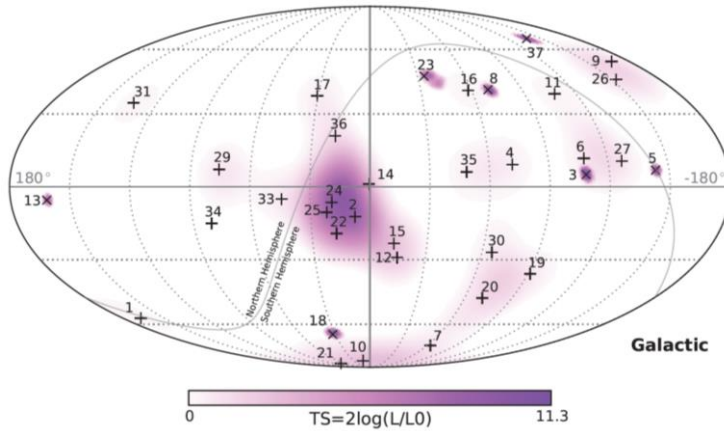


On Observing Anisotropy of Cosmic Neutrinos



Sheldon Campbell
The Ohio State University

IceCube Particle Astrophysics Symposium
May 5, 2015

Observing “Points” in the Sky

► High-Energy Radiation Events

- Gamma-Rays
- Cosmic Ray Shower Events
- Cosmic Neutrinos

Inference radiation sources,
cosmic ray acceleration,
ray propagation, etc.

► Celestial Objects

- Galaxies
- AGN
- X-ray Clusters
- ...

Inference cosmic expansion
history, large scale structure,
galaxy formation, etc.

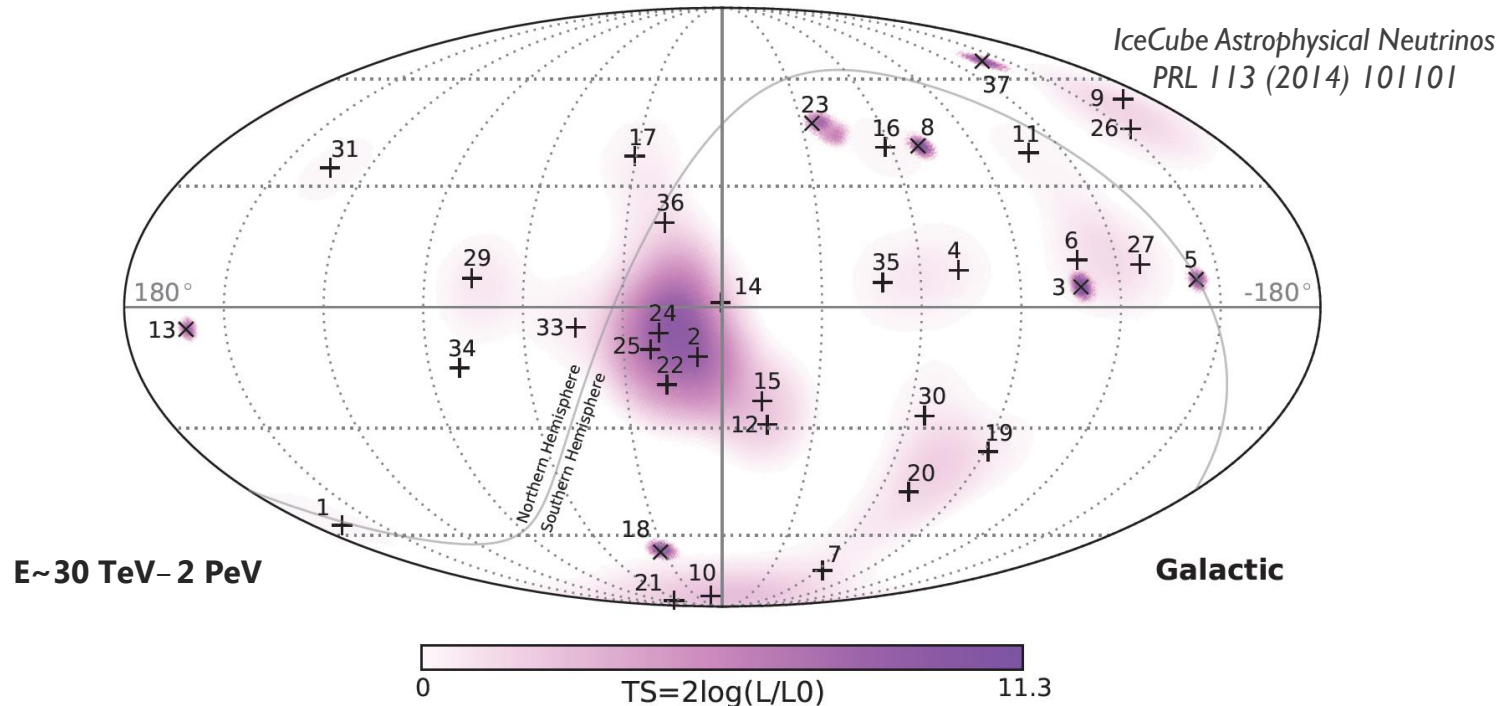
Potential radiation sources!

Specify distribution of a class of events/objects in the sky.

- objects in a redshift range, radiation events in an energy bin, etc.

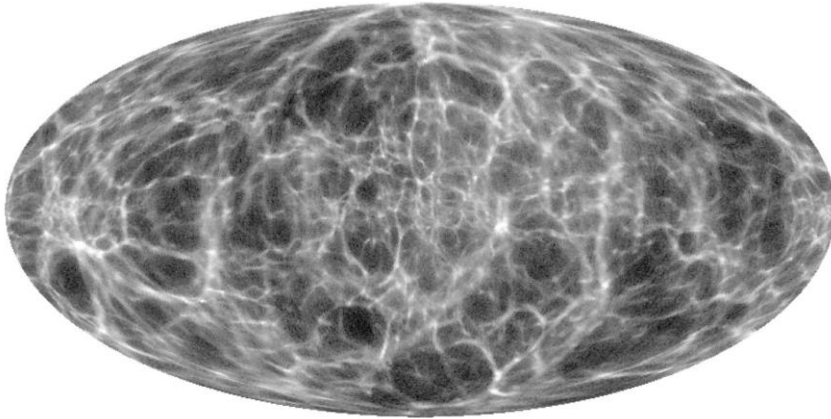
Angular Distribution Methods

- ▶ When point sources cannot be resolved,
 - ▶ the angular distribution of **observed events** approaches the angular distribution of **sources** (messenger-propagated and projected) on our sky (full **skymap**).



