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DI TRIESTE

# Weak Lensing and Cosmology

Lucie Baumont

# Outline

Part 1: Conceptual Overview

Part 2: Measuring Lensing

- Pixeltown

- Measuring Shapes and Redshifts

Part 3: Calibration

Part 4: Modeling Systematics

- Baryons, intrinsic alignment, projection effects

Part 5: Current Lensing Results and critiques

# Part I

## Conceptual Overview

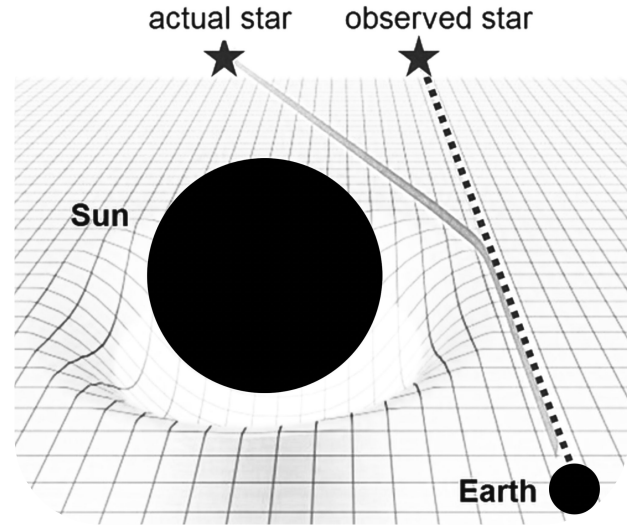
# 1915: Einstein predicts lensing from general relativity

Mass bends spacetime

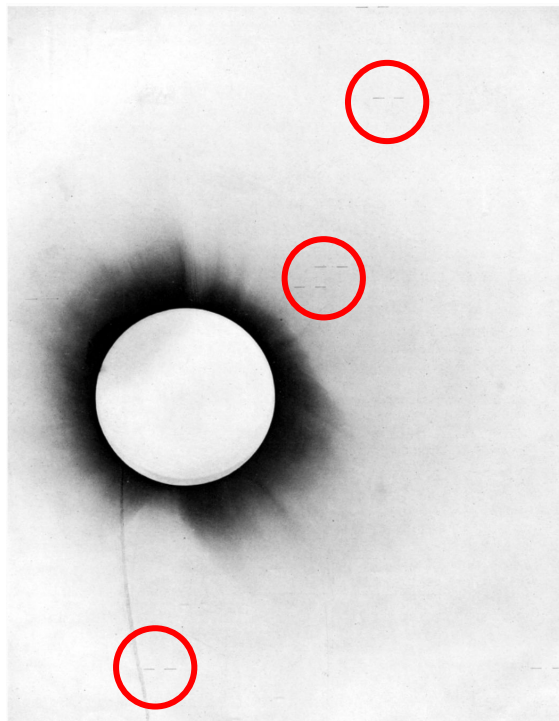
Light travels along null geodesics

→ Mass deflects light rays

Predicts deflection angle is twice the newtonian prediction



# 1919: Eddington Measures deflection angle

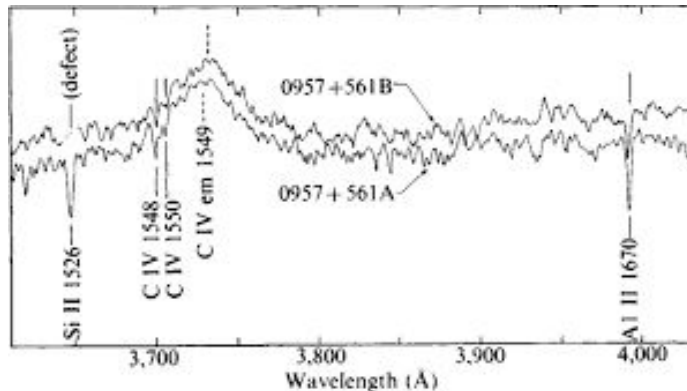
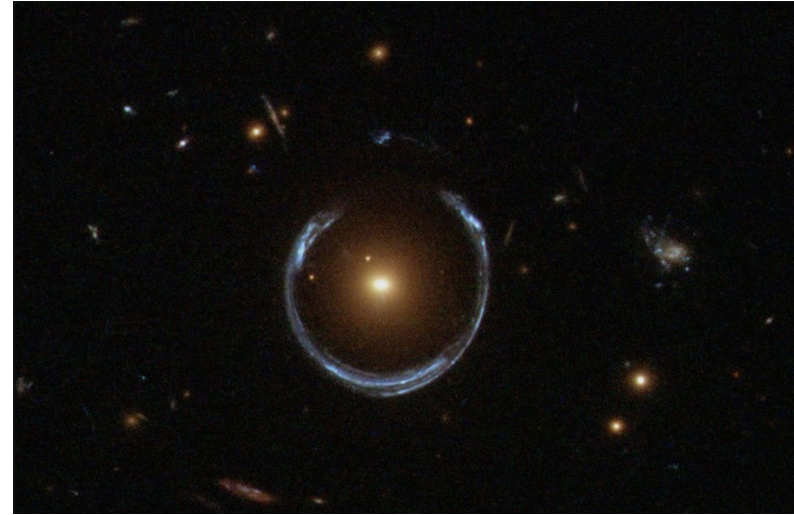


# A Brief Timeline of Gravitational Lensing

Chwolson (1924), Einstein (1936): Ring structure as image possible

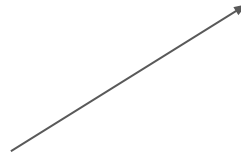
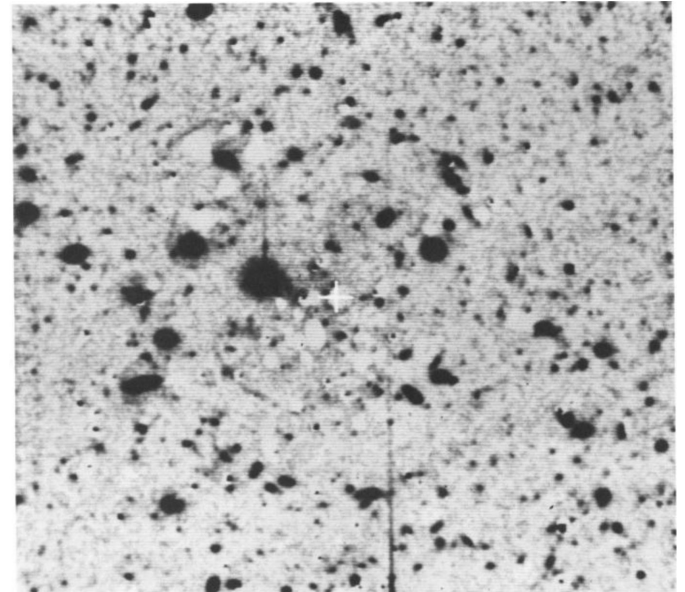
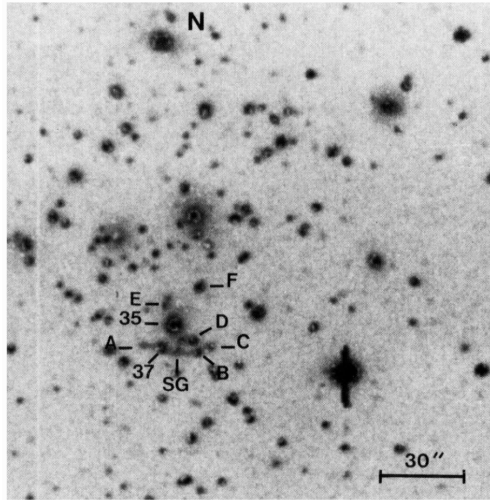
1937: Zwicky- galaxy clusters could be lenses

1979 Walsh et al. detect first double image of a lensed quasar.



# A Brief Timeline of Gravitational Lensing

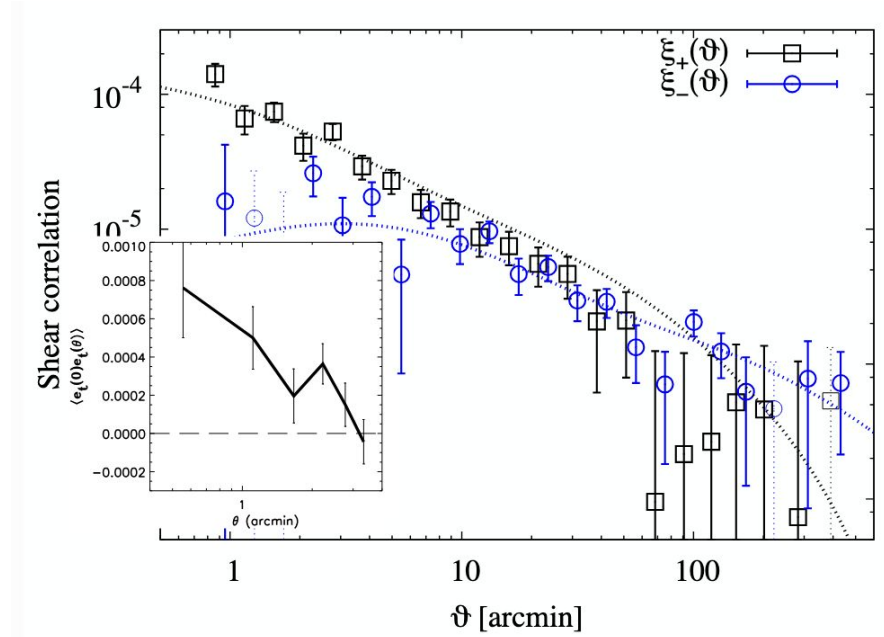
1987: Soucail et al. find strongly distorted “arcs” of background galaxies behind galaxy cluster



1990: Tyson et al. find tangential alignment of galaxies around clusters.

# A Brief Timeline of Gravitational Lensing

2000: cosmic shear detected- weak lensing in blind fields, by 4 groups (Edinburgh, Hawai'i, Paris, Bell Labs/US). Some 10, 000 galaxies on few square degree on the sky area



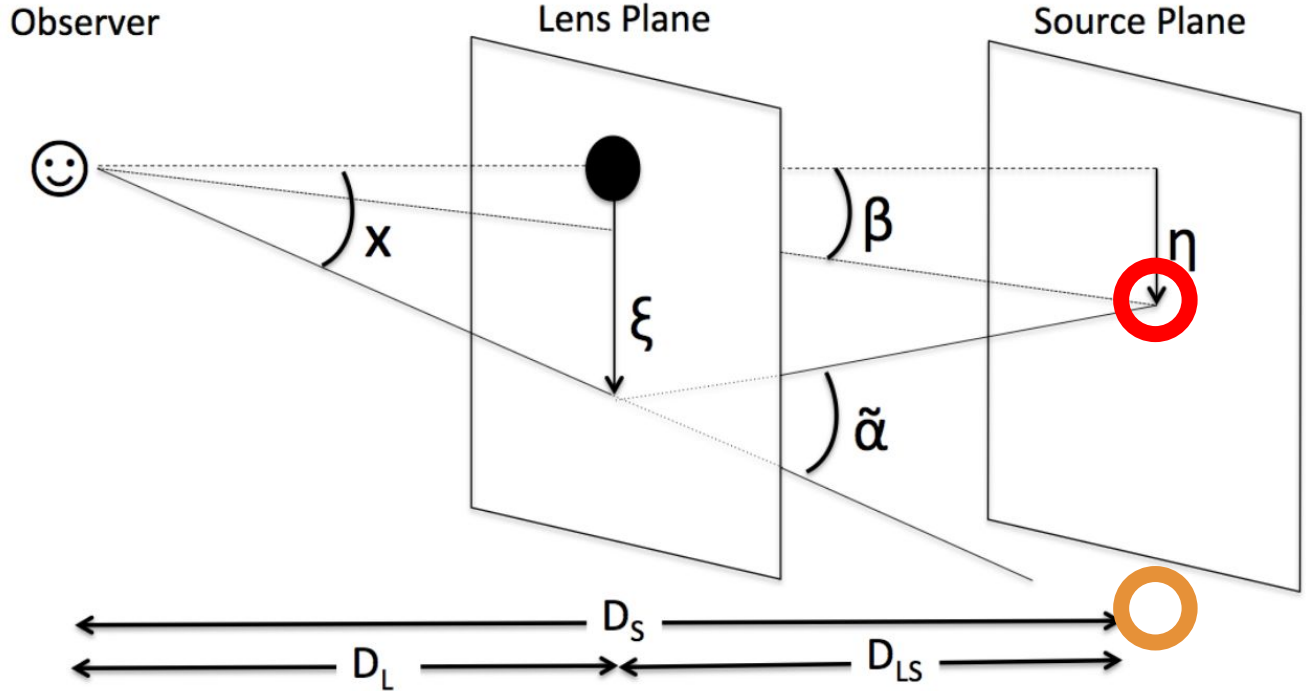
# A Brief Timeline of Gravitational Lensing

2012: von der Linden et al. (Weighing the Giants) use weak lensing masses to calibrate halo mass function for cluster cosmology

2016-present: CFHTLenS, DES, KiDS, HSC provide competitive constraints on cosmology. Factor 100 increase: Millions of galaxies over 100s of degree area. Many other improvements: Multi-band observations, photometric redshifts, image and N-body simulations

Present day: Euclid Space Telescope is measuring lensing from space, Vera Rubin telescope is in commissioning, Nancy Grace Roman telescope is scheduled to launch this fall. Soon a billion galaxies will have measured shapes

# Lensing Geometry



True  
Position:  $\beta$

Measured  
Position:  $x$

Lens  
equation:  
 $\beta = x - \alpha(x)$

# Lensing Geometry

Deflection angle depends

1. 2-d Mass distribution of the lens
2. Distance Geometry

$$\alpha(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} d^2\theta' \kappa(\boldsymbol{\theta}') \frac{\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}'}{|\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}'|^2}$$

$$\kappa(\boldsymbol{\theta}) := \frac{\Sigma(D_d \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\Sigma_{\text{cr}}} \quad \text{with} \quad \Sigma_{\text{cr}} = \frac{c^2}{4\pi G} \frac{D_s}{D_d D_{\text{ds}}},$$

Use the identity  $\nabla \ln |\boldsymbol{\theta}| = \boldsymbol{\theta}/|\boldsymbol{\theta}|^2$

to write deflection angle in terms of a potential:

$$\boldsymbol{\alpha} = \nabla \psi$$

$$\nabla^2 \psi = 2\kappa$$

# Weak Gravitational Lensing

Lensing conserves surface brightness (no photon gets lost)

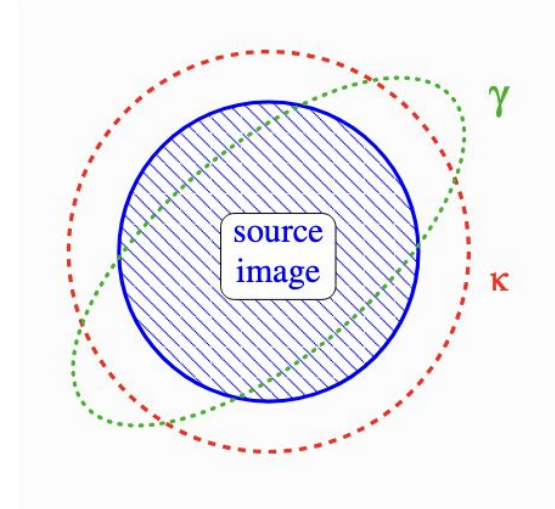
$$I(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = I^{(s)}[\boldsymbol{\beta}(\boldsymbol{\theta})]$$

Linearize distortion of a surface brightness

$$I(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = I^{(s)}[\boldsymbol{\beta}_0 + \mathcal{A}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) \cdot (\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_0)]$$

$$\mathcal{A}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\beta}}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} = \left( \delta_{ij} - \frac{\partial^2 \psi(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \theta_i \partial \theta_j} \right) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \kappa - \gamma_1 & -\gamma_2 \\ -\gamma_2 & 1 - \kappa + \gamma_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\gamma_1 = \frac{1}{2}(\psi_{,11} - \psi_{,22}), \quad \gamma_2 = \psi_{,12}$$



# Kappa and gamma are not independent

convergence and shear are functions of a single scalar potential

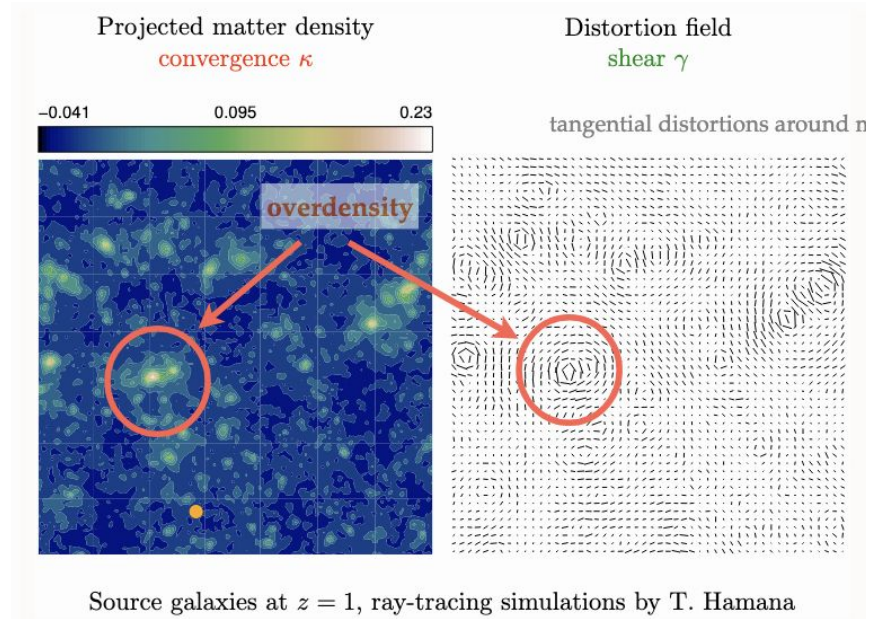
→ Shear components are related

Define the reduced shear

$$g \equiv \frac{\gamma}{1 - \kappa}$$

In the weak lensing limit,

$$\kappa \ll 1, |\gamma| \ll 1$$



# Definition: Galaxy shape

The **sizes** and **shapes** are defined in terms of the second moments of the surface brightness profile

$$T = I_{xx} + I_{yy}$$
$$e = e_1 + ie_2 = \frac{I_{xx} - I_{yy} + 2iI_{xy}}{I_{xx} + I_{yy} + 2\sqrt{I_{xx}I_{yy} - I_{xy}^2}}$$

where the moments are defined as

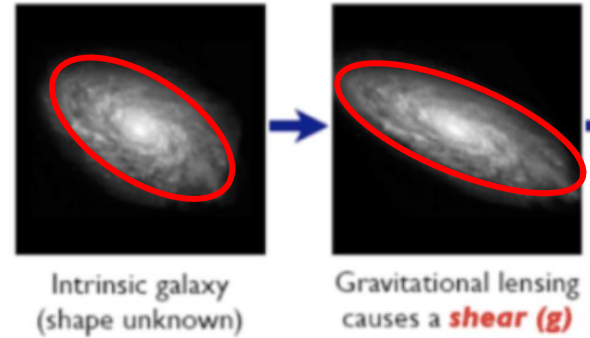
$$I_{\mu\nu} = \frac{\int dx dy I(x, y) (\mu - \bar{\mu})(\nu - \bar{\nu})}{\int dx dy I(x, y)}.$$

