

# Probing parity violation in the early universe using galaxy spins

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# Parity violation (PV)

- Parity: Operation transforming into its mirrored image

$$\mathbb{P}(\vec{x}) = -\vec{x}$$



left  
handed



right  
handed

- Consequence of PV : Imbalance btwn. right- & left-handed (“*helical*”) modes



# Types & Examples of PV

- Tensorial PV : primordial GWs with net helicities

(Lue+99; Jackie & Pi 03; Saito+07; Contaldi+08; Jeong & Kamionkowski 12; Masui+17; Nishizawa & Kobayashi 18)

- Vectorial PV ? :  
displacement vector field  
with net helicities



this talk



# In this talk,

we assess the detectability of PV in a primordial vector fossil using **galaxy spins**.

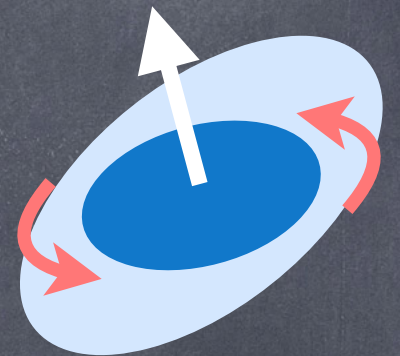




# Initial spin field

$$\vec{J} \propto \epsilon_{ijk} I_{jl} T_{lk} \quad (I_{jl} = \partial_j \partial_l \rho_s, \quad T_{lk} = \partial_l \partial_k \phi_s)$$

(TTT; Peebles 69, Doroshkevich 70, White 84)



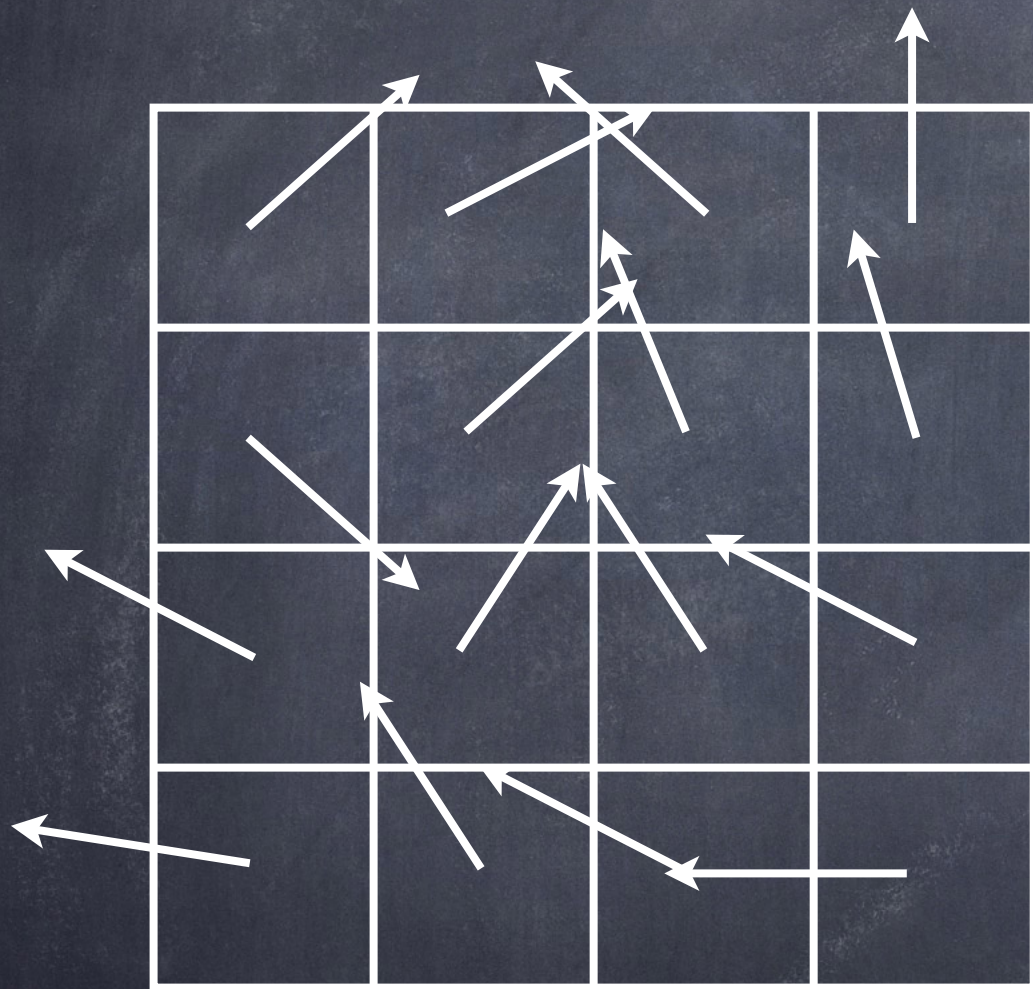
- 1) a reliable proxy for **halo**  
& **galaxy spins**

(Lee & Pen00, Porciani+02, Jiang+19, Yu+20, Motloch+21,22, Sheng+23)

