

# Measuring the Cosmic Microwave Background B-mode Polarization with the POLARBEAR Experiment

Neil Goeckner-Wald for the POLARBEAR  
collaboration



**SIMONS FOUNDATION**  
Advancing Research in Basic Science and Mathematics



# POLARBEAR Collaboration



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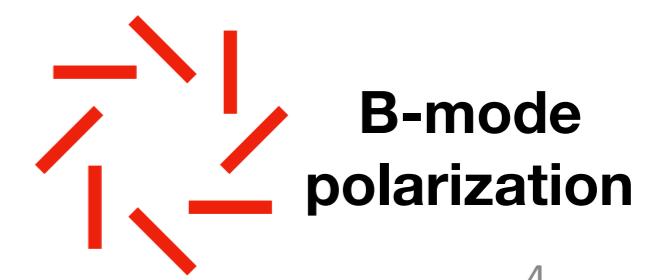
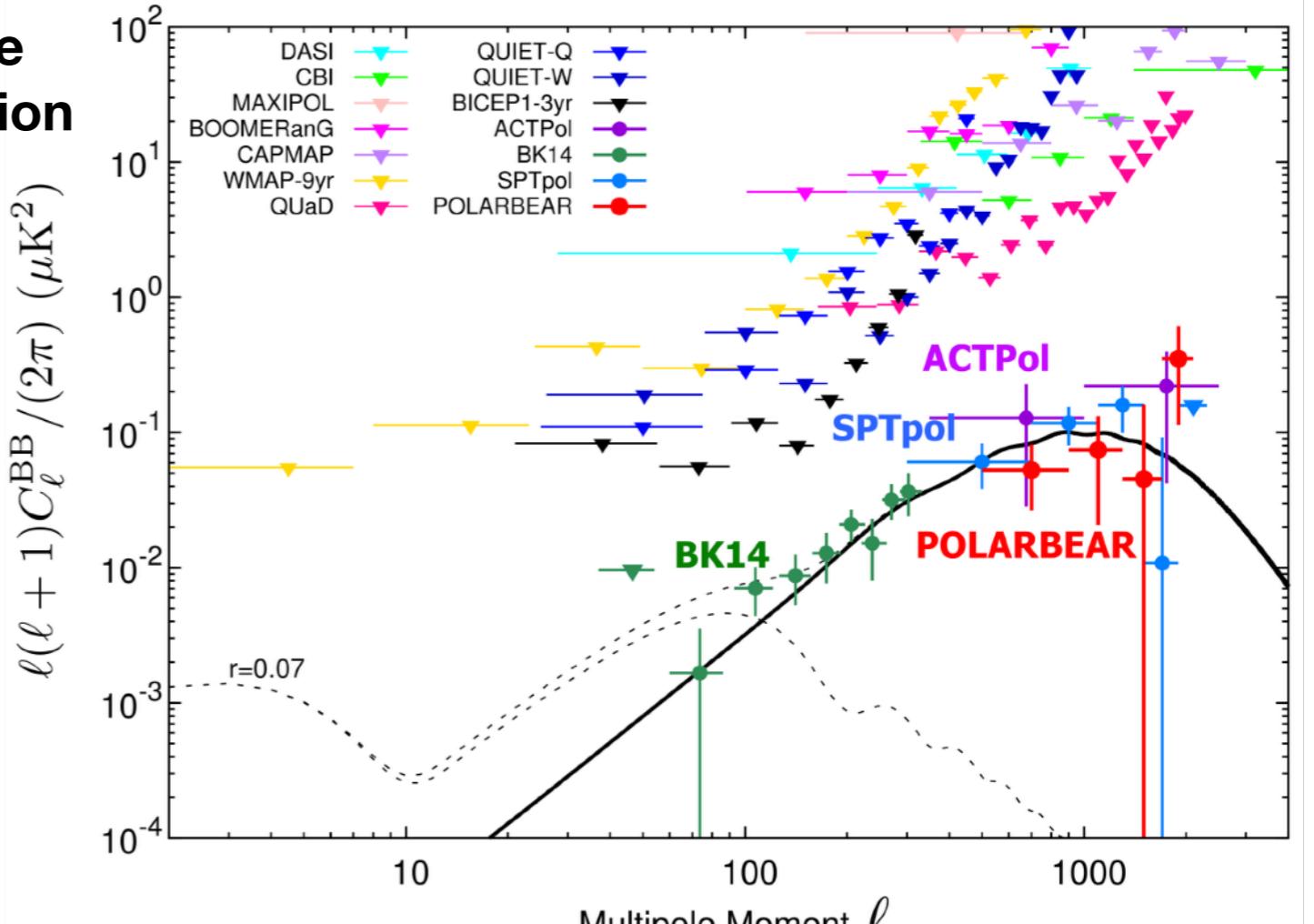
# POLARBEAR Collaboration



# Motivation for POLARBEAR

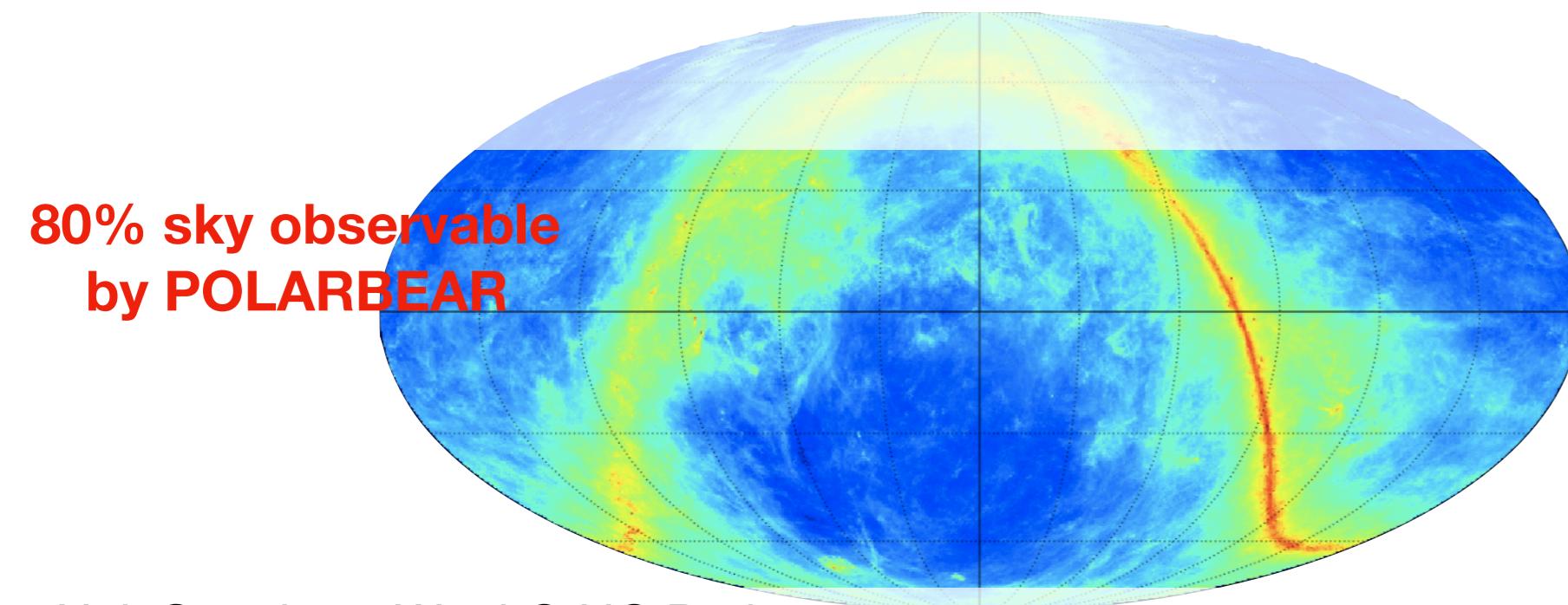
- Make a precision measurement of CMB B-modes across range of angular scales
- Small angular scales measure gravitational lensing of CMB
  - Science target: **Sum of neutrino masses  $\Sigma m_\nu$**
- Large angular scales constrain theory of cosmic inflation
  - Science target: **Tensor-to-scalar ratio  $r$**

