

CMB Polarization with MAXIPOL and POLARBEAR, and Sunyaev-Zel'dovich observations with APEX-SZ

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We will discuss the balloon-borne CMB polarization experiment MAXIPOL, which is an evolution of the MAXIMA CMB experiment. It uses a rotating half-wave plate to modulate the polarization signal onto 16 single-polarization bolometric photometers. The first scientific flight is planned for 2003.

The POLARBEAR experiment is a proposed ground-based experiment with sufficient sensitivity to characterize the E-mode and lensing B-mode polarization and perform a deep search for the possible gravity-wave B-mode signal. It will be deployed in stages eventually building to a 3000 element transition-edge sensor bolometer array with four frequency bands. The array will be built with planar-antenna coupled bolometers with on-wafer band-defining filters. Systematic error controls include two layers of full ground shields and multiple modulations of the sky signal.

The APEX-SZ experiment will search for galaxy clusters over ~ 100 sq. deg. of sky using a 300 element horn-coupled bolometer array and the 12m APEX telescope to be sited in Atacama Chile. Several thousand clusters should be discovered which will provide a powerful probe of cosmology. The bolometers will have spiderweb absorbers, transition-edge sensors, and SQUID preamplifiers.