



# The Extragalactic Background Light in the *Fermi*-LAT era

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**M. Ajello, K. Helgason, J. Finke, A. Desai, V. Paliya**  
and also R. Wojtak, F. Prada, L. Marcotulli, D. Hartmann

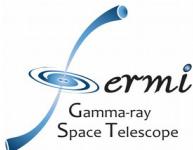
***Fermi*-LAT Collaboration, 2018, Science, 362, 1031**

**Desai et al., 2019, ApJL, 874, 7**

**Domínguez et al., 2019, arXiv:1903.12097**



**Domínguez, Primack, Bell**  
Scientific American, June 2015



# The Extragalactic Background

## *Fermi-LAT*

Alberto

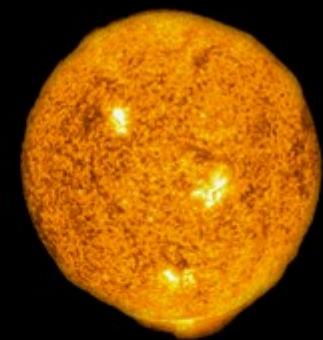
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Desai et al., 2019, ApJL, 874, L1

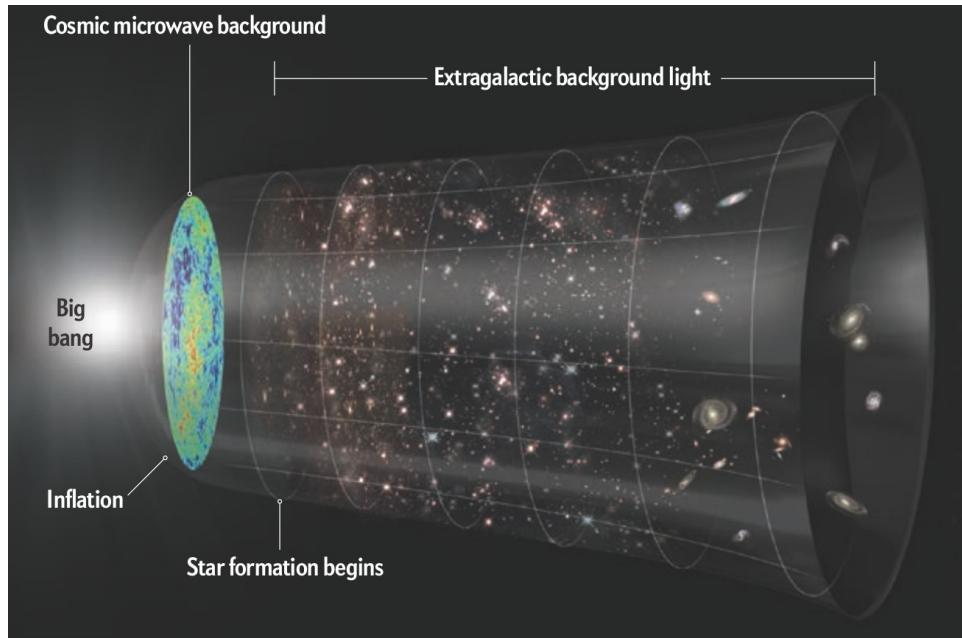
Domínguez et al., 2019, arXiv:1903.12097



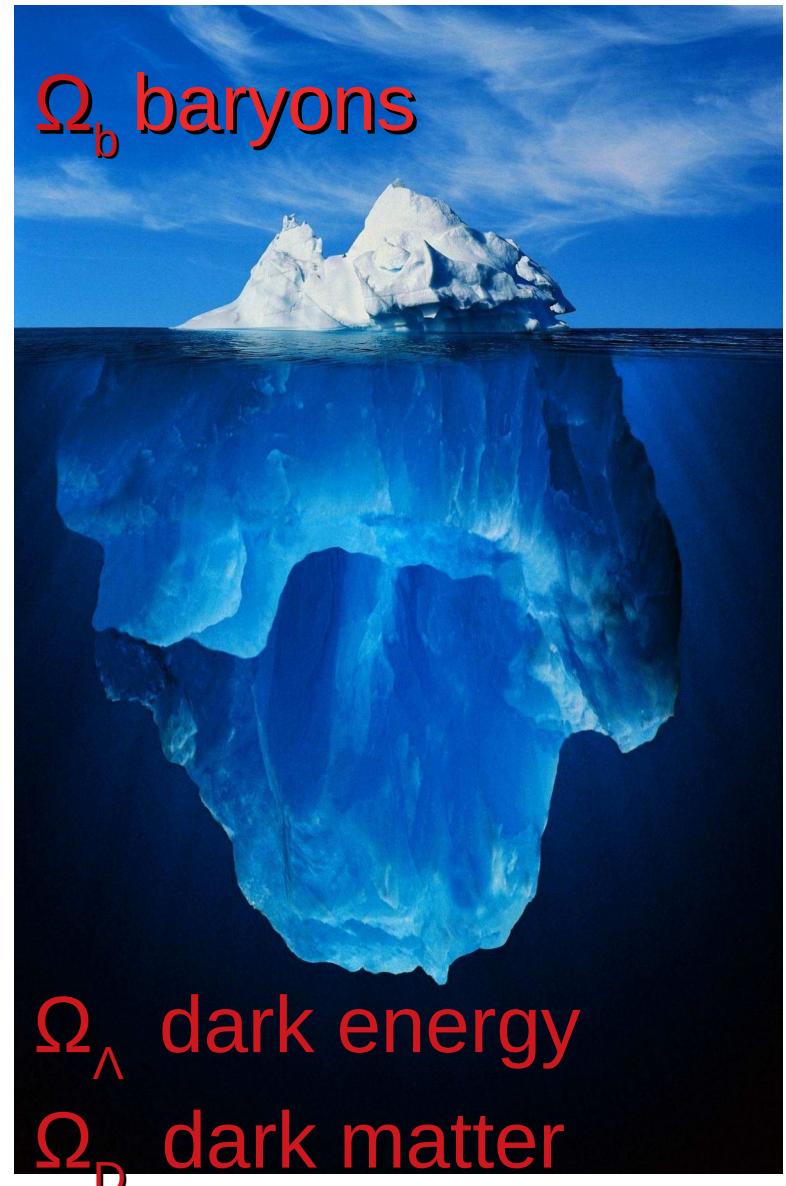
Olber's Paradox

Domínguez, Primack, Bell  
Scientific American, June 2015

# Galaxy Evolution and Cosmology



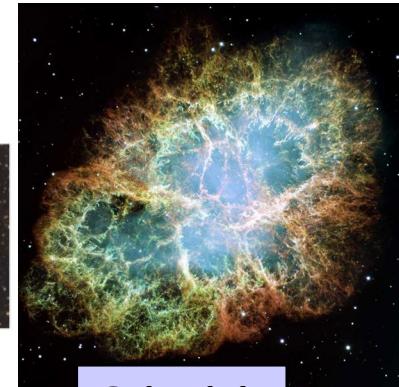
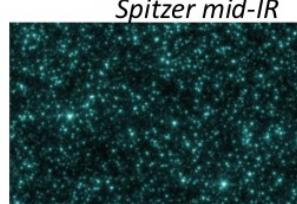
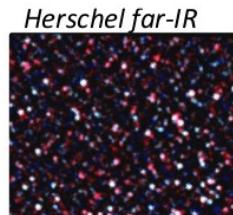
Scientific American, June 2015



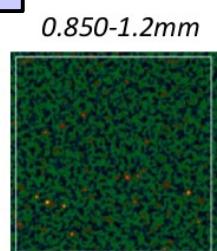
# Cosmic Diffuse Extragalactic Backgrounds



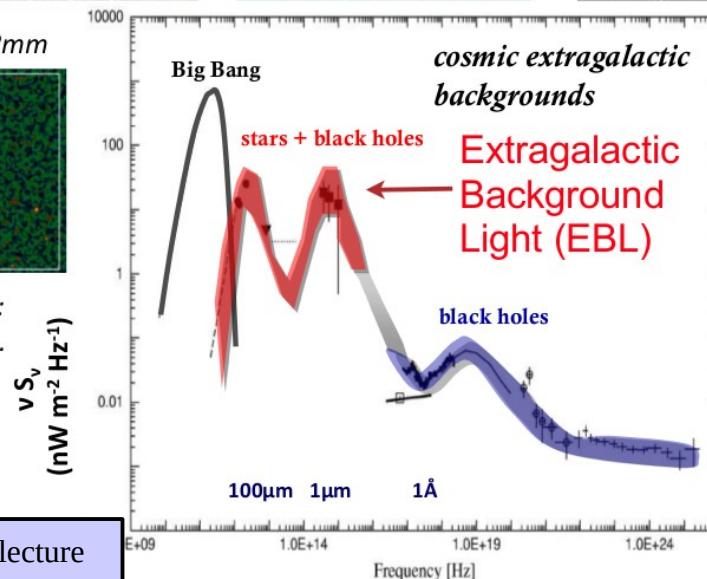
Artistic representation  
of a binary system



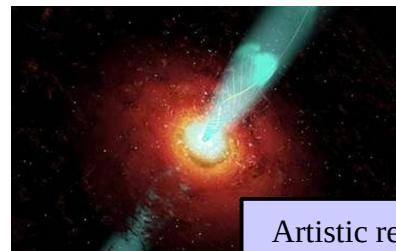
Crab Nebula



in the future:  
ALMA, CCAT..



From Reinhard Genzel's lecture  
@ Jerusalem Winter School 2013

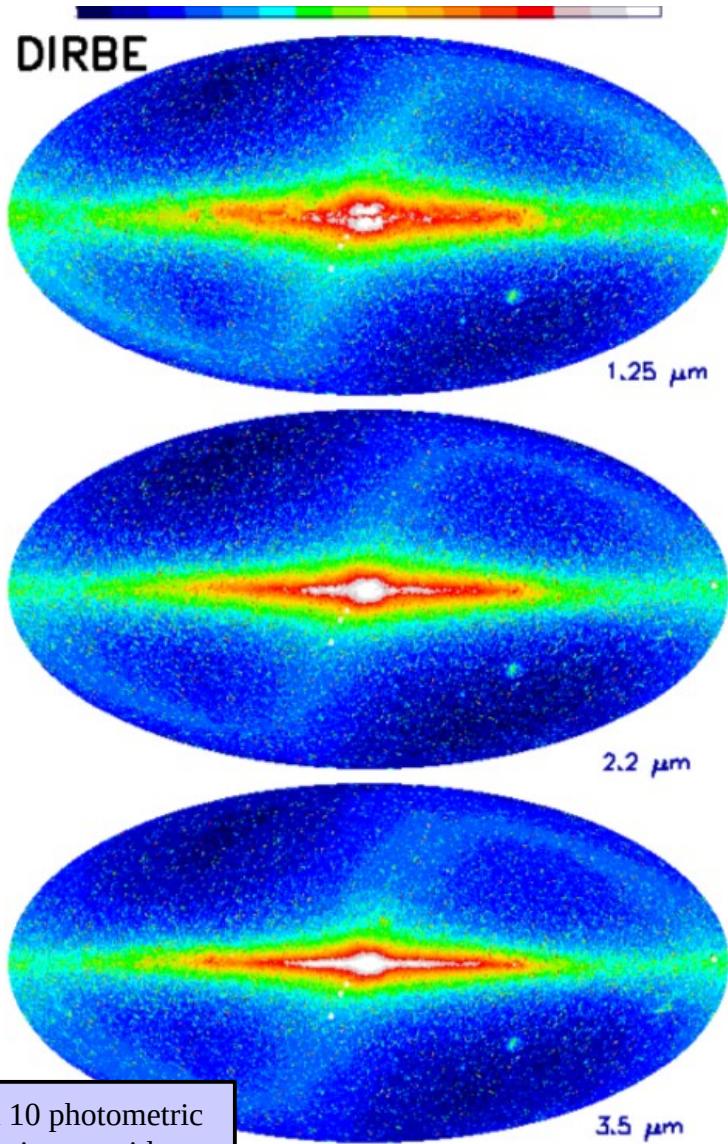
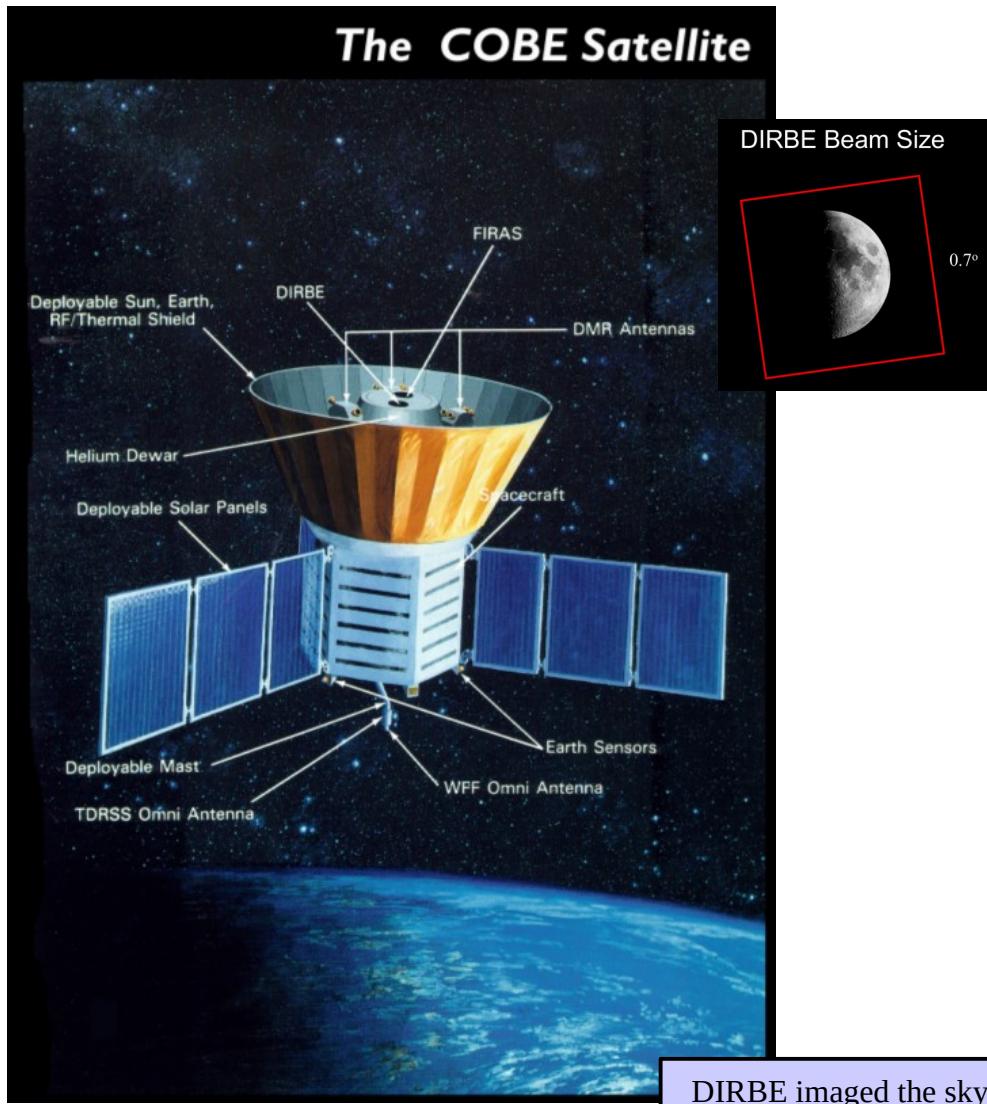


Artistic representation  
of a blazar



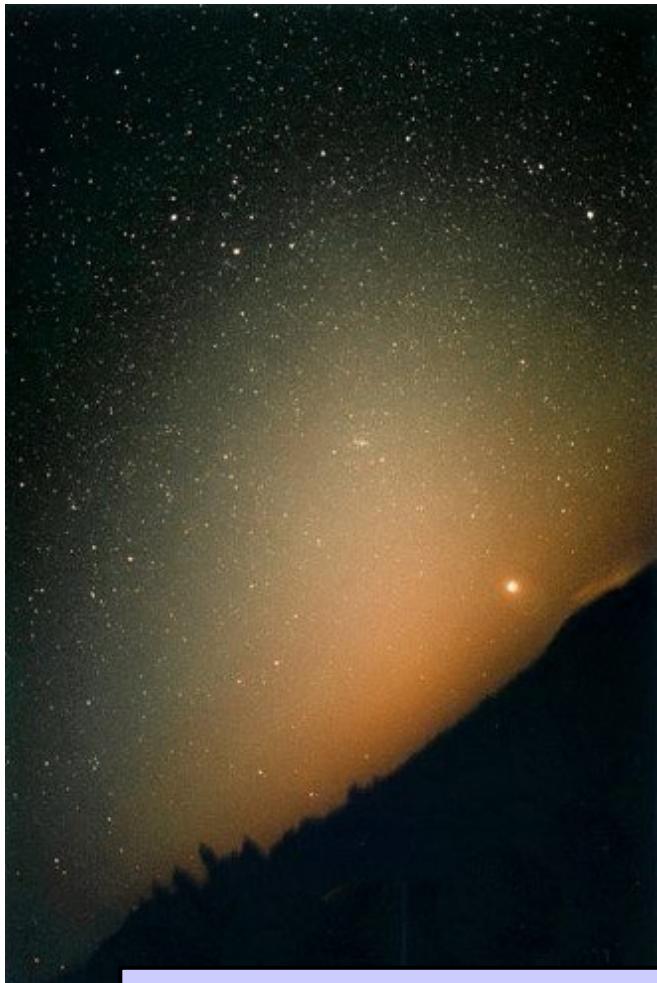
Orion Nebula  
(birth place of stars)

# Measuring the Extragalactic Background Light



DIRBE imaged the sky in 10 photometric bands from 1.25 to 240 microns with a beam size of 0.7x0.7 sq. degrees

