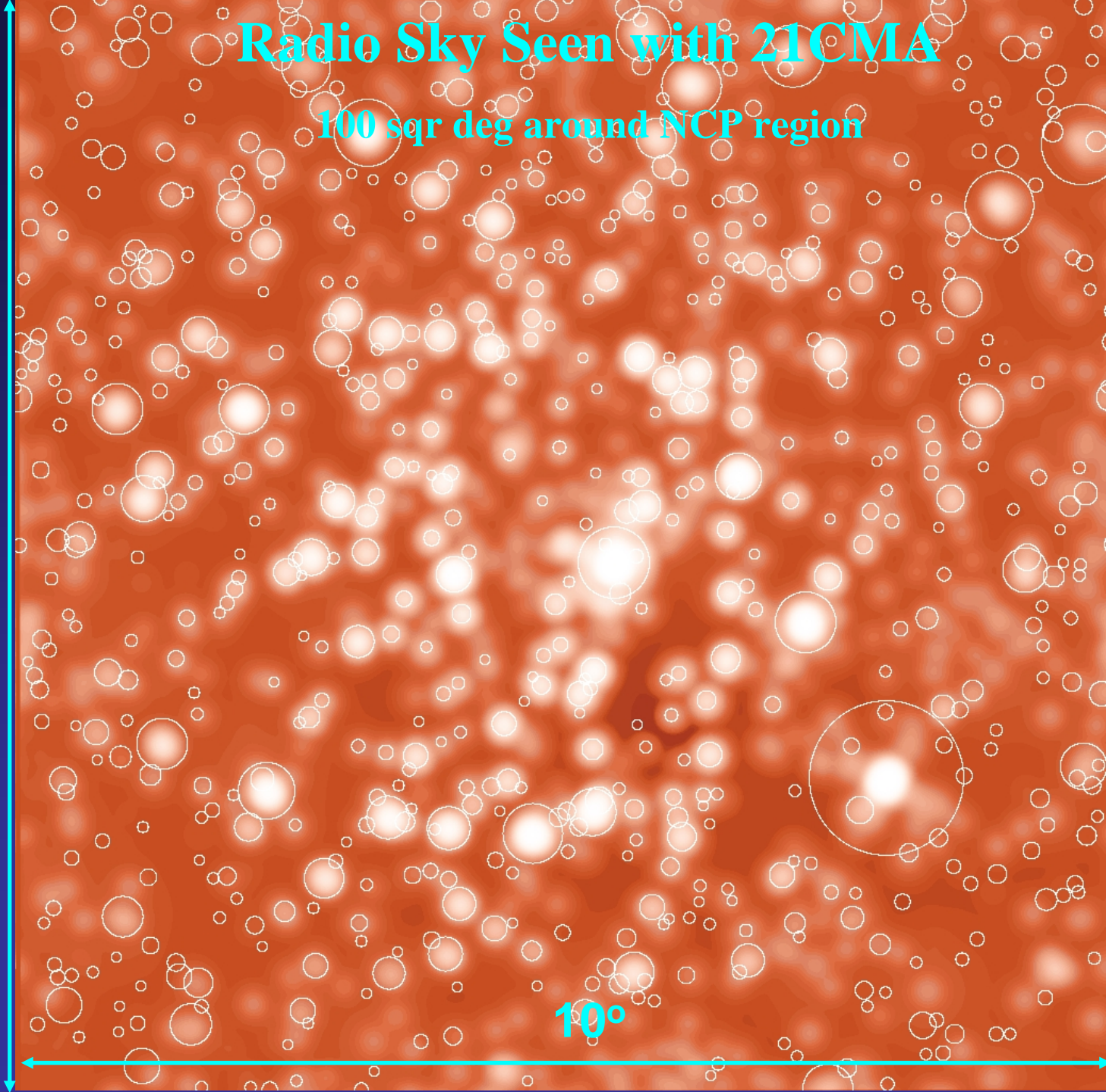
Ionospheric Effect: Redundant calibration

