



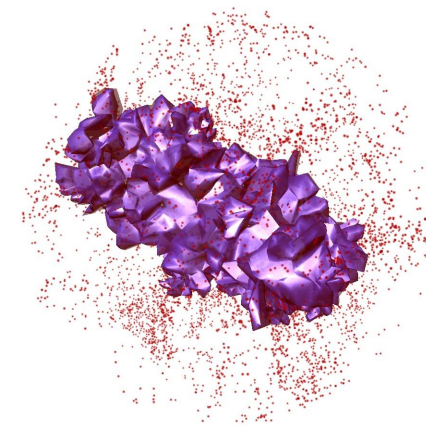
LMU

USM

Nico Hamaus

Fundamental Physics from the Unexplored Universe

Cosmology with Cosmic Voids



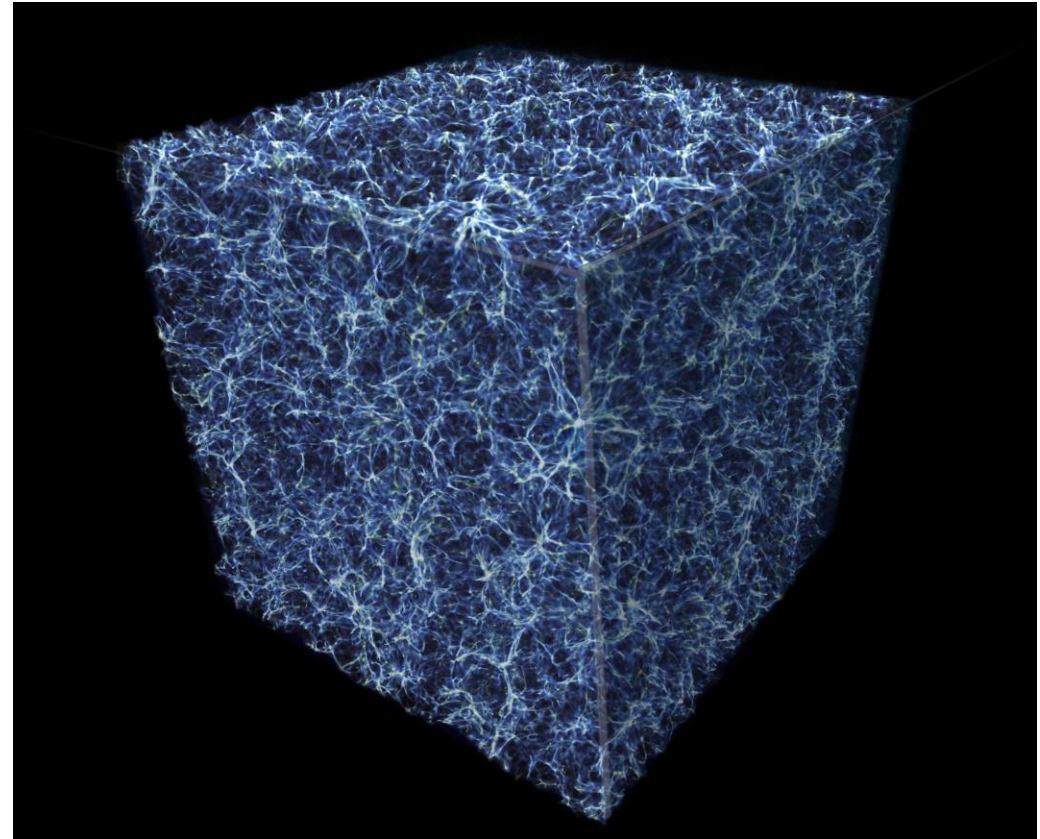
CONTENTS

- Introduction
- Geometric distortions and ***dark energy***
- Dynamic distortions and ***gravity***
- Gravitational lensing and ***dark matter***
- Large-scale clustering and ***elementary particles***
- Conclusions

WHAT ARE “COSMIC VOIDS”?

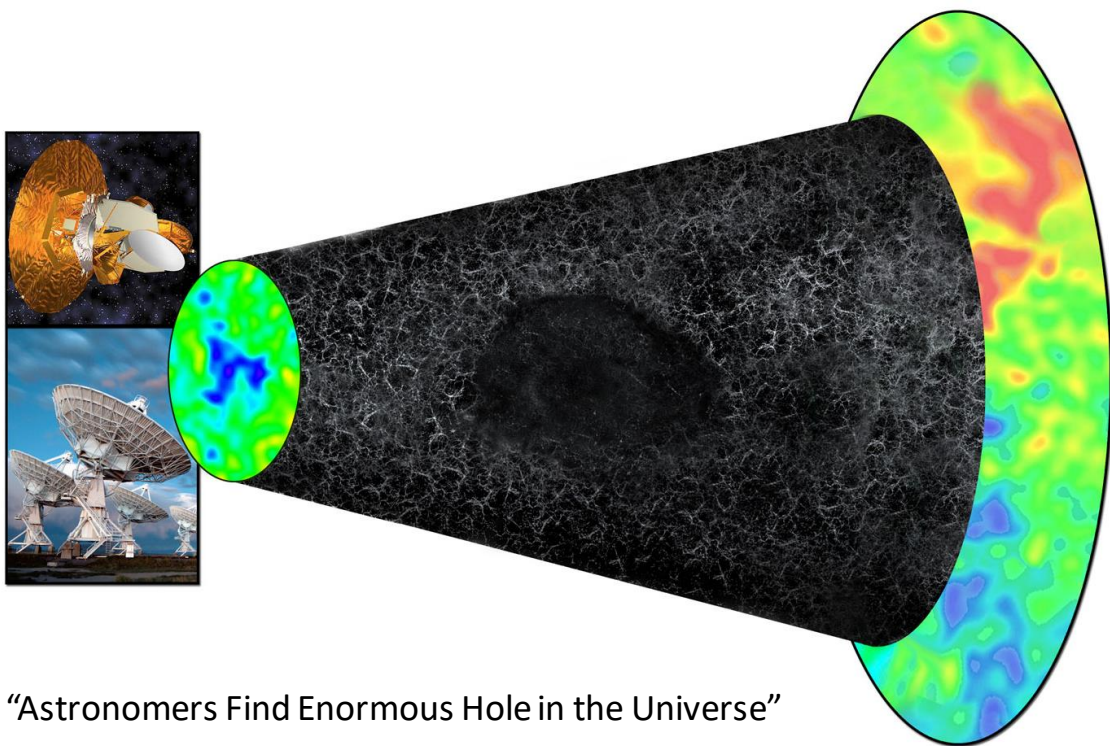


[Universe Today](#)



[Wikipedia](#)

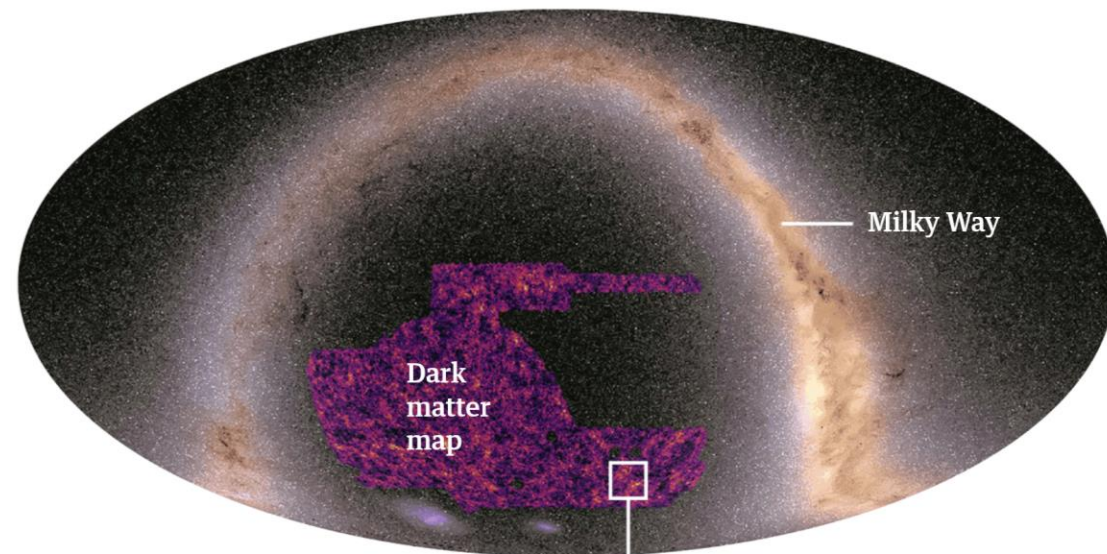
WHAT ARE “COSMIC VOIDS”?



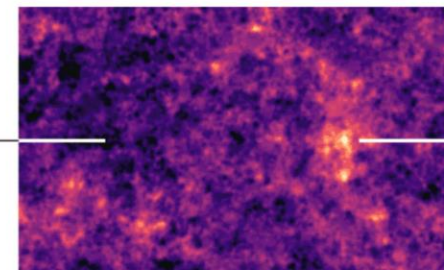
“Astronomers Find Enormous Hole in the Universe”

“Astronomers Puzzled by Massive Blank Spot in Universe”

[NRAO](#), [Fox News](#)



Cosmic voids
Very low-density regions
where gravity may behave
differently



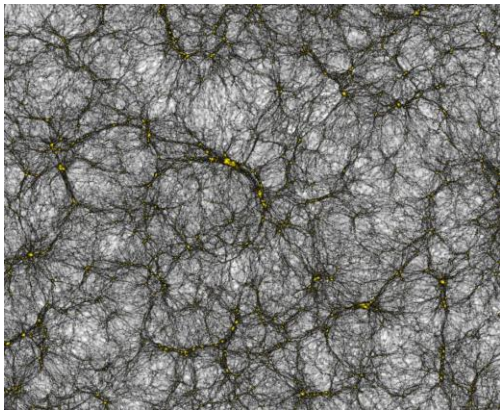
Densest areas
Dark matter makes
up about 27% of
the universe

Guardian graphic. Source: DES Observations, N Jeffrey, Dark Energy Survey Collaboration

[The Guardian](#)

HOW DO WE DEFINE COSMIC VOIDS?

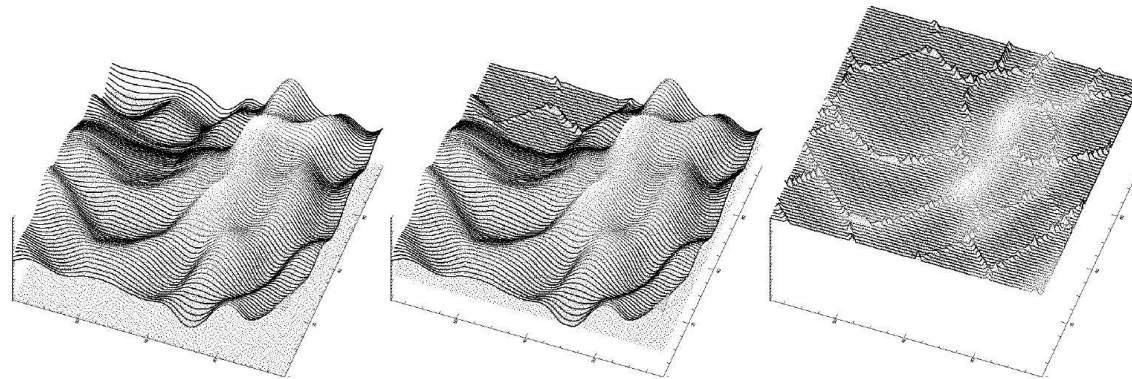
Cosmic web



Potter et al. ([ComAC 2017](#))

+

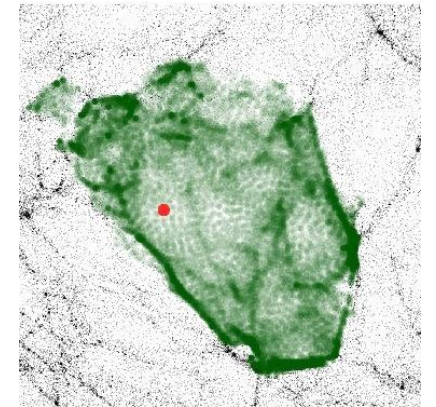
Watershed transform



Platen, Van De Weygaert & Jones ([MNRAS 2007](#))

