

Securing Confidence in Cosmic Shear

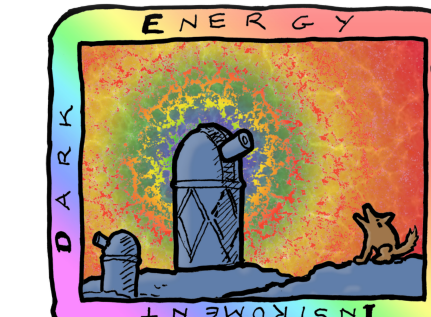
Towards robust treatments of astrophysical systematics in Stage-IV surveys

For the Cosmology-BCCP LBNL-Physics-Astronomy Cosmology seminar
2025/01/21

Sven Heydenreich



Studienstiftung
des deutschen Volkes



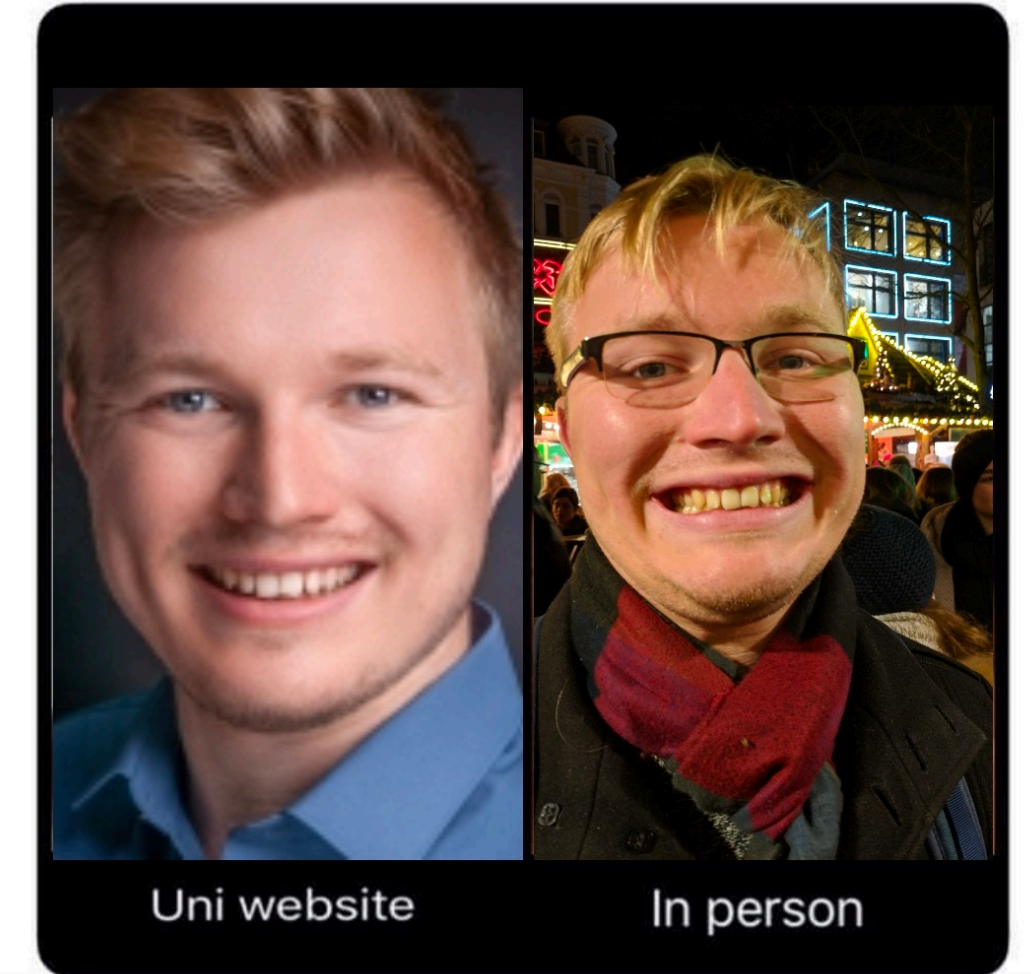
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
SANTA CRUZ

About me

- Master's: University of Bonn
The effects of varying depth in cosmic shear surveys
- PhD: University of Bonn
Higher-order statistics in cosmic shear
- Now: UC Santa Cruz
Galaxy-Galaxy lensing in the DESI survey

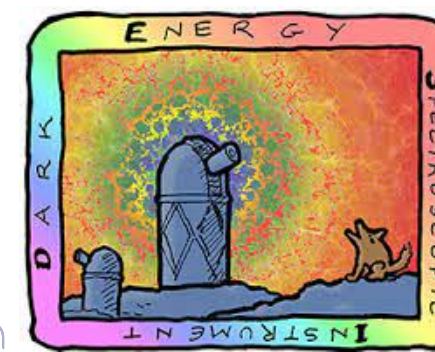
Every academic I meet in person
compared to the website biography
photo

[#academictwitter](#) [#phdchat](#)

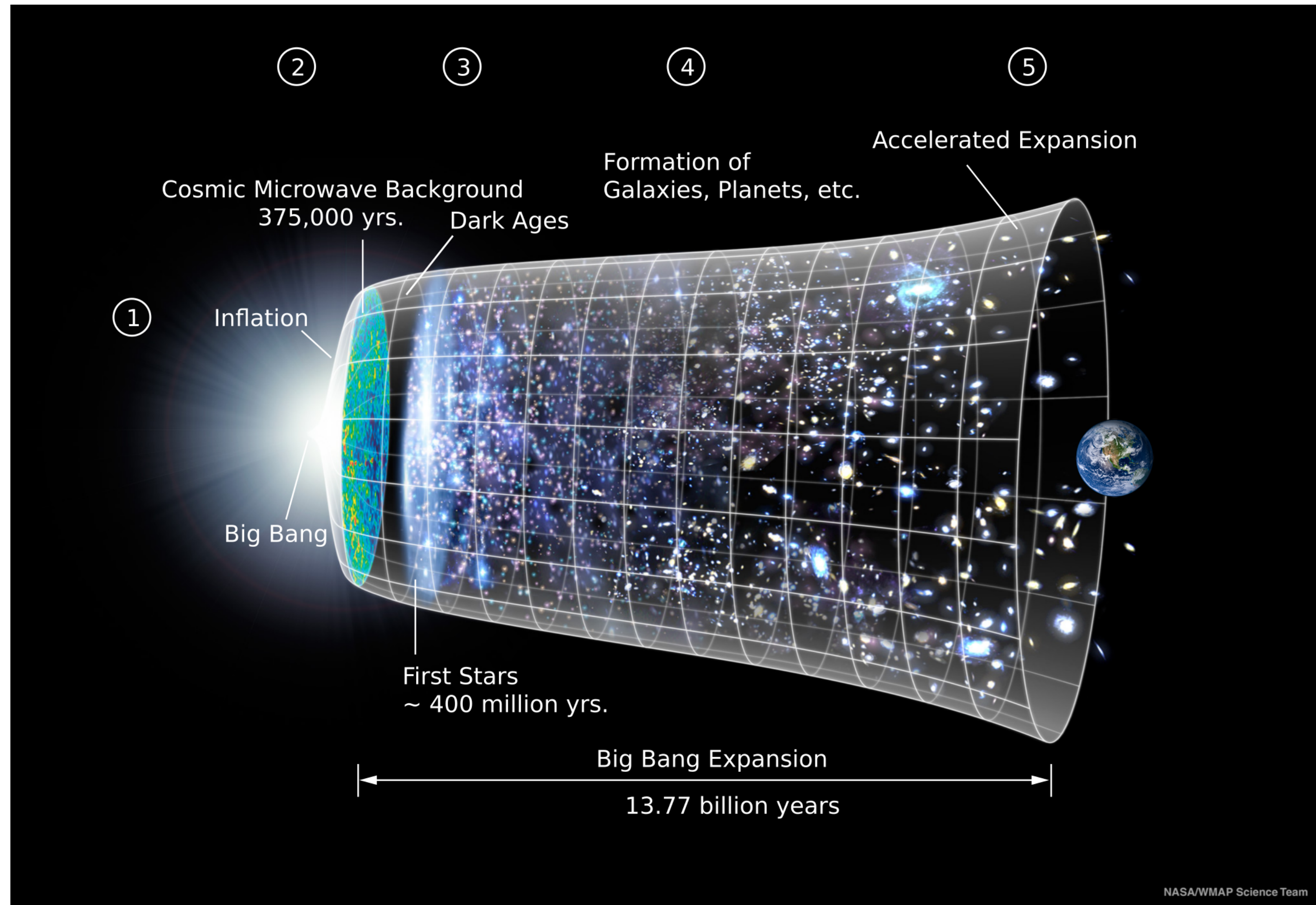


Uni website

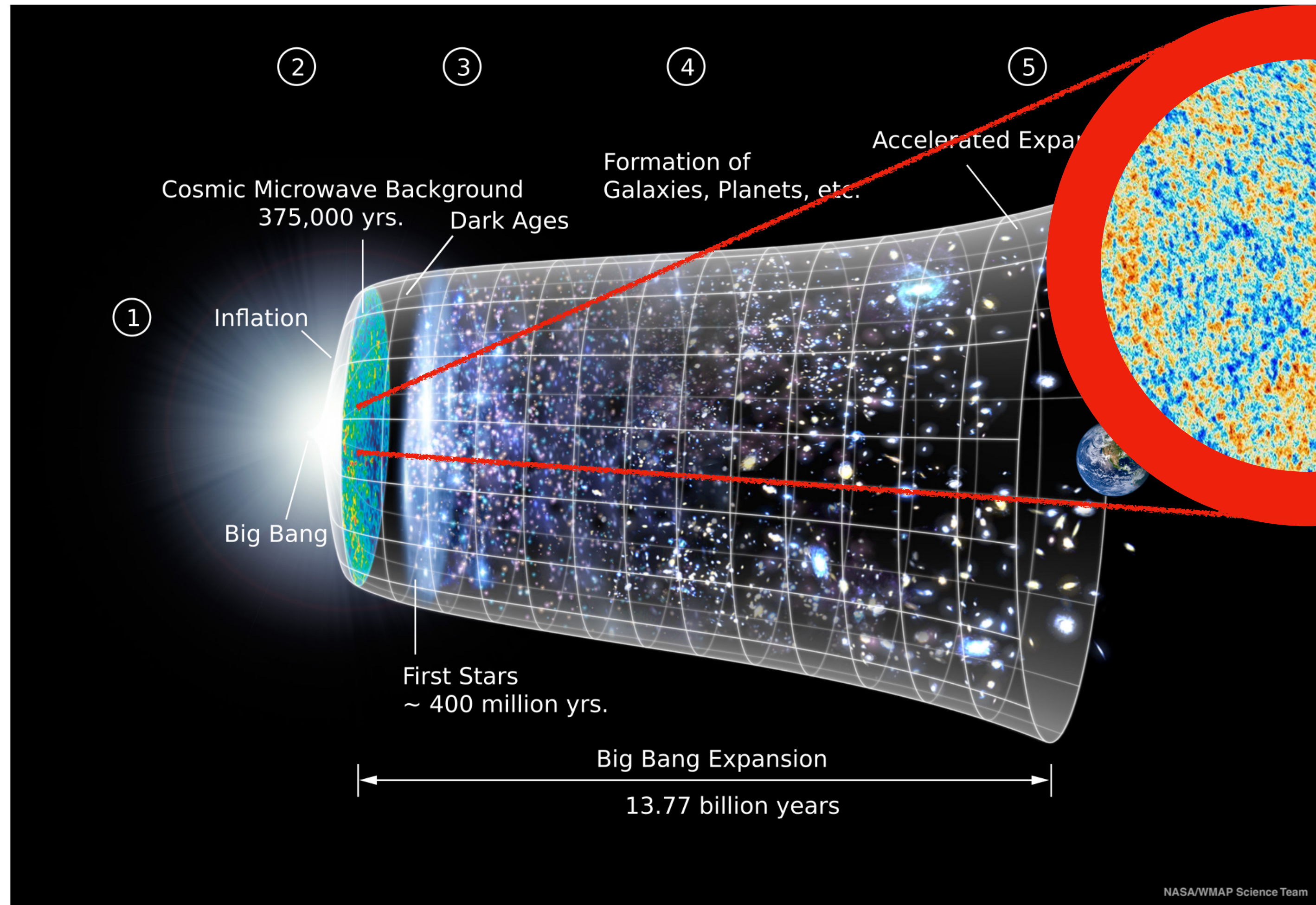
In person



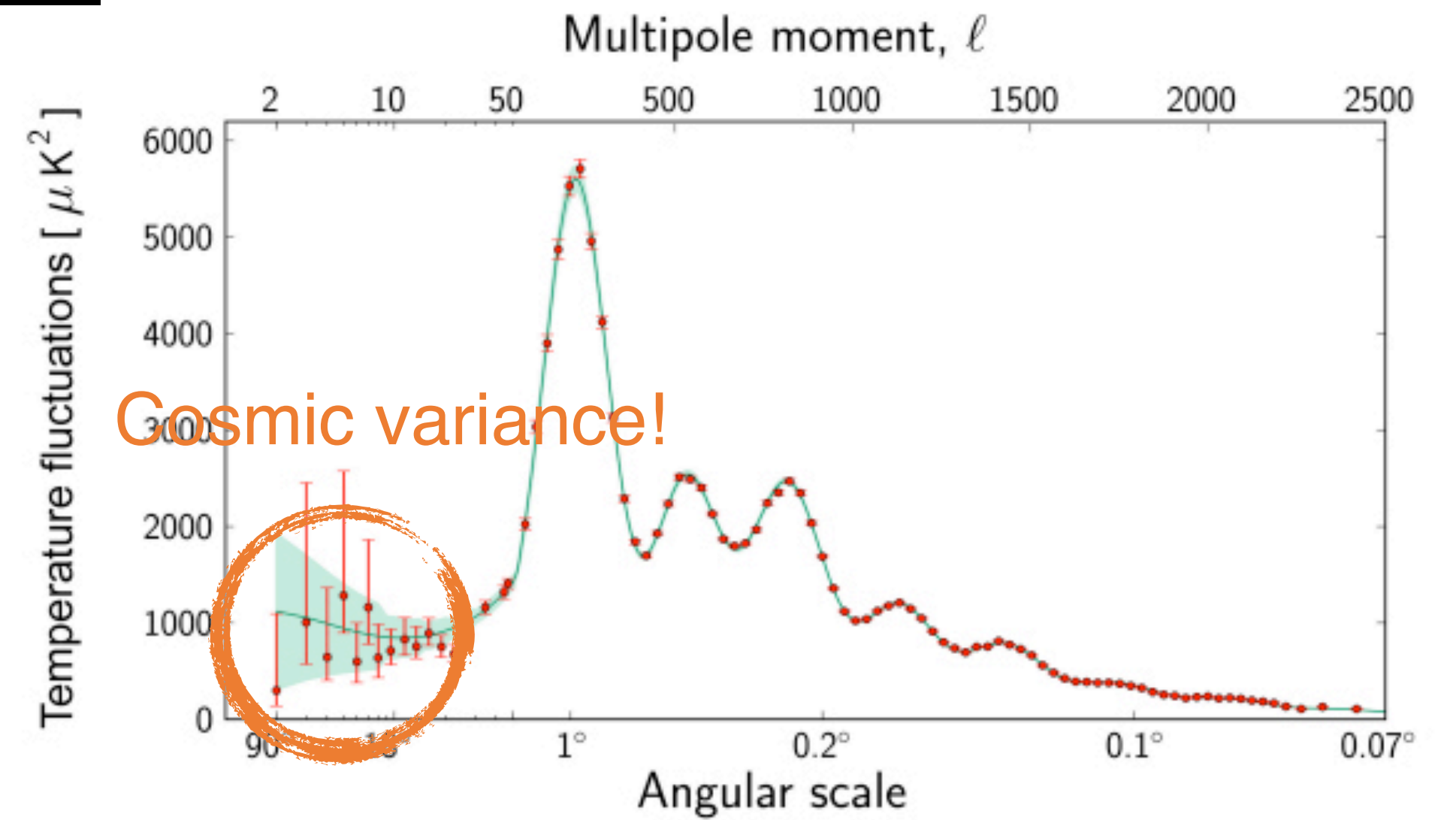
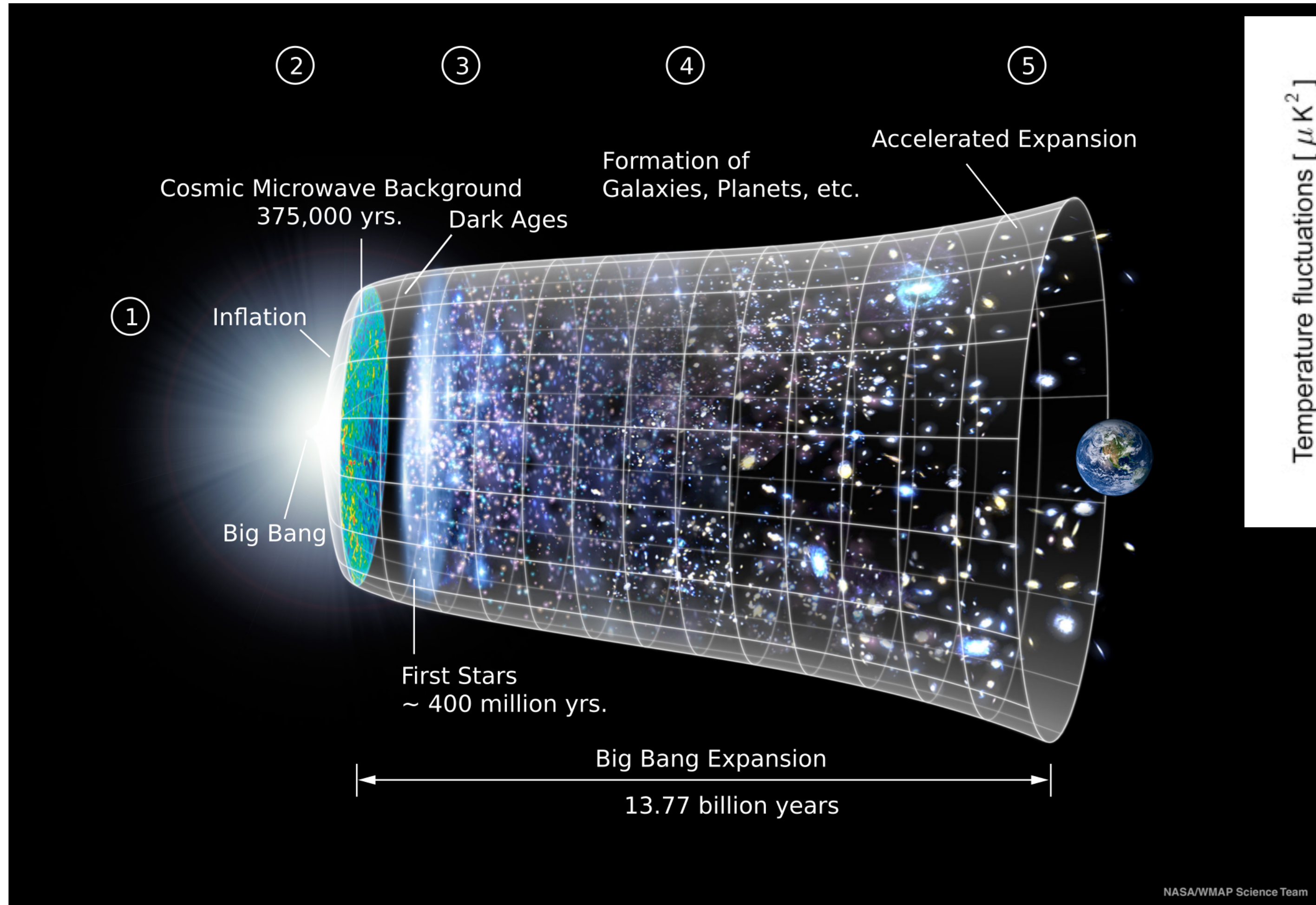
Why go beyond CMB?



