

MeerFish

This is a (non-exhaustive) description of the analysis framework used in the MeerFish code (github.com/meerclass/MeerFish). Please contact the author (steve.cunnington@port.ac.uk) if you feel something is missing/incorrect or needs further clarification.

We begin by defining the HI power spectrum as

$$P_{\text{HI}}(k^{\text{f}}, \mu^{\text{f}}, z) = \alpha_{\parallel}^{-1}(z) \alpha_{\perp}^{-2}(z) \bar{T}_{\text{HI}}^2(z) \left(b_{\text{HI}}(z) + f(z) \mu^2 + b_{\phi}^{\text{HI}}(z) f_{\text{NL}} \mathcal{M}(k, z)^{-1} \right)^2 \times P_{\text{m}}(k, z) \mathcal{B}_{\text{beam}}^2(k, \mu, z) \quad (1)$$

where \bar{T}_{HI} is the background mean HI brightness temperature, b_{HI} is the linear bias for HI, and f is the growth rate of structure. For the HI bias, we fit to hydrodynamical simulations ([Villaescusa-Navarro et al., 2018](#)) providing the model

$$b_{\text{HI}}(z) = 0.842 + 0.693z - 0.0459z^2. \quad (2)$$

The mean HI brightness temperature is modelled using

$$\bar{T}_{\text{HI}}(z) = 180 \Omega_{\text{HI}} \frac{h(1+z)^2}{H(z)/H_0} \text{mK}, \quad (3)$$

where we use the model for Ω_{HI} based on the one used in [SKA Cosmology SWG et al. \(2020\)](#) but adapted based on the latest Ω_{HI} constraints at higher redshift from MeerKLASS intensity mapping ([Cunnington et al., 2022](#))

$$\Omega_{\text{HI}}(z) = 0.00067432 + 0.00039z - 0.000065z^2. \quad (4)$$

In [Equation 1](#), we include the possibility for local primordial non-Gaussianity (PNG) to influence the power, which occurs by the bias acquiring a scale-dependent correction given by the $b_{\phi} f_{\text{NL}} \mathcal{M}^{-1}$ term. f_{NL} modulates the PNG contribution and we assume $f_{\text{NL}} = 0$ as fiducial default. b_{ϕ}^{HI} is the PNG bias parameter for HI, adopted by the standard universality assumption of the halo mass function

$$b_{\phi}^{\text{HI}}(z) = 2 \delta_{\text{c}} (b_{\text{HI}}(z) - 1), \quad (5)$$

where $\delta_{\text{c}} = 1.686$. The final factor relating to PNG is given by

$$\mathcal{M}(k, z) = (2/3) k^2 T_{\text{m}}(k) D_{\text{md}}(z) / (\Omega_{\text{m}} H_0^2), \quad (6)$$

where T_{m} is the matter transfer function and D_{md} is the linear growth factor normalized to $1/(1+z)$.

P_{m} (in [Equation 1](#)) is the matter power spectrum obtained from a Boltzmann solver (we used CAMB as standard [Lewis et al., 2000](#)), and the transverse

fluctuations contributing to the power are affected by the telescope beam which acts as

$$\mathcal{B}_{\text{beam}}(k, \mu, z) = \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} k_{\perp}^2 R_{\text{b}}^2 \right] = \exp \left[-\frac{k^2}{2} (1 - \mu^2) R_{\text{b}}^2 \right] \quad (7)$$

where $R_{\text{b}} = \chi(z) \theta_{\text{FWHM}}(z) / 2\sqrt{2 \ln 2}$. θ_{FWHM} is radio telescope specific but for a generic dish size with diameter D_{dish} and observations at a frequency ν , we can say $\theta_{\text{FWHM}} = c / (\nu D_{\text{dish}})$.

