



This is a repository copy of *A consistent view of interacting dark energy from multiple CMB probes*.

White Rose Research Online URL for this paper:

<https://eprints.whiterose.ac.uk/201618/>

Version: Published Version

Article:

Zhai, Y., Giarè, W., van de Bruck, C. et al. (3 more authors) (2023) A consistent view of interacting dark energy from multiple CMB probes. *Journal of Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics*, 2023 (07). ISSN 1475-7516

<https://doi.org/10.1088/1475-7516/2023/07/032>

Reuse

This article is distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) licence. This licence allows you to distribute, remix, tweak, and build upon the work, even commercially, as long as you credit the authors for the original work. More information and the full terms of the licence here:

<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/>

Takedown

If you consider content in White Rose Research Online to be in breach of UK law, please notify us by emailing eprints@whiterose.ac.uk including the URL of the record and the reason for the withdrawal request.



eprints@whiterose.ac.uk
<https://eprints.whiterose.ac.uk/>

PAPER • OPEN ACCESS

A consistent view of interacting dark energy from multiple CMB probes

To cite this article: Yuejia Zhai *et al*/JCAP07(2023)032

View the [article online](#) for updates and enhancements.

You may also like

- [Observational constraints and predictions of the interacting dark sector with field-fluid mapping](#)
Joseph P. Johnson, Archana Sangwan and S. Shankaranarayanan
- [Cosmological constraints on coupled dark energy](#)
Weiqiang Yang, Hang Li, Yabo Wu et al.
- [Quantifying the impacts of future gravitational-wave data on constraining interacting dark energy](#)
Hai-Li Li, Dong-Ze He, Jing-Fei Zhang et al.

A consistent view of interacting dark energy from multiple CMB probes

Yuejia Zhai,^a William Giarè,^{a,*} Carsten van de Bruck,^a
Eleonora Di Valentino,^a Olga Mena^b and Rafael C. Nunes^{c,d}

^aSchool of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Sheffield,
Hounsfield Road, Sheffield S3 7RH, United Kingdom

^bInstituto de Física Corpuscular (IFIC), University of Valencia-CSIC,
Parc Científic UV, c/ Catedrático José Beltrán 2, Paterna E-46980, Spain

^cInstituto de Física, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul,
Porto Alegre 91501-970, RS, Brazil

^dDivisão de Astrofísica, Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais,
Avenida dos Astronautas 1758, São José dos Campos 12227-010, São Paulo, Brazil

E-mail: yzhai13@sheffield.ac.uk, w.giare@sheffield.ac.uk,
c.vandbruck@sheffield.ac.uk, e.divalentino@sheffield.ac.uk, omena@ific.uv.es,
rafadcnunes@gmail.com

Received March 29, 2023

Accepted June 19, 2023

Published July 11, 2023

Abstract. We analyze a cosmological model featuring an interaction between dark energy and dark matter in light of the measurements of the Cosmic Microwave Background released by three independent experiments: the most recent data by the Planck satellite and the Atacama Cosmology Telescope, and WMAP (9-year data). We show that different combinations of the datasets provide similar results, always favoring an interacting dark sector with a 95% C.L. significance in the majority of the cases. Remarkably, such a preference remains consistent when cross-checked through independent probes, while always yielding a value of the expansion rate H_0 consistent with the local distance ladder measurements. We investigate the source of this preference by scrutinizing the angular power spectra of temperature and polarization anisotropies as measured by different experiments.

Keywords: cosmological parameters from CMBR, dark energy theory

ArXiv ePrint: [2303.08201](https://arxiv.org/abs/2303.08201)

*Corresponding author.

Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	The IDE model	2
3	Datasets and methodology	3
4	Results	4
5	Conclusions	8

1 Introduction

The standard cosmological model, known as Λ CDM, describes the Universe as isotropic and homogeneous on large scales. The majority of the matter in the model is made up of Cold Dark Matter (CDM), which is parametrized as a perfect fluid of collisionless particles that interact solely through gravity. The model also accounts for the existence of Dark Energy, represented by a cosmological constant Λ in the Einstein equations, which is responsible for the observed accelerated expansion of the Universe at later stages. To set the initial conditions, the model relies on cosmological inflation, an early phase of almost de-Sitter expansion, which leads the Universe towards homogeneity and flatness, while also providing a compelling explanation for the origin of primordial density fluctuations.

Despite involving such poorly understood physics, the Λ CDM model has been highly successful over the last few decades in providing an accurate fit to a broad range of cosmological and astrophysical observations. Nevertheless, as error-bars on cosmological parameters began to narrow, different intriguing tensions and anomalies emerged at various statistical levels [1–3]. Currently, the most significant tension is between the Hubble constant (H_0) value, as measured by the SH0ES collaboration, that is using a distance ladder with Cepheids variables to calibrate Type Ia supernovae [4] ($H_0 = 73.04 \pm 1.04$ km/s/Mpc), and the value inferred by the Planck satellite from Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB) observations [5] ($H_0 = 67.4 \pm 0.5$ km/s/Mpc) assuming a Λ CDM model for the expansion history of the Universe. The so-called H_0 tension [6, 7] has recently overcome the threshold of 5 standard deviations [4, 8], essentially ruling out the possibility of a statistical fluke. It is also important to note that several alternative observations of the late-time Universe support the SH0ES result, and none of these measurements suggests a value lower than early Universe estimates [9–21]. Additionally, Planck-independent observations of the CMB temperature and polarization anisotropies always predict an expansion rate consistent with Planck and never higher than late-time probes [22, 23], assuming a Λ CDM scenario. Consequently, the H_0 tension suggests a discrepancy between our comprehension of the early and late Universe.

Certainly, discrepancies in the observational data may point to the presence of unaccounted-for systematic errors. Although it cannot be ruled out entirely, this possibility is becoming increasingly unlikely, given the extensive analysis performed by the SH0ES collaboration [4] and the distribution of the local measurements, that are made by different teams with different probed and calibration methods: when these measurements are combined together, even removing a few of them, the total tension with the CMB estimate still persists

at the $4 - 6\sigma$ level [24, 25]. More excitingly, the H_0 tension can indicate the necessity of new physics, because inferring H_0 , i.e. the rate at which the Universe is expanding today, from observations of the Cosmic Microwave Background necessarily relies on the cosmological model and its underlying assumptions. In more complex cosmologies beyond Λ CDM, values of H_0 consistent with local distance ladder measurements can be obtained, and numerous potential solutions have been proposed in the literature, see, e.g., refs. [1, 26–29] for recent reviews.

