



The Planck Low Frequency Instrument

Marco Bersanelli

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The Planck Collaboration

Planck Core Team



PLANCK COLLABORATION: P. A. R. Ade, N. Aghanim, B. Aja, E. Alippi, L. Aloy, P. Armand, M. Arnaud, A. Arneole, A. Arreola-Villanueva, E. Artal, E. Artina, A. Arts, M. Ashdown, J. Aumont, M. Azzaro, A. Bacchetta, C. Baccigalupi, M. Baker, M. Balaini, A. J. Banday, G. Barbier, R. B. Barteirro, M. Bartelmann, P. Battaglia, E. Bittaner, K. Benabet, J.-L. Beney, R. Beneyton, K. Bennett, A. Benott, J.-P. Perrard, P. Bhandari, P. Cardus, S. C. Mirola, S. Caminade, P. Cartus, S. C. M. Cantaluyo, B. G. Carry, A. C. Cantalano, D. Gayon, M. Guzya, D. Brenz, D. Brenz, D. Direnz, D. Cieron, B. Collaudin, J.-M. Colley, S. Colombi, J. Colombi, J. Colombi, S. Colouby, O. Corre, F. Couchot, B. Cougan, A. Coulais, P. Couzin, B. Crane, B. Crill, M. Crook, D. Crumb, F. Cuttaia, O. Casaro, H. Chaingeau, A. Chailburo, B. Collaudin, J.-M. Colley, S. Du, D. Duersin, J. Doursi, J. Douyes, J. Douyes, D. Douyes, J. Douyes, D. Conglina, G. Garonaro, C. Farne, R. Cill, M. Grook, D. Crames, R. Carra, F. Garola, G. Garotano, C. Garon, M. Granki, G. Garolamo, C. Danessi, D. Evoltani, J. G. Garolamo, C. Garone, R. Carvila, M. Garani, G. Garolamo, C. Garone, R. Carvila, M. Garani, S. H. Carvila, M. Garani, G. Garolamo, C. Garone, R. Carvila, M. Garani, G. Garolamo, C. Barbier, R. Hasel, J. Hasinski, F. Kase, P. Estaria, M. C. Falvella, F. Ferrari, F. Finelli, J. Fishman, S. Sogliani, S. Foley, A. Fonseca, G. Gorma, O. Forni, P. Fourino, M. Grin, A. Carrypueva, L. Gugliebin, D. Guichone, R. Coulaudi, J.-Hasinski, T. Cardis, S. Galetta, J. Galegos, K. Garaga, J. Garcis, M. Garola, G. Garcis, T. Garcis, S. Beretrin, J. Herroros, V. Hervier, A. Hasel, M. Herlen, Y. Heckler, Y. Heckler,





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The Low Frequency Instrument

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Low frequency side (30, 44, 70 GHz) of Planck observations



- Based on InP HEMT low noise amplifiers cooled to 20K
- Differential pseudo-correlation receiver, comparing sky signal with internal BB reference load at 4K
- System naturally sensitive to polarization

	CENTER FREQUENCY [GHz]							
INSTRUMENT CHARACTERISTIC	30	44	70					
nP HEMT Detector technology	M	MMIC						
Detector temperature		$20\mathrm{K}$						
Cooling system	H_2 Sorption Cooler							
Number of feeds	2	3	6					
Angular resolution [arcminutes FWHM]	33	24	14					
Effective bandwidth [GHz]	6	8.8	14					
Sensitivity [mK Hz ^{-1/2}]	0.17	0.20	0.27					
System temperature [K]	7.5	12	21.5					
Noise per 30' reference pixel $[\mu K]$	6	6	6					
$\Delta T/T$ Intensity ^b [10 ⁻⁶ μ K/K]	2.0	2.7	4.7					
$\Delta T/T$) Polarisation (Q and U) ^b [μ K/K]	2.8	3.9	6.7					
Maximum systematic error per pixel $[\mu K] \dots \dots$	< 3	< 3	< 3					

LFI PERFORMANCE GOALS^a

Planck BlueBook pre-launch (2005)





The Low Frequency Instrument

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High polarization purity

OMT: Isolation < -35 dB

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VTT – Finland – LFI 70GHz

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Endoscope picture Ref. horn – 4K load 1.5-mm thermal gap (44GHz)