Lastly, in Equation 1, the Alcock-Paczynski (Alcock and Paczynski, 1979) dilation parameters for the transverse and radial directions are given by

$$\alpha_{\perp}(z) = \frac{D_{\text{A}}(z)/r_{\text{s}}}{(D_{\text{A}}(z)/r_{\text{s}})_{\text{f}}}, \quad \alpha_{\parallel}(z) = \frac{(H(z)r_{\text{s}})_{\text{f}}}{H(z)r_{\text{s}}}. \quad (8)$$

and the true wavenumbers are distorted by

$$k_{\perp} = k_{\perp}^{\text{f}} / \alpha_{\perp}, \quad k_{\parallel} = k_{\parallel}^{\text{f}} / \alpha_{\parallel}. \quad (9)$$

where the fiducial indices denote the fiducial (reference) cosmology assumed in the measured wavenumbers, and the wavenumber without an f index denotes the true wavenumbers for the true cosmology. These are conventionally transposed into k and μ using the factor $F_{\text{AP}} = \alpha_{\parallel} / \alpha_{\perp}$, where

$$k = \frac{k_{\text{f}}}{\alpha_{\perp}} \left[1 + (\mu_{\text{f}})^2 (F_{\text{AP}}^{-2} - 1) \right]^{1/2} \quad (10)$$

$$\mu = \frac{\mu_{\text{f}}}{F_{\text{AP}}} \left[1 + (\mu_{\text{f}})^2 (F_{\text{AP}}^{-2} - 1) \right]^{-1/2}. \quad (11)$$

Finally, to correct for any change in volume caused by the different cosmologies, the power spectrum model must be multiplied by $\alpha_{\parallel}^{-1} \alpha_{\perp}^{-2}$, which explains this factor at the front of Equation 1.

Similarly to the HI power spectrum, we can generically model the *galaxy* power spectrum as

$$P_{\text{g}}(k^{\text{f}}, \mu^{\text{f}}, z) = \alpha_{\parallel}^{-1}(z) \alpha_{\perp}^{-2}(z) \left(b_{\text{g}}(z) + f(z) \mu^2 + b_{\phi}^{\text{g}}(z) f_{\text{NL}} \mathcal{M}(k, z)^{-1} \right)^2 P_{\text{m}}(k, z). \quad (12)$$

Observed power spectra noise and errors: Neglecting shot-noise, which will be minimal for a HI intensity mapping survey (Villaescusa-Navarro et al., 2018; Spinelli et al., 2020), the observed HI power spectrum is given as

$$P_{\text{HI}}^{\text{obs}}(k^{\text{f}}, \mu^{\text{f}}, z) = P_{\text{HI}}(k^{\text{f}}, \mu^{\text{f}}, z) + P_{\text{N}}(z), \quad (13)$$

where P_{N} is the noise power spectrum contribution, which for HI intensity mapping is given by the telescope's thermal noise, which is modelled as

$$P_{\text{N}} = V_{\text{pix}} \sigma_{\text{N}}^2 \quad (14)$$

where the pixel volume is determined by the pixel area A_{pix} so that

$$V_{\text{pix}} = \Omega_{\text{A}} \int_{z_0}^{z_1} dz \frac{dV}{dz d\Omega} = \Omega_{\text{A}} \int_{z_0}^{z_1} dz \frac{c \chi^2(z)}{H(z)}, \quad (15)$$

where $\Omega_{\text{A}} = A_{\text{pix}}(\pi/180)^2$ and the redshift intervals are determined by the frequency of observation ν and the telescope's frequency resolution $\delta\nu$ so that $z_0 = \nu_{21\text{cm}}/(\nu + \delta\nu) - 1$ and $z_1 = \nu_{21\text{cm}}/(\nu - \delta\nu) - 1$, with $\nu_{21\text{cm}} = 1420.4$ MHz, the frequency of the 21cm line. The RMS of the noise fluctuations is given by the radiometer equation;

$$\sigma_{\text{N}}(\nu) = \frac{T_{\text{sys}}(\nu)}{\sqrt{2 \delta\nu t_{\text{pix}}}}. \quad (16)$$

