



# High-precision Measurements of Cosmic Curvature from Gravitational Wave and Cosmic Chronometer Observations

Yuan He<sup>1</sup>, Yu Pan<sup>1,3</sup>, Dong-Ping Shi<sup>2</sup>, Jin Li<sup>3</sup>, Shuo Cao<sup>4</sup>, and Wei Cheng<sup>1,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> School of Science, Chongqing University of Posts and Telecommunications, Chongqing 400065, China; [panyu@cqupt.edu.cn](mailto:panyu@cqupt.edu.cn)

<sup>2</sup> School of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, Chongqing University of Arts and Sciences, Chongqing 402160, China; [dpschi@cqwu.edu.cn](mailto:dpschi@cqwu.edu.cn)

<sup>3</sup> Department of Physics and Chongqing Key Laboratory for Strongly Coupled Physics, Chongqing University, Chongqing 401331, China

<sup>4</sup> Department of Astronomy, Beijing Normal University, Beijing 100875, China; [caoshuo@bnu.edu.cn](mailto:caoshuo@bnu.edu.cn)

Received 2022 January 25; revised 2022 May 23; accepted 2022 May 30; published 2022 July 15

## Abstract

Although the spatial curvature has been measured with very high precision, it still suffers from the well-known cosmic curvature tension. In this paper, we use an improved method to determine the cosmic curvature, by using the simulated data of binary neutron star mergers observed by the second generation space-based DECIGO Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (DECIGO). By applying the Hubble parameter observations of cosmic chronometers to the DECIGO standard sirens, we explore different possibilities of making measurements of the cosmic curvature referring to a distant past: one is to reconstruct the Hubble parameters through the Gaussian process without the influence of hypothetical models, and the other is deriving constraints on  $\Omega_K$  in the framework of the non-flat  $\Lambda$  cold dark matter model. It is shown that in the improved method DECIGO could provide a reliable and stringent constraint on the cosmic curvature ( $\Omega_K = -0.007 \pm 0.016$ ), while we could only expect the zero cosmic curvature to be established at the precision of  $\Delta\Omega_K = 0.11$  in the second model-dependent method. Therefore, our results indicate that in the framework of methodology proposed in this paper, the increasing number of well-measured standard sirens in DECIGO could significantly reduce the bias of estimations for cosmic curvature. Such a constraint is also comparable to the precision of Planck 2018 results with the newest cosmic microwave background (CMB) observations ( $\Delta\Omega_K \approx 0.018$ ), based on the concordance  $\Lambda$ CDM model.

*Key words:* (cosmology:) cosmological parameters – gravitational waves – cosmology: observations

## 1. Introduction

The determination of cosmic curvature is an essential topic of cosmology. Following the cosmological principles, the spacetime of our universe can be described by the Friedmann-Lemaître-Robertson-Walker metric. Cosmic curvature can help us understand whether universe's space is open, closed, or flat. It is worth mentioning that in the research of some scholars, the cosmic curvature is not entirely independent but depends on dark energy (Clarkson et al. 2007; Wang & Mukherjee 2007; Hlozek et al. 2008).

To determine the cosmic curvature, scholars did some researches from two aspects. On the one hand, based on the model assumption of the cold dark matter model, it is feasible to fix the dark energy parameters in the model and introduce the cosmic curvature density parameter. In this research, the constraint result of the curvature density parameter by the Planck 2018 cosmic microwave background (CMB) is  $-0.095 < \Omega_K < -0.007$  (Aghanim et al. 2020; Di Valentino et al. 2020). The constraints of CMB combined with lens and baryon acoustic oscillation (BAO) on the parameter of cosmic curvature density support the flat universe,  $\Omega_K = 0.007 \pm 0.0019$  (Aghanim et al. 2020). Besides, Gao et al. (2020) studied the curvature density parameters and dark

energy using the latest supernova sample. Some have proposed using Full-Shape and BAO to constrain the model with curvature parameters (Chudaykin et al. 2021). On the other hand, progress has been achieved in measuring the curvature using model-independent methods. Starting from the equation of curvature parameters, we can construct the curvature parameters at different redshifts by providing Hubble parameters ( $H(z)$ ) and luminosity distances ( $D_L$ ) at different redshifts  $\Omega_K = \frac{(H(z)D'(z))^2 - c^2}{H_0^2 D(z)^2}$  (Clarkson et al. 2007). This method is used as a good way to directly test the curvature parameters by bypassing the model's hypothesis. Li et al. (2014) used  $H(z)$  and angular diameter distance ( $D_A(z)$ ) given by BAO to test the curvature parameters. Supernova and quasar samples, which do not depend on model assumptions, are also suitable for these works (Gao et al. 2020; Yahya et al. 2014; Cai et al. 2016; Li et al. 2016b; Wang et al. 2017; Liu et al. 2020b; Jesus et al. 2021; Cao et al. 2019b; Wei & Melia 2020). Some scholars use gravitational waves and  $H(z)$  to construct curvature at different redshifts (Zheng et al. 2021). It is worth mentioning that this method needs to estimate the first and second derivatives of the luminosity distance from the fitting function, which will lead to an increase in uncertainty (Yu & Wang 2016). Therefore, for the deficiency of this method, some scholars have proposed an

