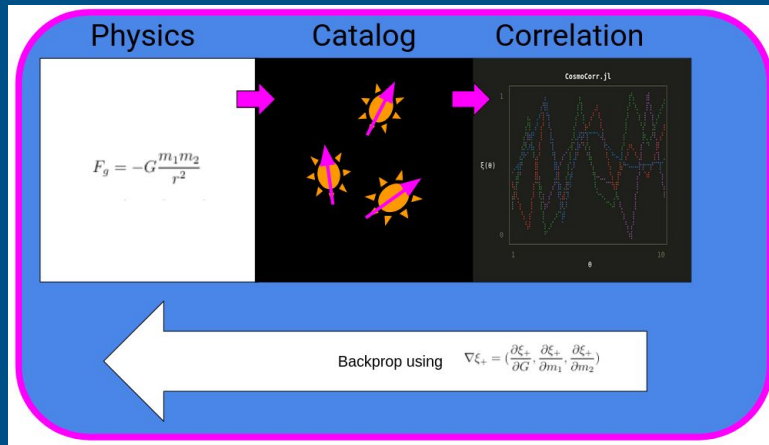


On Soft Clustering for Correlation Estimators:

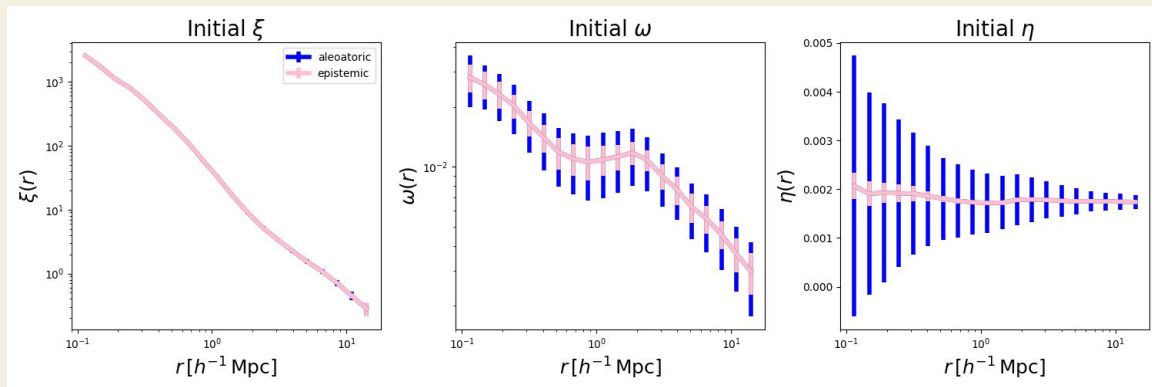
Model Uncertainty, Differentiability, and Surrogates



1. **Correlation Function Overview**
2. **Model Uncertainty**
3. **Differentiability**
4. **Surrogates**

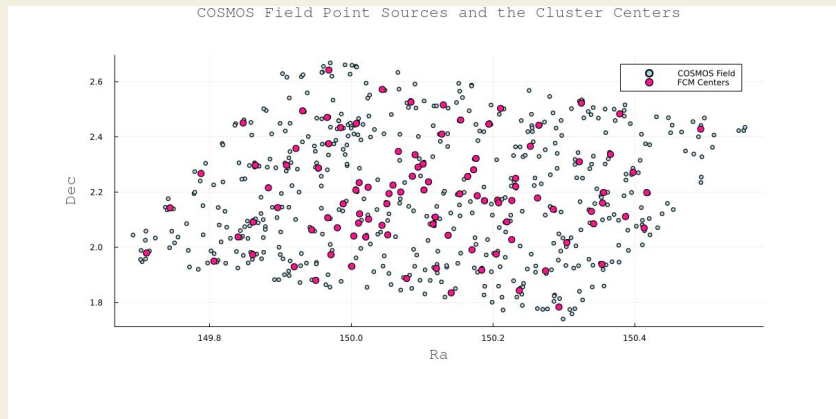
Correlation Functions

Expected value of the product between two quantities as a function of how far apart they are. Used all over cosmology.



