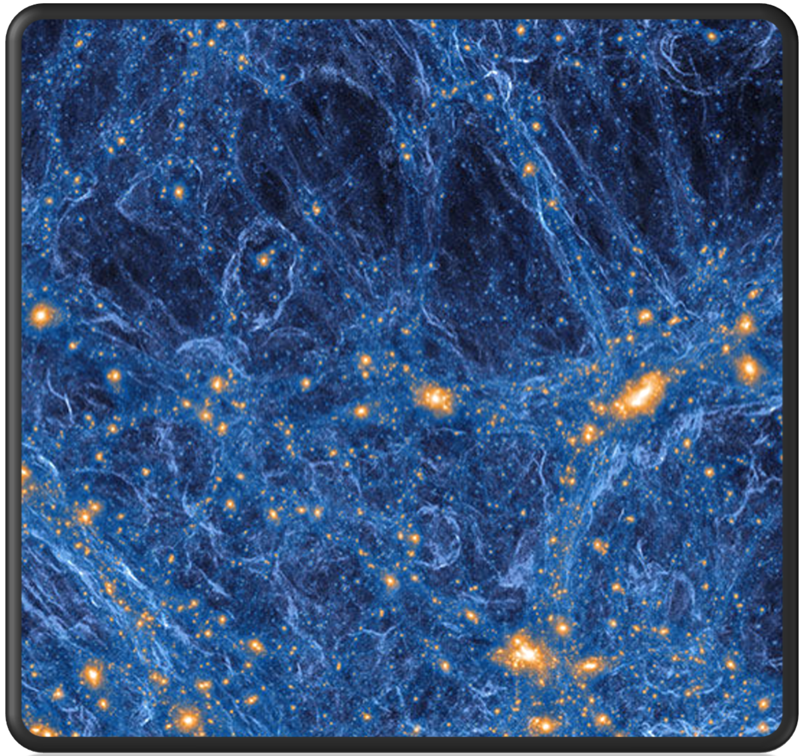
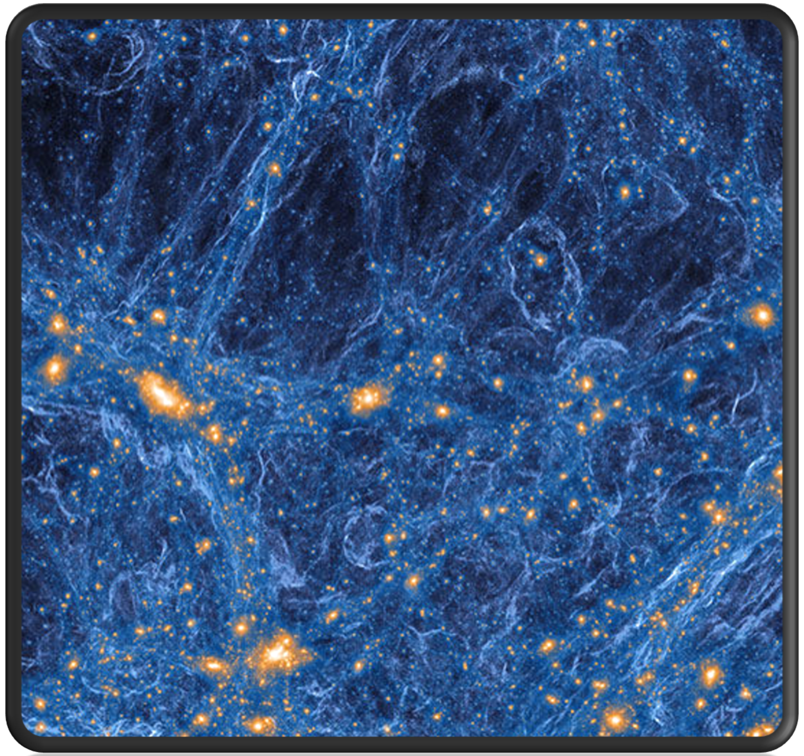
SIMONS FOUNDATION

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK



$\neq$



?

Hints of Cosmological Parity Violation

Oliver Philcox (Columbia / Simons Foundation)

Copernicus Webinar, January 2023

November 2020

Parity-Violation from the CMB?

SciTechDaily

BIOLOGY | CHEMISTRY | EARTH | HEALTH | PHYSICS | SCIENCE | SPACE | TECHNOLOGY

HOT TOPICS OCTOBER 17, 2022 | VEGETARIANS MORE LIKELY TO BE DEPRESSED THAN MEAT-EATERS – HERE'S THE SCIENCE BEHIND IT

HOME | SPACE NEWS

A Hint of New Physics Observed in Polarized Radiation From the Early Universe

Quantamagazine

Physics | Mathematics | Biology

COSMOLOGY

Asymmetry Detected in the Distribution of Galaxies

28

Two new studies suggest that certain tetrahedral arrangements of galaxies outnumber their mirror images, potentially reflecting details of the universe's birth. But confirmation is needed.

June 2022

Parity-Violation from Galaxies?

NEWSLETTERS
Sign up to read our regular email newsletters

NewScientist

News | Podcasts | Video | Technology | Space | Physics | Health | More | Shop | Courses | Events

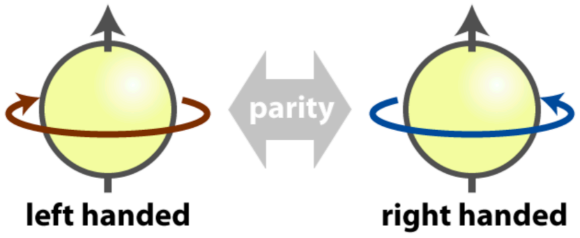
The universe is surprisingly lopsided and we don't know why

Two analyses of a million galaxies show that their distribution may not be symmetrical, which may mean that our understandings of gravity and the early universe are incorrect

Minami+20, **Philcox** 22, Hou+22

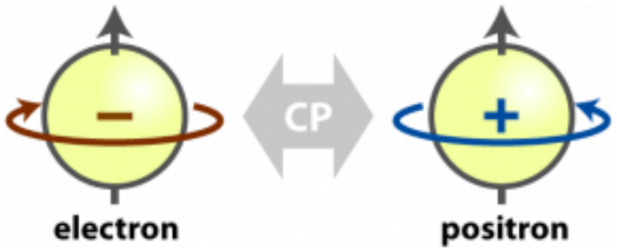
PARITY SYMMETRY IN PHYSICS

- Parity symmetry = symmetry under **point reflection**



$$\mathbb{P}[f(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots)] = f(-\mathbf{x}_1, -\mathbf{x}_2, \dots)$$

- Physics obeys **C**harge-**P**arity-**T**ime symmetry:



(+ reverse time)

$$f^+(\mathbf{x}, t) = f^-(-\mathbf{x}, -t)$$

Luders & Pauli 1954

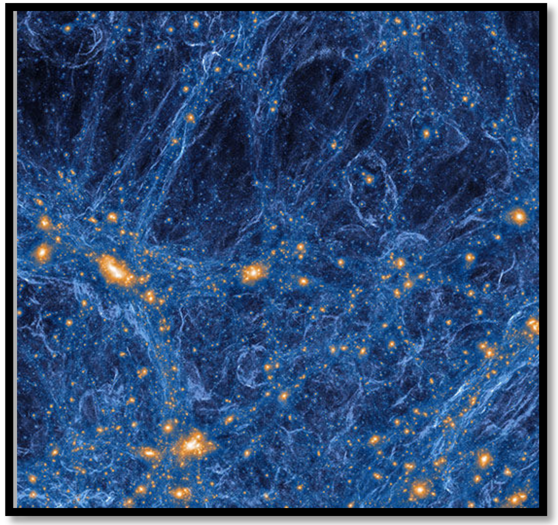
PARITY SYMMETRY IN COSMOLOGY

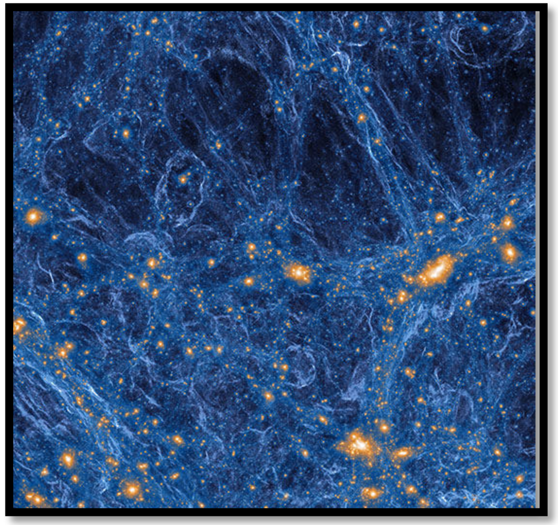
Large-scale cosmology is controlled by **GR**:

- No dependence on **charge**
- **Time** reversable

⇒ Cosmology should be **parity-symmetric**

$$\mathbb{P}[f(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots)] = f(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots)$$





These should be **statistically indistinguishable!**

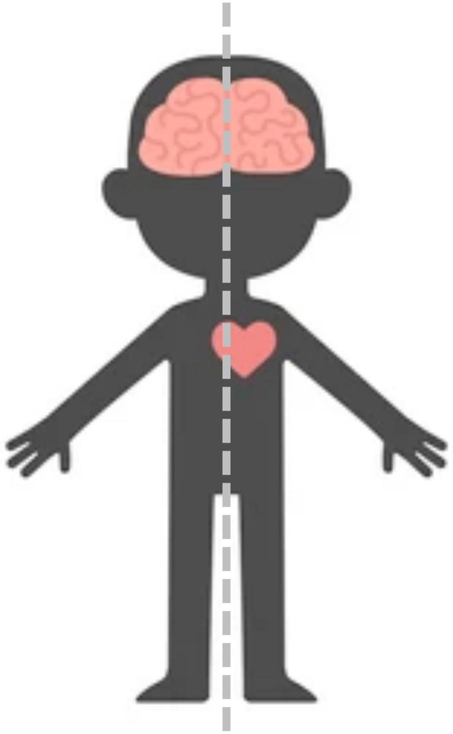
PARITY-VIOLATION EXISTS IN NATURE

- Human-scale physics is **not** parity-symmetric
  - Chemistry is controlled by the weak force!
- **Baryogenesis** violates charge-parity symmetry

$$\boxed{n_{\mathrm{Baryon}} \neq n_{\mathrm{Anti-Baryon}}}$$

Non-Gravitational physics **can** break parity invariance

No mirror symmetry!

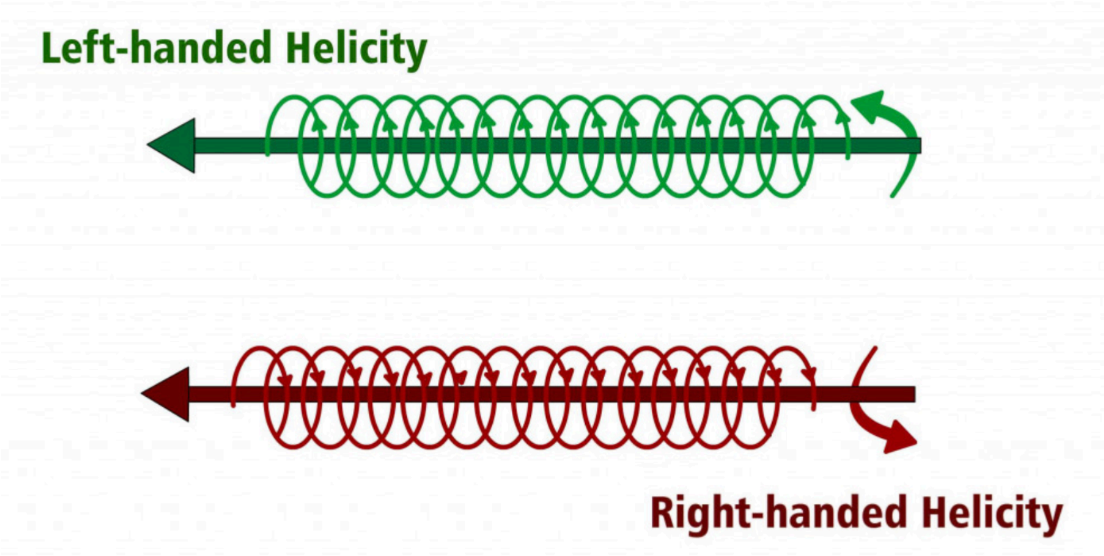


Sakharov 67

PARITY-VIOLATION IN COSMOLOGY

Where could parity-violation come from?

- Cosmic Inflation
- Exotic late-time physics



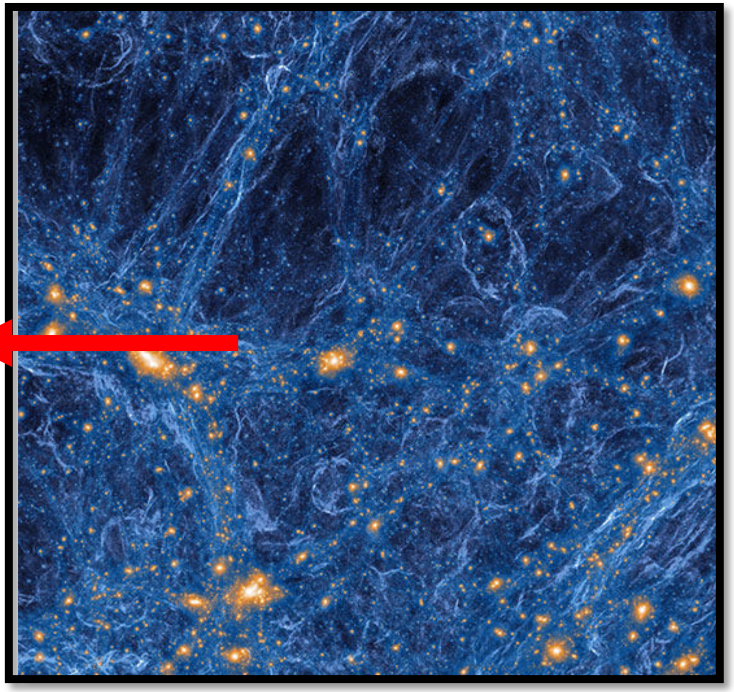
Usually, this requires vectors / tensors!