improved model-independent method to measure curvature (Wei & Wu 2017). In their research, the error caused by the derivative of luminosity distance is overcome. Since then, some scholars have used this method to test the universe's curvature (Wei 2018; Cao et al. 2019a; Wei & Melia 2020; Yang & Gong 2021). Numerous scholars use model-independent methods to test the curvature parameters. For example, based on the distance ratio contained in the strong gravitational lensing, some scholars avoid assuming the model to test the curvature (Qi et al. 2019b; Liu et al. 2020a; Wang et al. 2020; Zhou & Li 2020; Cao et al. 2022a; Wei et al. 2022). Except for these ways, some scholars have tested the curvature using strong lens time delays data. (Liao et al. 2017b; Qi et al. 2021). It should be noted that although cosmological models do not need to be assumed in these methods, the Gaussian process used to reconstruct data may have a model dependence tendency (Colgain & Sheikh-Jabbari 2021). It is worth mentioning that recently, some scholars have used machine learning methods combined with  $H(z)$  and supernova sample to test the curvature parameters  $\Omega_K = 0.028 \pm 0.186$  (Wang et al. 2021). In their research, the method founded on the artificial neural network can overcome the a priori problem of the Hubble constant ( $H_0$ ).

The successful detection of gravitational waves (GW) opens a new window for cosmological research (Abbott et al. 2016, 2017). Looking for merging events of binary black holes or merging events of two neutron stars with electromagnetic radiation can be used as standard sirens to study cosmology (Dalal et al. 2006; Hlozek et al. 2008; Zhao et al. 2011; Liao et al. 2017a; Cai & Yang 2017; Pan et al. 2021; Chen et al. 2021; Du & Xu 2022; Chen et al. 2022; Shao et al. 2022). Recently, black hole-neutron star merging events have also been successfully detected (Abbott et al. 2021). Moreover, the coupling coefficient between GW and matter is trifling, which can carry more primordial wave source information, which benefits cosmology. In this paper, the data from the space gravitational wave detector DECI-hertz Interferometer Gravitational wave Observatory (DECIGO) are used to simulate the gravitational wave events detected by DECIGO in the future. We use two methods to test curvature. In the former method, we directly test the curvature density parameters in the luminosity distance, but the cosmological model is not added to the luminosity distance. In the second method, we add a cosmological model including curvature to the luminosity distance and constrain the curvature density parameters in the model. First, we use the improved method proposed (Wei & Wu 2017) to test the curvature. Taking into account the impact of the number of data samples on the constraints, we reconstruct the expansion rate, and the curvature parameters are constrained. Then, we utilize gravitational wave data to constrain  $\Omega_K$  in the framework of the non-flat  $\Lambda$  cold dark matter model to compare the curvature constraint effect of the two methods. In addition, in the second method, we use electromagnetic wave (EM) (supernova and quasar) data to constrain the curvature in the non-flat  $\Lambda$  cold

dark matter model to compare with the constraints from DECIGO data. Finally, we compare and analyze the results with the researches of other scholars.

The structure of this paper is reproduced below. In Section 2, we briefly introduce the data and methods we used. In Section 3, we give the results and analysis. In Section 4, we make a summary of this article.

## 2. Data and Method

### 2.1. Gravitational Wave Detection From DECIGO

For GW events, we know that the luminosity distance of the merging event of two stars can be obtained by detection, and the redshift information can be obtained by directly detecting the merging event with neutron stars (Holz & Hughes 2005; Zhao et al. 2011; Abbott et al. 2017). So this kind of binary merging event can be used as a standard siren to study cosmology (Piórkowska-Kurpas et al. 2021; Cao et al. 2021, 2022b).

DECIGO (Seto et al. 2001; Kawamura et al. 2006) is a GW detection project under construction in Japan, which means DECI-hertz Interferometer Gravitational wave Observatory. DECIGO's detection frequency ranges from 0.1 to 10 Hz (Kawamura et al. 2019). DECIGO has excellent detection ability. First, DECIGO in space is less affected by ground noise. Second, among the space-based gravitational wave detectors, the frequency band and objectives of DECIGO are special, its frequency band fills the gap between the sensitivity window of ground-based detectors and space detector. DECIGO is expected to measure the gravitational waves from neutron star binaries even at a redshift of 5, five years before the coalescences (Kawamura et al. 2019). This means that DECIGO can estimate the time of merging and let other electromagnetic telescopes aim at the target in advance and observe other phenomena accompanied by merging, which is of great help for us to find electromagnetic counterparts. DECIGO expects to detect 10,000 neutron star binary gravitational signals a year (Kawamura et al. 2019), and a large amount of data can help us better measure cosmological parameters. In this paper, we use DECIGO as the detector to simulate the standard siren information supplied by gravitational waves (see Geng et al. 2020 for details).

