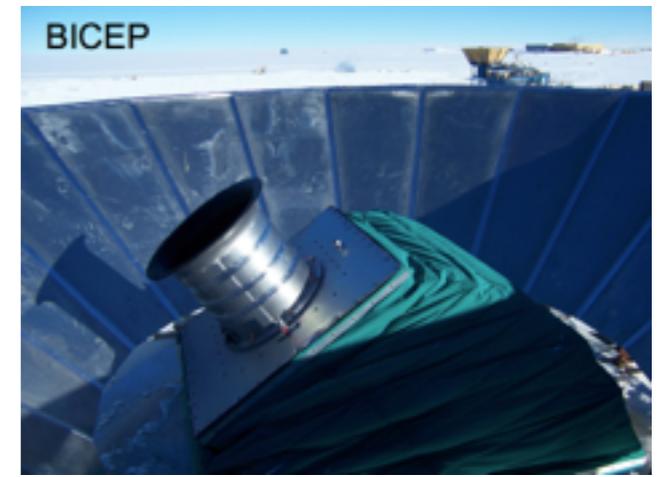


Discussion on BICEP2

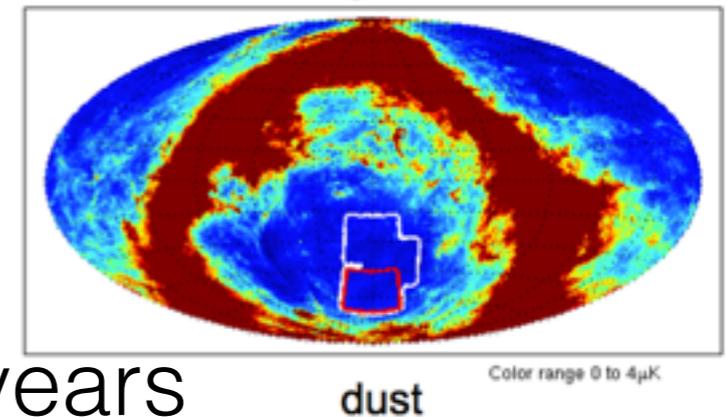
March 20, 2014

Max-Planck-Institut für Astrophysik

What is BICEP2?

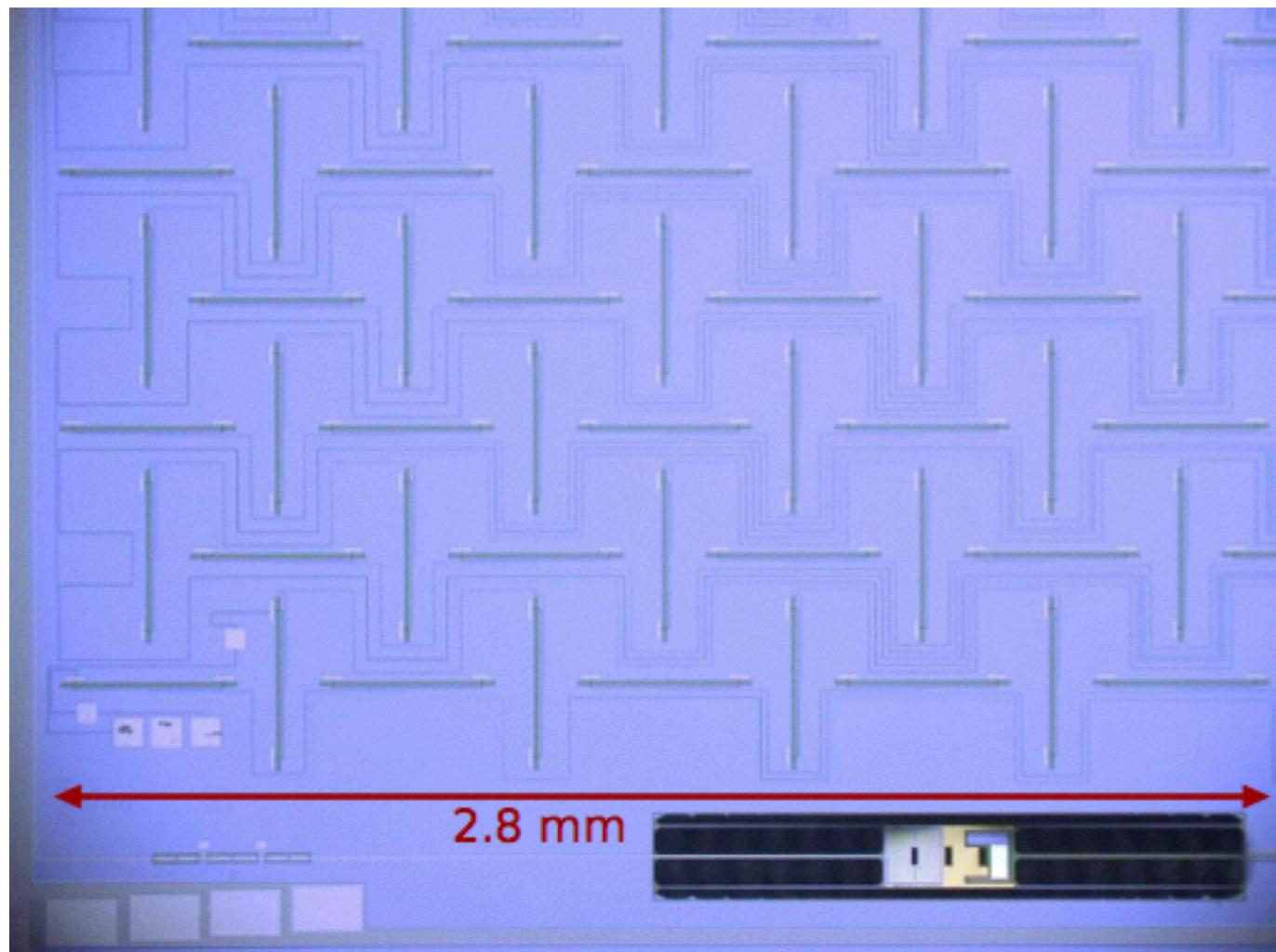


- A small [26 cm] refractive telescope at South Pole
- 512 bolometers working at 150 GHz
- Observed 380 square degrees for three years [2010-2012]
- Previous: BICEP1 at 100 and 150 GHz [2006-2008]
- On-going: Keck Array = 5 x BICEP2 at 150 GHz [2011-2013] and additional detectors at 100 and 220 GHz [2014-]



How does BICEP2 measure polarization?

- Taking the difference between two detectors (A&B), measuring two orthogonal polarization states



Horizontal slots
-> A detector

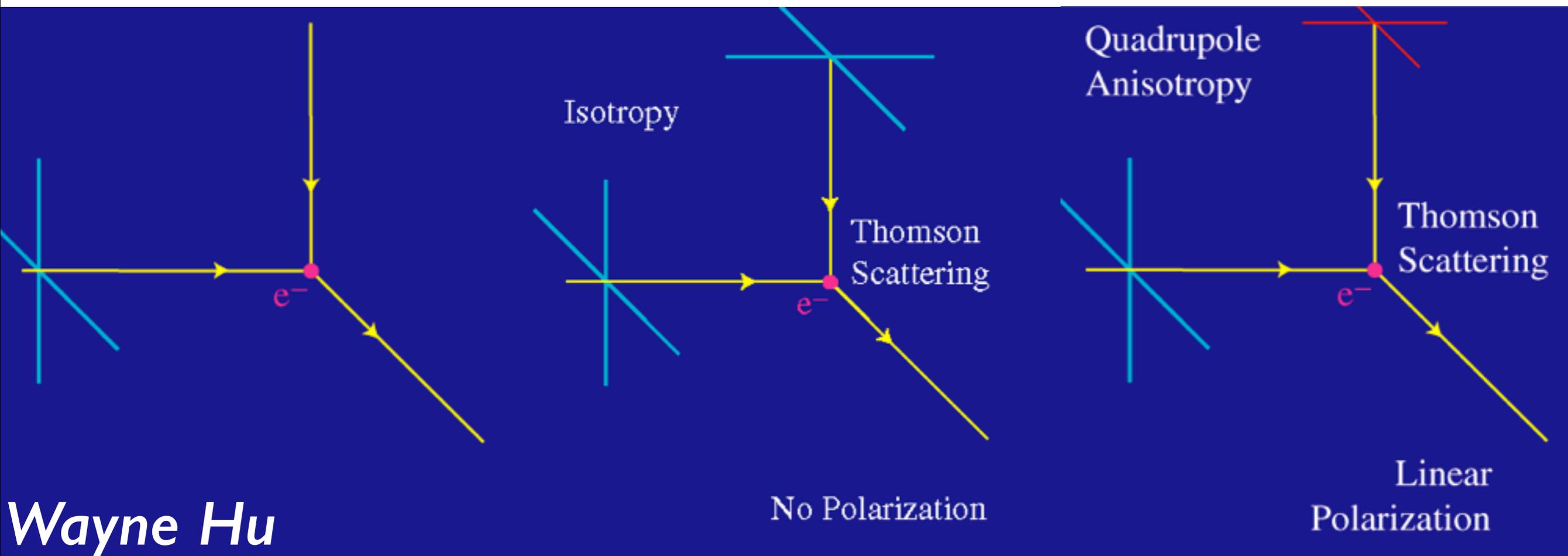
Vertical slots
-> B detector

These slots are co-located, so they look at approximately same positions in the sky

CMB Polarization

- Necessary and sufficient conditions for producing polarization in CMB are:
 - CMB photons are scattered by electrons
 - An electron is surrounded by quadrupole temperature anisotropy

