Rethinking CMB Foregrounds: Getting Ready for the Low Signal to Foreground Era



JC, Hill and Abitbol, MNRAS, 2017 (ArXiv: 1701.00274)



The University of Manchester

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The E/B-mode signals that we are after



Average CMB spectral distortions



Some of the foregrounds that are in the way...



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Include effects of averaging signals

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Blackbody SED in every *volume* element



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Beam average (also in frequency...)







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X Yim ?

 $\langle B_{\nu}(T) \rangle \approx B_{\nu}(\bar{T}) + \bar{T}\partial_{\bar{T}}B$

Blackbody SED in every *volume* element

Beam average (also in frequency...)

• Line of sight average (always present!!!)

Map operations (e.g., spherical harmonic expansion)

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 $+\frac{1}{2}\bar{T}^2\partial_T^2 B_\nu(\bar{T})\left\langle \left(\frac{\Delta T}{\bar{T}}\right)^2\right\rangle$

 $\bar{T} = \langle T \rangle$



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Obvious statements about averaging processes

- SED no longer described by averaged parameters $\langle I_{\nu}({m p})
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- SED shape becomes scale-dependent

 $\left\langle B_{\nu}(T)\right\rangle \approx B_{\nu}(T_0) + T_0 \partial_{T_0} B_{\nu}(T_0) \left\langle \frac{\Delta T}{T_0} \right\rangle + \frac{1}{2} T_0^2 \partial_{T_0}^2 B_{\nu}(T_0) \left\langle \left(\frac{\Delta T}{T_0}\right)^2 \right\rangle$

New morphologies introduced by new SED shapes

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One possibility is (Taylor)-Moment expansions!

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• **Power-law distribution** (↔ synchrotron)

 $\langle I_{\nu} \rangle = A \left(\nu_{\rm c} / \nu_0 \right)^{\alpha} \left[1 + \frac{1}{2} \beta \ln^2(\nu_{\rm c} / \nu_0) + \frac{1}{6} \gamma \ln^3(\nu_{\rm c} / \nu_0) + \frac{1}{24} \delta \ln^4(\nu_{\rm c} / \nu_0) + \dots \right]$

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Can be easily generalized to polarization case!!!

Application to dust spectra (two-temperature case)



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Application to dust spectra (blind)



What could the moment expansion method achieve?

- Natural extension of the simple SED shapes
 - The averaging of SEDs is a physical process
- Factorization of spatial and spectral terms (linear operations!)
 - Moments are new parameters with new morphologies / maps
- Compression of the information
 - Could even think about orthogonalization schemes to reduce # of pars
 - Allows combining constraints from different methods
- Useful for simulations of dust and other foregrounds
 - Assessment of possible *biases* due to foreground residuals
 - Risk assessment (how large could the problem maximally be?)!
- Propagation of effects across scales
 - Describes frequency de-correlation effects
 - Scale-dependent SED effects and propagation of noise

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We need to check that things are going to work out!