

# The Large Scale Structure and Fast Radio Bursts



Robert Reischke  
with Steffen Hagstotz

Cosmology from Home I 2023

# Overview



1. Fast Radio Bursts 101
2. Distance scale
3. Effects of the LSS



# Overview



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# Fast Radio Bursts

- Mechanism unknown
- First discovered in archival data 2007
- Short ( $\sim$ ms), bright ( $\sim$ Jy) radio transients
- Frequencies 300 Mhz - 8 Ghz
- Extragalactic
- About 600 known events, soon several 1000s
- Some repeating?

# Proposed Mechanisms

A Living Theory Catalogue for Fast Radio Bursts

*arXiv 1810.05836*

E. Platts<sup>a,\*</sup>, A. Weltman<sup>a</sup>, A. Walters<sup>b,c</sup>, S. P. Tendulkar<sup>d</sup>, J.E.B. Gordin<sup>a</sup>, S. Kandhai<sup>a</sup>

[www.frbtheorycat.org](http://www.frbtheorycat.org)



## Main Page

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- 1 Welcome to the FRB Theory Wiki
- 2 Contributing to the Wiki
  - 2.1 Rules and Guidelines
- 3 Summary Table

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## Neutron stars? Mergers? AGN?

Article | Published: 04 November 2020

### A bright millisecond-duration radio burst from a Galactic magnetar

The CHIME/FRB Collaboration

*Nature* **587**, 54–58(2020) | [Cite this article](#)

### A repeating fast radio burst source in a globular cluster

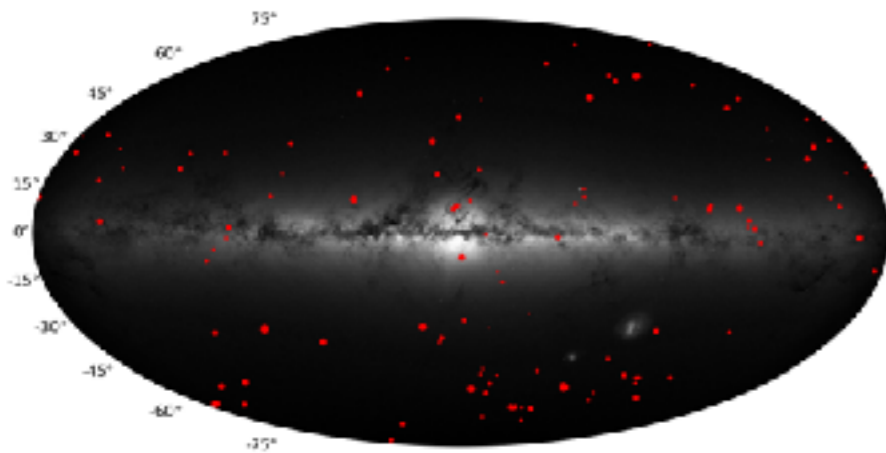
F. Kirsten (Chalmers), B. Marcote (JIVE), K. Nimmo (ASTRON, University of Amsterdam), J. W. T. Hessels (University), S. P. Tendulkar (TIFR, NCRA), A. Keimpema (JIVE), J. Yang (Chalmers), M. P. Snelders (University, Caltech), C. J. Law (Caltech), W. M. Peters (NRL), M. Giroletti (INAF), D. M. Hewitt (University of Burgay (INAF), S. T. Buttaccio (INAF), J. E. Conway (Chalmers), A. Corongiu (INAF), R. Feller (NCU), O. Fors (MPIfR), M. A. Kharinov (IAA RAS), M. Lindqvist (Chalmers), G. Maccaferri (INAF), A. Melnikov (IAA RAS), O.



GERMAN CENTRE FOR COSMOLOGICAL LENSING

# Known FRBs

- Until now: detections mostly incidental
- Expect rates of  $10^3 - 10^4$  / sky / night
- Now: dedicated searches ongoing

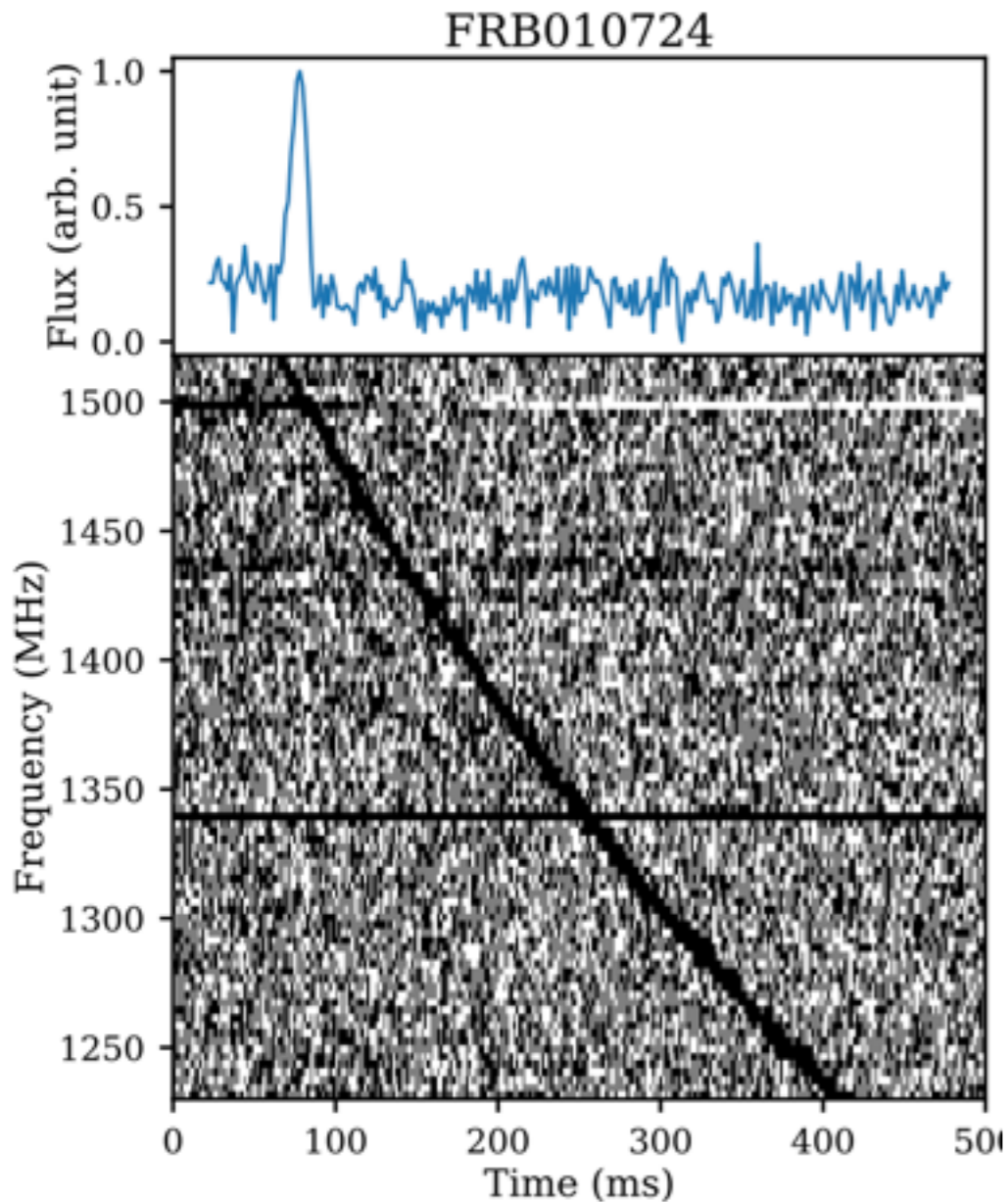


CHIME



ASKAP

# Dispersion measure



- Radio signals undergo dispersion
- Pulse delay  $\Delta t \sim \nu^{-2}$
- Depends on integrated electrons along LoS

$$DM = \int \frac{n_e}{1+z} dl$$

*Lorimer et al 2007*

*Cordes & Chatterjee 2019*



# Dispersion measure

$$DM_{\text{tot}}(z) = DM_{\text{MW}} + DM_{\text{LSS}}(z) + DM_{\text{host}}(z)$$



Milky Way models  
Can be checked with Pulsars  
Quite accurate!

Host halo models  
Depends on galaxy types?  
Location of FRBs?

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scaling:

const.