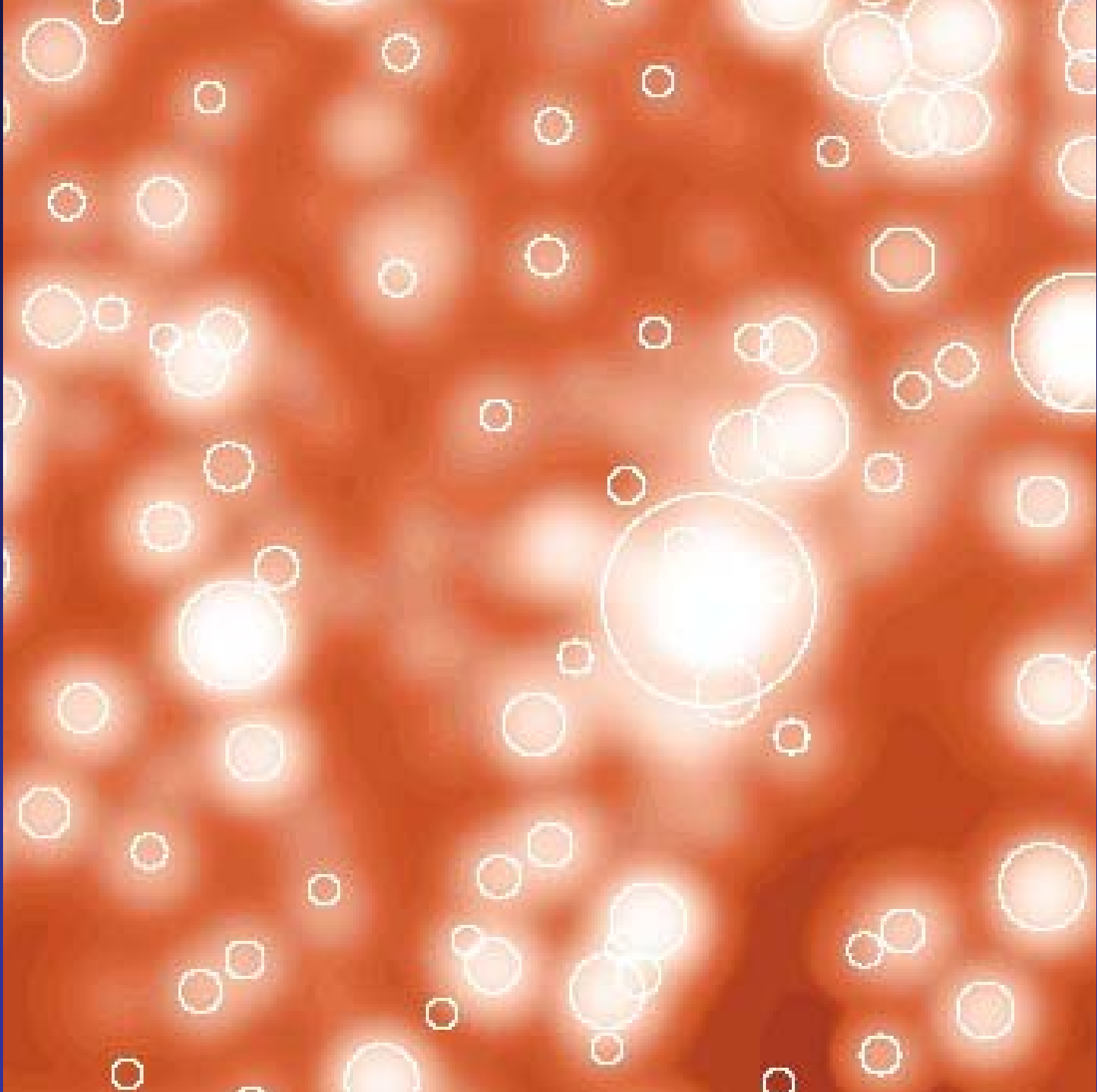
Radio Sky Seen with 21CMA