Power in  
B-mode  
polarization

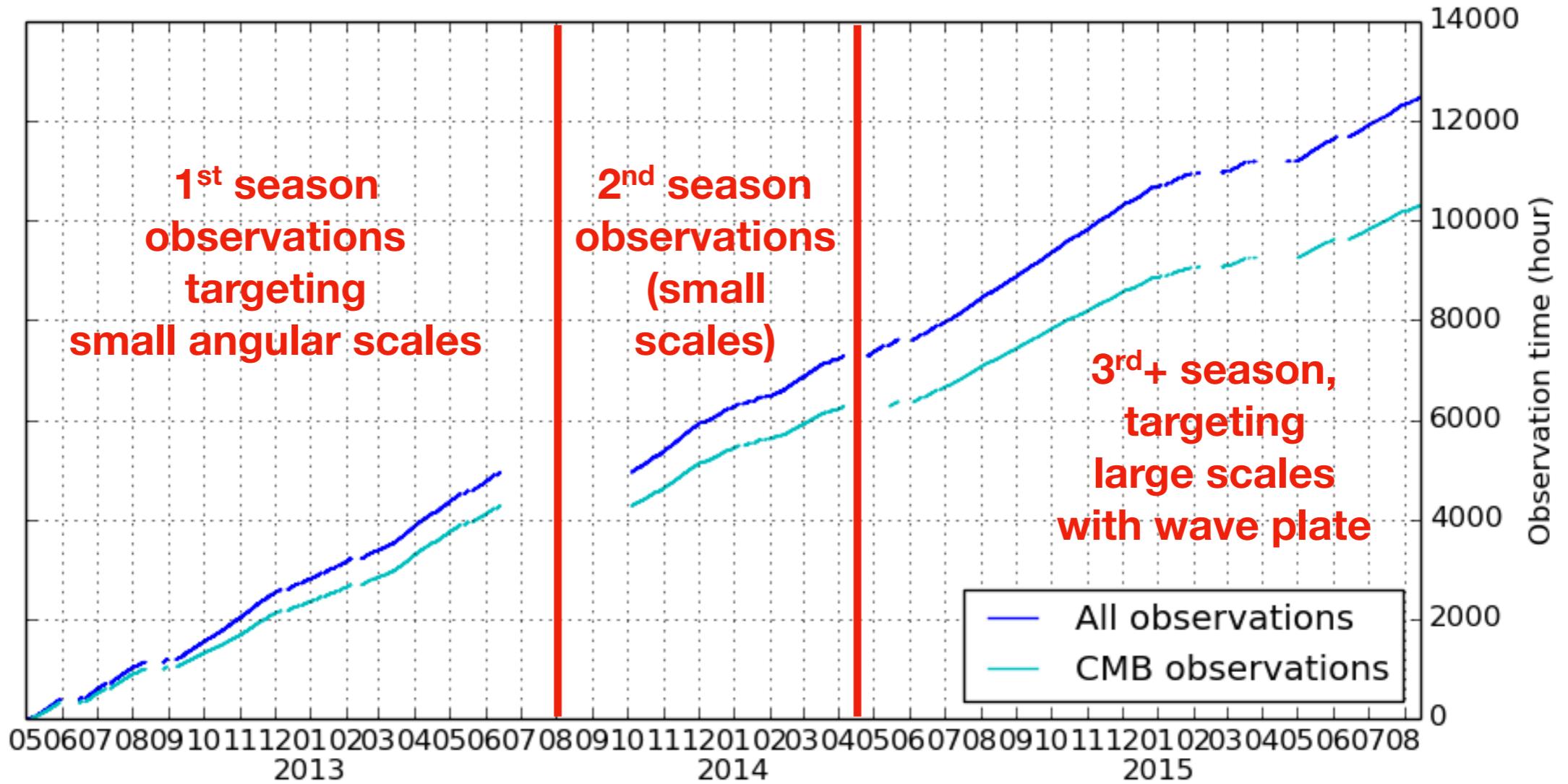


# POLARBEAR-1

- First light in 2012
- 2.5 m off-axis Gregorian telescope gives 3.5' beams at 150 GHz
- Located at 5200m on Cerro Toco in Atacama desert
- Transparent atmosphere in mm wavelengths

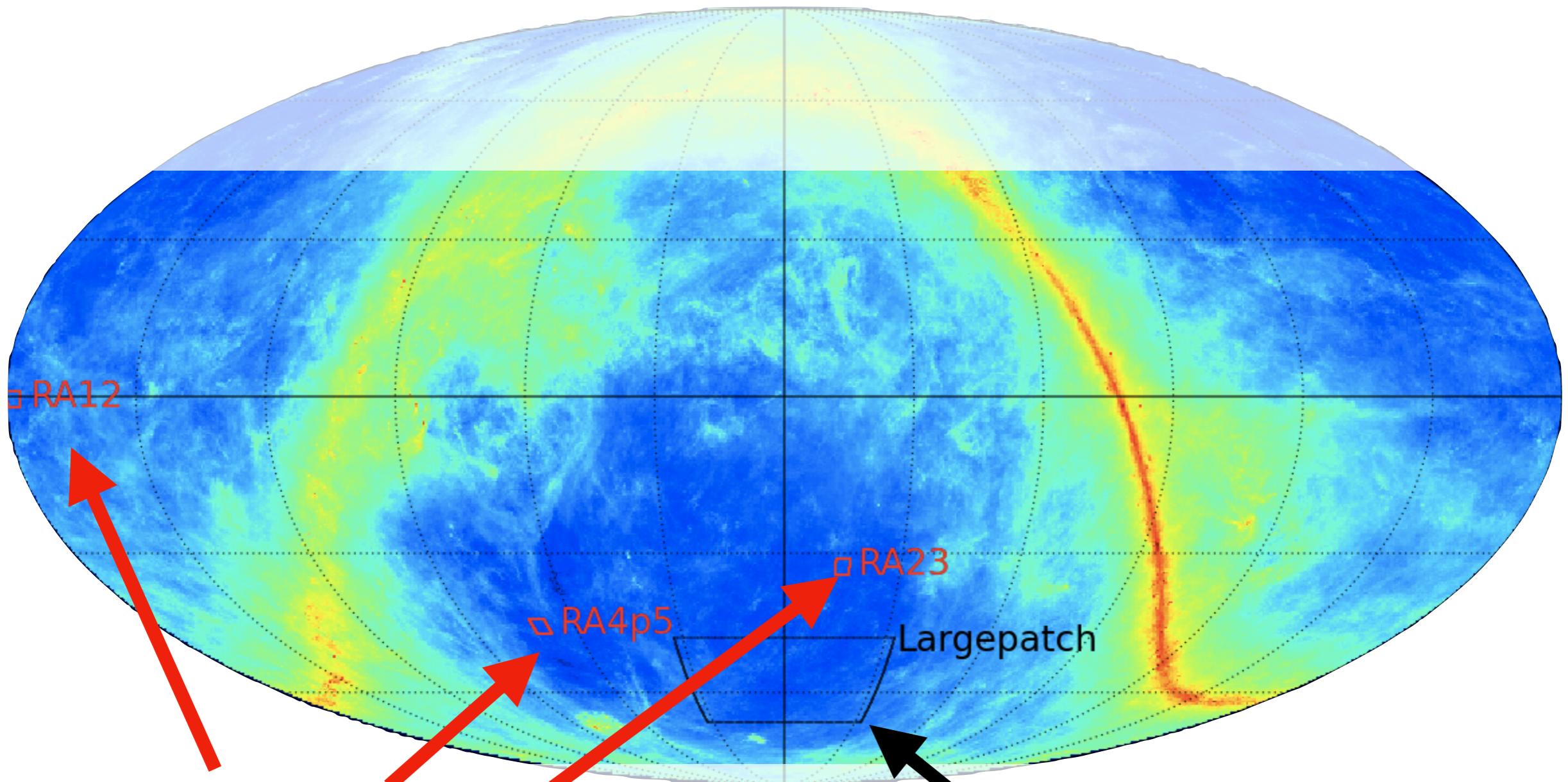


# POLARBEAR-1 Observations



- Two observation modes: small angular scale (high- $\ell$ ) and large angular scale (low- $\ell$ )
- Installed continuously rotating half wave plate (HWP) in May 2014 to improve sensitivity to large angular scales