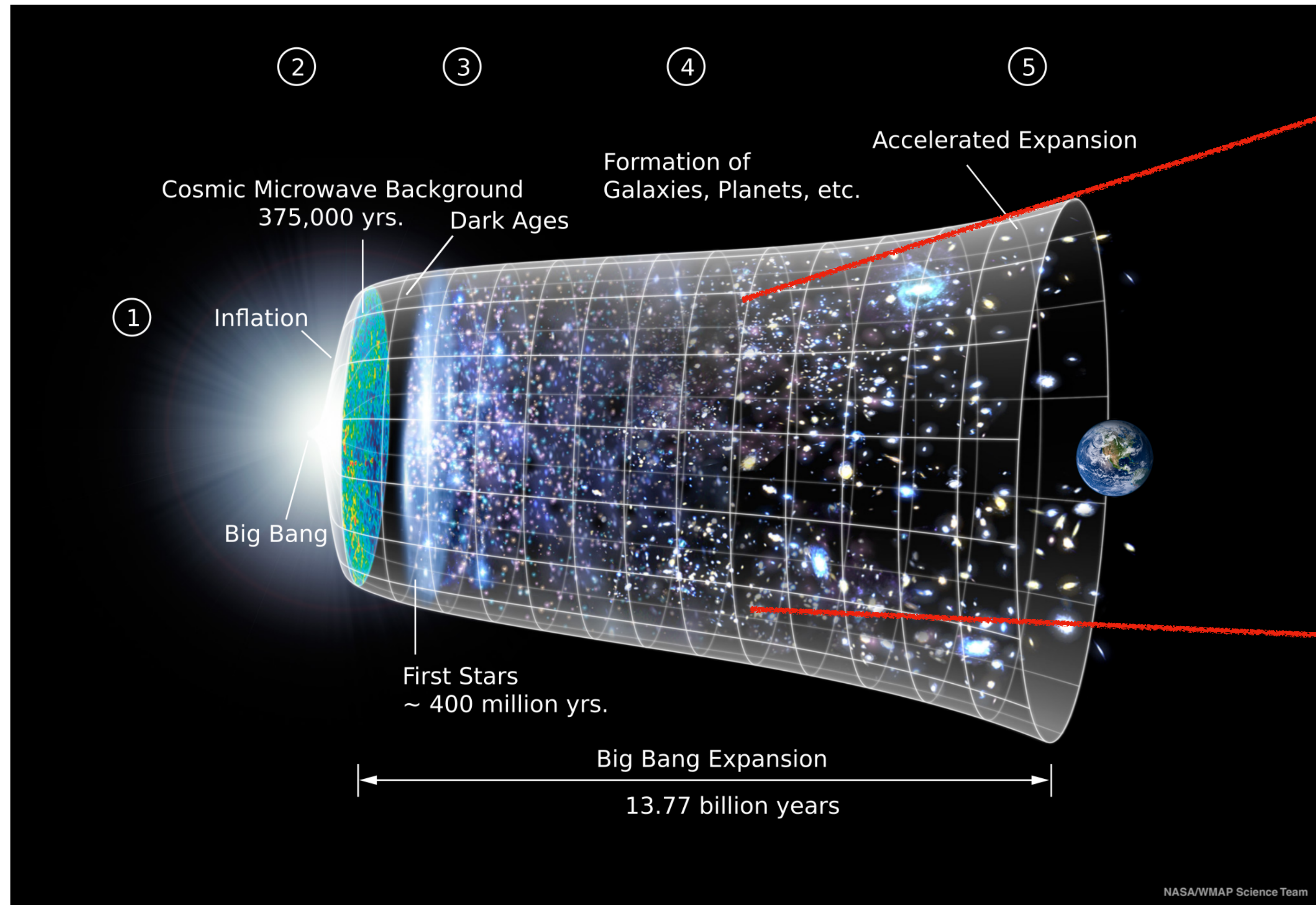
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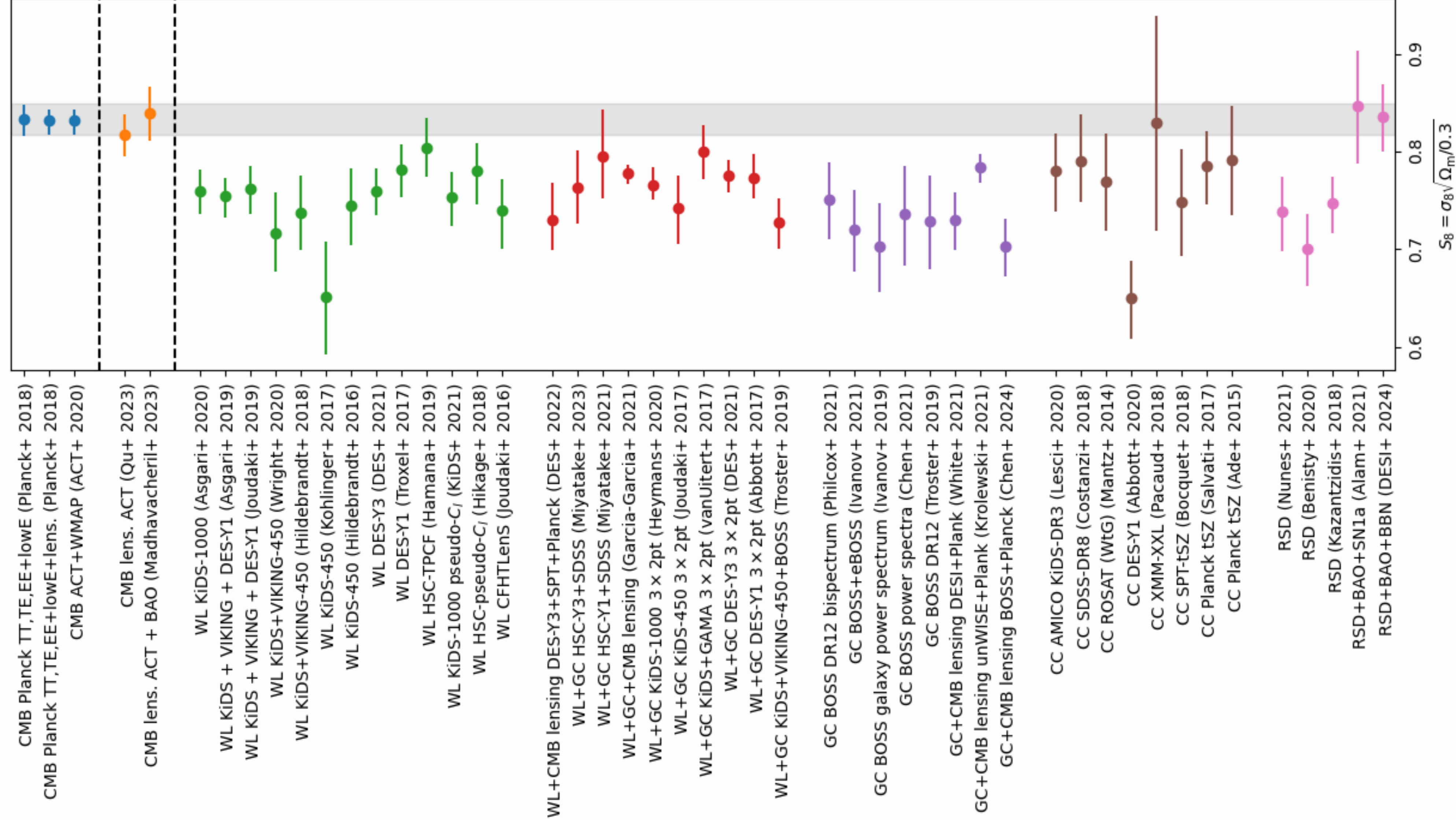
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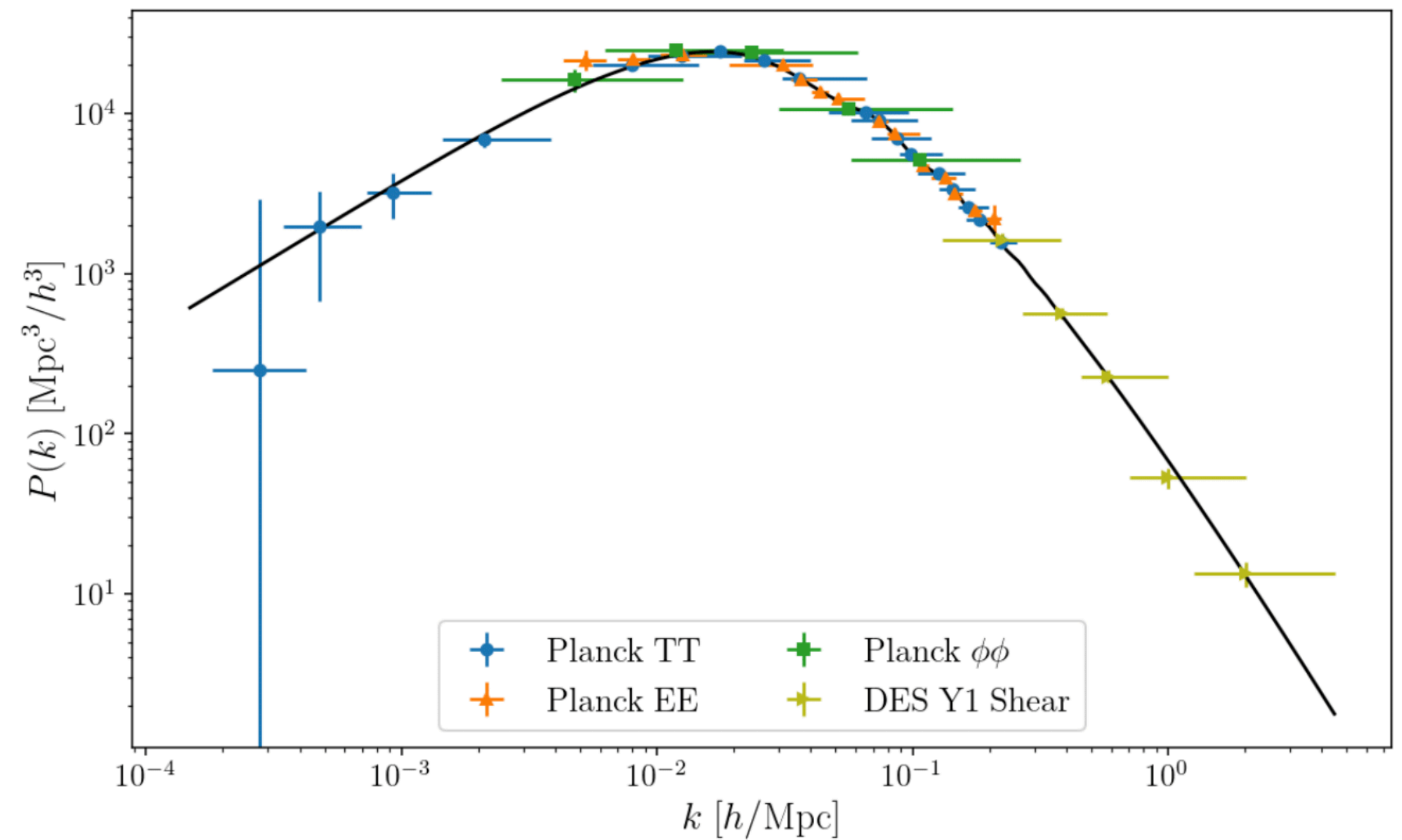
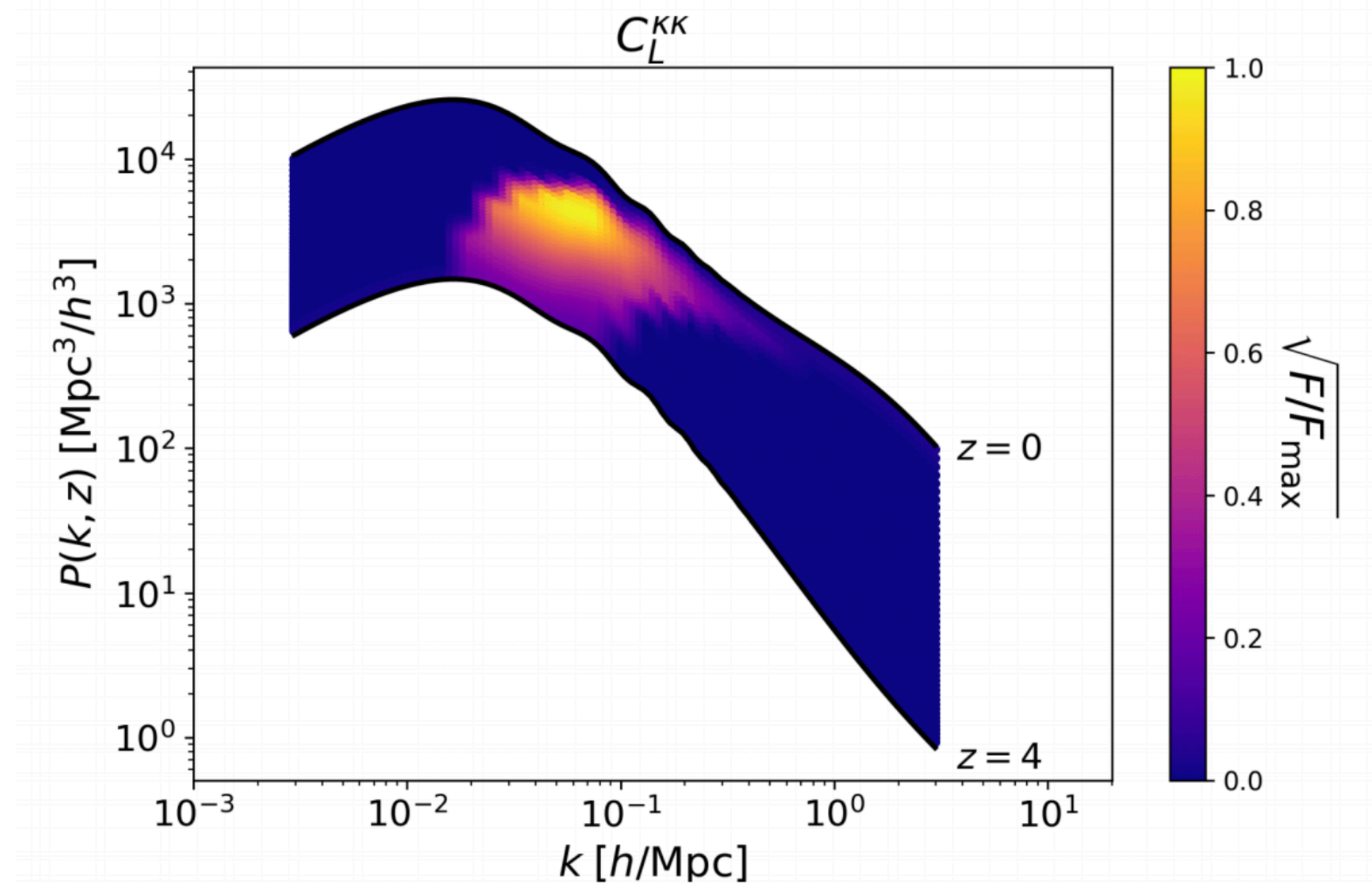
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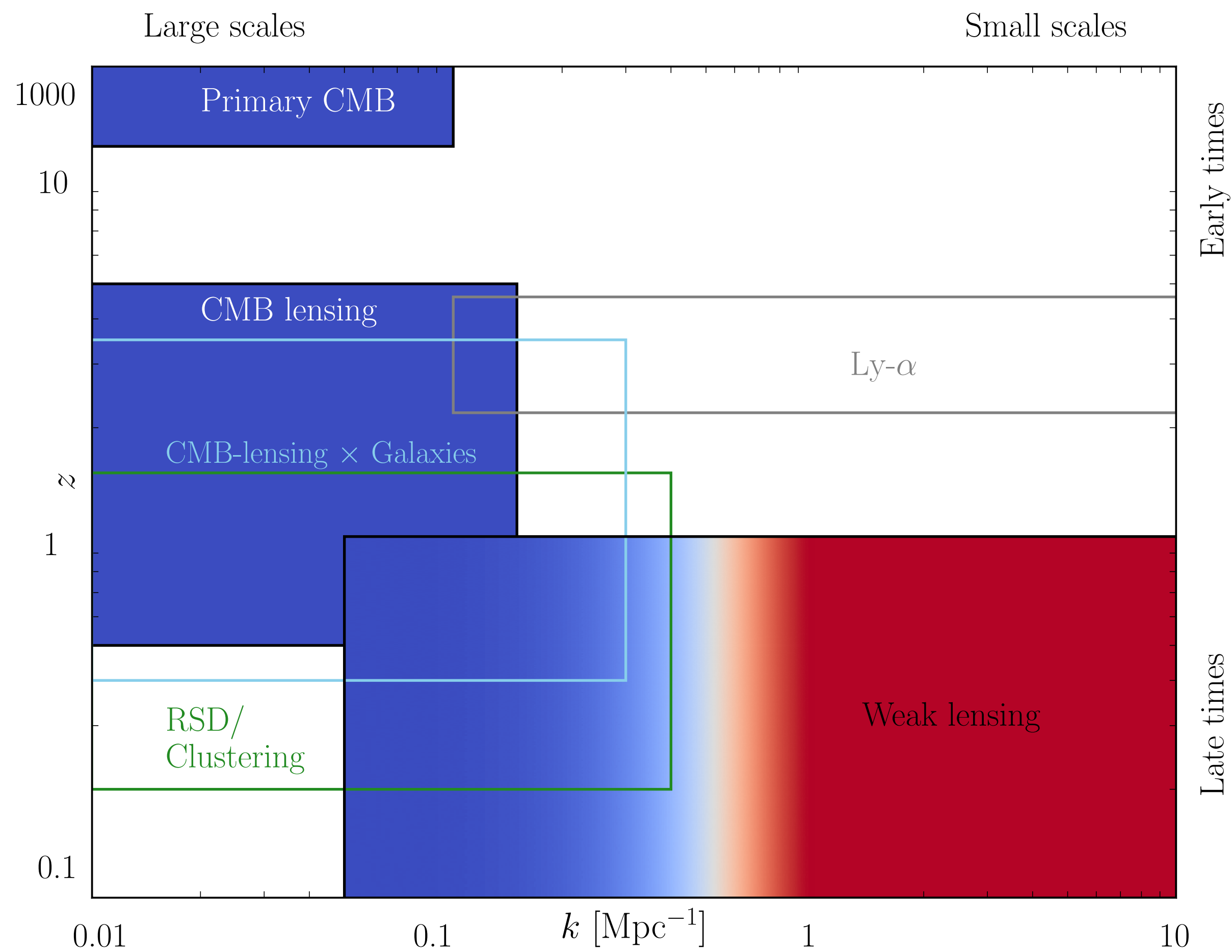
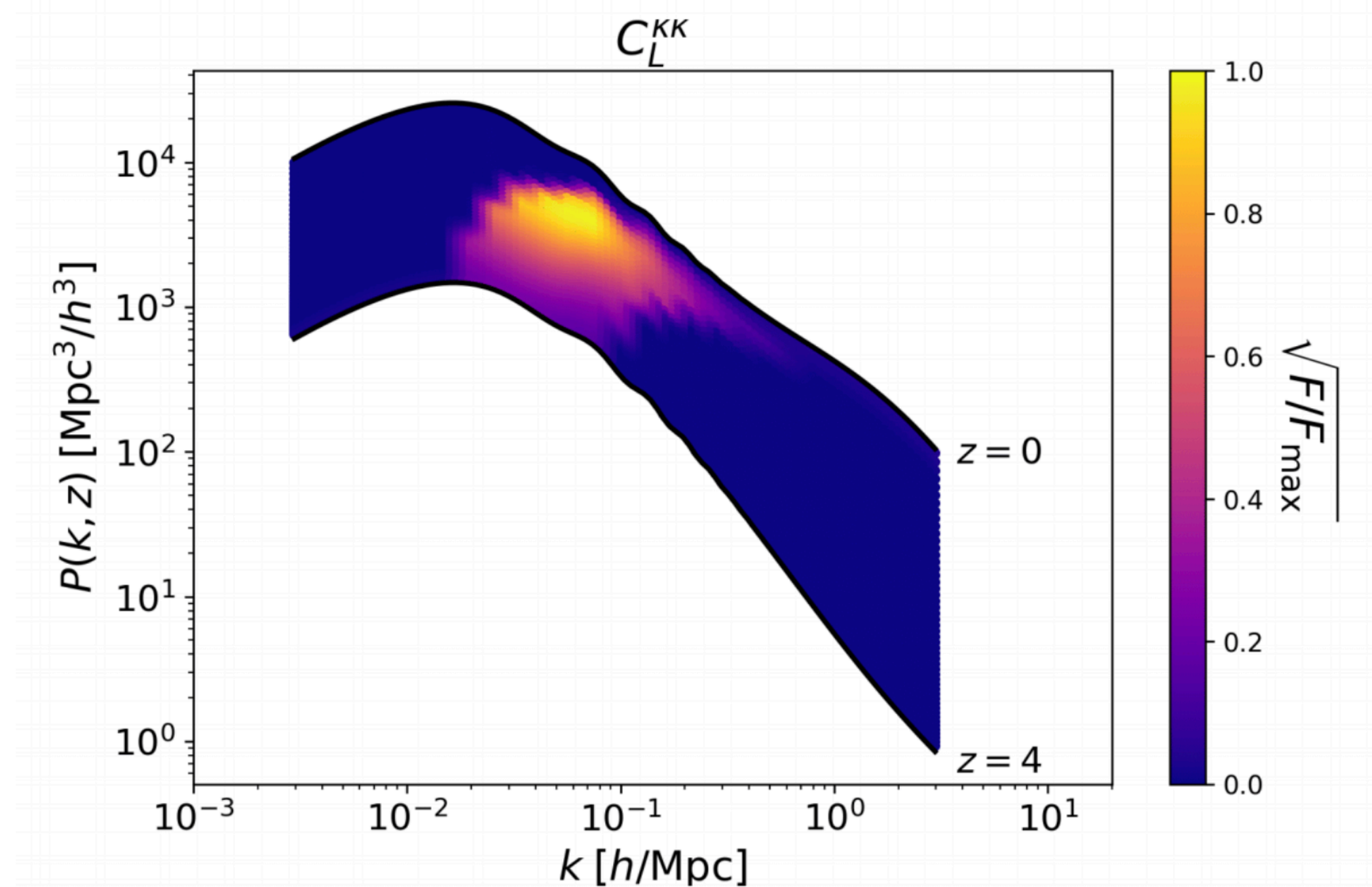
The S_8 'tension'



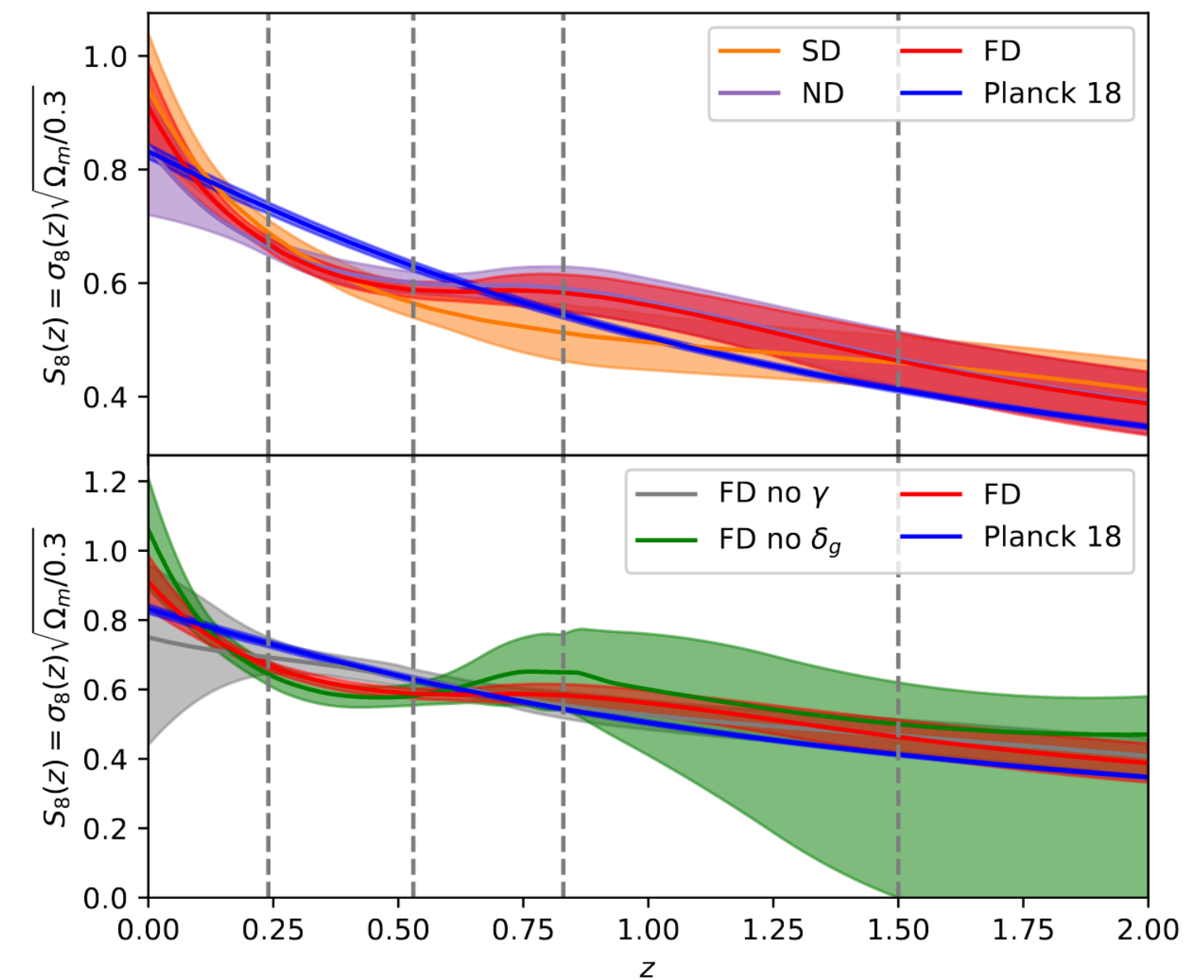
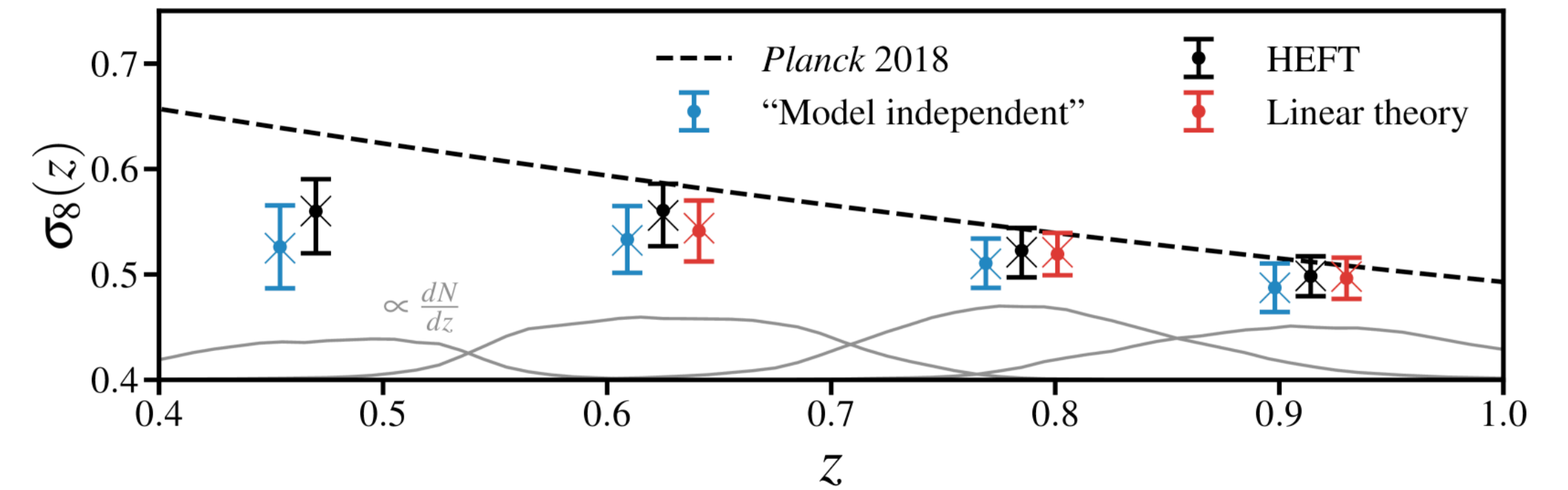
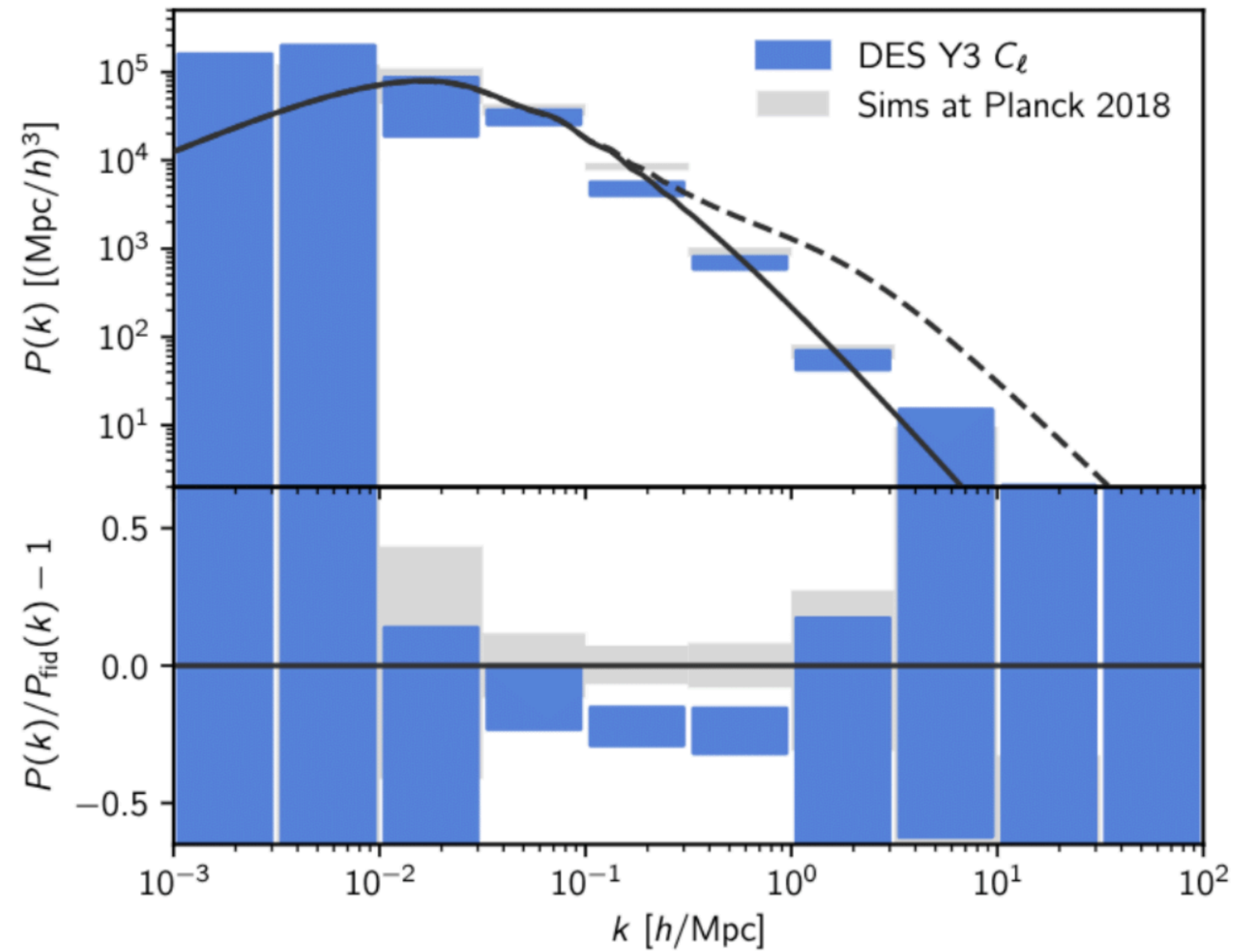
Redshift and scale dependence of different probes



Redshift and scale dependence of different probes



S_8 tension in (k, z) -space



Cosmic shear systematics

Imaging systematics

- Shear measurement
- Color-redshift relation
- PSF subtraction
- CCD-related systematics
- Blending
- Variable selection function
- ...

Astrophysical systematics

- Baryon feedback
- Intrinsic alignments
- Inhomogeneous source samples
- ...

Modelling uncertainties

- Nonlinear structure formation
- Higher-order corrections (Limber, Born, reduced shear, ...)
- Neutrinos
- ...

Statistical difficulties

- Impact of priors
- Non-Gaussian likelihoods
- Projection effects
- Tension metrics
- Model selection
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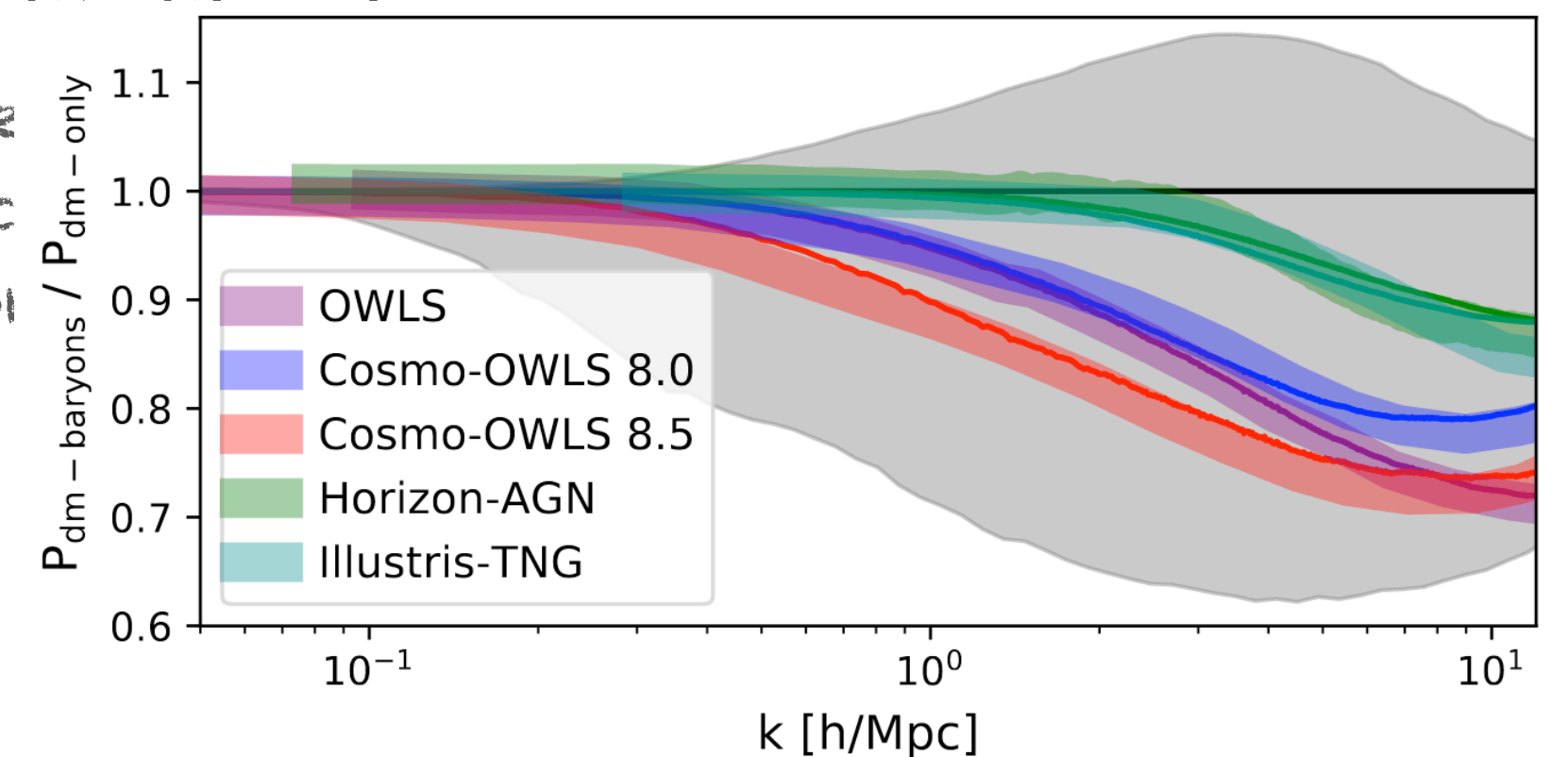
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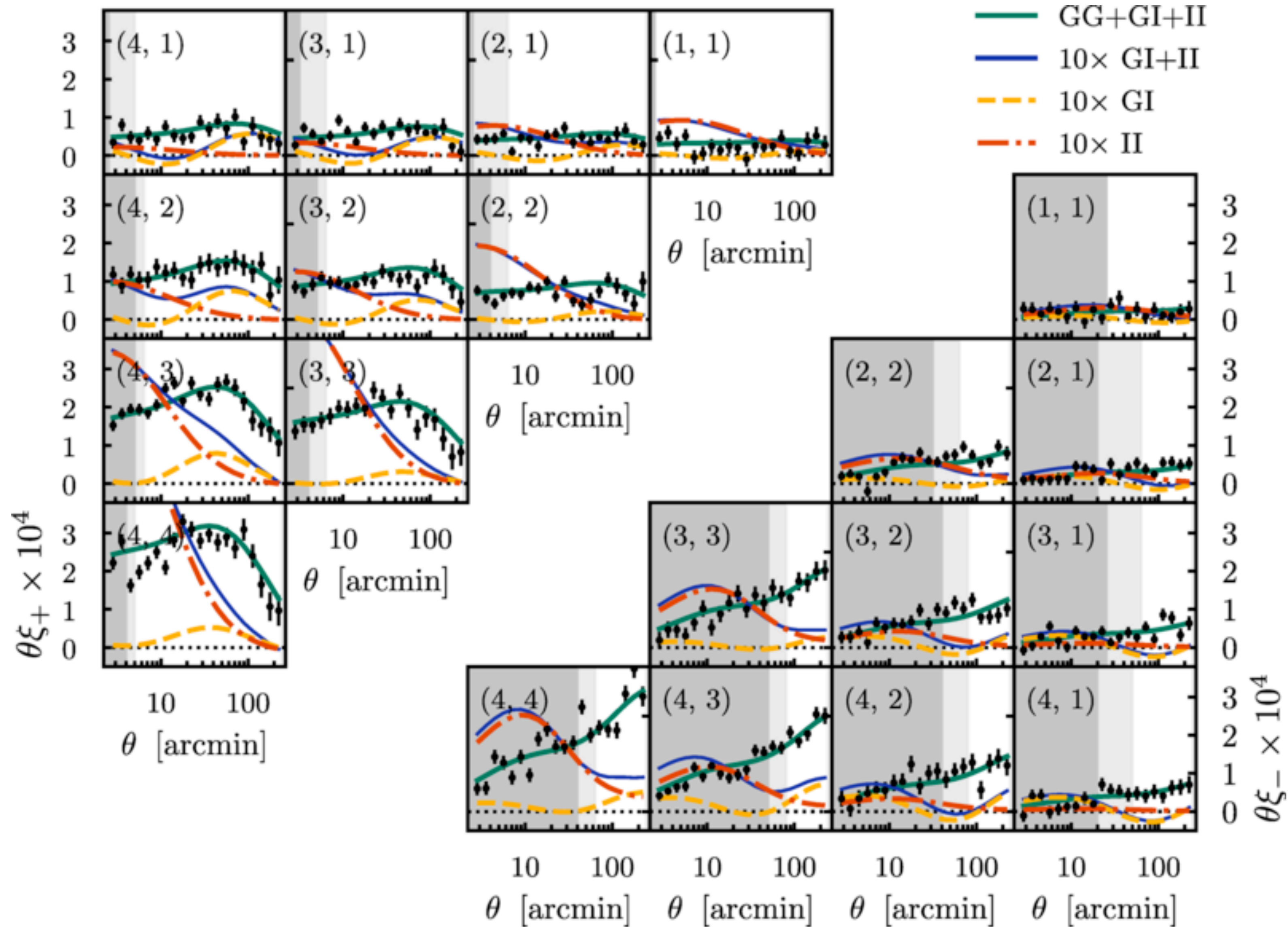
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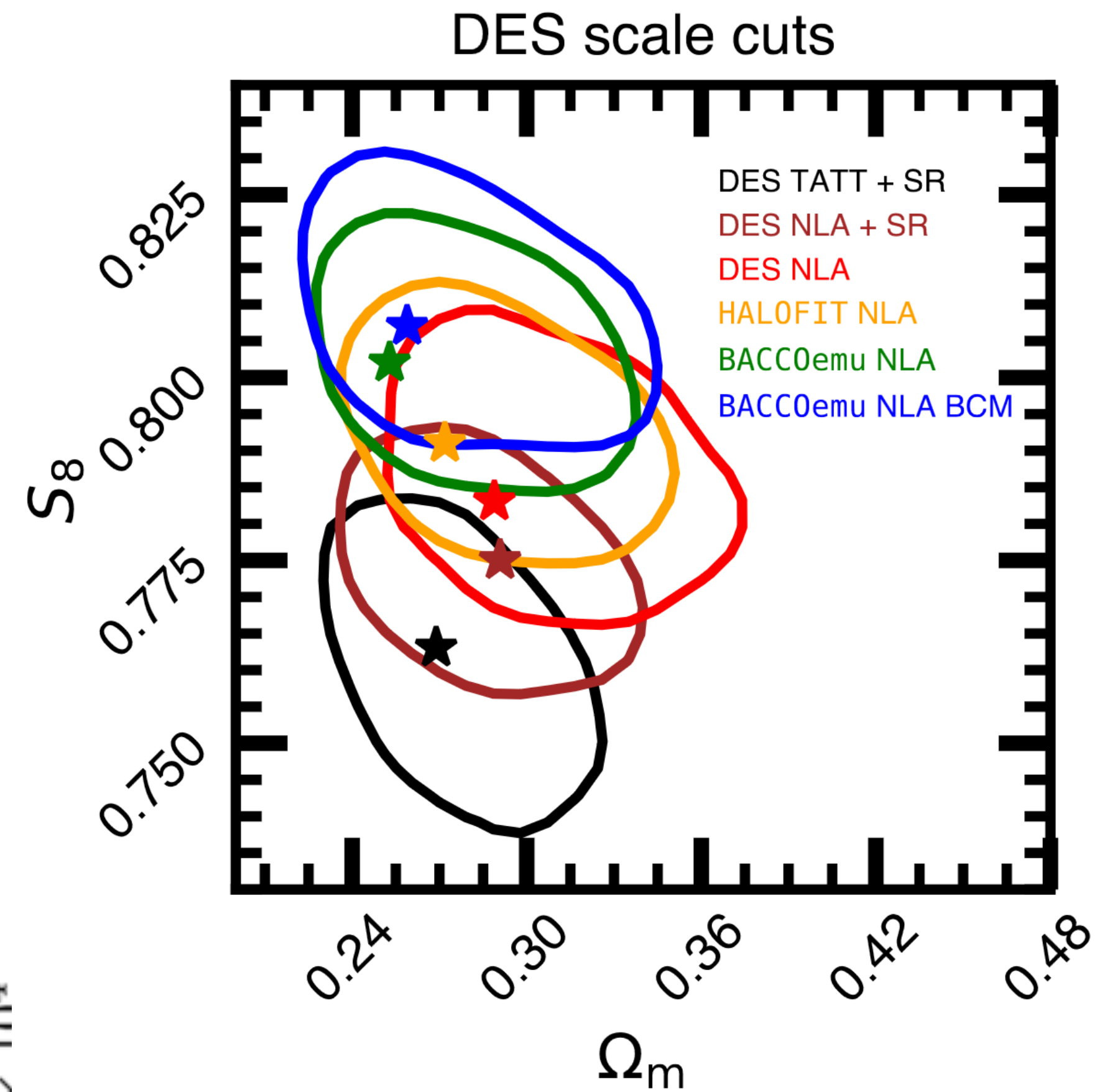
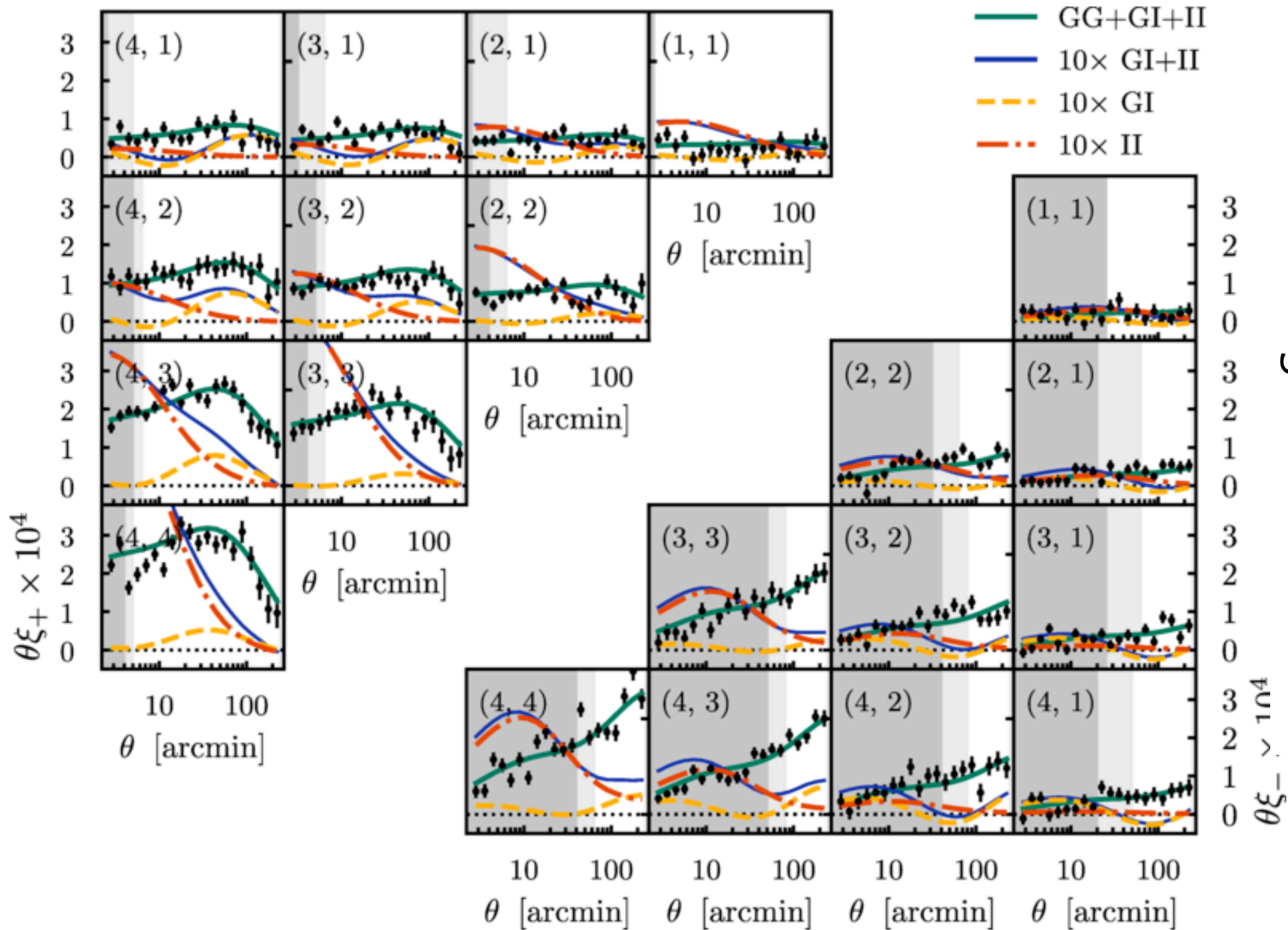