Distinguishing Dense vs. Sparse

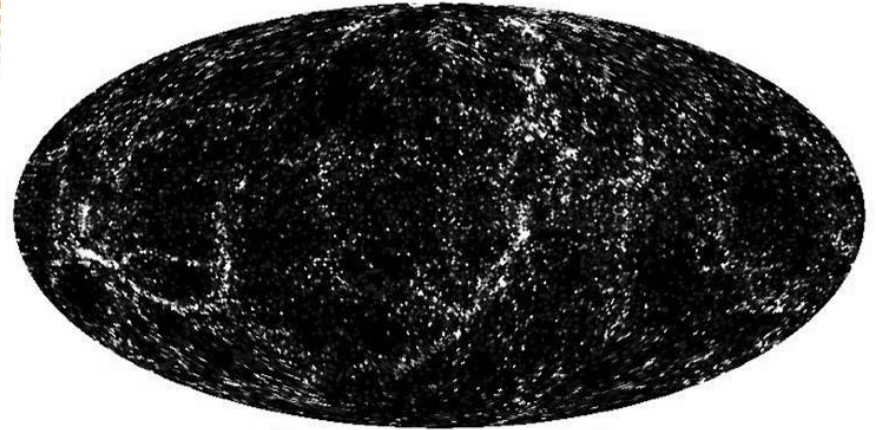
Francisco-Shu Kitaura et al., MNRAS 427, L35 (2012)



Dense Distributions, e.g.,

- radio galaxies
- dark matter annihilation

All events from different source.



Sparse Distributions, e.g.,

- active galactic nuclei
- local extragalactic structure

More sources with multiple events.

Given N events, what can we infer about the full **skymap**?

Given physical source models, how many events would distinguish them?

Angular Clustering of the Source Skymap

- ▶ Positive, real function on the sphere $F(\mathbf{n})$.

- ▶ Normalize: Let $S(\mathbf{n}) = \frac{F(\mathbf{n})}{\langle F \rangle} - 1$.

For cosmic neutrinos,
 F is the apparent flux
map of all sources.

- ▶ Normalized spherical transform:

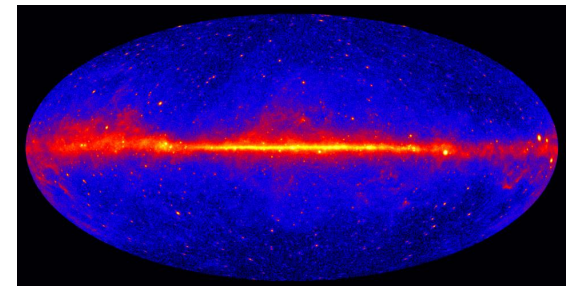
$$\tilde{a}_{\ell m} = \int d\mathbf{n} Y_{\ell m}^*(\mathbf{n}) S(\mathbf{n})$$

- ▶ Angular power spectrum:

$$\tilde{C}_\ell = \frac{1}{2\ell + 1} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} |\tilde{a}_{\ell m}|^2 = 4\pi \int \frac{d\mathbf{n}_1}{4\pi} \frac{d\mathbf{n}_2}{4\pi} S(\mathbf{n}_1) P_\ell(\mathbf{n}_1 \cdot \mathbf{n}_2) S(\mathbf{n}_2)$$

- ▶ Angular bispectrum:

$$\tilde{B}_{\ell_1 \ell_2 \ell_3} = \sum_{m_1, m_2, m_3} \begin{pmatrix} \ell_1 & \ell_2 & \ell_3 \\ m_1 & m_2 & m_3 \end{pmatrix} \tilde{a}_{\ell_1 m_1} \tilde{a}_{\ell_2 m_2} \tilde{a}_{\ell_3 m_3}$$



Angular Clustering of Observed Events

- ▶ Differential flux of events $F_N(\mathbf{n}) = \frac{4\pi}{\varepsilon} \sum_{i=1}^N \delta(\mathbf{n} - \mathbf{n}_i)$.
 - ▶ Each term needs weights if exposure ε is not uniform.

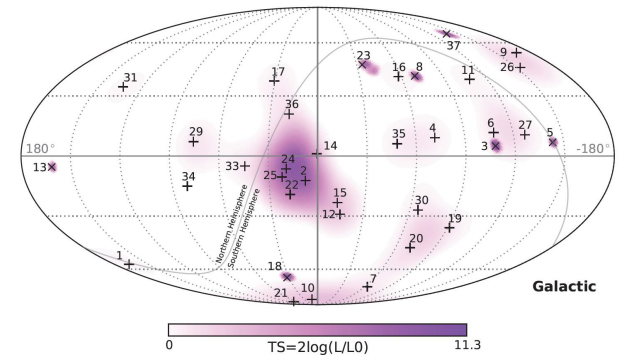
- ▶ Normalize: $S_N(\mathbf{n}) = \frac{4\pi}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \delta(\mathbf{n} - \mathbf{n}_i) - 1$.

- ▶ Normalized spherical transform:

$$\tilde{a}_{\ell m, N} = \frac{4\pi}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N Y_{\ell m}^*(\mathbf{n}_i)$$

- ▶ Angular power spectrum of N events:

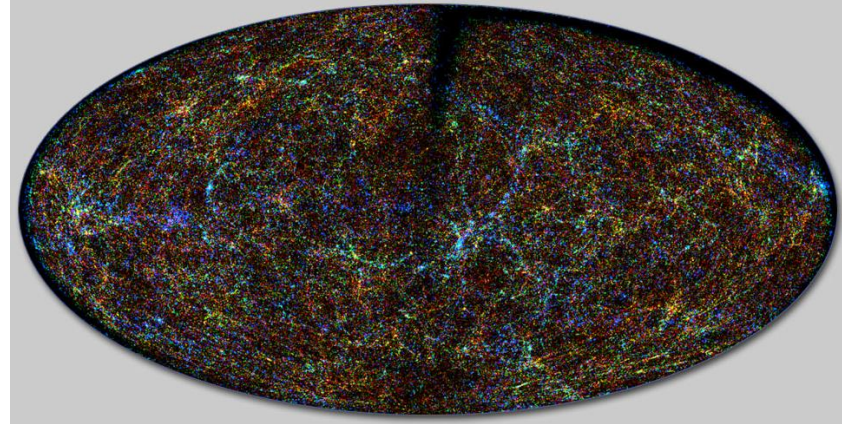
$$\tilde{C}_{\ell, N} = \frac{4\pi}{N^2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N P_{\ell}(\mathbf{n}_i \cdot \mathbf{n}_j)$$



Statistical properties of this observable tell us about the sources.