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Statistics can tell contributions apart

# Dispersion measure

Dispersion measure has several contribution:

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Density field

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Ionisation history

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$$DM_{\text{tot}}(z) = DM_{\text{MW}} + DM_{\text{LSS}}(z) + DM_{\text{host}}(z)$$

Baryon fraction

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Baryon fraction  
Need redshifts

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**Distance measure**

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# FRB distance scale

Mean LSS dispersion:

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$$\langle \text{DM}_{\text{LSS}} \rangle(z) = \int dl \frac{n_e}{1+z}$$
$$= \frac{3\Omega_b H_0}{8\pi G m_p} \chi_e f_{\text{IGM}} \int^z \frac{1+z'}{E(z')} dz'$$

$n_e \approx \chi_e \frac{\bar{\rho}_b}{m_p}$



# FRB distance scale

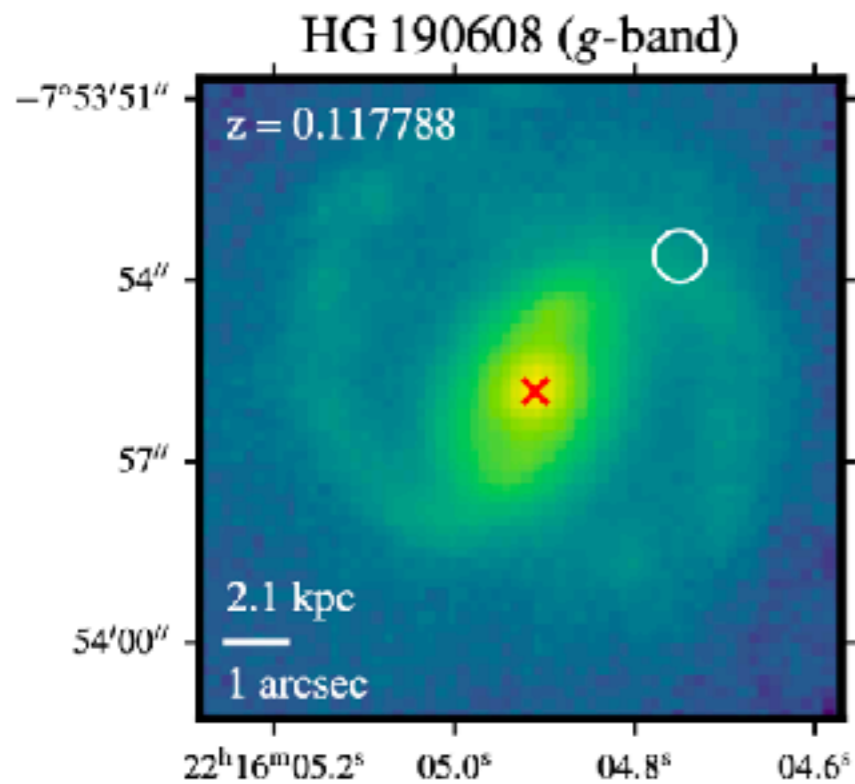
Mean LSS dispersion:

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \text{DM}_{\text{LSS}} \rangle(z) &= \int dl \frac{n_e}{1+z} \\ &= \frac{3\Omega_b H_0}{8\pi G m_p} \chi_e f_{\text{IGM}} \int^z \frac{1+z'}{E(z')} dz'\end{aligned}$$

$n_e \approx \chi_e \frac{\bar{\rho}_b}{m_p}$

- Perfect degeneracy at the background level
- Combine with prior on baryon density  $\Omega_b h^2$  (from CMB or BBN)

# Host ID

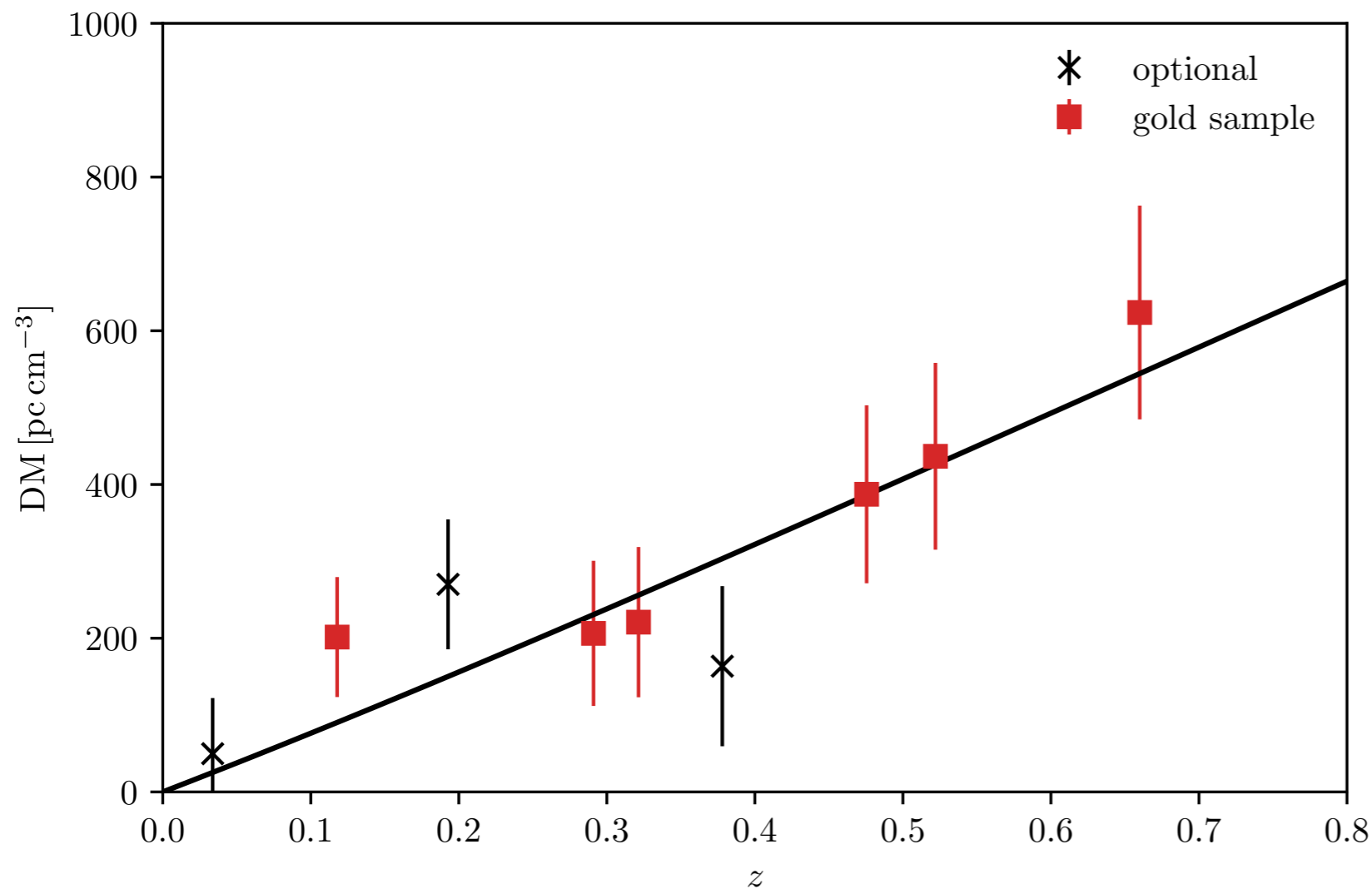


*VLT + ASKAP (Macquart et al 2020)*



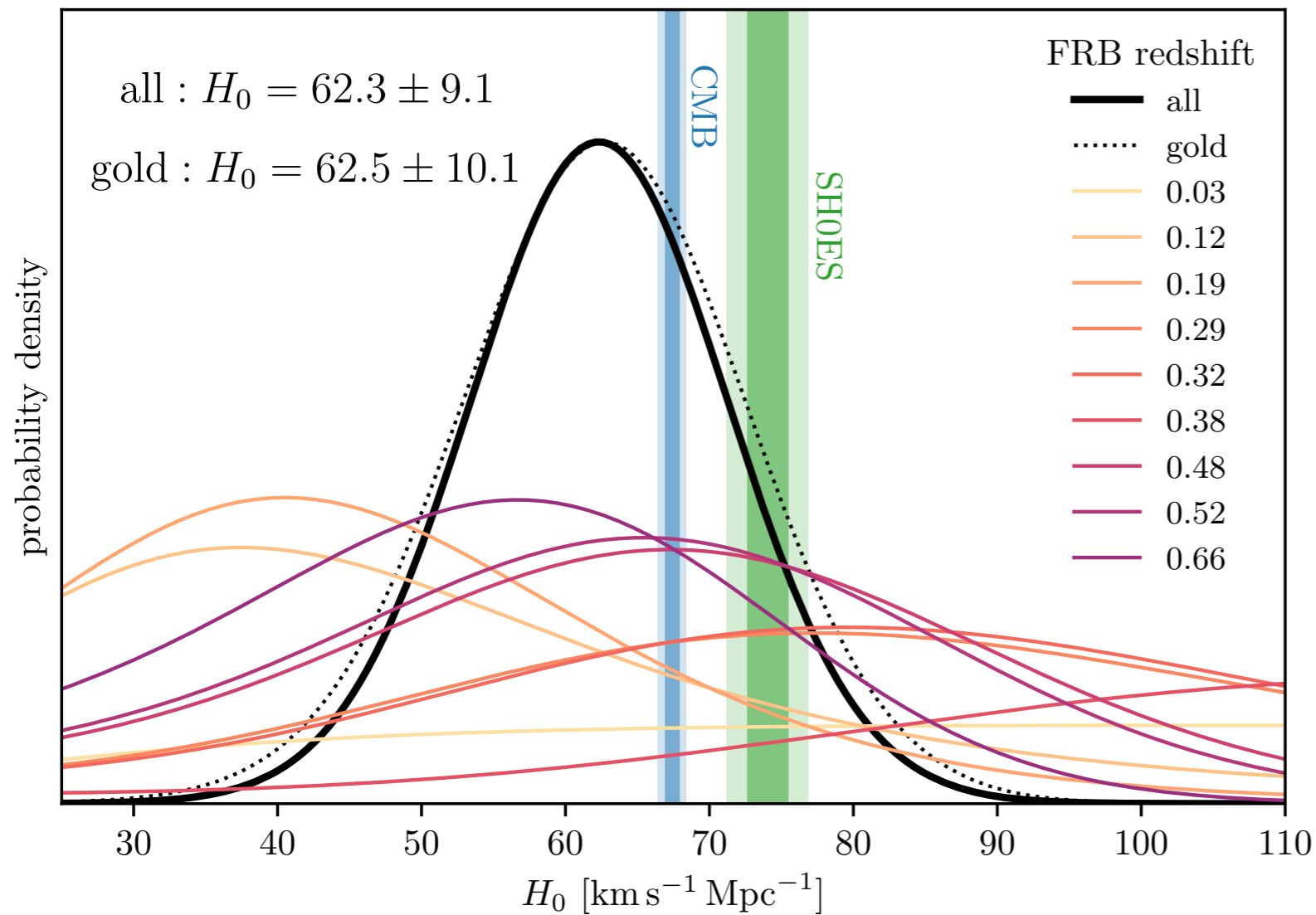
- Dedicated FRB searches from radio arrays
- Long baselines, excellent angular resolution
- Optical follow-up allows host ID and redshift