Physics of CMB Polarization



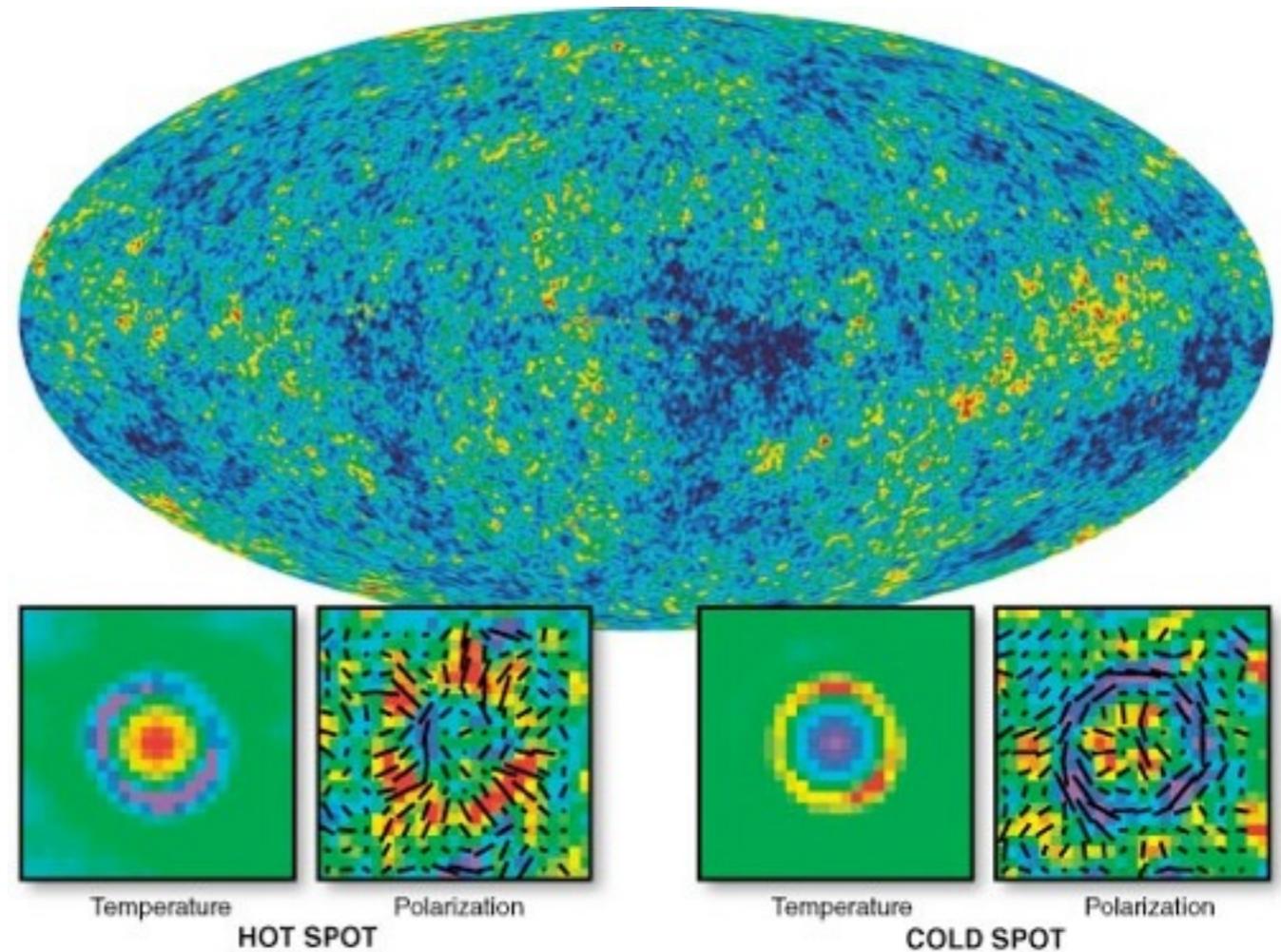
- CMB Polarization is created by a local temperature **quadrupole** anisotropy.

Origin of Quadrupole

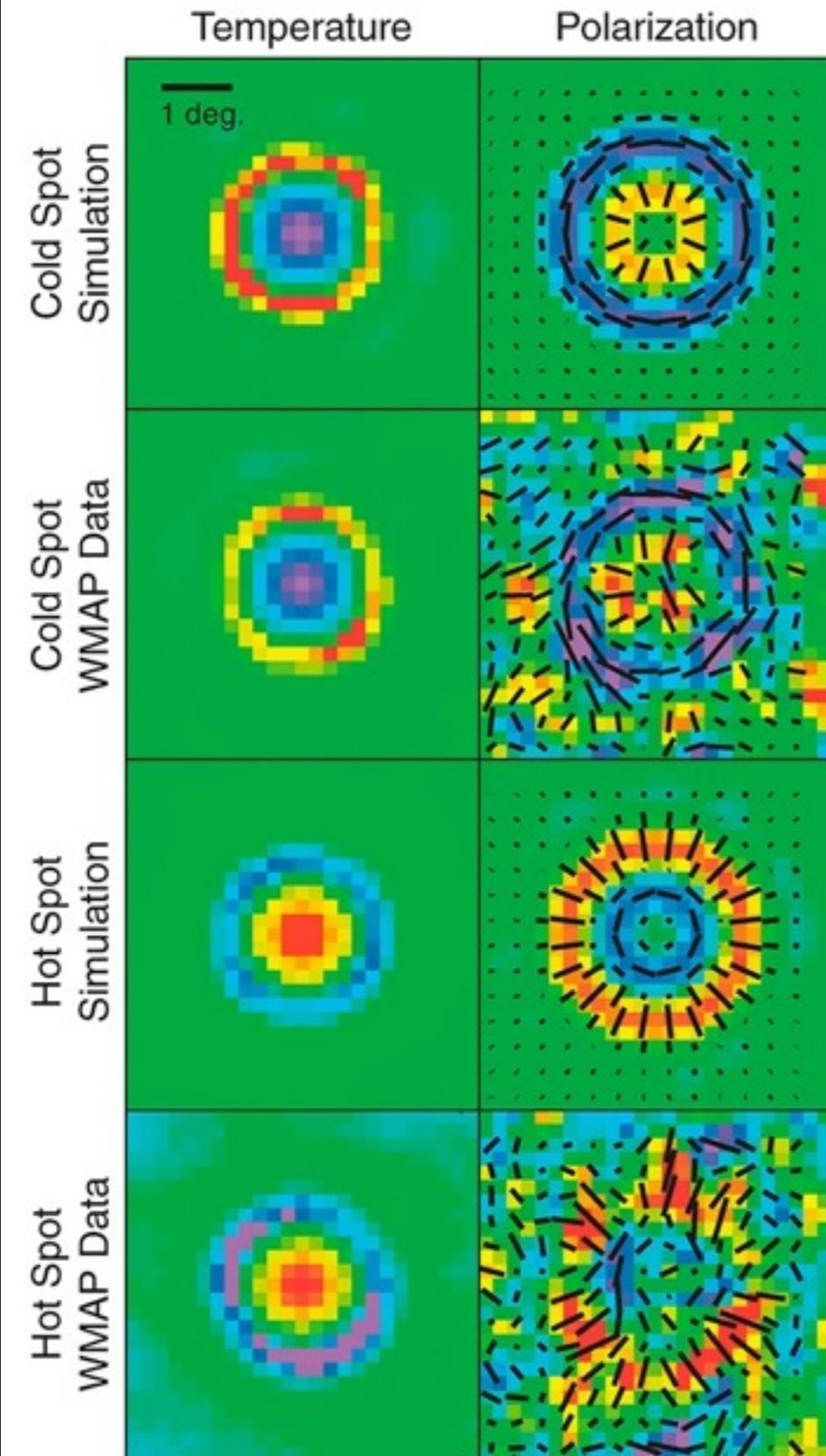
- Scalar perturbations: motion of electrons with respect to photons
- Tensor perturbations: gravitational waves

Stacking Analysis

- Stack polarization images around temperature hot and cold spots in the WMAP data
- Outside of the Galaxy mask (not shown), there are **11536 hot spots** and **11752 cold spots**.