The system temperature is given by

$$T_{\text{sys}}(\nu) = T_{\text{rx}}(\nu) + T_{\text{spl}} + T_{\text{CMB}} + T_{\text{gal}}(\nu) \quad (17)$$

where the contribution from spill-over is $T_{\text{spl}} = 3$ K, the background contribution from the CMB is $T_{\text{CMB}} = 2.73$ K and the contribution from our own Galaxy is $T_{\text{gal}} = 15 \text{ K} (408 \text{ MHz} / \nu)^{2.75}$, which is tuned to match the average sky temperature excluding $|b| < 10^\circ$ in galactic latitude. Lastly, the receiver temperature is

$$T_{\text{rx}}(\nu) = 7.5 \text{ K} + 10 \text{ K} \left(\frac{\nu}{\text{GHz}} - 0.75 \right)^2, \quad (18)$$

which follows [Cunnington \(2022\)](#) which tuned this model to match recent intensity mapping observations with the MeerKAT pilot survey ([Wang et al., 2021](#)). The time per pixel t_{pix} in the noise RMS ([Equation 16](#)), is given by the total observation time t_{obs} from the survey, shared among each pixel. Thus we define it as

$$t_{\text{pix}} = N_{\text{dish}} t_{\text{obs}} (\theta_{\text{FWHM}}/3)^2 / A_{\text{sur}} \quad (19)$$

where we assume each pixel is 1/3 the size of the telescope's beam size (approximately correct for MeerKAT map-making). In single-dish mode, we get a set of observations per dish, hence observation time per pixel is multiplied by the number of dishes N_{dish} .

The observed counterpart for the galaxies will contain shot-noise as the noise contribution defined as

$$P_{\text{g}}^{\text{obs}}(k^{\text{f}}, \mu^{\text{f}}, z) = P_{\text{g}}(k^{\text{f}}, \mu^{\text{f}}, z) + P_{\text{SN}}(z), \quad (20)$$

where $P_{\text{SN}} = 1 / \bar{n}_{\text{g}}$ is the galaxy shot noise, with \bar{n}_{g} as the galaxy number density for the survey.

The errors on the power spectrum can then be estimated as

$$\sigma^2(k, \mu) = \frac{P_{\text{obs}}^2(k, \mu)}{N_{\text{modes}}(k, \mu)}, \quad (21)$$

where the number of *unique* modes is given by

$$N_{\text{modes}}(k, \mu) = \frac{k^2 \Delta k \Delta \mu}{8\pi^2} V_{\text{sur}}. \quad (22)$$

where the survey volume is determined by the minimum and maximum redshift ($z_{\text{min}}, z_{\text{max}}$) of the survey and its area A_{sur} ;

$$V_{\text{sur}} = \Omega_{\text{sur}} \int_{z_{\text{min}}}^{z_{\text{max}}} dz \frac{c \chi^2(z)}{H(z)}, \quad (23)$$

where $\Omega_{\text{sur}} = A_{\text{sur}}(\pi/180)^2$.

Multipole expansion: It is convenient to adopt the multipole expansion of the anisotropic power spectrum in Equation 1 (Cunnington et al., 2020; Bernal et al., 2019; Soares et al., 2021). This is achieved using

$$P(k, \mu) = \sum_{\ell} P_{\ell}(k) \mathcal{L}_{\ell}(\mu), \quad (24)$$

$$P_{\ell}(k, z) = (2\ell + 1) \int_0^1 d\mu P(k, \mu, z) \mathcal{L}_{\ell}(\mu), \quad (25)$$

where

$$\mathcal{L}_0 = 1, \quad \mathcal{L}_2 = \frac{3\mu^2 - 1}{2}, \quad \mathcal{L}_4 = \frac{35\mu^4 - 30\mu^2 + 3}{8}. \quad (26)$$

and the errors on these multipoles is given by

$$\sigma_{P_{\ell}}(k) = \sqrt{(2\ell + 1)^2 \int_0^1 d\mu \sigma^2(k, \mu) \mathcal{L}_{\ell}^2(\mu)}. \quad (27)$$

