

# SKYSURF: Unveiling the Cosmic Optical Background with Hubble and a new 3D Zodiacal Light Model Optimized for Optical Wavelengths

Rosalia O'Brien





# Outline

Published:

**1. Sky-SB Measurements**

**2. COB Measurements**

Not yet published:

**3. A New Model of Zodiacal Light**

**4. Refined Diffuse Galactic Light Measurements**





# Outline

Published:

**1. Sky-SB Measurements**

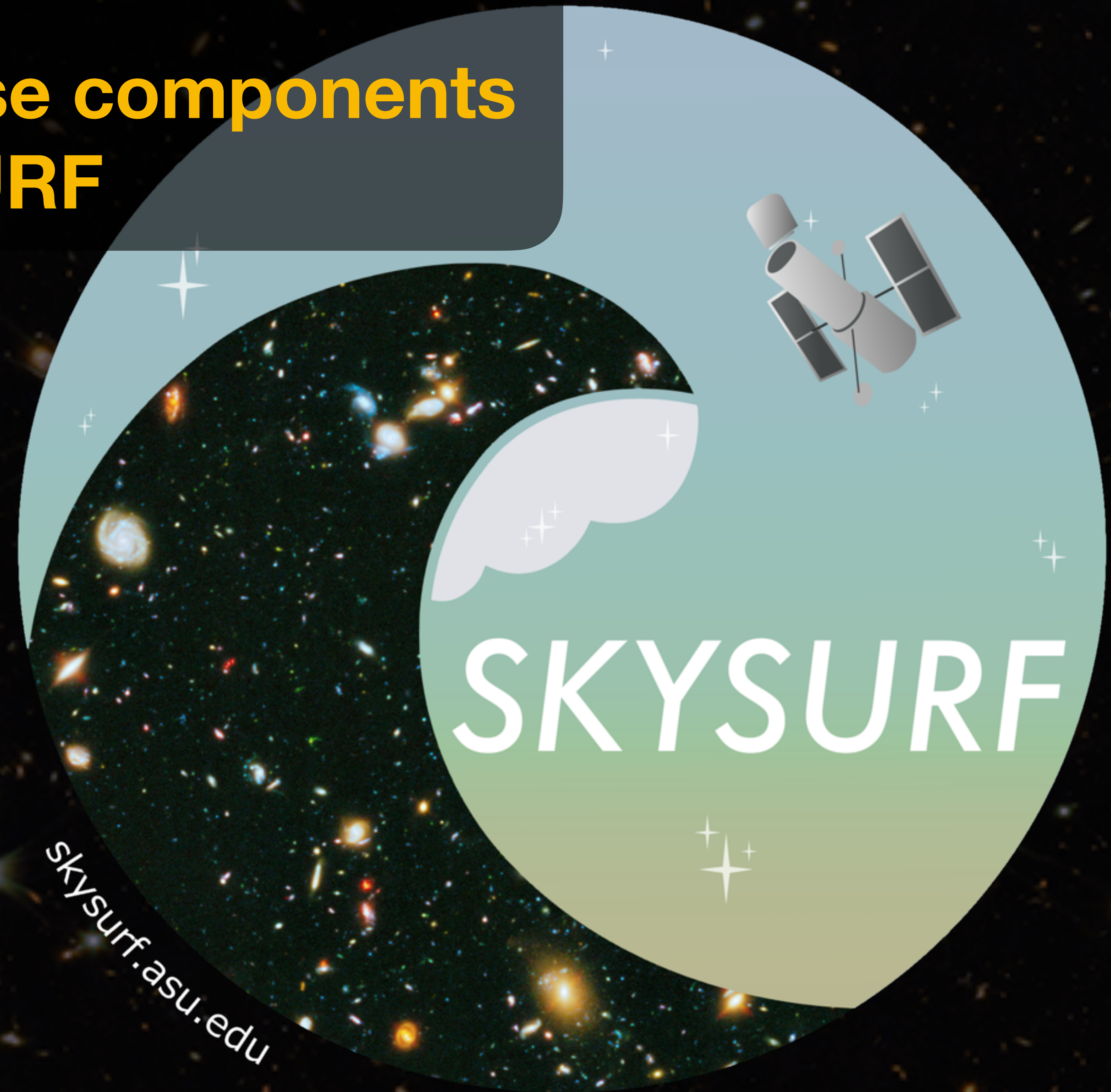
**2. COB Measurements**

Not yet published:

**3. A New Model of Zodiacal Light**

**4. Refined Diffuse Galactic Light Measurements**

**My focus:  
The diffuse components  
of SKYSURF**



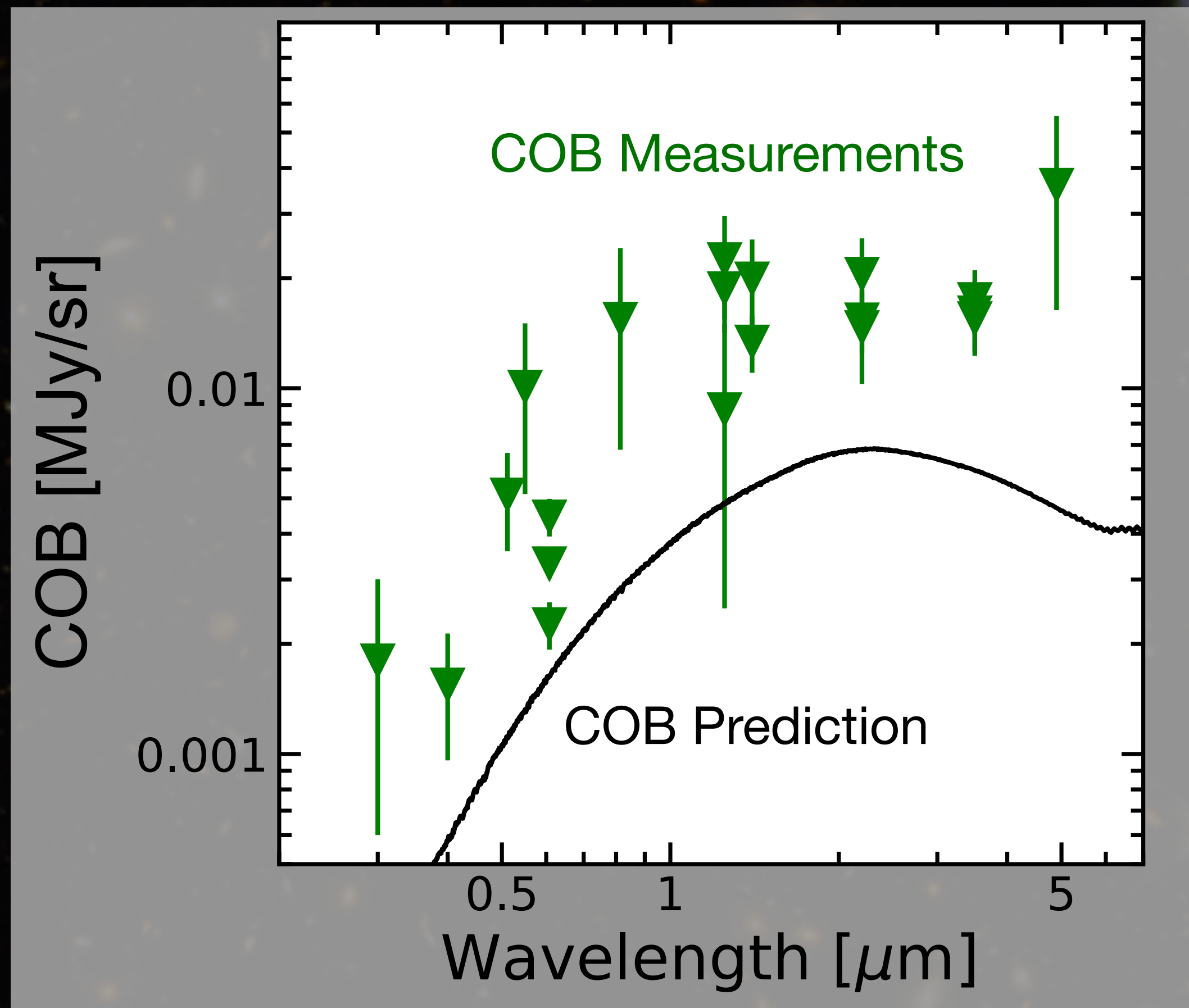


# Project SKYSURF

- SKYSURF-1 (Windhorst+2022) - Survey Overview
- SKYSURF-2 (Carleton+2022) - First COB Measurements
- SKYSURF-3 (Kramer+2022) - Testing Crowded Fields for COB Measurements
- **SKYSURF-4 (O'Brien+2023) - Sky Measurements**
- SKYSURF-5 (Bhatia+2024) - Cross matching with SDSS
- **SKYSURF-6 (McIntyre+2024) - Thermal Variations of Hubble**
- **SKYSURF-10? (O'Brien+2025) - Refined Zodiacal Light Model**



# The Cosmic Optical Background - Today



Current COB measurements face limitations due to

- small number of fields,
- narrow wavelength coverage,
- bright foregrounds,
- low sensitivity, and
- telescope systematics.



# Project SKYSURF

PI: Prof. Rogier Windhorst (ASU)

Over 200,000 images

Wavelengths: 0.2 to 1.6  $\mu\text{m}$



The Hubble Space Telescope

## Benefits:

- Extremely well calibrated instrument
- Thousands of independent areas of sky
- Broad wavelength coverage
- High resolution & sensitivity



# Project SKYSURF

PI: Prof. Rogier Windhorst (ASU)

Over 200,000 images

Wavelengths: 0.2 to 1.6  $\mu\text{m}$



The Hubble Space Telescope

## Goals:

1. Measure the sky in all Hubble images
2. Retrieve COB signal by subtracting foregrounds



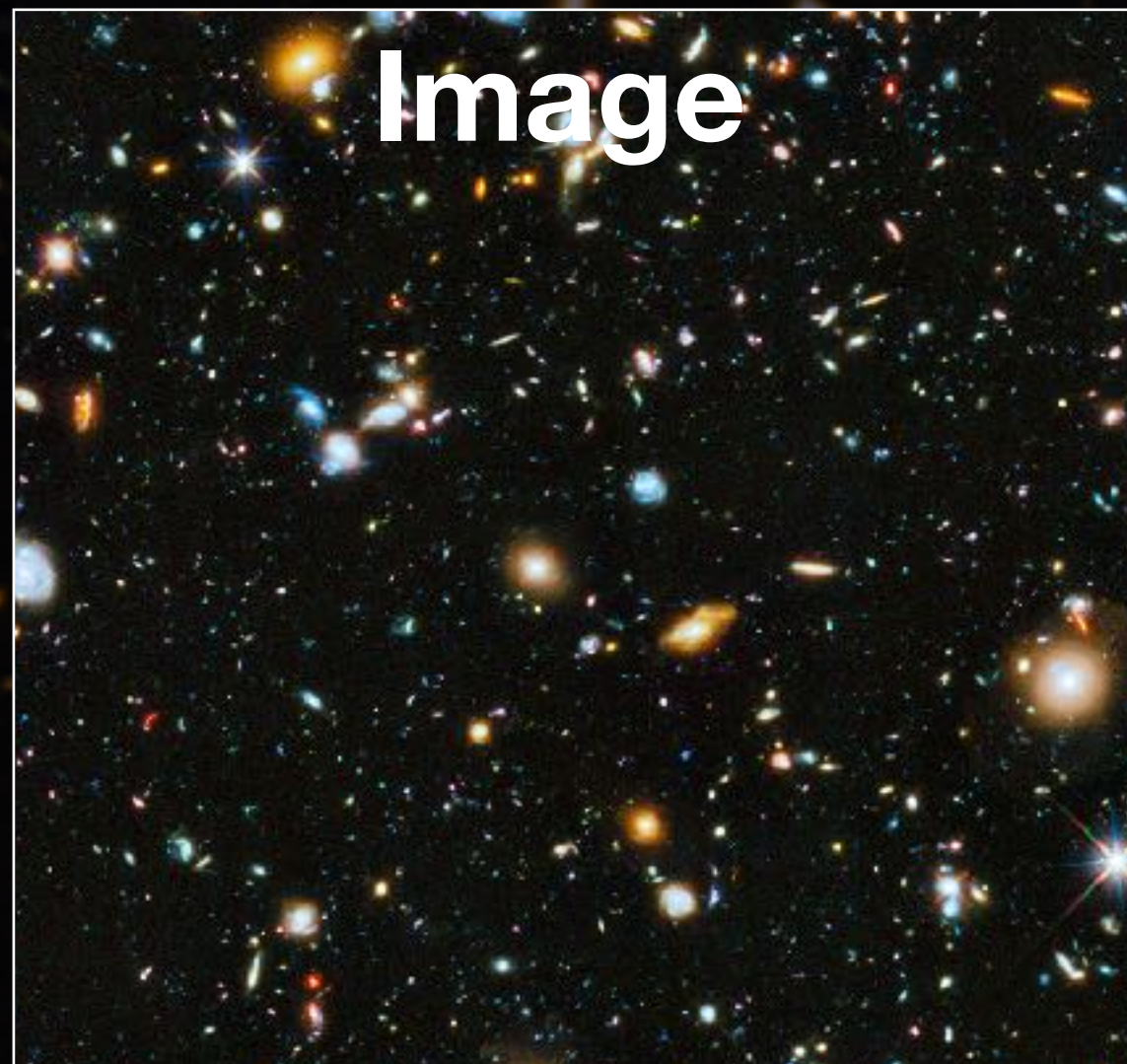
Over 200,000 images

Wavelengths: 0.2 to 1.6  $\mu\text{m}$

# 1. Measure the sky surface brightness (sky-SB)

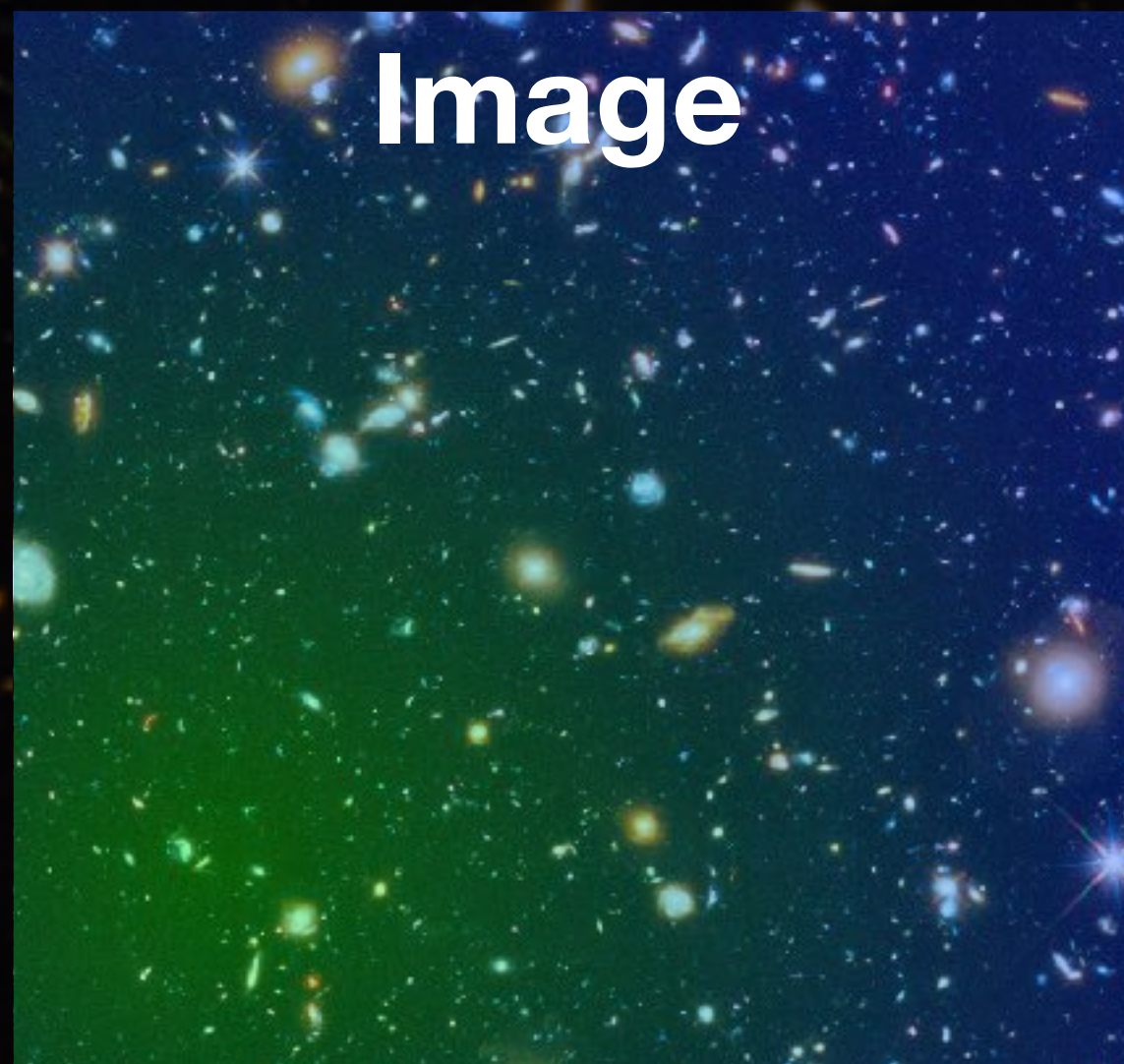


What is the sky surface brightness (sky-SB)?





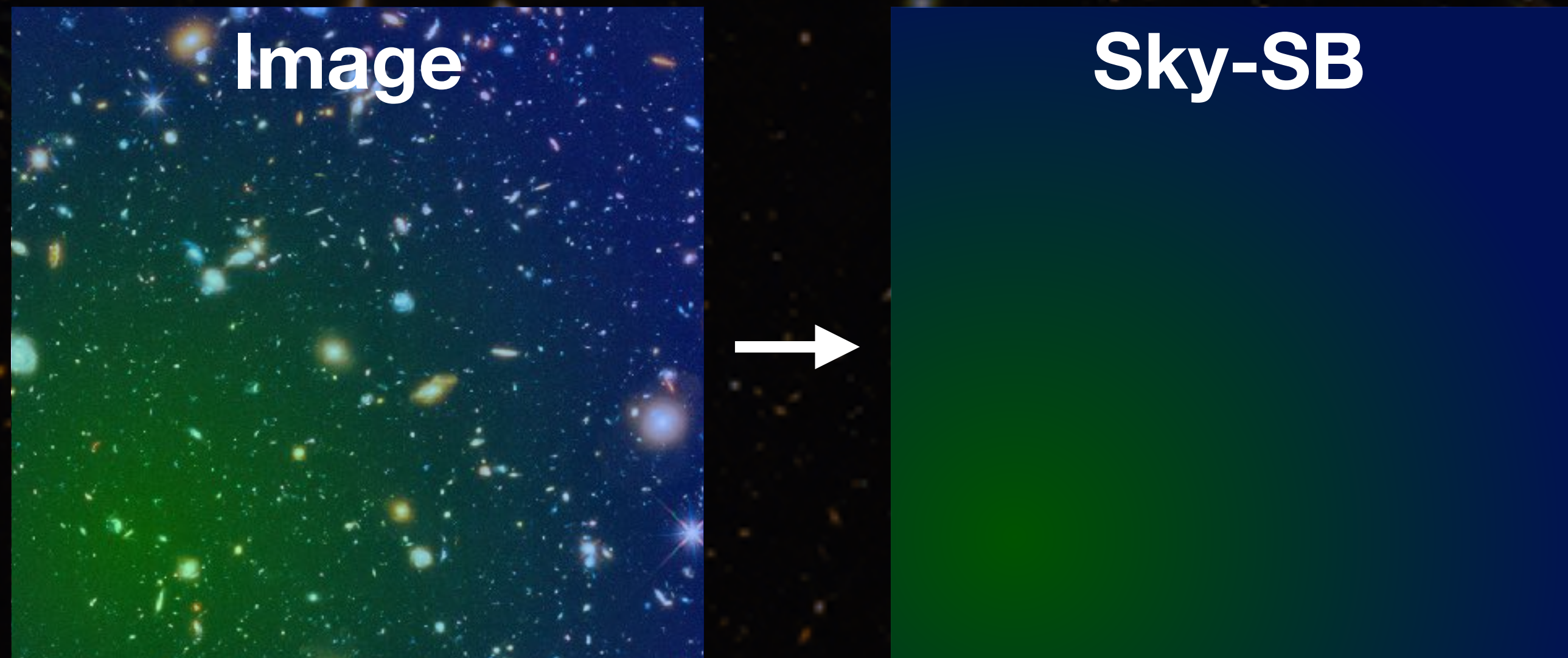
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What is the sky surface brightness (sky-SB)?

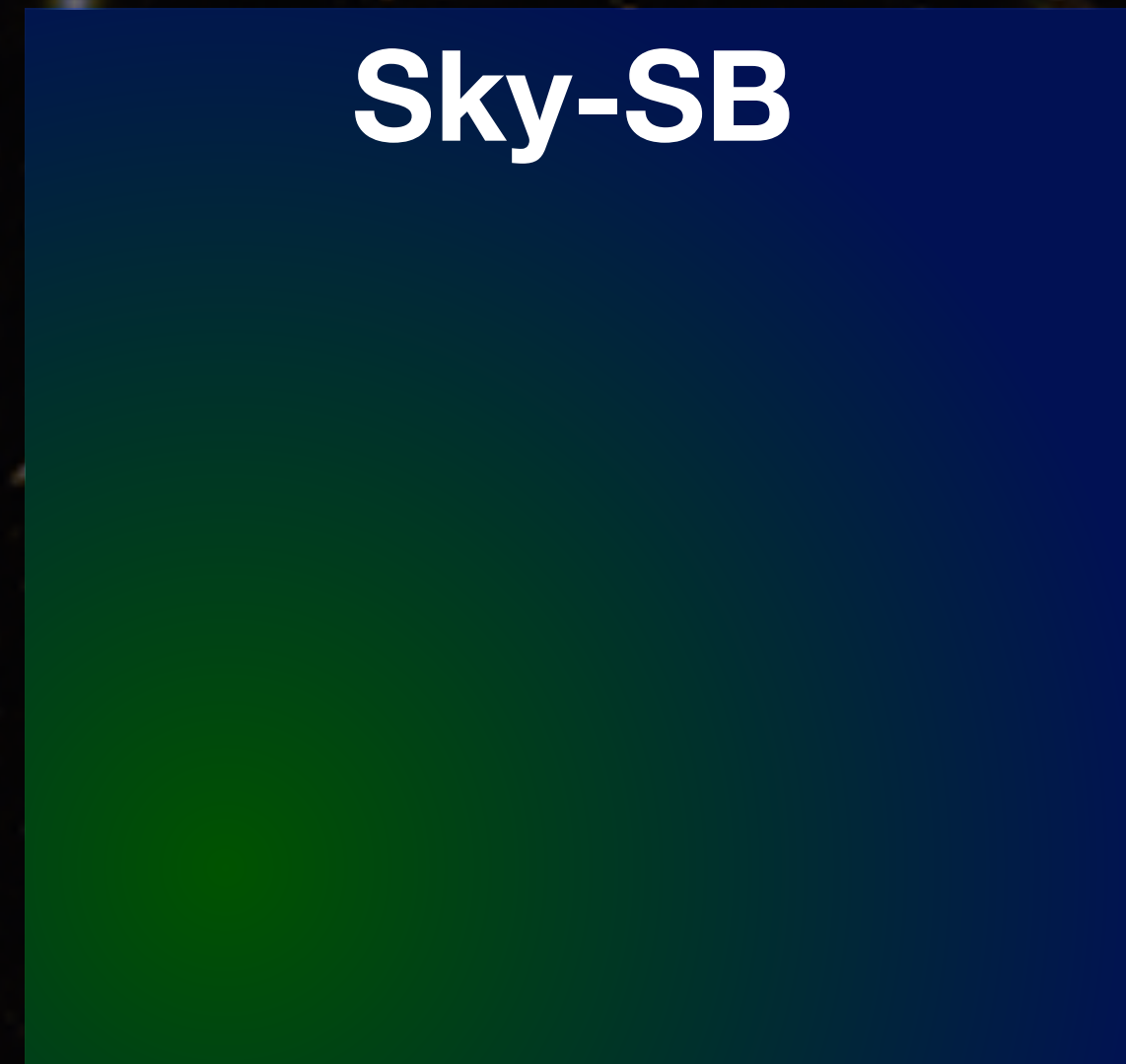
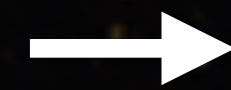
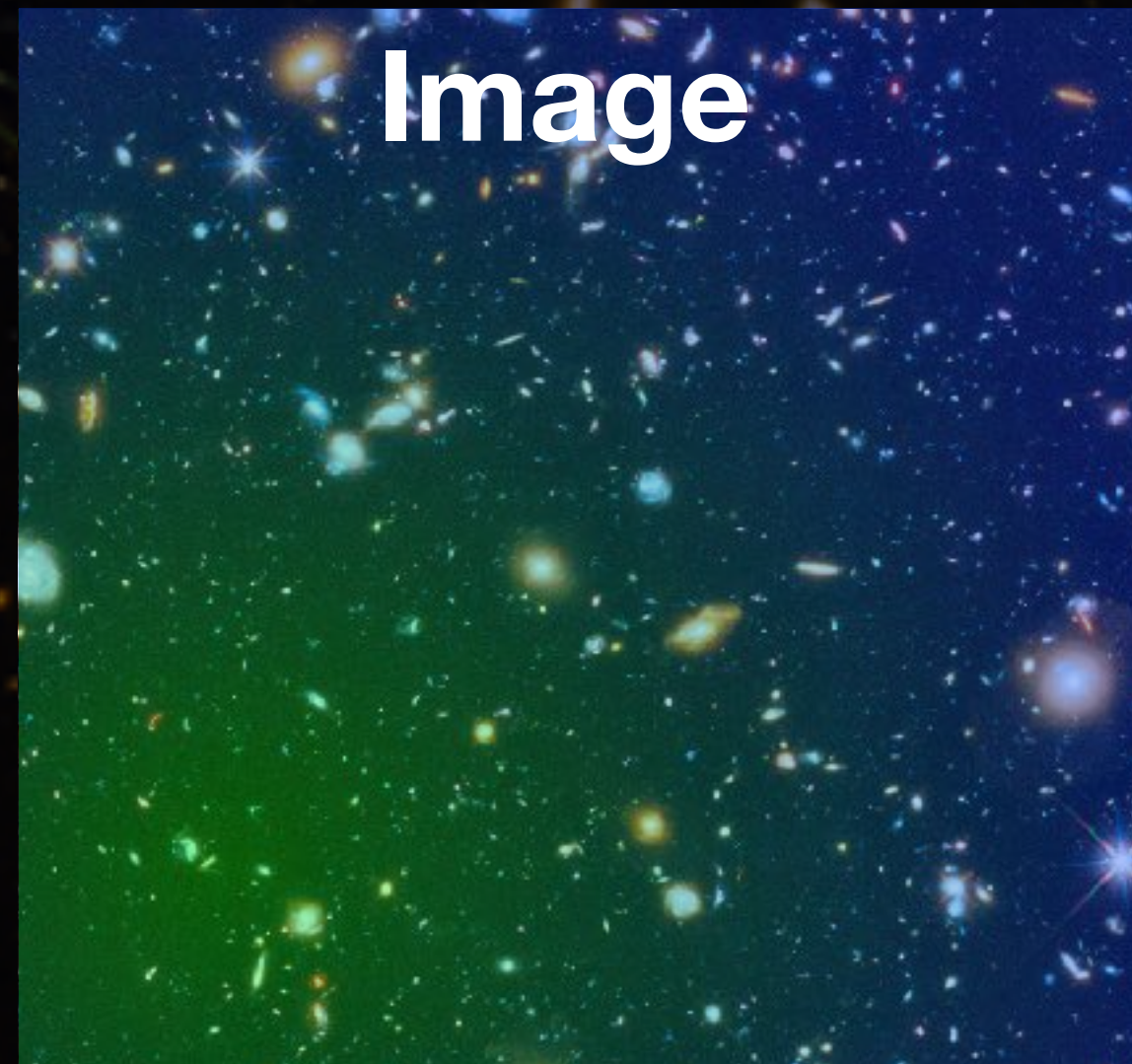
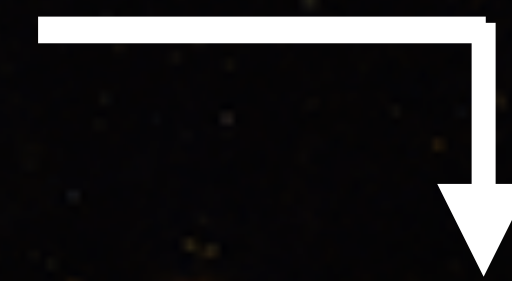
## Sky-Surface Brightness (sky-SB)





What is the sky surface brightness (sky-SB)?

**Sky-Surface Brightness (sky-SB)**



**Zodiacal Light** - Light scattered by dust in our Solar System

**Diffuse Galactic Light** - Light scattered by Milky Way ISM

**COB/ EBL**

Other



# Sky-SB Measurements

THE ASTRONOMICAL JOURNAL, 165:237 (25pp), 2023 June





















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**OPEN ACCESS**

<https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-3881/accee>



## SKYSURF-4: Panchromatic Hubble Space Telescope All-Sky Surface-brightness Measurement Methods and Results

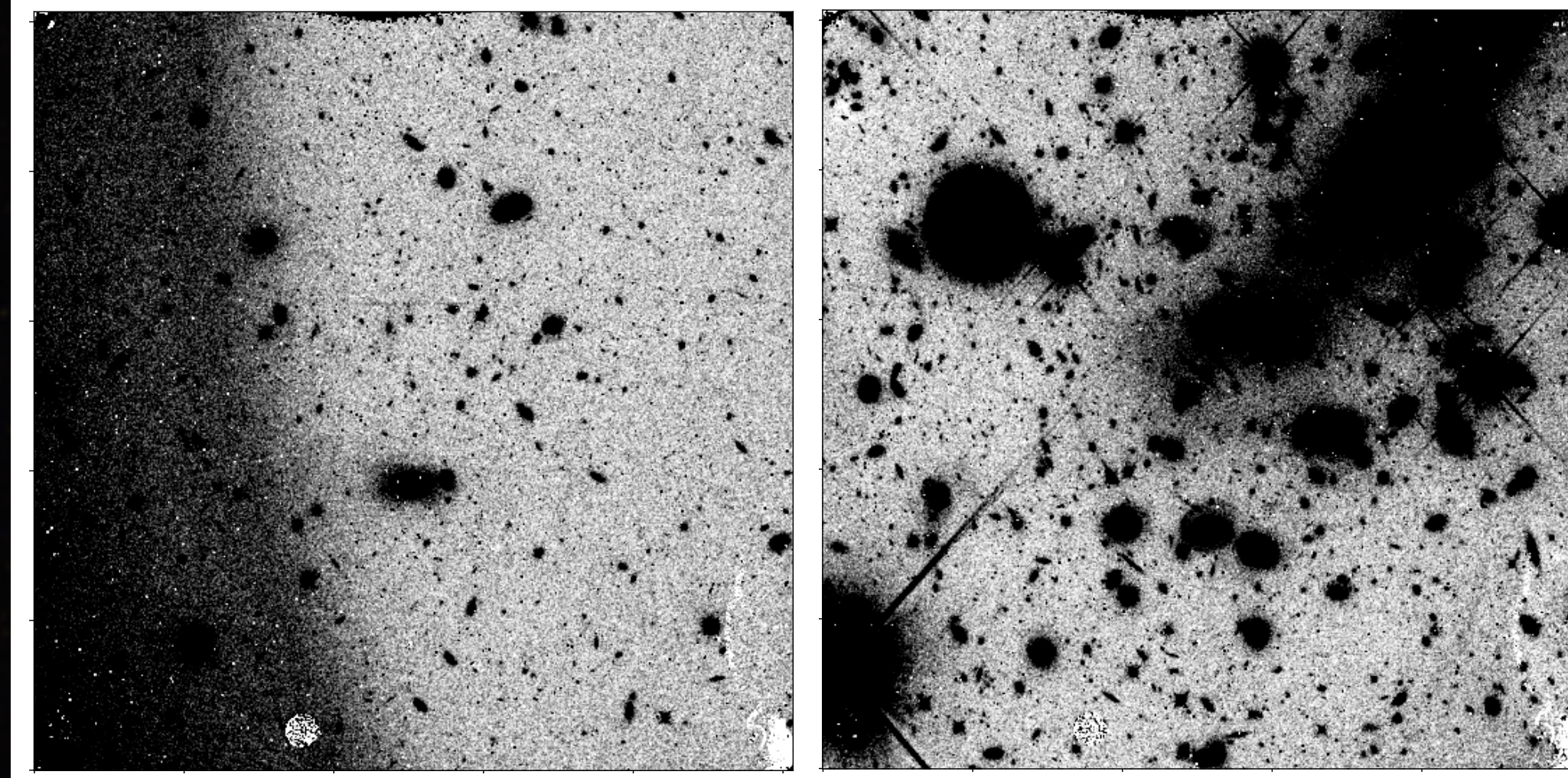
Rosalia O'Brien<sup>1</sup> , Timothy Carleton<sup>1</sup> , Rogier A. Windhorst<sup>1</sup> , Rolf A. Jansen<sup>1</sup> , Delondrae Carter<sup>1</sup> , Scott Tompkins<sup>2</sup> , Sarah Caddy<sup>3</sup> , Seth H. Cohen<sup>1</sup> , Haley Abate<sup>1</sup>, Richard G. Arendt<sup>4</sup> , Jessica Berkheimer<sup>1</sup> , Annalisa Calamida<sup>5</sup> , Stefano Casertano<sup>5</sup>, Simon P. Driver<sup>6</sup> , Connor Gelb<sup>1</sup>, Zak Goisman<sup>1</sup>, Norman Grogin<sup>5</sup> , Daniel Henningsen<sup>1</sup> , Isabela Huckabee<sup>1</sup> , Scott J. Kenyon<sup>7</sup> , Anton M. Koekemoer<sup>5</sup> , Darby Kramer<sup>1</sup> , John Mackenty<sup>5</sup> , Aaron Robotham<sup>6</sup> , and Steven Sherman<sup>1</sup>

+150,000 Public Sky-SB Measurements  
<3% Uncertainties  
Preliminary COB Measurements



# Sky-SB Measurements

Real Hubble  
Images:

