



International  
Centre for  
Radio  
Astronomy  
Research

# Galaxy Clusters, Axion Dark Matter and Bruce

Peter Quinn  
ICRAR





# Career choices Winter 1978

## SIMULTANEOUS X-RAY, ULTRAVIOLET, OPTICAL, AND RADIO OBSERVATIONS OF THE FLARE STAR PROXIMA CENTAURI

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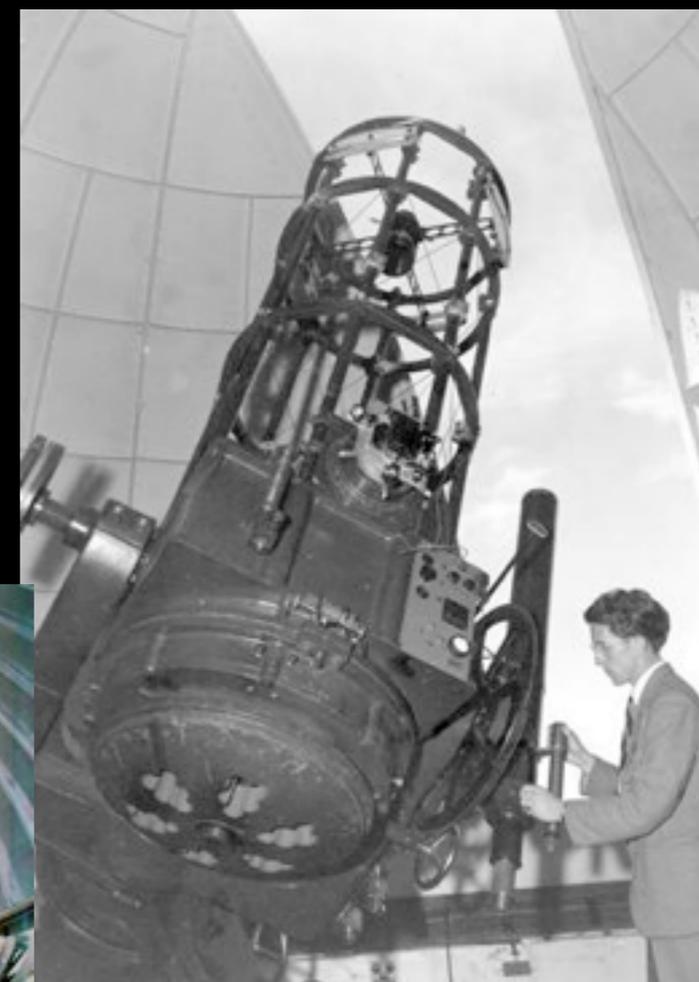
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*Received 1979 September 13; accepted 1980 November 18*



Glass plates,  
Kangaroos  
Canberra winter  
and black magic of  
photometry

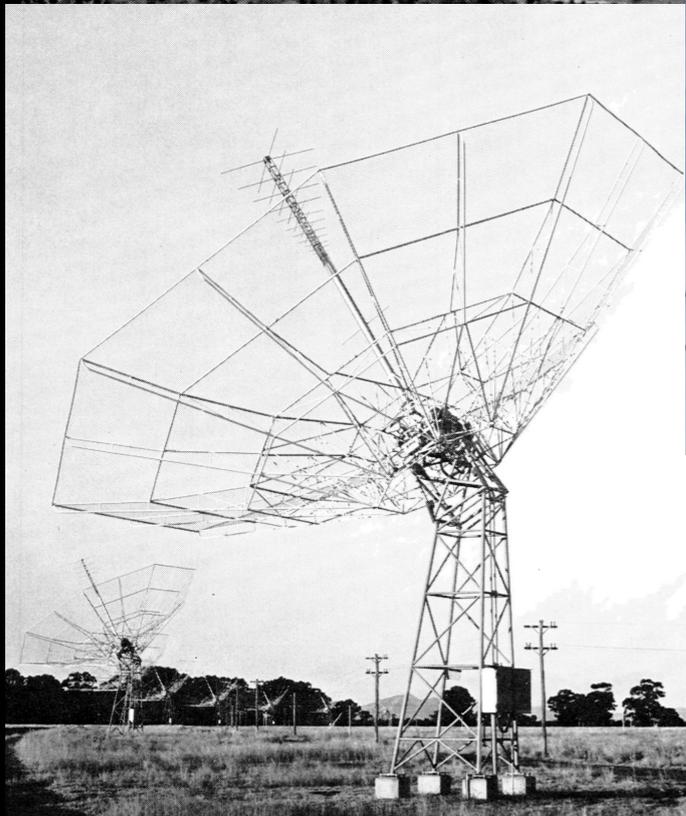
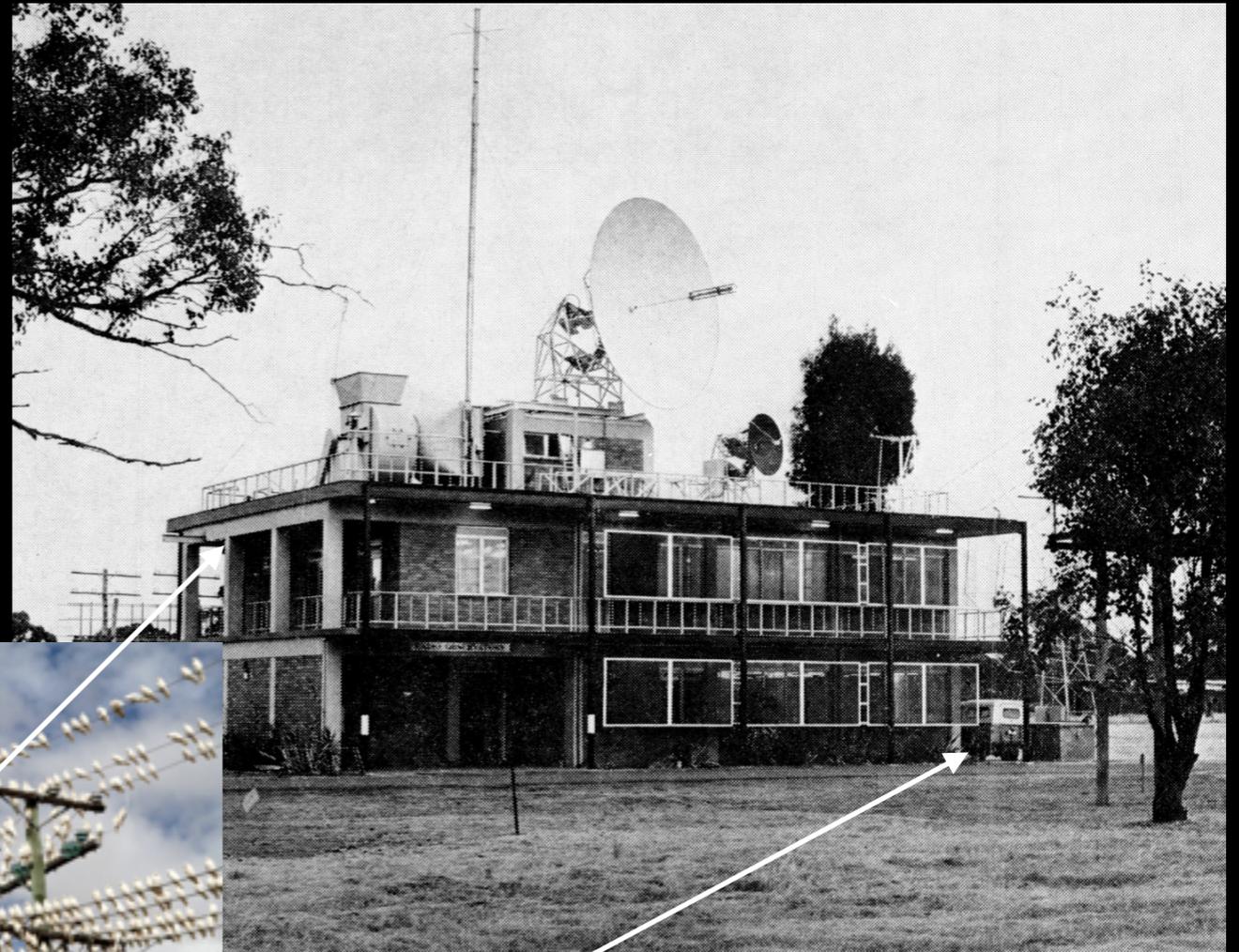


Optical astronomy ?? !