One model that has gained popularity for potentially resolving the H_0 tension is the interacting dark energy (IDE) scenario, where a non-gravitational interaction between dark matter (DM) and dark energy (DE) is postulated [25, 30–68]. The state-of-the-art constraints on IDE cosmologies arise primarily from the CMB data released by the Planck collaboration, which provides a mild-to-moderate indication for an interacting dark sector, yielding a value of the expansion rate H_0 consistent with the local SHOES measurements. However, when the Planck observations are considered in combination with robust external probes, as measurements of the late-time expansion history from BAO and SN, such preference is usually mitigated [67]. Nonetheless, recent studies suggest a significant reliance on the cosmological model in the matter clustering 3D BAO measurements [69]. Exploiting a 2D transverse projection of the BAO dataset (where the dependence on the cosmological model is much reduced) leads to very different constraints than the traditional 3D BAO approach, resulting in a very strong evidence in favor of IDE cosmologies.

In this paper, we aim to evaluate the robustness of this indication for Interacting Dark Energy by further testing it against different CMB observations, beyond those from the Planck satellite [5]. Namely, we explore the constraints derived from the Atacama Cosmology Telescope data [70], both alone and in combination with the 9-year data release from the WMAP satellite [71]. Our findings reveal that different independent combinations of data yield comparable results in favor of the IDE scenario, which is consistent with the bounds obtained from the Planck experiment solely. To understand the underlying cause of this preference, we conduct a comprehensive analysis of the angular power spectra of temperature anisotropies and polarization as measured by the different CMB probes across various scales.

This work is organized as follows: in section 2 we describe the theoretical model. In section 3 we discuss the datasets and the methodology used in our analyses. In section 4 we discuss our results. Finally, in section 5 we present our conclusions.

2 The IDE model

Within the minimal Λ CDM framework, dark energy and dark matter only interact through gravity. Therefore, due to the energy-momentum conservation, $\nabla_\mu T_c^\mu{}_\nu = \nabla_\mu T_x^\mu{}_\nu = 0$, where c and x denote dark matter and dark energy, respectively. However, there is no a priori reason why these two quantities should not interact in other ways, and it has been shown that an interaction that assumes an energy flow from dark energy to dark matter (or vice versa) is consistent with the data [69, 72–74]. In the following, we concentrate on an IDE model in which the interaction is featured by the energy density of dark energy ρ_x and 4-velocity of dark matter v_c . In the synchronous gauge, the metric is defined as:

$$ds^2 = a^2 \left[-d\tau^2 + (\delta_{ij} + h_{ij}) dx^i dx^j \right]. \quad (2.1)$$

This IDE model introduces energy-momentum transfer from dark energy to dark matter by modifying their individual energy conservation equations as follows:

$$\nabla_\mu T_c^\mu{}_\nu = + \frac{Q(v_c)_\nu}{a} \quad (2.2)$$

$$\nabla_\mu T_x^\mu{}_\nu = - \frac{Q(v_c)_\nu}{a}. \quad (2.3)$$

The energy density transfer rate Q can have many different phenomenological expressions. In this work we focus on an interacting model with an interacting rate given by:

$$Q = \xi \mathcal{H} \rho_x, \quad (2.4)$$

where ξ is a dimensionless coupling constant, with $(v_c)_\nu = a(-1, (v_c)_i)$ in the synchronous gauge. Note that if $\xi < 0$ the energy flows from the dark matter sector to the dark energy one.

The energy density perturbation is $\delta = \delta\rho/\rho$ and the divergence of the fluid proper velocity is $\theta = ik \cdot v$. At linear order, the perturbations in the dark fluids $\delta_{x,c}$ and $\theta_{x,c}$ evolve as [30, 75]:

$$\begin{aligned} \delta'_x = & -(1+w) \left(\theta_x + \frac{h'}{2} \right) - \xi \left(\frac{kv_T}{3} + \frac{h'}{6} \right) \\ & - 3\mathcal{H}(1-w) \left[\delta_x + \frac{\mathcal{H}\theta_x}{k^2} (3(1+w) + \xi) \right], \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

$$\delta'_c = -\theta_c - \frac{1}{2}h' + \xi \mathcal{H} \frac{\rho_x}{\rho_c} (\delta_x - \delta_c) + \xi \frac{\rho_x}{\rho_c} \left(\frac{kv_T}{3} + \frac{h'}{6} \right), \quad (2.6)$$

$$\theta'_x = 2\mathcal{H}\theta_x + \frac{k^2\delta_x}{w+1} + 2\mathcal{H} \frac{\xi}{w+1} \theta_x - \xi \mathcal{H} \frac{\theta_c}{w+1}, \quad (2.7)$$

$$\theta'_c = -\mathcal{H}\theta_c, \quad (2.8)$$

where h is the trace of metric perturbation h_{ij} , and $'$ denotes taking derivative with respect to τ : $h' \equiv \partial h / \partial \tau$. v_T is the centre of mass velocity for the total fluid, defined as:

$$v_T(k) = \frac{\sum_i (1+w_i) \rho_i \theta_j / k}{\sum_i (\rho_i + P_i)}, \quad (2.9)$$

where the index i runs from corresponding species of the fluid, here dark matter and dark energy. The sound speed in dark energy rest frame is assumed to be $c_s^2 = 1$. In this work, $\delta P_x / \delta \rho_x$ in the synchronous gauge is calculated following the discussion in refs. [31, 76].

In order to avoid gravitational and early-time instabilities we have to impose $w_x \neq -1$ (fixing $w_x = -0.999$) and that ξ and $(1+w_x)$ have opposite signs [31, 75]. We therefore analyze the $\xi < 0$ case, that has also been shown to be able to help with the H_0 tension.

3 Datasets and methodology

We exploit the publicly available code COBAYA [77] to study the observational constraints on the IDE cosmological model. The code explores the posterior distributions of a given parameter space using the Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) sampler developed for CosmoMC [78] and tailored for parameter spaces with speed hierarchy implementing the ‘‘fast dragging’’ procedure [79]. To compute the theoretical model and introduce the possibility of interactions

between dark energy and dark matter, we exploit a modified version of the Cosmic Linear Anisotropy Solving System code, CLASS [80]. Our baseline sampling parameters are the usual six Λ CDM parameters, namely the baryon $\omega_b \doteq \Omega_b h^2$ and cold dark matter $\omega_c \doteq \Omega_c h^2$ energy densities, the angular size of the horizon at the last scattering surface θ_{MC} , the optical depth τ , the amplitude of primordial scalar perturbation $\log(10^{10} A_s)$ and the scalar spectral index n_s . In addition, we consider the coupling parameter ξ defined in eq. (2.4). We select uniform prior distributions for all the parameters considered in our analysis, except for the optical depth at reionization (τ), for which we adopt a prior distribution that aligns with the CMB dataset, as discussed below. To test the convergence of the chains obtained using this approach, we utilize the Gelman-Rubin criterion [81], and we establish a threshold for chain convergence of $R - 1 \lesssim 0.02$.

