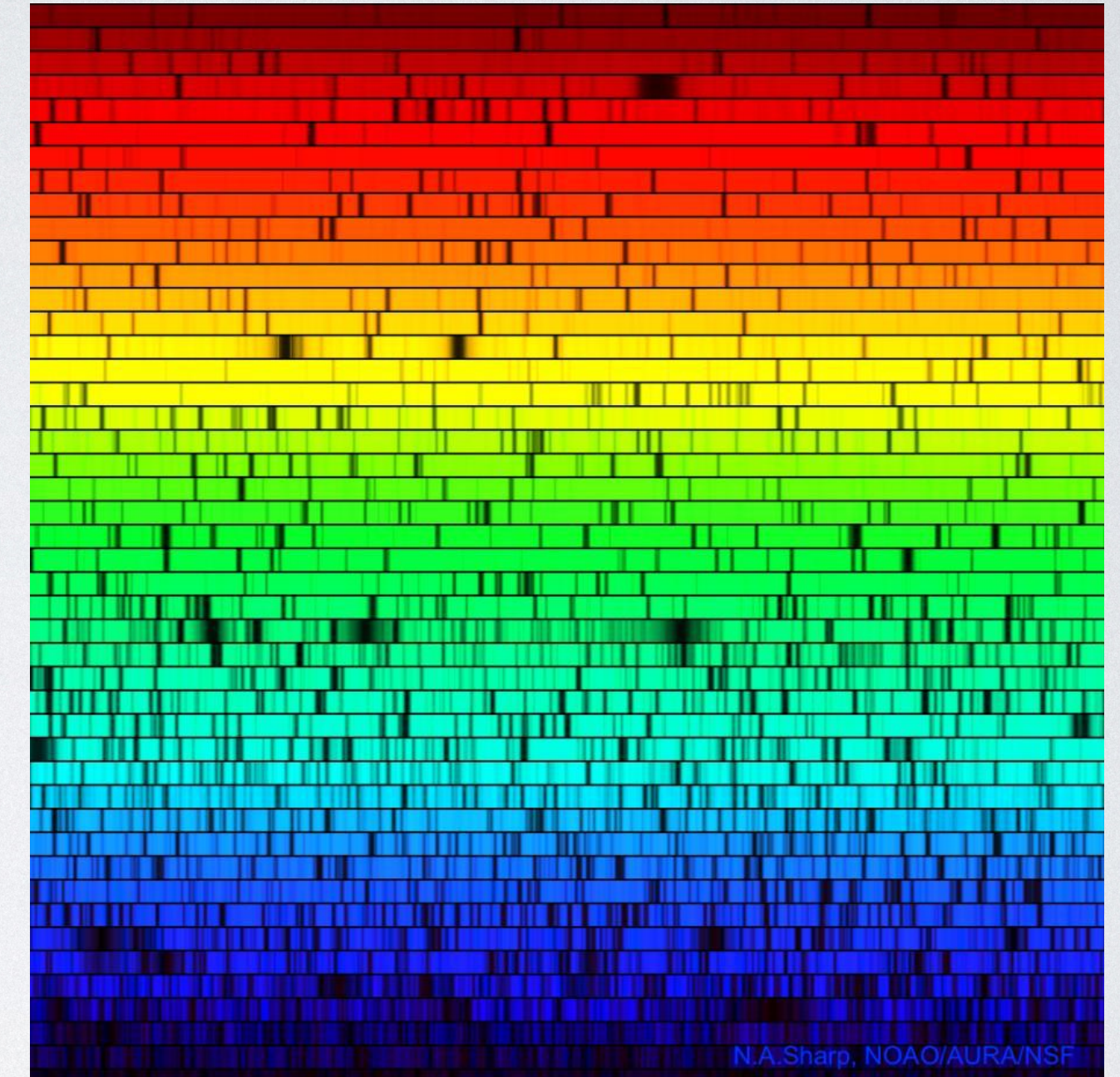
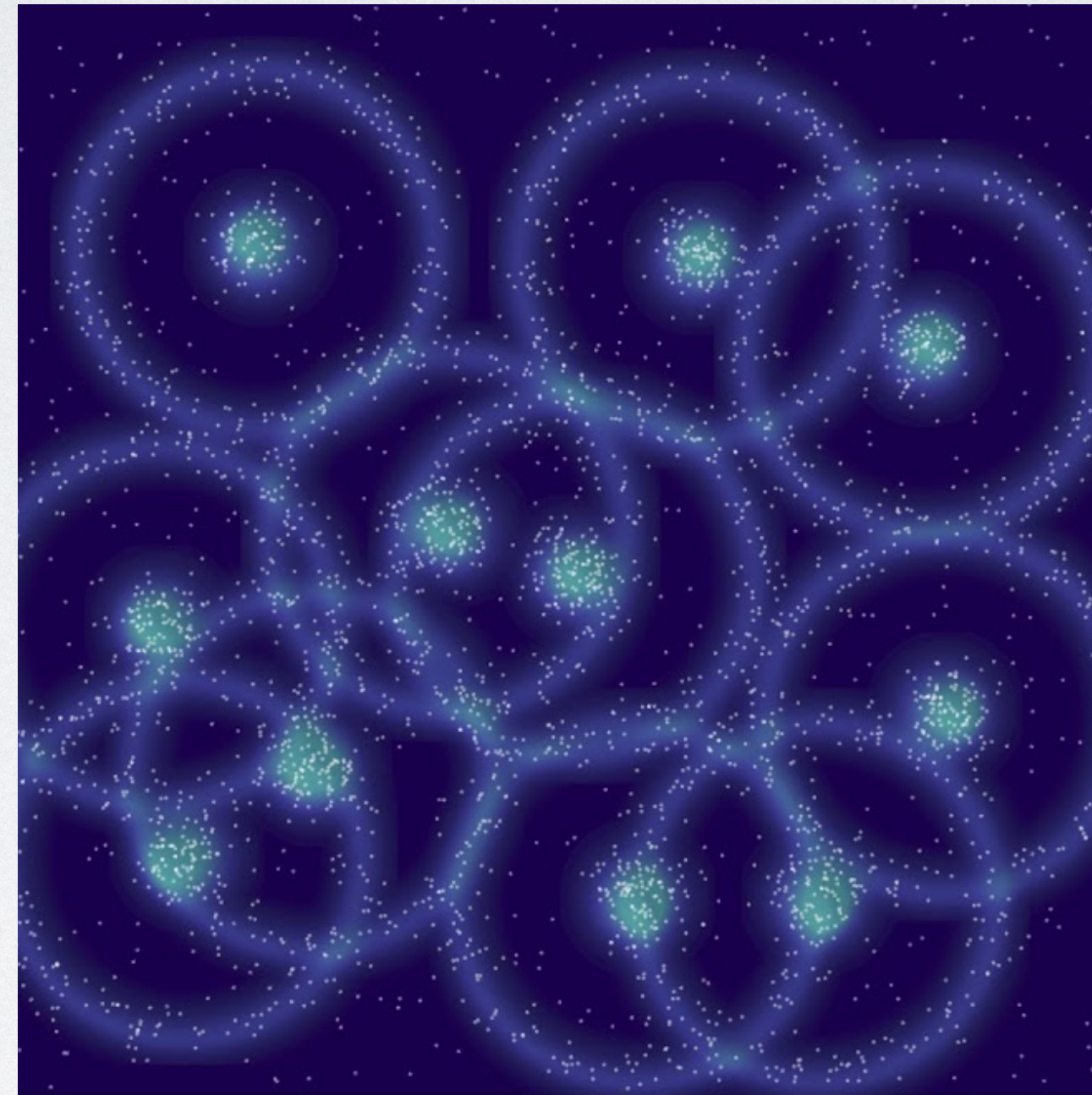


# CANDLES, RULERS, AND REDSHIFTS



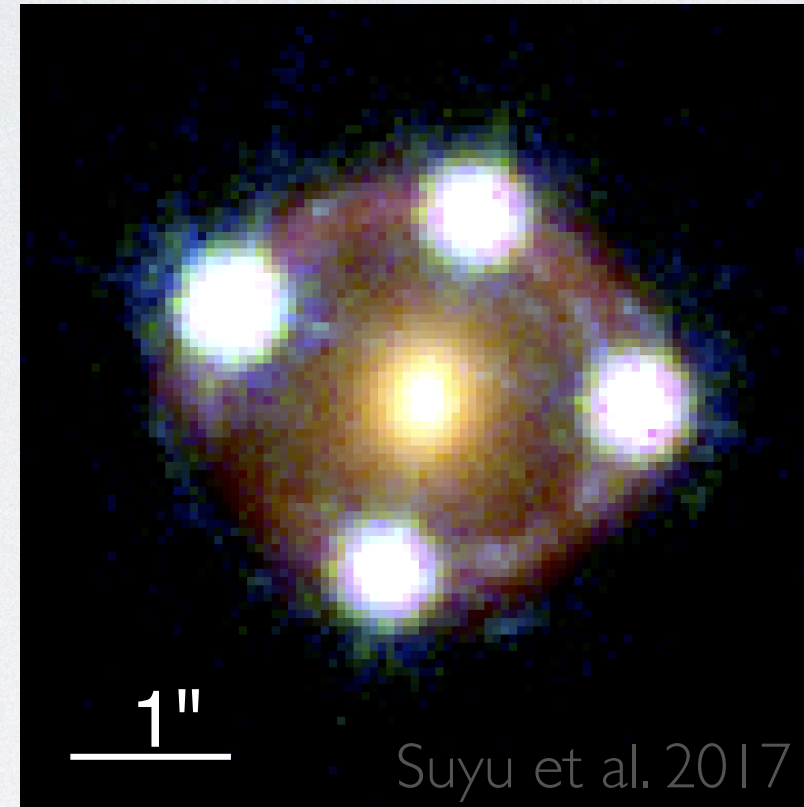
Tamara Davis, University of Queensland  
Tensions between the ~~early and late universe~~, July 2019  
*standard candles and standard rulers?*

# LOCAL / GLOBAL ... OR ... CANDLES / RULERS?

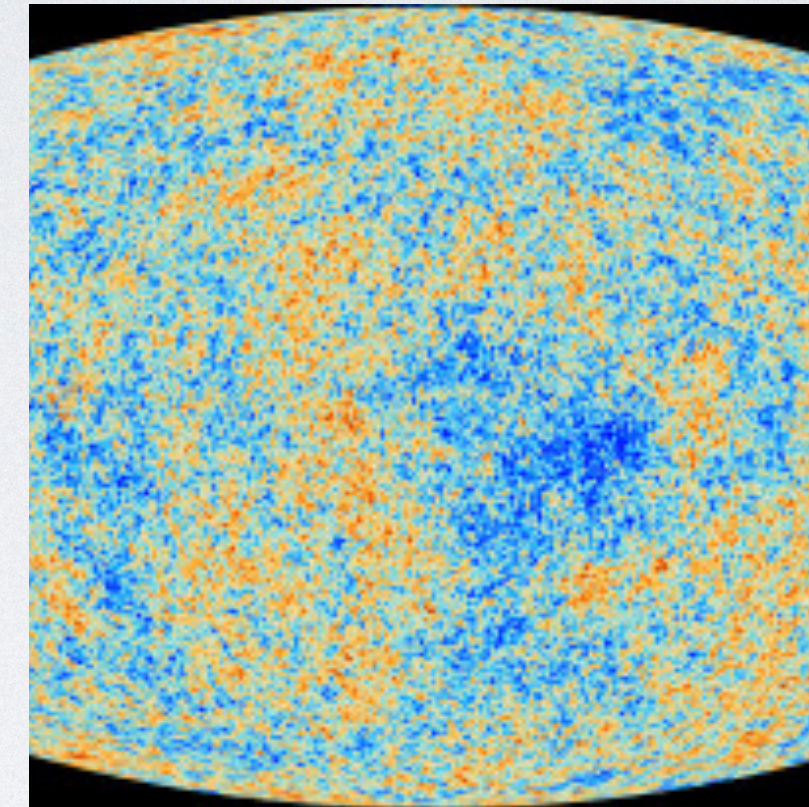
Candles



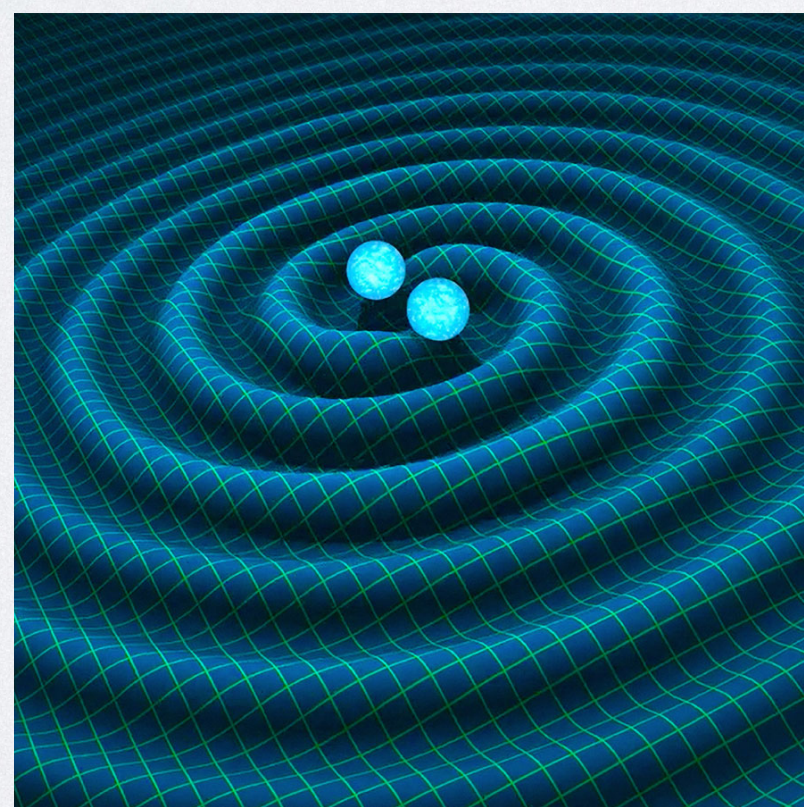
Clocks/rulers



Rulers



$$\tilde{D} = \begin{cases} R_0 \sin(\chi) & \text{closed} \\ R_0 \chi & \text{flat} \\ R_0 \sinh(\chi) & \text{open} \end{cases}$$

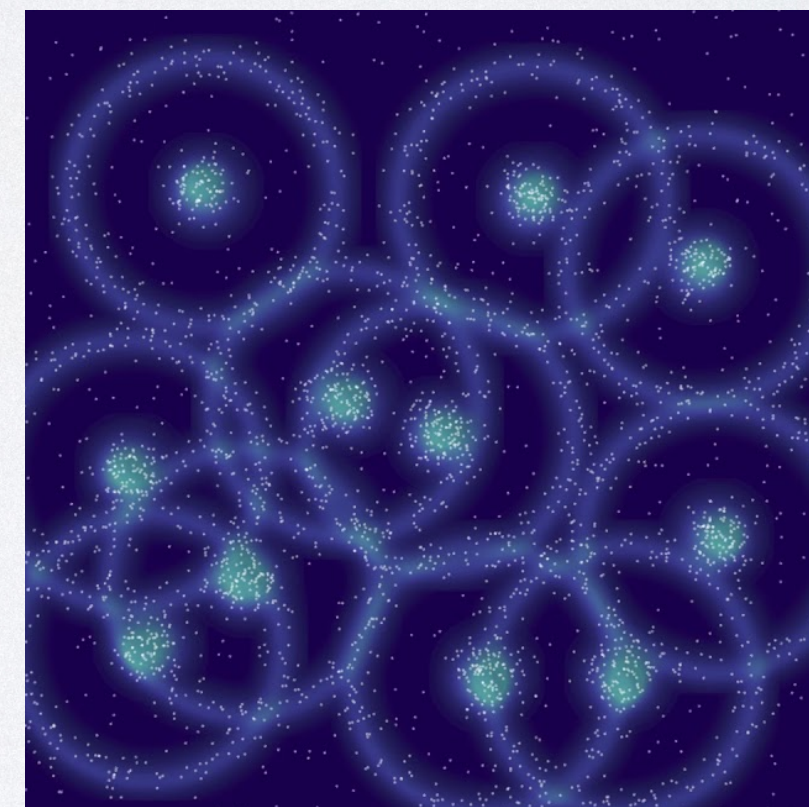


angular diameter  
distances  
l = lens  
s = source

$$D_{\Delta t} = (1 + z_l) \frac{D_l D_s}{D_{ls}}$$

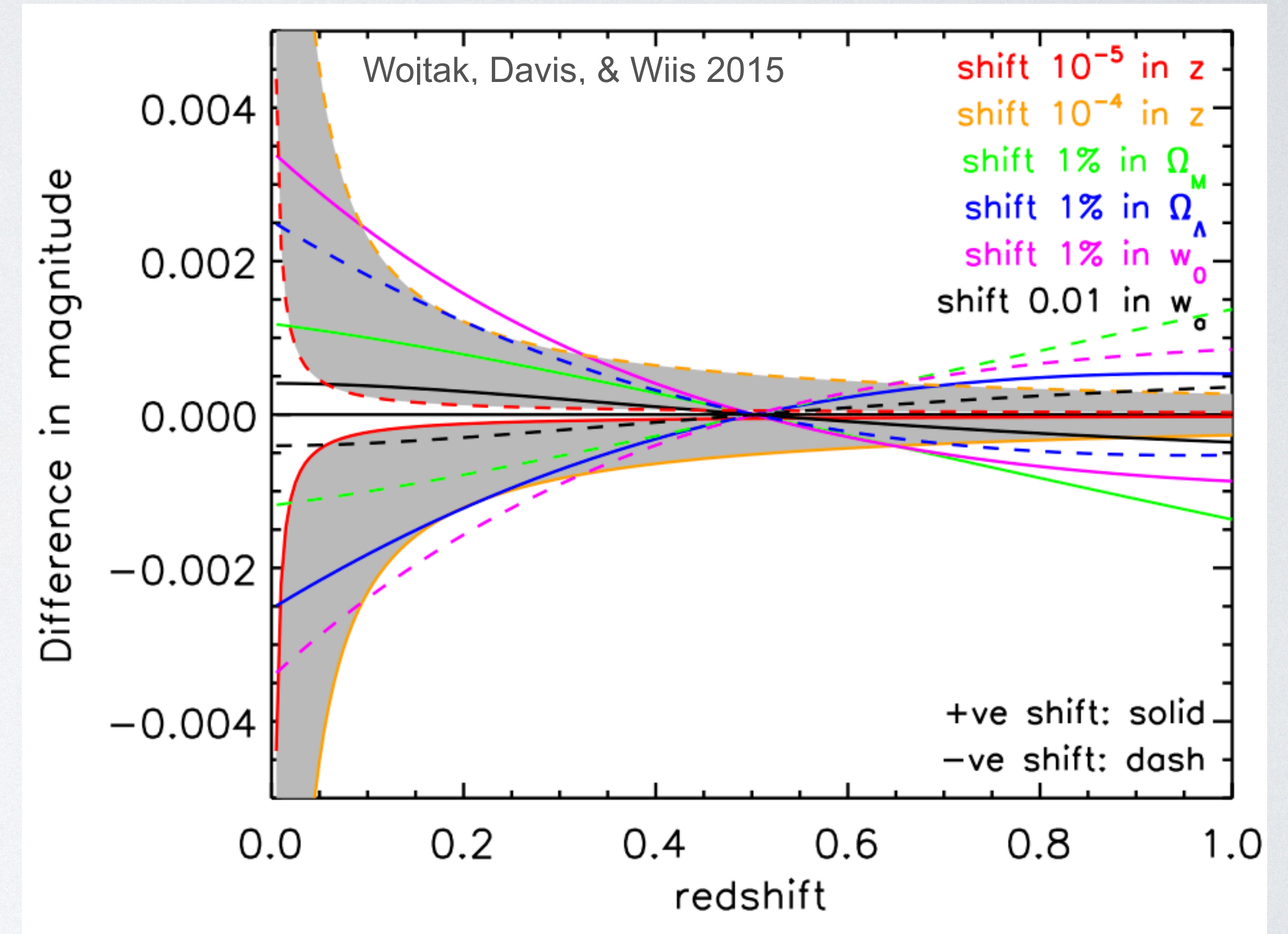
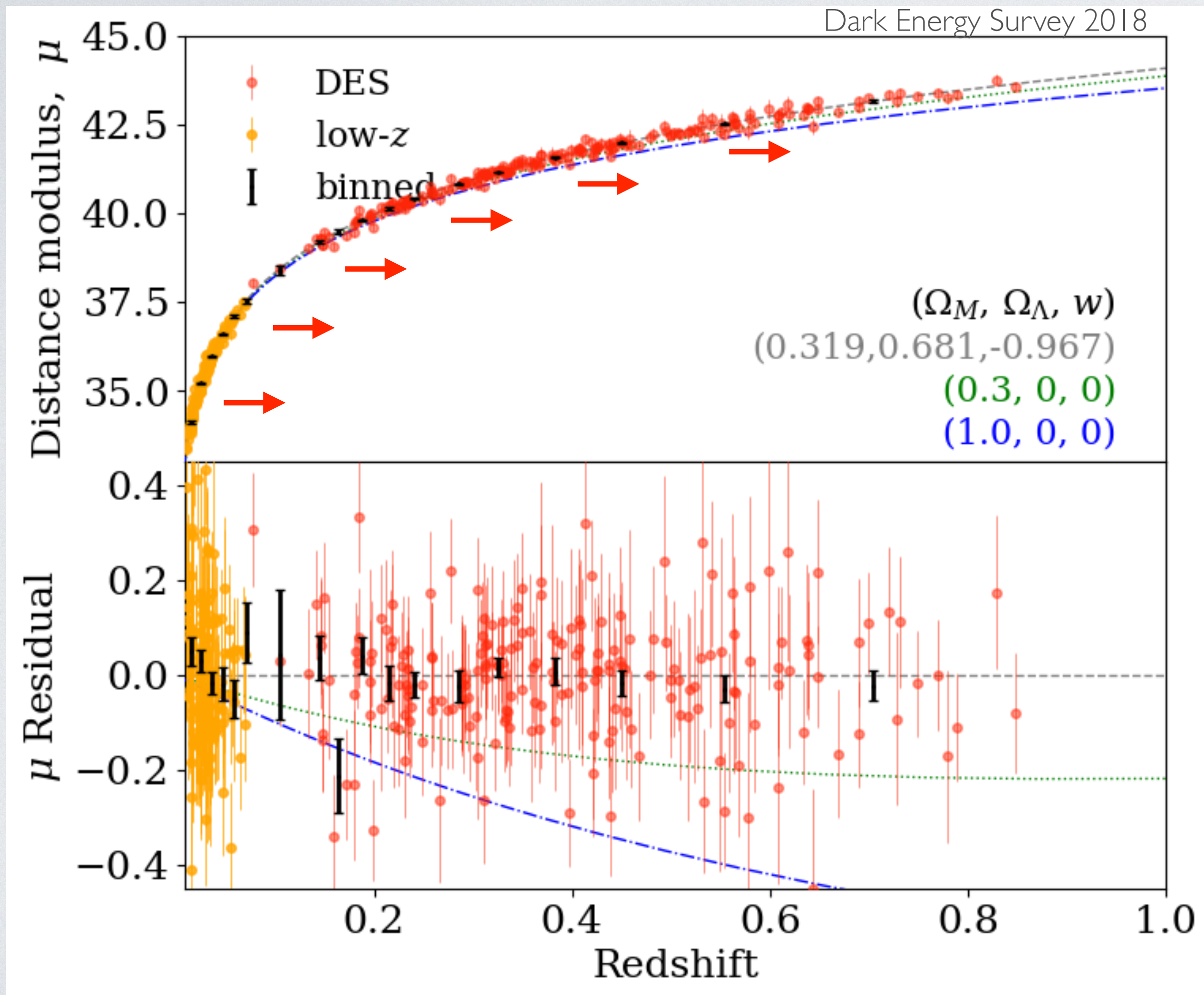
$$D_L = \tilde{D}(1 + z)$$

$$D_{\Delta t} = \frac{\tilde{D}_l \tilde{D}_s}{\tilde{D}_{ls}} / (1 + z_l)$$

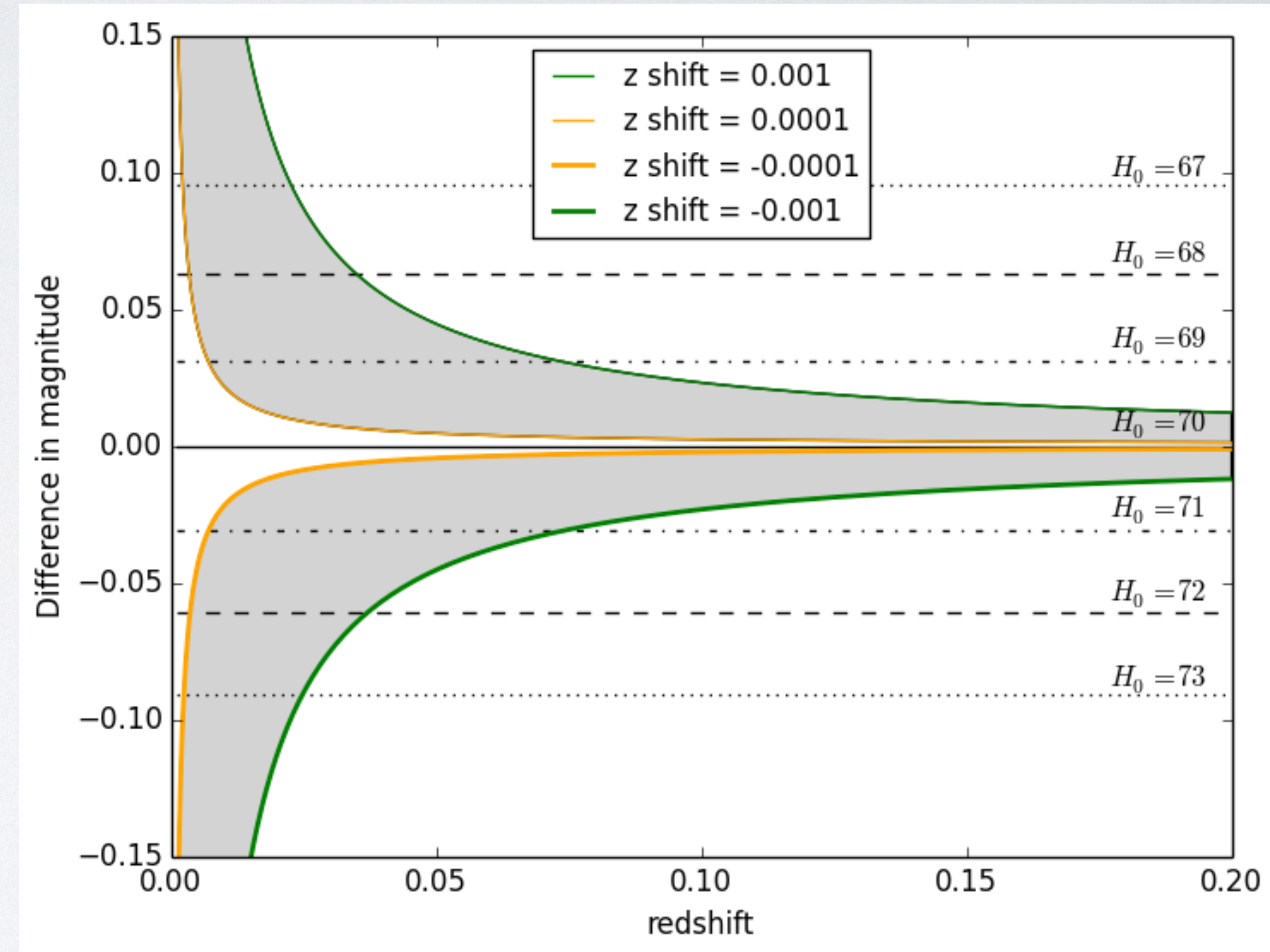
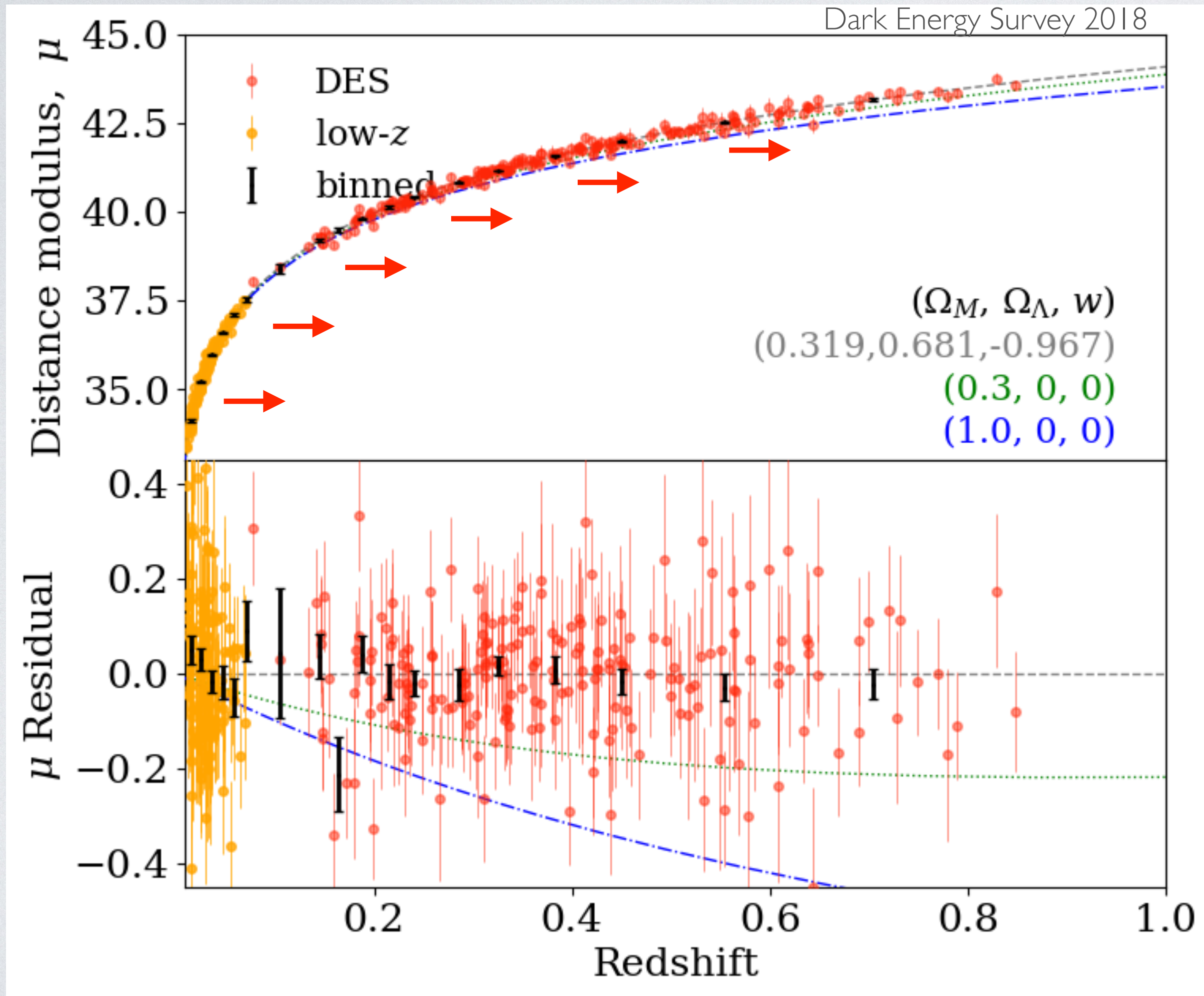


$$D_A = \tilde{D} / (1 + z)$$

# DO WE NEED TO WORRY ABOUT REDSHIFTS?



# DO WE NEED TO WORRY ABOUT REDSHIFTS?



# CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE !

- More on how redshift errors could affect **BAO**
- More on how redshift errors could affect **supernovae**

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE® 3

# SPACE AND BEYOND



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FROM 44  
ENDINGS!

