

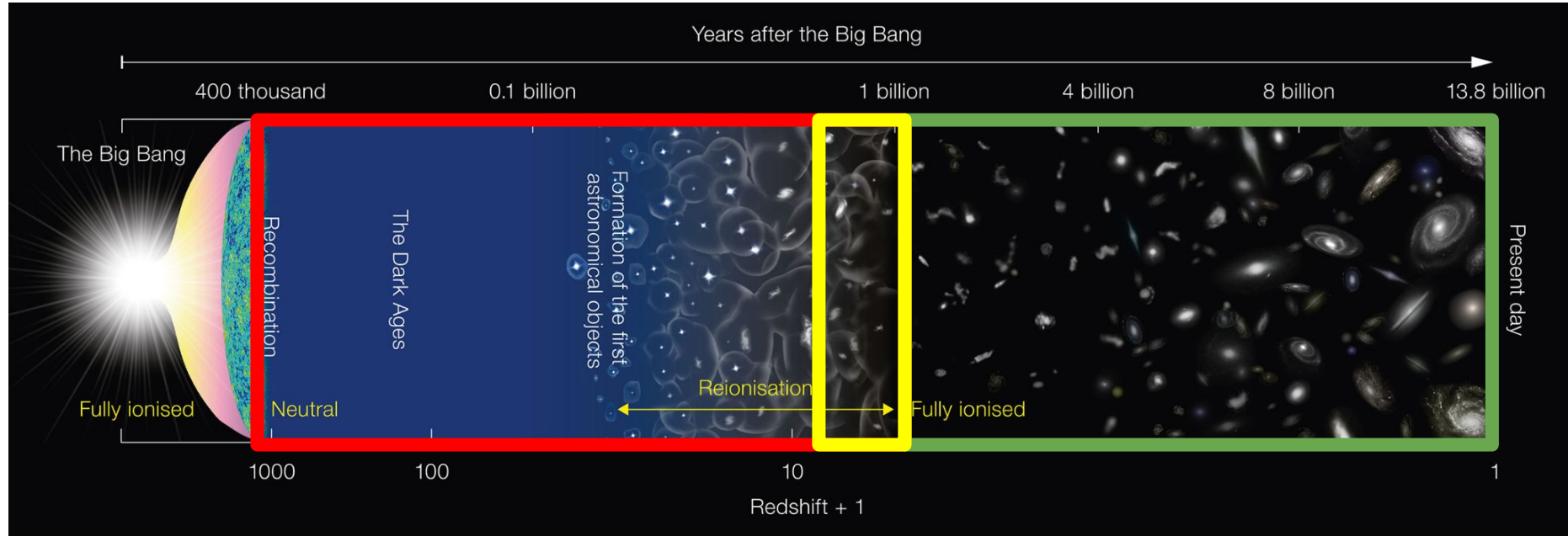
FYST/CCAT

Masking and cross-instrument
cross-correlation for submm
line intensity mapping

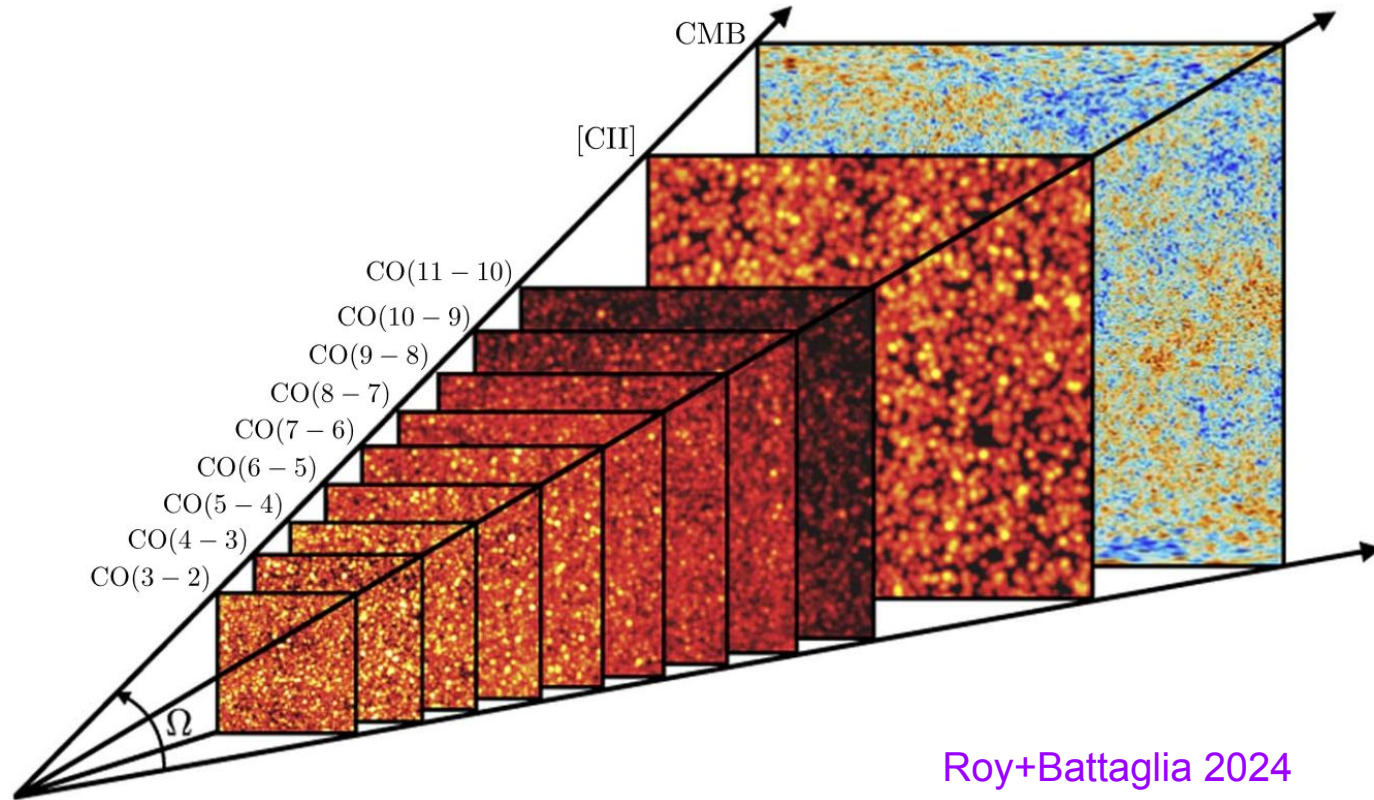
Jonathan Clarke, PhD at
University of Cologne,
+ Prof. Dominik Riechers,
Dr. Christos Karoumpis, Ankur Dev,
Dr. Anirban Roy, Tejas Oak,
Himadri Saha, Yoko Okada+...



Line intensity mapping at the epoch of reionisation



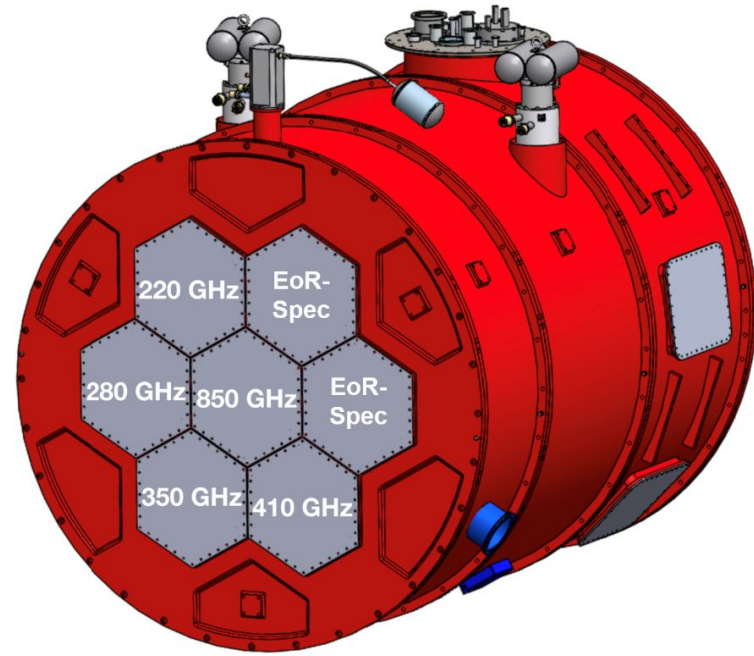
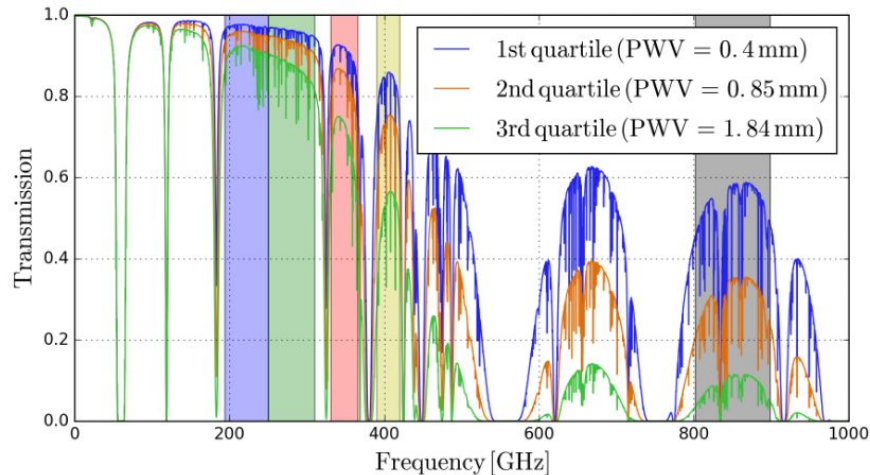
Line intensity mapping at the epoch of reionisation



Roy+Battaglia 2024

CCAT/FYST: Deep Spectroscopic Survey

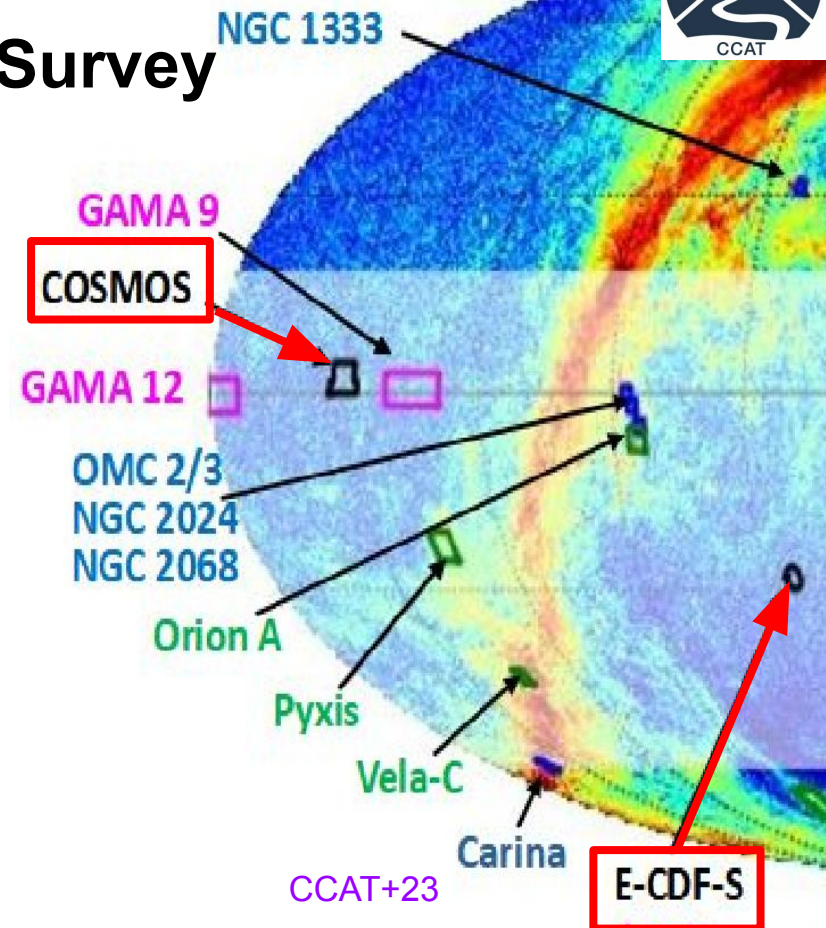
- Sub-mm line intensity mapping - Cerro Chajnantor unique site with optimal atmosphere
- **EoR-Spec** modules in Prime-Cam (FYST instr.)
 - R=100, 33-58" angular resolution
 - **210-420GHz**



