

An Introduction to the Cosmic Microwave Background

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astro8405: The Cosmic Microwave Background

Aktionen 🗸

This course intends to give you a modern and up-to-date introduction to the science and experimental techniques relating to the Cosmic Microwave Background. No prior knowledge of cosmology is necessary, your prerequisite are a basic understanding of electrodynamics and thermal physics and some familiarity with Python programming.

Lecture 12:

Sunyaev-Zeldovich Effect (Part I)

SECONDARY temperature anisotropies



CMB photons on their way to us



Last scattering surface

Two things can happen to the CMB photons:

- 1. they are deflected by gravitational potentials
- 2. they get scattered off electrons and atoms

Observer

Scattering of CMB by free electrons



Mroczkowski, Nagai, Basu, Chluba et al. (2019)

Scattering of an isotropic radiation (as in CMB) by stationary electrons produces no net effect, because as many photons are lost from the line of sight as are gained.

However, if the electrons are in motion with respect to the CMB rest frame, they will impart some of their kinetic energy to the photons, which will lead to a spectral distortion. This is the **Sunyaev-Zeldovich (SZ) effect**. This is nothing but the *Compton-y* distortion in the single-scattering limit (i.e. *y* << 1).

The spectral distortion shape will depend on the velocity distribution of the electrons, e.g., thermal electrons will have Maxwell-Boltzmann velocity distribution, which leads to the unique spectrum of the *thermal* SZ effect. Electrons with nonthermal velocities or bulk velocities will leave their own distinct spectral signatures.

Recap: Compton-y distortion

Compton-y distortion is created when scattering between electrons and photons are inefficient in causing an energy exchange. This is typically the case when the electron and photon temperatures are vastly different, so that electrons practically don't change energy after scattering. The energy exchange is parametrized by the Compton *y*-parameter, and we typically have y << 1.

The Kompaneets equation (right) is the general equation describing the Comptonization problem, which can be solved analytically for the limiting case of a small y-parameter ($\Delta \tau \ll 1$):

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial \tau} \equiv \frac{\theta_{\rm e}}{x^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} x^4 \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x} n + \frac{T_{\gamma}}{T_{\rm e}} n(1+n) \right],$$

$$\Delta n \approx \frac{\Delta \tau \,\theta_{\rm e}}{x^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} x^4 \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x} n_{\rm bb} + \frac{T_{\gamma}}{T_{\rm e}} n_{\rm bb} (1+n_{\rm bb}) \right] \approx \frac{\Delta \tau \,(\theta_{\gamma} - \theta_{\rm e})}{x^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} x^4 n_{\rm bb} (1+n_{\rm bb})$$

$$\approx \Delta \tau \,(\theta_{\gamma} - \theta_{\rm e}) \left[4x n_{\rm bb} (1+n_{\rm bb}) - x^2 n_{\rm bb} (1+n_{\rm bb}) (1+2n_{\rm bb}) \right]$$

$$\approx \Delta \tau \,(\theta_{\rm e} - \theta_{\gamma}) G(x) \left[x \frac{e^x + 1}{e^x - 1} - 4 \right] \equiv \Delta \tau \,(\theta_{\rm e} - \theta_{\gamma}) \, Y_{\rm SZ}(x),$$

$$G(x) \equiv x e^x / (e^x - 1)^2$$

$$Y_{SZ}(x) = G(x) \left[x \frac{e^x + 1}{e^x - 1} - 4 \right] \approx \begin{cases} -\frac{2}{x} & \text{for} & x \ll 1 \\ x(x - 4)e^{-x} & \text{for} & x \gg 1. \end{cases}$$



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Recap: y-distortion & the SZ effect

The Compton y-parameter depends on the number of scatterings (dependence on optical depth, τ) and the net energy transfer per scattering, $\Delta v/v \simeq 4(\theta_e - \theta_\gamma)$,

$$y = \int_0^\tau \frac{k(T_e - T_\gamma)}{m_e c^2} \,\mathrm{d}\tau' = \int_0^t \frac{k(T_e - T_\gamma)}{m_e c^2} \sigma_\mathrm{T} N_e c \,\mathrm{d}t' \quad \overset{\sim}{\underset{\sim}{\sum}}$$

