

# CMB ANOMALIES AND THE HUBBLE TENSION

ASSESSING THE CONSISTENCY OF CMB OBSERVATIONS TO PROBE NEW PHYSICS

**COSMOVERSE AT LISBON**

LISBON, MAY 31 2023

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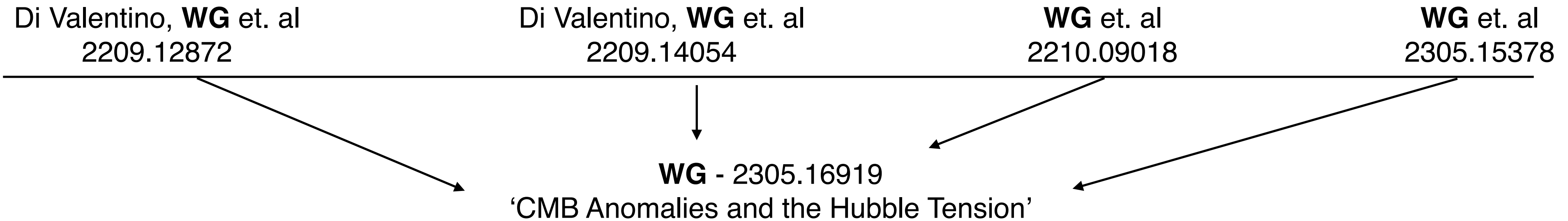
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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## PRESENTATION BASED ON:



Invited chapter for the edited book "Hubble Constant Tension"  
(Eds. E. Di Valentino and D. Brout, Springer Singapore, expected in 2024)

## THANKS TO ALL COLLABORATORS

**Eleonora Di Valentino** (University of Sheffield)

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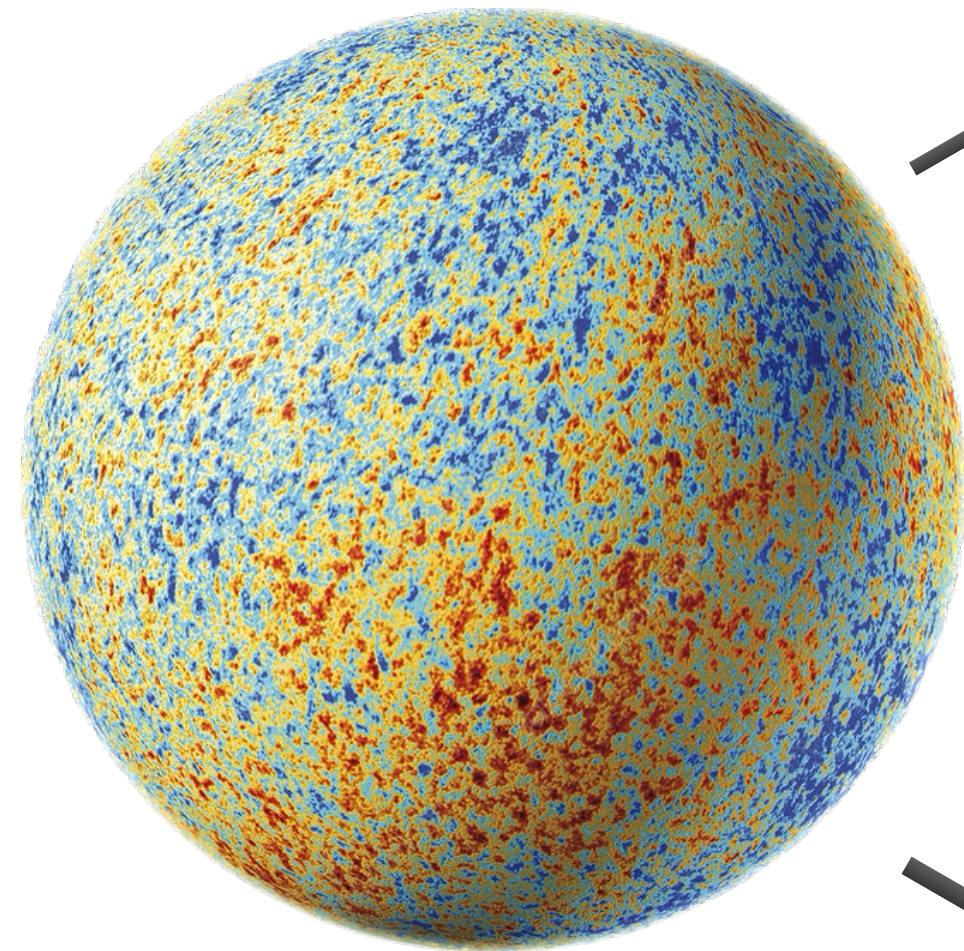
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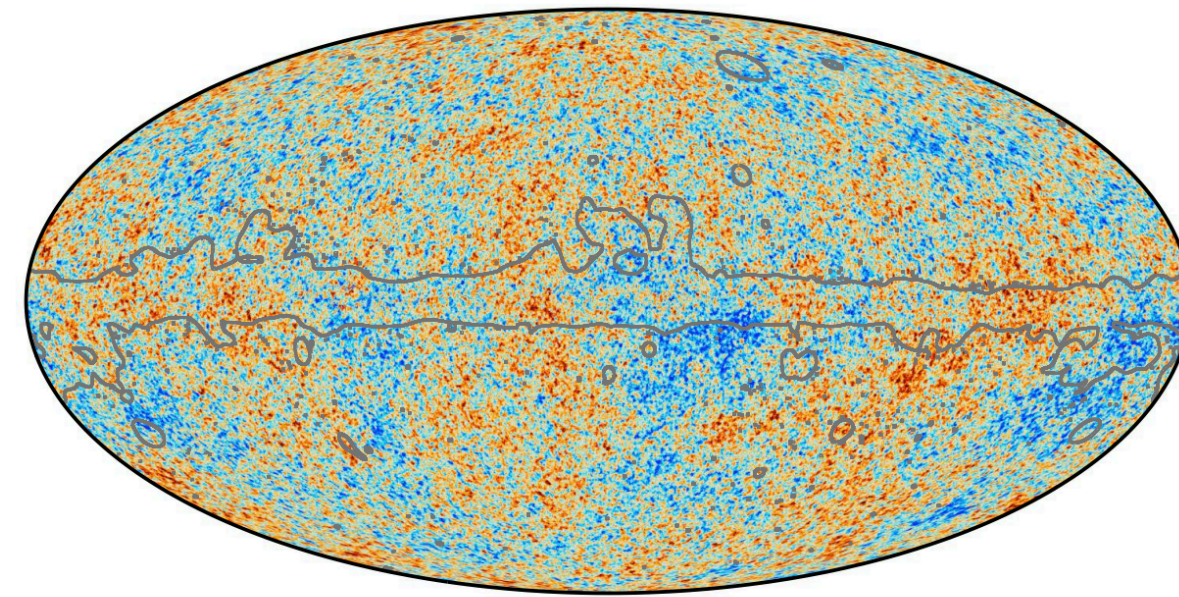


# 1 CMB ANOMALIES: A BRIEF MULTI-EXPERIMENT OVERVIEW

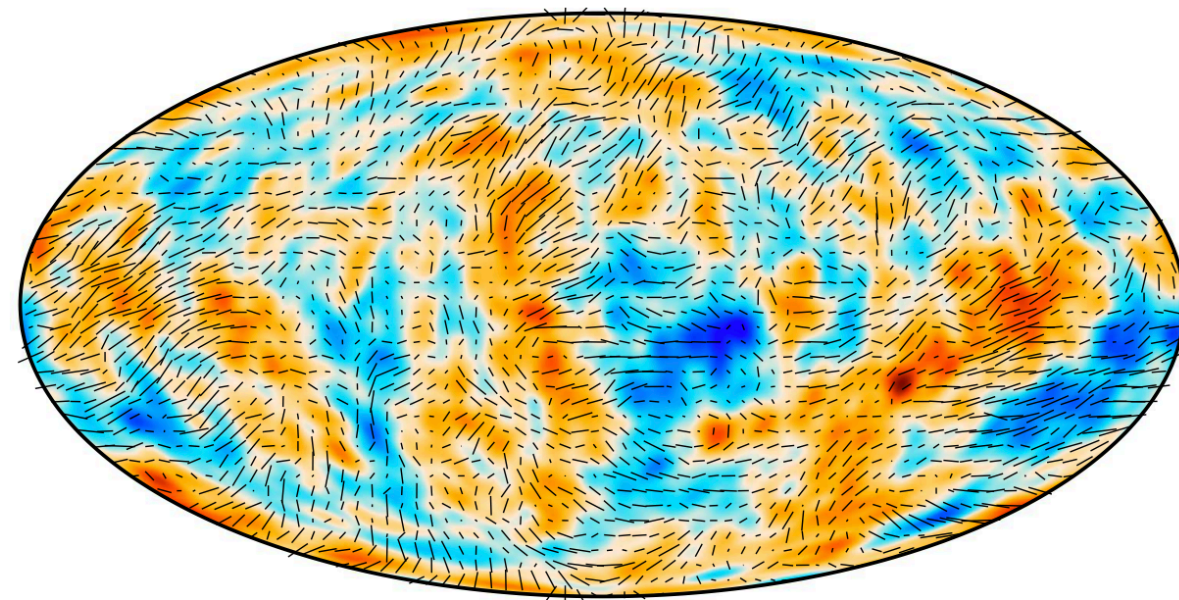
RELIC PHOTONS FROM THE BIG BANG



TEMPERATURE ANISOTROPIES



POLARIZATION



| 0.41  $\mu\text{K}$

**Planck 2018 - 1807.06209**

Parameter	TT,TE,EE+lowE 68% limits	TT,TE,EE+lowE+lensing 68% limits
$\Omega_b h^2$ . . . . .	$0.02236 \pm 0.00015$	$0.02237 \pm 0.00015$
$\Omega_c h^2$ . . . . .	$0.1202 \pm 0.0014$	$0.1200 \pm 0.0012$
$100\theta_{\text{MC}}$ . . . . .	$1.04090 \pm 0.00031$	$1.04092 \pm 0.00031$
$\tau$ . . . . .	$0.0544^{+0.0070}_{-0.0081}$	$0.0544 \pm 0.0073$
$\ln(10^{10} A_s)$ . . . . .	$3.045 \pm 0.016$	$3.044 \pm 0.014$
$n_s$ . . . . .	$0.9649 \pm 0.0044$	$0.9649 \pm 0.0042$
$H_0$ [km s <sup>-1</sup> Mpc <sup>-1</sup> ] . .	$67.27 \pm 0.60$	$67.36 \pm 0.54$
$\Omega_\Lambda$ . . . . .	$0.6834 \pm 0.0084$	$0.6847 \pm 0.0073$
$\Omega_m$ . . . . .	$0.3166 \pm 0.0084$	$0.3153 \pm 0.0073$
$\Omega_m h^2$ . . . . .	$0.1432 \pm 0.0013$	$0.1430 \pm 0.0011$
$\Omega_m h^3$ . . . . .	$0.09633 \pm 0.00029$	$0.09633 \pm 0.00030$
$\sigma_8$ . . . . .	$0.8120 \pm 0.0073$	$0.8111 \pm 0.0060$
$S_8 \equiv \sigma_8 (\Omega_m / 0.3)^{0.5}$ .	$0.834 \pm 0.016$	$0.832 \pm 0.013$
$\sigma_8 \Omega_m^{0.25}$ . . . . .	$0.6090 \pm 0.0081$	$0.6078 \pm 0.0064$
$z_{\text{re}}$ . . . . .	$7.68 \pm 0.79$	$7.67 \pm 0.73$
$10^9 A_s$ . . . . .	$2.101^{+0.031}_{-0.034}$	$2.100 \pm 0.030$
$10^9 A_s e^{-2\tau}$ . . . . .	$1.884 \pm 0.012$	$1.883 \pm 0.011$
Age [Gyr] . . . . .	$13.800 \pm 0.024$	$13.797 \pm 0.023$
$z_*$ . . . . .	$1089.95 \pm 0.27$	$1089.92 \pm 0.25$
$r_*$ [Mpc] . . . . .	$144.39 \pm 0.30$	$144.43 \pm 0.26$
$100\theta_*$ . . . . .	$1.04109 \pm 0.00030$	$1.04110 \pm 0.00031$
$z_{\text{drag}}$ . . . . .	$1059.93 \pm 0.30$	$1059.94 \pm 0.30$
$r_{\text{drag}}$ [Mpc] . . . . .	$147.05 \pm 0.30$	$147.09 \pm 0.26$
$k_D$ [Mpc <sup>-1</sup> ] . . . . .	$0.14090 \pm 0.00032$	$0.14087 \pm 0.00030$
$z_{\text{eq}}$ . . . . .	$3407 \pm 31$	$3402 \pm 26$
$k_{\text{eq}}$ [Mpc <sup>-1</sup> ] . . . . .	$0.010398 \pm 0.000094$	$0.010384 \pm 0.000081$
$100\theta_{s,\text{eq}}$ . . . . .	$0.4490 \pm 0.0030$	$0.4494 \pm 0.0026$



# 1 CMB ANOMALIES: A BRIEF MULTI-EXPERIMENT OVERVIEW

## CMB vs CMB-INDEPENDENT PROBES

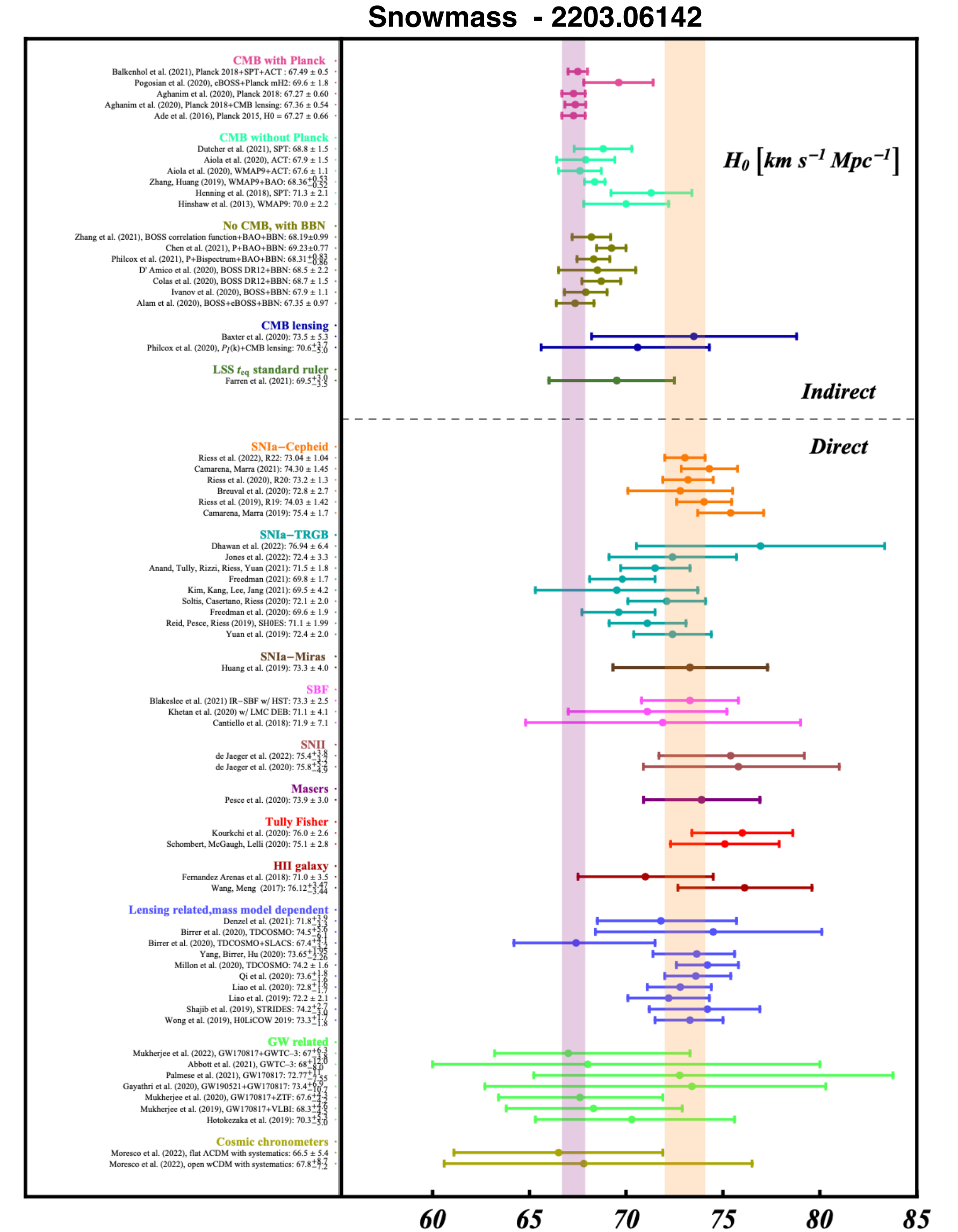
In the last years, some tensions between CMB and CMB-independent observations are emerging at different statistical levels