100 sqr deg around NCP region

10°

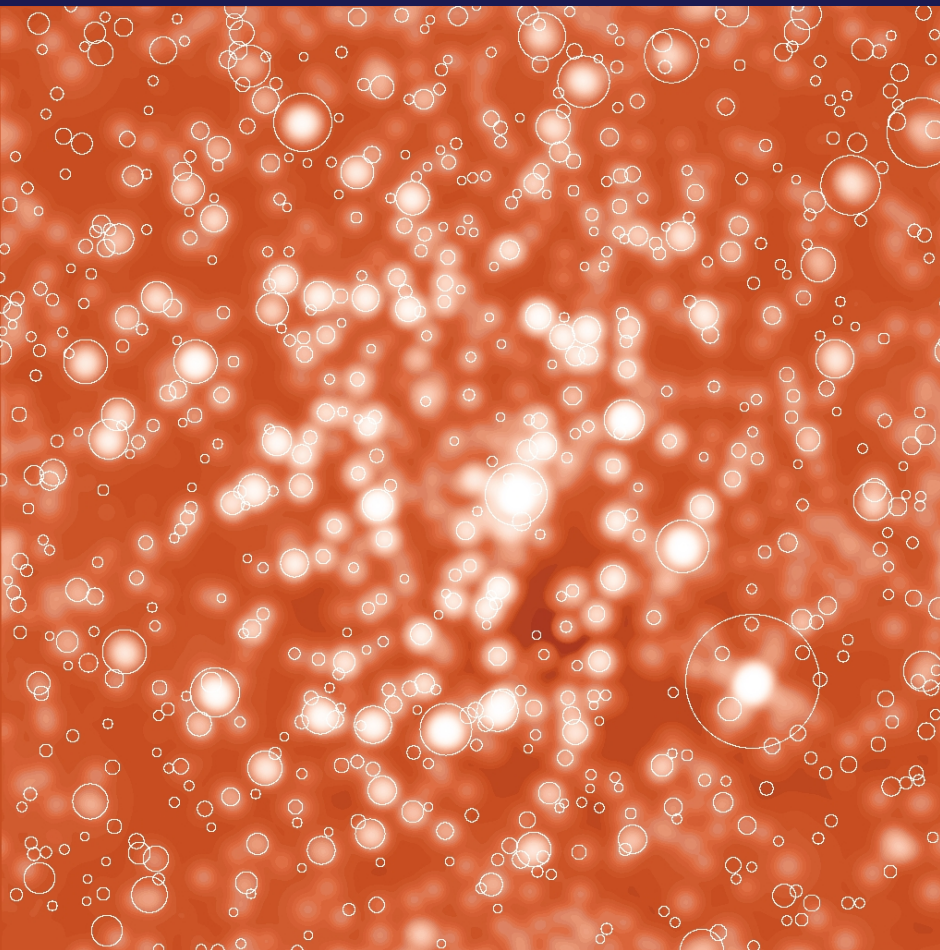
10°