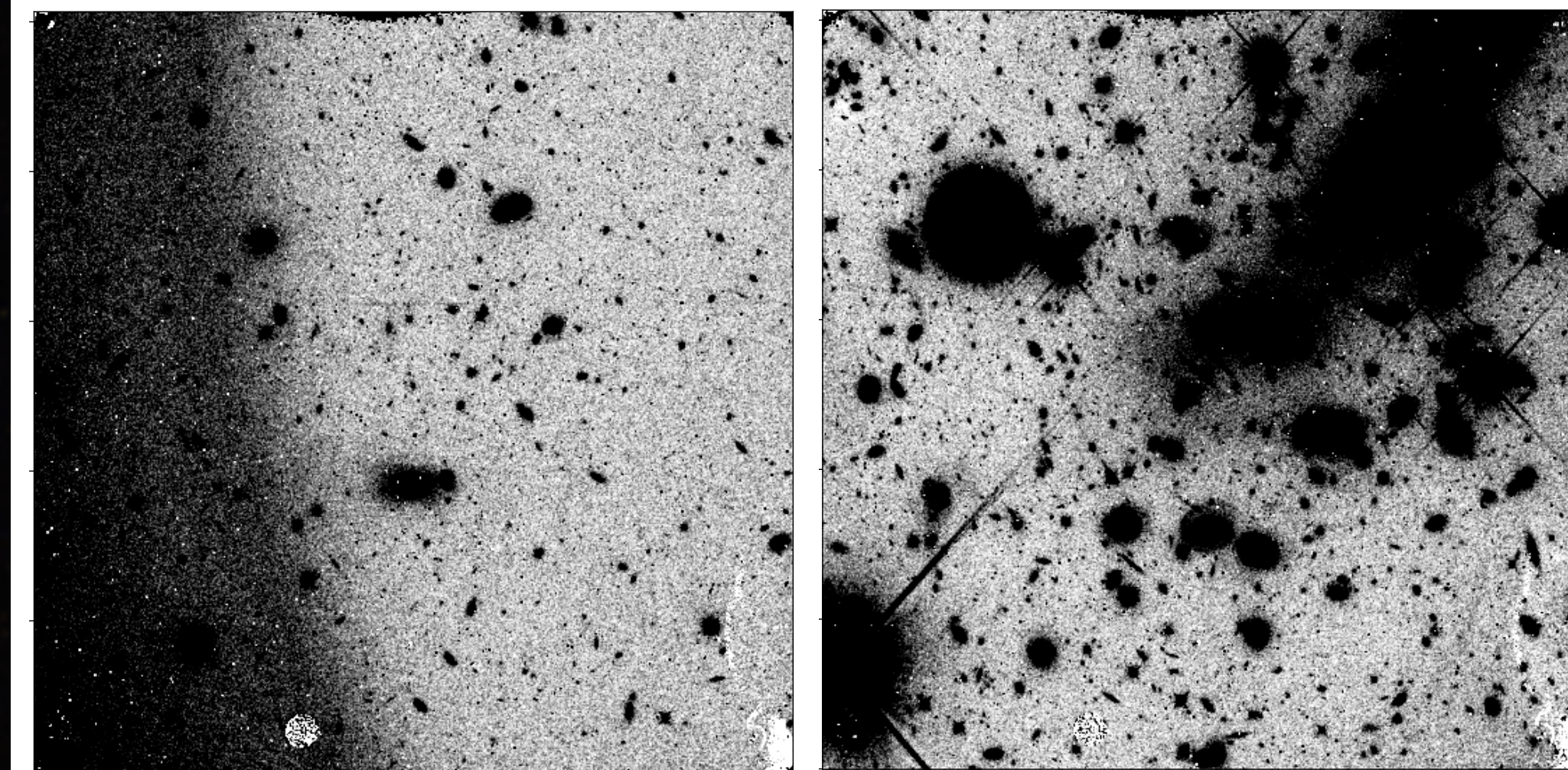


O'Brien et al. 2023

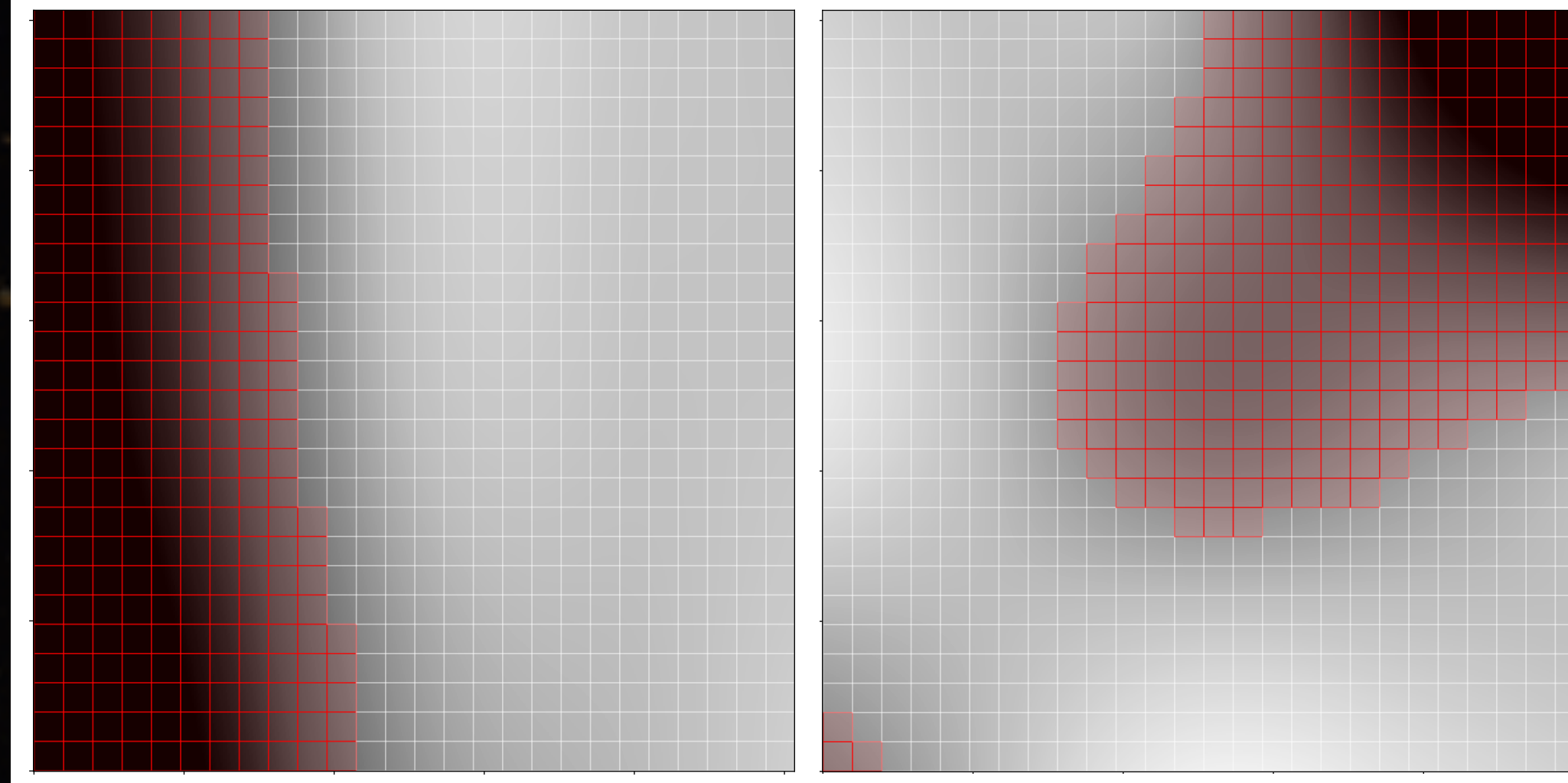


# Sky-SB Measurements

Real Hubble  
Images:



SKYSURF  
Sky Maps:



O'Brien et al. 2023

Used ProFound  
(Robotham et al. 2018)  
to create Sky maps

Our algorithm isolates  
most reliable part of the  
sky



# Sky-SB Measurements

The screenshot displays the GitHub interface for the repository 'skysurf' by user 'rosaliaobrien'. The repository is currently on the 'main' branch. The file explorer on the left shows a directory named 'HST' containing several files: 'Estimating the sky-SB for SKYS...', 'README.md', 'make\_diagnostic.py', 'measureskyregion.py', 'requirements.txt', and 'skysurf\_estimate\_sky.py'. The commit history table shows a recent commit by Rosalia O'Brien titled 'Updated readme with Python requirements' with commit hash '3cf35c7' from last month. Below the table, the content of the 'README.md' file is visible, featuring the title 'SKYSURF Sky-SB Estimation Algorithm' and introductory text about the code's purpose and requirements.

| Name                                    | Last commit message                     | Last commit date |
|---|---|------------------|
| ..                                      |   |                  |
| Estimating the sky-SB for SKYSURF.ipynb | troubleshooting                         | last month       |
| README.md                               | Updated readme with Python requirements | last month       |
| make_diagnostic.py                      | Adding new directory                    | last month       |
| measureskyregion.py                     | Adding new directory                    | last month       |
| requirements.txt                        | Adding new directory                    | last month       |
| skysurf_estimate_sky.py                 | Adding new directory                    | last month       |

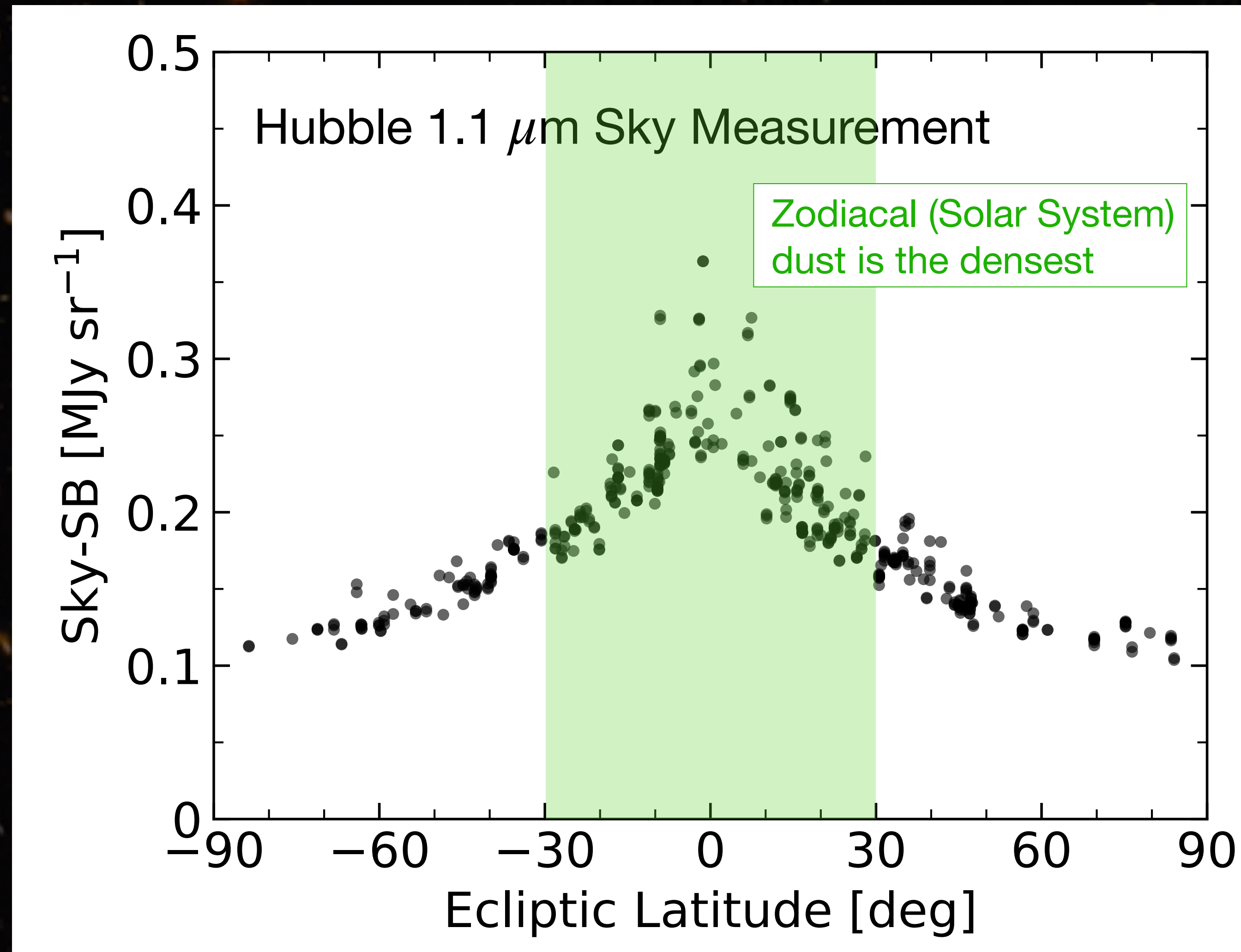
**SKYSURF Sky-SB Estimation Algorithm**

These codes are used to estimate the sky surface brightness from an image. Please refer to [O'Brien et al. \(2022\)](#) for details on the algorithm. The Jupyter Notebook shows how to run these codes on some test data.

These codes work with Python 3, up to version  $\leq 3.9$ . Refer to [requirements.txt](#) for specific package versions that were used when this code was created.



# Sky-SB Measurements

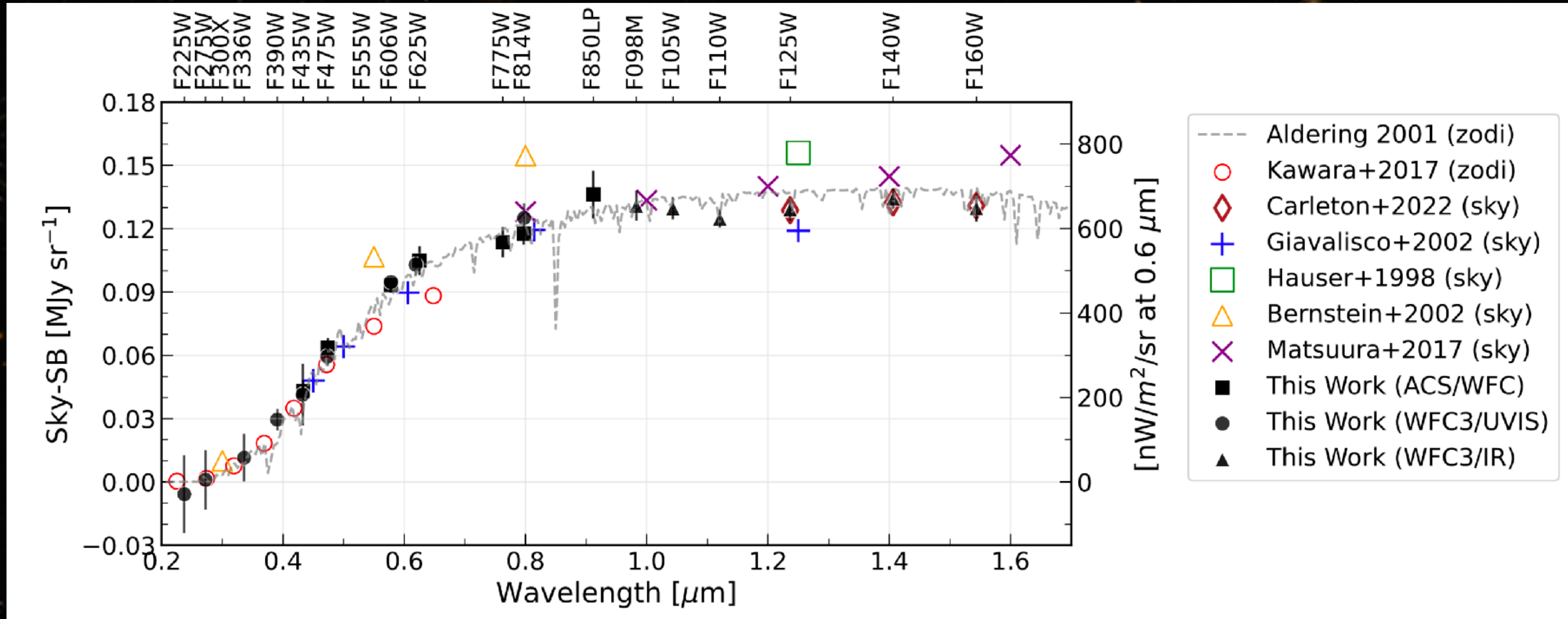


O'Brien et al. 2023



# Sky-SB Measurements

O'Brien et al. 2023





# Thermal Emission Corrections

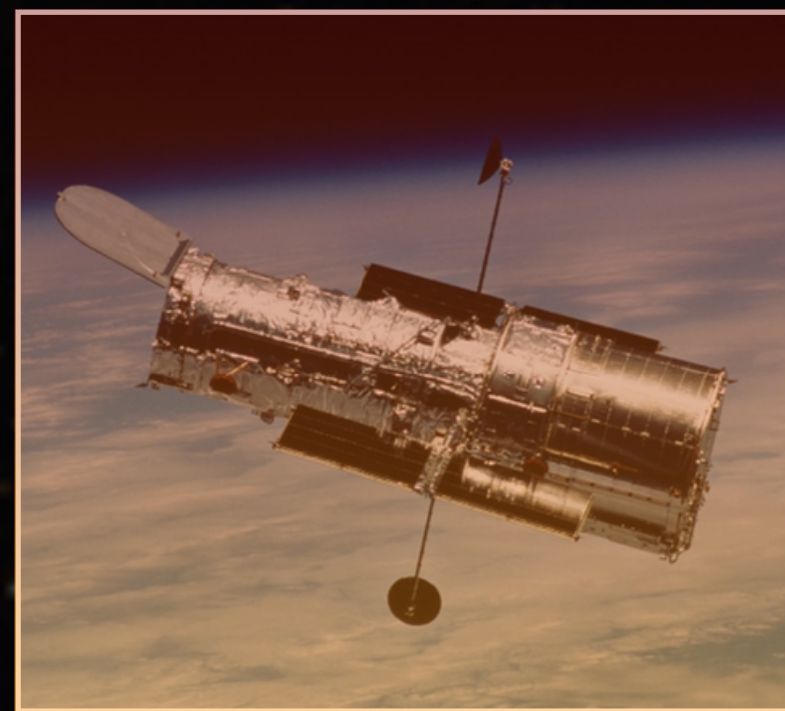


# Thermal Emission Corrections

**SKYSURF VI: The Impact of Thermal Variations of HST on Background Light Estimates**

ISABEL A. MCINTYRE,<sup>1</sup> TIMOTHY CARLETON,<sup>1</sup> ROSALIA O'BRIEN,<sup>1</sup> ROGIER A. WINDHORST,<sup>1</sup> SARAH CADDY,<sup>2</sup>  
SETH H. COHEN,<sup>1</sup> ROLF A. JANSEN,<sup>1</sup> JOHN MACKENTY,<sup>3</sup> AND SCOTT J. KENYON<sup>4</sup>

**Thermal Dark Signal** is instrument glow due to Hubble being  $> 0$  Kelvin



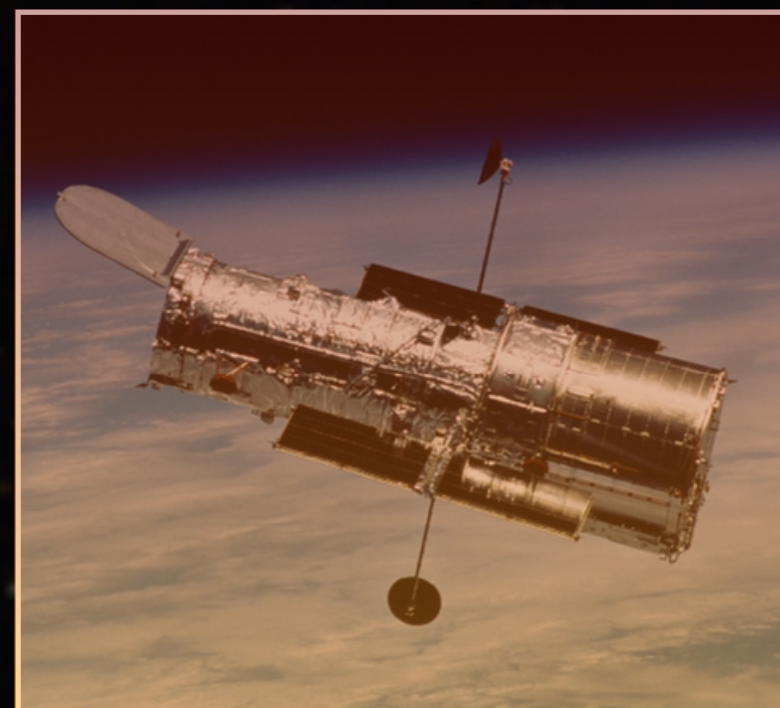


# Thermal Emission Corrections

## SKYSURF VI: The Impact of Thermal Variations of HST on Background Light Estimates

ISABEL A. MCINTYRE,<sup>1</sup> TIMOTHY CARLETON,<sup>1</sup> ROSALIA O'BRIEN,<sup>1</sup> ROGIER A. WINDHORST,<sup>1</sup> SARAH CADDY,<sup>2</sup>  
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**Thermal Dark Signal** is instrument glow due to Hubble being  $> 0$  Kelvin

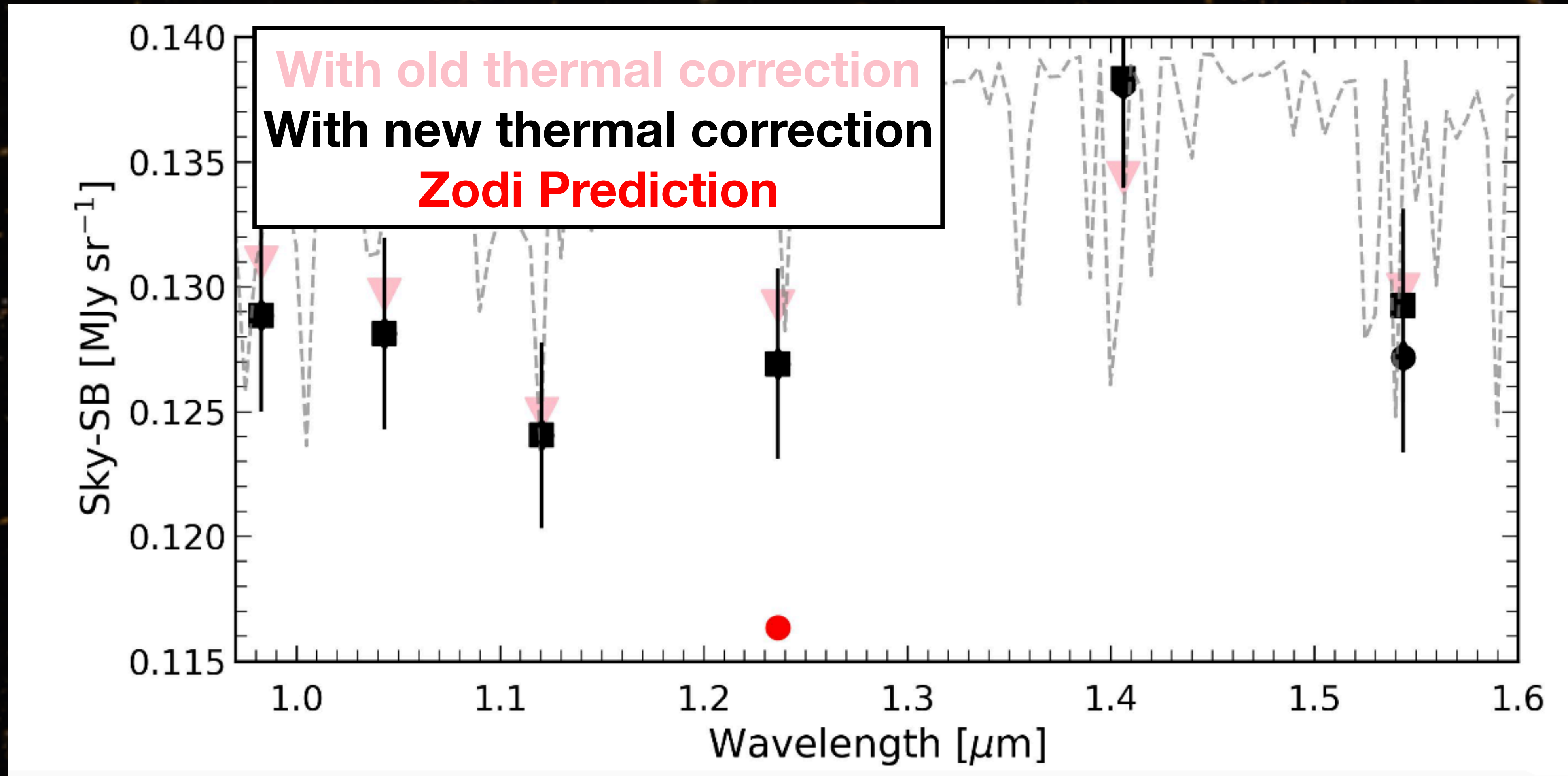


Thermal dark corrections (in electrons/pix/s)  
McIntyre et al. 2024

| Filter | $T_{\text{POM}}$ Thermal Dark |         |
|--------|-------------------------------|---------|
|        | Min                           | Max     |
| F098M  | 0.00454                       | 0.00454 |
| F105W  | 0.00455                       | 0.00455 |
| F110W  | 0.00480                       | 0.00480 |
| F125W  | 0.00479                       | 0.00480 |
| F140W  | 0.0213                        | 0.0216  |
| F160W  | 0.0807                        | 0.0819  |



# Thermal Emission Corrections

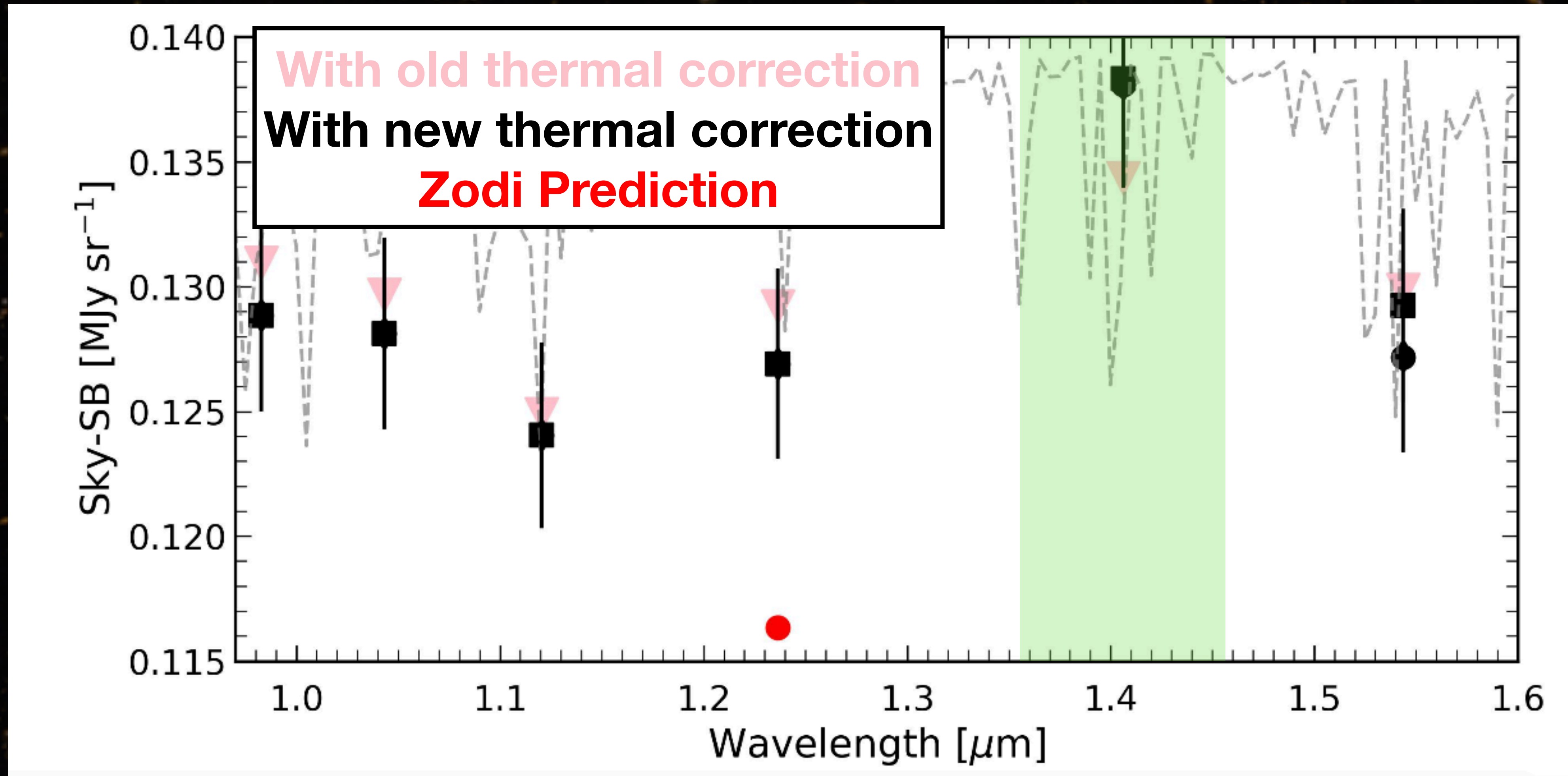


McIntyre et al. 2024

Rosalia O'Brien ([robrien5@asu.edu](mailto:robrien5@asu.edu))



# Thermal Emission Corrections

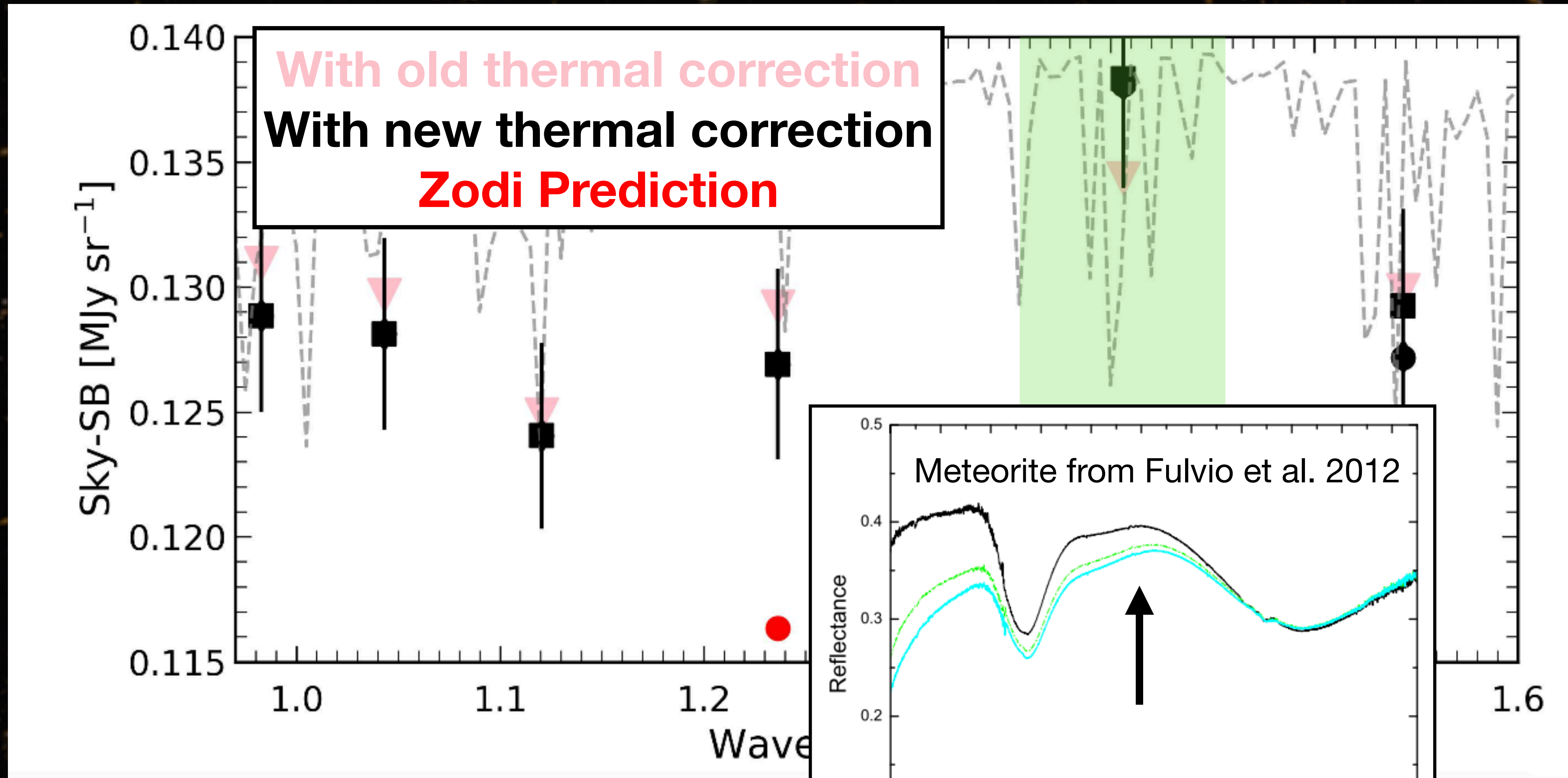


McIntyre et al. 2024

Rosalia O'Brien ([robrien5@asu.edu](mailto:robrien5@asu.edu))



# Thermal Emission Corrections



McIntyre et al. 2024

Rosalia O'Brien ([robrien5@asu.edu](mailto:robrien5@asu.edu))



# 2. Retrieve COB Signal



# Measurement of COB

COB =  
???



# Measurement of COB

COB =

Sky-SB

Sky-SB - Image brightness ignoring discernible stars and galaxies



# Measurement of COB

COB =

Sky-SB - Zodiacal Light

Sky-SB - Image brightness ignoring discernible stars and galaxies

Zodiacal Light - Light scattered off Solar System dust

>90% of total Sky brightness!





