

A background image of the cosmic web, showing a complex network of purple and orange filaments and nodes against a dark background.

# Optimising primordial non-Gaussianity measurements from galaxy surveys

**Eva-Maria Mueller**

19 July 2017

arXiv: 1702.05088, 1705.06373

---

# Outline

Overview: extended BOSS survey (eBOSS)

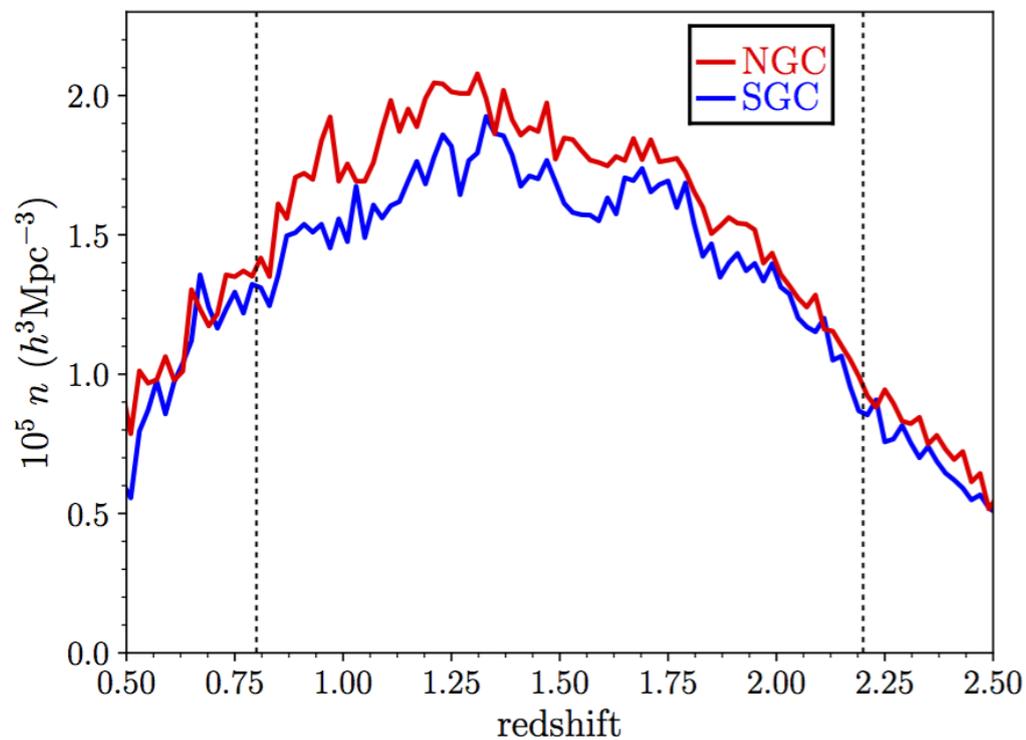
Constraining primordial non-Gaussianity with LSS

Redshift weighting techniques

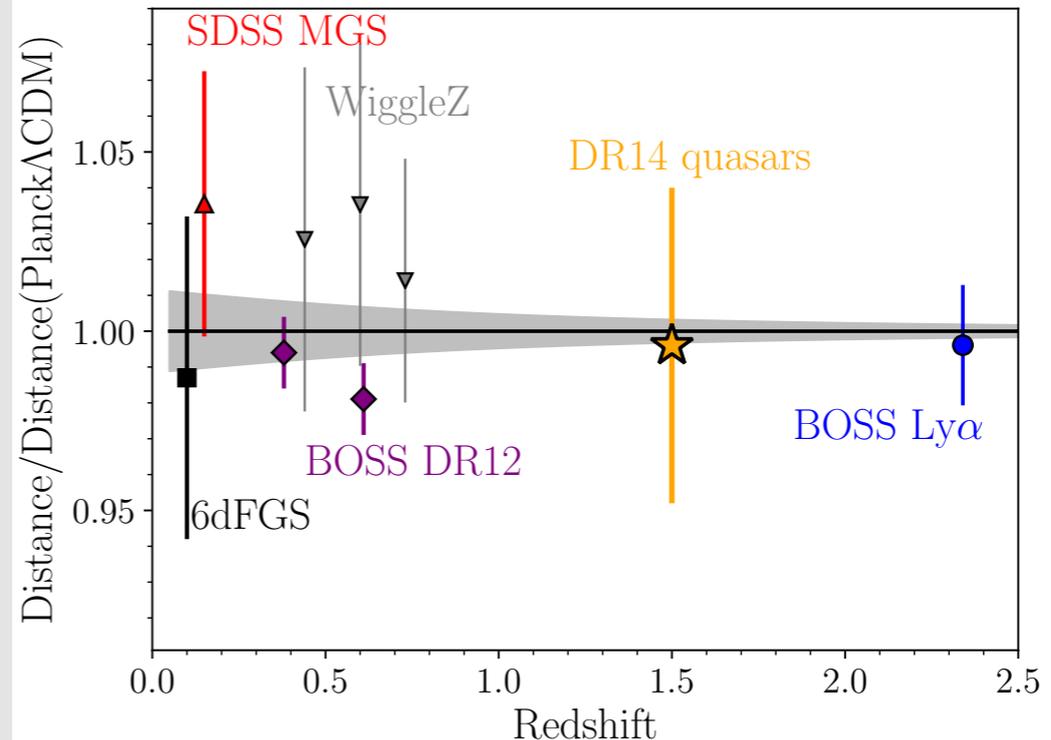
Accounting for systematics effects

# eBOSS: First results

eBOSS collaboration: Ata et al. (2017)



147,000 quasars from the extended Baryon Oscillation Spectroscopic Survey (eBOSS)