We consider two systems with masses  $m_1$  and  $m_2$ , whose Fourier transform can be expressed as

$$\tilde{h}(f) = \frac{A}{d_L(z)} M_z^{5/6} f^{-7/6} e^{i\Psi(f)}, \quad (1)$$

where  $\Psi(f)$  and  $A = (\sqrt{6} \pi^{2/3})^{-1}$  are the inspiral phase term and geometrical average over the inclination angle of the system, respectively. The former parameter,  $\Psi(f)$ , is removed from the calculation, which is a function of the coalescence time  $t_c$ , while the latter is a constant.  $d_L(z)$  is a function of luminosity distance concerning  $z$ , and  $M_z = (1+z)\eta^{3/5}(m_1+m_2)$  is the redshifted chirp mass.  $\eta = m_1 m_2 / (m_1 + m_2)^2$  is the symmetric mass ratio. According to the studies of other scholars (Sathyaprakash

et al. 2010; Zhao et al. 2011), we assume that the neutron stars are uniformly distributed at  $[1, 12]M_{\odot}$ , and the coalescence time and initial phase of emission are both zero (i.e.,  $(t_c = 0, \phi_c) = 0$ ). In this way, the unknown parameters can be reduced to three:  $\theta = \{M_z, \eta, d_L\}$ .

We use the Fisher matrix to estimate the uncertainty:

$$\Gamma_{ab} = 4 \operatorname{Re} \int_{f_{\min}}^{f_{\max}} \frac{\partial_a \tilde{h}_i^*(f) \partial_b \tilde{h}_i(f)}{S_h(f)} df, \quad (2)$$

where  $\partial_a$  means to derive the parameter  $\theta_a$ . It can be seen from the data released by DECIGO that it has eight equivalent detectors (Seto et al. 2001; Kawamura et al. 2006). Therefore, if all detectors are taken into account, the coefficient of  $\Gamma_{ab}$  should be eight times that of a single detector. Noise spectrum analysis from DECIGO (Kawamura et al. 2006; Nishizawa et al. 2010; Kawamura et al. 2019):

$$\begin{aligned} S_h(f) = & 6.53 \times 10^{-49} \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{f}{7.36 \text{Hz}} \right)^2 \right] \\ & + 4.45 \times 10^{-51} \times \left( \frac{f}{1 \text{Hz}} \right)^{-4} \times \frac{1}{1 + \left( \frac{f}{7.36 \text{Hz}} \right)^2} \\ & + 4.94 \times 10^{-52} \times \left( \frac{f}{1 \text{Hz}} \right)^{-4} \text{Hz}^{-1}, \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

where the first line on the right represents shot noise, the second line represents radiation pressure noise, and the last line represents acceleration noise.

The relationship between the Fisher matrix and the instrumental uncertainty of the measurement of the luminosity distance  $\sigma_{d_{L,GW}}^{\text{inst}}$  can be estimated as

$$\sigma_{d_{L,GW}}^{\text{inst}} = \sqrt{\Gamma_{aa}^{-1}}. \quad (4)$$

In our simplified case,  $\sigma_{d_{L,GW}}^{\text{inst}} \simeq 2D_L/\rho$ , where  $\rho$  denotes the signal-to-noise ratio of DECIGO interferometers.

In the process of simulating GW, we need to assume the parameters of the cosmological model. In this paper, based on the data given by Bennett et al. (2014), we choose the  $\Lambda$ CDM model of ( $H_0 = 69.6 \text{km s}^{-1} \text{Mpc}^{-1}$ ,  $\Omega_m = 0.286$ ). Luminosity distance is given by simulated GW

$$d_{L,GW}(z) = \frac{c(1+z)}{H_0} \int_0^z \frac{dz'}{\sqrt{\Omega_m(1+z')^3 + (1-\Omega_m)}}, \quad (5)$$

where  $c$  is the speed of light and  $H_0$  is the Hubble constant.

The distribution of wave sources that can be observed on the Earth is (Sathyaprakash et al. 2010; Cai & Yang 2017):

$$P(z) \propto \frac{4\pi D_C^2(z) R(z)}{H(z)(1+z)}, \quad (6)$$

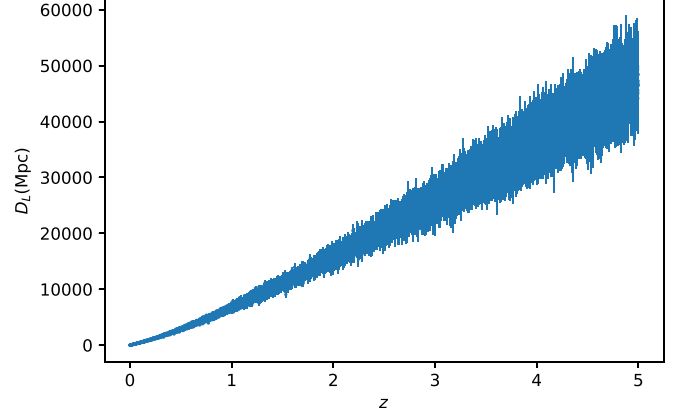


Figure 1. Luminosity distance and redshift data simulated by 10,000 GW events.

where  $H(z)$  represents the Hubble parameter,  $D_C(z)$  represents the comoving distance, and the representation of  $R(z)$  has been used in many articles (Schneider et al. 2001; Cutler & Harms 2006; Cai & Yang 2017)

$$R(z) = \begin{cases} 1 + 2z, & z \leq 1 \\ \frac{3}{4}(5 - z), & 1 < z < 5, \\ 0, & z \geq 5. \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

The error expression of luminosity distance is:

$$\sigma_{d_{L,GW}} = \sqrt{(\sigma_{d_{L,GW}}^{\text{inst}})^2 + (\sigma_{d_{L,GW}}^{\text{lens}})^2} \quad (8)$$

$$= \sqrt{\left( \frac{2d_{L,GW}}{\rho} \right)^2 + (0.05z d_{L,GW})^2}, \quad (9)$$

where  $\sigma_{d_{L,GW}}^{\text{lens}}$  represents the error caused by the weak gravitational lens effect. In the above equation, the extension of the second equation comes from Zhao et al. (2011), Sathyaprakash et al. (2010).  $\rho$  represents signal-to-noise ratio.

