



# Exploring the Dark Universe with Euclid



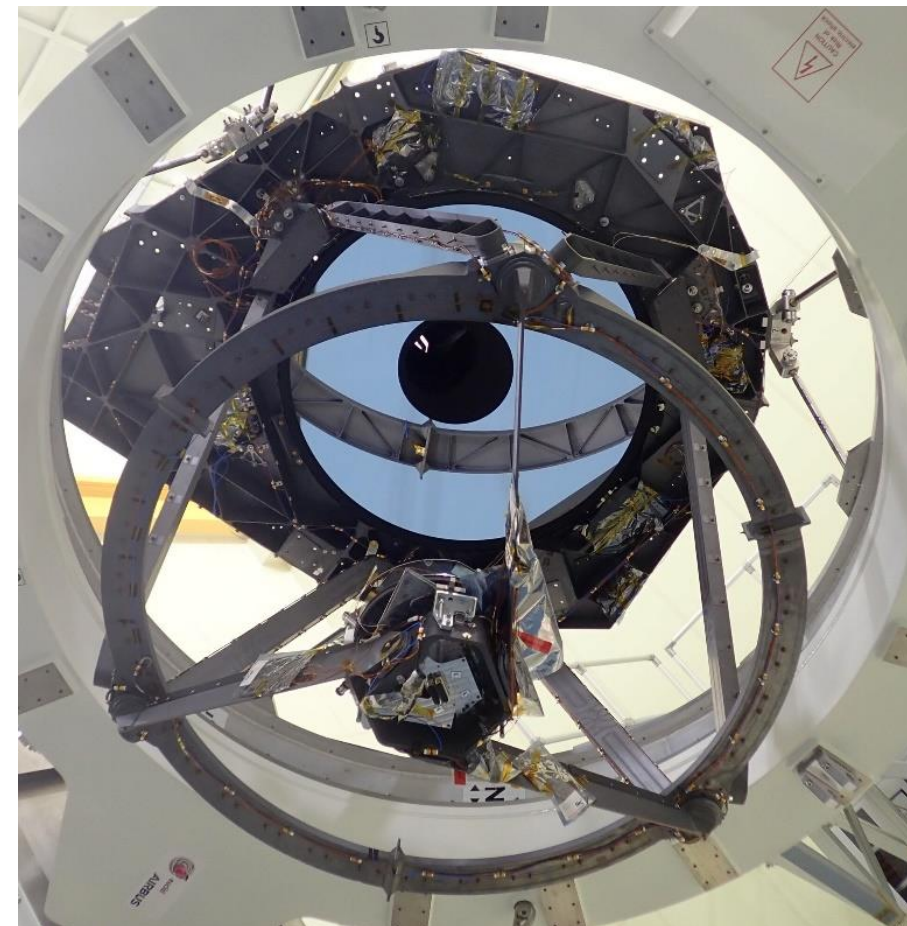
Martin Kunz  
University of Geneva

for the Euclid Consortium



# Euclid, an ESA M-class mission

- Ca 4.7m tall, 3.7m wide
- 1988kg launch mass
- 1.2m primary mirror
- Near-infrared & optical instruments
- Launch: July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 on SpaceX Falcon 9
- Daily data rate of ca 100GB compressed data
- Nominal mission duration of 6 years, extension possible.

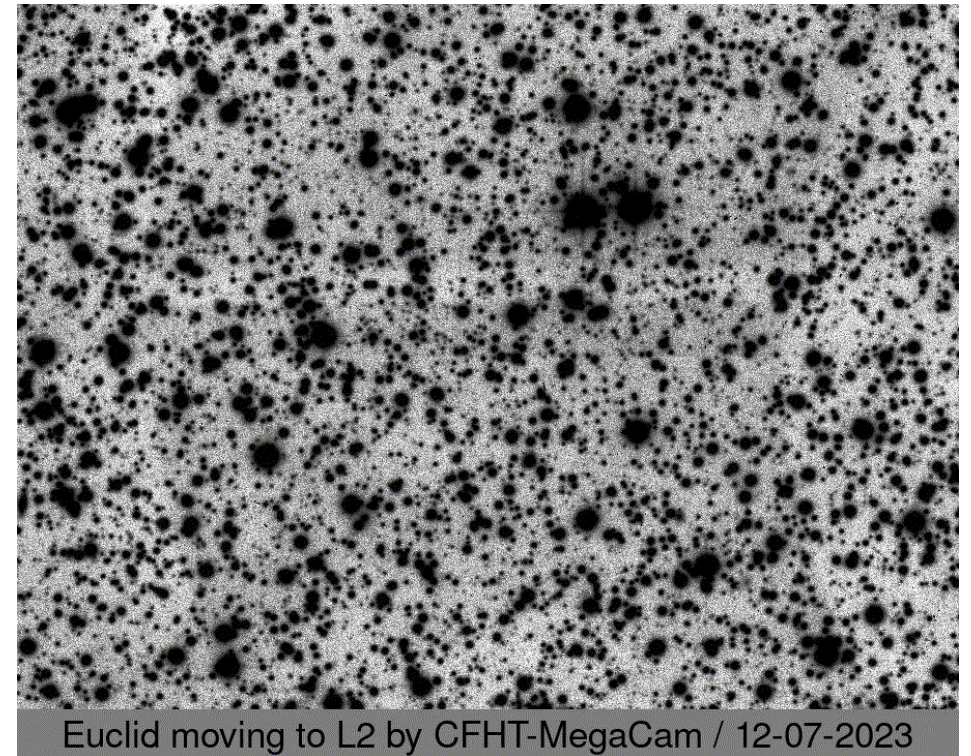
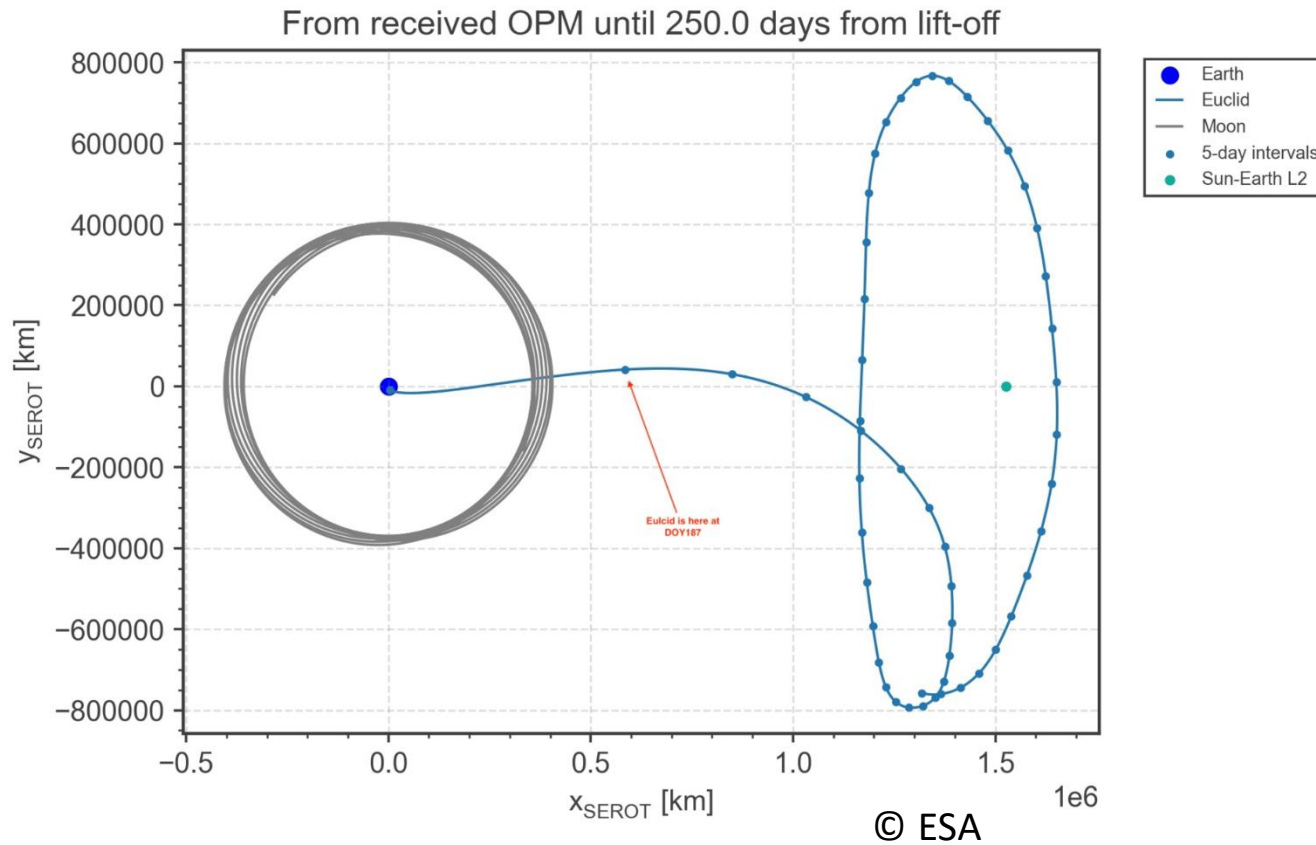


'eye of Euclid' ©Airbus



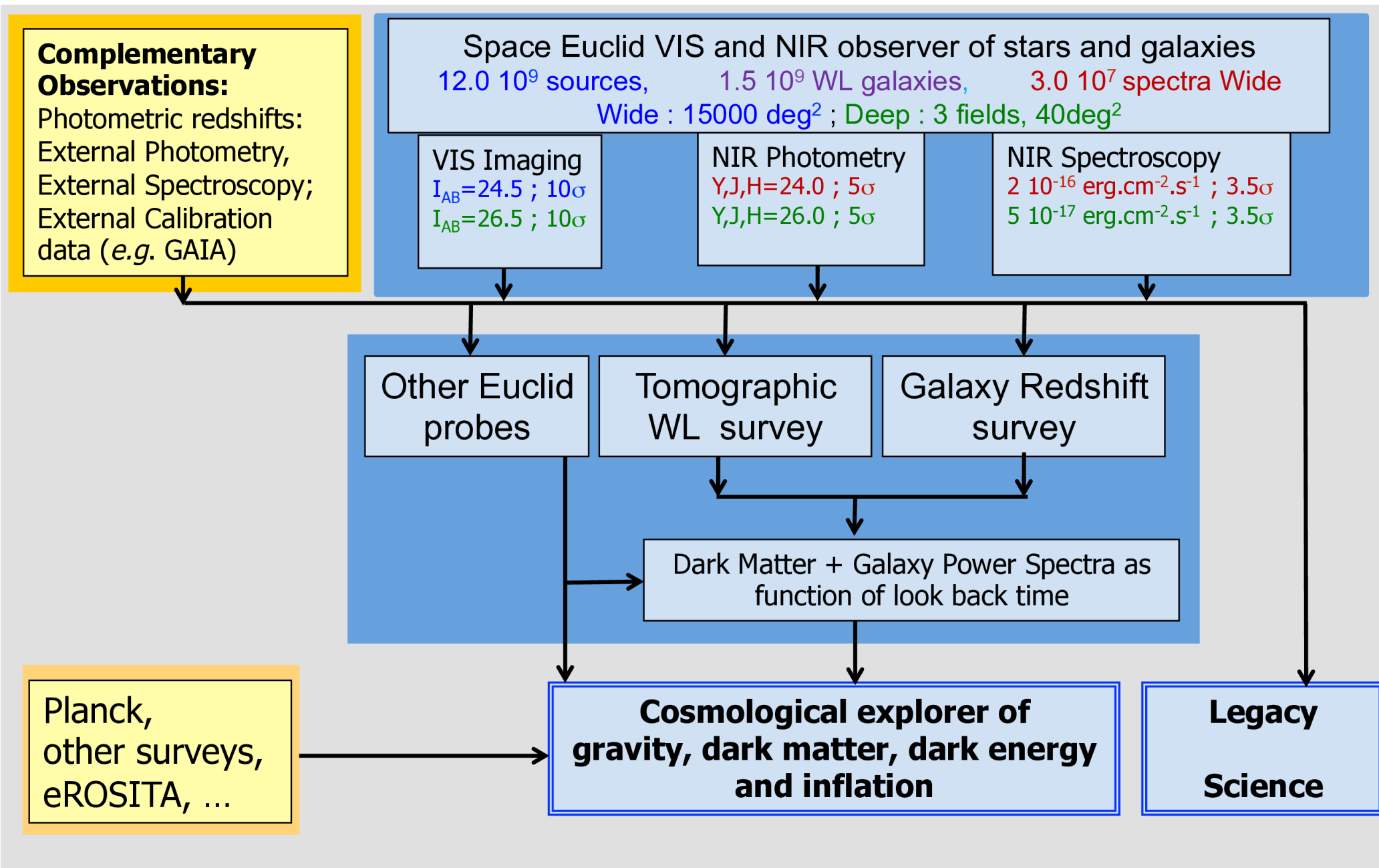


# Euclid transfer to L2



# Euclid observations

For latest numbers, see  
Euclid. I. Overview of the Euclid mission, arXiv:2405.13491





