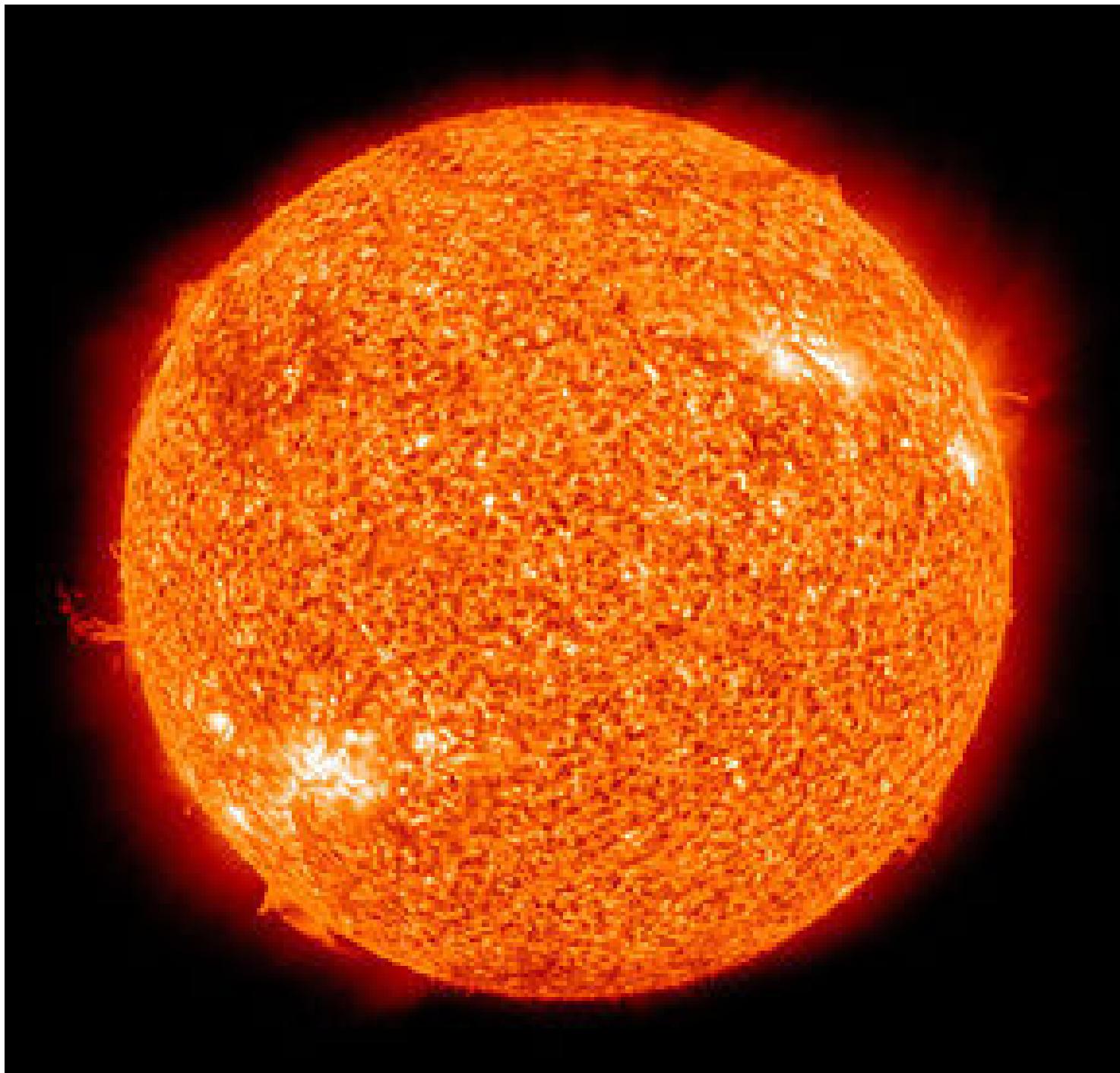


## Black body radiation examples

The hot walls in equilibrium with the radiation in an oven



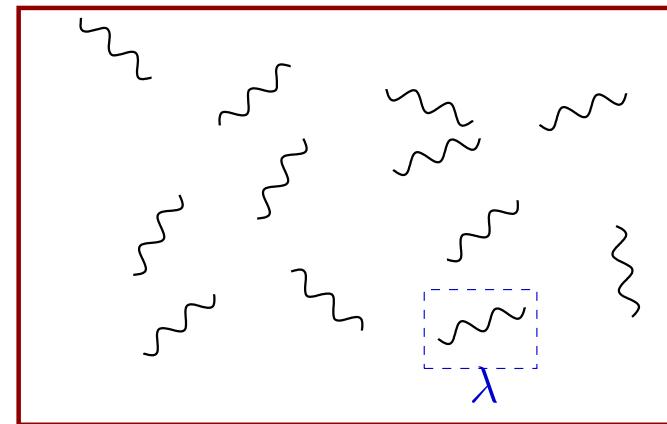
The light from the sun which is in equilibrium with the free electrons and protons of the sun



## Real Life – Black Body



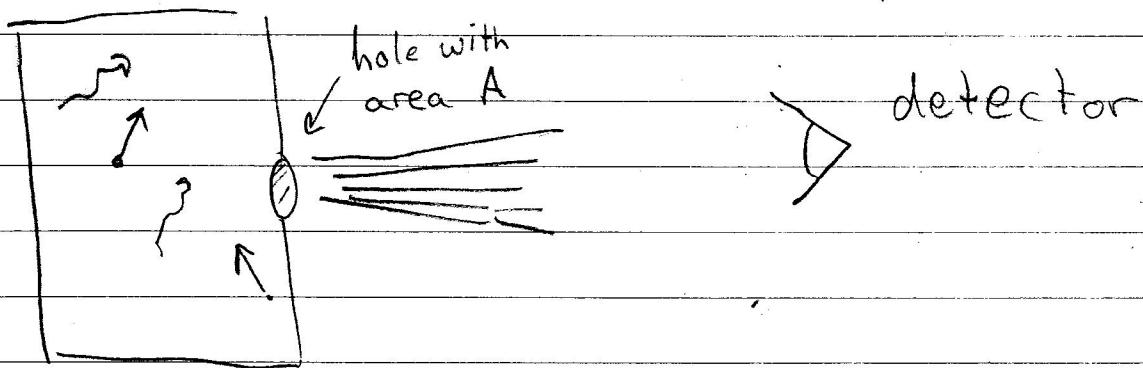
## Theoretical Physicists Black Body



Photon Gas in Box

## Last Time

### ① Hot Plasmas



a) The typical photon energy

$$\hbar f \sim 2.8 k_B T$$

b) The total energy emitted per area per time

$$\text{Intensity} = \frac{\Delta E}{A \Delta t} = \sigma T^4$$

$\downarrow$

this includes the energy  
from all frequencies  
 $5.6 \times 10^{-8} \text{ W/m}^2 \text{ K}^4$

c) The frequency spectrum  $\equiv$  The energy emitted  
in the form of photons with frequencies between

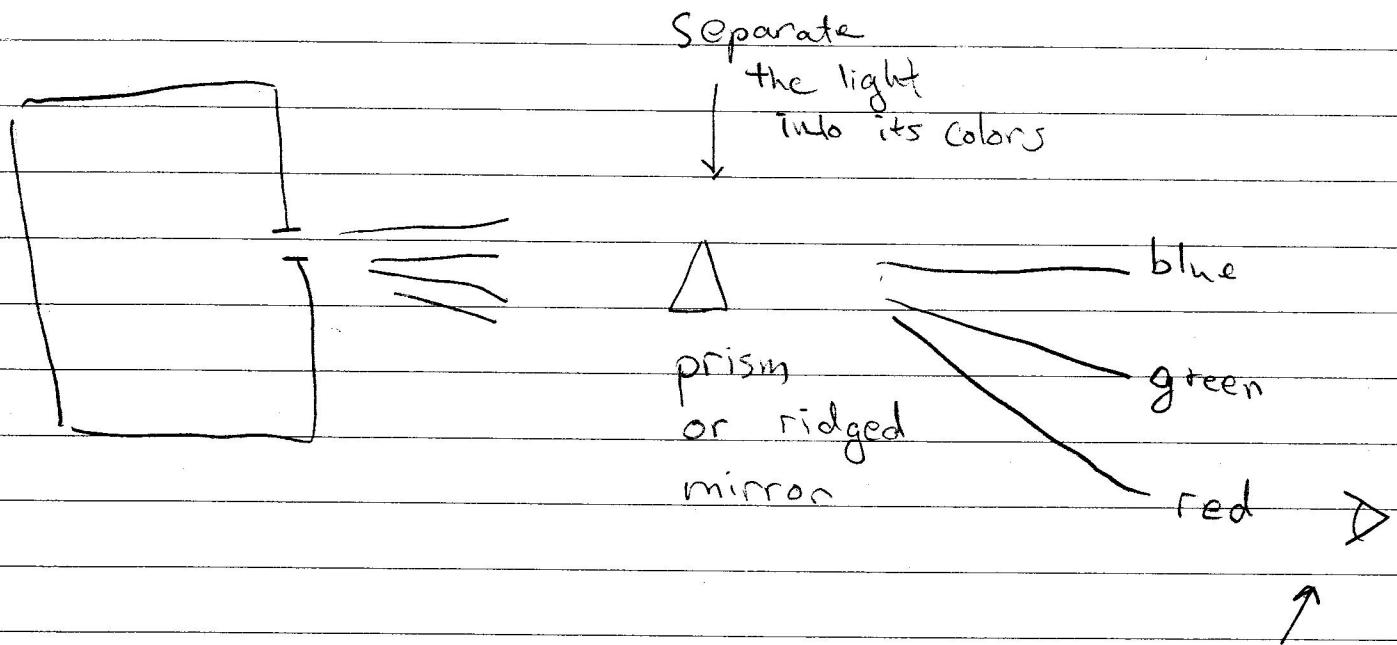
$$f_0 < f < f_0 + \Delta f$$

$$\frac{1}{A} \frac{\Delta E}{\Delta t} = I_f \Delta f$$

$\nwarrow$  the frequency spectrum =

Intensity per frequency  
interval  $\Delta f$

## Last Time (continued)



This detector measures the light energy carried by photons with photons between  $f$  and  $f + \Delta f$ .

- Separating light into its colors is serious business

For a hot oven the frequency spectrum is very specific

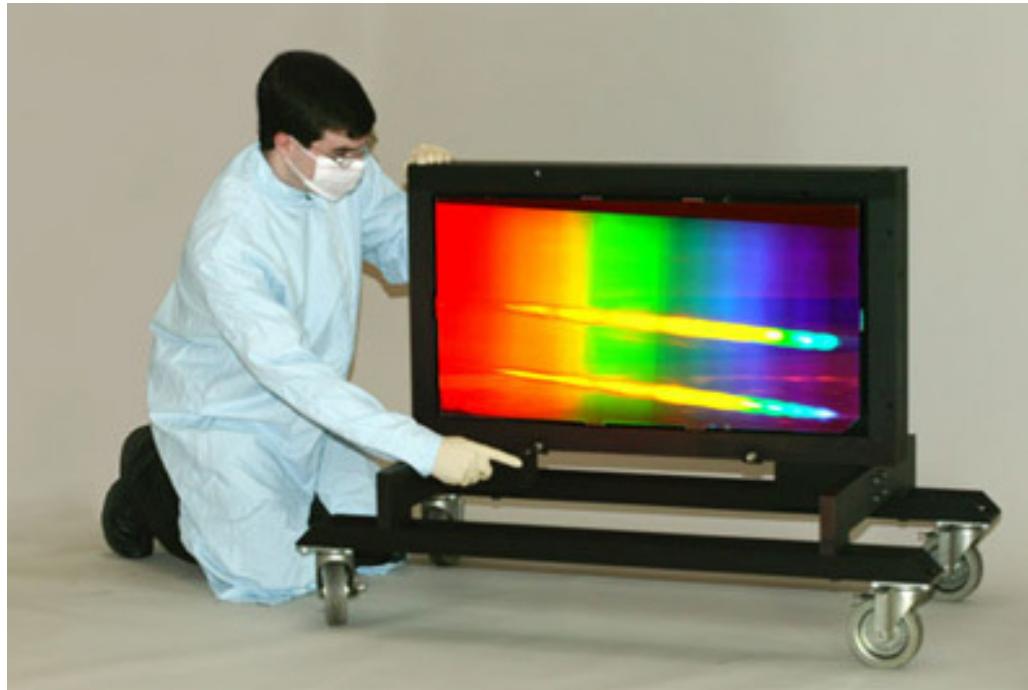
$$I_f = \frac{2h}{c^2} \frac{f^3}{e^{hf/k_B T} - 1}$$

- From the frequency spectrum, can tell if an object is hot, and what is the temperature.