Through the analysis of Kawamura et al. (2019), DECIGO expects to detect more than 10,000 binary merging events every year. Based on the analysis of Cutler & Holz (2009), it is feasible to determine the redshift of these events through their electromagnetic counterparts. Therefore, we simulate the luminosity distance and the corresponding redshift of 10,000 GW events, see Figure 1.

## 2.2. Luminosity Distance from the Cosmic Chronometer

In the Friedmann–Lemaître–Robertson–Walker (FLRW) metric (Cao et al. 2019b; Qi et al. 2019a), the luminosity distance

can be expressed as

$$d_L(z) = \begin{cases} \frac{c(1+z)}{H_0\sqrt{|\Omega_K|}} \sinh \left[ \sqrt{|\Omega_K|} \int_0^z \frac{dz'}{E(z')} \right], & \Omega_K > 0 \\ \frac{c(1+z)}{H_0} \int_0^z \frac{dz'}{E(z')}, & \Omega_K = 0. \\ \frac{c(1+z)}{H_0\sqrt{|\Omega_K|}} \sin \left[ \sqrt{|\Omega_K|} \int_0^z \frac{dz'}{E(z')} \right], & \Omega_K < 0 \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

$\Omega_K$  represents the curvature density parameter and  $z$  represents the redshift.  $E(z) = H(z)/H_0$  is given by the ratio of  $H(z)$  to  $H_0$ .  $H(z)$  (Hubble parameter) denotes the expansion rate at  $z$ , and  $H_0$  is the Hubble parameter at  $z=0$ , which is called the Hubble constant. To eliminate the influence of the model, we can introduce comoving distance:

$$d_p(z) = \int_0^z \frac{dz'}{H(z')}. \quad (11)$$

If we express  $d_p(z)$  in terms of the Hubble parameter, we can get a luminosity distance given by the Hubble parameter,

$$d_L^{H(z)}(z) = \begin{cases} \frac{c(1+z)}{H_0\sqrt{|\Omega_K|}} \sinh [\sqrt{|\Omega_K|} H_0 d_p(z)], & \Omega_K > 0 \\ \frac{c(1+z)}{H_0} H_0 d_p(z), & \Omega_K = 0. \\ \frac{c(1+z)}{H_0\sqrt{|\Omega_K|}} \sin [\sqrt{|\Omega_K|} H_0 d_p(z)], & \Omega_K < 0 \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

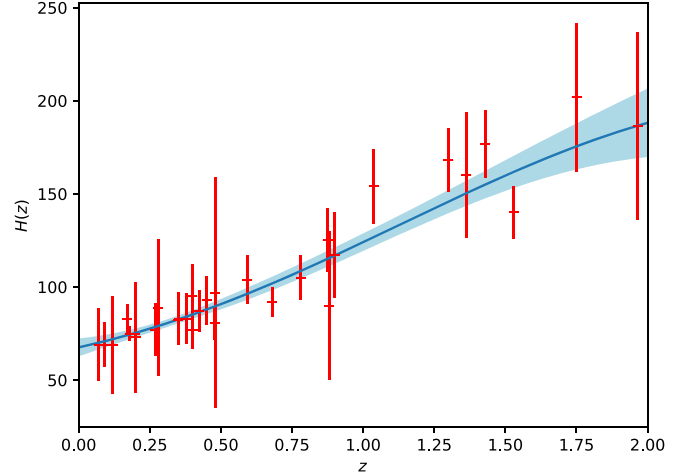
accordingly, the error of  $d_L^{H(z)}(z)$  is given by error transmission,

$$\sigma_{d_L^{H(z)}} = \begin{cases} \frac{c(1+z)}{H_0} \cosh [\sqrt{|\Omega_K|} H_0 d_p(z)] \sigma_{d_p(z)}, & \Omega_K > 0 \\ c(1+z) \sigma_{d_p(z)}, & \Omega_K = 0 \\ \frac{c(1+z)}{H_0} \cos [\sqrt{|\Omega_K|} H_0 d_p(z)] \sigma_{d_p(z)}, & \Omega_K < 0. \end{cases} \quad (13)$$

In this paper, we set the Hubble constant to  $H_0 = 69.6 \pm 0.7 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$  (Bennett et al. 2014), so the only free parameter contained in the  $d_L^{H(z)}(z)$  is  $\Omega_K$ . We will expand the photometric distance data from the cosmic chronometer in Section 2.3 and combine it with the gravitational wave samples from DECIGO in Section 3 to test the curvature density parameters.

