A grayscale image of a cosmic web simulation, showing a complex network of dark filaments and bright, dense clusters of galaxies or matter.

The Aemulus Project: Emulation of Beyond-Standard Galaxy Clustering Statistics to Improve Cosmological Constraints

Kate Storey-Fisher

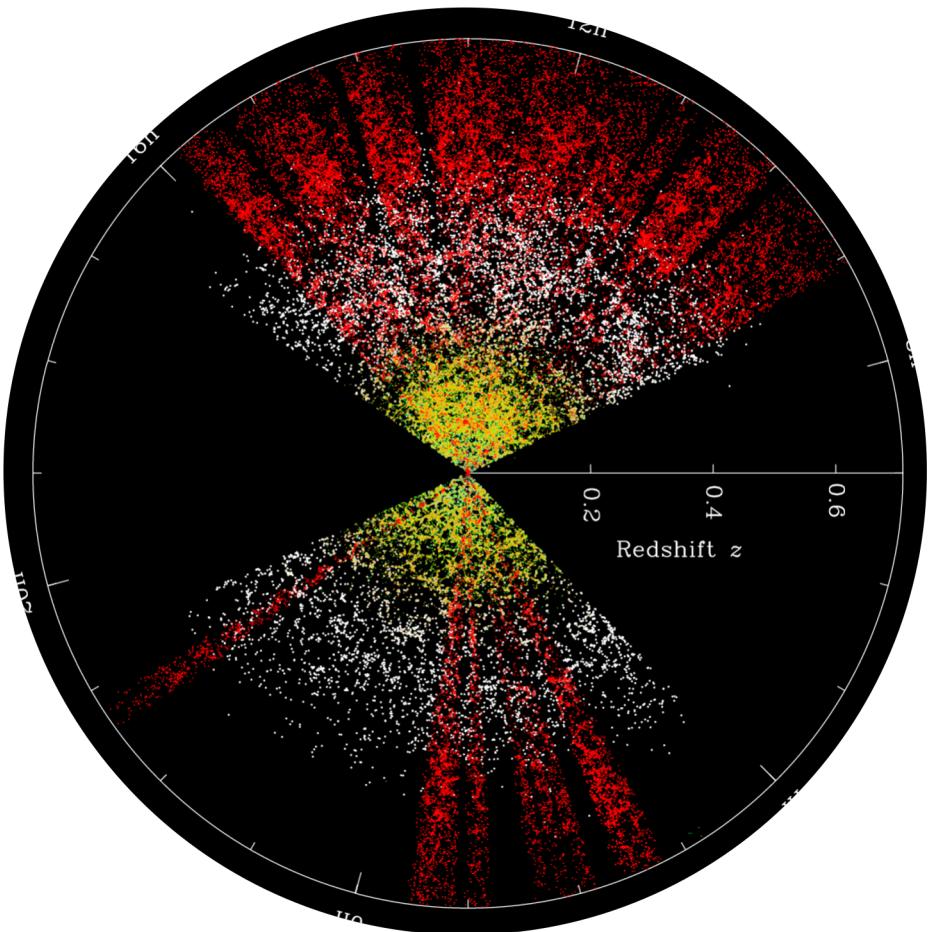
NYU | NASA FINESST

EAS 2022 | July 1, 2022

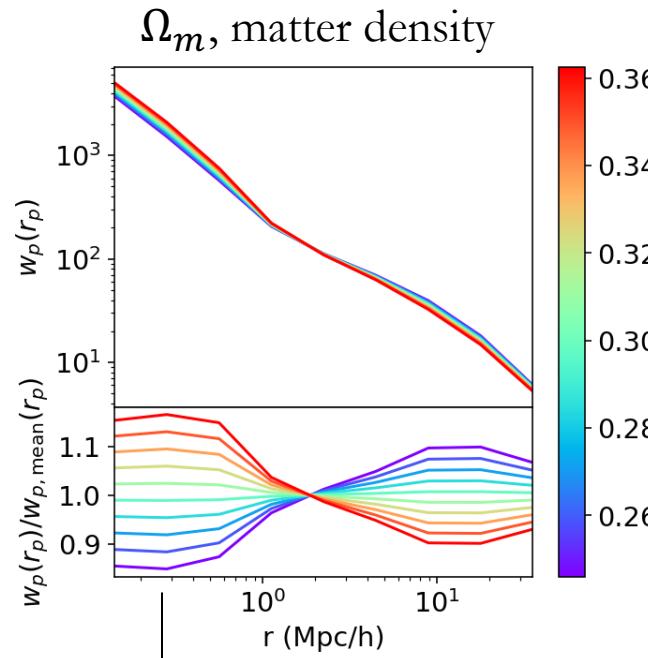
with Jeremy Tinker & the
Aemulus Collaboration

Large-scale structure encodes the expansion history of the universe.

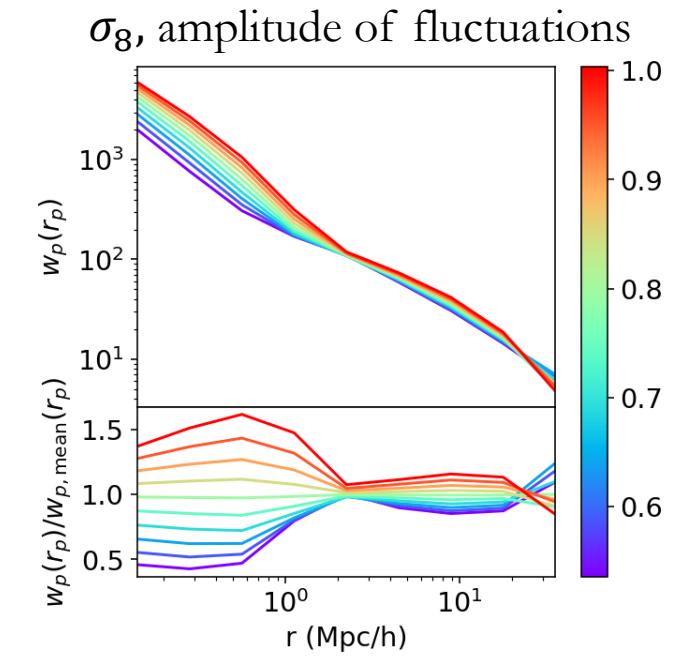
SDSS + BOSS Luminous Red Galaxies



Summary statistics contain information about the cosmological growth of structure parameters.



The nonlinear regime is difficult & expensive to model!



The Aemulus Project

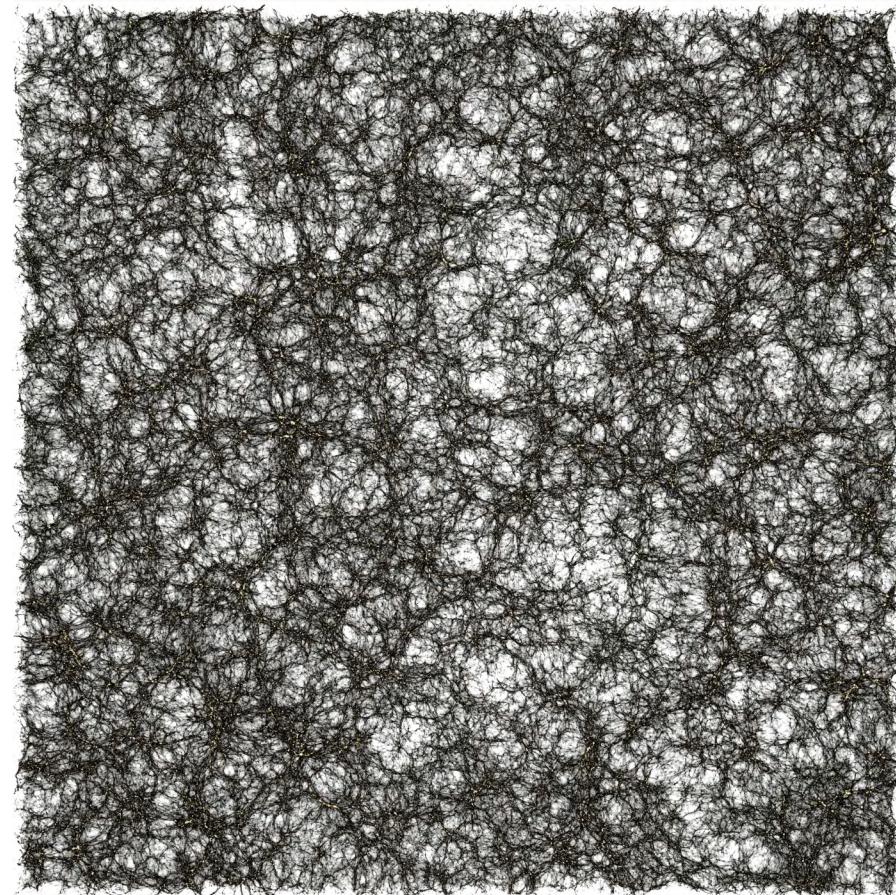


Jeremy Tinker, Risa Wechsler, Joe DeRose, Zhongxu Zhai, Arka Banerjee, Tom McClintock, et al

