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Latest calibration results from QUBIC The Q&U Bolometric Interferometer for Cosmology

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I. Cosmology: CMB and Inflation



Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB)



Photons propagate freely in a transparent Universe

Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB)



A clue for inflation

Primordial fluctuations from inflation are imprinted in the temperature anisotropy and polarization of the CMB.







II. The QUBIC instrument







Observation site: Argentina, Puna (~5000m)



HWP performance

The rotating Half Wave Plate allows QUBIC to modulate the polarization angle on the sky.

$$I_{in} = |E_x \cos(2\omega t) + E_y \sin(2\omega t)|^2$$







Self-calibration





Switches

Method :

For 2 equivalent baselines, in case of a perfect instrument, you should obtain the same interference pattern on the focal plane.

The measured differences are used to characterize systematic effects.



2 redondant baselines on the horn array



[Bigot-Sazy et al., A&A 2012, arXiv:1209.4905]

Fringes measurement

A quarter of the focal plane (17×17)





Simulation taking into account optical aberrations

One bolometer

Other baselines









Baseline [49, 25]

Synthetized beam on the sky



0.15

Frequency dependency



The key for **spectro-imaging** = making sky maps in several frequency bands ⇒ Essential to remove **foregrounds** (ex: galaxy dust emission)

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Map making with real data

Beams from 6 detectors









Map-making

Software data analysis





Reconstructed point source



Measured FWHM: 1.0209 +/- 0.0015 deg. Expected: 1.02 deg.

Conclusion

- QUBIC will observe the CMB polarization in order to learn about the primordial universe (Inflation era).
- The instrument is now calibrated at APC and will be installed in Argentina.
- It successfully pass the in2p3 review in January. The demonstration has been made that bolometric interferometry is achieved.
- Its unique design brings new possibilities:
 - \rightarrow Self-calibration
 - \rightarrow Spectro-imaging



Backup slides

Spherical harmonic transform

$$T(\mathbf{n})=T_0+T_0\sum_{l=1}^\infty\sum_{m=-l}^la_{lm}Y_{lm}(\mathbf{n})$$
 with $a_{lm}=\int_{4\pi}T(\mathbf{n})Y^*_{lm}(\mathbf{n})$



Power spectrum

Variance of the a_{lm}:
$$C_l=\langle a_{lm}^*a_{lm}
angle_m=rac{1}{2l+1}\sum\limits_{m=-l}^l|a_{lm}|^2$$
 $D_l=rac{l(l+1)}{2\pi}C_l$



Credit: Planck, 2018

The CMB polarization

For each position on the sky, one can define the Stokes parameters:



$$I = E_x^2 + E_y^2 \rightarrow \text{Intensity (temperature)}$$

$$Q = E_x^2 - E_y^2$$

$$U = E_a^2 - E_b^2$$
Linear polarization
Electric field

E and B modes $(Q\pm iU)({f n})=\sum_{l=2}^\infty\sum_{m=-l}^la_{\pm 2lm\ \pm 2}Y_{lm}({f n})$

You can form 2 scalar quantities :

- E modes

$$E(\mathbf{n})=\sum_{l=2}^{\infty}\sum_{m=-l}^{l}a_{lm}^{E}\;Y_{lm}(\mathbf{n})$$
 with $a_{lm}^{E}=-rac{a_{2lm}+a_{-2lm}}{2}$

- B modes
$$B(\mathbf{n})=\sum_{l=2}^\infty\sum_{m=-l}^l a^B_{lm}\;Y_{lm}(\mathbf{n})$$
 with $a^B_{lm}=irac{a_{2lm}-a_{-2lm}}{2}$

⇒ A global definition over the sky



Primordial B modes, a clue for inflation

Inflation :

Accelerated expansion phase right after the Big-Bang ($\sim 10^{-34}$ s)



Polarization modulation



$egin{aligned} I_{in} &= |E_x \cos(2\omega t) + E_y \sin(2\omega t)|^2 \ &= I + Q \cos(4\omega t) + U \sin(4\omega t) \end{aligned}$

Using a correct rotating speed, we can reconstruct I, Q, U for each position on the sky.







Removing foregrounds

Temperature

Polarization





already a ($3e6 \times 3e6 \times 992$) operator. ²⁷