



UNIVERSITY *of the*
WESTERN CAPE



Probing the Cosmological Principle with weak lensing shear

James Adam

Collaborators: Roy Maartens, Chris Clarkson, Julien Larena

[[arXiv:2411.08560](https://arxiv.org/abs/2411.08560)], [JCAP02\(2025\)016](#)

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Introduction

Motivation

- Homogeneity and isotropy on large scales is foundational to modern cosmology
- Some dark energy, modified gravity models lead to large-scale anisotropies
- Fundamentally, this assumption must be tested
- Renewed interest in anisotropic cosmologies (e.g. SN Ia measurements, CMB dipole)
 - ⇒ Can use weak lensing to probe anisotropies
- Formalism developed by Pitrou, Pereira, & Uzan to estimate B-mode shear generated by anisotropies:
[\[arXiv:1503.01125\]](#), [\[arXiv:1503.01127\]](#)
- Incorporate non-linear corrections and tomography into results of Pitrou et al. and quantify possible SNR for Euclid, Euclid×Simons, and Euclid×Planck

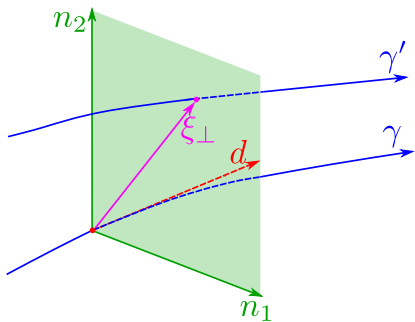
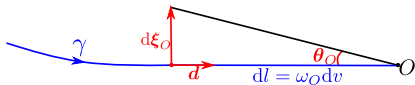
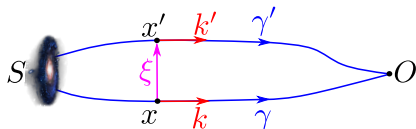
Lensing Formalism

Lensing distortions

Jacobi matrix

- Observed angular size $\mapsto$ physical separation

$$\xi^A|_S \propto \mathcal{D}^A_B \theta^B|_O$$

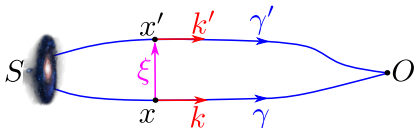


Lensing distortions

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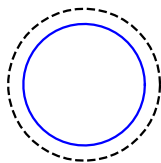
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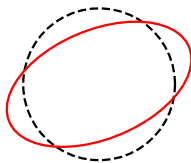
$$\mathcal{D} \approx \bar{D}_A \left[\overbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 - \kappa & 0 \\ 0 & 1 - \kappa \end{pmatrix}}^{\text{Convergence}} + \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\psi \\ \psi & 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{Rotation}} + \overbrace{\begin{pmatrix} -\gamma_1 & \gamma_2 \\ \gamma_2 & \gamma_1 \end{pmatrix}}^{\text{Shear}} \right]$$

- Weak lensing: $\kappa, \gamma \ll 1$ and $\dot{\psi} = \mathcal{O}(\gamma^2)$
 $\Rightarrow$ Ignore rotation (usually)

Convergence:



Shear:



E-modes, B-modes, and multipoles

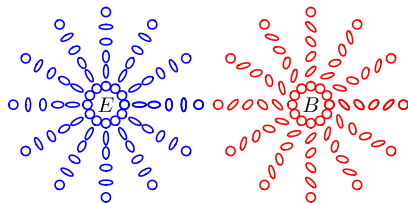
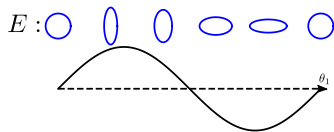
- Expand κ in spherical harmonics

$$\kappa = \sum_{\ell,m} \kappa_{\ell m} Y_{\ell m}$$

- Expand γ in spin-weighted spherical harmonics

$$\gamma^{\pm} = \gamma_1 \pm i\gamma_2 = \sum_{\ell,m} (E_{\ell m} \pm iB_{\ell m}) Y_{\ell m}^{\pm 2}$$

