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# Theoretical priors and the dark energy equation of state

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**Abstract** We revisit the theoretical priors used for inferring Dark Energy (DE) parameters. Any DE model must have some form of a tracker mechanism such that it behaved as matter or radiation in the past. Otherwise, the model is fine-tuned. We construct a model-independent parametrization that takes this prior into account and allows for a relatively sudden transition between radiation/matter to DE behavior. We match the parametrization with current data, and deduce that the adiabatic and effective sound speeds of DE play an important role in inferring the cosmological parameters. We find that there is a preferred transition redshift of  $1 + z \simeq 29-30$ , and some reduction in the Hubble and Large Scale Structure tensions.

#### 1 Introduction

The standard  $\Lambda$  cold dark matter model ( $\Lambda$ CDM), also known as the Concordance Model, is a well-established cosmological model supported by data from numerous observations. Combining various observations such as the cosmic microwave background (CMB) measurements [1–3], supernovae type Ia [4], weak lensing [5–8], and galaxy clustering measurements [9–17] the  $\Lambda$ CDM parameters have been constrained to about a percent accuracy.

From a historical perspective, the last parameter that was accepted by the scientific community into the Concordance Model, was the cosmological constant,  $\Lambda$ . The presence of a dominant positive cosmological constant explains the present acceleration of the Universe, with its relative energy density being  $\Omega_{\Lambda} \simeq 0.70$ . Another property of a true cosmological constant should manifest itself in observations of an equation of state (eos) with the value of w = -1. Considering a constant eos without imposing w = -1, the data further

constrains the eos to be -1.14 < w < -0.94 [2,18].<sup>1</sup> A true constant, based on zero modes quantum fluctuations of the fields present in Nature, is expected to be many orders of magnitude above the observed value and there have been many attempts to reconcile the measurement with the theoretical expectation [19–29]. This unappealing mismatch between theory and observations prompted the idea that the present acceleration is due to an evolving (usually scalar) field, dubbed Dark Energy (DE) [30,31]. Generically, this scalar field is not solving the so-called "old" cosmological constant problem (of the expected zero modes contribution to the energy density of the Universe). Nevertheless, assuming this question is somehow settled, DE gives predictions for the present acceleration of the Universe.

If DE is realized in Nature then generically the eos is time or redshift dependent w(z). Furthermore, the DE fluid/field will have fluctuations that will affect the growth of structure [32–35], thus providing a testable framework. Focusing on the eos, there are many possible parametrizations [36–44], perhaps most notably the CPL parametrization [36,37]

$$w(z) \simeq w_0 + w_1 \frac{z}{1+z},\tag{1}$$

which is not valid at all redshifts. Combining Planck with BAO and Supernovae data then gives  $w_0 = -0.957 \pm 0.080$ ,  $w_1 = -0.29^{+0.32}_{-0.26}$  [2]. Since DE is evolving with time, another tuning problem arises – why should its energy density and eos be such that it behaves nearly as a cosmological constant today [45–47]? To avoid this coincidence, DE models are generically endowed with a tracker mechanism. The DE tracks the radiation or matter throughout the evolution of the Universe, until it decouples and acts as DE today [48,49]. We would like to include this theoretical prior into the parameter estimation analysis.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This model is usually dubbed wCDM.

On top of the theoretical difficulties, despite its remarkable success, the validity of the Concordance Model is currently under investigation, as accumulation of data results in tensions between various measurements. Specifically, the values of some cosmological parameters of ACDM inferred from different cosmological and astrophysical data are in tension with Planck 2018 results, [2]. Perhaps the most intriguing tensions are the Hubble  $H_0$  tension and Large Scale Structure (LSS) or so-called S<sub>8</sub> tension. The Hubble tension arises from the discrepancy in the measurement of the present value of the Hubble parameter  $H_0$  between model-dependent and modelindependent probes. Most notably, there is a  $\sim 5\sigma$  discrepancy between the SH0ES result, that is model-independent, [50–63] and Planck 2018 CMB measurements, that are model dependent, [2]. Considering additional measurements, the various data sets can be divided roughly into Early Universe and Late Universe probes see [64] and references therein. Thus, the discrepancy in  $H_0$  persists with lower values for the Early Universe probes, and a higher value for the Late Universe probes.

 $S_8 = \sigma_8 \sqrt{\Omega_m/0.3}$  is a parameter measuring linear fluctuations, where  $\sigma_8$  is the amplitude of linear fluctuations smoothed over 8 Mpc  $h^{-1}$ , and  $\Omega_m$  is the relative matter density today. In inferring  $S_8$  there again seems to be a  $2-3\sigma$  discrepancy between Planck and Weak Lensing experiments, e.g. [2,65–73], leading to the  $S_8$  or LSS tension. Various solutions have been proposed to solve both tensions individually [31,53,54,58,64–71,73–147]. Some solutions resolving the Hubble tension seem to worsen the LSS tension and viceversa [35,90,124–126,148]. A theory that addresses both of these conflicts at once would undoubtedly be appealing, so in this study we make a point of attempting to handle the  $S_8$  and  $H_0$  tensions concurrently [149–151].

Recently, we have suggested an emerging DE model. In this model the DE is not a fundamental scalar field, but rather a thermodynamical collective behavior [149–151]. This approach solves the fine tuning and initial conditions problems, is free of the swampland conjectures [152–159] and does not modify gravity. The model has a built-in tracker mechanism since it asymptotes to w = -1 at future infinity and to w = 1/3 in the past – i.e. the fluid behaves as radiation in the past and transitions to DE behavior at some redshift. Our recent analysis shows that the model is restoring cosmological concordance and alleviating both the Hubble tension and the  $S_8$  tension, performing significantly better than  $\Lambda$ CDM [149]. Motivated by this success, we want to investigate whether this behavior is more generic.

Since any valid DE model has  $w(z = 0) \simeq -1$  and any model with a tracker mechanism  $w(z \gg 1) = 1/3$  or 0, we can implement this understanding into our parametrization. We can then test the novel parametrization and its effect on existing tensions such as the Hubble or S<sub>8</sub> tensions. We consider DE to be some phenomenological fluid, and develop a phenomenological approach where the eos of the fluid at the most economical level is:

$$w_{DE}(a) = -1 + \frac{w_a}{1 + (a/a_t)^n},$$
(2)

where *n* is some integer,  $a_t$  is a transition scale factor around which  $w_{DE}$  transitions from  $w_{DE} \simeq -1$  to  $w_{DE} \simeq -1 + w_a$ . To demonstrate our approach, we shall consider the possibility  $w_a = 4/3$ , such that the DE behaves as radiation at early times. Thus, the parameter that has to be inferred from measurements is neither  $w_0$  nor  $w_a$ , but rather the transition redshift/scale factor  $a_t$ . In this minimal approach  $c_s^2$  is determined, so we are fitting less parameters that the usual CPL parametrization. We then extend our model to include  $c_s$  and later also n as a free parameters. We calculate the background and perturbations evolution and match to existing data. We then perform a likelihood analysis of our model combining various data sets. We find some modest reduction in the Hubble and S<sub>8</sub> tension and some reduction in  $\Delta \chi^2 \sim -2-3$  compared to ACDM. The more interesting result is that we find the transition redshift to be highly constrained,  $z_t = 29-30$ , providing a definite interval for exploration.

Our model belongs to the category of fast transition dark energy models, as discussed in previous works [160–163], where transition redshifts were considered within the range of [1, 5]. However, our analysis sets itself apart by conducting a rigorous likelihood analysis, incorporating diverse cosmological data, and addressing the microphysics of the dark energy fluid. Consequently, our findings diverge from those of previously explored models.

The paper is organized as follows. We first describe the background and perturbation evolution of our proposed phenomenological fluid parametrization in Sect. 2. In Sect. 3 we discuss the different data sets and methods used to analyze our proposed parametrization. This section also includes the nomenclature of the different models. We report our results in Sect. 4, and we finally conclude in Sect. 5.

#### 2 Phenomenological fluid dark energy

We propose a scenario consisting of the standard cosmological model with cold dark matter (CDM) and DE using a phenomenological fluid with several critical key features which differ from the cosmological constant (CC). In this section will discuss the model, its background, and perturbative dynamics. Using our approach, we also illustrate the implications on cosmological tensions such as Hubble,  $H_0$ , and Large Scale Structure,  $S_8$ .



Fig. 1 Evolution of dark energy equation of state  $w_{DE}$  as a function of e-folds,  $N = \ln a$ , for different values of *n* and  $a_t$  while fixing other parameters in left and right panels respectively. N = 0 corresponds to today

## 2.1 Theory

Our proposed scenario mimics  $\Lambda$ , which is used to account for Dark Energy in late times and transits to radiation at early times. The model is specified by a time-varying equation of state for such phenomenological fluid.

*Conditions of DE model* We start our discussion by pointing out the conditions for a successful Dark Energy Model as

- The Dark Energy model should be able to explain cosmic coincidence and the hierarchy problem of DE, e.g., Λ.
- There should be an era of dust domination, which is essential for the structure of the Universe.
- The equation of state of DE component today, defined as  $w_{DE} = \frac{p_{DE}}{\rho_{DE}}$  where  $\rho_{DE}$  and  $p_{DE}$  being the energy density and pressure of the DE fluid respectively, must lie within  $-1.14 < w_{DE} < -0.94$  [2,18].
- The evolution of DE fluid and hence the whole background and perturbative evolution of the Universe should be free from instability. Thus, there should be no gradient instability and the sound speed of DE fluid should be subluminal, i.e.,  $0 < c_{DE,a}^2 < 1$ . Here  $c_{DE,a}^2 = \frac{\dot{p}_{DE}}{\dot{\rho}_{DE}}$  is the squared sound speed of DE fluid.

**Background** The time-varying eos of a phenomenological fluid  $(w_{DE})$  is governed by the following form

$$w_{DE}(a) = -1 + \frac{w_a}{1 + (a/a_t)^n},\tag{3}$$

where we normalize the scale factor *a* to be unity today. Equation (3) asymptotes to  $w_{DE}(a) = -1 + w_a$  and  $w_{DE}(a) = -1$  at early and late times respectively.  $w_a$  tunes the desired eos of state of the Dark Energy fluid at early times, and  $a_t$  is the "transition scale factor" or redshift at which the fluid approximately crosses  $w_{DE} = 0$ . The parameter *n* controls the sharpness of this transition. Using the equation (3), it is

straightforward to derive the energy density of the fluid as

$$\rho_{DE}(a) = \rho_{DE,0} a^{-3w_a} \left(\frac{1 + (a/a_t)^n}{1 + (1/a_t)^n}\right)^{3w_a/n}.$$
(4)

Equations (3) and (4) give us a full picture of the background for our Dark Energy model as a phenomenological fluid with up to 3 parameter extension compared to  $\Lambda$ CDM.