# Measurement of COB

COB =

Sky-SB - Zodiacal Light - DGL

Sky-SB - Image brightness ignoring discernible stars and galaxies

Zodiacal Light - Light scattered off Solar System dust

Diffuse Galactic Light (DGL) - Light scattered off interstellar medium in Milky Way



# Measurement of COB

COB =

Sky-SB - Zodiacal Light - DGL - Thermal Dark Signal

Sky-SB - Image brightness ignoring discernible stars and galaxies

Zodiacal Light - Light scattered off Solar System dust

Diffuse Galactic Light (DGL) - Light scattered off interstellar medium in Milky Way

Thermal Dark Signal - Instrument glow due to Hubble being  $> 0$  Kelvin



# Measurement of COB

COB =

Sky-SB - Zodiacal Light - DGL - Thermal Dark Signal + Galaxy Light

Sky-SB - Image brightness ignoring discernible stars and galaxies

Zodiacal Light - Light scattered off Solar System dust

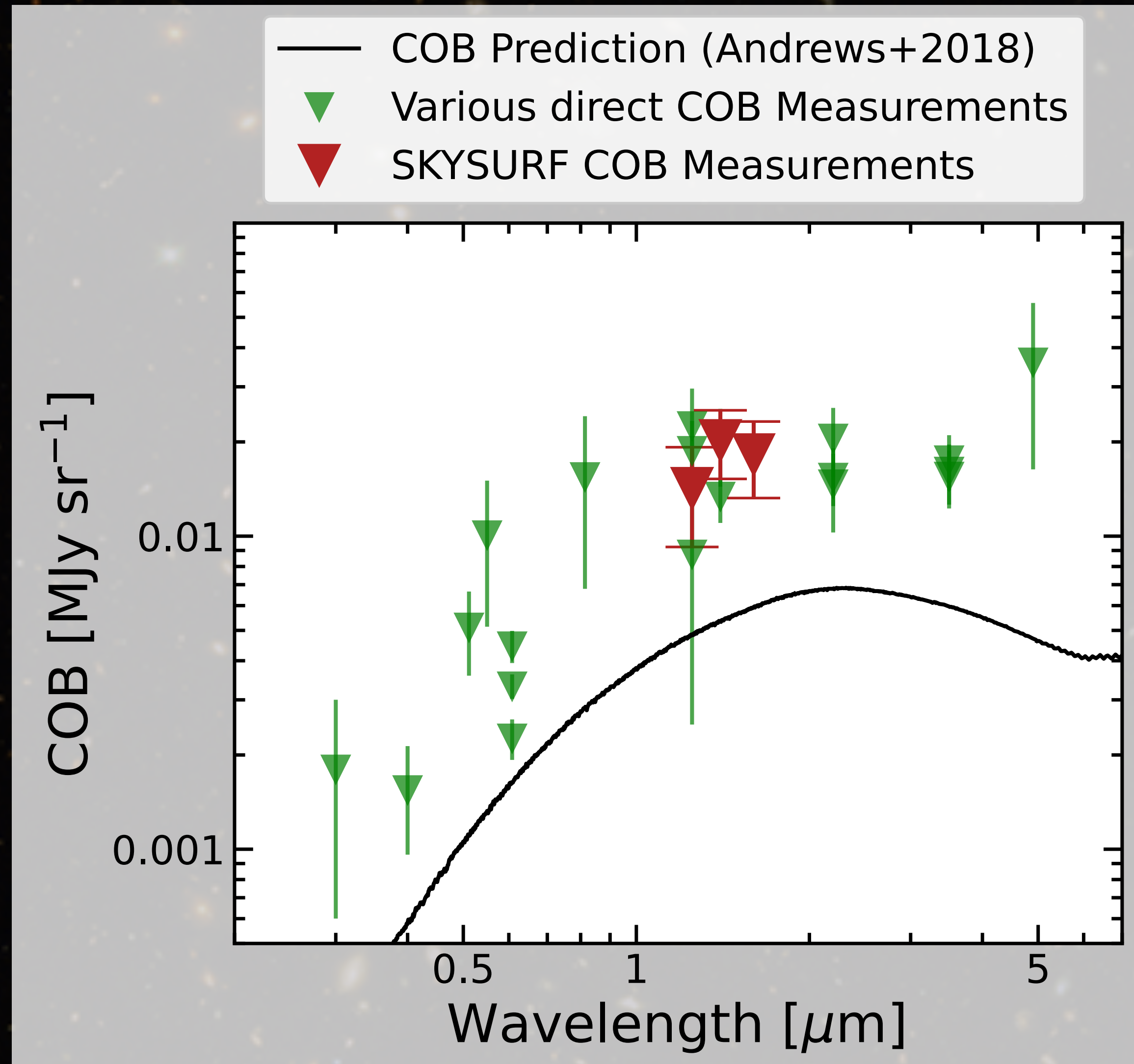
Diffuse Galactic Light (DGL) - Light scattered off interstellar medium in Milky Way

Thermal Dark Signal - Instrument glow due to Hubble being  $> 0$  Kelvin

Galaxy Light - Light from all galaxies



# Measurement of COB

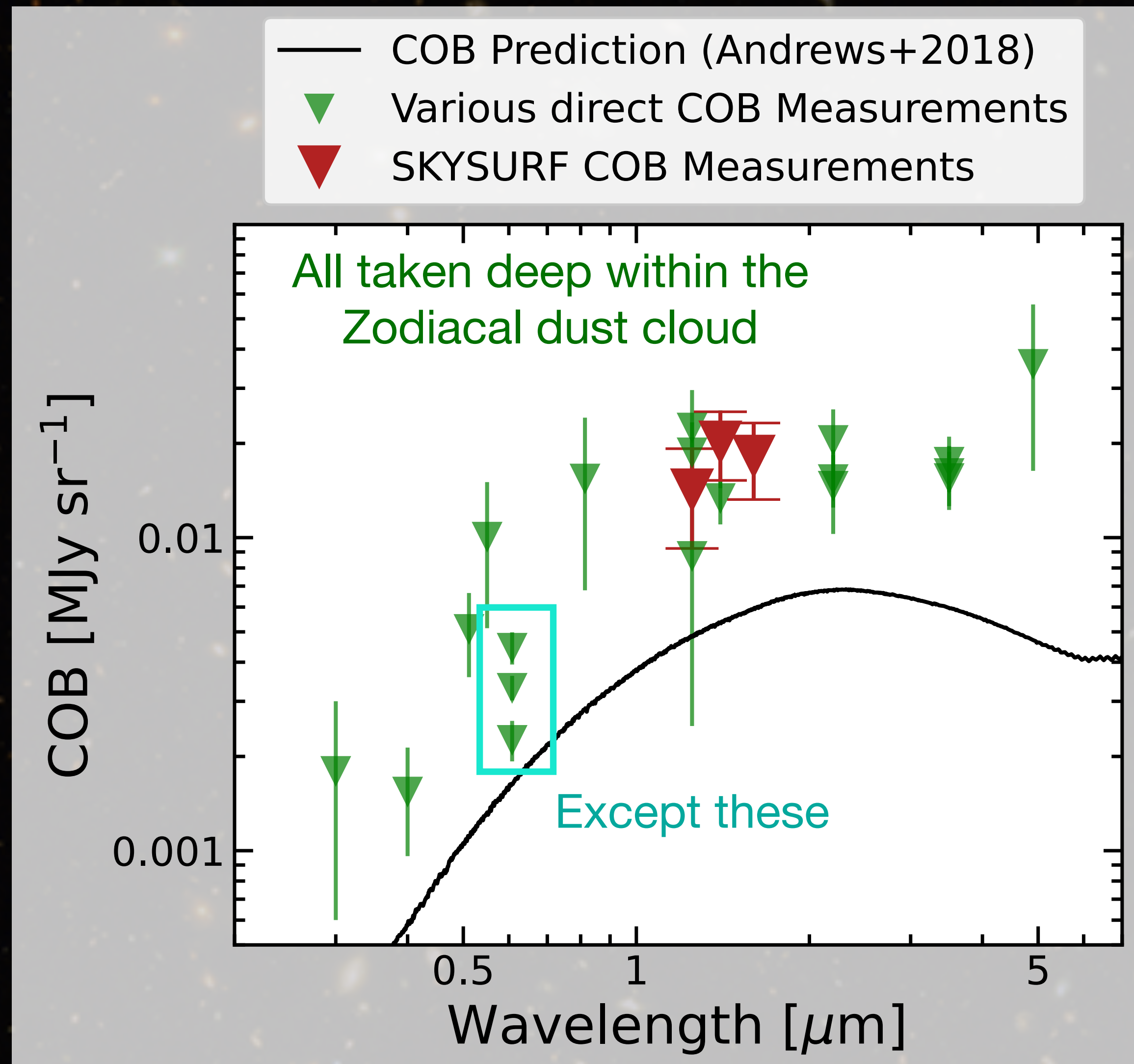


For SKYSURF COB Measurements, see

- Windhorst et al. 2022*
- Carleton et al. 2022*
- O'Brien et al. 2023*
- McIntyre et al. 2024*



# Measurement of COB

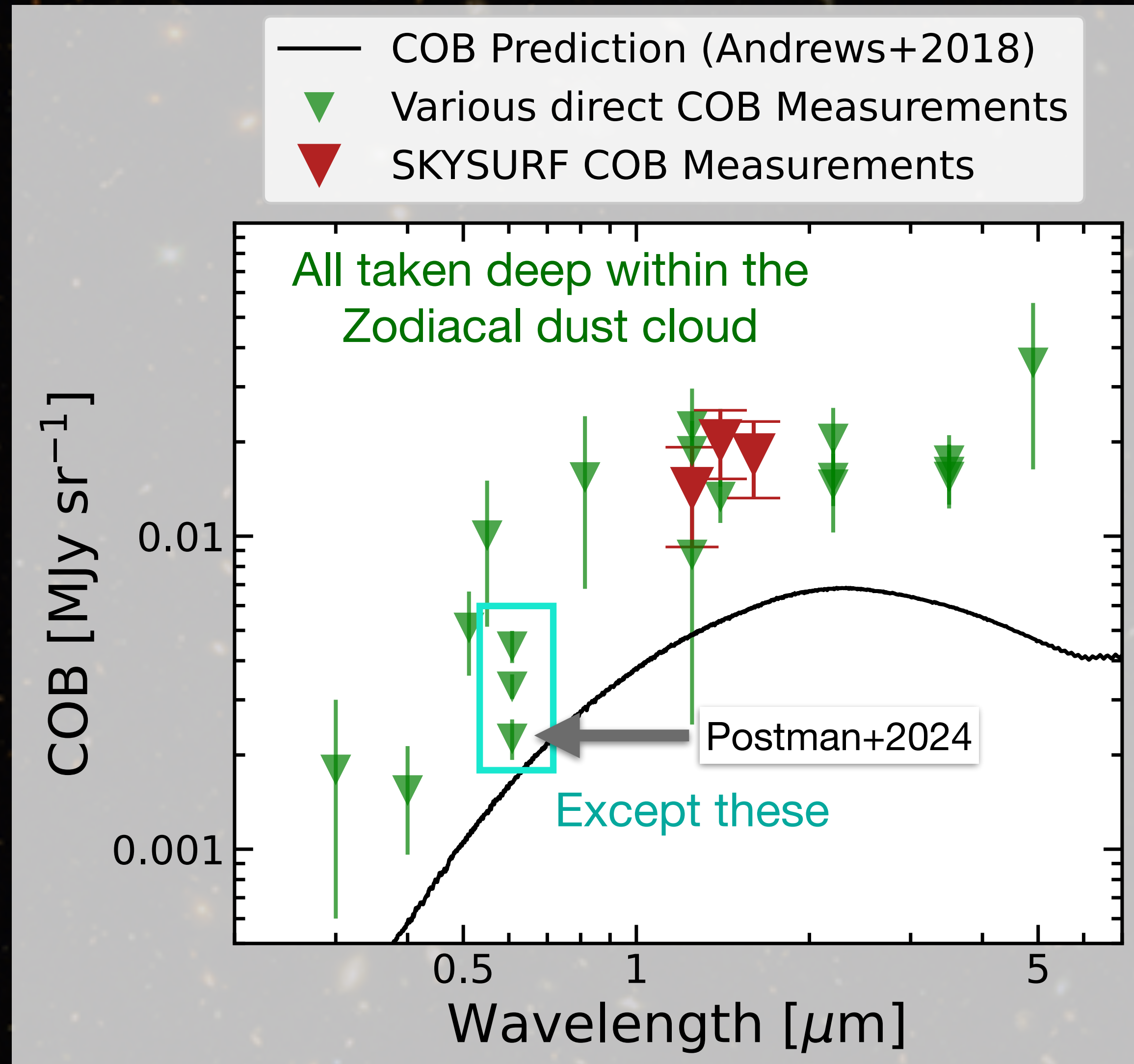


For SKYSURF COB Measurements, see

*Windhorst et al. 2022*  
*Carleton et al. 2022*  
*O'Brien et al. 2023*  
*McIntyre et al. 2024*



# Measurement of COB



For SKYSURF COB Measurements, see

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- Carleton et al. 2022*
- O'Brien et al. 2023*
- McIntyre et al. 2024*



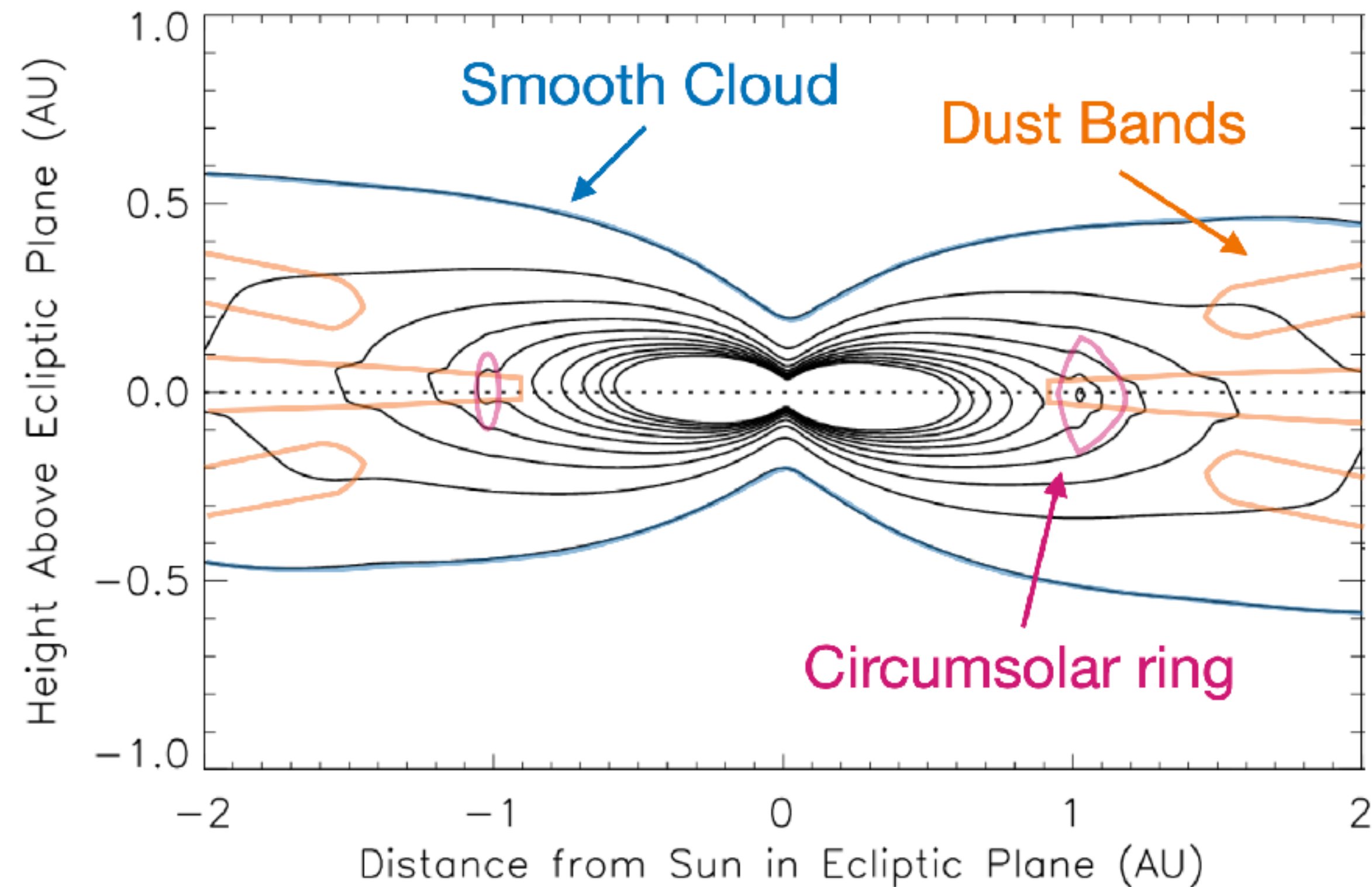
# Creating a 3D Zodiacal Light Model Optimized for Optical Wavelengths



THE *COBE* DIFFUSE INFRARED BACKGROUND EXPERIMENT SEARCH FOR THE COSMIC  
INFRARED BACKGROUND. II. MODEL OF THE INTERPLANETARY DUST CLOUD

T. KELSALL,<sup>1,2</sup> J. L. WEILAND,<sup>3</sup> B. A. FRANZ,<sup>4</sup> W. T. REACH,<sup>5</sup> R. G. ARENDT,<sup>3</sup> E. DWEK,<sup>1</sup> H. T. FREUDENREICH,<sup>3</sup>  
M. G. HAUSER,<sup>6</sup> S. H. MOSELEY,<sup>1</sup> N. P. ODEGARD,<sup>3</sup> R. F. SILVERBERG,<sup>1</sup> AND E. L. WRIGHT<sup>7</sup>

*Received 1998 January 7; accepted 1998 June 22*

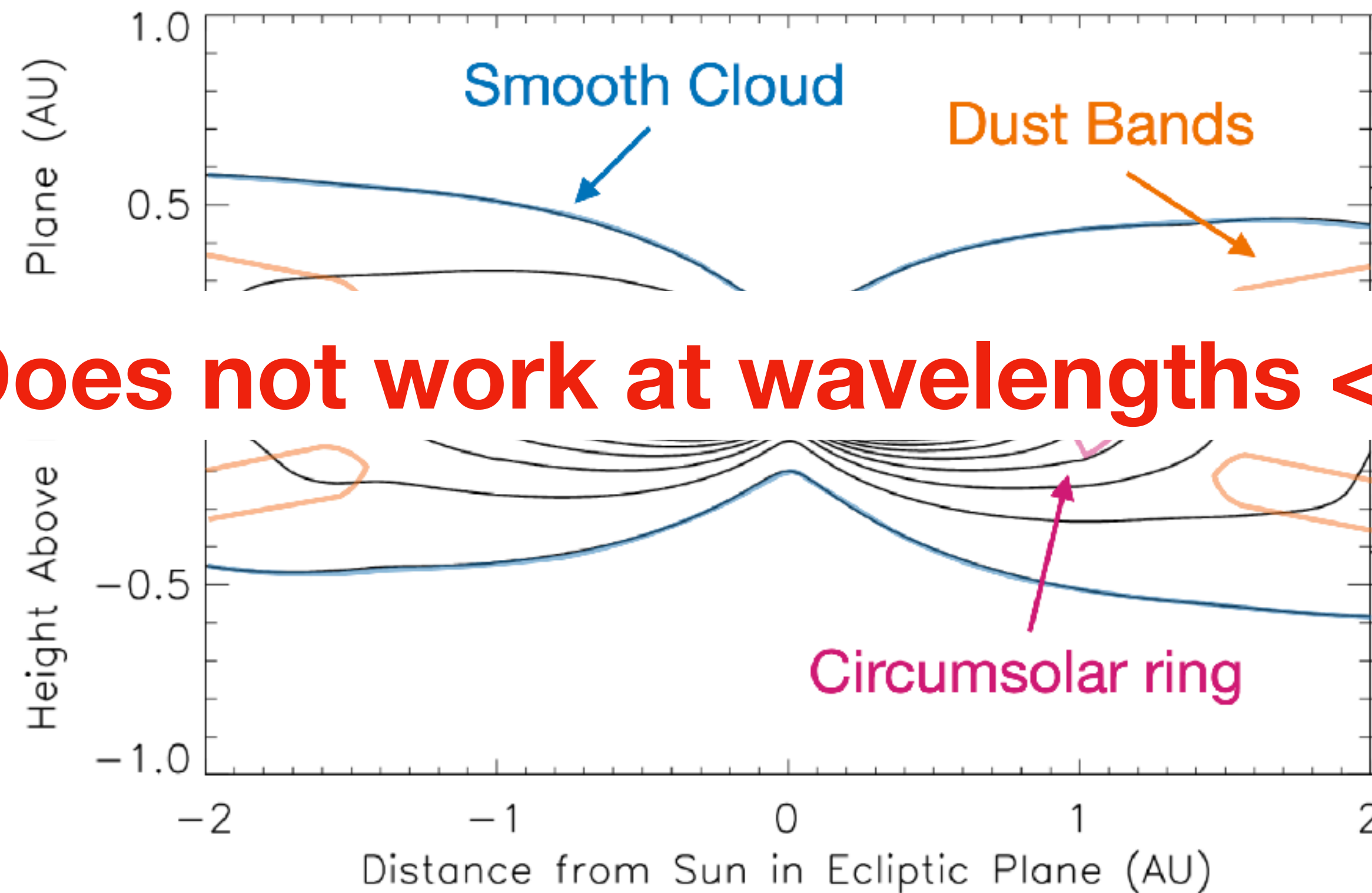




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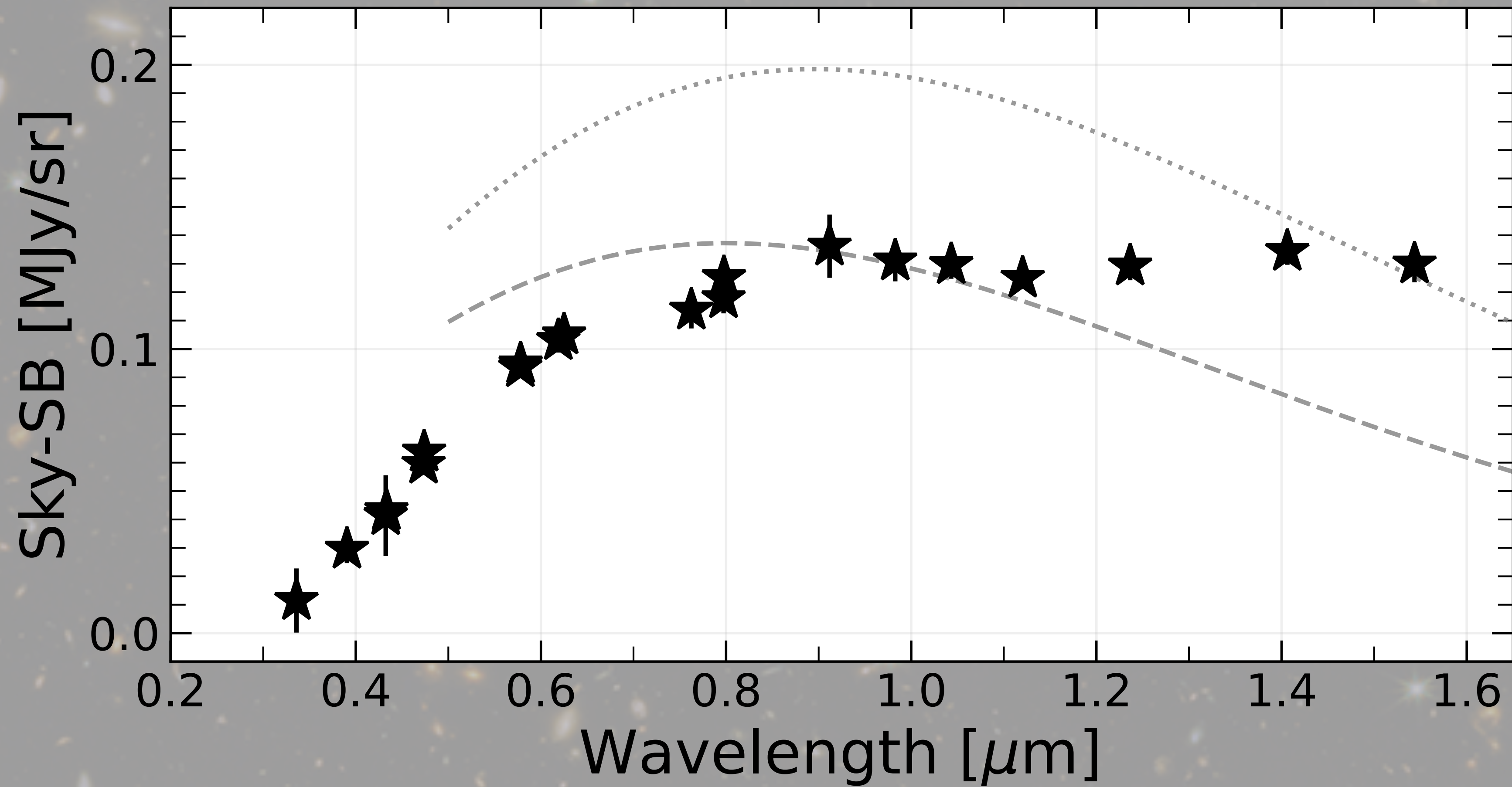


**Does not work at wavelengths  $< 1.25 \mu\text{m}$**



Sky Measurements:  
★ O'Brien et al. 2023

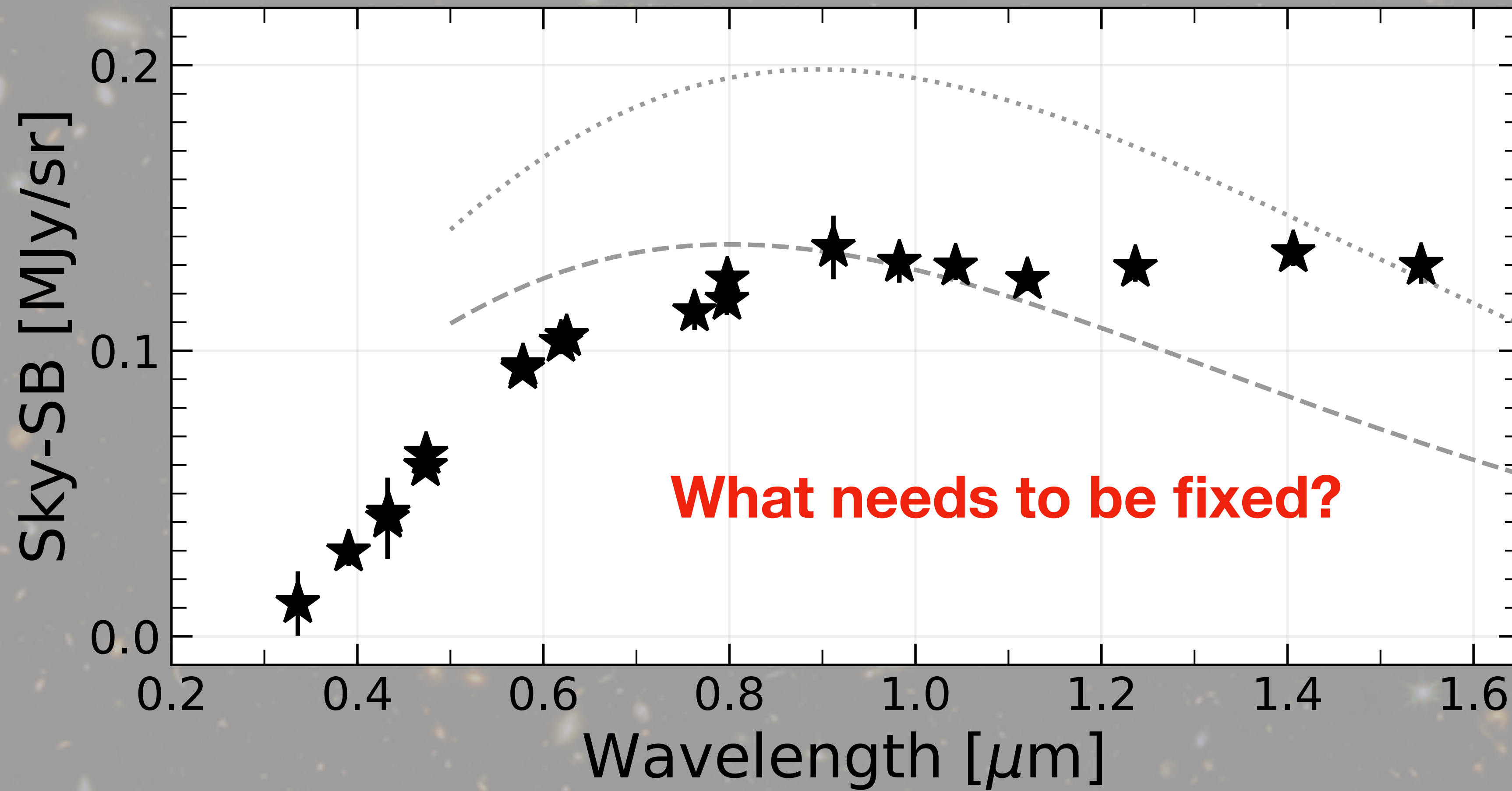
Zodiacal Models:  
..... Wright 1998  
- - - Kelsall et al. 1998





Sky Measurements:  
★ O'Brien et al. 2023

Zodiacal Models:  
..... Wright 1998  
- - - Kelsall et al. 1998



**What needs to be fixed?**

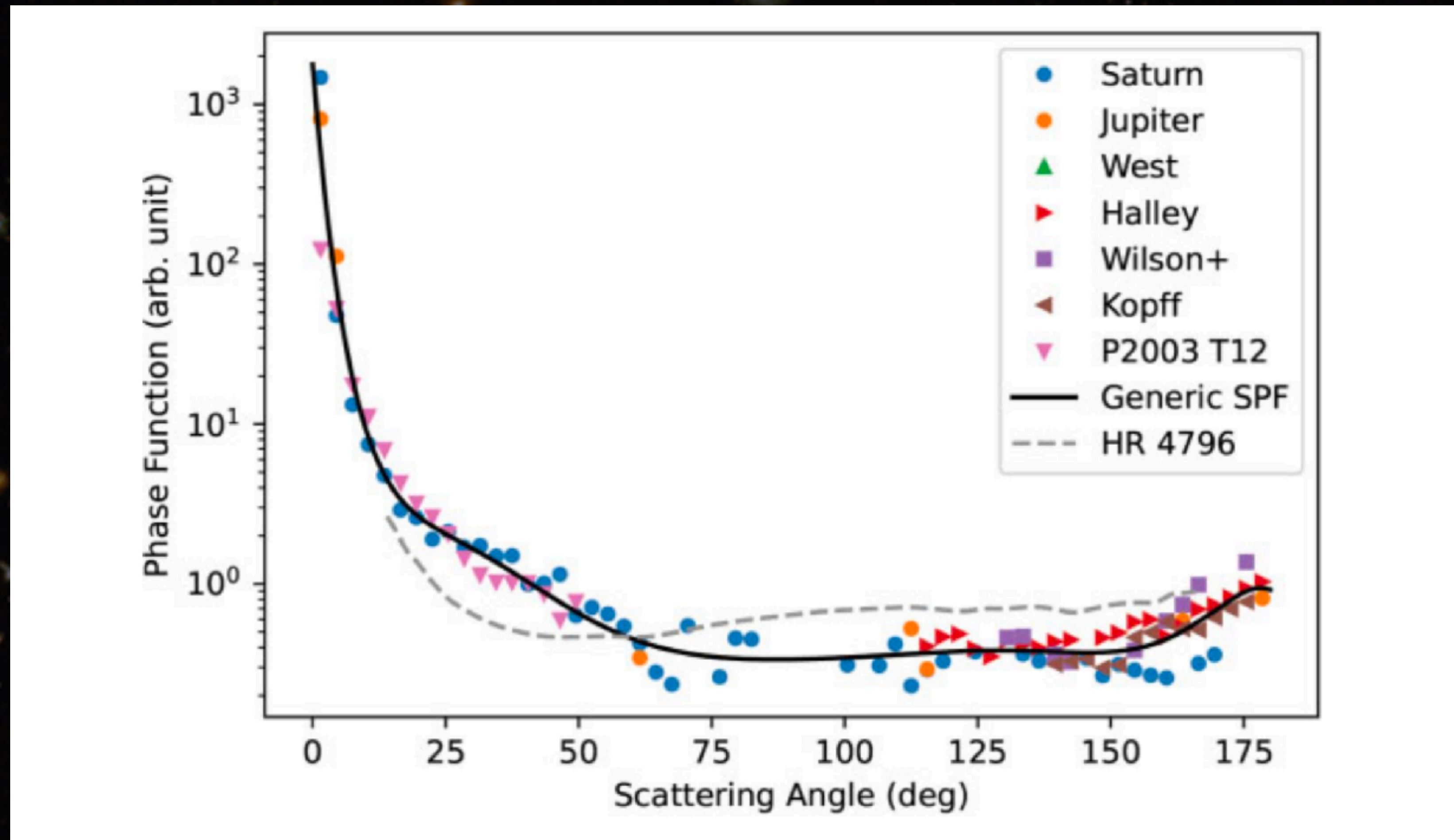


# The Current Scattering Phase Function



# The Current Scattering Phase Function

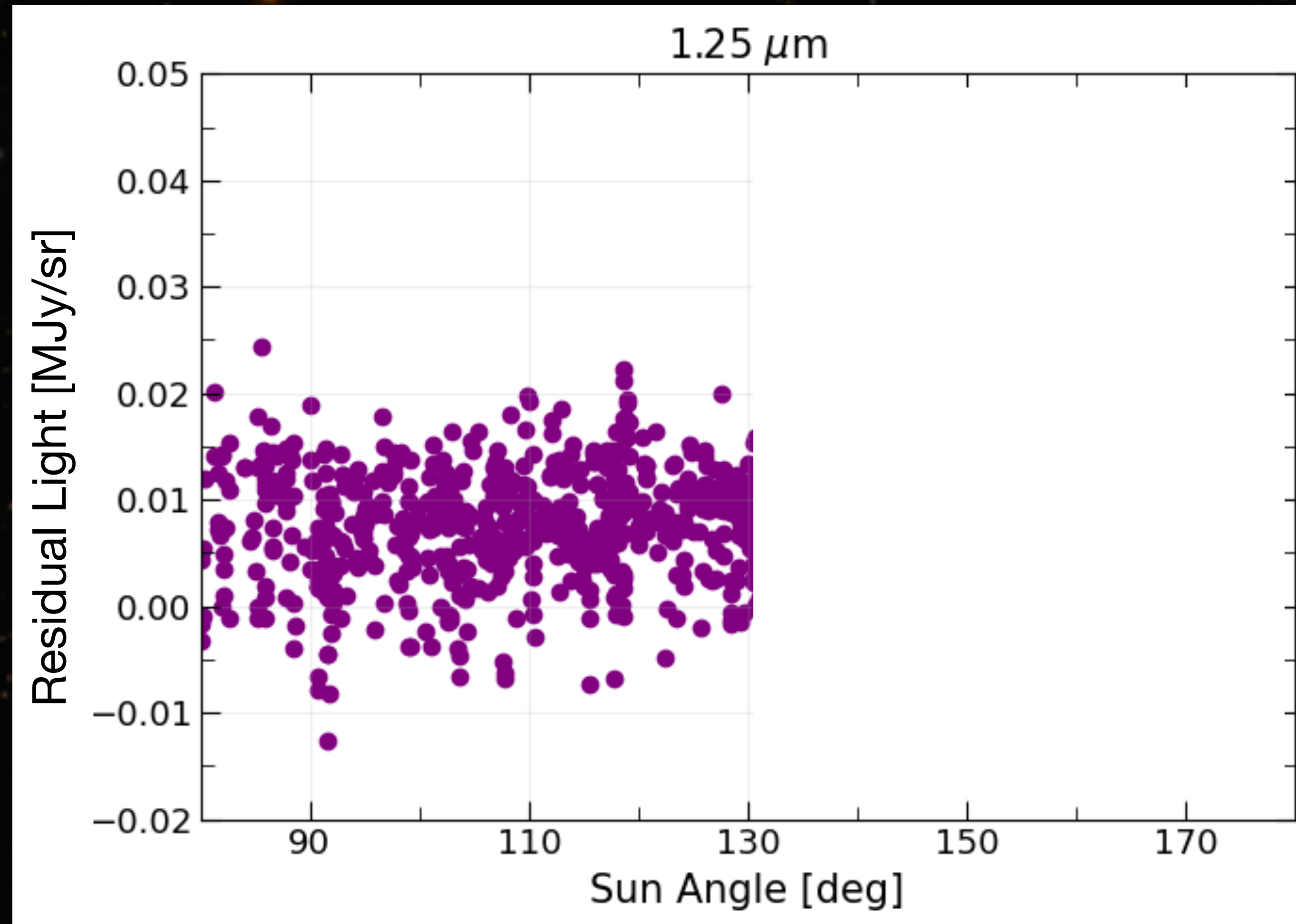
Forward Scattering ← → Backward Scattering





# The Current Scattering Phase Function

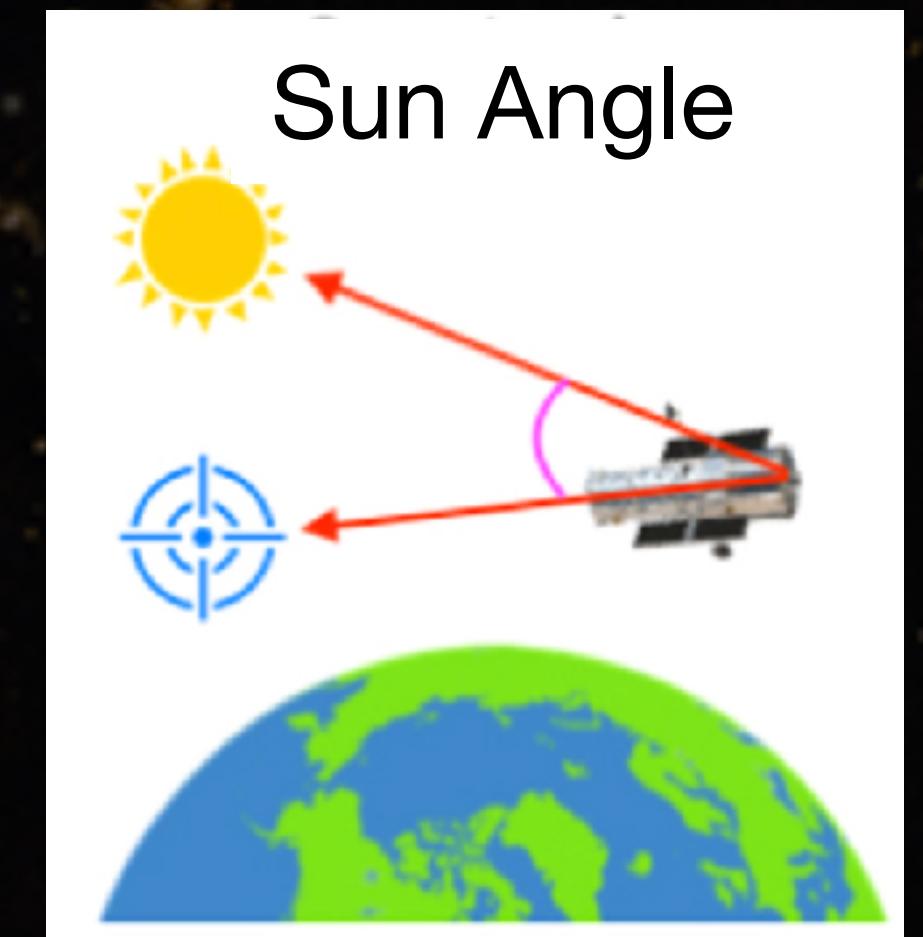
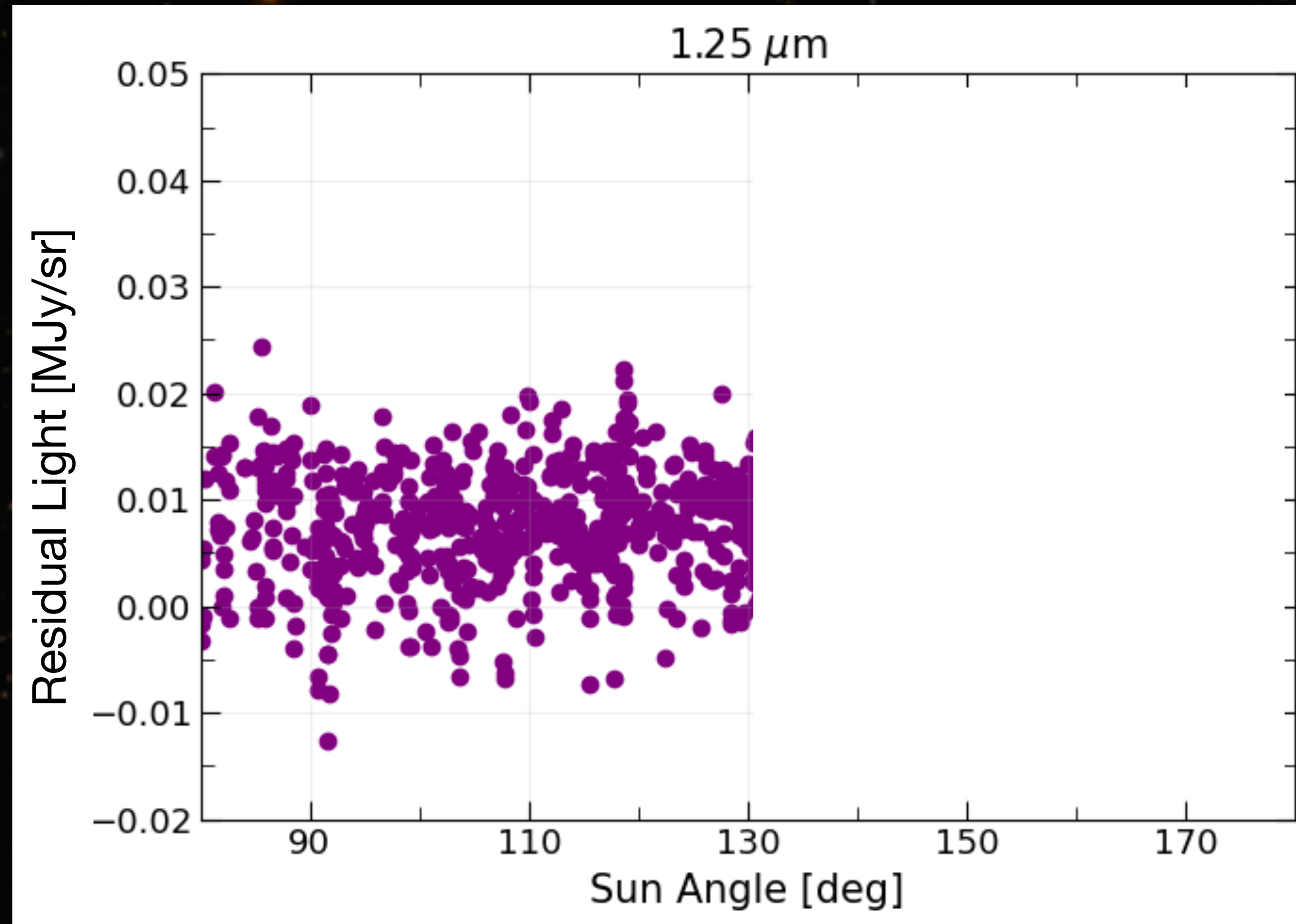
Residual Light =  
Sky - Zodi -  
Everything Else