# Measuring the Extragalactic Background Light



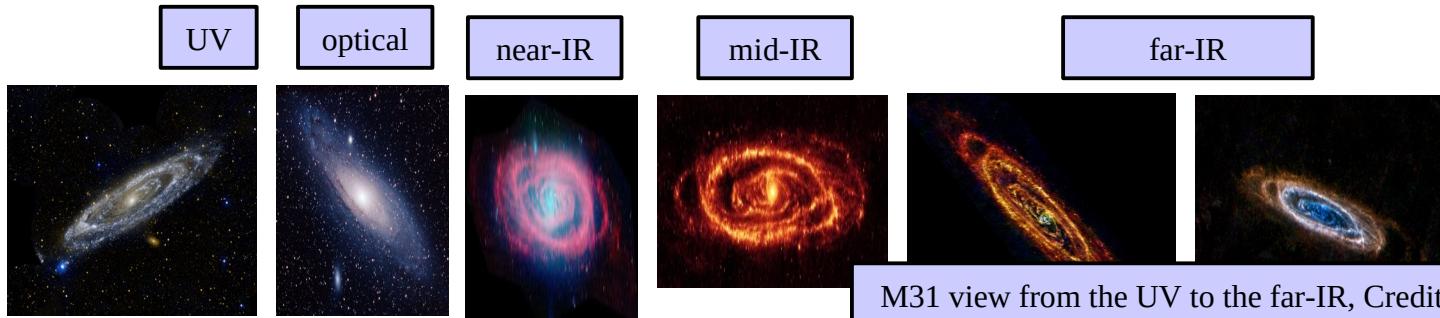
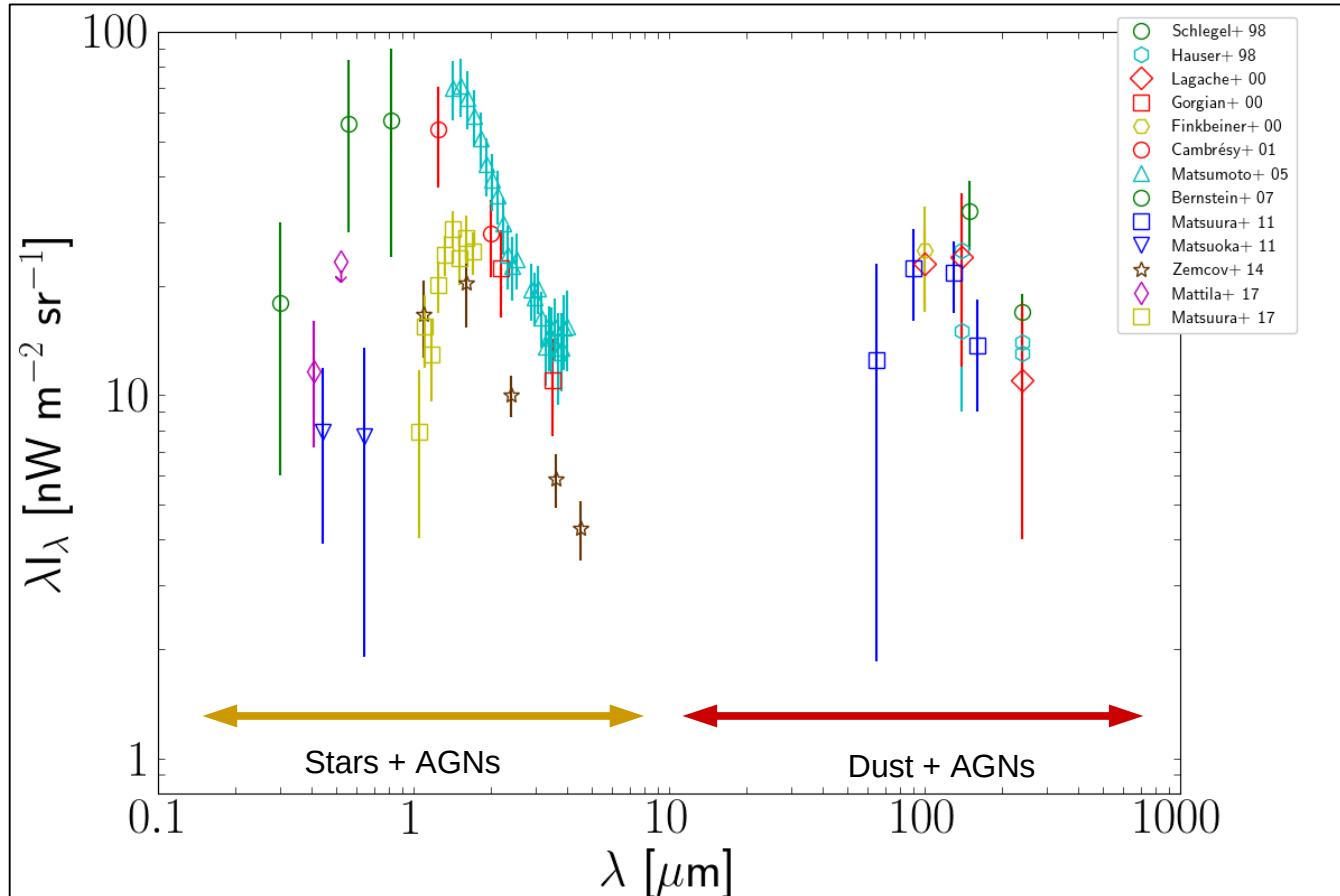
Zodiacal light, visible under the right conditions: typically after the sunset in Spring and right before sunrise in Autumn

TABLE 2  
DECOMPOSITION OF THE DIRBE INTENSITY

| Component               | $2.2 \mu\text{m}$<br>(kJy sr $^{-1}$ ) | $3.5 \mu\text{m}$<br>(kJy sr $^{-1}$ ) |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| Total .....             | $137.5 \pm 0.3$                        | $105.3 \pm 0.3$                        |
| Zodi .....              | $101.8 \pm 3.8$                        | $80.4 \pm 3.3$                         |
| ISM .....               | ...                                    | $1.1 \pm 0.2$                          |
| Stars, $m < 9$ mag..... | $7.4 \pm 2.2$                          | $5.3 \pm 1.8$                          |
| Stars, $m > 9$ mag..... | $11.9 \pm 0.6$                         | $5.7 \pm 0.3$                          |
| EBL .....               | $16.4 \pm 4.4$                         | $12.8 \pm 3.8$                         |

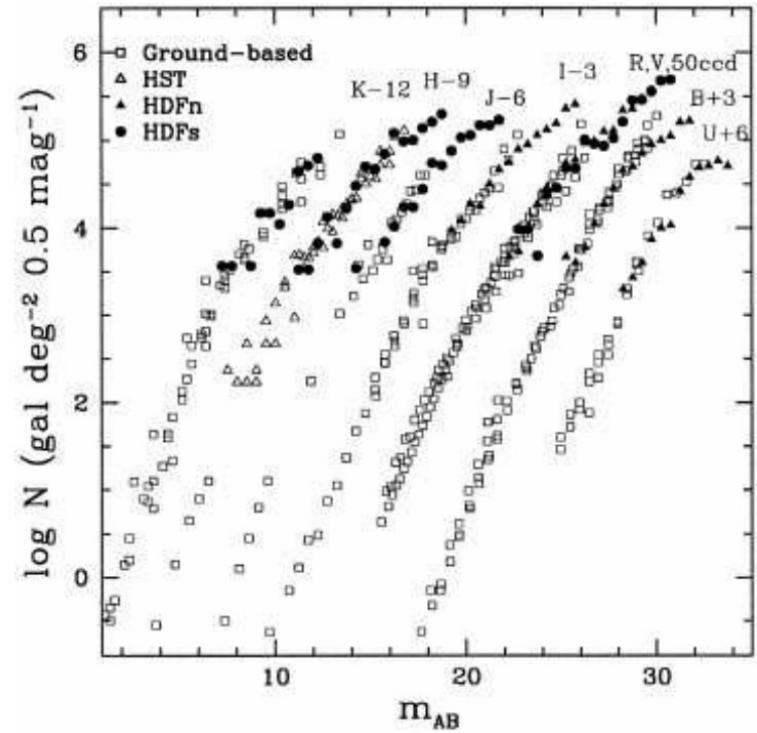
EBL is an order of magnitude lower than foregrounds and subject to large systematic uncertainties,  
e.g. Gorjian+ 00

# Measuring the Extragalactic Background Light



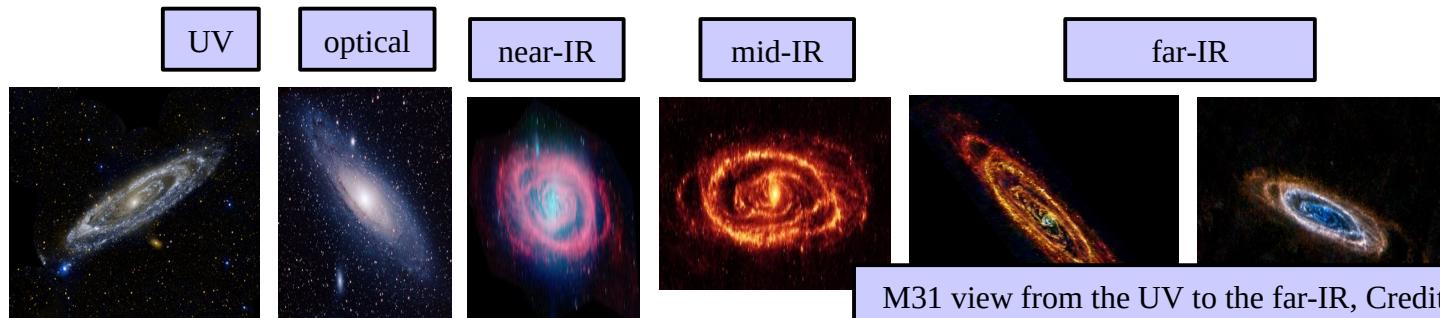
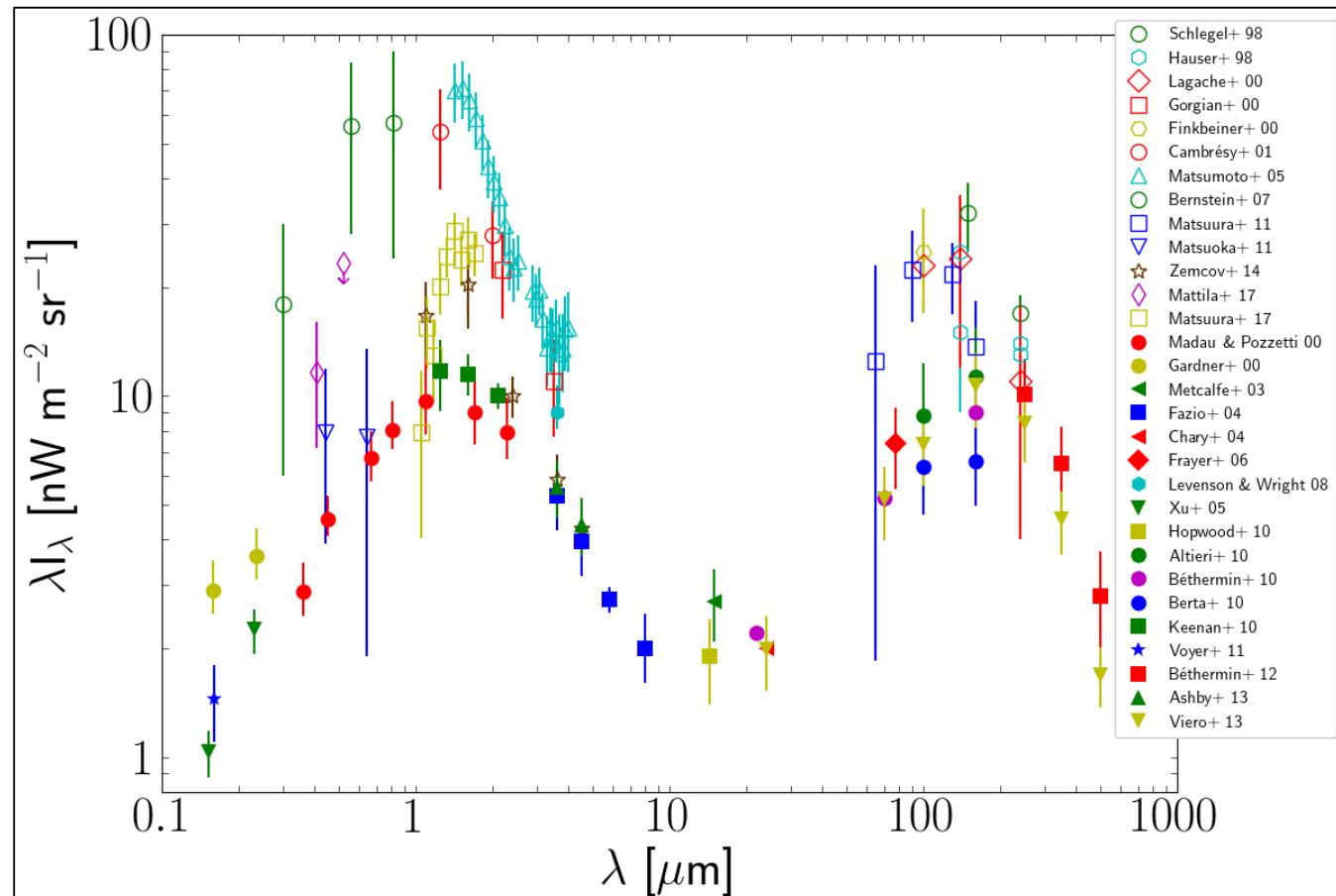
M31 view from the UV to the far-IR, Credit: NASA & ESA

# Measuring the Extragalactic Background Light



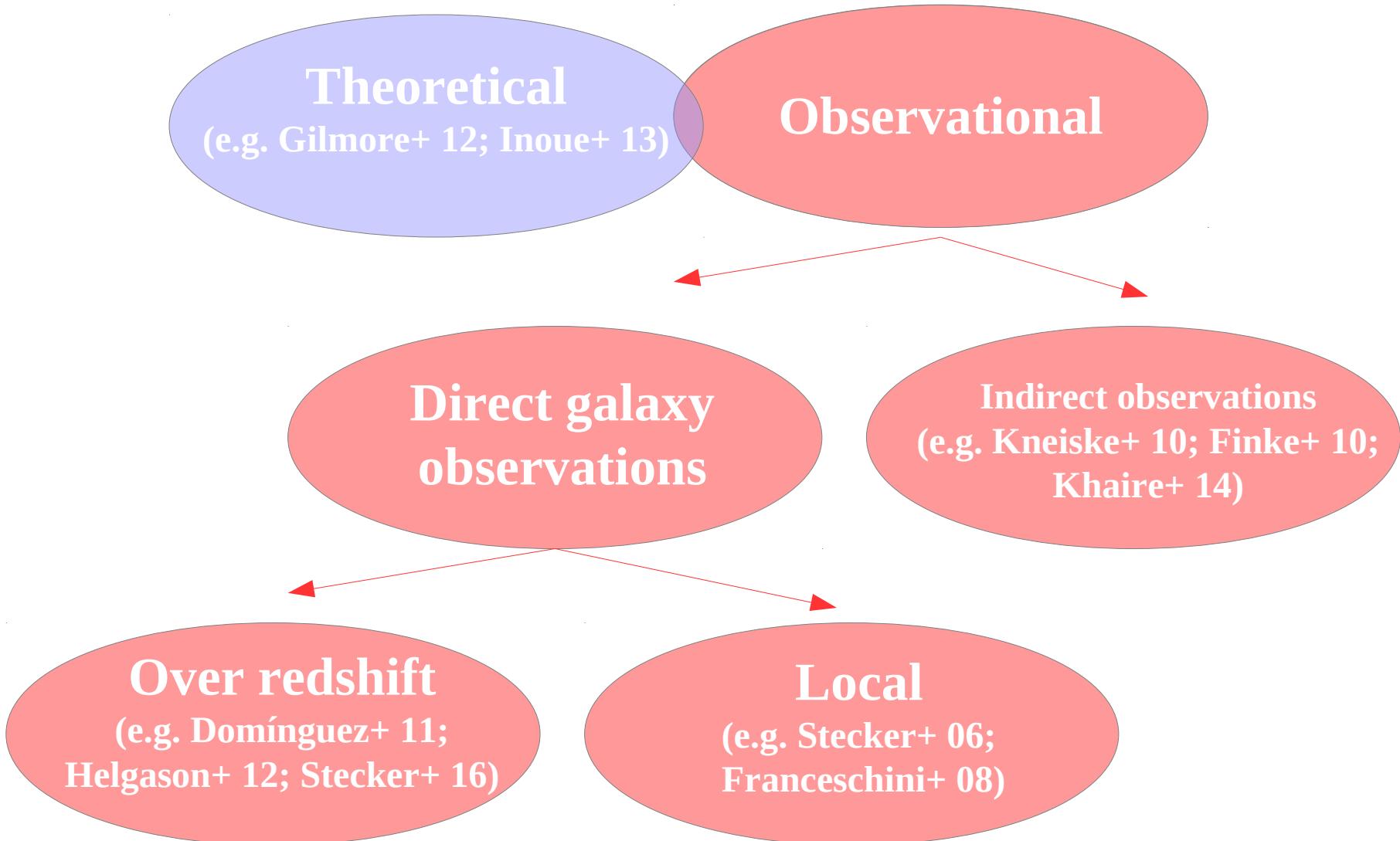
Number counts in the  
Hubble Deep Field,  
e.g. Madau & Pozzetti, 2000

# Measuring the Extragalactic Background Light

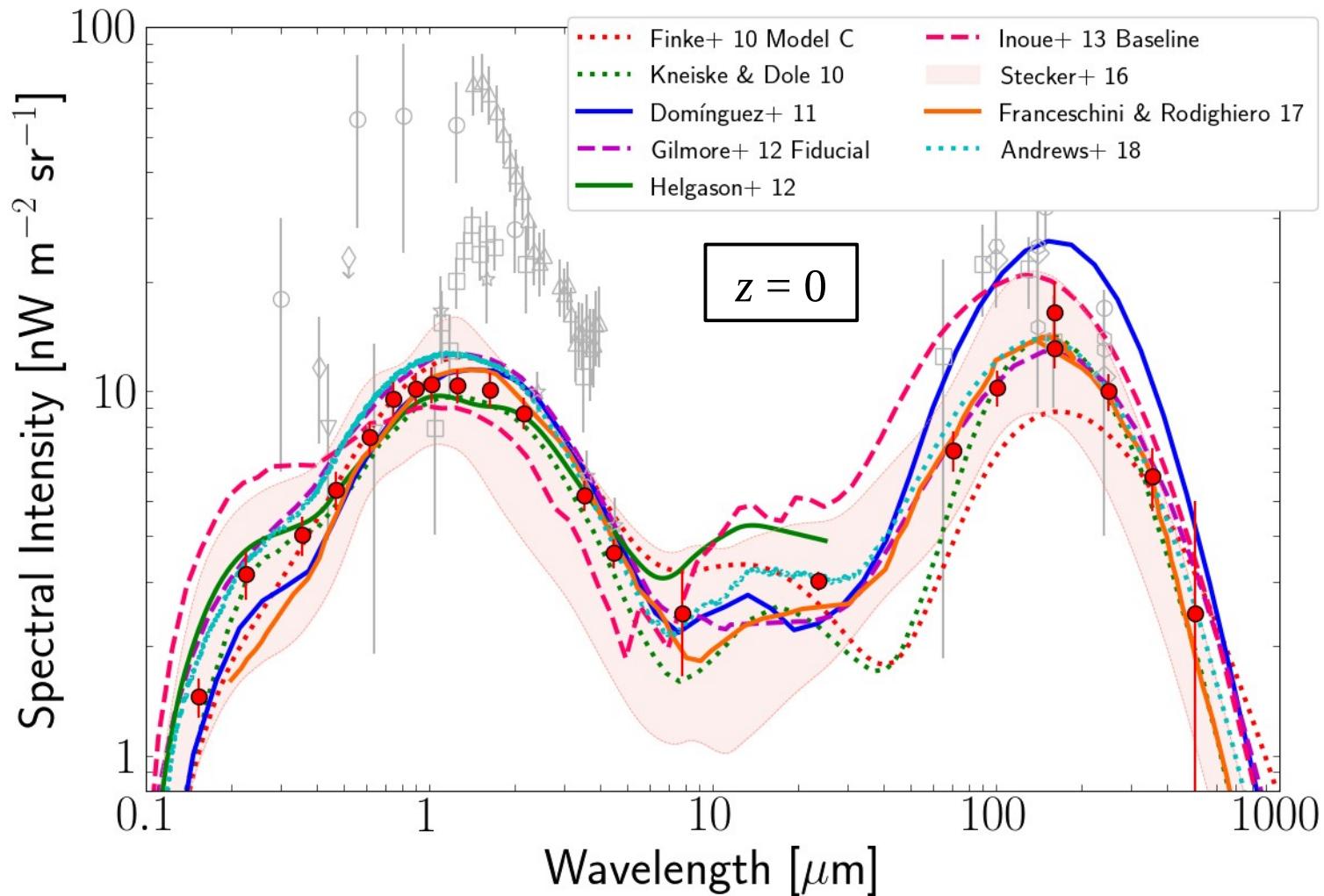


# Measuring the Extragalactic Background Light

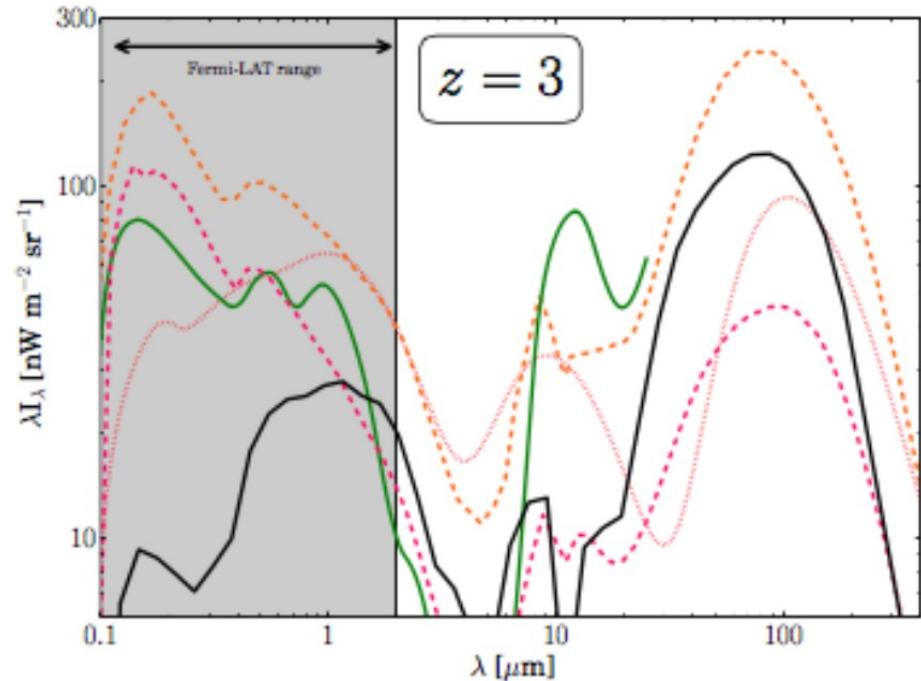
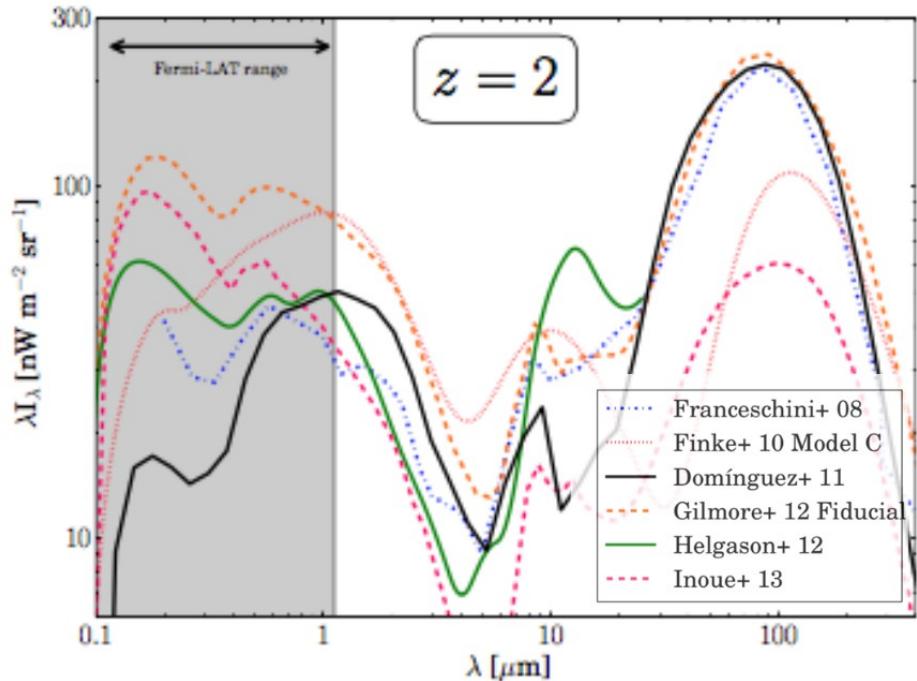
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# Extragalactic Background Light (Local)