## HUBBLE TENSION

The widely known tension between the value of the Hubble parameter as directly measured by using local distance ladder measurements of Type Ia supernova and the value inferred by CMB observations reached the level of 5 standard deviations

## S8 AND SIGMA8

Other disagreements involve the value of matter clustering parameters (such as S8 and sigma8) as measured by Weak Lensing surveys (DES and Kids) and inferred by CMB observations



# 1 CMB ANOMALIES: A BRIEF MULTI-EXPERIMENT OVERVIEW

## CMB ANOMALIES

CMB observations have achieved sub-percent accuracy.

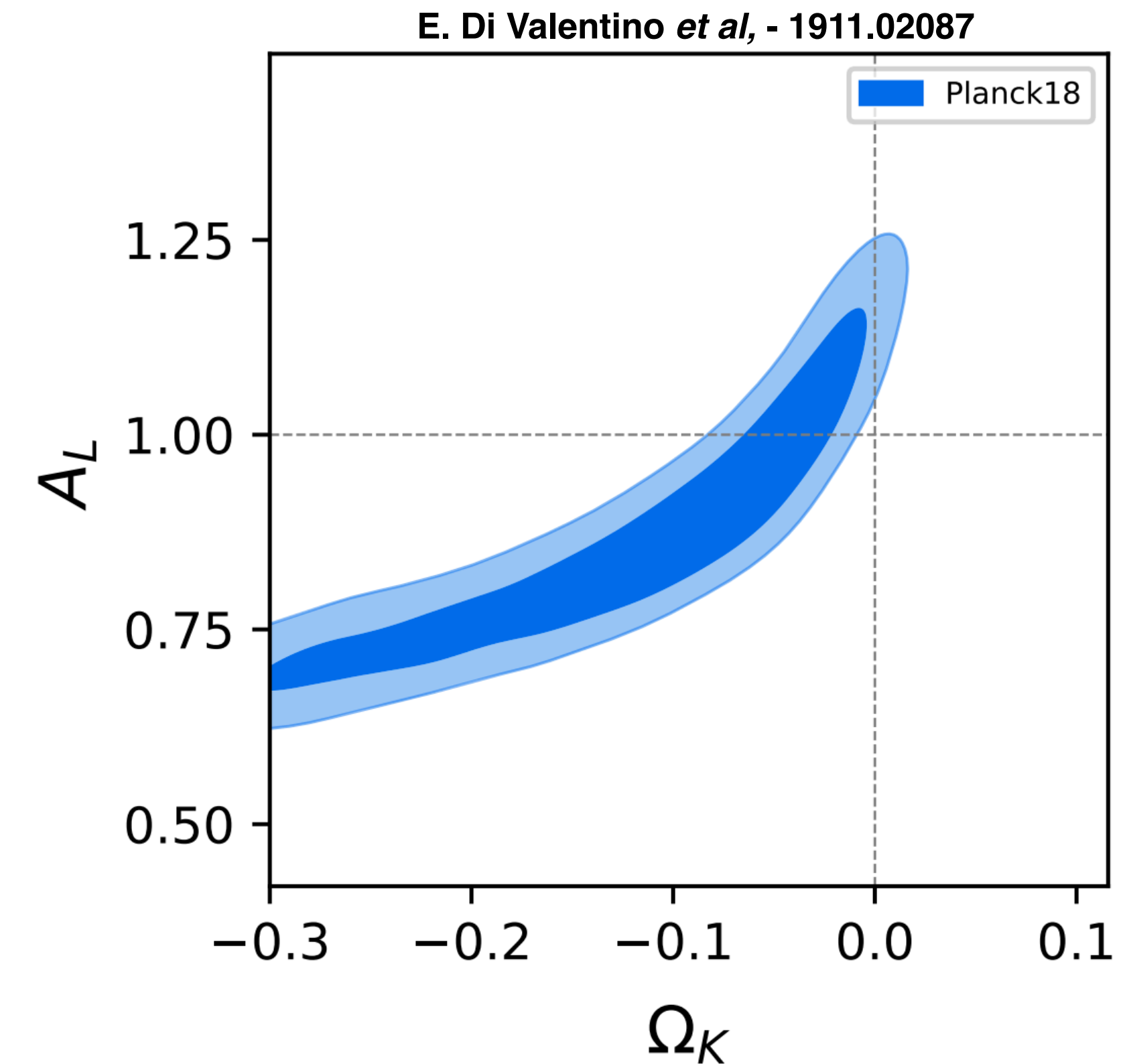
While this is a blessing, it also represents a challenge: as precision increases, any deviations or anomalies may become more statistically significant and point to tensions in our understanding of the Universe

## PLANCK

One notable example is the **higher lensing amplitude at about  $2.8\sigma$**  observed in the Planck data.

Since more lensing is expected with more Cold Dark Matter (CDM), the lensing anomaly immediately recasts a preference for a closed Universe, which in turn helps to explain other large-scale anomalies in the data, such as the deficit of amplitude in the quadrupole and octupole modes.

Consequently, the final **Planck indication for a closed Universe** becomes very significant, **reaching the level of 3.4 standard deviations**



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## CMB ANOMALIES

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## ACT

ACT (and SPT) data have provided full support for a spatially flat Universe and a lensing amplitude consistent with  $\Lambda$ CDM

However, the same ACT data have revealed other relevant deviations from the standard cosmological model:

- Preference for a unitary **spectral index** of primordial perturbations (in tension with Planck at 99.3% CL)
- A smaller **effective number of relativistic degrees of freedom** in the early Universe (in tension with the SM at  $\sim 2.5$  standard deviations)
- An indication in favour of **Early Dark Energy** at 3 standard deviations

ACT-DR4 - 2007.07288

Parameter	ACT	ACT+WMAP	ACT+Planck	Planck
$100\Omega_b h^2$	$2.153 \pm 0.030$	<b><math>2.239 \pm 0.021</math></b>	$2.237 \pm 0.013$	$2.241 \pm 0.015$
$100\Omega_c h^2$	$11.78 \pm 0.38$	<b><math>12.00 \pm 0.26</math></b>	$11.97 \pm 0.13$	$11.97 \pm 0.14$
$10^4\theta_{MC}$	$104.225 \pm 0.071$	<b><math>104.170 \pm 0.067</math></b>	$104.110 \pm 0.029$	$104.094 \pm 0.031$
$\tau$	$0.065 \pm 0.014$	<b><math>0.061 \pm 0.012</math></b>	$0.072 \pm 0.012$	$0.076 \pm 0.013$
$n_s$	$1.008 \pm 0.015$	<b><math>0.9729 \pm 0.0061</math></b>	$0.9691 \pm 0.0041$	$0.9668 \pm 0.0044$
$\ln(10^{10} A_s)$	$3.050 \pm 0.030$	<b><math>3.064 \pm 0.024</math></b>	$3.086 \pm 0.024$	$3.087 \pm 0.026$
$\Omega_k$	$-0.003^{+0.022}_{-0.014}$	<b><math>-0.001^{+0.014}_{-0.010}</math></b>	$-0.018^{+0.013}_{-0.010}$	$-0.037^{+0.020}_{-0.014}$
$\Sigma m_\nu$ [eV]	$< 3.1$	<b><math>&lt; 1.2</math></b>	$< 0.54$	$< 0.37$
$N_{\text{eff}}$	$2.42 \pm 0.41$	<b><math>2.46 \pm 0.26</math></b>	$2.74 \pm 0.17$	$2.97 \pm 0.19$
$dn_s/d\ln k$	$0.069 \pm 0.029$	<b><math>0.0128 \pm 0.0081</math></b>	$0.0023 \pm 0.0063$	$-0.0067 \pm 0.0067$
$Y_{\text{HE}}$	$0.211 \pm 0.031$	<b><math>0.220 \pm 0.018</math></b>	$0.232 \pm 0.011$	$0.243 \pm 0.013$

J. Colin Hill *et al*, - 2109.04451

Constraints on EDE ( $n = 3$ )

Parameter	ACT DR4 TT+TE+EE, $\tau$	ACT DR4 TT+TE+EE, <i>Planck</i> 2018 TT ( $\ell_{\text{max}} = 650$ ), $\tau$	ACT DR4 TT+TE+EE, <i>Planck</i> 2018 TT ( $\ell_{\text{max}} = 650$ ), <i>Planck</i> 2018 lensing, BAO, $\tau$	<i>Planck</i> 2018 TT+TE+EE (from Ref. [47])	ACT DR4 TT+TE+EE, <i>Planck</i> 2018 TT+TE+EE (no low- $\ell$ EE), $\tau$
$f_{\text{EDE}}$	$0.142^{+0.039}_{-0.072}$	$0.129^{+0.028}_{-0.055}$	$0.091^{+0.020}_{-0.036}$	$< 0.087$	$< 0.124$
$\log_{10}(z_c)$	$< 3.70$	$< 3.43$	$< 3.36$	$3.66^{+0.24}_{-0.28}$	$3.54^{+0.28}_{-0.20}$
$\theta_i$	$> 0.24$	$< 2.89$	$< 2.82$	$> 0.36$	$> 0.51$
$\Omega_c h^2$	$0.1307^{+0.0054}_{-0.0120}$	$0.1291^{+0.0051}_{-0.0098}$	$0.1286^{+0.0027}_{-0.0063}$	$0.1234^{+0.0019}_{-0.0038}$	$0.1244^{+0.0025}_{-0.0051}$
$H_0$ [km/s/Mpc]	$74.5^{+2.5}_{-4.4}$	$74.4^{+2.2}_{-3.0}$	$70.9^{+1.0}_{-2.0}$	$68.29^{+0.73}_{-1.20}$	$69.17^{+0.83}_{-1.70}$
$\Omega_m$	$0.276^{+0.020}_{-0.023}$	$0.274 \pm 0.017$	$0.3000 \pm 0.0072$	$0.3145 \pm 0.0086$	$0.3084 \pm 0.0084$
$\sigma_8$	$0.831^{+0.027}_{-0.043}$	$0.827^{+0.029}_{-0.035}$	$0.829^{+0.013}_{-0.021}$	$0.820^{+0.009}_{-0.013}$	$0.838^{+0.013}_{-0.015}$
$S_8$	$0.796 \pm 0.049$	$0.791^{+0.040}_{-0.046}$	$0.828^{+0.015}_{-0.018}$	$0.839 \pm 0.018$	$0.850 \pm 0.017$



### EVALUATING THE GLOBAL CONSISTENCY

What makes CMB anomalies difficult to interpret *individually* is that different experiments often point in discordant directions, and none of the most relevant deviations can be cross-validated through independent probes.

Accurate statistical methods have been developed to quantify the *global* agreement between experiments under a given model of cosmology

W. Handley and P. Lemos, - 2007.08496

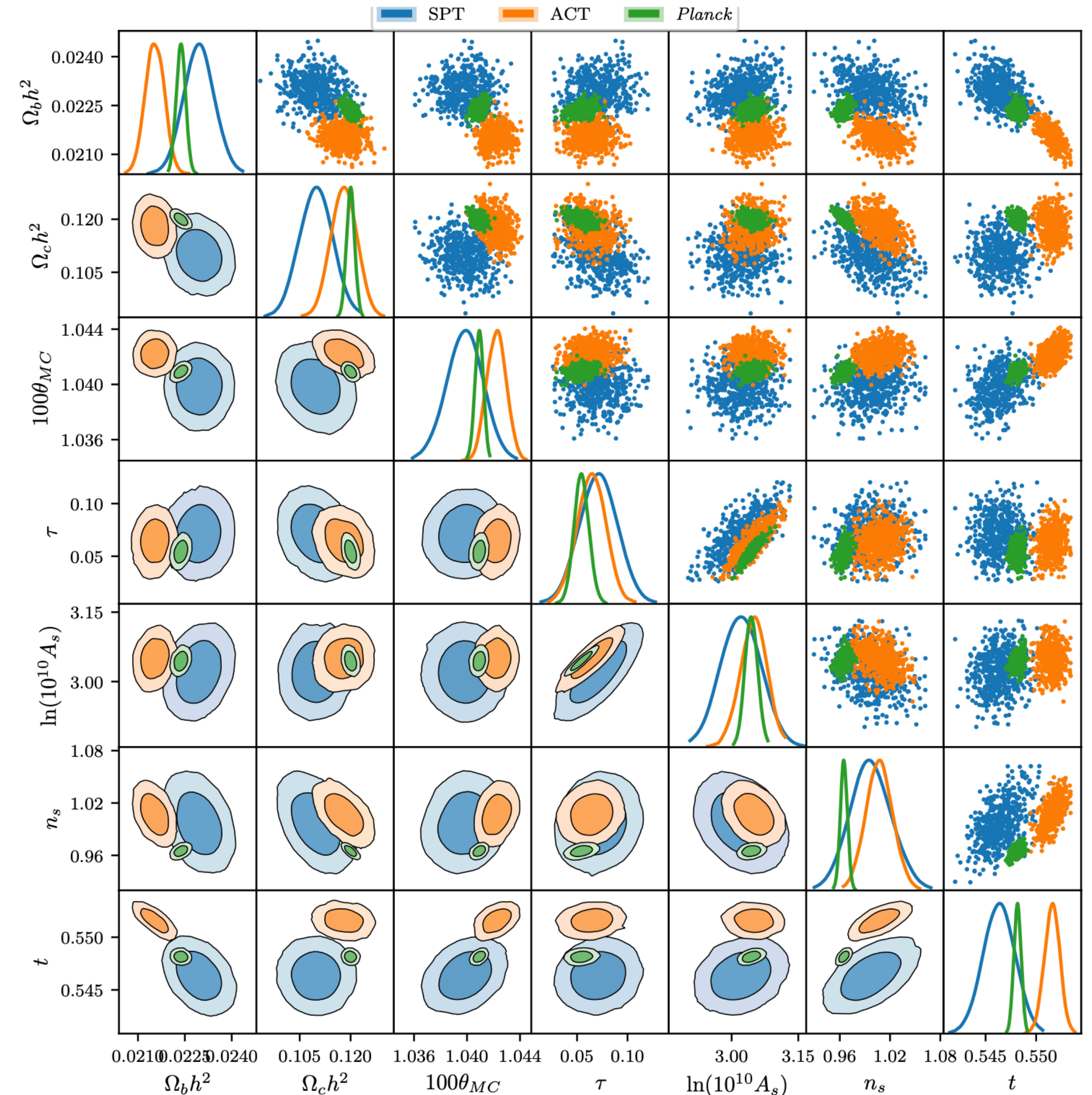
Dataset combination	$\chi^2$	$p$	tension	$\log S$
ACT vs <i>Planck</i>	17.2	0.86%	$2.63\sigma$	-5.60
ACT vs SPT	15.4	1.77%	$2.37\sigma$	-4.68
<i>Planck</i> vs SPT	9.1	16.82%	$1.38\sigma$	-1.55
ACT vs <i>Planck</i> +SPT	18.4	0.52%	$2.79\sigma$	-6.22

### RERUM COGNOSCERE CAUSAS

Important to acquire a clear understanding of the **limitations of current data** and the **uncertainties in the cosmological model**.

