Parametrization of distortions, the cosmological recombination radiation and what we can learn



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CMB Distortion Workshop at KICP

Chicago, May 18th-20th, 2015







Physical mechanisms that lead to spectral distortions

- Cooling by adiabatically expanding ordinary matter (JC, 2005; JC & Sunyaev 2011; Khatri, Sunyaev & JC, 2011)
- Heating by decaying or annihilating relic particles (Kawasaki et al., 1987; Hu & Silk, 1993; McDonald et al., 2001; JC, 2005; JC & Sunyaev, 2011; JC, 2013; JC & Jeong, 2013)
- Evaporation of primordial black holes & superconducting strings (Carr et al. 2010; Ostriker & Thompson, 1987; Tashiro et al. 2012; Pani & Loeb, 2013)
- Dissipation of primordial acoustic modes & magnetic fields (Sunyaev & Zeldovich, 1970; Daly 1991; Hu et al. 1994; JC & Sunyaev, 2011; JC et al. 2012 - Jedamzik et al. 2000; Kunze & Komatsu, 2013)
- Cosmological recombination radiation (Zeldovich et al., 1968; Peebles, 1968; Dubrovich, 1977; Rubino-Martin et al., 2006; JC & Sunyaev, 2006; Sunyaev & JC, 2009)

"high" redshifts

"low" redshifts

- Signatures due to first supernovae and their remnants (Oh, Cooray & Kamionkowski, 2003)
- Shock waves arising due to large-scale structure formation (Sunyaev & Zeldovich, 1972; Cen & Ostriker, 1999)
- SZ-effect from clusters; effects of reionization

(Refregier et al., 2003; Zhang et al. 2004; Trac et al. 2008)

more exotic processes

(Lochan et al. 2012; Bull & Kamionkowski, 2013; Brax et al., 2013; Tashiro et al. 2013)

post-recombination

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pre-recombination epoch



JC & Sunyaev, 2012, ArXiv:1109.6552, Khatri & Sunyaev, 2013 JC, 2013, ArXiv:1304.6120



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Transition from y-distortion $\rightarrow \mu$ -distortion



Figure from Wayne Hu's PhD thesis, 1995

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Figure from Wayne Hu's PhD thesis, 1995

Thermalization from $y \rightarrow \mu$ at low frequencies

Effect of photon production!



All calculations start with y-distortion here



amount of energy

- \leftrightarrow amplitude of distortion
- \leftrightarrow position of 'dip'
- hydrid case (3x10⁵ ≥ z ≥ 10000)
 ⇒ superposition between µ & y + residual
- details at very low frequencies change

Burigana, De Zotti & Danese, 1991, ApJ Burigana, Danese & De Zotti, 1991, A&A

Distortion *not* just superposition of μ and *y*-distortion!



Computation carried out with *CosmoTherm* (JC & Sunyaev 2011)

Explicit calculation that emphasized that there is more

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Reionization and structure formation

Simple estimates for the distortion



- Gas temperature $T \simeq 10^4 \text{ K}$
- Thomson optical depth $\tau \simeq 0.1$

$$\implies \quad y \simeq \frac{kT_{\rm e}}{m_{\rm e}c^2} \, \tau \approx 2 \times 10^{-7}$$

- second order Doppler effect $y \simeq \text{few x } 10^{-8}$
- structure formation / SZ effect (e.g., Refregier et al., 2003) $y \simeq \text{few x } 10^{-7} 10^{-6}$

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Average CMB spectral distortions



Average CMB spectral distortions



Absolute value of Intensity signal

Average CMB spectral distortions



Absolute value of Intensity signal

Fluctuations of the y-parameter at large scales



- spatial variations of the optical depth and temperature cause small-spatial variations of the y-parameter at different angular scales
- could tell us about the reionization sources and structure formation process
- additional independent piece of information!
- Cross-correlations with other signals

Example: Simulation of reionization process (1Gpc/h) by *Alvarez & Abel*








Decaying (dark matter) particles

Early constraints from CMB measurements



- Simple estimates for µ and ydistortion from energy arguments just like we discussed above
- Early COBE/FIRAS limits
- constraint a little tighter for short lifetimes than estimated...