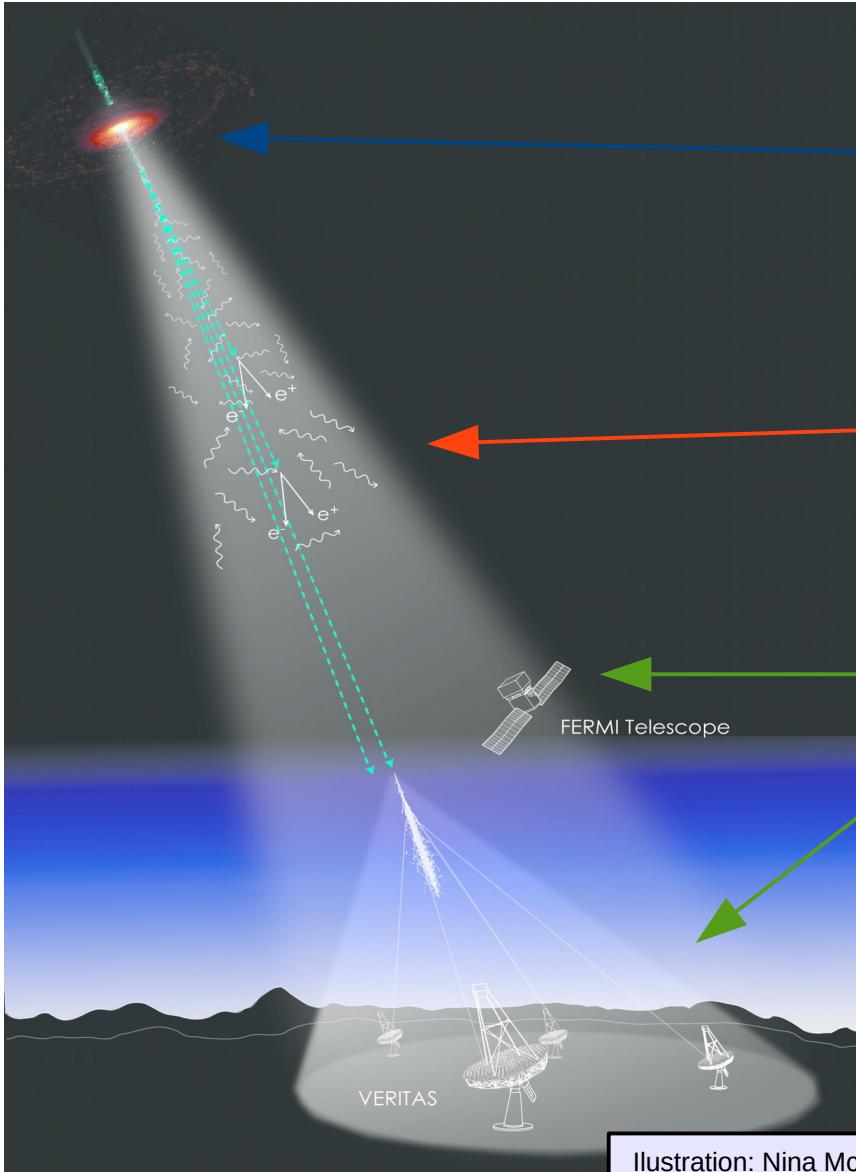


# Extragalactic Background Light (Evolution)

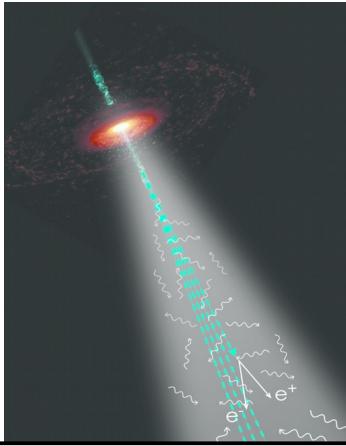


Strong divergence

# Gamma-ray Attenuation

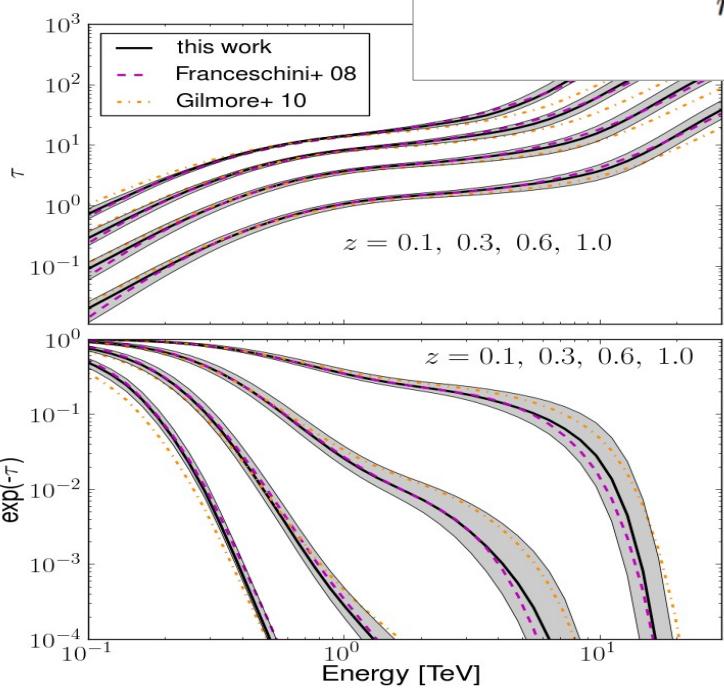


# Gamma-ray Attenuation



$$\left. \frac{dN}{dE} \right|_{obs} = \left. \frac{dN}{dE} \right|_{int} \exp [-\tau(E, z)]$$

$$\tau_{\gamma\gamma}(E_\gamma, z_s) = c \int_0^{z_s} \left| \frac{dt}{dz} \right| dz \int_{-1}^1 (1 - \mu) \frac{d\mu}{2} \int_{2m_e^2 c^4 / \epsilon_\gamma (1 - \mu)}^{\infty} \sigma(\epsilon_{EBL}, \epsilon_\gamma, \mu) n_{EBL}(\epsilon, z) d\epsilon_{EBL}$$



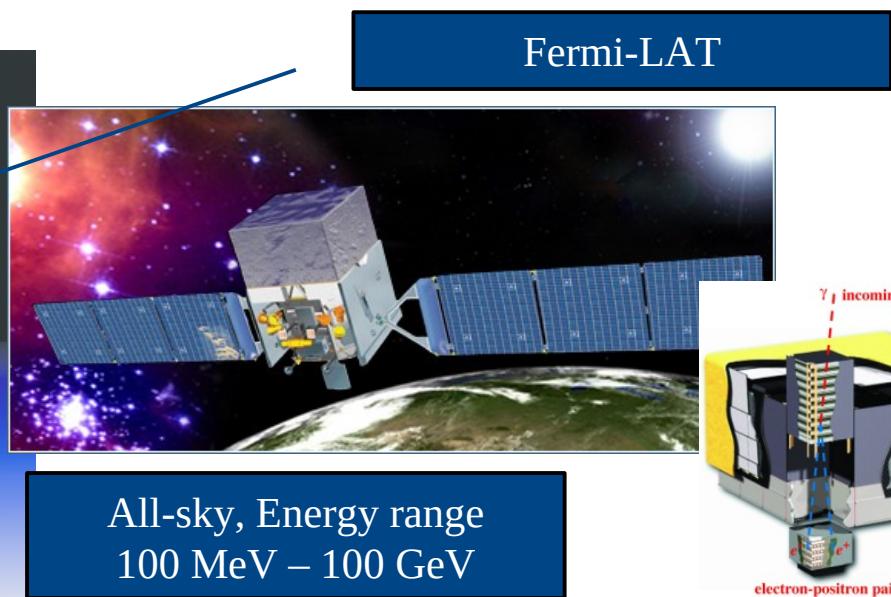
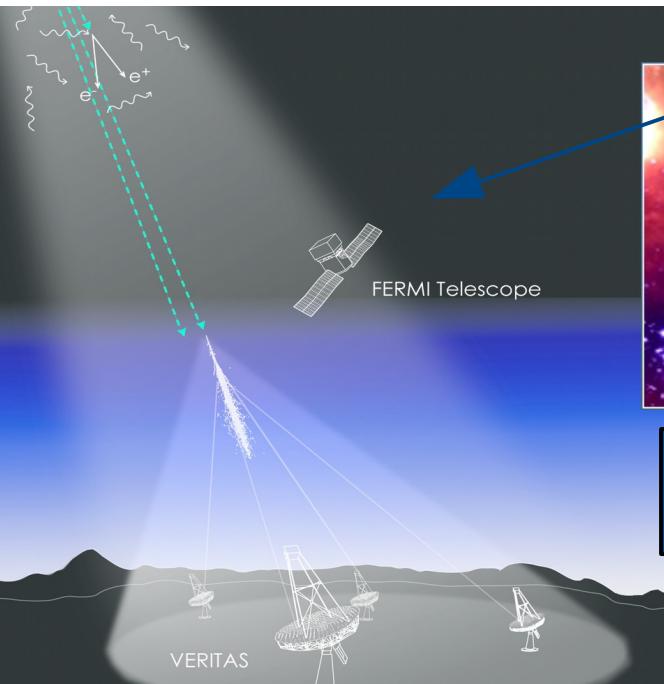
$$n_{EBL}(\epsilon, z) = (1 + z)^3 \int_z^{\infty} \frac{j(\epsilon, z')}{\epsilon} \left| \frac{dt}{dz'} \right| dz'$$

distance

cross section

EBL photon density evolution

# Gamma-ray Telescopes



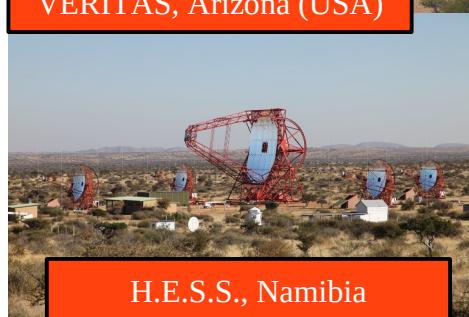
All-sky, Energy range  
100 MeV – 100 GeV



VERITAS, Arizona (USA)



CTA North, La Palma (Spain)



H.E.S.S., Namibia

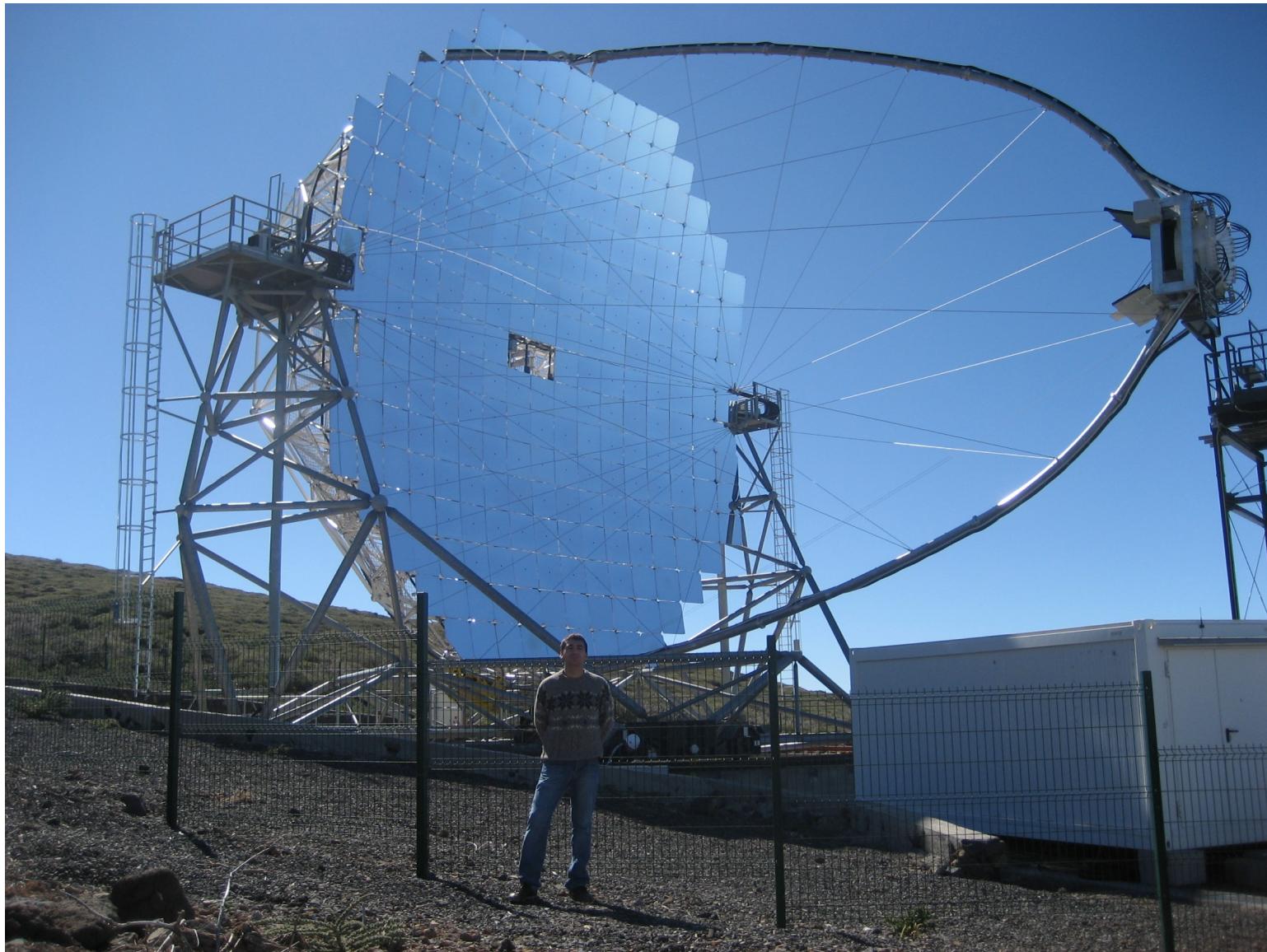


MAGIC, La Palma (Spain)

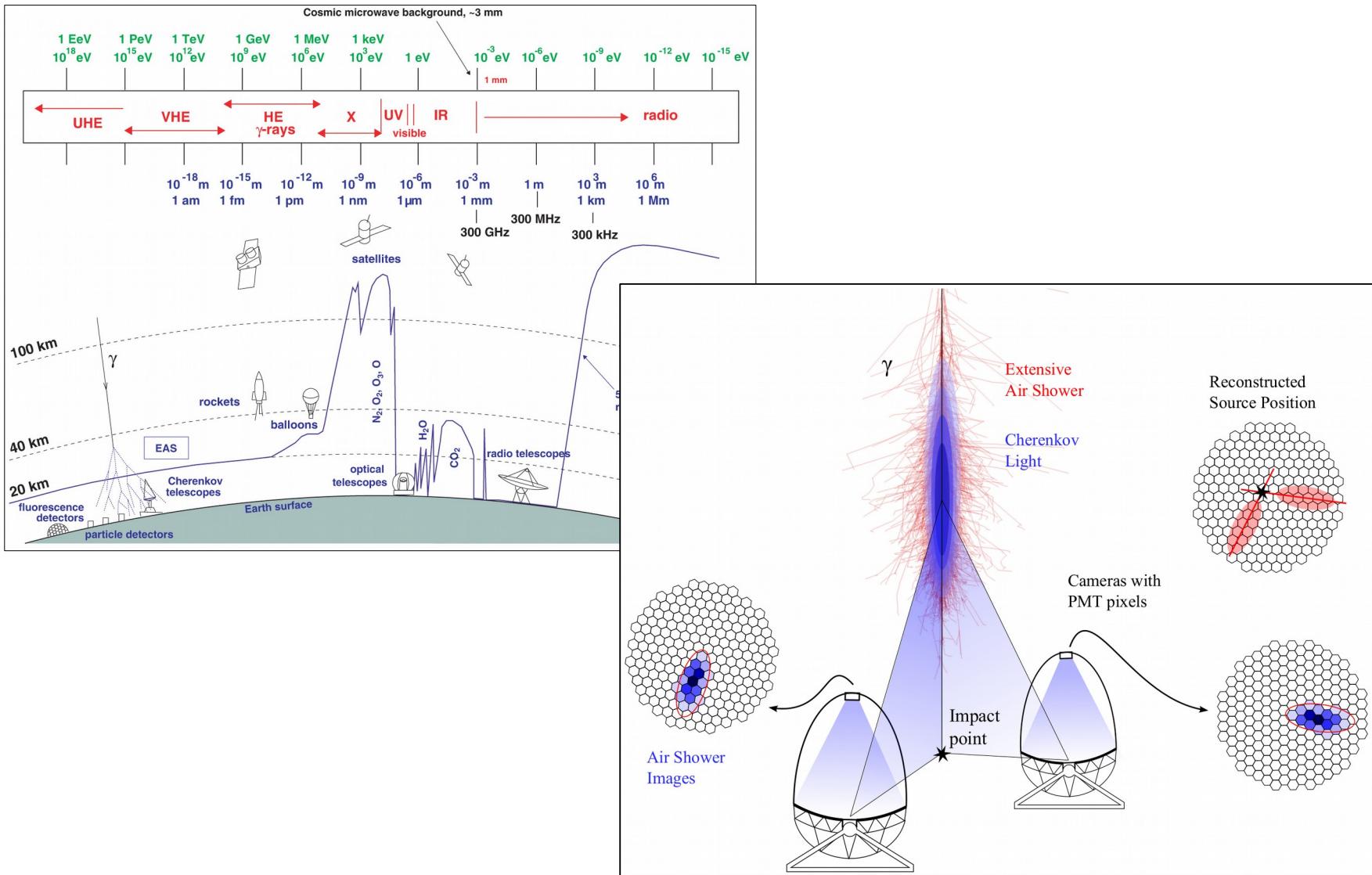
IACTs  
Small field of view, High sensitivity, Energy range 100 GeV – 10s TeV