Choi+22, CCAT+23

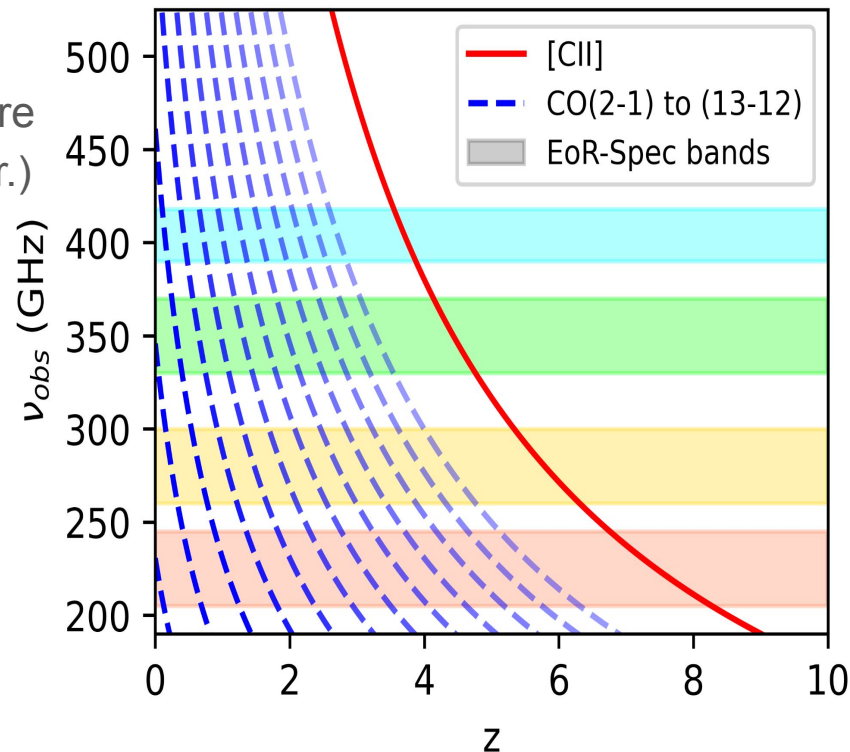
CCAT/FYST: Deep Spectroscopic Survey

- Sub-mm line intensity mapping - Cerro Chajnantor unique site with optimal atmosphere
- **EoR-Spec** modules in Prime-Cam (FYST instr.)
 - R=100, 33-58" angular resolution
 - **210-420GHz** ($3.5 < z_{\text{[CII]}} < 8.2$ - late EoR)
- Two fields, 4deg², 2000hrs each
 - **E-COSMOS** and **E-CDF-S/EDF-F**
 - Overlap with COSMOS, Euclid surveys
 - Lots of UV spectroscopic data



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- Two fields, 4deg², 2000hrs each
 - **E-COSMOS and E-CDF-S/EDF-F**
 - Overlap with COSMOS, Euclid surveys
 - Lots of UV spectroscopic data
- Noise tricky, need cleaning pipeline (**Dev+26** [arxiv:2607.20404](https://arxiv.org/abs/2607.20404))
- **CO INTERLOPERS ARE MAJOR ISSUE**

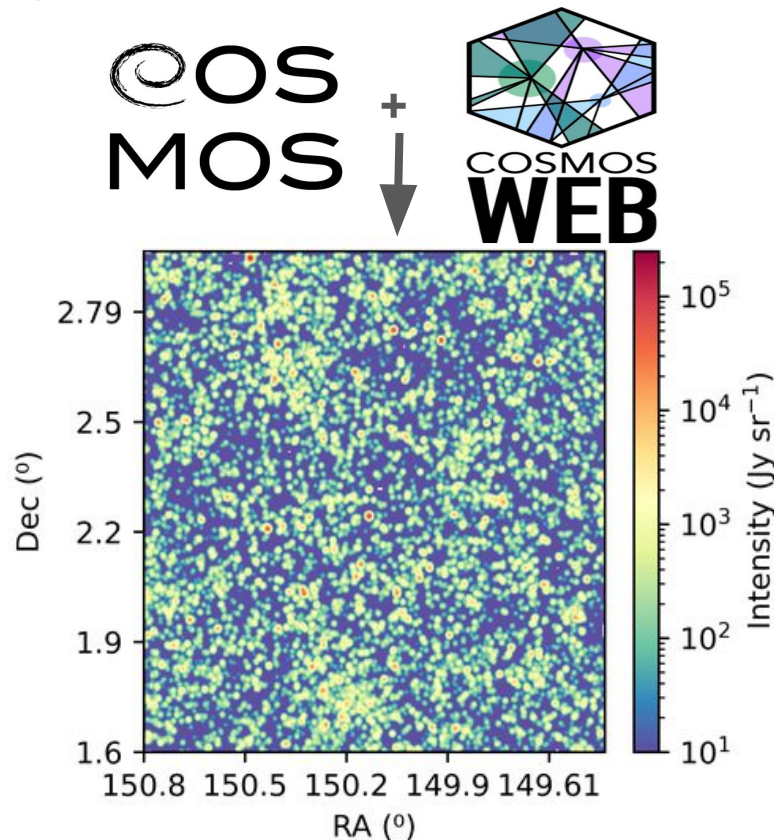




Intensity Cube Modelling: Empirical Data

Building on Clarke+24

- Sims based on COSMOS2020 data, galaxy catalogue covering 1.5deg^2 cube
- **Extrapolate** from known incompleteness; calibrated with CANDELS, COSMOS-Web
- Paint CO/[CII]/[OIII]/[CI] luminosity models onto cube at galaxy locations
- **Empirical basis to synthetic data**

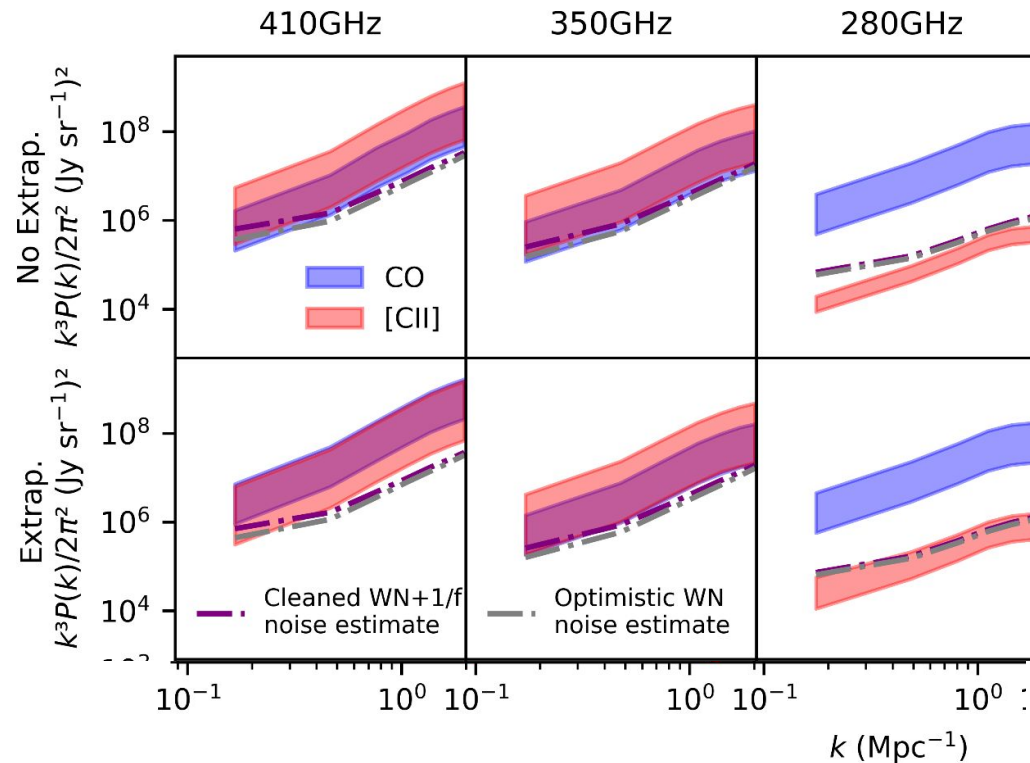




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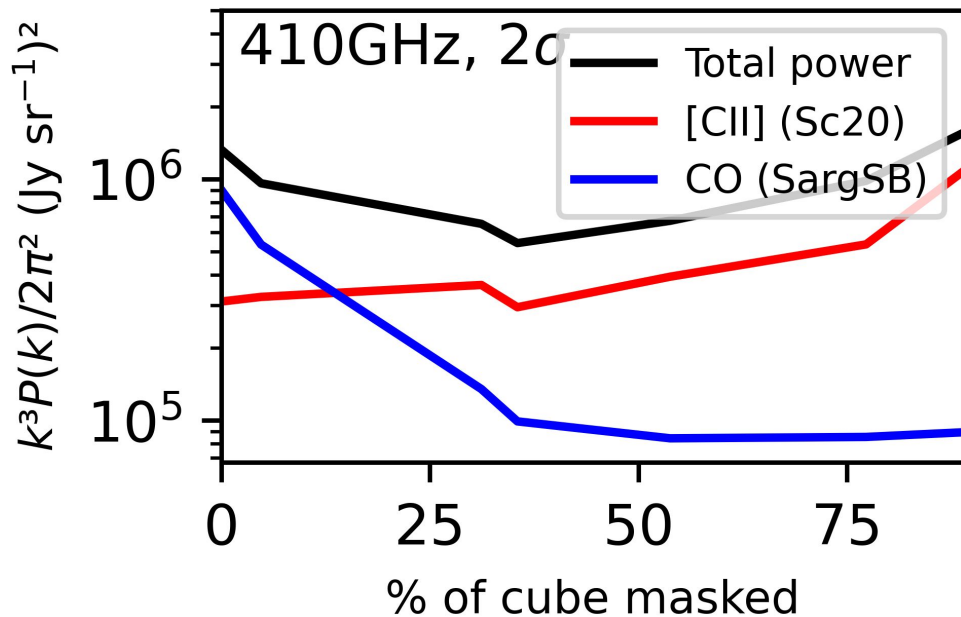




[CII] Recovery: Targeted Masking

Based on Van Cuyck+23, Karoumpis+24

- Use foreground catalogue to target brightest CO sources
- Mask in order of luminosity contribution
- Variable mask size to maximise CO removal/minimise cube masking
- More challenging if catalogue misses key CO sources
- High masking=heavy bias (K+24)