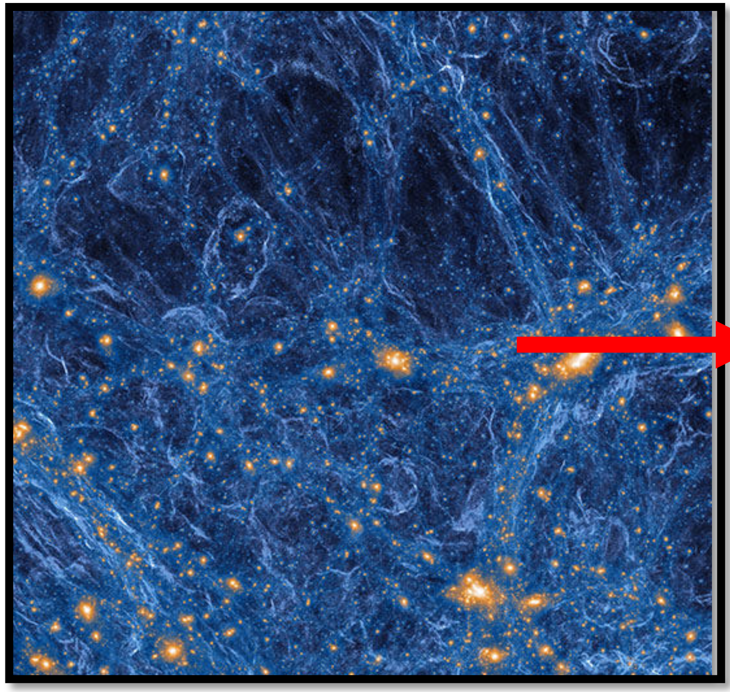
$$\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}) = v_L \boldsymbol{e}_L(\mathbf{x}) + v_R \boldsymbol{e}_R(\mathbf{x}) \qquad \mathbb{P}\left[\boldsymbol{e}_{L/R}\right] = \boldsymbol{e}_{R/L}$$

Lue+99, Cabass+22

HOW TO SEARCH FOR PARITY VIOLATION

$P(\mathbf{k})$
$B(\mathbf{k}_1,\mathbf{k}_2,\mathbf{k}_3)$
$T(\mathbf{k}_1,\mathbf{k}_2,\mathbf{k}_3,\mathbf{k}_4)$
...





$\mathbb{P}[P(\mathbf{k})]$
$\mathbb{P}[B(\mathbf{k}_1,\mathbf{k}_2,\mathbf{k}_3)]$
$\mathbb{P}[T(\mathbf{k}_1,\mathbf{k}_2,\mathbf{k}_3,\mathbf{k}_4)]$
...

Which statistics are sensitive to parity?

$X - \mathbb{P}[X] = ?$

SEARCHING FOR SCALAR PARITY VIOLATION

Let's start with **scalar** observables, e.g.:

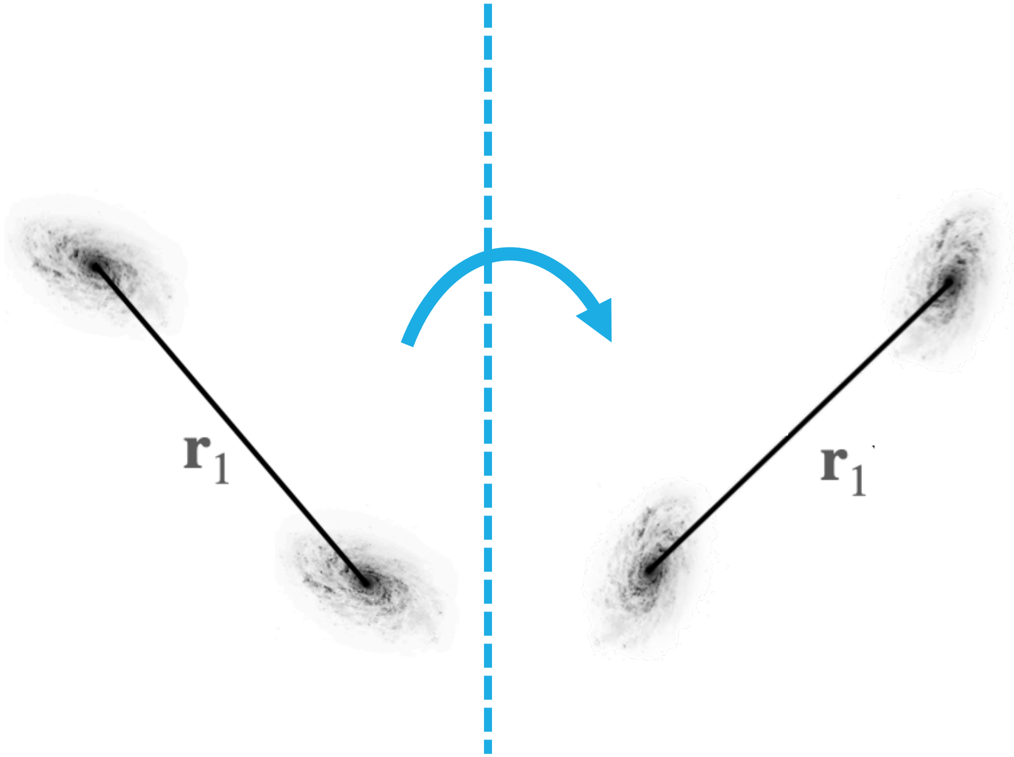
- Galaxy **overdensity** [δ_g]
- CMB **temperature** [T]

Simplest observable

Power Spectrum / 2-Point Function (2PCF)

But *parity inversion = rotation*

⇒ No signal!



Lue+99, Gluscevic+10, Liu+20, Cahn+21, **Philcox 22**

SEARCHING FOR SCALAR PARITY VIOLATION

Let's start with **scalar** observables, e.g.:

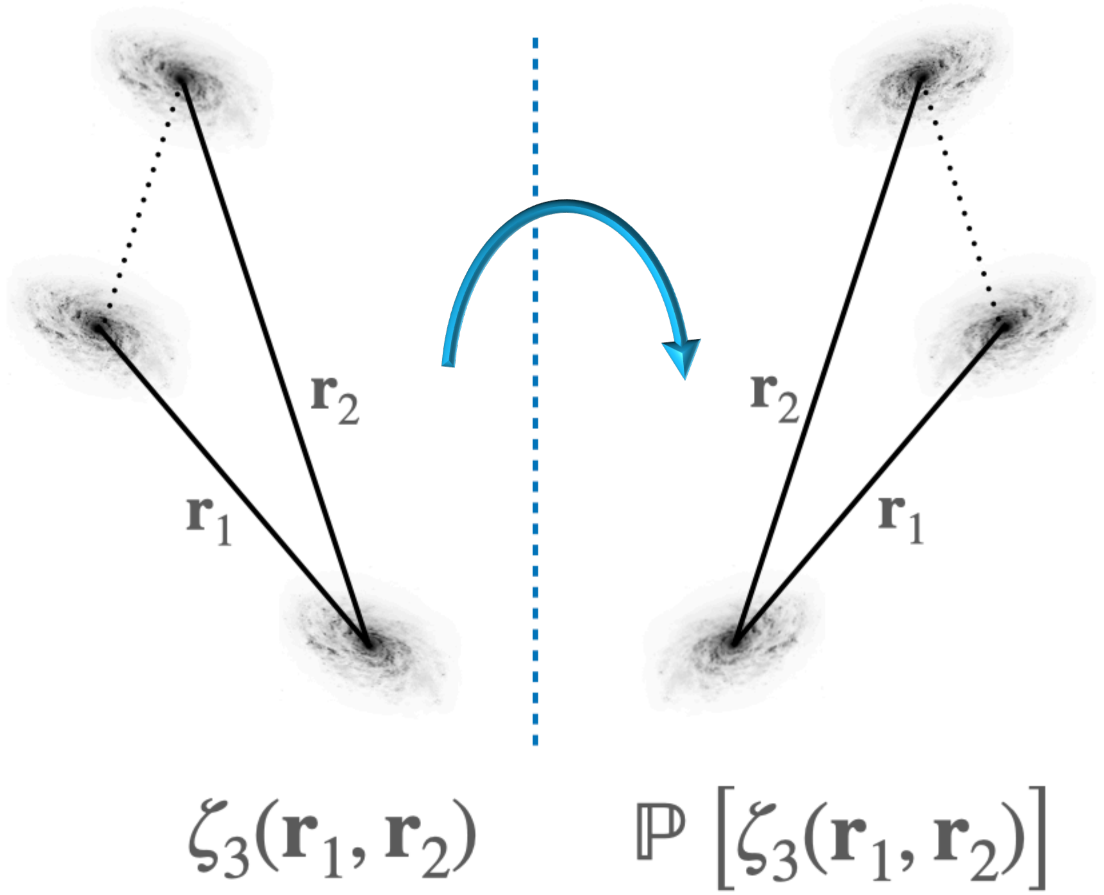
- Galaxy **overdensity** [δ_g]
- CMB **temperature** [T]

Next observable

Bispectrum / 3-Point Function (3PCF)

Still *parity inversion = rotation*

⇒ No signal!



Lue+99, Gluscevic+10, Liu+20, Cahn+21, **Philcox** 22

SEARCHING FOR SCALAR PARITY VIOLATION

Let's start with **scalar** observables, e.g.:

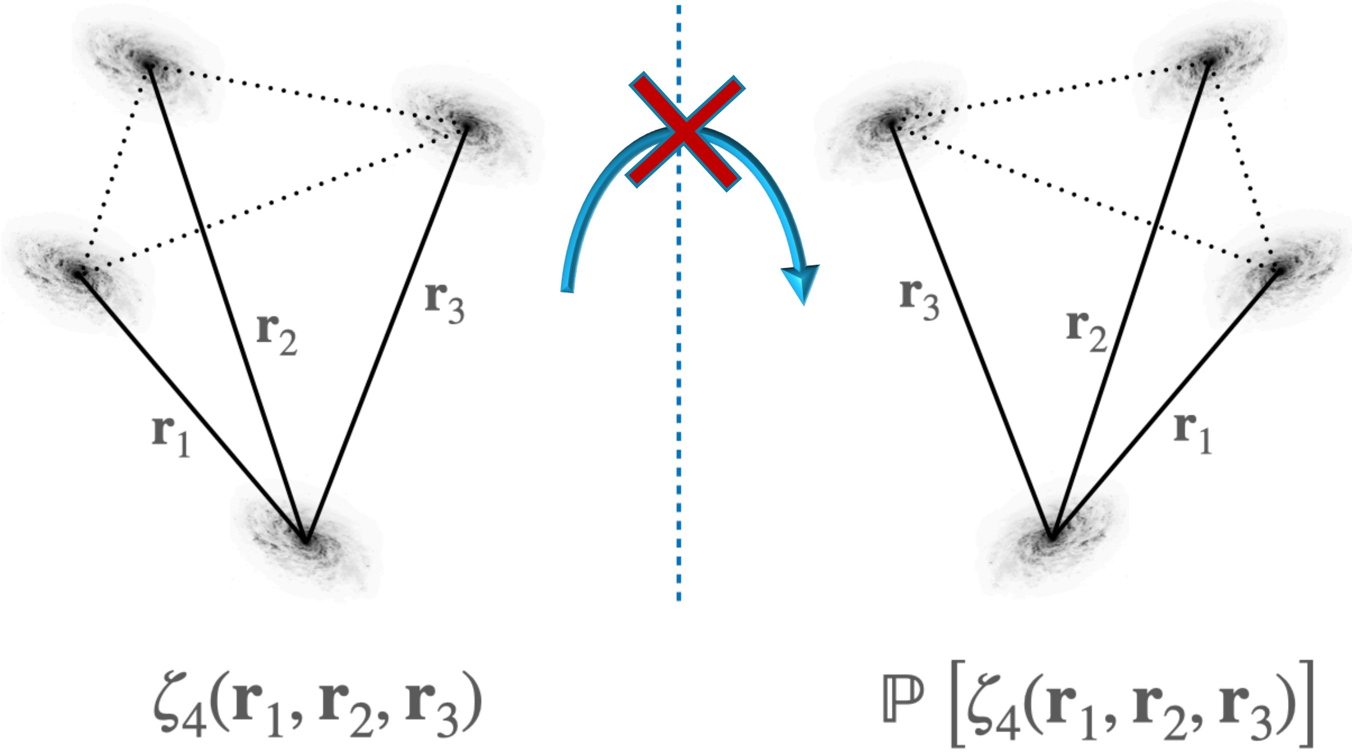
- Galaxy **overdensity** [δ_g]
- CMB **temperature** [T]

Next next observable

Trispectrum / 4-Point Function (4PCF)

Finally *parity inversion ≠ rotation*

⇒ We can get a signal!