Goal: Extract more cosmological information from small-scale galaxy clustering.

Problem: Cosmological simulations are expensive; can't compare observations to all possible models.

The Aemulus approach: Using a sparse suite of high-resolution N-body simulations, train an *emulator* on summary statistics to achieve %-level predictions, and apply emulator to infer parameters of observed data.



Slice of Aemulus N-body simulation

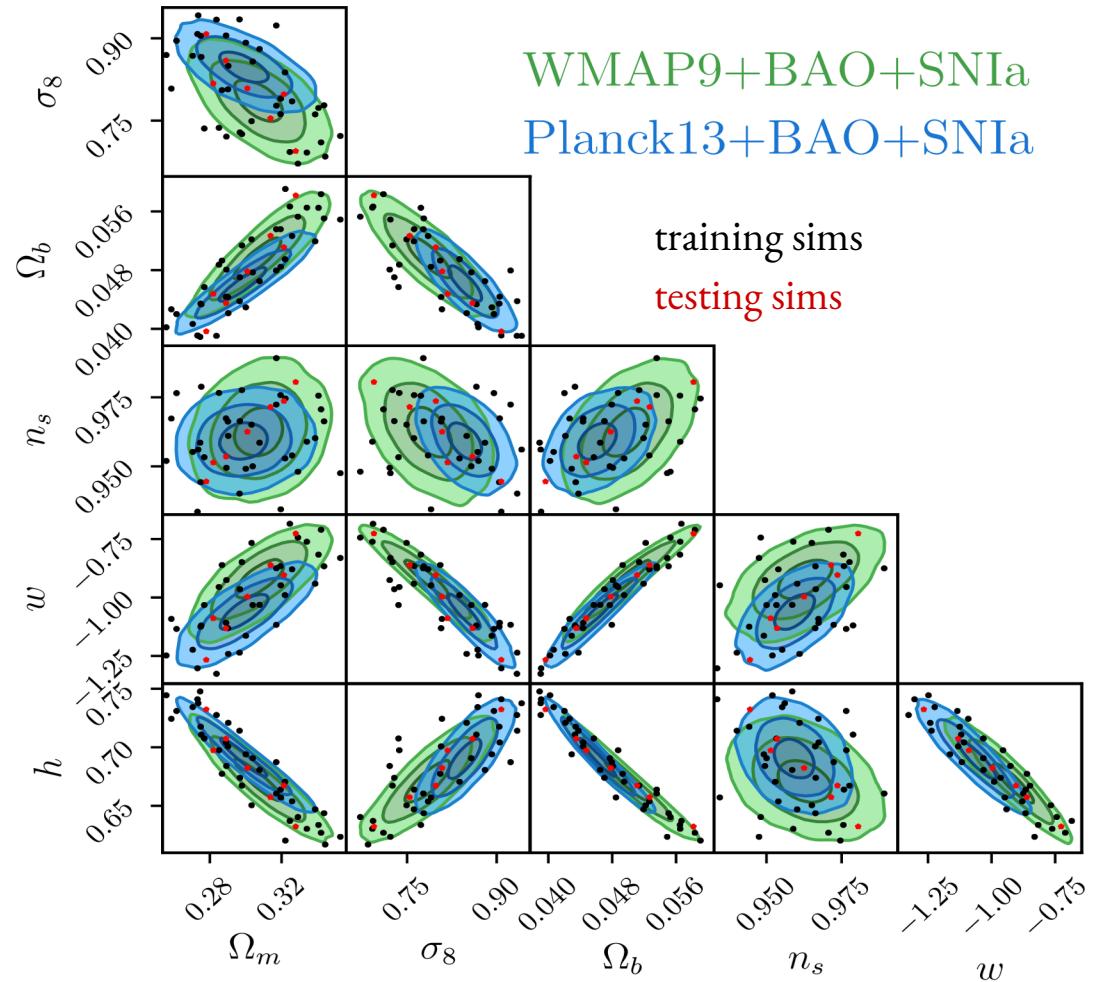
Aemulus I:
DeRose+2018
([1804.05865](#))

Other Aemulus Papers:
II: McClintock+2018
III: Zhai+2018
IV: McClintock+2019
V: Zhai+2022

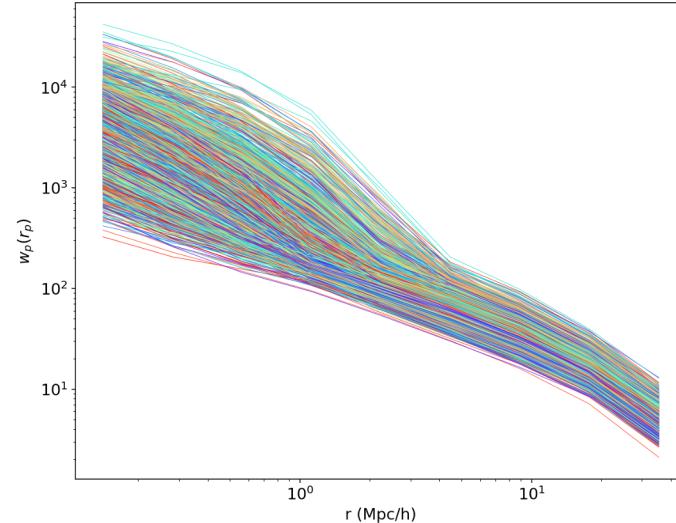
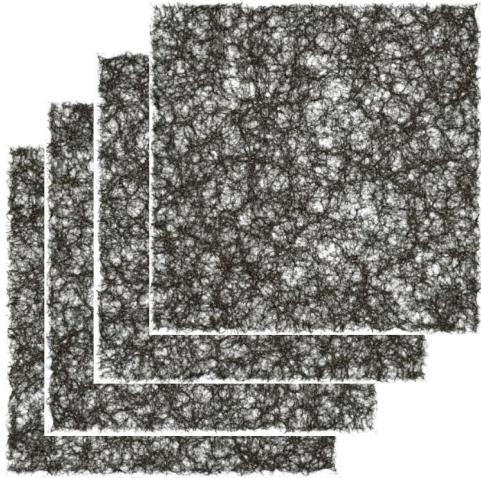
The Aemulus Simulations

Set of simulations that span the expected parameter space of a **7D cosmological model** & an **11D HOD model** (halo occupation distribution), including **3 assembly bias parameters**

- Mass resolution = $3.5 \times 10^{10} h^{-1} M_{\text{sun}}$, $L = 1.05 h^{-1} \text{Gpc}$
- **Training set: 4000 mock catalogs** (40 cosmologies, 100 unique HODs each)
- **Test set: 700 mock catalogs** (7 cosmologies, 5 realizations each, 100 HODs each)