# FRB distance scale



- Compile DM- $z$  diagram similar to SNe Ia
- Absolute calibration via subtraction of host & MW DM
- Additional “gold sample” of high quality events

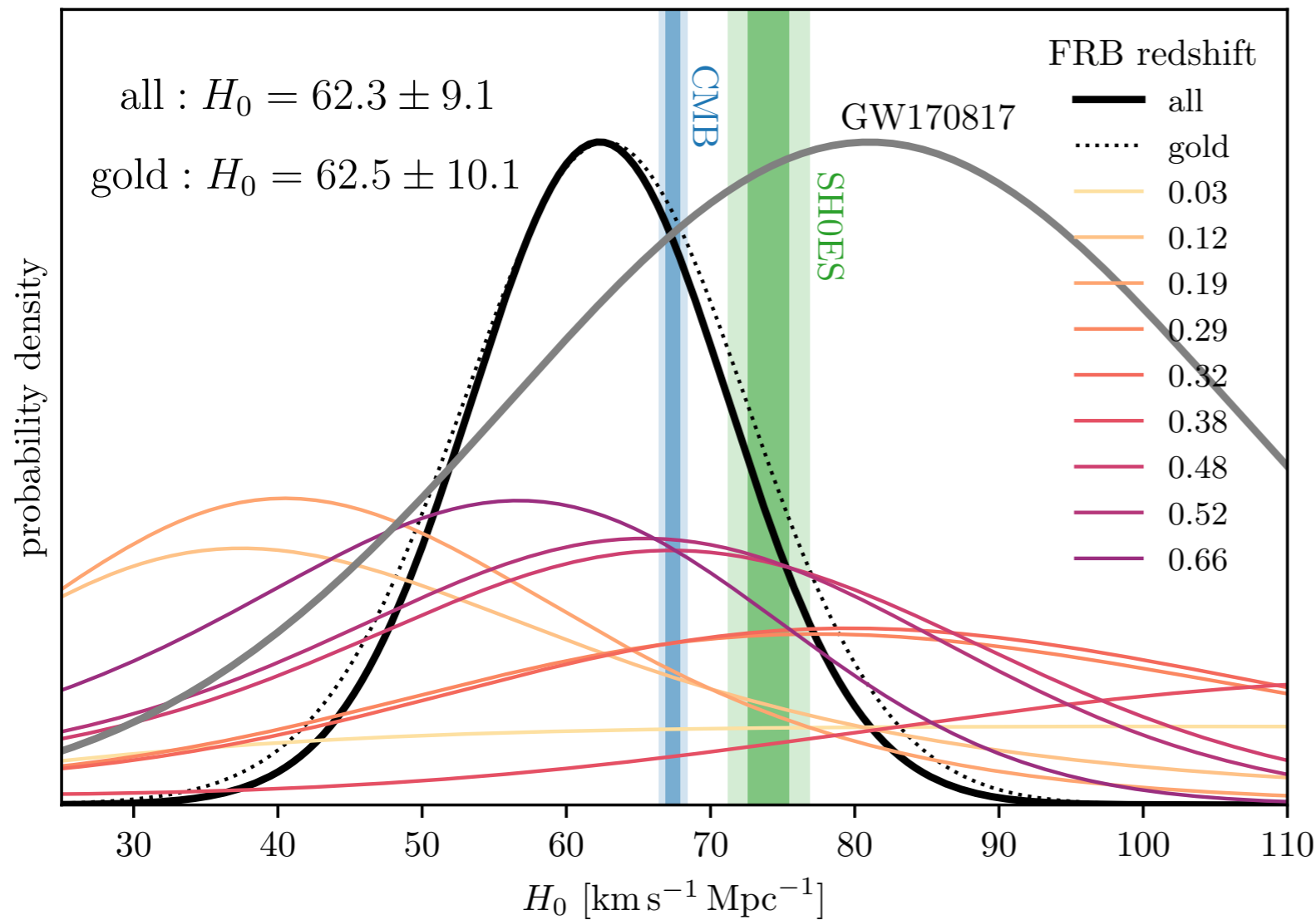
# Hubble constant



Events at large  $z$  most important

Uncertainty in host DM dominates error

# Hubble constant

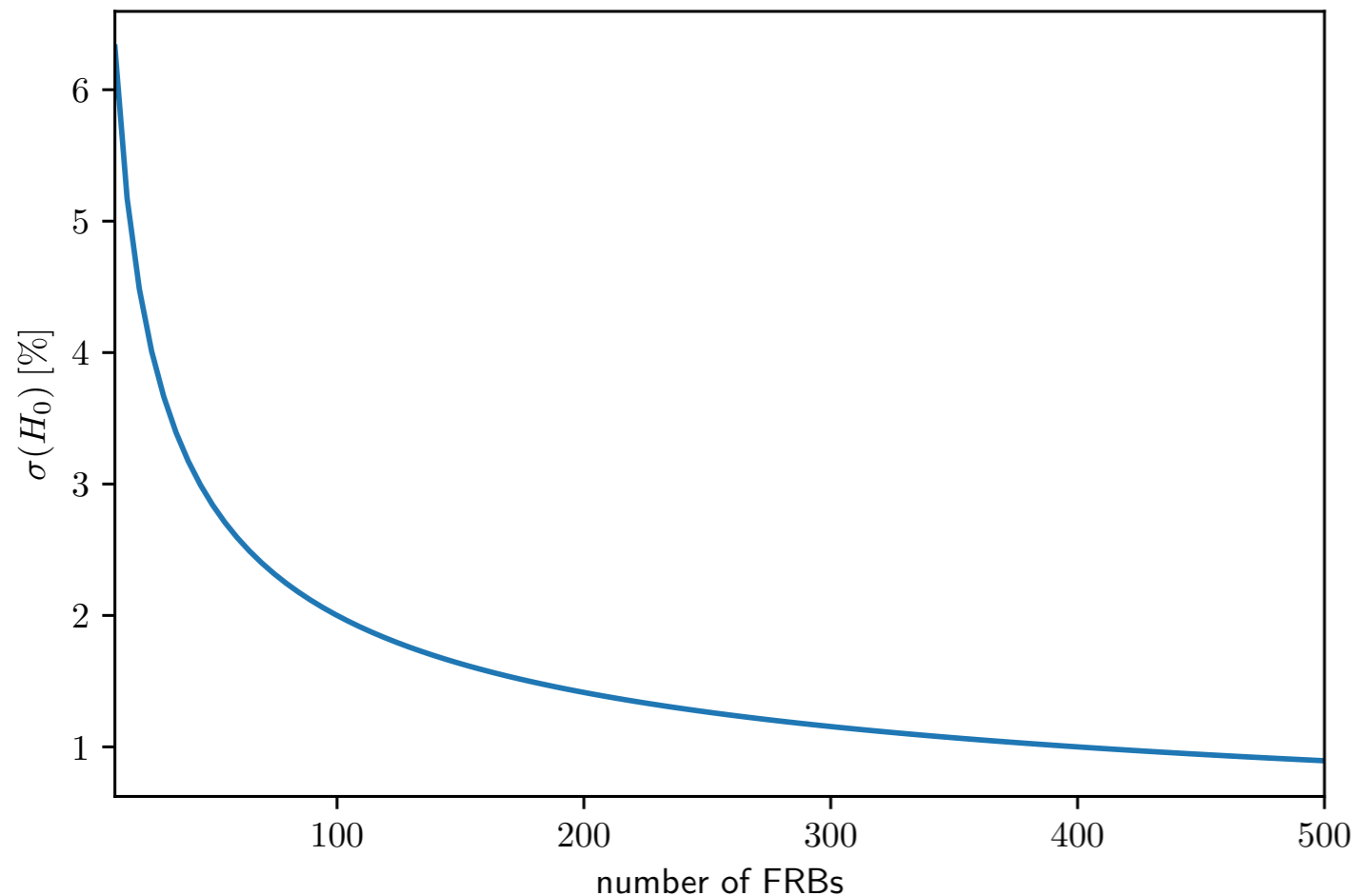


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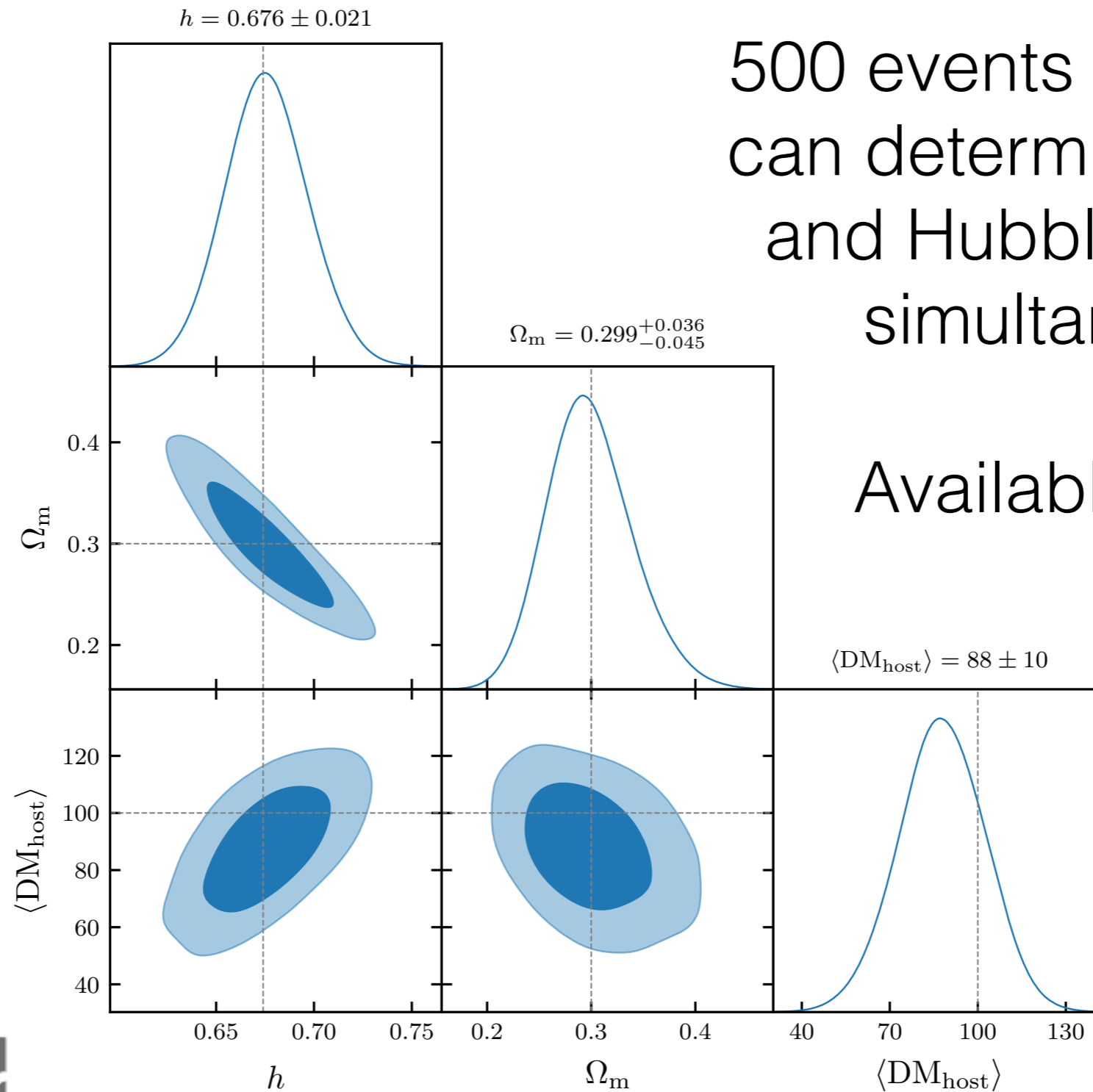
# The Future

When can FRBs be competitive?



- A few hundred events with host ID get to  $\sim 1\%$  precision
- Can we relax some assumptions with larger samples?

# Forecast



500 events with host ID  
can determine host DM  
and Hubble constant  
simultaneously

Available soon!