Our baseline CMB datasets consist of:

- The full *Planck 2018* temperature and polarization likelihood [5, 82, 83], in combination with the Planck 2018 lensing likelihood [84], reconstructed from measurements of the power spectrum of the lensing potential. We refer to this dataset as “Planck”.
- The full *Atacama Cosmology Telescope* temperature and polarization DR4 likelihood [70], assuming a conservative Gaussian prior on $\tau = 0.065 \pm 0.015$ as done in [22]. We refer to this dataset as “ACT”.
- The full *Atacama Cosmology Telescope* DR4 likelihood, combined with *WMAP* 9-years observations data [71] and a Gaussian prior on $\tau = 0.065 \pm 0.015$, as done in [22]. We refer to this dataset combination as “ACT+WMAP”.
- The full *Atacama Cosmology Telescope* temperature and polarization DR4 likelihood [70], in combination with the *Planck 2018 TT TE EE* likelihood [5, 82, 83] in the multipole range $2 \leq \ell \leq 650$ and the Planck 2018 lensing likelihood [84]. We refer to this dataset as “ACT+Planck”.
- A gaussian prior $H_0 = (73.04 \pm 1.04)$ km/s/Mpc on the Hubble constant as measured by the SH0ES collaboration [4]. We refer to this data set as SH0ES.

Finally, to conduct a model comparison, we calculate the Bayesian evidence for each one and then estimate the corresponding Bayes factors, which are normalized to a baseline Λ CDM scenario (i.e., without an interacting Dark sector). To perform this task, we employ the `MCEvidence` package, which is publicly available [85, 86].¹ This package has been appropriately modified to be compatible with `COBAYA`. We use the convention of a negative value if the IDE model is preferred against the Λ CDM scenario, or vice versa, and we refer to the revised Jeffrey’s scale by Trotta [87, 88], to interpret the results. We will say that the evidence is inconclusive if $0 \leq |\ln B_{ij}| < 1$, weak if $1 \leq |\ln B_{ij}| < 2.5$, moderate if $2.5 \leq |\ln B_{ij}| < 5$, strong if $5 \leq |\ln B_{ij}| < 10$, and very strong if $|\ln B_{ij}| \geq 10$.

4 Results

We show in table 1 the constraints at 68% C.L. (upper limits at 95% C.L.) on the cosmological parameters for the IDE scenario studied in this work.

¹The `MCEvidence` package can be accessed at the following link: <https://github.com/yabebalFantaye/MCEvidence>.

Parameter	Planck	ACT	ACT+WMAP	ACT+Planck
$\Omega_b h^2$	0.02237 ± 0.00015	0.02153 ± 0.00032	0.02238 ± 0.00020	0.02238 ± 0.00013
$\Omega_c h^2$	$0.067_{-0.031}^{+0.042} (< 0.115)$	$< 0.0754 (< 0.111)$	$0.070_{-0.021}^{+0.046} (< 0.117)$	$0.067_{-0.030}^{+0.042} (< 0.115)$
H_0	71.6 ± 2.1	$72.6_{-2.6}^{+3.4}$	$71.3_{-3.2}^{+2.6}$	$71.4_{-2.8}^{+2.5}$
τ_{reio}	0.0534 ± 0.0079	0.063 ± 0.015	0.061 ± 0.014	0.0533 ± 0.0073
$\log(10^{10} A_s)$	3.042 ± 0.016	3.046 ± 0.030	3.064 ± 0.028	3.047 ± 0.014
n_s	0.9655 ± 0.0045	1.010 ± 0.016	$0.9741_{-0.0064}^{+0.0066}$	0.9699 ± 0.0038
ξ	$-0.40_{-0.20}^{+0.23}$	$-0.46_{-0.28}^{+0.20}$	$-0.38_{-0.14}^{+0.35}$	$-0.40_{-0.23}^{+0.27}$
S_8	$1.10_{-0.35}^{+0.19}$	$1.18_{-0.38}^{+0.26}$	$1.08_{-0.31}^{+0.19}$	$1.09_{-0.34}^{+0.19}$
$\ln \mathcal{B}_{ij}$	-0.17	-0.07	0.06	-0.25

Table 1. Constraints (upper limits) at 68% (95%) C.L. on the parameters of the IDE model obtained from different combinations of CMB data, without introducing any prior from the SH0ES collaboration. The Bayes factors $\ln \mathcal{B}_{ij} = \ln \mathcal{Z}_{\Lambda\text{CDM}} - \ln \mathcal{Z}_{\text{IDE}}$ calculated as the difference between the evidence for ΛCDM and IDE model in such a way that a negative value indicates a preference for the IDE model over the ΛCDM scenario.

The first and most important thing to notice is that, independently on the CMB data analysed, a coupling between DM and DE ξ is always preferred with a statistical significance above 1σ . Indeed, in the majority of the cases the preference is very close to the 95% C.L. The non-zero preferred value of the coupling is translated into a smaller amount of cold dark matter at present, regardless of the CMB observations exploited in the data analysis. Such a lack of cold dark matter is a straightforward consequence of the non-gravitational interaction among the dark sectors: in the presence of a negative coupling in the rate given by eq. (2.4), due to the energy flow among the dark sectors, the current amount of cold dark matter is reduced with respect to the canonical ΛCDM scenario. The smaller amount of cold dark matter in interacting scenarios is translated into a value of the Hubble constant H_0 higher than in standard scenarios, required to compensate for the lower value ρ_c . This is a very important outcome of our numerical analyses: *for all the CMB data sets considered here, the mean value of H_0 is much larger, and the significance of the H_0 tension is therefore strongly reduced.* Notice in addition that the solution to the tension is mainly led by the shift in the mean value of the Hubble constant and not by the larger size of the errors. Interestingly, the model-comparison results lead to a negative values of the Bayes factor $\ln \mathcal{B}_{ij}$ for *most* of the CMB data combinations considered here. Therefore, even if the preference remains inconclusive, there is a tendency from current CMB measurements towards an IDE cosmology. Such a preference could potentially improve with future CMB observations.²

Figure 1 depicts a comparison of the ACT and Planck plus ACT results for the temperature angular power spectra in the upper panels, together with the residuals (showing the departure from the minimal ΛCDM cosmology) in the lower panels. In the case of Planck data we only show the low multipole measurements ($\ell < 650$) data. Data points for these two experiments are also illustrated. We show the results for both the canonical ΛCDM as

²The rest of the cosmological parameters depicted in table 1 show values close to those obtained within the ΛCDM minimal cosmology except for the scalar spectral index, which is close to unity when ACT observations are included in the analyses. We refer the interested reader to the recent work of ref. [89] for a comprehensive analysis.