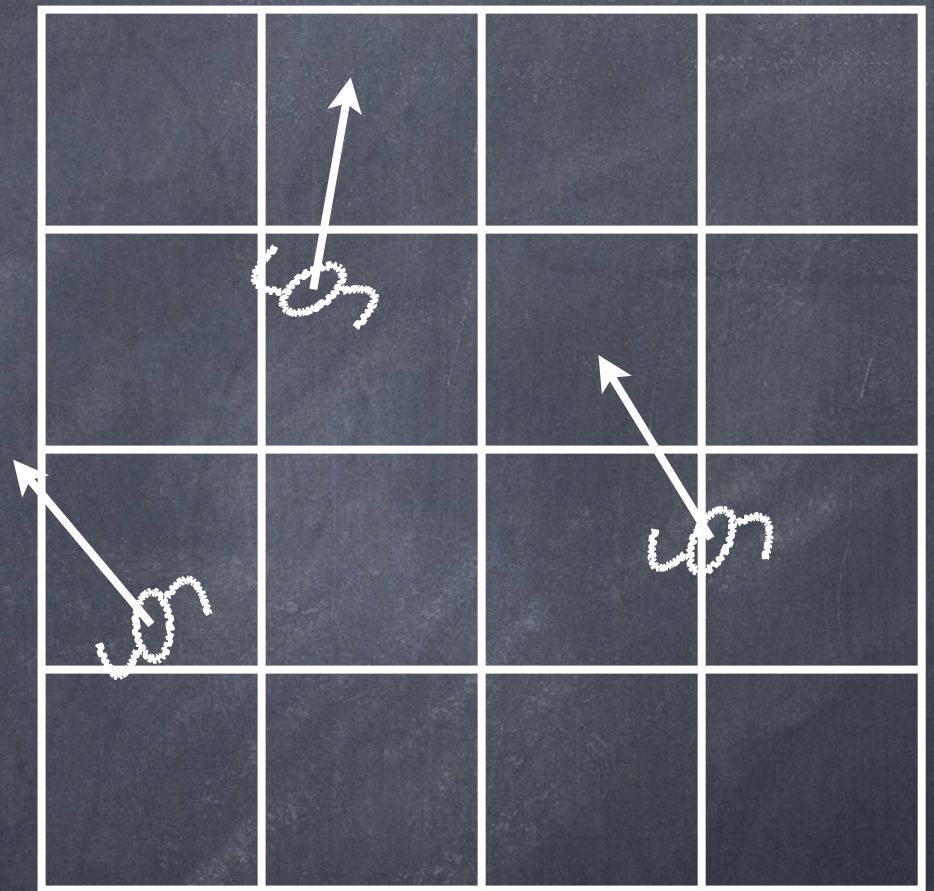
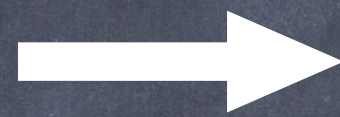
- 2) a “*helical*” vector field  
(i.e. rotational,  $\nabla \cdot \vec{J} = 0$ )



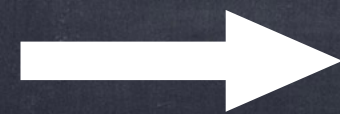
# Parity violation



Helical asym. in  
**init. spin field**



Helical asym. in  
**gal. spin field**





# Simulations

## • CUBE (P3M) (Yu+18)

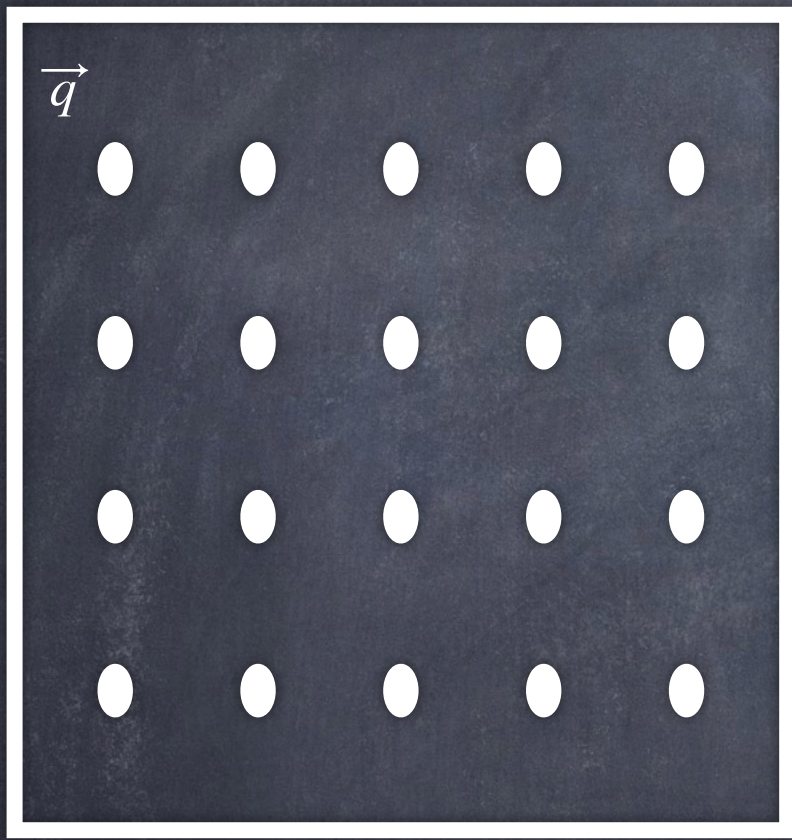
•  $L_{\text{box}} = 100 h^{-1} \text{Mpc}$       •  $z_{\text{init}} = 30$   
•  $m_p = 4.3 \times 10^9 h^{-1} M_{\odot}$       •  $N_p = 256^3$