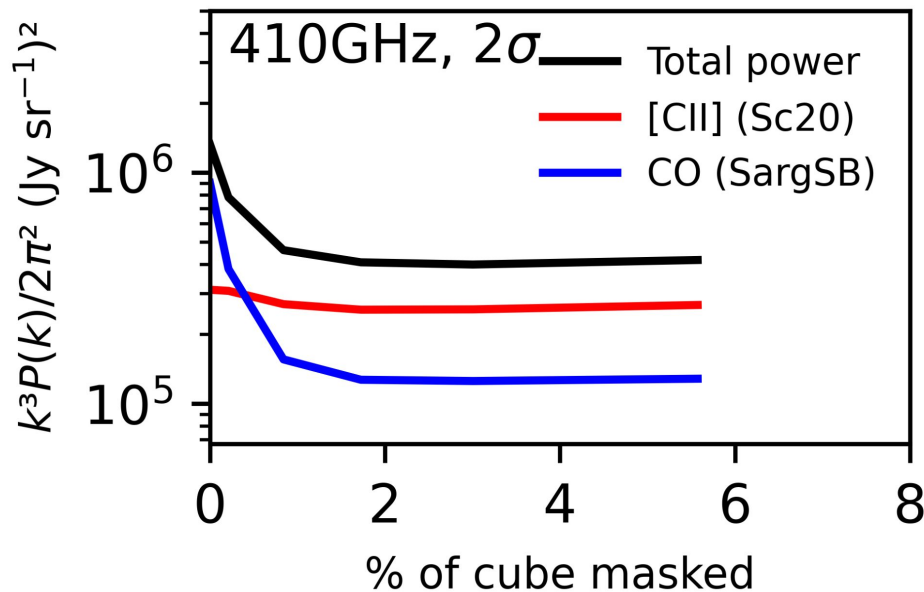




[CII] Recovery: Blind Masking

Based on work from Kanako Narita (NAOJ)

- Match x% brightest locations shared across frequency channels
- Use template matching to verify across frequency slices that voxels are CO
- Aided by presence of additional lower frequency channels (e.g. 150GHz). Lower % masked
- Noise can greatly impact, prevent usage of specific frequency channels



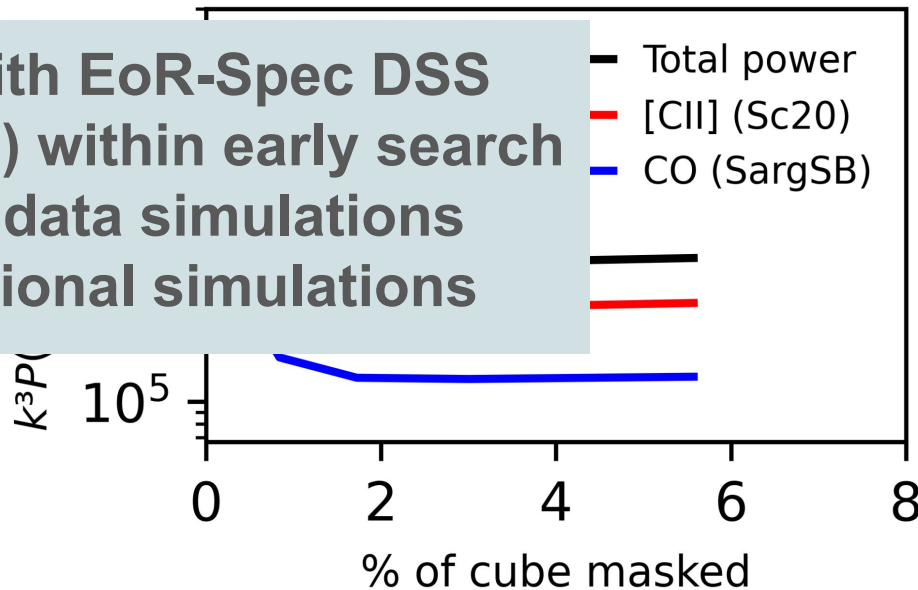


[CII] Recovery: Blind Masking

Based on work from [Clarke et al. \(2026\)](#)

- Match x% brightness across frequency
- Use template frequency slices
- Aided by presence of other frequency channels (e.g. 150GHz). Lower % masked
- Noise can greatly impact, prevent usage of specific frequency channels

[CII] recoverable with EoR-Spec DSS above 300GHz ($z < 5$) within early search params - empirical data simulations agree with conventional simulations





[CII] Recovery: Blind Masking

Testing masking effectiveness using multi-line image cubes based on COSMOS2020 for [CII] line intensity mapping at $z_{[\text{CII}]} > 3.5$

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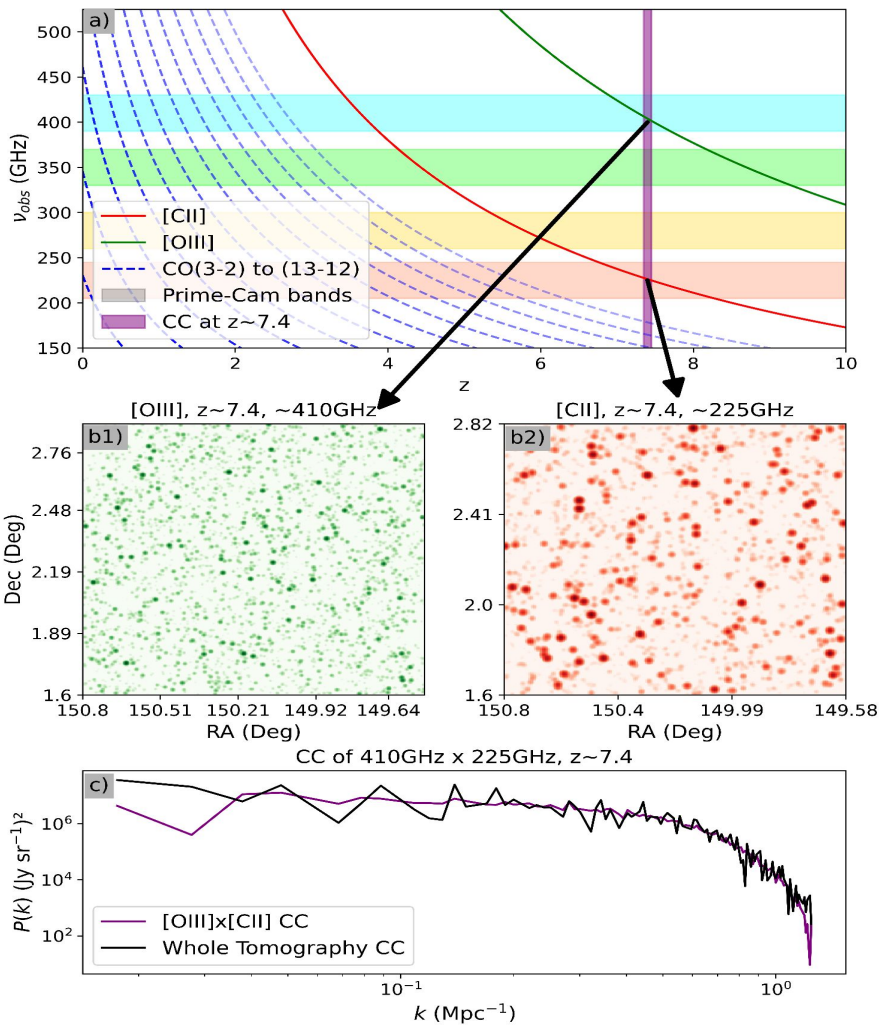
June 17, 2026

(Sub-)mm cross-correlations

Cross-correlation is less affected by these challenges - non-correlated components fall out

Past work with instruments/galaxy CCs
(Roy+24, Agrawal, Bracks, Kramer+26), etc

Line-line options in EoR-Spec (CO, [CII]x[OIII])



(Sub-)mm cross-correlations

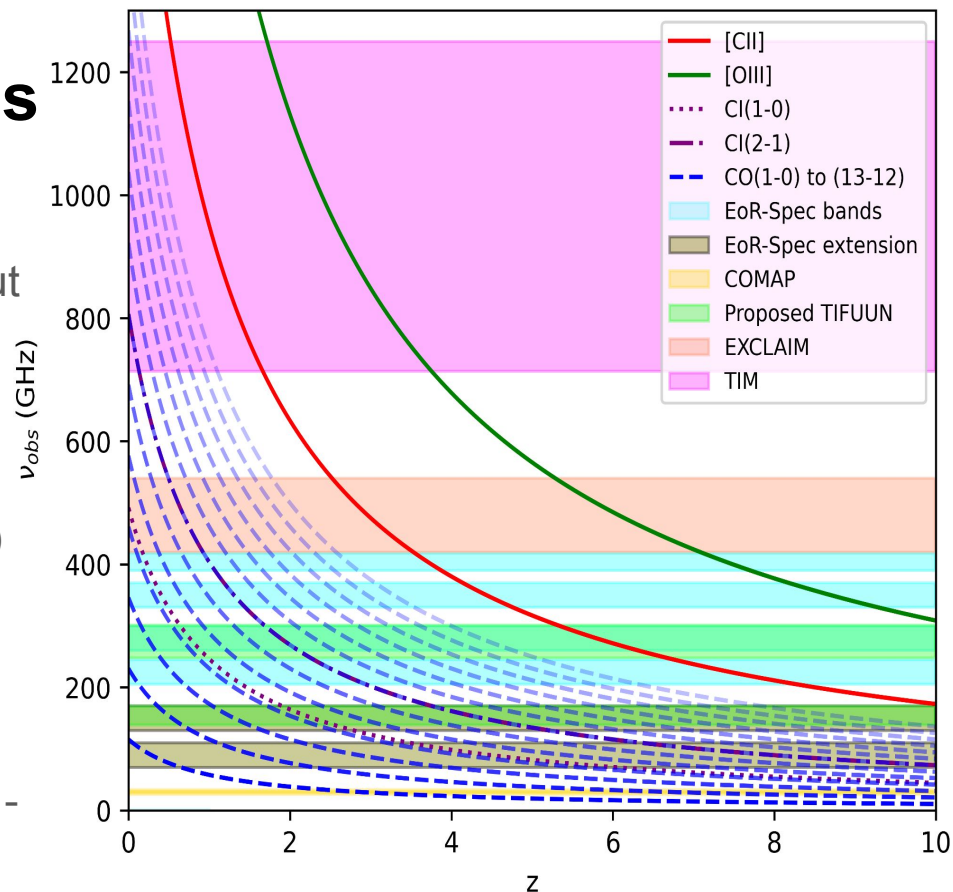
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What about **cross-instrument**
cross-correlation across sub-mm and mm?

