An aerial photograph of the Green Bank Telescope, a massive white parabolic dish antenna. The dish is set against a dark, wooded background and is surrounded by a complex network of support structures and cables.

# Insights from the Zpectrometer

A.I. Harris<sup>1</sup>, A.J. Baker<sup>2</sup>, D.T. Frayer<sup>3</sup>,  
G. Watts<sup>3</sup> and many others from Green Bank

<sup>1</sup>University of Maryland, <sup>2</sup>Rutgers University, <sup>3</sup>NRAO

# The Zpectrometer

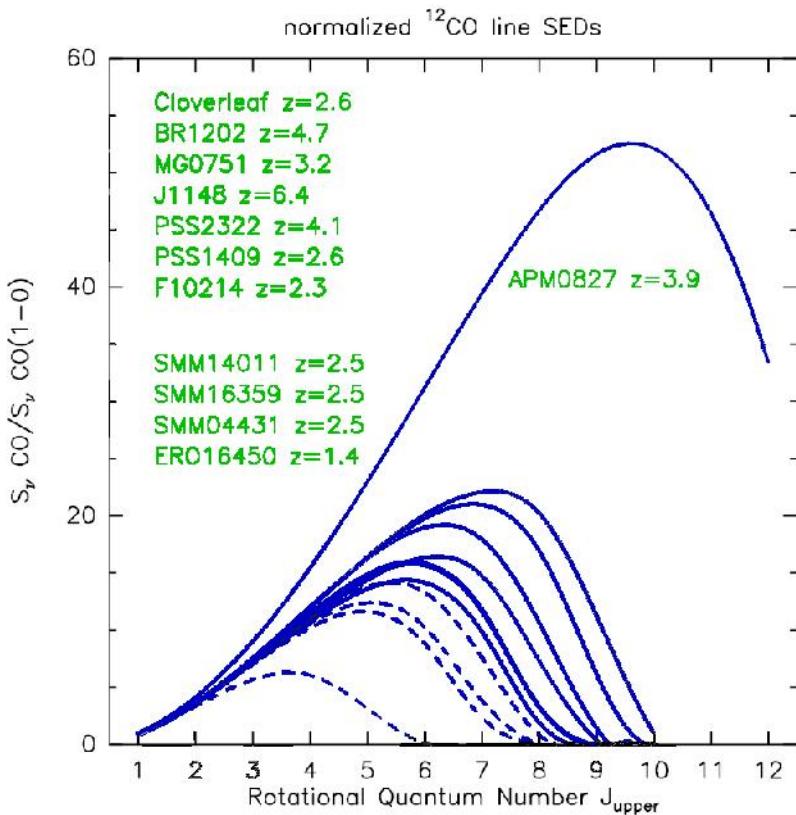
A collaboration between UMD (spectrometer) and NRAO (receiver)  
NSF ATI Program award AST-0503946 to UMD



Zpectrometer correlators on the  
GBT receiver turret

- Ultra-wideband spectrometer for use with the GBT's facility Ka-band receiver
- Bandwidth of 25.6 to 37.7 GHz covers  $z = 2.1$  to 3.5 in CO  $J = 1-0$  (other redshifts in other transitions): line searches
- Cross-correlation architecture is designed to produce high stability for long integrations: weak lines

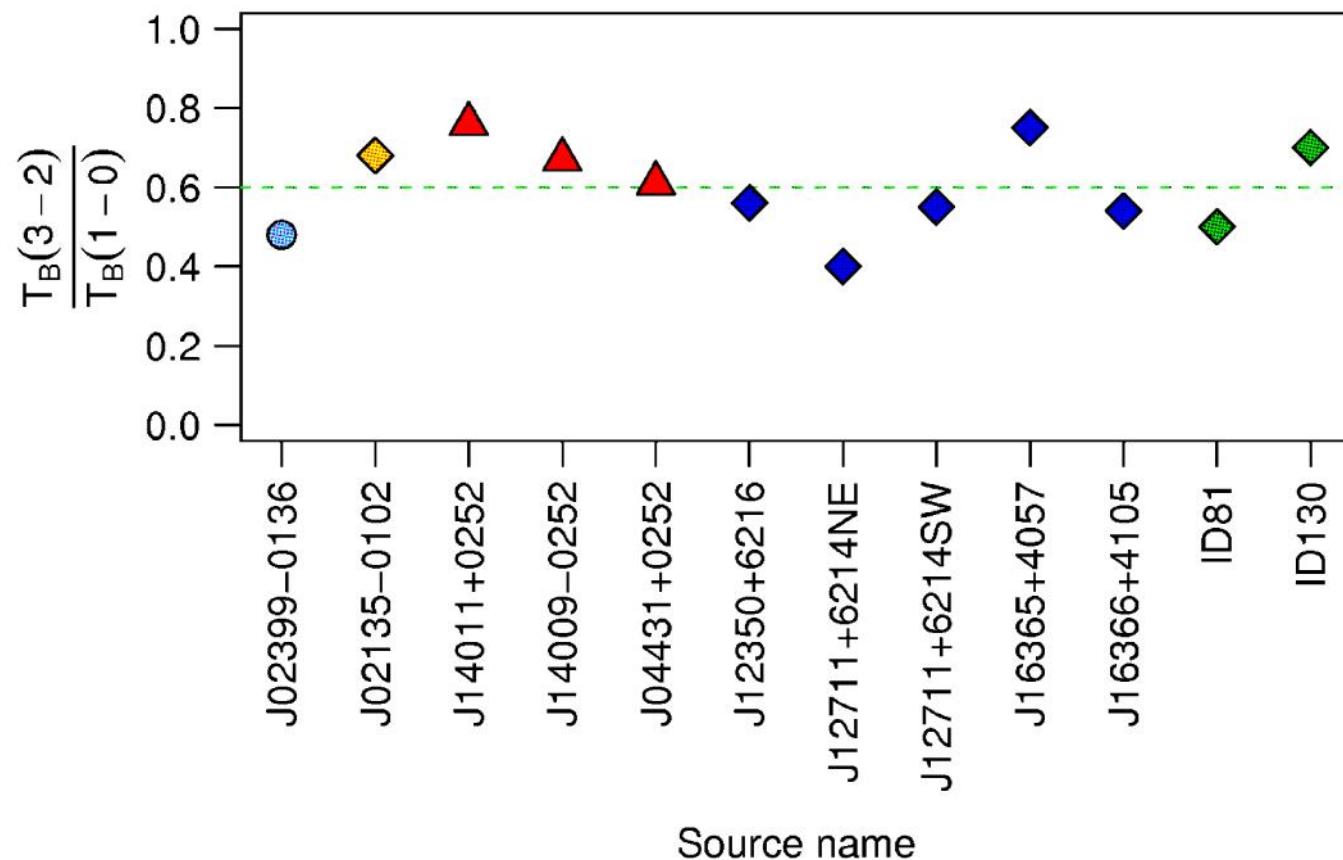
# CO excitation and gas mass



"CO SED" summary from  
cover of 2006 NA  
ALMA/NRAO meeting  
(Weiss et al. 2007)

- Mid-J line studies had suggested a single gas component with moderate excitation.
- $J = 1-0$  is difficult to measure:  $\sim 30$  GHz, low flux.
- It is key for empirical mass conversion prescription  $M_{\text{gas}} = \alpha L'_{\text{CO}(1-0)}$ ,  $\alpha$  derived from local ULIRGS. (see e.g. Solomon & Vanden Bout 2005)
- Is gas thermalized and thick so  $L'_{\text{CO(mid-J)}} = L'_{\text{CO}(1-0)}$ ?
- How well can we get masses, SF efficiency, etc?

