





Relics of cosmic reionization in the high redshift IGM / Lyman-alpha forest & relevance for dark matter constraints

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Late and rapid cosmic reionization preferred by the data

Thomson scattering on free electrons CMB $\tau = 0.0544^{+0.0070}_{-0.0081}$ mid point: $z_{re} = 7.68 \pm 0.79$ Planck 2018 VI

Lyman-alpha absorption by neutral hydrogen in the IGM

Lyman-alpha emitting galaxies

$$z_{\rm mid} \sim 7-7.5$$

e.g., Choudhury+15

QSO (near zones)

$$z_{\rm mid} \sim 7-7.5$$

Davies+18

QSO (general IGM)

The IGM and Lyman-alpha forest in postprocessing radiative transfer simulations

-> assign ionizing sources to halos -> perform post-processing radiative transfer with the ATON code -> calibrate source model to data (Lyman-alpha forest, CMB) -> late reionization ending z~5.3 preferred (Kulkarni+19, Keating+19)



Constraining dark matter free streaming

dark matter free streaming suppresses small scale power



Dunstan et al. 2011

Constraining dark matter free streaming



The IGM in a cold and warm dark matter universe



Other effects on small scale Lyman-alpha forest

thermal broadening

Doppler broadening due to thermal motions of hydrogen atoms

> mostly captured in post-processing radiative transfer

pressure smoothing

hydrodynamic reaction to photo-heating

> not captured in post-processing radiative transfer

Hybrid radiative-transfer / hydrodynamical simulations



Puchwein et al. 2019, in prep.

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Effect of pressure smoothing / patchy reionization on the density distribution of the IGM



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Effect of patchy reionization on the IGM temperature



Effect of patchy reionization on the IGM temperature



Effect of patchy reionization on the density distribution of the IGM



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Flux power spectrum and impact of patchy reionization



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Flux power spectrum and impact of patchy reionization



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Flux power spectrum and impact of patchy reionization



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Summary

- Lyman-alpha forest fluctuations favour a very late hydrogen reionization ending at z~5.3 (see Laura Keating's talk)
 - close to sweet spot for constraining dark matter
- new simple method to model patchy reionization in cosmological hydrodynamical simulations
 - additional large scale power in the high-z Lyman-alpha forest
 - effects of fluctuations in pressure smoothing and thermal broadening (partly) cancel (consistent with Wu+19)
 - preliminary: probably minor effect for dark matter free streaming / warm dark matter constraints