# The Current Scattering Phase Function

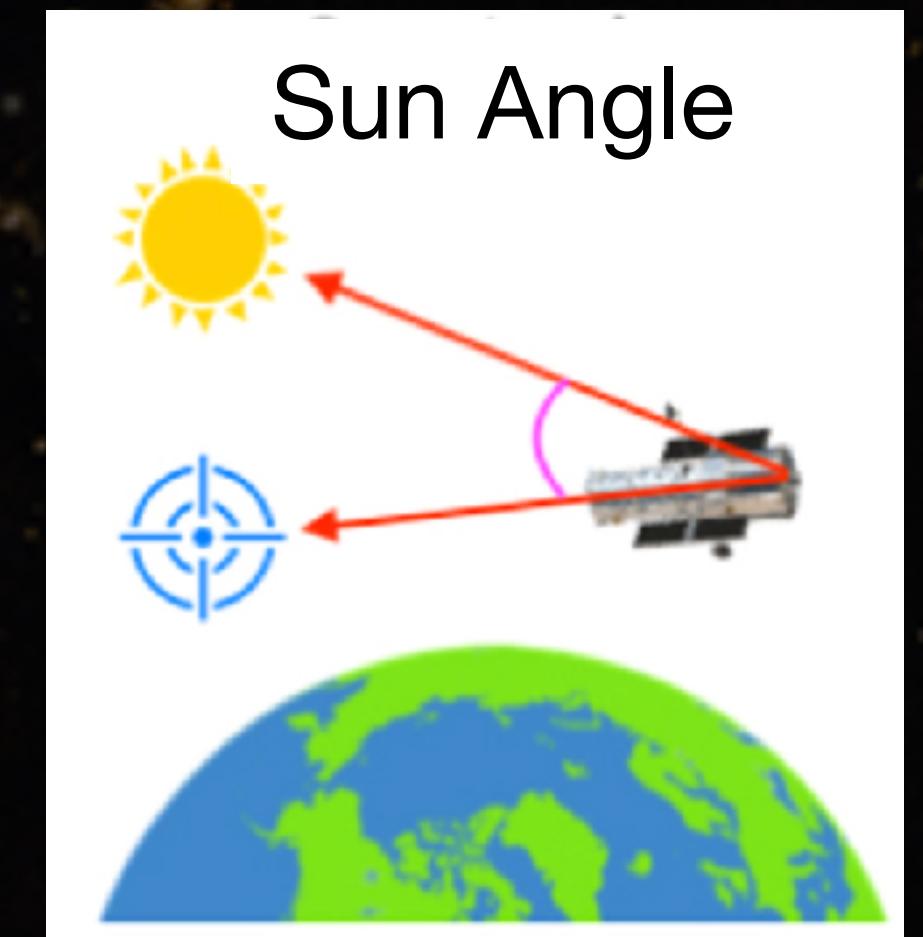
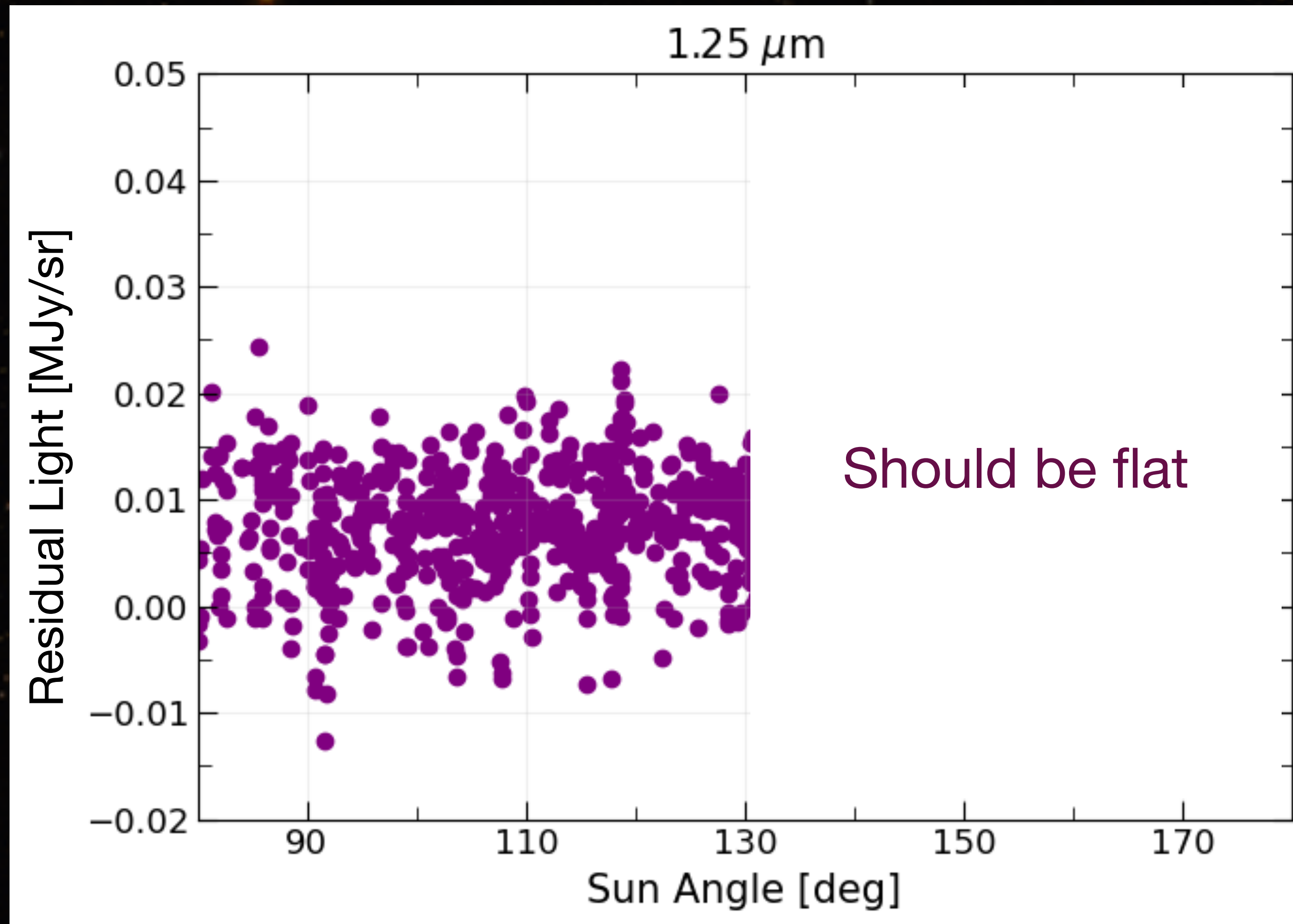
Residual Light =  
Sky - Zodi -  
Everything Else





# The Current Scattering Phase Function

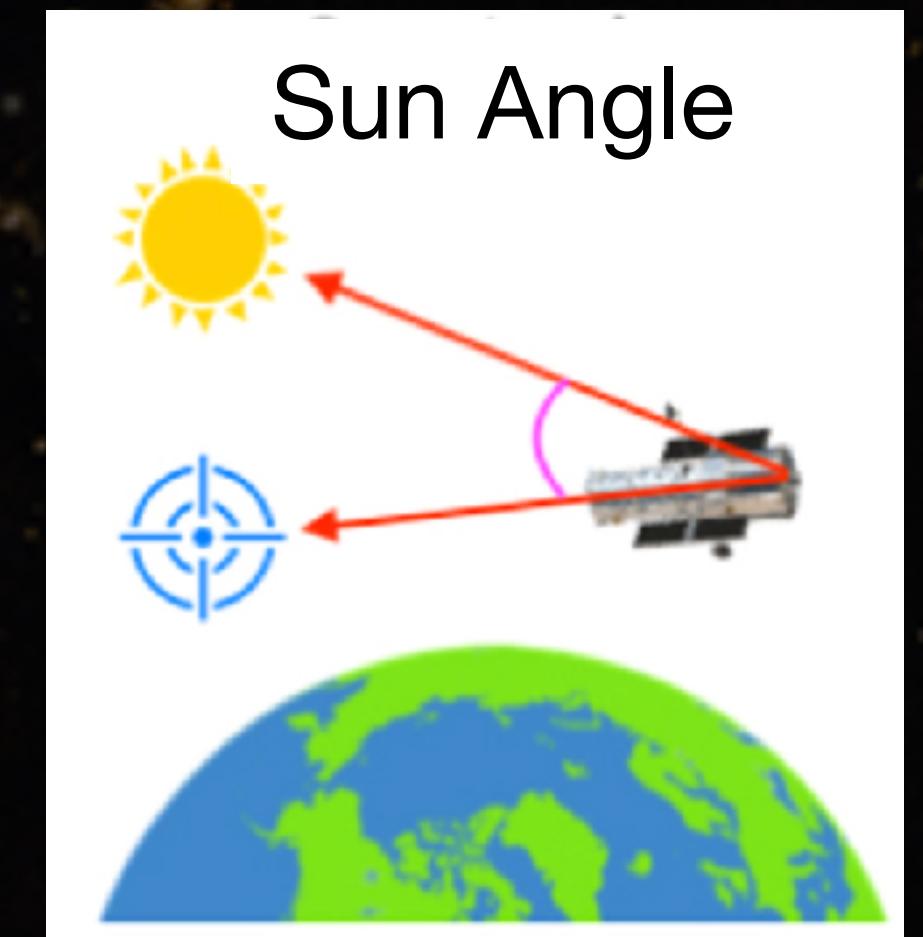
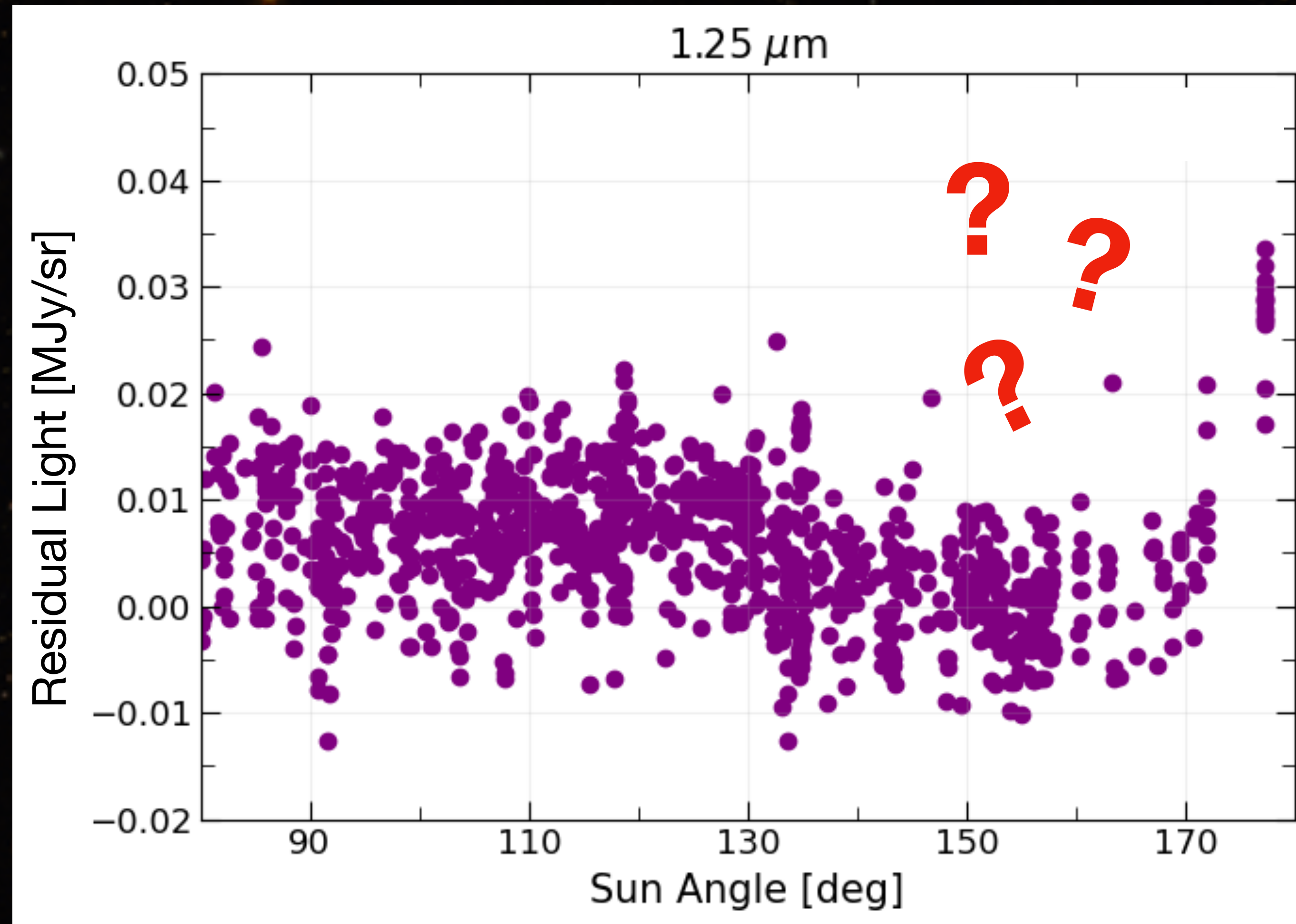
Residual Light =  
Sky - Zodi -  
Everything Else





# The Current Scattering Phase Function

Residual Light =  
Sky - Zodi -  
Everything Else





# A New Scattering Phase Function



# A New Scattering Phase Function

$$\Phi_{\lambda}(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^{i=3} w_{i,\lambda} \frac{1 - g_{i,\lambda}^2}{[1 + g_{i,\lambda}^2 - 2g_{i,\lambda} \cos(\theta)]^{3/2}}$$

Weight

Relative contribution of forward/backward scattering

- $g = 0 \rightarrow$  Isotropic scattering
- $g > 0 \rightarrow$  Forward scattering
- $g < 0 \rightarrow$  Backward scattering

1985A&A...146...67H  
Astron. Astrophys. 146, 67–75 (1985)

ASTRONOMY  
AND  
ASTROPHYSICS

**Henyeey-Greenstein representation  
of the mean volume scattering phase function for zodiacal dust**

S. S. Hong\*

Space Astronomy Laboratory, University of Florida, 1810 NW 6th Street, Gainesville, FL 32609, USA

Received July 9; accepted December 14, 1984



# A New Scattering Phase Function

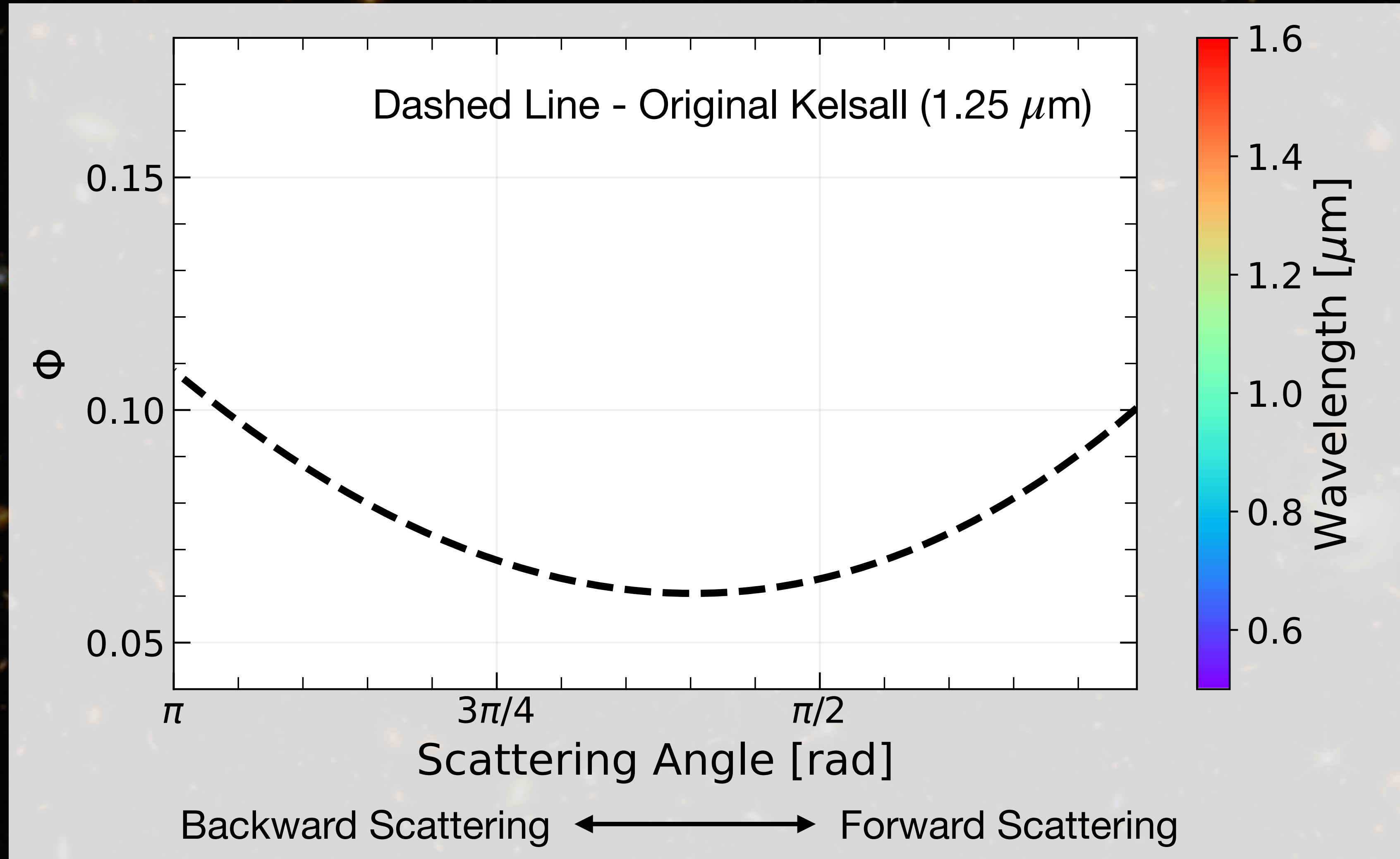
$$\Phi_{\lambda}(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^{i=3} w_{i,\lambda} \frac{1 - g_{i,\lambda}^2}{[1 + g_{i,\lambda}^2 - 2g_{i,\lambda} \cos(\theta)]^{3/2}}$$

## My Methods:

1. Feed sky-SB measurements into model
2. Adjust new phase function parameters (chi-squared or bayesian MCMC)
3. Get best-fit phase function

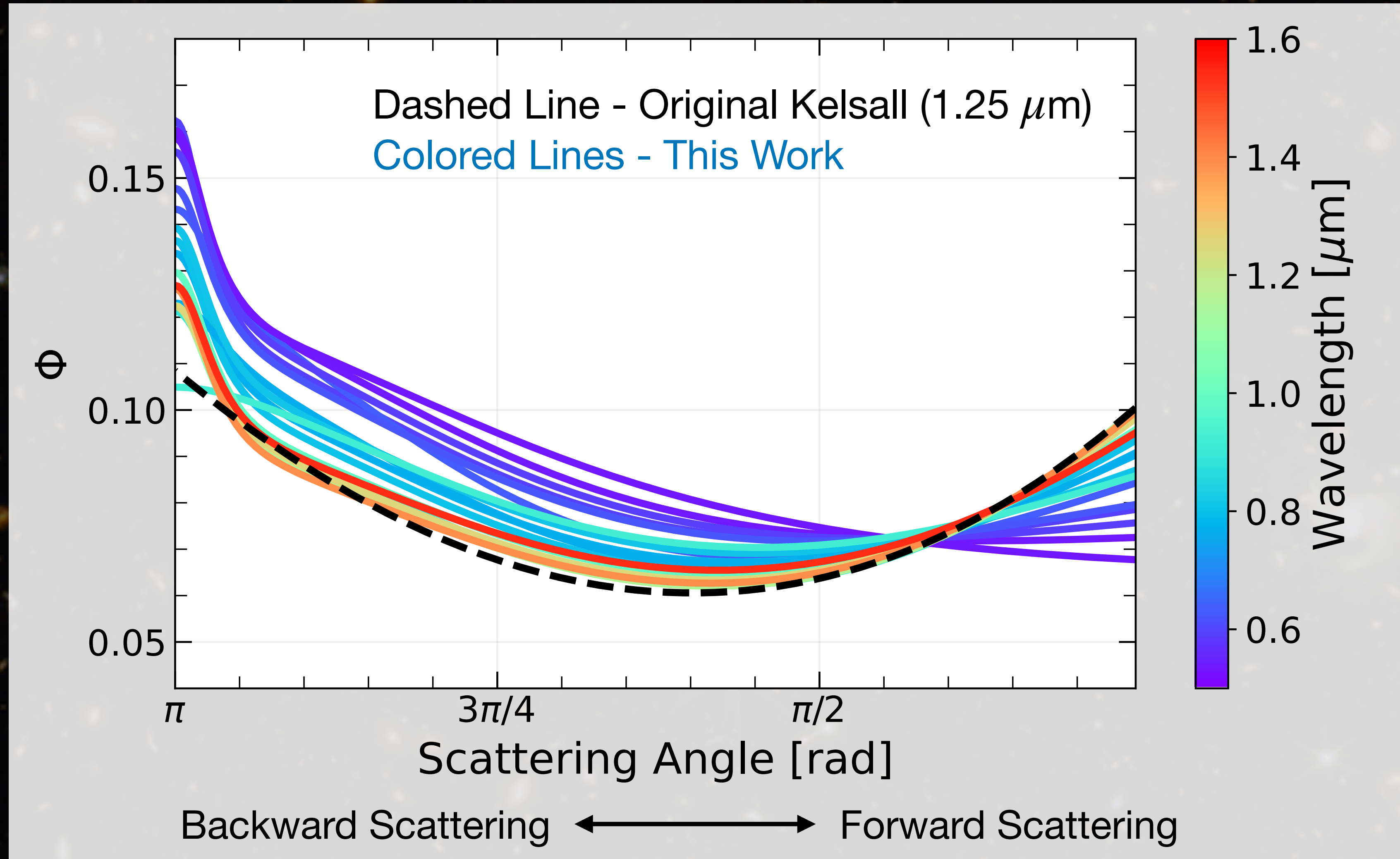


# A New Scattering Phase Function



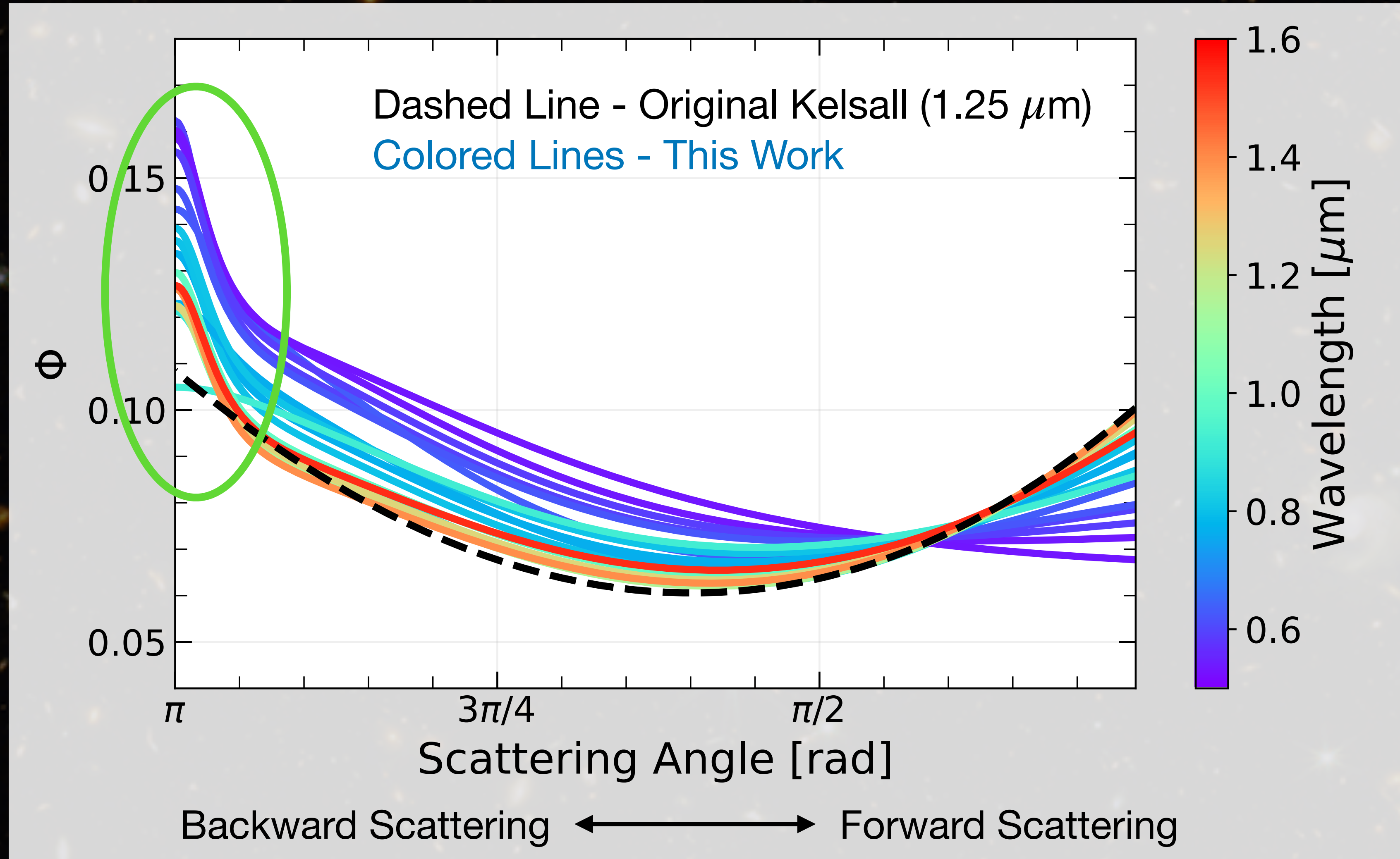


# A New Scattering Phase Function



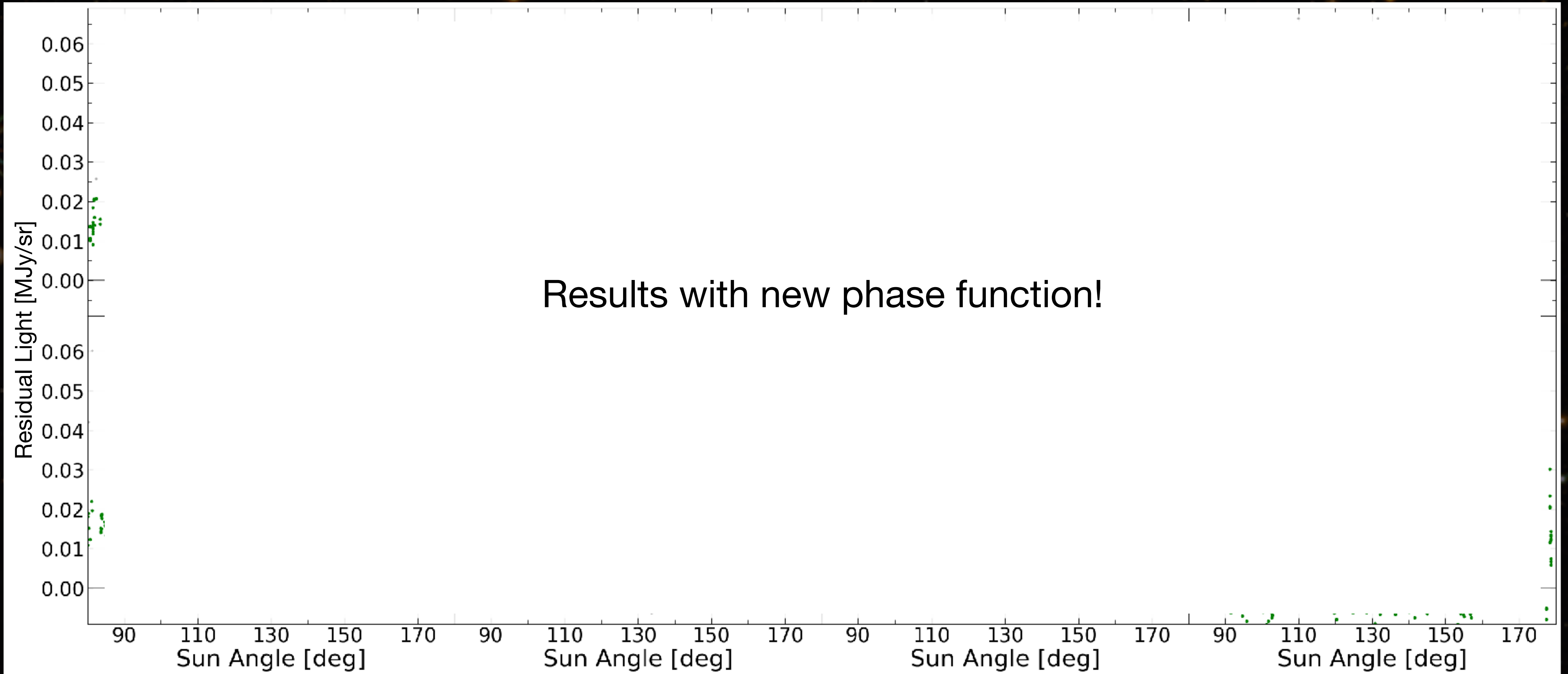


# A New Scattering Phase Function



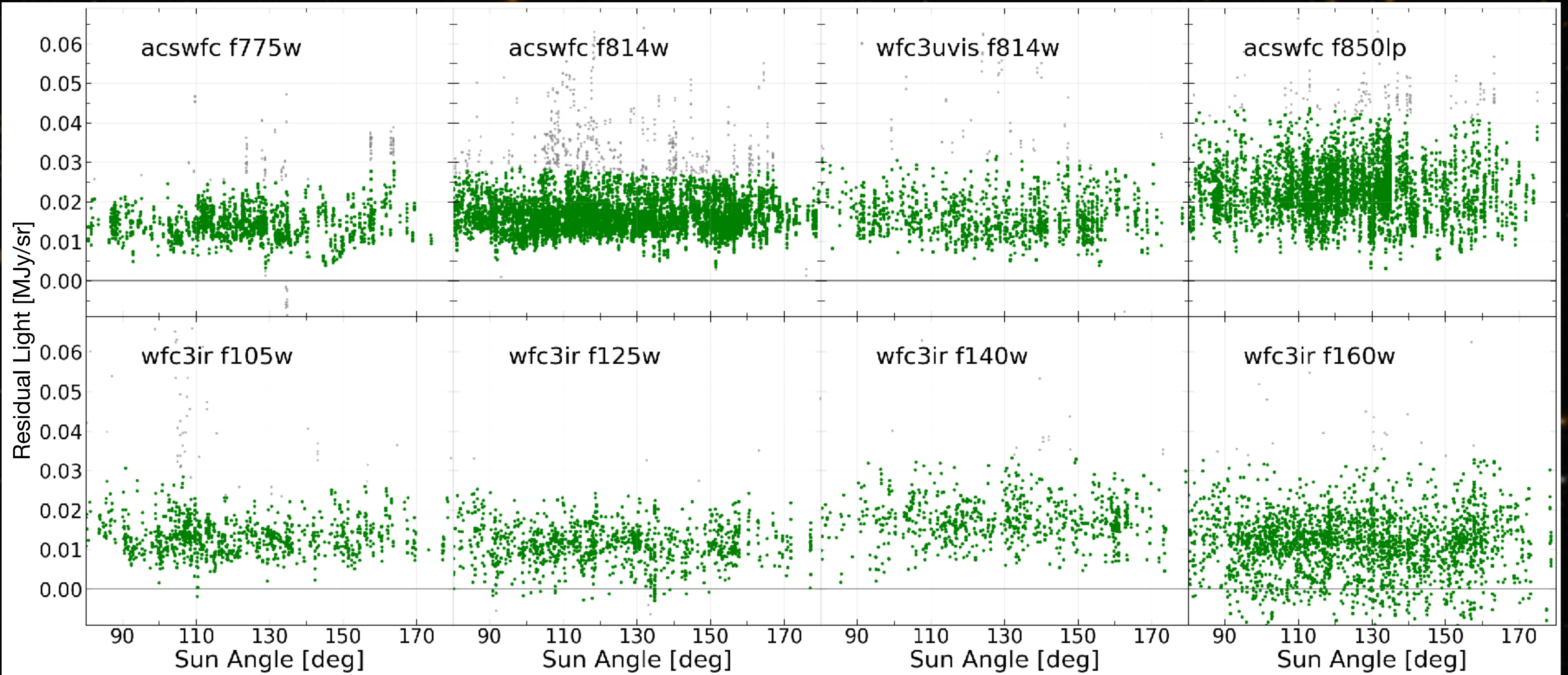


# A New Scattering Phase Function





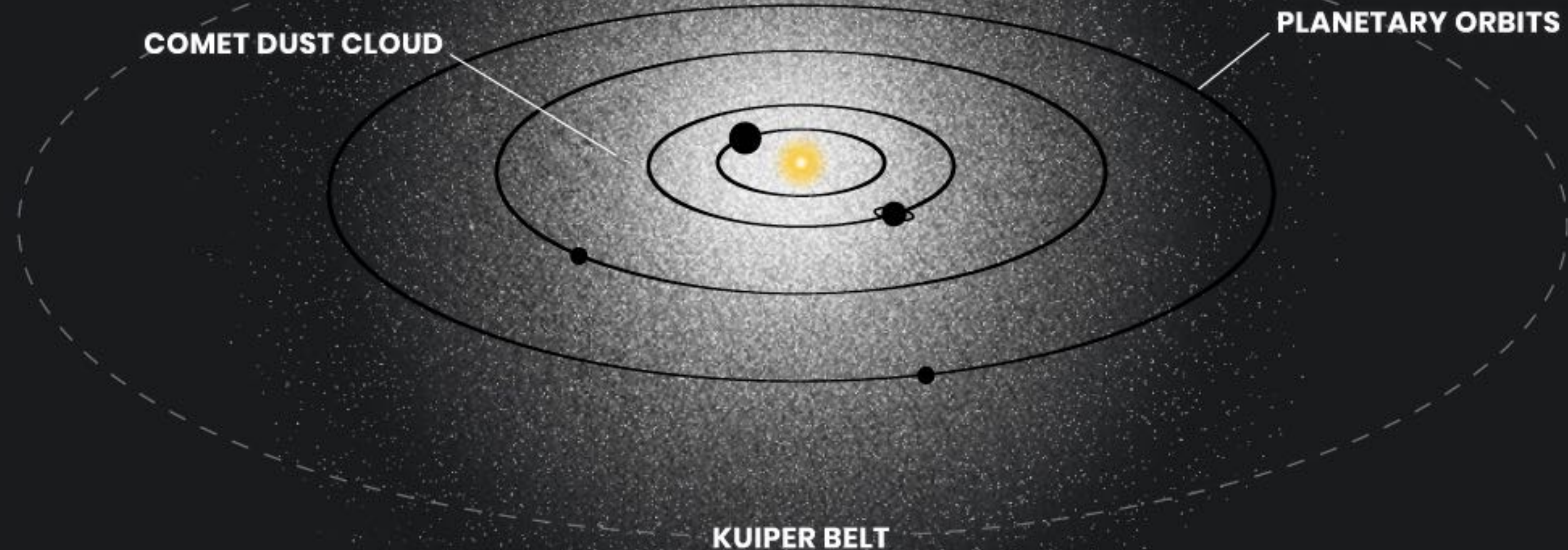
# A New Scattering Phase Function





# Need a New Spherical Cloud Component?

Suggested by, e.g., Matsuura+2017



NASA, ESA, Andi James (STScI)