# Gamma-ray Cherenkov Telescopes (IACTs)

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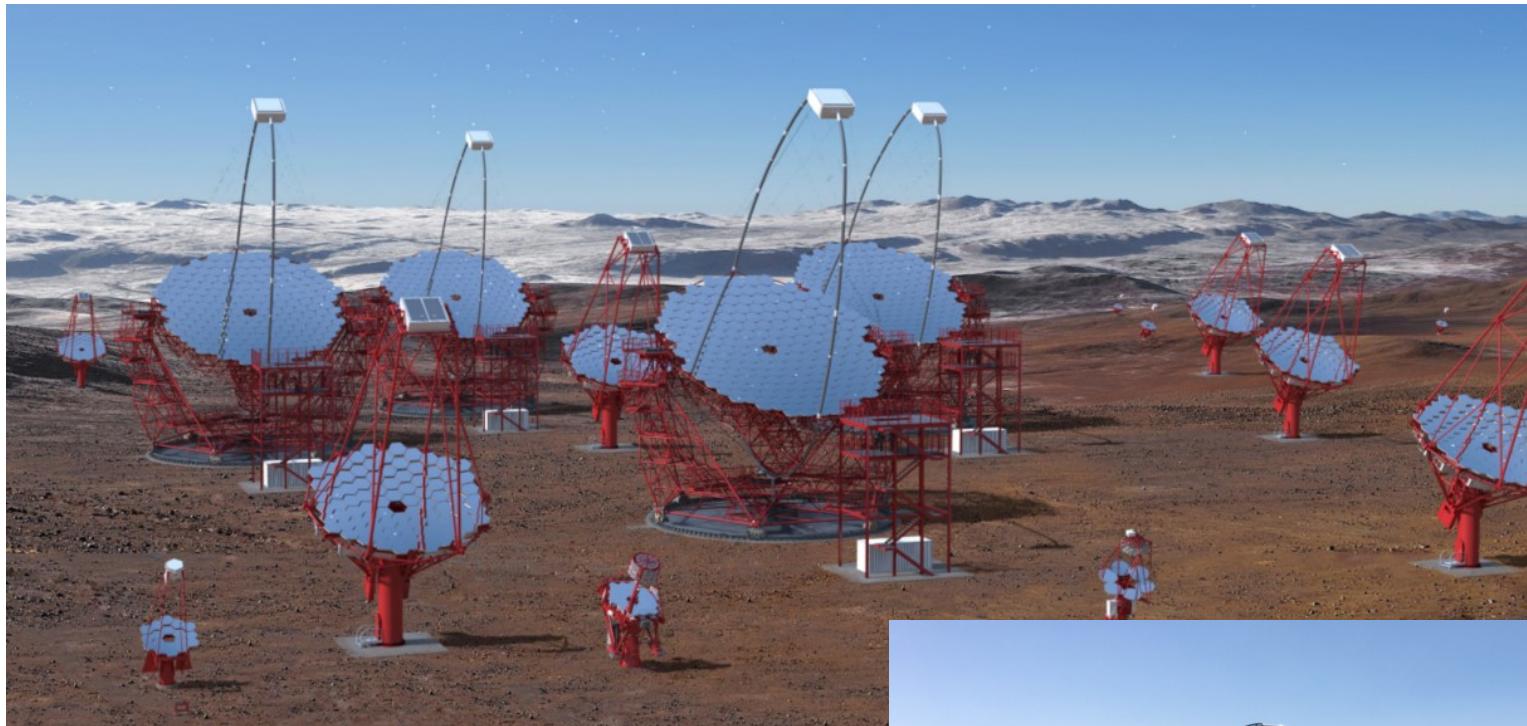


# Gamma-ray Cherenkov Telescopes (IACTs)

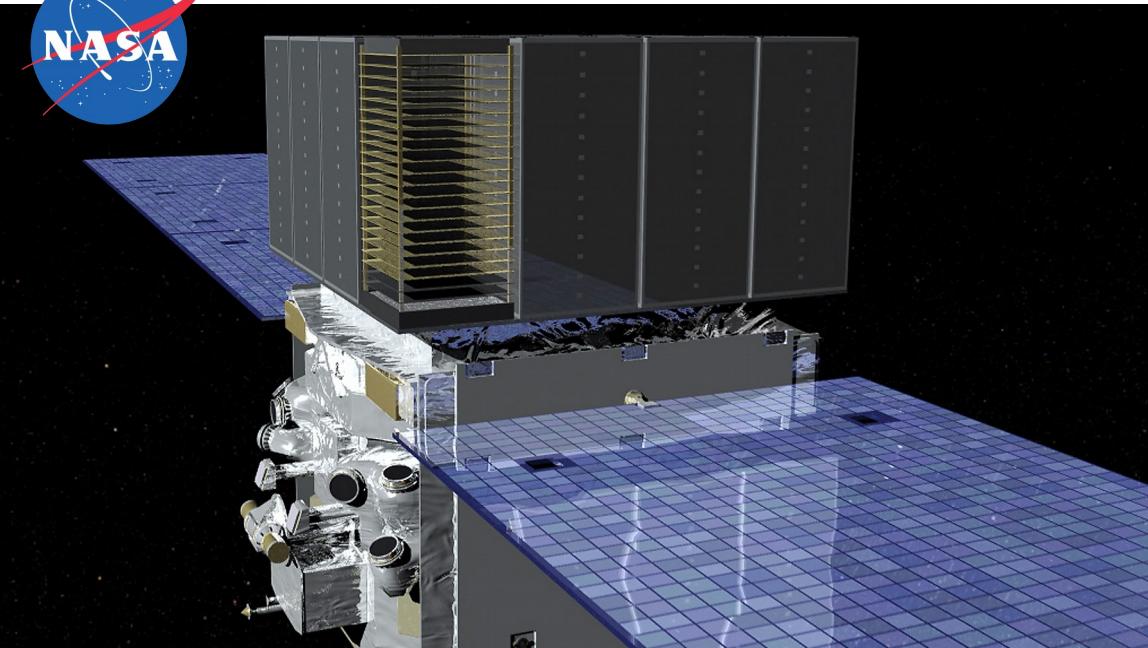
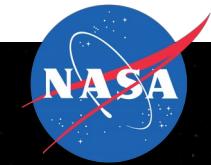


# Gamma-ray Cherenkov Telescopes (IACTs)

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# NASA's Fermi Gamma-Ray Space Telescope



**Launch June 11, 2008  
Celebrating  
10<sup>th</sup> year Anniversary**



## 1. Tracking system:

- convert an incident gamma-ray to an electron-positron pair
- reconstruct the gamma-ray direction from the tracks of the pair

## 2. Calorimeter:

- measure the photon energy

## 3. Anti-coincidence detector:

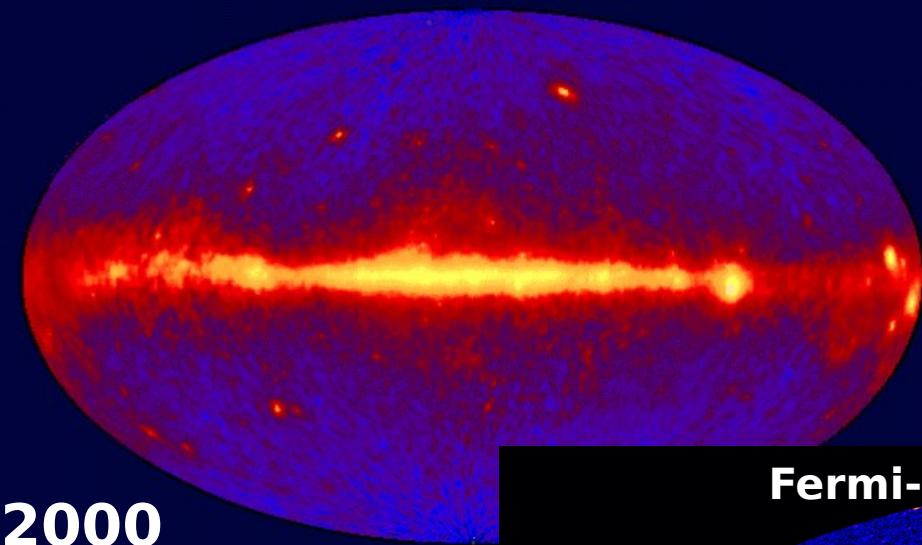
- limit the cosmic-ray background

- Wide field of view (2.4 sr, 20% of the sky)
- Large effective area ( $\sim 0.9 \text{ m}^2$  above 1 GeV)
- Low dead time ( $\sim 27 \mu\text{s}$ )

# The Gamma-Ray Sky

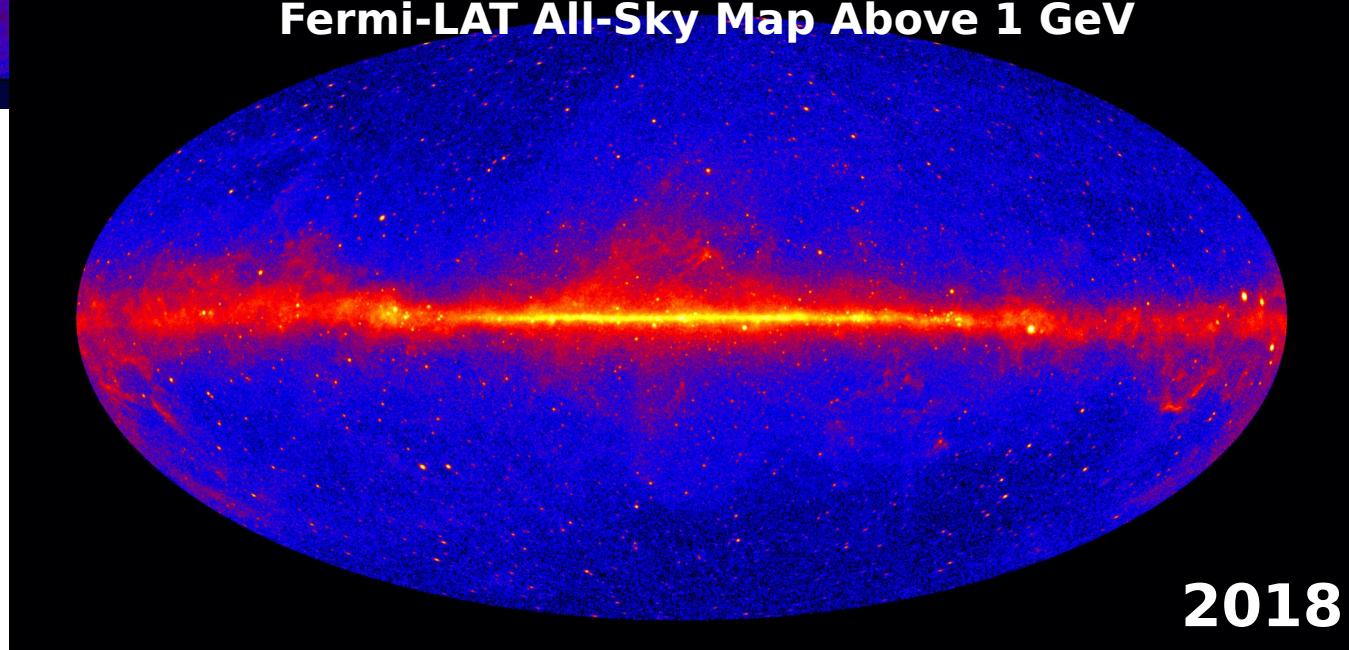
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EGRET All-Sky Map Above 100 MeV



2000

Fermi-LAT All-Sky Map Above 1 GeV



2018

# Gamma-ray Fermi-LAT Catalogs

4FGL

8 years (P8), 5065 sources

3FHL

7 years (P8), 1556 sources

2FHL

1FHL

6.7 years (P8), 360 sources

3FGL

3 years (P7), 514 sources

4 years (P7Rep), 3033 sources

$10^{-1}$

1

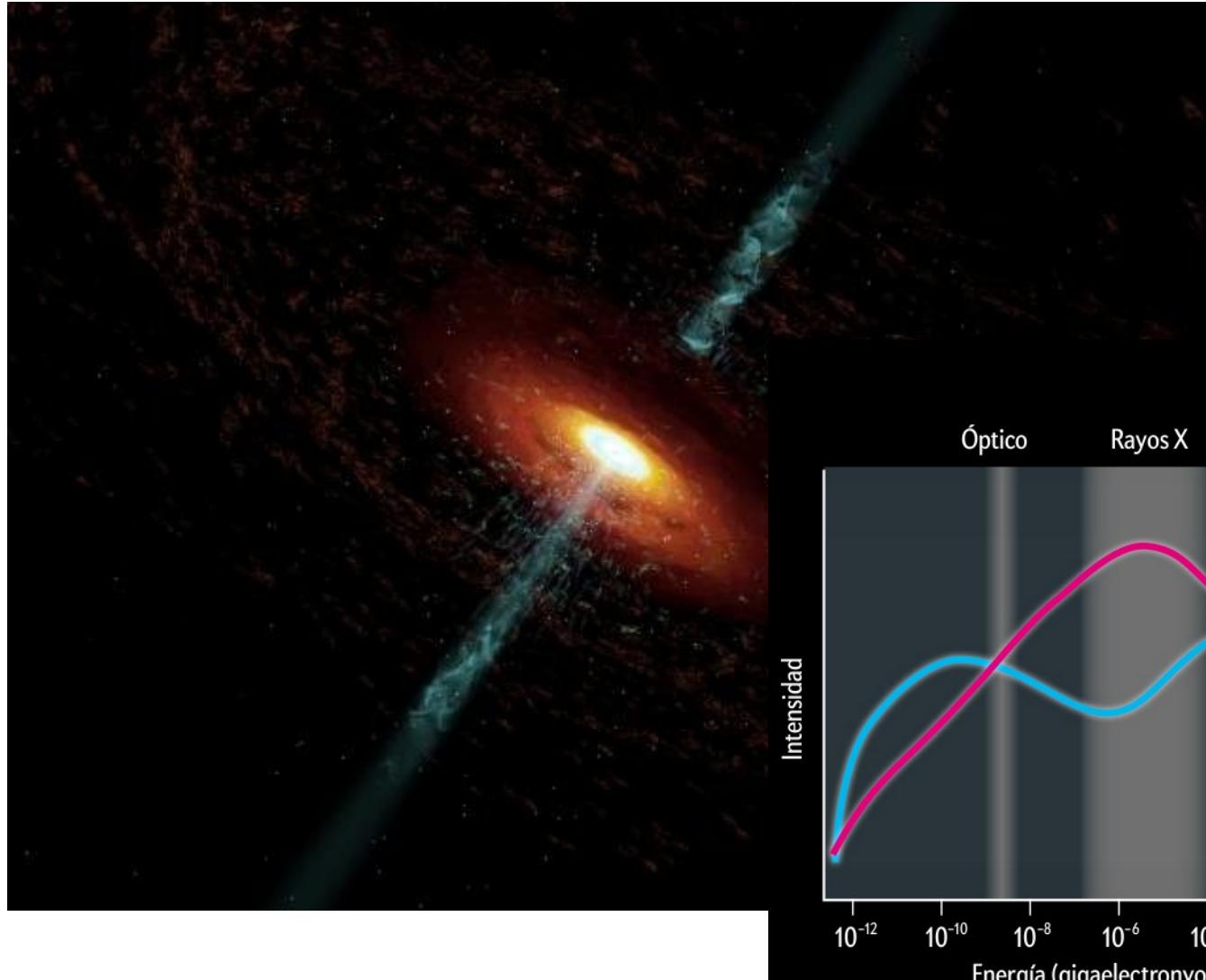
10

$10^2$

$10^3$

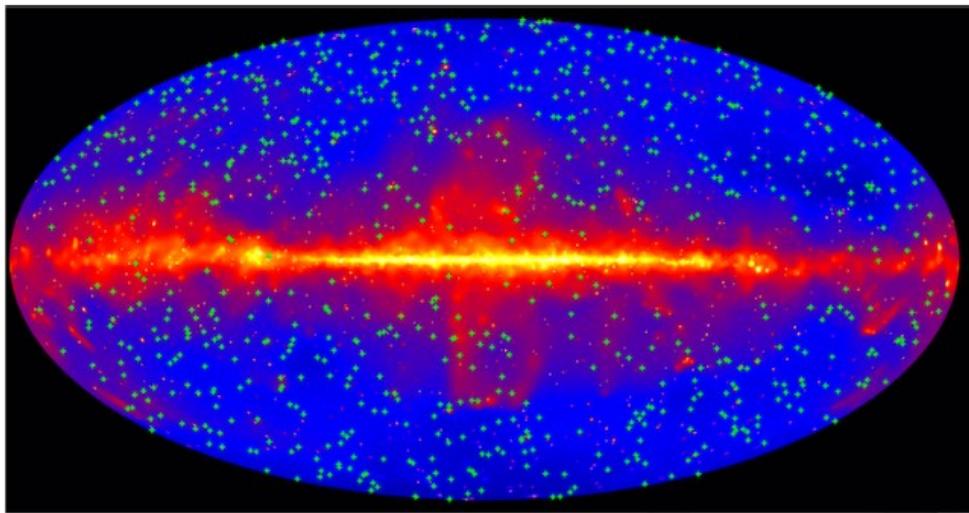
GeV

# Blazars

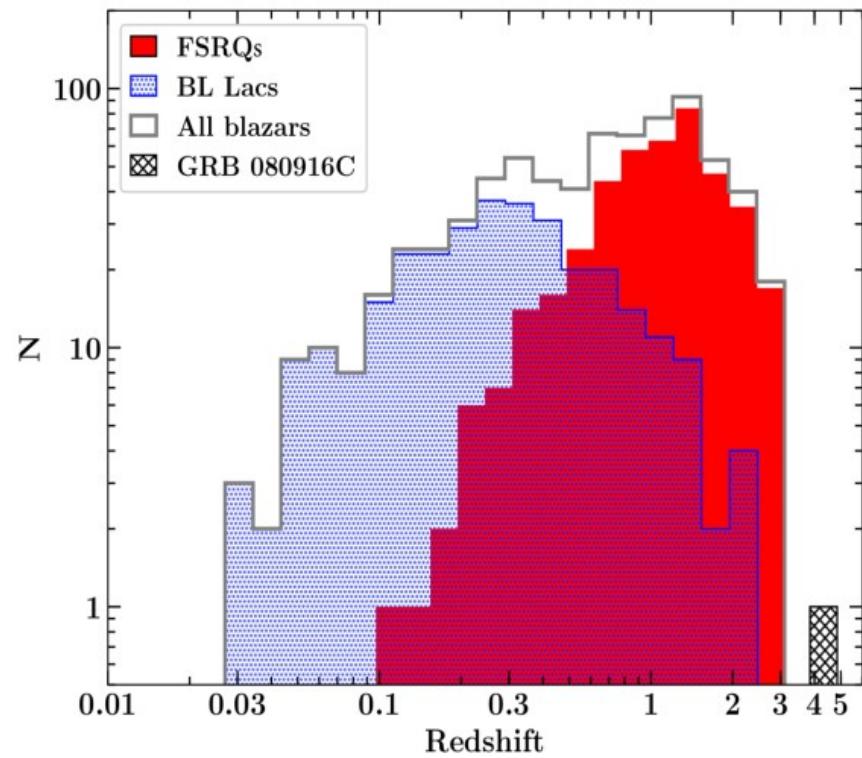


Emission described by homogeneous  
synchrotron/synchrotron-self Compton model.