# Career choices Summer 1978



**Series 1 Landrovers**  
**Frogs and power transformers**  
**A few birds on the wires**  
**Narrabri Summer**



# Clusters of Galaxies 1979

Proc. ASA 3 (5) 1979

Observations with wide fractional bandwidths are clearly unique. The problems of interference and analysis still need to be fully solved before full application is possible to scintillation, pulsars, and to source variability in general

I gratefully acknowledge the help of O. B. Slee with the observations illustrated here.

Backer, D.C., *Nature*, 228, 42 (1970).  
Cole, T.W., and Milne, D.K., *Proc. Astron. Soc. Aust.*, 3, 1 (1978).  
Cole, T.W., Stewart, R.T., and Milne, D. K., *Astron. Astrophys J* 277 (1978).

## 80 MHz Survey of Extra-Galactic X-ray Sources

O. B. Slee *Division of Radiophysics, CSIRO, Sydney*  
P. J. Quinn *Mount Stromlo and Siding Spring Observatories, Australian National University, Canberra*

Proc. ASA 3 (5) 1979

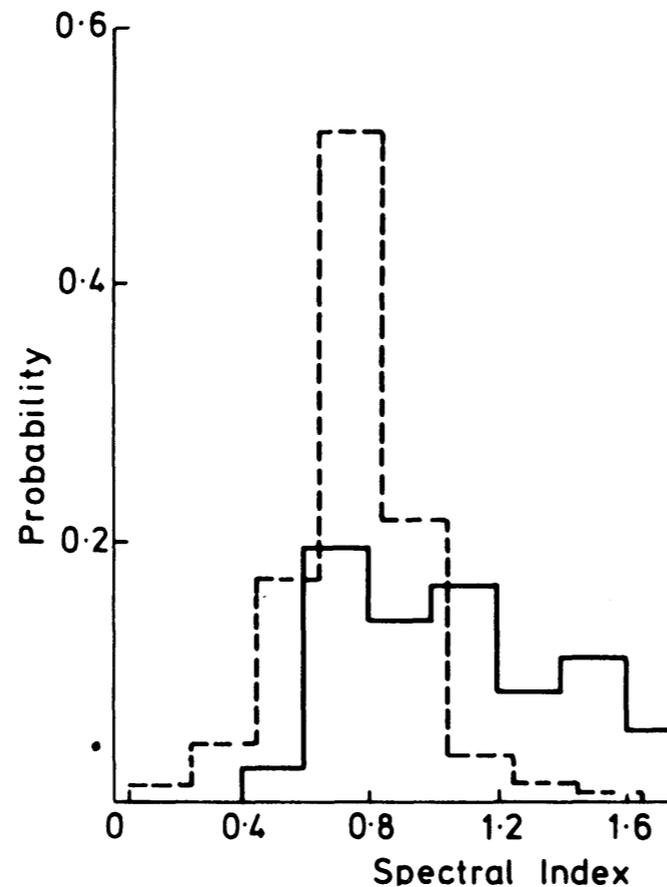


Figure 3. Probability distribution for equal interval frequency radio spectral index  $\alpha_{80}^{160}$ . The full line represents sources found near Ariel V error boxes, the dashed line represents other sources.

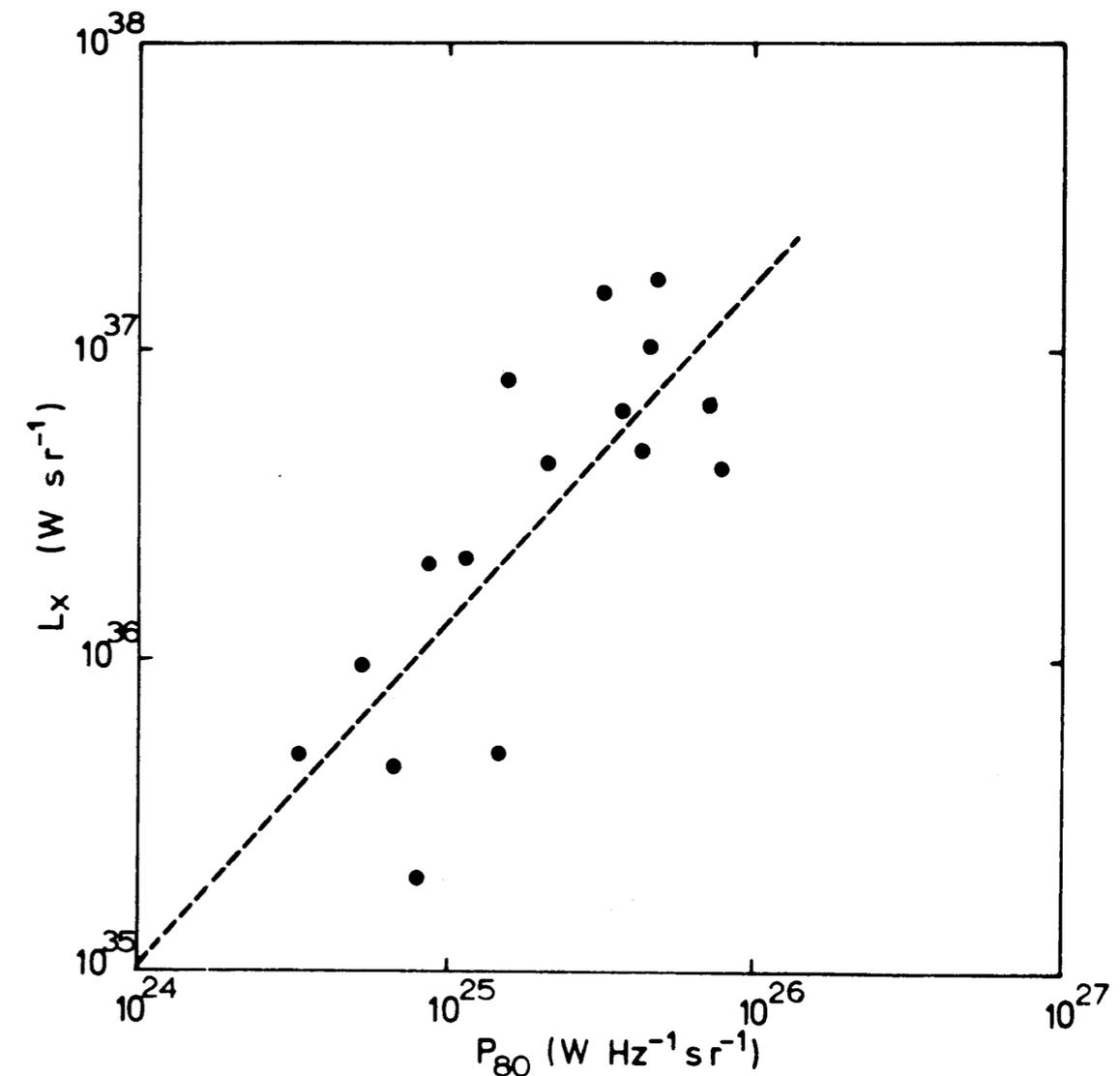


Figure 6. A plot of X-ray luminosity ( $L_x$ ) against 80 MHz power ( $P_{80}$ ) for all X-ray clusters in which 80 MHz sources were detected. The regression line for  $L_x$  on  $P_{80}$  has the equation  $\log L_x = 0.028 + 1.09 \log P_{80}$ .

