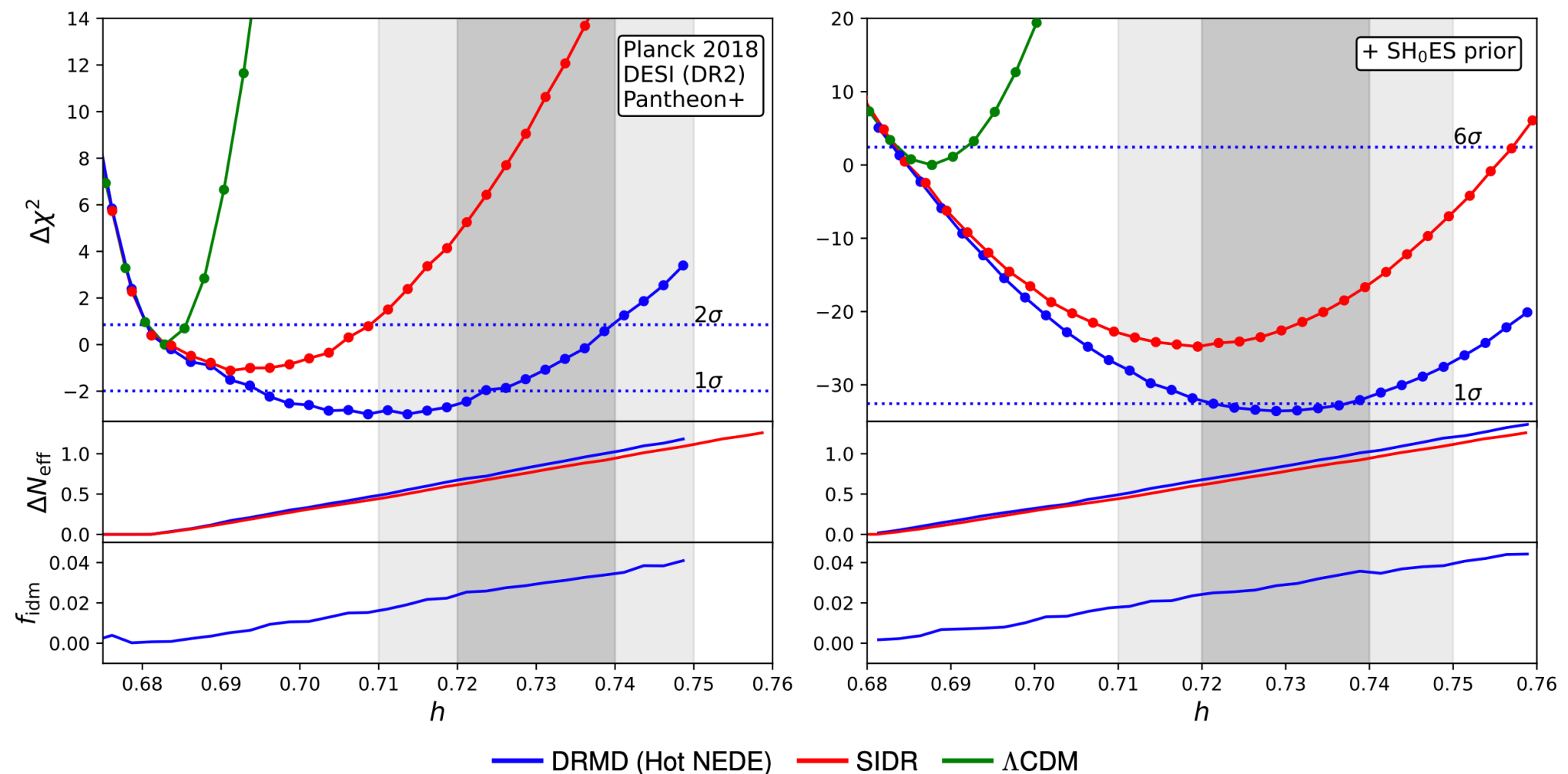


Resolving the Hubble Tension with New Early Dark Energy

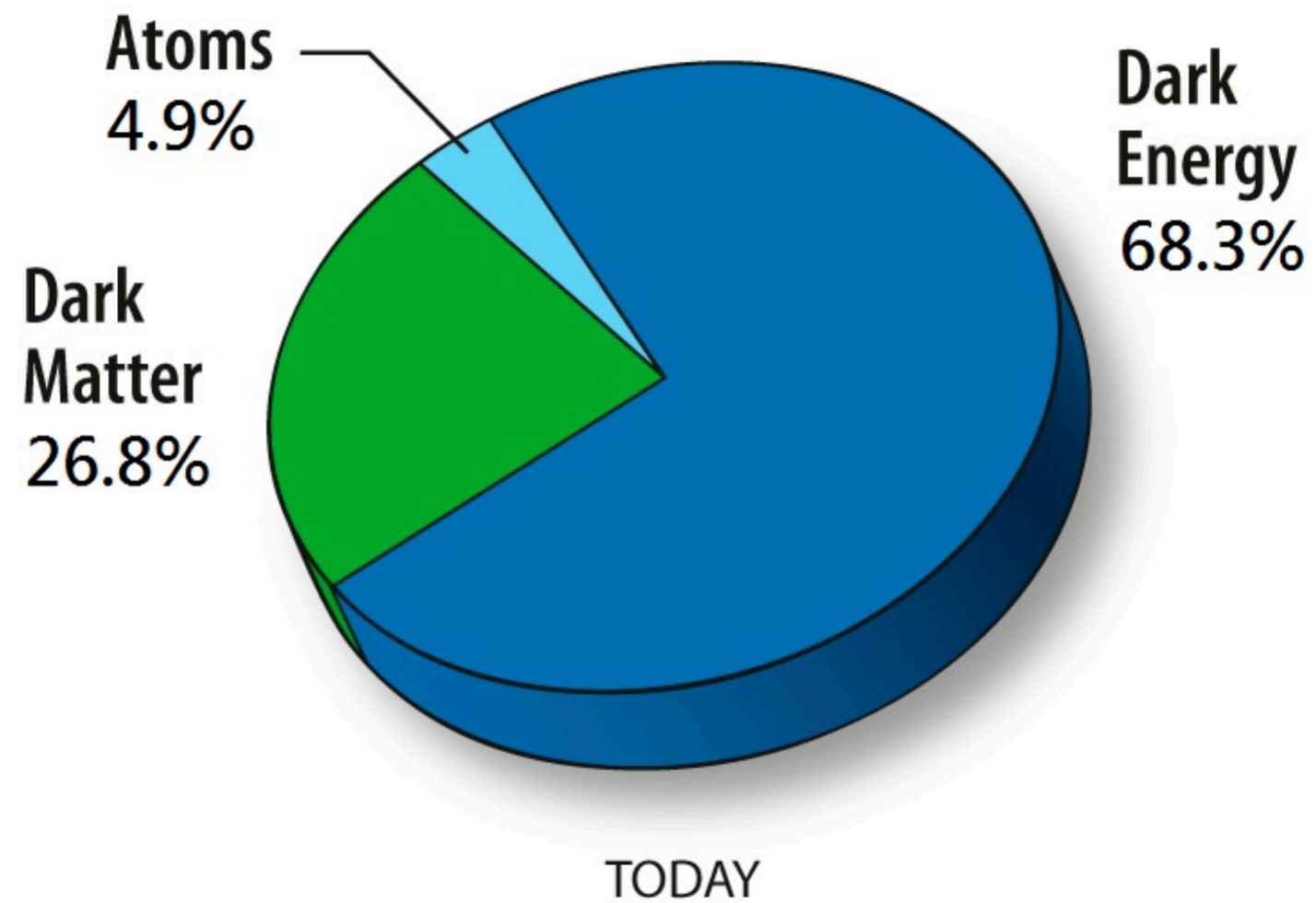
Martin S. Sloth

Universe-Origins, SDU



In collaboration with Florian Niedermann, Mathias Garny, Henrique Rubira, Aleksandr Chatrchyan, Emil Brinch Holm, Vivian Poulin, Thomas Tram, Steen Hannestad, ...

Λ CDM



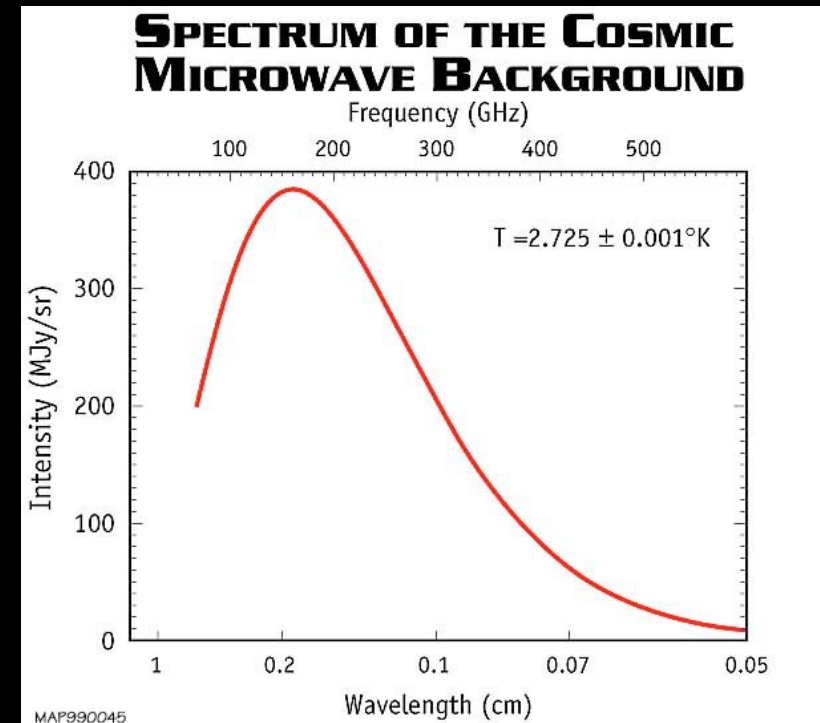
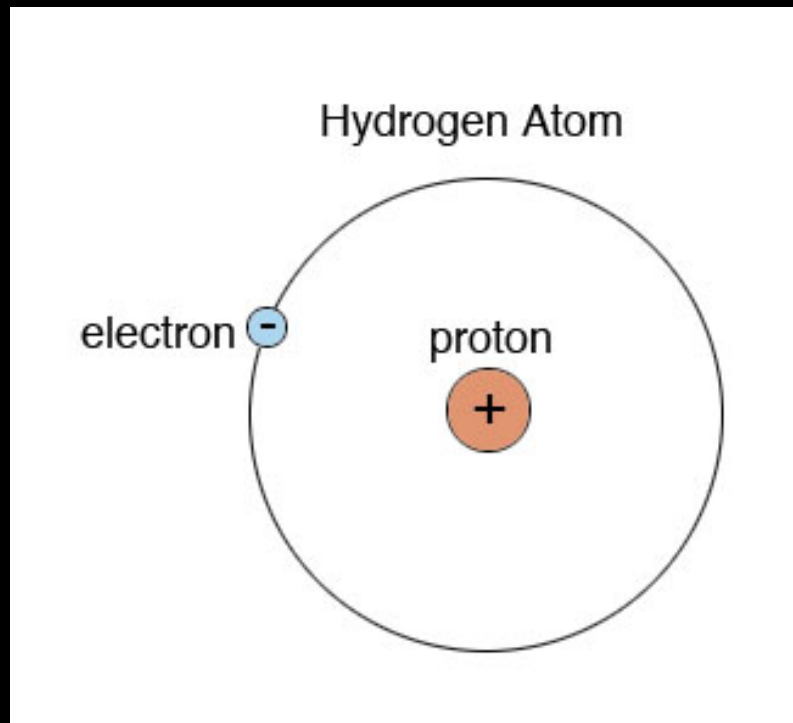
Evidence for Λ CDM

Evidence

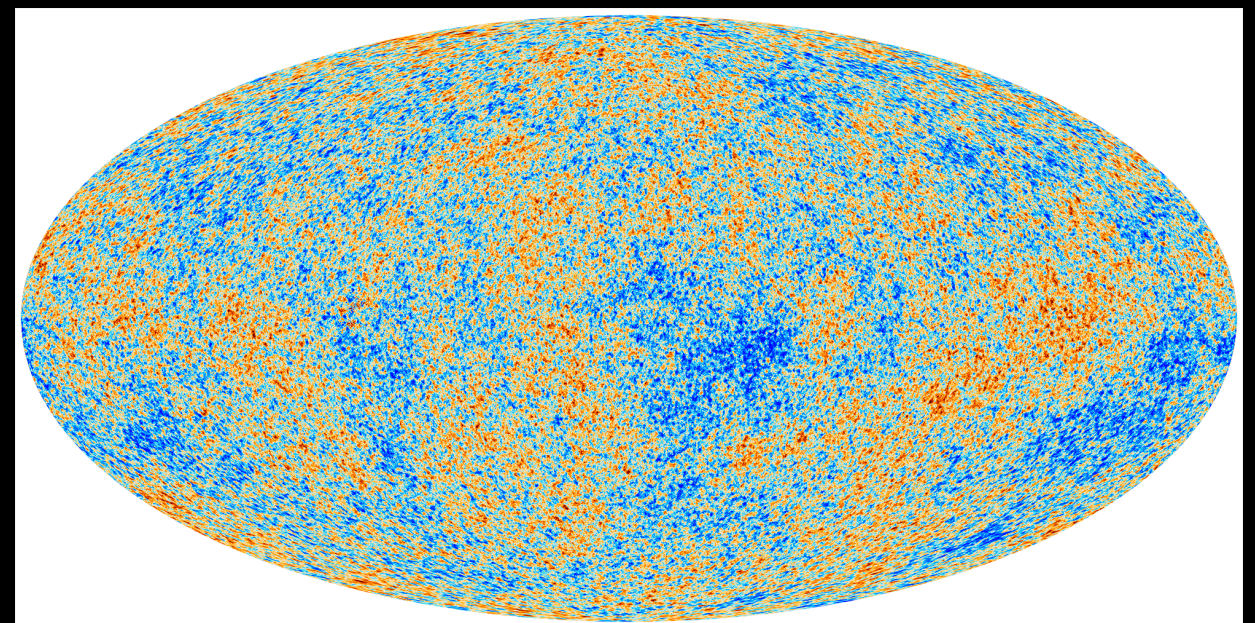
Most important for this talk:

1. CMB (Cosmic Microwave Background)
2. BAO (Baryonic Acoustic Oscillations)
3. SN (Type IA SuperNovae)

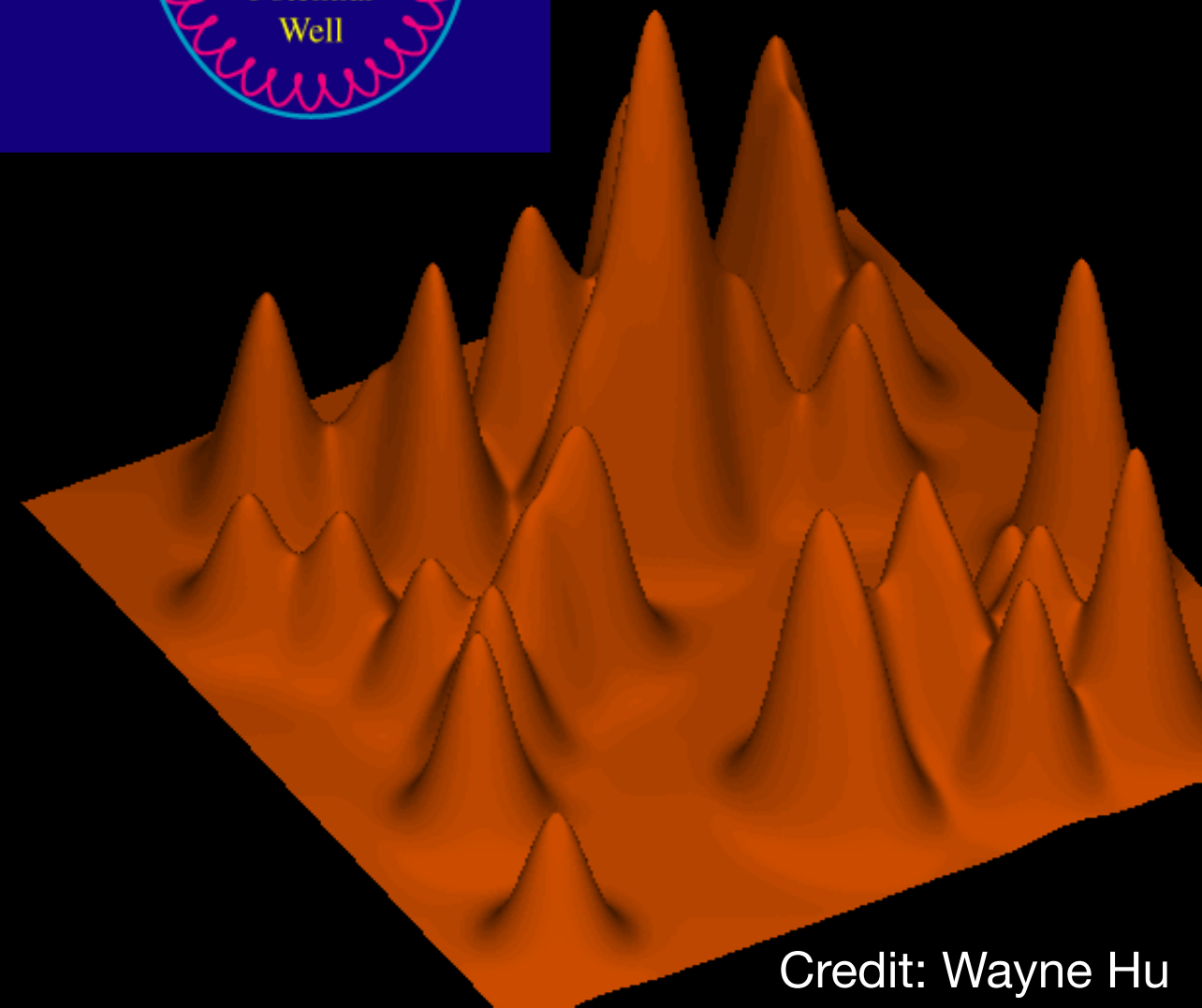
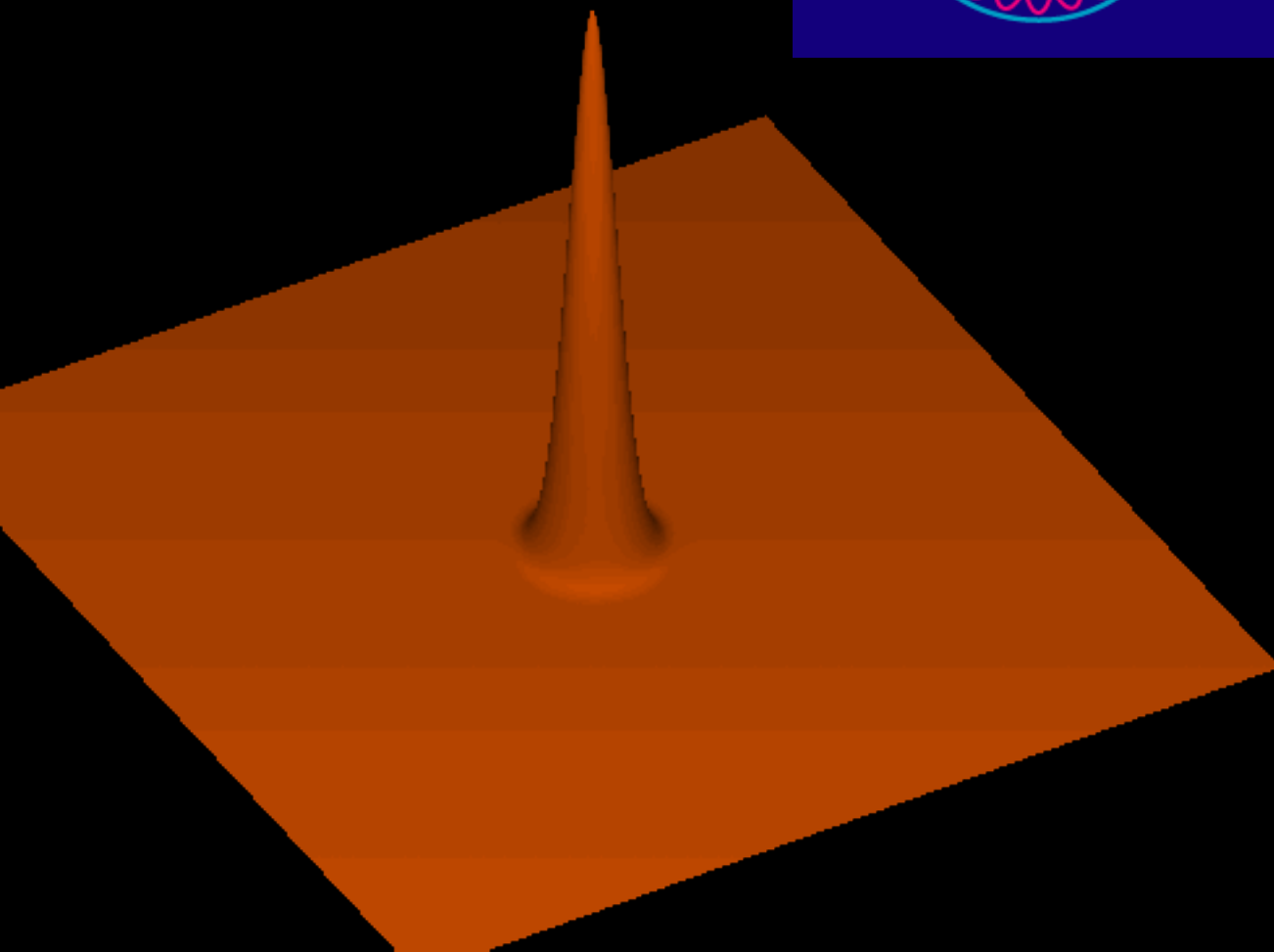
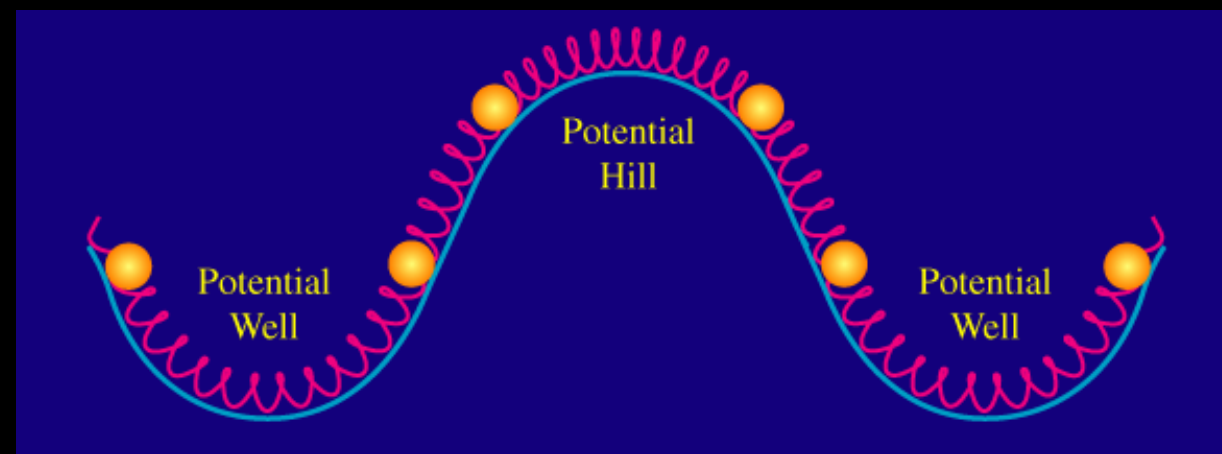
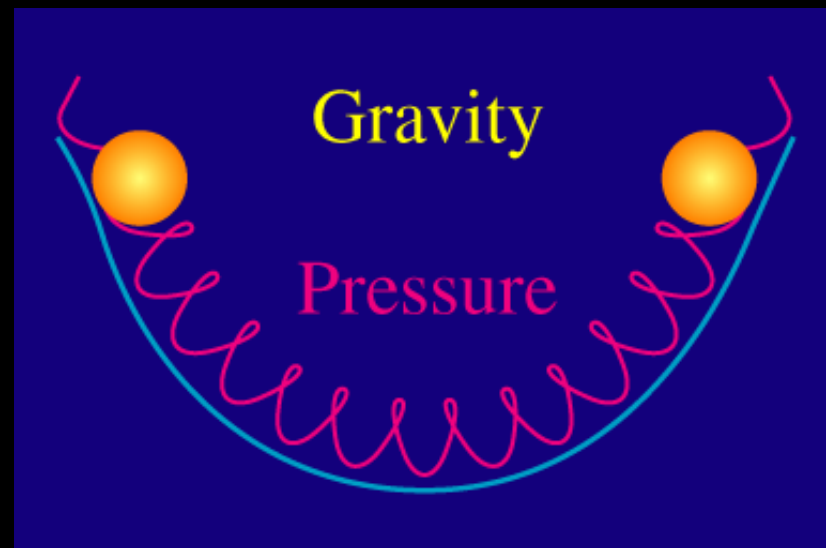
CMB created 380.000 years after Big Bang



Nobel Prizes,
1978, 2006



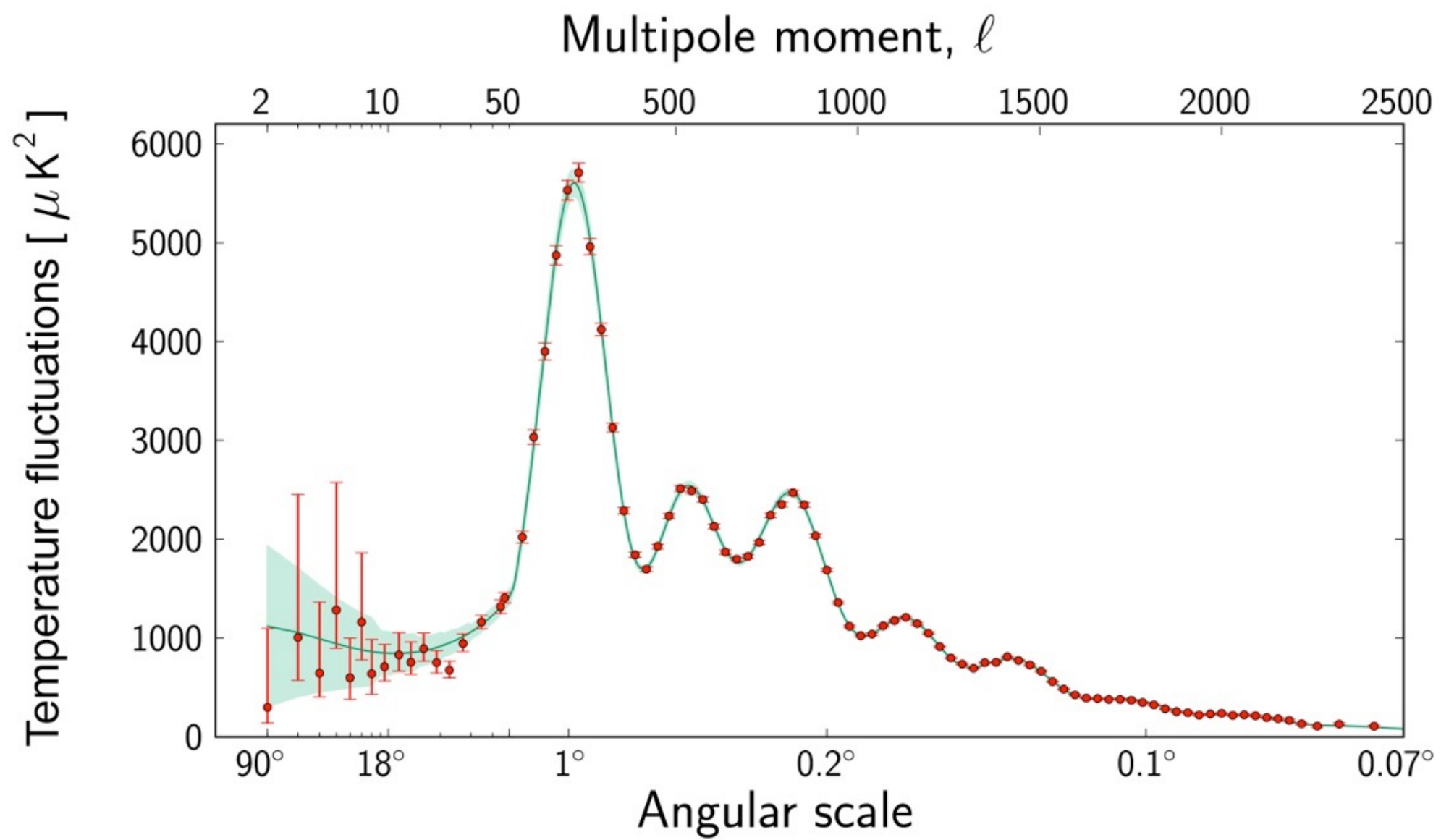
Planck 2013, ESA

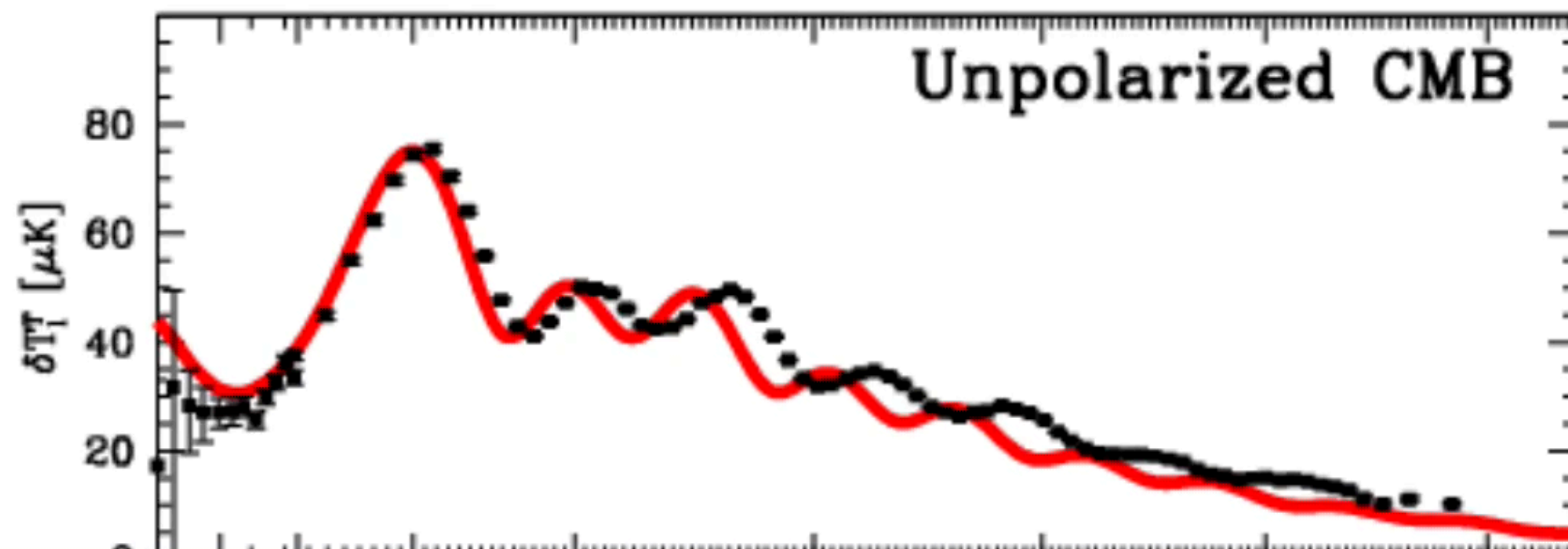


Sound horizon

$$r_s = \int_{z_*}^{\infty} \frac{c_s(z)}{H(z)} dz$$

$$\frac{H(z)}{H_0} = \sqrt{\Omega_{\Lambda} + \Omega_m(1+z)^3 + \Omega_r(1+z)^4 + \Omega_X(z)}$$