Lue+99, Gluscevic+10, Liu+20, Cahn+21, **Philcox** 22

SEARCHING FOR TENSOR PARITY VIOLATION

For **vector/tensor** observables, e.g.:

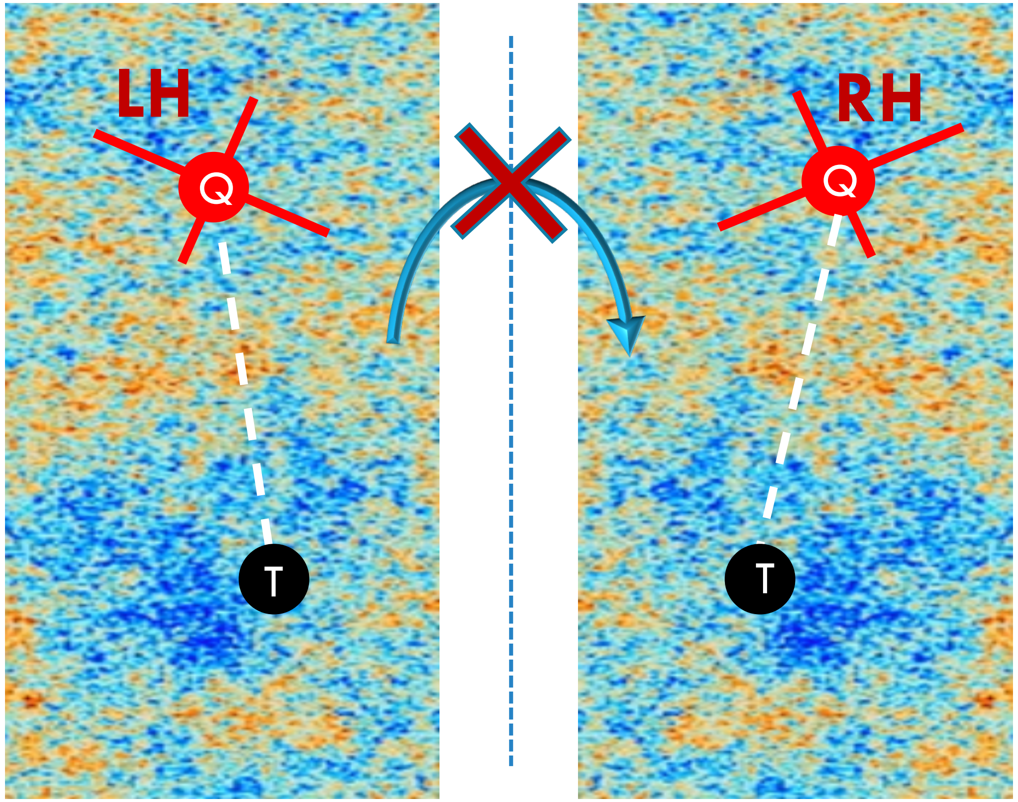
- CMB **polarization** $[E, B]$
- Galaxy **shear** $[\gamma^{E,B}]$
- Galaxy **spin**

<u>Simplest observable</u>

Power Spectrum / 2-Point Function (2PCF)

Parity inversion ≠ rotation

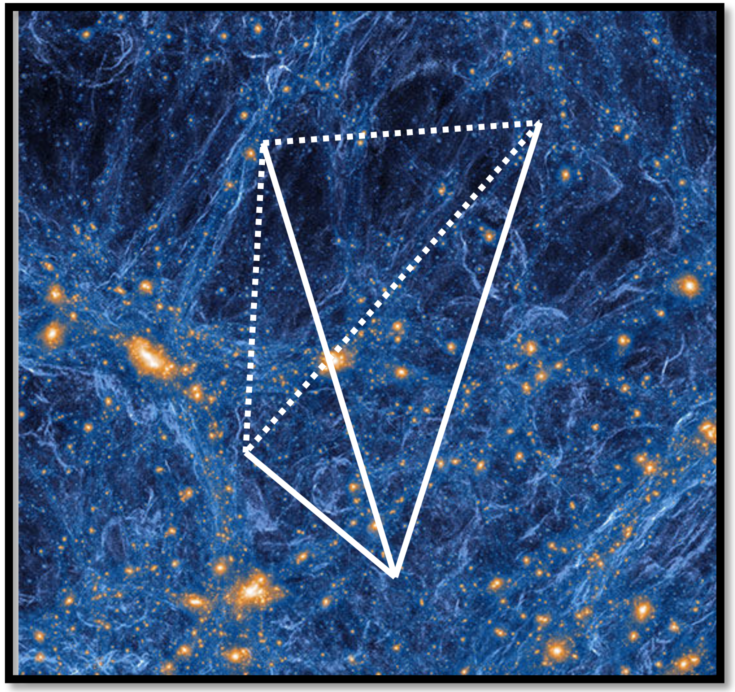
⇒ We can get a signal!



$$C_\ell^{TB} \neq 0$$

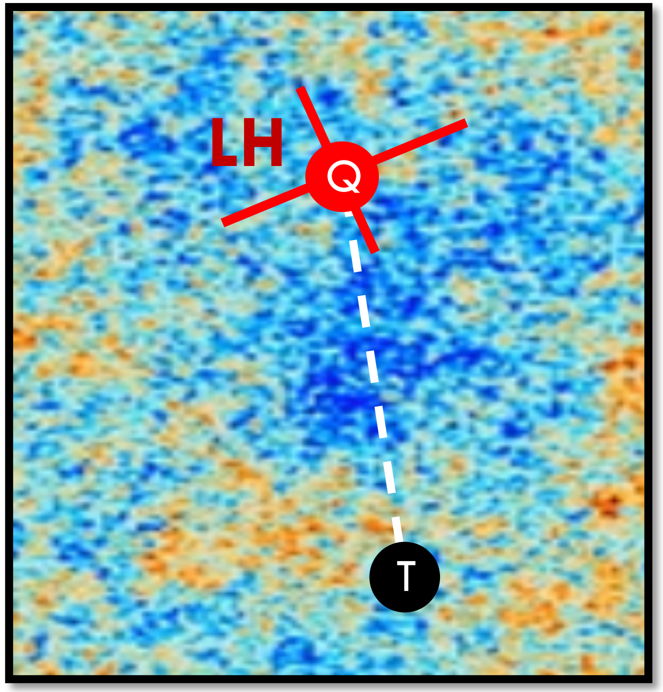
Lue+99, Gluscevic+10, Liu+20, Cahn+21, **Philcox** 22

PARITY SENSITIVE OBSERVABLES



Scalars: $\zeta_4 - \mathbb{P}[\zeta_4]$

Look in galaxy surveys or the CMB!



Tensors: $C_\ell^{TB}, C_\ell^{EB}, B_{\ell_1\ell_2\ell_3}^{TTB}, \ldots$

Look in the CMB and cosmic shear!

OBSERVATION #1: COSMIC BIREFRINGENCE

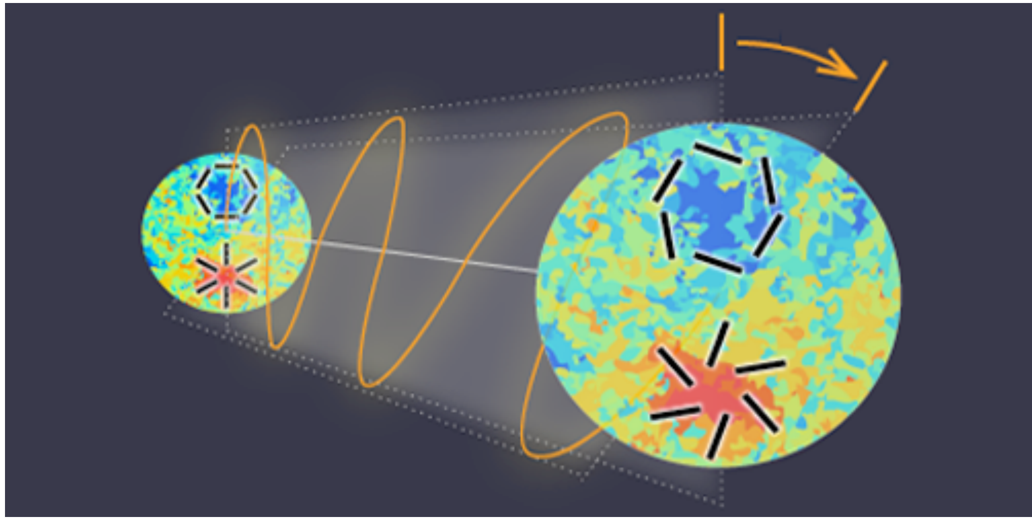
SciTechDaily

BIOLOGY | CHEMISTRY | EARTH | HEALTH | PHYSICS | SCIENCE | SPACE | TECHNOLOGY

HOT TOPICS OCTOBER 17, 2022 | VEGETARIANS MORE LIKELY TO BE DEPRESSED THAN MEAT-EATERS – HERE'S THE SCIENCE BEHIND IT

HOME SPACE NEWS

A Hint of New Physics Observed in Polarized Radiation From the Early Universe



$C_\ell^{EB} \neq 0$ in *Planck!*

(after careful correction for calibration errors)

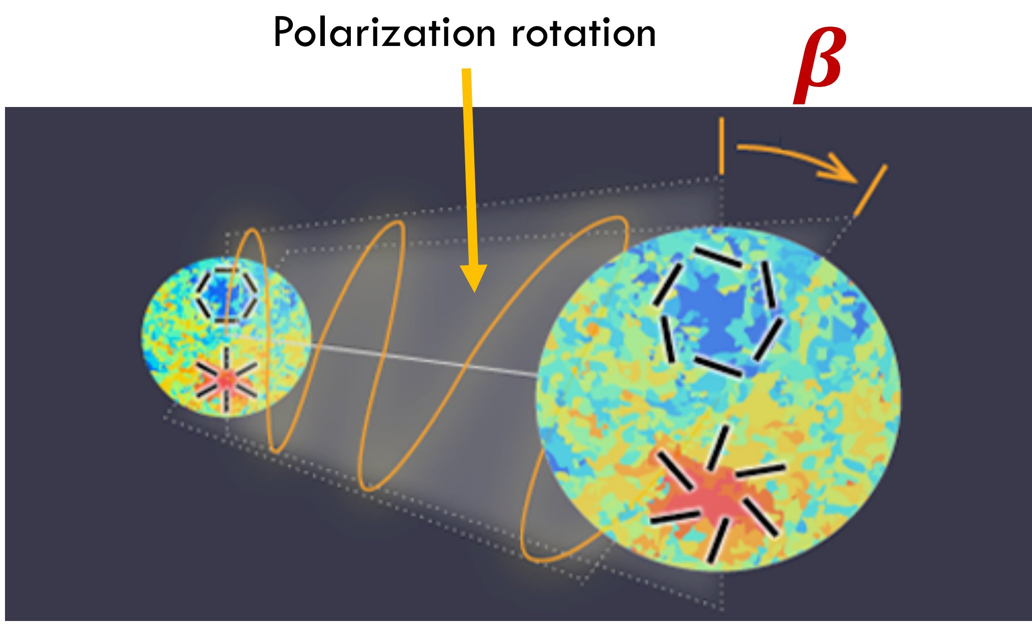
Minami+20, Clark+21, Fujita+22, Diego-Palazuelos+22

OBSERVATION #1: COSMIC BIREFRINGENCE

Hypothesis:

- Emitted CMB is parity-symmetric ($C_\ell^{EB} = 0$)
- Photon polarization plane ***rotated*** at late times
- **E-modes** transformed into **B-modes**
- Observed CMB is ***not*** parity symmetric ($C_\ell^{EB} \neq 0$)

Rotation angle $\boldsymbol{\beta = (0.30 \pm 0.11)^\circ}$ **[2.7$\boldsymbol{\sigma}$]**



$$\boxed{C_\ell^{EB} = \frac{1}{2}\sin 4\beta\,(C_\ell^{EE} - C_\ell^{BB})}$$

Minami+20, Clark+21, Fujita+22, Diego-Palazuelos+22

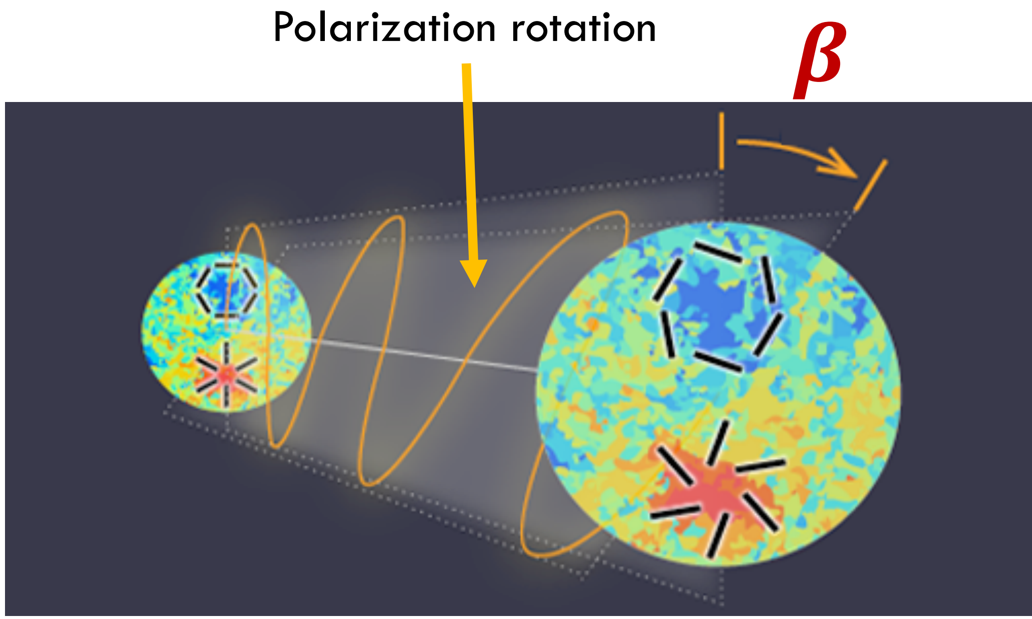
PROPOSED EXPLANATION: AXION-PHOTON COUPLING

CMB photons could be coupled to **axion-like particles** via a **Chern-Simons** coupling

Photon

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{4} g_{\phi\gamma} \phi F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

Axion



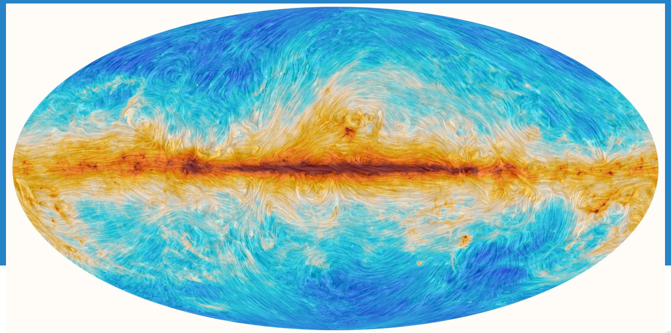
$$\boxed{C_\ell^{EB} = \frac{1}{2} \sin 4\beta \, (C_\ell^{EE} - C_\ell^{BB})}$$

Axion interactions rotate the polarization plane!

$$\beta \propto g_{\phi\gamma} \int \mathrm{d}t \, \dot{\phi} \quad \Rightarrow \quad g_{\phi\gamma} \neq 0\,?$$

Minami+20, Turner+88

BUT: WHAT ABOUT DUST?