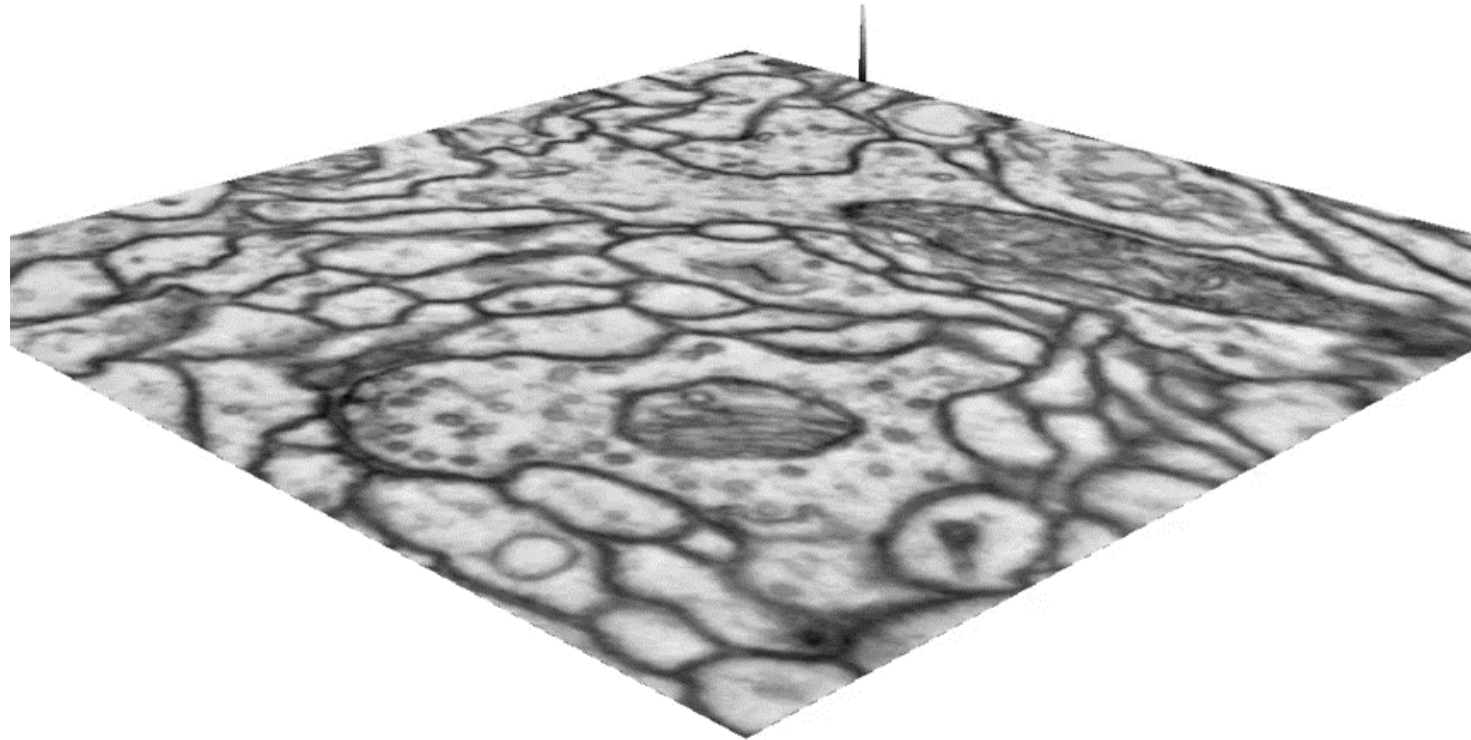
=

Void hierarchy



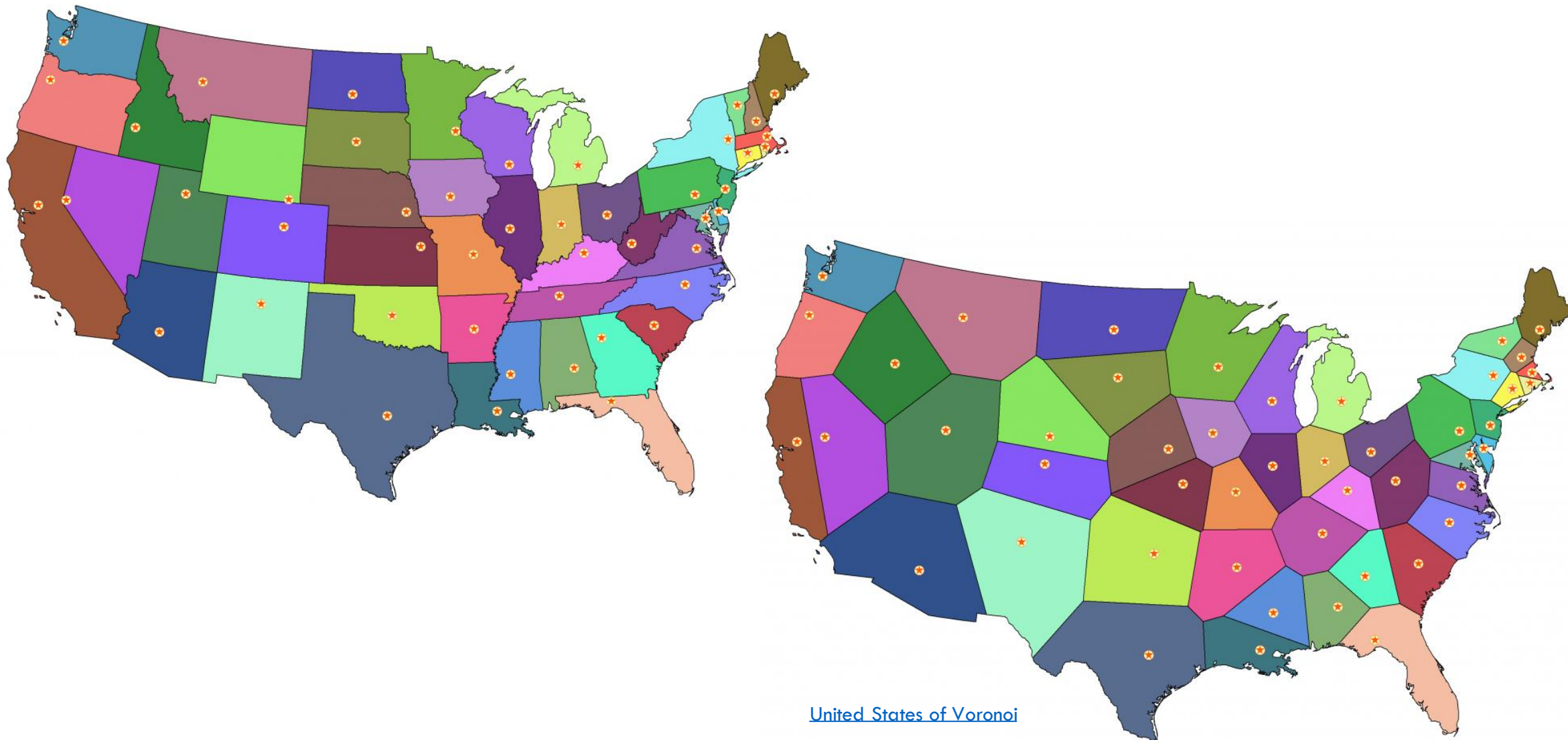
Neyrinck ([MNRAS 2008](#))

Watershed transform

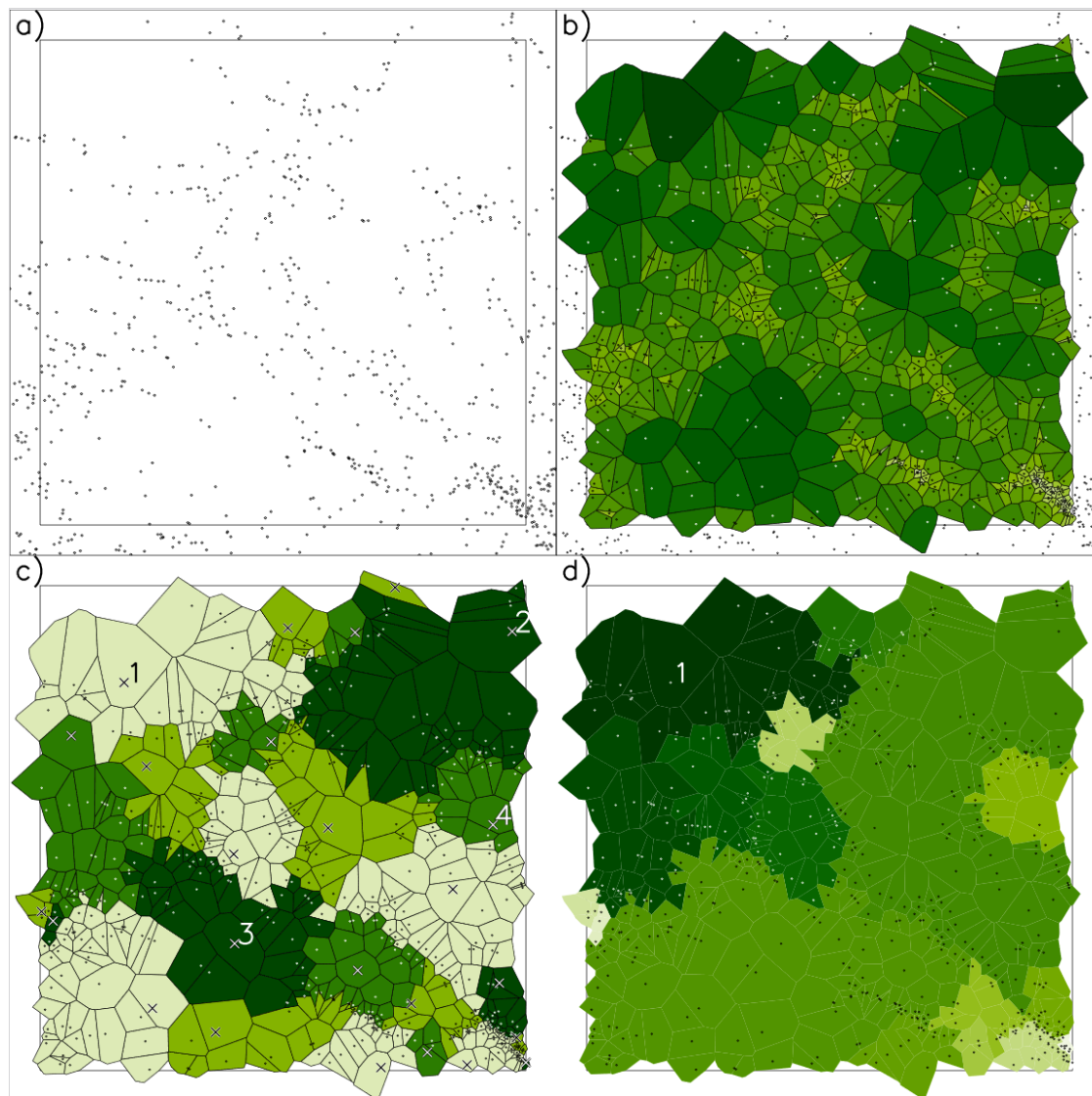


[Steffen Wolf](#)

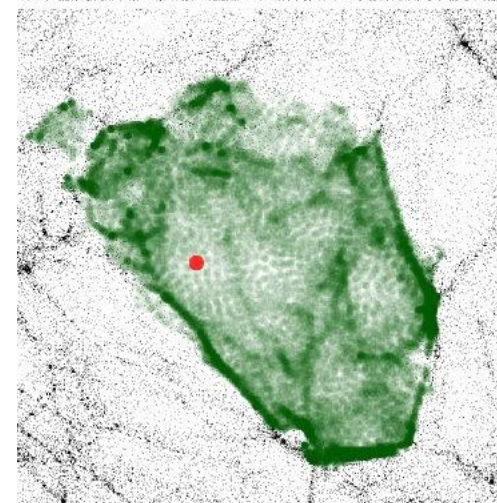
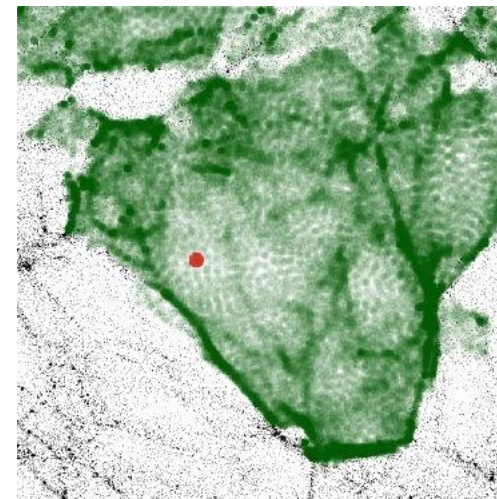
Density field via Voronoi tessellation