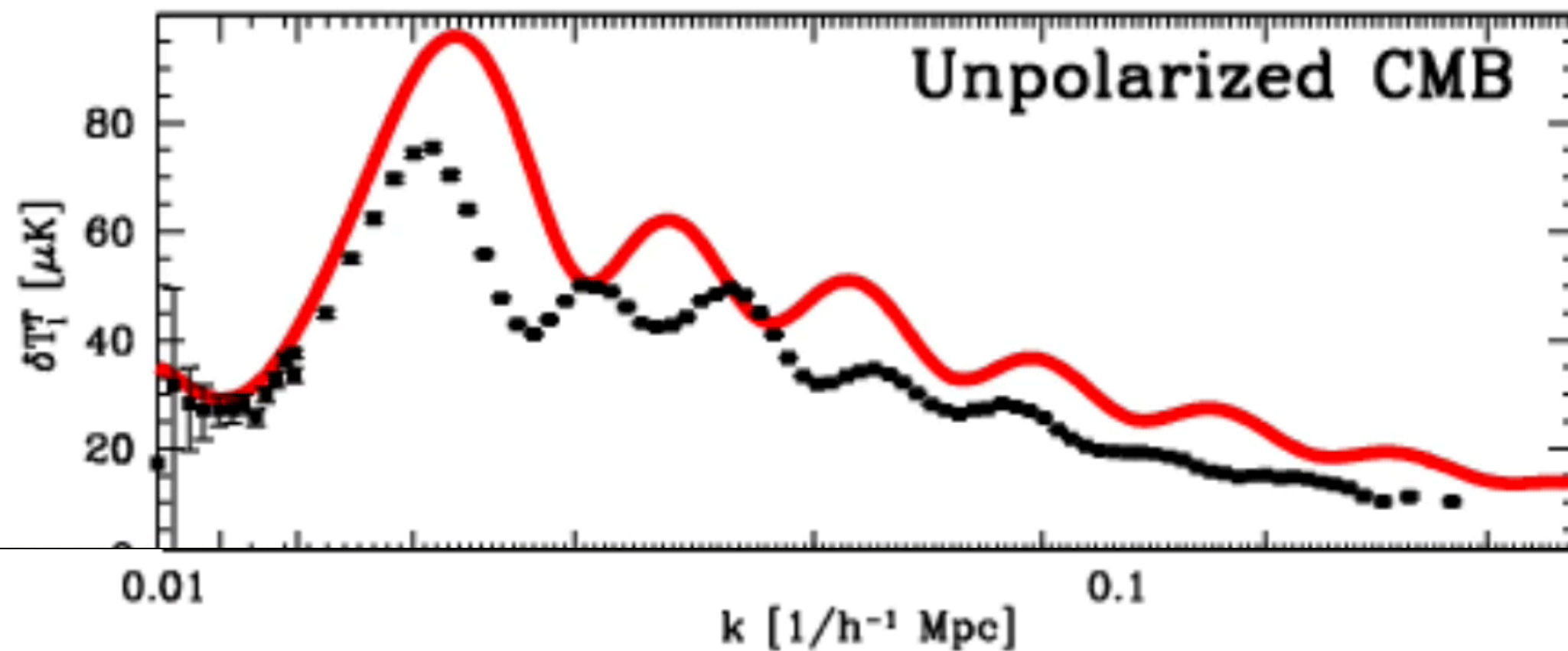


$$\tau = 0.087$$

$$\Omega_k = 0.000$$

$$\Omega_\Lambda = 0.90$$

$$\omega_d = 0.11$$



$$\tau = 0.087$$

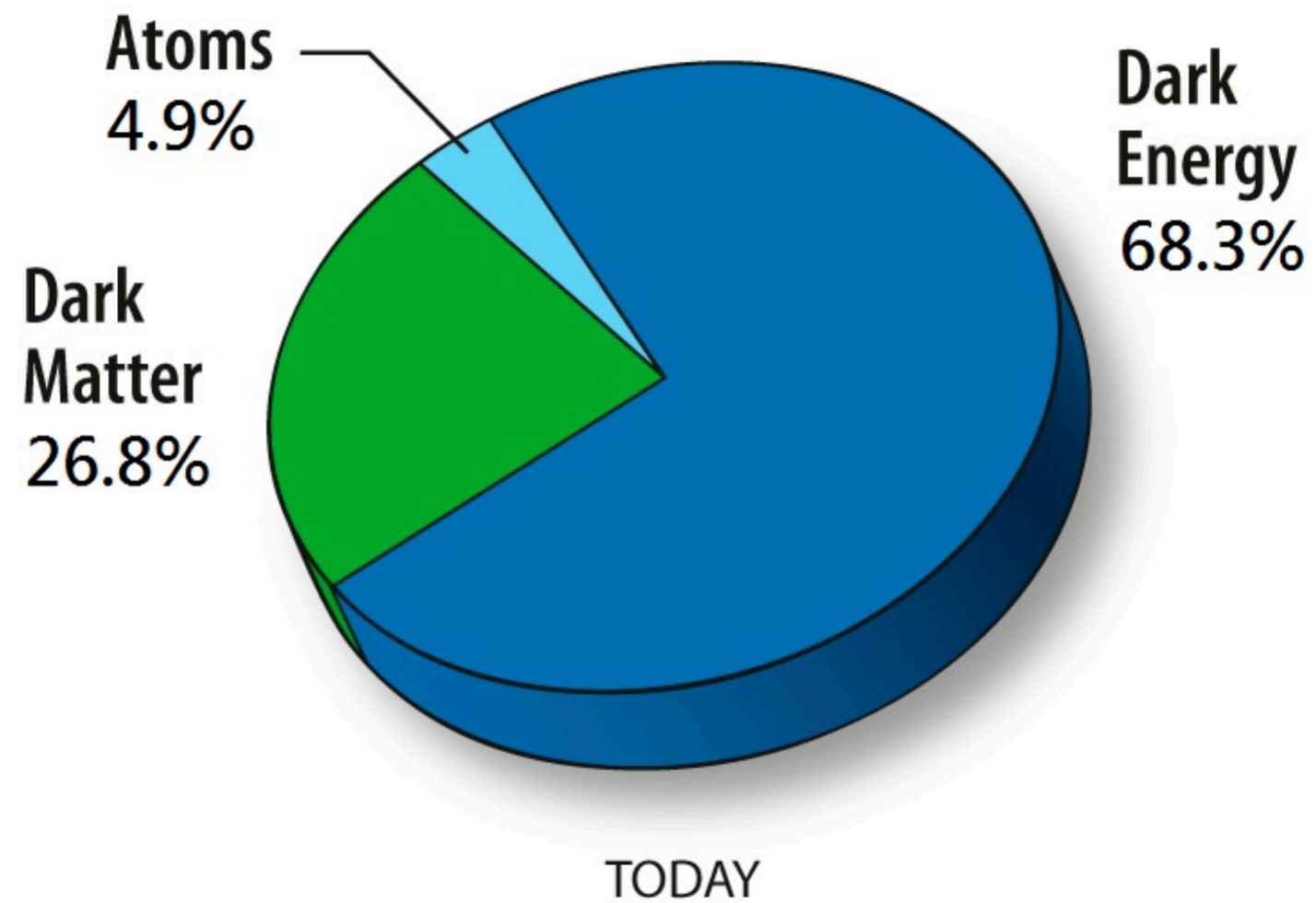
$$\Omega_k = 0.000$$

$$\Omega_\Lambda = 0.76$$

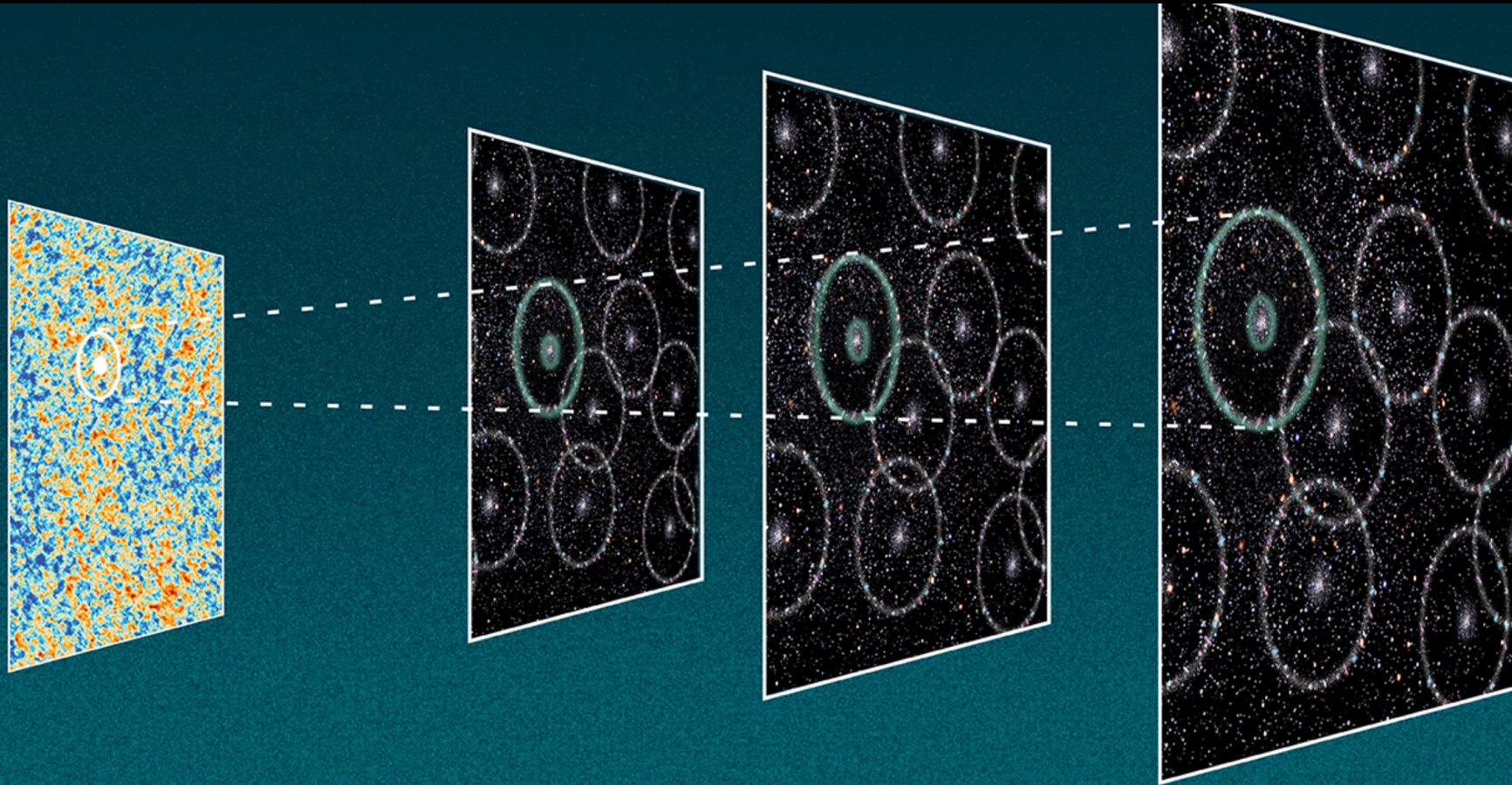
$$\omega_d = 0.030$$

From homepage of Max Tegmark

Λ CDM

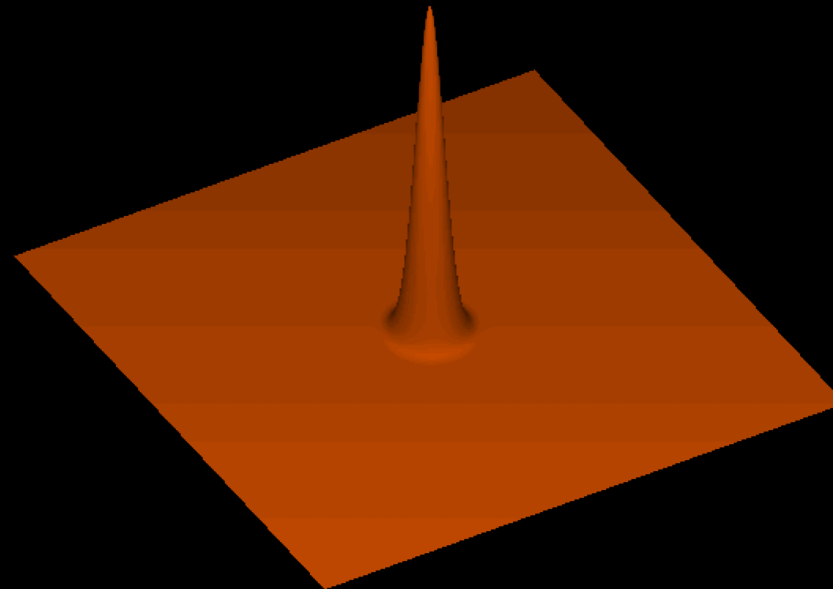


BAO

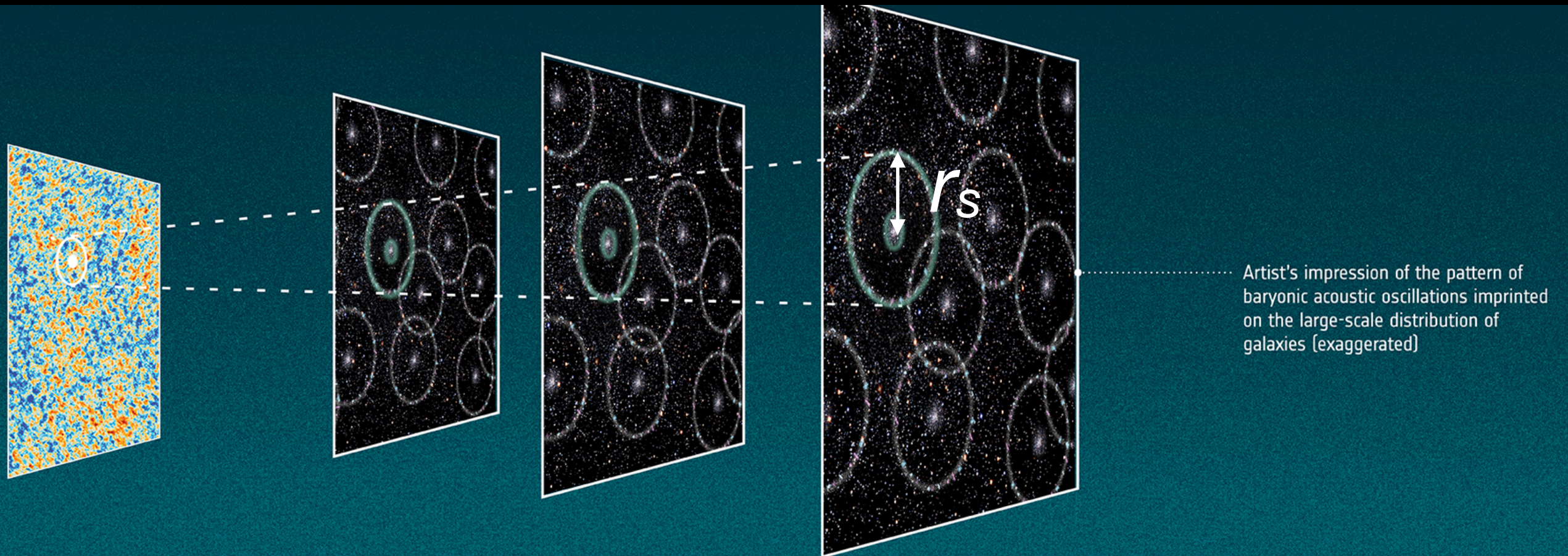


Artist's impression of the pattern of baryonic acoustic oscillations imprinted on the large-scale distribution of galaxies (exaggerated)

Source: ESA and the Planck Collaboration / Gabriela Secara / Perimeter Institute

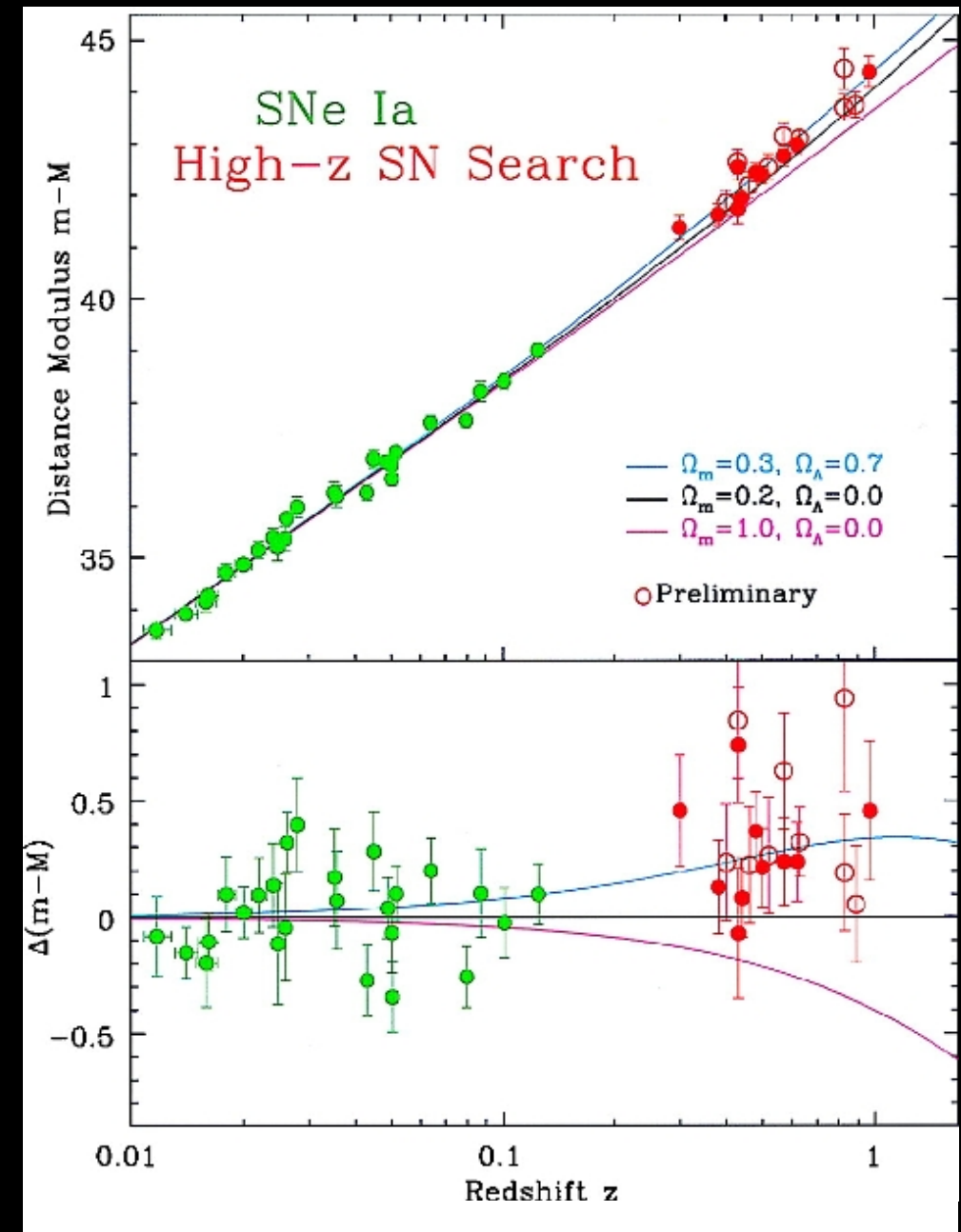
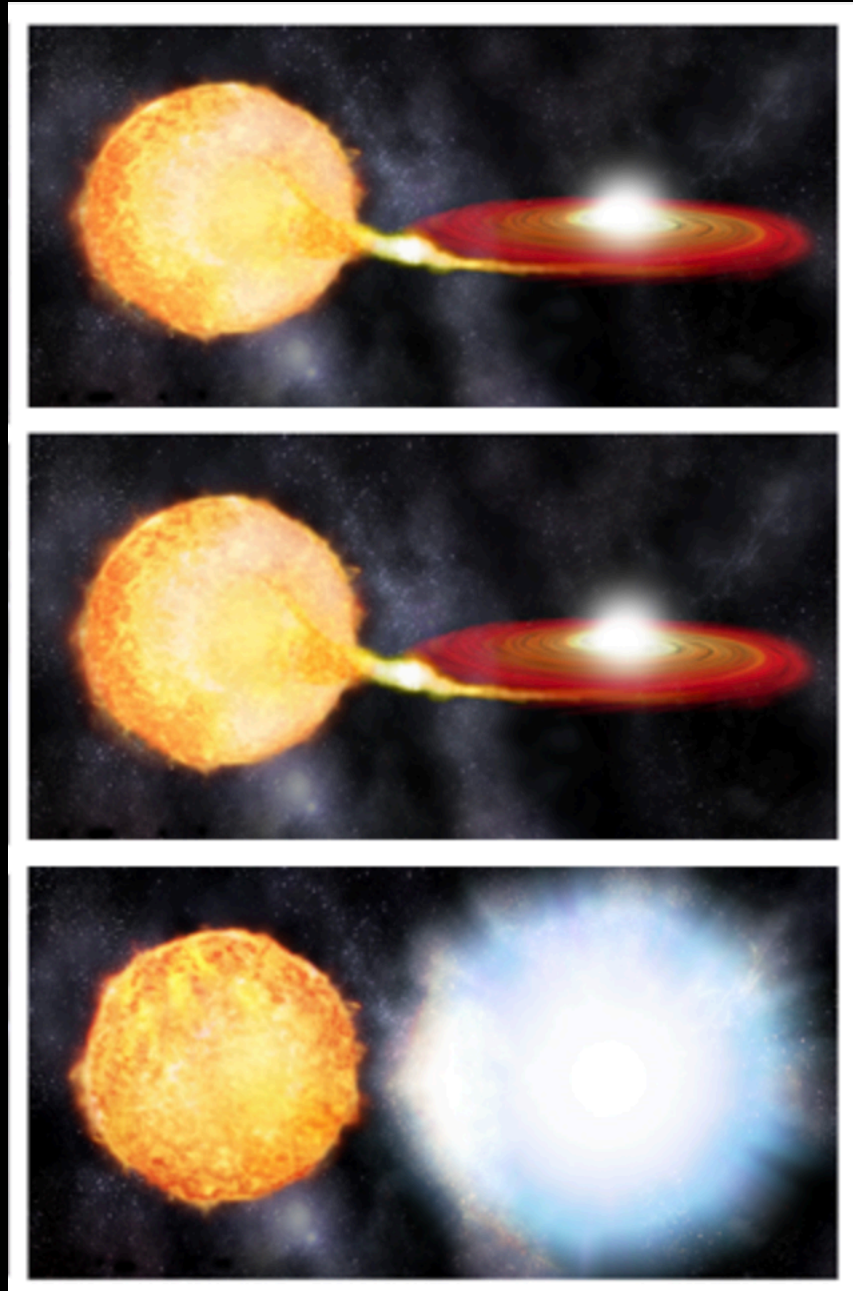


BAO



Source: ESA and the Planck Collaboration / Gabriela Secara / Perimeter Institute

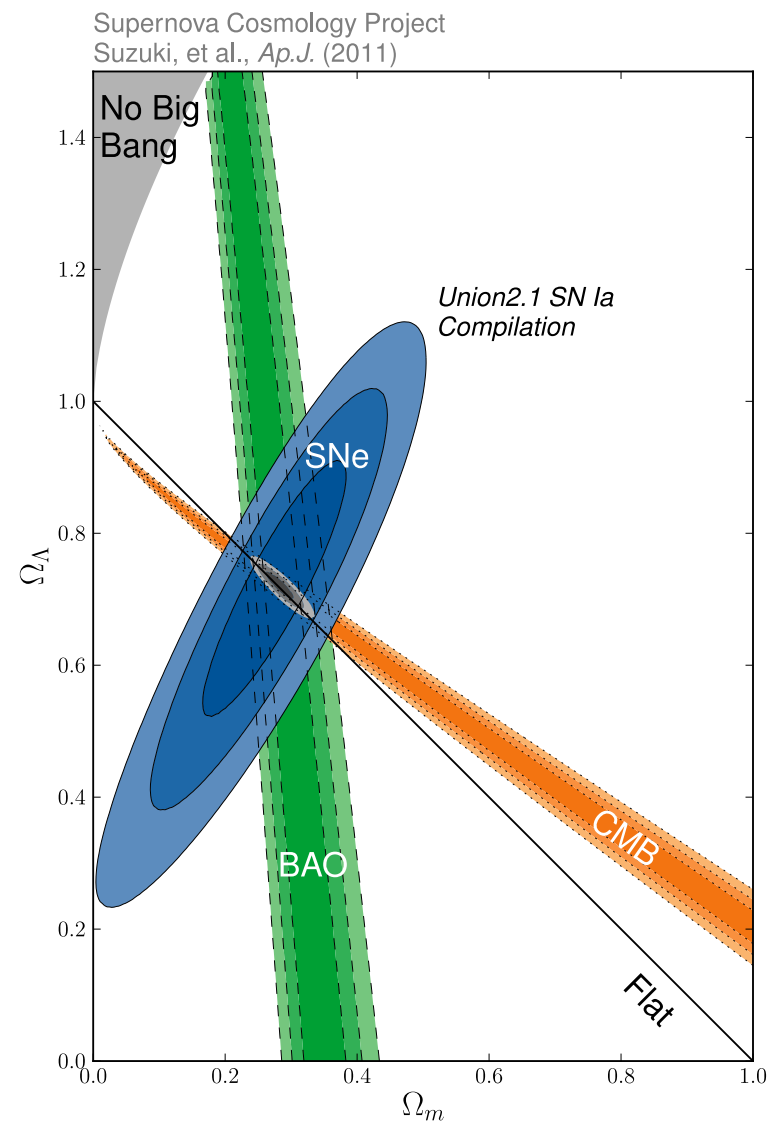
Type Ia supernovae



Kirshner (1998)