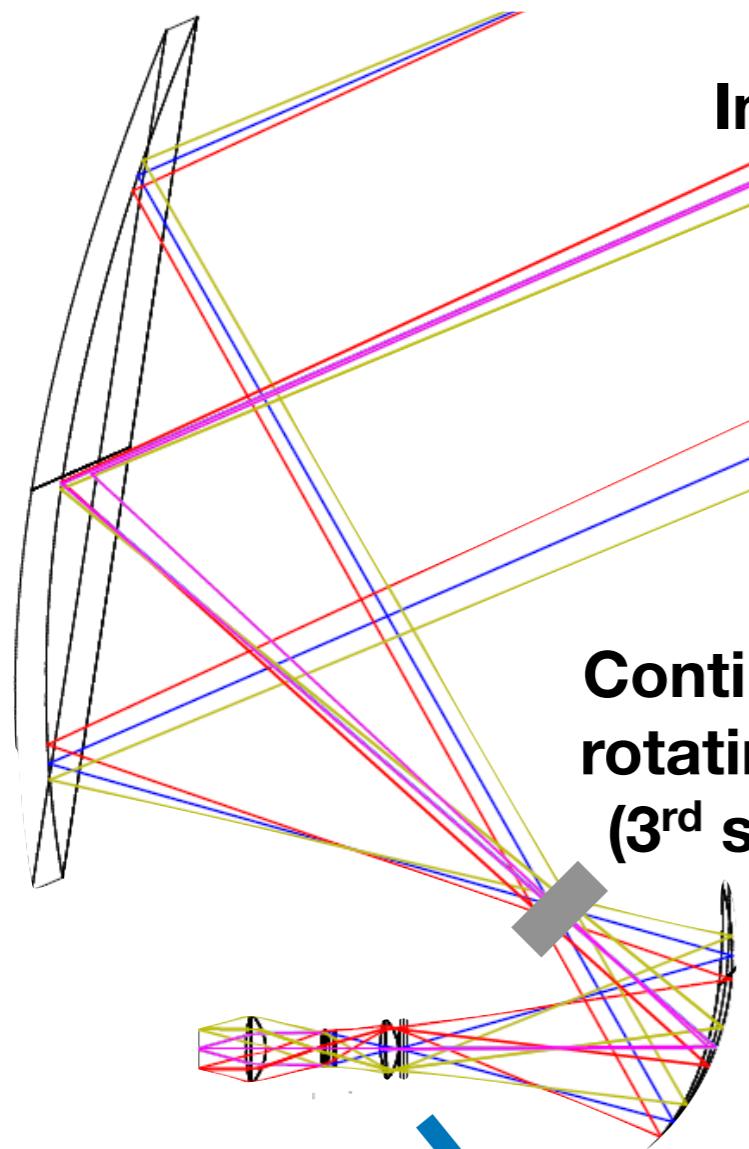
# POLARBEAR-1 Patches



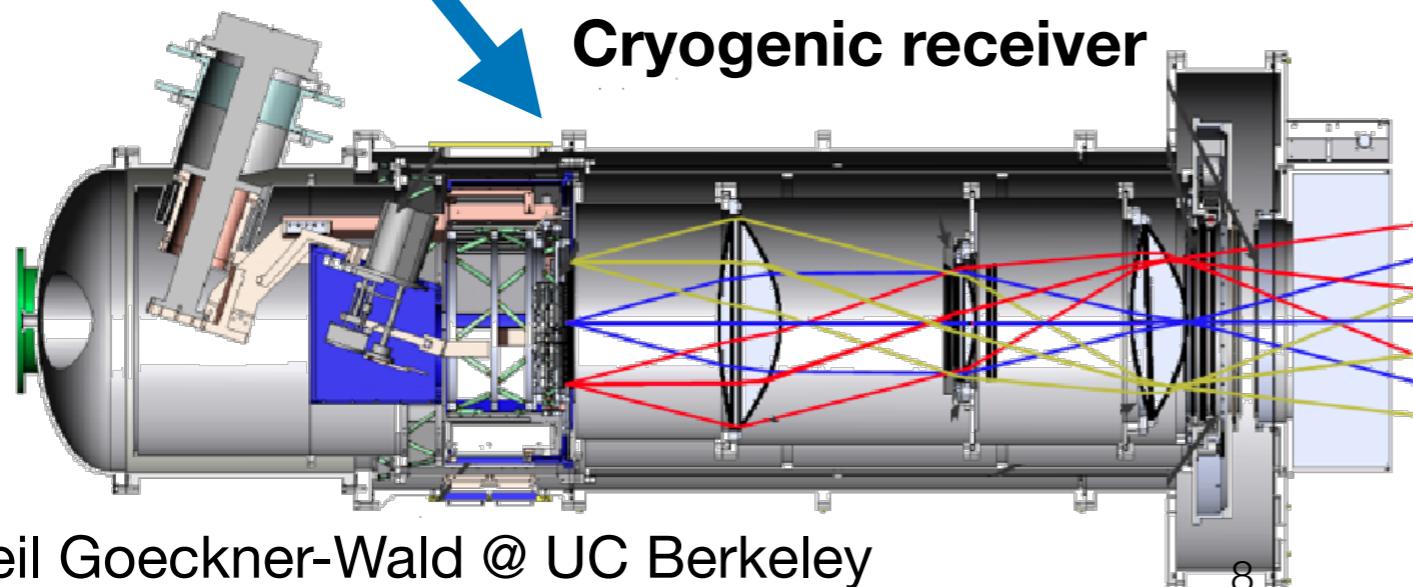
**First two seasons**  
3° x 3° patches for  
lensing science,  
combined 24 hour availability

**Third season**  
single 20° x 35° patch  
for inflation science,  
13 hour availability

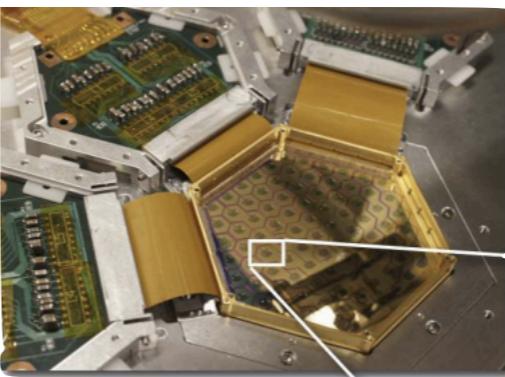
# POLARBEAR-1 Instrument



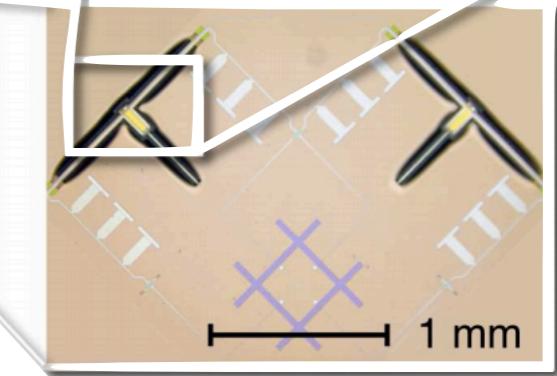
Continuously  
rotating HWP  
(3<sup>rd</sup> season)



Focal  
plane  
tower



Lenslet- coupled  
double slot dipole  
antennae,  
transition edge  
sense bolometers