# New Diffuse Galactic Light Measurements



**OPEN ACCESS**



# New Synoptic Observations of the Cosmic Optical Background with New Horizons

Marc Postman<sup>1</sup> , Tod R. Lauer<sup>2</sup> , Joel W. Parker<sup>3</sup> , John R. Spencer<sup>3</sup> , Harold A. Weaver<sup>4</sup> , J. Michael Shull<sup>5,6</sup>,  
S. Alan Stern<sup>7</sup>, Pontus Brandt<sup>4</sup> , Steven J. Conard<sup>4</sup>, G. Randall Gladstone<sup>8,9</sup>, Carey M. Lisse<sup>4</sup> , Simon B. Porter<sup>3</sup> ,  
Kelsi N. Singer<sup>3</sup> , and Anne. J. Verbiscer<sup>10</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Space Telescope Science Institute, 3700 San Martin Drive, Baltimore, MD 21218, USA<sup>11</sup>; [postman@stsci.edu](mailto:postman@stsci.edu)

<sup>2</sup> U.S. National Science Foundation National Optical Infrared Astronomy Research Laboratory, P.O. Box 26732, Tucson, AZ 85726, USA<sup>12</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Department of Space Studies, Southwest Research Institute, 1050 Walnut Street, Suite 300, Boulder, CO 80302, USA

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<sup>7</sup> Space Science and Engineering Division, Southwest Research Institute, 1050 Walnut Street, Suite 300, Boulder, CO 80302, USA

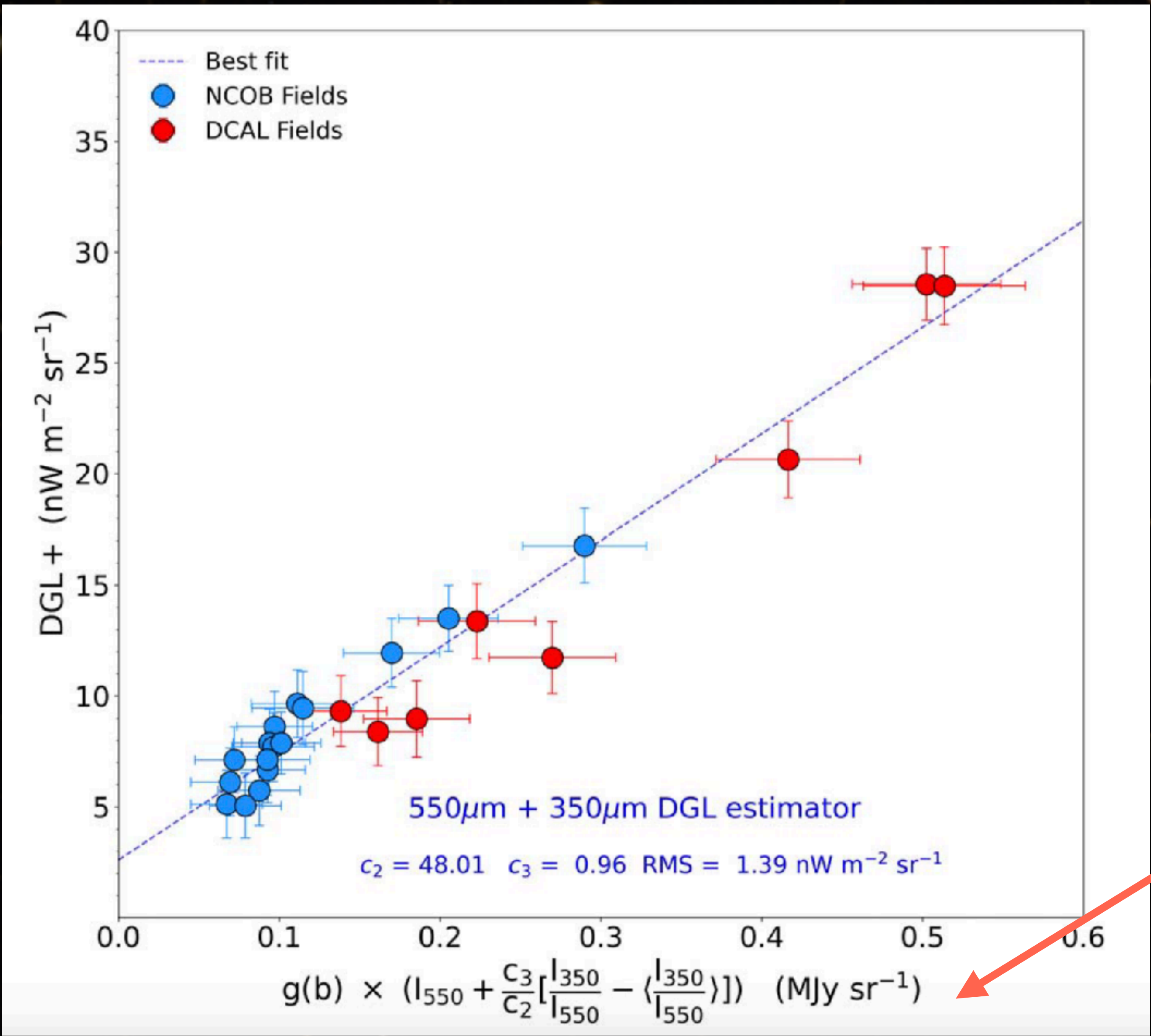
<sup>8</sup> Southwest Research Institute, San Antonio, TX 78238, USA

<sup>9</sup> University of Texas at San Antonio, San Antonio, TX 78249, USA

<sup>10</sup> University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22904, USA

*Received 2024 April 4; revised 2024 July 3; accepted 2024 July 6; published 2024 August 28*



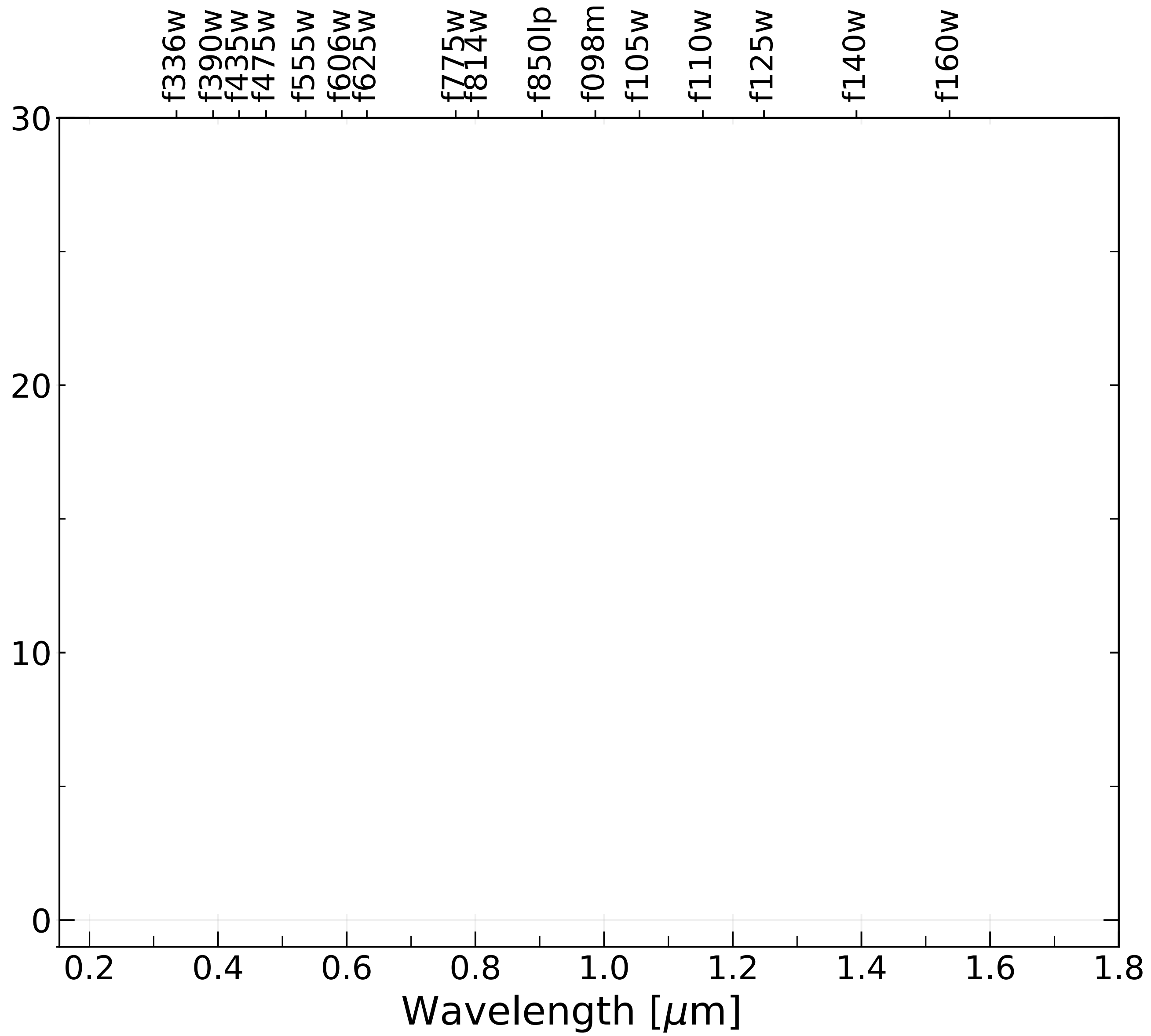


DGL Measurement with New Horizons

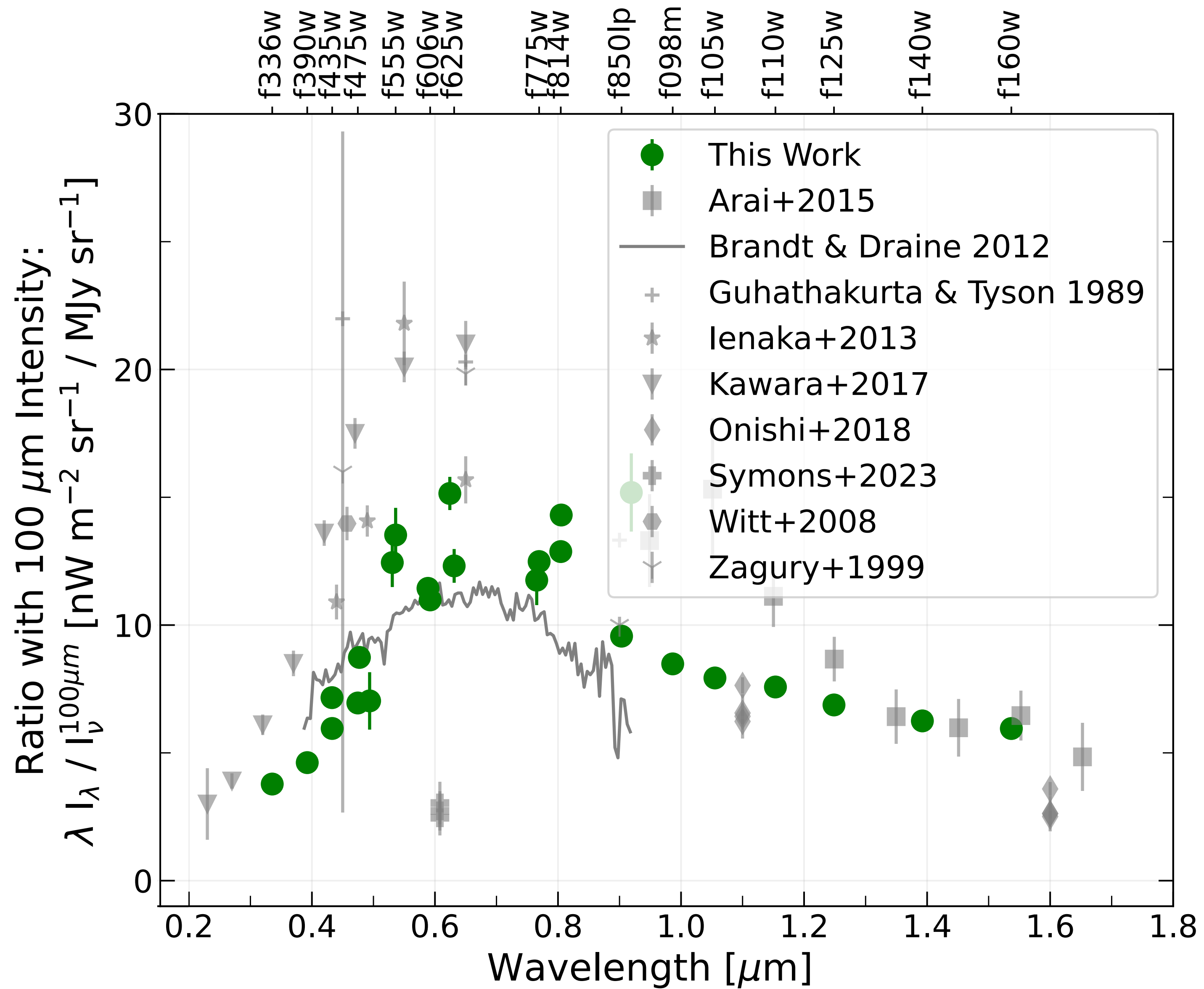
DGL Estimate using Planck maps



Ratio with 100  $\mu\text{m}$  Intensity:  
 $\lambda I_\lambda / I_{100\mu\text{m}}^2 \text{ sr}^{-1} / \text{MJy sr}^{-1}$









# Ongoing SKYSURF Projects

- New Zodiacal Light Model (Rosalia O'Brien, Rick Arendt, Scott Kenyon, etc)
- Final SKYSURF COB Measurements (Rosalia O'Brien, Megan Miller)
- Galaxy counts (Delondrae Carter, Scott Tompkins)

See Tim's talk (up next)



Megan Miller



# Ongoing SKYSURF Projects

- Sky Measurements with older Hubble cameras (Hal Ingram)
- PSF Leakage into Sky Measurements (Logan Conrad)
- Implementation of new zodi model into ZodiPy (Tejovrash Acharya)



Hal Ingram



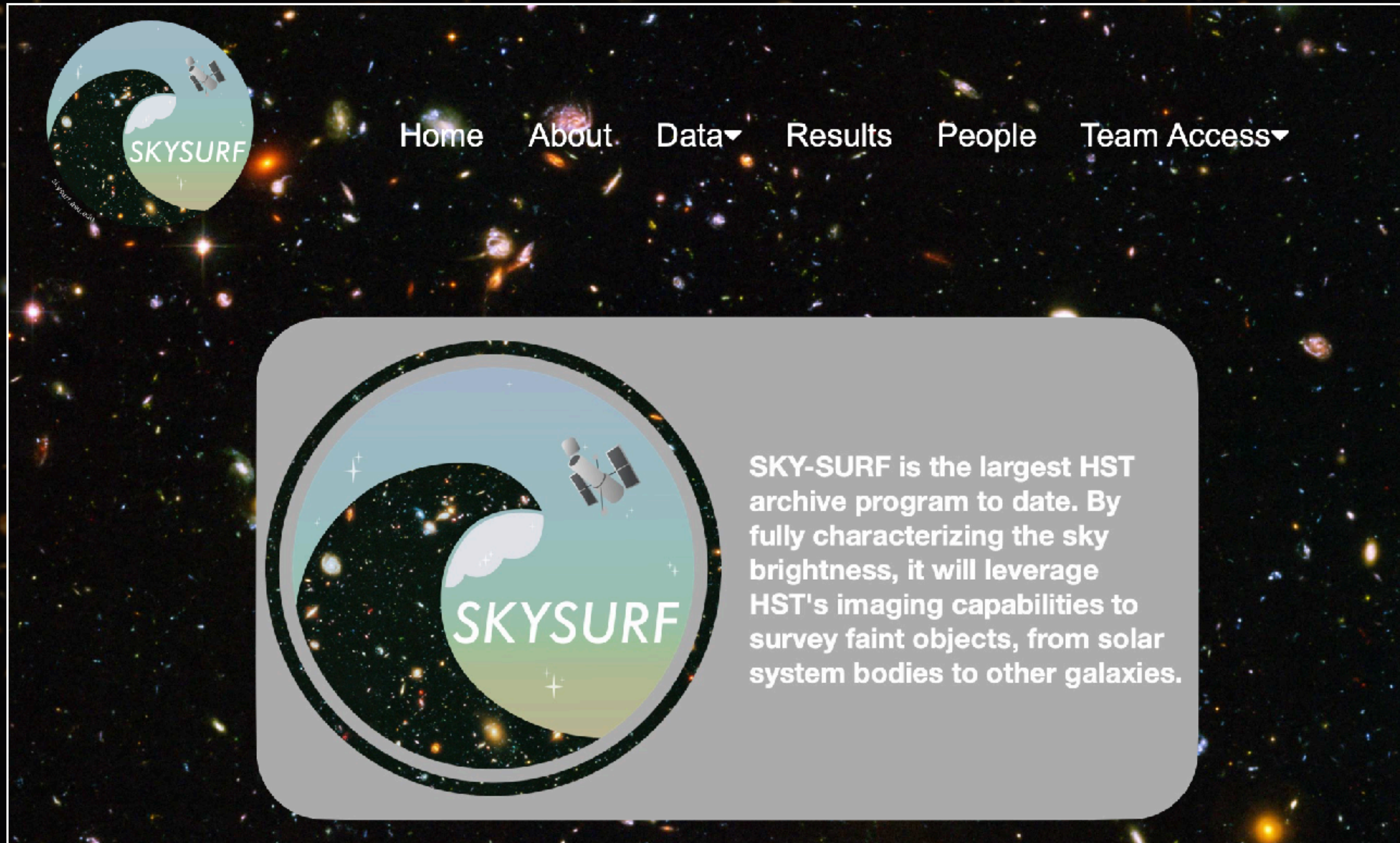
Logan Conrad



Tejovrash Acharya



# skysurf.asu.edu



Home About Data Results People Team Access

**SKYSURF**

**SKY-SURF is the largest HST archive program to date. By fully characterizing the sky brightness, it will leverage HST's imaging capabilities to survey faint objects, from solar system bodies to other galaxies.**



# SKYSURF-IR

PIs: Prof. Rogier Windhorst &  
Dr. Timothy Carleton

Grad Students:



Rafael Ortiz III



Jessica Berkheimer





# Conclusion

- SKYSURF published sky-SB measurements for +150,000 Hubble images.
- Measurements of the SKYSURF COB are difficult due to bright foregrounds. —> A new Zodiacal Light model is needed.
- Currently using Postman+2024 DGL estimates
- Project SKYSURF remains ongoing.
- SKYSURF-IR (with JWST)





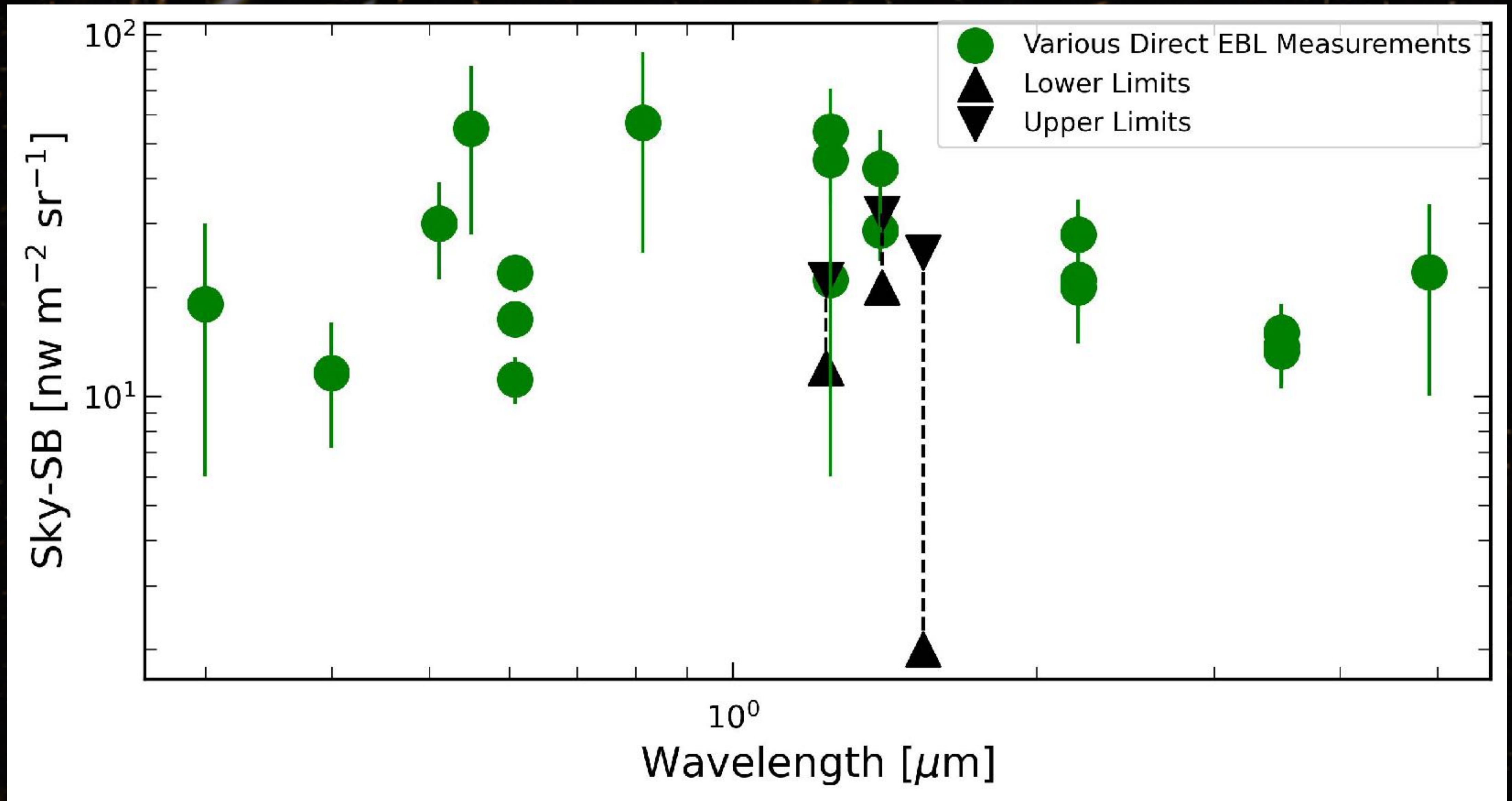
# EXTRA SLIDES



# Image Credits

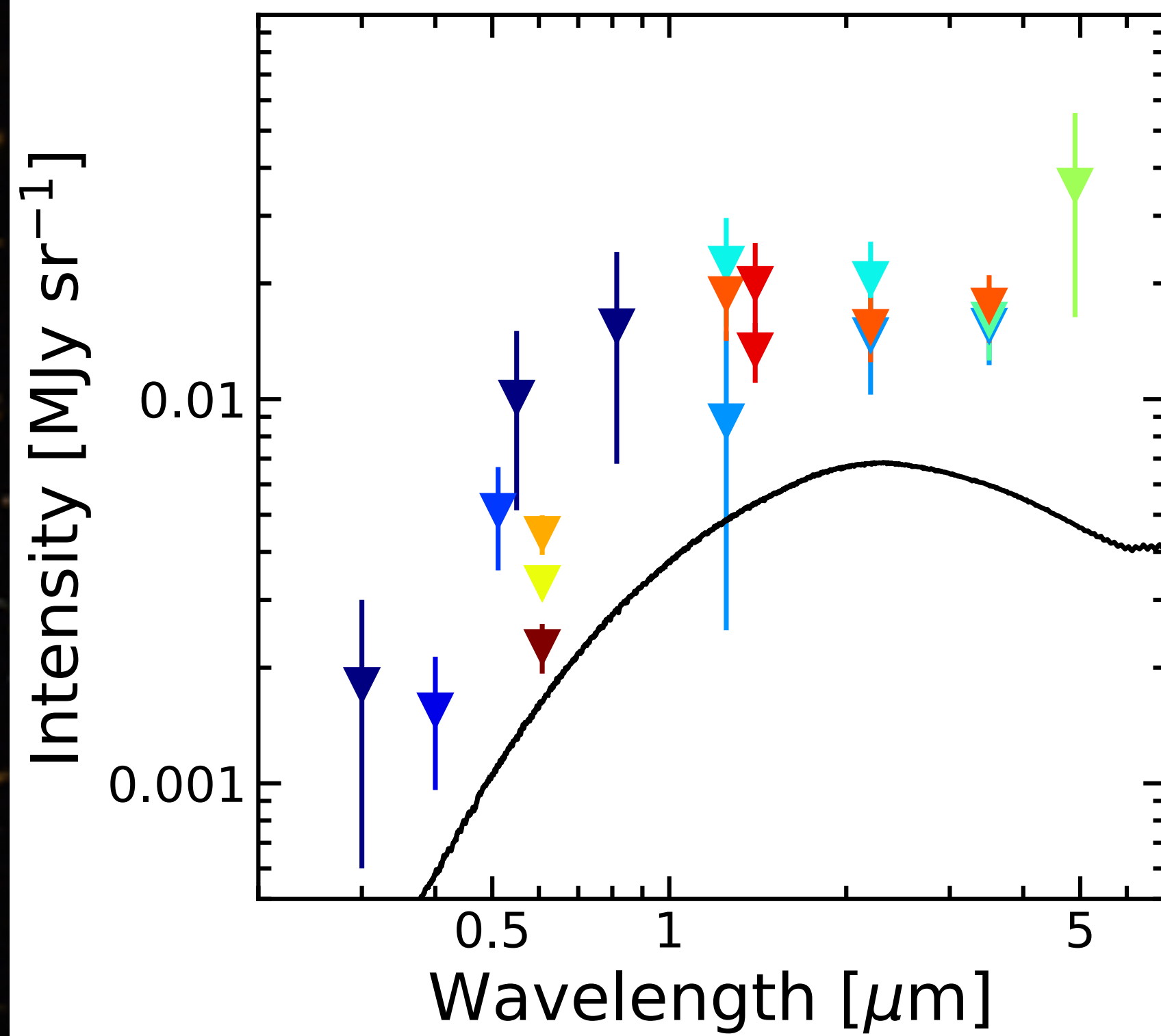
- History of the Universe - NASA
- Big Bang Icon - Pablo Carlos Budassi; Unmismoobjetivo/Wikimedia Commons
- Galaxy Icons - NASA
- Thumbs up stick person - The Happiness Project (<https://happinessproject.com/products/the-happiness-sticker-pack>)
- Image of the night sky - NASA Night Sky Network
- Glasses icon - Warby Parker
- Hubble image - NASA
- Andromeda image - Westend61 via Getty Images
- Comet dust cloud image - NASA Hubblesite





McIntyre et al. 2024





- EBL Prediction (Andrews+2018)
- ▼ Bernstein (2007)
- ▼ Mattila (2017)
- ▼ Dube et al. (1979)
- ▼ Levenson et al. (2007)
- ▼ Cambresy et al. (2001)
- ▼ Dwek & Arendt (1998)
- ▼ Arendt & Dwek (2003)
- ▼ Lauer et al. (2022)
- ▼ Symons et al. (2023)
- ▼ Sano et al. (2020)
- ▼ Matsuura et al. (2017)
- ▼ Postman et al. (2024)



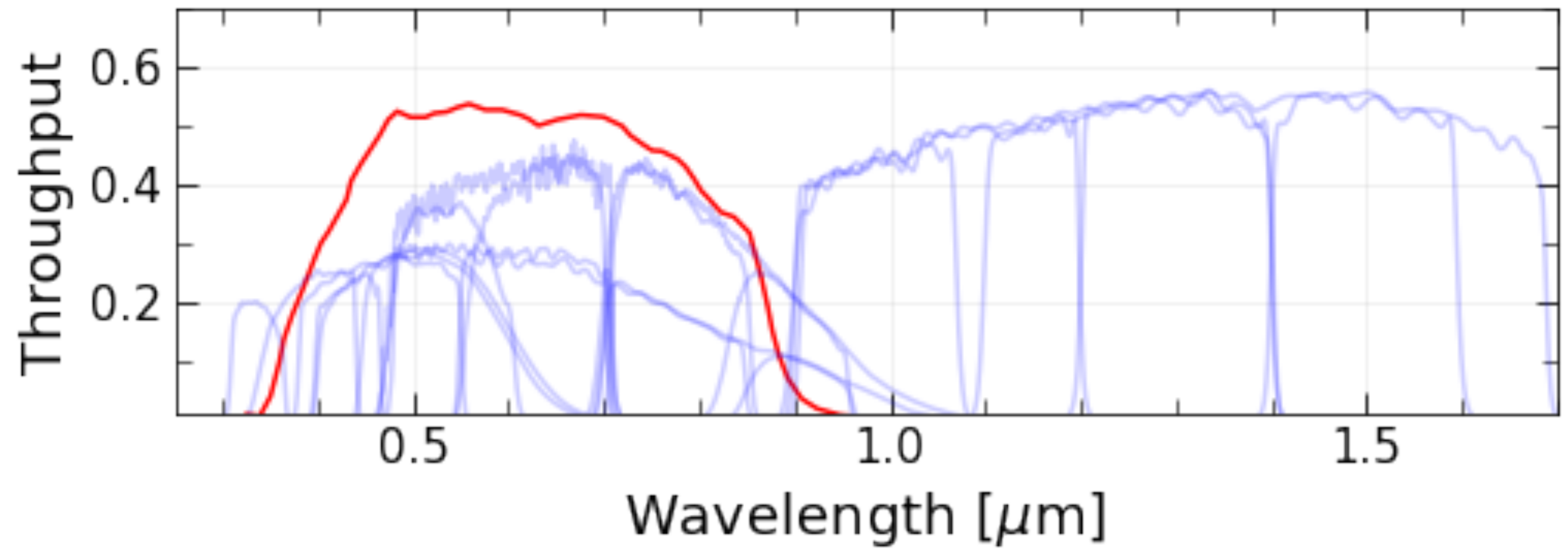
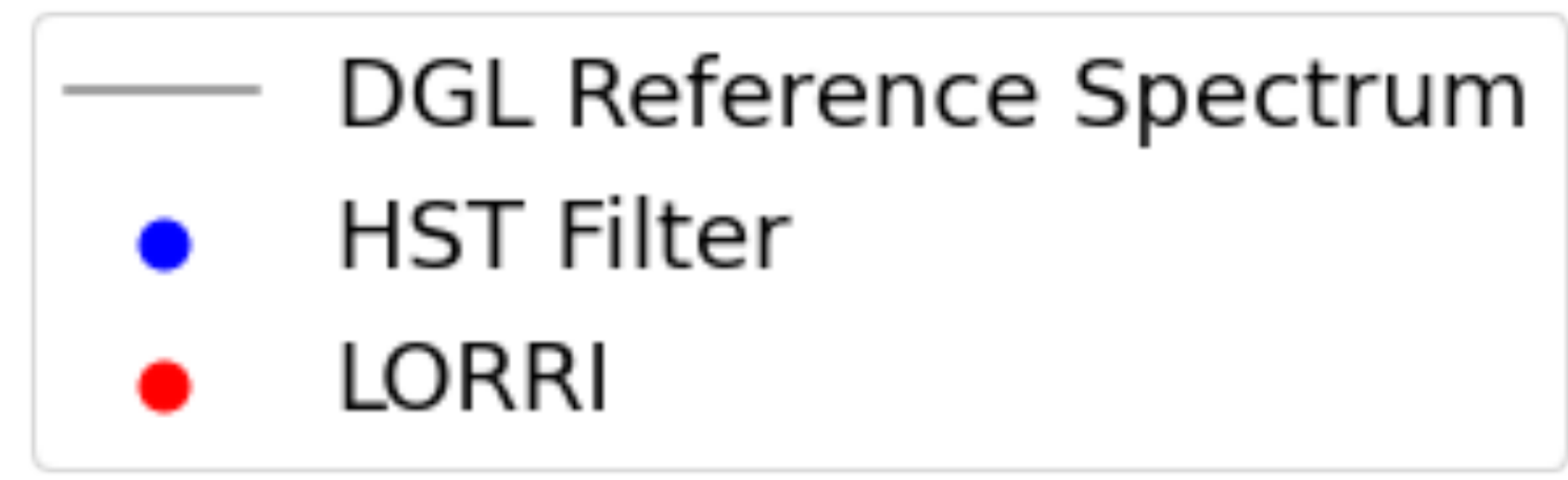
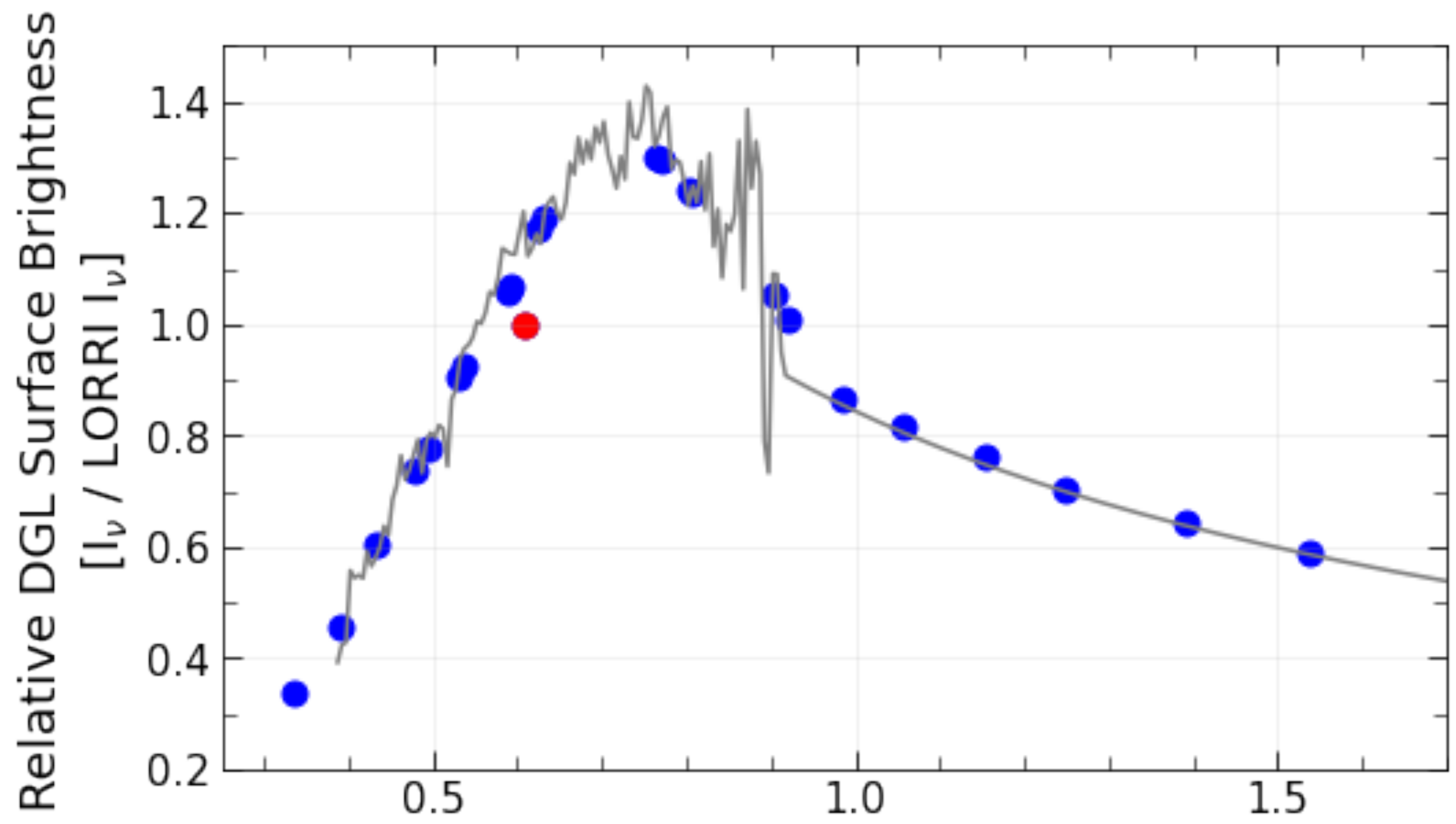
## Postman Equation 8