27 Ariel V X-ray clusters surveyed

17 of these have 29 radio sources at 80MHz and 160 MHz

# Empty fields?

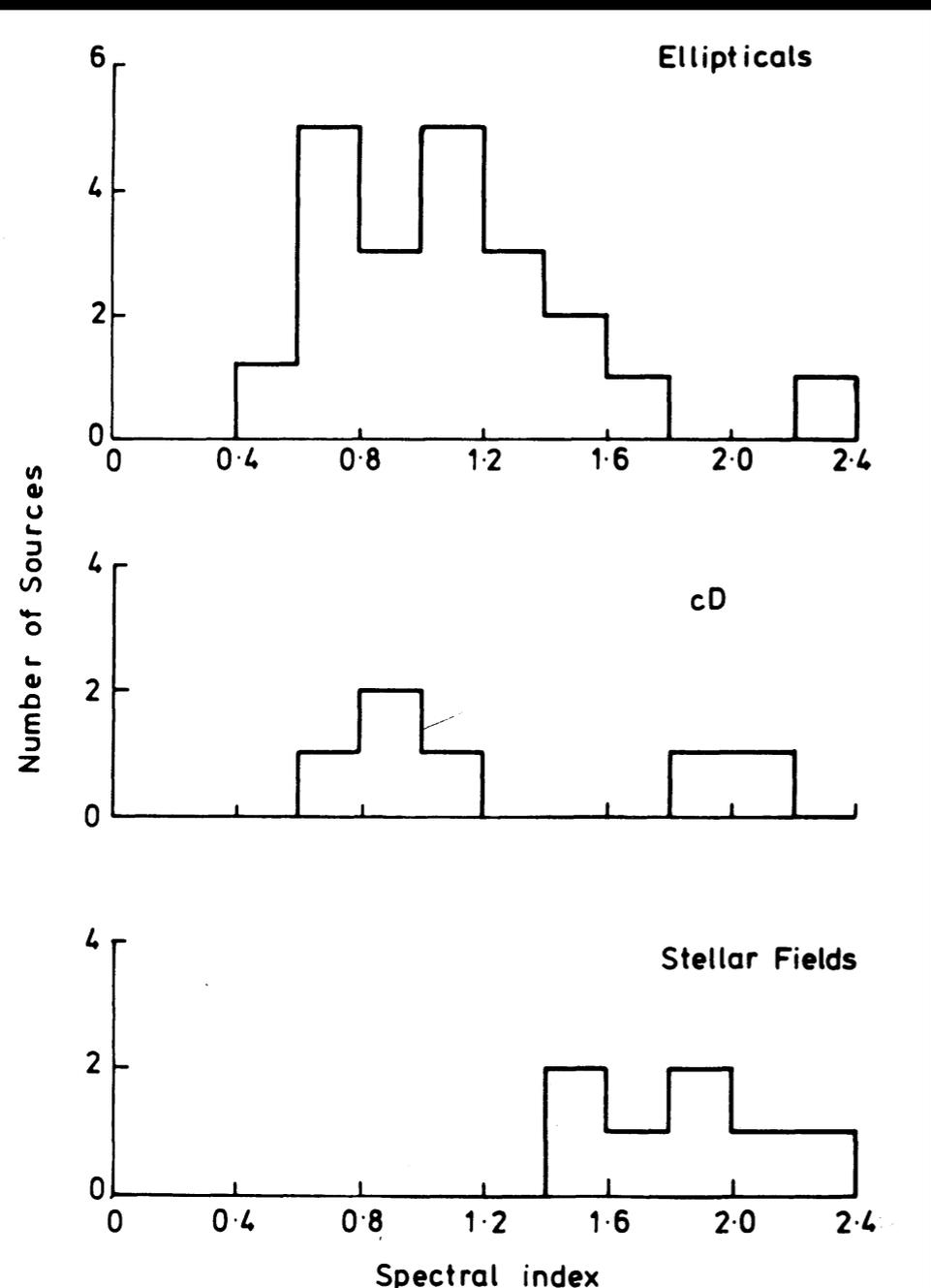


Figure 4. Distributions of spectral index  $\alpha_{360}^{160}$  for radio sources in various types of optical field. (a) sources associated with one or more elliptical galaxies; (b) sources identified with cD galaxies; (c) unidentified sources.

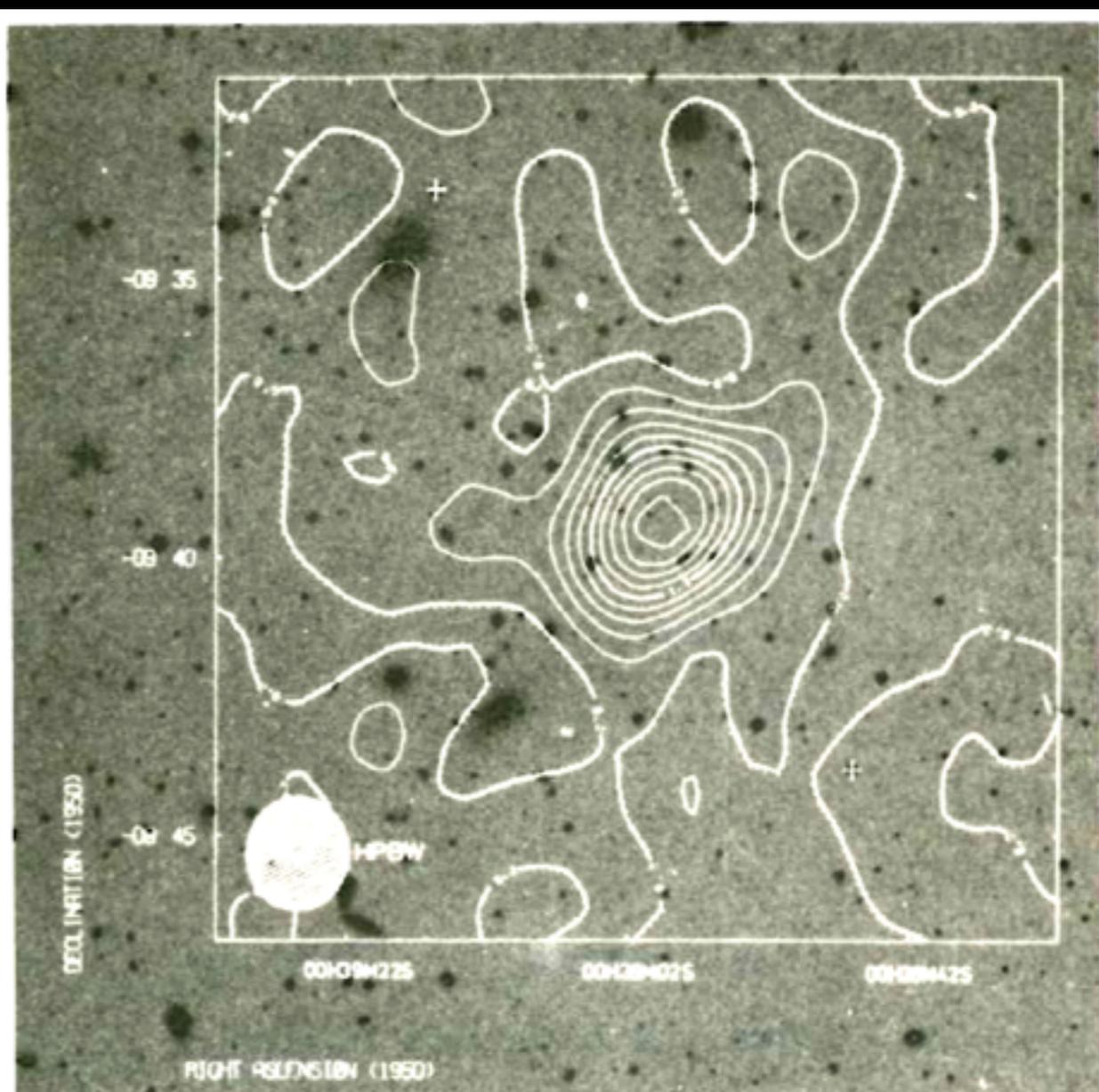


Figure 1. 160 MHz brightness contours of the steep-spectrum source 0038-096 superimposed on the SRC J plate of the sky near the centre of Abell 85. Contour interval is 0.38 Jy per beam with peak brightness of 3.82 Jy per beam. The half-power beam shape is shown in the bottom left-hand corner of the map.