Baryon feedback, Schneider et al. (2020)

Could the S_8 tension be systematics?

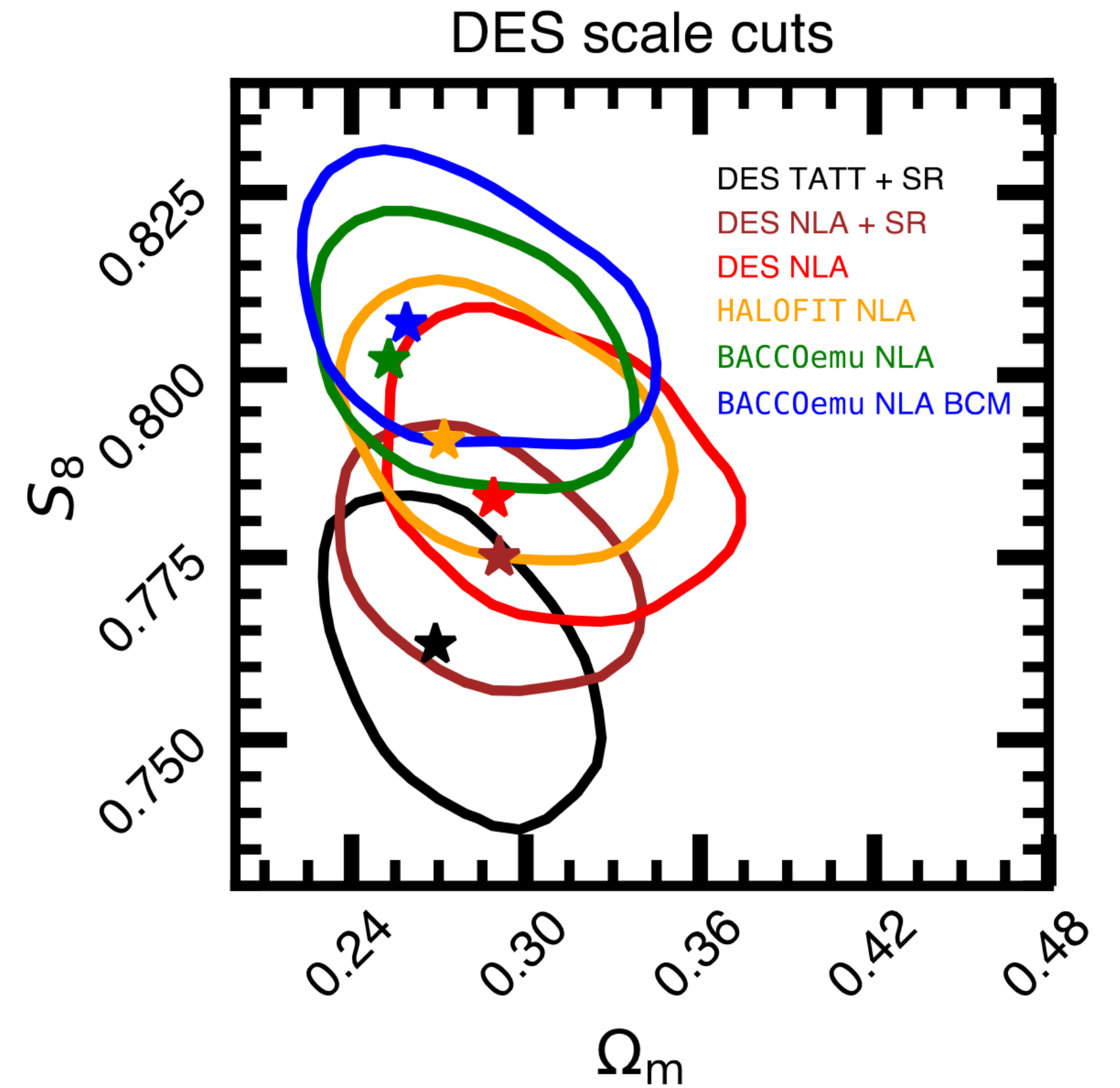


Could the S_8 tension be systematics?



Could the S_8 tension be systematics?

Yes.



How do we make sure it's not?

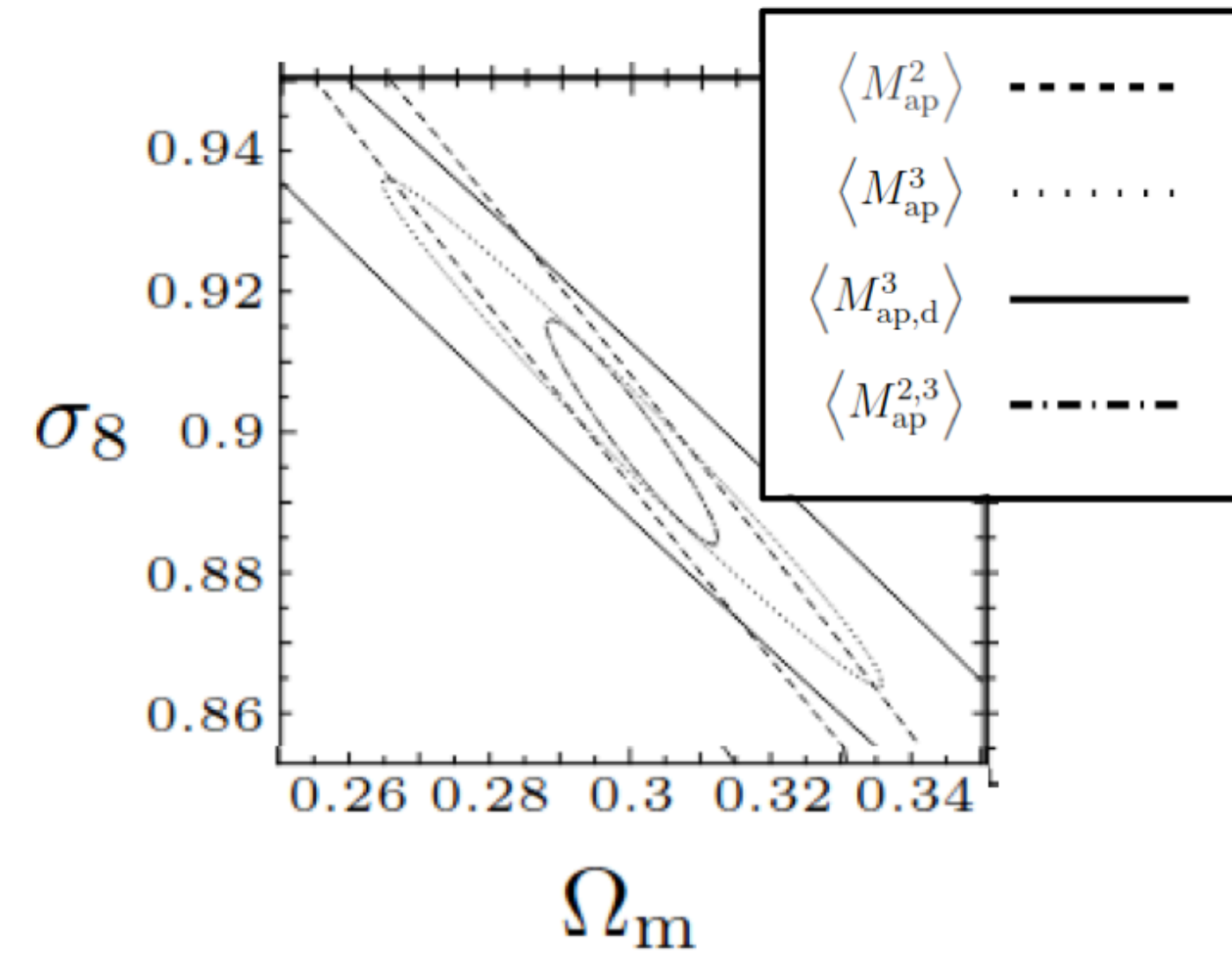
- Independent teams, pipelines, and analysis choices (DES, KiDS, HSC → Euclid, Rubin, Roman)
- Independent/combined probes (i.e. $n \times 2pt$)
- Blinding!
- B-modes!
- Higher-order statistics
- Directly constraining systematics

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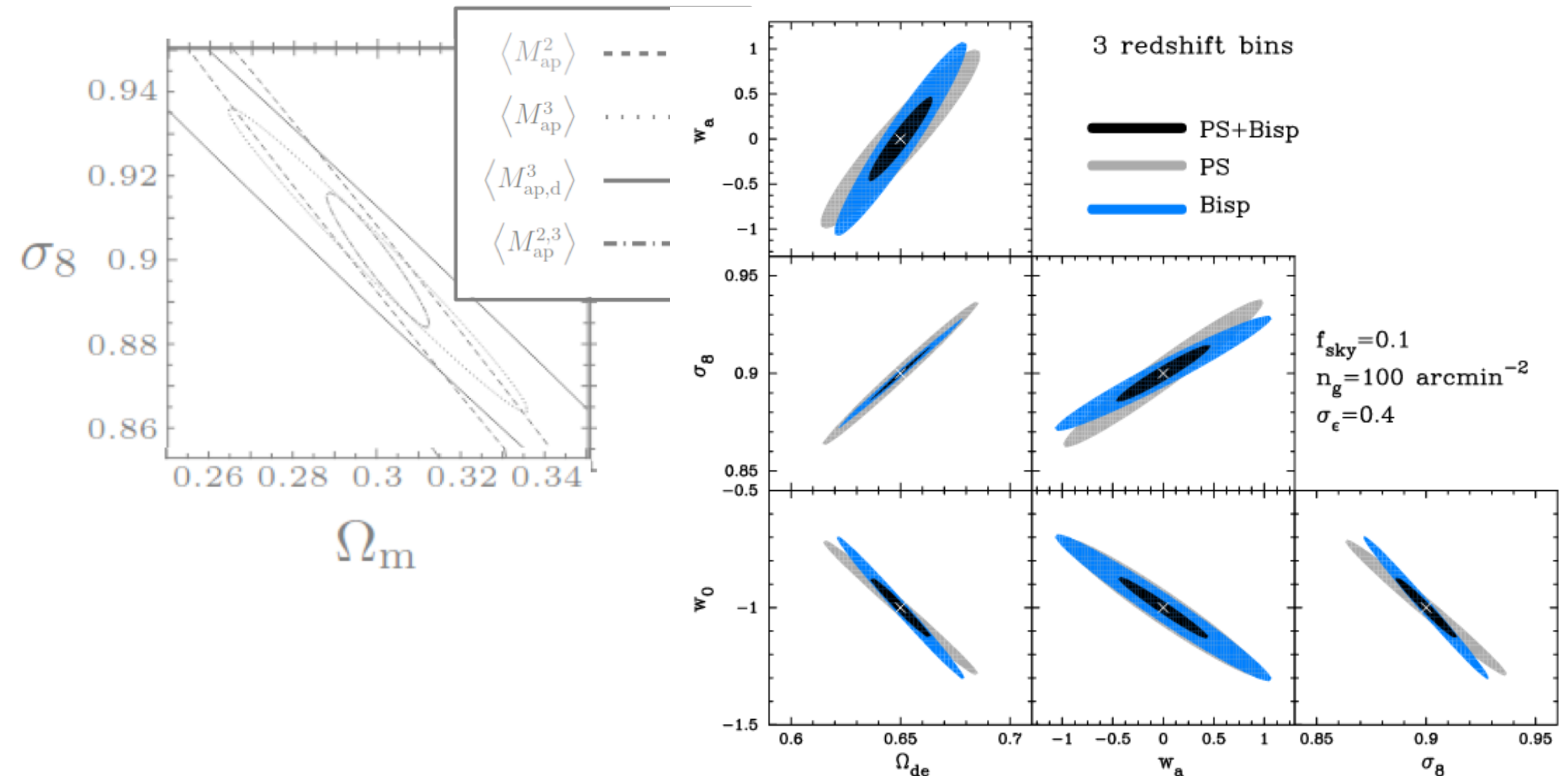
How do higher order statistics help with systematics?

- Break degeneracies
- Information from non-Gaussian structure



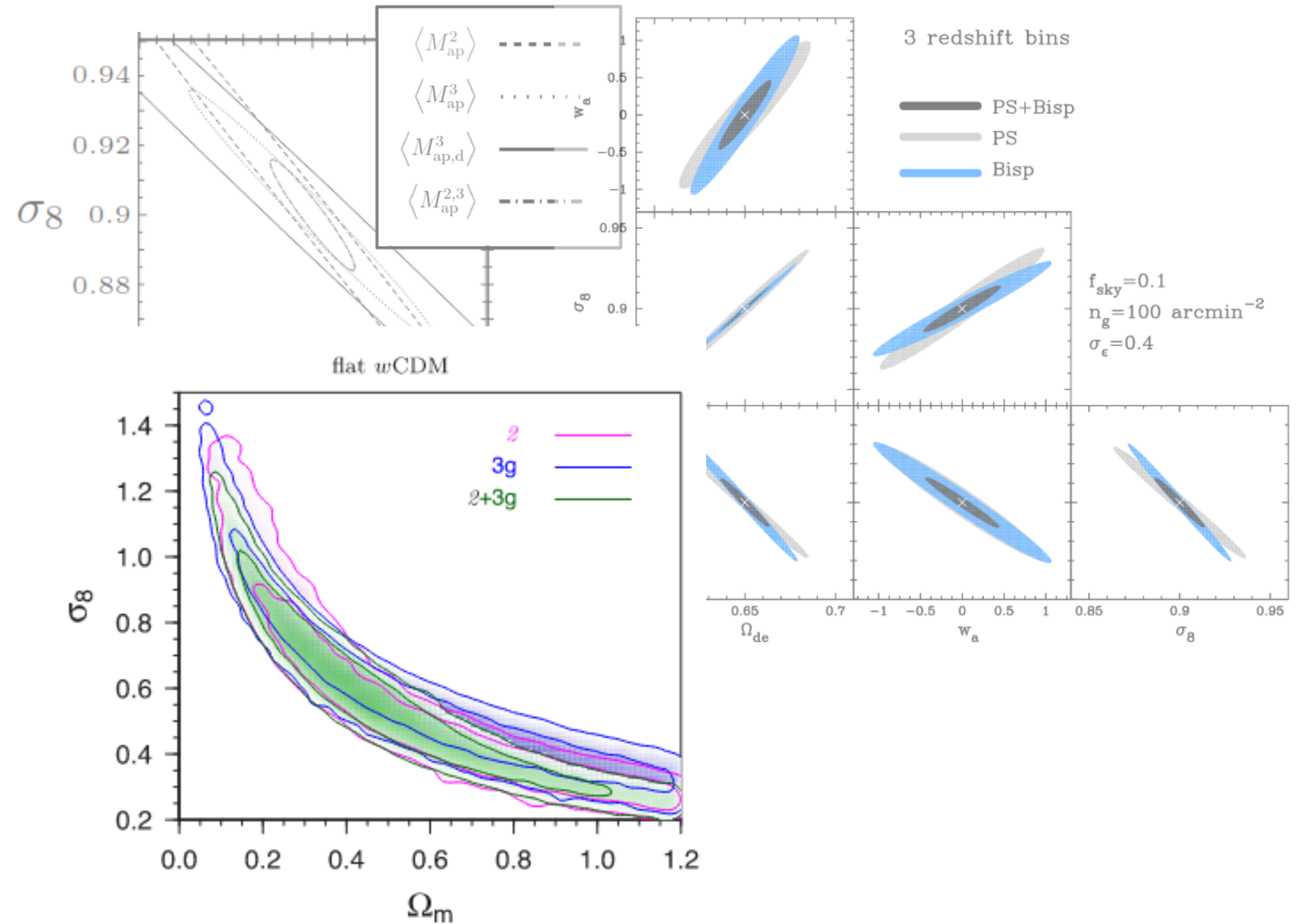
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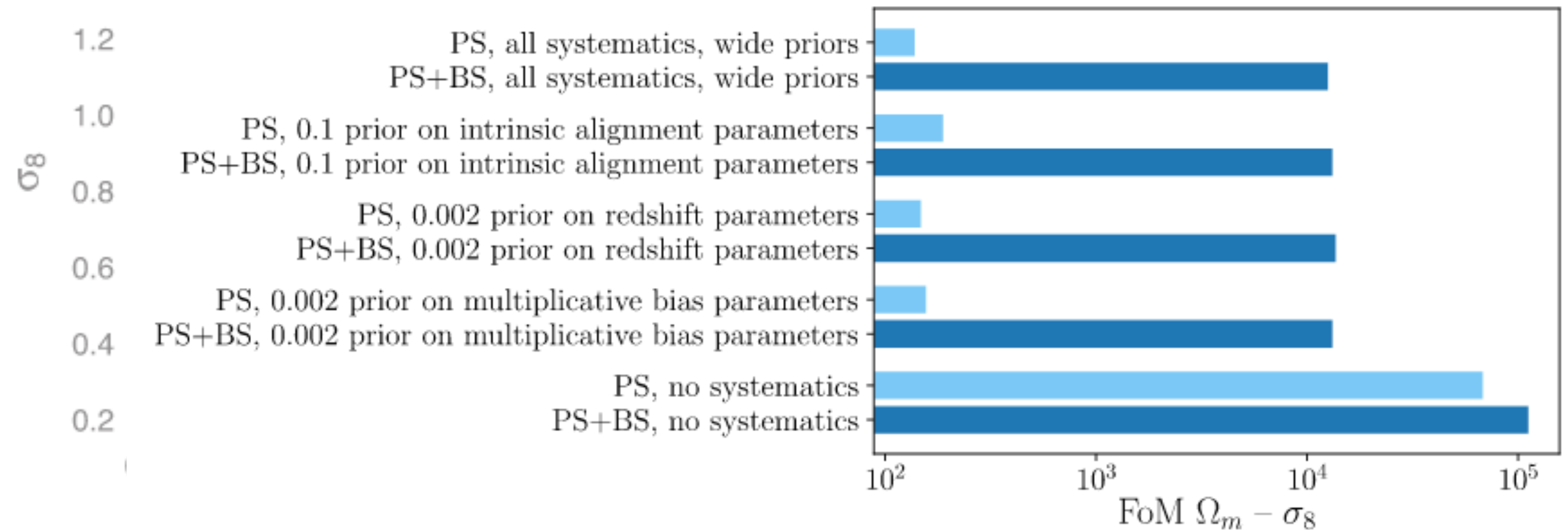
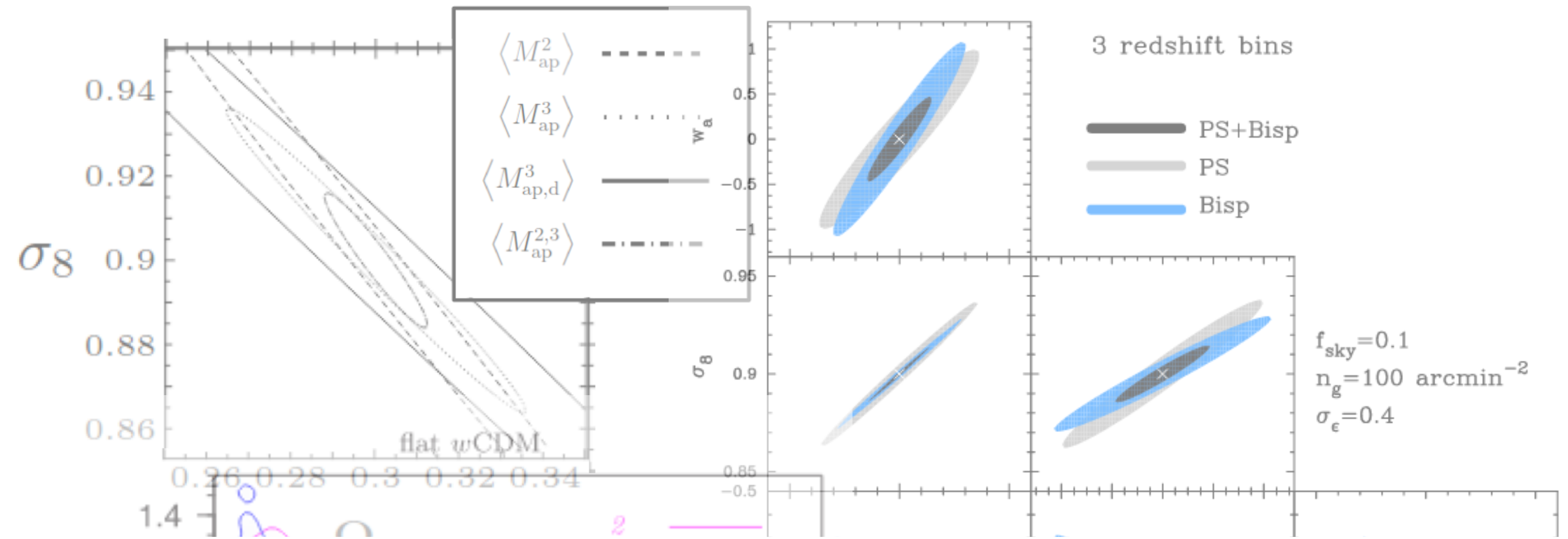
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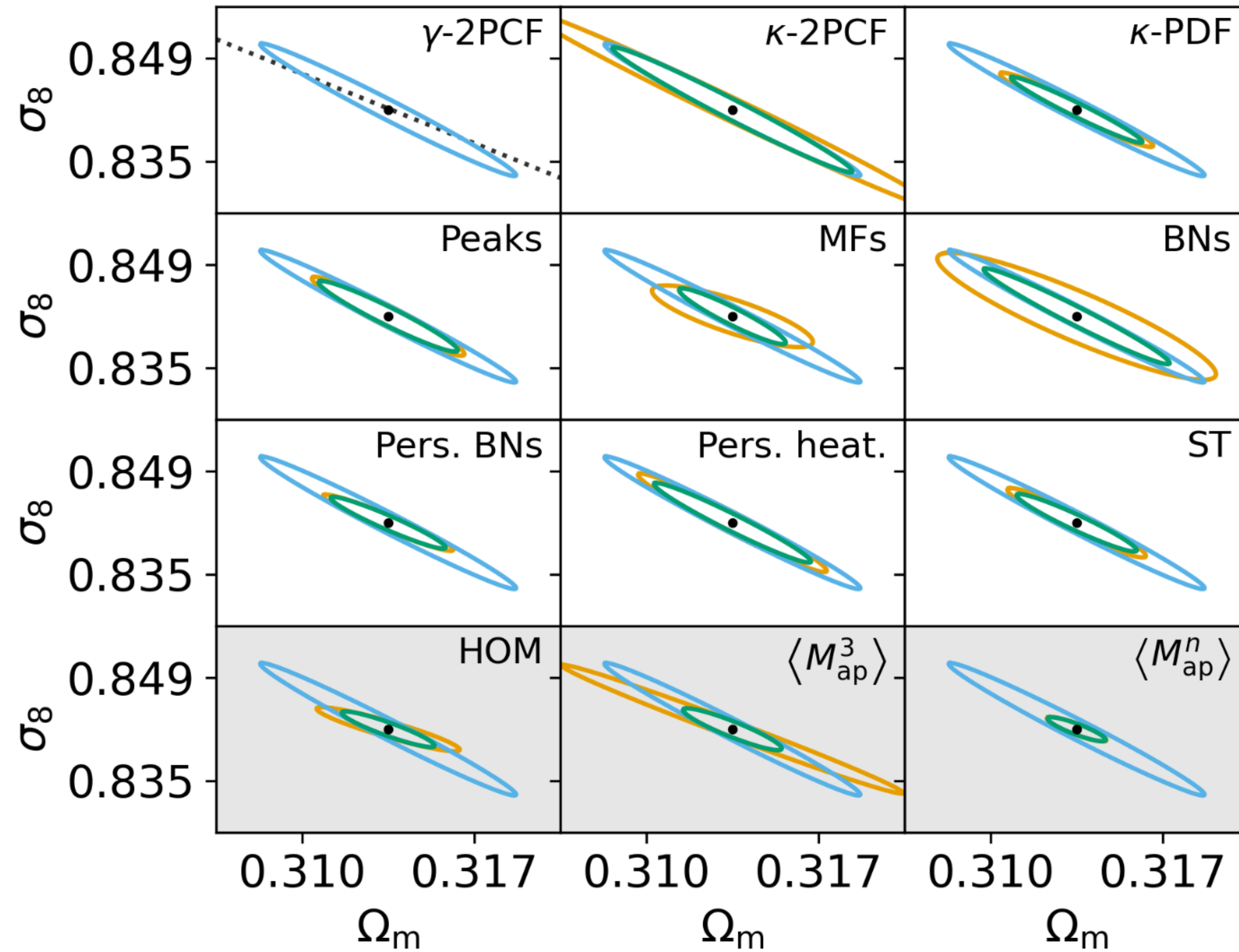