- E = even parity, B = odd parity
- No B-modes on large scales (FLRW)*



Anisotropic Spacetime

Bianchi-I universes

Metric

$$ds^2 = a^2(-d\eta^2 + \gamma_{ij}dx^i dx^j)$$

- a = scale factor, γ_{ij} = spatial metric
- Hubble rate: $\mathcal{H} \equiv \frac{a'}{a}$
- Spatial shear: $\sigma_{ij} \equiv \frac{1}{2}\gamma'_{ij}$

Dark Energy

$$T_{\mu\nu}^{de} = (\rho_{de} + P_{de})u_\mu u_\nu + P_{de}g_{\mu\nu} + \Pi_{\mu\nu}$$

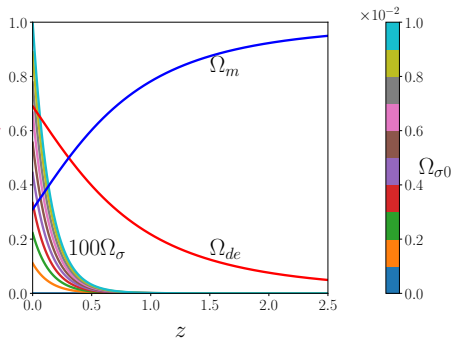
Anisotropic stress

- EoS: $P_{de} = -\rho_{de}$
- Anisotropic stress model:
 $\Pi^i_j \propto \Omega_{de} W^i_j$

Evolution

$$\mathcal{H}^2 = \frac{1}{3}\kappa a^2 \rho + \frac{1}{6}\sigma^2$$

$$(\sigma^i_j)' = -2\mathcal{H}\sigma^i_j + \kappa \Pi^i_j$$



Bianchi-I universes

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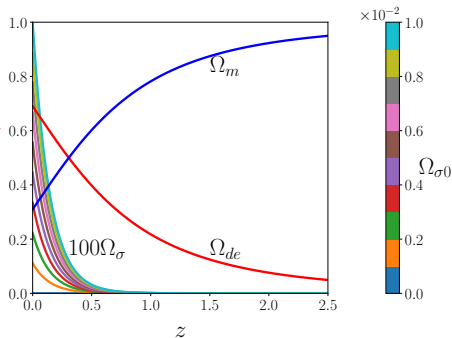
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Weak shear limit: $\left(\frac{\sigma}{\mathcal{H}}\right) \ll 1 \implies$ leading order in $\frac{\sigma}{\mathcal{H}}$

Results

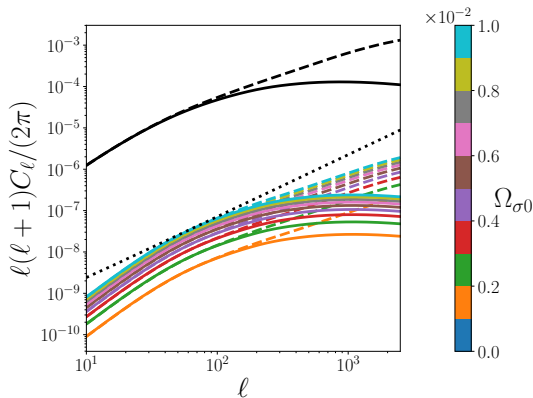
Angular power spectra

E-modes and convergence

- Standard textbook result
- First order in φ
- $C_{\ell}^{EE} = \langle E_{\ell m} E_{\ell m}^* \rangle \approx C_{\ell}^{\kappa\kappa} \sim \varphi^2$

B-modes

- Post-Born couples σ and φ
 $\implies$ Non-zero B-modes!
- $C_{\ell}^{BB} = \frac{1}{2\ell+1} \sum_m \langle B_{\ell m} B_{\ell m}^* \rangle$
 $\sim \left(\frac{\sigma}{\mathcal{H}}\right)^2 \varphi^2$



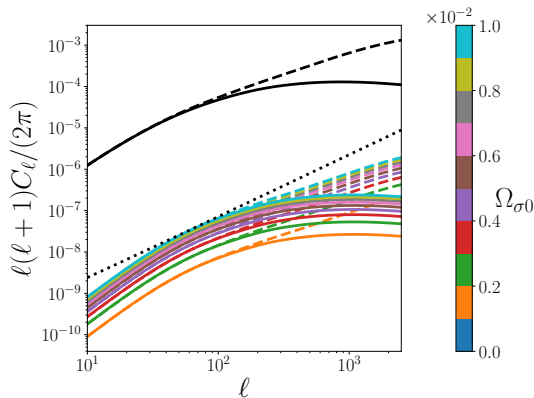
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C_{ℓ}^{BB} likely too small to detect :(
 $\Rightarrow$ Use cross-correlation!