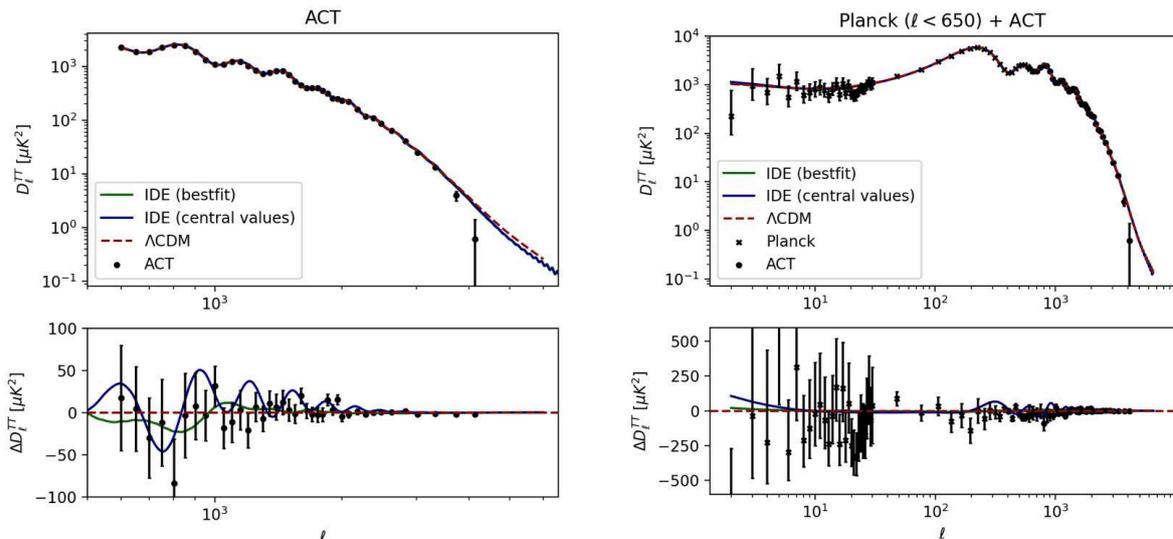


Figure 1. Left (right) panel: comparison of the ACT (Planck plus ACT) best fit and mean-value temperature angular power spectra (upper panels) for IDE and Λ CDM cosmologies and residuals (lower panels), plotted against the ACT and Planck ($l < 650$) data.

well as for IDE cosmologies from the best-fit and mean-value cosmological parameters arising from our Monte Carlo data analyses. Focusing on the multipole range $2 \lesssim l \lesssim 650$ probed by the Planck data, the most notable difference in the angular power spectra is observed at very low multipoles³ where the error bars are significantly large and at $l \sim 300$ where the model exhibits a slight deviation from the observed data-points (also leading to a minor worsening of the fit in this specific range of multipoles). Therefore, when combining the two experiments, the high multipole ACT CMB data at $l \gtrsim 650$ are mainly those driving the preference for $\xi < 0$ and are also responsible for the global improvement in the fit within the context of IDE models with respect to the minimal Λ CDM. Such an improvement is due to the contribution from the multipole range $650 \lesssim l \lesssim 1000$, as well as to the lower amplitude of the ACT acoustic modes at high $l \gtrsim 3000$. Therefore it is a *real* effect, rather than that explored in ref. [48] for Planck data only, in which the detection of a coupling $\xi < 0$ was indeed a *fake* effect induced by parameter degeneracies. To further reassess these findings we have combined ACT with the SH0ES prior on the Hubble constant, obtaining a value for the coupling and H_0 of $\xi = -0.45_{-0.20}^{+0.24}$ and $H_0 = 72.9 \pm 1.1$ respectively. Notice that these values are very close to those obtained with ACT only data (see table 1) and that the most relevant effect when adding the prior on the Hubble constant is a decrease on its error, being the change on its mean value completely negligible and therefore making the hints for an IDE cosmology from high multipole data a neat result.

We measure the level of agreement between Planck and ACT under the Interacting Dark Energy cosmology, adopting the Suspiciousness statistics [90–92]. This methodology

³Notice that the IDE effects enhance power in the lowest multipoles, known as the ISW plateau. The amplitude of the ISW plateau is primarily controlled by the spectral index n_s and the amplitude of the late-time ISW effect which depends on the duration of the dark energy-dominated era, approximately given by the ratio $\Omega_{\text{DE}}/\Omega_m \simeq \Omega_{\text{DE}}/(1 - \Omega_{\text{DE}})$. While n_s is almost indistinguishable between the IDE and Λ CDM, the IDE model predicts a transfer of energy from dark matter to dark energy, resulting in a higher value of Ω_{DE} . A larger Ω_{DE} implies a longer period of DE domination and, consequently, an enhanced late-time ISW effect.

provides a comprehensive overview of how these discrepancies evolve in extended parameter-spaces, without being influenced by biases resulting from prior volume effects. In particular, to avoid any unintended influence of the prior volume, we separate the Bayes Ratio into two parts: the Information (I), which is dependent on the prior, and the Suspiciousness (S), which is independent of the prior. If the datasets are uncorrelated and the posterior distributions follow a Gaussian-like distribution with means of μ and a covariance matrix of Σ , the Suspiciousness can be estimated as [90–92]

$$\log S = \frac{d}{2} - \frac{\chi^2}{2} \quad (4.1)$$

where d represents the dimension of the parameter volume of the cosmological model and χ^2 is given by

$$\chi^2 = (\mu_A - \mu_B) (\Sigma_A + \Sigma_B)^{-1} (\mu_A - \mu_B) \quad (4.2)$$

with $[A, B] \equiv [\text{Planck}, \text{ACT}]$. Notice that the χ^2 can be converted easily into a tension probability by the survival function of the χ^2 distribution

$$p = \int_{\chi^2}^{\infty} \frac{x^{d/2-1} e^{-x/2}}{2^{d/2} \Gamma(d/2)} dx \quad (4.3)$$

and, so into a Gaussian equivalent tension via the inverse error function:

$$\sigma(p) = \sqrt{2} \operatorname{erfc}^{-1}(1 - p). \quad (4.4)$$

For the 7-dimensional IDE model considered in this work, we find that the tension between ACT and Planck persists at a Gaussian equivalent level of 2.3σ ($\log S = -4.7$, $p = 0.0217$, $\chi^2 = 16.4$), similar to the baseline cosmological model [91, 92]. Therefore, we conclude that IDE cosmologies do not provide a resolution to the discrepancies observed between the two CMB probes. In fact, the tension between ACT and Planck is mainly driven by differences in the value of the spectral index n_s and $\Omega_b h^2$ [22, 89], and both present also in this model, as evident from table 1.