JC, 2005; JC & Sunyaev, 2012

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Decaying particle scenarios



JC & Sunyaev, 2011, Arxiv:1109.6552 JC, 2013, Arxiv:1304.6120

Electron temperature evolution for decaying particle scenarios



High frequency distortion for decaying particle scenarios

JC & Sunyaev, 2012

Decaying particle scenarios

JC & Sunyaev, 2011, Arxiv:1109.6552 JC, 2013, Arxiv:1304.6120

Decaying particle scenarios (information in residual)

v [GHz]

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JC, 2013,

Decaying particle scenarios

Compressing the information of the distortion signal

Why model-independent approach to distortion signal

- Model-dependent analysis makes model-selection non-trivial
- Real information in the distortion signal limited by sensitivity and foregrounds
- Principle Component Analysis (PQA) can help optimizing this 2x [eV]
- useful for optimizing experimental designs (frequencies; sensitivities, ...)!

 $f_{\rm ann,p} [10^{-26} {\rm eV \ sec}^{-1}]$

Annihilation scenario

Decaying particle scenario $z_{x}^{4.95} = z_{x}^{5.00}$

Using signal eigenmodes to compress the distortion data

- Principle component decomposition of the distortion signal
- compression of the useful information given instrumental settings

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Using signal eigenmodes to compress the distortion data

- Principle component decomposition of the distortion signal
- compression of the useful information given instrumental settings
- new set of observables
 - $p = \{y, \mu, \mu_1, \mu_2, \dots\}$
- model-comparison + forecasts of errors very simple!

Residual distortion dependents on settings

Figure 3. Residual function at redshift $z \simeq 38\,000$ but for different instrumental settings. The annotated values are $\{v_{\min}, v_{\max}, \Delta v_s\}$ and we assumed diagonal noise covariance.

Eigenmodes for a PIXIE-type experiment

Figure 4. First few eigenmodes $E^{(k)}$ and $S^{(k)}$ for *PIXIE*-type settings $(\nu_{\min} = 30 \text{ GHz}, \nu_{\max} = 1000 \text{ GHz} \text{ and } \Delta \nu_s = 15 \text{ GHz})$. In the mode construction, we assumed that energy release only occurred at $10^3 \le z \le 5 \times 10^6$.

Estimated error bars

(under idealistic assumptions...)

$$\frac{\Delta T}{T} \simeq 2 \,\mathrm{nK} \left(\frac{\Delta I_{\rm c}}{5 \,\mathrm{Jy}\,\mathrm{sr}^{-1}} \right)$$
$$\Delta y \simeq 1.2 \times 10^{-9} \left(\frac{\Delta I_{\rm c}}{5 \,\mathrm{Jy}\,\mathrm{sr}^{-1}} \right)$$
$$\Delta \mu \simeq 1.4 \times 10^{-8} \left(\frac{\Delta I_{\rm c}}{5 \,\mathrm{Jy}\,\mathrm{sr}^{-1}} \right)$$

Table 1. Forecasted 1σ errors of the first six eigenmode amplitudes, $E^{(k)}$. We also give $\varepsilon_k = 4 \sum_i S_i^{(k)} / \sum_i G_{i,T}$, and the scalar products $S^{(k)} \cdot S^{(k)}$ (in units of $[10^{-18} \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ Hz}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}]^2$). The fraction of energy release to the residual distortion and its uncertainty are given by $\varepsilon \approx \sum_k \varepsilon_k \mu_k$ and $\Delta \varepsilon \approx (\sum_k \varepsilon_k^2 \Delta \mu_k^2)^{1/2}$, respectively. For the mode construction we used *PIXIE*-settings ($\{\nu_{\min}, \nu_{\max}, \Delta \nu_s\} = \{30, 1000, 15\}$ GHz and channel sensitivity $\Delta I_c = 5 \times 10^{-26} \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ Hz}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$). The errors roughly scale as $\Delta \mu_k \propto \Delta I_c / \sqrt{\Delta \nu_s}$.

k	$\Delta \mu_k$	$\Delta \mu_k / \Delta \mu_1$	ε_k	$S^{(k)} \cdot S^{(k)}$
1	1.48×10^{-7}	1	-6.98×10^{-3}	1.15×10^{-1}
2	7.61×10^{-7}	5.14	2.12×10^{-3}	4.32×10^{-3}
3	3.61×10^{-6}	24.4	-3.71×10^{-4}	1.92×10^{-4}
4	1.74×10^{-5}	1.18×10^{2}	8.29×10^{-5}	8.29×10^{-6}
5	8.52×10^{-5}	5.76×10^{2}	-1.55×10^{-5}	3.45×10^{-7}
6	4.24×10^{-4}	2.86×10^{3}	2.75×10^{-6}	1.39×10^{-8}

Partial recovery of energy release history

- 'wiggly' recovery of input thermal history possible
- redshift resolution depends on sensitivity and distortion amplitude

Figure 6. Partial recovery of the input energy-release history, $Q = 5 \times 10^{-8}$.

