

# **Pseudo-spectrum methods to estimate CMB B-modes**

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# Pseudo-spectrum methods to estimate CMB B-modes power spectrum

1. The challenge of B-modes detection  
E/B leakage
2. Pseudo-spectrum methods  
Handle E-to-B leakage
3. Numerical results  
The surprising problematic of full sky experiment  
Small sky experiment

# B-modes to explore inflation period

Polarized anisotropies in the CMB produced by

- Density perturbations
- Gravitational waves



Generate B-modes

→ B-modes give the energy scale of inflation.

# The CMB polarization can be described by E- and B-modes

Spin-2

$$P_{\pm 2} = Q_{\pm} \pm iU$$

Harmonic

Pixel

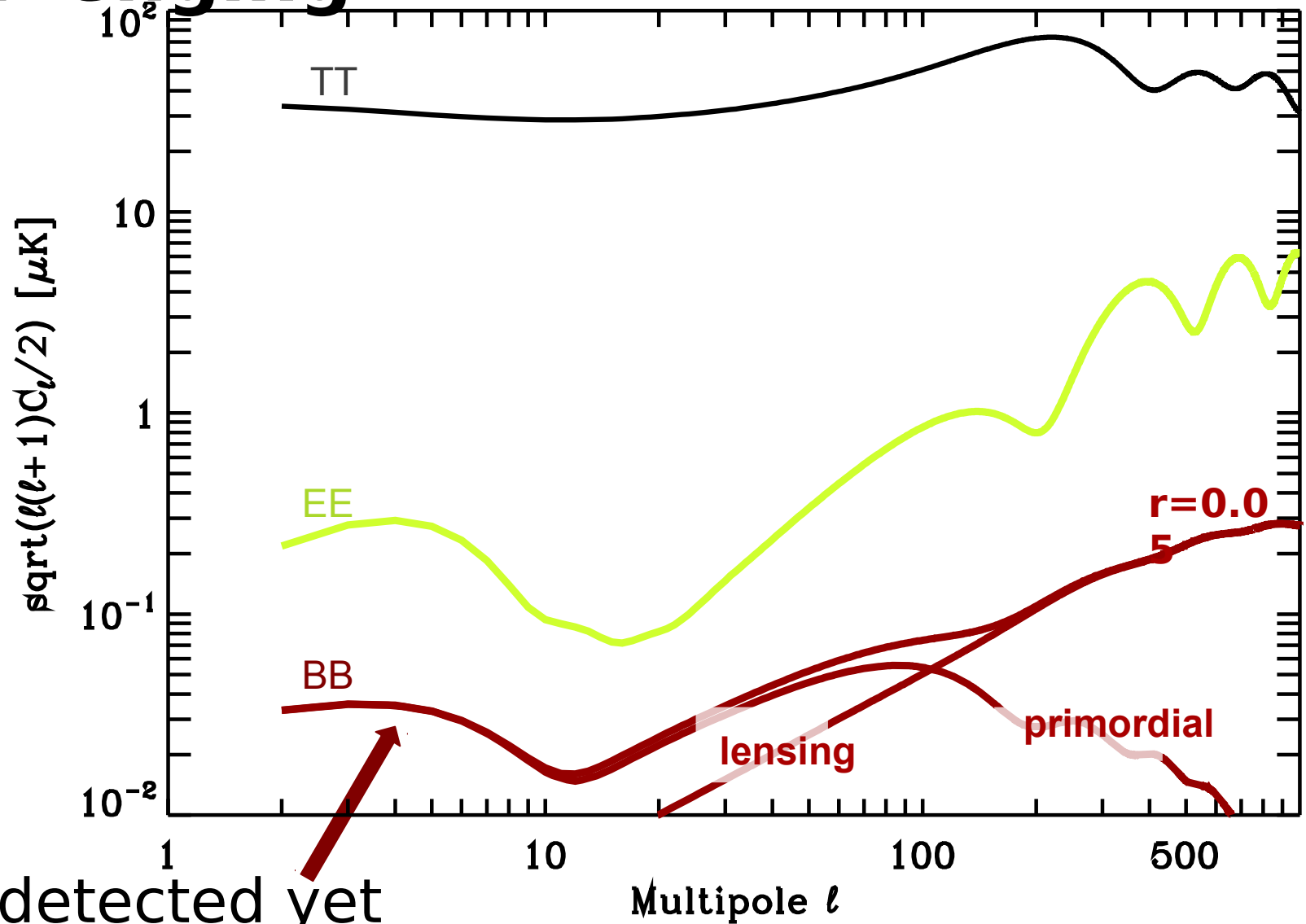
Spin-0

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} a_m^E &= \frac{-1}{2} \int [P_{2,2} Y_{-m}^* + P_{-2,-2} Y_{-m}^*] \\ a_m^B &= \frac{i}{2} \int [P_{2,2} Y_{-m}^* - P_{-2,-2} Y_{-m}^*] \end{aligned} \right.$$

