

Title: Inference of weak gravitational lensing signals from sky images

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Abstract: <p>Weak gravitational lensing is a highly valued tool for inferring the structure of the spacetime metric between an observer and a cosmologically distant “wallpaper,” most commonly either the CMB or faint background galaxies. The best-measured quantities are the second derivatives of the projected scalar potential(s), which are manifested as apparent shearing and magnification of the wallpaper. Given a collection of faint-galaxy images, what information can we extract about the shear and magnification that these images have undergone? I will describe a new method of lensing inference that, unlike predecessors, is rigorously correct in the presence of noise and other observational realities, nearly optimal, and computationally feasible at the scale of current/future surveys like the Dark Energy Survey and the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope.</p>

# INFERRING WEAK GRAVITATIONAL LENSING FROM SKY IMAGES

*G. Bernstein*

*University of Pennsylvania*

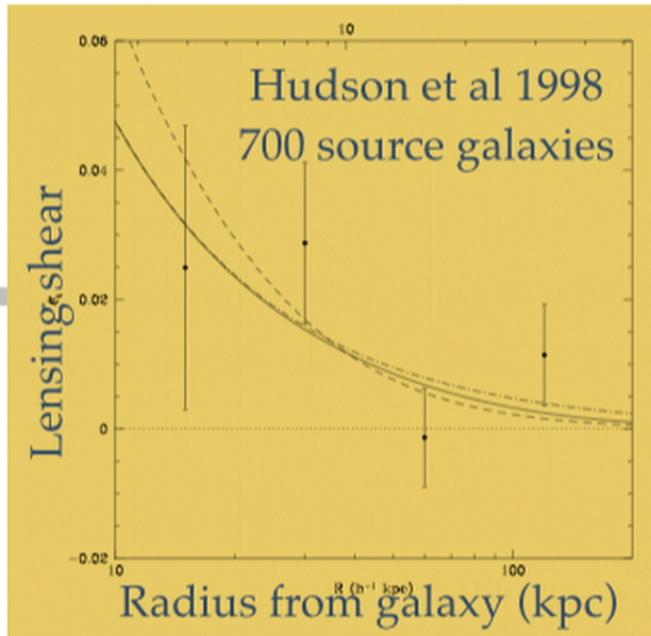
*14 April 2015*

*w/Bob Armstrong, Marisa March, Christina Krawiec*

1

$$\psi(\vec{\theta}) = \int_0^{\text{source}} dr \Psi(r\vec{\theta}) \frac{2D_{ls}}{c^2 D_l D_s}$$

- The projected scalar gravitational potential(s) between us and a source “wallpaper” is a great thing to measure:
  - Relation between total and visible matter
  - Growth of potentials since recombination
  - Ratios of distances vs redshift