# Excitation in high redshift sources: $L'(J=3-2) < L'(J=1-0)$



Ivison+10, Swinbank+10, Harris+10, Ivison+11, Frayer+11

But not always: QSOs may be an exception with  
 $L'(3-2) \approx L'(1-0)$

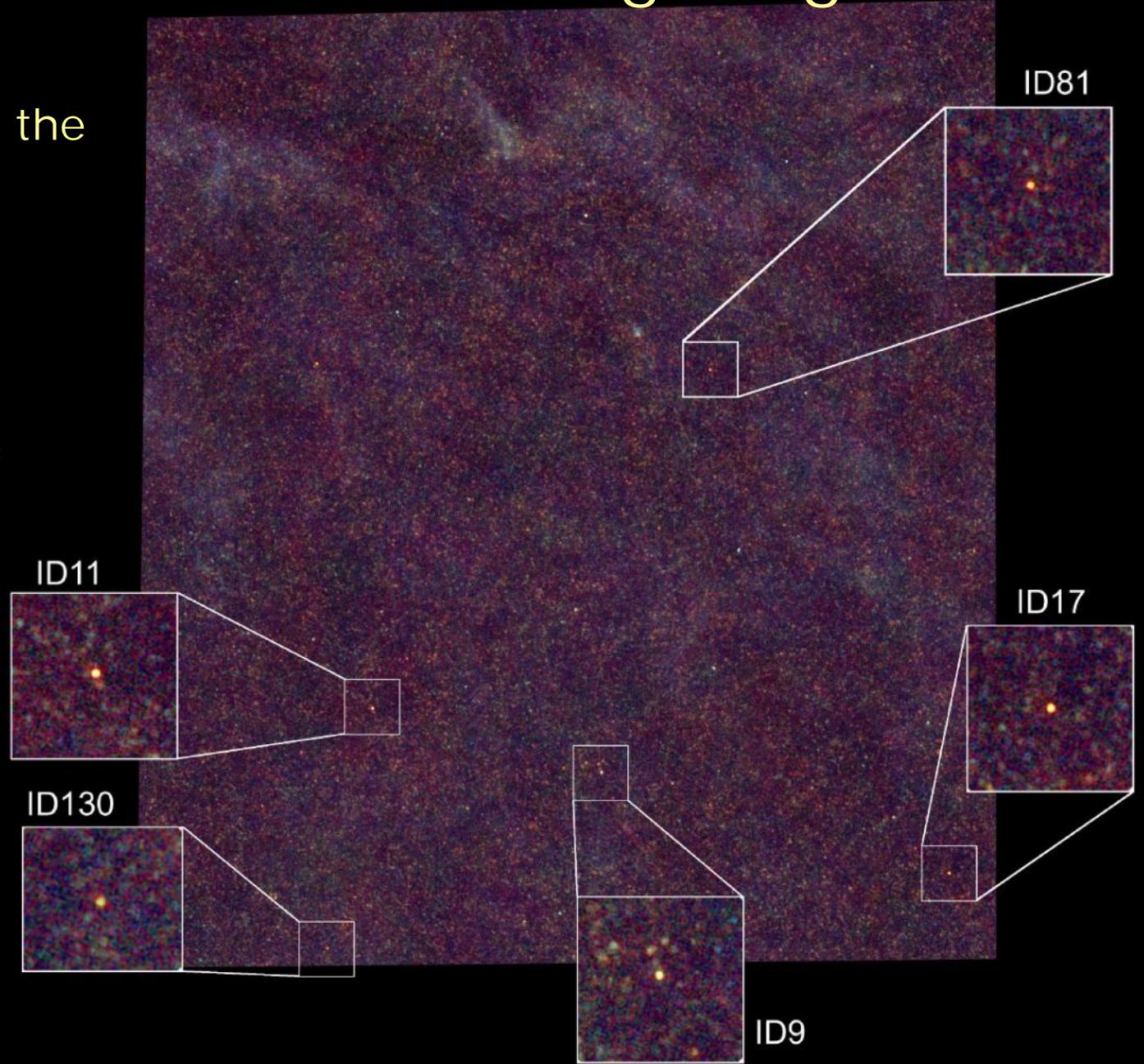
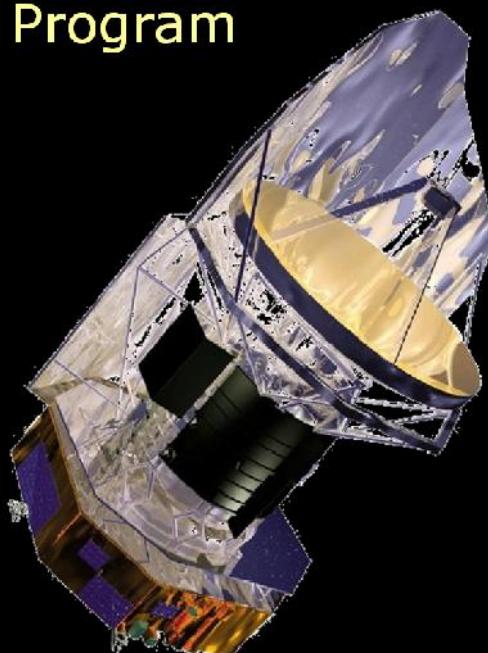
e.g. Riechers et al. 2011

Single component model can't  
be right in many sources: CO  
1-0 must be more extended  
than higher transitions, as it is  
in Galactic clouds. Harris+10

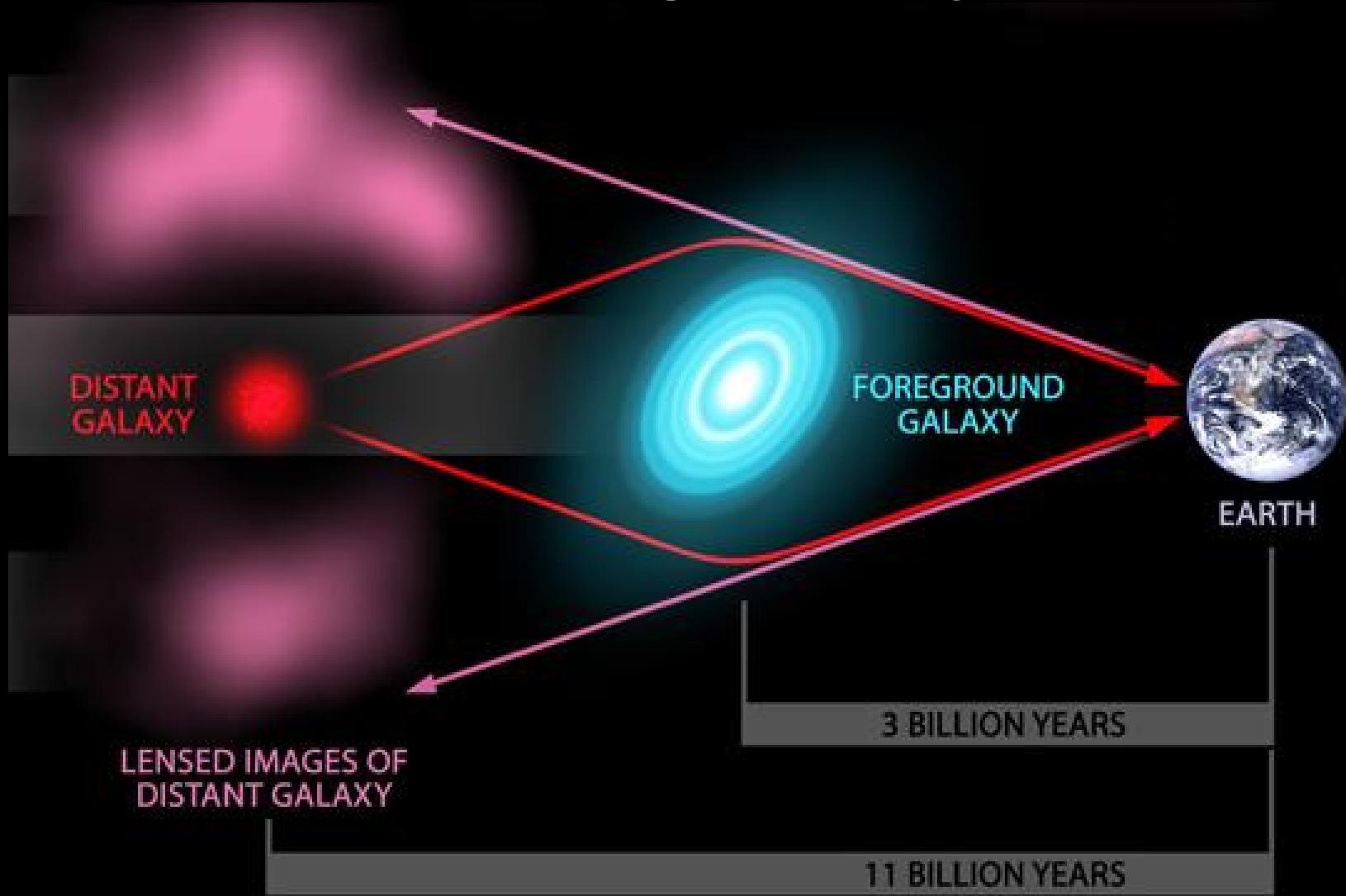
Galactic CO 1-0 map from Heyer et al. 1996