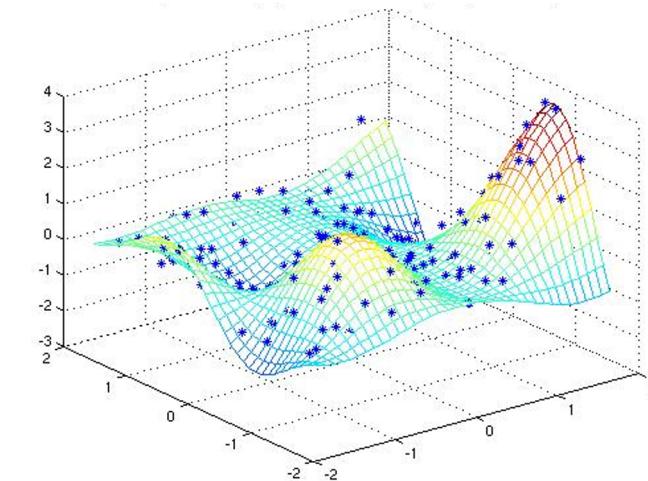


The Emulation Approach

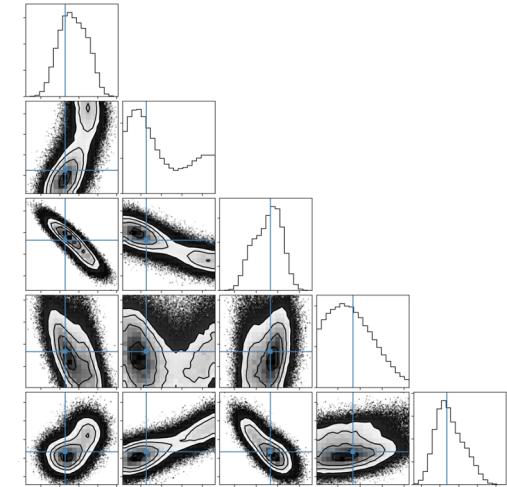


Generate **simulations** that span a prior space of cosmological and galaxy bias parameters.

Compute summary statistics on these to build up a **training set** for our model.



Train a **Gaussian process** (GP) to learn the correlation between the parameters and statistics.

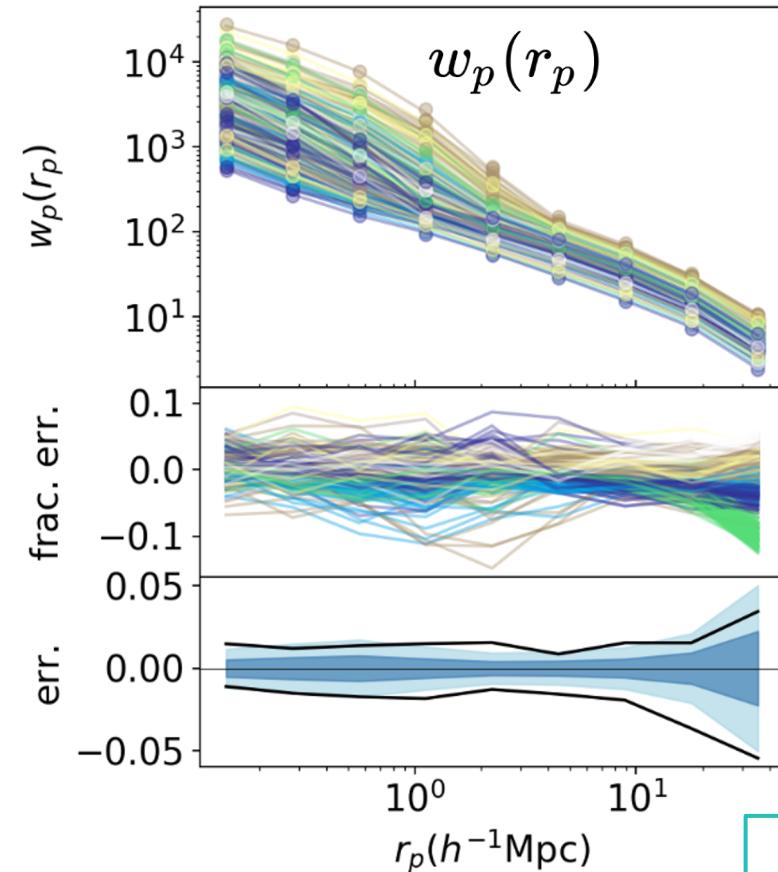


Use **Markov Chain Monte Carlo** with the trained GP to recover test simulation parameters.

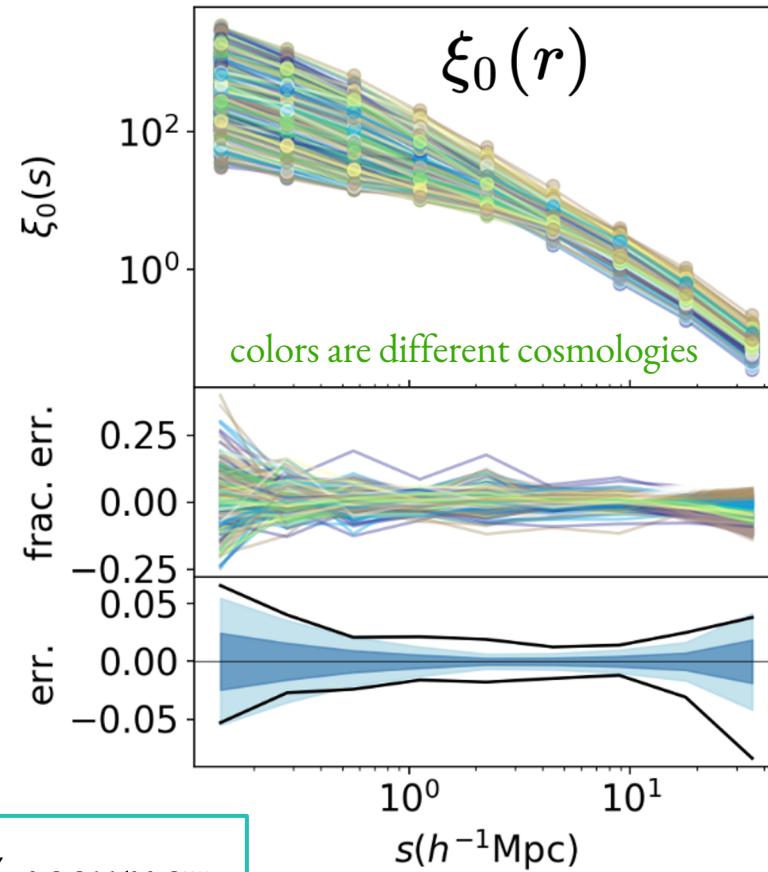
Emulation of Standard Clustering Statistics

- Mock
- Emulator prediction
- Emulator error (inner 68%)
- Sample variance
- Sample variance / $\sqrt{N_{\text{boxes}}}$