# Optical Depths from Gamma-ray Data

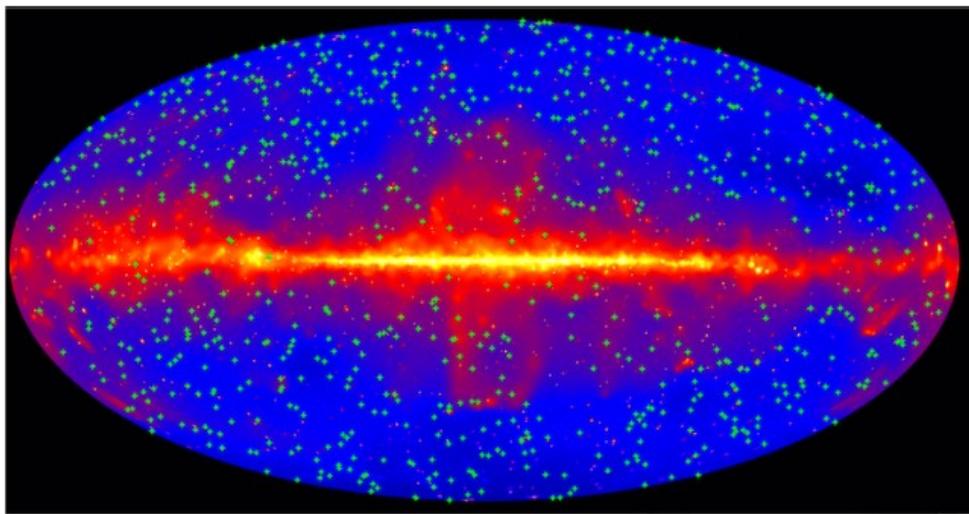


- Use 9 years of P8 LAT data
- 739 blazars + 1 GRB
- Perform a time-resolved analysis,
- Analysis optimized on simulations

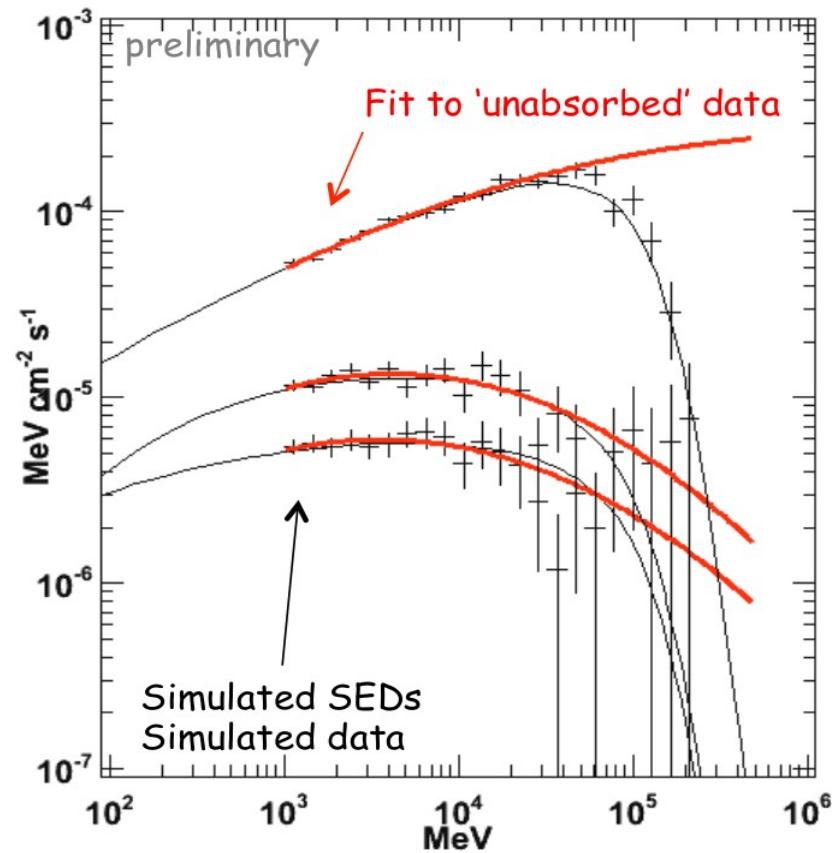


*Analysis improved over the Ackermann+12 results*

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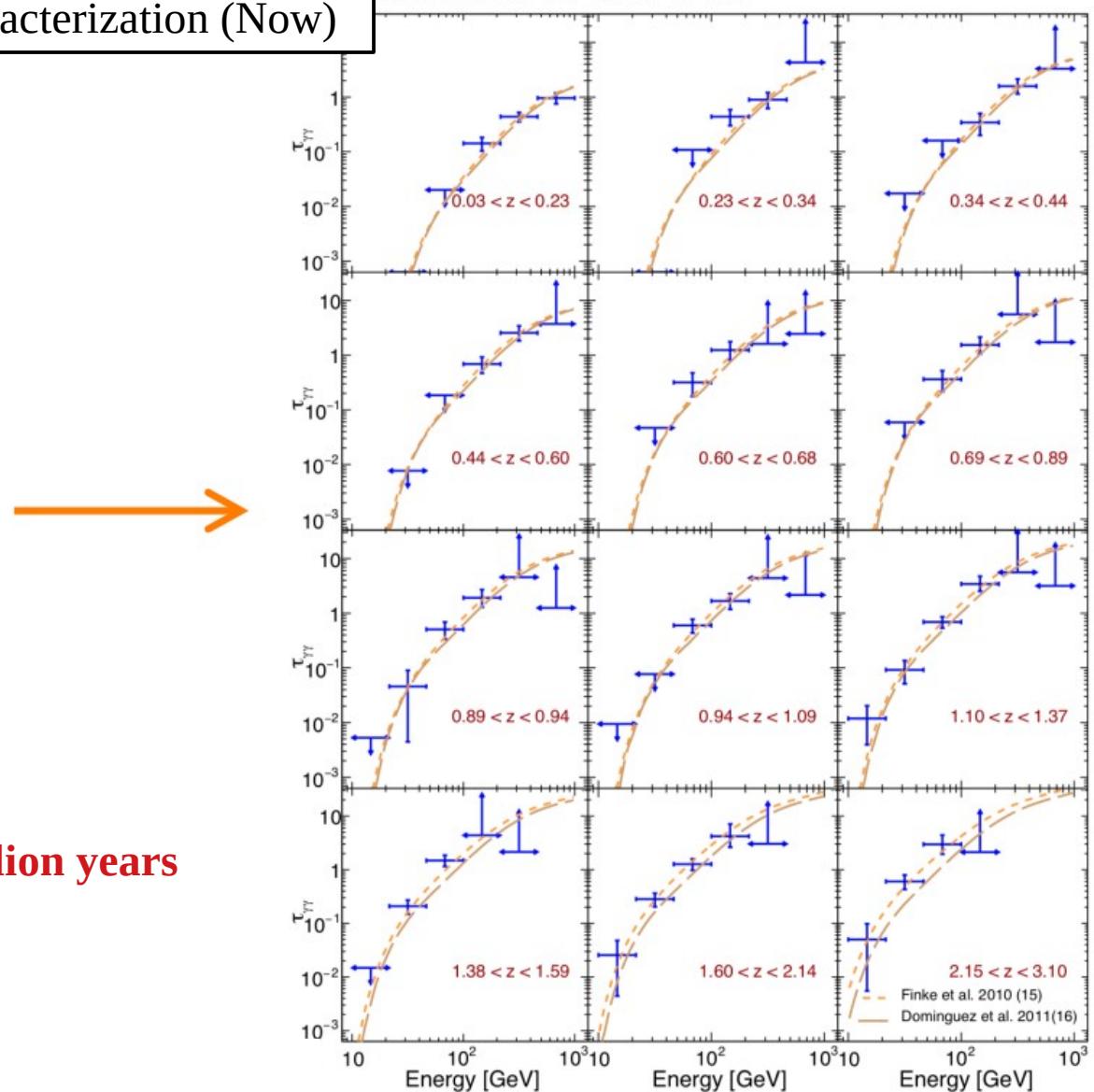
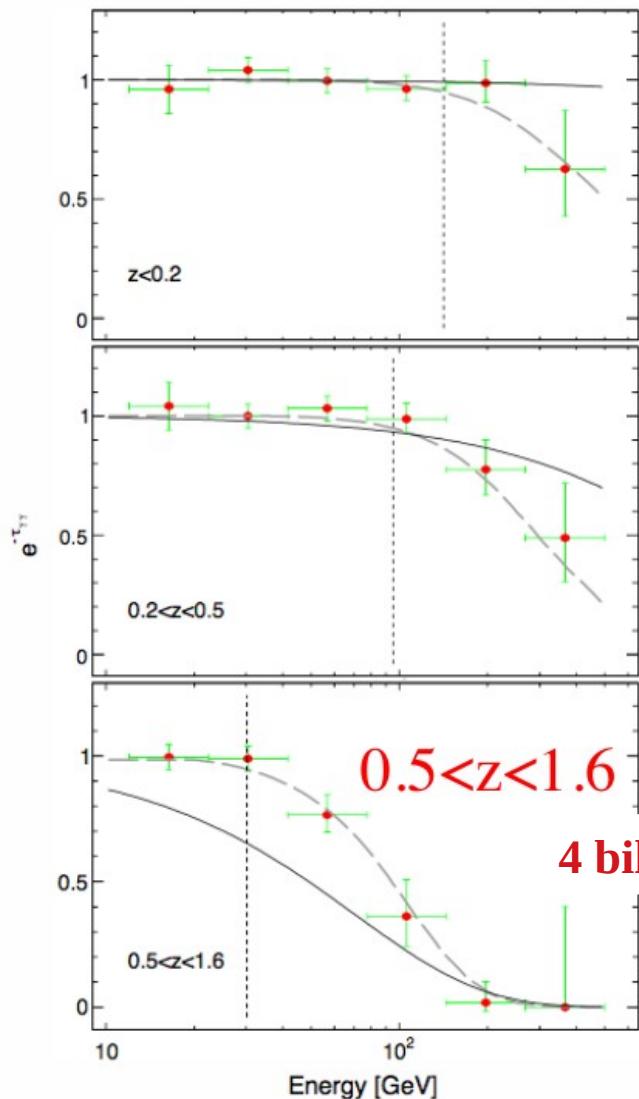


$$F(E)_{\text{absorbed}} = F(E)_{\text{intrinsic}} \cdot e^{-b\tau_{\text{mod,el}}}$$

*Analysis improved over the Ackermann+12 results*

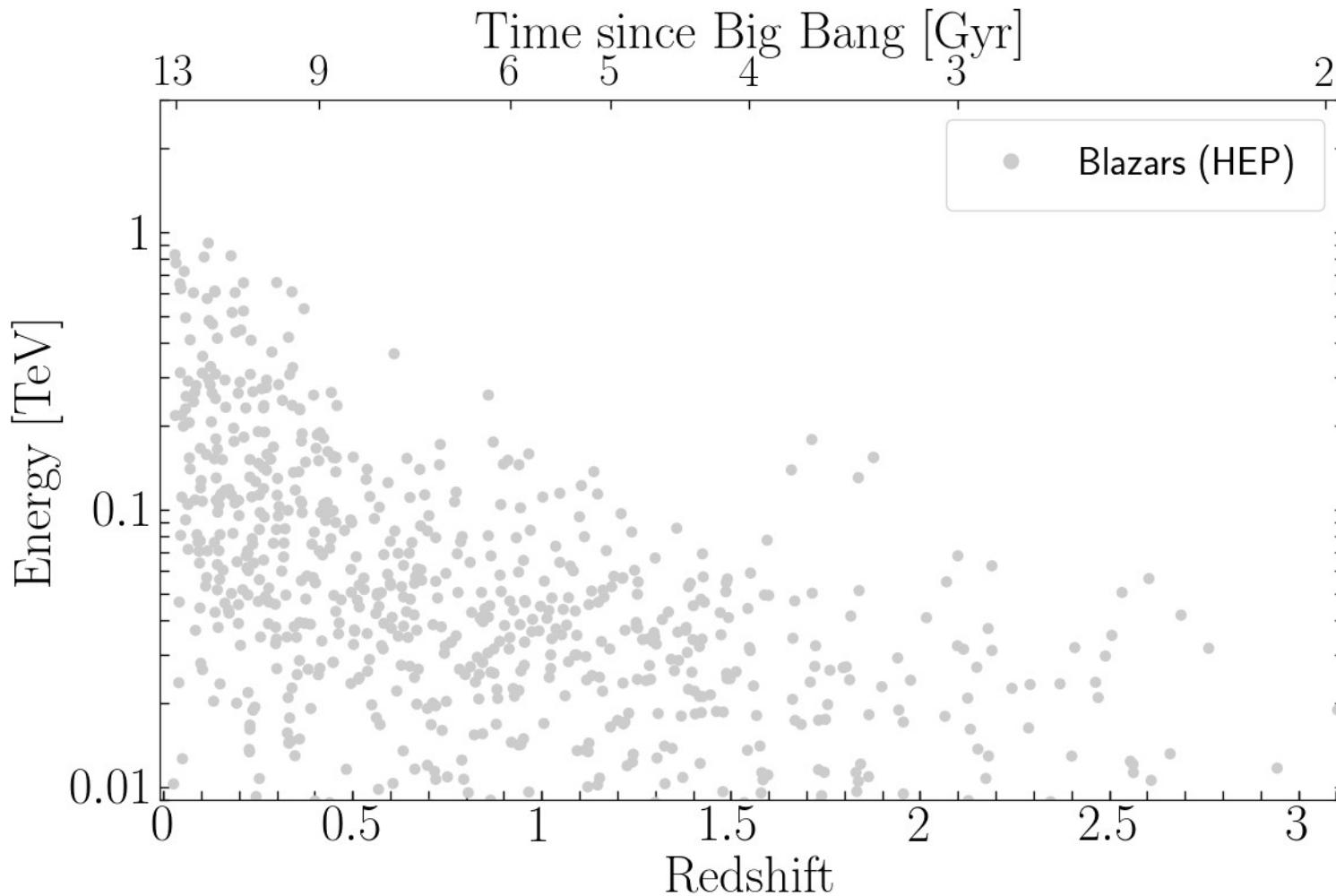
# Optical Depths from Gamma-ray Data

From detection (2012) to characterization (Now)

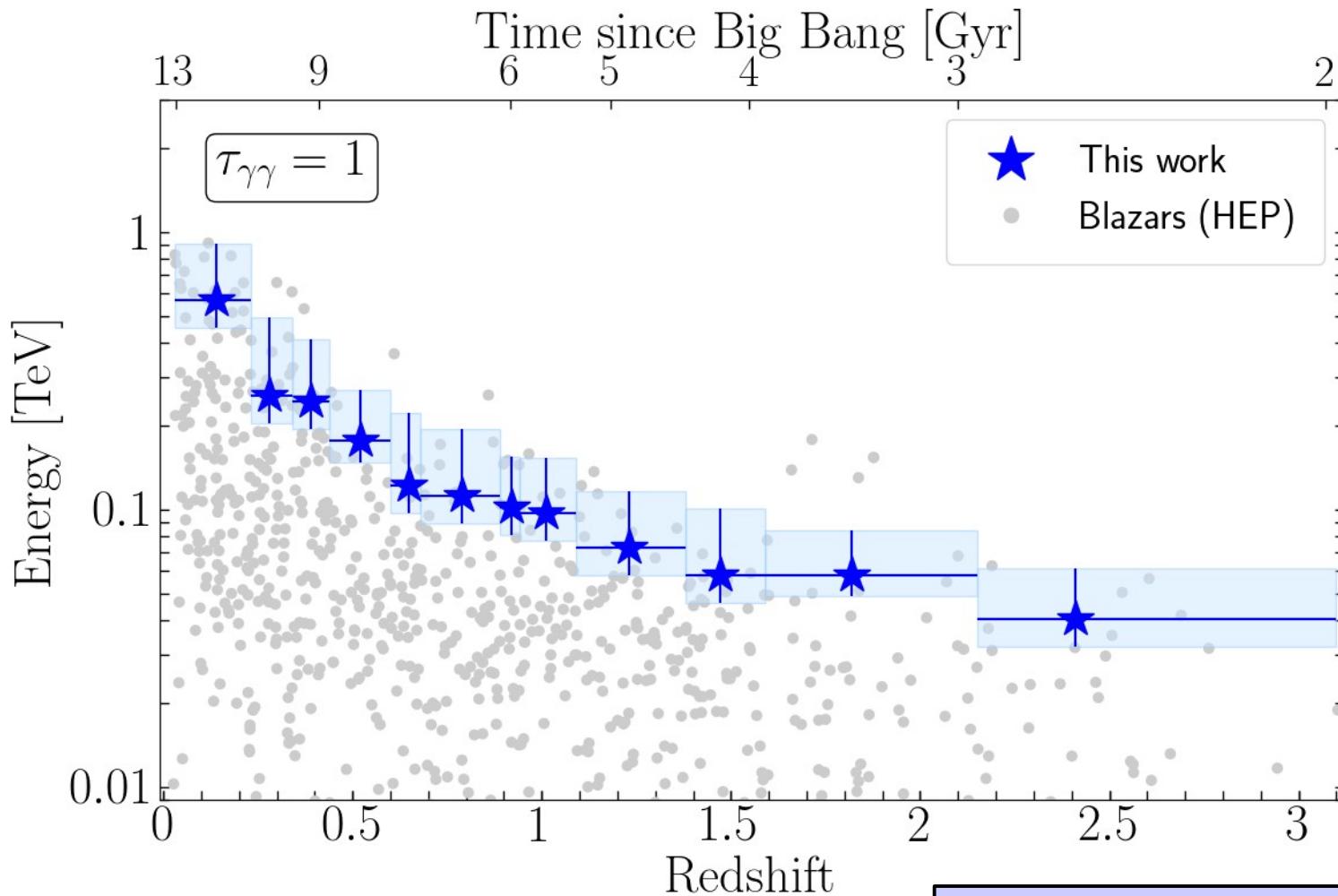


# Cosmic Gamma-Ray Horizon

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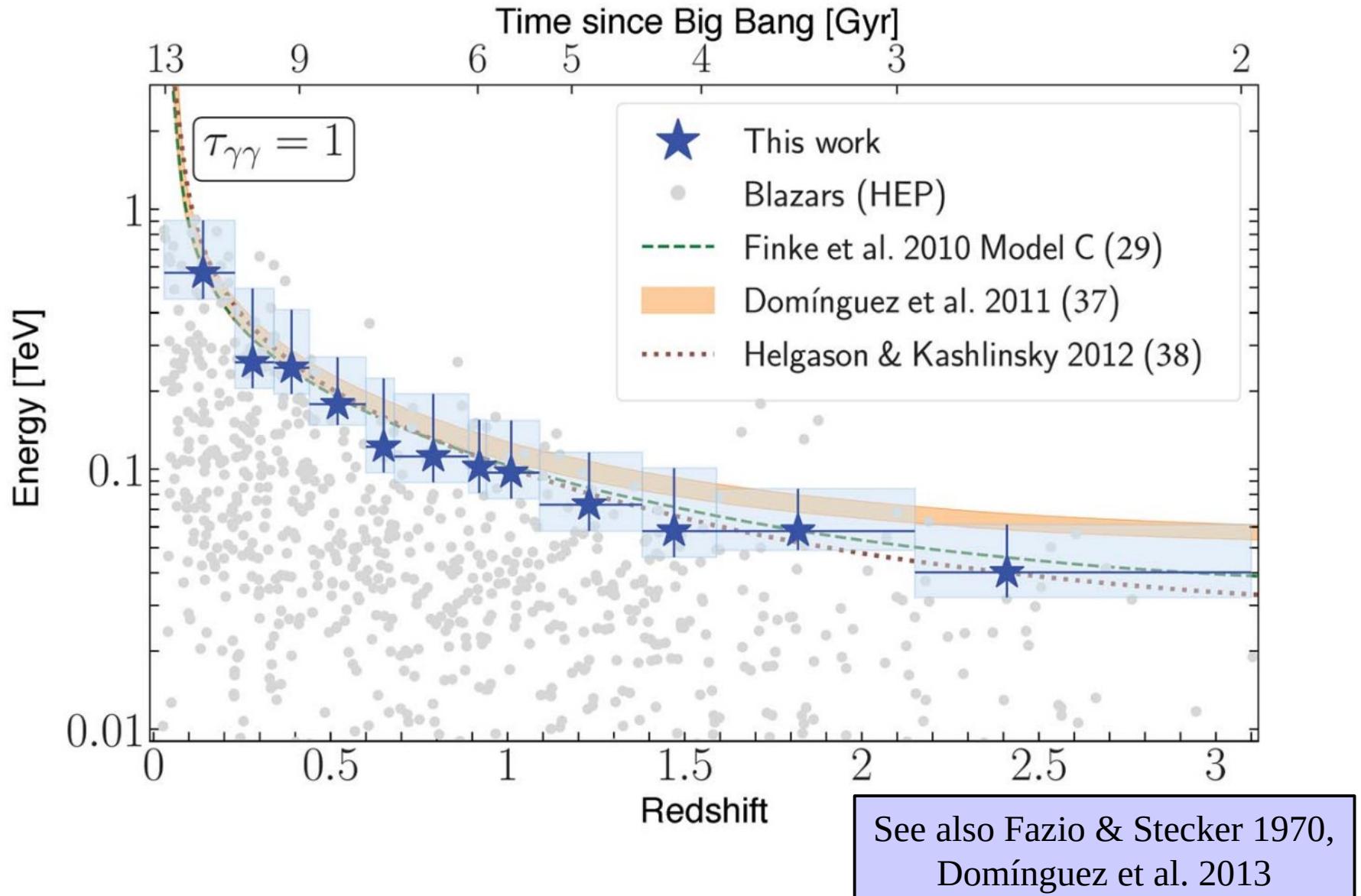