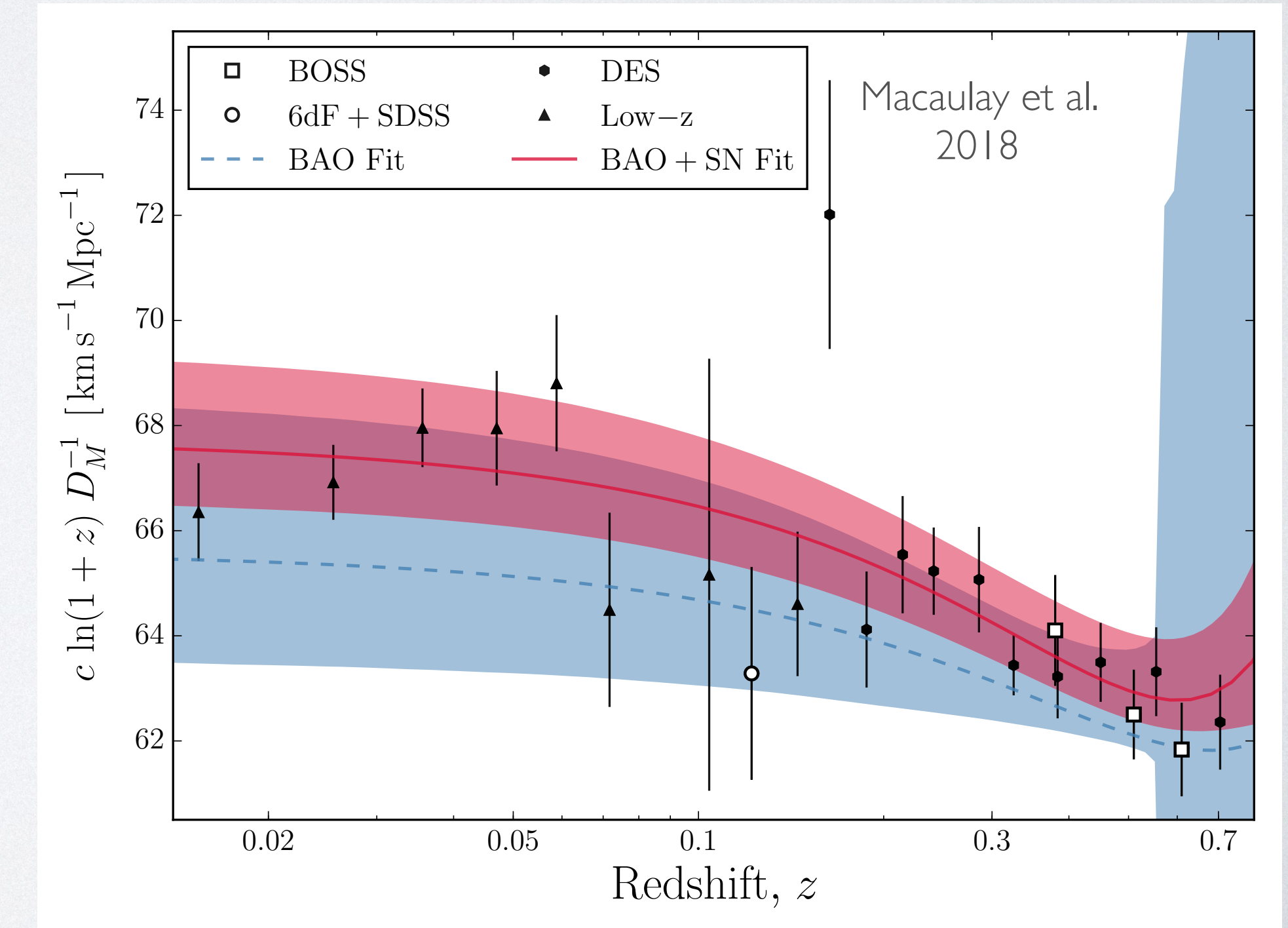
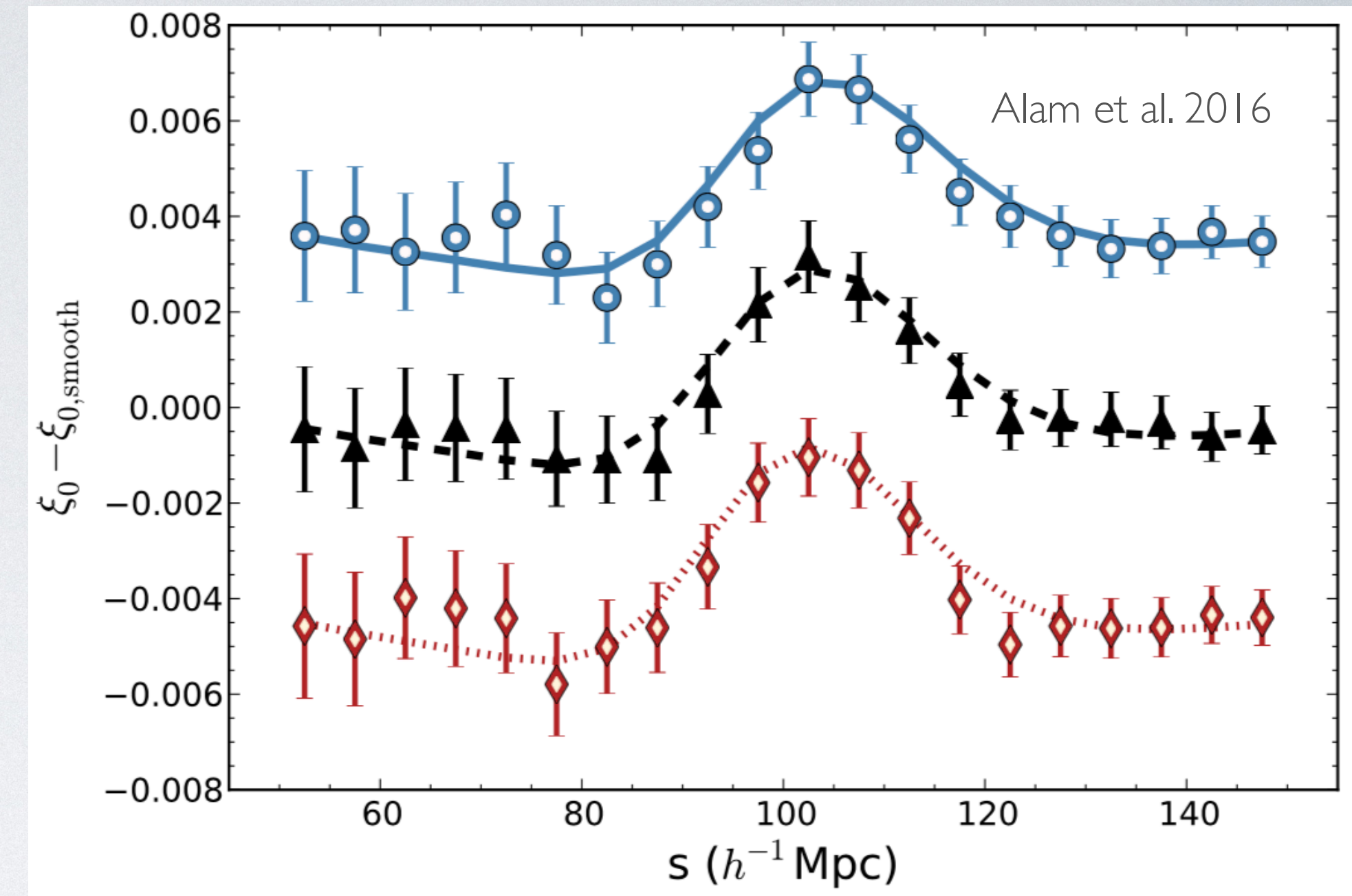
BY R. A. MONTGOMERY

# REDSHIFT EFFECTS IN BAO

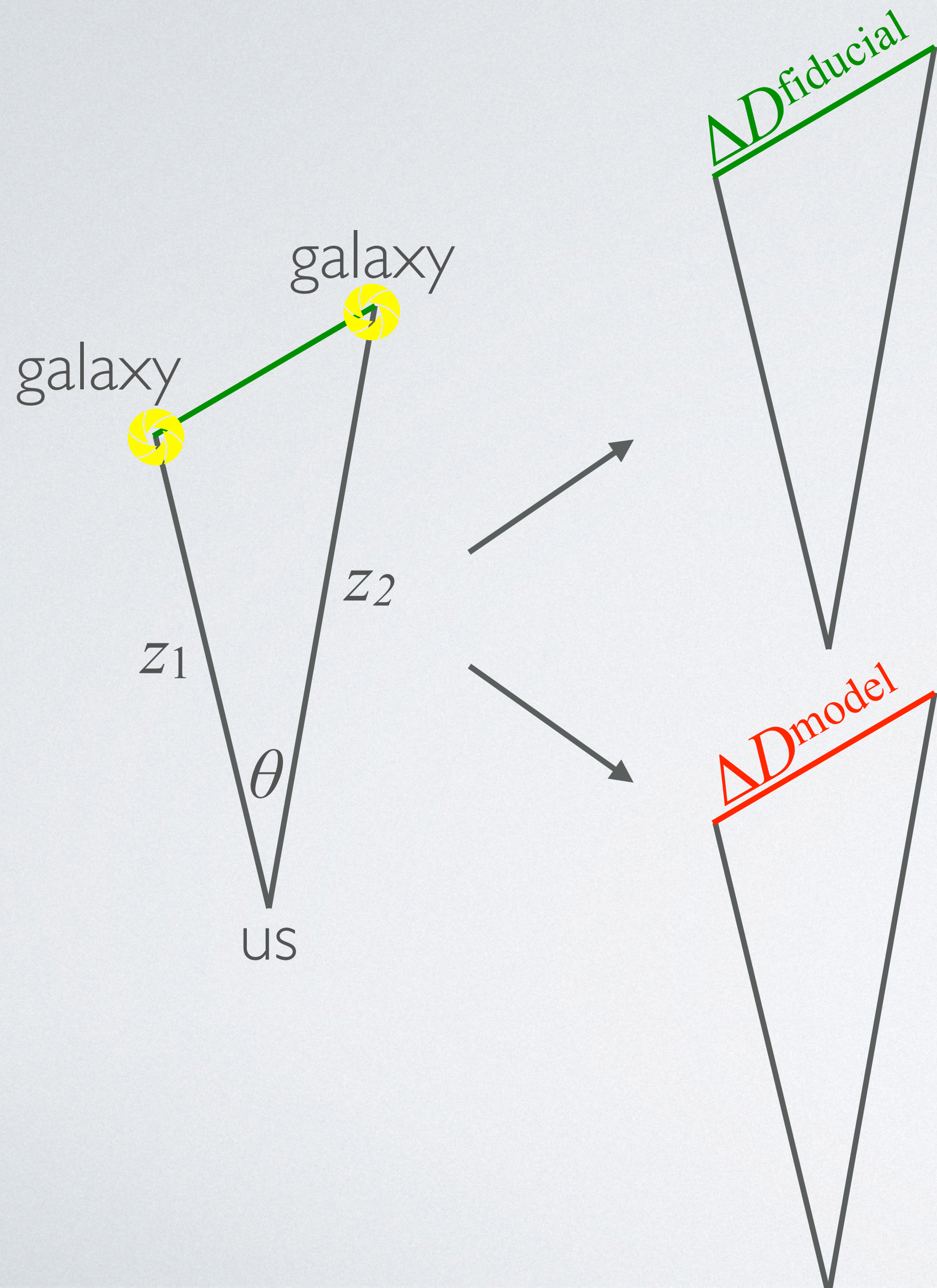
Two main ways to infer  $H_0$

- Fit a cosmological model to the BAO
- Use an “inverse distance ladder”

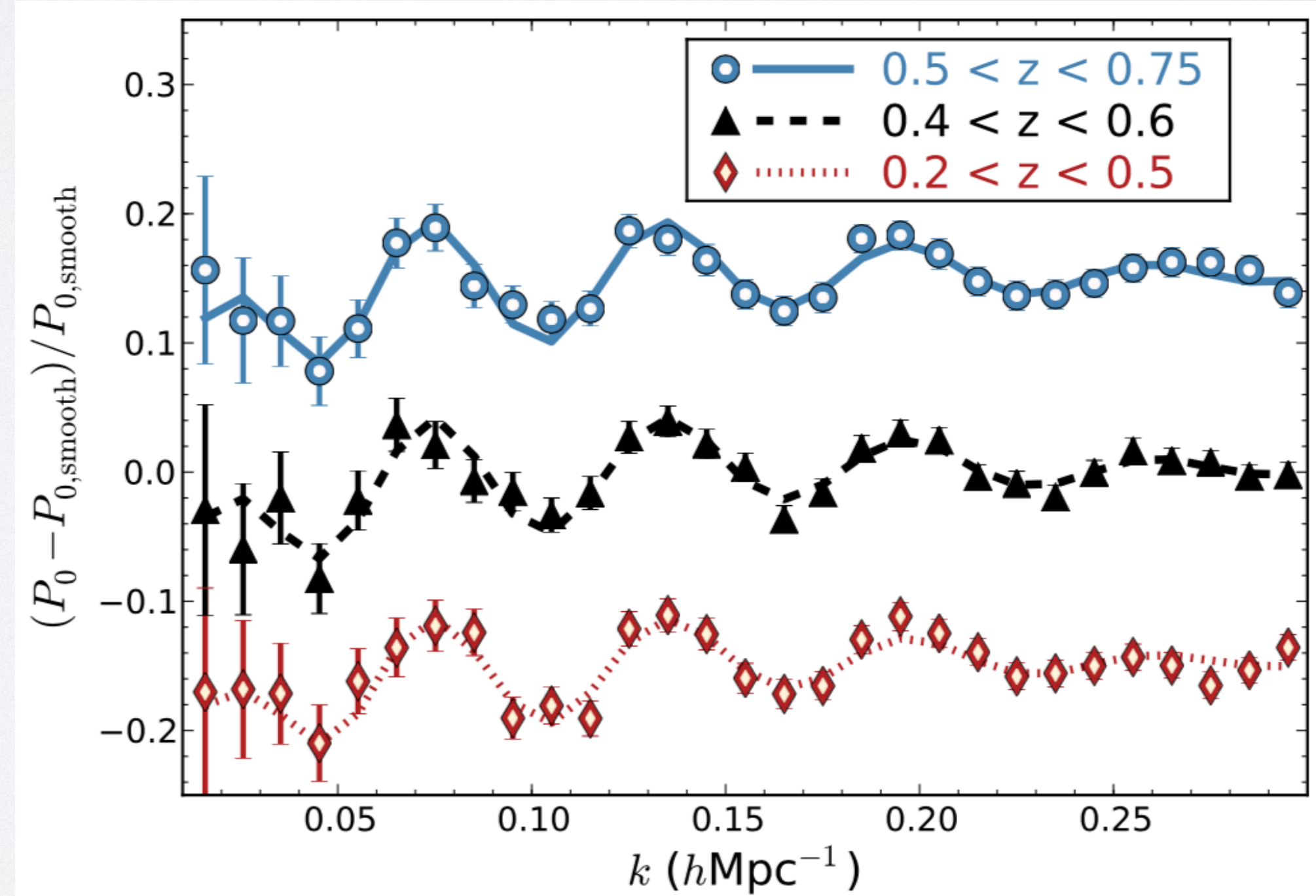
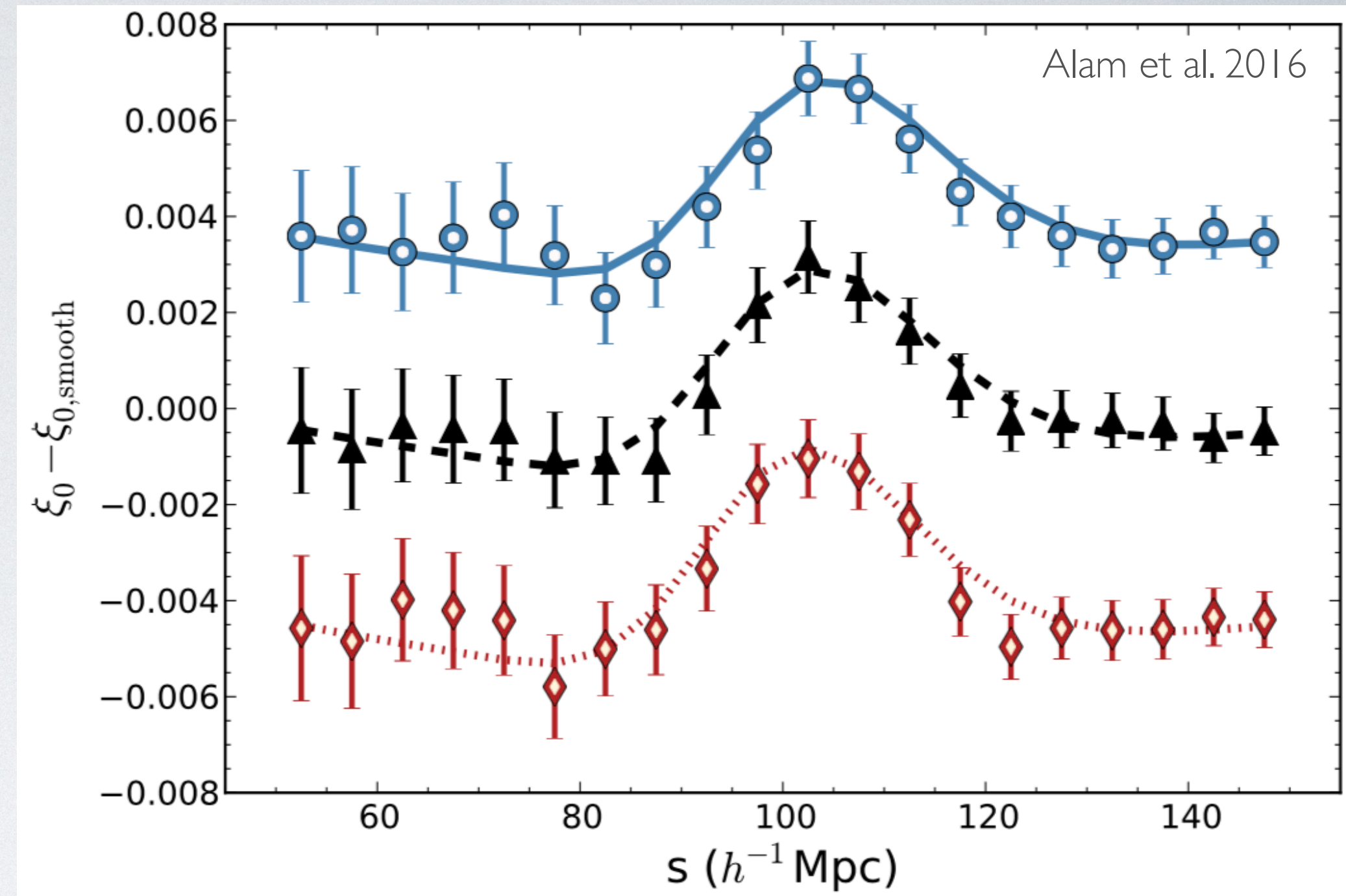
(often shares ruler with CMB)



# DERIVING $H_0$ FROM BAO



$$\alpha = \frac{\Delta D^{\text{fiducial}}}{\Delta D^{\text{model}}}$$



# REDSHIFT EFFECTS IN BAO

$P_0 = 5000 \text{ h}^{-3} \text{ Mpc}^3$  = characteristic power spectrum amplitude at scale of interest

$n_i$  = survey number density at location of  $i$ th galaxy

- What is the **redshift** of the standard ruler?

$$0.2 < z < 0.5 \rightarrow z_{\text{eff}} = 0.38,$$

$$0.4 < z < 0.6 \rightarrow z_{\text{eff}} = 0.51,$$

$$0.5 < z < 0.75 \rightarrow z_{\text{eff}} = 0.61.$$

$$w_i = \frac{1}{1 + n_i P_0},$$

$$z_{\text{eff}} = \frac{\sum_i^{N_{\text{gal}}} w_{\text{FKP}}(\vec{x}_i) z_i}{\sum_i^{N_{\text{gal}}} w_{\text{FKP}}(\vec{x}_i)},$$

$$\bar{z}_{\text{pair}} = \frac{z_1 + z_2}{2}.$$

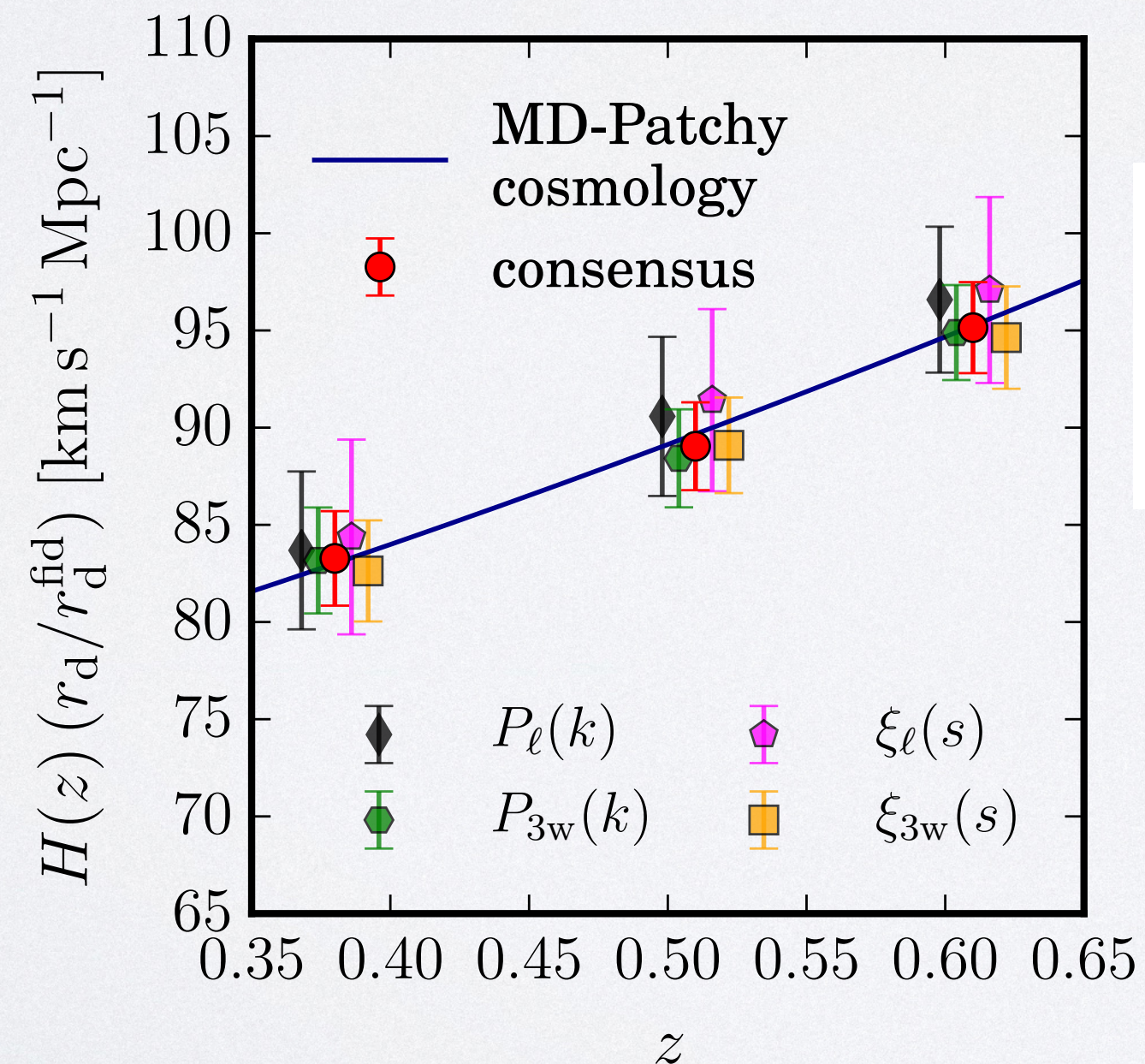
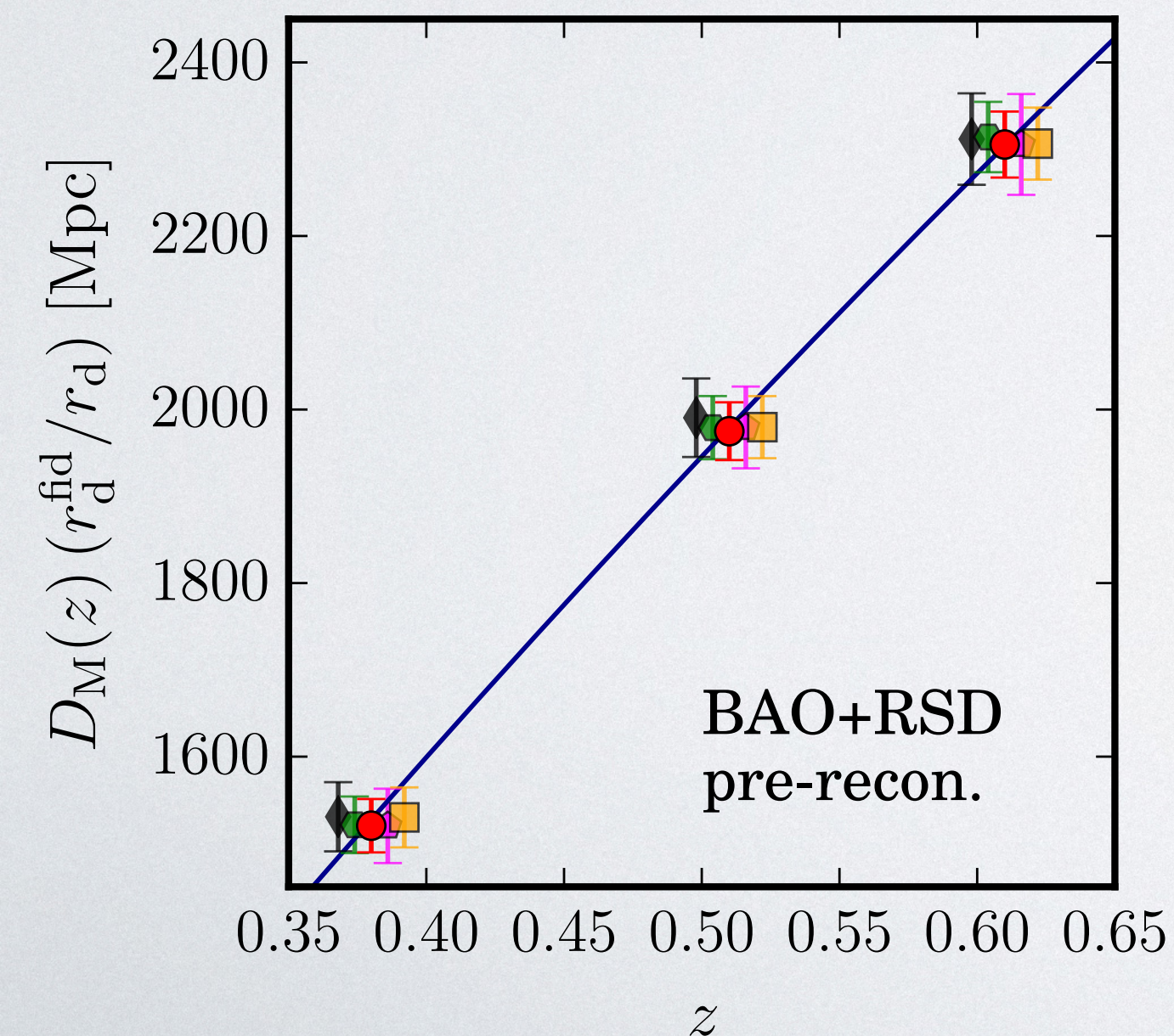
$$w_{\text{FKP}}(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{n'_g(\vec{x}) P_0}{w_{\text{sys}}(\vec{x})}}.$$

(Beutler et al. 2017)

$$z_{\text{eff}} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \bar{z}_{\text{pair},i} w_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i}.$$

(Blake et al. 2011)

But the average redshift is not the average distance...