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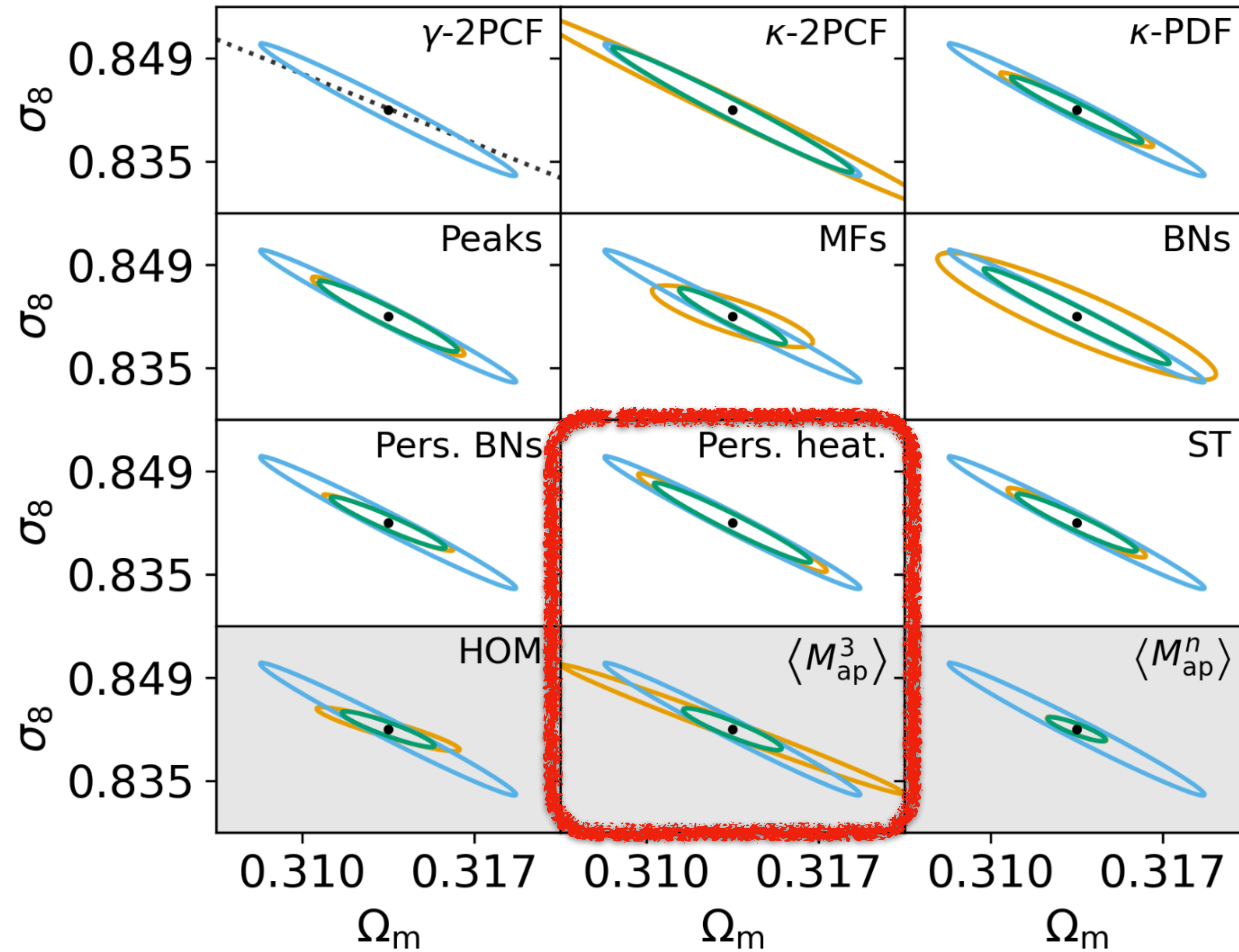


Higher-order cosmic shear statistics



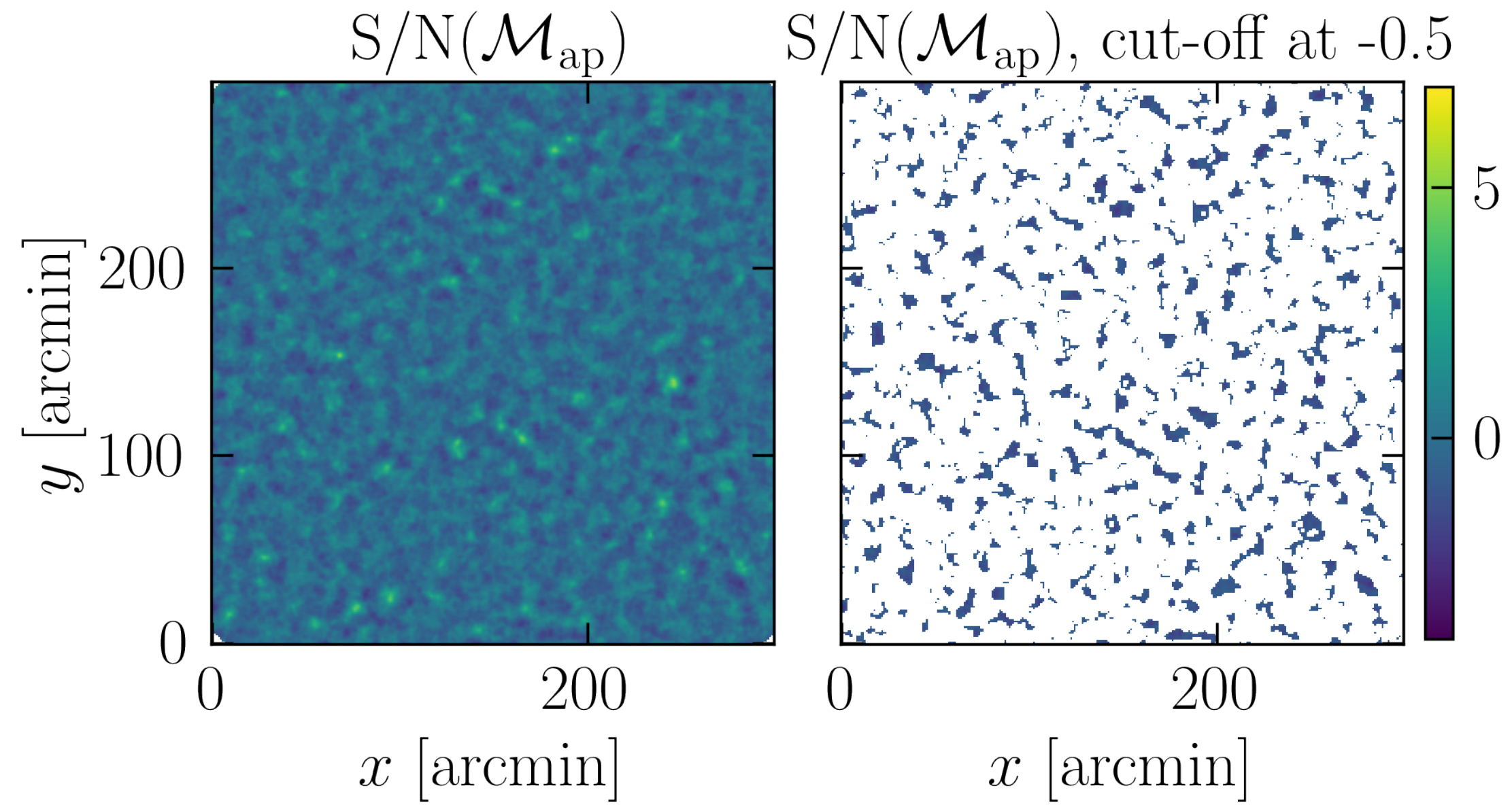
- + κ -nearest neighbor
- + forward modeling
- + density split statistics
- + neural networks
- + many others

Higher-order cosmic shear statistics

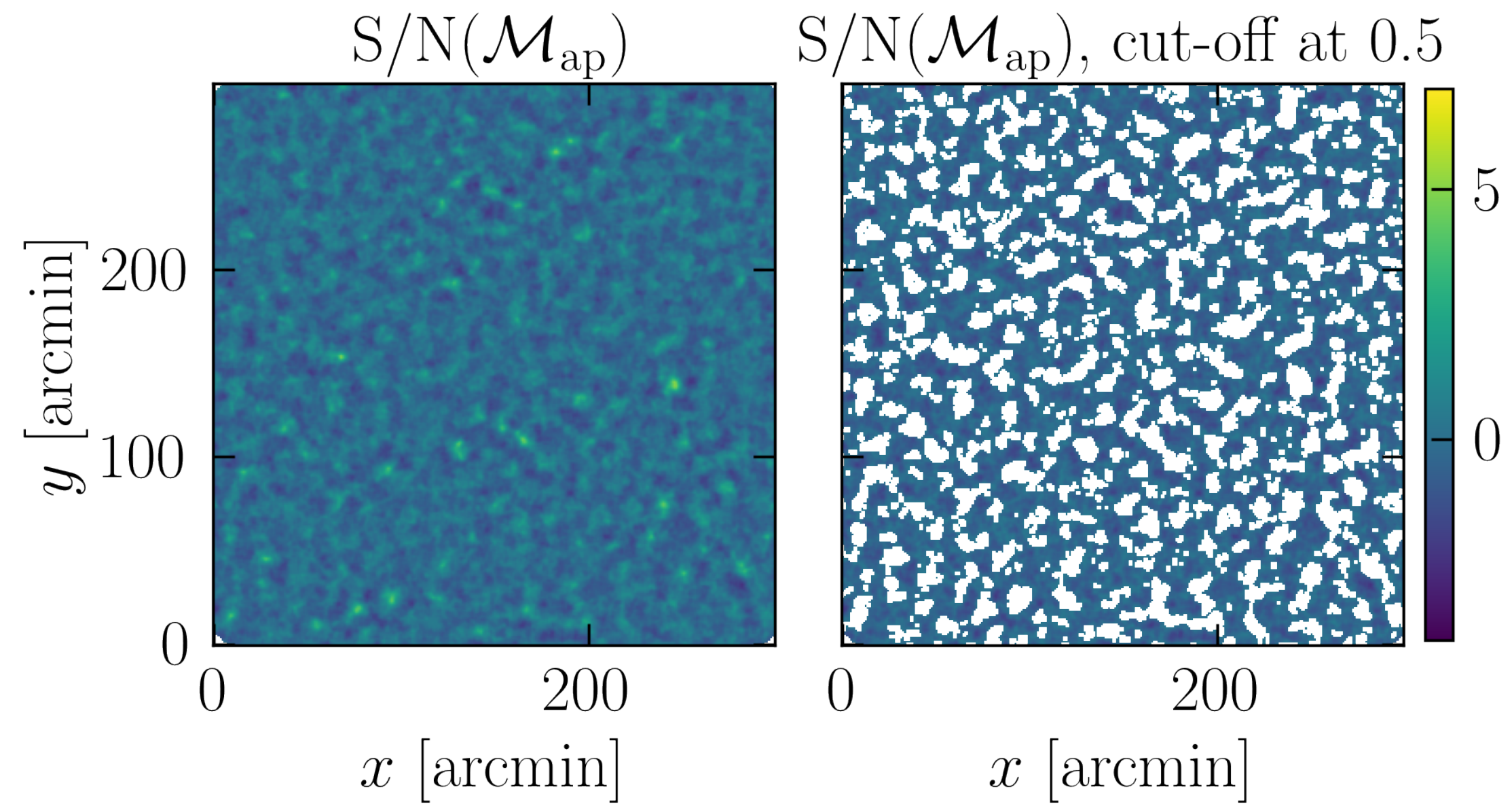


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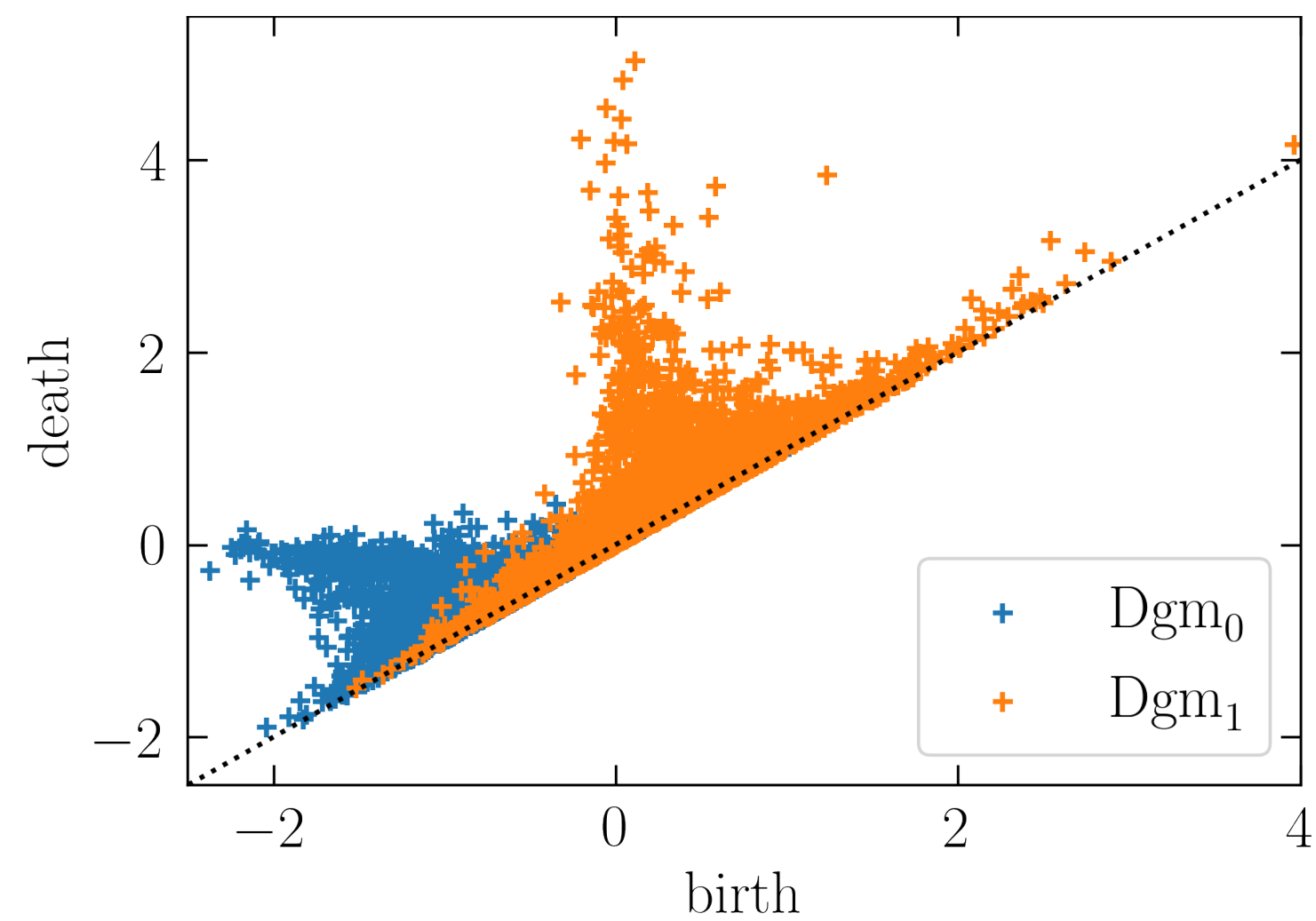
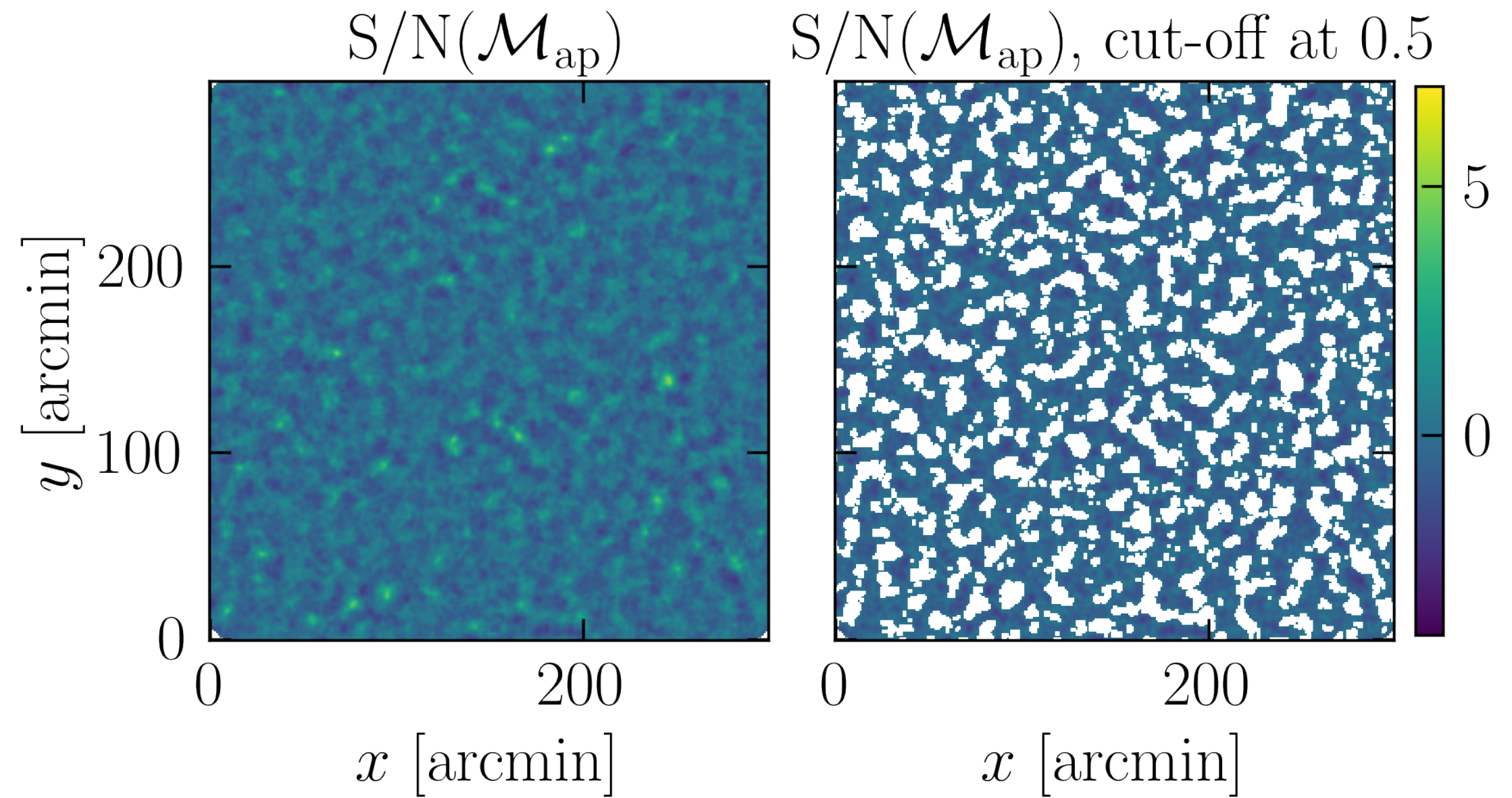
Persistent homology



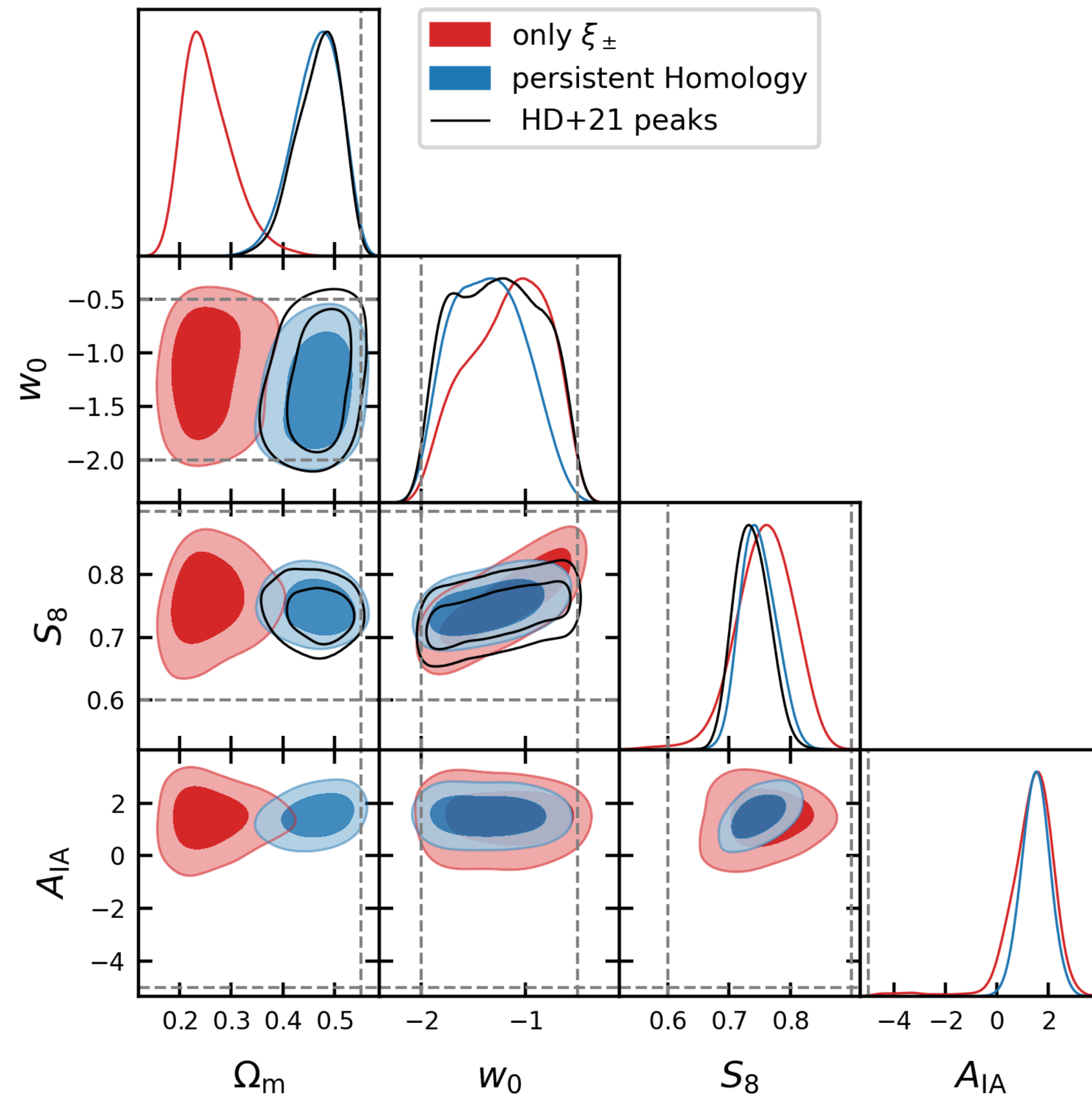
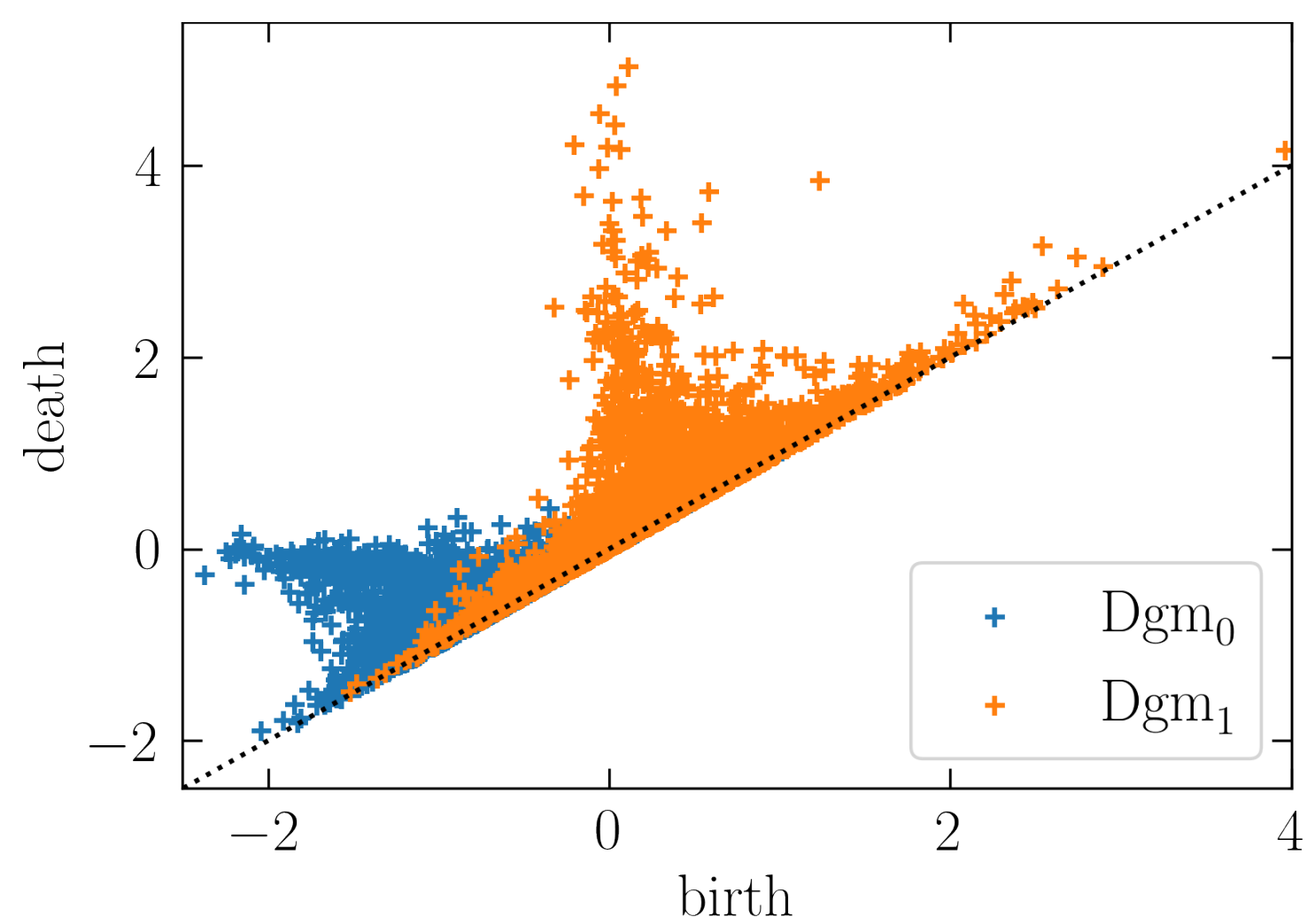
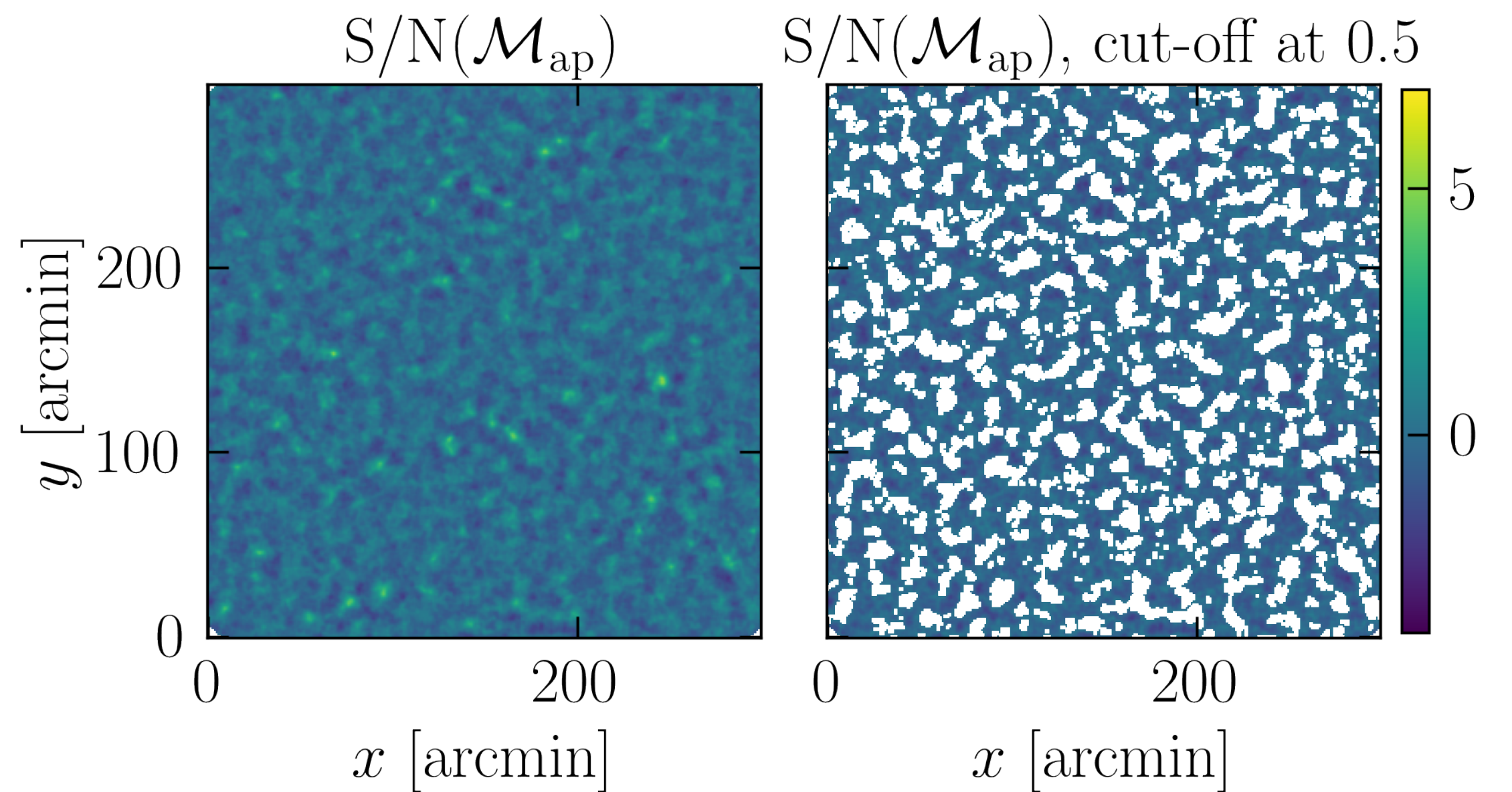
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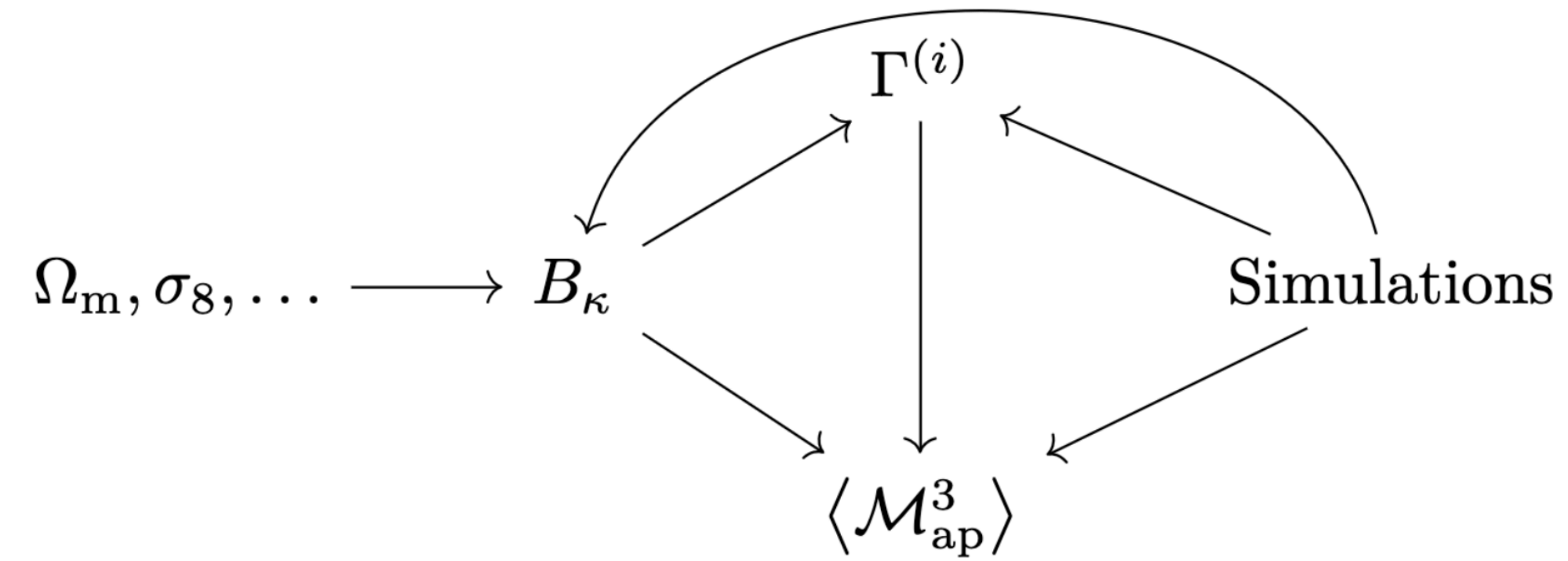
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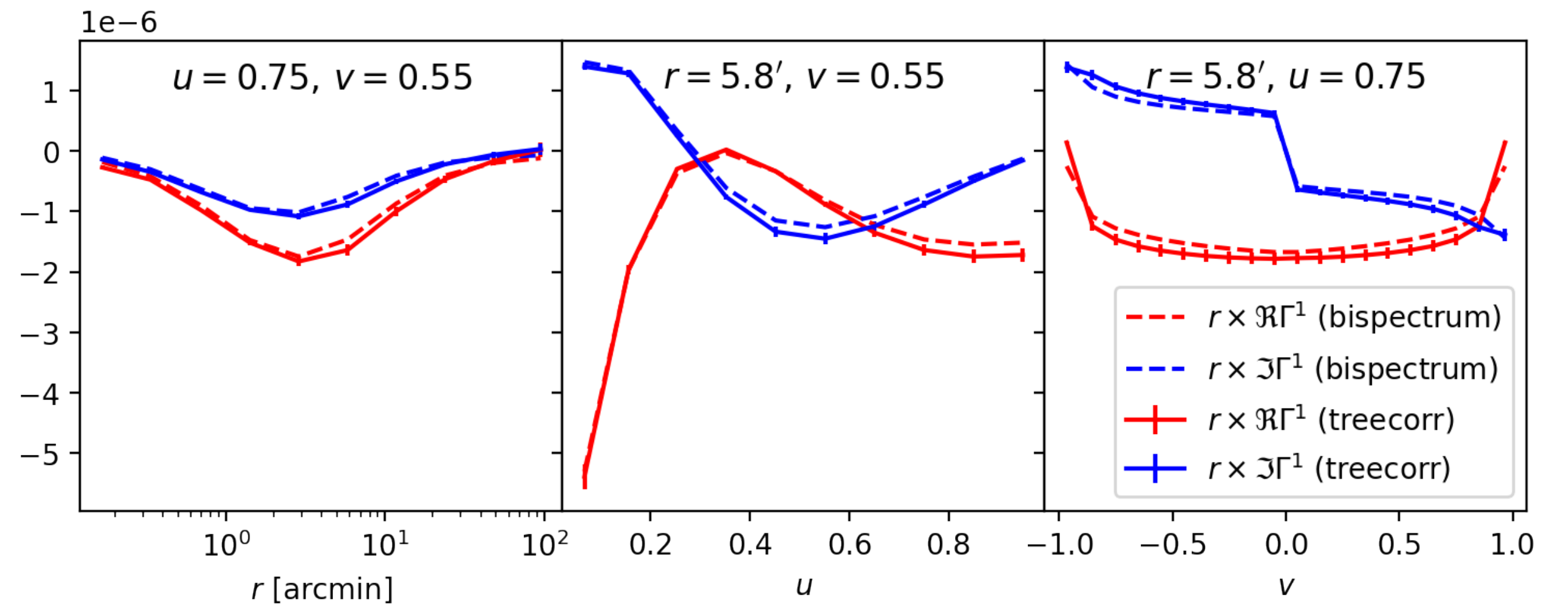
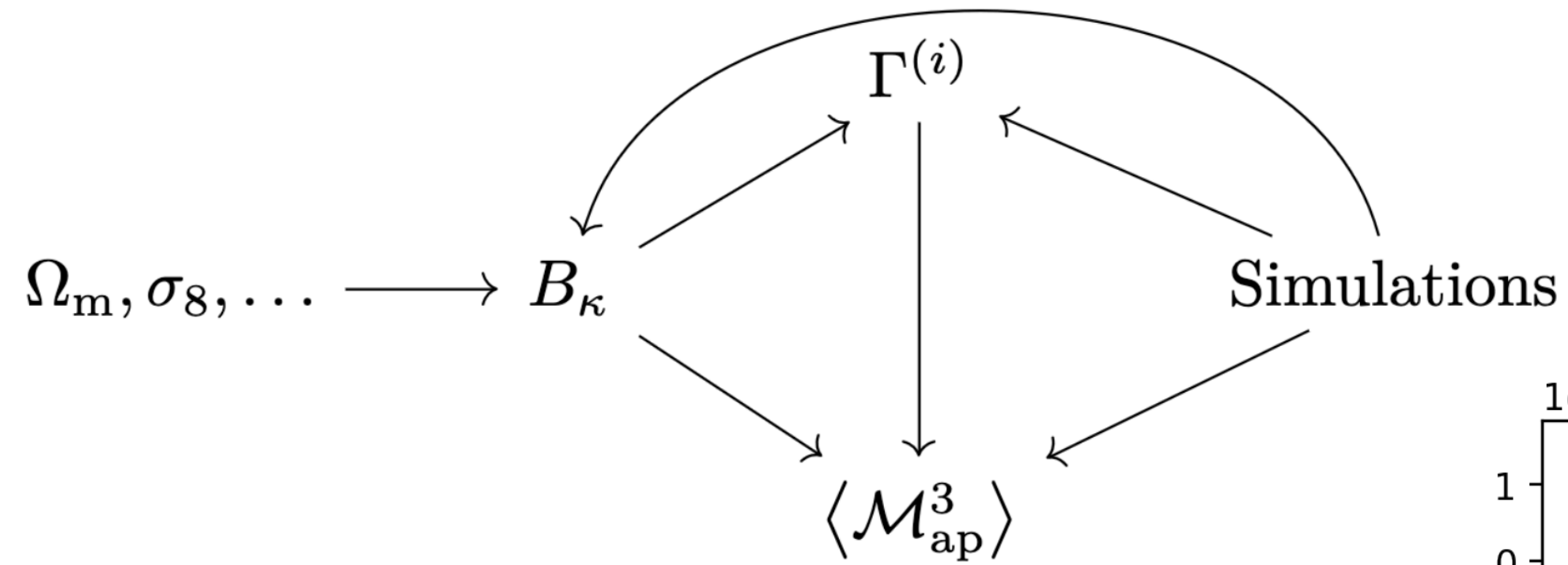
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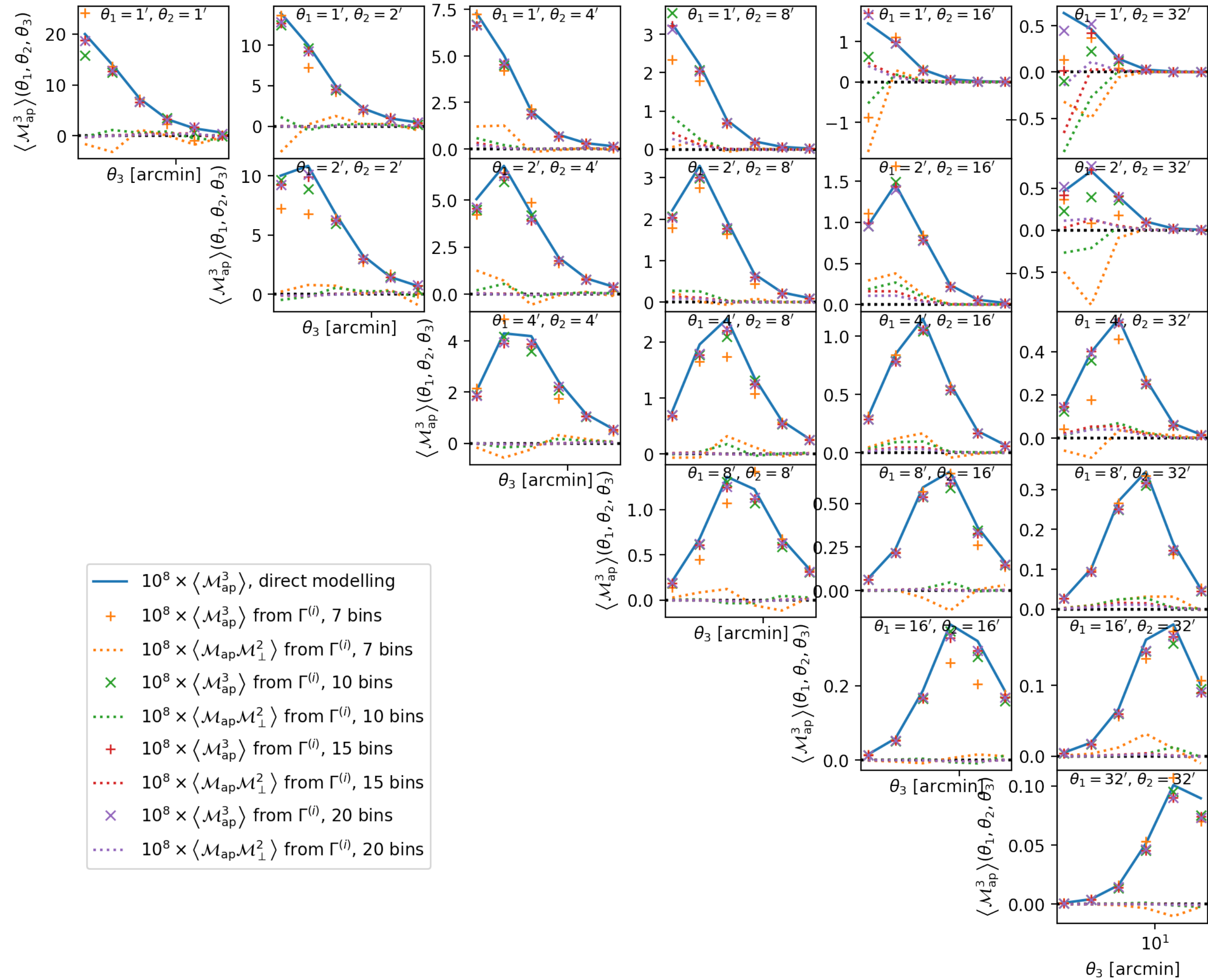
Third-order cosmic shear