Planck maps with CIB subtracted manually

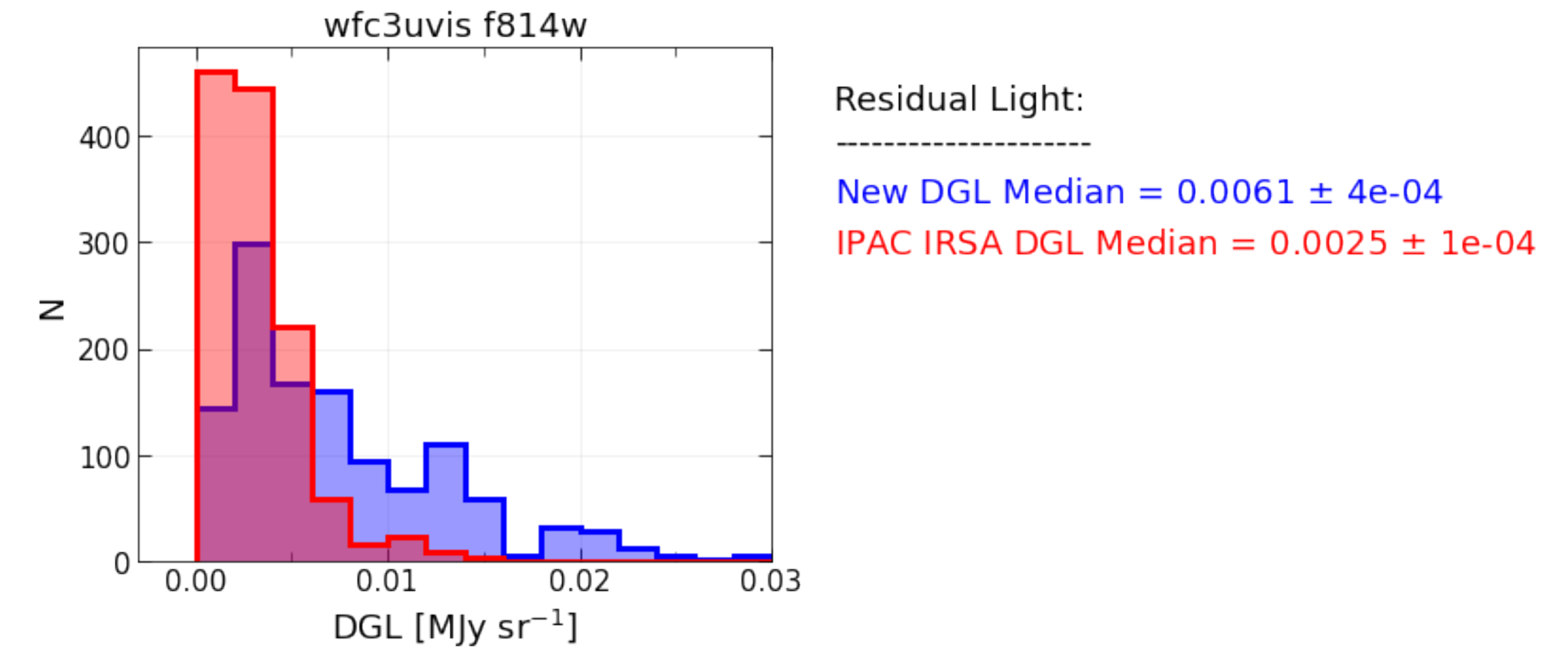
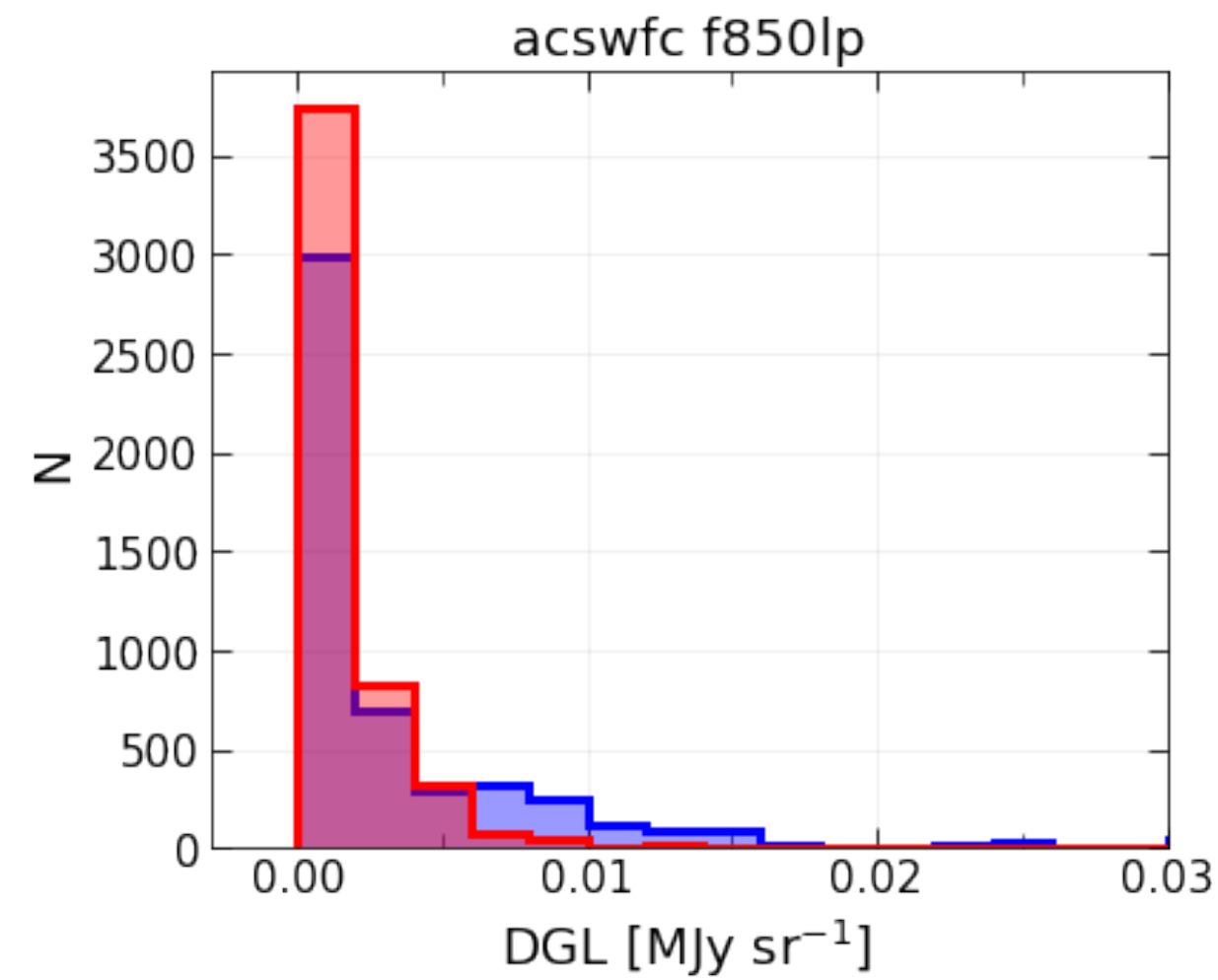
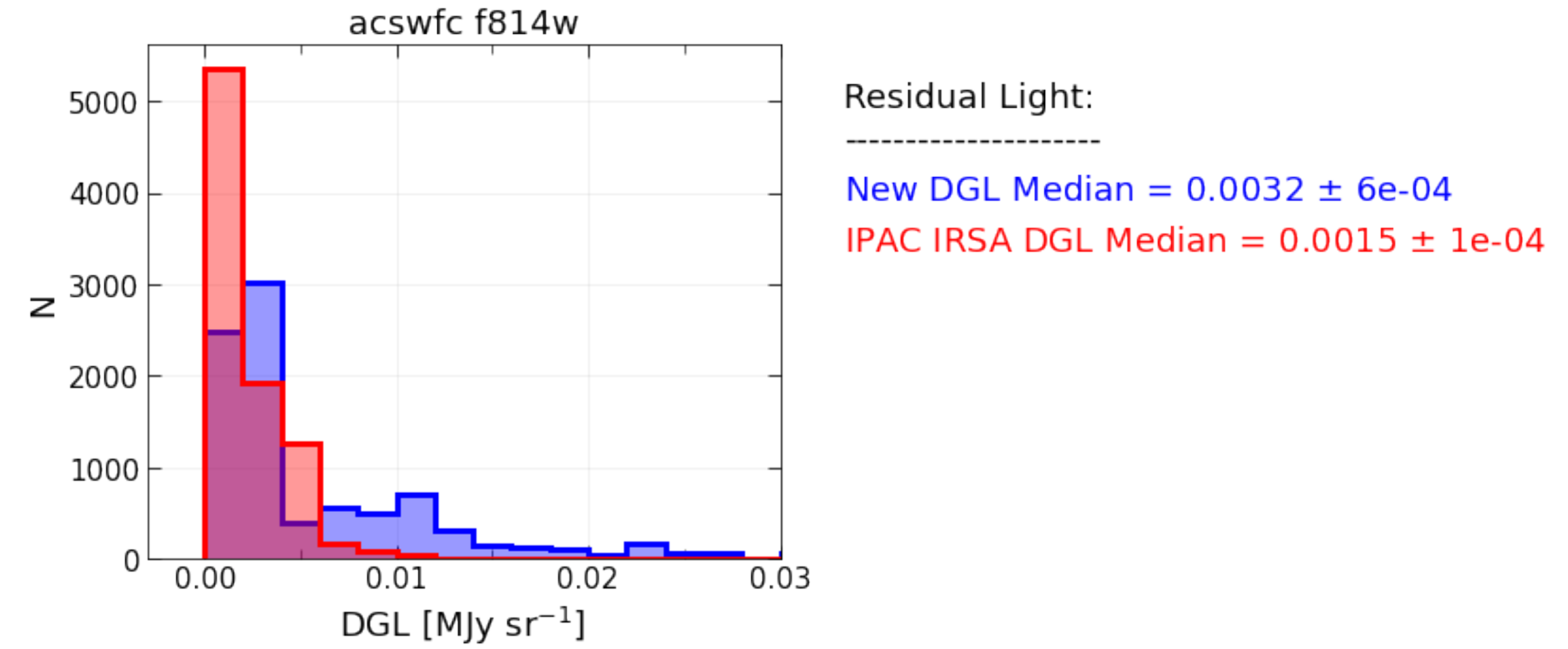
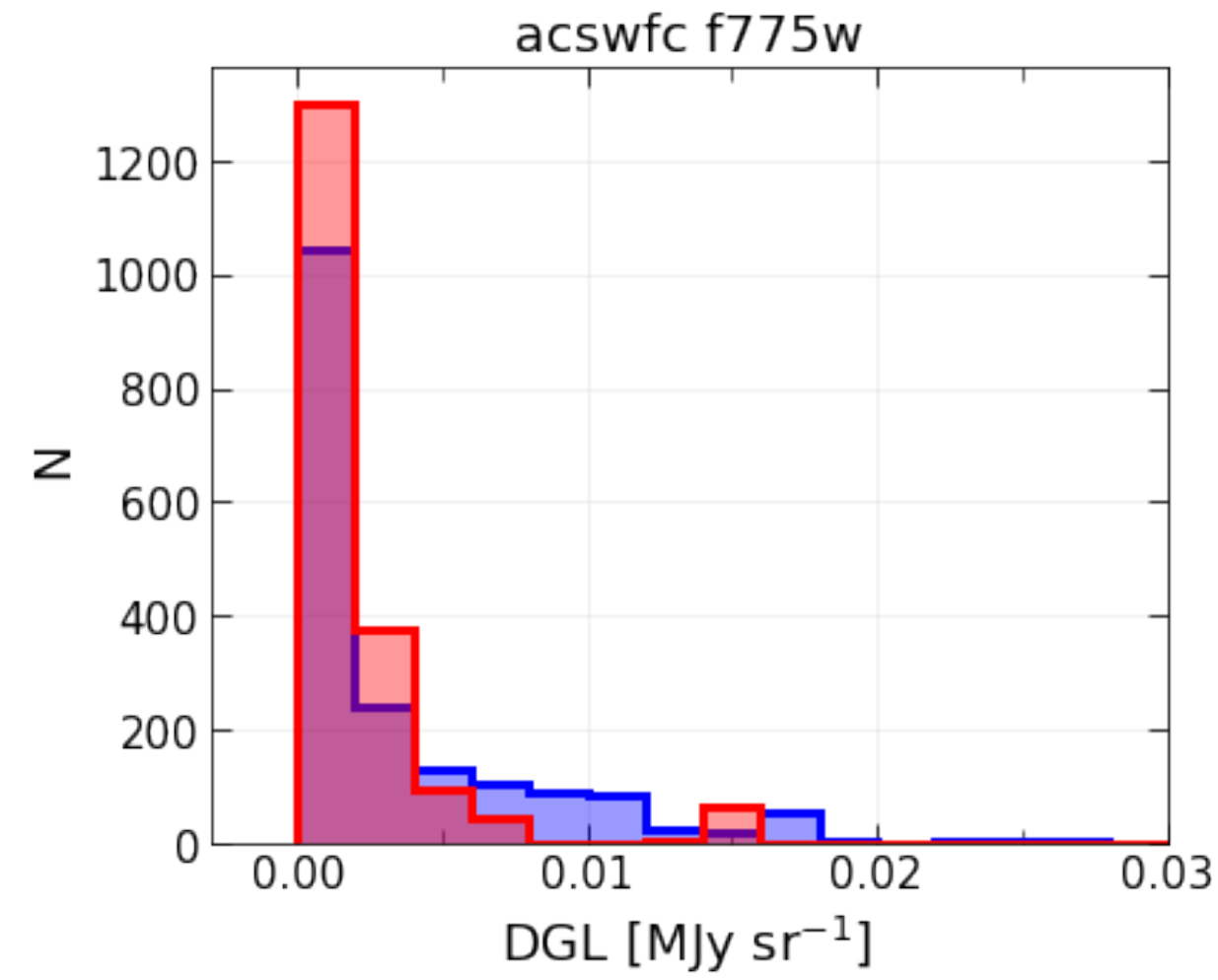
$$\text{DGL}(\text{nW m}^{-2} \text{sr}^{-1}) = g(b) \left[ 48.01 I_c(550 \mu\text{m}) + 0.96 \left( \frac{I_c(350 \mu\text{m})}{I_c(550 \mu\text{m})} - 3.66 \right) \right], \quad (8)$$

LORRI Instrument: 0.608 micron pivot wavelength  
(Huge bandpass spanning 0.4 and 0.9 microns)



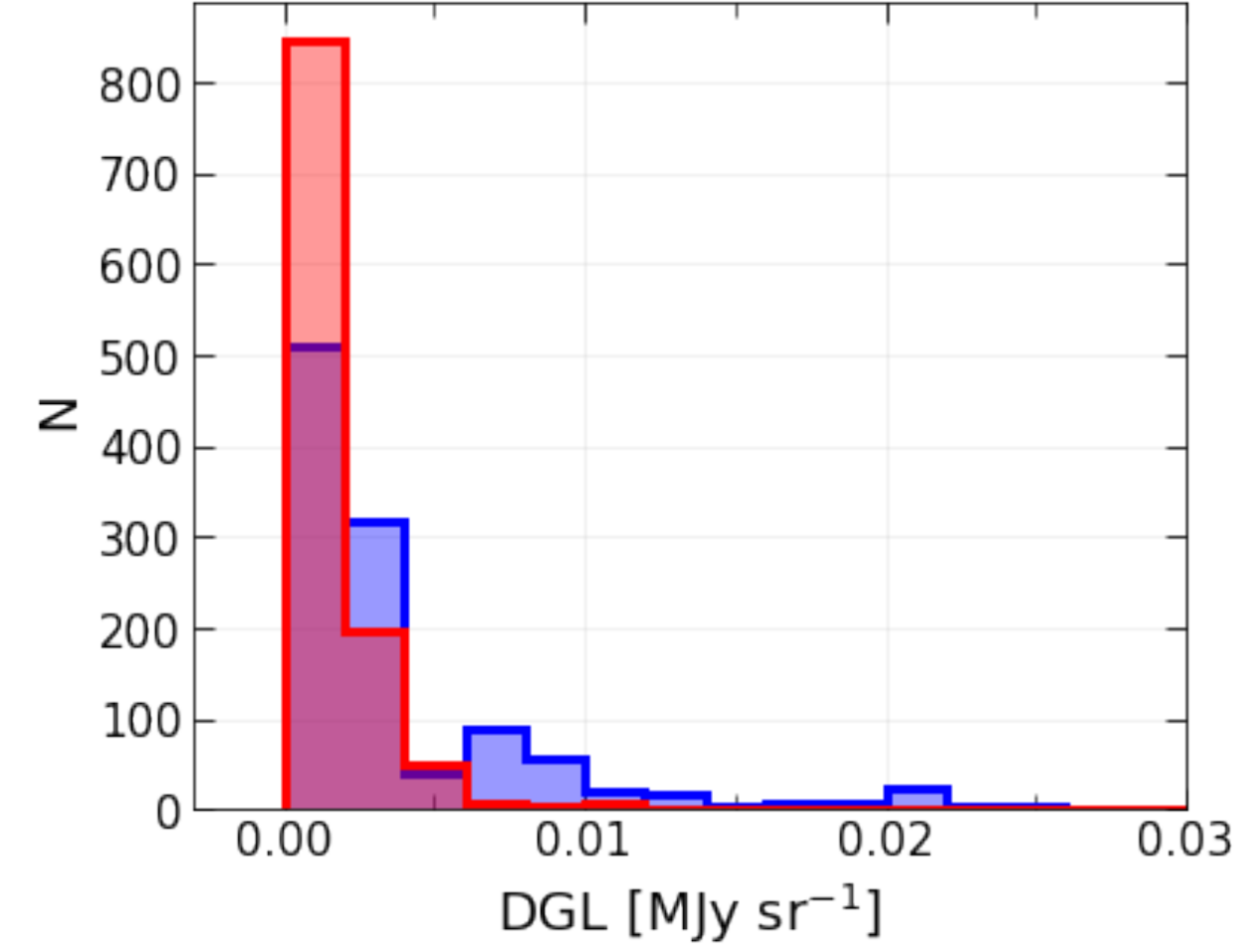








wfc3ir f125w

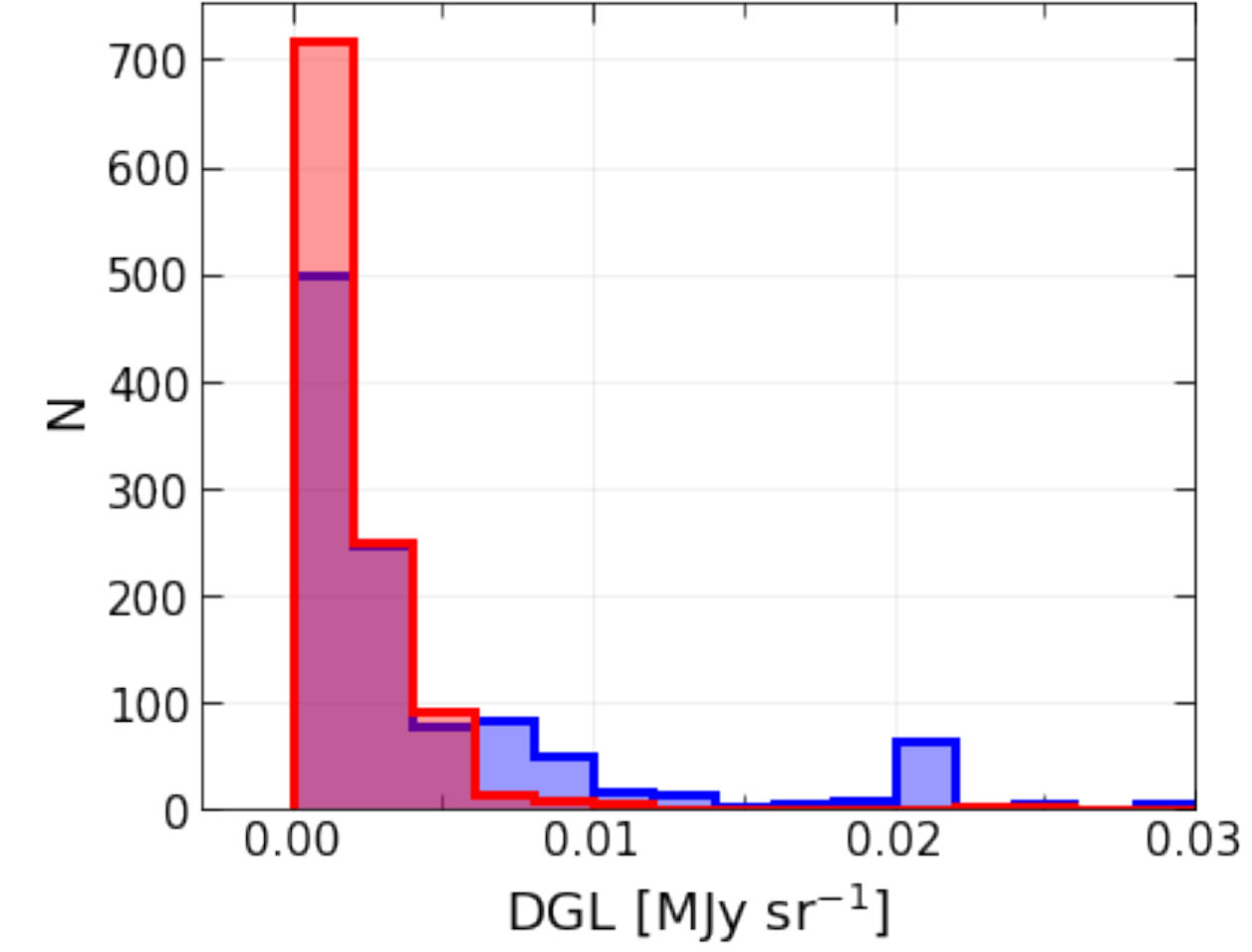


Residual Light:  
-----

New DGL Median =  $0.0021 \pm 2e-04$

IPAC IRSA DGL Median =  $0.0011 \pm 4e-05$

wfc3ir f105w

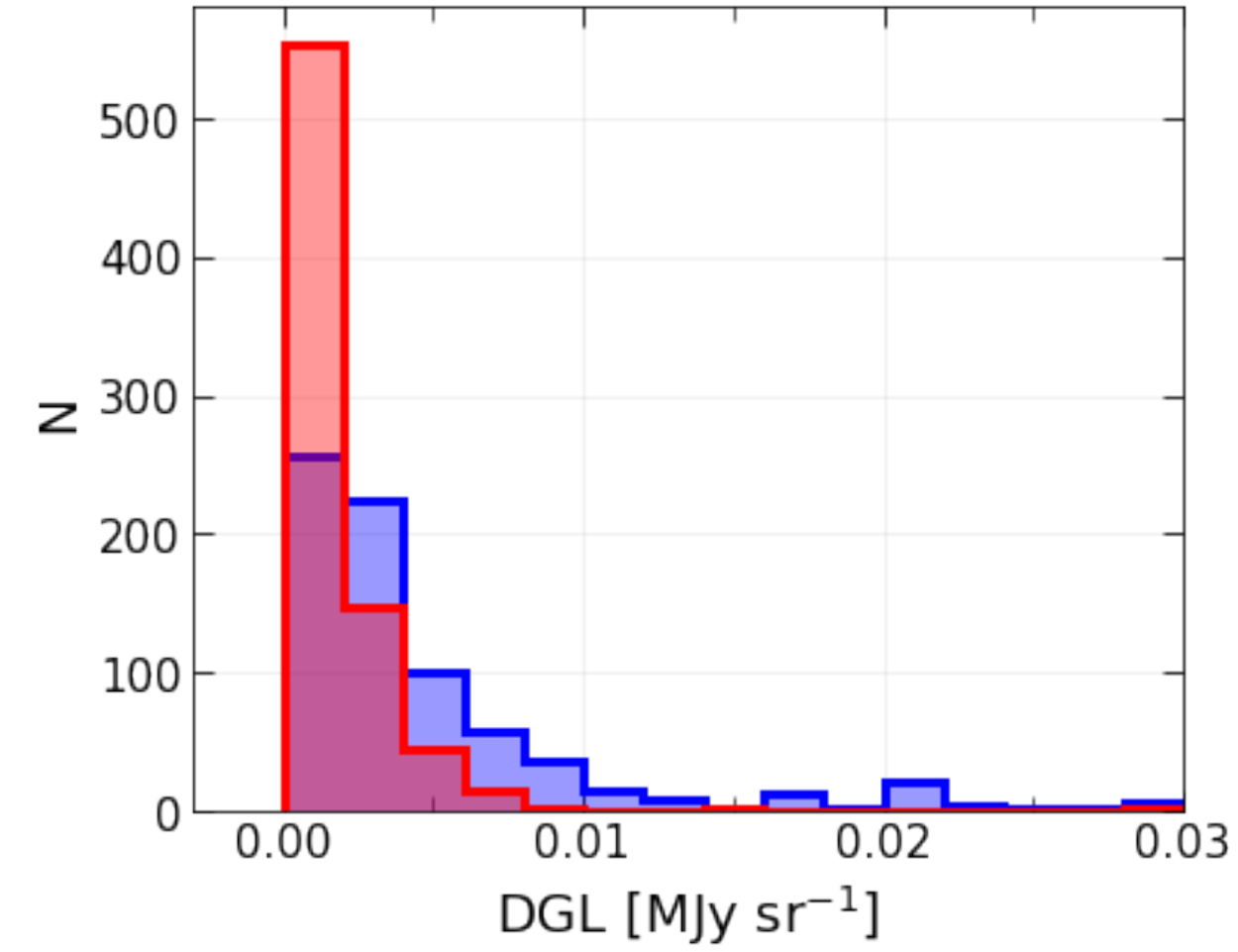


Residual Light:  
-----

New DGL Median =  $0.0024 \pm 3e-04$

IPAC IRSA DGL Median =  $0.0015 \pm 1e-04$

wfc3ir f140w

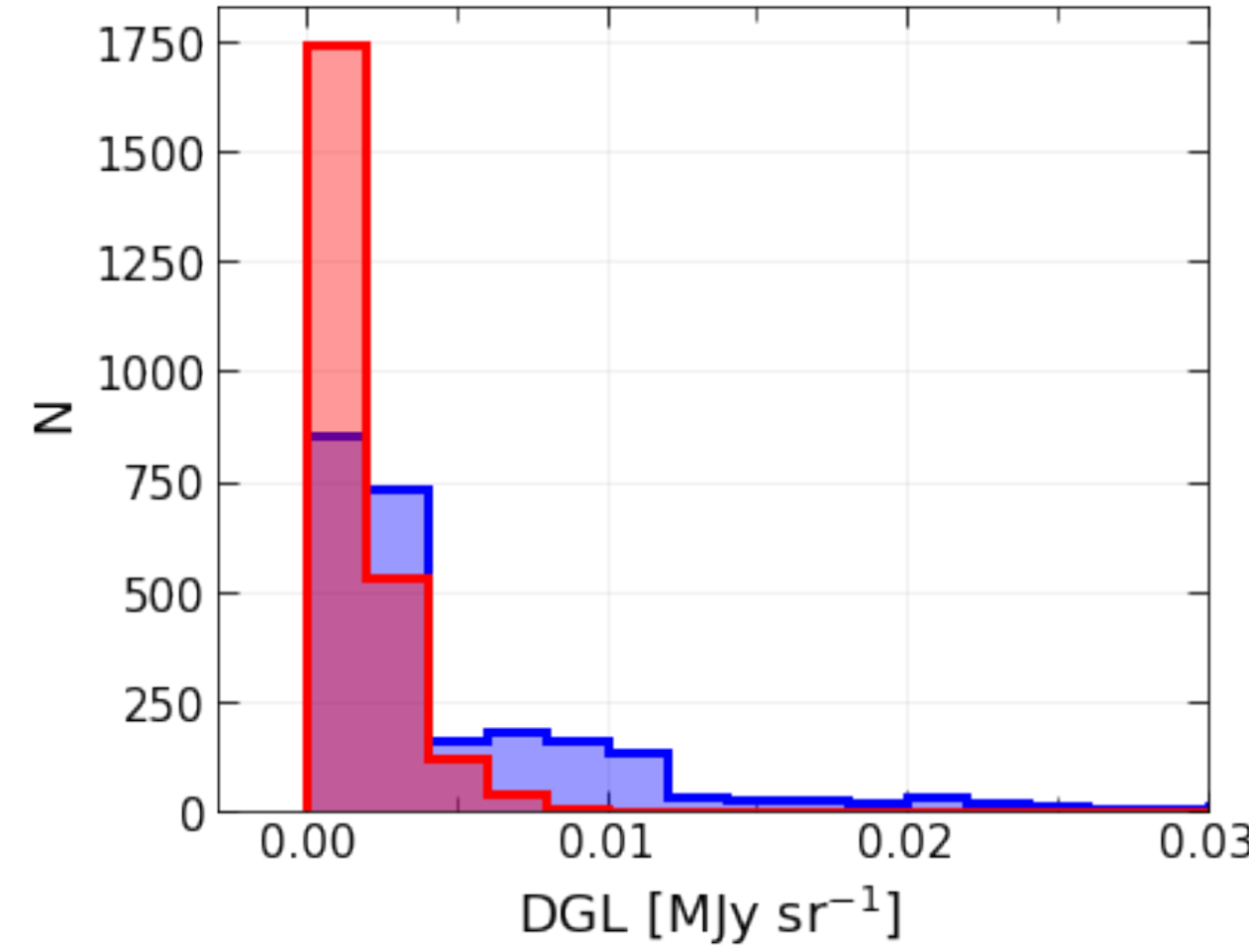


Residual Light:  
-----

New DGL Median =  $0.0031 \pm 3e-04$

IPAC IRSA DGL Median =  $0.0014 \pm 8e-05$

wfc3ir f160w



Residual Light:  
-----

New DGL Median =  $0.0027 \pm 1e-04$

IPAC IRSA DGL Median =  $0.0012 \pm 4e-05$



# COB Prediction

- Phenomological model (forward modeling)
- Assumptions of star formation history, spectral evolution of stellar populations, IMF, SED of starlight, dust attenuation

Monthly Notices  
of the  
ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

MNRAS 474, 898–916 (2018)  
Advance Access publication 2017 November 6

doi:10.1093/mnras/stx2843

**Modelling the cosmic spectral energy distribution and extragalactic background light over all time**

S. K. Andrews,<sup>1,2★</sup> S. P. Driver,<sup>1,2★</sup> L. J. M. Davies,<sup>1</sup> C. d. P. Lagos<sup>1</sup>  
and A. S. G. Robotham<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>International Center for Radio Astronomy Research, The University of Western Australia, 35 Stirling Highway, Crawley, WA 6009, Australia  
<sup>2</sup>School of Physics & Astronomy, University of St Andrews, North Haugh, St Andrews KY16 9SS, UK

Accepted 2017 October 31. Received 2017 October 31; in original form 2017 June 13

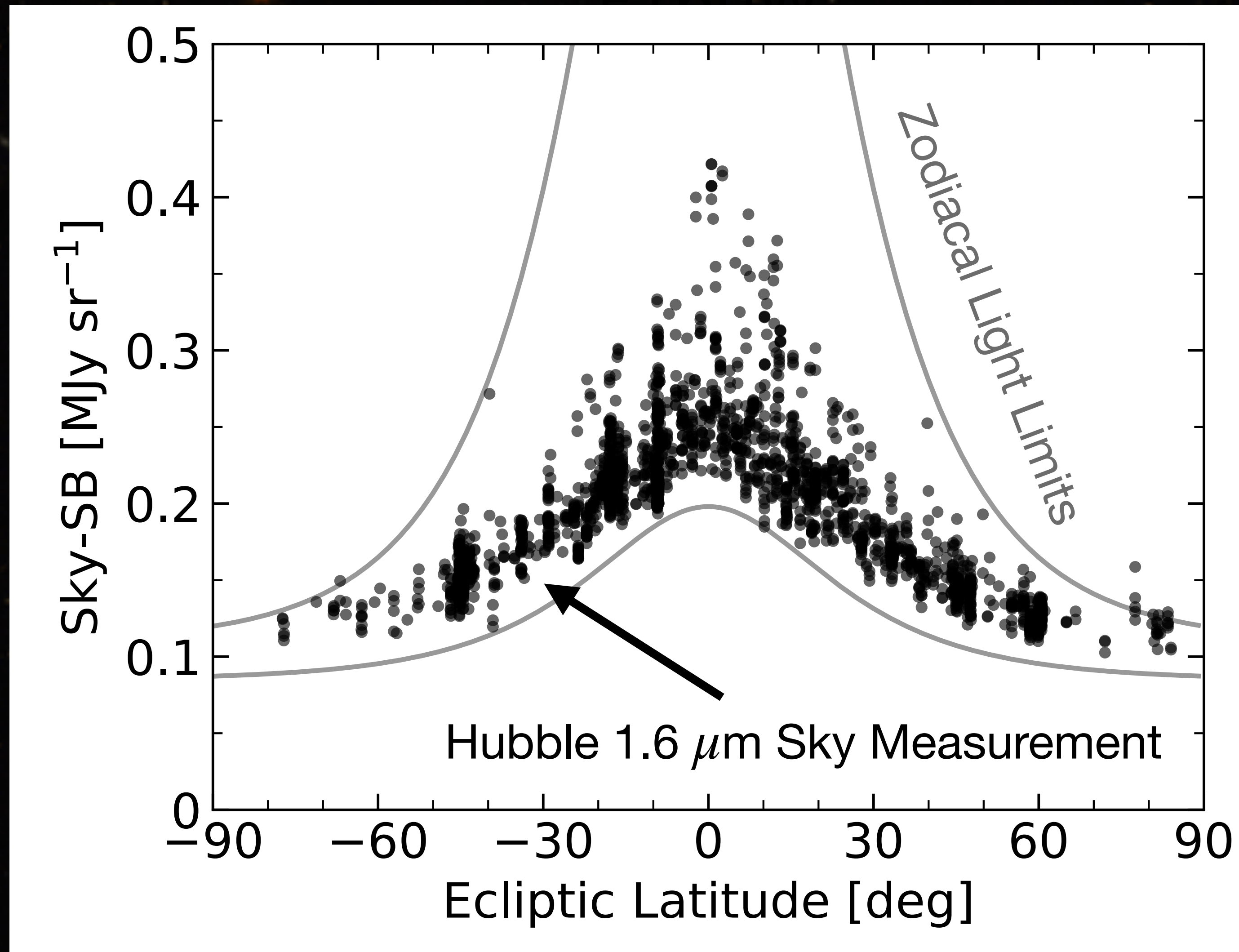


# Zodi Origin?

- Smooth Cloud: asteroid collisions (Dermott et al. 1984; Schramm et al. 1989; Tsumura et al. 2010); cometary ejections (Liou et al. 1995; Nesvorný et al. 2010; Yang and Ishiguro 2015)
- Dust Bands: Believed to be asteroidal collisional debris; The material producing them is likely to be debris spiraling into the Sun under Poynting-Robertson drag (effect that causes dust grains to lose angular momentum due to radiation pressure from the Sun).
- Circumsolar rings: The Earth temporarily traps migrating dust particles into resonant orbits near 1 AU if they are in low-eccentricity orbits, as is expected for asteroidal debris



