Measuring galaxy shapes





Journal Club #1

Measuring galaxy shapes Elliptical isophotes





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Measuring galaxy shapes Galaxies

Anyway, what's the shape of this galaxy?





Figure: Courtesy: R Mandelbaum, Cosmo21, 2018

Measuring galaxy shapes Moment-based methods

A common way of defining a (complex) ellipticity of a galaxy image uses the quadrupole moments

$$Q_{ij} = \frac{\int d^2 x \left(x_i - X_{0,i}\right) \left(x_j - X_{0,j}\right) I(\mathbf{x})}{\int d^2 x I(\mathbf{x})}$$
(1)

of $I(\mathbf{x})$ relative to a centroid position

$$X_0 = \frac{\int \mathrm{d}^2 x \, \boldsymbol{x} \, \boldsymbol{I}(\boldsymbol{x})}{\int \mathrm{d}^2 x \, \boldsymbol{I}(\boldsymbol{x})} \tag{2}$$

$$e := \frac{Q_{22} - Q_{11} + iQ_{12}}{Q_{22} + Q_{11}}$$

is then an unbiased estimator of "ellipticity" (Schneidez & Seitz 1994)

Measuring galaxy shapes in real life Moment-based methods & noise

- Think $Q_{11} := \sum_{\rho} I_{\rho} x_{\rho}^2$, $Q_{12} := \sum_{\rho} I_{\rho} x_{\rho} y_{\rho}$ etc.
- Very non-convergent in presence of noise! Need to apply a window function:



Figure: Courtesy: F Nammour



Measuring galaxy shapes in real life Moment-based methods, noise & PSF

- "HSM" (or adaptive moments, Hirata & Seljak 2003, Mandelbaum et al 2004): match the gaussian window to the object
- Handling the PSF: Kaiser, Squires & Broadhurst 1995 (KSB!), etc.



Alternatives to moment-based methods:

- Model-fitting: assume (an) analytical profile(s) for your galaxies *l̃*(*r*, *θ*), convolve it with the PSF, find the best *θ* (which includes ellipticity)
- Honorable mention: G Bernstein's bayesian, unbiased estimator of shear (not ellipticity)



- 2.1: "GLAM": generalized adaptive moments
- 2.2: Why GLAM recovers true ellipticity with elliptical isophotes
- 2.3: Why GLAM unbiased estimator of reduced shear
- 2.4: Real life: pixellation and PSF -> model bias (aka "underfitting bias")
- 3.1: The need for a Bayesian analysis
- (3.2: Real life: noise and model bias)
- 3.3: Prior bias
- 4: Empirical experiments:
 - 4.1-4.3: set up
 - 4.4 Ellipticity posterior sampling (MC)
 - 4.5 From ellipticity to shear posterior



•
$$I := I_{\text{post}} + \delta I = LI_{\text{pre}} + \delta I$$

• $R_{\text{pre}} = I_{\text{pre}} - Af_{\rho}$

