

Abstract Submitted
for the APR20 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

SPIDER: First-Flight Data Analysis Update JEFFREY FILIPPINI,
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, SPIDER COLLABORATION — SPI-
DER is a balloon-borne polarimeter aiming to measure the polarization of the Cos-
mic Microwave Background with unprecedented sensitivity over about 10southern
sky. The payload took off on its maiden flight from McMurdo Station, Antarctica on
1 January 2015, mapping the sky at 95 and 150 GHz. A second flight scheduled for
the 2020–2021 austral summer will gather additional data at these frequencies and
provide novel measurements at 280 GHz. This latter capability will allow for im-
proved characterization of the polarized emission from interstellar dust, and thereby
a more robust constraint on the presence of a primordial divergence-free (“B-mode”)
polarization pattern in the microwave sky. In this talk, we will provide a progress
report on the analysis of the data from SPIDER’s first flight. In particular, we will
present our understanding of the systematic and Galactic foreground contamination
levels in the data, with an emphasis on the uncertainty inherent to the foreground
removal processes.

Jeffrey Filippini
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Date submitted: 10 Jan 2020

Electronic form version 1.4