Charting the Parameter Space of the Global 21-cm Signal

Aviad Cohen\(^1\), Anastasia Fialkov\(^2\), Rennan Barkana\(^{1,3,4,5}\), Matan Lotem\(^1\)

\(^1\) Raymond and Beverly Sackler School of Physics and Astronomy, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv 69978, Israel
\(^2\) Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, Institute for Theory and Computation, 60 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA
\(^3\) Sorbonne Universités, Institut Lagrange de Paris (ILP), Institut d’Astrophysique de Paris, UPMC Univ Paris 06/CNRS
\(^4\) Department of Astrophysics, University of Oxford, Denys Wilkinson Building, Keble Road, Oxford OX1 3RH, UK
\(^5\) Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics, 31 Caroline St N., Waterloo, ON N2L 2Y5, Canada

ABSTRACT
The early star-forming Universe is still poorly constrained, with the properties of high-redshift stars, the first heating sources, and reionization highly uncertain. This leaves observers planning 21-cm experiments with little theoretical guidance. In this work we explore the possible range of high-redshift parameters including the star formation efficiency and the minimal mass of star-forming halos; the efficiency, spectral energy distribution, and redshift evolution of the first X-ray sources; and the history of reionization. These parameters are only weakly constrained by available observations, mainly the optical depth to the cosmic microwave background. We use realistic semi-numerical simulations to produce the global 21-cm signal over the redshift range \(z = 6 - 40\) for each of 193 different combinations of the astrophysical parameters spanning the allowed range. We show that the expected signal fills a large parameter space, but with a fixed general shape for the global 21-cm curve. Even with our wide selection of models we still find clear correlations between the key features of the global 21-cm signal and underlying astrophysical properties of the high redshift Universe, namely the Ly\(\alpha\) intensity, the X-ray heating rate, and the production rate of ionizing photons. These correlations can be used to directly link future measurements of the global 21-cm signal to astrophysical quantities in a mostly model-independent way. We identify additional correlations that can be used as consistency checks.

Key words: galaxies: formation – galaxies: high redshift – intergalactic medium – cosmology: theory

1 INTRODUCTION
Some of the most exciting epochs in cosmic history, including the cosmic dark ages, the formation of the first radiative sources (cosmic dawn), and the onset of the epoch of reionization during which the entire Universe became ionized, are currently inaccessible observationally. Our theoretical understanding of galaxy formation gives us significant guidance, but this is limited by astrophysical uncertainties (Barkana 2016). A major focus are three cosmical events expected at early times (Madau et al. 1997): cosmic reionization (known to have occurred given the highly ionized Universe at present (Gunn and Peterson 1965)), cosmic heating (likely by X-rays), and Ly\(\alpha\) coupling (an event specific to 21-cm cosmology).

In the hierarchical picture of structure formation, halos grew gradually during the dark ages, assembling mass via gravitational interactions. Massive enough halos were able to retain gas which could radiatively cool, condense and form stars, with the first stellar objects forming at \(z \sim 65\) (Naoz & Barkana 2006; Fialkov et al. 2012). The minimal mass of halos within which stars can form, \(M_{\text{min}}\), depends on the chemical composition of the gas, and in the pristine conditions at high redshifts, two cooling channels dominate: (1) radiative cooling of molecular hydrogen happens in the smallest halos, with mass above \(10^5\) \(M_{\odot}\) (e.g., Tegmark et al. 1997; Bromm et al. 2002; Yoshida et al. 2003), and (2) radiative cooling of atomic hydrogen takes place in halos with mass above \(10^7\) \(M_{\odot}\) (e.g., Barkana & Loeb 2001). Star formation in small halos is a vulnerable process and is believed to be affected by several feedback mechanisms which can either boost or suppress the formation of the next generation of stars. One of the mechanisms discussed in the literature is the Lyman-Werner (LW) feedback. UV radiation in the LW band emitted by the first stars can dissociate hydrogen molecules (Haiman et al. 1997), depleting the reservoirs of gas available for the formation of the future stars (however, the efficiency of the LW feedback is poorly understood, e.g.,
Simulations of high-redshift stellar activity present a large luminosity function to the expected number of halos at likely dominated the early Universe (e.g., Wise et al. 2014; M
dbackground (CMB) optical depth of

tic medium (IGM), resulting in the total cosmic microwave
eration of stars. Stars are believed to have been the main
gas with metals leading to the formation of the next gen-
the gas while supernova explosions enriched the primordial
emitted UV and X-ray radiation which heated and ionized
subsequent star formation within them. Because heavy halos are rare at high redshifts, LW, supernova and photoheating feed-
backs can, when they are effective, delay major cosmological
events such as the heating of the intergalactic gas and reionization. Finally, there is a possibility that light halos
(below the atomic cooling mass) can continue to contribute to
star formation even in the presence of LW radiation, via
the metal-line cooling channel. Because metal-line cooling is
more efficient than molecular cooling, this channel can dom-
inate star formation in small halos once the gas is enriched
by the first supernova explosions. However, the possibility of
star formation via metal cooling in the early universe and its
contribution to the total star formation is highly uncer-
tain (e.g., Jeon et al. 2014; Wise et al. 2014; O’Shea et al.
2014; Cohen et al. 2016).

The fraction of gas that is converted into stars (the
star formation efficiency, hereafter SFE) is another unknown
and can be of order a few tens of percent or lower de-
pending on the halo mass, redshift and dominant feedback
mechanisms. Observations at low redshifts show that the
star formation efficiency is a few percent in massive halos
(Tinker et al. 2010), while isolated dwarf galaxies show a
very low SFE of order $\sim 0.1 - 0.01$ % (Read et al. 2010).
Simulations of high-redshift stellar activity present a large scatter of values for SFE, especially for small halos which
likely dominated the early Universe (e.g., Wise et al. 2014;
O’Shea et al. 2013; Xu et al. 2016). Matching the observed luminosity function to the expected number of halos at $\sim 6$
shows that the peak value of the SFE is 30% for halos of
$M_h \sim 10^{11} - 10^{13} M_\odot$, dropping to SFE $\sim 10\%$ at the low
mass $M_h \sim 2 \times 10^{10} M_\odot$ and high mass $M_h \sim 3 \times 10^{13} M_\odot$
limits (Behroozi & Silk 2013; Mirocha et al. 2015; Mason 2015; Mashian 2016; Sun & Furlanetto 2016).

As noted above, the formation of the first luminous
objects had a dramatic effect on the Universe, completely
changing the environment. The first astronomical objects
emitted UV and X-ray radiation which heated and ionized the
gas while supernova explosions enriched the primordial
gas with metals leading to the formation of the next gen-
eration of stars. Stars have been to have been the main
origin of UV photons which reionized the neutral intergalac-
tic medium (IGM), resulting in the total cosmic microwave
background (CMB) optical depth of $\tau \sim 0.055 \pm 0.009$
(Planck Collaboration et al. 2016b). However, the origin of
the first heating sources, which raised the temperature of
the IGM above that of the CMB, is still debatable. The
most plausible heating radiation is X-rays, which can travel
far even in a neutral Universe. The X-ray efficiency of the
sources as well as their spectral energy distribution (SED)
remain very poorly constrained. Several different candidates
have been proposed in the literature including X-ray binaries
(XRBs) (Mirabel et al. 2011), mini-quasars (Madau et al.
2004), hot gas in the first galaxies, and hard X-rays pro-
duced via inverse Compton scattering of the CMB off elec-
trons accelerated by supernovae (O1 2001). Finally, there
are more exotic possibilities such as dark matter annihilation
(Cirelli et al. 2009). Out of the plethora of candidates, XRBs
(which have a hard SED which peaks around 1 – 3 keV) are
likely to be the dominant source of cosmic heating at $z \gtrsim 6$
(Mirabel et al. 2011; Fragos et al. 2013). The hard spectrum
has a major effect on 21-cm cosmology, substantially delay-
ing cosmic heating and decreasing the amplitude of 21-cm
fluctuations from heating (Fialkov et al. 2014). Extrapolations
of recent observations to high redshift continue to support such a scenario (Madau & Fragos 2016; Mirocha et al.
2016). However, direct observational constraints on the X-
ray efficiency of the first sources are rather weak. Upper
limits on the heating efficiency come from the soft unre-
solved cosmic X-ray background (Fialkov et al. 2016) and
and lower limits are given by the observed upper limits on the
21-cm power spectrum (Ali et al. 2013; Pober et al. 2013;
Fialkov et al. 2016).

The most promising tool to explore the early universe is the redshifted 21-cm signal of neutral hydrogen. It is
strongly affected by astrophysics and cosmology, and, thus,
is believed to be an excellent probe of processes that took
place at high redshifts. In particular, the first stars also are expected to have emitted Ly$\alpha$ photons (plus higher energy
photons that redshifted down to Ly$\alpha$), which coupled
the 21-cm line (in terms of the relative abundance of its ground
and excited states) to the kinetic gas temperature, leading to
a strong, potentially observable, 21-cm signal (Madau et al.
1997), which otherwise would have faded away by $z \sim 30$.

The currently unexplored parameter space of the early
universe leaves a large window within which the 21-cm
signal may fall, making it difficult to predict its shape
and only upper limits have been placed on its power spectrum at redshift $z < 10$
(Ali et al. 2013; Pober et al. 2013; Ewall-Wice et al. 2016).
However, many current and future observations aim to
detect and measure the signal out to $z \sim 35$. Experiments
such as the Experiment to Detect the Global EoR Step
(EDGES, Bowman & Rogers 2010), the Shaped Antenna
measurement of the background RAdio Spectrum (SARAS,
Patra et al. 2013), the Large Aperture Experiment to De-
tect the Dark Age (LEDA, Bernardi et al. 2013) and the
Dark Ages Radio Explorer (DARE, Burns et al. 2012),
are trying to measure the global signal, while the Low
Frequency Array (LOFAR, van Haarlem et al. 2013), the
Murchison Wide-field Array (MWA, Bowman et al. 2013;
Ewall-Wice et al. 2016), the Precision Array to Probe the
Epoch of Reionization (PAPER, Ali et al. 2013), the
Hydrogen Epoch of Reionization Array (HERA, Pober et al.
2014; DeBoer et al. 2016), and the Square Kilometer Array

Bernardi et al. (2014) used a Bayesian method with a simpli-
fied Gaussian model for the absorption feature (see Section 2) to
constrain the global signal using early LEDA observations.

© 2016 RAS, MNRAS 000, 1–16
(SKA, Koopmans et al. 2013) are aiming to measure the power spectrum.