The Problem

- ▶ Let \tilde{C}_ℓ be the fluctuation (normalized) APS of a **skymap**—what we are trying to measure.
- ▶ Receive N events at random, weighted by the sky map.
- ▶ Assume **full sky observations** with **uniform exposure**.



A hypothetical projected **skymap** of sources.

The 2 micron sky courtesy of the 2MASS collaboration, <http://www.ipac.caltech.edu/2mass/>.

- ▶ What is the angular power spectrum of the N events, $\tilde{C}_{\ell,N}$, from a full sky map with distribution \tilde{C}_ℓ ?
 - ▶ mean of $\tilde{C}_{\ell,N}$?
 - ▶ variance of $\tilde{C}_{\ell,N}$?

Simplest Model: Poisson Point Process

► Only 2 assumptions (need experimental justification):

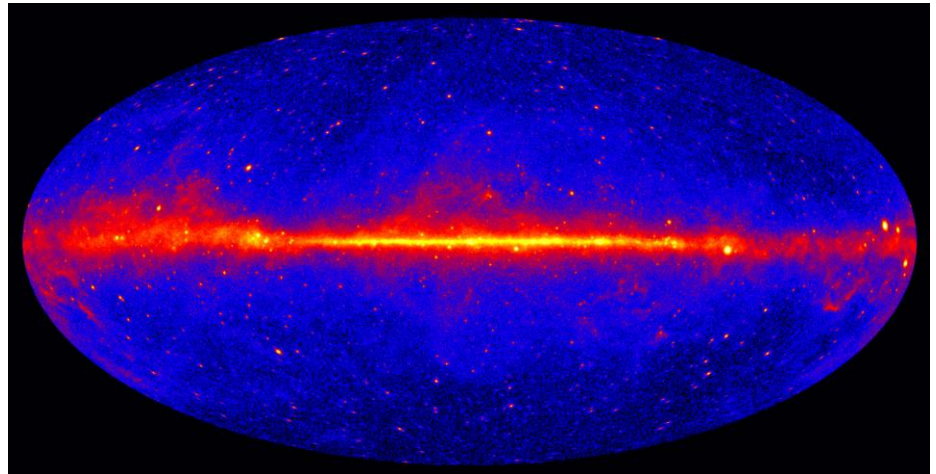
1. The skymap of sources is **stationary** over the exp. lifetime.

Neglect transients. Their effect will depend on the timescales involved.

2. The observed events are **independent**.

The probability of observing an event at a given position depends on the source skymap, but not on previous events already observed.

The statistics of the observable $\tilde{C}_{\ell,N}$ are exactly solvable in this case.



Statistical Mean: Events Relate to Sources!

- ▶ The average measurement of $\tilde{C}_{\ell,N}$ from a random sample:

$$\langle \tilde{C}_{\ell,N} \rangle = \frac{4\pi}{N} + \left(1 - \frac{1}{N}\right) \tilde{C}_{\ell}$$

\tilde{C}_{ℓ} is now APS of source skymap, convolved with instrument PSF.

- ▶ Angular power spectrum of events is a *biased* estimator of the source distribution.

- ▶ Therefore, an unbiased estimator $\hat{\hat{C}}_{\ell,N}$ with $\langle \hat{\hat{C}}_{\ell,N} \rangle = \tilde{C}_{\ell}$:

$$\hat{\hat{C}}_{\ell,N} = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{N}} \left[\tilde{C}_{\ell,N} - \frac{4\pi}{N} \right] = \frac{4\pi}{N(N-1)} \sum_i \sum_{j \neq i} P_{\ell}(\mathbf{n}_i \cdot \mathbf{n}_j)$$

- ▶ In agreement with other existing methods!

Exact Statistical Covariance of $\hat{\tilde{C}}_{\ell,N}$

$$\text{Cov} \left[\hat{\tilde{C}}_{\ell_1,N}, \hat{\tilde{C}}_{\ell_2,N} \right] = \frac{(4\pi)^2}{N(N-1)} \left\{ 2 \left[\frac{\delta_{\ell_1,\ell_2}}{2\ell_1+1} + \tilde{C}_{\ell_1\ell_2}^{(2)} - \frac{\tilde{C}_{\ell_1}\tilde{C}_{\ell_2}}{(4\pi)^2} \right] \right. \\ \left. + 4(N-2) \left[\frac{\delta_{\ell_1,\ell_2}}{2\ell_1+1} \frac{\tilde{C}_{\ell_1}}{4\pi} + \frac{\tilde{C}_{\ell_1\ell_2}^{(3)}}{4\pi} - \frac{\tilde{C}_{\ell_1}\tilde{C}_{\ell_2}}{(4\pi)^2} \right] \right\}$$

$$\tilde{C}_{\ell_1\ell_2}^{(2)} = \sum_{\ell' = |\ell_1 - \ell_2|}^{\ell_1 + \ell_2} \frac{2\ell' + 1}{4\pi} \begin{pmatrix} \ell_1 & \ell_2 & \ell' \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2 \tilde{C}_{\ell'}$$

$$\tilde{C}_{\ell_1\ell_2}^{(3)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\ell_1+1)(2\ell_2+1)}} \sum_{\ell' = |\ell_1 - \ell_2|}^{\ell_1 + \ell_2} \sqrt{\frac{2\ell' + 1}{4\pi}} \begin{pmatrix} \ell_1 & \ell_2 & \ell' \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \tilde{B}_{\ell_1\ell_2\ell'}$$

Analytic Work Generated Higher Order Angular Spectra

$$\tilde{C}_{\ell_1 \ell_2}^{(2)} = \sum_{\ell' = |\ell_1 - \ell_2|}^{\ell_1 + \ell_2} \frac{2\ell' + 1}{4\pi} \begin{pmatrix} \ell_1 & \ell_2 & \ell' \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2 \tilde{C}_{\ell'}$$

$$\tilde{C}_{\ell_1 \ell_2}^{(3)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\ell_1 + 1)(2\ell_2 + 1)}} \sum_{\ell' = |\ell_1 - \ell_2|}^{\ell_1 + \ell_2} \sqrt{\frac{2\ell' + 1}{4\pi}} \begin{pmatrix} \ell_1 & \ell_2 & \ell' \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \tilde{B}_{\ell_1 \ell_2 \ell'}$$

$$\tilde{C}_{\ell_1 \ell_2}^{(4)} = \tilde{C}_{\ell_1} \tilde{C}_{\ell_2}$$

I know two ways to see that \tilde{C}_ℓ is the first order angular spectrum, and that these comprise the **complete** set of 2nd order spectra.