# Herschel-ATLAS identifies high-z galaxies

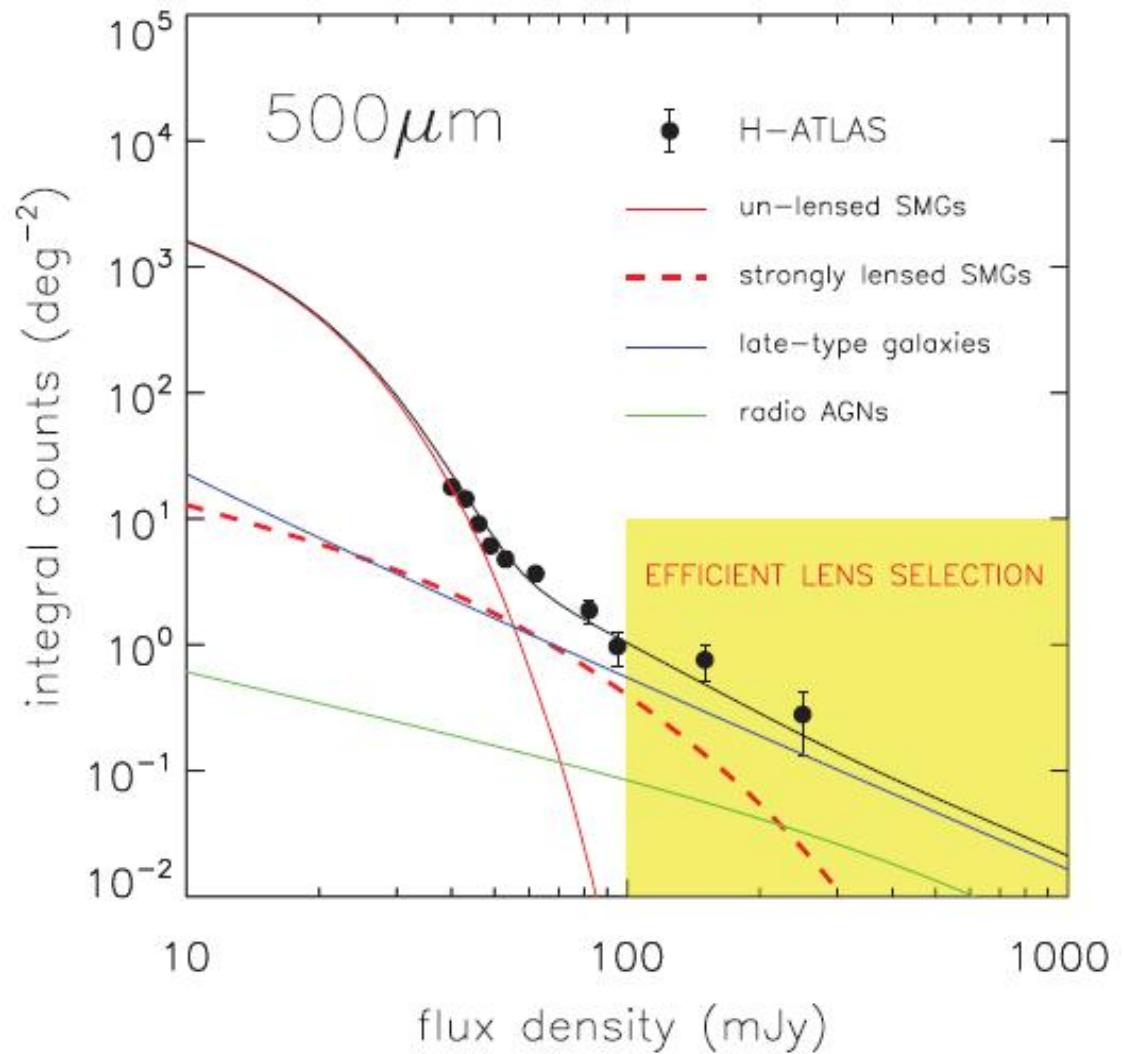
SPIRE image from the  
Herschel Science  
Demonstration  
Program



