# Measuring the CMB Polarization

**Advances in Theoretical Cosmology in Light of Data** 

Nordita, July 2017 L. Page

# Why do it?

## Polarization Smörgåsbord

- Primordial B-modes: gravity acting on quantum scales.
- Independent assessment of cosmological parameters
- H<sub>0</sub> ★
- Isocurvature modes from EE; the lowest hanging fruit?
- Testing GR through the growth of structure.
- Calibrating LSST lensing and other surveys.
- Mass bias for quasars, radio sources, through lensing...
- Halo masses through stacking and lensing.
- Cosmic ionization history.
- Axion gauge-field/gravitational leptogenesis (?!)
- •
- Something new!





Just CMB + LCDM to "powerpoint" accuracy.

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#### Lots of progress in the past few years



*Fielded* ground-based experiments in the process of/ or exceeding Planck sensitivity.



Satellite: PIXIE, LiteBIRD, CORE-f Balloons: SPIDER, EBEX10K, PIPER, LSPE Ground: QUBIC, ABS, QUIJOTE, B-machine, GroundBIRD, GreenPol

From Patty Ho



## **ACT/SO** neighborhood



Movie proprietary

Credit: Simons Foundation, Director Debra Kellner, Image Yvan Neault AdvACT: Suzanne Staggs PI, Mark Devlin co-director SO Spokesperson: Mark Devlin > Adrian Lee> Suzanne Staggs

#### **ACT Optics**



From Thornton et al. (2016)

#### New anti-reflection coated silicon optics and HWPs in the field.

**Cross-Section** 

340.00 um



Jeff McMahon's group at U. Michigan.

Dutta et al. 2014



#### NIST proprietary pictures removed

Light

#### WIP

Detector wafer BS cavity Backshort (BS)

#### Wafer stack

#### **AdvACT detector Wafer PA4**

NIST proprietary pictures removed



- 506 pixels / 503 horns
- 2024 TES detectors (1012 each at 150 and 220 GHz)



Figures courtesy of NIST

#### 30 years of receiver development



FIRS. First detection of CMB with bolometers. (PI Steve Meyer)

One of three AdvACT array of ~500 feeds. Combination is 3x as sensitive as Planck



#### **ACT Noise curves**

White noise,  $C_l \sim l^2$ 

Atmospheric signal adds low frequency (low ell) noise.

Polarization signal does not follow the white noise. Need better gain modeling...etc.

From Louis et al. 2017

#### **One solution: fast HWP rotation**



 Incident polarization direction. Fixed

> Rotating HWP. Red shows direction of ordinary axis during one rotation.

Output polarization direction and polarization sensitive detectors.

# Rapid modulation of incident polarization signal.

Demonstrated for CMB by ABS & PBear/SA, used by AdvACT CLASS.



Akito's plot



Data stable on time scales of 500-1000 seconds (1-2 mHz)

Kusaka et al, RSI 85, 024501 (2014)

#### HWP cont.

- Why not just pair difference?
  A pair cannot be matched well enough so there is residual
- **ABS** T->P leakage 0.013% [Essinger-Hileman et al. RSI 87:4503, 2016]
- HWP buys immunity to beam systematics because it samples all polarization orientations for one pointing.
- Note: "even" the LiteBIRD satellite baselines a HWP!
- As sensitivity improves, HWP ever more attractive.

An open question: Can a large aperture telescope measure to low ell?

## **Ultimate limits**

#### Sensitivity, always important and gains can be made. For the ground:

Frequency	30 GHz	40 GHz	90 GHz	150 GHz	220 GHz	270 GHz
Achieved ( $\mu$ K s <sup>1/2</sup> )	[320]	[420]good!	250	260	780	1100
"Best" possible		120	100-120	170	500	1000

Single detector, single polarization. From J. Gudmundsson & LP

We will ultimately be limited by foreground emission *plus* low-level systematic effects.

I'm not aware of a foreground simulation that captures the full complexity of the sky.

#### Planck's 353 GHz dust map



FIG. 3: Sky masks used in the analysis, corresponding to the cleanest 2000, 4000, 8000 and 16000  $\deg^2$  of the sky accessible from Chile in terms of foreground contamination.

#### Accessible from Chile

David Alonso, Oxford



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At 150 GHz



At 150 GHz



For a convincing detection of primordial B-modes I think you will want:

1)Independent detections with independent instruments (e.g., ATLAS and CMS) at the ~5-sigma level.

2)Measurements in multiple regions of sky.

3)An unambiguous frequency spectrum.

Large aperture telescopes will be helpful for foreground cleaning at <90 GHz. To achieve ½ degree resolution at 30 GHz requires a 1.5 meter aperture.