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# Correlated events

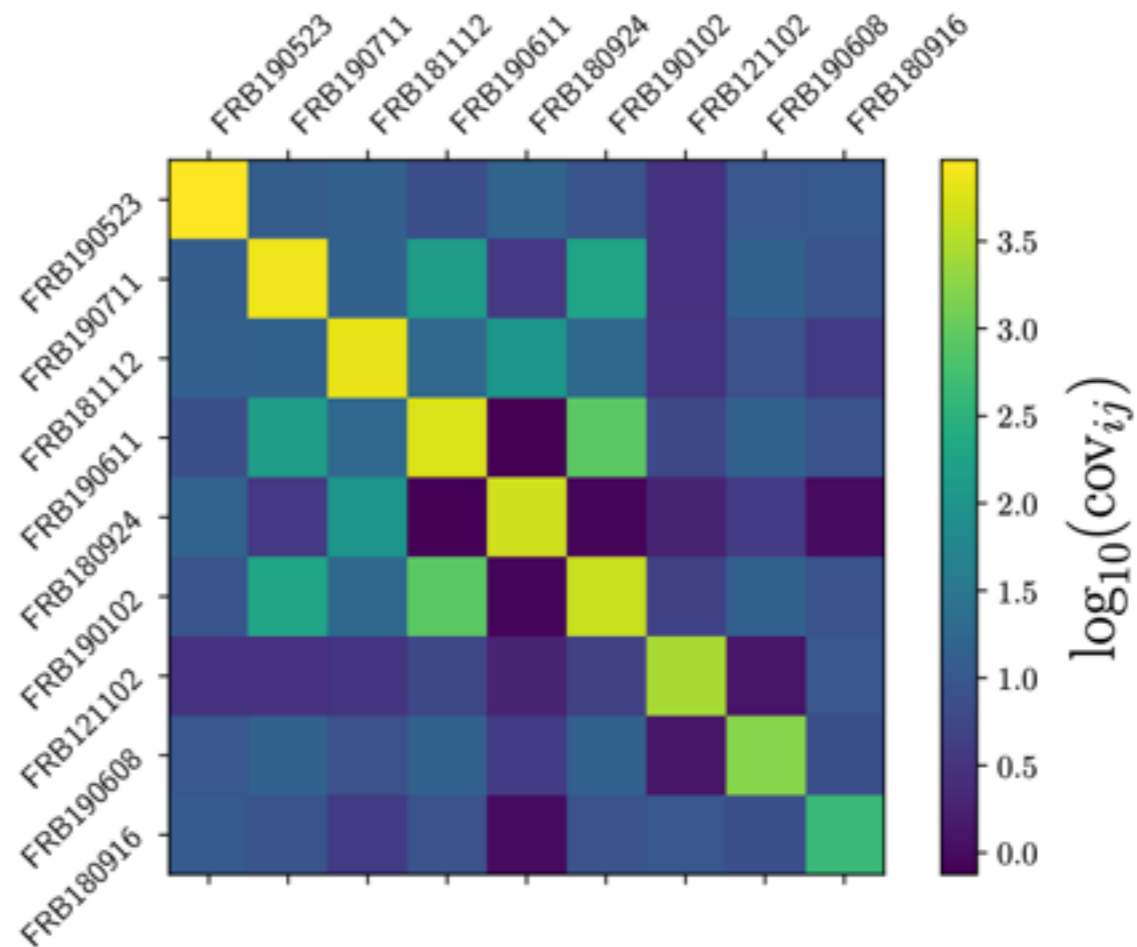


Nearby lines of sight  
traverse similar structures  
→ correlated DM

# Correlated events

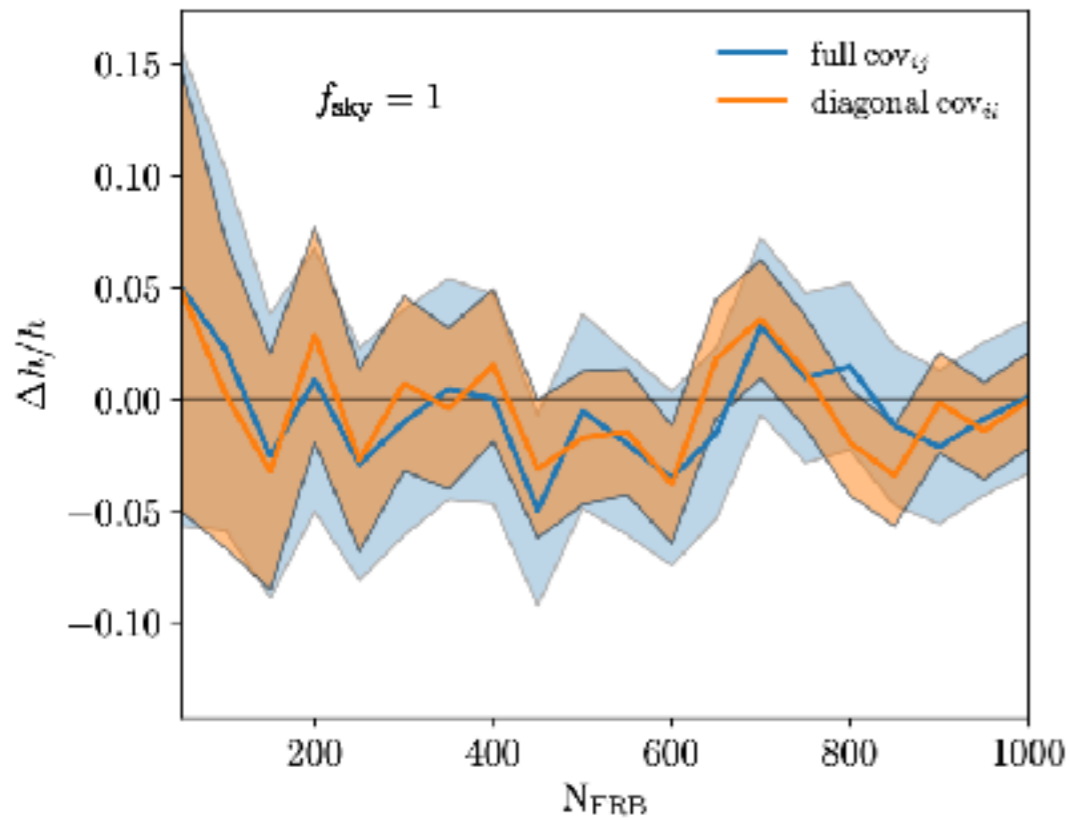


