

# **COSMOLOGICAL MAGNETIC FIELDS AND CMBR POLARIZATION**

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**WMAP AND THE EARLY  
UNIVERSE**

# CONTENT

1. Description of polarization of photons.
2. Polarization field of CMBR
3. Faraday effect.
4. Cosmic magnetic fields.
5. Faraday rotation of CMBR polarization

# Description of polarization of photons.

Polarization density matrix:

$$\rho_{ij} = \langle E_i E_j^* \rangle$$

$\rho_{ij}$  is 2nd rank tensor in 2D  $(x, y)$ -space if photon propagates along  $z$ .

## INVARIANTS:

1. Trace = intensity of radiation:

$$T = \delta_{ij} \rho_{ij} = |E_x|^2 + |E_y|^2$$

2. Helicity:

$$\mathbf{V} = \epsilon_{ij} \rho_{ij}$$

Stokes parameters:

$$\rho_{ij} = T (I/2 + \xi_k \sigma_k)$$

$I$  = unit matrix,

$\sigma_k$  = Pauli matrices,  $k = 1, 2, 3$ .

Harmonic photons:

$$E_x = E_0 e_x \exp[-i\omega t + i\beta_x]$$

$$E_y = E_0 e_y \exp[-i\omega t + i\beta_y]$$

$$e_x^2 + e_y^2 = 1$$

Stokes parameters:

$$\xi_2 = e_x e_y \sin(\beta_x - \beta_y)$$

$\xi_2$  is **invariant** and describes circular polarization, i.e. photon helicity (pseudoscalar):

$$\lambda = \mathbf{s}\mathbf{k}/\omega$$

$\xi_1$  and  $\xi_3$  describe linear polarization:

$$\xi_3 = (e_x^2 - e_y^2) / 2$$

$$\xi_1 = e_x e_y \cos(\beta_x - \beta_y)$$

They transform under coordinate rotation in  $(x, y)$ -plane by angle  $\phi$  as:

$$\xi'_1 = \xi_1 \cos 2\phi - \xi_3 \sin 2\phi$$

$$\xi'_3 = \xi_1 \sin 2\phi + \xi_3 \cos 2\phi$$

One can always make by rotation

$$\xi_1 = 0$$

Eigen-functions of rotation:

$$\xi_3 \pm i\xi_1 \rightarrow \exp [\pm 2i\phi] (\xi_3 \pm i\xi_1)$$

# POLARIZATION BY THOMSON SCATTERING

Unpolarized photons on non-relativistic electrons:

$$\gamma + e \rightarrow \gamma' + e'$$

produce polarized photons. If the reaction amplitude is

$$A = e'_i \mathcal{A}_i$$

then

$$\rho_{ij} \sim \mathcal{A}_i \mathcal{A}_j^*$$

Coordinates:  $z$  is  $\gamma'$  direction,  $x$  is in the reaction plane,  $\theta$  is the scattering angle:

$$\xi_3 = \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\omega/\omega' + \omega'/\omega - \sin^2 \theta} \approx \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{1 + \cos^2 \theta}$$

Thomson cross-section:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{3}{16\pi} \frac{8\pi\alpha^2}{3m_e^2} (1 + \cos^2 \theta)$$

The only non-vanishing combination in the amplitude:

$$\mathbf{e}' \cdot \mathbf{k} \sim \sin \theta$$

Hence,

$$\xi_3 \sim \sin \theta^2$$

By the choice of coordinate direction:

$$\xi_1 = 0$$

Due to **PARITY CONSERVATION**:

$$\xi_2 = 0$$

## POLARIZATION OF CMBR

Polarization vanishes in **homogeneous and isotropic** world.

Assumed vanishing circular polarization.

In this case intensity of polarization is described by two functions,  $Q = T\xi_3$  and  $U = T\xi_1$ , where  $T$  is total intensity of radiation with frequency  $\omega$ :

$$\bar{\rho} = \begin{bmatrix} Q & U \\ U & -Q \end{bmatrix}$$

Total polarization as a result of Thomson scattering should be obtained by integration over all angles  $d\Omega = d\cos\theta d\phi$  with rotation around  $z$  to the common coordinate system:

$$Q - iU = \frac{\sigma_T}{\sigma_N} \int d\omega \sin^2\theta \exp[2i\phi] T'(\theta, \phi)$$

where  $\sigma_N$  is a normalization area.

Scattered polarization proportional to  
quadrupole moment of incoming radiation.