# Lens geometry

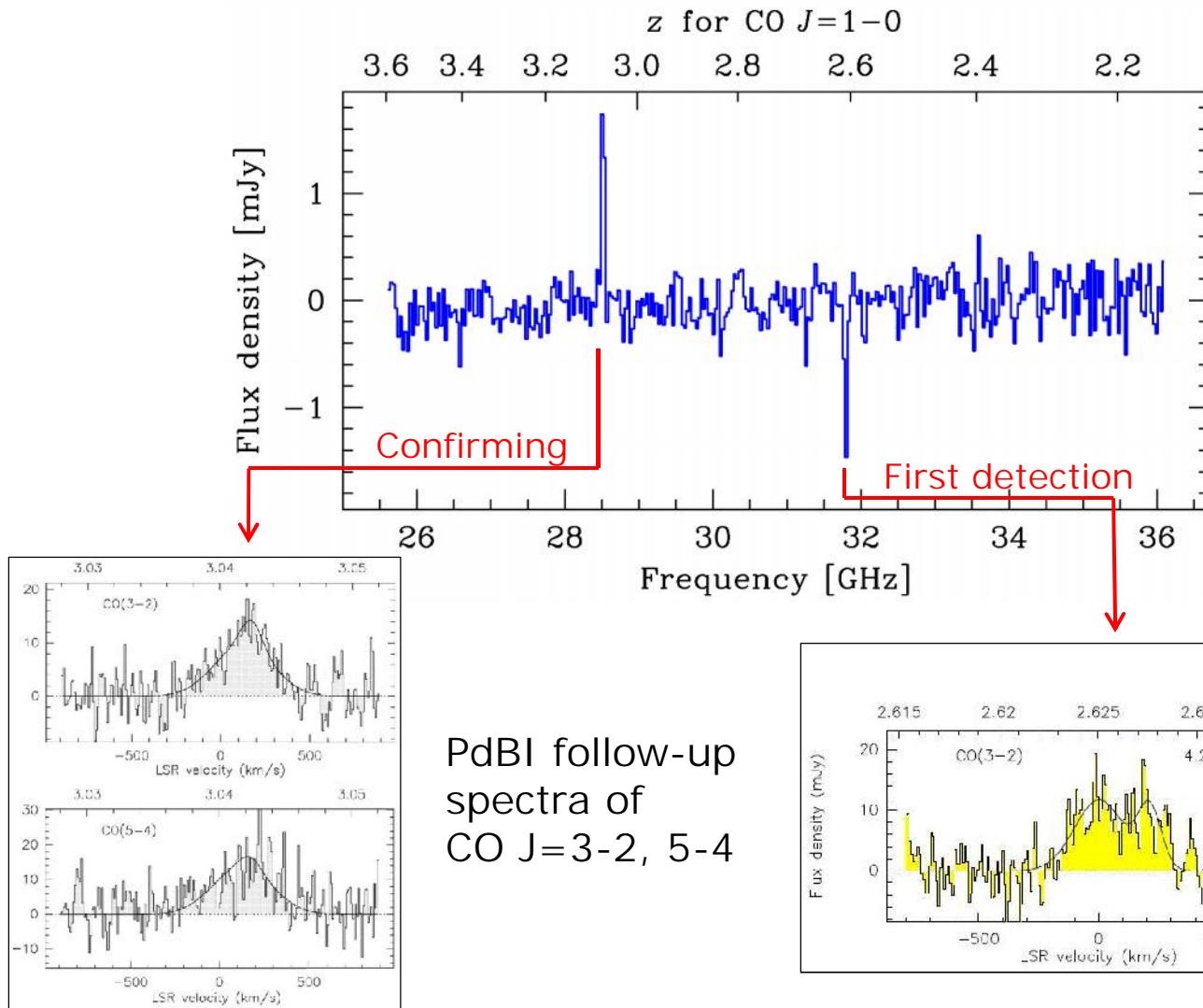


# Galaxy-galaxy gravitational lenses select high-redshift galaxies



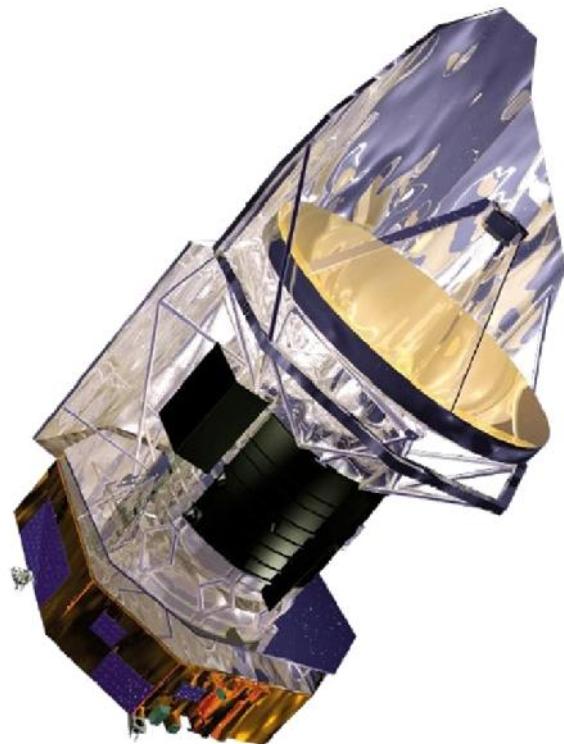
Negrello et al. 2010

# Zpectrometer detection of Herschel/SPIRE sources from H-ATLAS



Herschel ATLAS: Eales et al., PASP 2010

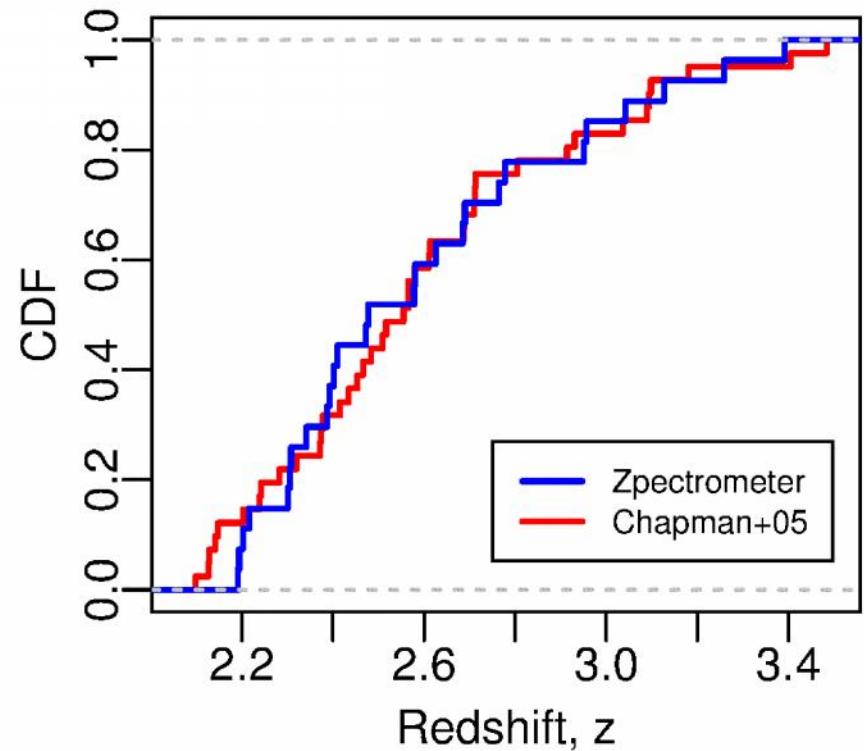
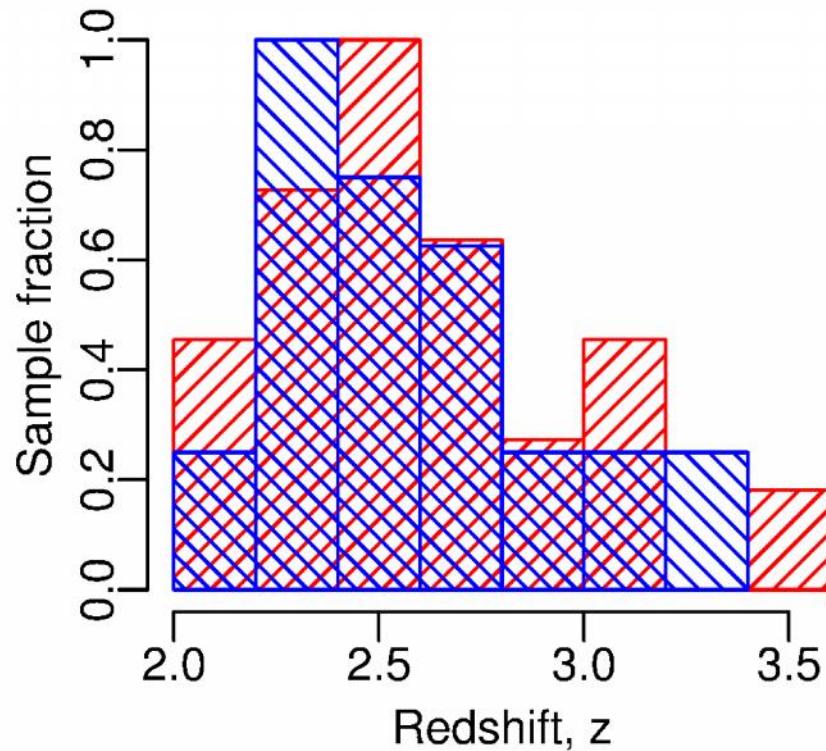
# CO 1—0 from the Herschel-ATLAS and Hermes surveys