Our proposal for Dark Energy using Phenomenological Fluid Dark Energy (PFDE) has a built-in tracker mechanism that tracks the background throughout evolution. Since we would like the PFDE to track the background evolution of the Universe as a whole, we require that the eos of phenomenological fluid will lie within  $\in [0, 1/3]$  at early times, which constrains  $w_a$  as

$$w_{DE}^{Early} \approx -1 + w_a \in [0, 1/3] \Rightarrow w_a \in [1, 4/3]$$
 (5)

We think the new parametrization has several advantages over existing ones: First, it captures the essence of DE with  $w \simeq -1$ . Second, it captures the tracker behavior of w = 1/3at large redshift. Third, there is a single free parameter – the transition redshift or scale factor  $a_t$ . Thus, in terms of the number of cosmological parameters it is equivalent to wCDM with fixed w. Later, when we allow for an arbitrary  $c_s^2$ , we have the same number of parameters as the CPL one, but with different theoretical input.

Let us demonstrate the behavior of the model. First, we present examples of the effect of the steepness of transition and transition redshift on the DE eos  $w_{DE}$  in Fig. 1. It is clear from the plots that  $w_{DE}$  transits from 1/3 to -1, with different transition steepness (from varying *n*) and at different transition redshifts (varying  $a_t$ ), at early and late times.

Next, we discuss the evolution of the effective eos of the Universe,  $w_{tot}$ . There is almost no difference from the standard  $\Lambda$ CDM for different values *n* while there is a strong dependence of  $w_{tot}$  on  $a_t$ , as shown in the left and right panel of Fig. 2. It is evident from the right panel of Fig. 2, that as we increase the value of  $a_t$ , DE+radiation dominate over the matter sector and we see no era of dust domination which



Fig. 2 Evolution of total equation of state  $(w_{tot})$  as a function of e-folds,  $N = \ln a$ , for different values of *n* and  $a_t$  while fixing other parameters in left and right panels respectively



Fig. 3 Comparison of the expansion rate of PFDE model and  $\Lambda$ CDM using their best fir parameters inferred from all data sets. We plot  $H_{PFDE}/H_0$  with varying *n* and  $a_t$  on the left and right panels respectively



Fig. 4 The evolution of the adiabatic sound speed  $c_a^2$  for PFDE model parameters. The left panel shows that the adiabatic sound speed becomes negative at late times for n < 3. The right panel illustrates the transition of  $c_a^2$  for different values of  $a_t$ 

is crucial for structure formation. Thus, we limit  $a_t \leq 0.1$ . Finally, we compare the expansion rate of PFDE model and  $\Lambda$ CDM using the best fit model parameters inferred from the combination of all data sets. To appreciate the increase in expansion rate in our model, we present our results normalized with respect to the expansion rate of  $\Lambda$ CDM. In the left and right panel of Fig. 3, we show the dependence of  $H_{PFDE}/H_{\Lambda}$  on *n* and  $a_t$  respectively. In all cases the inferred Hubble parameter in the PFDE model is larger than the  $\Lambda$ CDM one.

**Perturbations** The evolution of perturbations depends on the sound horizon of DE. In the FLRW Universe, the sound horizon of DE with effective sound speed  $c_s$  is defined as

$$r_s(\eta) = \int \frac{c_s}{a\,\mathcal{H}}\,d\eta,\tag{6}$$

where  $\mathcal{H}(\equiv a'/a)$  is the conformal Hubble constant, and ' denotes derivative with respect to conformal time  $\eta$ . Depending on the properties of the fluid, it will have different clustering effects, and  $c_s$  plays crucial role in the evolution of DE perturbation. If  $c_s$  is close to unity, DE perturbations are suppressed by pressure. As a result DE does not cluster except on scales comparable to  $r_s$ . In the case of  $c_s \ll 1$ , DE starts clustering as a dark matter component with the consequence of affecting matter perturbations. Finally, considering a more general effective speed of sound  $0 \le c_s^2 \le 1$ , for example from non-canonical scalar fields or unparticles, can result in different forms of clustering [149–151].<sup>2</sup>

Any phenomenological fluid is characterized by the energy density  $\rho_{DE}$ , pressure  $p_{DE}$ , momentum density, and anisotropic stress  $\sigma_{DE}$ . The pressure  $\delta p_{DE}$  and energy density perturbations  $\delta \rho_{DE}$  are related by the effective sound speed which is gauge dependent quantity  $c_s^2 = \frac{\delta p_{DE}}{\delta \rho_{DE}}$ . For canonical scalar field models, it is automatically set to unity. To avoid such gauge ambiguities, we consider the gauge invariant formulation of pressure perturbations in Fourier space allowing for a general effective sound speed as discussed in [164].

$$\delta p_{DE} = c_s^2 \,\delta \rho_{DE} + 3 \,\mathcal{H} \left( c_s^2 - c_a^2 \right)$$

$$(1 + w_{DE}) \,\rho_{DE} \,\theta_{DE}/k^2.$$
(7)

Here  $\theta_{DE}$  is the velocity divergence, and  $c_a^2$  is the adiabatic sound speed for our phenomenological fluid, which takes the following form

$$c_a^2 \equiv w_{DE} - \frac{w'_{DE}}{3 \mathcal{H} (1 + w_{DE})} = w_{DE} - \frac{n}{3 w_a} (1 + w_{DE} - w_a), \qquad (8)$$

where for  $w_a = 4/3$  we have  $c_a^2 = w_{DE}(1 - \frac{n}{4}) + \frac{n}{12}$ . The adiabatic sound speed and its dependence on the model parameters are depicted in Fig. 4. Notice that for n < 3 the adiabatic speed of sound tends to negative values, raising the danger of instabilities. We will see that even without addressing this theoretical issue, the data will prefer  $n \ge 3$ .

We write the perturbation equations in synchronous gauge with the following line element:

$$ds^{2} = a^{2}(\eta) \left[ -d\eta^{2} + (\eta_{ij} + h_{ij}) dx^{i} dx^{j} \right].$$
(9)

Within the gauge invariant formalism, we express the perturbations as equations of the density contrast  $\delta_{DE}$  and the velocity divergence  $\theta_{DE}$ :

$$\delta'_{DE} = -(1+w_{DE})\left(\theta_{DE} - 3h'\right) -3\mathcal{H}\left(c_s^2 - w_{DE}\right)\delta_{DE},$$
(10)

$$\theta'_{DE} = -\mathcal{H} (1 - 3w_{DE}) \ \theta_{DE} - \frac{w_{DE}}{1 + w_{DE}} \ \theta_{DE} + \frac{c_s^2}{1 + w_{DE}} k^2 \ \delta_{DE} + k^2 (h - \sigma_{DE}) , \qquad (11)$$

where  $h (\equiv h_i^i)$  is the metric perturbation [165]. It is straightforward to figure out that perturbations of a phenomenological fluid offers two extra parameters compared to a canonical scalar field, namely, the effective sound speed  $c_s^2$  and the anisotropic shear/stress  $\sigma_{DE}$ . In this work, we shall always consider a perfect fluid, so  $\sigma_{DE} \equiv 0$ . For the effective sound speed  $c_s$  there are various possibilities. The effective sound speed  $c_s$  importance cannot be underestimated as it reveals the microphysics associated with DE. For a barotropic fluid it is equivalent to adiabatic sound speed of the fluid,  $c_s \equiv c_a$ . As such no free parameters are introduced. A nice example of such a scenario is the Unparticles Dark Energy (UDE) which offers a possible resolution of Hubble and LSS tension simultaneously [149–151]. Attempting to study different microphysics, we shall consider the following scenarios:

- 1. Allowing dark energy either to be relativistic  $c_s = 1$  or be non-relativistic  $c_s = 0$ .
- 2. A perfect fluid, with the  $c_s$  as a free parameter,  $0 \le c_s \le 1$ .

# 3 Data sets and methodology

In our analysis, we use the following publicly available data sets:

- Planck 2018 CMB: We utilize the Planck 2018 likelihood for CMB data, which consists of low-*l* TT, low-*l* EE, and high-*l* TTEETE power spectra [3]. We also use the Planck 2018 lensing likelihood [1], which has an important role in the LSS analysis of the late Universe.
- Baryon Acoustic Oscillations (BAO) and RSD measurements: We use measurements from SDSS DR7 Main Galaxy Sample (MGS) [9], and 6dF galaxy survey [10] measurements at z = 0.15, and z = 0.106, respectively. In addition, we include BAO and  $f \sigma_8$  measurements (where f is the linear growth rate) from BOSS DR12 & 16 at z = 0.38, 0.51, 0.68 [11–14], QSO measurements at z = 1.48 [15,16], and Ly- $\alpha$  auto-correlation and cross-correlation with QSO at z = 2.2334 [17].
- Large Scale Structure:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> It is well known that non-canonical scalar fields can give you different forms of clustering since  $c_s^2 \neq 1$ . In the unparticles model, the collective thermal behavior of unparticles results in a DE fluid with a temperature dependent equation of state, which in turn implies different clustering properties than a fluid with a constant equation of state.

- **DES**: Dark Energy Survey includes measurements from shear-shear, galaxy-galaxy, and galaxy-shear two-point correlation functions, referred to as " $3 \times 2$ pt", measured from 26 million source galaxies in four redshift bins and 650,000 luminous red lens galaxies in five redshift bins, for the shear and galaxy correlation functions. DES  $3 \times 2$  pt likelihood gives  $S_8 = 0.773^{+0.026}_{-0.020}$  and  $\Omega_m = 0.267^{+0.030}_{-0.017}$  assuming the  $\Lambda$ CDM model [5]. To avoid computational expenses, we use a Gaussian prior on  $S_8$  which effectively summarizes the DES likelihood. We have confirmed that using the Gaussian prior and DES likelihood provide a similar constraint.
- Weak Lensing Measurements: In addition to DES, we also use measurements from KiDS+VIKING-450 and Subaru Hyper Suprime-Cam (HSC) providing constraints on  $S_8$  and  $\Omega_m$ . In this case also we use Gaussian priors to include their effects. We use  $S_8 =$  $0.737^{+0.040}_{-0.036}$  and  $S_8 = 0.780^{+0.030}_{-0.033}$  for KiDS and HSC measurements respectively.
- Supernovae Pantheon: The Pantheon data set is a collection of the absolute magnitude of 1048 supernovae distributed in redshift interval 0.01 < z < 2.26 [4]. Many times we will simply refer to this data set as SN.
- **H**<sub>0</sub> from SH0ES: We use latest local measurement of  $H_0 = 73.04 \pm 1.04$  km/s/Mpc from the SH0ES team [54]. Many times we will simply refer to this data set as  $H_0$ .

