

AST376 (Spring 2014)

COSMOLOGY

Group Project: Primordial Gravitational Waves

20-min presentations and interviews: individually scheduled May 1 and 2

Written report (1 page + figures and references, one per group is enough),

due in class: Thursday, May 1

(worth 20/100)

1. BICEP2 Results

The BICEP2 experiment has recently announced that it has discovered *B*-mode polarization in the cosmic microwave background from gravitational waves in the early universe.

To get started, see: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BICEP2>.

What does this mean? Why is this potentially a very important result? Please investigate!