Growth history and quasar bias evolution at z < 3 from Quaia

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(1) Measurement of σ_8 as function of z at high redshift (z~3)

Study of the bias of quasars

verview

Investigate the presence of possible systematics in CMB lensing reconstructions



Cross-correlation framework

Why are we interested in cross-correlation analysis

This is an invaluable tool for probing the Universe and maximizing the extraction of information from diverse datasets:

- (1) enhanced control over systematic effects compared to auto-correlation analyses
- ② constraining cosmological and nuisance parameters
- ③ revealing signals otherwise hidden by the noise level (e.g. Integrated Sachs Wolfe, ISW effect)

Cross-correlation: statistical tools



θ





angular 2-point correlation function

angular power spectrum

$$C(\theta) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{2\ell+1}{4\pi}\right) C_{\ell} P_{\ell}(\cos\theta)$$
$$C_{\ell} = \frac{1}{2\ell+1} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} \langle |a_{\ell m}|^2 \rangle$$

Cross-correlation: statistical tools

Auto angular power spectrum of quasars

$$C_{\ell}^{gg} = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{0}^{\infty} dz \, [W^{g}(z)]^{2} \int_{0}^{\infty} dk \, k^{2} P(k, z) j^{2}_{\ell} [k\chi(z)]$$

Cross angular power spectrum

$$C_{\ell}^{\kappa g} = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{0}^{\infty} dz \, W^{g}(z) \int_{0}^{\infty} dz' W^{\kappa}(z') \, x \int_{0}^{\infty} dk \, k^{2} P(k, z, z') j_{\ell}[k \chi(z)] j_{\ell}[k \chi(z')]$$

g window function: $W^{g}(z) = \frac{b(z)N(z)}{\int dz' N(z')}$

k window function: $W^{\kappa}(z) \propto \frac{(1+z)\chi(z)}{H(z)} \frac{\chi^* - \chi(z)}{\chi^*}$

Datasets: the Quaia catalogue

Gaia-unWise quasar catalog is an all sky survey with median redshift z = 1.67 and with 1,295,502 sources brighter than the limiting magnitude G=20.5 (K. Storey-Fisher +, 2023)

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The measured bias in the redshift bins is well described by (*P. Laurent +, 2017*)

$$b^{i}(z) = b^{i}_{g}[0.278 (1 + z)^{2} + \text{const}]$$

Datasets: CMB lensing maps

All maps are based on the latest Planck data release (PR4) but are obtained using different combinations of temperature and polarization data

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Baseline

- Generalized Minimum-Variance ("GMV")
- No-temperature ("No-TT")
- ③ Polarisation-only ("Pol-only")
- Temperature alone ("TT-only")
- SZ-deprojected ("TT-noSZ")



CMB lensing Quaia Planck Galactic Mask

Measured power spectra



$$S/N \equiv \sqrt{\chi_{null^2} - \chi^{bf}}$$

	$oldsymbol{C}^{oldsymbol{g}oldsymbol{g}}_\ell$	С ^{кд, No-TT}	$C_{\ell}^{\kappa g, GMV}$	$C_{\ell}^{\kappa g, Pol-only}$	$C_{\ell}^{\kappa g, TT-only}$	С ^{кд, по-SZ}
bin1	7.5	8.7	13.5	5.4	11.1	11.4
bin2	14.7	13.5	20.0	10.0	15.5	15.1
bin3	5.9	5.1	5.7	2.9	5.0	3.8
A11	17.3	16.2	24.7	11.6	19.8	19.4

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baseline CMB lensing maps

Likelihood analysis

Gaussian Likelihood using $C_{\ell}^{\kappa g} + C_{\ell}^{gg}$ as dataset to constrain simultaneously σ_8 and the QSO bias (Core Cosmology Library + Cobaya)

Explored cosmological models:

- (1) CosmoFix: cosmological parameters fixed to Planck2020 best-fit values. Free parameters $\{b_g^i\}$
- (2) CosmoMarg: { $\Omega_{
 m M}$, σ_8 , h, b_g^i }
- (3) CosmoGrowth: { $\Omega_{
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- (3) CosmoGrowth: { $\Omega_{\rm M}$, h, $\Delta_{\rm i}$, b_g^i }

$$P_{lin}(k, z) = \mathbf{D}(z)^2 P_{lin}(k, z = 0)$$

$$\sigma 8 = \sigma_{8, fid} \mathbf{D}(z)^{fid} (1 + \Delta_i)$$

Results 1: Measurements of σ_8



Our results are in agreement (within ~ 1 σ) with Λ CDM prediction using Planck2020 best-fit parameters

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Our results are in agreement (within ~ 1 σ) with \Lambda CDM prediction using Planck2020 best-fit parameters One of the highest measurement in redshift of $\sigma_8(z)!$

GMV (kg+gg, CosmoMarg) 6 GMV (kg, CosmoFix) GMV (kg+gg, CosmoFix) No-TT 5 4 b(z)3 2 1.26/D(z) 1.15/D(z)Laurent et al. 2017 0.5 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0 0.0 1.0 3.5 Z

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Results 2: Quasar bias

General good agreement with *Laurent+, 2017*

Milder evolution at higher redshifts more compatible with: $b(z) = b_0/D_{fid}(z)$

Results are not strongly driven by contamination from extragalactic foregrounds in the CMB lensing map.

D. Alonso +, 2023 reported a potentially significant difference in the amplitude of the Quaia-CMB lensing cross-correlation using different κ maps at high redshifts

Results 3: study of contaminations in CMB maps

Isolating the range of redshifts is interesting to establish its potential extragalactic origin

Set up:

- We divide the total redshift distribution of the Quaia sources into six redshift bins (z_{edges} = [0.0, 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5, 5])
- 2 CosmoFix cosmological model
- More CMB lensing maps: TE-only ("TE-only"), Minimum-variance source hardened ("MVh"), Temperature-only, source-hardened map ("TTh")

Results 3: study of contaminations in CMB maps

$$b_g = \frac{t^T Cov^{-1}d}{t^T Cov^{-1}t} \qquad \sigma(b_g) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{t^T Cov^{-1}t}}$$



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Conclusions

- ① One of the highest-redshift constraints on $\sigma 8$ in the literature ($\sigma_8(z = 2.7) = 0.22 \pm 0.06$)
- The b(z) is overall comparable to that of eBOSS with a milder evolution at high redshifts. We find a dependency on the choice of cosmological model but our results are largely compatible between different analysis choices.
- ③ We investigated the presence of foreground contamination in the Planck lensing maps, finding a localized effect at $z \sim 1.7$ which can be explained by the extragalactic contamination from a clustered component. Nevertheless, we verified that our constraints on $\sigma_8(z)$ are not significantly affected by this potential systematic.

NEXT STEP: Use new CMB experiments (ACT, SO, and CMB Stage-4) that will probe significantly smaller angular scales with higher sensitivity, and over a wide range of frequencies, making it possible to improve the robustness of these constraints to both Galactic and extragalactic systematics.



Results 3: Statistical significance

Lensing maps

We retrieved the κ maps using 480 independent realizations of simulated lensing reconstructions (PR4)

bg estimates

We computed the crossspectrum for each realization and reconstruction method, and estimated the value of bg

Correlated Gaussian realizations

We generated a correlated Gaussian realization of the QSOs overdensity map. We assumed the theoretical auto and cross-correlation, the same cosmology as in PR4 simulations, and the fiducial b(z) and N(z).

We added a shot noise component modeled usingcrandom realizations from the Quaia catalogue

PTE

3

We quantify the level of disagreement between different CMB lensing maps by calculating the fraction of simulated realizations for which a difference in the value of bg with respect to the one found for the corresponding GMV map is larger than the value measured in the data.



Quaia: old vs new catalogue