Voronoi tessellation

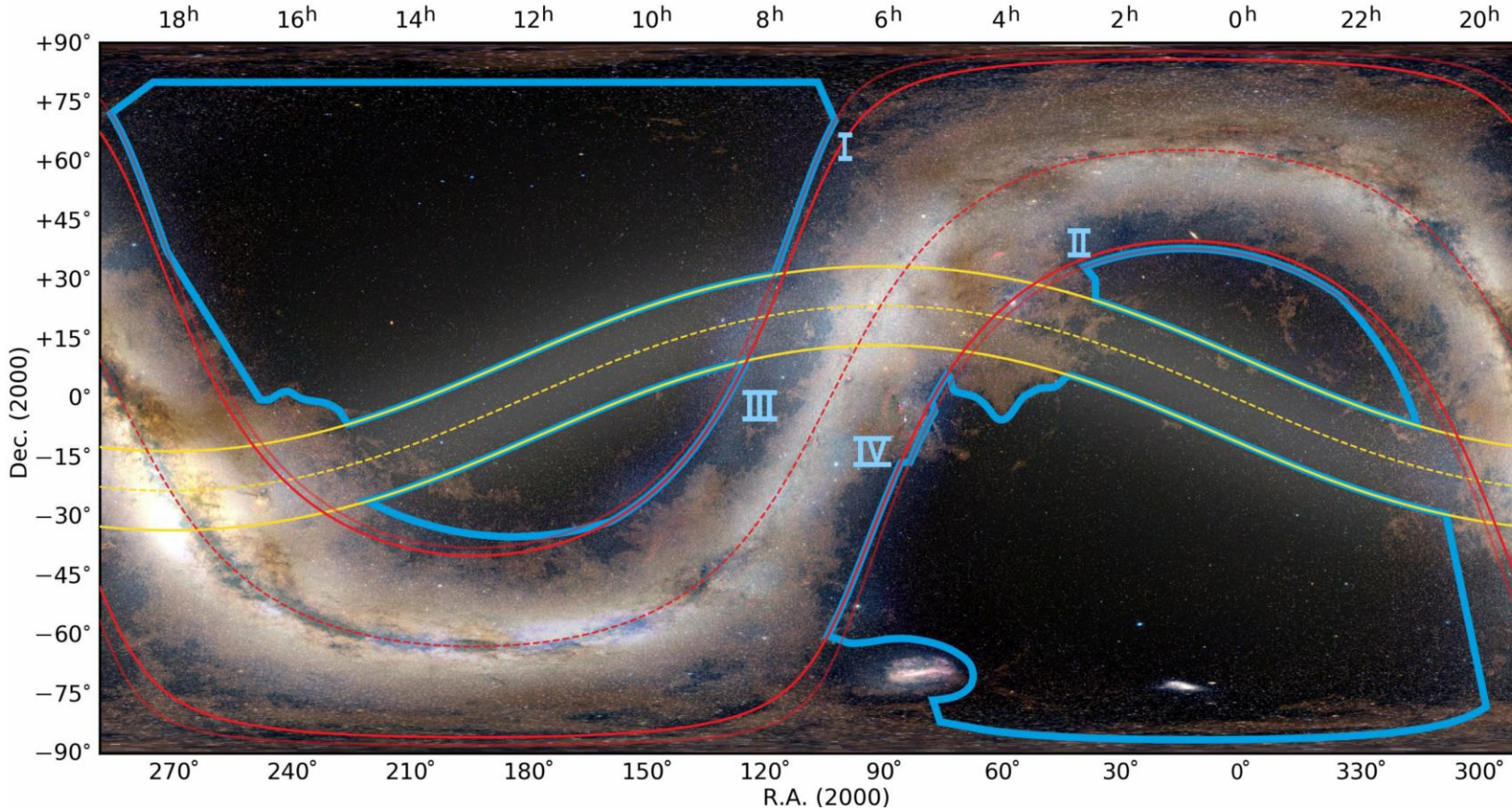


ZOBOV

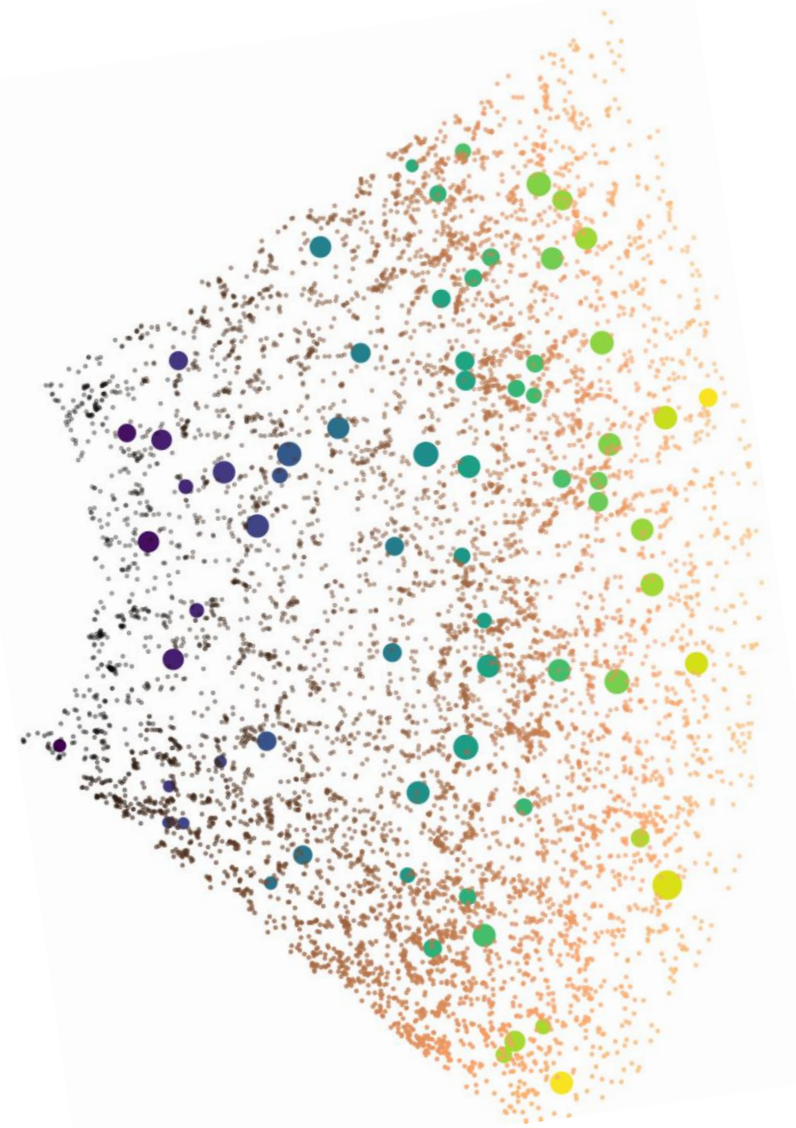


Neyrinck ([MNRAS 2008](#))

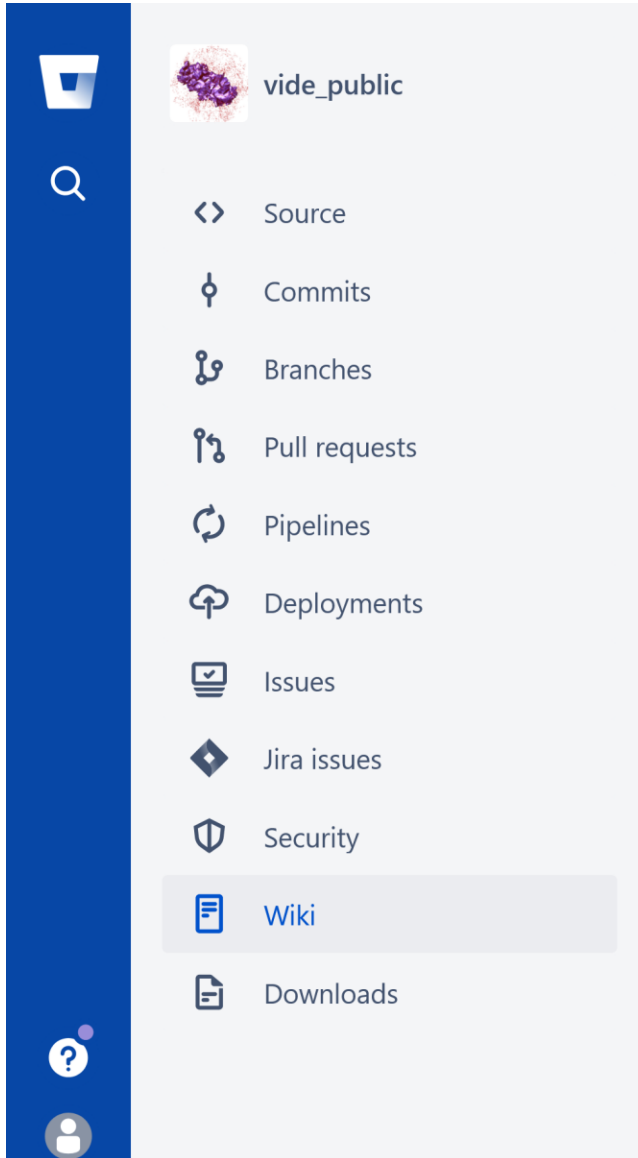
Complication with observations: foregrounds & light cone



Euclid Collaboration: Scaramella et al. ([A&A 2022](#))



Hamaus et al. ([JCAP 2020](#))



- vide_public
- Source
- Commits
- Branches
- Pull requests
- Pipelines
- Deployments
- Issues
- Jira issues
- Security
- Wiki
- Downloads

Cosmic Voids / VIDE / vide_public

Wiki

Clone wiki

[vide_public](#) / Home

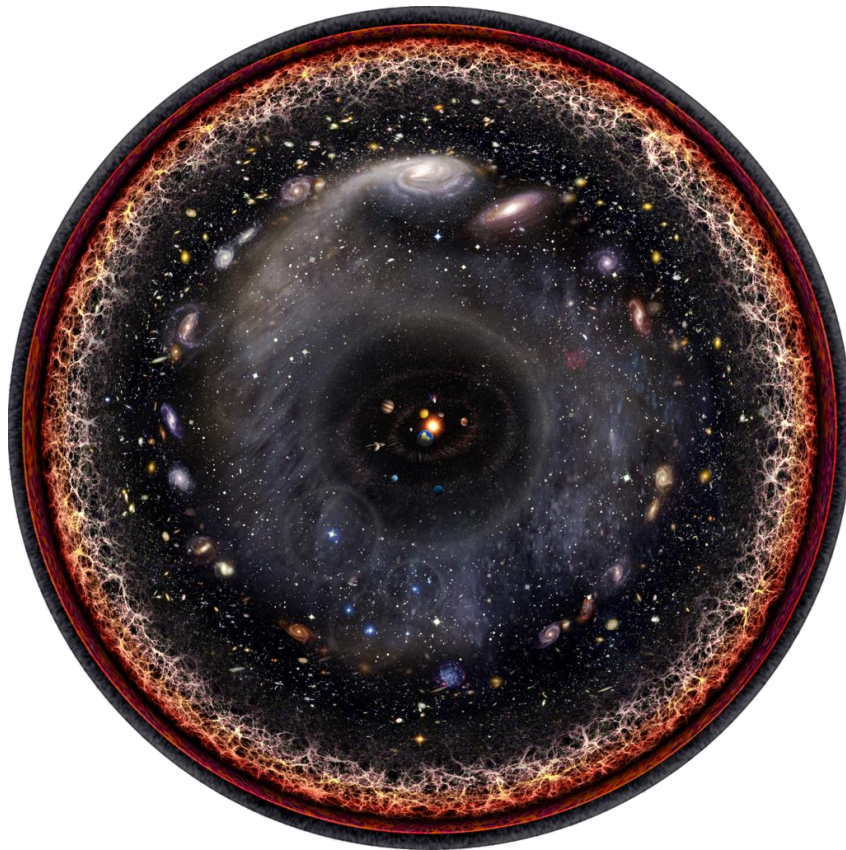
View History

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VVVVVVVV      VVVVVVVV IIIIIIIIII DDDDDDDDDDDDD      EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE
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VVV          IIIIIIIIII DDDDDDDDDDDDD      EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE
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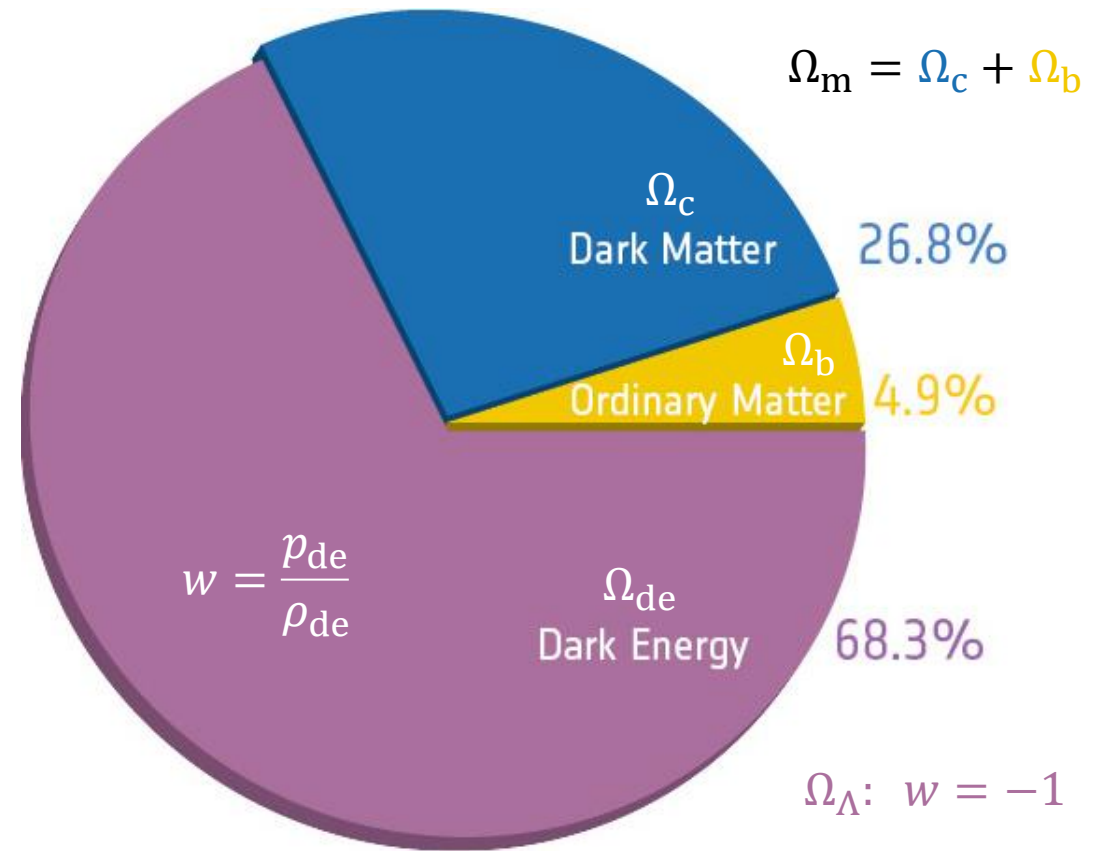
VIDE, the **Void IDentification and Examination toolkit** is a widely used void finder. It has been used on both spectroscopic and photometric data, on simulations and mocks. VIDE is the French word for void, as historically the software was first developed by a group of researchers working at the Institut d'Astrophysique de Paris (IAP, Paris, France). The following page lists all papers based on VIDE: [Papers using VIDE](#).