We would like to conclude this section with some final remarks: the substantial flow of energy (of approximately 40%) from the dark matter sector to the dark energy sector consistently favored by all the CMB probes analyzed in this study, may have significant implications for other cosmological and astrophysical observables. For instance, it can affect the growth of structures in the Universe as well as the fraction of gas f_{gas} derived from galaxy cluster data. In the context of the IDE model, it has been pointed out several times that matter cluster parameters such as σ_8 or S_8 tend to be higher compared to the estimates obtained from weak lensing and galaxy clustering surveys assuming the Λ CDM framework [93], see e.g., [37, 64, 69] and discussions therein. However, these estimates also come with large error bars, making it inconclusive to draw any definitive conclusions about the galaxy clustering predictions for IDE models, see also table 1. Furthermore, it is important to note that the comparison of these cluster parameters may not be directly relevant as the value of S_8 is model-dependent. To properly assess the compatibility, the S_8 value derived from weak lensing and galaxy clustering surveys should be compared with values obtained from CMB data, such as Planck or ACT, assuming the same underlying model of cosmology. Similar conclusions can be derived for the determination of f_{gas} . Using the most recent measurements available in the literature [94], it is evident that the f_{gas} fraction is inversely proportional to the total matter density, Ω_m , and directly proportional to the Hubble function $H(z)$. In

the IDE model, it is predicted that Ω_m is lower at late times compared to Λ CDM while the expansion rate of the Universe $H(z)$ is expected to be higher. As a result, one can argue that the IDE model would predict a higher f_{gas} compared to Λ CDM. However, it is essential to highlight once again that accurate modeling of the IDE framework is missing, particularly in terms of its dynamics on non-linear scales and its impact on related observables. Therefore, it is currently premature to draw conclusive findings regarding the tension in the S_8 parameter with weak lensing and galaxy clustering data or other astrophysical observables within the IDE framework. In this regard, future investigations are needed and this is beyond the aim of this work.

5 Conclusions

Interacting dark sector cosmologies with an energy-momentum transfer between dark energy and dark matter are very appealing scenarios to be confronted against observations, given the fact that no fundamental symmetry in nature forbids those non-gravitational couplings. In this manuscript we test these cosmologies in light of Cosmic Microwave Background measurements released from three independent experiments: the Planck satellite, the Atacama Cosmology Telescope, and WMAP (9-year data).

Our results, summarized in table 1 and figure 2, point to a preference for a non-zero interacting rate among dark energy and dark matter with a 95% C.L. significance in the majority of cases. This preference does not depend on the data set nor in the data combination considered, and as a byproduct implies a much higher value for the Hubble constant, which becomes always in agreement with local distance ladder measurements. The reason for this higher value of H_0 is due to the transfer of energy from the dark matter sector to the dark energy one, which results in a reduced amount of cold dark matter at the present time, regardless of the CMB observations used in the analyses. This reduction in cold dark matter results from the non-gravitational interaction between the dark sectors, which is featured by a negative coupling in the rate given by eq. (2.4). To compensate the lower value of ρ_c , the mean value of H_0 gets significantly higher, and the tension associated with H_0 is greatly reduced. Therefore, the model can provide a potential solution to the H_0 tension that is primarily driven by this *physical* shift and not by larger errors. By including a prior on H_0 based on the value measured by the SH0ES collaboration, the mean value of the Hubble constant barely changes, clearly stating our arguments above. This is evident in the right panel of figure 2.

We examined the reason for this preference by analyzing angular power spectra from various experiments. In figure 1, the top panels compare the temperature angular power spectra from two experiments, ACT and Planck plus ACT, along with the respective data points. The lower panels illustrate the deviations from the minimal Λ CDM cosmology using residuals. Our analysis indicates that the preference for $\xi < 0$ is primarily driven by the high multipoles data. For instance, in both ACT and ACT+Planck, this improvement is due to the lower amplitude of the ACT acoustic modes at high ℓ , which represents a genuine effect rather than the fake one discussed in ref. [48] for Planck data alone. Future accurate measurements of the CMB damping tail can shed much light not only on IDE cosmologies but also in extended Λ CDM scenarios (such as those with extra relativistic degrees of freedom) making therefore stronger the case for these future CMB probes, as the CMB stage IV mission [95].

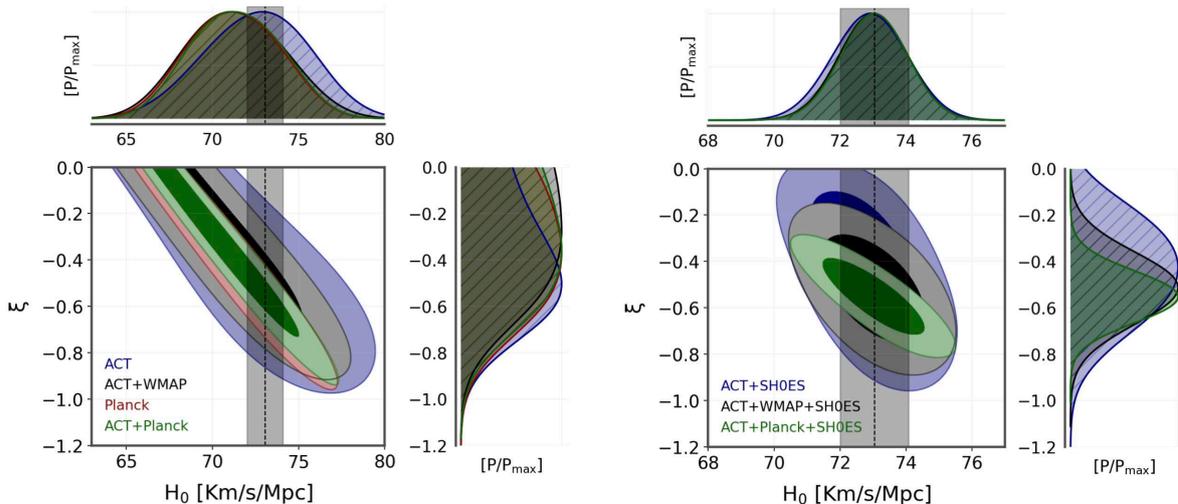


Figure 2. 2D contours at 68% and 95% C.L. and 1D posteriors for the coupling parameter ξ and the expansion rate H_0 , as inferred by the different combinations of CMB data listed in the legend; both with (right panel) and without (left panel) assuming a prior on the value of $H_0 = 73.04 \pm 1.04$ km/s/Mpc as measured by the SHOES collaboration (grey vertical region in the plot).

Acknowledgments

CvdB is supported (in part) by the Lancaster-Manchester-Sheffield Consortium for Fundamental Physics under STFC grant: ST/T001038/1. EDV is supported by a Royal Society Dorothy Hodgkin Research Fellowship. RCN thanks the CNPq for partial financial support under the project No. 304306/2022-3. This article is based upon work from COST Action CA21136 Addressing observational tensions in cosmology with systematics and fundamental physics (CosmoVerse) supported by COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology). We acknowledge IT Services at The University of Sheffield for the provision of services for High Performance Computing. This work has been partially supported by the MCIN/AEI/10.13039/501100011033 of Spain under grant PID2020-113644GB-I00, by the Generalitat Valenciana of Spain under the grant PROMETEO/2019/083 and by the European Union’s Framework Programme for Research and Innovation Horizon 2020 (2014–2020) under grant H2020-MSCA-ITN-2019/860881-HIDDeN.