Our goal in this paper is to explore the full parameter space of the global 21-cm signal resulting from the uncertainties in the astrophysical parameters of the high-redshift universe. Other recent work has focused on extrapolating low-redshift observations of galaxies to high redshift (Madau & Fragos 2012; Mirocha et al. 2015), but we adopt a more flexible approach. While it will be interesting to use observations to find out if such extrapolations are accurate, a priori, this cannot be assumed. Compared to current observations (which are mostly at relatively low redshift), conditions are very different at redshift 20, e.g., in terms of the CMB temperature, the cosmic and virial halo densities (of both the dark matter and gas), the typical mass of galactic halos, and halo merger histories. Thus, the astrophysical properties of early galaxies could be quite different from those suggested by extrapolations of observed galaxies, and it is important to keep an open mind until direct observational evidence becomes available.

In what follows, as we lay out the large parameter space possible for the global 21-cm signal, we try to characterize the properties of this signal and find relations between the shape of the global signal and the astrophysical parameters at high redshifts. Mirocha et al. (2013) previously addressed parameter reconstruction using a physical model for the global signal. In this (as well as the follow-up works by Mirocha et al. 2015; Harker et al. 2016, where the authors study how well current and near-future experiments could constrain the four parameters of their model using the measurements of the signal’s three key points and taking into account the foreground and the noise), the authors used analytical formulas or simple models that account only for the mean evolution of the Universe. In contrast, our more realistic simulations include spatial fluctuations in star formation and take into account the finite effective horizons of the radiative backgrounds, spatially inhomogeneous feedback processes, and time delay effects. We also capture a wider parameter space, as our code includes the possibility of having substantial star formation in halos below the atomic cooling threshold, in which case spatially-inhomogeneous processes such as the streaming velocity and LW feedback play a key role (and are included in our 21-cm code but not in others).

This paper is organized as follows: In Section 2 we briefly discuss the general properties of the 21-cm signal as well as our numerical methods. We present and discuss our specific choice of the parameters and their ranges in Section 3 and show the resulting parameter space spun by the 21-cm signal in Section 4. Finally, we summarize our results and discuss our conclusions in Section 5.

2 SIMULATED 21-CM SIGNAL

In order to explore the parameter space of the early universe and produce a library of possible global 21-cm signals in the redshift range $z = 6 - 40$ we use a semi-numerical approach (Mesinger et al. 2011; Vishal et al. 2012; Fialkov et al. 2014). Our code is a combination of numerical simulation and analytical calculations and has enough flexibility to explore the large dynamical range of astrophysical parameters. We simulate large cosmological volumes of the universe (384$^3$ Mpc$^3$; all distances comoving unless indicated otherwise) with a 3 Mpc resolution, and the outcome of the simulation is the resulting inhomogeneous 21-cm signal which for our purposes in this paper we average over the box. In addition, inhomogeneous backgrounds of X-ray, Ly$\alpha$, LW and ionizing radiation at every redshift are computed. In our simulation, the statistical-generated initial conditions for structure formation, i.e., the density field and the supersonic relative velocity between dark matter and baryons (Tseliakhovich & Hirata 2010; Fialkov et al. 2014), are linearly evolved from recombinations to lower redshifts. Using the values of large-scale density and velocity in each cell, we apply the extended Press-Schechter formalism (Barkana & Loeb 2004), as modified by the large scale density fluctuations and the supersonic relative velocities, to calculate the local fraction of gas in collapsed structures in each pixel and at each redshift. We then populate each pixel with stars given the star formation efficiency, as described in Section 3. To calculate the intensities of the various radiative backgrounds we use the star formation rate (SFR), which is determined by the time derivative of the collapsed fraction and the SFE. We use the standard spectra of population II stars from Barkana & Loeb (2005b) (based on Leitherer et al. (1999)) to determine the spectrum and intensity of Ly$\alpha$ and LW photons, the strong LW feedback from Fialkov et al. (2013) (when LW feedback is applied), and the standard cosmological parameters (Planck Collaboration et al. 2014). Star formation is also subject to the photoheating feedback (Sobacchi & Mesinger 2013; Cohen et al. 2016).

The observed cosmic mean 21-cm brightness temperature relative to the CMB can be expressed as (Madau et al. 1997; Furlanetto et al. 2006; Barkana 2016):

$$T_b = 26.8 x_{HI} \left( \frac{1 + z}{10} \right)^{1/2} \left( 1 + \delta \right) \left[ 1 - \frac{T_{CMB}}{T_S} \right] \text{mK},$$

where $x_{HI}$ is the neutral hydrogen fraction, $\delta$ is the matter overdensity, $T_{CMB}$ is the CMB temperature and $T_S$ is the spin temperature, which can be expressed as:

$$T_S^{-1} = \frac{T_{CMB}^{-1} + x_c T_{gas}^{-1} + x_a T_a^{-1}}{1 + x_c + x_a}.$$
signal nearly vanishes. When the luminous sources turn on significantly, the signal reaches a local maximum (still being observed in absorption). We refer to this point as the “high-z maximum point”, and it happens at \( z \approx 30 \) for our standard case (and is equivalent to the turning point B in the nomenclature of Mirocha et al. (2013)). As the first sources of Ly\( \alpha \) photons turn on, Ly\( \alpha \) radiation begins to drive \( T_{\text{gas}} \) to \( T_{\text{gas}} \sim T_{\text{CMB}} \) via the Wouthuysen-Field effect (Wouthuysen 1952; Field 1958). This transition normally occurs before many X-ray sources turn on and thus the signal is seen in absorption. Once Ly\( \alpha \) coupling approaches saturation, and X-ray sources turn on significantly, the signal reaches its local minimum value, \( \sim -170 \) mK in our standard case. We refer to this point as the “minimum point” (equivalent to turning point C of Mirocha et al. (2013)), and it occurs at \( z \approx 18 \) for our standard case. At this time the population of heating sources steadily increases and the contrast between \( T_{\text{gas}} \) and \( T_{\text{CMB}} \) decreases. As the X-ray sources heat the gas, if the gas temperature rises above that of the CMB, the 21-cm signal is seen in emission. As soon as reionization starts, the fraction of neutral gas decreases, thus decreasing the amplitude of the 21-cm signal. In most models (including our standard case), X-ray sources manage to heat the gas inside galaxies. The three key points (within the relevant redshift range) in the evolution of the signal are marked with red dots in Figure 1. The full list of models appears in Appendix A.

### 3 MODEL DETAILS AND PARAMETER RANGES

As discussed in the introduction, high-redshift astrophysical parameters such as the star formation efficiency, X-ray efficiency and SED, and feedback mechanisms, are poorly constrained. However, they have a strong impact on the 21-cm signal, affecting the location and amplitude of the main features of the global signal. To survey possible realizations we ran our simulation code for 193 different sets of astrophysical parameters chosen from the ranges described below, and analyzed the properties of the global 21-cm signal in each case. Table A presents a brief summary of the considered models, while the full list of models and their parameter values is in Appendix A.

#### 3.1 Star Formation Efficiency and Cooling Channel

The star formation efficiency is believed to vary with halo mass, redshift and metallicity of the gas, and it also depends on feedback mechanisms. It strongly affects the shape of the global 21-cm signal by influencing the amount of radiation produced by stars. For otherwise identical astrophysical parameters, a higher SFE implies an earlier onset of Ly\( \alpha \) coupling, and a faster build-up of X-ray and ionizing radiation backgrounds. The 21-cm absorption feature is shallower than in the case of low SFE, because cosmic heating turns on earlier and the gas does not have as much time to cool down. As a function of the SFE, all the key points of the global 21-cm signal are shifted to lower (higher) frequencies in the case of a higher (lower) SFE.

The high-redshift value of the SFE in the small halos where the first population of stars formed is highly unconstrained, due to the lack of direct observations. Existing simulations suggest relatively low values of the SFE, but show a large scatter (e.g., Wise et al. 2014; O’Shea et al. 2013; Xu et al. 2016). Based on the low-redshift observations, typical values of the SFE used in the literature are a few percent (e.g., Furlanetto et al. 2006; Mesinger et al. 2016; Fialkov et al. 2016). However, not only is the typical value of the SFE uncertain, its dependence on halo mass at the low-mass end is unclear as well (Behroozi & Silk 2013; Mirocha et al. 2016; Mason 2014; Mashian 2014; Sun & Furlanetto 2016). Therefore, as in Cohen et al. (2016), we consider two possibilities for the SFE-M\( \bullet \) dependence: a sharp low-mass cutoff

\[
f_*(M) = \begin{cases} 
  f_0 & M_{\text{min}} < M , \\
  0 & \text{otherwise} ,
\end{cases}
\]

and a gradual low-mass cutoff (Machacek et al. 2001; Fialkov et al. 2013):

\[
f_*(M) = \begin{cases} 
  f_0 & M_{\text{min}} < M < M_{\text{atomic}} , \\
  f_* \frac{\log(M/M_{\text{atomic}})}{\log(M/M_{\text{min}})} & M_{\text{min}} < M < M_{\text{atomic}} , \\
  0 & \text{otherwise} ,
\end{cases}
\]

where \( M_{\text{min}} \) is the minimum halo mass for star formation, \( M_{\text{atomic}} \) is the minimum halo mass for atomic cooling, and \( f_* \) is a (constant) parameter that stands for the SFE at the high-mass end. Here we use \( f_* = 5\% \) as our standard value while also adopting the values 0.5% and 50% when exploring...
the parameter space. Note that in both Eqs. (3) and (4), the SFE-M_h dependence is flat for halos above the atomic cooling threshold, though we also vary the minimum halo mass widely, including up to values well above this threshold.

The parameter M_{min} is determined either by the cooling channel through which stars can form, or by feedback. In the hierarchical picture of structure formation, low-mass halos form at higher redshifts and are more numerous than high-mass halos at early times. Therefore, in the cases with lower M_{min}, stars form earlier, leading to an earlier Lyα coupling of the 21-cm signal to T_{gas} and shifting the location of the high-z maximum point to higher redshift.

As described in Section 1, high-redshift star formation could happen via several different channels, with each cooling mechanism having a different minimum cooling mass, which evolves with redshift. For simplicity, we use the minimum virial circular velocity, V_{c}, instead of the minimal cooling mass throughout this paper, since V_{c} is less strongly dependent on redshift (Barkana 2016). To probe different cooling and feedback mechanisms, we consider here five different scenarios:

- Molecular cooling halos: in this case stars can form in halos with masses down to the cooling mass of molecular hydrogen, i.e., V_c = 4.2 km s^{-1} which corresponds to M_{vir} \approx 7 \times 10^6 M_{\odot} at z = 20 if LW feedback is turned off. In all cases with molecular cooling we include LW feedback and star formation efficiency with the gradual low-mass cutoff (Eq. 3).  