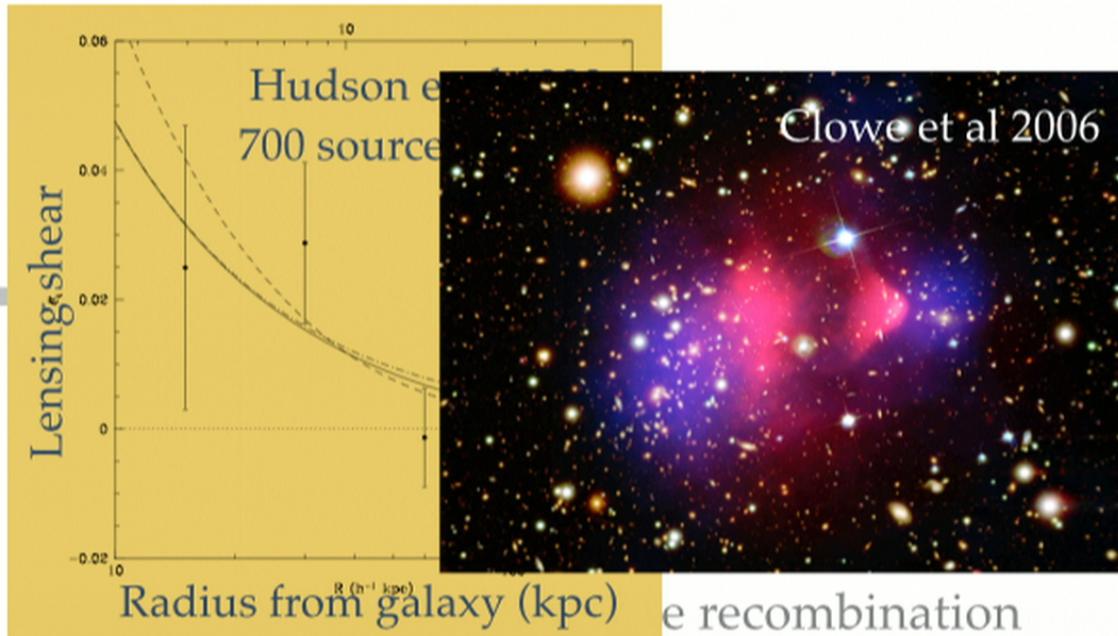


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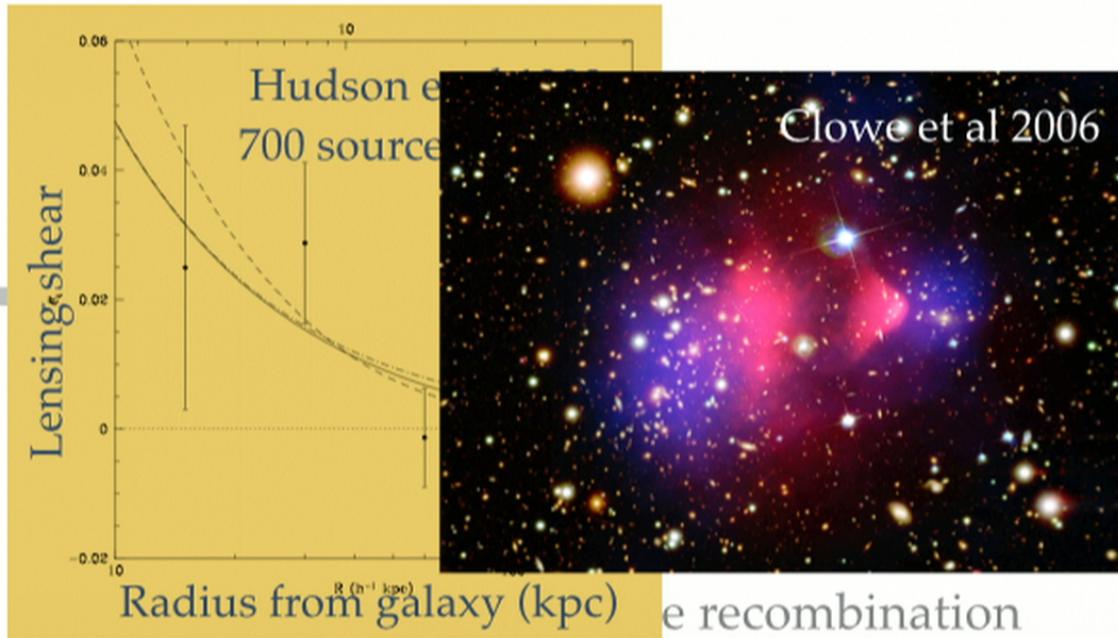
d visible matter  
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- Ratios of distances vs redshift



recombination

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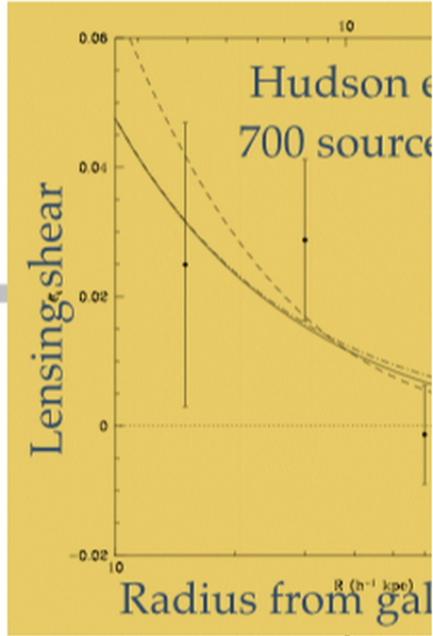