We consider several combinations of datasets to assess the parameter constraints of our phenomenological fluid dark energy model. Our aim is to compare the value of  $H_0$  and  $S_8$  inferred considering our model compared to the baseline model,  $\Lambda$ CDM. In order to quantify the degree of tension between the different estimates of  $H_0$ , we adopt the following measure to evaluate the improvement of our model compared to  $\Lambda$ CDM. We express the tension in terms of standard deviations  $\sigma$  for  $H_0$  and  $S_8$  as [136, 166]

$$\# \sigma_{H_0} = \left| \frac{H_0^M - H_0^{\text{SH0ES}}}{\sqrt{\sigma_{H_0^M}^2 + \sigma_{H_0^{\text{SH0ES}}}^2}} \right|,$$
(12)

$$\# \sigma_{S_8} = \left| \frac{S_8^M - S_8^{\text{LSS}}}{\sqrt{\sigma_{S_8}^2 + \sigma_{S_8^{\text{LSS}}}^2}} \right|.$$
(13)

Here  $x^M$  and  $\sigma_x^M$  are the mean value of parameter x and its variance in a given model respectively. In the case of two measurements with asymmetric error bars  $X_{\sigma_{X,\text{down}}}^{\sigma_{X,\text{up}}}$ ,  $Y_{\sigma_{Y,\text{down}}}^{\sigma_{Y,\text{up}}}$ , then the tension  $\sigma$  between the two measurements is:

$$\sigma = \begin{cases} \frac{X-Y}{\sqrt{\sigma_{X,\text{down}}^2 + \sigma_{Y,\text{up}}^2}} & \text{if } X > Y \\ \frac{Y-X}{\sqrt{\sigma_{X,\text{up}}^2 + \sigma_{Y,\text{down}}^2}} & \text{if } X \le Y. \end{cases}$$
(14)

This formula rigorously assesses tension between measurements, assuming the possibility of a one-tail gaussian, thus accounting for directional differences and asymmetric uncertainties, ensuring a precise and strict evaluation of the discrepancy. We investigate the following combinations of datasets:

- 1. Planck 2018 CMB TTTEEE power spectrum data which is one of the sources of present cosmic tensions. For simplicity, we call this dataset **Planck 2018 CMB**.
- 2. Combination of Primary Planck 2018 TTTEEE+ lensing data with BAO, SNe, and  $H_0$  priors. This combination will help us understand the impact of adding other non-CMB datasets on the proposed model. We represent this combination as **CBSH**.
- 3. To understand the large-scale structure ( $S_8$ ) tension, we also consider the full LSS data including DES-Y1, HSC, and KIDS along with Primary Planck 2018 CMB including lensing power spectra, BAO, and SNe datasets with SHOES prior. We denote this combination as **CBSHDK**.<sup>3</sup>
- Finally, we remove the H<sub>0</sub> while using all other datasets used previously and refer to it as CBSDK.

The rationale for the different combinations is to see the effect of each data set on the inferred parameters, and allow for amelioration of the tension. For example, if CBSH prefers a lower value of  $S_8$ , closer to the WL values, and with significant  $\Delta \chi^2$  improvement, then the tension is ameliorated compared to  $\Lambda$ CDM. The models we consider are the  $\Lambda$ CDM as baseline model, and extensions according to various possible PFDE. ACDM model has the usual 6 free independent parameters: The Baryon  $\Omega_b h^2$ , and Cold Dark Matter  $\Omega_c h^2$ relative energy densities, the Hubble parameter  $H_0$  or the angular scale  $\theta_s$ , the amplitude  $A_s$  and tilt  $n_s$  of the primordial power spectrum, and  $\tau_{reio}$  quantifying optical depth to reionization. The PFDE model offers several extra parameters namely: scale factor  $a_t$  at which dark energy eos switches sign, n the sharpness of transition which in turn affects the adiabatic sound speed  $c_a^2$  as shown in Fig. 4, and finally the effective sound speed of perturbations  $c_s^2$ . The analysis pre-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> When analyzing all LSS experiments with Gaussian prior on  $S_8$  for each data, there exists a possibility of double counting the LSS information and biasing the results as pointed out in [167]. To circumvent this issue, we have performed MCMC analysis using only a single prior on  $S_8$ . These results are tabulated in Appendices A to C. We thank Gen Ye for pointing out this issue.

sented in this paper assumes the models with parameters  $a_t$ , n and different values of  $c_s^2$  as:

- Canonical Emergent Dark Energy: To begin with, we examine the specific case of setting  $c_s^2 = 1$ . These models fall into the category of "Canonical Emergent Dark Energy," which can be realized by employing a canonical scalar field with a suitable potential. By assigning this designation, we distinguish them as a distinct subclass within the broader framework of emergent dark energy models, [168–175].
- Clustering Emergent Dark Energy: Next, we assign a value of  $c_s^2$  to zero. Under this circumstance, perturbations in DE exhibit a non-relativistic behavior and cluster akin to dark matter. Numerous investigations have focused on understanding the evolution of these perturbations and the process of structure formation in the context of clustering dark energy, [176–181].
- Non-Canonical Emergent Dark Energy: Moreover, we extend the parameter  $c_s^2$  to span the range from 0 to 1. This class of models, known as non-canonical emergent dark energy models, arises from nonstandard scalar field models. In these models, the properties of dark energy are described by considering alternative formulations of scalar fields, leading to emergent behavior that deviates from canonical expectations, [182–187].

We sample the posterior distributions of the parameters describing the aforementioned models by using the Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) method. The chains are produced using the cosmological MCMC sampler Cobaya [188] in conjunction with modified publicly available Einstein-Boltzmann code CAMB [189]. The convergence of chains are guaranteed by the Gelman–Rubin parameter [190] with R - 1 < 0.03. We constrain the standard cosmological parameters for all cosmologies with uniform priors – the baryon matter density  $\Omega_b h^2 \in [0.005, 0.1]$ , the cold dark matter density  $\Omega_c h^2 \in [0.001, 0.99]$ , the amplitude of primordial curvature spectrum amplitude  $\ln(10^{10}A_s) \in [1.6, 3.9]$ evaluated at suitable pivot scale,  $k = 0.05 \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$  along with its tilt  $n_s \in [0.8, 1.2]$ , the reionization optical depth  $\tau_{reio} \in [0.01, 0.8]$  and the present value of Hubble parameter  $H_0 \in [20, 100]$ . We use the standard three neutrino description with one massive with mass,  $m_v = 0.06$  eV, and two massless neutrinos. The posterior distributions are in the Supplementary Material. We work with uniform prior for  $a_t$ , nand  $c_s^2$  with prior edges given by [0.01, 0.1], [1, 6] and [0, 1]respectively.

## 4 Results

In the following, we discuss the results obtained using the methods and datasets described in the previous section. This section covers the impact of emergent dark energy cosmologies on  $H_0$  and  $S_8$  tensions. We present 68% CL parameter inferences for  $\Lambda$ CDM in Table 1. We will compare the results of different models to the  $\Lambda$ CDM parameter constraints.

### 4.1 Canonical emergent dark energy cosmology

We begin our exploration by delving into the canonical emergent dark model with  $c_s^2 = 1$ , laying the foundation for our subsequent analysis. In order to deduce the constraints on the model parameters, we employ various combinations of data sets as outlined in Sect. 3. The resulting parameter constraints at 68% confidence level (CL) are presented in Table 2.

Considering Planck 2018 CMB data, we observe a slight increase in the derived value of  $H_0 = 68.27 \pm 0.75$  for the canonical emergent dark energy models, compared to the value of  $H_0 = 67.30 \pm 0.65$  for  $\Lambda$ CDM. This increase is consistent across other combinations of data sets, resulting in a range of  $H_0$  values spanning from 68.3 to 69.03 km/s/Mpc in all the considered analyses. Consequently, the discrepancy known as the Hubble tension diminishes to a range of  $\sim 3\sigma$ confidence level.

Table 1 The mean  $\pm 1\sigma$  constraints on the cosmological parameters inferred from the various datasets for the  $\Lambda$ CDM model

The mean $\pm 1\sigma$ co	The mean $\pm 1\sigma$ constraints for ACDM model							
Parameter	Planck 2018 CMB	CBSH	CBSHDK	CBSDK				
$H_0$	$67.30\pm0.65$	$68.09\substack{+0.63\\-0.41}$	$68.13_{-0.32}^{+0.86}$	$68.16_{-0.32}^{+0.37}$				
$\sigma_8$	$0.8117 \pm 0.0079$	$0.8102 \pm 0.0063$	$0.8055 \pm 0.0058$	$0.8056 \pm 0.0060$				
$S_8$	$0.833 \pm 0.017$	$0.818^{+0.010}_{-0.015}$	$0.8119\substack{+0.0082\\-0.017}$	$0.8114 \pm 0.0094$				
$\Omega_m$	$0.3162 \pm 0.0089$	$0.3056\substack{+0.0051\\-0.0083}$	$0.3048^{+0.0039}_{-0.011}$	$0.3043\substack{+0.0040\\-0.0048}$				
$\#\sigma_{H_0}$	4.68	4.07	3.63	4.42				
$\#\sigma_{S_8}$	2.28	1.89	1.72	1.81				
Total $\chi^2$	2764.17	3854.028	3859.8118	3846.0773				
$\Delta\chi^2$	-	-	-	-				

The mean $\pm 1\sigma$ co	nstraints for canonical emergent da	rk energy model ( $c_s^2 = 1$ )		
Parameter	Planck 2018 CMB	CBSH	CBSHDK	CBSDK
$H_0$	$68.27\pm0.75$	$68.94_{-0.62}^{+0.43}$	$69.03 \pm 0.50$	$68.72\pm0.39$
$\sigma_8$	$0.8112 \pm 0.0087$	$0.8134_{-0.0078}^{+0.0067}$	$0.8078 \pm 0.0066$	$0.8070 \pm 0.0062$
$S_8$	$0.820\pm0.016$	$0.812\pm0.011$	$0.8043 \pm 0.0092$	$0.8081 \pm 0.0087$
$\Omega_m$	$0.3068 \pm 0.0092$	$0.2993^{+0.0067}_{-0.0054}$	$0.2974 \pm 0.0054$	$0.3009 \pm 0.0046$
$10^2 a_t$	$3.400\substack{+0.071\\-0.023}$	$3.50^{+0.11}_{-0.32}$	$3.425^{+0.080}_{-0.26}$	$3.368^{+0.056}_{-0.20}$
$c_s^2$	1	1	1	1
n	> 2.86	> 3.08	> 3.02	> 2.88
$c_{a_0}^2$	$0.23\pm0.46$	$0.28\pm0.41$	$0.27\pm0.43$	$0.24\pm0.44$
$\#\sigma_{H_0}$	3.72	3.64	3.47	3.88
$\#\sigma_{S_8}$	1.92	1.80	1.63	1.73
Total $\chi^2$	2766.1977	3852.5094	3857.234	3846.1532
$\Delta \chi^2$	2.0277	-1.5186	-2.5778	0.0759

**Table 2** The mean  $\pm 1\sigma$  constraints on the cosmological parameters inferred from the various datasets for canonical emergent dark energy model  $(c_s^2 = 1)$  model



Fig. 5 Normalized posterior distributions for  $H_0$  (in km/s/Mpc) and  $S_8$  in left and right panels respectively for different choices of *n* for Canonical Emergent Dark Energy model with  $c_s^2 = 1$ , using Primary Planck 2018 CMB data. We also show the constraints for the  $\Lambda$  CDM model for comparison

Moreover, we find a marginal decrease in the inferred values of  $S_8$  within this framework. For instance, when considering only the Planck data, the inferred value of  $S_8$  is  $0.82 \pm 0.016$ , whereas other data sets yield similar values ranging from 0.804 to 0.82. This decrease in  $S_8$  can be attributed to the reduction in matter energy density, which exhibits a decrease of approximately 1%.