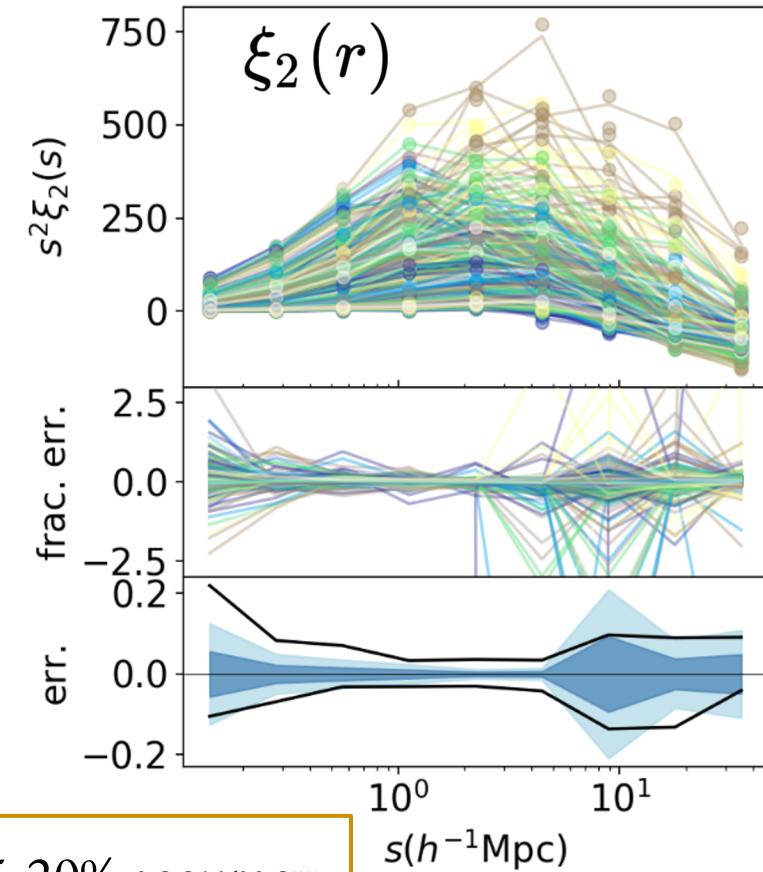
**Projected
correlation function:**



**Monopole of the
correlation function:**



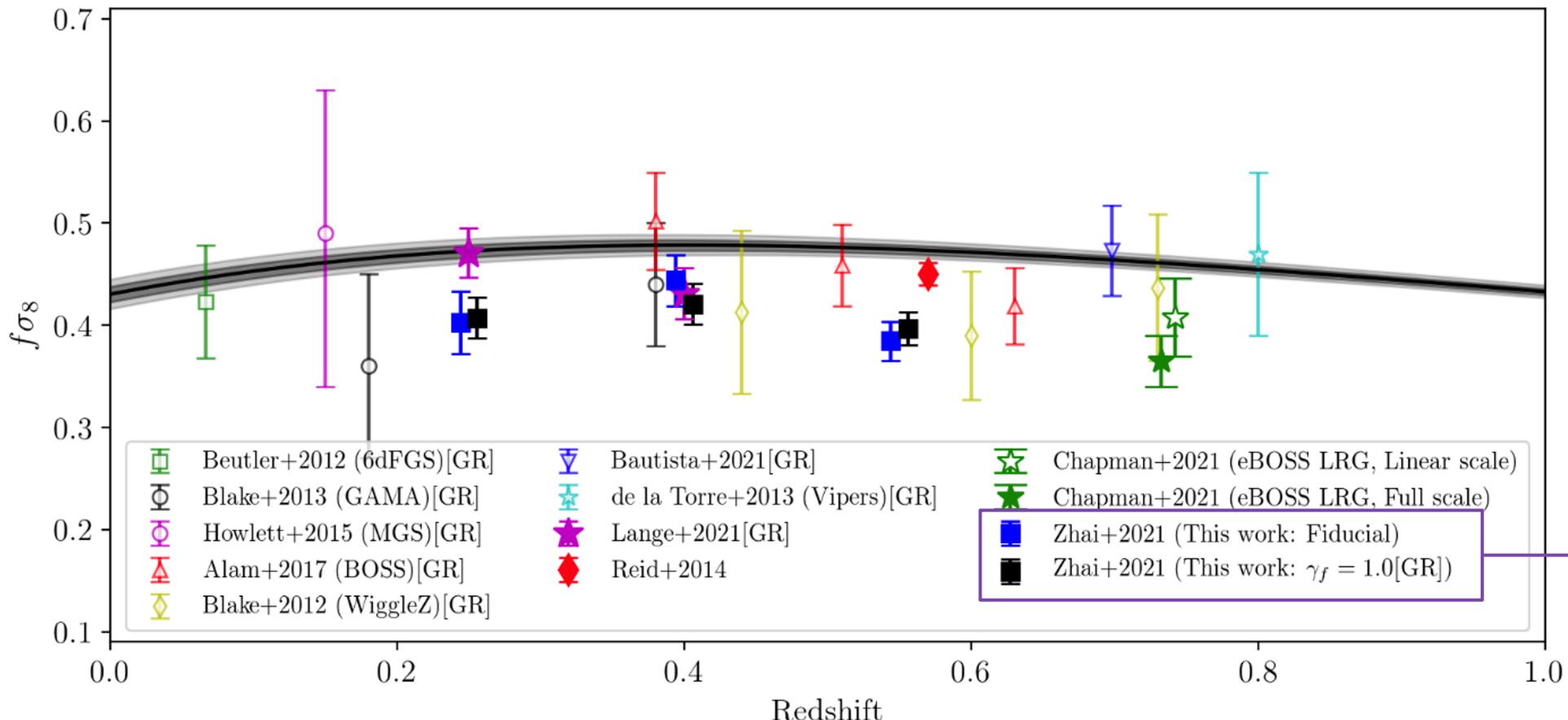
**Quadrupole of the
correlation function:**



1-5% accuracy

5-20% accuracy

Measurement of the growth of structure parameter $f\sigma_8$



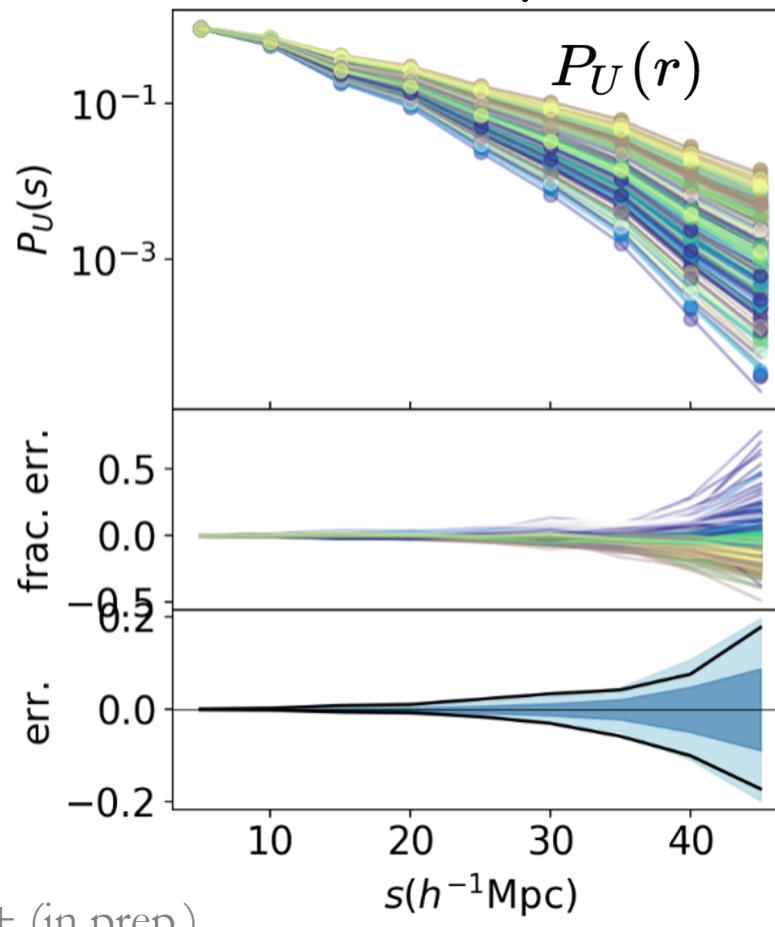
Zhai+2022 (incl. KSF)
(2203.08999)