### 2.3. Gaussian Process

In this paper, to calculate the data at different redshifts at the same redshift, we use the Gaussian process method to reconstruct the data. This method was first used by Seikel et al. (2012) and has been studied by many scholars (Zhang & Li 2018;



**Figure 2.** We reconstruct 31 Hubble parameter data from the cosmic chronometer and show its error within  $1\sigma$ .

Liao et al. 2019; Fu et al. 2013; Li et al. 2016a; Wu et al. 2020; Liu et al. 2020b; Zhou & Li 2020; Liu et al. 2021).

The Gaussian process (GP) is a method of smoothing data. For the input data set, multiple smooth data in a given range can be reconstructed, and the tasks of data set expansion and redshift reconstruction can be well completed. Seikel et al. (2012) used GP to reconstruct the dark energy state parameter equation, which includes the use of GP, for which they have developed a third-party library GaPP based on Python.

In this paper, we use the Gaussian process to reconstruct Hubble parameter data. The evolution of the Hubble parameter with redshift represents the change of cosmic expansion rate with the increase of distance (Cao & Liang 2013; Cao et al. 2011). Jimenez & Loeb (2002) pointed out that we can use the relative galactic age to constrain the cosmological parameters, the Hubble parameter is expressed as

$$H(z) = -\frac{1}{(1+z)} \frac{dz}{dt}, \quad (14)$$

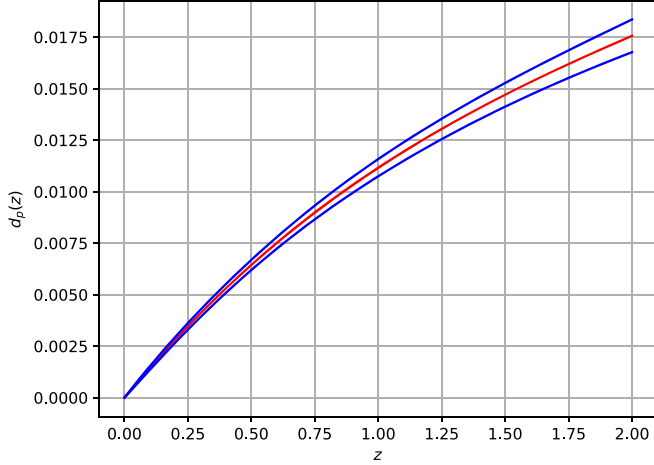
In this work, we use 31 redshift from 0.09 to 1.965  $H(z)$  data from cosmic-chronometer approach (Jimenez et al. 2003; Simon et al. 2005; Stern et al. 2010; Moresco et al. 2012; Moresco 2015; Moresco et al. 2016; Ratsimbazafy et al. 2017).

We reconstruct 31 Hubble parameter data from the cosmic chronometer, and the results are shown in Figure 2. In addition, we also integrate the reconstruction results and get the  $d_p(z)$  and its error within  $1\sigma$ , and the results are shown in Figure 3.

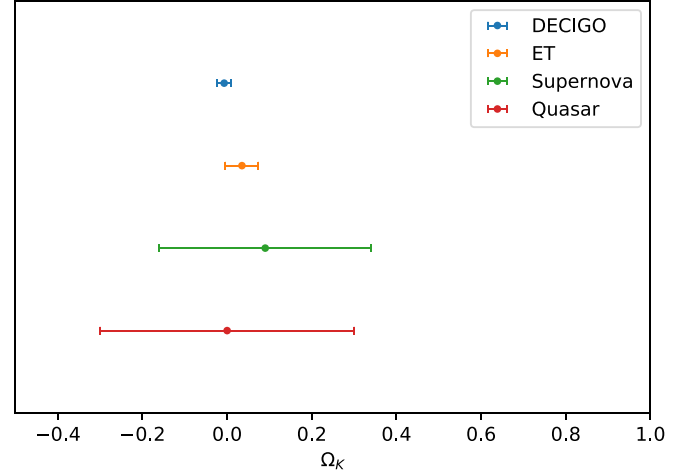
## 3. Results and Discussion

### 3.1. Improved Curvature Test Method

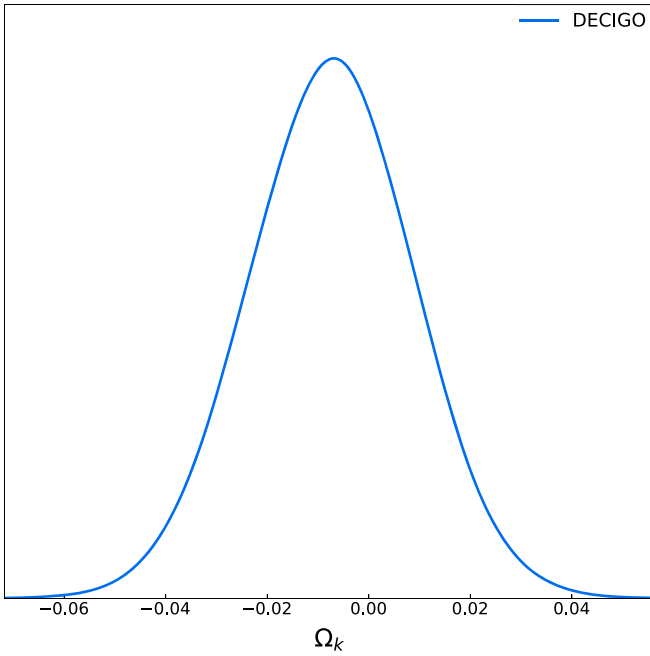
In Section 2.3, we use the Gaussian process to reconstruct the Hubble parameter data and obtain the luminosity distance ( $d_L^{H(z)}(z)$ ) given by  $H(z)$ . It is worth noting that the luminosity