COMAP, TIFUUN, EoR-Spec, EXCLAIM, TIM -
26-1250GHz

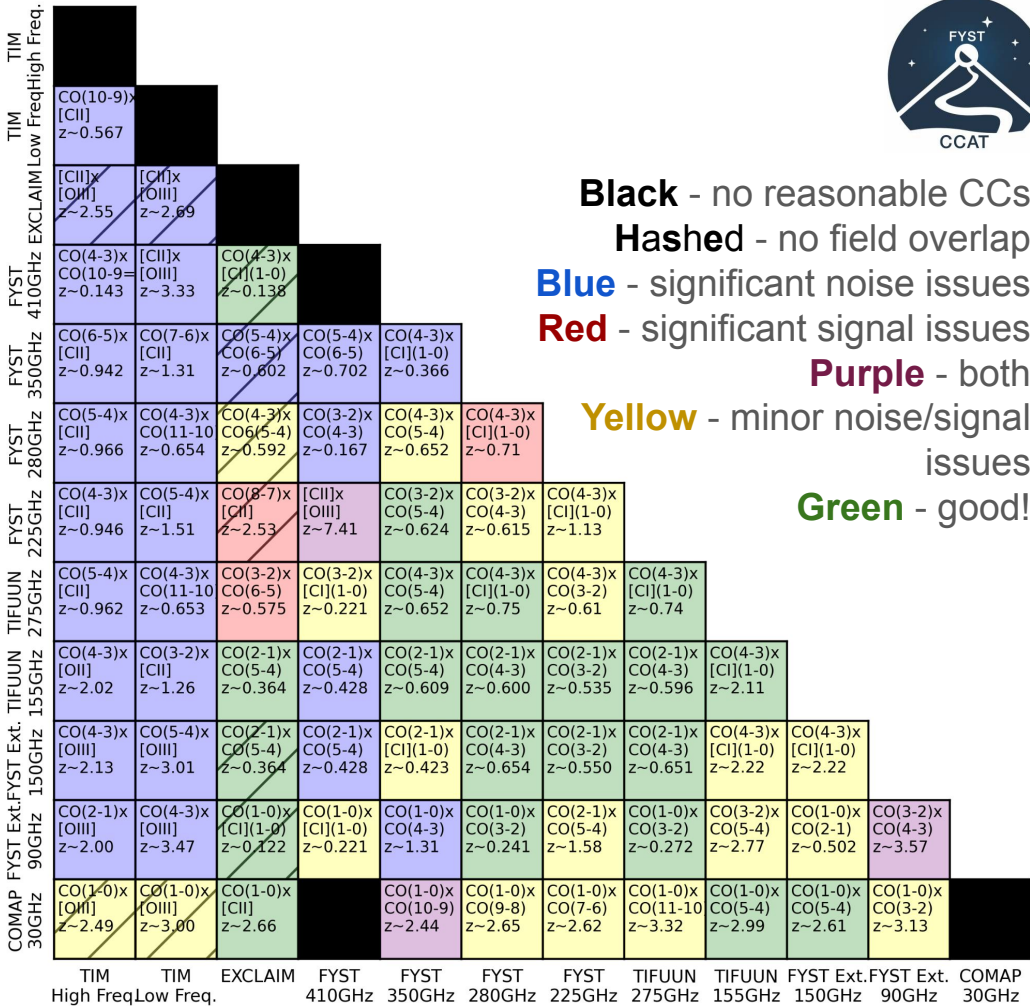


Best cross-correlations

Best per band pair -
NOT COMPREHENSIVE!!!!

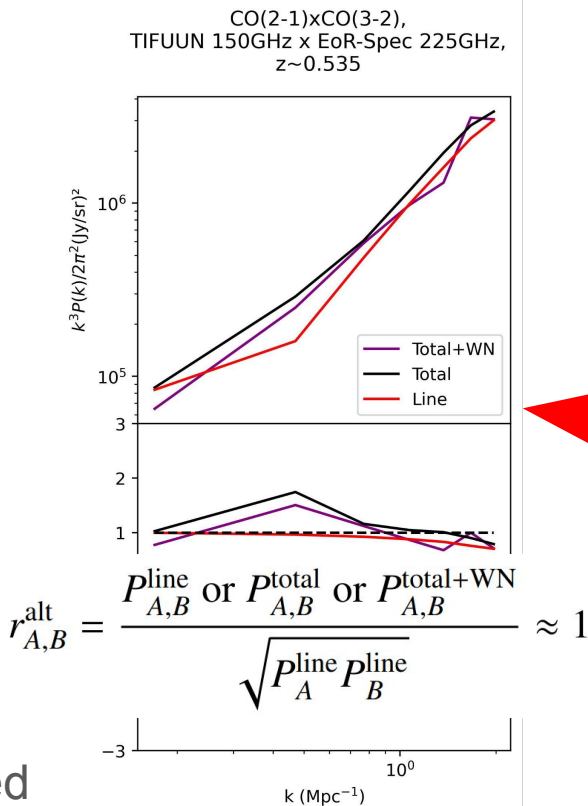


- Black - no reasonable CCs
- Hashed - no field overlap
- Blue - significant noise issues
- Red - significant signal issues
- Purple - both
- Yellow - minor noise/signal issues
- Green - good!



*modified

Best cross-correlations



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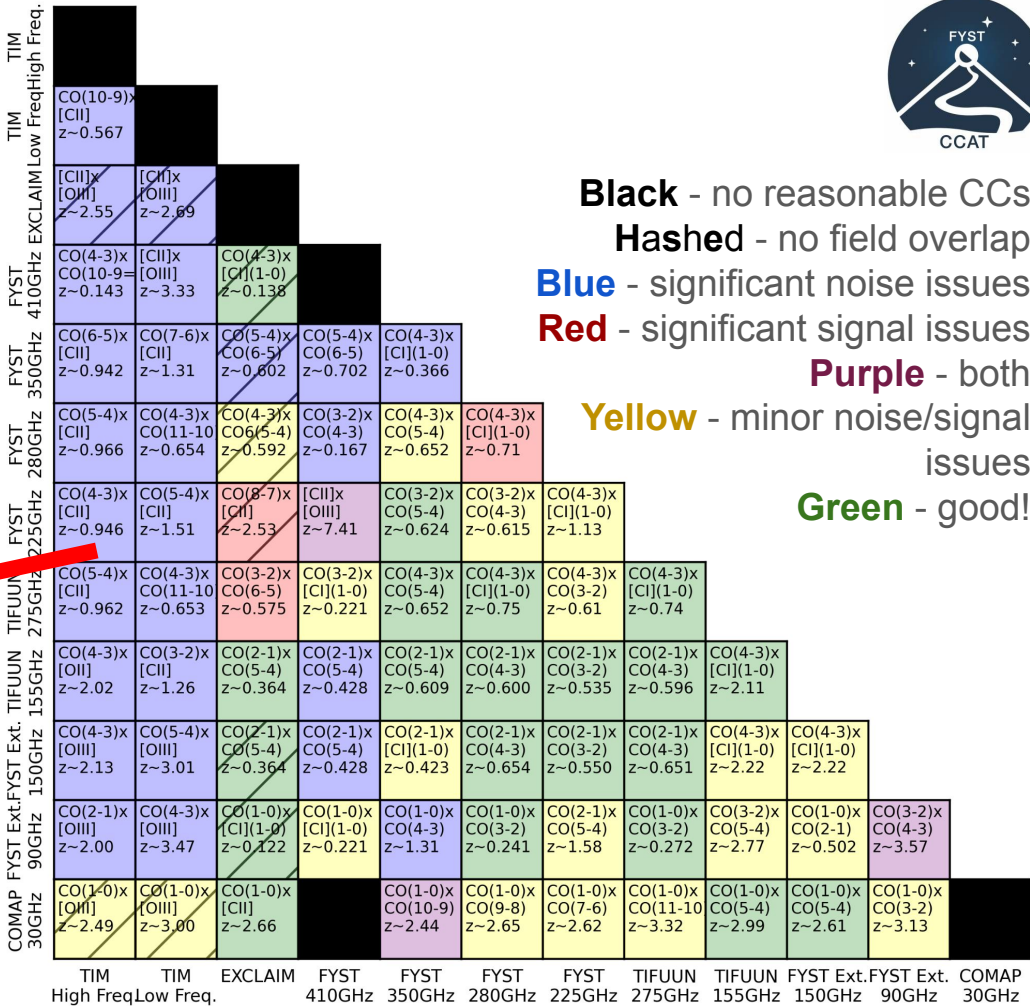
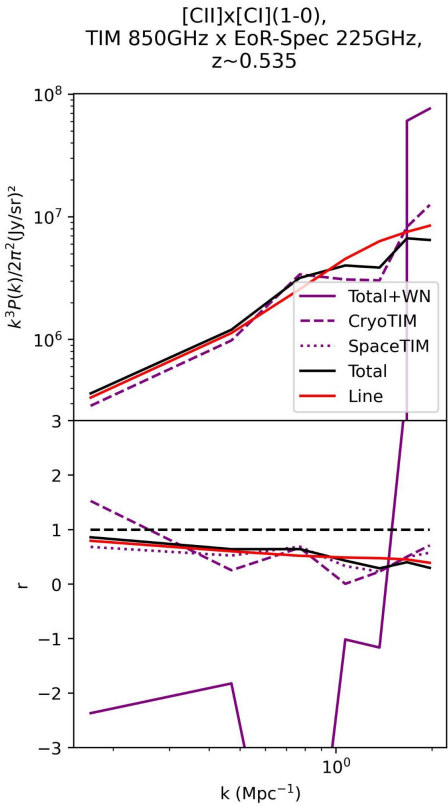
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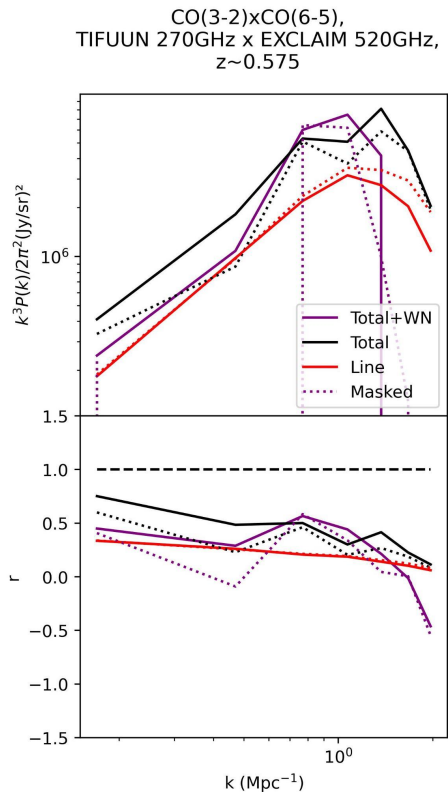
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*modified