Intrinsic scatter in distribution of galaxy ellipticity “shape noise”  $\sim 0.3$

# Shapes change under shear

**Statistically** we can use galaxy shapes to find gravitational shear

$$\epsilon^{\text{obs}} = \frac{\epsilon^{\text{orig}} + g}{1 + g^* \epsilon^{\text{orig}}} \approx \epsilon^{\text{orig}} + \gamma,$$



One common estimator for gravitational shear:

$$\langle \epsilon \rangle = g$$

Assume  $\langle \epsilon^{\text{orig}} \rangle = 0$   
Otherwise, model *intrinsic alignment*

## In reality...

Percent level ellipticity changes are smaller than difference between the ellipticity of uranus and the moon



# Gravitational lensing as a cosmological probe

Cosmology can enter in two places:

1. Angular diameter distance
2. Mass distribution

# The convergence power spectrum

in the lowest-order approximation, the 3-D cosmological mass distribution can be considered, as an effective surface mass density  $\kappa$ , just like in ordinary lensing

Variance in  $\langle \kappa(\boldsymbol{\vartheta} + \boldsymbol{\theta})\kappa(\boldsymbol{\vartheta}) \rangle = \langle \kappa\kappa \rangle(\boldsymbol{\theta})$  is related to variance in density contrast  $\langle \delta\delta \rangle$  by Limber's Equation:

$$\langle \hat{\kappa}(\boldsymbol{\ell})\hat{\kappa}^*(\boldsymbol{\ell}') \rangle = (2\pi)^2 \delta_D(\boldsymbol{\ell} - \boldsymbol{\ell}') P_\kappa(\ell)$$

$$\langle \hat{\delta}(\mathbf{k})\hat{\delta}^*(\mathbf{k}') \rangle = (2\pi)^3 \delta_D(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}') P_\delta(k)$$

$$P_\kappa(\ell) = \int d\chi G^2(\chi) P_\delta \left( k = \frac{\ell}{\chi} \right)$$

# The convergence power spectrum

**initial conditions,  
growth of structure**

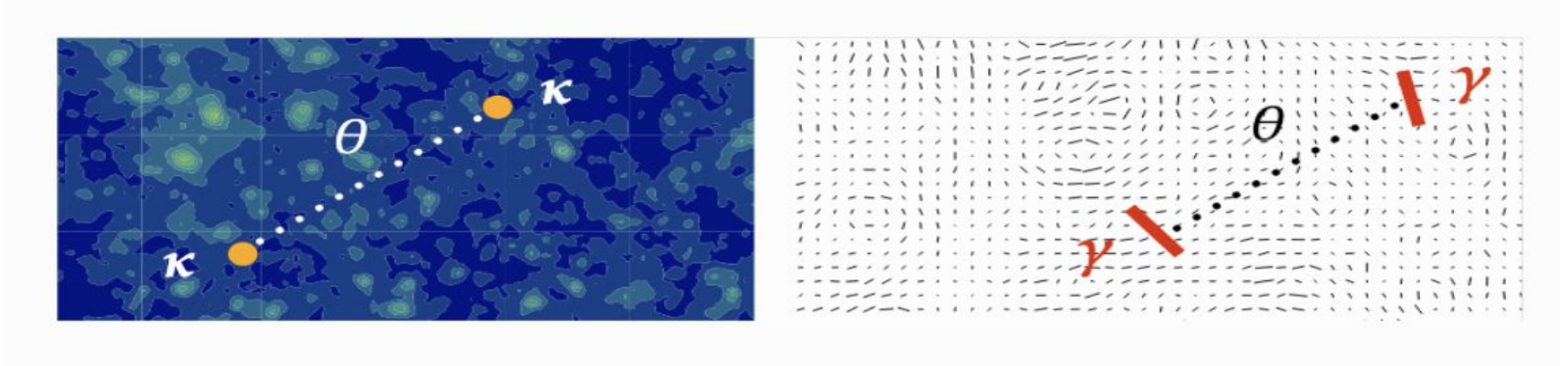
$$P_{\kappa}(\ell) = \int d\chi G^2(\chi) P_{\delta} \left( k = \frac{\ell}{\chi} \right)$$
$$G(\chi) = \frac{3}{2} \left( \frac{H_0}{c} \right)^2 \frac{\Omega_m}{a(\chi)} \int_{\chi}^{\chi_{\text{lim}}} d\chi' p(\chi') \frac{\chi' - \chi}{\chi'}$$

**matter density**

**redshift distribution  
of source galaxies**

**geometry**

# Correlations of two shears



- Lensing/convergence power spectrum depends on cosmology
- Provides theory model prediction correlation of  $\kappa$  or  $\gamma$  in Fourier space.

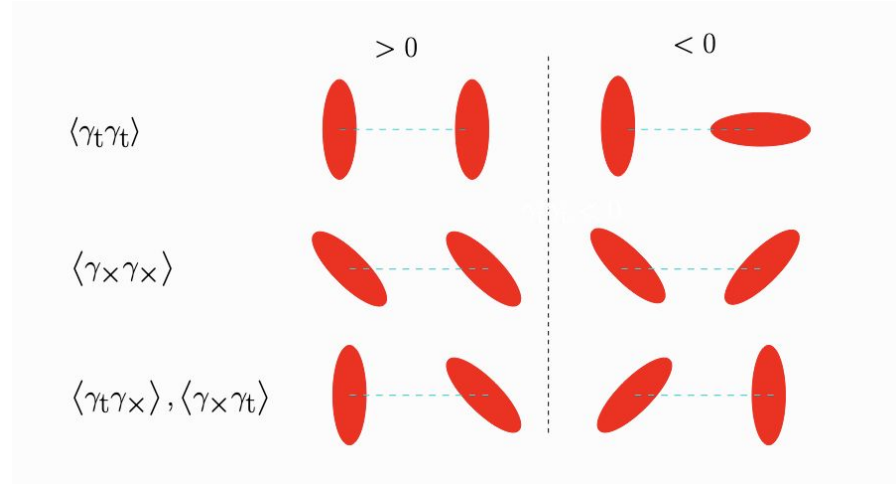
However we measure shear (ellipticity) in real space.

Two options:

1. Fourier-transform data. Square to get power spectrum.
2. Calculate correlations in real space. Inverse-Fourier transform theory  $P_{\kappa}$ .

# Correlations of two shears

We can correlate in 4 ways



$$\xi_+(\vartheta) = \langle \gamma_t \gamma_t \rangle (\vartheta) + \langle \gamma_x \gamma_x \rangle (\vartheta)$$

$$\xi_-(\vartheta) = \langle \gamma_t \gamma_t \rangle (\vartheta) - \langle \gamma_x \gamma_x \rangle (\vartheta)$$

# What about the mixed term?

The shear comes from the derivatives of a potential. This cannot take arbitrary form because the divergence of a curl is zero.

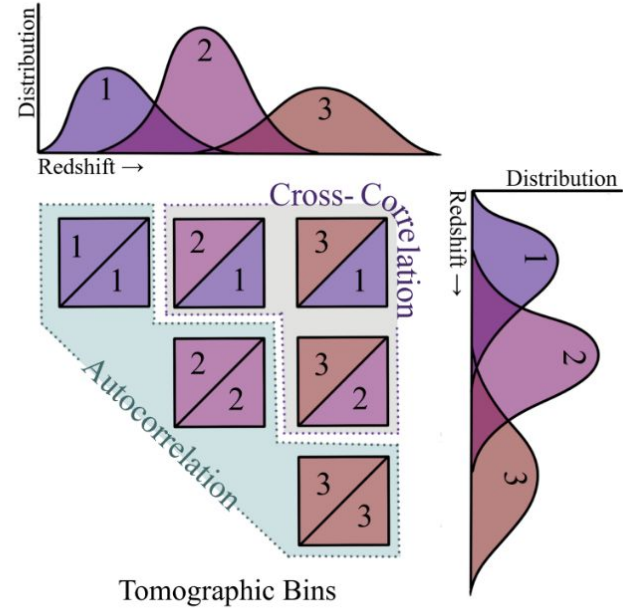
Theoretically, the “b-mode” should be zero

Measuring a non-zero B-mode in observations is usually seen as indicator of residual systematics in the data processing

# Tomographic Analysis

Break sample up into redshift bins

This provides constraint on  $w$

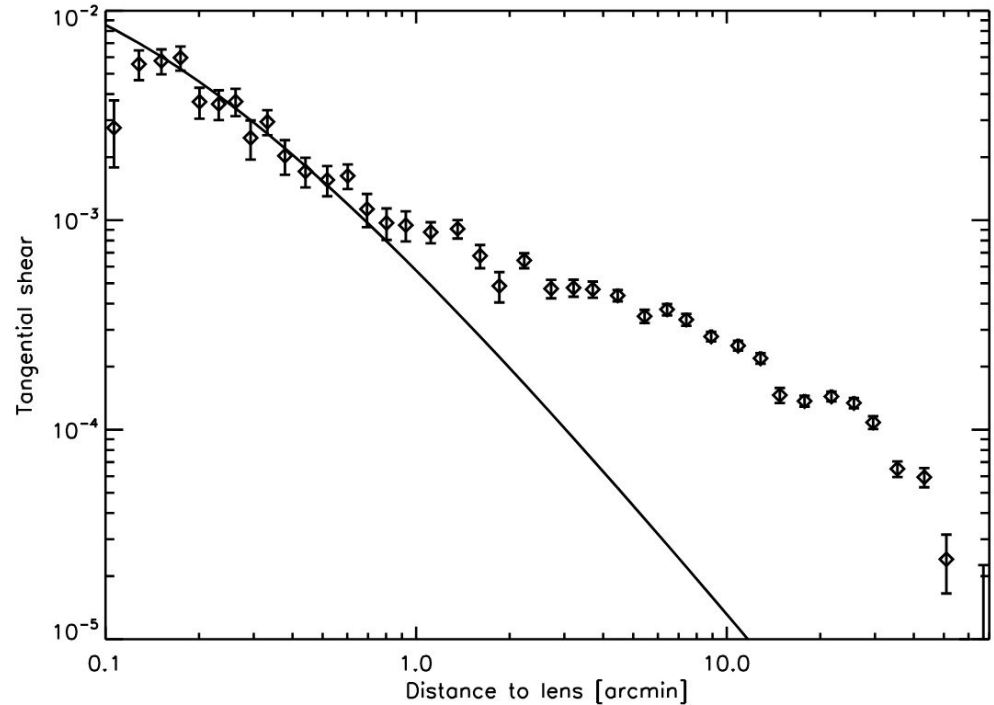


# Lensing by galaxies (galaxy-galaxy lensing)

correlates shapes of  
high- $z$  galaxies with  
positions of low- $z$  galaxies

Get excess projected  
mass within an aperture of  
low- $z$  sample

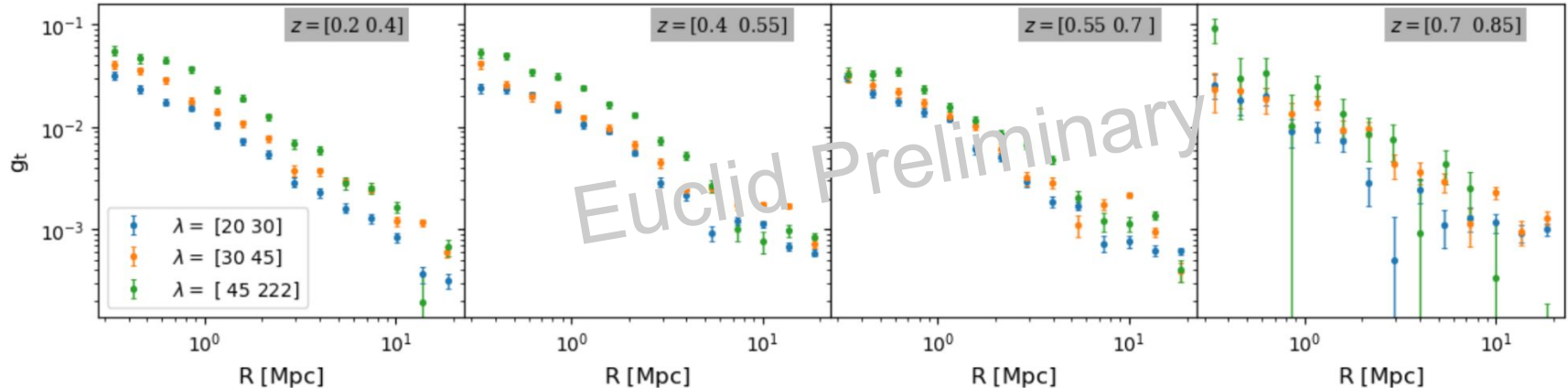
→ Combines with other  
tracers to constrain galaxy  
bias



# Cluster Masses

Why use weak lensing for cluster masses?

- Measures entire mass, including dark matter
- No equilibrium assumptions
- Noisy measurement, but unbiased on average

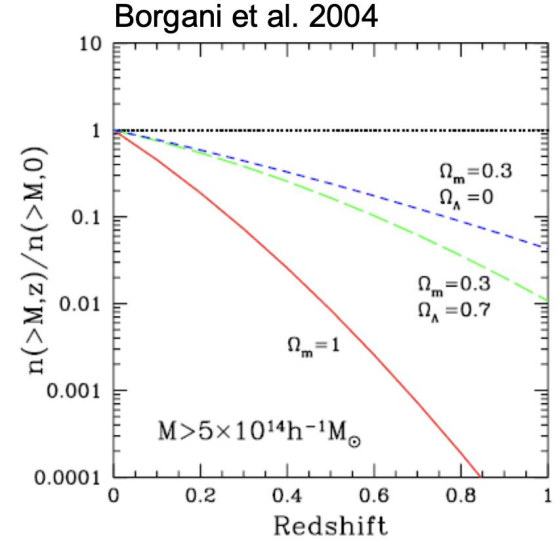


# Cluster Masses anchor Cluster Cosmology

Calibrate Mass-Observable relation in cluster counts

Calibrate the total mass for gas mass fraction test

$$f_{gas} = \frac{M_{gas}}{M_{tot}} = \gamma \frac{\Omega_b}{\Omega_m}$$



# Cluster Masses

Lensing due to Galaxy Clusters and LSS is not the same:

- ▶ higher shear signal (factor of 10)
- ▶ higher object density (blending)
- ▶ fewer background galaxies for a single cluster (by a factor of  $10^4$ !)