recombination

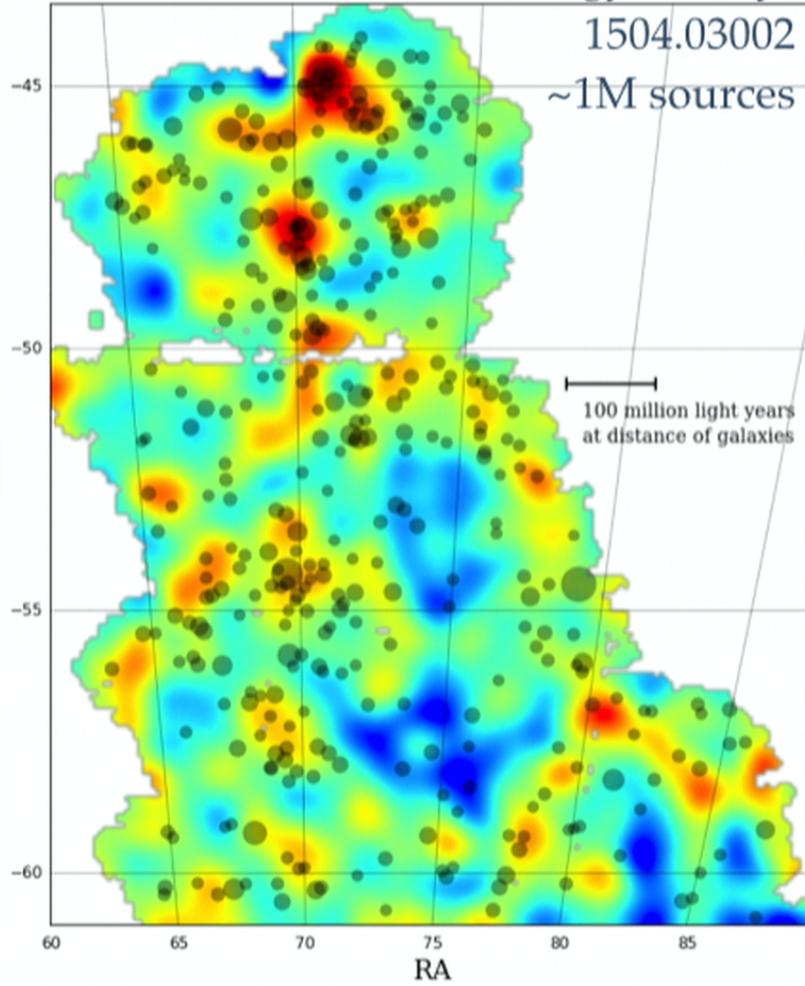
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Vikram *et al* (Dark Energy Survey)

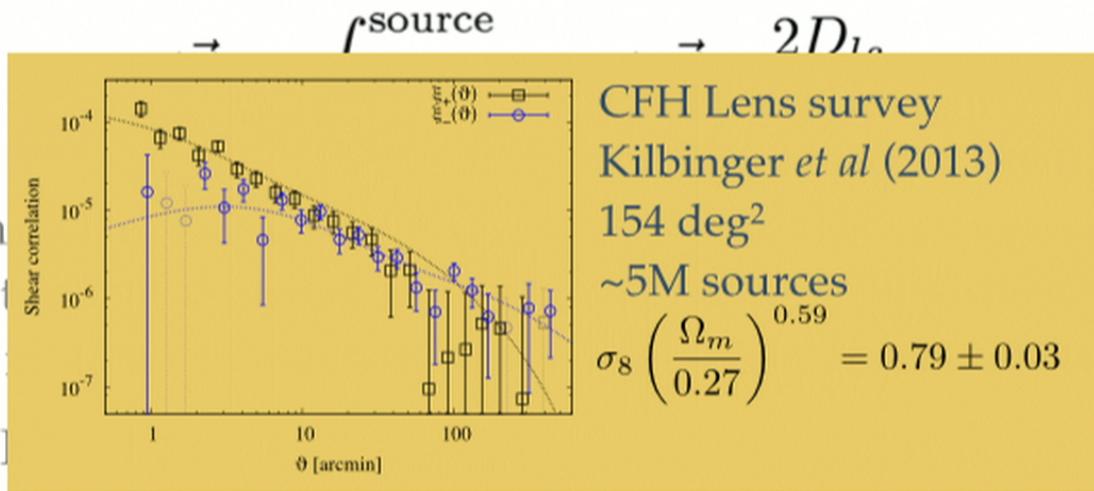


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## *What are the measurable effects of potential?*

Signal	Effect	Information?
$\psi$	Time delay	<b>None</b> (unless multiply imaged)
$\psi'$	Image shift	<b>None</b> (unless multiply imaged)
$\psi''$	Shear, magnification	<b>YES!</b>
$\psi''' \dots$	"flexions," ...	Yes, but weaker and more difficult than