Good agreement with Planck  $\Lambda$ CDM

# Primordial Non-Gaussianity

Simple form: Local type

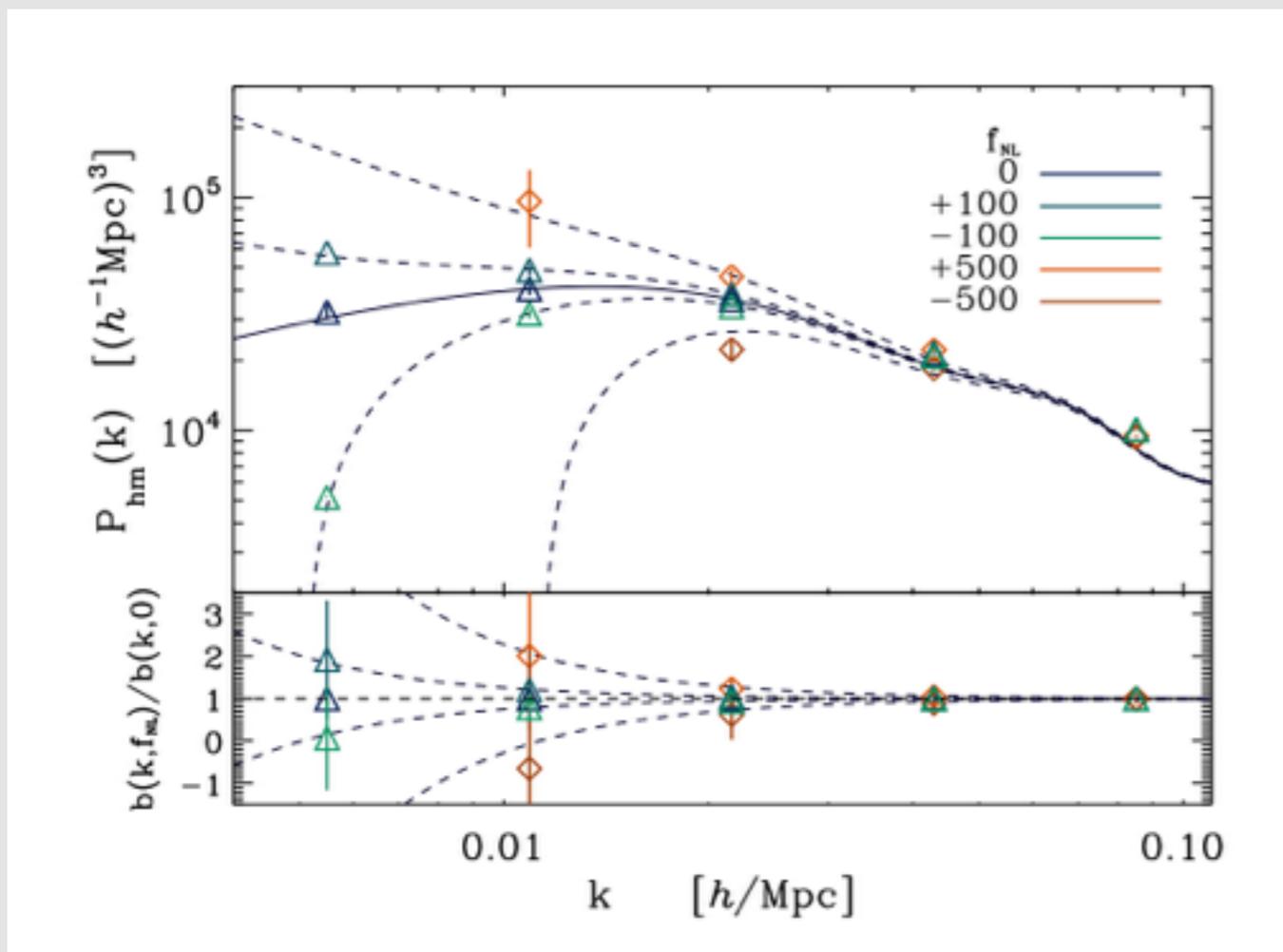
$$\Phi(x) = \phi(x) + f_{NL}^{loc}(\phi^2(x) - \langle \phi^2(x) \rangle)$$

Induces scale dependent halo bias due to “mode coupling”



e.g. de Putter

## Scale dependent halo bias



$$b_{\text{total}} = b + \Delta b$$

$$\Delta b(k) \propto \frac{f_{NL}}{k^2}$$

Very sensitive at large scales

e.g. Dalal et. al 2008, Slosar et. al 2008

## Current, e.g.:

Ross et al. (2012) : SDSS DR9 BOSS data

$$-45 < f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{local}} < 195$$

Giannantonio et al. (2014): Correlations between CMB lensing and large-scale structure

$$f_{\text{NL}} = 12 \pm 21(1\sigma)$$

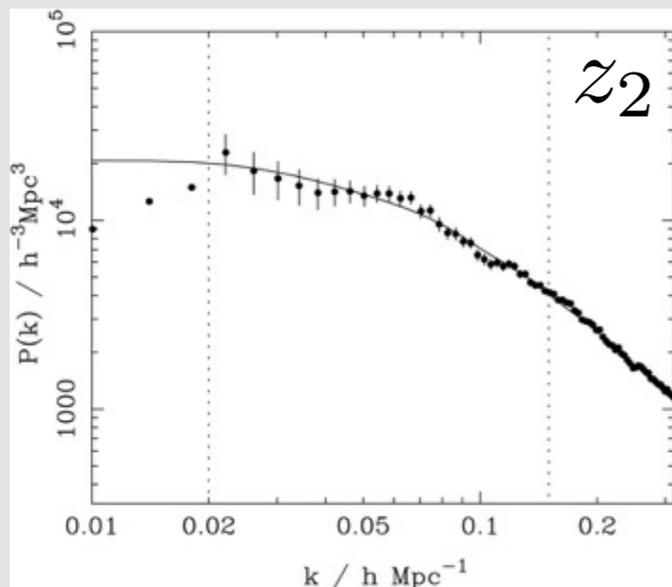
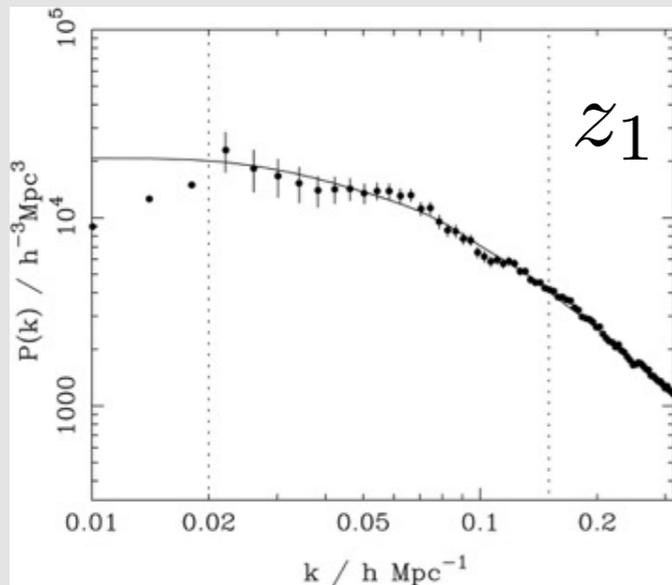
## Upcoming, e.g.:

DESI, Euclid : error on  $f_{\text{NL}}$  ~ few

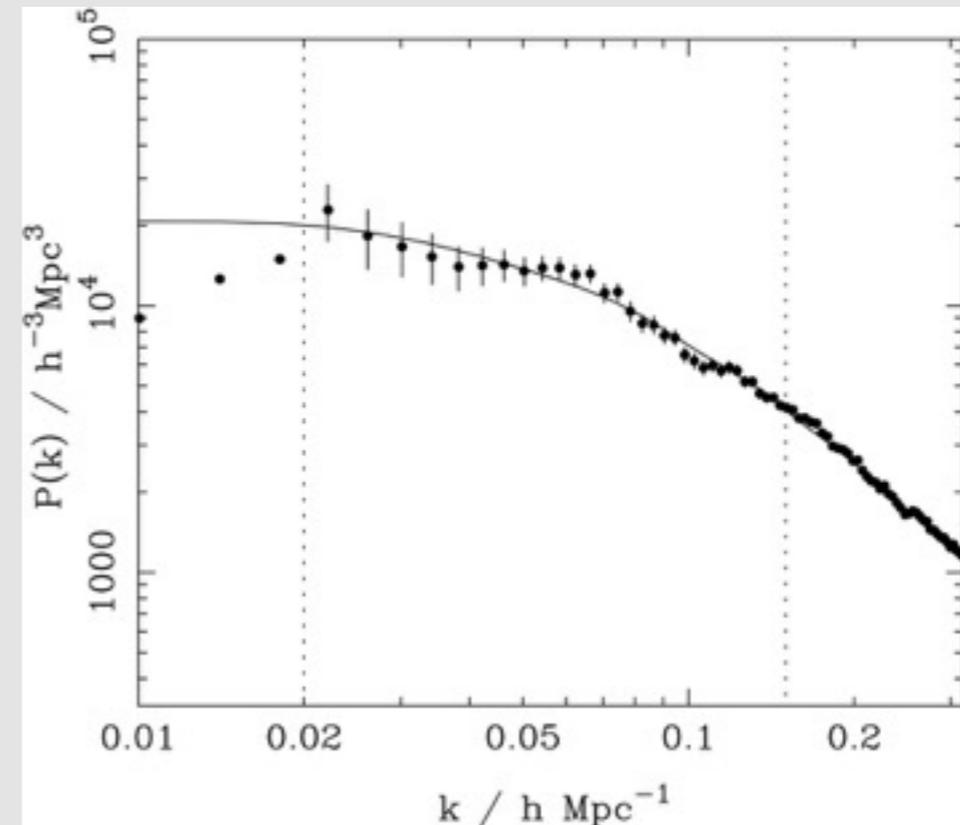
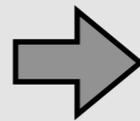
Further improvement with SPHEREx: error on  $f_{\text{NL}}$  ~ 1

# Optimising LSS analysis

**Idea:** No binning in redshift



Apply **redshift weights**



Redshift weighted  
power spectrum

$z_3, z_4, z_5, z_6, \dots$

# Redshift Weighting

**Idea:** No binning in redshift

**Motivation:**

Fisher predictions ~20% better than actual results

Reduce edge effects due to binning

Decrease computational effort for large data sets

Splitting the survey volume decreases S/N at large scales at which non-Gaussianity has the biggest impact

# FKP weights

Feldman, Kaiser, Peacock (1994)