# PROPERTIES OF CMBR POLARIZATION FIELD

Two more (differential) invariants:

1. Scalar:  $S = \partial_i \partial_j \rho_{ij}$
2. Pseudoscalar:  $P = \epsilon_{ik} \partial_i \partial_j \rho_{jk}$  If density

perturbations are purely scalar, then:

$$\rho_{ij} = \left( 2\partial_i \partial_j - \delta_{ij} \partial^2 \right) \Psi$$

For scalar perturbations

$$P=0$$

**Non-zero P is an indication for something beyond scalar perturbations**

Could be:

1. **Vector perturbations, e.g. magnetic field**

$$\rho_{ij} = \partial_i V_j - \partial_j V_i$$

$$P = \epsilon_{ij} \partial^2 \partial_i V_j$$

2. **Tensor perturbations, gravitational waves**

$$\rho_{ij} \sim \partial_i h_{3j} - \partial_j h_{3i}$$

3. **Second order perturbations** (S. Matarrese, yesterday)

$$\rho_{ij} \sim \partial_i \Psi_1 \partial_j \Psi_2 - \partial_i \Psi_2 \partial_j \Psi_1$$

(e.g.  $\Psi_2 = \partial_t \Psi_1$ )

“Direction” of polarization by “vector”

$$v = (Q, U)$$

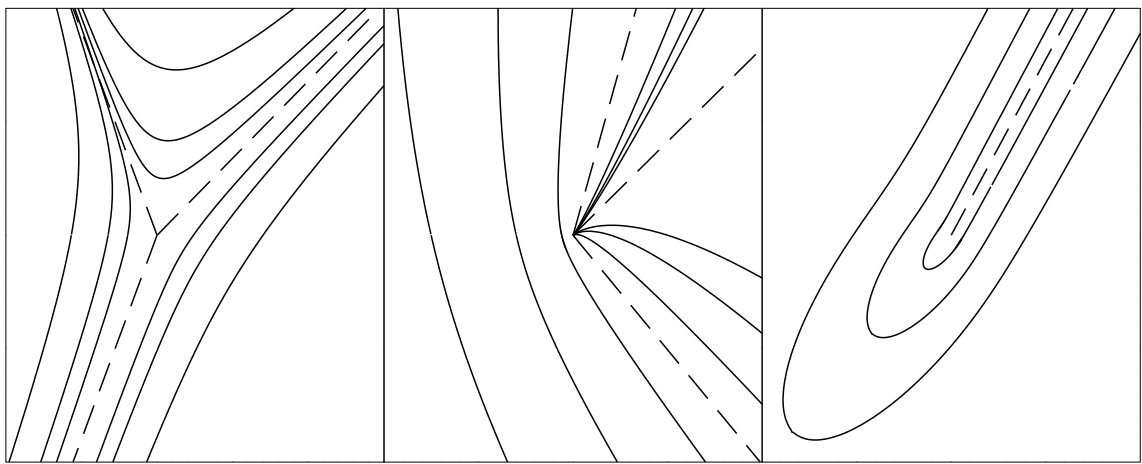
$v$  is not a vector but some mixture of 2nd rank tensor components. Polarization map changes under rotation.

Singular points of  $v$ : usual saddles, foci, knots.

**Different singular points transform into each other under rotation!**

Real vectors indicating direction of polarization field are eigenvectors of  $\rho_{ij}$ .

Nonanalytic at zero polarization points - new types of singularities.