Moving forward, we shift our focus to the inference of the model parameters  $a_t$  and either n or  $c_{a_0}^2$ . In order to derive the functional dependence of  $c_{a_0}^2$  on other parameters, one can simply evaluate the Eq. (8) at z = 0. Our analysis reveals that the 68% CL evidence points to  $10^2 a_t = 3.4^{+0.071}_{-0.023}$ . Additionally, we constrain the adiabatic sound speed of dark energy at

the present time, denoted as  $c_{a_0}^2$ . The analysis indicates positive adiabatic sound speed with  $c_{a_0}^2 = 0.27^{+0.60}_{-0.36}$  at the 68% CL when considering only the Planck data. Furthermore, we establish a lower bound on the parameter *n*, demonstrating that cosmological data favors the canonical emergent dark energy model while excluding the presence of ghost or gradient stability. Our findings indicate n > 2.88, and Fig. 4 confirms that for n > 2, the adiabatic sound speed lies within the range of [0, 1].

We evaluate the goodness-of-fit for various combinations in the canonical emergent dark energy scenario and compare them with  $\Lambda$ CDM. We observe that the fit to the Planck-only data yields a larger value of  $\Delta \chi^2 = 2.0277$ , indicating a less



Fig. 6 2-Dimensional marginalized posterior distributions for model parameters  $a_t$  and  $c_{a_0}^2$  (and hence *n*) with  $H_0$  and  $S_8$  in upper and lower panels for canonical emergent dark energy model. The blue and magenta correspond to Primary Planck 2018 CMB data and All data described in Sect. 3

favorable fit. However, as we combine the Planck data with several other data sets, we witness an improvement reaching approximately  $\Delta \chi^2 = -2.6$  in our analysis.

We also study the impact of different values of n which in turn means that  $c_{a_0}^2$  is fixed. We fixed the values of nspanning from 1 to 6. The resulting constraints for different combination are shown in Appendix A (Tables 5, 6, 7, 8, 9). The normalized 1-dimensional posterior distributions for  $H_0$  in units of km/s/Mpc and  $S_8$  for different values of nin this scenario using the Primary Planck 2018 CMB data in Fig. 5. We notice an increase in the inferred value of  $H_0$ and a decrease in the inferred value of  $S_8$  except for n = 1, which is prone to ghost instability. This trend is present in other data-sets combinations as well.

Finally, we close this subsection by discussing the correlation of model parameters,  $a_t$  and  $c_{a_0}^2$  or n, with  $H_0$  and  $S_8$ considering the various datasets. Upper and lower panels of Fig. 6 show the 2-dimensional contours of  $H_0 - (a_t, c_{a_0}^2)$  and  $S_8 - (a_t, c_{a_0}^2)$  respectively. The blue contours are using only Planck data, while the magenta contours take into account all data. In all cases we considered  $c_s^2 = 1$ . It is evident from the Fig. 6 that in canonical emergent dark energy scenarios  $H_0$  and  $S_8$  are rather insensitive to *n*, and that  $a_t$  is constrained. Comparing to  $\Lambda$ CDM the model infers a higher value for  $H_0$  and a lower one for  $S_8$  (Fig. 5).

## 4.2 Clustering emergent dark energy cosmology

Let us consider the Clustering Emergent Dark Energy case, that corresponds to  $c_s = 0$  on various data sets. The parameter constraints at the 68% confidence level (CL) are presented in Table 3, alongside the best-fit  $\chi^2$  and  $\Delta \chi^2$  compared to  $\Lambda$ CDM.

We observe an increase in the derived values of  $H_0$  and  $S_8$  compared to the Primary Planck 2018 CMB data analysis. Hence, while there is a marginal improvement in the  $H_0$  value, the  $S_8$  value worsens in comparison to the canonical emergent dark energy cosmologies using Primary Planck 2018 CMB data. The 1-D posterior distributions for  $H_0$  and  $S_8$  are shown in Fig. 7. Because DE can cluster in this model, we find an increment in  $\sigma_8 = 0.838^{+0.033}_{-0.0057}$ . This increase in  $\sigma_8$  is solely responsible for the worsening of the  $S_8$  tension.





Fig. 7 Normalized posterior distributions for  $H_0$  (in km/s/Mpc) and  $S_8$  in left and right panels respectively for different choices of *n* for the Clustering Emergent Dark Energy model with  $c_s^2 = 0$  using Primary Planck 2018 CMB data. We also show the constraints for the  $\Lambda$ CDM model for comparison

**Table 3** The mean  $\pm 1\sigma$  constraints on the cosmological parameters inferred from the various datasets for clustering emergent dark energy ( $c_s^2 = 0$ ) model

The mean $\pm 1\sigma$ co	onstraints for clustering emergent da	trk energy ( $c_s^2 = 0$ ) model		
Parameter	Planck 2018 CMB	CBSH	CBSHDK	CBSDK
$H_0$	$68.7^{+1.0}_{-0.78}$	$68.61\substack{+0.67\\-0.41}$	$69.00_{-0.34}^{+0.53}$	$68.96 \pm 0.40$
$\sigma_8$	$0.838^{+0.023}_{-0.0057}$	$0.846^{+0.012}_{-0.0093}$	$0.814_{-0.016}^{+0.014}$	$0.8422\substack{+0.0052\\-0.0070}$
$S_8$	$0.837\substack{+0.030\\-0.011}$	$0.846^{+0.014}_{-0.012}$	$0.808\substack{+0.013\\-0.018}$	$0.8369^{+0.0084}_{-0.096}$
$\Omega_m$	$0.2993^{+0.0093}_{-0.011}$	$0.3001\substack{+0.0049\\-0.0068}$	$0.2958^{+0.0042}_{-0.0057}$	$0.2963^{+0.0044}_{-0.0051}$
$10^2 a_t$	$3.288^{+0.033}_{-0.12}$	$3.255_{-0.092}^{+0.022}$	$3.239^{+0.017}_{-0.077}$	$3.400^{+0.069}_{-0.23}$
$c_s^2$	0	0	0	0
n	< 3.17	< 3.14	$3.67_{-0.12}^{+0.47}$	> 3.07
$c_{a_0}^2$	$-0.14_{-0.50}^{+0.39}$	$-0.16\pm0.30$	$0.225_{+0.039}^{+0.16}$	$0.28^{+0.64}_{-0.32}$
$\#\sigma_{H_0}$	3.00	3.58	3.46	3.66
$\#\sigma_{S_8}$	2.41	2.61	1.61	0.96
Total $\chi^2$	2767.1379	3852.2095	3859.1056	3857.8257
$\Delta \chi^2$	2.9679	-1.8185	-0.7062	+11.74

The model parameters  $10^2 a_t$  and n (or  $c_{a_0}^2$ ) are reported as  $3.288^{+0.033}_{-0.12}$  and  $< 3.17 (-0.14^{+0.38}_{-0.50})$ , respectively.

Next, we examine the consequences of considering other data sets within this scenario. The present values of the Hubble parameter  $H_0$  and the amplitude of matter fluctuations  $S_8$  follow the same trends across different data sets and their combinations. The inferred values of  $H_0$  and  $S_8$  lie within the ranges of [68–69] km/s/Mpc, and [0.808–0.843] respectively, for the other combinations. The predictions of the model, represented by  $a_t$  and n (or the derived parameter  $c_{a_0}^2$ ), reveal a transition redshift  $a_t$  of approximately 0.034.

The possible correlations between additional model parameters and  $H_0$  and  $S_8$  are illustrated in Fig. 8. The 68% constraint for different *n* are shown in Appendix B, Tables 10, 11, 12, 13, 14.

Finally, we conclude the discussion on clustering in emergent dark energy by commenting on the  $\chi^2$  and  $\Delta \chi^2$ . In this scenario, we observe a worse fit to the data compared to our baseline model  $\Lambda$ CDM and the canonical emergent dark energy case. As mentioned earlier, while it is possible to alleviate the Hubble tension in this scenario, the tension related to large-scale structure becomes more pronounced. **Fig. 8** 2-Dimensional marginalized posterior distributions for model parameters  $a_t$  and  $c_{a_0}^2$  (and hence *n*) with  $H_0$  and  $S_8$  in upper and lower panels for clustering emergent dark energy model. These plots show the correlation between model parameters with  $H_0$  and  $S_8$ . The blue and magenta correspond to Primary Planck 2018 CMB data and All data sets described in Sect. 3



**Table 4** The mean  $\pm 1\sigma$  constraints on the cosmological parameters inferred from the various datasets for non-canonical emergent dark energy (open  $c_s^2$ ) model

The mean $\pm 1\sigma$ co	onstraints for non-canonical emerg	gent dark energy (open $c_s^2$ ) m	odel	
Parameter	Planck 2018 CMB	CBSH	CBSHDK	CBSDK
$H_0$	$68.30\substack{+0.84\\-0.72}$	$68.82_{-0.39}^{+0.45}$	$69.00_{-0.32}^{+0.48}$	$68.73 \pm 0.41$
$\sigma_8$	$0.8133 \pm 0.0093$	$0.8147\substack{+0.0066\\-0.0080}$	$0.8092\substack{+0.0059\\-0.0070}$	$0.8086\substack{+0.0060\\-0.0069}$
$S_8$	$0.822\pm0.017$	$0.8155\substack{+0.0091\\-0.011}$	$0.8063^{+0.0079}_{-0.010}$	$0.8098 \pm 0.0093$
$\Omega_m$	$0.3066^{+0.0089}_{-0.010}$	$0.3006^{+0.0045}_{-0.0052}$	$0.2979^{+0.0036}_{-0.0055}$	$0.3009 \pm 0.0046$
$10^2 a_t$	$3.374_{-0.21}^{+0.056}$	$3.423_{-0.25}^{+0.082}$	$3.381^{+0.061}_{-0.21}$	$3.338^{+0.045}_{-0.17}$
$c_s^2$	$0.65_{-0.17}^{+0.26}$	$0.66^{+0.22}_{-0.19}$	$0.68^{+0.26}_{-0.14}$	> 0.597
n	$3.45 \pm 1.45$	$3.8^{+1.8}_{-1.1}$	> 2.95	> 3.06
$c_{a_0}^2$	$0.15\pm0.48$	$0.26\substack{+0.62\\-0.43}$	$0.24\pm0.44$	$0.27\pm0.46$
$\#\sigma_{H_0}$	3.54	3.72	3.52	3.85
$\#\sigma_{S_8}$	1.95	1.89	1.68	1.77
Total $\chi^2$	2765.8647	3851.7445	3856.9329	3846.0359
$\Delta \chi^2$	1.6947	-2.2835	-2.8789	-0.0414