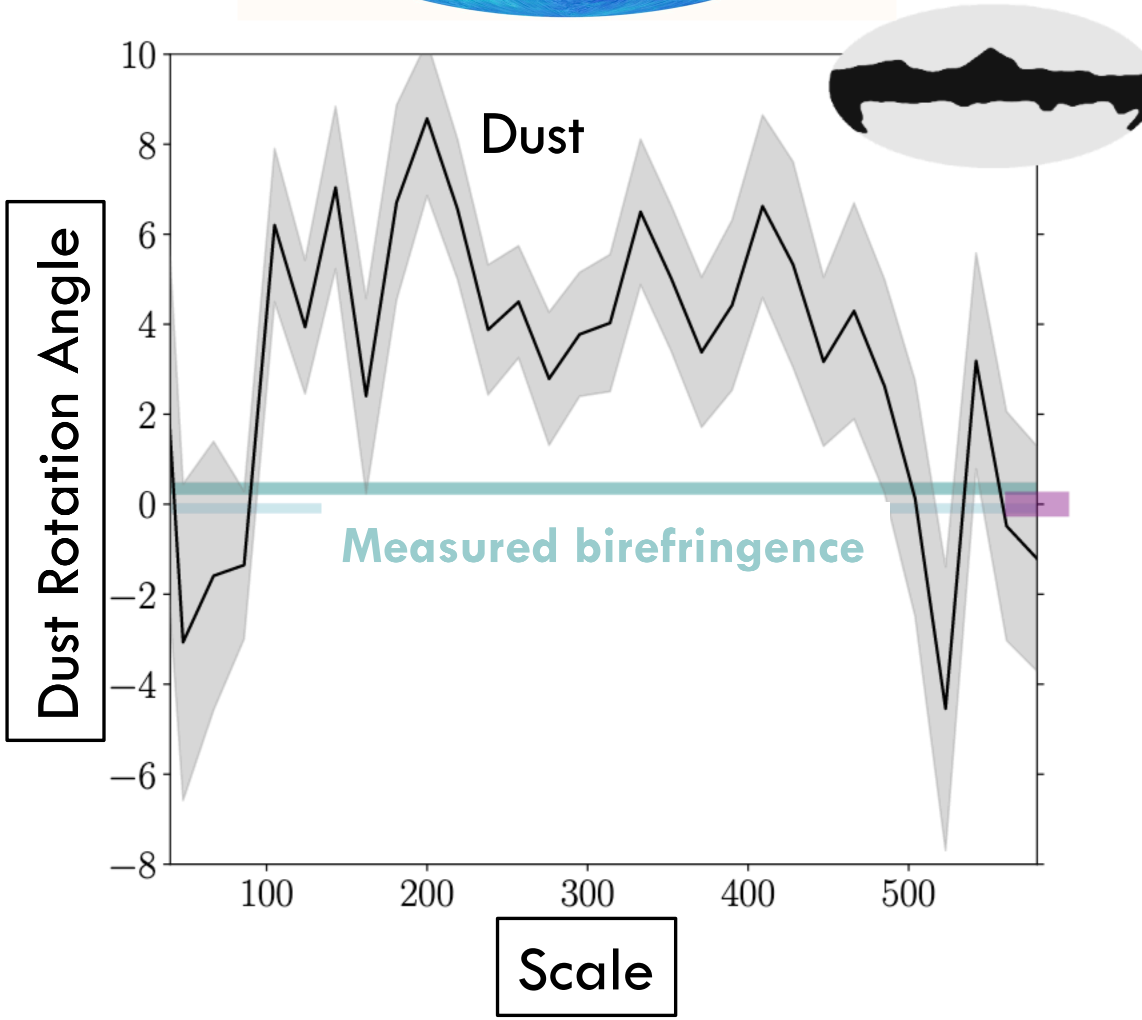


- Polarized dust emission can **break** parity-symmetry

- Signal could just be from dust!

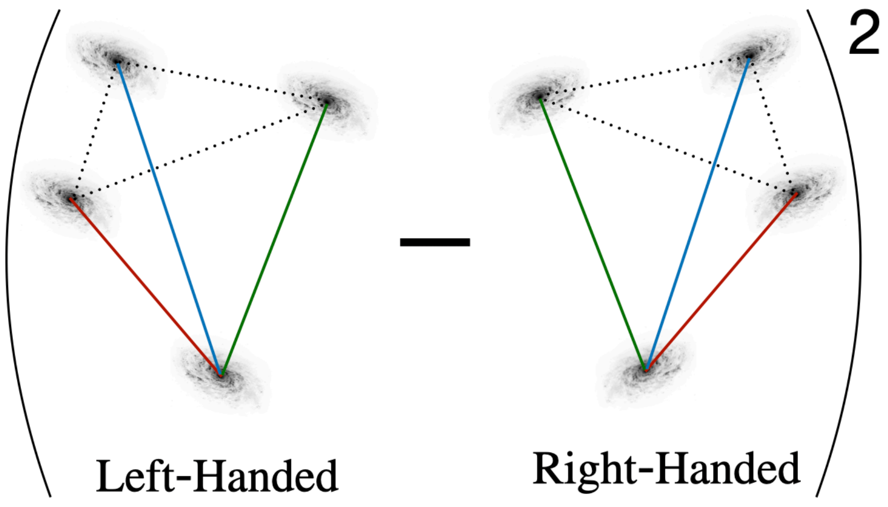
Not resolved yet:

> *"**High-precision CMB data** and a **characterization of dust** beyond the modified blackbody paradigm are needed to obtain a **definitive measurement**…"*
>
> *- Diego-Palazuelos+22*



Clark+21, Diego-Palazuelos+22

OBSERVATION #2: GALAXY FOUR-POINT FUNCTIONS



$\zeta_4 - \mathbb{P}[\zeta_4] \neq 0$ in BOSS!

Quantamagazine Physics Mathematics Biology

COSMOLOGY

Asymmetry Detected in the Distribution of Galaxies

28

Two new studies suggest that certain tetrahedral arrangements of galaxies outnumber their mirror images, potentially reflecting details of the universe's birth. But confirmation is needed.

NEWSLETTERS
Sign up to read our regular email newsletters

NewScientist

News Podcasts Video Technology Space Physics Health More Shop Courses Events

The universe is surprisingly lopsided and we don't know why

Two analyses of a million galaxies show that their distribution may not be symmetrical, which may mean that our understandings of gravity and the early universe are incorrect

Hou+22, **Philcox** 22

THE GALAXY 4-POINT FUNCTION

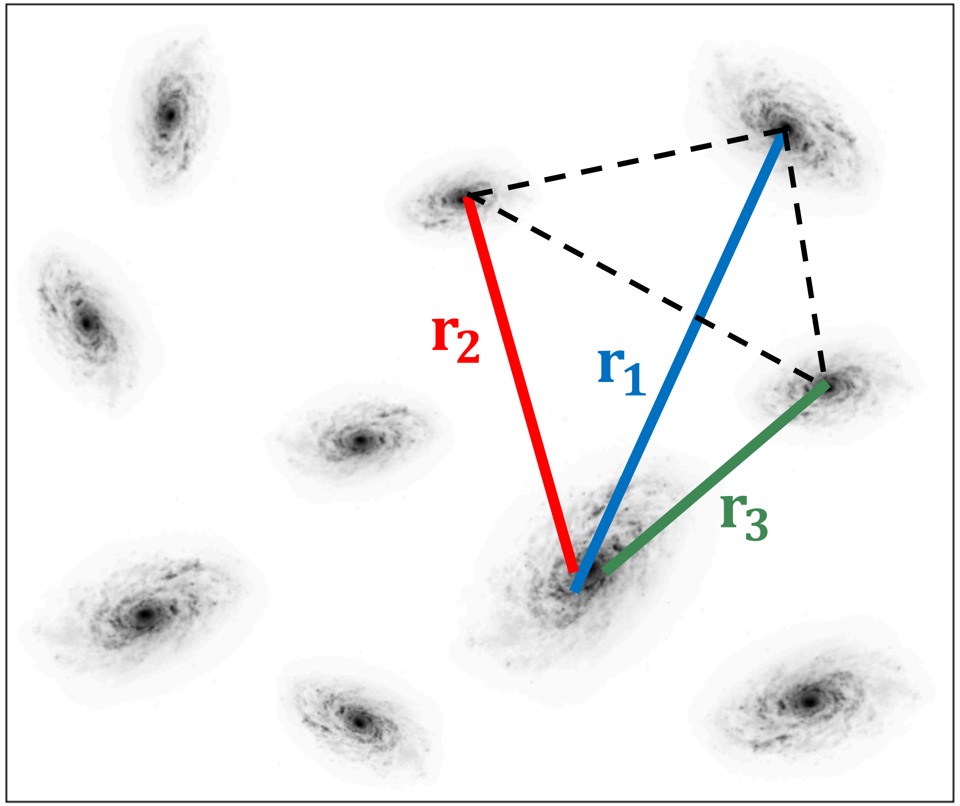
Four-point correlation function (4PCF)

=

Probability of finding a galaxy **tetrahedron** of a given shape

$$\boxed{\zeta_4(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_3) = \langle \delta_g(\mathbf{x})\delta_g(\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{r}_1)\delta_g(\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{r}_2)\delta_g(\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{r}_3)\rangle_c}$$

New methods allow this to be computed efficiently!