References

- [1] E. Abdalla et al., *Cosmology intertwined: A review of the particle physics, astrophysics, and cosmology associated with the cosmological tensions and anomalies*, *J. High Energy Astrophys.* **34** (2022) 49 [[arXiv:2203.06142](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [2] L. Perivolaropoulos and F. Skara, *Challenges for Λ CDM: An update*, *New Astron. Rev.* **95** (2022) 101659 [[arXiv:2105.05208](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [3] E. Di Valentino, *Challenges of the Standard Cosmological Model*, *Universe* **8** (2022) 399 [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [4] A.G. Riess et al., *A Comprehensive Measurement of the Local Value of the Hubble Constant with $1 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$ Uncertainty from the Hubble Space Telescope and the SHOES Team*, *Astrophys. J. Lett.* **934** (2022) L7 [[arXiv:2112.04510](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].

- [5] PLANCK collaboration, *Planck 2018 results. Part VI. Cosmological parameters*, *Astron. Astrophys.* **641** (2020) A6 [Erratum *ibid.* **652** (2021) C4] [[arXiv:1807.06209](#)] [INSPIRE].
- [6] L. Verde, T. Treu and A.G. Riess, *Tensions between the Early and the Late Universe*, *Nature Astron.* **3** (2019) 891 [[arXiv:1907.10625](#)] [INSPIRE].
- [7] E. Di Valentino et al., *Snowmass2021 — Letter of interest cosmology intertwined. Part II. The Hubble constant tension*, *Astropart. Phys.* **131** (2021) 102605 [[arXiv:2008.11284](#)] [INSPIRE].
- [8] A.G. Riess et al., *Cluster Cepheids with High Precision Gaia Parallaxes, Low Zero-point Uncertainties, and Hubble Space Telescope Photometry*, *Astrophys. J.* **938** (2022) 36 [[arXiv:2208.01045](#)] [INSPIRE].
- [9] R.I. Anderson, N.W. Koblishke and L. Eyer, *Reconciling astronomical distance scales with variable red giant stars*, [arXiv:2303.04790](#) [INSPIRE].
- [10] K. Napier et al., *Hubble Constant Measurement from Three Large-Separation Quasars Strongly Lensed by Galaxy Clusters*, [arXiv:2301.11240](#) [INSPIRE].
- [11] A.J. Shajib et al., *TDCOSMO. Part XIII. Improved Hubble constant measurement from lensing time delays using spatially resolved stellar kinematics of the lens galaxy*, *Astron. Astrophys.* **673** (2023) A9 [[arXiv:2301.02656](#)] [INSPIRE].
- [12] S. Dhawan et al., *A BayeSN Distance Ladder: H_0 from a consistent modelling of Type Ia supernovae from the optical to the near infrared*, [arXiv:2211.07657](#) [DOI:10.1093/mnras/stad1590] [INSPIRE].
- [13] R.B. Tully et al., *Cosmicflows-4*, *Astrophys. J.* **944** (2023) 94 [[arXiv:2209.11238](#)] [INSPIRE].
- [14] T. de Jaeger et al., *A 5 per cent measurement of the Hubble-Lemaître constant from Type II supernovae*, *Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc.* **514** (2022) 4620 [[arXiv:2203.08974](#)] [INSPIRE].
- [15] D.W. Pesce et al., *The Megamaser Cosmology Project. Part XIII. Combined Hubble constant constraints*, *Astrophys. J. Lett.* **891** (2020) L1 [[arXiv:2001.09213](#)] [INSPIRE].
- [16] S.M. Ward et al., *SN 2021hpr and its two siblings in the Cepheid calibrator galaxy NGC 3147: A hierarchical BayeSN analysis of a Type Ia supernova trio, and a Hubble constant constraint*, [arXiv:2209.10558](#) [INSPIRE].
- [17] Y.-Y. Wang, S.-P. Tang, Z.-P. Jin and Y.-Z. Fan, *The Late Afterglow of GW170817/GRB 170817A: A Large Viewing Angle and the Shift of the Hubble Constant to a Value More Consistent with the Local Measurements*, *Astrophys. J.* **943** (2023) 13 [[arXiv:2208.09121](#)] [INSPIRE].
- [18] P. Garnavich et al., *Connecting Infrared Surface Brightness Fluctuation Distances to Type Ia Supernova Hosts: Testing the Top Rung of the Distance Ladder*, [arXiv:2204.12060](#) [INSPIRE].
- [19] W.L. Freedman et al., *Calibration of the Tip of the Red Giant Branch (TRGB)*, [arXiv:2002.01550](#) [DOI:10.3847/1538-4357/ab7339] [INSPIRE].
- [20] C.D. Huang et al., *Hubble Space Telescope Observations of Mira Variables in the Type Ia Supernova Host NGC 1559: An Alternative Candle to Measure the Hubble Constant*, [arXiv:1908.10883](#) [DOI:10.3847/1538-4357/ab5dbd] [INSPIRE].
- [21] J.P. Blakeslee, J.B. Jensen, C.-P. Ma, P.A. Milne and J.E. Greene, *The Hubble Constant from Infrared Surface Brightness Fluctuation Distances*, *Astrophys. J.* **911** (2021) 65 [[arXiv:2101.02221](#)] [INSPIRE].
- [22] ACT collaboration, *The Atacama Cosmology Telescope: DR4 Maps and Cosmological Parameters*, *JCAP* **12** (2020) 047 [[arXiv:2007.07288](#)] [INSPIRE].
- [23] SPT-3G collaboration, *A Measurement of the CMB Temperature Power Spectrum and Constraints on Cosmology from the SPT-3G 2018 TT/TE/EE Data Set*, [arXiv:2212.05642](#) [INSPIRE].