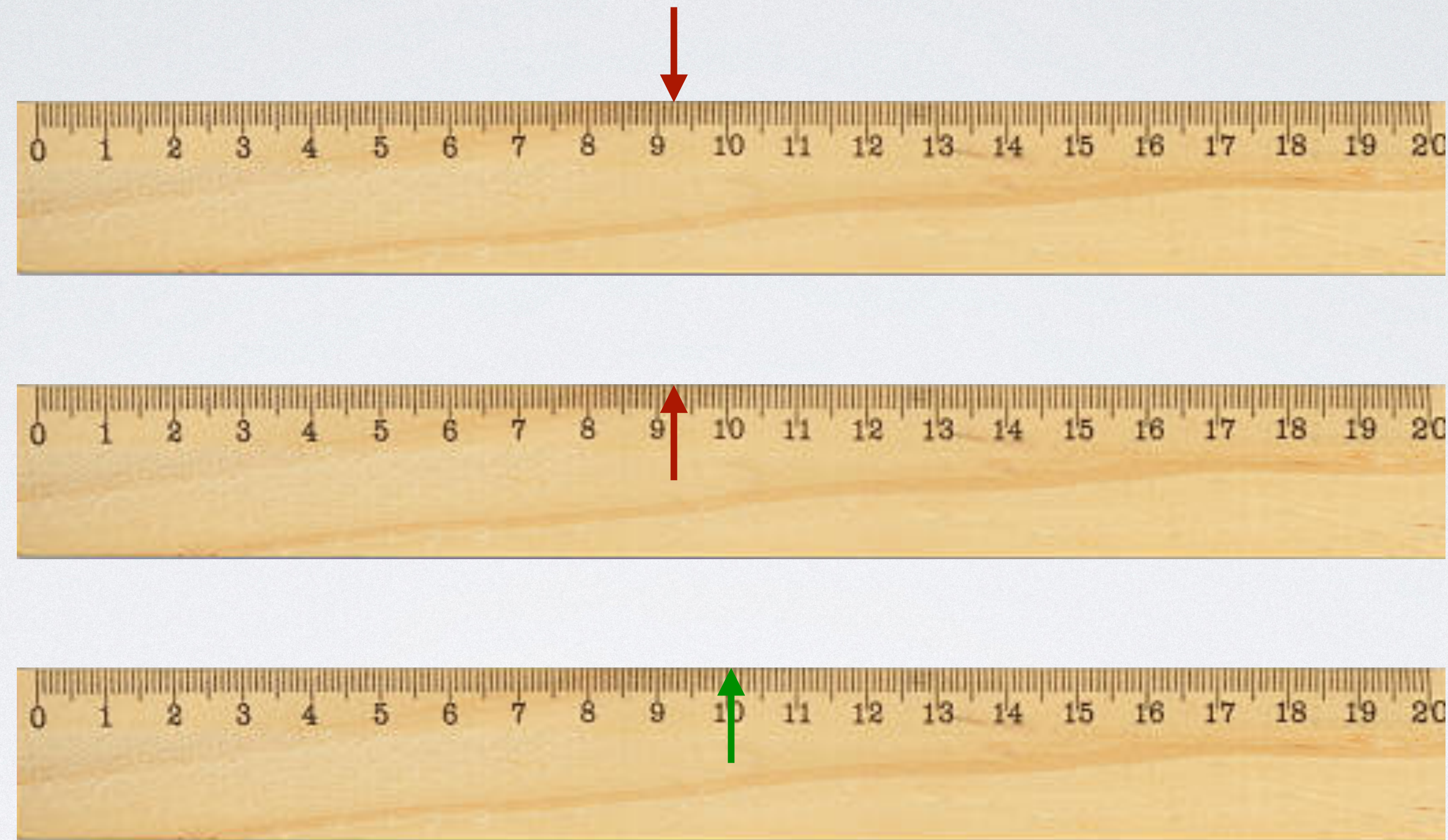


$P_\ell(k)$       $\xi_\ell(s)$   
 $P_{3w}(k)$       $\xi_{3w}(s)$



# TWO WRONGS CAN MAKE A RIGHT

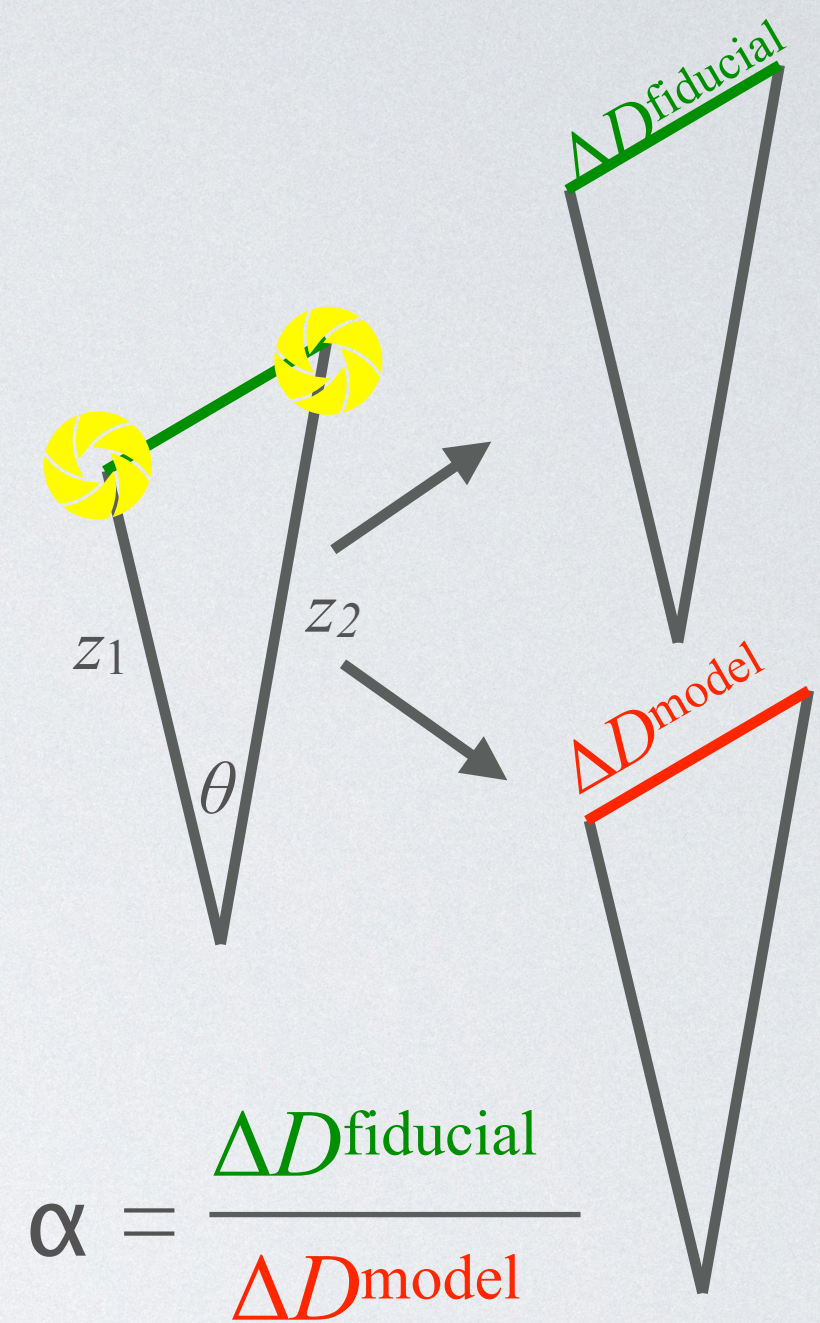
If you use the wrong calibration on both the data and the model, you're okay.



Data

Model

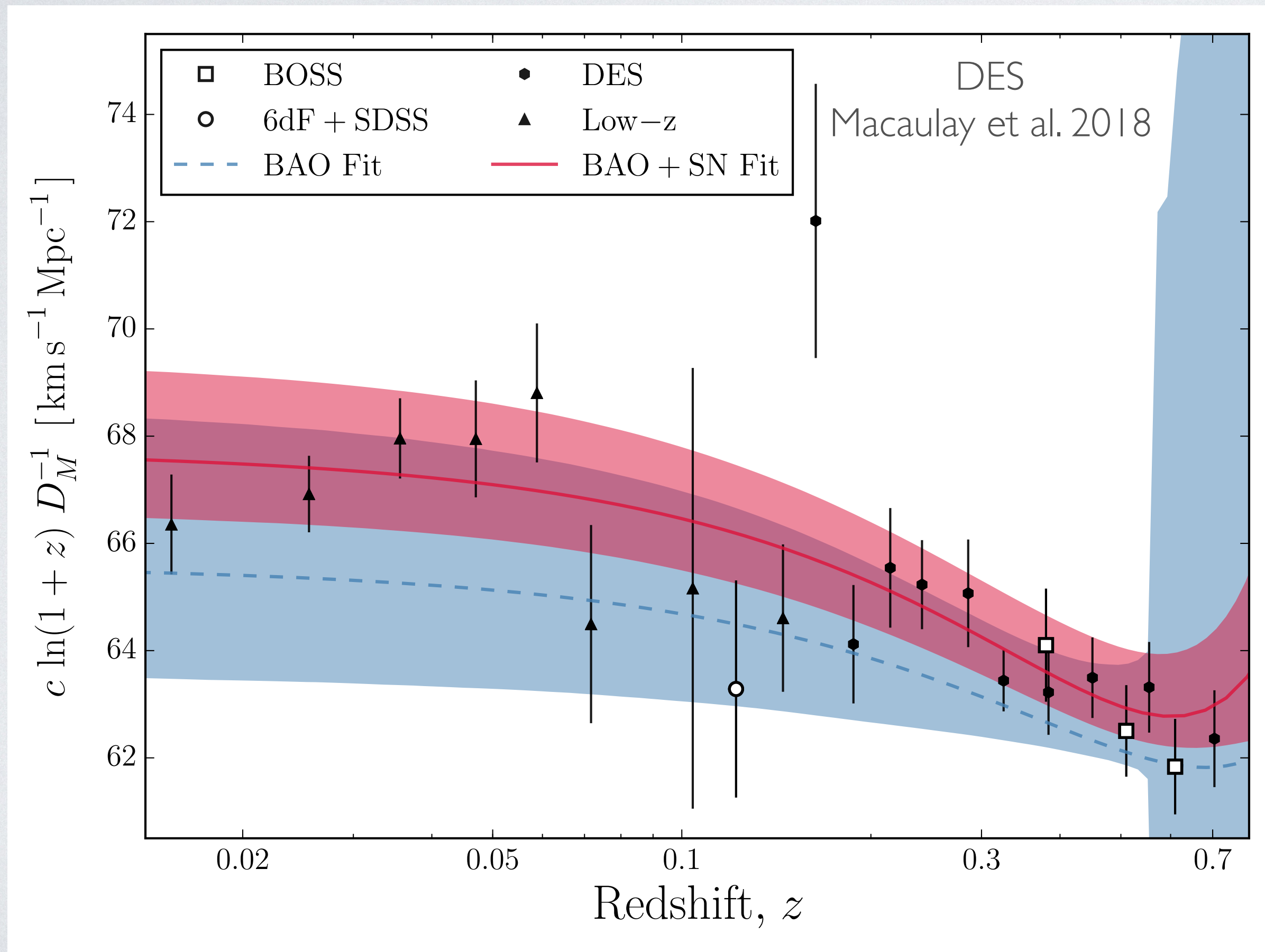
“True”



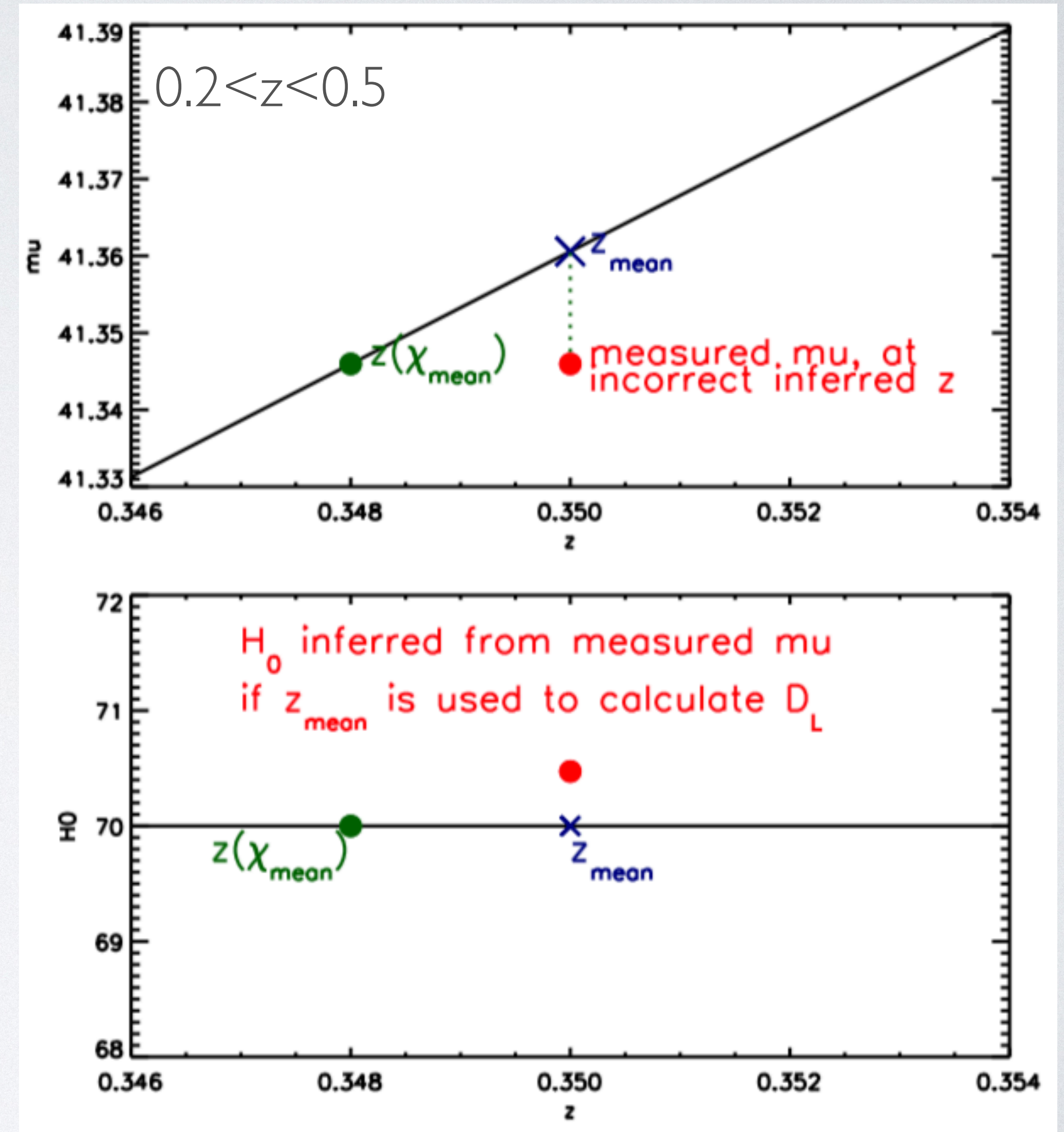
- But if you want an **absolute** distance, the correct  $z$  does matter.

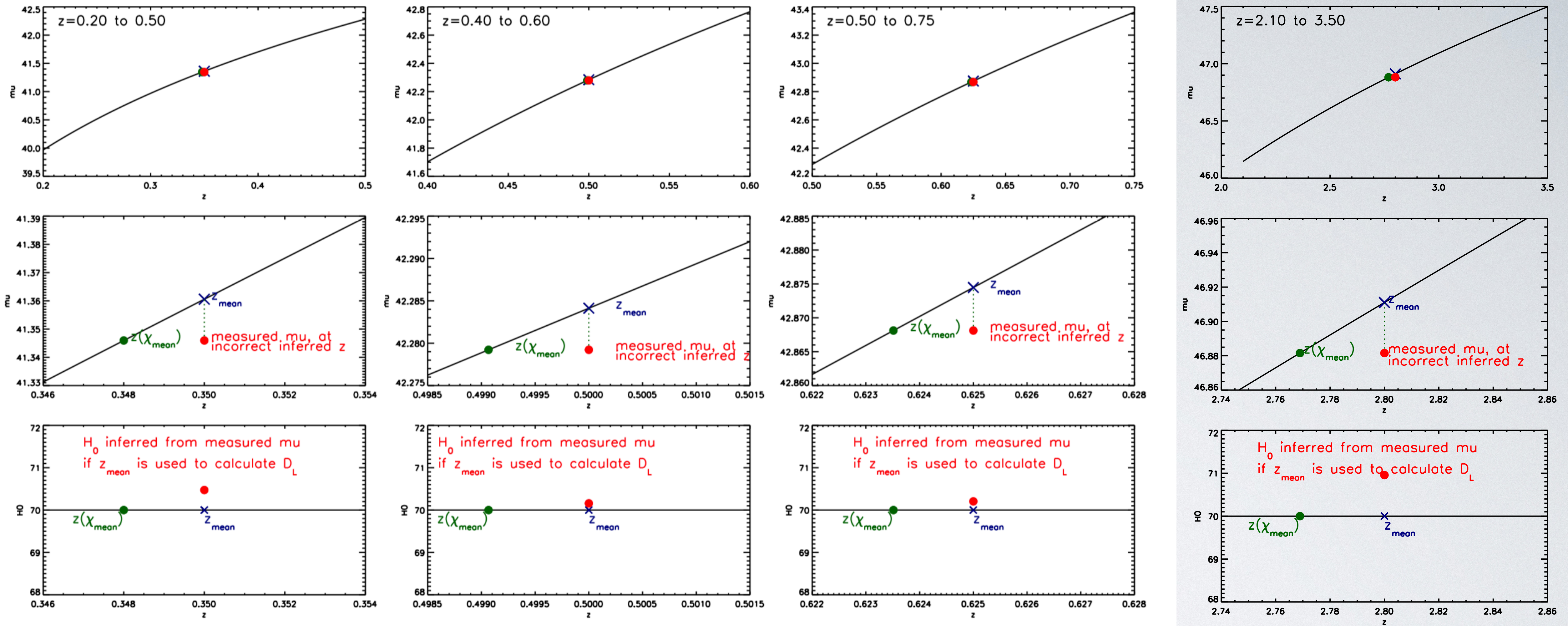
# HOW MUCH WILL $H_0$ SHIFT?

- Use an “inverse distance ladder”



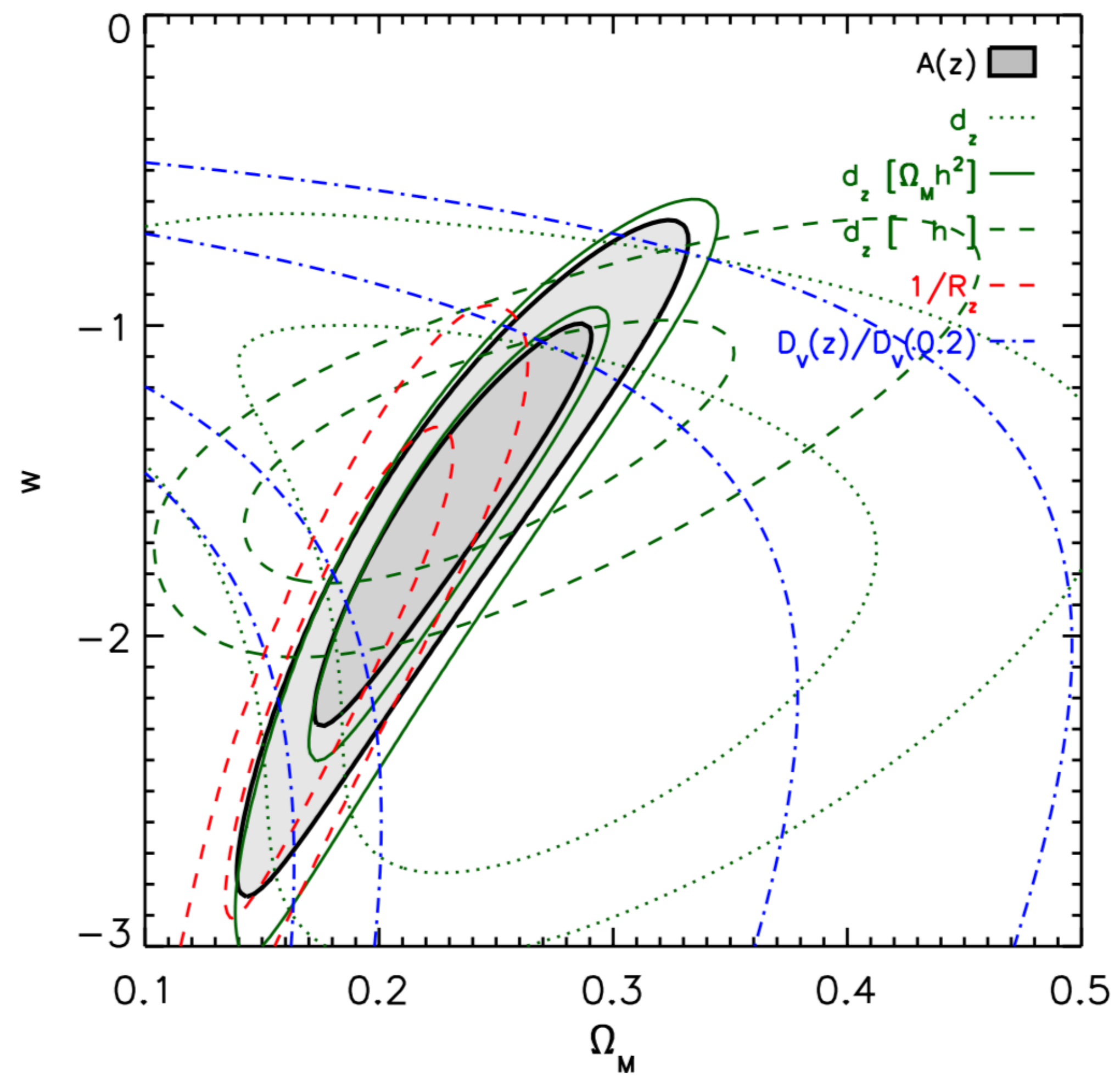
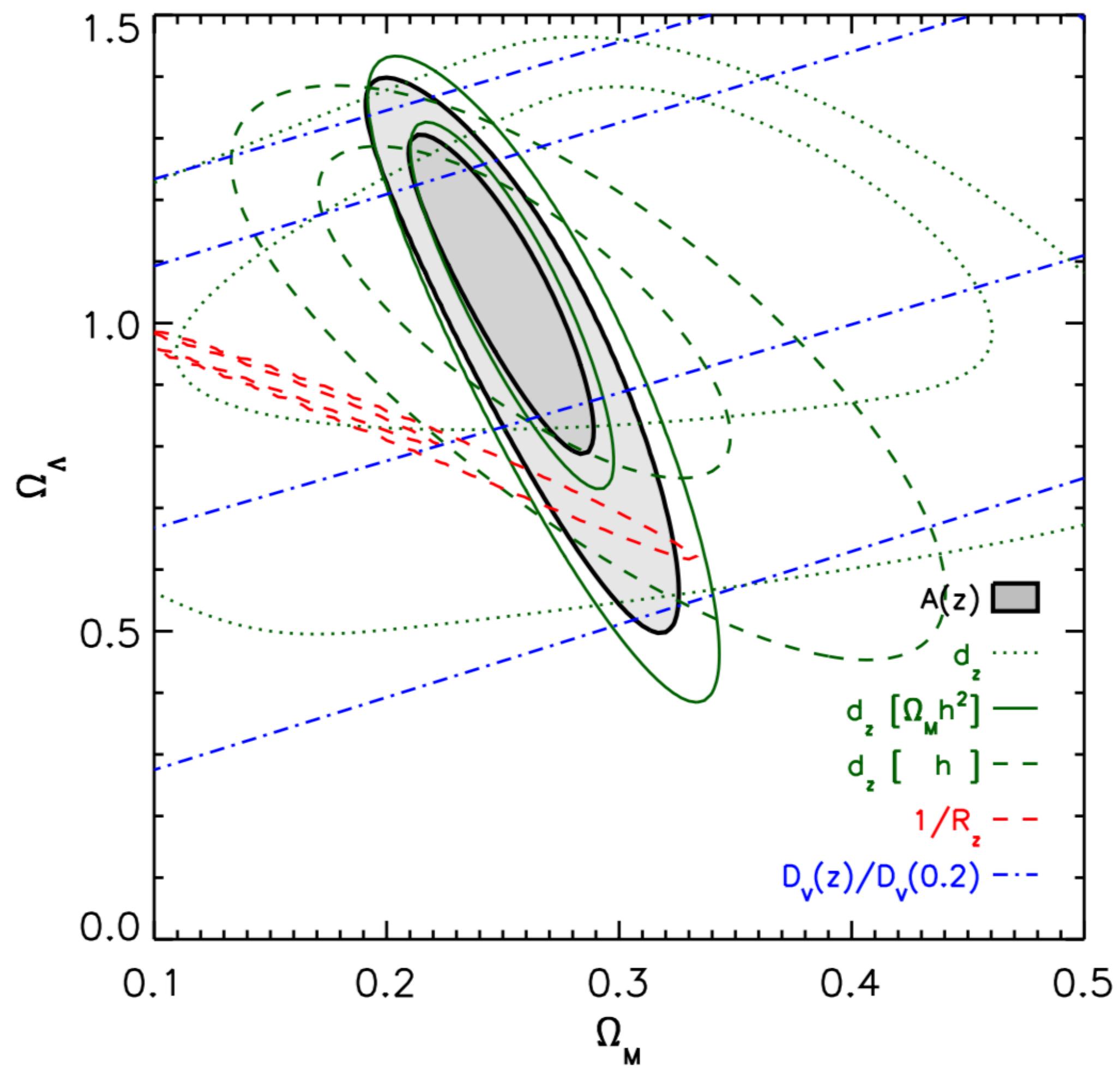
$$H_0 = 67.8 \pm 1.3 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$$





This is an even  $z$ -distribution so probably a worst-case scenario error.

Figure 1: Each column shows a different redshift bin, as labelled at top left. The upper row shows the distance modulus vs redshift plot for each bin. The second row shows the same, but zoomed in on the central redshift region to show the difference between the mean redshift,  $z_{\text{mean}}$ , and the redshift corresponding to the mean comoving distance,  $z(\chi_{\text{mean}})$ . For this example each bin is evenly populated in redshift (this will not be the case in real data). In the lower panel I show the Hubble constant inferred from assuming the measurement was at  $z_{\text{mean}}$  when it was actually at  $z(\chi_{\text{mean}})$ . The model used to generate the fake data was  $(h, \Omega_m, \Omega_\Lambda) = (0.70, 0.27, 0.73)$  (to do the calculation of  $H_0$  I used the same model, but without the  $h = H_0/100\text{km s}^{-1}\text{Mpc}^{-1}$  input).



# CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE !

- More on how redshift errors could affect **Supernovae**
- What **kinds of redshifts errors** might we have in our data?

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE® 3

# SPACE AND BEYOND



CHOOSE  
FROM 44  
ENDINGS!

BY R. A. MONTGOMERY

# DERIVING $H_0$ FROM CANDLES

$$D_0(z) = \frac{c}{H_0} \int \frac{dz}{E(z)}$$

$$H_0 = \frac{v_0}{D_0}$$

$$H_0 = \frac{v_0(1+z)}{D_{L,0}}$$

$$v_0 = c \int \frac{dz}{E(z)} \quad E(z) = H(z)/H_0$$

$$v_0 \approx \frac{cz}{1+z} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2}[1 - q_0]z - \frac{1}{6}[1 - q_0 - 3q_0^2 + j_0]z^2 \right)$$

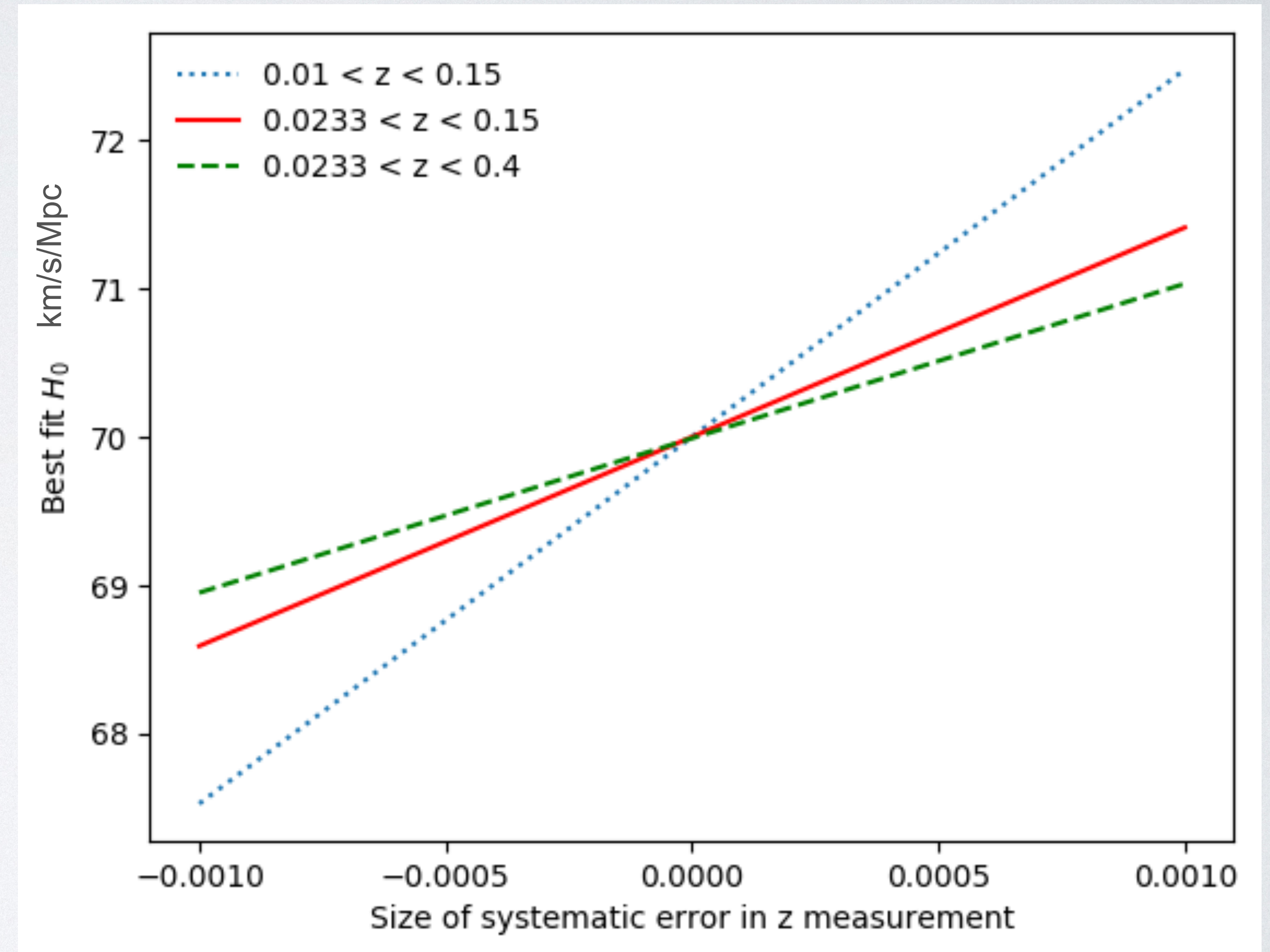
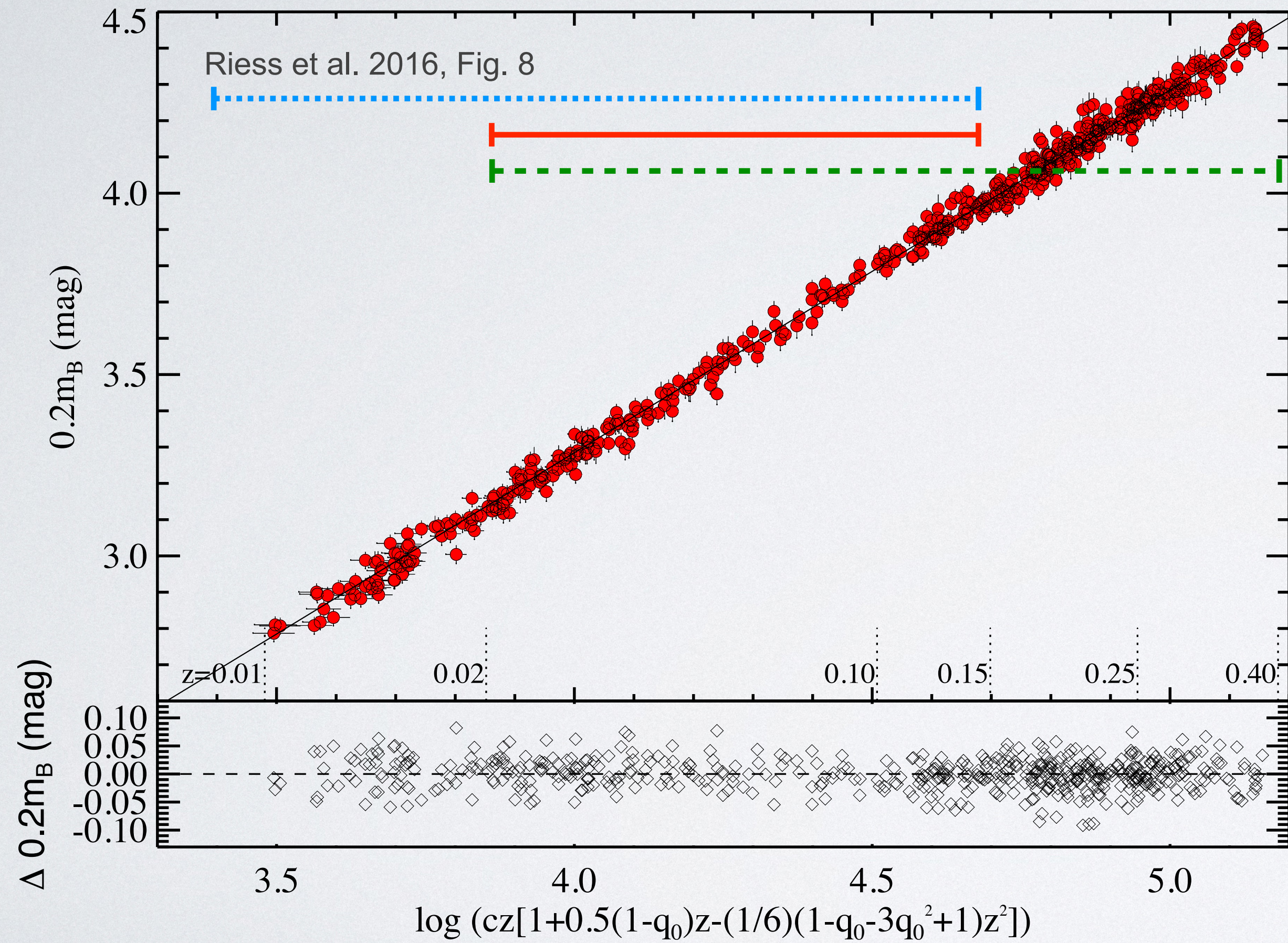
$$\begin{aligned} \log_{10} H_0 &= \log_{10}[v_0(1+z)] - \log_{10} D_{L,0} \\ &= \log_{10}[v_0(1+z)] - 0.2m + \frac{M+25}{5} \\ &= a_x + \frac{M+25}{5} \\ &= \frac{5a_x + M + 25}{5} \end{aligned}$$