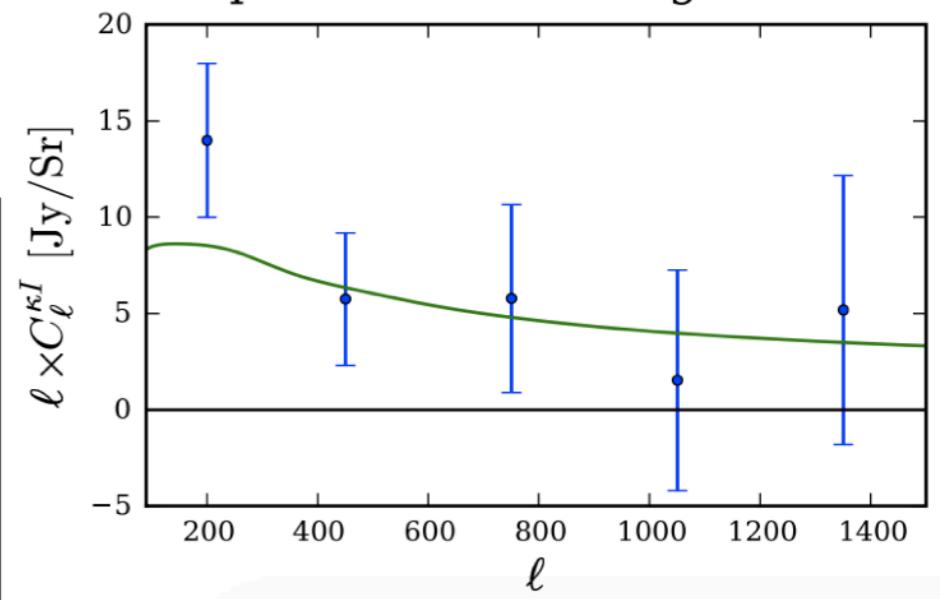
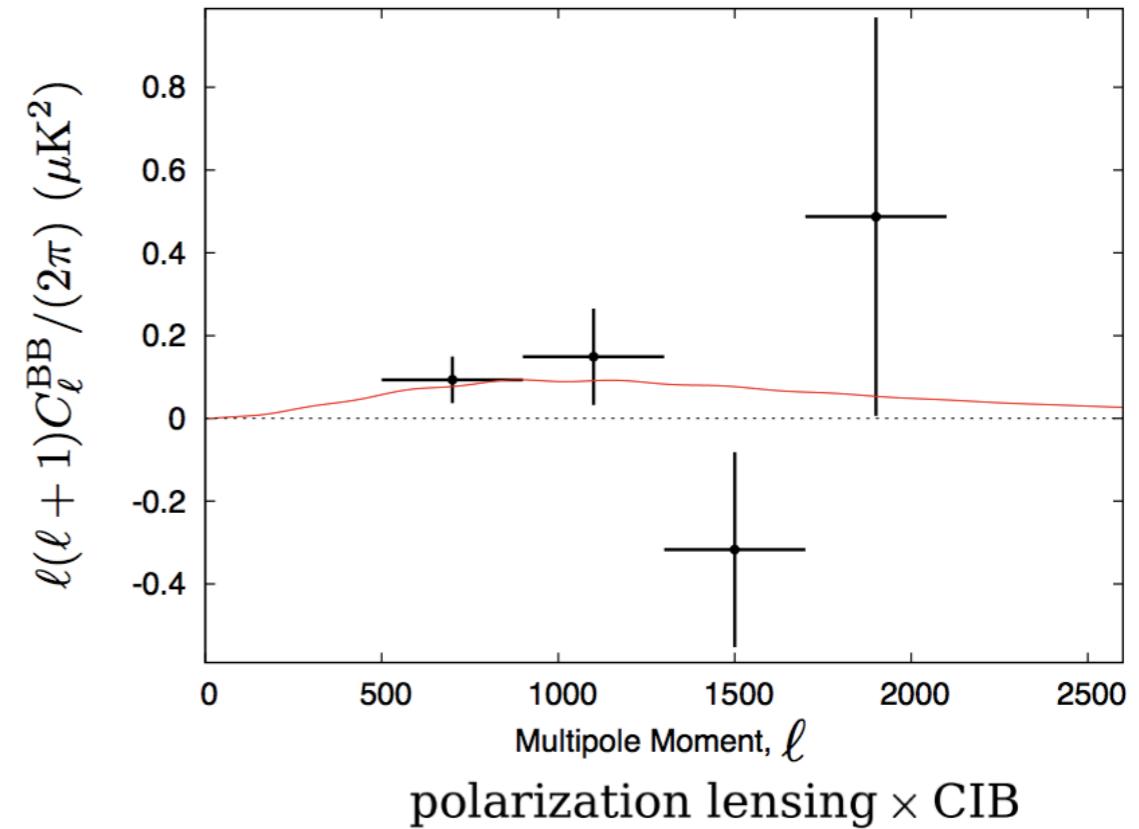
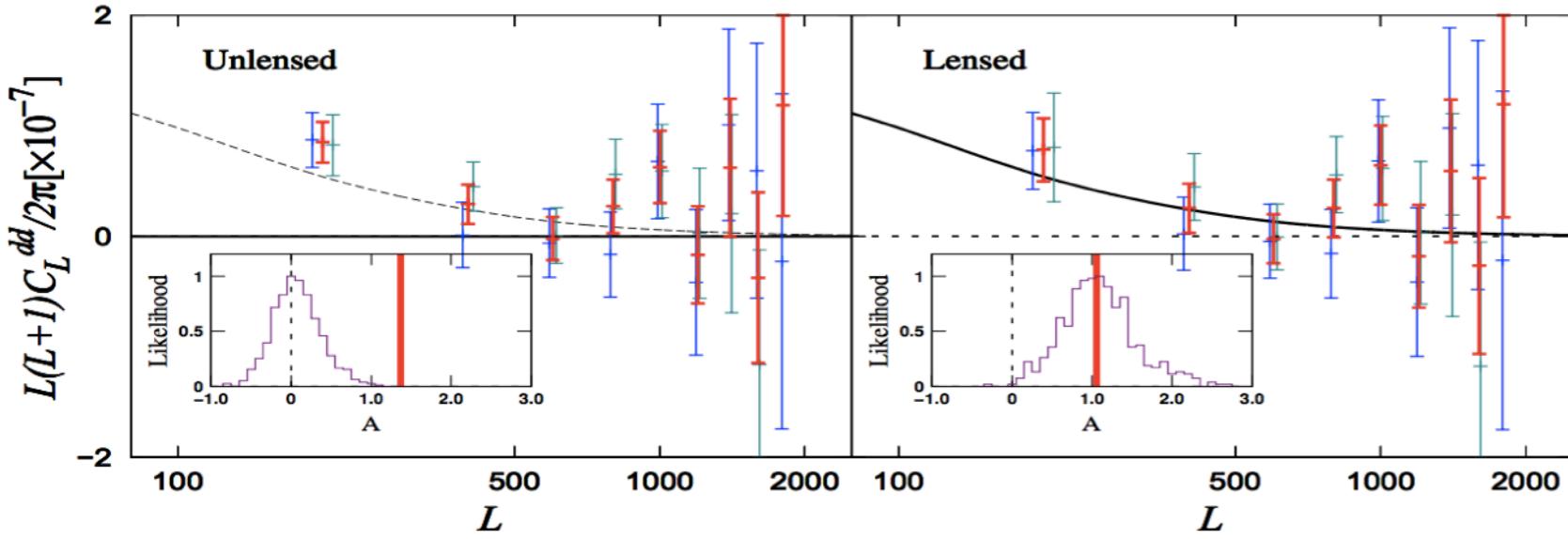


Kermish et al, 2012



# Initial Science Results

- **Reject null B-mode spectrum at 97.2% confidence level** [POLARBEAR collaboration 2014]
- **Lensing power spectrum at  $4.2\sigma$**  [POLARBEAR collaboration 2013b]
- **Lensing power spectrum with cross correlation with cosmic infrared background HERSCHEL-ATLAS at  $4.0\sigma$**  [POLARBEAR collaboration 2013a]



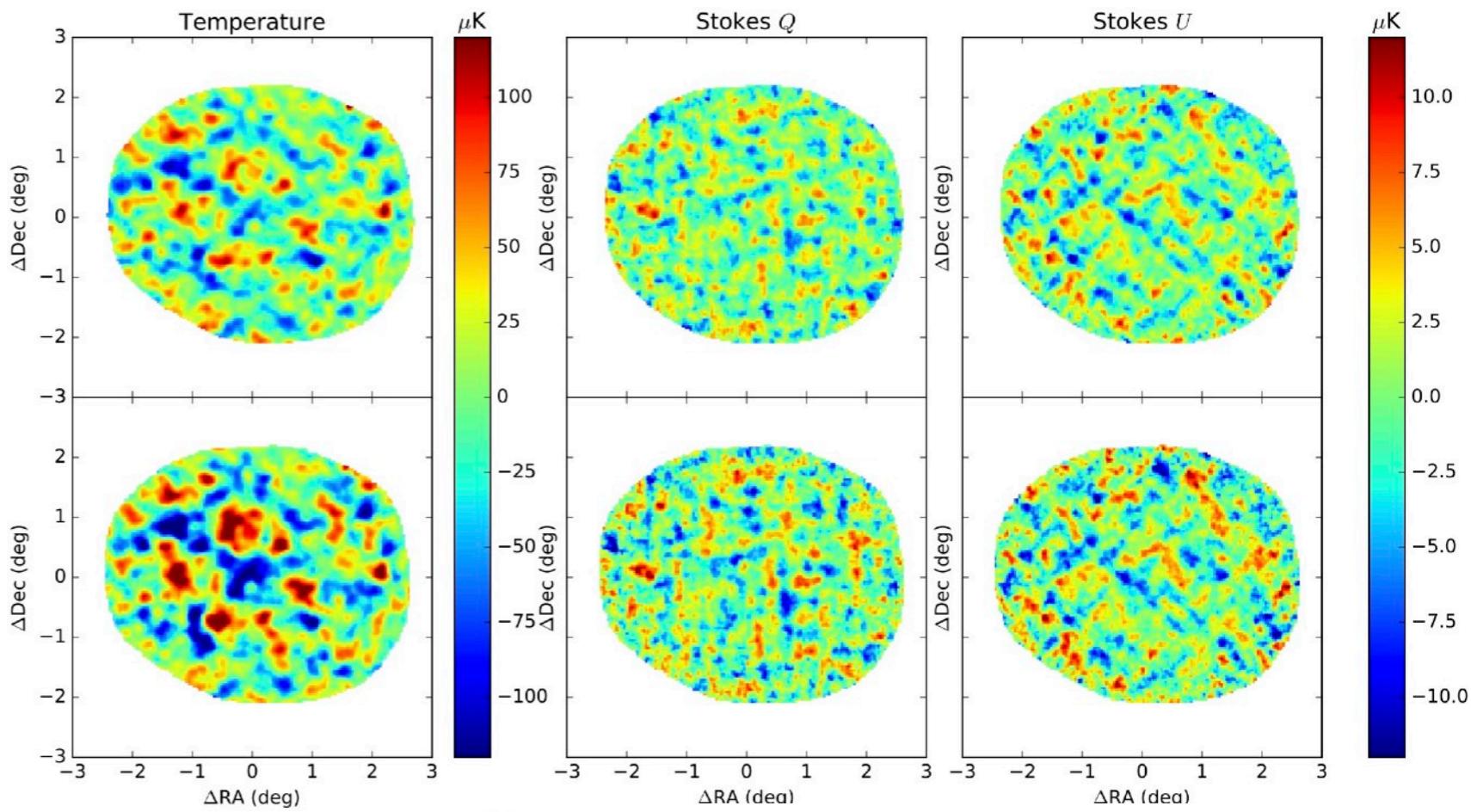
CCW from left: Polarbear lensing power spectrum, cross correlation with CIB, BB autospectrum