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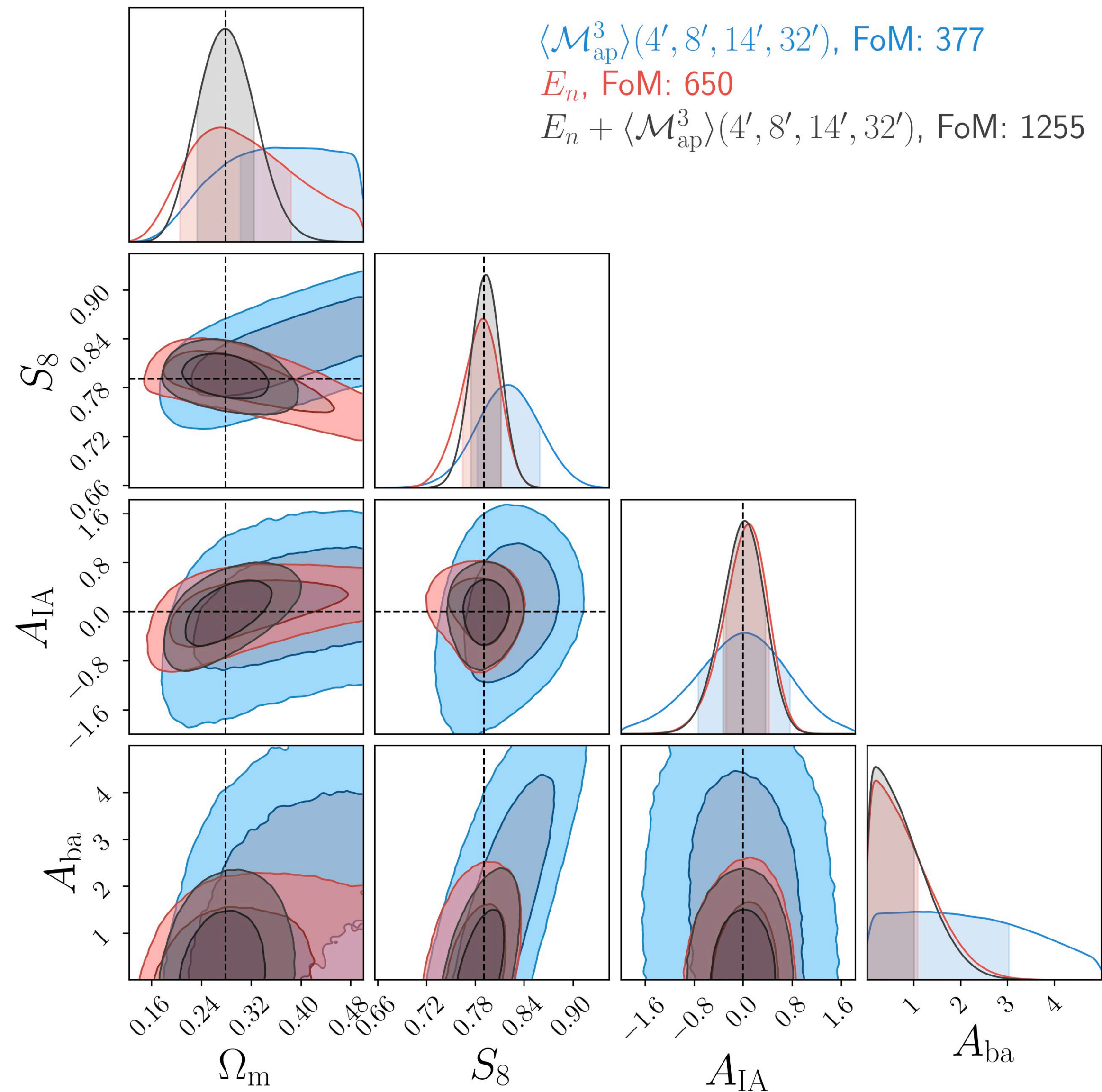


Third-order cosmic shear



Adapted from Heydenreich et al. (2023)

Third-order cosmic shear



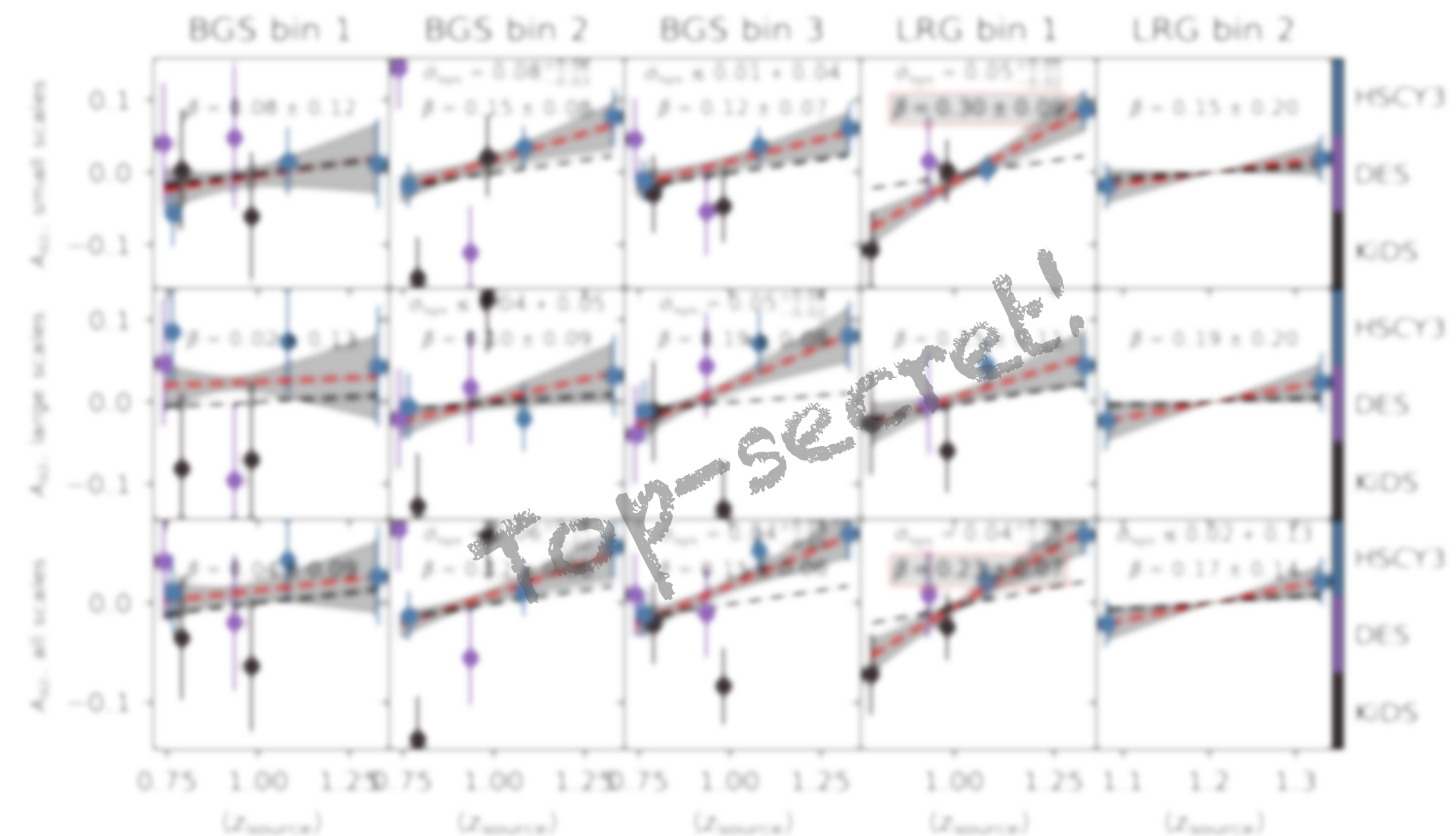
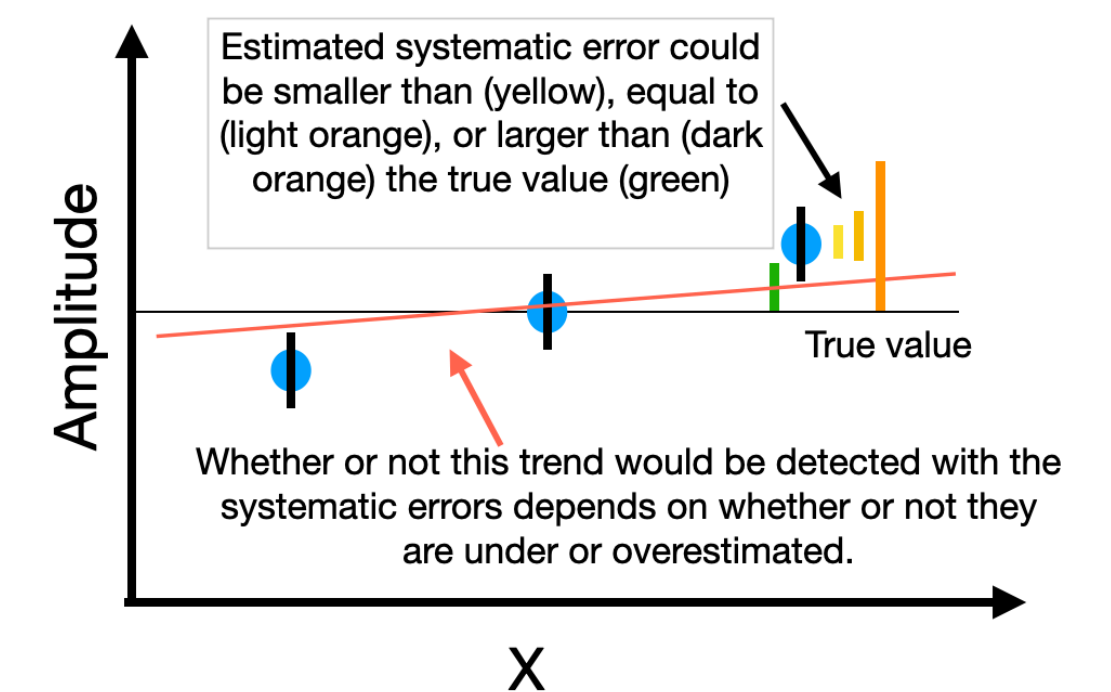
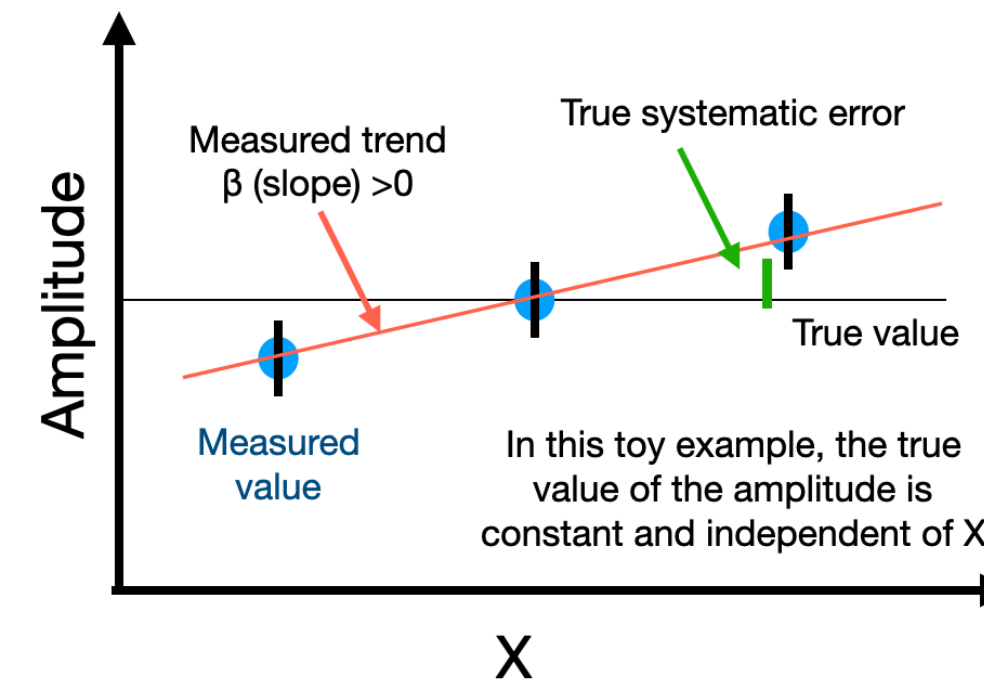
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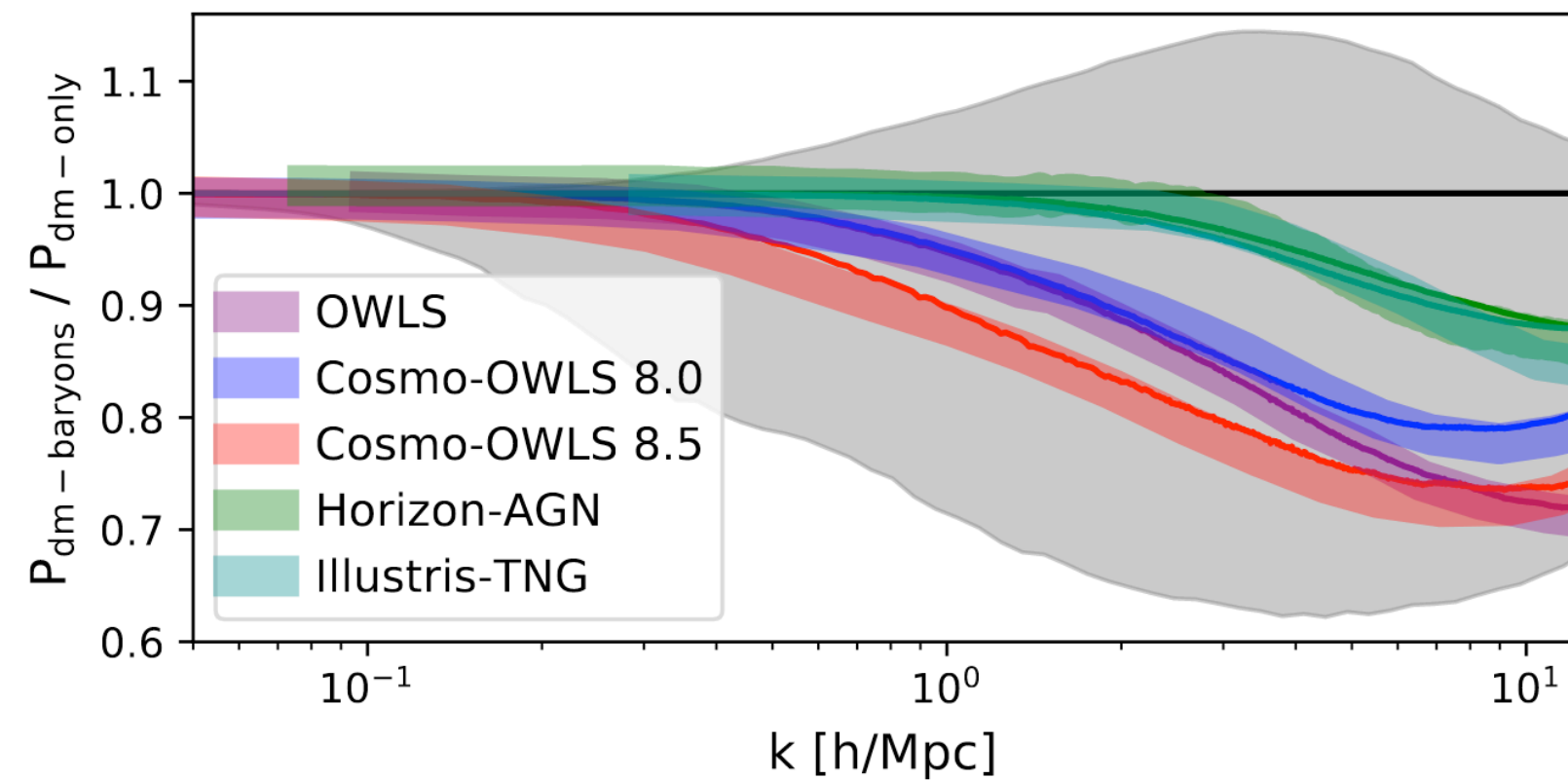
- Higher-order statistics
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Preview: Directly constraining GGL systematics with DESI

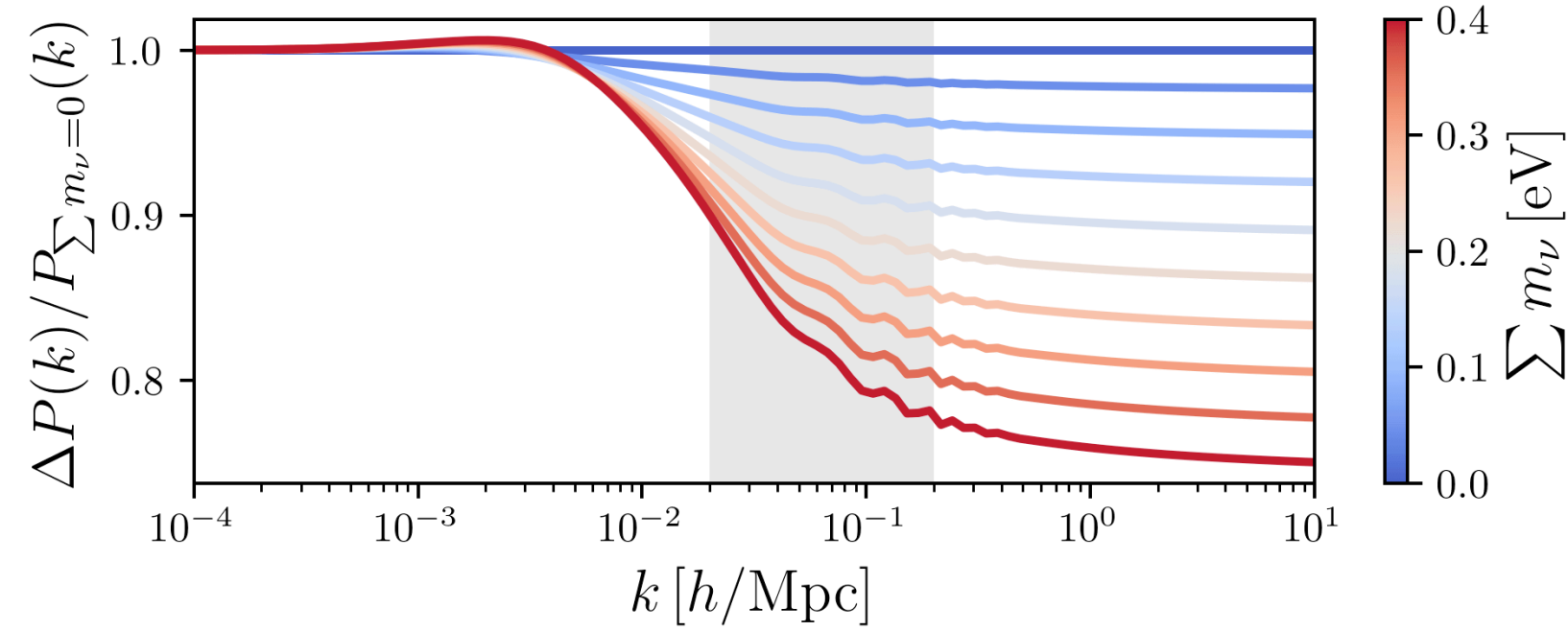
- Look for trends and excess scatter in excess surface density $\Delta\Sigma$
- $\Delta\Sigma$ is a physical quantity, should only depend on DESI galaxy sample!