**Early signs of radio halos and relics?**

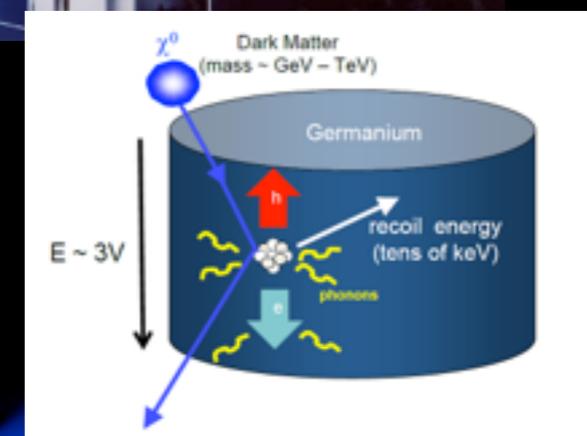
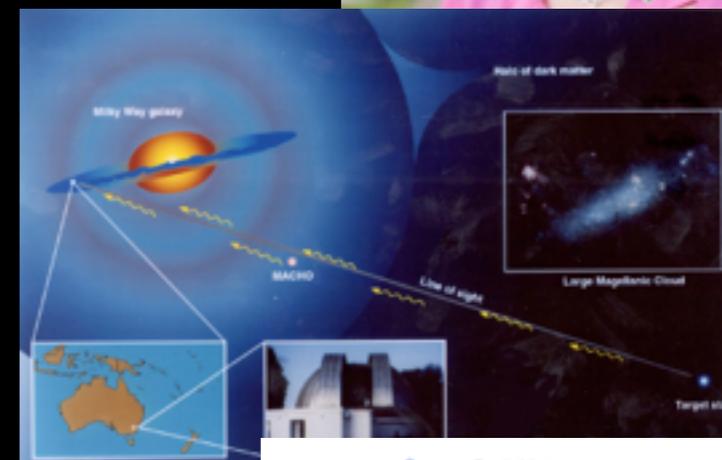


# Searching for DM 1990-2016

Work with Katharine Kelly, ICRAR graduate student

Three principal groups which could make up some portion of the dark matter density:

- **MACHOs:** generally accepted not to be in great enough abundance to account for all of dark matter - **Mass from lunar to solar masses**
- **WIMPs:** range of particles which are related only in that they are weakly interacting and massive, this is where the main effort has been in recent decades and there has, as yet, been no detections. The LHC is principally focused on searching for particles in this group - as are a number of other experimental groups - **Mass  $\sim 1 - 100\text{s GeV}$**
- **WISPs:** group of very light particles of which the axion is a member, there has been renewed focus on the axion and axion like particles in recent history due to the lack of success in detecting WIMPs - the key difference being that WISP particles have a lower mass and are unlikely to be detectable in a particle accelerator - **Mass milli - micro eV, &  $< 10^{-22}$**





# Comparison with other Dark Matter Candidates

DM Candidate	Group	Thermal	Boson/ Fermion	Mass	Temp	Annihilates
<del>Sterile Neutrino</del>	<i>WIMP</i>	<i>Y</i>	<i>Fermion</i>			
<i>Neutralino</i>	<i>WIMP</i>	<i>Y</i>	<i>Fermion</i>	<i>GeV - TeV</i>	<i>Cold</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Axions</i>	<i>WISP</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Boson</i>	<i>Sub eV</i>	<i>Cold/ Warm/Hot</i>	<i>No</i>

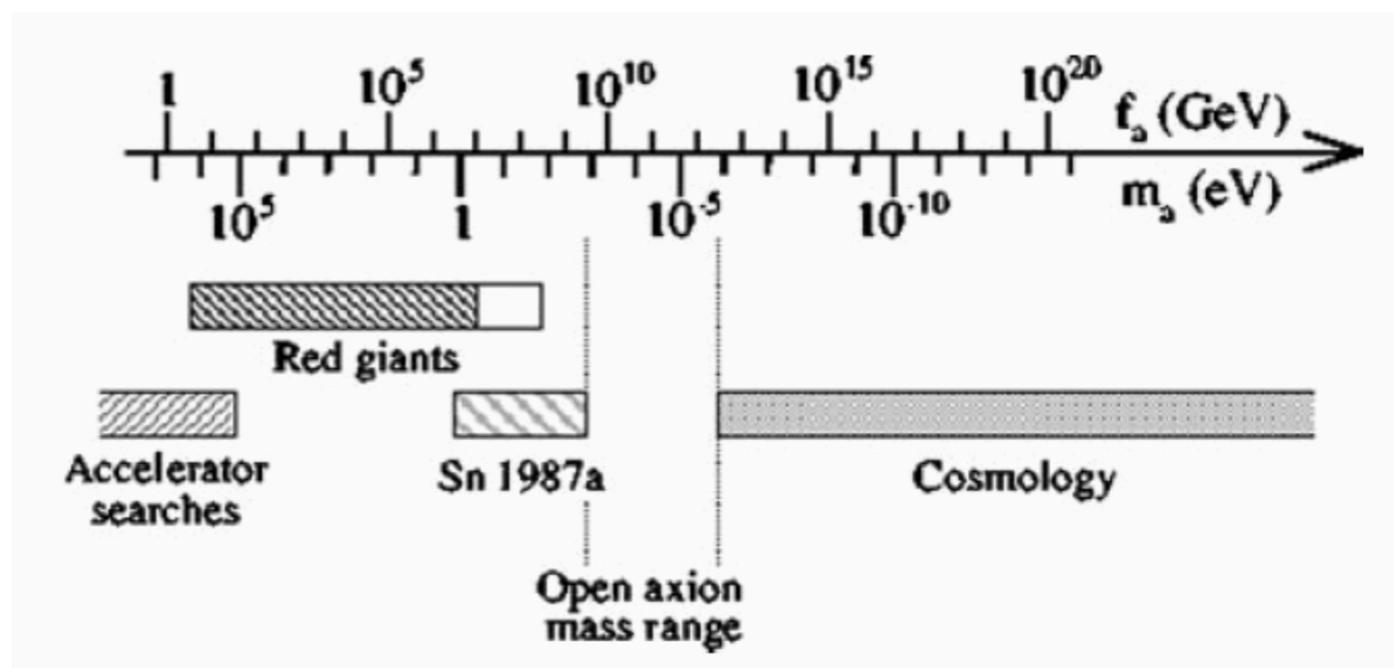
# Axions - good DM candidate

- Axion is still considered after almost 40 years to be the best correction for the strong CP problem in the Standard Model – one of only 2 unresolved issues in the standard model for the strong interactions
- Couplings to other particles and the axion mass are inversely proportional to the symmetry breaking scale  $f_a$ , currently accepted to be between  $10^9$ - $10^{12}$ GeV
  - Very weakly interacting with other particles
- Velocity of the primordial axion is non-relativistic,  $v_a \ll c$
- Abundance,

$$\Omega_{\text{CDM}} \approx 0.22$$

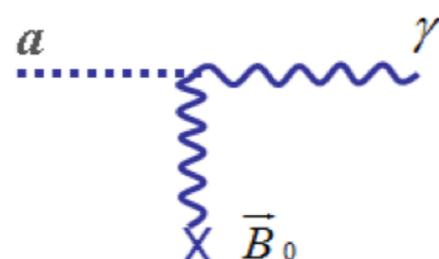
$$\Omega_a \propto f_a^{7/6}$$

In the currently accepted range this could account for the whole of the estimated dark matter density