# Other WL summary statistics

Statistics	Tomo	Systematics	Params	Forecasts (with II order)	Real data	Survey	References
Summary statistics employed in the analysis	If a tomographic analysis was performed	m = multiplicative bias c = additive bias photo-z = photometric redshifts bar = baryonic effects IA = intrinsic alignment	The cosmological parameters that are constrained	Improvement w.r.t 2PCF  %=single parameter Number = 2D FoM	Constraining power > = better ~ = similar < = worst	Survey specs, name or sky coverage + galaxy number density	First author + year.
<b>PDF</b>	no yes no	m, c no no	$\Omega_m, \sigma_8$ $M_V, A_S$ $M_V, w_0$	2 35%, 61% 27%, 40%+Planck		DES-Y1 LSST Euclid	Patton + 2017 Liu, J.+ 2018 Boyle+ 2020
<b>Bispectrum</b>	yes yes yes	no no no	$\sigma_8, w_0, \Omega_b, \Omega_\Lambda$ $\Omega_m, \sigma_8$ $M_V, \Omega_m, A_S$	3 2 32%, 13%, 57%		4000 deg <sup>2</sup> , 100 arcmin <sup>-2</sup> Euclid LSST	Takada+ 2005 Bergé+ 2010 Coulton+ 2019
<b>MF</b>	yes no yes yes	no photo-z, m, c no IA, photo-z, m	$\Omega_m, \sigma_8, w_0$ $\Omega_m, \sigma_8$ $M_V, \Omega_m, A_S$ $\Omega_m, \sigma_8$	11%, 14%, 14% 4 4.2	biased (syst.)	LSST CFHTLenS LSST DES	Kratochvil+ 2012 Petri+2015 Marques+2018 Zürcher+ 2021
<b>Moments</b>	no yes yes	photo-z, m, c m, c bar, IA, photo-z, m	$\Omega_m, \sigma_8$ $\Omega_m, \sigma_8$ $S_8$	2 20%	> 2PCF	CFHTLenS 3500 deg <sup>2</sup> , 27 arcmin <sup>-2</sup> DES-Y3	Petri+ 2015 Vicinanza+ 2018 Gatti+ 2019
<b>Peaks</b>	yes yes no yes yes yes	photo-z, m, c photo-z, m, c m, c, IA, boost, photo-z m, c, IA, photo-z, bar no no	$\Omega_m, \sigma_8$ $\Omega_m, \sigma_8$ $\Omega_m, \sigma_8$ $S_8$ $M_V, \Omega_m, A_S$ $M_V, \Omega_m, A_S$	39%, 32%, 60% 63%, 40%, 72%	~ 2PCF > 2PCF (2) ~ 2PCF > 2PCF (20%)	CS82 CFHTLenS DES-Y1 KiDS-450 LSST Euclid	Liu X.+ 2015 Liu, J.+ 2015 Kacprzak+ 2016 Martinet+ 2017 Li Z.+ 2018 Ajami+ 2020
<b>Minima Minima+Peaks Voids 1D <math>M_{\text{ap}}</math></b>	yes yes no yes	IA, photo-z, m bar no no	$\Omega_m, \sigma_8$ $M_V, \Omega_m, A_S$ $\Omega_m, S_8, h, w_0$ $\Omega_m, S_8, w_0$	2.8 44%, 11%, 63% ≥ 2PCF 57%, 46%, 68%		DE LSST LSST Euclid	Zürcher+ 2021 Coulton+ 2020 Davies+ 2020 Martinet+2020
<b>M. Learning</b>	no no yes	no no photo-z, m, c, IA	$\Omega_m, \sigma_8$ $\Omega_m, \sigma_8$ $S_8$	5 ~45% (dep. noise)	> 2PCF (30%)	3500 deg <sup>2</sup> , no noise KiDS-450 KiDS-450	Gupta+ 2018 Fluri 2018 Fluri 2019
<b>Scattering T. Starlet <math>\ell_1</math>- norm</b>	yes yes	no no	$M_V, \Omega_m, w_0$ $M_V, \Omega_m, A_S$	40%, > 2PCF 72%, 60%, 75%		LSST Euclid	Cheng S.+ 2021 Ajami+ 2021

# Summary of part I

Lensing deflection depends on distance geometry and mass distribution

We can use Galaxy ellipticities to estimate the gravitational shear signal, but we need an ensemble of galaxies

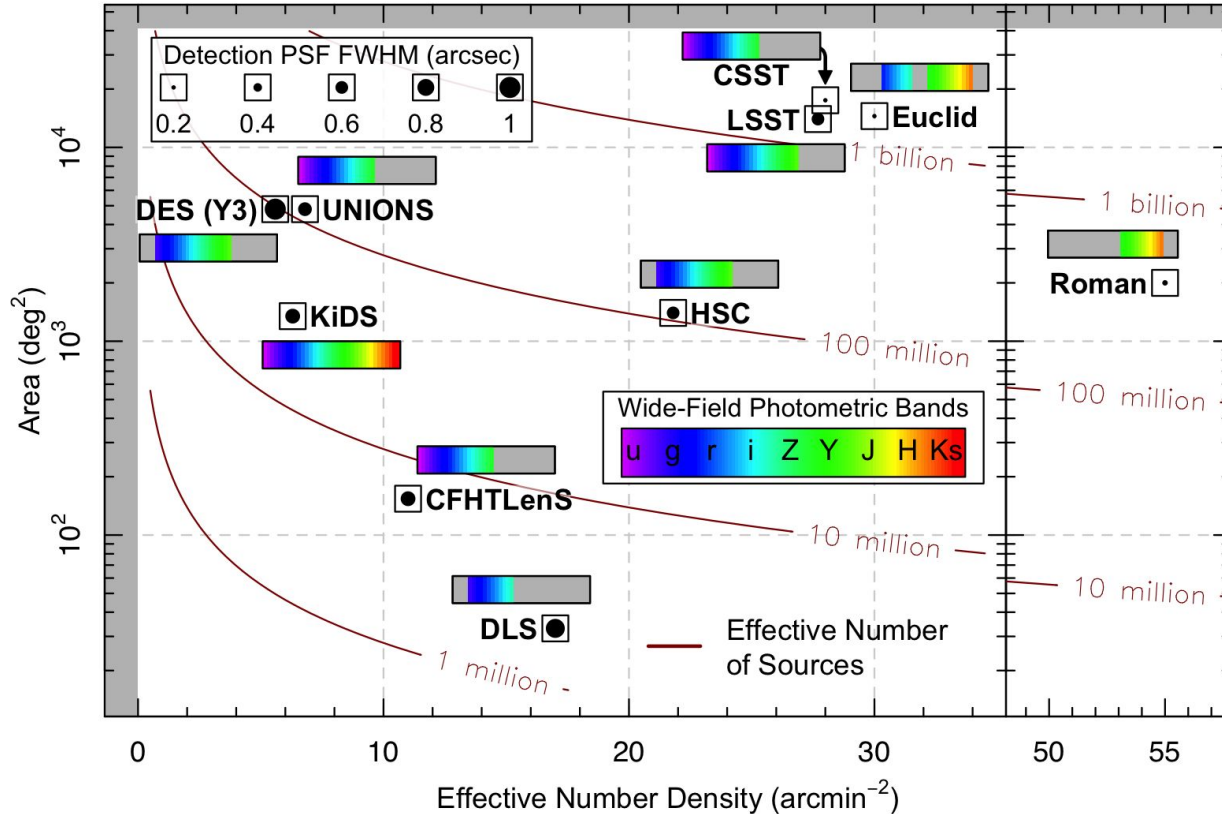
To constrain cosmology we can use

1. Weak lensing around clusters to calibrate cluster masses
2. Weak lensing around galaxies
3. Weak lensing of large scale structure

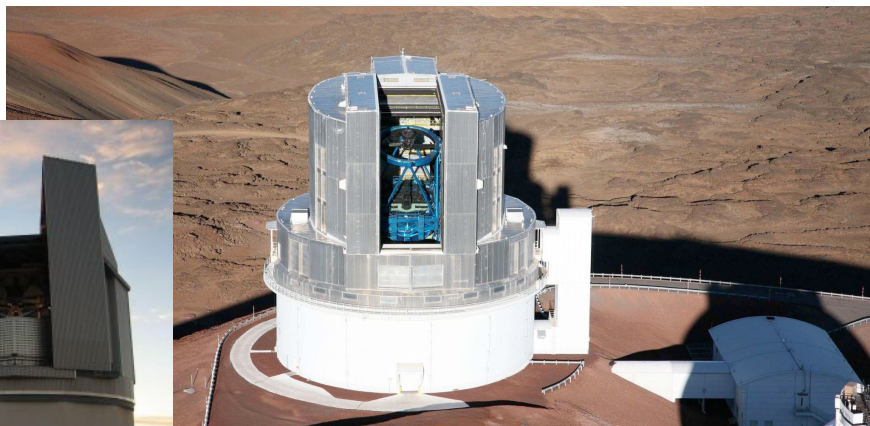
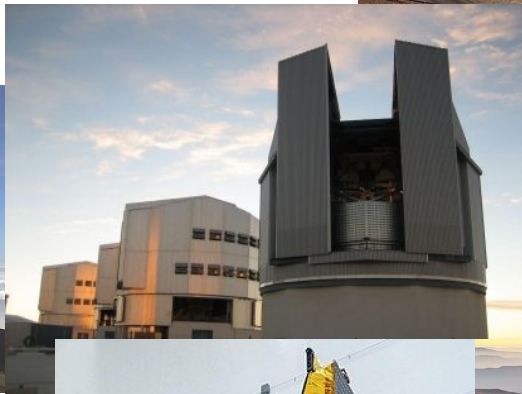
# Part II

Making the catalogs

# We need to measure many galaxy shapes and distances



# Wide field telescopes



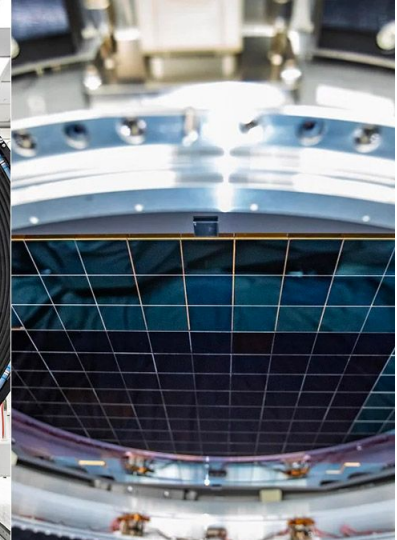
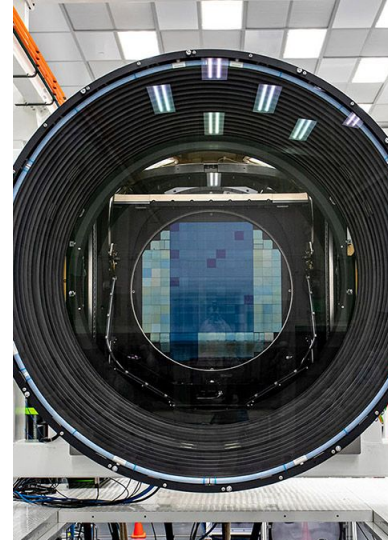
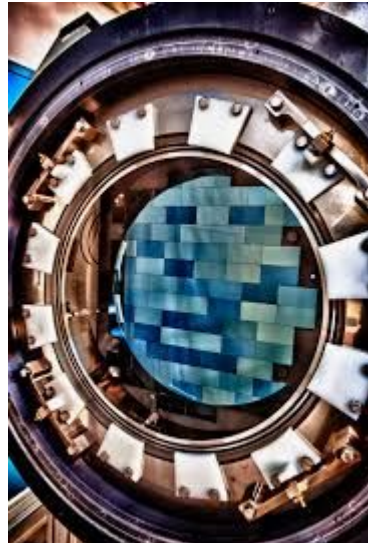
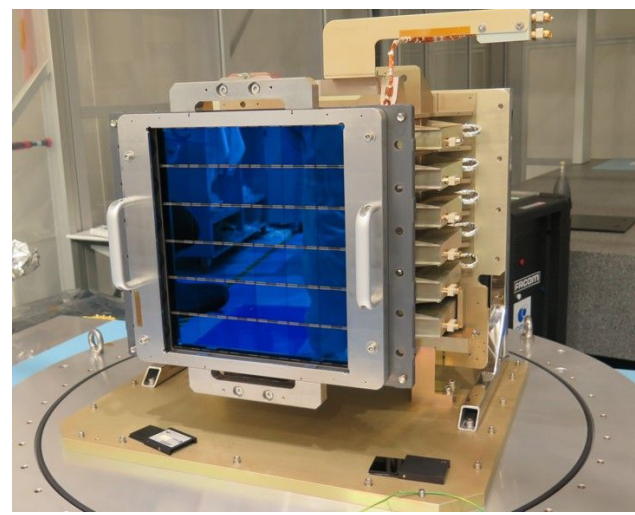
# Multi-Chip CCD Camera

With a huge FOV, readout causes problems

Increased noise

Takes a lot of time

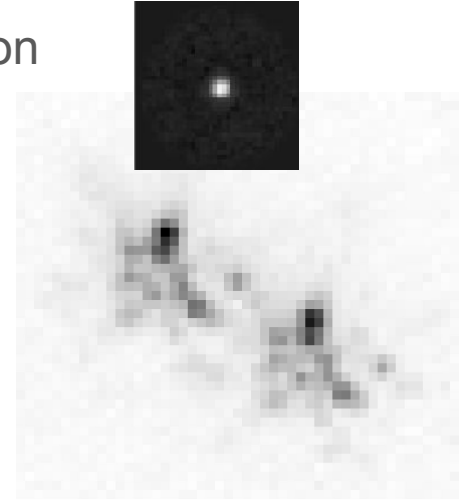
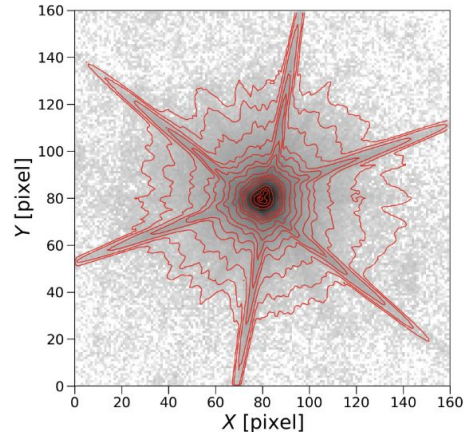
→ Break into multiple chips ~ 8-16 Mpixels each



# Good Observing Conditions

Galaxy shape is convolved with instrument point spread function

- On the ground, this depends on the atmosphere (seeing)
  - Turbulence in the atmosphere causes stars to “twinkle”
  - Mitigate with high altitude, dry areas, dark nights with no moon
  - (Figure: short exposure of a binary star)
  - Typical size 0.6-1 arcsec
  -
- In space, we are diffraction limited
  - PSF is smaller and more stable
  - Typical size 0.1 arcsec
  - PSF is very complicated



# Lensing Survey Telescopes and Cameras

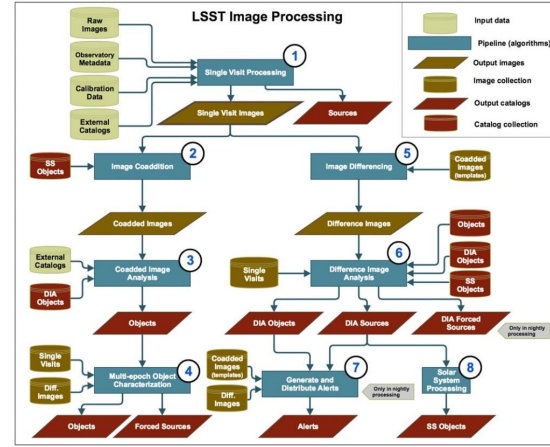
<b>Telescope</b>	<b>Mirror diameter (m)</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Camera</b>	<b>Chips</b>	<b>FOV (sq. deg)</b>
Euclid	1.2	L2, space	VIS	36	0.56
VST	2.6	Cerro Paranal, Chile	OmegaCam	32	1
CFHT	3.6	Mauna Kea, Hawaii	MegaCam	40	1
Victor Blanco	4	Cerro Tololo, Chile	DECam	62	2.2
Subaru	8.2	Mauna Kea, Hawaii	Hyper SuprimeCam	104	1.8
Vera Rubin	8.4	Cerro Pachon, Chile	LSSTCam	189	9.6

# Computing Power

We need to process terabytes of image data (Rubin: 20 Tb per night, 80Pb in total)

EUCLID: CC-IN2P3 (France), AMONRA (Italy), ++

Rubin: NERSC (USA), CC-IN2P3 (France), LIneA (Brazil), ++

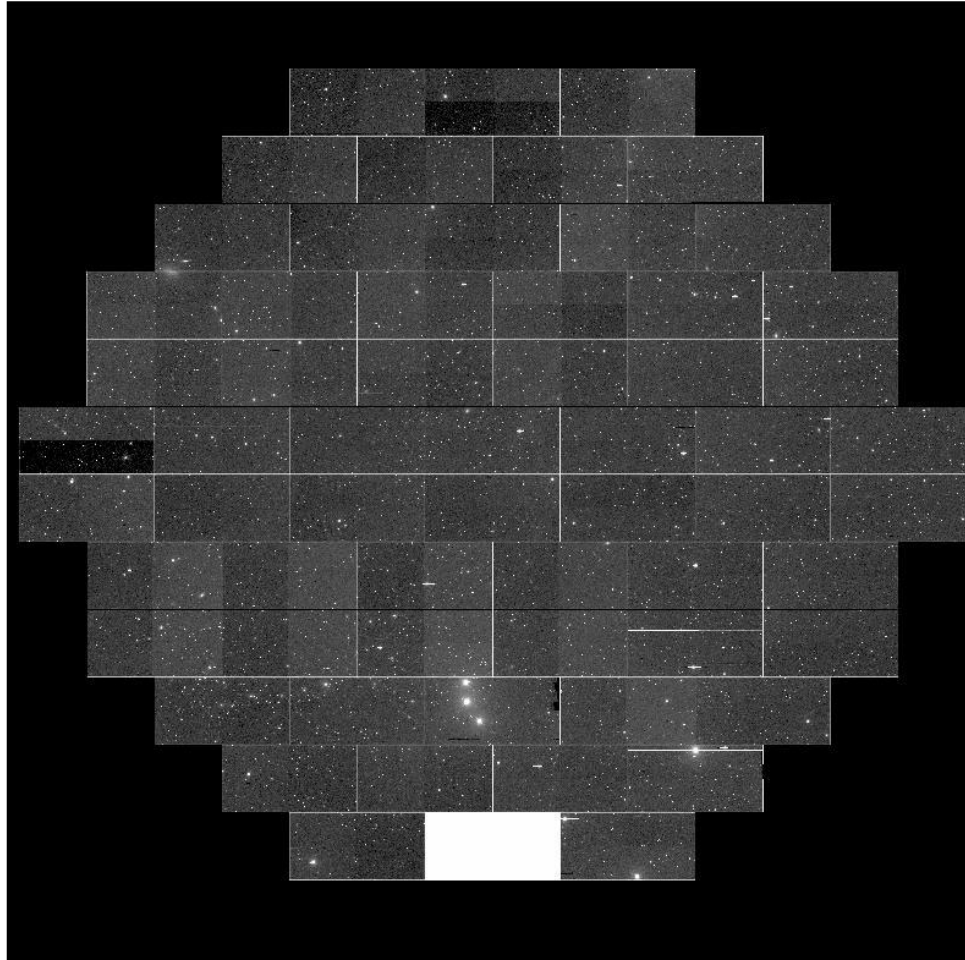
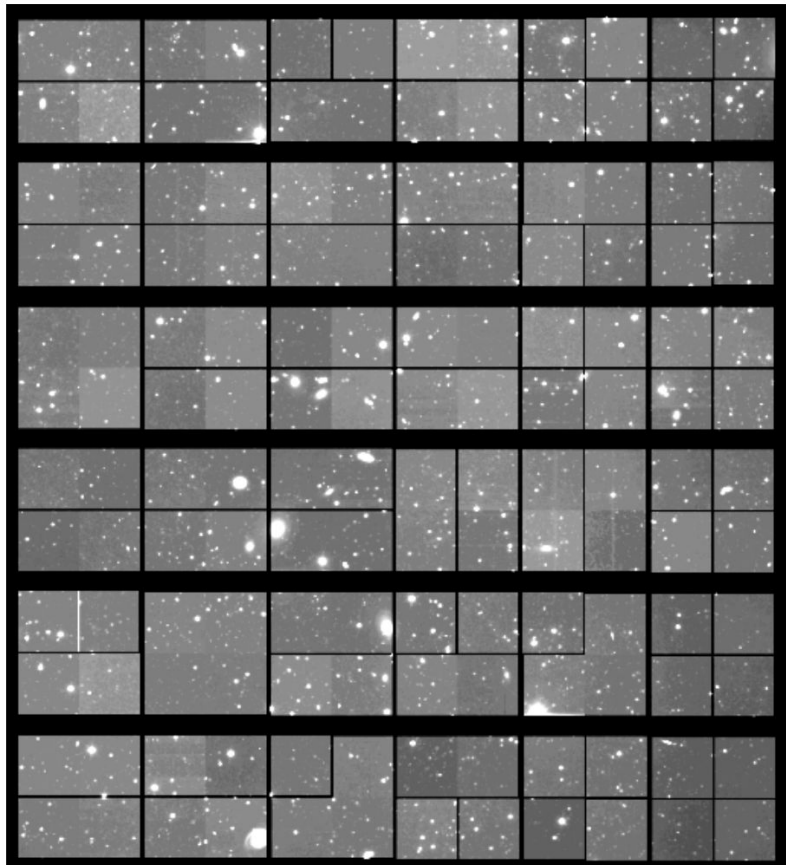