• Halo spins as a reliable proxy for galaxy spins

(Hahn+10; Deason+11; Teklu+15; Sheng+23)



# Parity violating ICs

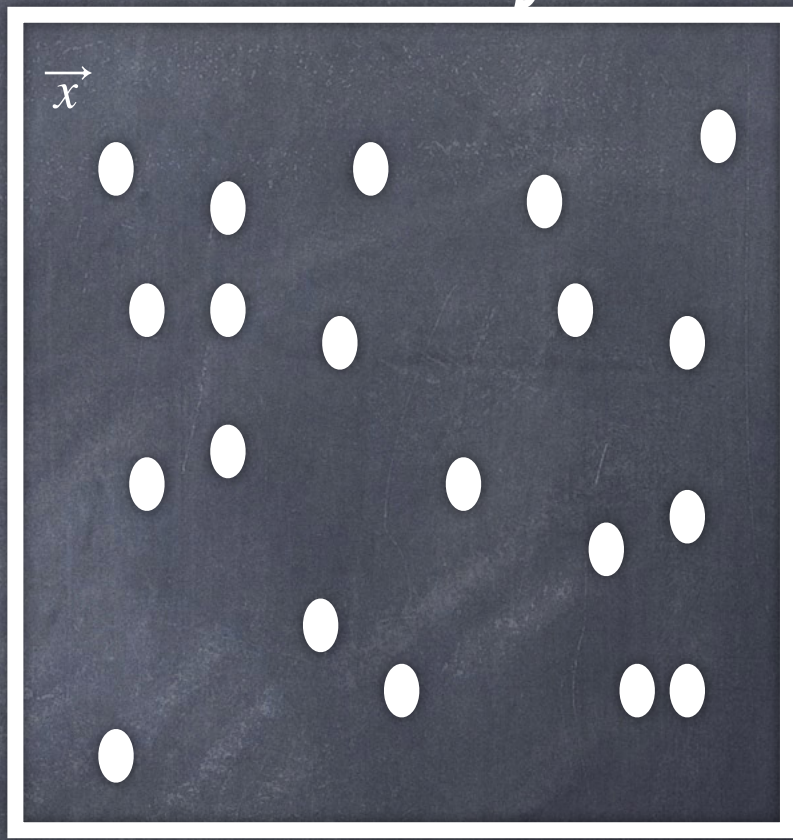


$$\vec{x} = \vec{q} + \vec{\Psi}(\vec{q})$$



$\vec{\Psi}$ : disp. field  
 $(\delta(\vec{q}) \propto -\nabla_q \vec{\Psi})$

init. density fluc.



parity sym.

$$\vec{\Psi} = \vec{\Psi}_{ZA} = -\nabla_q \Phi$$

parity asym.