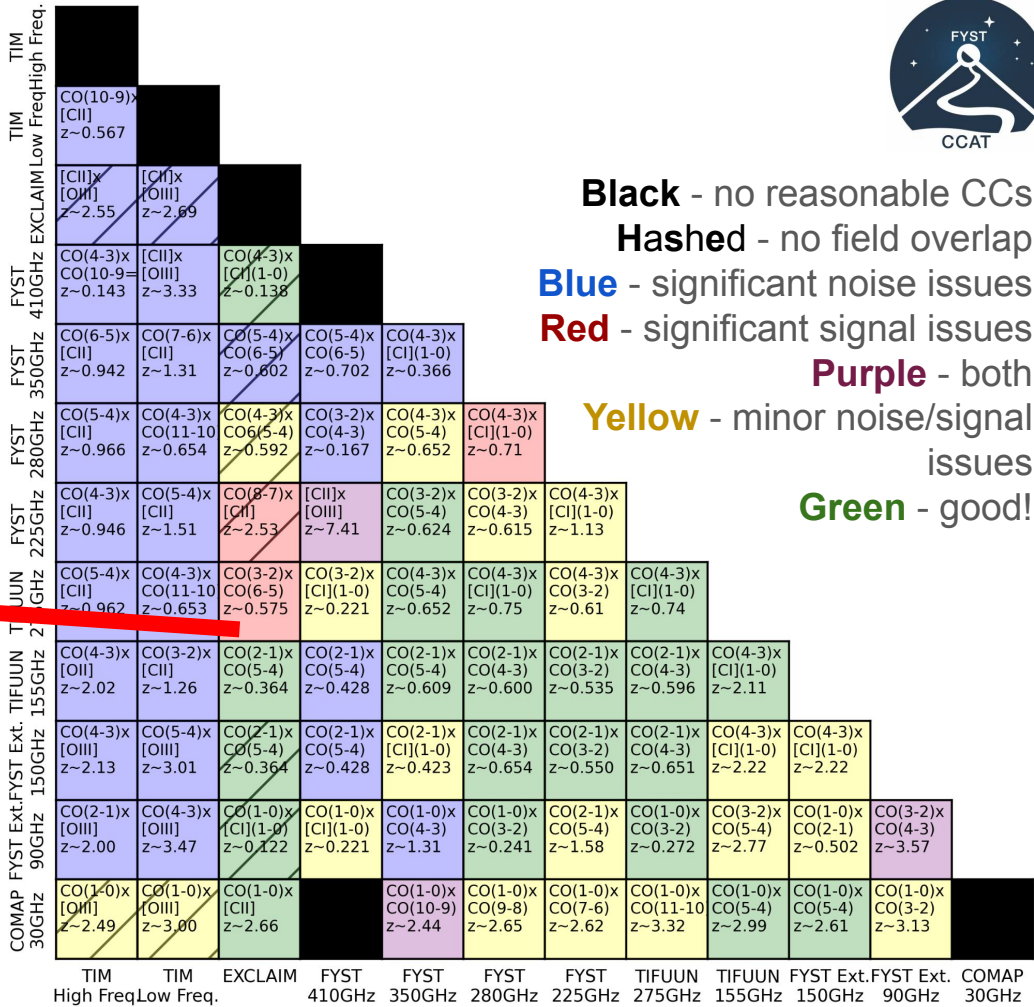
Best cross-correlations



Best cross-correlations



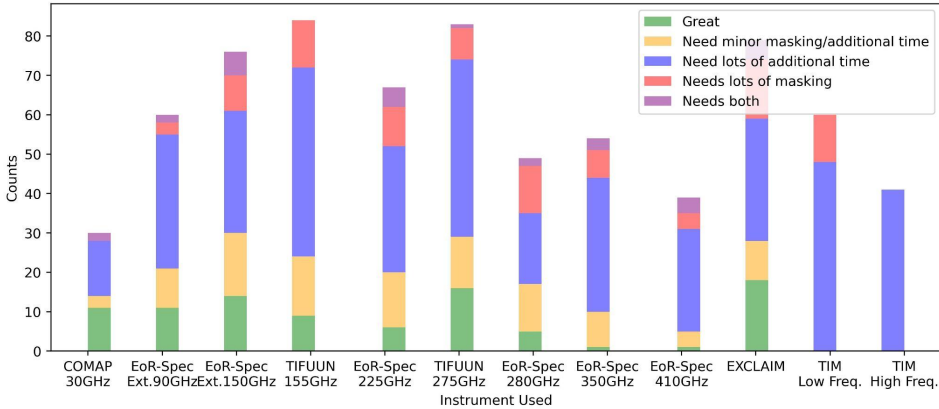
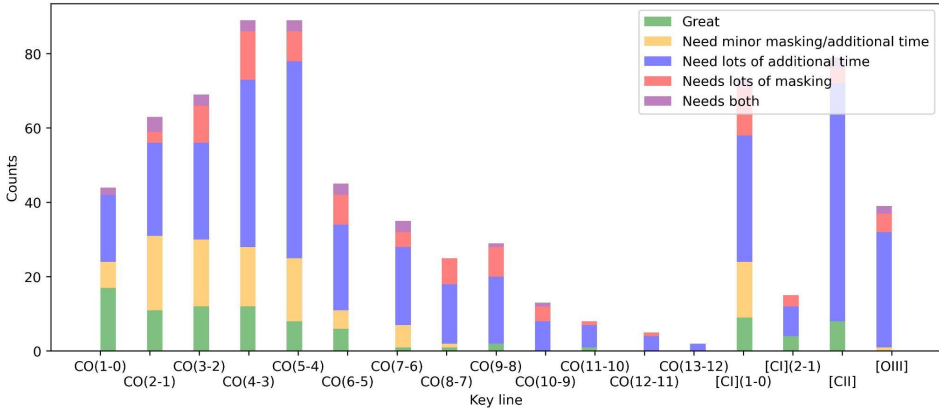
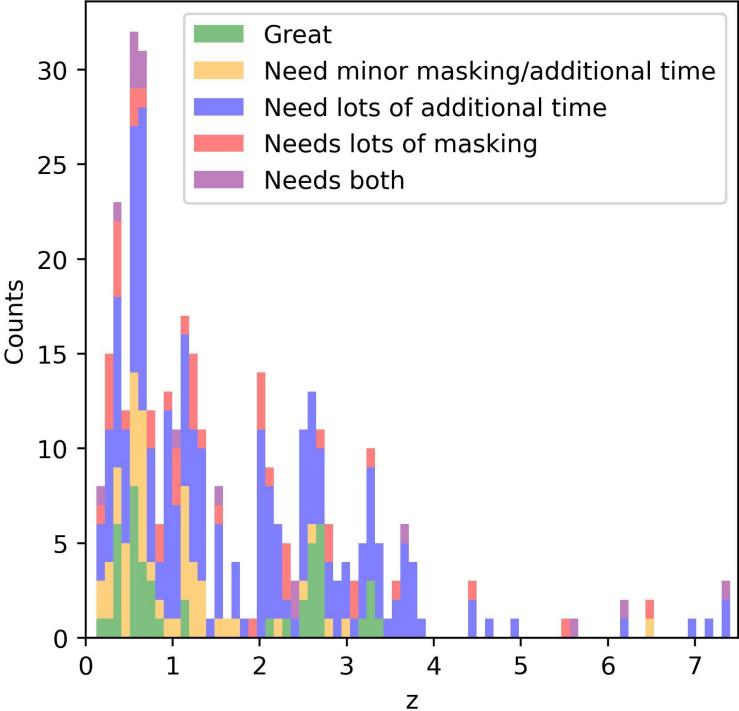
Black - no reasonable CCs
Hashed - no field overlap
Blue - significant noise issues
Red - significant signal issues
Purple - both
Yellow - minor noise/signal issues
Green - good!





CC Distribution

Stacked histograms: see trends across CCs

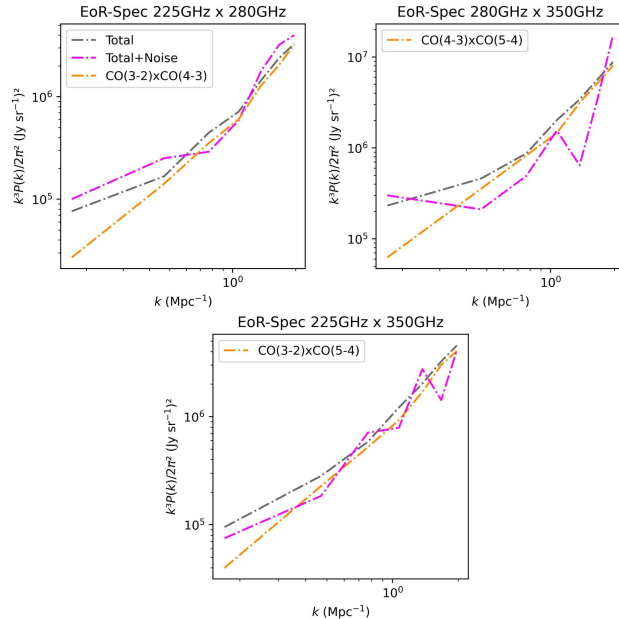


Cross-correlation triplet possibilities

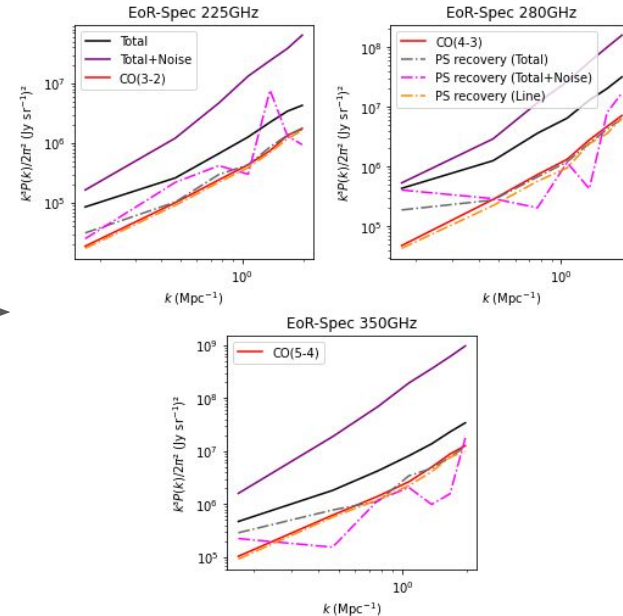
Three cross-correlations can recover auto-spectra
(Beane+19, McBride+Liu 2023). Noise limited. Best at $z < 1$

$$P_{i,i} = (\langle I_i \rangle b_i)^2 P_{\text{lin}} = \frac{r_{j,k}}{r_{i,j} r_{k,i}} \frac{P_{i,j} P_{k,i}}{P_{j,k}} \\ \equiv R_{i,j,k} P_{i,j,k}$$

Cross-spectra



Auto-spectra



→
($z \sim 0.61$)

Conclusions

- Masking for EoR-Spec makes [CII] recovery possible for $>300\text{GHz}$ ($z_{\text{[CII]}} < 5$)
- Sub-mm line CC is challenging, but feasible **and helpful** for multiple cases
 - Noise is often limiting factor for higher freq.
 - Lack of shared field footprint limits applicability AT PRESENT
- Current CCs provides case for next-gen field share - **should consider for future!**

Graduating early next year - looking for postdocs, interested in continuing LIM work!