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \chi^E &= \frac{-1}{2} [\bar{\partial}\partial P_2 + \partial\bar{\partial} P_{-2}] \\ \chi^B &= \frac{i}{2} [\bar{\partial}\partial P_2 - \partial\bar{\partial} P_{-2}] \end{aligned} \right.$$

$$\chi^B = \sum_m a_m^B Y_{-m}$$

# B-modes detection is challenging

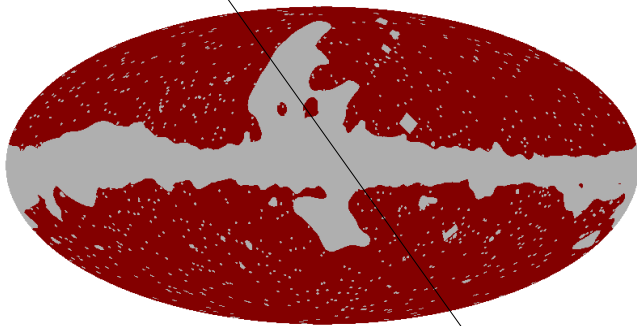


Not detected yet

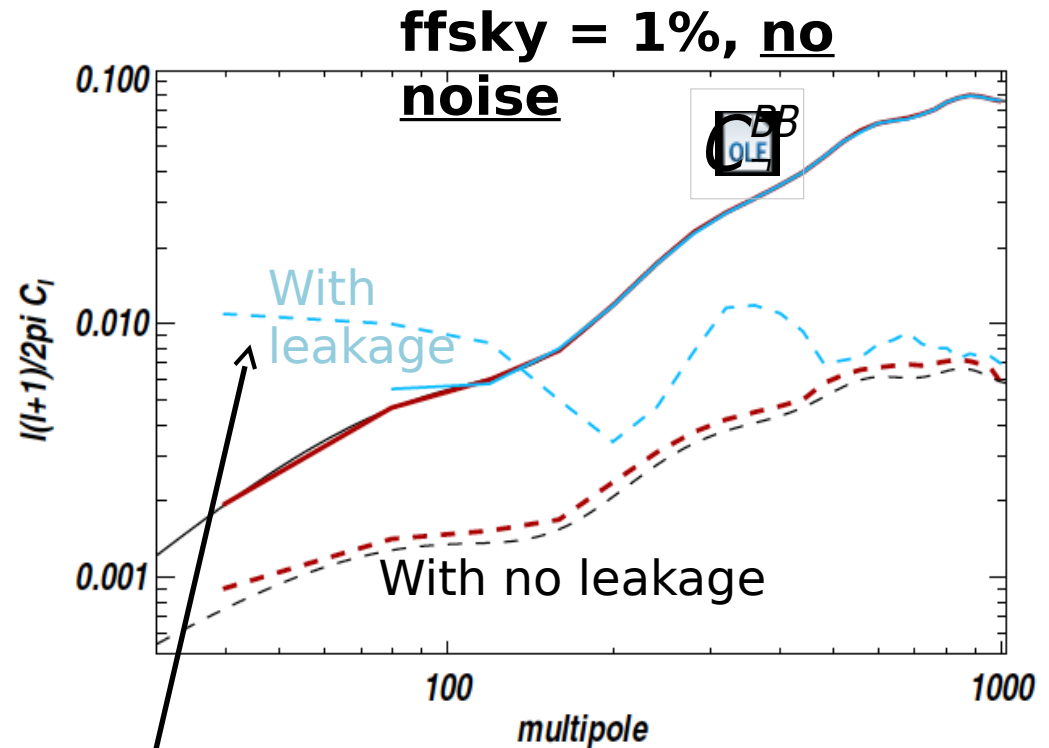
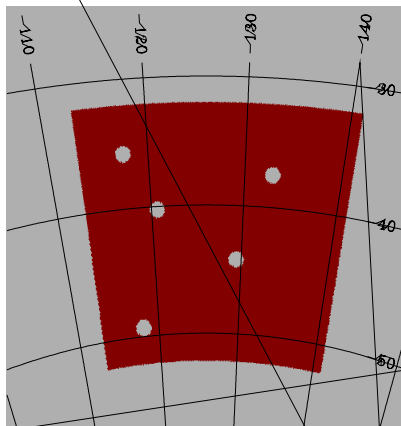
# A major systematic effect: E/B leakage

Observation of a partial part of the celestial sphere.

ffsky = 71%



ffsky = 1%



**Sampling variance higher than the  
signal it self!**

*Picture from Grain et al.  
(2009)*

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1. The challenge of B-modes detection