# Pixel level processing

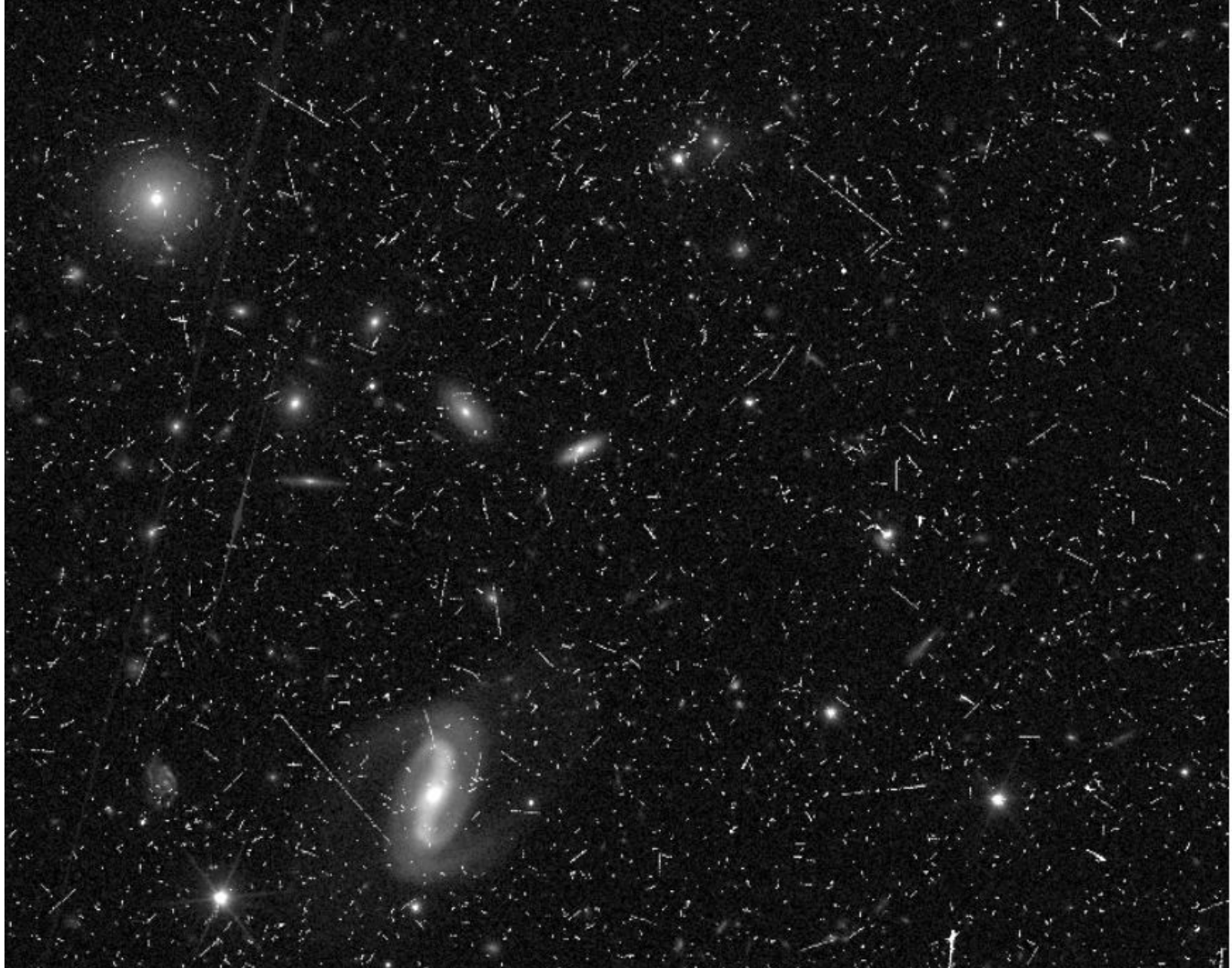
Ideal image:

- equal-sized pixels with linear response
- pixels are independent
- PSF (Point Spread Function) independent of object's flux
- only image astronomical sources of interest
- Pixels are on consistent flux scale in all ccds

# Real images



Real Images



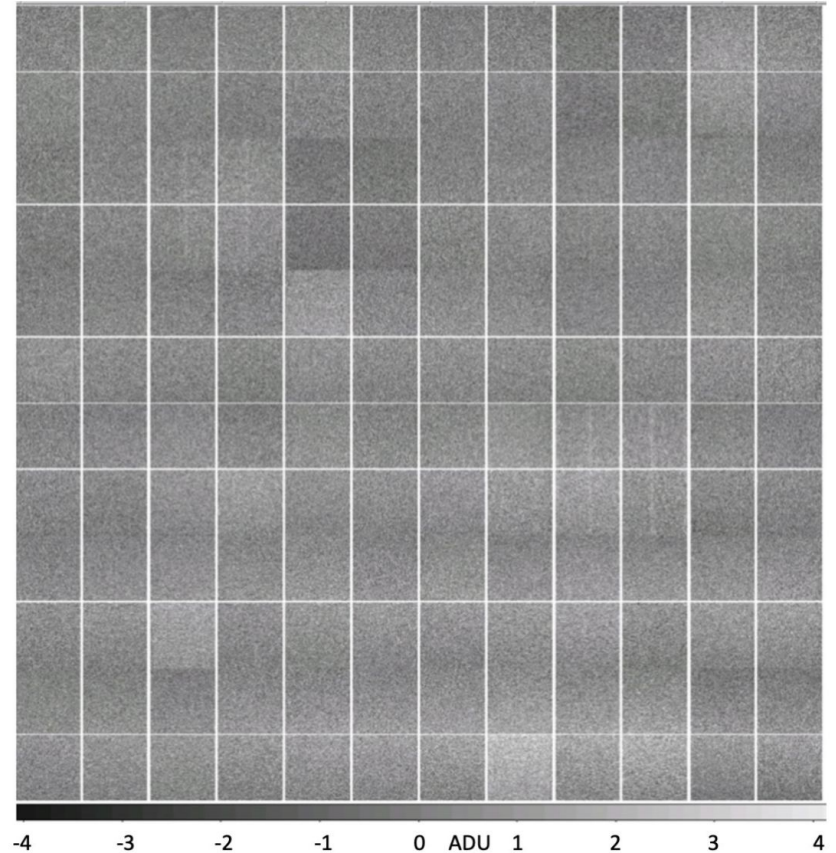
# Bias

CCDs have a voltage offset

Take zero-second exposure to remove  
inherent sensor noise

“Readout noise”

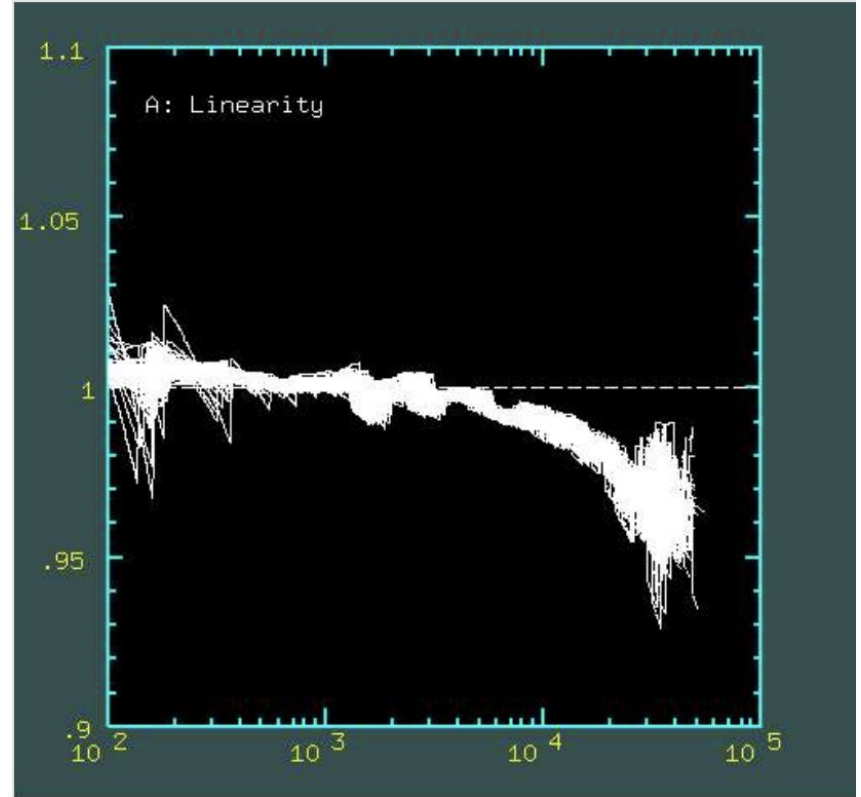
Bias frame from VIS



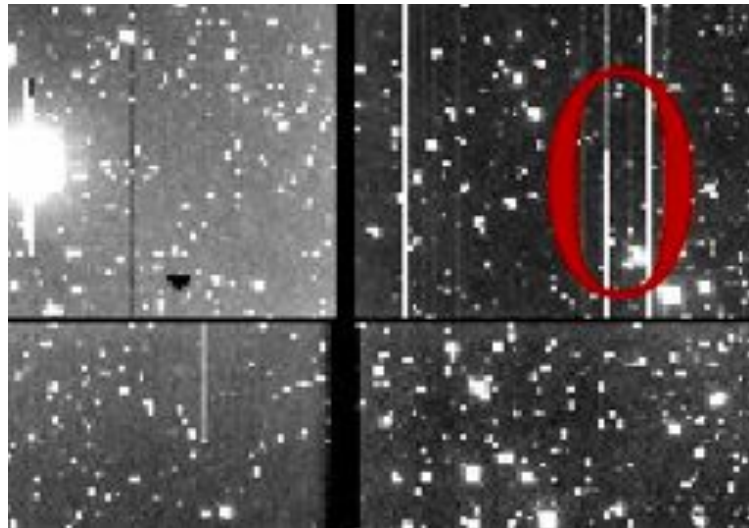
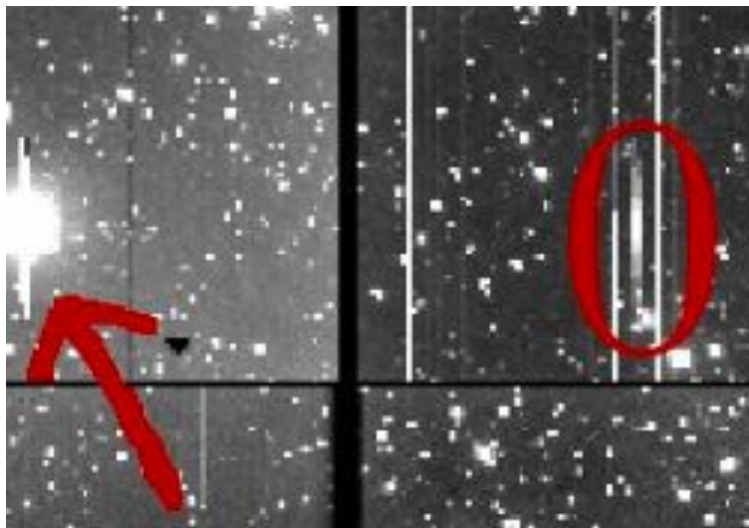
# Non-linearity

Counts should be proportional to photons for image to be calibrate-able

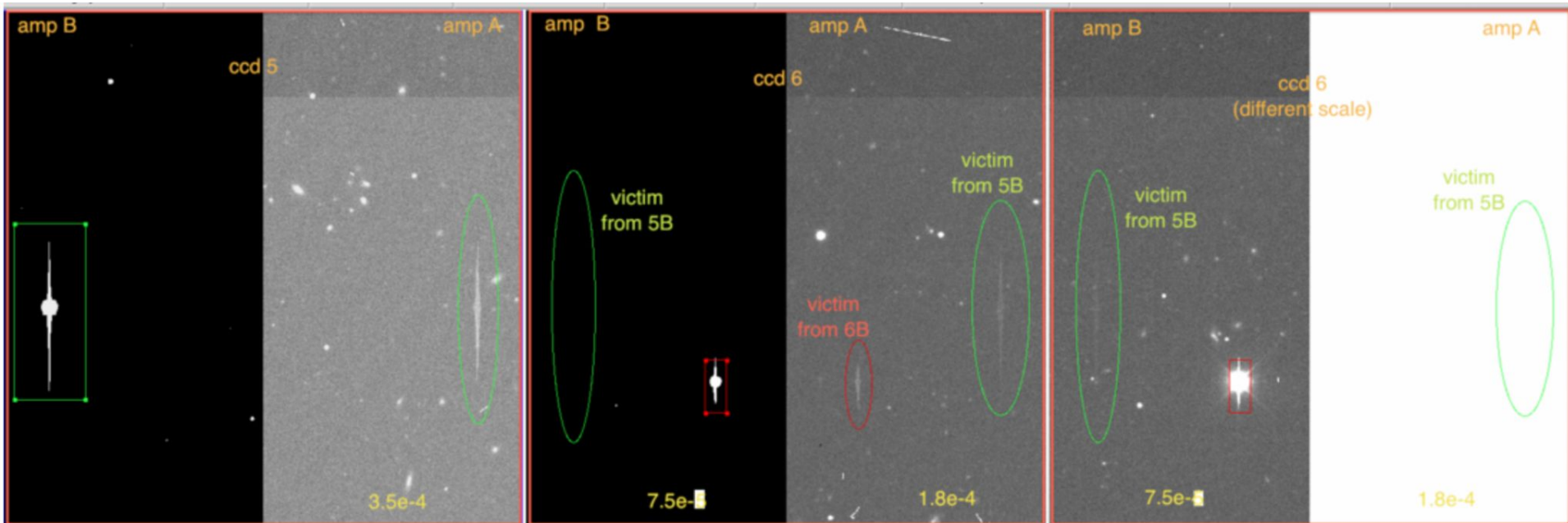
Calibrate by taking exposures of a uniform screen for an increasing amount of time