E-B, κ -B cross-correlation

E-modes $\times$ B-modes

- Parity $\implies$ off-diagonal correlations
- Isolate signal with BipoSH:

$${}^{EB}\mathcal{A}_{\ell}^{\pm} = \sum \langle E_{\ell m} B_{\ell \pm 1 m'}^* \rangle \\ \sim \ell^{4.5} \mathcal{P}_{\ell M} \sim \left(\frac{\sigma}{\mathcal{H}}\right) \varphi^2$$

- Tomography for E and B from Euclid

Convergence $\times$ B-modes

- Obtain $\mathcal{P}_{\ell M}$ again
- Use reconstructed CMB κ from Planck and Simons Obs.
 $\implies$ non-tomographic!
- Main topic of this talk

E-B, κ -B cross-correlation

E-modes $\times$ B-modes

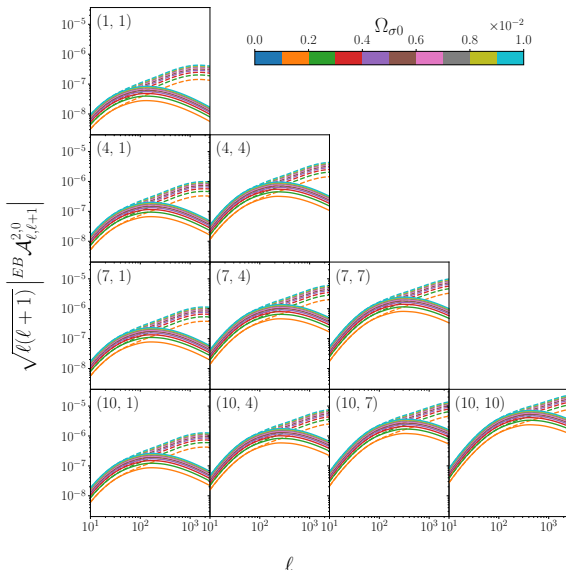
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$${}^{EB}\mathcal{A}_{\ell\ell'}^{2,0} = \sum \langle E_{\ell m} B_{\ell' \pm 1 m'}^* \rangle \\ \sim \ell^{4.5} \mathcal{P}_{\ell M} \sim \left(\frac{\sigma}{\mathcal{H}}\right) \varphi^2$$

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What about $\langle EE \rangle$ and $\langle \kappa \kappa \rangle$?

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- Tomography for E and B from Euclid

What about $\langle EE \rangle$ and $\langle \kappa \kappa \rangle$?
 $\implies$ Lower SNR!

Convergence $\times$ B-modes

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E-B, κ -B cross-correlation

E-modes $\times$ B-modes

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$${}^{EB}A_{..} = \sum \langle E_{\ell m} B_{\ell \pm 1 m'}^* \rangle \\ \sim \ell^{4.5} \mathcal{P}_{\ell M} \sim \left(\frac{\sigma}{\mathcal{H}} \right) \varphi^2$$

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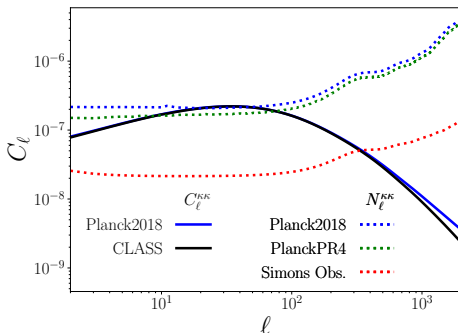
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 $\implies$ non-tomographic!
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Estimator and error

- Simple estimator $\hat{\mathcal{P}}_{\ell M}$
 $\implies$ Compute SNR:

$$\left(\frac{S}{N}\right)^2 \sim \sum_{\ell, \text{bins}} \left(\frac{\mathcal{P}_{\ell M}}{\Delta \mathcal{P}_{\ell M}}\right)^2$$