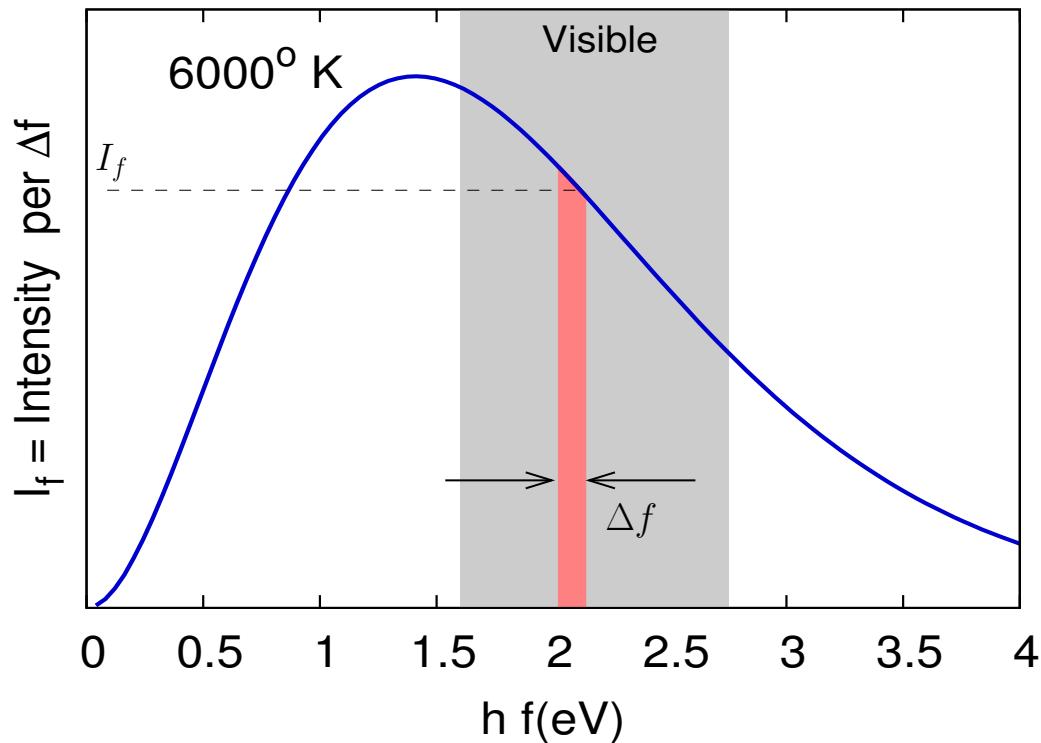
Separating light into its colors with a mirror



Separating light into its colors with a much more expensive mirror



## Black Body Radiation



Definition of intensity per frequency

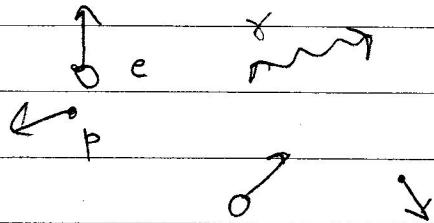
$$\frac{\Delta E}{A\Delta t} = I_f \times \Delta f$$

For a black body

$$I_f = \frac{2h}{c^3} \frac{f^3}{e^{hf/k_B T} - 1}$$

## Last Time (Continued),

### The early universe



"Compton scattering"

↑ enough

- Hot plasma a) photons scattering on electrons b) photons have enough energy ( $> 13.6\text{ eV}$ ) to ionize hydrogen

- As the plasma cools almost no photons have enough energy to ionize hydrogen.

→ the protons and electrons "recombine" leaving free free electrons

→ The photons then no longer scatter and fly freely until today

- The spectrum at recombination is thermal

$$I_f \propto f_r^3 \frac{e^{hf_r/k_B T_r}}{e^{hf_r/k_B T_r} - 1}$$

with temperature  $T_r \approx 3500$

The wavelength of each photon is increased during the expansion of the Universe

$$f_0 = a_r f_r \quad \begin{matrix} \text{frequency of photon} \\ \text{at rec} \end{matrix}$$

↓      ↑  
 frequency observed at recombination  
 today

scale factor

Then today we see a bath of microwave photons (The Cosmic Microwave Background)

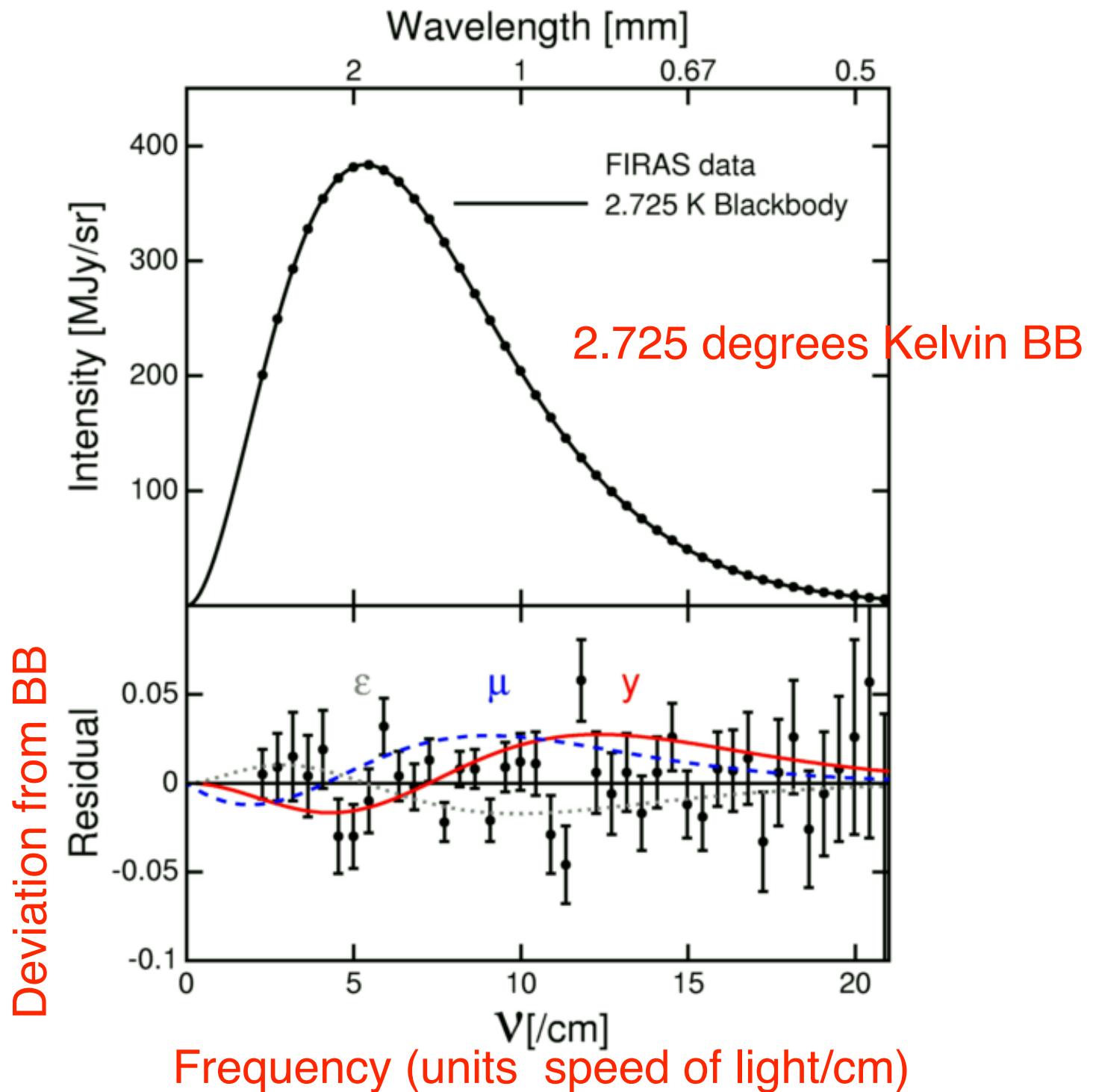
$$I_f \propto \frac{f_0^3}{e^{h f_0 / k_B T_0} - 1}$$

$$\text{with } T_0 = a_r T_r$$

$T_0$  is observed to be  $T_0 \approx 2.72^\circ\text{K}$

- The scale factor at recombination

$$a_r \approx \frac{T_0}{T_r} = \frac{2.72^\circ\text{K}}{3500^\circ\text{K}} \approx \frac{1}{1250}$$



- after big bang
- Determined the time  $t_r$  at recombination from  $a(t)$ .

$$t_r = 400,000 \text{ yrs}$$

- Finally we discussed the cosmic principle
  - On the largest distance scales, everyplace is the same !!