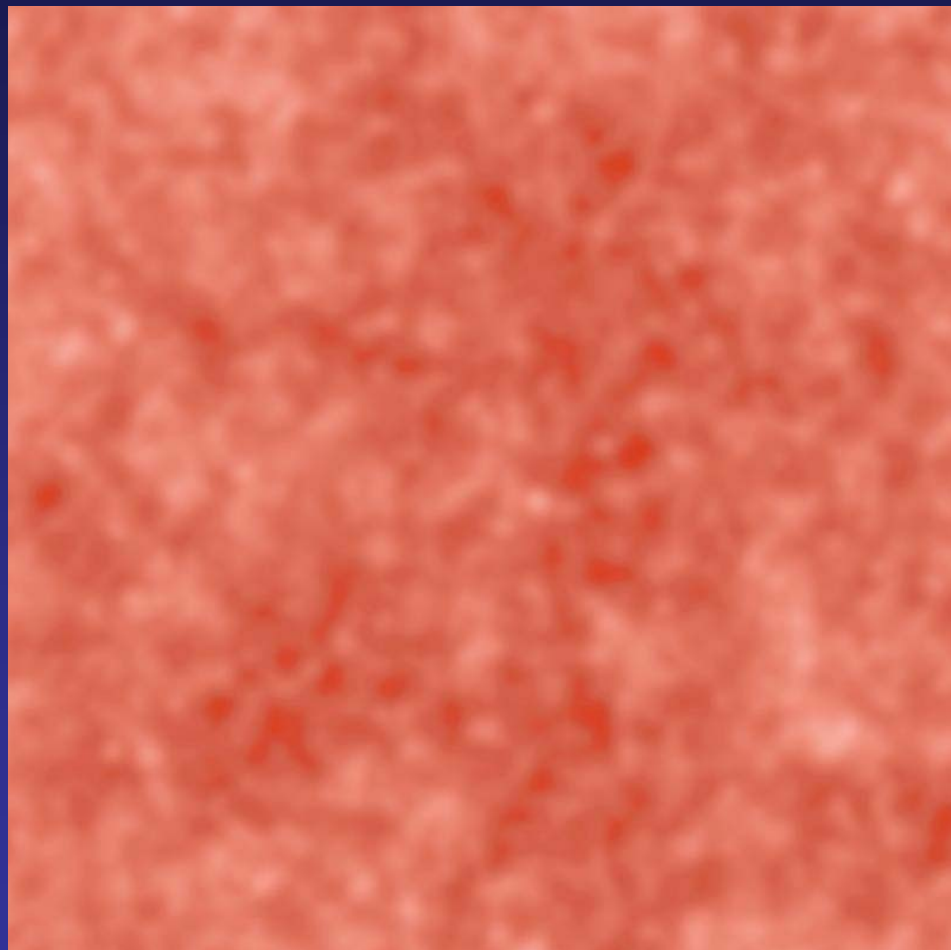


6C
sources

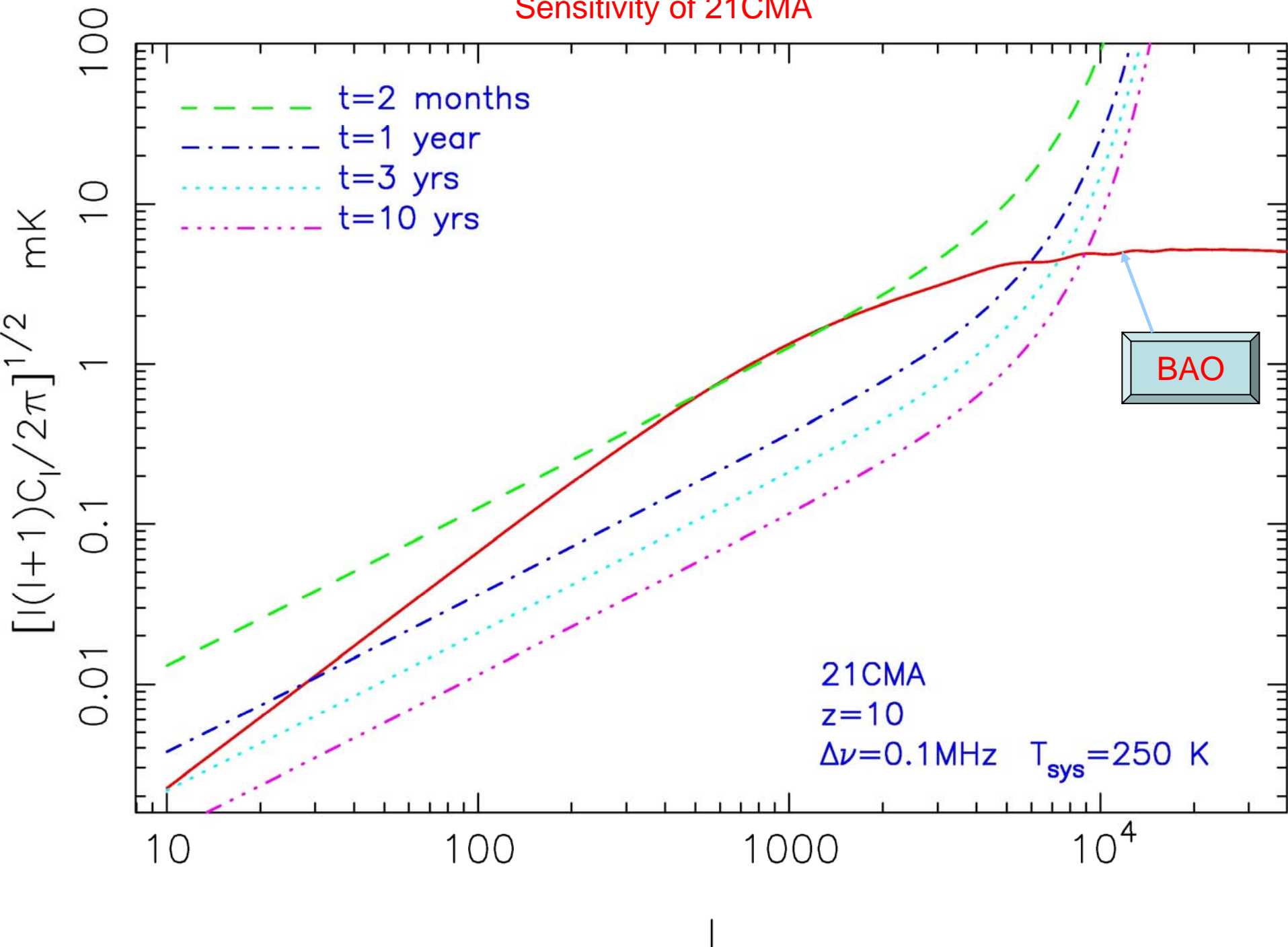