# Second Season Results

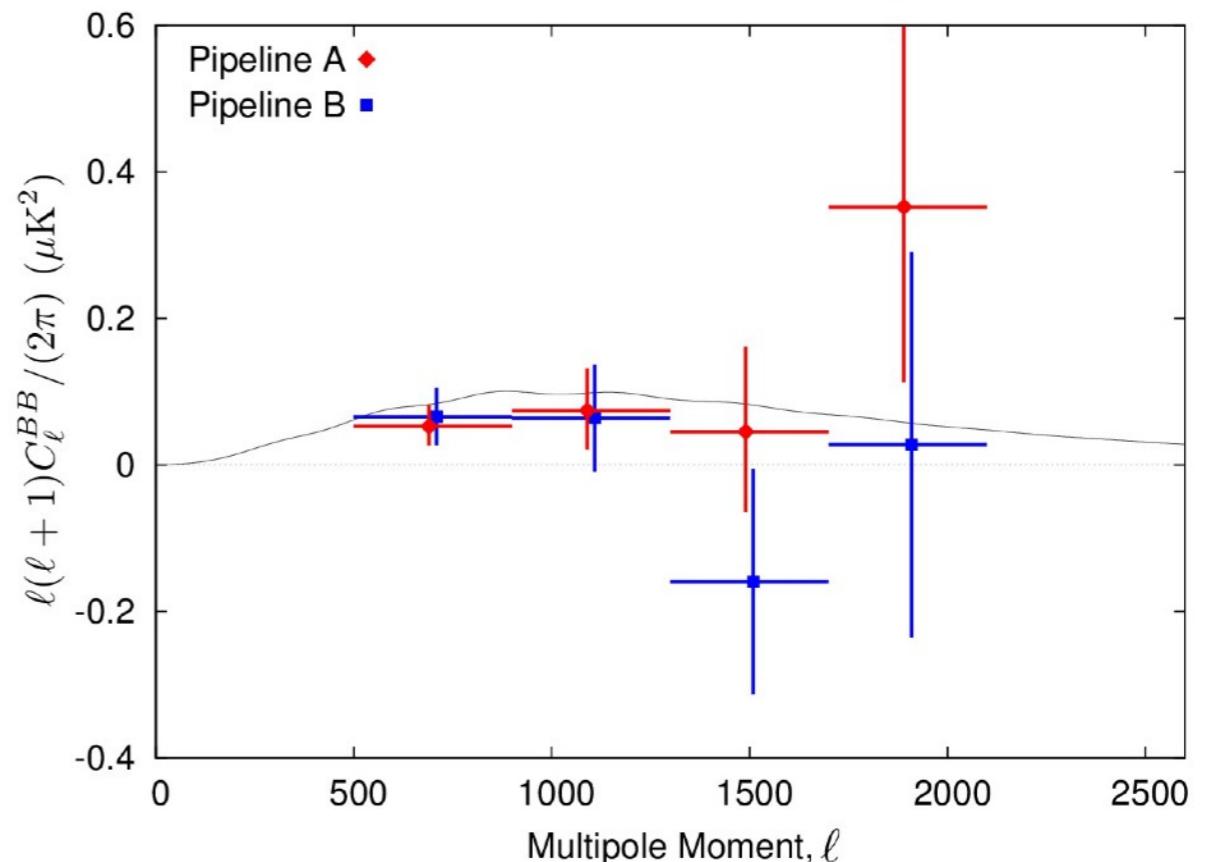
Pipeline A

Two analysis pipelines convert time ordered data to maps and power spectra

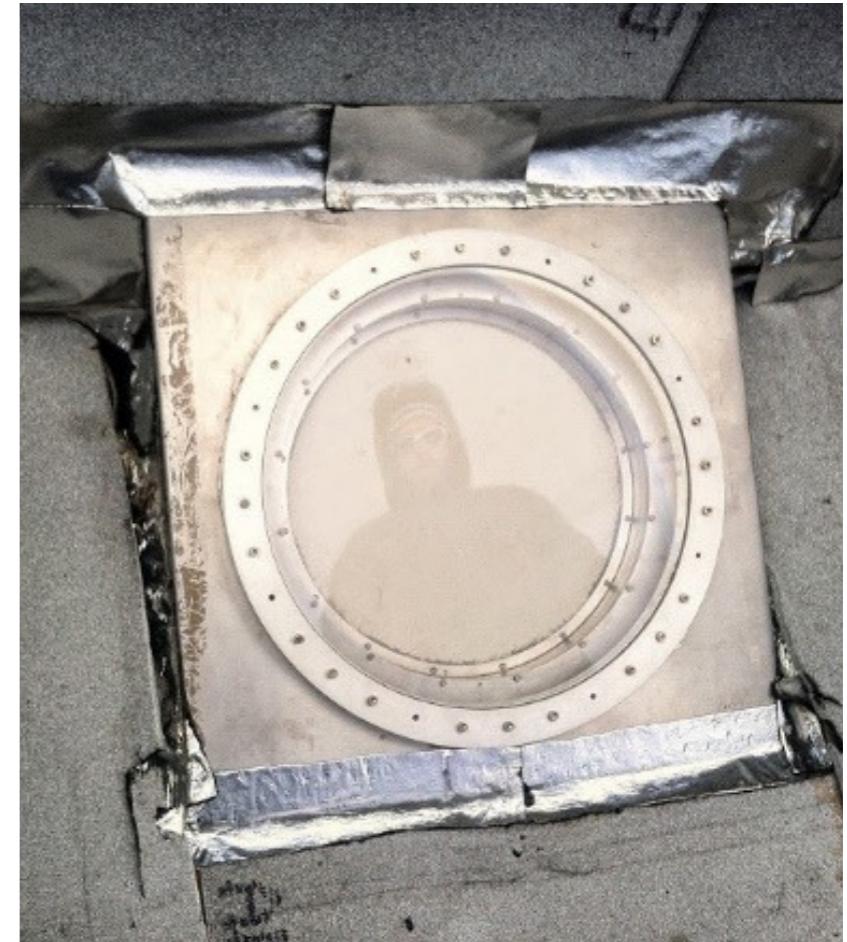
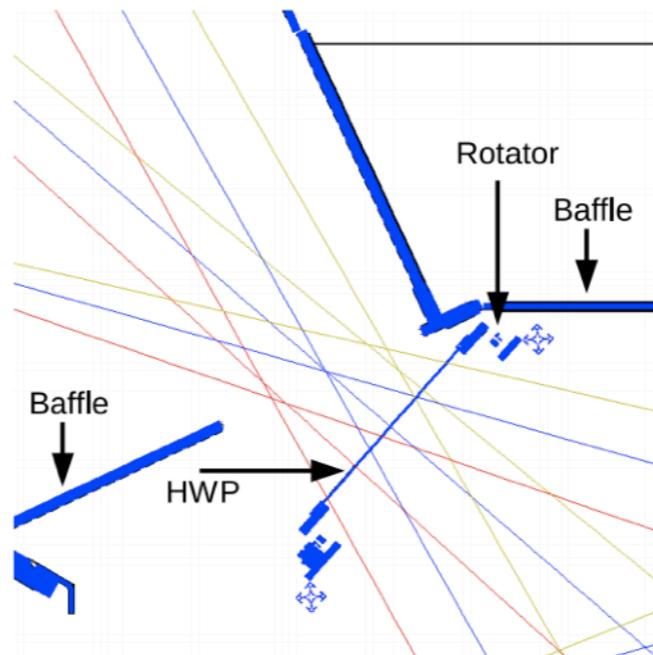
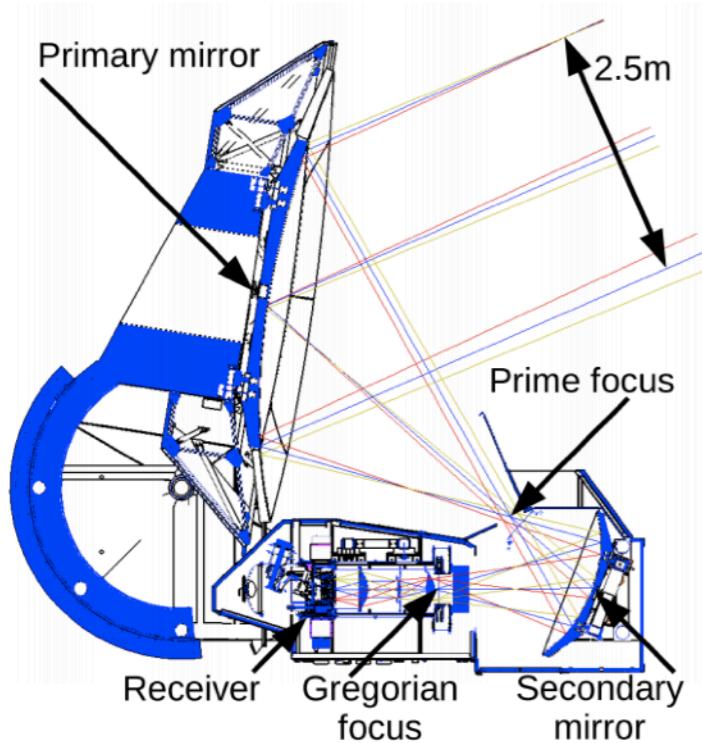
Pipeline B



- New results with two seasons of data [POLARBEAR 2017]
- Two independent pipelines for more robust result
- Reduced band-power uncertainties by factor of two
- Lensing power spectrum in preparation!