Euclid VIS

# VIS commissioning

FOV 42'x44'

**VIS:**

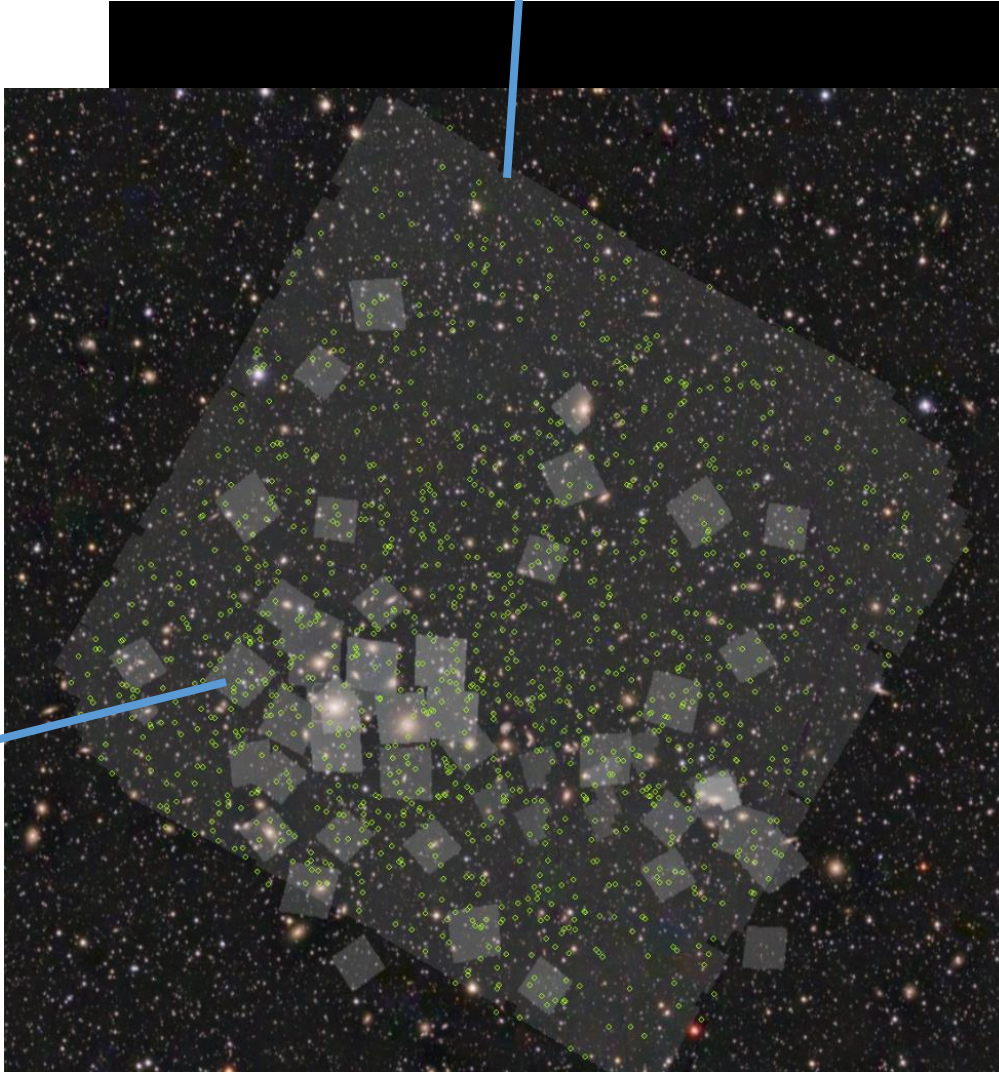
36 Si CCD's

4096x4132

0.1"/pixel

530-920 nm

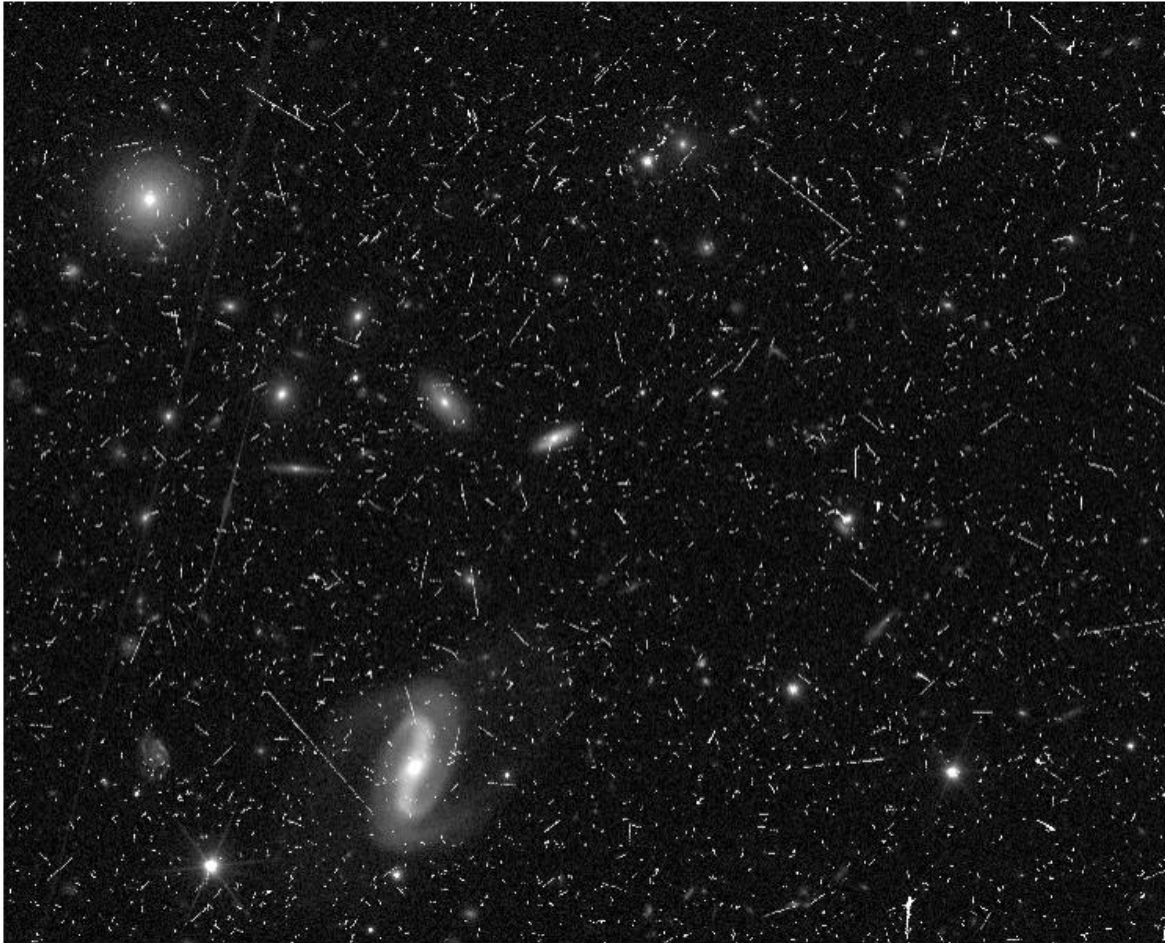
HST/ACS





# Stacking and cleaning

Euclid. I. Overview of the Euclid mission, arXiv:2405.13491



Unprocessed single VIS exposure

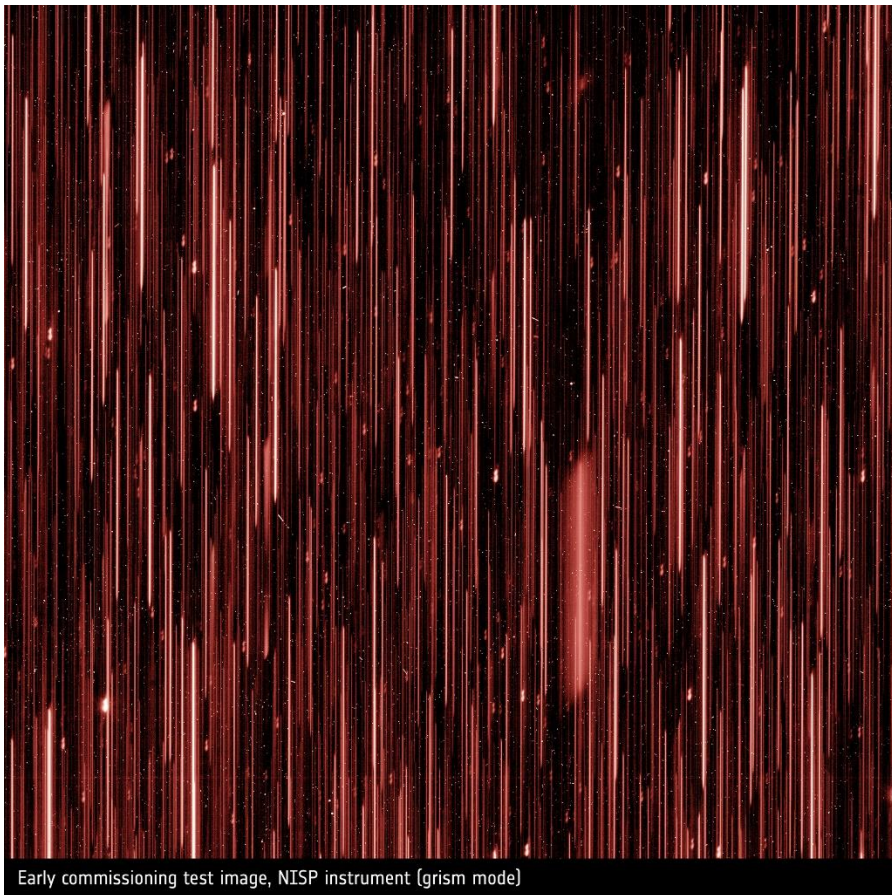


Stack of 42 exposures

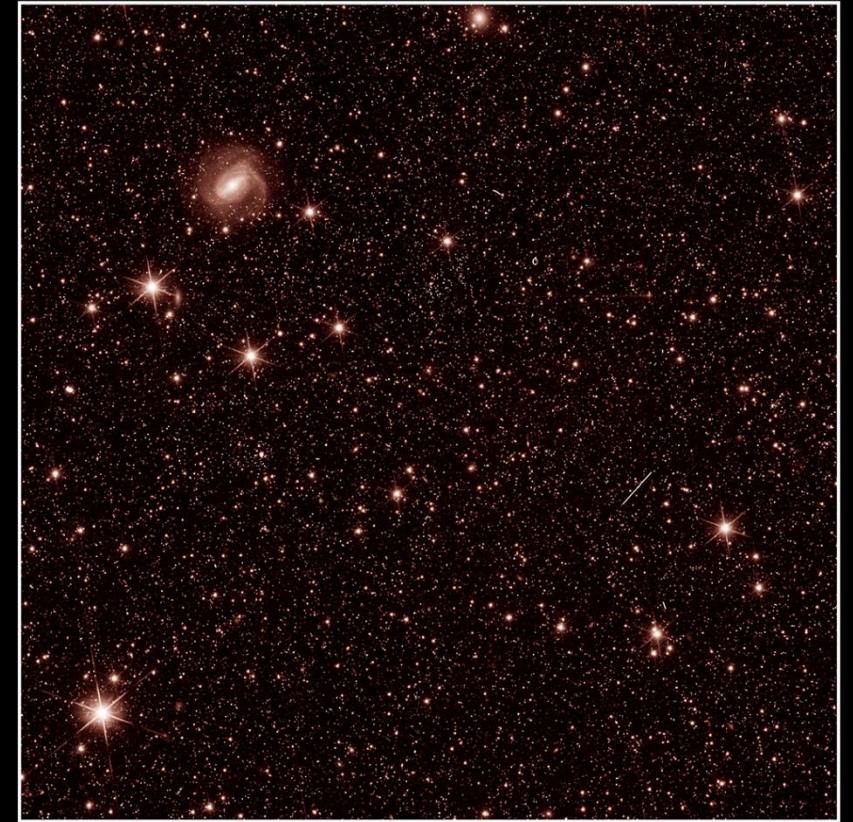
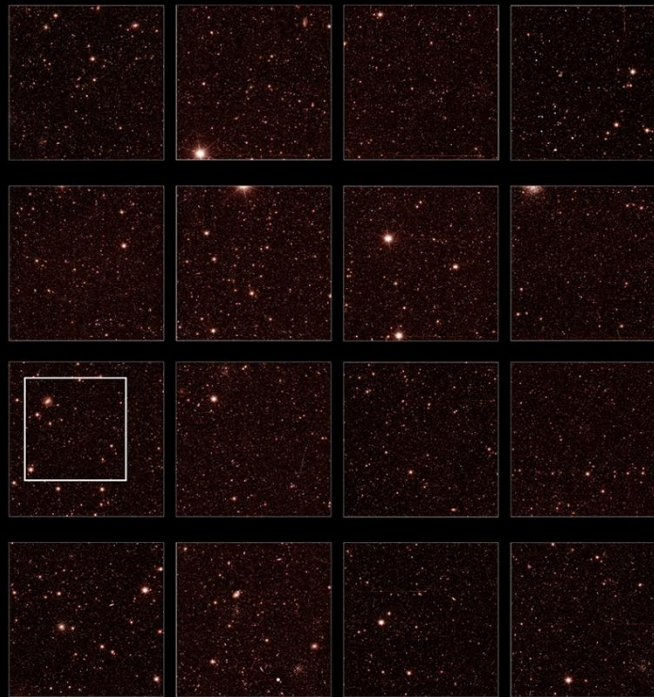


# NISP commissioning

FOV 42'x44' **NISP**: 16 HgCdTe arrays 2048x2048 0.3"/pixel Y/J/H-band imaging & R>400 slitless spectr.

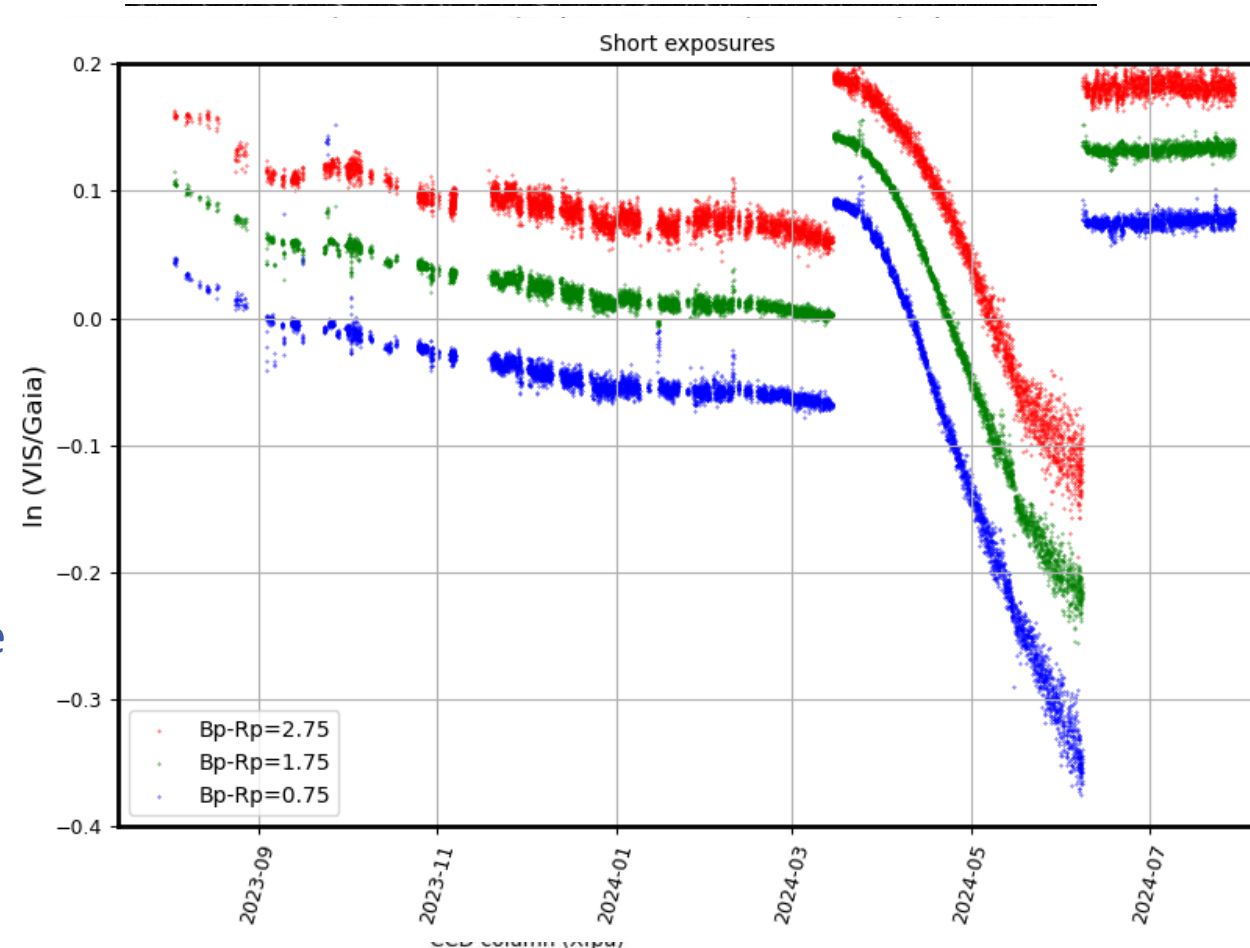


EARLY COMMISSIONING TEST IMAGE, NISP INSTRUMENT



# In space, no-one can hear you scream

- Cosmic rays: A fact of life at L2 ...
- Straylight: A thruster nozzle scatters light past the sun shield through the thermal insulation and via a VIS shutter mounting leg to the VIS focal plane. Requires turning the satellite.
- X-rays from solar flares: X-rays can penetrate the sun shield in the gaps between the solar panels.
- Fine Guidance Sensor: Uses CCD's at the edge of the focal plane. Cosmic rays were mistaken as guide stars, leading to a loss of tracking. A software patch has restored nominal performance.
- Ice deposits: Insulation absorbs moisture before launch. Outgasses in space and is deposited as ice on cold objects. Euclid has heaters, but in space, there are always surprises.