$$w_{\text{FKP}}(z) = 1 / [1 + n(z)P_0]$$

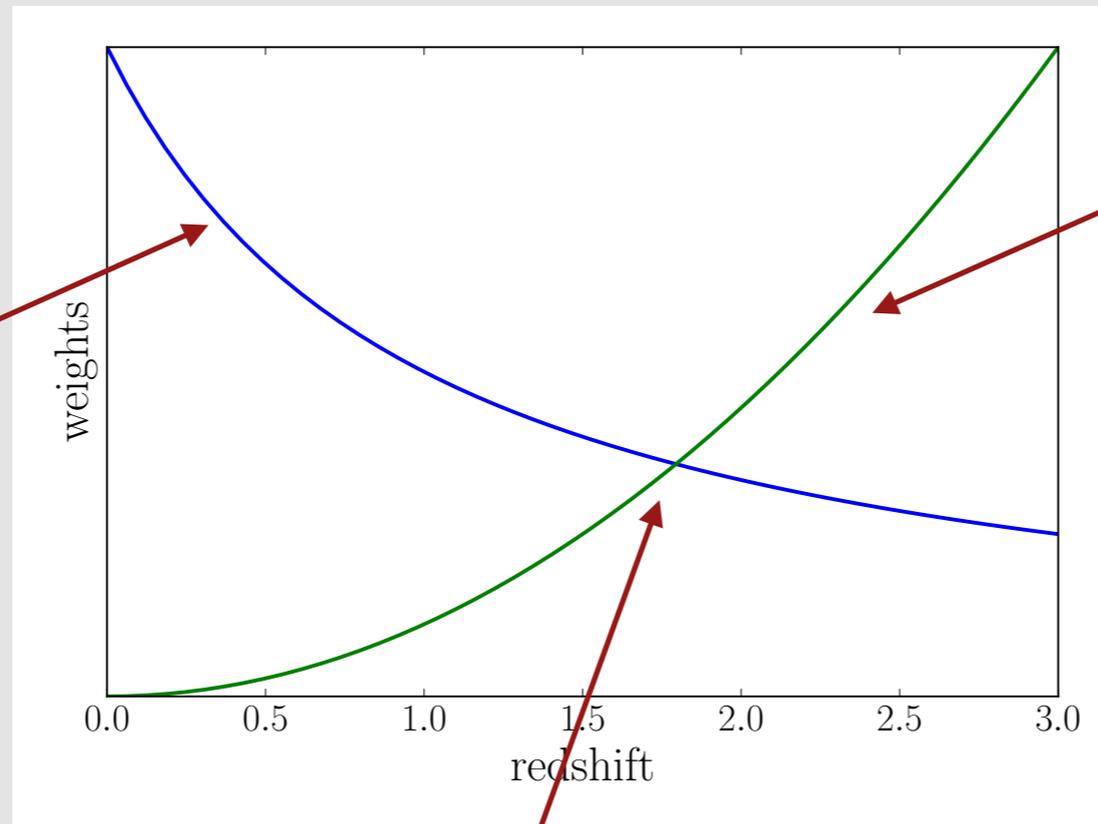
Inverse variance weight  $C \propto \left( P + \frac{1}{\bar{n}} \right)^2 \frac{1}{dV}$

Balances shot noise and cosmic variance

Improves signal to noise of 2-point statistics

# “Sweet Spot”: Theory vs. Statistics

FKP: Balance  
cosmic variance  
and shot noise

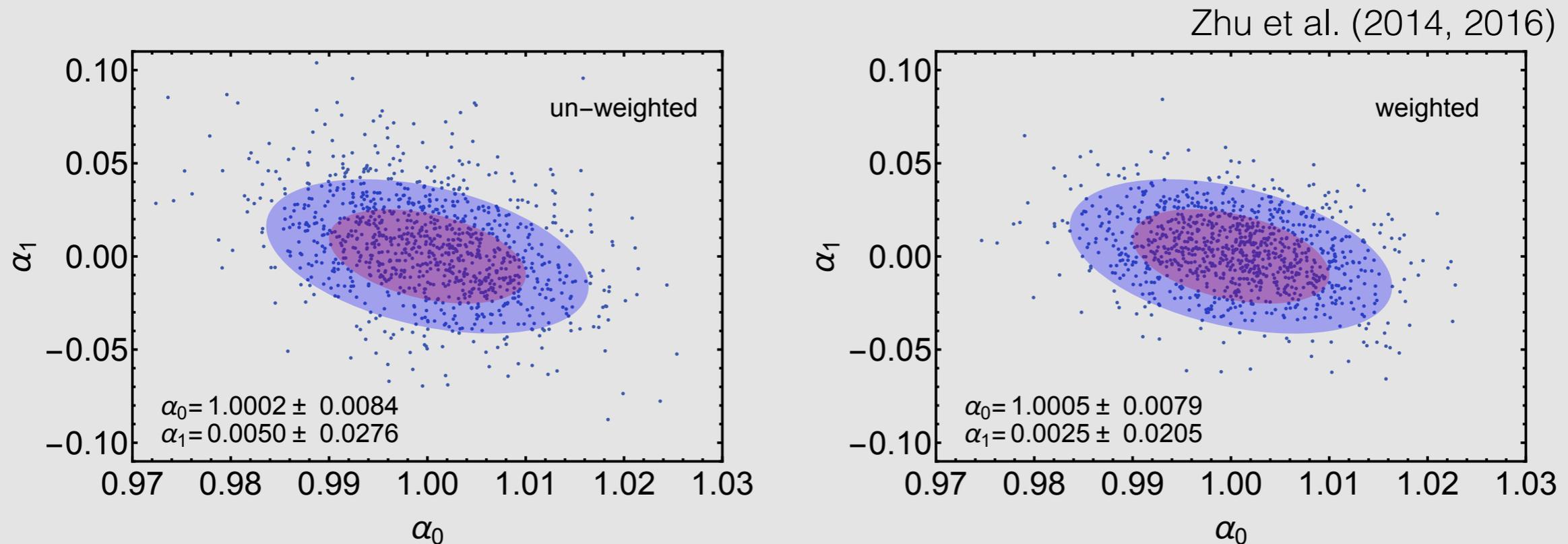


Physical theory

$$\mathbf{w} = w_{l, f_{\text{NL}}} d\mathcal{W}$$

Weights optimally balance statistical uncertainty and underlying redshift evolution of the theory

# Redshift weights for BAO



Redshift weights improve BAO constraints

Redshift weights do NOT bias the results

## Minimise Fisher information

Mueller et al. (2017), Ruggeri et al. (2016), Zhu et al. (2014, 2016)

