



MATILDA

EFFECT



Pionierinnen der Forschung Female Pioneers
of Research

Pt.25

Katie Bouman



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Katie Bouman (*1989)

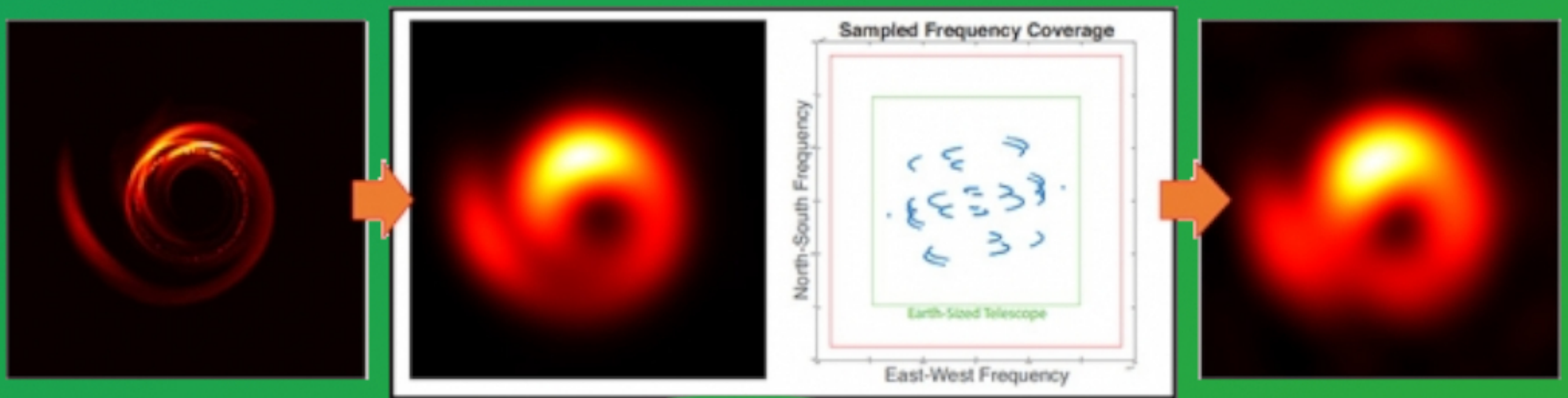
Engineer & Computer Scientist

Starting in high school, she conducted imaging research and graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering in 2011. She obtained her master's and PhD at MIT, and her dissertation focused on "Extreme Imaging".



After her PhD, she worked as a post-doc at Harvard in the *Event Horizon Telescope Imaging* (EHTI) team and became a professor at the *California Institute of Technology* (CalTech).

She was significantly involved in the development of the CHIRP algorithm, an algorithm for imaging black holes.



When the first image of a black hole was published in 2019, she became the face of the project.



This resulted in high attention for her, but also hostility and devaluation of her contribution to this success.

Even though she regularly emphasized the team's performance, the high attention led to polarization, where some team members overly emphasized her role while others completely ignored her.

This situation shows that the Matilda Effect is still an acute problem today.





"Auch wenn das Bild das Ergebnis der Zusammenarbeit vieler Menschen war, war es wichtig zu zeigen, dass Frauen zu großen Projekten wie diesem beitragen können."

"Even though the image was a result of many people working together, it was important to show that women can contribute to big projects like this."

