



# Digging in the Large Scale Structure of the Universe

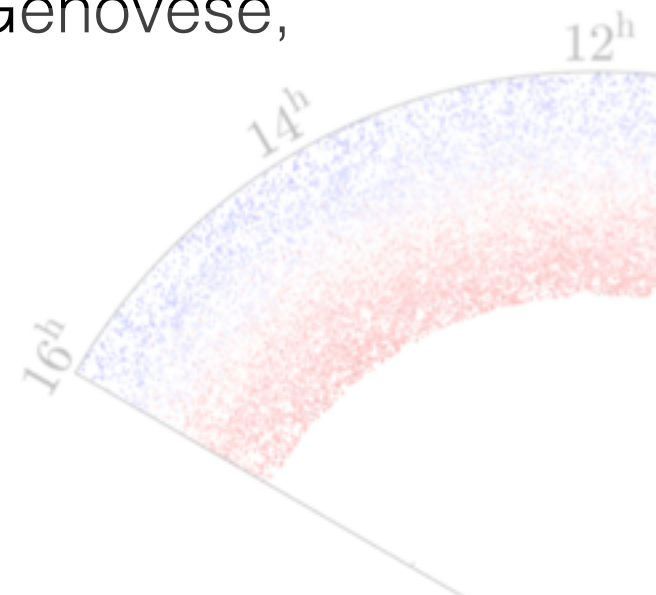
**Shirley Ho**

Carnegie Mellon University

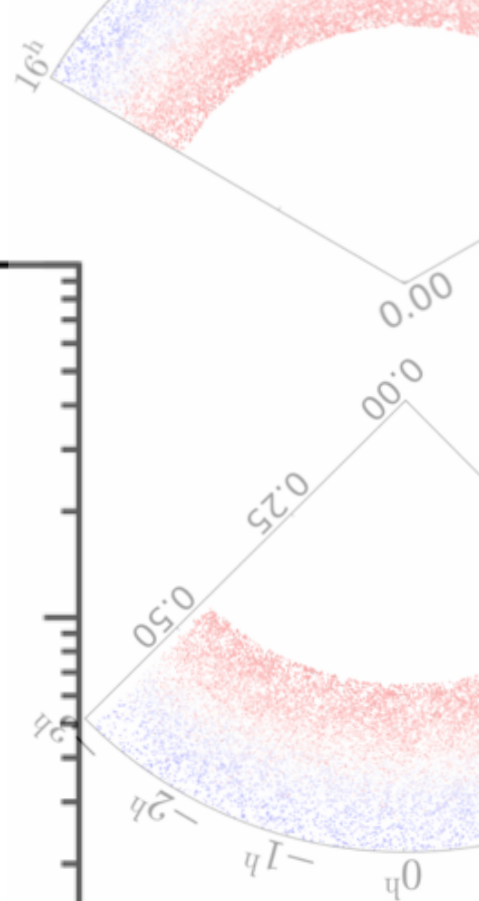
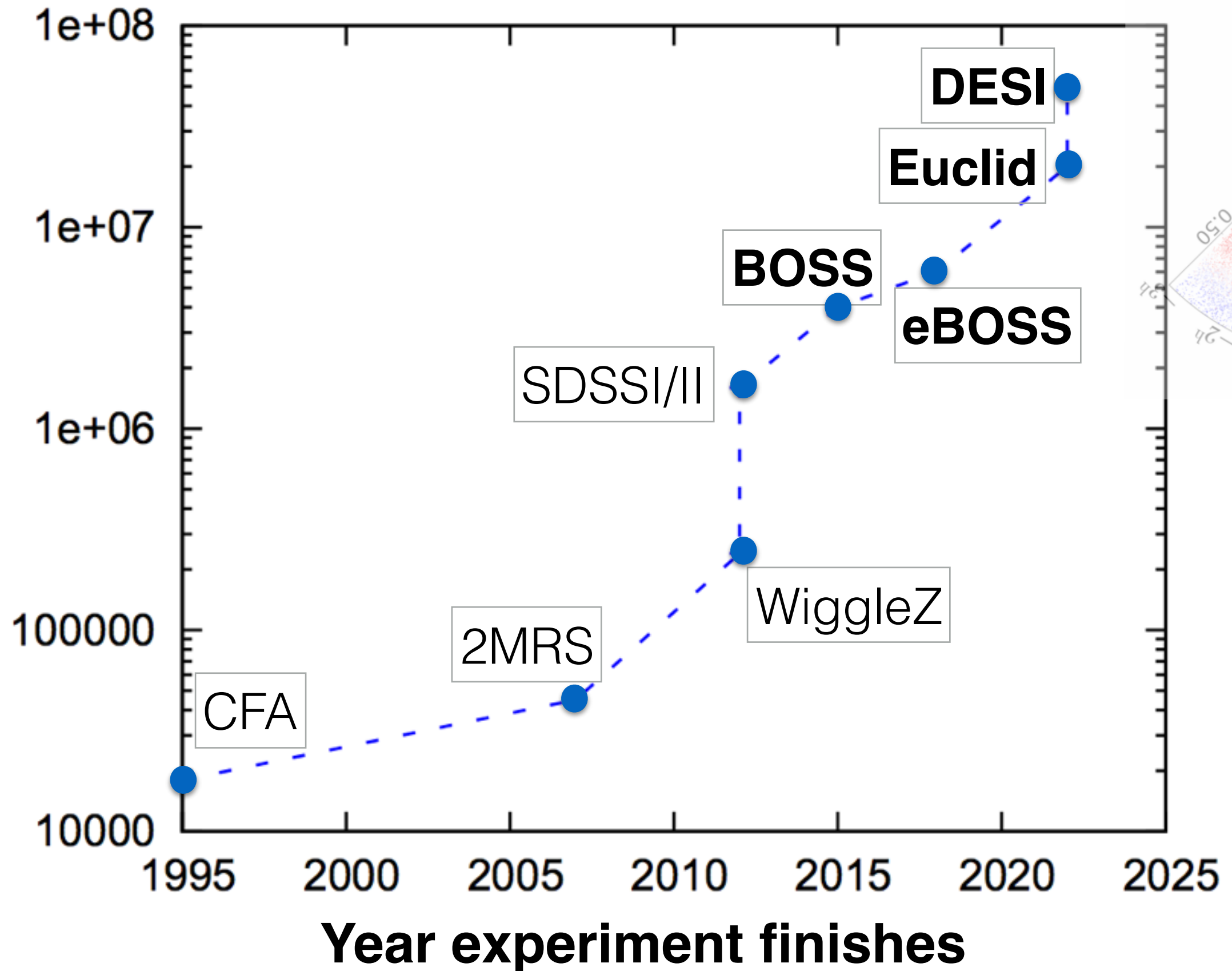
+Shadab Alam, Anthony Pullen, Siyu He, Mariana Vargas, Yen-Chi Chen, Simeon Bird, Roman Garnett, Siamak Ravanbakhsh, Layne Price, Francois Lanusse, Jeff Schneider, Chris Genovese, Rachel Mandelbaum, Barnabas Pocz, Larry Wasserman

**+ SDSS3-BOSS Collaboration**

**Madrid Cosmology Meeting, 2016**



# Number of spectra





# Large Scale Structure

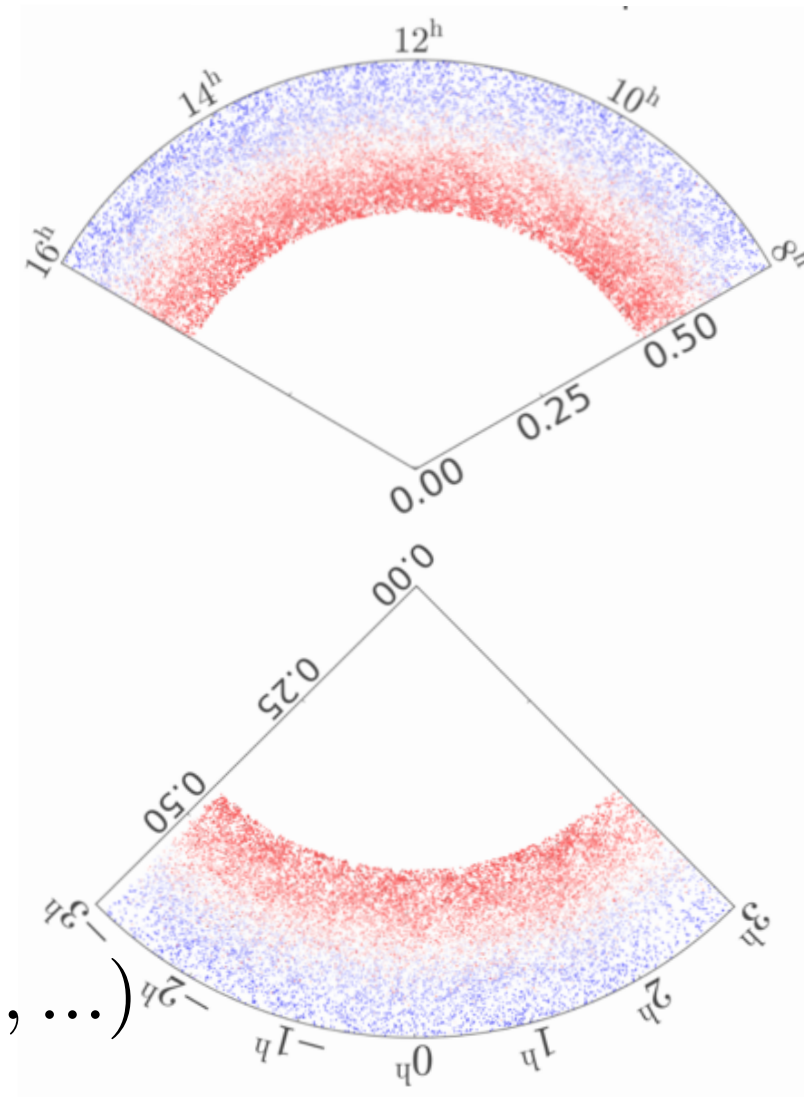
- The contents and properties of our Universe affects the phase space distribution of the density field.

$$(x, y, z, v_x, v_y, v_z) = f(w_0, w_a, \Omega_m(z), H(z), \sum m_\nu, G, \dots)$$

$$w = \frac{p}{\rho} \quad \text{equation of state of dark energy}$$

$$w(a) = w_0 + w_a(1 - a) \quad \text{time-dependent equation of state}$$

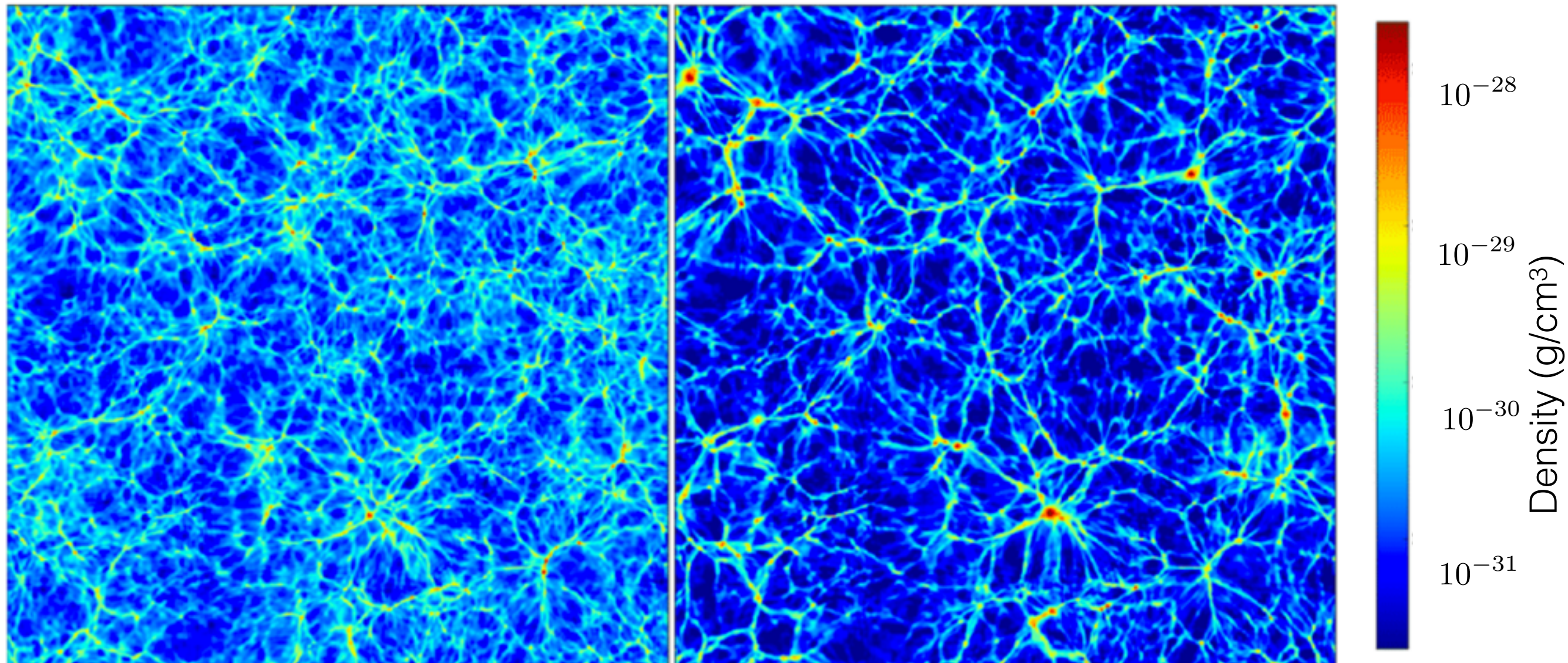
$$\sum m_\nu \quad \text{is sum of neutrino masses}$$



Eisenstein & Hu 1997; Eisenstein, Seo & White 2007; Kaiser 1987; Peacock 2001



# How sum of neutrino masses affect the density field



$$\sum m_\nu = 0 \text{ eV}$$

$$\sum m_\nu = 1 \text{ eV}$$

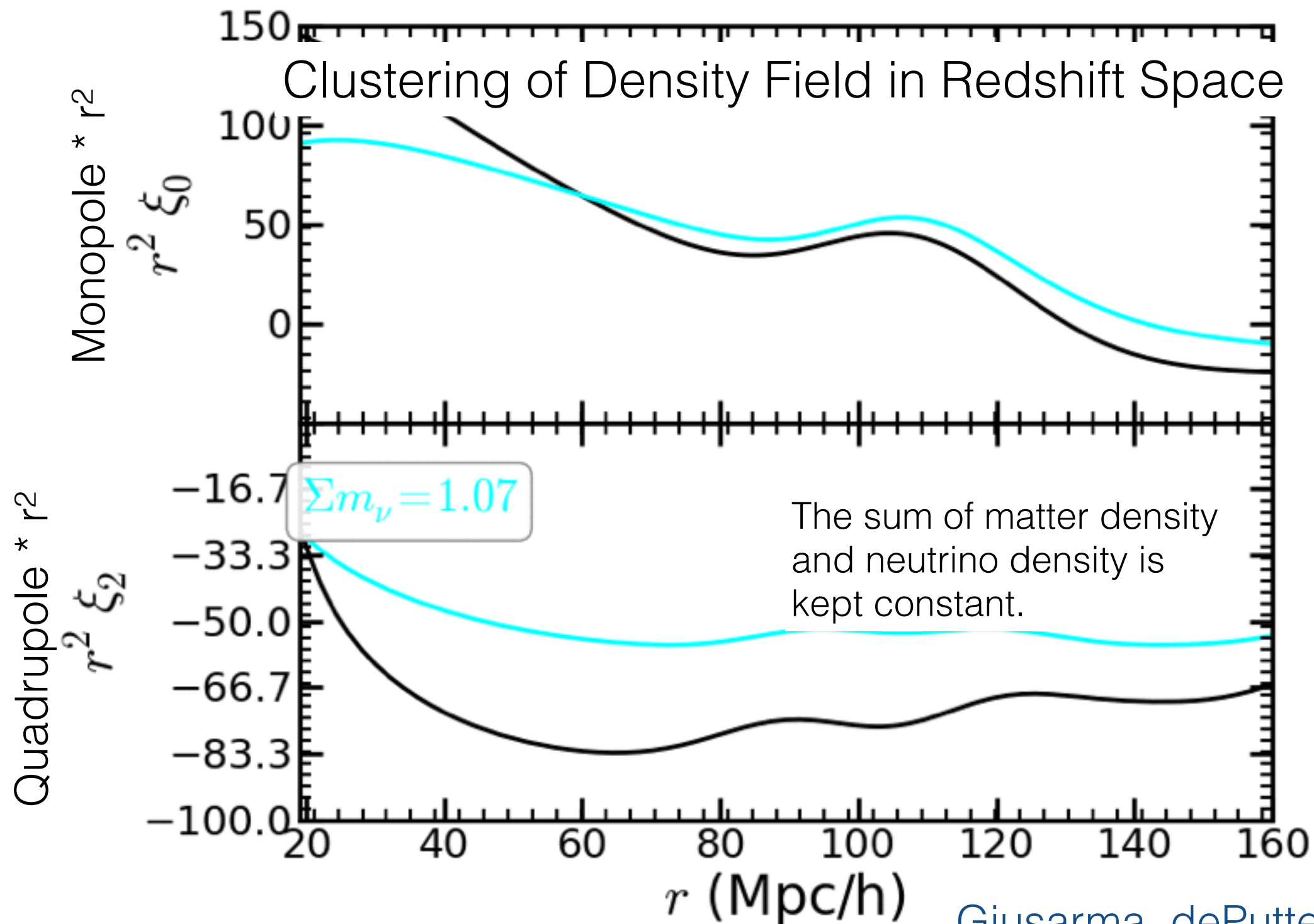
Figure Credit: Agarwal & Feldman

# What do we do with all these interesting datasets?

- Standard analyses: 2 point correlation functions / clustering / stacking
- Going beyond standard analyses
- Going beyond 3D information that these large scale structure surveys provide.

# Standard Analyses:

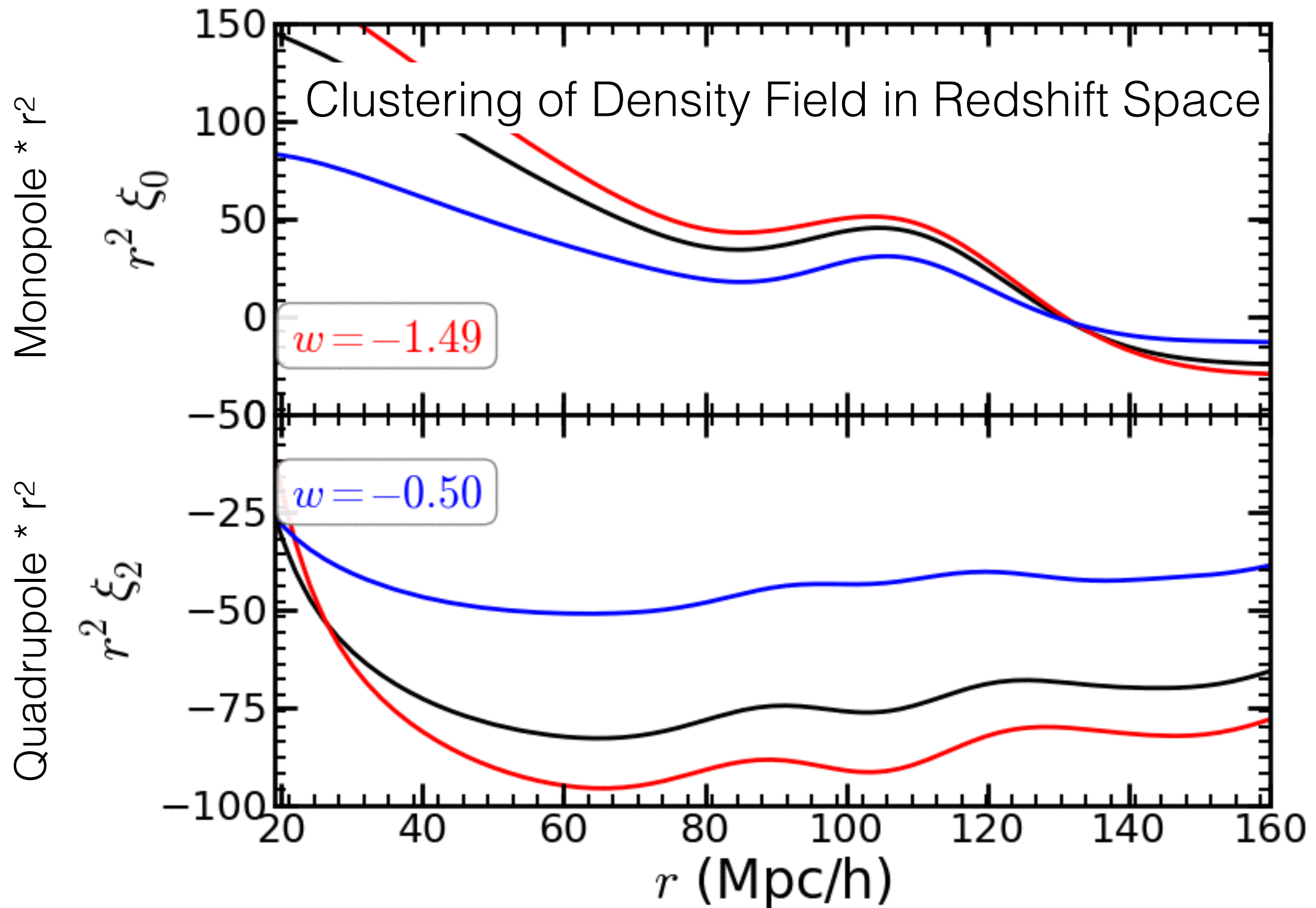
Sum of neutrino masses affect the clustering of density field



Giusarma, dePutter, **Ho** et al. 2013



Standard Analyses:  
Dark Energy equation of state  
affects the clustering of density field

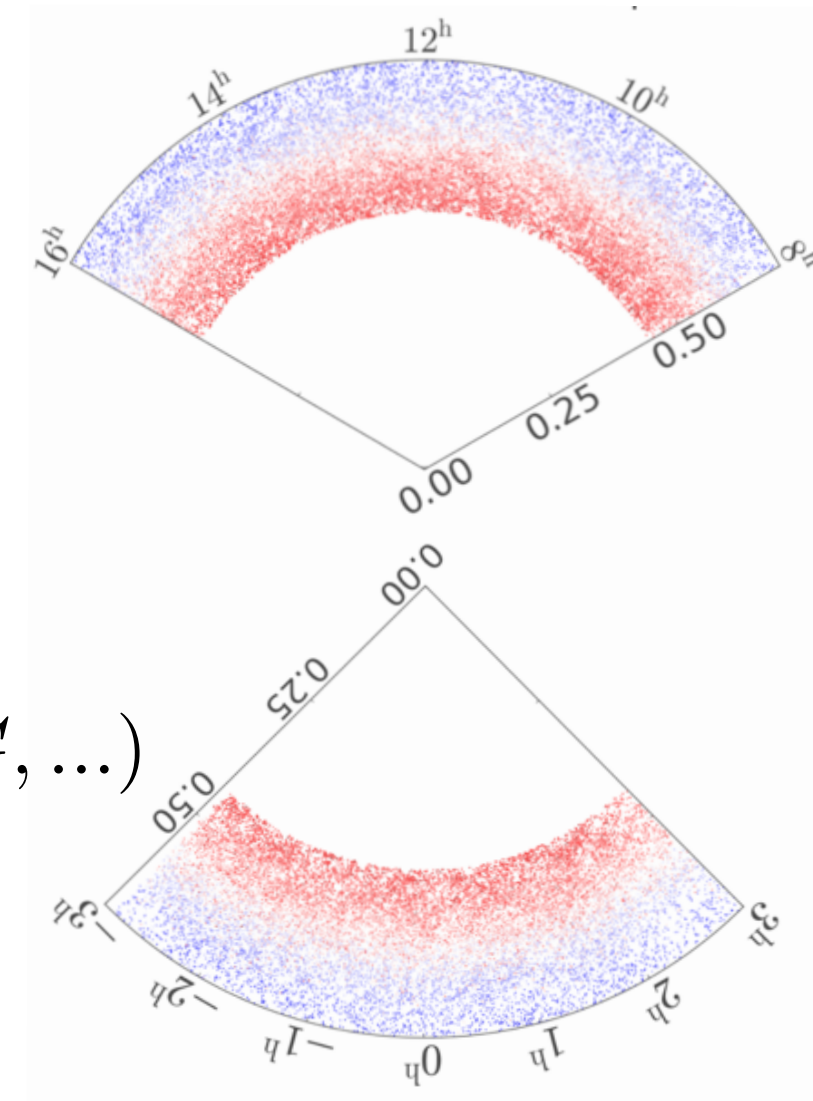


# Large Scale Structure

- The contents and properties of our Universe affects the phase space distribution of the density field.

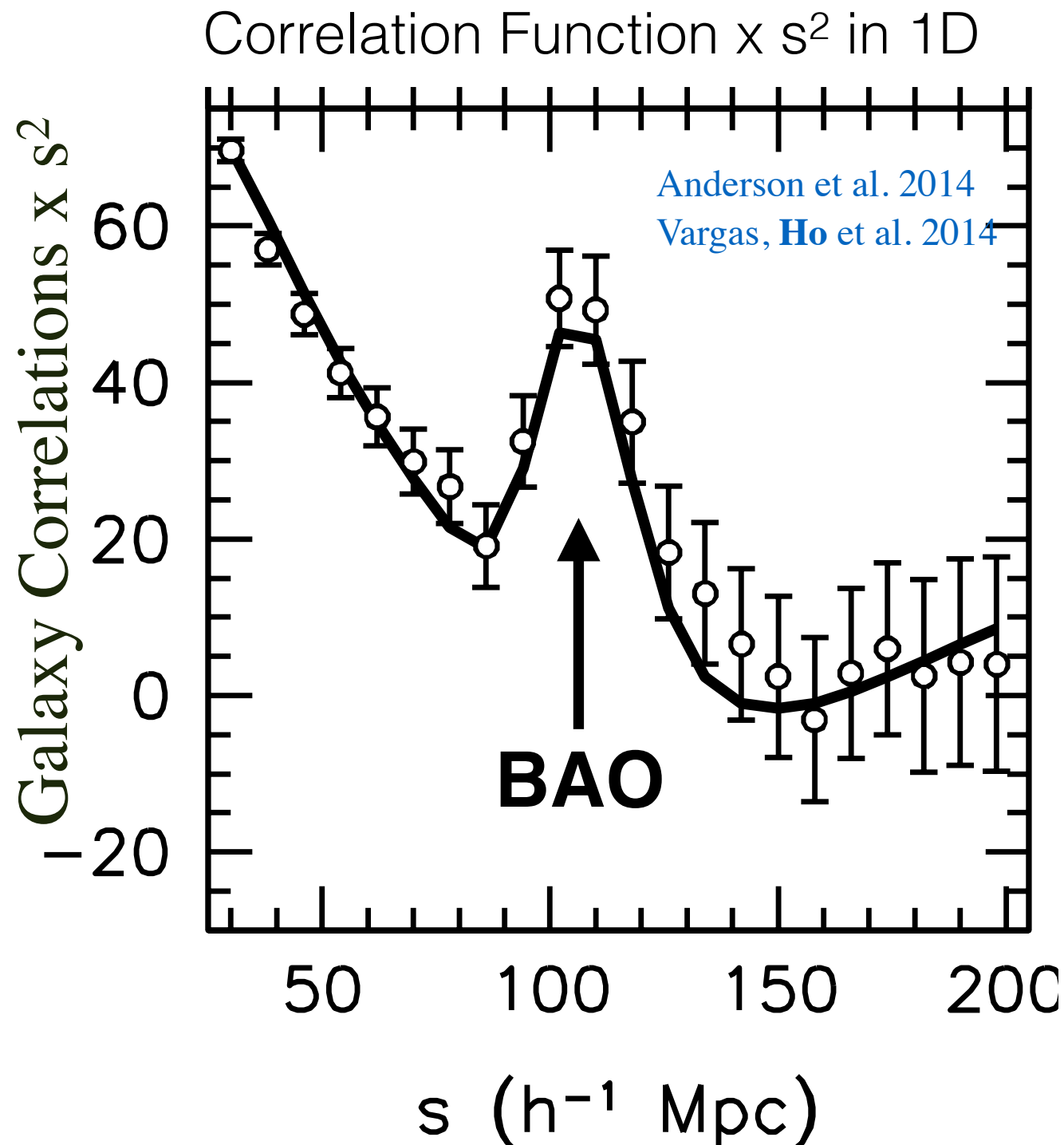
$$(x, y, z, v_x, v_y, v_z) = f(w_0, w_a, \Omega_m(z), H(z), \sum m_\nu, G, \dots)$$

- The probe that focuses on  $(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z})$  is **Baryon Acoustic Oscillations (BAO)**.
- The probe that focuses on  $(\mathbf{v}_x, \mathbf{v}_y, \mathbf{v}_z)$  is
- **Redshift Space Distortions (RSD)**.



Eisenstein & Hu 1997; Eisenstein, Seo & White 2007; Kaiser 1987; Peacock 2001

# Standard analyses



- Lots of good science are being done with standard 2 point correlation function/ power-spectrum analyses!
- **Baryon Acoustic Oscillations**

# Baryon Acoustic Oscillations in Radiation and Matter

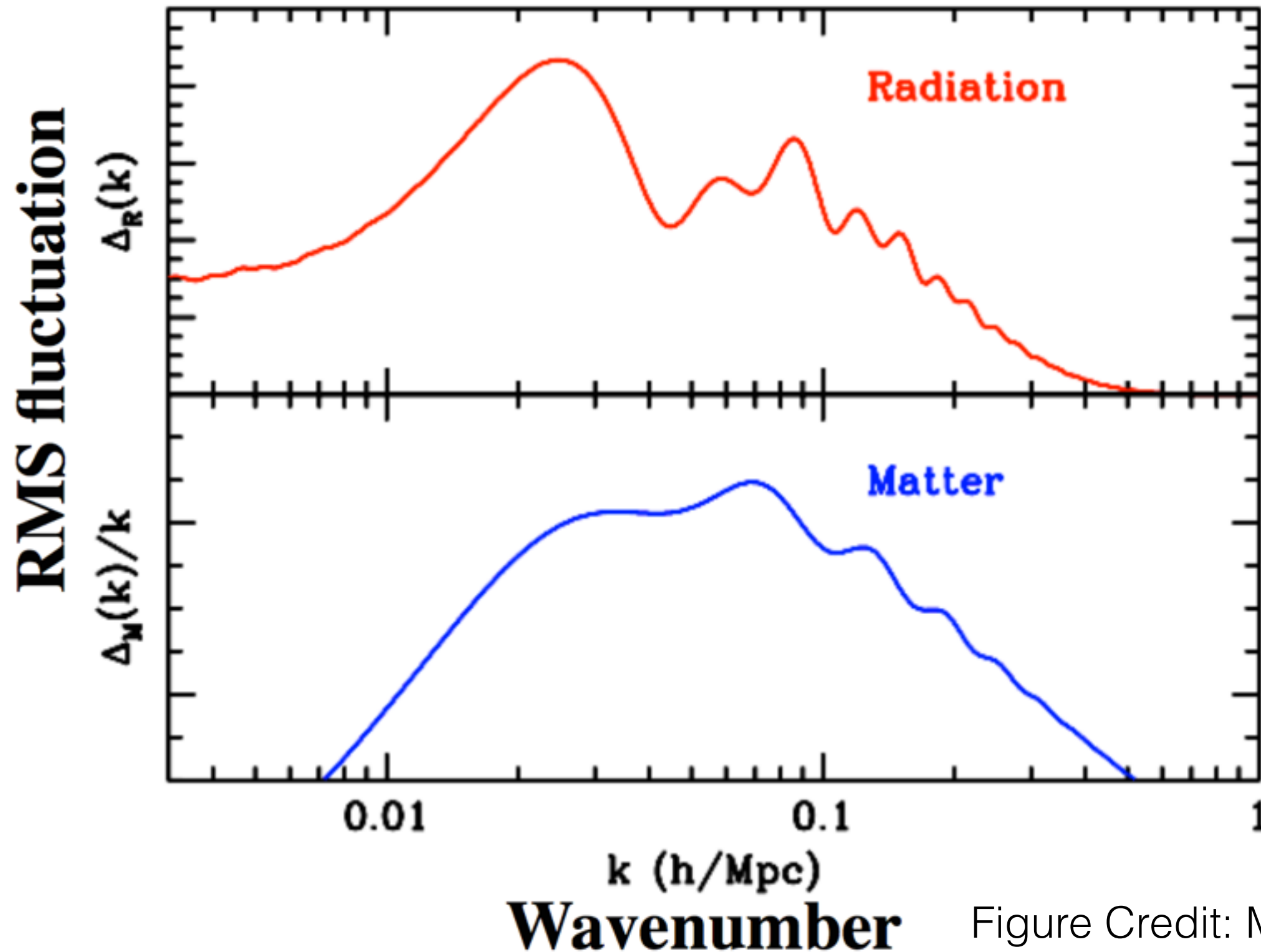


Figure Credit: Martin White

# Multiple Clean Probes

## Baryon Acoustic Oscillations in Large Scale Structure

- Each initial overdensity has excess pressure, leading to an outward-going sound wave.
- At recombination, these sound waves halt, depositing their gas in a spherical shell 500 million light-years (110 Mpc/h) from the original location.
- An overdensity at one location implies a small increase in the density 110 Mpc/h away.
- Small Statistical signal. We need sky surveys of large volume and high number density in order to detect it.