This becomes a crucial need in relation to the **Hubble tension** as many proposed solutions call for a new paradigm shift in cosmology while relying almost entirely on the resilience of such observations.

W. Handley and P. Lemos, - 2007.08496



## 2 GLOBAL CONSISTENCY OF CMB EXPERIMENTS

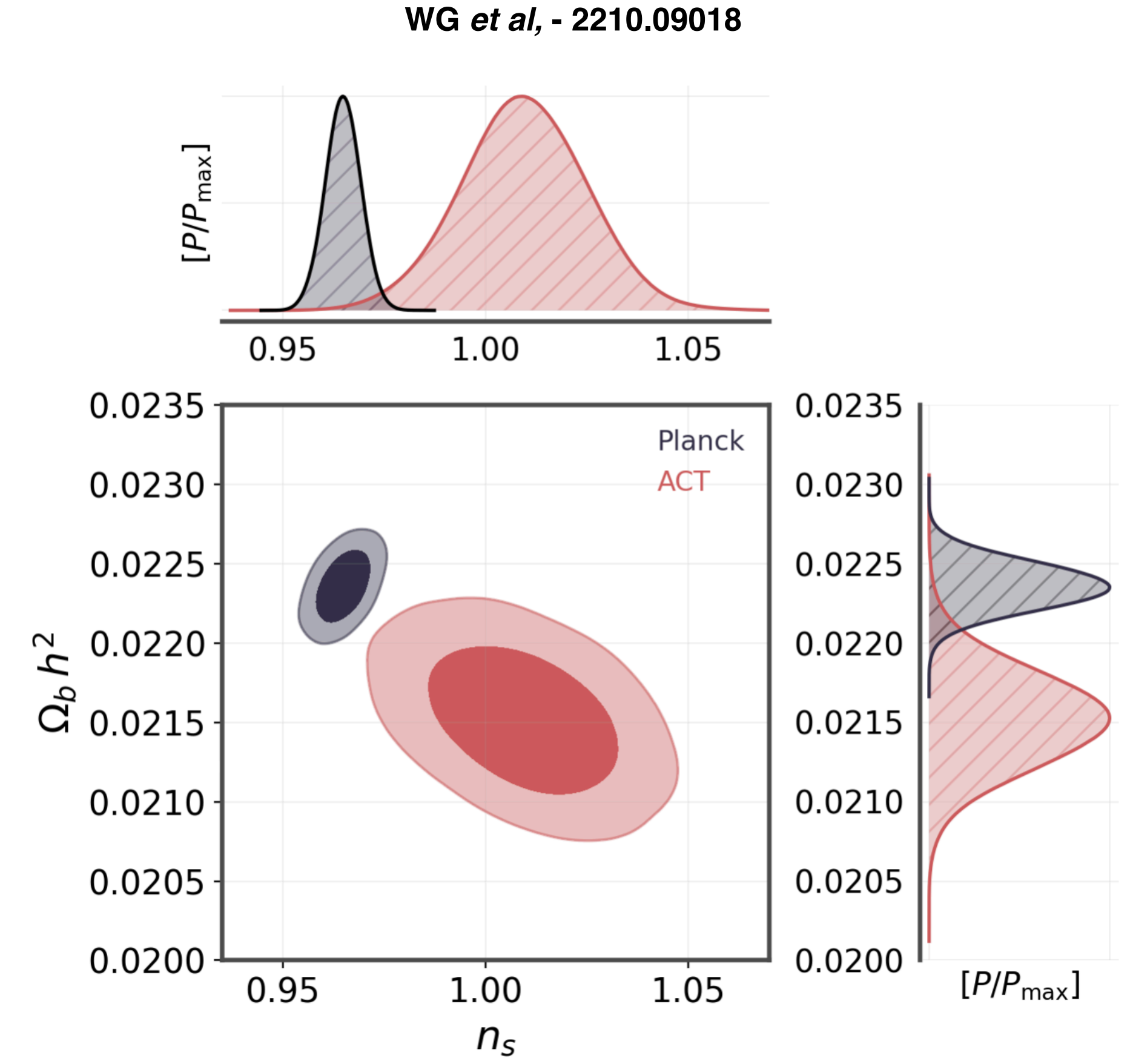
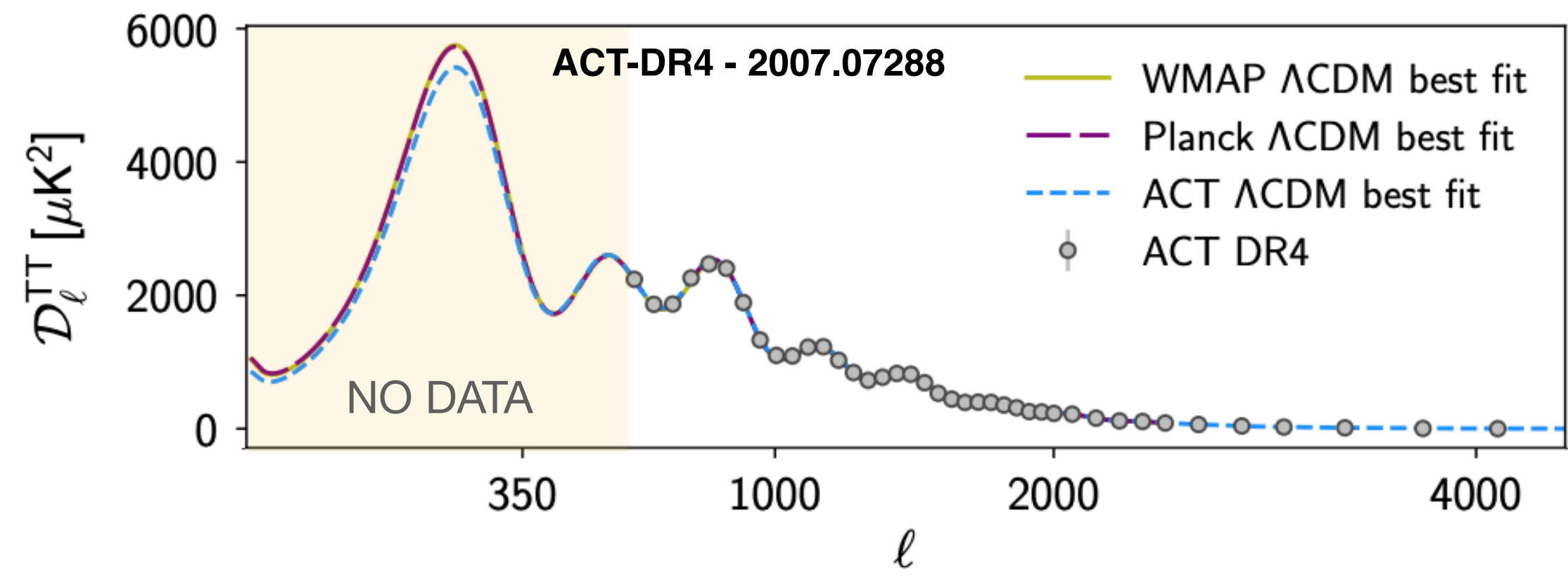
### THE LIMITATIONS OF CURRENT DATA

Assuming a  $\Lambda$ CDM cosmology, the main source of tension between ACT and Planck arises from the measurements of the **scalar spectral index** and the **baryon energy density**

If we believe these differences to emerge from limitations in the data, a logical step is to identify which (missing) part of the dataset is responsible for the discrepancy

### ACT TEMPERATURE DATA

In the **absence of data around the first two acoustic peaks**, there is a strong degeneracy between  $\Omega_b h^2$  and  $n_s$  as a lower value of the former can be mimicked by a larger value of the latter





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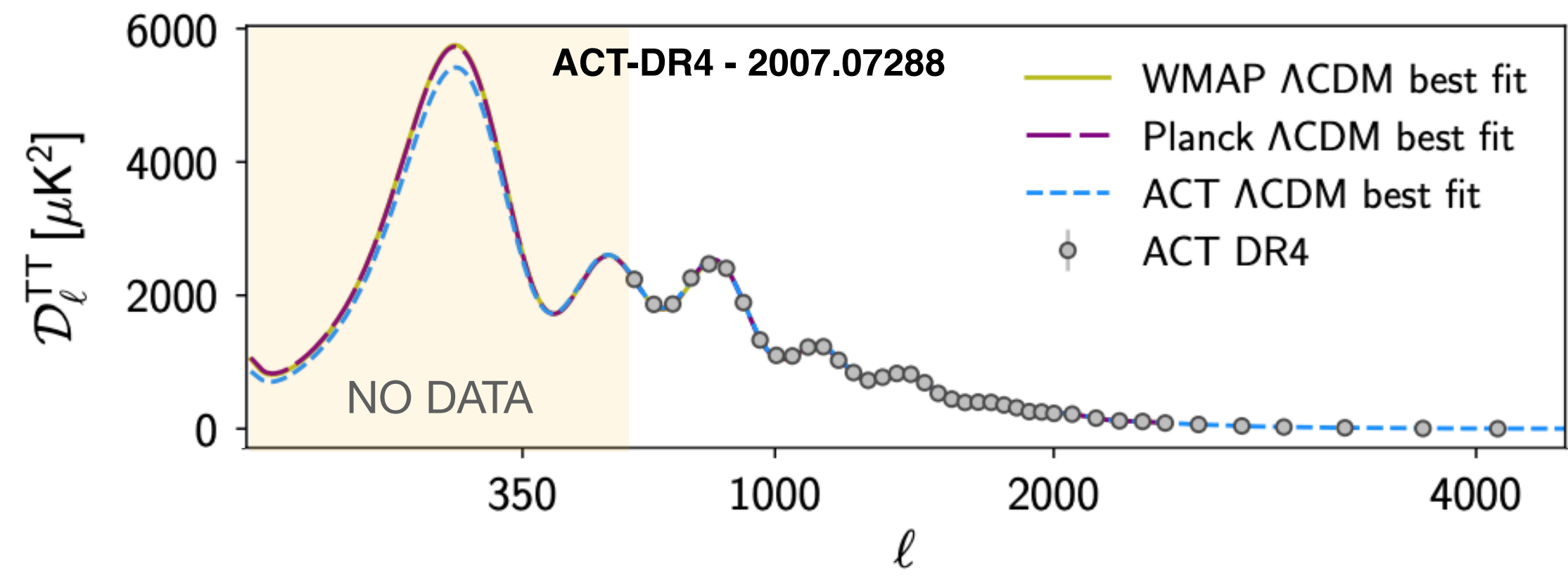
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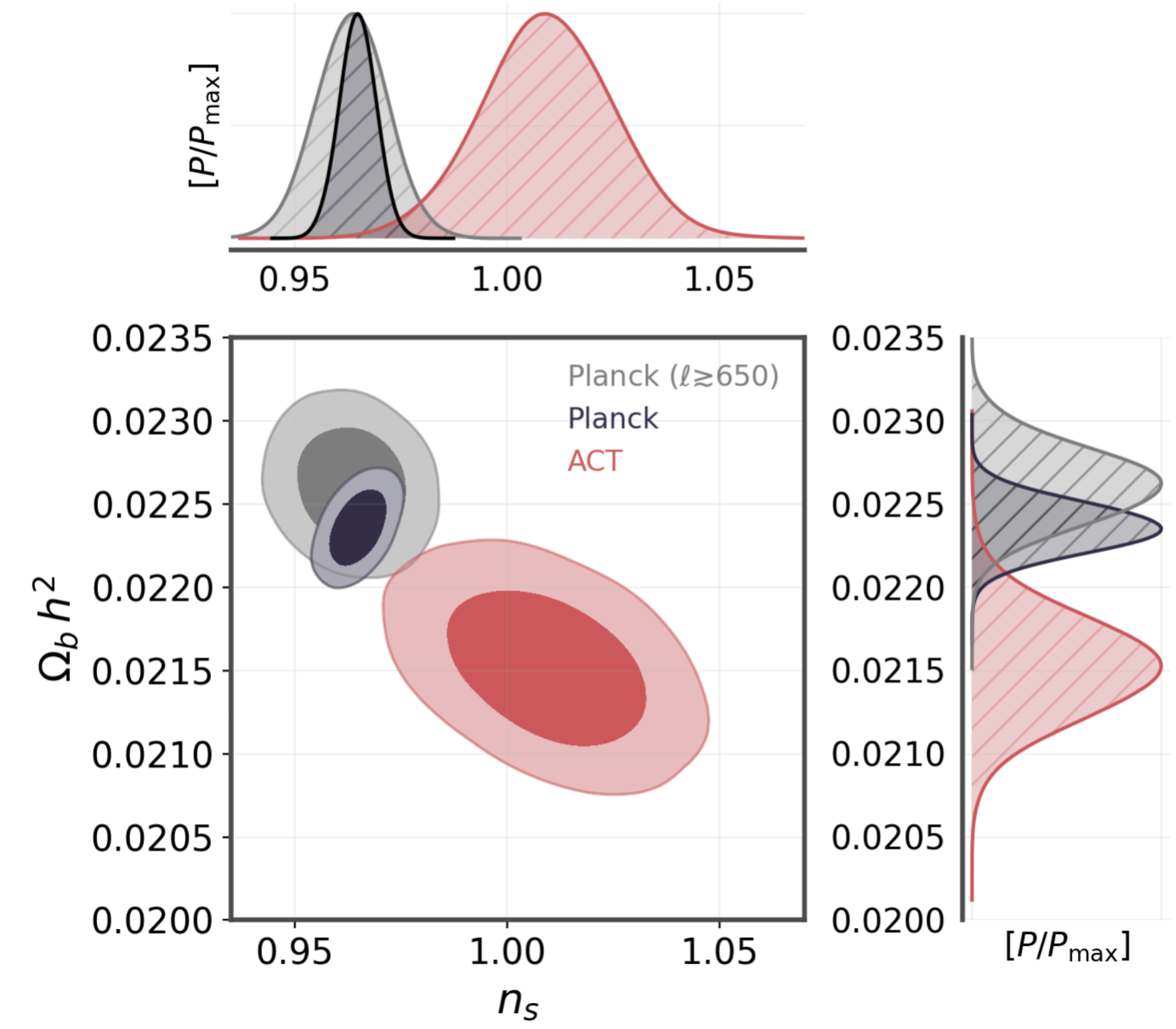
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WG *et al.*, - 2210.09018