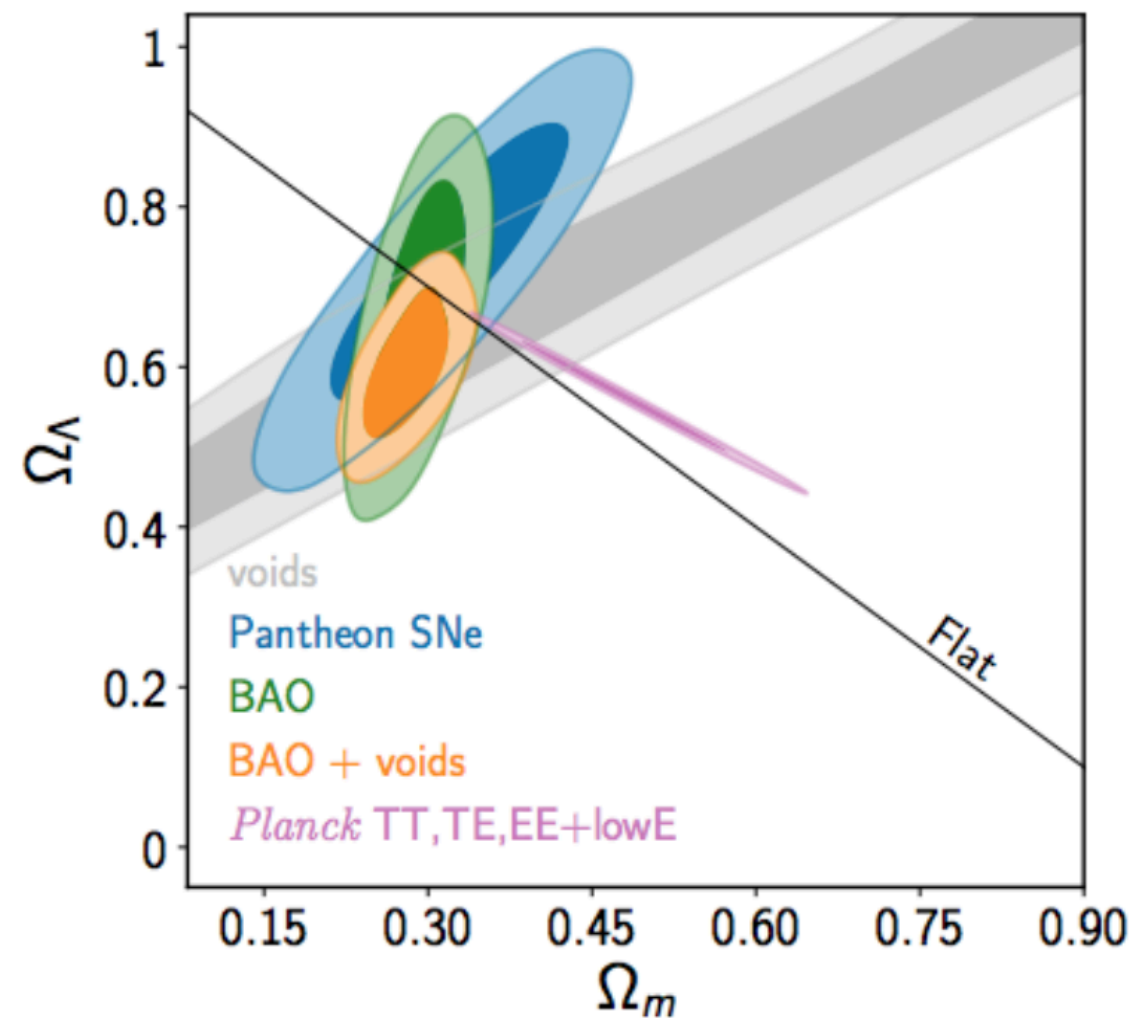
Concordance model

Λ CDM 2011



Concordance model

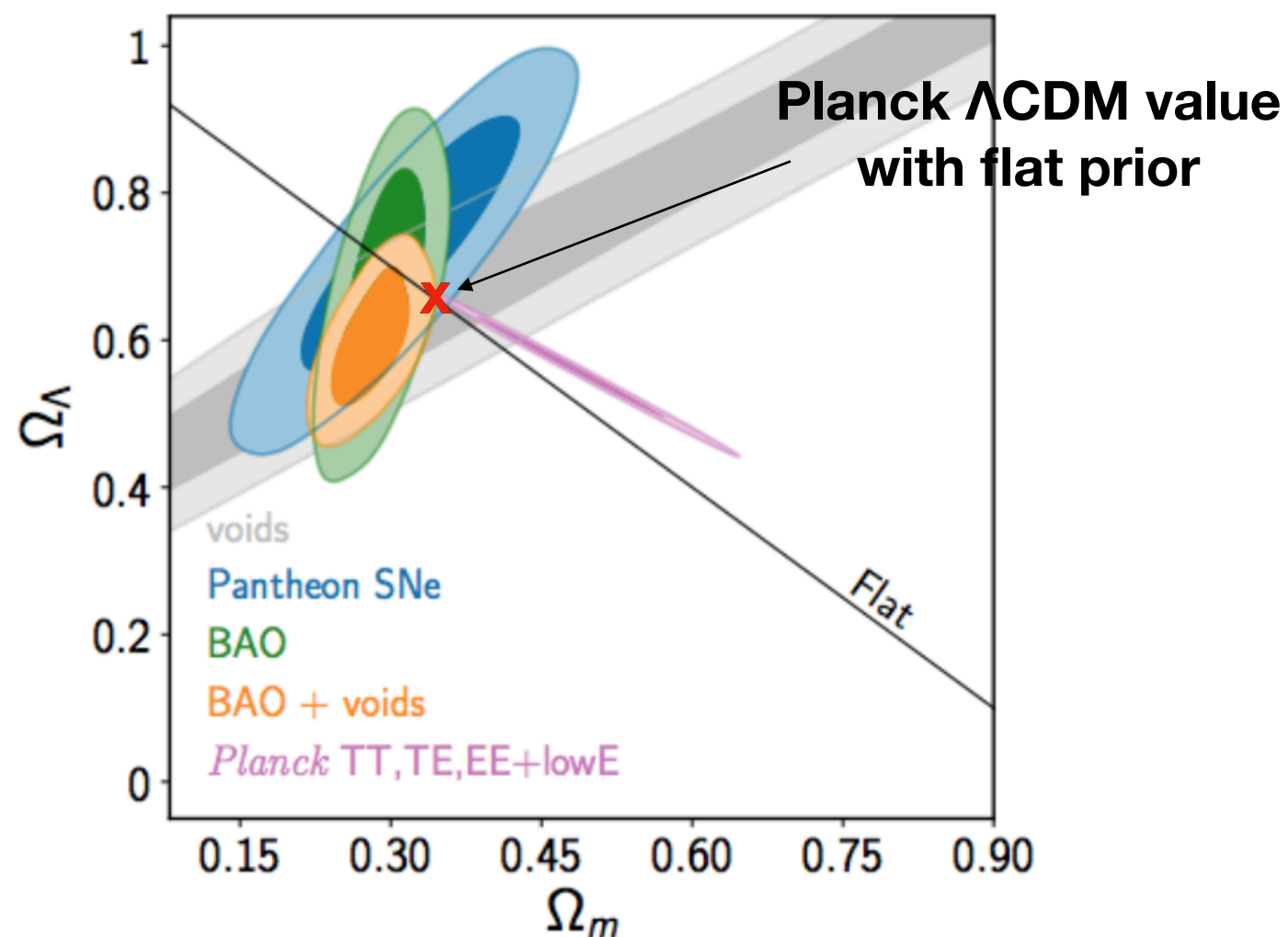
Λ CDM 2020



[Nadathur, Percival, Beutler, Winther; 2020]

Concordance model

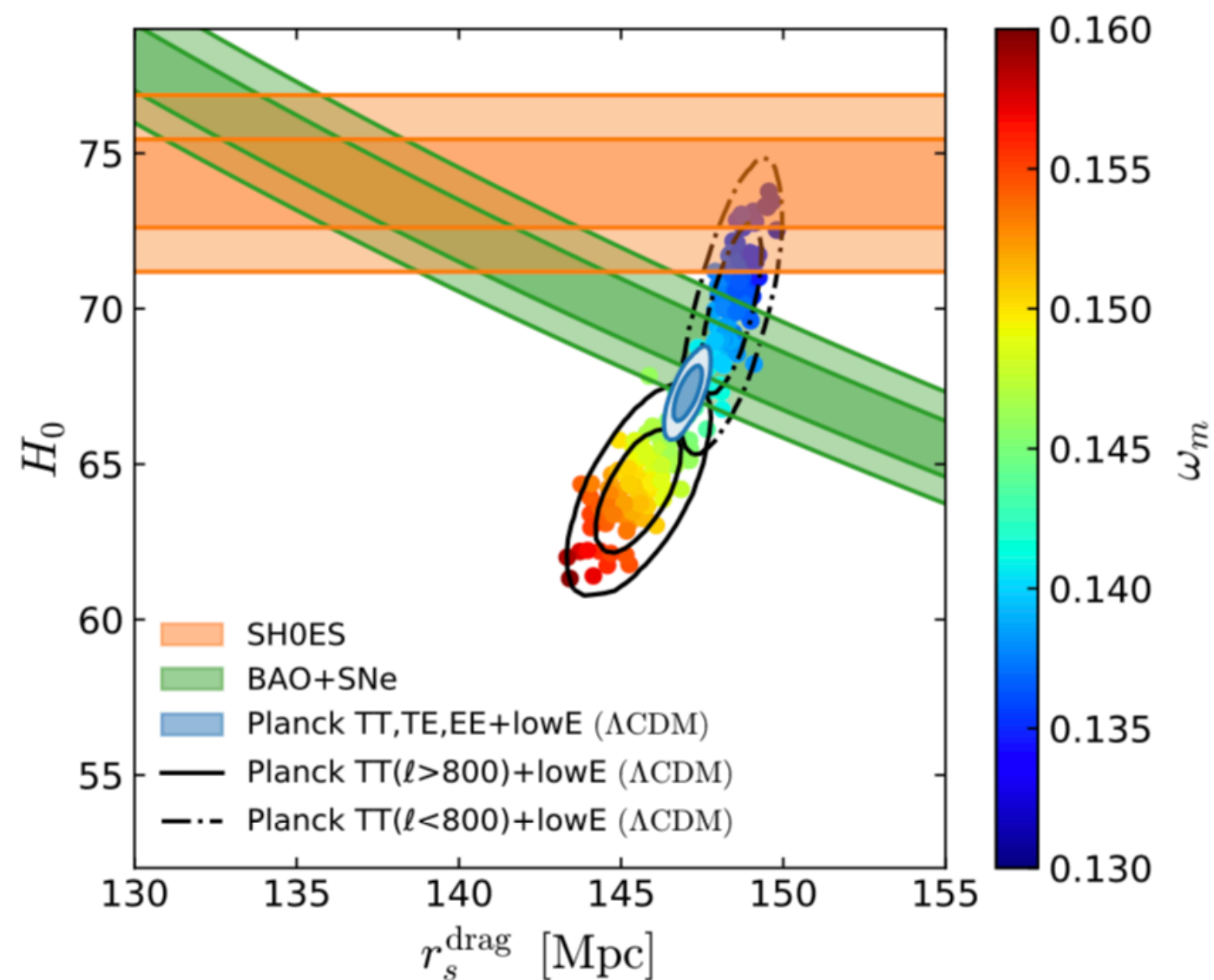
Λ CDM 2020



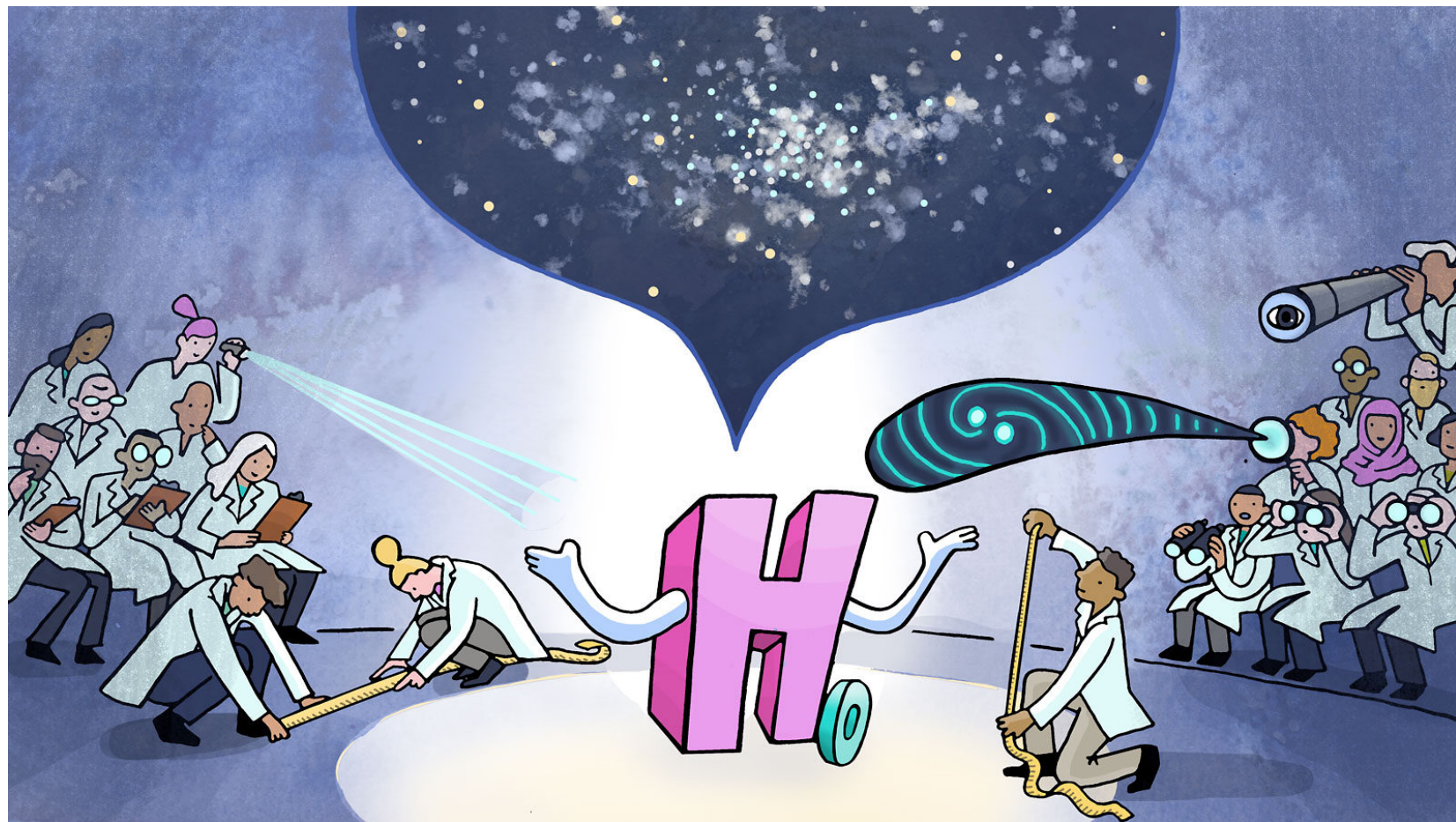
[Nadathur, Percival, Beutler, Winther; 2020]

Concordance model

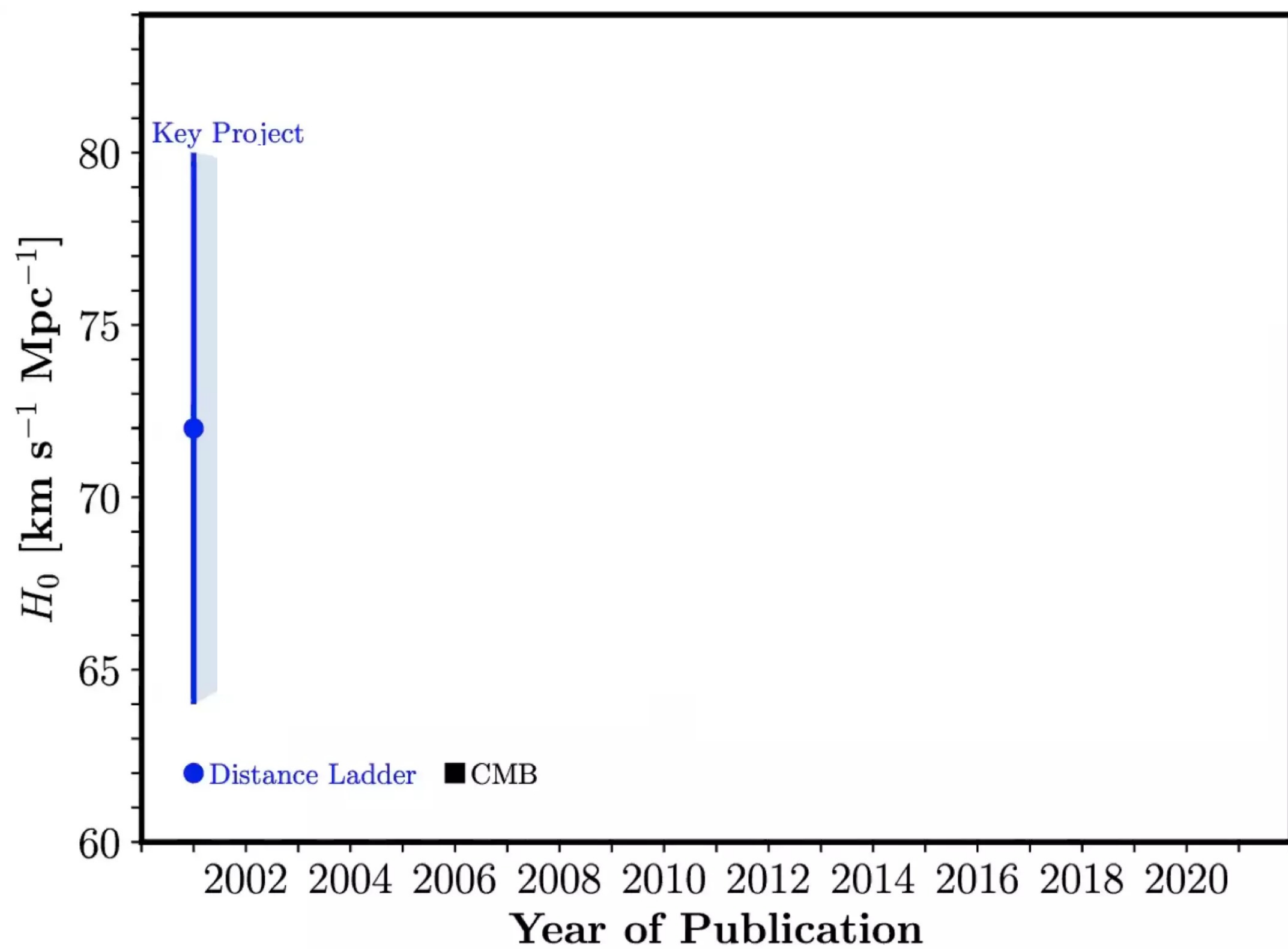
Λ CDM 2020

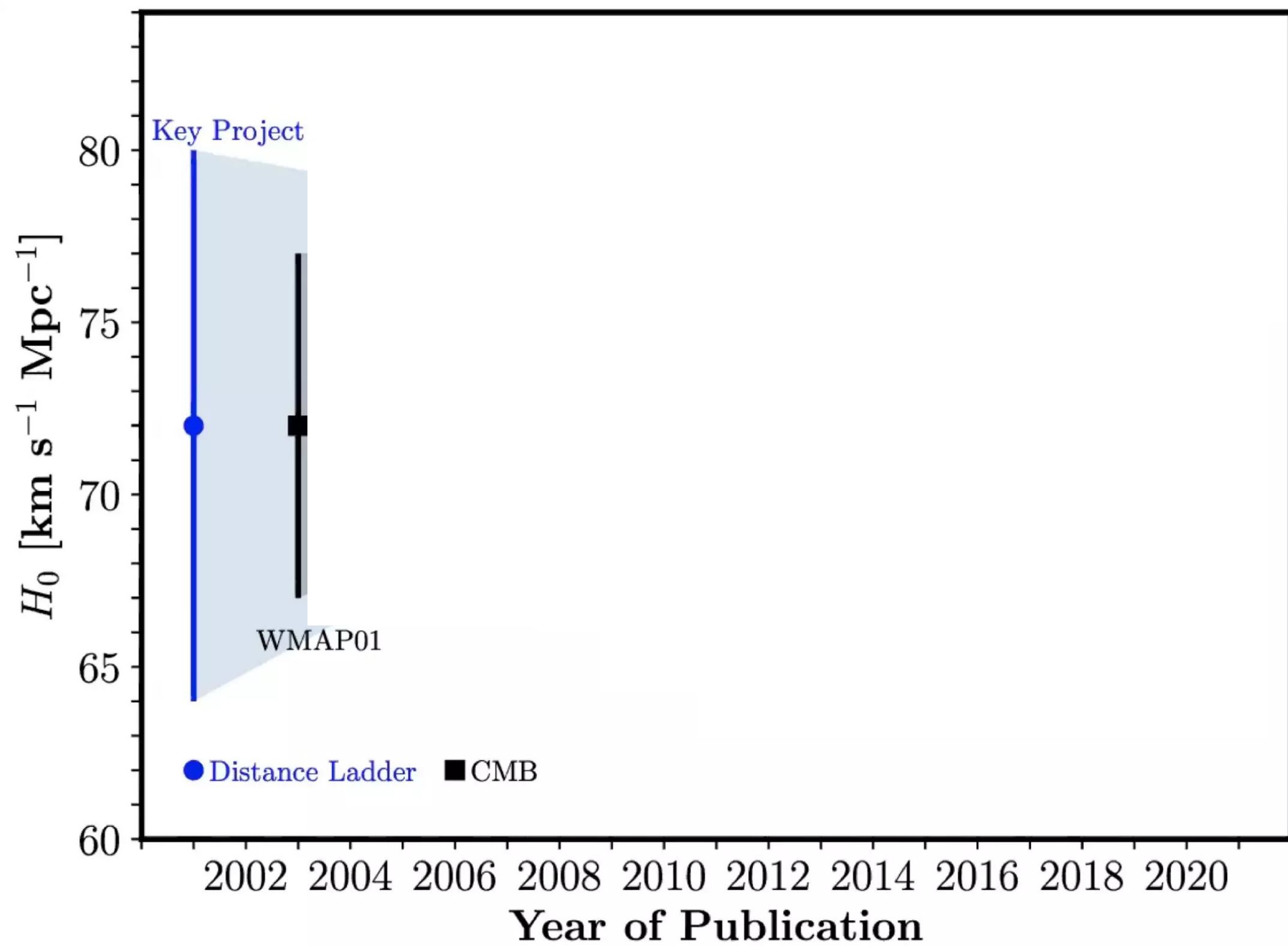


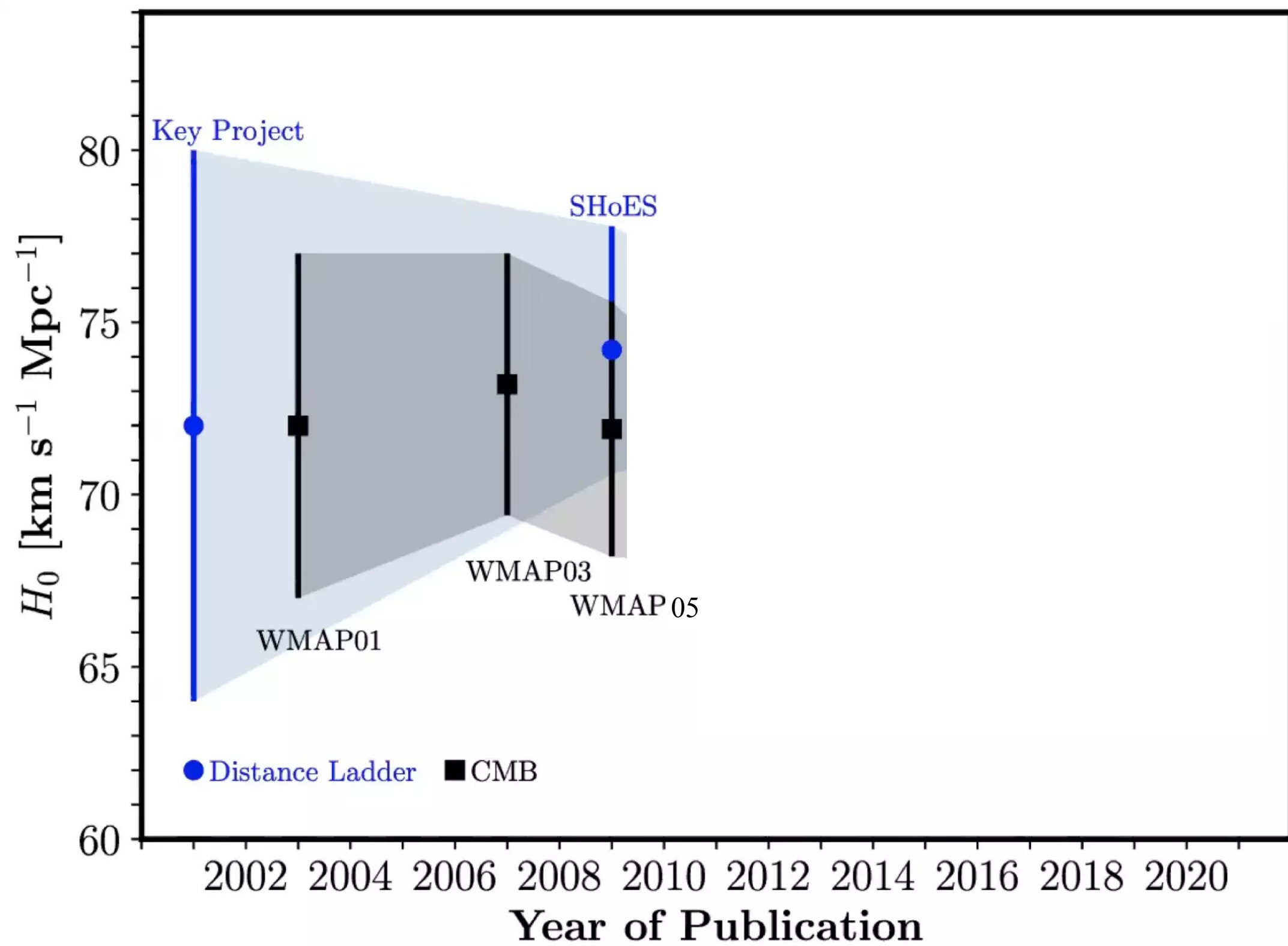
What about H_0 ?

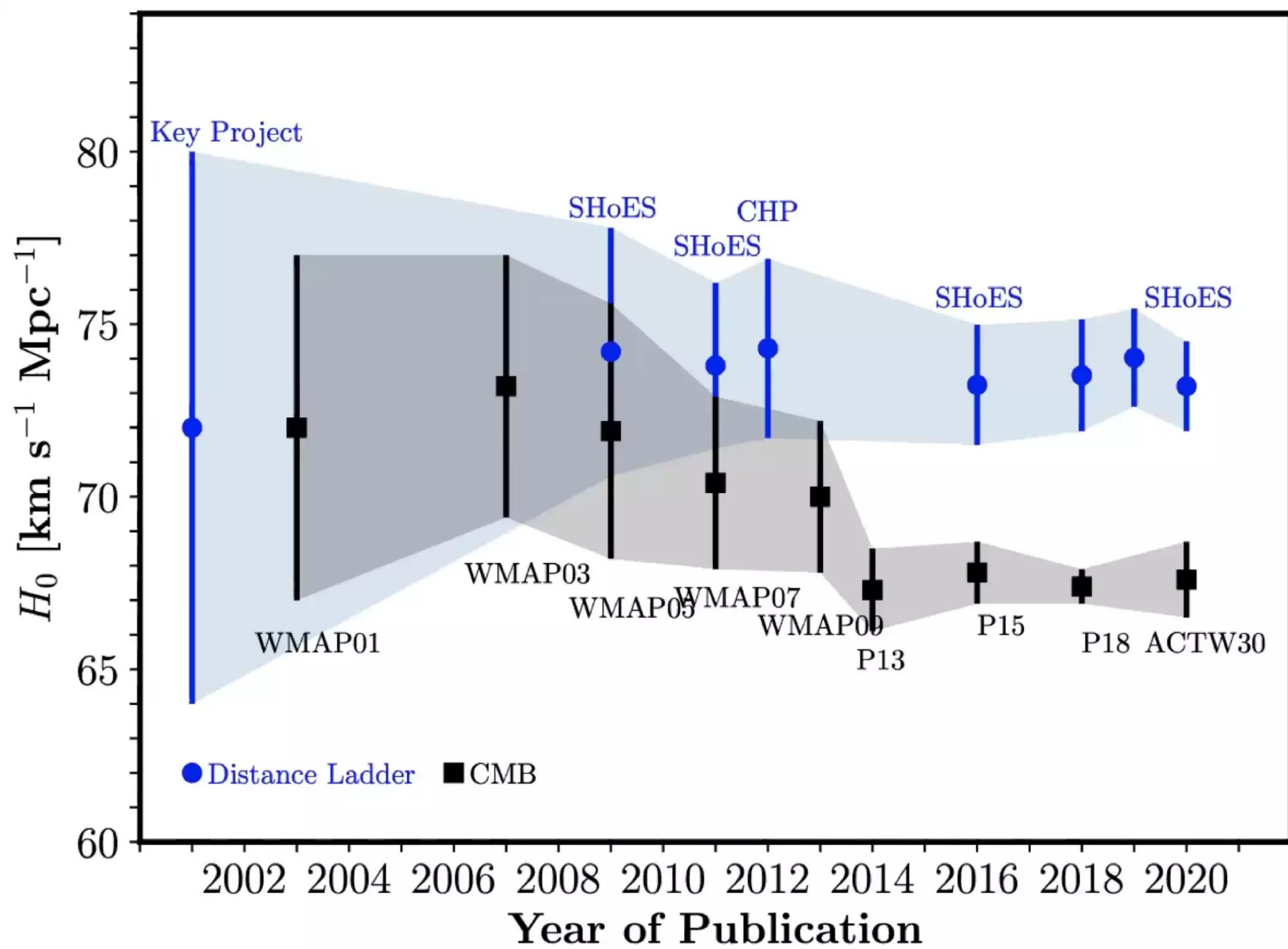


[Illustration Symmetry mag. 2019]