- SI variance:

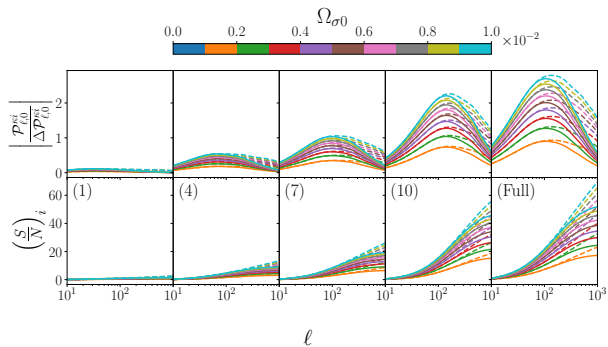


$$(\Delta \mathcal{P}_{\ell M})^2 = \text{Var} \left(\hat{\mathcal{P}}_{\ell M} \right)_{\text{SI}} \sim \frac{1}{f_{\text{sky}}} \frac{(C_{\ell}^{\kappa\kappa})_{\text{SI}} (C_{\ell}^{BB})_{\text{SI}}}{\ell^9}$$

Spectrum + noise/bias
Shape noise

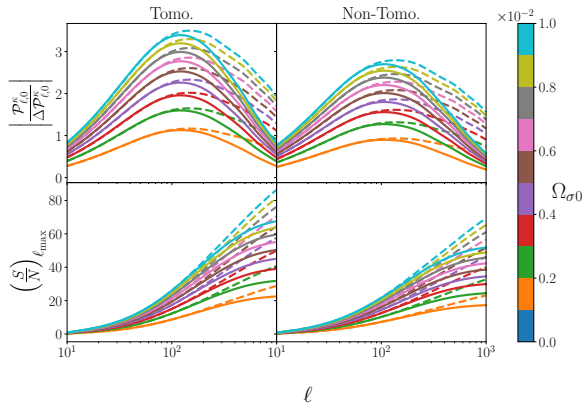
Survey overlap fraction

Cumulative SNR



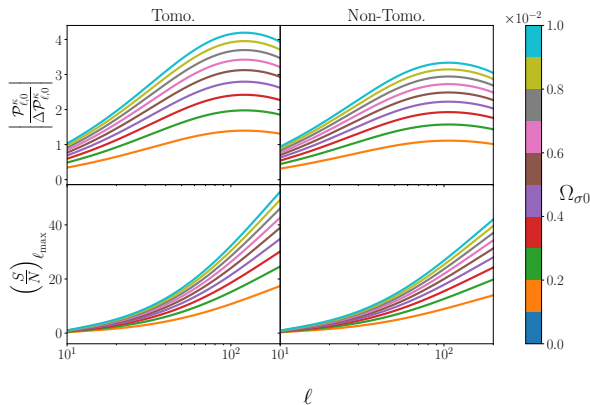
- Calculate SNR in each bin

Cumulative SNR



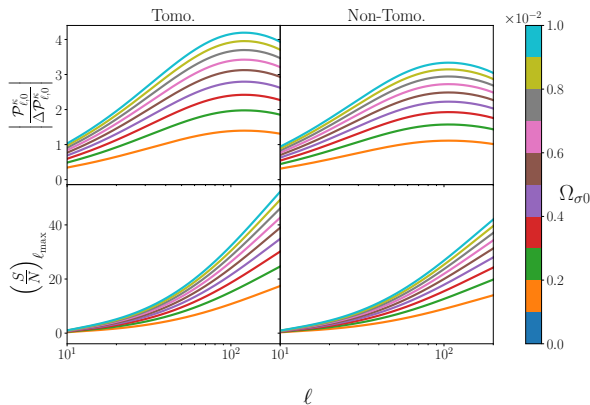
- Calculate SNR in each bin
- Sum up tomographic bins