Sutter, Lavaux, Hamaus et al. ([A&C 2015](#))

HOW DO WE DO COSMOLOGY WITH VOIDS?

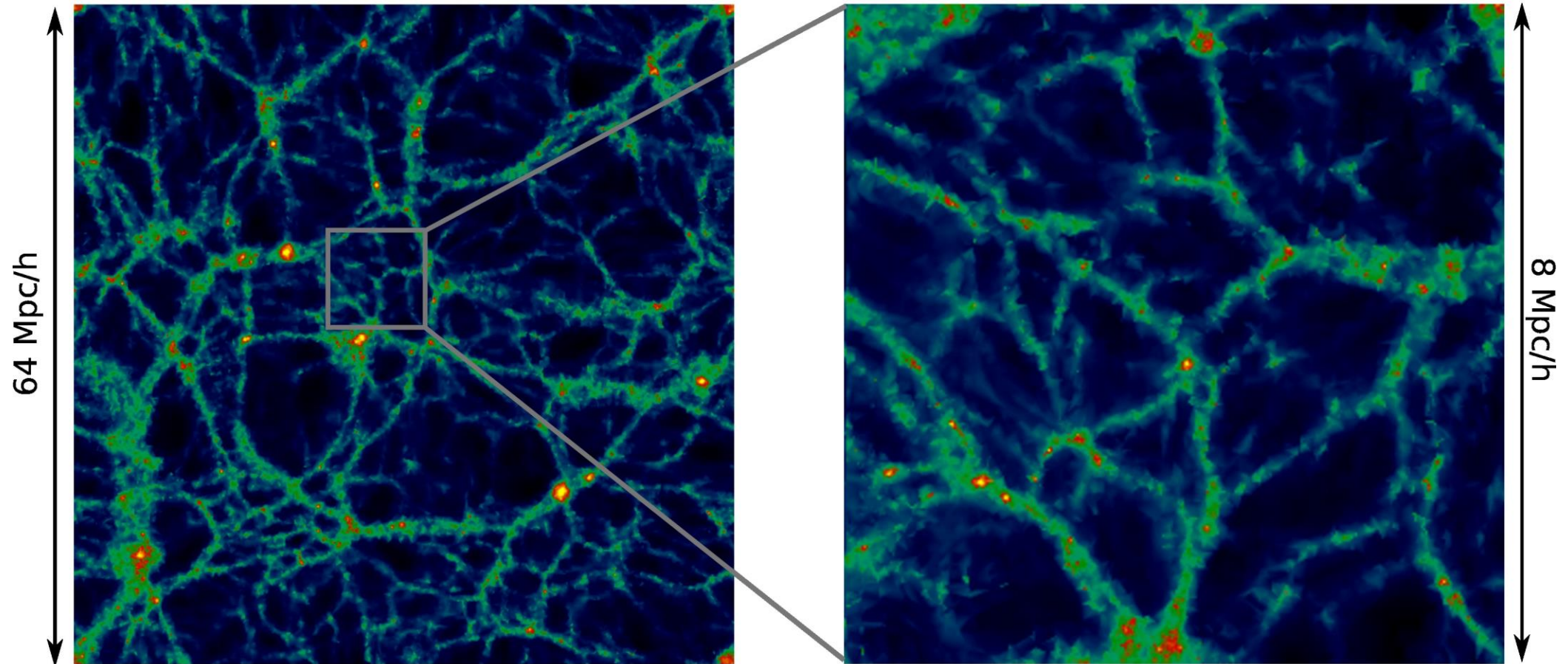


[Wikimedia Commons](#)



[esa Planck mission](#)

MEASURE GEOMETRIC DISTORTIONS! HOW?



Aragon-Calvo & Szalay ([MNRAS 2013](#))

STACKING

According to the cosmological principle the Universe is statistically isotropic, and so are voids!

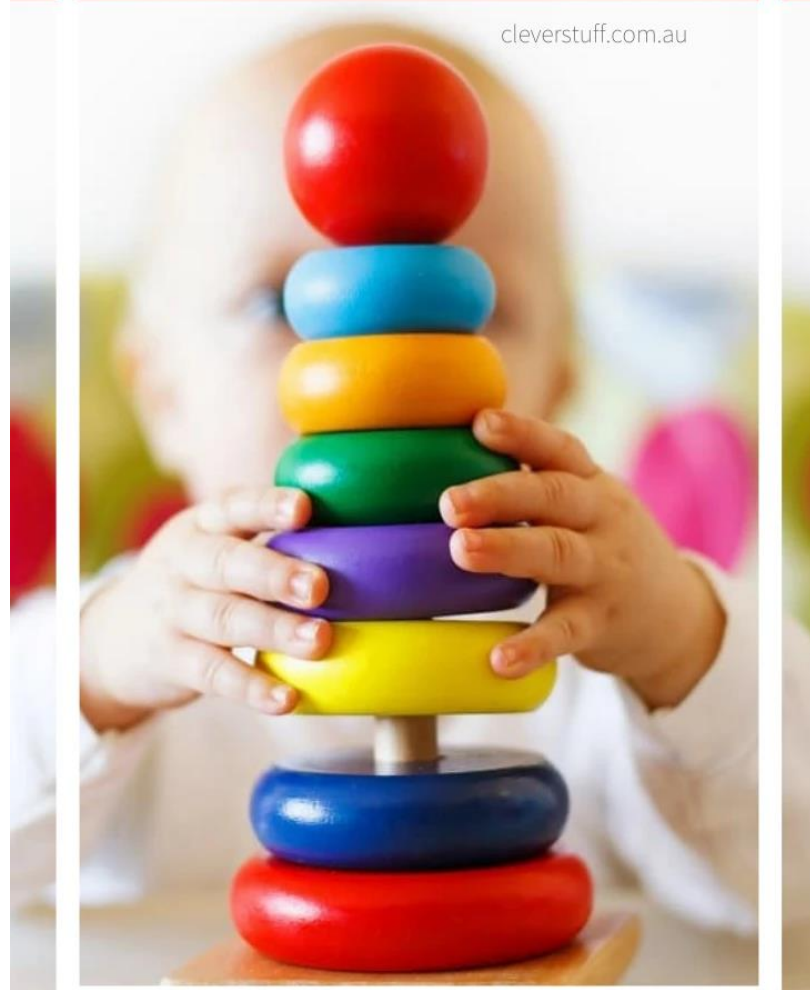


[Hauser-Optik: Standard Kilogram](#)

- Use stacked voids as “**Standard Sphere**”

8 BENEFITS OF STACKING TOYS FOR CHILDREN

[cleverstuff.com.au](#)



[cleverstuff](#)

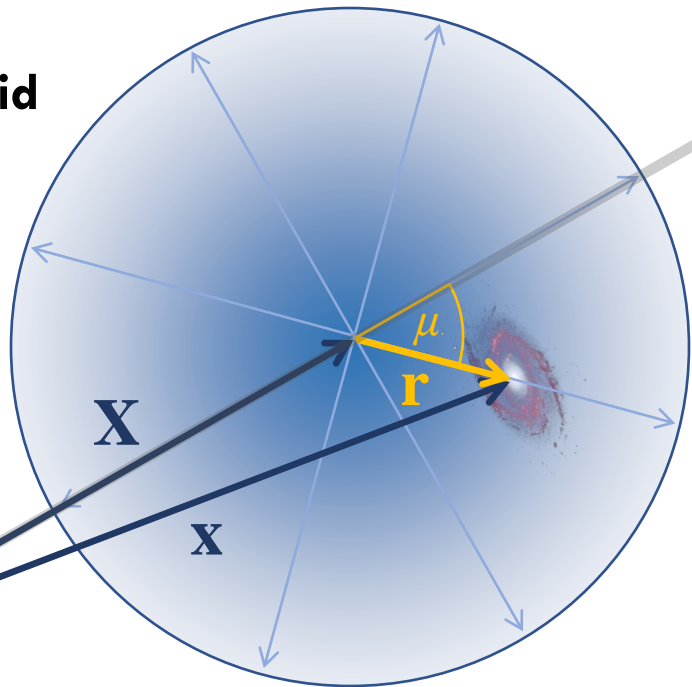
1. Hand-eye coordination
2. Problem solving skills
3. Cause and effect understanding
4. **Shape identification**
5. Color recognition
6. Gross motor skill development
7. Fine motor skill development
8. Goal setting

Invoke the **Cosmological Principle**

$$\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{X} \quad r = \sqrt{r_{\parallel}^2 + r_{\perp}^2} \quad \mu = \frac{r_{\parallel}}{r}$$

$$r_{\parallel} = \frac{c}{H(z)} \delta z \quad r_{\perp} = D_A(z) \delta \theta$$

Stacked void



Fiducial cosmology, e.g. flat Λ CDM:

$$H(z) = H_0 \sqrt{\Omega_m (1+z)^3 + \Omega_\Lambda} \quad D_A(z) = \int_0^z \frac{c}{H(z')} dz'$$

True cosmology, unknown (indicated by asterisk):

$$H^*(z) = H(z) \frac{r_{\parallel}}{r_{\parallel}^*} \quad D_A^*(z) = D_A(z) \frac{r_{\perp}^*}{r_{\perp}}$$

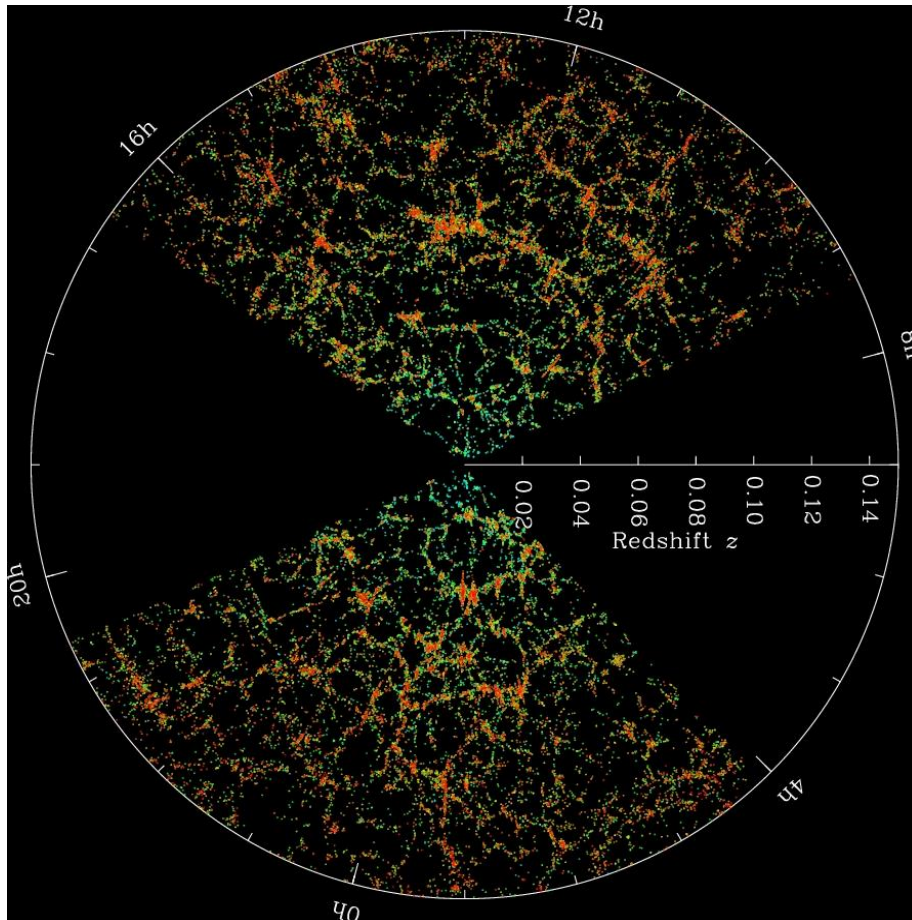
Assume statistical isotropy ($r_{\parallel}^* = r_{\perp}^*$) and measure:

$$\varepsilon = \frac{r_{\parallel}}{r_{\perp}} = \frac{D_A^*(z) H^*(z)}{D_A(z) H(z)}$$