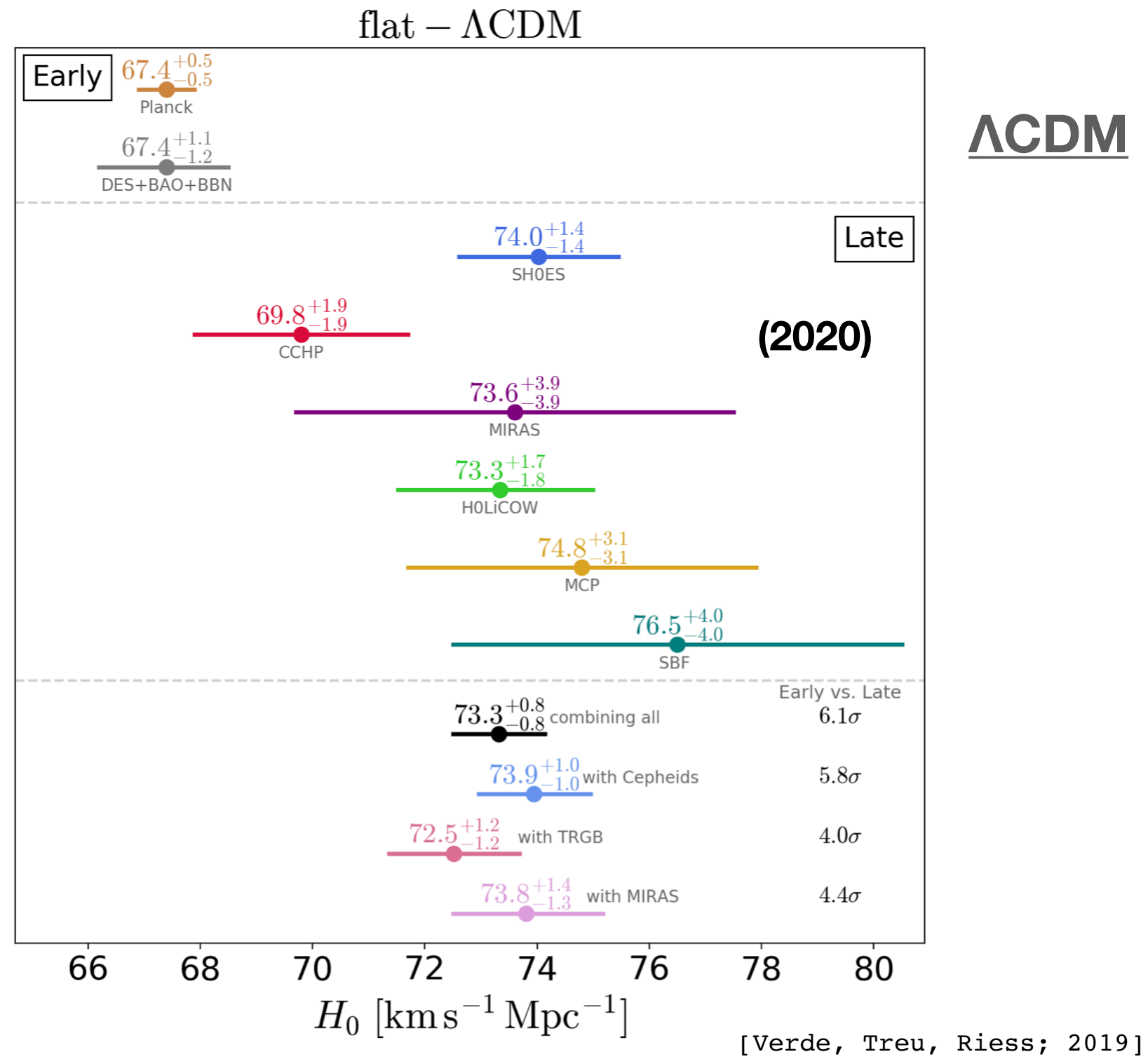




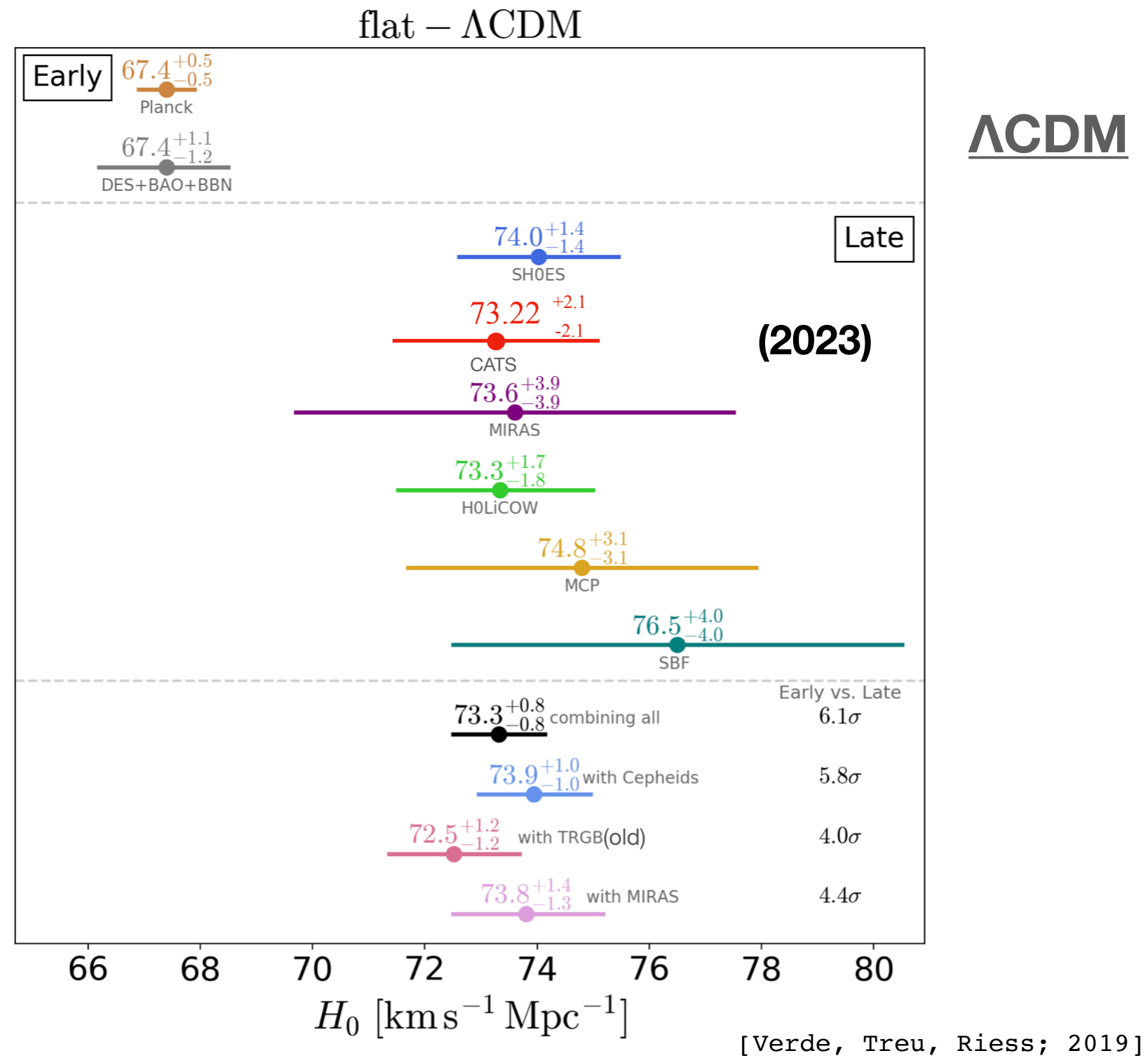


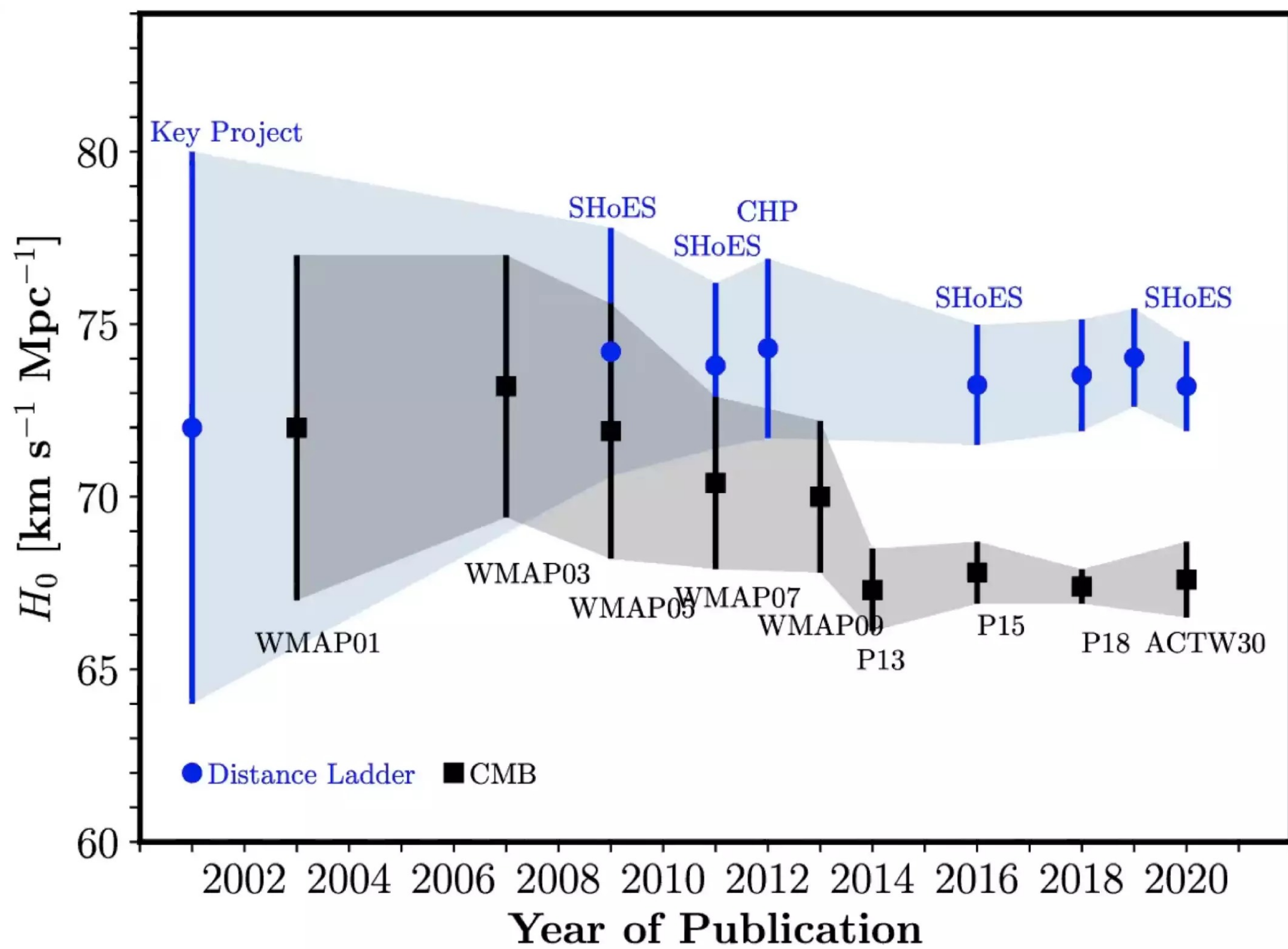


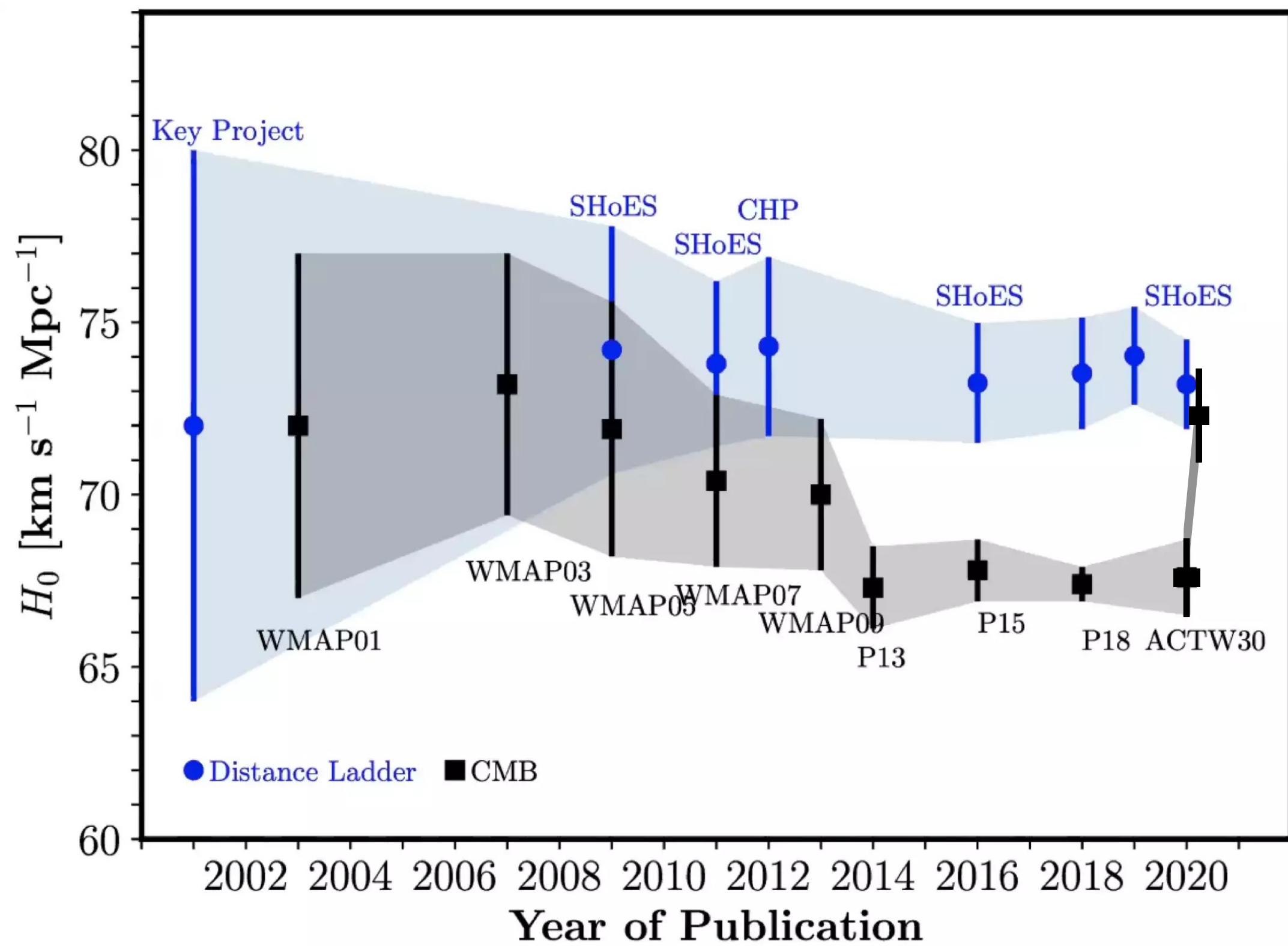
Actual Universe

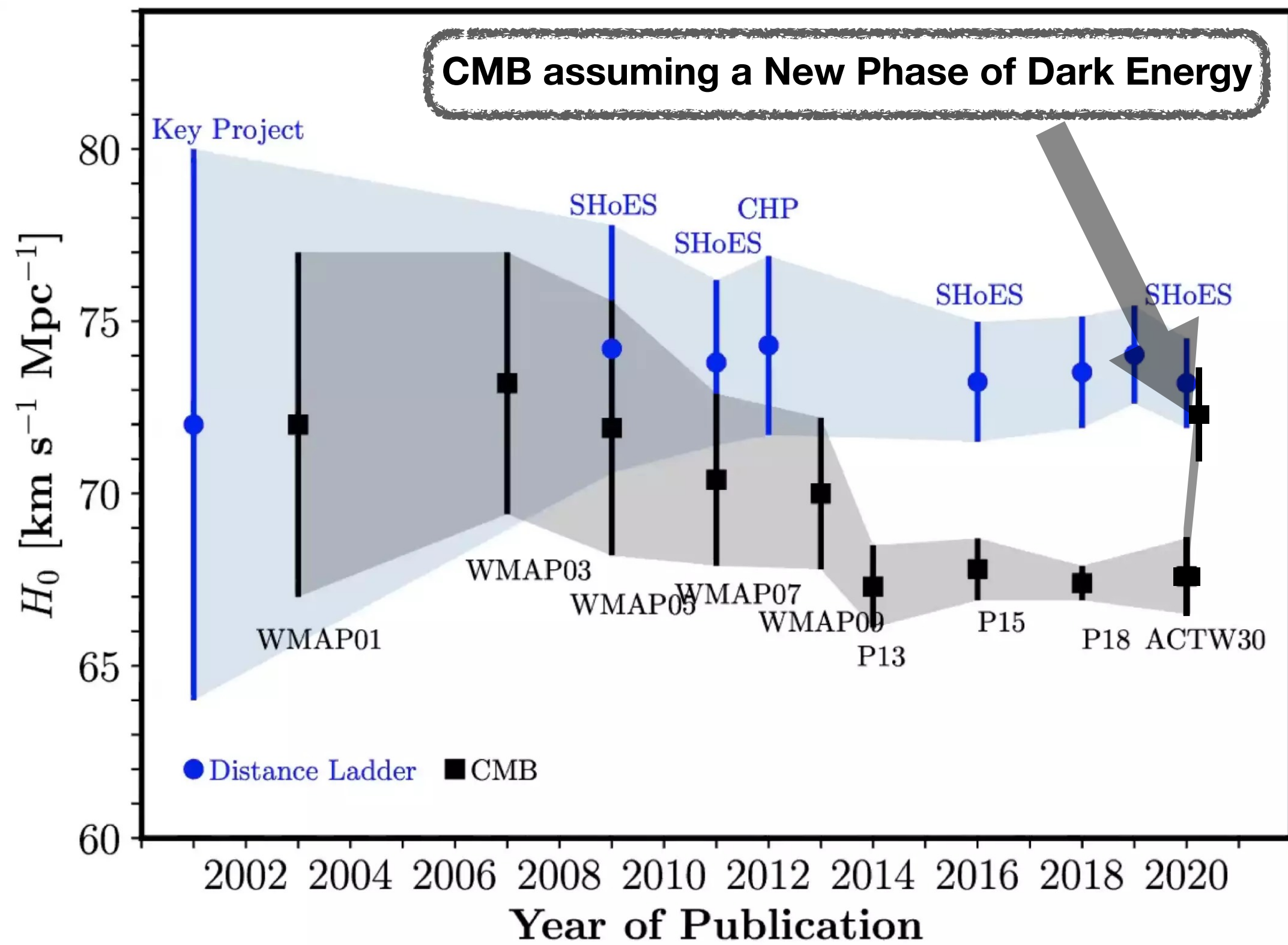


Actual Universe









**How does a New Early Dark Energy (NEDE)
Phase Transition resolve the Hubble tension?**

The Hubble tension

Model-dependent statement:

- Planck and SH₀ES incompatible

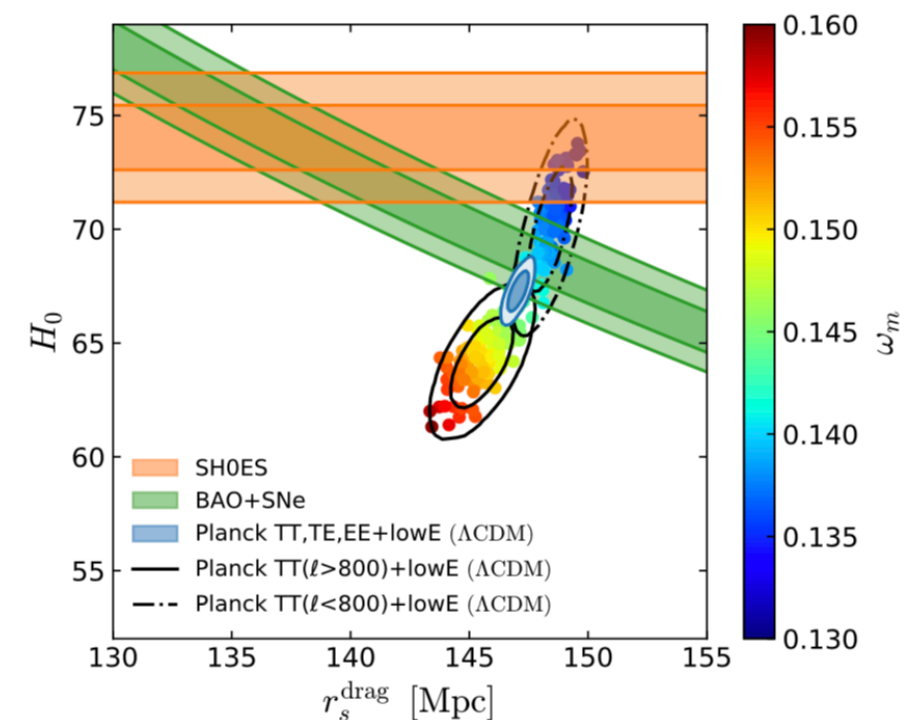
Model-independent statement:

- BAO+SN: $H_0 r_s \approx \text{const}$

Where

$$r_s = \int_{z_*}^{\infty} \frac{c_s(z)}{H(z)} dz$$

depends on early time physics



[Knox, Milea; 2019]

The Hubble tension

Model-dependent statement:

- Planck and SH₀ES incompatible

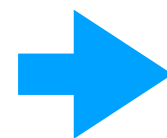
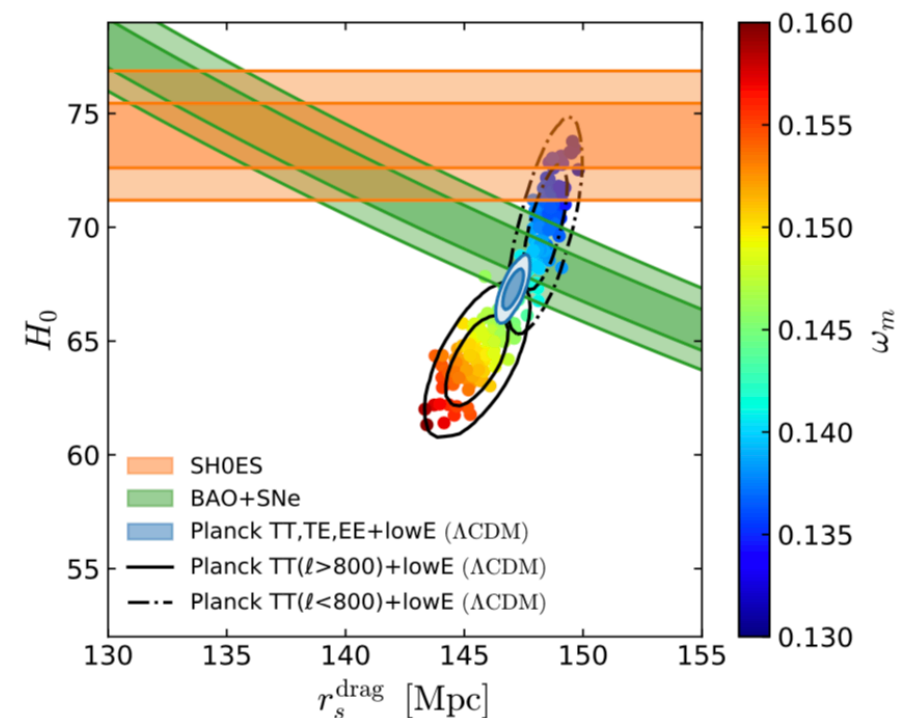
Model-independent statement:

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depends on early time physics



Modification of Λ CDM
raising H_0 while
lowering r_s

The Hubble tension

Model-dependent statement:

- Planck and SH₀ES incompatible

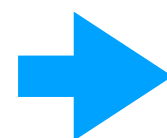
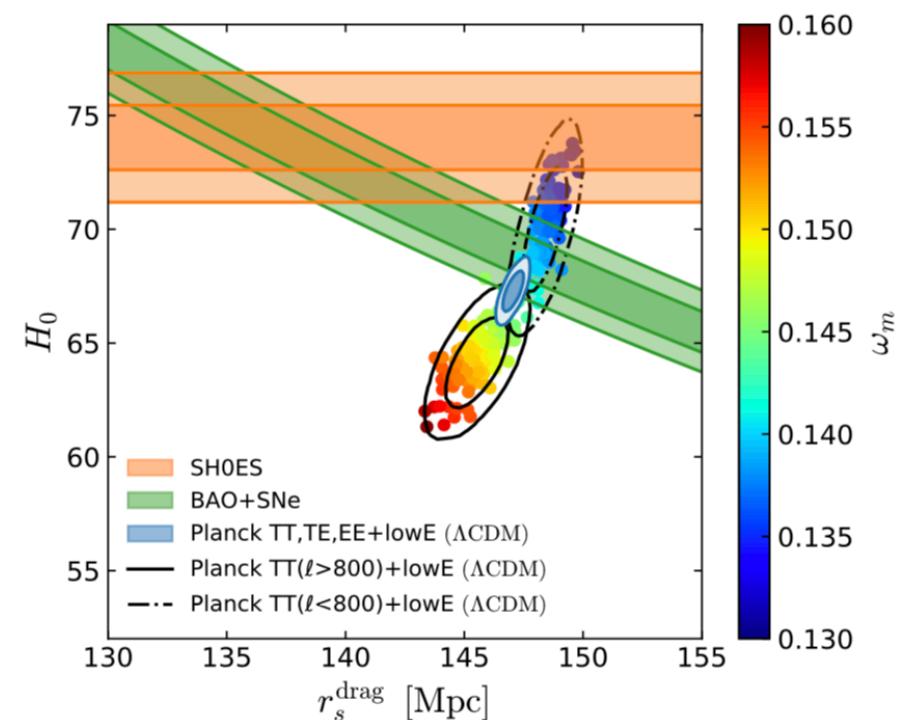
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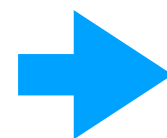
Where

$$r_s = \int_{z_*}^{\infty} \frac{c_s(z)}{H(z)} dz$$

depends on early time physics



Modification of ΛCDM
raising H_0 while
lowering r_s



Modification of ΛCDM just
before recombination

Pre-recombination modifications

- Assume new hypothetical matter component is present before recombination

$$\frac{H(z)}{H_0} = \sqrt{\Omega_\Lambda + \Omega_m(1+z)^3 + \Omega_r(1+z)^4 + \Omega_X(z)}$$

- ➡ Increase in H before recombination
- ➡ Lowering the sound horizon

$$r_s = \int_{z_*}^{\infty} \frac{c_s(z)}{H(z)} dz$$

Dark radiation

- Extra relativistic degree of freedom

$$\Omega_X(z) = \Omega_{DR}(1+z)^4$$

➡ Reduces the tension only slightly ($\sim 4 \sigma$)

[Planck 2018+BAO
+Pantheon+BBN]

$$H_0 = 69.49 \pm 0.0085 \frac{\text{km}}{\text{s Mpc}}$$

[Niedermann, MSS; 2020]

Early Dark Energy

Scalar field model w. **slow-roll second-order phase transition**

[e.g. Karwal et al., 2016]
[Poulin et al., 2018]

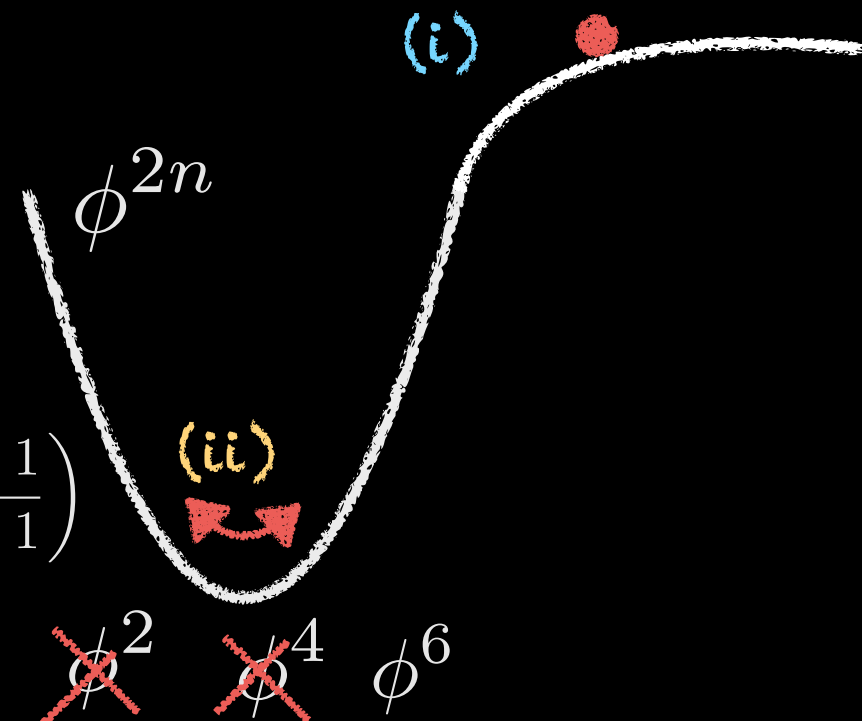
$$V^{(n)}(\phi) = \Lambda_a^4 [1 - \cos(\phi/f_a)]^n$$

$$\Omega_X(z) \approx \begin{cases} \Omega_{EDE} & ; z \gg z_c \text{ (i)} \\ \Omega_{EDE} \left(\frac{1+z}{1+z_d}\right)^{\alpha \geq 4} & ; z \ll z_c \text{ (ii)} \end{cases}$$

$$\alpha = 3 \left(1 + \frac{n-1}{n+1}\right)$$

meanvalues: $n = 3$ $z_c \approx 4000$

$$H_0 = 71.4 \pm 1 \text{ km/s/Mpc}$$



➡ How to make shallow anharmonic potentials natural...?