Cumulative SNR



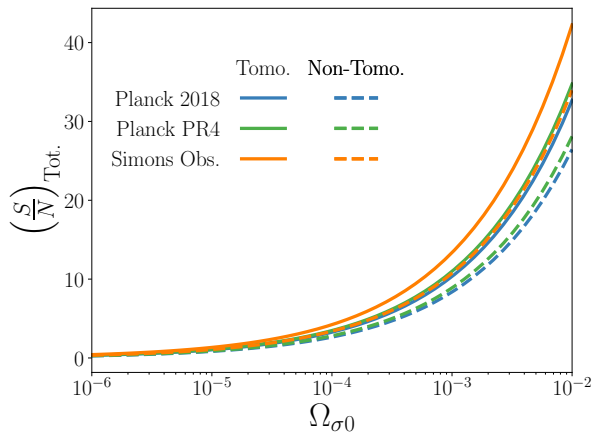
- Calculate SNR in each bin
- Sum up tomographic bins
- Check nonlinear behaviour using HaloFit

Cumulative SNR



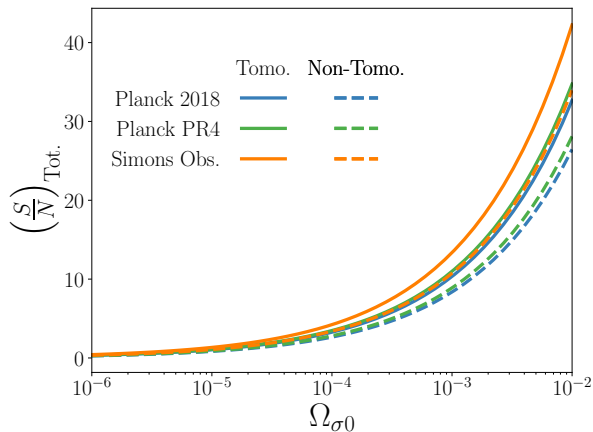
- Calculate SNR in each bin
- Sum up tomographic bins
- Check nonlinear behaviour using HaloFit
- Set cutoff scale $\ell_{\max} = 200$

Constraining power



SNR=10 cutoff

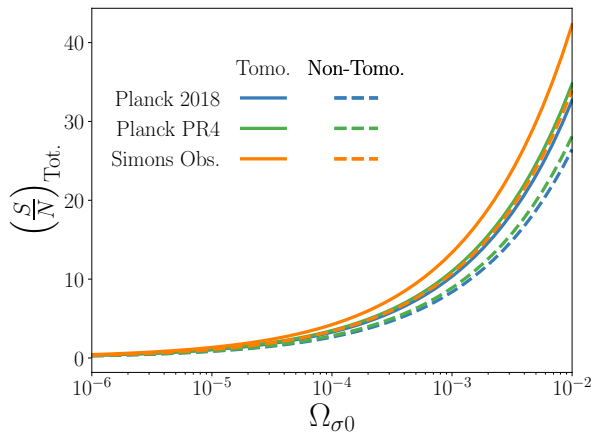
Constraining power



SNR=10 cutoff

- PL2018×Euclid:
 $\frac{\sigma}{\mathcal{H}} \lesssim 3.1\%$

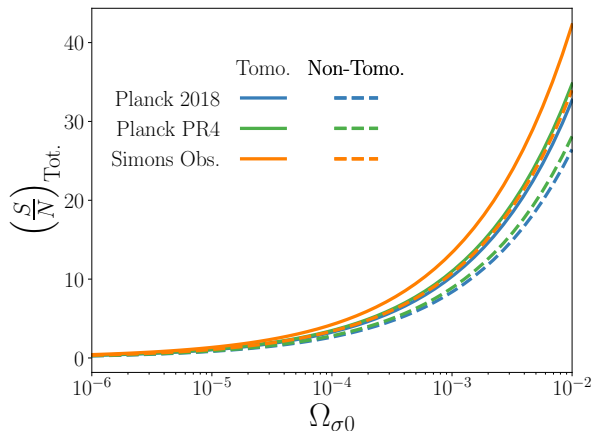
Constraining power



SNR=10 cutoff

- PL2018 $\times$ Euclid:
 $\frac{\sigma}{\mathcal{H}} \lesssim 3.1\%$
- PLPR4 $\times$ Euclid:
 $\frac{\sigma}{\mathcal{H}} \lesssim 2.9\%$