point sources



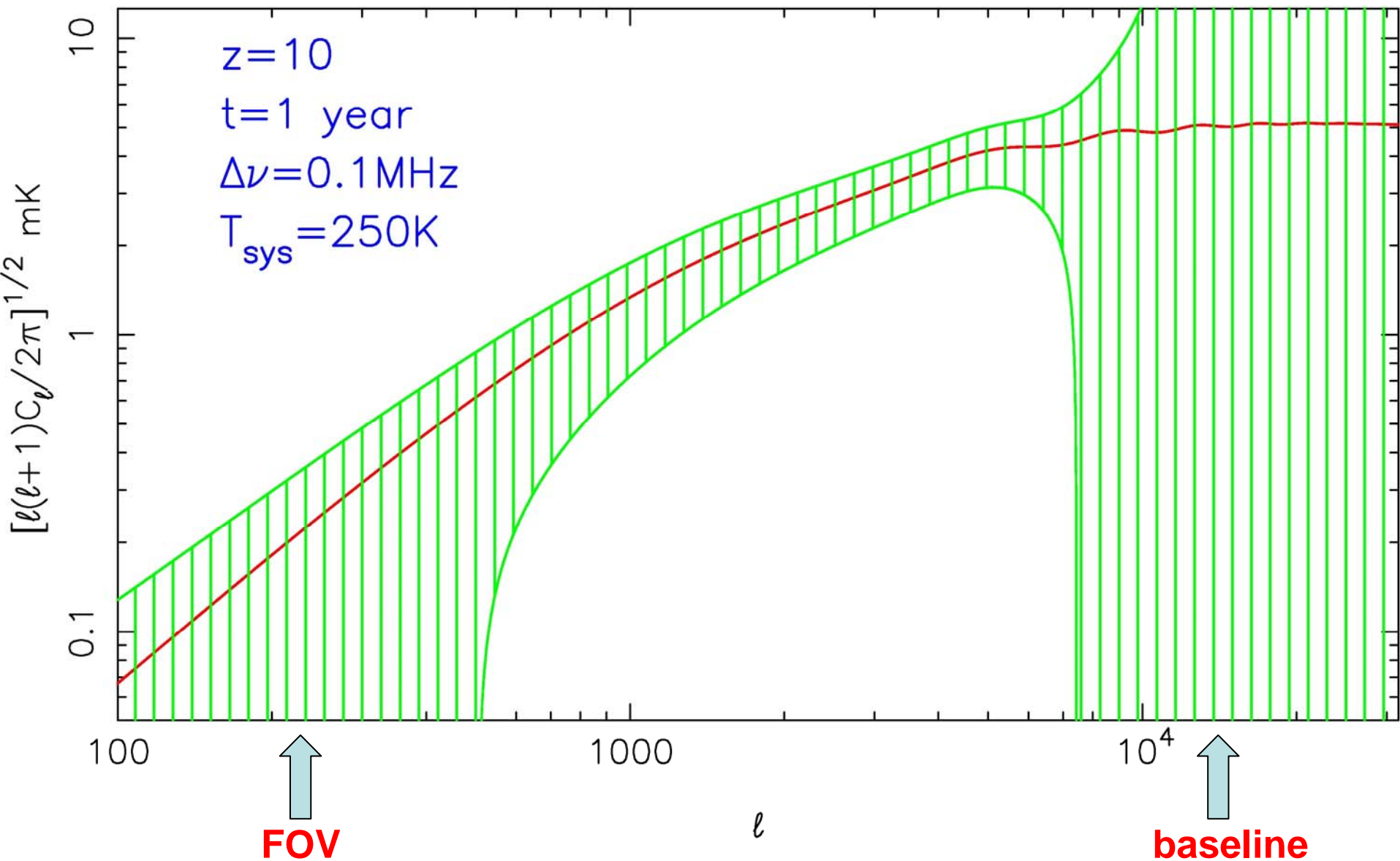