a

b

c

TYPES OF SINGULAR POINTS OF THE  
EIGENVECTORS OF POLARIZATION  
MATRIX: SADDLE, BEAK, COMET

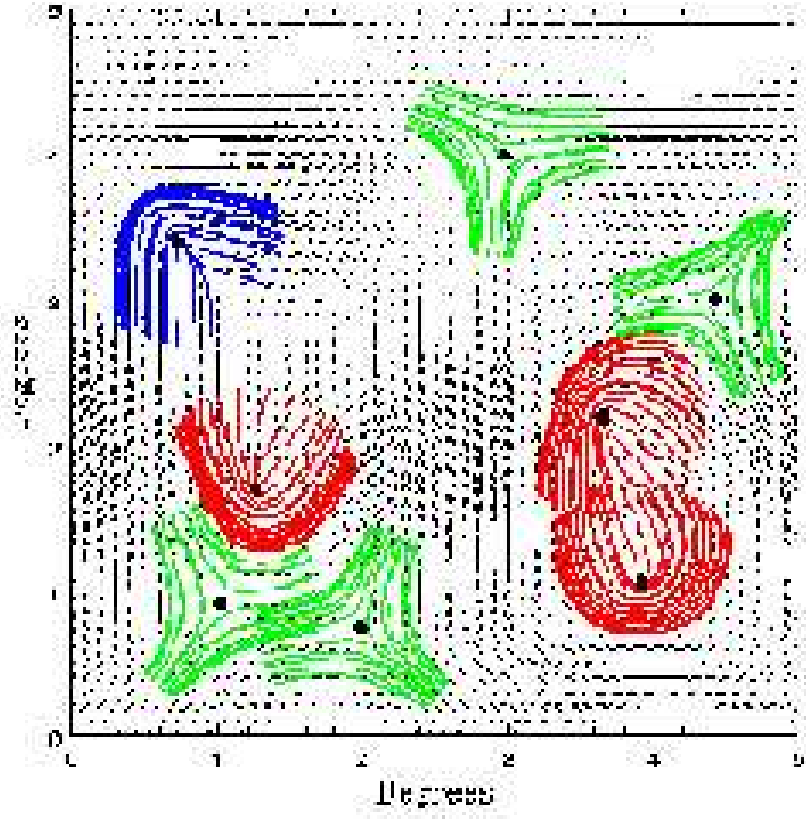


Figure 1: Simulated map of CMB polarization vector field  $\vec{n}^{(+)}$ . Solid lines show the flux line behavior near singular points where polarization vanishes.

## FARADAY EFFECT

(rotation of polarization plane of linearly polarized photons in magnetic field)

In medium without reflection symmetry refraction index for left- and right-handed photons are different,  $n_+ \neq n_-$ .

Linearly polarized wave can be decomposed into two rotationally polarized ones rotating in opposite directions:

$$1 = (1 + i)/2 + (1 - i)/2,$$

or

$$E^{(in)} = E_x = (E_+ + E_-)/2$$

Each helicity state propagates independently:

$$E_{\pm}^{(fin)} = \exp[ik_{\pm}l] E_{\pm}^{(in)}$$

If  $k_{\pm} = k_0 \pm \Delta k$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} E_x^{(fin)} &= E_x^{(in)} \exp[ik_0 l] \cos(\Delta k l) \\ E_y^{(fin)} &= E_x^{(in)} \exp[ik_0 l] \sin(\Delta k l) \end{aligned}$$

Relative phase remains zero and the [rotation angle](#) is

$$\Phi = \arctan \left[ E_y^{(fin)} / E_x^{(fin)} \right] = \Delta k l$$

# REFRACTION INDEX OF IONIZED GAZ

Equation of motion of electrons, with charge  $(-e)$ , in external magnetic field  $\mathbf{B}_0$  and electromagnetic wave  $\mathbf{E} \exp[i\omega t]$ :

$$\ddot{\mathbf{r}} = e\mathbf{B}_0 \times \dot{\mathbf{r}} - e\mathbf{E} \exp[i\omega t]$$

Decompose propagating wave in terms of helicity states

$$\mathbf{E} = C_+ (\mathbf{n}_x + i\mathbf{n}_y) + C_- (\mathbf{n}_x - i\mathbf{n}_y)$$

for which equation diagonalizes and solves as

$$\mathbf{x}_{\pm} = \frac{e\mathbf{E}_{\pm}}{m\omega (\omega \mp \omega_B)}$$

where  $\omega_B = eB_0/m$ .

Electric polarization moment:

$$\mathcal{P}_{\pm} = -N_e e \mathbf{x}_{\pm}$$

Dielectric constant

$$\epsilon_{\pm} = 1 + 4\pi\mathcal{P}/E = 1 + \frac{4\pi e^2 N_e}{m\omega(\omega \mp \omega_B)}$$



Refraction index  $n = \sqrt{\epsilon}$  and thus differential Faraday rotation is

$$\frac{d\phi}{dl} = \frac{2\pi N_e e^3 B_0}{m^2 \omega^2}$$

where  $m$  is electron mass,  $e^2 = \alpha = 1/137$ ,  $N_e$  is number density of electrons.

Usually the results is presented in terms of frequency  $\nu = \omega/(2\pi)$  or wave length  $\lambda = 1/\nu$ .

# COSMIC MAGNETIC FIELDS

Observed in galaxies

$$B_{gal} = \text{a few } \mu\text{G},$$

with coherence scale **a few kpc**.

Intergalactic fields  $B_{ig} \sim 10^{-3} B_{gal}$ ,  
scale:  $\sim (0.1 - 1)$  Mpc.

Adiabatic compression:  $B \sim 1/l^2$ :

$$l_{gal}^{(in)} / l_{gal} \sim 10^2,$$

$$l_{ig}^{(in)} / l_{ig} \sim 3,$$

Expect  $B_{gal} \sim 10^3 B_{ig}$ , if common origin and  
no galactic dynamo amplification.