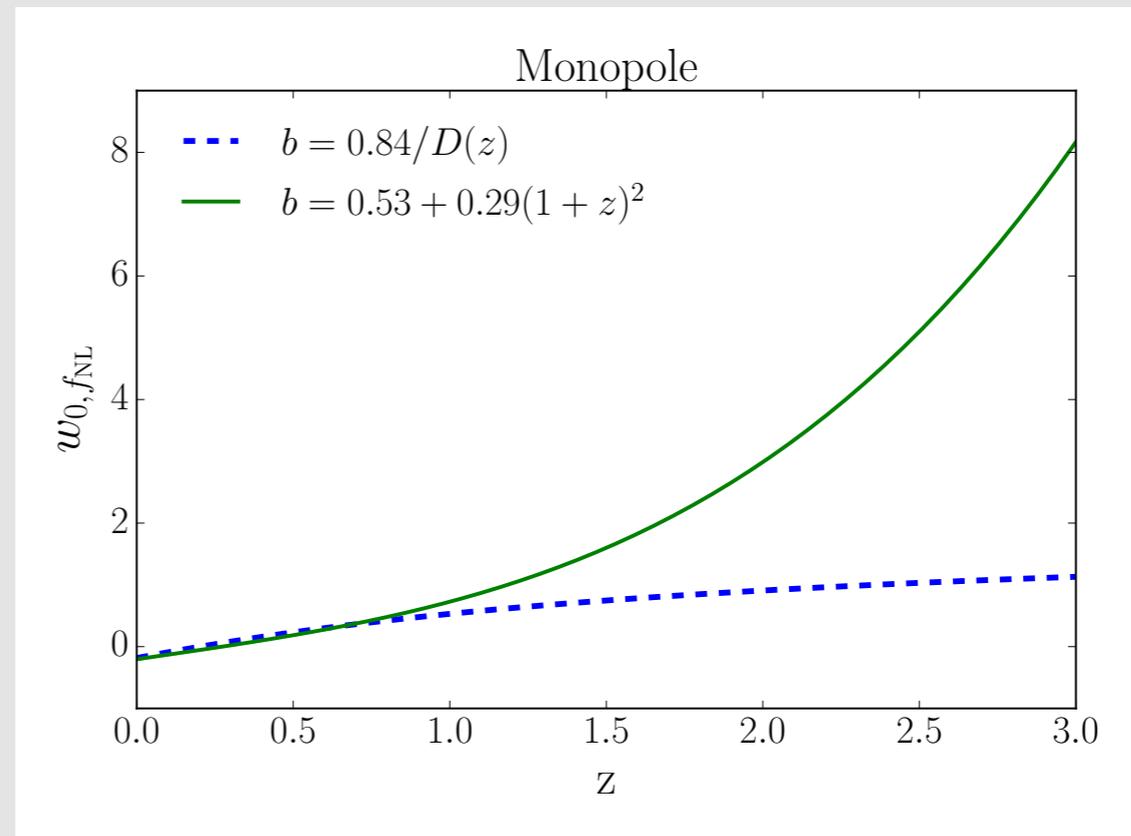
$$F_{ij} \equiv \left\langle \frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{L}}{\partial \theta_i \partial \theta_j} \right\rangle \quad \begin{array}{l} \mathcal{L} - \text{Likelihood} \\ \theta_i, \theta_j - \text{parameters} \end{array}$$

Redshift weights:

$$\mathbf{w}^T = \mathbf{C}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu}_i$$

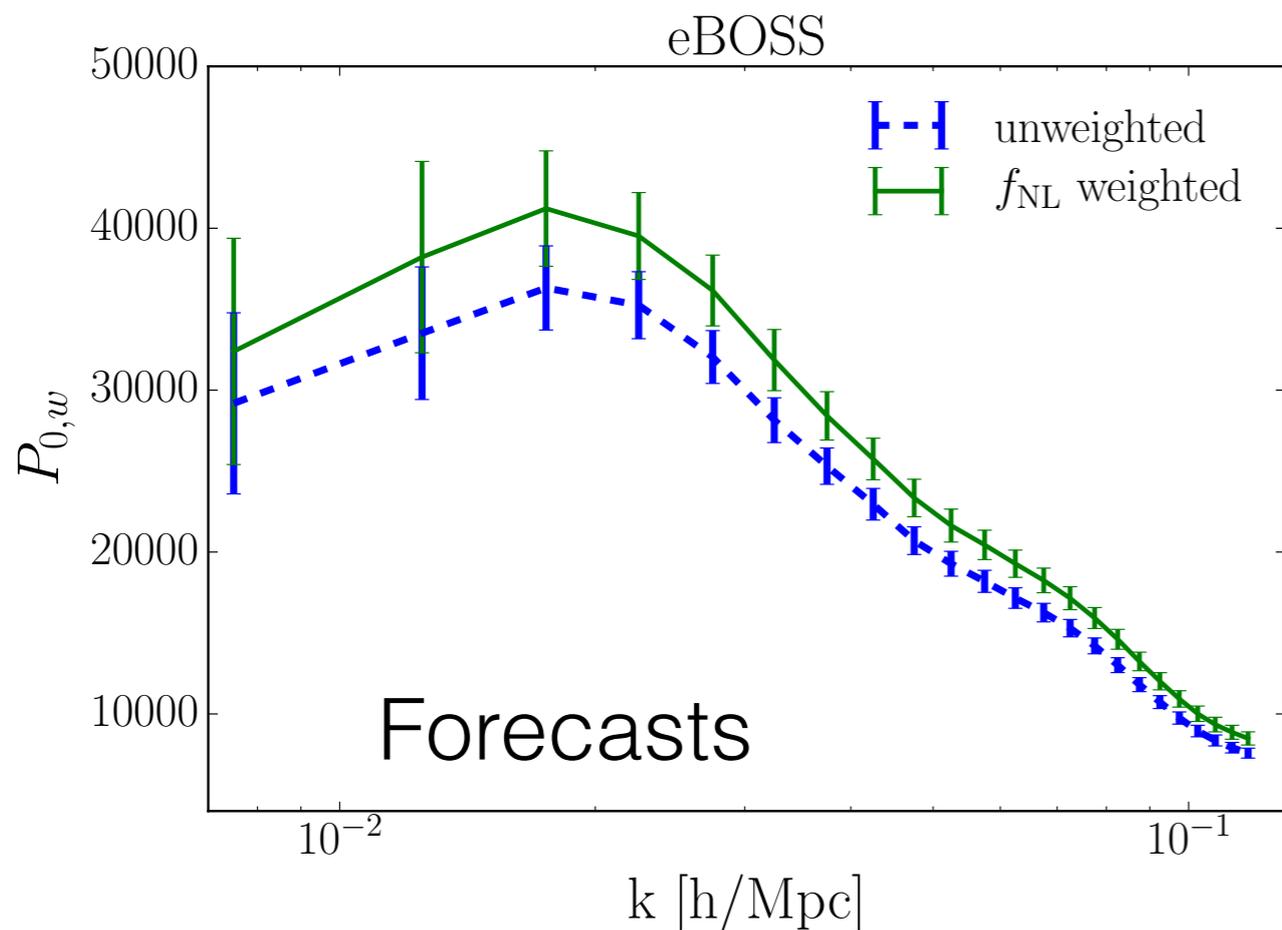
Depends on the tracer

More total weight is given to galaxies at high redshifts



# Redshift weighted power spectrum

$$P_{l,w}(k) \equiv \frac{1}{N_i} \int d\mathcal{W}(z) w_{l,i}(z) P_l(k, z)$$



Feldman, Kaiser & Peacock:

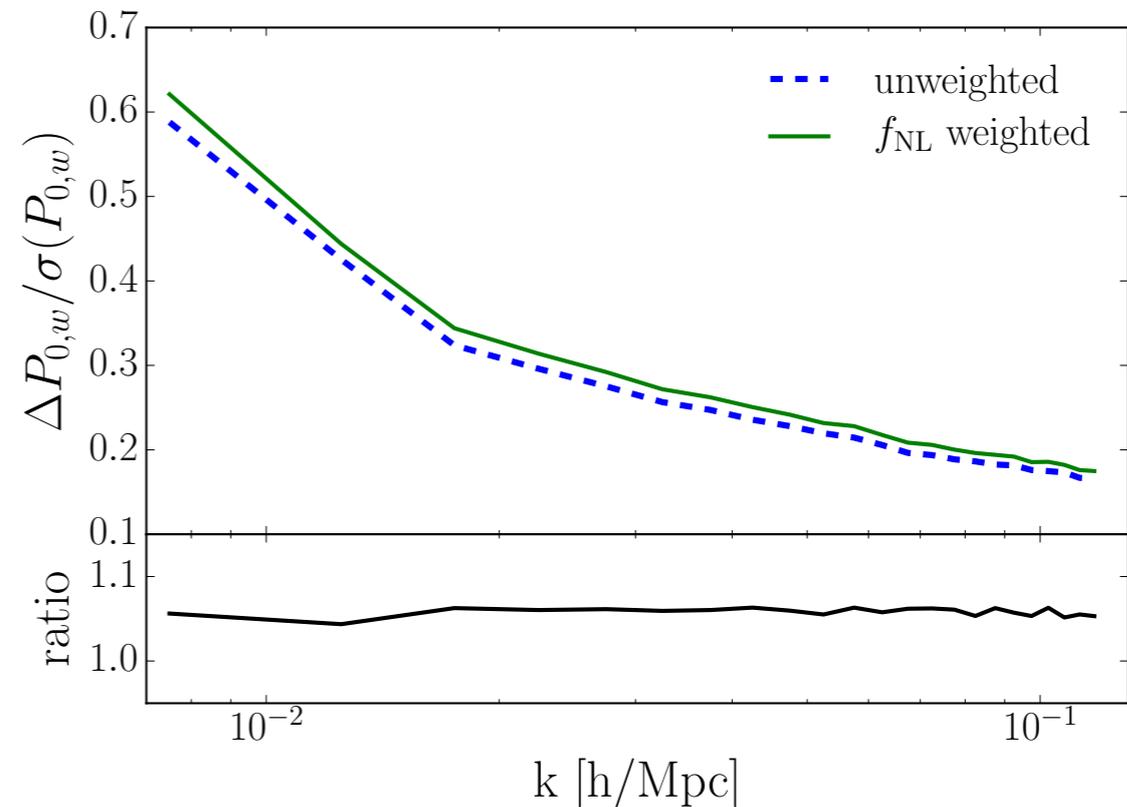
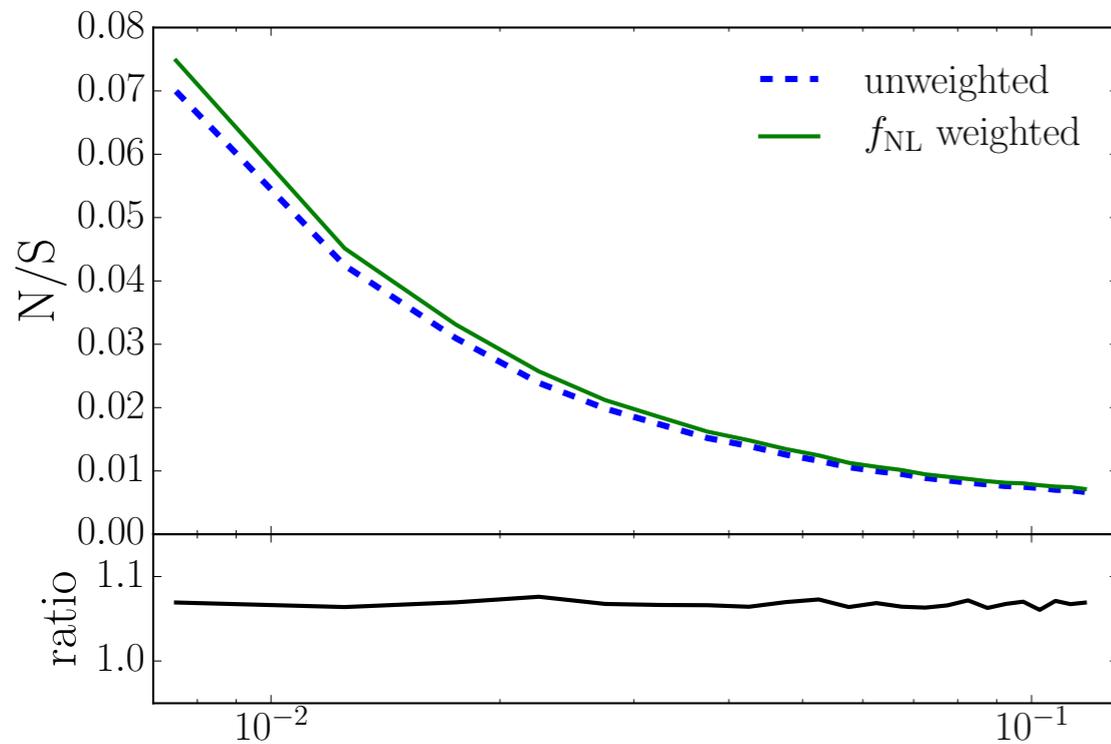
$$d\mathcal{W} \equiv C^{-1} = \left( \frac{\bar{n}}{\bar{n}P + 1} \right)^2 dV$$