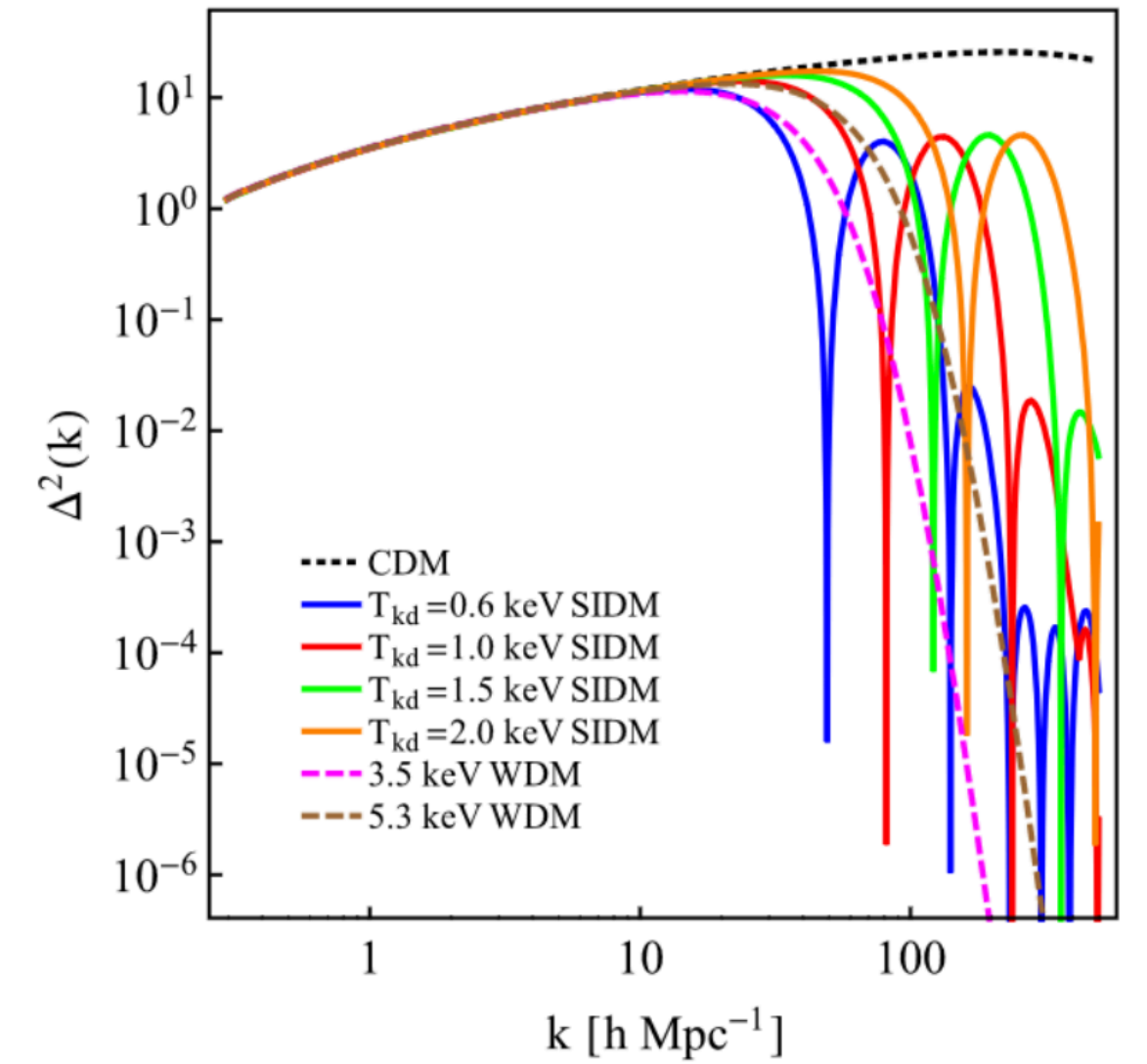
Baryons vs Dark Matter models



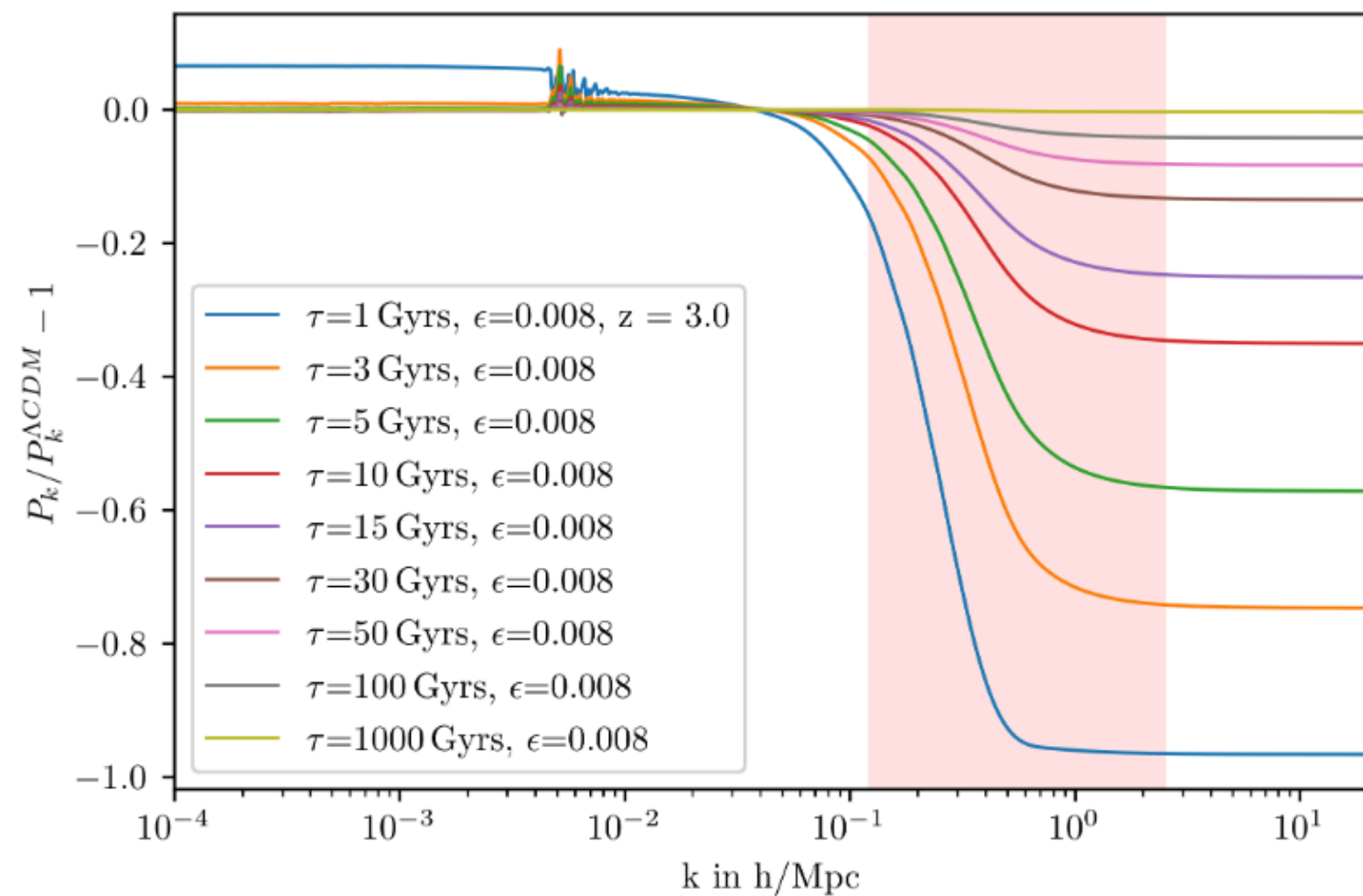
Baryon feedback, Schneider et al. (2020)



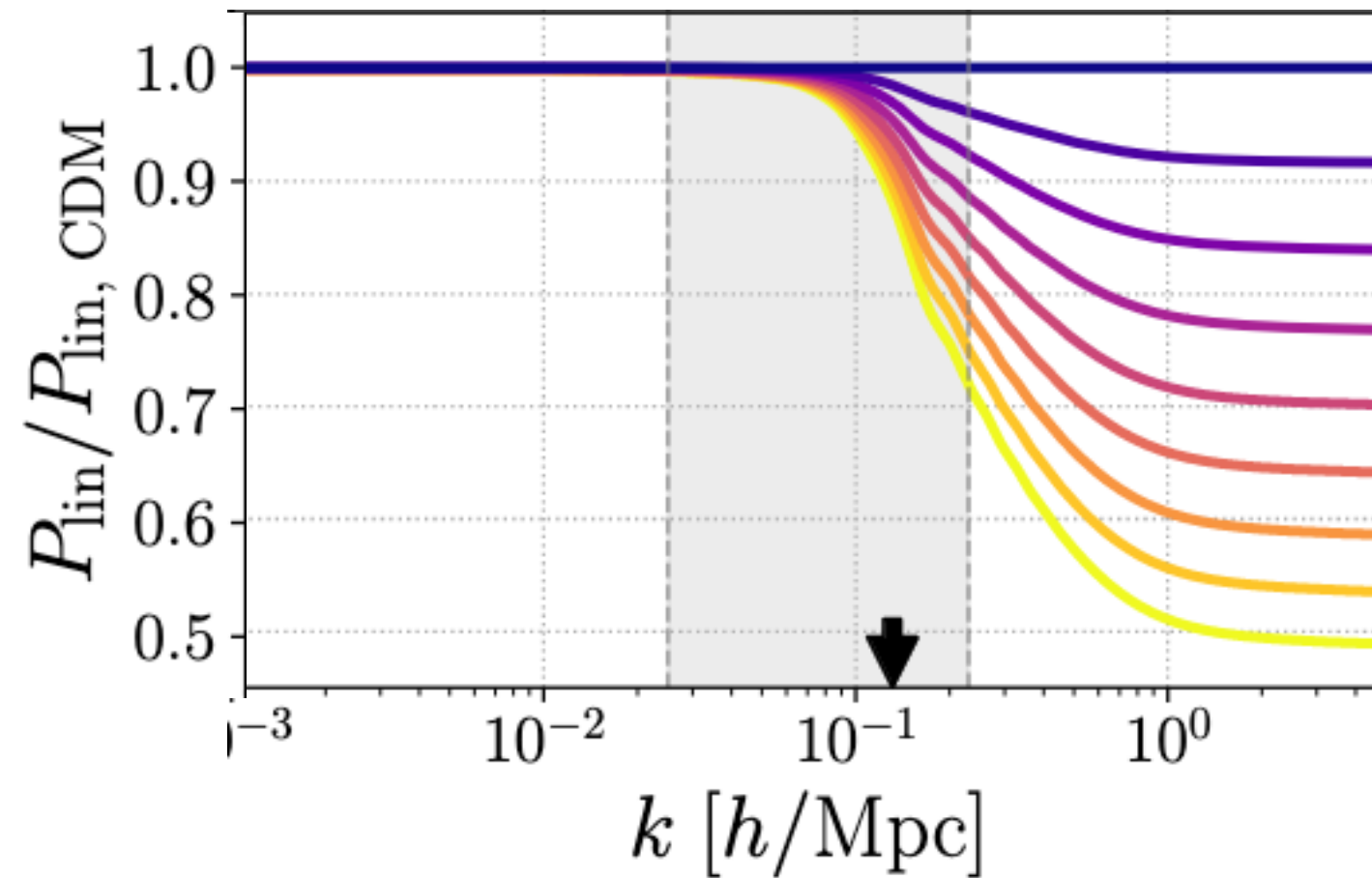
Massive Neutrinos, DESI Collaboration (2024)



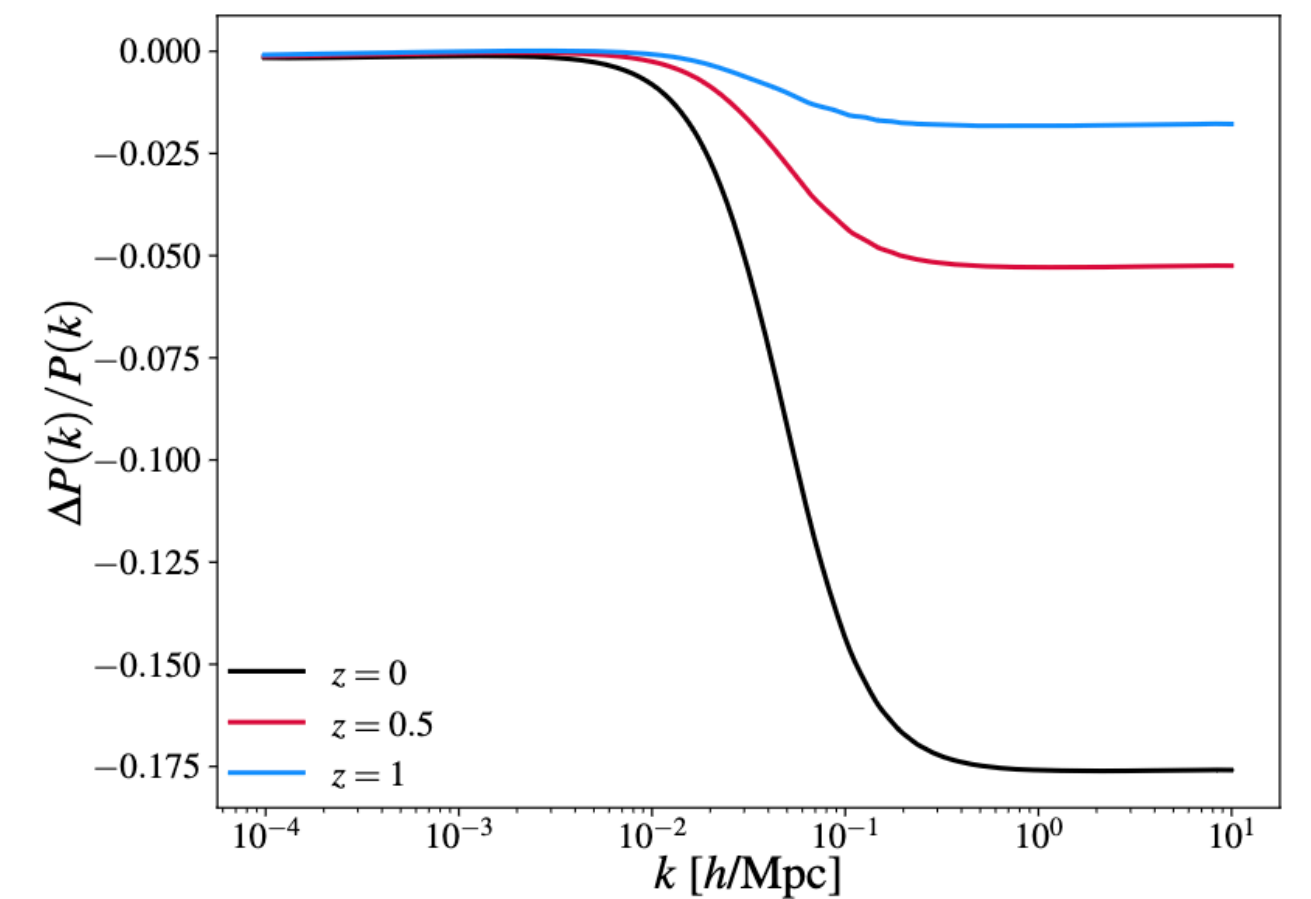
Self-interacting DM, Huo et al. (2018)



Decaying DM, Fuß et al. (2022)

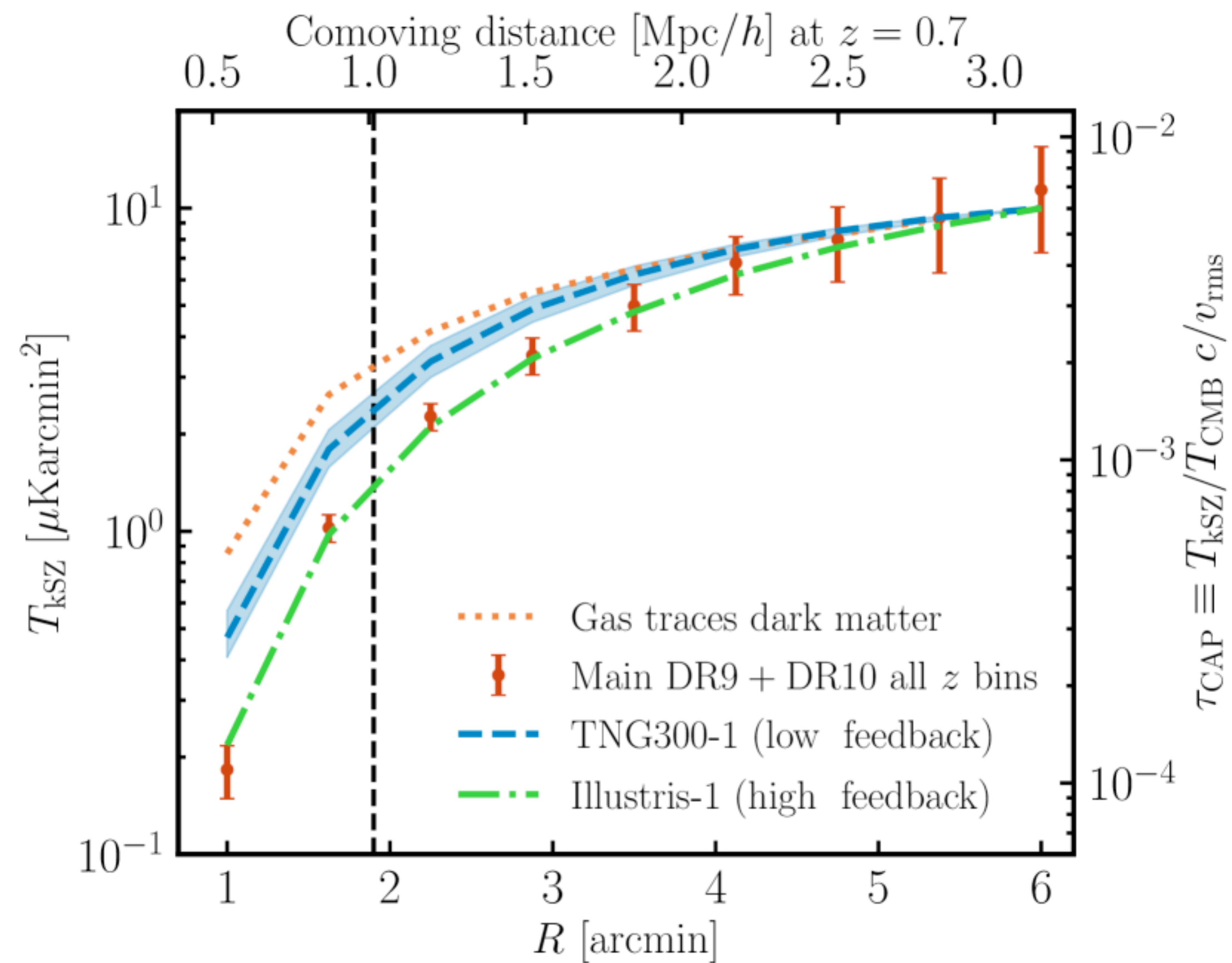
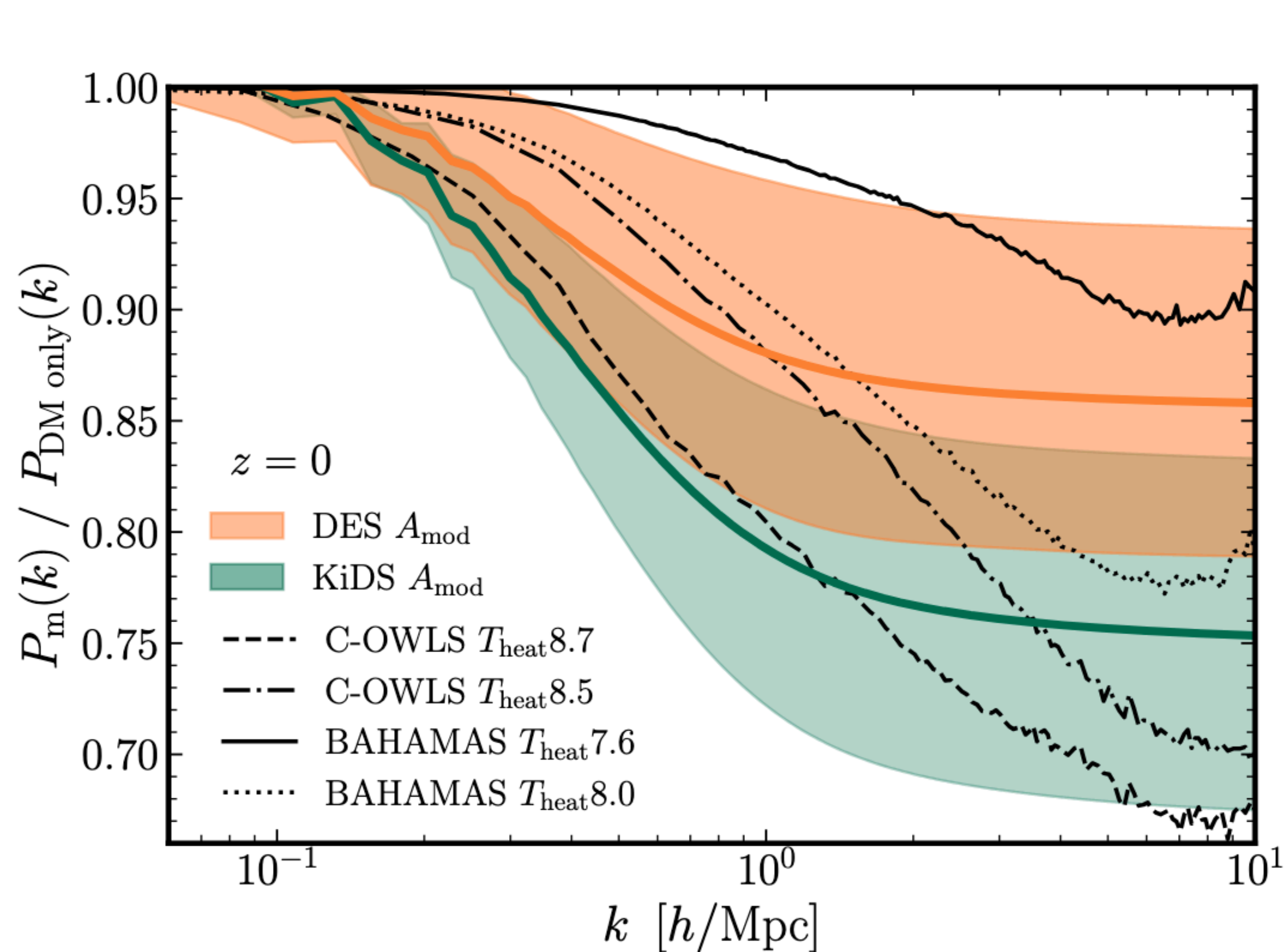


Ultralight Bosons, Laguë et al. (2022)

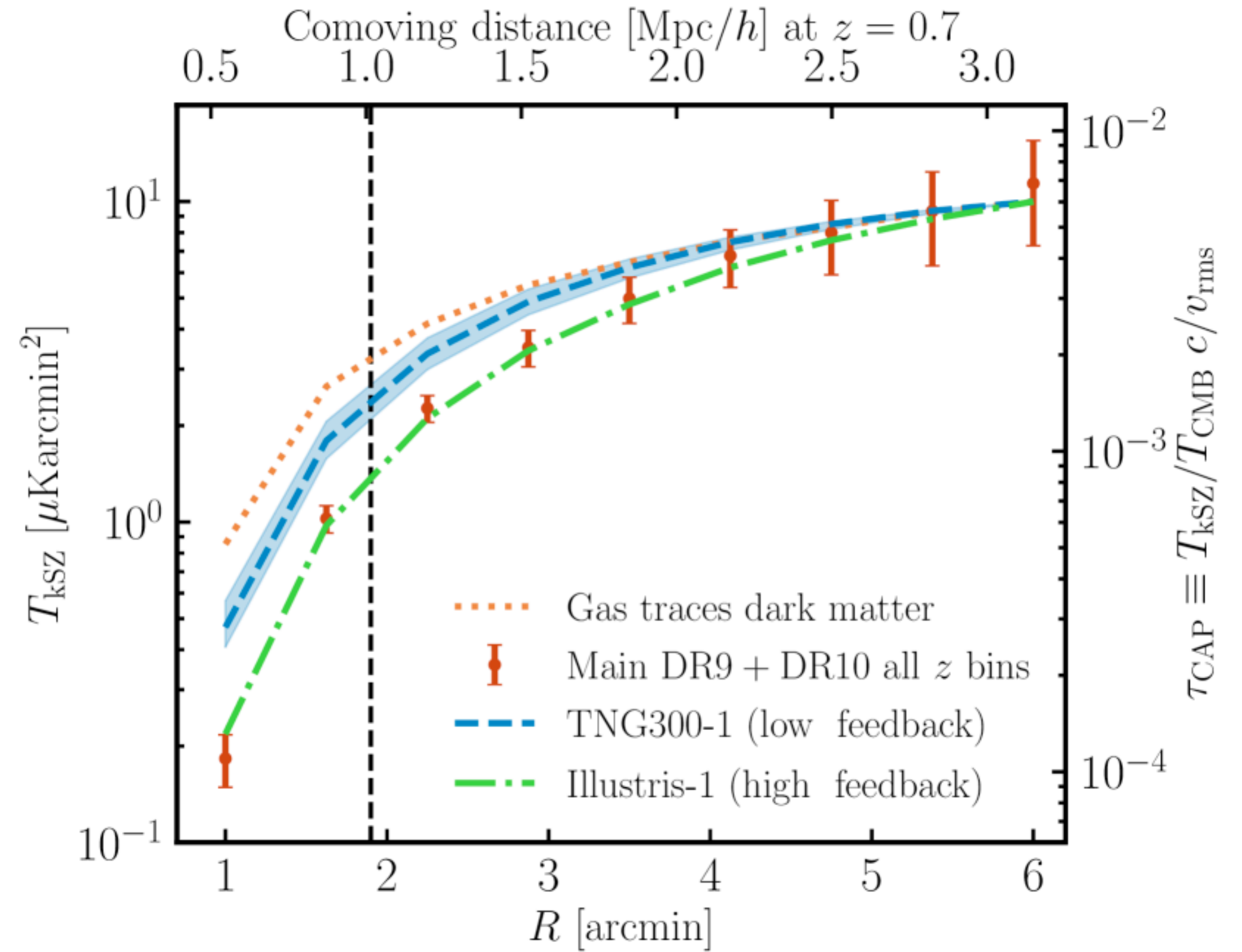
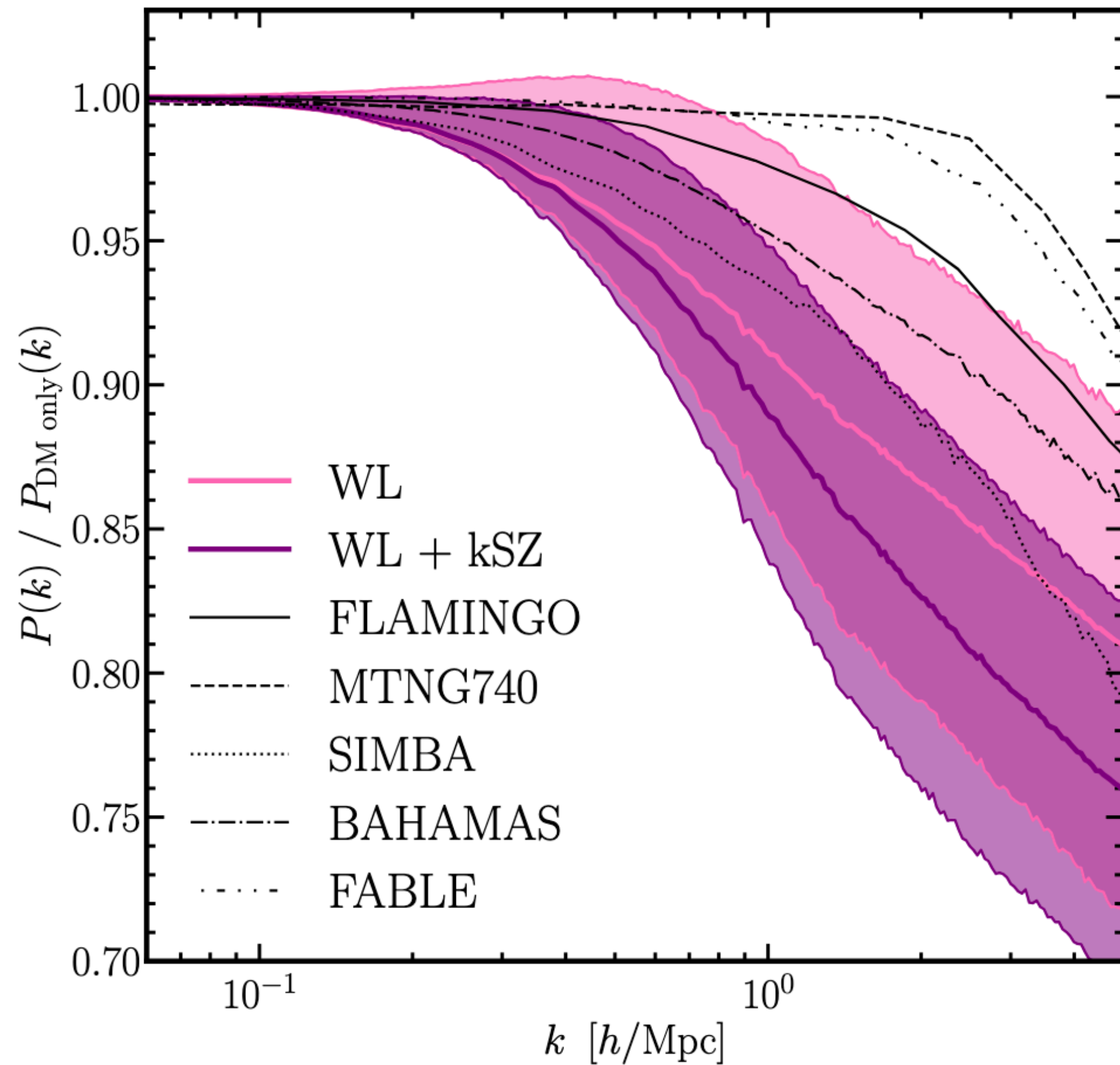


DM-DE coupling, Poulin et al. (2022)