- Metal cooling halos: same as molecular cooling halos but without LW, which does not significantly affect the cooling of metal-rich gas, and with star formation efficiency with the sharp low-mass cutoff (Eq. 3). to obtain the maximal effect (this is the “Maximal” case from Cohen et al. 2016). We note that all cases with small halos are significantly affected by the supersonic streaming velocity, which significantly and inhomogeneously suppresses star formation, while halos above the atomic cooling are only weakly affected by it (Tseliakhovich & Hirata 2011; Tseliakhovich et al. 2011; Vishal et al. 2012).

- Atomic cooling halos: stars form in halos with masses down to the cooling threshold of atomic hydrogen, i.e., with V_c = 16.5 km s^{-1} (corresponds to M_{vir} \approx 3 \times 10^7 M_{\odot} at z = 20).

- Massive halos: stars formation occurs in halos with masses down to 10 \times M_{atomic} which corresponds to V_c = 35.5 km s^{-1}.  

- Super-massive halos: stars form in halos with masses down to 100 \times M_{atomic} (V_c = 76.5 km s^{-1}). This or the previous case might correspond to strong supernova feedback that expels all the gas out of low-mass halos.

Table 1. Summary of the considered models. The name of the category of models appears in the first column, for reference. We vary the cooling channel (column 2), star formation efficiency (f_s, column 3), X-ray efficiency of X-ray sources (f_X, column 4), spectral energy distribution of X-ray sources (SED, column 5), and the total CMB optical depth (\tau, column 6), taking various combinations of the various parameters within each category. For each cooling channel, we use all the possible combinations of the parameters f_s, f_X, SED and \tau that are listed in the same category. Note that some of the parameter combinations are ruled out by PAPER measurements and/or they produce only very large \tau > 0.098 and thus fail our normalization criterion. These models are included here but are excluded from our results. Also, in the Fialkov et al. (2016) category, each case has a different lower and upper limit on f_X (see Section 3.2). A complete listing of the details of all the included models is given in Appendix A

| Category | Cooling Channel | f_s | f_X | SED | \tau |
|----------|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Standard Case (1 model) | Atomic cooling | 0.05 | 1 | Hard SED | 0.066 |
| Small Variations (32 models) | Molecular cooling | 0.05 \times \sqrt{10} | \sqrt{10} | Hard SED & Mini-quasars | 0.066 |
| | Massive cooling | 0.05/\sqrt{10} | 1/\sqrt{10} | Soft SED & Mini-quasars | 0.082 |
| Large Variations (20 models) | Metal cooling | 0.5 | 0.1 | Soft SED | 0.066 |
| | Super-massive cooling | 0.005 | 10 | Mini-quasars | 0.098 |
| Space filler (100 models) | Molecular cooling | 0.005 | 0.1 | Soft SED | 0.066 |
| | Atomic cooling | 0.05 | 1 | Hard SED | 0.082 |
| | Massive cooling | 0.5 | 8 | Mini-quasars | 0.06 – 0.11 |
| Fialkov et al. (2016) (22 models) | Atomic cooling | 0.05 lower limit | Soft SED | 0.06 – 0.11 |
| | Massive cooling | 0.05 upper limit | Hard SED | 0.06 – 0.11 |

3.2 X-ray SED and Normalization

X-ray heating strongly affects the expected global 21-cm signal by affecting the depth and the location of the absorption trough, i.e., the minimum point, as well as the subsequent rise towards an emission signal. More efficient X-ray sources imply a shallower absorption trough with its location shifted to higher redshift, plus a higher emission signal at the low-z maximum point. On the other hand, weaker heating results in a deeper trough shifted to lower redshift, with a suppressed or vanishing emission signal. The energy that goes into heating of the IGM depends on the total X-ray energy emitted in the band \sim 0.2 – 10 keV. Photons with lower energies are absorbed locally by dust in the star forming region while more energetic photons have such long mean-free-paths that they lose their energy to redshift effects and some are not absorbed even by the end of reionization. The photons that produce early cosmic heating might also contribute to the unresolved soft X-ray background observed by...
As mentioned in the introduction, the most plausible sources for dominating high redshift X-ray emission are XRBs. They are expected to have a hard X-ray SED that peaks at about $1 - 3$ keV and is nearly independent of redshift. We adopt the hard SED case from [Fragos et al. (2013); Fialkov et al. (2014)] to describe the spectral shape of XRBs. Another category of possible X-ray sources which we consider here are mini-quasars. Because their hard SED is similar in shape to that of XRBs, with only a weak dependence on the black hole mass and redshift [Tanaka et al. (2012)], we adopt the same shape of SED for mini-quasars as for the XRBs for simplicity. In order to cover a wide range of SEDs, we also consider the possibility of a soft power-law SED, we also consider the possibility of a soft power-law SED for mini-quasars as well; in cases that include two different X-ray sources for dominating high redshift X-ray emission are XRBs. They are expected to have a hard X-ray SED that peaks at about $1 - 3$ keV and is nearly independent of redshift. We adopt the hard SED case from [Fragos et al. (2013); Fialkov et al. (2014)] to describe the spectral shape of XRBs.

To calculate the total X-ray luminosity we use the observed SFR–$L_X$ relation:

$$L_X / \text{SFR} = 3 \times 10^{40} \, f_X \, \text{erg} \, s^{-1} \, M_{\odot}^{-1} \, \text{yr},$$

where $L_X$ is the bolometric luminosity summed over $0.2 - 95$ keV, and $f_X$ is the X-ray efficiency of sources (assumed to be constant). This relation is based on observations of nearby starburst galaxies and XRBs [Gillfanov et al. (2004); Gilfanov et al. (2004); Mineo et al. (2012)], and the standard normalization for XRBs (with $f_X = 1$) includes an order-of-magnitude increase in this ratio at the low metallicity expected for high-redshift galaxies [Fragos et al. (2013)]. In any case, we try a wide range of values of $f_X$, so for us Eq. (5) is just a fiducial value. We use Eq. (5) for the cases of a hard spectrum, and in the case of mini-quasars we add to it the ratio between the X-ray luminosity of XRBs (assumed given by Eq. (5)) and that of mini-quasars [Wyithe & Loeb (2003); Fialkov et al. (2014, 2016)]:

$$\frac{L_{\text{MQ}}}{L_{\text{XRB}}} \sim 0.1 \, \left( \frac{0.05}{f_X} \right) \left( \frac{M_{\text{halo}}}{10^8 M_{\odot}} \right)^{2/3} \left( \frac{1 + z}{10} \right).$$

The additional dependence of the mini-quasar luminosity on the halo mass results in a relatively small contribution from these sources at redshifts $z > 8$, when halo masses are typically small, but they become dominant (when mixed together with other sources) at lower redshift, when larger halos form. Note that the luminosity of mini-quasars includes the factor $f_X$ as well; in cases that include two different X-ray sources the values of $f_X$ throughout this paper indicate the total, where each population gets a normalization factor equal to half the total.

Existing measurements can be used to constrain the value of $f_X$ for each type of source. [Fialkov et al. (2014)] found that the unresolved soft X-ray background gives an upper limit for $f_X$ that varies between $10 - 190$ depending on the nature of the X-ray sources, the halo cooling channel and the value of the total CMB optical depth. A lower limit on $f_X$ comes from measured upper limits on the 21-cm power spectrum [Ali et al. (2015)] (which will be discussed below); [Fialkov et al. (2010)] found limits in the range of $0 - 0.036$ (i.e., with some models unconstrained). In this paper, we take $f_X = 1$ as our standard value and mainly explore values in the range of $0.1 - 10$, but consider also the extreme lower and upper limits from [Fialkov et al. (2014)].

### 3.3 CMB Optical Depth and Mean Free Path of Ionizing Photons

The intensity of the 21-cm signal is proportional to the fraction of neutral hydrogen atoms in the IGM (Eq. (1)), which is determined by the progress of cosmic reionization. According to current understanding, reionization happens inside out, proceeding first in the dense regions containing most of the sources [Barkana & Loeb (2004); Furlanetto et al. (2004); Iliev et al. (2006)]. The amplitude of the global 21-cm signal decreases as reionization advances.

A parameter that measures the total column density of ionized gas is the total CMB optical depth, $\tau$. The latest and most precise constraints on $\tau$ come from the Planck satellite [Planck Collaboration et al. (2013, 2016)]. However, the error in $\tau$ is still fairly large; moreover, the measured value of $\tau$ has gone down over time, and low values of $\tau$ are harder to measure since their imprint on the CMB is weaker. In particular, data analysis in 2015 (when we started our work) found an optical depth of $\tau = 0.066 \pm 0.016$ [Planck Collaboration et al. (2015)], which was smaller than previously measured; 2016 data gave $\tau = 0.055 \pm 0.009$ [Planck Collaboration et al. (2016)], while in a companion paper [Planck Collaboration et al. (2016)], which used a more realistic reionization model, a slightly higher value and uncertainty were reported, $\tau = 0.058 \pm 0.012$. Keeping in mind that in this work our main concern is to explore the widest parameter space possible, we adopt $\tau = 0.066$ as our standard value (it is difficult for us to produce much lower $\tau$ than this and still complete reionization by $z \sim 6$), and also consider $\tau = 0.082$ and $\tau = 0.098$, which are $1 \sigma$ and $2 \sigma$ away from the value reported by [Planck Collaboration et al. (2013)]. Because $\tau > 0.09$ is unlikely in the light of the latest results (i.e., it is ruled out at about the 3-$\sigma$ level), in the next section we mark all cases with $\tau > 0.09$ differently in the figures and we excluded these models from the fitting formulae.

The course of reionization depends also on the mean free path of ionizing photons. In particular, propagation of ionizing photons within the ionized regions is affected by the presence of absorption systems (Lyman-limit systems). We followed others (e.g., Greig & Mesinger (2015)) in modeling this effect by imposing an upper limit on the mean free path of ionizing photons inside ionized regions, $R_{\text{mpf}}$. We used the default value of $R_{\text{mpf}} = 70$ Mpc (comoving) for most of the cases [this represents the maximum value expected and perhaps observed near the end of reionization [Wyithe & Loeb (2004)] but considered also the values of 20 and 5 Mpc. 

© 2016 RAS, MNRAS 000, 1–16
3.4 The Parameter Space

In this section we define the space of the discussed astrophysical parameters with the aim to (i) probe the range of possibilities for the global 21-cm signal and (ii) reasonably fill up the space within these boundaries. We stress that in this work we do not try to define the probability of each parameter set because the high-redshift universe is so poorly constrained. Before the 21-cm signal is detected, it is important to stay open-minded and allow for any reasonable realization within the allowed range.