Measurements with
the previous
Aemulus emulators
using these standard
statistics

Beyond Standard Clustering Statistics

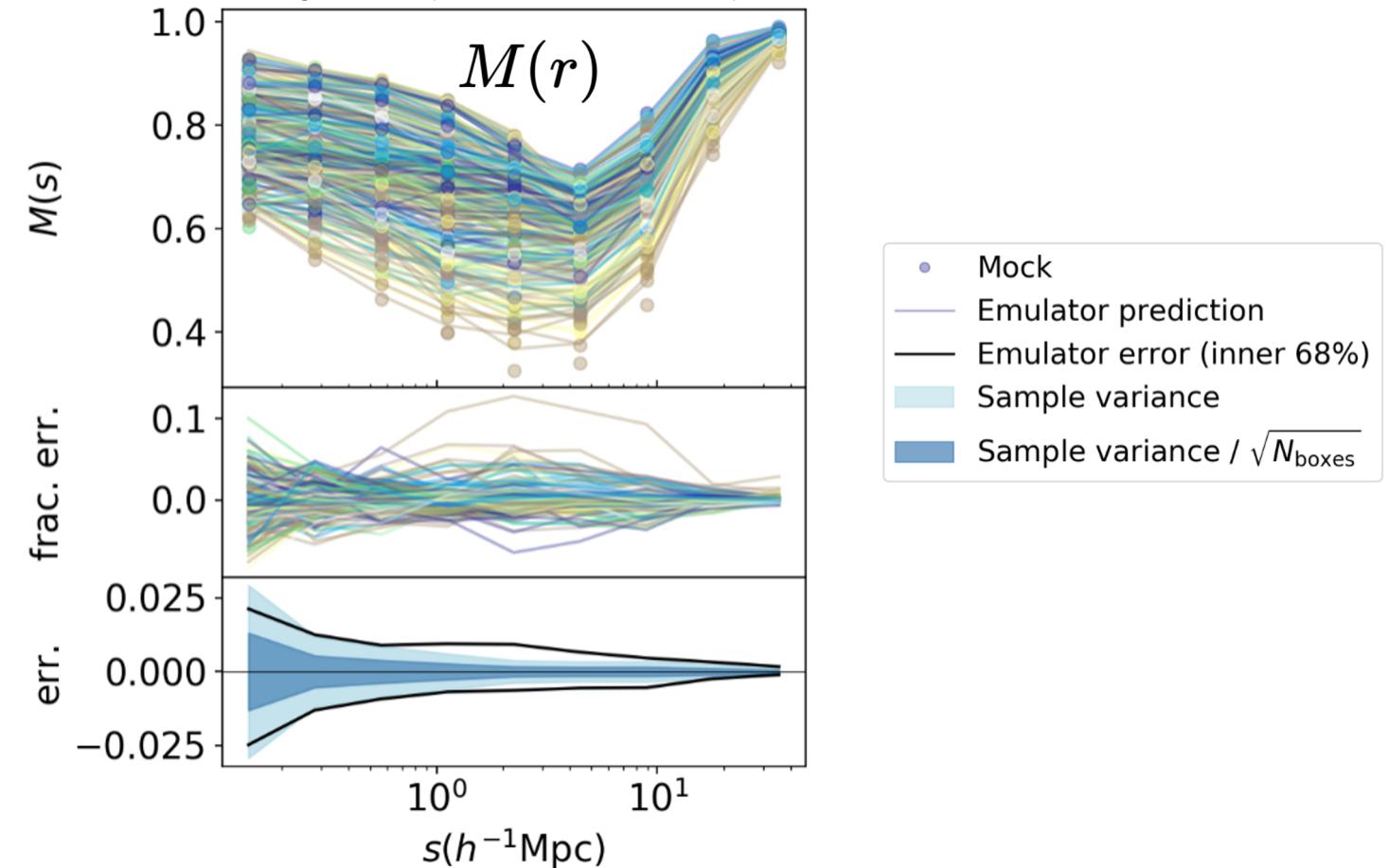
Underdensity probability function:

% of randomly placed spheres of radius r
with number density < threshold



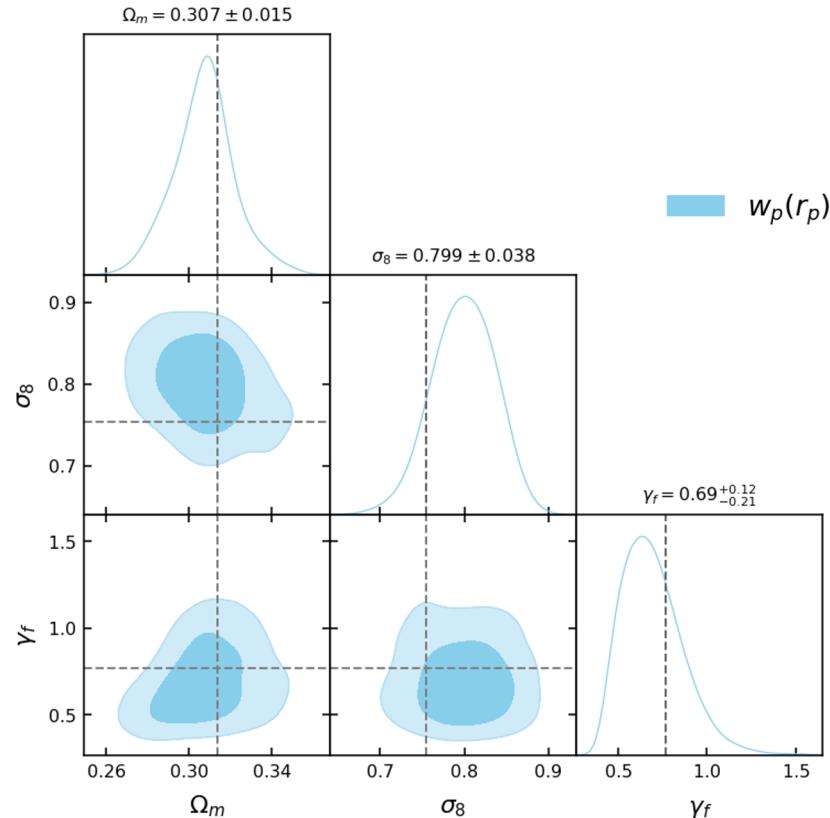
Marked correlation function:

the monopole with galaxy pairs
weighted by the local density

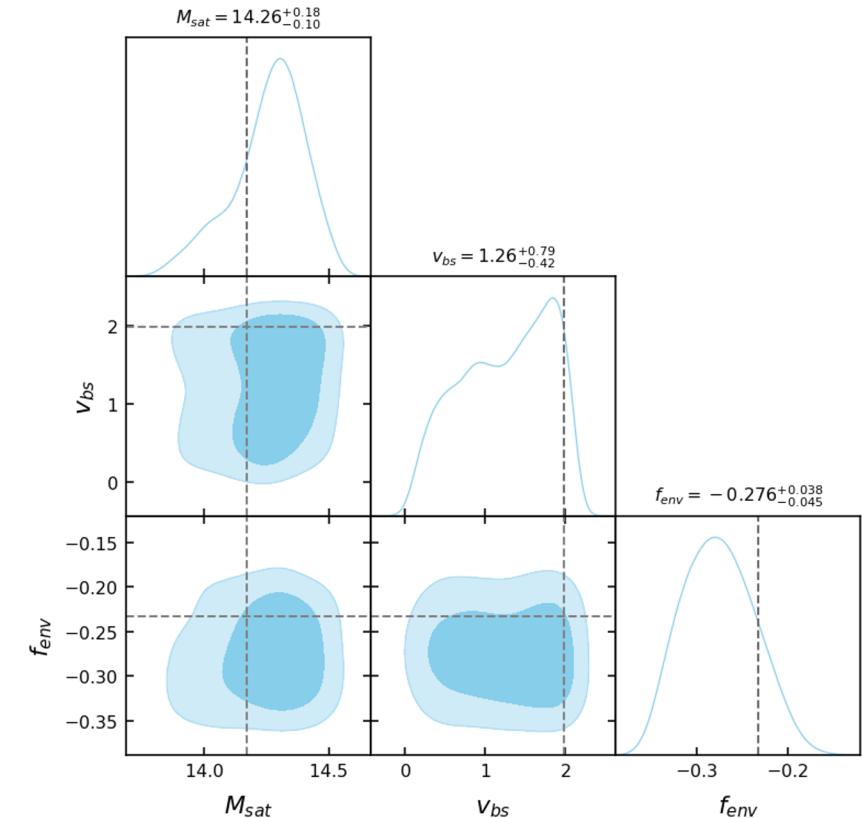


Including beyond-standard statistics improves precision & accuracy.