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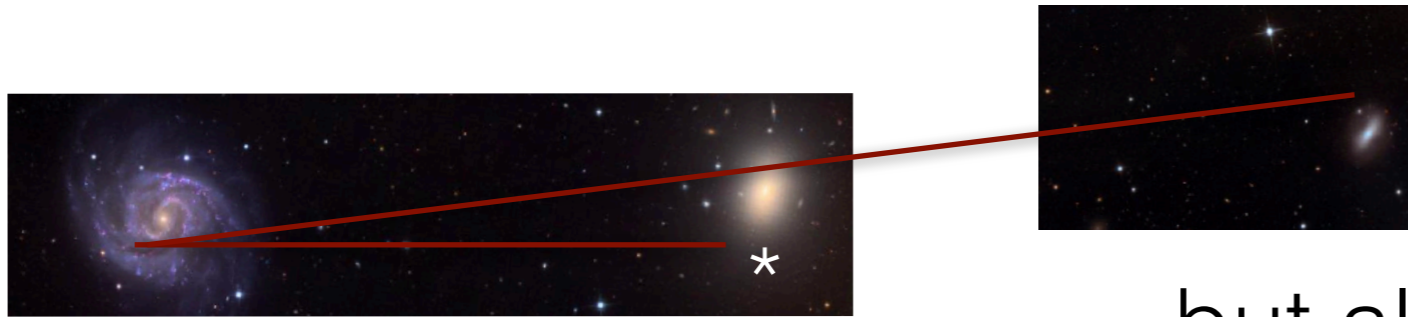
*Reischke & Hagstotz, 2301.03527*

# Correlated events

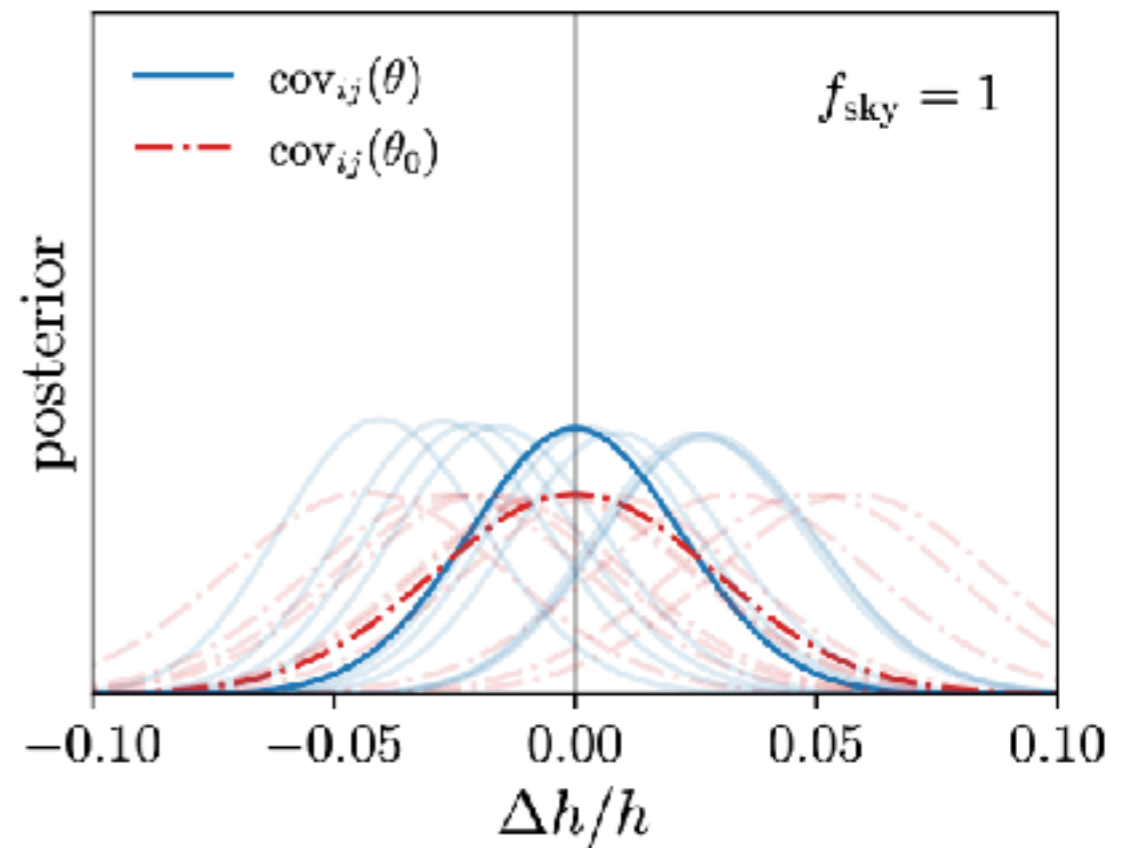
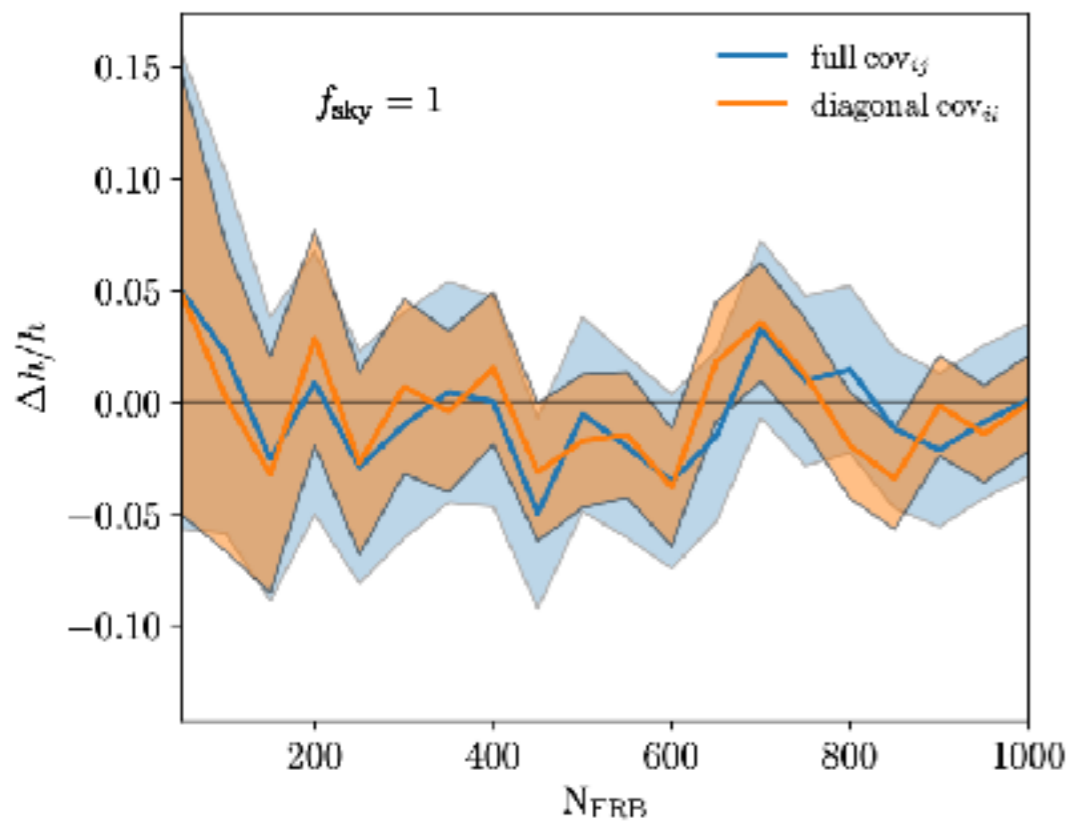


Correlation becomes important for few 100s FRBs/sky..