Animation credit:  
Daniel Eisenstein

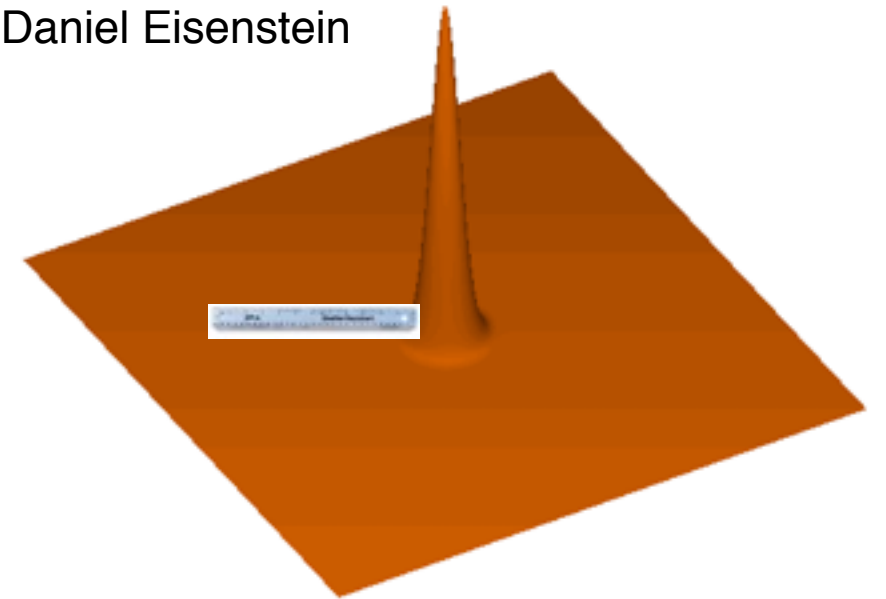
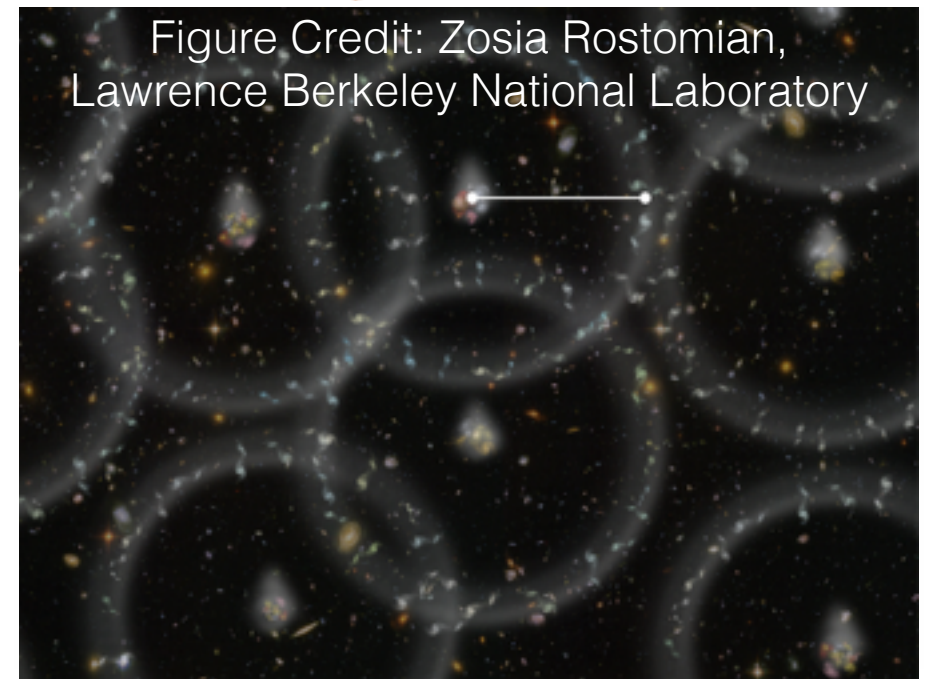


Figure Credit: Zosia Rostomian,  
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory



Eisenstein & Hu 1997; Eisenstein, Seo & White 2007

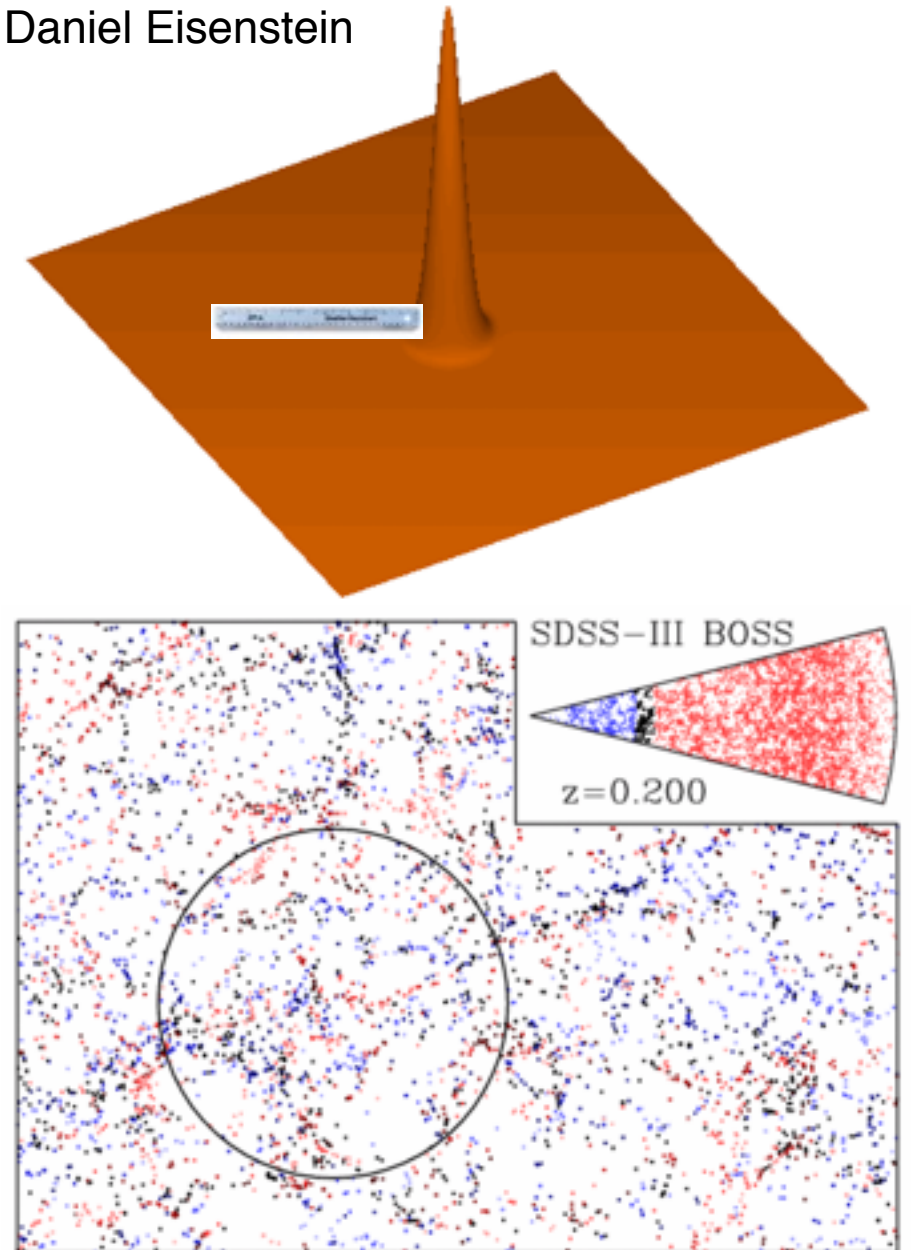


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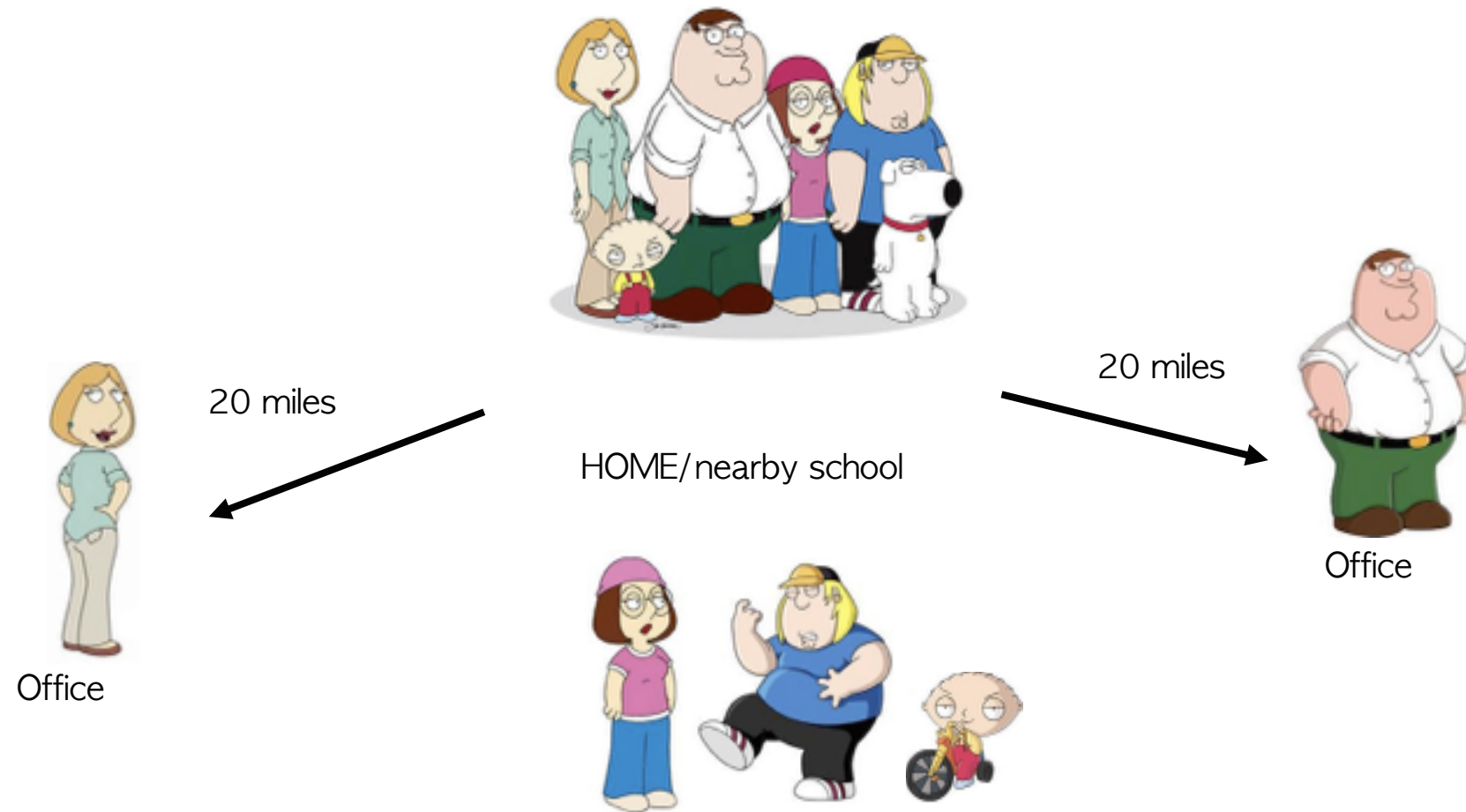
Eisenstein & Hu 1997; Eisenstein, Seo & White 2007

# What are Baryon Acoustic Oscillations?

To measure BAO, we usually calculate the correlation function

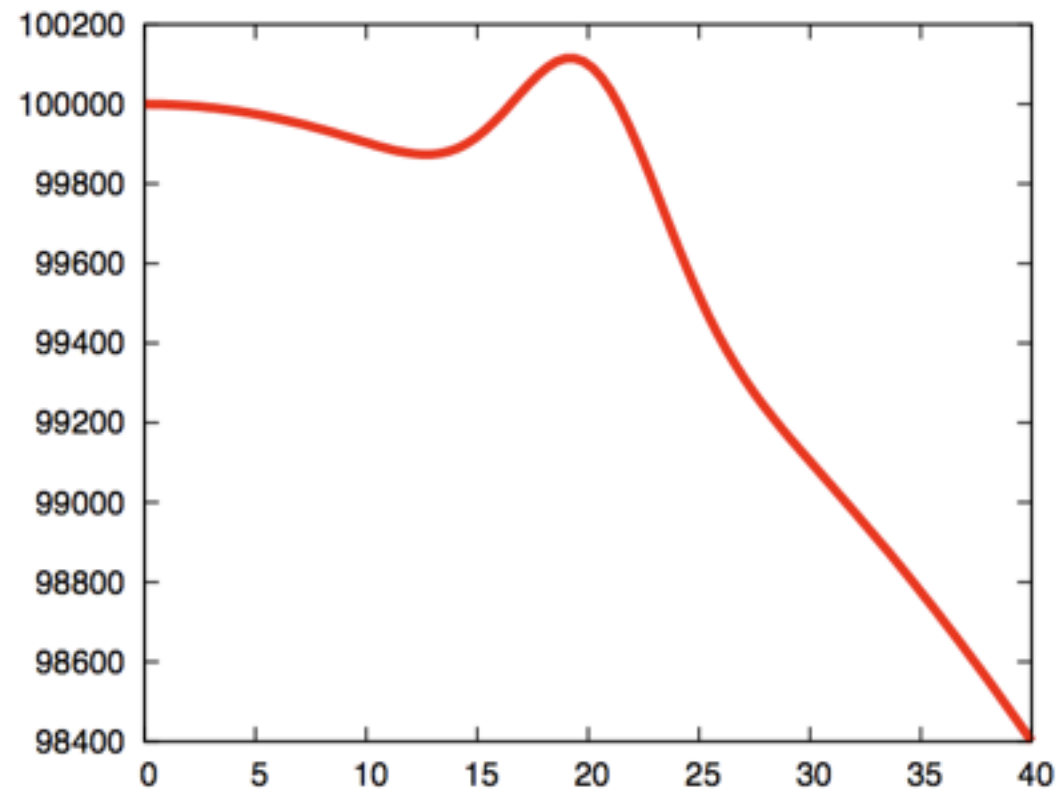
# What are Baryon Acoustic Oscillations?

What is the correlation function of population during the day?



# What are Baryon Acoustic Oscillations?

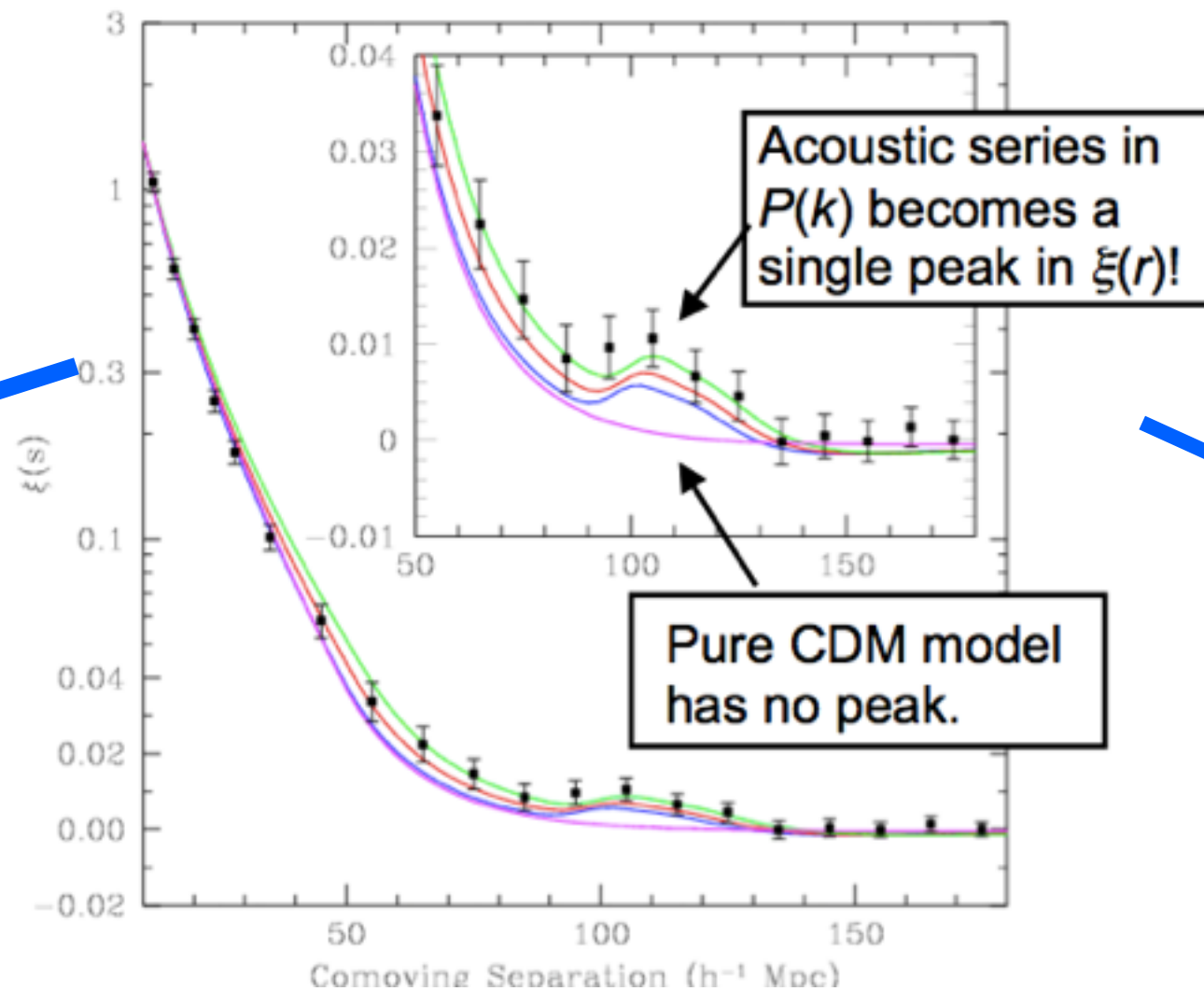
What is the correlation function of population during the day?



A bump in 20 miles!

# What are Baryon Acoustic Oscillations?

To measure BAO, we first calculate the correlation function



A bump at  $\sim 150$  Mpc

# Baryon Acoustic Oscillations

Steps towards a cosmological distance measurement

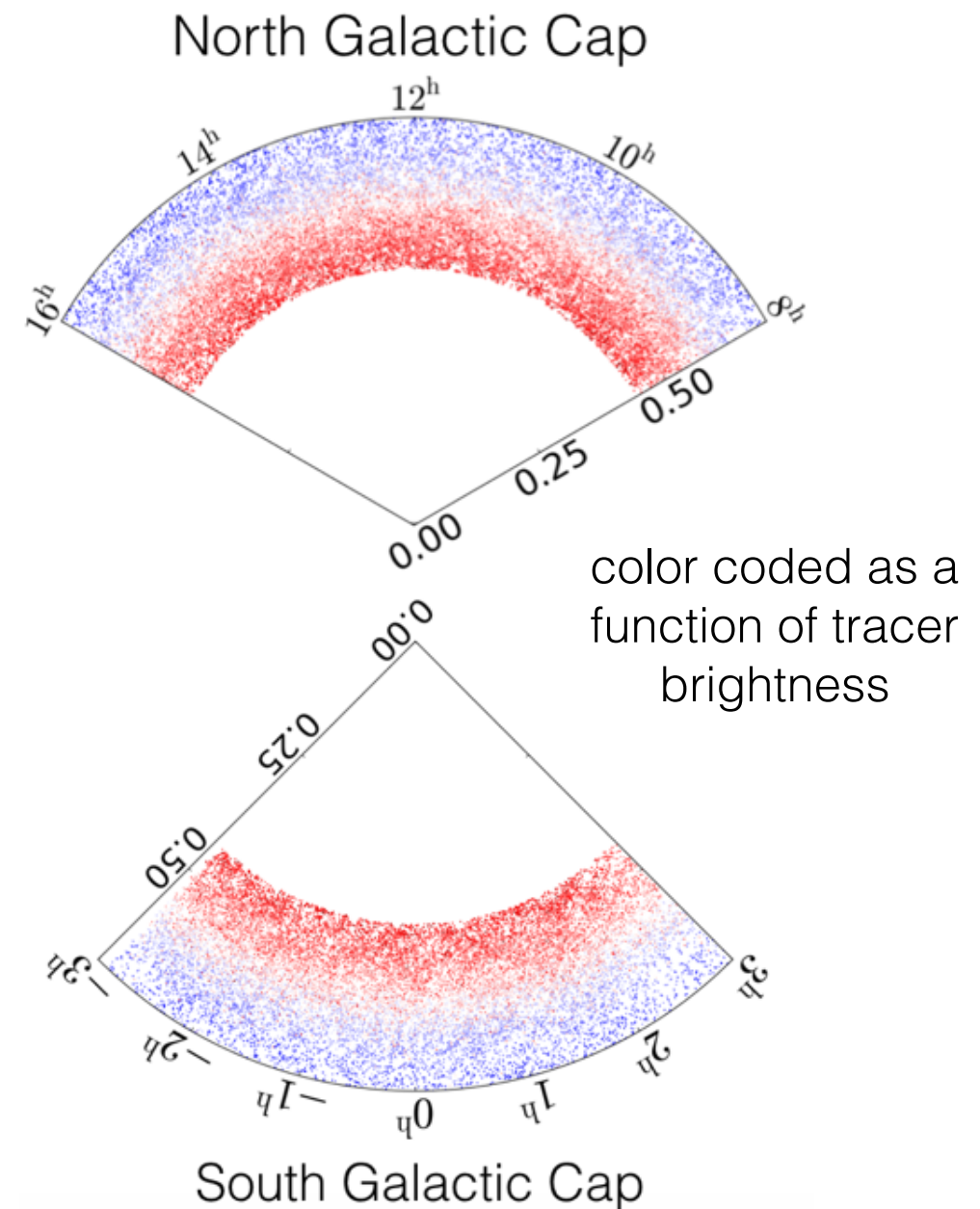


# Baryon Acoustic Oscillations

## Steps towards a cosmological distance measurement

- Create Clean Samples

- Potential issues include:
  - Variations of target sample caused by changes of targeting algorithm or properties of the targeting data
  - The spatial pattern of missing spectroscopic data points
  - Changes of galaxy densities due to observational systematics
- The sample creation methodology and pipeline is now adopted in SDSS IV/eBOSS to make other large scale structure catalogs



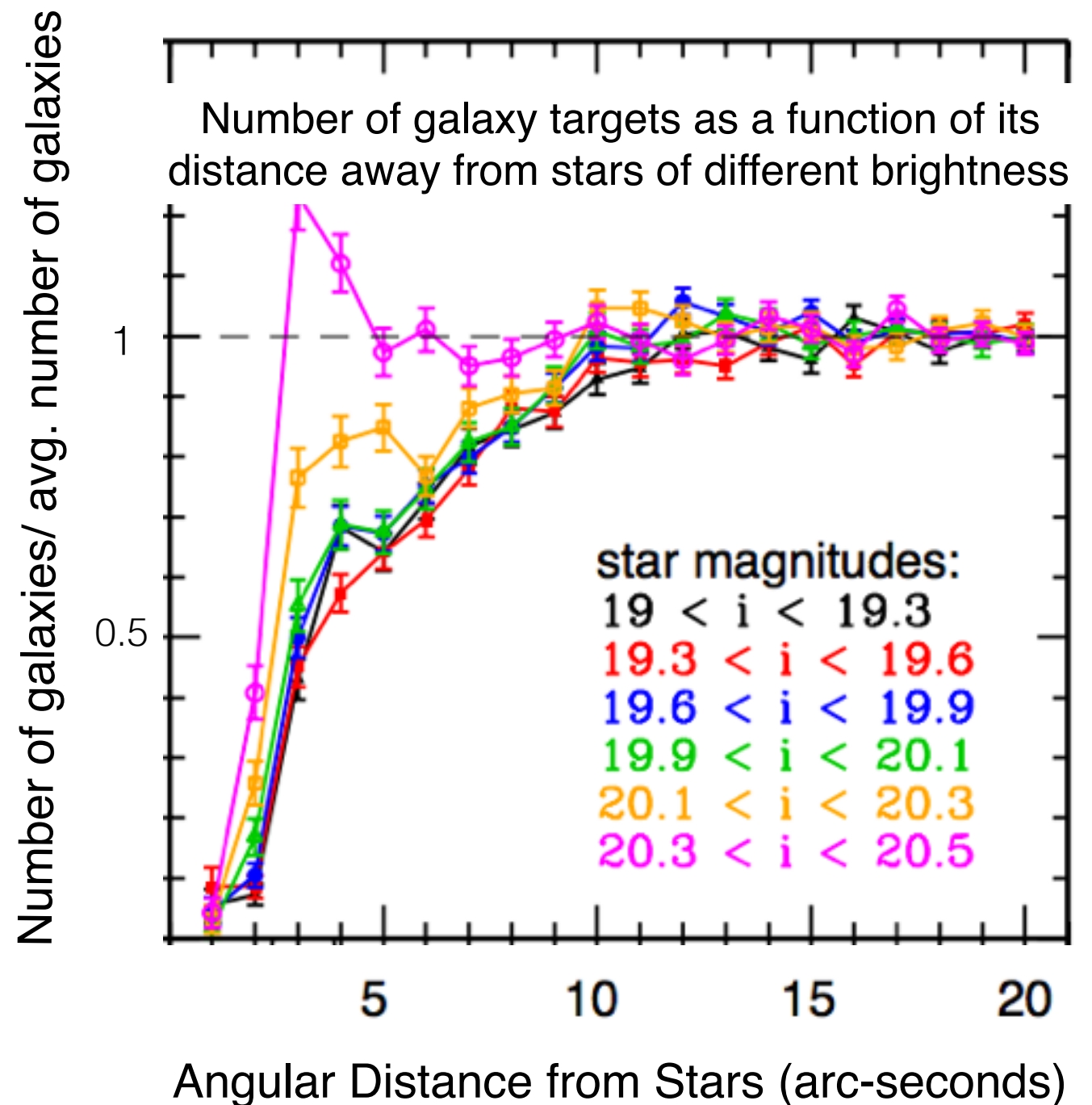
BOSS CMASS sample

White et al. 2010; Reid, **Ho** et al. 2015

# Baryon Acoustic Oscillations

Steps towards a cosmological distance measurement

- Create Clean Samples
- Correct for observational systematics



Ross, Ho et al. 2011

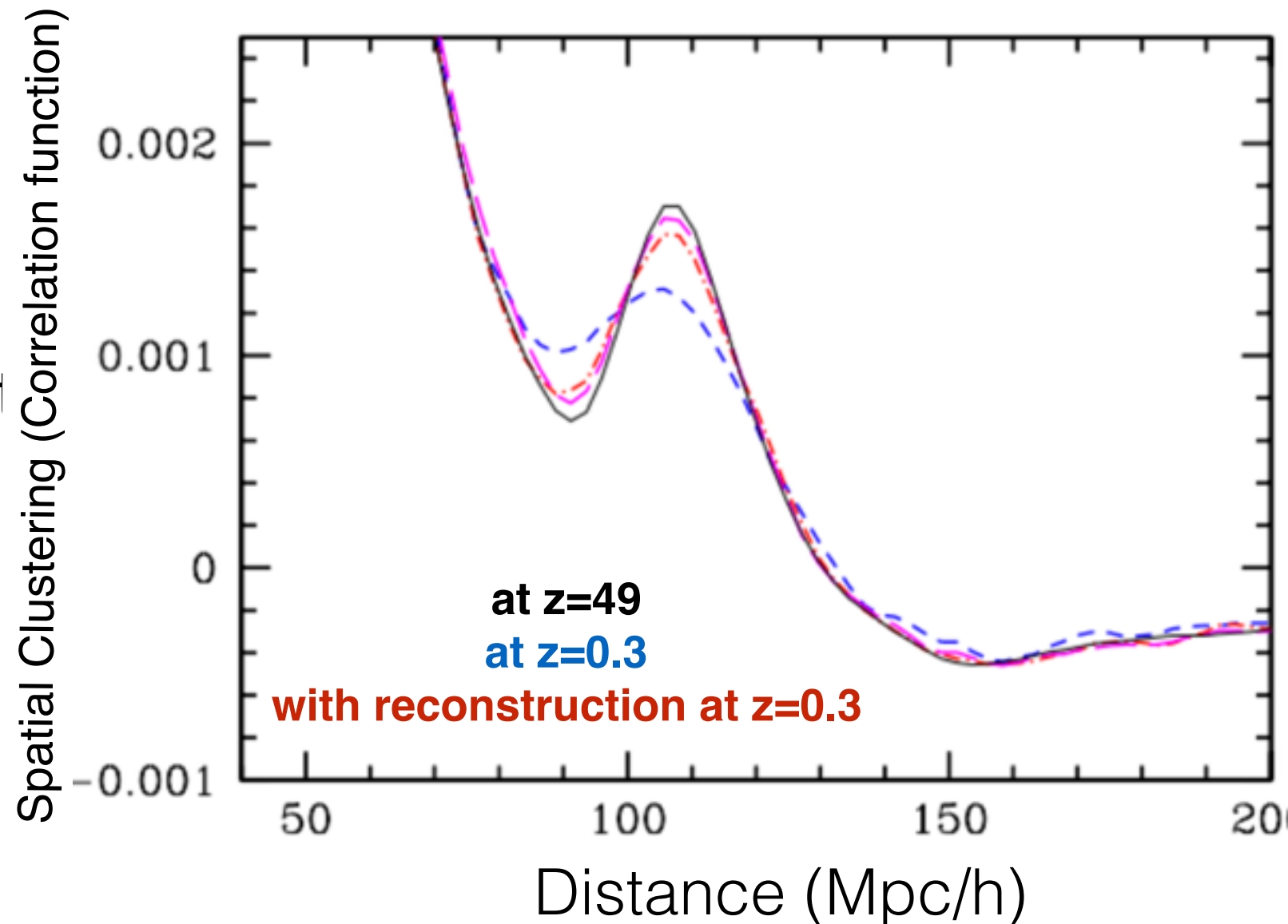
Ross, Percival, Samushia, Ho et al. 2012



# Baryon Acoustic Oscillations

Steps towards a cosmological distance measurement

- Create Clean Samples
- Correct for observational systematics
- Reconstruction: Move the galaxies backwards in time to increase signal-to-noise of measurement.

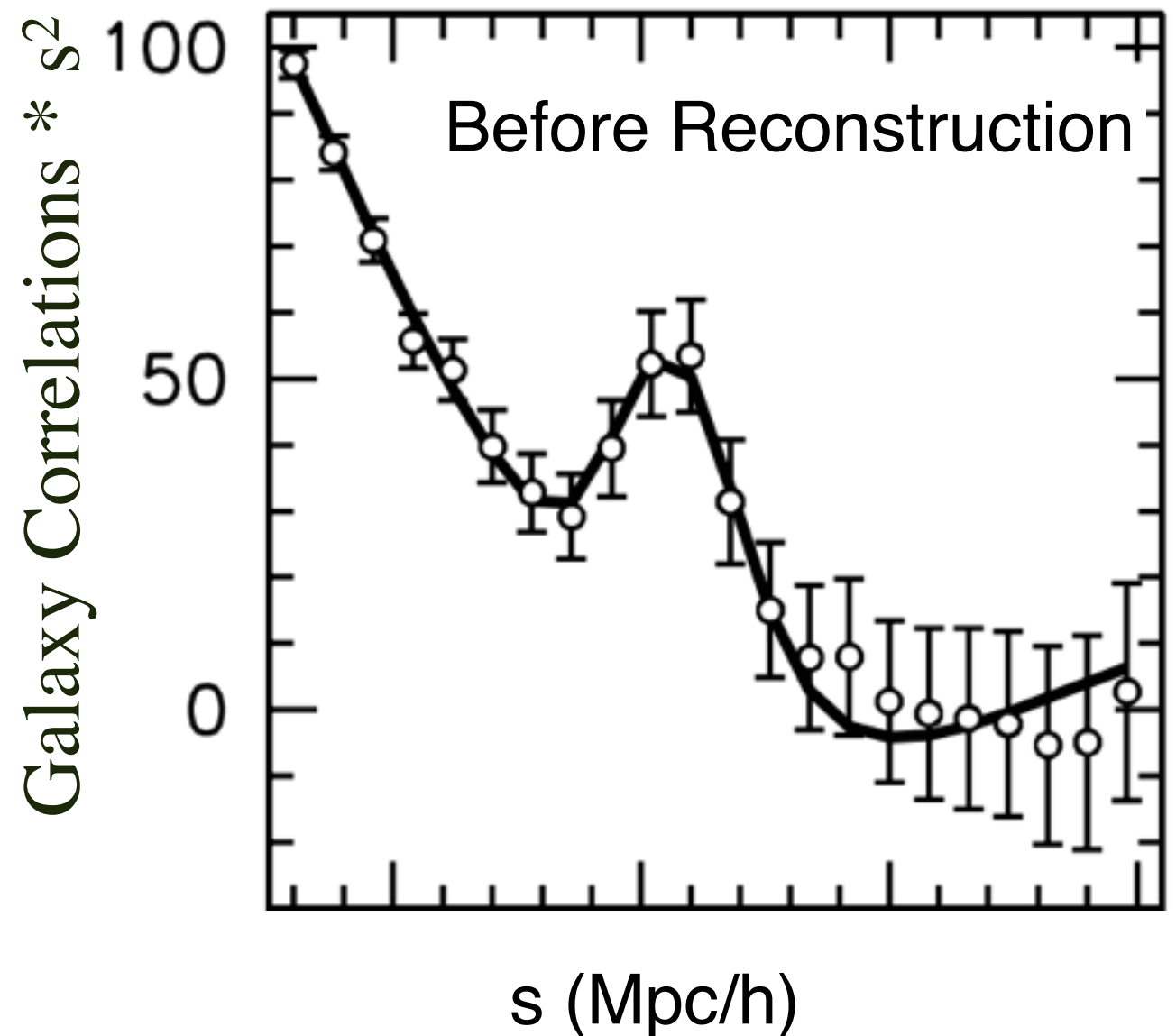


Eisenstein, Seo, Sirko & Spergel 2006;  
Padmanabhan, White & Cohn 2008

# Baryon Acoustic Oscillations

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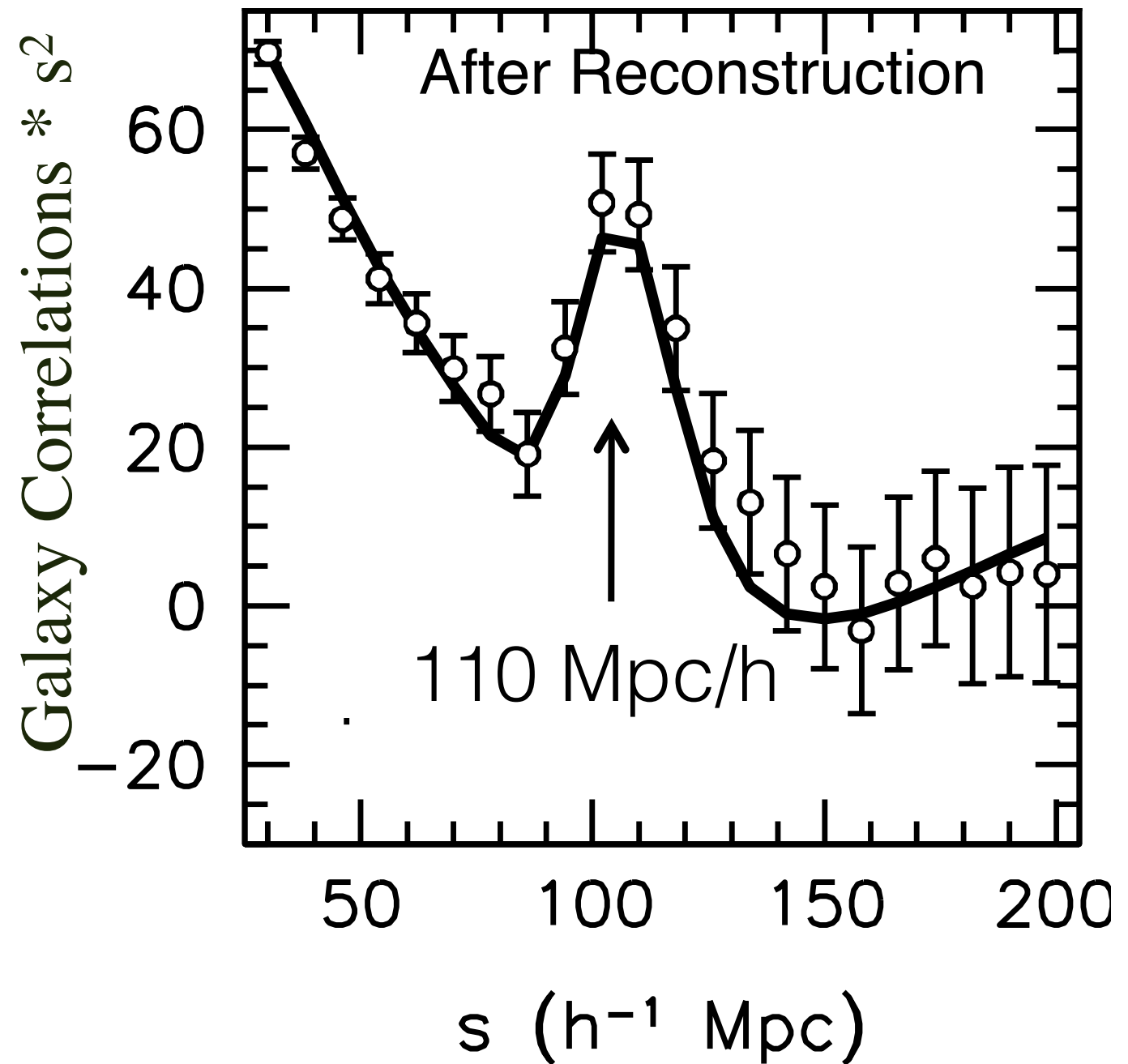


Anderson et al. 2014  
Vargas, Ho et al. 2015

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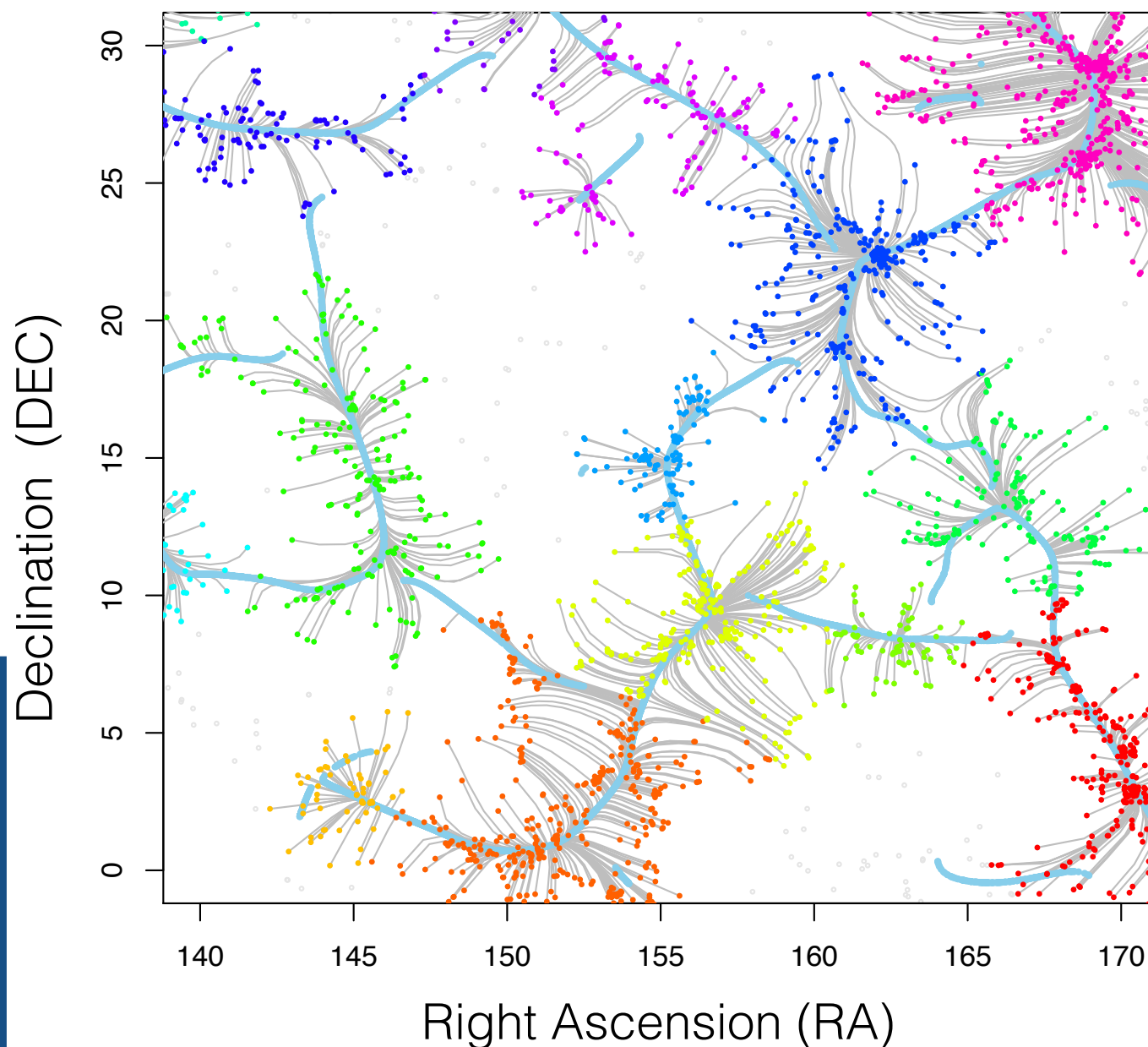
Anderson et al. 2014  
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# Baryon Acoustic Oscillations

## Steps towards a cosmological distance measurement

- Create Clean Samples
  - Correct for observational systematics
  - Reconstruction: Move the galaxies backwards in time to increase signal-to-noise of measurement.
- New ways to improve reconstruction
    - Calculate the Hessian Matrix at each tracer's position
    - Steepest ascent up the potential
    - Good at high density region
    - Combine with traditional reconstruction method to find best velocities to move galaxies back in time.