# Are Axions detectable?

- The Primakoff Effect is the decay of a particle into two real photons
  - This effect for the axion has a lifetime longer than the current age of the universe
  - The conversion of an axion into a single real photon can however be induced by providing a virtual photon to the interaction through applying a magnetic or electric field
- In 1983 Sikivie published experimental methods which exploit this process and calculated the photon production rate to be inversely proportional to the magnetic field strength,  $B$ , squared

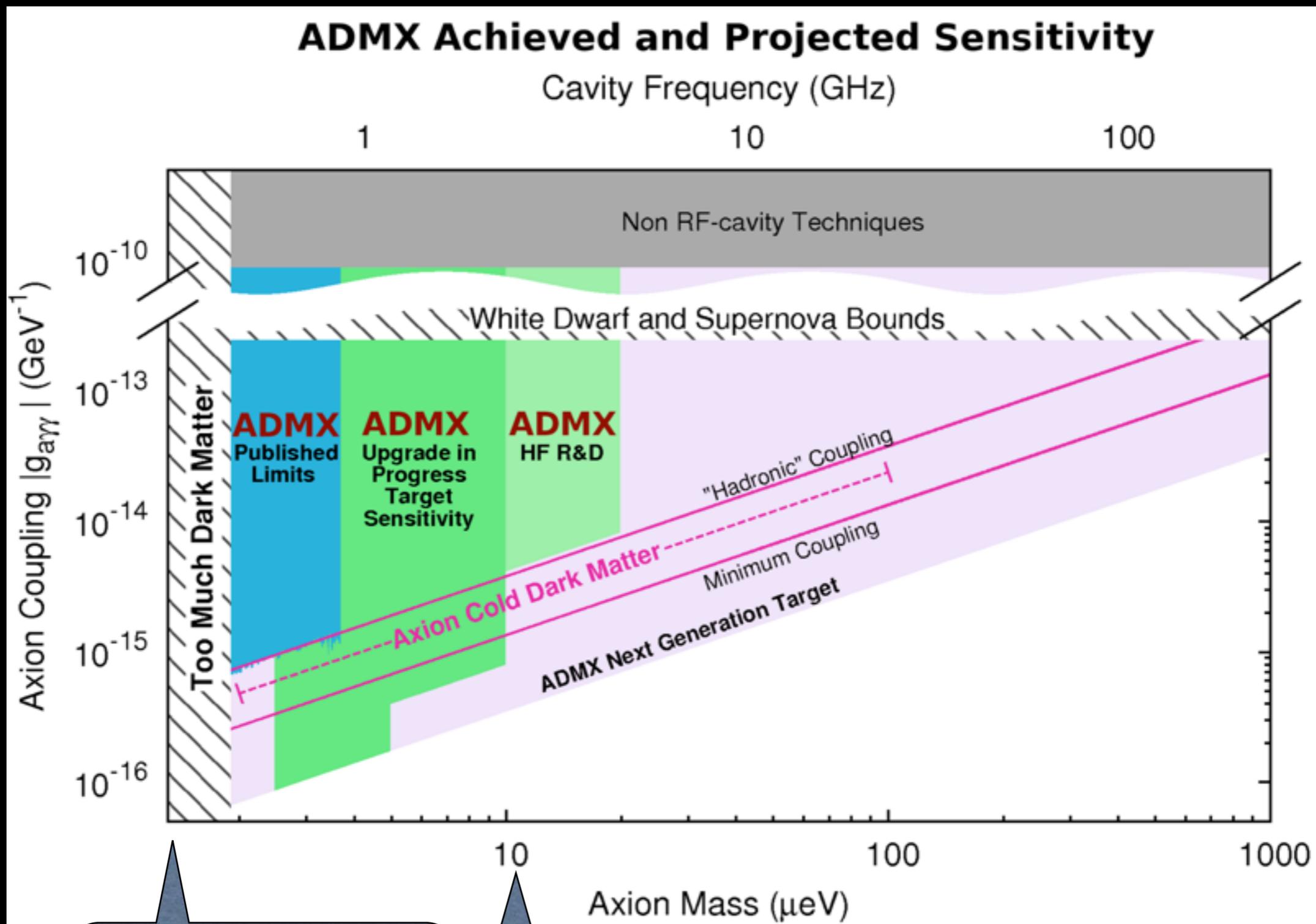


**Photon production rate  $\propto B^2$**

- The magnetic field must be transverse to the axion, and
- Energy and momentum must be conserved



