# Illuminating the Cosmic Dawn



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# Why Cosmic Dawn?



Potentially some <u>fundamental</u> questions: **When** did the first generations of galaxies form? **What** were their properties? **How** did they interact with each other and the intergalactic medium? What is the structure of the intergalactic medium? What is the thermal and ionization history of the baryons?

## Outline

- What we know now...
  - Clues to the timing of reionization from galaxies,
    QSOs and the CMB
- What we will know soon...
  - The full picture from the cosmic 21 cm signal!

# When?

- Two main classes of probes
  - 1. Integral CMB constraints (e.g.  $\tau_{e}$ , kinetic SZ)



# History of Thompson scattering optical depth measurements



< – later reionization

Planck 2016

# History of Thompson scattering optical depth measurements



# History of Thompson scattering optical depth measurements



Planck 2016

# What does this tell us about *when* reionization occurred?



Greig & AM 2016

# When?

- Two main classes of probes
  - 1. Integral CMB constraints (e.g.  $\tau_e$ , kinetic SZ)
  - 2. Astrophysical 'flashlights' (e.g. high-z galaxies, QSOs)

### Astrophysical flashlights: Ly $\alpha$

#### Post-reionization IGM



### We can't directly observe the EoR in $\mbox{Ly}\alpha$



÷2

Ly $\alpha$  forest saturates at z>5, when the Universe becomes too dense. Even trace amounts of HI, x<sub>HI</sub> ~> 10<sup>-5</sup> result in no flux being detected in the forest.



Dijkstra 2014

# Ly $\alpha$ damping wing absorption as a probe of the EoR



e.g. Dijkstra, AM+2011

Lyman alpha line emerging from galaxies is shaped by the ISM/CGM (winds, infall, dust, geometry..)

#### Ly $\alpha$ damping wing absorption as a probe of the EoR



during reionization, cosmic HI patches absorb Ly $\alpha$  photons in the damping wing of the line

# Ly $\alpha$ damping wing absorption as a probe of the EoR





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### QSOs: the brightest cosmic flashlights



QSO spectra can be analyzed *individually,* unlike galaxies which require a statistically significant sample

figure courtesy of D. Mortlock

# Damping wing in QSO spectra

 Caution: We must jointly sample the uncertainties in the intrinsic (pre IGM absorption) QSO emission together with the sightline to sightline scatter of the EoR

Simcoe+2012



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1



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- <u>Step 2</u>: run large-scale, state-of-the-art simulations of reionization, spanning a range of uncertainties in the EoR topology (AM+ 2016)

- Step 1: reconstruct the intrinsic Lyα emission of ULASJ1120 by sampling a covariance matrix of emission line properties built from ~1700 high S/ N BOSS spectra (Greig, AM+ 2016a)
- <u>Step 2</u>: run large-scale, state-of-the-art simulations of reionization, spanning a range of uncertainties in the EoR topology (AM+ 2016)
- <u>Step 3:</u> Simultaneously sample intrinsic emission + IGM absorption, in a Bayesian framework (Greig, AM+ 2016b)



Greig, AM+ 2016b



First detection of ongoing reionization!!!  $\langle x_{HI} \rangle = 0.40_{-0.32}^{+0.41}$  (2  $\odot$ )

Greig, AM+ 2016b

#### putting it all together... When did the Universe reionize?



We now have a reasonable handle on when...

Greig & AM (2016) see also Planck 2016; Price+2016; Mitra+2016

### What and how??

stellar populations vs AGN, IMF in first galaxies, role of SNe and radiative feedback, metal pollution, efficiency of star formation, IGM structures, UVB evolution etc..

we don't really know ...

### What and how?

 Galaxy candidates have been found out to z~10. Are these the stellar populations responsible for the Cosmic Dawn and reionization? Estimates suggest they are too few...







Get ready for the revolution: the cosmic 21 cm signal

# 21 cm line from neutral hydrogen



Hyperfine transition in the ground state of neutral hydrogen produces the 21cm line.

# Widely used to map the HI content of our galaxy and nearby galaxies



#### **Circinus Galaxy**

ATCA HI image by B. Koribalski (ATNF, CSIRO), K. Jones, M. Elmouttie (University of Queensland) and R. Haynes (ATNF, CSIRO).

