

INSIGHTS FROM 21CM COSMOLOGY



UK Research and Innovation

Alkístís Pourtsídou Queen Mary Uníversíty of London



GAPS IN THE COSMIC HISTORY

Years after the Big Bang 0.1 billion 400 thousand 1 billion 4 billion 8 billion 13.8 billion The Big Bang Formation of the first astronomical objects The Dark Ages Present day Reionisation Fully ionised leutral Fully ionised

Image Credit: NAOJ



THE FUTURE



Image Credit: NAOJ



MeerKAT and the SKA



DESI

THE SQUARE KILOMETRE ARRAY (SKA)

- Series of radio telescopes, very sensitive to a wide range of frequencies (redshifts)
- SKA Phase 1: 2028+
- MeerKAT live now!



MeerKAT/SKA-Mid will complement and compete with optical galaxy surveys (0<z<3)

SKA-Low will explore the unknown (3<z<25) based on lessons from LOFAR, MWA, HERA...



ALMA SCO HQ, Dec 11 2014

SKA SCIENCE

SKA Science Drivers – the history of the universe

Testing General Relativity (Strong Regime, Gravitational Waves)

Cradle of Life (Planets, Molecules, SETI) Cosmic Dawn (First Stars and Galaxies)

> Galaxy Evolution (Normal Galaxies z~2-3)

Cosmology (Dark Energy, Large Scale Structure)

Cosmic Magnetism (Origin, Evolution)

Exploration of the Unknown

Extremely broad range of science!

SKA Office / A. Bonaldi

SKA COSMOLOGY



Publications of the Astronomical Society of Australia (PASA) doi: 10.1017/pas.2018.xxx.

Cosmology with Phase 1 of the Square Kilometre Array

Red Book 2018: Technical specifications and performance forecasts

Square Kilometre Array Cosmology Science Working Group: David J. Bacon¹, Richard A. Battye^{2,*}, Philip Bull³, Stefano Camera^{4,5,6,2}, Pedro G. Ferreira⁷, Ian Harrison^{2,7}, David Parkinson⁸, Alkistis Pourtsidou³, Mário G. Santos^{9,10,11}, Laura Wolz^{12,*}, Filipe Abdalla^{13,14}, Yashar Akrami^{15,16}, David Alonso⁷, Sambatra Andrianomena^{9,10,17}, Mario Ballardini^{9,18}, José Luis Bernal^{19,20}, Daniele Bertacca^{21,36}, Carlos A.P. Bengaly⁹, Anna Bonaldi²², Camille Bonvin²³, Michael L. Brown², Emma Chapman²⁴, Song Chen⁹, Xuelei Chen²⁵, Steven Cunnington¹, Tamara M. Davis²⁷, Clive Dickinson², José Fonseca^{9,36}, Keith Grainge², Stuart Harper², Matt J. Jarvis^{7,9}, Roy Maartens^{1,9}, Natasha Maddox²⁸, Hamsa Padmanabhan²⁹, Jonathan R. Pritchard²⁴, Alvise Raccanelli¹⁹, Marzia Rivi^{13,18}, Sambit Roychowdhury², Martin Sahlén³⁰, Dominik J. Schwarz³¹, Thilo M. Siewert³¹, Matteo Viel³², Francisco Villaescusa-Navarro³³, Yidong Xu²⁵, Daisuke Yamauchi³⁴, Joe Zuntz³⁵

MEERKAT FIRST LIGHT



At only a quarter of its eventual capacity, the MeerKat radio telescope captures 1,300 galaxies in tiny corner of universe where only 70 were known before



▲ A montage of the MeerKat radio telescope's First Light image with four zoomed-in insets – the two panels to the right show distant galaxies with massive black holes at their centres; at lower left is a galaxy approximately 200m light years away where hydrogen gas is being used up to form stars in large numbers. Photograph: MeerKat/SKA South Africa

From The Guardian, 17 July 2016

RADIO VS OPTICAL: GALAXIES

- HI in galaxies more extended than the stellar light distribution
- HI disk much larger than the stellar disk
- HI velocity fields can be used to calculate rotation curves and trace the total mass distribution to very large radii



https://www.skatelescope.org/galaxyevolution/

RADIO PRECISION COSMOLOGY: THE INTENSITY MAPPING METHOD

[Battye et al 2004, Chang et al 2008, Peterson et al 2009, Seo et al 2010, …]



[Simulations by S. Cunnington]

- Detecting HI (neutral hydrogen) galaxies via their 21cm emission line is very expensive
- But cosmological information is on large scales
- Get intensity map of the HI 21cm emission line - like CMB but 3D!
- Excellent redshift resolution
- Signal of the order 0.1 mK foregrounds much bigger
- Foregrounds can be cleaned with methods similar to the ones used in CMB analysis

21cm IM surveys: GBT, CHIME, HIRAX, MeerKAT, SKA! GOALS: Probe HI evolution, dark energy, gravity, inflation, ...