Cosmological parameters

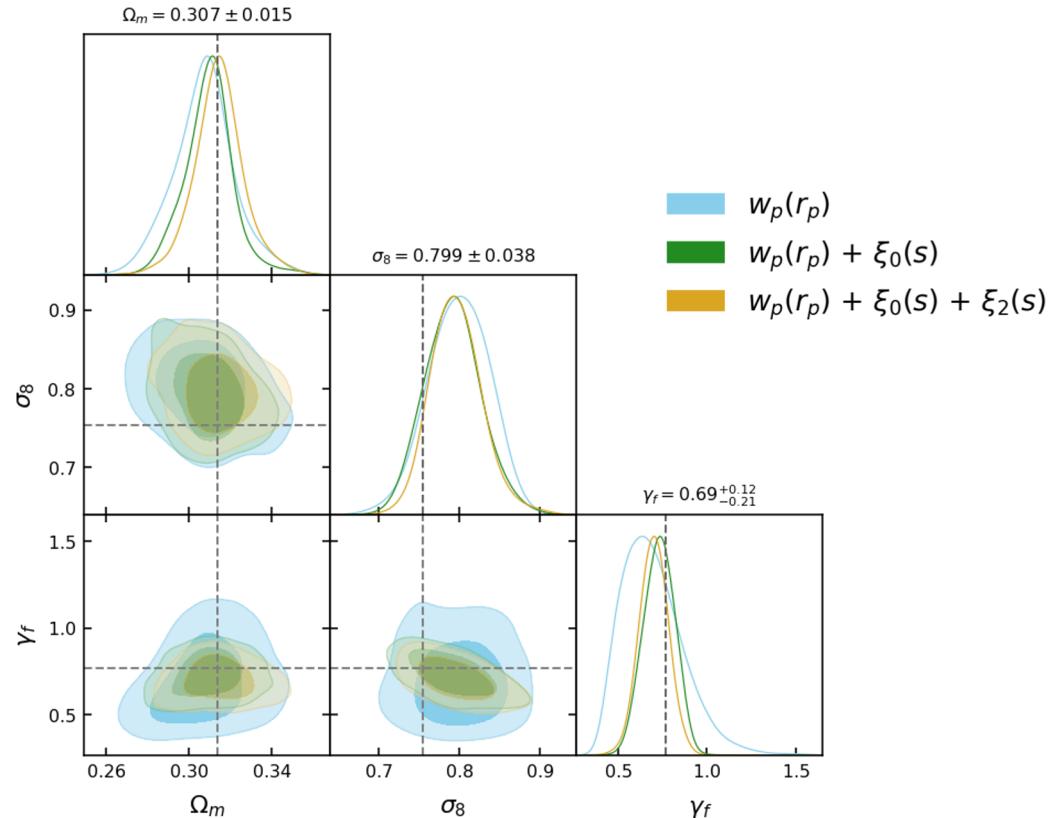


Galaxy bias parameters

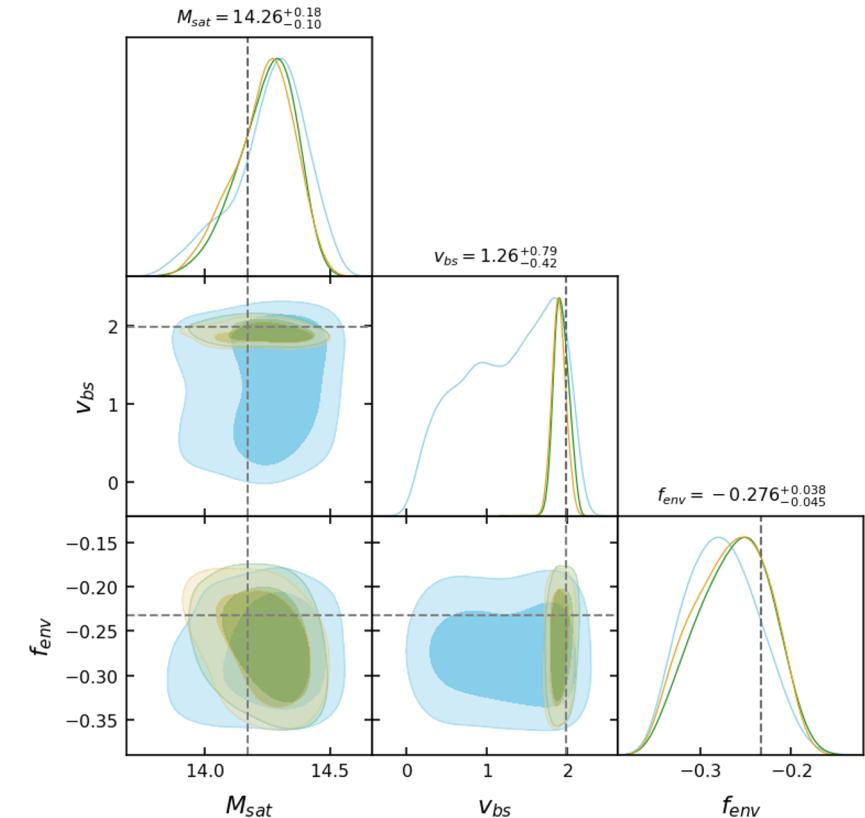


Including beyond-standard statistics improves precision & accuracy.

Cosmological parameters

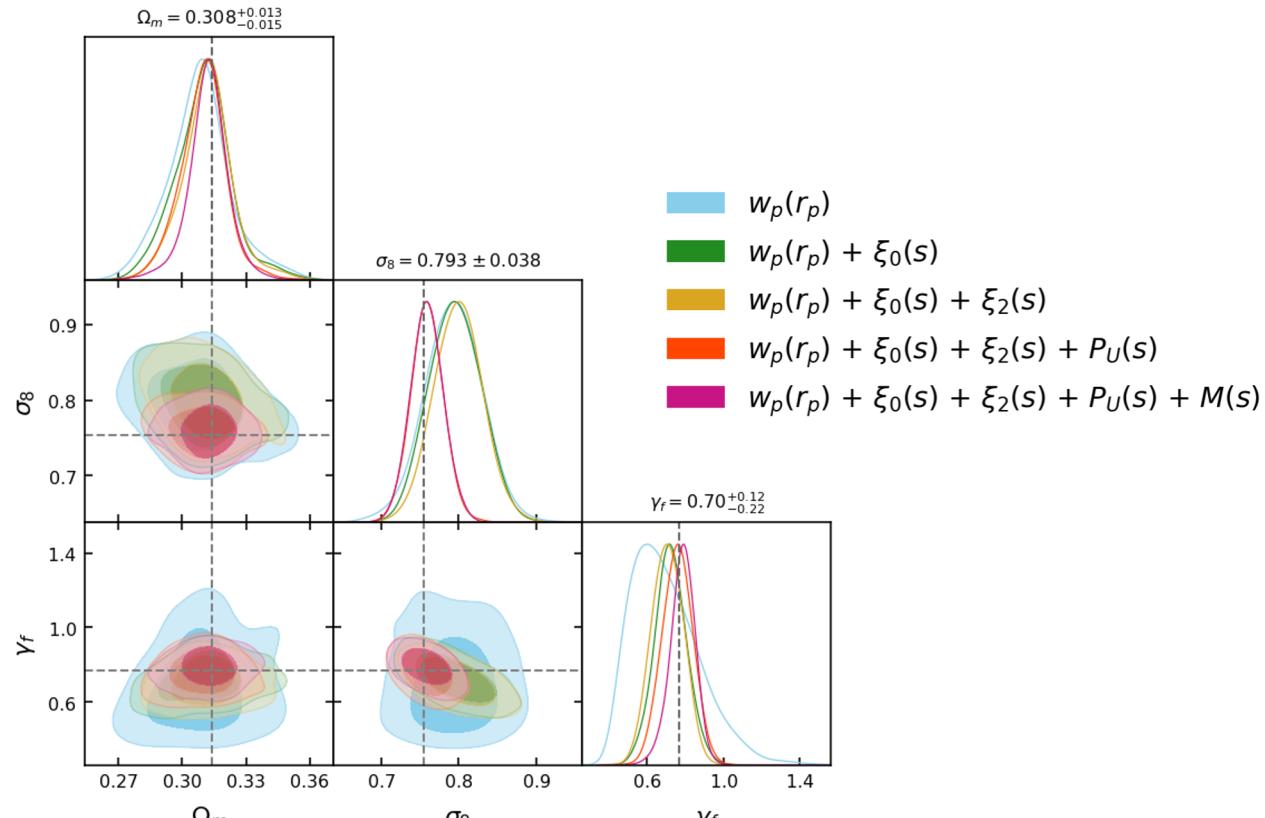


Galaxy bias parameters



Including beyond-standard statistics improves precision & accuracy.