Higher Order Spectra: Tensor Picture

- First and **Second Rank** Spherical Harmonic Transforms of S :

$$\tilde{a}_{\ell m} = \int d\mathbf{n} Y_{\ell m}^*(\mathbf{n}) S(\mathbf{n}), \quad \tilde{a}_{\ell_1 m_1 \ell_2 m_2} = \int d\mathbf{n} Y_{\ell_1 m_1}^*(\mathbf{n}) Y_{\ell_2 m_2}^*(\mathbf{n}) S(\mathbf{n})$$

- **Raised Azimuthal Indices** generated by $Y_{\ell}^m = (-1)^m Y_{\ell, -m}^*$:

$$\tilde{a}_{\ell_1 m_1 \ell_2 m_2} = \int d\mathbf{n} Y_{\ell_1 m_1}^*(\mathbf{n}) Y_{\ell_2 m_2}(\mathbf{n}) S(\mathbf{n}) = (-1)^{m_2} \tilde{a}_{\ell_1, m_1, \ell_2, -m_2}$$

- Create rank 0 (rotation invariant) tensors by **contracting azimuthal indices**:

$$\tilde{C}_{\ell} = \frac{1}{2\ell + 1} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} \tilde{a}_{\ell}^m \tilde{a}_{\ell m}$$

Higher Order Spectra: Tensor Picture

- All possible rank 0 tensors from rank 1 and 2 transforms.

$$\tilde{C}_{\ell_1 \ell_2}^{(2)} = \frac{1}{(2\ell_1 + 1)(2\ell_2 + 1)} \sum_{m_1, m_2} \tilde{a}_{\ell_1}^{m_1} \tilde{a}_{\ell_2}^{m_2} \tilde{a}_{\ell_1 m_1 \ell_2 m_2}$$

$$\tilde{C}_{\ell_1 \ell_2}^{(3)} = \frac{1}{(2\ell_1 + 1)(2\ell_2 + 1)} \sum_{m_1, m_2} \tilde{a}_{\ell_1}^{m_1} \tilde{a}_{\ell_2}^{m_2} \tilde{a}_{\ell_1 m_1} \tilde{a}_{\ell_2 m_2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{C}_{\ell_1 \ell_2}^{(4)} &= \tilde{C}_{\ell_1} \tilde{C}_{\ell_2} \\ &= \frac{1}{(2\ell_1 + 1)(2\ell_2 + 1)} \sum_{m_1, m_2} \tilde{a}_{\ell_1}^{m_1} \tilde{a}_{\ell_1 m_1} \tilde{a}_{\ell_2}^{m_2} \tilde{a}_{\ell_2 m_2} \end{aligned}$$

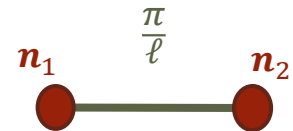
Higher Order Spectra: Field Theory Pic.

- Use the Spherical Harmonic Addition Theorem:

$$\frac{1}{2\ell + 1} \sum_m Y_\ell^m(\mathbf{n}_1) Y_{\ell m}^*(\mathbf{n}_2) = \frac{1}{4\pi} P_\ell(\mathbf{n}_1 \cdot \mathbf{n}_2)$$

- Angular Power Spectrum is like 2 field configurations connected by a “correlator”.

$$\tilde{C}_\ell = 4\pi \int \frac{d\mathbf{n}_1}{4\pi} \frac{d\mathbf{n}_2}{4\pi} \textcolor{red}{S}(\mathbf{n}_1) P_\ell(\mathbf{n}_1 \cdot \mathbf{n}_2) \textcolor{red}{S}(\mathbf{n}_2)$$



Higher Order Spectra: Field Theory Pic.

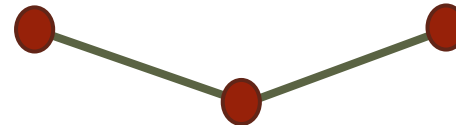
- All possible diagrams with 2 correlators.

$$\tilde{C}_{\ell_1 \ell_2}^{(2)} = \int \frac{d\mathbf{n}_1}{4\pi} \frac{d\mathbf{n}_2}{4\pi} S(\mathbf{n}_1) P_{\ell_1}(\mathbf{n}_1 \cdot \mathbf{n}_2) P_{\ell_2}(\mathbf{n}_1 \cdot \mathbf{n}_2) S(\mathbf{n}_2)$$



“Composite Angular Power Spectrum”

$$\tilde{C}_{\ell_1 \ell_2}^{(3)} = 4\pi \int \frac{d\mathbf{n}_1}{4\pi} \frac{d\mathbf{n}_2}{4\pi} \frac{d\mathbf{n}_3}{4\pi} S(\mathbf{n}_1) P_{\ell_1}(\mathbf{n}_1 \cdot \mathbf{n}_2) S(\mathbf{n}_2) P_{\ell_2}(\mathbf{n}_2 \cdot \mathbf{n}_3) S(\mathbf{n}_3)$$



“Open Angular Bispectrum”

$$\tilde{C}_{\ell_1 \ell_2}^{(4)} = \tilde{C}_{\ell_1} \tilde{C}_{\ell_2}$$



“Disjoint Angular Trispectrum”

Unbiased Estimators from N Events

$$\hat{\hat{C}}_{\ell_1 \ell_2, N}^{(2)} = \frac{1}{N(N-1)} \sum_{i_1} \sum_{i_2 \neq i_1} P_{\ell_1}(\mathbf{n}_{i_1} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{i_2}) P_{\ell_2}(\mathbf{n}_{i_1} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{i_2}) - \frac{\delta_{\ell_1 \ell_2}}{2\ell_1 + 1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\hat{C}}_{\ell_1 \ell_2, N}^{(3)} &= \frac{4\pi}{N(N-1)(N-2)} \sum_{i_1} \sum_{i_2 \neq i_1} \sum_{\substack{i_3 \neq i_2 \\ i_3 \neq i_1}} P_{\ell_1}(\mathbf{n}_{i_1} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{i_2}) P_{\ell_2}(\mathbf{n}_{i_2} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{i_3}) \\ &\quad - \frac{\delta_{\ell_1 \ell_2}}{2\ell_1 + 1} \hat{\hat{C}}_{\ell_1, N} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\hat{C}}_{\ell_1 \ell_2, N}^{(4)} &= \frac{(4\pi)^2}{N(N-1)(N-2)(N-3)} \\ &\quad \sum_{i_1} \sum_{i_2 \neq i_1} \sum_{\substack{i_3 \neq i_2 \\ i_3 \neq i_1}} \sum_{\substack{i_4 \neq i_3 \\ i_4 \neq i_2 \\ i_4 \neq i_1}} P_{\ell_1}(\mathbf{n}_{i_1} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{i_2}) P_{\ell_2}(\mathbf{n}_{i_3} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{i_4}) \end{aligned}$$

