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# COSMIC REIONIZATION: THEORETICAL MODELING AND CHALLENGING OBSERVATIONS

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#### CONSTRAINTS ON THE EPOCH OF REIONIZATION



## 21 CM LINE OBSERVATIONS: BASICS



Ideal probe of neutral H at high-z different observed frqs.  $\rightarrow$  different z

Differential brightness temperature:

$$\delta T_b \approx \frac{T_s - T_{CMB}}{1 + z} \tau \propto n_{HI} \left( 1 - T_{CMB} / T_s \right)$$



 $\begin{array}{ll} T_S = T_{CMB} \Longrightarrow & \mbox{no signal} \\ T_S < T_{CMB} \Longrightarrow & \mbox{absorption} \\ T_S > T_{CMB} \Longrightarrow & \mbox{emission} \end{array}$ 

The value of  $T_s$  is critical

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# 21 CM LINE OBSERVATIONS: WHAT?

♦ Tomography: topology of HII regions; information on sources; when reionization occurred

e.g. Tozzi+ 2000; BC & Madau 2003; Furlanetto, Sokasian, Hernquist 2004; Mellema+ 2006; Valdes+ 2006; Santos+ 2008; Baek+ 2009; Geil & Wyithe 2009; Zaroubi+ 2012; Malloy & Lidz 2013

 $\diamond \delta T_b$  fluctuations and Power Spectrum: statistical estimates

e.g. Madau, Meiksin & Rees 1997; Shaver+ 1999; Tozzi+ 2000; BC & Madau 2003; Furlanetto, Sokasian, Hernquist 2004; Mellema+ 2006; Valdes+ 2006; Datta+ 2008; Pritchard & Loeb 2008; Santos+ 2008; Baek+ 2009; Geil & Wyithe 2009; Patil+ 2014

 $\diamond$  21cm forest: information on HI along the l.o.s.

e.g. Carilli, Gnedin & Owen 2002; Furlanetto 2006; Xu+ 2009; Mack & Wyithe 2011; Meiksin 2011; Xu, Ferrara & Chen 2011; BC+ 2013; Vasiliev & Shchekinov 2012; Ewall-Wice at al. 2014; BC+ 2015; Semelin 2015

♦ Cross-correlation: information on typical dimension of HII regions

e.g. Salvaterra+ 2005; Lidz+ 2009; Jelic+ 2010; Wierma+ 2013 Fernandez+2013; Vrbanec+ 2016; Hutter+ 2016; Sobacchi+ 2016

# LOFAR: LOW FREQUENCY ARRAY

LBA (10) 20 - 80 MHz isolated dipoles

HBA 115 - 240 MHz tiles (4x4 dipoles)

A station has 24/48/96 dipoles/tiles

Core:2 km18+ stationsNetherlands:80 km18+ stationsEurope:>1000 km9+ stations



# IMAGING WITH LOFAR: QSOS' IONIZED REGIONS

Kakiichi+ 2016; Kakiichi+ in prep



Gadget-3 hydrodynamic simulations + CRASH 3D radiative tranfer

LOFAR could be able to detect large high-z HII regions

## STATISTICAL MEASURES WITH LOFAR

Patil+ 2014



- ♦ Simulation in 600 cMpc with 21cmFast
- $\Rightarrow$  Var(δT<sub>b</sub>)=<P[k]> fitted with 2 parameters model: z<sub>r</sub> and Δz
- $\diamond$  Foregrounds, instrumental response, noise (600h)  $\rightarrow$  simulated data
- ♦ Signal variance is extracted from simulated data
- $\diamond$  Estimate best fitting parameters

#### STATISTICAL MEASURES WITH LOFAR

Patil+ 2014



# THE 21 CM FOREST

BC+ 2013, 2015

Hydrodynamic simulations + CRASH 3D radiative tranfer



## THE 21 CM FOREST

BC+ 2013, 2015

z=10, S=50 mJy, α=1.05

BW=10 kHz, t=1000 h





Koopmans+ in prep.



t=1000 h

SKA-1 could probe in absorption scales ~ kHz

Wiersma+ 2013; Vrbanec+ 2016; Vrbanec+ in prep



Lidz+ 2009

♦ ~600<sup>3</sup> cMpc<sup>3</sup> Nbody+RT simulations (LOFAR FoV~5x5 deg<sup>2</sup>) ♦ LAEs model

lliev+ 2012; Jensen+ 2013

Wiersma+ 2013; Vrbanec+ 2016; Vrbanec+ in prep



 $\diamond$  Intensity of the power spectrum  $\rightarrow$  volume average HI

Wiersma+ 2013; Vrbanec+ 2016; Vrbanec+ in prep



 $\diamond$  Intensity of the power spectrum  $\rightarrow$  volume average HI

Wiersma+ 2013; Vrbanec+ 2016; Vrbanec+ in prep



2D circularly averaged cross power spectrum

 $\diamond$  Intensity of the power spectrum  $\rightarrow$  volume average HI

Wiersma+ 2013; Vrbanec+ 2016; Vrbanec+ in prep



 $\diamond$  Intensity of the power spectrum  $\rightarrow$  volume average HI

Wiersma+ 2013; Vrbanec+ 2016; Vrbanec+ in prep



 $\diamond$  Intensity of the power spectrum  $\rightarrow$  volume average HI

# CONCLUSIONS

- ♦ Imaging of high-z QSOs' HII regions should be possible with a S/N~few
- $\diamond$  LOFAR should reveal statistical information on duration and peak of the EoR
- ♦ 21cm forest is feasible IF a high-z radio-loud source is found or by stacking
- ♦ Cross-correlation with high-z LAEs should reveal anti-correlation on large scales