In the local universe we have $T_{\gamma} \ll T_e$ such that the Compton y-parameter is simply proportional to the line of sight integral of the electron pressure (y << 1):

$$y = \int_0^\tau \frac{kT_{\rm e}}{m_{\rm e}c^2} \,\mathrm{d}\tau' \approx \theta_{\rm e}\,\tau$$



This is the thermal Sunyaev-Zeldovich effect, first studied by Sunyaev & Zeldovich (1968), for the scattering of CMB photons by thermal electrons inside galaxy clusters.

$$\frac{\Delta T_{\text{CMB}}}{T_{\text{CMB}}} \approx y \left(x \frac{e^x + 1}{e^x - 1} - 4 \right) = y f(x). \qquad \Delta I_v \approx I_0 y \frac{x^4 e^x}{(e^x - 1)^2} \left(x \frac{e^x + 1}{e^x - 1} - 4 \right) \equiv I_0 y g(x)$$

Single IC scattering of CMB photons



Mroczkowski, Nagai, Basu, Chluba et al. (2019)

Single IC scattering of CMB photons

The physics of the SZ effect is very simple. Moving electrons transfer some of their kinetic energy to the low-energy CMB photons via the Doppler effect. This is the well-known formula for the energy ratio of photons after Compton scattering, when $hv \ll \gamma m_e c^2$

$$\frac{\nu'}{\nu} = \frac{1-\beta\mu}{1-\beta\mu' + \frac{h\nu}{\gamma m_{\rm e}c^2}(1-\mu_{\rm sc})} \approx \frac{1-\beta\mu}{1-\beta\mu'}.$$

Here $\beta = v/c$ is the speed of the scattering electron with Lorentz factor $\gamma = 1/\sqrt{1-\beta^2}$ in units of the speed of light, *c*; *m*_e is the electron mass; *h* is the Planck constant; μ and μ' are respectively the direction cosines of the incoming and scattered photon with respect to the incoming electron; and μ_{sc} is the corresponding direction cosine between the incoming and scattered photons.

In single-scattering events, with electron-speeds drawn from an isotropic velocity distribution, there is no net effect in the first order, as the gains and losses average out to leading order, leaving **only a second order term**. The average energy gained by a CMB photon in each scattering is determined by $\Delta v/v = (4/3) \beta^2 = 4k_BT_e / m_ec^2$.

$$\frac{\nu'}{\nu} \approx \frac{1 - \beta \mu}{1 - \beta \mu'} \stackrel{\beta \ll 1}{\approx} 1 - \beta (\mu - \mu') - \beta^2 (\mu - \mu') \mu' + O(\beta^3). \qquad \qquad \left\langle \beta^2 \right\rangle = 3kT_e/m_e c^2.$$
(for Maxwell-Boltzmann)

The original papers



THE INTERACTION OF MATTER AND RADIATION IN A HOT-MODEL UNIVERSE*

YA. B. ZELDOVICH and R. A. SUNYAEV

Institute of Applied Mathematics, U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences, Moscow, U.S.S.R.

Published July 1969 in Astrophys. & Space Science



$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial y} = x^{-2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} x^4 \cdot \frac{\partial n}{\partial x}$$

$$y = -\int_{t_0}^t \frac{\kappa T_e}{m_e c^2} n_e \sigma_0 c dt = \int_0^\tau \frac{\kappa T_e}{m_e c^2} d\tau,$$

$$\frac{\Delta n}{n_0} = \frac{\Delta J}{J_0} = xy \frac{e^x}{e^x - 1} \left\{ \frac{x}{\tanh(x/2)} - 4 \right\}.$$

The original papers



The thermal SZ effect



The thermal SZ effect





Scattering kernel for the tSZ effect



Full spectrum of the tSZ effect

Relativistic correction to the tSZ effect

For very high energy electrons, the Komaneets approximation breaks down (scattering can no longer be considered elastic). This is often the case for hot galaxy clusters, where average temperature can exceed 10 keV, so there are enough relativistic ($\gamma \gtrsim 100$) electrons in the thermal tail (sometimes called the Maxwell-Jüttner distribution).

$$f_{MB}(v) = 4\pi \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right)^{3/2} v^2 e^{-\frac{mv^2}{2kT}}. \qquad f_{MJ}(\beta) d\beta = \frac{\beta^2 \gamma^5 e^{\left(-\frac{m_0 c^2}{kT}\gamma\right)}}{Z_{MJ}} d\beta , \quad Z_{MJ} = \int_0^1 \beta^2 \gamma^5 e^{\left(-\frac{m_0 c^2}{kT}\gamma\right)} d\beta.$$