[Kaloper, 2019]

New Early Dark Energy

NEDE is a fast triggered phase transition in the dark sector



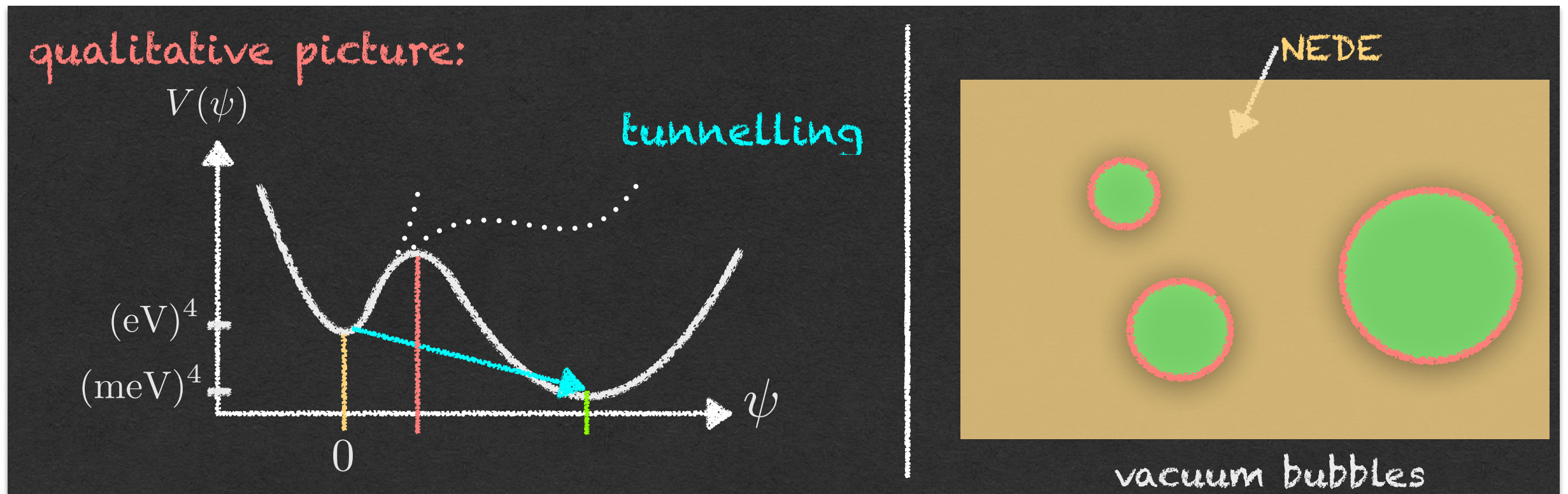
Simple effective cosmological model:

- **Instant decay of New Early Dark Energy component just before recombination**

New Early Dark Energy

Scalar field model w. **first order phase transition**

[Niedermann, MSS; 2019, 2020]



$$w = -1 \quad \rightarrow \quad 1/3 < w < 1$$

- Vacuum energy decays
- Free energy converted to anisotropic stress
- Anisotropic stress partially sources gravitational radiation
- Remaining anisotropic stress decays like a stiff fluid

Cold vs Hot NEDE specs

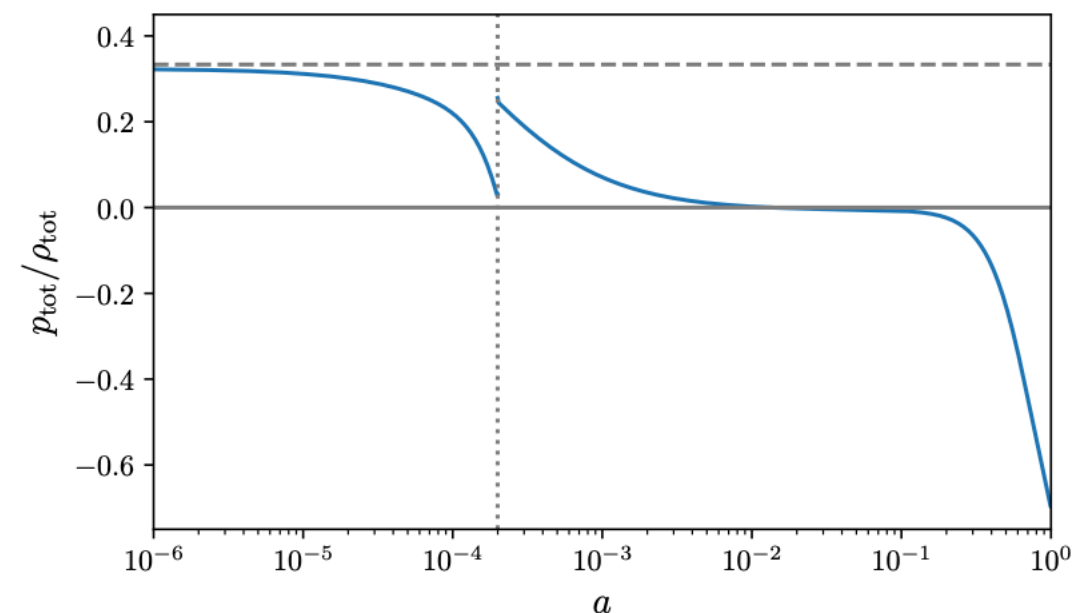
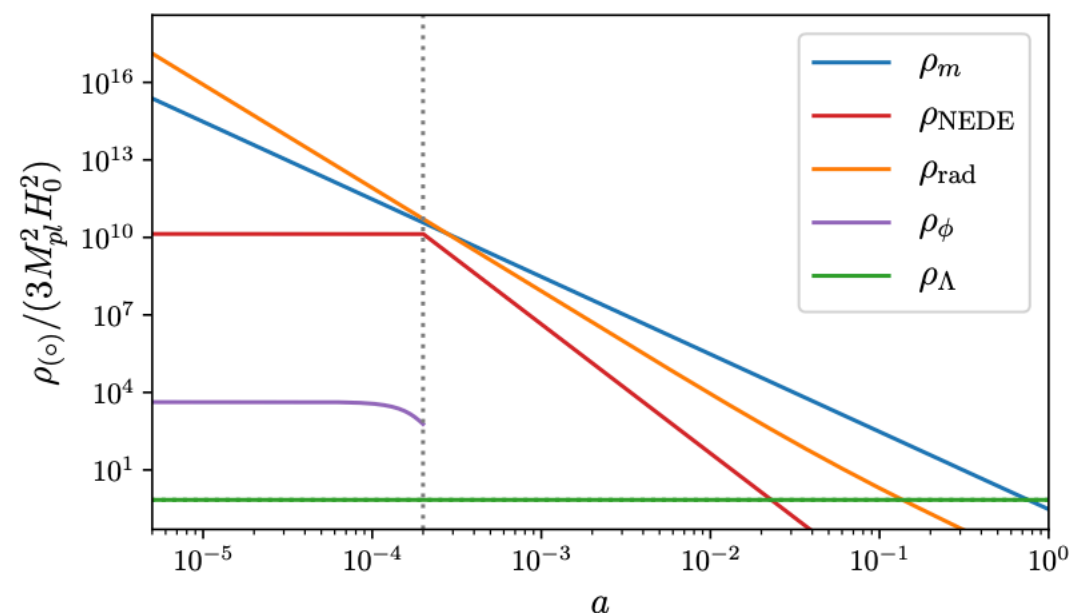
Spec	Cold NEDE	Hot NEDE
Trigger	ϕ (ultra light scalar)	T_d (dark sector temperature)
redshift of PT	$z_* \sim 10^4$	$10^6 \lesssim z_* \lesssim 10^9$
ω_{NEDE}	$\omega_{\text{NEDE}} \sim 2/3$	$\omega_{\text{NEDE}} = 1/3$
micro physics realisations	ALPs	Dark Higgs
physics lowering r_s	false vacuum energy	latent heat released in SIDR
Family	natural alternative to EDE	UV completion of (stepped) SIDR

Effective cosmological model

- **Background** picture: Assume that all liberated vacuum energy is converted to a fluid with fixed e.o.s.

Sudden transition at time t_* :

$$w_{\text{NEDE}}(t) = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{for } t < t_* \\ w_{\text{NEDE}}^* & \text{for } t \geq t_* \end{cases} \quad \leftarrow \text{NEDE fluid: } \bar{\rho}_{\text{NEDE}}(t) = \bar{\rho}_{\text{NEDE}}^* \left(\frac{a_*}{a(t)} \right)^{3[1+w_{\text{NEDE}}(t)]}$$



Cold NEDE: Cosmological perturbations

► The phase transition affects perturbations in different ways:

- Perturbations feel the change in the effective e.o.s. → relevant for CMB
- Transition is triggered at different places at different times due to fluctuations in trigger field ϕ . → relevant for CMB
- The bubbles generate perturbations on scales comparable to their size. → irrelevant for CMB

► We use Israel junction conditions to match fluctuations across transition

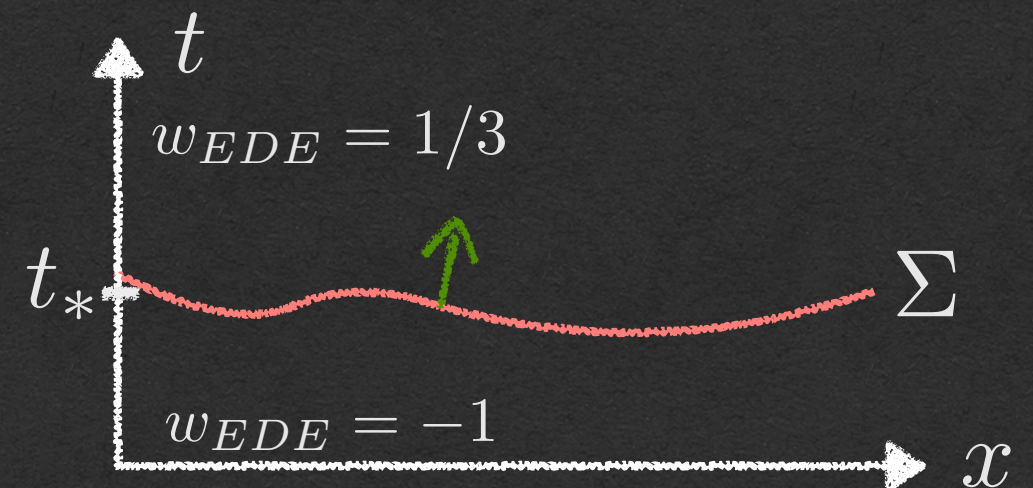
[Deruelle, Mukhanov, 1995]

space like transition surface Σ

synchronous gauge:

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + a(t)^2 (\delta_{ij} + h_{ij}) dx^i dx^j,$$

where $h_{ij} = \frac{k_i k_j}{k^2} \underline{h} + \left(\frac{k_i k_j}{k^2} - \frac{1}{3} \delta_{ij} \right) \underline{\eta},$



► Two metric perturbations: $h(t, k)$ & $\eta(t, k)$

Cosmological perturbations

- ➡ The initial condition for perturbations after the phase-transition depends on the choice of the trigger
- ➡ The perturbations depend on the microphysical realization of NEDE
 - CMB anisotropies and LSS depends on initial perturbations
- ➡ We can discriminate both between different EDE and between different NEDE microphysical models using CMB and LSS!

$\text{EDE} \neq \text{Cold NEDE} \neq \text{Hot NEDE}$

Cold NEDE

➔ Introduce a trigger field for the decay

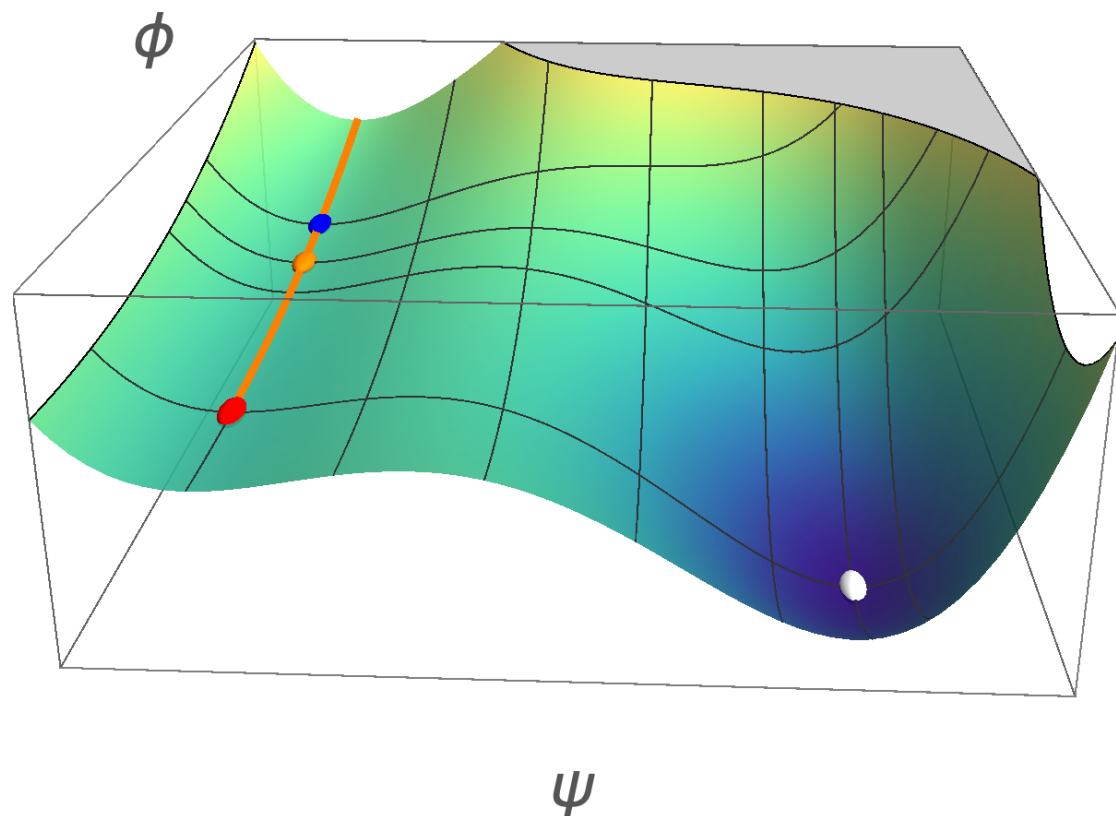
field theory model:

$$\alpha, \beta, \lambda = \mathcal{O}(1)$$

$$V(\psi, \phi) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}\beta M^2\psi^2 - \frac{1}{3}\alpha M\psi^3 + \frac{\lambda}{4}\psi^4}_{\text{New Early Dark Energy}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}m^2\phi^2 + \frac{1}{2}\tilde{\lambda}\phi^2\psi^2}_{\text{Clock}} + \text{const} \quad \uparrow \text{'CC tuning'}$$

hierarchy: $M \sim \text{eV} \gg m \sim 10^{-27} \text{eV}$ ultra-light physics

initial condition: $\psi = 0$ sub-dominant trigger: $\phi_{ini} \ll M_{pl}$



(i) for $H \gg m$: $\phi \approx \phi_{ini}$

(ii) for $H \approx m$: ϕ starts evolving

(iii) blue dot: inflection point

(iv) orange dot: $\Gamma = 0, \dot{\Gamma} > 0$

(v) red dot: $\Gamma = \Gamma_{max}$

➔ Introduce a trigger field for the decay

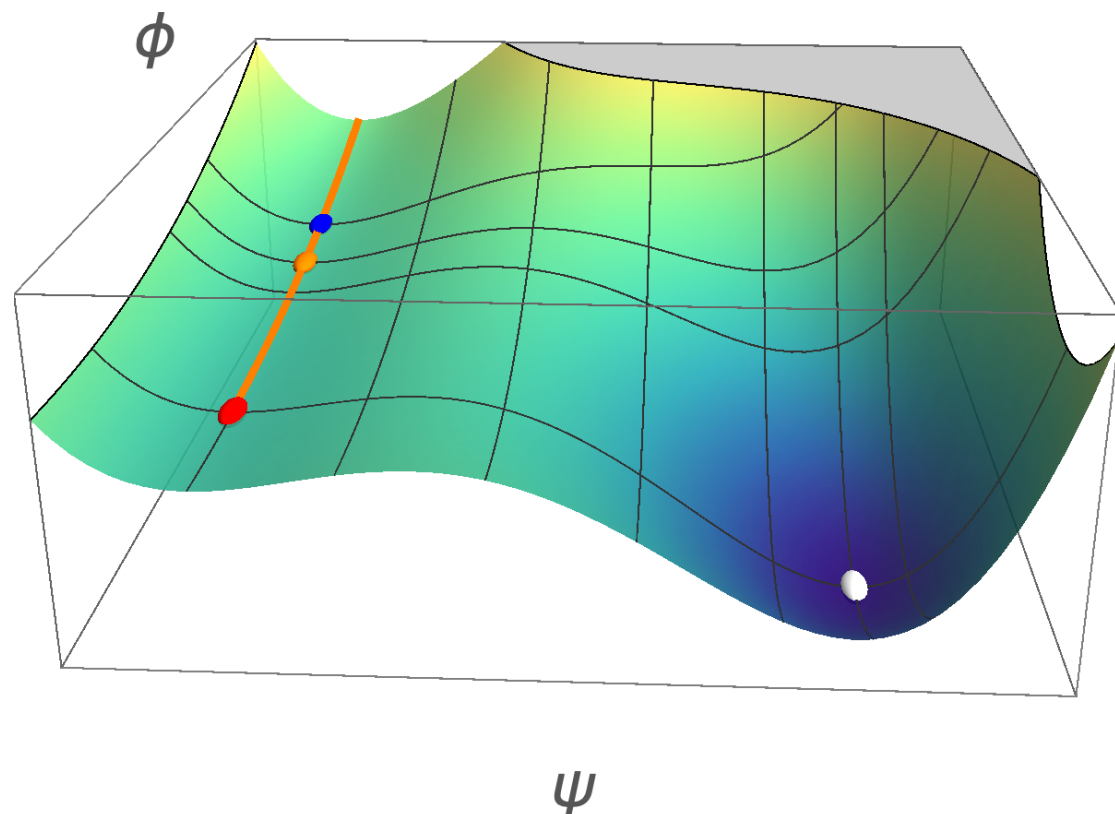
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NEDE boson: tunneling field

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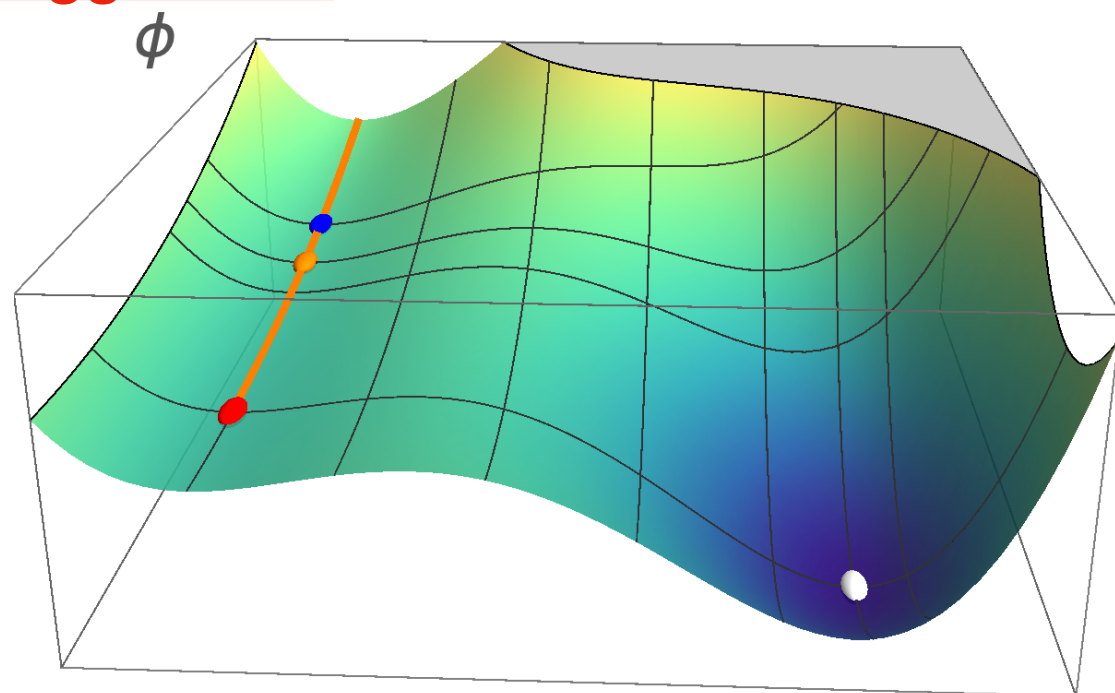
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Trigger field



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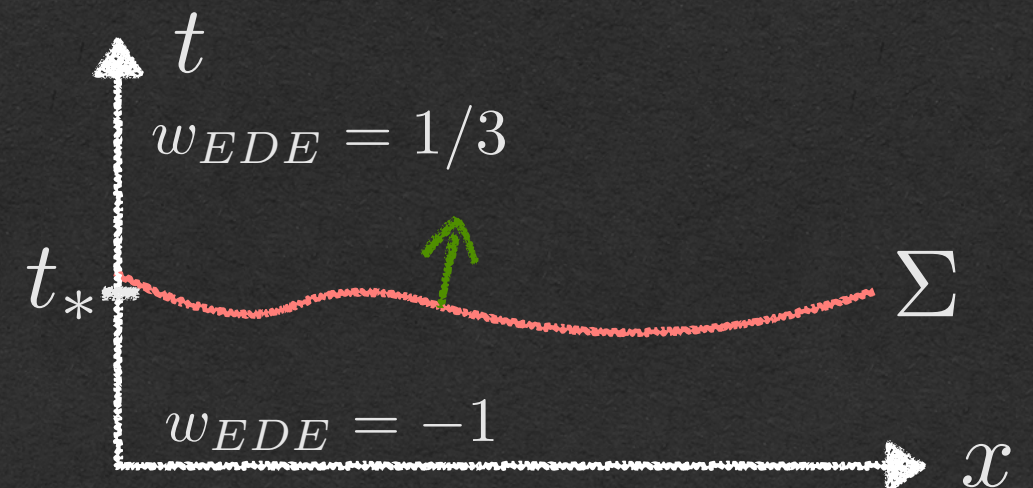
[Deruelle, Mukhanov, 1995]

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► Two metric perturbations: $h(t, k)$ & $\eta(t, k)$

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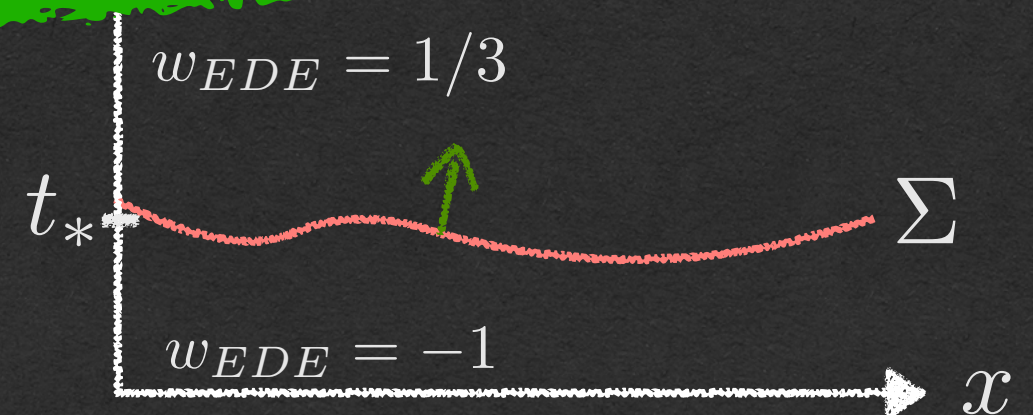
[Deruelle, Mukhanov, 1995]

space like transition surface Σ : $\phi(t_*, \mathbf{x})|_{\Sigma} = \text{const}$.

synchronous gauge:

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + a(t)^2 (\delta_{ij} + h_{ij}) dx^i dx^j,$$

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► Two metric perturbations: $h(t, k)$ & $\eta(t, k)$

Does it work?

The answer is so far, yes; for details, see f.ex. arXiv:2209.02708

A grounded perspective on New Early Dark Energy using ACT, SPT, and BICEP/Keck

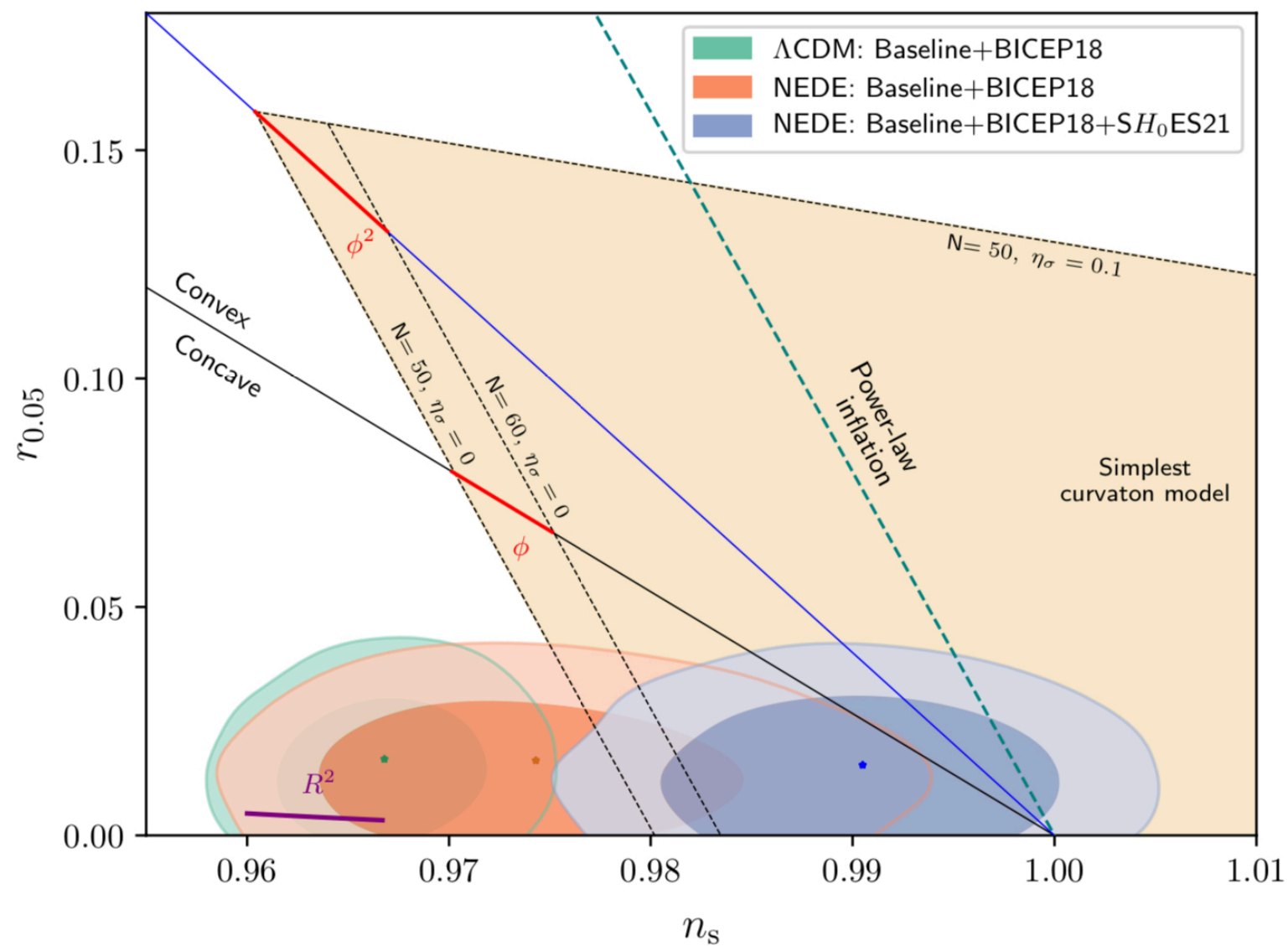
Juan S. Cruz,^{1,*} Florian Niedermann,^{2,†} and Martin S. Sloth^{1,‡}

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We examine further the ability of the New Early Dark Energy model (NEDE) to resolve the current tension between the Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB) and local measurements of H_0 and the consequences for inflation. We perform new Bayesian analyses, including the current datasets from the ground-based CMB telescopes Atacama Cosmology Telescope (ACT), the South Pole Telescope (SPT), and the BICEP/Keck telescopes, employing an updated likelihood for the local measurements coming from the SH_0ES collaboration. Using the SH_0ES prior on H_0 , the combined analysis with Baryonic Acoustic Oscillations (BAO), Pantheon, Planck and ACT improves the best-fit by $\Delta\chi^2 = -15.9$ with respect to Λ CDM, favors a non-zero fractional contribution of NEDE, $f_{\text{NEDE}} > 0$, by 4.8σ , and gives a best-fit value for the Hubble constant of $H_0 = 72.09$ km/s/Mpc (mean $71.48^{+0.79}_{-0.81}$ with 68% C.L.). A similar analysis using SPT instead of ACT yields consistent results with a $\Delta\chi^2 = -23.1$ over Λ CDM, a preference for non-zero f_{NEDE} of 4.7σ and a best-fit value of $H_0 = 71.77$ km/s/Mpc (mean $71.43^{+0.84}_{-0.84}$ with 68% C.L.). We also provide the constraints on the inflation parameters r and n_s coming from NEDE, including the BICEP/Keck 2018 data, and show that the allowed upper value on the tensor-scalar ratio is consistent with the Λ CDM bound, but, as also originally found, with a more blue scalar spectrum implying that the simplest curvaton model is now favored over the Starobinsky inflation model.

Consequences for Inflation



[arXiv:2209.02708]

Hot NEDE

Hot New Early Dark Energy

- Known cosmological phase transitions (apart from end of inflation) are triggered by redshift of temperature.

➡ Let us consider a thermal trigger of the NEDE phase transition.