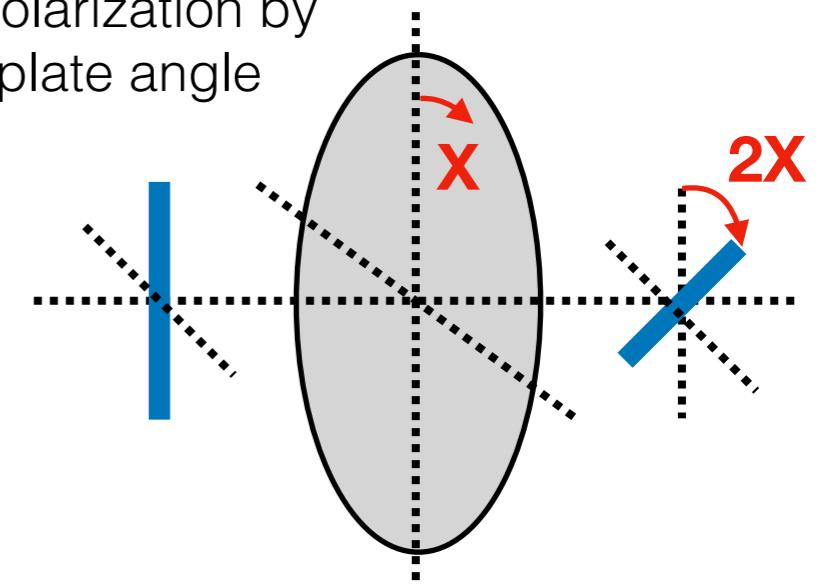


# Polarization modulation with a HWP

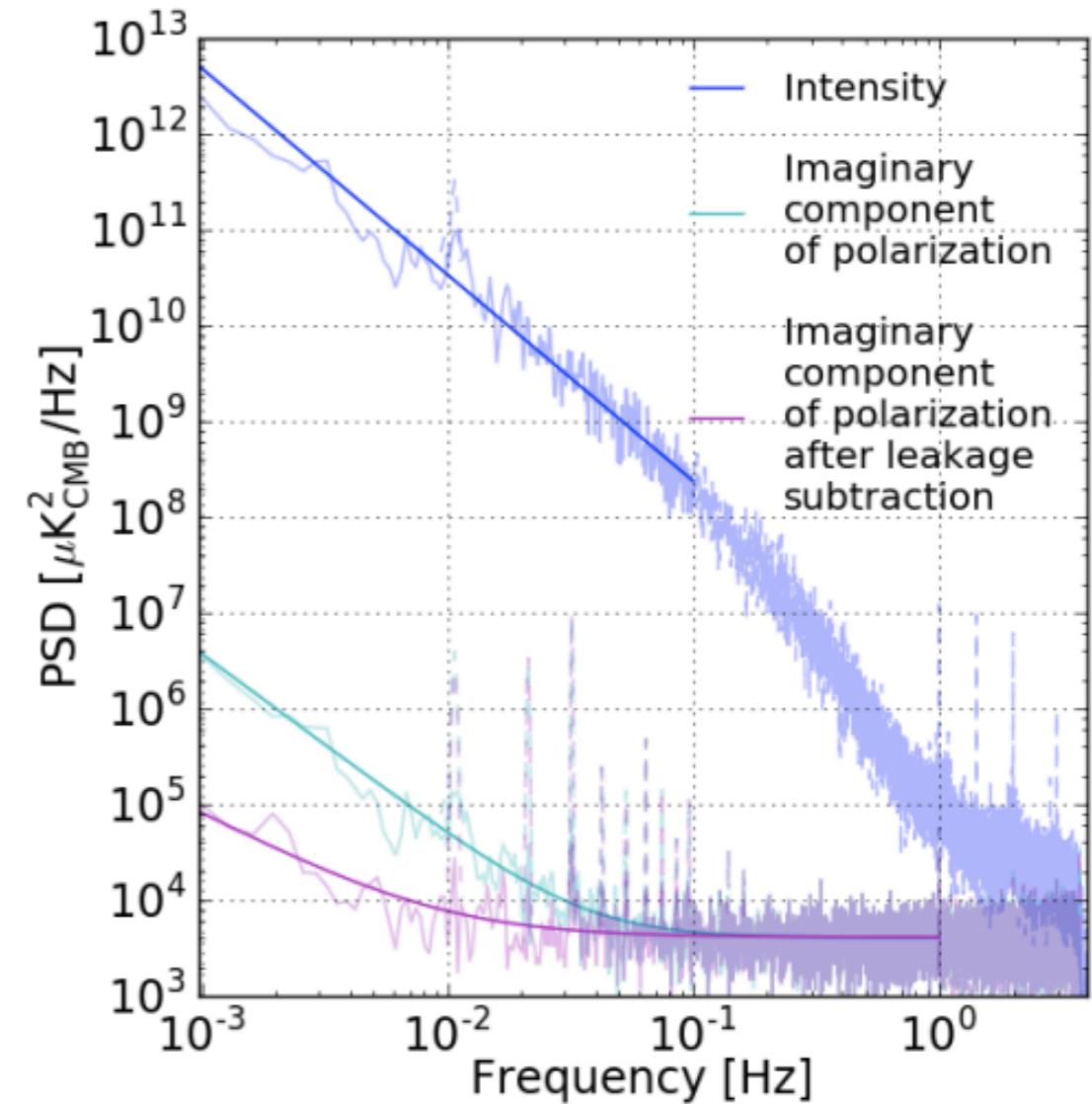
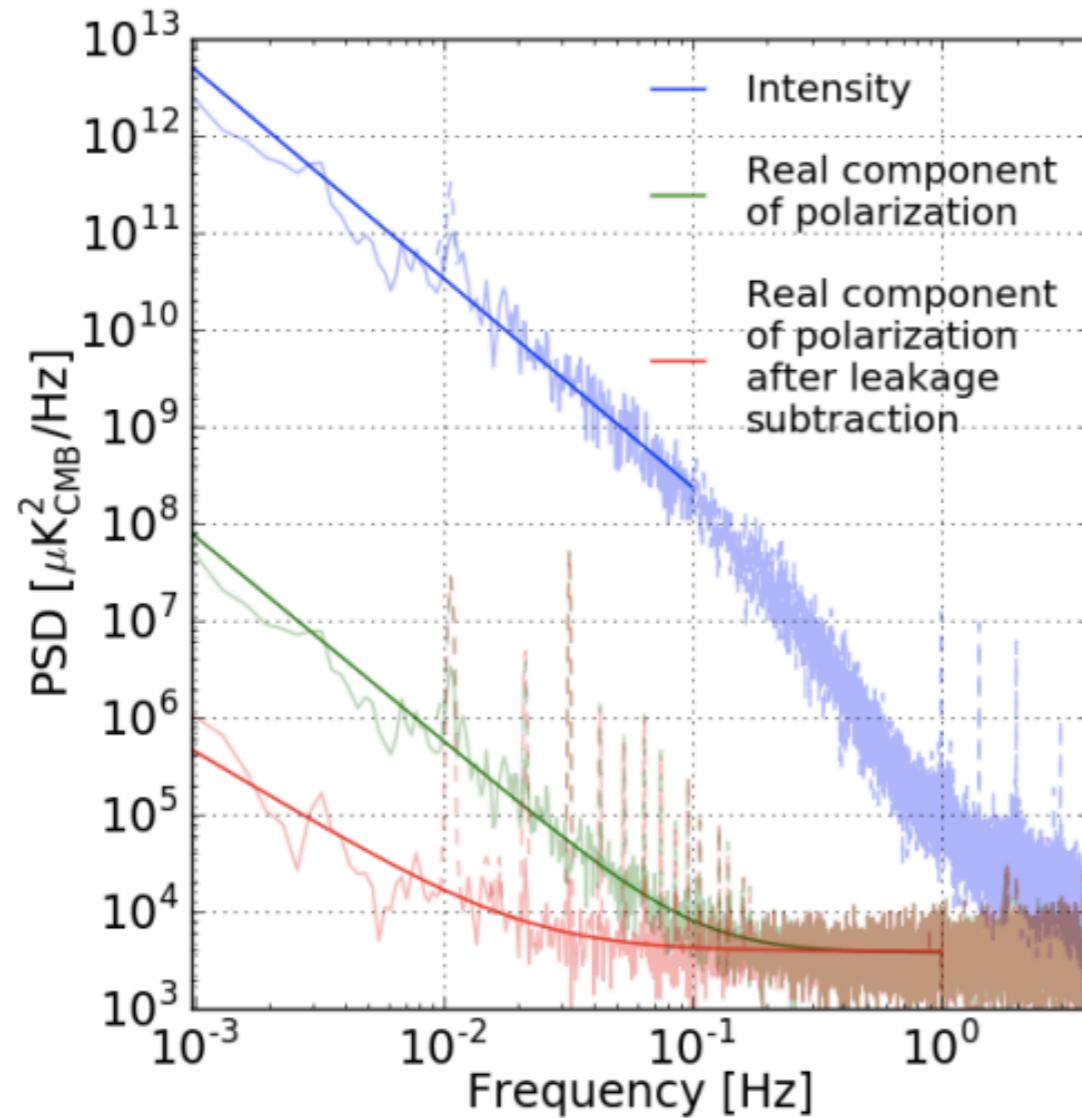


