

The Extragalactic Background Light and Prospects for CTA



*Fermi-LAT collab. 2018, Science,
362, 1031*

Desai+2019, ApJL, 874,7

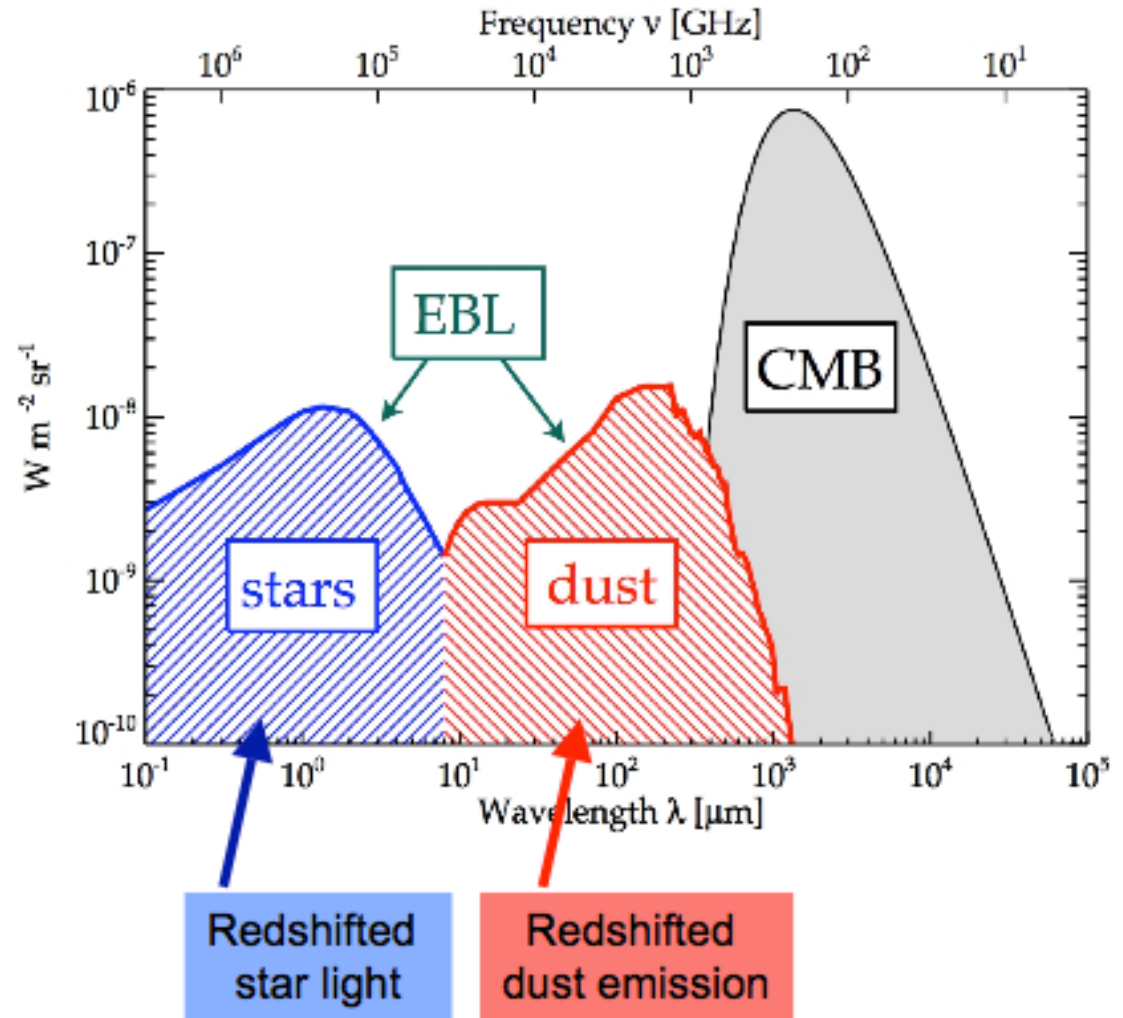
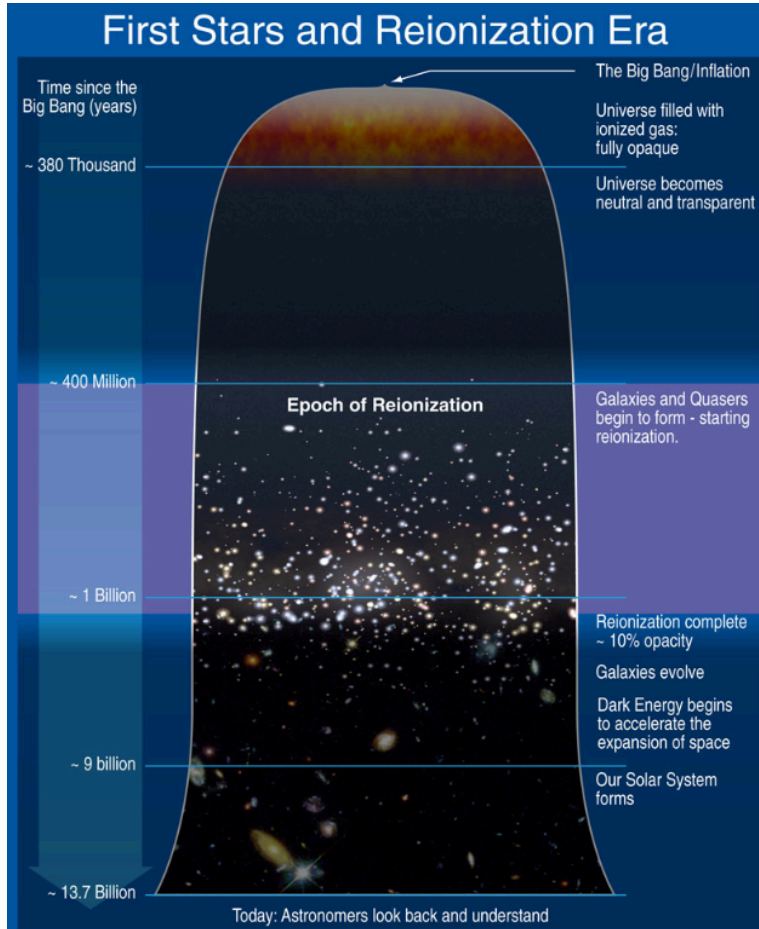
Domínguez+19, ApJ, 885, 137

Marco Ajello

[Clemson University]

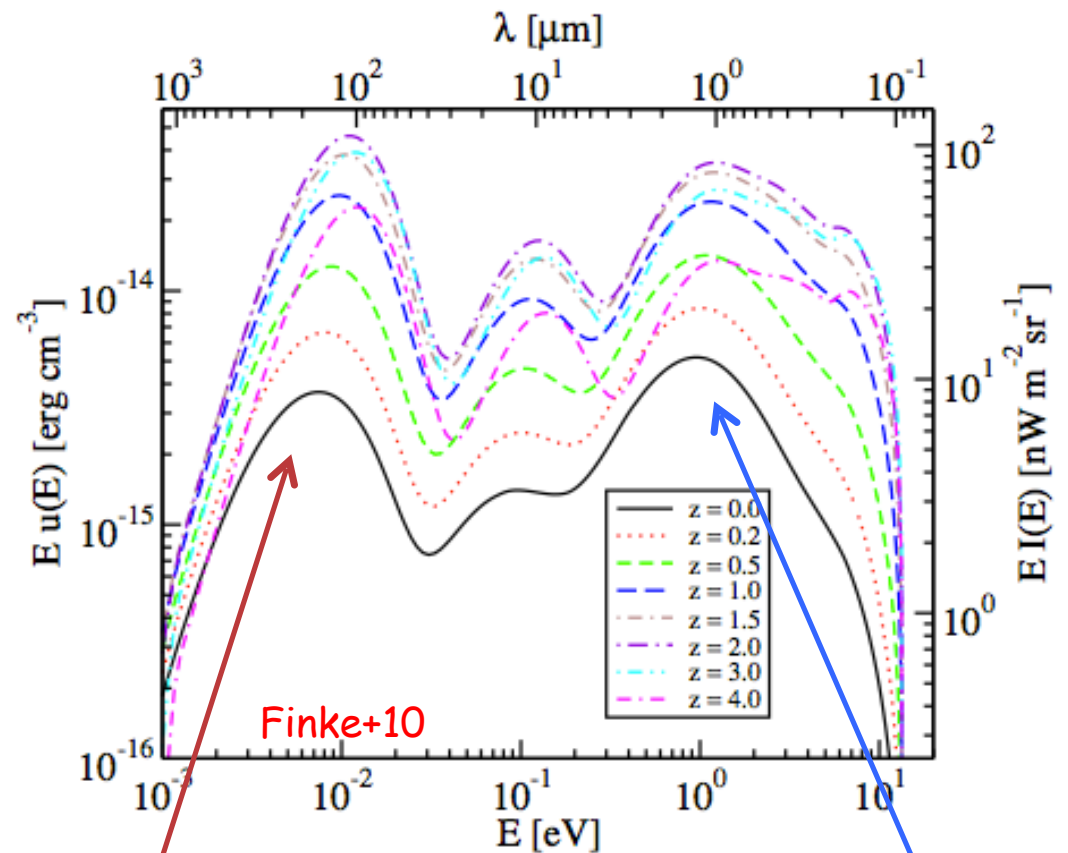
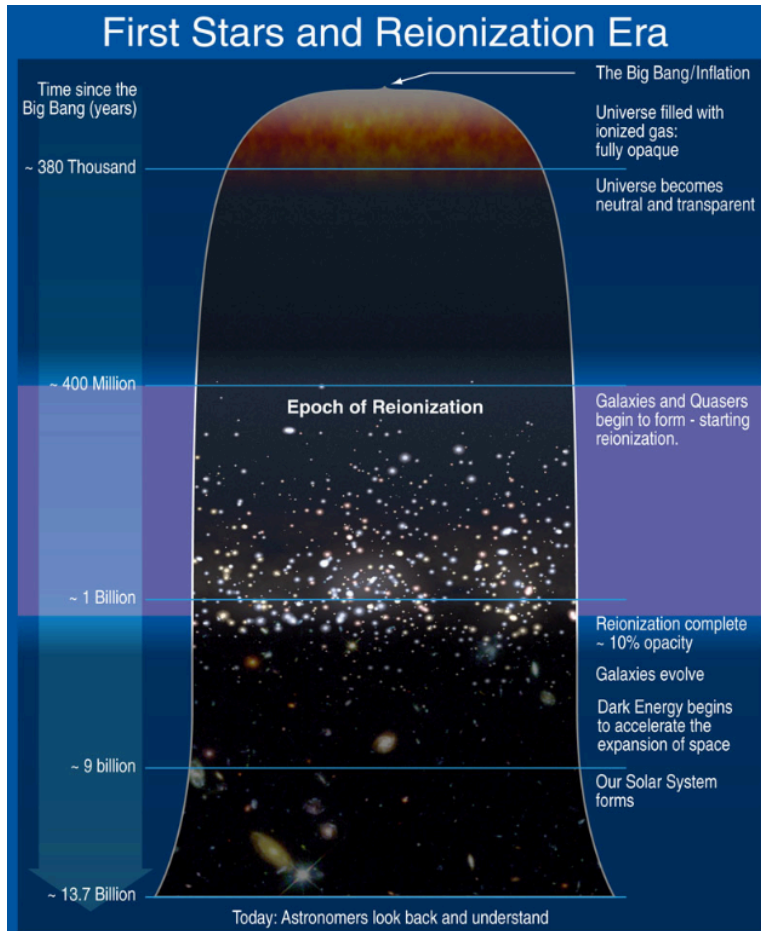


The Extragalactic Background Light



- ->constraints on galaxy evolution, star formation activity, dust extinction processes
- ->understanding cosmic structure formation and evolution

The Extragalactic Background Light



AGN/star light
reprocessed by dust

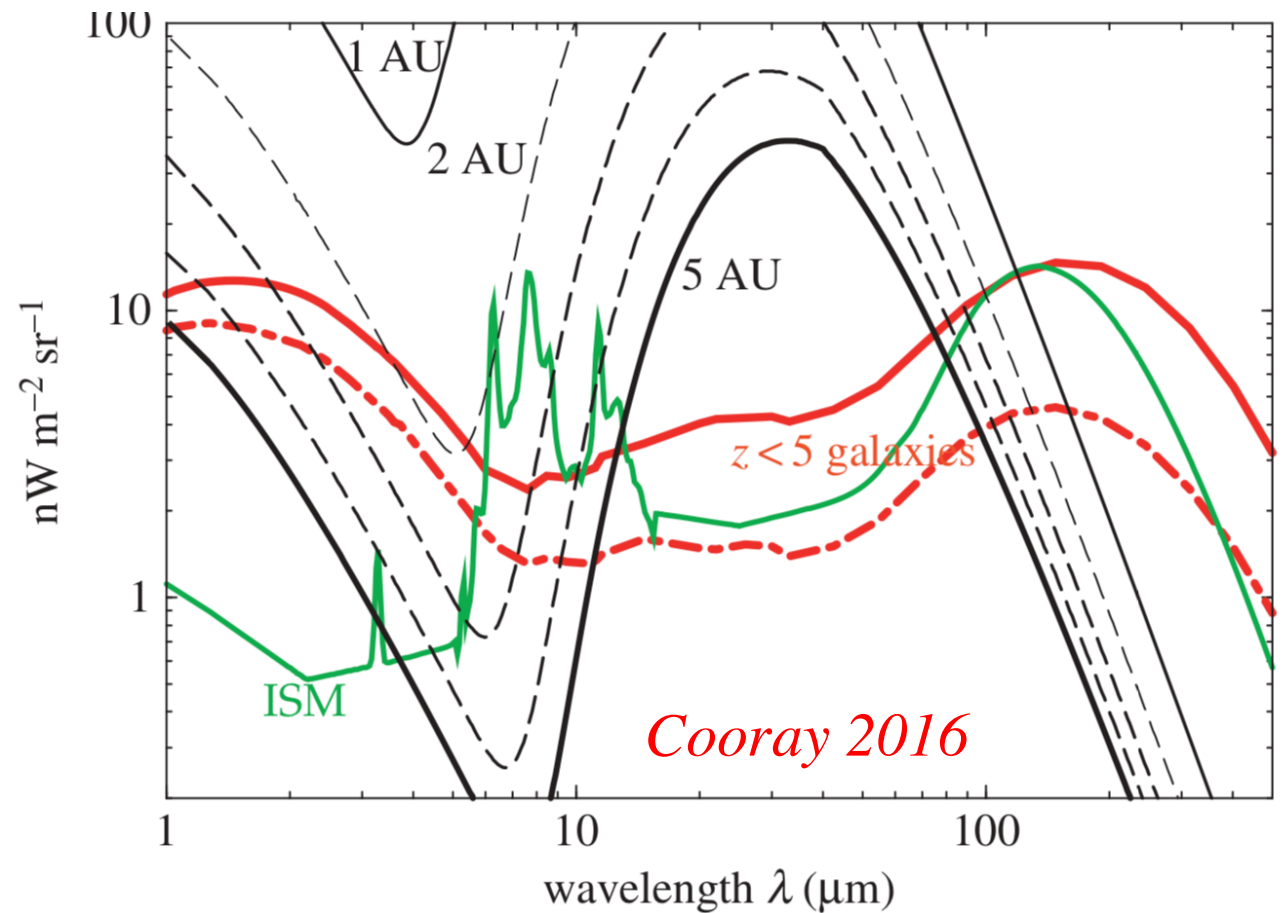
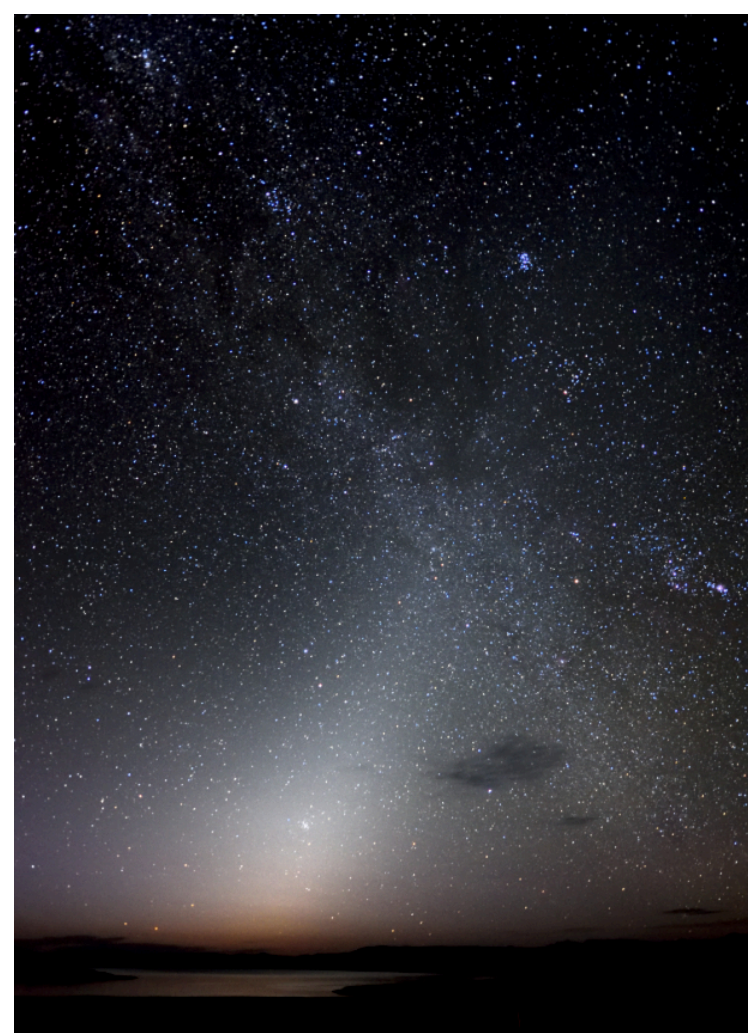
Light emitted by stars
and AGN