- [24] A.G. Riess, *The Expansion of the Universe is Faster than Expected*, *Nat. Rev. Phys.* **2** (2019) 10 [[arXiv:2001.03624](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [25] E. Di Valentino, *A combined analysis of the H_0 late time direct measurements and the impact on the Dark Energy sector*, *Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc.* **502** (2021) 2065 [[arXiv:2011.00246](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [26] E. Di Valentino et al., *In the realm of the Hubble tension — a review of solutions*, *Class. Quant. Grav.* **38** (2021) 153001 [[arXiv:2103.01183](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [27] L. Knox and M. Millea, *Hubble constant Hunter’s guide*, *Phys. Rev. D* **101** (2020) 043533 [[arXiv:1908.03663](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [28] K. Jedamzik, L. Pogosian and G.-B. Zhao, *Why reducing the cosmic sound horizon alone can not fully resolve the Hubble tension*, *Commun. in Phys.* **4** (2021) 123 [[arXiv:2010.04158](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [29] M. Kamionkowski and A.G. Riess, *The Hubble Tension and Early Dark Energy*, [arXiv:2211.04492](#) [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [30] J. Valiviita, E. Majerotto and R. Maartens, *Instability in interacting dark energy and dark matter fluids*, *JCAP* **07** (2008) 020 [[arXiv:0804.0232](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [31] M.B. Gavela, D. Hernandez, L. Lopez Honorez, O. Mena and S. Rigolin, *Dark coupling*, *JCAP* **07** (2009) 034 [*Erratum ibid.* **05** (2010) E01] [[arXiv:0901.1611](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [32] E. Di Valentino, A. Melchiorri and O. Mena, *Can interacting dark energy solve the H_0 tension?*, *Phys. Rev. D* **96** (2017) 043503 [[arXiv:1704.08342](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [33] S. Kumar and R.C. Nunes, *Echo of interactions in the dark sector*, *Phys. Rev. D* **96** (2017) 103511 [[arXiv:1702.02143](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [34] B. Wang, E. Abdalla, F. Atrio-Barandela and D. Pavon, *Dark Matter and Dark Energy Interactions: Theoretical Challenges, Cosmological Implications and Observational Signatures*, *Rept. Prog. Phys.* **79** (2016) 096901 [[arXiv:1603.08299](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [35] M. Martinelli, N.B. Hogg, S. Peirone, M. Bruni and D. Wands, *Constraints on the interacting vacuum-geodesic CDM scenario*, *Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc.* **488** (2019) 3423 [[arXiv:1902.10694](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [36] W. Yang, S. Pan, R.C. Nunes and D.F. Mota, *Dark calling Dark: Interaction in the dark sector in presence of neutrino properties after Planck CMB final release*, *JCAP* **04** (2020) 008 [[arXiv:1910.08821](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [37] E. Di Valentino, A. Melchiorri, O. Mena and S. Vagnozzi, *Interacting dark energy in the early 2020s: A promising solution to the H_0 and cosmic shear tensions*, *Phys. Dark Univ.* **30** (2020) 100666 [[arXiv:1908.04281](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [38] S. Pan, W. Yang, C. Singha and E.N. Saridakis, *Observational constraints on sign-changeable interaction models and alleviation of the H_0 tension*, *Phys. Rev. D* **100** (2019) 083539 [[arXiv:1903.10969](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [39] S. Kumar, R.C. Nunes and S.K. Yadav, *Dark sector interaction: a remedy of the tensions between CMB and LSS data*, *Eur. Phys. J. C* **79** (2019) 576 [[arXiv:1903.04865](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [40] W. Yang, S. Pan, E. Di Valentino, R.C. Nunes, S. Vagnozzi and D.F. Mota, *Tale of stable interacting dark energy, observational signatures, and the H_0 tension*, *JCAP* **09** (2018) 019 [[arXiv:1805.08252](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [41] S. Kumar and R.C. Nunes, *Probing the interaction between dark matter and dark energy in the presence of massive neutrinos*, *Phys. Rev. D* **94** (2016) 123511 [[arXiv:1608.02454](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [42] R. Murgia, S. Gariazzo and N. Fornengo, *Constraints on the Coupling between Dark Energy and Dark Matter from CMB data*, *JCAP* **04** (2016) 014 [[arXiv:1602.01765](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].

- [43] A. Pourtsidou and T. Tram, *Reconciling CMB and structure growth measurements with dark energy interactions*, *Phys. Rev. D* **94** (2016) 043518 [[arXiv:1604.04222](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [44] W. Yang, S. Pan, L. Xu and D.F. Mota, *Effects of anisotropic stress in interacting dark matter — dark energy scenarios*, *Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc.* **482** (2019) 1858 [[arXiv:1804.08455](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [45] W. Yang, O. Mena, S. Pan and E. Di Valentino, *Dark sectors with dynamical coupling*, *Phys. Rev. D* **100** (2019) 083509 [[arXiv:1906.11697](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [46] S. Pan, W. Yang, E. Di Valentino, E.N. Saridakis and S. Chakraborty, *Interacting scenarios with dynamical dark energy: Observational constraints and alleviation of the H_0 tension*, *Phys. Rev. D* **100** (2019) 103520 [[arXiv:1907.07540](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [47] E. Di Valentino, A. Melchiorri, O. Mena and S. Vagnozzi, *Nonminimal dark sector physics and cosmological tensions*, *Phys. Rev. D* **101** (2020) 063502 [[arXiv:1910.09853](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [48] E. Di Valentino and O. Mena, *A fake Interacting Dark Energy detection?*, *Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc.* **500** (2020) L22 [[arXiv:2009.12620](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [49] Y. Yao and X.-H. Meng, *Relieve the H_0 tension with a new coupled generalized three-form dark energy model*, *Phys. Dark Univ.* **33** (2021) 100852 [[arXiv:2011.09160](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [50] M. Lucca and D.C. Hooper, *Shedding light on dark matter-dark energy interactions*, *Phys. Rev. D* **102** (2020) 123502 [[arXiv:2002.06127](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [51] E. Di Valentino, A. Melchiorri, O. Mena, S. Pan and W. Yang, *Interacting Dark Energy in a closed universe*, *Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc.* **502** (2021) L23 [[arXiv:2011.00283](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [52] A. Gómez-Valent, V. Pettorino and L. Amendola, *Update on coupled dark energy and the H_0 tension*, *Phys. Rev. D* **101** (2020) 123513 [[arXiv:2004.00610](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [53] W. Yang, E. Di Valentino, O. Mena, S. Pan and R.C. Nunes, *All-inclusive interacting dark sector cosmologies*, *Phys. Rev. D* **101** (2020) 083509 [[arXiv:2001.10852](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [54] Y.-H. Yao and X.-H. Meng, *A new coupled three-form dark energy model and implications for the H_0 tension*, *Phys. Dark Univ.* **30** (2020) 100729 [[arXiv:2205.14928](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [55] S. Pan, W. Yang and A. Paliathanasis, *Non-linear interacting cosmological models after Planck 2018 legacy release and the H_0 tension*, *Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc.* **493** (2020) 3114 [[arXiv:2002.03408](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [56] M. Lucca, *Dark energy-dark matter interactions as a solution to the S_8 tension*, *Phys. Dark Univ.* **34** (2021) 100899 [[arXiv:2105.09249](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [57] S. Kumar, *Remedy of some cosmological tensions via effective phantom-like behavior of interacting vacuum energy*, *Phys. Dark Univ.* **33** (2021) 100862 [[arXiv:2102.12902](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [58] W. Yang, S. Pan, E. Di Valentino, O. Mena and A. Melchiorri, *2021- H_0 odyssey: closed, phantom and interacting dark energy cosmologies*, *JCAP* **10** (2021) 008 [[arXiv:2101.03129](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [59] L.-Y. Gao, Z.-W. Zhao, S.-S. Xue and X. Zhang, *Relieving the H_0 tension with a new interacting dark energy model*, *JCAP* **07** (2021) 005 [[arXiv:2101.10714](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [60] W. Yang, S. Pan, L. Aresté Saló and J. de Haro, *Theoretical and observational bounds on some interacting vacuum energy scenarios*, *Phys. Rev. D* **103** (2021) 083520 [[arXiv:2104.04505](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [61] M. Lucca, *Multi-interacting dark energy and its cosmological implications*, *Phys. Rev. D* **104** (2021) 083510 [[arXiv:2106.15196](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [62] A. Halder and M. Pandey, *Probing the effects of primordial black holes on 21 cm EDGES signal along with interacting dark energy and dark matter-baryon scattering*, *Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc.* **508** (2021) 3446 [[arXiv:2101.05228](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].