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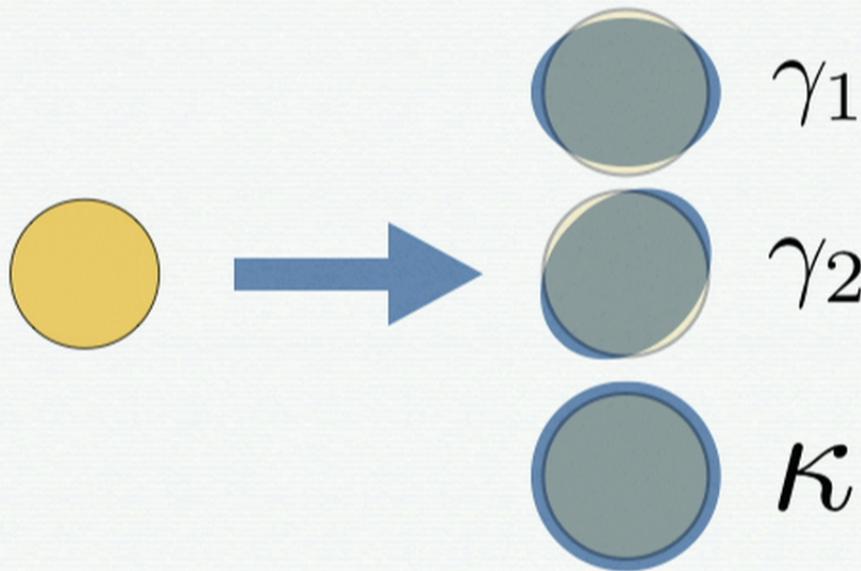
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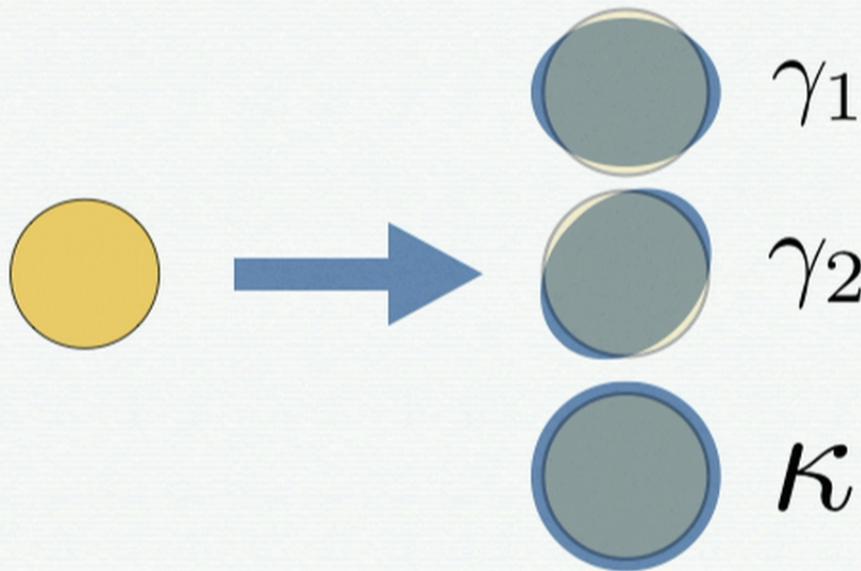
## Weak lensing observables

$$\frac{d\theta_{\text{src}}}{d\theta_{\text{obs}}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \kappa + \gamma_1 & \gamma_2 \\ \gamma_2 & 1 - \kappa - \gamma_1 \end{pmatrix} = (1 - \kappa) \begin{pmatrix} 1 + g_1 & g_2 \\ g_2 & 1 - g_1 \end{pmatrix}$$



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- What is  $P(g | D)$  given data  $D$  that are the pixel values of a set of images of the sky?
- Two successful kinds of wallpaper to date:
  - CMB: unlensed T & E are isotropic Gaussian random fields, B is zero. Optimal  $g$  estimation is “easy.” Nothing
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*How good should it be?*

$$\text{Var } \hat{g}_1 = \frac{\text{Var } e_1}{N_g} \approx \frac{0.3^2}{10^9} \approx 10^{-10}$$

$$g_{\text{rms}} \approx 0.02 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\text{signal}}{\text{noise}} \approx \frac{0.02}{10^{-5}} = 2 \times 10^{-3}$$

In order that lensing measurement systematic errors not degrade the statistical power of a large-scale WL survey, the shear inference should be accurate to **1 part in 1000**, and any spurious shear signal should be **<10<sup>-5</sup> RMS** over cosmologically interesting  $l$  values.

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## *Standard approach 2: Model fits*

Create a galaxy model that predicts the galaxy signal at each pixel,  
maximize the likelihood of the model:

$$\mathcal{L}(D_i|D(G)), \quad G = \{e_1, e_2, x, y, flux, size, B/D, \dots\}$$

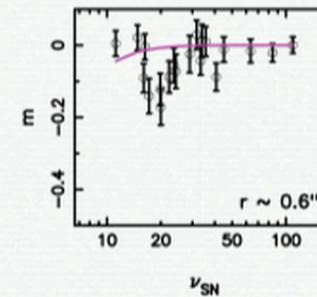
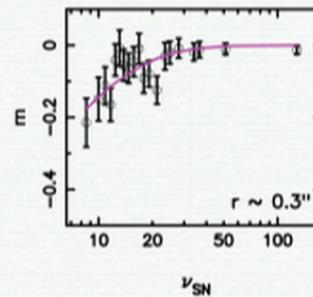
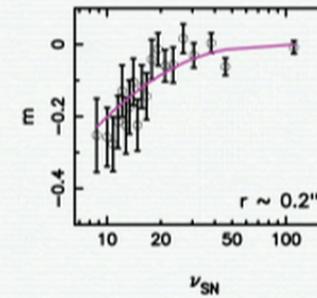
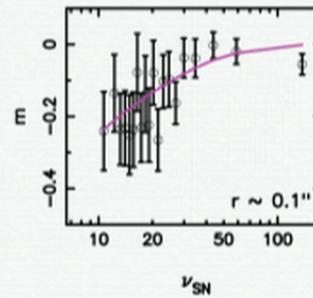
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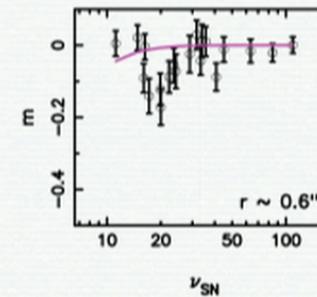
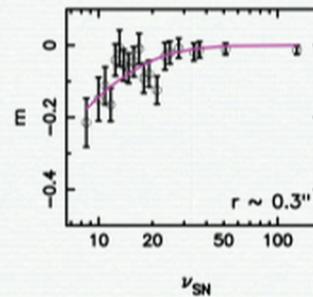
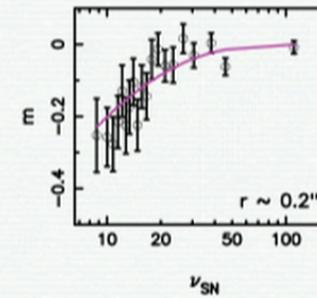
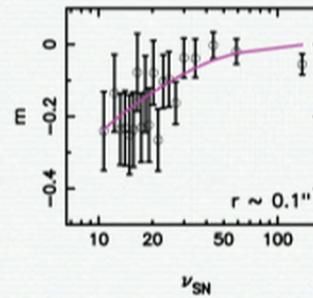
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CFHLS, 150 deg<sup>2</sup>  
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## *Why so difficult?*

- Point spread function (PSF): observed image is
$$I_{\text{obs}} = I_{\text{src}} * T$$
- Sampling
- Noise - ML estimates are *not* unbiased!
- No dictionary: galaxy images have no finite basis
- Selection biases
- Missing data (cosmic rays, etc.)
- Crowding

	Model fitting	Moments
PSF	✓ Forward model	✓ Fourier-domain moments
Sampling	✓ Forward model	✓ (Nyquist sample)
Noise	✗ Correction from simulation	✗ Correction from simulation
No model	✗ Correction from simulation	✓ Non-parametric
Selection	✗ Correction from simulation	✗ Correction from simulation
Missing data	✓ Fit extant data	✗
Crowding	✗ (multi-galaxy fit?)	✗

- *Can we produce a lensing estimator from images that does not have poor assumptions or approximations that need to be corrected with ad hoc factors derived from simulations?*
- *Can we do so with sufficient speed?*

(1 core-sec per galaxy  $\times 10^9$  sources / 1000 cores = 2 weeks)

*Start over again...*

- The classical Bayesian inference formula:

$$P(\mathbf{g}|\mathbf{D}) = \frac{P(\mathbf{D}|\mathbf{g})P(\mathbf{g})}{P(\mathbf{D})}$$

- Chop the (image) data into  $N_g$  disjoint selected galaxy images  $D_i$ :

$$P(\mathbf{g}|\mathbf{D}) \propto P(\mathbf{g})P(N_g|\mathbf{g}) \prod_{i=1}^{N_g} P(D_i|\mathbf{g})$$

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$$\ln P(g|D) = \text{const} + \ln P(g) + \ln P(N_g|g) + \sum_i \ln P(D_i|g)$$

Introduce a descriptive vector  $G$  for a galaxy.  
Simple case:  $G$  fully predicts each pixel value.

$$\begin{aligned} P(D_i|g) &= \int dG P(D_i|G)P(G|g) \\ &= \int dG \mathcal{L}(D_i - \hat{D}(G)) P(G|g) \end{aligned}$$

*Where do we get  $P(G|g)$ ? It **must** be empirical; there is no accurate theory for galaxy shapes!*

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## Building $P(G | g)$

- Approximate the 7+ dimensional function by sampling galaxies from the actual sky.
  - *Replicate each real galaxy with rotated copies to closely approximate unsheared, unmagnified distribution.*
  - *Observe at high S/N so we know  $G(g)$  well for lensed version of each “template” galaxy.*