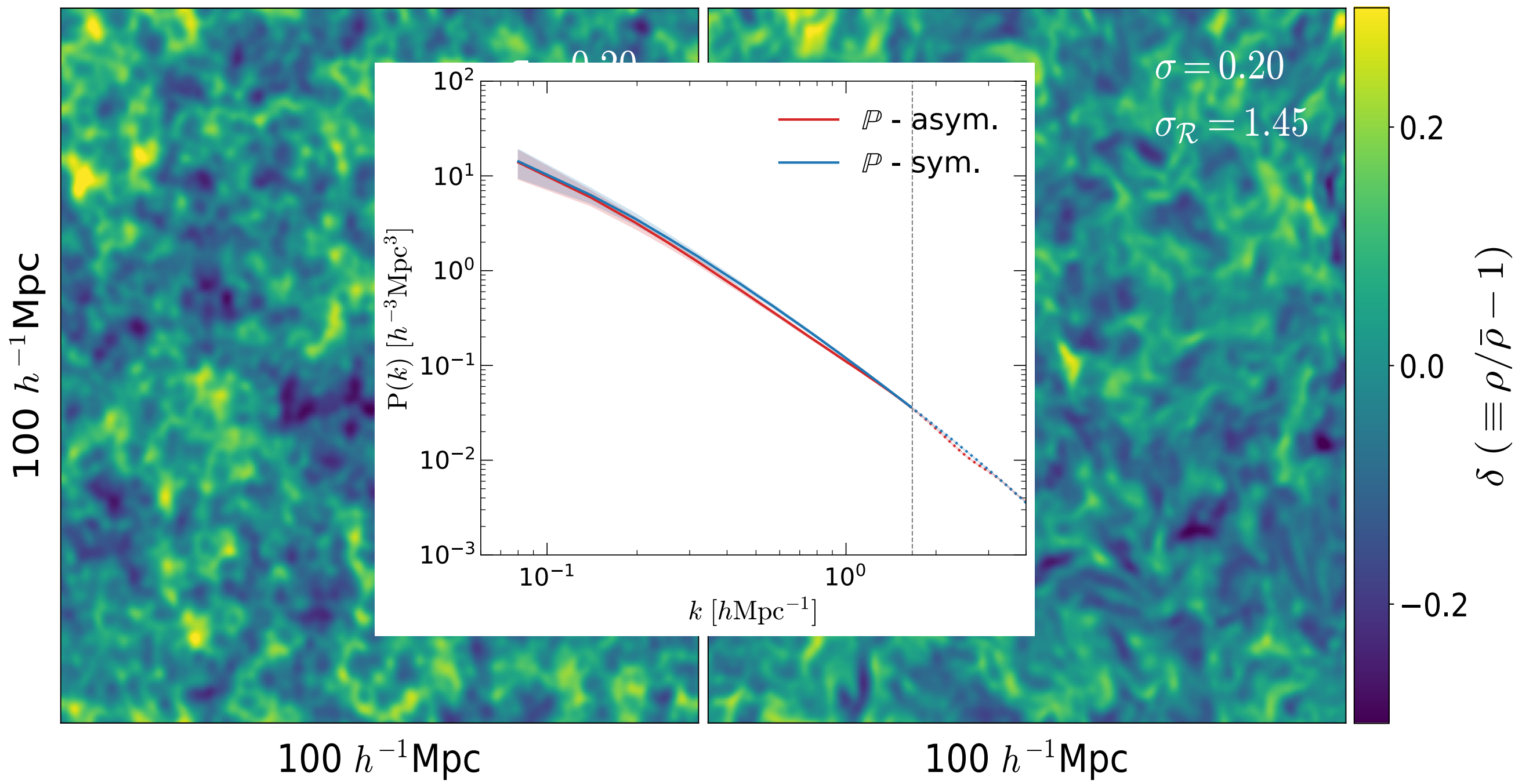
$$\vec{\Psi} = \vec{\Psi}_{ZA} + \vec{\Psi}_{hel} \quad (\vec{\Psi} = \nabla\phi + \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A})$$