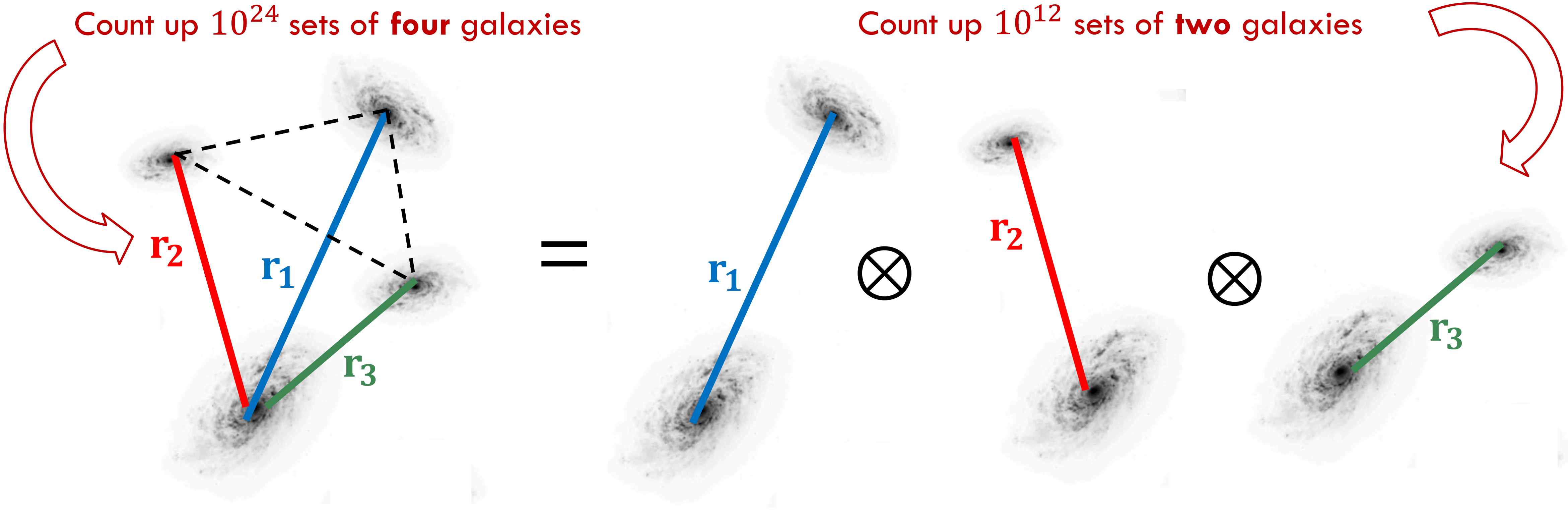


ENCORE, **Philcox**+21ab

ONE TETRAHEDRON = THREE VECTORS

Count up 10^{24} sets of **four** galaxies

Count up 10^{12} sets of **two** galaxies



3 lengths + 3 angles

1 length + 1 direction

1 length + 1 direction

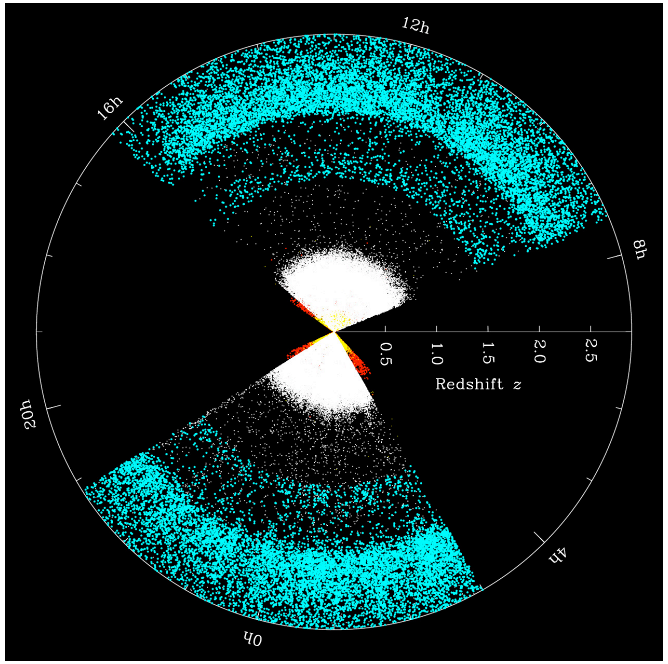
1 length + 1 direction

See GitHub.com/oliverphilcox/encore, GitHub.com/oliverphilcox/NPCFs.jl

ENCORE, **Philcox**+21ab

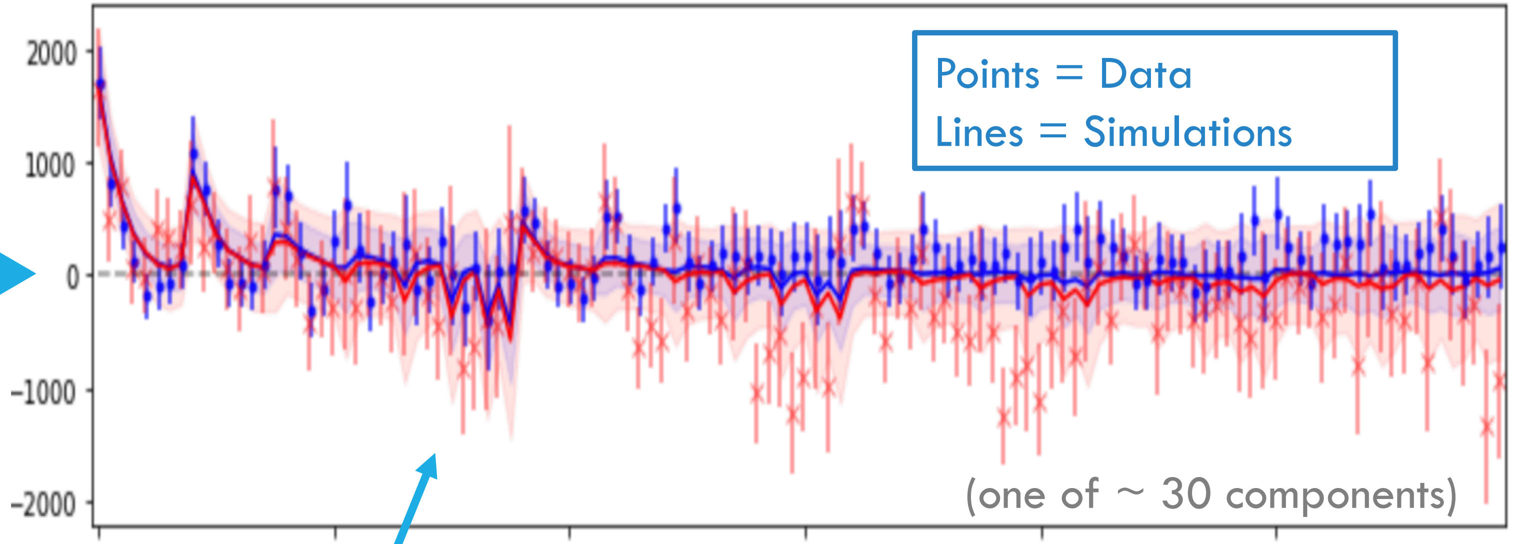
THE OBSERVED FOUR-POINT FUNCTION

We measure the 4PCF from $\approx 10^6$ BOSS CMASS galaxies



Galaxy Positions

Parity-Even Contribution, $\zeta_4 + \mathbb{P}[\zeta_4]$



Increasing Size (20 – 160 Mpc/h)

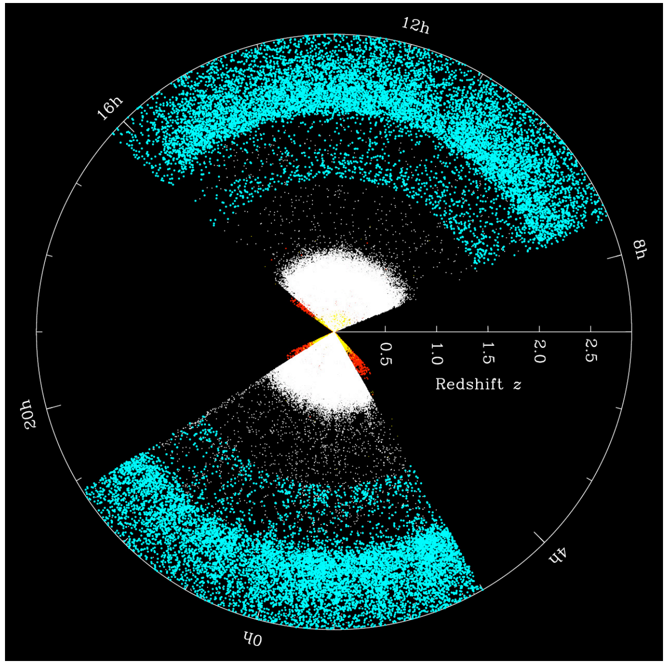
Parity-even gravity contribution!

github.com/oliverphilcox/Parity-Even-4PCF

Philcox+21

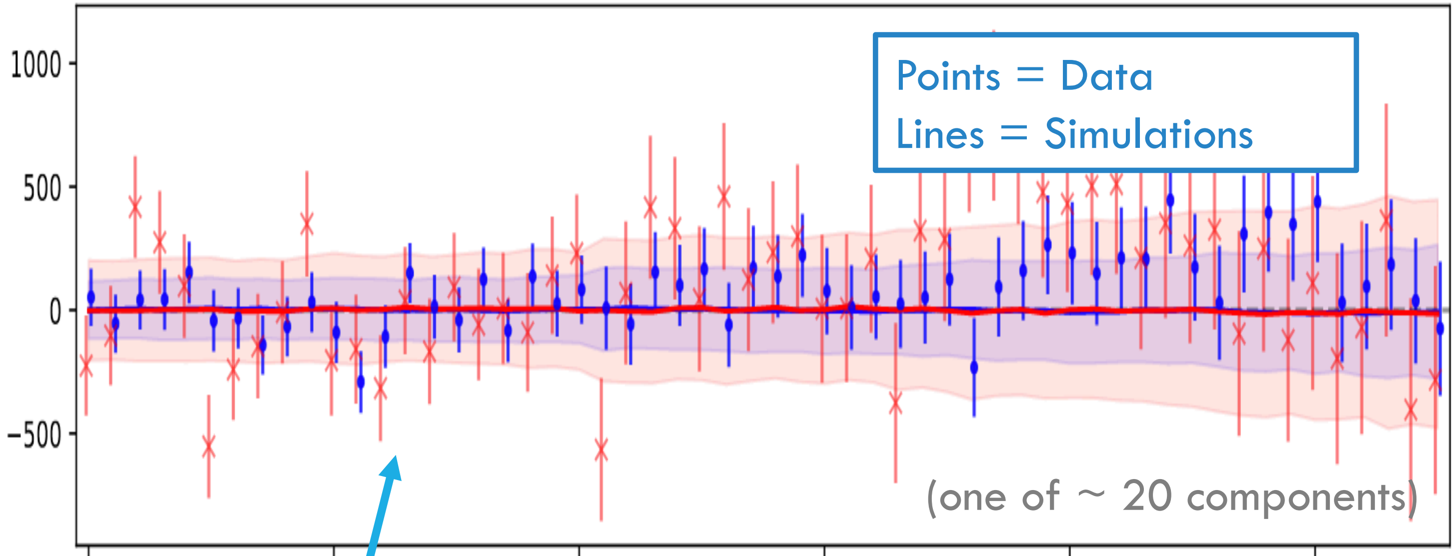
THE OBSERVED FOUR-POINT FUNCTION

We measure the 4PCF from $\approx 10^6$ BOSS CMASS galaxies



Galaxy Positions

Parity-Odd Contribution, $\zeta_4 - \mathbb{P}[\zeta_4]$



Increasing Size (20 – 160 Mpc/h)

Are parity-odd contributions zero??

github.com/oliverphilcox/Parity-Odd-4PCF

Philcox 22, Hou+22

ANALYZING THE 4PCF

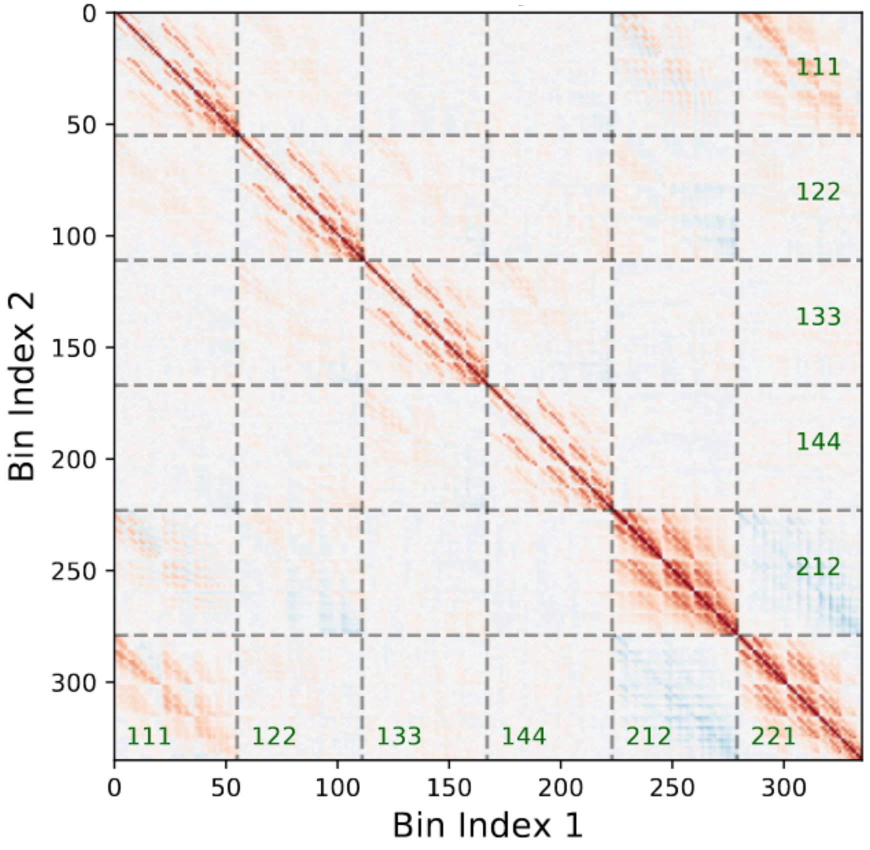
$$\zeta^{\mathrm{odd}} = \frac{1}{2}(\zeta_4 - \mathbb{P}[\zeta_4])$$

- The 4PCF is a **high-dimensional** object with $\sim 10^3$ **correlated** bins

Compute the **detection significance** with a χ^2 test

$$\boxed{\chi^2 \equiv \zeta^{\mathrm{odd}}\, \mathrm{Cov}_{\zeta}^{-1} \zeta^{\mathrm{odd}}}$$

Correlation Matrix



Philcox 22, Hou, **Philcox**+21, Hou+22

ANALYZING THE 4PCF

$$\zeta^{\mathrm{odd}} = \frac{1}{2}(\zeta_4 - \mathbb{P}[\zeta_4])$$

- The 4PCF is a **high-dimensional** object with $\sim 10^3$ **correlated** bins

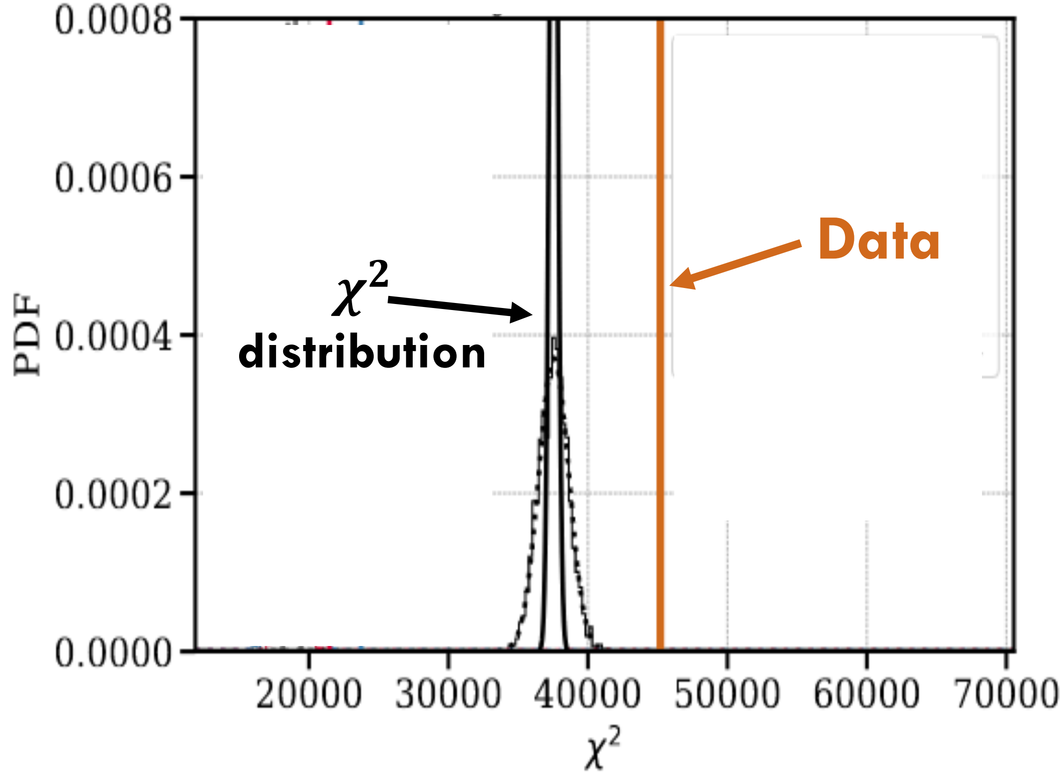
Compute the **detection significance** with a χ^2 test

$$\boxed{\chi^2 \equiv \zeta^{\mathrm{odd}}\, \mathrm{Cov}_{\zeta}^{-1} \zeta^{\mathrm{odd}}}$$