Normalisation:

$$N_i = \int w_i d\mathcal{W}$$

arXiv: 1702.05088

# “Sweet Spot”: Theory vs. Statistics



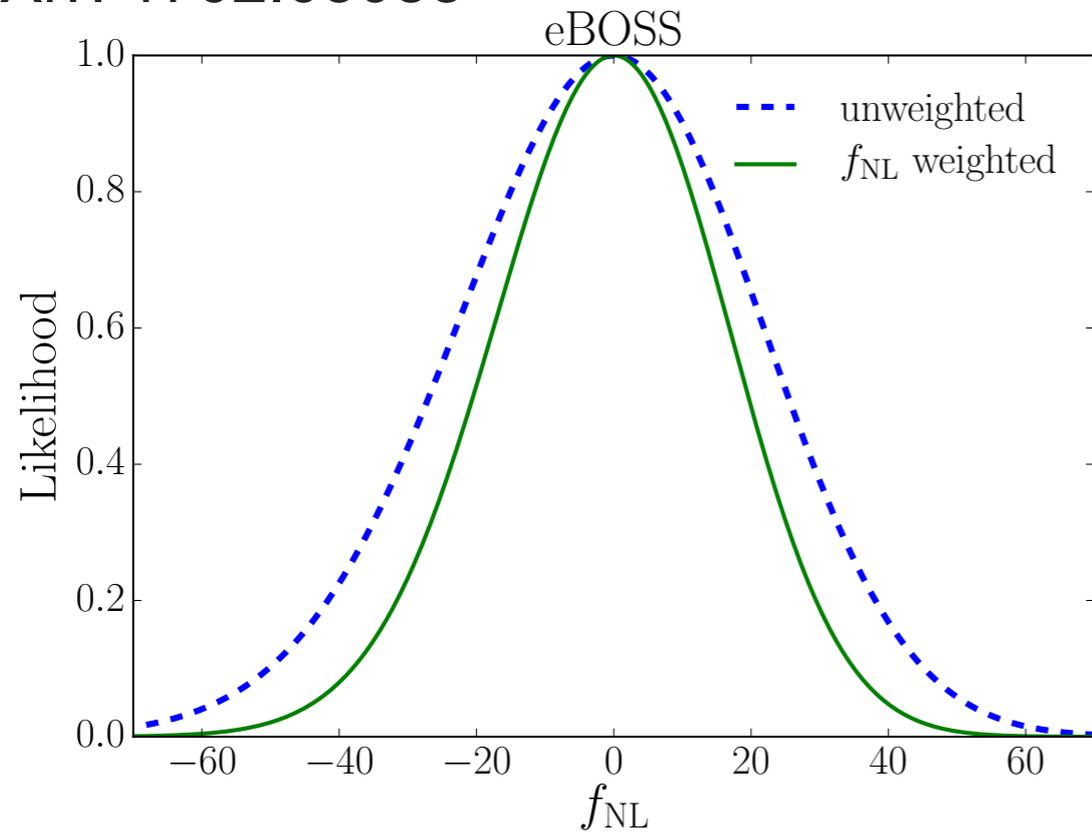
arXiv: 1702.05088  $k$  [h/Mpc]

Statistical noise on the weighted power spectrum is larger

But: It is more sensitive to  $f_{\text{NL}}$ , i.e. more capable to constrain PNG