Possible galactic dynamo amplifies by  **$10^{15 \pm 5}$ !**  
If this is the case then primordial magnetic  
fields would not influence CMBR polarization.  
Otherwise, if  $B \sim 10^{-9}$  Gauss, the effect may  
be noticeable.

## POSSIBLE MECHANISMS OF FIELD GENERATION.

1. Galactic processes, stellar phenomena and reconnection of field lines.
  2. Processes during structure formation.
  3. -"- recombination epoch; vorticity,  $\nabla \times V$  may be generated in the second order.
  4. -"- in the early universe:
    - a) inflation  $\rightarrow$  small fields but large scale;
    - b) phase transitions  $\rightarrow$  large fields but small scales.
- 2,3,4 might create noticeable fields at CMBR decoupling potentially observable by **Faraday rotation**.

Dependence on cosmic scale factor:

$$d\Phi \sim \lambda^2 N_e B a d\eta \sim a^2 \frac{1}{a^3} \frac{1}{a^2} a \sim \frac{1}{a^2}$$

$\eta$  is conformal time;  $B \sim 1/a^2$  (assumed!).

**Rotation is dominated by early epoch, around recombination.** Before recombination  $l_{free}$  is small and  $\langle \Phi \rangle = 0$ . After,  $N_e$  drops down. Reionization epoch?

## ESTIMATE OF ROTATION ANGLE

Differential rotation angle:

$$\frac{d\Phi}{d\eta} = \frac{x_e N_e e^3 a}{2\pi m^2 \nu^2} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{n}$$

where  $x_e$  is ionization fraction and  $\mathbf{n}$  is the unit vector in the direction of propagation of radiation.

By assumption  $Ba^2 = \text{const} = B_0 a_0^2$  is equal to the present day value.

Optical depth:

$$\frac{d\tau}{d\eta} = N_e \sigma_T a$$

Total rotation angle (for homogeneous field along photon propagation):

$$\Phi = \frac{3\lambda_0^2 \mathbf{B}_0 \cdot \mathbf{n}}{16\pi^2 e} \int d\tau \exp(-\tau) = \frac{3\lambda_0^2 \mathbf{B}_0 \cdot \mathbf{n}}{16\pi^2 e}$$

(remember that  $e^2 = \alpha$ ). Numerically:

$$\Phi \approx 2^\circ \left( \frac{B_0}{10^{-9} \text{ Gauss}} \right) \left( \frac{30 \text{ GHz}}{\nu_0} \right)^2$$

(1 Gauss =  $6.9 \cdot 10^{-14}$  MeV<sup>2</sup>).

# STATISTICAL PROPERTIES OF MAGNETIC FIELD

All in present day values:

$$\mathbf{B}_0(\mathbf{x}) = a^2(\eta) \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{x}, \eta)$$

Fourier modes:

$$\mathbf{B}_0(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3k e^{-i\mathbf{k}\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{b}_0(\mathbf{k})$$

Sub-zero is omitted below.

Correlator:

$$\langle B_i(\mathbf{x}_1) B_j(\mathbf{x}_2) \rangle = C_{ij}(|\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2|)$$

because of homogeneity and isotropy on the average.

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi_{ij} = \langle b_i(\mathbf{k}_1) b_j^*(\mathbf{k}_2) \rangle &= 2 (2\pi)^3 \delta(\mathbf{k}_1 - \mathbf{k}_2) \\ &\quad \left[ (\delta_{ij} - \kappa_i \kappa_j) S(k) + i \epsilon_{ijl} \kappa_l A(k) \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\kappa_i = k_i / |\mathbf{k}|.$$

Energy of magnetic field

$$\int d^3x B_j^2 = (2/\pi^2) \int dk k^2 S(k)$$

## CORRELATOR OF ROTATION ANGLES

$$\langle \Phi(\mathbf{n}) \Phi(\mathbf{m}) \rangle = \left( \frac{3}{16\pi^2 e} \right)^2 \int d\eta g(\eta) \int d\eta' g(\eta') \langle [\mathbf{B}_0(\Delta\eta \mathbf{n}) \cdot \mathbf{n}] (\mathbf{B}_0(\Delta\eta' \mathbf{m}) \cdot \mathbf{m}) \rangle$$

where  $g(\eta) = (d\tau/d\eta) \exp[-\tau(\eta)]$   
and  $\delta\eta = \eta - \eta_0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \langle (\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{n})(\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{m}) \rangle = & \\ & \frac{1}{2(2\pi)^3} \int d^3k \{ [(\mathbf{n}\mathbf{m}) - (\mathbf{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\kappa})(\mathbf{m} \cdot \boldsymbol{\kappa})] S(k) + \\ & i [(\mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{m}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\kappa}] A(k) \} \exp [-i\mathbf{k} (\mathbf{n}\Delta\eta - \mathbf{m}\Delta\eta')] \end{aligned}$$

Term  $\sim A$  vanishes.

