



Cosmic shear simulations for the analysis of LSST data using HOS

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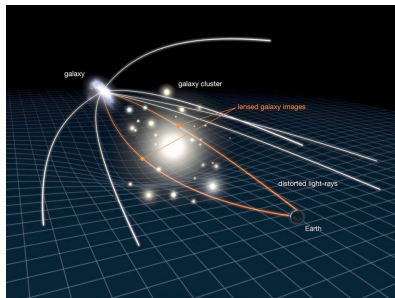
Thursday 12th June, 2025

Outline

1. Weak lensing and HOS
2. Generation of the simulations
3. Results
4. Conclusions

Weak gravitational lensing

Weak gravitational lensing **distorts the images of background objects** due to the presence of a foreground matter distribution.



Credits: NASA/ESA

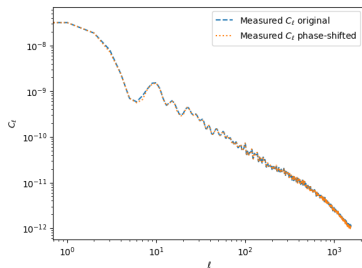
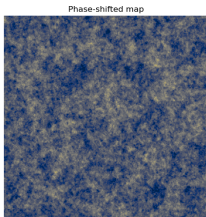
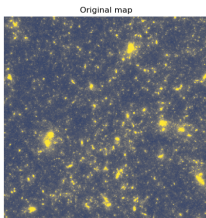
Three lensing regimes:

- Cluster lensing. The foreground object is a cluster. Distortions of $\sim 10\%$.
- Galaxy-galaxy lensing. The foreground object is a galaxy. Distortions of $\sim 1\%$.
- **Cosmic shear**. Caused by **large-scale structure (LSS)**. Distortions of $\sim 0.1\text{-}1\%$.

Cosmic shear is traditionally analyzed using two-point functions...

Why higher-order statistics?

- 1 Two-point functions do not give us information about non-Gaussian features.



Different structures but same C_ℓ !

Motivation and context

- HOS are a **powerful tool for cosmology**.
- However, they usually lack theoretical predictions.
- Therefore, **we rely on simulations**, which are computationally expensive.
- When generating simulations, we need to **optimize their accuracy vs computing resources** (charged node hours + storage) as a function of
 - volume.
 - mass resolution (mass/particle).
 - number of redshift snapshots.

Goal: optimize the generation of upcoming **lensing and clustering** simulations needed for the **analysis of LSST data with HOS**.

DESC project: [282] Simulations for Higher-Order-Statistics

https://portal.lsstdesc.org/DESCPub/app/PB/show_project?pid=282

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Tests

Steps:

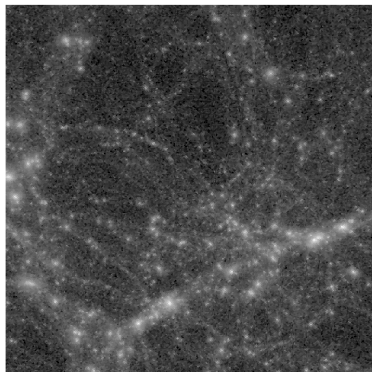
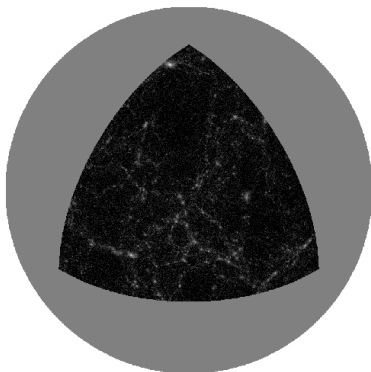
- 1 We produce lightcones for the two simulation seeds (five observers per simulation seed).
- 2 We measure the **angular power spectrum** (C_ℓ) from the κ maps.
- 3 We measure the second, **third and fourth**¹ moments of κ .
- 4 We average the C_ℓ and the κ moments over the two simulation seeds and the five observers.