# Correlated events



...but also is a source of information

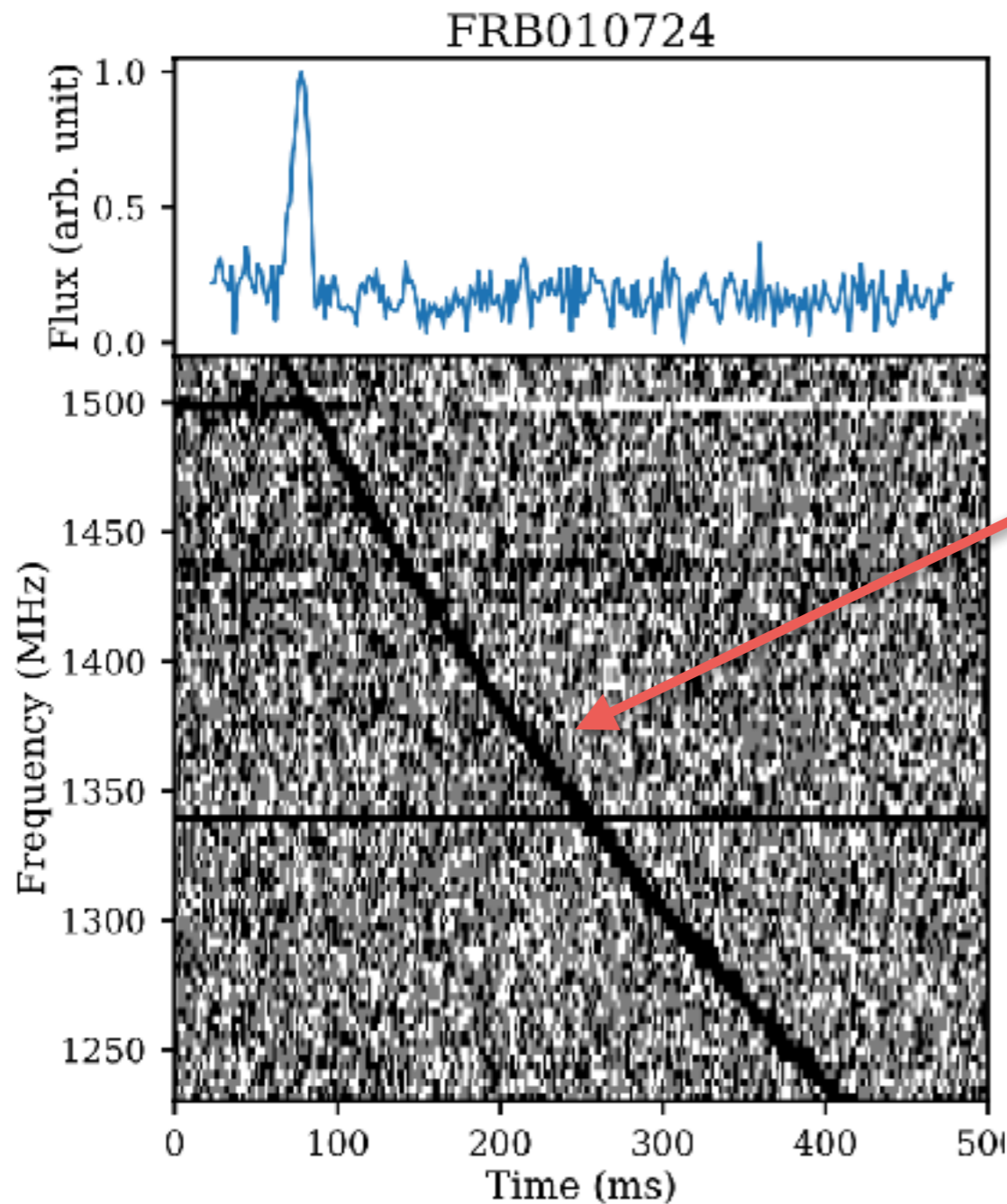


Correlation becomes important for few 100s FRBs/sky..

$\text{cov}(H_0, \Omega_m, \dots)$



# Pulse dispersion?



$$\Delta t \sim \nu^{-2}$$

Is plasma dispersion the only effect?

$$\Delta t \sim \nu^2 + \nu^\alpha$$

*Lorimer et al 2007*

*Cordes & Chatterjee 2019*

# Equivalence principle

- If EP is broken, photons of different frequencies would pick up an additional (to  $\nu^{-2}$  scaling) delay

$$\Delta t = \Delta t_{\text{DM}} + \Delta t_{\text{grav}}$$

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- So far what has been assumed is the classical Shapiro delay expression

$$t_{\text{grav}} = -\frac{1 + \gamma}{c^3} \int_{r_e}^{r_o} d\lambda U(\mathbf{r}(\lambda))$$

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- Idea: assume to know a subset of potentials along line-of-sight
- Put upper limits on  $\Delta\gamma$



# Problems

- Adding structure increases the limit monotonically
- In a cosmological setting the standard expression diverges due to boundary conditions

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- In a cosmological setting the standard expression diverges due to boundary conditions

- Should rather use

$$\Delta t_{\text{grav}} = \frac{\Delta\gamma}{c^3} \int d\chi a(\chi) \phi(\hat{\mathbf{x}}\chi)$$

- New problem: no longer upper bound since  $\phi$  fluctuates

# Equivalence principle tests

- True observable: time delay between frequency arrival  $\Delta t = \Delta t_{\text{DM}} + \Delta t_{\text{grav}}$