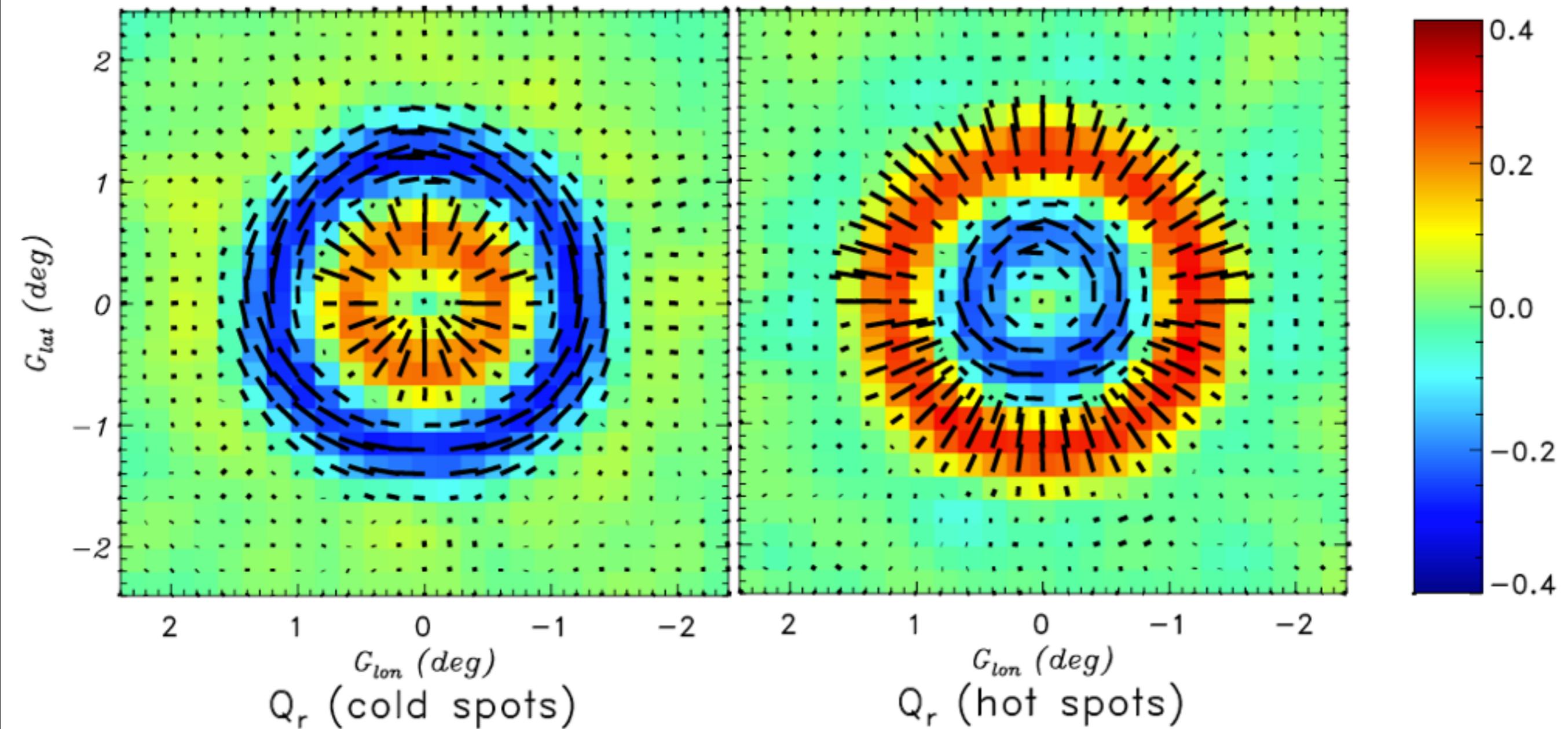


Radial and Tangential Polarization Patterns around Temp. Spots

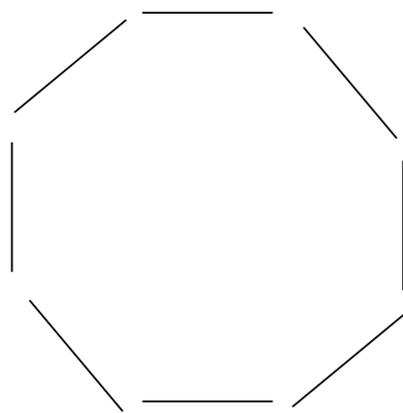
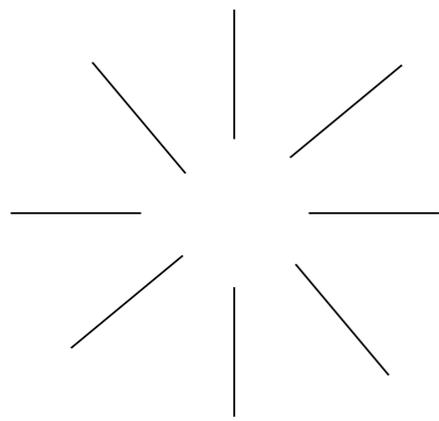


- All hot and cold spots are stacked
- “Compression phase” at $\theta=1.2$ deg and “slow-down phase” at $\theta=0.6$ deg are predicted to be there and we observe them!
- The WMAP 7-year overall significance level: 8σ

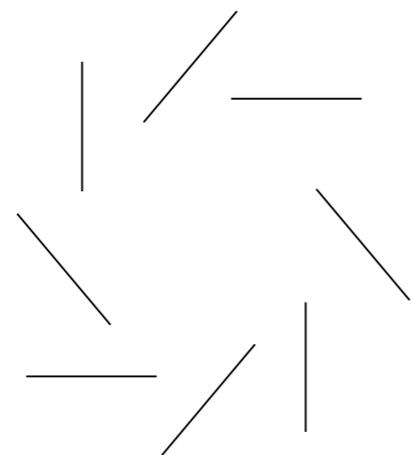
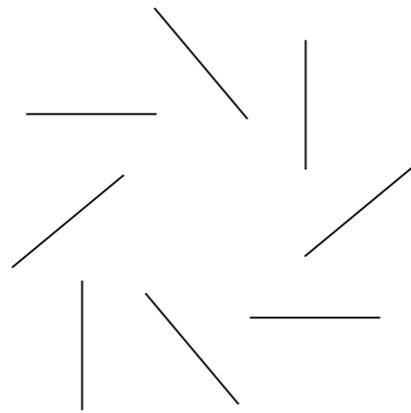
Planck Data!



E-mode and B-mode



E mode



B mode

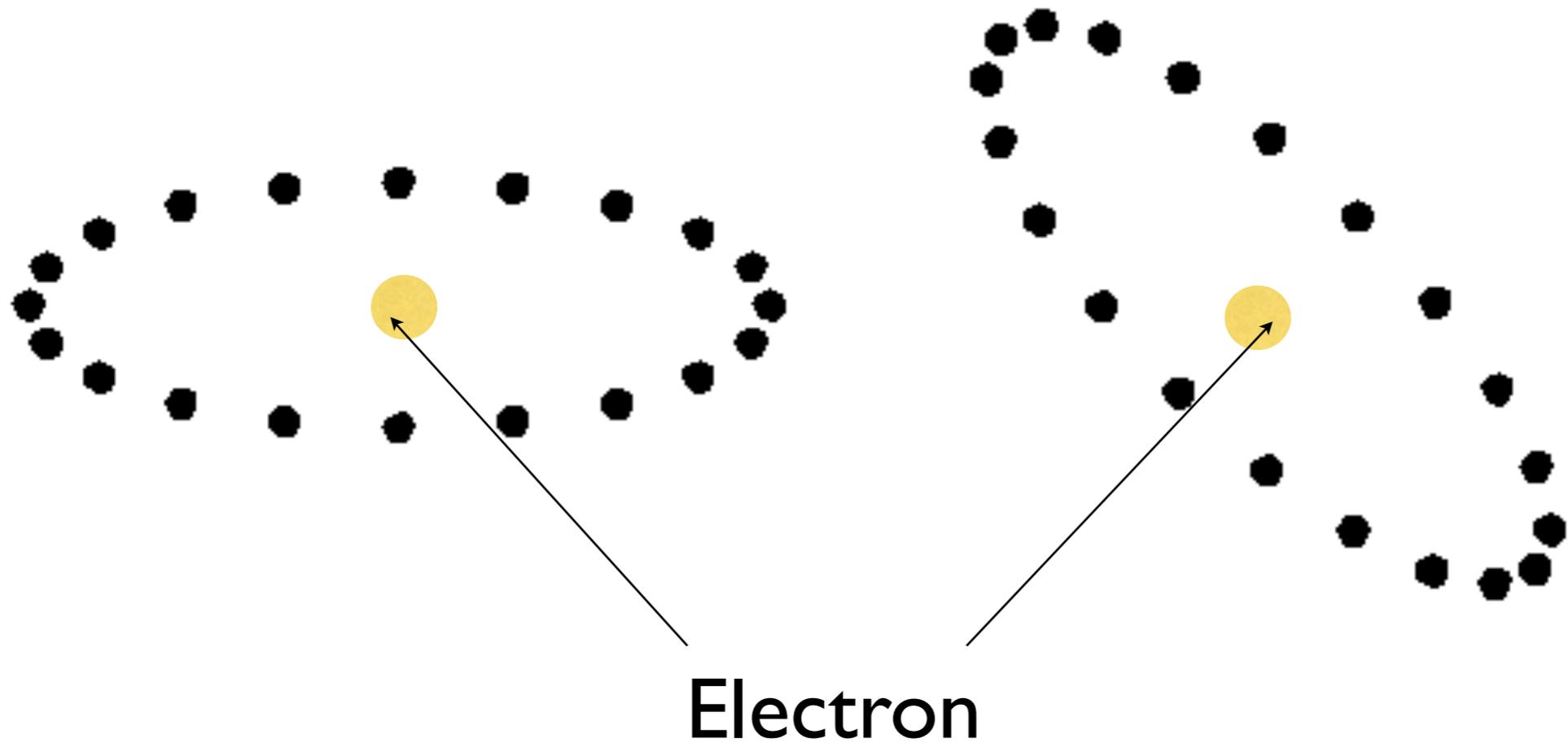
- **Gravitational potential can generate the E-mode polarization, but not B-modes.**
- **Gravitational waves can generate both E- and B-modes!**