Herschel Space Observatory  
Pilbratt et al. 2010

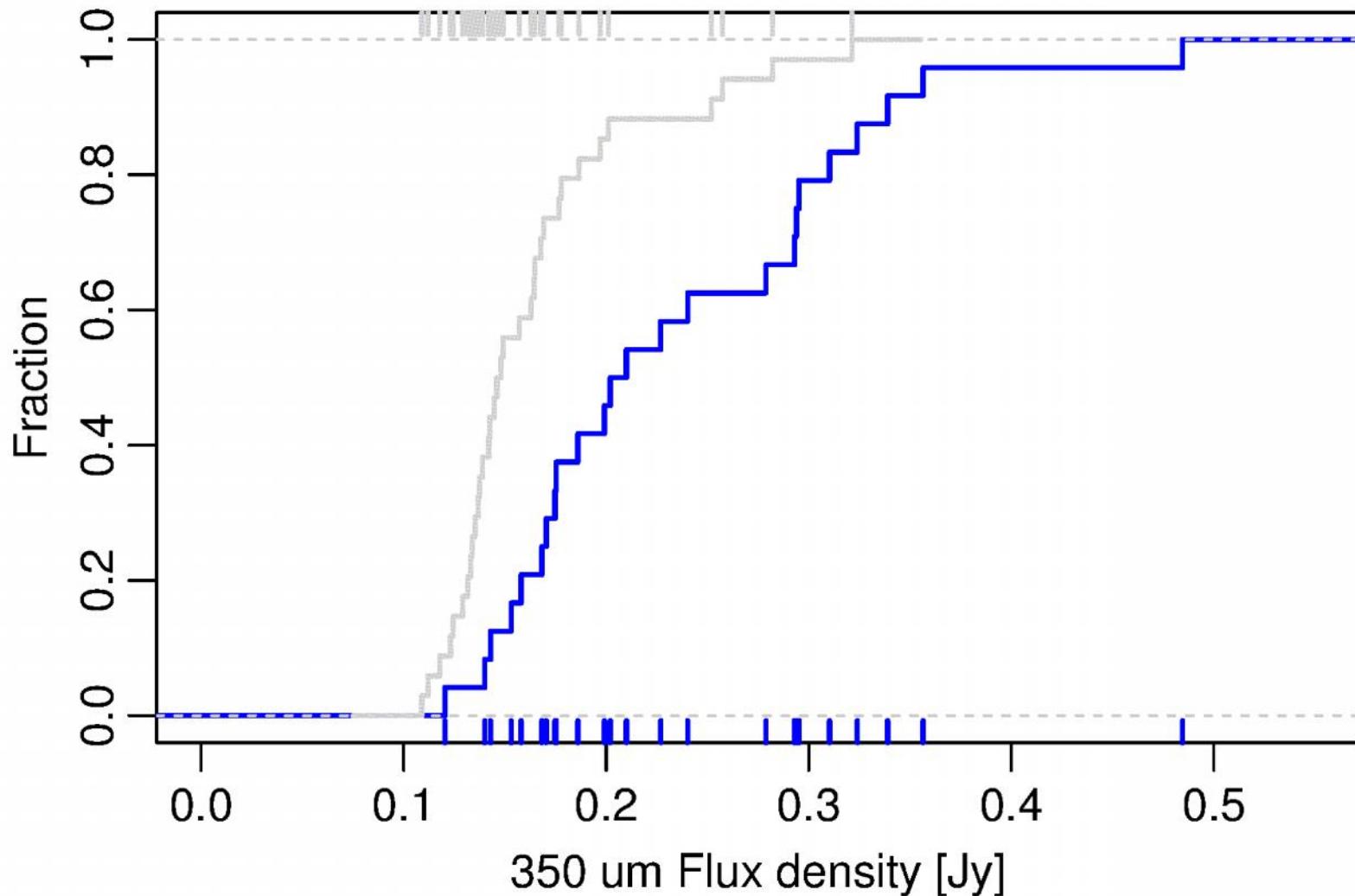
- Targets from SPIRE photometry at 250, 350, and 500  $\mu\text{m}$  (Eales+10, Griffin+10): “350 micron peakers”
- 58 sources, 24 detections, 34 nondetections
- Expect gravitationally lensed sources (Negrello+10)
- Statistical correction for gravitational amplification: typical amplification is 10 (Harris+12)