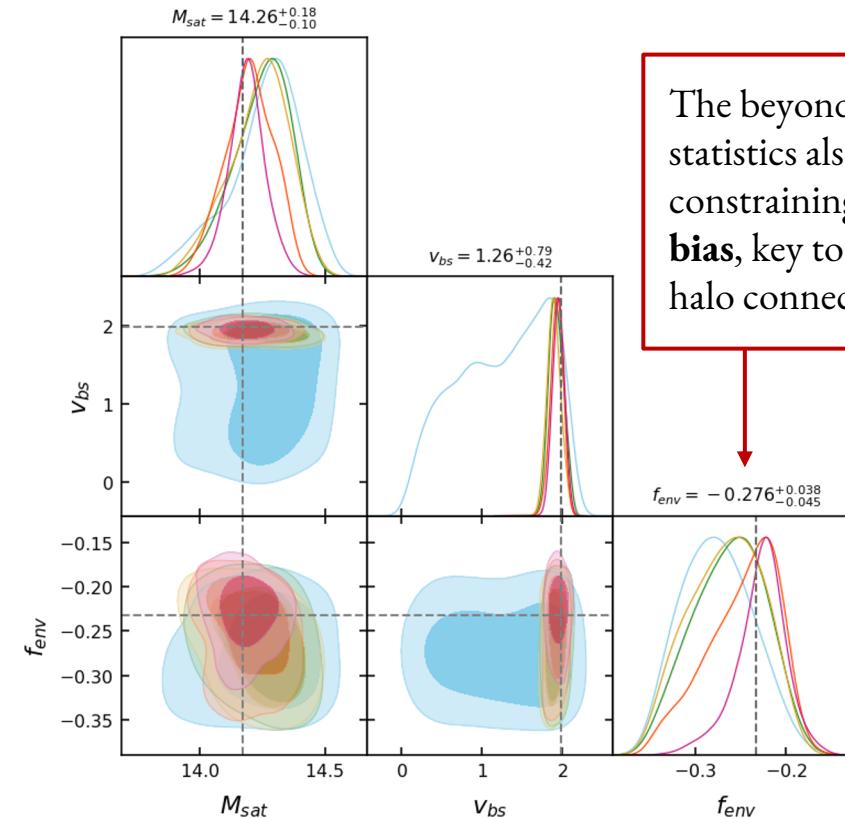
Cosmological parameters



Significant improvement on
 σ_8 & γ_f from $P_U(r)$ and $M(r)$

KSF+ (in prep.)

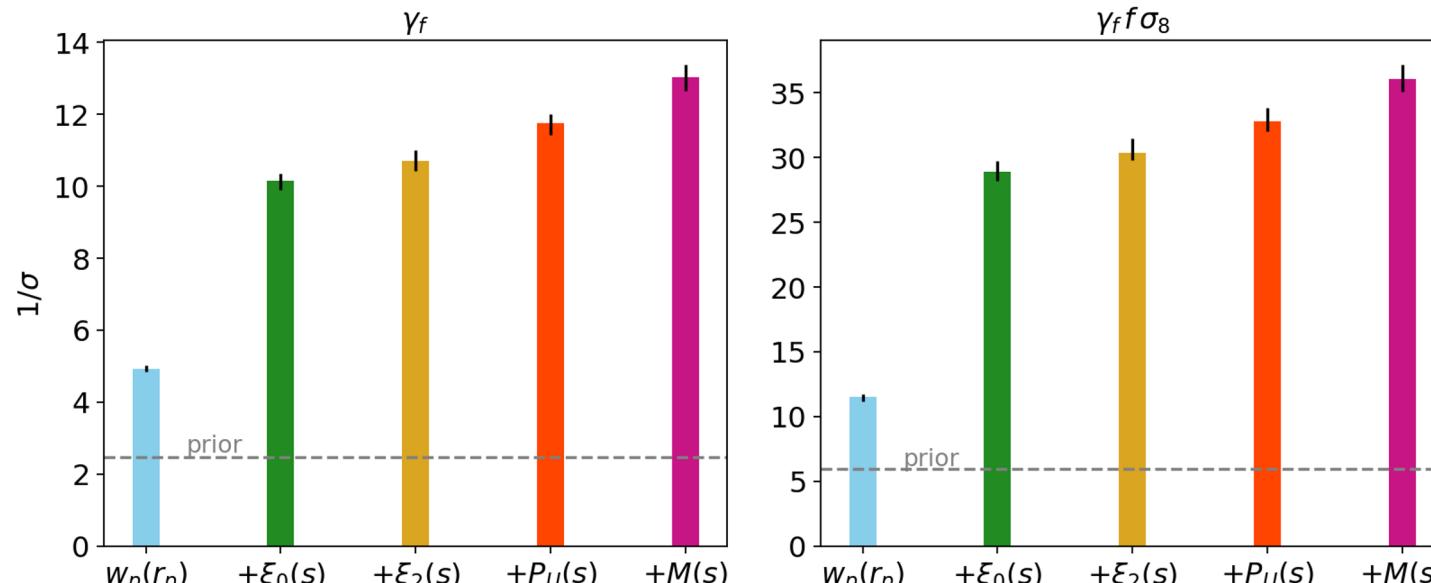
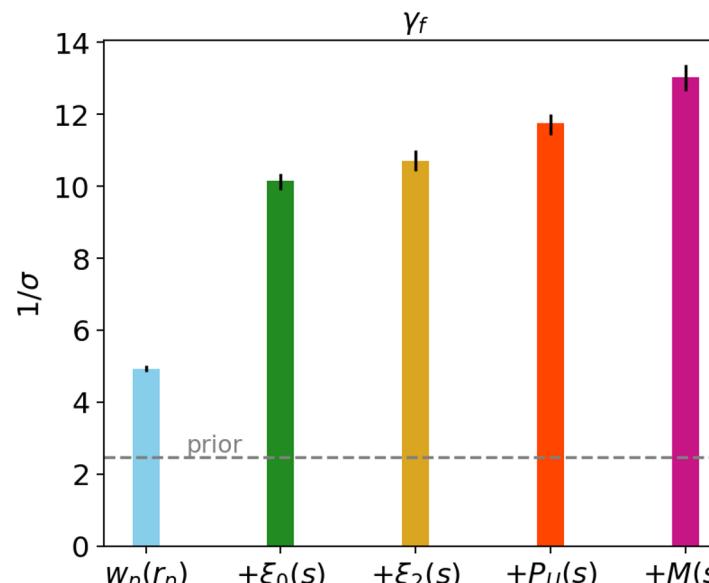
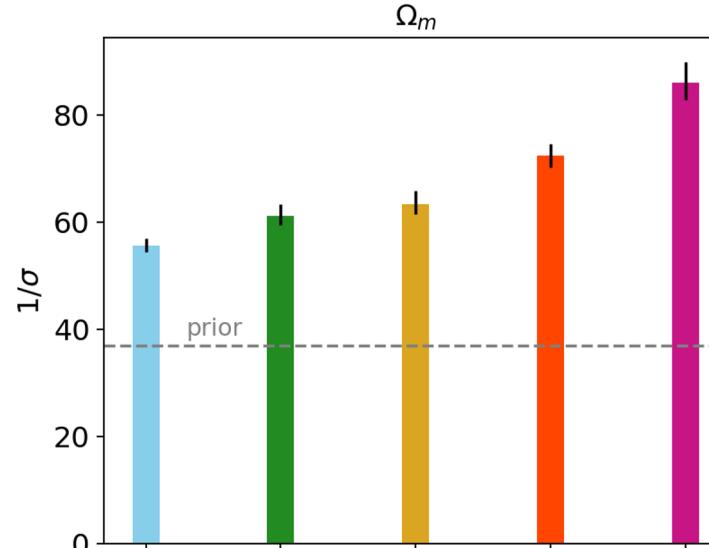
Galaxy bias parameters



The beyond-standard statistics also aid in constraining **assembly bias**, key to the galaxy-halo connection.