Two Polarization States of GW

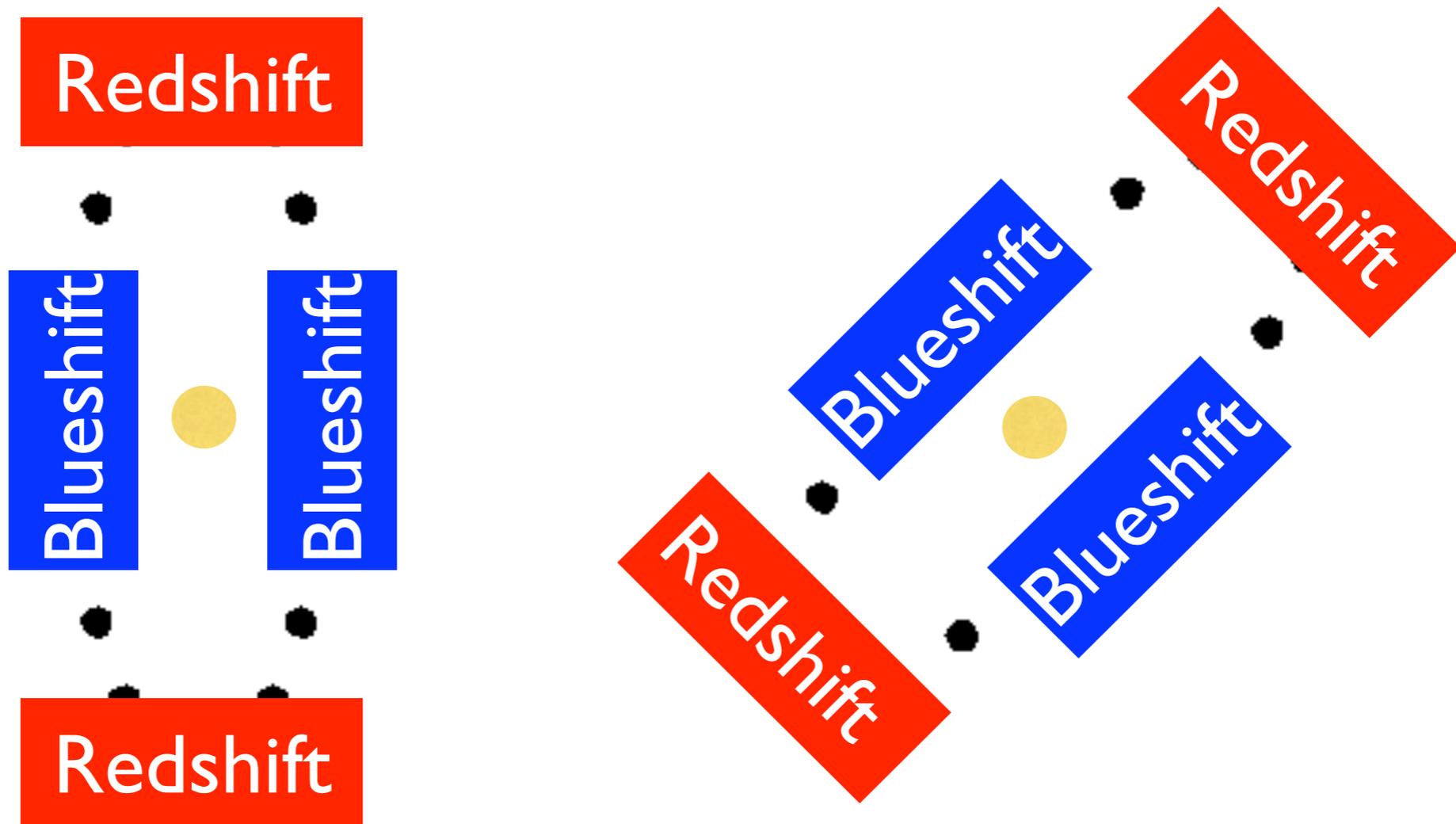


- This is great - this will automatically generate quadrupolar anisotropy around electrons!

