Faraday Depth as a diagnostic of galactic foreground contamination of CMB maps



Martin A. K. Hansen Discovery Center Niels Bohr Institute University of Copenhagen

In collaboration with: W. Zhao, A. Frejsel, P. D. Naselsky, J. Kim and O. V. Verkhodanov

Discovery

A unique center with unique opportunities

DISCOVERY unites strong groups in:

- · Theory
- · Fundamental Particle Physics
- · Quark Gluon Plasma Physics
- · Cosmic Microwave Radiation Physics





Discovery PhD day – May 22'nd Martin Hansen

Foreground cleaning of CMB maps

Foreground cleaning of CMB maps is of very great importance for precision cosmololgy.

We have looked into the possible foreground contamination at high galactic lattitude, due to the galactic magnetic field and thermal electron density.



V-band and galactic foreground signal.



Discovery PhD day – May 22'nd Martin Hansen Slide 3 of 10

The galactic Faraday depth

$$\Phi(r_0) = \frac{e^3}{2\pi m_e^2 c^4} \int_{r_0}^0 dr n_e(r) B_e(r)$$

The Faraday depth is dependent on the line of sight component of the magnetic field, as well as the thermal electron density.

Faraday depth Introduced by Oppermann et al. 2011. (Arxiv: 1111.6186). Sky maps created by Oppermann et al., via the NRAO VLA SKY Survey, and other sources.





Top: The galactic Faraday depth Bottom: The corresponding map of errors



Discovery PhD day – May 22'nd Martin Hansen

Masking and correlation test

The mask is a combination of the KQ75 mask, and the areas in the Faraday depth map with more than 2 sigma uncertainty.

 $r_{s}(l,b,R) = \frac{\sum_{i \in C} (x_{i} - \bar{x})(y_{i} - \bar{y})}{\sqrt{\sum_{i \in C} (x_{i} - \bar{x})^{2} + \epsilon} \sqrt{\sum_{i \in C} (y_{i} - \bar{y})^{2} + \epsilon}},$

The correlation test investigates

with radius R, around a location

the average correlation in a circle





l,b.

Discovery PhD day – May 22'nd Martin Hansen Slide 5 of 10

Results of the correlation test



Top: correlation for R=5 deg. Bottom: map of areas with more than 2 sigma deviation





We simulated 1000 CMB maps, and compared them to the Faraday depth map.

Top: mean value of r_s Bottom: standard deviation

Extremely low standard deviation!

The correlation in the Cold Spot area





Top: positive CMB isolines (white) Bottom: Negative CMB isolines (white) Background: Faraday depth. Region is just south of cold spot



The location around the CS, compared to the rest of the correlation map. R=5 deg.

Correlation in the Galactic radio loops

The galactic radio loops are looplike structures visible in the radio band. They are probably the remnants of old supernovae. The loops outlines the ensuing shock front.



Dark Green: loop 1, Yellow: loop 2, Light green: loop 3, Red: loop 4, Blue: loop5, Black loop 6. The locations of the radio loops are taken from Borka, 2007 (MNRAS 376, 634)

$$r_l = \frac{\sum_{i \in L} (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sqrt{\sum_{i \in L} (x_i - \bar{x})^2 + \epsilon}} \sqrt{\sum_{i \in L} (y_i - \bar{y})^2 + \epsilon}$$

Correlation test is similar to the previous one, except we now look at the entire loop area, and not a circle around a location.



Discovery PhD day – May 22'nd Martin Hansen

Results for the Galactic radio loops

Loop		Smooth 1°		Smooth 5°		Smooth 10°	
		r_l	S	r_l	S	r_l	S
Loop I	Α	0.534	15	0.737	8	0.807	5
	В	0.760	5	0.888	10	0.961	17
Loop II	А	-0.323	93	-0.409	89	-0.456	85
	В	0.335	9	0.377	10	0.401	14
Loop III	А	0.283	7	0.445	7	0.573	6
	В	0.108	37	0.553	19	0.903	5
	С	0.127	35	0.328	29	0.615	21
Loop IV	Α	0.330	33	0.392	43	0.447	50
Loop V	А	0.999	46	-0.675	54	-0.996	54
	В	0.068	48	0.600	28	0.930	1
	С	0.208	51	0.259	51	0.165	54
Loop VI	Α	-0.0311	49	0.119	49	0.649	40
	В	0.049	50	0.233	46	0.692	27

S is the amount of simulations with higher correlation value (out of 100 sims). We also attempted several levels of smoothing.



The locations of the Galactic radio loops on the correlation map for R=5deg.

It will be interesting to test this with improved data of the Faraday depth, as well as the coming data from Planck



Questions?

Co-authors: W. Zhao, A. Frejsel, P. D. Naselsky, J. Kim, O. V. Verkhodanov

Arxiv:1202.1711