A slice of observed universe



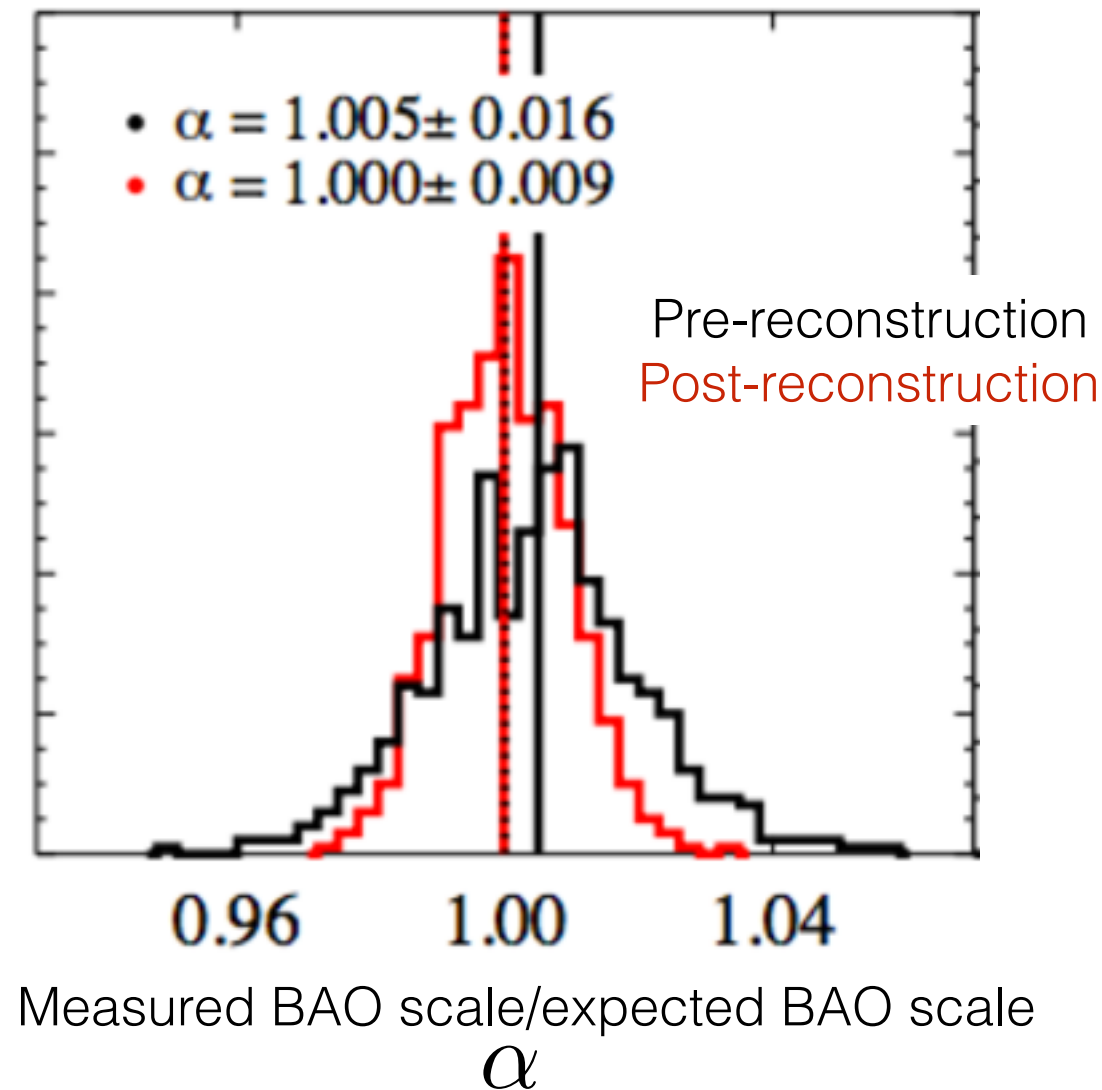
Preliminary results from : **Ho, Chen, Vargas et al.**  
Vargas, Ho et al. 2015

# Baryon Acoustic Oscillations

## Steps towards a cosmological distance measurement

- Create Clean Samples
- Correct for observational systematics
- Reconstruction: Move the galaxies backwards in time to increase signal-to-noise of measurement.
- Thorough test on fitting methods to achieve accurate BAO positions.

The distribution of normalized BAO scale after fitting 600 mock surveys

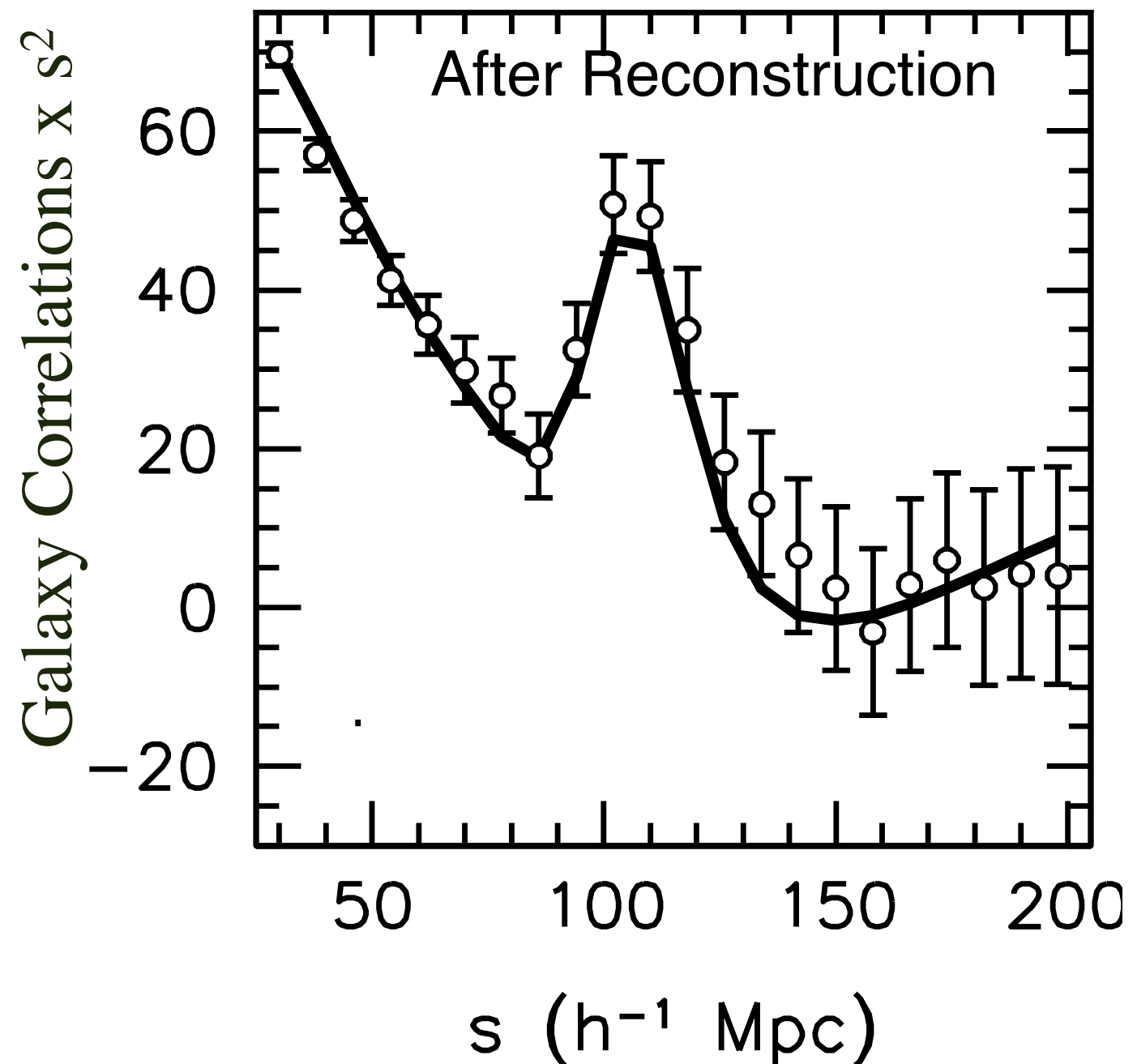


Anderson et al. 2014  
Vargas, Ho et al. 2014

# Baryon Acoustic Oscillations

## Measurement of Distances at multiple redshifts

- Clustering Analysis of the BOSS galaxy sample has produced the world's **best detection of the late-time acoustic peak**.

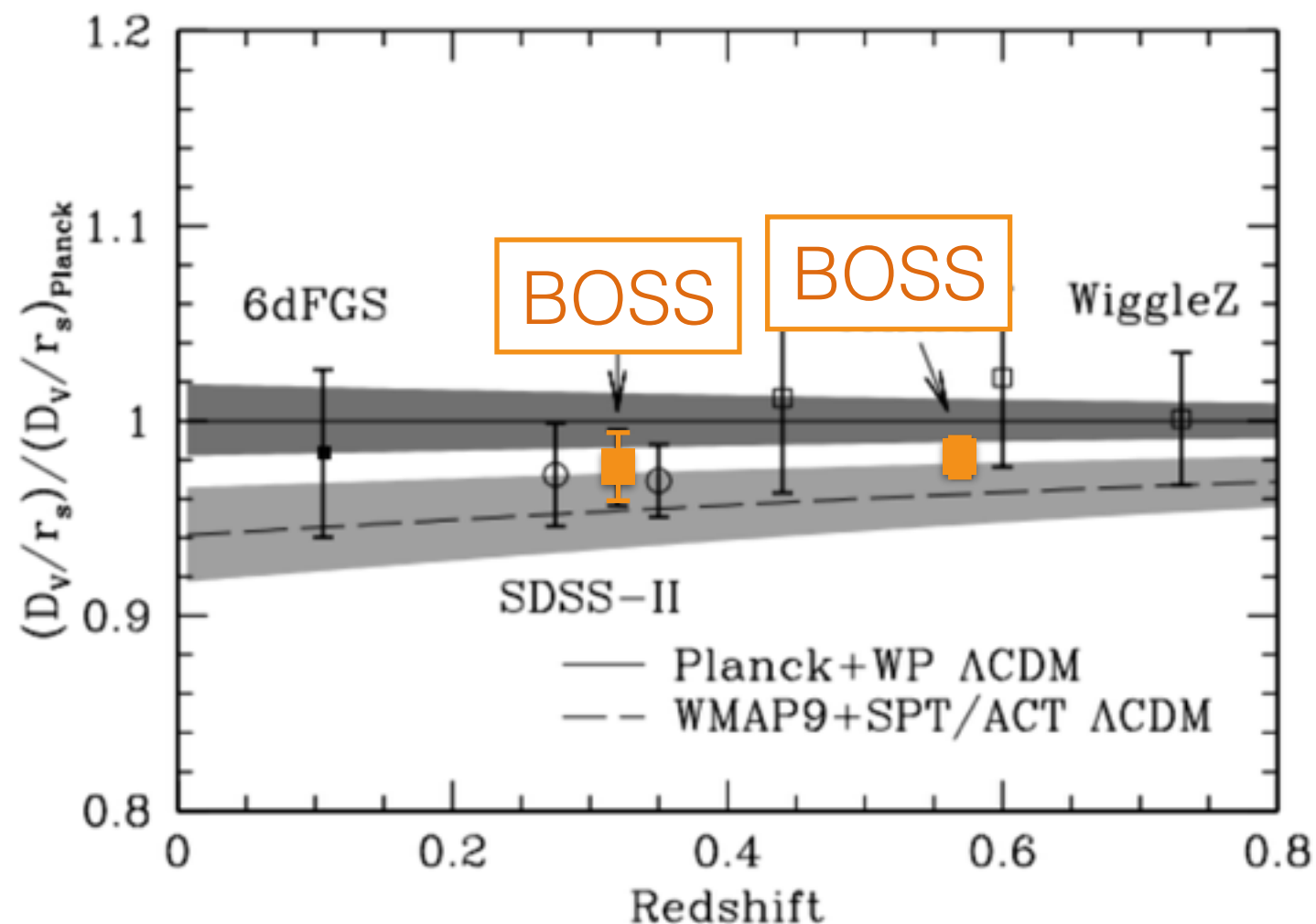


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- The peak location is measured to
  - 1.0% in  $z = 0.57$  sample and
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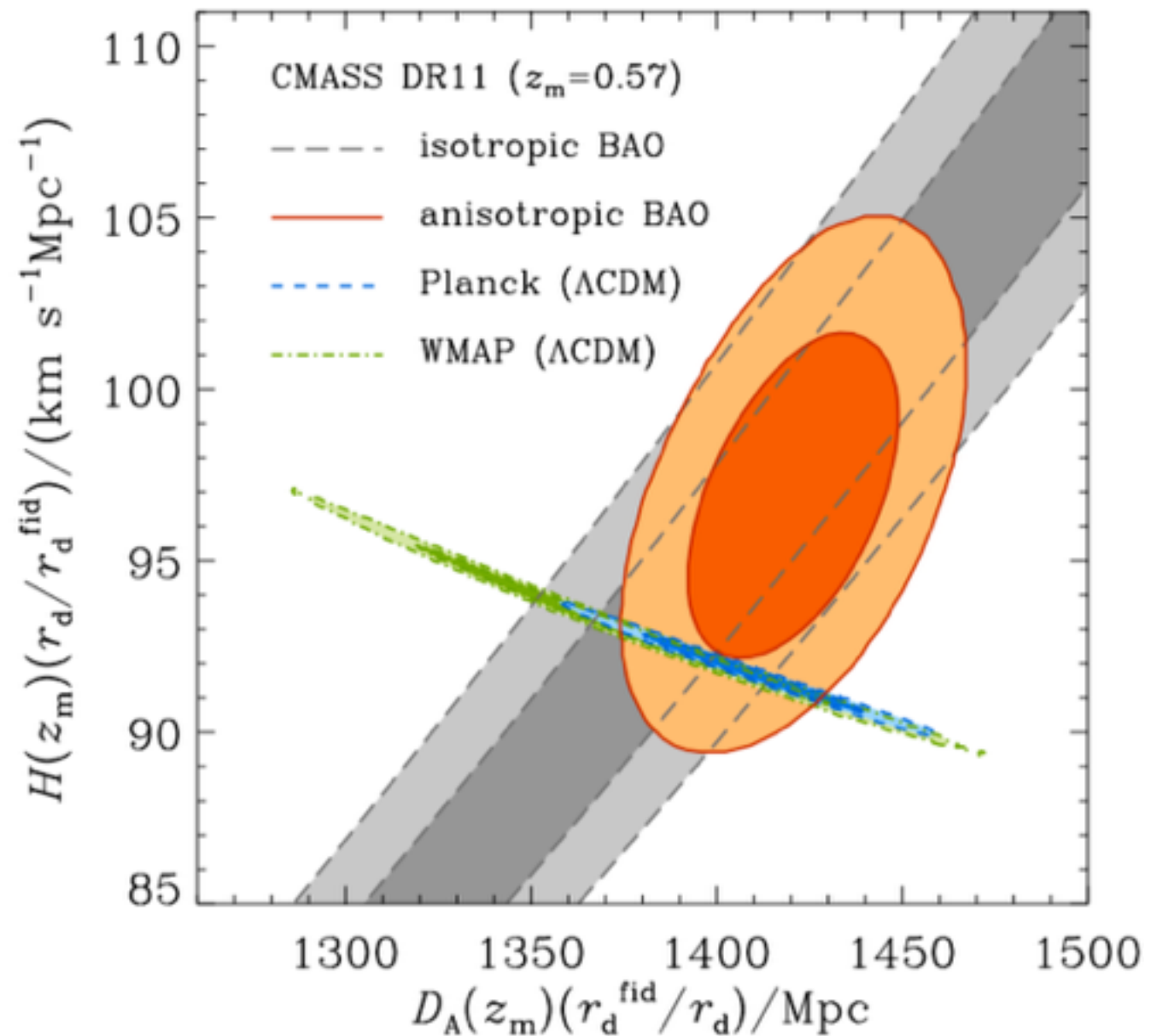
Anderson et al. 2014  
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# Baryon Acoustic Oscillations

Taking into account of anisotropy of our observed quantities

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- Taking into account of the anisotropy of the observation, we **improve our constraints** on the distance scale in both transverse and radial direction.



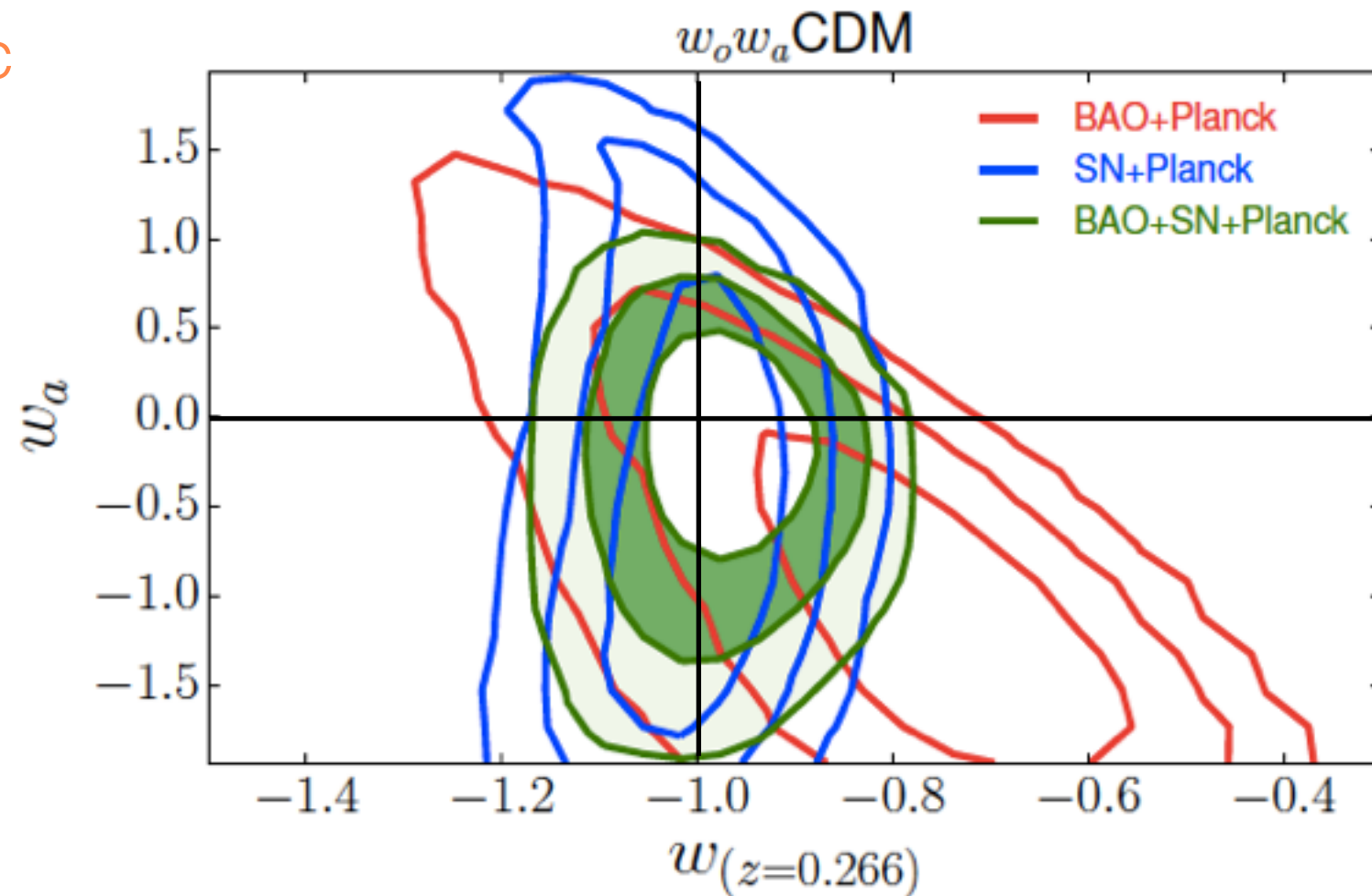
Anderson et al. 2014  
Vargas, Ho et al. 2014



# Baryon Acoustic Oscillations

## Towards cosmological constraints

- Clustering Analysis of the BOSS galaxy sample has produced the world's **best detection of the late-time acoustic peak**.
- The peak location is measured to
  - 1.0% in  $z = 0.57$  sample and
  - 2.1% in  $z = 0.32$  sample
- Taking into account of the anisotropy of the observation, we **improve our constraints** on the distance scale in both transverse and radial direction.
- Places strong constraint on **cosmological parameters**.



BOSS collaboration 2014  
Anderson et al. 2014  
Vargas, **Ho** et al. 2014

Two point functions only capture all information when the field is Gaussian.  
But our universe is not that gaussian...

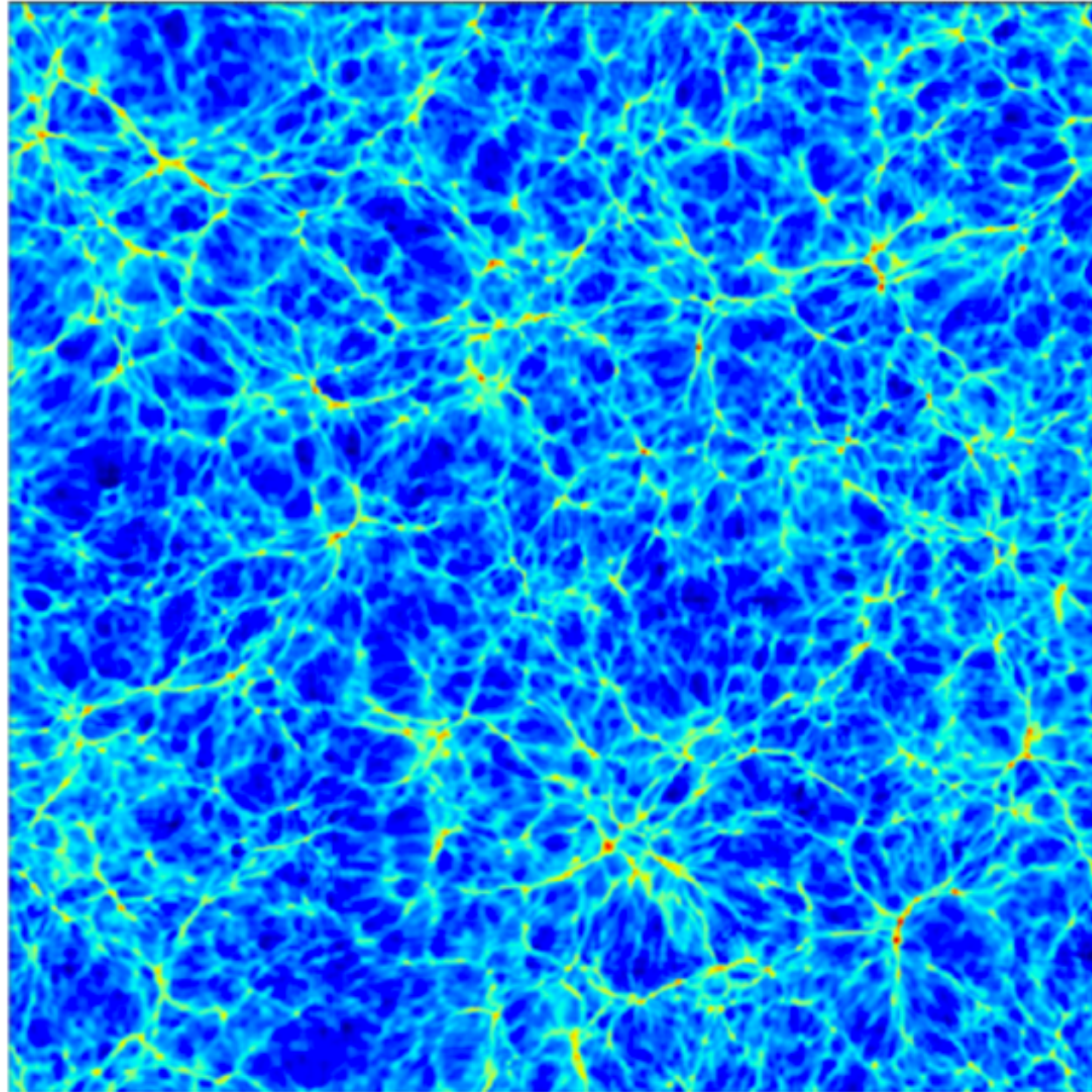


Figure Credit: Agarwal & Feldman

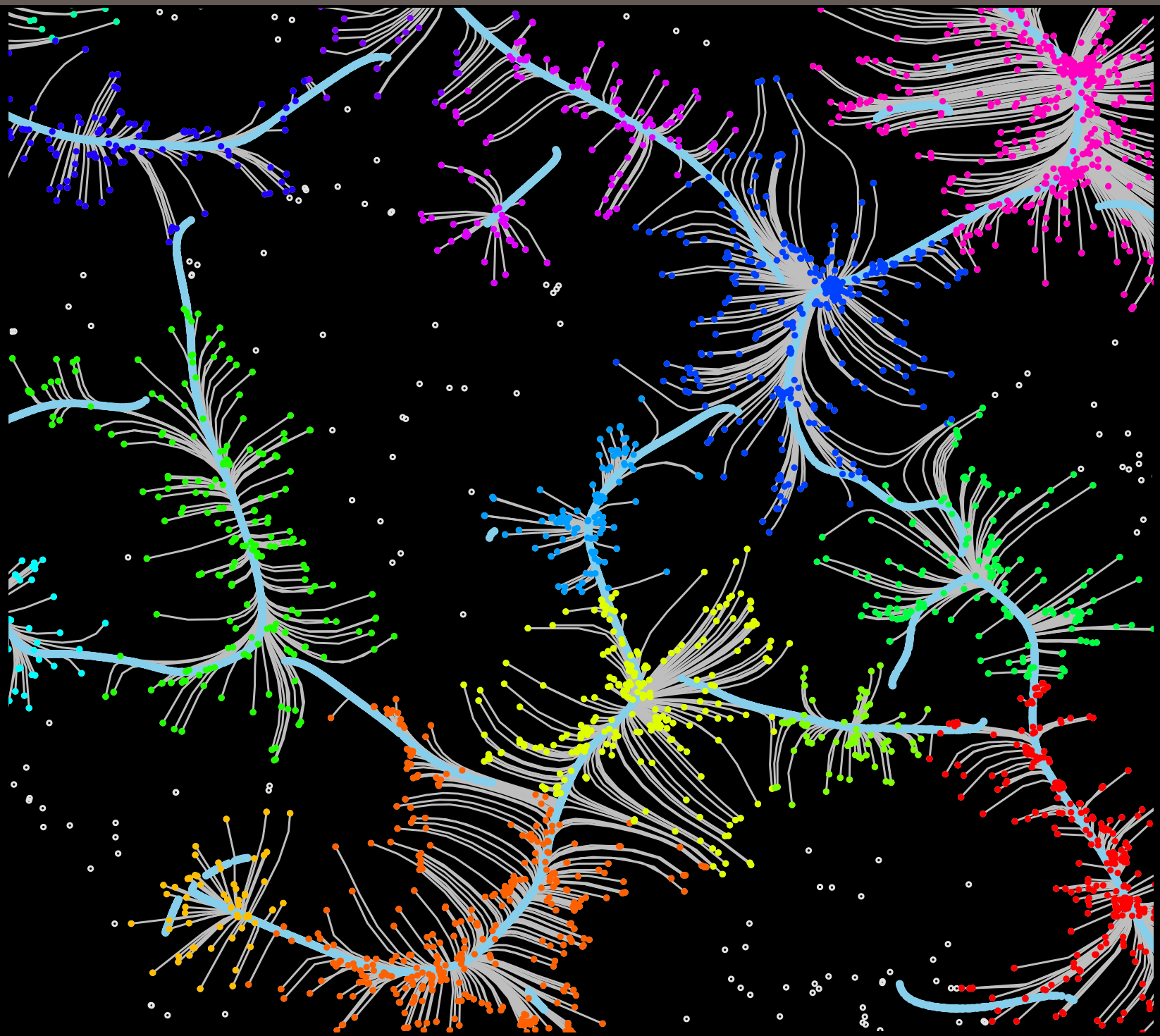
# What do we do with all these interesting datasets?

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- Going beyond 3D information that these large scale structure surveys provide.



# Going beyond Gaussian field with Subspace Constrained Mean Shift (SCMS)

Basic idea is to find ridges in  
the density field by looking at  
the Hessian matrix at each  
point.



Ozertem & Erdogmus, 2011

Chen, Genovese & Wasserman, 2014a

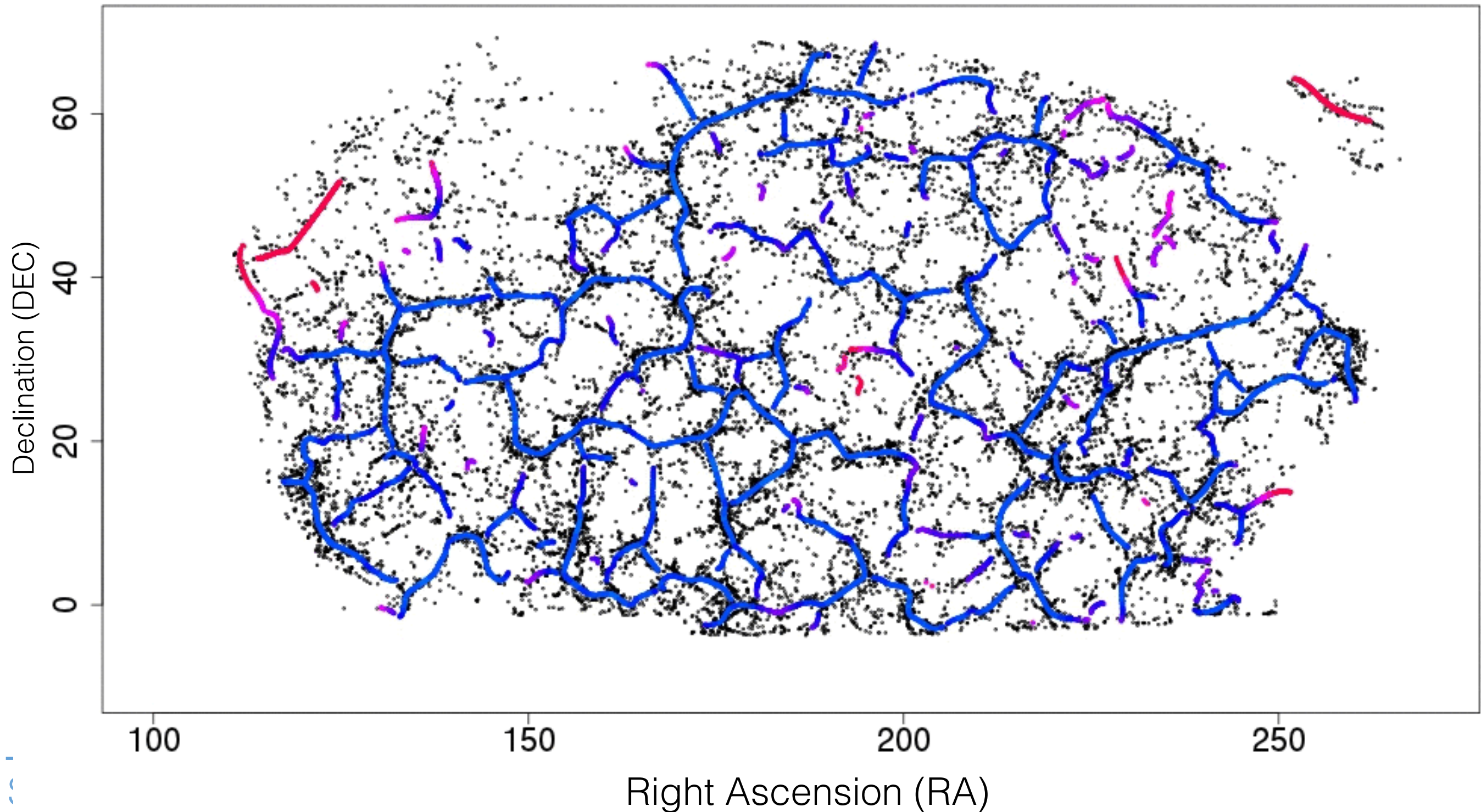
Chen, Genovese & Wasserman, 2014b

Chen, Ho, Freeman, Genovese, Wasserman, 2015

# Cosmic Web reconstructed from SDSS

$z=0.105$

Chen, **Ho**, Freeman et al. 2015



# What do we learn that we didn't know already?

- Effects of filaments on galaxy masses
- Constraining 'intrinsic alignment' model of galaxies
- Filaments as a tracer of large scale structure
- Finding missing baryons with filaments
- Filaments help find dimmer galaxies
- Filaments can probe models of gravity



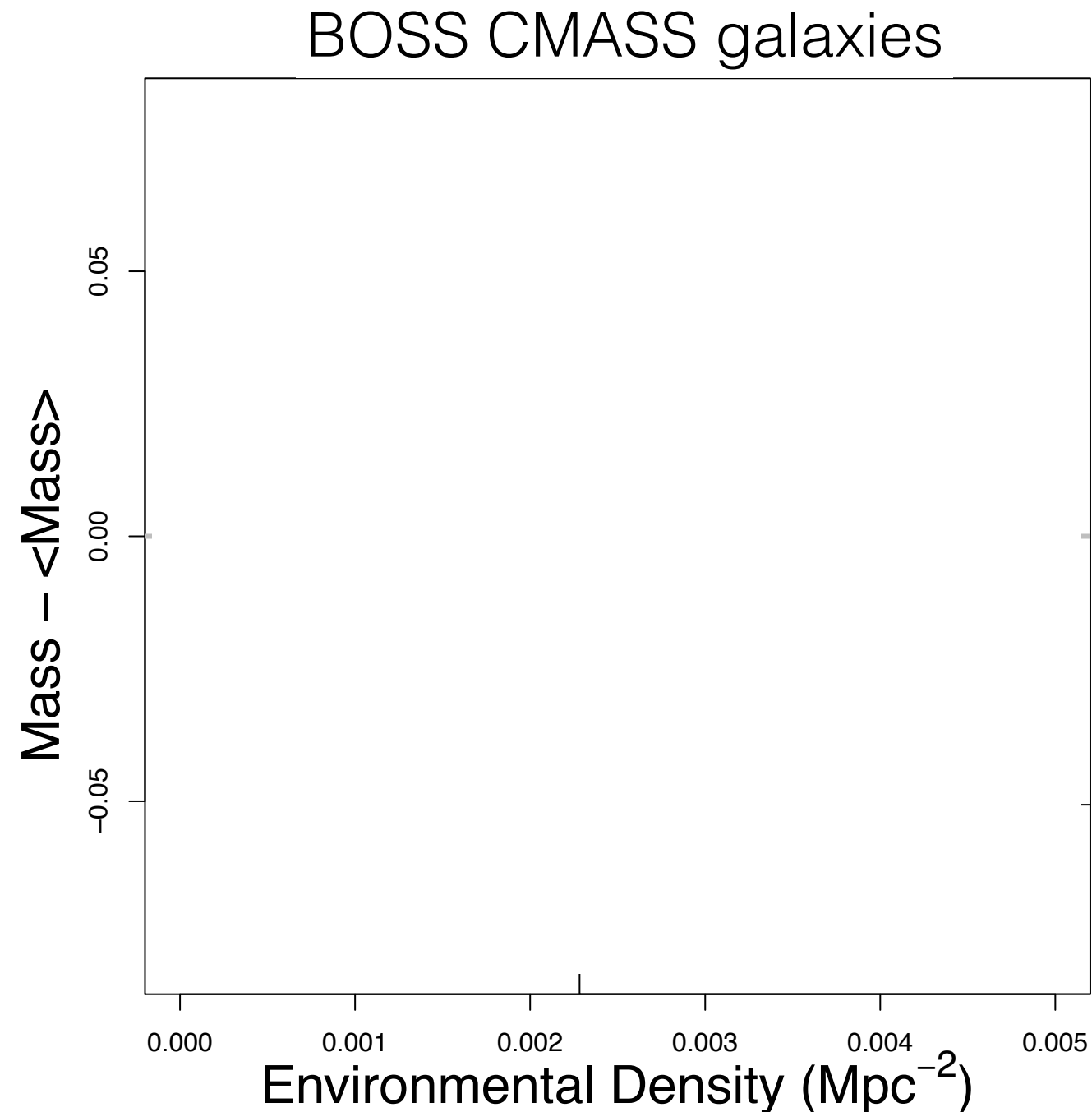
# Effects of filaments on the stellar mass of the galaxies

With the current standard scenario, we only need to know

- 1) the halo mass
  - 2) the environmental density and
  - 3) possibly the evolution of the parent halos
- to understand the basic properties of galaxies.

