

# Probing the Cosmic Dawn using the redshifted 21-cm Bispectrum

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# Motivation: 21-cm cosmology



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Cosmic Microwave Background (Planck)









# Fundamental Issues? Milestones of the CD-EoR

The study of the CD-EoR is crucial as it includes a number of major cosmic milestones, such as:

- Formation and evolution of first luminous sources (stars, galaxies, quasars, etc) during this period.
   Star-forming galaxies: Major sources of Lyα photons (coupling) + UV photons (ionization).
   Quasars and HMXBs: Major sources of X-ray photons (heating).
- Astrophysical impacts of these sources on the IGM.
- Topology of the heated and ionized regions formed in the IGM by these sources.

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#### Elemental composition of baryons in the Universe

Source: universeadventure.org



Source: Wikimedia.org



> Spin Temperature ( $T_s$ ): Important at Cosmic Dawn

$$\frac{n_1}{n_0} = 3 \exp\left(\frac{-0.068\,\mathrm{K}}{T_\mathrm{S}}\right)$$

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This ratio controls the intensity of the 21-cm radiation from the diffused HI in the IGM.



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This ratio controls the intensity of the 21-cm radiation from the diffused HI in the IGM.

The  $T_{\rm S}$  thus corresponds to the intensity of this radiation.



Source: Wikimedia.org

> Spin Temperature ( $T_s$ ): Important at Cosmic Dawn

$$\frac{n_1}{n_0} = 3\exp\left(\frac{-0.068\,\mathrm{K}}{T_\mathrm{S}}\right)$$

Impact of the first light sources on the  $T_s$ 

$$T_{\rm S}(\mathbf{r},z) = \frac{T_{\rm CMB}(z) + x_{\alpha}(\mathbf{r},z)T_{\rm g}(\mathbf{r},z)}{1 + x_{\alpha}(\mathbf{r},z)}$$

IGM Processes: Dominant during Cosmic Dawn

Lya coupling  $\Rightarrow x_{\alpha}(\mathbf{r}, z)$ X-ray heating  $\Rightarrow T_{g}(\mathbf{r}, z)$ 

#### **Redshifted 21-cm line**



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# 21-cm observable







**Realistic picture:** 



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# 21-cm fluctuations depend on position and time



- **1.** Depend on the locations of the sources in the IGM.
- 2. The radiations from these sources that lead to a number of astrophysical processes, also progress with time.



# Two broad classes of the 21-cm observations

## **Detection of the global 21-cm signal (?):**

**EDGES** Western Australia











UU Astronomy/Space physics seminar

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#### **Detection of the fluctuating 21-cm signal (?):**



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## **Challenges:**

# 1. The redshifted 21-cm signal is very feeble.

# 2. Observational obstacles- Contaminates the 21-cm signal

Foregrounds: Major components – i) Galactic Synchrotron Radiation ii) Extra Galactic Point Sources These are several orders of magnitude larger than the signal and are expected to be smooth in frequency therefore can be removed/avoided in principle.



## **Challenges:**

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System Noise: Possibly Gaussian Random; can be suppressed below signal for long integration time.

**RFI:** Radio frequency interference produced by humans.

**Ionospheric Effect:** Turbulence in the ionosphere refracts low frequency radio waves and distorts the apparent magnitude and location of the signal. In principle, this can be corrected for large baselines and wide field of view. However, in practice it is an extremely difficult problem to solve.







# The SKA is expected to be sensitive enough to make the CD-EoR 21-cm maps.









Until the imaging is possible, the first generations telescopes have been trying to detect the fluctuations in this signal using Fourier statistics
# How to quantify and interpret the signal?



# How to quantify and interpret the signal?

**High SNR** Variance **Power Spectrum** 50  $10^{2}$ Redshift Space -40 Real Space .....  $\Delta^2_b \ (mK)^2$  $10^{1}$  $\sigma^{2} (mK^{2})$  $z = 13, \bar{x}_{\mathrm{H\,I}} = 0.98$  -11.  $0.93 \cdot$ 10, 0.86 - $10^{0}$ 9.  $0.73 \cdot$ 8. 0.50 -10 7. 0.15 -Mondal+ 2017 0.1 Majumdar+ 2014 1 10 10.5 11 11.5 12 12.5 13  $k \; (\mathrm{Mpc}^{-1})$ z

Amplitude of fluctuations at a single length scale

Amplitude of fluctuations at different length scales

# The Power Spectrum: A conventional statistical measure of the 21-cm signal

$$\langle \Delta_{21}(\mathbf{k}_1) \Delta_{21}(\mathbf{k}_2) \rangle = (2\pi)^3 \delta_{\mathrm{D}}^3(\mathbf{k}_1 - \mathbf{k}_2) P_{21}(\mathbf{k})$$