- ->constraints on galaxy evolution, star formation activity, dust extinction processes
- ->understanding cosmic structure formation and evolution



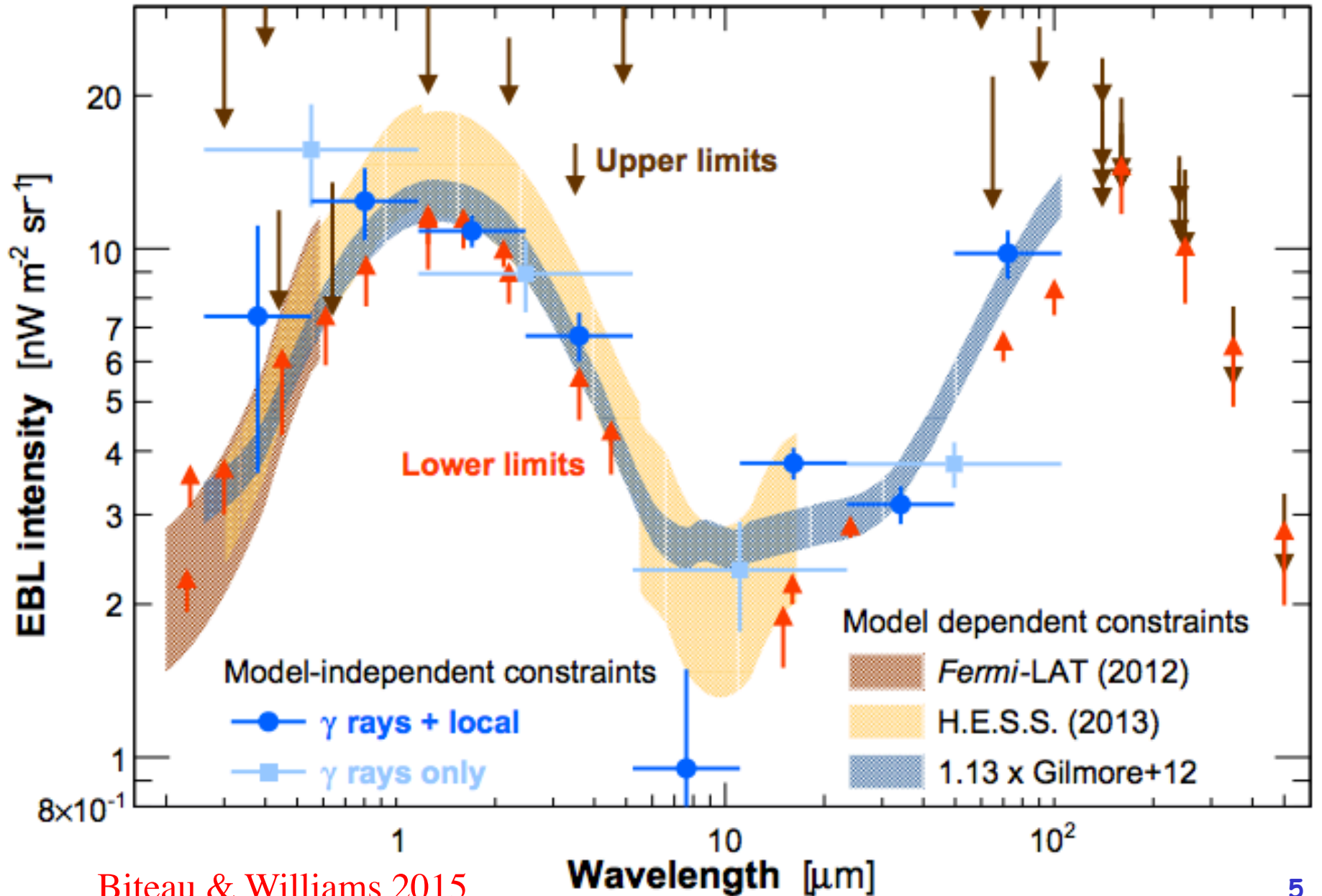
Bright foregrounds

- Zodiacal light and our Galaxy are a hindrance for EBL direct measurement



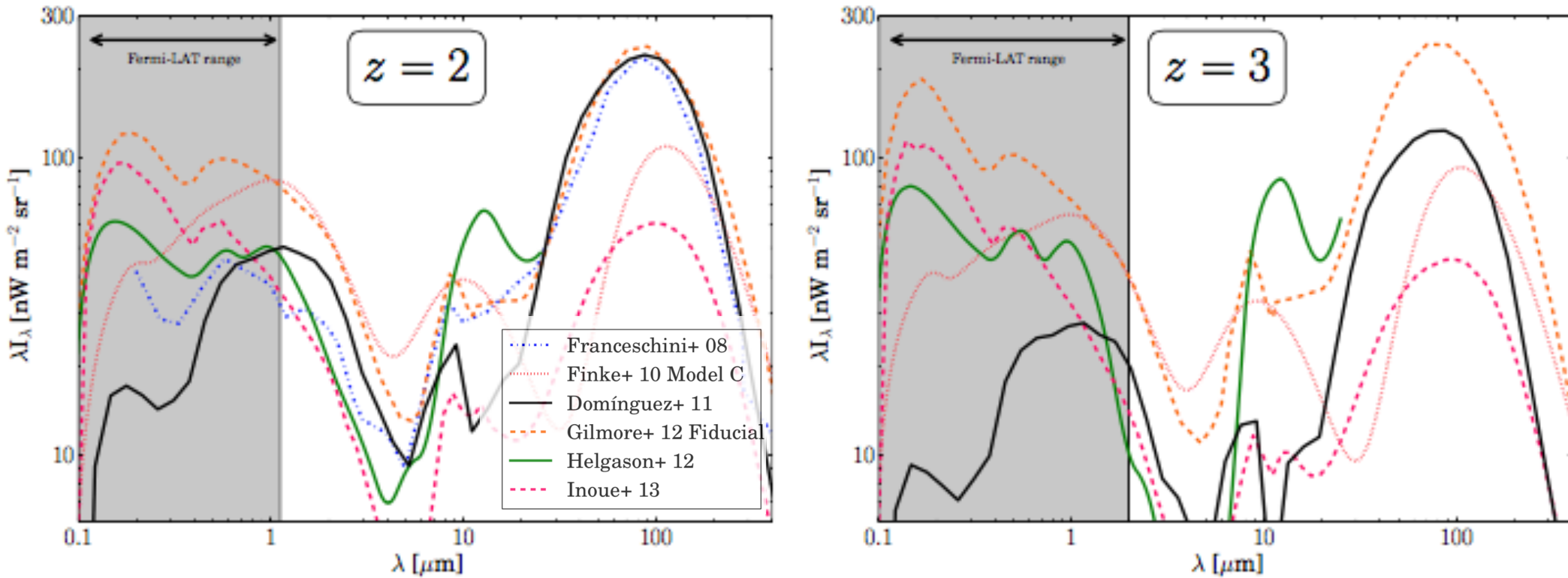


EBL Measurements





Reality Check

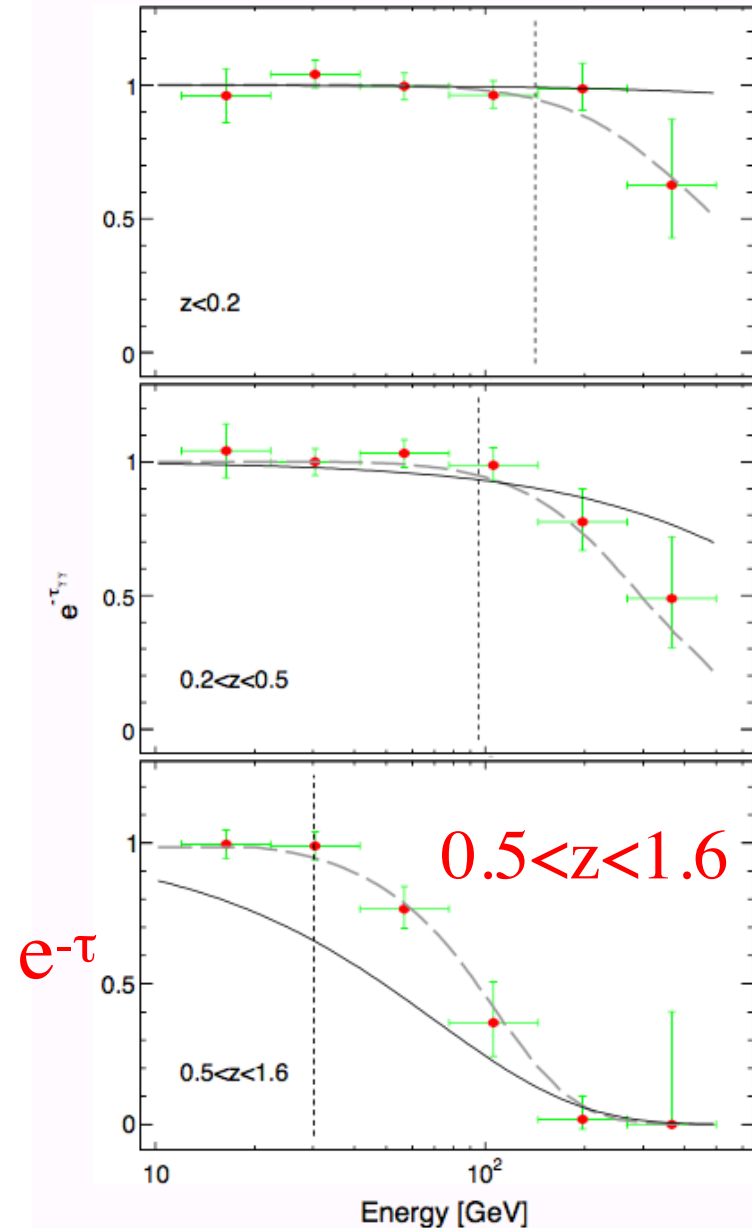


1. Build up of the EBL largely undetermined
2. Build up fundamental to determine galaxy/stellar evolution processes



First 'Detection' of the EBL attenuation

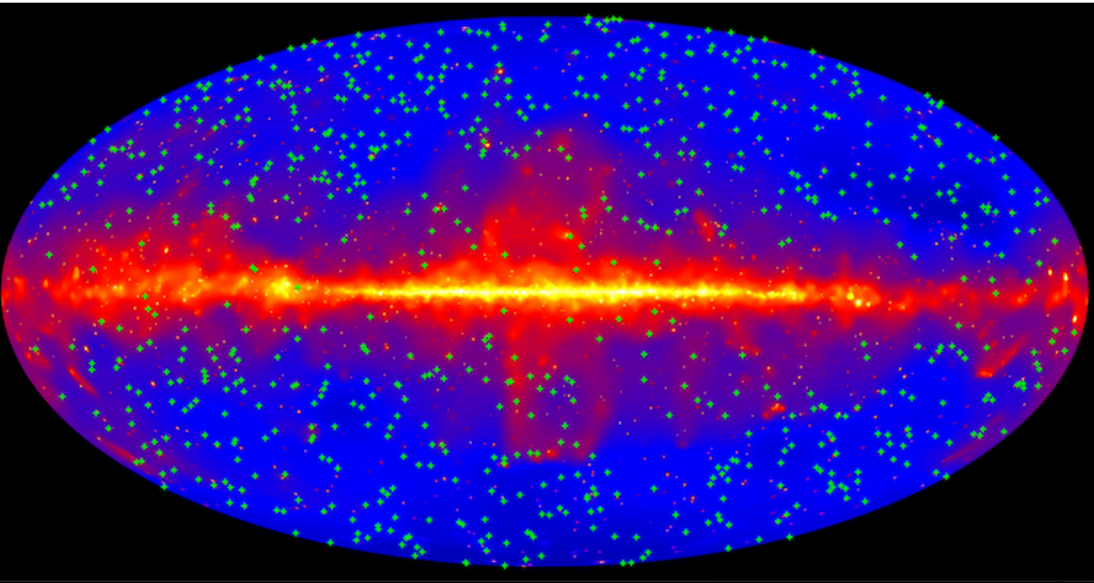
Ackermann et al. 2012



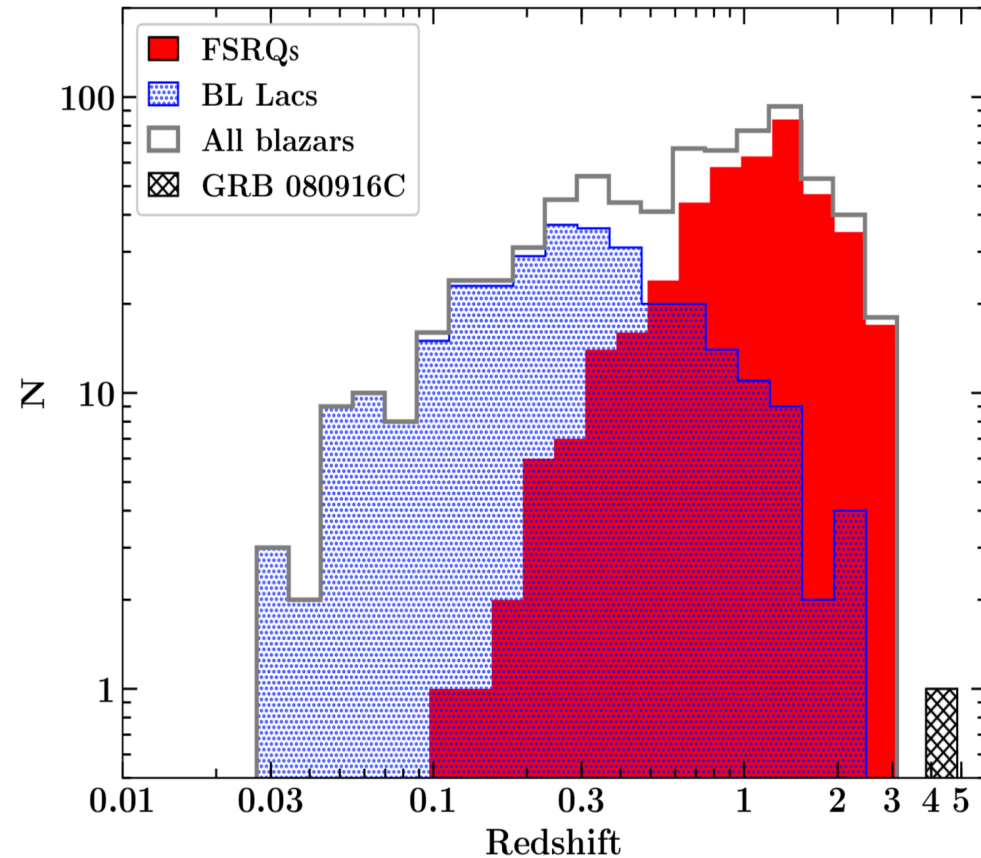
Average over 4 billion years !