background

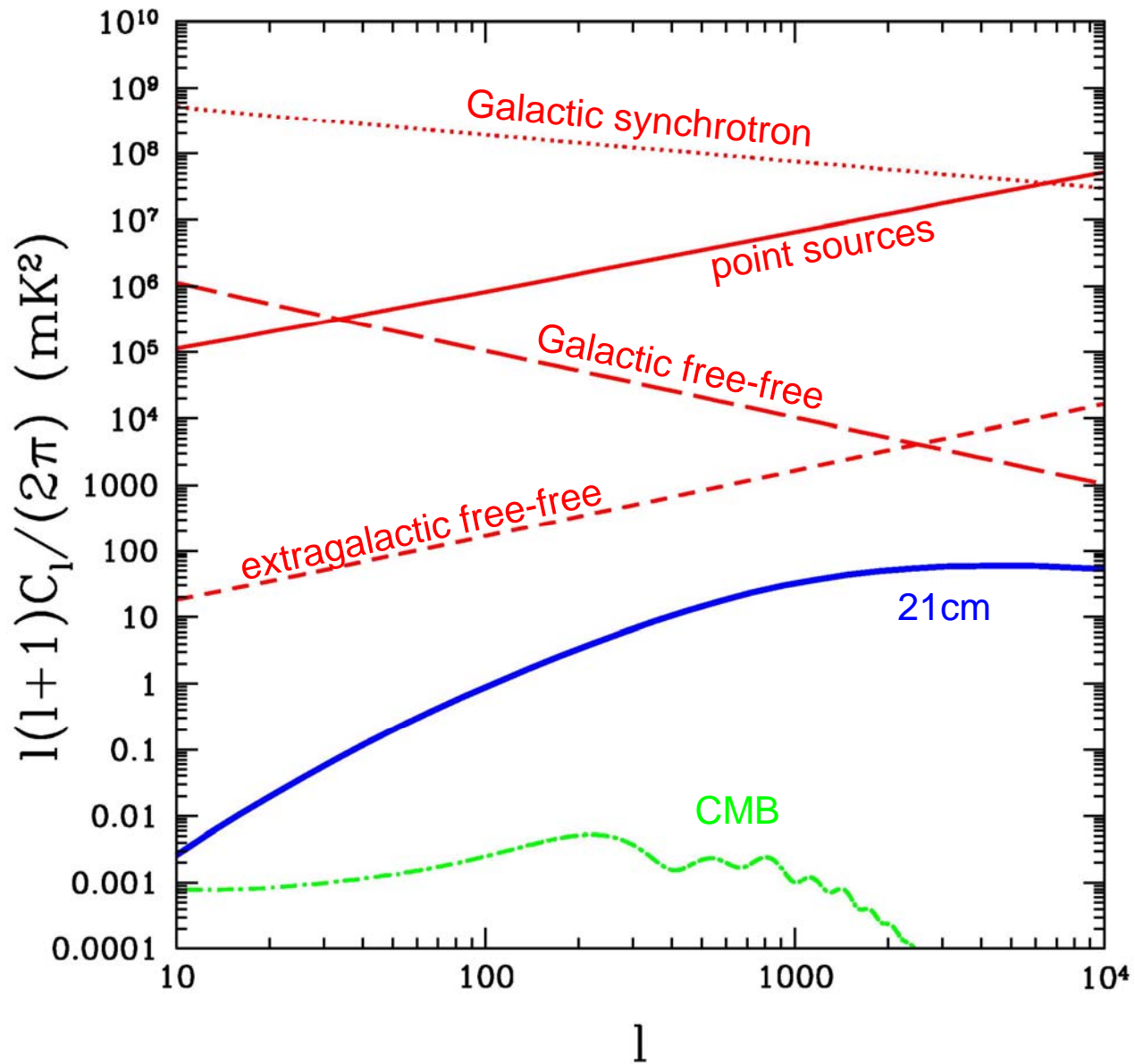


Sensitivity of 21CMA