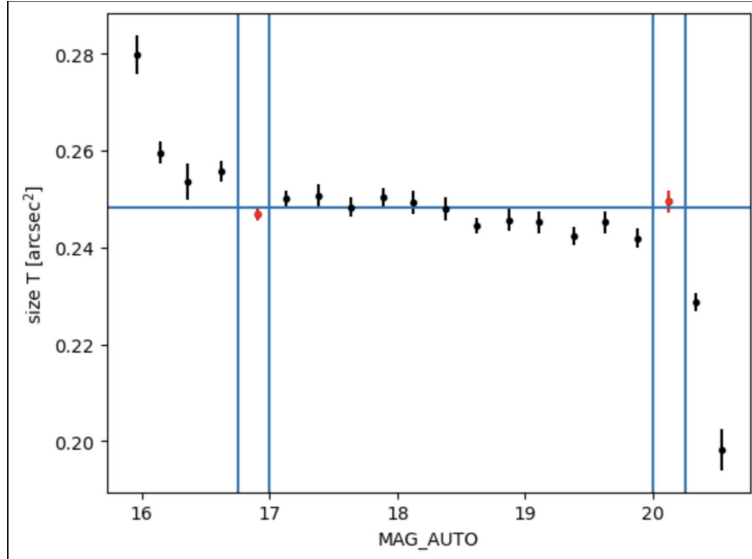
# Crosstalk



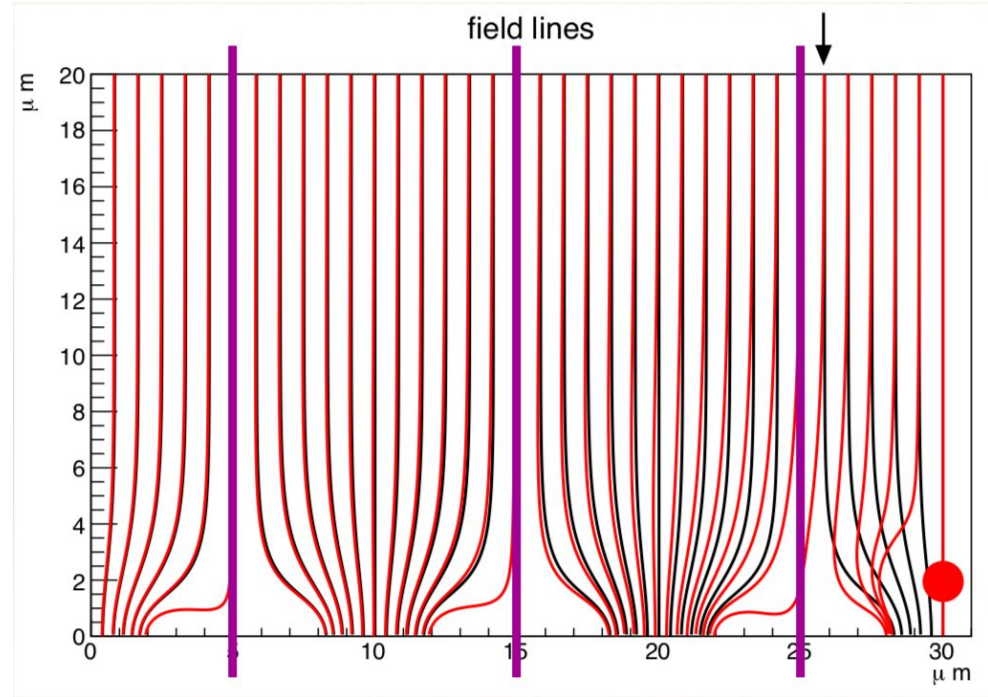
# More Crosstalk



# Brighter fatter effect



Want to measure psf from stars, but psf slightly depends on magnitude

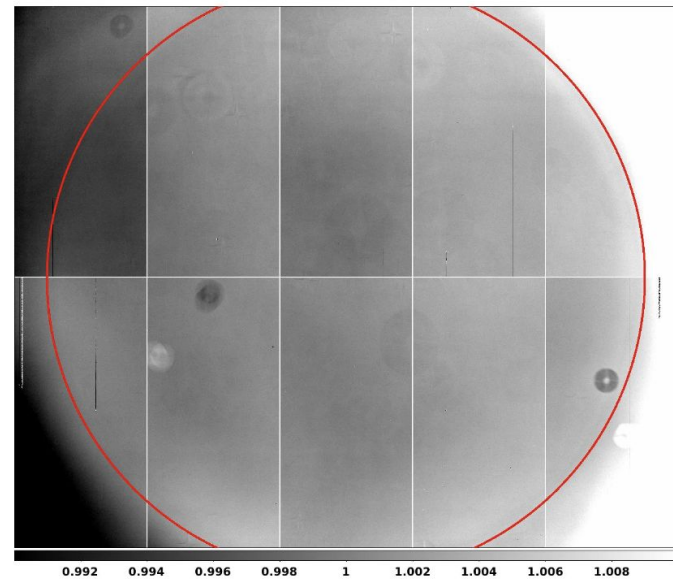


Von der Linden 2012

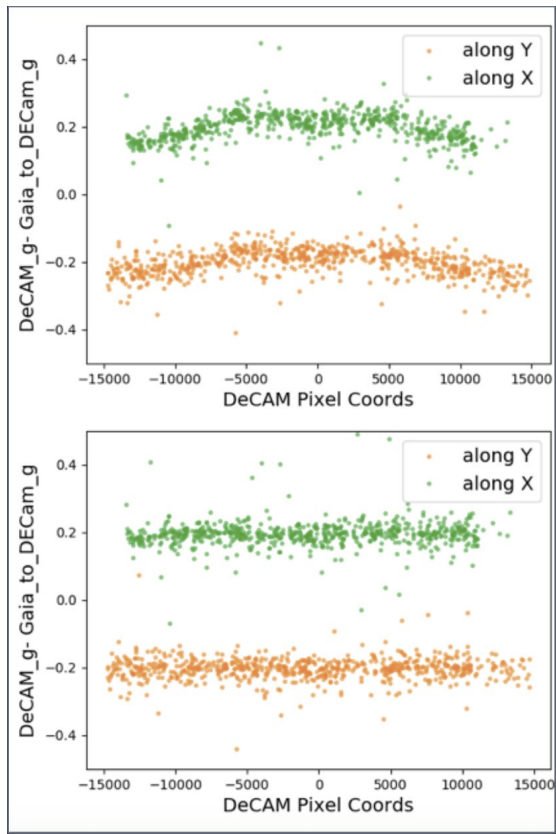
# Flat Field

Pixels have different responses- we need to normalize them to the same level

Divide by “domeflat”

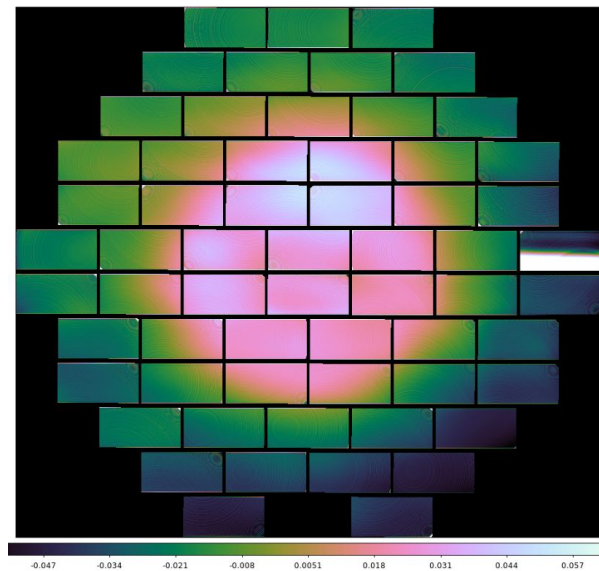


# Starflat



- ~10% correction across focal plane
- does not assume uniform pixel size
- response to focused starlight, not scattered light

Take dithered exposures and ensure the same star has the same flux anywhere on the focal plane



# Sky Subtraction

Large-scale variations across focal plane are removed and produce a background mean of zero

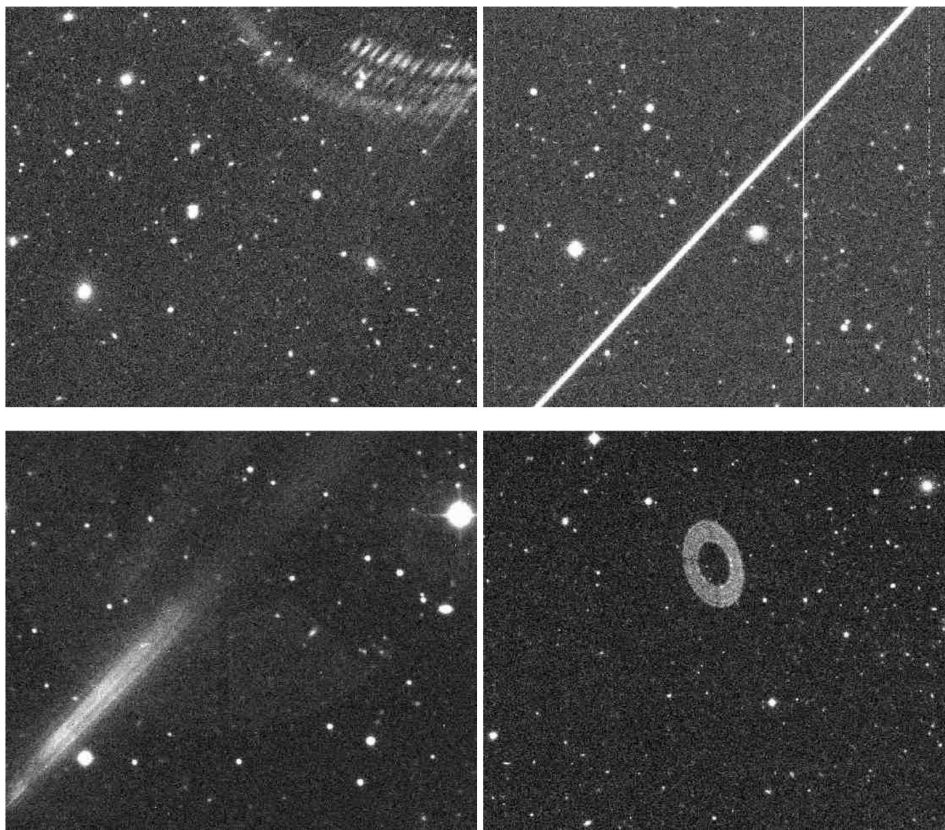
**What is sky background:** light in the image even where no sources are present

*Ground based-* light diffusion from the atmosphere “airglow”, scattered moonlight and starlight

*Space based-* scattered starlight, zodiacal light

Why do we need sky subtraction?

# Masking

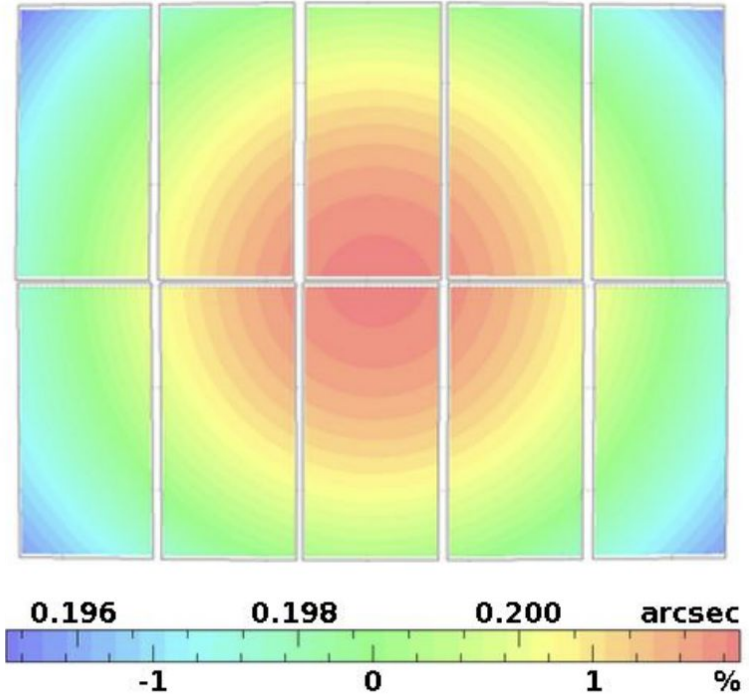


# Astrometric calibration

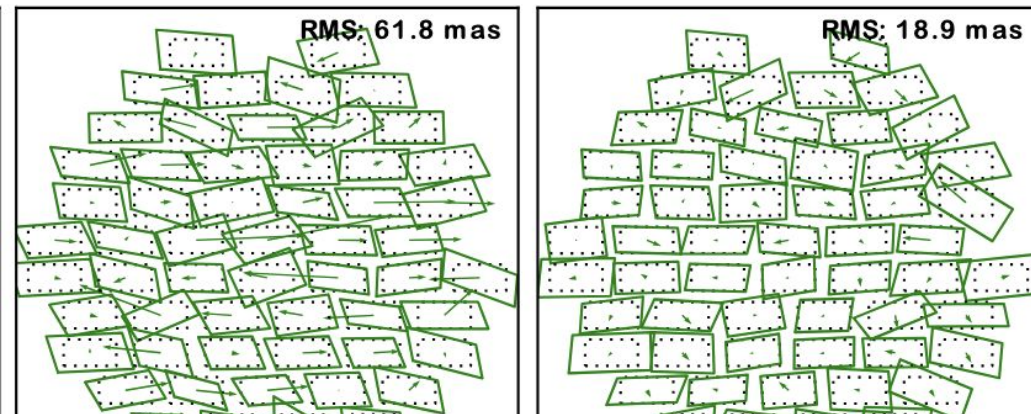
Astrometry: map from pixels to sky coordinates

Consistency in positions between images **and** with external data

Constrain model using stellar positions



Von der Linden 2012



# Photometric Calibration

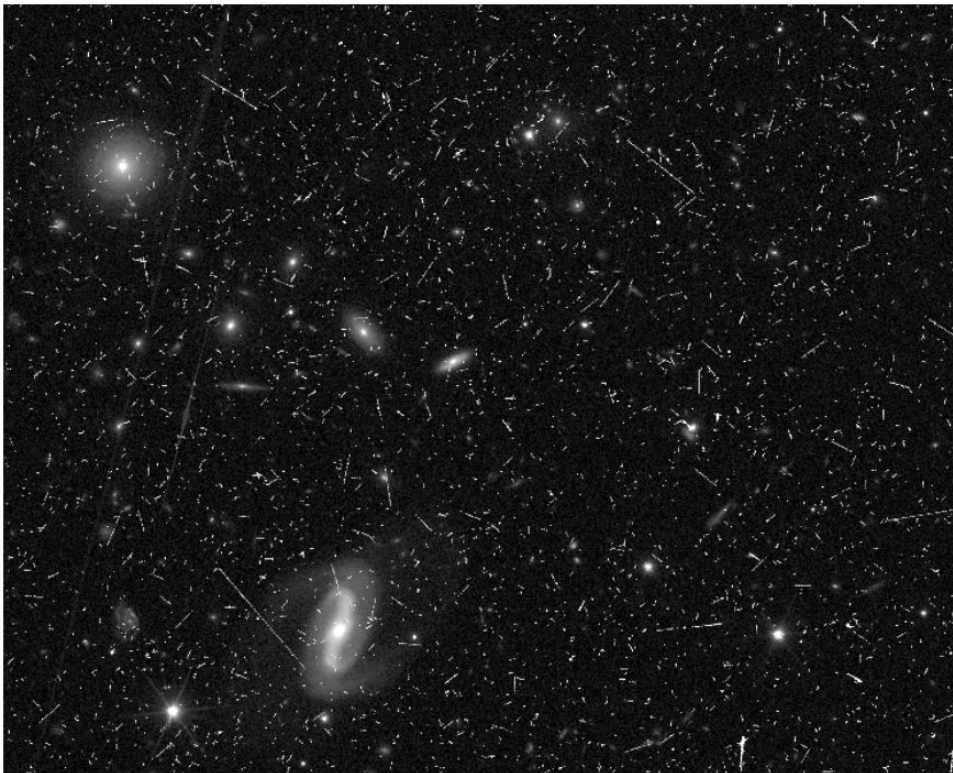
Mag =  $-2.5\log(\text{flux}) + \text{zero point}$

Kinds of photometric calibration

1. Relative calibration between exposures
2. Color calibration between different filters
3. Absolute flux calibration

Photometric calibration sets relative zero points across ccds and exposures

## Stacking (Coaddition)



One euclid VIS imag vs a stack of 42 images

# Stacking (Coaddition)

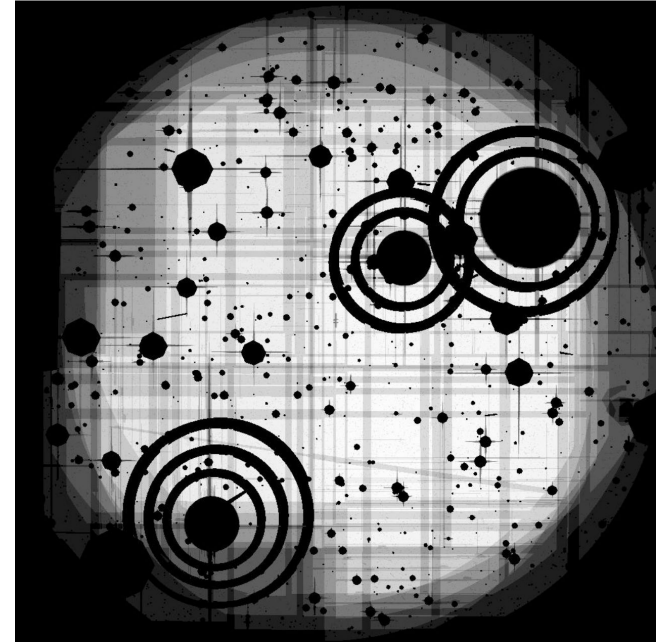
Resample pixels onto a common grid, then combine

Why stack?

- Cover chip gaps
- Increase SNR
- Remove transient objects (median stack)
- Save processing time measuring on coadd

Why not stack?

- Resampling correlates noise
- The psf will have discontinuities unless you make a cell-based coadd



Weight map of a stacked image

# How often do we need to calibrate?

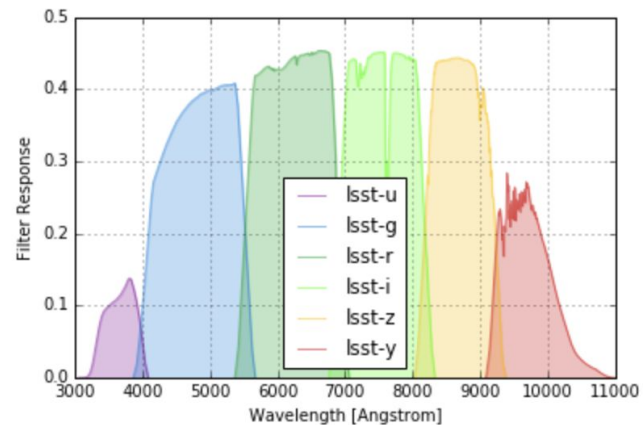
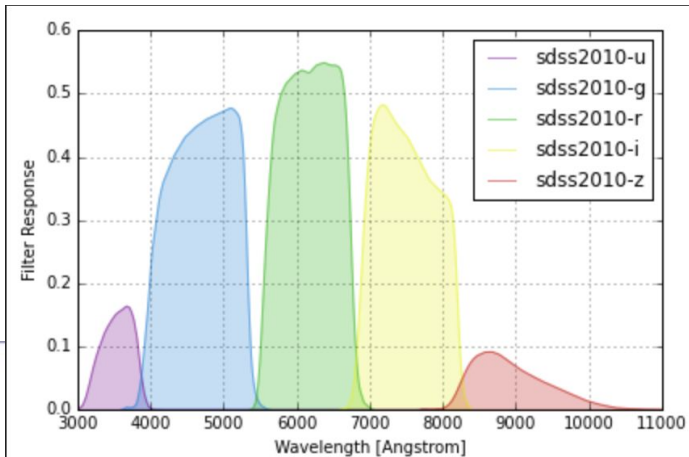
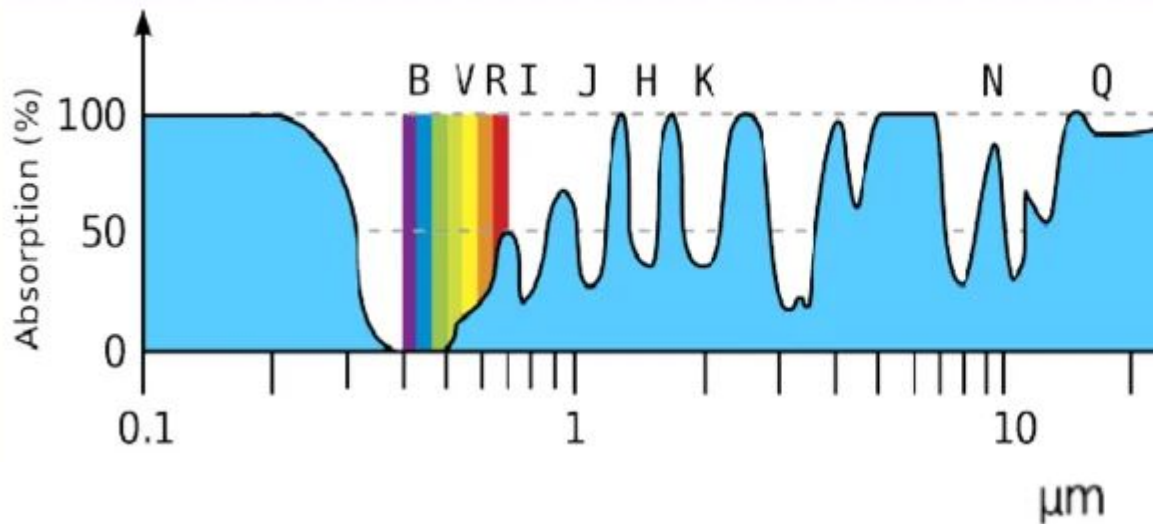
Some corrections are **static** (crosstalk, non-linearity, brighter-fatter)