*k*\_

# The Power Spectrum: A conventional statistical measure of the 21-cm signal



# The spatial and temporal fluctuations of the CD-EoR 21-cm signal are highly non-Gaussian









Non-Gaussian 21-cm map

#### **Gaussian fluctuations**

Same power spectrum but different images

# The Bispectrum:

$$\langle \Delta_{21}(\mathbf{k}_{1})\Delta_{21}(\mathbf{k}_{2})\Delta_{21}(\mathbf{k}_{3})\rangle = V\delta_{\mathbf{k}_{1}+\mathbf{k}_{2}+\mathbf{k}_{3},0}^{K} B_{21}(\mathbf{k}_{1},\mathbf{k}_{2},\mathbf{k}_{3})$$

$$\Delta_{21}(\mathbf{k}) \xrightarrow{\mathrm{FT}} \delta T_{\mathrm{b}}(\mathbf{r})$$

$$\Delta_{21}(\mathbf{k}_{1}) \xrightarrow{\Delta_{21}(\mathbf{k}_{3})} k_{x} \xrightarrow{\mathrm{Triangles in the Fourier space}} k_{x}$$

# The Bispectrum:

$$\langle \Delta_{21}(\mathbf{k}_{1})\Delta_{21}(\mathbf{k}_{2})\Delta_{21}(\mathbf{k}_{3})\rangle = V \delta_{\mathbf{k}_{1}+\mathbf{k}_{2}+\mathbf{k}_{3},0}^{\mathrm{K}} B_{21}(\mathbf{k}_{1},\mathbf{k}_{2},\mathbf{k}_{3})$$

$$\Delta_{21}(\mathbf{k}) \xrightarrow{\mathrm{FT}} \delta T_{\mathrm{b}}(\mathbf{r})$$

$$B_{21} \neq 0, \text{ iff 3 } \mathbf{k} \text{ modes in the definition form a closed triangle.}$$

$$\mathbf{k}_{1} + \mathbf{k}_{2} + \mathbf{k}_{3} = 0$$

$$k_{z} \xrightarrow{k_{z}}$$

$$Triangles in the Fourier space$$

# SKA-like telescopes are expected to detect the CD-EoR 21-cm bispectrum

Mondal+Kamran et al.2021 ; Tiwari+Kamran et al. 2022; Watkinson+ 2022

# Motivation to study the bispectrum

- > Promising probe of the fundamental issues related to the CD-EoR.
- Contains way more information as compared to the power spectrum.

 $P_{21} \rightarrow \text{Always} + \text{ve.}$ 

 $B_{21} \rightarrow +\text{ve or -ve} \Rightarrow \text{Additional feature.}$ 

> Can potentially capture the non-Gaussianity.

### **Previous works**

**1.** Bharadwaj+ 2005

# **2.** Majumdar+ 2018

(also Yoshiura+ 2015, Hutter+ 2019, Watkinson+ 2019)

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Based on the **analytical models** of the signal

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#### Based on the **simulations** of the signal

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#### Based on the simulations of the signal

In all previous works:

- **no LoS anisotropy** was considered
- only a few specific shape of



#### Unique triangles in the Fourier space:

In **Kamran**+ 2021a; Majumdar, **Kamran**+ 2020, for the first time in the literature:





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### Simulations

 $\succ$ 

- $\succ$ J. Harnois-Déraps+ 2013; Mondal+ 2015
- **Dark matter N-body simulation**  $\rightarrow$  To generate dark matter distributions and DM halos.

Sem-num or radiative transfer simulations  $\rightarrow$  To generate CD-EoR 21-cm maps. Majumdar+ 2014; Mondal+ 2017; Ghara+ 2015a, 2018

#### **Simulations**



**Results from GRIZZLY simulation** (Ghara et al. 2015a, 2018)

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## **Bispectrum estimation**

#### **Bispectrum estimator:**

$$\hat{B}_{i}(\mathbf{k}_{1}, \mathbf{k}_{2}, \mathbf{k}_{3}) = \frac{1}{N_{\text{tri}}V} \sum_{[\mathbf{k}_{1} + \mathbf{k}_{2} + \mathbf{k}_{3} = 0] \in i} \Delta_{21}(\mathbf{k}_{1}) \Delta_{21}(\mathbf{k}_{2}) \Delta_{21}(\mathbf{k}_{3})$$

> 
$$\Delta_{21}(\mathbf{k})$$
  $\overleftarrow{FT}$   $\delta T_{\rm b}(\mathbf{r})$ 

- $\blacktriangleright$  Ntri -> Number of triangles in *i*<sup>th</sup> triangle configuration bin while satisfying condition  $\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_3 = 0$
- $\succ$  V > Observational volume.