- Rotating HWP at prime focus installed after second season of observations
- Continuous rotation modulates sky polarization at  $4f_{\text{HWP}}$  (8Hz)
- Demodulation in analysis recovers sky polarization signal

HWP rotates polarization by twice wave plate angle

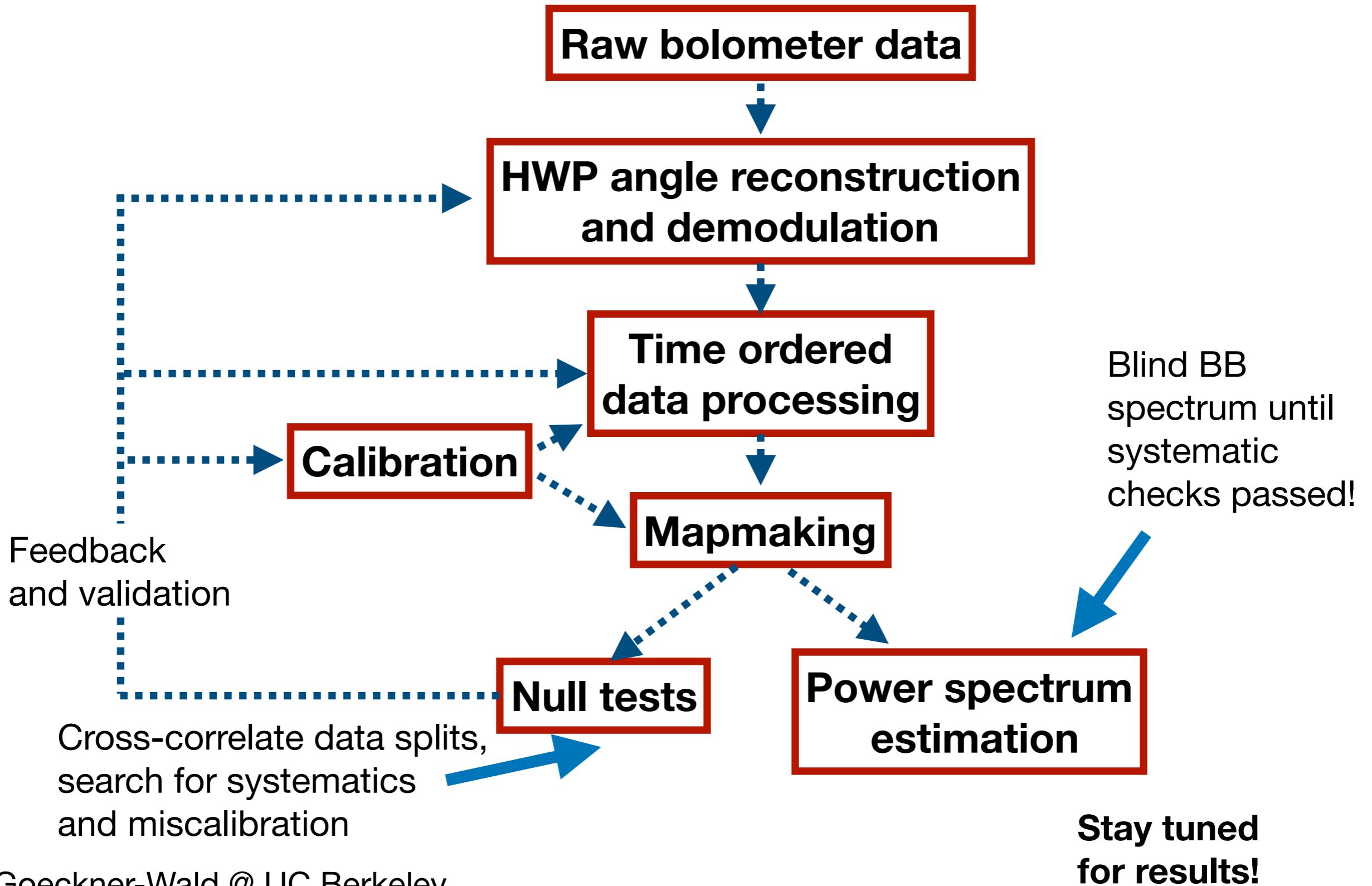


# On-sky HWP performance



- Temperature to polarization leakage seen due to optics and non-linearity
- After subtraction, demonstrated 1/f suppression necessary for inflation science! [Takakura et al 2017]

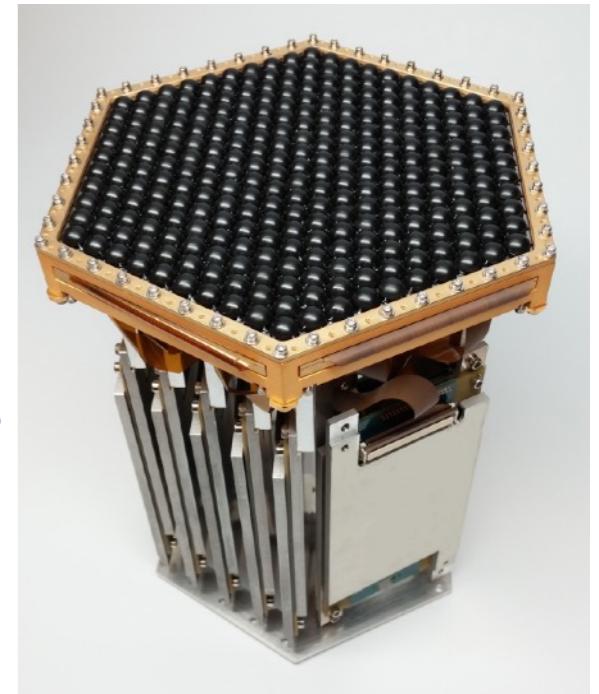
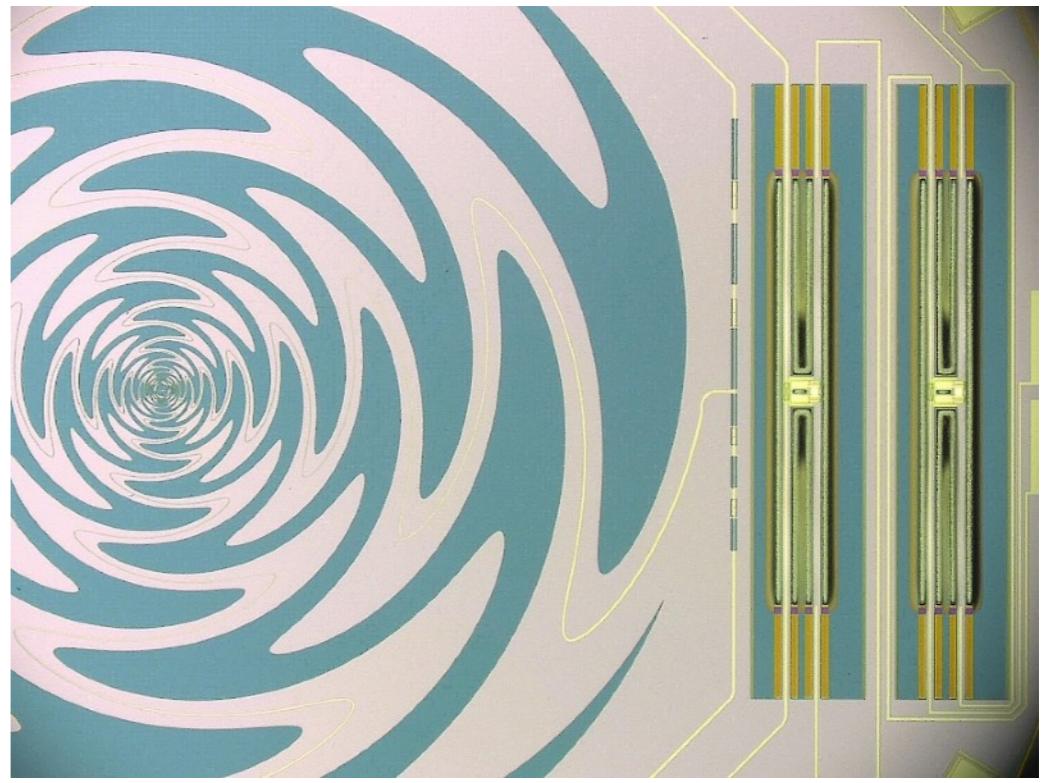
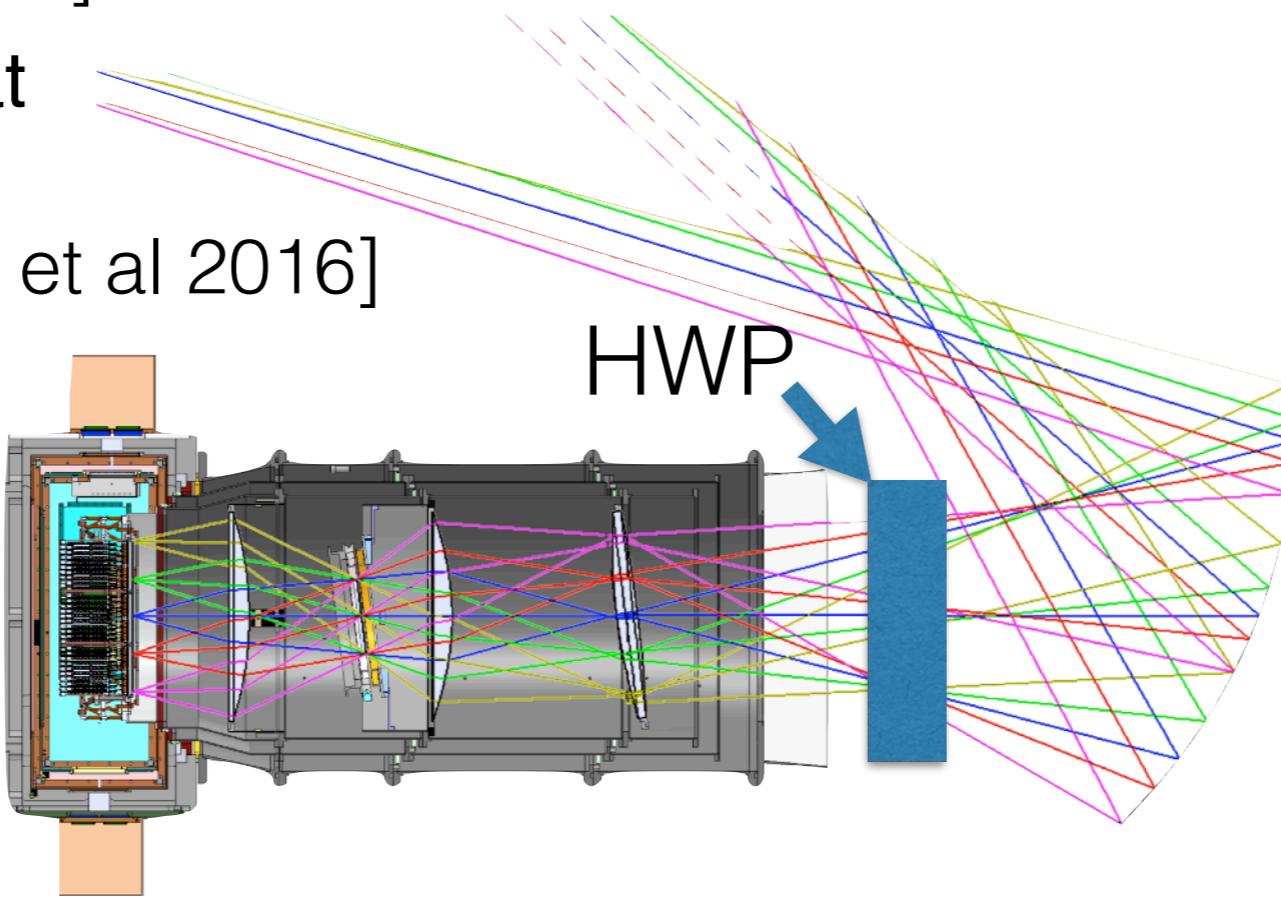
# Analysis Formalism