**Figure 3.** We get  $d_p(z)$  and its error for the reconstructed Hubble integral, and the red line represents the error of  $d_p(z)$  within  $1\sigma$ .



**Figure 5.** Comparison of the results of four kinds of data using model-independent method.



**Figure 4.** The constraint results of the reconstructed cosmic chronometer and DECIGO on the curvature parameter.

**Table 1**  
The Results Obtained by Using the Model-independent Method to Constrain Curvature

Data	$\Omega_K$	Source
DECIGO	$-0.007 \pm 0.016$	This Work
ET	$0.035 \pm 0.039$	(Wei 2018)
Quasar	$0.0 \pm 0.3$	(Cao et al. 2019a)
Supernova	$0.09 \pm 0.25$	(Wei & Wu 2017)

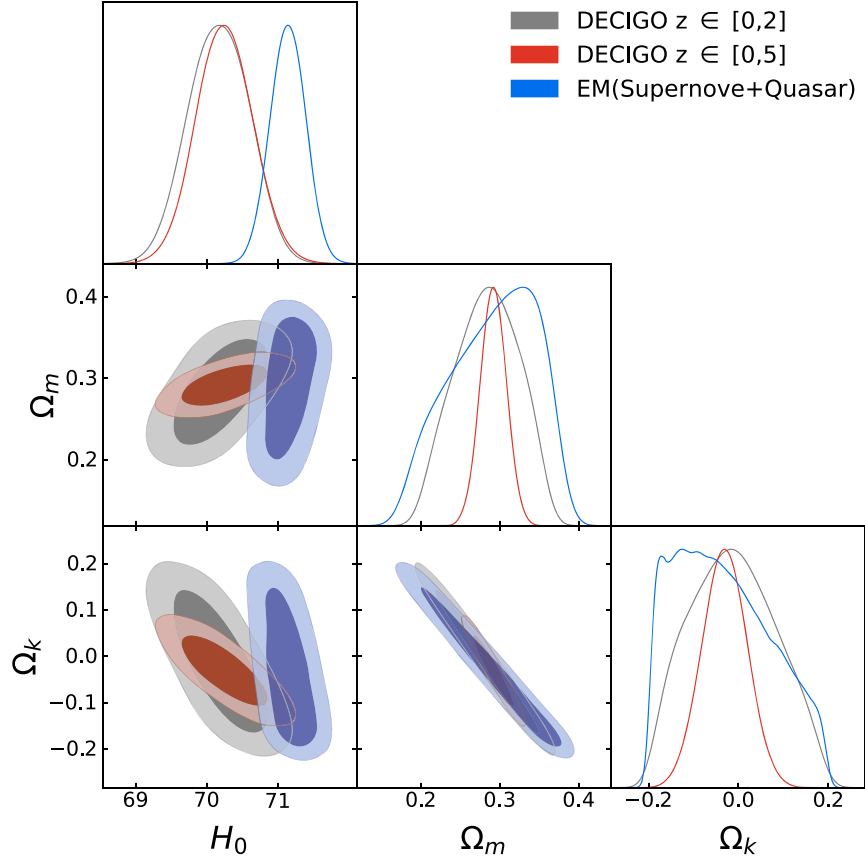
distance obtained by this method is not the same as that given by GW, so we smooth the  $d_L^{H(z)}(z)$ . Considering that there may be unknown errors in gravitational wave detection, we add 10% systematic error to  $d_L^{GW}(z)$ . Therefore, we can constrain the curvature density parameter through the  $\chi^2$  method:

$$\chi^2 = \sum_i \frac{[d_L^{H(z)}(z_i; \Omega_K) - d_L^{GW}(z_i)]^2}{\sigma_{d_L^{H(z)},i}^2 + \sigma_{d_L^{GW},i}^2}, \quad (15)$$

The curvature parameter result is shown in Figure 4. To show the constraint effect more intuitively, we compare the constraint results of curvature parameters given by other observation data using the same method (see Table 1).

As shown in Table 1, the cosmic curvature density parameter, which is constrained by the luminosity distance obtained from the reconstructed  $H(z)$  and the simulated GW data from DECIGO is  $\Omega_K = -0.007 \pm 0.016$ . To better compare the constraint ability of DECIGO to curvature parameters. We add the research results of other scholars to the table. The constraint result given by the third generation gravitational wave detector ET is  $\Omega_K = 0.035 \pm 0.039$ . The curvature constraint ability of DECIGO is better than that of ET.