We chose one model as a reference and refer to it as our “standard” case. For this case we used the atomic cooling scenario with $f_x = 0.05$, $f_X = 1$, XRBs as the (hard) X-ray sources and $\tau = 0.066$. Next, we considered small and large variations in the values of astrophysical parameters around the reference set by varying each parameter and considering all possible combinations. For the small variations (32 different parameter sets) we used either molecular cooling or massive halos with $f_x$ and $f_X$ either larger or smaller by a factor of $\sqrt{10}$ from their standard values, our X-ray sources were either a mixture of XRBs and mini-quasars or a mixture of a soft SED and mini-quasars, and we assumed either $\tau = 0.066$ or $\tau = 0.082$. For the large variations we took either metal cooling or super-massive halos with $f_x$ and $f_X$ either larger or smaller by a factor of 10 from their standard values, either X-ray sources with a soft SED or mini-quasars, and either $\tau = 0.066$ or 0.098. This gave us 20 additional models (since others were ruled out by the above observations or the inability to achieve the desired $\tau$). In terms of the X-ray sources, we note that mini-quasars give the case that is most different from a soft SED, since mini-quasars not only have a hard X-ray spectrum (which leads to weak early heating) but also decline faster with redshift (which weakens early heating even more). Thus, the SED cases in the “Small Variations” category were roughly chosen to be intermediate compared to the “Large Variations” and the “Standard Case”. In addition, in order to fill up the global signal space with more intermediate models, we used all the combinations of the following parameters: $\tau = [0.066, 0.082]$, $f_x = [0.005, 0.05, 0.5]$; $f_X = [0.1, 1, 8]$; $V_c = [4.2, 16.5, 35.5]$ km s$^{-1}$ and SED = [soft, hard], which yielded 106 additional “Space filler” parameter sets. Here the high $f_X$ value was chosen to be 8 rather than 10 in order to allow us to normalize all the models to $\tau$ as low as 6.6%. For all the cases described above we used $R_{\text{mfp}} = 70$ Mpc. In addition, we considered some of the extreme cases with $R_{\text{mfp}} = 20$ and 5 Mpc, in order to widen the total parameter space.

To obtain the desired optical depth in each case, we set the requisite value of the ionizing efficiency (Barkana & Loeb 2001; Furlanetto et al. 2006):

$$\zeta = f_x f_{\text{esc}} N_{\text{ion}} \frac{1}{1 + n_{\text{rec}}}$$

where $f_{\text{esc}}$ is the fraction of ionizing photons that escape into the IGM, $N_{\text{ion}}$ is the mean number of ionizing photons produced per stellar baryon and $n_{\text{rec}}$ is the mean number of recombinations per ionized hydrogen atom. For each set of parameters we tune $\zeta$ to produce the required optical depth while requiring the ionization fraction to be at least 95% at $z = 6$. An upper limit on this parameter is $\zeta_{\text{max}} = 40.000 f_x$, where we use the value of $N_{\text{ion}} = 40.000$ for massive Pop III stars (Bromm et al. 2001). (We note that our models are based on numerical values for Pop II stars, but by varying $f_x$ and $\zeta$ we effectively cover a wide range of possibilities including the case of massive Pop III stars).

Some of our initial models were in conflict with recent upper limits on the 21-cm power spectrum reported by the PAPER collaboration (Ali et al. 2013). These data rule out models in which the 21-cm power spectrum predicted by Fialkov et al. (2016) (those not ruled out by the PA- PER upper limits). In that paper the optical depth was not a free parameter but was instead determined by the redshift at which reionization ends (either late reionization with $z_{\text{rec}} = 6.2$ or early reionization with $z_{\text{rec}} = 8.5$). The scenarios of atomic and massive cooling with $f_x = 0.05$ were considered separately for each of the three types of X-ray sources (XRBs, mini-quasars and soft power-law), while three different values were assigned for $f_X$ — the upper limit defined by the unresolved soft X-ray background, the standard value of $f_X = 1$, and the lower limit defined by the PAPER constraint which applies only in the case of late reionization while for the early reionization scenario the lower limit on X-ray efficiency was $f_X = 0$. A summary of the parameter space is presented in Table A and the full list of cases is presented in Appendix A.

4 RESULTS

The parameter sets laid out in the previous section yield 193 total cases of the global 21-cm signal shown in Figure 1, where the black line corresponds to the standard case with its three key turning points highlighted in red. This figure demonstrates how the large uncertainty in the astrophysical parameters introduced in Section 3 translates into a range of possibilities for the expected global 21-cm signal. The signal is sensitive to each of the variable astrophysical parameters and, thus, will have the power to constrain high-redshift astrophysics once it is detected.

Figure 1 yields the first important conclusion of our parameter study: All the curves have the same basic qualitative shape as our standard case. The quantitative positions (in $\nu$ and $T_b$) of the various key points vary among the curves, but the overall structure is fixed. We can intuitively understand this as follows. The low optical depth from Planck basically fixes reionization to occur at the low end of the redshift range we cover, with reionization completing at $z \sim 6 - 9$. At the other end, the Ly$\alpha$ intensity required to produce Ly$\alpha$ coupling is rather low, so that stars (assuming they contribute significantly to reionization) naturally saturate Ly$\alpha$ coupling long before a significant fraction of the Universe is reionized. As for X-ray heating, it
can occur at a wide range of redshifts, much earlier than reionization in the case of strong heating with a soft SED and low optical depth, or as late as the very end of reionization for scenarios with hard X-ray sources and reionization at the high end of the optical depth range consistent with Planck data (Fialkov et al. 2014, Fialkov & Barkana 2014, Fialkov & Loeb 2016, Madau & Fragos 2016, Mirocha et al. 2014). Importantly, though, X-ray heating always begins somewhat after the beginning of significant Lyα coupling. Our results are thus reassuring, but they do not imply that models that violate this basic shape are completely ruled out, though such models do appear highly unlikely. For example, extremely strong X-ray heating could occur prior to Lyα coupling (i.e., at z ∼ 30) and prevent an absorption minimum, but in order for such an intense X-ray outburst to avoid overproducing the observed X-ray background, the associated source population would have to essentially disappear by z ∼ 10 (Fialkov et al. 2016) despite the rapid ramp-up of galaxy formation. We also note that a different version of Figure 1 is shown later, at the end of this section.

In this section we use our 193 different cases to explore the correlation between the features of the global 21-cm signal and physical properties of the high-redshift universe, showing that the neutral hydrogen signal alone has enough predictive power to constrain some details of primordial star formation, heating and reionization as well as the typical halo mass. We analyze the properties of the 21-cm signal starting from high redshifts at which the Universe was cold and empty (and thus easy to analyze), then continuing to lower redshifts at which various astrophysical processes caused non-local feedback effects on star formation, complicating the picture.

### 4.1 High-z Maximum Point

As noted in Section 2, the high-redshift maximum of the global 21-cm signal is the point at which the first population of Lyα sources (assumed to be stars) turns on, and the Wouthuysen-Field coupling starts to become effective. At this point the Universe is still relatively simple, as stars are rare and have not yet had a significant affect on the 21-cm intensity. The only parameters that have an effect on the 21-cm signal at this point are the minimum mass of star forming halos and the star formation efficiency, which together determine the Lyα intensity and thus the strength of the Lyα coupling. The parameters related to heating and reionization are not yet important. In the absence of collisions and Lyα photons, interactions with the CMB would drive $T_b$ to $T_{CMB}$ and thus the differential brightness temperature would be zero. At $z \sim 35$, collisions, which had kept $T_b$ close to $T_{gas}$ at higher redshift, become less and less effective with time, so that $T_b$ (which is negative) rises towards zero. This portion of the global 21-cm curve is still within the “dark ages”, i.e., precisely predictable given the basic cosmological parameters.

The high-redshift maximum is produced just as the first significant Lyα coupling causes $T_b$ to start becoming more negative. Thus, the high-z maximum occurs near the dark ages curve, so we expect to see an approximate relation between the redshift of the maximal point, $z_{b,max}$, and the value of the brightness temperature at this point, $T_{b,max}$. Specifically the lower the $z_{b,max}$, the closer $T_{b,max}$ should be to zero. We indeed observe a rather clear relation in our models, as shown in Figure 2. We find the following approximate fitting formula:

$$T_{b,max}^{hi} = a(1 + z_{b,max}^{hi})^2 + b(1 + z_{b,max}^{hi}) + c,$$

where $[a, b, c] = [-0.03124, 1.155, -10.65]$ (We note that Mirocha et al. 2014 used an analytical analysis for an approximate study of this dependence). At the highest redshifts, the dark-ages global 21-cm curve rises steeply, so that it takes some time for it to turn over due to Lyα radiation, and the maximum point occurs below the dark-ages curve by $\sim 2$ mK at a given redshift; at lower redshifts, the dark-ages curve is flatter so that the maximum occurs almost immediately once the actual curve deviates from the dark-ages limit.

Since the relation between $T_{b,max}^{hi}$ and $z_{b,max}^{hi}$ is monotonic and there is almost no scatter, it would suffice to measure either the brightness temperature or the redshift to obtain all the information on this extremum of the global signal (though measuring both would provide a clear consistency test and verification that the expected signal is indeed being observed). From this measurement it should be possible to roughly estimate the value of the minimum $V_c$ (shown by different colors in the Figure), with an uncertainty introduced by the possible range of the SFE. As expected, smaller $V_c$ implies earlier the star formation and thus a more negative value of $T_{b,max}^{hi}$.

In addition to considering predicted relations among observables of the global 21-cm spectrum, our other goal in this paper is to explore whether astrophysical information can be easily extracted. Additional information that could be extracted the high-z maximum were measured is the av-

Figure 2. Brightness temperature as a function of observed frequency (bottom axis) or the equivalent one plus redshift (top axis) at the high-z maximum point. The colors indicate the minimum circular velocity of star-forming halos for each case: $V_c = 4.2$ (blue), 16.5 (cyan), 35.5 (red), and 76.5 km/s (yellow). Shapes indicate the optical depth for each case: $\tau = 0.060 - 0.075$ (circles), 0.092 - 0.09 (triangles), 0.09 – 0.111 (crosses), while the star is our standard case. Also shown are the fitting function of Eq. (8) (solid curve), and the dark-ages (i.e., no astrophysical radiation) relation (dashed curve).
average intensity of the Lyα background at this epoch, i.e., at redshift \( z_{\text{max}} \). As can be seen from Figure 3, the observables can be used to accurately reconstruct the angle-averaged intensity of Lyα photons, \( J_\alpha \), as well as its derivative with respect to the scale factor, \( a \) (both spatially-averaged over the universe). This is true whether we use the redshift, as shown, or the brightness temperature (which is strongly correlated with it based on Figure 3).