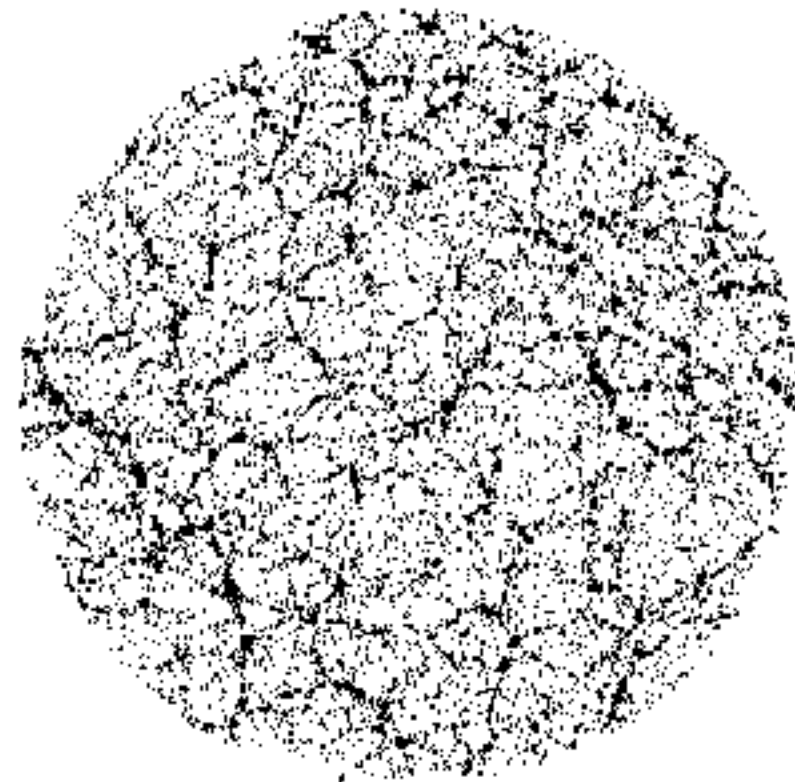
If fiducial cosmology = true cosmology (**Alcock-Paczynski test**):

$$\varepsilon = 1$$

DYNAMIC DISTORTIONS SPOIL SYMMETRY



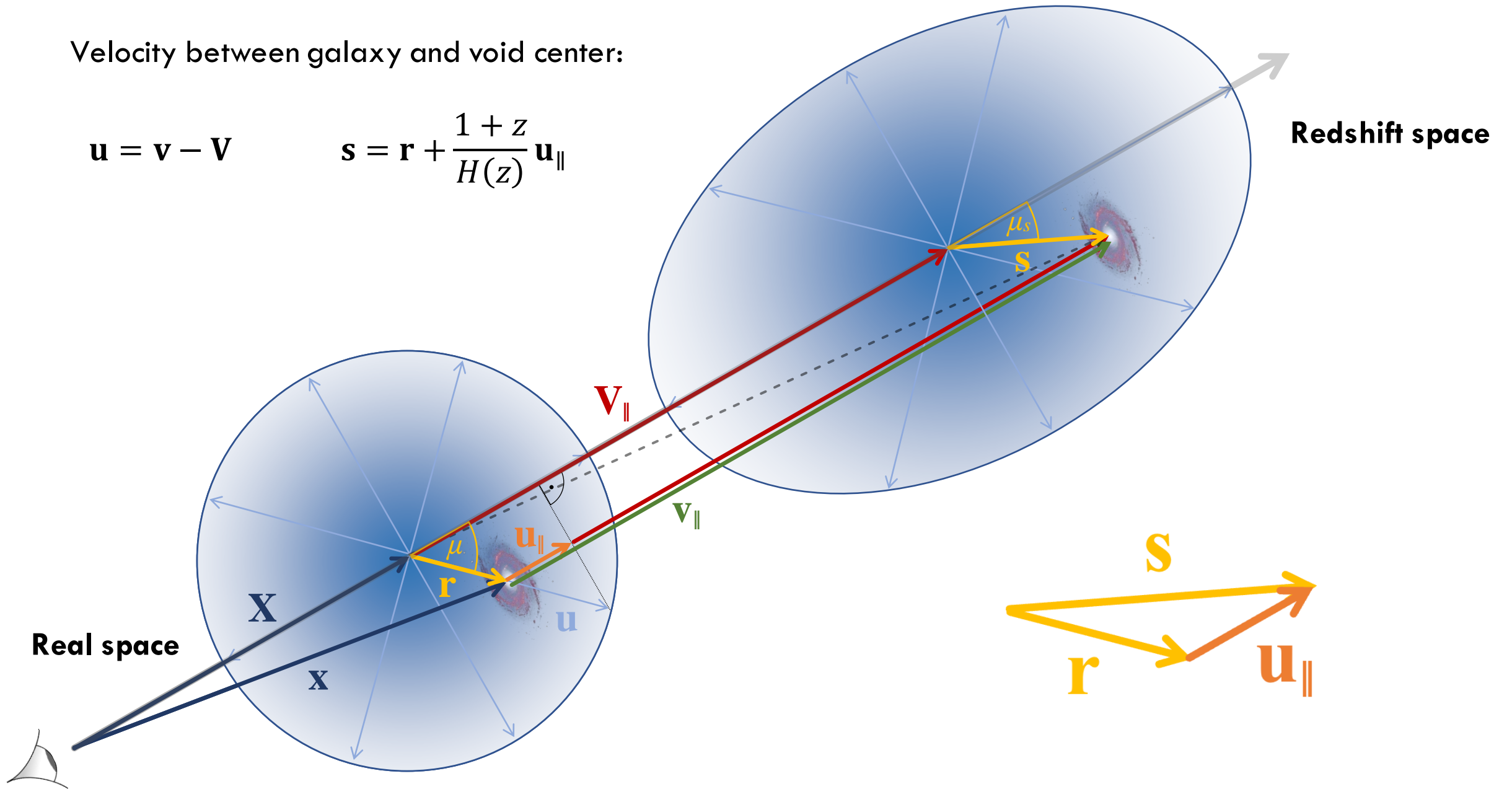
SDSS DR7 ([ApJS 2009](#))



Melott et al. ([ApJ 1998](#))

Velocity between galaxy and void center:

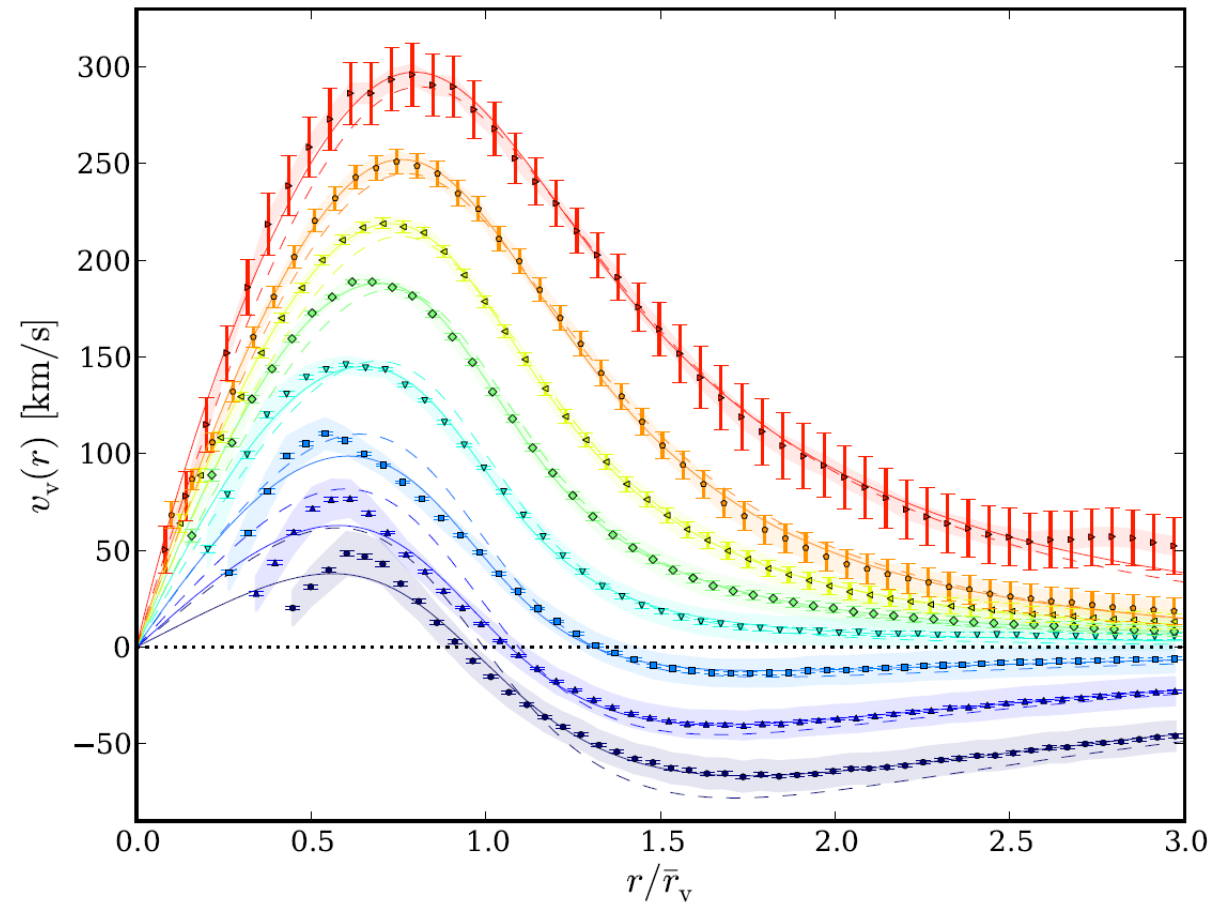
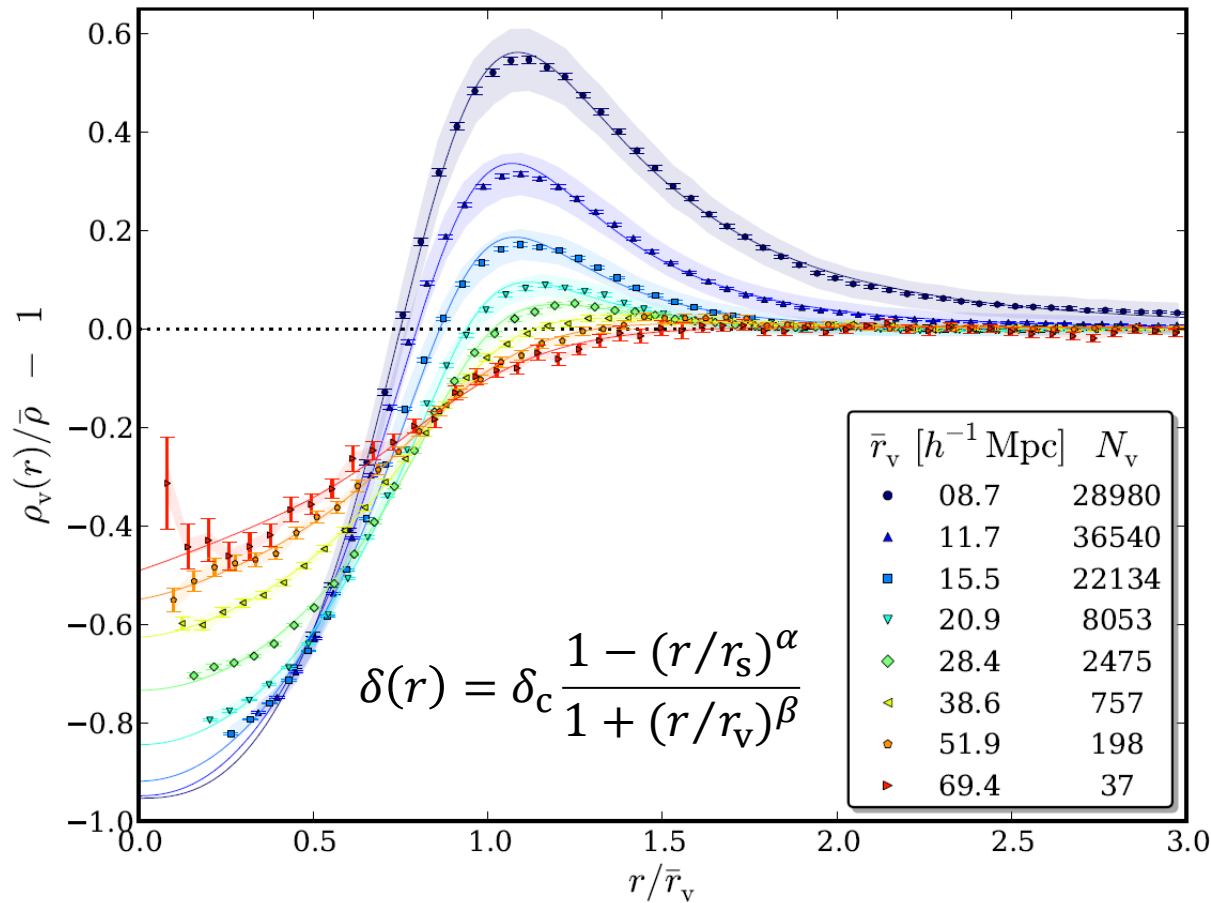
$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{V} \quad \mathbf{s} = \mathbf{r} + \frac{1+z}{H(z)} \mathbf{u}_{\parallel}$$