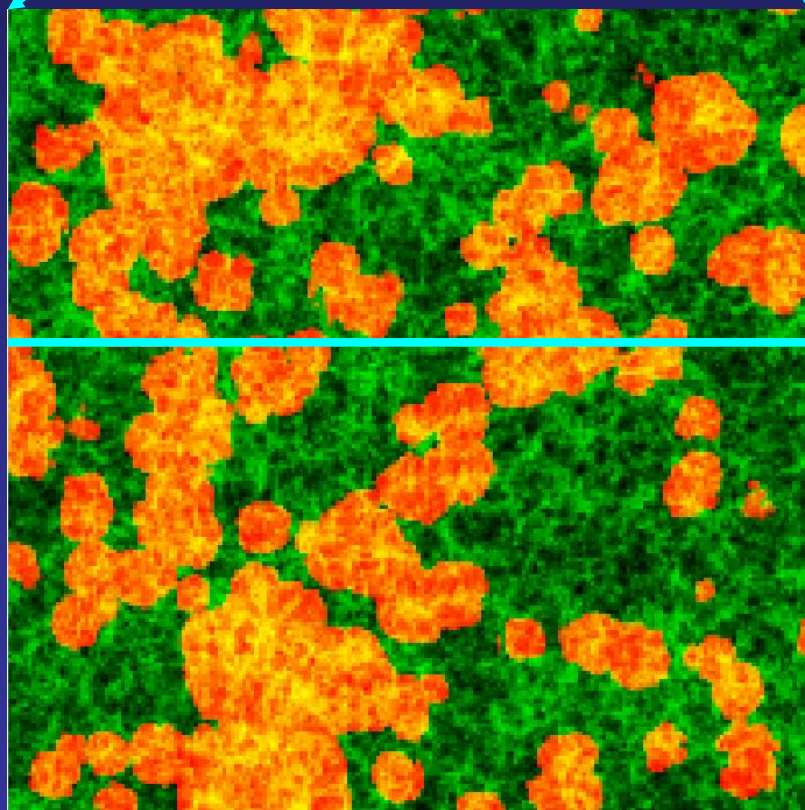
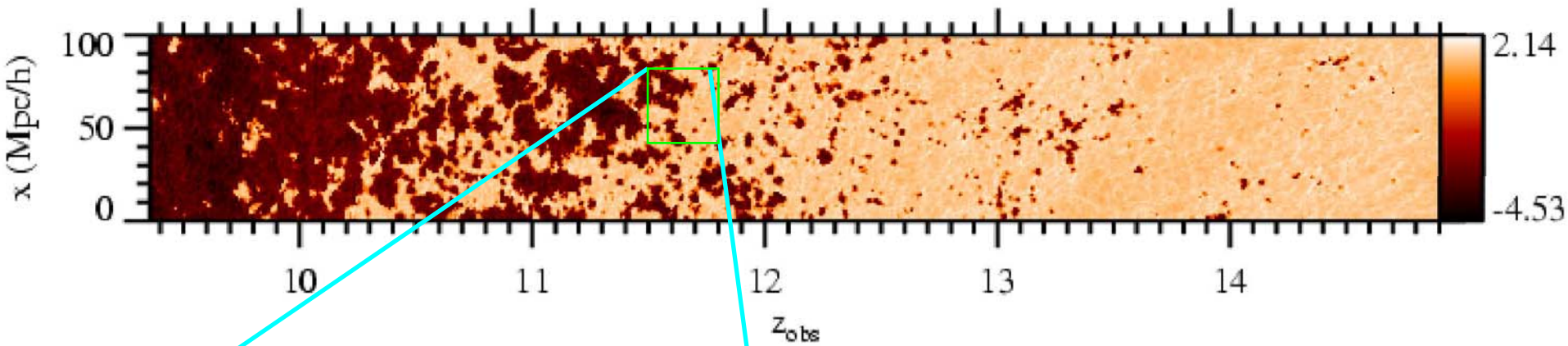