We also show the curvature constraint results of supernovae and quasars. It is easy to see that the curvature constraint accuracy given by the GW data is more than 90% higher than that given by quasar ( $\Omega_K = 0.0 \pm 0.3$ ) and supernova sample ( $\Omega_K = 0.09 \pm 0.25$ ), respectively. In addition, we also noticed that Zheng et al. (2021) used the GW simulation data of DECIGO and ET to test the cosmic curvature, and they used the third-order logarithm polynomial approximation of  $D_L(z)$  with undetermined coefficients in their research and directly constrained the cosmic curvature through the research results of Clarkson et al. (2007). They use DECIGO ( $0 < z < 2$ ) to



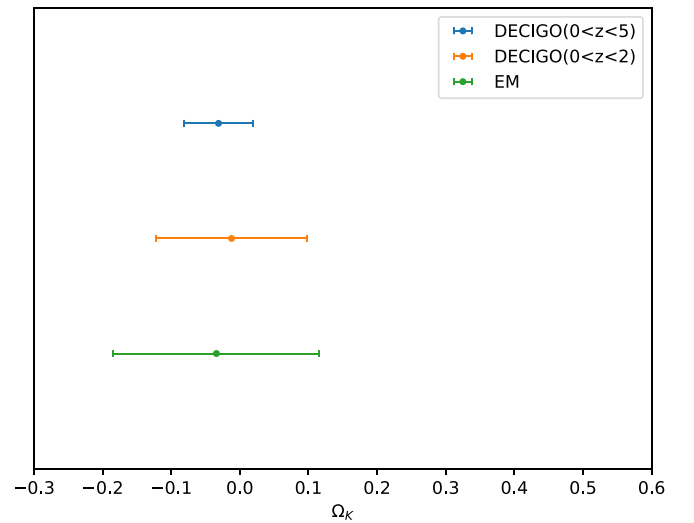
**Figure 6.** The result of constraining the non-flat  $\Lambda$  cold dark matter model using DECIGO and EM, respectively.

**Table 2**

Results of Non-flat  $\Lambda$  Cold Dark Matter Model with Different Data Constraints

Data	$\Omega_K$	$\Omega_m$	$H_0$
EM	$-0.034 \pm 0.15$	$0.292 \pm 0.071$	$71.14 \pm 0.25$
DECIGO ( $0 < z < 2$ )	$-0.012 \pm 0.11$	$0.284 \pm 0.046$	$70.16 \pm 0.43$
DECIGO ( $0 < z < 5$ )	$-0.031 \pm 0.05$	$0.292 \pm 0.016$	$70.24 \pm 0.40$

simulate data to constrain curvature to  $\Omega_K = 0.004 \pm 0.09$ , and the result of using ET data, in the same way, is  $\Omega_K = 0.01 \pm 0.10$ . Compared with the results of Zheng et al. (2021), the research method used in this paper gives higher constraint accuracy. As the space gravitational wave detector, the accuracy of DECIGO is more than 50% higher than that of the ET detector when using the same method to measure curvature density parameters. To more intuitively compare the results given by different data, we visualize the comparison of the data (see Figure 5).



**Figure 7.** Curvature density parameters in non-flat  $\Lambda$  cold dark matter model.



### 3.2. Curvature Test from Cosmological Model

In addition, we also investigate the constraint effect of DECIGO on curvature density parameters under the assumption of the cosmological model. The non-flat  $\Lambda$  cold dark matter model is,

$$E(z)^2 = \Omega_m(1+z)^3 + \Omega_K(1+z)^2 + (1 - \Omega_m - \Omega_K). \quad (16)$$

At the same time, we also combine the supernova sample (Scolnic et al. 2018) with the quasar sample (Cao et al. 2017a, 2017b) (EM) to constrain curvature parameter to discuss the constraint effect of GW data and EM data on the curvature density parameters in the non-flat  $\Lambda$  cold dark matter model (see Figure 6). When using the supernovae, we fix the absolute magnitude at 19.32 (Suzuki et al. 2012). Meanwhile, we divide the sub-samples of simulated GW with redshifts  $0 < z < 2$  from the full samples with redshifts  $0 < z < 5$  and assess the accuracy of  $\Omega_K$  given by the non-flat  $\Lambda$  cold dark matter model and improved curvature test method.

As shown in Table 2, the results of constraining the non-flat  $\Lambda$  cold dark matter model in the table show that the curvature best values and their 68% confidence errors are  $\Omega_K = -0.012 \pm 0.11$  and  $\Omega_K = -0.031 \pm 0.05$  constrained by sub-sample DECIGO data at the redshift 0 to 2 and full sample at  $z=0$  to 5 respectively. In addition, when two kinds of EM (supernova + quasar) data are used, the constraint of the curvature density parameter is  $\Omega_K = -0.034 \pm 0.15$ . For intuitive comparison, we also show the model-based constraint results of three kinds of data in Figure 7.

