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# Bayesian Analysis of Weak Lensing on the Largest Scales

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ICIC Imperial Centre for Inference & Cosmology

Gravity at the Largest Scales IWH Heidelberg 26-28 Oct 2015

# The opportunities and risks of surveys to test gravity

- Surveys such as Euclid and LSST will test the gravity law with exquisite precision (small error bars)
- Why should we be careful?
- Inaccurate results may be interpreted as new physics, when they should not be
- Incorrect analysis may lead to inaccuracies



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# The goal of scientific inference

- <u>Bayesian inference</u>: given some new data, the posterior probability (of model parameters) encompasses all we know
- P(Parameters | Data, Model, Prior Information)\*
- Complicated function not analytic
- Alternative: *sample* from the posterior (cf MCMC)
- If we can do it, there is no reason not to do it this way
- \* Also P(Model | Data)



# **Bayesian Hierarchical Models**

- Break the problem into steps:
- Parameters: Let C = (various) power spectra
- s = true shear map (many more parameters)
- Data: pixelised shear values d = s + n (noise)
- We typically want p(C|d)
- Conditional distributions, e.g. p(s|C), are often known
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Credit: J. Alsing





#### Joint map-power spectrum inference

- Link between **d** and C is the true map **s**
- Natural to sample from C and s jointly, conditioned on the data d: p(C, s | d)
- Marginalise over the map(s) s to get p(C | d)
- Assume gaussian fields for large scales

- How to do this inverse problem?
- Consider the forward model:



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### Messenger fields

Elsner & Wandelt 2012, 2013 Jasche & Lavaux 2015



 $P(\mathbf{C})$ 



SUNGLASS simulations (Kiessling et al 2011)







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 $(E_1, E_2)$ 

*E*-modes are recovered, well below the shot noise at high-*I* 





# Cosmology

- Sampling the power spectrum first has advantages:
- Gibbs sampling is efficient (gaussian fields)
- Further cosmological parameter inference is straightforward:

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} \sim P(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{d}) = P(\mathbf{C}(\boldsymbol{\theta})|\mathbf{d}) \frac{P(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{P(\mathbf{C}(\boldsymbol{\theta}))}$$

 Different theoretical models can be investigated (notably intrinsic alignment contribution)

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# Feasibility

 2 bin (128<sup>2</sup> pixels) tomography runs on quadcore desktop, generating ~4 million samples in a few days

FFT, SPH 
$$\sim n_{\rm pix} \log(n_{\rm pix}), n_{\rm pix}^{3/2}$$

 10-bin tomography (Euclid-like survey) is probably feasible now with supercomputers



#### **Global BHM:**



# Conclusions

- Bayesian hierarchical models are the natural way to do principled Bayesian statistical inference from weak lensing
- Messenger fields now make it possible
- Joint map and power spectrum inference with ~10<sup>5</sup> parameters (or more) is feasible
- Masks and intrinsic alignments are easily included
- In progress: CFHTLenS analysis; non-gaussian likelihoods; possible Euclid pipeline
- Alsing et al. arXiv:1505.07840



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