Assumptions

- **Theoretical** covariance matrix is accurate
- Likelihood is **Gaussian**

$\boxed{7.1\sigma}$ **detection???**



Hou, **Philcox**+21, Hou+22

ANALYZING THE 4PCF

$$\zeta^{\text{odd}} = \frac{1}{2}(\zeta_4 - \mathbb{P}[\zeta_4])$$

- The 4PCF is a **high-dimensional** object with $\sim 10^3$ **correlated** bins

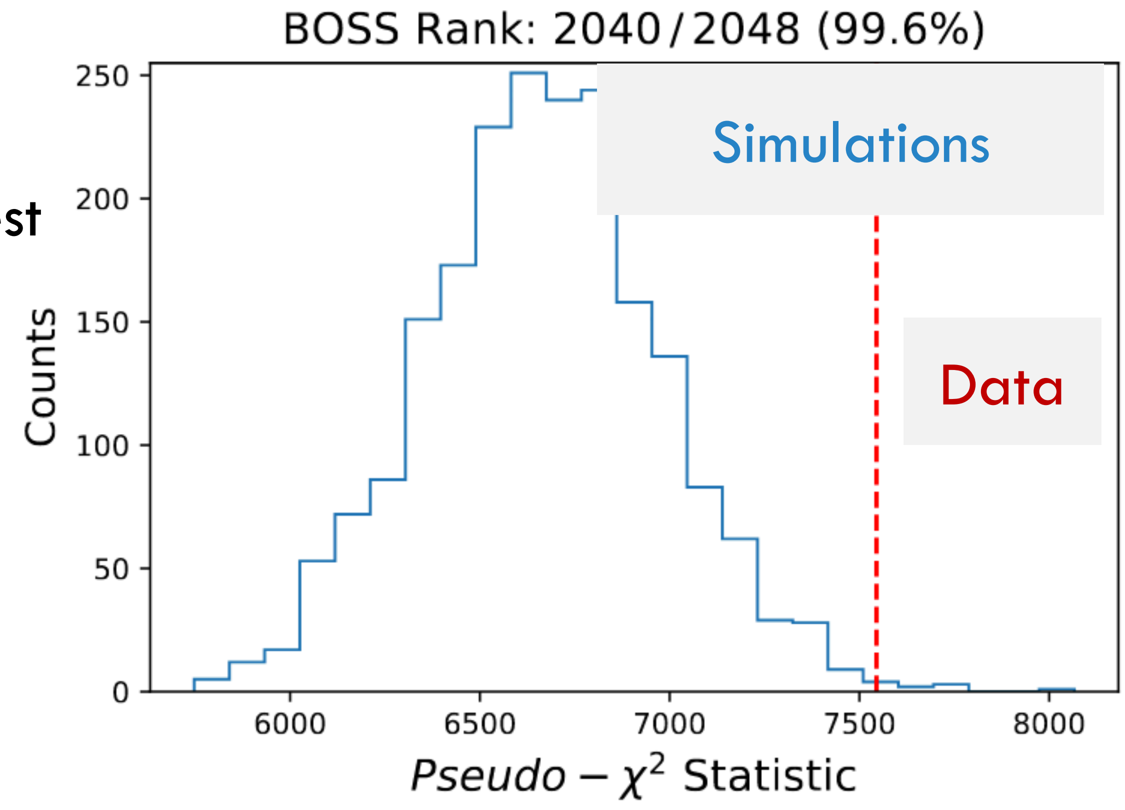
Compute the **detection significance** with a χ^2 test

$$\boxed{\chi^2 \equiv \zeta^{\text{odd}}\, \text{Cov}_{\zeta}^{-1} \zeta^{\text{odd}}}$$

Assumptions

- **Simulation** covariance matrix is accurate
- Likelihood is based on **simulations**

$\boxed{2.9\sigma \text{ detection???}}$

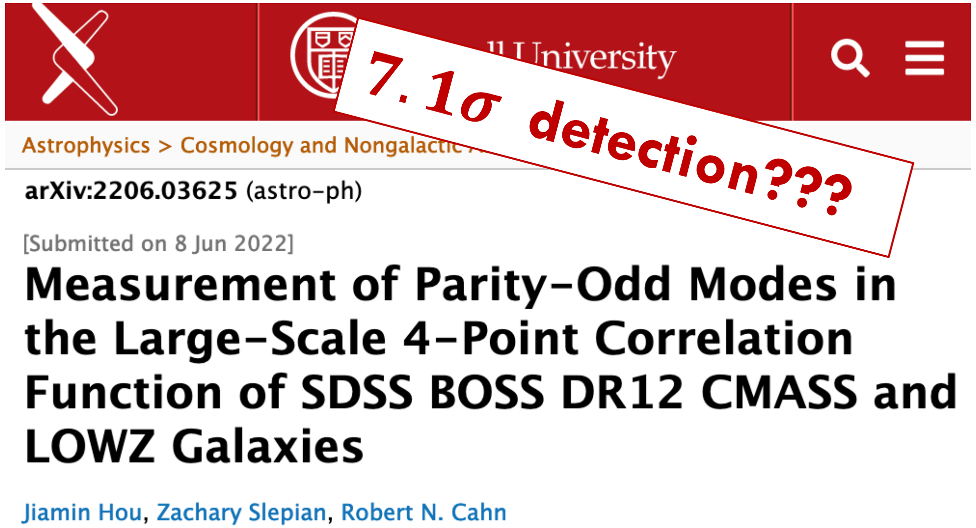


Philcox 22

WHAT CAUSES THE DIFFERENCES?

$$\chi^2 \equiv \zeta^{\mathrm{odd}}\, \mathrm{Cov}_{\zeta}^{-1} \zeta^{\mathrm{odd}}$$

Two analysis of the **same** data at the **same** time get **very** different results

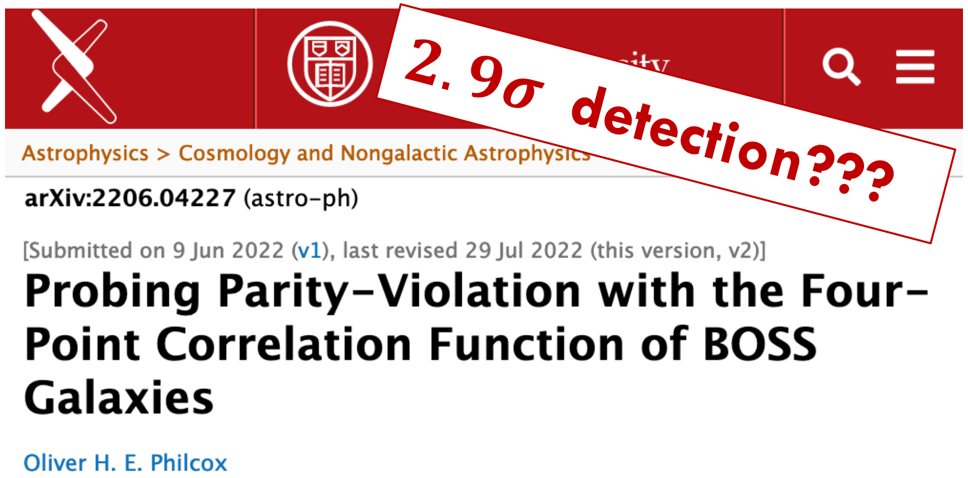


arXiv:2206.03625 (astro-ph)

[Submitted on 8 Jun 2022]

Measurement of Parity-Odd Modes in the Large-Scale 4-Point Correlation Function of SDSS BOSS DR12 CMASS and LOWZ Galaxies

Jiamin Hou, Zachary Slepian, Robert N. Cahn



arXiv:2206.04227 (astro-ph)

[Submitted on 9 Jun 2022 (v1), last revised 29 Jul 2022 (this version, v2)]

Probing Parity-Violation with the Four-Point Correlation Function of BOSS Galaxies

Oliver H. E. Philcox

Philcox 22, Hou+22

WHAT CAUSES THE DIFFERENCES?

$$\chi^2 \equiv \zeta^{\rm odd}\, \mathrm{Cov}_\zeta^{-1} \zeta^{\rm odd}$$

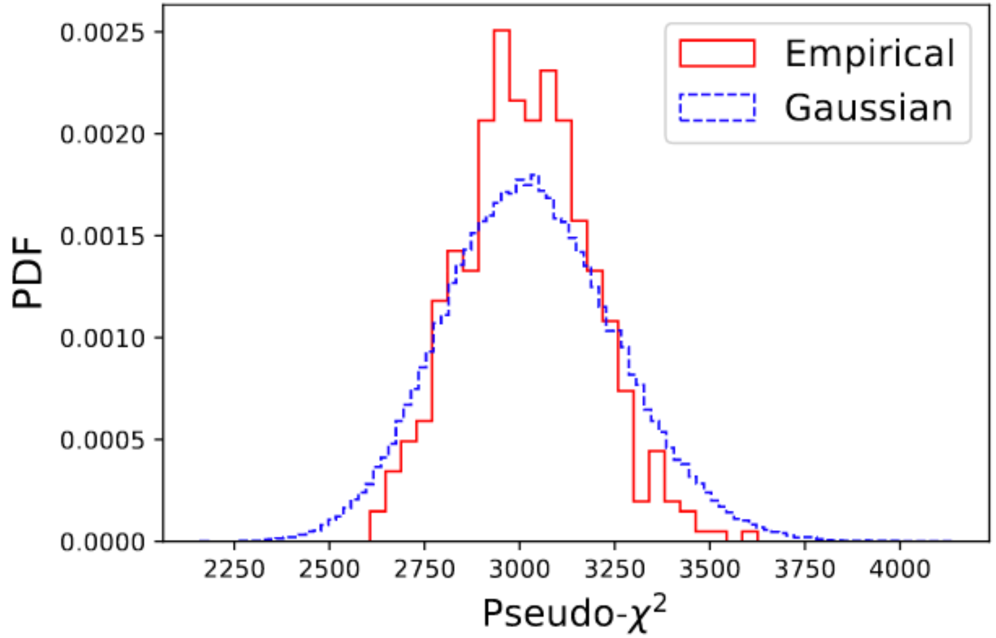
Two analysis of the **same** data at the **same** time get **very** different results

- **Covariance** modelling may be inadequate?

[linear theory, no RSD, no window, imprecise mocks]

- Likelihood might not be **Gaussian**?

[high-dimensional data]



<u>But</u>, both seem to agree there is a signal!

Philcox 22, Hou+22

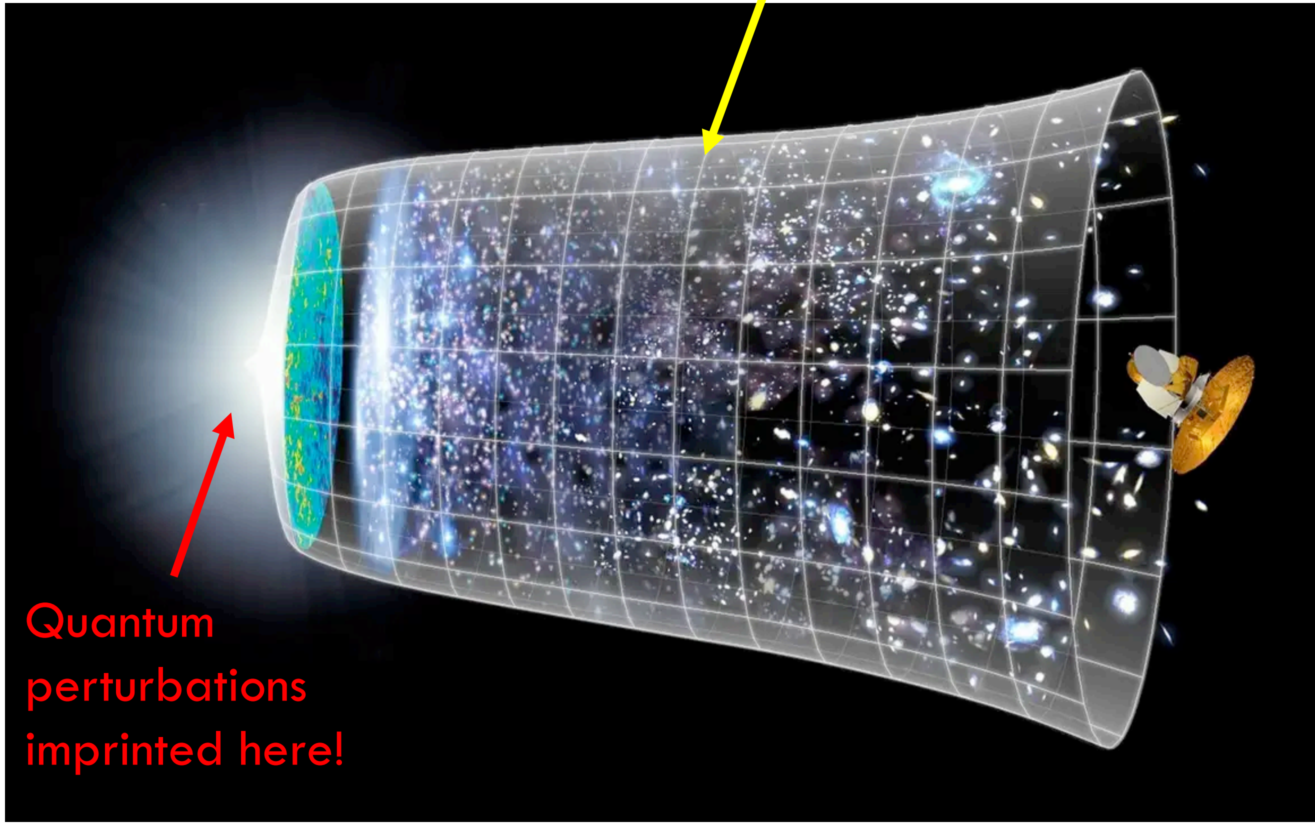
SOURCES OF PARITY VIOLATION

The 4PCF could be sourced

1. **Early:** non-standard inflation?

2. **Late:** modified gravity?

Galaxies have only moved ~ 20 Mpc/h since inflation, so **early** is a more likely scenario!