$$P(D_i | g) = \sum_{\mu} \mathcal{L} \left( D_i - \hat{D}[G_{\mu}(g)] \right)$$

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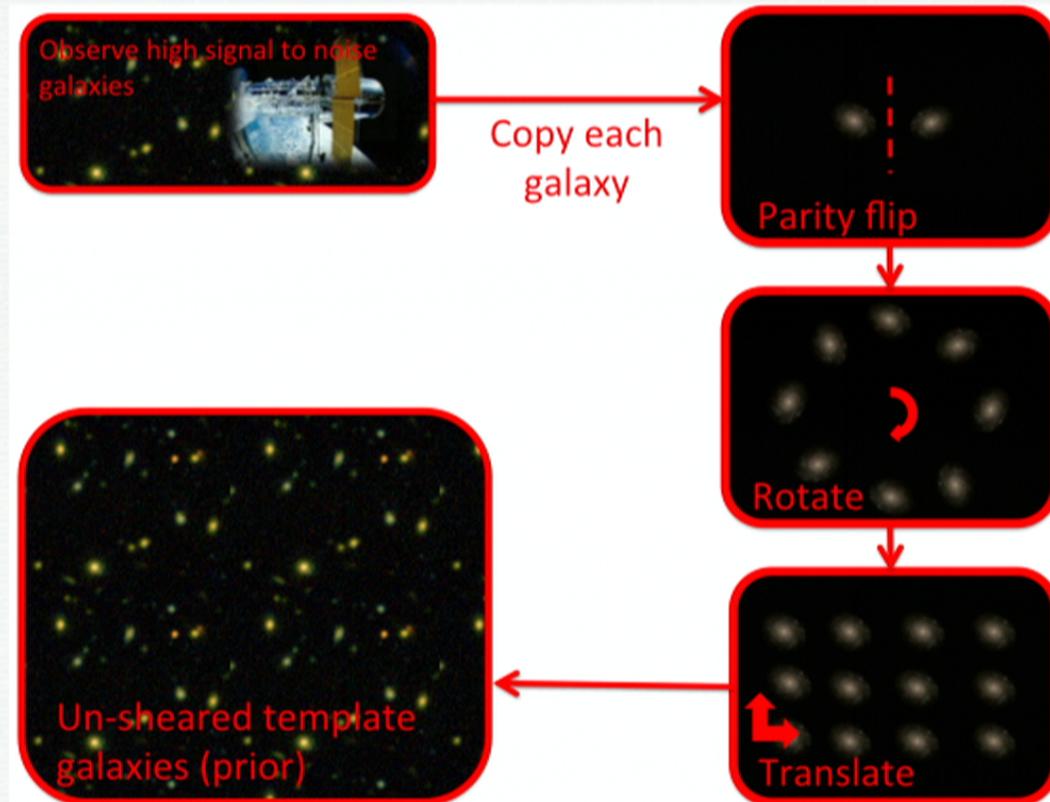
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# MAKING AN UNLENSED PRIOR



## Computationally feasible?

$$P(D_i|g) = \sum_{\mu} \mathcal{L} \left( D_i - \hat{D}[G_{\mu}(g)] \right)$$

- Sum over  $>10^8$  templates for each of  $10^9$  targets, repeat at every  $g$  of interest - *too slow*.
- It's **weak** lensing: Taylor expand about  $g=0$ .

$$P(D_i|g) \approx P_i + g \cdot Q_i + \frac{1}{2}g \cdot R_i \cdot g$$

$$P_i = \sum_{\mu} \mathcal{L} \left( D_i - \hat{D}[G_{\mu}(g=0)] \right)$$

$$Q_i = \nabla_{\mathbf{g}} P_i|_{g=0}$$

$$R_i = \nabla_{\mathbf{g}} \nabla_{\mathbf{g}} P_i|_{g=0}$$

## *Non-parametric galaxy compression*

- We want to describe galaxies by a short vector  $M$  having the following properties:
  - Effect of PSF can be removed from  $M$
  - Measurement noise distribution on  $M$  is small and is known exactly, rapidly calculable.
  - Does not assume parametric form for galaxies
  - $M$  captures nearly all information on change in galaxy under lensing.

*One choice for non-parametric galaxy compression: Fourier-domain moments*

$$\begin{pmatrix} M_I \\ M_x \\ M_y \\ M_r \\ M_1 \\ M_2 \end{pmatrix} = \int d^2k \frac{\tilde{I}_{\text{obs}}(\mathbf{k})}{\tilde{T}(\mathbf{k})} W(|\mathbf{k}^2|) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ ik_x \\ ik_y \\ k_x^2 + k_y^2 \\ k_x^2 - k_y^2 \\ 2k_x k_y \end{pmatrix}.$$

$\mathcal{L}(M_i|M)$  is Gaussian in  $M_i-M$  in most imaging modes as  $M$  is linear in the pixel values  $D_i$ .