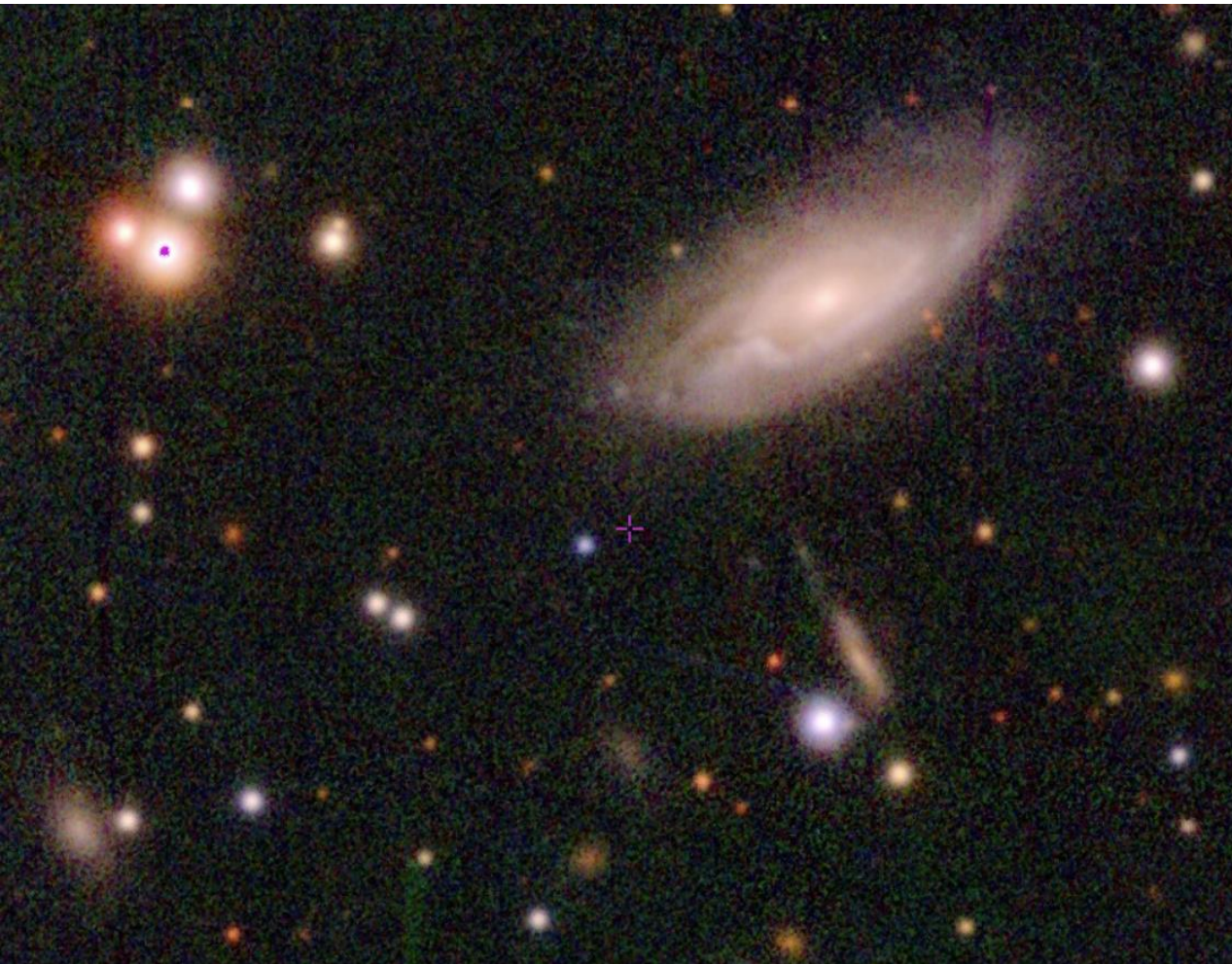
**Example image : Perseus cluster**









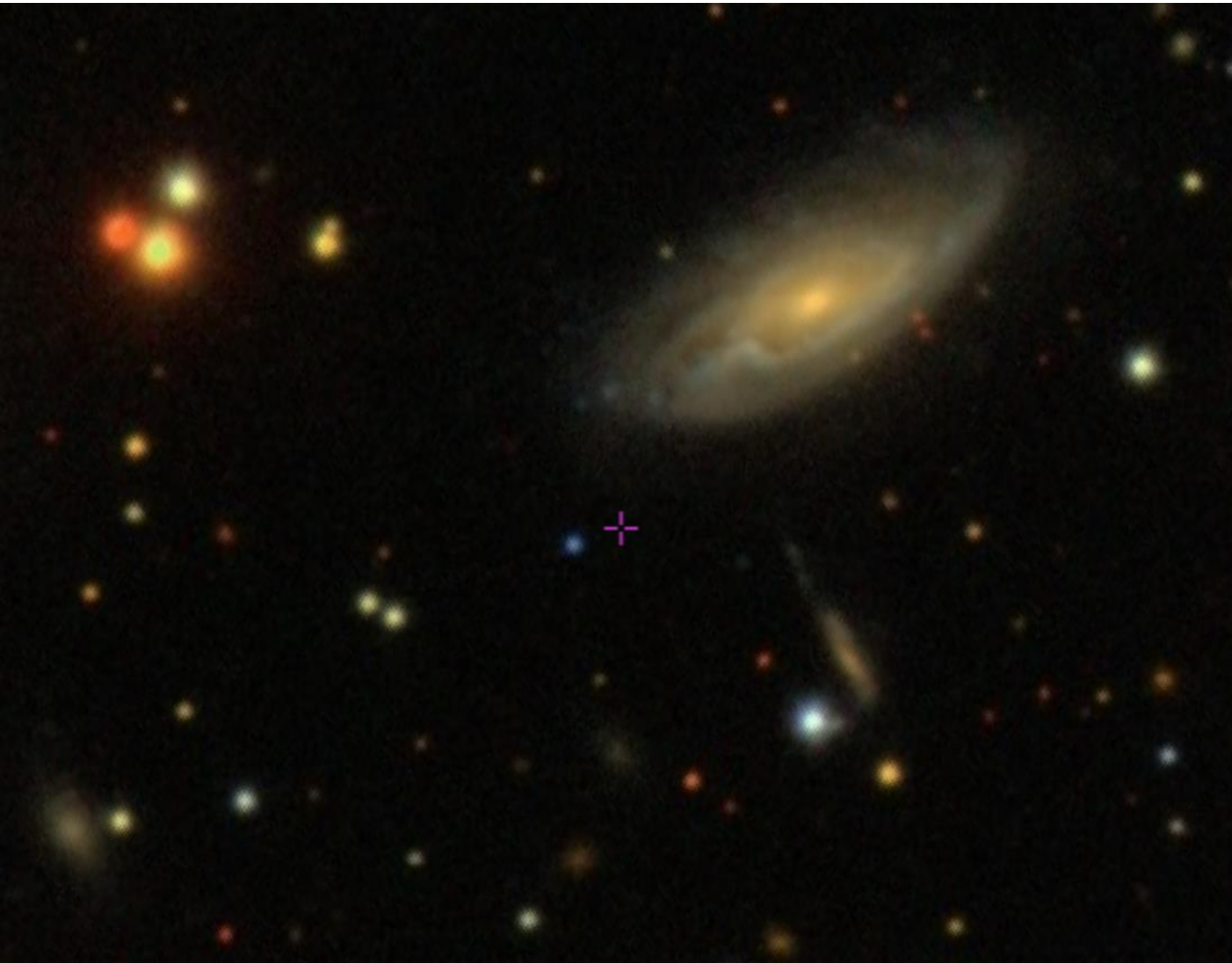


PanSTARRS DR1



Euclid ERO





SDSS DR9



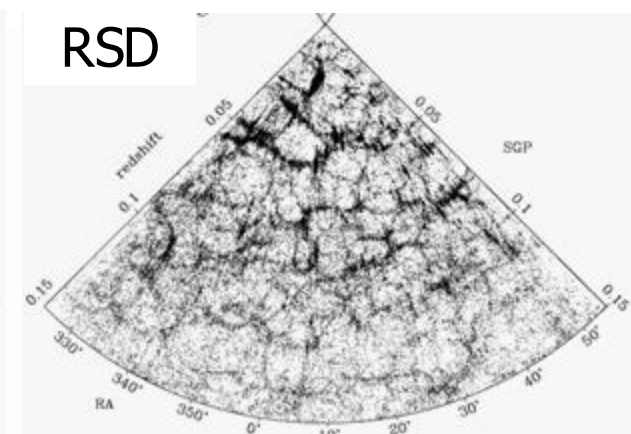
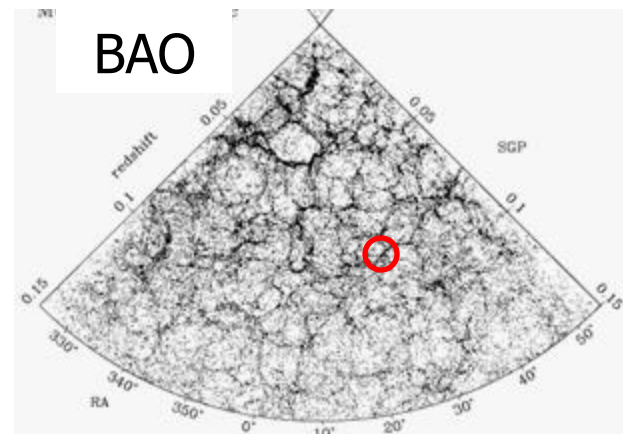
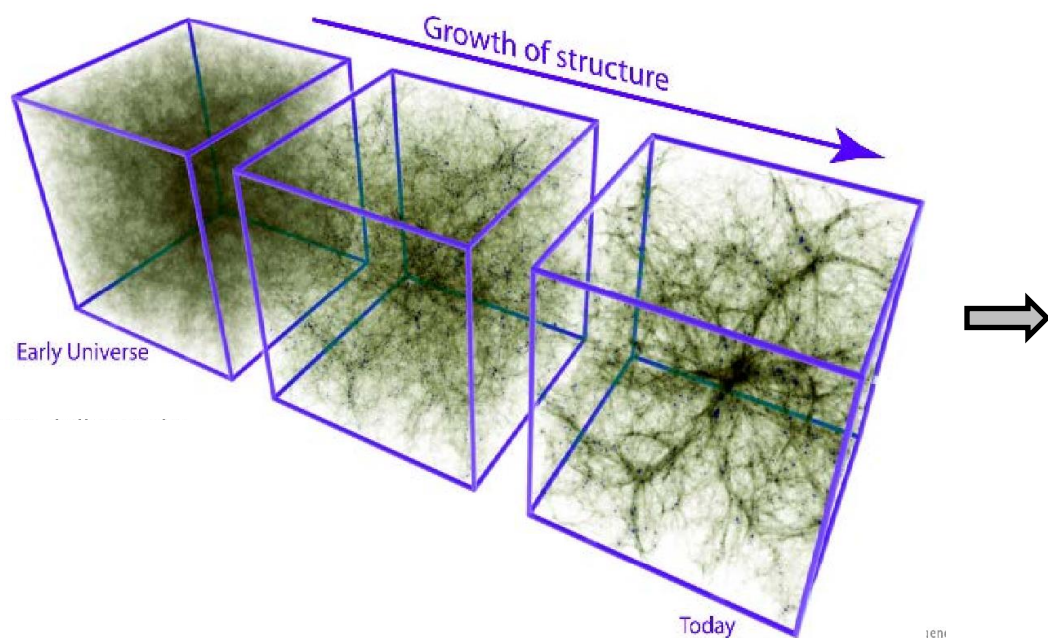
Euclid ERO



# Galaxy clustering: BAO / RSD / $P(k)$

## 3-D position measurements of galaxies over $0.9 < z < 1.8$

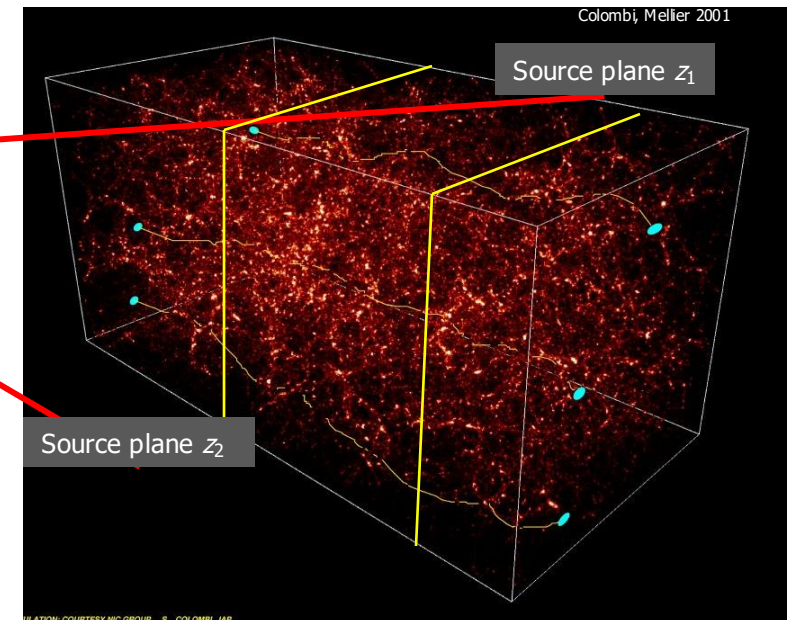
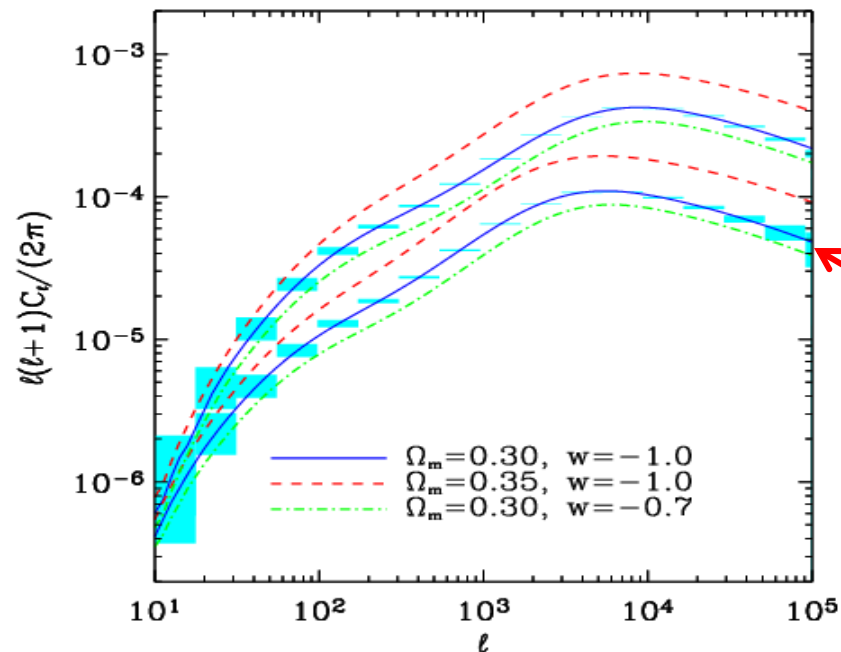
- Probes expansion rate of the Universe (BAO) and growth of structure induced by gravity (RSD); expansion history,  $\psi$  potential
- Need high precision 3-D distribution of galaxies with spectroscopic redshifts.
- 30 million spectroscopic redshifts with 0.001  $(1+z)$  accuracy over 14,000  $\text{deg}^2$



