Space characteristic

Effects/consequences

atmospheric noise and variability

figure of atmospheric transmission and variability, ground and balloon

simultaneous access to widely-separated sky regions polarization angle coverage and modulation sidelobes only on sky Calibration

Observe different parts of the sky under same conditions Extends the number, range, and sensitivity of null tests Calibration

Direct noise More sensitive detectors

Observing efficiency near unity

Compare one detector-year, ground, balloon, space T_sys, observing time, etc.

(Cosmic rays)

foreground minimum foreground separation range of science

Minimally-constrained scan strategy no ground no elevation-dependent atmosphere Sun "doesn't move" "no" weather

Stability

instrumental (thermal, etc.) "environmental"

Low background No day/night

Frequency coverage

No weather