A good question to ask would be: Does filaments around the affect the galaxies? Or is it just the environment that matters?

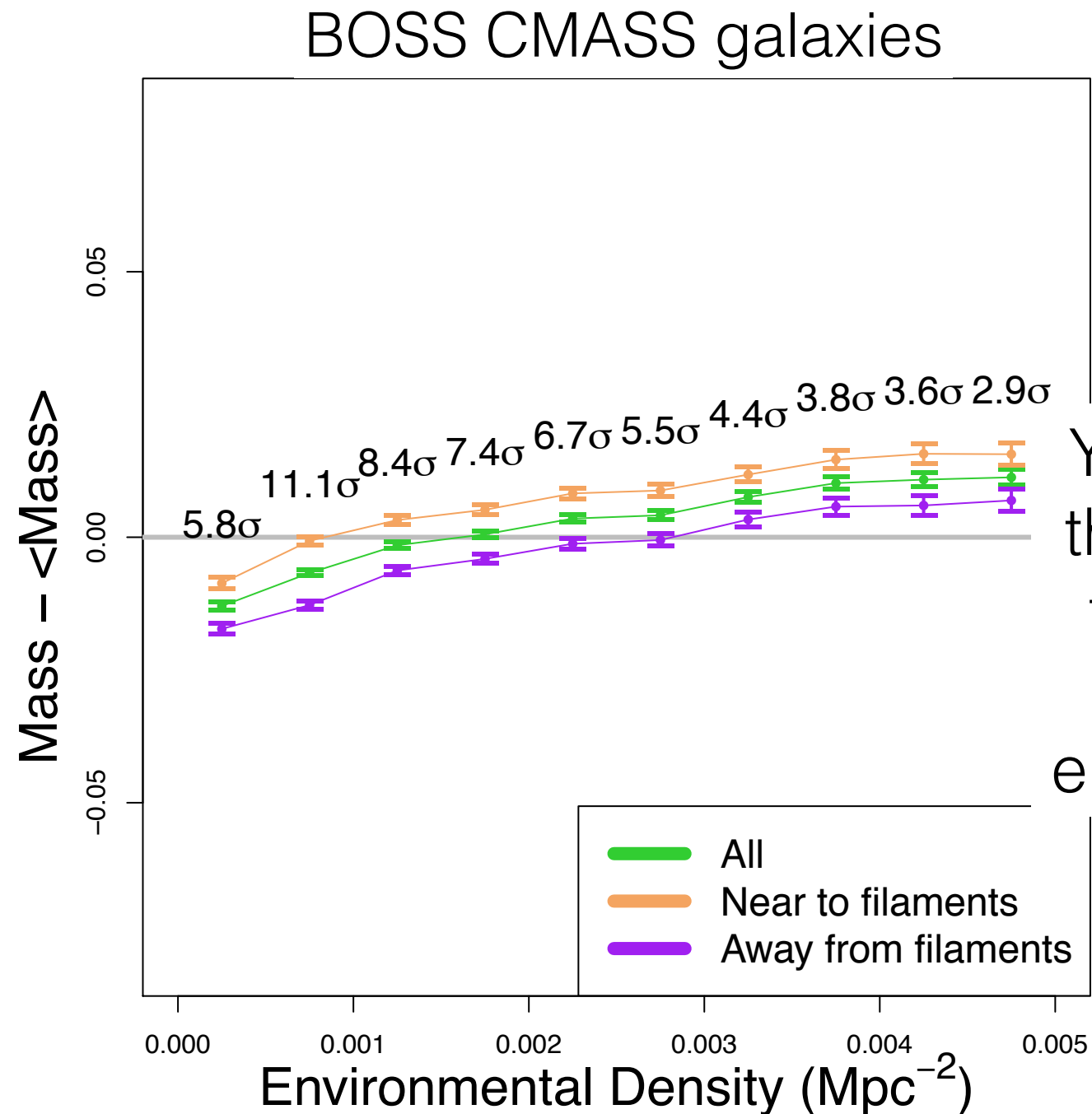
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Chen, **Ho**, Mandelbaum et al. 2015



# Effects of filaments on the stellar mass of the galaxies



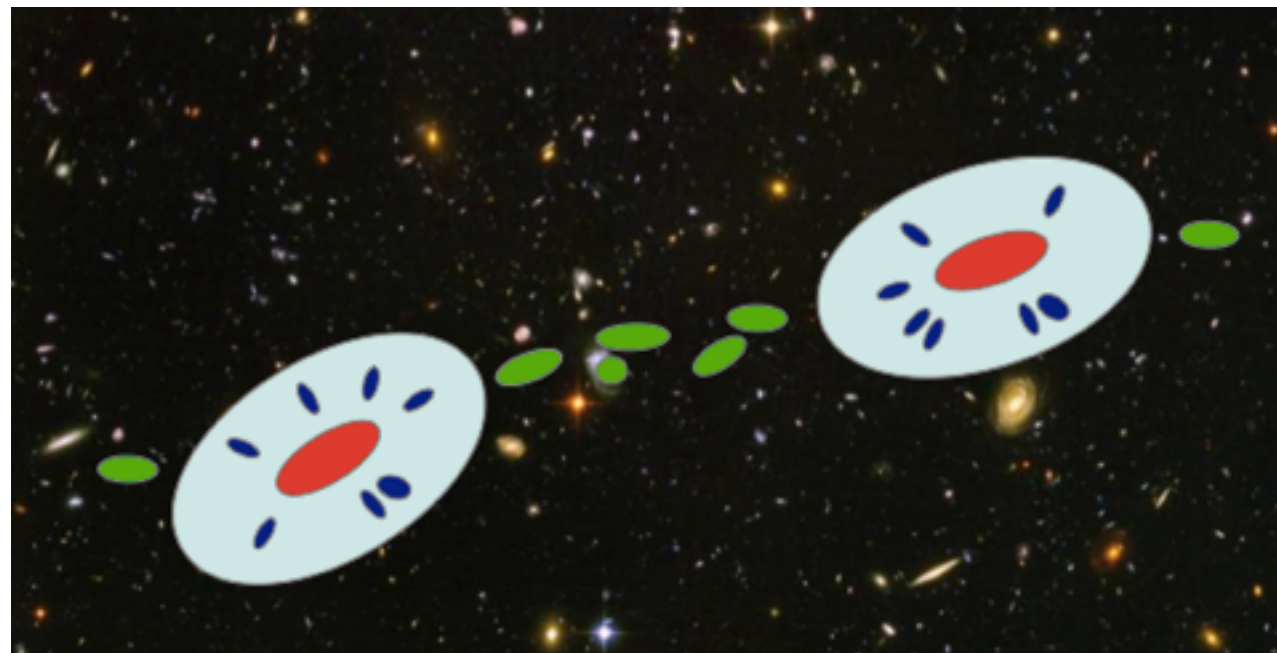
Yes! Filaments affect the galaxies in a way that is independent from the environmental density

Chen, **Ho**, Mandelbaum et al. 2015

# Constraining “intrinsic alignment model” of galaxies

## What is intrinsic alignment?

In weak gravitational lensing, one of the most challenging astrophysical systematic is called “intrinsic alignment”, which basically means galaxies are “intrinsically” aligned with each other due to interactions with the larger scale tidal fields.



# Constraining “intrinsic alignment model” of galaxies

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In weak gravitational lensing, one of the most challenging astrophysical systematic is called “intrinsic alignment”, which basically means galaxies are “intrinsically” aligned with each other due to interactions with the larger scale tidal fields.

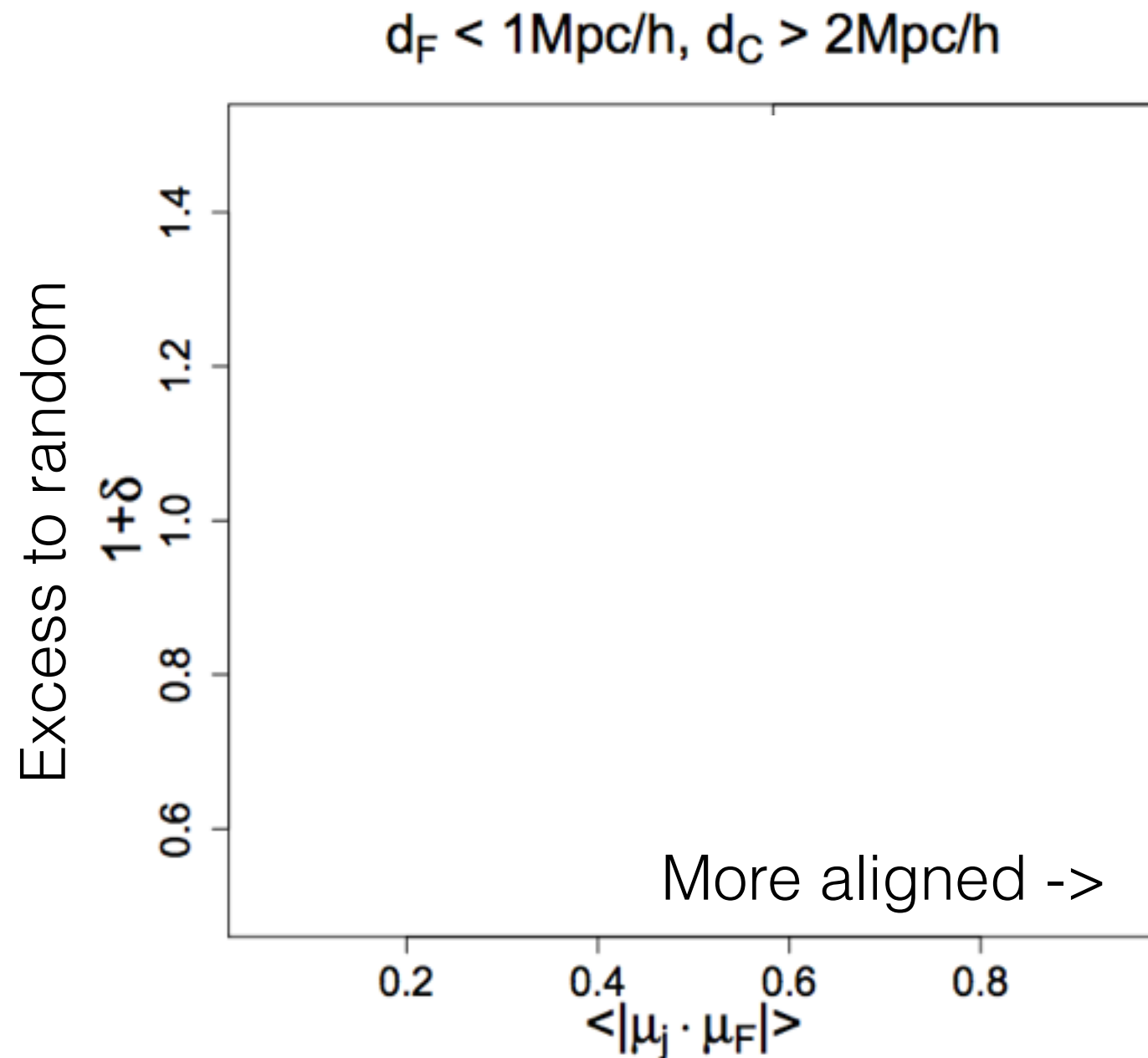
If this systematic is left alone, this can significantly affect the final estimate of how much dark matter there is (and many other cosmological parameters).

Ex. Understanding the IA model increase our S/N on **dark energy equation of state** by factor of **2**;

-> Equivalent by **increasing the sky area by factor of 4 !**

(Bridle & King 2007)

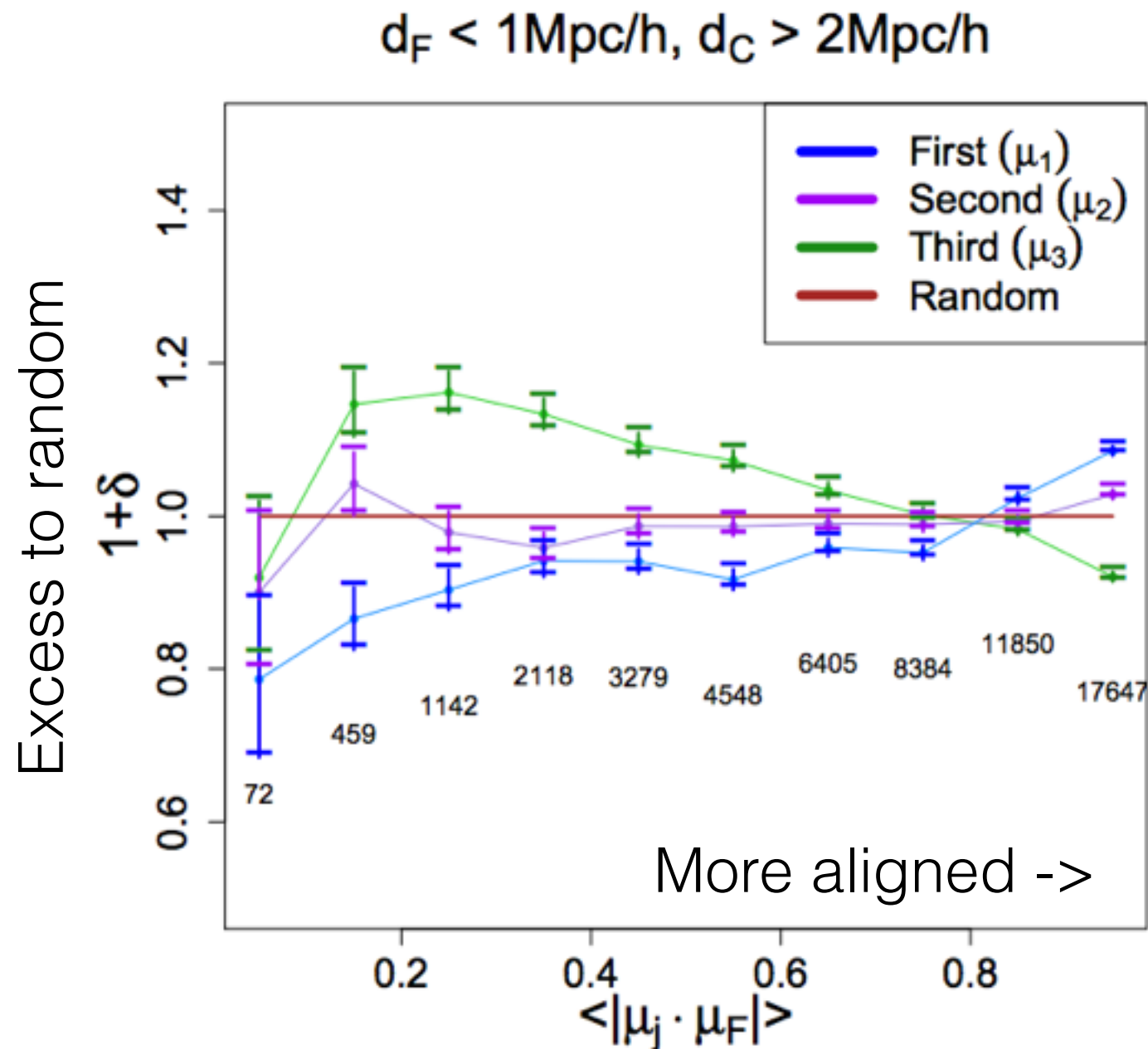
# Constraining “intrinsic alignment model” of galaxies Using filaments to trace tidal fields and thus shapes of galaxies



Chen, **Ho**, Tennetti et al. 2015

Using MassiveBlack II simulations, we study the Relationship between major axes of galaxies and the direction of filaments!

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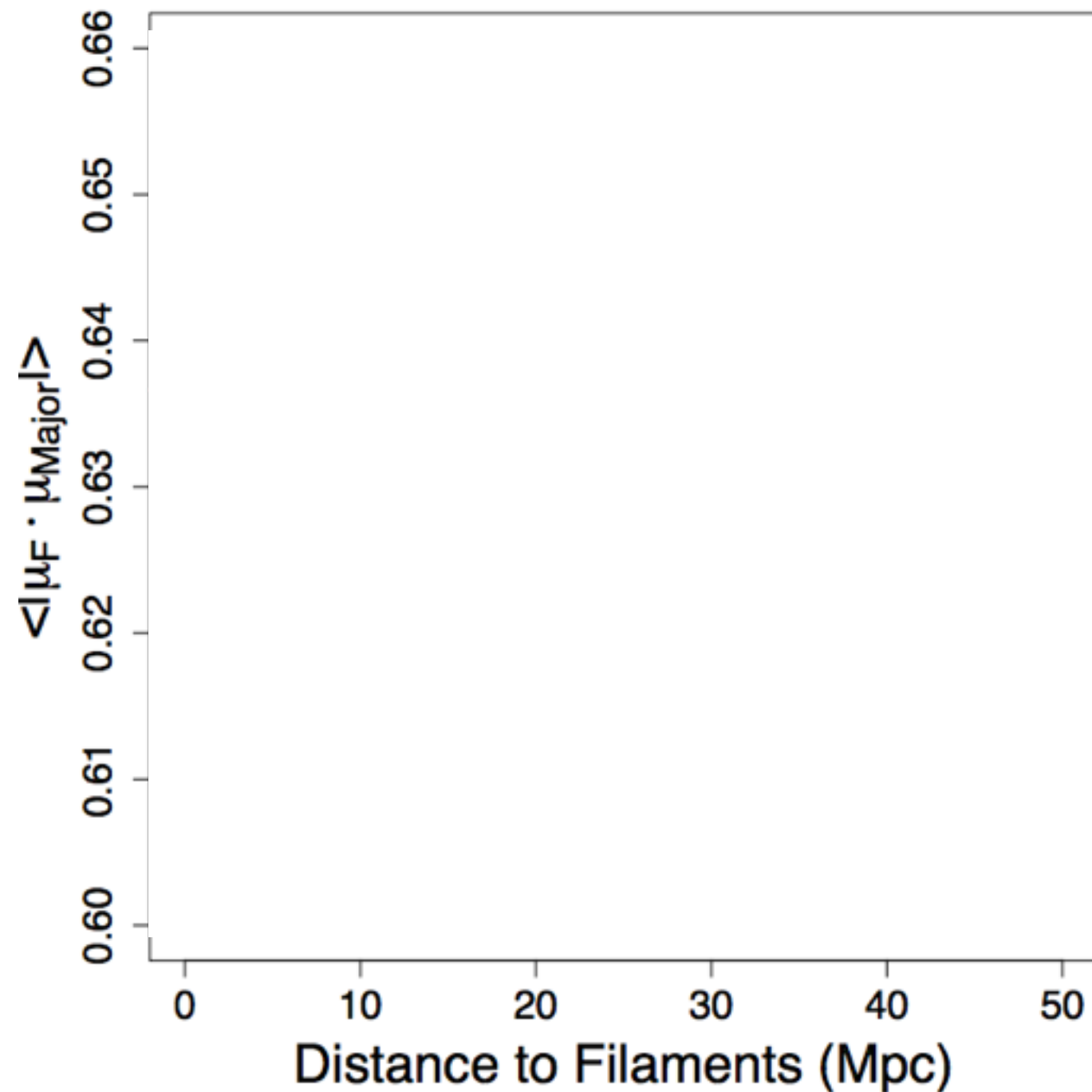
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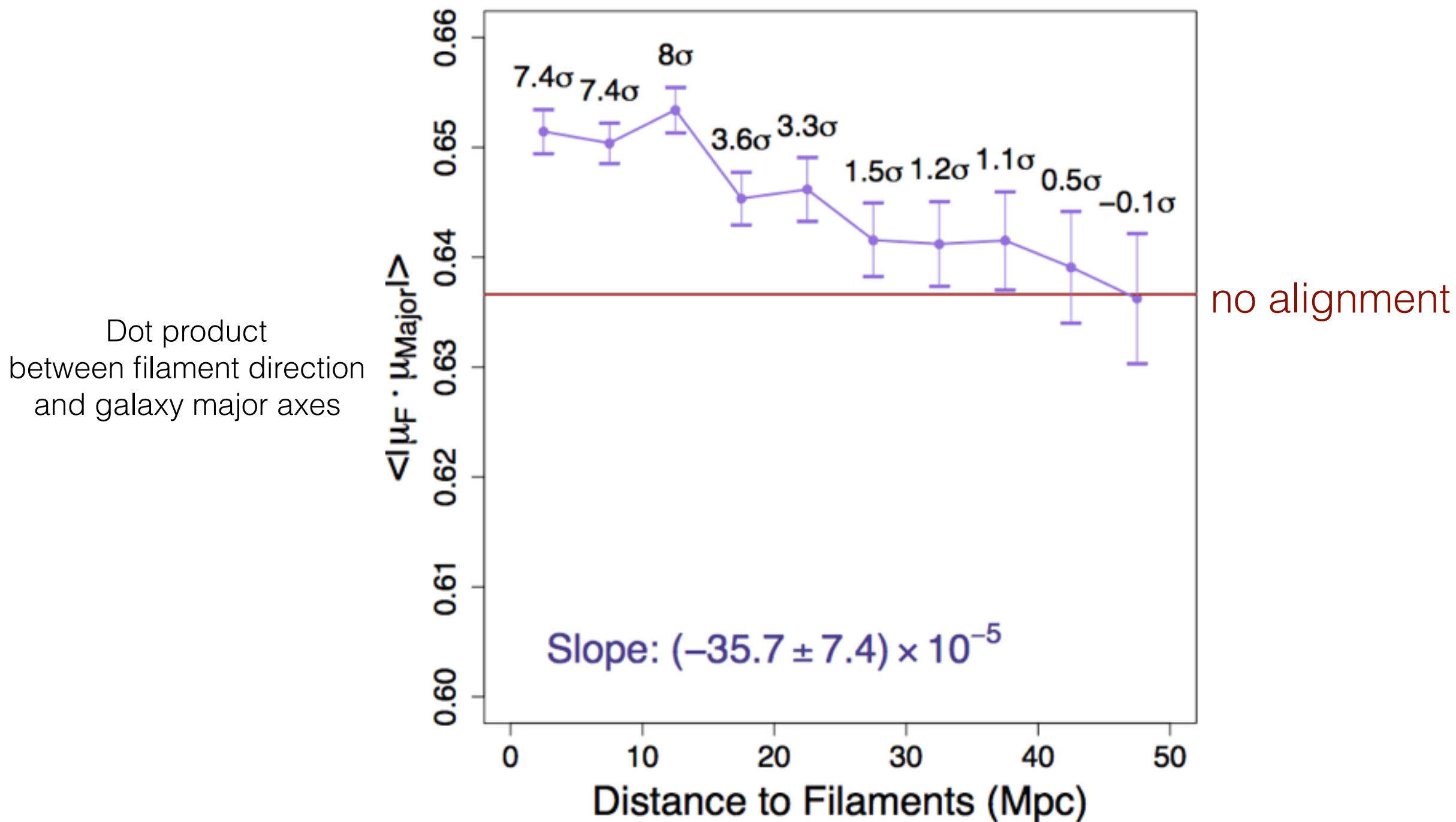
## How about real data? We next look at SDSS data

Dot product  
between filament direction  
and galaxy major axes



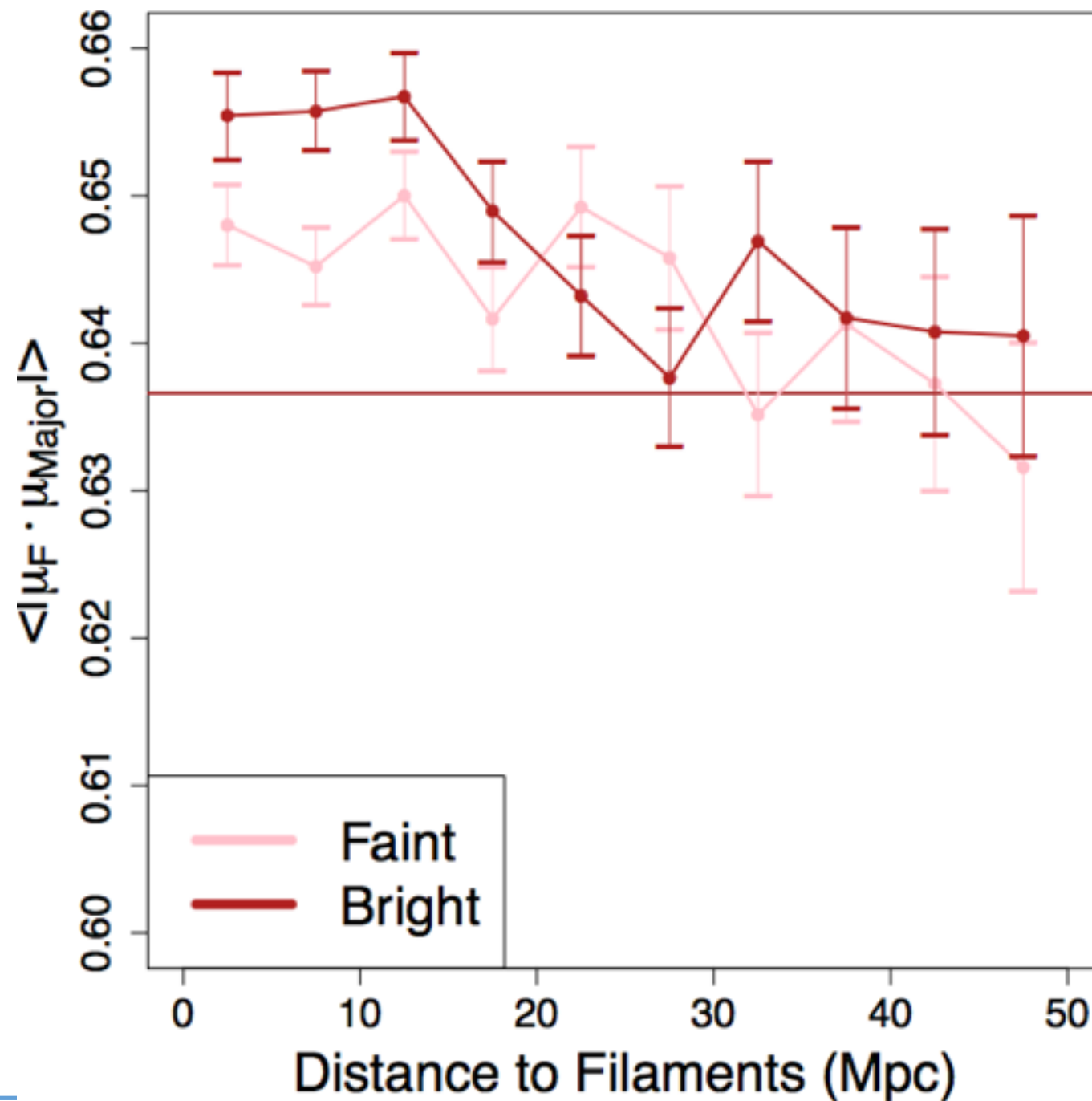
We find filaments in SDSS data and found significant alignments between the filament direction and the galaxy major axes

### SDSS-LOWZ dataset



# Alignment strength vs brightness of galaxies.

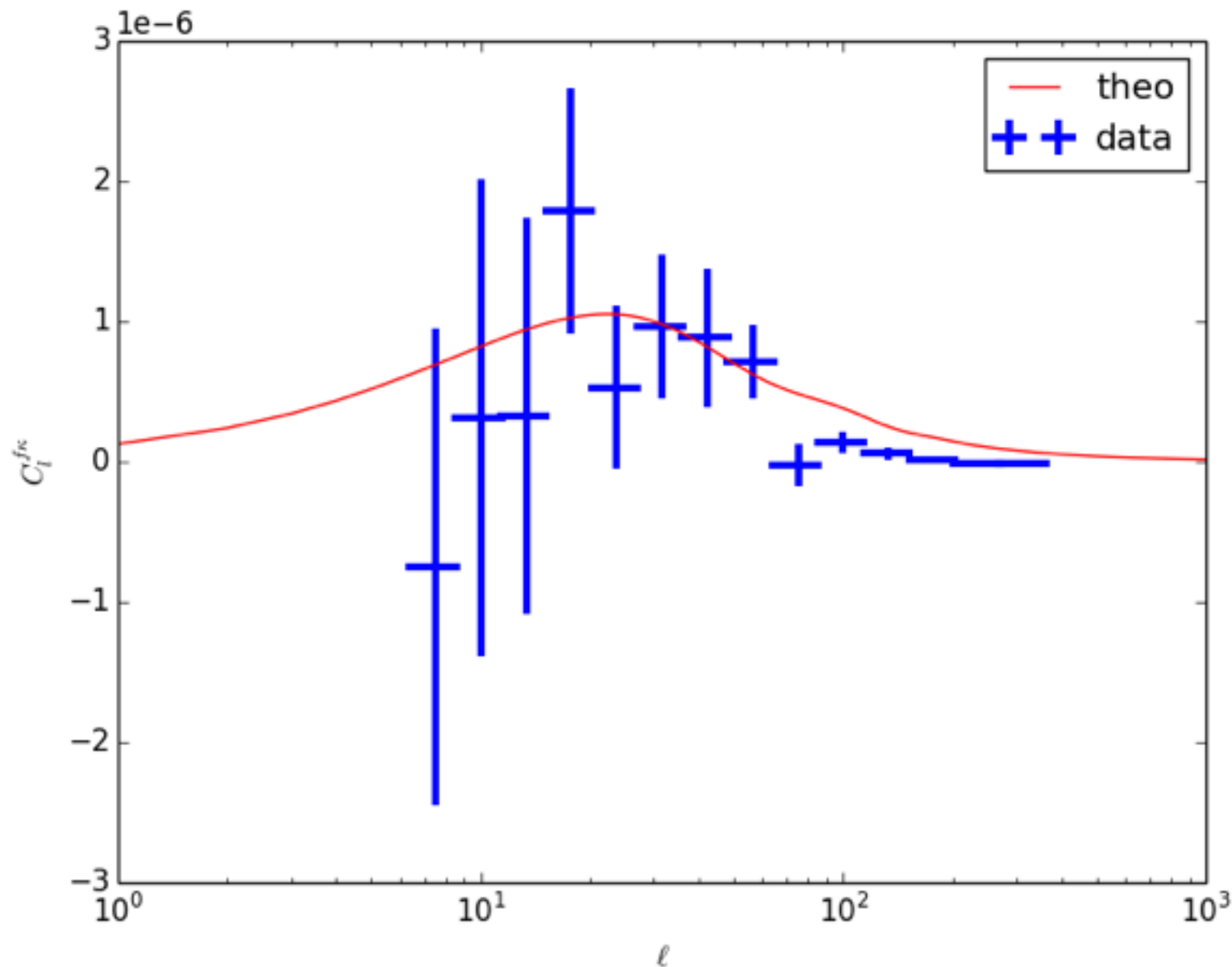
SDSS-LOWZ dataset



Filaments tracing LSS:  
therefore we expect filaments to lens !