# Initial density fields

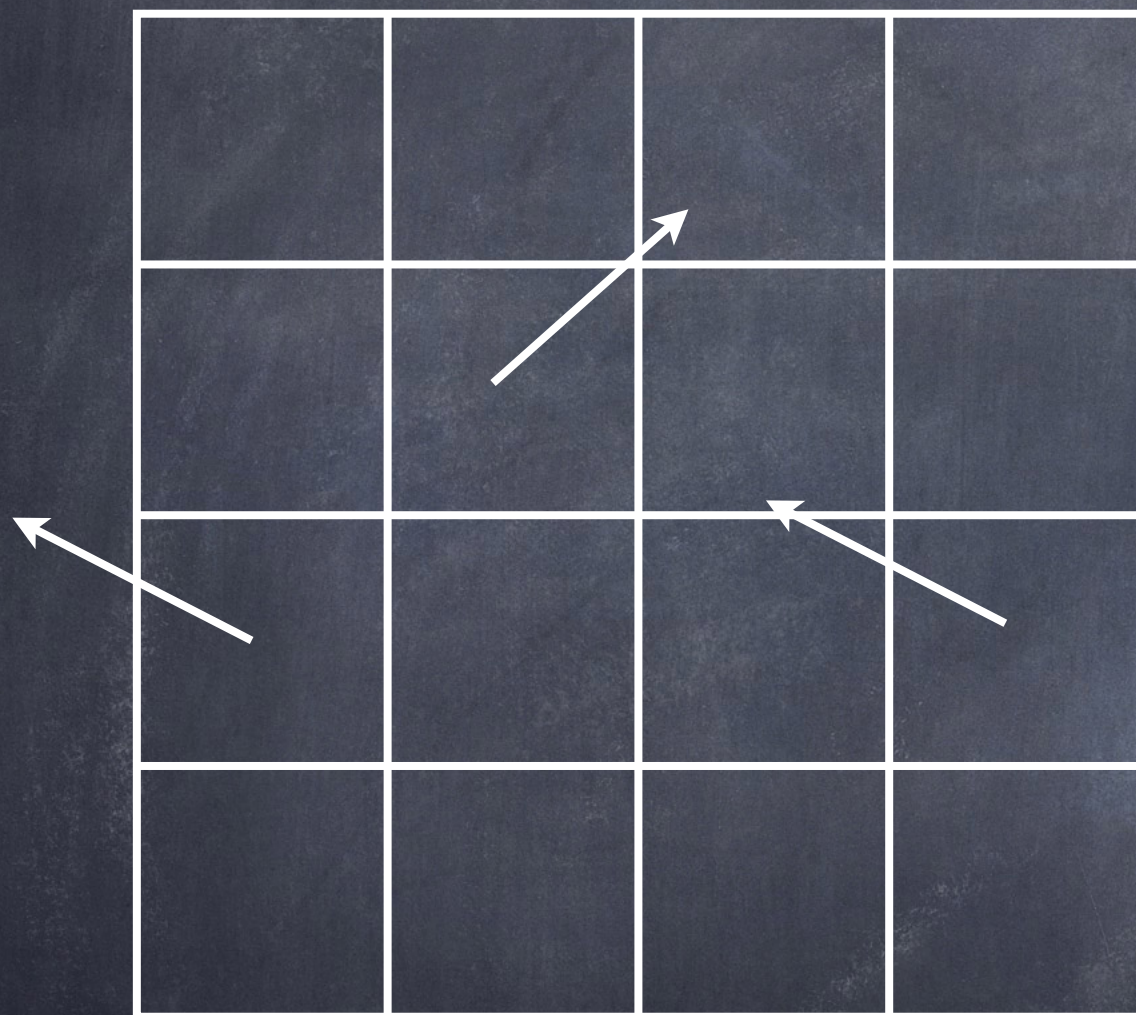
$\mathcal{P}$  - symmetric

$\mathcal{P}$  - asymmetric

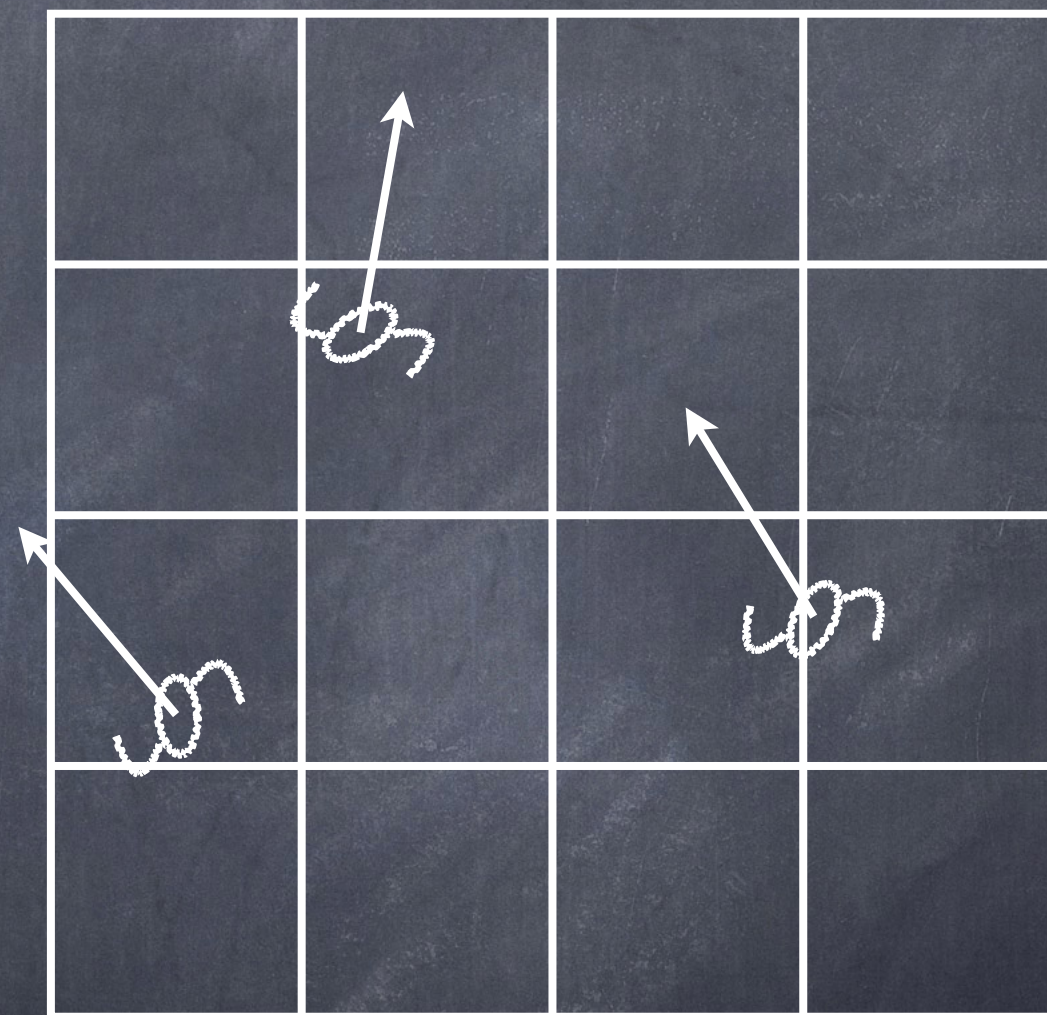




# Init. spin vs. halo spin



**init.** spin field  
(subsampled)

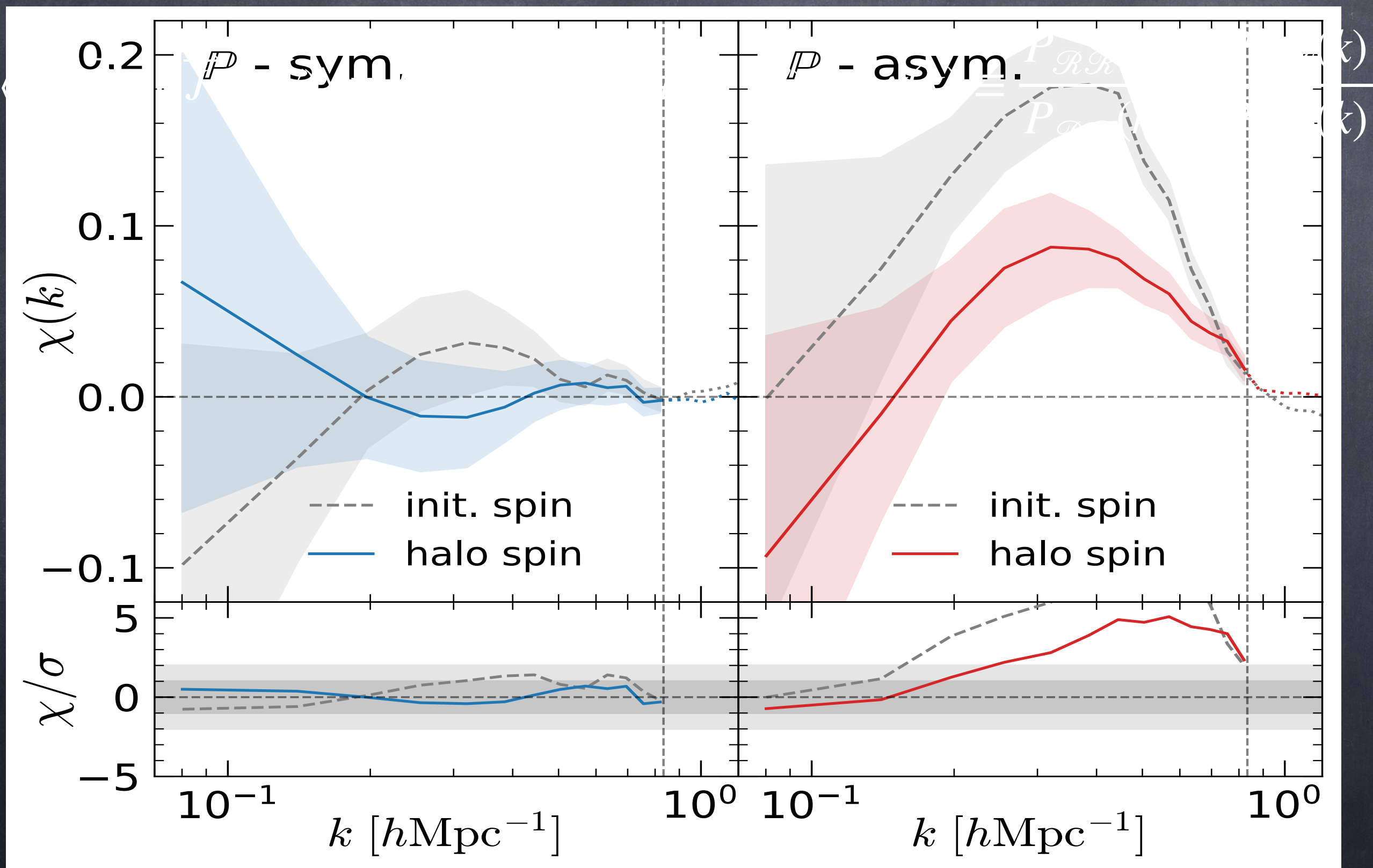


**halo** spin field

$$N_h \approx 10^6 \quad (M_h \geq 10^{12} h^{-1} M_\odot)$$



# Init. spin vs. halo spin





# Summary

- We explore the potential of using **galaxy spins** to test **primordial PV**.
- **Primordial helical asymmetry** is well preserved in **halo spins**.



Thank you



# Generating IC (1)

- (Disp.) Vector field decomposition

$$\vec{\Psi} = \nabla \phi + \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}$$

$$\vec{\Psi}(\vec{k}) = \vec{\Psi}_E(\vec{k}) + \vec{\Psi}_R(\vec{k}) + \vec{\Psi}_L(\vec{k})$$

$$\phi_E \hat{e}_E$$

