WIDE-FIELD EFFECTS IN REDSHIFTED 21 CM POWER SPECTRA

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ABSTRACT

Foreground emission is currently the primary limitation to detection of redshifted HI emission from the epoch of reionization. Modern radio telescopes that target this cosmological signal are typically wide-field instruments. Through modeling of delay spectra measured between antenna pairs, it has recently emerged that wide-field measurements imprint a characteristic pitchfork-shaped signature in this Fourier domain. It is characterized by enhanced power from foreground emission mapped to regions near the horizon and plays a significant role in determining the contamination of the cosmological H_I signal. With MWA data sensitivity improved by coherently averaging snapshots aligned in local sidereal time across different observing nights, we confirm the prediction from modeling at $> 5\sigma$ level.

Subject headings: cosmology: observations — dark ages, reionization, first stars — large-scale structure of universe — methods: statistical — radio continuum: galaxies — techniques: interferometric

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1. INTRODUCTION

2. WIDE-FIELD EFFECTS IN DELAY SPECTRUM

Thyagarajan et al. (2015) have described in detail the effects wide–field measurements have on the delay spectrum.

Throughout the paper, we follow the conventions used in Thyagarajan et al. (2015).

3. THE MURCHISON WIDEFIELD ARRAY OBSERVATIONS

4. RESULTS

5. SUMMARY

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REFERENCES

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