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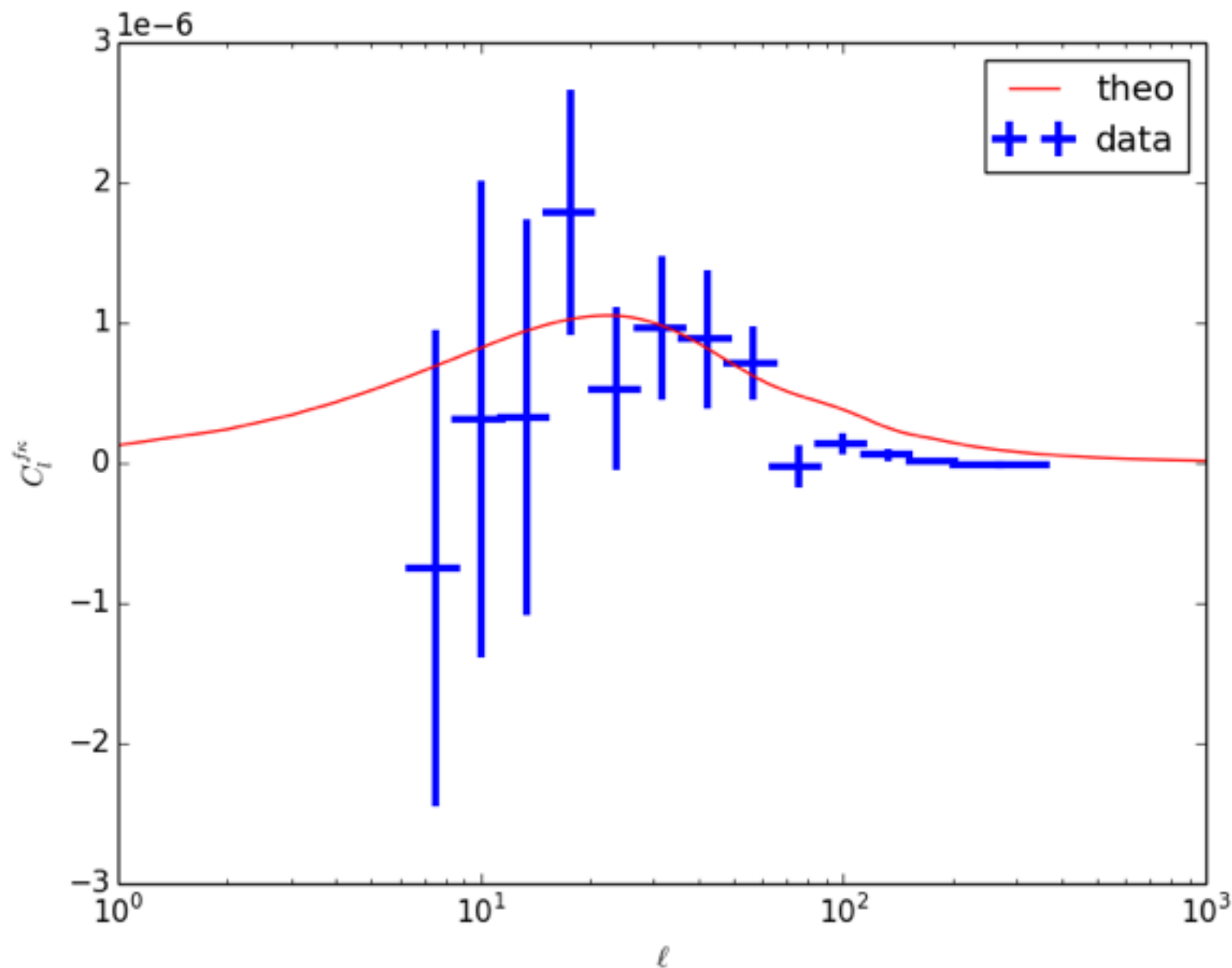
First filament X CMB lensing signal



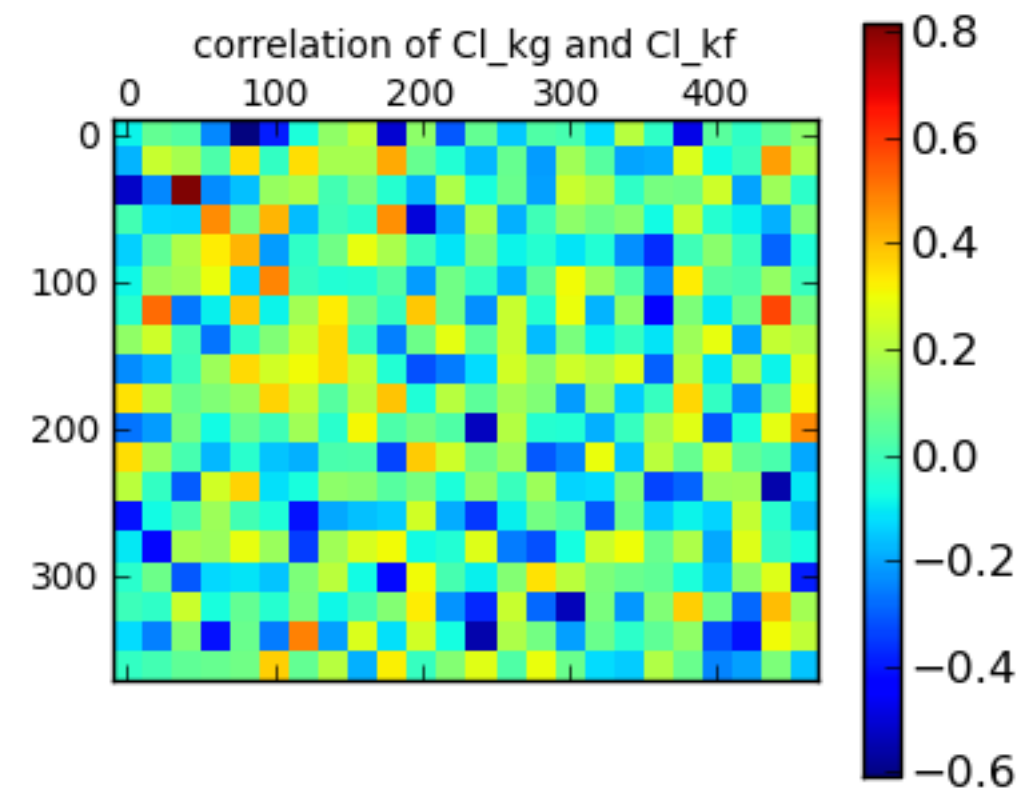


# Filaments tracing LSS: therefore we expect filaments to lens !

## First filament X CMB lensing signal



Covariances between filaments X CMB Lensing and galaxies X CMB lensing



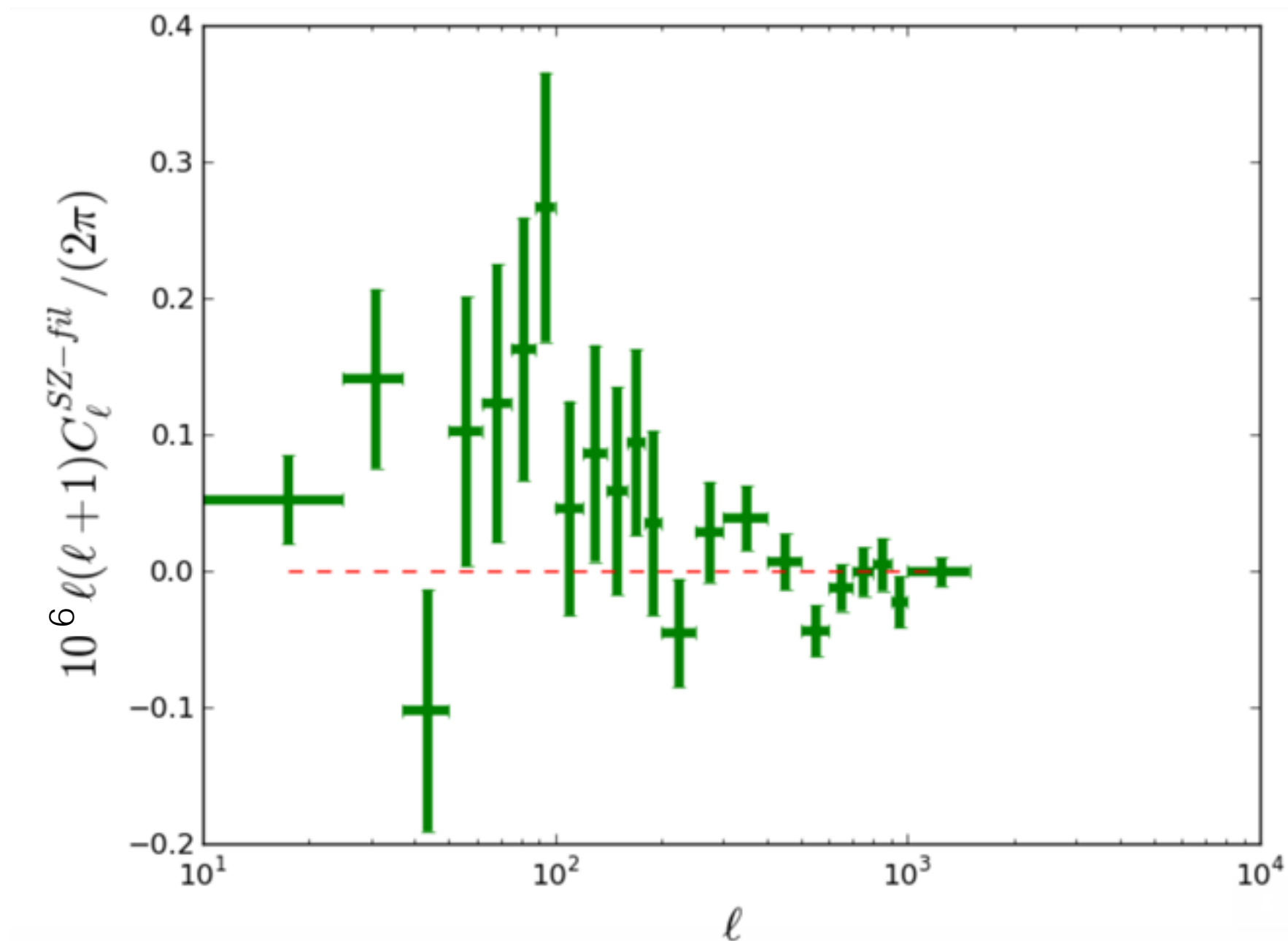
# Finding missing baryons with filaments

Missing Baryons are the expected amount of baryons that are not yet accounted for by looking at the “bright” stuff

Peebles & Fukugita (2004)

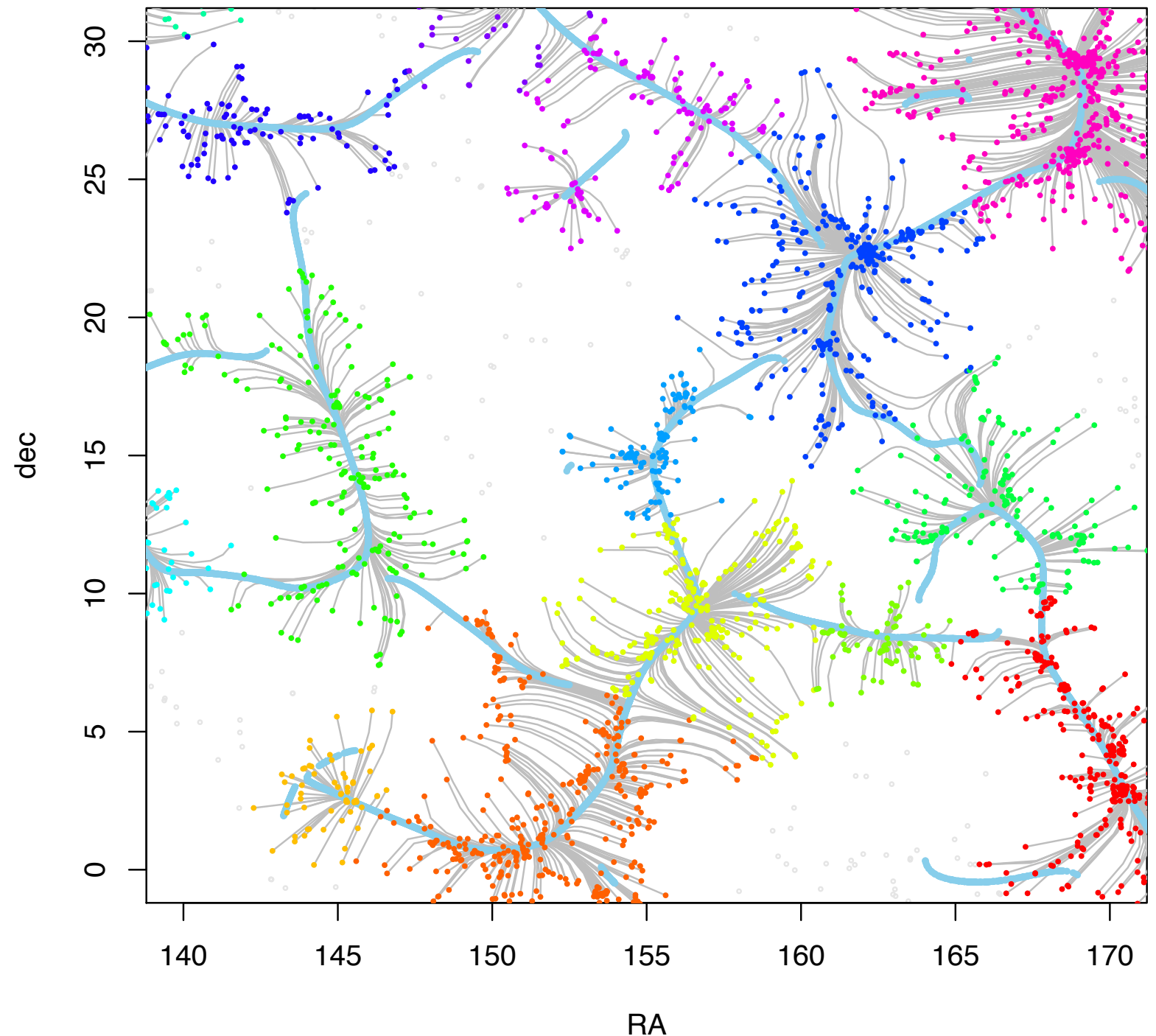
# Finding missing baryons with filaments

First filament X SZ signal with filaments at  $z=0.5-0.55$



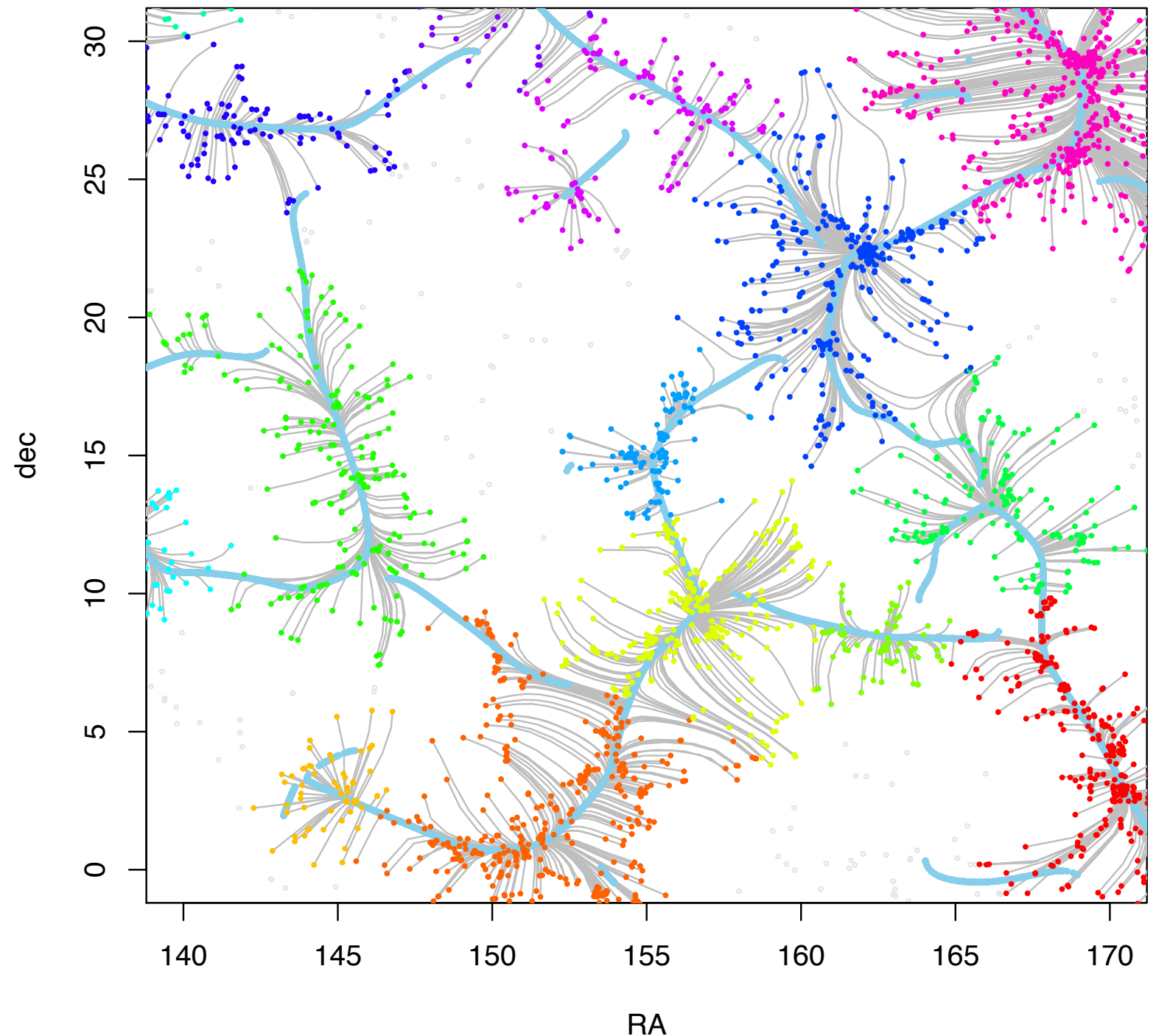
# Finding dimmer galaxies

- We know that ridges of density field are regions of medium to high density region
- It is likely that they will harbor dimmer galaxies than the sample that we used to construct the filaments
- One can use these filaments as an independent catalog to constrain redshift distribution of photometric galaxies



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# Going beyond standard analyses (mini-conclusion)

- Finding a new way to look at the density field opens up many possibilities of extracting information from the non-gaussian density field.
- Looking at filaments is just \*one of the many ways of going beyond the traditional analyses.
- Very much open to discussion on other ways of looking at the non-gaussian fields: Level sets? modes? sheets? ??

# What do we do with all these interesting datasets?

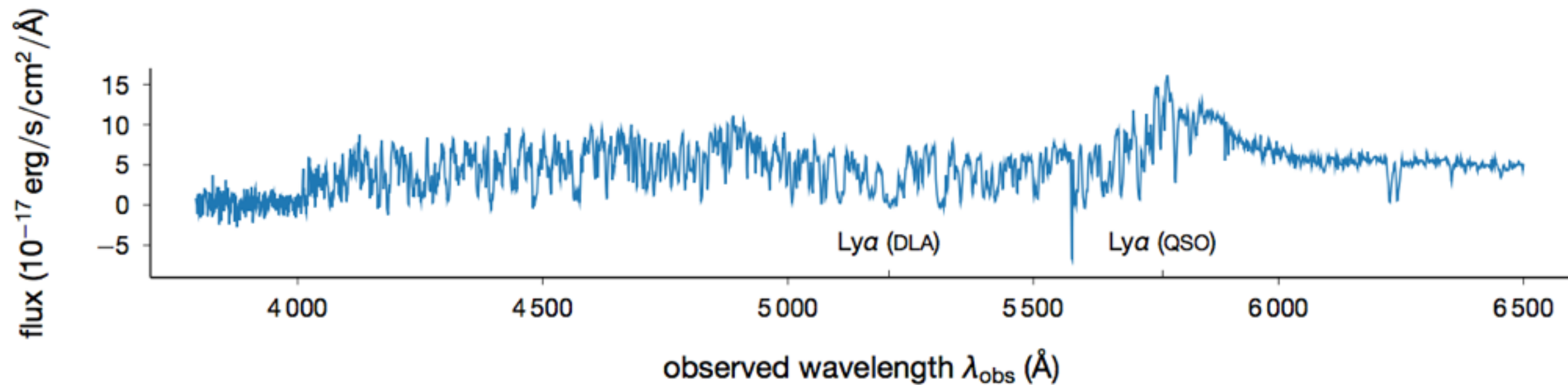
- Standard analyses: 2 point correlation functions / clustering / stacking
- Going beyond standard analyses
- **Going beyond 3D information that these large scale structure surveys provide: Digging into the noise!**

## Digging into the noise:

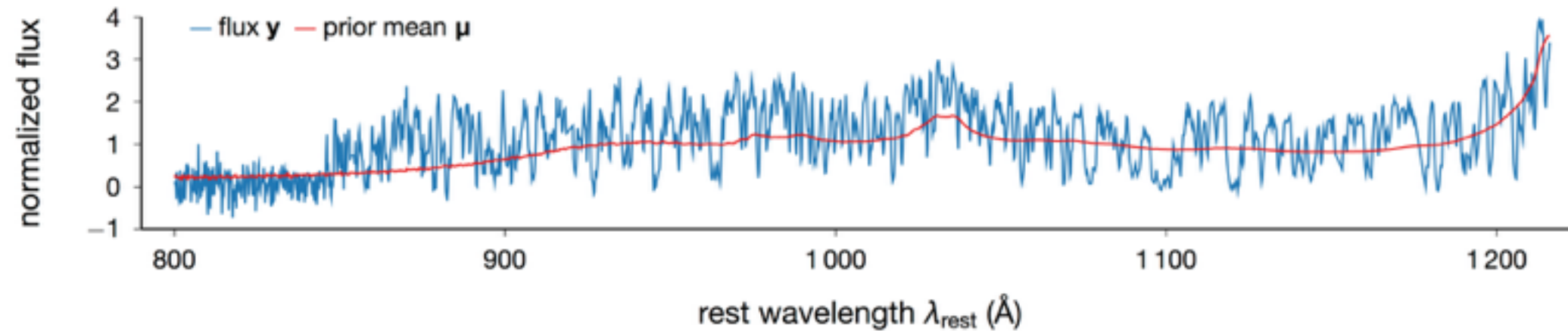
### What we do (and can do) with large spectroscopic datasets

- ~2 million spectra: for each source, we have  $O(1000)$ s datapoint, each tells you how bright the source is at a very small range of wavelength
- We **visually inspect**  $> 1$  million of all quasar (blackholes) targets. Takes approximately 6 person years.
- To find a) **special absorbers** such as Damped Lyman Alpha systems b) see if it is a **quasar** (blackhole) or not.
- We usually do not use much of the spectrum except to get its redshift, but we can and we should!

# Here is the problem: Finding dips in low signal to noise data



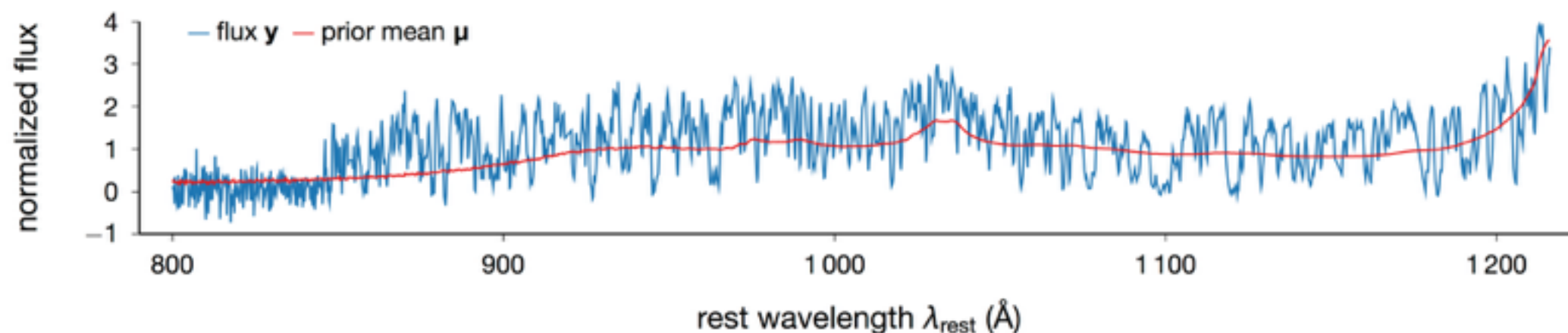
We first compute the model evidence of the *null model*; for our example spectrum we have  $\log p(\mathbf{y} \mid \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{v}, z_{\text{QSO}}, \mathcal{M}_{\neg\text{DLA}}) = -2589$ .



We approach this problem via *Bayesian model selection*. We build bespoke *Gaussian process* priors to model normalized QSO emission spectra in the range  $\lambda \in [800, 1216] \text{ \AA}$ . We build a *null model* for spectra without intervening DLAs, then extend this model to the DLA case.



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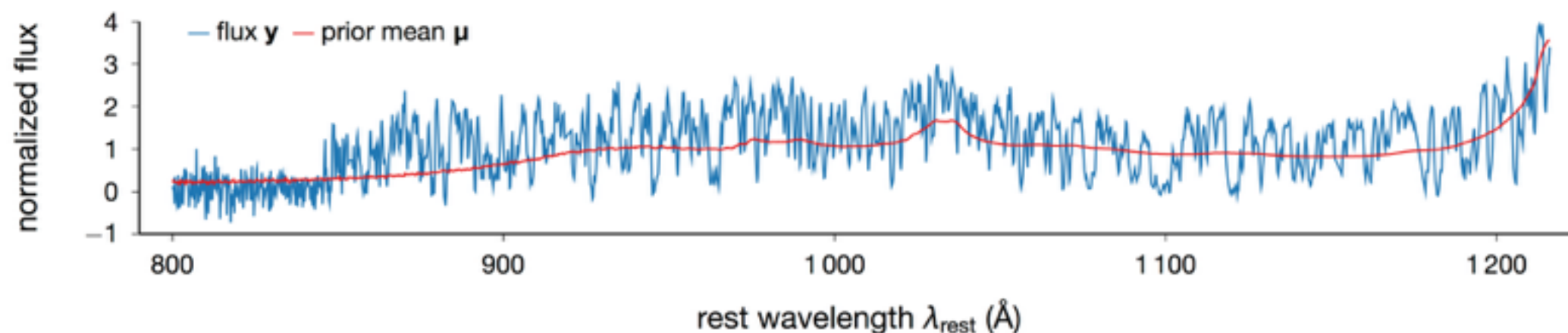
## Null model

We model QSO emission spectra without DLAs along the line of sight as having been generated independently from an unknown *joint Gaussian process* prior

$$p(\mathbf{y}) = \mathcal{GP}(\mathbf{y}; \boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{K} + \text{diag } \mathbf{v}).$$

We learn the parameters of this Gaussian process from nearly *50 000* example SDSS spectra. With these fixed, we may compute the *null model evidence* in closed form.

We first compute the model evidence of the *null model*; for our example spectrum we have  $\log p(\mathbf{y} \mid \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{v}, z_{\text{QSO}}, \mathcal{M}_{\text{-DLA}}) = -2\,589$ .



We approach this problem via *Bayesian model selection*. We build bespoke *Gaussian process* priors to model normalized QSO emission spectra in the range  $\lambda \in [800, 1\,216]$  Å. We build a *null model* for spectra without intervening DLAs, then extend this model to the DLA case.

## Null model

We model QSO emission spectra without DLAs along the line of sight as having been generated independently from an unknown *joint Gaussian process* prior

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## DLA model

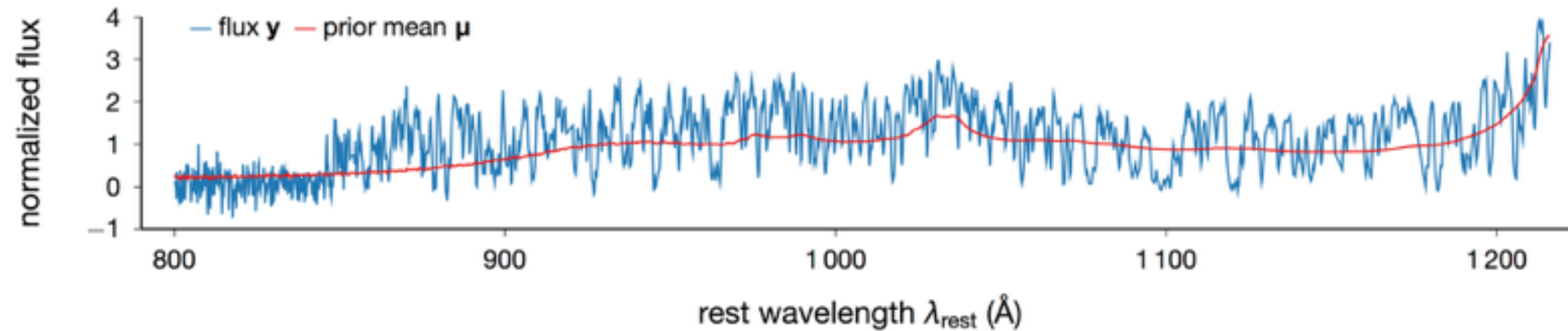
Assume a DLA occurs along the line of sight to a quasar at redshift  $z_{\text{DLA}}$  with column density  $N_{\text{HI}}$ . The effect on observations is to *multiply by a known absorption function*  $\tau$ :

$$y(\lambda) = f(\lambda) \exp(-\tau(\lambda; z_{\text{DLA}}, N_{\text{HI}})) + \epsilon(\lambda).$$

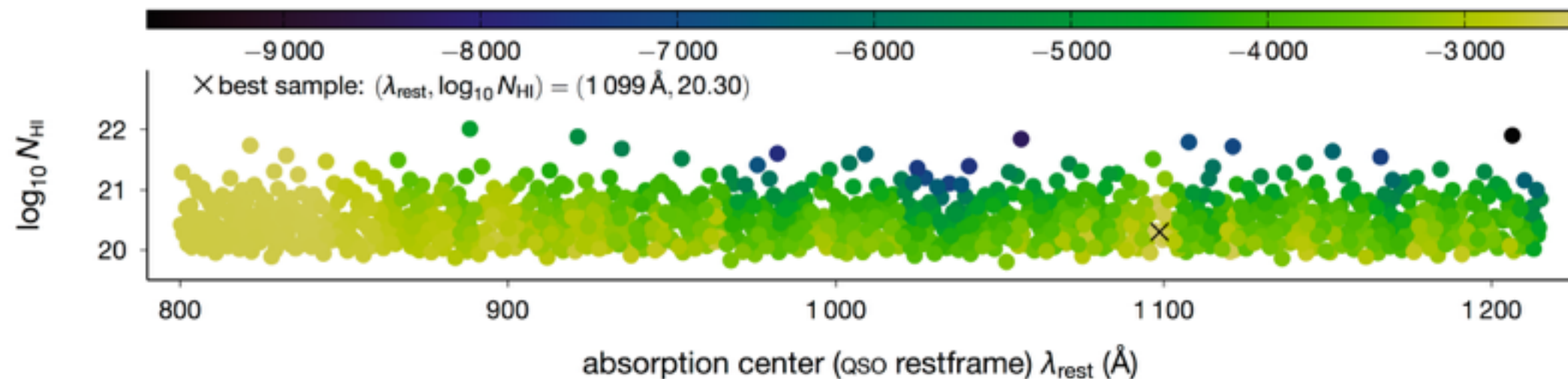
Gaussian processes are *closed under linear transformations!* To compute the model evidence, we must *marginalize* the parameters  $(z_{\text{DLA}}, N_{\text{HI}})$ ; here we use *quasi Monte Carlo*.



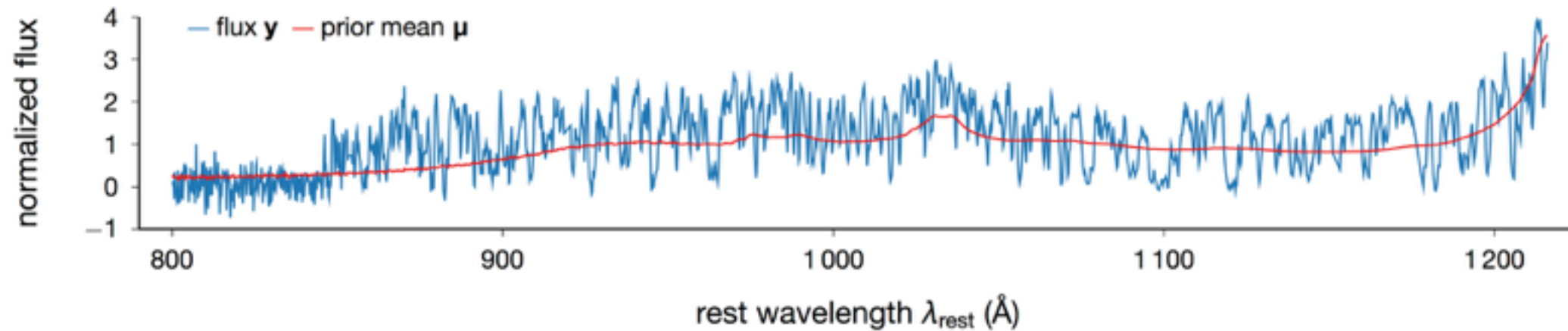
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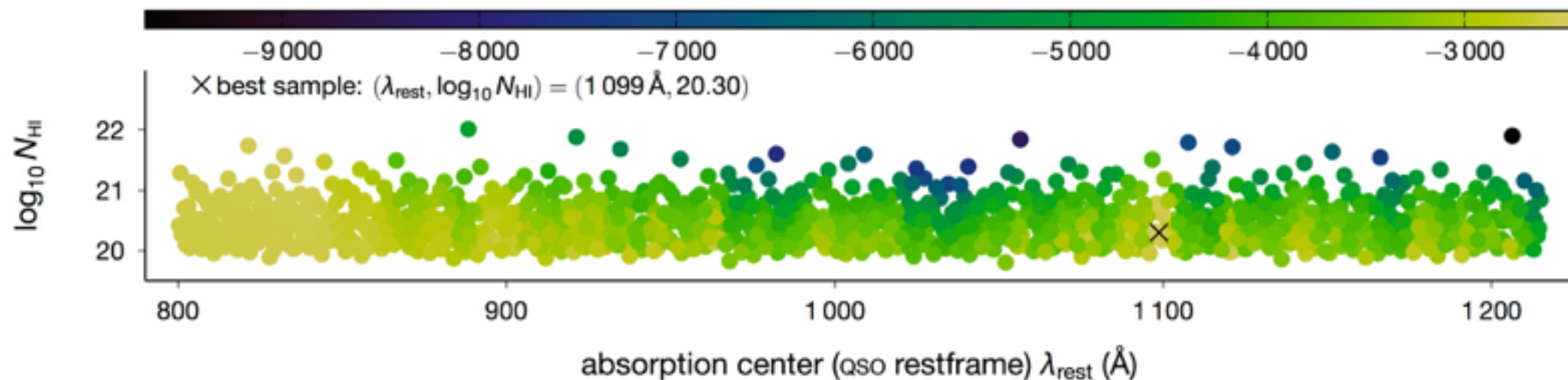
Next we estimate the model evidence for the *DLA model* via *quasi Monte Carlo*; for our example spectrum we have  $\log p(\mathbf{y} \mid \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{v}, z_{\text{QSO}}, \mathcal{M}_{\text{DLA}}) = -2\,453$ . The Bayes factor in favor of the DLA model is *overwhelming* (136 nats).



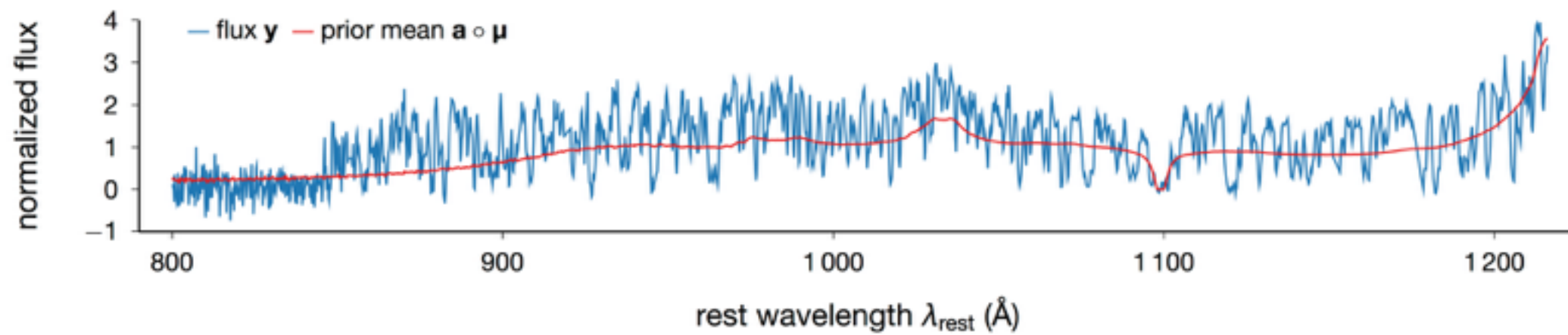
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The sample with the highest likelihood is an *extremely close match* to previously published values  $(\lambda_{\text{rest}}, \log_{10} N_{\text{HI}}) = (1\,098 \text{ \AA}, 20.29)$ .