Pairwise velocity profile: assume local mass conservation at linear order with growth rate $f \equiv \frac{d \ln \delta}{d \ln a}$

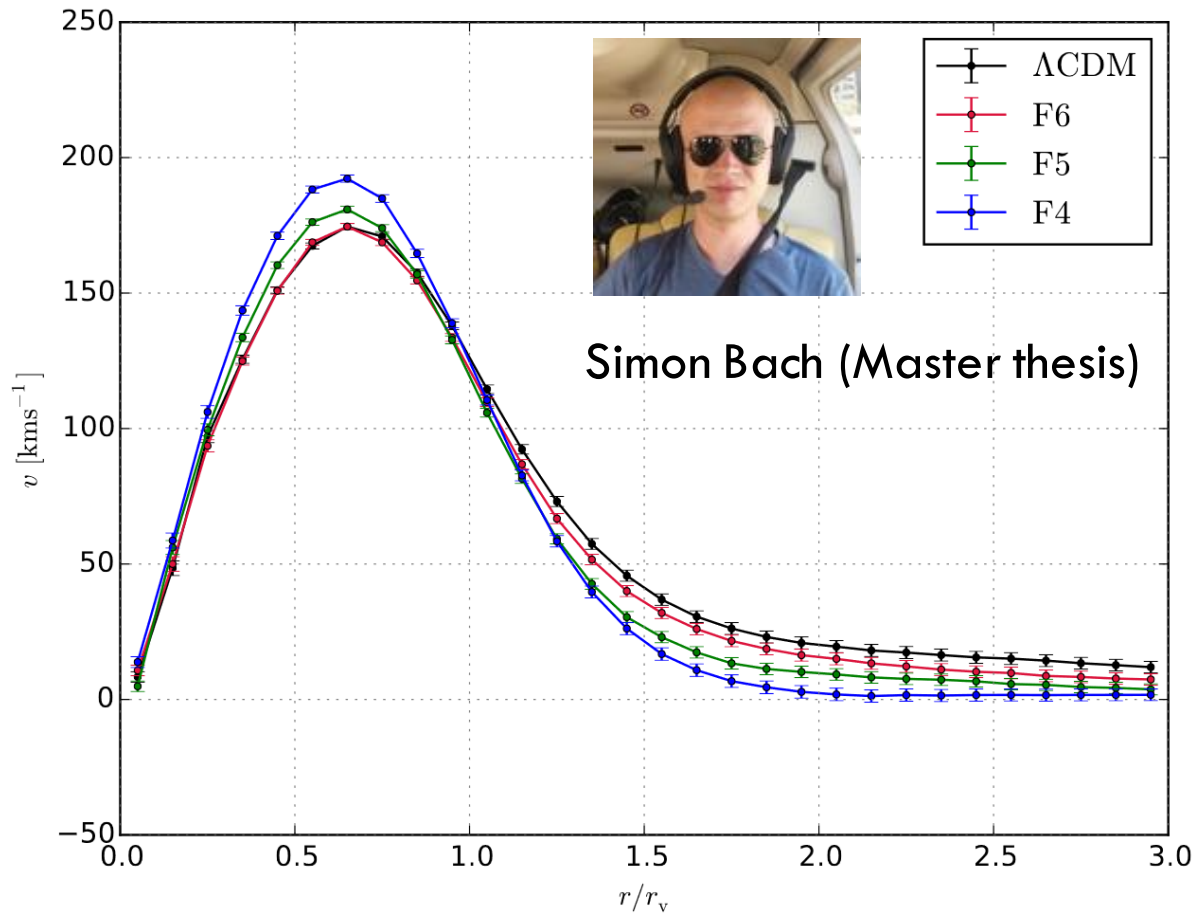
$$\mathbf{u} = -\frac{f}{3} \frac{H(z)}{1+z} \Delta(< r) \mathbf{r}$$

$$\Delta(< r) = \frac{3}{r^3} \int_0^r \delta(r') r'^2 dr'$$

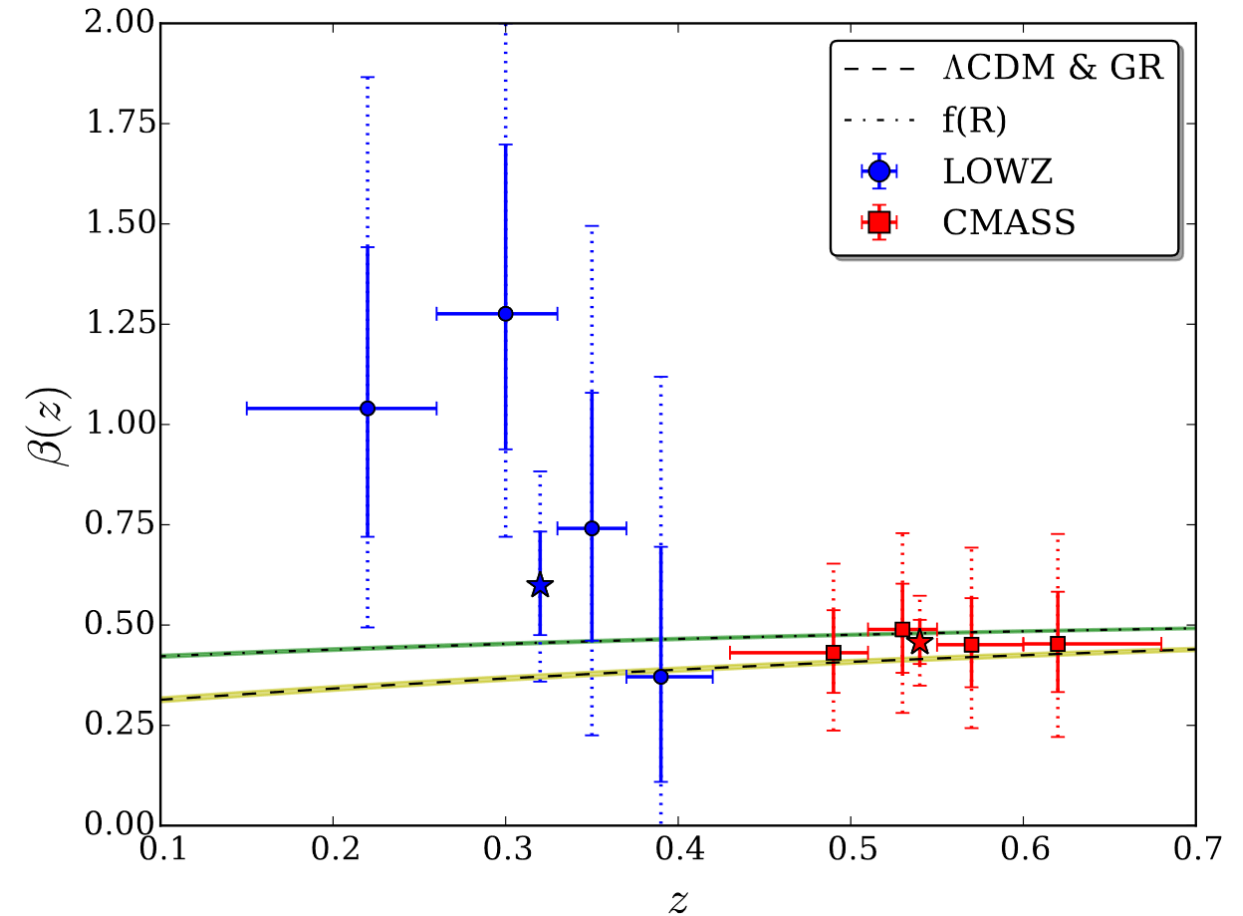


Gravity: Explore alternatives to *General Relativity* (GR)

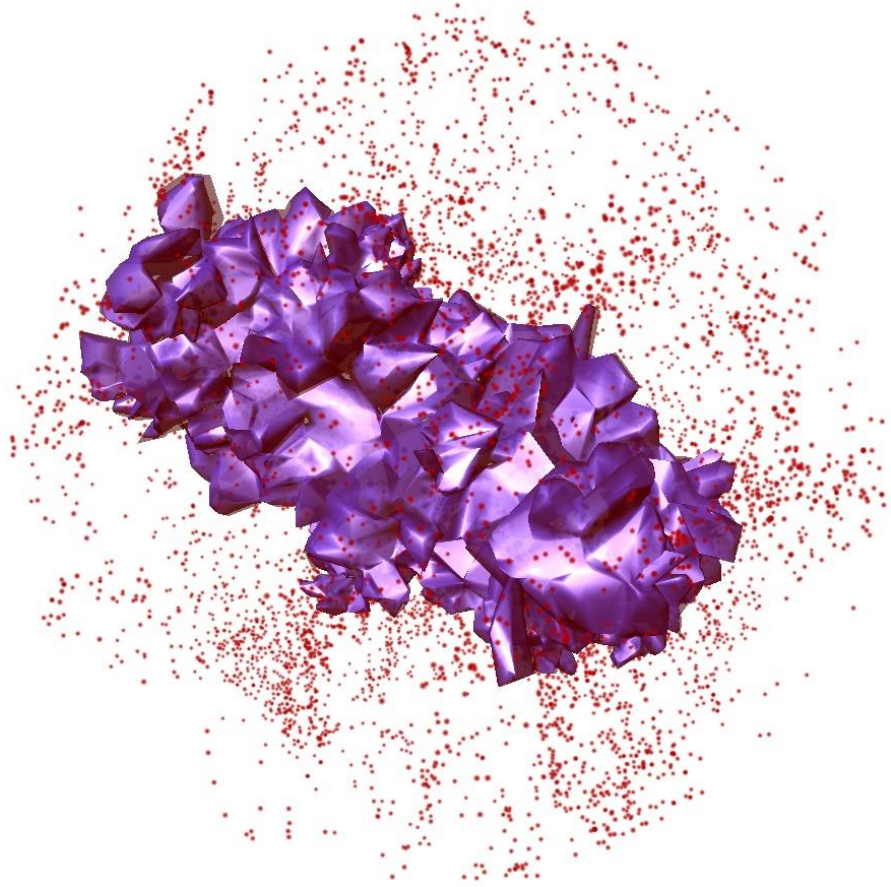
$f(z) \approx [\Omega_m(z)]^\gamma$ in GR: $\gamma \approx 0.55$ “growth index”



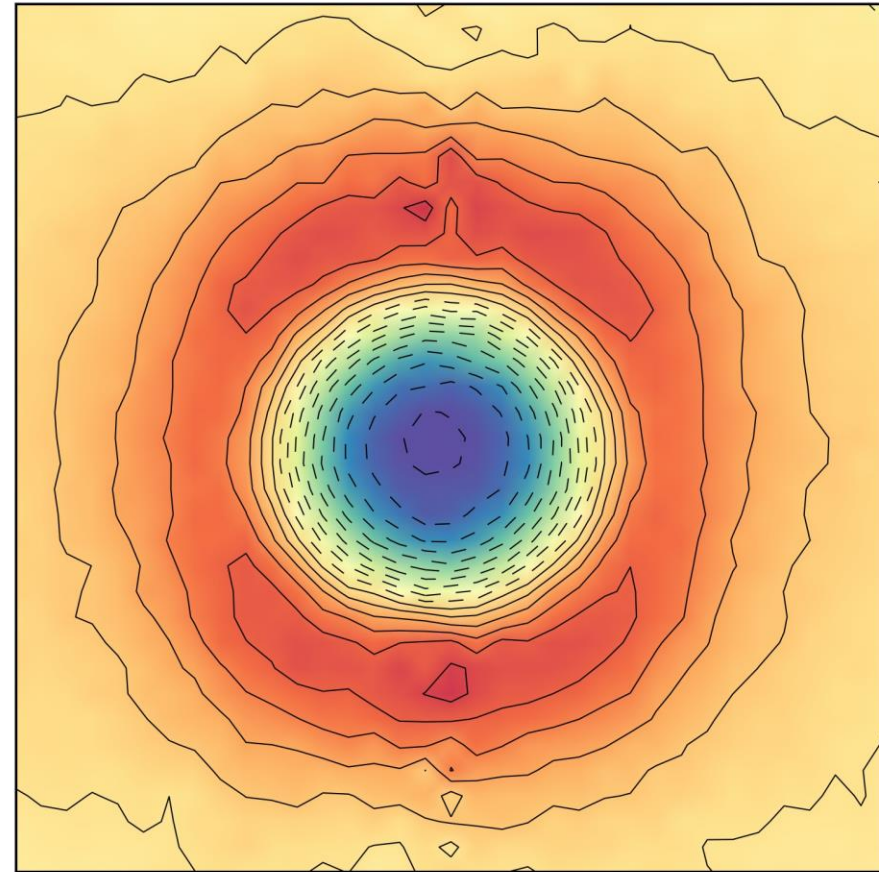
$\beta(z) = f(z)/b(z)$ “galaxy bias” $b(z)$



HOW CAN WE MEASURE THIS?