$$a_x \equiv \log_{10}[v_0(1+z)] - 0.2m$$

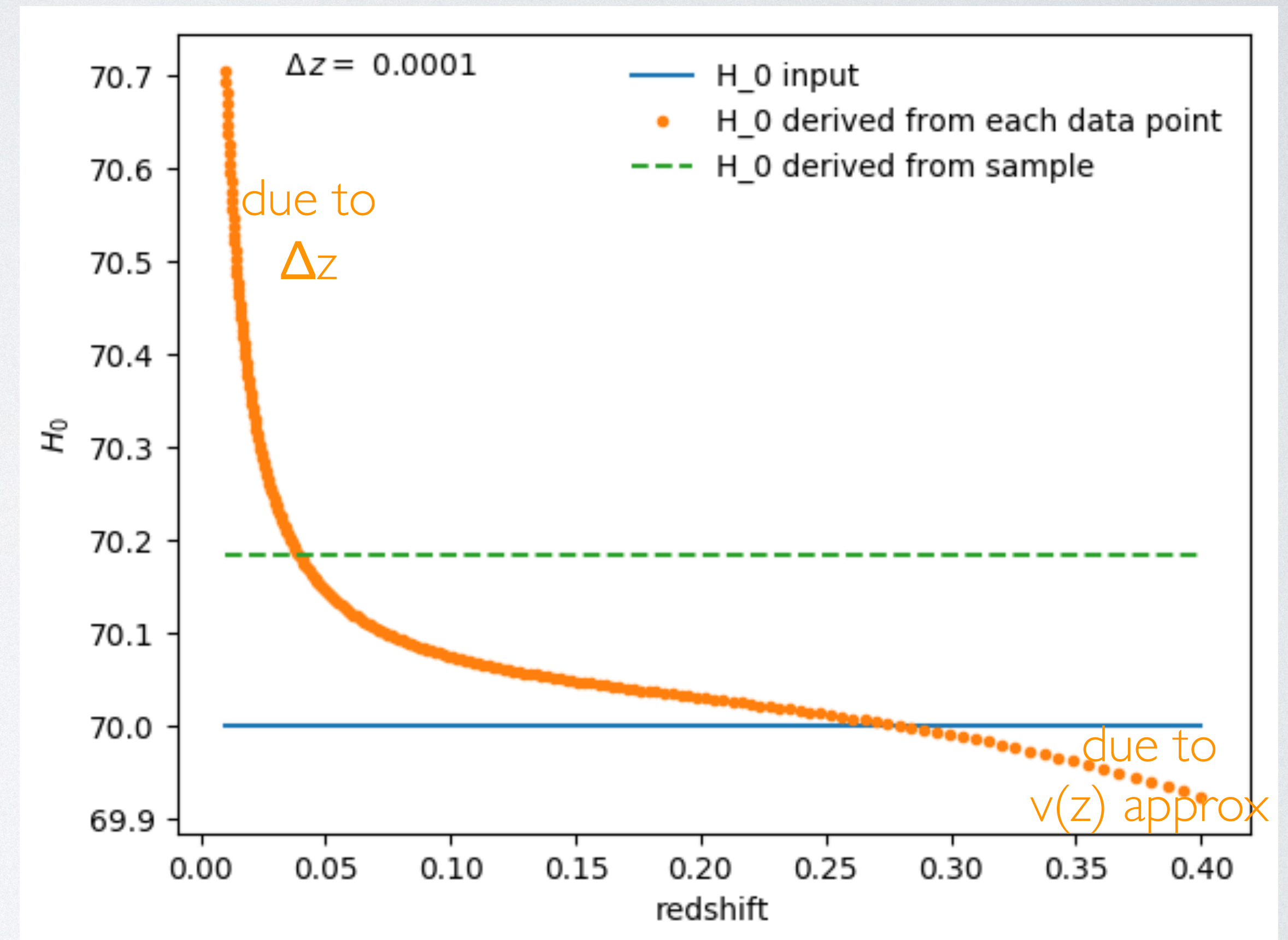
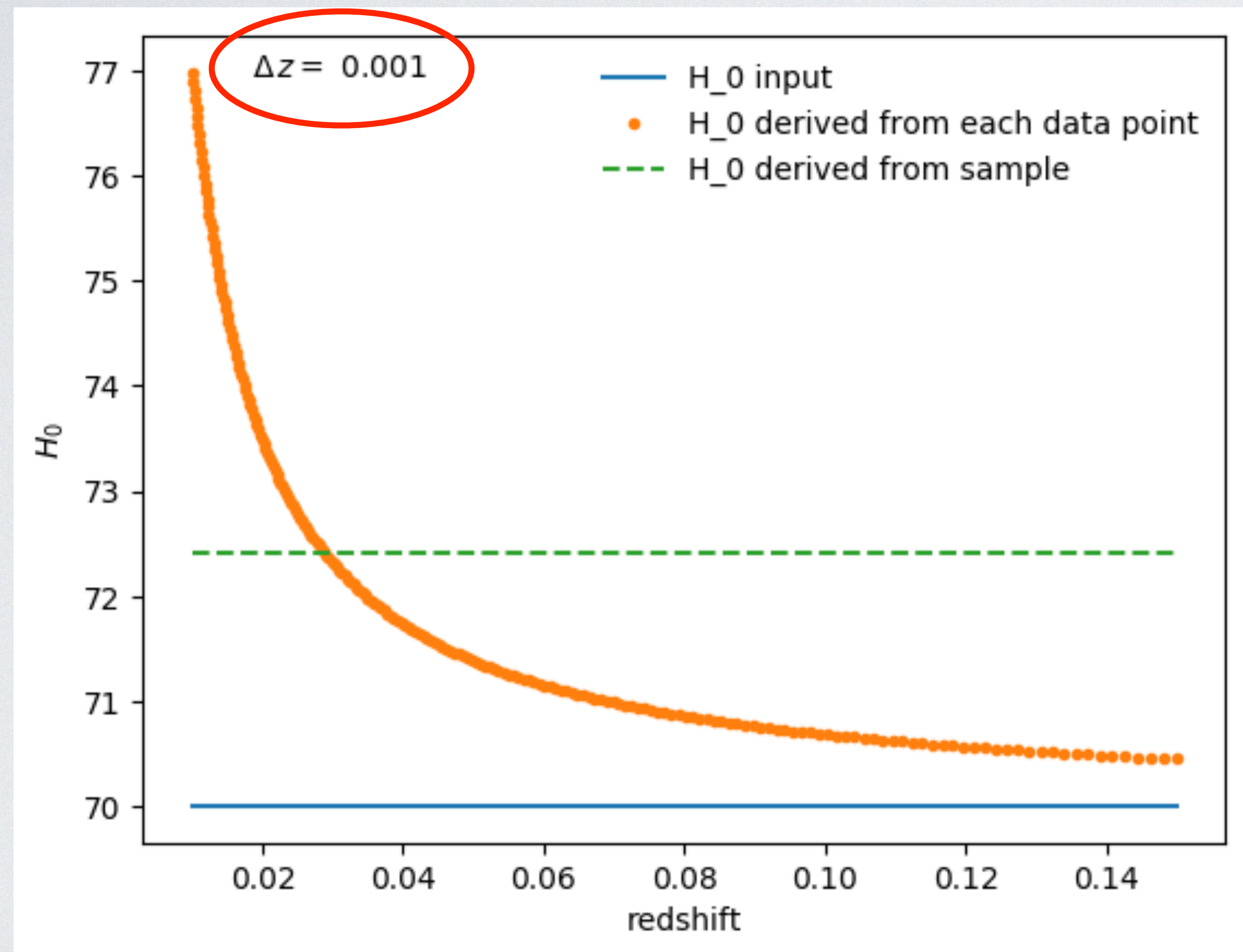
$$\mu = m - M = 5 \log_{10} D_L(\text{Mpc}) + 25$$

$$\log_{10} D_L = \frac{m - M - 25}{5} = 0.2m - \frac{M + 25}{5}$$

# HOW LARGE A REDSHIFT ERROR WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY CHANGE $H_0$ ?

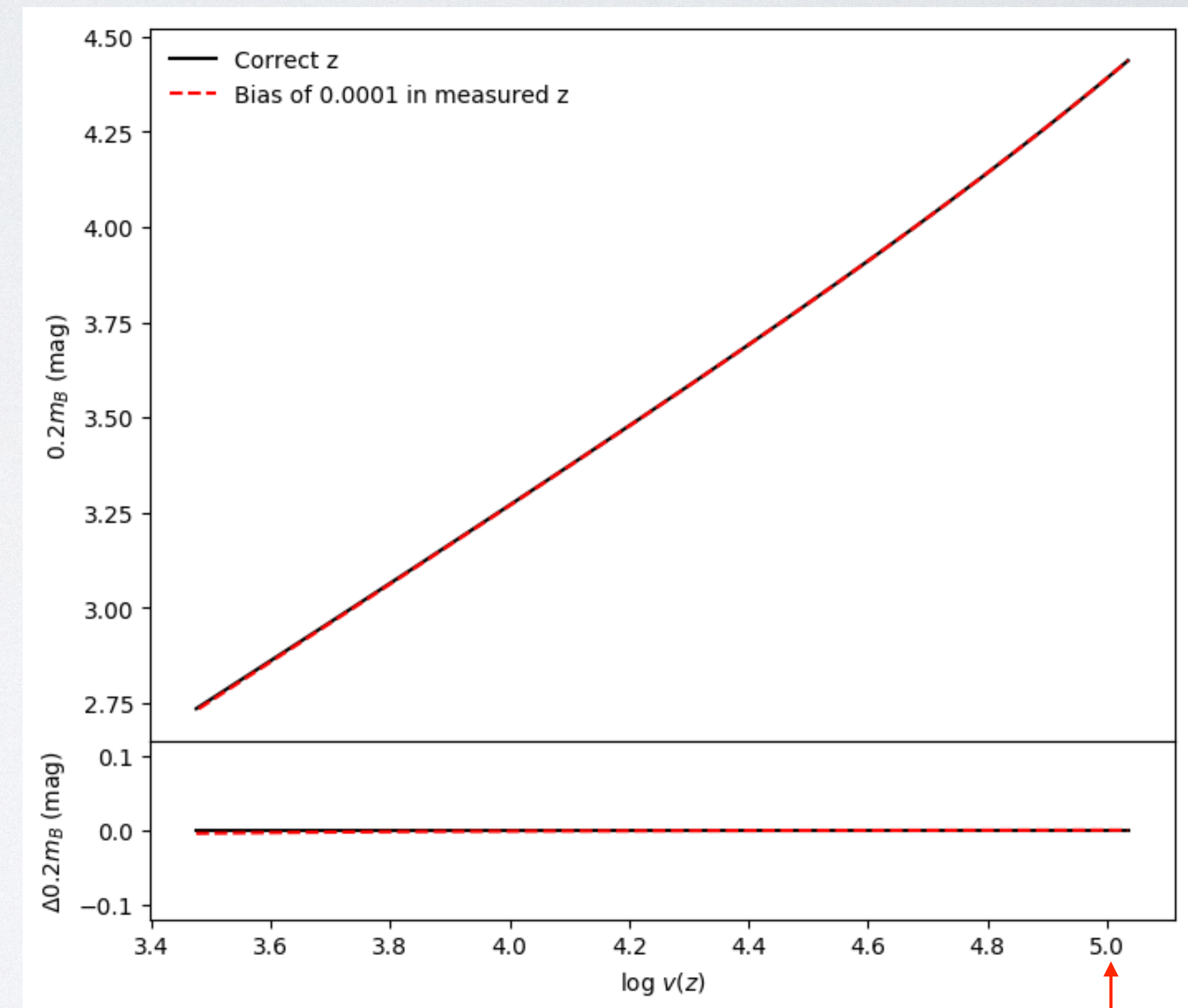
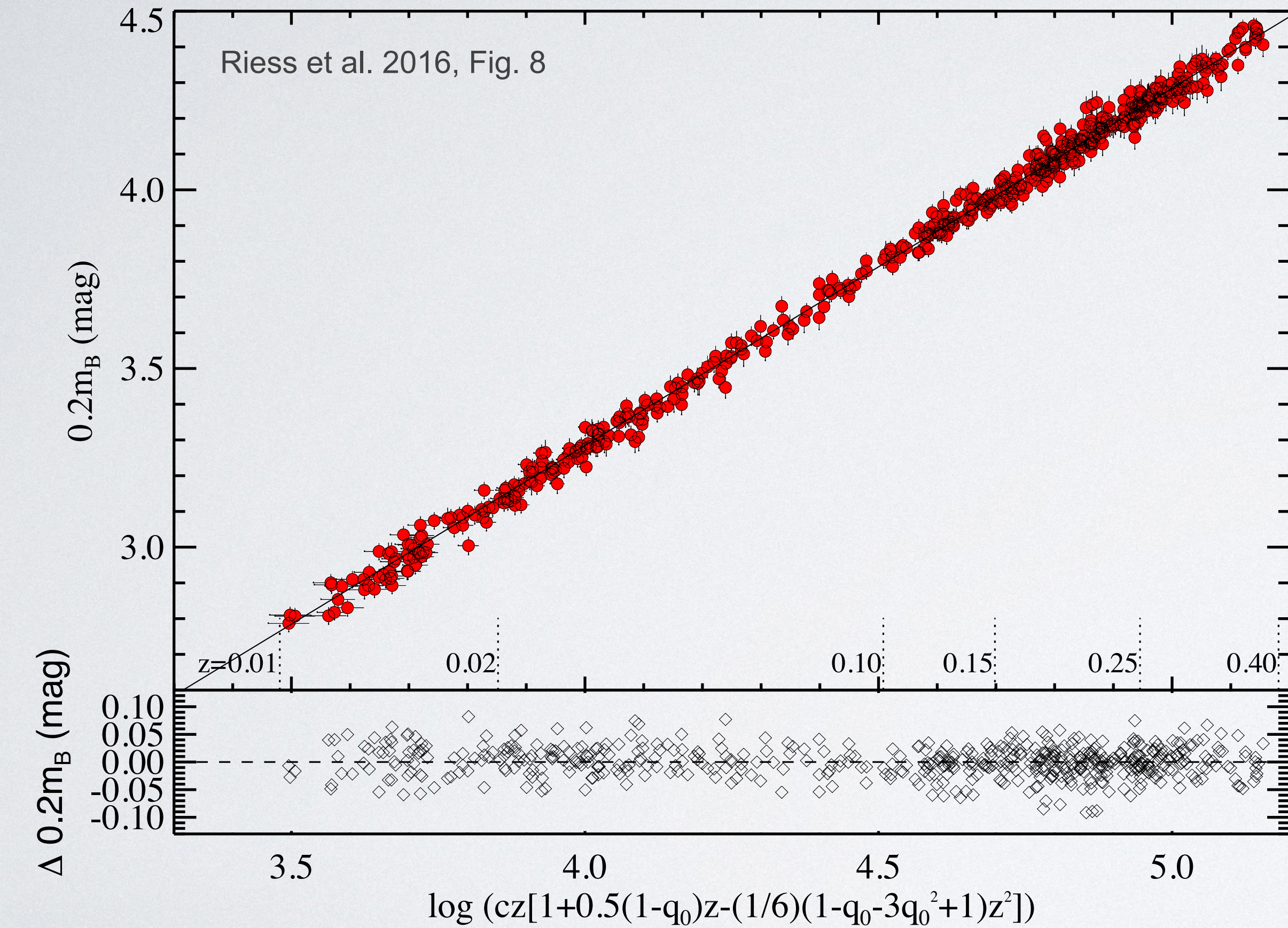


# HOW LARGE A REDSHIFT ERROR WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY CHANGE $H_0$ ?





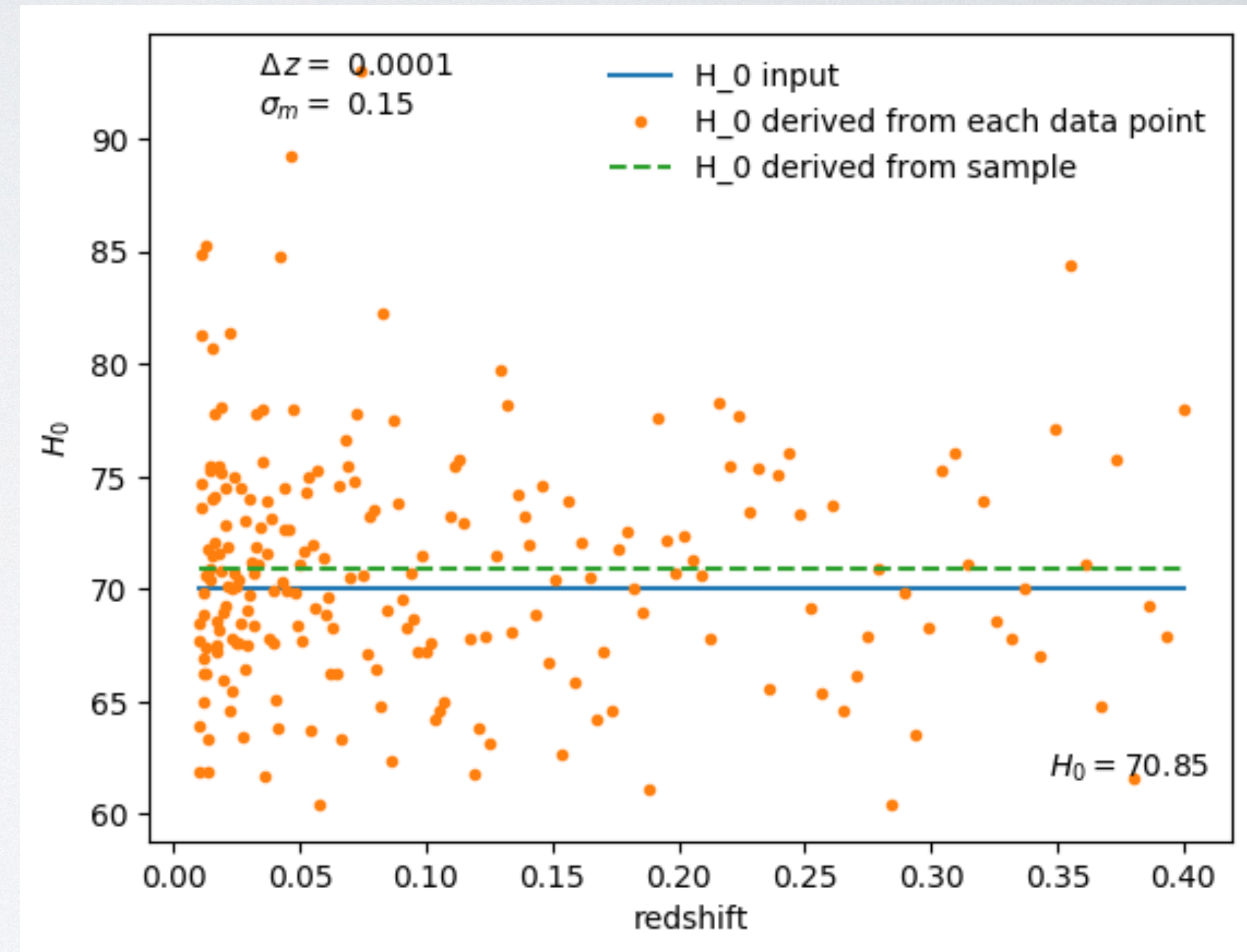
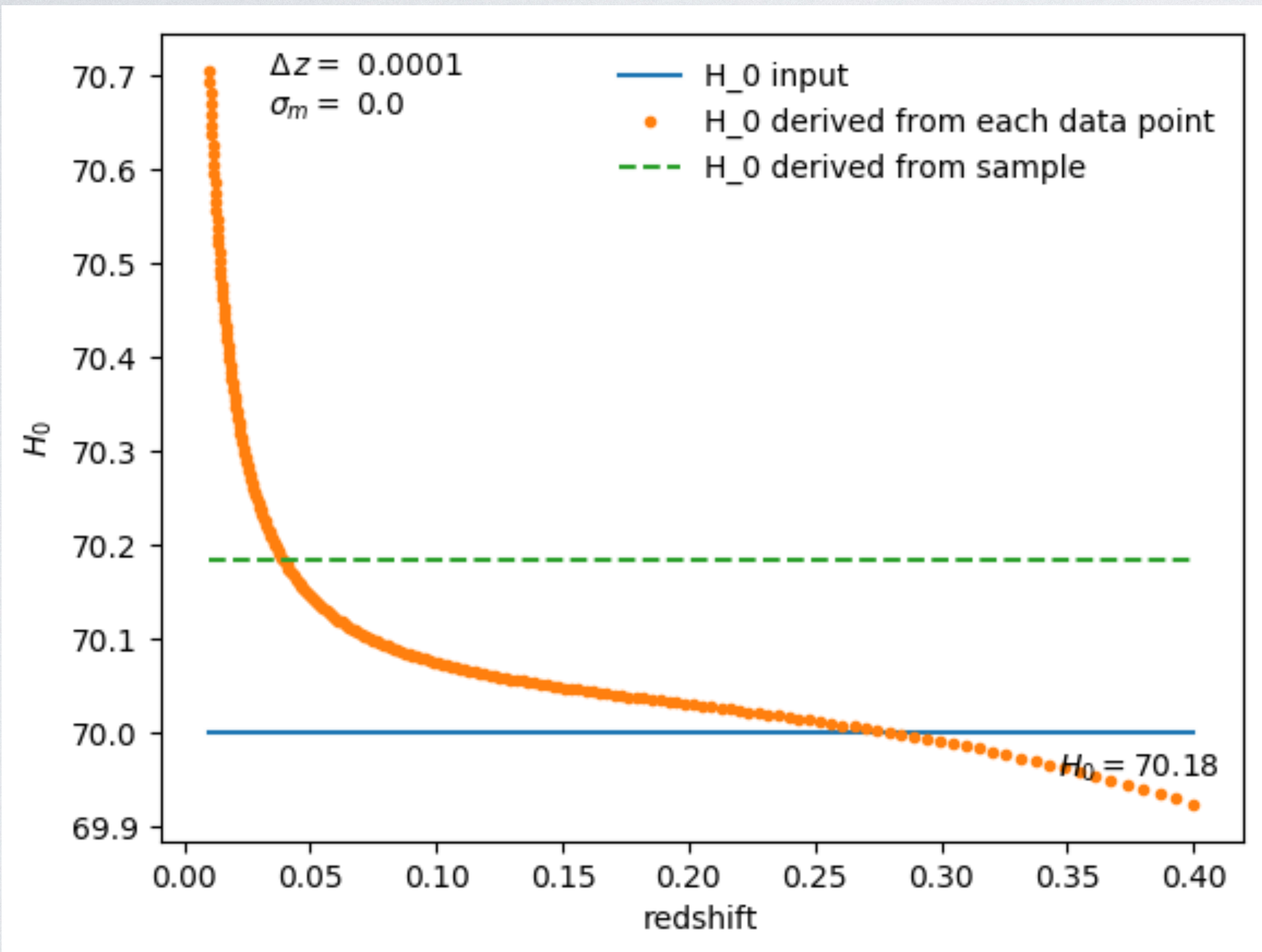
# SURELY WE'D HAVE NOTICED THAT, RIGHT?



$10^5$  km/s

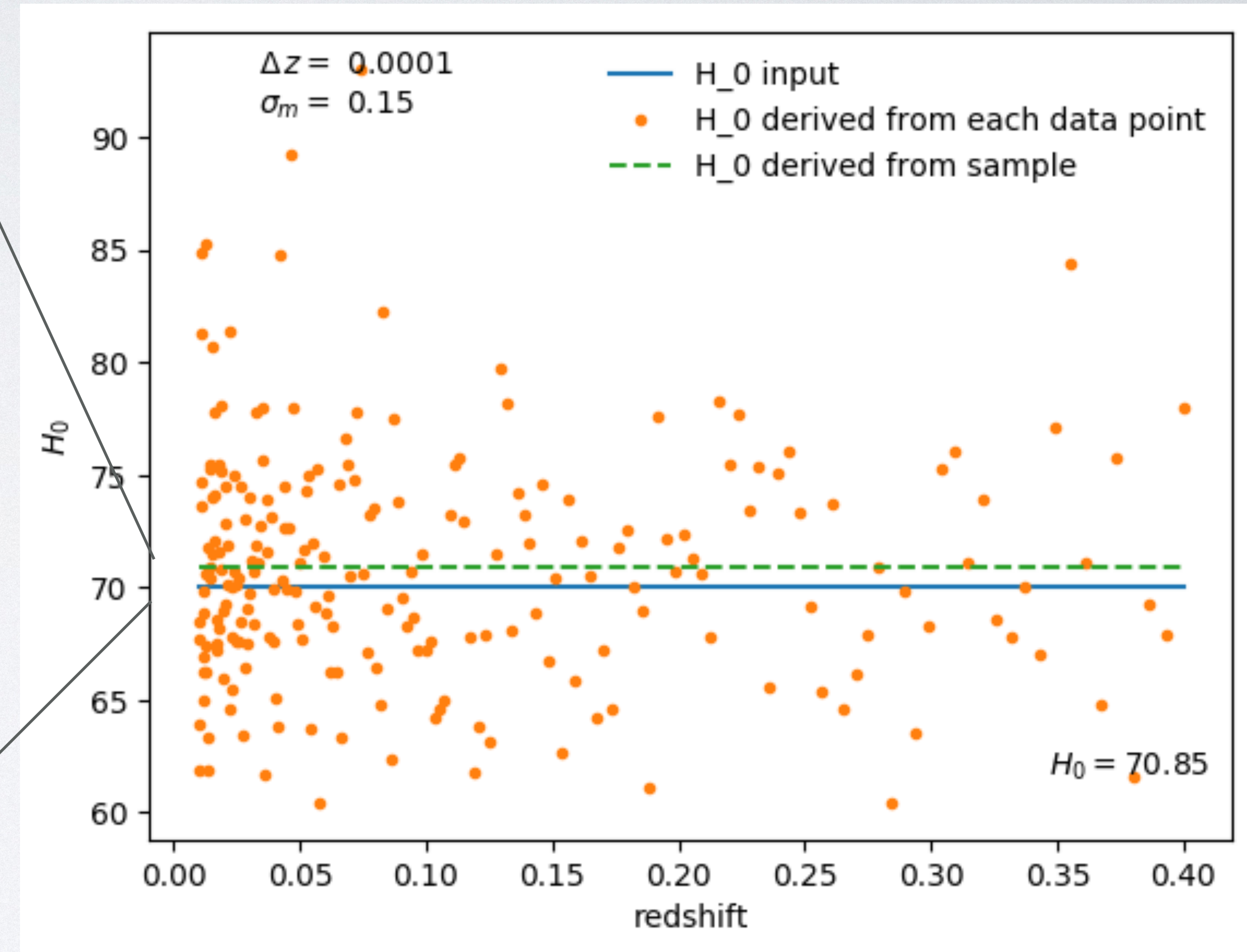
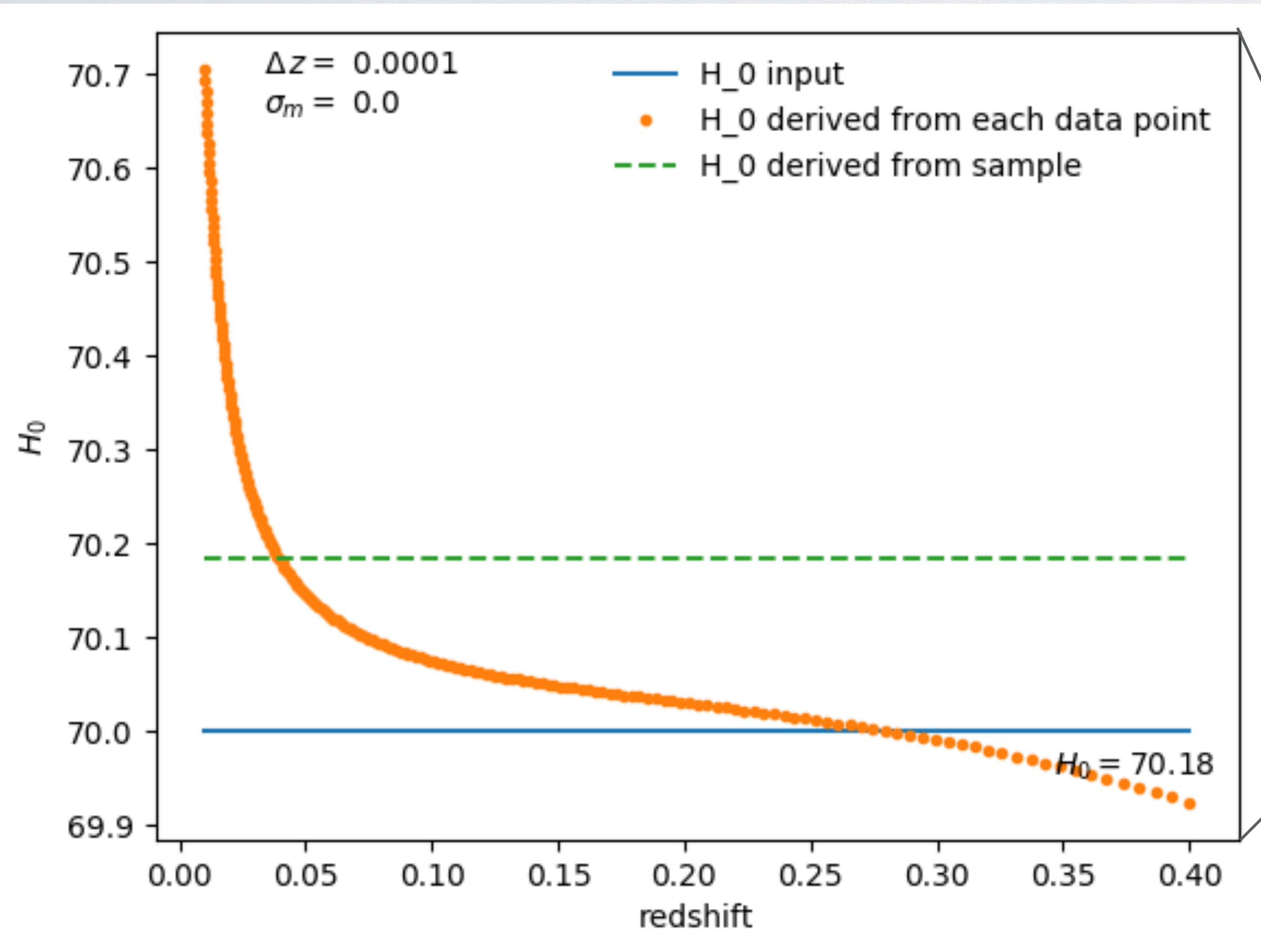
$\therefore$  small % errors in velocity matter