# POLARBEAR-2

- Broadband sinuous antennas and optics
- 7588 bolometers split between 95GHz and 150 GHz bands
- Nominal array sensitivity of
  - $5.8 \mu\text{K}_{\text{CMB}} \sqrt{\text{s}}$  @ 150 GHz
  - $5.8 \mu\text{K}_{\text{CMB}} \sqrt{\text{s}}$  @ 95 GHz [Suzuki et al 2015]
- Broadband HWP at secondary focus [Hill and Beckman et al 2016]

CCW from left: PB2 receiver showing location of HWP, detector module, broadband sinuous antenna



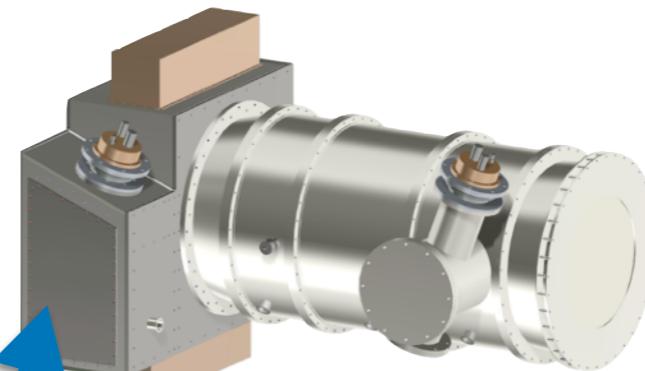
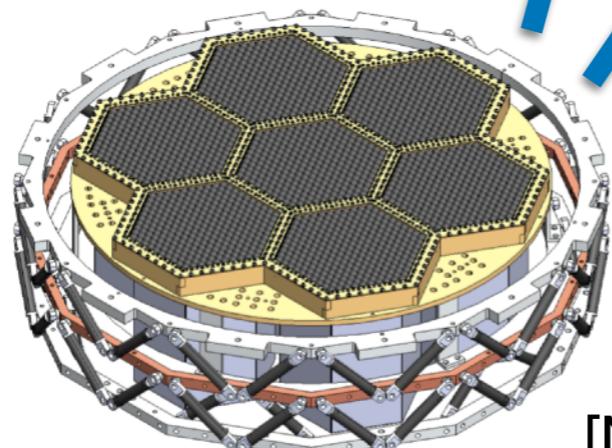
# Simons Array

- Full array projected to achieve  $\sim 2.5 \mu\text{K}_{\text{CMB}} \sqrt{\text{s}}$ 
  - Constrain  $\sigma(r=0) = 6\text{e-}3$  with Planck and foregrounds
  - Constrain  $\sigma(\Sigma m_v) = 40 \text{ meV}$  with DESI BAO and foregrounds

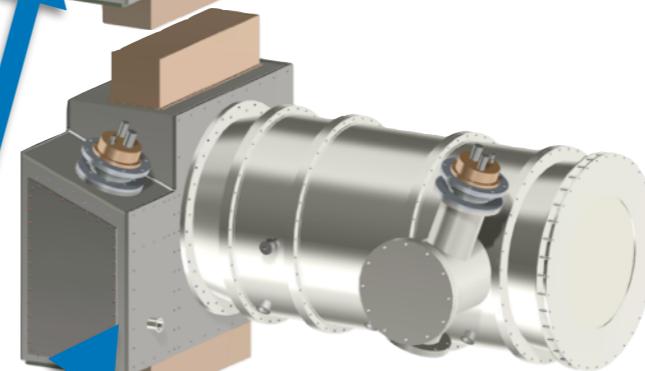


Simons Array telescopes  
being installed in Chile

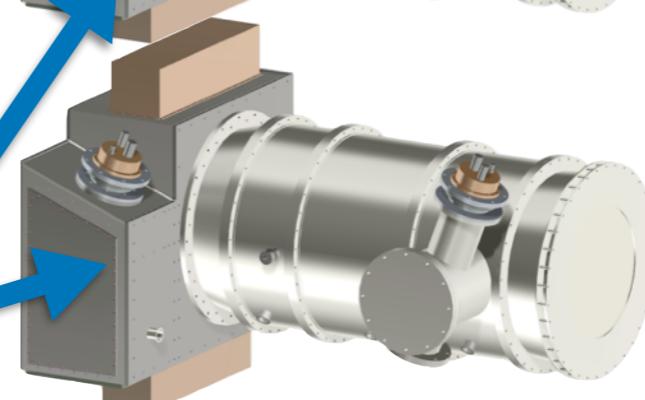
3x



PB2a: 95 / 150 GHz



PB2b: 95 / 150 GHz



PB2c: 220 / 270 GHz

[N. Stebor 2016, A. Suzuki et al 2015]

# Conclusions

## POLARBEAR-1 Publications

- **POLARBEAR 1 experiment** Proceedings of SPIE Volume 8452
- **First season B mode power spectrum** Ap. J., 794:171, 2014.
- **Lensing power spectrum** Phys. Rev. Lett. (Editors' Suggestion), 113:2, 2014.
- **Lensing by cross-correlation with CIB** Phys. Rev. Lett.(Editors' Suggestion), 112:13, 2014.
- **Constraints on cosmic birefringence** Phys. Rev. D 92, 123509 (2015)
- **Explicit mapmaking technique** A&A 600, A60 (2017)
- **On-sky performance of PB1 HWP** JCAP 05 (2017) 008
- **B mode power spectrum from two seasons of data** arxiv.org/abs/1705.02907

## POLARBEAR-2 Publications

- **POLARBEAR-2 and the Simons Array Experiments.** JLTP, 2015.
- **Development of PB2 Half Wave Plate Proc. of SPIE**, Volume 9914, Number 99142U-1

and many more to come...

# Backup: Analysis Pipelines

