Current status of the AMI project



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OVERVIEW

- Introduction to Arcminute MicroKelvin Imager (AMI)
- The compact and extended arrays
- Backend system and current status
- Predicted performance
- Summary

THE AMI TEAM

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ADVANTAGES OF USING AN INTERFEROMETER

Interferometry is a good way to do SZ measurements:

- not susceptible to scan-synchronous systematics
- rejection of atmospheric signal
- astronomical fringe rate filtering
- high resolution achievable without building a big expensive antenna
- BUT since interferometer of baseline *d* measures FT of sky on scale λ/d, need short baselines:

Also need high sensitivity to detect faint (low mass) clusters.

RYLE TELESCOPE IMAGES OF THE SZ EFFECT





- First SZ image (1993)
- Observing at 15 GHz with 350 MHz bandwidth
- East-West array \rightarrow poor beam at low dec

FLUX AGAINST BASELINE



AMI - COMPACT ARRAY

- Compact Array
- \bullet 10 \times 3.7m antennas
- 15 GHz
- FOV = 21'
- Baselines 5 20m
- Groundscreen enclosure

9C SURVEY - SOURCE POPULATION AT 15 GHz

• At 15 GHz background radio sources are dominant confusing background.



Waldram et al. (2003)

SOURCES ASSOCIATED WITH CLUSTERS



Kaneko et al (in prep)

SOURCE SUBTRACTION

- Sources are also variable
 - \Rightarrow Need simultaneous observations.
- Can remove their effects through high angular resolution imaging
 ⇒ Need long baselines upgraded Ryle Telescope (baselines 20 120m).
 - Fit new NRAO HEMTs
 - Broadband correlator $\Delta \nu = 0.35 \rightarrow 6 \text{ GHz}$
 - Move antennas 6, 7 and 8 to form compact array (filling factor) and give north-south baselines.
- Spectral discrimination across 6 GHz band can also help $\hat{\alpha}_{\text{Source}} \approx 0.7$ $\alpha_{\text{CMB}} = -2.0$ $(F_{\nu} \propto \nu^{-\alpha})$

RYLE TELESCOPE ANTENNA MOVE



Ryle Telescope Antenna Move



Ryle Telescope Antenna Move



Ryle Telescope Antenna Move



RYLE TELESCOPE ANTENNA MOVE



• Antenna move now complete and back-end upgrade underway.

RF/IF SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

- NRAO HEMT amplifiers (13K)
- RF = 12 18 GHz downconverted to IF = 6 12 GHz
- 10 bit path compensation
- Automatic Gain Control loop
- System temperature monitoring
- Total system temperature ≈ 25 K
- System is stable to $\approx 10^{\circ}$ over 24 hours

ANALOGUE LAG CORRELATOR



6 – 12 GHz stripline implementation
 16 correlations per baseline with different path delays
 ⇒ 8 complex frequency channels of width 0.75 GHz.

NOISE SPECTRUM



- White noise spectrum for frequencies above 10^{-4} Hz
- (c.f. typical fringe rate 10^{-2} Hz).
- Further rejection provided by differencing correlations made with and without 180 deg hybrid.





 No path compensation → envelope of the fringes moves through the lags as the antennas track the source across the sky. MAP OF TAU-A

- 10 baseline system now working on compact array
- Commissioning observations underway



PREDICTED PERFORMANCE – POINTED OBSERVATIONS



Simulation of A1914

Simulation of z=1.5, $M = 2 \times 10^{14} M_{\odot}$ cluster

SZ SURVEY - CLUSTER IDENTIFICATION

- In order to interpret cluster survey must know the selection function for the survey.
- In particular must assess the survey completeness (false negatives) and contamination (false positives).
- Estimate these through simulations; issues include:
 - Primordial anisotropies
 - Field radio sources (can be clustered)
 - Cluster radio sources (population will evolve)
 - Cluster-cluster correlation \rightarrow cluster confusion
 - Cluster ellipticity
 - Cluster scaling relations and how these evolve
- Investigating both simple linear filters and full Bayesian approach to cluster finding.

CLUSTER MASS FUNCTION



Velic et al. (in prep)

Culverhouse et al. (in prep)

PREDICTED COSMOLOGICAL CONSTRAINTS



• 1 year, 100 square degree AMI survey

OPTICAL PRE-FOLLOW-UP



- CFHT MegaCam and 12k observations (Culverhouse and Zwart)
 - Will allow us to identify low redshift clusters
 - \Rightarrow SZ clusters without optical IDs are good high-z candidates

SUMMARY AND FUTURE TIMESCALES

- Extended array antennas in place.
- Compact array commissioning underway on 10 baseline system.
- Current Ryle Telescope has surveyed for point sources down to 1 mJy over 40 square degrees.
- Sufficient for a wide shallow survey; start this summer.
- Deeper survey will require fully upgraded Ryle; available at end of year.
- Simulations predict should detect several hundred clusters during a 12 month survey.