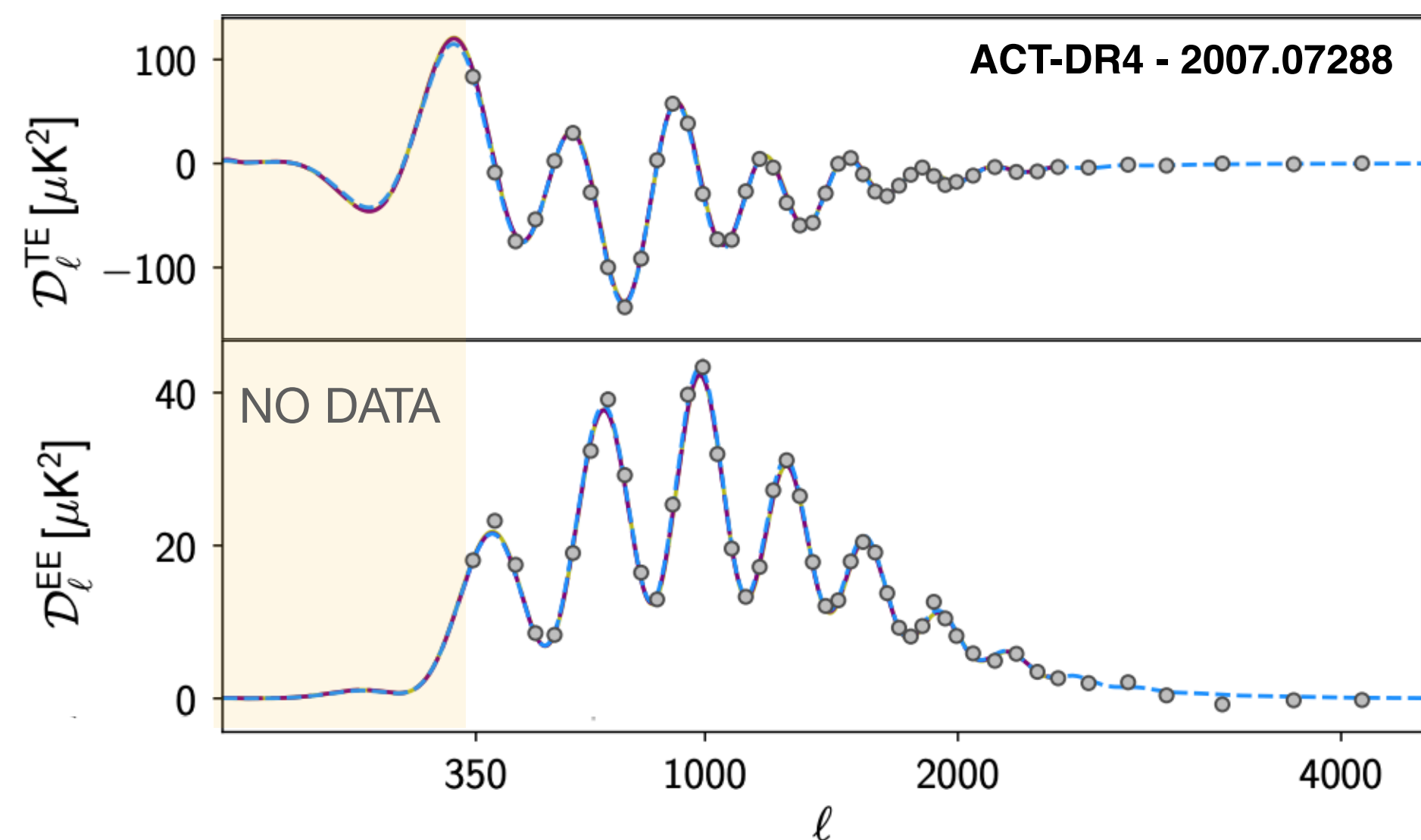
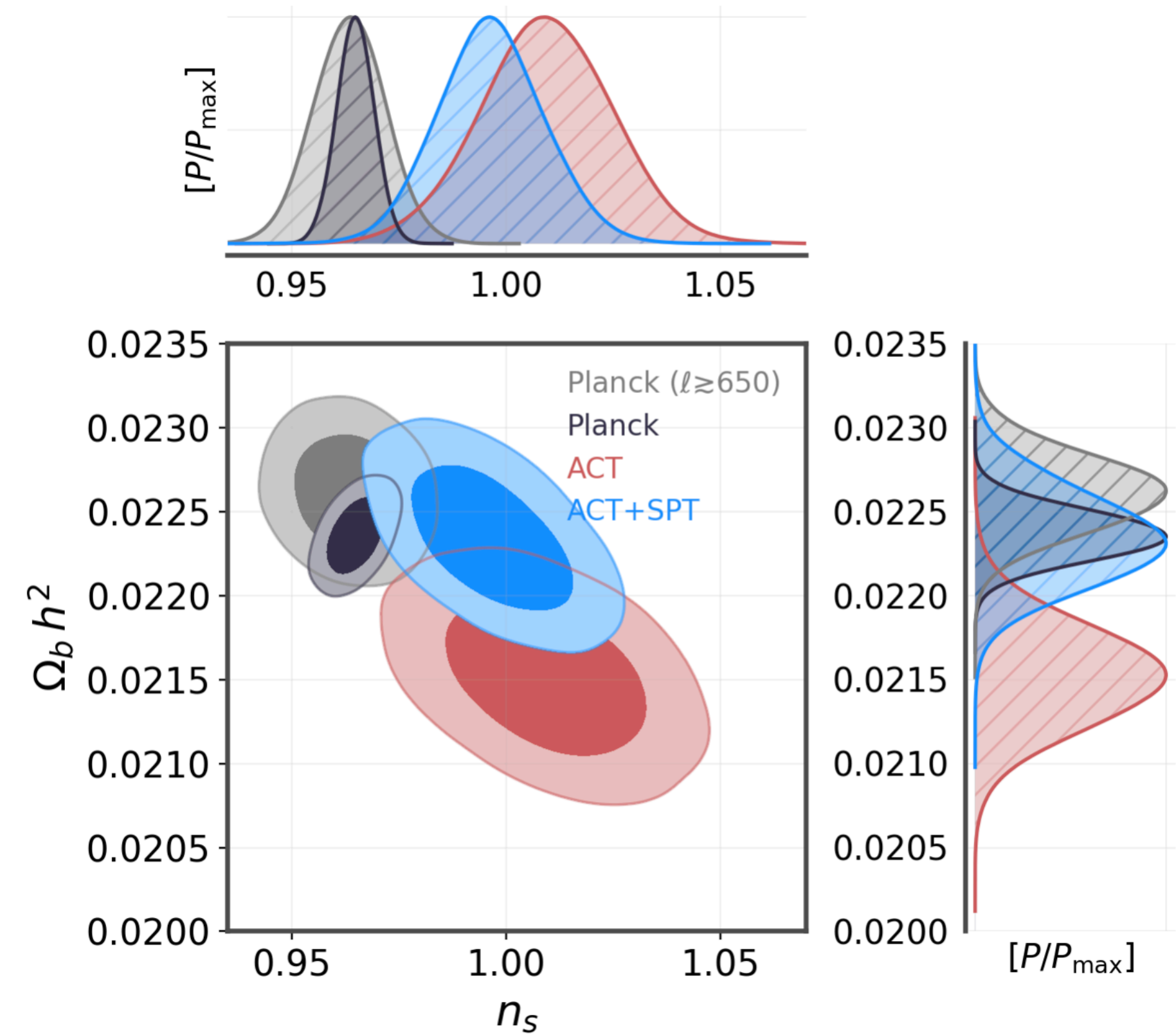
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ACT POLARIZATION DATA

The same for polarization. Is the disagreement coming from TE and/or EE ?

WG *et al.*, - 2210.09018



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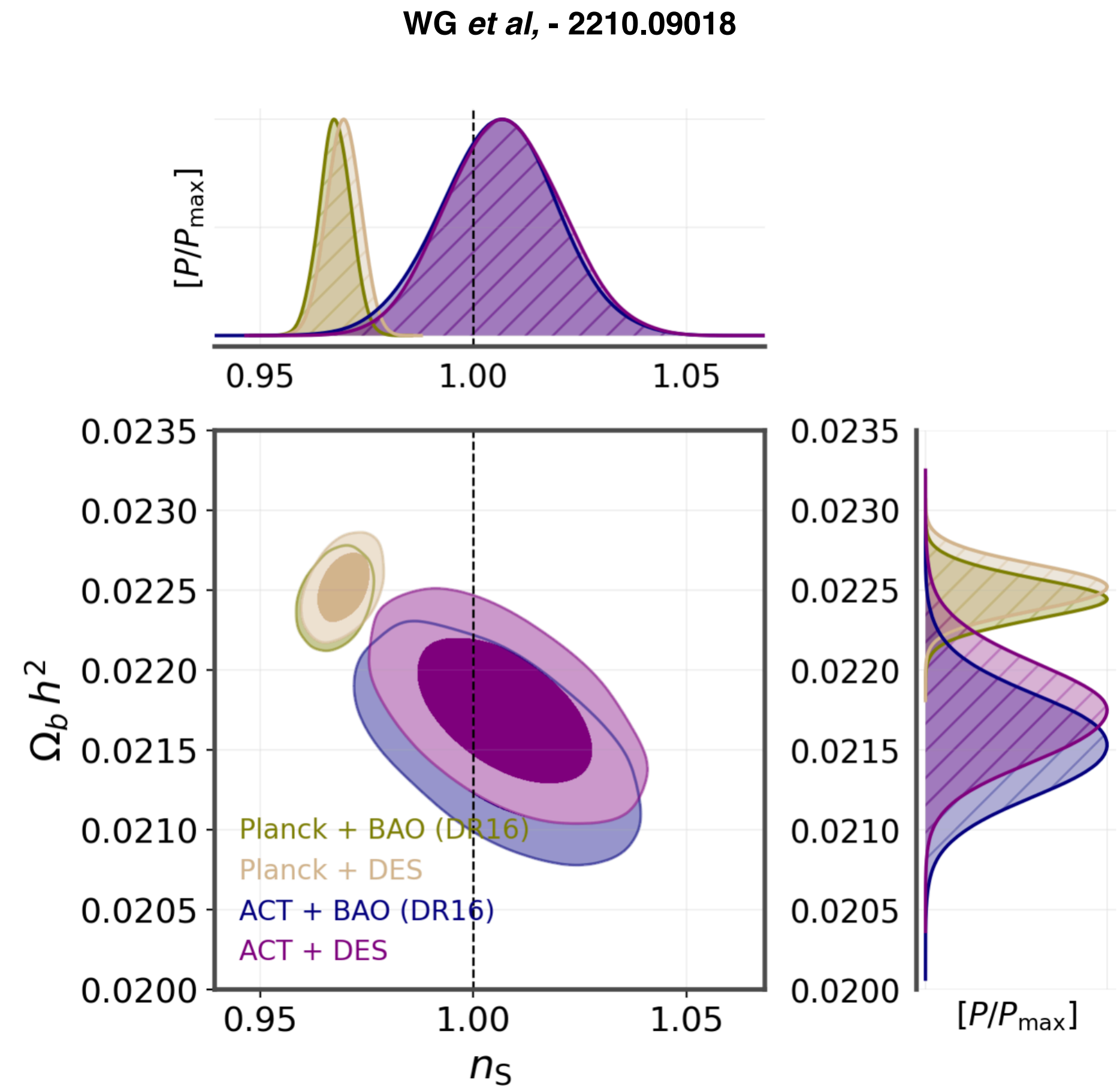
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ASTROPHYSICAL DATA

Yet another possibility is to break the geometrical degeneracy among cosmological parameters by using astrophysical observations such as

- Baryon Acoustic Oscillation (BAO) and Redshift Space Distortion (RSD)
- Galaxy clustering and cosmic shear observations from DES

In this case, **including local Universe measurements** does not change the results significantly but leads to tighter errors and **increases the difference**



Planck-2018 vs ACT-DR4 Constraints on Parameters

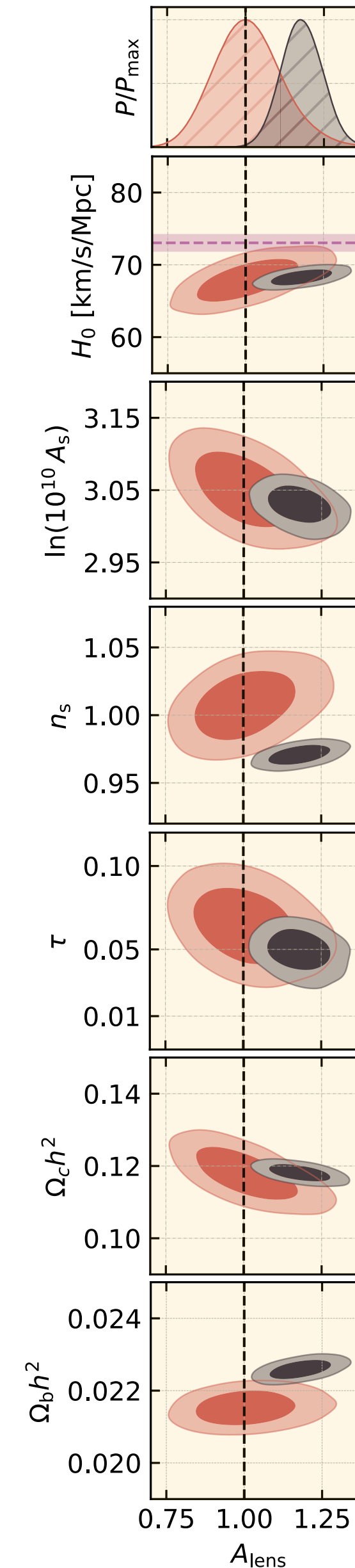
## THE UNKNOWNNS OF THE COSMOLOGICAL MODEL

The value of cosmological parameters inferred from the CMB data clearly depends on the cosmological model and its assumptions.

Therefore, a possibility usually explored when finding anomalies in the cosmological parameter values, is to extend the baseline cosmology and study how the results change.