## Two Examples

① The end of greatness

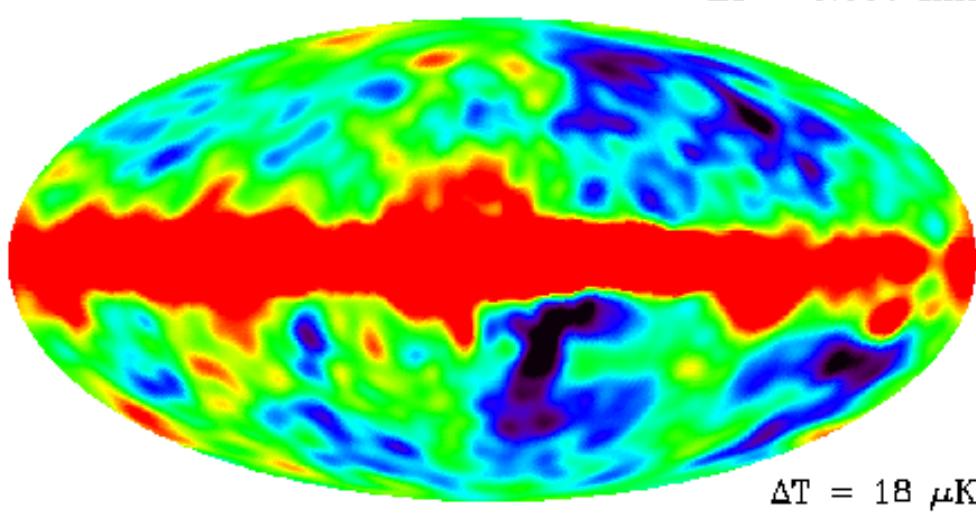
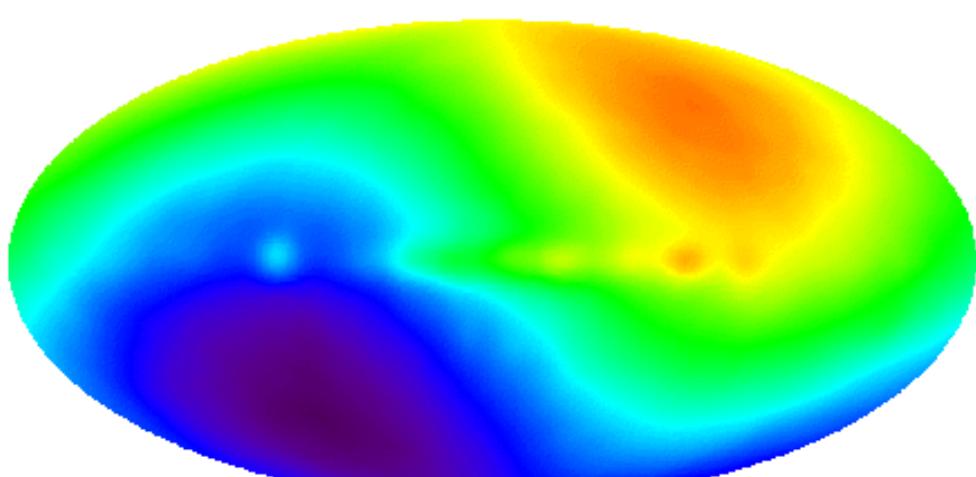
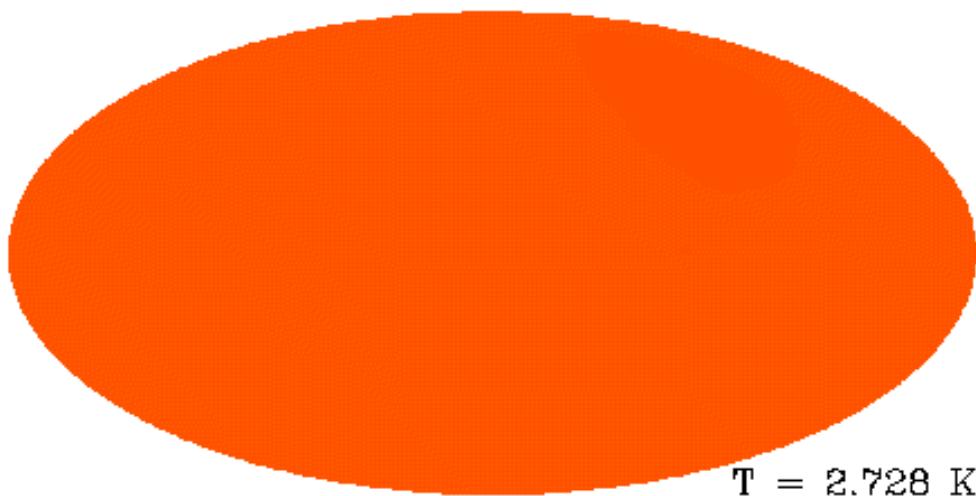
② The uniformity of the CMB

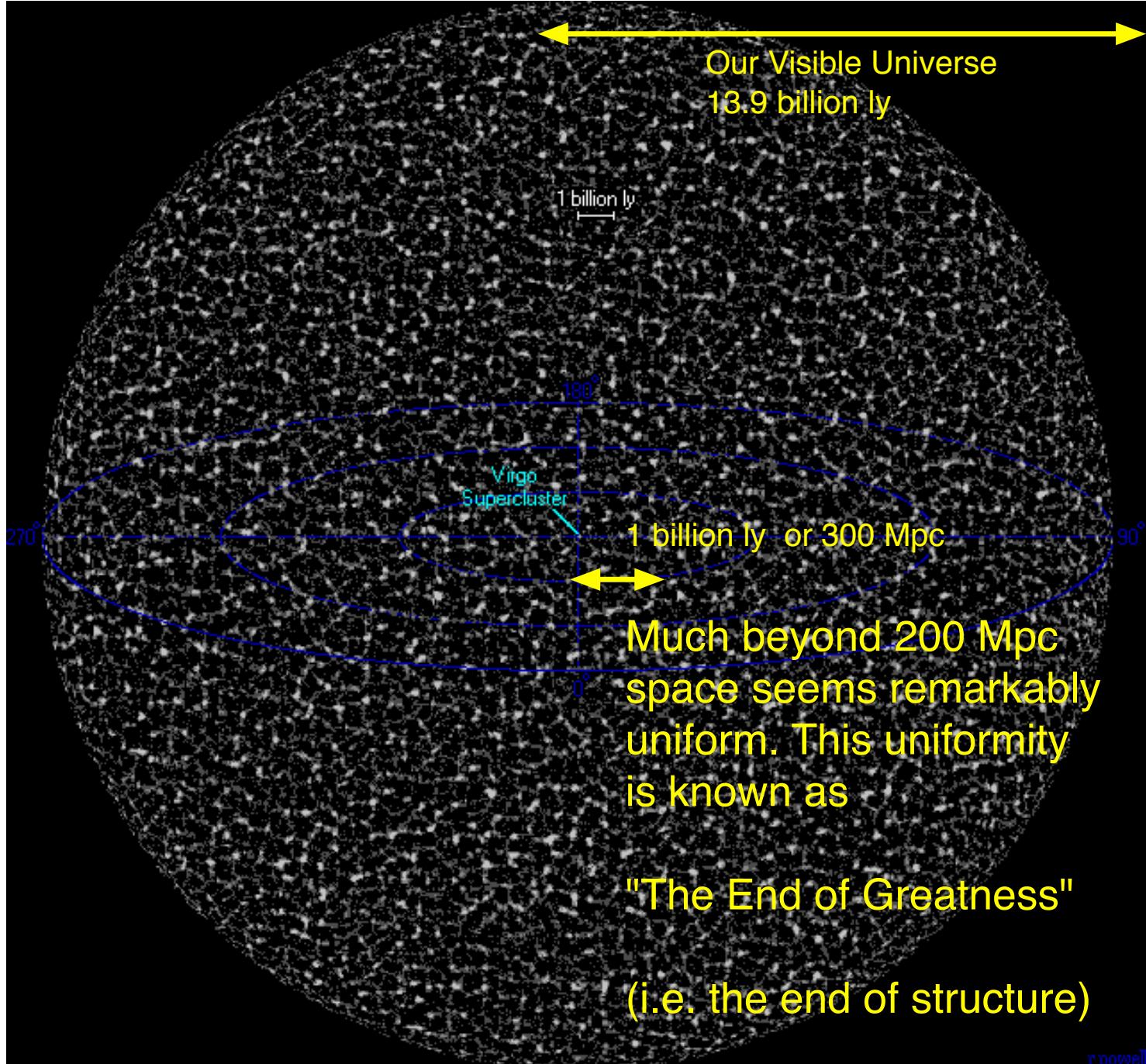
The temperature is constant throughout the sky

$$T \approx 2.728 \text{ } ^\circ\text{K}$$

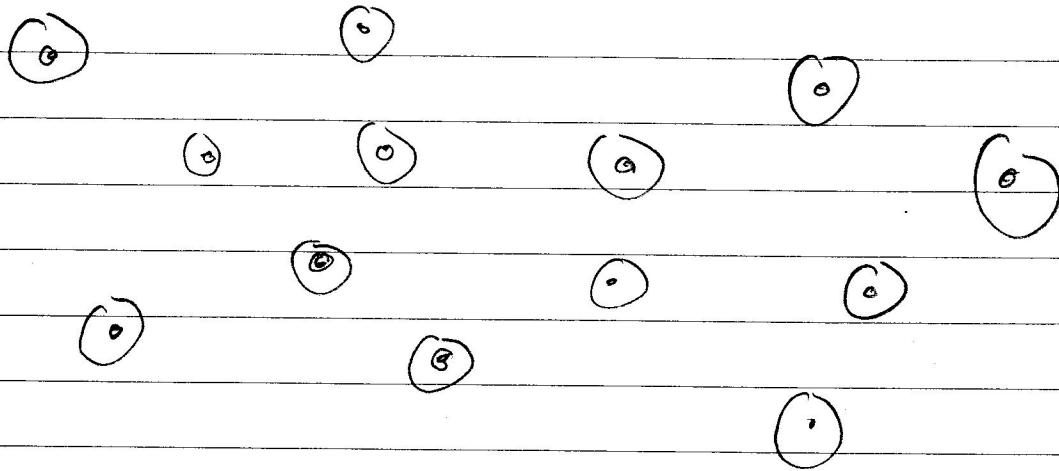
i.e.,  
only this digit and smaller  
is changing

$$2.728 \pm 0.00353 \text{ mK}$$





## What happens after recombination?



Now we have hydrogen gas with a little bit of Helium and very little lithium.

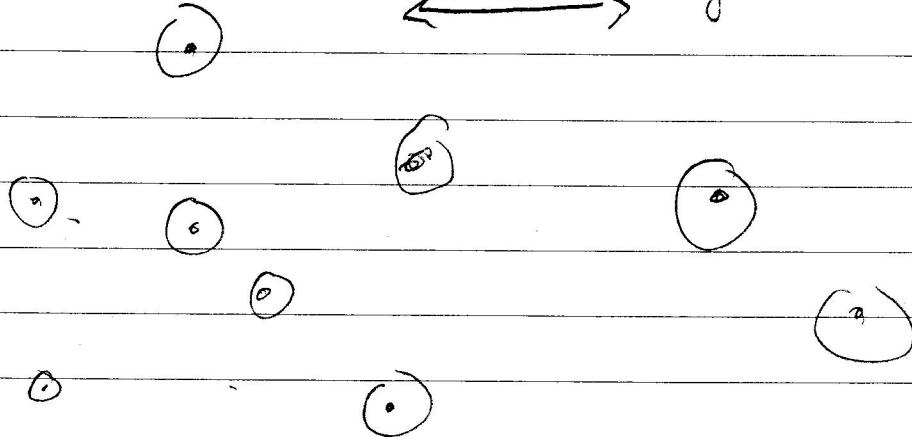
- The other elements which are formed in nuclear processes in stars (Type II supernova) are non-existent (stars ate not formed yet)
- There is no visible light from this epoch. Since everything is neutral

For this reason it is called the "dark-ages"

## After Recombination (cont.)

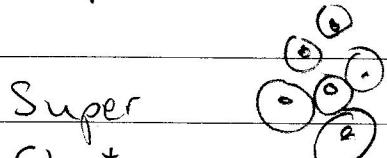
During the next  $\sim \frac{1}{2}$  Billion years the hydrogen gas is pulled together by gravity making vast clumps

This configuration is unstable

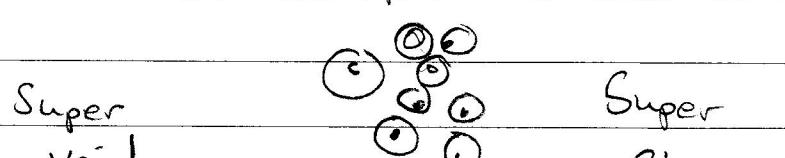


- Why? Larger Clusters have more gravity and hence pull more stuff to them. Structure formation and Reionization:

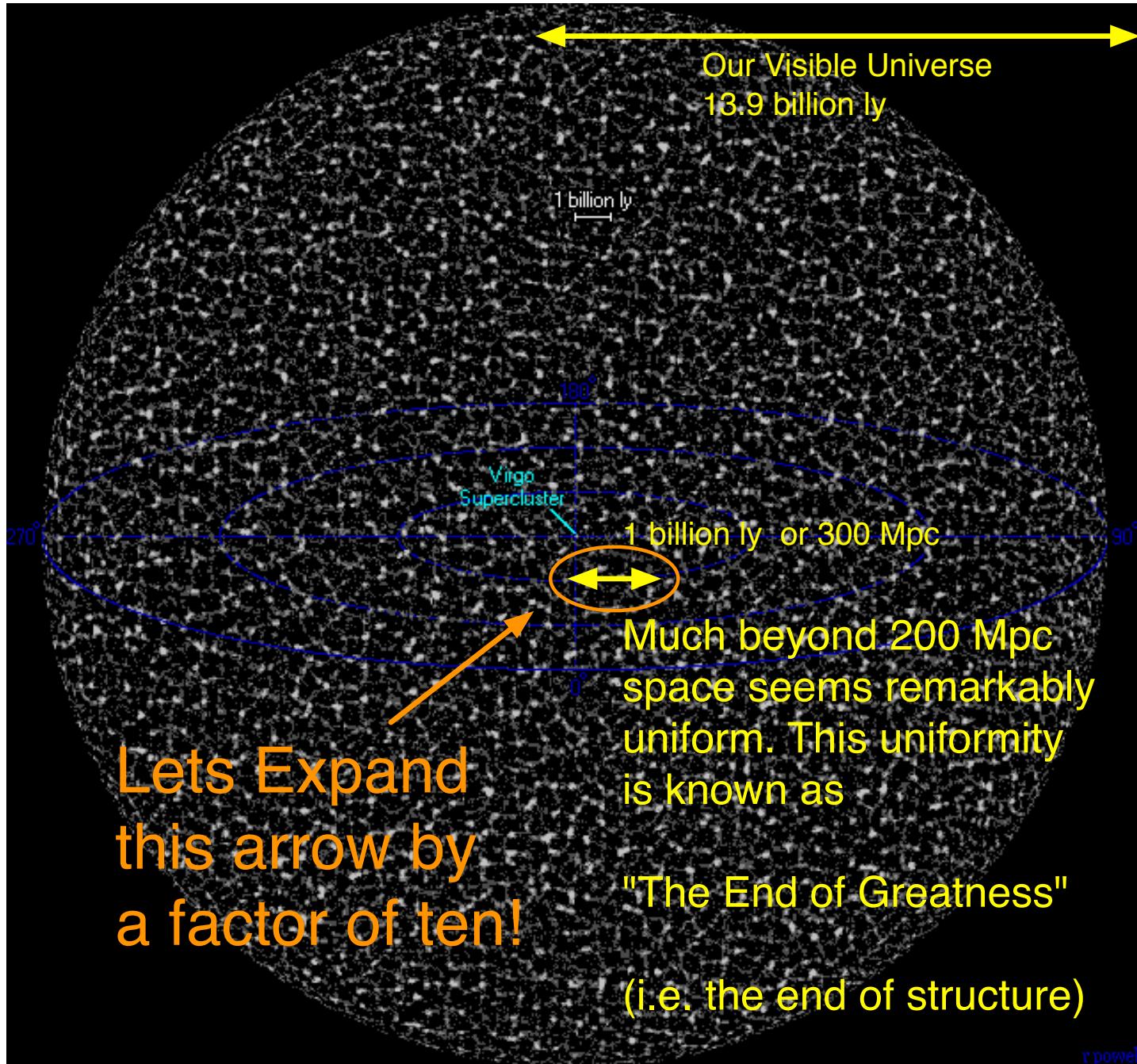
Clump 1

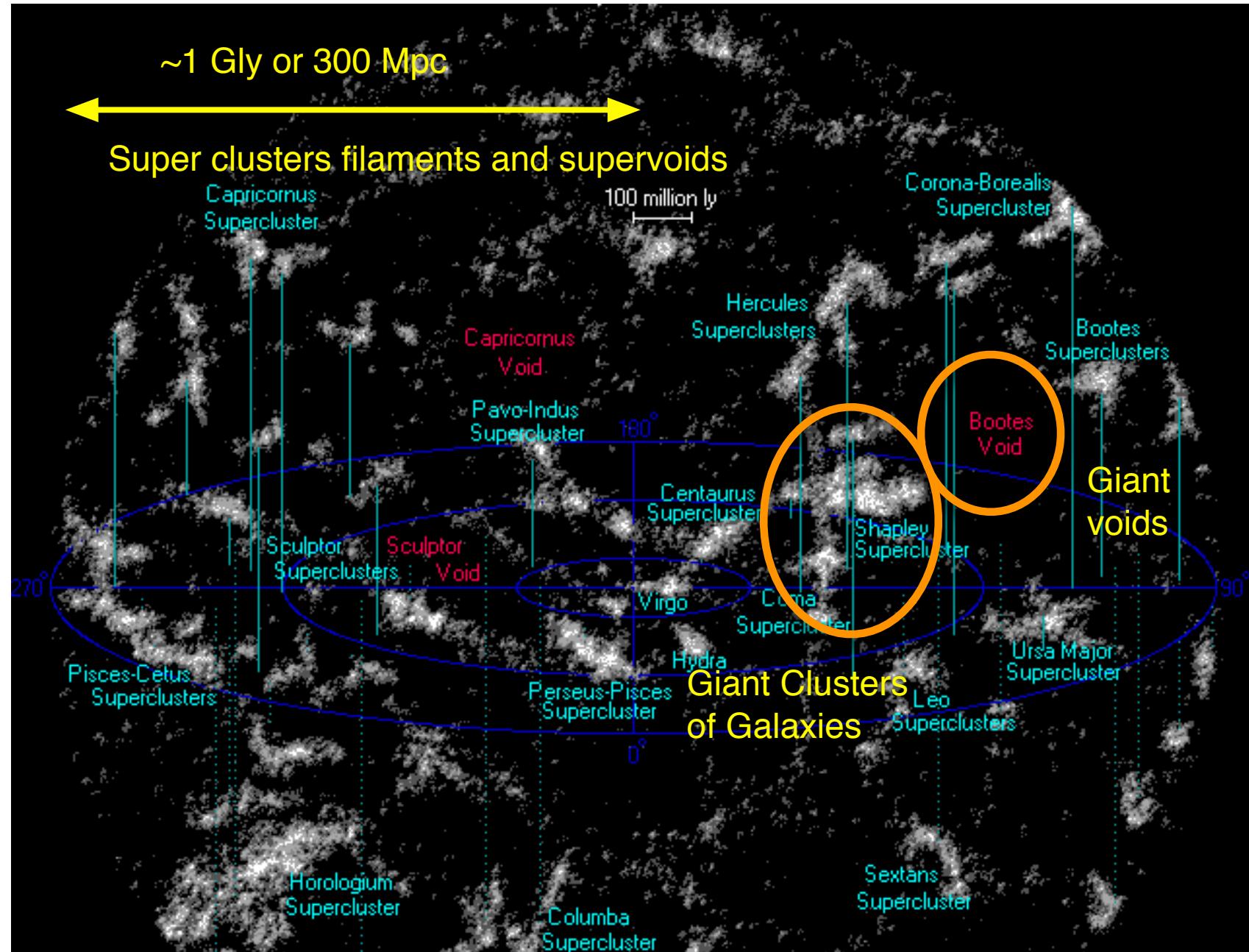


Clump 2



- These large super-clusters and supervoids give rise to the super-clusters and supervoids which are seen on a scale of  $\lesssim 100 \text{ Mpc}$

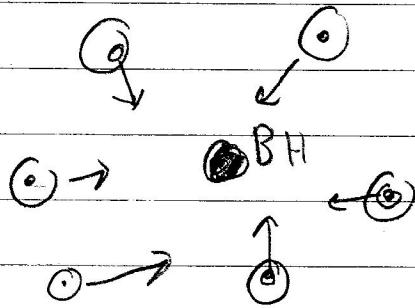




These giant clusters and voids are remnants of the initial perturbations in the background hydrogen !

## Quasars and Formation of Active Galaxies

When these clumps of hydrogen gas are close enough, they can form a black hole.

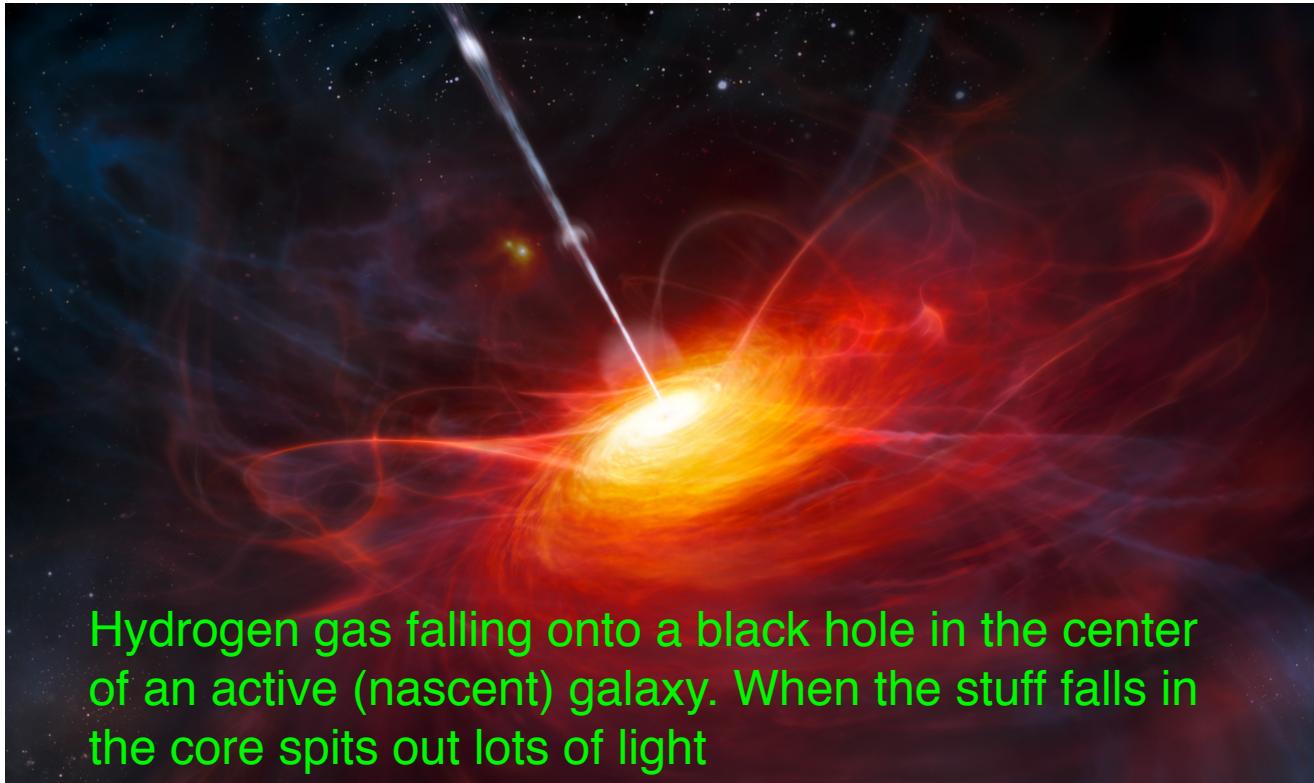


matter

- Additional matter falling on the black hole becomes very energetically excited, and turns into ionized plasma of electrons and protons again. This is called "re-ionization" of the early-universe.
- The light from Quasars changes dramatically (as we will discuss later) at  $z \approx 6$  providing good evidence for this picture of reionization of early universe
- To describe what happens we will need to describe better the interaction of light and hydrogen.