$$\phi_{R/L} \hat{e}_{R/L}$$

using eigenvectors of curl operator,

$$\hat{e}_E = \frac{1}{k} \begin{pmatrix} k_x \\ k_y \\ k_z \end{pmatrix} \quad \hat{e}_{R/L} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}k} \frac{1}{\sqrt{k_y^2 + k_z^2}} \begin{pmatrix} k_y^2 + k_z^2 \\ -k_x k_y \pm i k k_z \\ -k_x k_z \mp i k k_y \end{pmatrix}$$



# Generating IC (2)

## • (standard) **Parity symmetric IC**

$$\langle \delta(\vec{k}) \delta^*(\vec{k}') \rangle \equiv (2\pi)^3 \delta_{\text{D}}(\vec{k} - \vec{k}') P(k)$$

$$\sigma^2 \equiv \frac{1}{2\pi} \int k^2 P(k) dk$$

## • **Parity asymmetric IC**

$$\langle k^2 \Phi_R(\vec{k}) k'^2 \Phi_R^*(\vec{k}') \rangle \equiv (2\pi)^3 \delta_{\text{D}}(\vec{k} - \vec{k}') P_R(k)$$

$$\sigma_R^2 \equiv \frac{1}{2\pi} \int k^2 P_R(k) dk \quad P_R(k) dk = P(k) e^{-k^2 R_h^2}$$