# 4.3 Non-canonical emergent dark energy

Finally, we investigate the implications of non-canonical emergent dark energy by allowing the effective sound speed  $(c_s^2)$  to vary between 0 to 1, along with other model parameters. We present the parameter constraints for this case in Table 4. Similar to previous cases, we find an increase in the value of  $H_0$  and a marginal decrease in  $S_8$ . Ana-



**Fig. 9** 2-Dimensional marginalized posterior distributions for model parameters  $a_t$  and  $c_{a_0}^2$  (and hence n) with  $H_0$  and  $S_8$  in upper and lower panels for non-canonical emergent dark energy model. These plots show

the correlation between model parameters with  $H_0$  and  $S_8$ . The blue and magenta correspond to Primary Planck 2018 CMB data and all data sets described in Sect. 3

Posterior Distributions for  $H_0$  and  $S_8$  for  $c_s^2$  open using Planck Only data **ACDM ACDM** 1.0 1.0 n=1 n=1 n=2n=2n=3 n=3 0.8 0.8 n=4n=4PIP<sub>max</sub> 0. *P/Р<sub>тах</sub>* 0.0 0.4 0.4 0.2 0.2 0.0 0.0 66 70 72 74 0.80 0.85 64 68 0.90  $H_0$  [km/s/Mpc]  $S_8$ 

Fig. 10 Normalized posterior distributions for  $H_0$  (in km/s/Mpc) and  $S_8$  in left and right panels respectively for different choices of *n* for Emergent Dark Energy model keeping  $c_s^2$  open, and using Primary Planck 2018 CMB data. We also show the  $\Lambda$ CDM results for comparison

lyzing the Primary Planck 2018 Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB) data, we infer  $H_0 = 68.30^{+0.51}_{-0.72}$  km/s/Mpc and  $S_8 = 0.822 \pm 0.017$ . The amplitude of matter fluctuations  $\sigma_8$  and matter density  $\Omega_m$  are constrained to be  $0.8133 \pm 0.0093$  and  $0.3066^{+0.0089}_{-0.010}$  respectively. The tension metrics for  $H_0$  and  $S_8$  show an improvement of approximately  $1\sigma$  and  $0.5\sigma$  respectively. Moving to other data sets, the improvement in  $H_0$  and  $S_8$  remains consistent, resulting in  $H_0 \approx 68.8$  km/s/Mpc and  $S_8 \approx 0.81$ .

0.95

In all cases considered, we find the transition scale factor to be approximately  $a_t = 0.034$ , regardless of the data set used. The steepness parameter *n* is constrained to ensure that





**Fig. 11** Left panel: comparison of  $H_0$  and  $S_8$  for the  $\Lambda$ CDM and emergent dark energy with different  $c_s^2$ . The horizontal and vertical axis represent the  $H_0$  in units of km/s/Mpc and  $S_8$  respectively. We denote as  $\Lambda$ CDM as blue,  $c_s^2 = 1$  as red,  $c_s^2 = 0$  as magenta and  $c_s^2$  open as green. The dark and light shaded regions correspond to the 68% and 95% con-

fidence level (CL) respectively. Right panel: comparison of  $\Omega_m$  and  $S_8$  as horizontal and vertical axis respectively with similar color codes. In both plots the local SH0ES and DES measurements are expressed in gray

 $c_a^2$  remains free from gradient/ghost instabilities and subluminal throughout the evolution. Using the Primary Planck 2018 CMB data in combination with Baryon Acoustic Oscillations (BAO), Supernovae (SNe), and for the SH0ES measurement, we find that  $n = 3.8_{-1.1}^{+1.8}$  and, consequently,  $c_{a_0}^2 = 0.26_{-0.43}^{+0.62}$ . The effective sound speed of perturbations,  $c_s^2$ , is determined to be 0.27  $\pm$  0.46 for the same data set. The correlation between the model parameters ( $a_t$ ,  $c_{a_0}^2$ , and  $c_s^2$ ) with  $H_0$  and  $S_8$  is depicted in Fig. 9, demonstrating that  $H_0$  and  $S_8$  are insensitive to the values of n,  $c_{a_0}^2$ , and  $c_s^2$ . Except for Planck 2018 alone, the non-canonical emergent dark energy model provides a better fit to the data, regardless of the data sets considered. The difference in  $\chi^2$  compared to the  $\Lambda$ CDM model ranges from - 0.04 to -2.88.

Next, we explore the impact of different values of *n* in this scenario. Figure 10 displays the 1-dimensional normalized probability distribution for  $H_0$  and  $S_8$  for *n* ranging from 1 to 6, using the Primary Planck 2018 CMB data. For n = 1, the model is disfavored as it yields  $\Delta \chi^2 \in [2, 13]$  and predicts a lower  $H_0$  and slightly higher value of  $S_8$ . As observed in the case of open *n*, for  $n \in [3, 6]$ , we find an improvement in both  $H_0$  and  $S_8$  simultaneously, providing a better fit compared to the  $\Lambda$ CDM model and cases with  $c_s^2 = 1$  or 0. The 68% constraint for different *n* are shown in Appendix C Tables 15, 16, 17, 18, 19.

We compare all three models analyzed in this paper with  $\Lambda$ CDM in Fig. 11. The Primary Planck 2018 CMB constraints for  $\Lambda$ CDM, and Emergent DE model with  $c_s^2 = 1$ ,  $c_s^2 = 0$  and  $c_s^2$  open are denoted as blue, red, magenta, and green respectively. The shaded dark and light regions correspond to the 68% and 95% confidence levels, respectively.

We also compare the results with the latest local SH0ES and DES-Y1 measurements. It is clear from both the left and right panels of Fig. 11 that canonical and non-canonical dark energy models offer a marginal increase in values of  $H_0$  and a marginal decrease in  $S_8$ .

## **5** Conclusions

We have studied the emergent dark energy model by considering the phenomenological fluid approach. This approach offers to probe the arbitrary sound speed of dark energy perturbations. The emergent dark energy behaves like a cosmological constant ( $\Lambda$ ) at late times and asymptotes to a radiation fluid at early times. As such, it incorporates a tracking mechanism and allows for a rather sudden transition in the DE eos. We employed a phenomenological fluid with 2 parameters to mimic this feature. These two parameters are the scale factor, at which the equation of state of the phenomenological fluid crosses 0,  $a_t$ , and the steepness parameter n. In addition to these parameters, we also have an arbitrary sound speed of dark energy perturbations  $c_s^2$  taking values within the range of 0 to 1. In this paper, we considered the three different case of  $c_s^2 = 1$ ,  $c_s^2 = 0$  and  $c_s^2$  open which we assigned them as canonical, clustering, and non-canonical emergent dark energy models. The consideration of each case is capable of explaining the current accelerated expansion of the Universe, and avoids the coincidence problem due to the inherent tracking mechanism. We showed the impact of  $a_t$  and n on the evolution of the background and perturbations. The background behavior is illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2. We found that there exists a threshold value of  $a_t$  in order to get an era of matter domination, as required for structure formation. The adiabatic sound speed  $c_a^2$  which depends both on  $a_t$  and n is shown in Fig. 4. It is worth mentioning that  $c_a^2$  has strong dependence on n. The left panel of Fig. 4 clearly shows that for  $n \ge 3$ ,  $c_a^2$  lies with in range of [0, 1] further constraining the parameter space. Hence,  $n \ge 3$  is preferred on theoretical grounds.

We then analyzed the parameter constraints using the different cosmic data-sets. The aim of the exercise was to check the ability of alleviating the cosmological tensions ( $H_0$  and  $S_8$ ) in the emergent dark energy scenario. We considered the various data-sets to assess the impact of model in reducing the cosmic tensions. We noticed an overall improvement of both tensions for all models considered. Out of all the models considered in our analysis, we found that keeping  $c_s^2$  open i.e. non-canonical emergent dark energy provides the best improvement with respect to ACDM. The canonical model also reduces both cosmic tensions while clustering (non-relativistic) model reduces the Hubble constant tension and worsens the LSS tension. During our analysis, we chose a wide prior on  $n \in [1, 6]$ , being agnostic about the fact that  $n \leq 3$  makes the evolution problematic and let the data decide to constrain the value of n. Interestingly, we found that most of the data-sets constrain the value of *n* respecting the theoretical arguments and prefer n > 3.

The reduction in the Hubble and LSS tension is rather mild and not very significant statistically. This is probably a reflection of the fact that  $H_0$  and  $S_8$  seem rather insensitive to  $a_t$  and n. The main difference in the current analysis compared to the emergent unparticles DE model (UDE) [149] is that here the adiabatic speed of sound  $c_a^2$  and the effective sound speed  $c_s^2$  were different, while in the UDE they were equal. Given that in the UDE we got a much more significant reduction of the tensions in a statistically significant way, highlights the important role the adiabatic and effective sound speeds play in inferring the cosmological parameters. Given the insensitivity to n it seems that fixing n and  $c_s^2$ and leaving only  $a_t$  as a free parameter can be competitive with the wCDM model, and can be constrained significantly with current and future data. The most intriguing result in our opinion is the fact that the transition redshift is highly limited with 29 < 1 + z < 30. As a result one can think of ways to try and detect such a transition.

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## Appendices

In the following appendices Appendices A to C, we provide the parameter constraints for different dark energy models. These models are special cases of canonical, clustering and non-canonical dark energy models for fixed values of n. We consider the same combination of data-sets as mentioned in Sect. 3. The various tables summarize the parameter constraints at 1  $\sigma$  CL for different values of n from 1 to 6.

#### Appendix A. Canonical emergent dark energy

See Table 5.