This spectral departure from the classical non-relativistic calculation is termed as the **relativistic SZ, or rSZ effect**. Just like measuring the X-ray Bremsstrahlung spectrum in the high-energy part, this is an effective tool to measure cluster temperatures directly.

$$\left\langle \frac{\Delta v}{v} \right\rangle \approx 4\Theta_{\rm e} + 10\Theta_{\rm e}^2 + \frac{15}{2}\Theta_{\rm e}^3 - \frac{15}{2}\Theta_{\rm e}^4 + O(\Theta_{\rm e}^5), \qquad \Theta_{\rm e} = kT_{\rm e}/m_{\rm e}c^2$$
$$\left\langle \left(\frac{\Delta v}{v}\right)^2 \right\rangle \approx 2\Theta_{\rm e} + 47\Theta_{\rm e}^2 + \frac{1023}{4}\Theta_{\rm e}^3 + \frac{2505}{4}\Theta_{\rm e}^4 + O(\Theta_{\rm e}^5), \qquad \Theta_{\rm e} = kT_{\rm e}/m_{\rm e}c^2$$

At higher temperatures (roughly $kT_e > 5$ keV) it is no longer accurate to assume $\Delta v/v \ll 1$ and higher order moments of the scattering kernel becomes important.

Relativistic SZ (or rSZ) effect

There are widely used analytic expressions to compute the rSZ effect (e.g. by Itoh et al. 1998 or Nozawa et al. 1998), but it is best to use numerical packages like SZpack (Chluba et al. 2012) for better accuracy.

rSZ effect measurements

rSZ measurement forecasts

Forecast for the Coma cluster (top) and astacked sample of clusters (bottom) with the proposed PICO satellite (Remazeilles et al. (2020)

Predicted measurement with CCAT-prime (for a single, massive cluster)

Jens Erler Ph.D. Thesis

Different types of SZ effect: kSZ, pSZ

tSZ

kSZ

rSZ

pSZ

ntSZ

Below is the *first measurement* of the kSZ effect from internal gas motions in a cluster (MACS J0717.5; Mroczkowski et al. 2012, Adam et al. 2017)

The kinematic SZ (kSZ) effect is caused by the motion of the clusters (i.e. the scattering electrons) as a whole, or from its internal bulk motion.

A polarized SZ (pSZ) effect can arise from scattering of the quadrupole radiation in the cluster frame, both primordial and due to cluster's transverse motion (this is much smaller).

Nonthermal SZ (ntSZ) is the effect caused by nonthermal distribution of electrons, mostly power-law electrons.

Kinematic SZ effect

$$\frac{\Delta T_{SZE}}{T_{CMB}} = -\tau_e \left(\frac{v_{pec}}{c}\right)_{\parallel}$$

Importance of measuring the kSZ effect

kSZ effect is one of the most promising tool to map the cosmic velocity field in the linear regime. This has huge potential for cosmology, since the amplitude of the velocity field is directly proportional to the growth rate of structure and the matter density.

Cosmology recap: velocity and overdensity

The continuity equation relates the divergence of the peculiar velocity with the time rate of change of the total density perturbations:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = -a \frac{\partial \delta}{\partial t},$$

which is commonly expressed in terms of the linear velocity growth rate

$$f(a) = \frac{a}{D_+} \frac{\mathrm{d}D_+}{\mathrm{d}a} = \frac{\mathrm{d}\log D_+}{\mathrm{d}\log a},$$

The approximation for growth rate is valid only for ACDM cosmology, for other cosmologies it would be different!

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = -f(a)\dot{a}\delta \simeq -\Omega_m^{0.545}(a)aH(a)\delta,$$

In the Fourier domain:

$$\vec{v}(\vec{k}) = i \frac{d \ln D}{d \ln a} \frac{a H \delta(\vec{k}) \vec{k}}{k^2}$$

But beware, **kSZ** is actually measuring the momentum, i.e., the product of mass and velocity. So we need a prior knowledge of the baryon distribution (i.e. optical depth) in clusters first. Alternatively, one can use prior velocity measurements to gain insight on the baryonic content in clusters via kSZ.