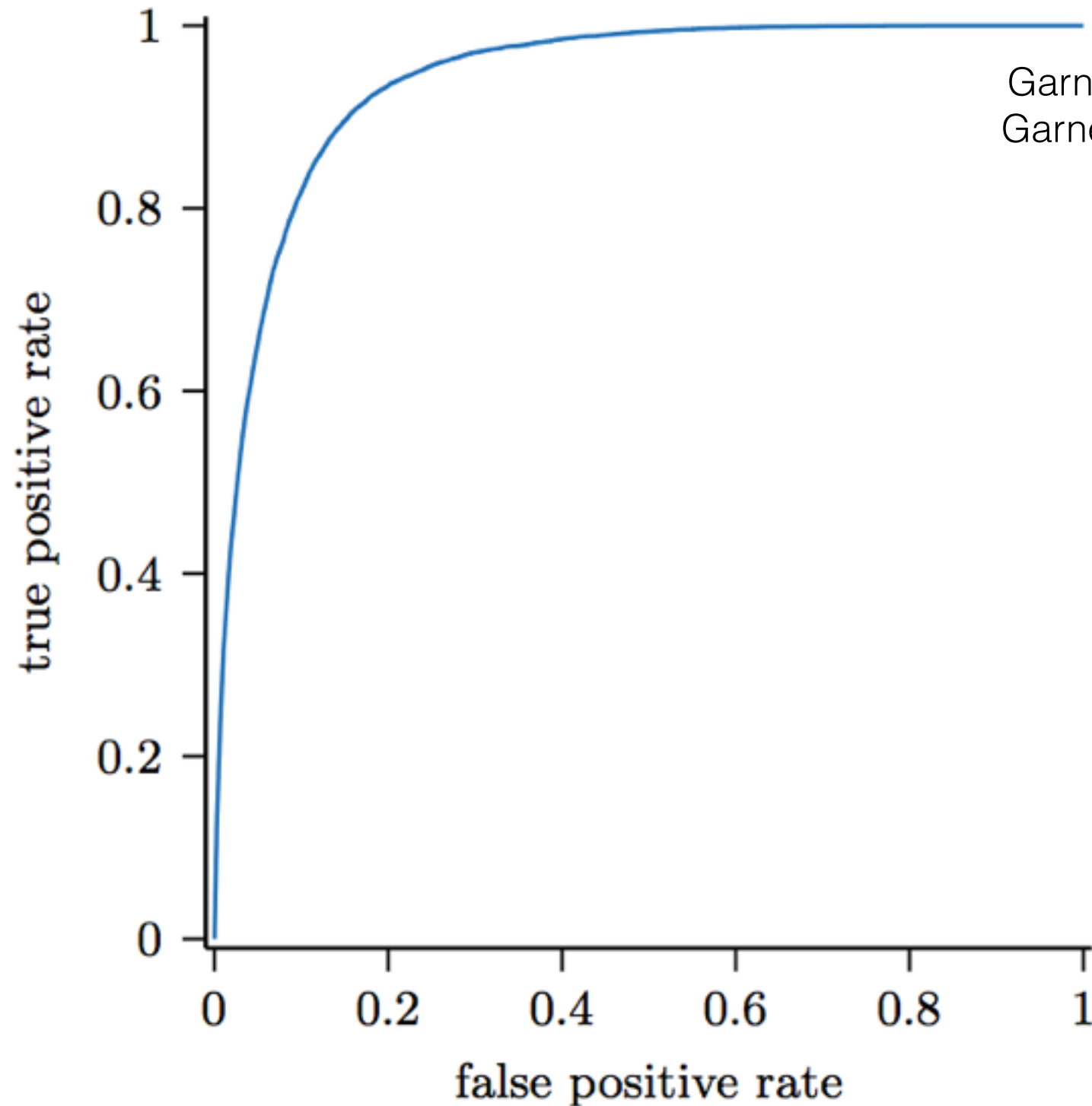
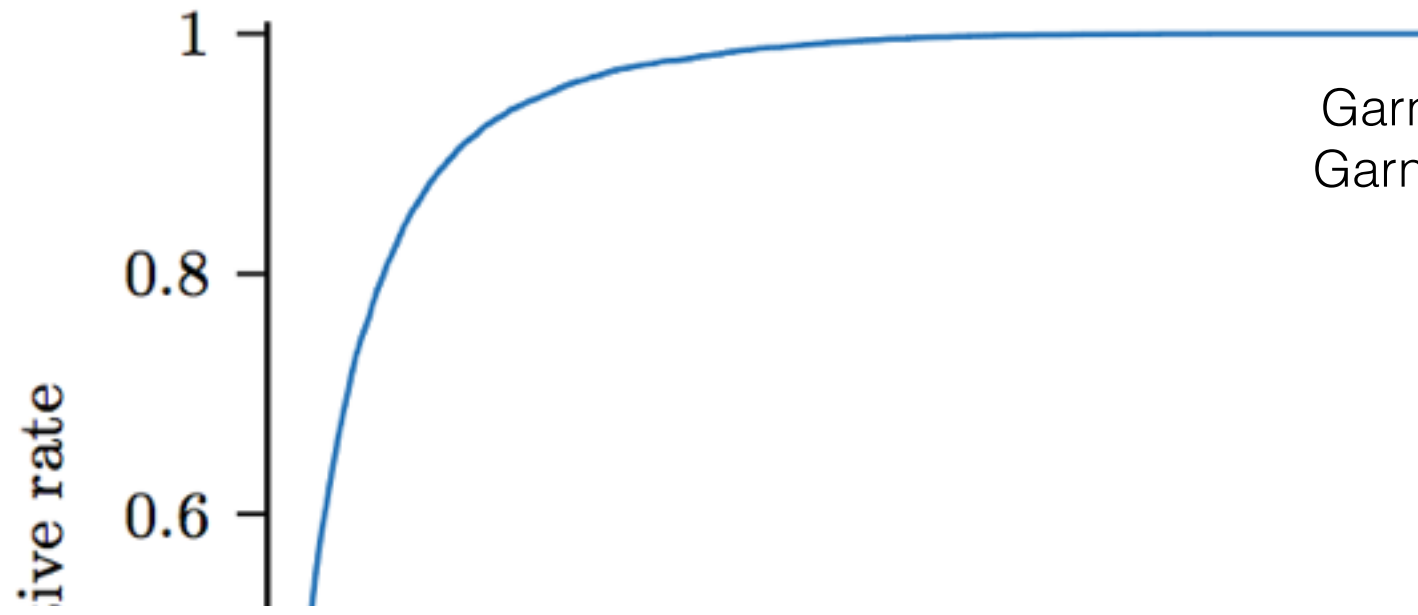


Figure 2. We processed over 100,000 Quasar sight-lines from SDSS and ranked them by posterior odds in favor of the DLA model. Ground truth is approximated by previous semi-automated approaches. The area under the ROC curve is 94.1%, and many “false positives” are likely to be newly discovered DLAs.





From >6 person years  
to 2 hours on one laptop

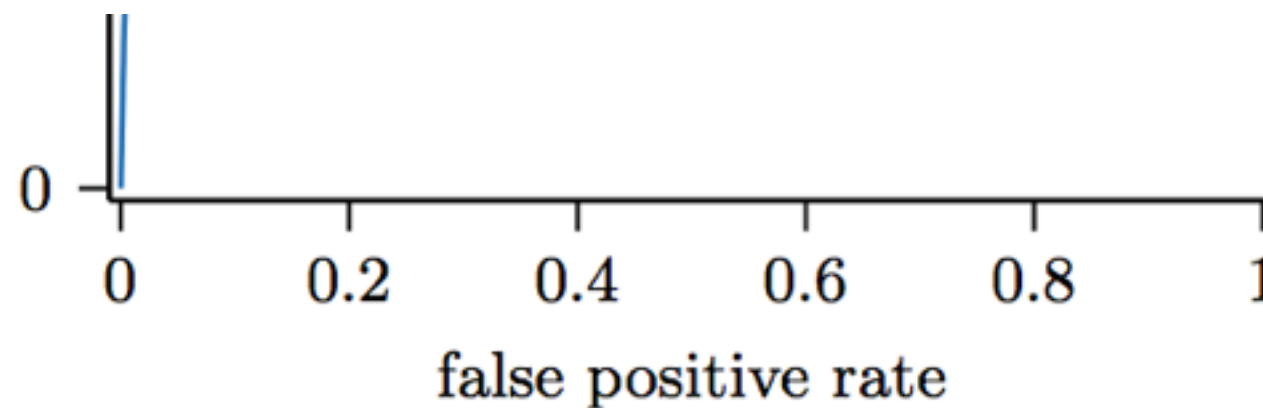
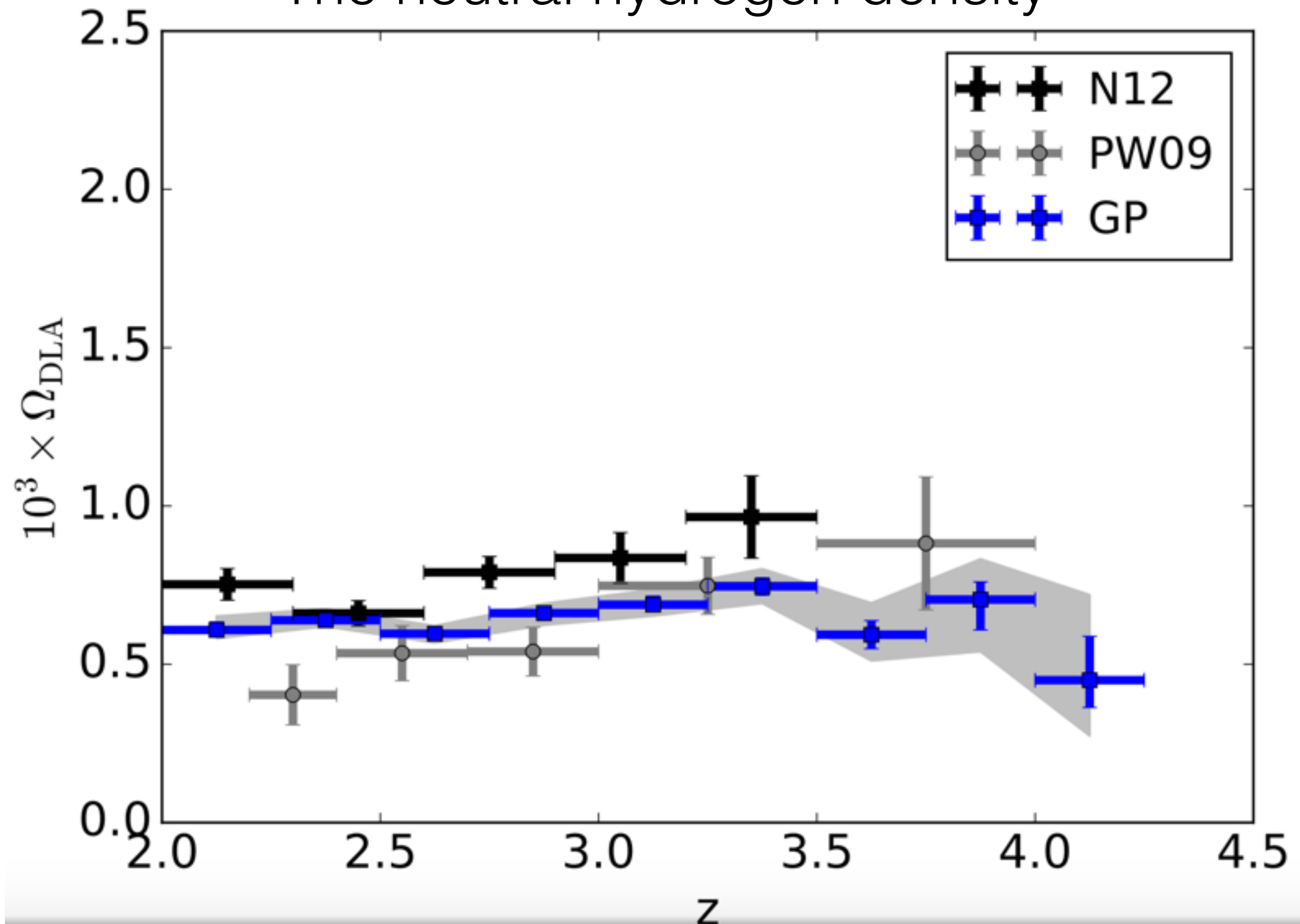


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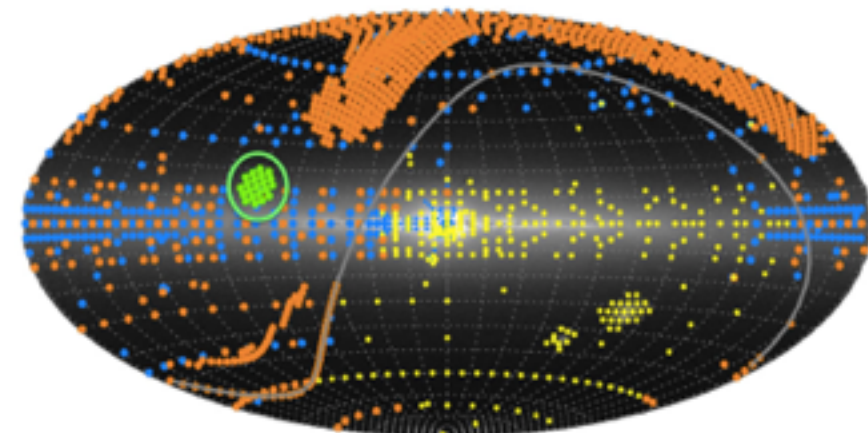
And we can do astrophysics with these objects!

The neutral hydrogen density

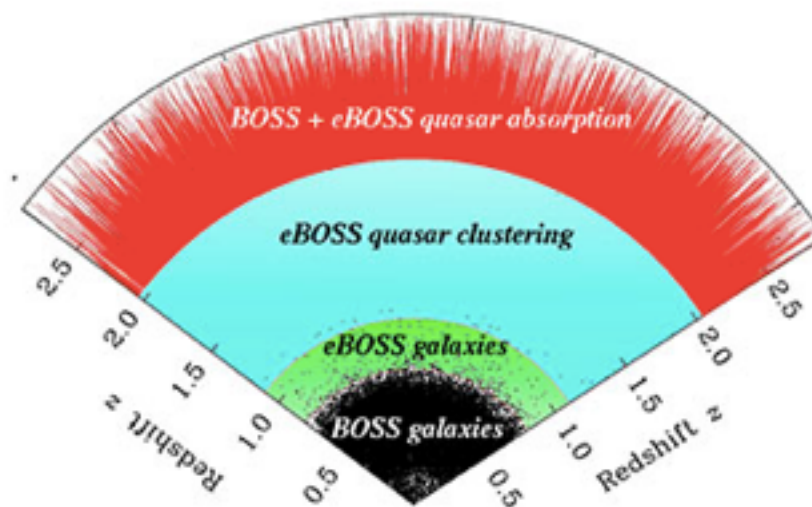


# Looking forward: Sloan Digital Sky Survey IV

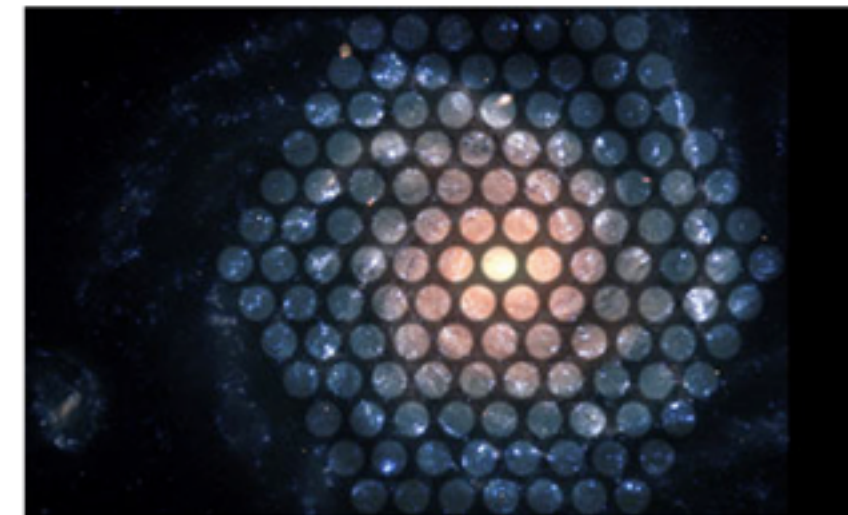
APOGEE-2



eBOSS

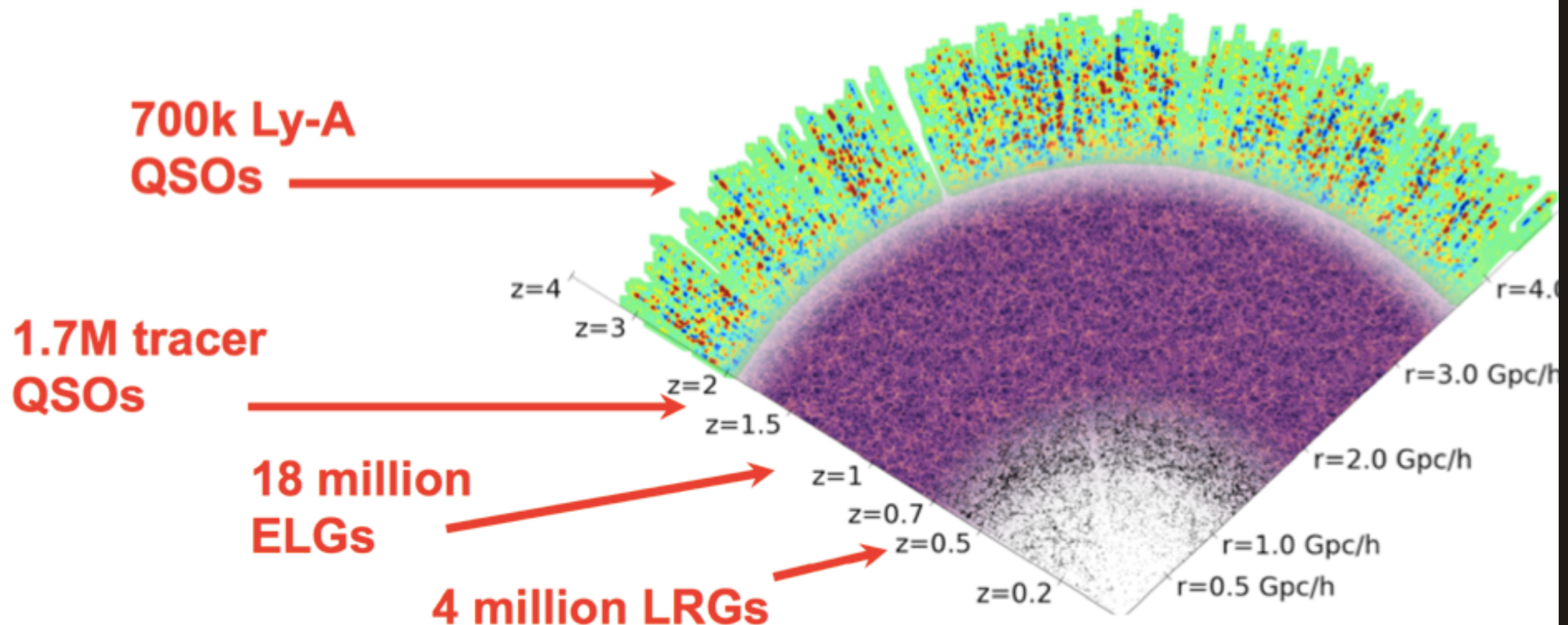


MaNGA



# Looking forward

Dark Energy Spectroscopic Instrument (DESI) (2016-)  
Each source has over 3000 data points !





# Looking forward

Euclid (ESA led space based mission) 2018-

Imaging: Visible : 30 gal/sq-arcmin

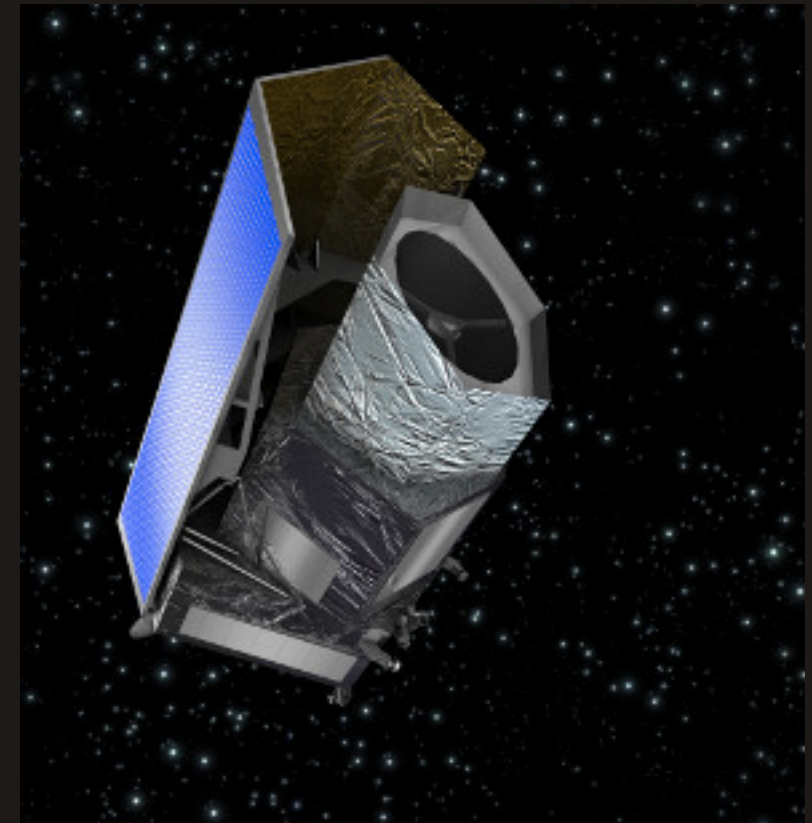
14000 square degrees -> 1.5 billion galaxies

Spectroscopy: 10 million galaxies, with spectroscopy (think X1000)

Aims: Mapping the Geometry of the Dark  
Universe via

Weak Lensing, Baryon Acoustic

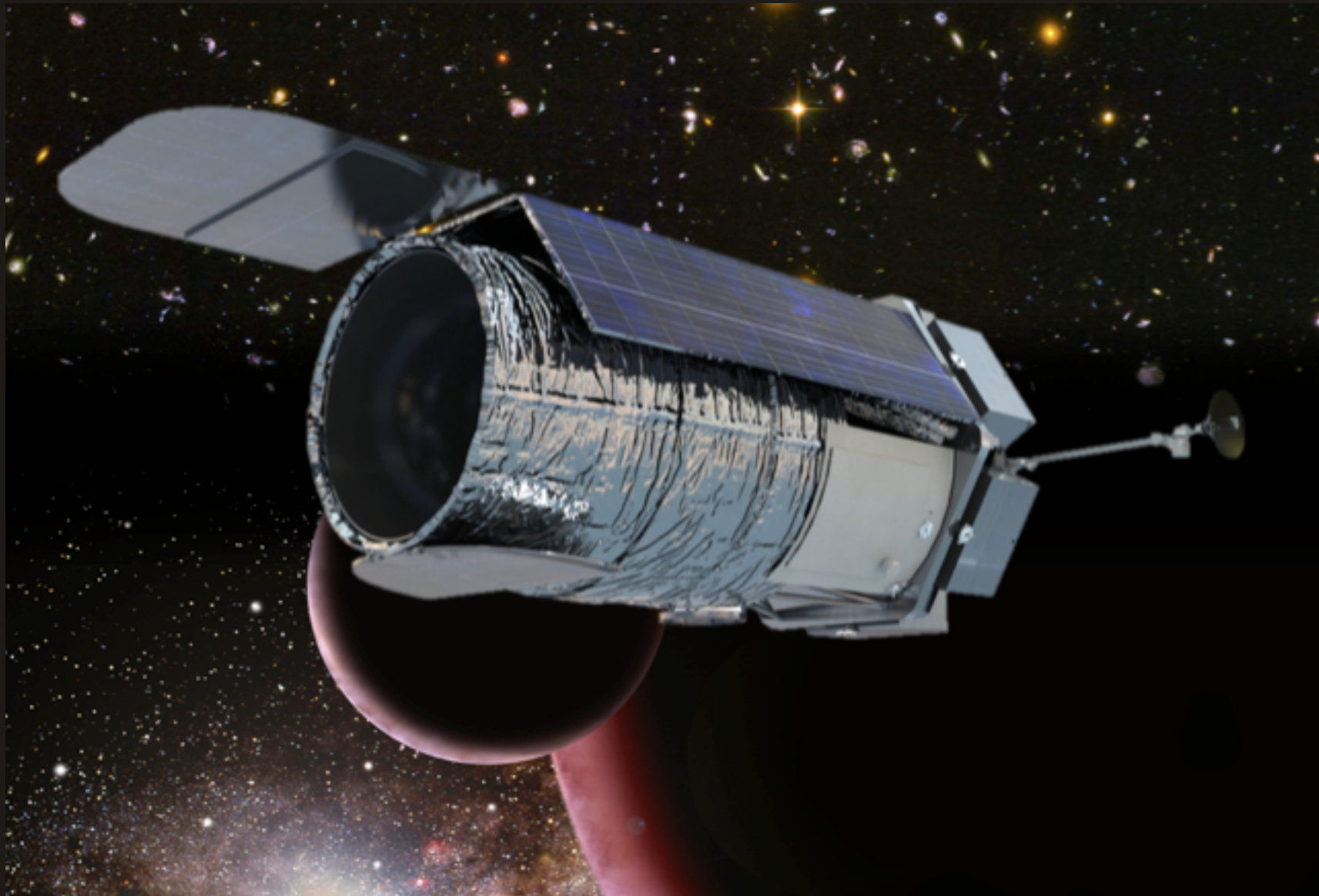
Oscillations, Redshift Space Distortions





# Looking forward

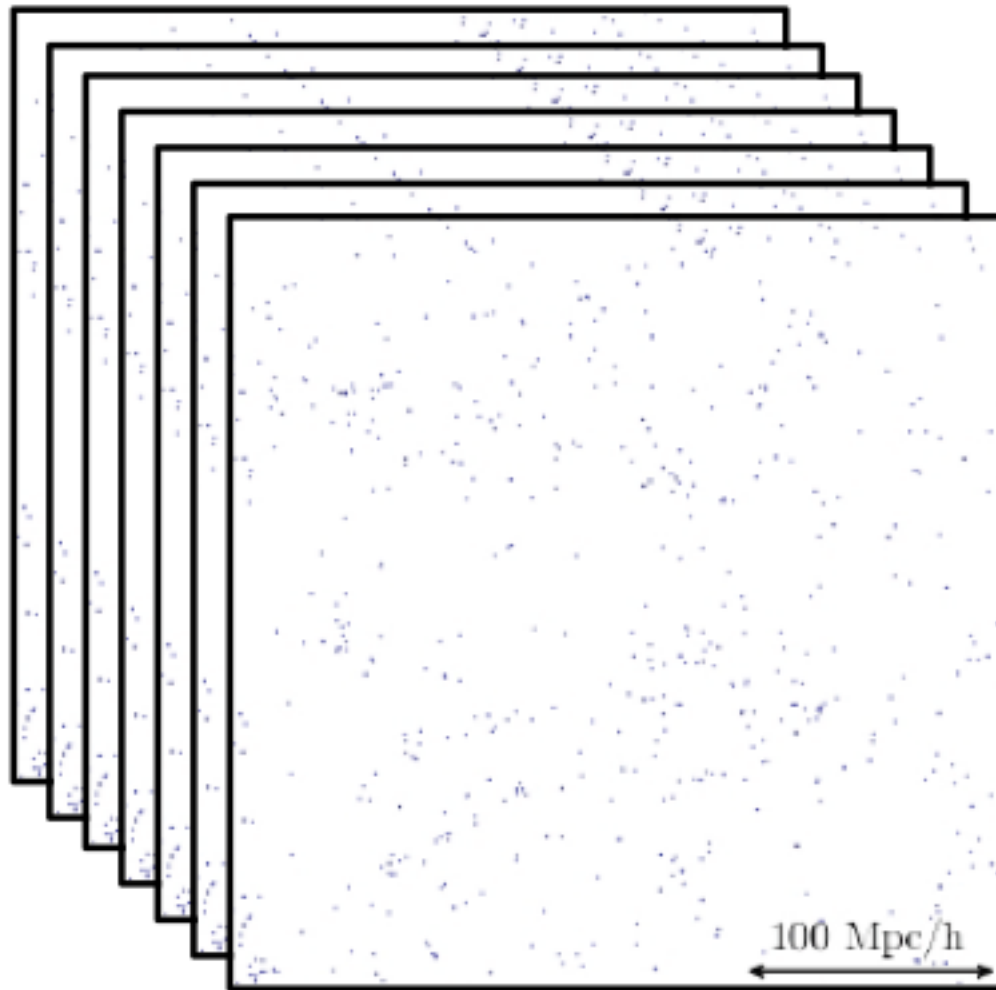
## WFIRST-AFTA



# Looking forward

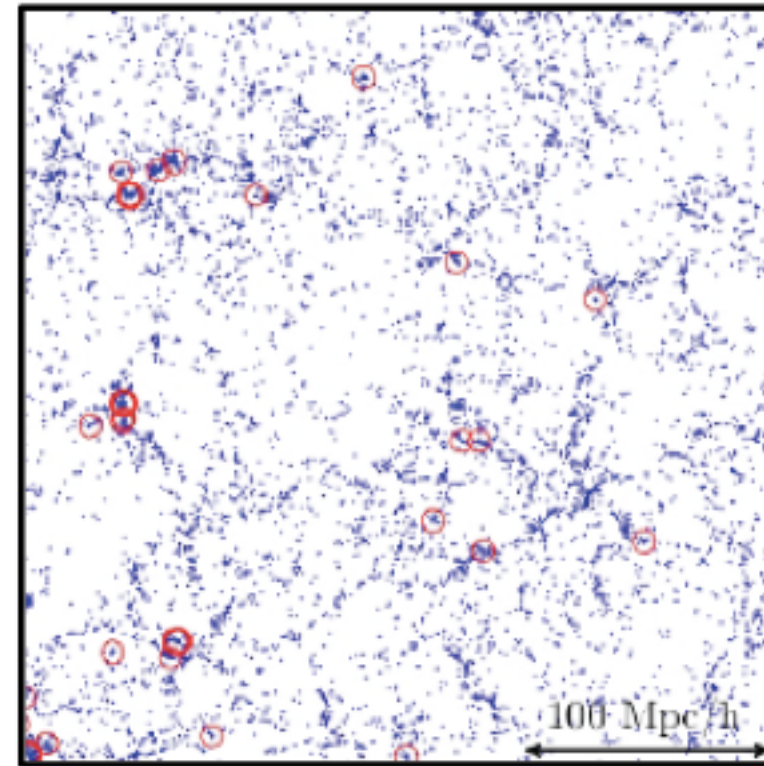


## Detailed 3D Map of Large Scale Structure at $z = 1-2$



**Euclid**  
**15,000 deg<sup>2</sup> @ 1700 gal/deg<sup>2</sup>**

Large scale structure simulation showing 0.1% of the total WFIRST-AFTA Galaxy Redshift Survey Volume



**WFIRST**  
**2,400 deg<sup>2</sup> @ 12,600 gal/deg<sup>2</sup>**

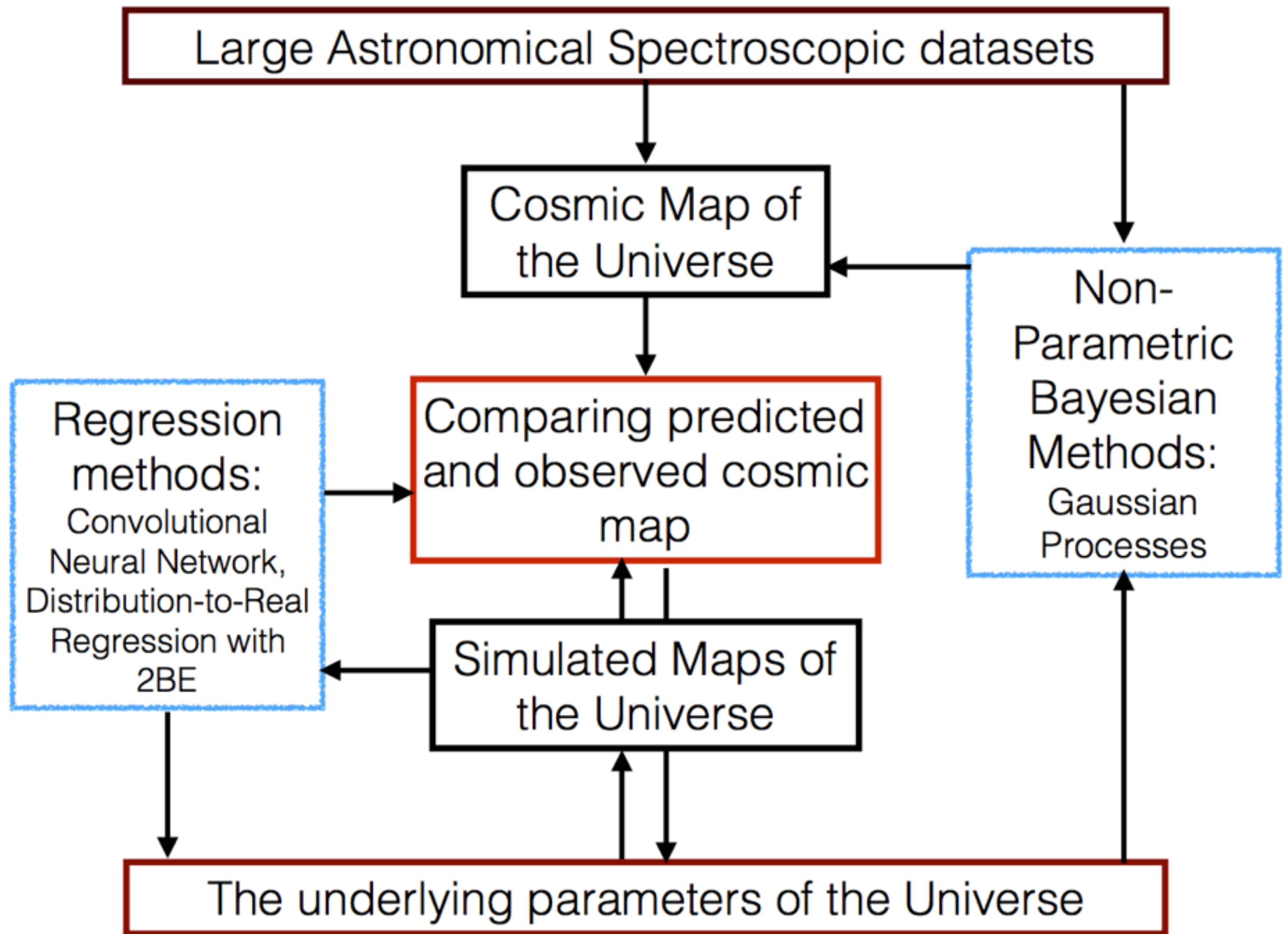
*Large scale structure simulations from 2013 SDT Report – courtesy of Ying Zu*

*Thin and thick red circles mark clusters with masses exceeding  $5 \times 10^{13} M_{Sun}$  and  $10^{14} M_{Sun}$  respectively*

# Conclusion

- New tools and methodologies pushes forward alternative summary statistics that actually does something we have not done before.
- This allows us to make quantitative statement of our cosmology AND improve our current cosmological understanding !
- There are many interesting fronts that we can push forward in accelerating science with help from statisticians, computer scientists, applied mathematicians.