Sutter, Lavaux, Hamaus et al. ([A&C 2015](#))



Hamaus et al. ([PRL 2016](#))

Void-galaxy cross-correlation function in redshift space and its multipoles:

$$\xi^S(\mathbf{s}) = \xi^S(s_{\parallel}, s_{\perp}) = \xi^S(s, \mu_s) \quad \xi_{\ell}^S(s) = \frac{2\ell + 1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 \xi^S(s, \mu_s) P_{\ell}(\mu_s) d\mu_s$$

Landy-Szalay estimator for cross-correlations:

$$\hat{\xi}^S(\mathbf{s}) = \frac{\langle \mathcal{D}_v \mathcal{D}_g \rangle - \langle \mathcal{D}_v \mathcal{R}_g \rangle - \langle \mathcal{R}_v \mathcal{D}_g \rangle + \langle \mathcal{R}_v \mathcal{R}_g \rangle}{\langle \mathcal{R}_v \mathcal{R}_g \rangle} \quad \mathcal{D}: \text{data}, \mathcal{R}: \text{randoms}$$

Randoms: drawn from redshift distribution of data with much higher density, but no clustering

Stacking: express all distances in units of the effective radius of each void to align void boundaries.



Models for void-galaxy cross-correlation function

Basic assumptions:

- Spherical symmetry in real space (cosmological principle)
- Conservation of voids and galaxies between real and redshift space
- Voids evolve individually, the impact of neighbors can be neglected

Gaussian streaming model (GSM): Paz et al. ([MNRAS 2013](#)), Hamaus et al. ([JCAP 2015](#), [PRL 2016](#))

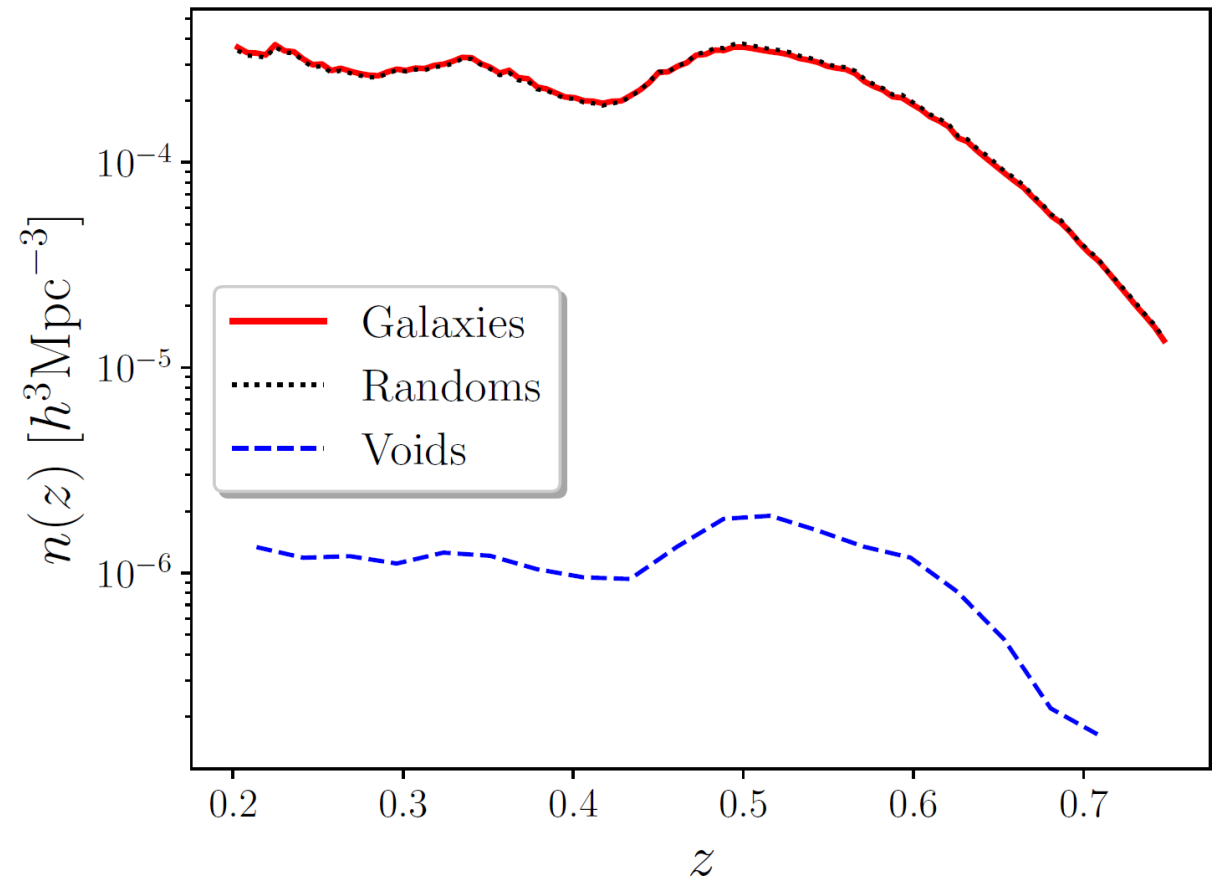
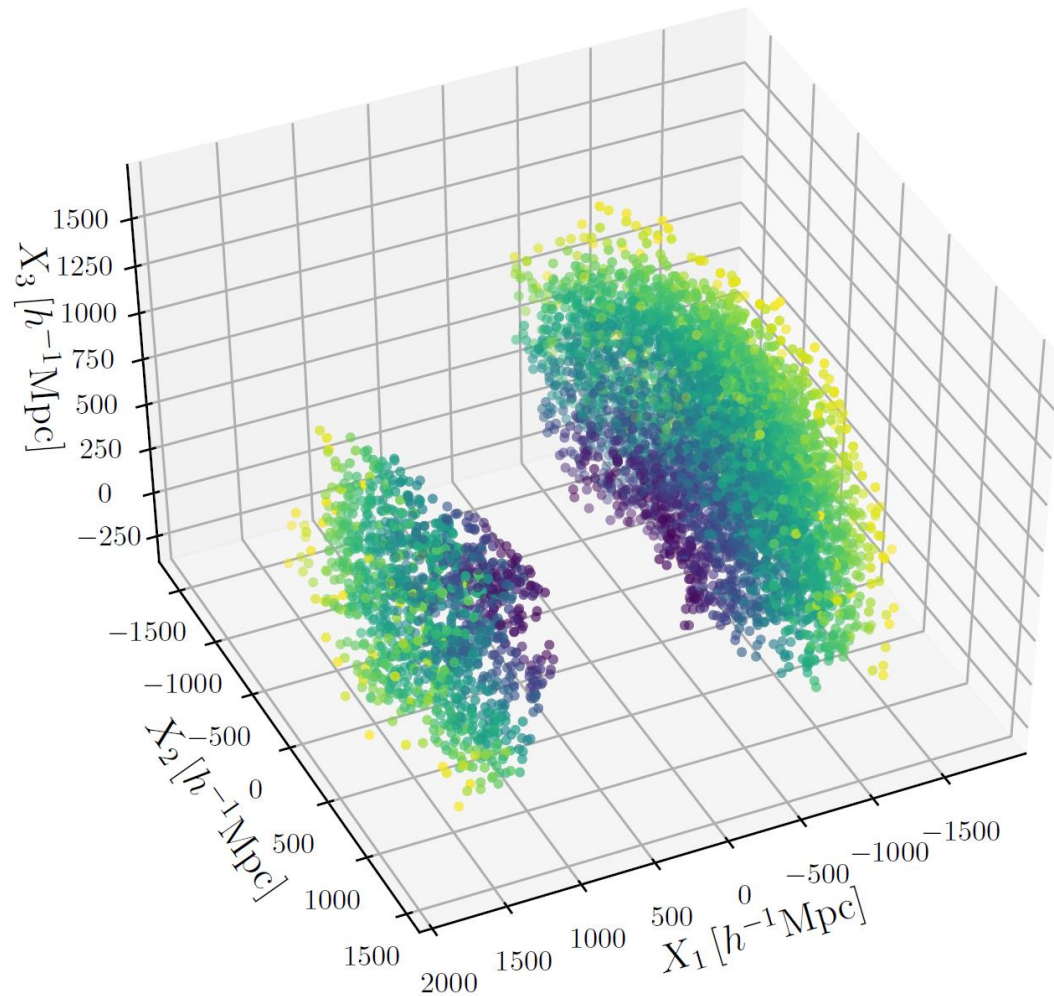
$$1 + \xi^s(\mathbf{s}) = \int [1 + \xi(r)] \mathcal{P}(u_{\parallel}, r, \mu) du_{\parallel} \quad \mathcal{P}(u_{\parallel}, r, \mu) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_{\parallel}(r, \mu)} \exp\left\{-\frac{[u_{\parallel} - u(r)\mu]^2}{2\sigma_{\parallel}^2(r, \mu)}\right\}$$

Linear Kaiser-like model: Cai et al. ([MNRAS 2016](#)), Hamaus et al. ([JCAP 2017](#))