INTENSITY MAPPING AND GALAXY EVOLUTION

- HI evolution is currently quite poorly constrained...
- Important for astrophysics and cosmology alike!



[c.f. Crighton et al 2015]

HI AUTO AND CROSS POWER SPECTRUM

• With 21cm intensity mapping we can constrain the HI abundance and bias using the power spectrum

 $P_{\rm HI} \propto \Omega_{\rm HI}^2 b_{\rm HI}^2 P_{\rm m} \qquad P_{\rm HI,g} \propto \Omega_{\rm HI} b_{\rm HI} b_g r P_{\rm m}$



 $k\,[{\rm Mpc}^{-1}]$

GALAXY EVOLUTION

- Can greatly improve HI constraints with intensity mapping
- Cross-correlation with optical surveys helps with systematics and allows for studying the HI content of different galaxy samples

 $P_{
m HI} \propto \Omega_{
m HI}^2 b_{
m HI}^2 P_{
m m}$

 $P_{
m HI,g} \propto \Omega_{
m HI} b_{
m HI} b_g r P_{
m m}$



[SKA cosmology Red Book 2018]



• Also precision cosmology: BAO, RSDs, primordial nongaussianity, neutrino mass, multiple tracers, lensing...[see SKA Cosmology Red Book 2018 and references therein]

MEASURING THE BAO SCALE

- A "single-dish" experiment can measure the BAO scale competitively to stateof-the art optical galaxy surveys
- Forecasts are great but assume foregrounds and systematics are under exquisite control we need to work with pathfinder data and realistic simulations



[also see e.g. Bull et al. 2015, Villaescusa-Navarro et al. 2016, Olivari et al. 2017]

MEASURING THE GROWTH OF STRUCTURE



[SKA cosmology Red Book 2018]

FORECASTS VS REALITY

Difficulties

21cm signal is very weak Foregrounds are a big problem!

(i) Galactic synchrotron - relativistic cosmic ray electrons accelerated by the galactic magnetic field

(ii) Extra-galactic point sources - objects beyond our own galaxy emitting signals close to 21cm signal

(iii) Extra-galactic free-free emission - free electrons scattering off ions without being captured and remaining free after the interaction

(iv) Galactic free-free emission - as above but within our own galaxy

Slide by Steve Cunnington



21CM FOREGROUNDS

Cunnington, Wolz, AP, Bacon 2018



Also see work by e.g. Alonso et al., Chapman et al., Shaw et al., Wolz et al.

INTENSITY MAPPING: CURRENTLY OPERATING TELESCOPES

First detection in x-cross with optical







THE EDGES DETECTION



Differences in amplitude & shape



[Spinelli et al. 2019]

From EDGES Nature Paper: (Bowman et al. 2018)

THE AFTERMATH...

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[Adapted slide from S. Cunnington]

THE GBT AUTO POWER SPECTRUM

200-hr HI survey of the WiggleZ fields at 0.6 < z < I





[see Switzer et al 2013, Wolz et al 2017]

GBT X EBOSS DATA ANALYSIS (SDSS-IV PROJECT)

In progress with Wolz, Bautista, Cunnington, Avila, Berger, Chang, Liao, Masui, Mueller, et al.

- GBT updated intensity mapping data at 0.6<z<1
- eBOSS ELGs and LRGs samples (and WiggleZ)
- Area overlap: 100 square degrees



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- eBOSS ELGs and LRGs samples (and WiggleZ)
- Area overlap: 100 square degrees
- Goal: estimate the HI content of eBOSS ELGs and LRGs via crosscorrelation with GBT HI intensity maps
- Goal: constrain HI density and HI bias at z=0.8
- Goal: compare different foreground removal methods
- Goal: understand systematics better



STAY TUNED..

- We will present results for 3 different galaxy samples cross-correlated with GBT: WiggleZ, eBOSS LRGs, and eBOSS ELGs
- We are working hard on cross-correlation simulations
- We have 200 square degrees MeerKAT data overlapping with WiggleZ. At the moment busy with calibration [led by Mario Santos and the South African UWC MeerKAT team]
- Future: a large sky survey with MeerKAT