<https://orcid.org/0009-0006-6570-5804>

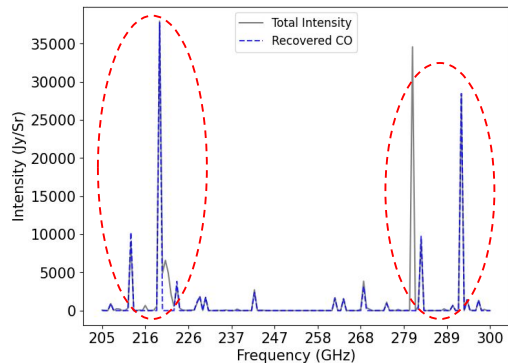
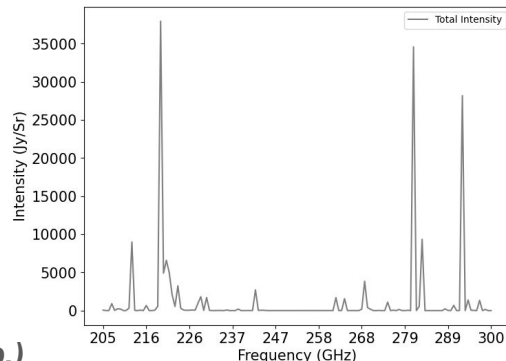
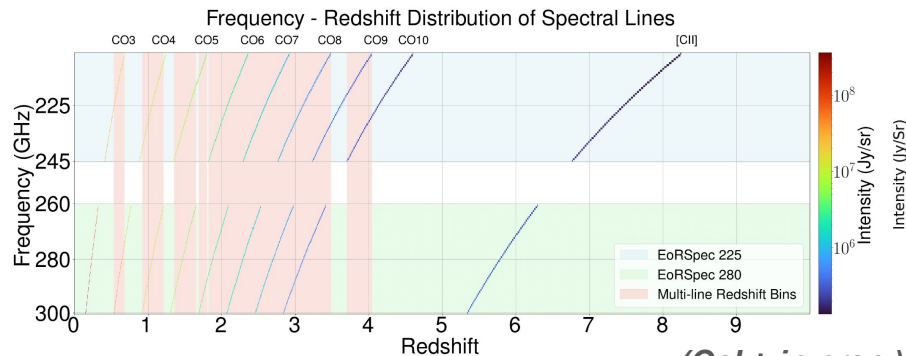
<https://ccat.uni-koeln.de/team/jonathan-clarke/>

jclarke@ph1.uni-koeln.de

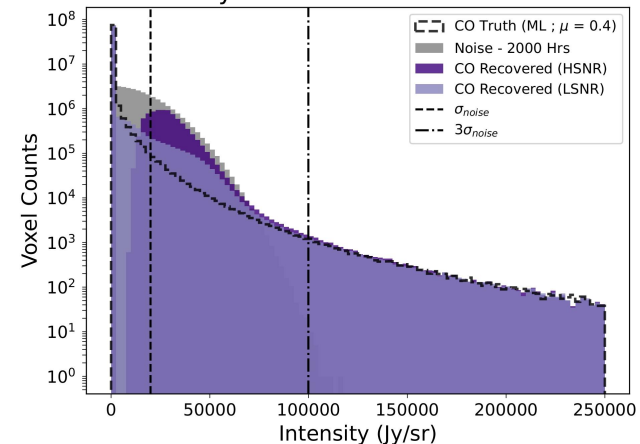


Backup slides

CO Cleaning: Line deconfusion



Voxel Intensity Distribution - Baseline Noise Tests (*Oak+ in prep.*)



- <300 GHz, CO highly dominates [CII] and arises from large no. of sources: harder to mask
- Line deconfusion is more effective: subtracting repeating spectral structure by fitting templates (*Cheng+20*)
- Recovery can be further enhanced by using ancillary foreground catalog

Tejas Oak
PhD at Bonn



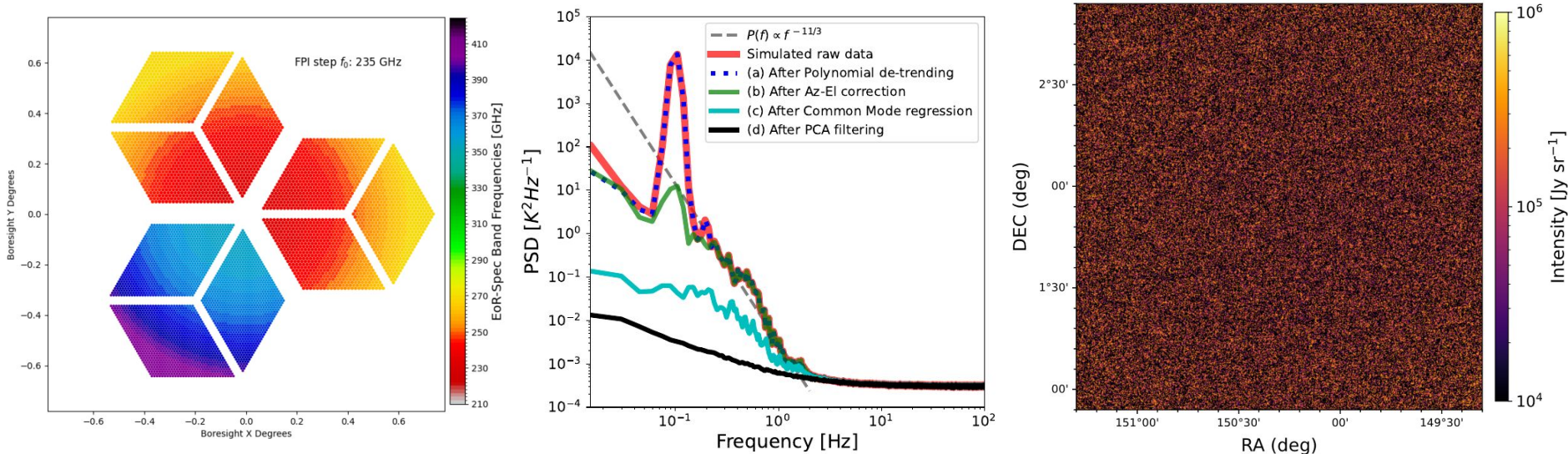
Effect of correlated atmospheric noise

Dev+26 ([arxiv:2607.20404](https://arxiv.org/abs/2607.20404))

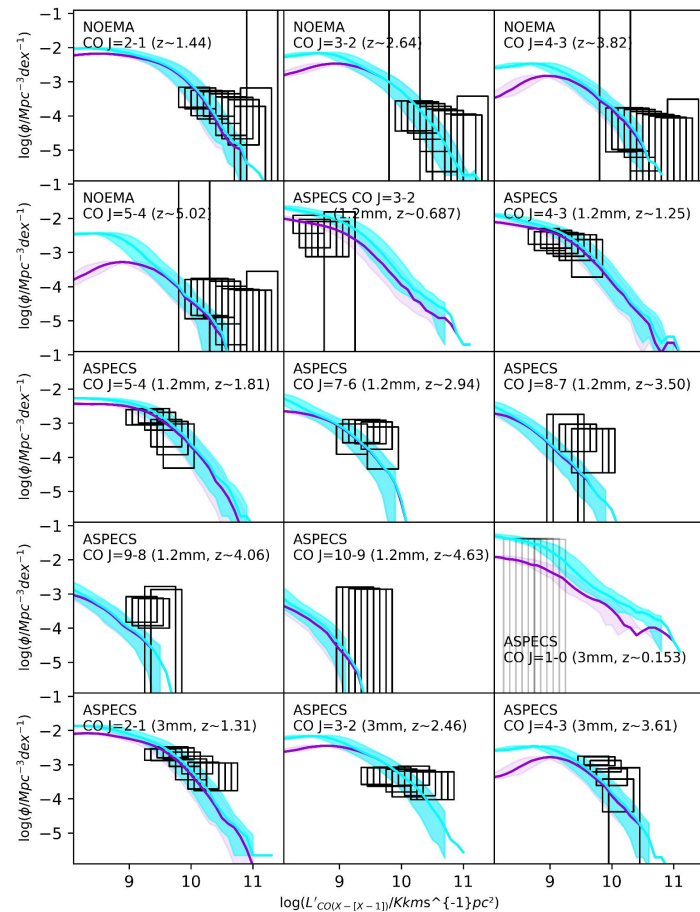
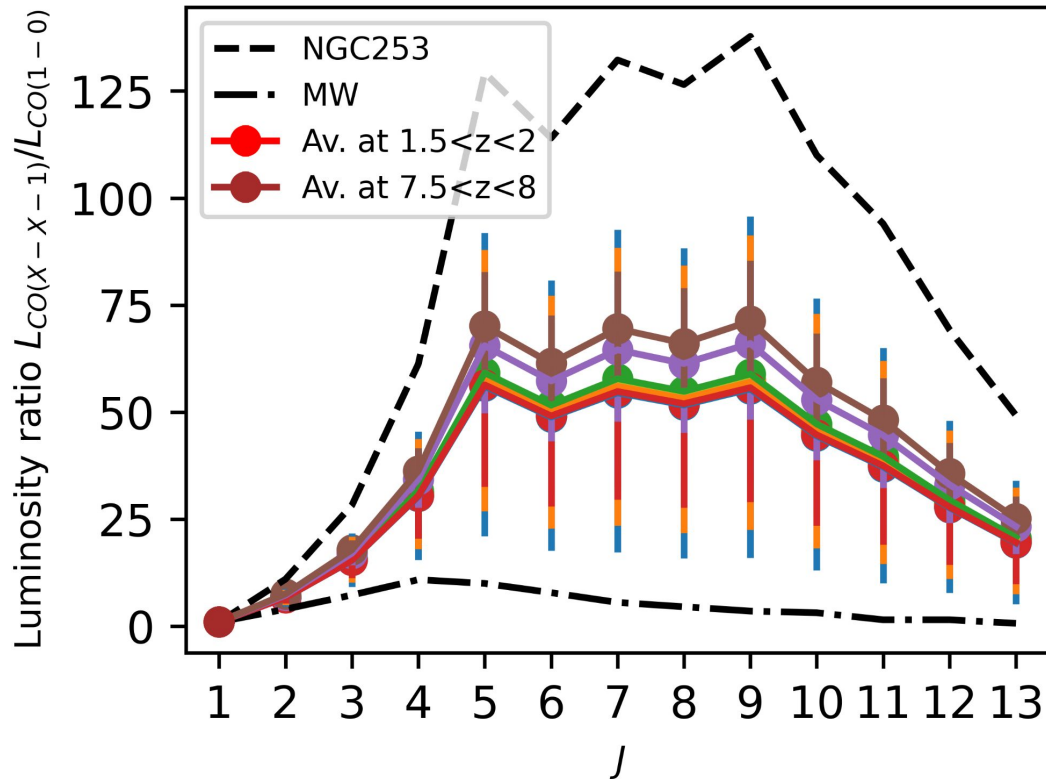
Soon postdoc at Cornell!!!



