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## Quantifying and mitigating the effect of snapshot interval in light-cone Epoch of Reionization 21-cm simulations

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The Epoch of Reionization (EoR) neutral Hydrogen (H I) 21-cm signal evolves significantly along the line-of-sight (LoS) due to the light-cone (LC) effect. It is important to accurately incorporate this in simulations in order to correctly interpret the signal. 21-cm LC simulations are typically produced by stitching together slices from a finite number ( $N$ ) of “reionization snapshot”, each corresponding to a different stage of reionization. In this work, we have quantified the errors in the 21-cm LC simulation due to the finite value of  $N$ . We show that this can introduce large discontinuities ( $> 200\%$ ) at the stitching boundaries when  $N$  is small ( $= 2, 4$ ) and the mean neutral fraction jumps by  $\Delta \bar{x}_{\text{HI}} = 0.2, 0.1$  respectively at the stitching boundaries. This drops to 17% for  $N = 13$  where  $\Delta \bar{x}_{\text{HI}} = 0.02$ . We present and also validate a method for mitigating this error by increasing  $N$  without a proportional increase in the computational costs which are mainly incurred in generating the dark matter and halo density fields. Our method generates these fields only at a few redshifts, and interpolates them to generate reionization snapshots at closely spaced redshifts. We use this to generate 21-cm LC simulations with  $N = 26, 51, 101$  and  $201$ , and show that the errors go down inversely with  $N$ .

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