Signal eigenmodes are uncorrelated by construction

Figure 5. Analysis of energy-release history with $Q(z) = 5 \times 10^{-8}$ in the redshift interval $10^3 < z < 5 \times 10^6$ using signal eigenmode, $S^{(1)}$ (Fig. 4). We assumed $\{\nu_{\min}, \nu_{\max}, \Delta \nu_s\} = \{30, 1000, 15\}$ GHz and channel sensitivity $\Delta I_c = 5 \times 10^{-26}$ W m⁻² Hz⁻¹ sr⁻¹. The dashed blue lines and red crosses indicate the expected recovered values. Contours are for 68 per cent and 95 per cent confidence levels. All errors and recovered values agree with the Fisher estimates. We shifted Δ_T by $\Delta_i = \Delta_f + \Delta_{prim}$ with $\Delta_f = 1.2 \times 10^{-4}$ and $\Delta_{prim} \simeq -8.46 \times 10^{-9}$, where Δ_{prim} is the primordial contribution.

- Adding more modes does not affect error bars
- optimal for given experiment
- Even non-optimal modes can be used to parametrize distortions!
- *in this case errors will generally be correlated*

The dissipation of small-scale acoustic modes

Dissipation of small-scale acoustic modes

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Energy release caused by dissipation process

'Obvious' dependencies:

- Amplitude of the small-scale power spectrum
- Shape of the small-scale power spectrum
- Dissipation scale $\rightarrow k_D \sim (H_0 \ \Omega_{rel}^{1/2} N_{e,0})^{1/2} (1+z)^{3/2}$ at early times

not so 'obvious' dependencies:

- primordial non-Gaussianity in the ultra squeezed limit (Pajer & Zaldarriaga, 2012; Ganc & Komatsu, 2012)
- Type of the perturbations (adiabatic ↔ isocurvature) (Barrow & Coles, 1991; Hu et al., 1994; Dent et al, 2012, JC & Grin, 2012)
- Neutrinos (or any extra relativistic degree of freedom)

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CMB Spectral distortions could add additional numbers beyond 'just' the tensor-to-scalar ratio from B-modes!

Distortion due to mixing of blackbodies

JC, Hamann & Patil, 2015

Average CMB spectral distortions

Absolute value of Intensity signal

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Constraints on the standard primordial power spectrum

- For any given power spectrum very precise predictions are possible!
- The *physics* going into the computation are *well understood*
- For the standard power spectrum PIXIE might detect the μ-distortion caused by acoustic damping at ~ 1.5σ level
- PIXIE could *independently* rule out a scaleinvariant power spectrum at ~ 2.5σ level
- y-distortion will be harder to measure, since many other astrophysical processes cause y-distortions at low redshift

$$P_{\zeta}(k) = 2\pi^2 A_{\zeta} k^{-3} (k/k_0)^{n_{\rm S}-1+\frac{1}{2}n_{\rm run}\ln(k/k_0)}$$


But this is not all that one could look at !!!

Distortions provide additional power spectrum constraints!



Amplitude of power spectrum rather uncertain at k > 3 Mpc⁻¹

improved limits at smaller scales can rule out many inflationary models

Distortions provide additional power spectrum constraints!



- Amplitude of power spectrum rather uncertain at k > 3 Mpc⁻¹
- improved limits at smaller scales can rule out many inflationary models
- CMB spectral distortions would extend our lever arm to k ~ 10⁴ Mpc⁻¹
- very complementary piece of information about early-universe physics

e.g., JC, Khatri & Sunyaev, 2012; JC, Erickcek & Ben-Dayan, 2012; JC & Jeong, 2013



• Ultra-squeezed limit non-Gaussianity (Pajer & Zaldarriaga, 2012; Ganc & Komatsu, 2012)

