

Cosmological Information Contents on Light Cone

based on Yoo, Mitsou, Grimm, Durrer, Refregier 2019 JCAP

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Cosmological Information

- how much cosmological information available?
 - surveys: galaxy, weak lensing, cmb, supernova, etc
 - complications: systematic errors, statistical fluctuations, observational bias, etc
 - fundamental limitation: *cosmic variance*
- standard picture in literature (*not accurate*)
 - survey volume: hypersurface of simultaneity
 - cubic box, counting independent Fourier modes
 - good approximations

not bad, but inaccurate for precision cosmology!

Inaccuracies in Standard Picture

- survey volume: *not cubic box!*
 - hypersurface of simultaneity vs. past light cone volume
 - time evolution: radial correlation, *ignored*
- all observables: *correlated & CV limited!*
 - direct observables: flux, angle, redshifts, shape, ... affected by *inhomogeneities* and *correlated*
 - galaxy number density, weak lensing shear, and so on
 - luminosity distance: not **bg** $\bar{D}_L(z)$, but with *fluctuations*
 - maximum or limited cosmological information available

Inaccuracies in Standard Picture

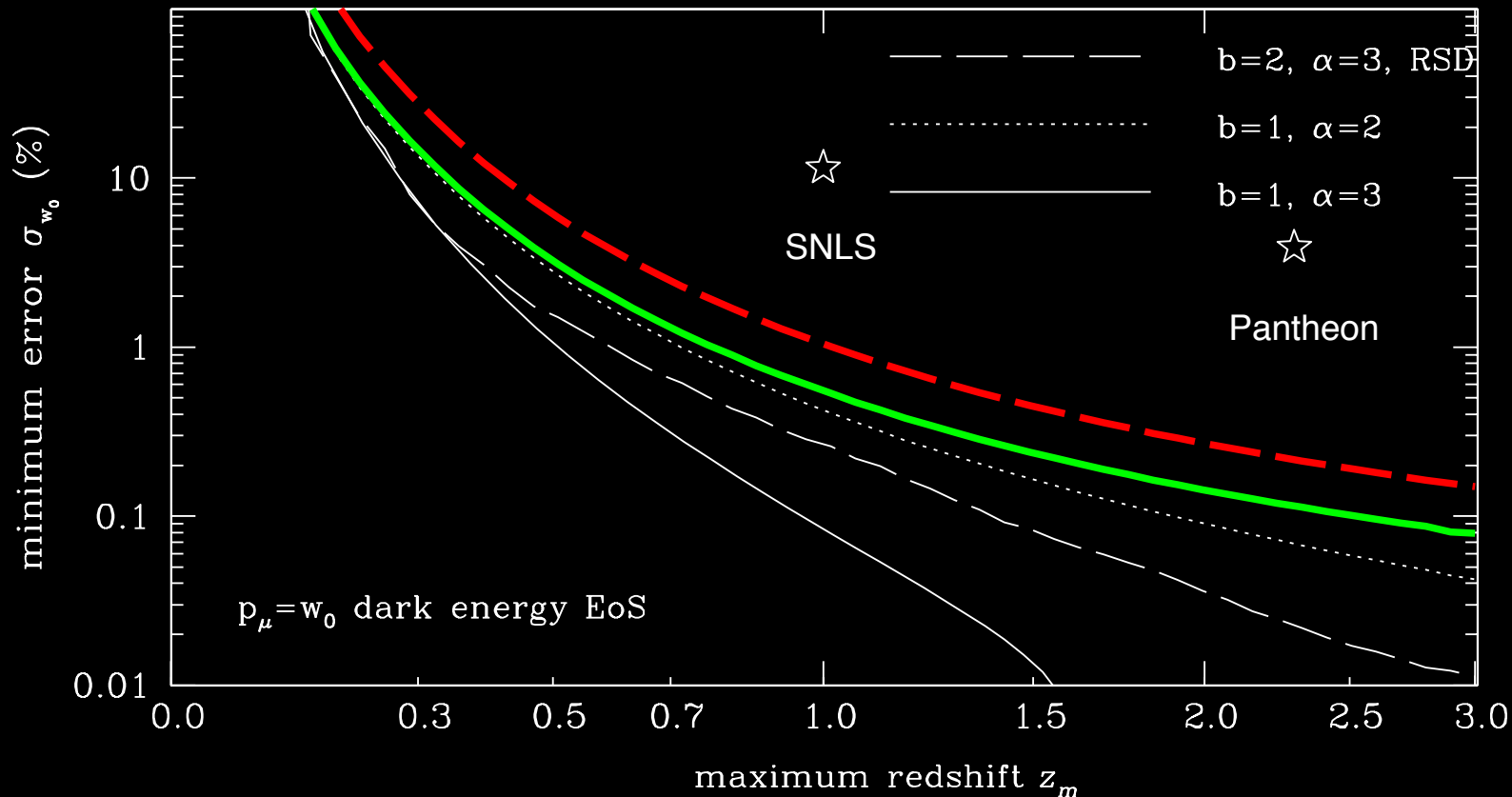
- **host** galaxy fluctuations: *biased!*
 - galaxy bias: sample only over-dense regions
 - luminosity distance: *non-zero* in a void, but no obs.
 - **all** cosmological observables: *biased!*
- correlation along light cone: *ignored!*
 - **inverse covariance** is needed
 - angular correlation C_l & inverse covariance is C_l^{-1}
 - 3D correlation $P(k)$ & inverse covariance is *not* $P(k)^{-1}$
 - *no* radial correlation is considered