Statistical Covariance of $\hat{\tilde{C}}_{\ell,N}$ ($N \gg 1$)

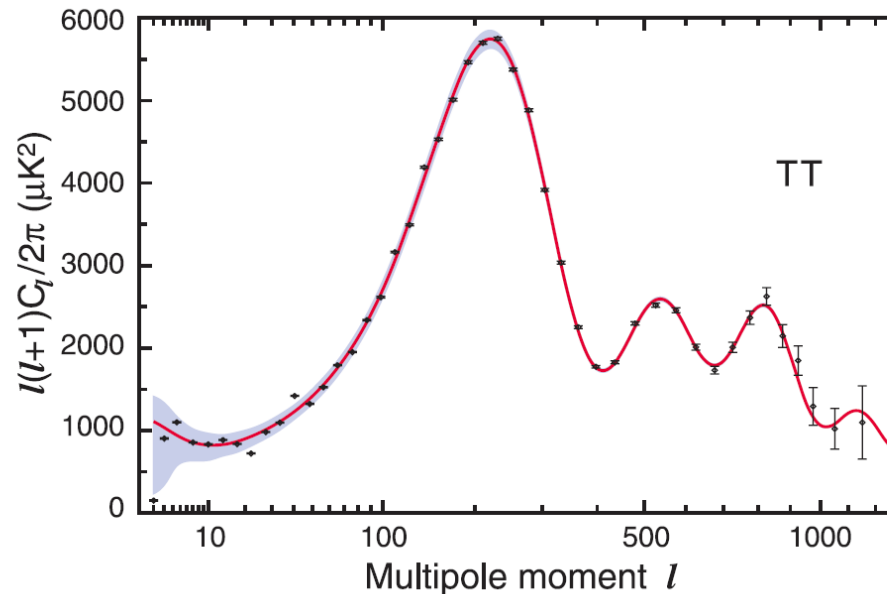
$$\text{Cov} \left[\hat{\tilde{C}}_{\ell_1,N}, \hat{\tilde{C}}_{\ell_2,N} \right] = (4\pi)^2 \left\{ \frac{2}{N^2} \left[\frac{\delta_{\ell_1,\ell_2}}{2\ell_1 + 1} + \tilde{C}_{\ell_1\ell_2}^{(2)} - \frac{\tilde{C}_{\ell_1} \tilde{C}_{\ell_2}}{(4\pi)^2} \right] + \frac{4}{N} \left[\frac{\delta_{\ell_1,\ell_2}}{2\ell_1 + 1} \frac{\tilde{C}_{\ell_1}}{4\pi} + \frac{\tilde{C}_{\ell_1\ell_2}^{(3)}}{4\pi} - \frac{\tilde{C}_{\ell_1} \tilde{C}_{\ell_2}}{(4\pi)^2} \right] \right\}$$

- ▶ If higher-order spectra are neglected:
 - ▶ the covariance is diagonal—each multipole measurement is independent.
 - ▶ call this C_ℓ -only statistical uncertainty.

$$\text{var} \left[\hat{\tilde{C}}_{\ell,N} \right] = \frac{2}{2\ell + 1} \left[\left(\frac{4\pi}{N} \right)^2 + 2 \left(\frac{4\pi}{N} \right) \tilde{C}_\ell \right] \quad (C_\ell\text{-only})$$

Good Agreement with WMAP Data

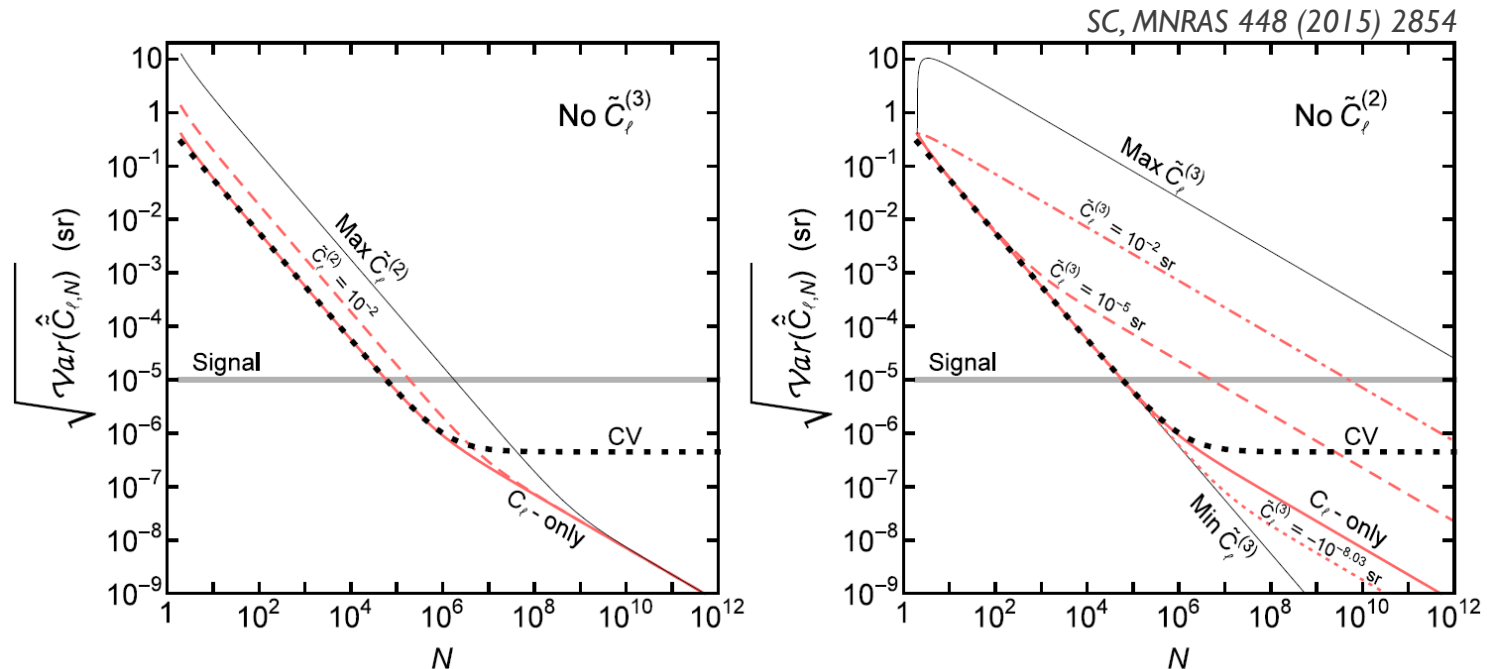
$$\text{var}[\hat{\tilde{C}}_{\ell,N}] = \frac{2}{2\ell + 1} \left[\left(\frac{4\pi}{N} \right)^2 + 2 \left(\frac{4\pi}{N} \right) \tilde{C}_\ell \right] \quad (C_\ell\text{-only})$$



