Cosmology on ultra-large scales with the SKA and other galaxy surveys





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Ultra-large volume galaxy surveys – the next frontier

The next generation of surveys will map the matter distribution in ultra-large volumes:



These surveys will advance 'precision cosmology'. But they will also:

- Lead to new and unexpected discoveries.
- Facilitate *improved and new tests* of the foundations of the standard model of cosmology:
 - GR
 - the Cosmological Principle
 - (non-)Gaussianity of primordial fluctuations

The SKA

SKA PHASE 1

Build ~ 2019-2024

SKA1-MID:

 \sim 200 dishes, \sim 15 m – in South Africa. MeerKAT Pathfinder – 64 dishes 2018.

SKA1-LOW:

~130,000 dipole antennas – in Australia.

SKA PHASE 2

~ 10 X SKA1 ~ 2025 -







SKA1-LOW: 50 – 350 MHz Phase 1: ~130,000 antennas across 65km





SKA Organisation: 10 countries, more to join





Exploring the Universe with the world's largest radio telescope

MeerKAT array – in progress (>32 dishes now)

- 64 x 13.5m dishes
- Full operations April 2018
- To be absorbed into SKA1 2024 (?)







3D map of galaxies will be based on detecting the radio waves emitted by hydrogen atoms in galaxies – automatically get the redshift.



SKA spectroscopic surveys 1 HI galaxy redshift surveys

- SKA1 10 million galaxies, 5000 deg², z < 0.6
- SKA2 1 billion galaxies, 30000 deg², z < 2

SKA1 will not be a game-changer but will provide excellent complement to optical surveys.

SKA2 could be a game-changer.



SKA spectroscopic surveys 2

HI intensity mapping surveys (integrated emission – like CMB) SKA1 – up to 25000 deg², z < 3



Intensity map

I. Testing GR via the growth rate

Growth rate of large-scale structure:

- insensitive to (non-exotic) models of dark energy,
- sensitive to the theory of gravity.



Growth rate

Redshift space distortions measure the growth rate:

$$\delta_g^{\text{obs}} = \delta_g - \frac{(1+z)}{H} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{v})$$
$$= (b + f\mu^2) \delta_m, \quad \mu = \mathbf{n} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{k}}$$



dm

Constraining *f* via RSD with SKA spectroscopic surveys

SKA2 galaxy survey gives the best constraint – but in Phase 1, HI intensity mapping can be very competitive:



Bull 2015

Forecasts for testing GR via the growth rate

Use *f* to test gravity: $f(a) = [\Omega_m(a)]^{\gamma}, \qquad \gamma \approx 0.55 \text{ (standard model)}$

We will need to combine with other tests to really constrain MG



Bull 2015

Example of using 2 surveys to constrain the strength of gravity:



Zhao et al 2015

II. Testing the Cosmological Principle via the cosmic dipole

We are moving relative to the CMB rest-frame. This generates a kinematic dipole in the CMB temperature – hotter in the motion direction, cooler behind:

$$\tilde{T}(\tilde{\mathbf{n}}) = T(\mathbf{n}) [1 + \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{v}_0], \qquad v_0 \approx 10^{-3}$$



In standard cosmology:

large-scale structure (LSS) rest-frame = CMB rest-frame.

Therefore the LSS dipole should be aligned with the CMB dipole – a critical test of the standard model.

Large-scale structure kinematic dipole:

higher number counts in the motion direction, lower behind.

The boosted observer measures redshifts and solid angles as:

$$1 + \tilde{z} = (1 + z) (1 - \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{v}_0)$$
$$d\tilde{\Omega}_o = (1 - 2\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{v}_0) d\Omega_o$$

Total number of particles is conserved:

$$d\mathcal{N} = \tilde{N} \, d\tilde{z} \, d\tilde{\Omega}_o = N \, dz \, d\Omega_o$$

Then the number per redshift per solid angle is

$$\tilde{N}(\tilde{z}, \tilde{\mathbf{n}}) = N(z, \mathbf{n}) \left[1 + 3\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{v}_o \right]$$

To measure the LSS dipole, we need:

very large sky coverage + high number density + high z

It is easier to measure the dipole by counting numbers in opposite patches of the sky without regard to redshift – i.e. using the 2D angular correlations.