E/B leakage

2. Pseudo-spectrum methods

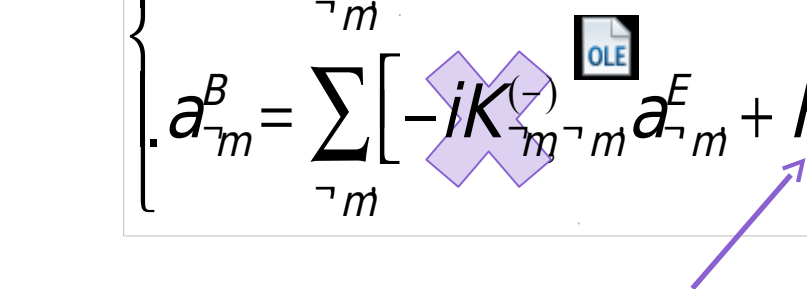
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# Pseudo multipoles are the multipoles of the masked field

$$\begin{cases} a_{-m}^E = \sum_{\lrcorner m} \left[ H_{\lrcorner m \lrcorner m}^{(+)} a_{\lrcorner m}^E + iH_{\lrcorner m \lrcorner m}^{(-)} a_{\lrcorner m}^B \right] \\ a_{-m}^B = \sum_{\lrcorner m} \left[ -iK_{\lrcorner m \lrcorner m}^{(-)} a_{\lrcorner m}^E + K_{\lrcorner m \lrcorner m}^{(+)} a_{\lrcorner m}^B \right] \end{cases}$$


Kernels depending on the applied mask  $W$  to the  $(Q,U)$  map.

We want the modes mixing kernels to vanish.



# SZ-method: defining pure pseudo multipoles

$$a_{-m}^B = \frac{1}{\alpha_{-}} \int \left[ P_2(\partial\partial WY_{-m})^* - P_{-2}(\bar{\partial}\bar{\partial}WY_{-m})^* \right]$$

$$a_{-m}^B = \frac{1}{\alpha_{-}} \chi_{-m}^B \frac{1}{\alpha_{-}} \int \chi^B WY_{-m}^*$$

Contains only B-modes.

About the window function W:

- must satisfy  $W$  and  $\delta W = 0$  at the contour
- Is optimized to give the smallest error bars on

Based on:

Smith K., *Pseudo-Cl estimators which do not mix E and B modes*, Phys.Rev.D**74**, 083002 (2006)

Smith K., Zaldarriaga M., *A general solution to the E-B mixing problem*, Phys.Rev.D**76**, 043001 (2007)

Grain J., Tristram M., Stompor R. *Polarized CMB power spectrum estimation using the pure*

# ZB-method: calculating the masked $\chi$ field in the pixel space

- Multiple differentiations of masked (Q,U) maps to obtain:

$$W^2 \chi^B$$

- Calculation of  $\chi$  pseudo-

$$\chi_{\vec{m}}^B = \int W^2 \chi^B Y_{\vec{m}}^*$$

About the window function W:

Use the same as in the SZ-method.

Based on:

Zhao W., Baskaran D., *Separating E and B types of polarization on an incomplete sky*, Phys.Rev.D **82**. 023001 (2010)

# KN-method: removing aliased pixels

- Computation of the pseudo  $\chi$ -field:

$$\chi^B = \frac{i}{2} [\bar{\partial} \bar{\partial} W_{\ell} - \partial \partial W_{\ell-2}]$$

- Calculation of B-modes pseudo-multipoles:

$$a_{-m}^B = \int \chi Y_{\ell m}$$

## About the masks:

- Apodization of (Q,U) maps to have pseudo- $\chi^B$  field
- Masking aliased pixels

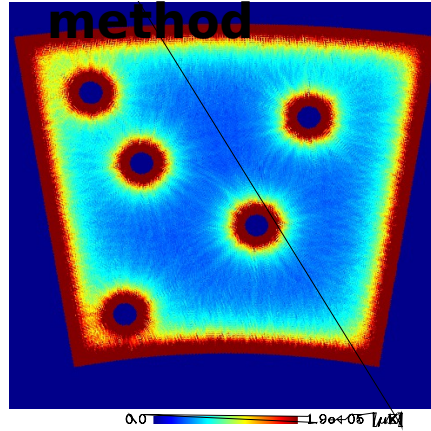
Based on:

Kim J., Naselsky D., *CMB E/B decomposition of incomplete sky : a pixel a space approach*, A&A, 519 A104 (2011)

Kim J., *How to make a clean separation between CMB E and B modes with proper foreground*