# Never say never...radio astronomy 🤔

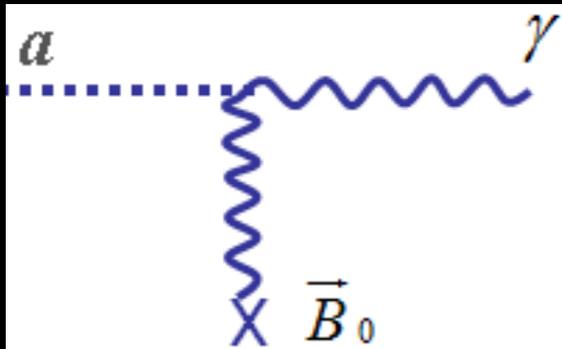


200 MHz

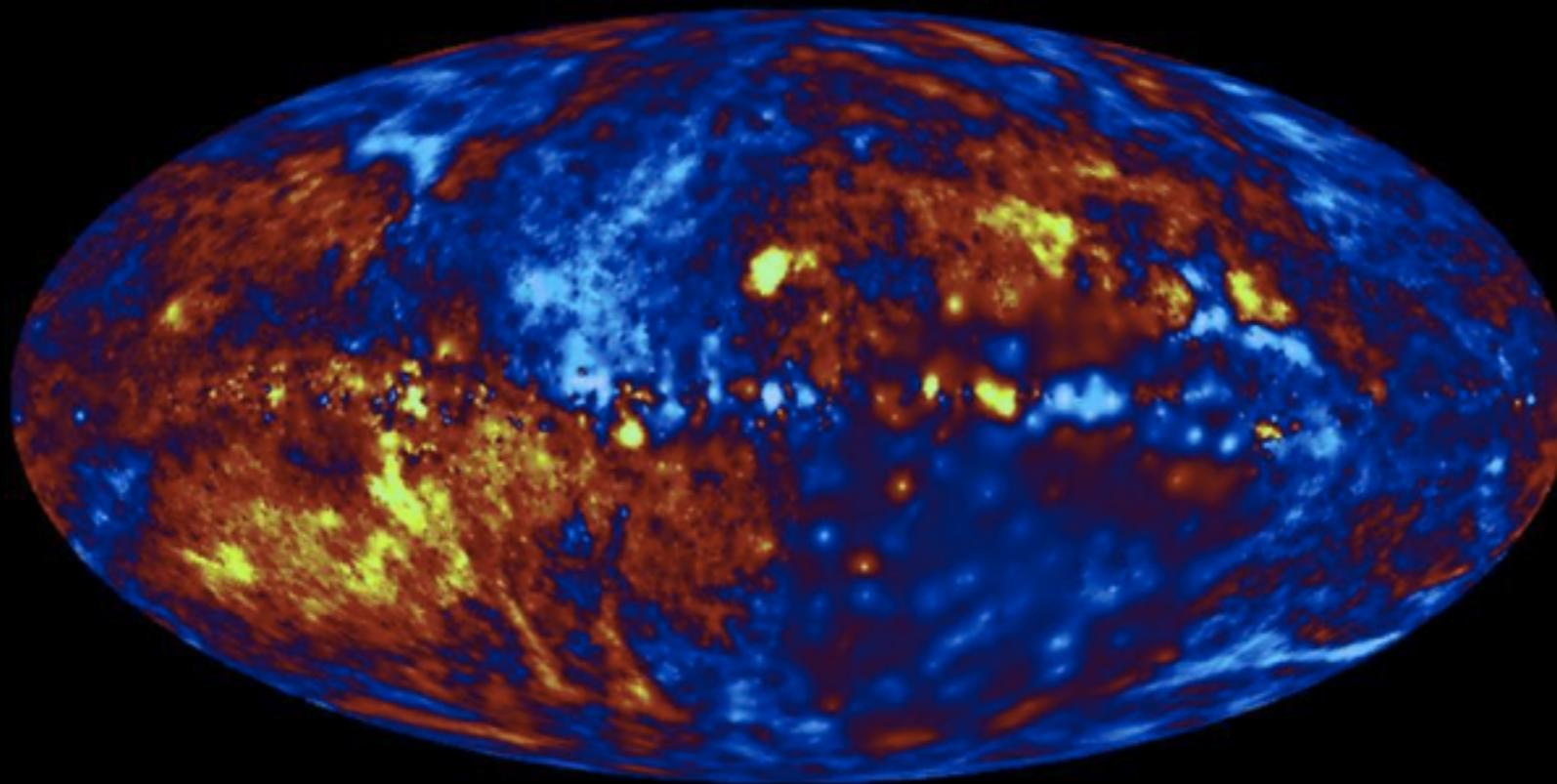
2 GHz

# Broad Band - low Field - large Volume

Sivikie 1983



$$\frac{\text{number of photons}}{\text{time}} = \frac{\rho_{DM,avg}}{10 \text{ g cm}^{-23}} \left[ \frac{1.6}{10^6 \text{ s}} \right] \left[ \frac{\text{Volume}}{1 \text{ cm}^3} \right] \left[ \frac{B_{avg}}{10^4 \text{ G}} \right]^2$$



Milky Way  
 B:  $10^{-6}$  -  $10^{-3}$  G  
 V:  $10^{68}$  cm<sup>3</sup>



Niels Oppermann, Georg Robbers,  
 Torsten A. Enßlin, MPA, 2011



# Astrophysical Sources

$$\Gamma(\mathbf{k}_a \rightarrow \mathbf{k}_\gamma) \propto g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 \int_{\mathbf{k}_\gamma} \frac{d^3\mathbf{k}_\gamma}{(2\pi)^3} \delta(k_\gamma - m_a) \sum_{\lambda_\gamma} \left| |\mathbf{B}_i(\mathbf{k}_{\gamma'} = \mathbf{k}_\gamma)| |\epsilon_{\gamma i}^\dagger| \cos\alpha \right|^2$$

**MILKY  
WAY**

$$Flux \propto m_a c^2 \Gamma(\mathbf{k}_a \rightarrow \mathbf{k}_\gamma) \frac{\rho_a}{m_a} \frac{V}{4\pi d_i^2}$$

**EXTRA-  
GALACTIC**

$$Flux \propto m_a c^2 \Gamma(\mathbf{k}_a \rightarrow \mathbf{k}_\gamma) \frac{\rho_a}{m_a} \theta^3 d_e$$



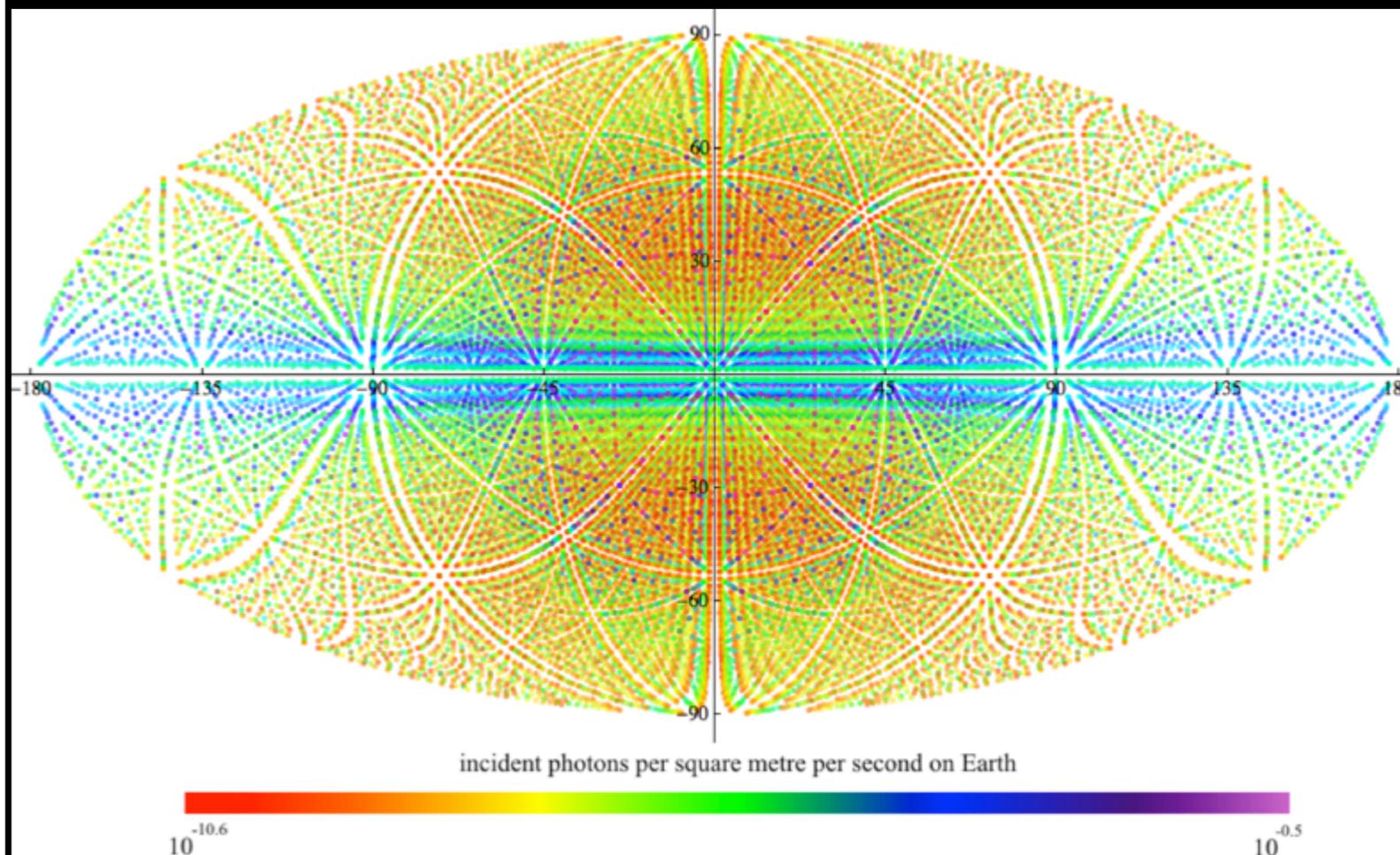
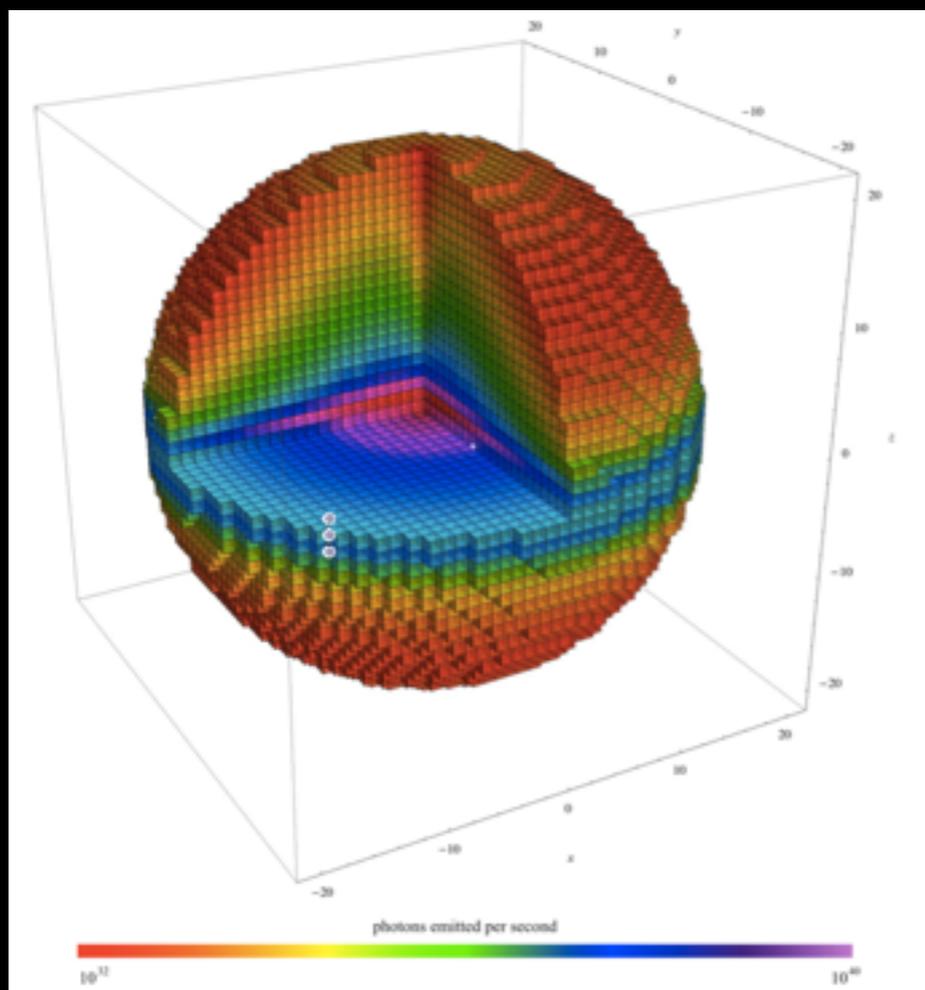
# Milky Way