Correlation Functions

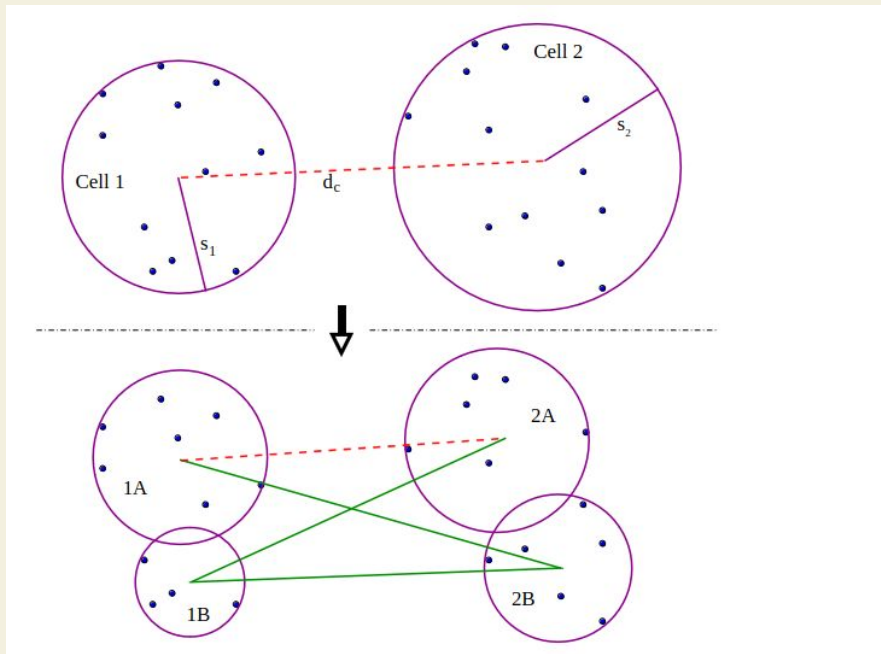
- The number of distance calculations grows quadratically with the number of objects (SLOW!!!)
- Thus, we cluster :D



1. Correlation Function Overview
2. **Model Uncertainty**
3. Differentiability
4. Surrogates

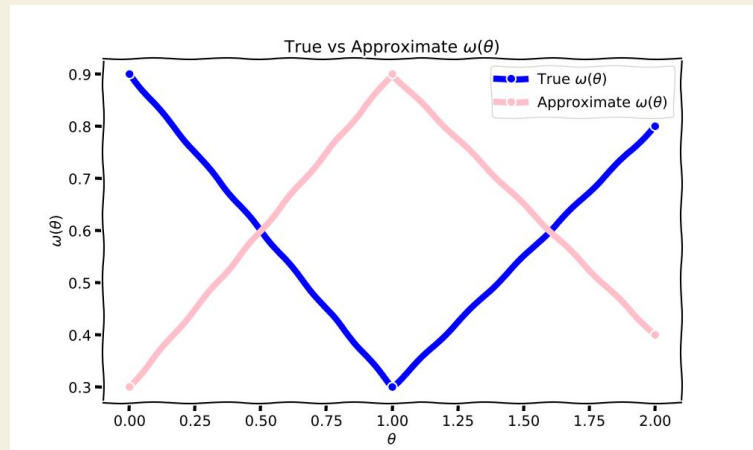
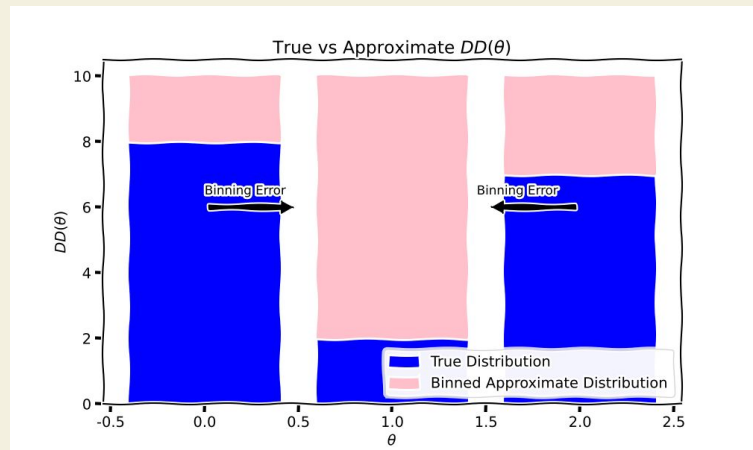
Model Uncertainty

- For a significant number of objects, the number of distances that are overestimated is close to the number that are underestimated
- We can even restrict the error to one distance bin [Jarvis 2004]
- But what if we don't have that many objects?



