# **Kenny King Lau**

School of Physics and Astronomy, Physics and Nanotechnology Building, 115 Union St SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455 Email: kennylau@umn.edu Office: (612) 625 1802 kennykinglau.github.io

#### **EDUCATION**

University of Minnesota, 2015-Present

• Ph.D candidate, Physics

• Advisor: Prof. Clem Pryke

The Chinese University of Hong Kong, MPhil, Physics, 2013

• Advisors: Prof. Ming Chung Chu and Dr. Lap Ming Lin

• Thesis: Constraints on Tensor-to-scalar Ratio from Planck Measurement

The Chinese University of Hong Kong, B.Sc., Physics, 2011

• with Honours, First Class

• Minor: Mathematics

#### **AWARDS**

Antarctica Service Medal, 2021

#### RESEARCH

# Probing Inflation from Measurements of B-mode Polarization in Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB)

- BICEP/Keck Collaboration member (2015-present), Caltech visiting student researcher (Jul 2021-Sep 2021). Using small aperture telescopes to measure degree-scale B-modes at Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station.
- *Analysis works*: data reduction lead (2019-2022); completed the "BK18" analysis (science results with new data from 2016-2018) the strongest constraint of the tensor-to-scalar ratio *r* to date.
- *Instrument works*: participated in the development of BICEP Array mount and cryostat.
- *Deployment works*: deployed Keck Array 270 GHz receiver in 2018; deployed BICEP Array mount and 30/40 GHz receiver (first light) in 2020.
- *Ongoing researches*: rewriting the pipeline for BICEP Array; developing a pipeline for BICEP/Keck+South Pole Telescope delensing analysis.

# Searching for Primordial Gravitational Waves with CMB-S4 experiment

• Conducting foreground studies for large-scale B-mode observation strategy.

# **Investigating Impacts of Relic Neutrino Degeneracies on CMB**

• Studied the impacts of neutrino degeneracies in CMB data fitting, particularly for the constraint of Hubble parameter  $H_0$  and spectral index  $n_s$ .

#### **TEACHING**

Teaching Assistant, School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Minnesota

• Intro. Physics for Science and Engineering I/II (Spring 2017, Fall 2016, Spring 2016), Intro. Physics I (Fall 2015)

Teaching Assistant, Physics Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

 Quantum Physics II (Spring 2013, Spring 2012), Mechanics (Fall 2012), Physics Laboratory I (Fall 2011)

#### OUTREACH

BICEP Array Telescope Open House, Martin. A. Pomerantz Observatory, Feb 2 2020

• Exhibited the fully functional BICEP Array telescope to support personnel of the Amundsen-Scott South Pole station.

BICEP Array Mount Open House, University of Minnesota, May 5 2019

• Demonstrated the scanning of the BICEP Array receivers on its mount to people of the School of Physics and Astronomy.

#### LANGUAGES

- Native proficiency in Cantonese
- Native proficiency in written Chinese
- Full professional proficiency in English

# COMPUTER LANGUAGES

Python, MATLAB, HTML, JavaScript, FORTRAN, LATEX

### **PUBLICATIONS** Peer-reviewed Papers:

- P.A.R. Ade *et al.* (BICEP/Keck Collaboration), "BICEP/Keck XV: The BICEP3 Cosmic Microwave Background Polarimeter and the First Three-year Data Set", Astrophys. J. 927, 77 (2022)
- 2. P.A.R. Ade *et al.* (BICEP/Keck Collaboration), "BICEP/Keck XIV: Improved constraints on axionlike polarization oscillations in the cosmic microwave background", Phys. Rev. D **105**, 022006 (2022)
- 3. P.A.R. Ade *et al.* (BICEP/Keck Collaboration), "BICEP/Keck XIII: Improved Constraints on Primordial Gravitational Waves using Planck, WMAP, and BI-CEP/Keck Observations through the 2018 Observing Season", Phys. Rev. Lett. **127**, 151301 (2021)
- 4. S. Yeung, **K. Lau** and M.-C. Chu, "Relic Neutrino Degeneracies and Their Impact On Cosmological Parameters", JCAP **04**, 024 (2021)
- P.A.R. Ade et al. (BICEP/Keck Collaboration), "BICEP/Keck XII: Constraints on Axion-like Polarization Oscillations in the Cosmic Microwave Background", Phys. Rev. D 103, 042002 (2021)
- P.A.R. Ade et al. (BICEP/Keck and SPTpol Collaborations), "A Demonstration of Improved Constraints on Primordial Gravitational Waves with Delensing", Phys. Rev. D 103, 022004 (2021)
- 7. P.A.R. Ade *et al.* (Keck Array and BICEP2 Collaborations), "BICEP2/Keck Array XI: Beam Characterization and Temperature-to-Polarization Leakage in the BK15 Data Set", Astrophys. J. **884**, 114 (2019)
- 8. P.A.R. Ade *et al.* (Keck Array and BICEP2 Collaborations), "Constraints on Primordial Gravitational Waves Using Planck, WMAP, and New BICEP2/Keck Observations through the 2015 Season", Phys. Rev. Lett. **121**, 221301 (2018)