# Weak lensing / photometric survey

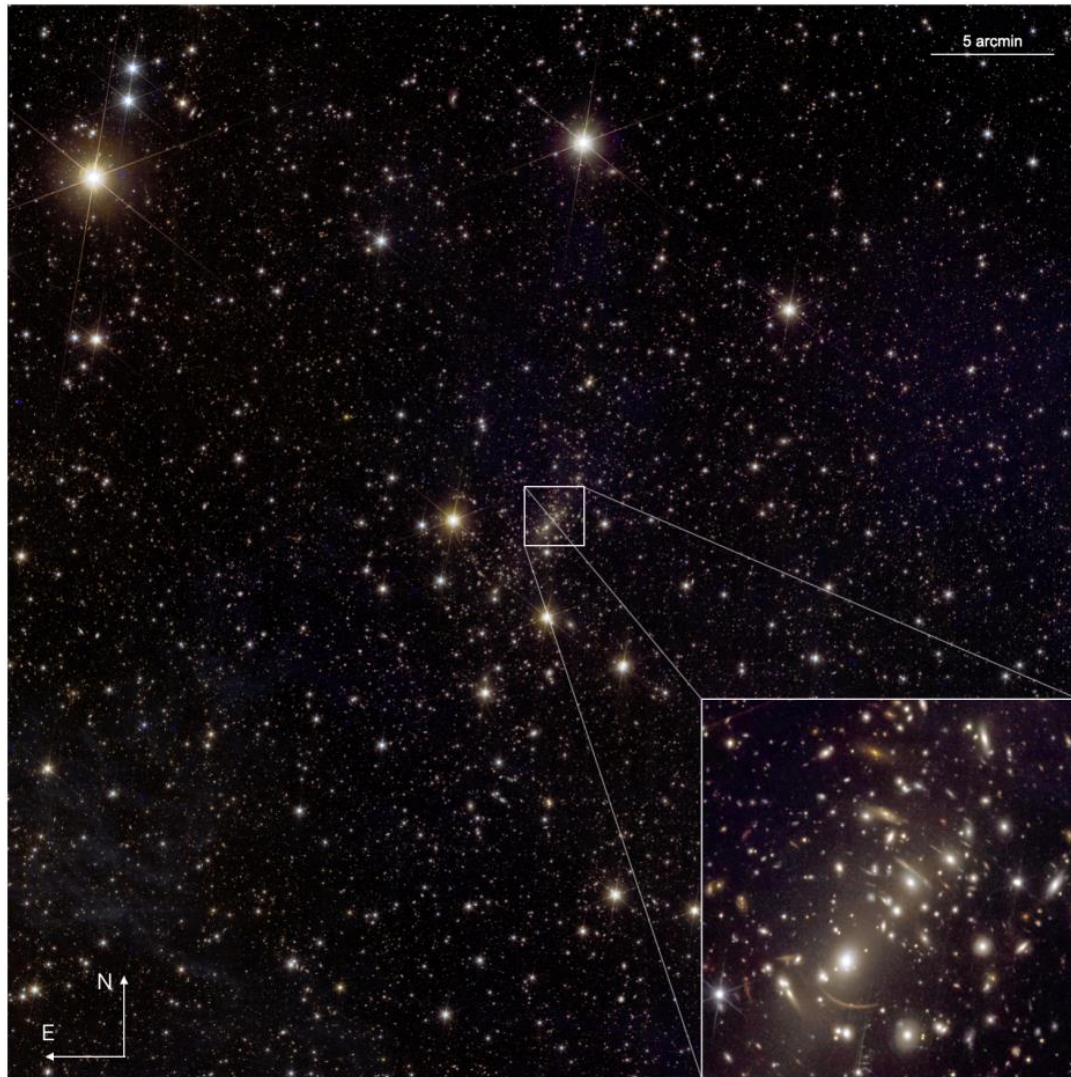
## Cosmic shear over $0 < z < 2$

- Probes distribution of matter (Dark + Luminous): expansion history, **lensing potential  $\phi + \psi$** .
  - Shapes + distance of galaxies: shear amplitude, and bin the Universe into slices.
  - “Photometric redshifts” sufficient for distances: optical + NIR data.
- WL + GCph (3x2pt) with 1.5 billion galaxies over 14,000 deg<sup>2</sup>





# Other probes : strong lensing



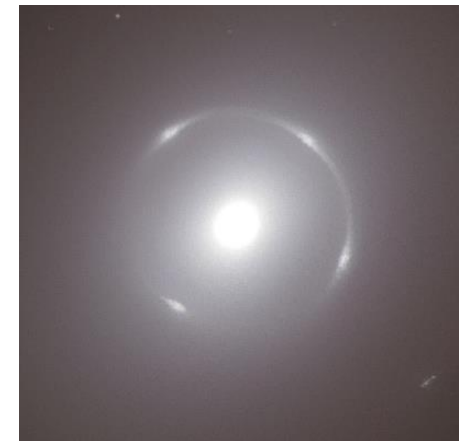
A2390 field (Euclid ERO, arXiv:2405.13504)

[Q1 release](#) (1 week of observations, 63 deg<sup>2</sup>):  
500 strong lenses (candidates), by end of 2026  
7k SL, end of mission  $\sim 10^5$  SL!

No human experts will be able to find this many lenses... Q1 used a combination of citizen science, expert review and AI models for both SL and galaxy classification.

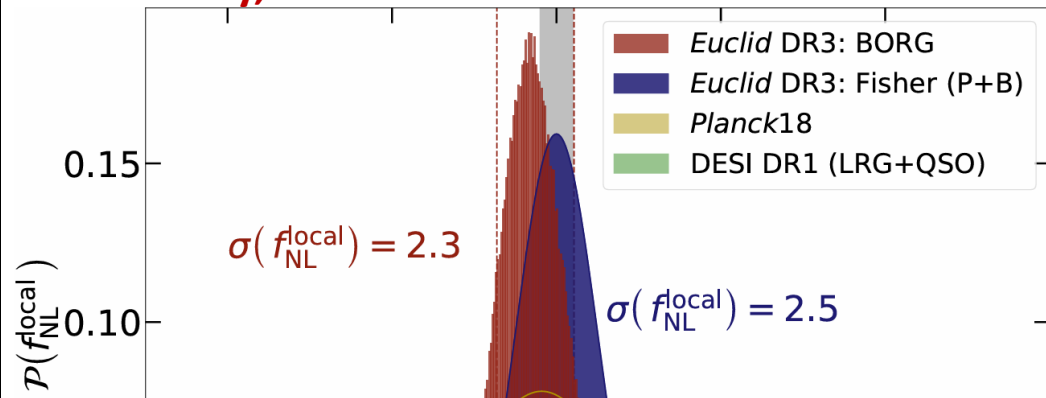
(Euclid will be a treasure trove for astrophysics!)

Altieri's lens in NGC 6505  
arXiv:2502.06505



# Euclid main science objectives

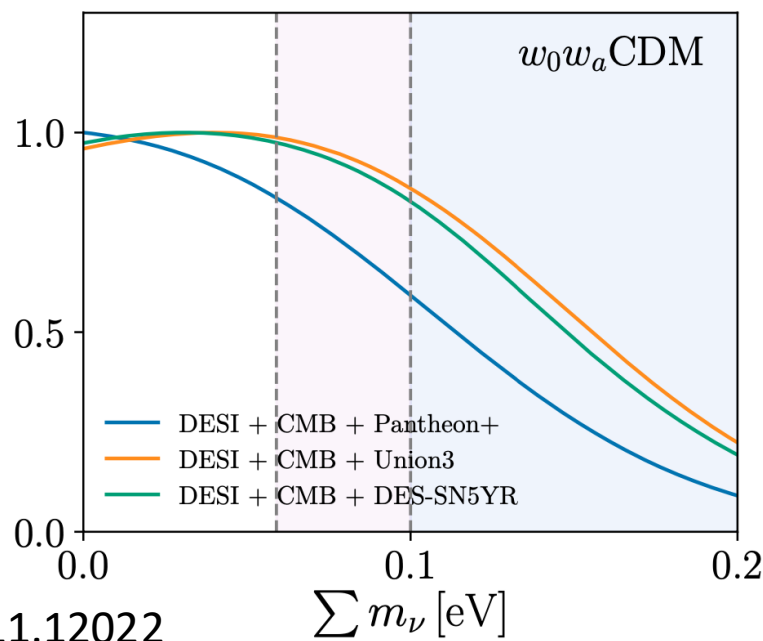
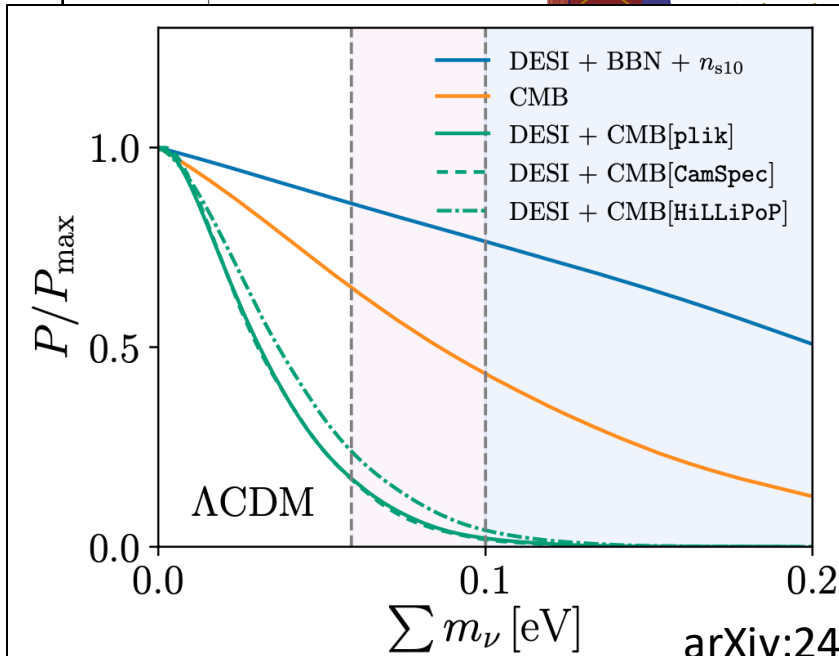
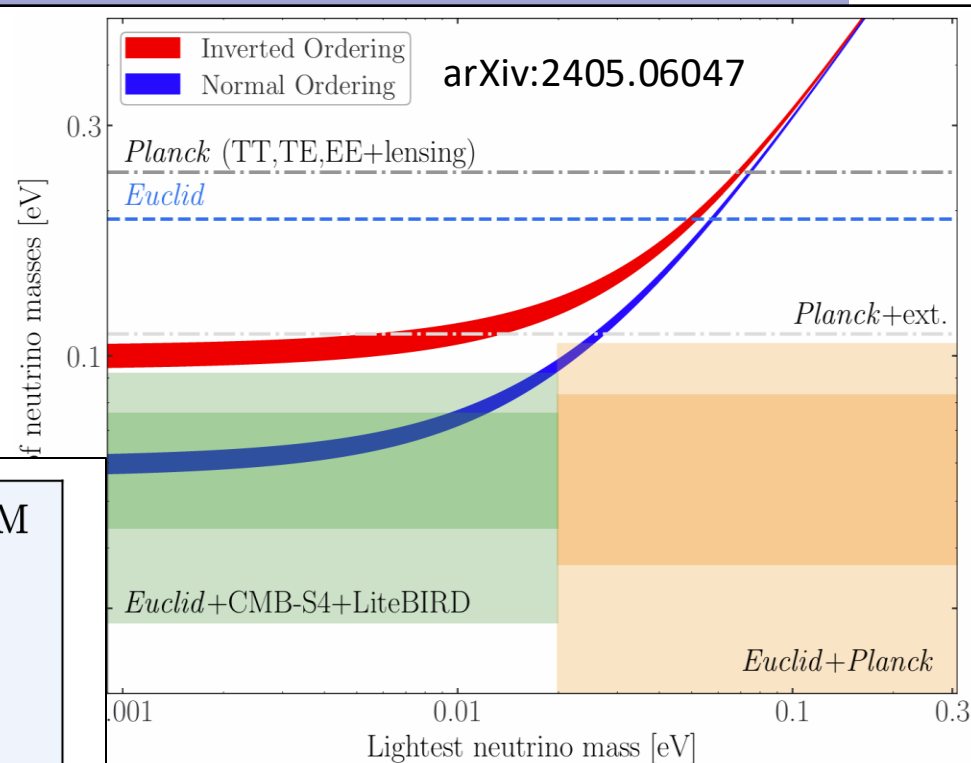
Preliminary, in internal review



... RD10 for a full ...

... to better than 10% for ...

... indicating a dynamical dark ...  
... highly corresponding to ...



... and the neutrino hierarchy

... order to extract values for the

... to Planck alone by a factor 2.  
... with an error better than  $\pm 2$ .



