Towards 21cm cosmology with Tianlai

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Laboratoire de Physique des 2 Infinis



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- Cosmology with the 21cm line
- Overview of Tianlai
- Some recent works
- Tianlai dish array data analyses and prospects
- Tianlai cylinder arrays will be discussed by S. Zuo just after this talk
- Prospects

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Cosmology

- Very successful concordance model (Λ CDM) based on GR
- Accounts for many observations : CMB (Planck), Type Ia SNe (SNLS, Pantheon), BAO (BOSS/eBOSS),...
- Minimal set of parameters precisely measured (combinations and/or cross-correlations of probes)
- Extensions (inflation, neutrinos, DE) sought for by next gen. projects (CMB-S4, LiteBird, DESI, LSST, Euclid, ...)
- Some "tensions" i.e. 2-5 σ offsets between measurements by different probes at different epochs/scales (e.g. H_0 , σ_8)



The 21 cm Hydrogen line

- introduced in (for) astro (radio) in 1944
- intensity \Leftrightarrow amount of H
- "isolated" line \Rightarrow enables tomography : $z \Leftrightarrow v$
- ground observations possible down to ~ 30 MHz (ionosphere) i.e. z ~ 30 NB human-made perturbations (3/4/5G, TNT, FM, radars, ..)







21 cm in cosmology



Two approaches : global spectrum shape (early universe), anisotropies (late epochs)

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LSS with galaxies

- Large Scale Structures statistics : tool to test cosmological models
- usual method :
- select galaxies
- measure z (spectrum or photo-z)
- extract P_k in few z bins
- for cosmology (in particular BAO features) focus on O(1 degree) scales ⇒ no need to measure individual galaxies



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LSS from 21 cm line Intensity Maping (IM)

- broad ν band, low angular resolution instrument
- measure intensity at "each" frequency ⇒ z : "easy" tomography
- prices to pay :
 - low signal (detected up to now only in X-corr with surveys)
 - very high level of foregrounds
 - DAQ & calibration challenging : huge data rate, few very bright sources
 - cosmological analysis : HI power spectrum bias wrt matter's



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J. Petterson et al. arXiv:0902.3091

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Signal & foreground (~ 400 MHz)



Removal needs calibration to $\pm 0.3\%$ (ampli), $\pm .0063$ radians (phase), and beam to 0.1% R. Shaw et al 2017

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The idealized setup

(some) Requirements :

- Iarge collecting surface (S/N ratio)
- large sky area
- moderate (0.1 deg) angular resolution
- broad ν range (large volume)
- \Rightarrow tentative solution(s) :
 - packed interferometric array (angular res., high S/N at BAO scale)
 - (semi) fixed antenna(s) in transit mode (large sky coverage, cost)
 - sampling of full signal waveform → FFT, digital correlation, beam forming





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Tianlai

- A small pathfinder experiment to check the basic principles and designs, find out potential problems
- 3x15x40m cylinders, 96 dual polarization receiver units
- 16 x 6m dishes
- observe 700-800MHz, can be tuned in 600-1420MHz
- If successful: expand to full scale 120mx120m, 2500 units





X. Chen Aspen 2018

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Recent results and developments

- Short bibliographic selection :
 - The Tianlai Cylinder Pathfinder Array: System Functions and Basic Performance Analysis, J. Li et al. + Standing wave paper, e.m. simulation paper, map-making simulation paper
 - Dish array overview paper, F. Wu et al. MNRAS (2020) + drone beam measurement paper
 - Data processing pipeline, S. Zuo et al 2021
 - Low-z forecast for the dish array, O. Perdereau et al. (2022)
 - FRB backend for the dish array, Z. Yu el al. (2022)
- Recent and on-going works :
 - deployment of Fast Radio Bursts back-ends
 - Planned observations at lower z / higher frequencies (larger S/N, helps in understanding the instrument in depth, some HI physics) by using another set of RF filters
 - installation of more cylinders and dishes to e.g. help in FRB localization on the sky

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A North Celestial Pole survey with TianLai dish array?

- 16 dish array : lower S/N that cylinders
- but less systematics, simpler beam
- dishes are the chosen approach for next generation projects (CHORD, HIRAX, PUMA)
- NCP is better for S/N per degree on the sky for Tianlai dish array data
- ~ 200 days accumulated in North Celestial Pole direction in 2018 (700-800 MHz)
- need (complex gain) calibration stability (no very bright source)
- Some results in Dish array overview

Tianlai 2018 data : Xcorrelation of pairs of dishes



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North Celestial Pole survey with TianLai

- more extended region around NCP observations at higher frequencies in 2023-4
- lower z ⇒ brighter 21cm signal : helps understanding the instrument in details
- together with optical spectro program (WYIN telescope) under way :
- radio×optical cross-correlation : HI signal in low z galaxies, towards IM signal, instrumental performances
- observations of intermediate latitude (e.g. correlate with SDSS, Alfalfa, FAST) region(s) also planned
- Forecast paper : O. Perdereau et all. MNRAS



Tianlai simulated NCP map

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Simulated map & spectra - midlatitude





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Outlook and prospects

More on Tianlai : next talk by S. Zuo

- installation of new elements (cylinders, dish) has started or will start soon
- upgrades on the correlator's electronics
- switch to higher frequencies (~ 1300 1400 GHz) soon
- Fruitfull collaboration topics or exchanges between Orsay/Saclay and Chinese institutes (NAOC, Northeastern University in Shenyang)
 - student exchanges might restart with NE University
 - collaboration meeting (2024 : in Hangzhou)
 - broader subjects e.g. FAST data, space projects?

• Thank you!