We run the previous steps varying the

- number of snapshots: $N_{\text{snapshots}} = \{26, 34, 51, 101\}$.
- number of particles: $N_p = \{2048^3, 1024^3\}$.

¹The third and fourth moments contain non-Gaussian information.

Results: δ map ($N_{\text{snapshots}} = 26$)



δ map of a lightcone shell for one of our simulations. For this particular shell, the redshift slice is given by $z \in (0.016, 0.050)$.

Pairwise χ^2 vs. 101

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{ij} \sum_{mn} \sum_{\ell\ell'} \left(C_{\ell}^{(ij),A} - C_{\ell}^{(ij),B} \right) [\text{Cov}^{-1}]_{\ell\ell'}^{(ij),(mn)} \left(C_{\ell'}^{(mn),A} - C_{\ell'}^{(mn),B} \right).$$

N_{shells}	26	34	51	101
26	--	2.1 (1.2)	4.2 (2.5)	6.2 (2.9)
34	--	--	1.7 (1.0)	3.0 (1.9)
51	--	--	--	1.3 (0.74)
101	--	--	--	--

Pairwise χ^2 for $N_p = 2048^3$ (1024^3).

Moments of κ

The convergence maps are smoothed by a top-hat filter of smoothing length ϑ , $\kappa(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \rightarrow \kappa_{\vartheta}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$.

- Second moment (or covariance):

$$\langle \kappa_{\vartheta}^2 \rangle^{ij} = \langle (\kappa_{\vartheta}^i(\boldsymbol{\theta}) - \langle \kappa_{\vartheta}^i(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \rangle) \cdot (\kappa_{\vartheta}^j(\boldsymbol{\theta}) - \langle \kappa_{\vartheta}^j(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \rangle) \rangle.$$

- Third moment (or skewness):

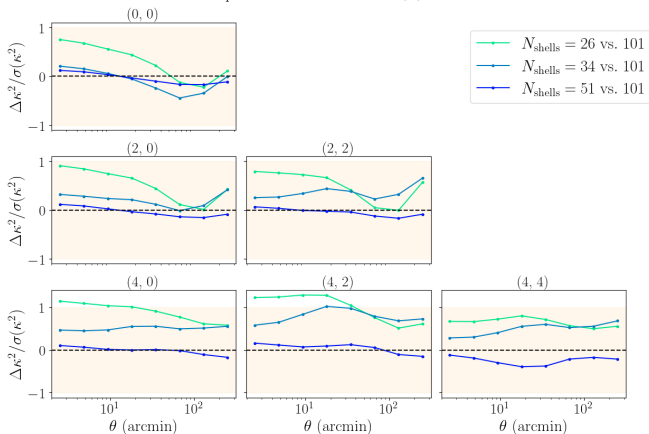
$$\langle \kappa_{\vartheta}^3 \rangle^{ijk} = \langle (\kappa_{\vartheta}^i(\boldsymbol{\theta}) - \langle \kappa_{\vartheta}^i(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \rangle) \cdot (\kappa_{\vartheta}^j(\boldsymbol{\theta}) - \langle \kappa_{\vartheta}^j(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \rangle) \cdot (\kappa_{\vartheta}^k(\boldsymbol{\theta}) - \langle \kappa_{\vartheta}^k(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \rangle) \rangle.$$

- Fourth moment (or kurtosis):

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \kappa_{\vartheta}^4 \rangle^{ijkl} = & \langle (\kappa_{\vartheta}^i(\boldsymbol{\theta}) - \langle \kappa_{\vartheta}^i(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \rangle) \cdot (\kappa_{\vartheta}^j(\boldsymbol{\theta}) - \langle \kappa_{\vartheta}^j(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \rangle) \\ & \cdot (\kappa_{\vartheta}^k(\boldsymbol{\theta}) - \langle \kappa_{\vartheta}^k(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \rangle) \cdot (\kappa_{\vartheta}^l(\boldsymbol{\theta}) - \langle \kappa_{\vartheta}^l(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \rangle) \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Results: convergence of $\langle \kappa^2 \rangle$ with N_{shells}