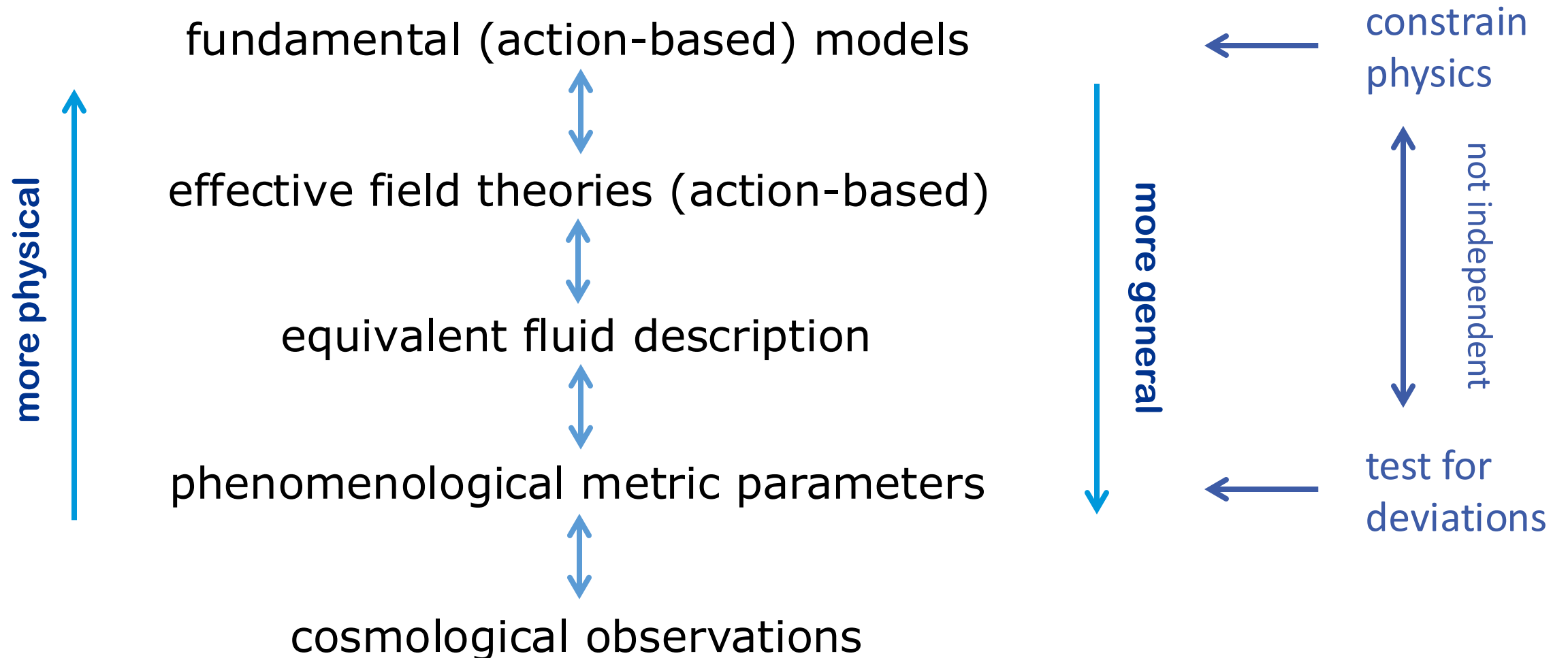
# Euclid main science objectives

**Table 1: Euclid Primary Science Objectives – see RD10 for a full description.**

Sector	Euclid Targets
Dark Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measure the cosmic expansion history to better than 10% for several redshift bins from <math>z = 0.7</math> to <math>z = 2</math>.</li> <li>Look for deviations from <math>w = -1</math>, indicating a dynamical dark energy.</li> <li>Euclid <i>alone</i> to give <math>\text{FoM}_{\text{DE}} \geq 400</math> (roughly corresponding to 1-sigma errors on <math>w_p</math> &amp; <math>w_a</math> of 0.02 and 0.1 respectively)</li> </ul>
Test of Gravity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measure the growth index, <math>\gamma</math>, to a precision better than 0.02</li> <li>Measure the growth rate to better than 0.05 for several redshift bins between <math>z = 0.5</math> and <math>z = 2</math></li> <li>Separately constrain the two relativistic potentials <math>\phi</math> and <math>\psi</math></li> <li>Test the cosmological principle</li> </ul>
Dark Matter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detect dark matter halos on a mass scale between <math>10^8</math> and <math>&gt;10^{15} M_{\text{Sun}}</math></li> <li>Measure the dark matter mass profiles on cluster and galactic scales.</li> <li>Measure the sum of neutrino masses, the number of neutrino species and the neutrino hierarchy with an accuracy of a few hundredths of an eV</li> </ul>
Initial Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measure the matter power spectrum on a large range of scales in order to extract values for the parameters <math>\sigma_8</math> and <math>n_s</math> to 0.01.</li> <li>For extended models, improve constraints on <math>n_s</math> and <math>\alpha</math> with respect to Planck alone by a factor 2.</li> <li>Measure the non-Gaussianity parameter <math>f_{\text{NL}}</math> for local-type models with an error better than <math>\pm 2</math>.</li> </ul>

DE/MG

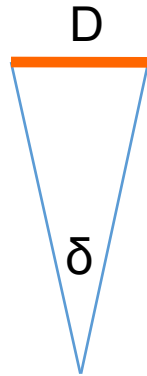
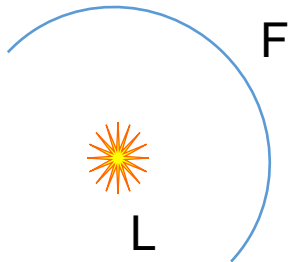
# How to model Dark Energy?





# Phenomenology of the Dark Side

distances  $d \sim \int_0^z \frac{dz}{H(z)}$



(metric)

geometry

$$G_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G T_{\mu\nu}$$

stuff  
(what is it?)

(your favourite theory)



something

something  
else



$$\left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\right)^2 = \frac{8\pi G}{3}\rho$$

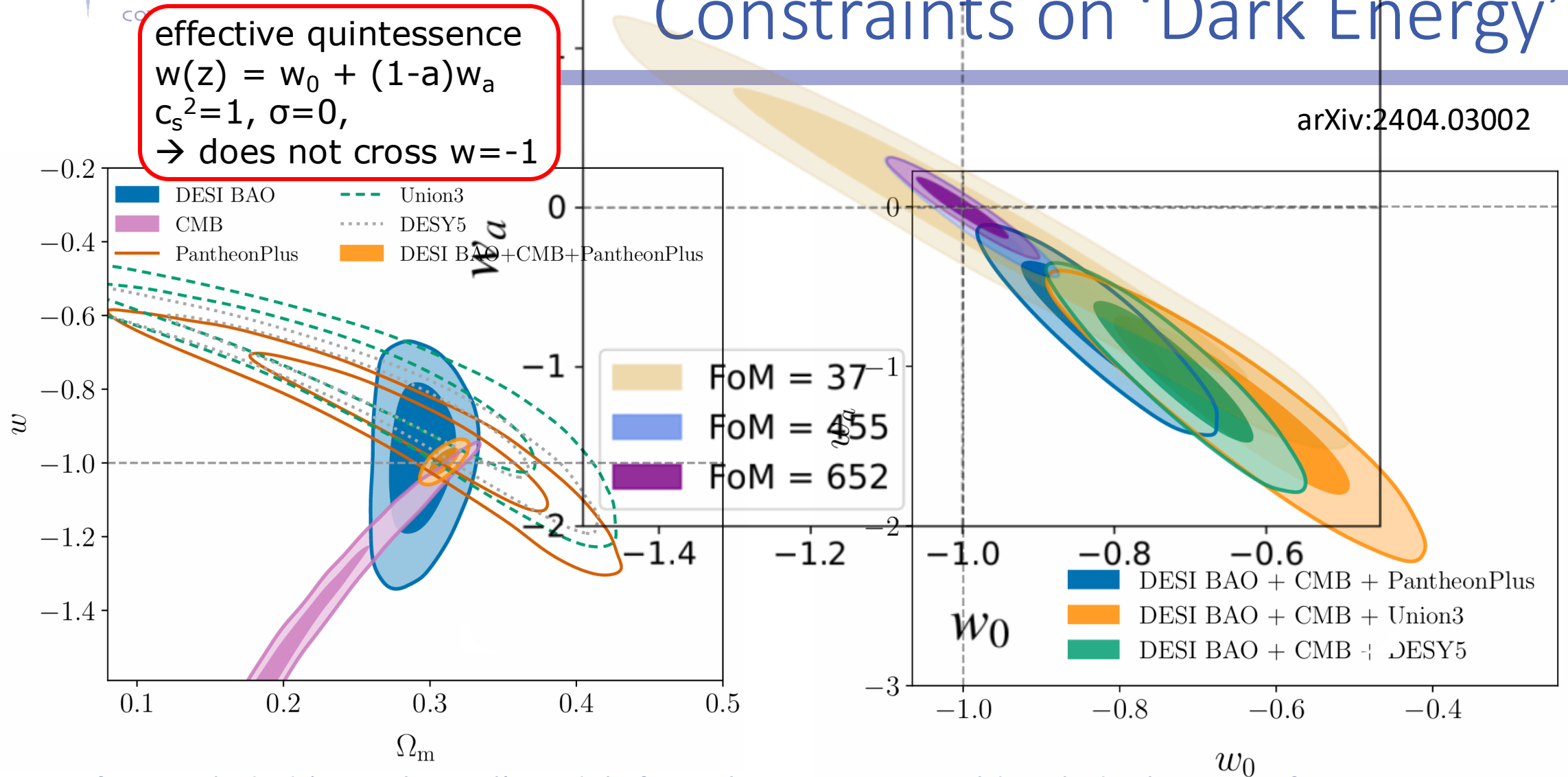
$$\dot{\rho} = -3\frac{\dot{a}}{a}(1+w)\rho$$

$$p = w\rho$$



# Constraints on 'Dark Energy'

arXiv:2404.03002



- If we excluded 'non-physical' models from the start, we would exclude this part of parameter space!
- Real or not? Need more data – and for systematics, Euclid will tell! (Maybe not yet at DR1)



# Euclid Figure of Merit

	$w_0, w_a$ FoM	Flat	Non-flat
Linear setting			
GC <sub>s</sub>		40	19
Pessimistic setting			
GC <sub>s</sub>		14	10
WL		23	5
GC <sub>s</sub> +WL		99	40
GC <sub>ph</sub> +WL		64	14
GC <sub>s</sub> +WL+GC <sub>ph</sub>		123	49
WL+GC <sub>ph</sub> +XC <sup>(GC<sub>ph</sub>,WL)</sup>		367	59
GC <sub>s</sub> +WL+GC <sub>ph</sub> +XC <sup>(GC<sub>ph</sub>,WL)</sup>		377	128
Optimistic setting			
GC <sub>s</sub>		55	19
WL		44	12
GC <sub>s</sub> +WL		157	87
GC <sub>ph</sub> +WL		235	129
GC <sub>s</sub> +WL+GC <sub>ph</sub>		398	218
WL+GC <sub>ph</sub> +XC <sup>(GC<sub>ph</sub>,WL)</sup>		1033	326
GC <sub>s</sub> +WL+GC <sub>ph</sub> +XC <sup>(GC<sub>ph</sub>,WL)</sup>		1257	500

*Euclid prep VII: Forecast validation*

Blanchard et al, arXiv:1910.09273

*Comments:*

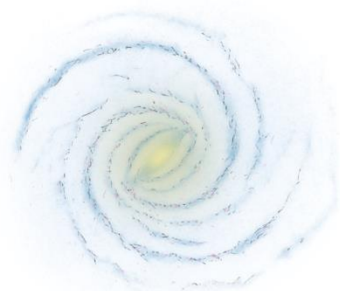
- FoM  $\sim$  inverse of  $w_0/w_a$  error ellipse.
- ESA expects a **FoM of 400** for Euclid alone.
- Errors on  $w_0/w_a$  :
  - Planck + BAO/SN-Ia : 0.080 / 0.3
  - Planck + BAO/RSD WL : 0.2 / 0.6
  - Euclid 3x2pt **pessimistic**: 0.042 / 0.17
  - Euclid 3x2pt **optimistic** : 0.027 / 0.10
- Euclid error on  $w$  const : 0.0087
- **Adding CMB** can improve errors by ca 50%  
cf Ilic et al, arXiv:2106.08346
- There are other probes (eg clusters, strong lensing) and combinations (6x2pt, external).