LFI 4K reference loads



HFI 4K box



LFI pseudo-correlation receiver concept

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- In each radiometer leg, booth sky and reference signals undergo the same 1/f fluctuations (f_k reduced by factor 10⁴)
- Phase switch (4kHz) further suppresses fluctuations (e.g. from Back end)



LFI pseudo-correlation receiver concept

Diode difference

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Gain modulation factor (applied in s/w)

- *r-factor optimized to null radiometer output*
- Further reduction in 1/f knee frequency





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Radiometer difference

- Further stabilization is obtained by differencing the two diode of each radiometer
 - Phase switch non-idealities are removed to first order
 - Improvement in knee frequency demonstrated in EBB tests



Planck scanning strategy: 40-60 spins are fully overlapping Redundancy and crossing in polar regions





LFI pseudo-correlation receiver concept

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LFI as a polarimeter

- Projected angles in the sky optimized to extract Q and U Stokes parameters
- Require differencing between M and S in horncoupled and combination of paired horns
- Paired radiometers downstream the OMT are RF-independent





 $g_{\rm M}, \Delta V_{\rm eff, M}$

Gain calibration and bandpasses need to be accurately

 $g_{\rm S}, \Delta v_{\rm eff, S}$

 Calibration or bandpass errors at ~few 0.01% level introduce significant T to P leakage for EE polarization



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LFI noise spectrum

LFI pre-launch test data



LFI sensitivity

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Noise *measured in-flight*, full mission (CMB channels)

	30GHz	44GHz	70GHz	100GHz	143GHz	217GHz	353GHz
Angular resolution [arcmin]	33.2	28.1	13.1	9.7	7.3	5.0	4.9
Noise sensitivity $[\mu K_{CMB} s^{1/2}]$	148.5	173.2	151.9	41.3	17.4	23.8	78.8
NOISE/PIXEL							
From detector sensitivity [μK_{CMB}]	9.2	12.7	23.9	9.6	5.4	10.7	36.5
Measured from maps [μK_{CMB}]	9.2	12.5	23.2	11.2	6.6	12.0	43.2
Extended mission [months]	48	48	48	29	29	29	29
End-of-missioni [µK _{CMB}]	5.2	7.1	13.2	8.2	4.8	8.8	31.6
Measured End-of-Mission [$\Delta T/T$, $\mu K/K$]	1.9	2.6	4.8	3.0	1.8	3.2	11.6
2005: Blue book GOAL [ΔT/T, μK/K]	2.0	2.7	4.7	2.5	2.2	4.8	14.7
1996: Red book GOAL [Δ T/T, μ K/K]	~ 2						



At end of mission Planck fulfills completely the sensitivity goals proposed in the design phase many years in advance

But this is not enough!



Instrument development Ground & in-flight calibration



Lesson learned: Do not underestimate ground calibration!

Calibration target

LFI radiometer cryo testing (Thales/Laben, Milano 2006)

Eeehorn, OMT

Waveguide

Back-end module LFLunteerated instrument cryo testing Theestaben, Manon 2006)

Back-end uni

8 10

E CAR

TROP

1

Front-end unit

A 10973

American

Tilling .

Blackbody « sky target »

Satellite-level cryo testing (CSL, Liege 2007)

GS

shroud

CSL cryo facility

Planck FM



Main challenge: systematic effetcs

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LFI systematics summary – Temperature

Weighted average of each effect over the 30, 44 and 70GHz channels



• Systematics well under control for TT



Mennella et al 2011 A&A 536, A3

2014, A&A 571, A2+A3

LFI systematic effects

LFI systematics summary – EE polarization

Independent analysis for the 30, 44 and 70GHz channels

70 GHz

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44 GHz

30 GHz



Planck Collaboration, 2020, A&A, 641, A2 2016, A&A, 594, A2+A3 2014, A&A 571, A2+A3 Mennella et al 2011 A&A 536, A3

- As expected, DPC analysis showed significant contamination at 44GHz (and 30GHz) for large scale polarization
- 44GHz channel not used for cosmological analysis



Limiting factors of LFI Characterization Bandpass measurements



- Coupling foregrond emission with instrument systematics
- Intensity to Polarization leakage