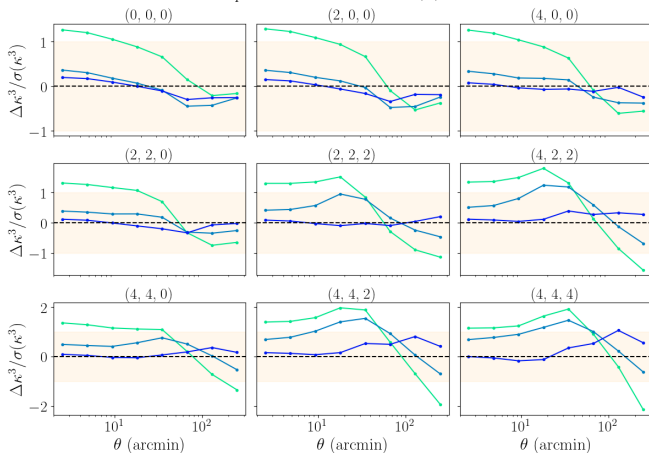
$N_p = 2048^3$, method (1)



$\langle \kappa_{N_{\text{shells}}}^2 \rangle$ vs. $\langle \kappa_{101}^2 \rangle$.

Results: convergence of $\langle \kappa^3 \rangle$ with N_{shells}

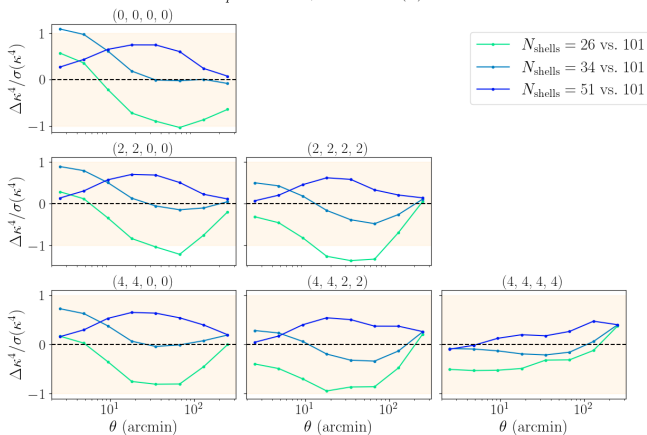
$N_p = 2048^3$, method (1)



$\langle \kappa_{N_{\text{shells}}}^3 \rangle$ vs. $\langle \kappa_{101}^3 \rangle$.

Results: $\langle \kappa^4 \rangle$ vs. 101 ($N_p = 1024^3$)

$N_p = 1024^3$, method (1)



$\langle \kappa_{N_{\text{shells}}}^4 \rangle$ vs. $\langle \kappa_{101}^4 \rangle$.

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Conclusions

Goal: optimize the generation of upcoming **lensing and clustering** simulations needed for the **analysis of LSST data with HOS**.

- Optimization of the simulations:
 - ① We need, at least, $N_{\text{shells}} = 51$.
 - ② $N_p = 1024^3$: enough for two-point statistics but not for HOS. $N_p = 2048^3$ looks good for both.
 - ③ We also tested other algorithms for building the lightcones: consistency between them.
- Related ongoing projects/tasks:
 - ① development of Pollux (C. Doux).
 - ② baryonification of the dark matter shells (A. Vera).
 - ③ intrinsic alignment studies (J. Harnois-Deraps).
 - ④ measure different HOS (J. Armijo).
- Next steps:
 - ① Comparison with theory.
 - ② Run simulations at different cosmologies.

Other projects

- **Dark Energy Spectroscopic Instrument (DESI)**: angular BAO from $w(\theta)$.
 - No need to assume cosmology to transform $z \rightarrow d$.
 - Comparison with the fiducial DESI results.

- **Dark Energy Survey (DES)**: combination of DES BAO + DESI BAO.
 - New DES BAO likelihood removing the overlapping area with DESI.
 - Inference of cosmological parameters combining
DES BAO + DES SN + DESI BAO + Planck CMB
 - Constraints on **dynamical dark energy**.

Thank You!