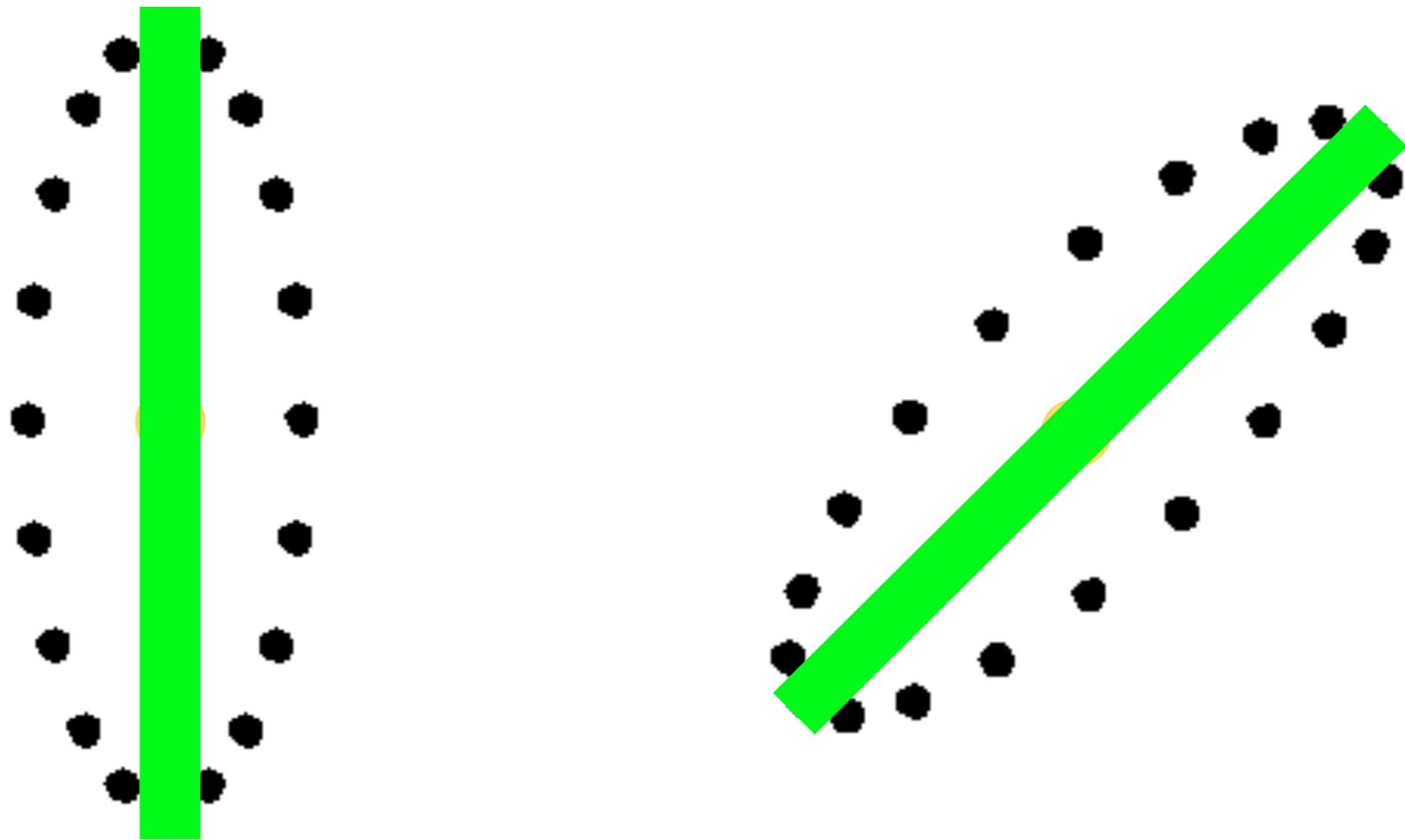
From GW to CMB Polarization



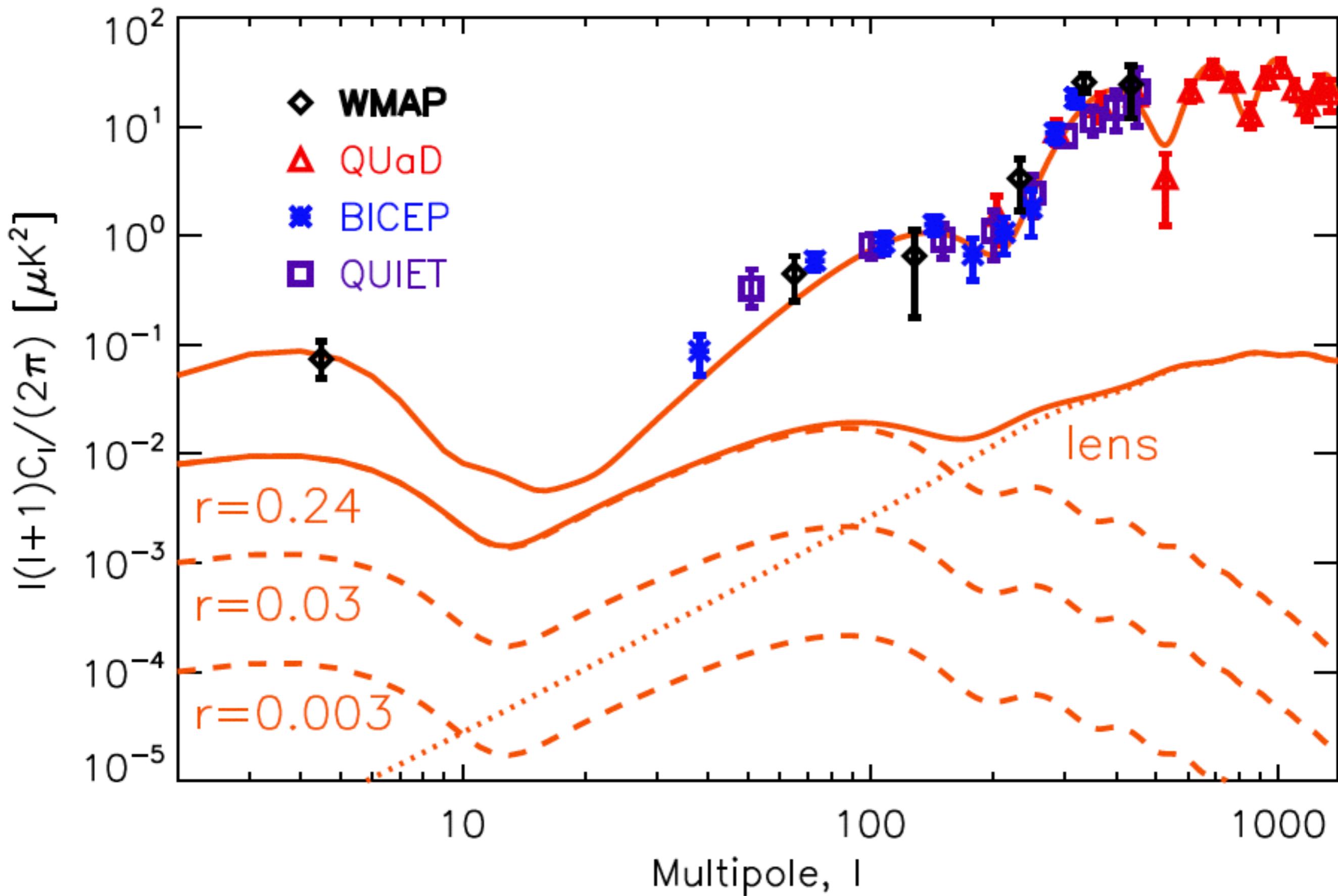
From GW to CMB Polarization



From GW to CMB Polarization

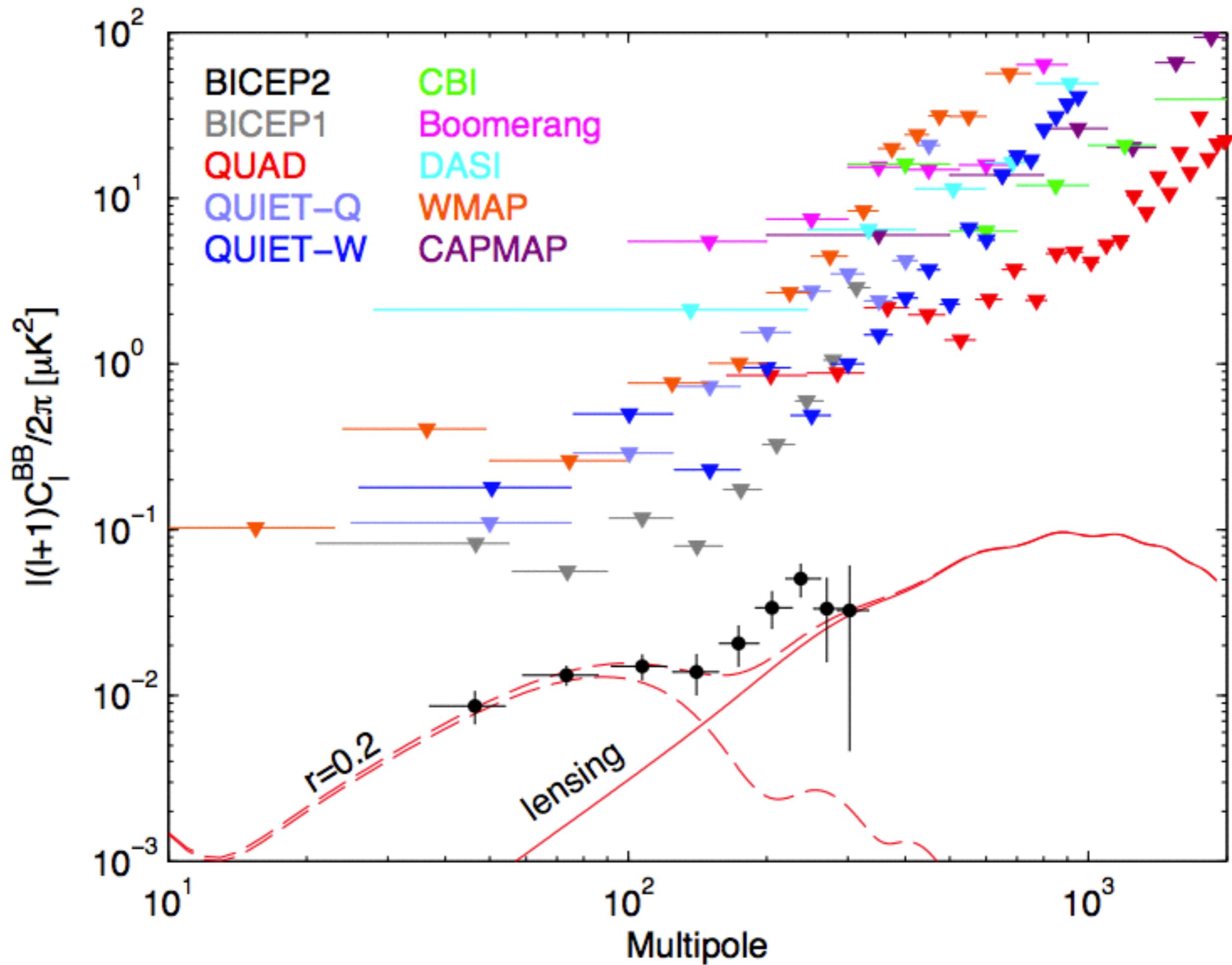


Gravitational waves can produce
both E- and B-mode polarization



Tensor-to-scalar ratio, r

- $r = [\text{Power in tensor perturbation}] / [\text{Power in scalar perturbation}]$
- $r < 0.11$ [95% CL] from the temperature analysis of the Planck data assuming a power-law scalar perturbation power spectrum



Importance of B mode detection at degree scales

- If the detected B mode polarization is primordial [more later], and agrees with the prediction from a scale-invariant [but slightly red-tilted] gravitational wave spectrum, then:
 - **It proves inflation.** Inflation generates these gravitational waves, whose wavelength has been stretched to cosmological scales. No astrophysics can do this.
 - **This is a huge deal, if true**

Implication of the measured tensor-to-scalar ratio

- The measured r is directly connected to the potential energy of a field driving inflation.
- **$r = 0.2$ implies 2×10^{16} GeV**
 - Grand Unification Scale! Inflation is a phenomenon of the high[est] energy physics
- $r = 0.2$ also implies that a field driving inflation moved by ~ 10 x Planck Mass. A challenge to model building

Is the signal cosmological?

- Worries:
 - Is it from Galactic foreground emission, e.g., dust?
 - Is it from imperfections in the experiment, e.g., detector mismatches?



Eiichiro Komatsu

March 14 near Munich 

If detection of the primordial B-modes were to be reported on Monday, I would like see:

[1] Detection (>3 sigma each) in more than one frequency, like 100 GHz and 150 GHz giving the same answers to within the error bars.

[2] Detection (could be a couple of sigmas each) in a few multipole bins, i.e., not in just one big multipole bin.

Then I will believe it!