# Redshift distribution

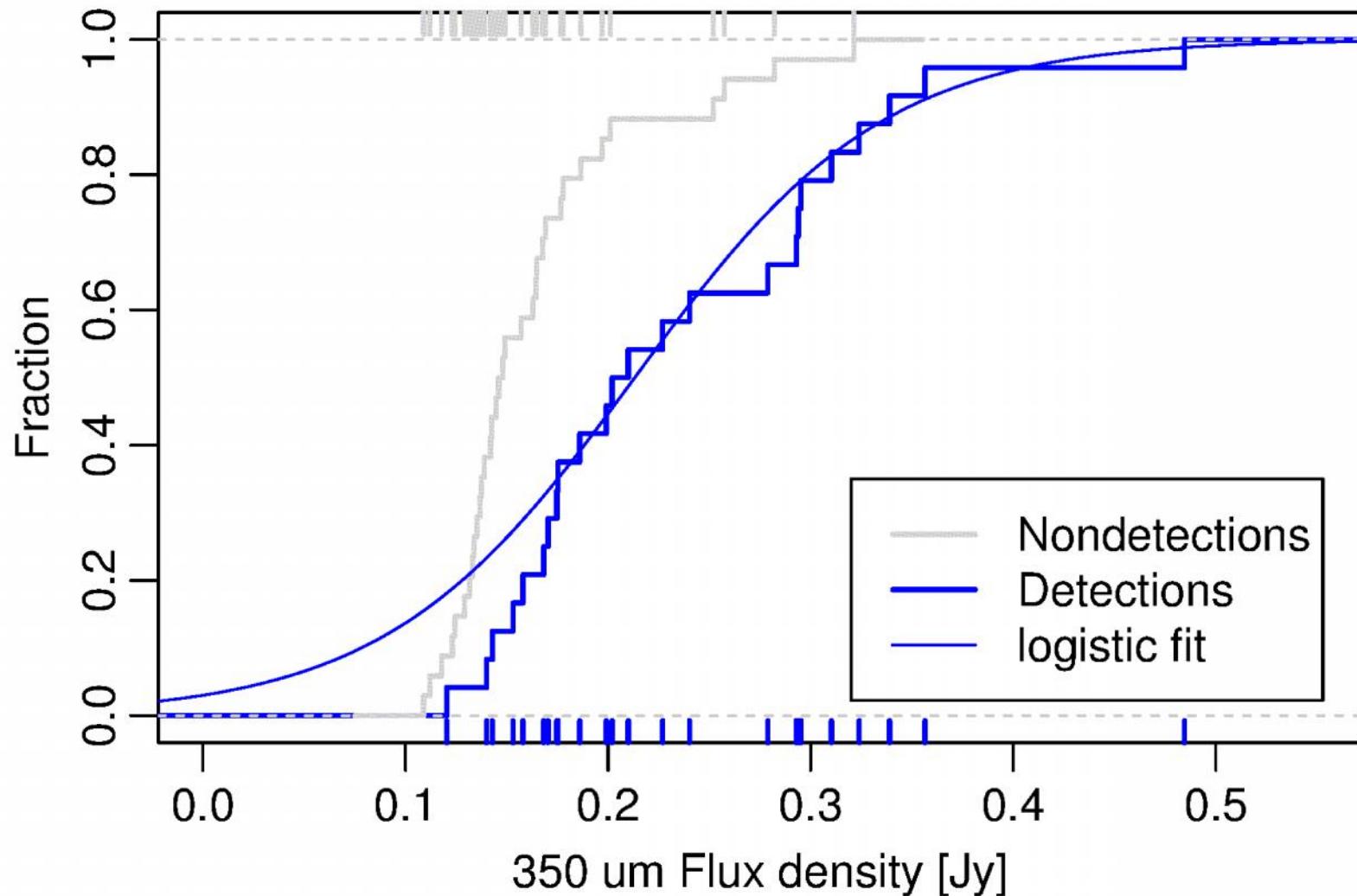


The Zpectrometer (Herschel 350 $\mu$ m+GBT) and Chapman+05 (SCUBA 850 $\mu$ m+VLA+Keck) samples share the same redshift distribution: the classic “SMG” population.