# SCATTER VERSION OF $H_0$ VS $Z$



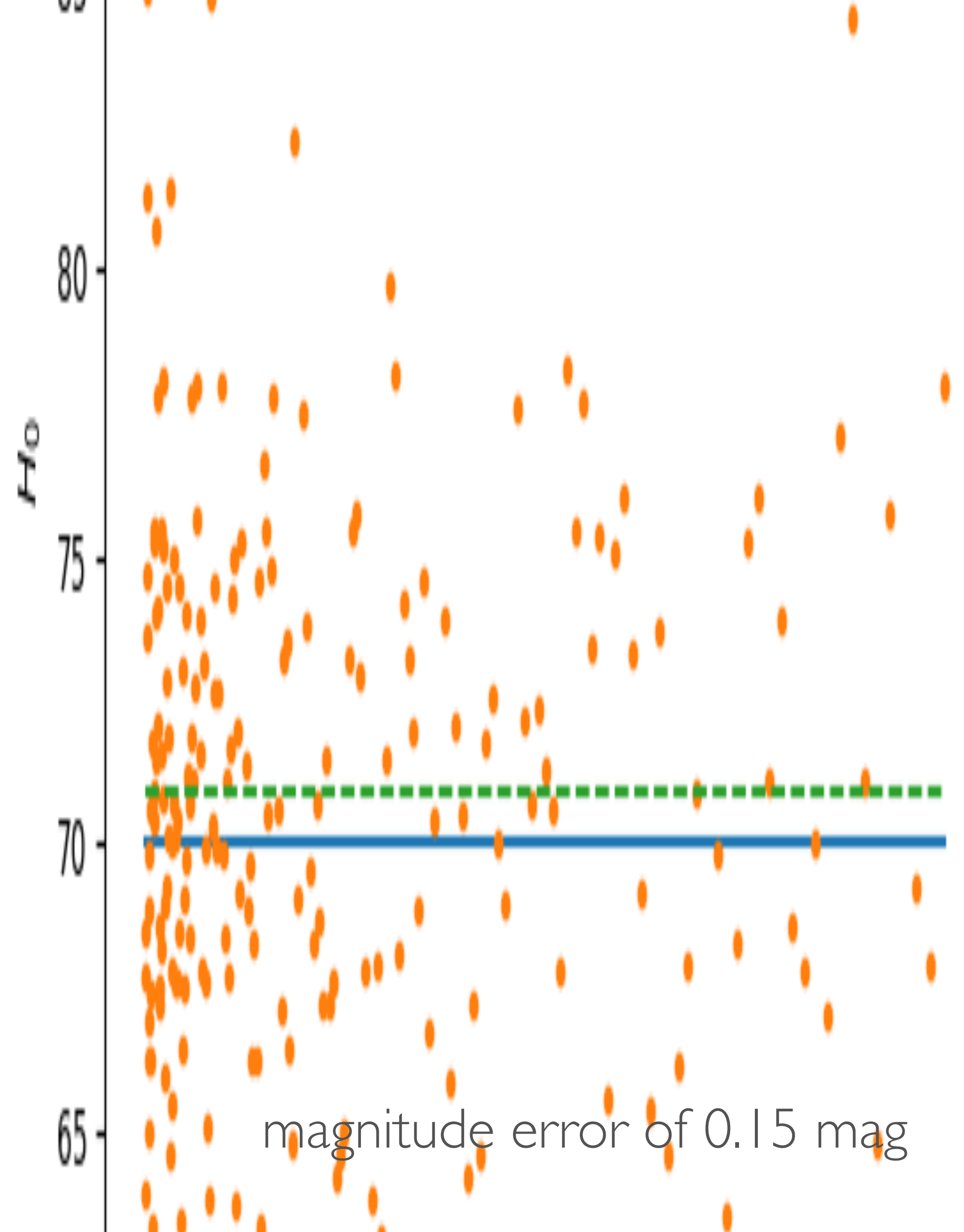
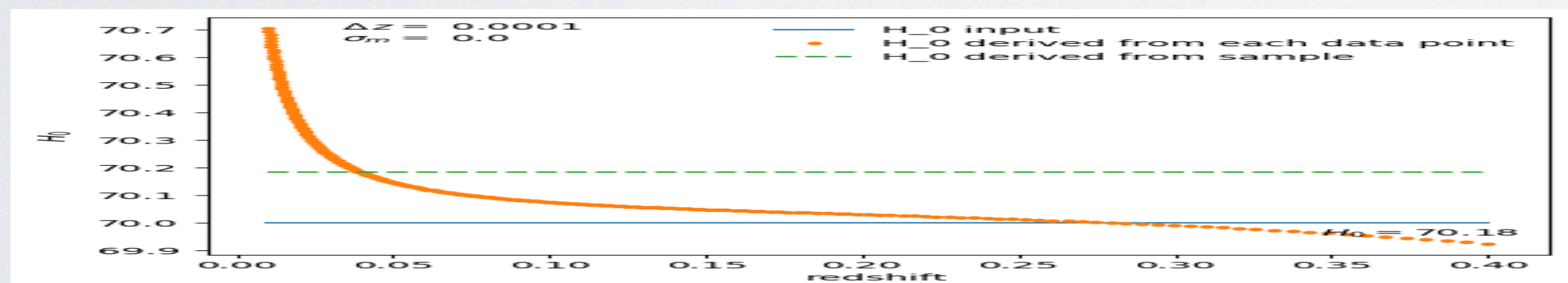
magnitude error of 0.15 mag

# SCATTER VERSION OF $H_0$ VS $Z$



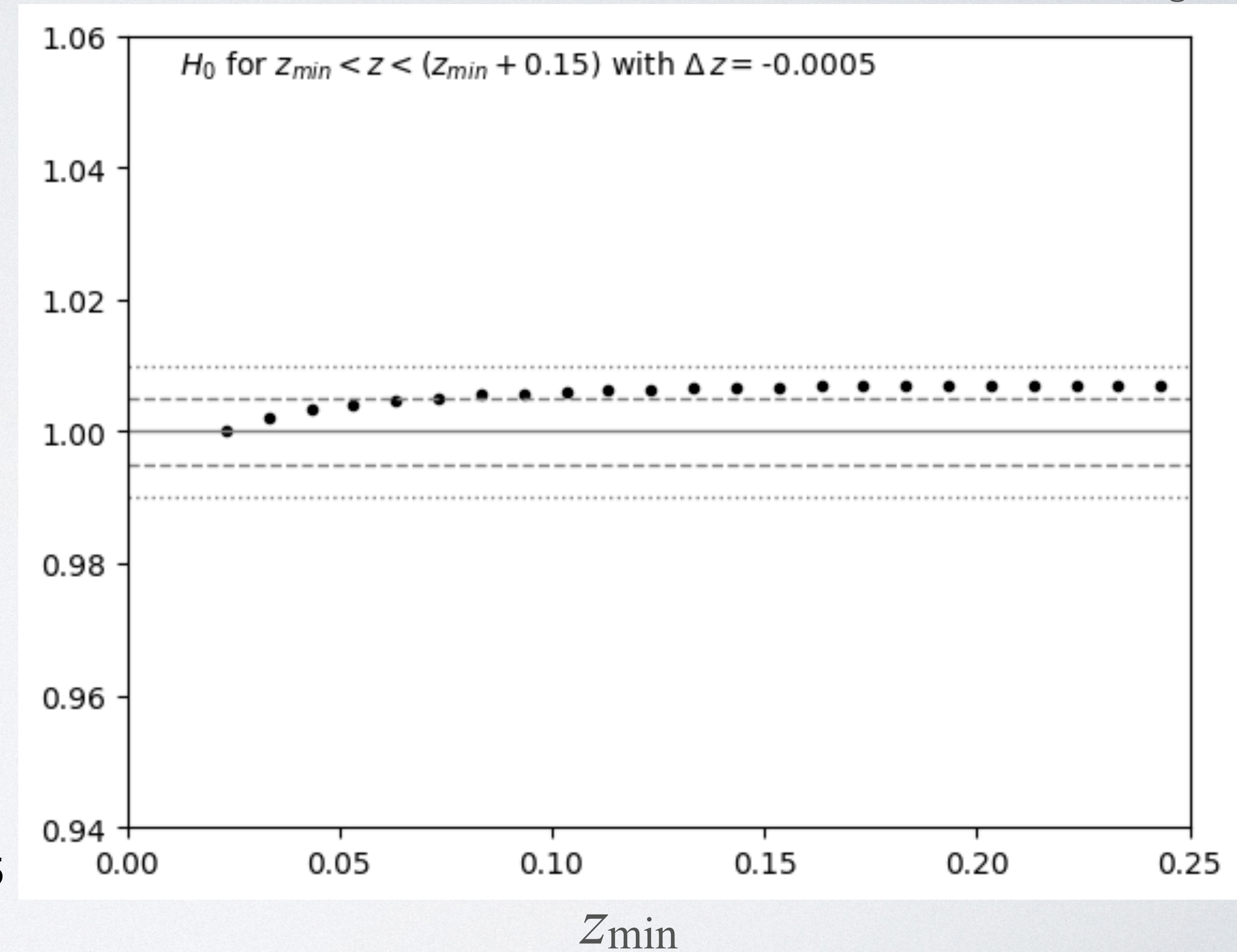
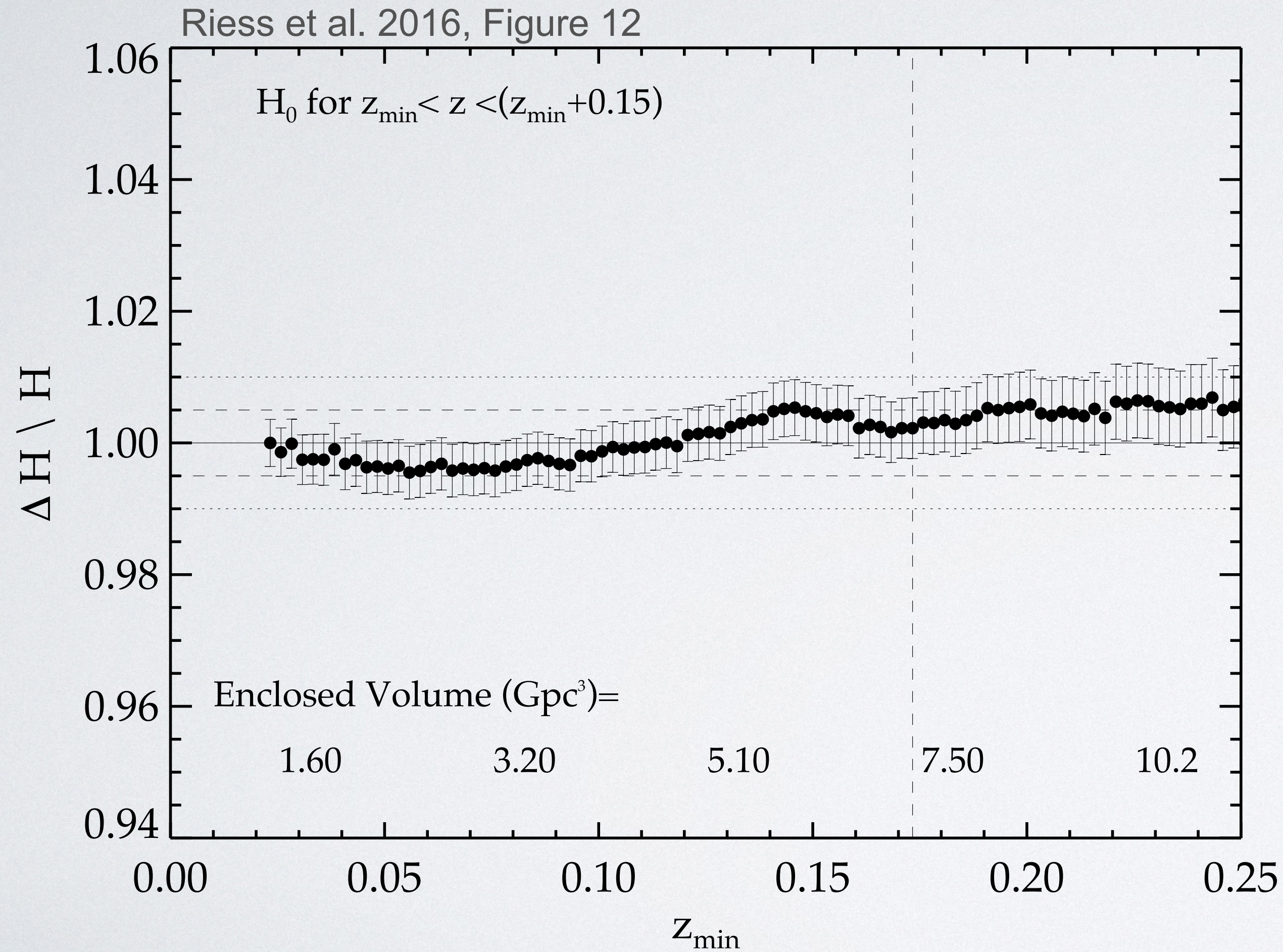
magnitude error of 0.15 mag

# SCATTER VERSION OF $H_0$



# HOW LARGE A REDSHIFT ERROR WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY CHANGE $H_0$ ?

See also Calcino et al. 2016, Fig. 3



# CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE !

- More on how redshift errors could affect **BAO**
- What **kinds of redshifts errors** might we have in our data?

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# SPACE AND BEYOND



CHOOSE  
FROM 44  
ENDINGS!

BY R. A. MONTGOMERY

# HOW LARGE COULD A REDSHIFT BIAS BE?

## Observational error

- Measurement uncertainty
- Local peculiar velocity corrections (spin, orbit, helio)
- Rest frame wavelength precision
- Air to vacuum conversion
- Spectrograph wavelength calibration
- Continuum tilt

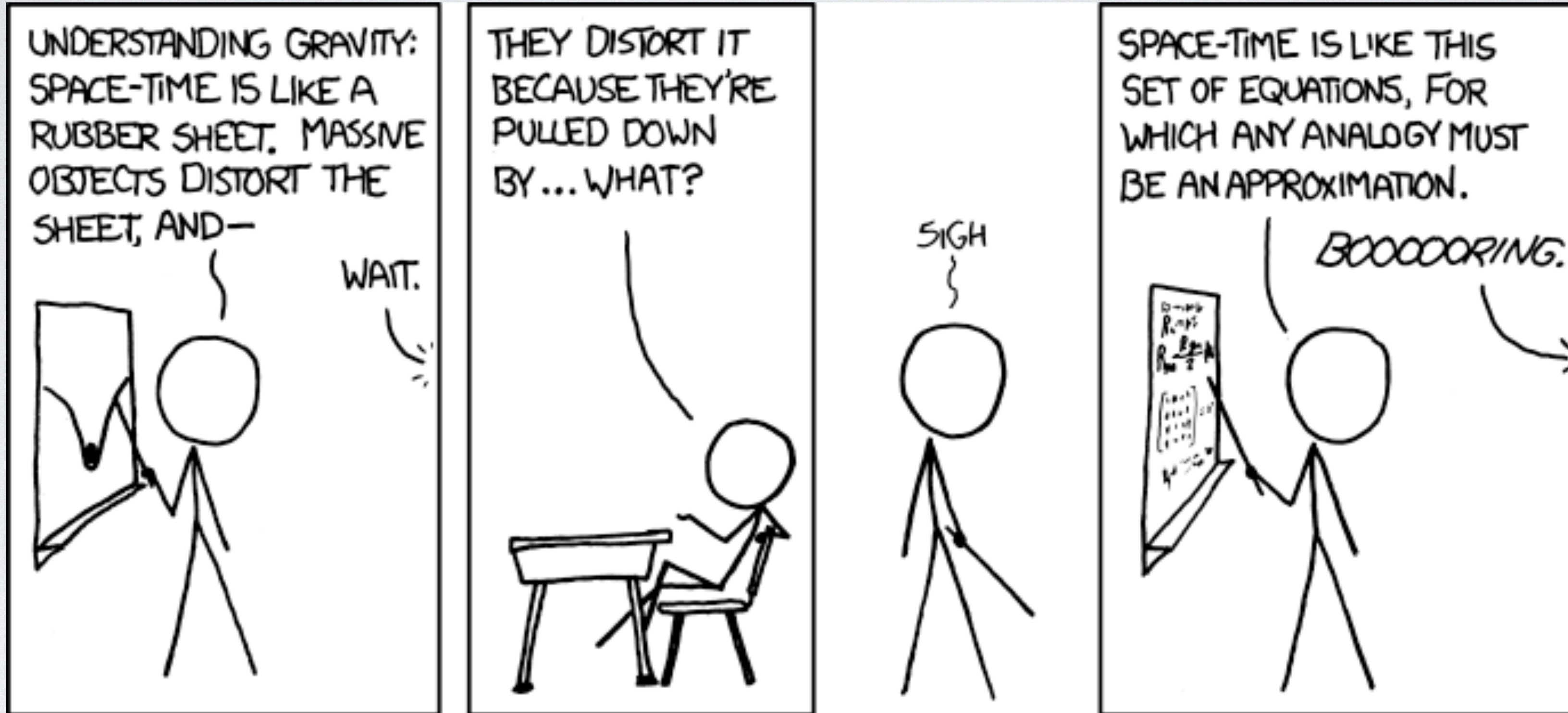
## Physical effects

- Gravitational  $z$  (local density fluct.)
- Peculiar velocities
- Bulk flows
- Internal velocities

## Theoretical error

- Using  $(1+z)$  factors incorrectly
  - $D_L$  and  $D_A$
  - Redshift addition
- NED peculiar velocity correction

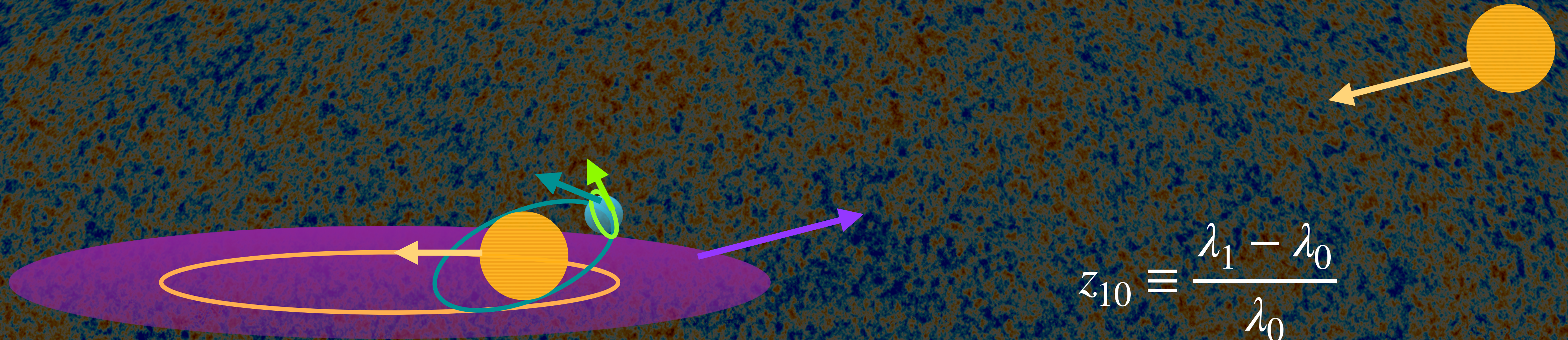




# THEORETICAL EFFECTS



# PECULIAR VELOCITIES



**Earth's spin**

**Earth about Sun (30km/s,  $z \sim 10^{-4}$ )**

**Sun about Galaxy ( $\sim 260$ km/s,  $z \sim 10^{-3}$ )**

**Galaxy w.r.t. CMB (627km/s,  $z \sim 2 \times 10^{-3}$ )**

**Sun + Galaxy ( $368 \pm 2$  km/s,  $z \sim 10^{-3}$ )**

(not to scale)

$$z_{10} \equiv \frac{\lambda_1 - \lambda_0}{\lambda_0}$$

$$1 + z_{10} \equiv \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_0}$$

$$1 + z_{20} \equiv \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_0} = \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_0} = (1 + z_{21})(1 + z_{10})$$

$$1 + z_{\text{obs}} = (1 + z_{\text{rec}})(1 + z_{\text{pec}})$$

# PECULIAR VELOCITIES

FLRW metric

$$ds^2 = -c^2 dt^2 + R^2(t)[d\chi^2 + S_k^2(\chi)(d\theta^2 + \sin^2(\theta)d\phi^2)]$$

$$ds^2 = R^2(t) d\chi^2$$

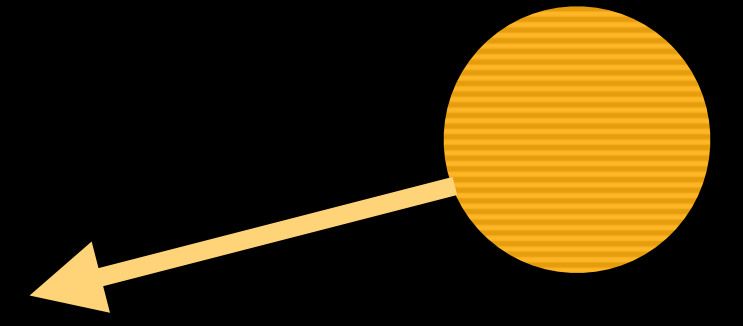
along  $dt = d\theta = d\phi = 0$

$$D = R\dot{\chi}$$

$$v_{\text{tot}} = \dot{R}\chi + R\dot{\chi}$$

$$v_{\text{tot}} = \frac{\dot{R}}{R}R\chi + R\dot{\chi}$$

$$v_{\text{tot}} = HD + v_{\text{pec}}$$



# PECULIAR VELOCITIES

FLRW metric

$$\cancel{ds^2} = -c^2 dt^2 + R^2(t) [d\chi^2 + S_k^2(\chi) (\cancel{d\theta^2} + \sin^2(\theta) \cancel{d\phi^2})]$$

$$0 = -c^2 dt^2 + R^2(t) d\chi^2$$

along  $ds = d\theta = d\phi = 0$

$$D = R\dot{\chi}$$

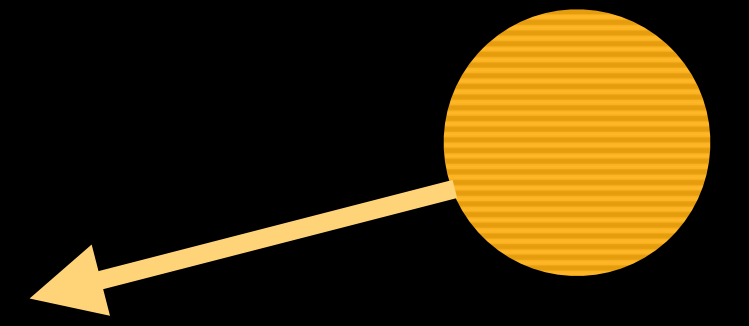
$$v_{\text{tot}} = \dot{R}\chi + R\dot{\chi}$$

$$v_{\text{tot}} = \frac{\dot{R}}{R} R\chi + R\dot{\chi}$$

$$v_{\text{tot}} = HD + v_{\text{pec}}$$

$$c = R \frac{d\chi}{dt}$$

(Why recession velocities can exceed the speed of light without violating relativity.)



# PECULIAR VELOCITIES

FLRW metric

$$ds^2 = -c^2 dt^2 + R^2(t)[d\chi^2 + S_k^2(\chi)(d\theta^2 + \sin^2(\theta)d\phi^2)]$$

$$ds^2 = R^2(t) d\chi^2$$

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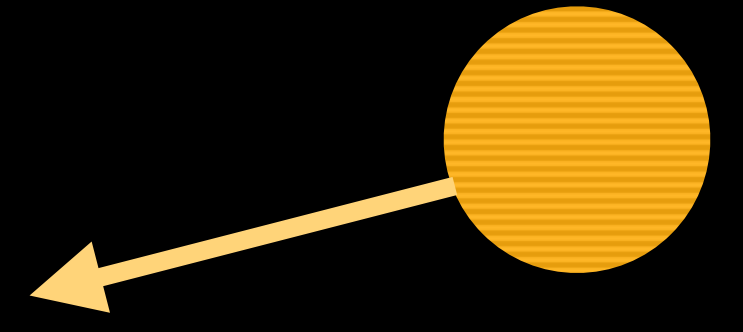
$$D = R\dot{\chi}$$

$$v_{\text{tot}} = \dot{R}\chi + R\dot{\chi}$$

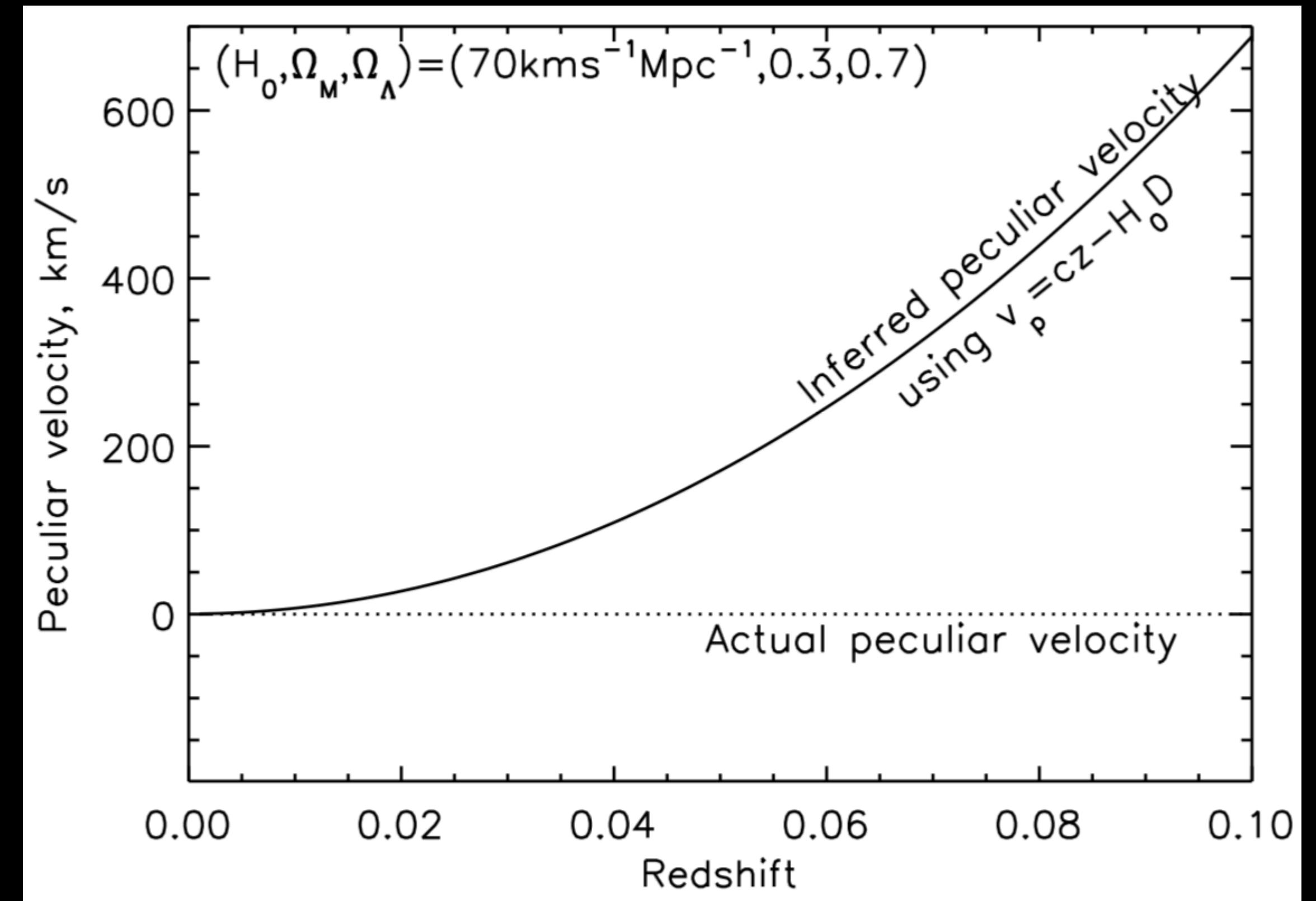
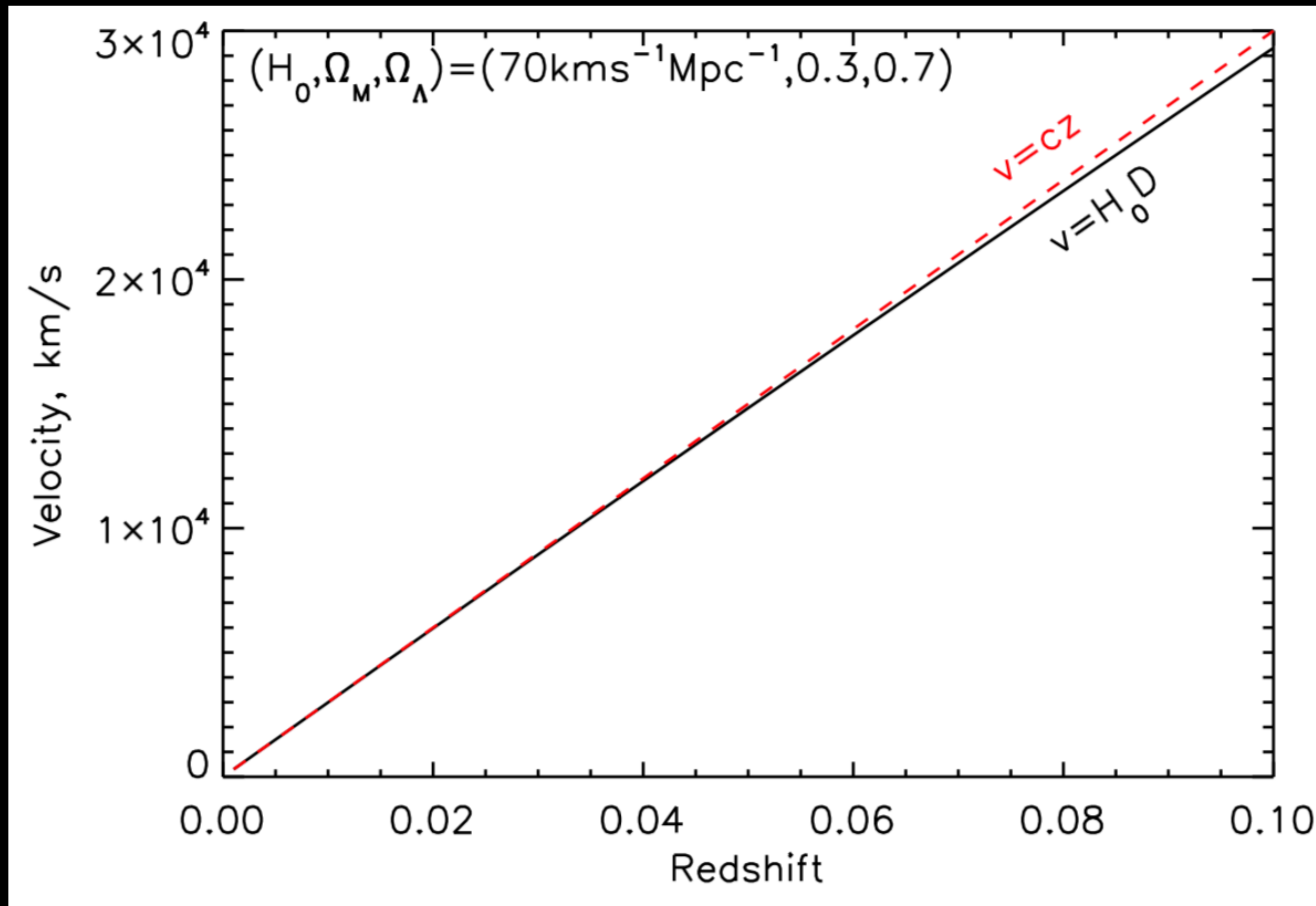
$$v_{\text{tot}} = \frac{\dot{R}}{R}R\chi + R\dot{\chi}$$

$$v_{\text{tot}} = HD + v_{\text{pec}} \sim cz_{\text{obs}} \quad \text{at } z \ll 1$$

$$~~v_{\text{pec}} = cz = H_0 D~~$$



Imagine  $v_{\text{pec}}=0$  and you use  $v_{\text{tot}}=cz$



Looks like a small deviation...  
... but look at the scale on the y-axis

Error of **700 km/s** at  $z \sim 0.1$  !!!