Hot NEDE: Thermal trigger

Examples of thermal PTs:
Electroweak phase transitions
QCD phase transition
Recombination

Cold NEDE: Scalar field trigger

Example of cold PT:
End of inflation

SU(N) Dark Sector

- Consider dark $SU(N)$ with $N \geq 3$

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\chi}(i\gamma^\mu D_\mu - m_\chi)\chi + |D\Psi|^2 - V_{\text{cl}}(|\Psi|^2) - \frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}^a F_a^{\mu\nu},$$

SU(N) Dark Sector

- Consider dark $SU(N)$ with $N \geq 3$

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SU(N) Dark Sector

- Consider dark $SU(N)$ with $N \geq 3$

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\chi}(i\gamma^\mu D_\mu - m_\chi)\chi \left[|D\Psi|^2 - V_{\text{cl}}(|\Psi|^2) - \frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}^a F_a^{\mu\nu} \right],$$

$$V_{\text{cl}}(|\Psi|^2) = -\mu^2|\Psi|^2 + \lambda|\Psi|^4 + V_0$$

- NEDE gauge boson leads to spontaneous symmetry

$$SU(N) \rightarrow SU(N-1)$$

$$\Psi = e^{2i\pi^a \tau^a / v} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{h_\psi}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}$$

- The NEDE potential in the one-loop approx

$$V(\psi; T_d) = V_0 - \frac{\mu_{\text{eff}}^2}{2}\psi^2 \left(1 - \frac{\psi^2}{2v^2}\right) + B\psi^4 \left(\ln \frac{\psi^2}{v^2} - \frac{1}{2}\right) + \Delta V_{\text{thermal}}(\psi; T_d)$$

- Supercooled happens for light NEDE boson/heavy gauge boson regime

$$m_A \gg T_d^*, m_\psi \begin{cases} \xrightarrow{T_d \gg gv} & \Delta V_{\text{thermal}}(\psi; T_d) \rightarrow \frac{1}{24}c_0 n_A g^2 T^2 \psi^2 \\ \xrightarrow{T_d \ll gv} & \Delta V_{\text{thermal}}(\psi; T_d) \rightarrow 0 \quad (T_d^* \ll T_c = gv) \end{cases}$$

Dark Sector reheating

- After the PT the NEDE boson quickly thermalises with the massless gauge bosons

➡ Supercooled PT latent heat goes into dark radiation raising

$$\Delta N_{\text{BBN}} \rightarrow \Delta N_{\text{NEDE}} = \frac{5(3c_1 + 128c_0\pi\gamma)n_A}{1024\pi^2 g_{\text{rel,d}}^* \gamma^2} \Delta N_{\text{BBN}}$$

$$\Delta N_{\text{eff}} = \frac{4}{7} \left(\frac{11}{4} \right)^{4/3} g_{\text{rel,d}} \xi^4$$

Right before PT

$$\Delta N_{\text{BBN}} \simeq \frac{\pi^2}{30} \frac{f_{\text{NEDE}}}{1 - f_{\text{NEDE}}} \frac{(T_d^*)^4}{\Delta V_*}$$

$$0.055 \frac{\frac{N^2+N-1}{2N-1}}{11/5} \left(\frac{\gamma}{0.01} \right)^2 \frac{52/45}{c_1} \frac{f_{\text{NEDE}}}{0.08}$$

Right after PT

$$(\xi^{*,\text{after}})^4 = \frac{g_{\text{rel,vis}}^*}{g_{\text{rel,d}}^{\text{after}}} \frac{f_{\text{NEDE}}}{1 - f_{\text{NEDE}}}$$

$$\Delta N_{\text{NEDE}} \simeq \frac{4}{7} \left(\frac{11}{4} \right)^{4/3} g_{\text{rel,vis}}^* \frac{f_{\text{NEDE}}}{1 - f_{\text{NEDE}}}$$

$$\xi = T_d/T_{\text{vis}}$$

$$f_{\text{NEDE}} = \Delta V_*/\rho_{\text{tot}}(T_d^*)$$

Second step

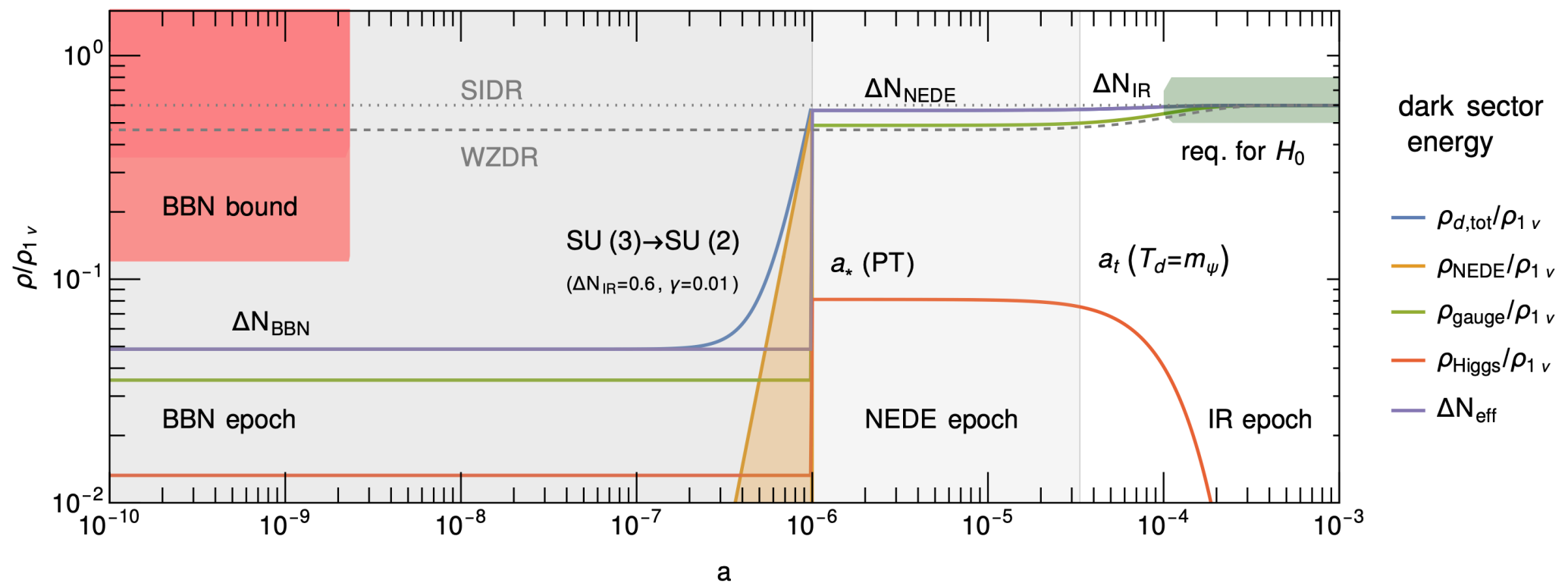
- As the NEDE boson becomes non-rel. The number of relativistic d.o.f. changes a second time

$$\Delta N_{\text{NEDE}} \rightarrow \Delta N_{\text{IR}} = \Delta N_{\text{NEDE}} (1 + r_g)^{1/3}$$

$$r_g^{-1} = 2N(N - 2)$$

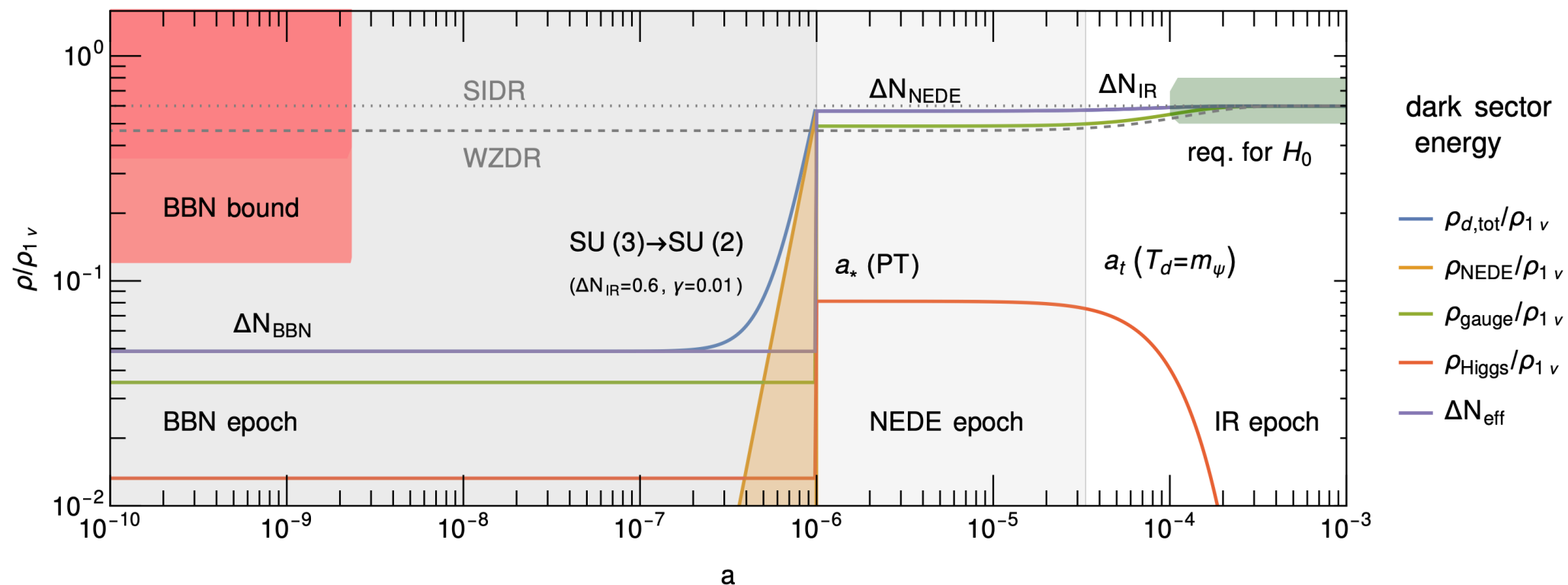
#dof	$z > z_*$ ("BBN")	$z_* > z > z_t$ ("NEDE")	$z < z_t$ ("IR")
$g_{\text{rel},d}$	$2(N^2 + N - 1)$	$2(N - 1)^2 - 1$	$2(N - 1)^2 - 2$
massless gauge bosons	$2(N^2 - 1)$	$2((N - 1)^2 - 1)$	
massive gauge bosons	0	$n_A \equiv 3(N^2 - (N - 1)^2) = 3(2N - 1)$	
Higgs bosons	$2N$	1	

SU(3) $\rightarrow$ SU(2)

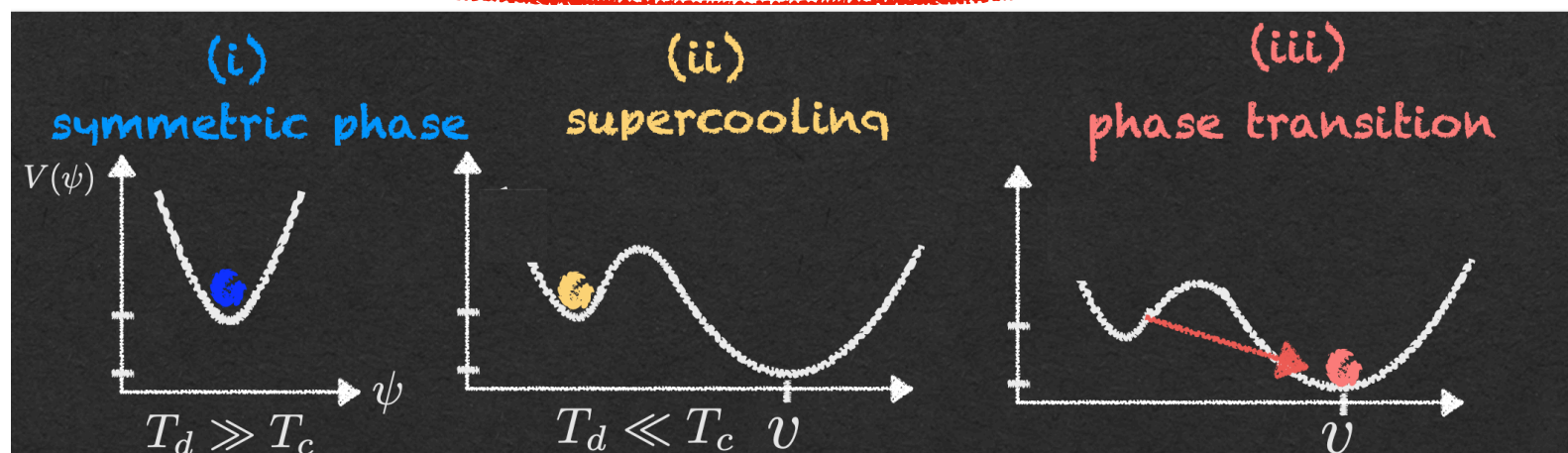


$$\Delta N_{BBN} \rightarrow \Delta N_{NEDE} \rightarrow \Delta N_{IR}$$

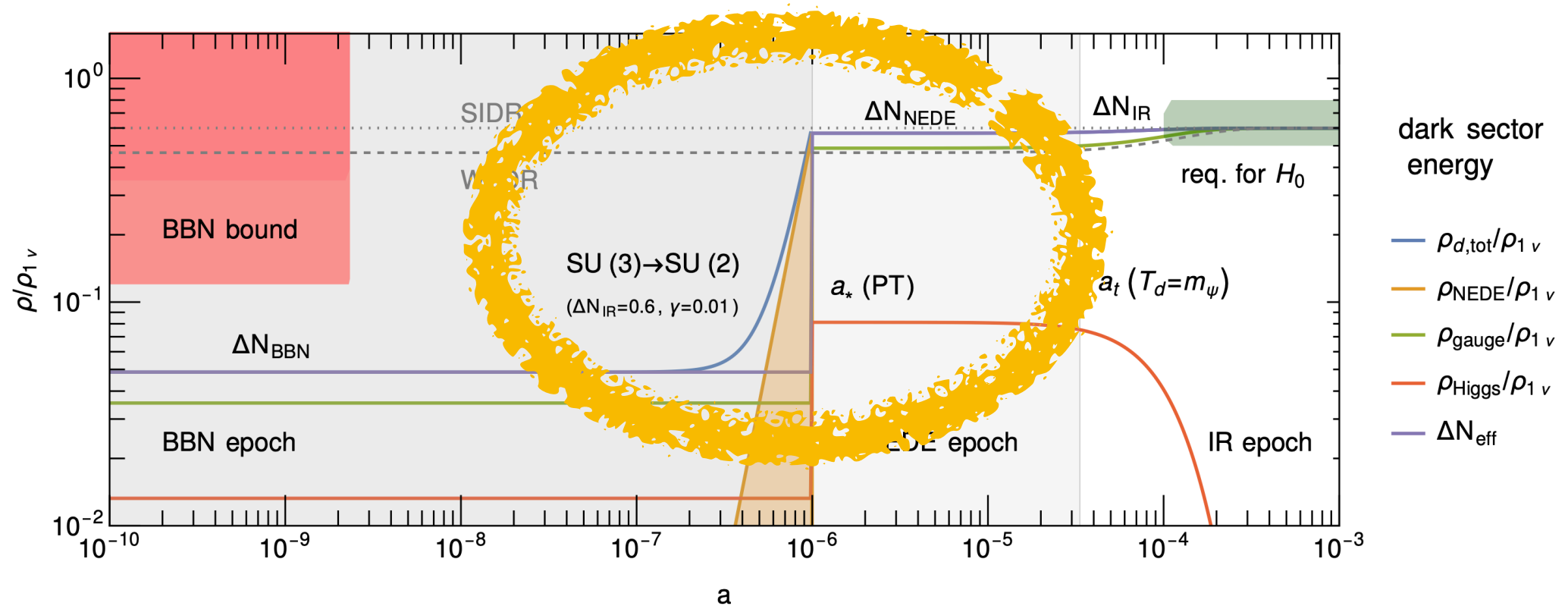
SU(3) $\rightarrow$ SU(2)



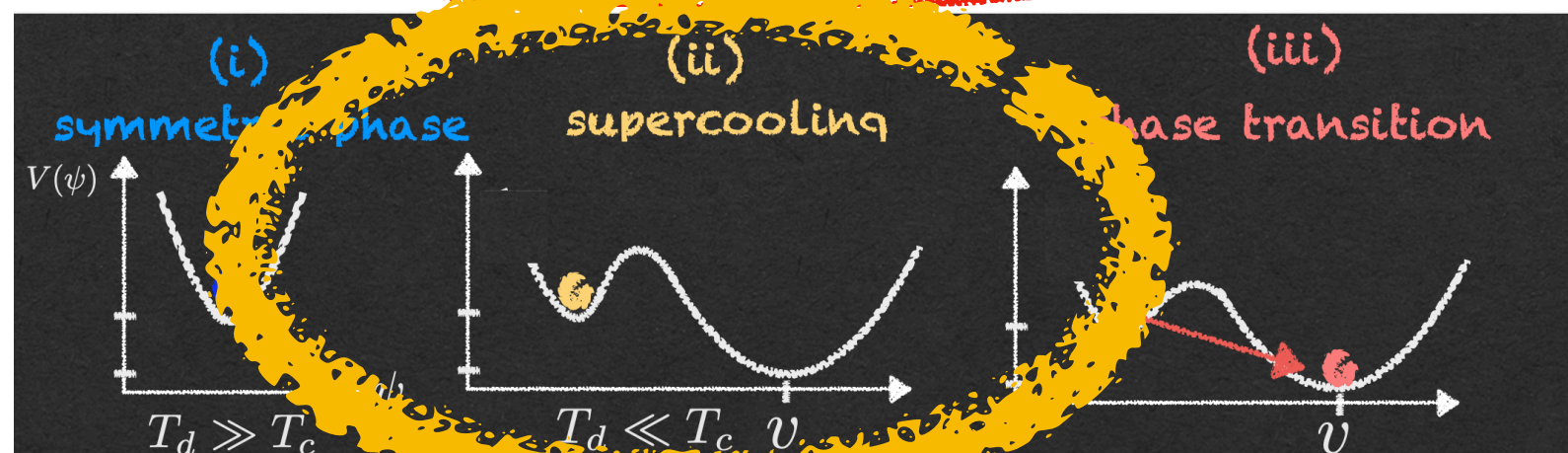
$$\Delta N_{BBN} \rightarrow \Delta N_{NEDE} \rightarrow \Delta N_{IR}$$



SU(3) $\rightarrow$ SU(2)



$$\Delta N_{BBN} \rightarrow \Delta N_{NEDE} \rightarrow \Delta N_{IR}$$



SU(N) Dark Sector

- Consider dark $SU(N)$ with $N \geq 3$

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\chi}(i\gamma^\mu D_\mu - m_\chi)\chi \left[|D\Psi|^2 - V_{\text{cl}}(|\Psi|^2) - \frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}^a F_a^{\mu\nu} \right],$$

SU(N) Dark Sector

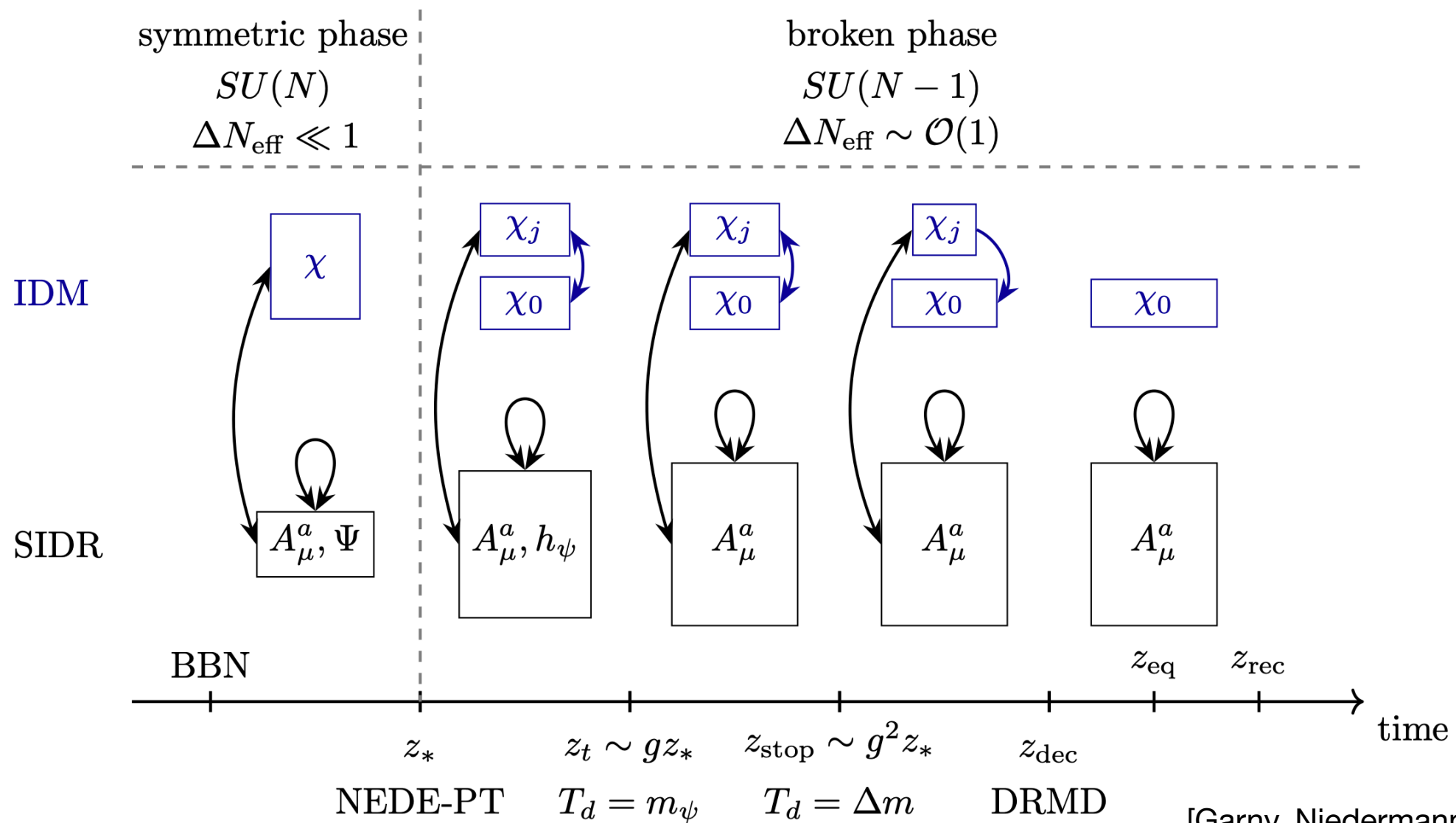
- Consider dark $SU(N)$ with $N \geq 3$

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\chi}(i\gamma^\mu D_\mu - m_\chi)\chi + |D\Psi|^2 - V_{\text{cl}}(|\Psi|^2) - \frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}^a F_a^{\mu\nu},$$

SU(N) Dark Sector

- Consider dark $SU(N)$ with $N \geq 3$

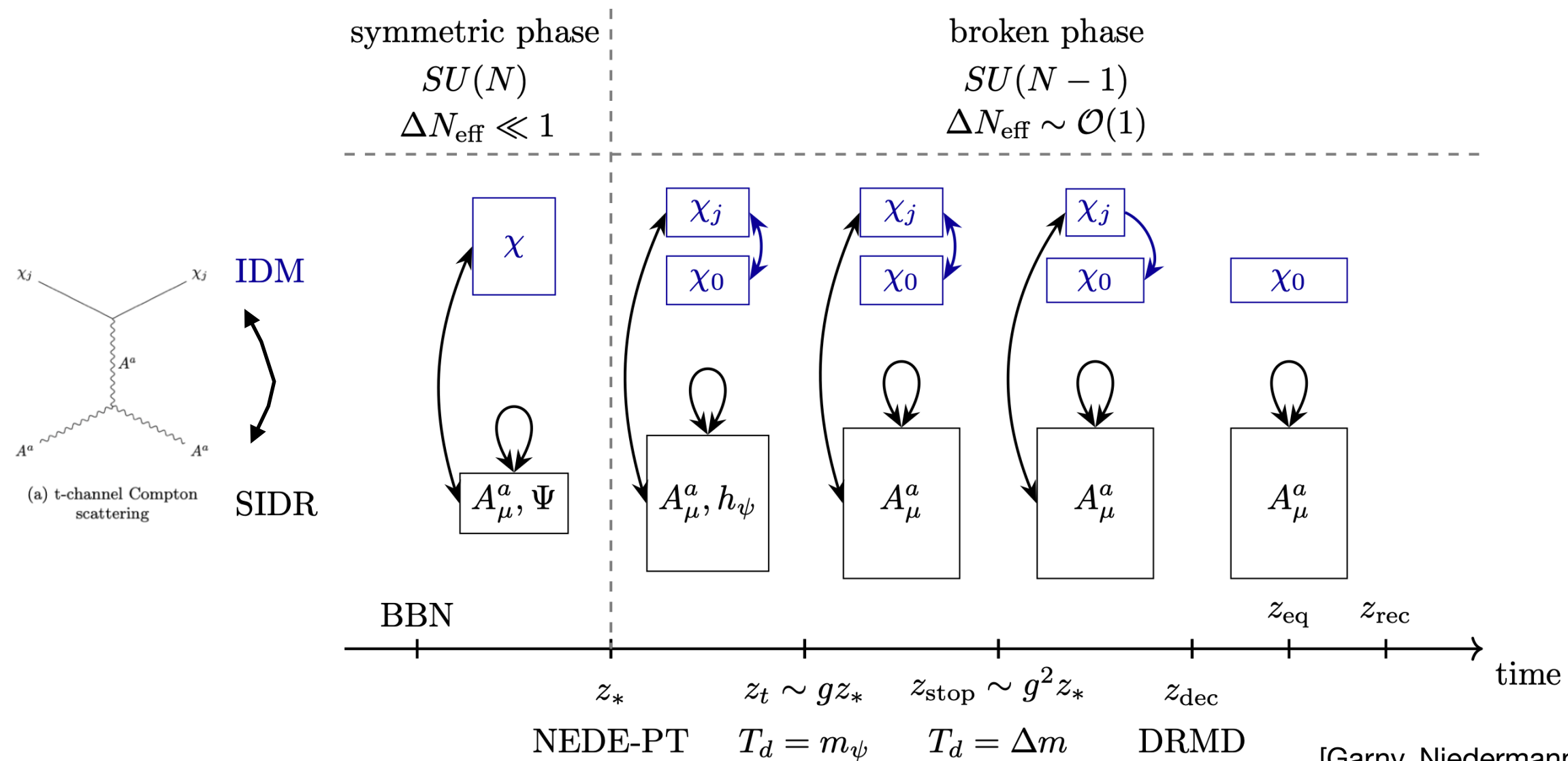
$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\chi}(i\gamma^\mu D_\mu - m_\chi)\chi + |D\Psi|^2 - V_{\text{cl}}(|\Psi|^2) - \frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}^a F_a^{\mu\nu},$$



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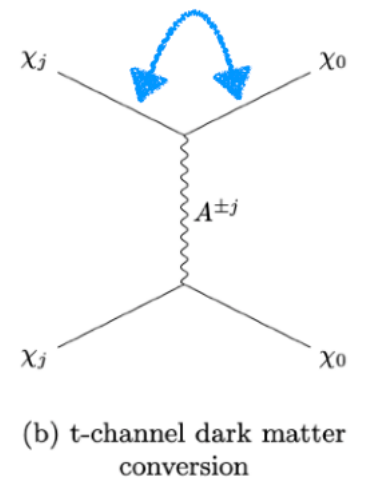
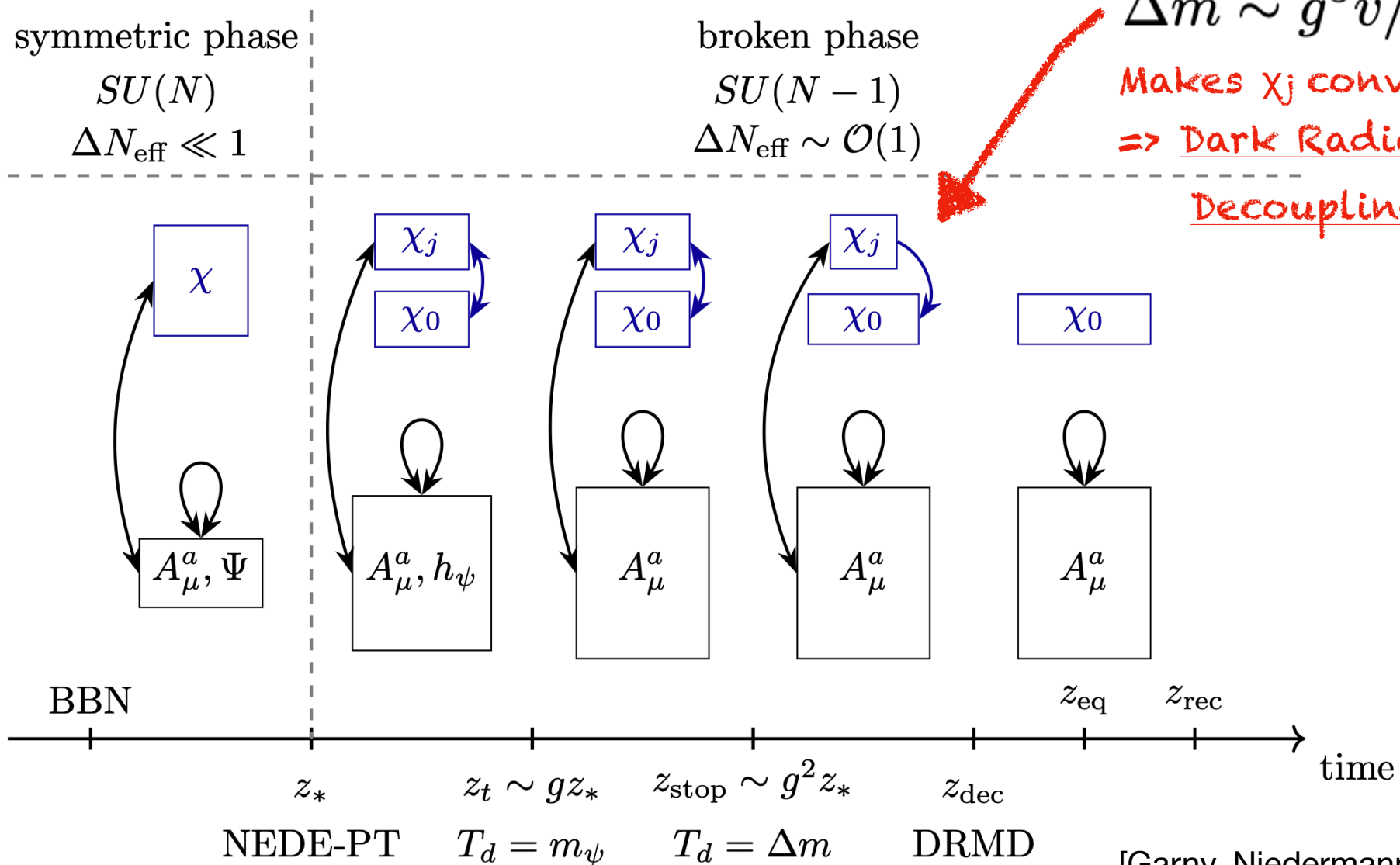
Loop induced mass splitting

$$\Delta m \sim g^3 v / (32\pi)$$

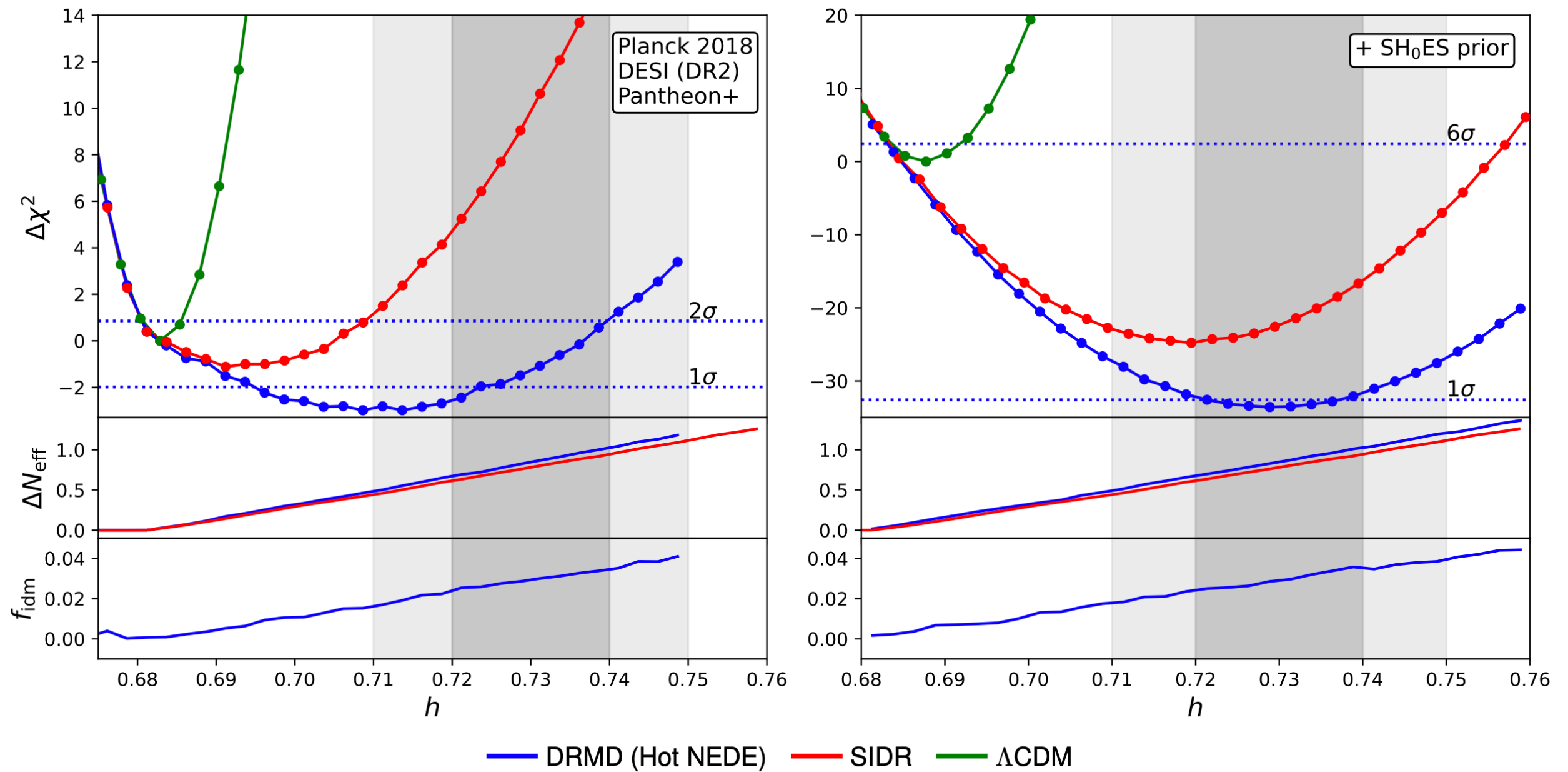
Makes χ_j convert to χ_0

$\Rightarrow$ Dark Radiation matter

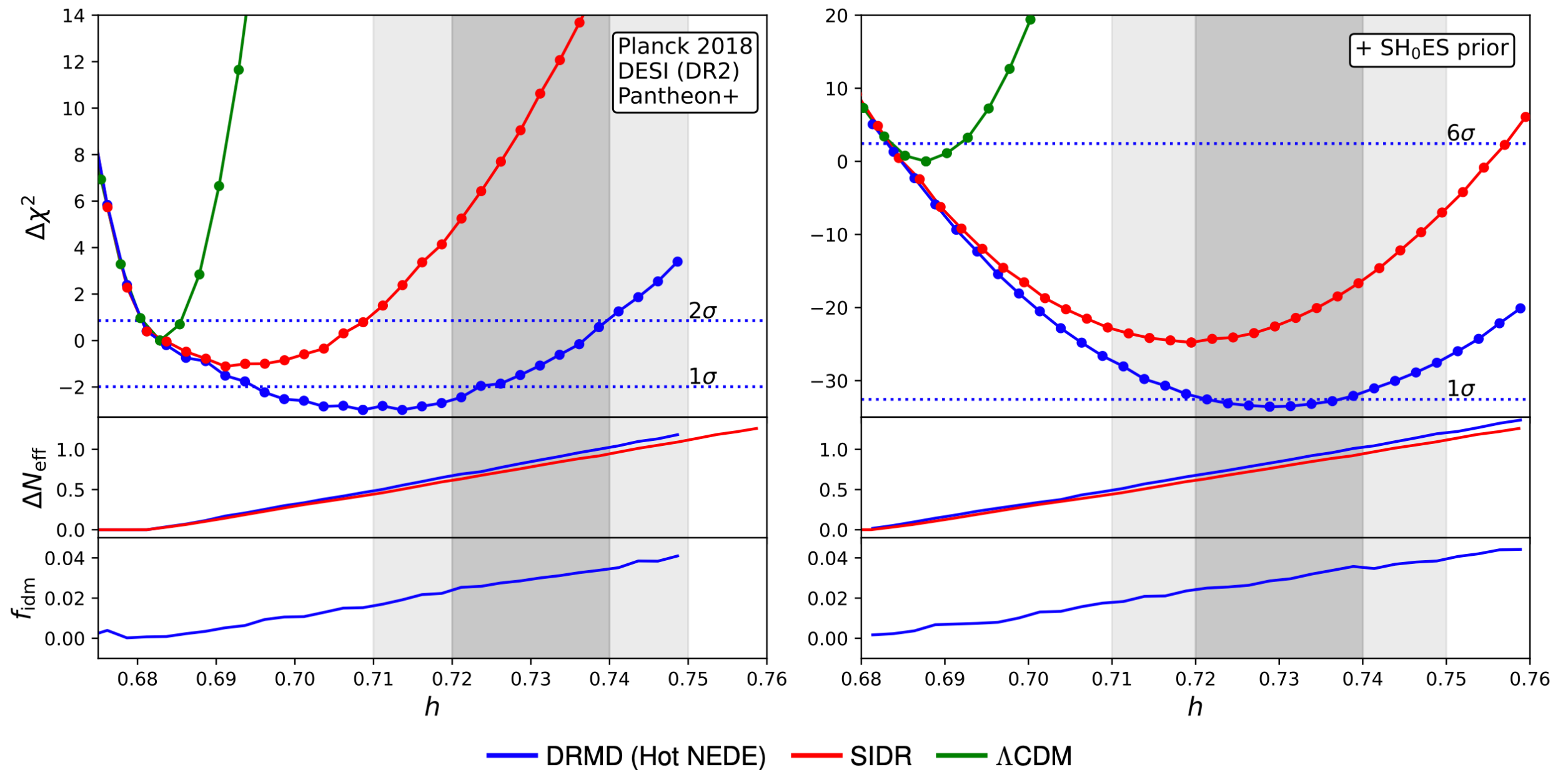
Decoupling (DRMD)