WMAP Collaboration,
Astrophys.J.Suppl. 208 (2013) 20
 & *PTEP* 2014 (2014) 6, 06B102

Fig. 5 Nine-year angular power spectrum of the CMB temperature (adapted from [37]). While we measure C_ℓ at each ℓ in $2 \leq \ell \leq 1200$, the points with error bars show the binned values of C_ℓ for clarity. The error bars show the standard deviation of C_ℓ from instrumental noise, $[2(2C_\ell N_\ell + N_\ell^2)/(2\ell + 1)f_{\text{sky},\ell}^2]^{1/2}$. The shaded area shows the standard deviation from the cosmic variance term, $[2C_\ell^2/(2\ell + 1)f_{\text{sky},\ell}^2]^{1/2}$ (except at very low ℓ where the 68% CL from the full non-Gaussian posterior probability is shown). The solid line shows the theoretical curve of the best-fit Λ CDM cosmological model.

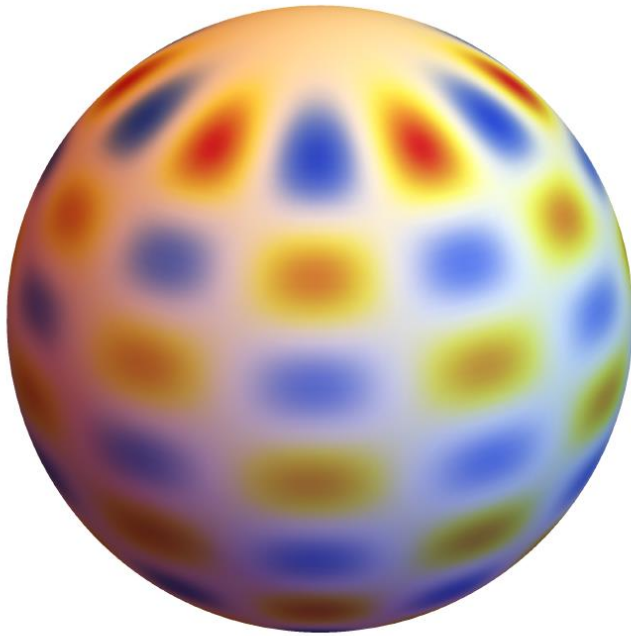
The New Error Terms Can Be Important



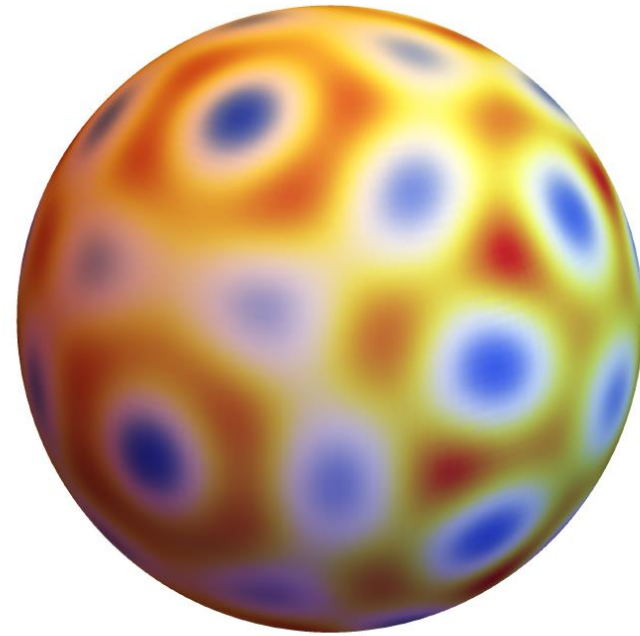
- ▶ Example uncertainty evolution at $\ell = 500$ with $\tilde{C}_{\ell} = 10^{-5}$ sr.
- ▶ But is this a real effect? Does a distribution with bispectrum have a different power spectrum uncertainty than one without bispectrum?