Another types of SZ effect: non-thermal

Non-thermal SZ is the spectral distortion from ultra-high energy electrons with power-law energy distribution (i.e. cosmic ray electrons). A very recent observation has provided strong evidence for this signal inside AGN bubbles on galaxy clusters.

Nonthermal SZ (ntSZ) effect

Polarized SZ (pSZ) effect

Recall that polarization is caused by a quadrupole temperature (intensity) anosotropy.

CMB itself has an intrinsic quadrupole moment. Also transverse motion of galaxy clusters will create a quadrupole moment from relativistic aberration. A second-order effect can be created also from the anisotropic distribution of electrons within the cluster, via second scattering.

Polarization angles from transverse motion (Sazonov & Sunyaev 1999)

Bachelor's thesis of Nikolas Pässler

Polarized SZ (pSZ) effect

There are many possible sources of polarized SZ signal, among which the ones introduced by the intrinsic quadrupole and bulk transverse motions are the most prominent (and cosmologically interesting). The hope will be that we can separate all these from their different spectral dependence or via stacking techniques.

Table and figure from Voyage 2050 science paper, which were adapted from Khabibullin et al. (2018).

Thermal SZ effect summary

Kinematic SZ effect summary

Relativistic corrections (2.order) summary

$$\delta I_{\nu} = \tau \frac{2(kT_{CMB})^2}{hc^2} \frac{x^4 e^x}{(e^x - 1)^2} \left\{ \frac{V}{c} \mu + \frac{kT_e}{m_e c^2} (-4 + F) + \left(\frac{V}{c}\right)^2 \left(-1 - \mu^2 + \frac{3 + 11\mu^2}{20}F\right) + \frac{V}{c} \frac{kT_e}{m_e c^2} \mu \left[10 - \frac{47}{5}F + \frac{7}{10}(2F^2 + G^2) \right] \text{ thermal-kinematic SZ (tkSZ)} + \left(\frac{kT_e}{m_e c^2}\right)^2 \left[-10 + \frac{47}{2}F - \frac{42}{5}F^2 + \frac{7}{10}F^3 + \frac{7}{5}G^2(-3 + F) \right] \right\} \text{ relativistic tSZ (rtSZ / rSZ)}$$

From Sazonov & Sunyaev (1998)

For a massive cluster with hot plasma (~ 5 keV) and moving with very high peculiar velocity (~ 300 km/s):

$$\left(\frac{kT_e}{m_ec^2}\right) \sim 10^{-2}$$

$$\left(\frac{v_{\rm pec}}{c}\right) \sim 10^{-3}$$

where $F = x \operatorname{coth} (x/2)$, and $G = x/\sinh (x/2)$.

All these different components of the SZ effect have different spectral dependences (i.e. different combination of *F* and *G*), so it is possible to separate them using any ILC-like method.

The tSZ and kSZ are now well established, and the rtSZ is marginally detected. There is forecast for detecting the tkSZ in the next 10 years. The rkSZ is still a long shot..

Redshift-independence of the SZ effect

Sine the SZ effect is a scattering of the background CMB photons, the effect of the cosmic expansion is the same on both the scattered and unscattered photons. In other words, the signal is independent of redshift!

Hence if you can resolve the cluster, the total flux density within the telescope beam remains constant no matter the distance of the cluster, provided the intrinsic property of the cluster remains the same.

$$\Delta S_{\nu} = \int \Delta I_{\nu} \ d\Omega \propto \frac{\int n_e T_e \ dV}{D_A^2} \propto \frac{f_{\rm gas} M_{\rm tot} T_e}{D_A^2}$$

Carlstrom, Holder, and Reese (2002)

Some recent SZ results The first four SZE discovered galaxy clusters

F-CL 3517-5430

Source: Staniszewski et al. 2009

In six years (SPT alone)

~700 confirmed galaxy clusters from the SPT 2500 deg² field (Bleem et al. 2015)

State-of-the-art: ACT (2020) results

In the next few years..

SPT-3G, currently taking data, is expected to find over 5000 clusters

Simons Observatory and CCAT-prime will jointly find well over 10,000 clusters in the next ~3 years.

CCAT-prime's unique strength will be the separation of the tSZ, kSZ and rSZ components from multi-frequency observations

An Introduction to the CMB

Our own CCAT-prime project (with collaborators from US and Canada) will start taking data in 2021

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Questions?

Feel free to email me or ask questions in our eCampus Forum