We fit the dependence with the following functions (hereafter, log means base 10):

\[
\log (J_\alpha) = a_1 \log^2 \left( 1 + z_{\text{max}} \right) + b_1 \log \left( 1 + z_{\text{max}} \right) + c_1 ,
\]

\[
\log \left( \frac{d J_\alpha}{d a} \right) = a_2 \log^2 \left( 1 + z_{\text{max}} \right) + b_2 \log \left( 1 + z_{\text{max}} \right) + c_2 ,
\]

where \( [a_1, b_1, c_1] = [-10.39, 37.36, -55.247] \) and \( [a_2, b_2, c_2] = [-9.238, 34.59, -50.897] \), and \( J_\alpha \) is in units of \( \text{erg s}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-2} \text{Hz}^{-1} \text{sr}^{-1} \). Figure 3 shows that the scatter in these relations is fairly small, especially for the derivative of the intensity, since the rapid change in time in \( J_\alpha \) makes the extremum condition especially sensitive to the derivative. If the time derivative of the Lyα intensity is determined in this way, this would provide information on a combination of the minimum halo \( V_c \) and the star formation efficiency.

**Figure 3.** The Lyα intensity (top panel) in units of \( \text{erg s}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-2} \text{Hz}^{-1} \text{sr}^{-1} \) and its derivative with respect to the scale factor (bottom panel) as a function of \( z_{\text{max}} \). The color indicates the cooling channel for each case: \( V_c = 4.2 \) (blue), 16.5 (cyan), 35.5 (red), 76.5 km s\(^{-1}\) (yellow). Shapes indicate the optical depth for each case: \( \tau = 0.069 - 0.075 \) (circles), 0.082 – 0.09 (triangles), 0.09 – 0.111 (crosses), while the star is our standard case. Also shown (black lines) are the fitting function Eq. (9) (top panel), and Eq. (10) (bottom panel).

4.2 Minimum Point

The next prominent feature of the global 21-cm signal is the absorption trough, with the minimum defined by the beginning of the heating era in combination with Lyα saturation. The location of this point depends on more parameters (the X-ray efficiency and SED in addition to \( V_c \) and \( f_s \)), which leads to a larger scatter of possible values of the minimal brightness temperature \( T_{b, \text{min}} \) and the redshift at which it is achieved \( z_{\text{min}} \). While for our standard case the minimum point occurs at \( z_{\text{min}} = 18 \) with a depth of \( T_{b, \text{min}} = -170 \) mK, variation of the astrophysical parameters leads to a range in redshift \( 10.9 < z_{\text{min}} < 26.5 \) and temperatures \( -240 \) mK \( < T_{b, \text{min}} < -25 \) mK. As can be seen in Figure 4 there is no predicted relation between these two observables, the redshift and the temperature, e.g., for any given redshift of the minimum a large range of corresponding temperatures is possible.

We can understand how some of the parameters produce the large scatter in the plot. Points with the same \( f_s \) (marked by the same color in Figure 4) are roughly aligned along diagonal lines going from the top left to the bottom right of the plot. Different lines of the same color correspond to different values of \( V_c \), while the scattering of points along a given line is due to variations in the intensity and SED of the X-ray radiation. Lower values of \( V_c \) lead to higher \( z_{\text{min}} \), while a lower X-ray heating rate results in a more negative value of \( T_{b, \text{min}} \).

A lower limit on the brightness temperature can be obtained assuming a fully neutral universe with no X-ray sources (i.e., where the gas cools adiabatically after thermal decoupling from the CMB) but full Lyα coupling (i.e., \( T_S = T_{\text{gas}} \)). In this limit, using Eq. (11) we can derive the
following relation for the mean temperature:
\[ T_{b, \text{min}} \geq 26.8 \left( \frac{1 + z_{\text{min}}}{10} \right)^{1/2} \left( 1 - \frac{1 + z_{\text{dec}}}{1 + z_{\text{min}}} \right) \text{mK} \]  \hspace{1cm} (11)
where \( z_{\text{dec}} = 137 \) is the redshift at which the gas temperature and the CMB temperature are effectively decoupled. Following the same logic, we can write
\[ 1 - \frac{T_{b, \text{min}}}{26.8 \sqrt{\frac{T_{\text{CMB}}}{T_{\text{gas}}}}} \leq \frac{1 + z_{\text{dec}}}{1 + z_{\text{min}}} \]  \hspace{1cm} (12)

Figure 5 shows the ratio \( T_{\text{CMB}}/T_{\text{gas}} \) as a function of the brightness temperature or the redshift at the minimum point. The black dashed line in the left panel shows the left-hand side of Eq. (12) calculated at \( z_{\text{min}} = 18 \) which corresponds to \( z_{\text{min}} \) in our standard case. Since the redshift dependence is weak, taking a constant redshift is a good approximation to the case where the spin temperature is fully coupled to the gas temperature (note also that the reionized fraction is quite low at this stage in our models). While many of our simulated models lie close to this line, implying that they have nearly achieved saturated Lyα coupling, a substantial fraction are well away from the line, showing that for them the Wouthuysen-Field coupling is still far from saturation. The strength of the coupling is determined by the Lyα intensity and is stronger for models with large \( f_\gamma \) and small \( V_c \). The black dashed line in the right panel of Figure 5 shows the right-hand side of Eq. (12). Here too, while many models show little heating (i.e., close to the line), a substantial fraction have undergone significant heating prior to reaching the minimum. Even when heating begins, in order to produce a global 21-cm minimum it must overcome two effects: adiabatic cooling (astrophysical heating initially only slows down the rate of cooling), and the increase with time of the Lyα coupling (which, as long as it is not yet saturated, pushes \( T_b \) to be more negative). The two panels of Figure 5 together show the large variety of physical conditions that lead to the large scatter in the position of the minimum point.

Despite the complexity, we have managed to find some order in the relation between the properties of the minimum and the underlying astrophysical properties of interest. Specifically, the depth of the minimum point is strongly correlated with the ratio between the average Lyα intensity and the X-ray heating rate, as shown in Figure 6. The correlation is easy to explain: with a large X-ray heating rate, heating starts earlier and the brightness temperature at the minimum (the redshift of which depends also on Lyα saturation) is less negative. On the other hand, large Lyα intensity leads to stronger coupling between the spin temperature and the gas temperature, and, thus, to a more negative brightness temperature when significant heating begins and produces the minimum. We also show in Figure 6 a fitting function (always excluding \( \tau > 0.09 \) cases, as noted previously):
\[ \log \left( \frac{J_0}{\epsilon_X} \right) = aT_{b, \text{min}} + b \]  \hspace{1cm} (13)

with \([a, b] = [-0.016, -3.666]\), where \( \epsilon_X \) is the heating rate in units of eV s\(^{-1}\) per baryon in the IGM. Thus, measuring the minimum point, which is expected to be the most prominent feature of the global 21-cm signal, will provide us a fairly good estimate of \( J_0/\epsilon_X \) at the corresponding redshift.

### 4.3 Low-\( z \) Maximum Point

The lowest-redshift extremum in the global 21-cm curve is the low-\( z \) maximum. In models where X-ray sources are efficient and heat the gas well above the temperature of the CMB early enough, the 21-cm signal is seen in emission during the later stages of cosmic evolution. Heating increases the emission signal until heating saturates (\( T_{\text{gas}} \gg T_{\text{CMB}} \)), producing another maximum in the global 21-cm signal, of height \( T_{b, \text{max}}^{\text{lo}} \) and redshift \( z_{\text{lo}}^{\text{max}} \). The position of the maximum is also affected by the advance of reionization. As more and more stars appear and galaxies grow, the bubbles of reionized gas expand. Reionization suppresses the neutral fraction and thus the intensity of the signal, helping produce the maximum earlier while decreasing its brightness temperature. In some models, including the currently most likely heating cases (Fialkov et al. 2014; Fialkov & Loeb 2016; Fialkov et al. 2016; Mirocha et al. 2016; Madau & Fragos 2016), heating is not saturated by the beginning of reionization, the 21-cm signal is driven by heating and reionization simultaneously, and the emission feature is not so prominent. Furthermore, in cases of extremely low heating the gas in neutral regions is colder than the CMB even at the end of reionization (Fialkov & Loeb 2016; Fialkov et al. 2016) and should be seen in absorption against the CMB at all redshifts, with no emission peak. In these cases, where there is no low-\( z \) maximum, we set \( T_{b, \text{max}}^{\text{lo}} \) to zero and \( z_{\text{lo}}^{\text{max}} \) to the end of reionization.

The left panel of Figure 7 shows the scatter of the low-redshift maximum point for all the considered models in the \( T_{b, \text{max}}^{\text{lo}} \) versus \( \nu \) (or \( \nu z_{\text{lo}}^{\text{max}} \)) plane. The emission signal cannot be stronger than the upper limit obtained for a fully neutral universe (\( x_{\text{HI}} = 1 \)) and saturated heating:
\[ T_{b, \text{max}}^{\text{lo}} = 26.8 \left( \frac{1 + z_{\text{lo}}^{\text{max}}}{10} \right)^{1/2} \text{mK}. \]  \hspace{1cm} (14)

Usually heating is near saturation at the low-\( z \) max, and the distance between the model points in Figure 6 and the dashed line (Eq. (14)) mostly expresses the advance of reionization towards low redshift. Current CMB observations restrict our models to a fairly narrow range of reionization histories, particularly if we restrict the optical depth to values consistent with current measurements to within 2 \( \sigma \) (roughly the blue points in the figure). Moreover, the dependence on optical depth is easy to explain: in cases with lower optical depth reionization starts later and thus, at a given \( z_{\text{max}}^{\text{lo}} \), it is less well advanced, and the emission signal \( T_{b, \text{max}}^{\text{lo}} \) is higher.

In general, models with strong heating tend to produce an emission signal, and then saturated heating, at higher redshifts, already at an early stage of reionization. In these cases the neutral fraction is still high, and the value of \( T_{b, \text{max}}^{\text{lo}} \) is closer to the upper limit defined by Eq. (14). Extreme models with the strongest X-ray emission feature a significant X-ray contribution to reionization, which helps keep the high-redshift data points away from the dashed line in Figure 7. On the other hand, models with weak heating need more time to arrive at the saturation point, and thus the peak of the emission signal happens during advanced stages of reionization by stellar sources (\( x_{\text{HI}} \ll 1 \)). Thus, the amplitude of the emission maximum is much lower than the upper bound and \( z_{\text{lo}}^{\text{max}} \) is then closer to the end of reionization. When considering the full ensemble of models, a roughly lin-
Figure 5. The ratio $T_{\text{CMB}}/T_{\text{gas}}$ as a function of the brightness temperature (left panel) and of the redshift (right panel) at the minimum point. The colors indicate the star formation efficiency for each case: $f_s = 0.005$ (blue), 0.016 (cyan), 0.05 (green), 0.16 (yellow), 0.5 (red). Shapes indicate the optical depth for each case: $\tau = 0.060 - 0.075$ (circles), 0.082 - 0.09 (triangles), 0.09 - 0.111 (crosses), while the star is our standard case. Also shown (dashed black lines) is the lower limit on $T_{\text{CMB}}/T_{\text{gas}}$ (left panel) and upper limit on $T_{\text{CMB}}/T_{\text{gas}}$ (right panel); see Eq. [12] and the text for details.