# Measurement improvement

arXiv: 1702.05088



30-40% improvement for  
eBOSS

Depends on

Redshift range

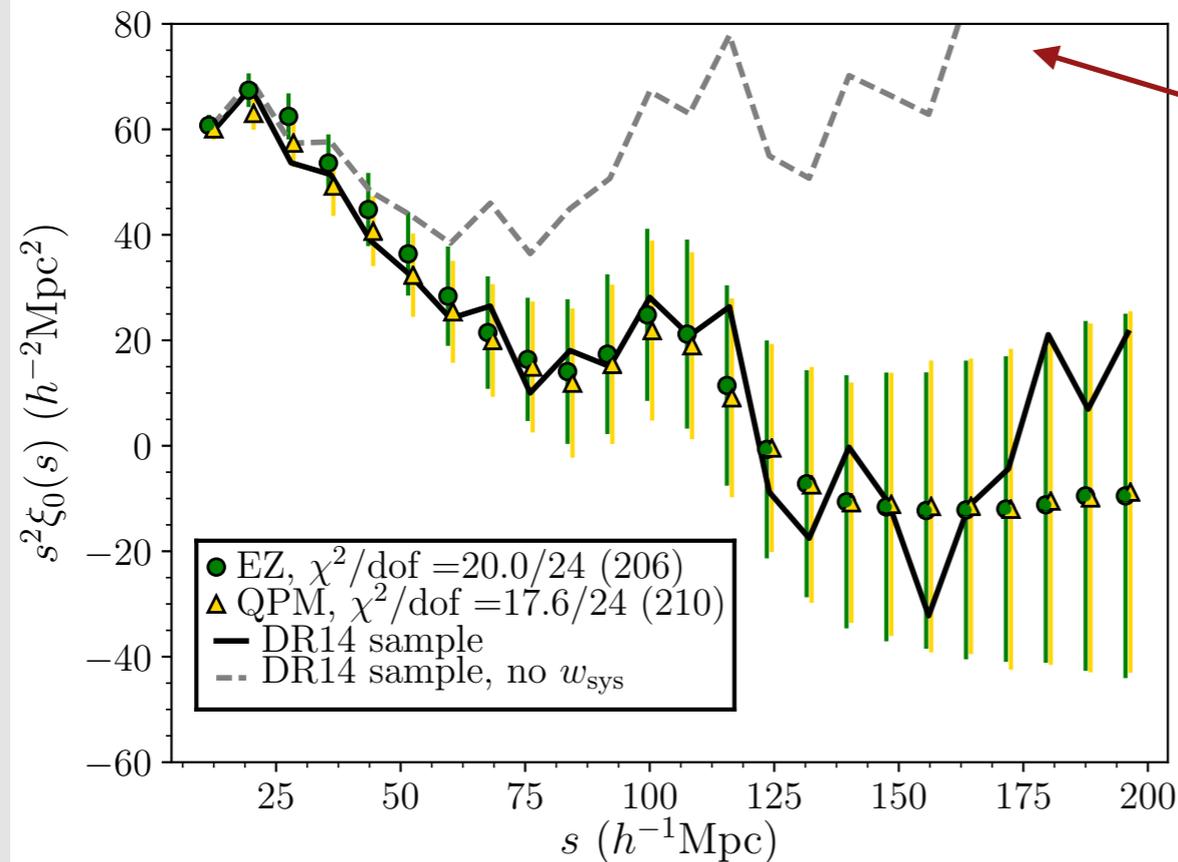
Bias evolution

- + Improved constraints
- + Computationally more feasible for large data sets

- Weights are model dependent
- Loss of generality

# Problem: Systematics

eBOSS collaboration: Ata et al. (2017)



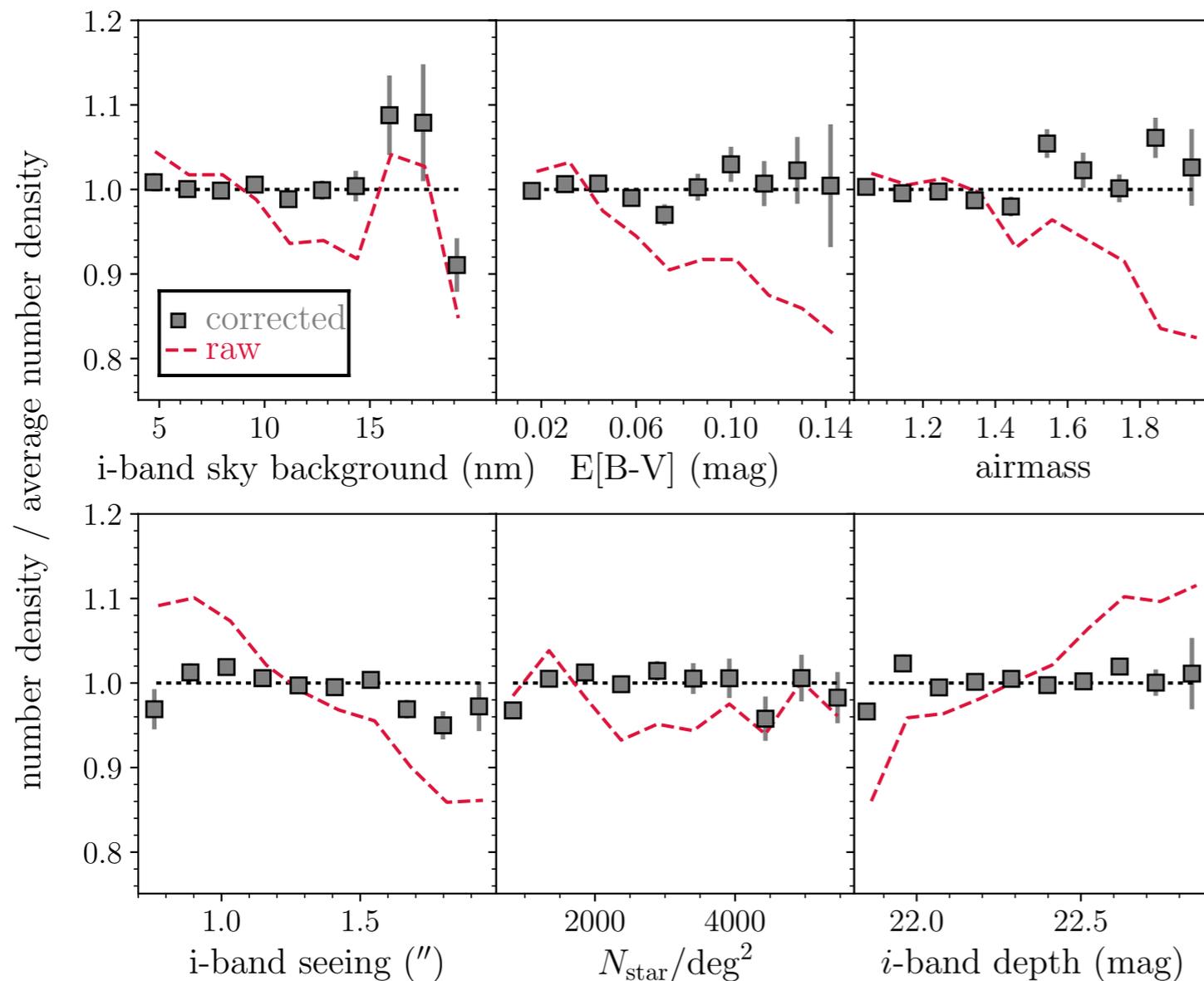
not accounting  
for systematics

with systematic  
treatment

Systematic effects are strongly impacting large scales

# eBOSS systematics: 'Attack approach'

eBOSS collaboration: Ata et al. (2017)



linear fit  $\sim 1/w$

Systematics can have scale dependent effects on large scales

# Summary

First eBOSS results are out!

Non-Gaussianity can be constrained using the scale dependent halo bias

Redshift weighting technique: Apply weights to take the underlying theory into consideration

Systematic effects need to be studied carefully for fNL measurements

## Thank you!

**Thank you!**

**Eva-Maria Mueller**

19 July 2017

---

# Work in progress...

Non-Gaussianity measurement from eBOSS

Redshift space distortion measurement from eBOSS using redshift weights (Rossana Ruggeri et. al )

Accessing systematic effects using mode projection (Benedict Kalus et. al)