Probing the small-scale power spectrum



JC, 2013, Arxiv:1304.6120



Absolute value of Intensity signal



Dissipation scenario: 1σ -detection limits for PIXIE



JC & Jeong, 2013

Distinguishing dissipation and decaying particle scenarios



- measurement of μ, μ₁ & μ₂
- trajectories of decaying particle and dissipation scenarios differ!
- scenarios can in principle be distinguished

 $A_{\zeta} = 5 \times 10^{-8}$

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Dissipation of tensor perturbations



- heating rate can be computed similar to adiabatic modes
- heating rate much smaller than for scalar perturbations
- roughly constant per dlnz for n_T~0.5

- distortion signal very small compared to adiabatic modes
- no severe contamination in simplest cases
- models with 'large' distortion already constrained by BBN/CMB



JC et al., 2014, ArXiv:1407.3653

The cosmological recombination radiation

Simple estimates for hydrogen recombination

Hydrogen recombination:

 per recombined hydrogen atom an energy of ~ 13.6 eV in form of photons is released

- at $z \sim 1100 \rightarrow \Delta \epsilon/\epsilon \sim 13.6 \text{ eV } N_b / (N_\gamma 2.7 \text{k} T_r) \sim 10^{-9} \text{--} 10^{-8}$
- \rightarrow recombination occurs at redshifts $z < 10^4$
- At that time the *thermalization* process doesn't work anymore!
- There should be some small spectral distortion due to additional Ly-α and 2s-1s photons! (Zeldovich, Kurt & Sunyaev, 1968, ZhETF, 55, 278; Peebles, 1968, ApJ, 153, 1)
- → In 1975 *Viktor Dubrovich* emphasized the possibility to observe the recombinational lines from n > 3 and $\Delta n << n!$

First recombination computations completed in 1968!



Yakov Zeldovich



Vladimir Kurt (UV astronomer)

Moscow

Princeton



Rashid Sunyaev



Jim Peebles



Rubino-Martin et al. 2006, 2008; Sunyaev & JC, 2009



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Importance of recombination for inflation constraints



Planck Collaboration, 2015, paper XX

Analysis uses refined recombination model (CosmoRec/HyRec)

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Cosmological Time in Years



Dark matter annihilations / decays



- Additional photons at all frequencies
- Broadening of spectral features
- Shifts in the positions

JC, 2009, arXiv:0910.3663





Absolute value of Intensity signal





Absolute value of Intensity signal

What would we actually learn by doing such hard job?

Cosmological Recombination Spectrum opens a way to measure:

- \rightarrow the specific *entropy* of our universe (related to $\Omega_{b}h^{2}$)
- \rightarrow the CMB *monopole* temperature T_0
- \rightarrow the pre-stellar abundance of helium Y_p

→ If recombination occurs as we think it does, then the lines can be predicted with very high accuracy!

→ In principle allows us to directly check our understanding of the standard recombination physics



Figure 7.3: The 1 and 2 dimensional marginalized parameter posterior using the CMB spectral distortions. All three cases constrain the CMB power spectrum using a Gaussian likelihood based on Planck noise levels. The black line adds constraints due to a 10% measurement of the spectral distortions, while the blue line assumes a 1% measurement. The red line does not include the data from the spectral distortions. CMB based cosmology alone

 Spectrum helps to break some of the parameter degeneracies

 Planning to provide a module that computes the recombination spectrum in a fast way

 detailed forecasts: which lines to measure; how important is the absolute amplitude; how accurately one should measure; best frequency resolution;

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If something unexpected or non-standard happened:

- → non-standard thermal histories should leave some measurable traces
- → direct way to measure/reconstruct the recombination history!
- → possibility to distinguish pre- and post-recombination y-type distortions
- → sensitive to energy release during recombination
- → variation of fundamental constants

Spectral distortions of the CMB dipole



- motion with respect to CMB blackbody monopole
- ⇒ CMB temperature dipole
- including primordial distortions of the CMB
- ⇒ CMB dipole is distorted

 $\eta_{\rm d}(\nu, \mathbf{n}) \approx -\nu \partial_{\nu} \eta_{\rm m}(\nu) \,\beta \cos \Theta$

- spectrum of the dipole is sensitive to the *derivative* of the monopole spectrum
- anisotropy does not need *absolute* calibration but just *inter-channel* calibration
- but signal is ~1000 times smaller...
- foregrounds will also leak into the dipole in this way

Balashev, Kholupenko, JC, Ivanchik & Varshalovich, 2015, in prep.

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