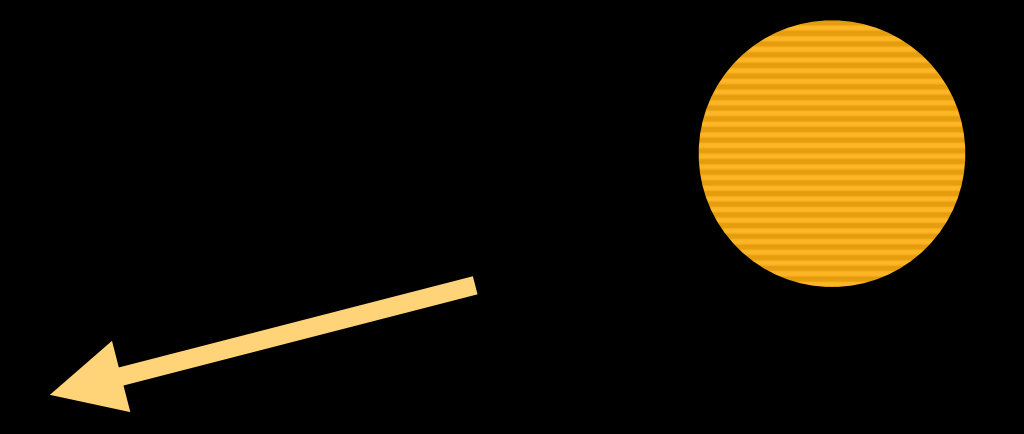
$$z_{\text{error}} = 2.3 \times 10^{-3}$$

# PECULIAR VELOCITIES

Solution: Don't convert to velocities!! Just use the  $(1+z)$  redshift formula.

~~$$v_{\text{pec}} = cz = H_0 D$$~~

$v_{\text{tot}}$



observed redshift  $z_{\text{obs}}$  - redshift inferred from distance (magnitude)  $\bar{z}$

$$v_{\text{pec}} = c \frac{z_{\text{obs}} - \bar{z}}{1 + \bar{z}}$$

$$R_0 \chi = c \int_0^{\bar{z}} \frac{dz}{H(z)}$$

If you absolutely must convert to velocities, use the observed redshift in:

$$v_{\text{tot}}(z) = \frac{cz}{1+z} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{2}(1-q_0)z - \frac{1}{6}(1-q_0-3q_0^2+j_0)z^2 \right]$$

Distance inferred

from redshift  $D_z$

$$\Delta d = \log \frac{D_z}{D_H}$$

Distance inferred

from magnitude  $D_H$

Even better: converting your theory to a log distance ratio allows better comparison to observables because it gives more Gaussian uncertainties

# THEORY - PECULIAR VELOCITIES

- **NED velocity calculator**

- Uses:  $v_{\text{converted}} = v_{\text{original}} + v_{\text{pec}}$  (<https://ned.ipac.caltech.edu/Documents/Guides/Calculators#notes>)

- Common use:  $v_{\text{cmb}} = v_{\text{tot}} + v_{\text{pec}}$

Which is fine as long as you get the peculiar velocity sign correct (e.g. +ve for the direction of our sun's motion w.r.t. CMB)

- Potentially common error:  $v_{\text{tot}} = cz_{\text{obs}}$

Which is fine at low redshifts

- Common error encouraged by explanatory notes: (<https://ned.ipac.caltech.edu/Documents/References/zdef>)

- Which say:  $z_{\text{tot}} = z_{\text{grav}} + z_{\text{pec}} + \bar{z}$  and  $D_P = \frac{cz}{H_0}$

Which are not in principle correct, and only okay at  $z < 0.01$

# THEORY - PECULIAR VELOCITY

- **NED velocity calculator**

- Uses:  $v_{\text{converted}} = v_{\text{original}} + v_{\text{pec}}$  ([https://](https://ned.ipac.caltech.edu/References/zdef))

- Common use:  $v_{\text{cmb}} = v_{\text{tot}} + v_{\text{pec}}$

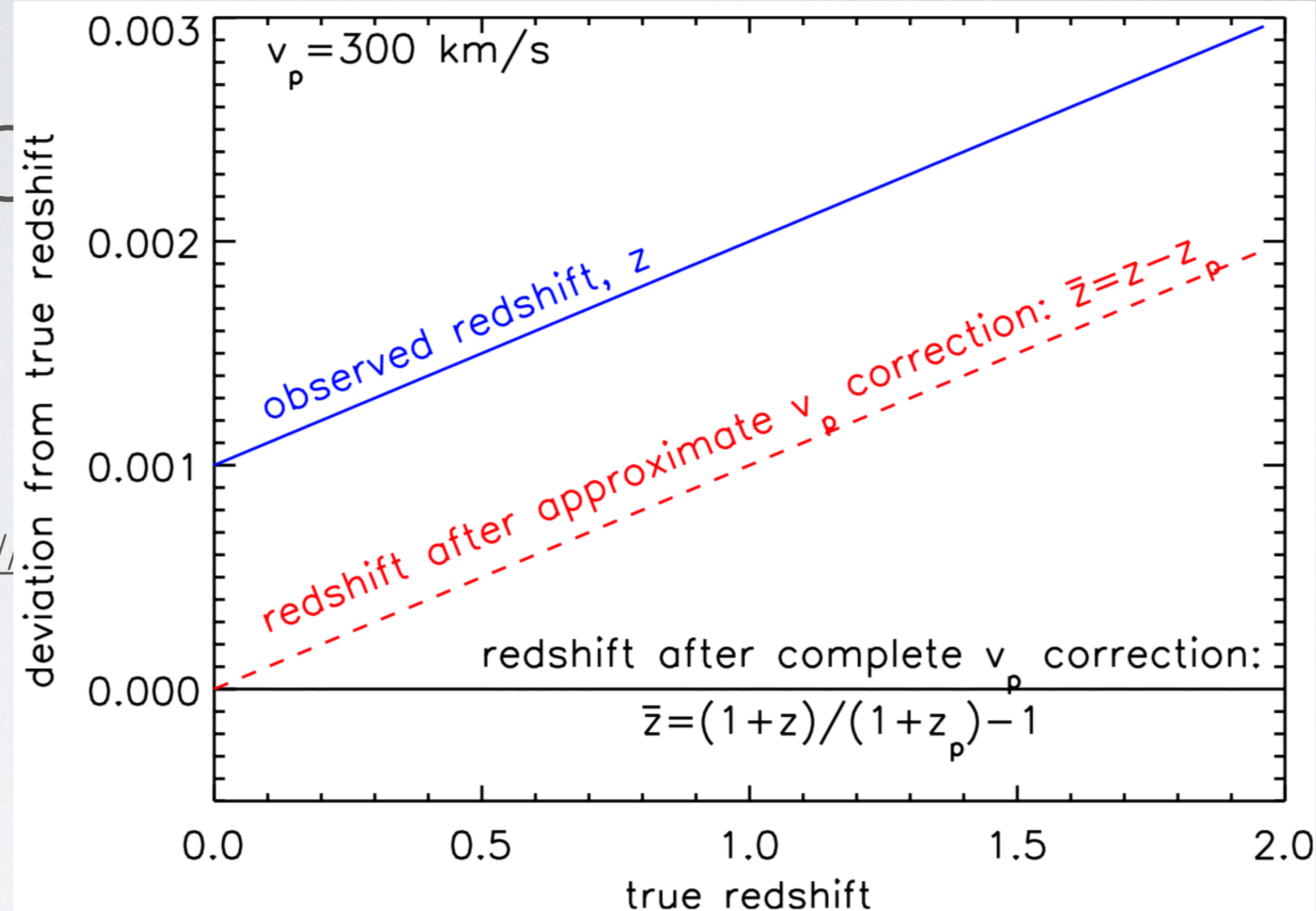
- Potentially common error:  $v_{\text{tot}} = cz_{\text{obs}}$

Which is fine at low redshifts

- Common error encouraged by explanatory notes: (<https://ned.ipac.caltech.edu/Documents/References/zdef>)

- Which say:  $z_{\text{tot}} = z_{\text{grav}} + z_{\text{pec}} + \bar{z}$  and  $D_P = \frac{cz}{H_0}$

Which are not in principle correct, and only okay at  $z < 0.01$



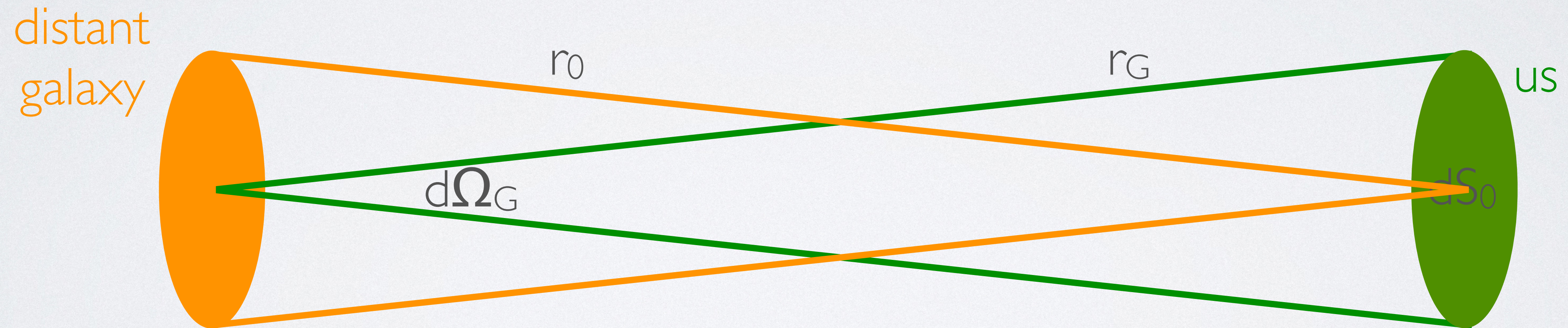


# THEORETICAL ERROR - WHICH Z?

Reciprocity relation (distance duality)  
Etherington 1933

$$D_L = \tilde{D}(1+z) \quad \tilde{D} = \begin{cases} R_0 \sin(\chi) & \text{closed} \\ R_0 \chi & \text{flat} \\ R_0 \sinh(\chi) & \text{open} \end{cases}$$

$$D_A = \tilde{D}/(1+z)$$



But which redshifts should we use?

# THEORETICAL ERROR - WHICH Z?

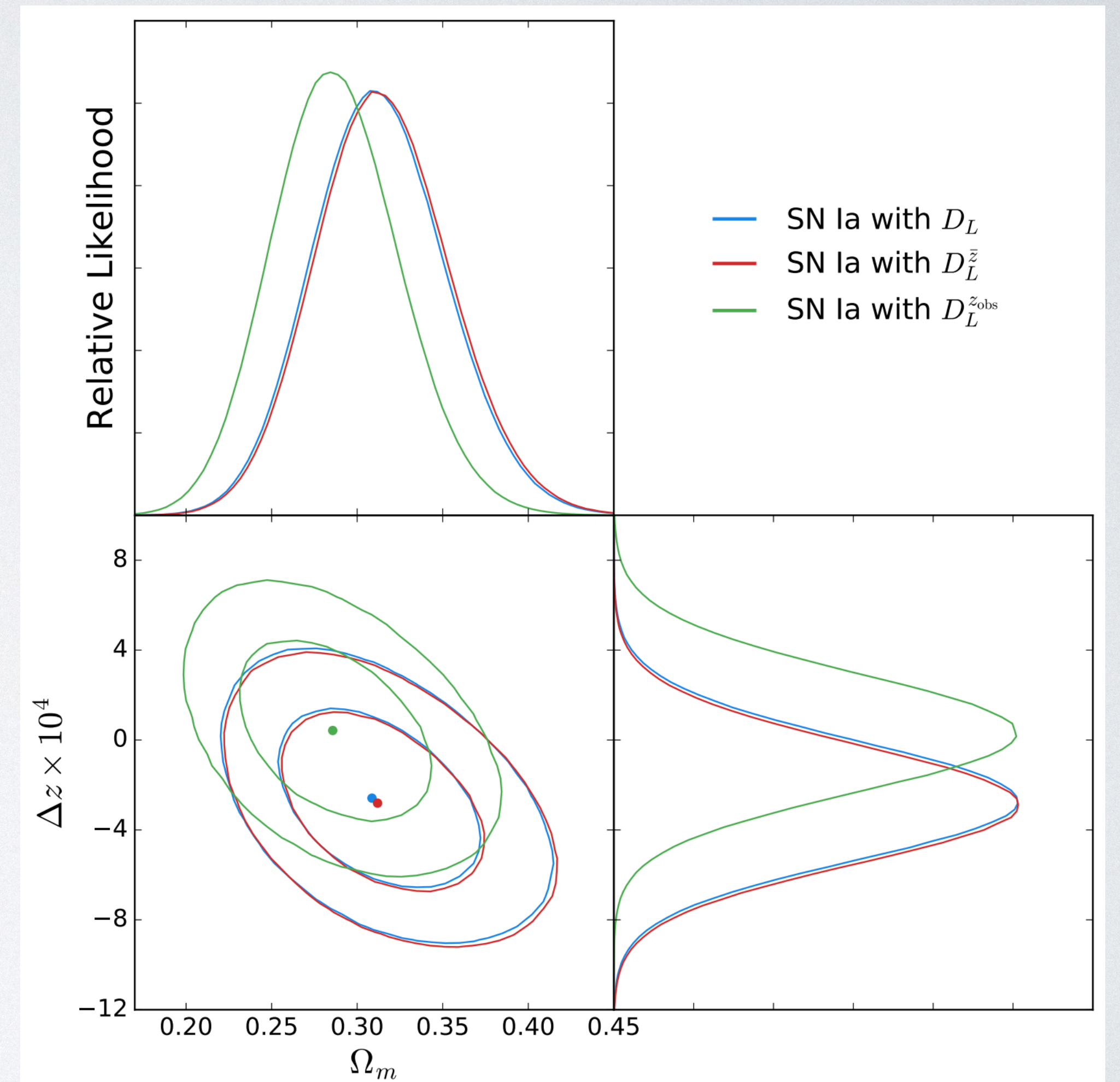
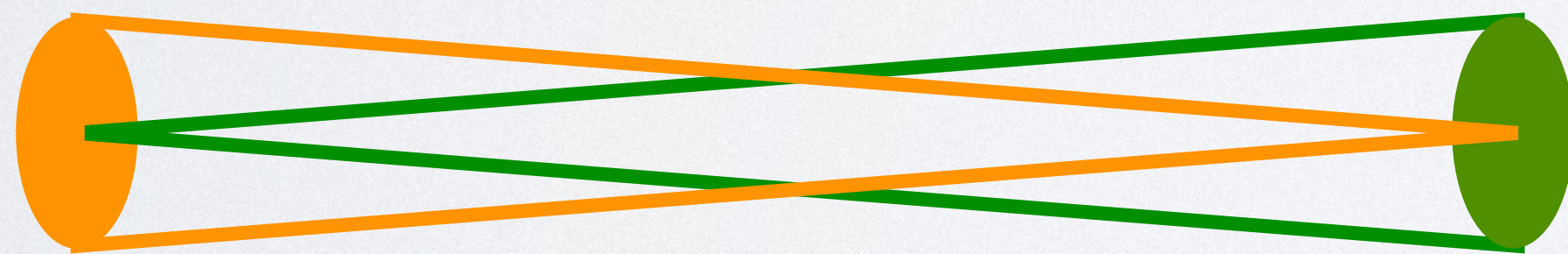
Which redshifts should we use in angular diameter and luminosity distances?

$$D_L(\bar{z}, z_{\text{obs}}) = \tilde{D}(\bar{z})(1 + z_{\text{obs}})$$

$$D_A(\bar{z}, z_{\text{obs}}) = \tilde{D}(\bar{z}) / (1 + z_{\text{obs}})$$

CMB frame  
(cosmological) redshift

observed  
redshift



Calcino et al. 2017 (arXiv:1610.07695) + honours thesis

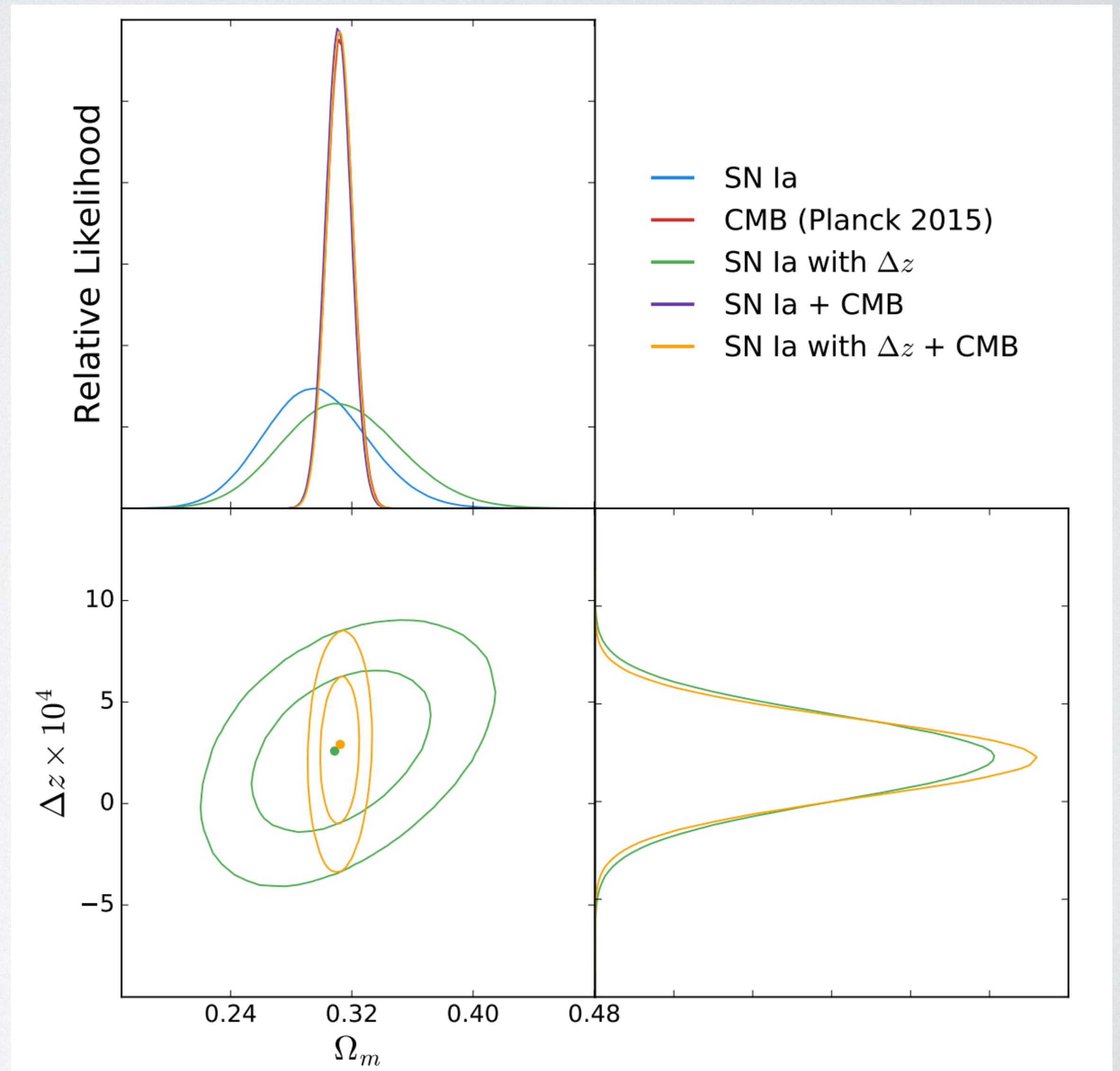
1. Ellis, G.F.R.: Relativistic Cosmology. In: Sachs, R.K. (ed.) General Relativity and Cosmology. Proc Int School of Physics "Enrico Fermi" (Varenna), Course XLVII, pp. 104–179. Academic Press, New York (1971)

2. Weinberg, S.W.: Gravitation and Cosmology: Principles and applications of the general theory of relativity. Wiley, New York (1972)

# IS THERE EVIDENCE FOR A REDSHIFT SHIFT?

Allow  $\Delta z$  as a free parameter

$$d_L = \begin{cases} (1 + z_{\text{hel}})d(z_{\text{cmb}}) \\ (1 + z_{\text{hel}} + \Delta z)d(z_{\text{cmb}} + \Delta z) \end{cases}$$



# HOW LARGE COULD A REDSHIFT BIAS BE?

## Observational error

- Measurement uncertainty
- Local peculiar velocity corrections (spin, orbit, helio)
- Rest frame wavelength precision
- Air to vacuum conversion
- Spectrograph wavelength calibration
- Continuum tilt

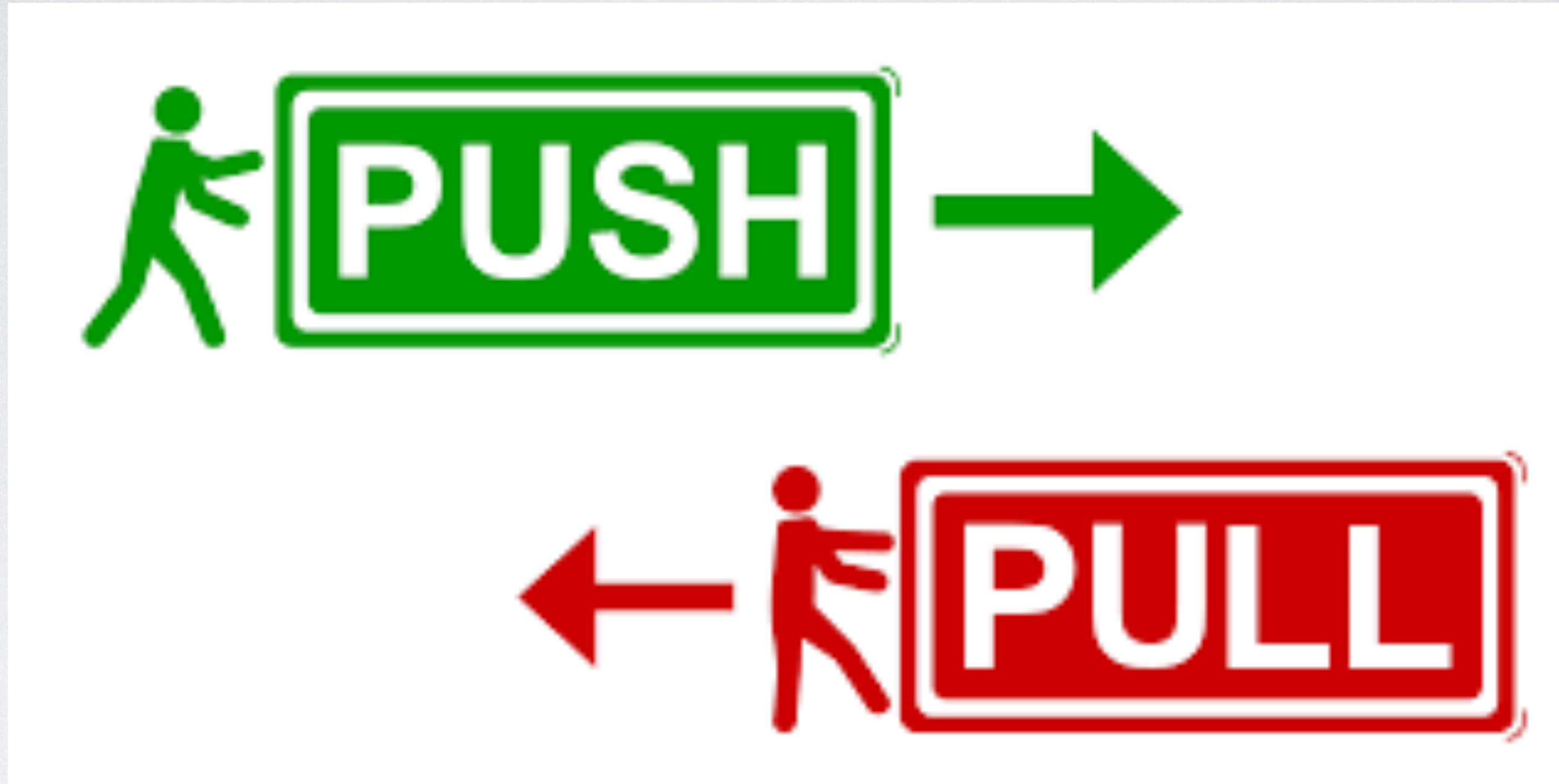
## Physical effects

- Gravitational  $z$  (local density fluct.)
- Peculiar velocities
- Bulk flows
- Internal velocities

## Theoretical error

- Using  $(1+z)$  factors incorrectly
  - $D_L$  and  $D_A$
  - Redshift addition
- NED peculiar velocity correction

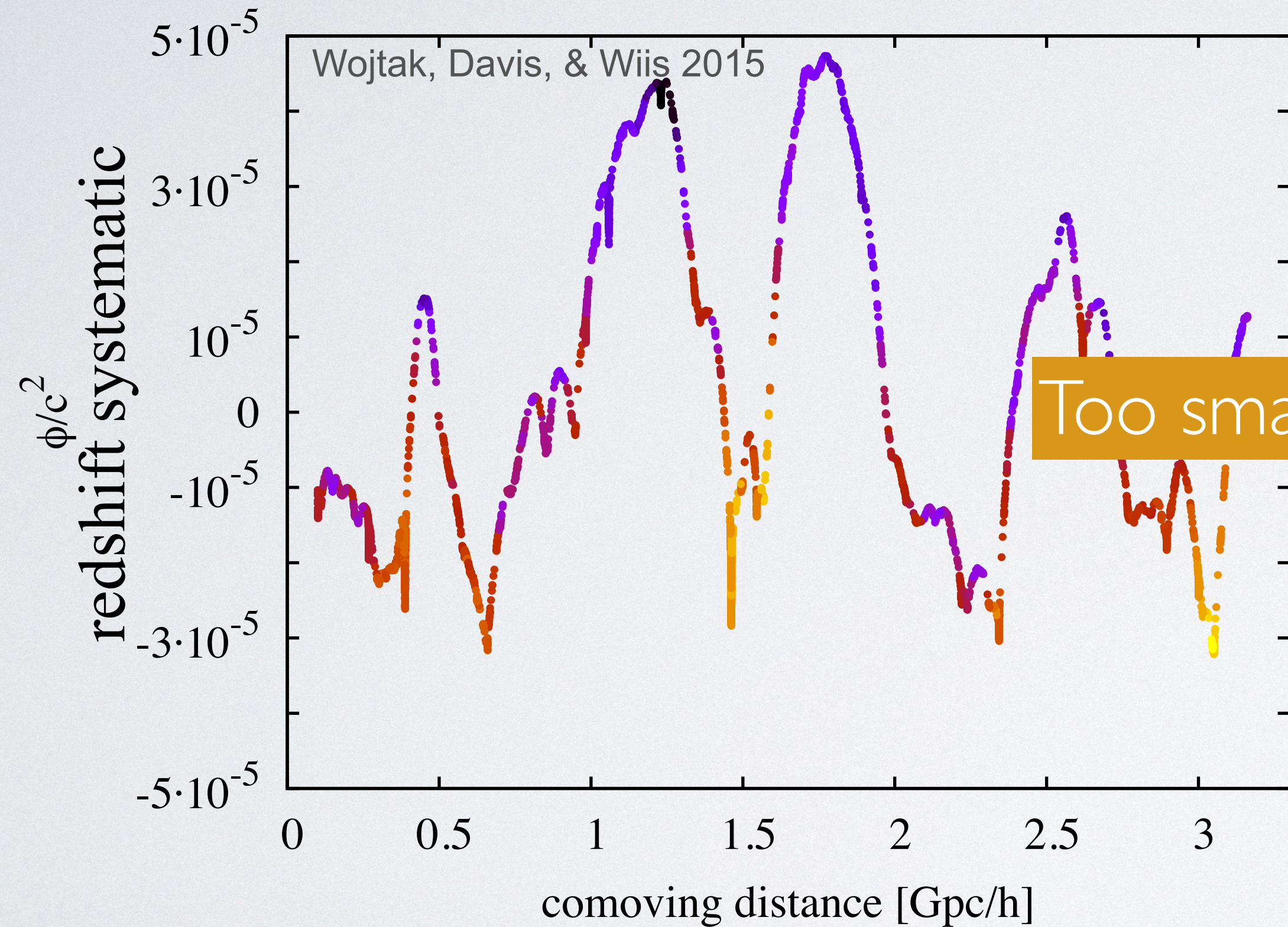




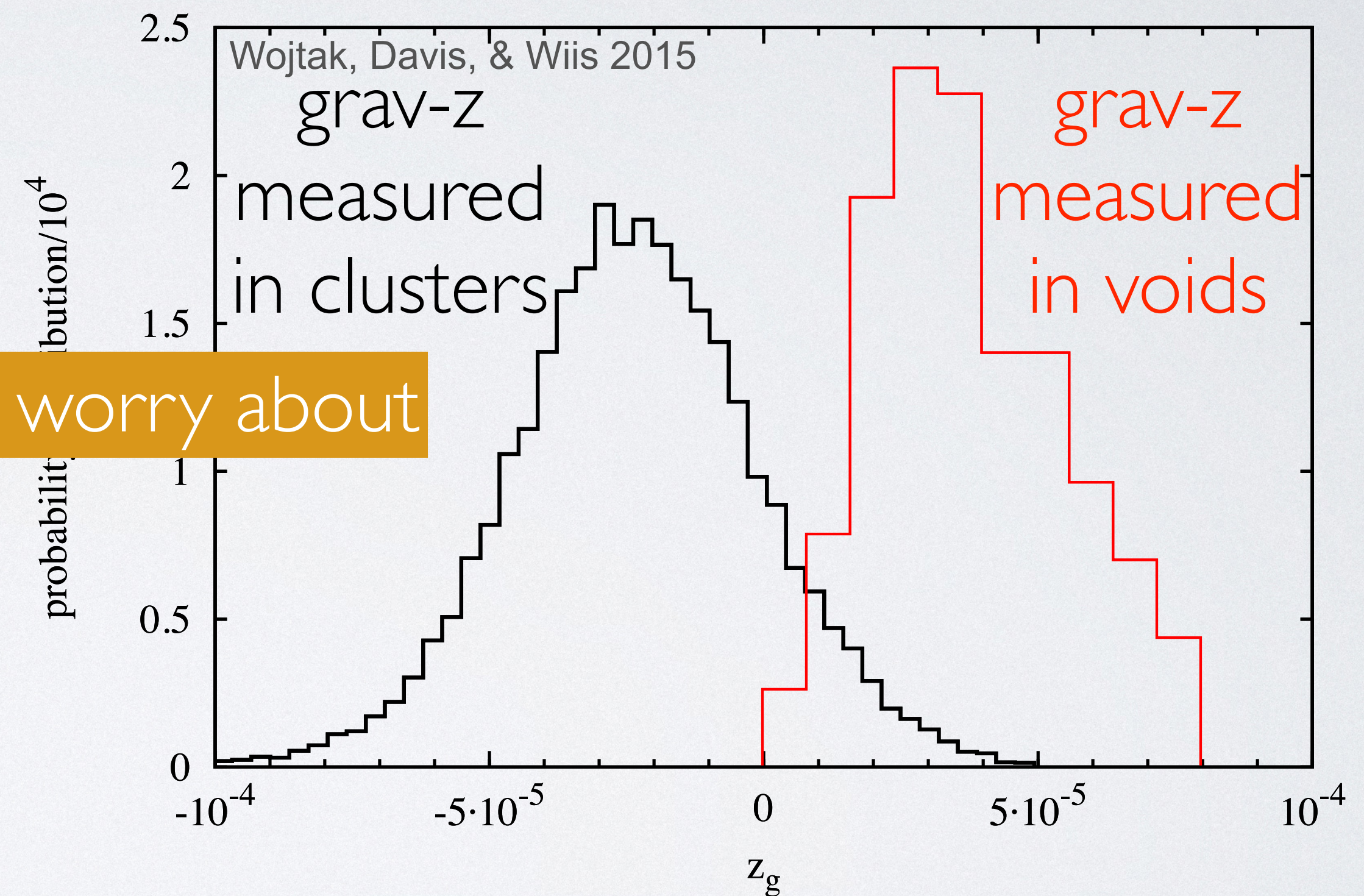
PHYSICAL EFFECTS

# PHYSICAL EFFECTS - GRAVITATIONAL REDSHIFTS

Probability distribution of the gravitational redshift measured by observers in clusters or voids at  $z = 0$ .