Model Uncertainty

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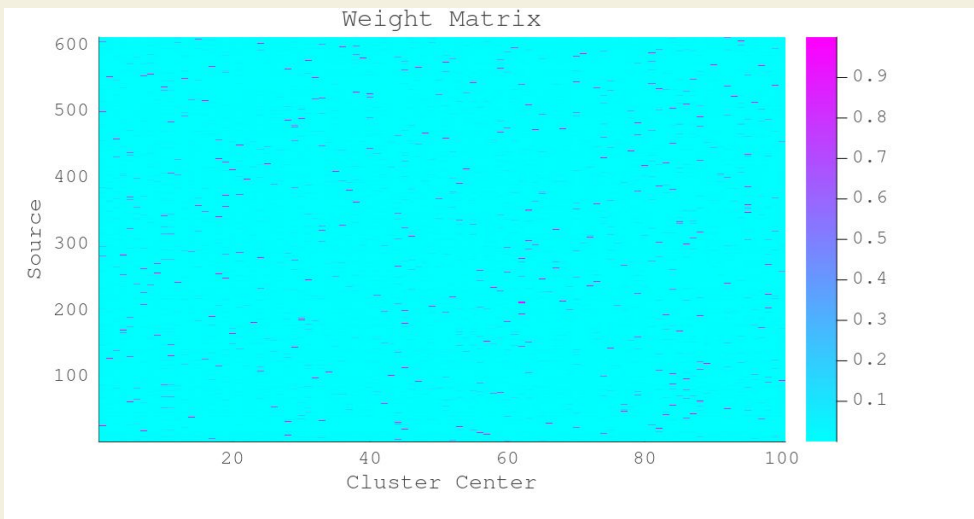


Model Uncertainty

- How can we quantify the uncertainty caused by the clustering?
- Can we reconcile clustering uncertainties from data uncertainties?

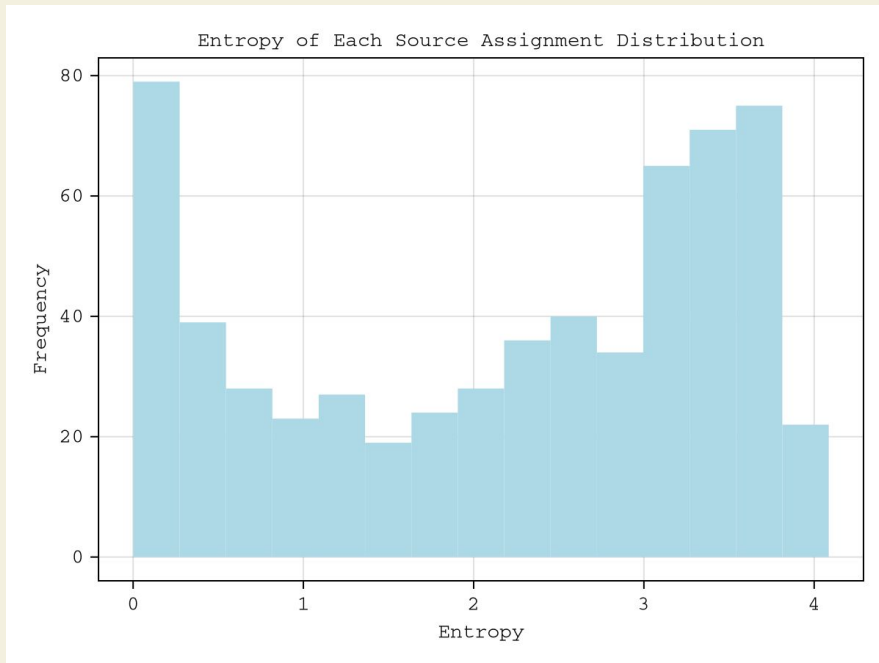
Model Uncertainty

- How can we quantify the uncertainty caused by the clustering? **Make cluster assignments probabilistic (fuzzy-c-means). Repeat inference!**
- Can we reconcile clustering uncertainties from data uncertainties? **Yes! Combine the inference error bar with a bootstrapping or jackknife technique.**