# Other Selected Publications (Conference Proceedings and arXiv Papers):

- 1. D. Goldfinger *et al.*, "Thermal Testing for Cryogenic CMB Instrument Optical Design", arXiv:2208.02755 (2022)
- 2. A. Soliman *et al.*, "2022 Upgrade and Improved Low Frequency Camera Sensitivity for CMB Observation at the South Pole", arXiv:2208.01080 (2022)
- 3. J. Cornelison *et al.*, "Improved Polarization Calibration of the BICEP3 CMB Polarimeter at the South Pole", arXiv:2207.14796 (2022)
- 4. K. Abazajian *et al.*, "Snowmass 2021 CMB-S4 White Paper", arXiv:2203.08024 (2022)
- 5. C. Chang *et al.*, "Snowmass 2021 Cosmic Frontier: Cosmic Microwave Background Measurements White Paper", arXiv:2203.07638 (2022)
- 6. **K. Lau** *et al.*, "The Latest Constraints on Inflationary B-modes from the BI-CEP/Keck Telescopes", Proceedings of the 56<sup>th</sup> Rencontres de Moriond on Cosmology (2022)
- 7. A. Schillaci et al., "BICEP Array: 150 GHz detector module development", arXiv:2111.14785 (2021)
- 8. M. Dierickx *et al.*, "Plastic Laminate Antireflective Coatings for Millimeter-wave Optics in BICEP Array", arXiv:2111.14751 (2021)
- 9. L. Moncelsi *et al.*, "Receiver development for BICEP Array, a next-generation CMB polarimeter at the South Pole", Millimeter, Submillimeter, and Far-Infrared Detectors and Instrumentation for Astronomy X; 1145314 (2020)
- 10. T. St. Germaine *et al.*, "Analysis of Temperature-to-Polarization Leakage in BI-CEP3 and Keck CMB Data from 2016 to 2018", Millimeter, Submillimeter, and Far-Infrared Detectors and Instrumentation for Astronomy X; 114532E (2020)
- 11. J. Cornelison *et al.*, "Polarization calibration of the BICEP3 CMB polarimeter at the South Pole", Millimeter, Submillimeter, and Far-Infrared Detectors and Instrumentation for Astronomy X; 1145327 (2020)
- 12. J. Kang *et al.*, "Observing low elevation sky and the CMB Cold Spot with BI-CEP3 at the South Pole", Millimeter, Submillimeter, and Far-Infrared Detectors and Instrumentation for Astronomy IX; 114532D (2020)
- 13. A. Schillaci *et al.*, "Design and Performance of the First BICEP Array Receiver", J. Low Temp. Phys. (2020)
- 14. C. Zhang *et al.*, "Characterizing the Sensitivity of 40 GHz TES Bolometers for BICEP Array", J. Low Temp. Phys. (2020)
- 15. T. St. Germaine *et al.*, "Optical Characterization of the Keck Array and BICEP3 CMB Polarimeters from 2016 to 2019", J. Low Temp. Phys. (2020)
- 16. A. Soliman *et al.*, "Optical Design and Characterization of 40 GHz Detector and Module for the BICEP Array", J. Low Temp. Phys. (2020)
- 17. A. Cukierman *et al.*, "Microwave multiplexing on the Keck Array", J. Low Temp. Phys. (2020)

- B. Racine et al., "Measurements of Degree-Scale B-mode Polarization with the BICEP/Keck Experiments at South Pole", Proceedings of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Rencontres de Moriond on Cosmology (2018)
- A. Soliman et al., "Design and performance of wide-band corrugated walls for the BICEP Array detector modules at 30/40 GHz", Millimeter, Submillimeter, and Far-Infrared Detectors and Instrumentation for Astronomy IX; 107082G (2018)
- 20. D. Barkats *et al.*, "Ultra-Thin Large-Aperture Vacuum Windows for Millimeter Wavelengths Receivers", Millimeter, Submillimeter, and Far-Infrared Detectors and Instrumentation for Astronomy IX; 107082K (2018)
- 21. M. Crumrine *et al.*, "BICEP Array cryostat and mount design", Millimeter, Submillimeter, and Far-Infrared Detectors and Instrumentation for Astronomy IX; 107082D (2018)
- 22. H. Hui et al., "BICEP Array: a multi-frequency degree-scale CMB polarimeter", Millimeter, Submillimeter, and Far-Infrared Detectors and Instrumentation for Astronomy IX; 1070807 (2018)
- 23. J. Kang *et al.*, "2017 upgrade and performance of BICEP3: a 95 GHz refracting telescope for degree-scale CMB polarization", Millimeter, Submillimeter, and Far-Infrared Detectors and Instrumentation for Astronomy IX; 107082N (2018)

**TALKS** 

- 1. "BICEP/Keck Constraints on Primordial Gravitational Waves", CMB-S4 Summer Collaboration Meeting, Chicago, IL, Aug 17 2022
- 2. "Searching for Inflation Signals with the BICEP/Keck Telescopes", 240<sup>th</sup> AAS Meeting, Pasadena, CA, Jun 16 2022
- 3. "The Latest Constraints on Inflationary B-modes by the BICEP/Keck Telescopes", 56<sup>th</sup> Rencontres de Moriond on Cosmology, La Thuile, Italy, Jan 25 2022