## Quasars (Quasi-Stellar Objects) or galaxies being born

- QSOs are bright sources from Black-Hole/Galactic-core of newly formed galaxies
- Here is an artist conception



Hydrogen gas falling onto a black hole in the center of an active (nascent) galaxy. When the stuff falls in the core spits out lots of light

These are observed to  $z \simeq 7$

Problem:

The time of Reionization

Using a graph of  $a(t)$ , we find

$$a_{\text{reion}} = a(t_{\text{reion}}) = \frac{1}{1+z_{\text{reion}}}$$

Scale factor of  
Quasar

$$a_{\text{reion}} \approx \frac{1}{7}$$

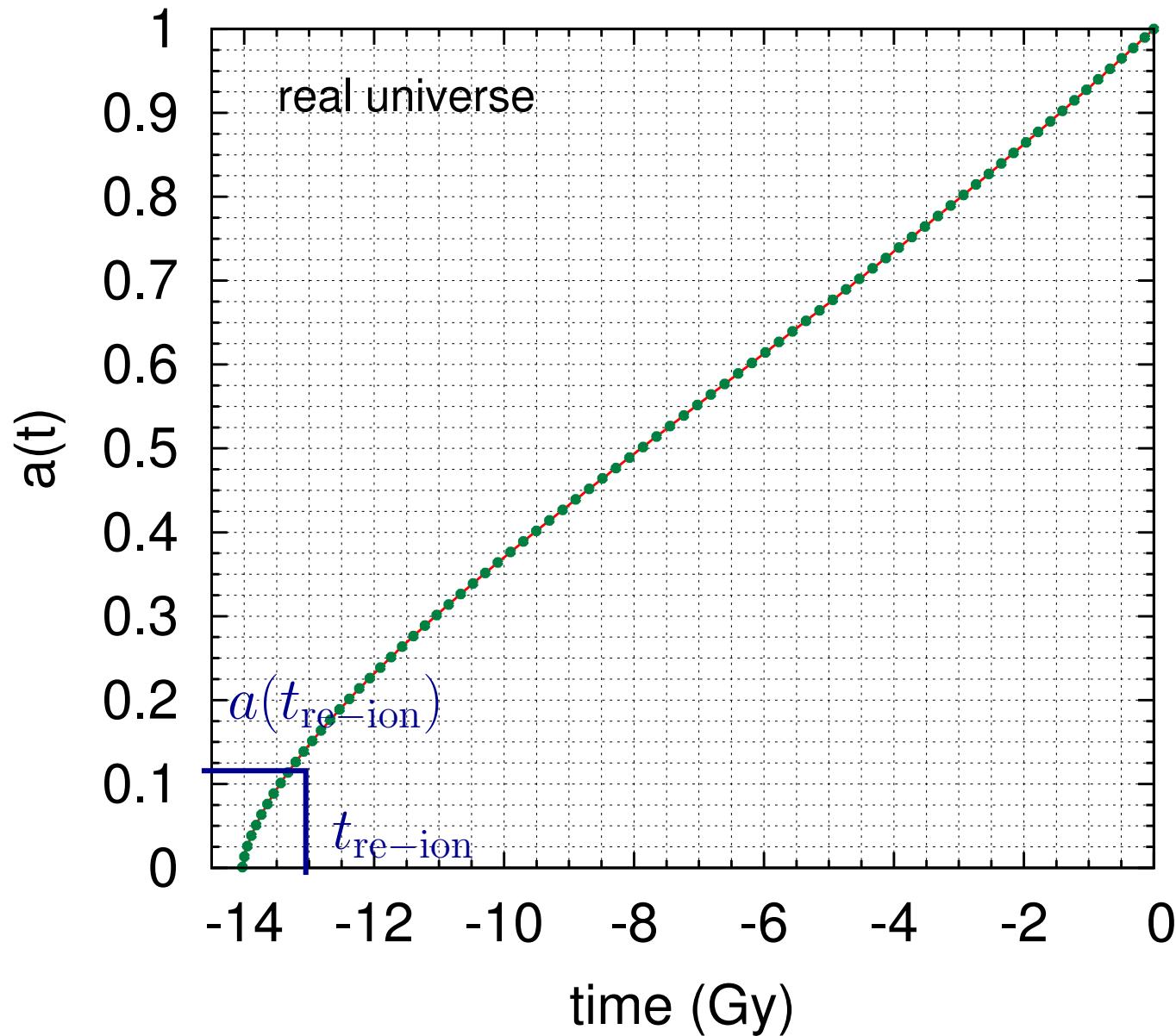
red-shift of Quasar

So from graph of  $a(t)$  read off the time

$$t_{\text{reion}} = -13 \text{ Gy}$$

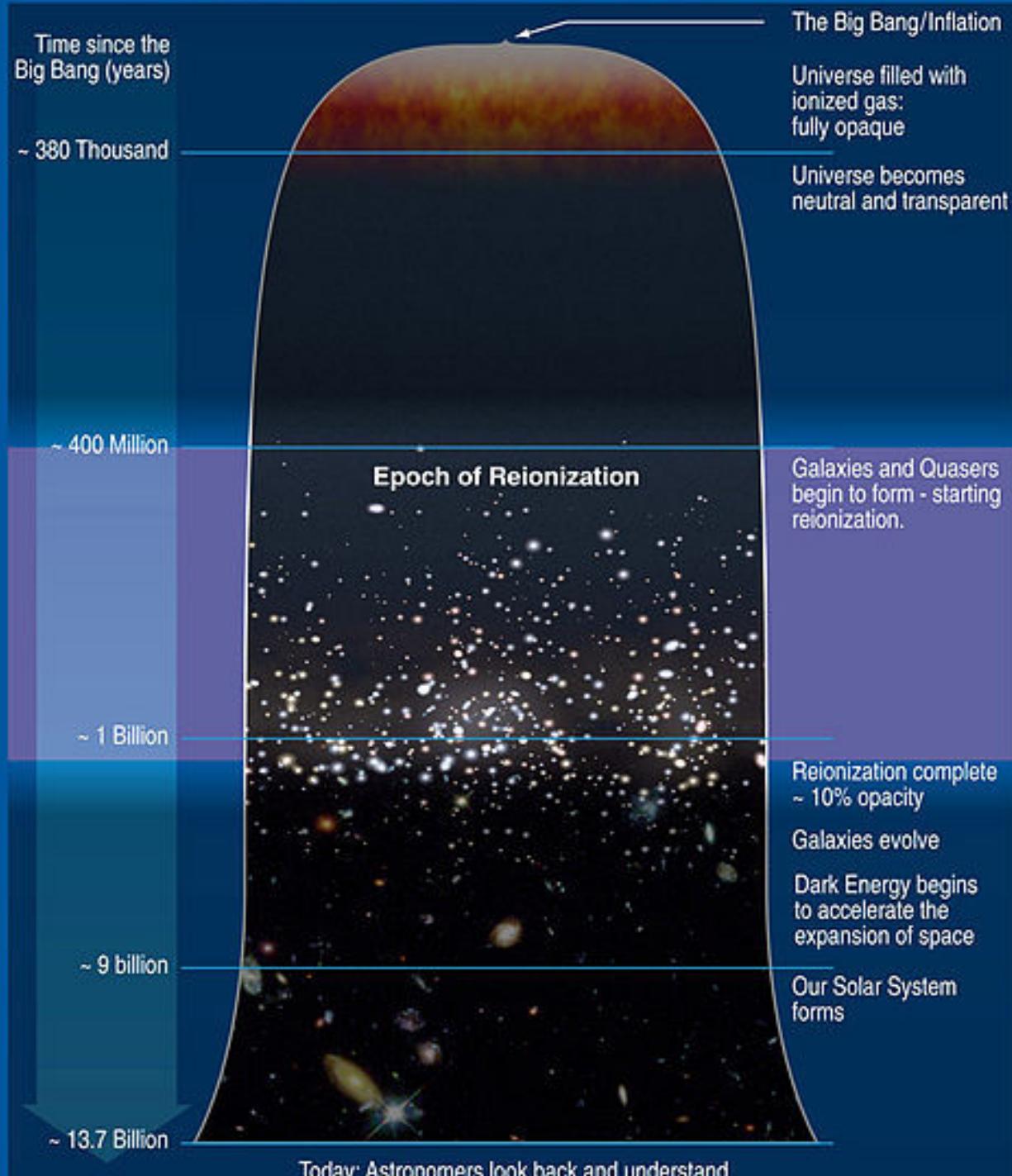
$\approx$  or 1 billion years  
after BB

## Observed time of re-ionization



These are observed at  $a = 1/(1 + z) \simeq 1/8$ , or approximately 1 Gy after big bang

# First Stars and Reionization Era

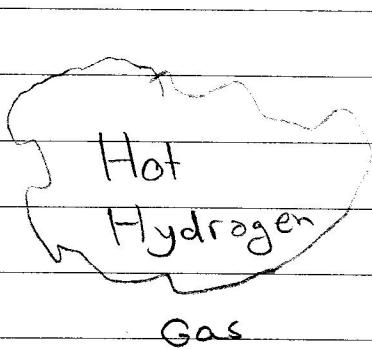


Today: Astronomers look back and understand

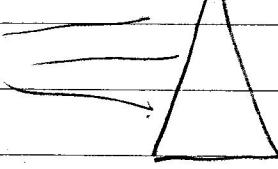
## Interaction of Light & Hydrogen

discrete

①  
Emission



Light



only certain colors  
are emitted

• prism  
or

• diffraction

grating  
or

• Bumpy mirror  
(like a CD)

Smallest Wavelength

that is emitted is 121 nm

## Absorption Spectra

discrete

②

White  
Light

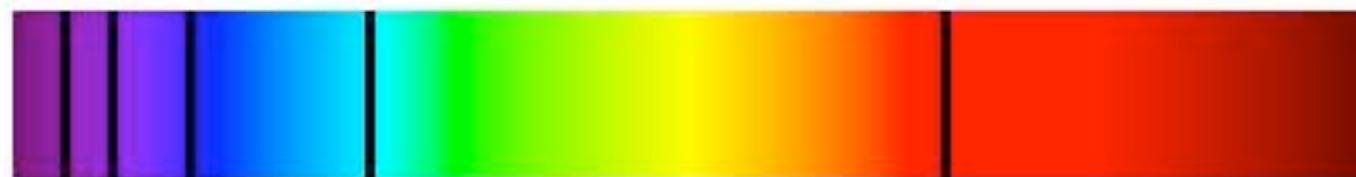


Hydrogen  
gas



only certain  
colors are  
absorbed

Hydrogen Absorption Spectrum



Hydrogen Emission Spectrum



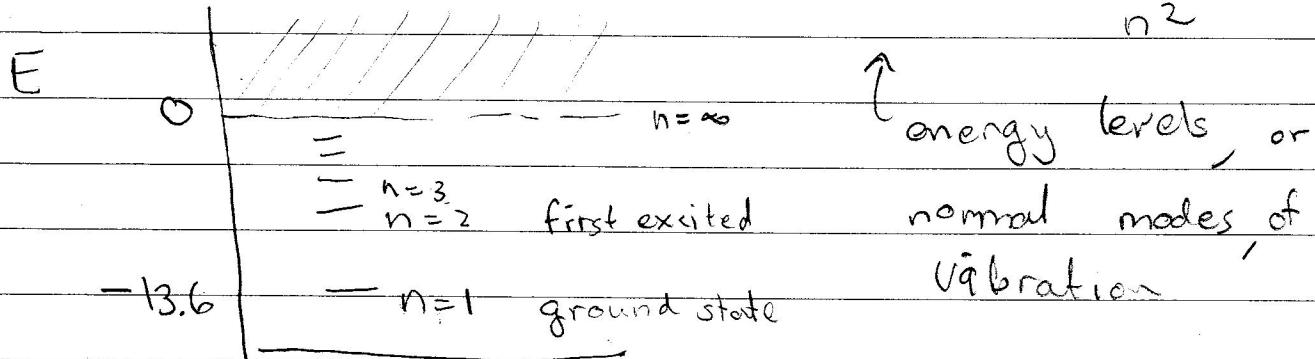
The smallest discrete wavelength that is emitted is in the UV and is known as the Lyman- $\alpha$  line. Watch the video