## LENSING AMPLITUDE

- **Planck** measures a larger lensing amplitude which is in disagreement at  $\sim 2.8$  standard deviations with  $\Lambda$ CDM ( $A_{\text{lens}}=1$ )
- **ACT** is instead perfectly consistent with  $A_{\text{lens}}=1$  (despite larger errors)



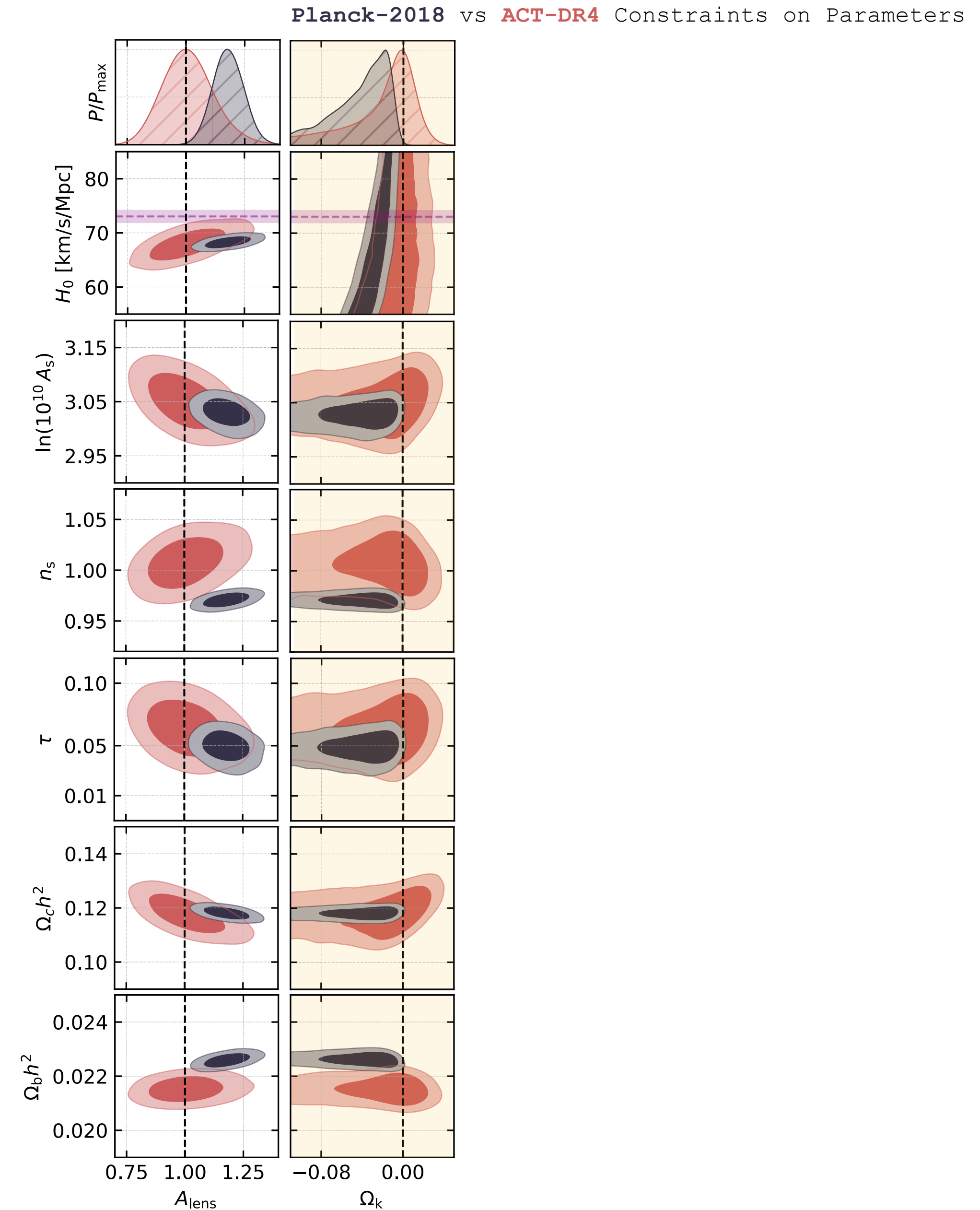
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## CURVATURE

- **Planck** gives a  $\sim 3.4$  standard deviations preference for a closed Universe
- **ACT** is in perfect agreement with spatial flatness (despite larger errors)



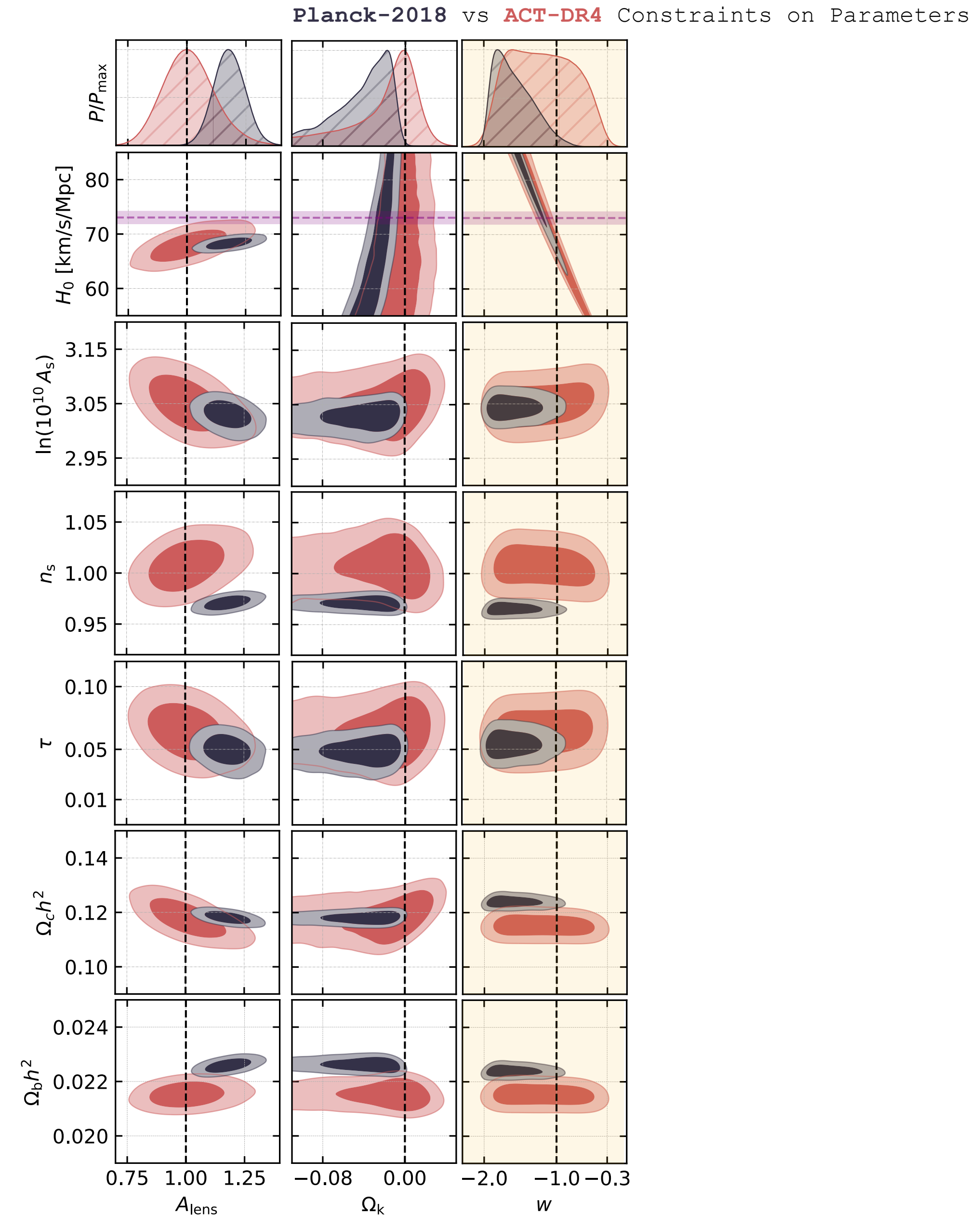
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## DARK ENERGY

- **Planck** gives a ~95% CL indication for a phantom equation of state ( $w < -1$ )
- **ACT** is in good agreement with the cc value  $w = -1$  (despite larger errors)





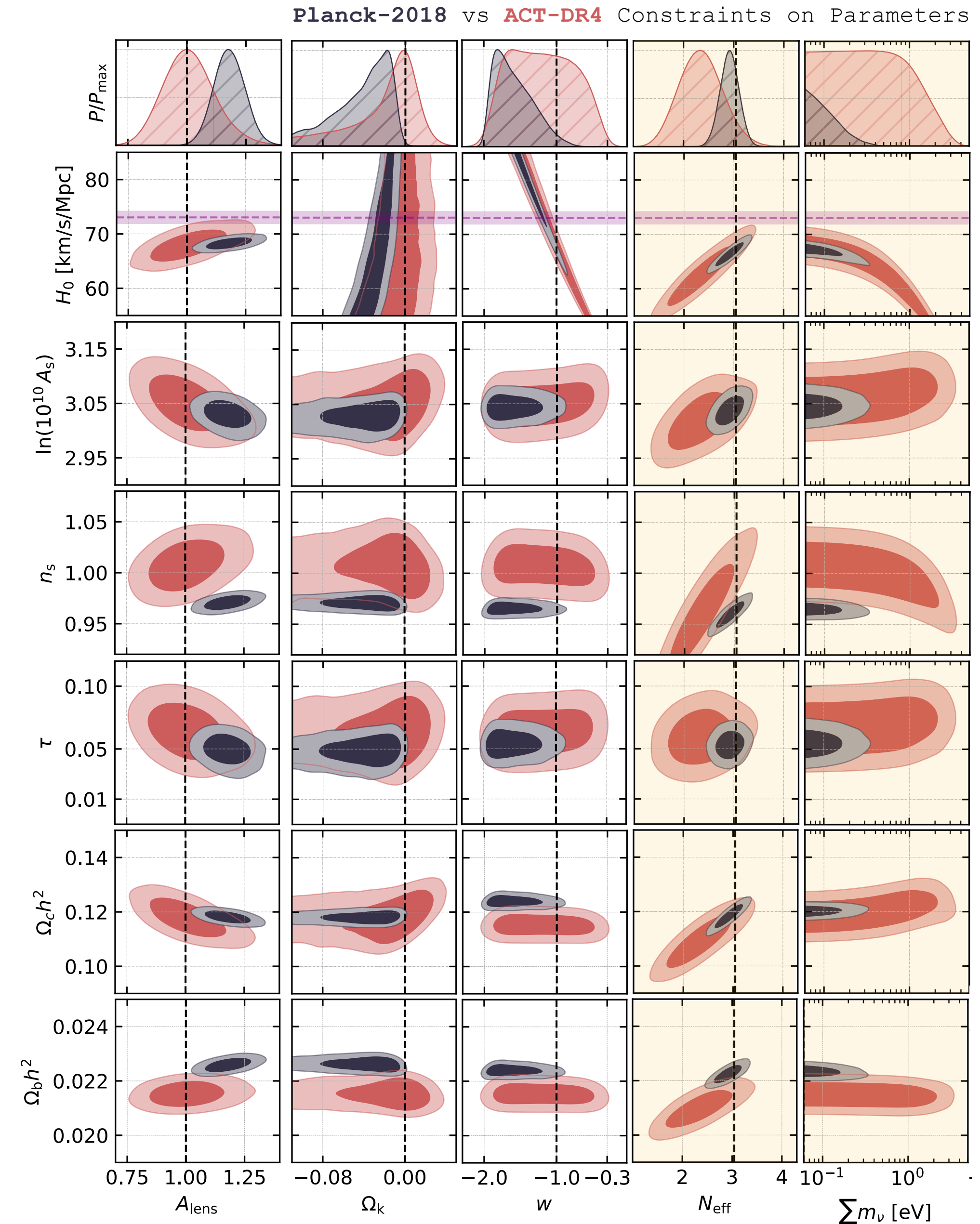
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## DARK MATTER AND NEUTRINOS

- **Planck** is very constraining on the total neutrino mass, and in perfect agreement with the SM about  $N_{\text{eff}}$
- **ACT** is less constraining on the total neutrino mass and in disagreement with the SM about  $N_{\text{eff}}$  at  $\sim 2.5$  standard deviations



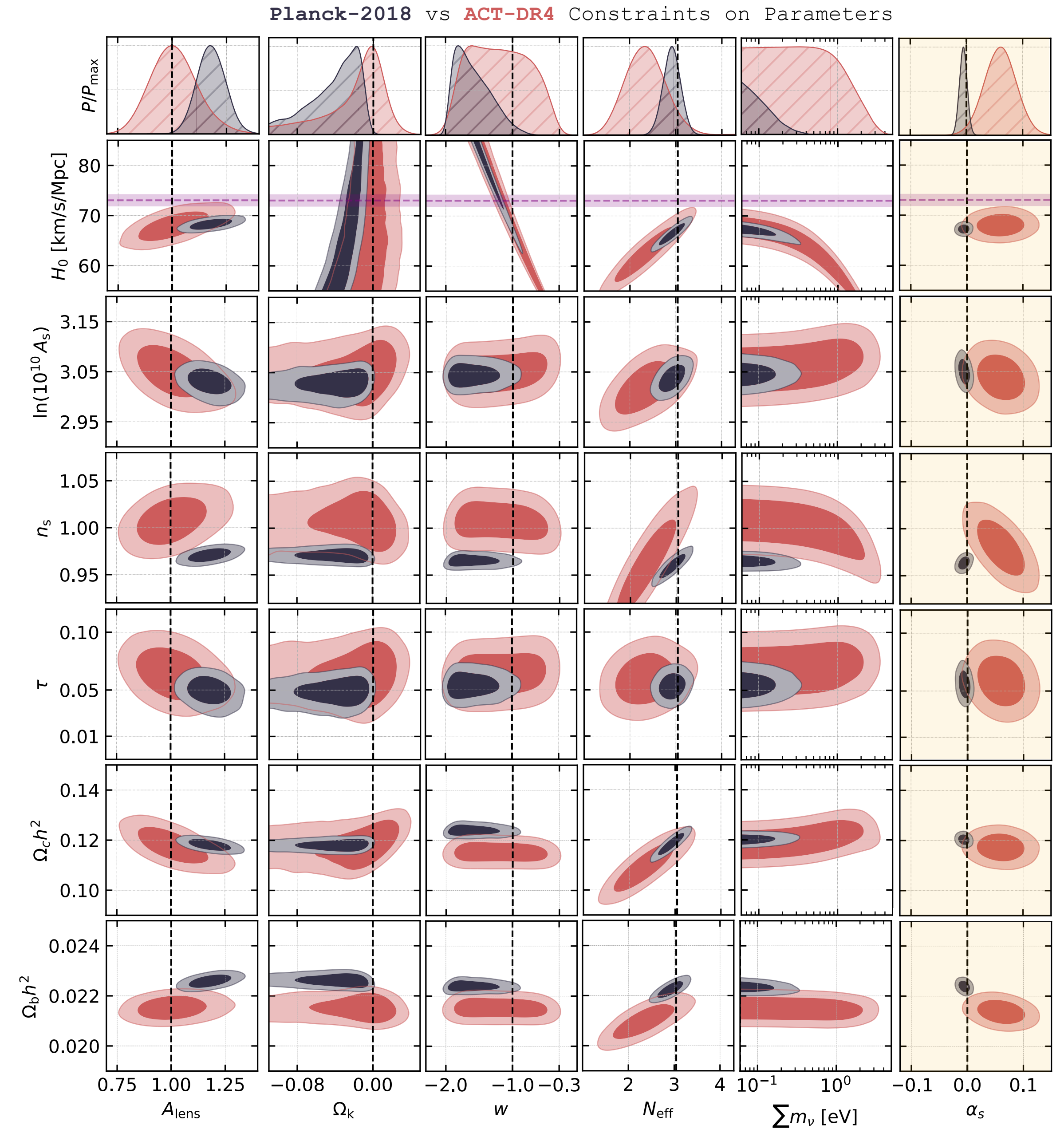
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## INFLATION