Improved Dataset (2018)



- Use 9 years of P8 LAT data
- 739 blazars + 1 GRB
- Perform a time-resolved analysis,
- Analysis optimized on simulations

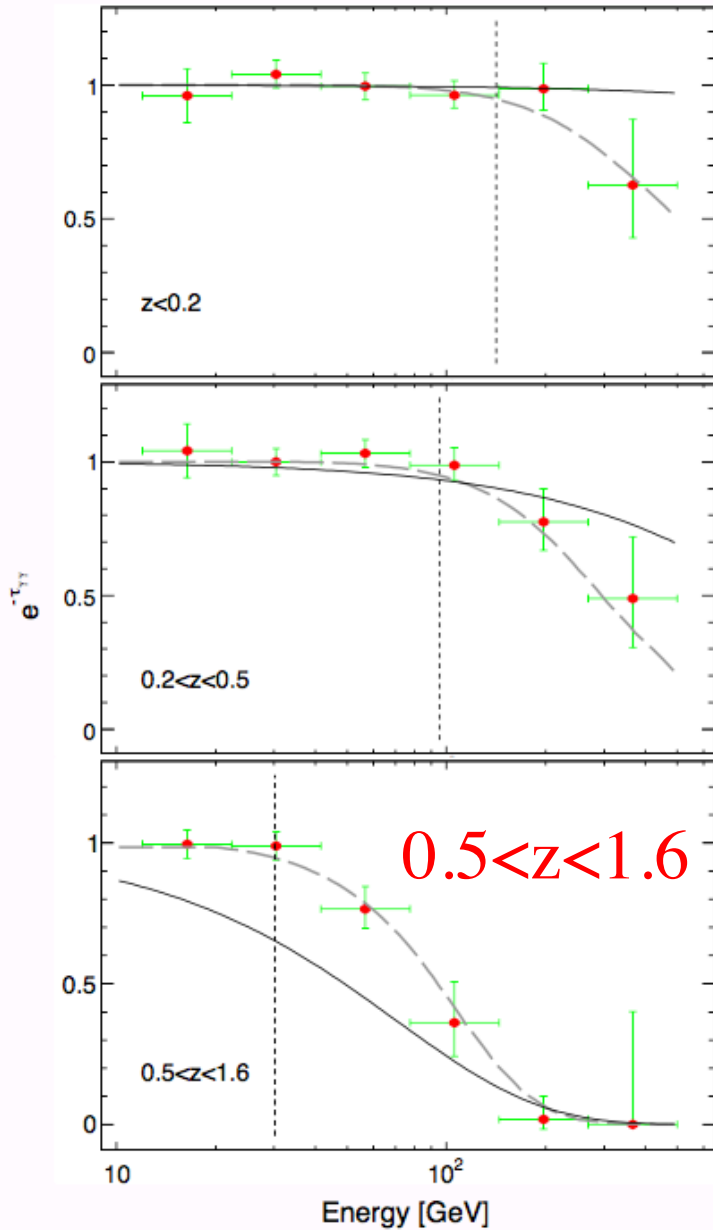


Analysis improved over the Ackermann+12 results

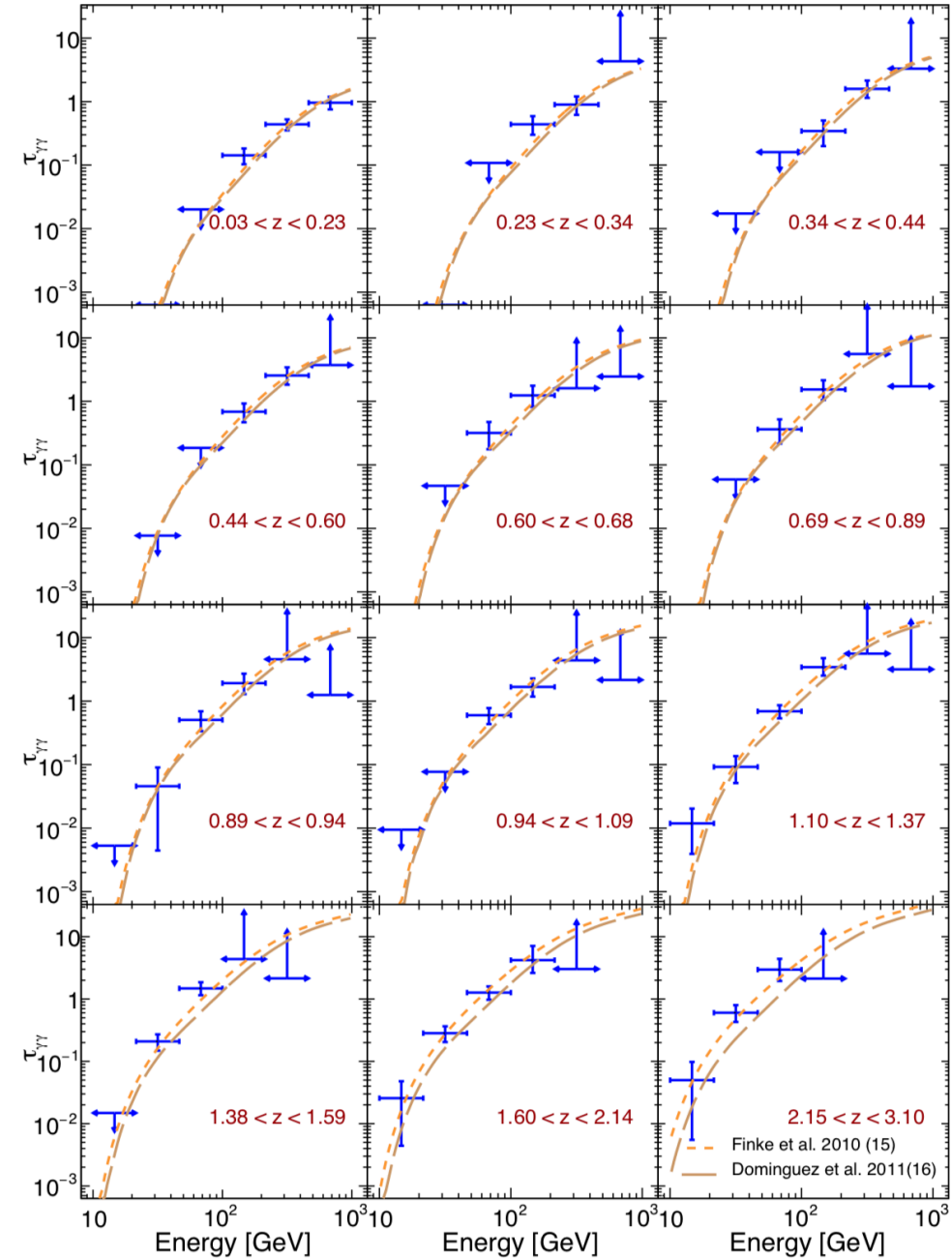


From 'Detection' to 'Characterization'

Ackermann et al. 2012



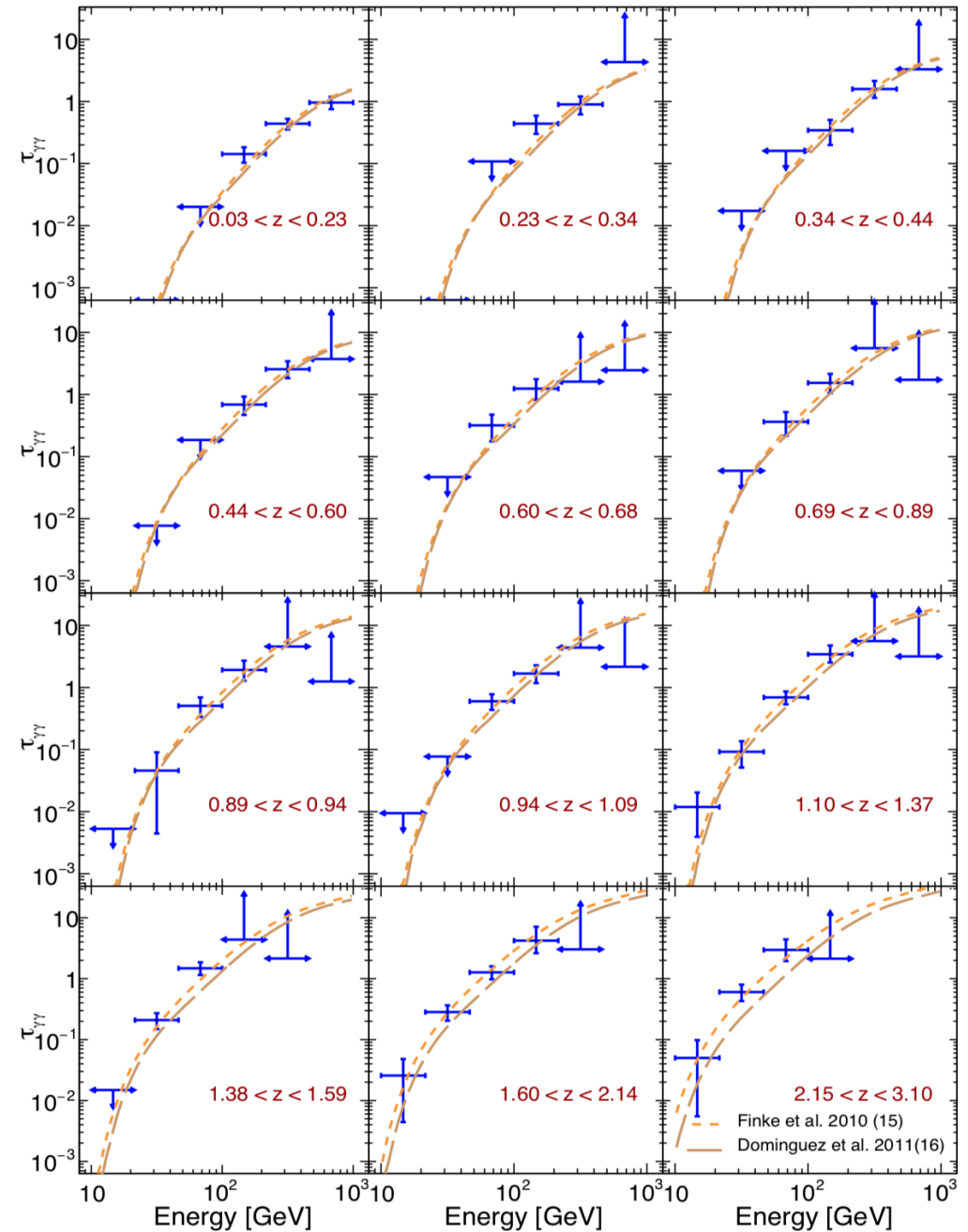
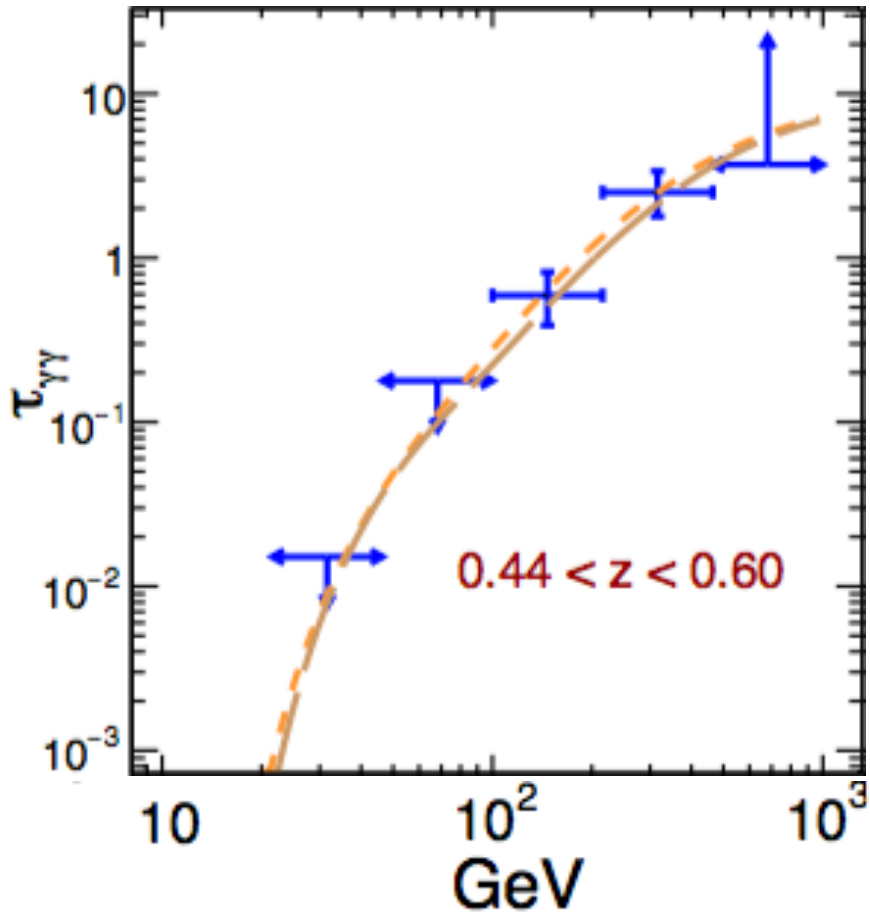
Abdollahi et al. 2018





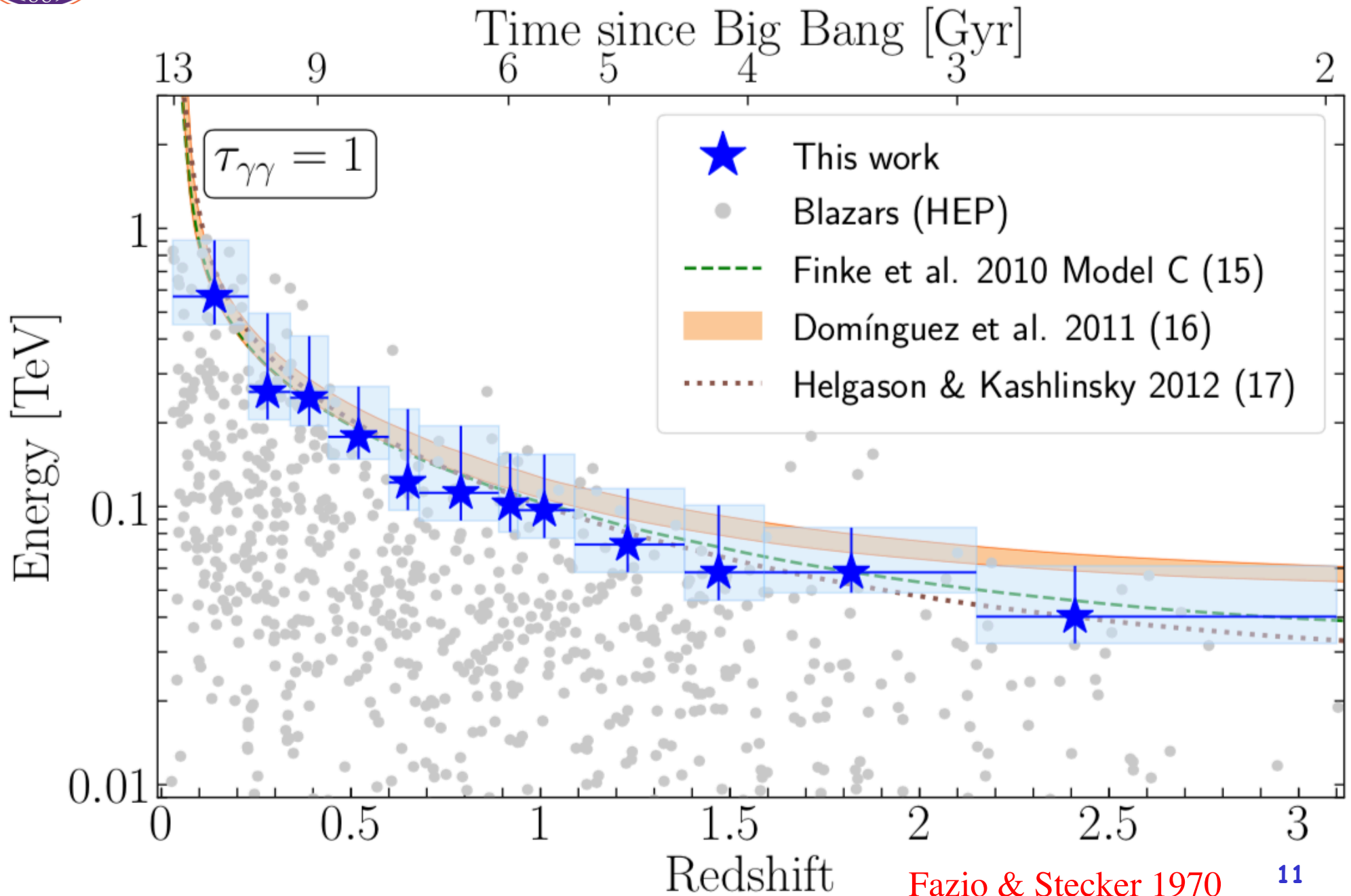
EBL measurements over 11 billion years

The fun part: Evolution with z
from $z=0.03$ to 3.1



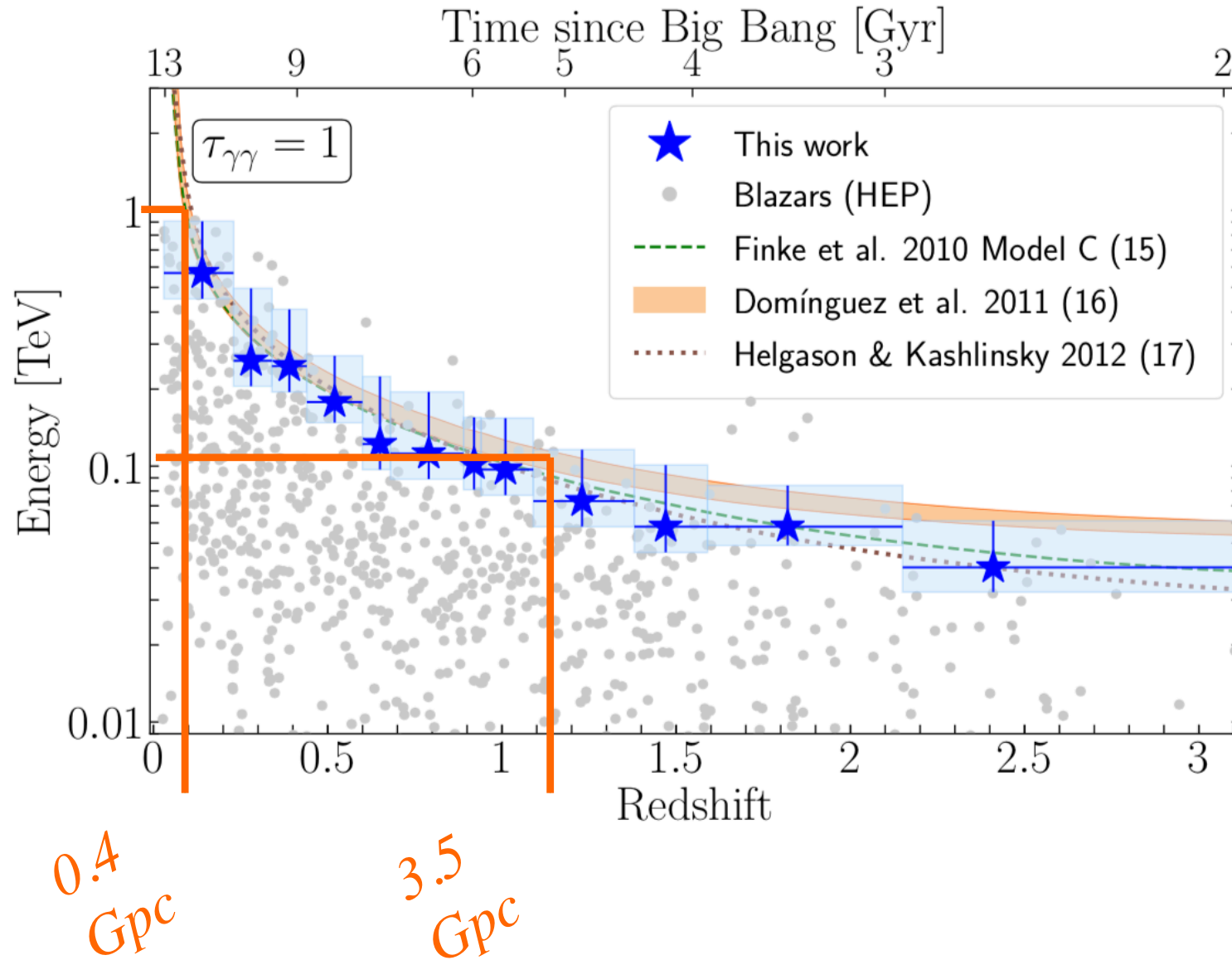


The Cosmic Gamma-ray Horizon





The Cosmic Gamma-ray Horizon



“The measurement of the EBL using gamma rays is only sensitive to the average EBL”