# Predicting the amount of dark matter with Machine Learning

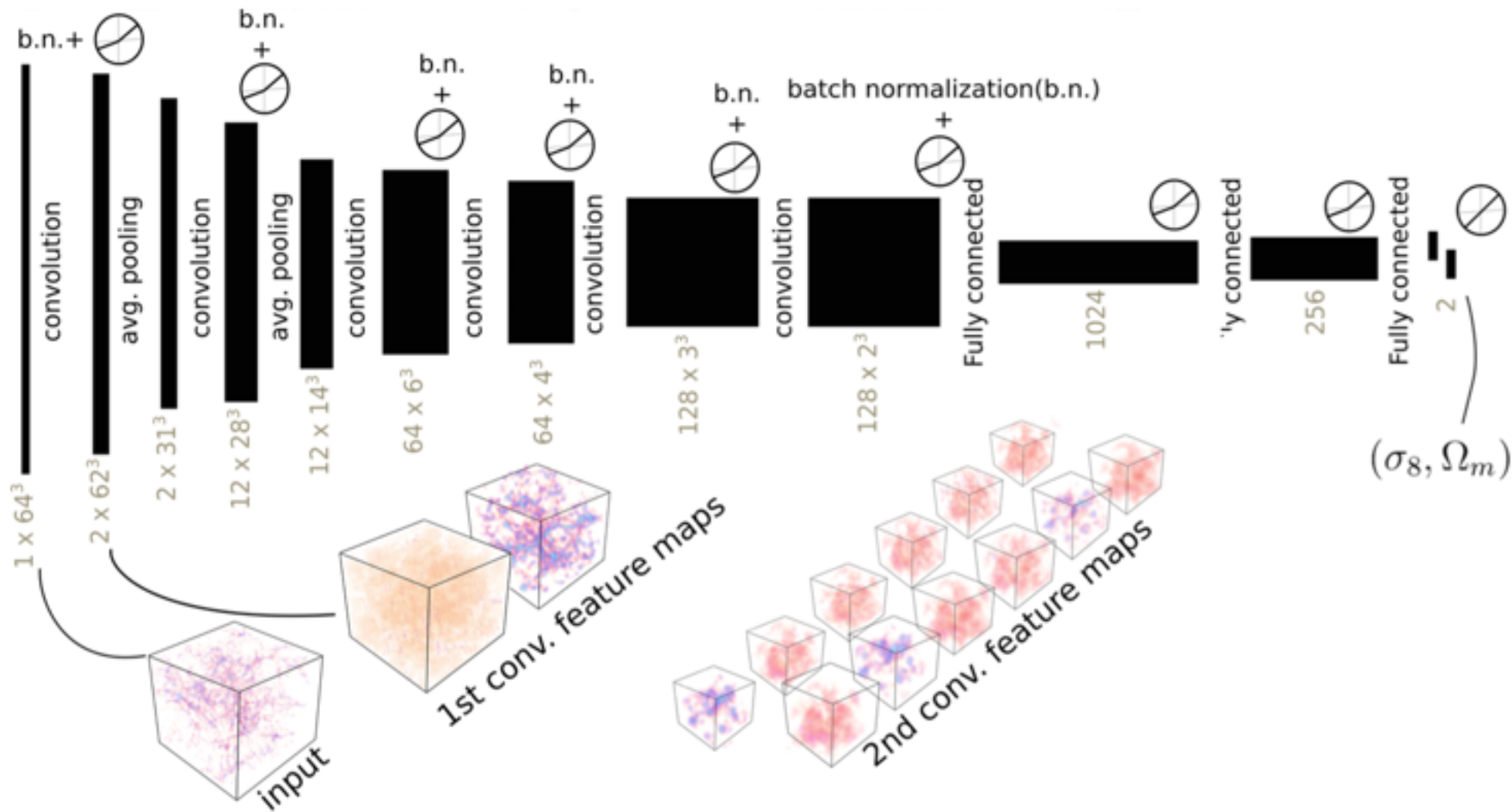
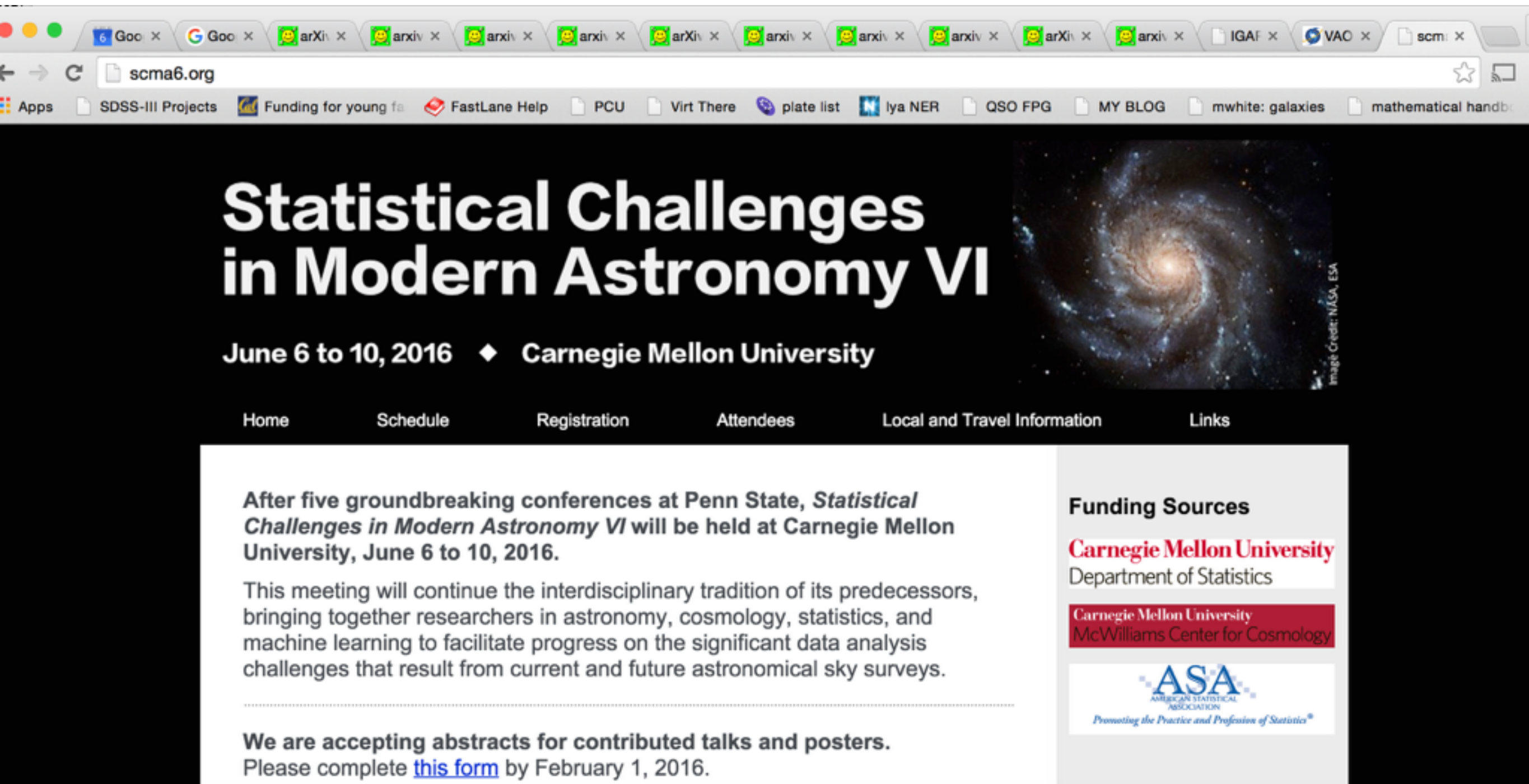


Figure 5: A possible proposed 3D conv-net architecture for predicting the parameters of cosmological simulations. The model has six convolutional and three fully connected layers. The first two convolutional layers are followed by average pooling. The layers can use leaky rectified linear units and batch-normalization (b.n.).

# Advertisement



The image is a screenshot of a web browser displaying the website for the conference 'Statistical Challenges in Modern Astronomy VI'. The browser's address bar shows 'scma6.org'. The page features a navigation menu with links for Home, Schedule, Registration, Attendees, Local and Travel Information, and Links. The main content area includes a title, dates, location, a description of the conference, and a call to action for abstract submissions. On the right side, there is a section for 'Funding Sources' listing Carnegie Mellon University, the Department of Statistics, and the McWilliams Center for Cosmology, along with the logo of the American Statistical Association (ASA).

## Statistical Challenges in Modern Astronomy VI

June 6 to 10, 2016 ♦ Carnegie Mellon University

Home   Schedule   Registration   Attendees   Local and Travel Information   Links

After five groundbreaking conferences at Penn State, *Statistical Challenges in Modern Astronomy VI* will be held at Carnegie Mellon University, June 6 to 10, 2016.


This meeting will continue the interdisciplinary tradition of its predecessors, bringing together researchers in astronomy, cosmology, statistics, and machine learning to facilitate progress on the significant data analysis challenges that result from current and future astronomical sky surveys.

We are accepting abstracts for contributed talks and posters. Please complete [this form](#) by February 1, 2016.

### Funding Sources

**Carnegie Mellon University**  
Department of Statistics

Carnegie Mellon University  
McWilliams Center for Cosmology



ASA  
AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION  
Promoting the Practice and Profession of Statistics®



# Advertisement

## **Speakers**

The program is under development but tentatively includes

**keynote talks by** Zeljko Ivezic (Univ. of Washington) and Robert Tibshirani (Stanford);

**invited talks by astronomers/cosmologists** Coryn Bailer-Jones (Max Planck Institute for Astronomy), Rebekah Dawson (UC Berkeley), Laurent Eyser (Geneva), Daniel Foreman-Mackey (Univ. of Washington), Ashish Mahabal (Caltech), Rachel Mandelbaum (CMU), Phil Marshall (SLAC), Brice Menard (Johns Hopkins), Pavlos Protopapas (Harvard), Lucianne Walkowicz (Princeton), Risa Wechsler (Stanford);

**and by experts in statistical and machine learning methods:** Ethan Anderes (UC Davis), Jeremy Kubica (Google), Ann Lee (CMU), Thomas Lee (UC Davis), James Long (Texas A&M), Jon McAuliffe (UC Berkeley), Xiao Li Meng (Harvard), Bodhisattva Sen (Columbia), Robert Wolpert (Duke).

**There will also be interdisciplinary research commentaries from members of the SOC.**

---

## **Organizers**

**Co-Chairs:** Shirley Ho (CMU) and Chad Schafer (CMU)

# How would we compare data and theory in the age of data intensive astronomy research?

## Observations

## Theory

Improve methodologies in comparisons of theory and data.

Employ Tools from statistics, machine learning, computer science which can provide ability to uncover relations in data, isolate unusual classes of objects, find correlations in high dimensional space.

Establish new practices that will accelerate scientific discovery.  
Develop common code-base, new workflow that allow scientists to do what they do best: Transform scientific data and theory into discovery!

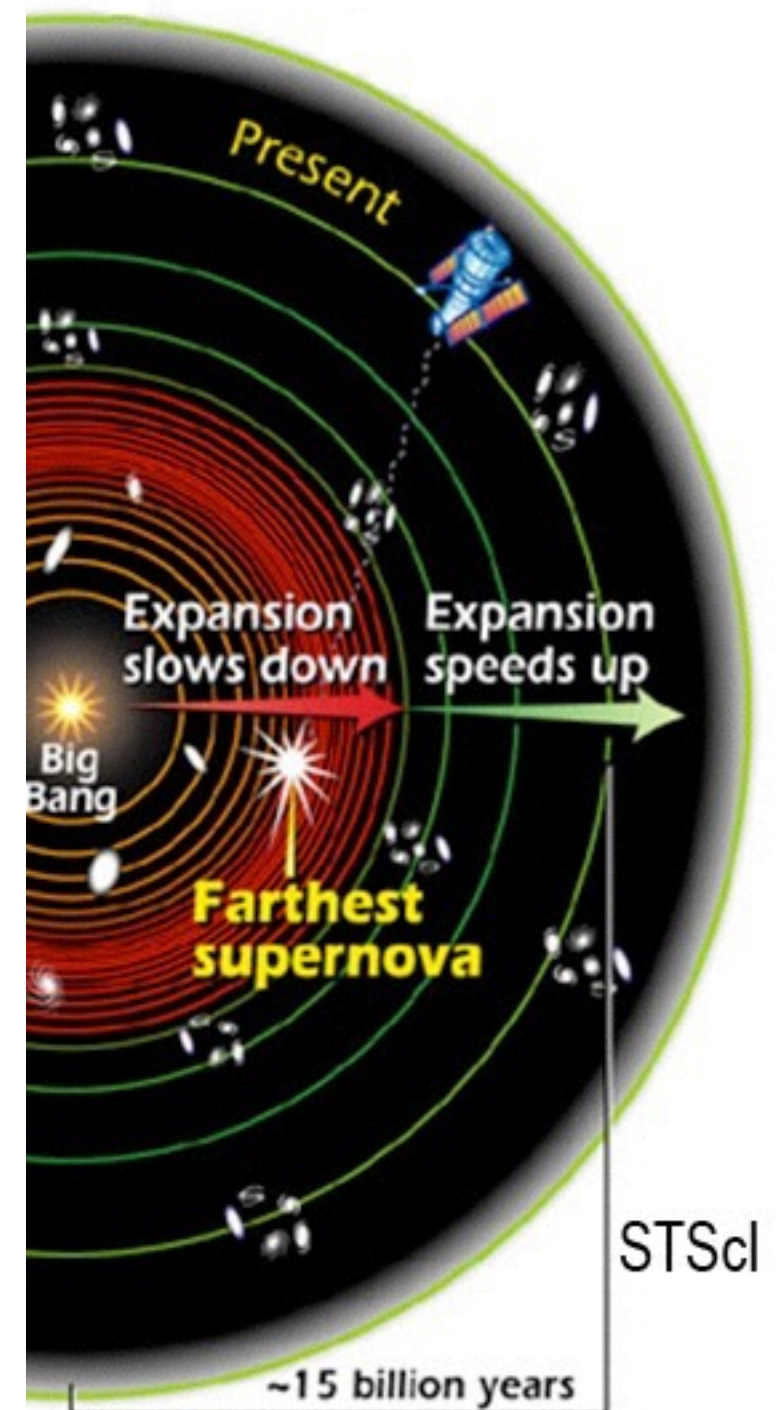




# Mapping Our History



Like tree rings mapping out the climate history of Earth, cosmic distances expand with time, **slowing down** and **speeding up**, mapping out cosmic history, which is affected by things like **Dark Energy, Dark Matter...**

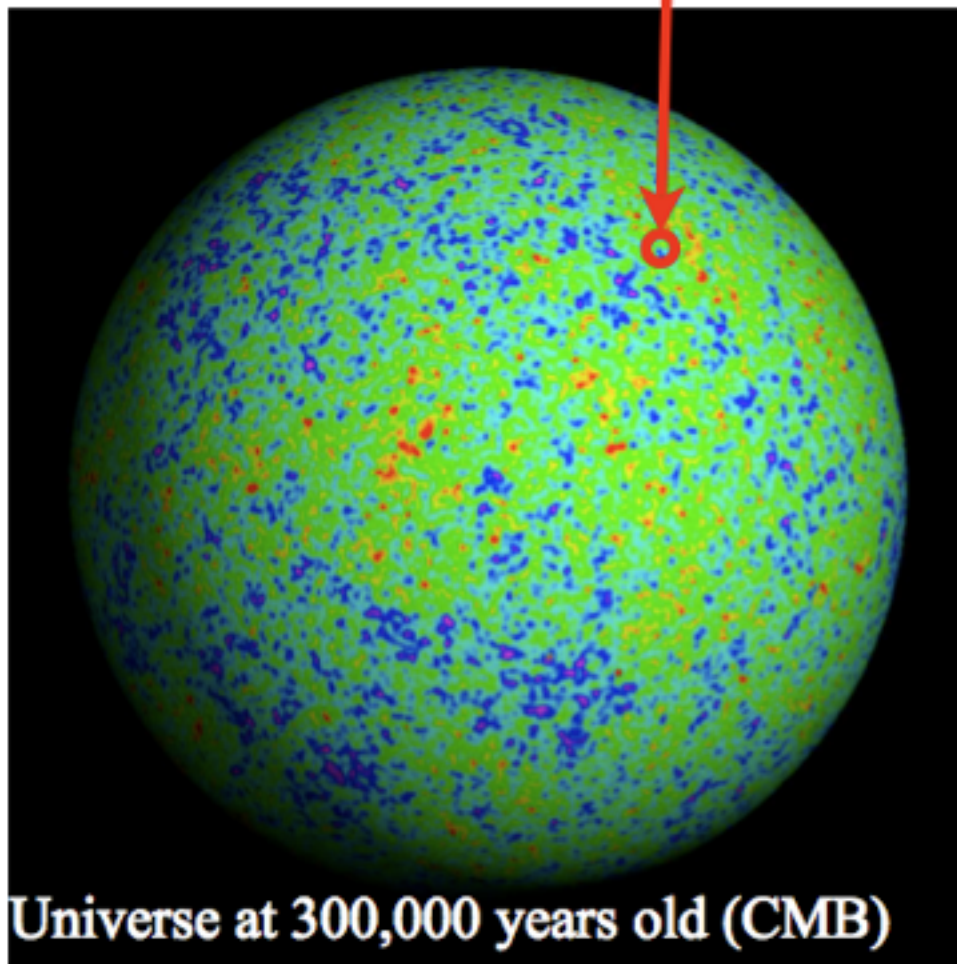




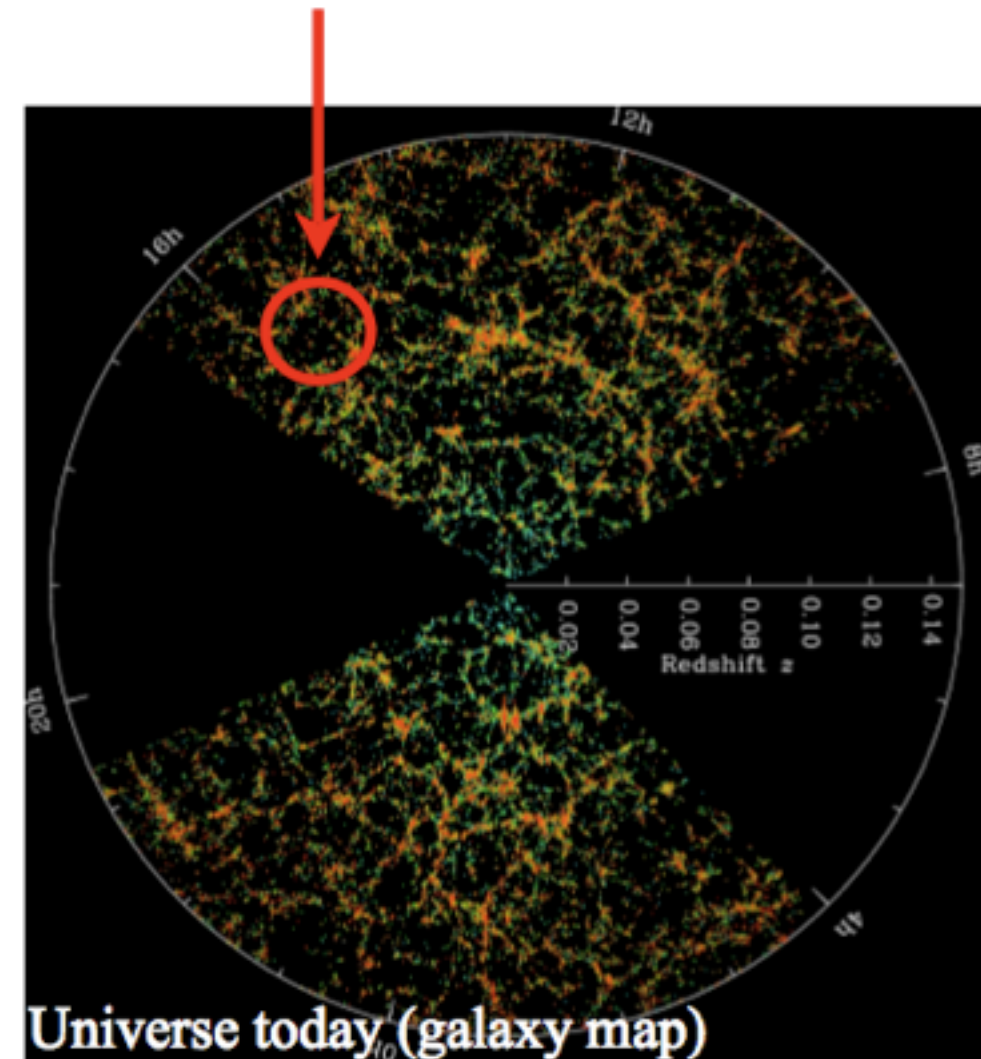
# Our tree-rings: “Baryon Acoustic Oscillations”

What are baryon acoustic oscillations (BAO)?

These fluctuations of 1 part in  $10^5$   
gravitationally grow into...



...these ~unity fluctuations today



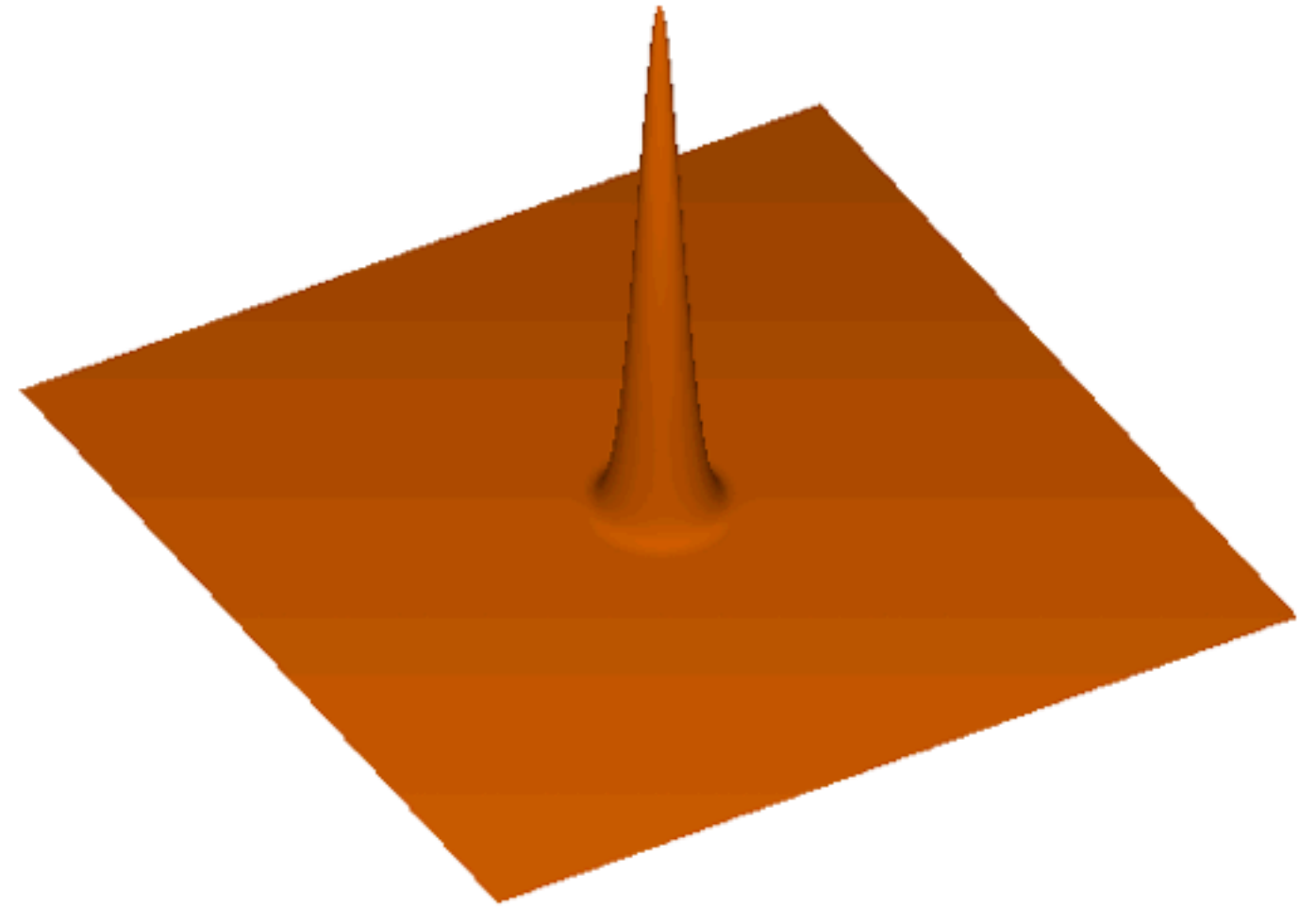
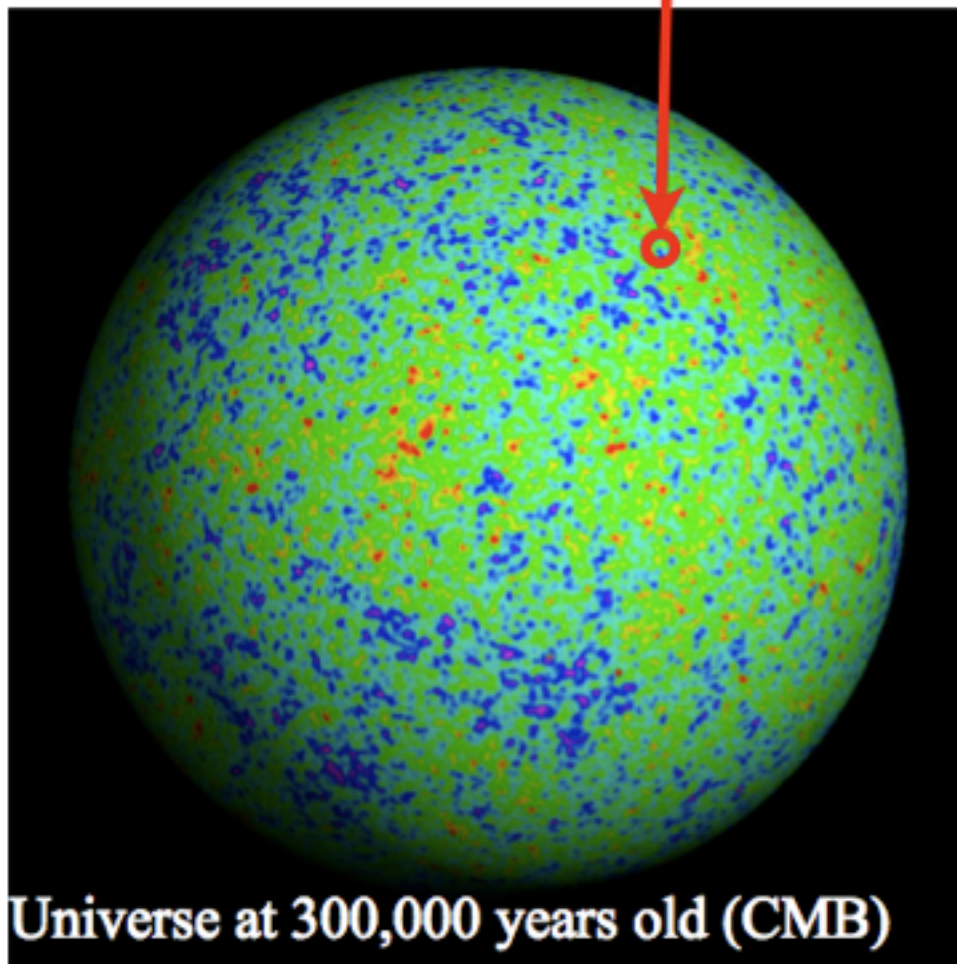
This sound wave can be used as a “standard ruler”  
Dark energy changes this apparent ruler size



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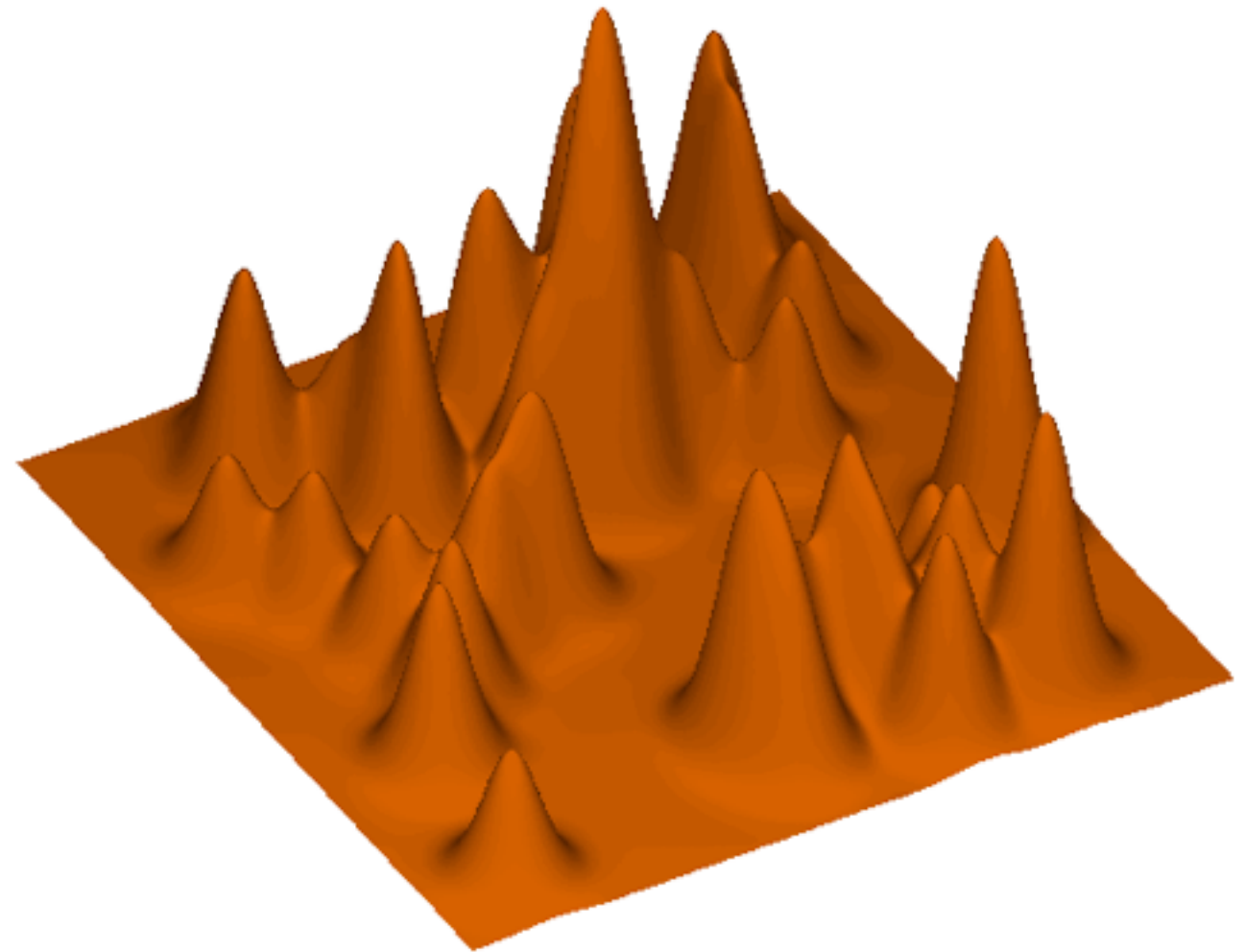
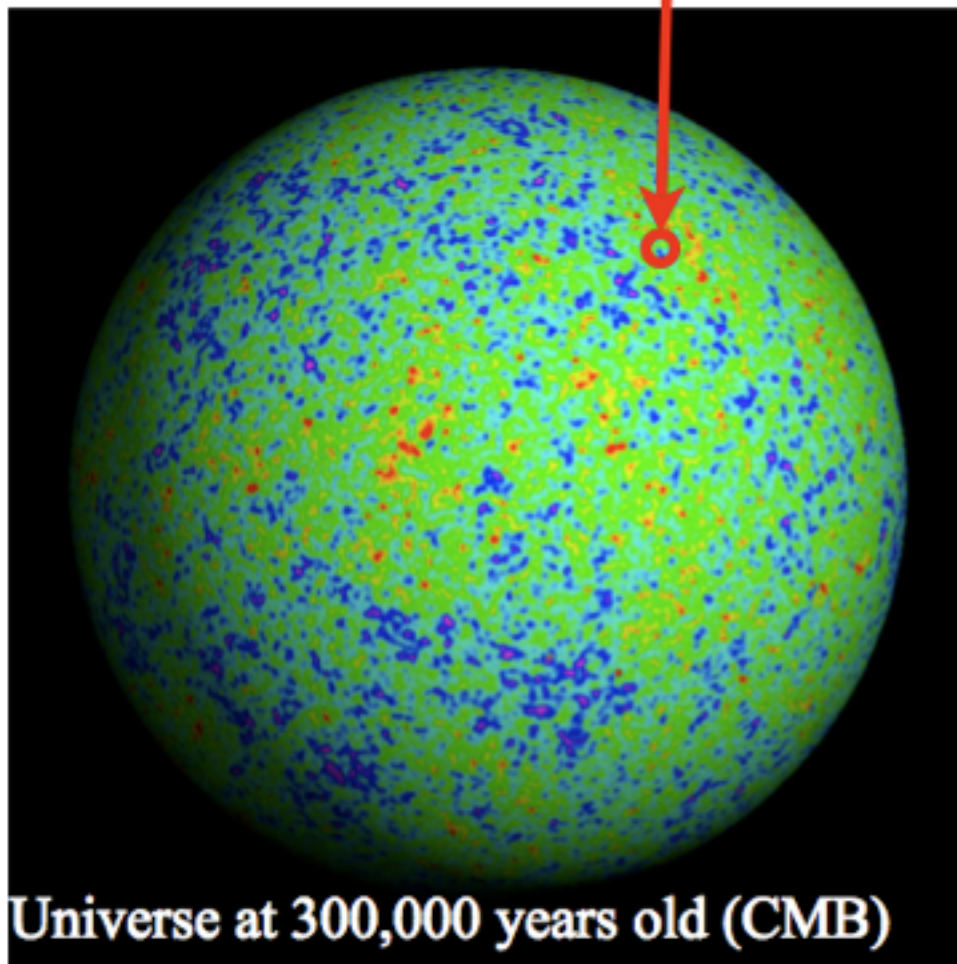
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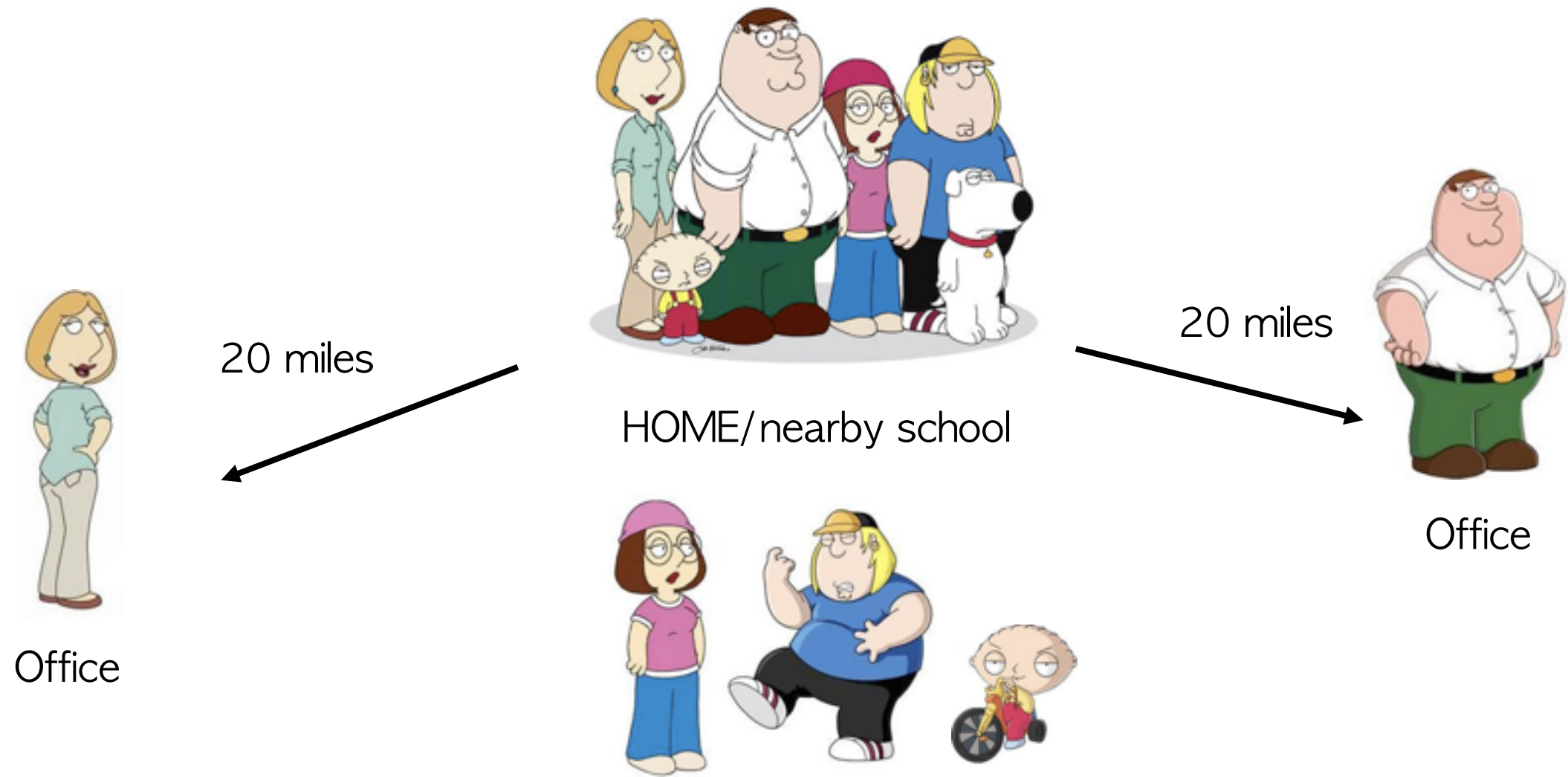