# Cosmic Gamma-Ray Horizon



See also Fazio & Stecker 1970,  
Domínguez et al. 2013

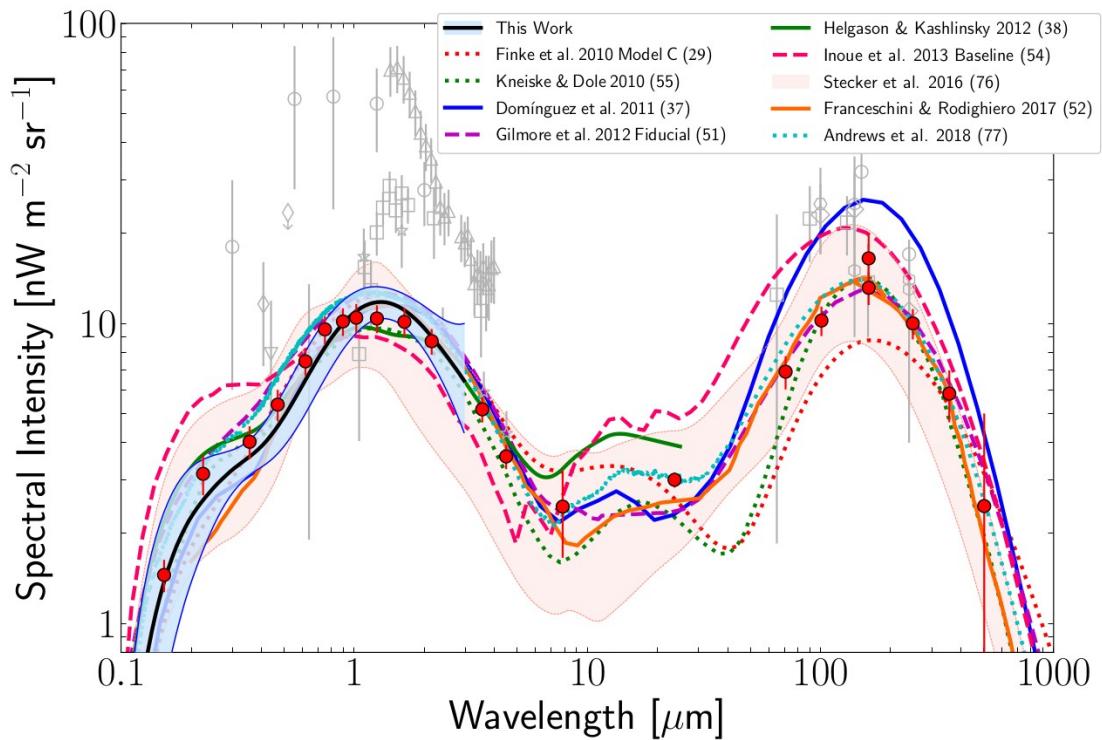
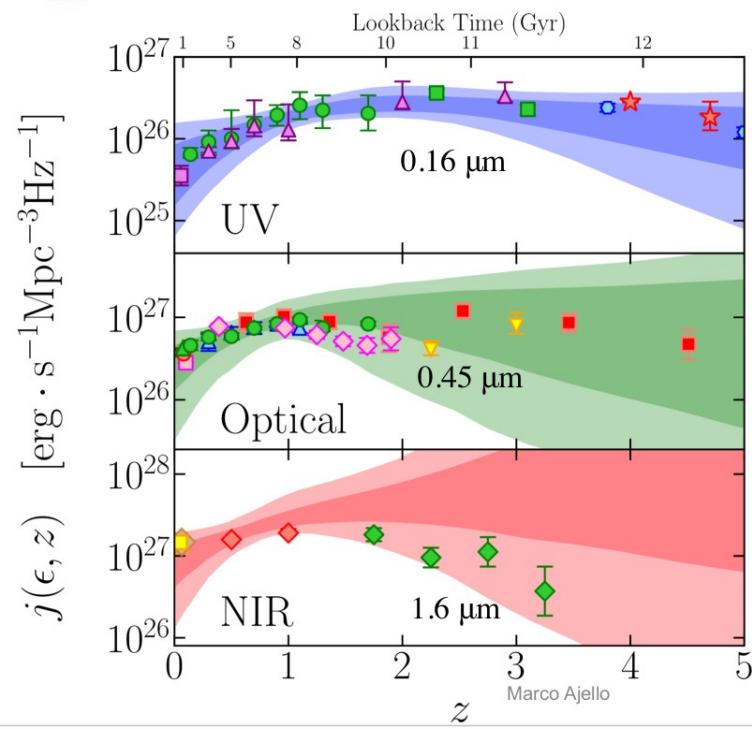
# Cosmic Gamma-Ray Horizon



# Galaxy Luminosity Densities and EBL

$$n_{\text{EBL}}(\epsilon, z) = (1 + z)^3 \int_z^{\infty} \frac{j(\epsilon, z)}{\epsilon} \left| \frac{dt}{dz'} \right| dz'$$

$$j(\lambda_i, z) = \sum_i a_i \cdot \exp \left[ -\frac{(\log \lambda - \log \lambda_i)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right] \times \frac{(1+z)^{b_i}}{1 + \left( \frac{1+z}{c_i} \right)^{d_i}},$$

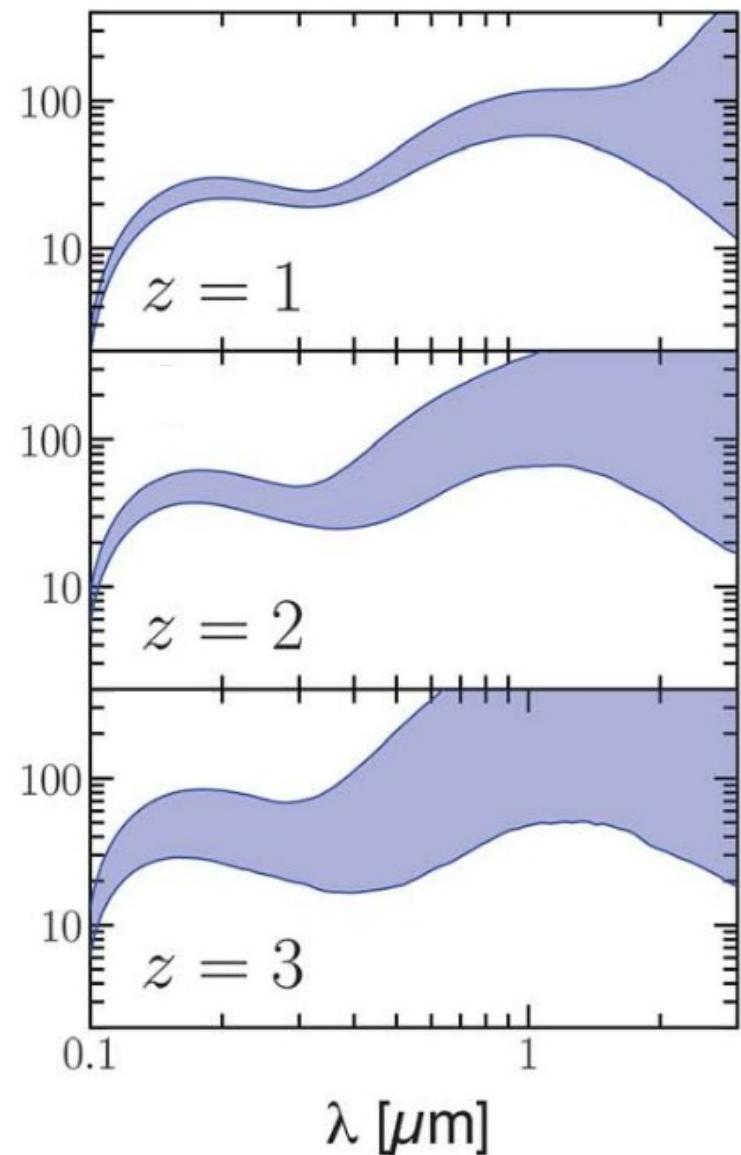


Luminosity density evolution as sum of log-normal distributions that can evolve independently

# Galaxy Luminosity Densities and EBL

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First EBL determination at  $z > 0$

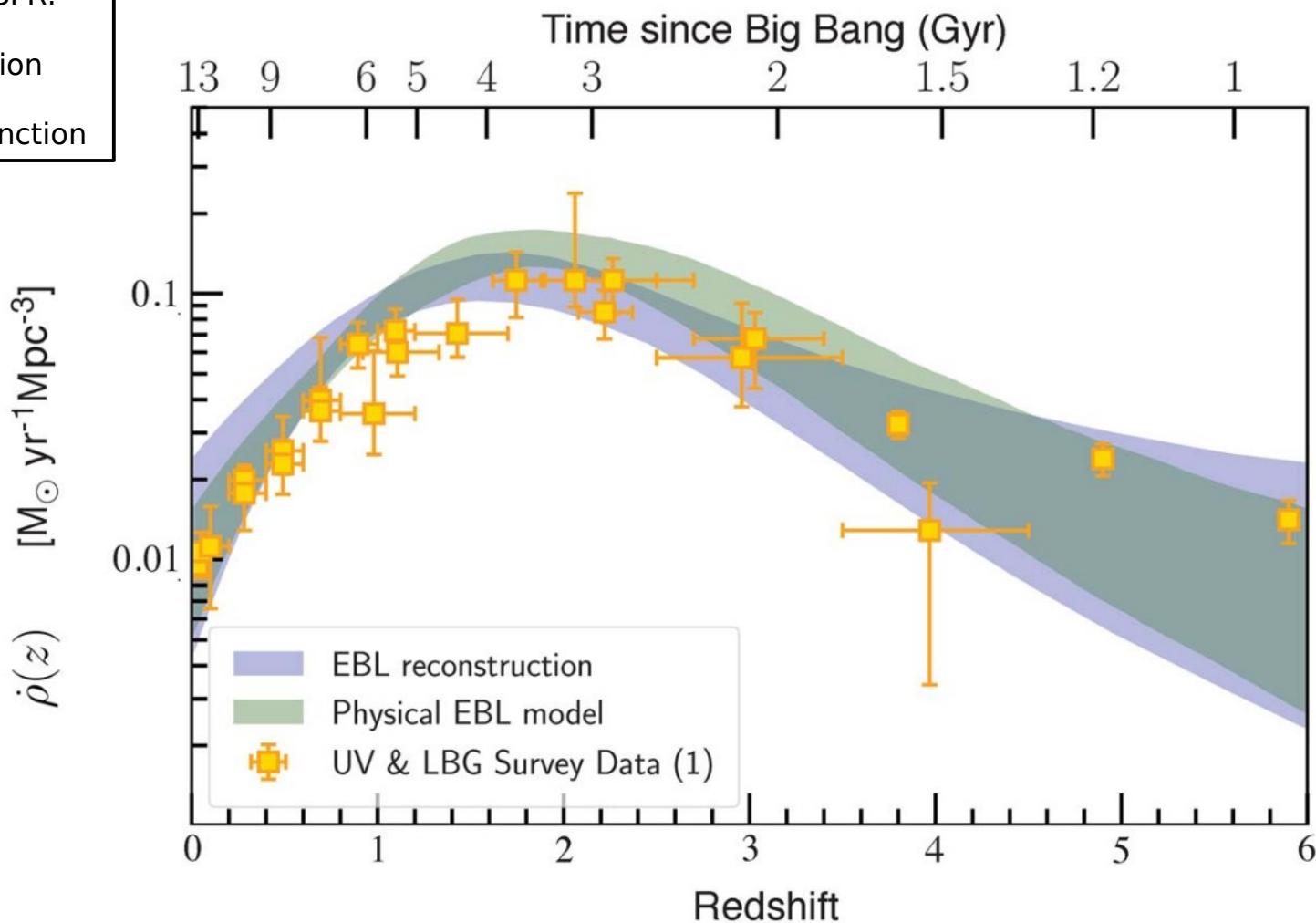


# Cosmic Star Formation Rate

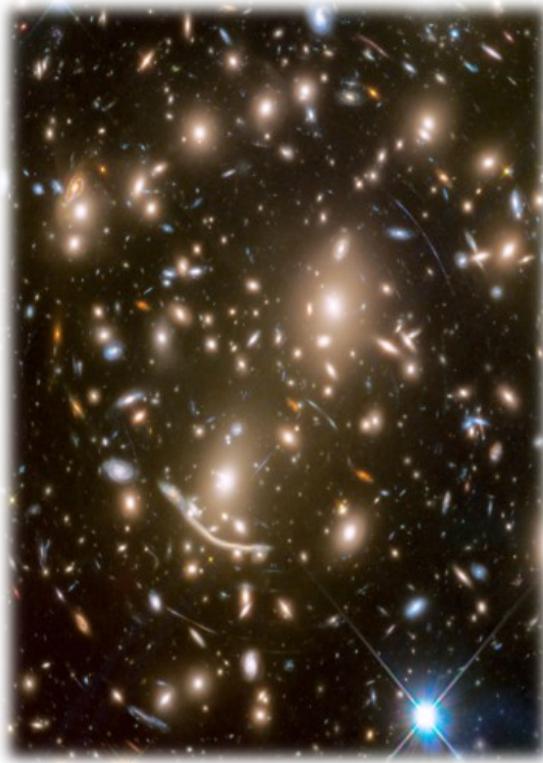
UV (0.16 microns) to SFR:

(1) Initial Mass Function

(2) Average Galaxy Extinction

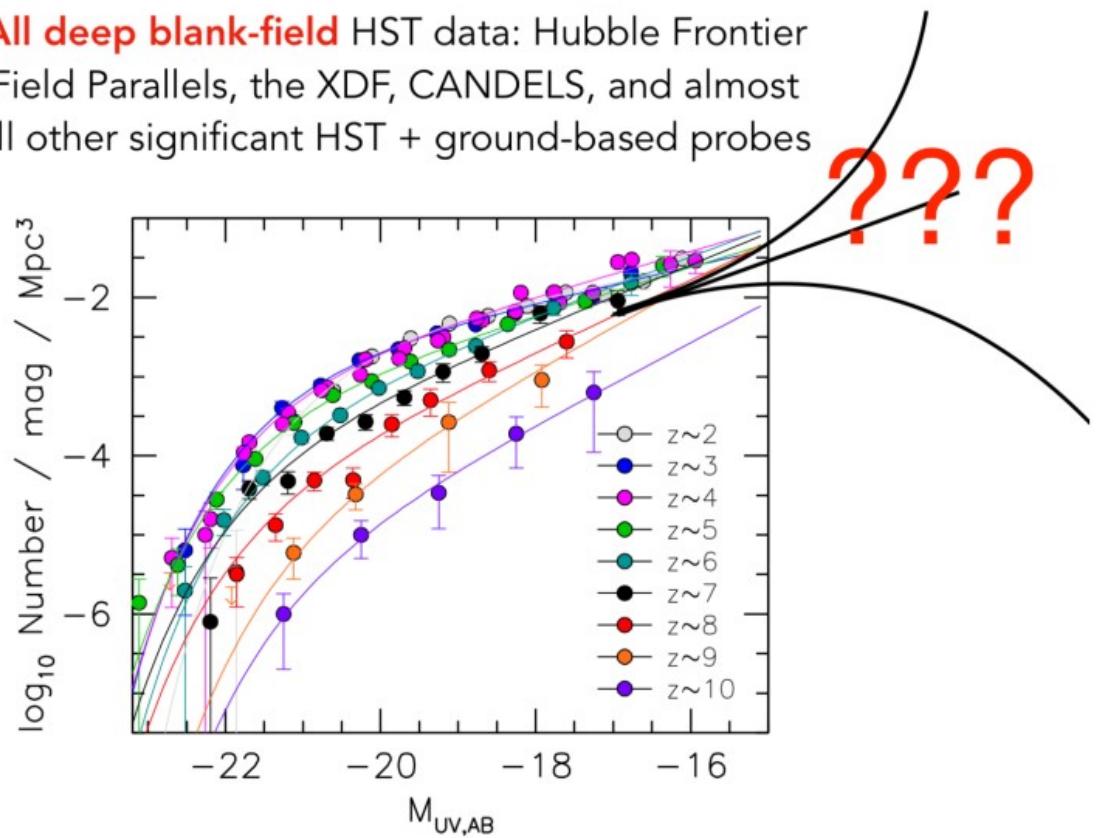


# Re-ionization of the Universe



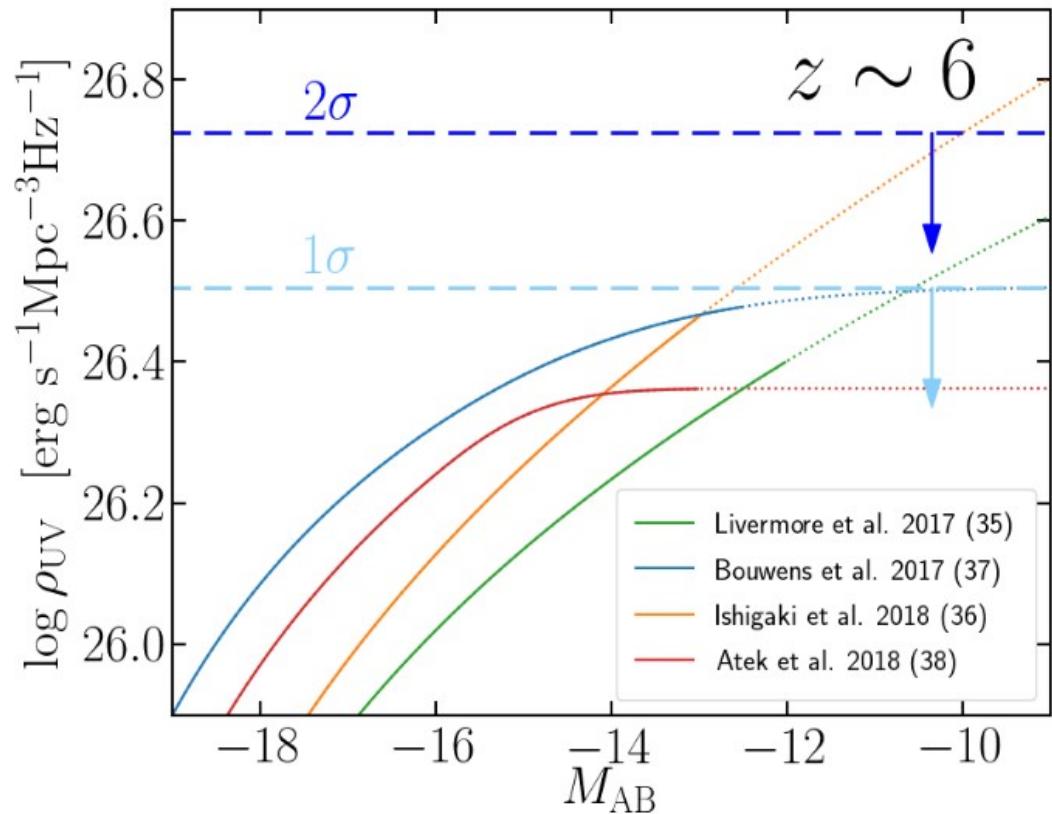
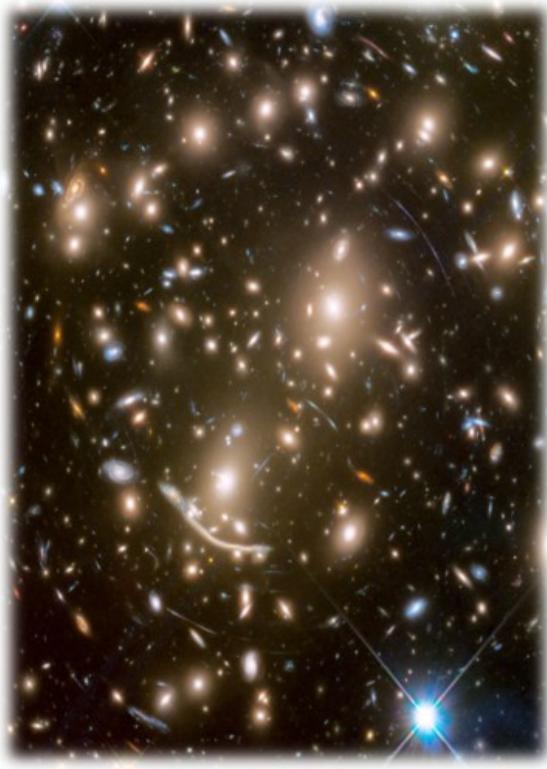
*Hubble Frontier Fields*