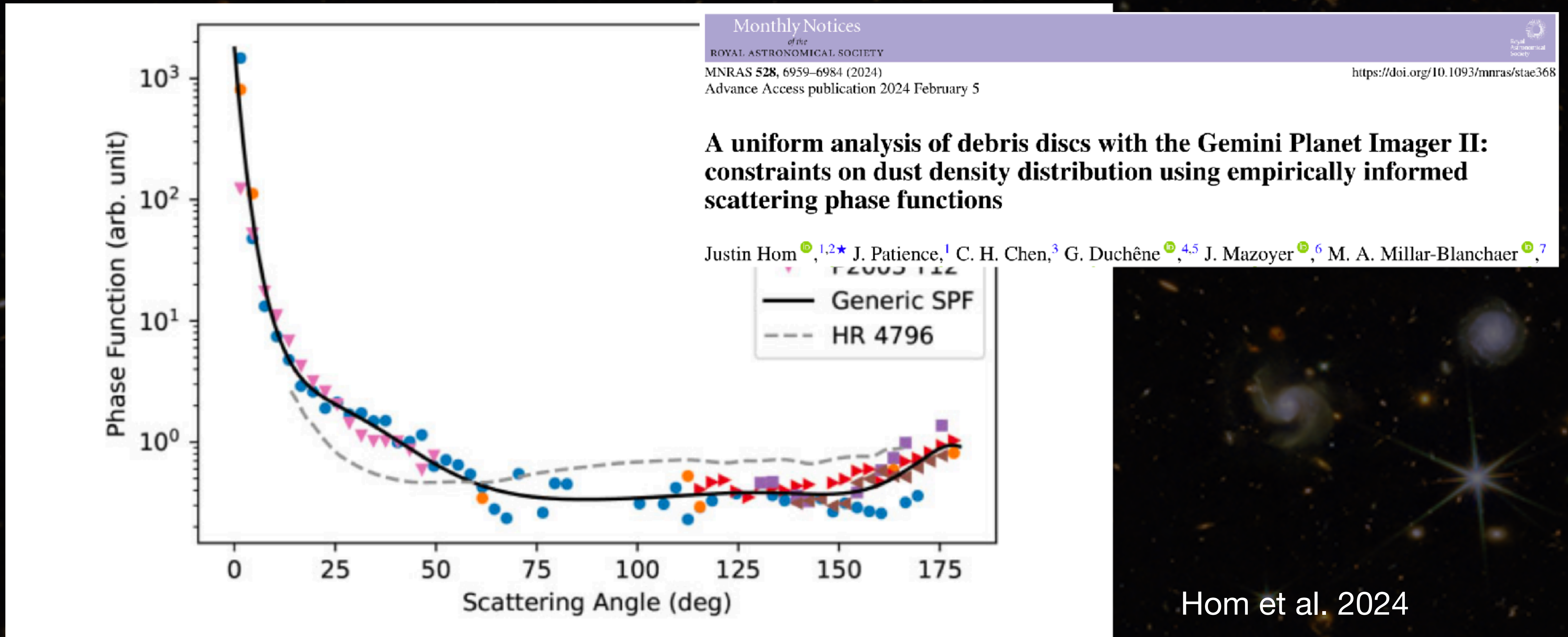
# Sky Measurements



O'Brien et al. 2023

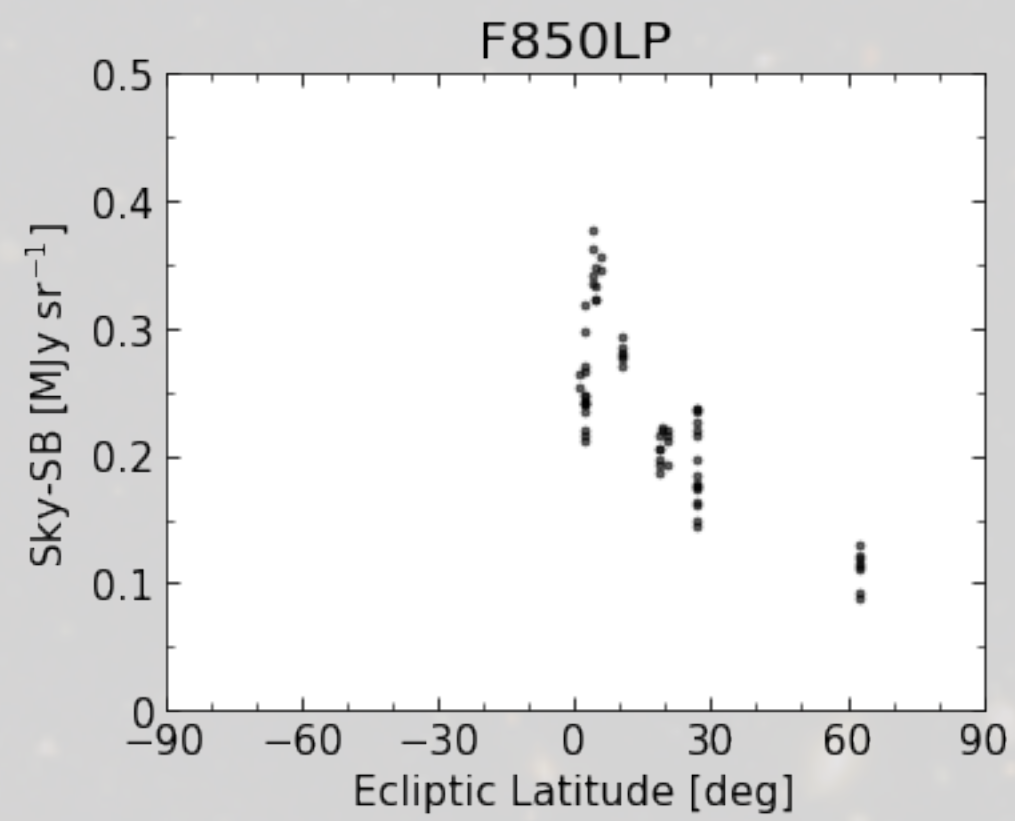
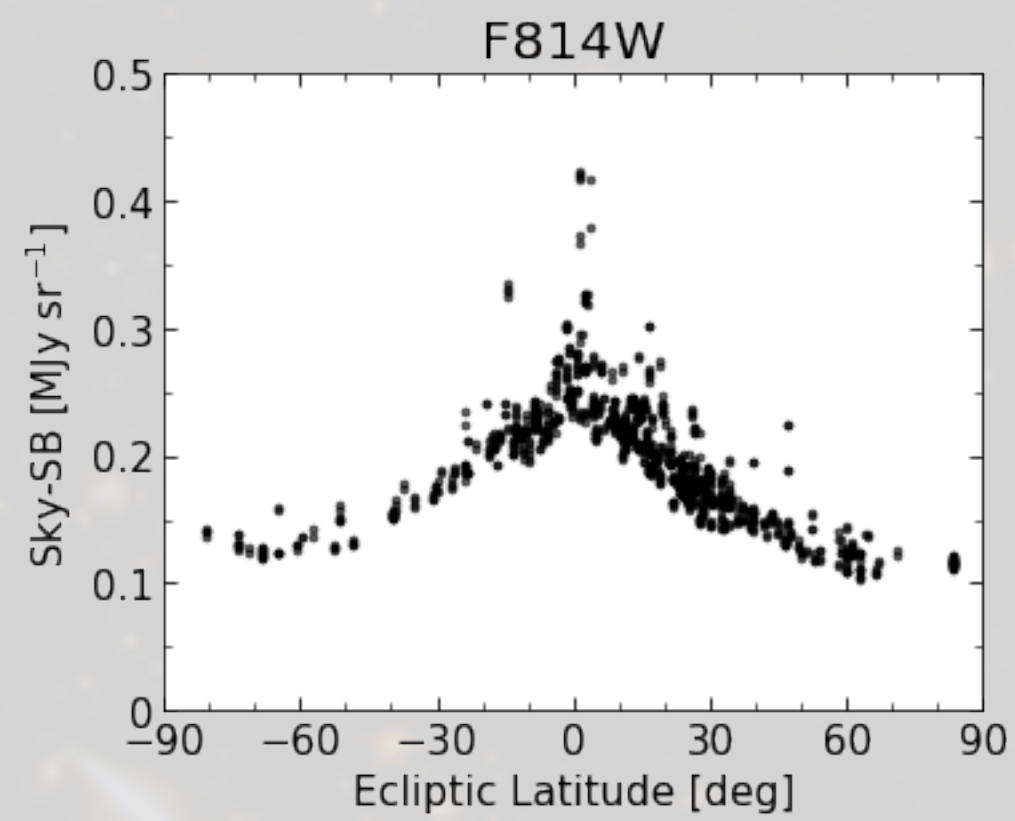
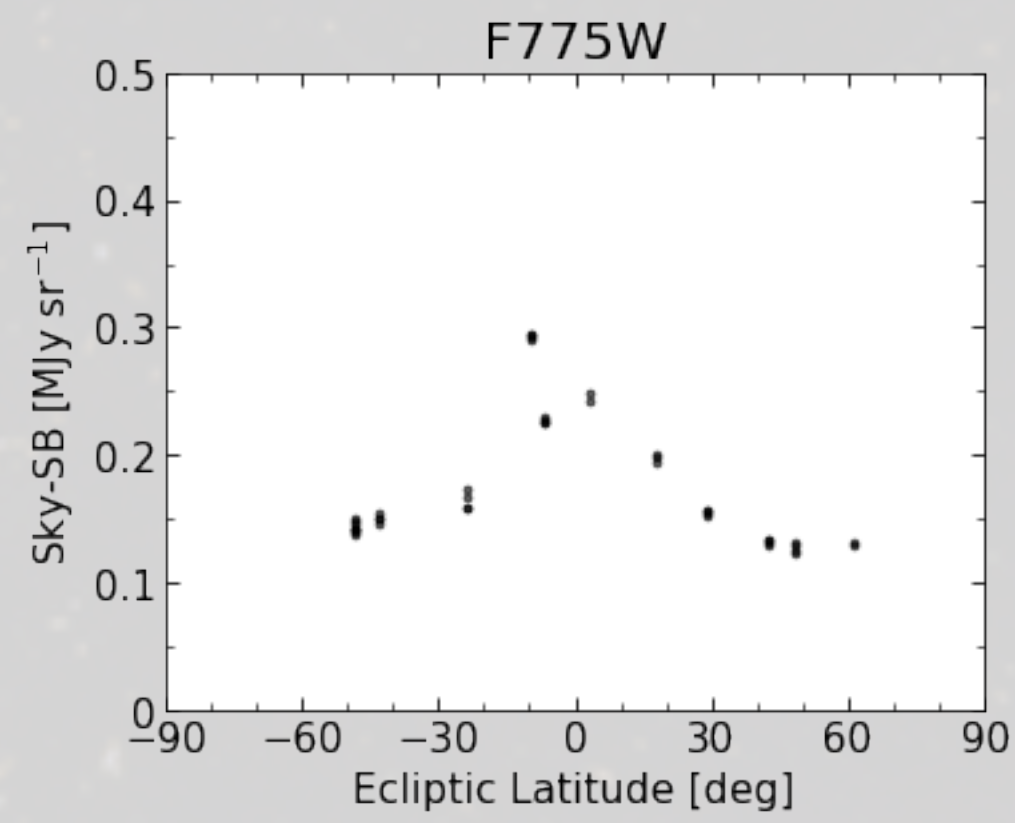
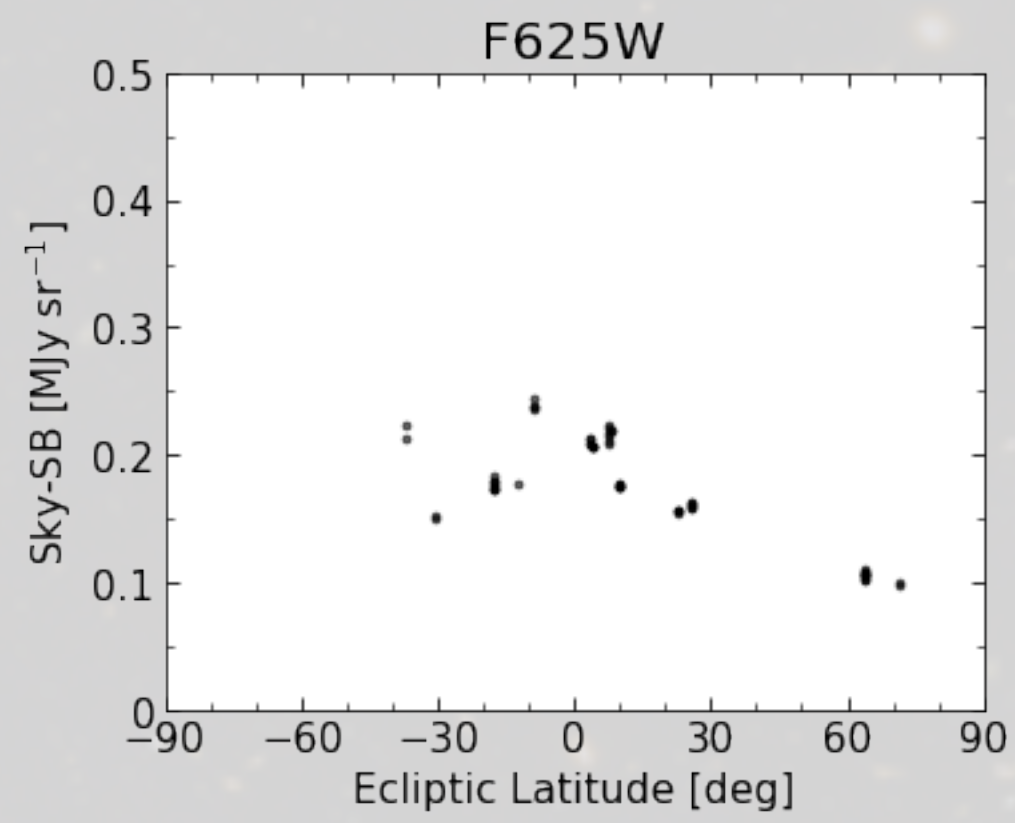
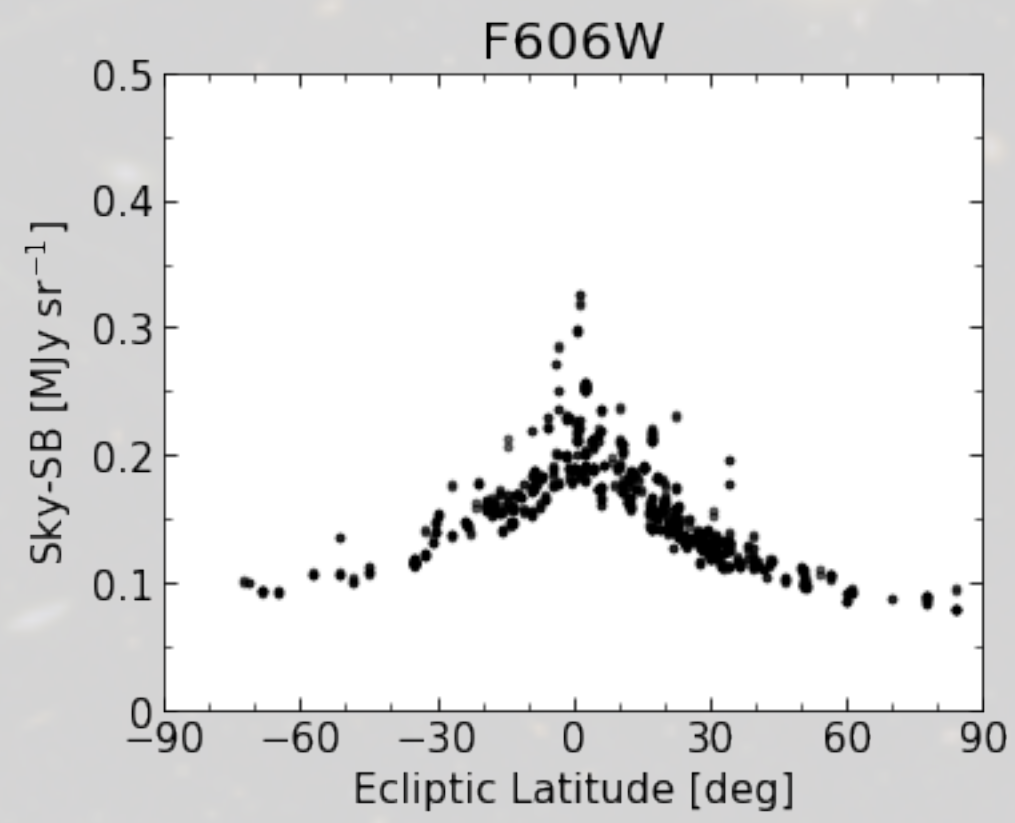
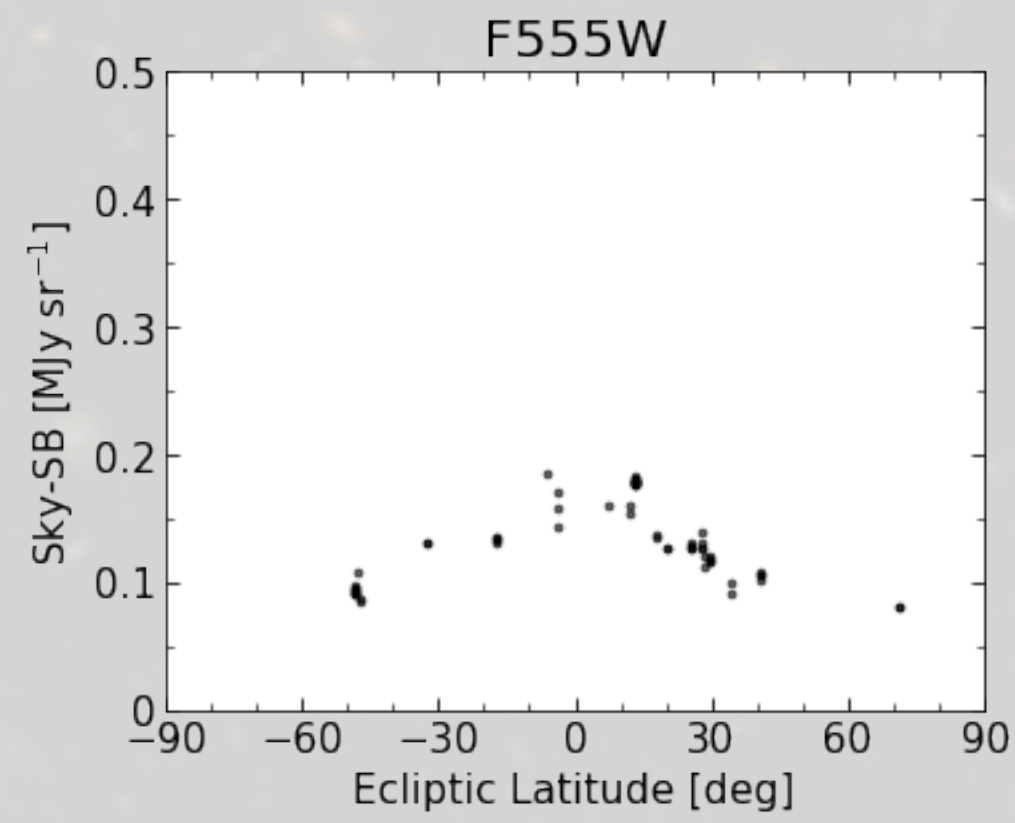
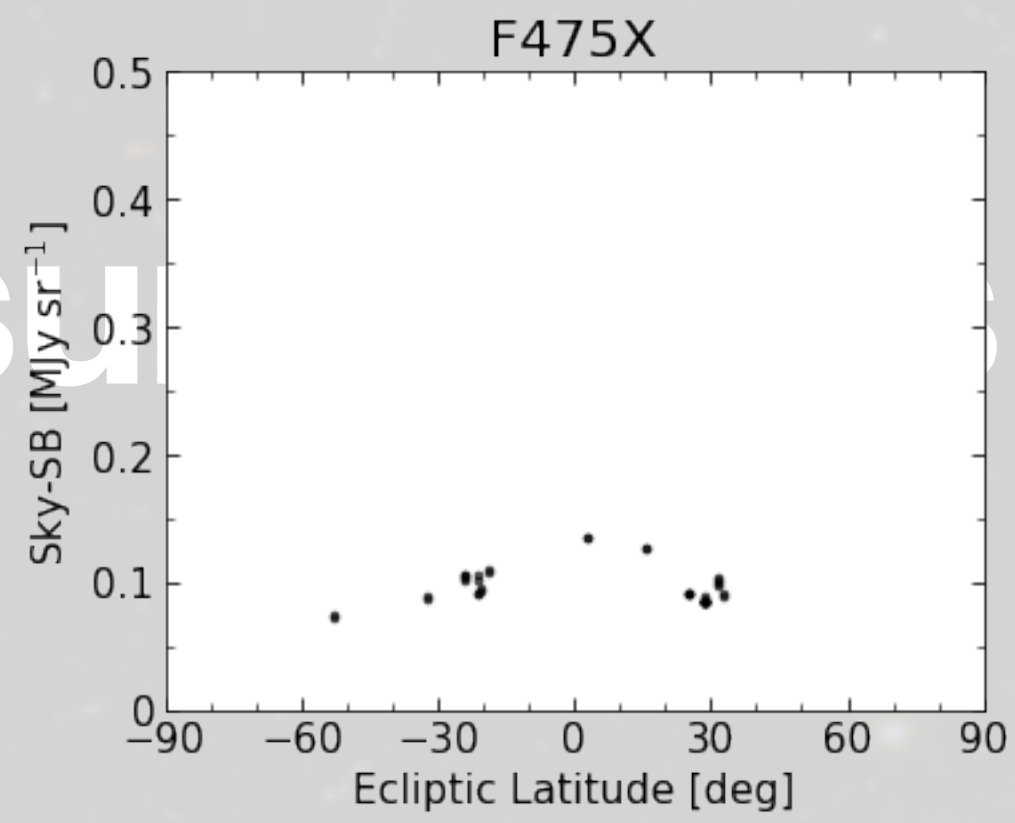
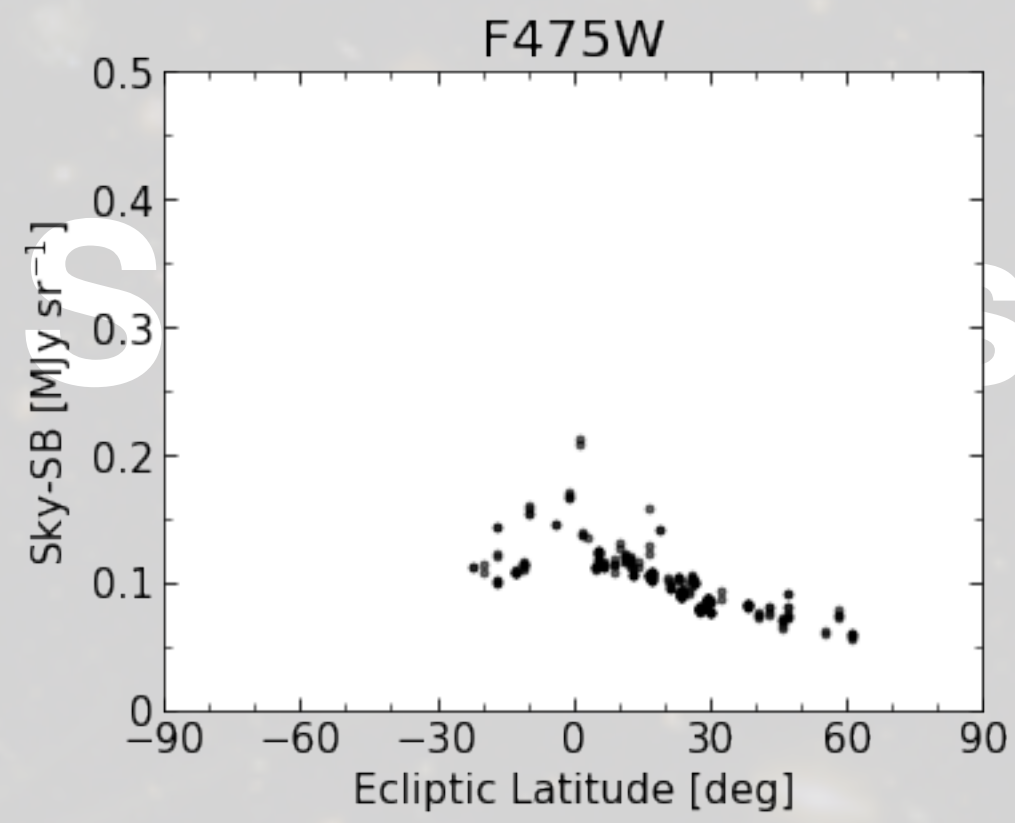


# A New Scattering Phase Function



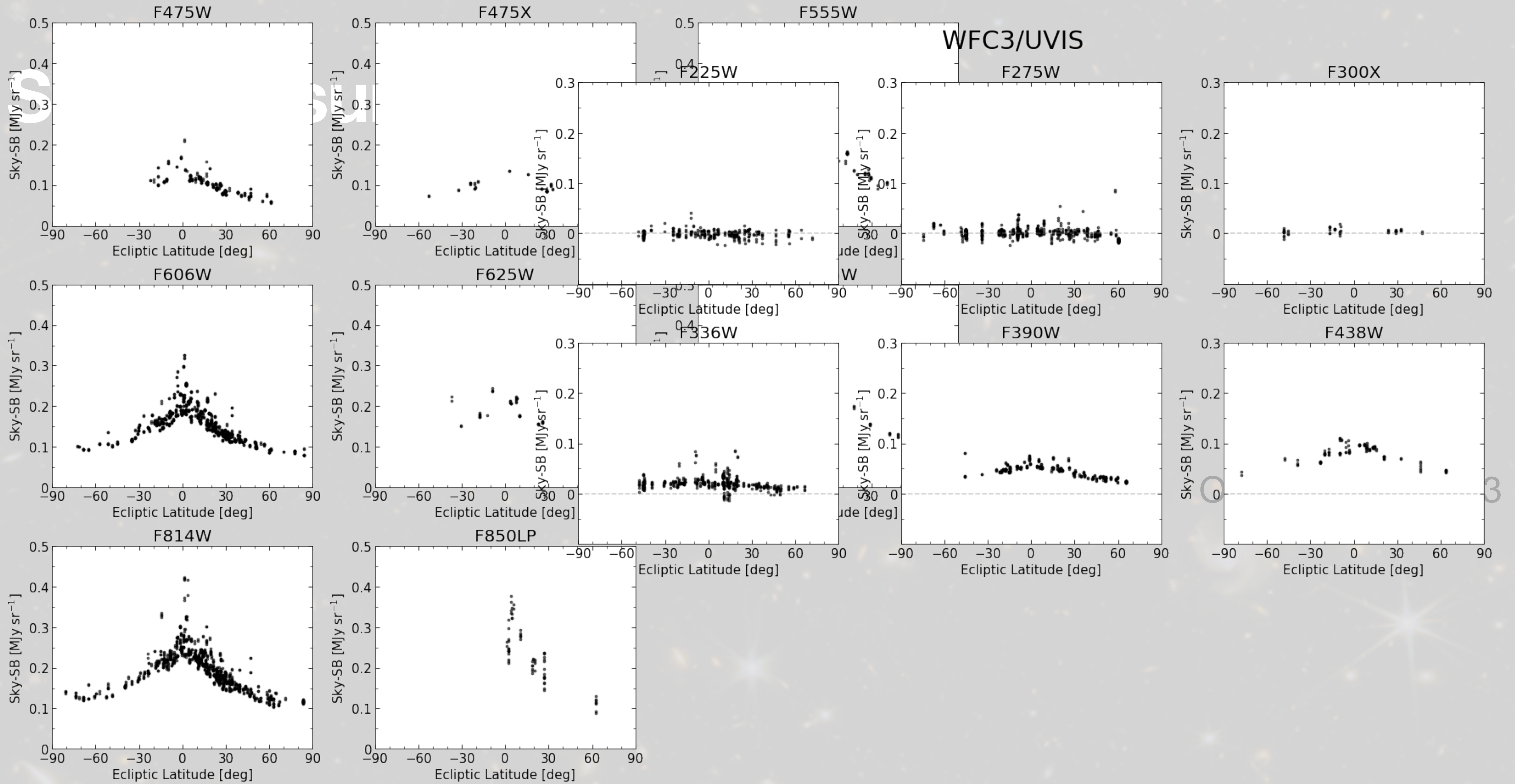
Hom et al. 2024



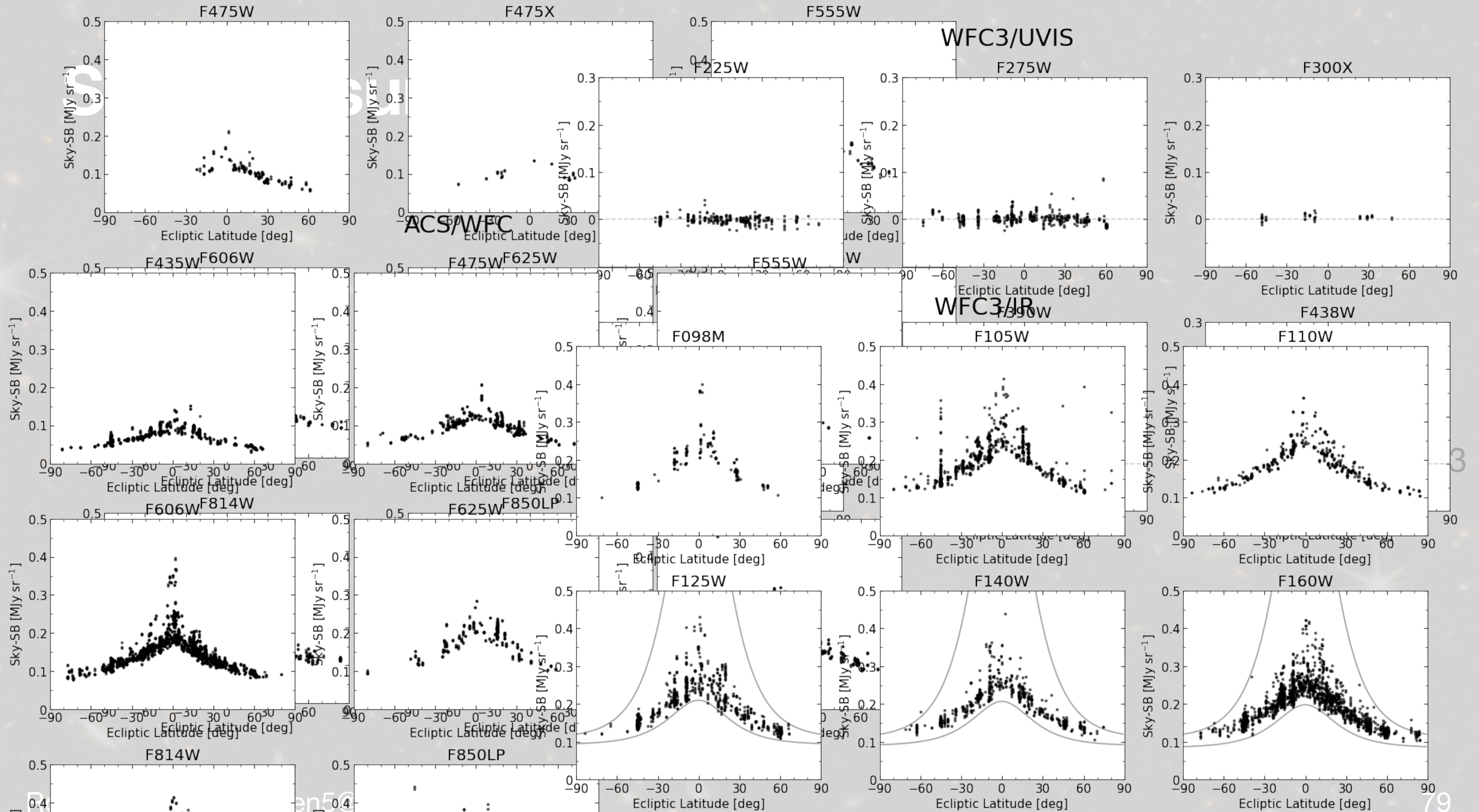


O'Brien et al. 2023











# Diffuse Light measurements



skysurf.asu.edu

**Diffuse Light = Sky-SB – Zodiacal Light – DGL – IGL - Thermal Dark**

IPAC/IRSA Background Model

Arendt+1998 and Schlegel+1998



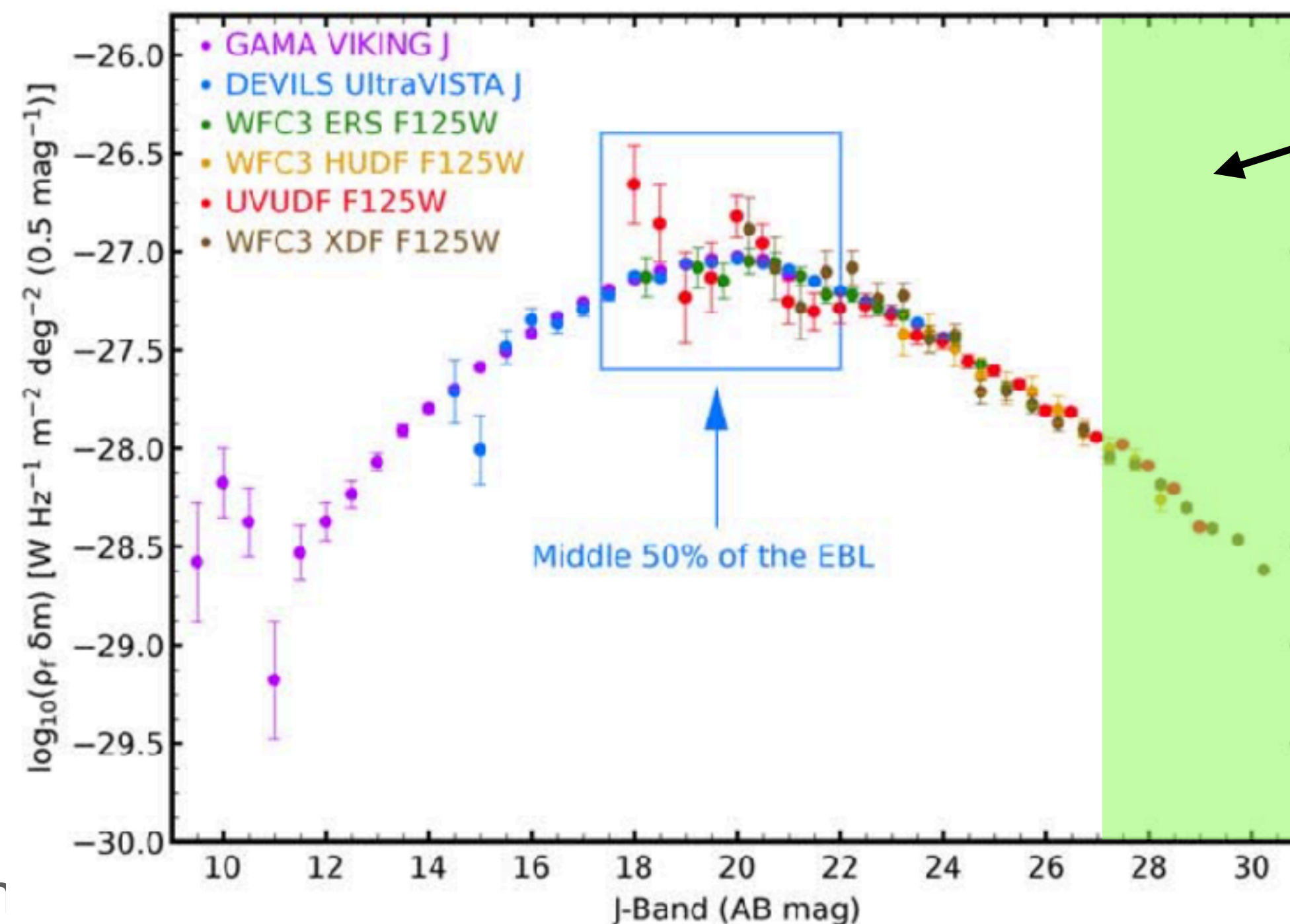
# Diffuse Light measurements



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**Diffuse Light = Sky-SB – Zodiacal Light – DGL – IGL – Thermal Dark**

Windhorst+2022 (AJ)