Indirect EBL measurement

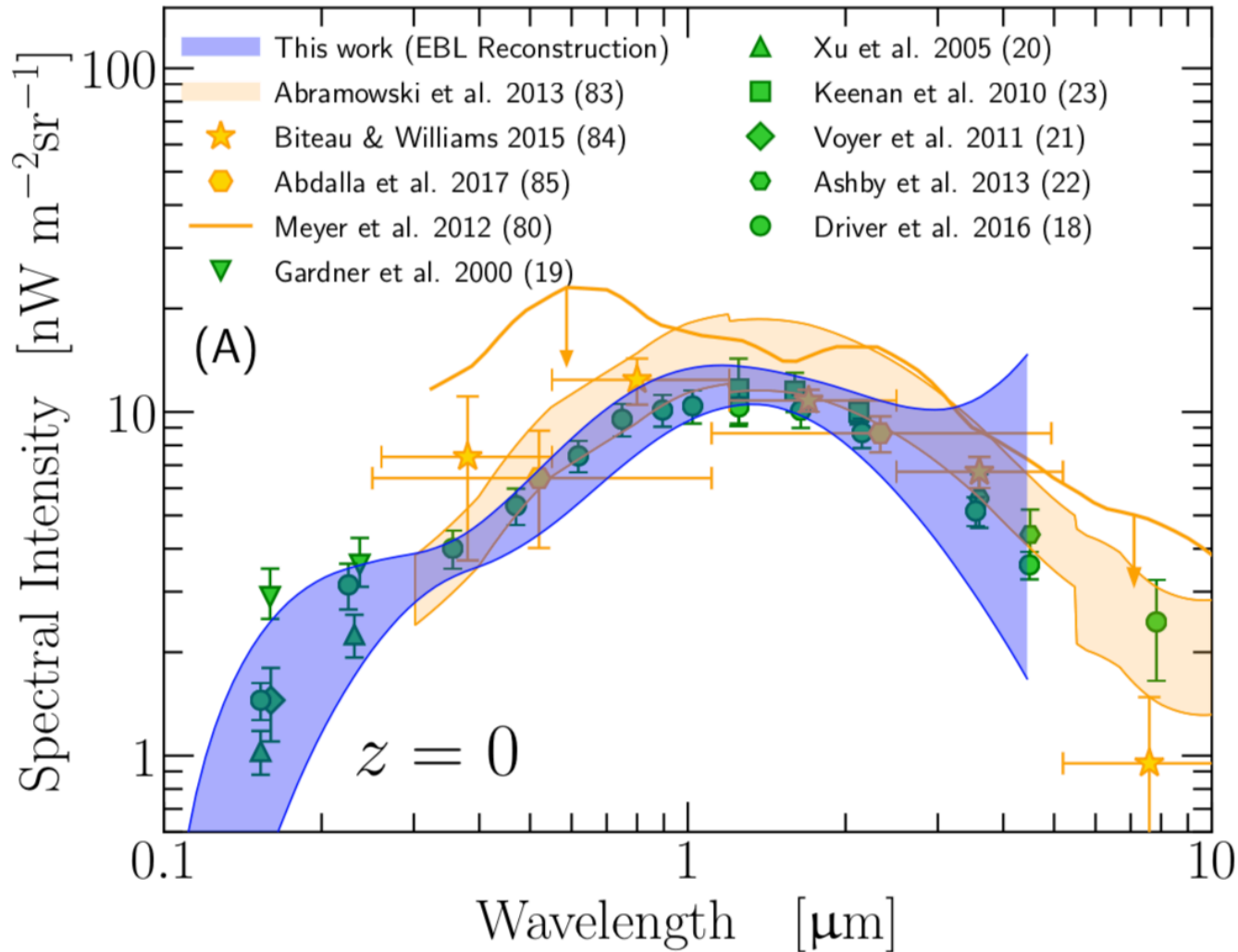
$$\tau_{\gamma\gamma}(E_\gamma, z_s) = c \int_0^{z_s} \left| \frac{dt}{dz} \right| dz \int_{-1}^1 (1 - \mu) \frac{d\mu}{2} \int_{2m_e^2 c^4 / \epsilon_\gamma (1 - \mu)}^\infty \sigma(\epsilon_{\text{EBL}}, \epsilon_\gamma, \mu) n_{\text{EBL}}(\epsilon, z) d\epsilon_{\text{EBL}}$$

$$n_{\text{EBL}}(\epsilon, z) = (1 + z)^3 \int_z^\infty \frac{j(\epsilon, z')}{\epsilon} \left| \frac{dt}{dz'} \right| dz'$$

- We cannot invert 3-4 integrals, so we need to find another way
- Two methods, both fitted via MCMC to LAT τ data
- **Method 1-empirical**: model $j(\epsilon, z)$ has sum of log-normal distributions that can evolve independently
- **Method 2-theoretical**: use stellar population models (Finke et al. 2010) and optimize the parameters of the Cosmic Star Formation History



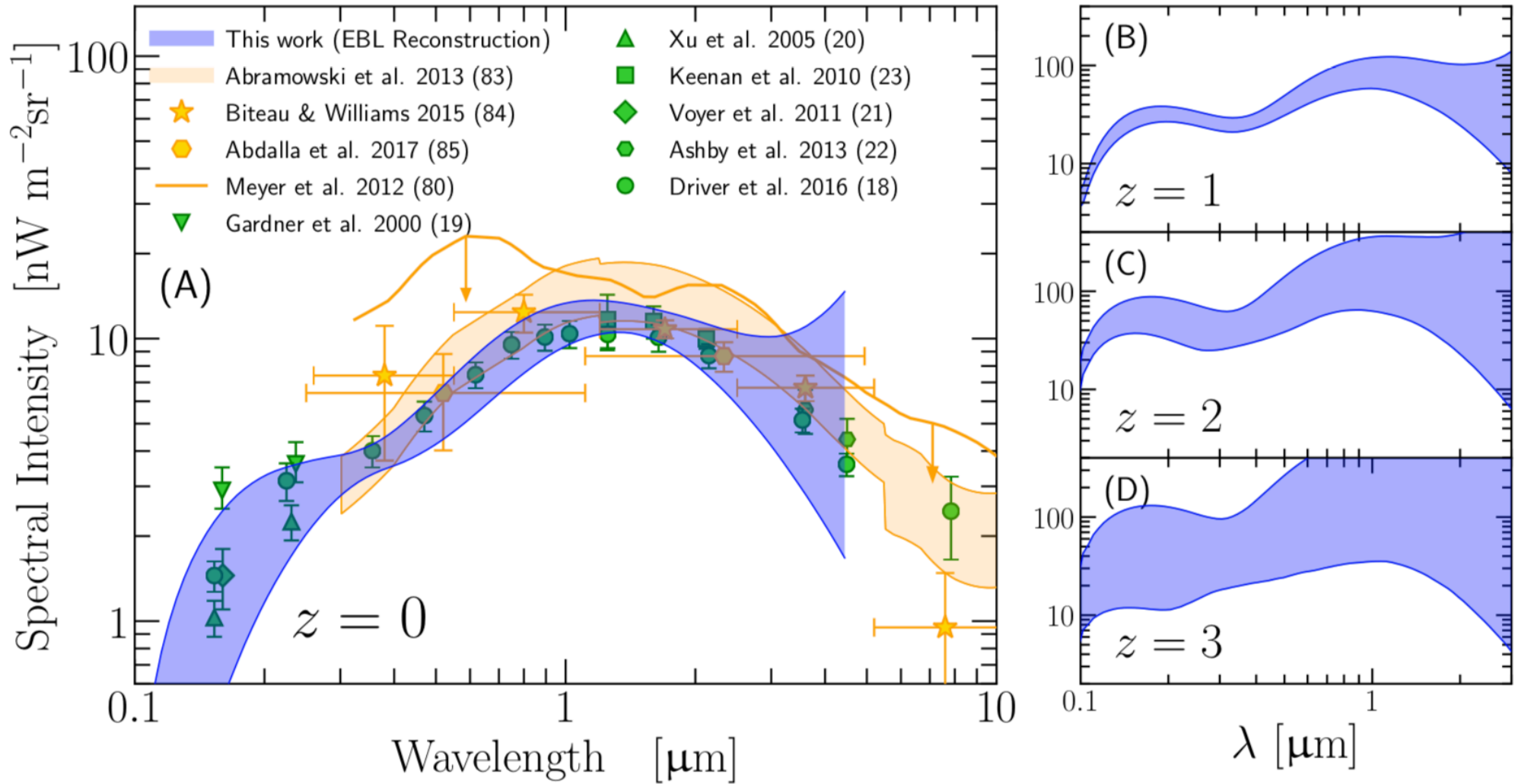
The EBL with Redshift



UV background in agreement with quasar proximity measurements by e.g. Kulkarni & Fall 1993, Scott+00 etc



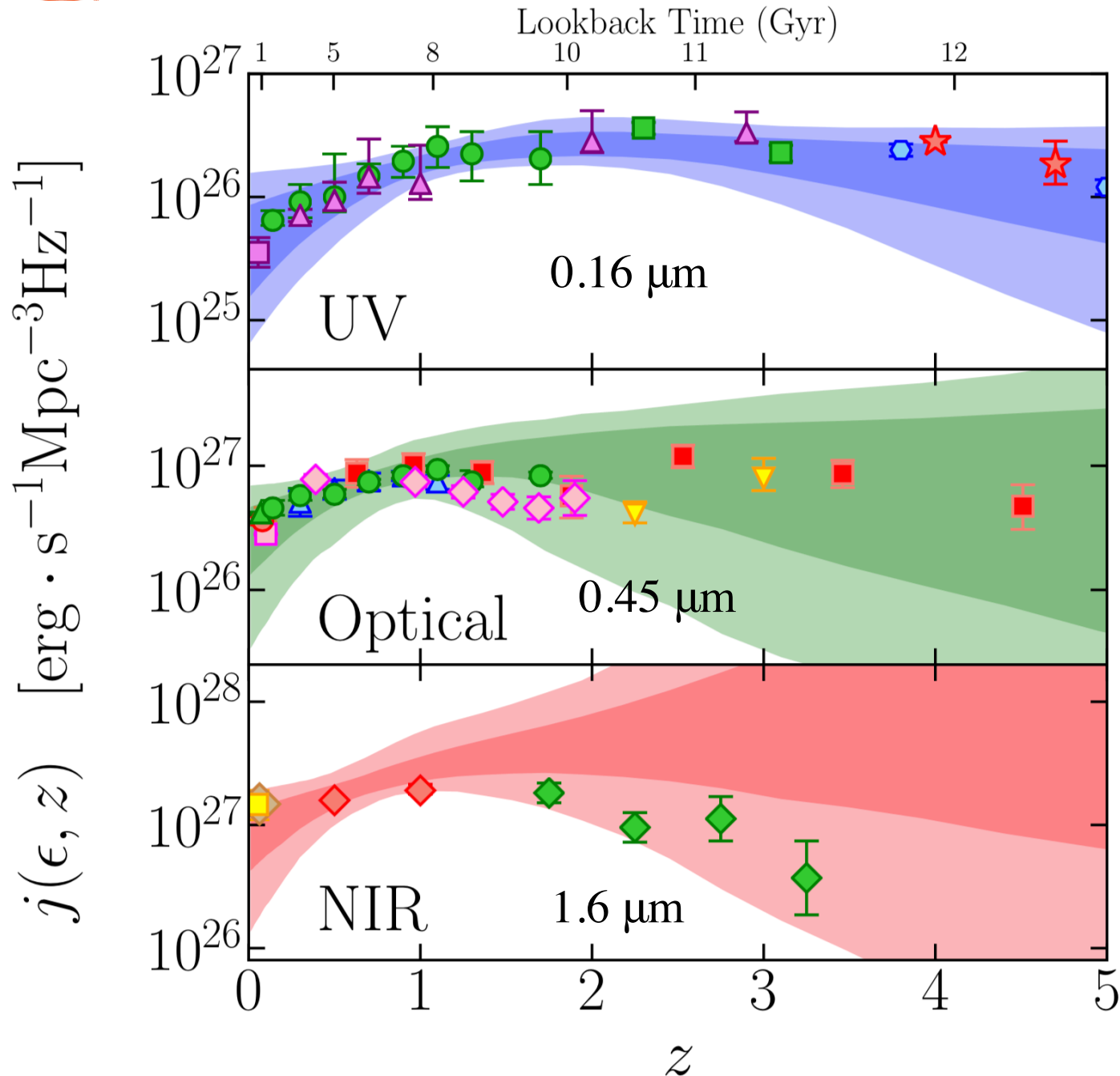
The EBL with Redshift



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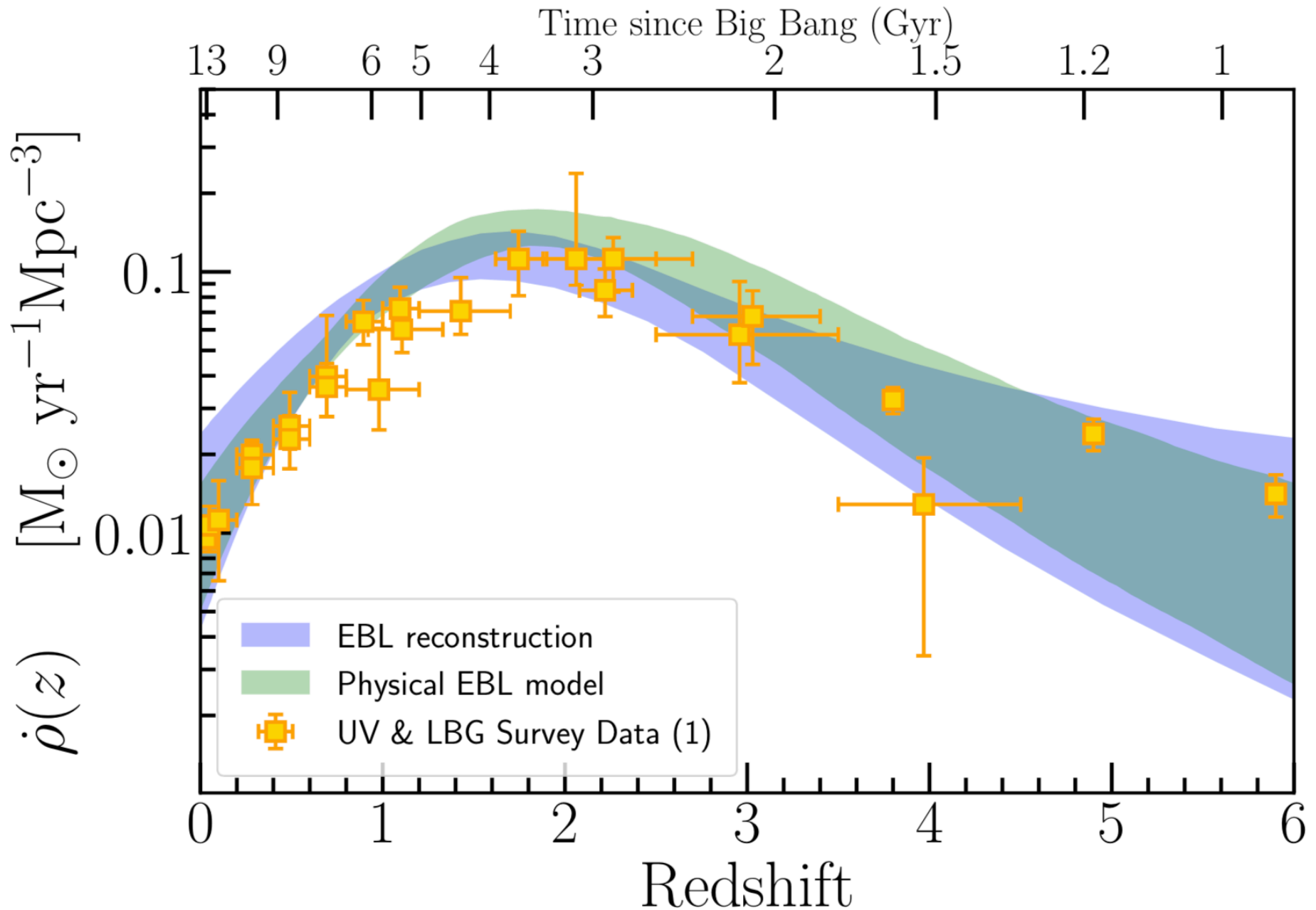