Some corrections need to be recalibrated **whenever the camera is adjusted** on the instrument (starflat)

Domeflats are usually taken **every day**

Ground-based data is processed together in ~2 week chunks and flats and bias exposures are averaged over this period

# Bonus: Broadband photometric filters



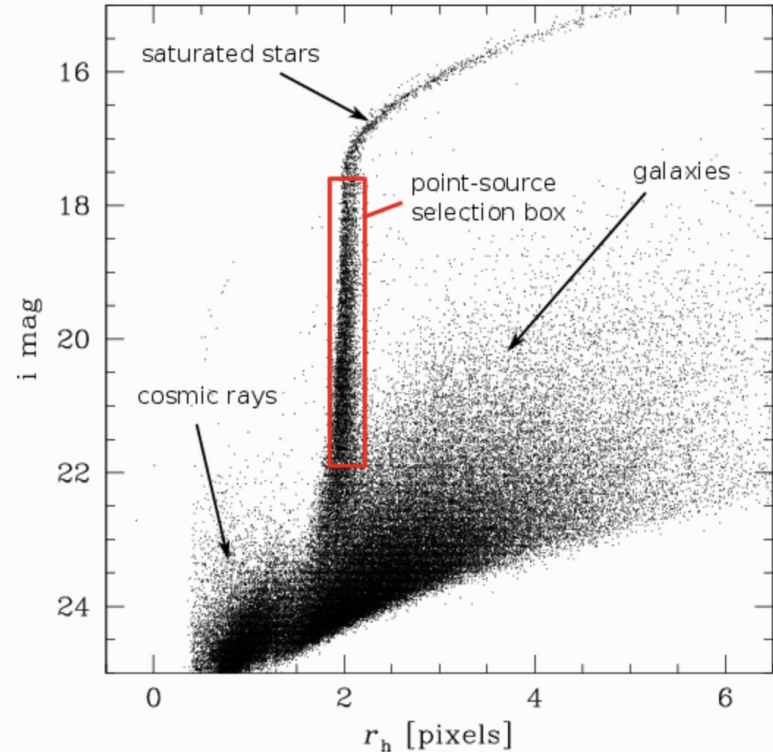
Finally, we can produce  
catalogs!

# Source Detection and Classification

Perform detection on deepest image

Often use SExtractor (Bertin 1996)

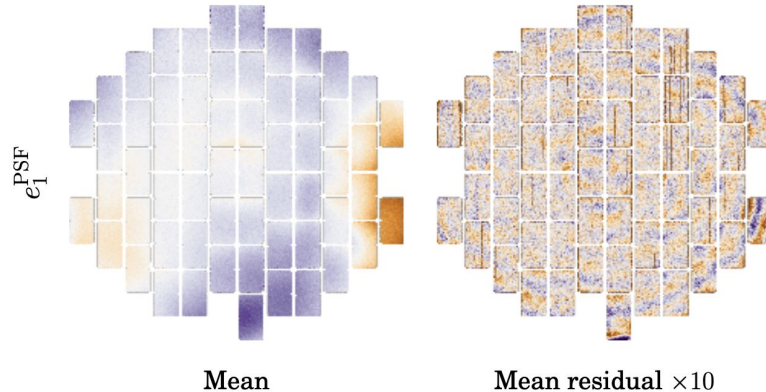
Using median image reduces detection of spurious objects



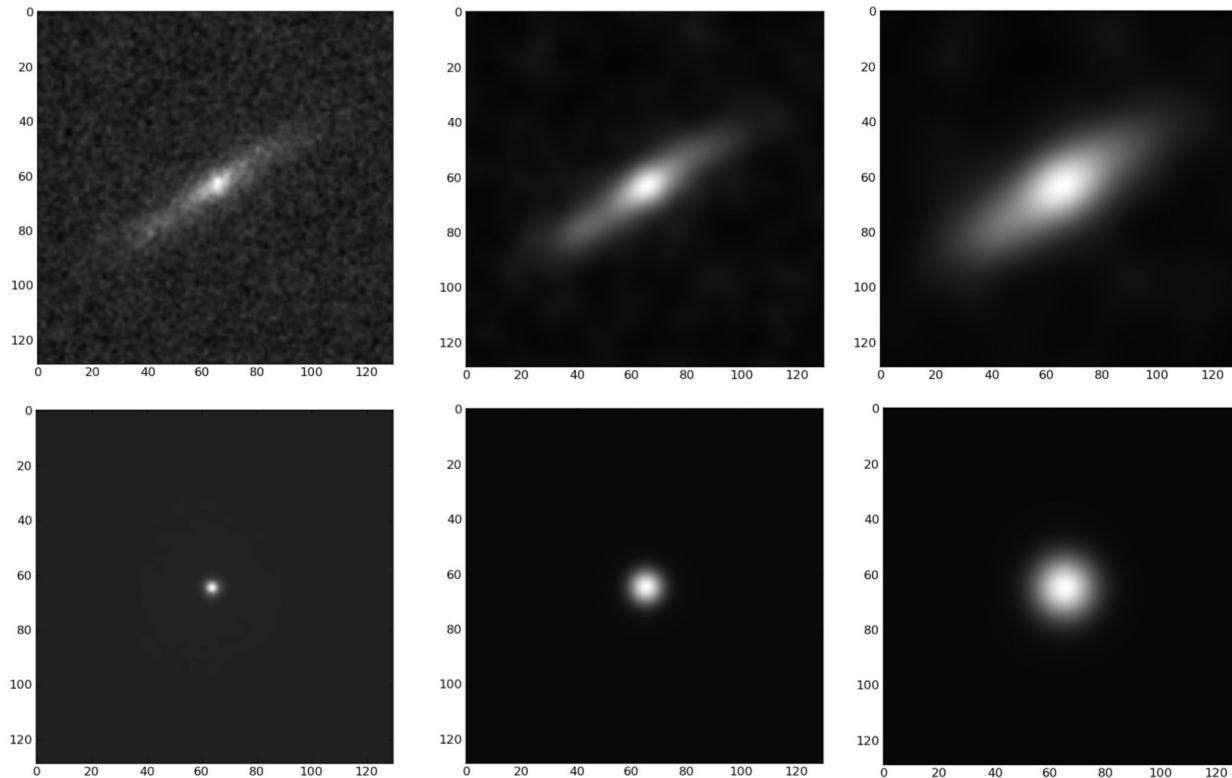
# Point Spread Function (PSF) Modeling

Image is convolved with the PSF, which comes from the instrument and atmosphere

- varies with position on the focal plane and time- fit per exposure
- Stars are point sources- use them to model PSF
- Select stars, measure psf and interpolate to get a model for the whole ccd



# How does psf affect shear estimation?



# How does psf affect shear estimation?

1. Blurring and rounding light profile
2. Imprint coherent shear that depends on psf shape
  - a. PSF size error can induce an multiplicative bias on the shear
  - b. PSF shape error can lead to additive bias

# Point Spread Function Modeling

Look at quality of interpolation

“Rho statistics”

$$\rho_1(\theta) \equiv \langle \delta e_{\text{PSF}}^*(\mathbf{x}) \delta e_{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\theta}) \rangle$$

$$\rho_2(\theta) \equiv \langle e_{\text{PSF}}^*(\mathbf{x}) \delta e_{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\theta}) \rangle$$

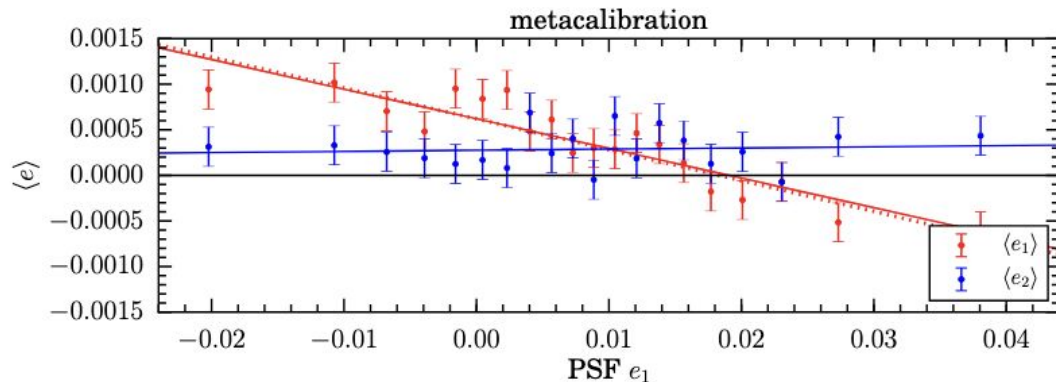
Look at psf contribution to shear

$$e_{\text{gal}} = e_{\text{true}} + \alpha e_{\text{PSF}} + c.$$

“PSF leakage”

Zuntz 2016

1. Derive additive correction from psf
2. Minimize this correction

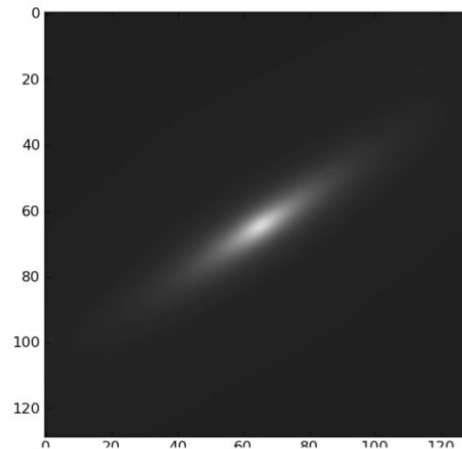
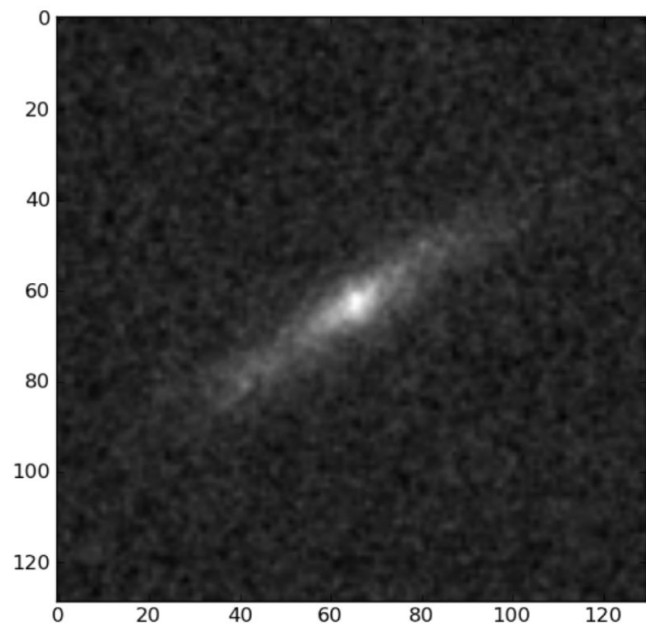


# Shape Measurement: Model fitting

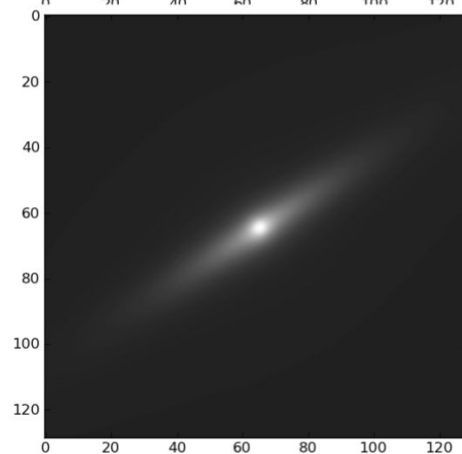
**Model fitting:** forward-modelling methods

- Generate parametric models of galaxy images  $g(x_1, x_2)$  (e.g. Gaussian, Sersic, bulge + disk)
- Get psf model from the data  $P(x_1, x_2)$
- Compare  $g(x_1, x_2) \otimes P(x_1, x_2)$  to data to fit galaxy parameters

# Example: HST i-band image



Model: Sersic  
Flux, n, shape,  
size, center  
→ 7 parameters



Model: 2 flux 2 size  
4 shape 4 centroid  
→ 12 parameters

# Shape measurement: Moments

What are moments?

Consider infinite SNR noise-free galaxy:

Zeroth moment: Flux

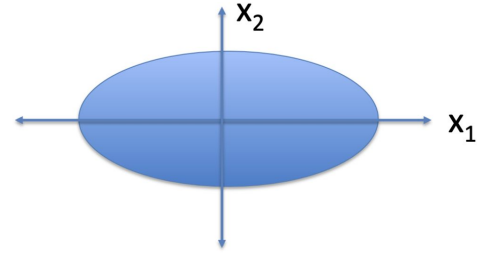
$$M_0 = \int I(x_1, x_2) dx_1 dx_2$$

First moment: Centroid

$$M_i = \int I(x_1, x_2) x_i dx_1 dx_2 / M_0$$

Second moment: Shape, size

$$M_{ij} = \int I(x_1, x_2) (x_i - M_i)(x_j - M_j) dx_1 dx_2 / M_0$$



# Shape measurement: Moments

Real galaxies have noise, and the moments will diverge unless we add a weight function!

**Moments:** inverse methods

- Choose a weight function
  - Use a crude size estimate for a circular gaussian
  - Use iterative process “adaptive moments”
- measure second-order moments on the image data
- apply corrections to compensate for the effects of the psf

What about this galaxy?



## **Shape is not a well defined property for realistic galaxies!**

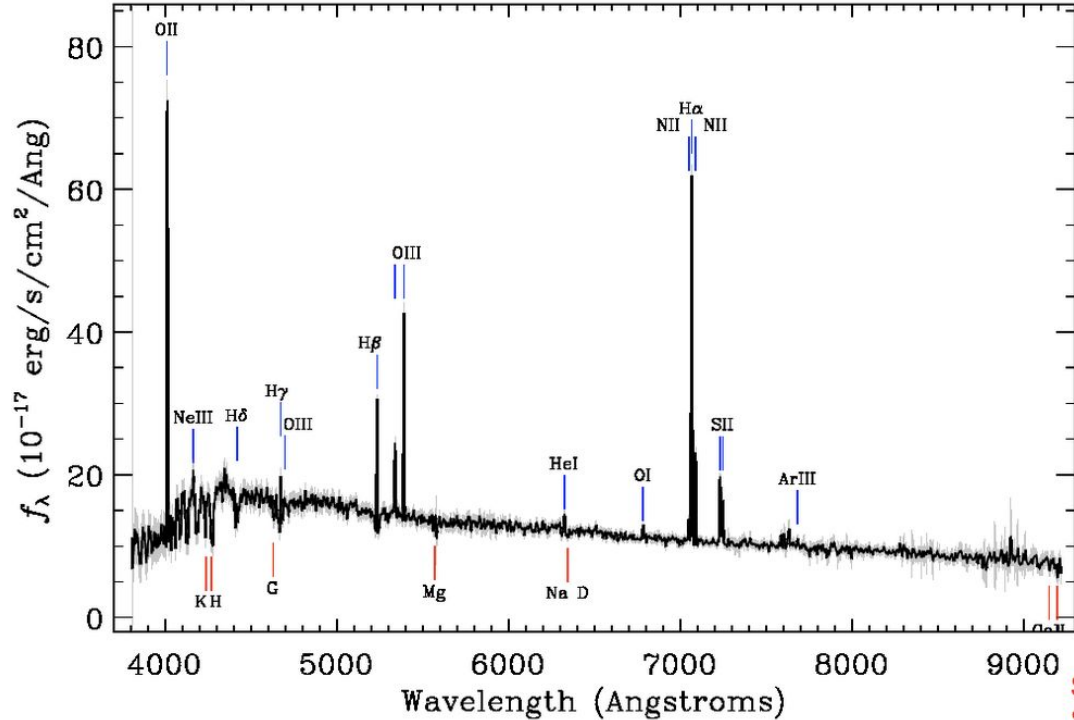
However, we just need ensemble statistics of estimator to have a well defined response to shear

Note: we cannot meaningfully compare shapes directly from two different estimators, we can only compare ensemble statistics

# How do we measure this galaxy's redshift?

Survey: *sdss* Program: *legacy* Target: *QSO\_SKIRT GALAXY*  
RA=178.22678, Dec=0.36534, Plate=284, Fiber=465, MJD=51943  
Class=GALAXY STARFORMING

No warnings.