This sound wave can be used as a “standard ruler”  
Dark energy changes this apparent ruler size

# How do we detect Baryon Acoustic Oscillations?

To detect Baryon Acoustic Oscillations, calculate the Correlation Function

$$\xi_f(r) = \langle \delta_f(\hat{x}) \delta_f(\hat{x} + \hat{r}) \rangle$$



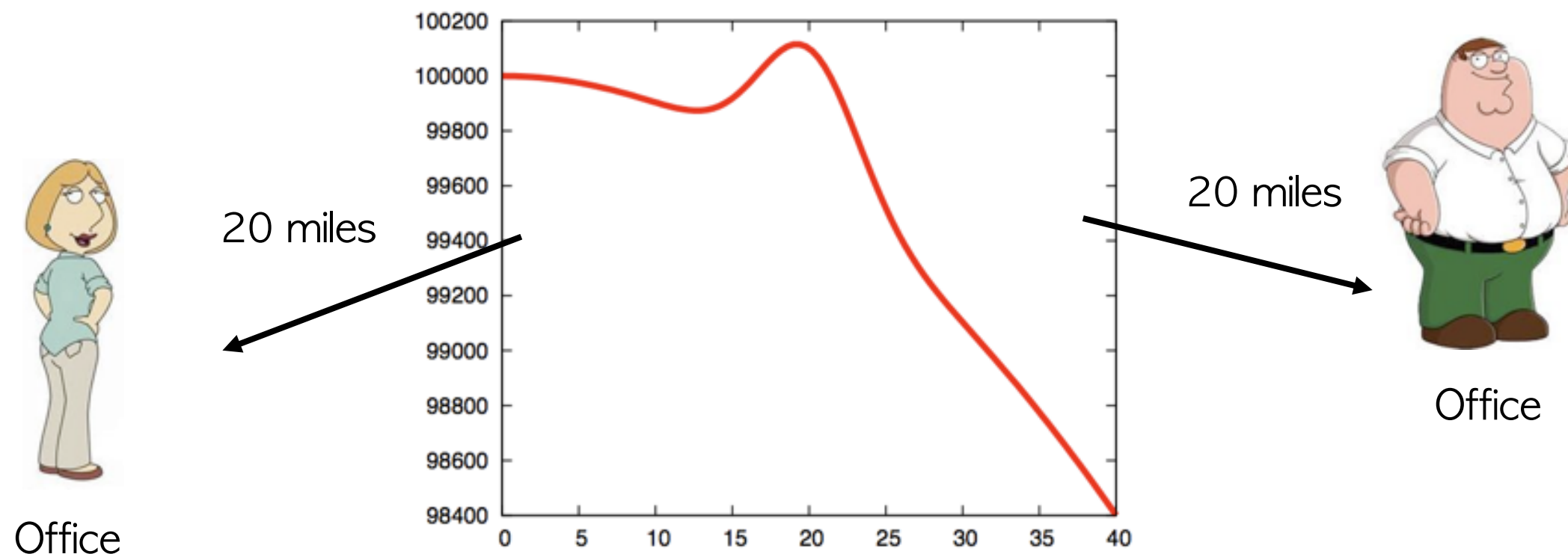


# Detecting Baryon Acoustic Oscillations!

To detect Baryon Acoustic Oscillations, calculate the Correlation Function

$$\xi_f(r) = \langle \delta_f(\hat{x}) \delta_f(\hat{x} + \hat{r}) \rangle$$

The Correlation Function of the population (during the day) is:



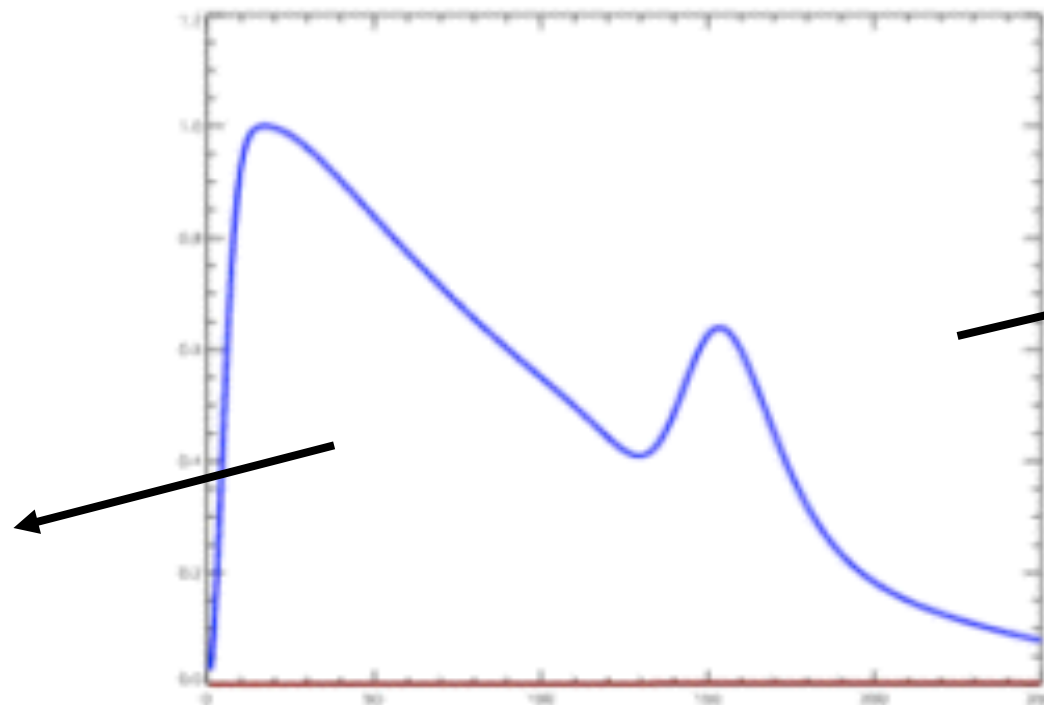
The bump will be at 20 miles!

# Detecting Baryon Acoustic Oscillations!

To detect Baryon Acoustic Oscillations, calculate the Correlation Function

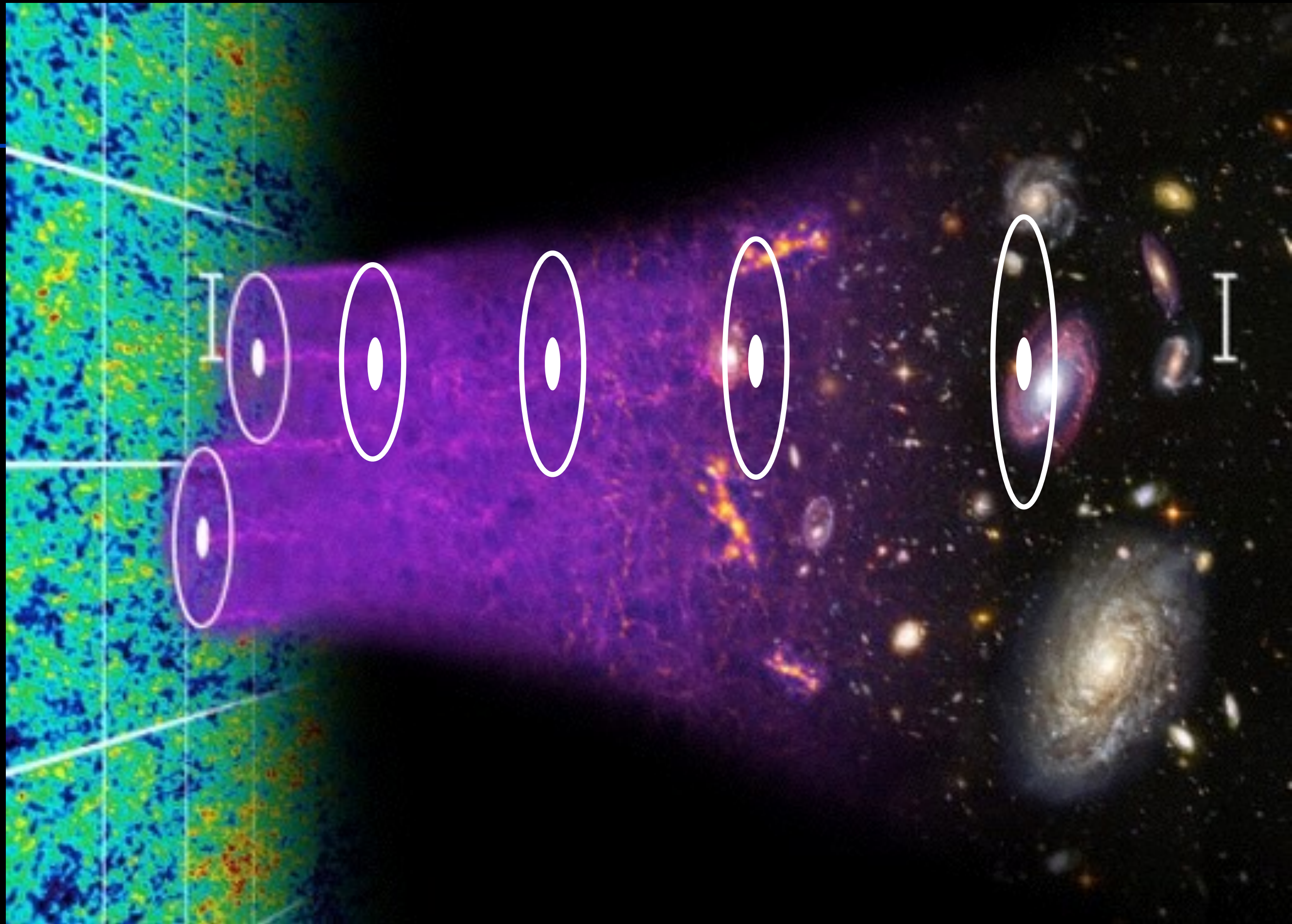
$$\xi_f(r) = \langle \delta_f(\hat{x}) \delta_f(\hat{x} + \hat{r}) \rangle$$

The Correlation Function of galaxies is:



The bump will be at about 470,000,000 light years.  
The effect is highly exaggerated for visual effects here,  
It is a 1% effect if we survey at least 470,000,000  
light years of the Universe.

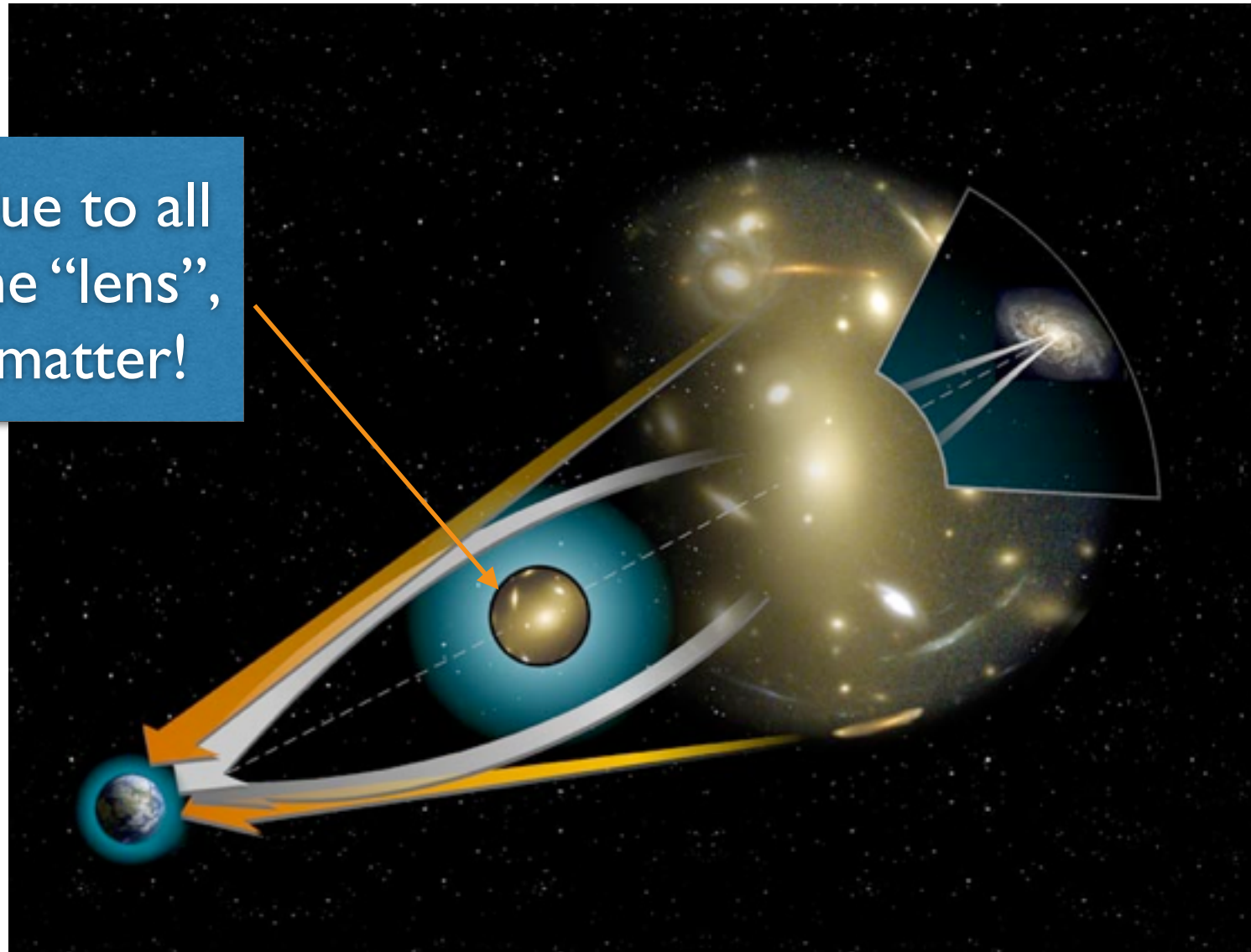






# Gravitational lensing: mass deflects light rays!

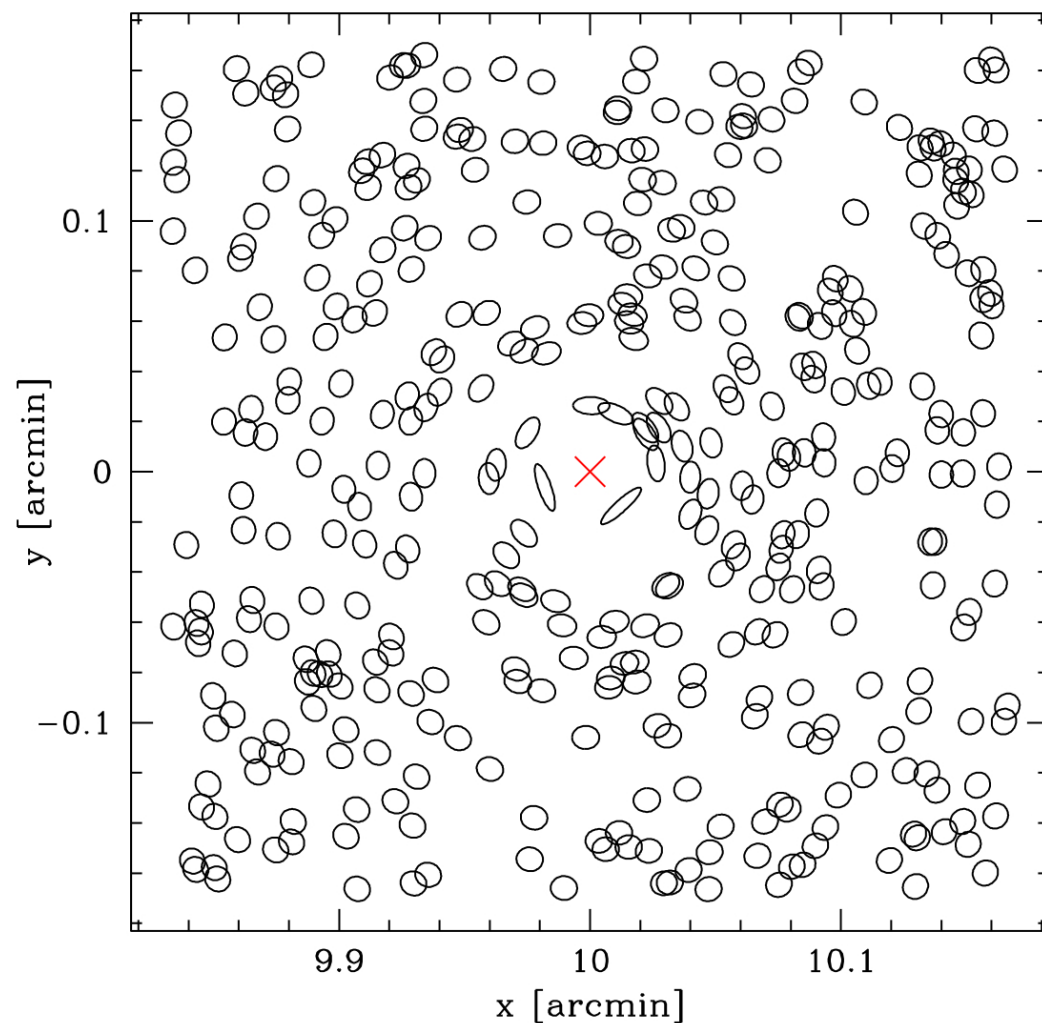
Lensing is due to all matter in the “lens”, even dark matter!



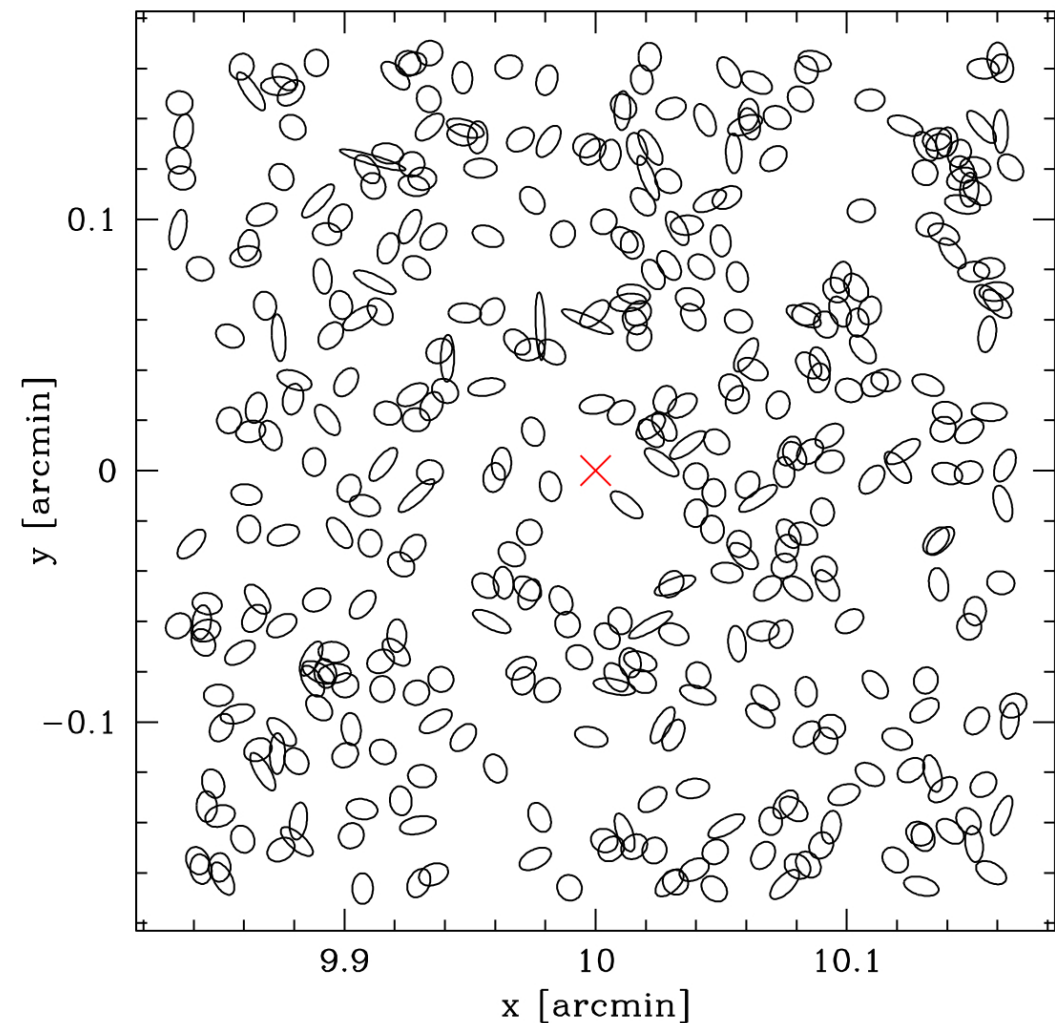
In the extreme case: multiple images = very striking!  
("strong lensing", very rare)

# Gravitational lensing: mass deflects light rays!

Lensing does this:



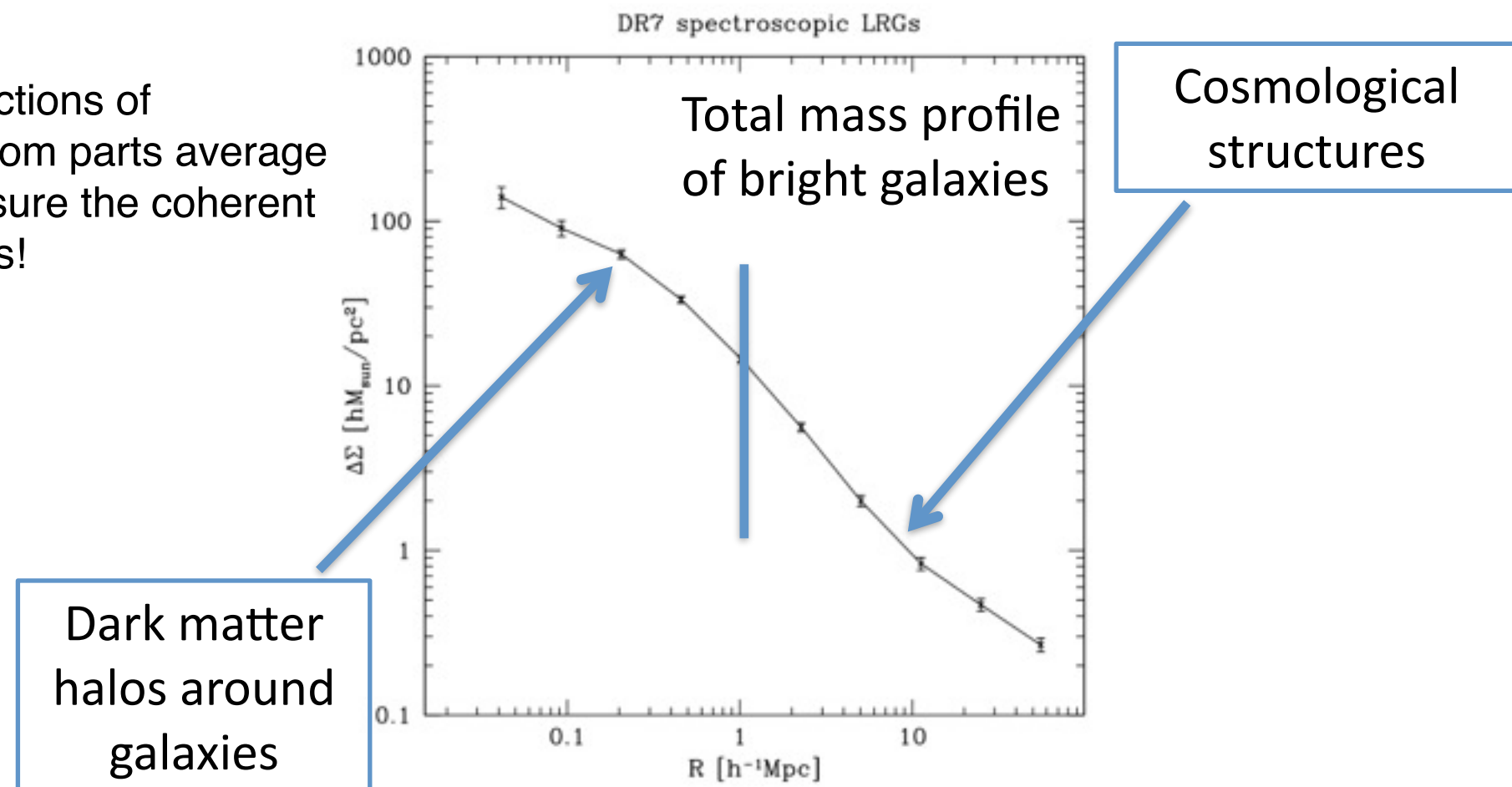
But we see this:



Weak lensing (galaxy shape distortions due to lensing) happens *everywhere*, but they are small = hard to measure

# Gravitational lensing: mass deflects light rays!

Measure correlation functions of galaxy shapes: the random parts average to zero, so we can measure the coherent lensing shape distortions!



Learn about galaxy-dark matter connection,  
dark energy and theory of gravity  
on cosmological scales!





**Observations:** Data from major astrophysical surveys

**Measured quantities:** lensing, large-scale structure, distance measures, abundances of interesting systems

**comparing predicted and observed data**

**Human Guided Science**  
anomalies, interesting phenomena, inferred parameter constraints

**Machine Guided Science**  
likelihoods, requested simulations

**Prediction tools:** Simulations, perturbation theory, mock catalogs

**Theories:** gravity, cosmology, galaxy evolution





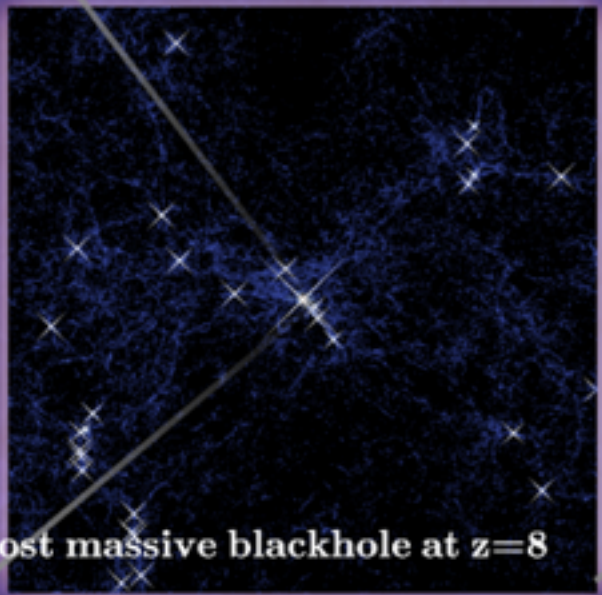
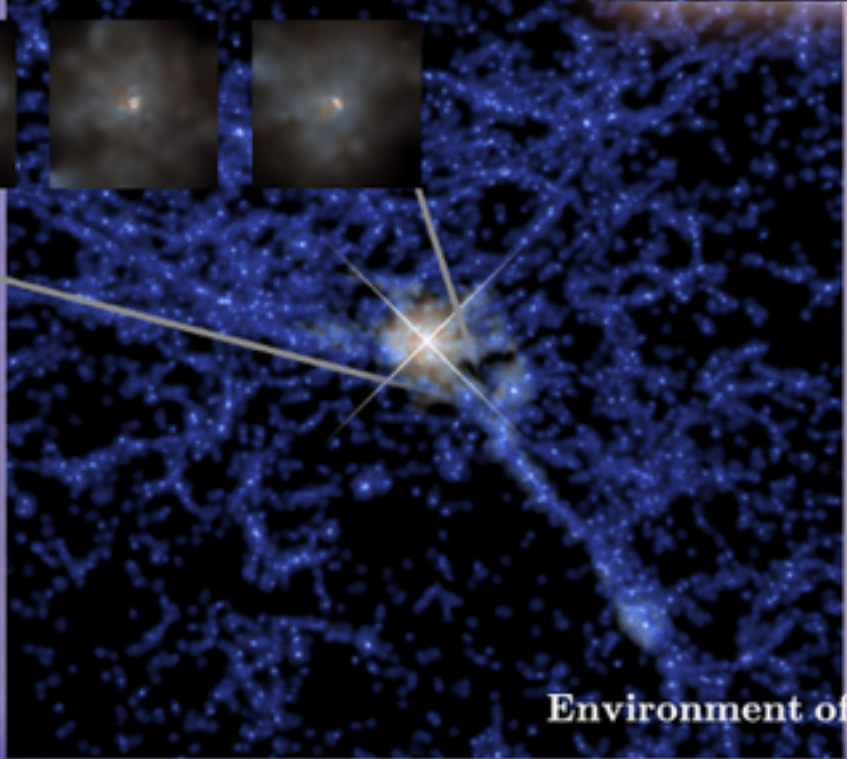
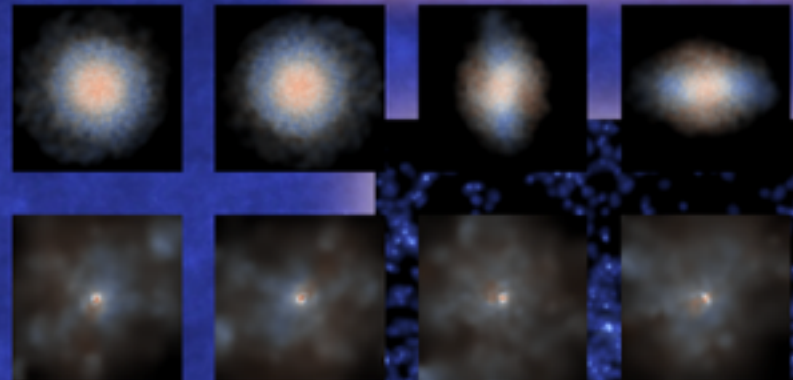
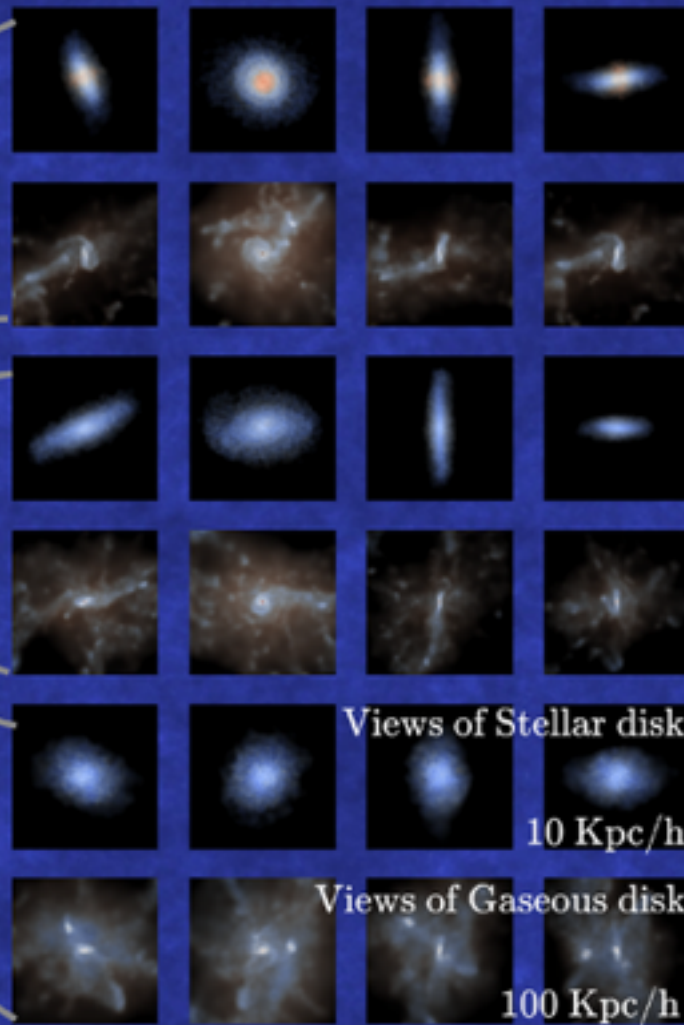
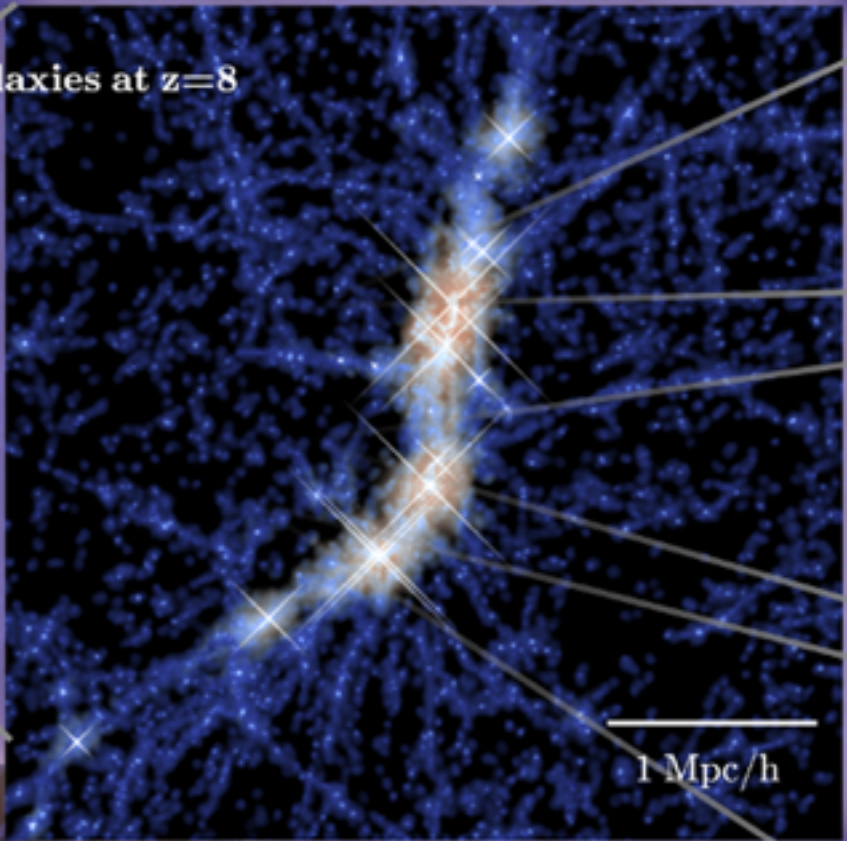
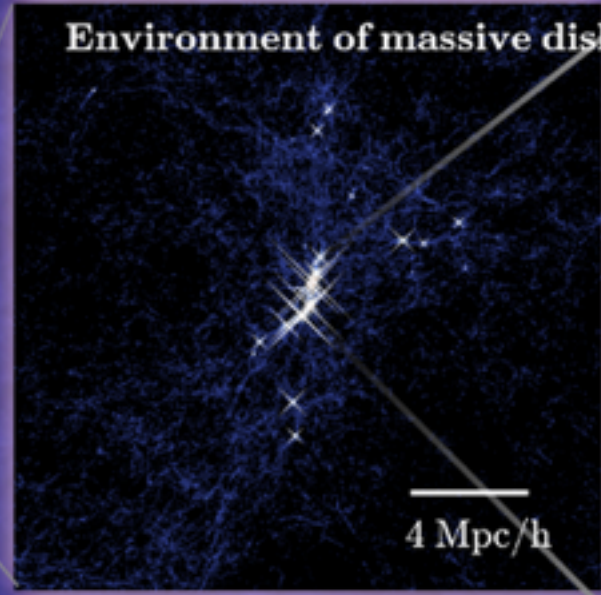








Environment of massive disk galaxies at  $z=8$



Environment of most massive blackhole at  $z=8$

The **BlueTides** Simulation

0.7 trillion particles  
0.65 million cores



bluetides

Feng et al. 2015

40 Mpc/h