- **Planck** gives no evidence for a running of the spectral index (while mildly preferring negative small values)
- **ACT** gives a preference for a positive running of the spectral index at 2.5 standard deviations





**THE UNKNOWNs OF THE COSMOLOGICAL MODEL**

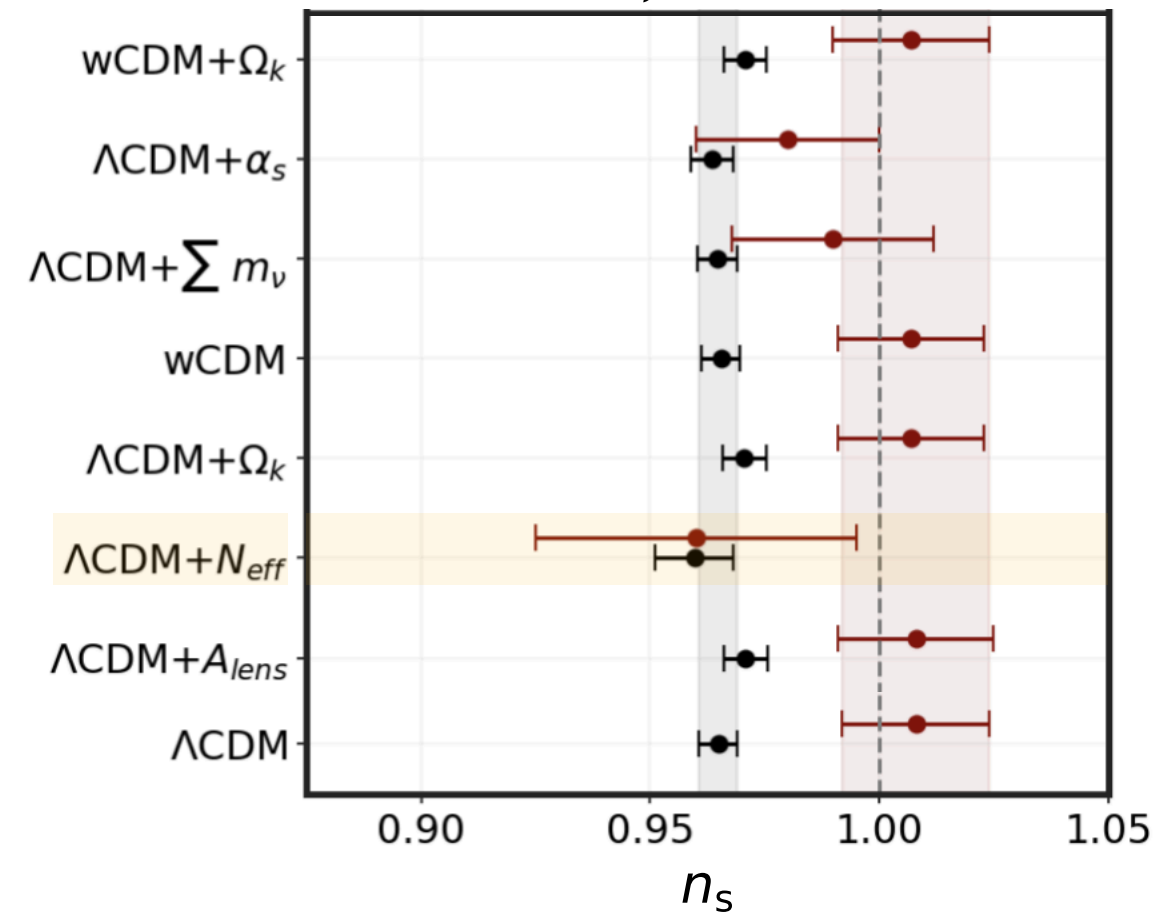
The *global* "tension" between the two experiments, isn't significantly reduced

E. Di Valentino, WG, et al - 2209.14054

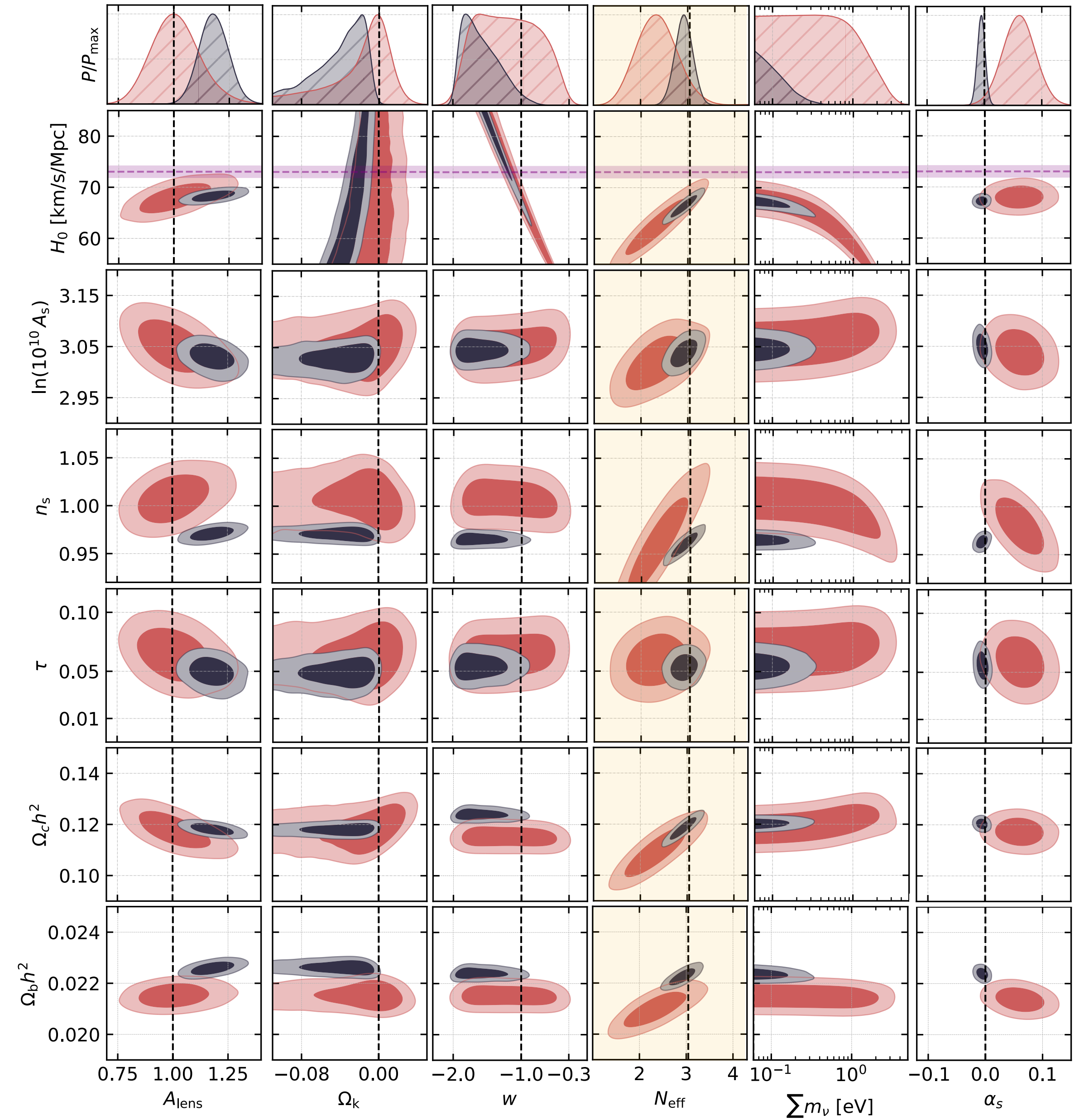
Cosmological model	$d$	$\chi^2$	$p$	$\log S$	Tension
$\Lambda$ CDM + $A_{\text{lens}}$	7	18.5	0.00977	-5.77	2.58 $\sigma$
$\Lambda$ CDM + $\Omega_k$	7	16.5	0.0209	-4.75	2.31 $\sigma$
$w$ CDM	7	16.8	0.0187	-4.9	2.35 $\sigma$
$\Lambda$ CDM + $N_{\text{eff}}$	7	13	0.0719	-3	1.80 $\sigma$
$\Lambda$ CDM + $\sum m_\nu$	7	20.7	0.00421	-6.86	2.86 $\sigma$
$\Lambda$ CDM + $\alpha_s$	7	20.6	0.00448	-6.78	2.84 $\sigma$

A part when the effective number of relativistic particles is significantly less than the standard value...

WG et al, - 2210.09018



Planck-2018 vs ACT-DR4 Constraints on Parameters

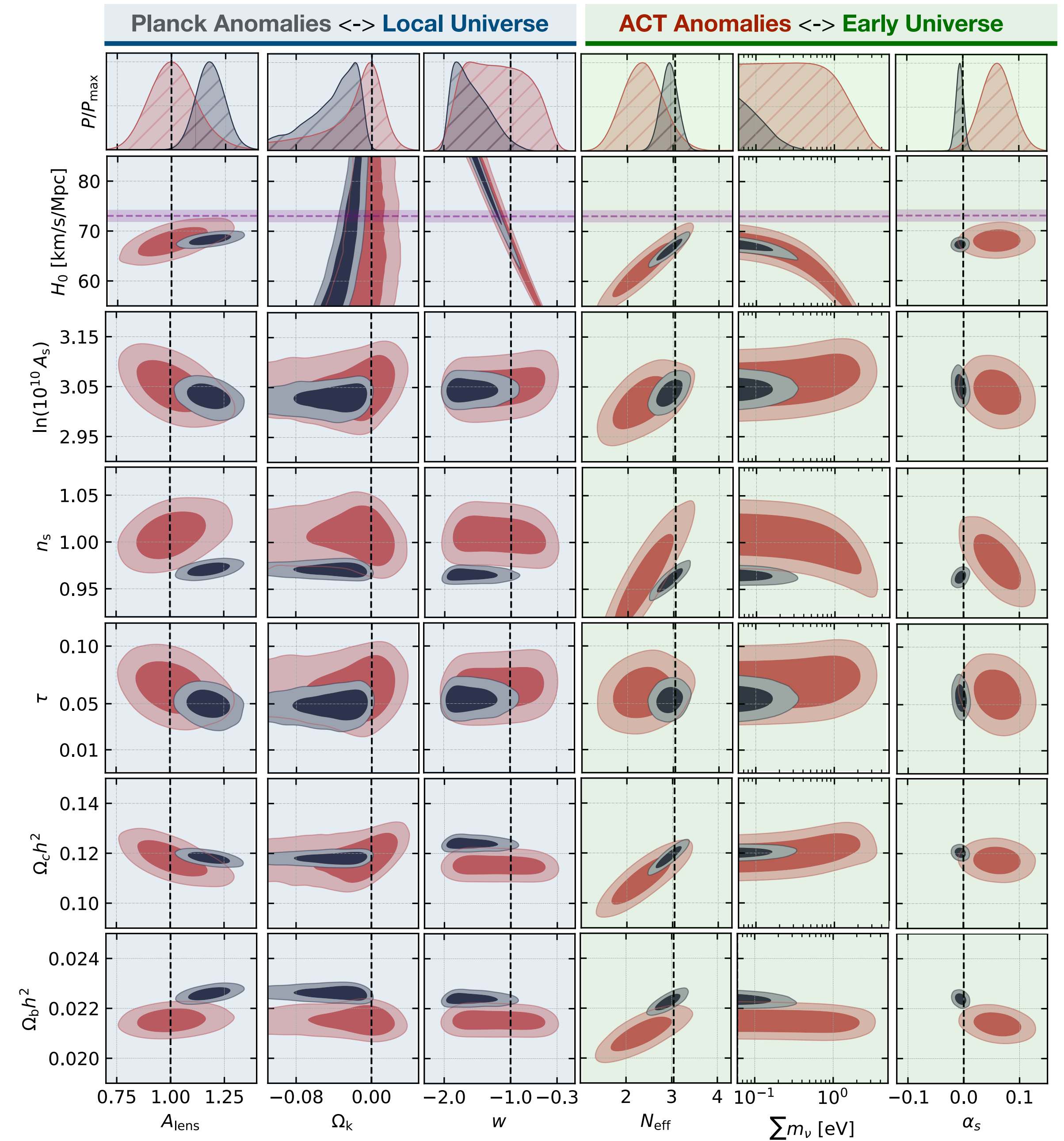


## HOW MANY EARLY-LATE TIME MISMATCHES ARE THERE?

• **Planck** anomalies *always* involve parameters associated with the **local Universe** such as the lensing amplitude, the spacetime geometry, and the dark energy equation of state. **[Cleaned away by Astrophysical data!]**

• **ACT** anomalies *always* involve parameters associated with the **early Universe** such as the baryon energy density, the spectral index, its running, and  $N_{\text{eff}}$ . **[NOT cleaned away by Astrophysical data!]**

Considering also the large experimental uncertainties obtained when extending the late-time sector of the theory, **the difference** between the two probes **remains mostly caused by a mismatch in the early Universe.**





### 3 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE HUBBLE TENSION

#### HOW DO WE MEASURE $H_0$ FOR THE CMB?

- The angular size of the sound horizon ( $\theta_s$ )
- The baryon density ( $\Omega_b h^2$ )
- The cold dark matter density ( $\Omega_c h^2$ )

Model of Early Universe

$$r_s = \int_{z_{CMB}}^{\infty} dz \frac{c_s(z)}{H(z)}$$

- The sound horizon ( $r_s$ )
- The Distance from the CMB ( $D_A = r_s / \theta_s$ )