# Detections and non-detections vs. 350 $\mu$ m flux density

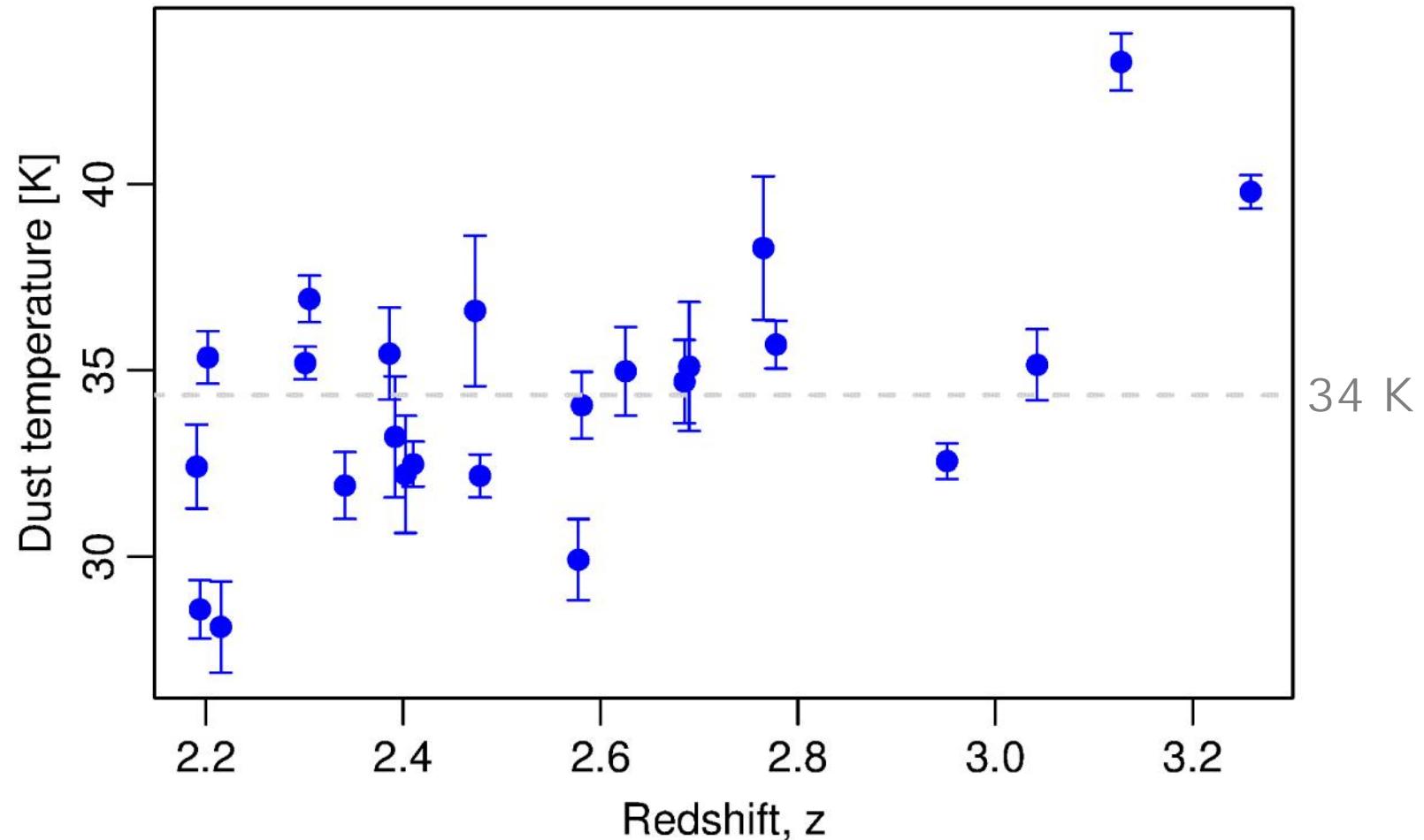


# Detections and non-detections vs. 350 $\mu$ m flux density



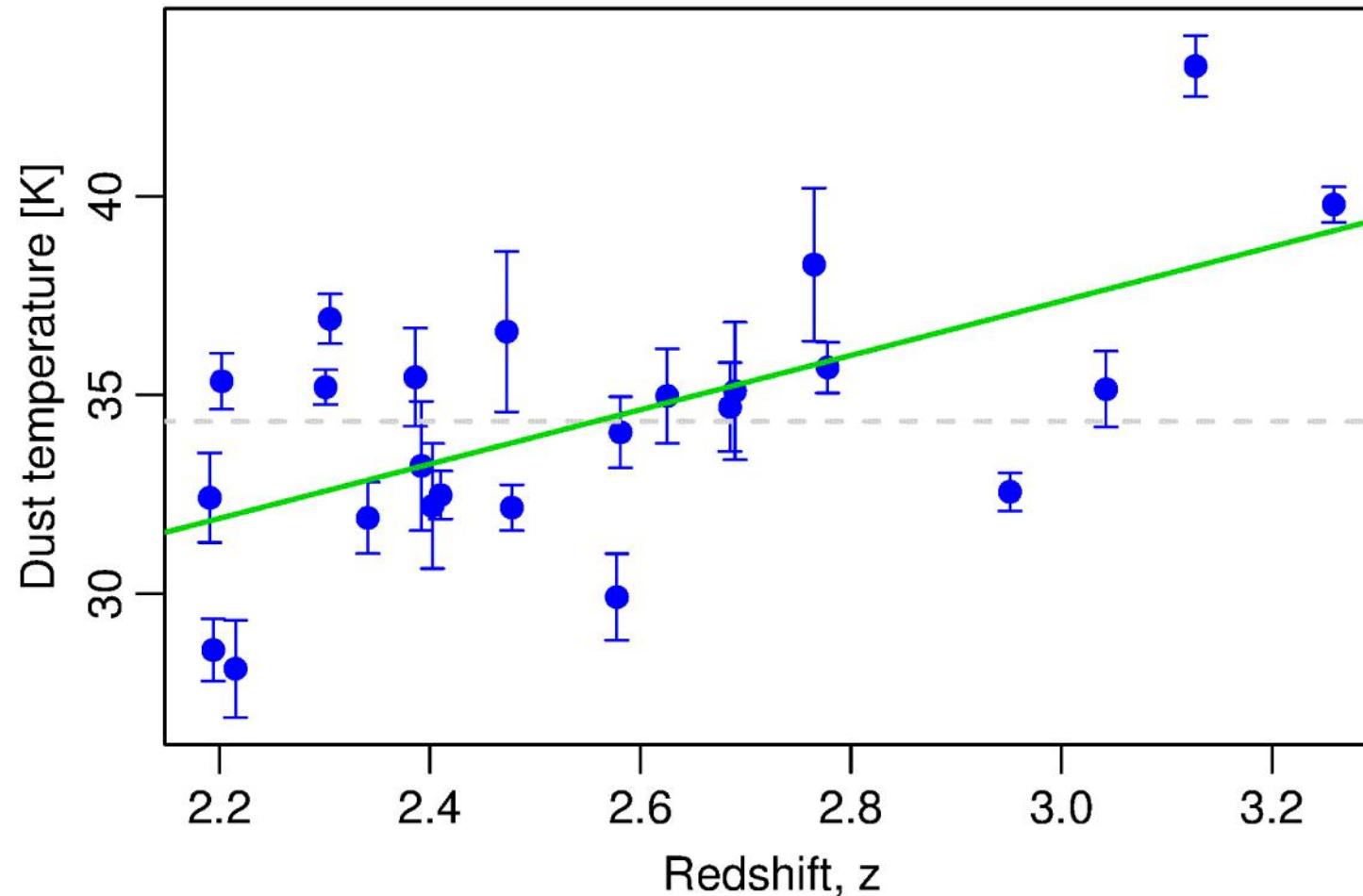
# Dust temperature vs. z

Wien's law:    }<sub>peak, rest</sub> }<sub>peak, obs</sub>  $T_d = \frac{T_d}{1+z} = \text{constant}$



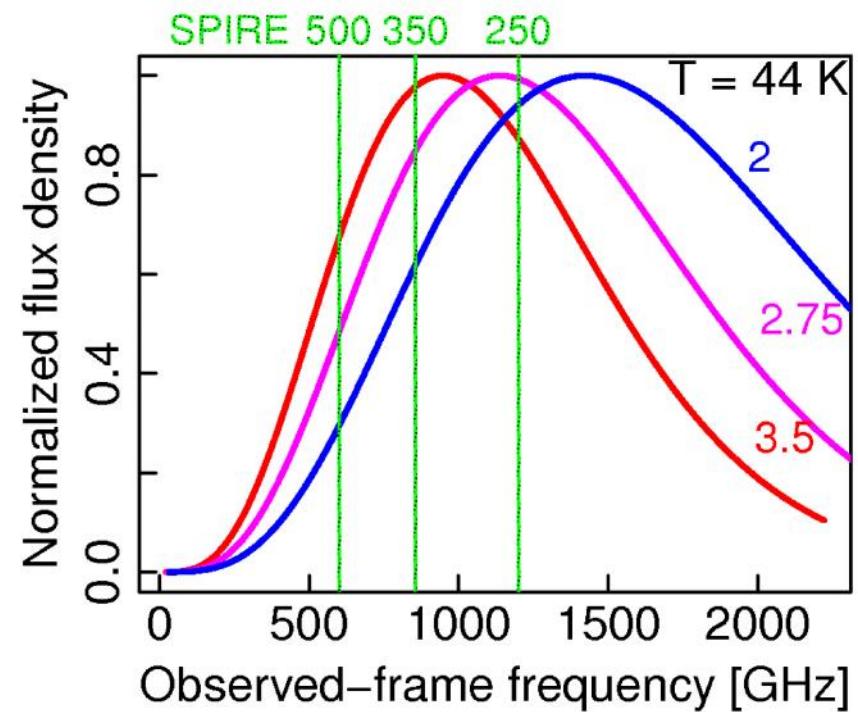
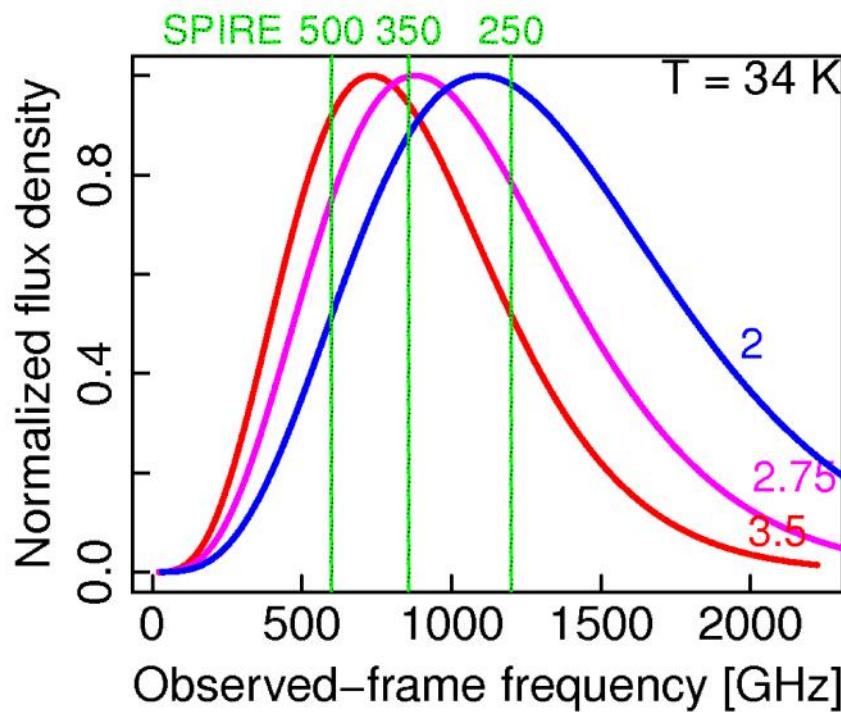
## Dust temperature vs. z

Wien's law:  $\left. T_d \right|_{\text{peak, rest}} = \frac{\left. T_d \right|_{\text{peak, obs}}}{1+z} = \text{constant}$