Our results show that in the method of directly assuming cosmological models (non-flat  $\Lambda$  cold dark matter model), the accuracy of curvature parameter error ( $\Delta\Omega_K=0.05$ ) given by the full sample with redshift ( $z \in [0, 5]$ ) is higher, which is only 0.5 times of the curvature error ( $\Delta\Omega_K=0.11$ ) given by the sub-sample ( $z \in [0, 2]$ ), and only 0.3 times of the error ( $\Delta\Omega_K=0.15$ ) given by the EM data sample. It can be seen that the error given by the full sample ( $z \in [0, 5]$ ) is more than twice the result of Planck data constraint  $\Delta\Omega_K=0.018$  (Aghanim et al. 2020). In addition, it is worth noting that the accuracy of the curvature parameter ( $\Delta\Omega_K=0.11$ ) is lower than that of the improved curvature test method ( $\Delta\Omega_K=0.016$ ) error given under the same redshift range ( $z \in [0, 2]$ ), as shown in Table 1. However, the curvature constraint results obtained by the improved curvature test method are similar to those obtained by Planck data. For EM data, compared with the constraint result of using supernova sample alone on the model is  $\Omega_K = -0.062_{-0.169}^{+0.189}$  (Gao et al. 2020), the accuracy of curvature is improved after adding quasars. However, it is still lower than those from GW data. Therefore, for gravitational waves, an improved curvature test method to constrain the curvature can be able to obtain higher accuracy results. In addition, for the constraint results of matter density parameters ( $\Omega_m$ ) in the non-flat  $\Lambda$  cold dark matter

model, the constraint accuracy of GW data is also higher than that of EM data, and this constraint ability becomes stronger with the increase of the number of events with the higher redshift of GW. For the Hubble constant ( $H_0$ ), the error results constrained by the two kinds of GW data are slightly larger than those given by EM data, but they are consistent within the  $1\sigma$  error range. In particular, we use the non-flat  $\Lambda$  cold dark matter model to simulate the gravitational wave data and repeat the above work. The results show that the selection of curvature density parameters in the non-flat  $\Lambda$  cold dark matter model has little effect on testing curvature accuracy using simulated gravitational wave data.

## 4. Conclusion

Gravitational waves as a standard siren may open up a new window for the study of cosmology, and more interesting results are expected through gravitational wave detection. In this paper, we use an improved curvature test method to study the curvature. First, 31 sets of Hubble parameter data from the cosmic chronometer are reconstructed using the Gaussian process. After integrating the reconstructed data, a group of luminosity distance  $d_L^{H(z)}(z)$  given by  $H(z)$  is obtained. Then, we use the data from DECIGO to simulate 10,000 GW events and obtain their redshift, luminosity distance, and corresponding error. By comparing the luminosity distance given by the two kinds of data, the curvature parameters are constrained. In our work, 1. We simulated 10,000 GW events based on the estimation of future detection events by the DECIGO project. 2. The curvature constraint results of the third generation GW detectors (ET) and the space gravitational wave detectors (DECIGO) are compared in our study. When the cosmic curvature is constrained by the improved curvature test method, ET and DECIGO get the constraint results of  $\Omega_K = 0.035 \pm 0.039$ ,  $\Omega_K = -0.007 \pm 0.016$ , respectively. The results demonstrate that the space gravitational wave detectors can provide a stronger constraint effect. 3. We also compare the results of using the improved curvature test method and the method of using the non-flat  $\Lambda$  cold dark matter model to constrain curvature based on DECIGO data, which are  $\Omega_K = -0.007 \pm 0.016$ ,  $\Omega_K = -0.031 \pm 0.05$ . It is shown that for DECIGO, the improved curvature test method can get a stronger constraint effect. The curvature constraint accuracy obtained by the improved curvature test method can be similar to that of curvature constraint given by Planck 2018 microwave background ( $\Delta\Omega_K=0.018$ ) (Aghanim et al. 2020).

At the same time, we also compare the constraint results given by other observation data. Compared with the third-generation gravitational wave detector ET (Wei 2018), Type Ia supernovae (Gao et al. 2020) and compact radio quasars (Cao et al. 2019a), the error given by DECIGO is half that of ET, and the accuracy is one order of magnitude higher than that of supernovae and quasars.

In addition, we also use DECIGO to constrain the non-flat  $\Lambda$  cold dark matter model and take the EM data as the control group. The results demonstrate that in the case of the constraint model, the curvature constraint effect of DECIGO is slightly higher than that of EM. Meanwhile, GW has excellent potential for curvature constraints under improved curvature test method conditions. By comparing the current constraint results, the gravitational wave detector DECIGO has a higher constraint ability of curvature constraints than ET and some additional current research results. At the same time, some scholars have proposed a framework including multiple measurements of gravitational waves acting as standard probes, which provides complementary model-independent constraints on the cosmic curvature with DECIGO (Zhang et al. 2022). Therefore, the GW observations provide a powerful and novel method to estimate the spatial curvature in different cosmological-model-independent ways.

### Acknowledgments

This work was supported in part by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (Grant Nos. 12105032, 11873001, 12047564, 12075041 and 12147102); the Fundamental Research Funds for the Central Universities of China (Grant Nos. 2021CDJQY-011 and 2020CDJQY-Z003); the Science Foundation of Chongqing (Grant No. D63012022005); Chongqing Science and Technology research project (Grant No. KJ111206); the Natural Science Foundation of Chongqing (Grant No. cstc2021jcyj-msxmX0481); the Scientific Research and Innovation Project of Graduate Students in Chongqing (Grant No. CYS20272).

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