Constraining power



SNR=10 cutoff

- PL2018 $\times$ Euclid:
 $\frac{\sigma}{\mathcal{H}} \lesssim 3.1\%$
- PLPR4 $\times$ Euclid:
 $\frac{\sigma}{\mathcal{H}} \lesssim 2.9\%$
- Simons $\times$ Euclid:
 $\frac{\sigma}{\mathcal{H}} \lesssim 2.4\%$

Conclusion

Summary

- Lightning review of lensing formalism
- $E-B + \kappa-B$ cross-correlations can constrain late-time anisotropic expansion
 $\Rightarrow$ make use of large scales and tomography
- Should construct appropriate estimators for cross-correlations

Outlook

- Much to improve...
- Should take into account more systematics (e.g. masking, IA, ...)
- Weak lensing is of immense importance to upcoming surveys
- Hope to place constraints on $\sigma/\mathcal{H}$ at the percent level

Thank you :)

Extra slides

Weak shear limit and perturbation scheme

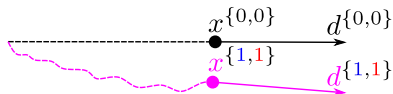
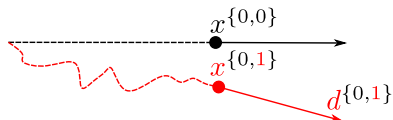
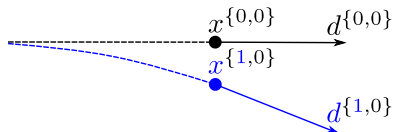
Perturbed metric

$$ds^2 = a^2 \left[- (1 + 2\Phi) d\eta^2 + 2\bar{B}_i dx^i d\eta + (\gamma_{ij} + h_{ij}) dx^i dx^j \right]$$

Perturbation scheme

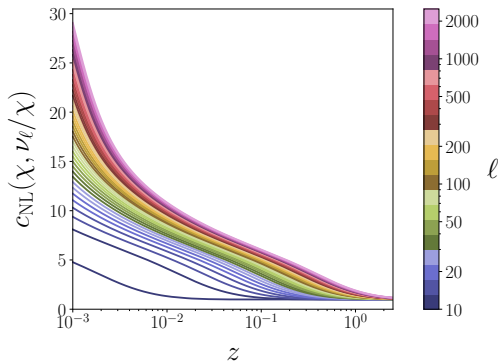
- Treat $\sigma_{ij}/\mathcal{H} \ll 1$ as perturbation along with scalar-vector-tensor (SVT) perturbations
- SVT: Φ , $\bar{B}^i$,
 $h_{ij} = -2\Psi \left(\gamma_{ij} + \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{\mathcal{H}} \right) + 2E_{ij}$
- Two-fold perturbation $\{n, m\}$ for **shear** and **SVT***:

$$\chi^{\{n,m\}} = \underbrace{\chi^{\{0,0\}}}_{\text{FLRW}} + \overbrace{\delta\chi^{\{0,1\}}}^{\text{SVT}} + \underbrace{\delta\chi^{\{1,0\}}}_{\text{Shear}} + \overbrace{\delta\chi^{\{1,1\}} + \dots + \delta\chi^{\{n,m\}}}^{\text{Shear+SVT}}$$



Non-linear corrections

- Angular power spectra of the form
$$C_\ell \sim \ell^4 \int \frac{d\chi}{\chi^2} P(k) T_\varphi^2(\chi, k) \Big|_{k=\ell/\chi}$$
- Calculate non-linear matter power spectrum P_m^{NL} with HaloFit
- Rescale transfer function
$$T_\varphi \mapsto c_{\text{NL}} T_\varphi$$
- Non-linear factor $c_{\text{NL}} = \sqrt{P_m^{\text{NL}}/P_m^{\text{L}}}$
- CLASS: $P(k)$, $T_\varphi(\eta, k)$, HaloFit
- Smooth interpolation from linear to non-linear regimes
- Better understand limits of validity for predictions



Euclid tomography

- Lensing projects/flattens observables
- Tomography regains some projected info.
- Reduce noise and error
- Euclid:
 - 10 equi-populated bins $10^{-3} \leq z \leq 2.5$
 - Weight underlying distribution $n(z)$ with photometric error $p_{\text{ph}}(z_p|z)$