Figure 6. The ratio between the Ly$\alpha$ intensity (in units of erg s$^{-1}$ cm$^{-5}$ Hz$^{-1}$ sr$^{-1}$) and the X-ray heating rate (in units of eV s$^{-1}$ baryon$^{-1}$) as a function of the brightness temperature at the minimum point. The color indicates the redshift of the minimum point (see the color bar on the right). Also shown is the fitting function of Eq. [13] (black line). Shapes indicate the optical depth for each case: $\tau = 0.060 - 0.075$ (circles), 0.082 - 0.09 (triangles), 0.09 - 0.111 (crosses), while the star is our standard case. Note that the point with the largest ratio represent an extreme case in which X-ray sources are mini-quasars and $f_X = 0.1$, which means an extremely low X-ray heating rate at this redshift, while metal cooling with $f_s = 0.5$ drives up $J_\alpha$.

ear dependence between the temperature and the frequency can be seen (excluding the $T_{b,\text{max}}^{\text{lo}} = 0$ points; left panel of Figure 7), which is well fitted by

$$T_{b,\text{max}}^{\text{lo}} = \begin{cases} \frac{a}{1 + \frac{b}{z_{\text{max}}^{\text{lo}}}} + b, & \text{if } 1 + z_{\text{max}}^{\text{lo}} > \frac{a}{b}, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise}, \end{cases}$$

(15)

where $[a, b] = [-562.8, 63.9]$.

We have found some interesting trends related to the low-redshift emission point. Specifically, the strength of the emission signal can be related to some of the astrophysical parameters at that epoch, thus directly constraining heating sources and star formation. We find that the intensity of the emission signal is correlated with the heating rate at $z_{\text{max}}^{\text{lo}}$ (Figure 7, right panel), with the relation well-fitted by:

$$\log (\epsilon_x) = a T_{b,\text{max}}^{\text{lo}} + b,$$

(16)

where $[a, b] = [0.080, -18.2]$. The qualitative dependence is easy to explain following the same lines as above: the larger the heating rate, the earlier X-ray heating saturates and the stronger is the emission feature in the absence of much reionization by UV sources. Another striking correlation involves also the production of ionizing photons. We use $\zeta_f$ as a measure for the produced amount of ionizing photons, where $\zeta_f$ is the fraction of mass in star forming halos (often called the “collapsed fraction”), which depends on $V_c^*$ and $\zeta$ is the overall ionizing efficiency (Eq. 7). We plot the ratio of heating rate to ionization production ($\epsilon_x/\zeta_f$) as a function of peak brightness temperature $T_{b,\text{max}}^{\text{lo}}$ (Figure 8). Along the same lines of reasoning as above, it is clear that to get large values of $T_{b,\text{max}}^{\text{lo}}$ a strong heating (which gives an early peak) together with weak ionization (which keeps the neutral hydrogen fraction high) is required. This relation can be fitted by:

$$\log \left( \epsilon_x/\zeta_f \right) = a T_{b,\text{max}}^{\text{lo}} + b T_{b,\text{max}}^{\text{lo}} + c,$$

(17)

where $[a, b] = [0.0014, 0.082, -18.13]$, and we excluded from the fit points with $T_{b,\text{max}}^{\text{lo}} = 0$ or $T_{b,\text{max}}^{\text{lo}} > 32$ mK (or, as always, $\tau > .09$). Because the relation between $T_{b,\text{max}}^{\text{lo}}$ and $z_{\text{max}}^{\text{lo}}$ is largely monotonic as follows from Eq. 15 and is also indicated by the color map in Figure 8, it is also possible to express the ratio as a function of $z_{\text{max}}^{\text{lo}}$ instead of the peak
Figure 7. Left panel: Brightness temperature as a function of observed frequency (bottom axis) or equivalent one plus redshift (top axis) at the low- \( z \) maximum point. Also shown is the fitting function given by Eq. (15) (black solid line) and the upper limit from Eq. (14) (black dashed line). Right panel: The X-ray heating rate (in units of eV s\(^{-1}\) baryon\(^{-1}\)) as a function of the brightness temperature at the low- \( z \) maximum. Also shown is the fitting function from Eq. (16) (black line). In both panels the colors indicate the optical depth for each case: \( \tau = 0.060 - 0.075 \) (blue), \( 0.082 - 0.09 \) (brown), \( 0.09 - 0.111 \) (yellow crosses); the star is our standard case.

Figure 8. The ratio between the heating rate of X-ray sources, \( \epsilon_X \) (in units of eV s\(^{-1}\) baryon\(^{-1}\)), and the production of ionizing photons as measured by \( \zeta_{f, \text{coll}} \), as a function of the brightness temperature at the low- \( z \) maximum point. The color (see the color bar on the right) indicates the corresponding redshift of the low- \( z \) maximum point. Also shown is the fitting function of Eq. (17) (solid black line). Shapes indicate the optical depth for each case: \( \tau = 0.060 - 0.075 \) (circles), \( 0.082 - 0.09 \) (triangles), \( 0.09 - 0.111 \) (crosses), while the star is our standard case.

Figure 9. The mean slope of \( T_b \) versus \( \nu \) between \( z_{\text{hi}}^{\text{max}} \) and \( z_{\text{min}} \) (the negative slope) as a function of \( 1 + (z_{\text{min}} + z_{\text{hi}}^{\text{max}})/2 \), and the mean slope between \( z_{\text{min}} \) and \( z_{\text{lo}}^{\text{max}} \) (the positive slope) as a function of \( 1 + (z_{\text{min}} + z_{\text{lo}}^{\text{max}})/2 \). Colors indicate different values of the star formation efficiency: \( f_\star = 0.005 \) (blue), \( 0.016 \) (cyan), \( 0.05 \) (green), \( 0.16 \) (yellow), \( 0.5 \) (red). Shapes indicate the optical depth for each case: \( \tau = 0.060 - 0.075 \) (circles), \( 0.082 - 0.09 \) (triangles), \( 0.09 - 0.111 \) (crosses), while the star is our standard case.

4.4 Average slopes

In addition to the three key points discussed above, the derivative (slope) of the signal with respect to frequency is interesting to consider separately, because it is likely easier to measure than the absolute signal itself due to the need for foreground removal. We use the key inflection points to define two characteristic slopes, for each model: the mean slope between the high- \( z \) maximum point and the minimum point (a negative slope), and the mean slope between the minimum point and the low- \( z \) maximum point (a positive slope). This allows us to visualize a kind of summary of the entire relevant range of the global 21-cm curve, by plotting both the positive and negative slopes together in Figure 9. Each slope is shown as a function of the mean one plus redshift at which it is measured, i.e., \( 1 + (z_{\text{min}} + z_{\text{hi}}^{\text{max}})/2 \) for the negative slope and \( 1 + (z_{\text{min}} + z_{\text{lo}}^{\text{max}})/2 \) for the positive slope.
Because each slope depends on the intensity and redshift of the global signal at two of the turning points, the dependence on our various parameters is more complex, and it is difficult to extract simple relations between the slopes and astrophysical quantities. One general trend is that a high star formation efficiency tends to produce strong radiation fields early on, thus high redshifts for the key points which imply shorter frequency intervals, resulting in steep slopes (both positive and negative). The overall range of slopes is roughly -1 to -8 mK/MHz (negative) and 1 to 5 mK/MHz (positive), with the negative slope typically nearly twice the positive one (in absolute value). Of course, the foreground emission is also substantially larger at the higher redshift range corresponding to the negative slope. Note that a very large positive slope \((dT_b/d\nu > 6 \text{ mK/MHz})\) can only be produced by having reionization so early that the resulting optical depth is excluded by Planck at 3 \(\sigma\).

### 4.5 Summary plot

Given the various results shown thus far in this section, in particular the correlations between observable features and various astrophysical parameters, we can construct a plot that partly summarizes the correlations while showing the full global 21-cm curves. Figure 10 is another version of Figure 1, but with additional information that brings some order. First, cases with \(\tau > 0.09\) are shown as grey. The remaining curves are color coded according to the corresponding ratio in each model between the Ly\(\alpha\) intensity and the X-ray heating rate at \(z_{\text{min}}\) (i.e., at the time of the minimum point of the global 21-cm curve). This is the same ratio plotted in Figure 4 and shown there to correlate closely with the depth of the minimum, \(T_b_{\text{min}}\). While no single parameter can fully describe the global 21-cm curve, Figure 10 does show that this particular ratio nicely slices up the parameter space of possible curves. Those with a high ratio tend to fill the bottom right portion of the figure, i.e., they usually produce a deep minimum and maintain a 21-cm absorption signal until fairly late; models with a low ratio, on the other hand, tend to fill the upper left, producing a shallow minimum and early 21-cm emission. Note that the color coding also makes it easier to trace individual global 21-cm curves within this plot, in order to appreciate the variety of curves that are possible.

### 5 SUMMARY AND DISCUSSION

In this paper we have explored the allowed parameter space of the global 21-cm signal, varying the main high-redshift astrophysical parameters such as the minimal mass of star-forming halos, star formation efficiency, and heating and ionization rates, all of which are poorly constrained. The large uncertainty in high-redshift astrophysical processes results in weak limits on the predicted 21-cm signal. We used a realistic semi-numerical simulation to produce the 21-cm global signal in the redshift range \(z = 6 - 40\) for 193 different sets of astrophysical parameters in agreement with current observations (except that 21 are excluded by the Planck measurement of optical depth at 3 \(\sigma\)). We applied these data to establish universal patterns in the predicted global 21-cm curves. We found that the general shape of the signal can be predicted theoretically, but its features remain highly unconstrained. Still, there are clear correlations between the three key features of the global 21-cm signal (the high-z maximum, the minimum and the low-z maximum points) and underlying astrophysical parameters of the early universe. Our compilation of realistic models and fitting formulae for these correlations can be used to rule out portions of the parameter space as data from ongoing and future radio experiments becomes available. If and when the global signal is measured, our results can be used to reconstructed key aspects of the high-redshift population of sources including the first stars, X-ray binaries, and mini-quasars.

The parameters that we varied can be divided into three categories. The first group consists of parameters related to primordial star formation, including the minimum mass of halos in which stars can form and the star formation efficiency. These parameters are the only ones that affect the shape of the global signal (through the Ly\(\alpha\) intensity) from the formation of the first stars down to the redshift where X-ray sources turn on. The second group captures properties of the first heating sources, including their X-ray spectra, luminosity, and evolution with redshift (e.g., XRBs versus mini-quasars), which together with the properties of star formation affect the shape of the signal from the moment when X-ray sources turn on to the point when reionization becomes significant. Finally, the CMB optical depth is related to ionization properties of stars which drive the global signal at the low-redshift end.