**Table 5** The mean  $\pm 1\sigma$  (best-fit) constraints on the cosmological parameters inferred from the *Planck* 2018 CMB data (including TTEETE) for Canonical Emergent DE scenario with different values of *n* varying from 1 to 6

The mean $\pm 1\sigma$	The mean $\pm 1\sigma$ constraints from Planck 2018 CMB for $c_s^2 = 1$ for different <i>n</i>							
Parameter	n = 1	n = 2	n = 3	n = 4	n = 6			
$H_0$	$66.15\pm0.68$	$68.18 \pm 0.87$	$68.42^{+0.68}_{-0.83}$	$68.35\pm0.75$	$68.39_{-0.79}^{+0.68}$			
$\sigma_8$	$0.7973^{+0.0073}_{-0.0084}$	$0.8122\substack{+0.0081\\-0.0097}$	$0.8115 \pm 0.0096$	$0.8120 \pm 0.0094$	$0.8128\substack{+0.0074\\-0.0090}$			
$S_8$	$0.832\pm0.017$	$0.823\pm0.021$	$0.819 \pm 0.018$	$0.820\pm0.018$	$0.821 \pm 0.017$			
$\Omega_m$	$0.3270 \pm 0.0095$	$0.308\pm0.011$	$0.3055 \pm 0.0098$	$0.3063 \pm 0.0094$	$0.3059 \pm 0.0094$			
$10^2 a_t$	$3.470_{-0.31}^{+0.075}$	$3.429^{+0.056}_{-0.27}$	$3.421_{-0.26}^{+0.057}$	$3.390^{+0.068}_{-0.23}$	$3.417_{-0.25}^{+0.051}$			
Total $\chi^2$	2766.0376	2765.8973	2765.8248	2766.1938	2765.7482			
$\Delta \chi^2$	1.8676	1.7273	1.6548	2.0238	1.5782			

### A.1. Planck + Lensing + BAO + SN + $H_0$

See Table 6

A.3. Planck + Lensing + BAO + SN +  $H_0$  + DES-Y1 + HSC + KIDS

See Table 8.

A.2. Planck + Lensing + BAO + SN +  $H_0$  + DES-Y1

See Table 7.

**Table 6** The mean  $\pm 1\sigma$  (best-fit) constraints on the cosmological parameters inferred from the *Planck* 2018 CMB data (including TTEETE + lensing), BAO, SNe and SH0ES data for Canonical Emergent DE scenario for different values of *n* 

The mean $\pm 1\sigma$	The mean $\pm 1\sigma$ constraints from Planck 2018 + Lensing + BAO + SN + $H_0$							
Parameter	n = 1	n = 2	n = 3	n = 4	n = 6			
$H_0$	$67.33_{-0.51}^{+0.67}$	$68.88\substack{+0.62\\-0.89}$	$68.85_{-0.59}^{+0.48}$	$68.96\substack{+0.49\\-0.80}$	$68.90\substack{+0.50\\-0.60}$			
$\sigma_8$	$0.7985\substack{+0.0065\\-0.0081}$	$0.8139\substack{+0.0065\\-0.0088}$	$0.8141\substack{+0.0062\\-0.0082}$	$0.8141\substack{+0.0063\\-0.0086}$	$0.8137\substack{+0.0060\\-0.0081}$			
$S_8$	$0.812\substack{+0.011\\-0.015}$	$0.814\pm0.016$	$0.8149^{+0.0096}_{-0.012}$	$0.813\pm0.014$	$0.814\substack{+0.010\\-0.011}$			
$\Omega_m$	$0.3105\substack{+0.0062\\-0.0092}$	$0.3000^{+0.0091}_{-0.0081}$	$0.3006 \pm 0.0082$	$0.2995\substack{+0.0084\\-0.0065}$	$0.3000 \pm 0.0075$			
$10^2 a_t$	$3.58^{+0.10}_{-0.41}$	$3.54_{-0.37}^{+0.11}$	$3.500^{+0.089}_{-0.32}$	$3.514_{-0.35}^{+0.091}$	$3.496^{+0.090}_{-0.32}$			
Total $\chi^2$	3869.1753	3852.9131	3851.876	3852.3776	3852.1676			
$\Delta \chi^2$	15.5434	- 1.0037	- 1.2103	- 0.9626	- 1.2265			

**Table 7** The mean  $\pm 1\sigma$  (best-fit) constraints on the cosmological parameters inferred from the *Planck* 2018 CMB data (including TTEETE + lensing), BAO, SNe, SH0ES and DES-Y1 data for Canonical Emergent DE scenario for different values of *n* 

Constraints from Planck 2018 + Lensing + BAO + SN + $H_0$ + DES for Canonical Emergent DE						
Parameter	n = 1	n = 2	n = 3	n = 4	n = 6	n open
$H_0$	$67.59 \pm 0.64$	$68.75_{-0.41}^{+0.51}$	$68.82\substack{+0.45\\-0.40}$	$69.01\substack{+0.44\\-0.56}$	$68.99_{-0.51}^{+0.45}$	$68.93_{-0.41}^{+0.53}$
$\sigma_8$	$0.7972\substack{+0.0064\\-0.0081}$	$0.8110\substack{+0.0062\\-0.0074}$	$0.8117\substack{+0.0059\\-0.0073}$	$0.8126\substack{+0.0061\\-0.0079}$	$0.8123\substack{+0.0063\\-0.0075}$	$0.8107\substack{+0.0065\\-0.0075}$
$S_8$	$0.8063^{+0.0095}_{-0.012}$	$0.8121\substack{+0.0082\\-0.012}$	$0.8123^{+0.0087}_{-0.011}$	$0.810\pm0.011$	$0.810\pm0.011$	$0.8092\substack{+0.0089\\-0.010}$
$\Omega_m$	$0.3070 \pm 0.0081$	$0.3009\substack{+0.0046\\-0.0063}$	$0.3005\substack{+0.0043\\-0.0057}$	$0.2984^{+0.0061}_{-0.0053}$	$0.2986 \pm 0.0066$	$0.2990\substack{+0.0046\\-0.0062}$
$10^2 a_t$	$3.58^{+0.11}_{-0.41}$	$3.456^{+0.096}_{-0.28}$	$3.441^{+0.096}_{-0.27}$	$3.47_{-0.29}^{+0.10}$	$3.47_{-0.30}^{+0.10}$	$3.462^{+0.094}_{-0.29}$
n	1	2	3	4	6	> 3.05
Total $\chi^2$	3869.5714	3853.0243	3852.8177	3853.0654	3852.8015	3854.1713
$\Delta\chi^2$	13.843	- 2.7041	-2.9107	- 2.663	- 2.9269	- 1.55

**Table 8** The mean  $\pm 1\sigma$  constraints on the cosmological parameters inferred from the *Planck* 2018 CMB data (including TTEETE + lensing), BAO, SNe, SH0ES, DES-Y1 and weak-lensing data for Canonical Emergent DE scenario for different values of *n* 

Constraints from Planck 2018 + Lensing + BAO + SN + $H_0$ + DES + HSC + KIDS for Canonical Emergent DE								
Parameter	n = 1	n = 2	n = 3	n = 4	n = 6			
$H_0$	$67.61_{-0.40}^{+0.46}$	$69.01\pm0.68$	$69.16_{-0.57}^{+0.42}$	$69.16_{-0.44}^{+0.39}$	$68.99_{-0.44}^{+0.49}$			
$\sigma_8$	$0.7933\substack{+0.0055\\-0.0074}$	$0.8076\substack{+0.0055\\-0.0069}$	$0.8088^{+0.0055}_{-0.0080}$	$0.8077^{+0.0058}_{-0.0069}$	$0.8083 \pm 0.0071$			
$S_8$	$0.8016\substack{+0.0082\\-0.011}$	$0.8041\substack{+0.0088\\-0.0099}$	$0.804\pm0.011$	$0.803\pm0.010$	$0.8057^{+0.0079}_{-0.0097}$			
$\Omega_m$	$0.3064\substack{+0.0046\\-0.0064}$	$0.2975^{+0.0049}_{-0.0057}$	$0.2965 \pm 0.0078$	$0.2962 \pm 0.0049$	$0.2981\substack{+0.0044\\-0.0057}$			
$10^2 a_t$	$3.529^{+0.089}_{-0.36}$	$3.434_{-0.26}^{+0.077}$	$3.474_{-0.30}^{+0.057}$	$3.441_{-0.27}^{+0.091}$	$3.405_{-0.23}^{+0.077}$			
Total $\chi^2$	3873.4982	3857.2683	3857.9786	3856.8311	3857.0445			
$\Delta \chi^2$	13.6864	- 2.5435	- 1.8332	-2.9807	- 2.7673			

A.4. Planck + Lensing + BAO + SN + DES-Y1 + HSC + KIDS

# See Table 9.

# Appendix B. Clustering emergent dark energy

B.1. Planck TTTEEE only

See Table 10.

B.2. Planck + Lensing + BAO + SN +  $H_0$ 

See Table 11.

**Table 9** The mean  $\pm 1\sigma$  constraints on the cosmological parameters inferred from the *Planck* 2018 CMB data (including TTEETE + lensing), BAO, SNe, DES-Y1 and weak-lensing data for Canonical Emergent DE scenario for different values of *n* 

Constraints fro	Constraints from Planck 2018 + Lensing + BAO + SN + DES + KIDS + HSC for Canonical Emergent DE							
Parameter	n = 1	n = 2	n = 3	n = 4	n = 6			
$H_0$	$67.23_{-0.32}^{+0.41}$	$68.63_{-0.33}^{+0.37}$	$68.76_{-0.39}^{+0.33}$	$68.74 \pm 0.40$	$68.77\pm0.39$			
$\sigma_8$	$0.7921 \pm 0.0078$	$0.8058 \pm 0.0069$	$0.8078 \pm 0.0075$	$0.8075_{-0.0062}^{+0.0054}$	$0.8074^{+0.0056}_{-0.0064}$			
$S_8$	$0.8068^{+0.0079}_{-0.010}$	$0.8080^{+0.0084}_{-0.0097}$	$0.8087 \pm 0.0094$	$0.8086 \pm 0.0094$	$0.8080 \pm 0.0085$			
$\Omega_m$	$0.3112^{+0.0040}_{-0.0059}$	$0.3017\substack{+0.0036\\-0.0049}$	$0.3006^{+0.0045}_{-0.0038}$	$0.3008 \pm 0.0049$	$0.3004 \pm 0.0045$			
$10^2 a_t$	$3.473_{-0.31}^{+0.076}$	$3.379_{-0.21}^{+0.058}$	$3.383^{+0.060}_{-0.22}$	$3.36_{-0.20}^{+0.12}$	$3.358^{+0.052}_{-0.19}$			
Total $\chi^2$	3853.8996	3846.3778	3846.0869	3845.8107	3846.0881			
$\Delta \chi^2$	7.8223	0.3005	0.0096	- 0.2666	0.0108			

**Table 10** The mean  $\pm 1\sigma$  constraints on the cosmological parameters inferred from the *Planck* 2018 CMB data (including TTEETE) for Clustering Emergent DE scenario for different values of *n* 