Test with Monte-Carlo Sampling

SC, MNRAS 448 (2015) 2854



(a) $\tilde{S}_{NB}(\mathbf{n})$



(b) $\tilde{S}_B(\mathbf{n})$

$$\tilde{C}_\ell = (0.0544 \text{ sr}) \delta_{\ell,12}$$

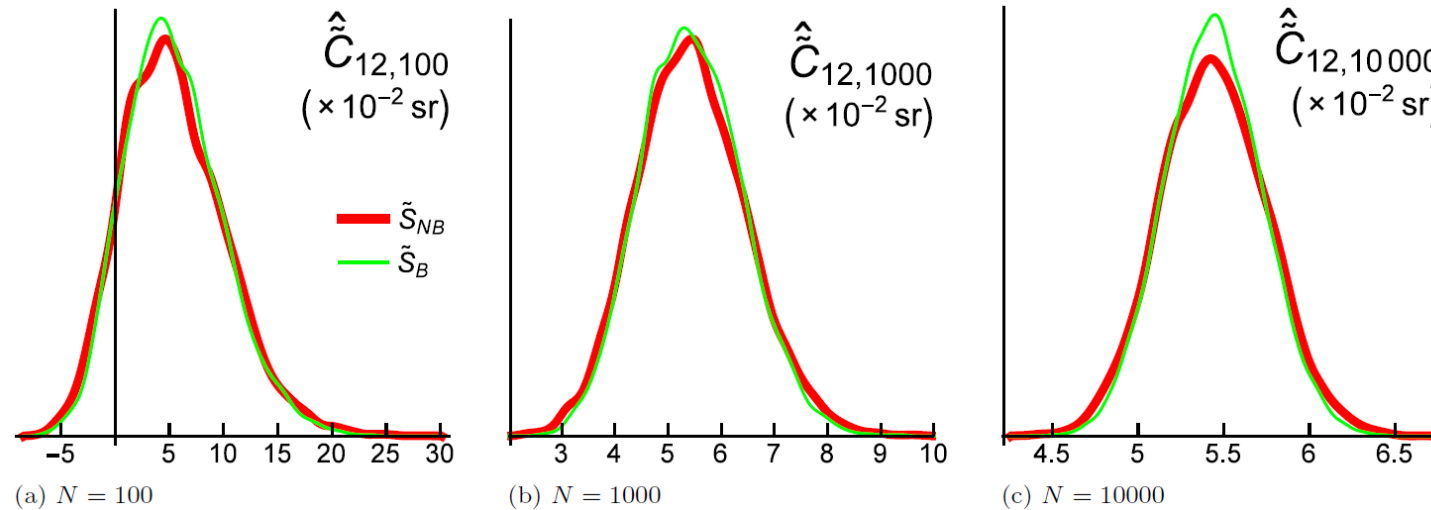
$$\tilde{C}_{\ell\ell}^{(3)} = 0$$

$$\tilde{C}_\ell = (0.0544 \text{ sr}) \delta_{\ell,12}$$

$$\tilde{C}_{\ell\ell}^{(3)} = (-0.000413 \text{ sr}) \delta_{\ell,12}$$

$\hat{\hat{C}}_{\ell,N}$ Distribution of 10 000 Samplings

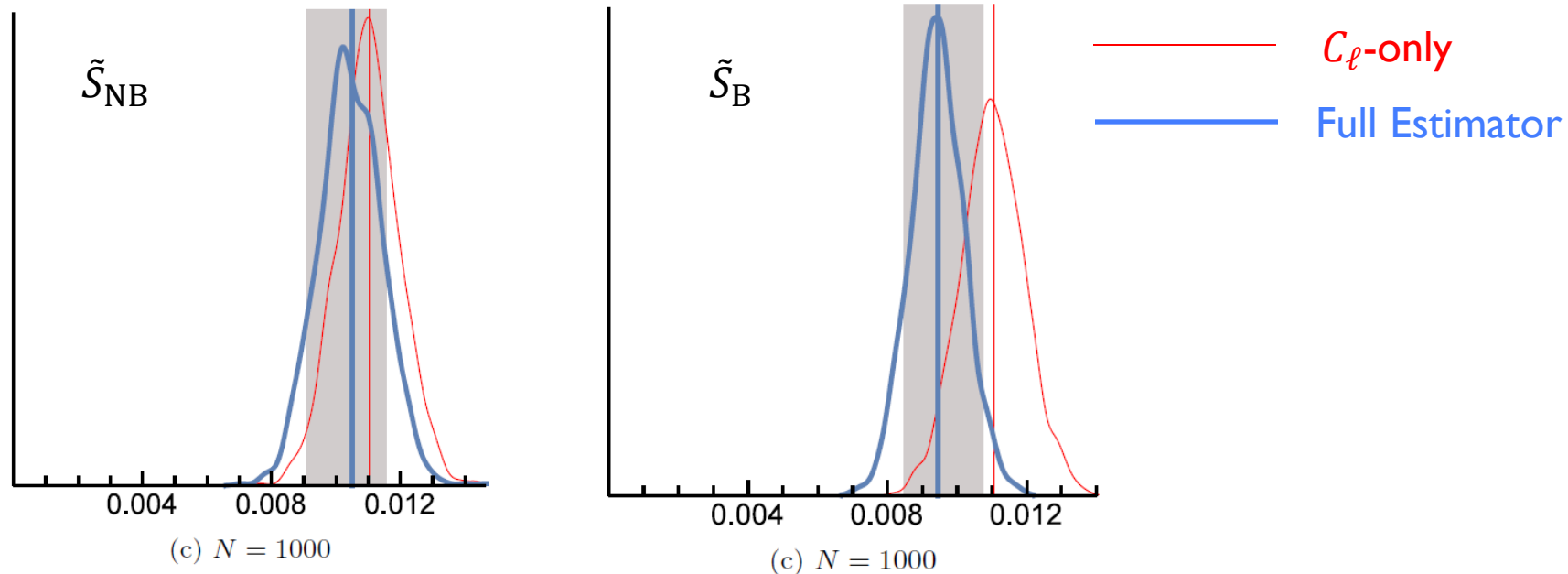
SC, MNRAS 448 (2015) 2854



- ▶ Low counts gives very wide distribution. Shot noise subtraction can give negative power spectrum estimates.
- ▶ At high counts, the distribution becomes narrow, and the distribution with negative bispectrum is visibly narrower.

$\sigma_{\hat{\tilde{C}}_{\ell,N}}$ Distribution of 10 000 Samplings

SC, MNRAS 448 (2015) 2854



- ▶ The negative bispectrum does indeed appear to lower the variance of the power spectrum measurement.
- ▶ Even the distribution without bispectrum is affected by the other higher-order spectra, but those effects are small and unresolved in this example.

Conclusions

- ▶ A new analytic error analysis of angular power spectra of points is presented. This is a natural analysis to carry out with IceCube data.
- ▶ The **unbiased estimator** of the source's angular power spectrum **is in agreement** with usual estimates.
- ▶ The **uncertainty** has the usual shot noise and first order signal contributions, but gives **new higher order anisotropy contributions**.
- ▶ These results do not assume Gaussianity of signal/sources.
 - ▶ Results apply to any event distribution from stationary sources.
- ▶ These results allow for realistic estimates of the data requirements for distinguishing source models through angular distributions.

Extra Slides

A Popular Measure of Angular Distribution: The Angular Power Spectrum

Intensity Angular Power Spectrum C_ℓ

$$I(E, \mathbf{n}) - \langle I(E) \rangle = \sum_{\ell, m} a_{\ell m}(E) Y_\ell^m(\mathbf{n}) \quad C_\ell(E) = \frac{1}{2\ell + 1} \sum_m |a_{\ell m}(E)|^2$$

- ▶ **Absolute** intensity fluctuations.
- ▶ Monotonically increases as sources are added.

Fluctuation Angular Power Spectrum \widetilde{C}_ℓ

$$\frac{I(E, \mathbf{n}) - \langle I(E) \rangle}{\langle I(E) \rangle} = \sum_{\ell, m} \tilde{a}_{\ell m}(E) Y_\ell^m(\mathbf{n}) \quad \widetilde{C}_\ell(E) = \frac{1}{2\ell + 1} \sum_m |\tilde{a}_{\ell m}(E)|^2$$

- ▶ **Relative** intensity fluctuations.
- ▶ Constant for universal spectrum sources at fixed redshift.