$$\lambda_{\text{Ly}-\alpha} = 121 \text{ nm}$$

## Interaction of Light and Hydrogen (cont)

### Basic Description

$$\Delta E_n = E_n = -\frac{13.6 \text{ eV}}{n^2}$$



- An electron and proton far apart (which aren't moving) have zero total energy, by definition  $n \rightarrow \infty$
  - When you bring an electron and proton together you lower the total energy to the ground state energy  $= -13.6 \text{ eV}$ , that's why it takes  $13.6 \text{ eV}$  to strip an electron from a proton:
- $E_1 = -\frac{13.6 \text{ eV}}{1^2} = \text{ground state}$
- Only certain vibrational frequencies are allowed. The first excited state has Energy

$$E_2 = -\frac{13.6 \text{ eV}}{2^2}$$

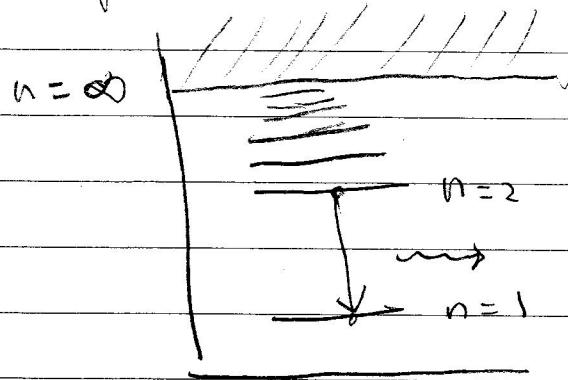
The second excited state has  $n=3$ .

$$E_3 = -\frac{13.6 \text{ eV}}{3^2}$$

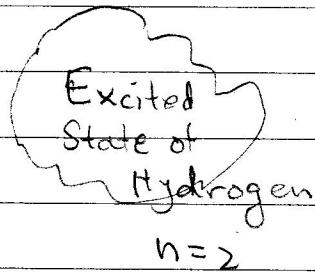
## The interaction of Light and Hydrogen

that is absorbed and emitted

The light is discrete since only certain frequencies can be absorbed and emitted



Before



After



$$\text{photon } E_\gamma = h\nu$$

Ground State  
of Hydrogen  $n=1$

Using Energy Conservation

$$E_2 = \underbrace{E_1}_{E_{\text{init}}} + \underbrace{\text{hf}}_{E_{\text{final}}}$$

$$-\frac{13.6 \text{ eV}}{2^2} = -\frac{13.6}{1^2} + \text{hf}$$

Or

$$10.2 \text{ eV} = \text{hf}$$

## Problem

- ① • Determine the wavelength of the Ly-alpha transition  $n=2 \rightarrow n=1$  and wavelength
- ② • Also determine the energy  $\Delta E$  of a photon emitted in the Hydrogen -  $\alpha$  line ( $n=3 \rightarrow n=2$ )
- ③ At a red-shift of 5.99 what would be the wavelength of the Ly- $\alpha$  line in  $\text{\AA}$  ( $1\text{nm} = 10 \text{\AA}$ )
- The light from three quasars is shown in an attached spectrograph. Interpret the sharp peak. Why does it move in wavelength

## Useful

$$\cdot E_n = -\frac{13.6 \text{ eV}}{n^2}$$

$$10 \text{ \AA} = 1\text{nm}$$

$$\cdot E = hf = \frac{hc}{\lambda}$$

$$hc = 1240 \text{ eV nm}$$

$$\lambda_{\text{obs}} = (1+z) \lambda_{\text{em}}$$

## Answers

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \underbrace{121 \text{ nm}}$$

UV



"Ly- $\alpha$   
line"

$$\textcircled{2} \quad 1.89 \text{ eV}$$

$\underbrace{656 \text{ nm}}$

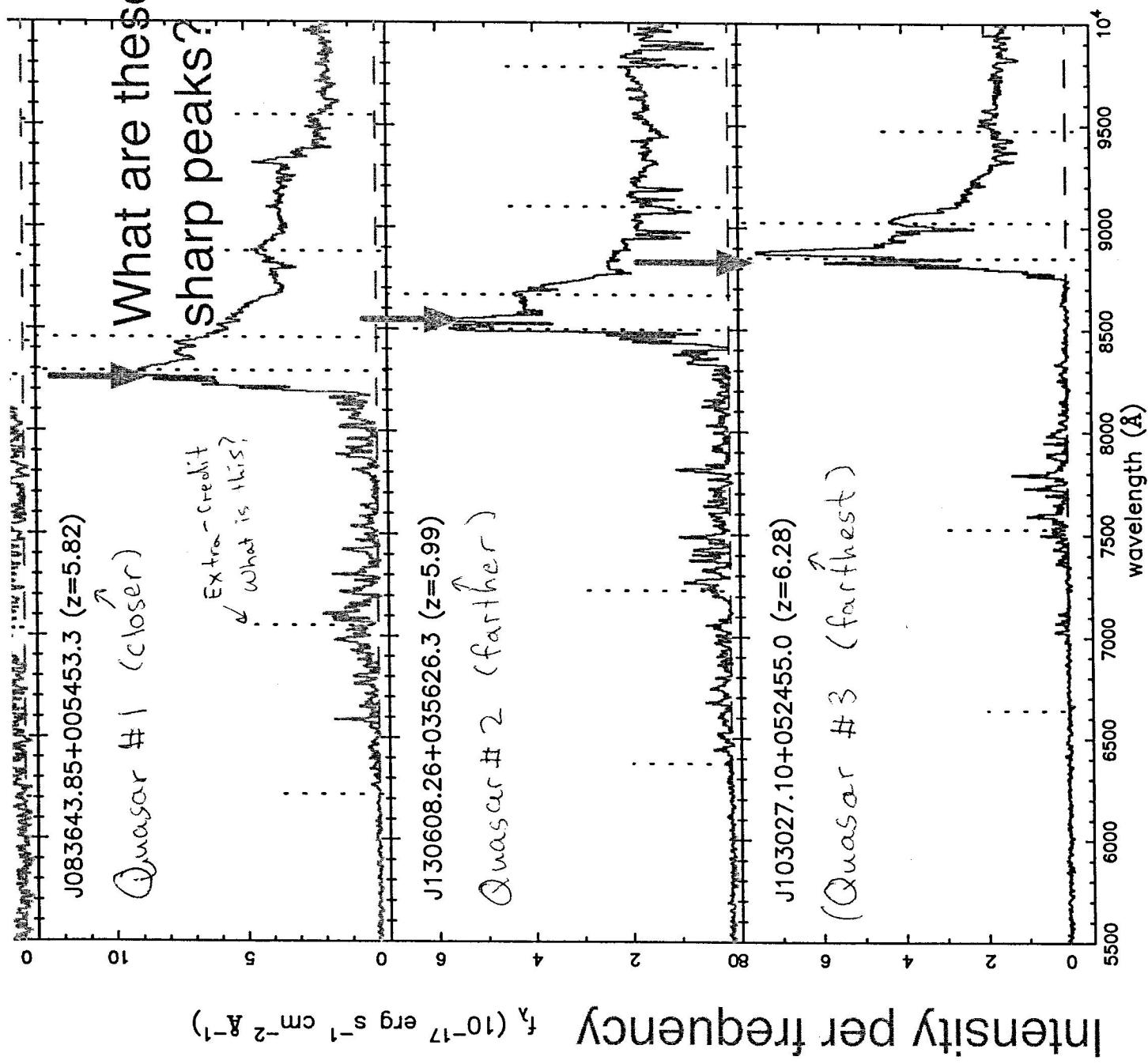
red



"H- $\alpha$ "  
line

$$\textcircled{3} \quad 8490 \text{ \AA}$$

Wavelength in Angstroms, 10 Angstroms = 1 nm



### Solution

$$\textcircled{1} \quad E = hf$$

$$= \frac{hc}{\lambda} \Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{hc}{E} = \frac{1240 \text{ eV nm}}{10.2 \text{ eV}} = 121 \text{ nm}$$

\textcircled{2} From E-conservation .

$$E_r = hf$$

Picture

$n=3$



Before

$n=2$



After

$$E_{\text{before}} + E_{\text{after}} = E_{n=3} + E_{\gamma}$$

$$-13.6 \text{ eV} / 3^2 = -13.6 \text{ eV} / 2^2 + E_{\gamma} \Rightarrow hf$$

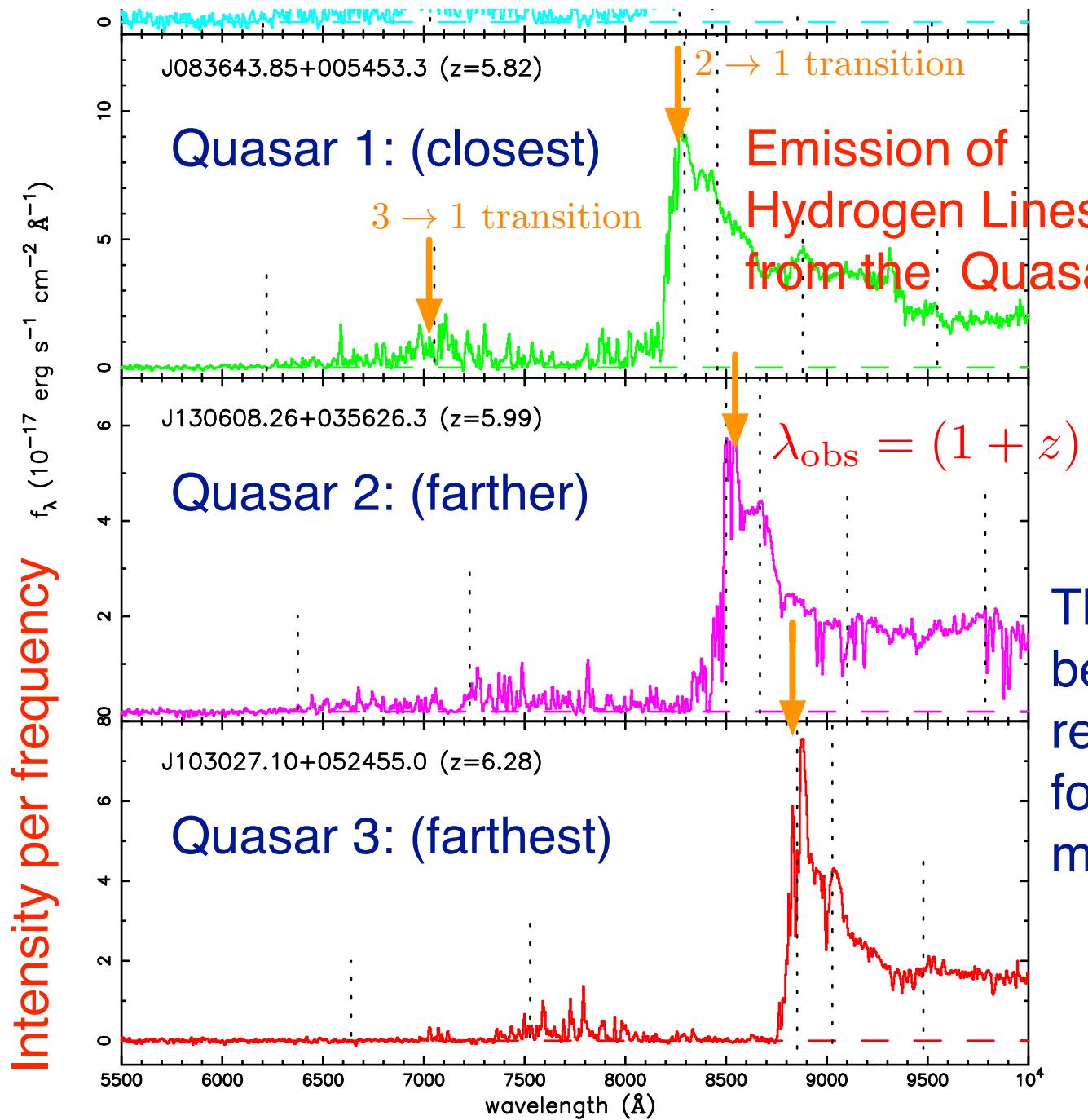
$$1.89 \text{ eV} = E_{\gamma}$$

$$\text{Then, } \lambda = \frac{hc}{E} = \frac{1240 \text{ eV nm}}{1.89 \text{ eV}} = 656 \text{ nm}$$