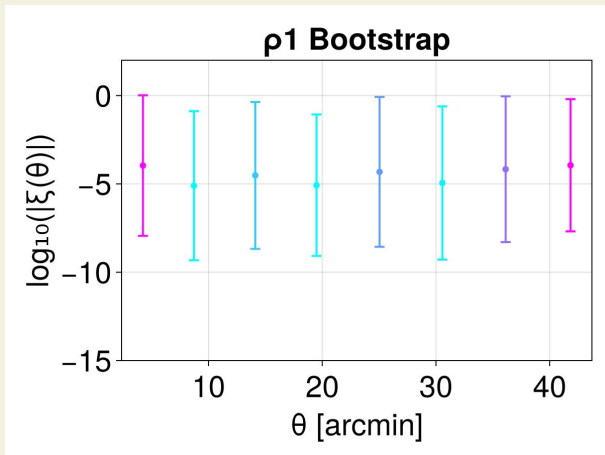
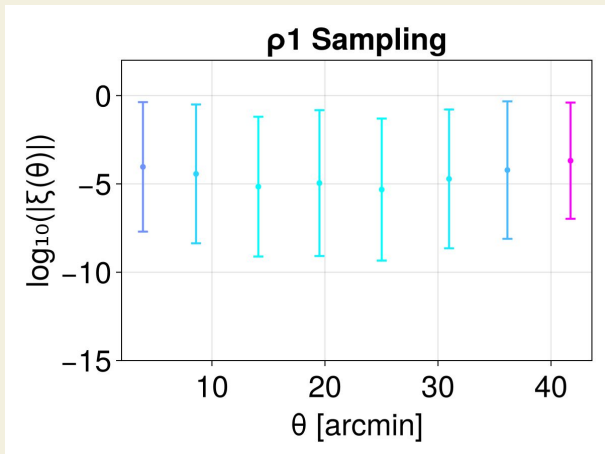
Model Uncertainty

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Model Uncertainty

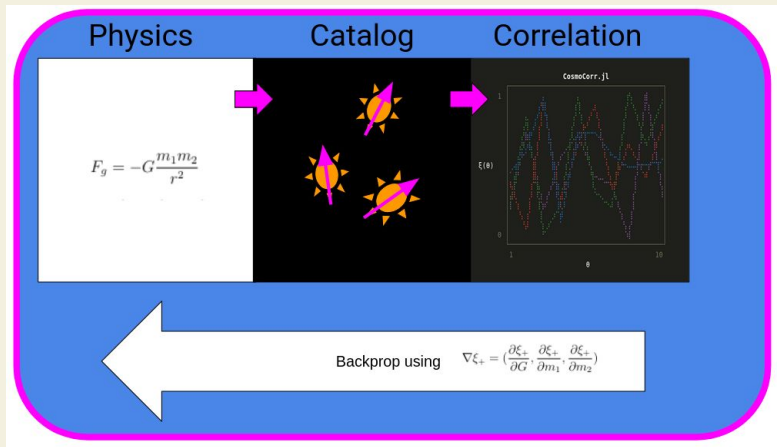
- We find that for data sparse science cases, the error bars are comparable!!