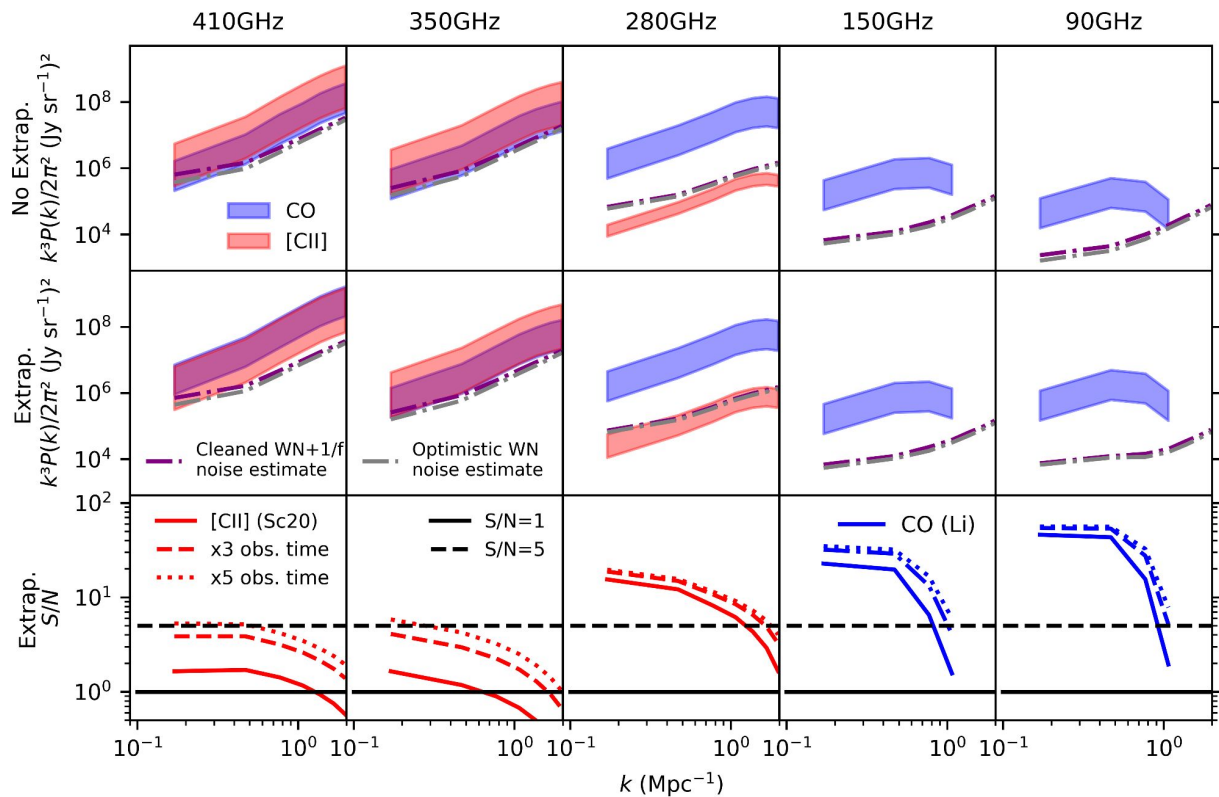
- Simulated realistic EoR-Spec detector timestreams with all noise terms → mock dataset
- Tested effectiveness of the data reduction pipeline in removing correlated $1/f$ noise
- Created maps using the reduction pipeline on mock dataset → Can reach white-noise level
- Effect of the filtering pipeline on the LIM signal measurement → Transfer Function analysis



CO Modelling within COSMOS2020

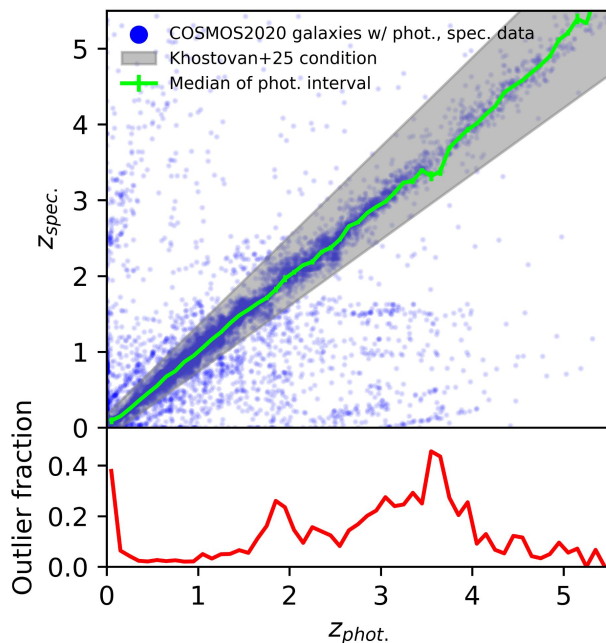


COSMOS2020 signal predictions

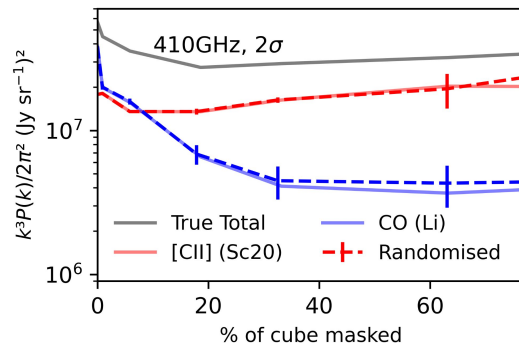


Other masking

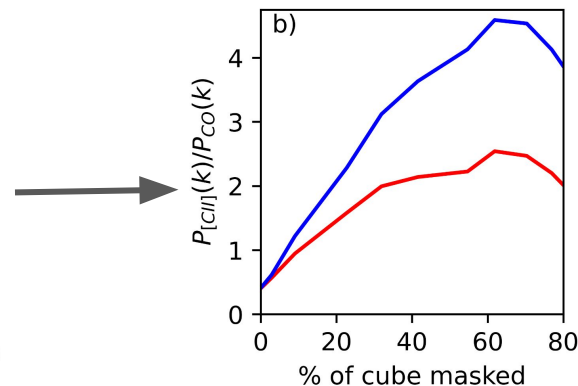
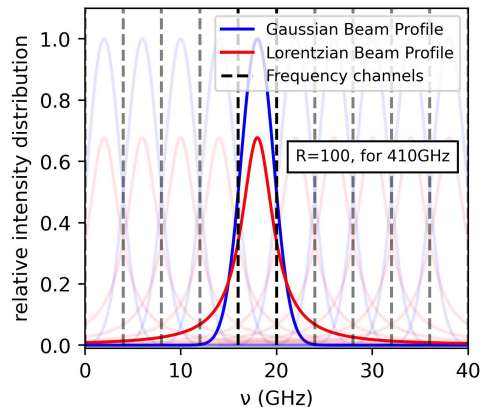
Phot. vs spec. Is difficult in certain redshift ranges



Catalogue uncertainty not an issue



Beam size can affect masking

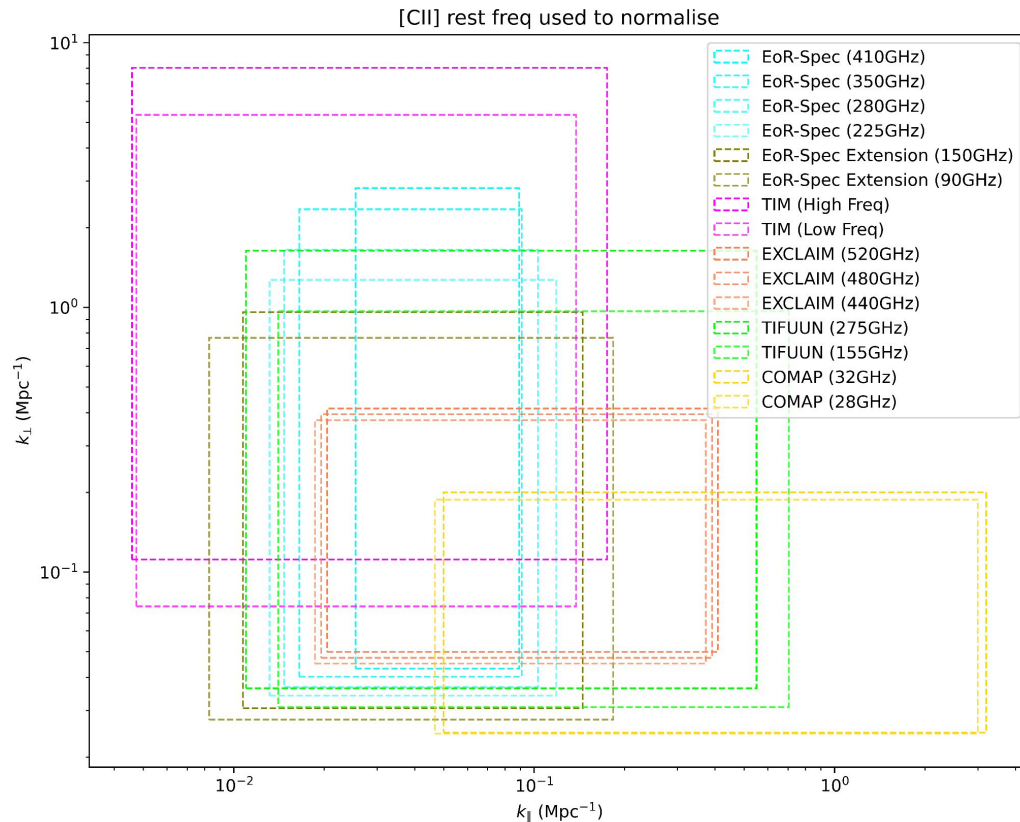


Available k modes

$k_{\min}$, $k_{\max}$ depend on
shared area coverage,
beam width, and
frequency channel range

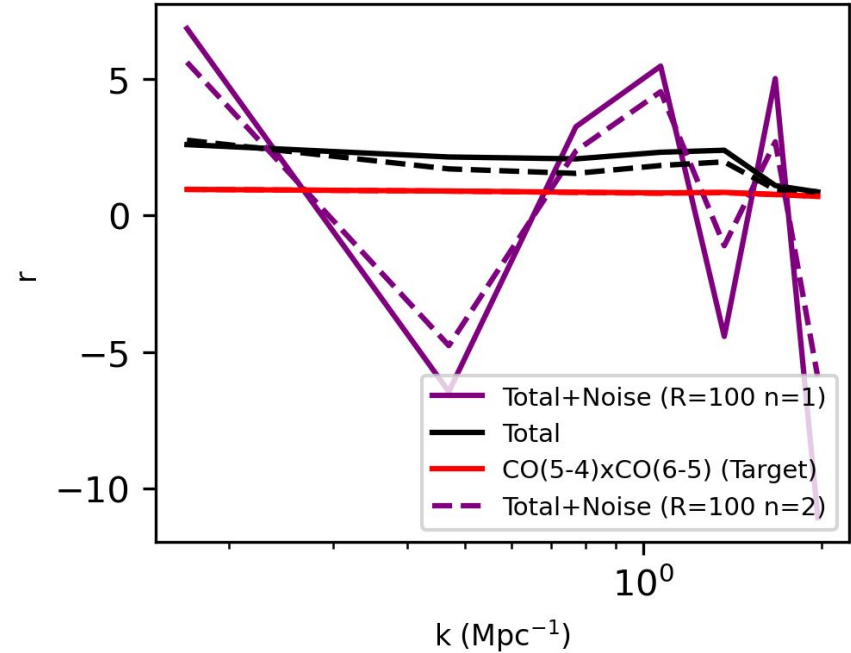
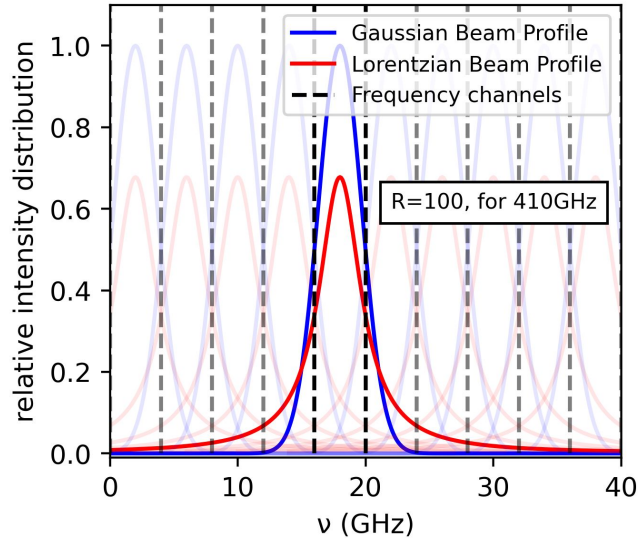
For a given redshift range,
instrument coverage vastly
differs

For COMAP/EXCLAIM,
need to rely on largest k
modes



Cross-correlation - instrument improvement

Signal overlap between channels can give some contribution towards “total” CC



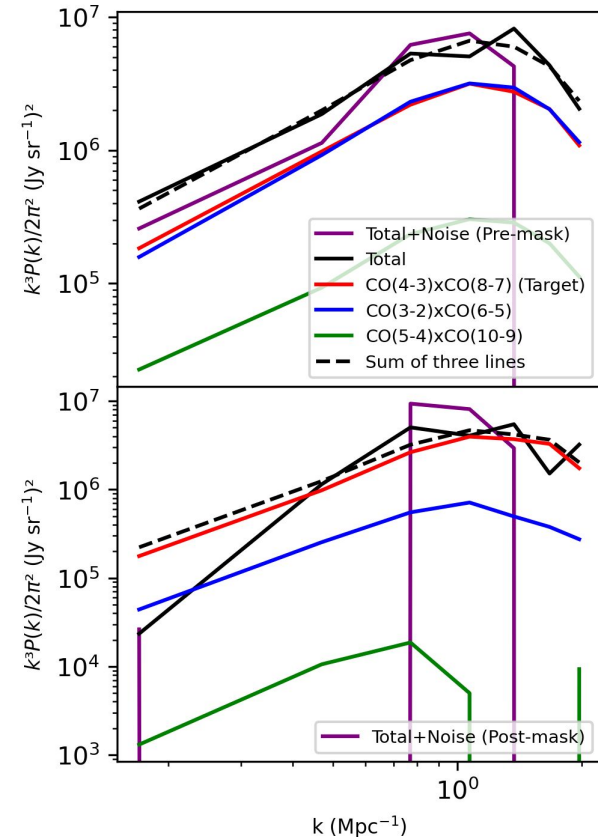
Cross-correlation - masking

EXCLAIM x TIFUUN

Total cross-correlation within a given frequency range includes two correlations

Masking key contributors to one line greatly reduces influence - works even if masking sample is incomplete!