Hot NEDE with DRMD

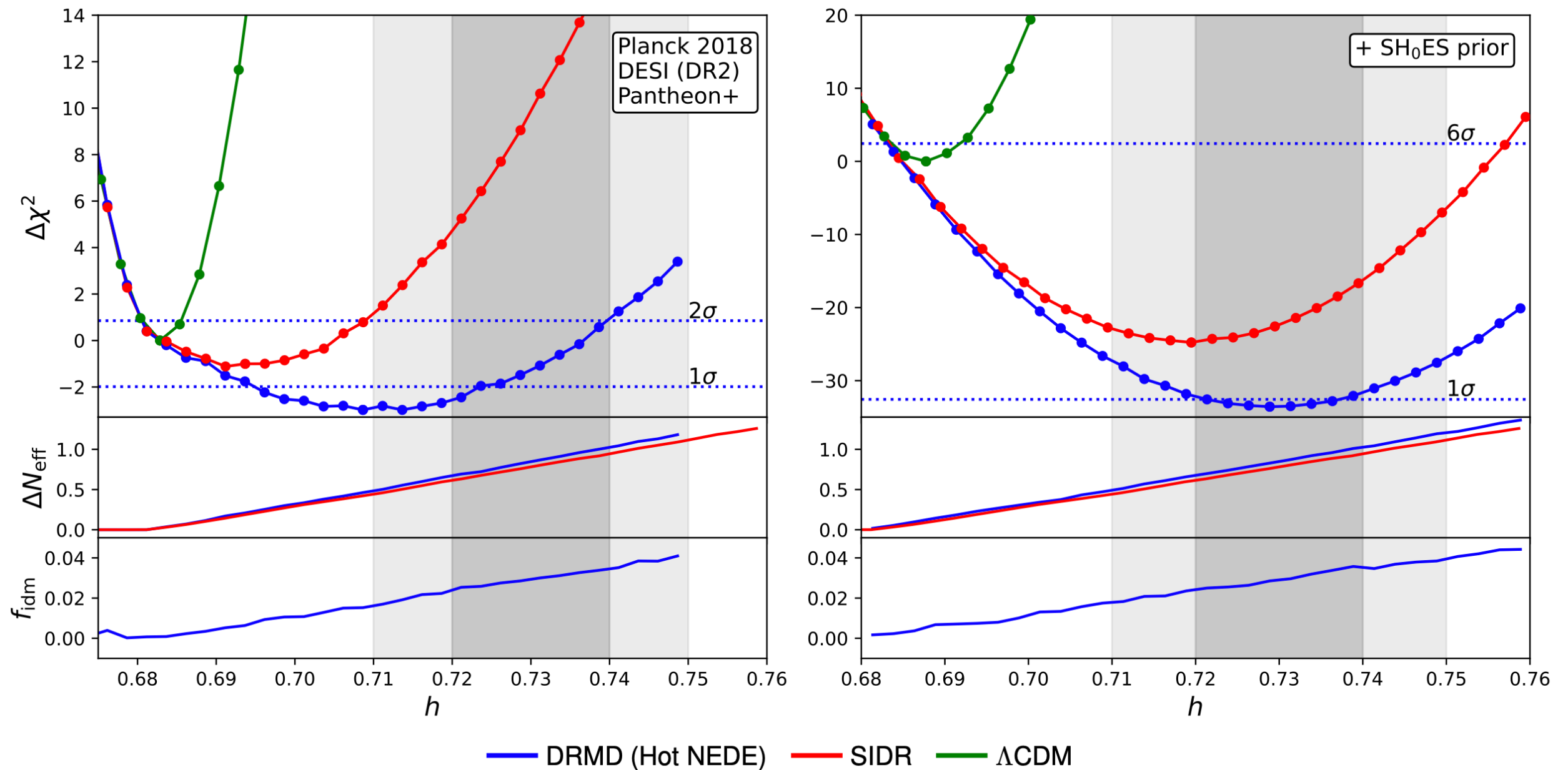


Hot NEDE with DRMD



Λ CDM > 5 σ away from SH0ES $H_0 = 73 \pm 1$ km/Mpc/s

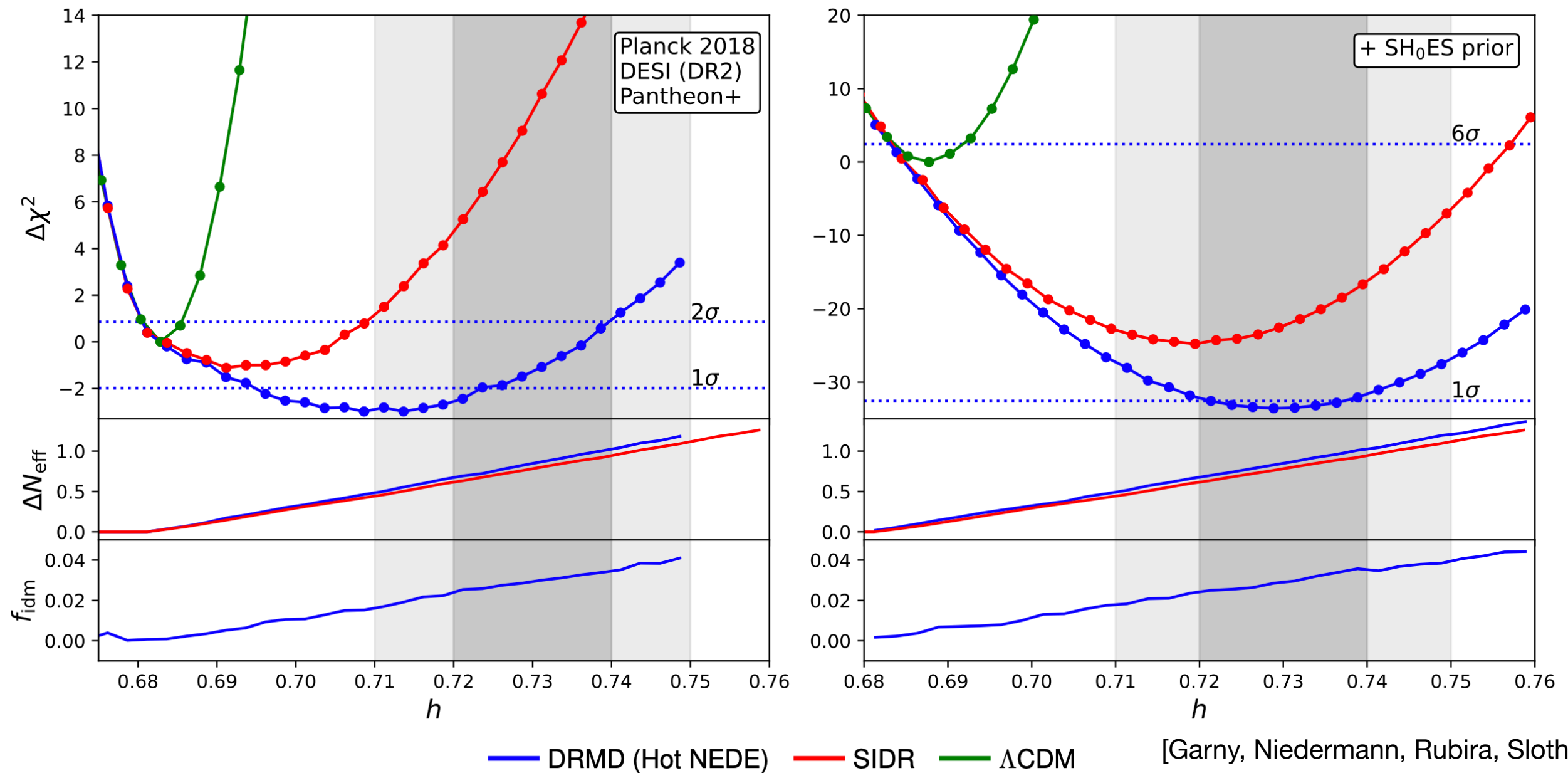
Hot NEDE with DRMD



Λ CDM > 5 σ away from SHOES $H_0 = 73 \pm 1$ km/Mpc/s

SIDR > 3 σ away from SHOES $H_0 = 73 \pm 1$ km/Mpc/s

Hot NEDE with DRMD



Λ CDM > 5 σ away from SHOES $H_0 = 73 \pm 1$ km/s/Mpc

SIDR > 3 σ away from SHOES $H_0 = 73 \pm 1$ km/s/Mpc

DRMD > 1.4 σ away from SHOES $H_0 = 73 \pm 1$ km/s/Mpc

**Future
observational signatures**

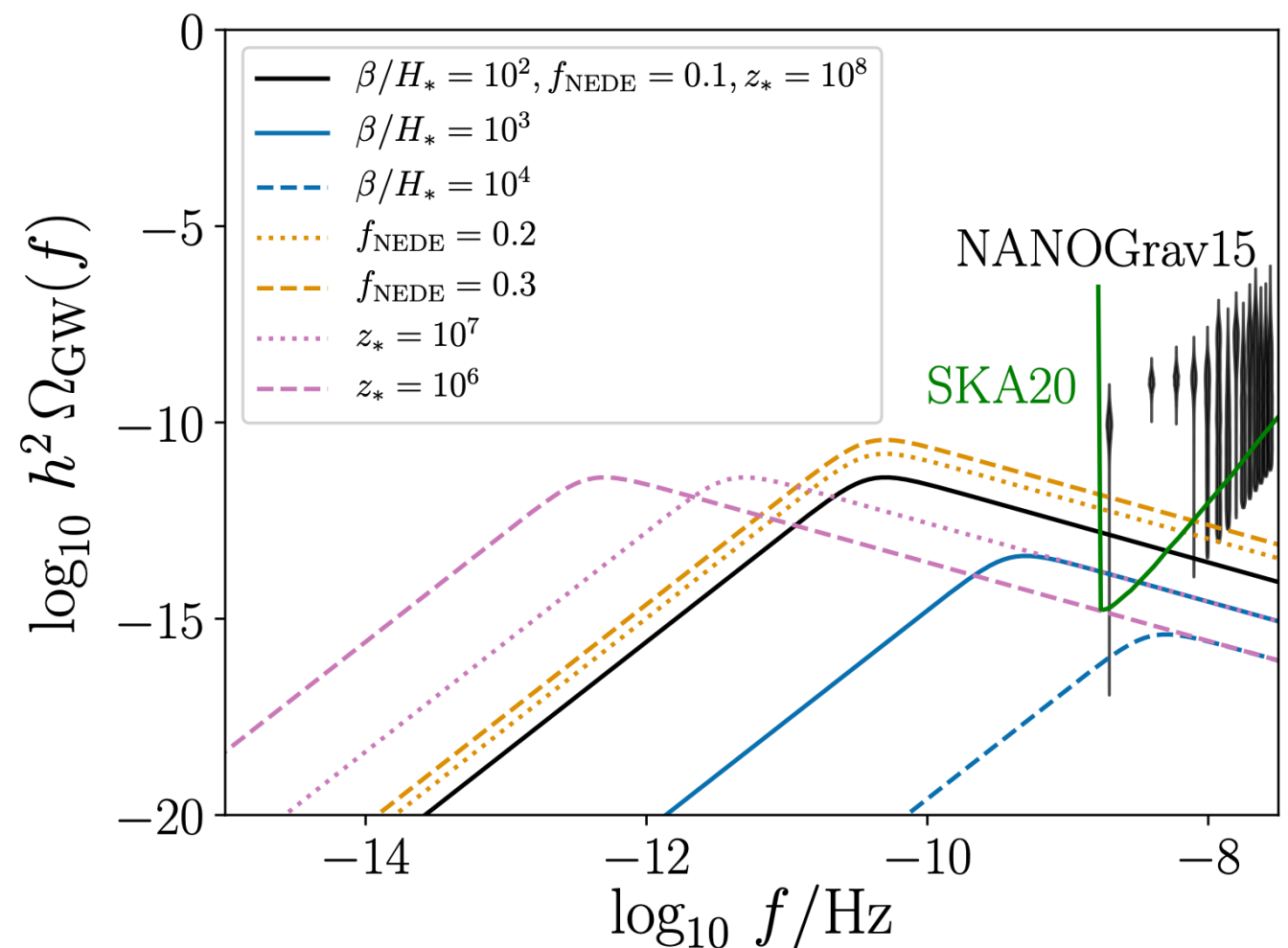
Gravitational waves

First order PT generates stochastic gravitational wave background!

Signal in PTA sensitivity range for PTs that occur close to BBN

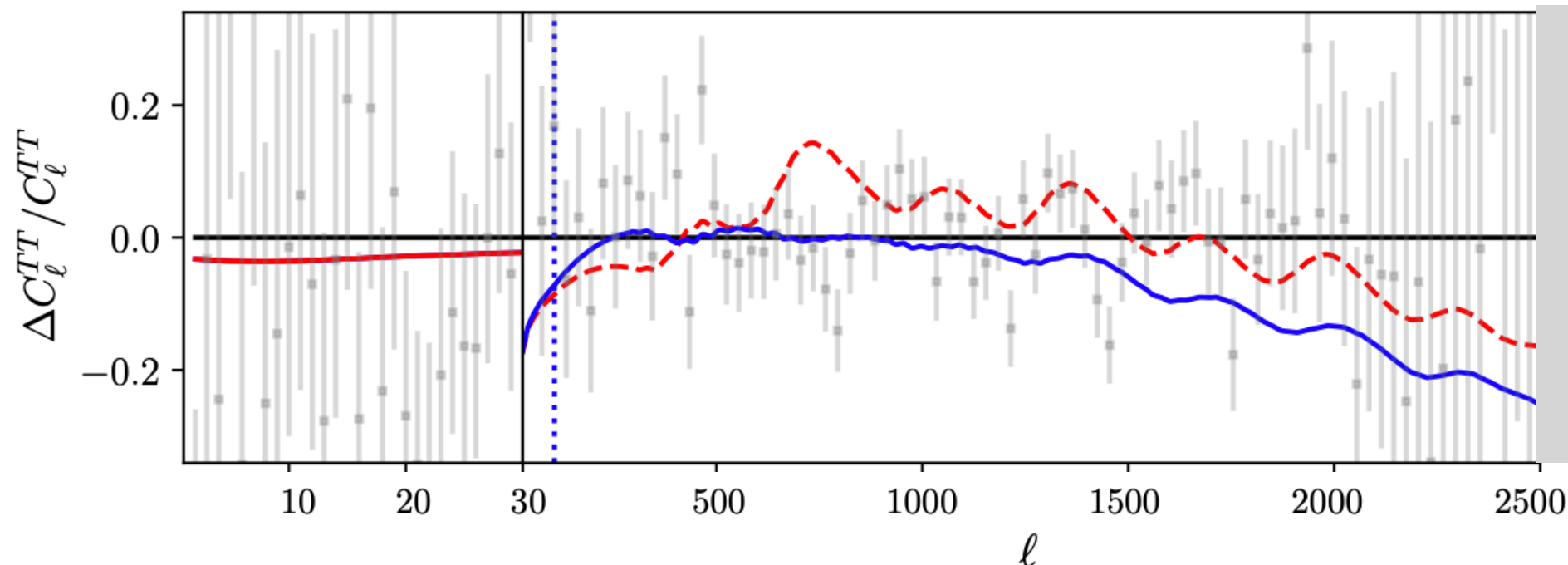
$$10^7 \lesssim z_* \lesssim 10^9$$

and creates large bubbles



Small CMB anisotropies

- The DM-DR interaction suppresses power on small scales
 - But higher angular scales probe features at earlier times, and other new features
- ➔ Can be tested with new small-scale CMB data from SPT and ACT

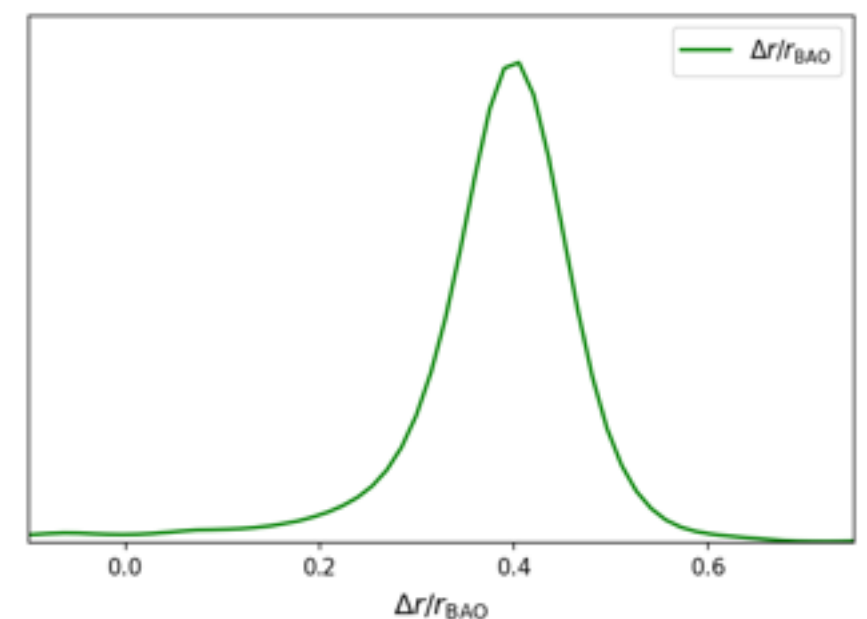
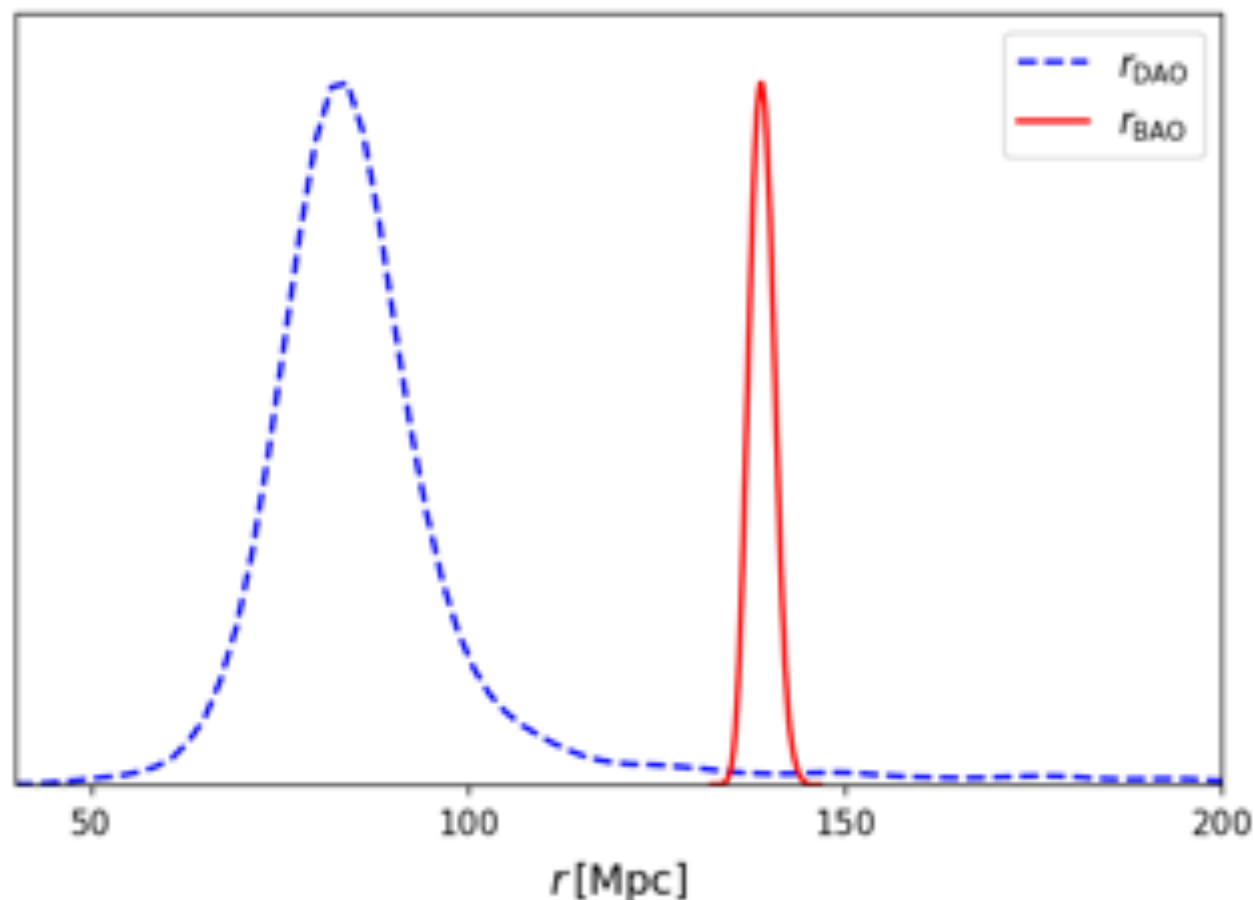


????????????
ACT and SPT can probe
**earlier features of the
model** (mass threshold,
phase transition) and
other new features
????????????

Smoking gun of DRMD: Dark Acoustic Oscillations (DAO)

Just like ordinary decoupling creates a BAO

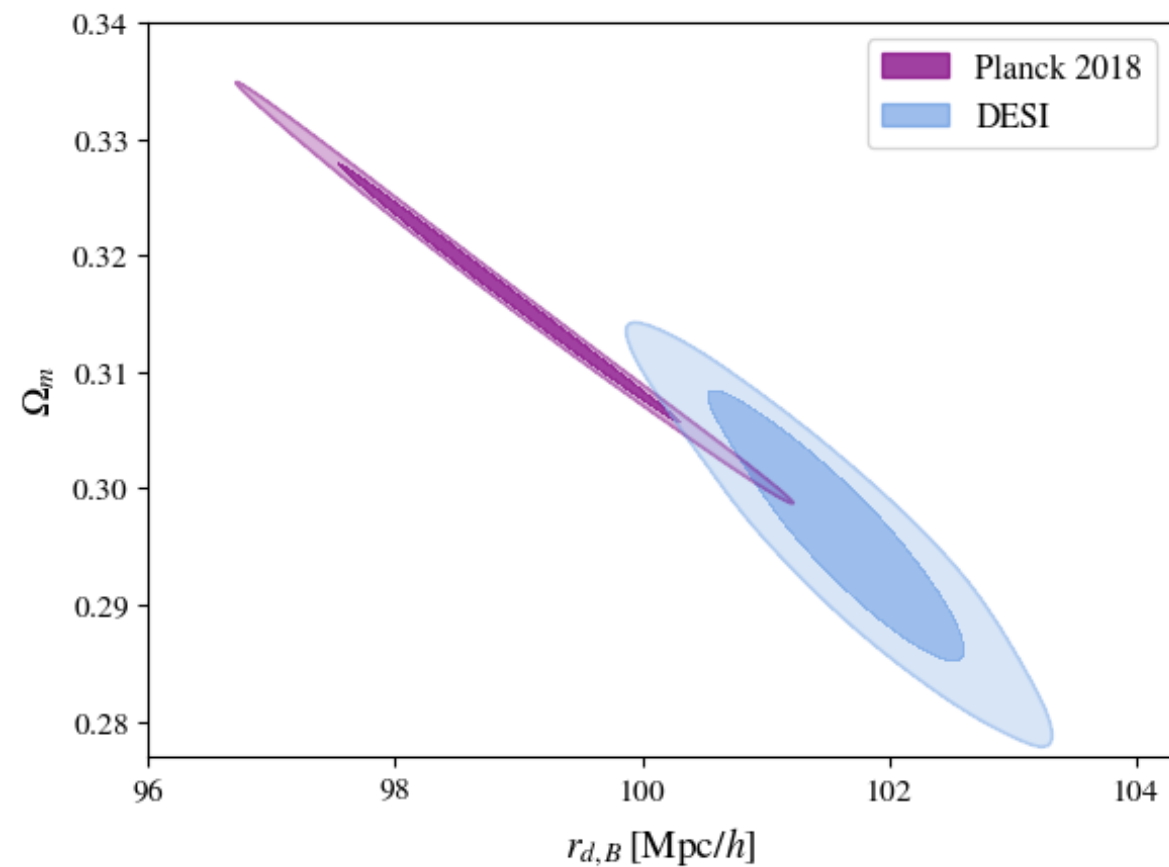
➡ DRMD creates a DAO



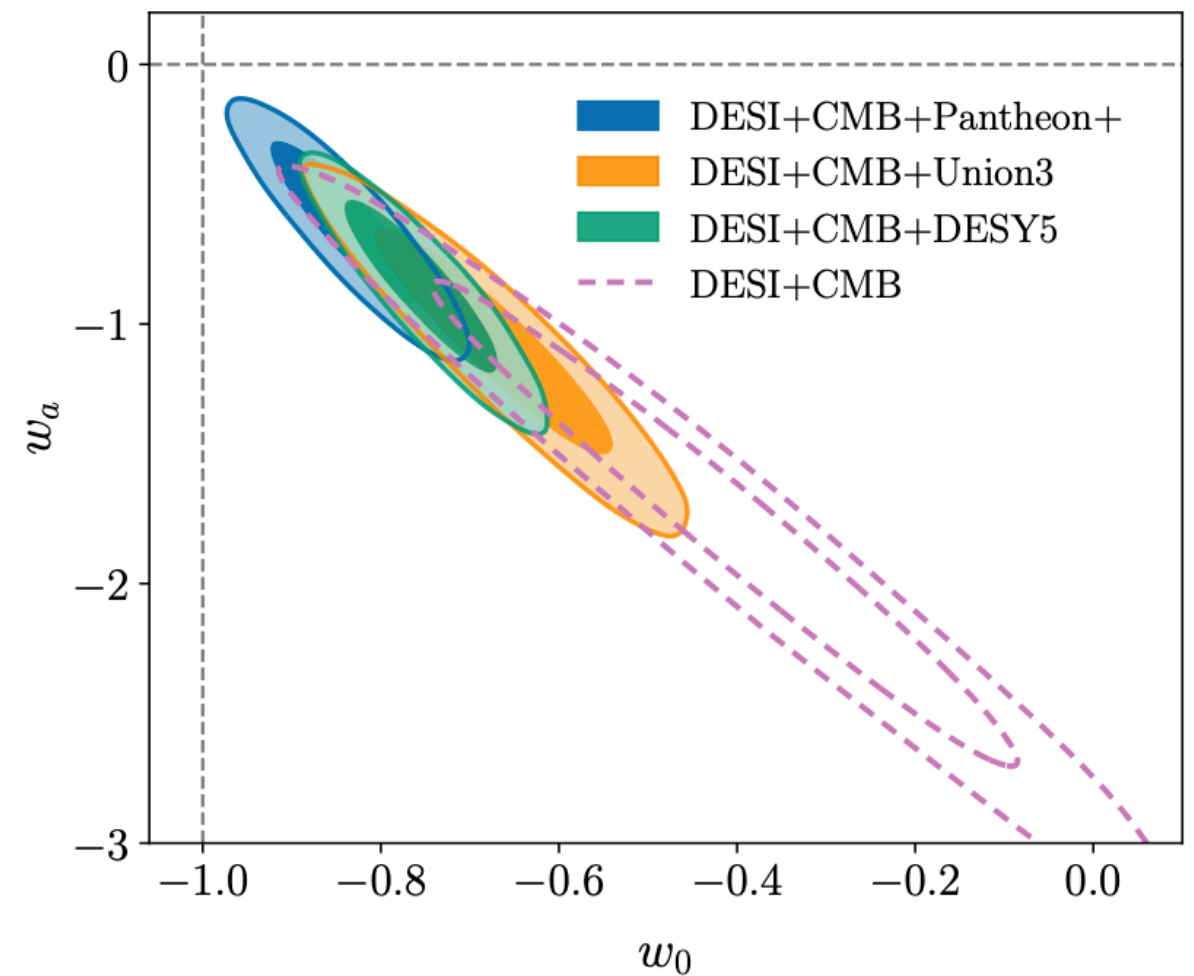
[Garny, Niedermann, Sloth —to appear very soon]