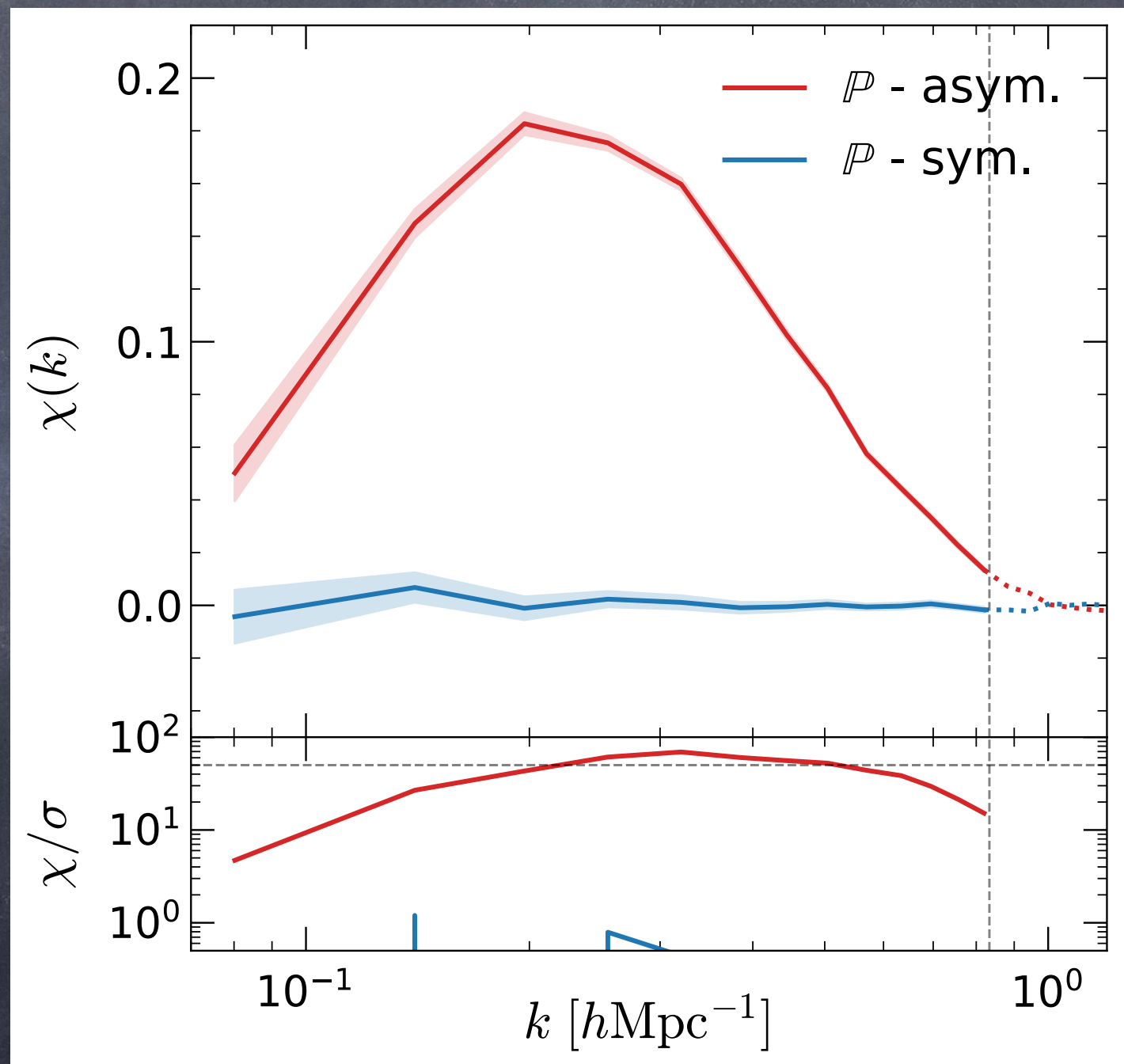


# Initial spin fields

$$\langle \vec{J}_x(\vec{k}) \cdot \vec{J}_x^*(\vec{k}') \rangle \equiv P_{xx}(k)(2\pi)^3 \delta_D(\vec{k} - \vec{k}') \quad \chi(k) \equiv \frac{P_{\mathcal{R}\mathcal{R}}(k) - P_{\mathcal{L}\mathcal{L}}(k)}{P_{\mathcal{R}\mathcal{R}}(k) + P_{\mathcal{L}\mathcal{L}}(k)}$$

Substantial  
helical asymmetry  
in  $\mathcal{P}$ -asym. ICs.

