## COSMO-15, the 19th annual International Conference on Particle Physics and Cosmology



Contribution ID: 206 Type: not specified

## The decay of primordial magnetic fields and CMB spectral distortions

Friday 11 September 2015 15:20 (20 minutes)

We calculate the CMB spectral distortions due to the decay of causally generated magnetic fields at the electroweak and QCD phase transitions. We show that the decay of non-helical magnetic fields generated at either the electroweak or QCD scale produce  $\mu$  and y-type distortions below 10^-8 which are probably not detectable by a future PIXIE-like experiment. We show that magnetic fields generated at the electroweak scale must have a helicity fraction  $f_*>10^-4$  in order to produce detectable  $\mu$ -type distortions. Hence a positive detection coming from the decay of magnetic fields would rule out non-helical primordial magnetic fields and provide a lower bound on the magnetic helicity.

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Session Classification: CMB, LSS and cosmological parameters