Significant improvement on
 M_{sat} from $P_U(r)$ and f_{env} from $M(r)$

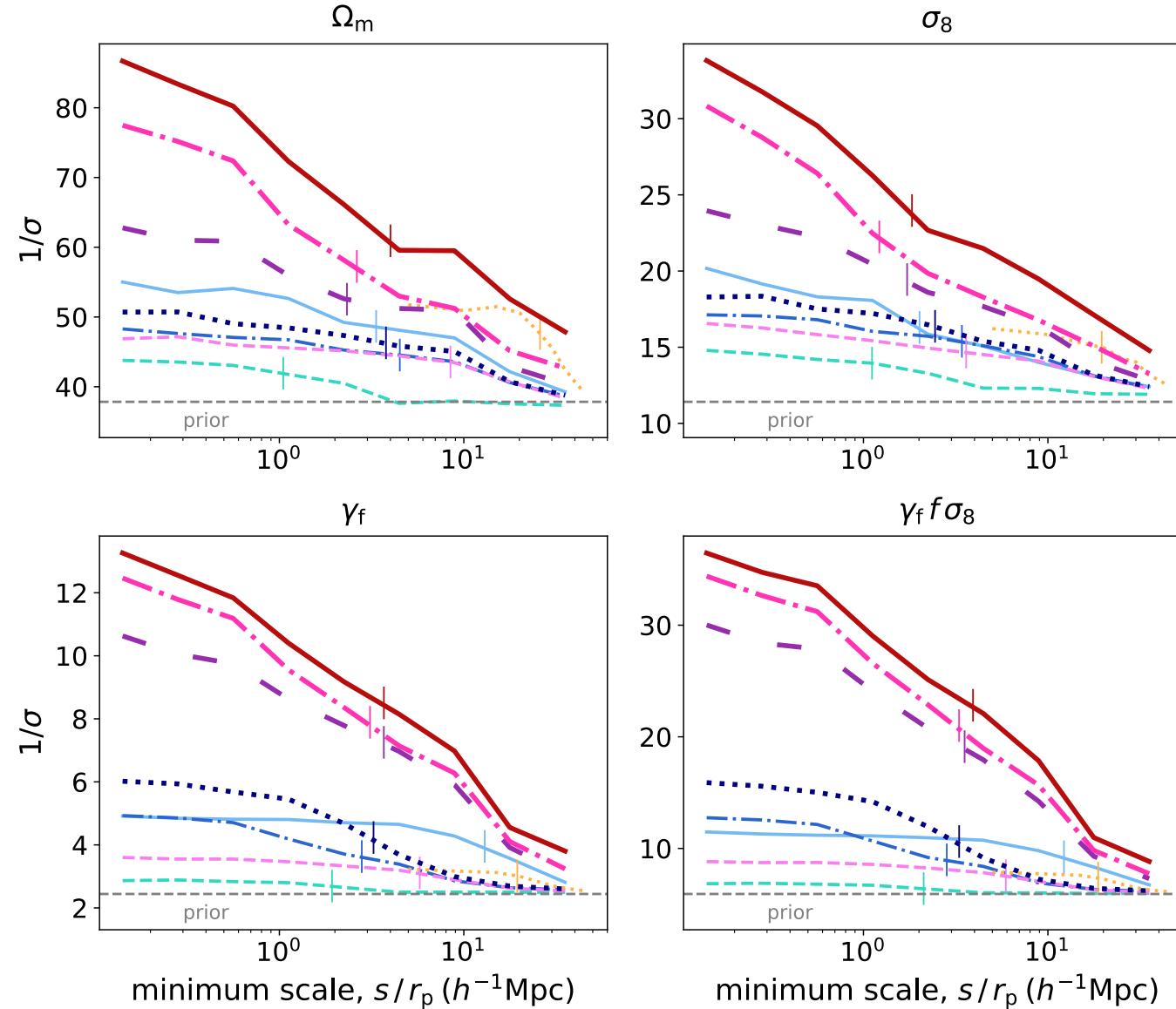
Including beyond-standard statistics improves precision & accuracy.



With the addition of the **underdensity probability function** and **marked correlation function**, we increase the constraining power on σ_8 by 33%, Ω_m by 25%, and $\gamma_f \sigma_8$ by 15%.

KSF+ (in prep.)

Small scales add significant information to cosmological constraints.



For the combined observable constraint on $\gamma_f f \sigma_8$, scales 0.1-2 Mpc/h contain as much information as 2-50 Mpc/h.

$w_p(r_p)$	$\xi_0(s) + \xi_2(s)$
$\xi_0(s)$	$w_p(r_p) + \xi_0(s) + \xi_2(s)$
$\xi_2(s)$	$w_p(r_p) + \xi_0(s) + \xi_2(s) + M(s)$
$P_U(s)$	$w_p(r_p) + \xi_0(s) + \xi_2(s) + P_U(s) + M(s)$
$M(s)$	

KSF+ (in prep.)

Summary

- Our emulators can predict at the **few-percent-level** on small scales:
 $w_p(r_p)$: ~2%, $\xi_0(r)$: <5%, $\xi_2(r)$: ~10%, $P_U(r)$: <1%, $M(r)$: <2%
- $P_U(r)$ and $M(r)$: add constraining power to standard statistics:
precision \uparrow by **33% for σ_8 , 25% for Ω_m & 15% for $\gamma_f f \sigma_8$** .
- The beyond-standard statistics additionally **constrain assembly bias**, key to the galaxy-halo connection
- Next: apply these emulators to data—**BOSS LRG sample / DESI**—to more precisely measure cosmological parameters



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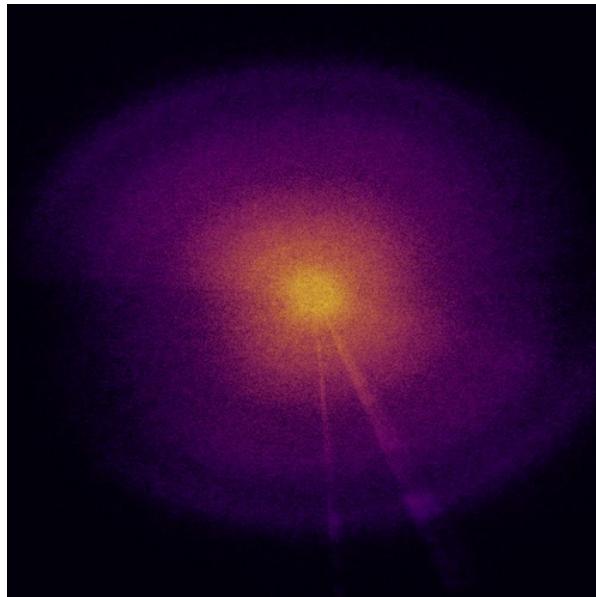


@kstoreyf

*Also talk to me
about...*

large-scale structure!
statistics & machine learning!
galaxies!

- Symmetry-preserving methods for connecting galaxies to halos (EAS S11 Talk)
- A generalized correlation function estimator & measuring inhomogeneity ([2105.02434](#))
- Anomaly detection in galaxy images with generative models ([2105.02434](#))
- The Gaia quasar sample for large-scale structure cosmology
- Postdoc opportunities :)



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