Cosmic Luminosity Density



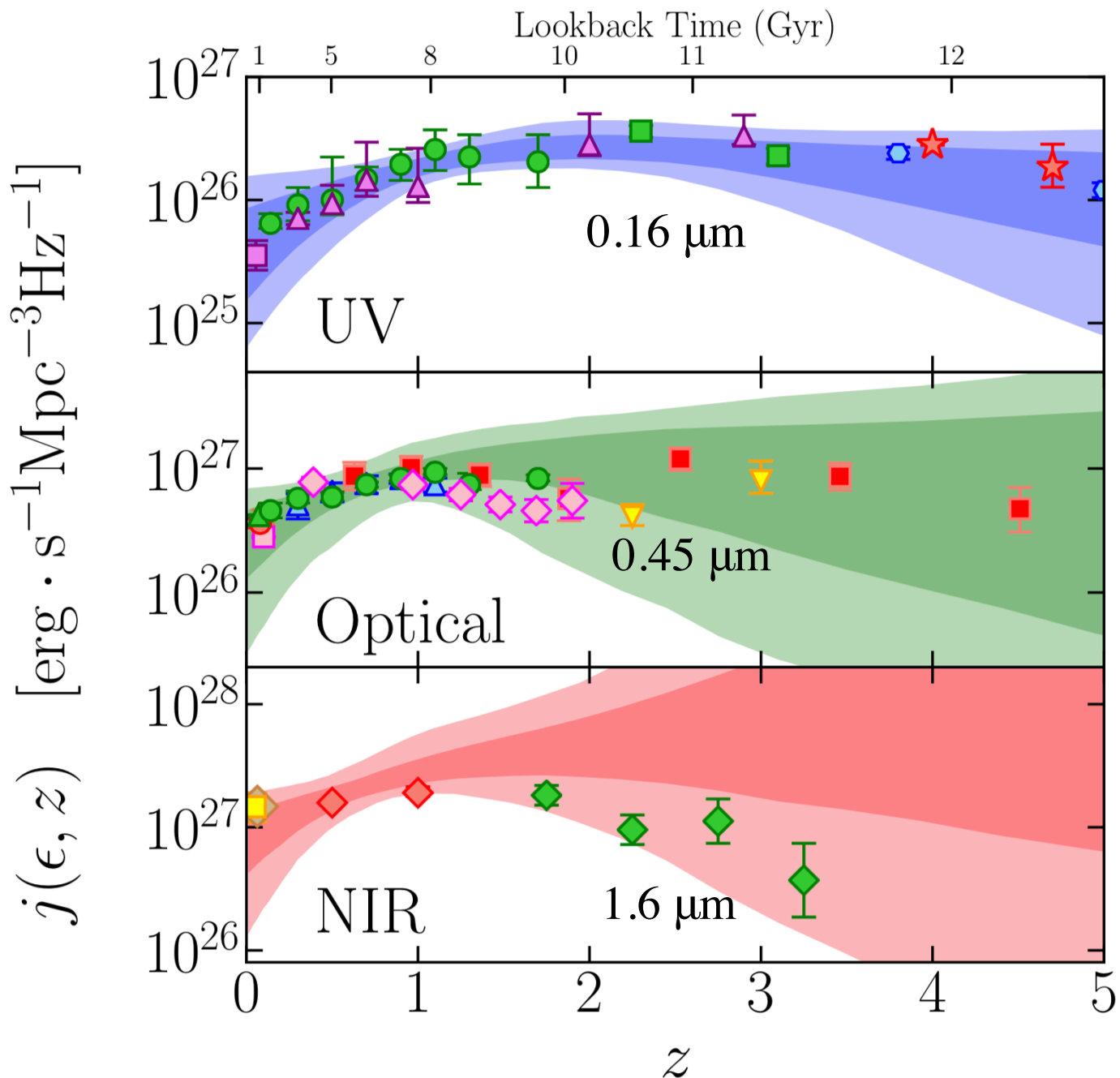


Star Formation History





Cosmic Luminosity Density



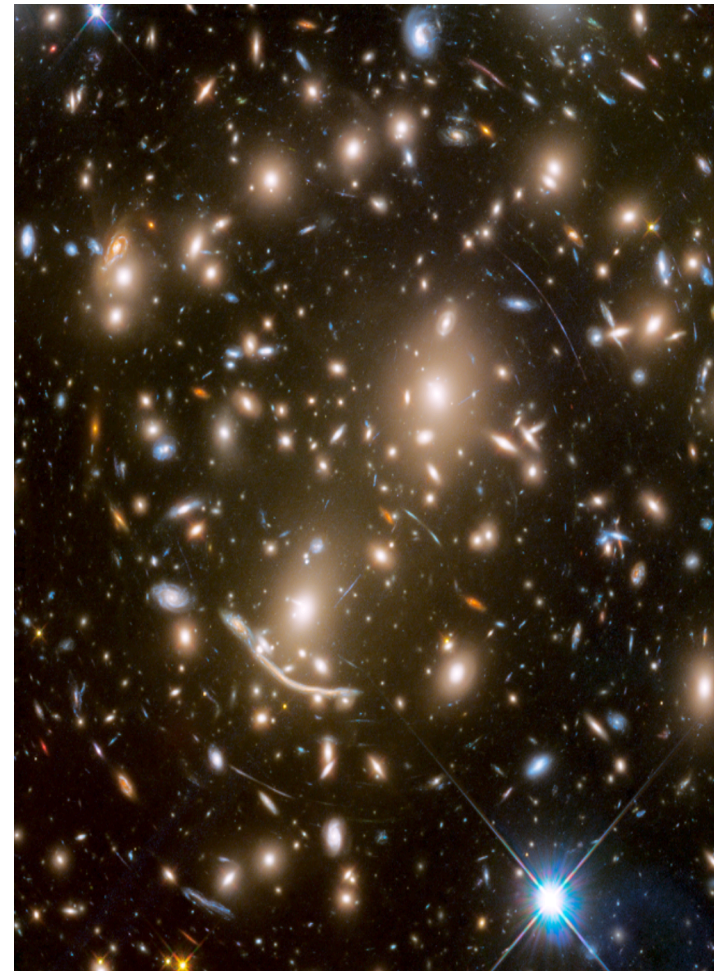
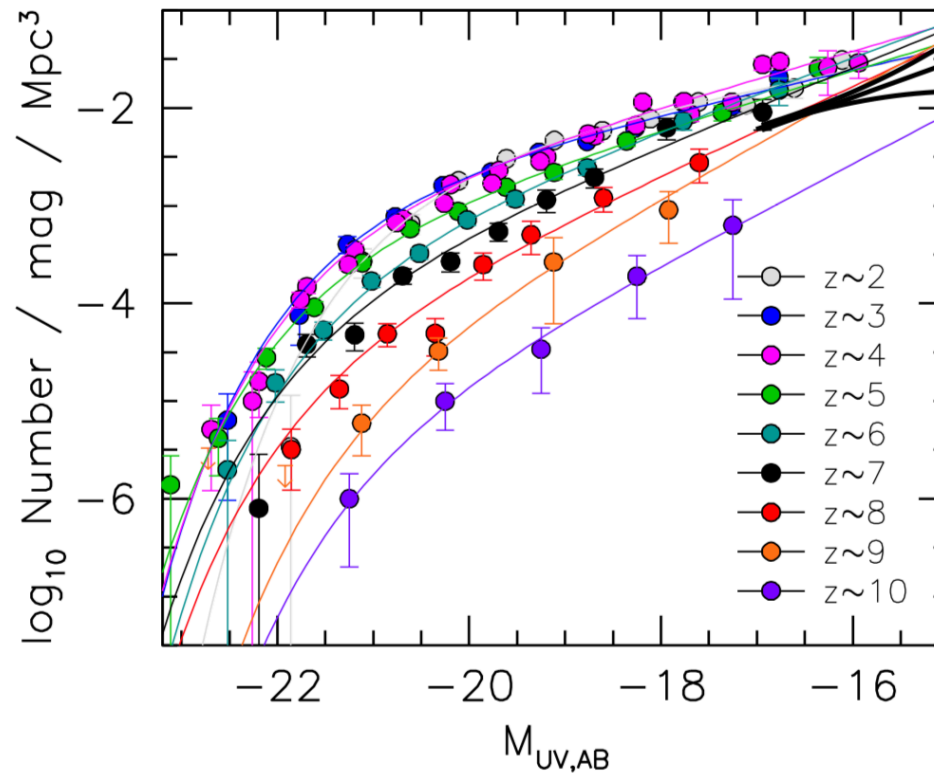
← GRB 080916C
at $z=4.35$



Re-ionization

All deep blank-field HST data: Hubble Frontier Field
Field Parallels, the XDF, CANDELS, and almost
all other significant HST + ground-based probes

???

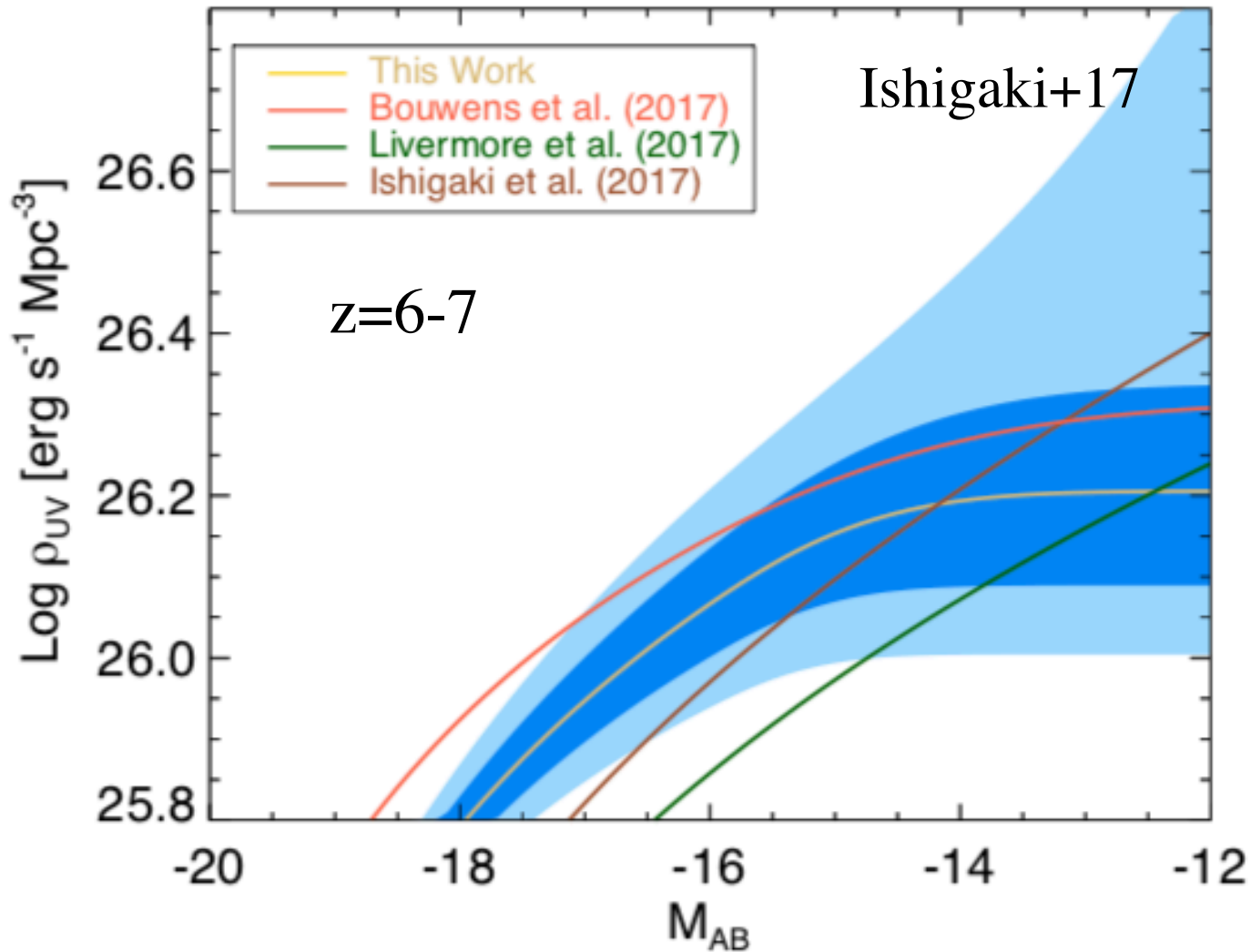


Hubble Frontier Fields

Bouwens+2018 (in prep); Oesch+2017

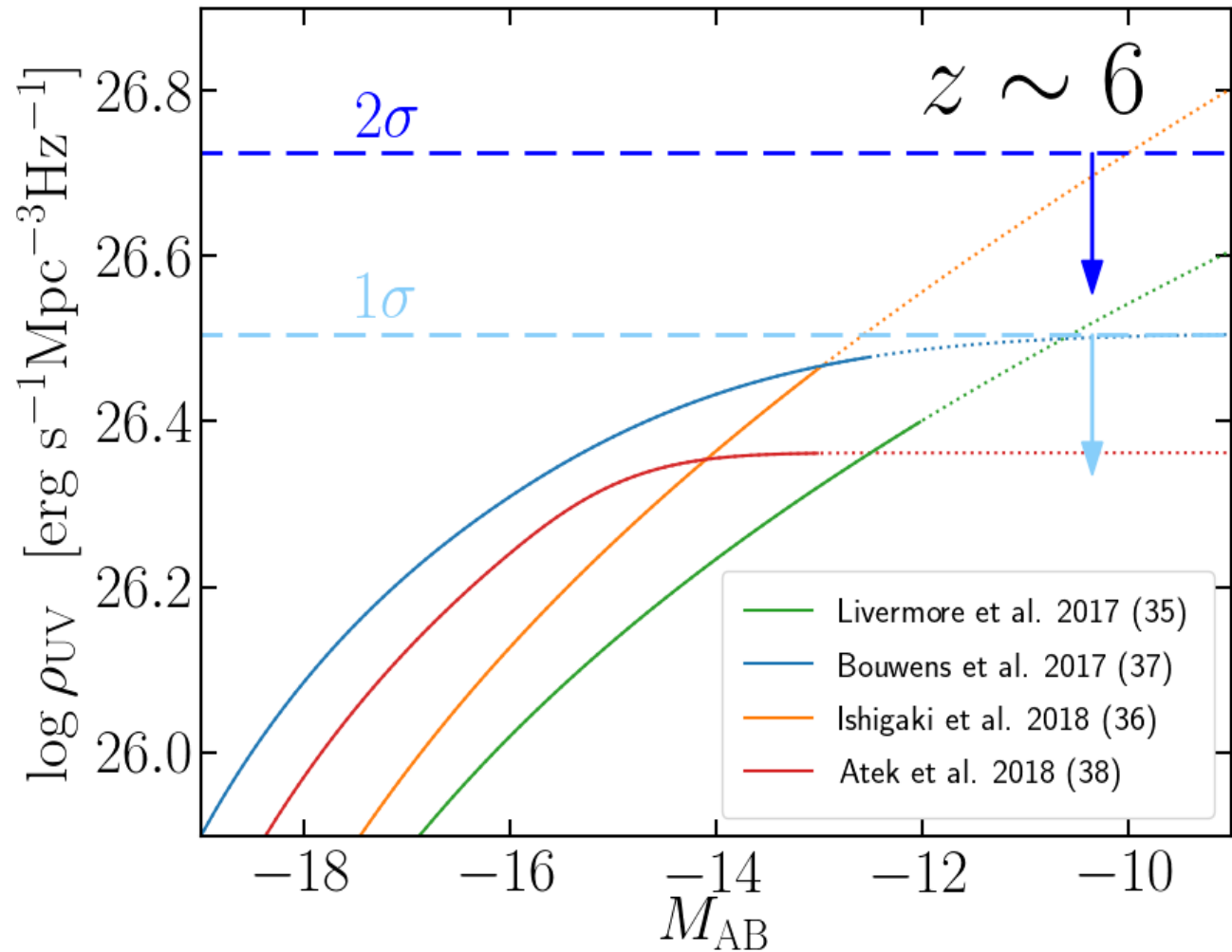
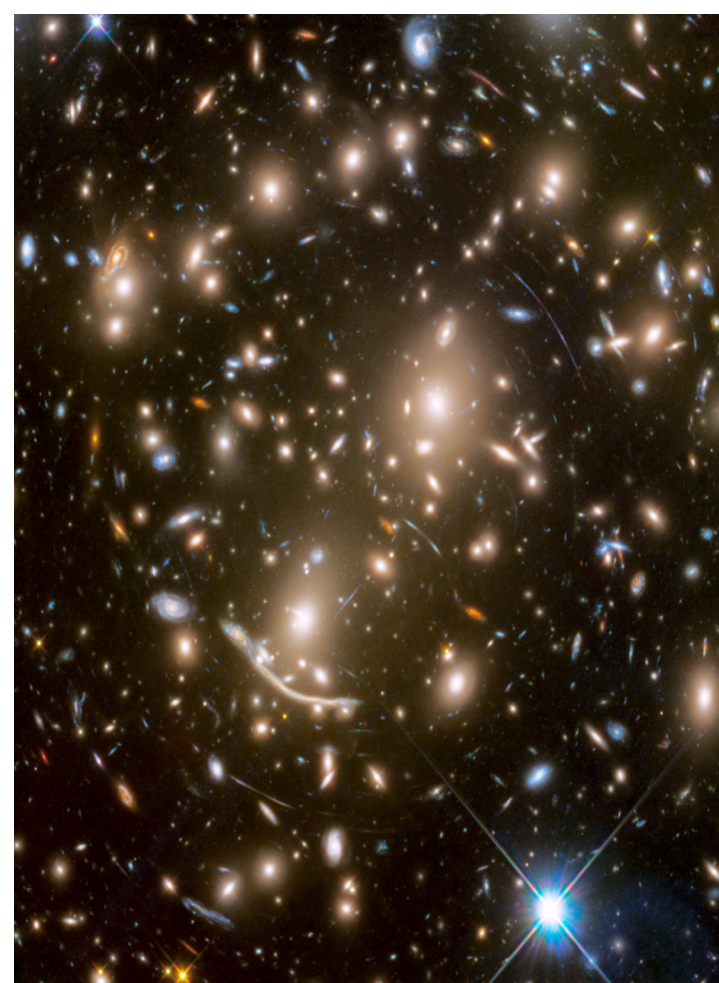