All deep blank-field HST data: Hubble Frontier Field Parallels, the XDF, CANDELS, and almost all other significant HST + ground-based probes



Bouwens+2018 (in prep); Oesch+2017

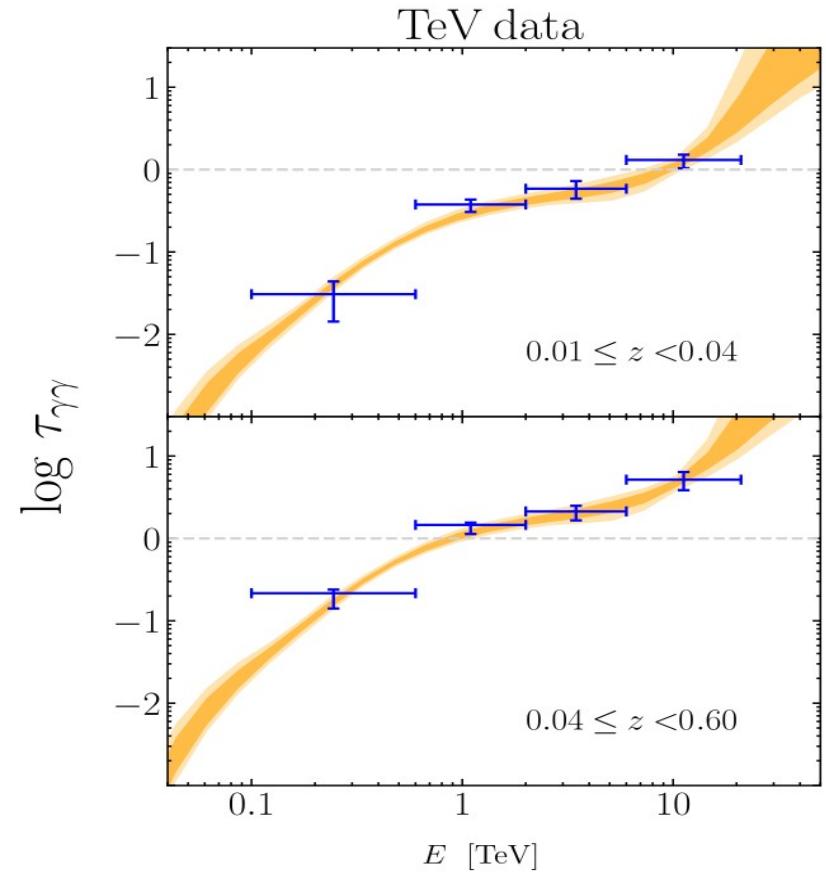
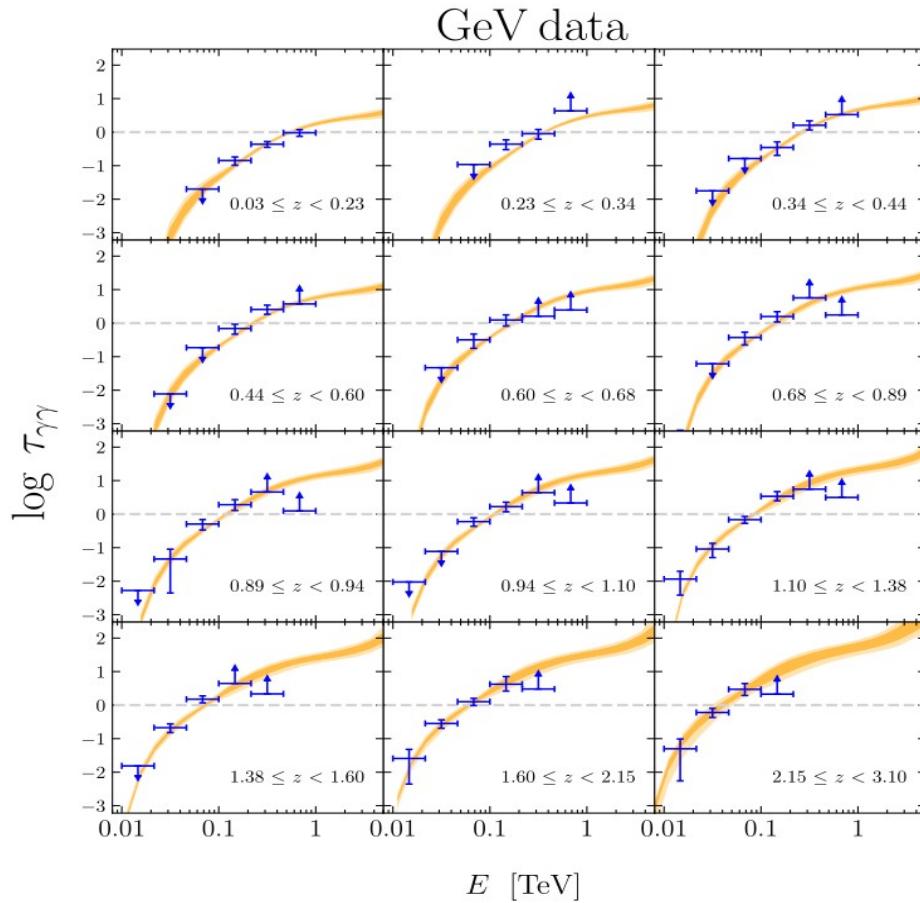
# Re-ionization of the Universe



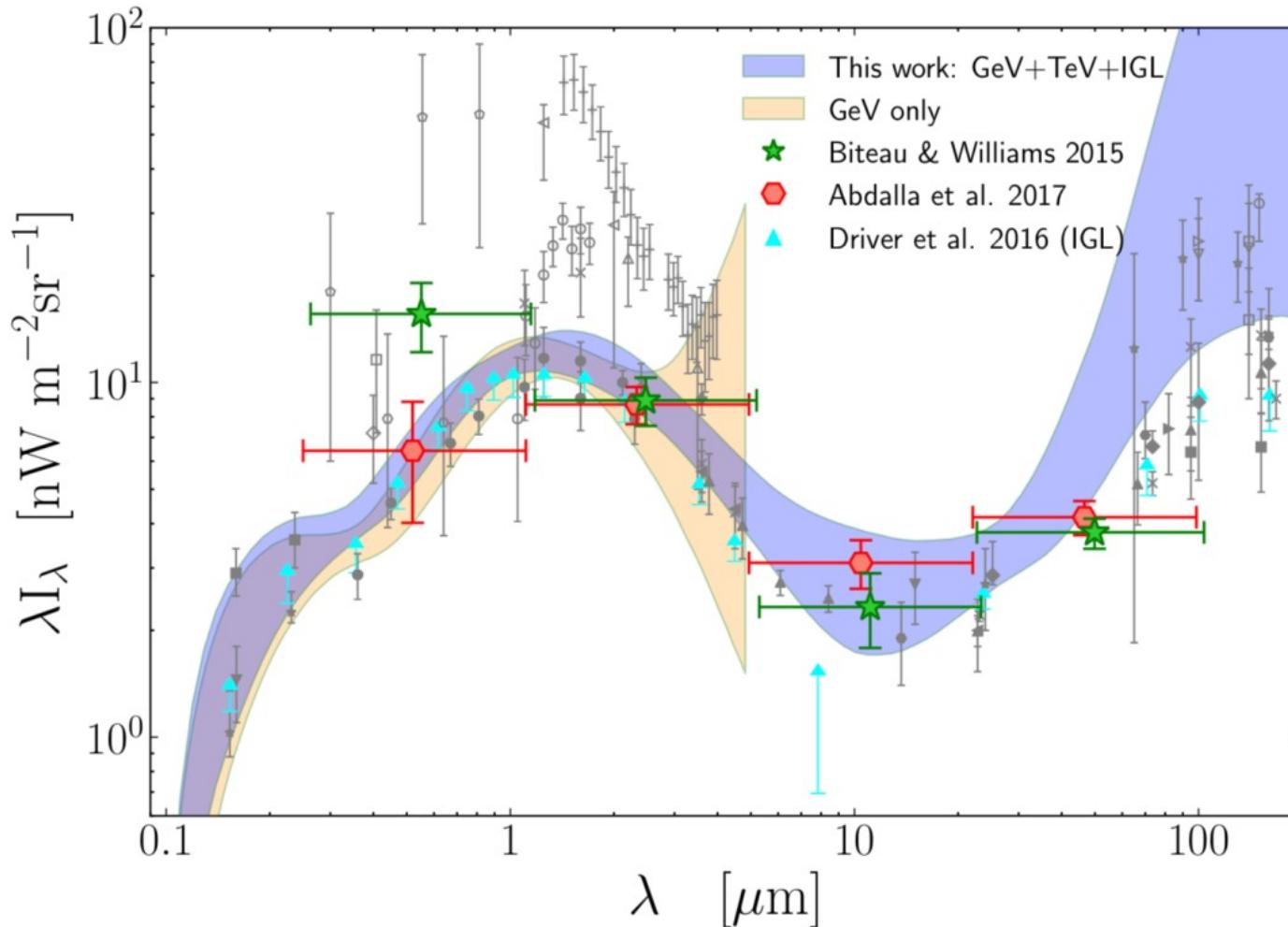
*Hubble Frontier Fields*

Constraints from  
gamma-ray attenuation

# Optical Depths from Gamma-ray Data

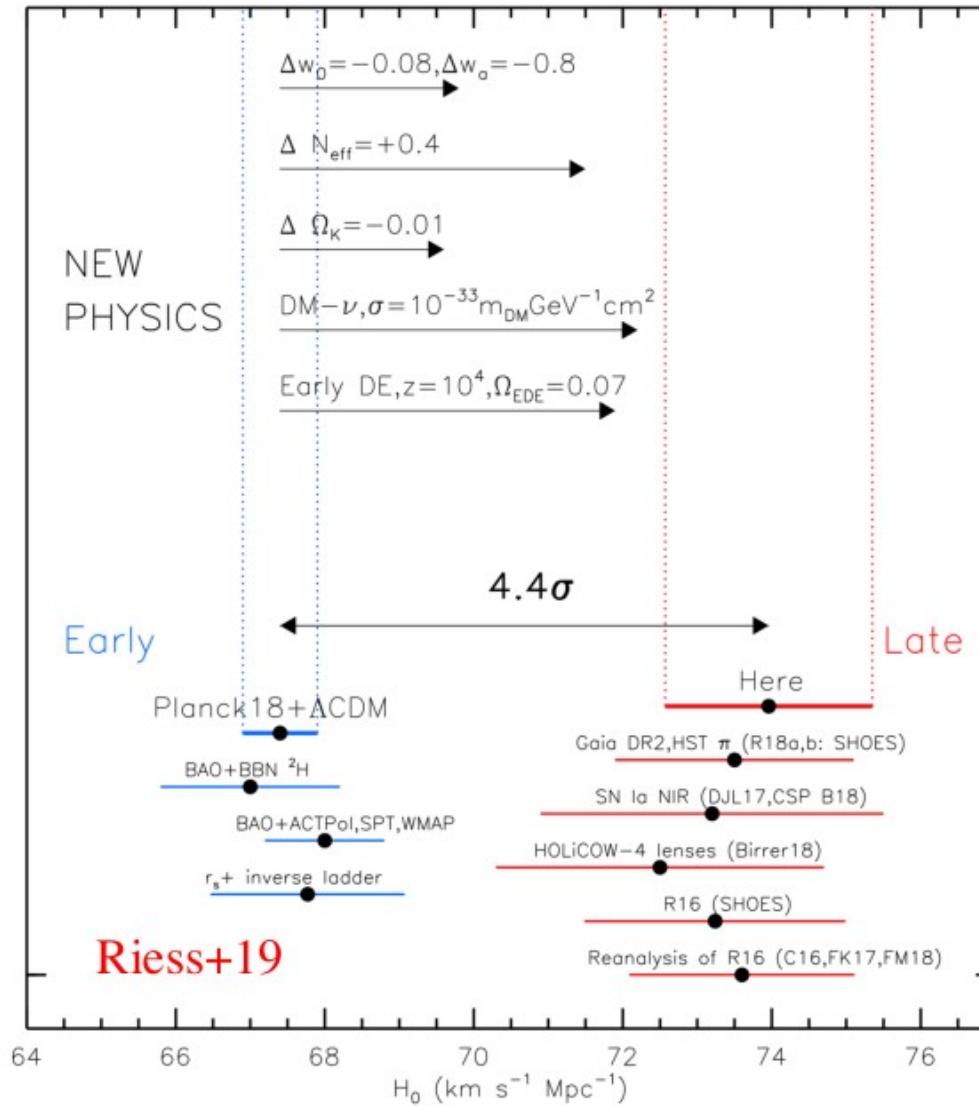


# Extragalactic Background Light from Gamma Rays

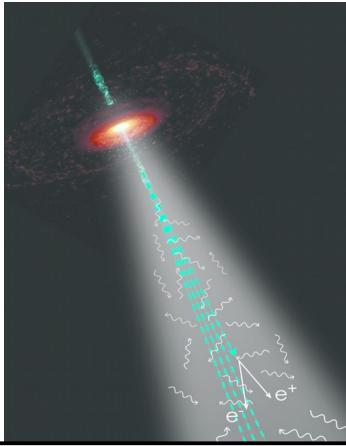


Local Extragalactic Background Light  
(also see works by the MAGIC, VERITAS, and  
H.E.S.S. Collaborations)

# Tension on $H_0$ Measurements

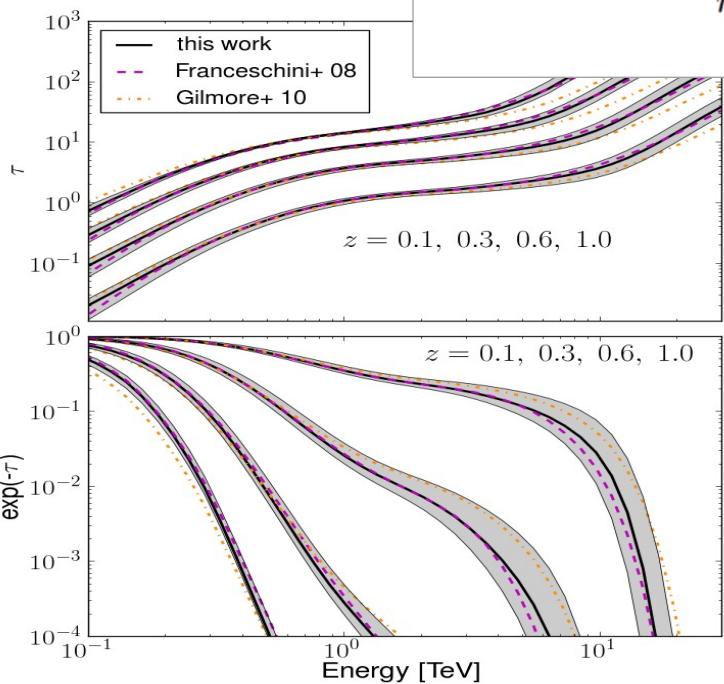


# Gamma-ray Attenuation



$$\left. \frac{dN}{dE} \right|_{obs} = \left. \frac{dN}{dE} \right|_{int} \exp [-\tau(E, z)]$$

$$\tau_{\gamma\gamma}(E_\gamma, z_s) = c \int_0^{z_s} \left| \frac{dt}{dz} \right| dz \int_{-1}^1 (1 - \mu) \frac{d\mu}{2} \int_{2m_e^2 c^4 / \epsilon_\gamma (1 - \mu)}^{\infty} \sigma(\epsilon_{EBL}, \epsilon_\gamma, \mu) n_{EBL}(\epsilon, z) d\epsilon_{EBL}$$