Cabass, **Philcox**+22

PRIMORDIAL PARITY-VIOLATION

There is **no** parity violation in inflation **if**

1. **Scale-invariant** (*i*.e. exact dS)

and

2. **Scalar** fields (or massless spin fields)

and

3. **Bunch-Davies** vacuum

There **is** parity violation in inflation **if**

- ▷ **Not scale-invariant** (*time dependent couplings*)

or

- ▷ **Massive spinning** fields (*cosmological collider*)

or

- ▷ **Non-Bunch-Davies** vacuum (*ghost condensate*)

(and many other scenarios)

Cabass+22

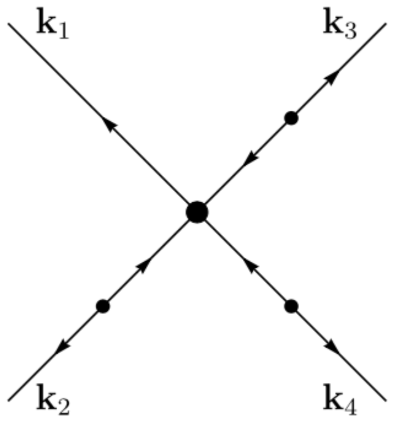
PRIMORDIAL PARITY-VIOLATION: GHOSTS

If the inflaton has a **quadratic** dispersion relation, $\omega \propto k^2$

Inflaton

$$S_{\pi\pi} = \int \mathrm{d}^3x \mathrm{d}\eta\, a^4(\eta) \left[\frac{\Lambda^4}{2} \frac{\boxed{\pi'^2}}{a^2(\eta)} - \frac{\tilde{\Lambda}^2}{2} \frac{\boxed{(\nabla^2\pi)^2}}{a^4(\eta)} \right]$$

We generate a parity-odd trispectrum!



$$\tilde{T}_{\Lambda^2_{\mathrm{PO}}}(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3, \mathbf{k}_4) = \frac{512 i \pi^3 \Lambda^5 (H\tilde{\Lambda})^{3/2}}{\Lambda^2_{\mathrm{PO}} \tilde{\Lambda}^6 \Gamma(\frac{3}{4})^2} (\Delta^2_\zeta)^3 (\mathbf{k}_1 \cdot \mathbf{k}_2 \times \mathbf{k}_3)(\mathbf{k}_1 \cdot \mathbf{k}_2) k_1^{-\frac{3}{2}} k_2^{\frac{1}{2}} k_3^{\frac{1}{2}} k_4^{\frac{1}{2}}\, \mathcal{T}^{(13)}_{0,0,0,1}(k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4)$$

Arkani-Hamed+03, Cabass, **Philcox**+22

PRIMORDIAL PARITY-VIOLATION: COSMOLOGICAL COLLIDER

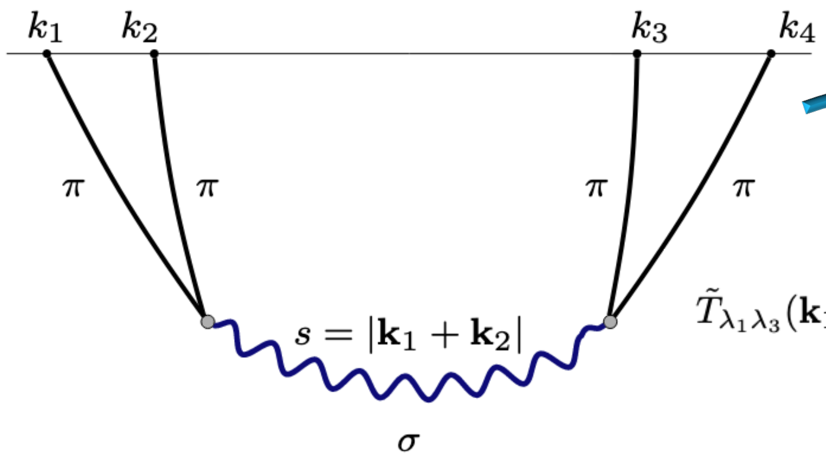
If we **exchange** a **spin-1 particle** during inflation

New Particle

$$S_{\pi\pi\sigma} = \int \mathrm{d}^3x\mathrm{d}\eta \left[\lambda_1 \partial_i \boxed{\pi'} \partial_i \partial_j \boxed{\pi} \boxed{\sigma^j} + \ldots\right.$$

Inflaton

We generate a parity-odd trispectrum!



$$\tilde{T}_{\lambda_1\lambda_3}(\mathbf{k}_1,\mathbf{k}_2,\mathbf{k}_3,\mathbf{k}_4) = -ic_s^4\frac{\lambda_1\lambda_3}{8H}(\Delta_\zeta^2)^4 \sin\pi\left(\nu+\frac{1}{2}\right)k_1^{-2}k_2^{-1}k_3^{-1}k_4^{-1}(\hat{\mathbf{k}}_1\cdot\hat{\mathbf{k}}_2)(\hat{\mathbf{k}}_3\cdot\hat{\mathbf{k}}_4)(k_1-k_2)(k_3-k_4)$$
$$\times(\hat{\mathbf{k}}_2\cdot\hat{\mathbf{k}}_3\times\hat{\mathbf{k}}_4)[k_{12}J_3(c_sk_{12},s)+c_sk_1k_2J_4(c_sk_{12},s)][k_{34}J_4(c_sk_{34},s)+c_sk_3k_4J_5(c_sk_{34},s)]$$

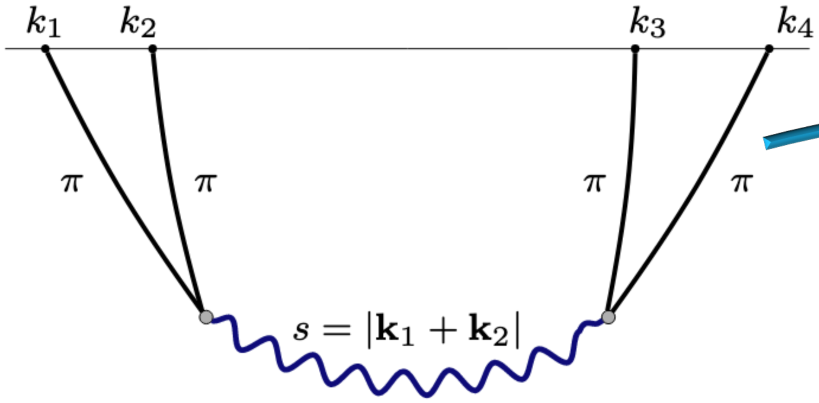
Baumann+10, Cabass+22, Cabass, **Philcox**+22, Creque-Sarbinowski, **Philcox**+ (in prep.)

PRIMORDIAL PARITY-VIOLATION: CHERN-SIMONS GRAVITY

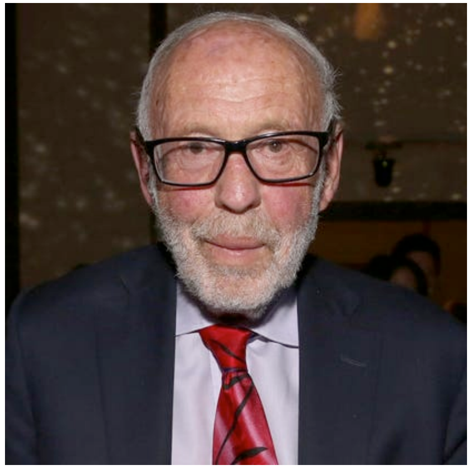
If we **exchange** a **gravitational wave** during inflation

$$S = S_{\mathrm{GR}} + \frac{1}{4\underbrace{\boxed{f}}_{\text{CS Coupling}}}\int d^4x\sqrt{-g}\,\underbrace{\boxed{\phi}}_{\text{Inflaton}}\,\overbrace{\boxed{{}^*RR}}^{\text{Gravity}}$$

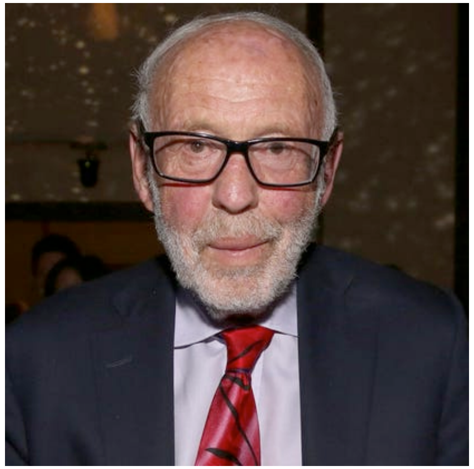
We generate a parity-odd trispectrum!



Gravitational Wave



NB:
Jim is remarkably parity-symmetric



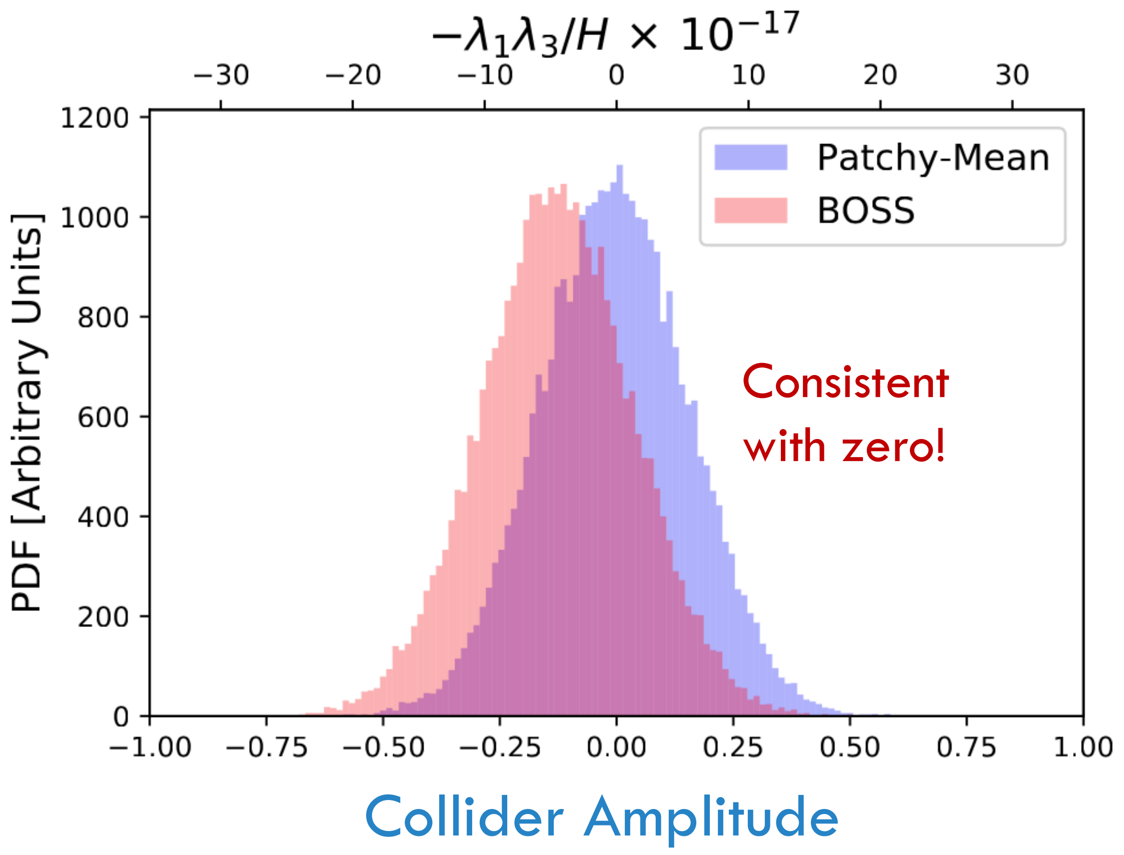
Creque-Sarbinowski, **Philcox**+ (in prep.)

ARE THESE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PARITY-ODD SIGNAL?

- We can **predict** the galaxy 4PCF from the **primordial trispectrum***

- Does this match the BOSS signal?

No evidence for an inflationary source from the 18 modes we tried…

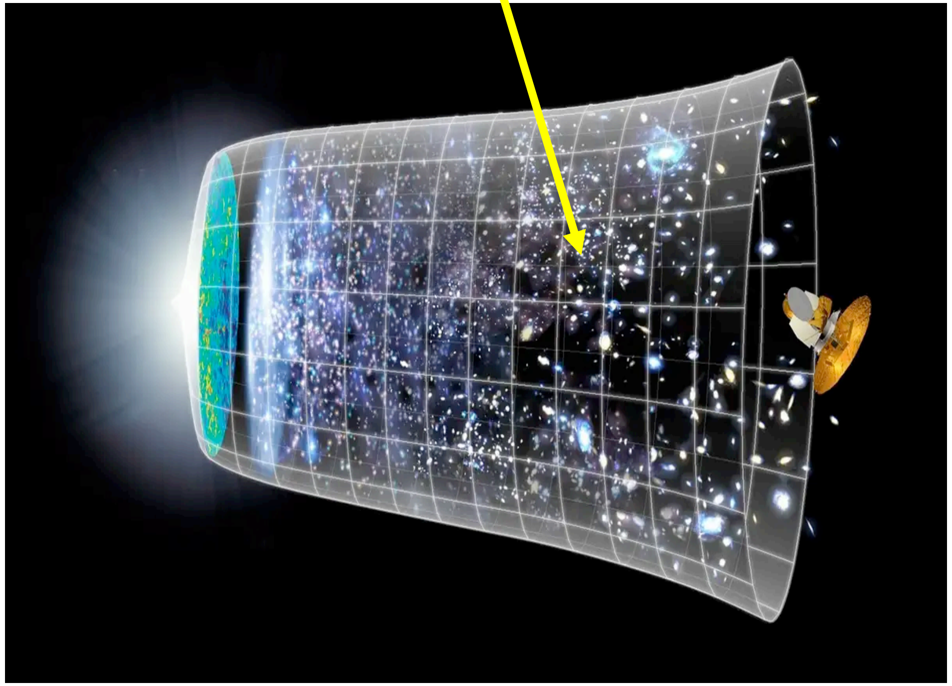


*with a lot of effort

Baumann+10, Cabass, **Philcox**+22

LATE-TIME PARITY VIOLATION

Non-linear gravitational evolution here!