As anticipated, properties of the high-z maximum point are relatively simple because it occurs at high redshift where significant Ly\(\alpha\) coupling begins, which in all our models occurs before heating and ionizing sources complicate the evolution of the global signal. There is a close relation between the redshift of this turning point and the corresponding intensity of the 21-cm signal, providing a potential consistency check for observations. These observable quantities...
also correlate closely with the Lyα intensity and its derivative at that epoch, according to fitting formulae that we have obtained. Thus, measuring the global signal at this point would help determine the total star formation rate at this early epoch, thus constraining a combination of the minimum cooling mass of star forming halos and the star formation efficiency.

The redshift and depth of the absorption trough show the largest scatter, since this minimum can occur under various physical conditions and is affected by many astrophysical parameters. It typically occurs when Lyα coupling approaches saturation and significant X-ray heating begins. In most models, the absorption trough is the strongest feature of the signal and its detection is one of the main goals of the global 21-cm experiments; the large predicted scatter in the location of this point should encourage observers to search for the signal in as wide a frequency range as possible. Measuring the redshift and depth of the absorption trough alone would not help us to strongly constrain any single parameter, but can be used to rule out some areas of the astrophysical parameter space. Despite this complexity, we have shown that the depth of the absorption trough of the 21-cm signal is strongly correlated with the ratio between the Lyα intensity and the X-ray heating rate, as given by a corresponding fitting formula.

The 21-cm signal from the low-z maximum is typically expected to be seen in emission, once heating approaches saturation (unless heating occurs very late). This maximum is affected by both cosmic heating and reionization, so in our models it is affected by both the total CMB optical depth and the properties of X-ray sources, with some scatter introduced by other parameters. For maxima that take place at late times the signal is weaker since reionization is then more advanced. We have fit simple functions to relations between (1) the redshift and the brightness temperature of this point, (2) the heating rate and the brightness temperature, and (3) the ratio of the heating rate to the ionization production and the brightness temperature. Therefore, measurement of the redshift and temperature at the emission peak would give a self-consistency check and allow us to estimate both the X-ray and ionizing intensity of sources.

Taken together, the correlations in Eqs. (9), (10), (13), (16), and (17), can be used to directly link future measurements of the global 21-cm signal to astrophysical properties of the high redshift Universe, in a mostly model-independent way. Meanwhile, those in Eqs. (9) and (15) can be used as consistency checks on the measurements (or on the theory, depending on one’s point of view). Some caution is advisable, as models like ours do not capture the full possible complexity of high-redshift astrophysics. For example, $f_{*}$ and the other efficiency parameters could vary with redshift, with the local density, or show a large scatter among halos. We expect the main effect of this to be that the correlations that we identified at each key turning point will measure the astrophysical parameters as averaged spatially and over time (out to an earlier time than that corresponding to a given key feature). Also, the scatter could increase in some correlations, particularly those that depend on multiple redshifts as in Figure 9. We plan to explore how more elaborate models affect our results. Some of our conclusions are reminiscent of those found by Mirocha et al. (2013), now derived in the context of a wider array of astrophysical models and more realistic simulations; a conclusion that is particularly similar is that the high-z maximum point reflects the Lyα intensity and its time derivative.

We have tried to cover as large a parameter space as possible, in terms of astrophysical source formation, radiative efficiencies, feedback effects, and the mean free path of ionizing photons. The goal was to make our conclusions as robust as possible given current uncertainties about high-redshift astrophysics. However, in the results we have focused only on some of the parameters and a few correlations, namely those that were cleanest and thus most useful. We have explored many others that did not give a clearly useful result, and we plan to continue such studies.

Current and future 21-cm observations, such as those mentioned in the Introduction, are expected to soon begin to exclude realistic possible realizations of the global 21-cm signal. We hope this is followed soon afterwards with detections, which will probe currently mysterious astrophysical processes at very high redshifts.

### 6 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank Joe Lazio for a suggestion that led us to Figure 10. R.B. A.C. and M.L. acknowledge Israel Science Foundation grant 823/09 and the Ministry of Science and Technology, Israel. For R.B. and A.C. this publication was made possible through the support of a grant from the John Templeton Foundation. The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the John Templeton Foundation. R.B.’s work has been partly done within the Labex Institut Lagrange de Paris (ILP, reference ANR-10-LABX-63) part of the Idex SUPER, and received financial state aid managed by the Agence Nationale de la Recherche, as part of the programme Investissements d’avenir under the reference ANR-11-IDEX-0004-02. R.B. also acknowledges a Leverhulme Trust Visiting Professorship at the University of Oxford. This research was supported in part by Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics. Research at Perimeter Institute is supported by the Government of Canada through the Department of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada and by the Province of Ontario through the Ministry of Research, Innovation and Science.

### REFERENCES

Ali, Z. S., et al., 2015, ApJ, 809, 61
Barkana, R., 2016, arXiv:1605.04357
Barkana, R., & Loeb, A., 2001, Phys. Rep., 349, 125
Barkana, R., & Loeb, A. 2004, ApJ, 609, 474
Barkana, R., & Loeb, A. 2005a, ApJ, 624, L65
Barkana, R., & Loeb, A. 2005b, ApJ, 626, 1
Behroozi P. S., Silk J., 2015, ApJ, 799, 90
Bernardi, G., McQuinn, M., & Greenhill, L. J., 2015, ApJ, 799, 90
Bernardi, G., Zwart, J. T. L., Price, D., et al., 2016, arXiv:1606.06006
Bharadwaj, S., & Ali, S. S. 2004, MNRAS, 352, 142
Bowman, J. D., & Rogers, A. E. E., 2010, Nature, 468, 796
Bowman, J. D. et al., 2013, PASA, 30, 31
APPENDIX A: CASES LIST
| #  | $f_*$ | $V_c$ [km/s] | $f_X$ | SED | $\tau$ | LW | Low-mass cutoff | $\zeta$ | $R_{mfp}$ [Mpc] |
|----|------|-------------|------|-----|-------|----|----------------|------|--------------|
| 1  | Filler | 0.005 | 4.2 | 0.1 | Hard | 0.066 | On Eq. (4) | 20 | 70 |
| 2  | Filler | 0.005 | 4.2 | 0.1 | Hard | 0.082 | On Eq. (4) | 32 | 70 |
| 3  | Filler | 0.005 | 4.2 | 0.1 | Soft | 0.066 | On Eq. (4) | 20 | 70 |
| 4  | Filler | 0.005 | 4.2 | 0.1 | Soft | 0.082 | On Eq. (4) | 32 | 70 |
| 5  | Filler | 0.005 | 4.2 | 1   | Hard | 0.066 | On Eq. (4) | 20 | 70 |
| 6  | Filler | 0.005 | 4.2 | 1   | Hard | 0.082 | On Eq. (4) | 32 | 70 |
| 7  | Filler | 0.005 | 4.2 | 1   | Soft | 0.066 | On Eq. (4) | 20 | 70 |
| 8  | Filler | 0.005 | 4.2 | 1   | Soft | 0.082 | On Eq. (4) | 32 | 70 |
| 9  | Filler | 0.005 | 4.2 | 8   | Hard | 0.066 | On Eq. (4) | 20 | 70 |
| 10 | Filler | 0.005 | 4.2 | 8   | Hard | 0.082 | On Eq. (4) | 32 | 70 |
| 11 | Filler | 0.005 | 4.2 | 8   | Soft | 0.066 | On Eq. (4) | 20 | 70 |
| 12 | Filler | 0.005 | 4.2 | 8   | Soft | 0.082 | On Eq. (4) | 32 | 70 |
| 13 | Filler | 0.005 | 16.5 | 0.1 | Hard | 0.066 | - | 20 | 70 |
| 14 | Filler | 0.005 | 16.5 | 0.1 | Hard | 0.082 | - | 37 | 70 |
| 15 | Filler | 0.005 | 16.5 | 0.1 | Soft | 0.066 | - | 20 | 70 |
| 16 | Filler | 0.005 | 16.5 | 0.1 | Soft | 0.082 | - | 37 | 70 |
| 17 | Filler | 0.005 | 16.5 | 1   | Hard | 0.066 | - | 20 | 70 |
| 18 | Filler | 0.005 | 16.5 | 1   | Hard | 0.082 | - | 37 | 70 |
| 19 | Filler | 0.005 | 16.5 | 1   | Soft | 0.066 | - | 20 | 70 |
| 20 | Filler | 0.005 | 16.5 | 1   | Soft | 0.082 | - | 37 | 70 |
| 21 | Filler | 0.005 | 16.5 | 8   | Hard | 0.066 | - | 20 | 70 |
| 22 | Filler | 0.005 | 16.5 | 8   | Hard | 0.082 | - | 37 | 70 |
| 23 | Filler | 0.005 | 16.5 | 8   | Soft | 0.066 | - | 20 | 70 |
| 24 | Filler | 0.005 | 16.5 | 8   | Soft | 0.082 | - | 37 | 70 |
| 25 | Filler | 0.5   | 16.5 | 0.1 | Hard | 0.066 | - | 20 | 70 |
| 26 | Filler | 0.5   | 16.5 | 0.1 | Hard | 0.082 | - | 37 | 70 |
| 27 | Filler | 0.5   | 16.5 | 0.1 | Soft | 0.066 | - | 20 | 70 |
| 28 | Filler | 0.5   | 16.5 | 0.1 | Soft | 0.082 | - | 37 | 70 |
| 29 | Filler | 0.5   | 16.5 | 1   | Hard | 0.066 | - | 20 | 70 |
| 30 | Filler | 0.5   | 16.5 | 1   | Hard | 0.082 | - | 37 | 70 |
| 31 | Filler | 0.5   | 16.5 | 1   | Soft | 0.066 | - | 20 | 70 |
| 32 | Filler | 0.5   | 16.5 | 1   | Soft | 0.082 | - | 37 | 70 |
| 33 | Filler | 0.5   | 16.5 | 8   | Hard | 0.066 | - | 20 | 70 |
| 34 | Filler | 0.5   | 16.5 | 8   | Hard | 0.082 | - | 37 | 70 |
| 35 | Filler | 0.5   | 16.5 | 8   | Soft | 0.066 | - | 20 | 70 |
| 36 | Filler | 0.5   | 16.5 | 8   | Soft | 0.082 | - | 37 | 70 |