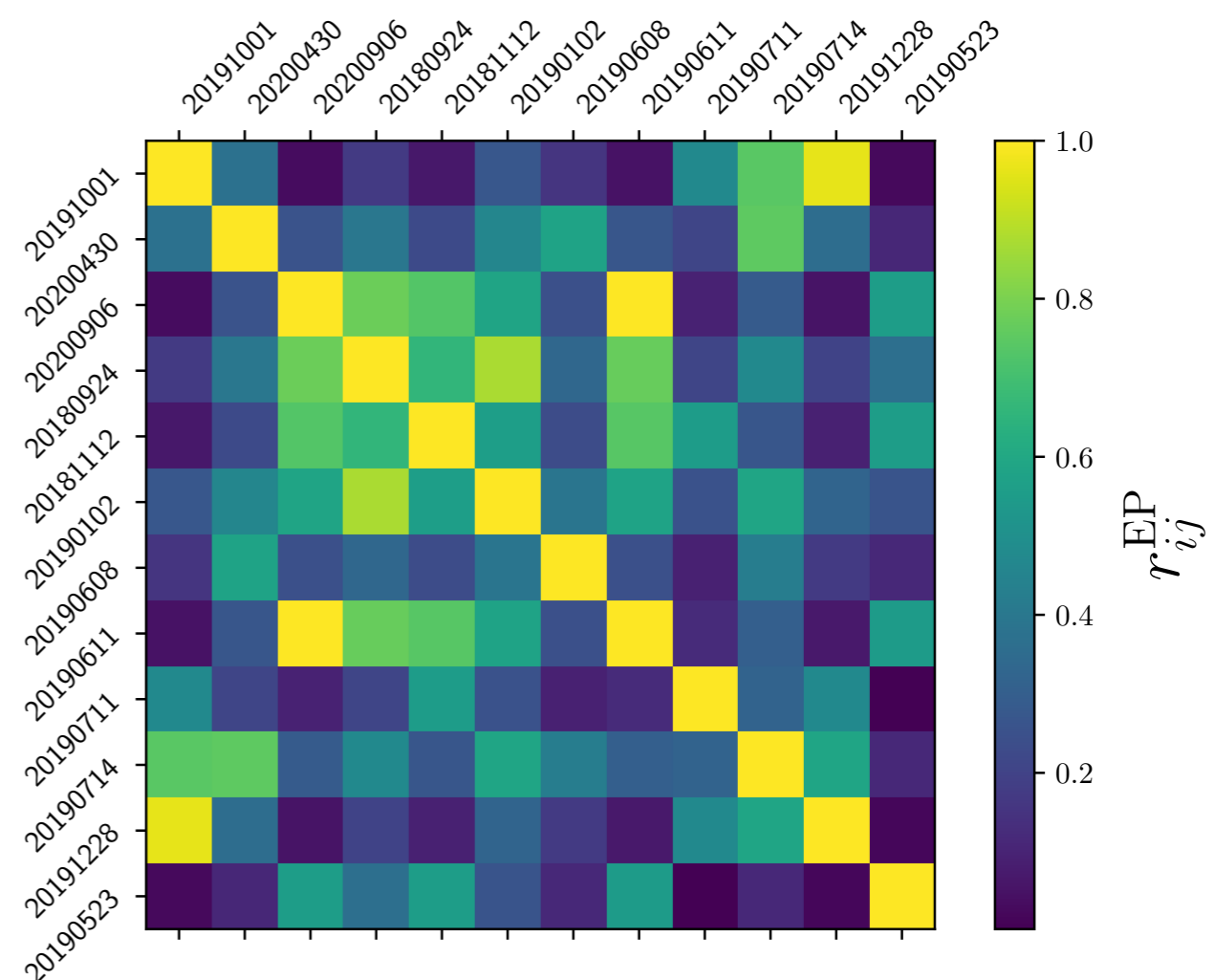
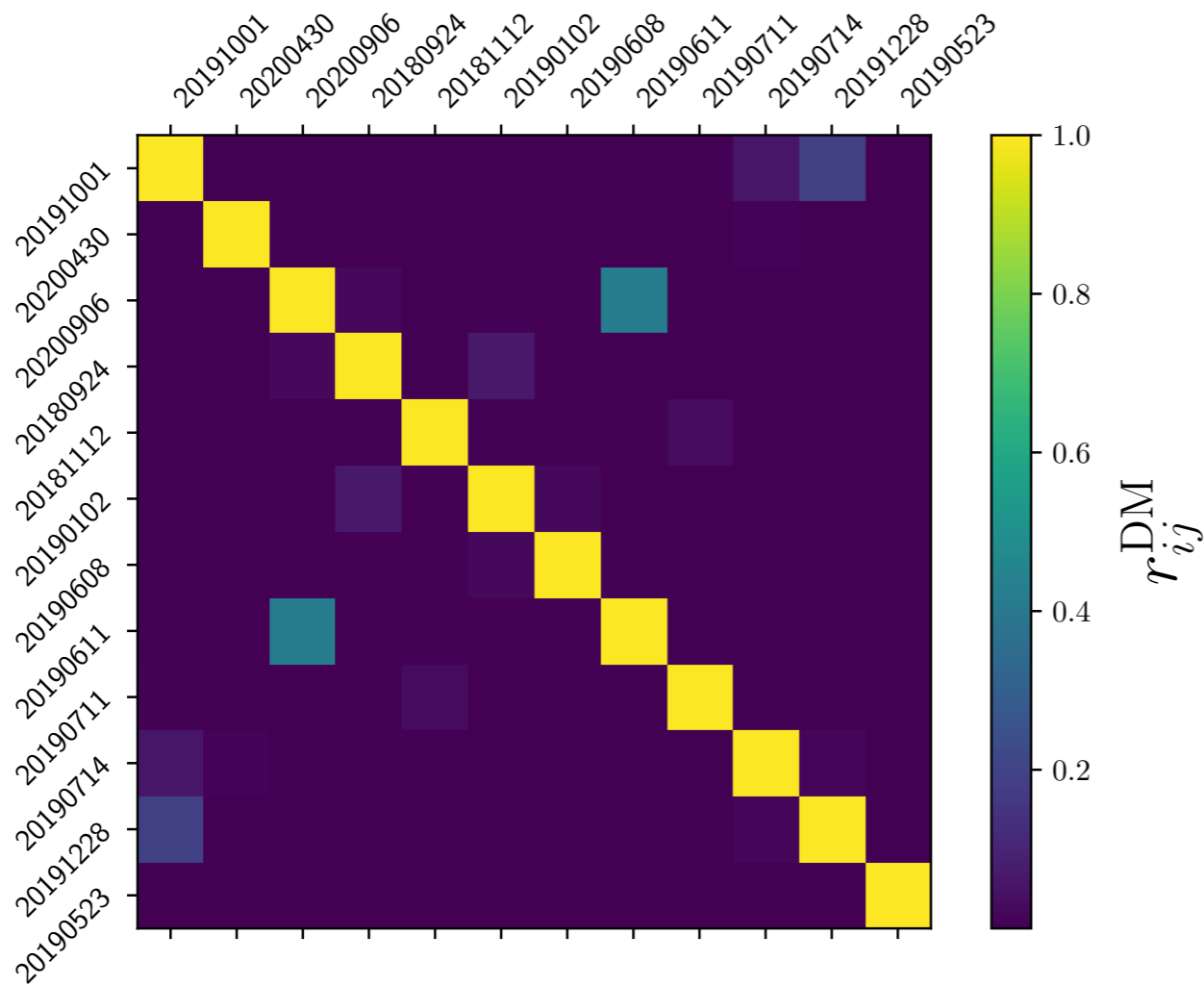
- Shapiro delay

$$\Delta t_{\text{grav}} = \frac{\Delta\gamma}{c^3} \int d\chi a(\chi) \phi(\hat{\mathbf{x}}\chi)$$

Possible frequency dependence

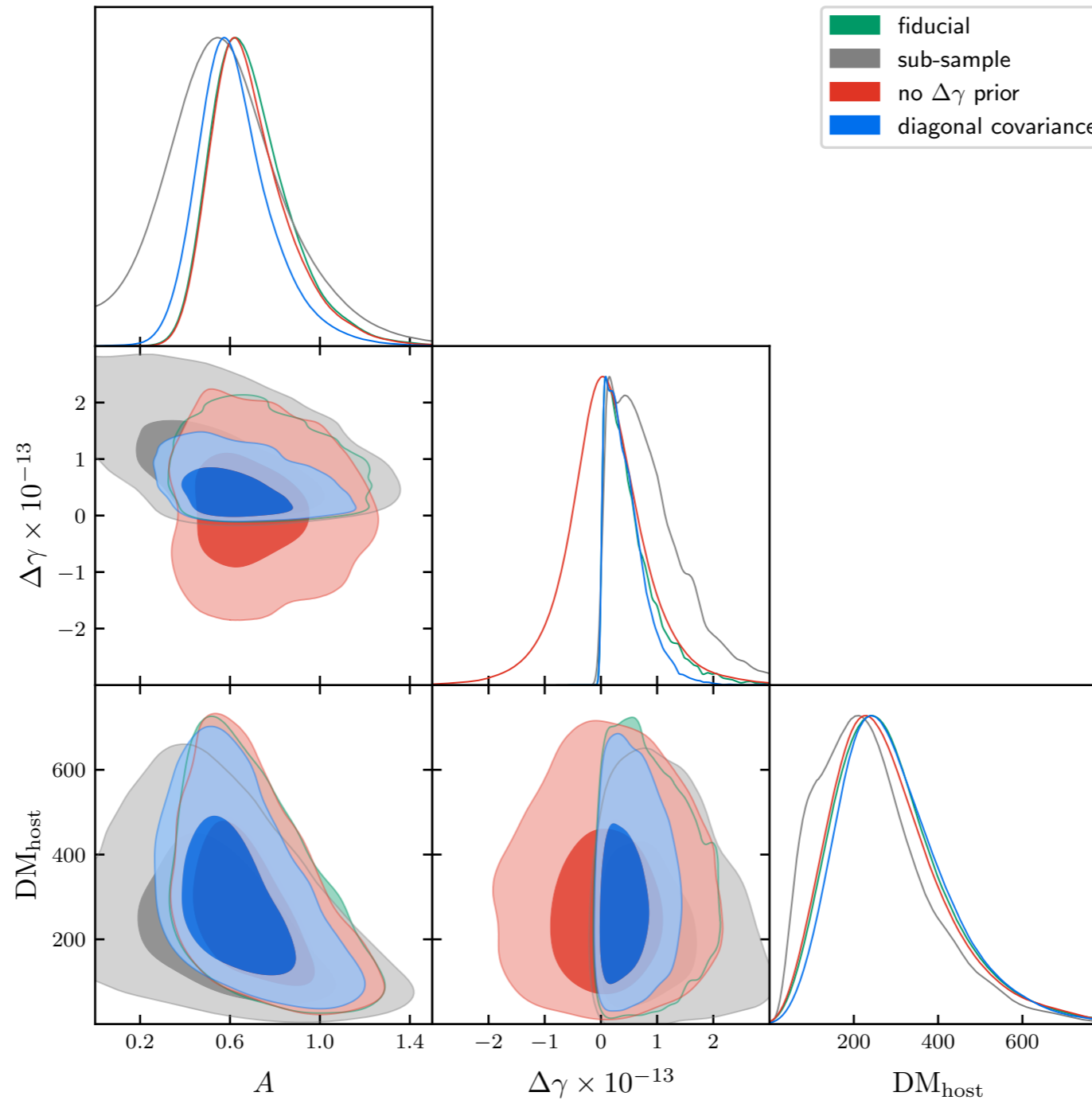
- Can imprint additional correlations when interpreted as DM signal