Fisher forecasting: To include our observable in a Fisher forecast, we consider that the set of fluctuations $\delta(\mathbf{x})$ within a survey map's pixels with position \mathbf{x} can be reasonably modelled as a Gaussian distribution with mean of zero and pixel covariance $\mathbf{C} \equiv \langle \delta^*(\mathbf{x}) \delta(\mathbf{x}) \rangle$. The Fisher information matrix is then given by (Tegmark, 1997; Seo and Eisenstein, 2003, 2007)

$$F_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} \left[\frac{\partial \mathbf{C}}{\partial \theta_i} \mathbf{C}^{-1} \frac{\partial \mathbf{C}}{\partial \theta_j} \mathbf{C}^{-1} \right] \quad (28)$$

where θ_i and θ_j are from the set of parameters Θ that influence the covariance and their derivatives are evaluated at the fiducial values θ_{fid} , which coincides with the maximum of the likelihood distribution. The Cramer-Rao bound ensures that no unbiased method can measure θ_i with error bars less than $\sqrt{F_{ii}^{-1}}$.

For the multipole expansion formalism, we define the Fisher matrix following Taruya et al. (2011),

$$F_{ij}|_{\ell_{\text{max}}} = \frac{V_{\text{sur}}}{4\pi^2} \sum_{\ell, \ell'}^{\ell_{\text{max}}} \int_{k_{\text{min}}}^{k_{\text{max}}} k^2 dk \frac{\partial P_{\ell}(k)}{\partial \theta_i} [\tilde{C}^{\ell \ell'}(k)]^{-1} \frac{\partial P_{\ell'}(k)}{\partial \theta_j}, \quad (29)$$

where the *reduced* covariance is given by

$$\tilde{C}^{\ell\ell'}(k) = (2\ell + 1)(2\ell' + 1) \int_0^1 d\mu \mathcal{L}_\ell(\mu) \mathcal{L}_{\ell'}(\mu) P_{\text{obs}}(k, \mu)^2, \quad (30)$$

For computing the derivatives for the Fisher matrix, we follow [Blanchard et al. \(2020\)](#) and say that given [Equation 25](#) we have

$$\frac{\partial P_\ell(k)}{\partial \theta_i} = (2\ell + 1) \int_0^1 d\mu \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} [P(k, \mu) \mathcal{L}_\ell(\mu)], \quad (31)$$

since the integration limits do not depend on the parameters, and hence the derivative can be taken inside the integral. We then compute all derivatives numerically using a 5-point stencil, generically defined for a function \mathcal{F} as

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial \theta} = \frac{-\mathcal{F}(\theta + 2\delta\theta) + 8\mathcal{F}(\theta + \delta\theta) - 8\mathcal{F}(\theta - \delta\theta) + \mathcal{F}(\theta - 2\delta\theta)}{12\delta\theta}, \quad (32)$$

where $\delta\theta$ is chosen such that it gives converged derivatives. Generally, we find that $\delta\theta \sim 10^{-2}$ is an appropriate choice for all parameters.

Cross-correlation and multi-tracer: A cross-correlation power spectrum between the HI and galaxies is given by (dropping redshift dependence for brevity)

$$\begin{aligned} P_{\text{HI,g}}(k^f, \mu^f) &= \alpha_{\parallel}^{-1} \alpha_{\perp}^{-2} r_{\text{HI,g}} \bar{T}_{\text{HI}} \left(b_{\text{HI}} + f\mu^2 + b_{\phi}^{\text{HI}} f_{\text{NL}} \mathcal{M}(k)^{-1} \right) \\ &\times \left(b_g + f\mu^2 + b_{\phi}^g f_{\text{NL}} \mathcal{M}(k)^{-1} \right) P_{\text{m}}(k) \mathcal{B}_{\text{beam}}(k, \mu), \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

where $r_{\text{HI,g}}(z)$ is the cross-correlation coefficient between the two tracers to modulate stochastic suppression in the cross-correlation. Similarly to the single tracer, the *multi-tracer* Fisher matrix will be given by