DESI anomalies

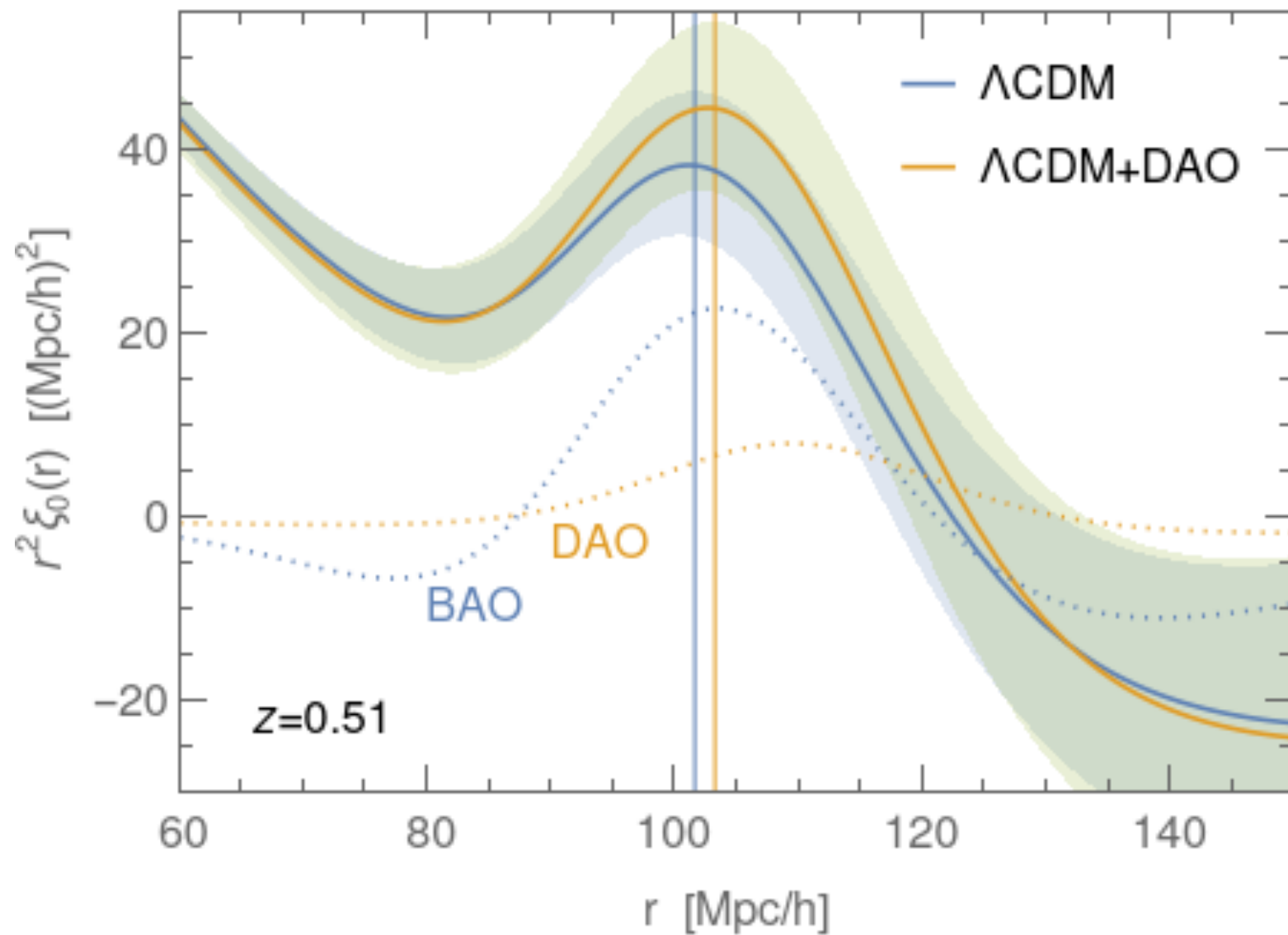
CMB-BAO anomaly in Λ CDM



Evidence for late-time evolving Dark Energy

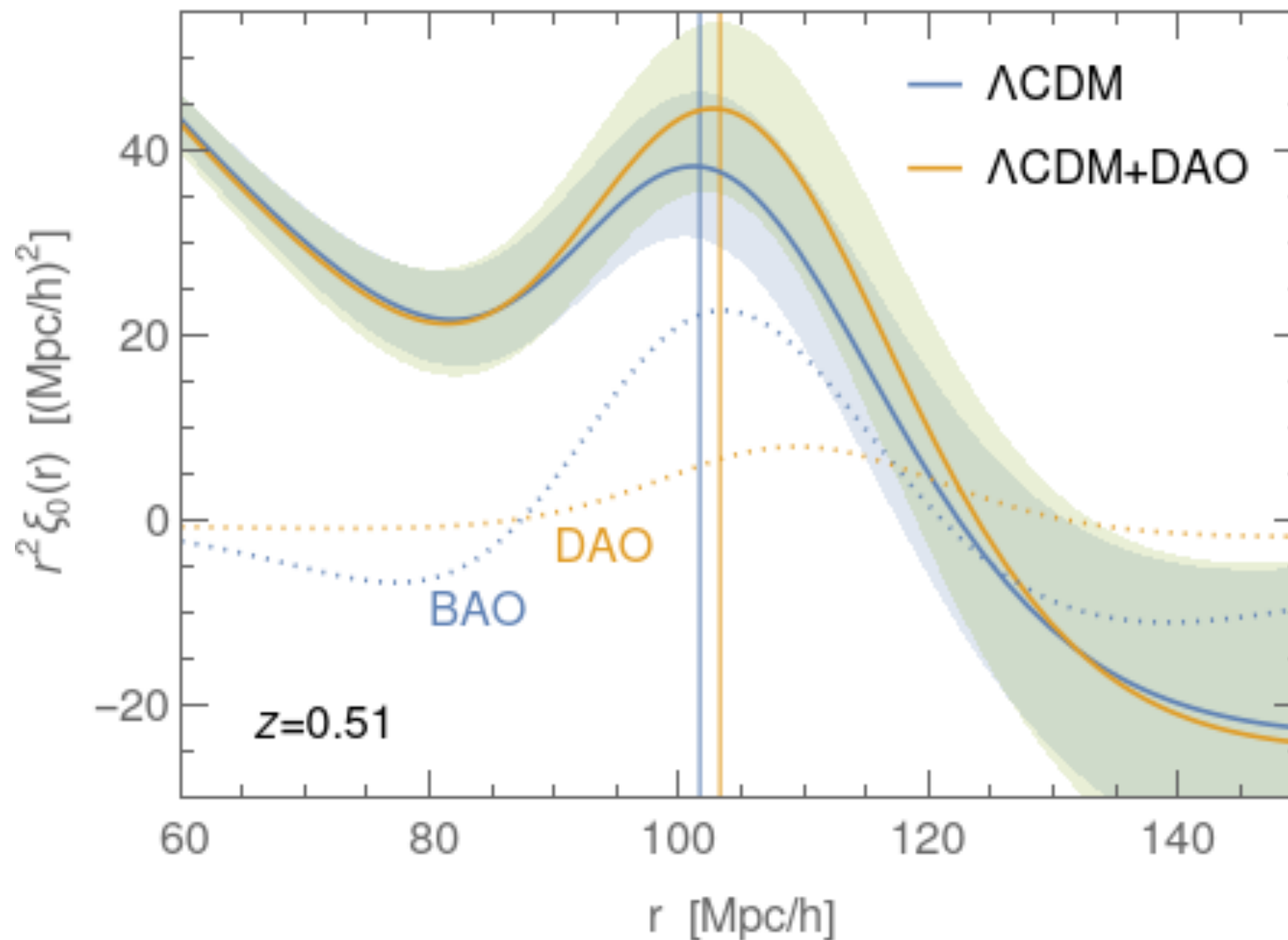


DESI BAO-DAO confusion



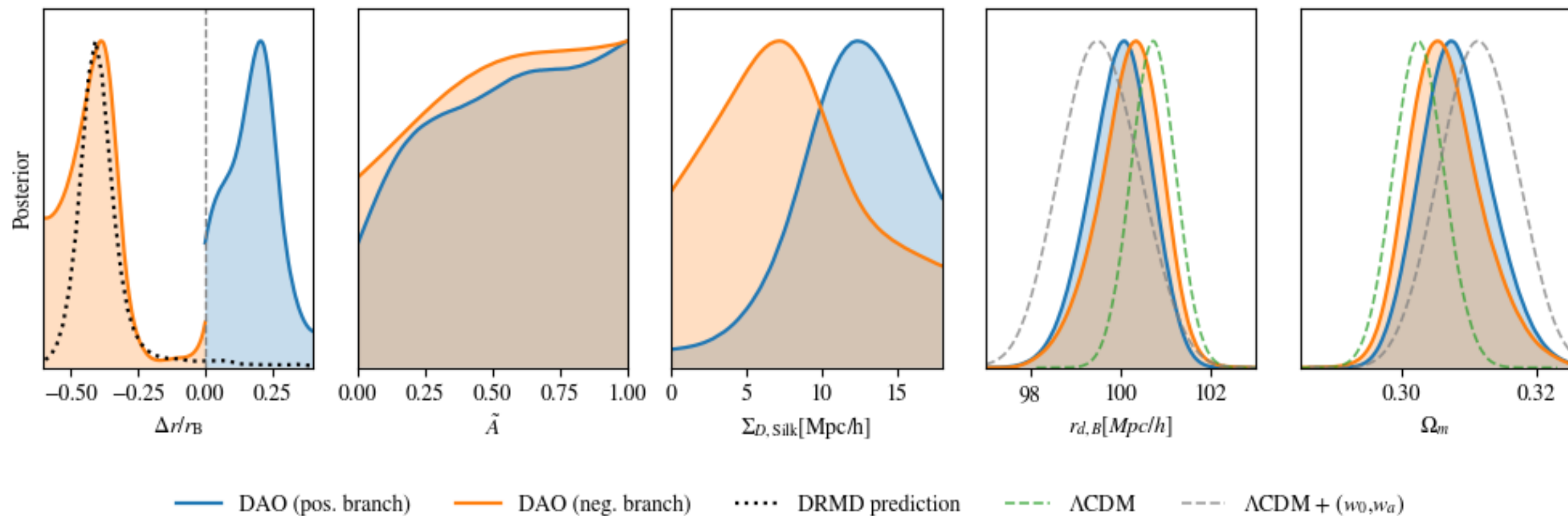
[Garny, Niedermann, Sloth —to appear very soon]

DESI BAO-DAO confusion



Redshift-dependent shift in inferred BAO position due to the presence of DAO is an alternative explanation of the DESI anomaly! [Garny, Niedermann, Sloth —to appear very soon]

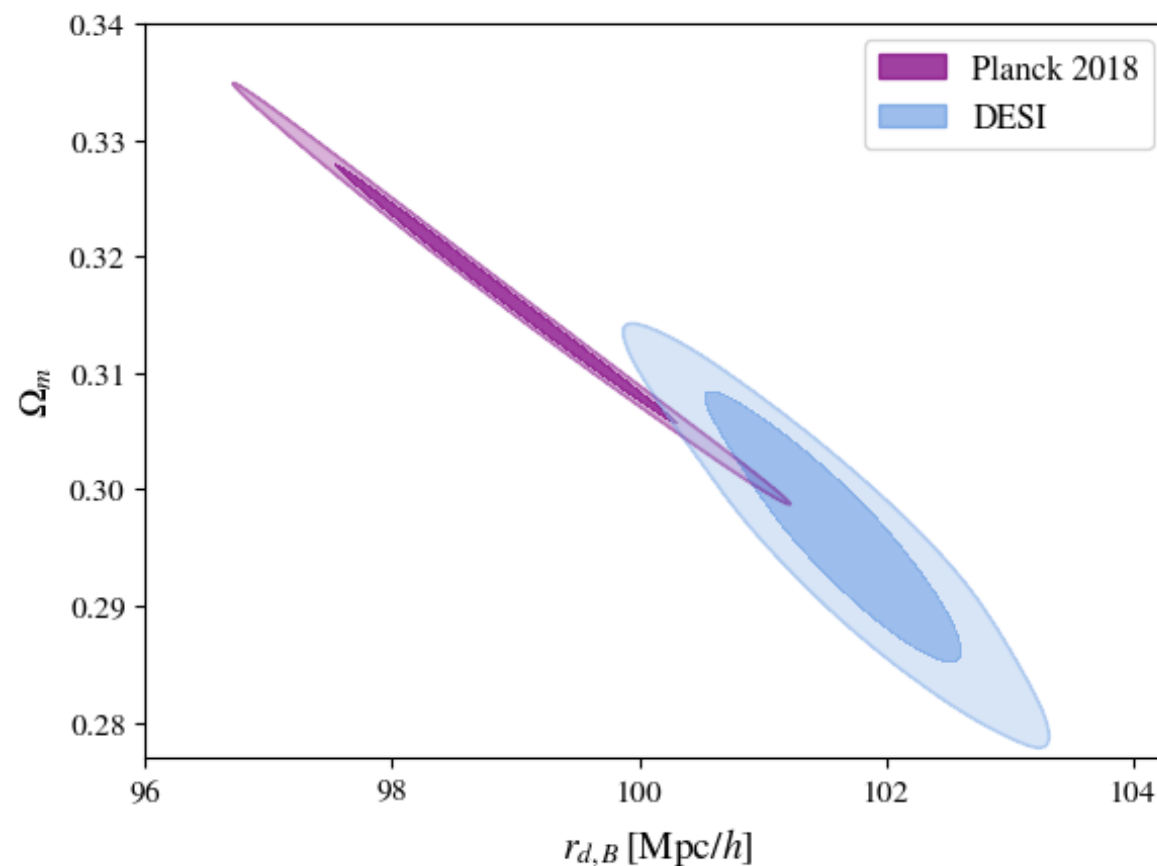
Preliminary validation of DRMD



[Garny, Niedermann, Sloth —to appear very soon]

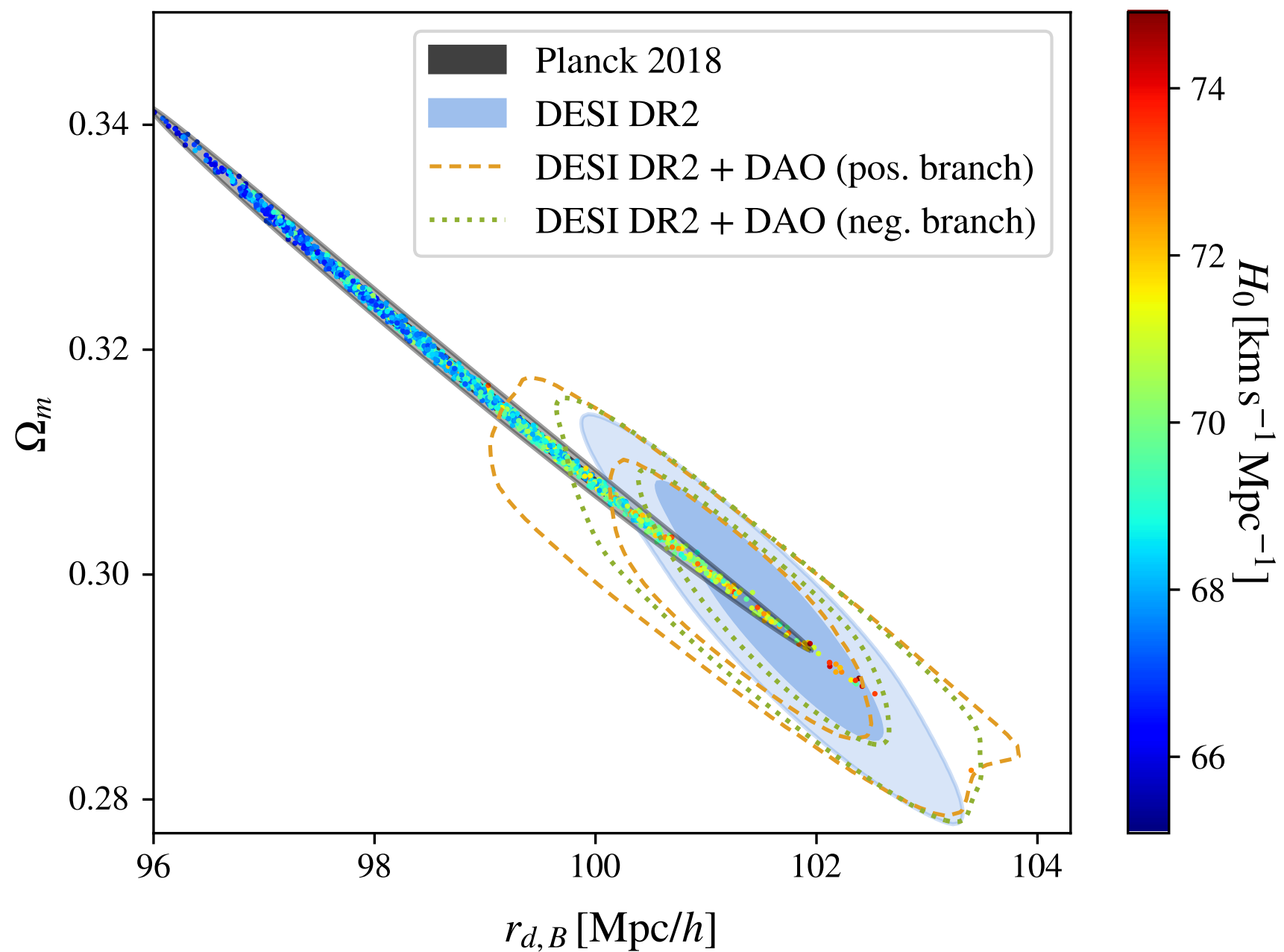
CMB-BAO tension in Λ CDM

What happens to CMB-BAO tension in Λ CDM?



[Garny, Niedermann, Sloth —to appear very soon]

A new concordance model



[Garny, Niedermann, Sloth —to appear very soon]

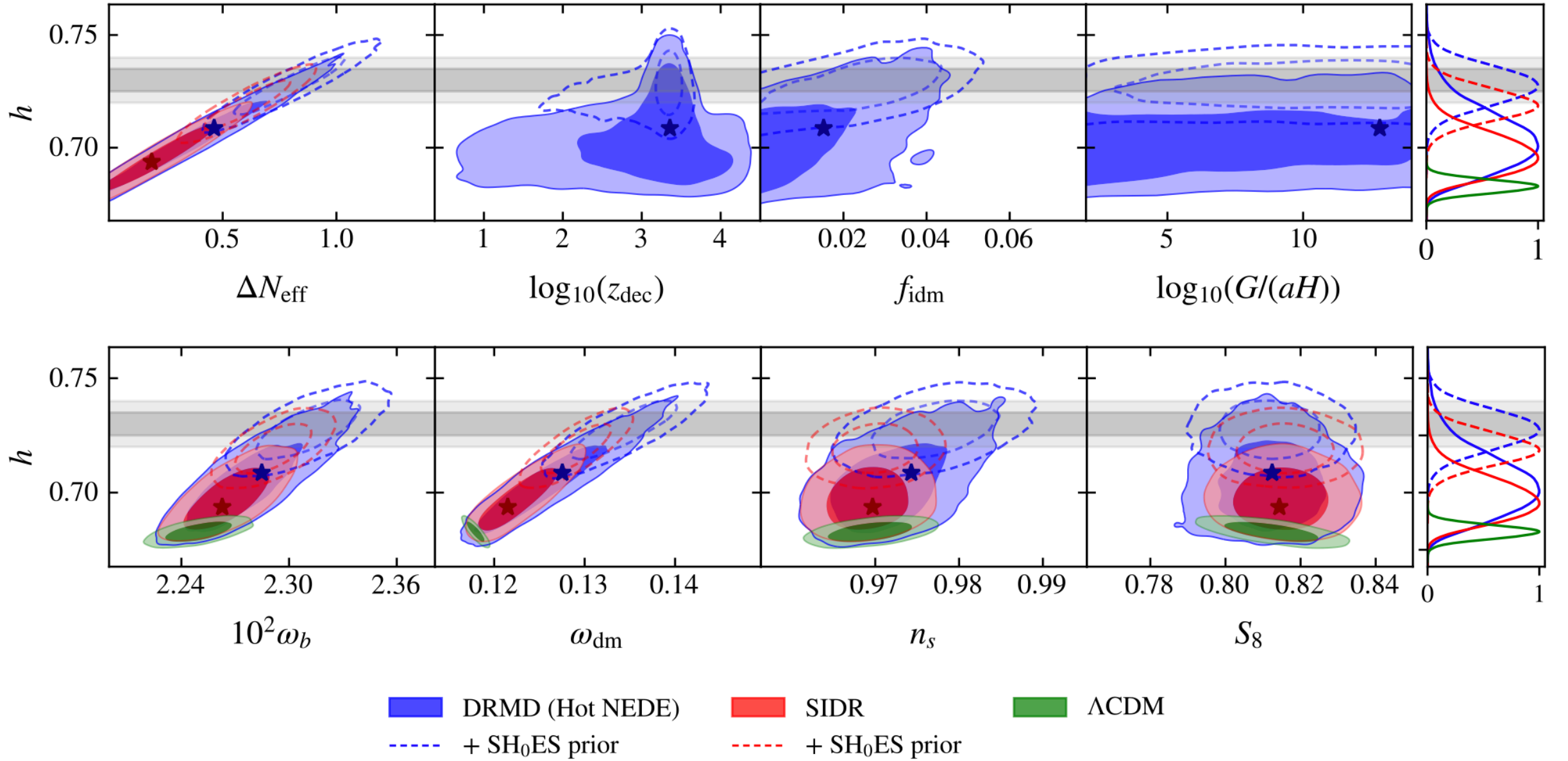
Conclusions/summary

- The community widely recognises the Hubble tension and the DESI anomaly.
 - Models of dark sector physics solving the anomalies are hard to come by
- ➡ Model building offers a unique opportunity to gain insight into the dark sector!

“If you solve the DESI anomaly without solving the Hubble tension, you solved nothing”

— Antony Lewis, 2025

- ➡ Probably not w_0 , w_a (i.e. not evolving Dark Energy)
- However, Hot NEDE with DRMD and a DAO could fit the bill!
 - The Hubble tension and the DESI anomaly could provide an exciting window into the dark sector!!!



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	Base				Base + SH ₀ ES prior				Q_{DMAP}^M	Q_{Gauss}
	H_0	ΔN_{eff}	$\Delta\chi^2$	ΔAIC	H_0	ΔN_{eff}	$\Delta\chi^2$	ΔAIC		
ΛCDM	68.30 ± 0.29	—	—	—	68.70 ± 0.29	—	—	—	5.7σ	4.4σ
SIDR	$69.8^{+0.8}_{-1.0}$ (69.4)	< 0.525 (0.188)	-1.2	0.8	71.9 ± 0.7 (72.0)	0.61 ± 0.13 (0.610)	-24.5	-22.5	3.0σ	2.5σ
DRMD	$70.5^{+1.0}_{-1.6}$ (70.9)	< 0.811 (0.462)	-3.0	3.0	72.8 ± 0.8 (72.9)	0.80 ± 0.16 (0.829)	-33.3	-27.3	1.4σ	1.8σ

TABLE I. Comparison between ΛCDM , (post-BBN) SIDR, and DRMD (Hot NEDE) as solutions to the Hubble tension, using standard metrics. While SIDR reduces the QDMAP tension to 3σ , the DRMD model brings it to below 2σ . The (naive) Gaussian tension measure is reported in the last column. After including a prior on M , we report a 4.7σ and 5σ evidence for a non-vanishing fraction of ΔN_{eff} for SIDR and DRMD, respectively. For a complete account of our cosmological parameter inference see Tab. II.

Appendix A: Table with MCMC results

	Λ CDM		SIDR		DRMD	
	Base	Base + SH ₀ ES prior	Base	Base + SH ₀ ES prior	Base	Base + SH ₀ ES prior
Parameter	68% limits (best fit)	68% limits (best fit)	68% limits (best fit)	68% limits (best fit)	68% limits (best fit)	68% limits (best fit)
$10^2\omega_b$	2.250 ± 0.012 (2.243)	2.261 ± 0.013 (2.263)	2.266 ± 0.016 (2.263)	2.291 ± 0.014 (2.292)	$2.277^{+0.017}_{-0.026}$ (2.285)	2.310 ± 0.018 (2.313)
ω_{dm}	0.11795 ± 0.00064 (0.11923)	0.11710 ± 0.00062 (0.11705)	$0.1228^{+0.0024}_{-0.0034}$ (0.1215)	0.1290 ± 0.0026 (0.1291)	$0.1259^{+0.0034}_{-0.0061}$ (0.1275)	0.1344 ± 0.0037 (0.1353)
h	0.6828 ± 0.0029 (0.6771)	0.6874 ± 0.0028 (0.6877)	$0.6978^{+0.0076}_{-0.010}$ (0.6937)	0.7192 ± 0.0071 (0.7195)	$0.705^{+0.010}_{-0.016}$ (0.709)	0.7276 ± 0.0082 (0.7289)
$\ln(10^{10} A_s)$	3.054 ± 0.015 (3.048)	3.059 ± 0.016 (3.063)	3.048 ± 0.015 (3.049)	$3.042^{+0.014}_{-0.016}$ (3.039)	3.051 ± 0.015 (3.051)	$3.050^{+0.015}_{-0.017}$ (3.050)
n_s	0.9694 ± 0.0033 (0.9671)	0.9718 ± 0.0033 (0.9730)	0.9692 ± 0.0034 (0.9697)	0.9700 ± 0.0034 (0.9697)	$0.9721^{+0.0039}_{-0.0055}$ (0.9743)	0.9770 ± 0.0048 (0.9783)
τ_{reio}	$0.0611^{+0.0070}_{-0.0078}$ (0.0567)	0.0639 ± 0.0078 (0.0655)	$0.0604^{+0.0068}_{-0.0077}$ (0.0598)	$0.0607^{+0.0068}_{-0.0081}$ (0.0595)	$0.0611^{+0.0071}_{-0.0080}$ (0.0610)	$0.0618^{+0.0068}_{-0.0084}$ (0.0609)
ΔN_{eff}	–	–	< 0.525 (0.188)	0.61 ± 0.13 (0.61)	< 0.811 (0.462)	0.80 ± 0.16 (0.83)
f_{idm}	–	–	–	–	< 0.0362 (0.0152)	< 0.0442 (0.0285)
$\log_{10}(\mathcal{G}/\mathcal{H})$	–	–	–	–	unconstrained (12.823)	unconstrained (13.057)
$\log_{10}(z_{\text{stop}})$	–	–	–	–	> 2.50 (4.82)	> 3.64 (4.83)
$\log_{10}(z_{\text{dec}})$	–	–	–	–	$3.03^{+0.75}_{-0.34}$ (3.36)	$3.25^{+0.22}_{-0.012}$ (3.35)
S_8	0.8125 ± 0.0084 (0.8242)	0.8043 ± 0.0084 (0.8057)	0.8151 ± 0.0086 (0.8143)	0.8157 ± 0.0085 (0.8146)	0.8120 ± 0.0096 (0.8124)	0.8120 ± 0.0089 (0.8115)
$hr_d[\text{Mpc}]$	100.72 ± 0.48 (99.70)	101.46 ± 0.47 (101.51)	101.03 ± 0.52 (100.93)	101.69 ± 0.47 (101.71)	100.95 ± 0.53 (100.96)	101.24 ± 0.52 (101.13)
Ω_m	0.3026 ± 0.0037 (0.3104)	0.2970 ± 0.0035 (0.2967)	0.3001 ± 0.0040 (0.3009)	0.2950 ± 0.0035 (0.2949)	0.3009 ± 0.0040 (0.3007)	0.2987 ± 0.0039 (0.2995)
χ^2 per experiment						
Planck high- ℓ	2348.8	2351.7	2348.9	2354.4	2347.2	2349.5
Planck low- ℓ EE	397.7	399.3	397.3	397.2	397.7	397.6
Planck low- ℓ TT	22.6	22.3	22.5	22.3	21.8	21.3
Planck lensing	9.2	9.3	9.3	9.6	9.4	9.5
DESI BAO	12.8	10.4	11.8	10.4	11.6	11.0
Pantheon+	1412.7	1414.1	1413.1	1414.5	1413.1	1413.4
SH ₀ ES	–	29.6	–	3.4	–	0.6
Total	4203.9	4236.6	4202.9	4211.8	4200.9	4203.0
$\Delta\chi^2$	0.0	0.0	-1.0	-24.8	-3.0	-33.6
$Q_{\text{DMAP}}^M [\sigma]$	–	5.7	–	3.0	–	1.4

TABLE II. Results of our MCMC analysis for Λ CDM, SIDR and DRMD. The base data sets consists of Planck 2018, DESI BAO (DR2), and Pantheon+. The SH₀ES measurement is implemented through a prior on the SNe magnitude M . We report the 1σ standard deviation (except for one-sided constraints, which correspond to the 2σ limit).