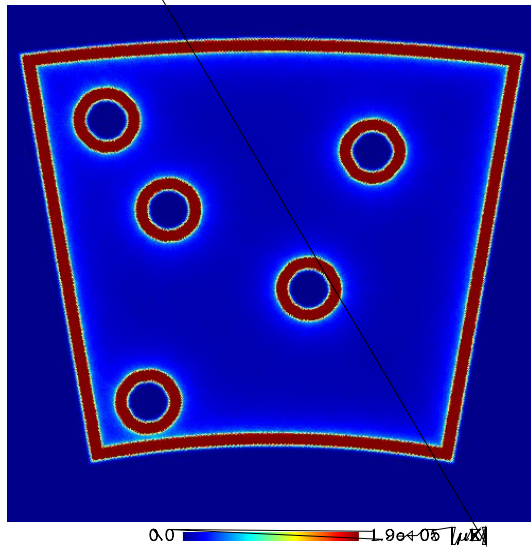
# Maps of the E/B leakage

Standard  
method

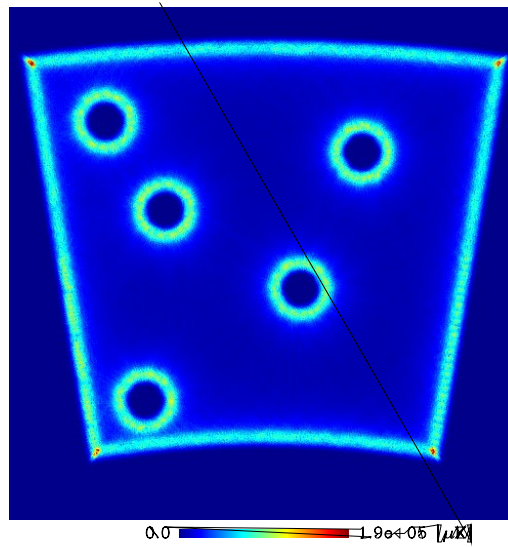


B-modes maps  
with  
**no** initial B-  
modes!

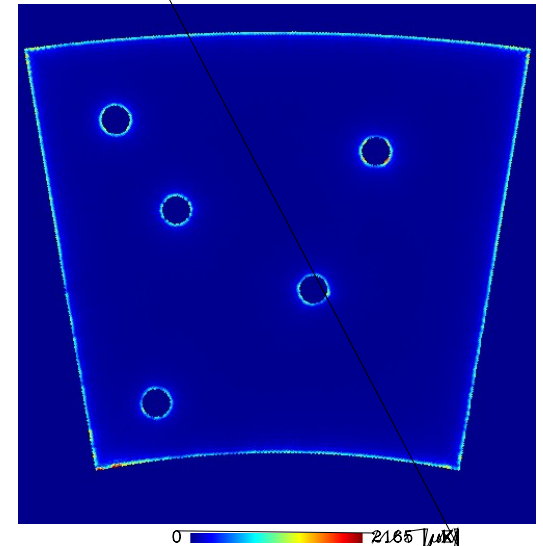
KN method



ZB method



SZ method



# Pseudo-spectrum methods to estimate CMB B-modes power spectrum

1. The challenge of B-modes detection

E/B leakage

2. Pseudo-spectrum methods

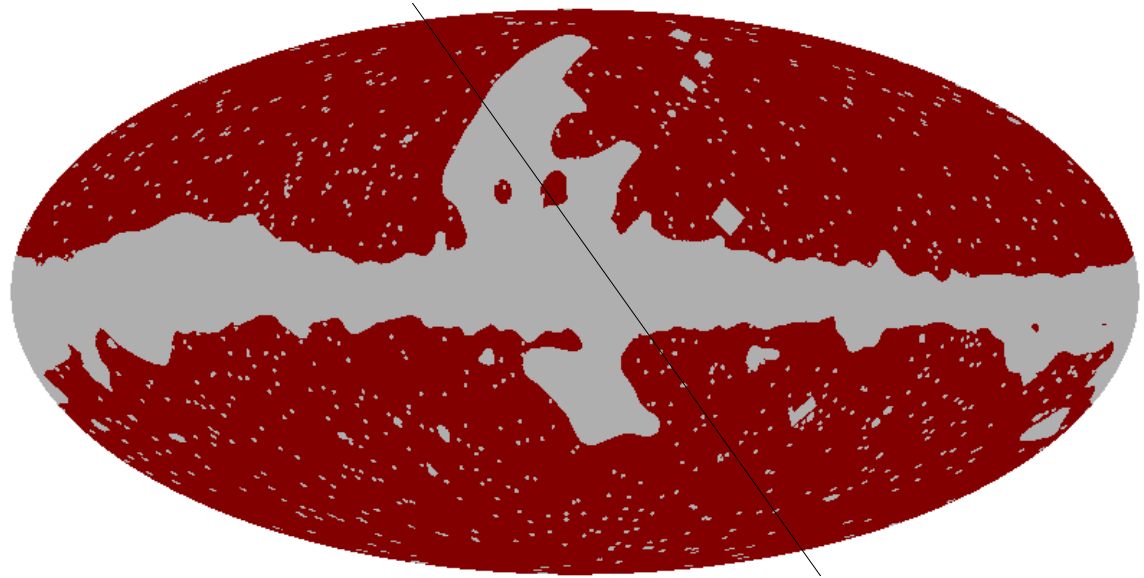
Handle E-to-B leakage

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# The case of satellite experiment