\textcircled{3} The red shifted wavelength is longer

$$\lambda_{\text{obs}} = (1+z) \lambda_{\text{emit}} = 1 \text{ nm}$$

$$\lambda_{\text{obs}} = (1+5.99) 656 \text{ nm} = 849 \text{ nm} = 849 \times 10 \text{ Å} = 8490 \text{ Å}$$



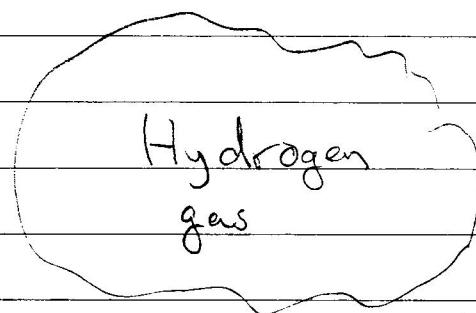
Emission of  
Hydrogen Lines  
from the Quasar

The peaks move  
because the  
red-shift is changing  
for the three quasars  
measured

Wavelength in Angstroms, 10 Angstroms = 1 nm

## Problem

detector



Hydrogen  
gas

Source

src

Source emitting  
 $\lambda = 118 \text{ nm}$

① What would the detector see? (how much light is absorbed)

② If the source is moving to the right at speed  $v$ , describe qualitatively what the detector would see?

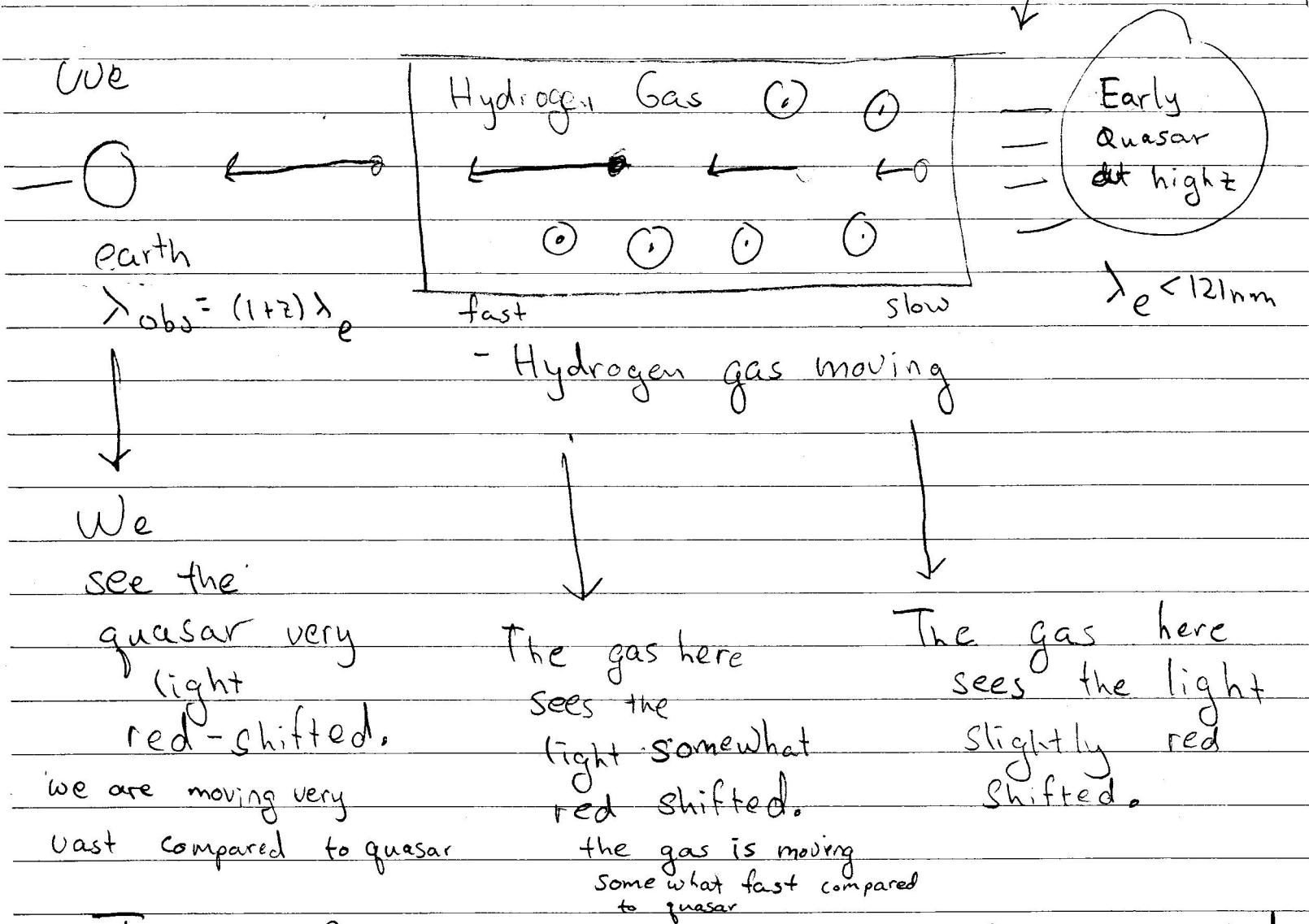
- Is the wavelength longer or shorter as measured by the detector and the gas

- At a particular speed, something dramatic happens, as the velocity is increased from zero.

→ Extra-credit determine the special speed.

## Evidence for Re-ionization

Light with many  
of different wavelengths

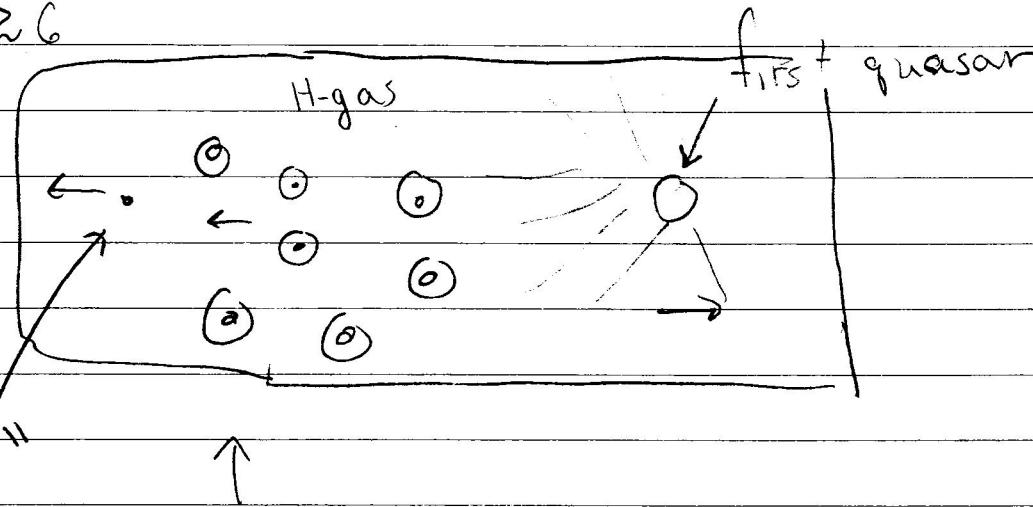


- Then for any wavelength that is emitted by the Quasar with  $\lambda_e < 121 \text{ nm}$ ,  
There will be a portion of the gas which will see a longer wavelength, a wave that is just right to be absorbed.

## Evidence for re-ionization. (Cont.)

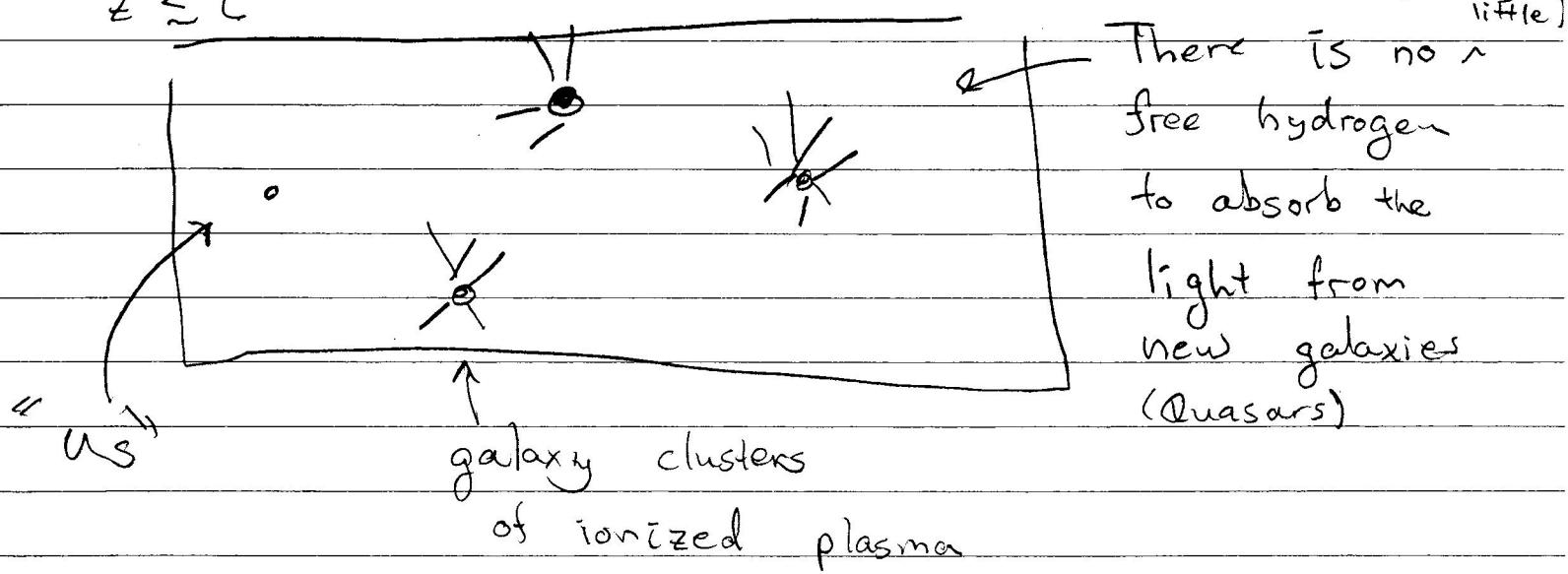
The very first quasars versus later quasars