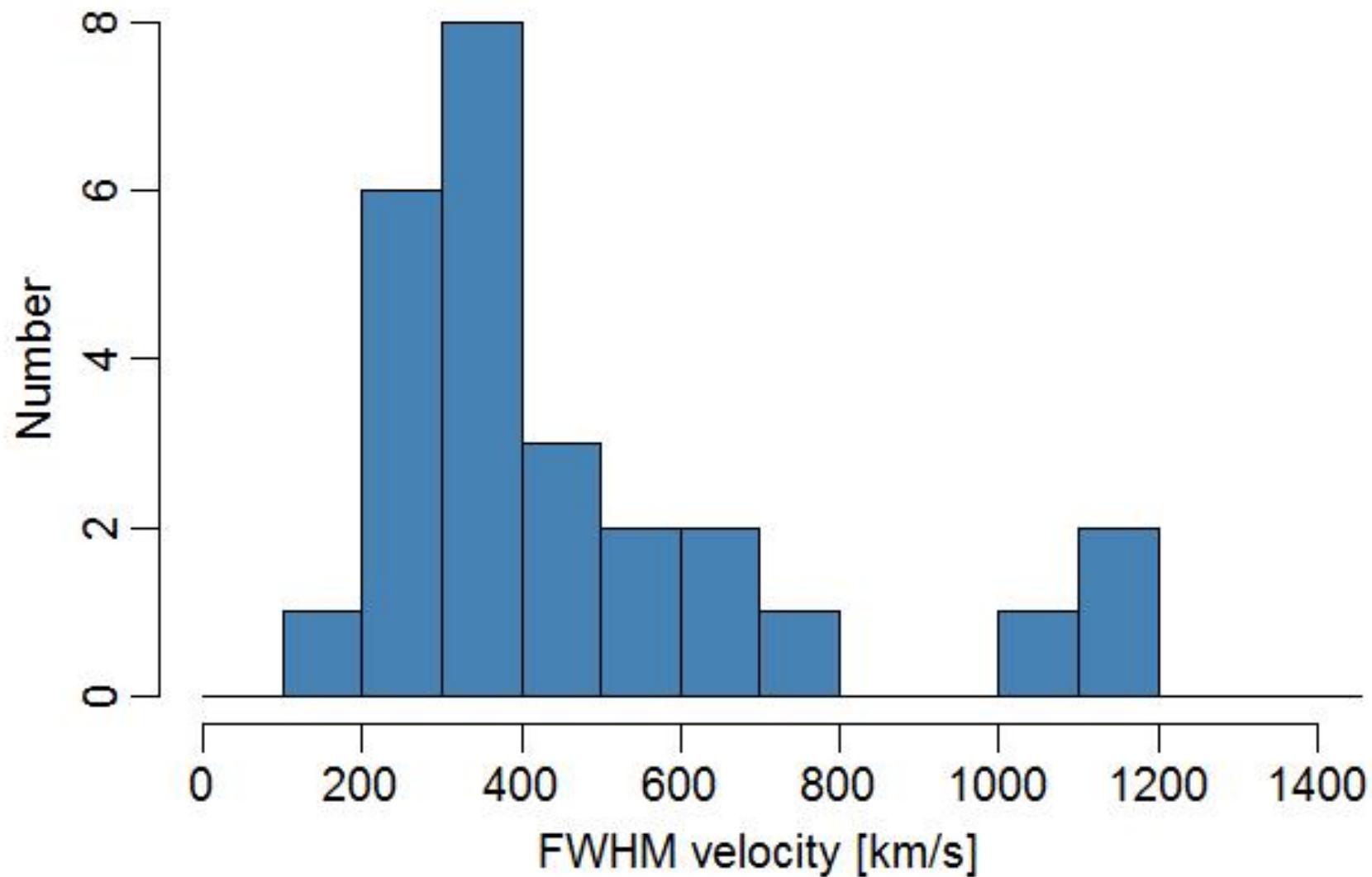


# Temperature bias

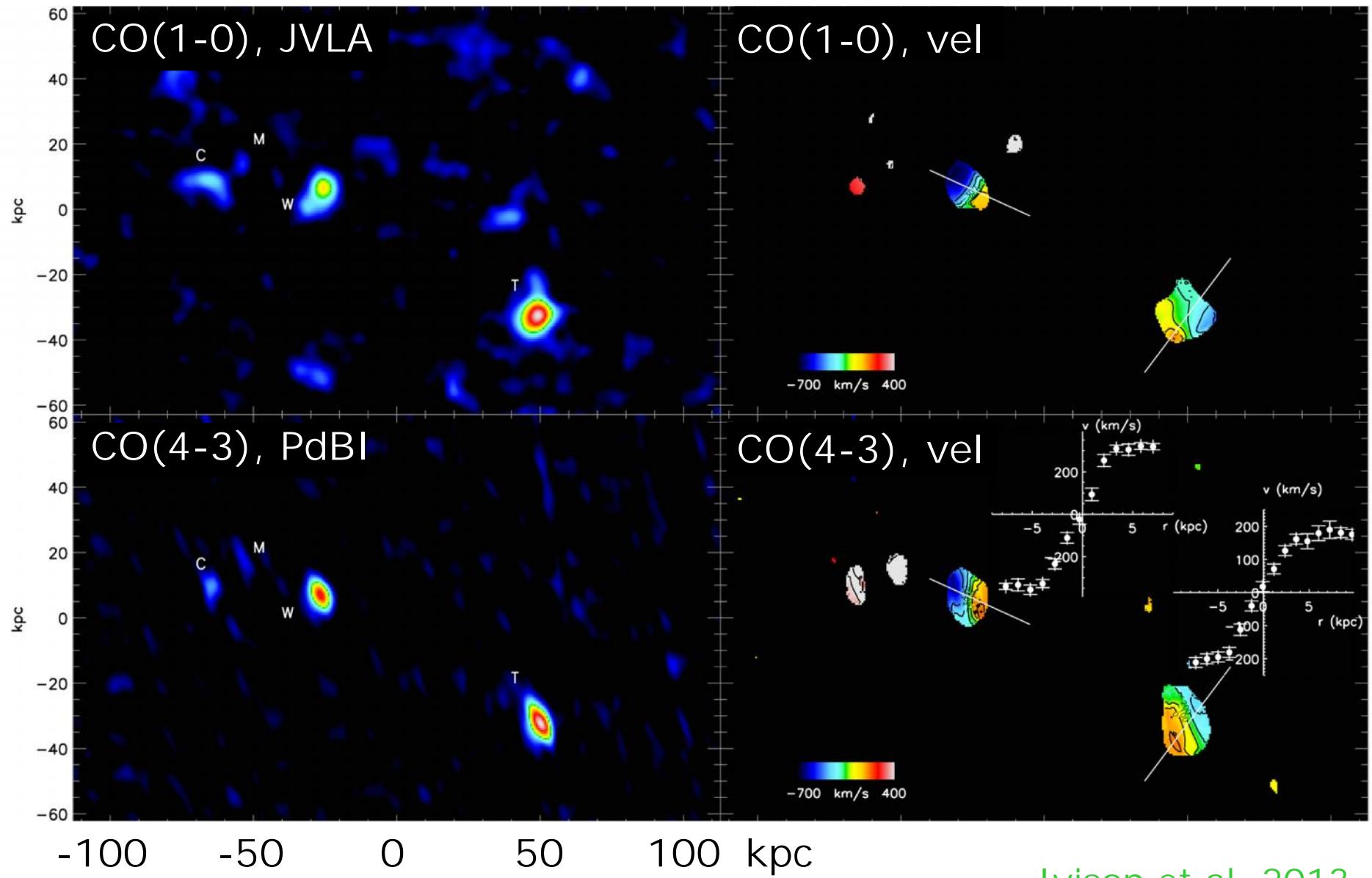
- Selection as “350  $\mu\text{m}$  peakers” biases sample to lower dust temperatures



# Extreme widths identify extreme systems



# CO imaging: a cluster of galaxies



Ivison et al. 2013

# University-NRAO collaboration

- \$520k NSF grant to UMD in 2005
- ~60 proposals, ~30 unique PIs
- Student, postdoc, faculty, staff involvement at UMD, Rutgers, NRAO, Hopkins, and elsewhere
- 18 publications with a substantial Zpectrometer component
  - 2 Nature, 1 Science, 13 ApJ, 2 MNRAS
  - 914 citations
- Targets for VLA, PdBI, 30m studies
- Explored and demonstrated correlation spectroscopy
- New signal processing techniques for line searches
- Identified problems with, and improved, the Ka-band receiver

# Summary

- Very efficient targeted line searches in CO 1-0 with the GBT/Zpectrometer
- Nailed down the CO 1-0 intensity in DSFGs, indicating extended emission and changing gas mass estimates
- Analysis of nondetections and trend of dust temperature with redshift points to population of DSFGs more excited than the classic SMGs
- Statistical study shows that typical amplification of lensed galaxies from Herschel/SPIRE is 10, range of factor 2
- Provided redshifts for follow-on studies of multiple lines and higher spatial resolution
- Relatively low-cost instrument with broad community use