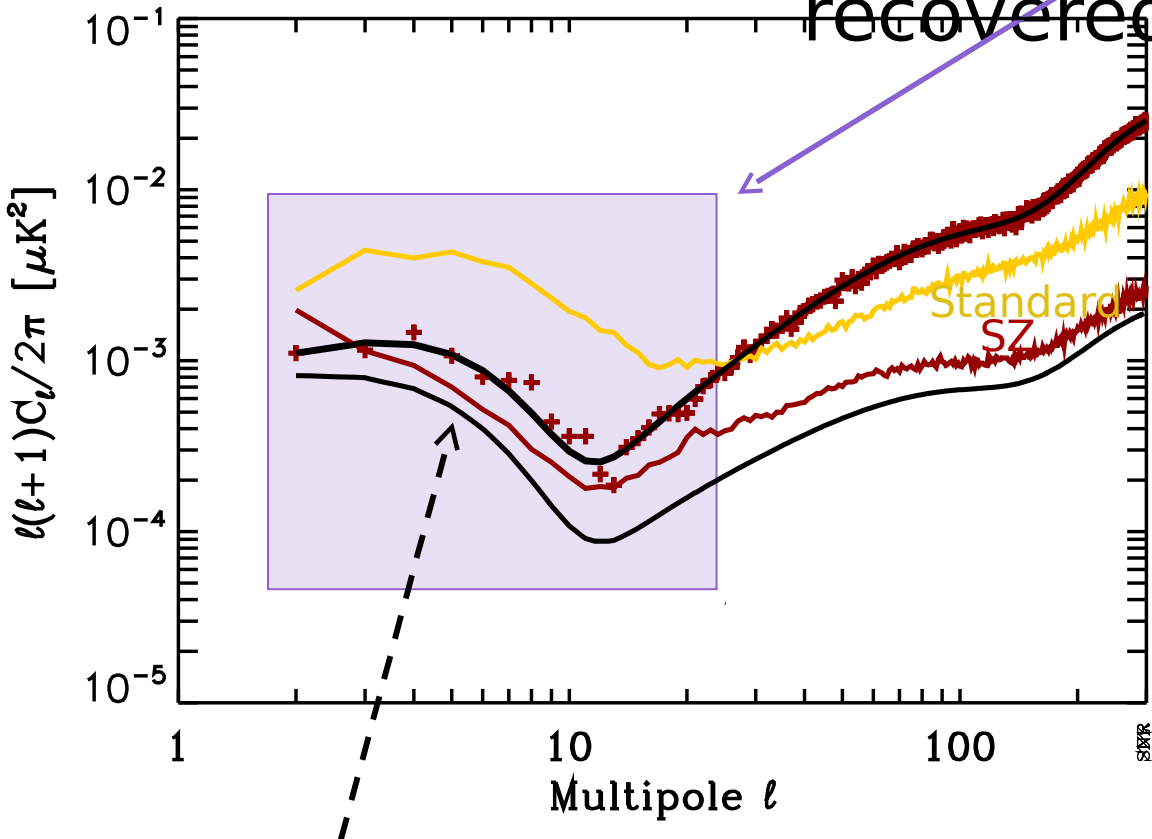
Like PRISM,  
EPIC,  
LiteBIRD...

Observed sky fraction  
= 71%

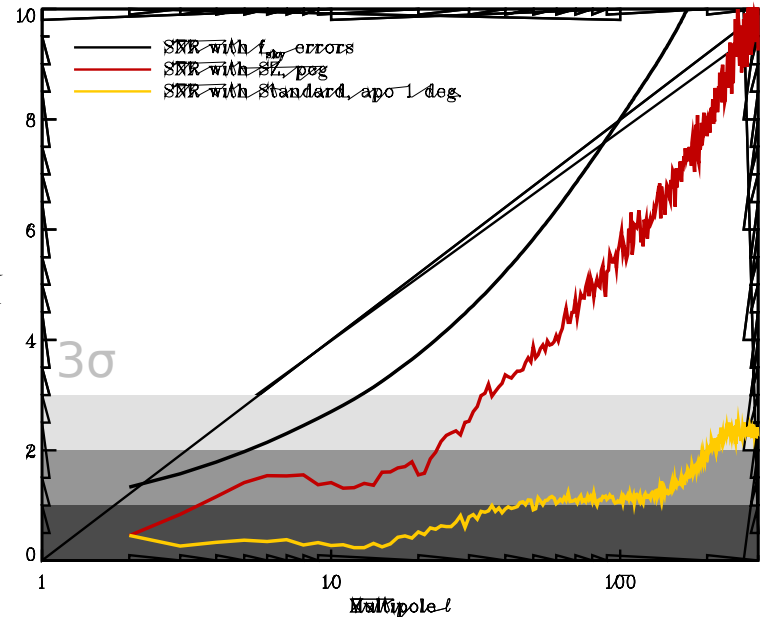
Noise =  $2.2\mu\text{K-arcmin}$   
Beam = 8 arcmin