# Metric phenomenological parameters

(e.g. Amendola et al, arXiv:0704.2421)

$ds^2 = -(1 + 2\Psi) c^2 dt^2 + a^2(t) (1 - 2\Phi) \delta_{ij} dx^i dx^j$   $\longrightarrow$  characterize deviation of metric from reference (like PPN but in a cosmological context)  
 $\rightarrow$  Geometry instead of fluid properties

Light deflection (lensing) :  $\nabla_{\perp}(\Phi + \Psi)$



Acceleration :  $\nabla\Psi$   
(RSD)

(of course there are many other observations)



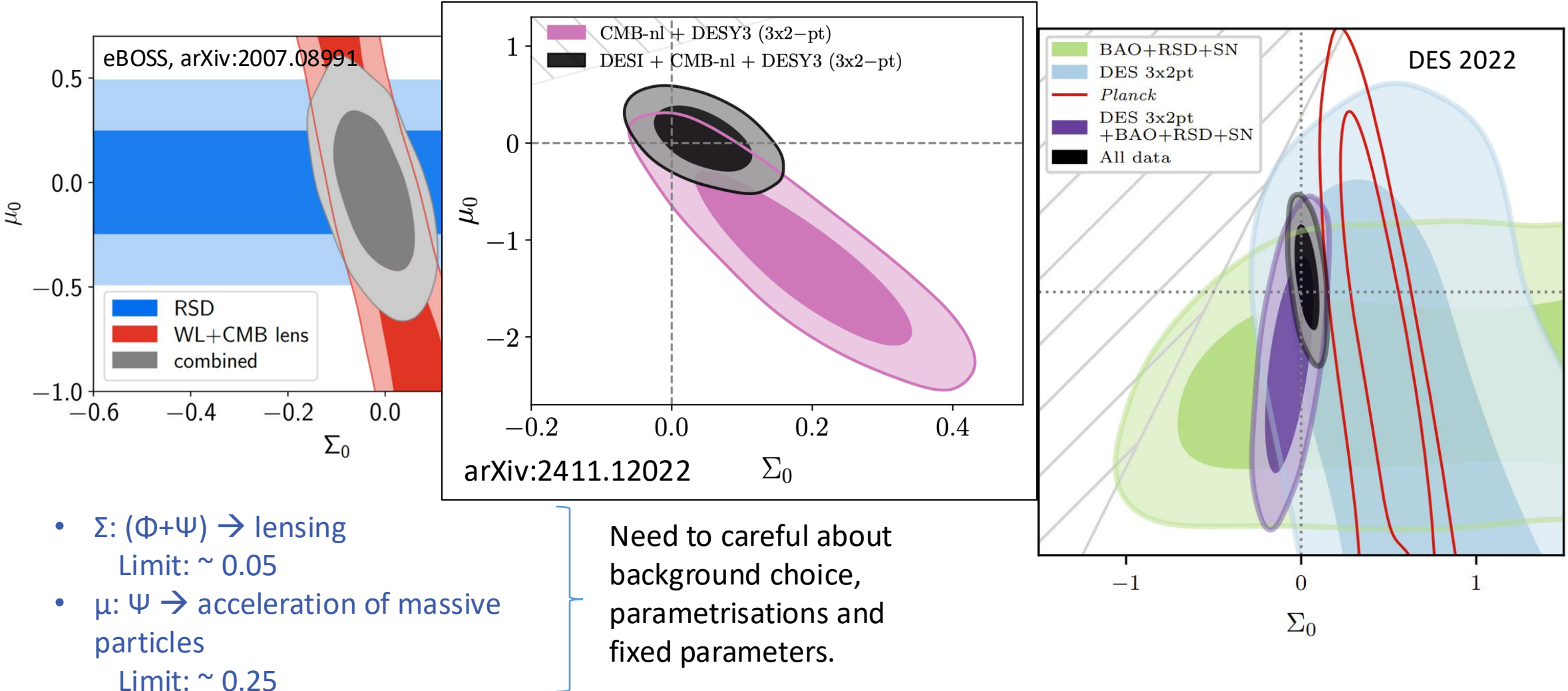
$$\begin{aligned} -k^2\Psi &= \frac{4\pi G_N}{c^2} a^2 \mu(a, k) [\bar{\rho}\Delta + 3(\bar{\rho} + \bar{p}/c^2)\sigma], \\ -k^2(\Phi + \Psi) &= \frac{8\pi G_N}{c^2} a^2 \{ \Sigma(a, k) [\bar{\rho}\Delta + 3(\bar{\rho} + \bar{p}/c^2)\sigma] \\ &\quad - \frac{3}{2}\mu(a, k)(\bar{\rho} + \bar{p}/c^2)\sigma \}, \end{aligned}$$

Alternatively replace one by slip, an observable and 'MG' diagnostic :  $\eta = \Phi/\Psi$ .

$$\Sigma = \frac{1}{2}\mu(1 + \eta)$$



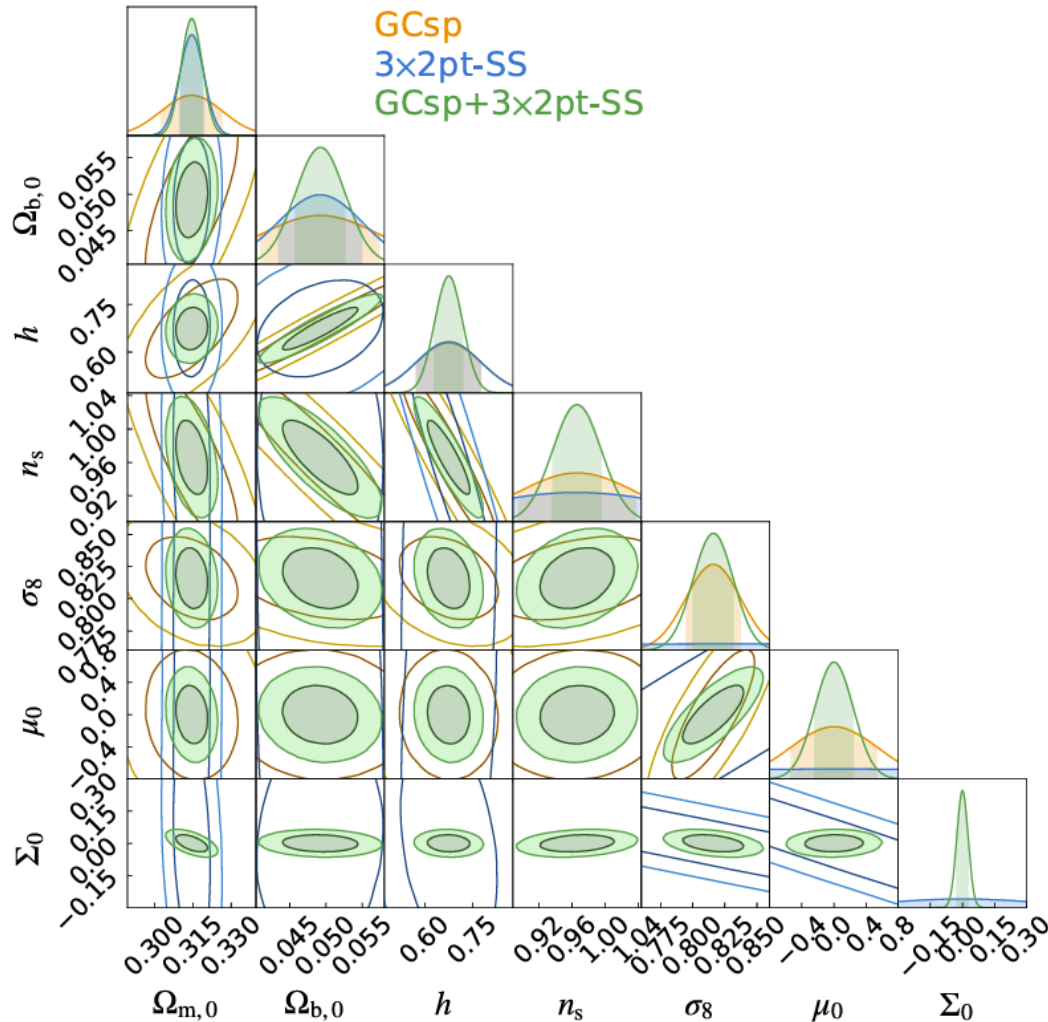
# Constraints on “Modified Gravity”





# Constraints on “Modified Gravity”

Euclid Collaboration, Albuquerque et al, in internal review



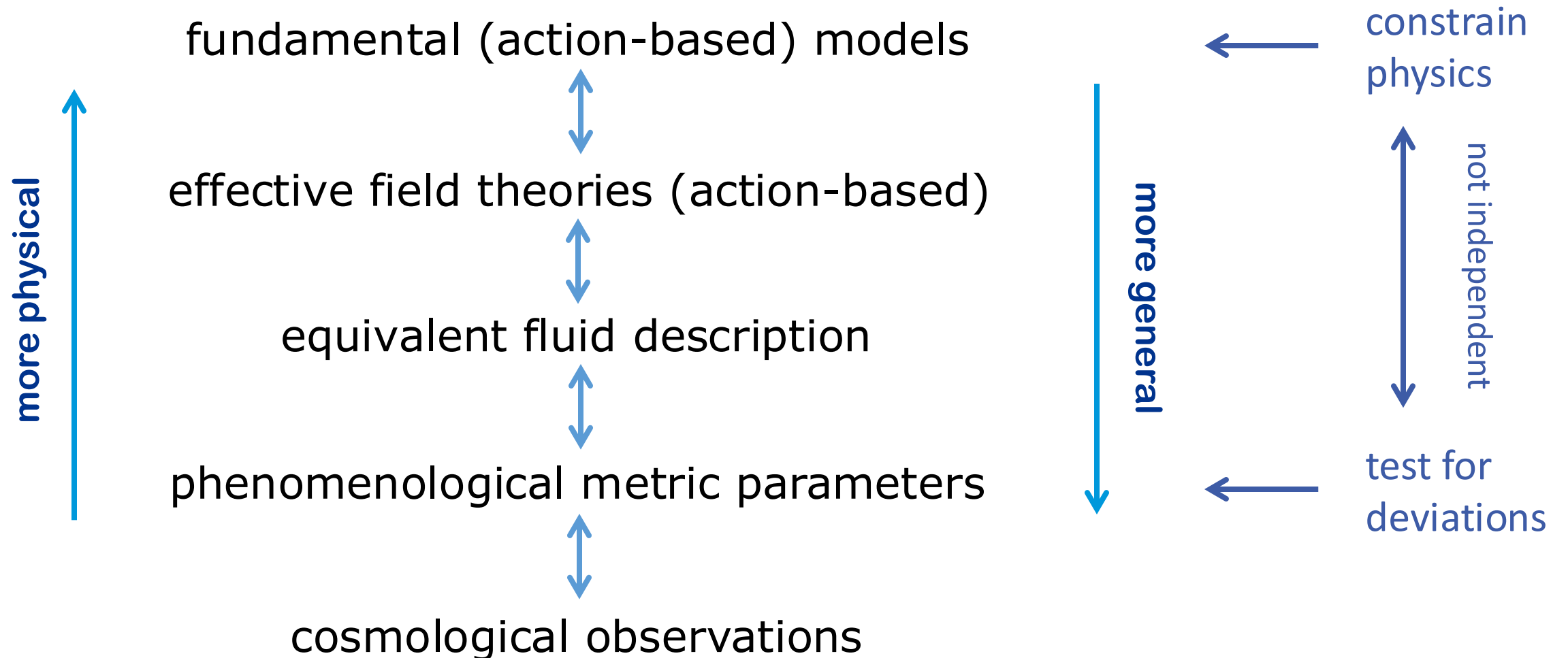
GCsp + 3x2pt,  
proportional to  $\Omega_{DE}(z)$  :

- $\sigma(\Sigma) \sim 0.026$
- $\sigma(\mu) \sim 0.23$

→ Combine with additional data  
for stronger constraints.