Sim from MultiDark database:  
 $\Omega_m = 0.27, \Omega_\Lambda = 0.73, \sigma_8 = 0.82$

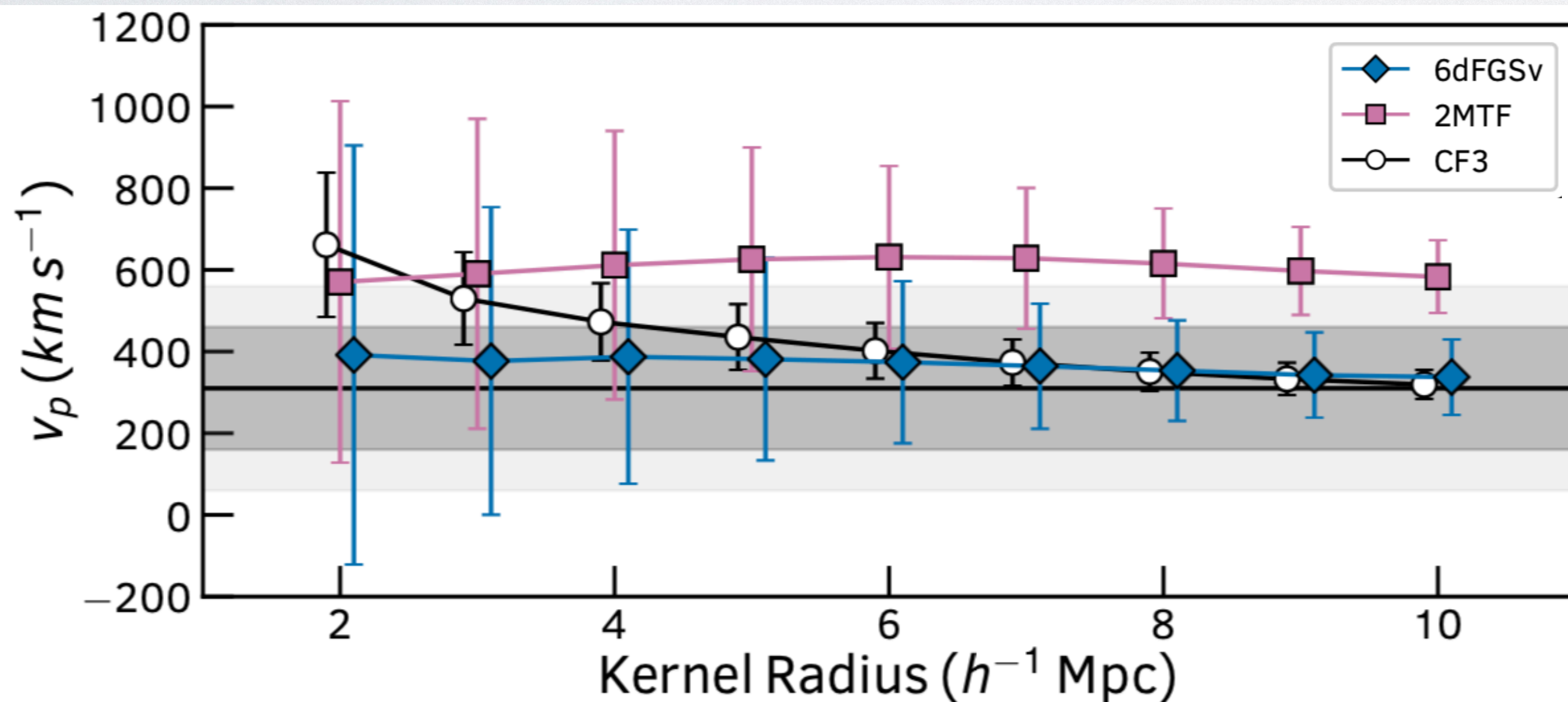


**Observers** in **underdense** env. tend to measure a + signal (gravitational **redshift**),  
 whereas those in galaxy **clusters** tend to observe a - signal (gravitational **blueshift**).

# PHYSICAL EFFECTS - PECULIAR VELOCITIES

- The peculiar velocity correction is uncertain:
  - Small scale velocities
  - Bulk flows

Howlett et al. (in prep)



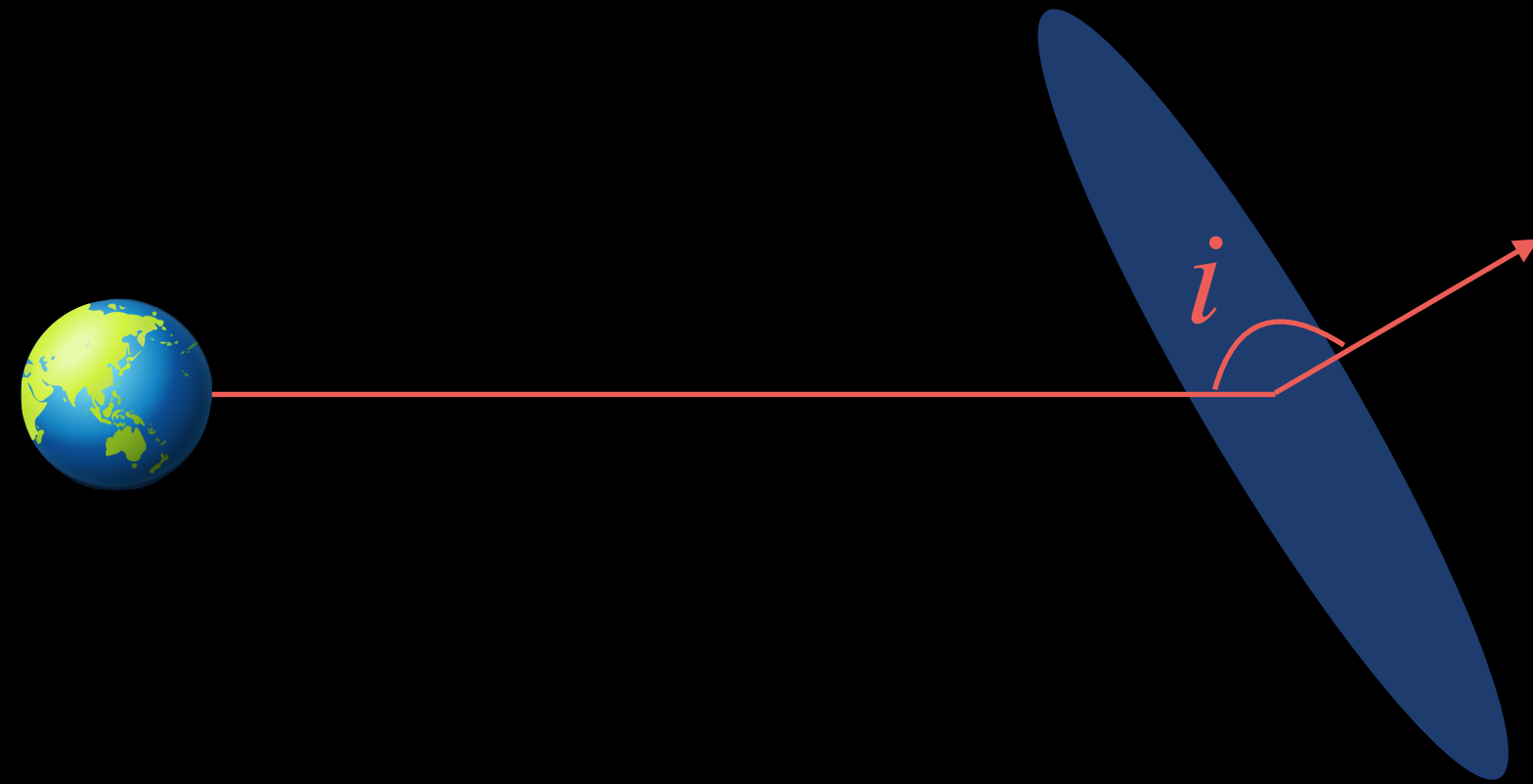
Various peculiar velocity predictions in the literature for the group hosting GW170817

(Black line + shaded is the peculiar velocity used in the calculation of  $H_0$ .)

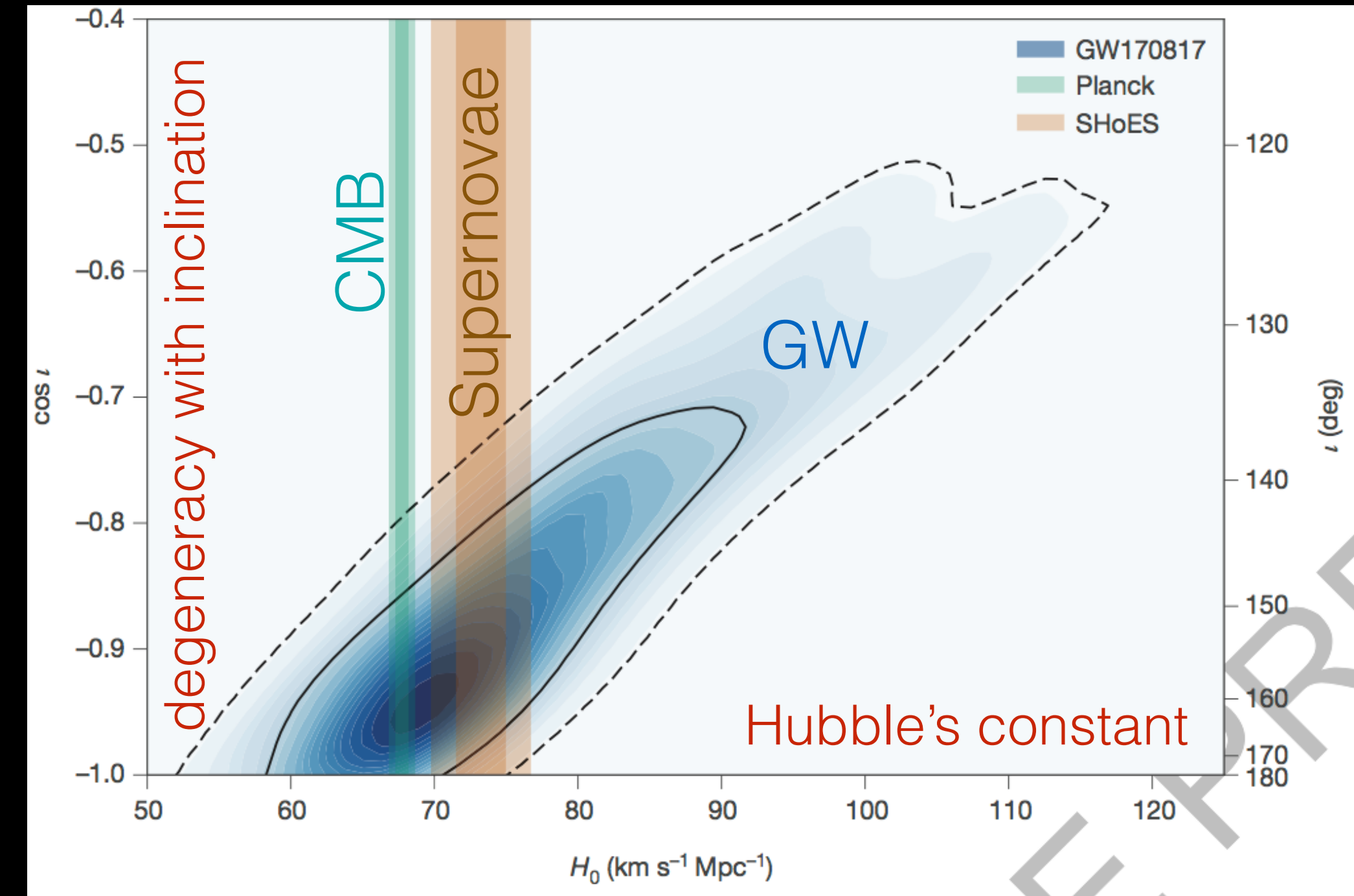
# H<sub>0</sub> FROM GRAV WAVES

1710.05835.pdf

$$d = 43.8^{+2.9}_{-6.9} \text{ Mpc} \quad (z \sim 0.01)$$



$$H_0 = 70.0^{+12.0}_{-8.0} \text{ Mpc}$$



Peculiar velocity correction:

1. Assume it has the  $v_{\text{tot}}$  of the group  $3327 \pm 72 \text{ km/s}$
2. Measure  $v_{\text{pec}} = 310 \pm 69 \text{ km/s}$  by mapping the velocity field (6dF; Springob et al. 2014)
3. Subtract from  $v_{\text{pec}}$  to get  $v_{\text{rec}} = 3017 \pm 166 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  (error increased due to other uncertainties)

Using this gives peak

$$H_0 = 76 \text{ km/s/Mpc}$$

Using this gives peak

$$H_0 = 69 \text{ km/s/Mpc}$$

pec. vel. correction is  $\sim 7 \text{ km/s}$



# PECULIAR VELOCITIES AND $H_0$ FROM GRAV WAVES

Howlett et al. (in prep)

**Table 1.** Estimates of the total velocity and peculiar velocities for groups containing NGC4993.

| Group Catalogue                             | Group ID | $N^a$ | Mean Total Velocity <sup>b</sup><br>$v_{cmb}$ (km s <sup>-1</sup> ) | Velocity Dispersion <sup>c</sup><br>$\sigma_v$ (km s <sup>-1</sup> ) | Distance from centre <sup>d</sup><br>(h <sup>-1</sup> Mpc) | $N(v_p)^d$ | Mean Peculiar Velocity <sup>e</sup><br>$\langle v_p \rangle$ (km s <sup>-1</sup> ) |
|---|----------|-------|---|--|--|------------|--|
| Crook et al. (2008) (LDC)                   | 955      | 46    | $2871 \pm 72$   | 487  | $4.93 \pm 0.53$  | 18 (5)     | $439 \pm 99$ ( $153 \pm 266$ )   |
| Crook et al. (2008) (HDC)                   | 763      | 5     | $3327 \pm 72$   | 160  | $1.13 \pm 0.63$  | 1 (1)      | $580 \pm 760$ ( $266 \pm 744$ )  |
| Lavaux, & Hudson (2011)                     | 1338     | 10    | $3339 \pm 53$ <b>used</b>   | 169  | $1.19 \pm 0.52$  | 2 (1)      | $519 \pm 393$ ( $265 \pm 747$ )  |
| Makarov, & Karachentsev (2011)              | NGC4993  | 15    | $3230 \pm 19$ <b>(quite high)</b>                                   | 72   | $0.41 \pm 0.14$  | 1 (0)      | $479 \pm 445$  |
| Tully (2015) (Unweighted)                   | 100214   | 8     | $3339 \pm 51$   | 143  | $1.19 \pm 0.51$  | 3 (1)      | $871 \pm 300$ ( $267 \pm 743$ )  |
| Tully (2015) (Biweighted)                   | 100214   | 8     | $3276 \pm 41$   | 115  | $0.69 \pm 0.32$  | 3 (1)      | $855 \pm 294$ ( $266 \pm 733$ )  |
| Kourkchi, & Tully (2017)                    | 45466    | 22    | $3305 \pm 32$   | 151  | $0.87 \pm 0.35$  | 2 (1)      | $513 \pm 391$ ( $271 \pm 734$ )  |
| Kourkchi, & Tully (2017) (Trimmed)          | 45466    | 17    | $3230 \pm 13$   | 52   | $0.43 \pm 0.12$  | 1 (0)      | $479 \pm 443$  |
| 6dF (Merson et. al., private communication) | GRP0056  | 11    | $3326 \pm 51$   | 166  | $1.10 \pm 0.48$  | 1 (1)      | $582 \pm 764$ ( $269 \pm 742$ )  |

Notes.

<sup>a</sup>The number of objects associated with the group.

<sup>b</sup>In the 3K CMB frame calculated using the centre of the group. Error computed using velocity dispersion and number of members

<sup>c</sup>The comoving distance from the centre of the group to NGC4993, assuming our fiducial cosmology.

<sup>d</sup>The number of objects in the group with measured peculiar velocities.

<sup>e</sup>The weighted mean peculiar velocity of the group estimated from Cosmicflows-III (2MTF). See Section ?? for details on how this is computed for both datasets.

Springob et al. 2014:  $310 \pm 69$

**(quite low)**

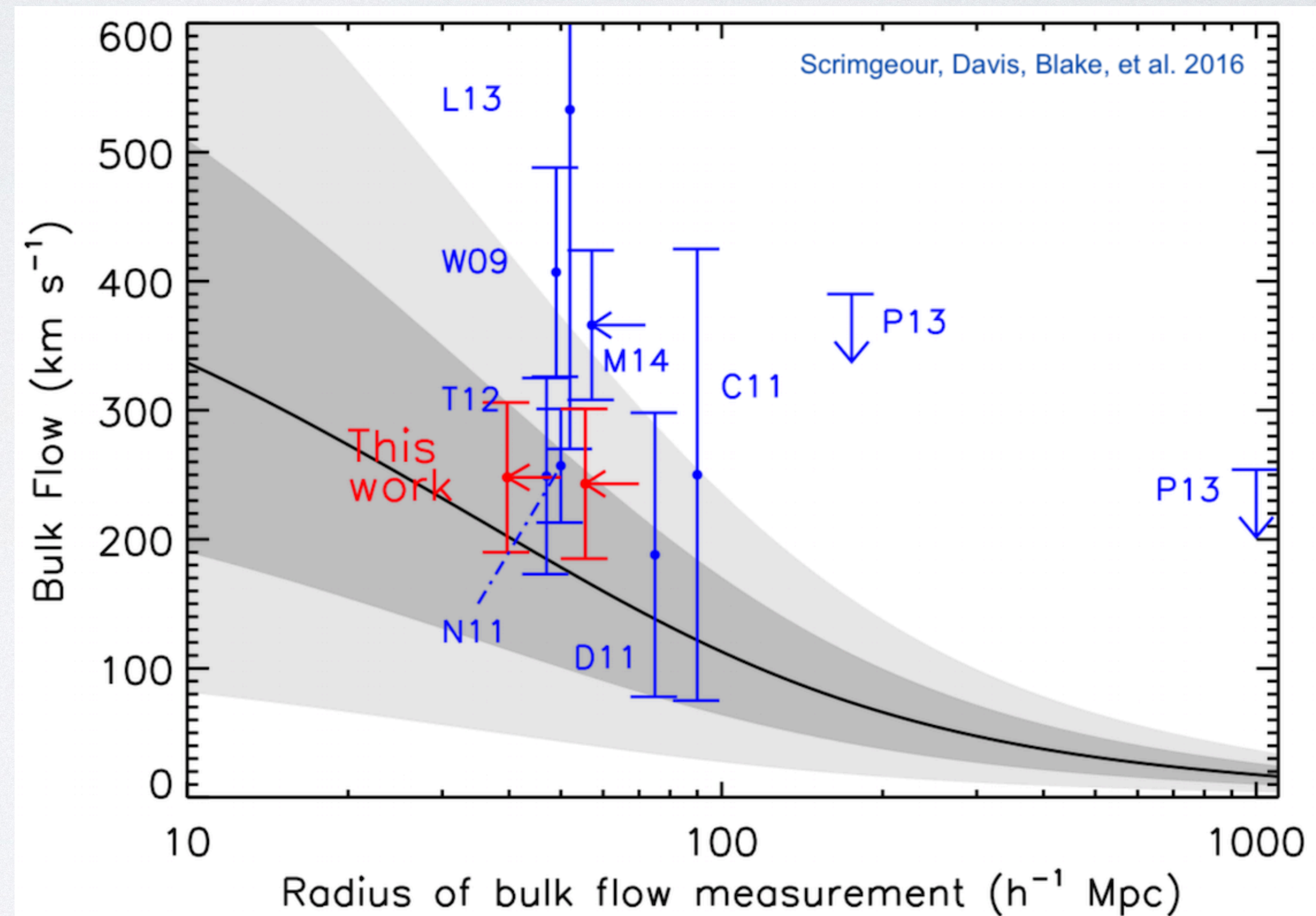
Could easily estimate the velocity to be a few hundred km/s lower than was assumed. Reducing  $H_0$  to below CMB estimates. (But with even larger uncertainties.)

This systematic will reduce with more objects because the peculiar velocities will average out, and will also have a smaller impact for more distant objects.

# PHYSICAL EFFECTS - PECULIAR VELOCITIES

- The peculiar velocity correction is uncertain:
  - Small scale velocities
  - Bulk flows

Correcting nearby galaxies to the CMB frame over-corrects the velocity (since they share some of our bulk flow)



# HOW LARGE COULD A REDSHIFT BIAS BE?

## Observational error

- Measurement uncertainty
- Local peculiar velocity corrections (spin, orbit, helio)
- Rest frame wavelength precision
- Air to vacuum conversion
- Spectrograph wavelength calibration
- Continuum tilt

## Physical effects

- Gravitational  $z$  (local density fluct.)
- Peculiar velocities
- Bulk flows
- Internal velocities

## Theoretical error

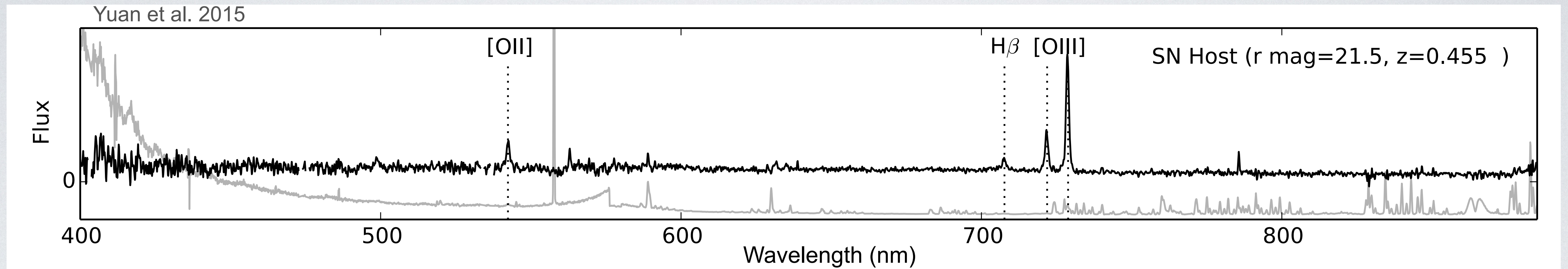
- Using  $(1+z)$  factors incorrectly
  - $D_L$  and  $D_A$
  - Redshift addition
- NED peculiar velocity correction



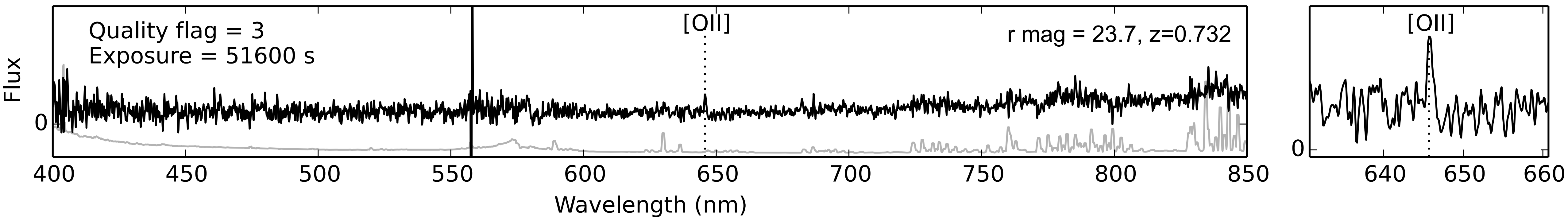


OBSERVATIONAL EFFECTS

# OBSERVATIONAL ERROR



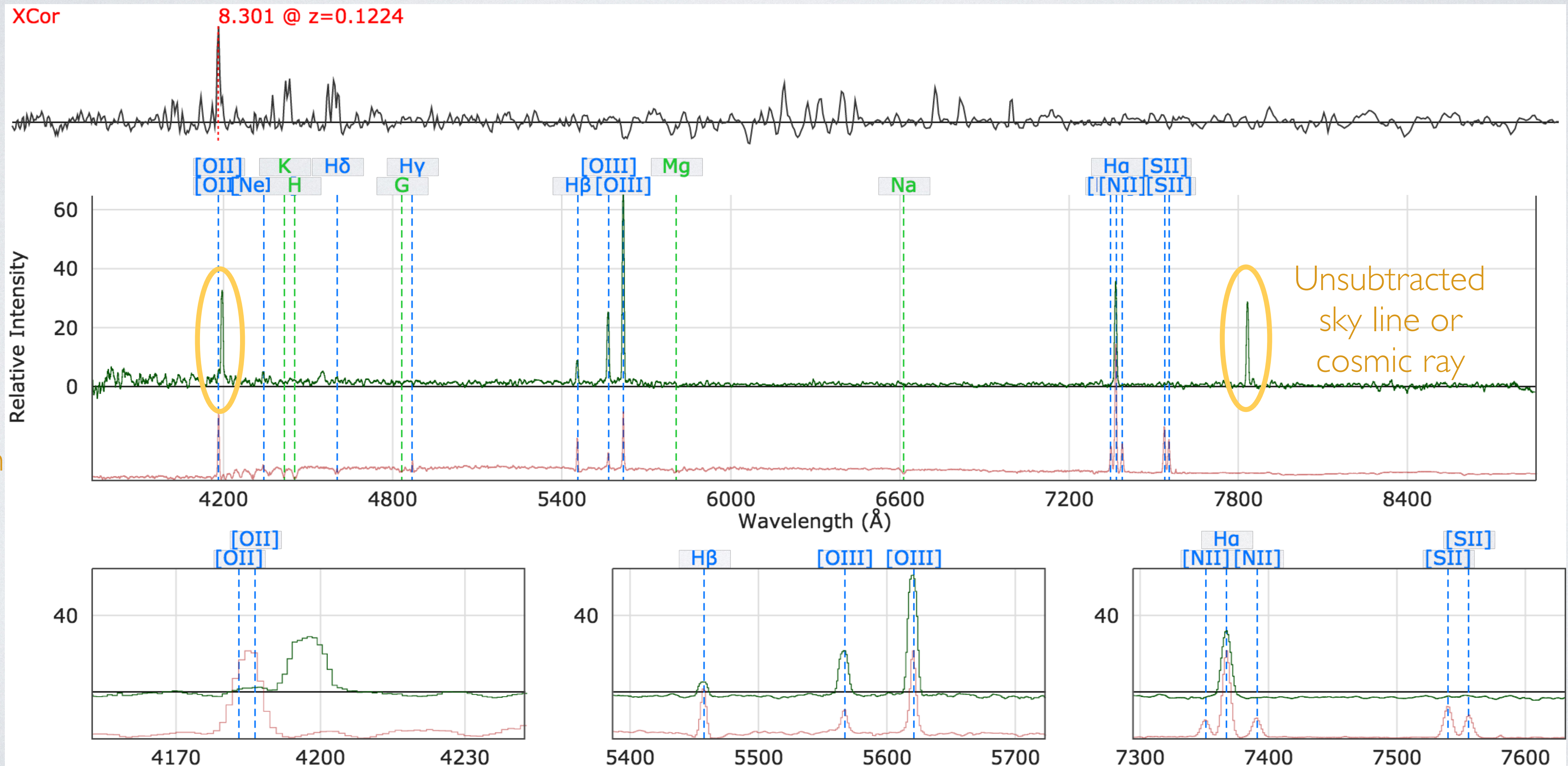
OzDES spectrum of a supernova host galaxy (an extremely pretty one)



OzDES spectrum of a supernova host galaxy (an extremely ugly one)