facebook



Eiichiro Komatsu

March 14 near Munich

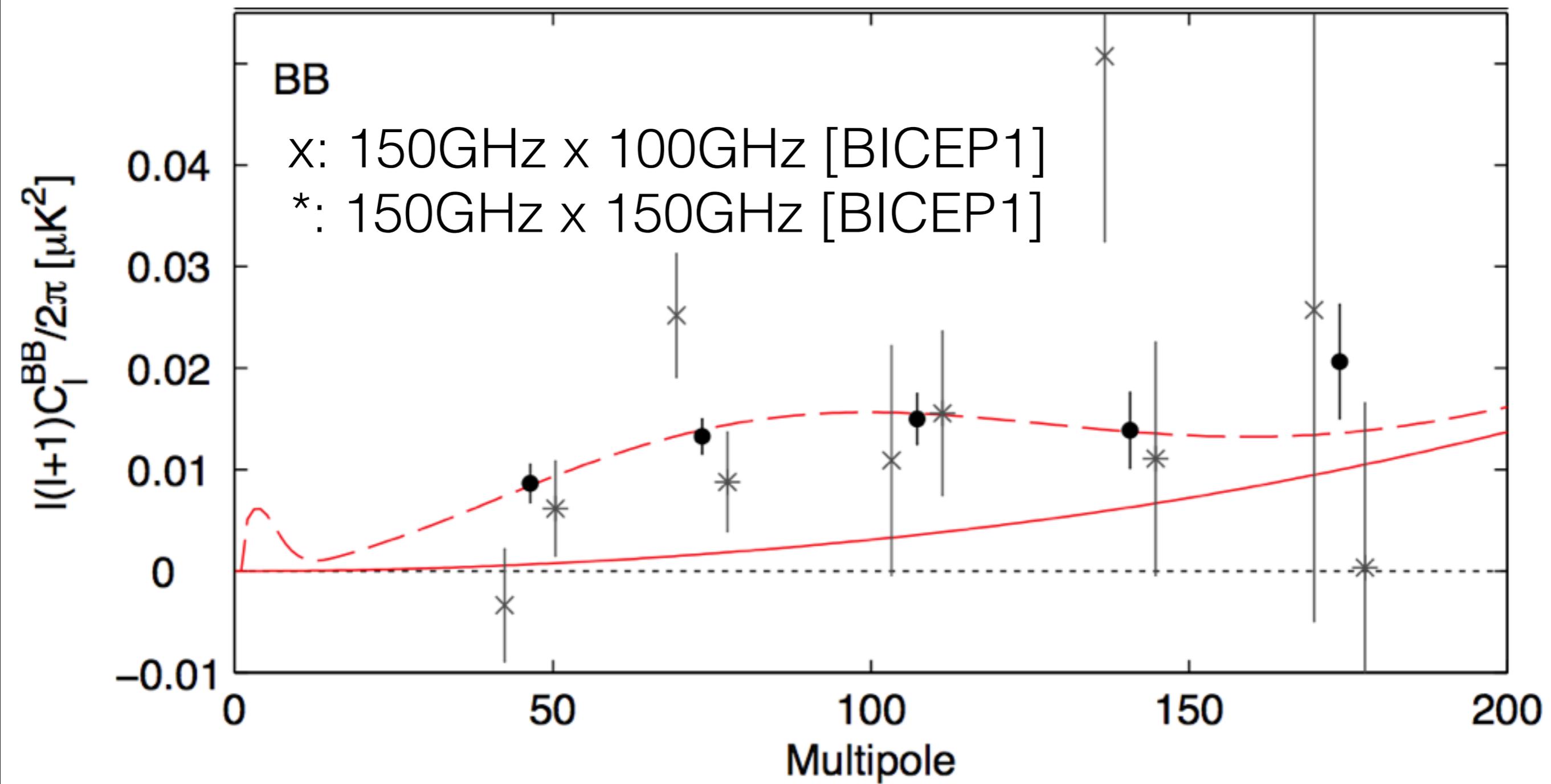
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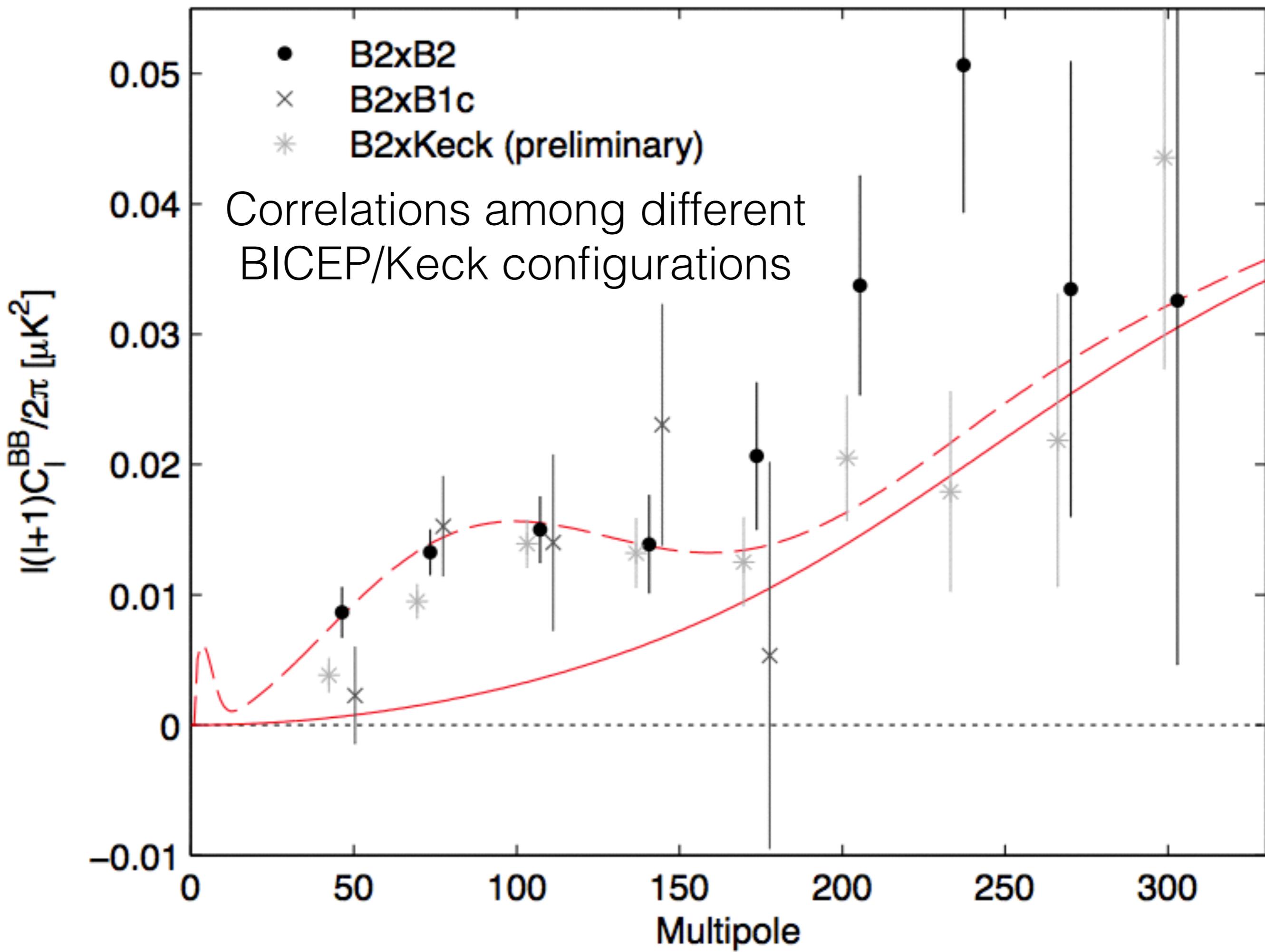
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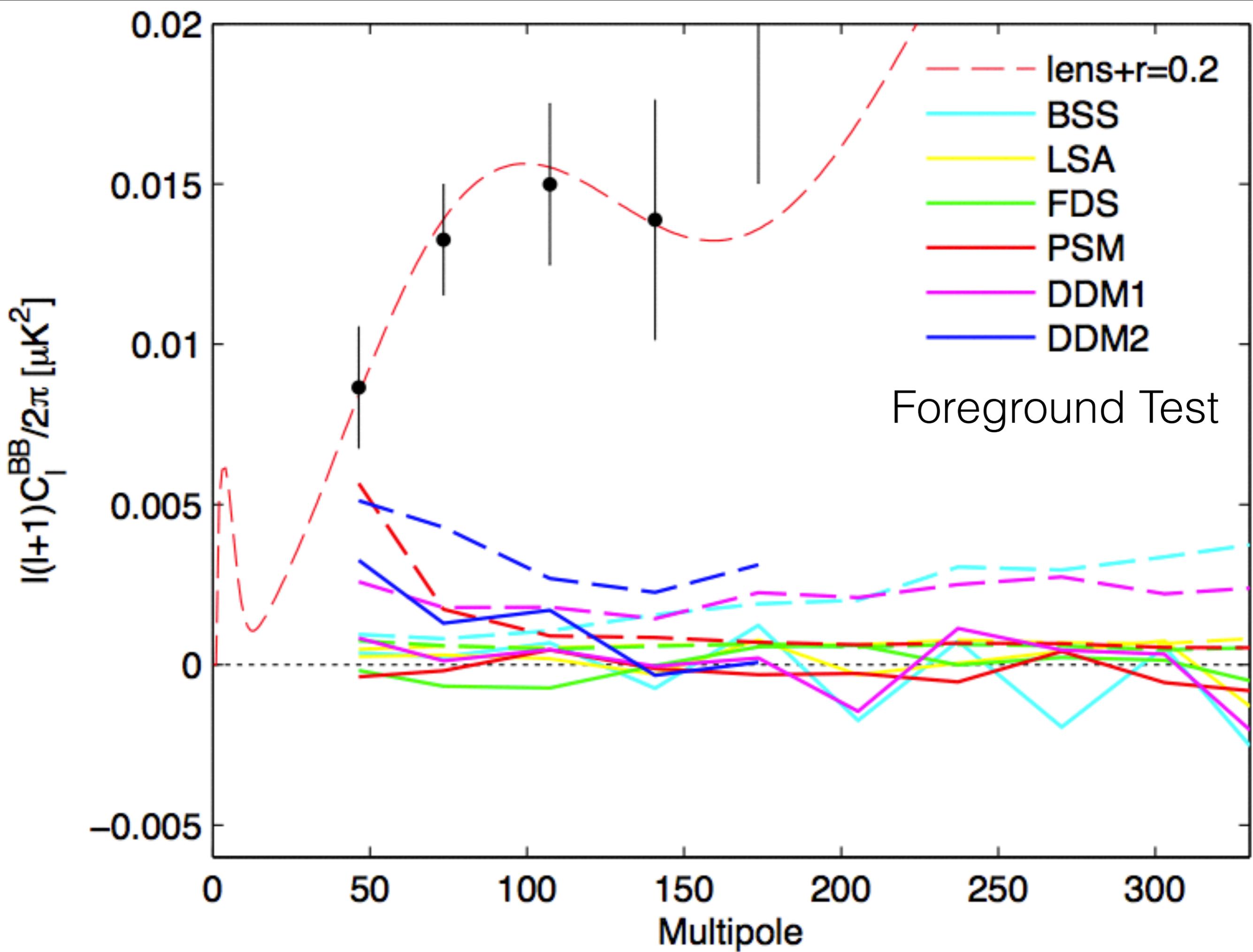
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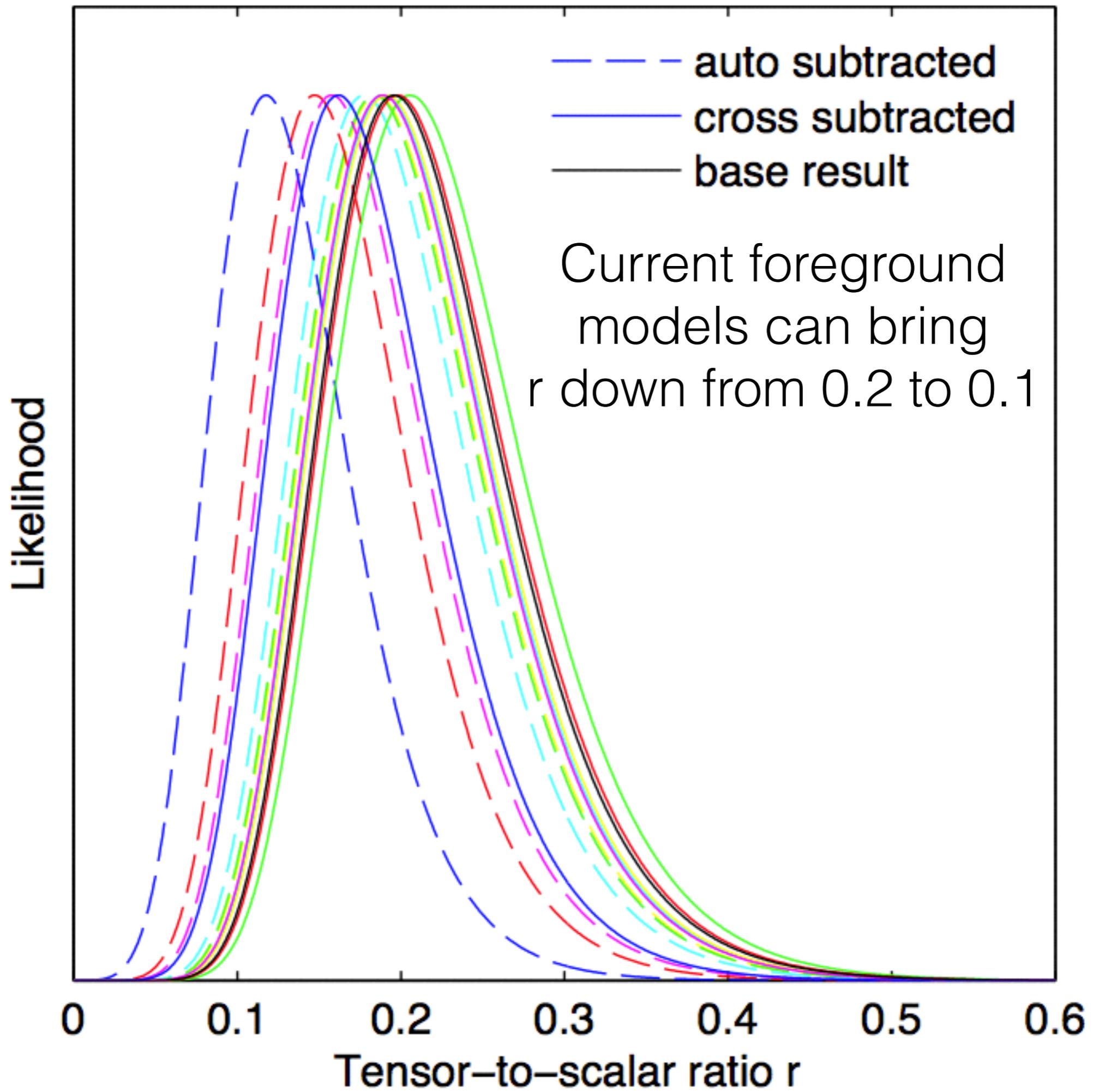
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No 100 GHz x 100 GHz [yet]