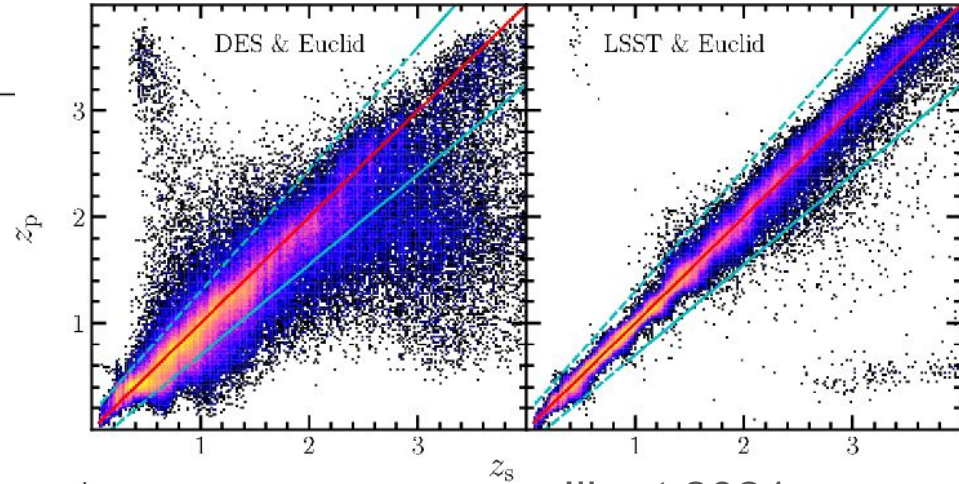
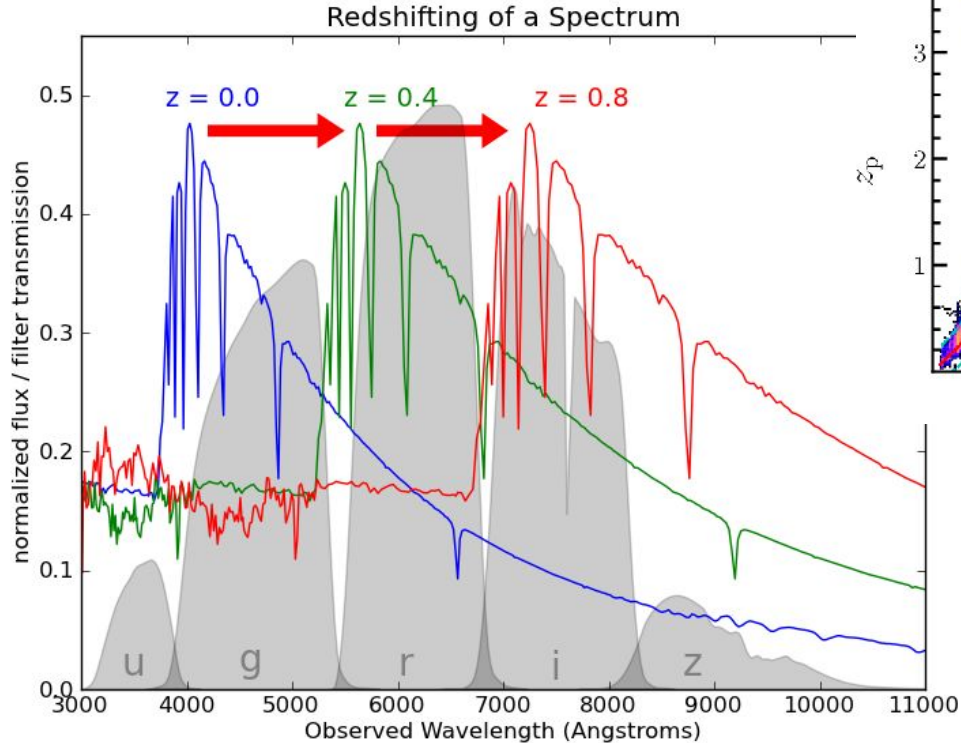


## Bad news:

Galaxies where we measure shapes tend to be faint- getting spectra for these is very expensive

It would take forever to get spectra of all galaxies for even a small weak lensing survey

# Measuring Redshifts: Photometric Redshifts



Ilbert 2021

Create ultra-low resolution spectra  
with broadband filters  
Much less information per galaxy  
but many more galaxies!

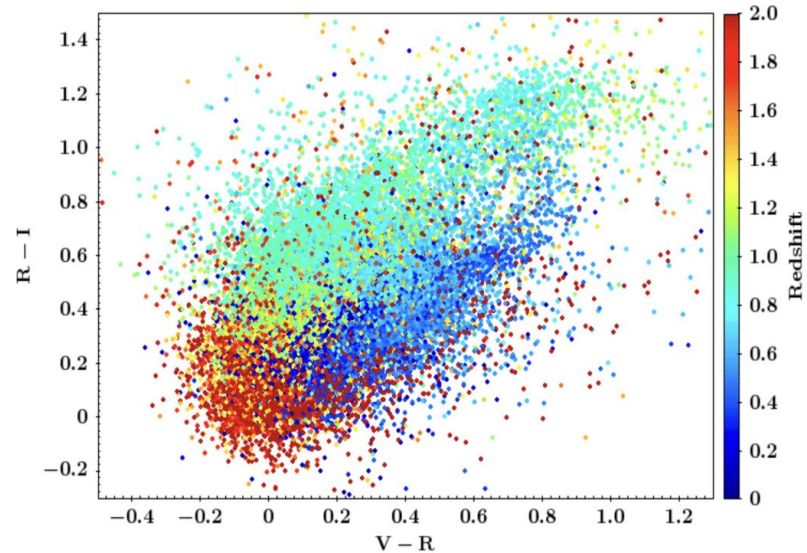
# Measure flux in broadband filters

**Aperture photometry:** Convolve to worst “seeing” or psf, measure in apertures

**Model fitting:** in analogy to shape measurement, but we need to jointly fit the model across bands to preserve galaxy colors

→ Colors correlate with redshifts

- Get photo-z from photometry with template fitting or ML



# Shear Calibration

Galaxy shapes are estimator dependent, we want to find gravitational shear

we want to measure response of **ensemble statistics** of a shape estimator to shear

$$g_i = (1 + m_i)g_i^{\text{tr}} + c_i$$

Two methods

1. Simulations: simulate galaxies, apply constant shear, and measure response of shape estimator
2. Apply external shear to the images directly and compute response: “metacalibration”

# Where does m-bias come from

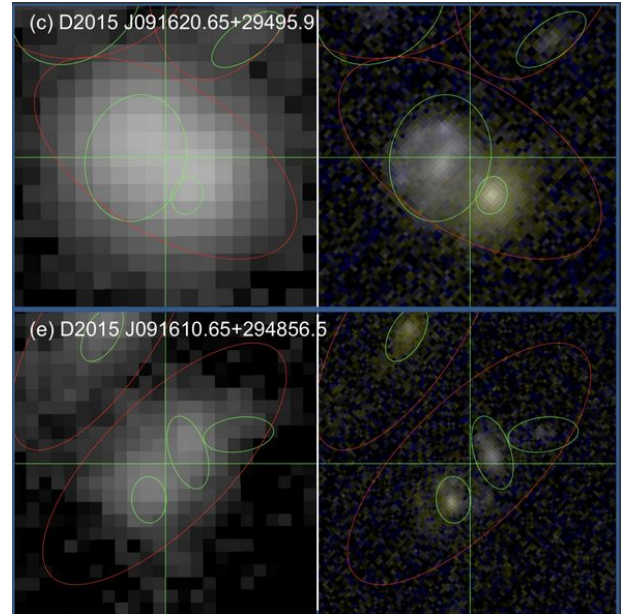
Model bias: model does not really fit galaxy

Noise Bias: Galaxy is pixelated

Blending

Selection effects: e.g. highly elliptical galaxies might not make snr threshold

PSF size errors

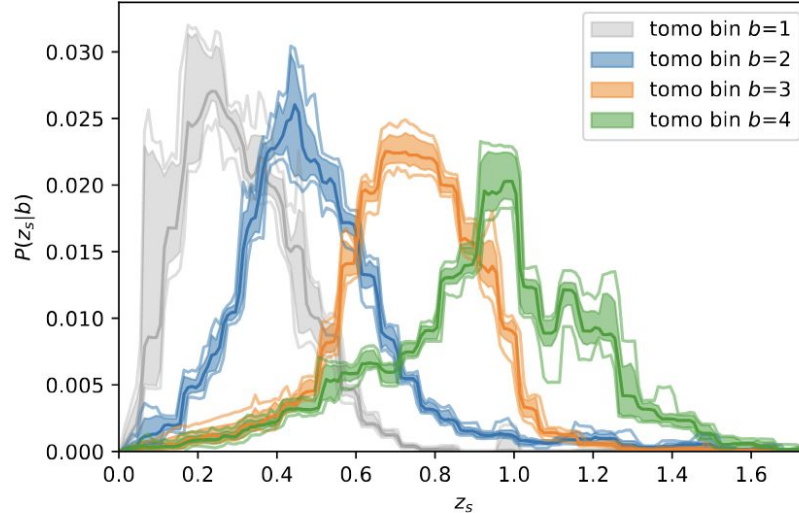


Dawson 2016

# Photo-z Calibration

Most weak lensing measurements do not care about individual photo-zs, only on the ensemble  $N(z)$

We can use spectroscopic redshifts to calibrate  $N(z)$



DES Y3  $N(z)$   
Grandis 24

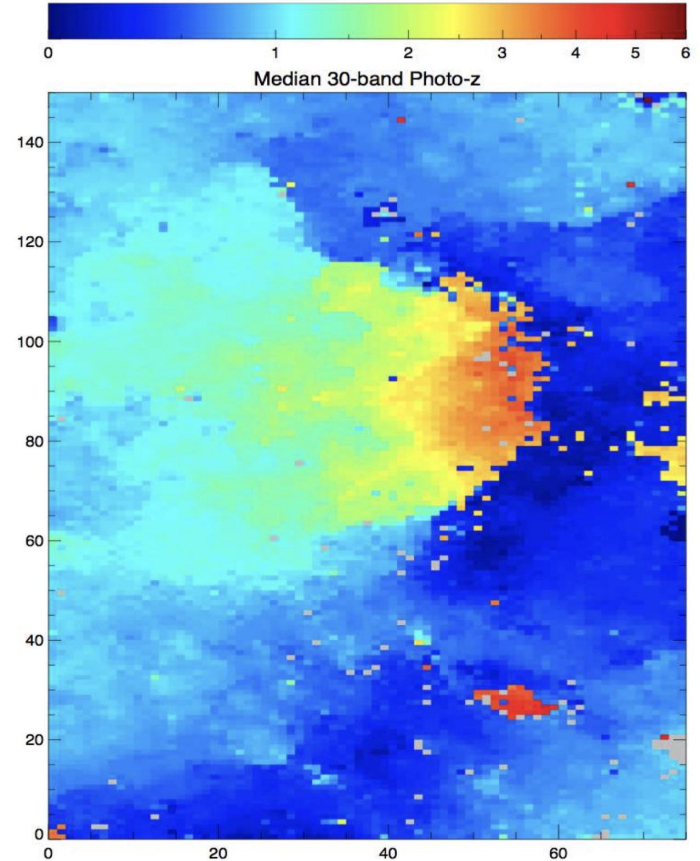
# Photo-z Calibration

Direct method:

Reweight spectroscopic sample to look like photometric sample

Som:

Map colors to spec-z in training sample, assign this redshift to test galaxies with this color



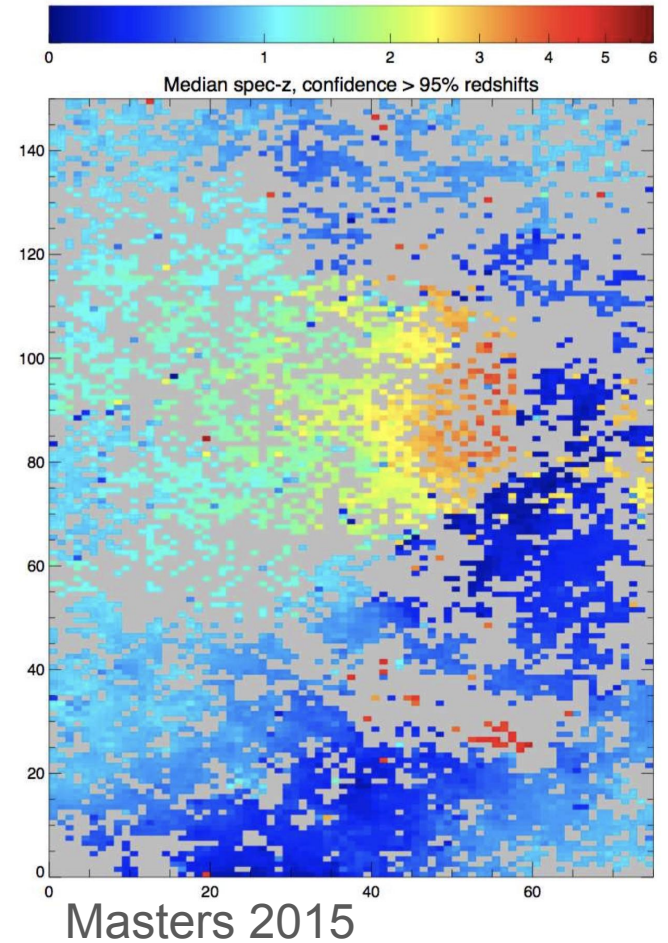
Masters 2015

# Photo-z Calibration

Problem: missing spec-z

Interpolating is dangerous- discontinuities in map!

SOM is okay for DES and KiDS, but Euclid and Rubin have many faint galaxies, where there are no spectra



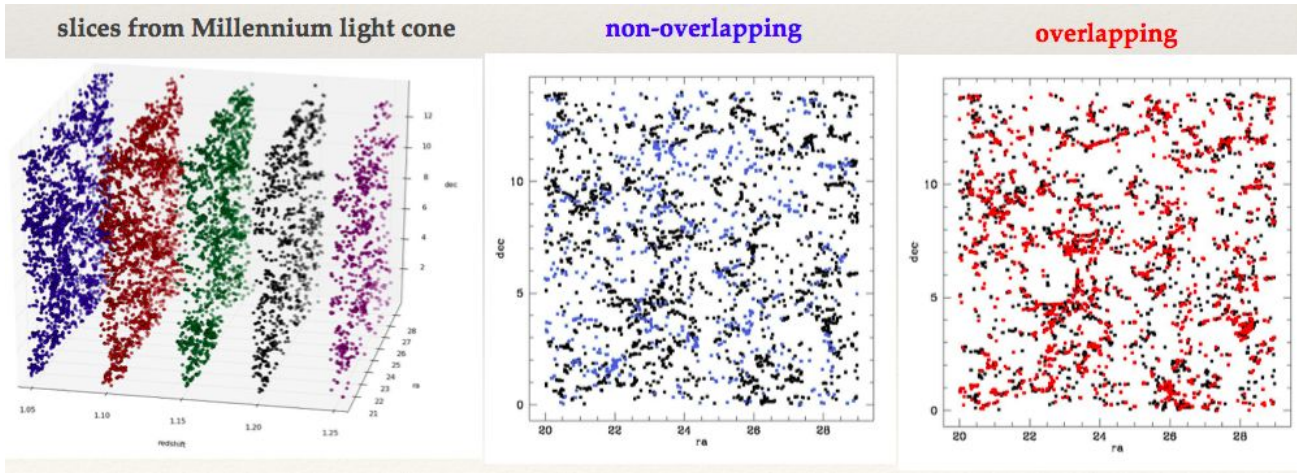
# Photo-z Calibration

Cross-correlation calibration: “clustering redshifts” or “clustering-z”

Use the fact that galaxies are embedded in shared LSS to recover their redshift distribution

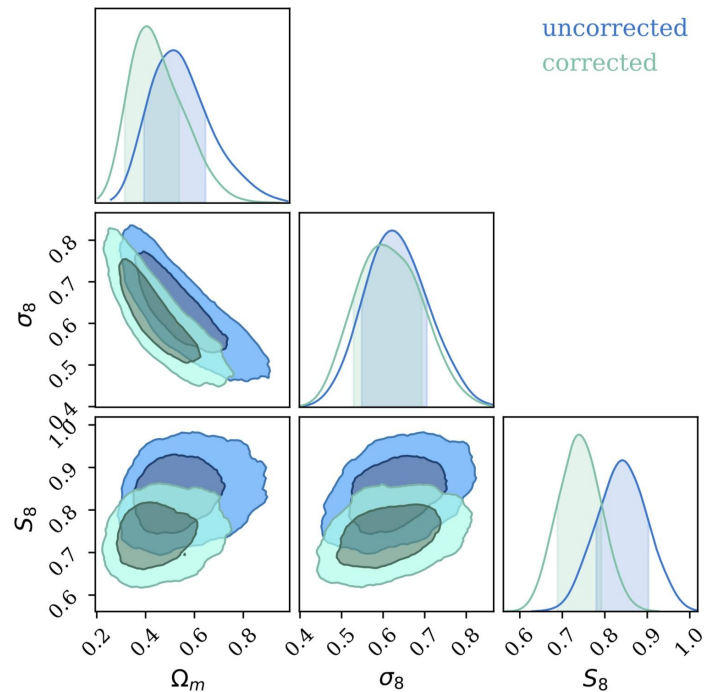
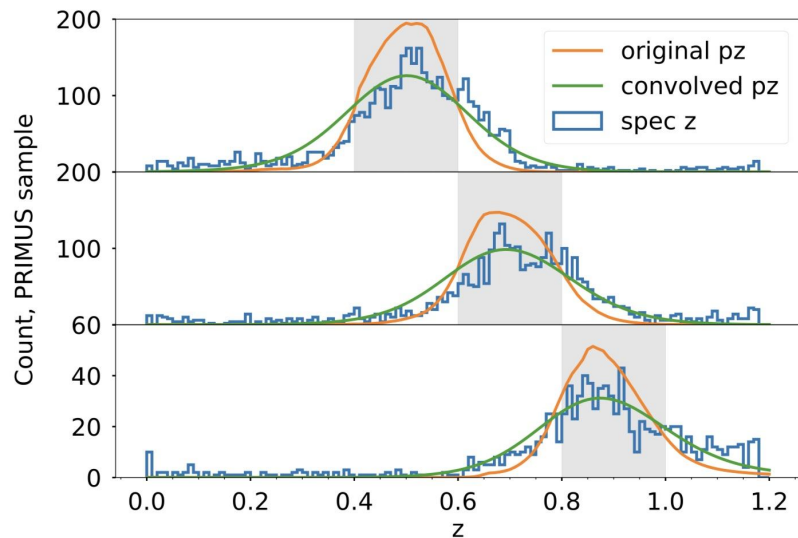
Cross correlate sample with known (specz) redshifts and unknown sample.

**Spec-z sample need not extend to faint magnitudes!** e.g. DESI, 4MOST



# Photo-z Calibration

Hasan et al 2021: Deep Lens- small shifts in mean and width of  $N(z)$  change contours!