© 2016 RAS, MNRAS
| # | $f_s$ | $V_c$ [km/s] | $f_X$ | SED | $\tau$ | LW | Low-mass cutoff | $\zeta$ | $R_{\text{mfp}}$ [Mpc] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 67 | Filler | 0.5 | 16.5 | 1 | Soft | 0.066 | - | - | 14 | 70 |
| 68 | Filler | 0.5 | 16.5 | 1 | Soft | 0.082 | - | - | 30 | 70 |
| 69 | Filler | 0.5 | 16.5 | 8 | Hard | 0.066 | - | - | 11.5 | 70 |
| 70 | Filler | 0.5 | 16.5 | 8 | Hard | 0.082 | - | - | 27 | 70 |
| 71 | Filler | 0.5 | 16.5 | 8 | Soft | 0.066 | - | - | 0.01 | 70 |
| 72 | Filler | 0.5 | 16.5 | 8 | Soft | 0.082 | - | - | 9 | 70 |
| 73 | Filler | 0.005 | 35.5 | 0.1 | Hard | 0.082 | - | - | 130 | 70 |
| 74 | Filler | 0.005 | 35.5 | 0.1 | Soft | 0.066 | - | - | 53 | 70 |
| 75 | Filler | 0.005 | 35.5 | 0.1 | Soft | 0.082 | - | - | 130 | 70 |
| 76 | Filler | 0.005 | 35.5 | 1 | Hard | 0.066 | - | - | 53 | 70 |
| 77 | Filler | 0.005 | 35.5 | 1 | Hard | 0.082 | - | - | 130 | 70 |
| 78 | Filler | 0.005 | 35.5 | 1 | Soft | 0.066 | - | - | 53 | 70 |
| 79 | Filler | 0.005 | 35.5 | 1 | Soft | 0.082 | - | - | 130 | 70 |
| 80 | Filler | 0.005 | 35.5 | 8 | Hard | 0.066 | - | - | 53 | 70 |
| 81 | Filler | 0.005 | 35.5 | 8 | Hard | 0.082 | - | - | 130 | 70 |
| 82 | Filler | 0.005 | 35.5 | 8 | Soft | 0.066 | - | - | 53 | 70 |
| 83 | Filler | 0.005 | 35.5 | 8 | Soft | 0.082 | - | - | 129 | 70 |
| 84 | Filler | 0.05 | 35.5 | 0.1 | Hard | 0.066 | - | - | 53 | 70 |
| 85 | Filler | 0.05 | 35.5 | 0.1 | Soft | 0.082 | - | - | 130 | 70 |
| 86 | Filler | 0.05 | 35.5 | 0.1 | Soft | 0.066 | - | - | 53 | 70 |
| 87 | Filler | 0.05 | 35.5 | 0.1 | Soft | 0.082 | - | - | 130 | 70 |
| 88 | Filler | 0.05 | 35.5 | 1 | Hard | 0.066 | - | - | 53 | 70 |
| 89 | Filler | 0.05 | 35.5 | 1 | Hard | 0.082 | - | - | 130 | 70 |
| 90 | Filler | 0.05 | 35.5 | 1 | Soft | 0.066 | - | - | 52 | 70 |
| 91 | Filler | 0.05 | 35.5 | 1 | Soft | 0.082 | - | - | 129 | 70 |
| 92 | Filler | 0.05 | 35.5 | 8 | Hard | 0.066 | - | - | 52 | 70 |
| 93 | Filler | 0.05 | 35.5 | 8 | Hard | 0.082 | - | - | 129 | 70 |
| 94 | Filler | 0.05 | 35.5 | 8 | Soft | 0.066 | - | - | 48 | 70 |
| 95 | Filler | 0.05 | 35.5 | 8 | Soft | 0.082 | - | - | 124 | 70 |
| 96 | Filler | 0.5 | 35.5 | 0.1 | Hard | 0.066 | - | - | 53 | 70 |
| 97 | Filler | 0.5 | 35.5 | 0.1 | Hard | 0.082 | - | - | 130 | 70 |
| 98 | Filler | 0.5 | 35.5 | 0.1 | Soft | 0.066 | - | - | 52 | 70 |
| 99 | Filler | 0.5 | 35.5 | 0.1 | Soft | 0.082 | - | - | 129 | 70 |
| 100 | Filler | 0.5 | 35.5 | 1 | Hard | 0.066 | - | - | 52 | 70 |
| 101 | Filler | 0.5 | 35.5 | 1 | Hard | 0.082 | - | - | 129 | 70 |
| 102 | Filler | 0.5 | 35.5 | 1 | Soft | 0.066 | - | - | 47 | 70 |
| 103 | Filler | 0.5 | 35.5 | 1 | Soft | 0.082 | - | - | 122 | 70 |
| 104 | Filler | 0.5 | 35.5 | 8 | Hard | 0.066 | - | - | 43 | 70 |
| 105 | Filler | 0.5 | 35.5 | 8 | Hard | 0.082 | - | - | 119 | 70 |
| 106 | Filler | 0.5 | 35.5 | 8 | Soft | 0.066 | - | - | 22 | 70 |
| 107 | Filler | 0.5 | 35.5 | 8 | Soft | 0.082 | - | - | 91 | 70 |
| 108 | Large | 0.5 | 4.2 | 10 | MQ | 0.098 | Off Eq. (3) | - | 27 | 70 |
| 109 | Large | 0.5 | 4.2 | 0.1 | Soft | 0.098 | Off Eq. (3) | - | 26 | 70 |
| 110 | Large | 0.5 | 4.2 | 0.1 | MQ | 0.098 | Off Eq. (3) | - | 28 | 70 |
| 111 | Large | 0.005 | 4.2 | 10 | Soft | 0.098 | Off Eq. (3) | - | 26 | 70 |
| 112 | Large | 0.005 | 4.2 | 10 | MQ | 0.098 | Off Eq. (3) | - | 27 | 70 |
| 113 | Large | 0.005 | 4.2 | 0.1 | Soft | 0.098 | Off Eq. (3) | - | 28 | 70 |
| 114 | Large | 0.005 | 4.2 | 0.1 | MQ | 0.098 | Off Eq. (3) | - | 28 | 70 |
| 115 | Large | 0.5 | 76.5 | 10 | Soft | 0.066 | - | - | 387 | 70 |
| 116 | Large | 0.5 | 76.5 | 10 | Soft | 0.098 | - | - | 6000 | 70 |
| 117 | Large | 0.5 | 76.5 | 10 | MQ | 0.066 | - | - | 450 | 70 |
| 118 | Large | 0.5 | 76.5 | 10 | MQ | 0.098 | - | - | 6060 | 70 |
| 119 | Large | 0.5 | 76.5 | 0.1 | Soft | 0.066 | - | - | 455 | 70 |
| 120 | Large | 0.5 | 76.5 | 0.1 | Soft | 0.098 | - | - | 6060 | 70 |
| 121 | Large | 0.5 | 76.5 | 0.1 | MQ | 0.098 | - | - | 6060 | 70 |
| 122 | Large | 0.016 | 76.5 | 10 | Soft | 0.066 | - | - | 455 | 70 |
| 123 | Large | 0.16 | 76.5 | 10 | Soft | 0.098 | - | - | 6060 | 70 |
| 124 | Large | 0.016 | 76.5 | 10 | MQ | 0.066 | - | - | 455 | 70 |
| 125 | Large | 0.16 | 76.5 | 10 | MQ | 0.098 | - | - | 6060 | 70 |
| 126 | Large | 0.16 | 76.5 | 0.1 | Soft | 0.098 | - | - | 6060 | 70 |
| 127 | Large | 0.16 | 76.5 | 0.1 | MQ | 0.098 | - | - | 6060 | 70 |
| # | \(f_x\) | \(V_c\) [km/s] | \(f_X\) | SED | \(\tau\) | LW | Low-mass cutoff | \(\zeta\) | \(R_{\text{mfp}}\) [Mpc] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 128 | Small | 0.16 | 4.2 | 3.16 | Hard & MQ | 0.066 | On Eq. (1) | 21 | 70 |
| 129 | Small | 0.16 | 4.2 | 3.16 | Hard & MQ | 0.082 | On Eq. (1) | 41 | 70 |
| 130 | Small | 0.16 | 4.2 | 3.16 | Soft & MQ | 0.066 | On Eq. (1) | 18 | 70 |
| 131 | Small | 0.16 | 4.2 | 3.16 | Soft & MQ | 0.082 | On Eq. (1) | 38 | 70 |
| 132 | Small | 0.16 | 4.2 | 0.32 | Hard & MQ | 0.066 | On Eq. (1) | 21 | 70 |
| 133 | Small | 0.16 | 4.2 | 0.32 | Hard & MQ | 0.082 | On Eq. (1) | 42 | 70 |
| 134 | Small | 0.16 | 4.2 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.066 | On Eq. (1) | 21 | 70 |
| 135 | Small | 0.16 | 4.2 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.082 | On Eq. (1) | 42 | 70 |
| 136 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 3.16 | Hard & MQ | 0.066 | On Eq. (1) | 20 | 70 |
| 137 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 3.16 | Hard & MQ | 0.082 | On Eq. (1) | 33 | 70 |
| 138 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Hard & MQ | 0.066 | On Eq. (1) | 18 | 70 |
| 139 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Hard & MQ | 0.082 | On Eq. (1) | 33 | 70 |
| 140 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.066 | On Eq. (1) | 18 | 70 |
| 141 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.082 | On Eq. (1) | 33 | 70 |
| 142 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.066 | On Eq. (1) | 18 | 70 |
| 143 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.082 | On Eq. (1) | 33 | 70 |
| 144 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.066 | On Eq. (1) | 18 | 70 |
| 145 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.082 | On Eq. (1) | 33 | 70 |
| 146 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.066 | On Eq. (1) | 18 | 70 |
| 147 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.082 | On Eq. (1) | 33 | 70 |
| 148 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.066 | On Eq. (1) | 18 | 70 |
| 149 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.082 | On Eq. (1) | 33 | 70 |
| 150 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.066 | On Eq. (1) | 18 | 70 |
| 151 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.082 | On Eq. (1) | 33 | 70 |
| 152 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.066 | On Eq. (1) | 18 | 70 |
| 153 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.082 | On Eq. (1) | 33 | 70 |
| 154 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.066 | On Eq. (1) | 18 | 70 |
| 155 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.082 | On Eq. (1) | 33 | 70 |
| 156 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.066 | On Eq. (1) | 18 | 70 |
| 157 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.082 | On Eq. (1) | 33 | 70 |
| 158 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.066 | On Eq. (1) | 18 | 70 |
| 159 | Small | 0.16 | 35.5 | 0.32 | Soft & MQ | 0.082 | On Eq. (1) | 33 | 70 |

Table A1. List of the parameter sets used in this paper. © 2016 RAS, MNRAS, 000, 1–16.