distance

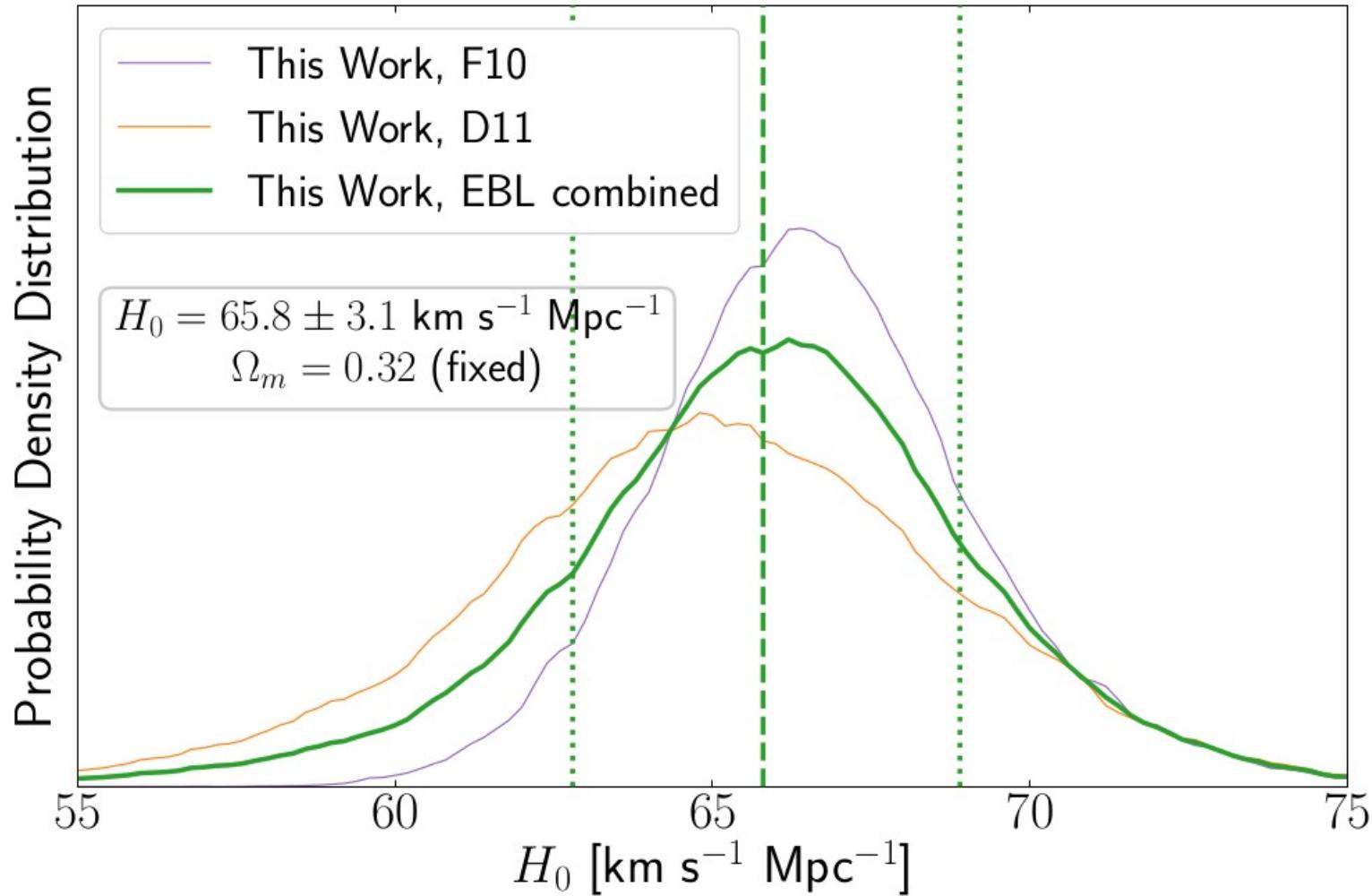
cross section

EBL photon density evolution

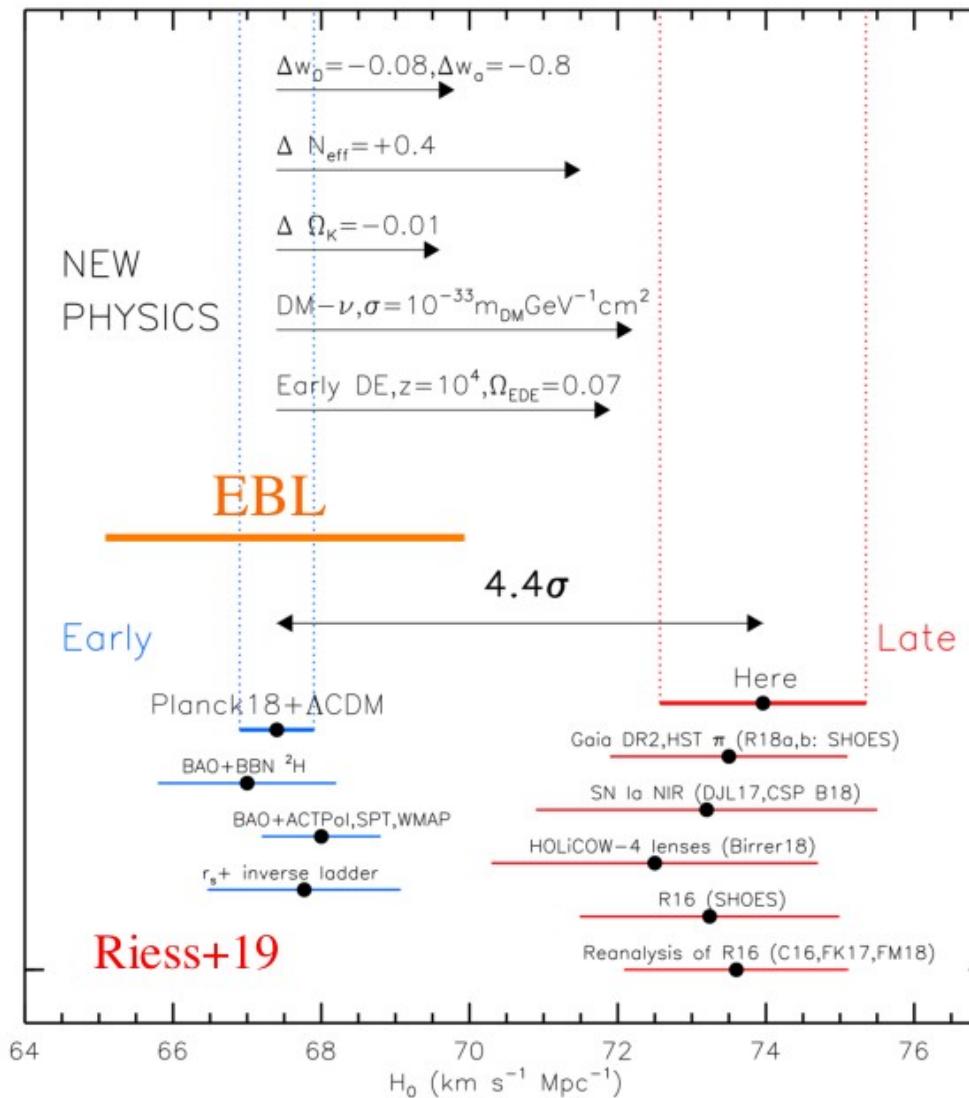
See Domínguez & Prada 13,  
Biteau & Williams 15

: Nina McCurdy & Joel Primack

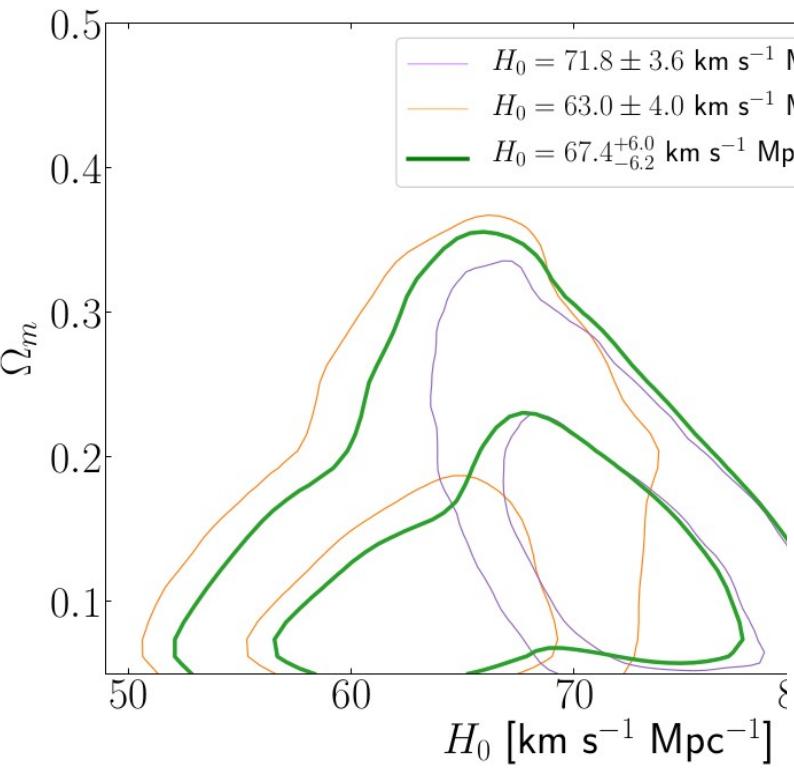
# Measuring $H_0$ with Gamma-ray Attenuation



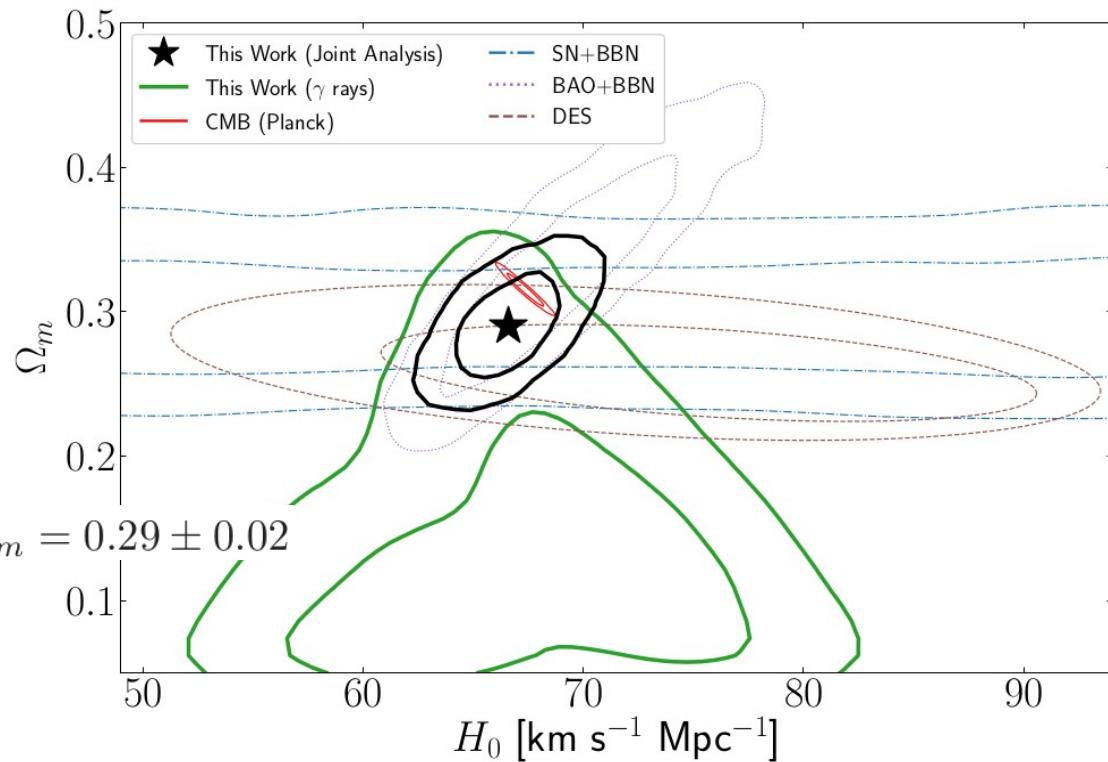
# Tension on $H_0$ Measurements



# Measuring $H_0$ and $\Omega_m$ with Gamma-ray Attenuation



$$H_0 = 67.4^{+6.0}_{-6.2} \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1} \text{ and } \Omega_m = 0.14^{+0.06}_{-0.07}$$



$$H_0 = 66.6 \pm 1.6 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1} \text{ and } \Omega_m = 0.29 \pm 0.02$$

# Take Home Messages

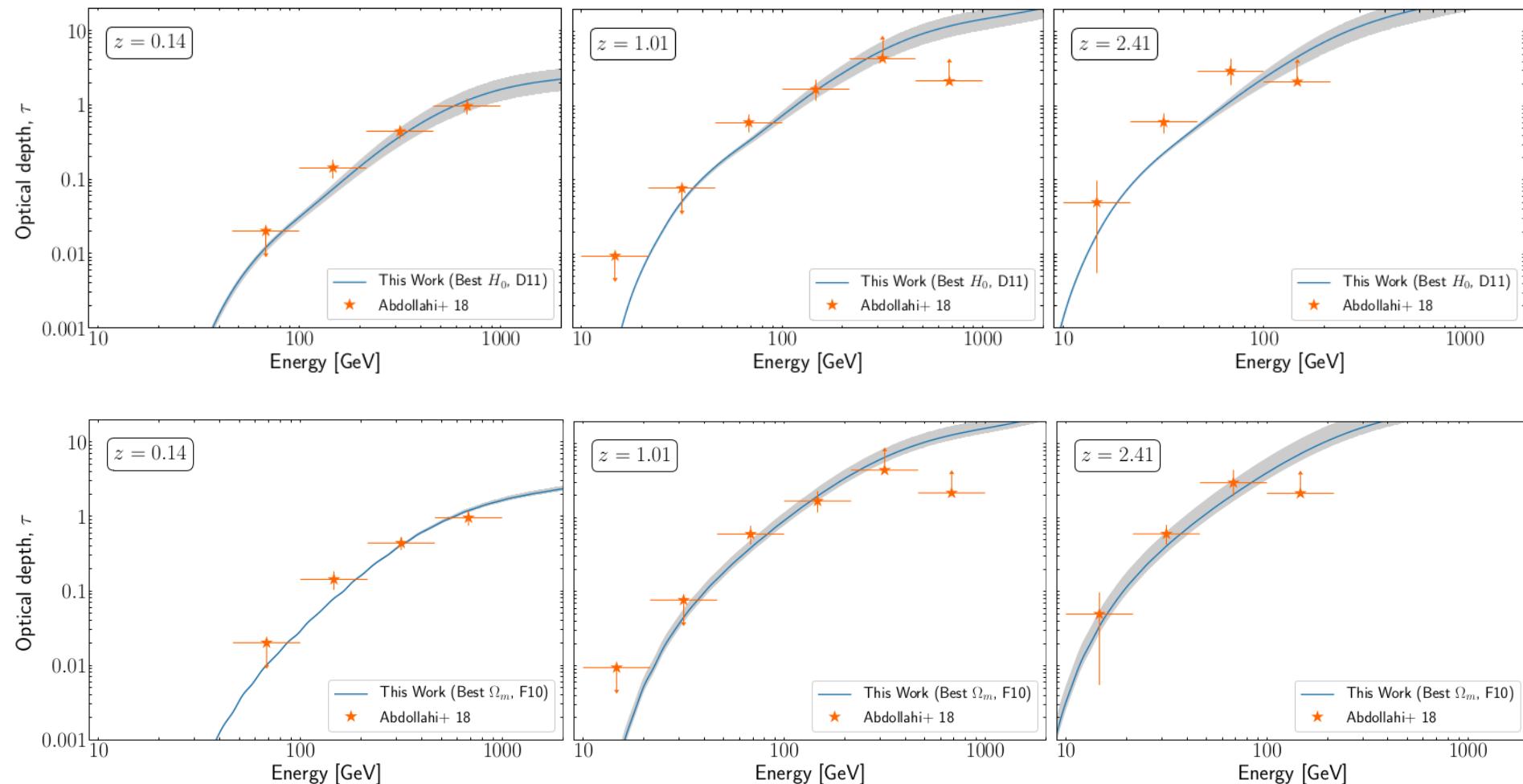
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- 1.- Very significant detection and characterization of the EBL attenuation up to  $z \sim 3$ .
- 2.- Complete derivation so far of the local EBL and its evolution over redshift from *Fermi*-LAT and Cherenkov data.
- 3.- Derived Cosmic Star formation Rate Density up to  $z \sim 5$  unbiased from different galaxy survey incompleteness.
- 4.- Cosmological measurement of  $H_0$  and  $\Omega_m$  from our independent technique.

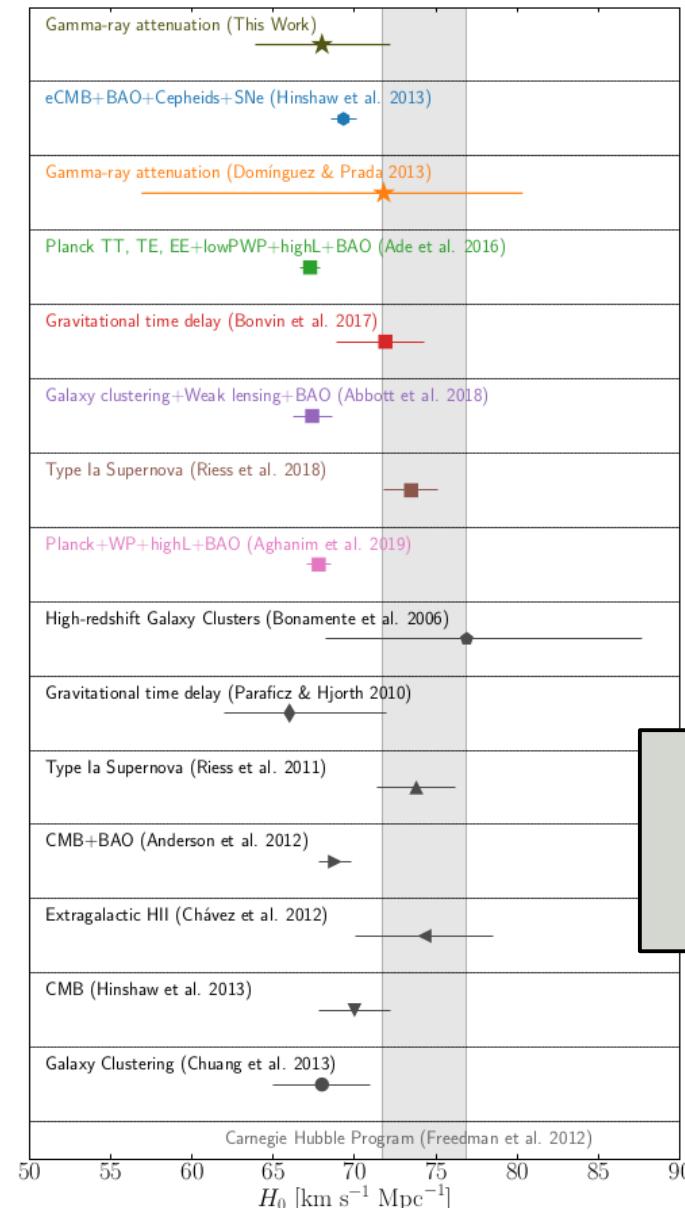
Gamma-ray astronomy has matured enough and is providing useful measurements in galaxy evolution and cosmology

# **Backup**

# Cosmology Dependence on the Optical Depth



# Comparison with other Methodologies



Combination of  
techniques is important  
to control systematics

# EBL models: Finke+ 10

Stellar emissivity (luminosity density):  

$$\epsilon j_{\epsilon}^{stars}(z) = m_e c^2 \epsilon^2 \frac{dN}{dt d\epsilon dV} = \epsilon^2 f_{esc}(\epsilon) \int_{m_{min}}^{m_{max}} dm \xi(m) \dot{N}_*(\epsilon; m, t_*(z))$$

$$\times \int_z^{z_{max}} dz_1 \left| \frac{dt_*}{dz_1} \right| \psi(z_1)$$

Dust absorption  
 IMF  
 Stellar photons  
 SFR  
 Expansion of universe

Stellar parameters from Eggleton et al. (1989), ApJ, 347, 998  
 Dust absorption: Driver et al. (2008), ApJ, 678, L101

Dust emission computed self-consistently:

$$f_n \int d\epsilon \frac{1}{f_{esc}(\epsilon)} [1 - f_{esc}(\epsilon)] j_{\epsilon}^{stars}(z) = \int d\epsilon j_{\epsilon,n}(\Theta_n)$$

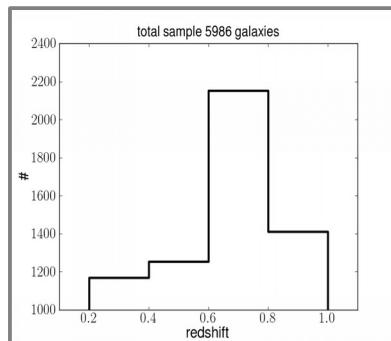
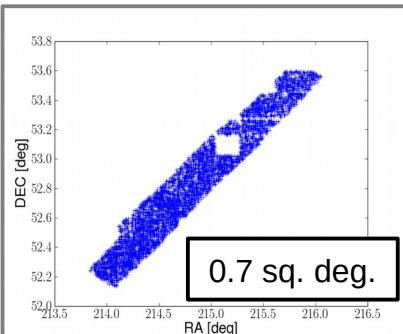
Three component dust model:

| Component         | $n$ | $f_n$ | $T_n$ [K] | $\Theta_n$ [ $10^{-9}$ ] |
|-------------------|-----|-------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Warm Large Grains | 1   | 0.60  | 40        | 7                        |
| Hot Small Grains  | 2   | 0.05  | 70        | 12                       |
| PAHs              | 3   | 0.35  | 450       | 76                       |

EBL energy density:  $\epsilon u_{EBL}(\epsilon; z) = \int_z^{z_{max}} dz_1 \frac{\epsilon'' j_{\epsilon''}(z_1)}{(1+z_1)} \left| \frac{dt_*}{dz_1} \right|$

JF, Razzaque, & Dermer, (2010), ApJ, 712, 238  
 Razzaque, Dermer, & JF, (2009), ApJ, 697, 483

# EBL models: Domínguez+ 11



EGS field

| Band    | $\lambda_{eff}$ [ $\mu\text{m}$ ] | Observatory | Req. | UL [ $\mu\text{Jy}$ ] |
|---------|-----------------------------------|-------------|------|-----------------------|
| FUV     | 0.1539                            | GALEX       | ext  | -                     |
| NUV     | 0.2316                            | GALEX       | ext  | -                     |
| B       | 0.4389                            | CFHT12K     | det  | -                     |
| R       | 0.6601                            | CFHT12K     | det  | -                     |
| I       | 0.8133                            | CFHT12K     | det  | -                     |
| $K_S$   | 2.14                              | WIRC        | det  | -                     |
| IRAC 1  | 3.6                               | IRAC        | det  | -                     |
| IRAC 2  | 4.5                               | IRAC        | obs  | 1.2                   |
| IRAC 3  | 5.8                               | IRAC        | obs  | 6.3                   |
| IRAC 4  | 8.0                               | IRAC        | obs  | 6.9                   |
| MIPS 24 | 23.7                              | MIPS        | obs  | 30                    |

Total: 5986 galaxies