Hubble Frontier Fields



- Inconsistencies between the analyses attributed to details of the mass modeling of the lens (Atek+18, Bouwens+17, Livermore+17, Ishigaki+17)

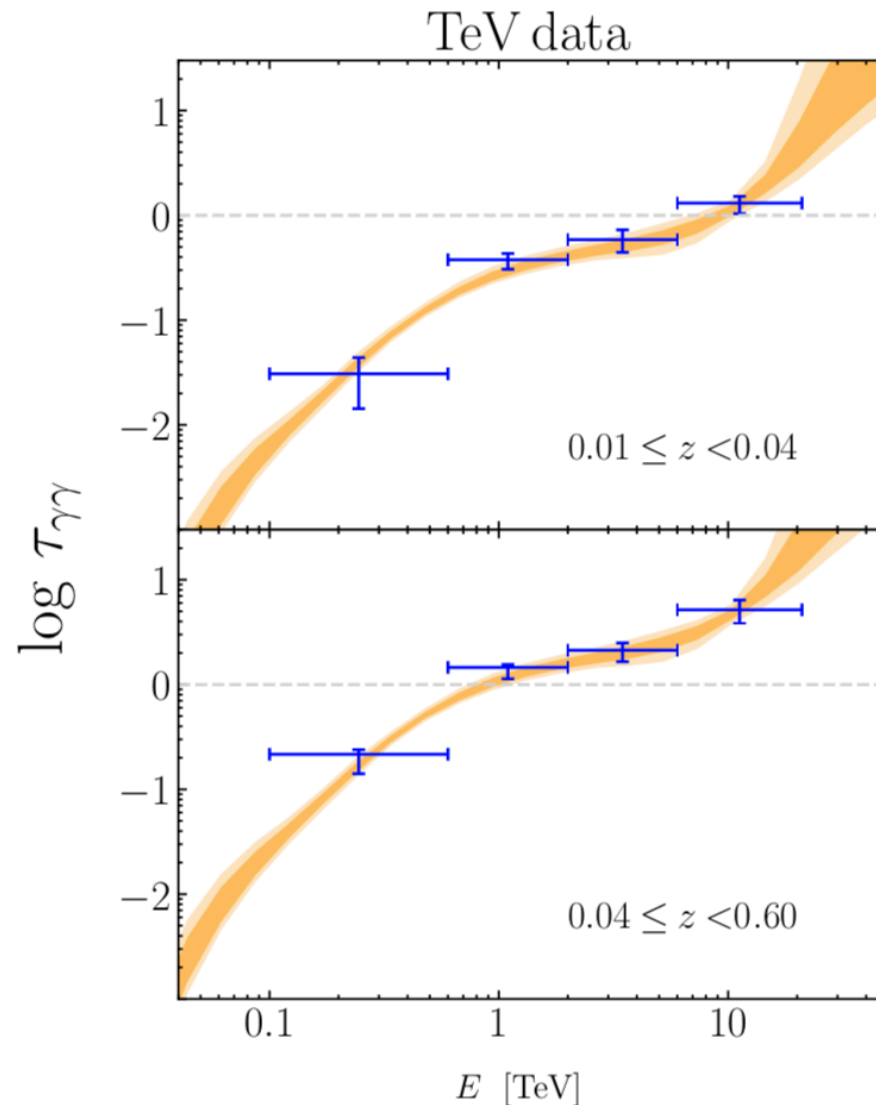
End of re-ionization





EBL with GeV-TeV data

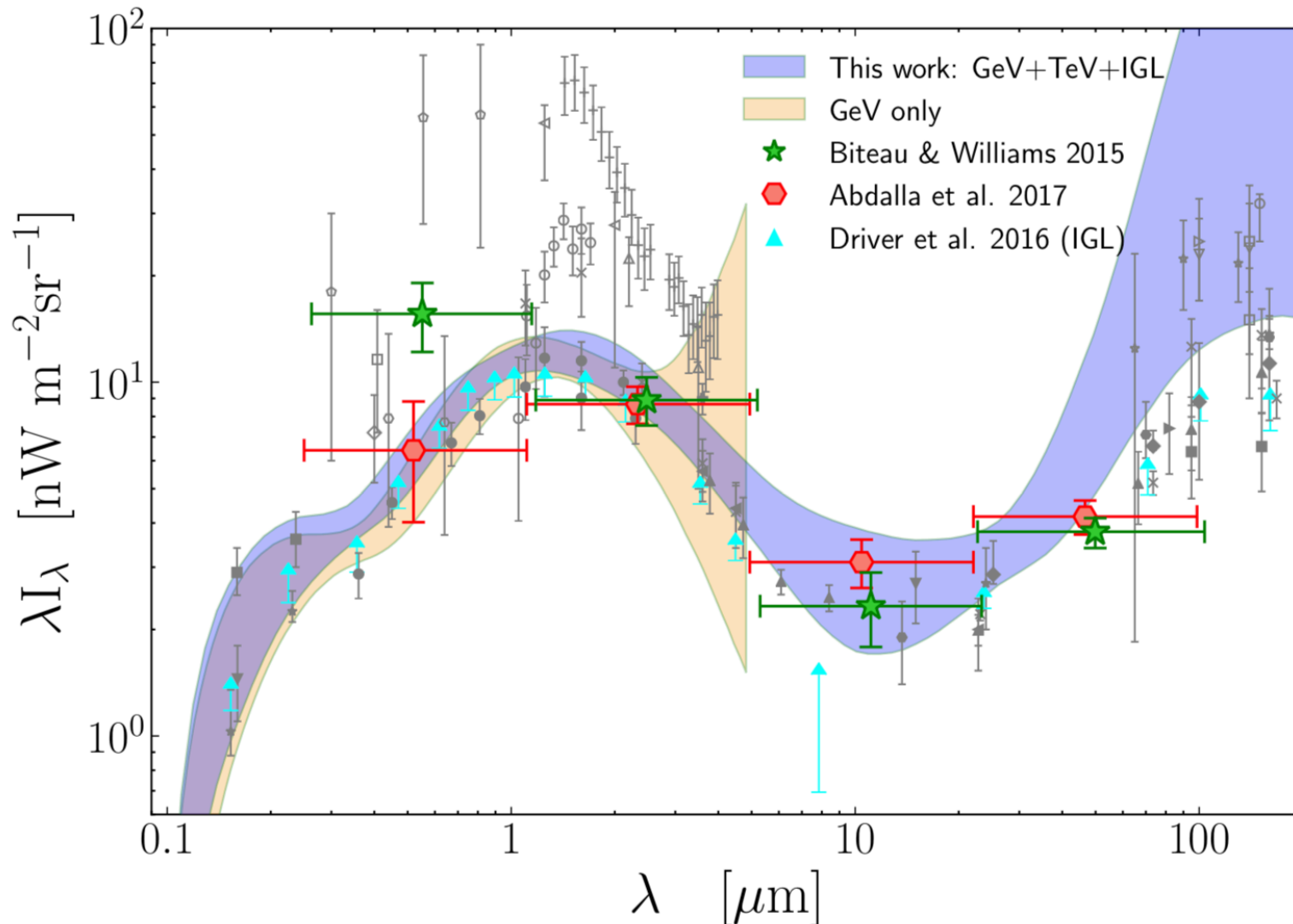
- Analysis of 38 detected TeV blazars reported in Biteau & Williams 2015 (Desai, Helgason, Ajello, ApJL, 2019)





The newest EBL measurement

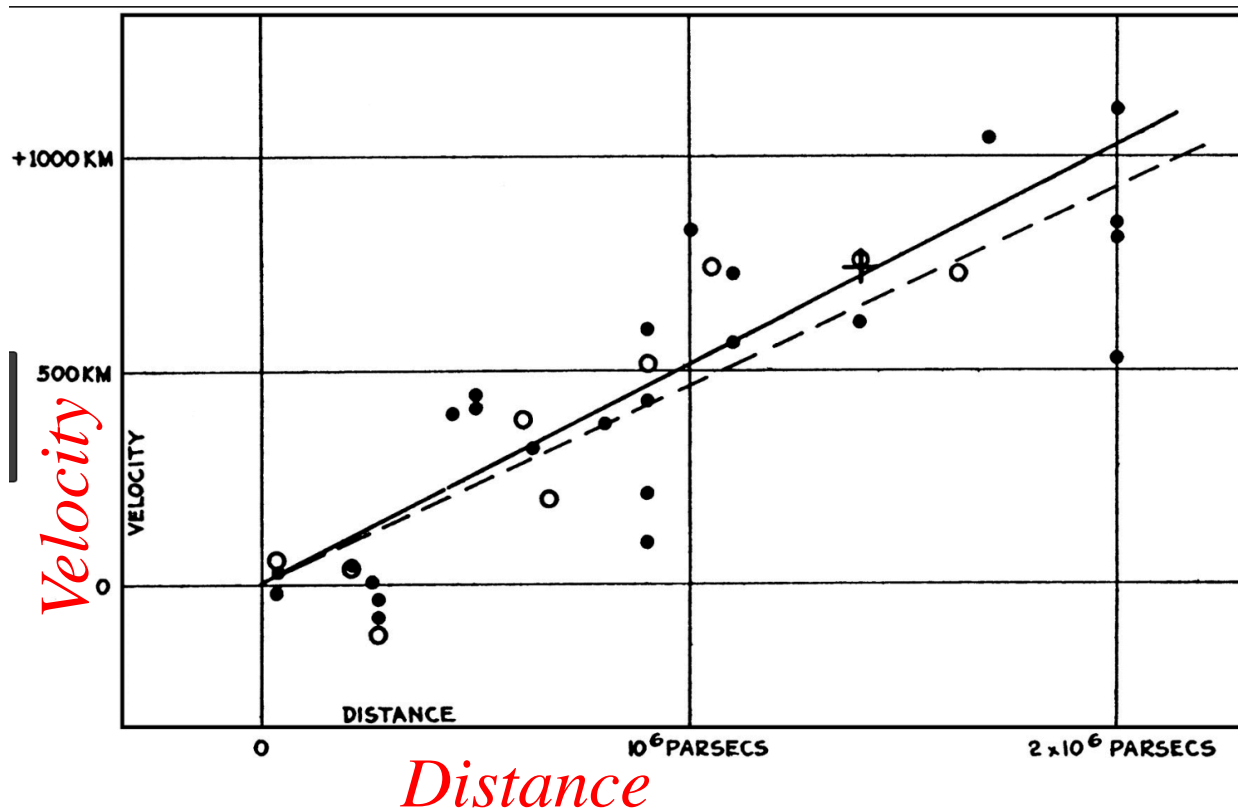
- Analysis of 38 detected TeV blazars (Desai, Helgason, Ajello, ApJL, 2019)
- It allows us to characterize the EBL up to the mid-IR





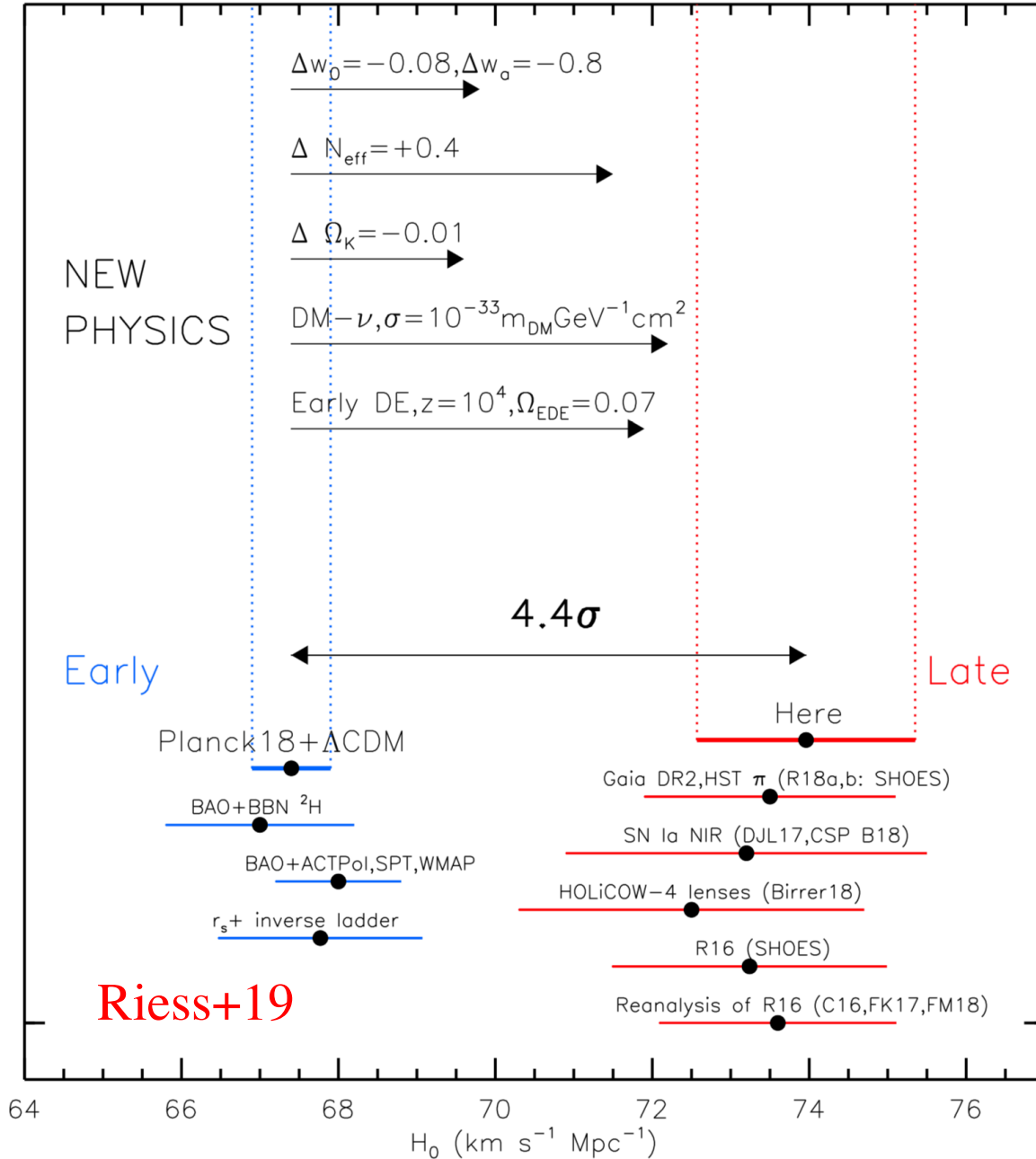
Hubble-Lemaître Law

- Hubble and Lemaître first to show the Universe is expanding
- Hubble constant (1941): $H_0=500$ km/s/Mpc