# Part IV

## Modeling Choices

# Intrinsic Alignment

$$\langle \epsilon \rangle = g \longrightarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{Assume } \langle \epsilon^{\text{orig}} \rangle = 0 \\ \text{Otherwise, model } \textit{intrinsic alignment} \end{array}$$

galaxies are subjected to tidal fields generated by their large-scale environment during formation and evolution

Models are often created for specific scales and galaxy type (spiral and elliptical)

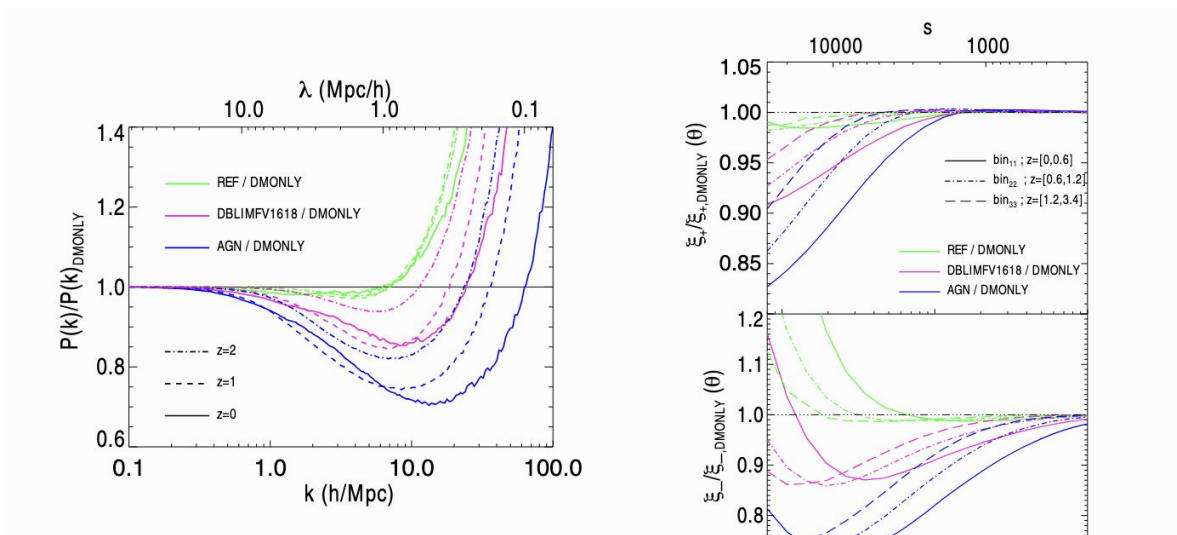
Good consistency test is to split sample into red and blue galaxies

# Baryons

Universe is more than just dark matter!

Cosmological scale hydro sims are difficult, and the results depend on the prescription used

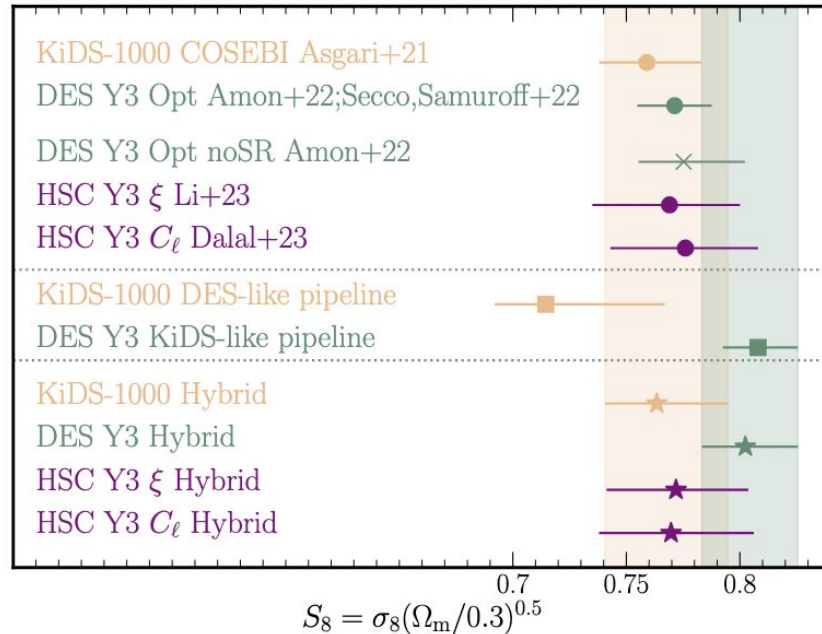
Semi-analytical “Baryonification models” parameterize baryonic effects on n-body predictions



# Consequence of modeling problems:

DES and KiDS exchanged data and ran their cosmology pipeline with their respective modeling choices

arxiv:2305.17173



# Part V

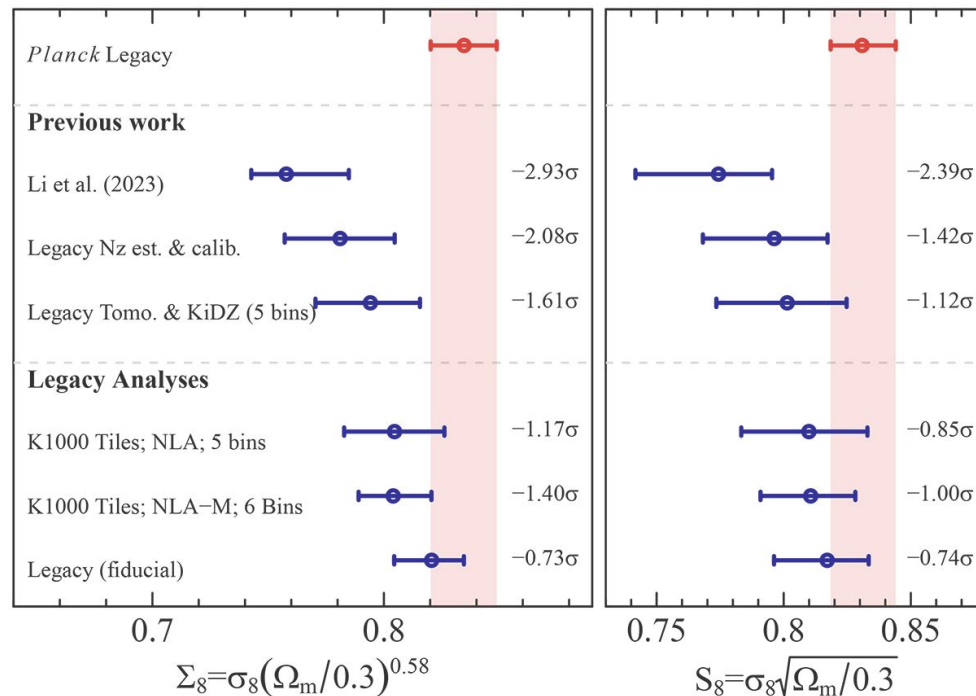
## Contours!

Disclaimer: The following contour plots are the culmination of years of work by dozens of people, my comments are meant to show just how difficult this measurement is

# KiDS Legacy vs KiDS 1000

Consistency with Planck changes between data releases mostly due to subtle changes in redshift calibration

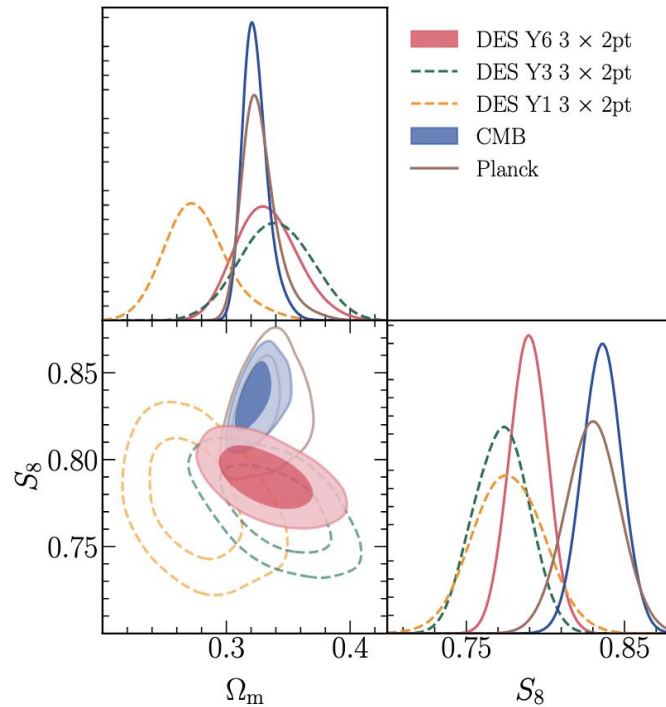
(Wright et al 2025)



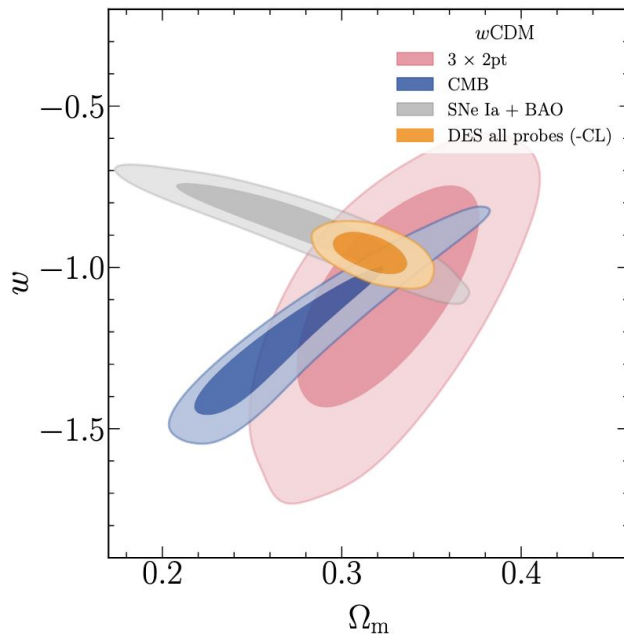
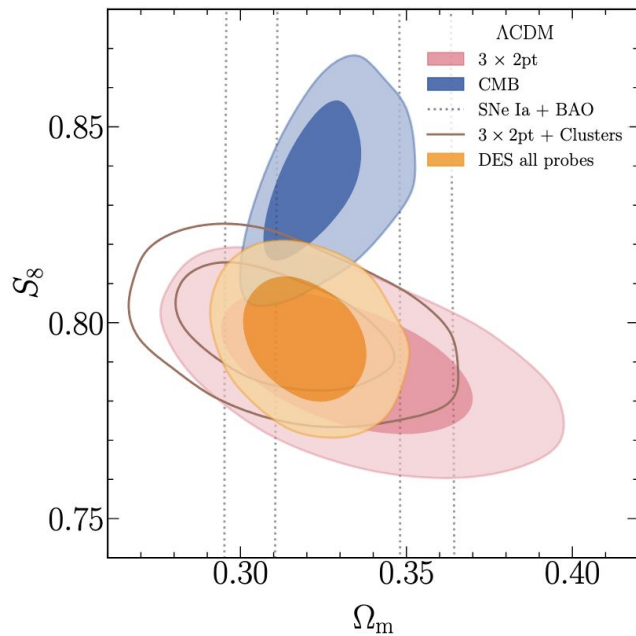
# We are systematics limited

Parameter posteriors are not incredibly different between releases, despite big changes in area and depth

(DES Collaboration 2026)



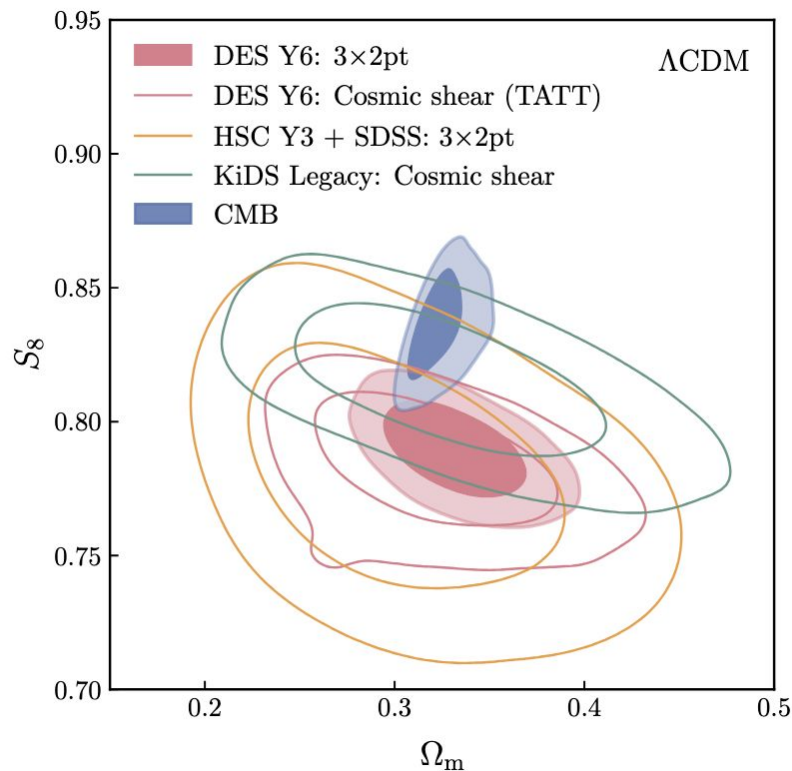
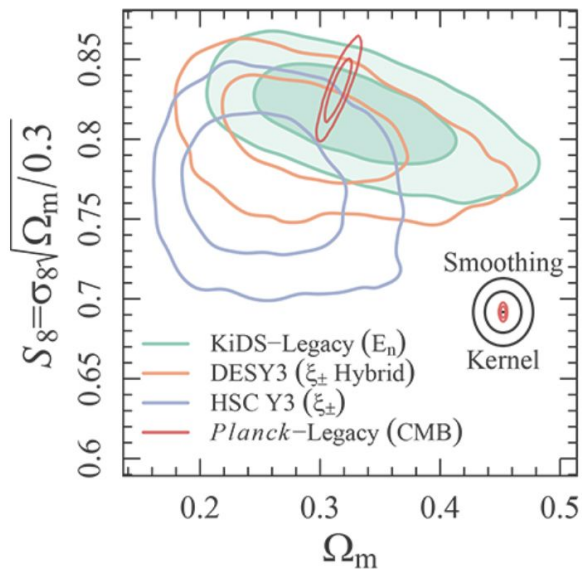
# DES Constraints on $w$ - $\Lambda$ CDM



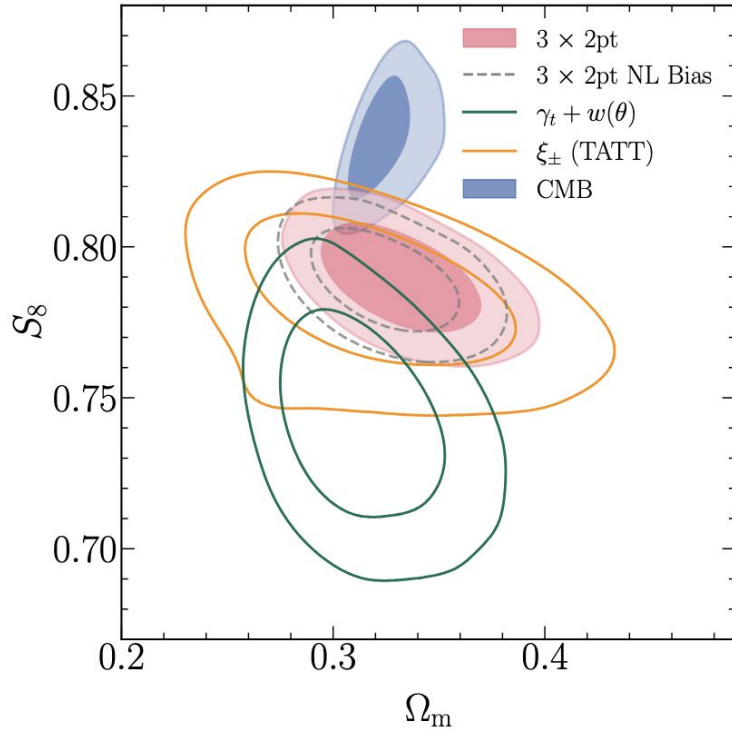
# Comparison between different surveys

From DES Collaboration 2026

From Wright et al. 2026

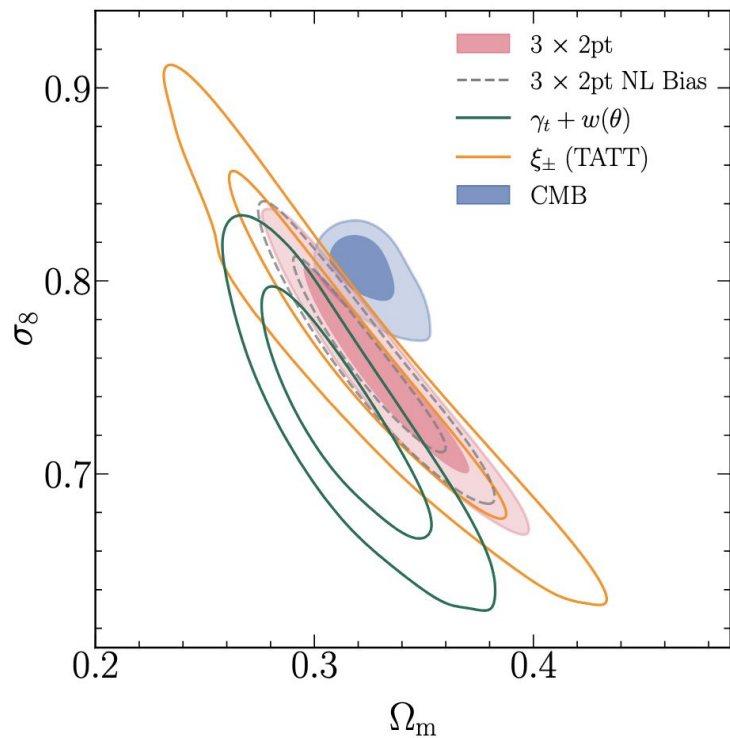


# The “dark secret” of cosmic shear contours



$$S_8 \equiv \sigma_8 \sqrt{\Omega_m / 0.3}$$

# The “dark secret” of cosmic shear contours



# In conclusion

Weak lensing is a very complex statistical measurement

The contour plots are the culmination of years of work by dozens of people

We are systematics limited- getting a signal is not enough, we need to know how to model it to a high degree of precision

Many assumptions go into the analysis starting from the pixels

Many exciting and difficult data sets are on the way!

# Some resources/ references

[Cosmic shear lecture slides](#) by Martin Kilbinger

[Shape measurement lecture slides](#) by Rachel Mandelbaum

[Gravitation Lensing Lectures](#) by Peter Schneider

[Photometric Redshift lecture slides](#) by Sam Schmidt