$$\mathcal{L}_{a\gamma\gamma} = g_{\gamma} a \vec{E} \cdot \vec{B}_0$$

- Max flux at 200MHz-500MHz corresponding to zero momentum modes for the axion
  - Expect spectral profile to be asymmetric when including the energy distribution of the axion
- Line width: 1MHz (changing with the seasons)
- Polarisation of the spectral profile should trace the magnetic field
- Flux  $10^{-30} \text{ Wm}^{-2}\text{Hz}^{-1}$  – using magnetic field across whole sphere and assuming average magnetic field strength of  $1\mu\text{G}$
- $10^{-31} \text{ Wm}^{-2}\text{Hz}^{-1}$  - using only the Galactic Plane, assuming disc 3kpc thick and average magnetic field strength of  $1\mu\text{G}$
- Opportunities:
  - high magnetic fields and high densities are co-located in the galactic centre which may enhance the conversion rate
  - Observations can be made over long integration times
- Challenges:
  - impact of the directionality of the polarisation and the knock on impact on detection
  - Damping of the conversion rate due to the spatial profile of the field
  - Difficult to use interferometers due to the removal of the diffuse background by the correlation process
  - Line is very broad



# Axion emission maps - preliminary



Photon rates on Earth :  $10^{-10.6} - 10^{-0.5}$  /sec/m<sup>2</sup>

Total SKY signal  $\sim 20$  photons/sec/m<sup>2</sup>

$\sim 3 \times 10^{-4}$  Jy ( $10^{-26}$  W/m<sup>2</sup>/Hz) (BW=10<sup>6</sup>Hz)