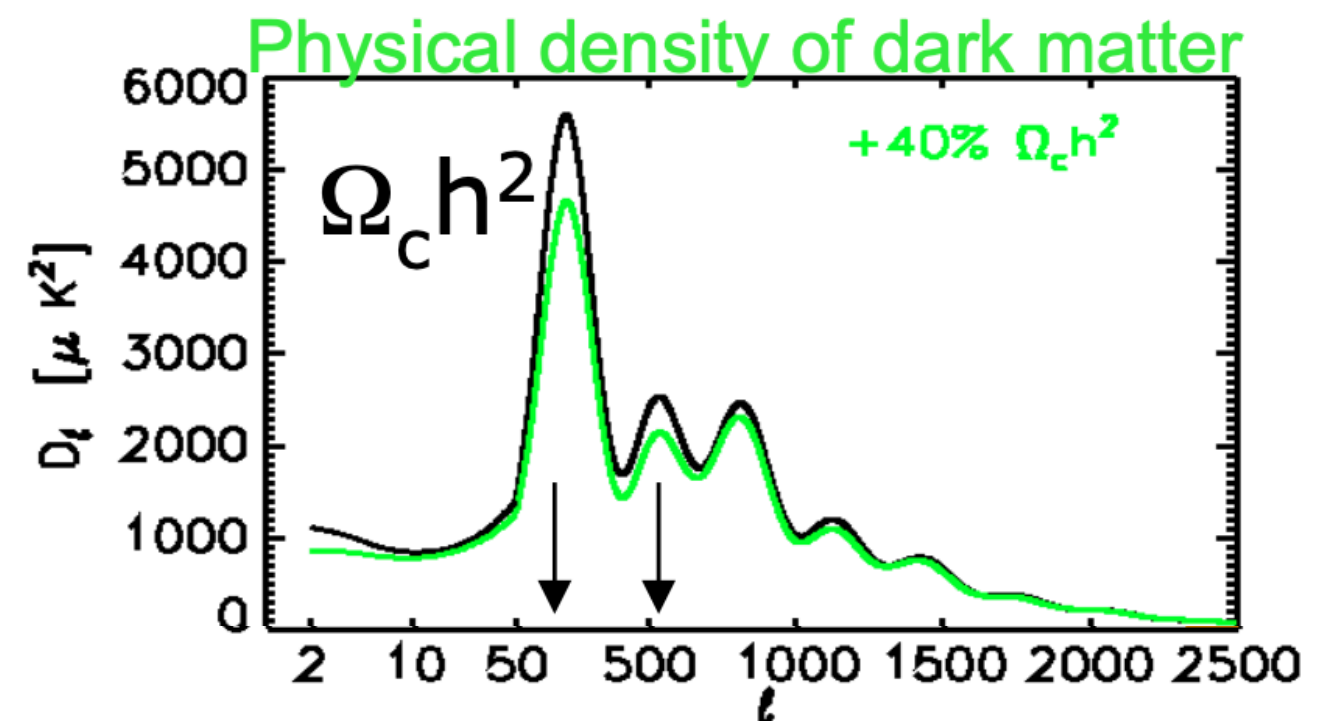
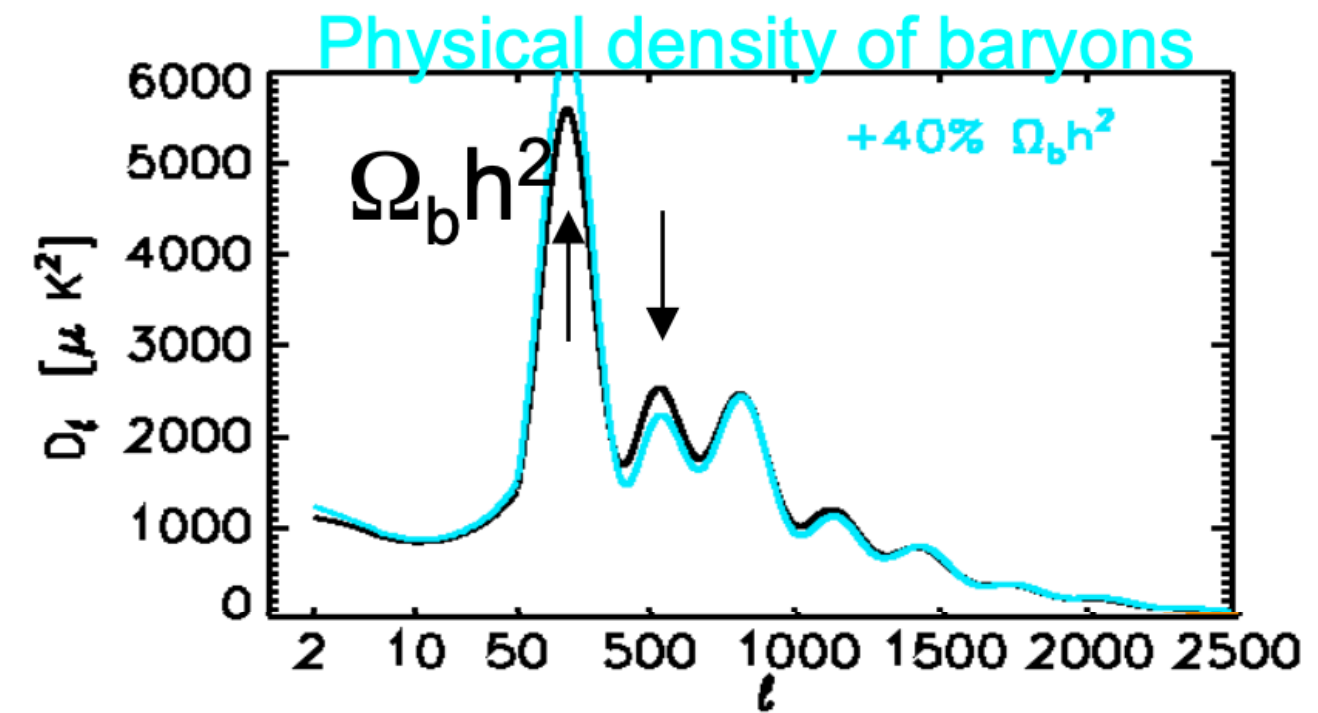
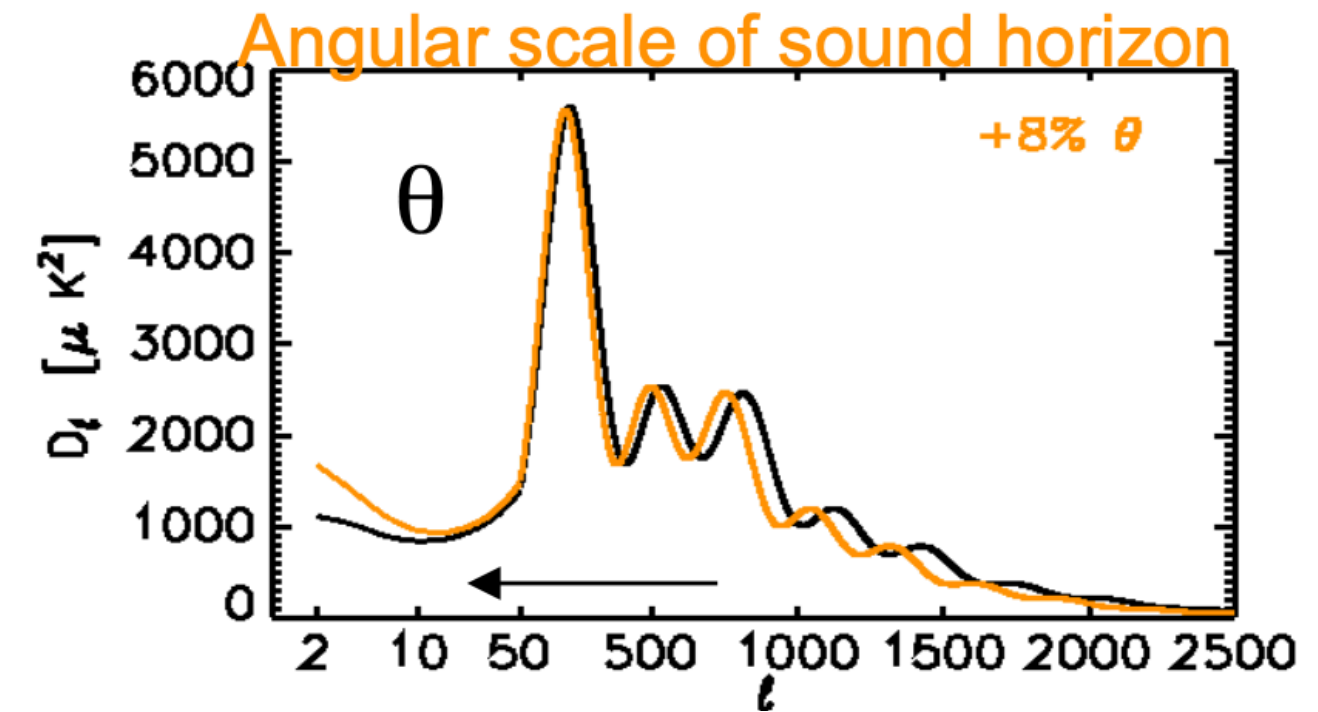
Model of Late Universe

$$D_A(z_{CMB}) = \int_0^{z_{CMB}} dz H(z)^{-1}$$

$$H^2(z) = H_0^2 [\Omega_m (1+z)^3 + \Omega_{DE} (1+z)^{3(1+w)} + \dots]$$

- The Hubble Parameter ( $H_0$ )

S. Galli  
'The  $H_0$  debate from a CMB prospective'



### 3 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE HUBBLE TENSION

#### LATE TIME SOLUTIONS

Given the sound horizon and the distance from the CMB we can try to change the late-time (i.e., post recombination) expansion to get a different  $H_0$ :

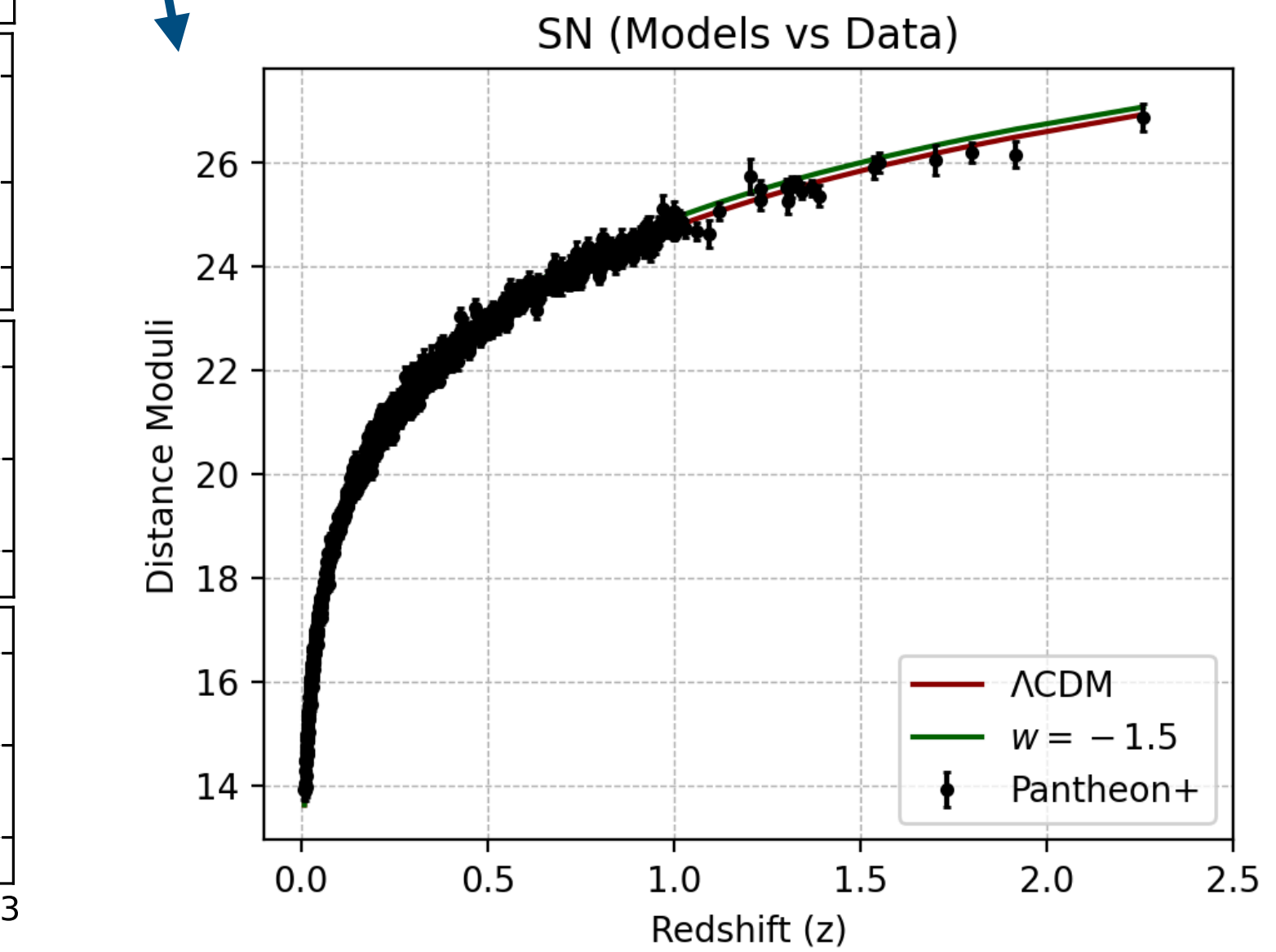
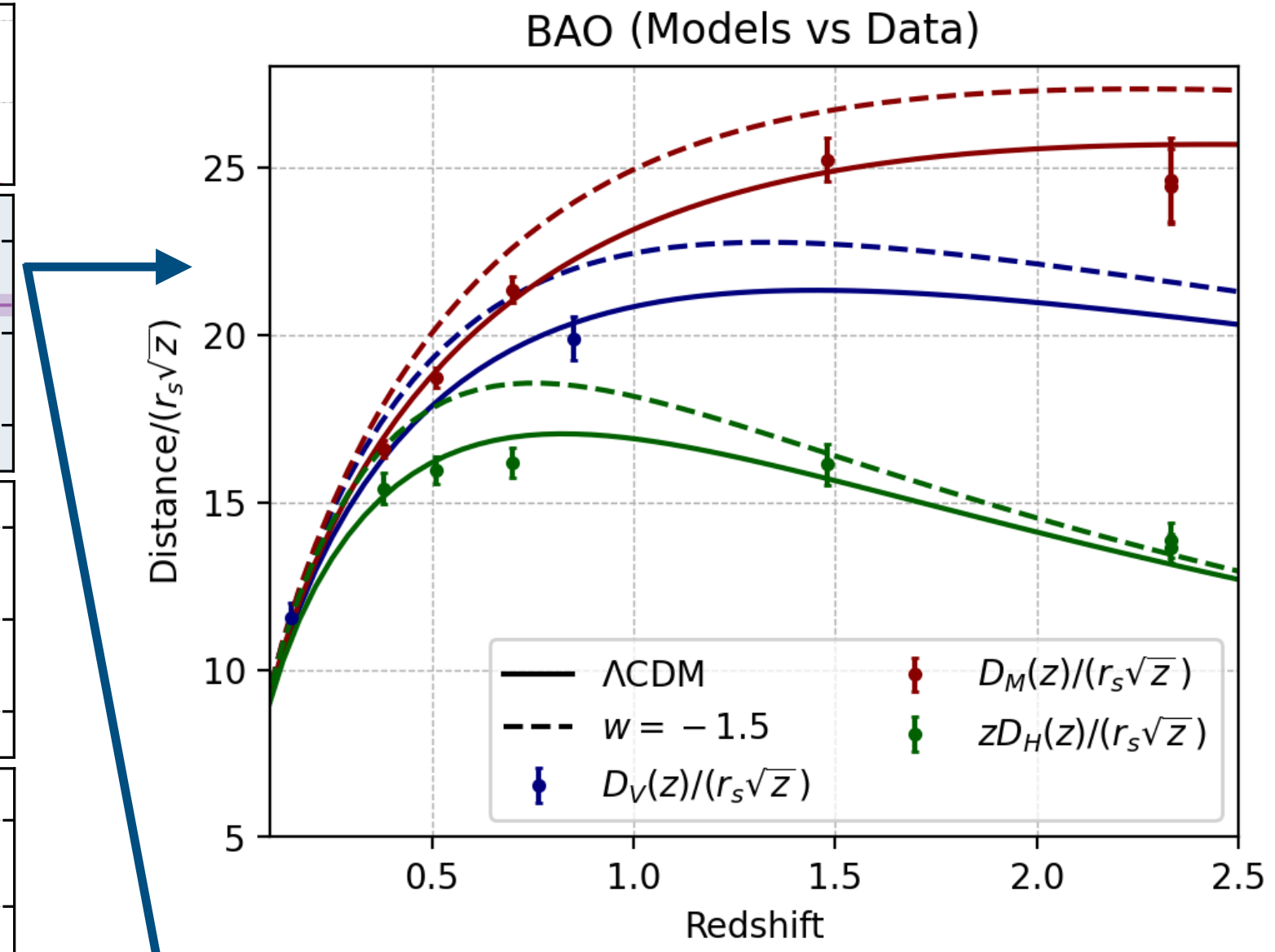
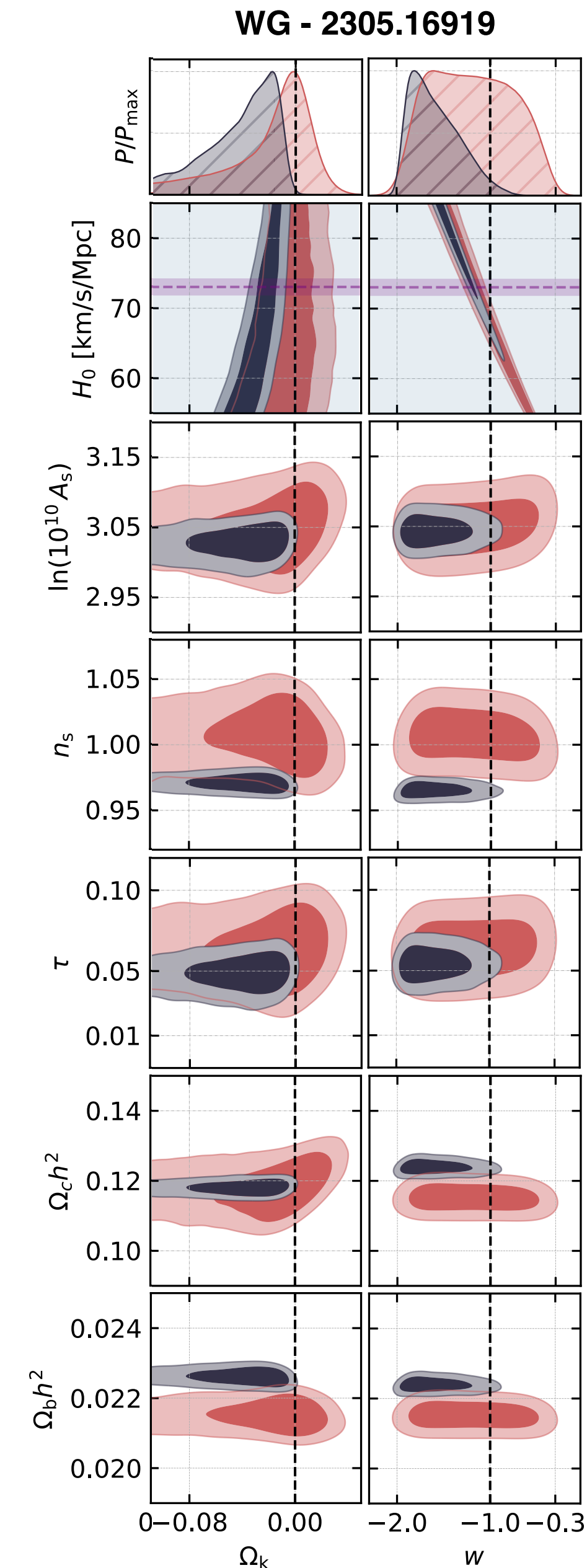
$$D_A(z_{CMB}) = \int_0^{z_{CMB}} dz H(z)^{-1}$$