# This case is surprisingly not trivial

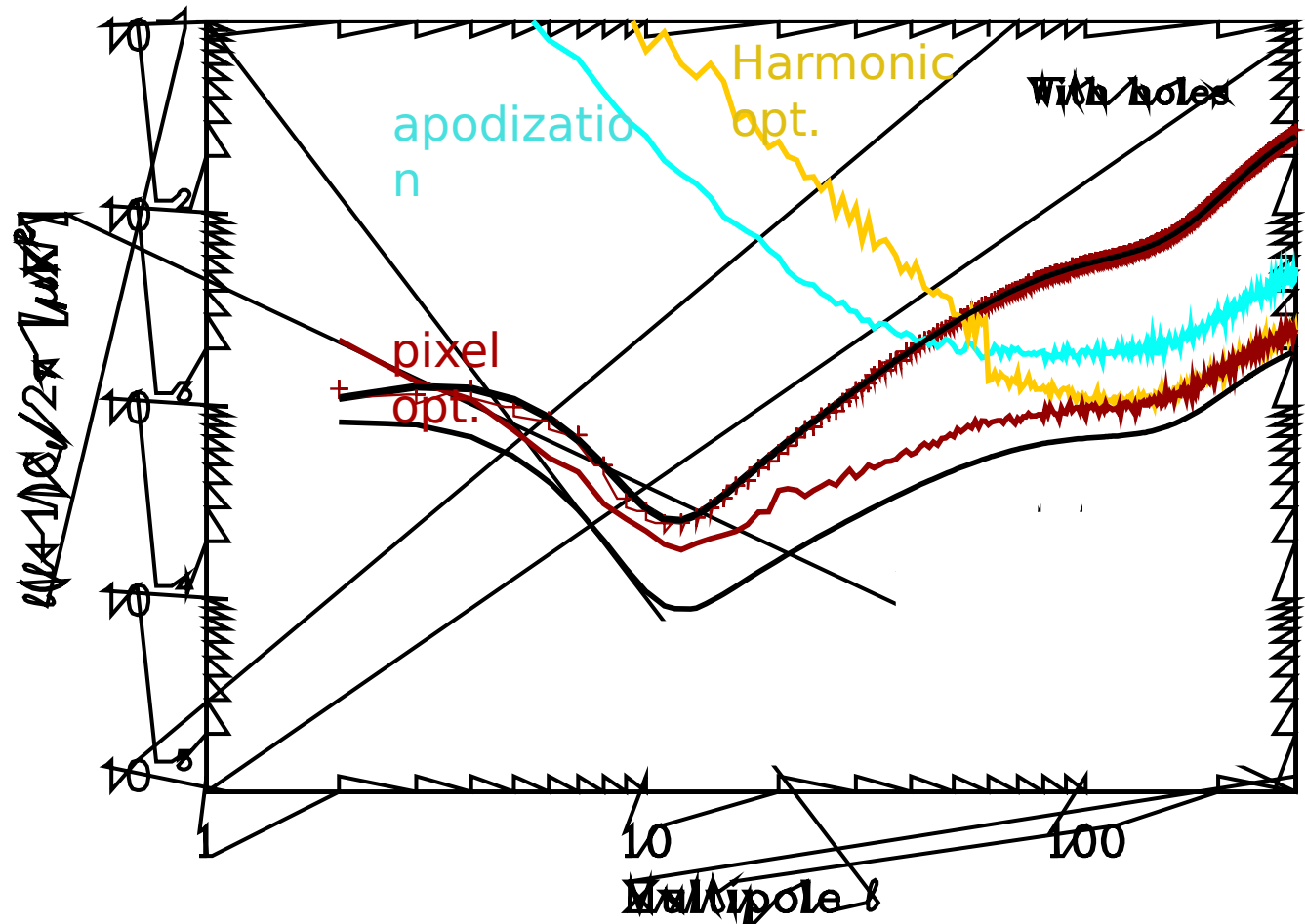
B-modes can not be recovered



The smallest reachable variances only accounting for the sky fraction



# Choosing the appropriate window