Expressions through Fourier spectrum of  $B$ :

$$\langle (\mathbf{Bn})(\mathbf{Bm}) \rangle = \left[ (\mathbf{nm})C_{\perp}(r) + (\mathbf{nr}/r)(\mathbf{mr}/r)(C_{\parallel}(r) - C_{\perp}(r)) \right]$$

where  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{n}\Delta\eta - \mathbf{m}\Delta\eta'$ , and

$$C_{\perp}(r) = \frac{2}{3(2\pi)^3} \int_0^{\infty} dk \mathcal{E}_B(k) \left[ j_0(kr) - \frac{j_2(kr)}{2} \right]$$

$$C_{\parallel}(r) = \frac{2}{3(2\pi)^3} \int_0^{\infty} dk \mathcal{E}_B(k) [j_0(kr) + j_2(kr)]$$

where  $j_i(x)$  are the spherical Bessel functions of the  $i^{th}$  order.

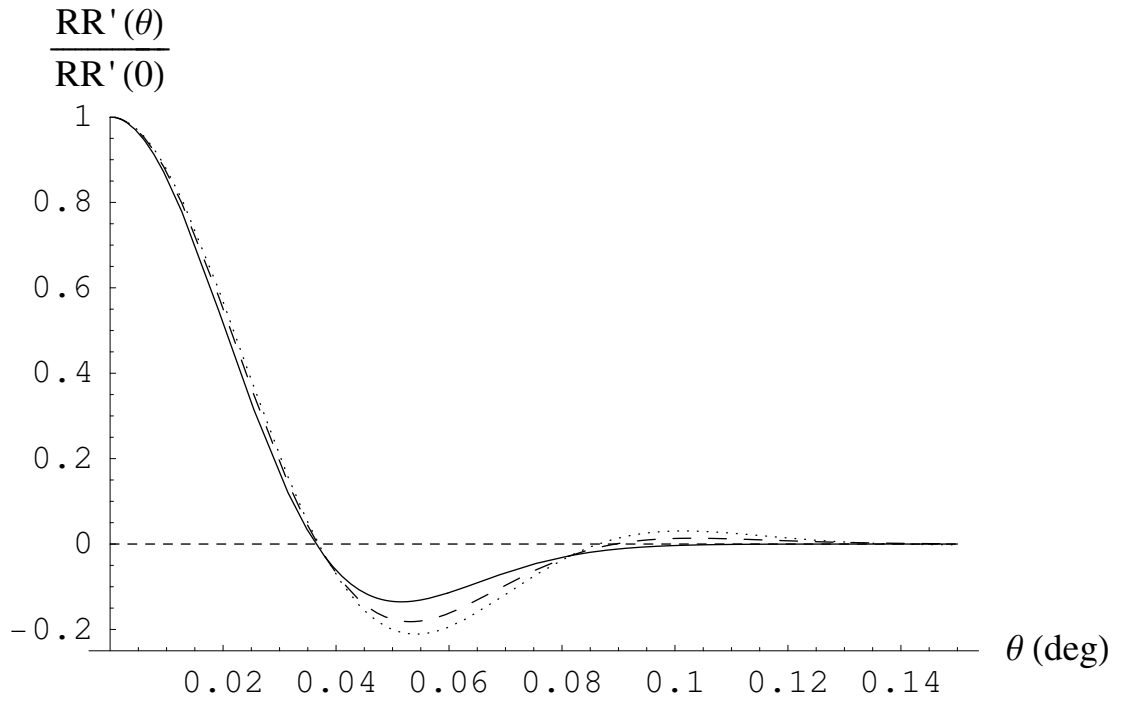


Figure 2: Faraday rotation measure correlation  $RR'(\theta)$  as a function of the separation angle  $\theta$ . The three lines correspond to the magnetic field spectral index  $n_S = 2$  (*solid line*),  $n_S = 4$  (*dashed line*) and  $n_S = 6$  (*dotted line*). The correlation length of the magnetic field is  $\xi = 20$  Mpc.



## CONCLUSION

1. We do not understand how large scale cosmic magnetic fields have been formed. If  $B_{gal}$  and  $B_{ig}$  have the same origin and galactic dynamo did not operate, impact of primordial fields would be observable in CMBR polarization.
2.  $P$ -type (or  $B$ -type) polarization may mimic GW but different frequency dependence.
3. Eigenvector description may be useful (?). Their statistics?