1. Correlation Function Overview
2. Model Uncertainty
3. **Differentiability**
4. Surrogates

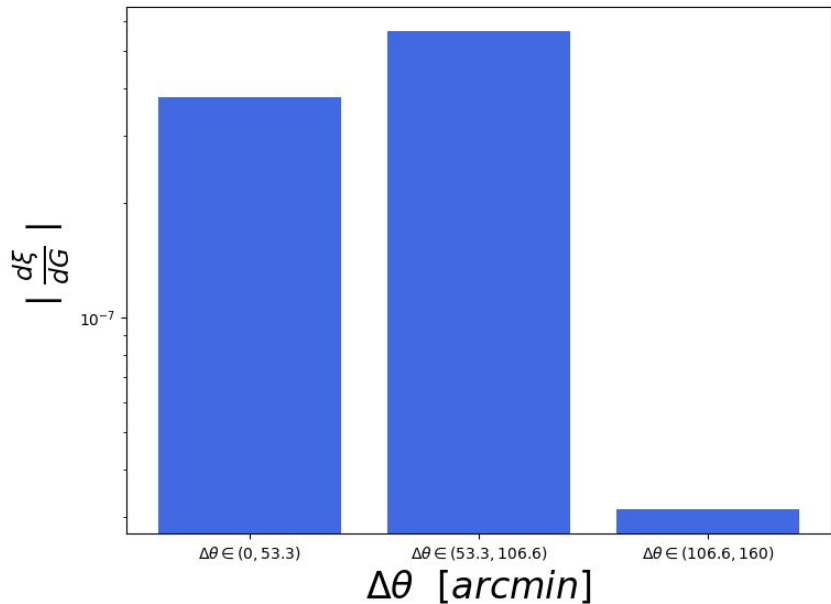
Differentiability

- I LOVE SIMULATIONS :D
- I want to go from forward model, to galaxy catalog, to correlation function
- How do correlations depend on parameters in the forward model
- *We want gradient based optimization*



Differentiability

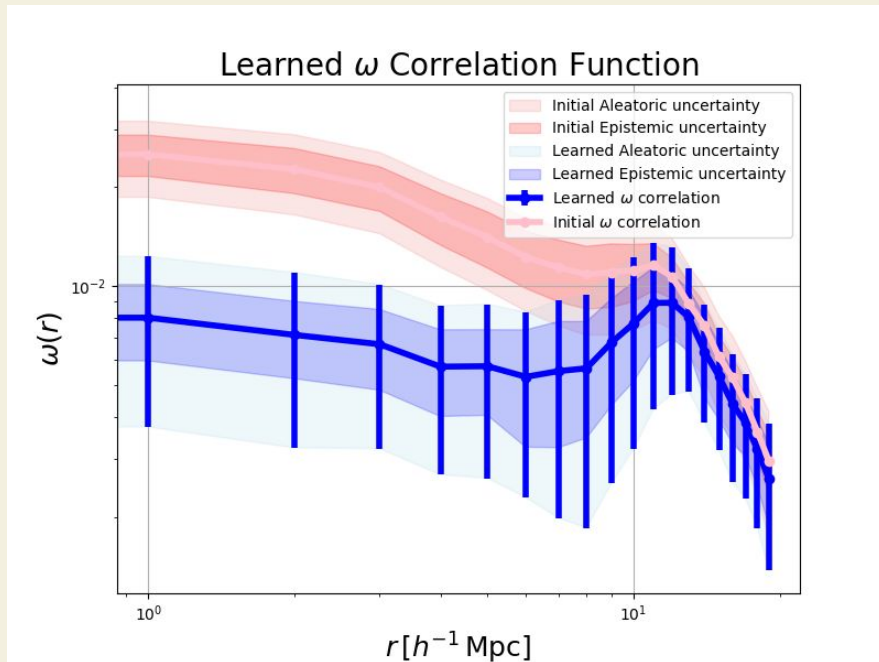
- Our algorithm for model uncertainty relied on sampling (not differentiable)
- We can amend this with three different approaches:
 - Gumbel-max reparameterization
 - No assignments (weighted averaging)
 - Skip Gradients



1. **Correlation Function Overview**
2. **Model Uncertainty**
3. **Differentiability**
4. **Surrogates**

Surrogates

- Some differentiation techniques are already approximate
- They can also be slow to compute
- Can we learn the relationship between astrophysical model parameters and correlations directly and use that for our differentiable solution? **Yes :D**



Conclusions. contact, and thanks =]

- Correlation Functions are Kewl
- For more, see: <https://github.com/EdwardBerman/cosmo-corr>
- [Berman et al in prep.] [AAS winter session 2025]
- <http://ebrmn.space/>
- $f(\text{berman, ed, northeastern})$ where $f(x,y,z) = \underline{x.y@z.edu}$
- Thanks for list'nin'