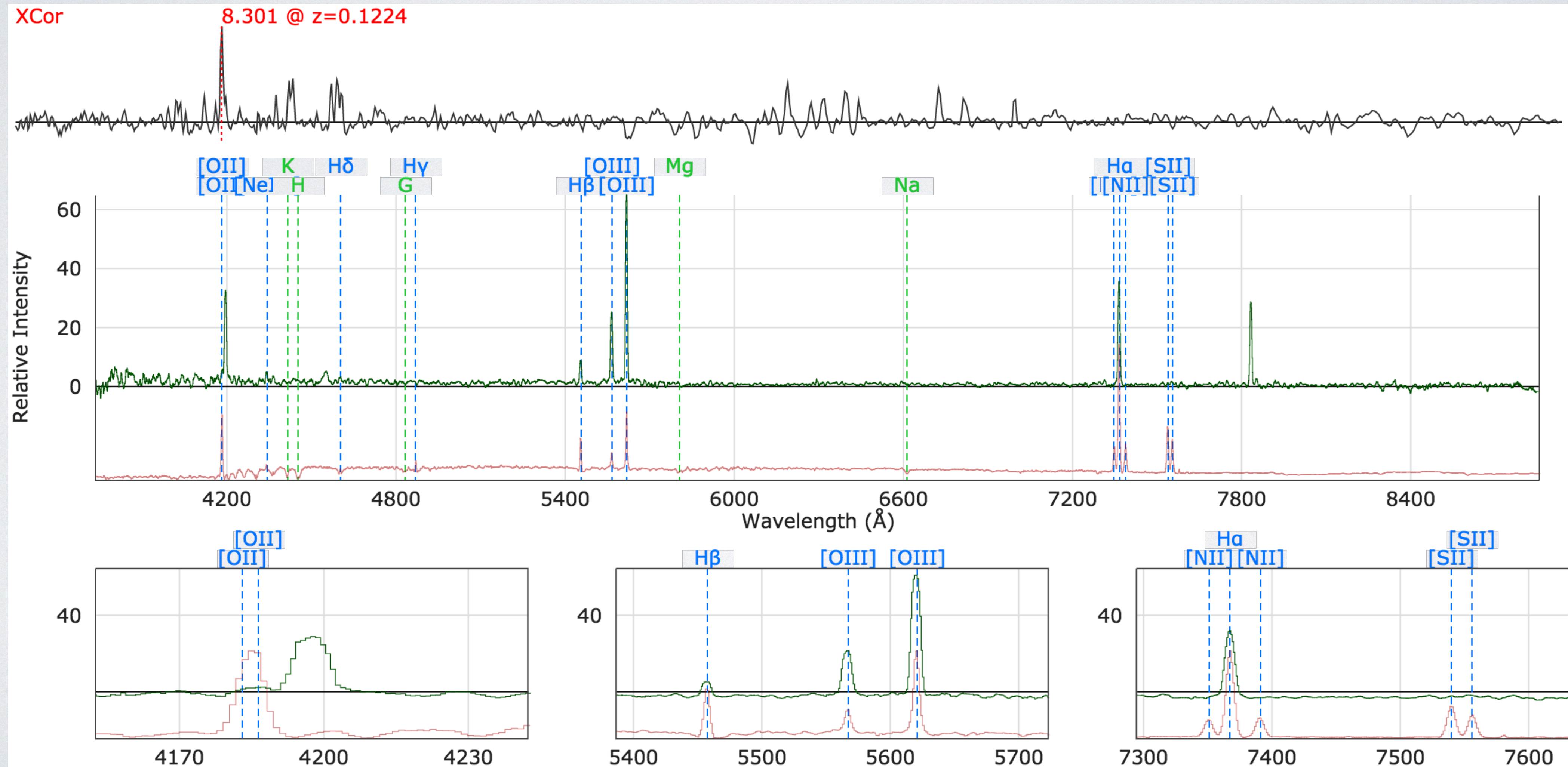
# REAL SPECTRUM (HIGH QUALITY)

- **Wavelength calibration issue**



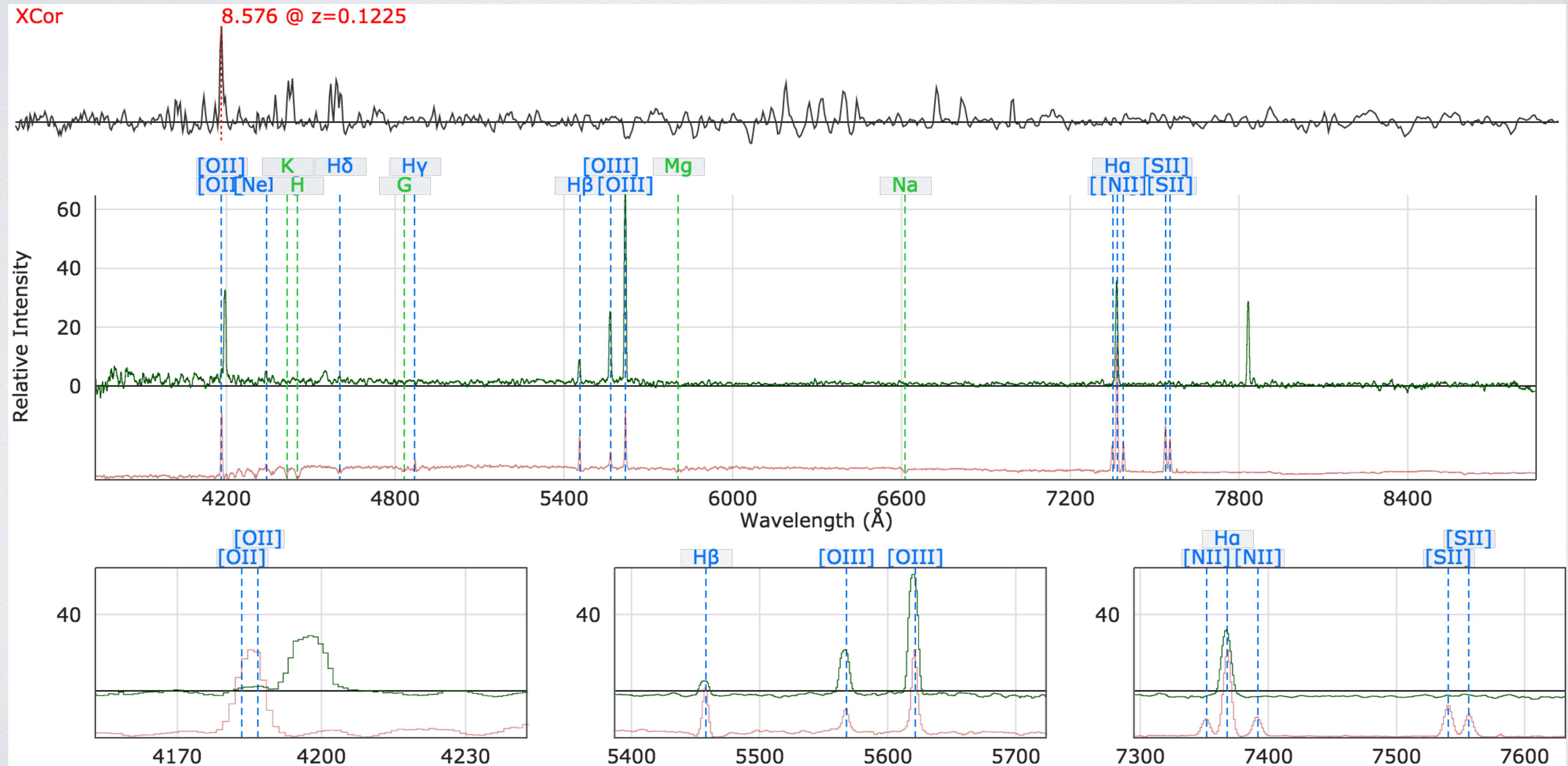
# REAL SPECTRUM (HIGH QUALITY)

- **Wavelength calibration issue**



# REAL SPECTRUM (HIGH QUALITY)

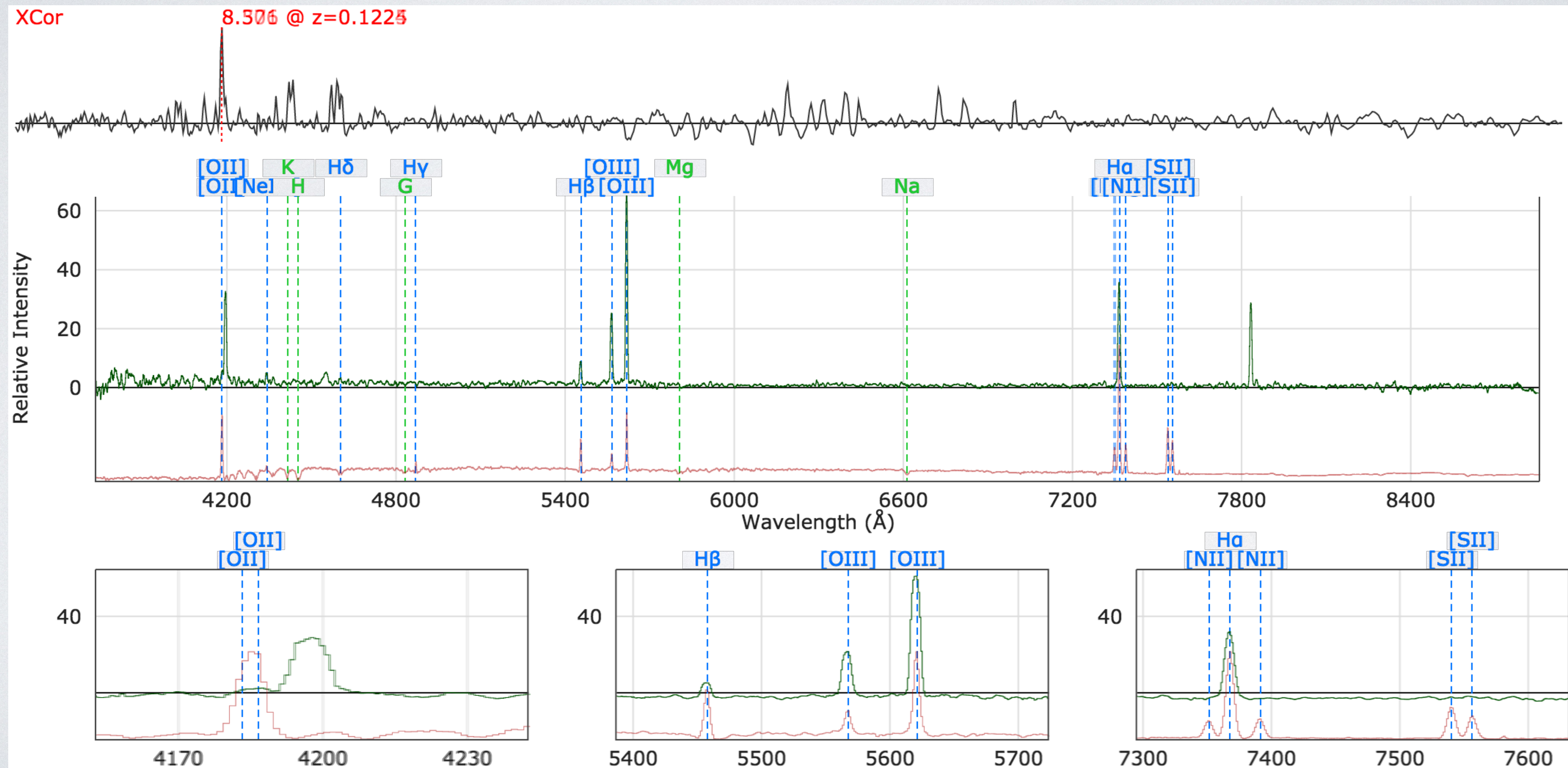
- **Wavelength calibration issue**





# REAL SPECTRUM (HIGH QUALITY)

- **Wavelength calibration issue**



# OBSERVATIONAL EFFECTS

- Observers tend to be overoptimistic about their uncertainties...

From NED:

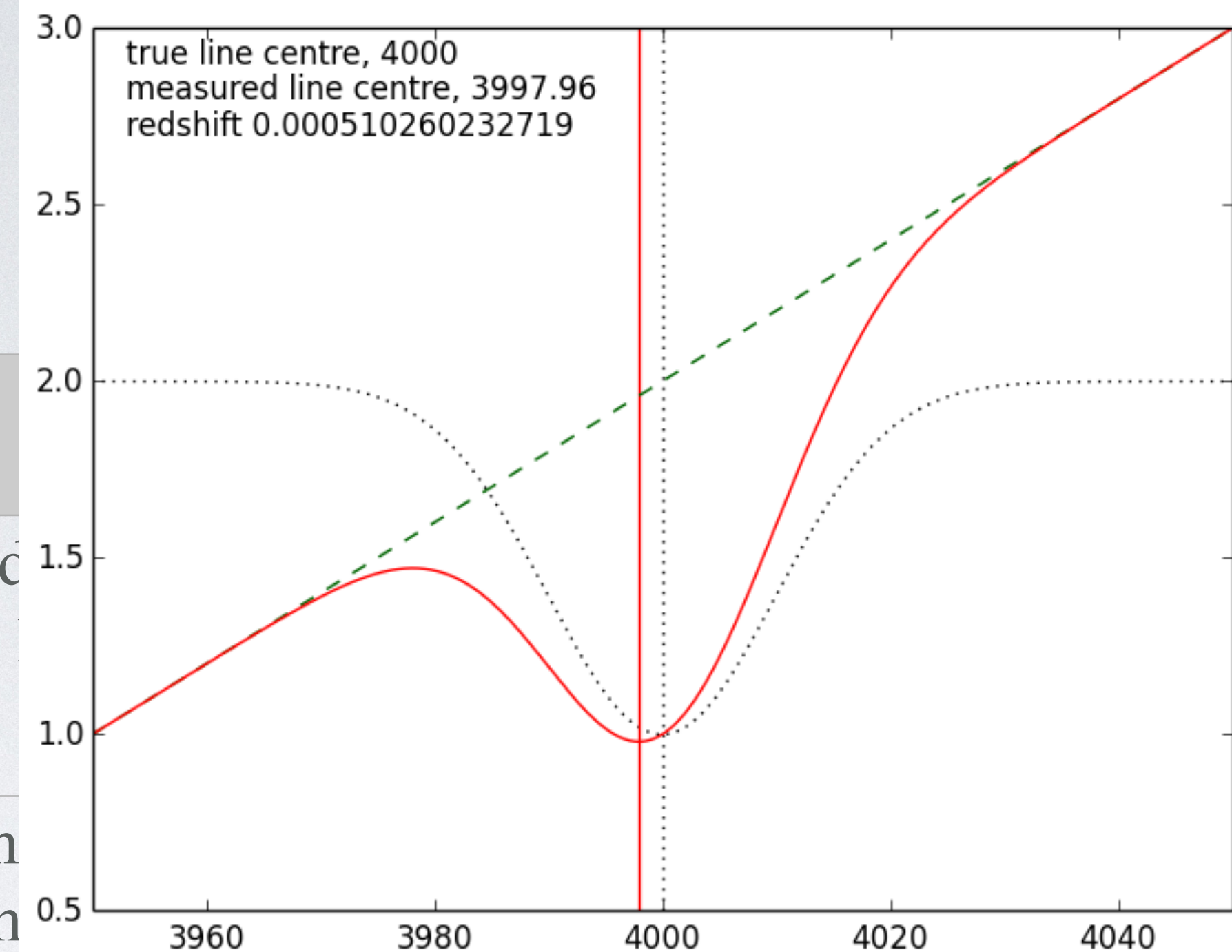
| Measured Redshifts of MESSIER 106 |                    |                                |  |                    |                              |                       |                      |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
|                                   |                    |                                |  |                    |                              |                       |                      |
| No.                               | Frequency Targeted | Published Velocity<br>(km/sec) | Published Velocity Uncertain<br>(km/sec) | Published Redshift | Published Redshift Uncertain | Refcode               | Name in publication  |
| 0                                 |                    | 448                            | 3  | 0.001494           | 1.0E-05                      | <a href="#">Ref</a> ✓ | NGC4258              |
| 1                                 | 21-cm HI line      | 448                            | 3  | 0.001494           | 1.0E-05                      | <a href="#">Ref</a> ✓ | UGC 07353            |
| 2                                 |                    | 448                            | 3  | 0.001494           | 1.0E-05                      | <a href="#">Ref</a> ✓ | 2015                 |
| 3                                 | Optical            | 472                            | 9  | 0.001574           | 3.0E-05                      | <a href="#">Ref</a> ✓ | NGC 4258 1992        |
| 4                                 | Optical            | 490                            | 9  | 0.001634           | 3.0E-05                      | <a href="#">Ref</a> ✓ | NGC 4258 1992        |
| 5                                 |                    | 451                            | 10                                       | 0.001504           | 3.3E-05                      | <a href="#">Ref</a> ✓ | NGC 4258 2015        |
| 6                                 | Optical            | 467                            | 10                                       | 0.001558           | 3.3E-05                      | <a href="#">Ref</a> ✓ | NGC 4258             |
| 7                                 | Optical lines      | 480                            | 13                                       | 0.001601           | 4.3E-05                      | <a href="#">Ref</a> ✓ | UGC 07353            |
| 8                                 |                    | 416                            | 15                                       | 0.001388           | 4.9E-05                      | <a href="#">Ref</a> ✓ |                      |
| 9                                 | Optical            | 449                            | 31                                       | 0.001498           | 1.0E-04                      | <a href="#">Ref</a> ✓ | UZC J121857.7+471820 |

# OBSERVATIONAL ERRORS

| Source of error  | Potential magnitude      | Explanation   |
|--|--------------------------|---|
| Rest frame wavelength precision  | $5 \times 10^{-6}$       | Wavelengths calibrated to $0.01 \text{ \AA}$ . $z$ error of $5 \times 10^{-6}$ at $z \sim 1$ for OII ( $3727.09 \text{ \AA}$ ), slightly less for higher wavelengths and at lower redshifts   |
| Air to vacuum conversion<br>$n_{\text{air}} \equiv \lambda_{\text{vac}} / \lambda_{\text{air}} \sim 1.00028$ | $10^{-4}$                | $n_{\text{air}} \sim 1.00028$ at 500nm in 15C, 101325 Pa, 450ppm CO <sub>2</sub> , and 0% humidity. At 3000m and 0C the air pressure is approximately 69000 Pa, and $n_{\text{air}} \sim 1.00020$ . Thus using a standard temperature and pressure refractive index when cold and at altitude, would result in a redshift error of $\sim 10^{-4}$ |
| Spectrograph wavelength calibration  | $10^{-4}$                | Can be done extremely well if using e.g. frequency combs. Not always done that carefully. May be wavelength dependent.  |
| Redshift measurement   | rand: $5 \times 10^{-4}$ | Different for different surveys, but for SDSS and OzDES galaxies $z$ uncertainty $\sim 5 \times 10^{-4}$ , larger for AGN at $\sim 10^{-3}$   |
| Internal velocities, outflows  | rand?: $10^{-3}$         | If redshifts not made from centre of galaxy, then unaccounted for $v_{\text{pec}}$ ; if galaxy has outflow then systematic blueshift.   |
| Line smoothing   | a few $10^{-4}$          | If a line is on a sloped continuum, peak may be shifted, and smoothing may also shift the peak.   |

# OBSERVATIONAL ERRORS

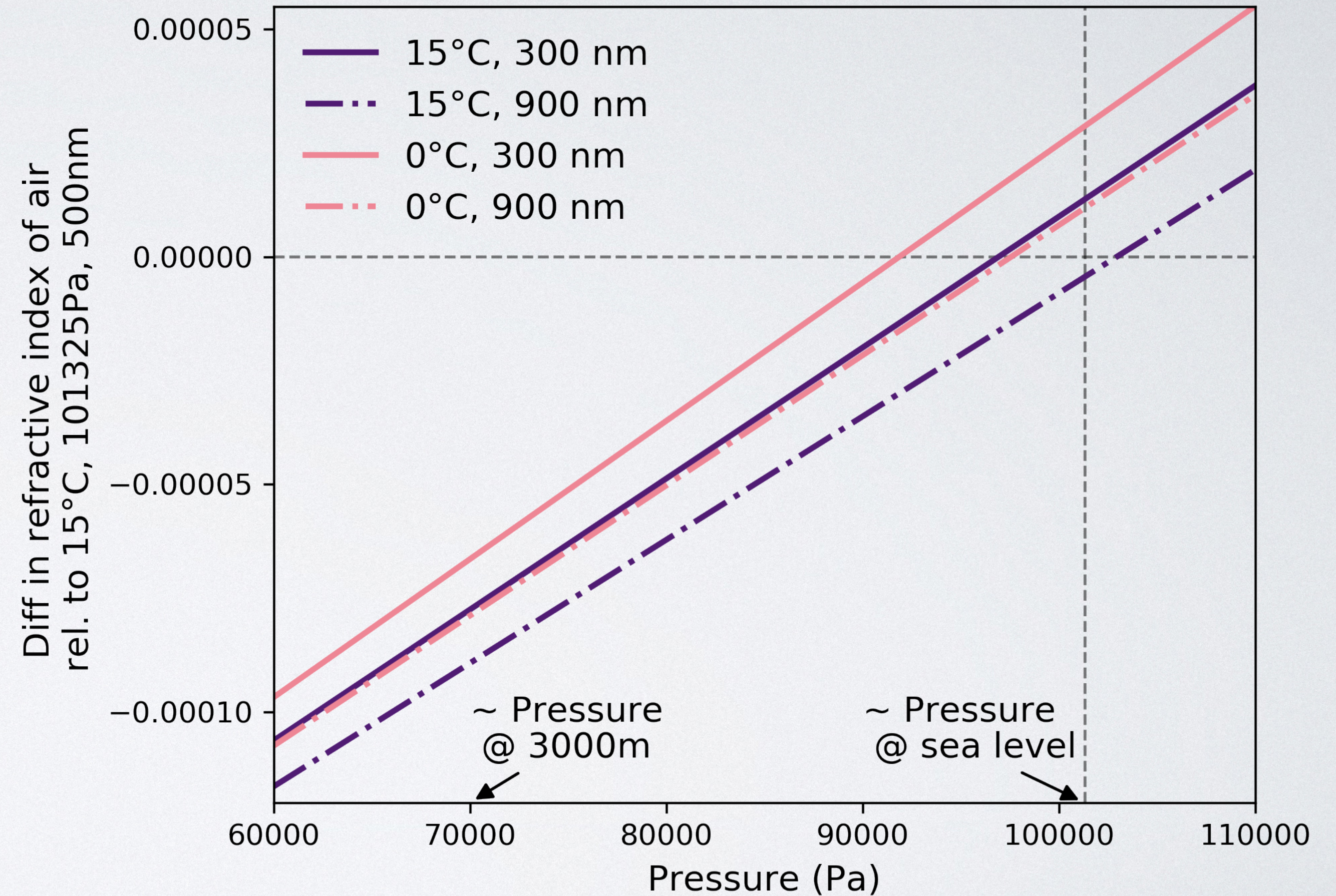
| Source of error  | Potential magnitude      |   |
|--|--------------------------|---|
| Rest frame wavelength precision  | $5 \times 10^{-6}$       | Wavelengths calibrated (3727.09Å), slightly   |
| Air to vacuum conversion<br>$n_{\text{air}} \equiv \lambda_{\text{vac}} / \lambda_{\text{air}} \sim 1.00028$ | $10^{-4}$                | $n_{\text{air}} \sim 1.00028$ at 500nm humidity. At 3000m 69000 Pa, and $n_{\text{air}} \sim 1.00020$ . Thus using a standard temperature and pressure refractive index when cold and at altitude, would result in a redshift error of $\sim 10^{-4}$ |
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| Line smoothing   | a few $10^{-4}$          | If a line is on a sloped continuum, peak may be shifted, and smoothing may also shift the peak.   |



# OBSERVATIONAL ERRORS - AIR TO VACUUM

$$n_{\text{air}} \equiv \lambda_{\text{vac}} / \lambda_{\text{air}} \sim 1.00028$$

$n_{\text{air}} \sim 1.00028$  at 500nm in 15C, 101325 Pa, 450ppm CO<sub>2</sub>, and 0% humidity. At 3000m and 0C the air pressure is approximately 69000 Pa, and  $n_{\text{air}} \sim 1.00020$ . Thus using a standard temperature and pressure refractive index when cold and at altitude, would result in a redshift error of  $\sim 10^{-4}$



# HOW LARGE COULD A REDSHIFT BIAS BE?

## Observational error

- Measurement uncertainty
- Local peculiar velocity corrections (spin, orbit, helio)
- Rest frame wavelength precision
- Air to vacuum conversion
- Spectrograph wavelength calibration
- Continuum tilt

## Physical effects

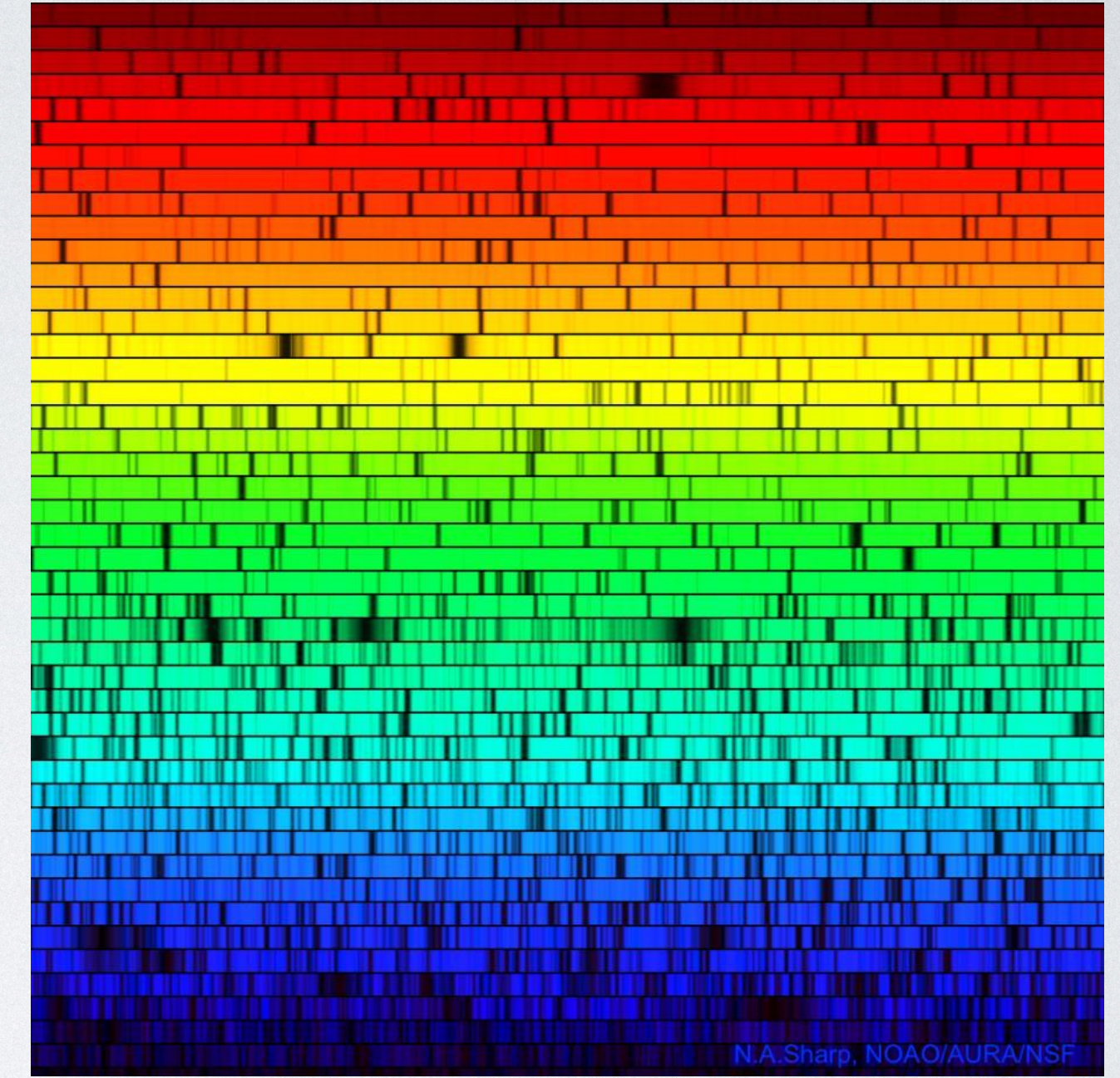
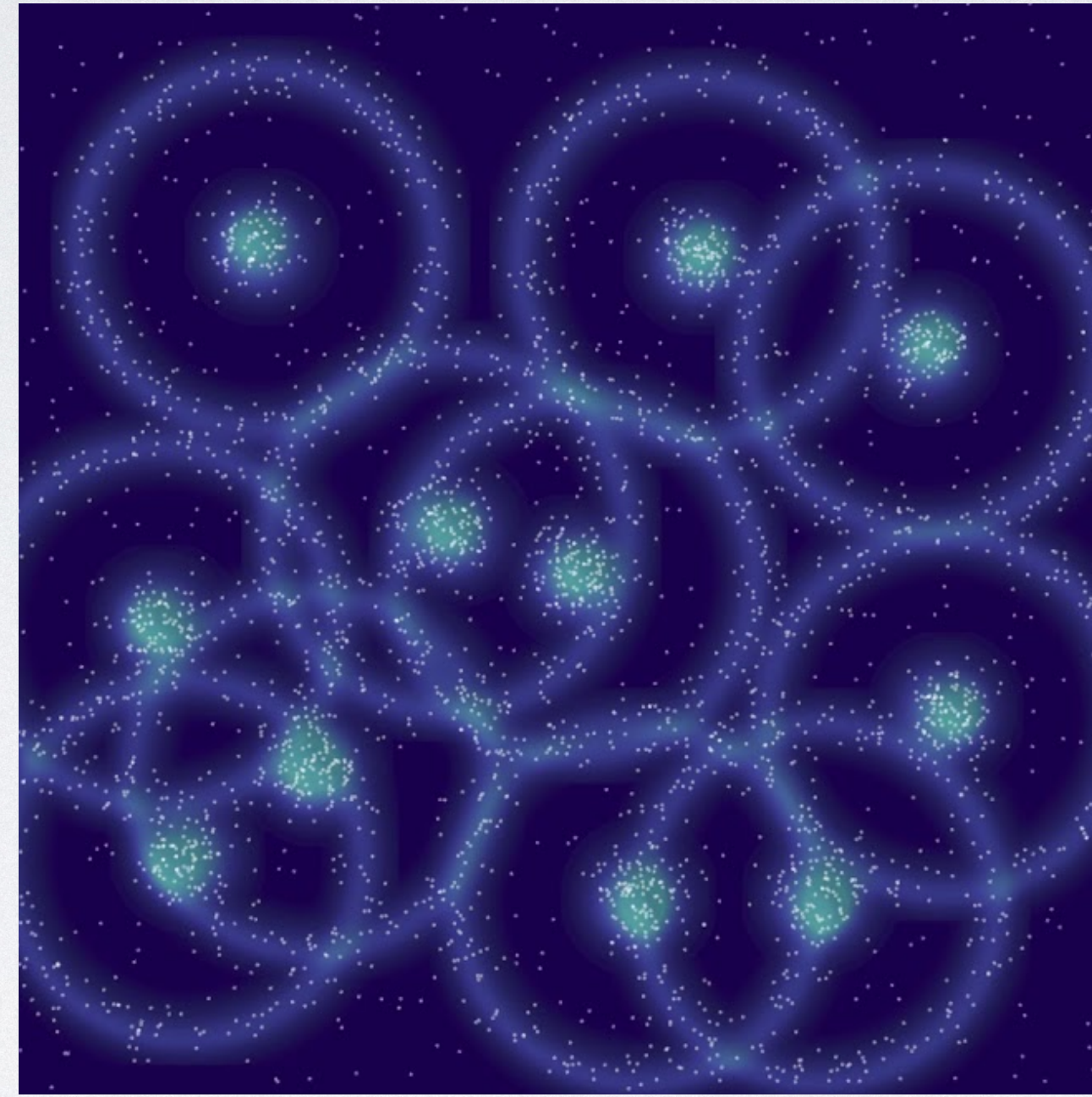
- Gravitational  $z$  (local density fluct.)
- Peculiar velocities
- Bulk flows
- Internal velocities

## Theoretical error

- Using  $(1+z)$  factors incorrectly
  - $D_L$  and  $D_A$
  - Redshift addition
- NED peculiar velocity correction



# CANDLES, RULERS, AND REDSHIFTS



Maybe the  $H_0$  tension arises between standard candles and standard rulers, rather than local vs global measurements.

Small redshift errors matter (if systematic), and there are lots of ways to make small errors.