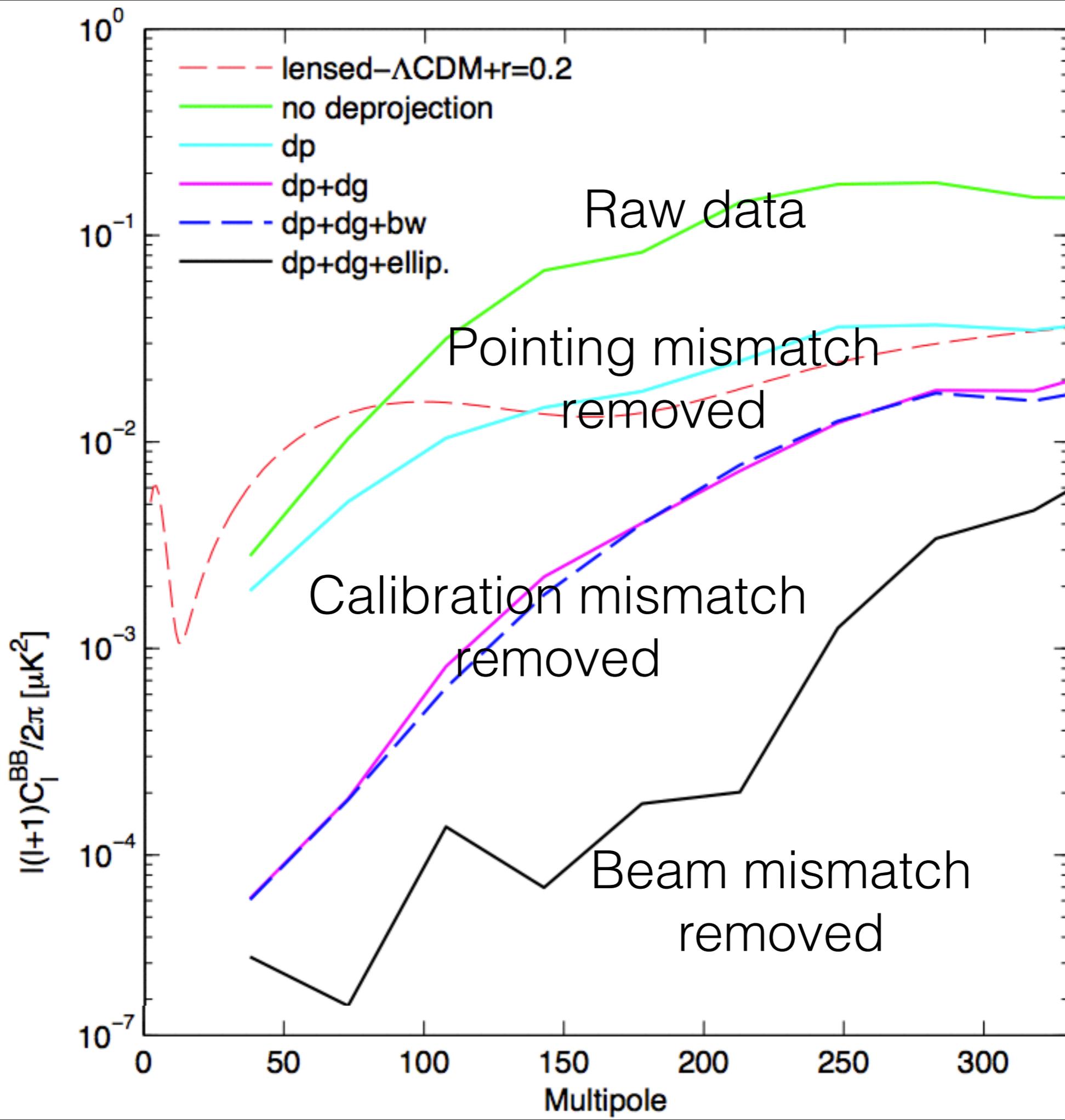




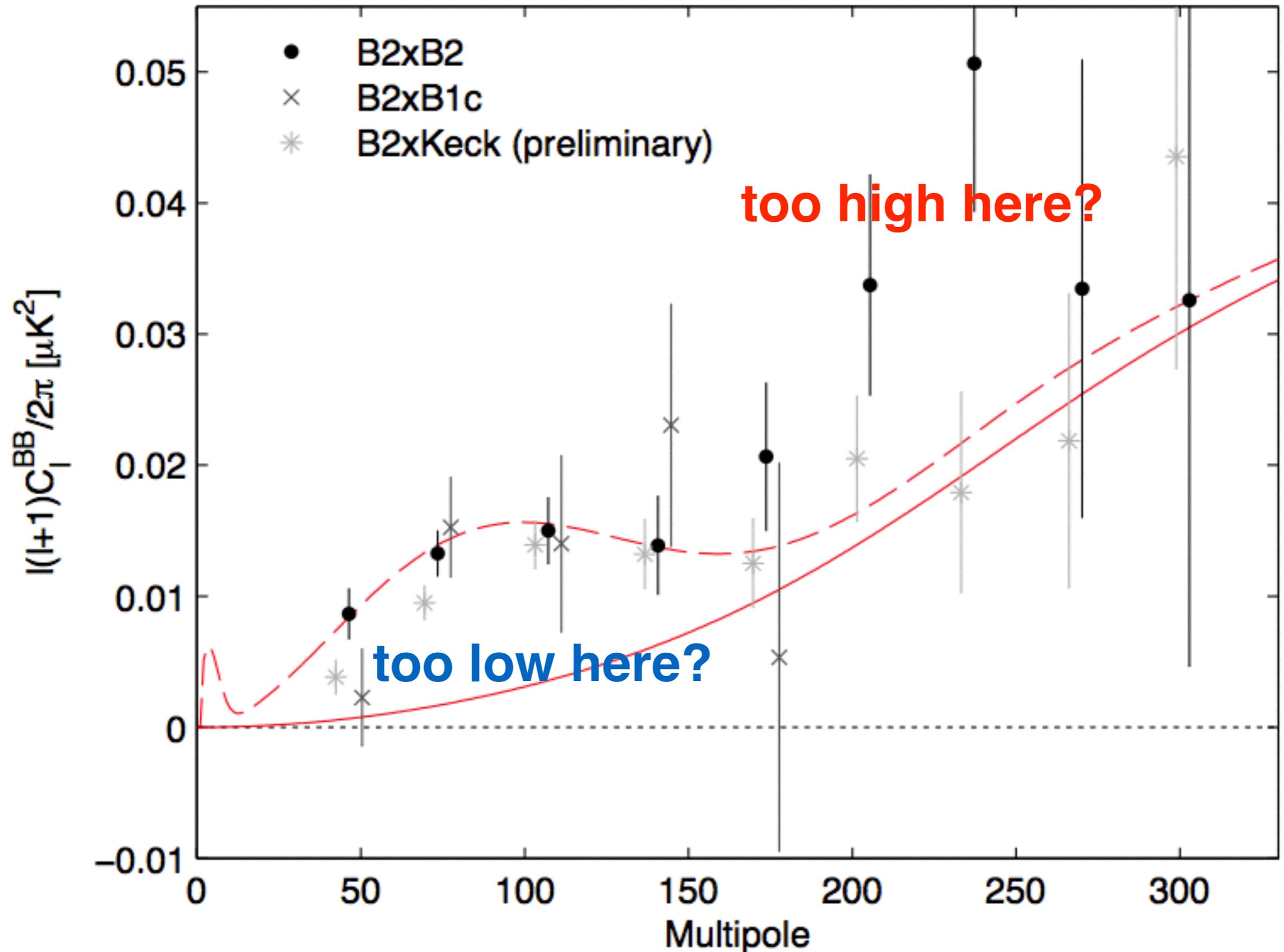


Instrumental Effects

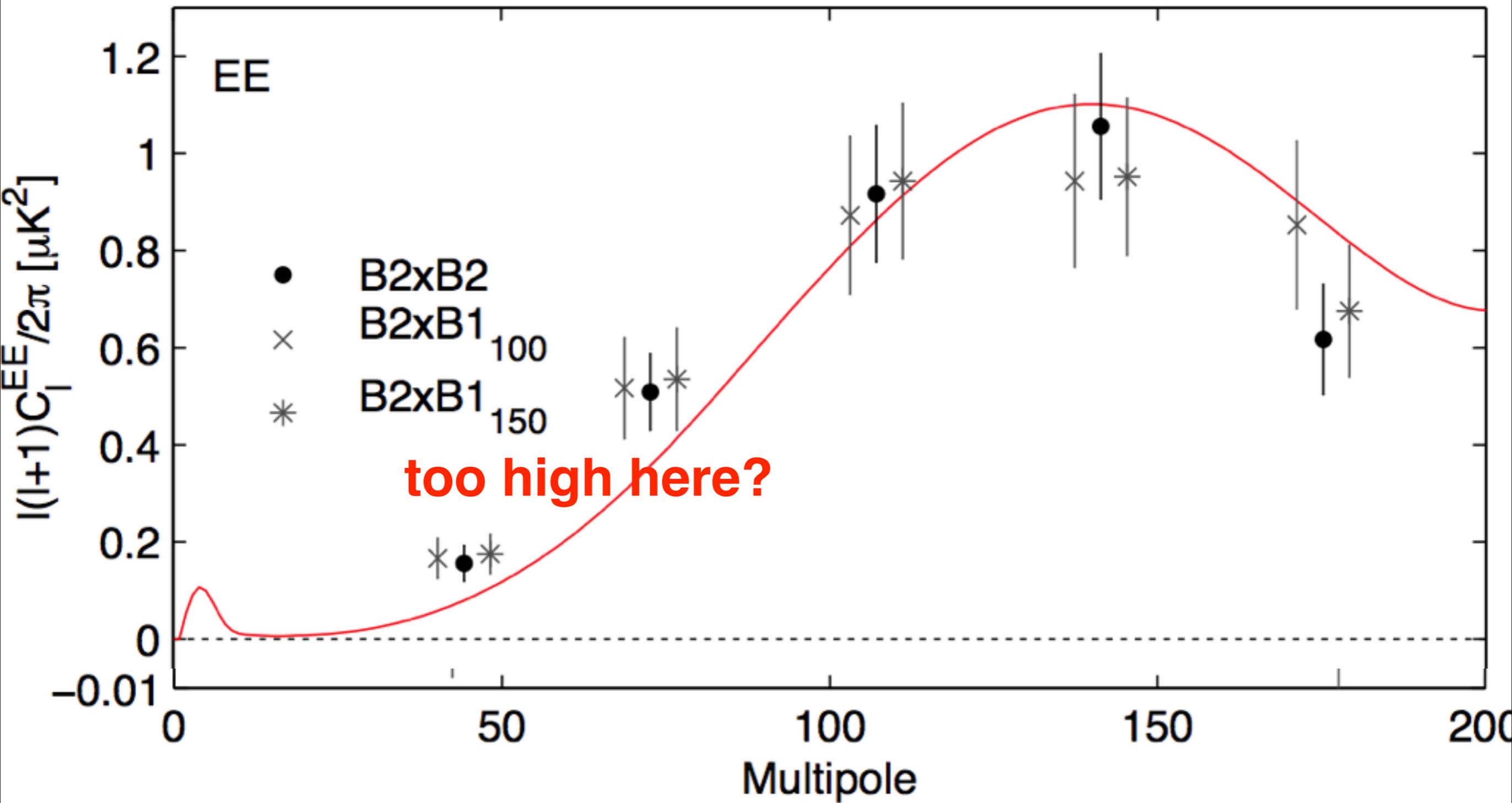
- BICEP2 measures polarization by taking the outputs of two detectors
- If the properties of these detectors are different, the temperature-to-polarization leakage occurs
 - Two detectors seeing different locations in the sky
 - Two detectors receiving slightly different frequencies
 - Two detectors calibrated with a slight mis-calibration
 - Two detectors having different beams in the sky



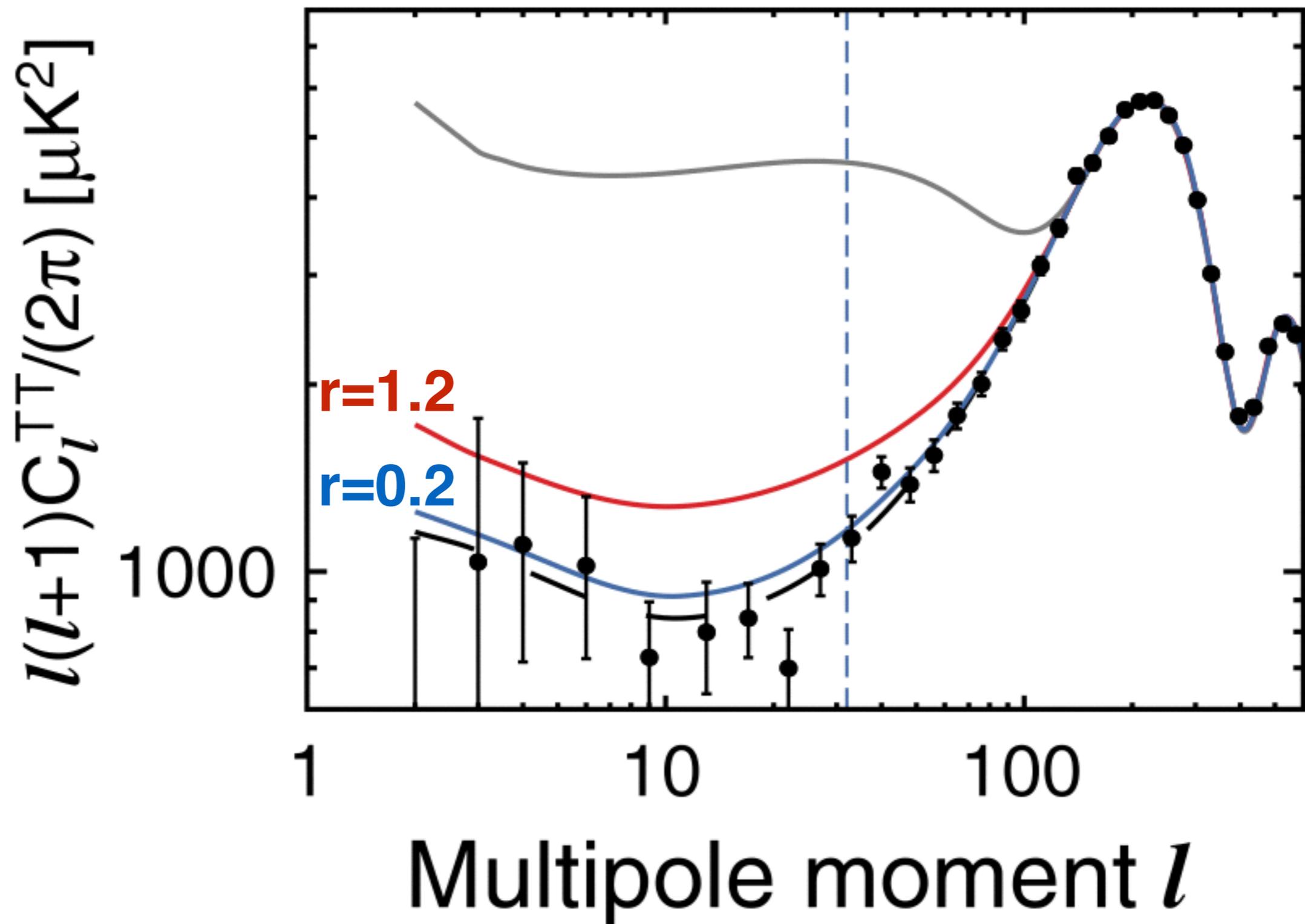
Worries raised at FB so far



Worries raised at FB so far



Limit from Temperature



“Reconciling” T and B

- The **Planck** temperature data suggest $r < 0.11$ [95%CL], assuming a power-law scalar power spectrum and adiabatic perturbations
- The **BICEP2** data suggest $r \sim 0.1-0.2$
 - *The lower r values not a problem*
 - The higher r values would require a modification to the model:
 - Scale-dependent power-law scalar perturbation spectrum
 - A new perturbation source [anti]correlated with adiabatic perturbations, e.g., isocurvature
 - A cut-off of the scalar power at the largest scale -> a probe of the beginning of inflation?