function is crucial



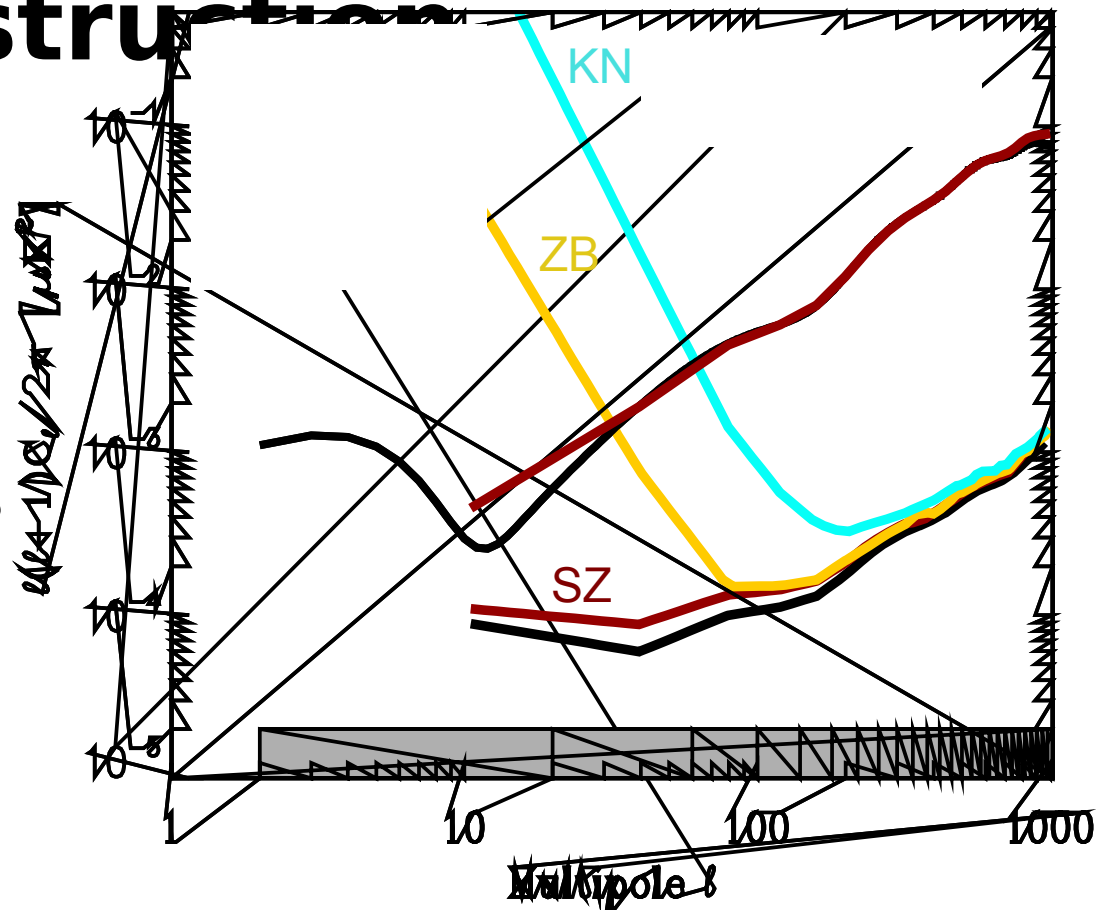
→ SZ-method is sensitive to the computation of  $W$



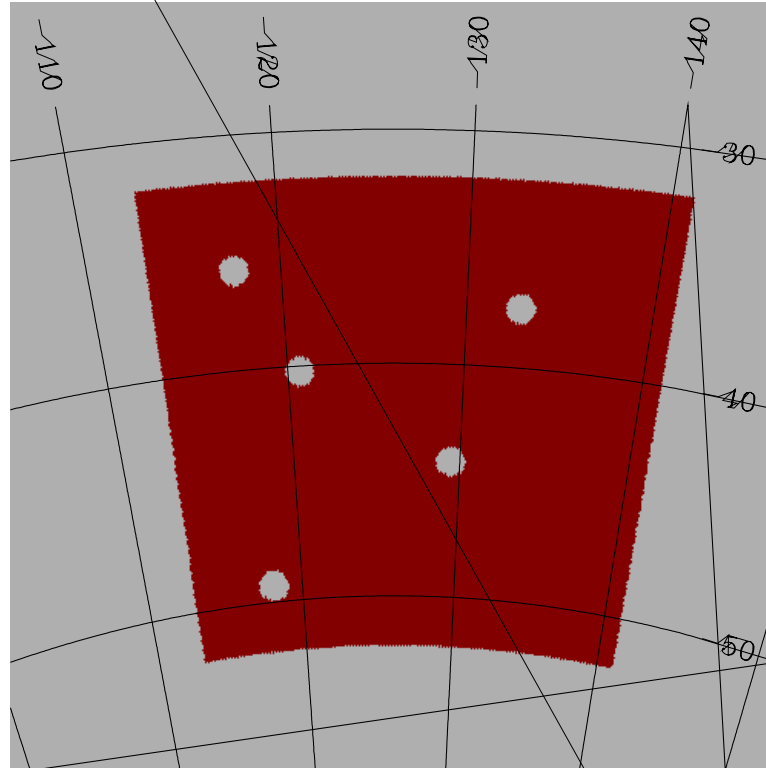
# SZ-method gives the smallest error bars on B-modes reconstruction