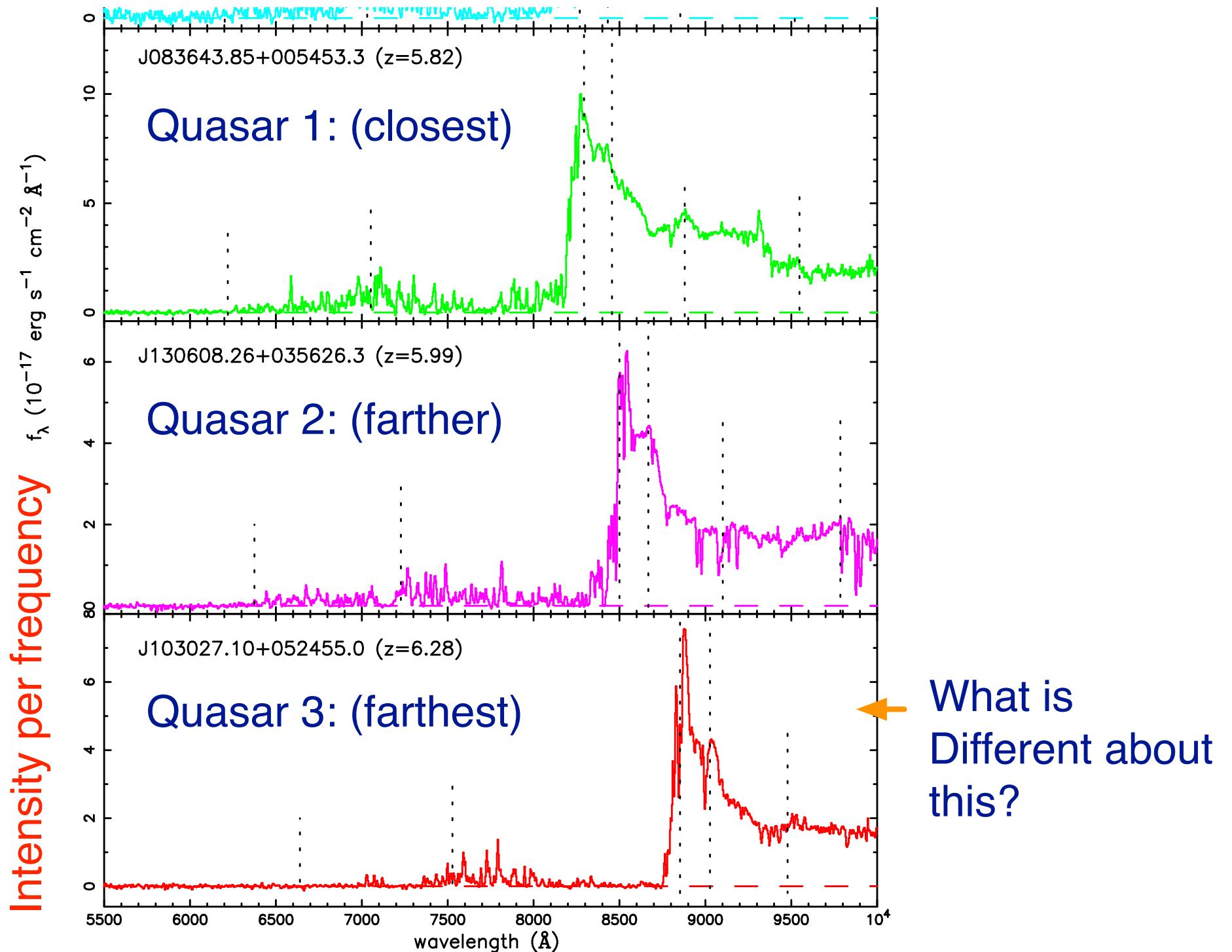
$z \gtrsim 6$



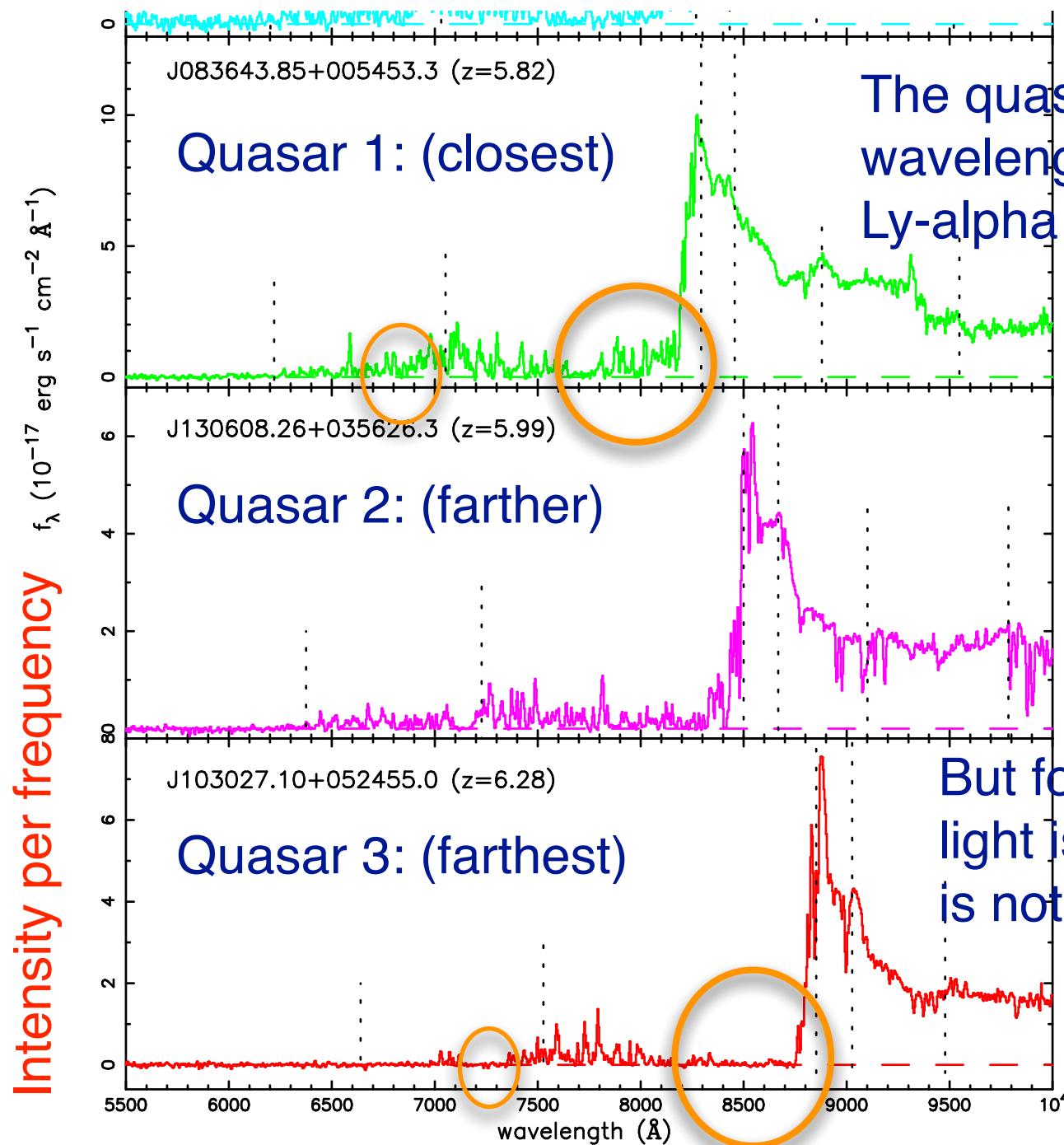
- The light from the first quasars is absorbed by the free hydrogen gas at different red-shifts between "us" and the first quasars

$z \leq 6$





Wavelength in Angstroms, 10 Angstroms = 1 nm



The quasar is emitting light at wavelengths shorter than the Ly-alpha wavelength

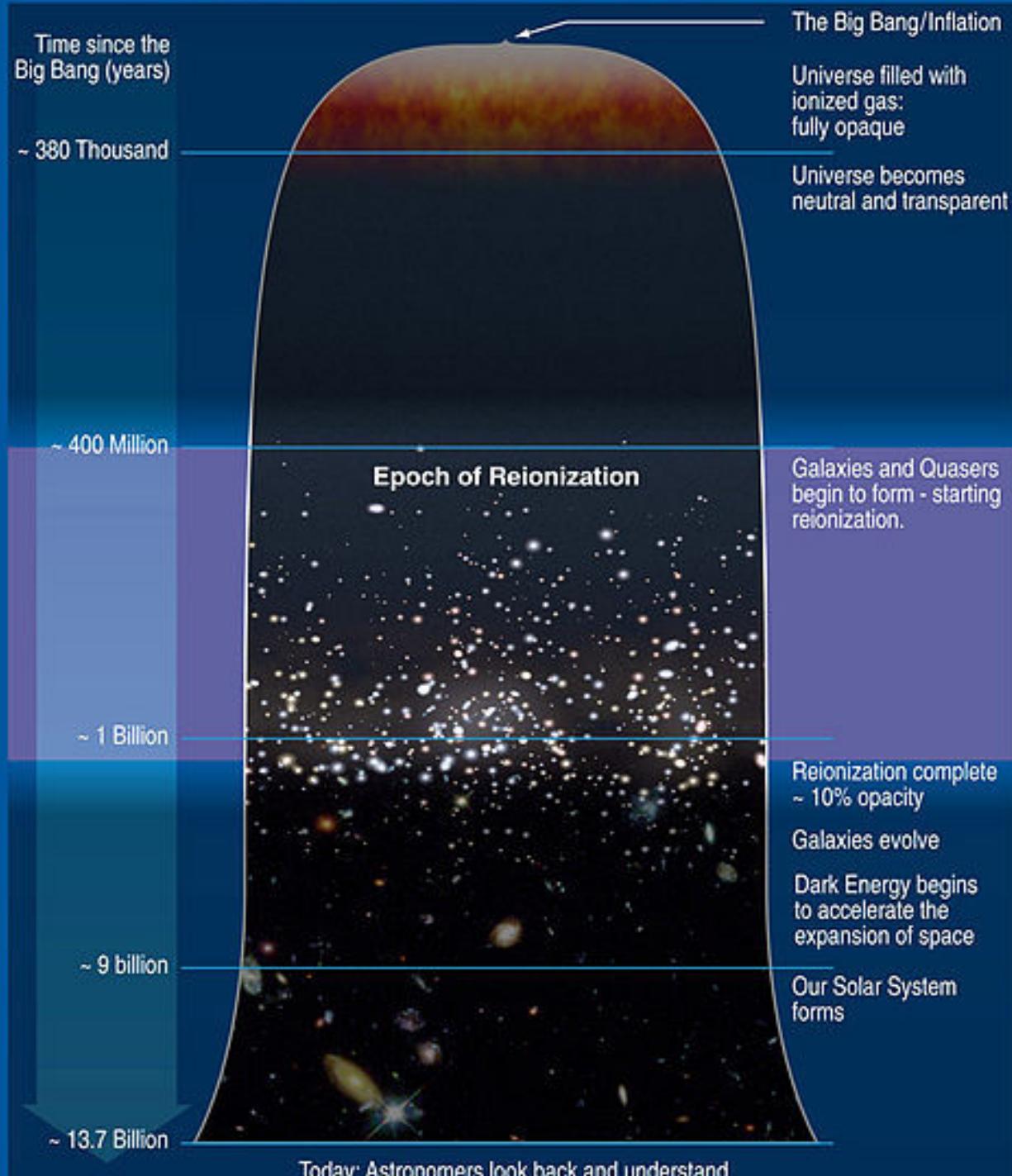
But for the largest  $z$  this light is absorbed. There is nothing here.

Wavelength in Angstroms, 10 Angstroms = 1 nm

## What the last slide shows:

1. When: between  $z \simeq 6$  and  $z \simeq 6.5$  (about 1 Gy) after the big bang.
2. What: the amount of neutral hydrogen in the universe dramatically changed
3. Conclude:
  - The neutral hydrogen clustered into galaxies and formed ionized plasma again.

# First Stars and Reionization Era



Today: Astronomers look back and understand