$$F_{ij}|_{\ell_{\text{max}}} = \frac{V_{\text{bin}}}{4\pi^2} \sum_{\ell, \ell'}^{\ell_{\text{max}}} \int_{k_{\text{min}}}^{k_{\text{max}}} k^2 dk \frac{\partial \mathbf{P}_{\tau, \ell}(k)}{\partial \theta_i} \left[\mathbf{C}_{\tau\tau'}^{\ell\ell'}(k) \right]^{-1} \frac{\partial \mathbf{P}_{\tau', \ell'}(k)}{\partial \theta_j} \quad (34)$$

but we are now implicitly integrating over the contributions within $\tau = \{\alpha, \beta, X\}$ i.e. the different different generic tracers α and β , plus their cross-correlation X . For the combination of HI intensity mapping and a galaxy survey, we would have $\alpha \equiv \text{HI}$ and $\beta \equiv \text{g}$. The data vector $\mathbf{P}_{\tau, \ell}$ represents the “non-observed” power spectra (i.e. without noise) containing each tracer combination and multipole i.e.

$$\mathbf{P}_{\tau, \ell}(k) = \{\mathbf{P}_{\alpha, \ell}(k), \mathbf{P}_{\beta, \ell}(k), \mathbf{P}_{X, \ell}(k)\} \quad (35)$$

with each element its own $n_\ell \times n_k$ vector. For the multipoles analysis, the covariance is given by

$$\mathbf{C}_{\tau\tau'}^{\ell\ell'}(k) = \begin{pmatrix} C_{\alpha\alpha}^{\ell\ell'} & C_{\alpha\beta}^{\ell\ell'} & C_{\alpha X}^{\ell\ell'} \\ C_{\beta\beta}^{\ell\ell'} & C_{\beta X}^{\ell\ell'} & \\ C_{XX}^{\ell\ell'} & & \end{pmatrix}, \quad (36)$$

where each element represents the reduced covariance as before, given by the below;

$$C_{\alpha\alpha}^{\ell\ell'}(k) = (2\ell + 1)(2\ell' + 1) \int_0^1 d\mu \mathcal{L}_\ell(\mu) \mathcal{L}_{\ell'}(\mu) P_\alpha^{\text{obs}}(k, \mu)^2, \quad (37)$$

$$C_{\alpha\beta}^{\ell\ell'}(k) = (2\ell + 1)(2\ell' + 1) \int_0^1 d\mu \mathcal{L}_\ell(\mu) \mathcal{L}_{\ell'}(\mu) P_\alpha(k, \mu) P_\beta(k, \mu), \quad (38)$$

$$C_{\alpha X}^{\ell\ell'}(k) = (2\ell + 1)(2\ell' + 1) \int_0^1 d\mu \mathcal{L}_\ell(\mu) \mathcal{L}_{\ell'}(\mu) P_\alpha^{\text{obs}}(k, \mu) P_X(k, \mu), \quad (39)$$

$$C_{XX}^{\ell\ell'}(k) = \frac{(2\ell + 1)(2\ell' + 1)}{2} \int_0^1 d\mu \mathcal{L}_\ell(\mu) \mathcal{L}_{\ell'}(\mu) [P_X^2(k, \mu) + P_\alpha^{\text{obs}}(k, \mu) P_\beta^{\text{obs}}(k, \mu)]. \quad (40)$$

Each element is its own sub-matrix of size $n_\ell \times n_k$. We assume no mode coupling between k , thus the only non-zero off-diagonal components in the matrix come from multipole ($\ell\ell'$) and tracer ($\tau\tau'$) covariance.

For further reading and related works on Fisher forecasting in the context of HI intensity mapping, we recommend Camera et al. (2013); Bull et al. (2015); Fonseca et al. (2015); Alonso and Ferreira (2015); Alonso et al. (2015); Pourtsidou et al. (2017); Bernal et al. (2019).

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