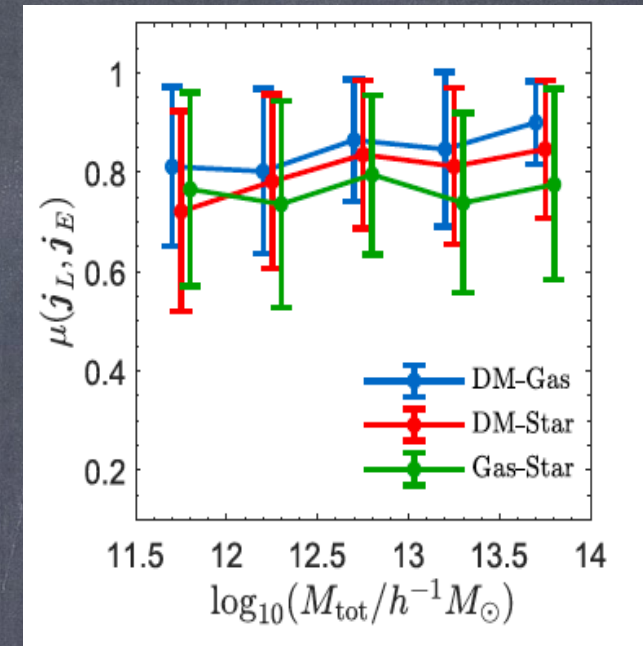
Consistent with  
helical symmetry  
in  $\mathcal{P}$ -sym. ICs.





# Observational feasibility

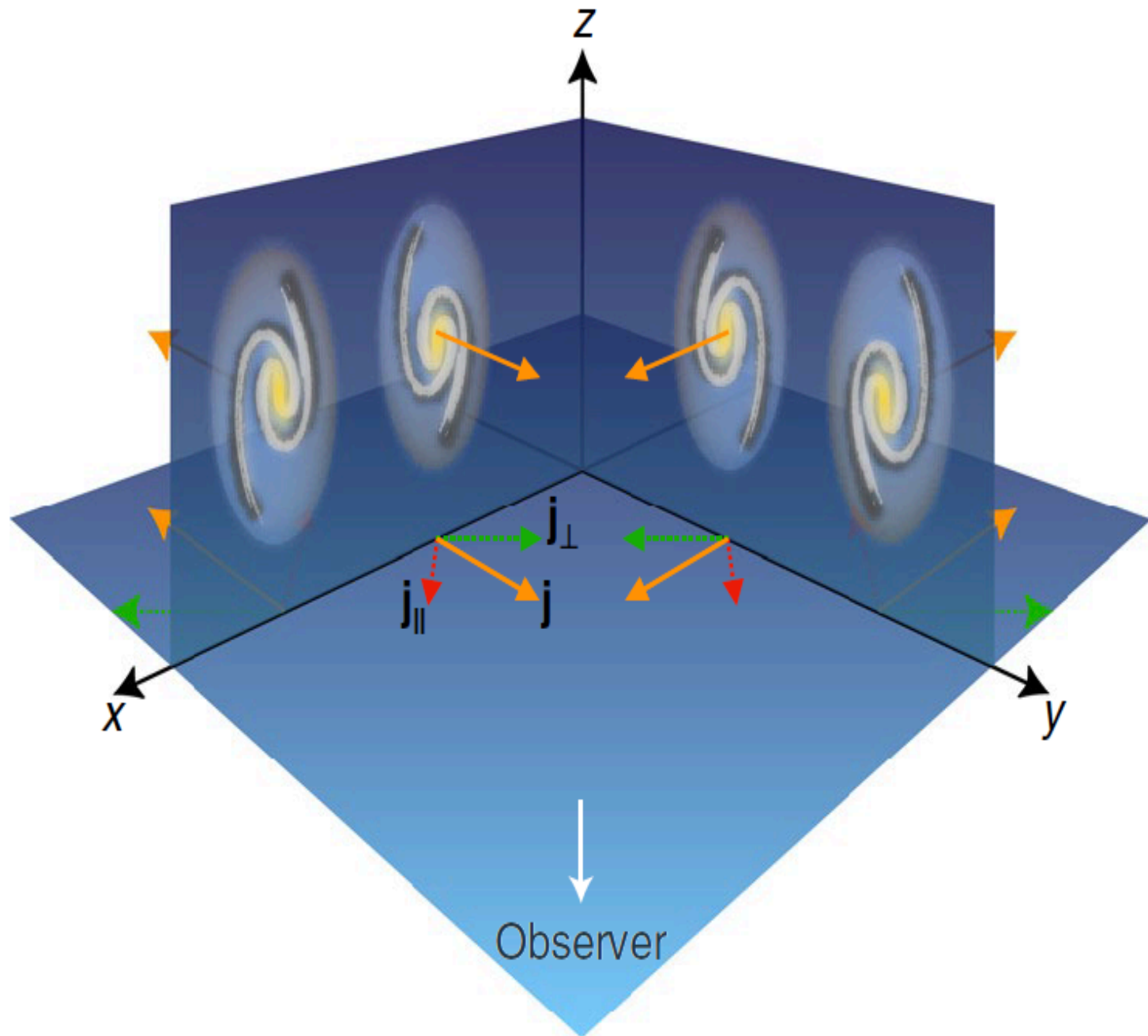
- Baryon and halo spins are misaligned by  $\sim 35^\circ$
- Hel. asym. in gal. spin decreases by  $\sim 30\%$
- With DESI BGS, detection significance can reach  $\sim 11\sigma$



(Sheng+23)



# Obs. spin determination



- $\vec{J} \perp$  gal's disk
- S-Z spiral arm
- projected gas velocity
- color gradient



# Late-time density fields

$\mathbb{P}$ -sym.

$\mathbb{P}$ -asym.