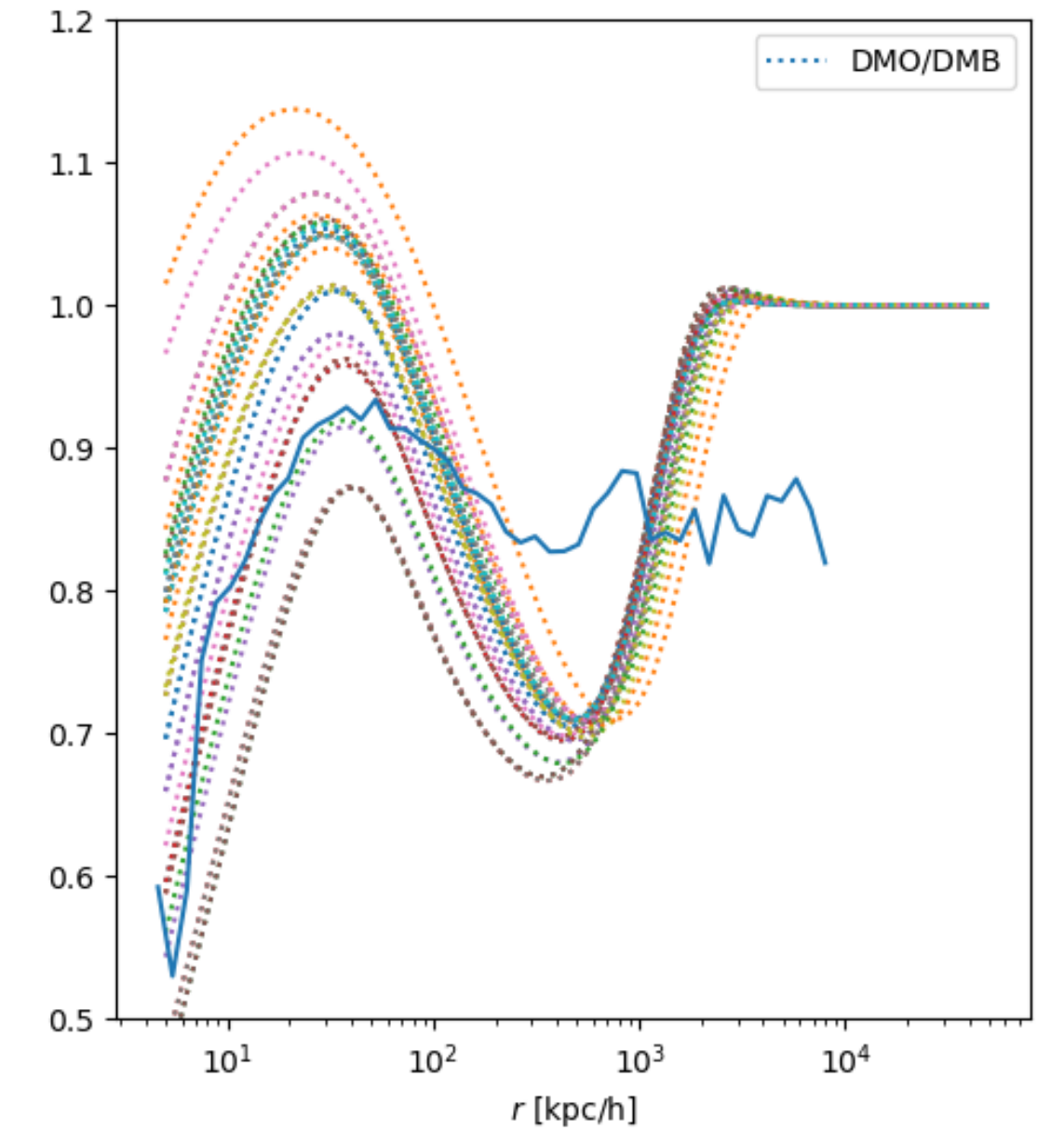
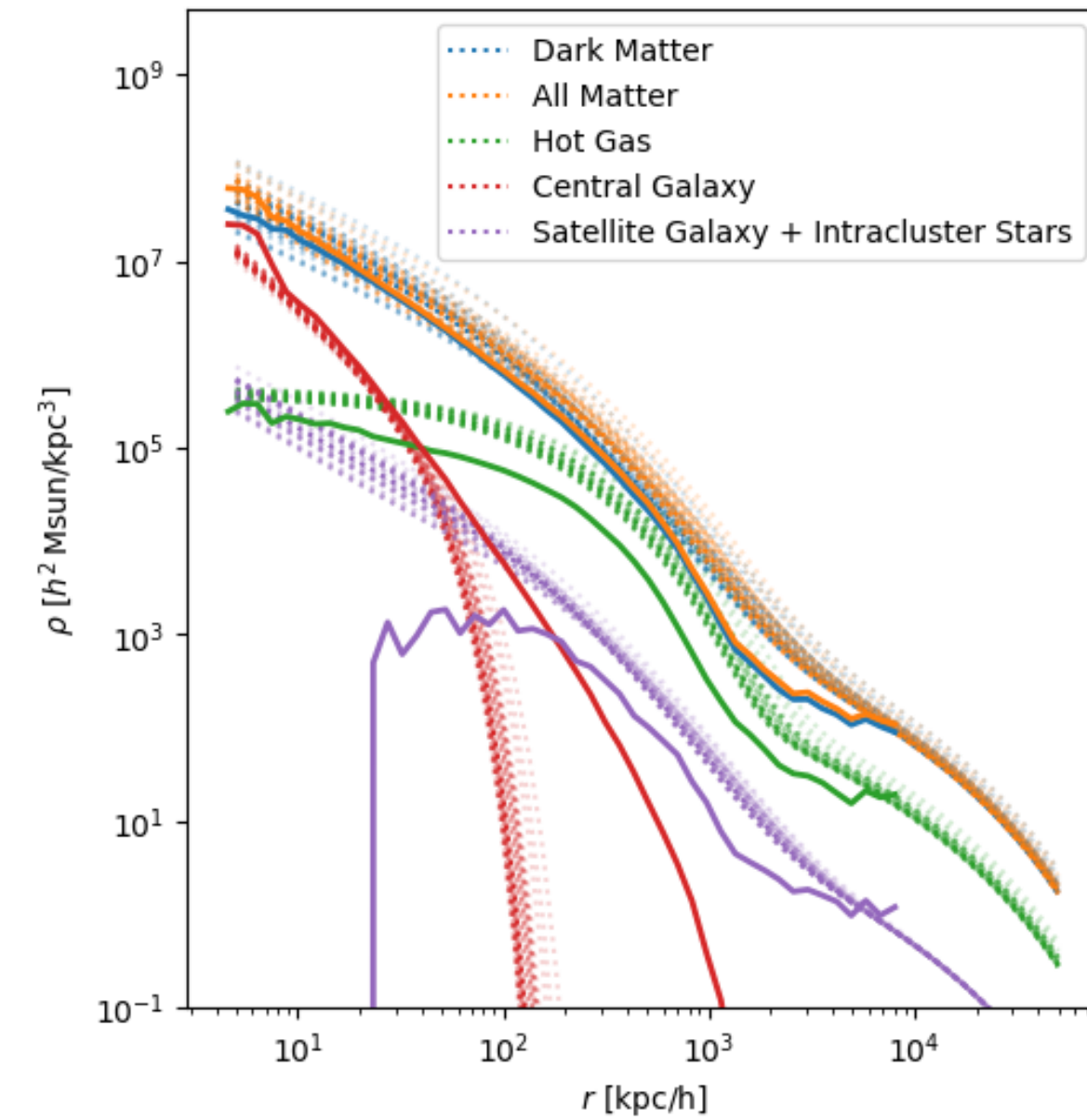
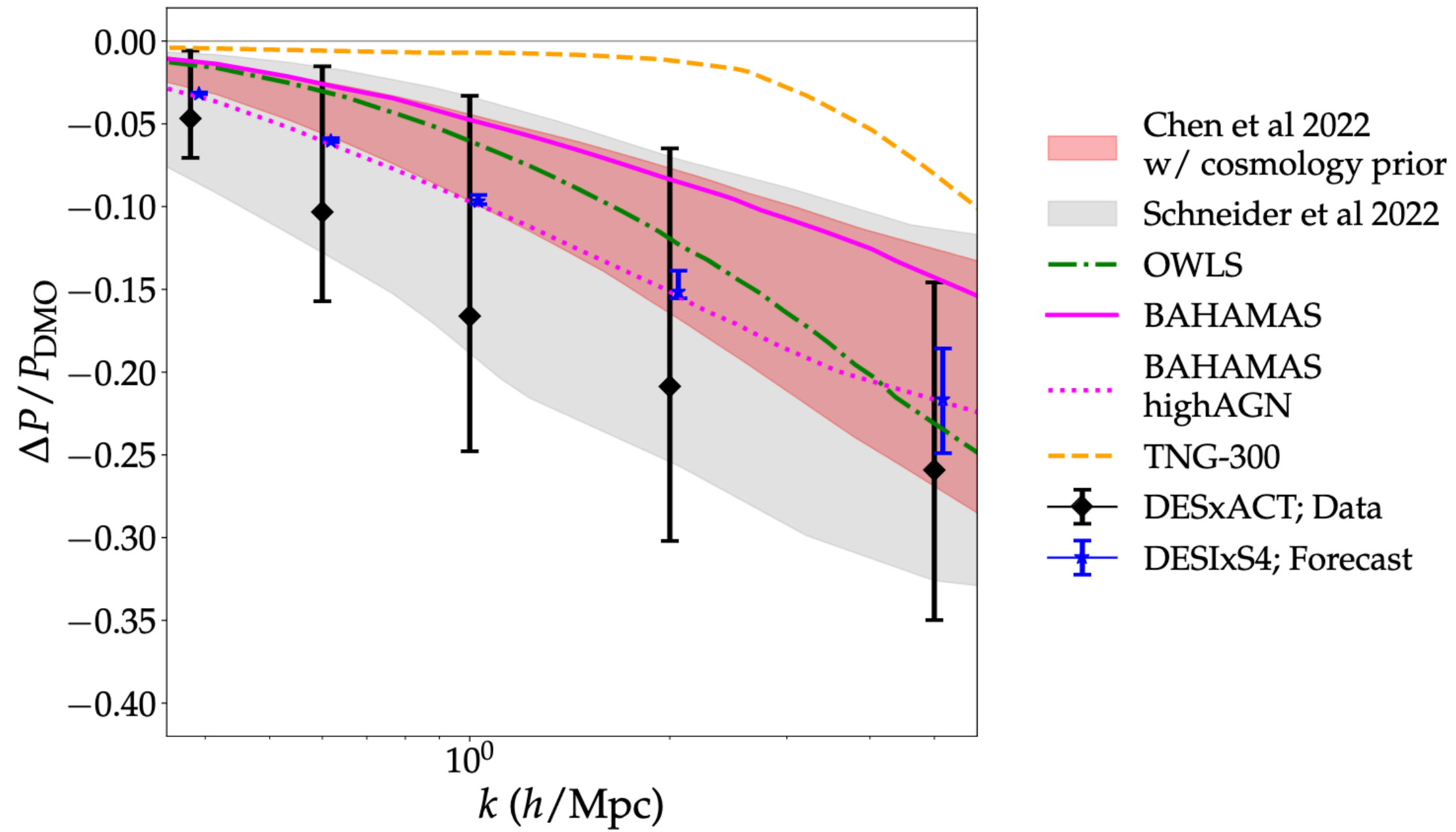
Baryon feedback as a solution for S_8 discrepancies



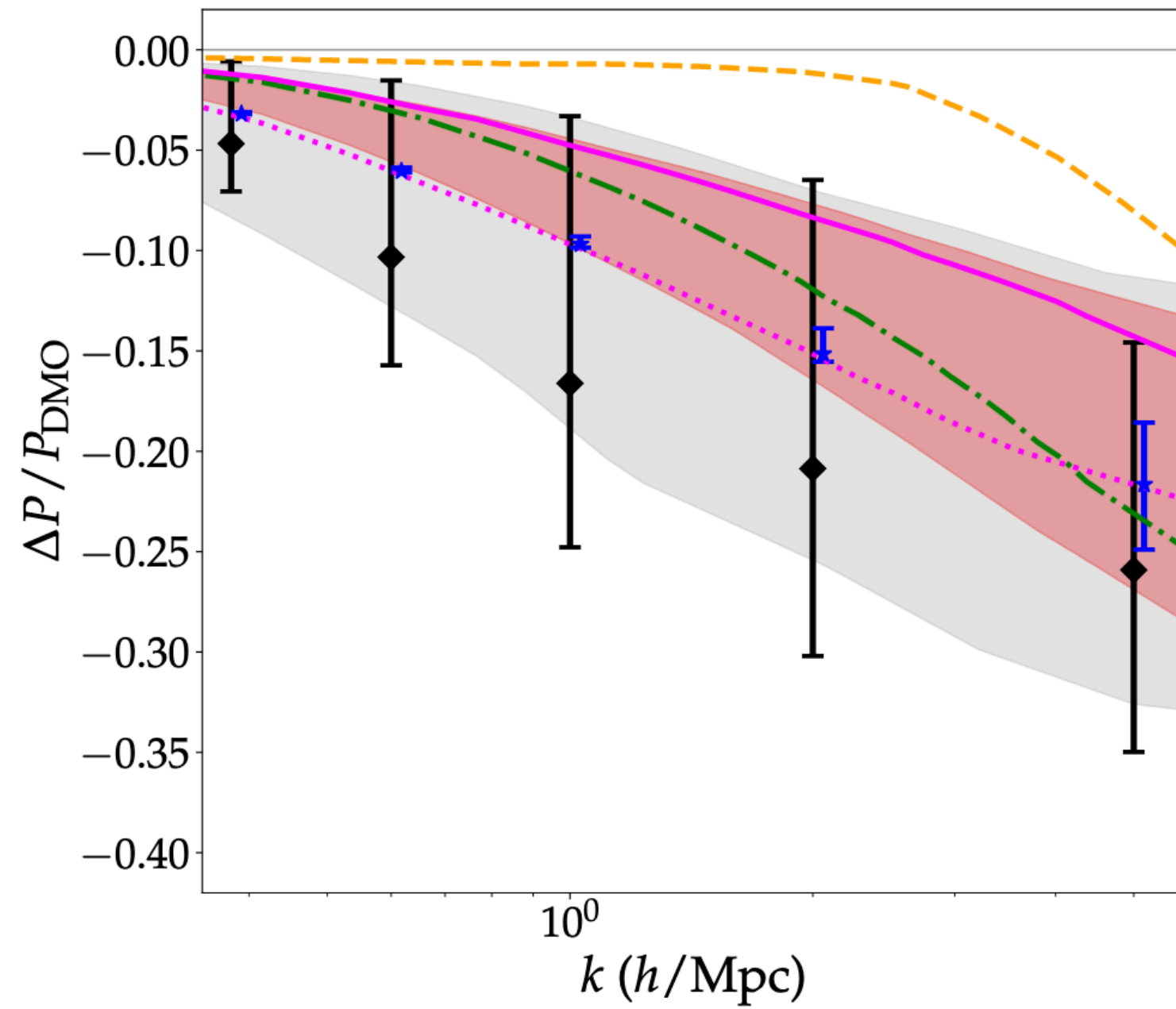
Baryon feedback as a solution for S_8 discrepancies



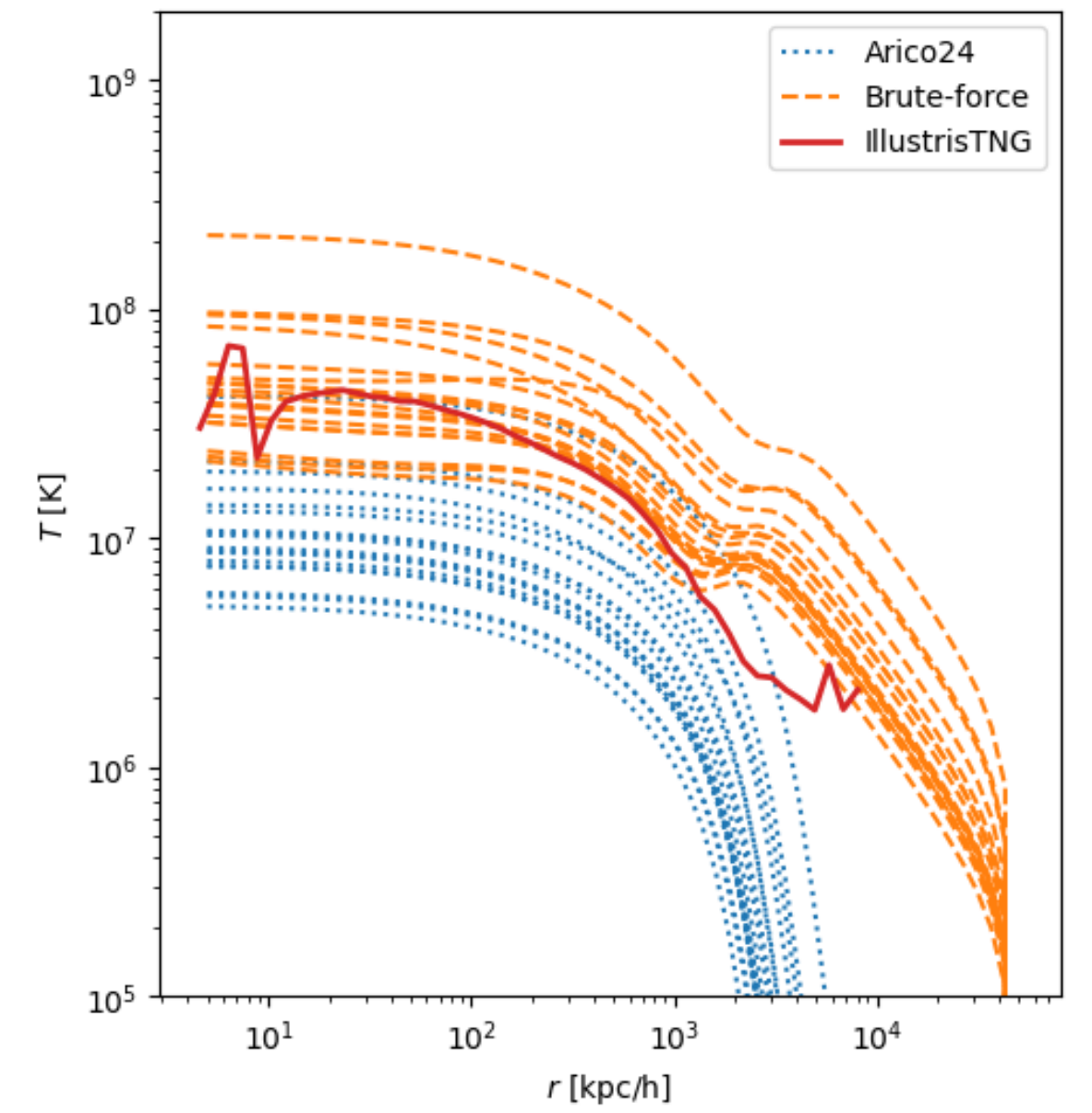
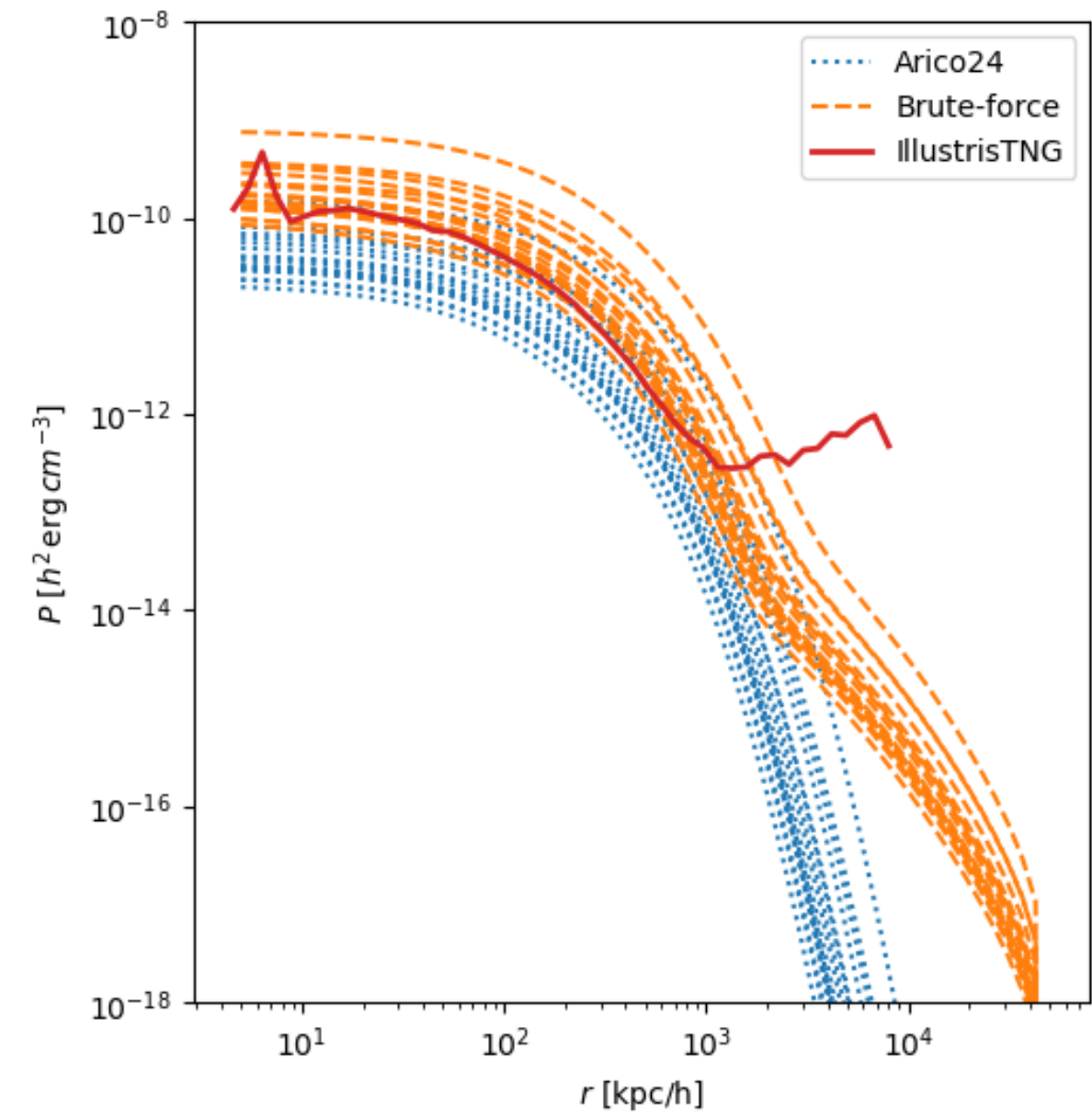
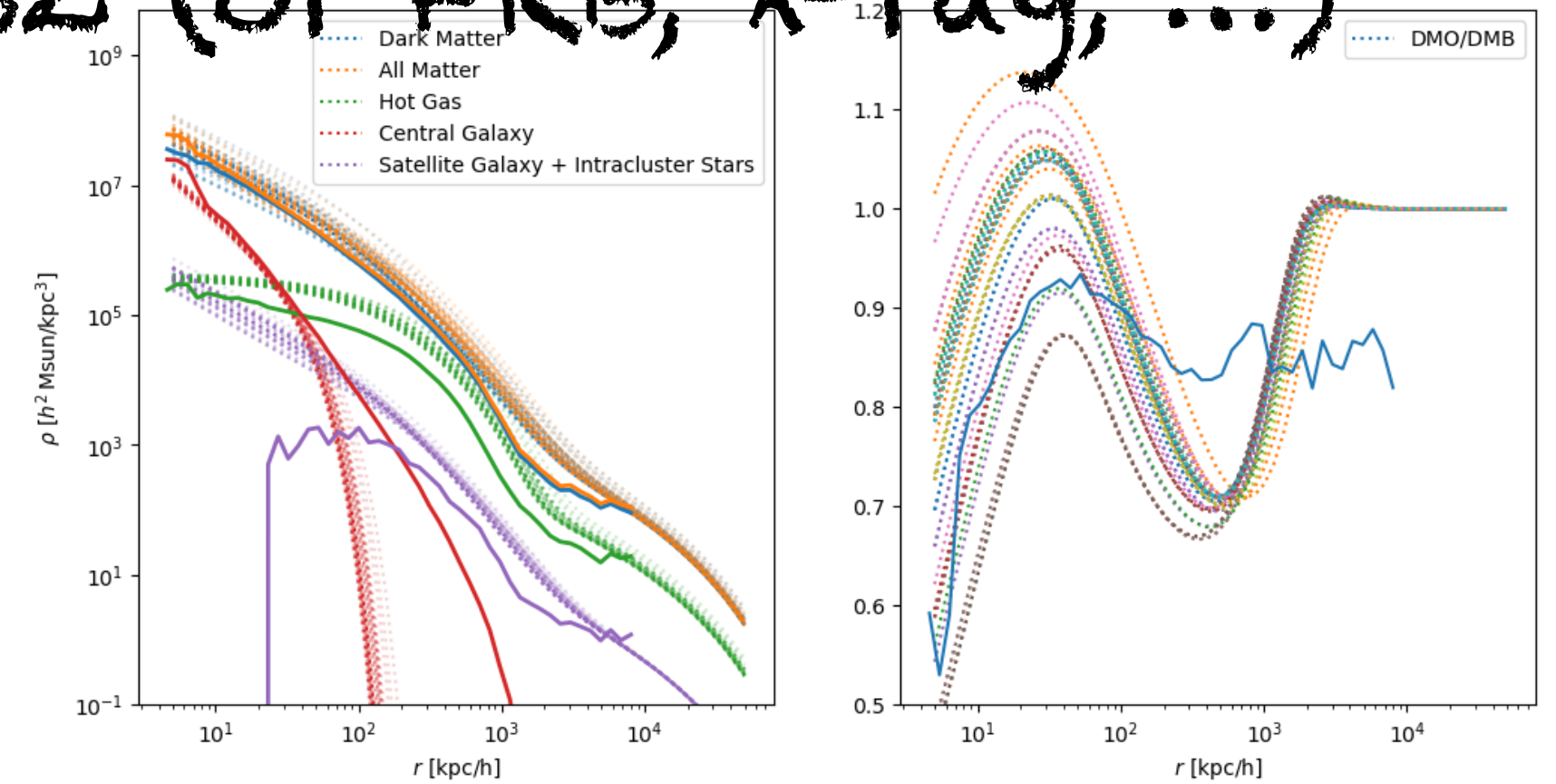
Solution to baryon feedback: Use GGL x SZ (or FRB, X-ray, ...)