# Cosmic 21-cm signal



use the CMB as a background. measure the difference in intensities of the CMB and the cosmic HI, the so-called brightness temperature offset from the CMB:

$$\delta \mathsf{T}_{b}(\nu) \approx 27 \mathsf{x}_{\mathrm{HI}}(1+\delta_{\mathrm{nl}}) \left(\frac{\mathsf{H}}{\mathsf{d}\mathsf{v}_{r}/\mathsf{d}\mathsf{r}+\mathsf{H}}\right) \left(1-\frac{\mathsf{T}_{\gamma}}{\mathsf{T}_{\mathrm{S}}}\right) \left(\frac{1+\mathsf{z}}{10}\frac{0.15}{\Omega_{\mathrm{M}}\mathsf{h}^{2}}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{\Omega_{b}\mathsf{h}^{2}}{0.023}\right) \mathrm{mK}$$

Signal contains both **ASTROPHYSICAL** and **COSMOLOGICAL** terms

### Cosmic 21-cm signal



#### How do we learn about the hidden sources?

 Galaxy clustering + stellar properties → evolution of large-scale EoR/CD structures





94 Mpc





McQuinn+ 2007

Abundant, faint galaxies vs

Rare, bright galaxies

### Patterns in the Epoch of Heating

High-energy processes in the first galaxies are also encoded in the cosmic 21-cm signal

'soft' SED ~ hot ISM

'hard' SED ~ HMXBs



differences are easily detectable with HERA and the SKA

Pacucci, AM+ 2014

### How to quantify what we will learn??

**21cmFAST** (AM+2007, 2011) — public, efficient semi-numerical 3D simulation code; extensively tested and currently used by *all* 21-cm efforts around the globe

**21CMMC** (Greig & AM 2015, 2017) – public, massively-parallelized MCMC driver for *21cmFAST*, based on EMCEE sampler (Forman-Mackey+ 2013)

### Physical cosmology



Planck 2013; 2015

### Physical cosmology



Planck 2013; 2015

### Physical cosmology



### Astrophysical cosmology

← time



### Astrophysical cosmology

← time



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← time





 $\zeta$  - the ionizing efficiency of galaxies.  $\zeta$  is proportional to the product of the escape fraction, specific stellar mass and number of ionizing photons per baryon (set by the IMF)



R<sub>mfp</sub> – the typical horizon for ionizing photons (mean free path), set by IGM recombinations (Lyman limit systems)



 $T_{vir}$  – the minimum virial temperature of halos hosting star-forming galaxies (set by cooling or feedback...)



 $L_X$  / SFR – the soft-band X-ray luminosity per unit star formation of the first galaxies



 $E_0$  (or  $N_{HI}$ ) – the minimum X-ray photon energy (corresponding to a typical  $N_{HI}$  of the first galaxies) capable of escaping the host galaxy into the IGM



 $\alpha_X$  – the X-ray spectral energy index of typical SED

### Triangle plot from 21CMMC



• percent level constraints on most astro params and EoR history w. SKA

• no strong degeneracies even with 6 parameter model

## Upcoming....

- 21cmFAST + 21CMMC provides a powerful, Bayesian analysis framework for the 21-cm signal. *Parameter recovery can provide a figure-of-merit to test foreground-cleaning algorithms, instrument configurations, antenna design, observing strategies, etc.*
- Bayesian evidence can be used to discriminate between different astrophysical parameterizations. Can we find a fundamental basis set for Cosmic Dawn astrophysics?
- The signal is highly non-Gaussian. Since we generate on-the-fly 3D simulations, we can easily replace the PS when computing the likelihood. *Are non-Gaussian statistics a better discriminant for astrophysical parameters?*
- Our analysis framework now operates directly on the light-cone, bringing us closer to an end-to-end pipeline for 21-cm interferometers. *Can we eventually forward-model the signal?*

# The time is now!

• 1<sup>st</sup> gen. interferometers are already taking data, ruling-out extreme models with no heating

Ali+ (2015)



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## The time is now!

- 1<sup>st</sup> gen. interferometers are already taking data, ruling-out extreme models with no heating. *We should soon see a statistical detection of the EoR!*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> gen. interferometers, HERA & SKA1, are coming in the next few years, bringing high S/N detections throughout the Cosmic Dawn





first 19 of planned 350 HERA dishes

rendering of SKA1-Low

# Conclusions

- Current probes tell us roughly when reionization occurred. The strongest constraints come from Planck 2016 (integral constraints), and the first detection from QSO ULASJ1120: <x<sub>HI</sub>> = 0.40<sub>-0.32</sub><sup>+0.41</sup> (2 σ) at z~7. But we do not know anything about the astrophysical sources and sinks.
- The properties of sources and sinks are encoded in the 3D EoR structure.
- To quantify what we can learn, we developed a Bayesian framework for astrophysical parameter estimation, capable of on-the-fly MCMC sampling (21CMMC) of 3D simulations (21cmFAST).
- Upcoming 21-cm interferometers will constrain astrophysical parameters to per cent level precision
- Our framework can be used to optimize *foreground-cleaning algorithms, instrument configurations, antenna design, observing strategies, Bayesian evidence model selection, optimal statistics, etc.*
- What more can we learn??