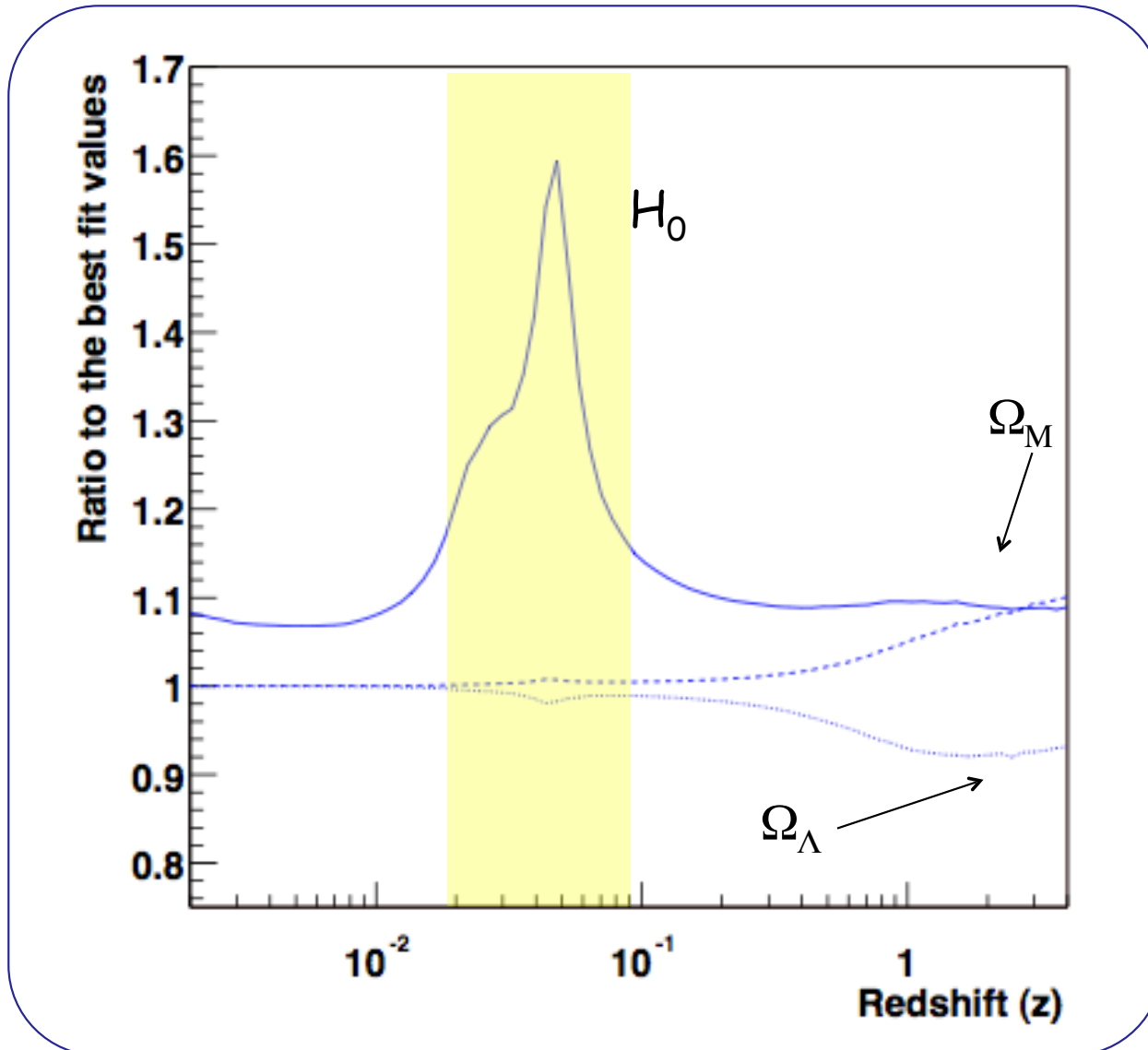
Hubble Constant (2020)





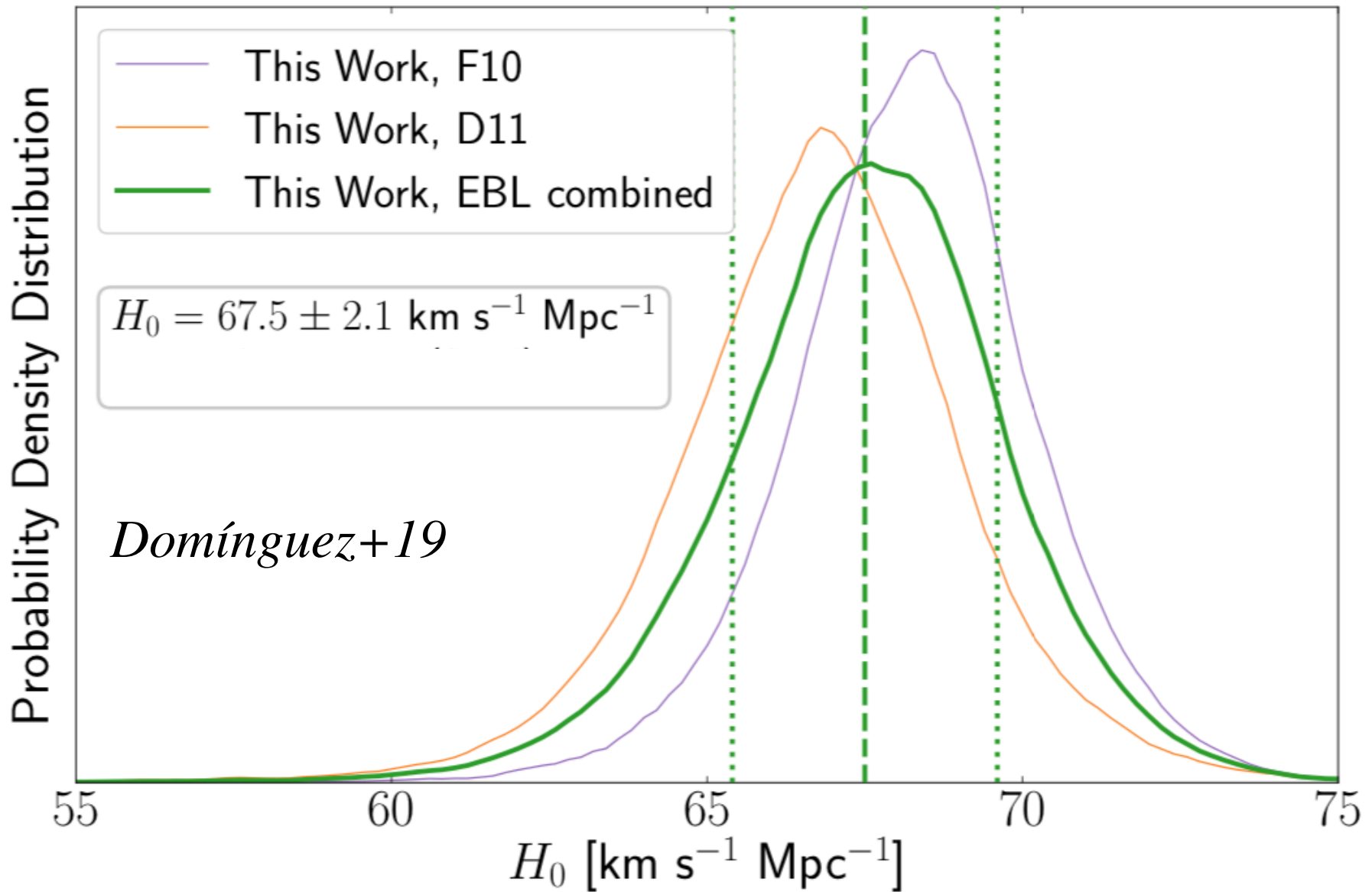
Hubble Constant with the EBL

$$\tau_\gamma = \int_0^z dl(z) \int_{-1}^{+1} d\mu \frac{1-\mu}{2} \int_{\epsilon'_{\text{thr}}}^{\infty} d\epsilon' \frac{dn_{\text{bkg}}}{d\epsilon} \sigma_{\gamma\gamma}(E', \epsilon', \mu)$$



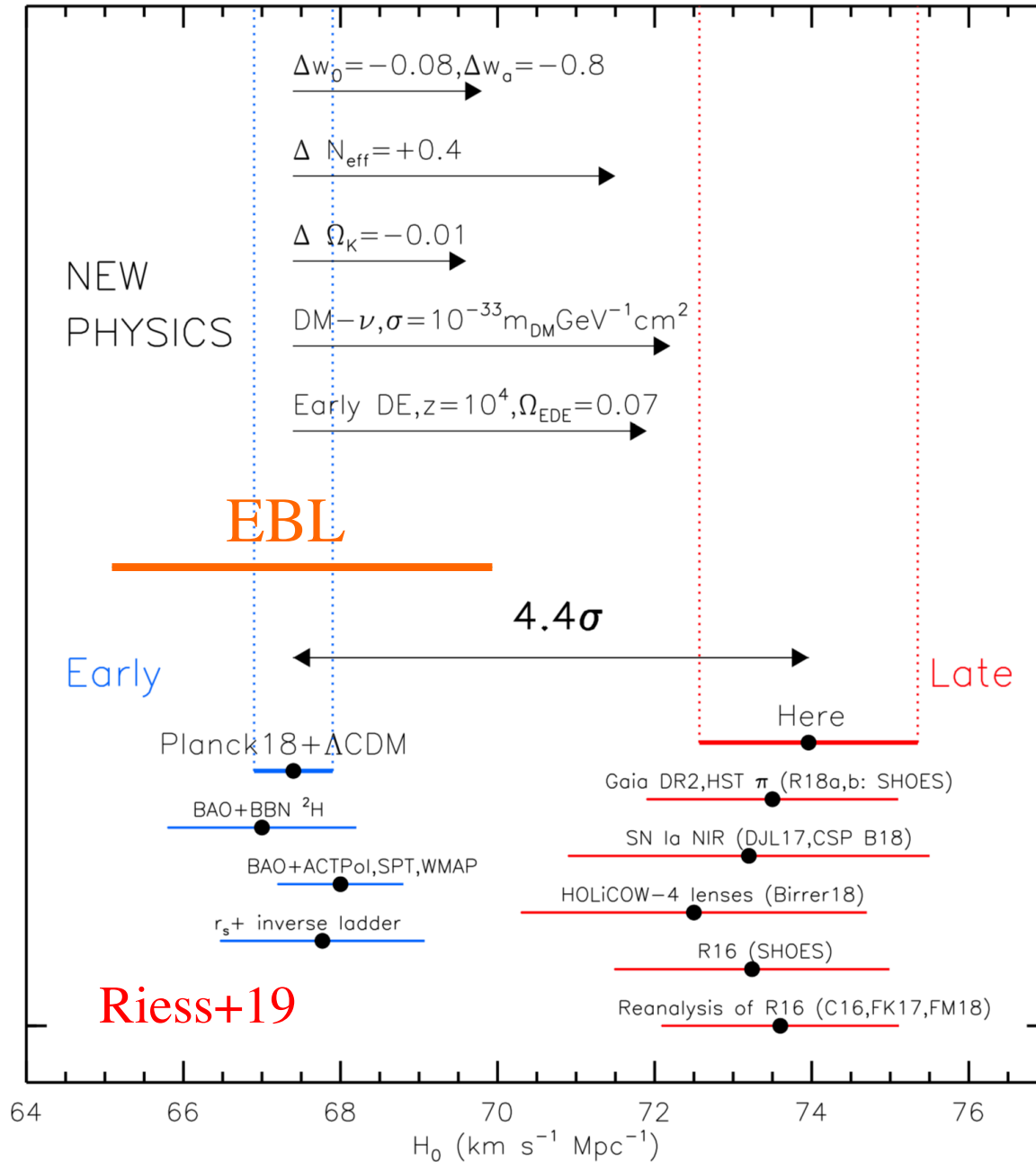


Hubble Constant from EBL



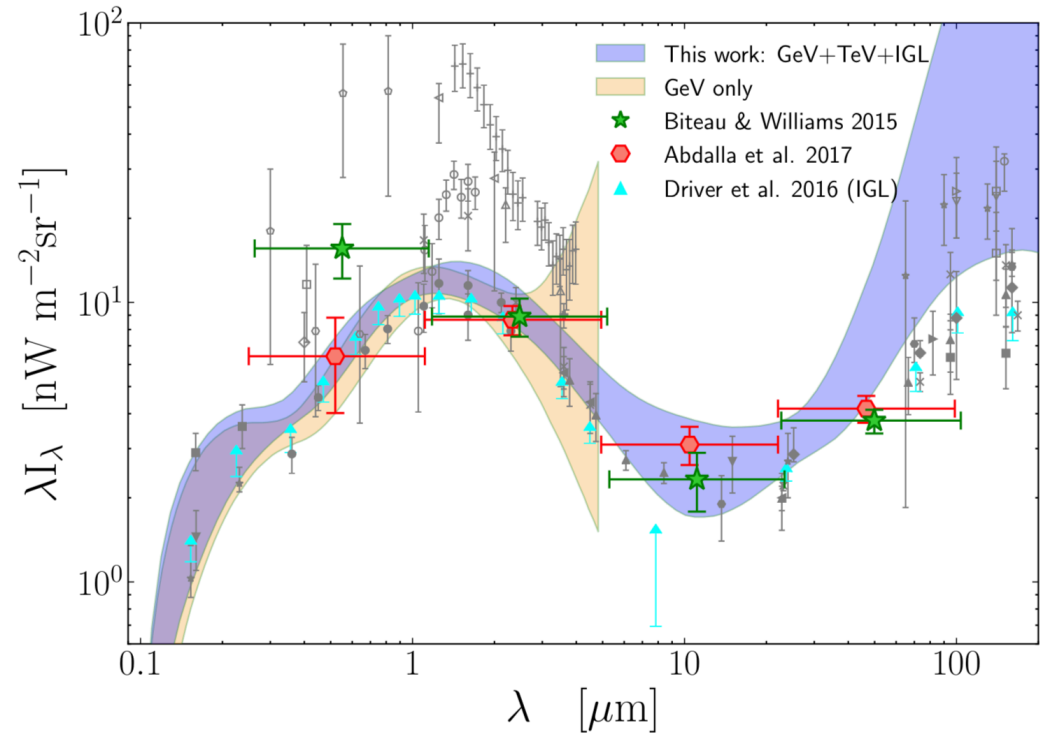
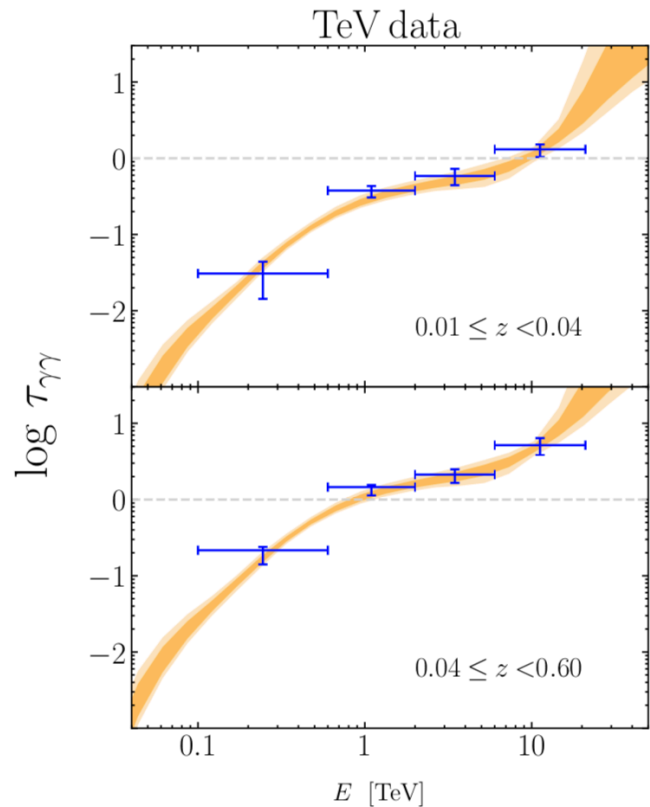


Hubble Constant (2019)





What will CTA do for the EBL ?