B-modes detection:

- SZ: all multipoles
- ZB:  $l > 20$
- KN:  $l > 60$



# The case of ground based and balloon borne experiments



Like  
POLARBEAR,  
EBEX,  
SPTPOL...

Observed sky fraction  
= 1%

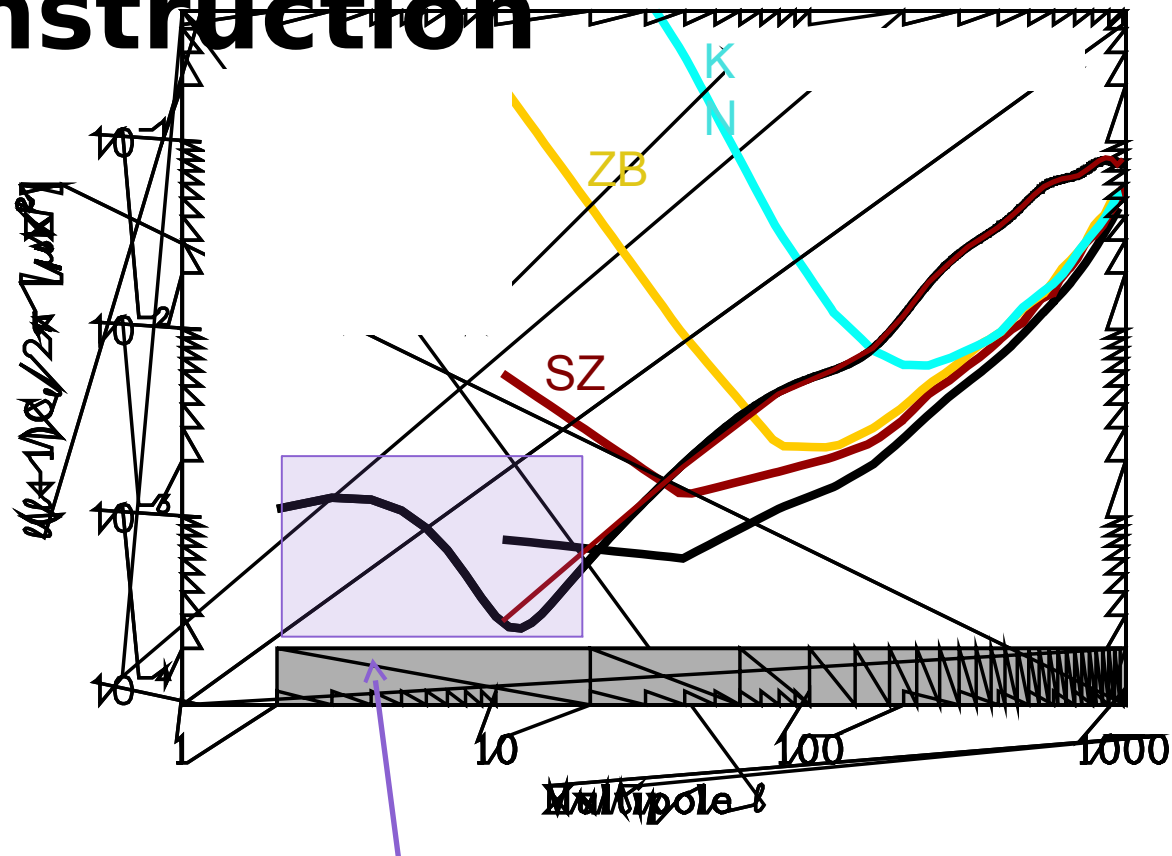
Noise =  $5.75 \mu\text{K-arcmin}$

Beam = 8 arcmin

# SZ-method gives the smallest error bars on B-modes reconstruction

B-modes detection:

- SZ:  $l > 20$
- ZB:  $l > 60$
- KN:  $l > 100$



Impossible to recover B-modes because of sky coverage

# To take away

- The E/B leakage has to be corrected for even in the case of a large scale survey.
- In the way we implement these methods, the SZ-methods give the smallest error bars.
- Computation of  $W$  is crucial.

More information in: Ferté et al., *Efficiency of pseudo-spectrum methods for estimation of Cosmic Microwave Background B-modes power spectrum*, accepted for publication in Phys. Rev. D, **arXiv:1305.7441**

**Thank you!**