21CMA: Measurement Errors

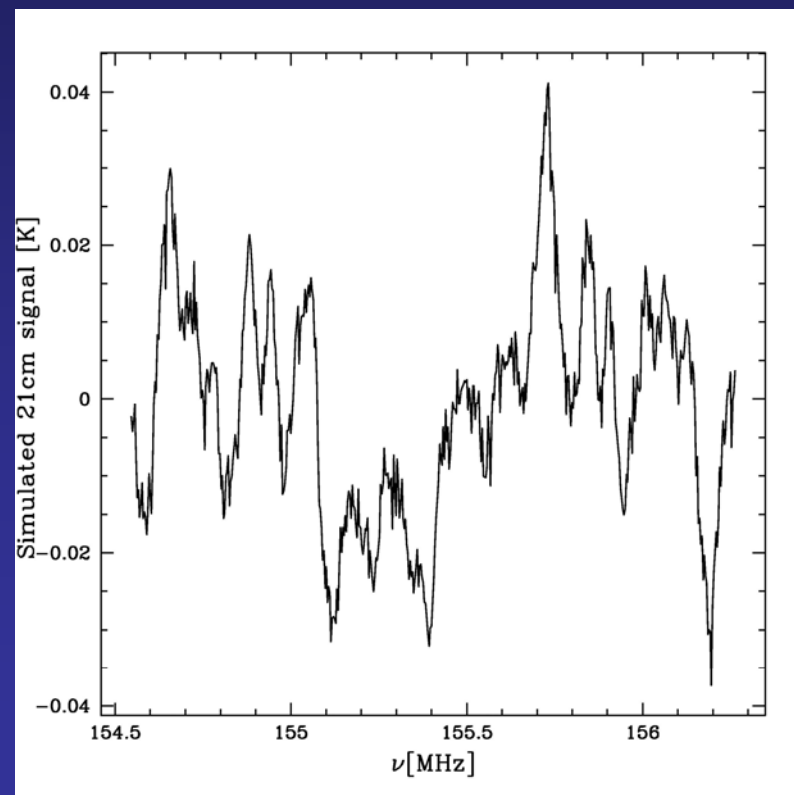




The 21cm power spectrum at $z=9.2$ (freq=140MHz) (Santos, Cooray & Knox 2005)



Iliev et al. (2005)



Wang, Tegmark, Santos & Knox (2006)

$$T_{\text{tot}} = T_{21\text{cm}} + T_{\text{syn}} + T_{\text{ff}} + T_{\text{ps}} + T_{\text{noise}}$$

$$\frac{\Delta T(\hat{n})}{\bar{T}} = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} a_{\ell m} Y_{\ell m}(\hat{n})$$

$$a_{\ell m}(\nu) = a_{\ell m}^f(\nu) + a_{\ell m}^{21\text{cm}}(\nu) + a_{\ell m}^{\text{noise}}(\nu)$$

$$C_{\ell}^{\text{tot}}(\nu_1, \nu_2) = C_{\ell}^f(\nu_1, \nu_2) + C_{\ell}^{21\text{cm}}(\nu_1, \nu_2) + C_{\ell}^N(\nu_1, \nu_2)\delta_{12}$$

Byproducts @ 21CMA

1. Ionosphere & the Milky Way
2. QSOs at Low Frequencies
3. Transient Sources (eg GRBs)
4. Cosmic Ray Air Showers
5. Meteors

The image shows a vast field of green grass with purple wildflowers in the foreground. In the middle ground, there is a large, organized array of white and yellow poles or antennas, arranged in a grid-like pattern. In the background, there are rolling green hills and mountains under a clear blue sky. A semi-transparent cyan box is overlaid on the upper part of the image, containing text.

Current Biggest Problems: Funds

1. Operation and maintenance
2. Data storage (4T/day) - \$30k/month
3. 10000 LNAs (\$3M) – (system noise)

Operated for three months only so far !

Welcome To Ulastai Observatory

Thank You