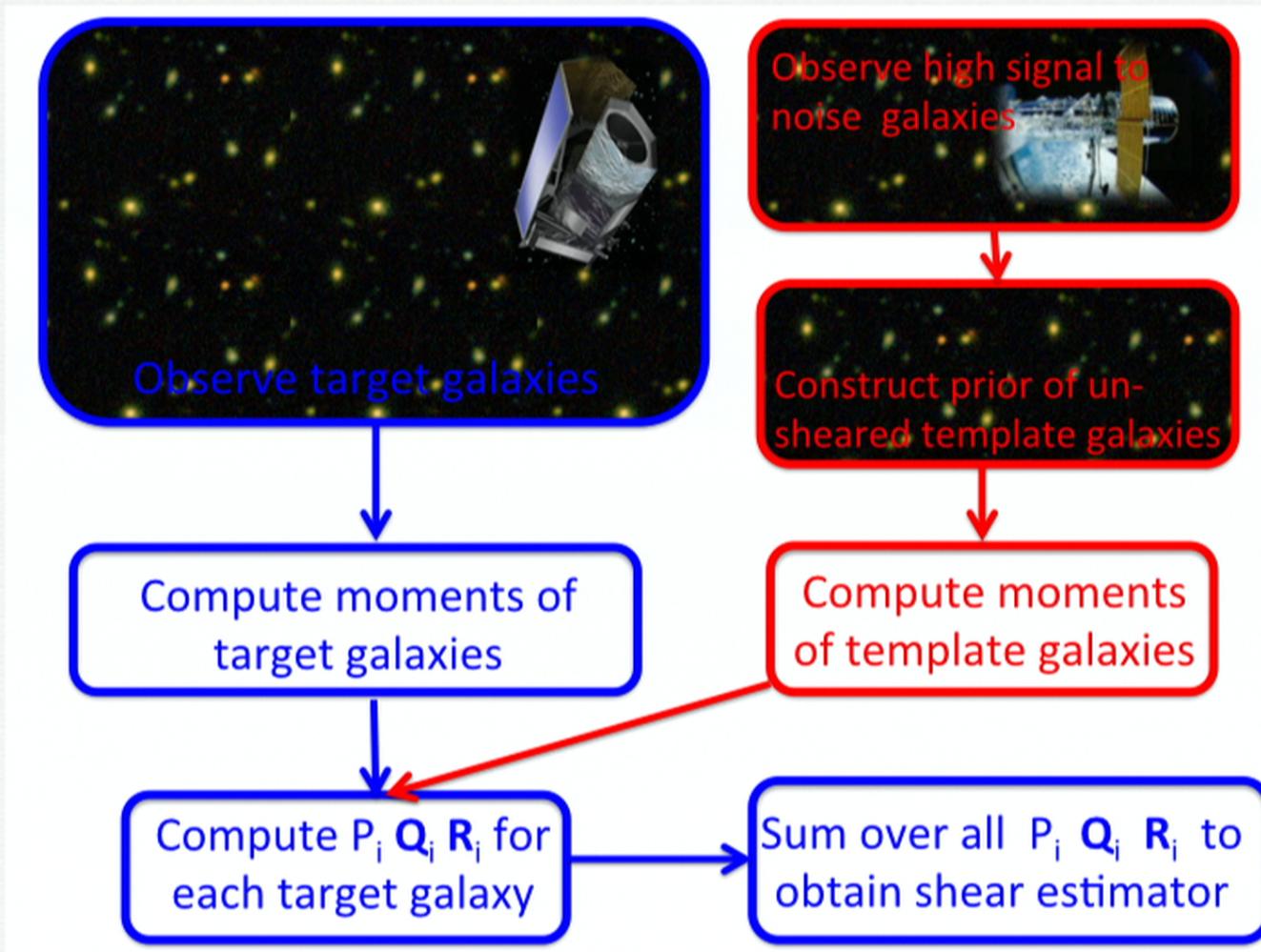
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- PSF
- Sampling
- Noise
- Model bias
- Selection bias
- Missing data
- Crowding
- Speed?

## Selection effects

- Our starting point should have accounted for the fact that only galaxies passing selection  $s$  make it into our data vector:

$$P(g|D) \propto P(g)P(N_g|g) \prod_{i=1}^{N_g} P(D_i|s, g)$$

- Compressing the data into the non-parametric moments:

$$\begin{aligned} P(M_i|s, g) &= \frac{P(M_i, s|g)}{P(s|g)} \\ &= \frac{\int dM P(M_i, s|M)P(M|g)}{\int dM P(s|M)P(M|g)} \end{aligned}$$

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## *Own your selection!*

- In most surveys the selection  $s$  is difficult to even define, or at best is a complex function of the  $D_i$  images.
- We can make our life hugely easier by making our selection *based on the observed values*  $M_i$ , in which case  $P(M_i | s, M) = P(M_i | M)$  for all selected galaxies! Now

$$P(M_i | s, g) = \frac{\sum_{\mu} \mathcal{L}[M_i - M_{\mu}(g)]}{\sum_{\mu} \int_{\hat{M} \in s} \mathcal{L}[\hat{M} - M_{\mu}(g)]}$$