$$H^2(z) = H_0^2 [\Omega_m (1+z)^3 + \Omega_{DE} (1+z)^{3(1+w)} + \dots]$$

One might expect these solutions to be preferred by data, given the significant room left by the CMB observations for new physics at late-times.

Instead when including local probes there is **very little room to accommodate new physics at late-times.**

In any case, it is **unlikely that the tension between ACT and Planck will have a significant impact** on these solutions since these experiments primarily disagree at early times.



### 3 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE HUBBLE TENSION

#### EARLY TIME SOLUTIONS

Considering **new physics in early Universe** to change the physical size of the sound horizon

$$r_s = \int_{z_{CMB}}^{\infty} dz \frac{c_s(z)}{H(z)}$$

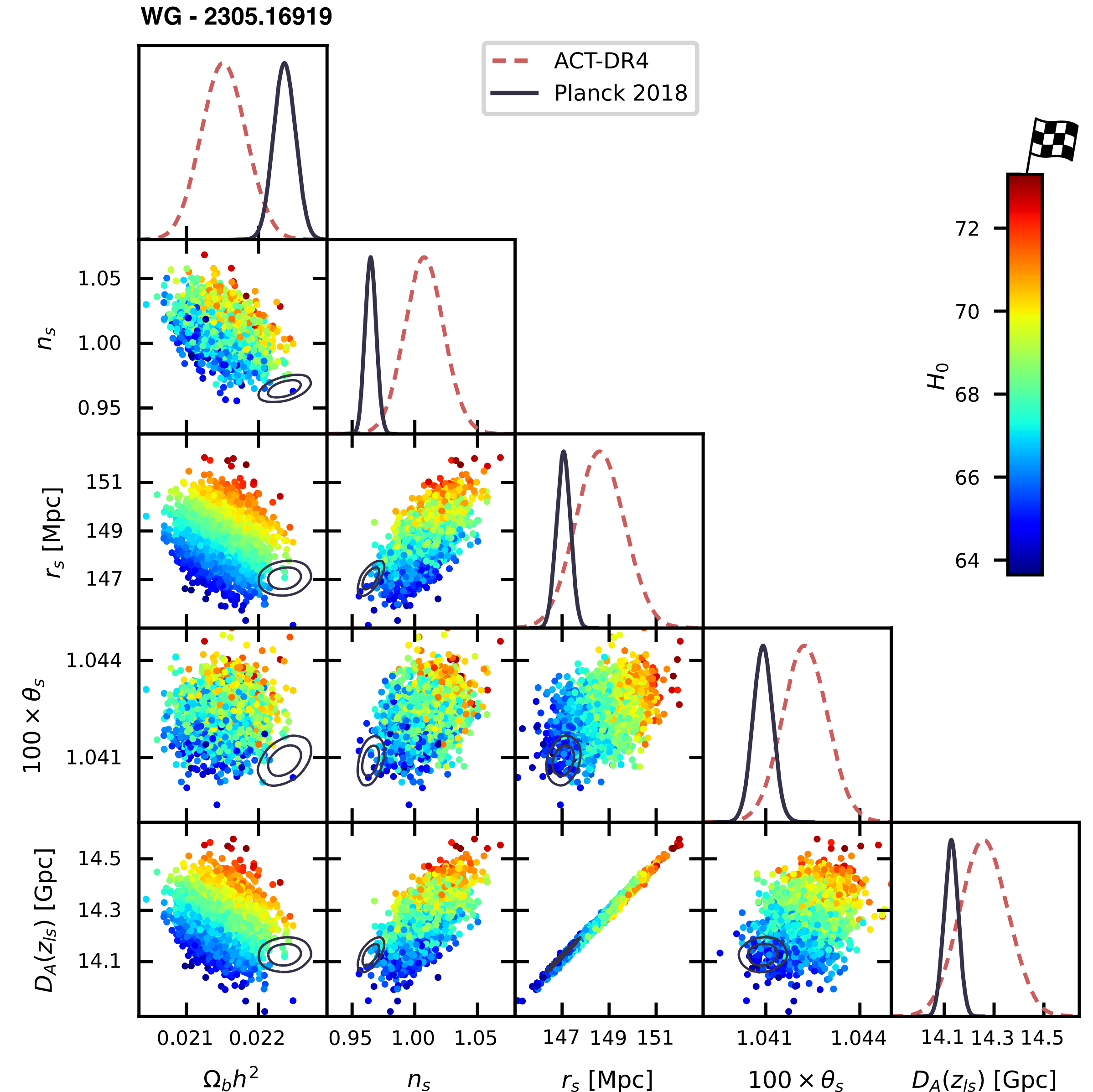
Many indications of this kind of new early-time physics arise when combining multiple CMB measurements (such as Planck and ACT), without finding clear cross-validation when these experiments are considered separately

**ACT** allows for greater flexibility in accommodating higher values of the sound horizon.

**Planck** peaks where ACT prefers very low values of  $H_0$ .

Increasing  $H_0$  requires moving towards the region of the parameter space where the disagreement becomes more significant.

The spectral index and the Hubble constant (and the sound horizon) are all positively correlated: increasing  $H_0$  naturally pushes  $n_s$  towards higher values





# CONCLUSIONS

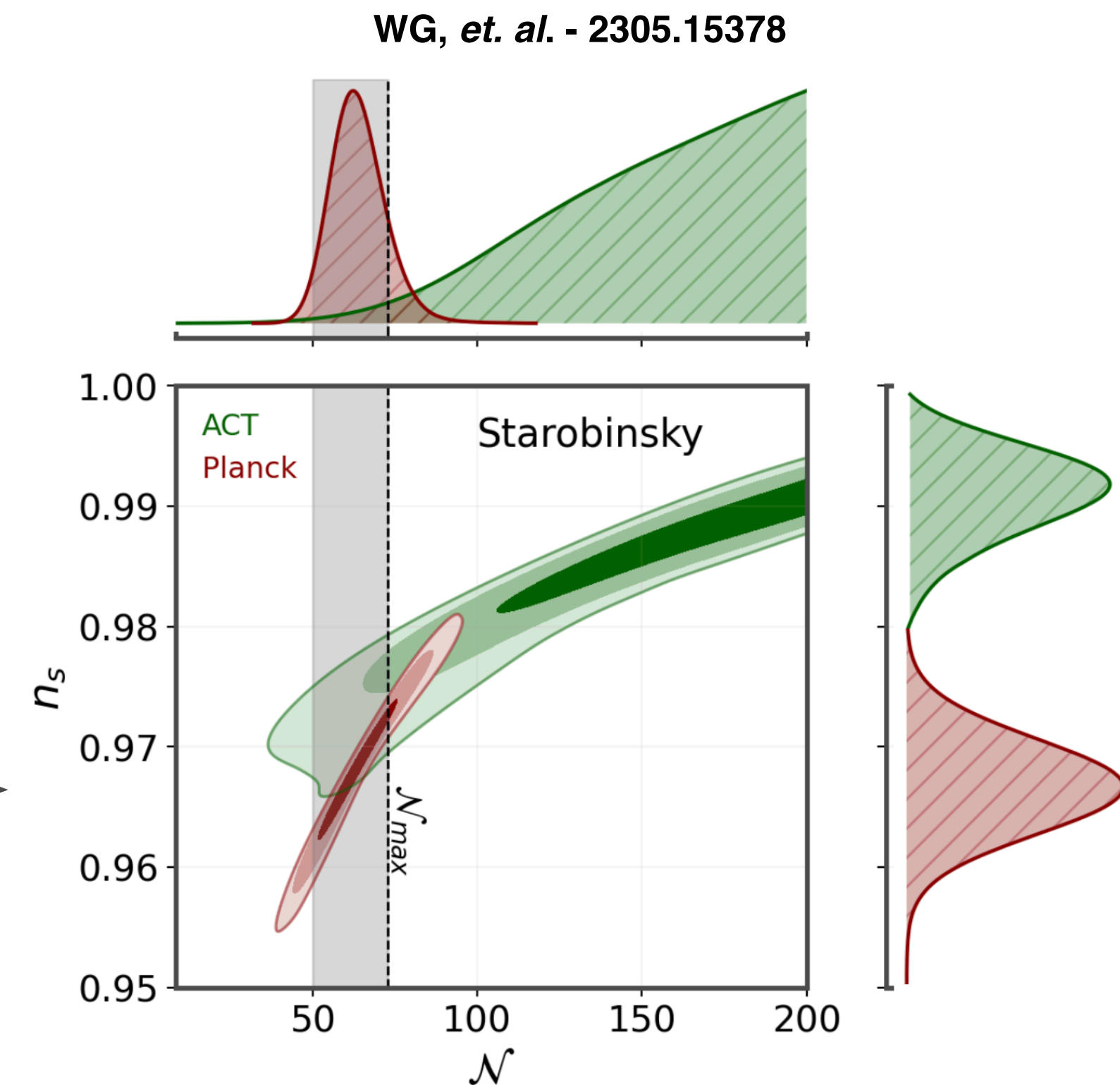
## 1 CMB ANOMALIES: A BRIEF MULTI-EXPERIMENT OVERVIEW

- There is a *global* “tension” between ACT and Planck that can be quantified at the level of  $\sim 2.6 \sigma$

## 2 GLOBAL CONSISTENCY OF CMB EXPERIMENTS

- It can reflect limitations in the current data or new physics in the cosmological model.
- It warrants further investigations if we aim to use these data to study fundamental physics

Example  $\rightarrow$



## 3 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE HUBBLE TENSION

- The tension between ACT and Planck is mainly driven by a **mismatch in the early Universe** parameters

<u>Possible solutions to <math>H_0</math></u>	<u>ACT</u>	<u>PLANCK</u>
<u>Early Universe</u> New physics at early times?	<p><b>Deviations</b> from <math>\Lambda</math>CDM, in <b>tension</b> with Planck</p> <p><math>\downarrow</math></p> <p><b>Hints</b> for new physics</p>	<p><b>Agreement</b> with <math>\Lambda</math>CDM</p> <p><math>\downarrow</math></p> <p><b>No clear evidence</b> for new physics</p>
<u>Late Universe</u> New physics at late times?	<p><b>Agreement</b> with <math>\Lambda</math>CDM</p> <p><math>\downarrow</math></p> <p><b>Little room</b> when local probes are considered</p>	<p><b>Deviations</b> from <math>\Lambda</math>CDM (<b>erased</b> by local probes)</p> <p><math>\downarrow</math></p> <p><b>Little room</b> when local probes are considered</p>

**THANK YOU!**