Special Case: Pure Isotropic Source

- Receive N events at uniformly random positions.

$$\tilde{a}_{\ell m, N} = \frac{4\pi}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N Y_{\ell m}^*(\hat{n}_i) \quad \tilde{C}_{\ell, N} = \frac{1}{2\ell + 1} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} |\tilde{a}_{\ell m, N}|^2$$

$$\langle \tilde{C}_{\ell, N} \rangle = \tilde{C}_{P, N} = \frac{4\pi}{N} \quad \text{Shot noise/Poisson noise.}$$

$$\sigma_{\tilde{C}_{\ell, N}} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{2\ell + 1} \frac{4\pi}{N}}$$

Error Estimate with Anisotropic Source

- ▶ Lesson from CMB: **Cosmic Variance**
- ▶ The dominant statistical uncertainty in CMB anisotropy.
 - ▶ **Cosmic Variance** \Leftrightarrow **Unknown Initial Conditions**
- ▶ Assuming the signal is randomly Gaussian distributed, then our estimator for \tilde{C}_ℓ is the **maximum likelihood estimator** with uncertainty:

$$\sigma_{\tilde{C}_\ell} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{2\ell + 1}} \tilde{C}_\ell$$

“Rule of Thumb” Stat. Uncertainty Est.

- ▶ Angular power spectrum from “events”.
- ▶ Assume sources are approximately Gaussian distributed.
- ▶ Shot noise is a bias to be subtracted from estimator.

$$\hat{\tilde{C}}_{\ell,N} = \frac{1}{2\ell + 1} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} \left| \frac{4\pi}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N Y_{\ell m}^*(\mathbf{n}_i) \right|^2 - \frac{4\pi}{N}$$

$$\sigma_{\hat{\tilde{C}}_{\ell,N}} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{2\ell + 1} \left(\frac{4\pi}{N} + \tilde{C}_{\ell} \right)}$$

Knox, PRD52, 4307 (1995)

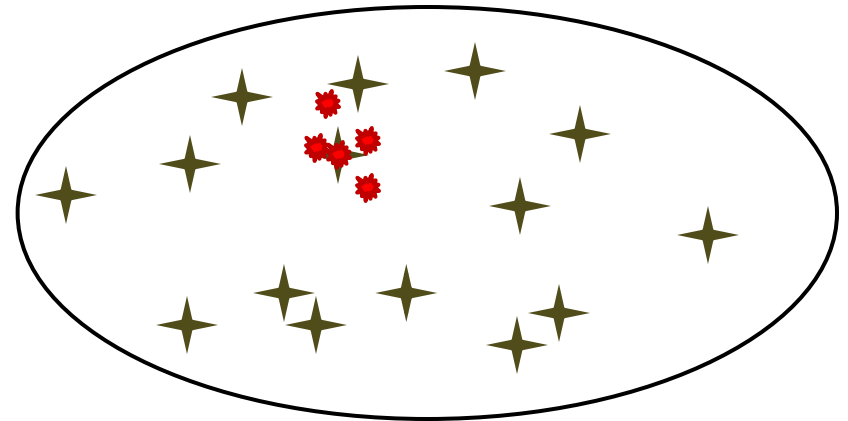
- ▶ The goal is to check these standard estimates.

Improving Our Understanding of the Statistical Variance

- ▶ Some conceptual difficulties with using the cosmic variance as we did.
 - ▶ Cosmic variance is a theoretical error, which applies when making physical inferences about our models based on data.
 - ▶ The angular power spectrum measurement should be able to be made independently of any model.
 - ▶ We should not need to assume the signal is Gaussian-distributed.
- ▶ Investigations have led to a new formula for the **model-independent statistical variance** of the angular power spectrum of events from a background distribution.

Strategy for Calculation

Consider each event observed at position \hat{n}' but originated from position \hat{n} .



- 1) For fixed source positions \hat{n}_i , average over event position \hat{n}_i' , via the instrument **point spread function**.

Result of this step: what is being measured is the sky map convolved with the instrument PSF.

- 2) Average the N events **source positions**, weighted by the skymap.

Compare to Gaussian Cosmic Variance

- ▶ Old method with shot noise + Gaussian cosmic variance:

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_{\hat{\tilde{C}}_{\ell,N}}^2 &= \frac{2}{2\ell+1} \left(\frac{4\pi}{N} + \tilde{C}_\ell \right)^2 \\ &\simeq \left(\frac{4\pi}{N} \right)^2 \left[\frac{2}{2\ell+1} + \frac{4N}{2\ell+1} \frac{\tilde{C}_\ell}{4\pi} + \frac{2N^2}{2\ell+1} \left(\frac{\tilde{C}_\ell}{4\pi} \right)^2 \right]\end{aligned}$$

- ▶ New variance formula:

$$\sigma_{\hat{\tilde{C}}_{\ell,N}}^2 \simeq \left(\frac{4\pi}{N} \right)^2 \left[\frac{2}{2\ell+1} + 2\tilde{C}_\ell^{(2)} + \frac{4N}{2\ell+1} \frac{\tilde{C}_\ell}{4\pi} + 4N \frac{\tilde{C}_\ell^{(3)}}{4\pi} - 4N \left(\frac{\tilde{C}_\ell}{4\pi} \right)^2 \right]$$

- ▶ The new formula agrees surprisingly well with the traditional estimate, with **dominant contributions for a weak signal** in precise agreement.
- ▶ New terms important at large N . Note no N -independent terms!

Gaussian-Distributed Sky Map

- ▶ Our results do not assume Gaussianity.
- ▶ If the sky map is Gaussian, then higher order spectra are determined from \tilde{C}_ℓ as follows:

$$\left\langle \tilde{C}_\ell^{(2)} \right\rangle = \sum_{\ell'=0}^{2\ell} \frac{2\ell' + 1}{4\pi} \begin{pmatrix} \ell & \ell & \ell' \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2 \left\langle \tilde{C}_{\ell'} \right\rangle$$

$$\left\langle \tilde{C}_\ell^{(3)} \right\rangle = 0$$

$$\left\langle \tilde{C}_\ell^{(4)} \right\rangle = \frac{2\ell + 3}{2\ell + 1} \left\langle \tilde{C}_\ell \right\rangle^2$$

Consequences of Findings

- ▶ Experiments using Monte Carlo to estimate error already take into account these new effects automatically.
- ▶ Experiments using Gaussian Cosmic Variance **may** be missing higher orders in the uncertainty of angular power.
 - ▶ Fermi-LAT anisotropy measurement should check estimators of these terms for possible corrections to their uncertainties.
 - ▶ Small χ^2 suggests either their errors should be smaller (possibly due to some more subtle effects) or energy bins are somehow correlated.
- ▶ This error analysis must also take into account effects of:
 - ▶ non-uniform exposure,
 - ▶ sky masking,
 - ▶ other observational bias or instrumental effects.