## *Missing data*

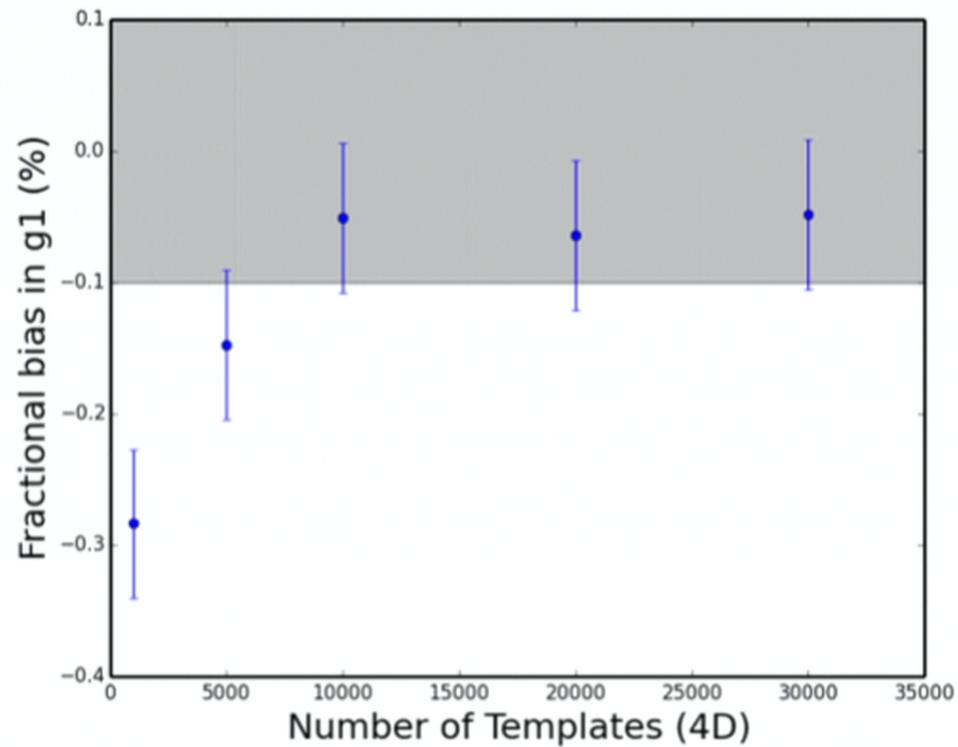
- With multiple Nyquist-sampled exposures, missing data in 1 exposure can be filled in using information from other exposures.
- By definition a model-free measurement cannot be conducted on under-determined image data!
- If the amount of missing data is small, we could inpaint using prior assumptions about galaxies: either conduct a model fit, or use compressed sensing techniques (sparsity prior) to replace the data. Model biases are suppressed.
- If the missing data contain a large fraction of the galaxy's flux, just throw it away! Will be rare in ground-based images.

## Crowding

- Overlapping galaxies at same  $z$ : treat as one galaxy!
- Overlaps at different  $z$ : tough since  $g$  is  $z$ -dependent.
- Division of image flux into two galaxies is ill-posed without strong priors on galaxy morphologies. No rigorous approach.
- Model-fitting methods can proceed with joint fits to pixel data *if the foreground galaxy is transparent*. It is generally not.
- This is a tough problem. For DES I will choose to discard the <10% of galaxies that have a detectably bright neighbor significantly impinging.
- LSST aims to measure fainter galaxies at higher surface density, so a larger overlap rate that must be dealt with. Euclid, WFIRST have better resolution so can use smaller windows to reduce overlaps.

## *“Bayesian Fourier Domain” (BFD) development*

- Formalism produces lensing estimators that are unbiased by any of the known difficulties, save missing data (not bad) and crowding (could be bad).
- Method has been numerically verified to part-per-thousand accuracy on simple model systems.
- Efficient algorithm for doing the 6d integrals over large template sets.
- Currently verifying the method and code on simulated pixelized images of sheared sky, first application to the *Dark Energy Survey* this year.
- *Nothing in the method limits it to shear: magnification can be derived with the same method.* Work of Huff *et al* suggests that kurtosis moment will enhance information content for magnification
- Need to develop smart inpainting method to deal with real data.
- We will probably just dodge the crowding challenge for DES. Open problem how to get the fainter sources from LSST data in 2020's.



Example numerical test: this case, testing number of template galaxies needed in the restricted case of known galaxy center (by Bob Armstrong)

## *BFD method virtues*

- First rigorous treatment of noise, PSF, selection, centering for galaxy lensing
- Each target galaxy contributes what it “knows” about the shear without explicit weighting, e.g. zero weight at  $S/N=0$ , fixed weight at high  $S/N$ .
- The galaxy template can be constructed with same instrument as the survey is done.
- Selection criteria are included naturally as a cut on the weighted moments.
- Computationally simple and fast.
- Trivial extension to include magnification along with shear.
- Multiple exposures included in an obvious way.
- (Almost) no iterative solving: very difficult for the measurement to fail
- *No assumptions about the nature of galaxies on the sky!*