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Limiting factors of LFI characterization

Assumption of stationary noise

3-parameter noise model: $P(f) = \sigma_0^2 \left[1 + \left(\frac{f}{f_{\text{knee}}} \right)^{\alpha} \right]$

	KNEE FREQUEN	сү <i>f</i> _{knee} [mHz]	Slope β		
	Radiometer M	Radiometer S	Radiometer M	Radiometer S	
70 GHz					
LFI-18	14.8 ± 2.5	17.8 ± 1.5	-1.06 ± 0.10	-1.18 ± 0.13	
LFI-19	11.7 ± 1.2	13.7 ± 1.3	-1.21 ± 0.26	-1.11 ± 0.14	
LFI-20	8.0 ± 1.9	5.7 ± 1.5	-1.20 ± 0.36	-1.30 ± 0.41	
LFI-21	37.9 ± 5.2	13.3 ± 1.5	-1.25 ± 0.09	-1.21 ± 0.09	
LFI-22	9.7 ± 2.3	14.8 ± 6.7	-1.42 ± 0.23	-1.24 ± 0.30	
LFI-23	29.7 ± 1.1	59.0 ± 1.4	-1.07 ± 0.03	-1.21 ± 0.02	
44 GHz					
LFI-24	26.8 ± 1.3	88.3 ± 8.9	-0.94 ± 0.01	-0.91 ± 0.01	
LFI-25	20.1 ± 0.7	46.4 ± 1.8	-0.85 ± 0.01	-0.90 ± 0.01	
LFI-26	64.4 ± 1.9	68.2 ± 9.5	-0.92 ± 0.01	-0.76 ± 0.07	
30 GHz					
LFI-27	174.5 ± 2.9	108.8 ± 2.5	-0.93 ± 0.01	-0.91 ± 0.01	
LFI-28	130.1 ± 4.4	43.1 ± 2.4	-0.93 ± 0.01	-0.90 ± 0.02	

Planck 2015, A03



Planck in-flight thermal stability

Full LFI mission (8 sureys) S1 S2 **S**3 S4 S5 S6 **S**7 **S**8 70 GHz 4 K load temp. [K] 4.7 30/44 GHz 9 Focal plane temp. [K] S/C switchover 5 20.5 B 5 Back-end temp. [°C] 00 σ 80 Transponde HFI dilution cooler always or switched off 400 200 600 800 1000 1200 1400 Days after launch

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L2 is an extremely stable environment

Thermal changes related to operations during mission lifetime Moderate impact on LFI noise properties

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Limiting factors of LFI characterization

Limiting factors of LFI characterization

Assumption of stationary noise

Planck 2018 release A&A, A02 (2020)



• Noise model assumed average values of $\sigma_{\!_0}, f_{\!_{
m knee}}, lpha$

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 Variations of noise properties were observed, but not studied in detail in previous analyses

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Håvard Tveit Ihle's presentation



Limiting factors of LFI characterization

Limiting factors of LFI characterization

Gain reconstruction



• Large uncertainties in periods of dipole minima

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• Foreground emission contaminating gain reconstruction

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Eirik Gjerløw's presentation





Conclusions

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- The LFI differential scheme strongly <u>suppresses 1/f</u> <u>noise and other instabilities</u>, leading (*to first order*) to a simple 3-parameters noise model
- In-flight, LFI was <u>fully functional (22 radiometers out</u> of 22) and reached its sensitivity goal at end-mission
- <u>Systematic effects</u> are fully under control for Temperature. For Polarization gain <u>calibration</u> and <u>bandpass</u> uncertainties are a challenge at the largest angular scale scales
- The main criticality is the <u>combination of foregrounds</u> with instrumental systematics: This is at the heart of the BeyondPlanck approach
- BeyondPlanck features:
 - fully-iterative calibration
 - parametrisation of bandpasses
 - non-stationary noise

provide a <u>novel opportunity for data analysis of</u> <u>Planck and of other CMB experiments</u>





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 - COMPET-4 program Ο
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 - Grant no.: 776282
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- Mar 2018 to Nov

Collaborating projects:

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- "bits2cosmology"
 - **ERC** Consolidator Grant Ο
 - PI: Hans Kristian Eriksen
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"Cosmoglobe"

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