There is an SKA survey that is well-suited to this:

a radio continuum survey (detects total radio emission, but no redshifts).



SKA continuum survey:

SKA1 – 100 million galaxies, 30000 deg², z < 4SKA2 – 2 billion galaxies, 30000 deg², z < 5

Forecast to detect the LSS dipole direction:

- within ~5° (SKA1)
- within $\sim 1^{\circ}$ (SKA2)



III. Testing primordial Gaussianity

Primordial quantum fluctuations are generated during inflation – * Gaussian for simple inflation models (as in standard LCDM) * non-Gaussian for many other models

Constraining primordial non-Gaussianity (PNG) is a powerful probe of inflation – can rule out some inflationary models.

PNG is 'frozen' on ultra-large scales during the expansion of the Universe – and affects the CMB and LSS.

State-of-the-art constraint from *Planck:*

 $\sigma(f_{\rm NL}) = 5$

Future CMB experiments will not be able to improve significantly on this constraint: only LSS can push the errors down to 1 and below. How does PNG affect the galaxy distribution?

For local PNG, the large-scale bias of galaxies is modified as follows:

 $\delta_g(z,k) = b(z)\delta_m(z,k)$ (synchronous gauge)

$$b(z) \to b(z) + \Delta b(z,k), \quad \Delta b \propto f_{\rm NL} \frac{\mathcal{H}^2}{k^2} \qquad \text{for } k \lesssim k_{\rm eq}$$

Galaxy surveys on ultra-large scales can probe the primordial Universe!





Relativistic effects vs Kaiser + PNG



Local PNG boosts the clustering of galaxies on ultra-large scales. Surveys with ultra-large volumes are better at constraining PNG:



 $\sigma(f_{\rm NL}) = 1$

Alonso, Bull, Ferreira, RM, Santos 2015

How to push the PNG error further down?

The PNG signal is strongest on ultra-large scales – but this is where *cosmic variance* degrades the constraining power.

Even the biggest and best future galaxy surveys – Euclid, LSST and SKA – will be unable to achieve

$$\sigma(f_{NL}) < 1$$

using the power spectrum of single tracers of the DM distribution. (Yoo et al 2013; Alonso, Bull, Ferreira, RM, Santos 2015; Raccanelli et al 2015) The multi-tracer method uses 2 or more different tracers of the stochastic DM distribution to beat down cosmic variance – by combining the auto-correlations and the cross-correlations.



This allows us to achieve $\sigma(f_{NL}) < 1$ with the galaxy power spectrum.

(Alonso & Ferreira 2015; Fonseca, Camera, Santos, RM 2015)

The results improve if the tracer biases and systematics are very different.

This suggests using a radio survey and an optical/IR survey. In particular:

SKA1 intensity map X LSST photo-z

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SKA1 HI intensity map X LSST photo-z

With single tracers, errors don't improve as noise reduces — (red and blue).

With multi-tracer, errors reduce as noise reduces (black).



Fonseca, Camera, Santos, RM 2015

Experiment type	Tracers	$\sigma(f_{ m NL})$
Photometric survey	LSST, red-only	4.53
(LSST)	LSST, blue-only	1.71
	LSST, red \times blue	1.62
	DES, red \times blue	7.18
Radio	IM-only	3.00
(SKA1-MID)	$IM \times Cont., 1 sample$	0.86
	$IM \times Cont.$, 2 samples	0.69
	Continuum-only, 2 samples	1.91
Synergy	IM×all	0.41
$(SKA1-MID \times LSST)$	IM×red×blue	0.40

Alonso & Ferreira 2015

We can probe PNG well beyond the CMB precision.

Testing modifed gravity on ultra-large scales

The same cosmic variance problem arises:



With the multi-tracer, we can in principle detect deviations from GR on ultra-large scales.

Future surveys – not competing, but combining

Multi-tracer forecasts for constraints on PNG and gravity show us the benefits of *combining* next-generation surveys.

Surveys that overlap give us additional constraining power – the multi-tracer knocks out much of the cosmic variance.

Where possible, sky areas should be chosen to maximise overlap with other surveys.

Before next-generation? MeerKAT HI intensity map X DES photo-*z*



- DES on its own better than BOSS, but behind Planck
- Multi-tracer DES X MeerKAT: beats Planck with only 2000 deg²!

EXTRA SLIDES