- [63] K. Kaneta, H.-S. Lee, J. Lee and J. Yi, *Gauged quintessence*, *JCAP* **02** (2023) 005 [[arXiv:2208.09229](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [64] S. Gariazzo, E. Di Valentino, O. Mena and R.C. Nunes, *Late-time interacting cosmologies and the Hubble constant tension*, *Phys. Rev. D* **106** (2022) 023530 [[arXiv:2111.03152](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [65] R.C. Nunes and E. Di Valentino, *Dark sector interaction and the supernova absolute magnitude tension*, *Phys. Rev. D* **104** (2021) 063529 [[arXiv:2107.09151](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [66] W. Yang, S. Pan, O. Mena and E. Di Valentino, *On the dynamics of a dark sector coupling*, [arXiv:2209.14816](#) [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [67] R.C. Nunes, S. Vagnozzi, S. Kumar, E. Di Valentino and O. Mena, *New tests of dark sector interactions from the full-shape galaxy power spectrum*, *Phys. Rev. D* **105** (2022) 123506 [[arXiv:2203.08093](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [68] M.A. van der Westhuizen and A. Abebe, *Interacting dark energy: clarifying the cosmological implications and viability conditions*, [arXiv:2302.11949](#) [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [69] A. Bernui, E. Di Valentino, W. Giarè, S. Kumar and R.C. Nunes, *Exploring the H_0 tension and the evidence for dark sector interactions from 2D BAO measurements*, *Phys. Rev. D* **107** (2023) 103531 [[arXiv:2301.06097](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [70] ACT collaboration, *The Atacama Cosmology Telescope: a measurement of the Cosmic Microwave Background power spectra at 98 and 150 GHz*, *JCAP* **12** (2020) 045 [[arXiv:2007.07289](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [71] WMAP collaboration, *Nine-Year Wilkinson Microwave Anisotropy Probe (WMAP) Observations: Cosmological Parameter Results*, *Astrophys. J. Suppl.* **208** (2013) 19 [[arXiv:1212.5226](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [72] O. Bertolami, F.G. Pedro and M. Le Delliou, *The Abell Cluster A586 and the Equivalence Principle*, *Gen. Rel. Grav.* **41** (2009) 2839 [[arXiv:0705.3118](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [73] O. Bertolami, F. Gil Pedro and M. Le Delliou, *Dark Energy-Dark Matter Interaction and the Violation of the Equivalence Principle from the Abell Cluster A586*, *Phys. Lett. B* **654** (2007) 165 [[astro-ph/0703462](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [74] E. Abdalla, L.R. Abramo and J.C.C. de Souza, *Signature of the interaction between dark energy and dark matter in observations*, *Phys. Rev. D* **82** (2010) 023508 [[arXiv:0910.5236](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [75] M.B. Gavela, L. Lopez Honorez, O. Mena and S. Rigolin, *Dark Coupling and Gauge Invariance*, *JCAP* **11** (2010) 044 [[arXiv:1005.0295](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [76] L. Lopez Honorez, B.A. Reid, O. Mena, L. Verde and R. Jimenez, *Coupled dark matter-dark energy in light of near Universe observations*, *JCAP* **09** (2010) 029 [[arXiv:1006.0877](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [77] J. Torrado and A. Lewis, *Cobaya: Code for Bayesian Analysis of hierarchical physical models*, *JCAP* **05** (2021) 057 [[arXiv:2005.05290](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [78] A. Lewis and S. Bridle, *Cosmological parameters from CMB and other data: A Monte Carlo approach*, *Phys. Rev. D* **66** (2002) 103511 [[astro-ph/0205436](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [79] R.M. Neal, *Taking Bigger Metropolis Steps by Dragging Fast Variables*, [math/0502099](#).
- [80] D. Blas, J. Lesgourgues and T. Tram, *The Cosmic Linear Anisotropy Solving System (CLASS). Part II. Approximation schemes*, *JCAP* **07** (2011) 034 [[arXiv:1104.2933](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [81] A. Gelman and D.B. Rubin, *Inference from Iterative Simulation Using Multiple Sequences*, *Statist. Sci.* **7** (1992) 457 [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [82] PLANCK collaboration, *Planck 2018 results. Part V. CMB power spectra and likelihoods*, *Astron. Astrophys.* **641** (2020) A5 [[arXiv:1907.12875](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].

- [83] PLANCK collaboration, *Planck 2018 results. Part I. Overview and the cosmological legacy of Planck*, *Astron. Astrophys.* **641** (2020) A1 [[arXiv:1807.06205](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [84] PLANCK collaboration, *Planck 2018 results. Part VIII. Gravitational lensing*, *Astron. Astrophys.* **641** (2020) A8 [[arXiv:1807.06210](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [85] A. Heavens et al., *No evidence for extensions to the standard cosmological model*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **119** (2017) 101301 [[arXiv:1704.03467](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [86] A. Heavens et al., *Marginal Likelihoods from Monte Carlo Markov Chains*, [arXiv:1704.03472](#) [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [87] R.E. Kass and A.E. Raftery, *Bayes Factors*, *J. Am. Statist. Assoc.* **90** (1995) 773 [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [88] R. Trotta, *Bayes in the sky: Bayesian inference and model selection in cosmology*, *Contemp. Phys.* **49** (2008) 71 [[arXiv:0803.4089](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [89] W. Giarè, F. Renzi, O. Mena, E. Di Valentino and A. Melchiorri, *Is the Harrison-Zel'dovich spectrum coming back? ACT preference for $n_s \sim 1$ and its discordance with Planck*, *Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc.* **521** (2023) 2911 [[arXiv:2210.09018](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [90] W. Handley and P. Lemos, *Quantifying tensions in cosmological parameters: Interpreting the DES evidence ratio*, *Phys. Rev. D* **100** (2019) 043504 [[arXiv:1902.04029](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [91] W. Handley and P. Lemos, *Quantifying the global parameter tensions between ACT, SPT and Planck*, *Phys. Rev. D* **103** (2021) 063529 [[arXiv:2007.08496](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [92] E. Di Valentino, W. Giarè, A. Melchiorri and J. Silk, *Quantifying the global ‘CMB tension’ between the Atacama Cosmology Telescope and the Planck satellite in extended models of cosmology*, *Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc.* **520** (2023) 210 [[arXiv:2209.14054](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [93] KIDS collaboration, *KiDS-1000 Cosmology: Cosmic shear constraints and comparison between two point statistics*, *Astron. Astrophys.* **645** (2021) A104 [[arXiv:2007.15633](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [94] SPT collaboration, *Cosmological constraints from gas mass fractions of massive, relaxed galaxy clusters*, *Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc.* **510** (2021) 131 [[arXiv:2111.09343](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].
- [95] CMB-S4 collaboration, *Snowmass 2021 CMB-S4 White Paper*, [arXiv:2203.08024](#) [[INSPIRE](#)].