Could the **same** physics be responsible for **birefringence** and **4PCFs**?

- **Unlikely!**
- Chern-Simons couplings affect photon **polarization**
- We observe galaxy **intensity,** which **isn't** affected

In general, **late-time** sources would mainly affect **small scales** – but our signal is at $r > 20$ Mpc/h

Cabass, **Philcox**+22

WHAT'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SIGNAL?

Cosmological options

- Some other model of inflation
- Late-time physics with **large** characteristic scale

Non-cosmological options

- Systematics in **data**
- Systematics in **analysis**

Errors in the mask?
[mocks are unbiased]

Errors in the fiber collisions?
[mocks are unbiased]

Errors in the selection function?
[shouldn't violate parity]

Other systematics?
[very possible]

Philcox 22, Hou+22, Cabass, **Philcox**+22

WHAT'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SIGNAL?

Cosmological options

- Some other model of inflation
- Late-time physics with **large** characteristic scale

Non-cosmological options

- Systematics in **data**
- Systematics in **analysis**

Errors in the covariance?
[analytic modeling insufficient?]

Errors in the likelihood?
[non-Gaussianity is likely!]

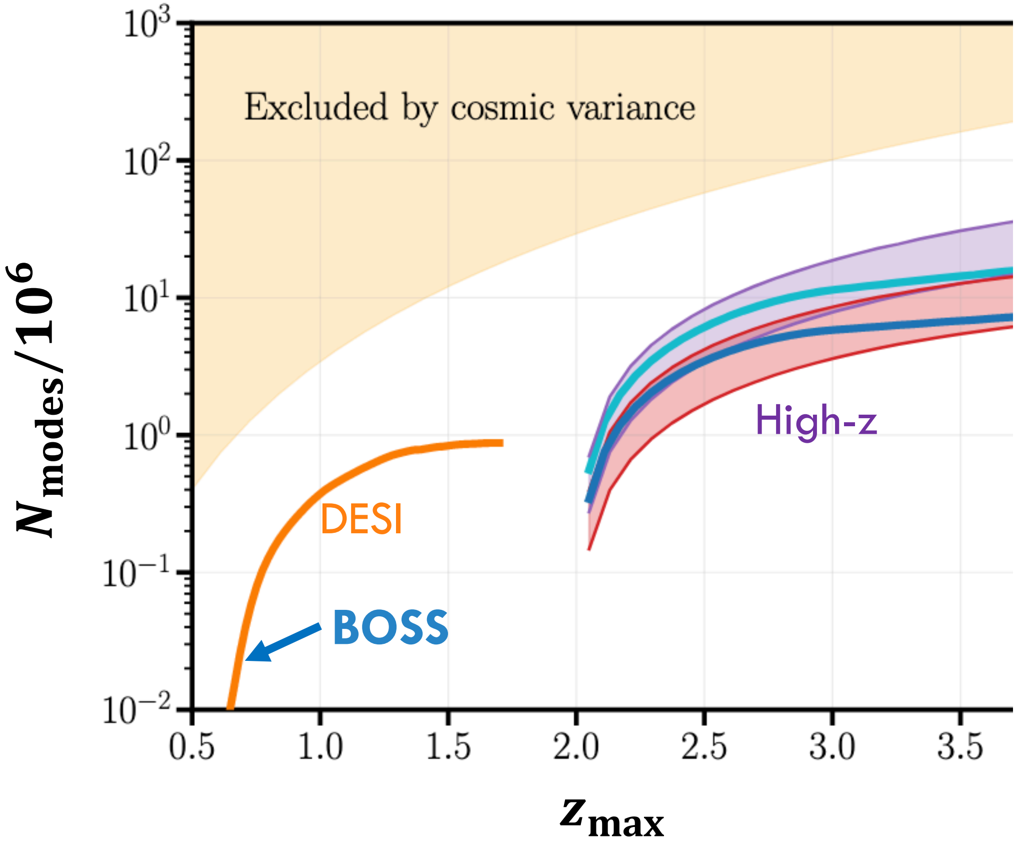
Errors in the simulations?
[do our mocks reproduce the noise properties of the data?]

Philcox 22, Hou+22, Cabass, **Philcox**+22

WHAT'S NEXT? (LSS)

- New data from DESI, SPHEREx, Euclid, etc. will **significantly** reduce error-bars

- ***<u>But</u>* systematics might not go away!**



Ferraro+19

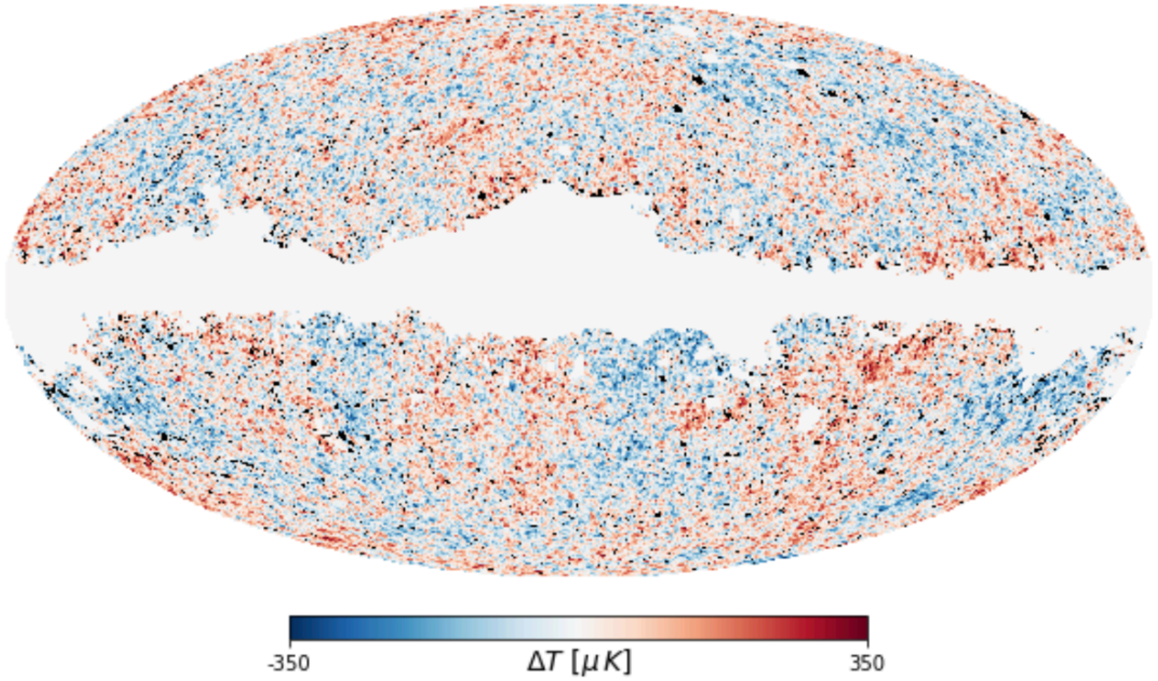
WHAT'S NEXT? (CMB)

The CMB can also probe scalar parity-violation

- ▷ Constrain with the large-scale ($\ell < 500$) **temperature trispectrum**

$$\boxed{t^{\ell_1 \ell_2}_{\ell_3 \ell_4}(L) \sim \left\langle \prod_{i=1}^{4} a_{\ell_i m_i} \right\rangle^{\text{odd}}}$$

- ▷ Measure this from **Planck**!



Philcox (in prep. x2)

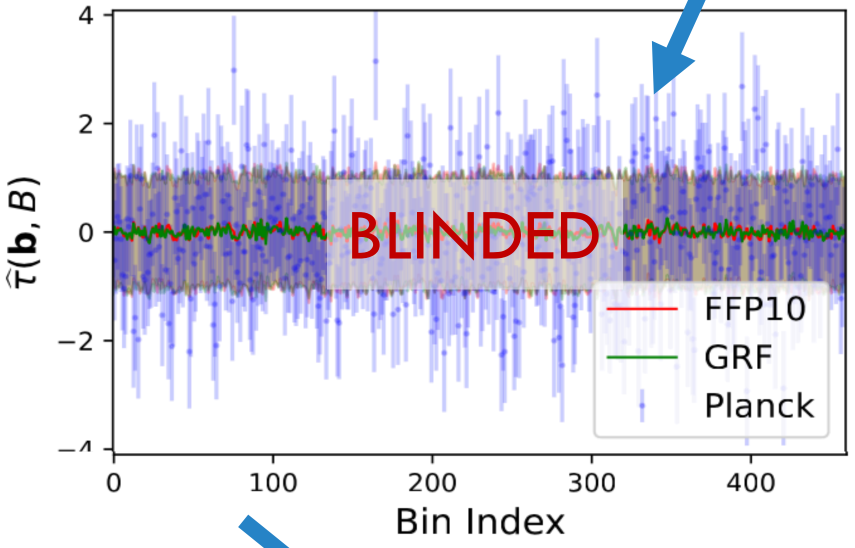
WHAT'S NEXT? (CMB)

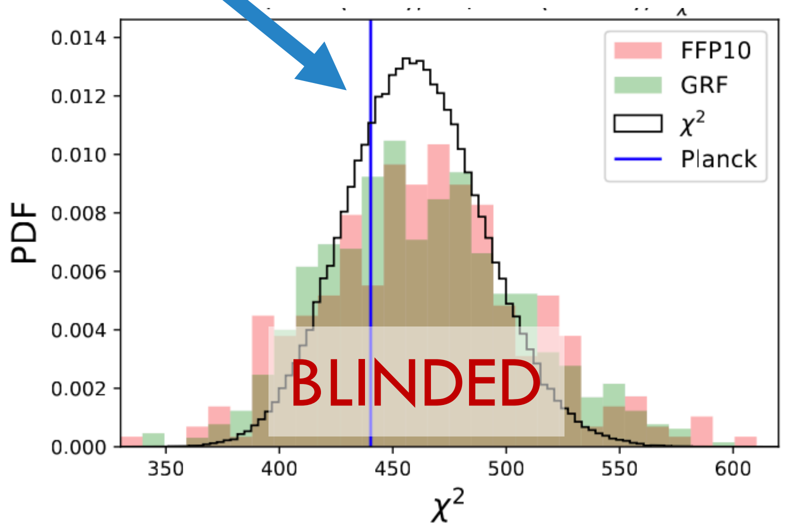
▷ This requires **new estimators** for binned parity-odd trispectra

▷ Outputs can be compared to **accurate simulations**

Do we detect parity-violation?

Wait and see…





Philcox (in prep. x2)

arXiv

2011.11254

2210.07655

2206.04227

2206.03625

2210.02907

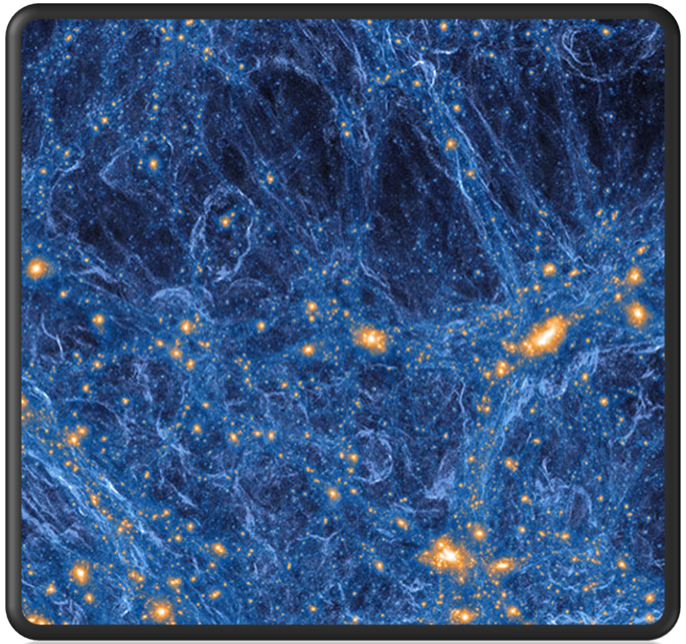
CONCLUSIONS

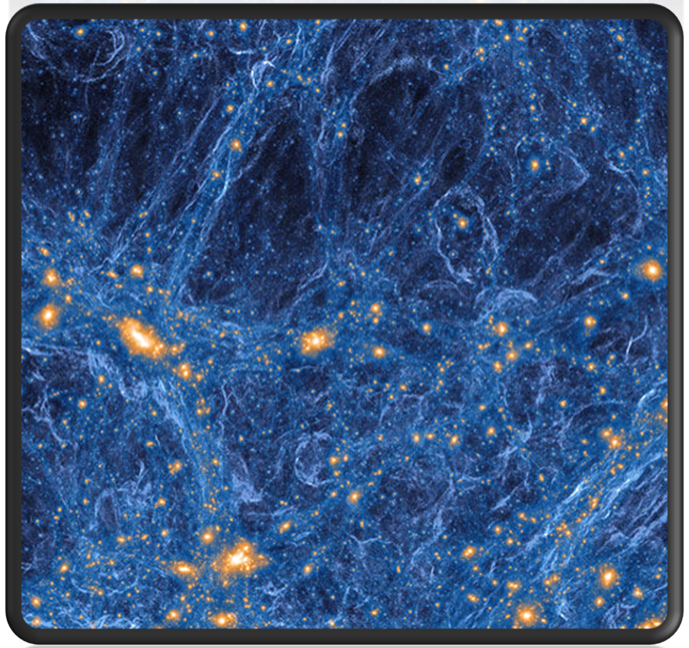
- New observations may hint at **parity-violation** in the Universe

- If true, this would imply **new physics** in **inflation** and/or the **late Universe**

- But, could also be explained by **dust** and **imperfect analyses.**

There is much more to learn!





Contact

ohep2@cantab.ac.uk

@oliver_philcox