Constraints from	Constraints from Planck 2018 CMB for Clustering Emergent Dark Energy						
Parameter	n = 1	n = 2	n = 3	n = 4	n = 6		
$H_0$	$66.63\pm0.65$	$68.62\pm0.93$	$68.90_{-0.73}^{+0.82}$	$69.02\substack{+0.84\\-0.74}$	$68.89\substack{+0.90\\-0.72}$		
$\sigma_8$	$0.8371\substack{+0.0080\\-0.012}$	$0.8633^{+0.0092}_{-0.012}$	$0.8638\substack{+0.0089\\-0.012}$	$0.8649^{+0.0080}_{-0.013}$	$0.8632\substack{+0.0086\\-0.012}$		
$S_8$	$0.863\substack{+0.016\\-0.019}$	$0.864^{+0.018}_{-0.022}$	$0.861\substack{+0.016\\-0.020}$	$0.859^{+0.017}_{-0.019}$	$0.860\substack{+0.016\\-0.019}$		
$\Omega_m$	$0.3189^{+0.0086}_{-0.0099}$	$0.3009\substack{+0.0095\\-0.012}$	$0.2979^{+0.0087}_{-0.011}$	$0.2964^{+0.0090}_{-0.011}$	$0.2980^{+0.0087}_{-0.012}$		
$10^2 a_t$	$3.335_{-0.17}^{+0.051}$	$3.274_{-0.11}^{+0.029}$	$3.289^{+0.052}_{-0.13}$	$3.283_{-0.12}^{+0.032}$	$3.268^{+0.039}_{-0.10}$		
Total $\chi^2$	2764.9465	2766.3194	2766.6314	2766.6984	2766.6043		
$\Delta\chi^2$	0.7765	2.1494	2.4614	2.5284	2.4343		

**Table 11** The mean  $\pm 1\sigma$  constraints on the cosmological parameters inferred from the *Planck* 2018 CMB data (including TTEETE + lensing), BAO, SNe and SH0ES for Clustering Emergent DE scenario for different values of *n* 

Constraints from Planck 2018 + Lensing + BAO + SN + $H_0$ for clustering emergent dark energy								
Parameter	n = 1	n = 2	n = 3	n = 4	n = 6			
$H_0$	$67.34_{-0.29}^{+0.69}$	$68.51_{-0.38}^{+0.70}$	$68.76_{-0.46}^{+0.63}$	$68.74_{-0.43}^{+0.71}$	$68.65^{+0.41}_{-0.35}$			
$\sigma_8$	$0.8365^{+0.0063}_{-0.012}$	$0.8551\substack{+0.0059\\-0.0091}$	$0.8540^{+0.0048}_{-0.011}$	$0.8145\substack{+0.0068\\-0.010}$	$.8581\substack{+0.0061\\-0.0076}$			
$S_8$	$0.8487^{+0.0093}_{-0.019}$	$0.8578^{+0.0087}_{-0.016}$	$0.8531^{+0.0083}_{-0.017}$	$0.814\substack{+0.011\\-0.017}$	$0.8591\substack{+0.0089\\-0.010}$			
$\Omega_m$	$0.3088^{+0.0039}_{-0.0095}$	$0.3020\substack{+0.0045\\-0.0090}$	$0.2995\substack{+0.0055\\-0.0079}$	$0.2999^{+0.0049}_{-0.0089}$	$0.3007^{+0.0046}_{-0.0057}$			
$10^2 a_t$	$3.375_{-0.21}^{+0.049}$	$3.257_{-0.094}^{+0.015}$	$3.275_{-0.11}^{+0.014}$	$3.284_{-0.12}^{+0.031}$	$3.244_{-0.080}^{+0.022}$			
Total $\chi^2$	3860.9091	3853.7403	3852.5179	3855.1856	3857.67			
$\Delta \chi^2$	6.8811	-0.2877	- 1.5101	1.1576	3.642			

B.3. Planck + Lensing + BAO + SN +  $H_0$  + DES-Y1

See Table 12.

B.4. Planck + Lensing + BAO + SN +  $H_0$  + DES-Y1 + HSC + KIDS

See Table 13.

B.5. Planck + Lensing + BAO + SN + DES-Y1 + HSC + KIDS

See Table 14.

**Table 12** The mean  $\pm 1\sigma$  constraints on the cosmological parameters inferred from the *Planck* 2018 CMB data (including TTEETE + lensing), BAO, SNe, SH0ES and DES-Y1 for Clustering Emergent DE scenario for different values of *n* 

Constraints fr	Constraints from Planck 2018 + Lensing + BAO + SN + $H_0$ + DES								
Parameter	n = 1	n = 2	n = 3	n = 4	n = 6	n open			
$H_0$	$67.61^{+0.60}_{-0.29}$	$69.00 \pm 0.51$	$68.88^{+0.48}_{-0.36}$	$68.96^{+0.43}_{-0.27}$	$69.04_{-0.42}^{+0.52}$	$68.93_{-0.30}^{+0.50}$			
$\sigma_8$	$0.8286^{+0.0061}_{-0.0088}$	$0.8505\substack{+0.0057\\-0.0083}$	$0.8463\substack{+0.0058\\-0.0072}$	$0.8527 \pm 0.0075$	$0.8534_{-0.0075}^{+0.0048}$	$0.830\substack{+0.019\\-0.014}$			
$S_8$	$0.8355\substack{+0.0082\\-0.014}$	$0.844\pm0.023$	$0.8429\substack{+0.0078\\-0.011}$	$0.8478^{+0.0072}_{-0.011}$	$0.8471\substack{+0.0087\\-0.011}$	$0.825\pm0.027$			
$\Omega_m$	$0.3051\substack{+0.0035\\-0.0082}$	$0.2956 \pm 0.0060$	$0.2976_{-0.0061}^{+0.0043}$	$0.2966^{+0.0030}_{-0.0056}$	$0.2957^{+0.0049}_{-0.0066}$	$0.2967^{+0.0037}_{-0.0058}$			
$10^2 a_t$	$3.301\substack{+0.035\\-0.14}$	$3.228^{+0.011}_{-0.065}$	$3.220^{+0.011}_{-0.058}$	$3.218^{+0.012}_{-0.056}$	$3.221_{-0.060}^{+0.011}$	$3.244_{-0.081}^{+0.020}$			
n	1	2	3	4	6	$3.35_{-0.011}^{+0.78}$			
Total $\chi^2$	3865.0585	3860.6482	3859.5398	3861.9733	3863.1704	3855.541			
$\Delta \chi^2$	9.3301	4.9198	3.8114	6.2449	7.442	0.1874			

**Table 13** The mean  $\pm 1\sigma$  constraints on the cosmological parameters inferred from the *Planck* 2018 CMB data (including TTEETE + lensing), BAO, SNe, SH0ES, DES-Y1 and weak-lensing data for Clustering Emergent DE scenario for different values of *n* 

Constraints from Planck 2018 + Lensing + BAO + SN + $H_0$ + DES + KIDS + HSC						
Parameter	n = 1	n = 2	n = 3	n = 4	n = 6	
$H_0$	$67.61_{-0.43}^{+0.65}$	$68.99\substack{+0.56\\-0.27}$	$68.98\substack{+0.66\\-0.38}$	$69.07_{-0.39}^{+0.43}$	$69.41_{-0.56}^{+0.38}$	
$\sigma_8$	$0.8242^{+0.0052}_{-0.0083}$	$0.844\pm0.019$	$0.8418 \pm 0.0088$	$0.8092\substack{+0.0056\\-0.0083}$	$0.8496^{+0.0054}_{-0.0071}$	
$S_8$	$0.8307\substack{+0.0086\\-0.015}$	$0.8376^{+0.0070}_{-0.011}$	$0.8364^{+0.0087}_{-0.012}$	$0.8030\substack{+0.0084\\-0.011}$	$0.837\pm0.033$	
$\Omega_m$	$0.3049\substack{+0.0053\\-0.0089}$	$0.2956\substack{+0.0031\\-0.0070}$	$0.2962\substack{+0.0045\\-0.0080}$	$0.2954\substack{+0.0045\\-0.0054}$	$0.2909^{+0.0067}_{-0.0046}$	
$10^2 a_t$	$3.260^{+0.018}_{-0.098}$	$3.210_{-0.049}^{+0.011}$	$3.2105_{-0.049}^{+0.0096}$	$3.254_{-0.091}^{+0.017}$	$3.2151\substack{+0.0054\\-0.053}$	
Total $\chi^2$	3871.3678	3869.4694	3867.4459	3859.2281	3871.5003	
$\Delta\chi^2$	11.556	9.6576	7.6341	- 0.5837	11.6885	

Constraints from Planck 2018 + Lensing + BAO + SN + $H_0$ + DES						
Parameter	n = 1	n = 2	n = 3	n = 4	n = 6	
$H_0$	$67.51_{-0.33}^{+0.41}$	$68.87_{-0.31}^{+0.44}$	$68.97 \pm 0.44$	$68.82\pm0.37$	$68.90^{+0.46}_{-0.37}$	
$\sigma_8$	$0.8234^{+0.0059}_{-0.0068}$	$0.8455\substack{+0.0057\\-0.010}$	$0.8422\substack{+0.0052\\-0.0070}$	$0.8081\substack{+0.0060\\-0.0077}$	$0.8482 \pm 0.0090$	
$S_8$	$0.8317\substack{+0.0074\\-0.010}$	$0.8413\substack{+0.0058\\-0.013}$	$0.8369\substack{+0.0084\\-0.0096}$	$0.8059\substack{+0.0080\\-0.0098}$	$0.8443^{+0.0074}_{-0.011}$	
$\Omega_m$	$0.3061\substack{+0.0041\\-0.0057}$	$0.2970^{+0.0038}_{-0.0058}$	$0.2963^{+0.0044}_{-0.0051}$	$0.2984\substack{+0.0040\\-0.0048}$	$0.2973^{+0.0043}_{-0.0059}$	
$10^2 a_t$	$3.253\substack{+0.021\\-0.091}$	$3.2117_{-0.049}^{+0.0082}$	$3.2071\substack{+0.0099\\-0.046}$	$3.241\substack{+0.030\\-0.078}$	$3.2060\substack{+0.0072\\-0.044}$	
Total $\chi^2$	3854.213	3859.4984	3857.8257	3848.0467	3861.4739	
$\Delta\chi^2$	8.1357	13.4211	11.7484	1.9694	15.3966	

**Table 14** The mean  $\pm 1\sigma$  constraints on the cosmological parameters inferred from the *Planck* 2018 CMB data (including TTEETE + lensing), BAO, SNe, DES-Y1 and weak-lensing data for and Clustering Emergent DE scenario for different values of *n* 

# Appendix C. Non canonical emergent dark energy

C.1. Planck TTTEEE only

See Table 15.

See Table 16.

C.3. Planck + Lensing + BAO + SN +  $H_0$  + DES-Y1

C.2. Planck 2018 + Lensing + BAO + SN + $H_0$ 

See Table 17.