# How to model Dark Energy?



$$S^{(2)} = \int d^3x dt a^3 \frac{M^2}{2} \left[ \delta K_{ij} \delta K^{ij} - \delta K^2 + (1 + \alpha_T) \left( R \frac{\delta \sqrt{h}}{a^3} + \delta_2 R \right) + \alpha_K H^2 \delta N^2 + 4\alpha_B H \delta K \delta N + (1 + \alpha_H) R \delta N \right]$$

(Bellini & Sawicki 2014, Gleyes et al 2015)

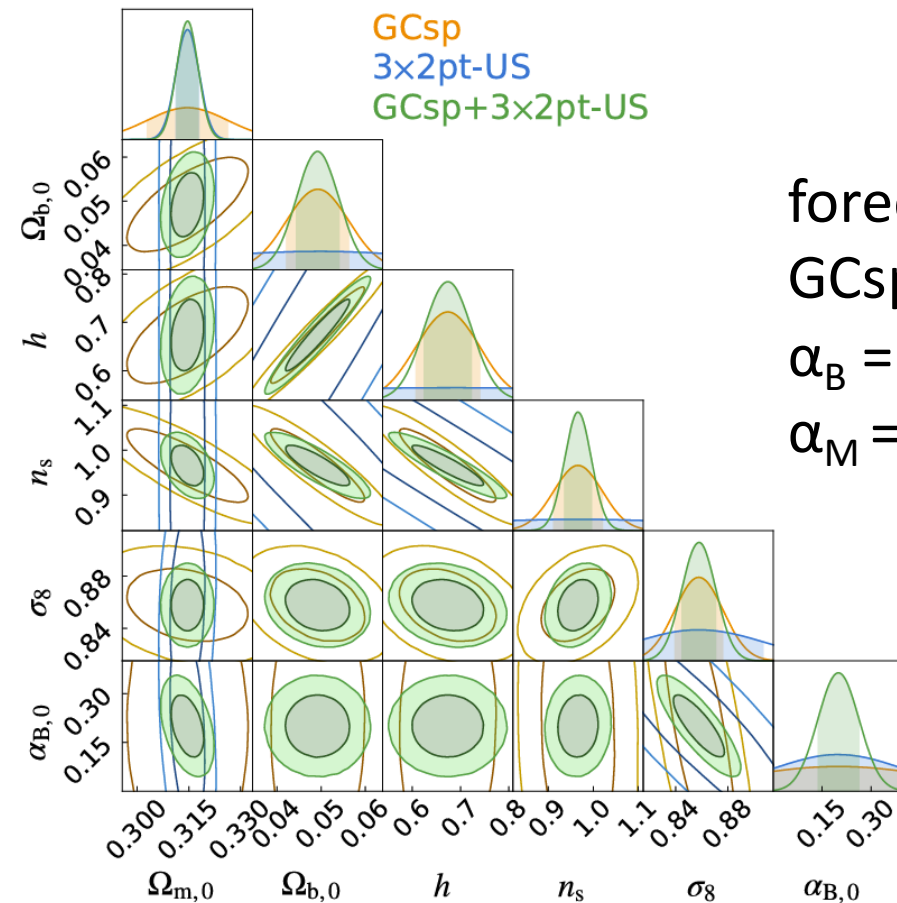
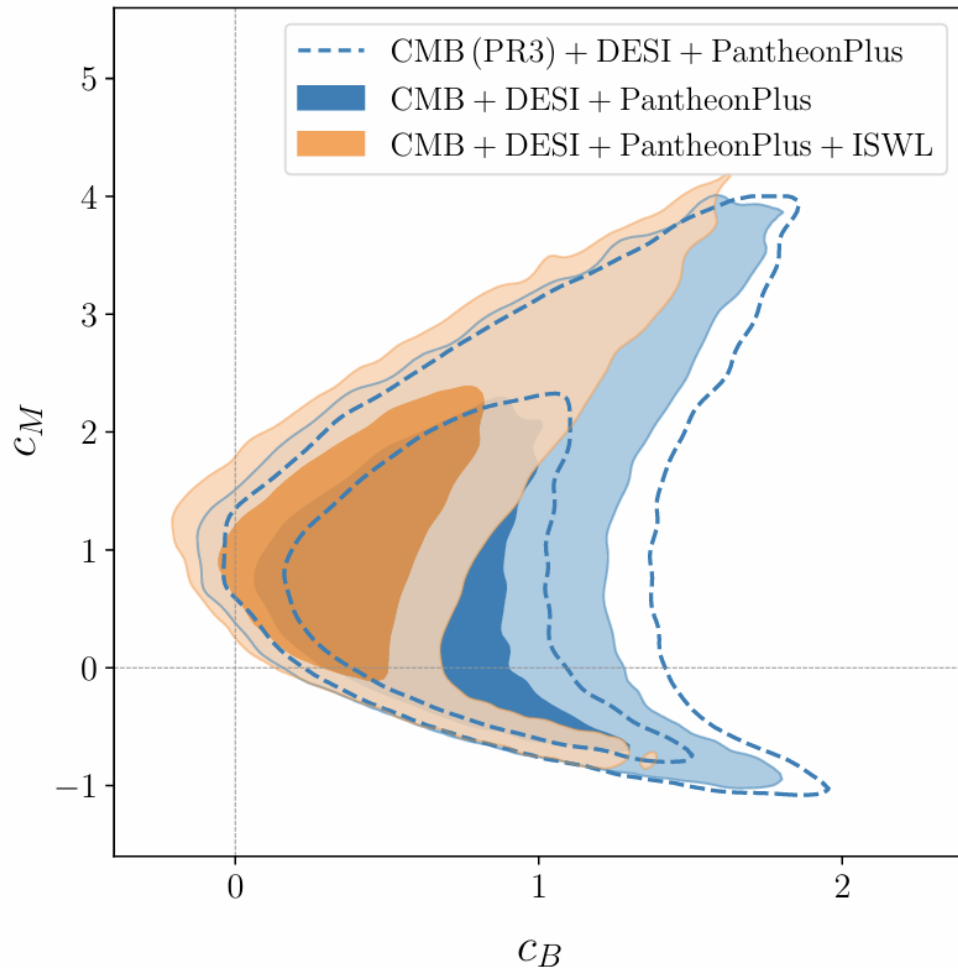
- **H(t):** background evolution → for us parametrised as  $w(z)$
- **$\alpha_K(t)$ :** “kineticity” – kinetic energy : large  $\alpha_K$  = small  $c_s^2$  → difficult to constrain [i.e. can fix]
- **$\alpha_B(t)$ :** “braiding” – mixing of kinetic terms and metric, contributes to DE clustering
- **$\alpha_M(t)$ :** “Planck mass run rate”,  $\alpha_M = 1/(2H) d(\ln M^2)/dt$ , contributes to anisotropic stress, ‘modified gravity’
- **$\alpha_T(t)$ :** “tensor speed excess”, also contributes to anisotropic stress → small since GW speed = light speed (?)
- **$\alpha_H(t)$ :** “beyond Horndeski”, higher order term in Einstein eq. that cancels in e.o.m. → also strong limits
- This model class can cross  $w=-1$
- In the EFT philosophy, these are ‘properties of the material’ (i.e. dark energy) and to be measured from data, there is no a priori hierarchy in EFT’s
- There are also stability conditions on the  $\alpha_i$  like  $c_s^2 > 0$ ,  $c_T^2 > 0$ , positive kinetic terms, cf Bellini & Sawicki 2014



# Constraints on “Modified Gravity”

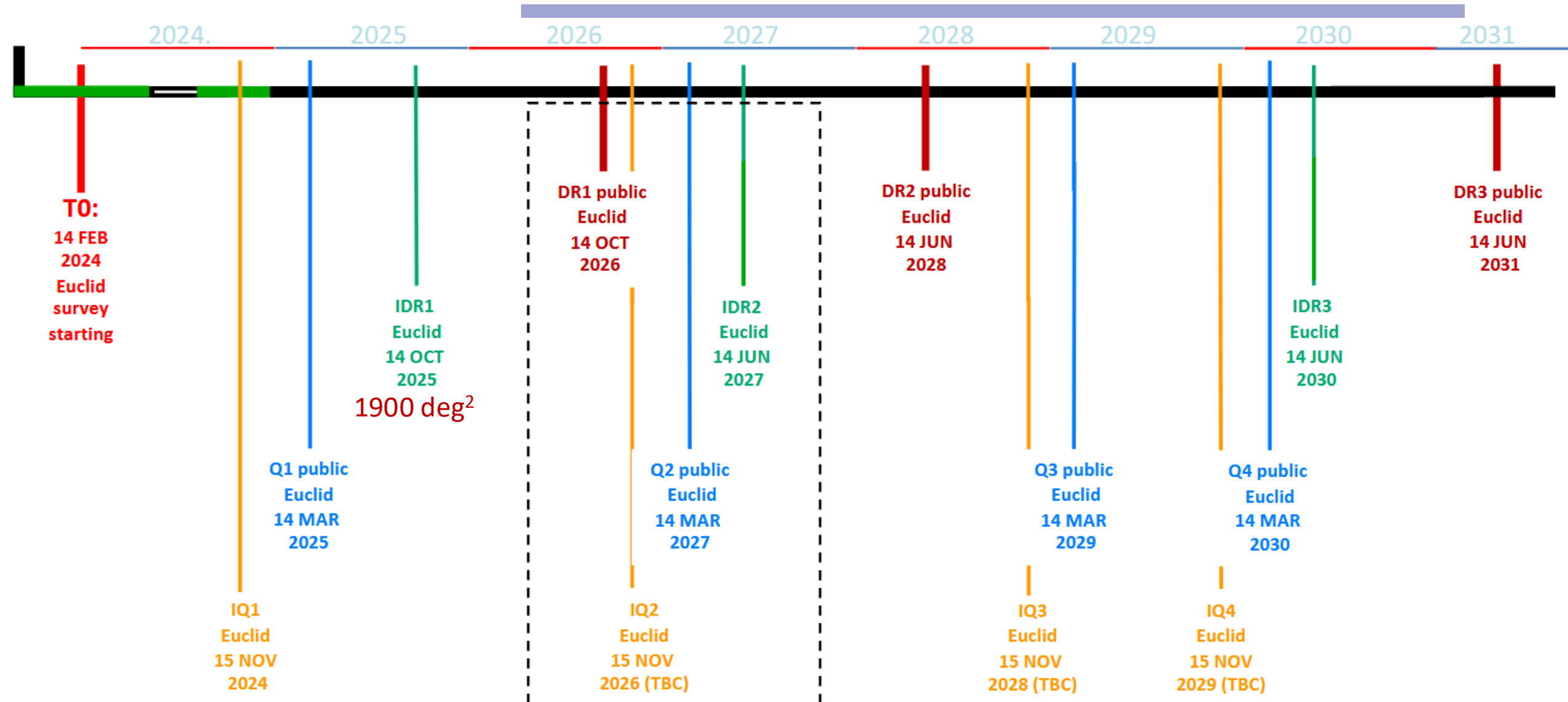
Euclid Collaboration, Albuquerque et al, in internal review

Chudaykin+, arXiv:2503.09893



forecast (linear in  $a$ )  
 GCsp + 3x2pt :  
 $\alpha_B = 0.2 \pm 0.06$   
 $\alpha_M = 0$  (fixed)

# Euclid timeline





- Euclid was successfully launched and is producing copious amounts of data. The first 'cosmology' data release will be in **October 2026**. Meanwhile, see also <https://esa.int/euclid> and [esasky](#) for updates, images, etc.
- Decades of development, but still many things to **think about** :
  - Simply finding stuff in the data deluge – is ML/AI the (only) answer?
  - Beyond power spectrum : is bispectrum enough? Field-level inference?
  - Accelerated inference, emulators, differential likelihoods, improved samplers
  - Non-linear scales & baryons
  - Cross-correlations – good for statistics and for systematics, but is data compatible?
  - New (or new old) observables (e.g. strong lensing, magnification, clusters, ...)
  - Are the target theories all known and well understood? **(Certainly not!)**
- Much is still to be discovered, now with new data!

Thank you!