Need to be VERY careful around volume normalisations



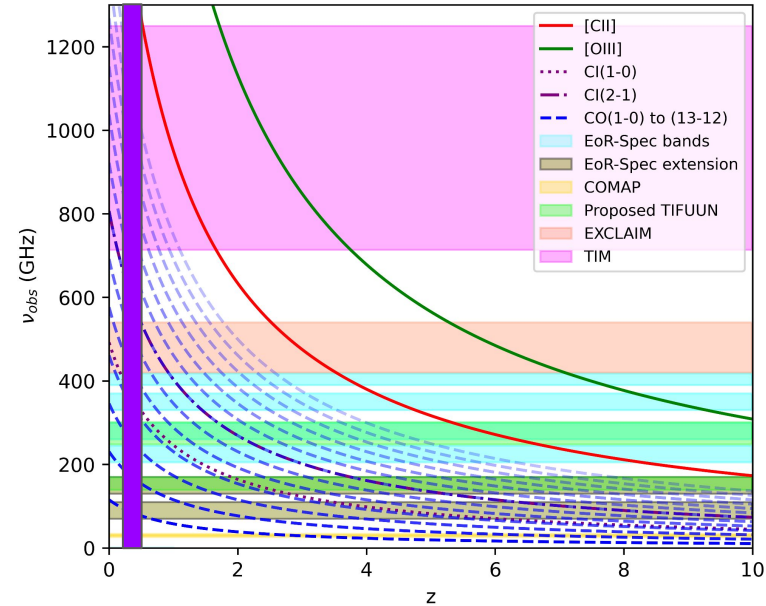
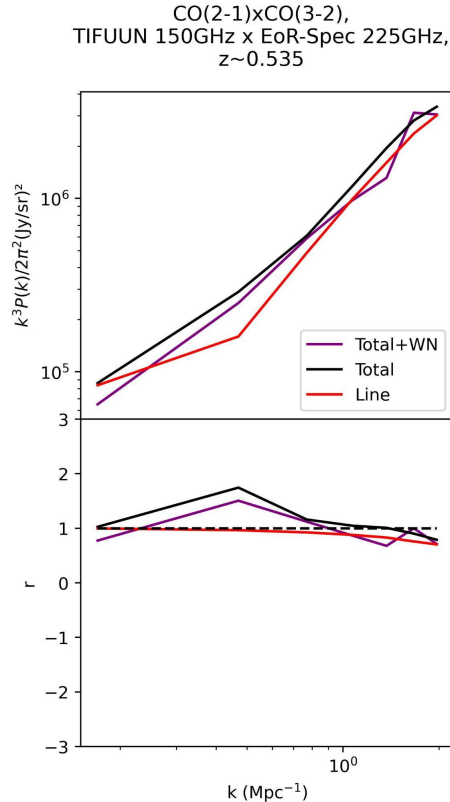
CC Examples

$$r_{A,B} = \frac{P_{A,B}^{\text{line}} \text{ or } P_{A,B}^{\text{total}} \text{ or } P_{A,B}^{\text{total+WN}}}{\sqrt{P_A^{\text{line}} P_B^{\text{line}}}} \approx 1$$

Good CC!

Observed CC
(total+WN, purple)
aligns with target line
within factor 2 for all k
modes (using
 $\Delta k = 0.3 \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$)

Best mostly at $z < 1$



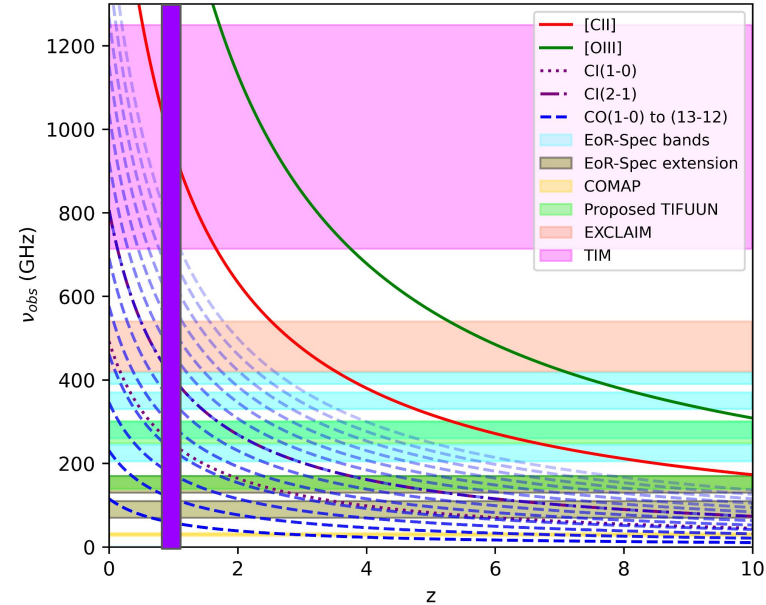
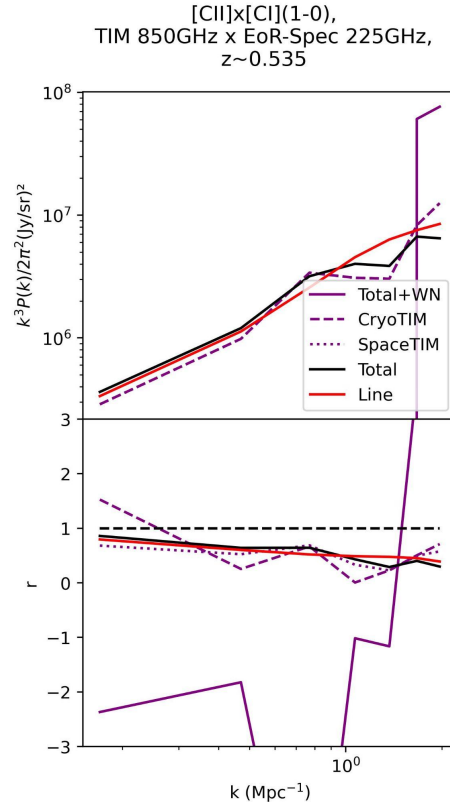
CC Examples

$$r_{A,B} = \frac{P_{A,B}^{\text{line}} \text{ or } P_{A,B}^{\text{total}} \text{ or } P_{A,B}^{\text{total+WN}}}{\sqrt{P_A^{\text{line}} P_B^{\text{line}}}} \approx 1$$

Noise issues!

TIM, higher frequency
EoR-Spec, often need
more effective
observing time to better
align

Also problematic for
weaker lines with other
instruments



(modelling SpaceTIM - Agrawal+26)

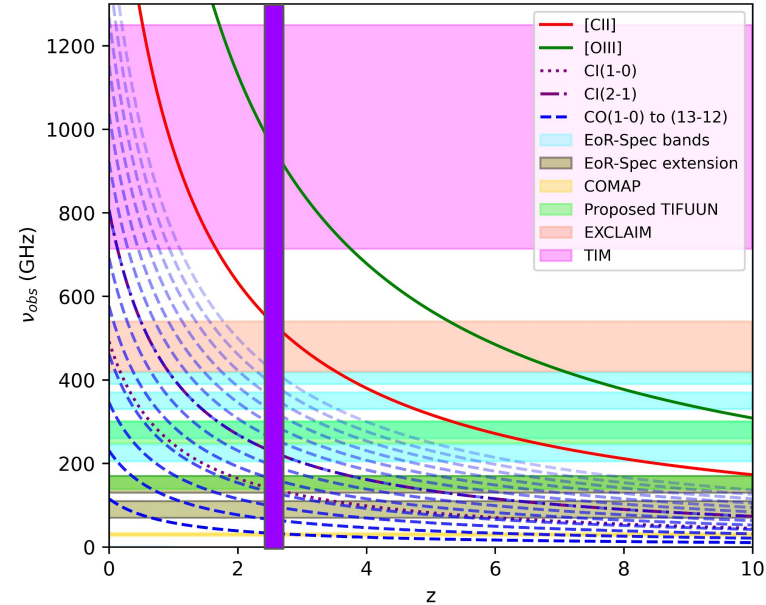
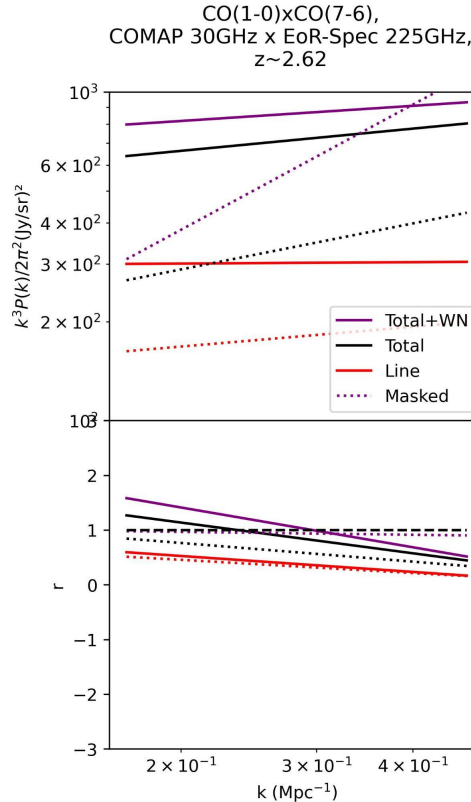
CC Examples

$$r_{A,B} = \frac{P_{A,B}^{\text{line}} \text{ or } P_{A,B}^{\text{total}} \text{ or } P_{A,B}^{\text{total+WN}}}{\sqrt{P_A^{\text{line}} P_B^{\text{line}}}} \approx 1$$

Signal issues!

Other cross-correlations existing in same freq. range, or signal leakage, mean key line doesn't dominate

Masking techniques, when limited, help



(masking interlopers in 225GHz band)