Type-Ia Supernova Surveys

- **idealized** supernova observations:
 - ***no*** systematic errors
 - infinite number of observations (***no*** stat. error)
 - all sky, all SN measurements up to maximum redshift
- **cosmic variance**:
 - information is ***not infinite!***
 - observed flux, angular position, redshift: ***correlated***
 - correctly account for **host** galaxy fluctuations & **radial** correlation

Maximum Information

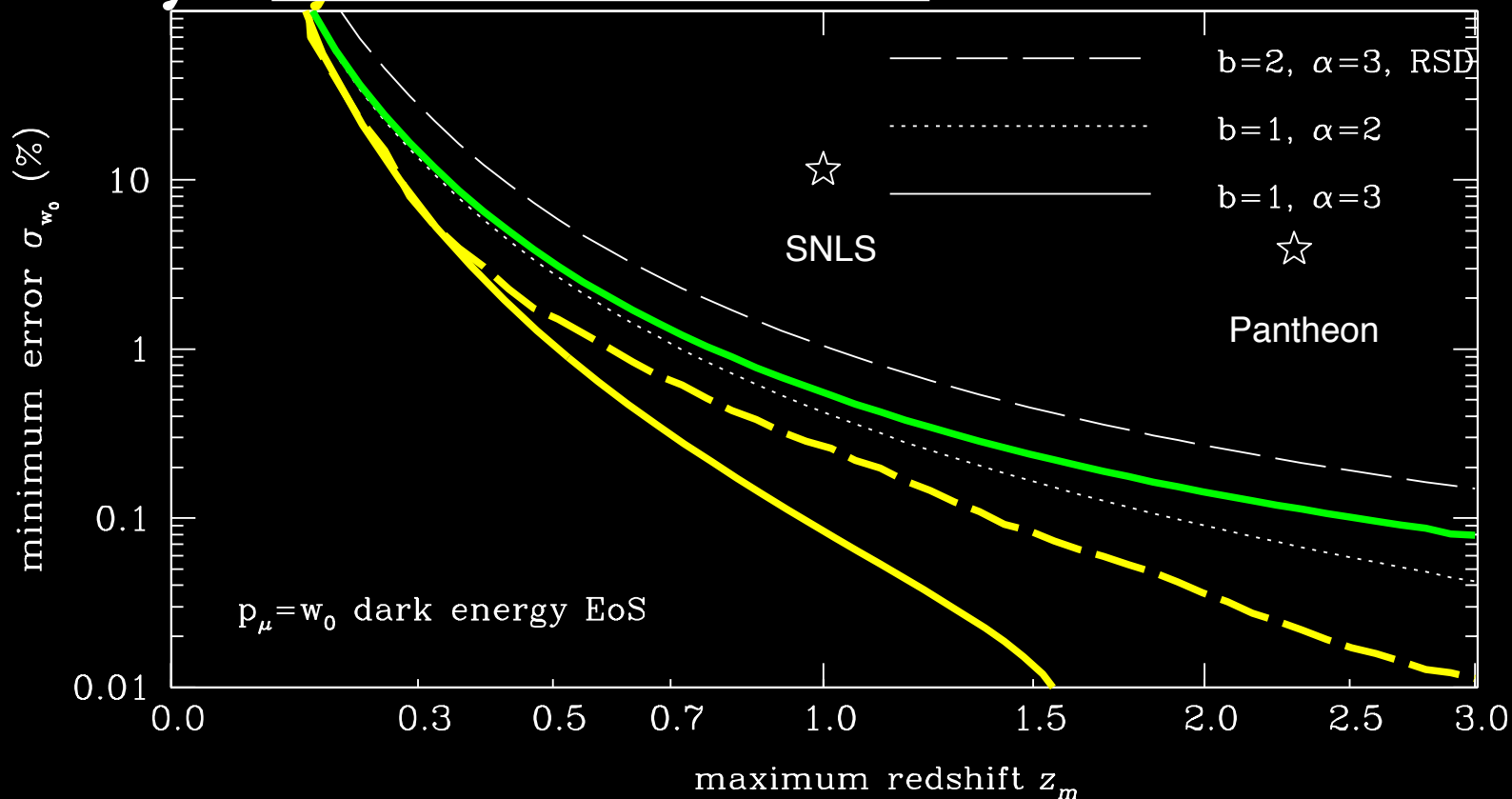
- **two** cosmological parameters in LCDM: (Ω_m, w_0)
 - fiducial (**solid**): unbiased host like dark matter
 - more biased host (**dashed**): sample biased region
 - large cosmic variance at low redshift



- **b: galaxy bias**
- **α : evolution factor (3: dark matter)**

Systematic Errors in Literature

- **over-estimation** of cosmological information:
 - without *radial correlation* (**solid**)
 - without *host galaxy correlation* (**dashed**)
 - current surveys: **systematics limited**



- **b: galaxy bias**
- **α : evolution factor (3: dark matter)**

Conclusion

- proper quantification:
 - *radial* correlation & *host galaxy* fluctuation
 - *over-estimation* of cosmological constraining power
 - some priors used, uncertainty in host environment
- *go beyond* cosmic variance:
 - correlation as *a signal*, rather than *a noise!*
 - more information: cross-correlation with other *cosmological probes* (or multi-tracer method)

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