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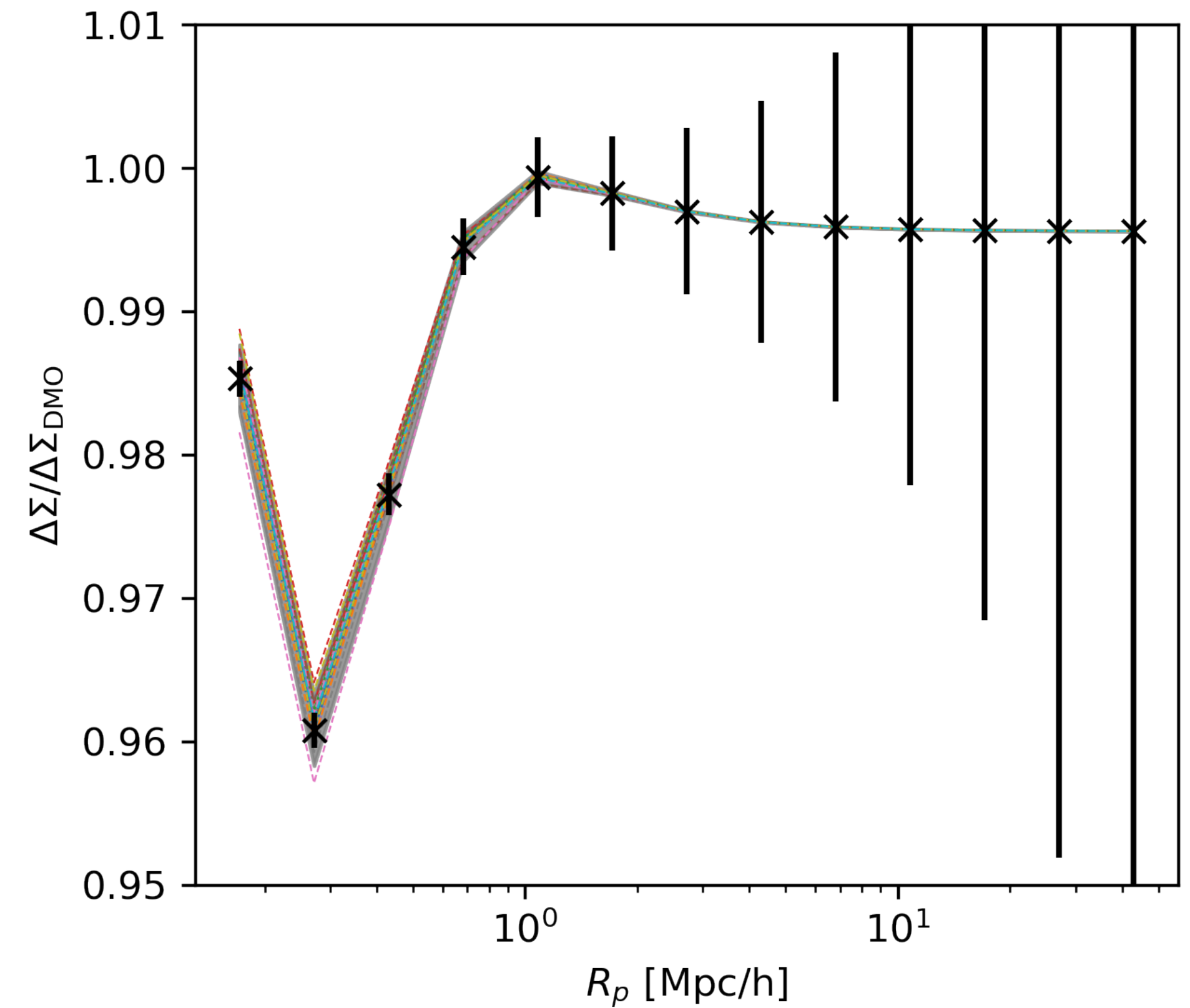
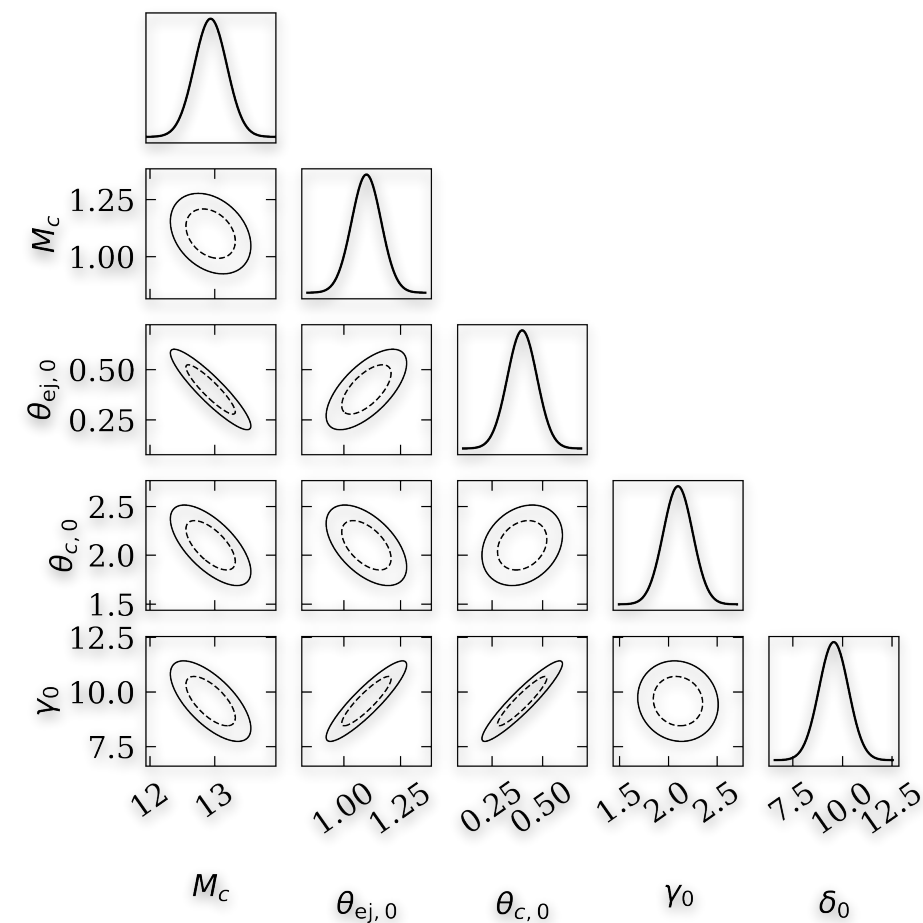
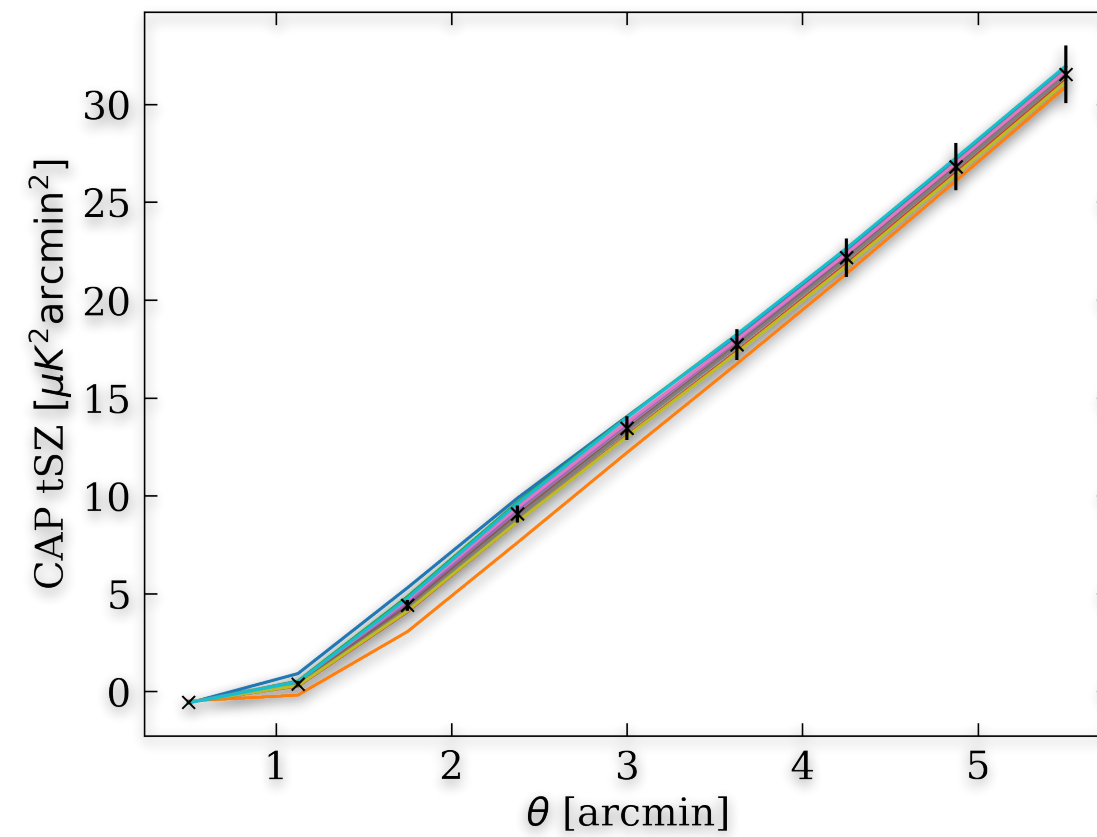
- Chen et al 2022
w/ cosmology prior
- Schneider et al 2022
- · - OWLS
- BAHAMAS
- · · BAHAMAS
highAGN
- - - TNG-300
- ◆ DESxACT; Data
- DESIxS4; Forecast



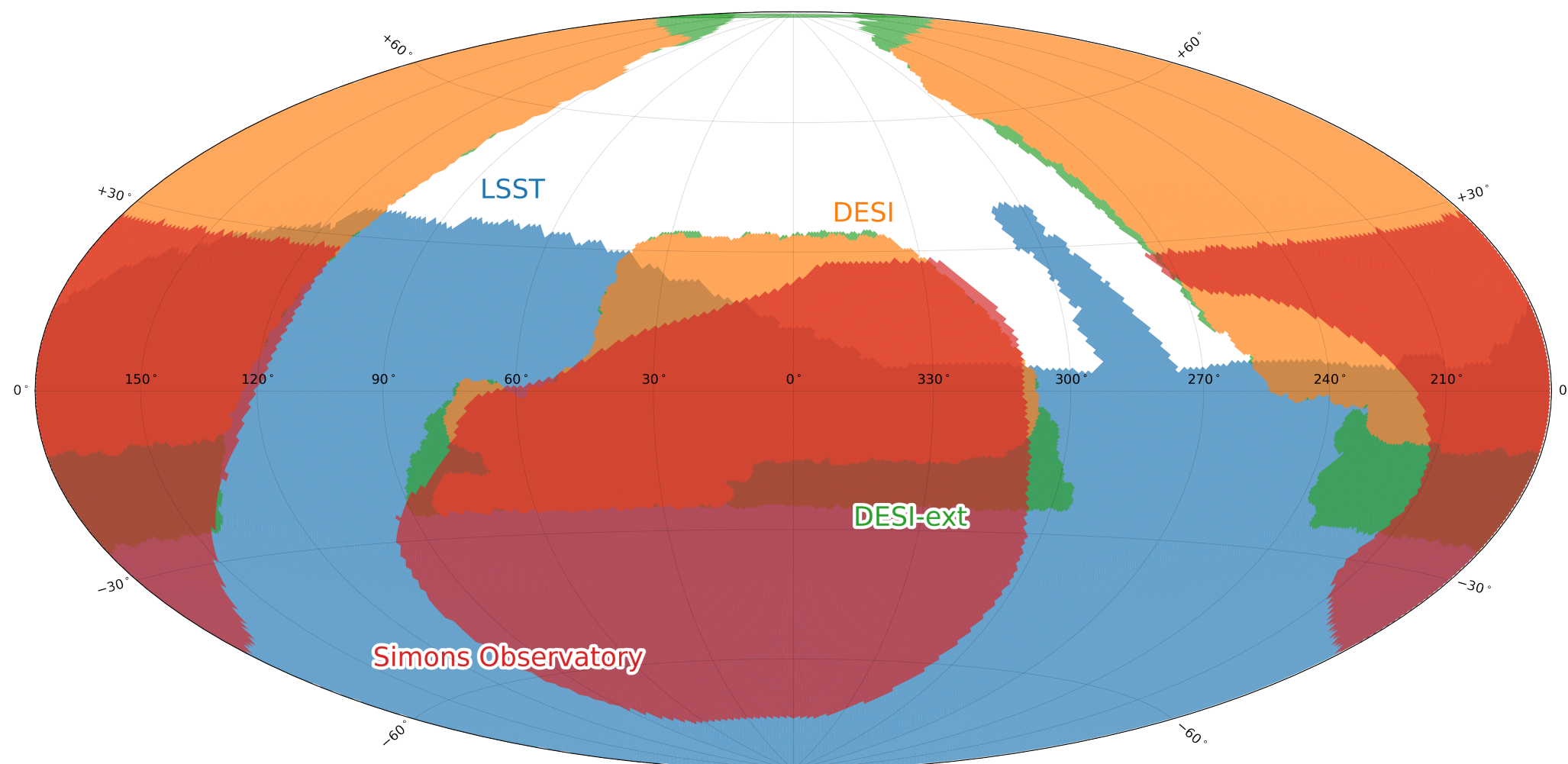
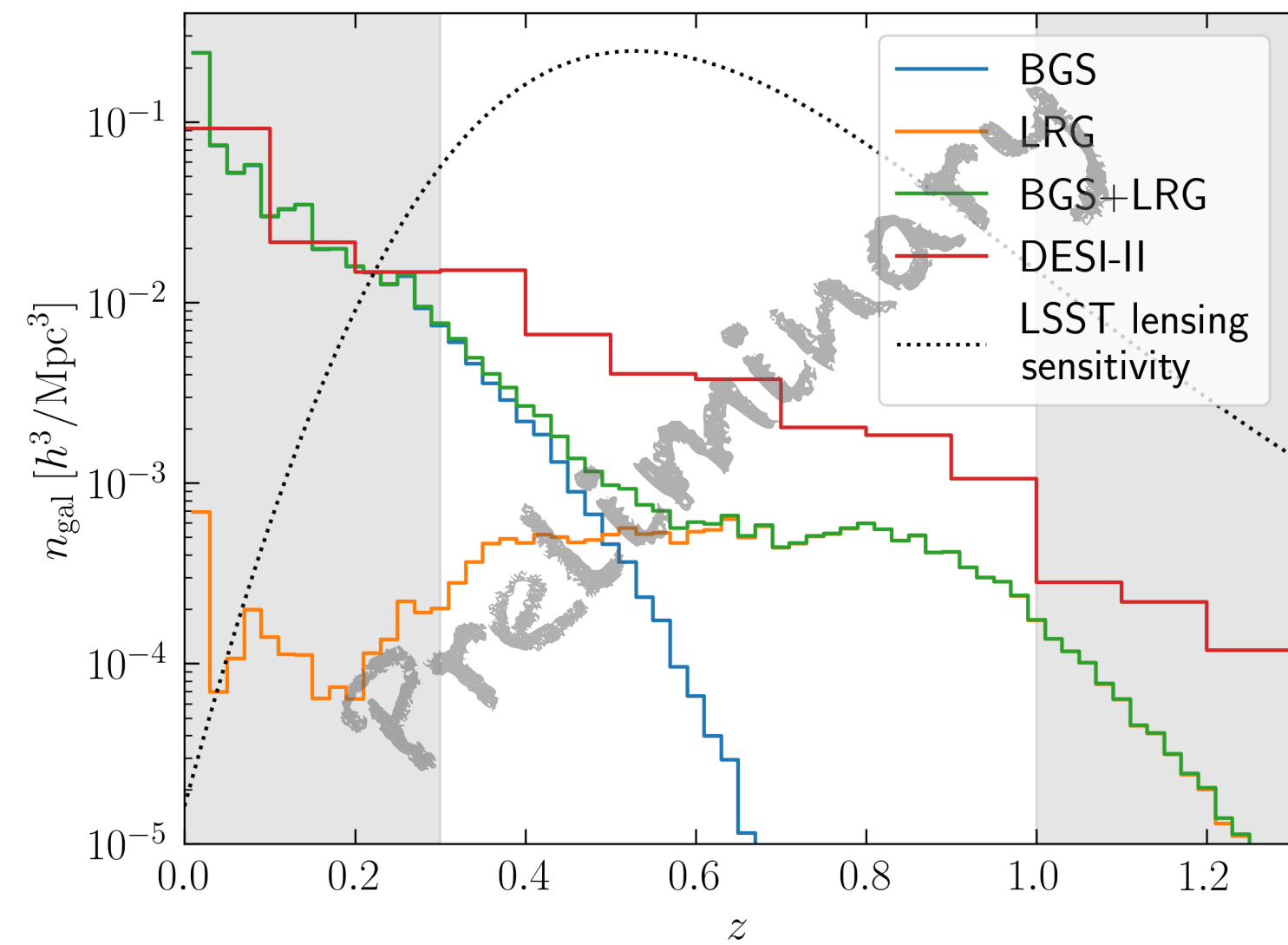
Constraining Baryons with DESI(-II)

Baryon feedback

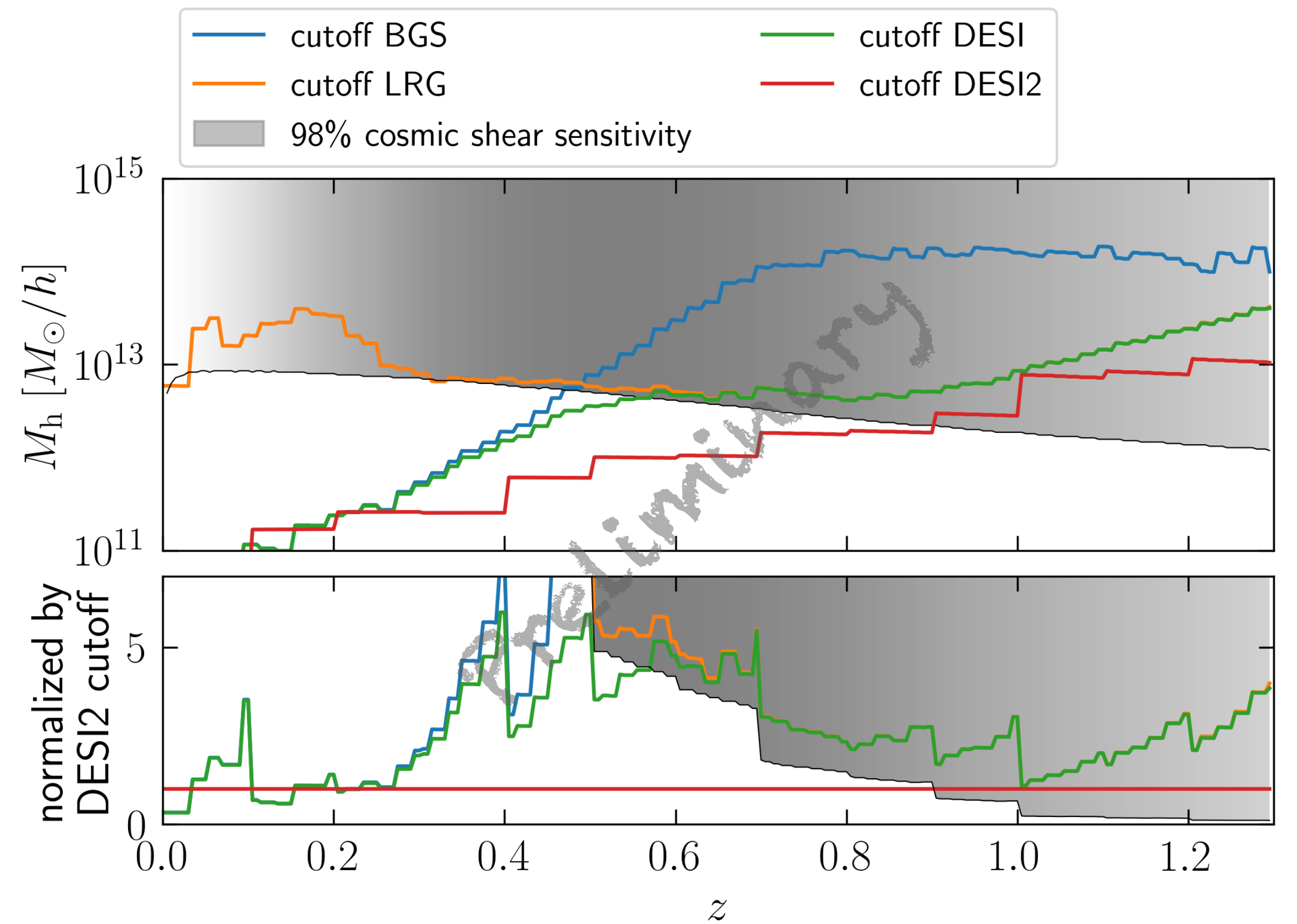
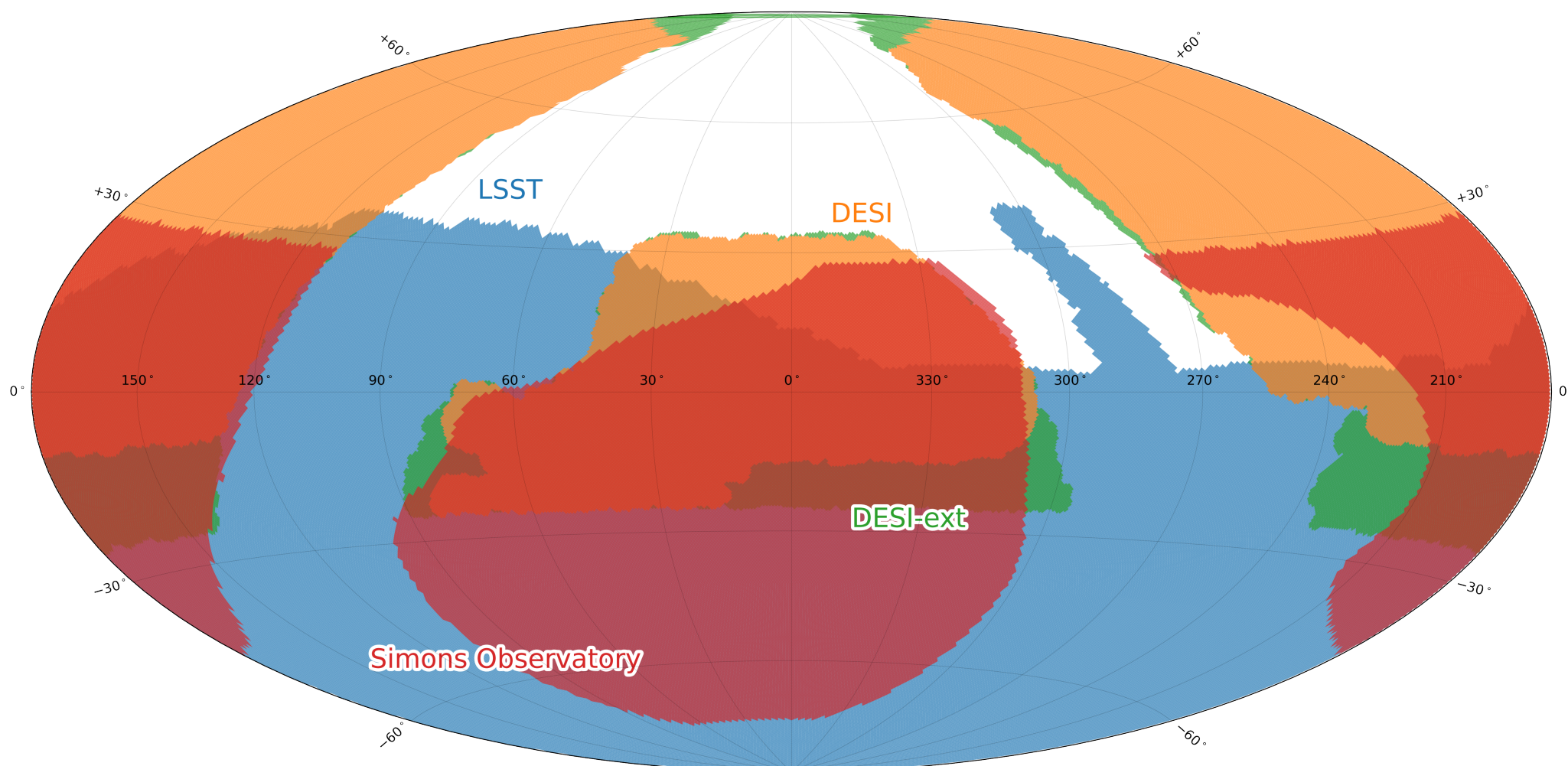
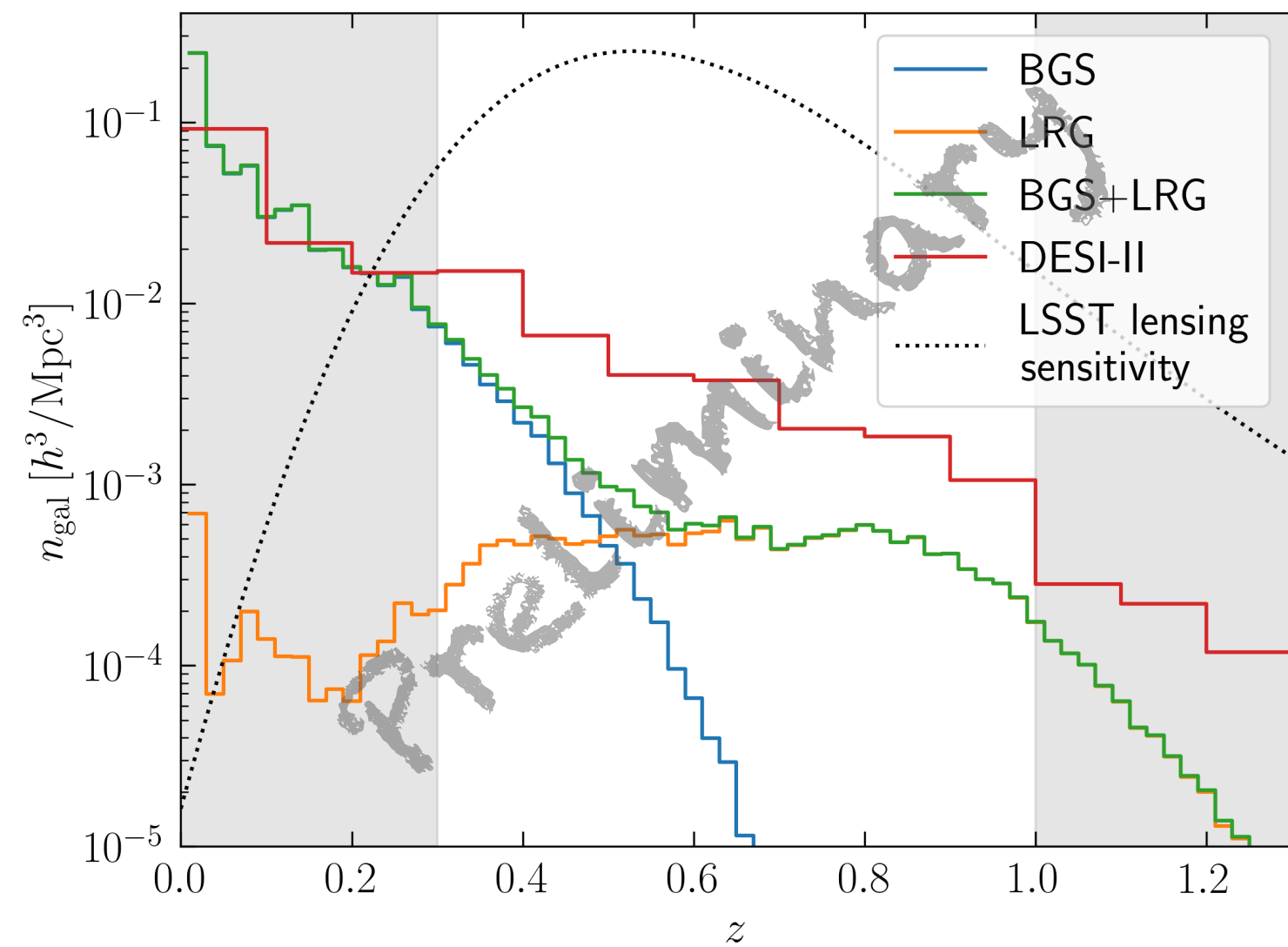
- SZ signal from DESI(-II) x SO
- GGL signal from DESI(-II) x Rubin
- Constrain power suppression on small scales



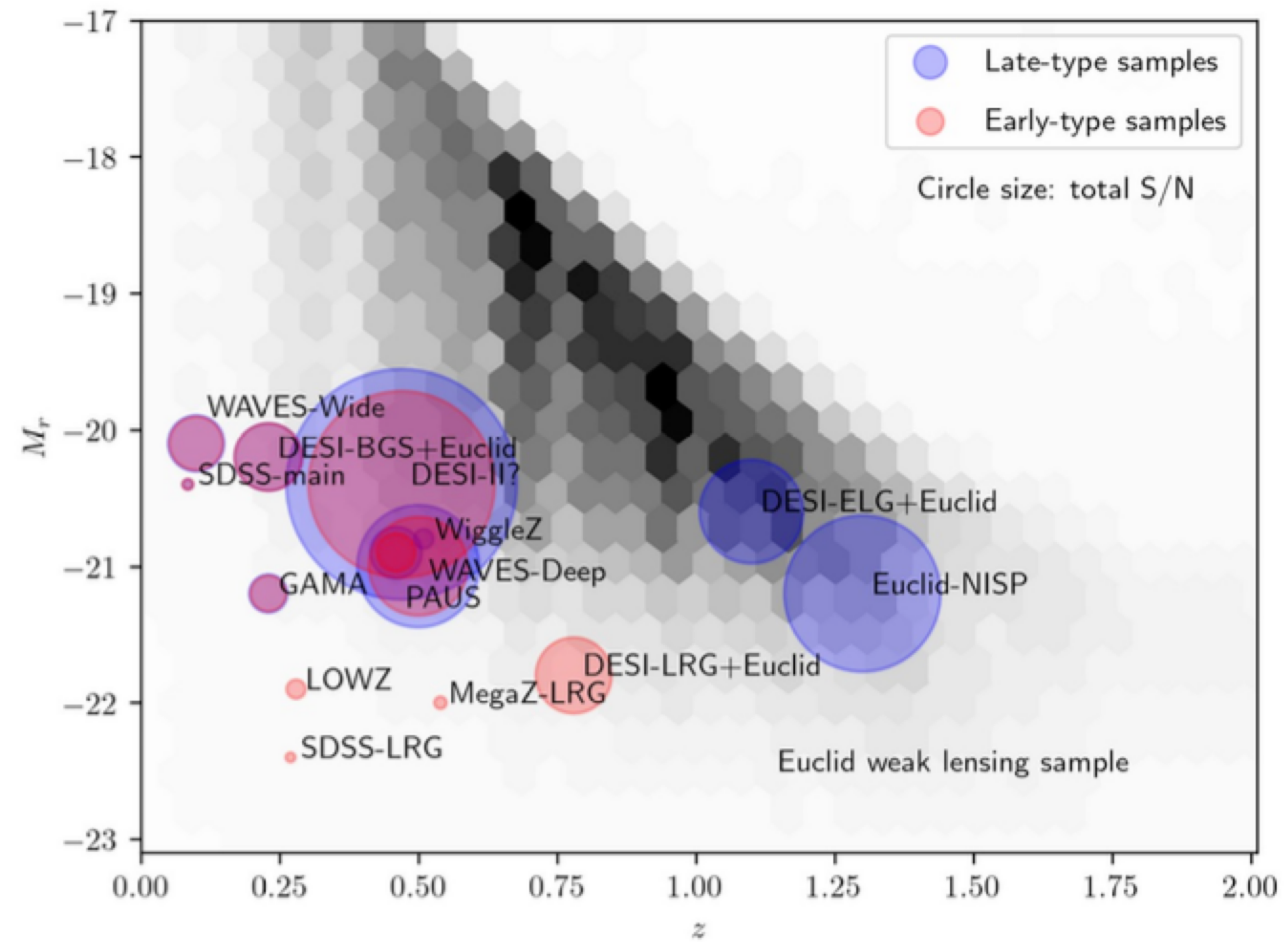
DESI-II – a high density sample



DESI-II – a high density sample



Intrinsic Alignments with DESI(-II)

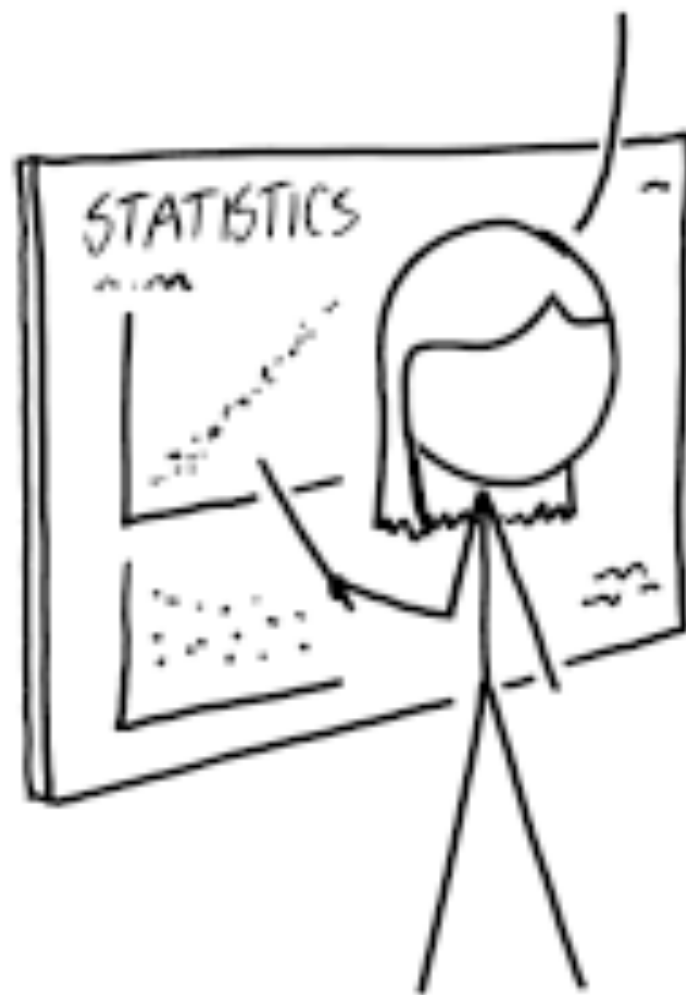


Main takeaways

- Constraints without confidence have limited use
- We should not only report cosmological parameters, but constraints on $P(k, z)$
- Higher-order statistics + combined probes enable independent tests of systematics
- The DESI-II high-density sample promises to be an amazing test bed for astrophysical systematics
- We have to figure out how to disentangle (astrophysical) systematics and dark matter models

Thank you for listening!

IF YOU DON'T CONTROL FOR CONFOUNDING VARIABLES, THEY'LL MASK THE REAL EFFECT AND MISLEAD YOU.



BUT IF YOU CONTROL FOR TOO MANY VARIABLES, YOUR CHOICES WILL SHAPE THE DATA, AND YOU'LL MISLEAD YOURSELF.



SOMEWHERE IN THE MIDDLE IS THE SWEET SPOT WHERE YOU DO BOTH, MAKING YOU DOUBLY WRONG. STATS ARE A FARCE AND TRUTH IS UNKNOWABLE. SEE YOU NEXT WEEK!