# Results



Non-zero bispectra  $\Rightarrow$  high non-Gaussianity

Kamran+2021a, Majumdar+Kamran et al. 2020

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squeezed limit triangle bispectra attain maximum magnitude

Largest detection probability by the future SKA observations

Kamran+2021a, Majumdar+Kamran et al. 2020

# Detectability of the EoR 21-cm bispectrum



Squeezed limit triangles are able to achieve a more than  $5\sigma$  significance over a wide range of scales,  $k_1 \leq 0.8 \text{ Mpc}^{-1} \Rightarrow$  will be the most measurable and hence useful.

Scenarios Processes	Model-a <sub>0</sub>	Model-a	Model-b	Model-c
Lyα-coupling	Yes	Yes	Saturated	Yes
X-ray heating	No	No	Yes	Yes
Ionization	No	Yes	Yes	Yes

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**Importance of first three scenarios:** Used to identify the unique signature of each IGM processes on the 21-cm bispectrum  $\Rightarrow$  Helps in explaining the bispectrum from Model-c, the most realistic scenario.





Model- $a_0$  until  $z \sim 13$ 



### Squeezed-limit bispectrum as a probe of IGM physics during CD



Lyα background.

Sign negative as signal is in absorption

Kamran+2021b (under review in PRI.)

### Squeezed-limit bispectrum as a probe of IGM physics during CD



Double sign change due to heating


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#### UU Astronomy/Space physics seminar



#### UU Astronomy/Space physics seminar

#### **Power spectrum vs bispectrum**



Bispectrum via its sign and sign changes can conclusively tell us which IGM process dominates the 21-cm fluctuations at what cosmic time.

Power spectrum  $\Rightarrow$  always +ve  $\Rightarrow$  it is difficult to unequivocally identify these transitions on the basis of the power spectrum alone. **Kamran+2021b (under review in** 

PRI )



Kamran+2022



Kamran+2022



Kamran+2022







Kamran+2022

#### Impact of different first sources (mini-QSOs, HMHBs)



#### **Parameter inference**

#### EoR parameter estimation using the 21-cm bispectrum



The unique *k*-triangle bispectra provides tighter constraints on the EoR source parameter compared to when the same is done by using the bispectra for only a particular set of *k*-triangle and as well as the power spectrum.

## **Summary**

- CD-EoR 21-cm signal is highly non-Gaussian in nature.
- The bispectrum statistic can potentially capture this time evolving non-Gaussianity.
- The bispectrum being the potential probe of the non-Gaussianity – > can probe the IGM physics that sources the non-Gaussianity in the signal.
- The various luminous sources which lead the IGM physics can be distinguished by the bispectrum.



The sign of the bispectrum can tell us the relative contrast of the fluctuations in the 21-cm signal with respect to its background.

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The sign of the bispectrum can tell us the relative contrast of the fluctuations in the 21-cm signal with respect to its background. The sign and shape of the bispectrum works as a smoking gun for the dominant physical processes in the IGM.

#### What next?

**1.** To probe dominant IGM processes during EoR using the 21-cm bispectrum.

This can be further used to constrain the properties of ionizing sources during this era

- 2. To explore the possibility of using the 21-cm bispectrum to constrain the CD model parameters using SKA.
- **3.** To predict the detectability of the CD 21-cm bispectrum using the realistic simulations with the **telescope response**, **foreground**, **noise** etc.
- 4. To quantify the LoS anisotropies in the 21-cm bispectrum with the higher order multipoles  $\rightarrow$  can provide better insights into the IGM physics.
- 5. 21-cm + galaxies (CII, OIII, Ly $\alpha$ ) cross bispectrum  $\rightarrow$  will open a new avenue to get better insights into the IGM physics  $\rightarrow$  will be able to put tighter constraints on the model parameters

# SKA SDC3: Inference

Extraction of reionization parameters (SWG contacts: Mesinger & Mellema )

Target Participants: SWGs like CD/EoR.

Input Data: EoR PS + noise and residual foreground contamination

#### Challenge will be based on:

a) ability to extract the IGM and source properties

#### Verification of the results from participants

Comparison with the input EoR history (ionization fraction)

### **21-cm bispectrum from the CD-EoR** Impact of the Line of Sight effects

**1. Redshift Space Distortions (RSD):** Signal distortion along the LoS of an observer due to the gas peculiar velocities.



**2. Light Cone (LC) effect :** Signal distortion along the LoS of an observer due to the finite travel time of the signal.

Essential to consider for correctly interpreting the observed signal statistics.

#### Impact of the RSD effect





#### Impact of the Light Cone effect



The impact of LC effect is largest for large scale observations.

**RSD+LC**  $\Rightarrow$  Important to consider for interpreting the observed signal statistics correctly.

### **Backup Slides**

$$f_X = \frac{\int_{100 \text{ eV}}^{10 \text{ keV}} I(E) dE}{\int_{100 \text{ eV}}^{100 \text{ eV}} I(E) dE}$$

$$I_q(E) = A \ E^{-\alpha}$$