# Equivalence principle tests



Reischke, Hagstotz 2302.10072

# Equivalence principle tests



Reischke, Hagstotz 2302.10072



# FRB statistics

Redshifts in general not known: consider angular clustering

Correlate dispersion measure

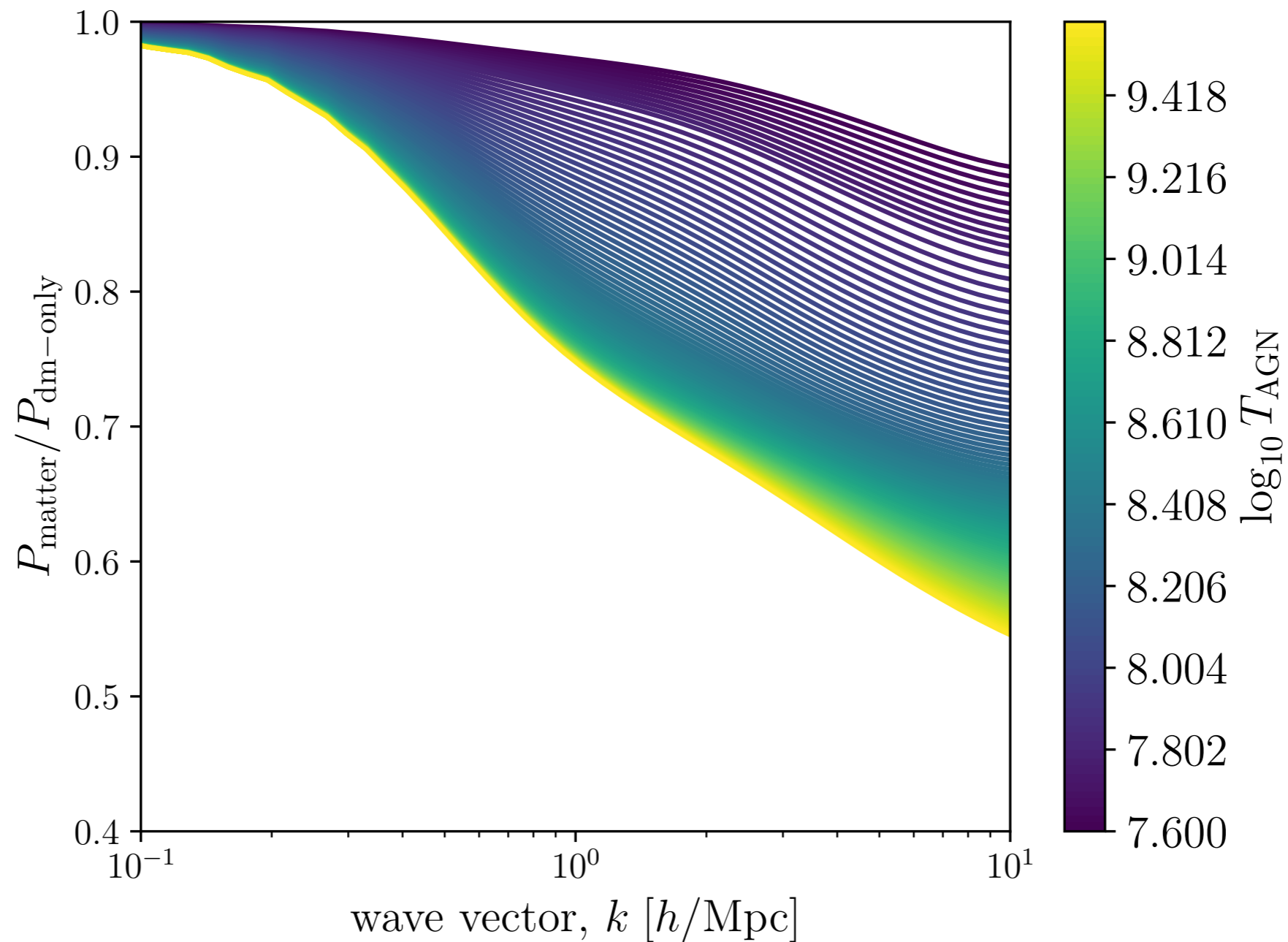
**weak lensing on steroids\***

$$C_\ell = \langle \text{DM}_\ell \text{DM}_{\ell'} \rangle \sim \int d\chi \left[ \dots P_{ee}(k) \right] + \frac{\sigma_{\text{host}}^2}{\bar{n}} \quad \text{* (but still sparse)}$$

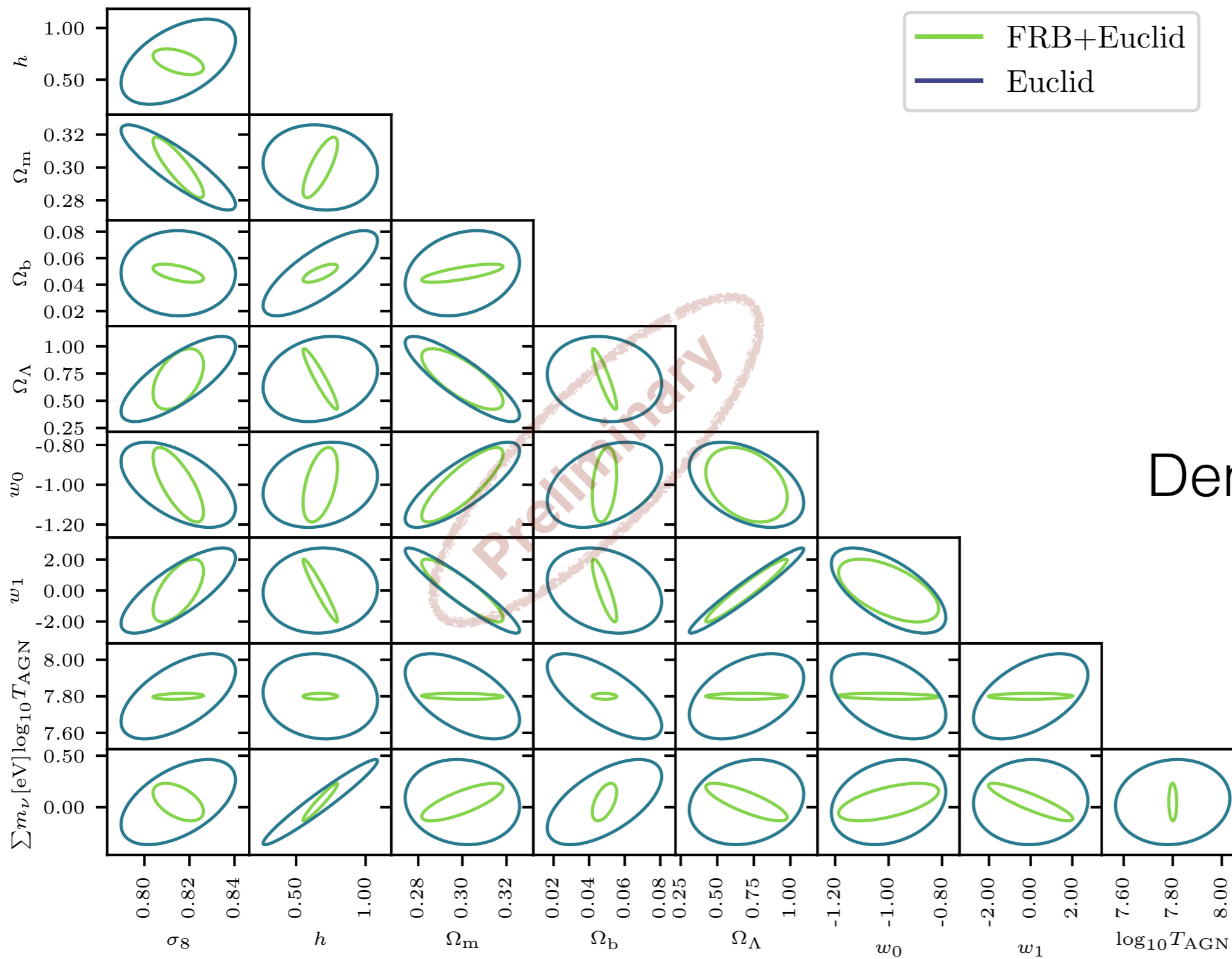
signal  $\gg$  noise

Because  $\text{DM}_{\text{LSS}}(z) \gg \text{DM}_{\text{host}}$

# Baryonic Feedback



# Baryonic Feedback



Dennis Neumann





# Summary

- Mechanism of the bursts unknown
- FRBs can provide independent\* measurement of the Hubble constant  $H_0 = 62.3 \pm 9.1$
- Currently limited by statistics, many more events are coming from CHIME/ASKAP/HIRAX
- Correlations allow powerful tests of fundamental physics
- Direct measurement of baryons to constrain feedback