

Department of Physics & Astronomy

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3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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B-mode Polarization of the Cosmic Microwave Background

In March of this year the BICEP2 experiment announced the observation of B-mode polarization in the Cosmic Microwave Background radiation. If the source of this polarization is confirmed to be of primordial cosmological origin, the results could have groundbreaking consequences for our understanding of the origin of the universe and even for fundamental physics. This talk aims to provide a pedagogical, self-contained overview of the results and implications of this experiment.

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