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Model independent constraints from the CMB

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We analyse CMB data in a manner which is as model-independent as possible. We encode the effects of late-time cosmology into a single parameter which describes the distance to the last scattering surface, similar to the shift parameter, and exclude low multipoles, up to l 40 from the analysis. We consider the WMAP five-year as well as ACBAR 2008 observations. We obtain constraints on parameters which can be applied as priors in other analysis without committing to a specific model of the late universe.

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