*For now:* Integral of galaxy flux energy density for mag > 26.5

0.56 nW m<sup>-2</sup> sr<sup>-1</sup>

0.0003 MJy sr<sup>-1</sup>



# Diffuse Light measurements



skysurf.asu.edu

**Diffuse Light = Sky-SB – Zodiacal Light – DGL – IGL – Thermal Dark**

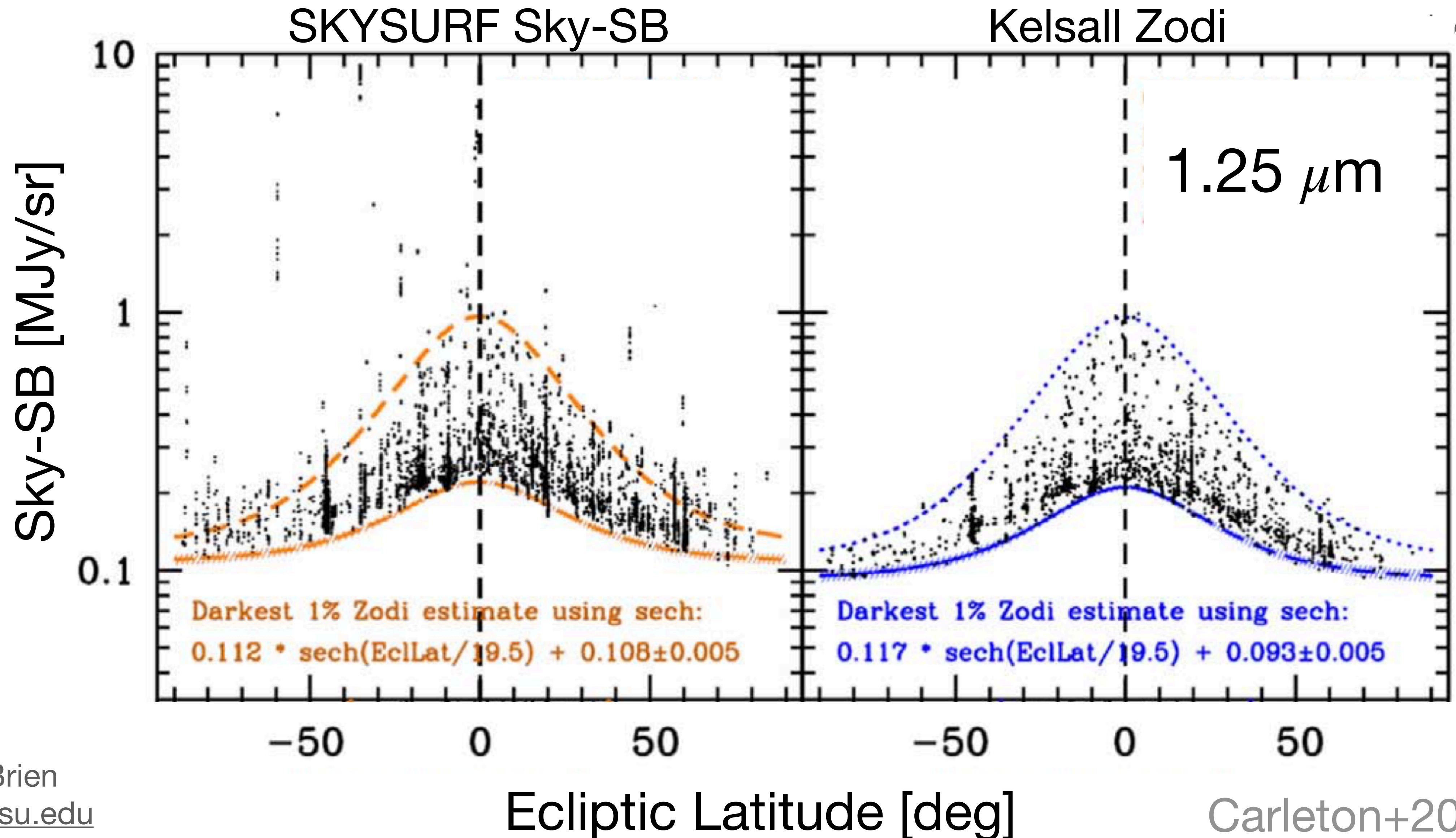
| Filter | Thermal Dark         |                         |
|--------|----------------------|-------------------------|
|        | [e s <sup>-1</sup> ] | [MJy sr <sup>-1</sup> ] |
| F098M  | 0.0044               | 0.0023                  |
| F105W  | 0.0044               | 0.0013                  |
| F125W  | 0.0040               | 0.0012                  |
| F140W  | 0.0201               | 0.0050                  |
| F160W  | 0.0772               | 0.0308                  |



# Diffuse Light measurements



surf.asu.edu

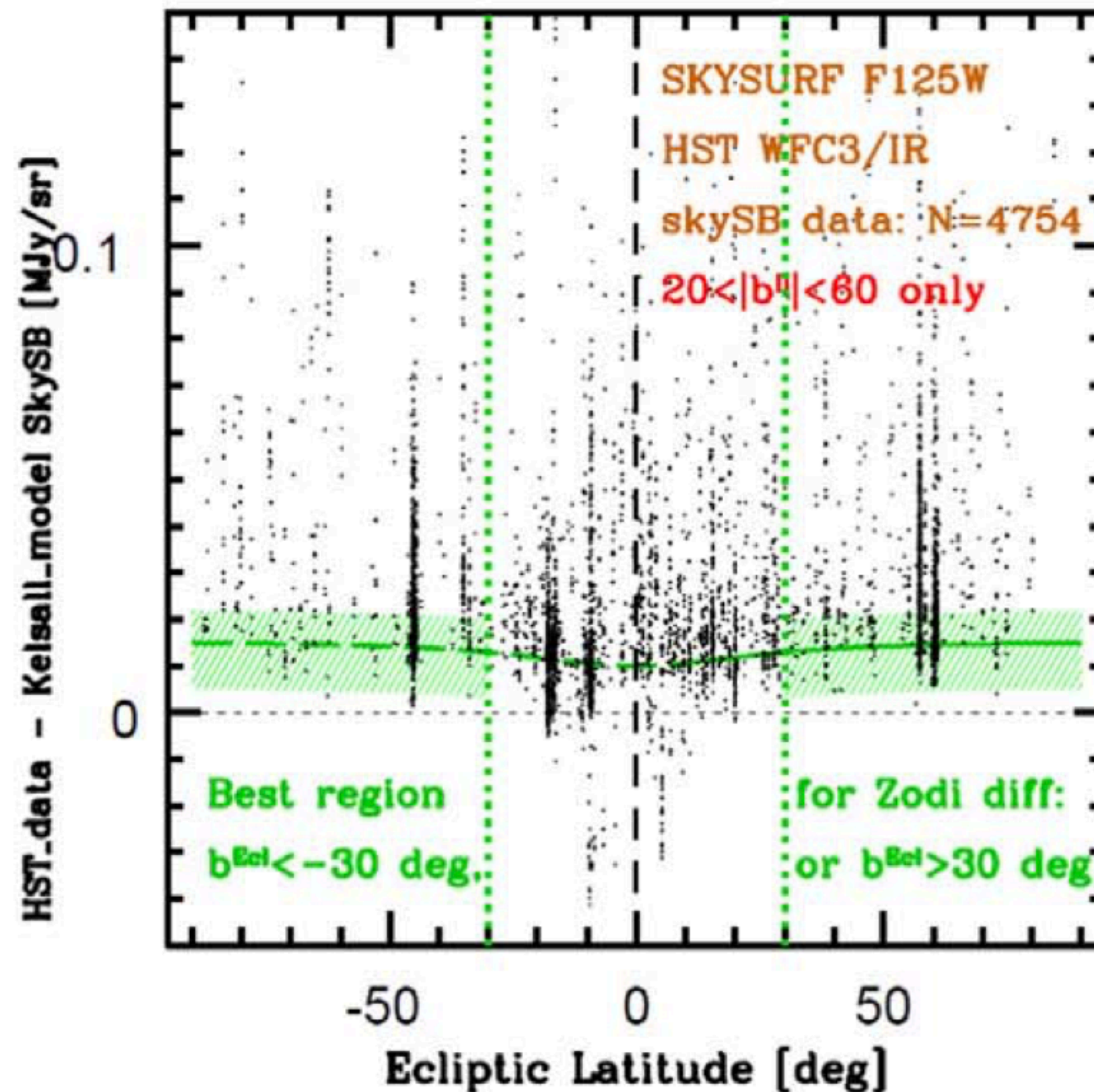




# Diffuse Light measurements



skysurf.asu.edu



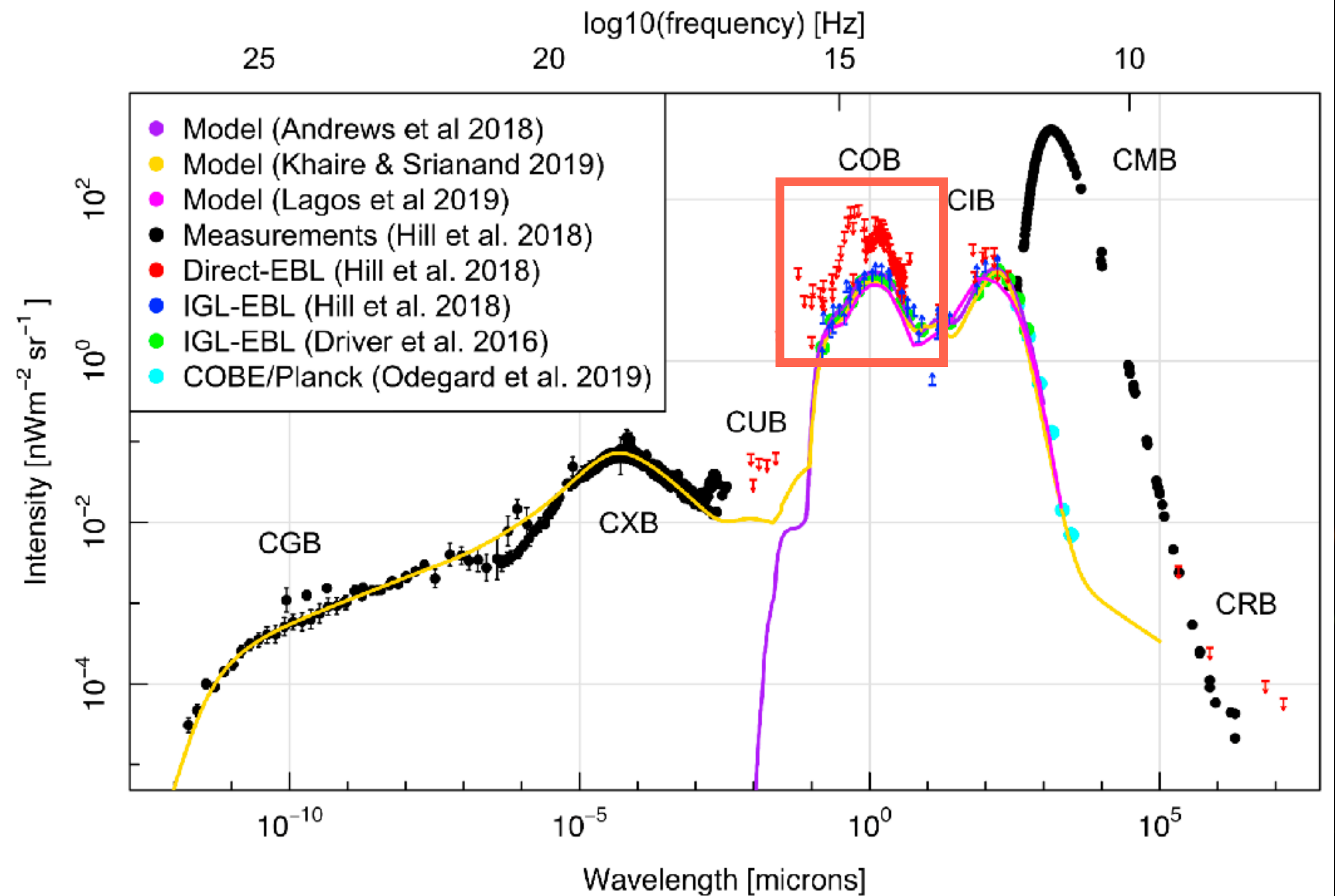


- Represents the light from all galaxies throughout cosmic history.
- Vital to understanding the history of the universe, as it probes **star formation**, **black hole activity**, and **dust properties** over cosmic time.

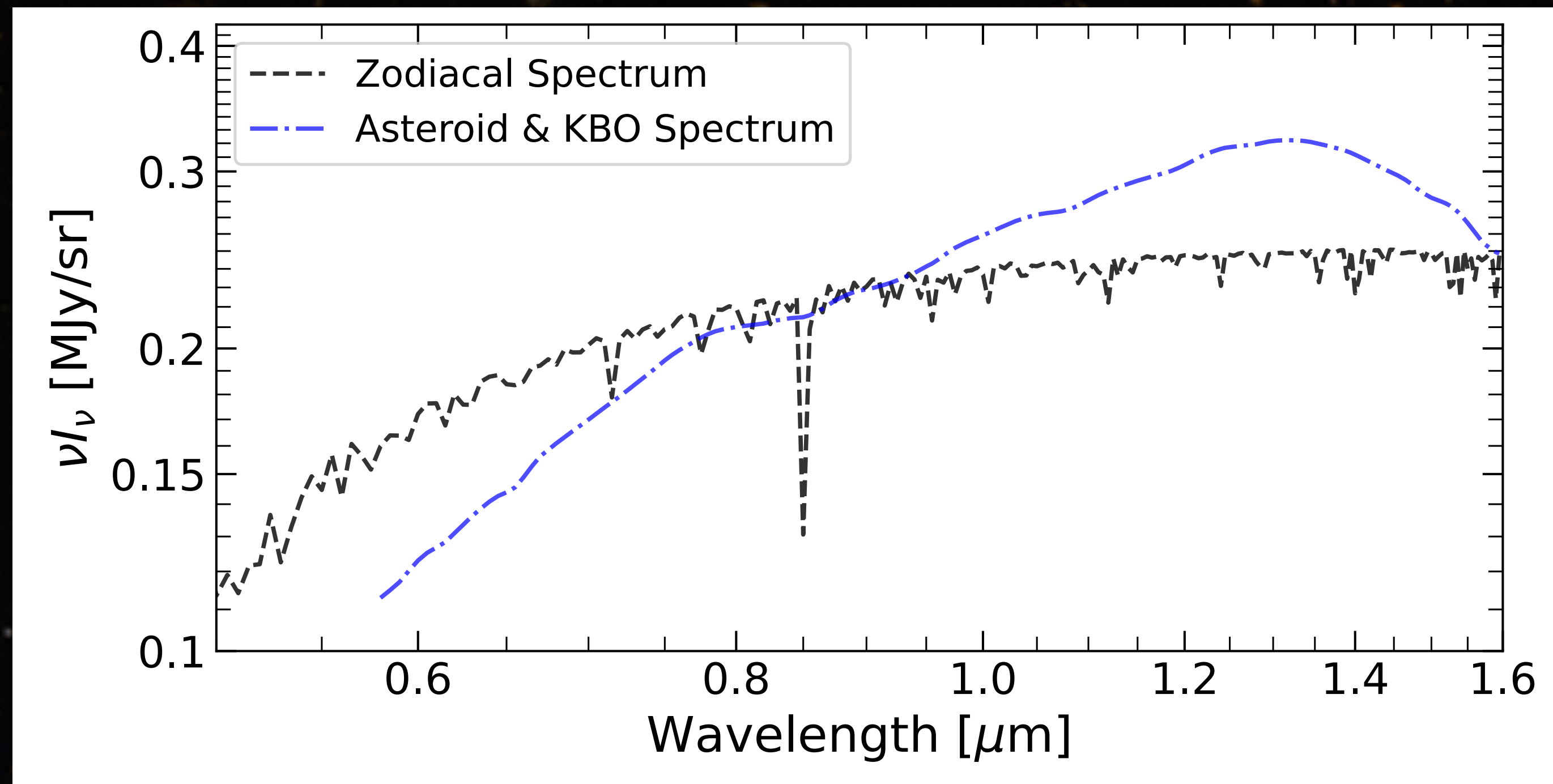
## Measuring energy production in the Universe over all wavelengths and all time

Simon P. Driver

International Centre for Radio Astronomy Research (ICRAR), University of Western Australia, 35 Stirling Highway, Crawley, Perth, WA6009, Australia









# Space weathering of Vesta and V-type asteroids: new irradiation experiments on HED meteorites<sup>★</sup>

D. Fulvio<sup>1,2</sup>, R. Brunetto<sup>3</sup>, P. Vernazza<sup>4</sup>, and G. Strazzulla<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Laboratory for Atomic and Surface Physics, University of Virginia, Thornton Hall B-113, Charlottesville, VA 22904, USA  
e-mail: df6vz@virginia.edu; dfu@oact.inaf.it

<sup>2</sup> INAF – Osservatorio Astrofisico di Catania, via S. Sofia 78, 95123 Catania, Italy

<sup>3</sup> Institut d'Astrophysique Spatiale, CNRS, UMR-8617, Université Paris-Sud, Bât. 121, 91405 Orsay Cedex, France

<sup>4</sup> European Southern Observatory, K. Schwarzschild-Str. 2, 85748 Garching, Germany

Received 18 November 2011 / Accepted 27 December 2011

## ABSTRACT

**Context.** In the past few decades, several tens of main belt asteroids have been found to exhibit basaltic surface composition, similar to the one of Vesta and basaltic Howardite, Eucrite, and Diogenite achondrite meteorites (HEDs). Most of these objects (V-types) belong to the Vesta dynamical family. Several questions on the relationship between Vesta, V-types, and HEDs are still unresolved. In particular, Vesta is spectroscopically bluer than most V-types.

**Aims.** To date, it has not yet been understood whether these spectral differences are due to space weathering, similar to what has been observed for OC meteorites and S-type asteroids. To test this hypothesis, ion irradiation experiments were performed on different samples of eucrites to simulate the effects of space weathering on Vesta and V-types by solar wind ions.

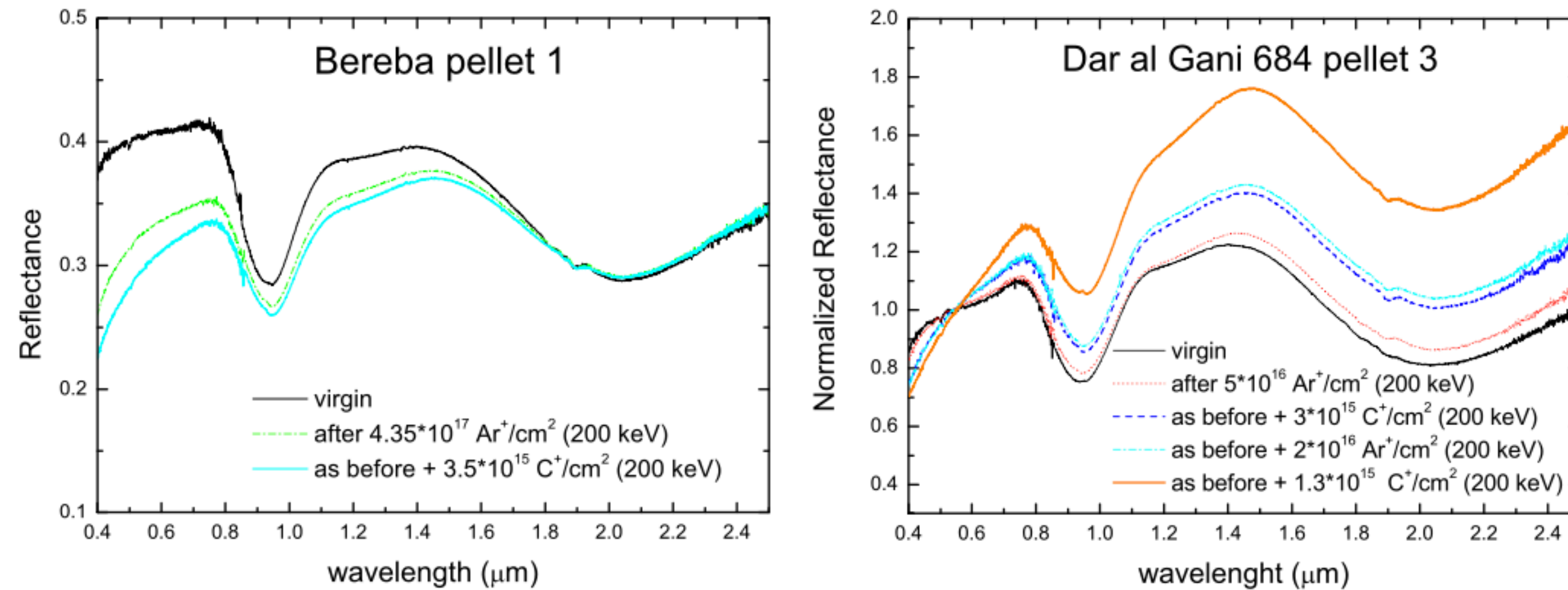
**Methods.** Eucrite meteorites were analyzed before and after different stages of ion irradiation by VIS-NIR reflectance spectroscopy (0.4–2.5  $\mu\text{m}$ ). We used different ions ( $\text{Ar}^+$ ,  $\text{C}^+$ ) with different energies (from 60 to 200 keV) to weather the samples.

**Results.** Ion irradiation was observed to alter the spectral properties of eucrite meteorites, inducing progressive reddening and darkening of the irradiated samples. Different eucrite samples (Bereba and Dar Al Gani 684) show different reddening behaviors. Because they are patchy, reddening also varied between different parts of the same meteorite. Moreover, for both meteorites, irradiation effects are much faster ( $\sim 100$  times) for  $\text{C}^+$  than for  $\text{Ar}^+$  ions.

**Conclusions.** Comparing the laboratory spectra of eucrites before and after different stages of ion irradiation with those of V-types, it turns out that the slope spread shown by V-type asteroids can be explained by space weathering. These results provide new clues to the connection between Vesta, V-types, and HEDs, and are also useful in the context of the NASA Dawn mission to Vesta.

**Key words.** minor planets, asteroids: individual: Vesta – techniques: spectroscopic – methods: laboratory – infrared: general





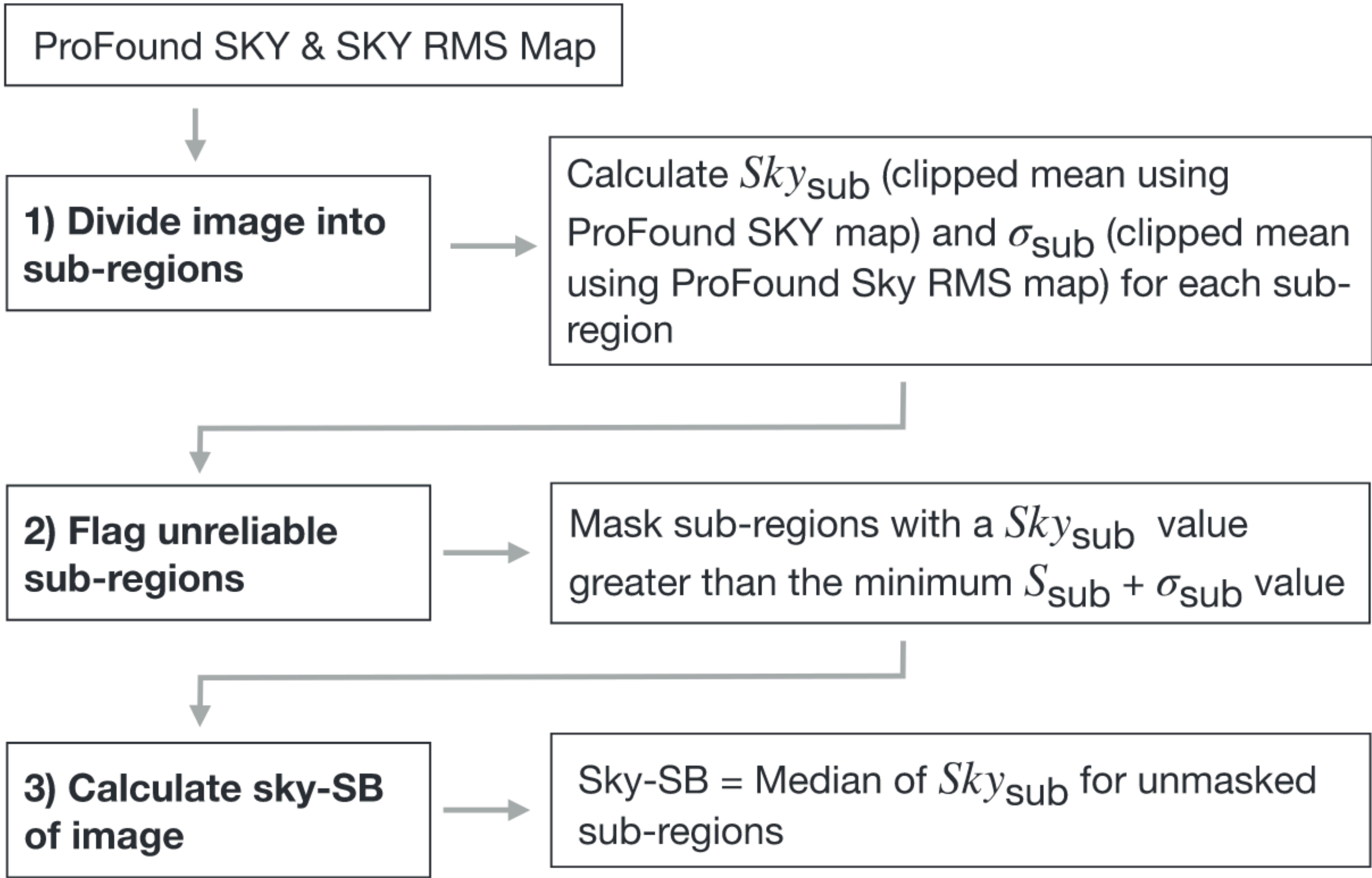
**Fig. 1.** VIS-NIR reflectance spectra of Bereba pellet 1 and Dar Al Gani 684 pellet 3 (normalized reflectance), before and after multiple irradiations.



**Table 2**  
SKYSURF sky-SB Uncertainties

| Uncertainty   | WFC3/UVIS         | WFC3/IR              | ACS/WFC           |
|---------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Sky Algorithm | 0.4%              | 0.4%                 | 0.4%              |
| Flat field    | 1%                | 2%                   | 2.2%              |
| Zero-point    | 0.2%              | 1.5%                 | 1%                |
| Nonlinearity  | N/A               | 0.5%                 | N/A               |
| Bias          | 0.2 $e^-$ (1.4%)  | 0.005 $e^-/s$ (0.7%) | 0.6 $e^-$ (1.5%)  |
| Dark          | 0.3 $e^-$ (2.1%)  | 0.005 $e^-/s$ (0.7%) | 0.5 $e^-$ (1.2%)  |
| Thermal Dark  | N/A               | 0.01 $e^-/s$ (1.3%)  | N/A               |
| Post-flash    | 0.16 $e^-$ (1.1%) | N/A                  | 0.37 $e^-$ (0.9%) |
| Total         | 3.0%              | 3.1%                 | 3.2%              |

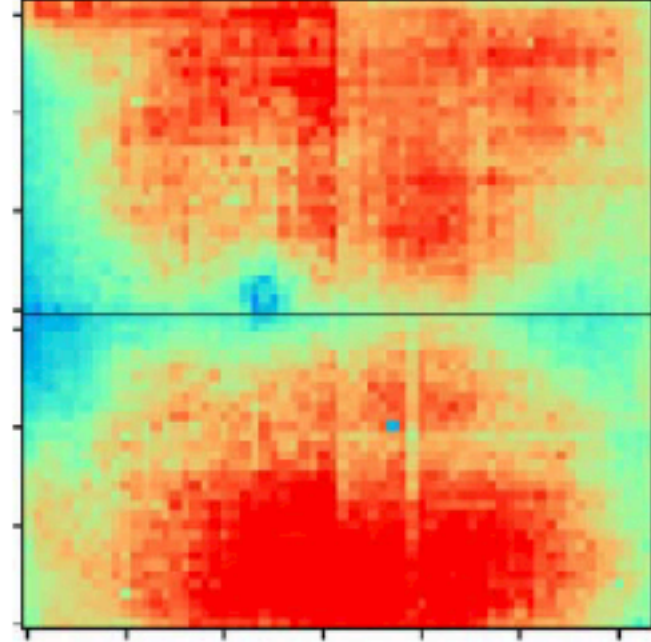




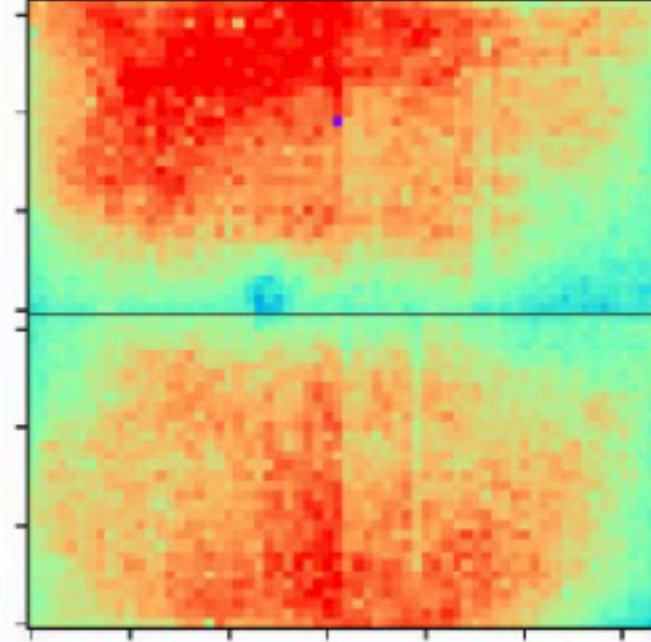


# ACS/WFC

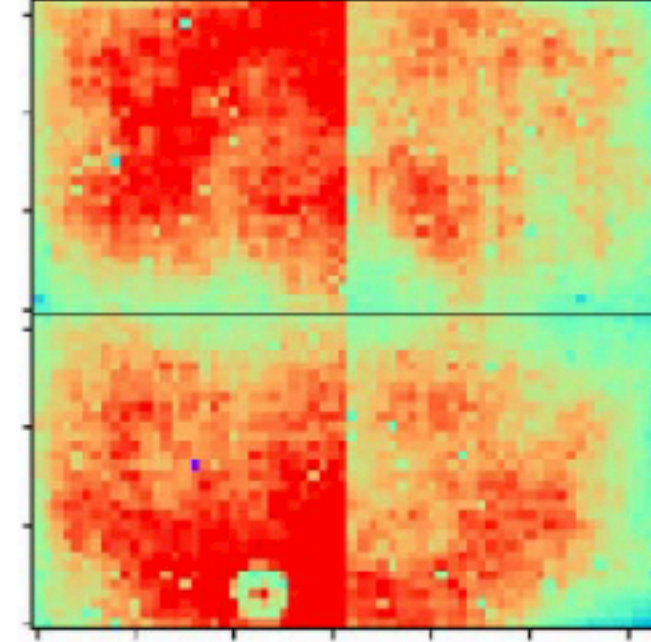
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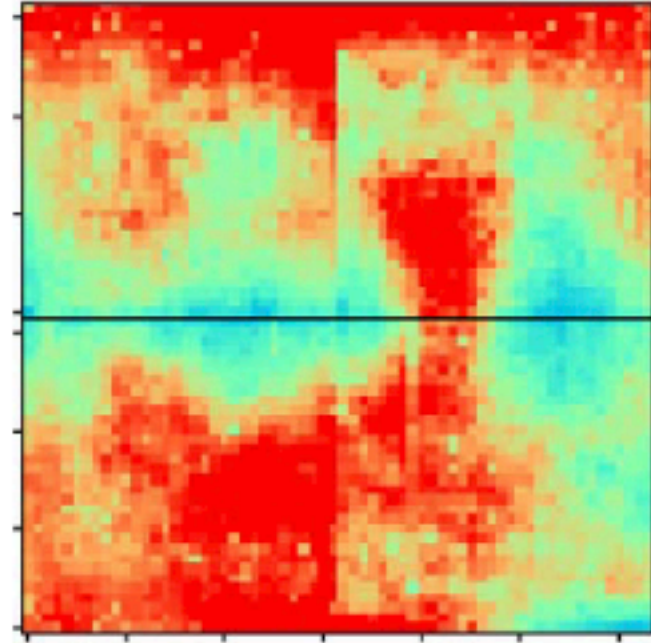
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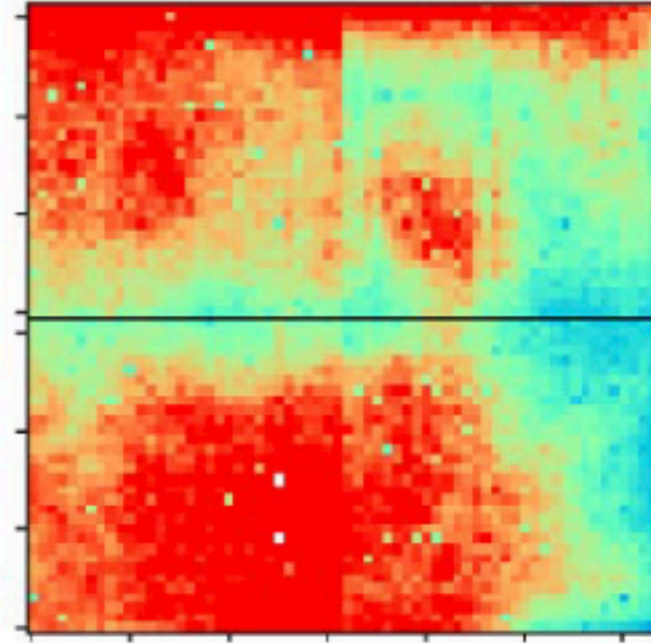
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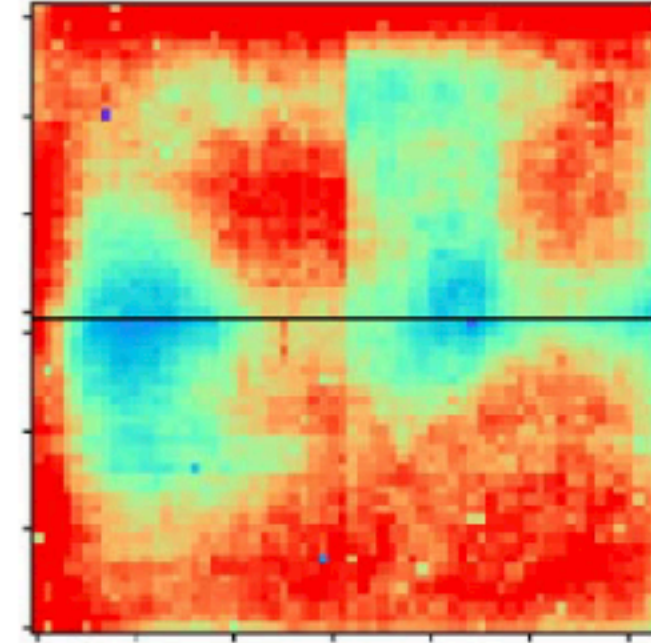
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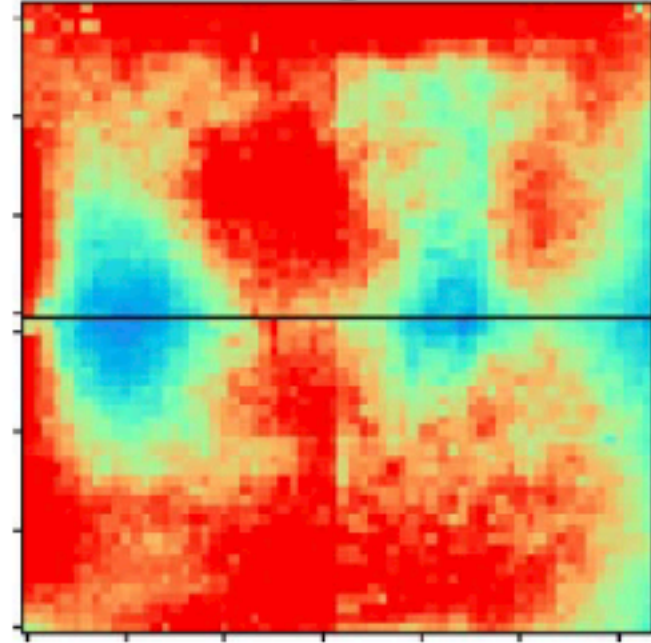
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F814W  
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F850LP  
Number Images = 8585