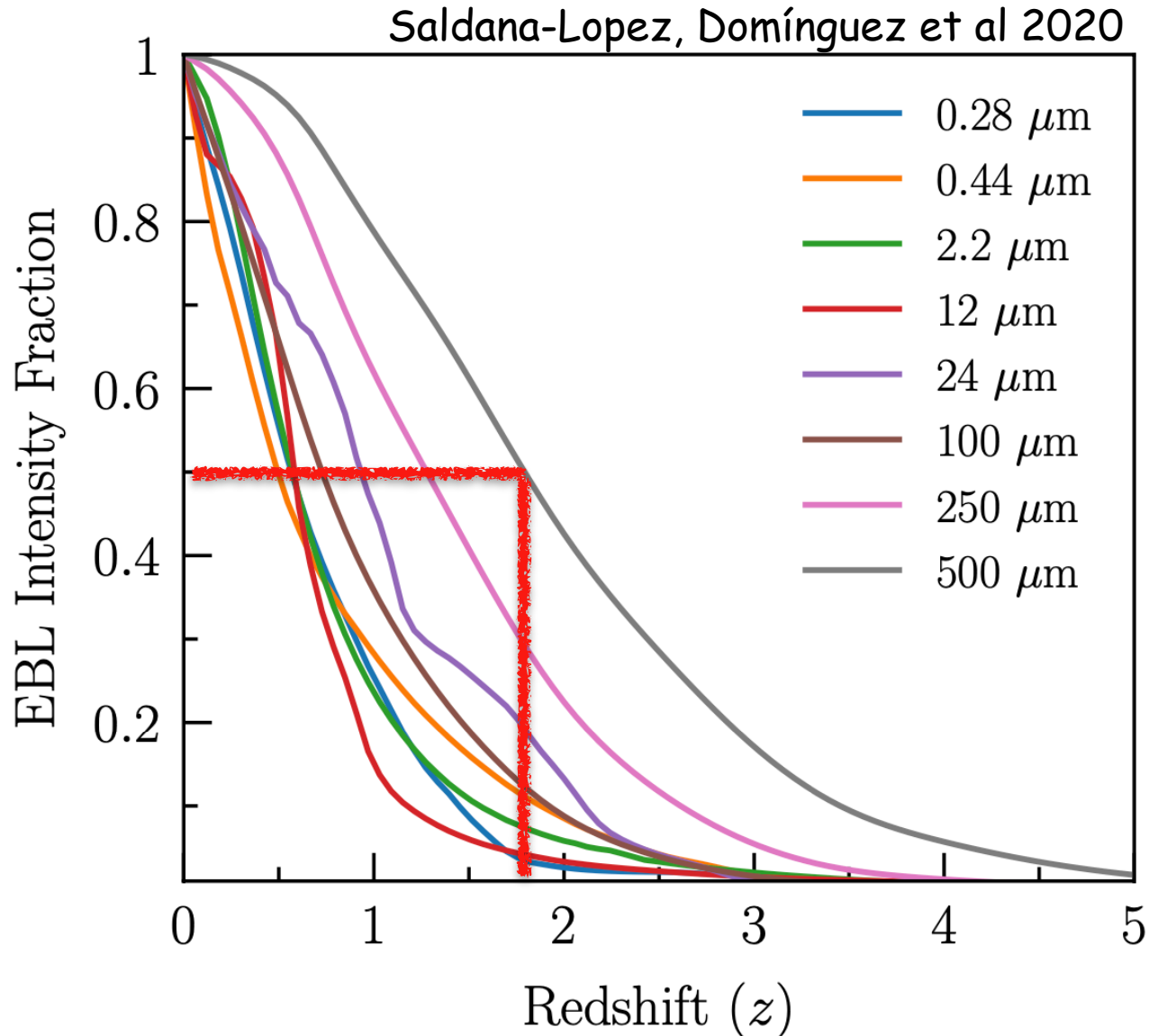


- Fantastic determination of the optical depth up to at least $z=1.6$
- Extend the EBL measurements to the far-IR peak



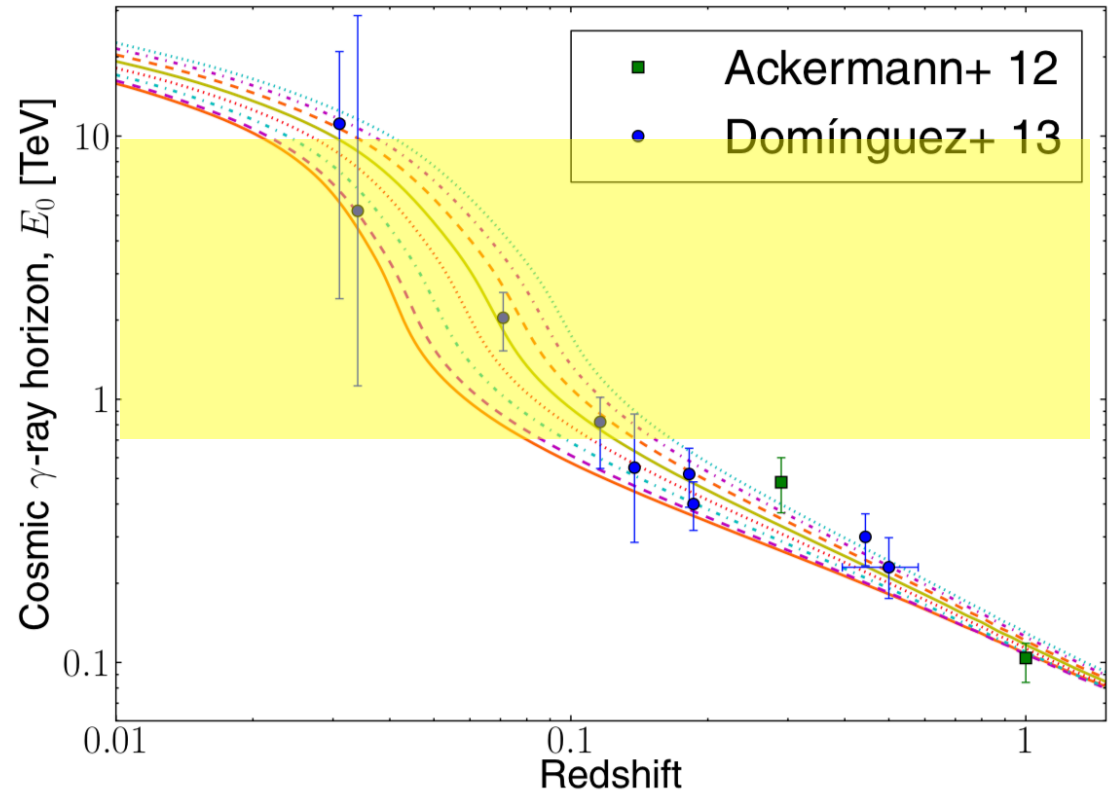
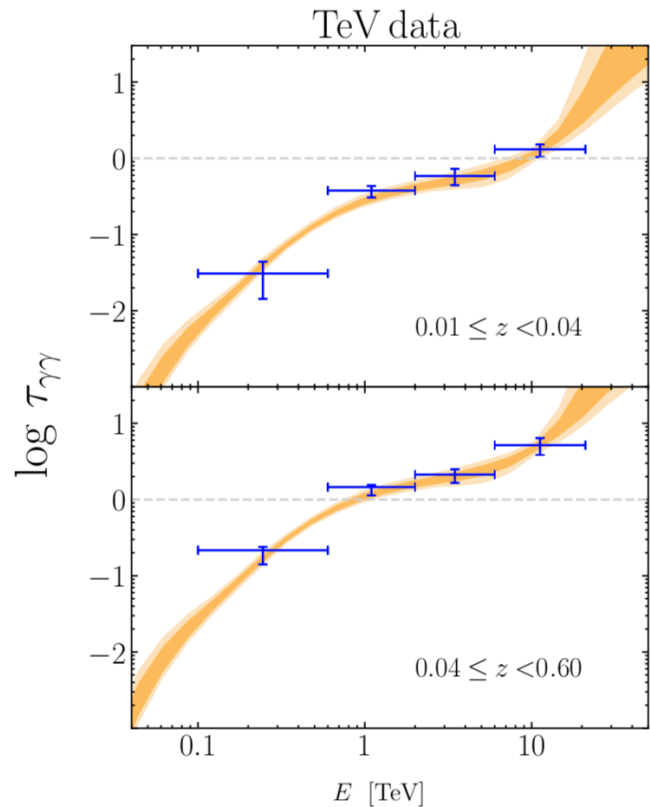
What Will CTA do for the EBL ?

- Half of the EBL FIR intensity at $z=0$ originates from $z>1.8$





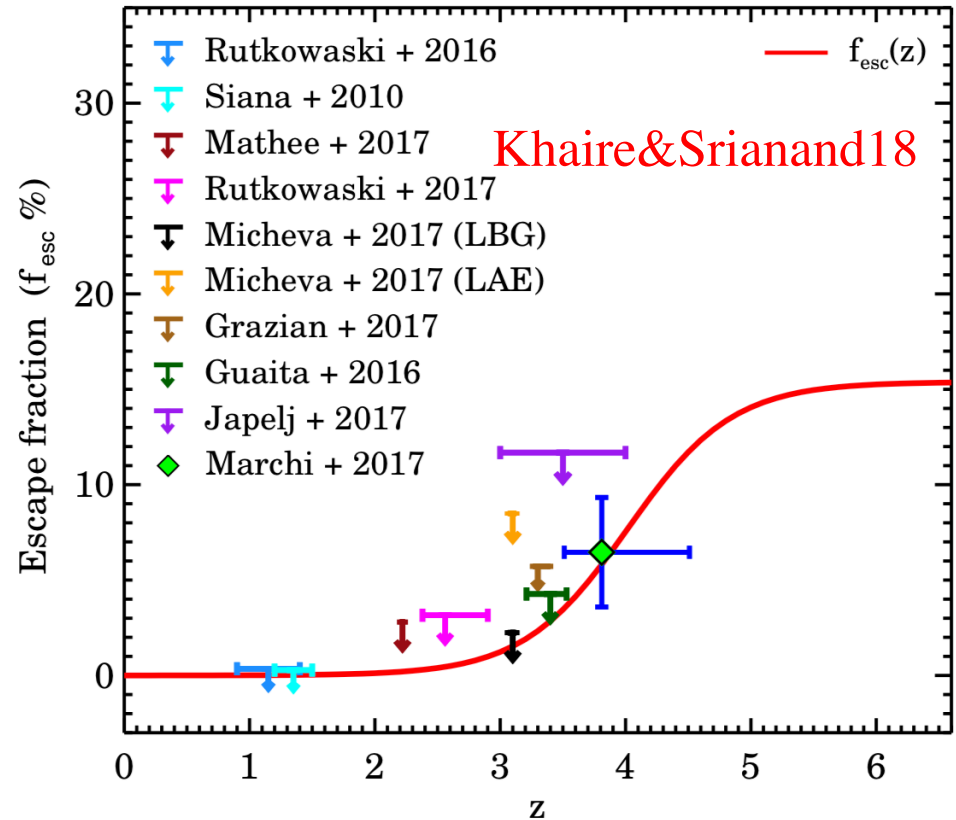
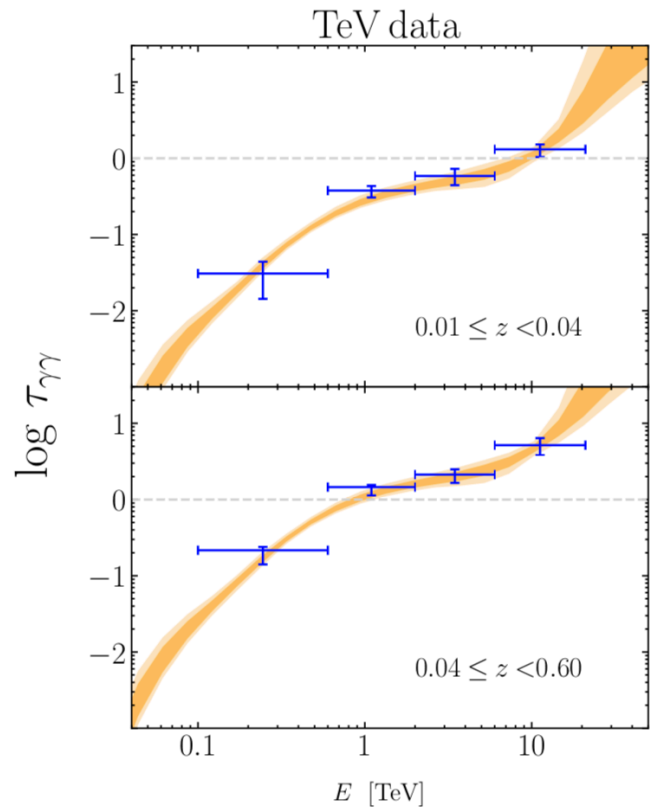
What will CTA do for the EBL ?



- Fantastic determination of the optical depth up to at least $z=1.6$
- Measure the far-IR EBL (dust) and its evolution
- Measure the Hubble constant with negligible statistical error



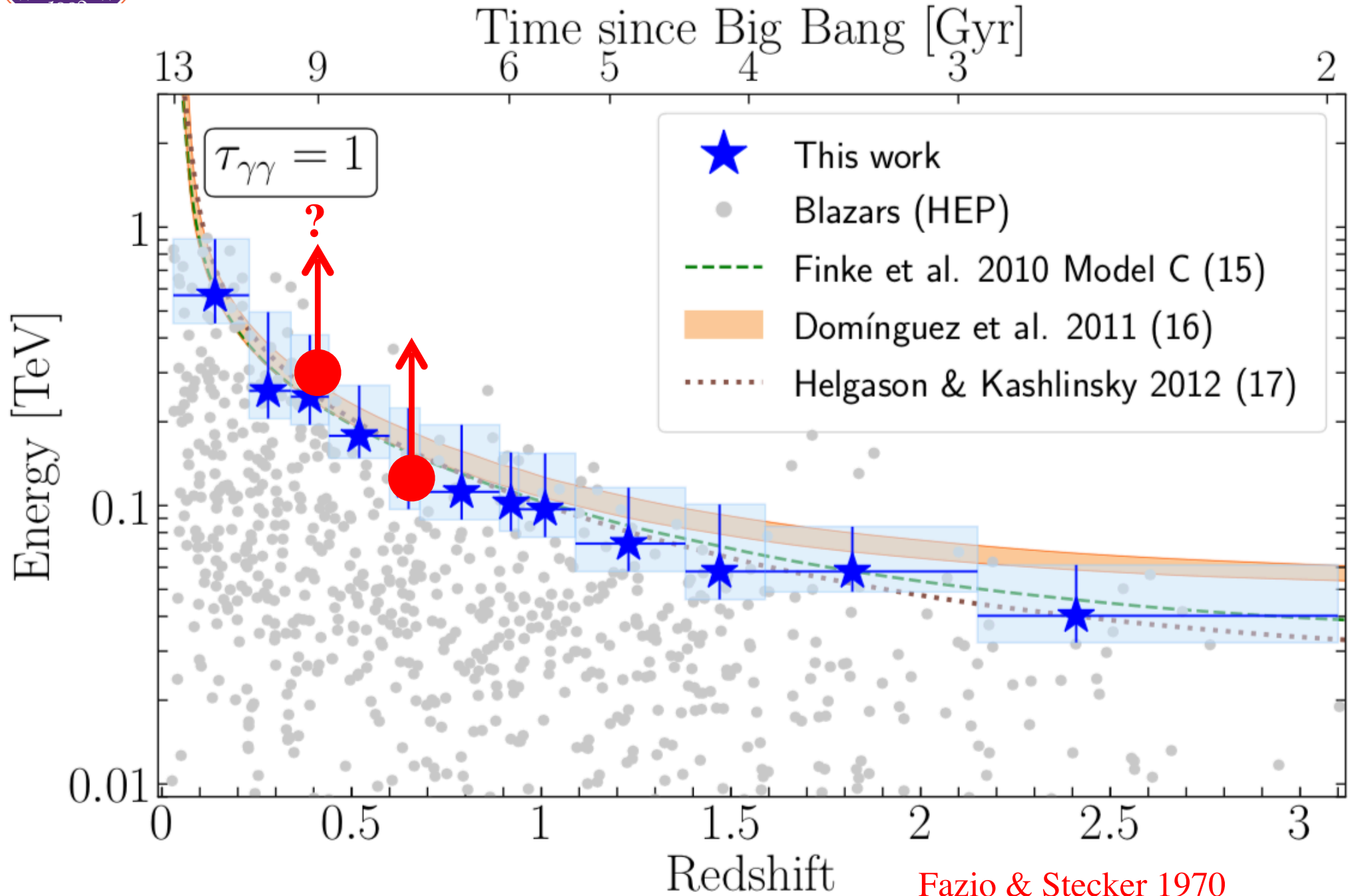
What will CTA do for the EBL ?



- Fantastic determination of the optical depth up to at least $z=1.6$
- Measure the far-IR EBL (dust) and its evolution
- Measure the Hubble constant with negligible statistical error
- Constrain interesting galaxy-related parameters

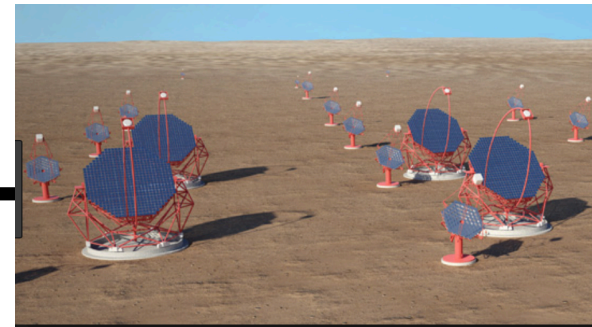


GRB190114c and GRB180720B



Fazio & Stecker 1970

Outlook



- *Fermi*-LAT has already detected more than 3000 blazars (!)
 - Assuming we can obtain redshifts for many of those and that the LAT will take data for ~20 years:
 - We expect that the S/N of the current EBL measurement will double
 - This will provide the best constraints on the evolving EBL and the UV background
- The Cherenkov Telescope Array will
 - improve our knowledge of the IR EBL and its evolution
 - provide stronger constraints on H_0
- Some of the most interesting EBL advancements may come from GRBs



Thank you !

- EBL is a powerful tool for galaxy evolution, star formation and cosmology

V. Paliya



A. Desai



K. Helgason A. Domínguez



J. Finke