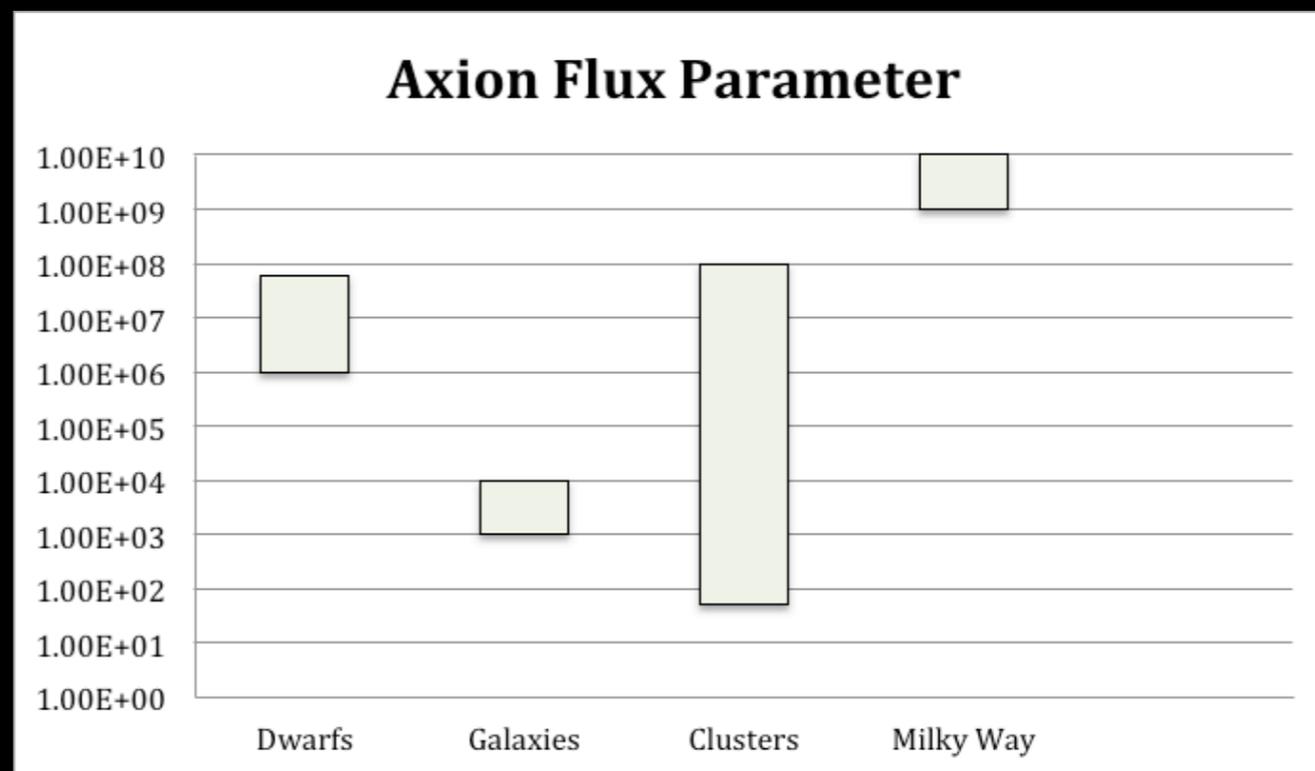
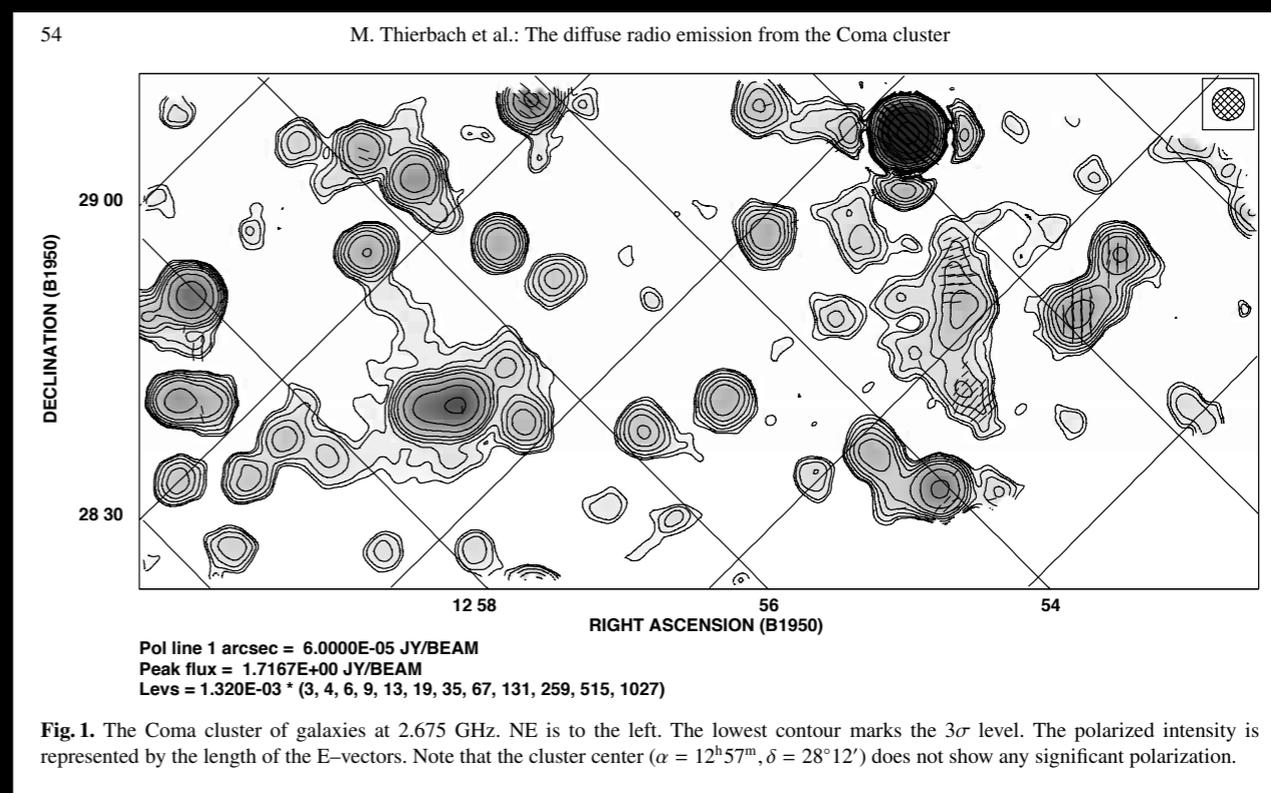
$\sim 3 \times 10^{-21}$  W into 1000 m<sup>2</sup>

work with Marc White

Dave Tanner

$$P = 4 \cdot 10^{-22} \text{ W} \left( \frac{V}{200 \ell} \right) \left( \frac{B_0}{8 \text{ Tesla}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{g_\gamma}{0.97} \right)^2 \cdot \left( \frac{\rho_a}{0.5 \cdot 10^{-24} \text{ g/cm}^3} \right) C_{nl} \left( \frac{m_a}{1 \text{ GHz}} \right) \left( \frac{\min(Q_L, Q_a)}{1 \times 10^5} \right)$$

- Line width: 2MHz, Based on velocity dispersion of  $1,000\text{kms}^{-1}$
- Polarisation should trace the structure of the magnetic field
- $10^{-33} - 10^{-35} \text{ Wm}^{-2}\text{Hz}^{-1}$  for Virgo, Perseus and Coma – with Virgo offering the highest Flux at  $10^{-33}$
- Mass density and magnetic field lower than that for Milky Way
- Averaging across the full volume gives a more accurate approximation than that for Milky Way:
- Opportunities:
  - Clusters can be stacked to improve the signal





# Precursor and SKA

Axion sky signal  
 ~ 0.1 mJy  
 ~  $10^6$  MWA sec  
 ~ 1 year given  
 BG

Telescope	Aperture (A) (m <sup>2</sup> )	A/T <sub>receiver</sub>	Sensitivity mJy/SQRT(sec) @ BW=1MHz	Total Axion Power received (W)	Axion Antenna Temperature (K)
MWA	10 <sup>3</sup>	20	100	2.6x10 <sup>-21</sup>	0.2 mK
SKA Phase 1 Low	10 <sup>5</sup>	1000	1	2.6x10 <sup>-19</sup>	20 mK

## Assumed description for SKA1 and SKA2

	SKA1_low	SKA1_mid	SKA2_low	SKA2_mid_dish	SKA2_AIP_AA	AIP_PAF	Comments
Collector type	Sparse AA [1]	15m dish [1]	Sparse AA [1]	15m dish [1]	Dense AA [1]	15m dish+PAF [1]	Offset feed dishes
No. of collectors	280 [3][9]	250 [1]	280 [3][10]	2,500 [11]	280 [3]	2000 [15]	
Frequency range GHz	0.07 – 0.45 [1]	0.45 – 3.0 [1]	0.07 – 0.45 [2]	0.45 – 10 [11]	0.4 – 1.4 [2]	0.45 – 3.0 [13]	50MHz goal
Max bandwidth GHz	0.38 [1]	1.5 [8]	0.38 [2]	<i>Depends on feed</i>	1.0 [8]	0.3	
Dish feeds:							
1. GHz		0.45 – 0.9 [1]		To be decided		0.45 – 0.9 [13]	
2. GHz		0.8 – 1.6 [1]			0.8 – 1.6 [13]		
3. GHz		1.5 – 3.0 [1]			1.5 – 3.0 [13]		
Effective FoV deg <sup>2</sup>		1GHz: 1.0 [1]	200 [4]	1GHz: 1.0 [1]		0.5GHz: 144 deg <sup>2</sup> [13] 1GHz: 36 deg <sup>2</sup> [13] 2GHz: 9 deg <sup>2</sup> [13]	15m dish FoV
No. of beams	160 [1]	1		1		36	
Sensitivity: /element m <sup>2</sup> K <sup>-1</sup>	131 MHz: 7.2 [8]	1-2GHz: 4.0 [8]	>90MHz: 14.3 [8]	4.0 [8]	<1.2GHz: 36 [8]	1-2GHz: 3.5 [14]	
total sensitivity m <sup>2</sup> K <sup>-1</sup>	131MHz: 1,515 [1] 300 MHz: 889 [1]	1-2GHz: 1,031 [1] 0.45-1GHz: 773 [1]	>90MHz: 4,000 [2]	10,000 [2]	<1.2GHz: 10,000 [2] 1.4GHz: 5,000 [2]		Sensitivity of AA on boresight