**Table 15** The mean  $\pm 1\sigma$  constraints on the cosmological parameters inferred from the *Planck* 2018 CMB data (including TTEETE ) data for and Non-canonical Emergent DE scenario for different values of *n* 

Constraints from Planck 2018						
Parameter	n = 1	n = 2	n = 3	n = 4	n = 6	
$H_0$	$66.18 \pm 0.62$	$68.30 \pm 0.70$	$68.47_{-0.74}^{+0.66}$	$68.48 \pm 0.74$	$68.47\pm0.77$	
$\sigma_8$	$0.7997\substack{+0.0077\\-0.0090}$	$0.8132\substack{+0.0078\\-0.0091}$	$0.8147^{+0.0075}_{-0.0098}$	$0.8146^{+0.0077}_{-0.0097}$	$0.8143\substack{+0.0079\\-0.0092}$	
$S_8$	$0.835\pm0.017$	$0.822\pm0.017$	$0.821\pm0.017$	$0.821\pm0.017$	$0.821 \pm 0.017$	
$\Omega_m$	$0.3268 \pm 0.0091$	$0.3067 \pm 0.0089$	$0.3050 \pm 0.0091$	$0.3050 \pm 0.0092$	$0.3051 \pm 0.0094$	
$10^2 a_t$	$3.414_{-0.25}^{+0.066}$	$3.375_{-0.21}^{+0.056}$	$3.372_{-0.21}^{+0.053}$	$3.372_{-0.21}^{+0.058}$	$3.372_{-0.21}^{+0.054}$	
$c_s^2$	$0.64^{+0.29}_{-0.16}$	$0.66^{+0.27}_{-0.16}$	$0.65\pm0.21$	$0.65^{+0.28}_{-0.16}$	$0.66^{+0.28}_{-0.15}$	
Total $\chi^2$	2765.6229	2766.0841	2765.7061	2765.8519	2765.4524	
$\Delta \chi^2$	1.4529	1.9141	1.5361	1.6819	1.2824	

**Table 16** The mean  $\pm 1\sigma$  constraints on the cosmological parameters inferred from the *Planck* 2018 CMB data (including TTEETE + lensing), BAO, SNe, SH0ES data for Non-canonical Emergent DE scenario for different values of *n* 

Constraints from Planck 2018 + Lensing + BAO + SN + $H_0$						
Parameter	n = 1	n = 2	<i>n</i> = 3	n = 4	<i>n</i> = 6	
$H_0$	$67.52\pm0.36$	$68.72_{-0.33}^{+0.55}$	$68.83_{-0.50}^{+0.44}$	$68.79 \pm 0.39$	$68.89 \pm 0.53'$	
$\sigma_8$	$0.8014\substack{+0.0069\\-0.0088}$	$0.8154\substack{+0.0067\\-0.0086}$	$0.8150\substack{+0.0065\\-0.0078}$	$0.8247^{+0.0064}_{-0.0076}$	$0.8155^{+0.0064}_{-0.0080}$	
$S_8$	$0.8121\substack{+0.0096\\-0.011}$	$0.8174^{+0.0086}_{-0.014}$	$0.816\pm0.011$	$0.826\pm0.013$	$0.8156\substack{+0.0089\\-0.011}$	
$\Omega_m$	$0.3081 \pm 0.0048$	$0.3015\substack{+0.0038\\-0.0067}$	$0.3007 \pm 0.0058$	$0.3010 \pm 0.0045$	$0.3001^{+0.0044}_{-0.0055}$	
$10^2 a_t$	$3.502^{+0.097}_{-0.34}$	$3.408^{+0.080}_{-0.24}$	$3.417_{-0.25}^{+0.077}$	$3.405_{-0.23}^{+0.083}$	$3.425_{-0.26}^{+0.081}$	
$c_s^2$	< 0.665	$0.61^{+0.28}_{-0.20}$	$0.66^{+0.23}_{-0.19}$	$0.61^{+0.19}_{-0.25}$	$0.65_{-0.17}^{+0.27}$	
Total $\chi^2$	3860.7531	3852.0743	3851.7264	3851.8387	3851.6283	
$\Delta \chi^2$	6.7251	- 1.9537	-2.3016	-2.1893	-2.3997	

C.4. Planck + Lensing + BAO + SN +  $H_0$  + DES-Y1 + HSC + KIDS

See Table 18.

C.5. Planck + Lensing + BAO + SN + DES-Y1 + HSC + KIDS

See Table 19.

**Table 17** The mean  $\pm 1\sigma$  constraints on the cosmological parameters inferred from the *Planck* 2018 CMB data (including TTEETE + lensing), BAO, SNe, SH0ES and DES-Y1 data for Non-canonical Emergent DE scenario for different values of *n* 

Constraints from Planck 2018 + Lensing + BAO + SN + $H_0$ + DES							
Parameter	n = 1	n = 2	n = 3	n = 4	n = 6	<i>n</i> open	
$H_0$	$67.65_{-0.43}^{+0.29}$	$68.94_{-0.48}^{+0.37}$	$68.93_{-0.36}^{+0.44}$	$69.14_{-0.56}^{+0.41}$	$69.02_{-0.46}^{+0.38}$	$68.96 \pm 0.40$	
$\sigma_8$	$0.7994\substack{+0.0061\\-0.0096}$	$0.8125\substack{+0.0063\\-0.0082}$	$0.8129\substack{+0.0063\\-0.0085}$	$0.8126\substack{+0.0061\\-0.0077}$	$0.8134\substack{+0.0065\\-0.0079}$	$0.8125\substack{+0.0059\\-0.0079}$	
$S_8$	$0.8078\substack{+0.0098\\-0.011}$	$0.811 \pm 0.011$	$0.8119\substack{+0.0098\\-0.011}$	$0.8086\substack{+0.0089\\-0.010}$	$0.8112\substack{+0.0087\\-0.011}$	$0.8108\substack{+0.0084\\-0.010}$	
$\Omega_m$	$0.3064\substack{+0.0051\\-0.0041}$	$0.2988^{+0.0052}_{-0.0046}$	$0.2992\substack{+0.0042\\-0.0052}$	$0.2971\substack{+0.0059\\-0.0052}$	$0.2984 \pm 0.0056$	$0.2988 \pm 0.0046$	
$10^{2} a_{t}$	$3.510^{+0.088}_{-0.35}$	$3.415_{-0.25}^{+0.064}$	$3.392^{+0.074}_{-0.23}$	$3.447^{+0.092}_{-0.27}$	$3.407^{+0.070}_{-0.24}$	$3.400^{+0.069}_{-0.23}$	
$c_s^2$	$0.58\pm0.23$	$0.65_{-0.14}^{+0.30}$	$0.65^{+0.28}_{-0.16}$	$0.69^{+0.20}_{-0.18}$	$0.64_{-0.14}^{+0.32}$	$0.66^{+0.27}_{-0.15}$	
n	1	2	3	4	6	> 3.07	
Total $\chi^2$	3868.9616	3853.8864	3853.4742	3853.0872	3853.4632	3852.9647	
$\Delta\chi^2$	13.2332	- 1.842	- 2.2542	- 2.6412	- 2.2652	- 2.7637	

**Table 18** The mean  $\pm 1\sigma$  constraints on the cosmological parameters inferred from the *Planck* 2018 CMB data (including TTEETE + lensing), BAO, SNe, SH0ES, DES-Y1 and weak-lensing data for Non-canonical Emergent DE scenario for different values of *n* 

Constraints from Planck 2018 + Lensing + BAO + SN + $H_0$ + DES + KIDS + HSC							
Parameter	n = 1	n = 2	n = 3	n = 4	n = 6		
$H_0$	$67.66_{-0.36}^{+0.48}$	$69.03 \pm 0.70$	$69.20_{-0.54}^{+0.42}$	$69.12_{-0.47}^{+0.40}$	$69.24_{-0.48}^{+0.27}$		
$\sigma_8$	$0.7957\substack{+0.0058\\-0.0081}$	$0.8099^{+0.0049}_{-0.0085}$	$0.8126\substack{+0.0045\\-0.011}$	$0.8102\substack{+0.0053\\-0.0082}$	$0.8103\substack{+0.0055\\-0.0083}$		
$S_8$	$0.8037\substack{+0.0076\\-0.012}$	$0.8068\substack{+0.0081\\-0.010}$	$0.8074\substack{+0.0072\\-0.013}$	$0.8060\substack{+0.0080\\-0.011}$	$0.804 \pm 0.010$		
$\Omega_m$	$0.3061\substack{+0.0043\\-0.0062}$	$0.2977 \pm 0.0074$	$0.2962 \pm 0.0060$	$0.2969 \pm 0.0063$	$0.2957\substack{+0.0053\\-0.0035}$		
$10^2 a_t$	$3.486^{+0.071}_{-0.32}$	$3.422_{-0.25}^{+0.066}$	$3.454_{-0.29}^{+0.072}$	$3.407_{-0.24}^{+0.052}$	$3.424_{-0.26}^{+0.053}$		
$c_s^2$	$0.59^{+0.20}_{-0.23}$	$0.69^{+0.23}_{-0.15}$	> 0.592	$0.681\substack{+0.31 \\ -0.089}$	$0.69^{+0.29}_{-0.10}$		
Total $\chi^2$	3872.2972	3857.2175	3857.2294	3856.8636	3856.7384		
$\Delta \chi^2$	12.4852	- 2.5943	-2.5824	-2.9482	- 3.0734		

**Table 19** The mean  $\pm 1\sigma$  constraints on the cosmological parameters inferred from the *Planck* 2018 CMB data (including TTEETE + lensing), BAO, SNe, DES-Y1 and weak-lensing data for Non-canonical Emergent DE scenario for different values of *n* 

Constraints from Planck 2018 + Lensing + BAO + SN + DES + KIDS + HSC							
Parameter	n = 1	n = 2	n = 3	n = 4	n = 6		
$H_0$	$67.35\pm0.33$	$68.69 \pm 0.39$	$68.77\pm0.38$	$68.81\substack{+0.34\\-0.40}$	$68.79\pm0.40$		
$\sigma_8$	$0.7947^{+0.0055}_{-0.0071}$	$0.8083\substack{+0.0054\\-0.0066}$	$0.8091\substack{+0.0058\\-0.0070}$		$0.8091\substack{+0.0054\\-0.0068}$		
$S_8$	$0.8076\substack{+0.0082\\-0.0093}$	$0.8100\substack{+0.0080\\-0.0090}$	$0.8100\substack{+0.0079\\-0.0094}$	$0.8111\substack{+0.0082\\-0.011}$	$0.8098\substack{+0.0082\\-0.0093}$		
$\Omega_m$	$0.3099 \pm 0.0044$	$0.3013 \pm 0.0046$	$0.3007 \pm 0.0045$	$0.3004 \pm 0.0047$	$0.3006 \pm 0.0047$		
$10^2 a_t$	$3.419_{-0.25}^{+0.068}$	$3.357_{-0.19}^{+0.057}$	$3.342^{+0.065}_{-0.18}$	$3.350^{+0.047}_{-0.18}$	$3.333_{-0.17}^{+0.043}$		
$c_s^2$	$0.62^{+0.20}_{-0.23}$	> 0.585	$0.68^{+0.25}_{-0.14}$	> 0.582	> 0.595		
Total $\chi^2$	3853.5801	3845.4901	3845.5449	3845.2508	3845.3574		
$\Delta\chi^2$	7.5028	-0.5872	- 0.5324	-0.8265	- 0.7199		

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