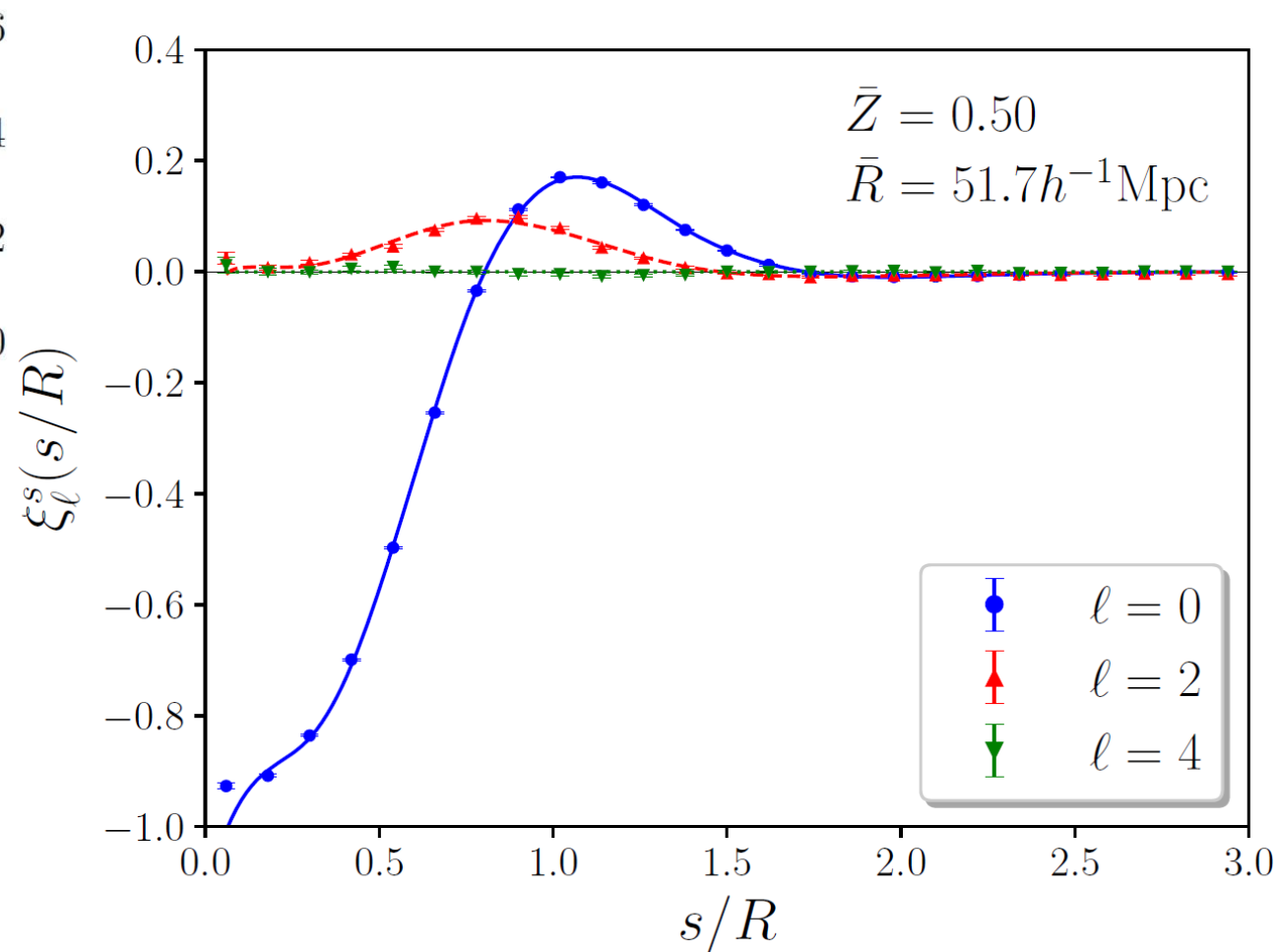
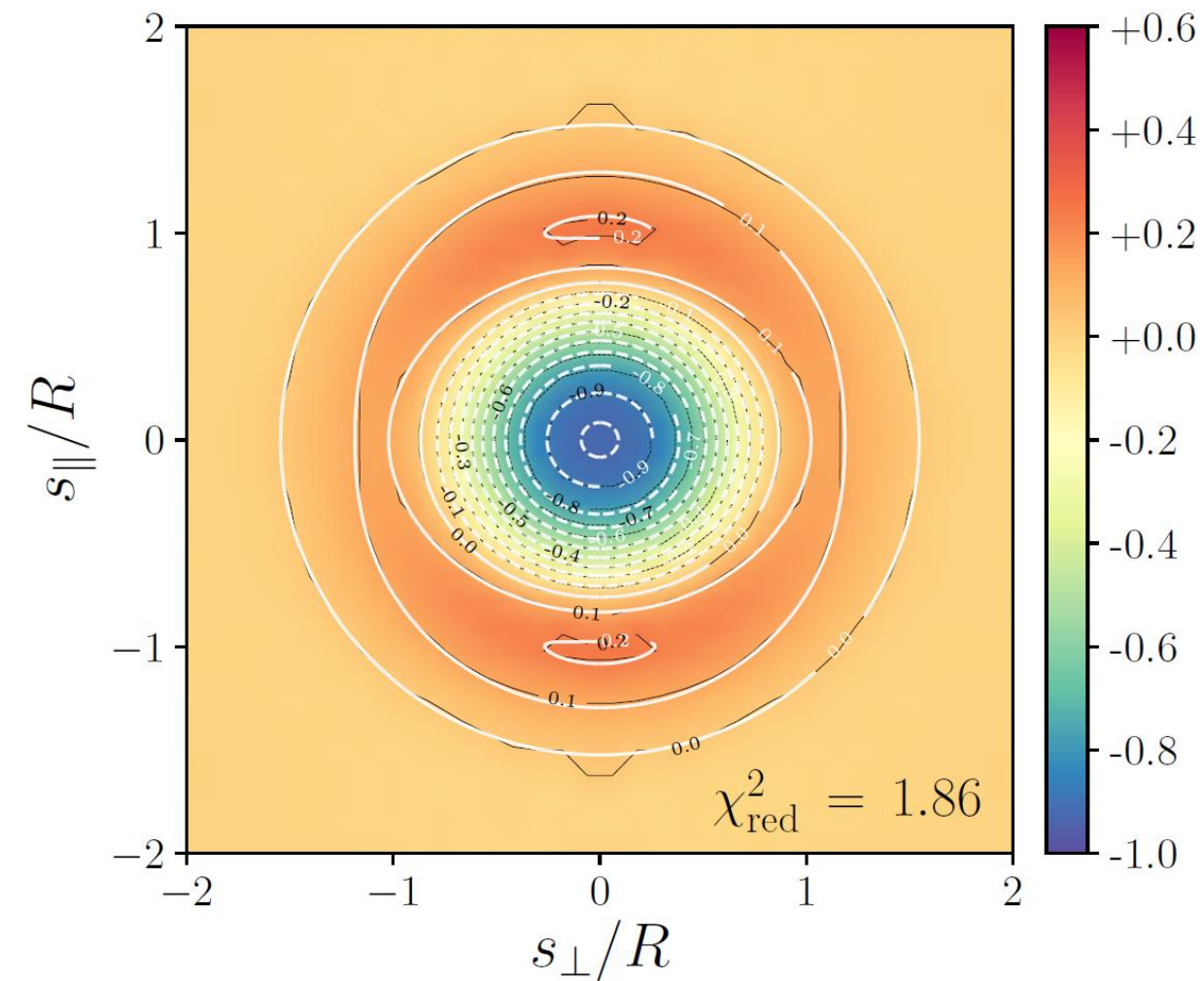
$$\xi^s(\mathbf{s}) = \xi(r) - \frac{1+z}{H(z)} \frac{du_{\parallel}(r)}{dr}$$

Model ingredients: $\xi(r), u(r), \sigma_{\parallel}(r, \mu)$

SDSS BOSS DR12 VOIDS

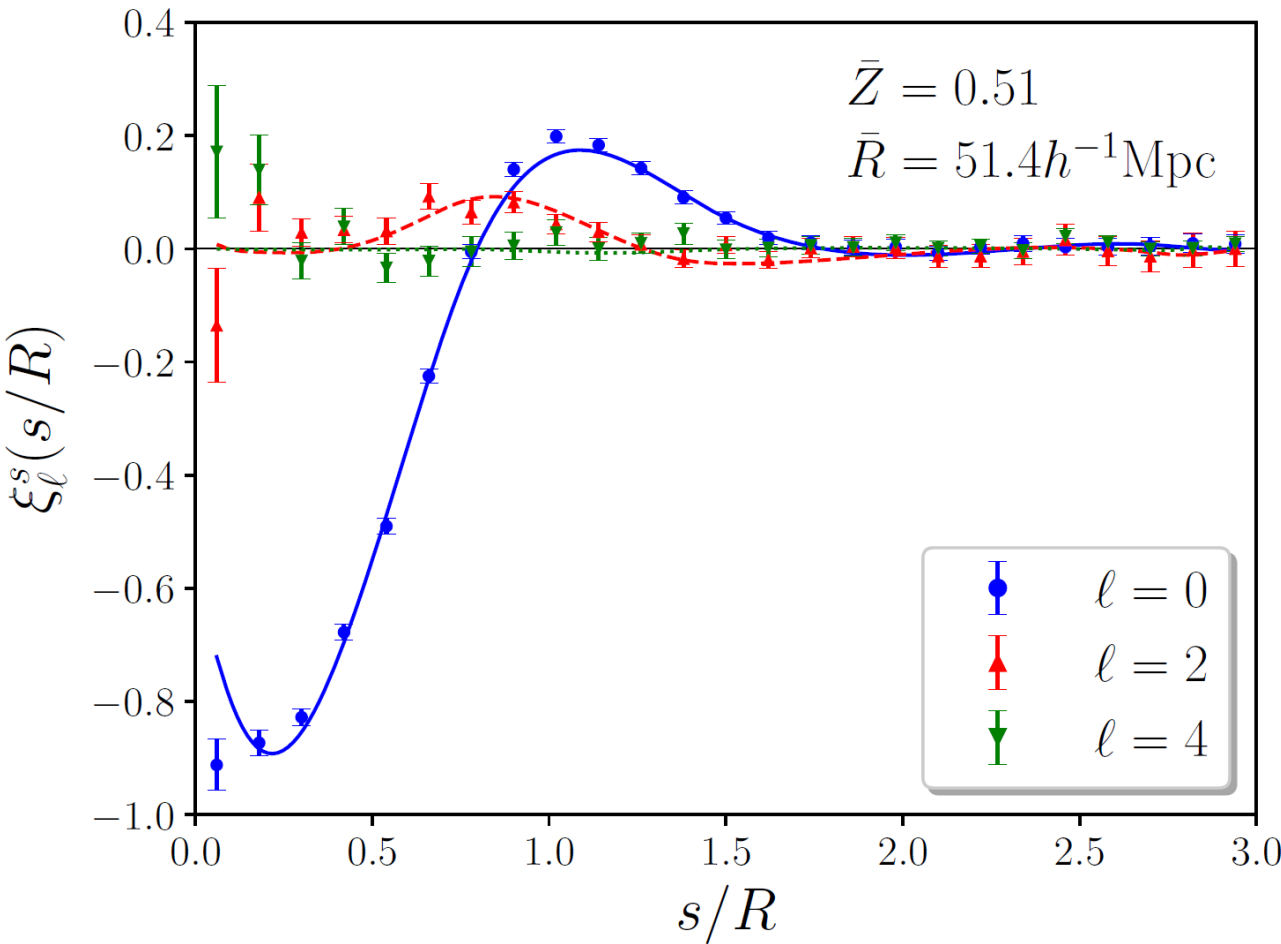
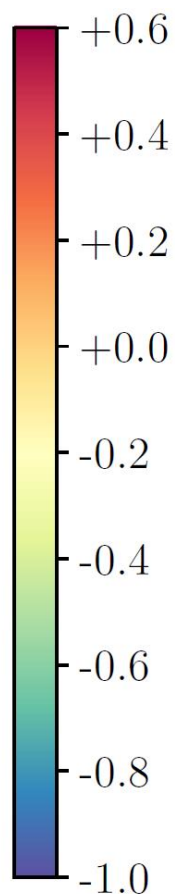
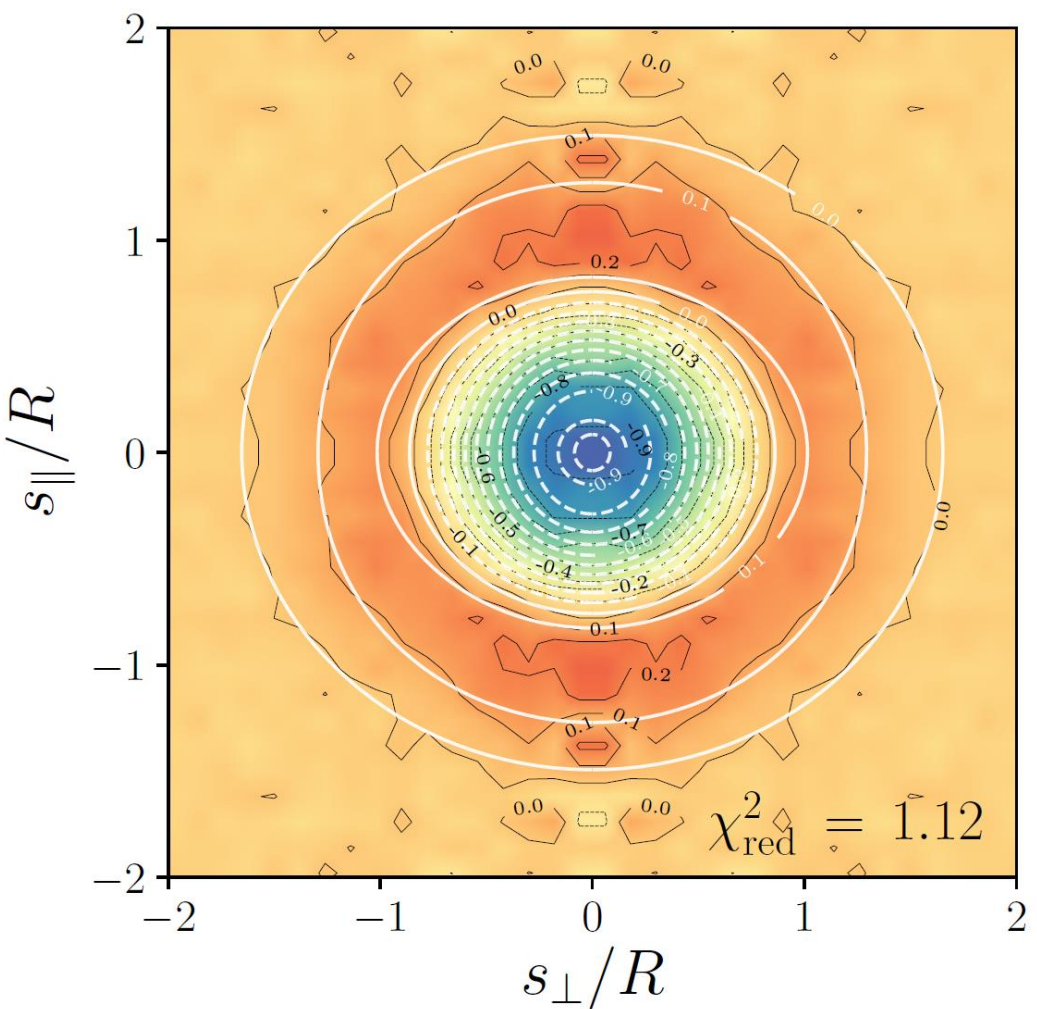


Model validation on 30 PATCHY mocks



Hamaus et al. ([JCAP 2020](#))

BOSS DR12 data

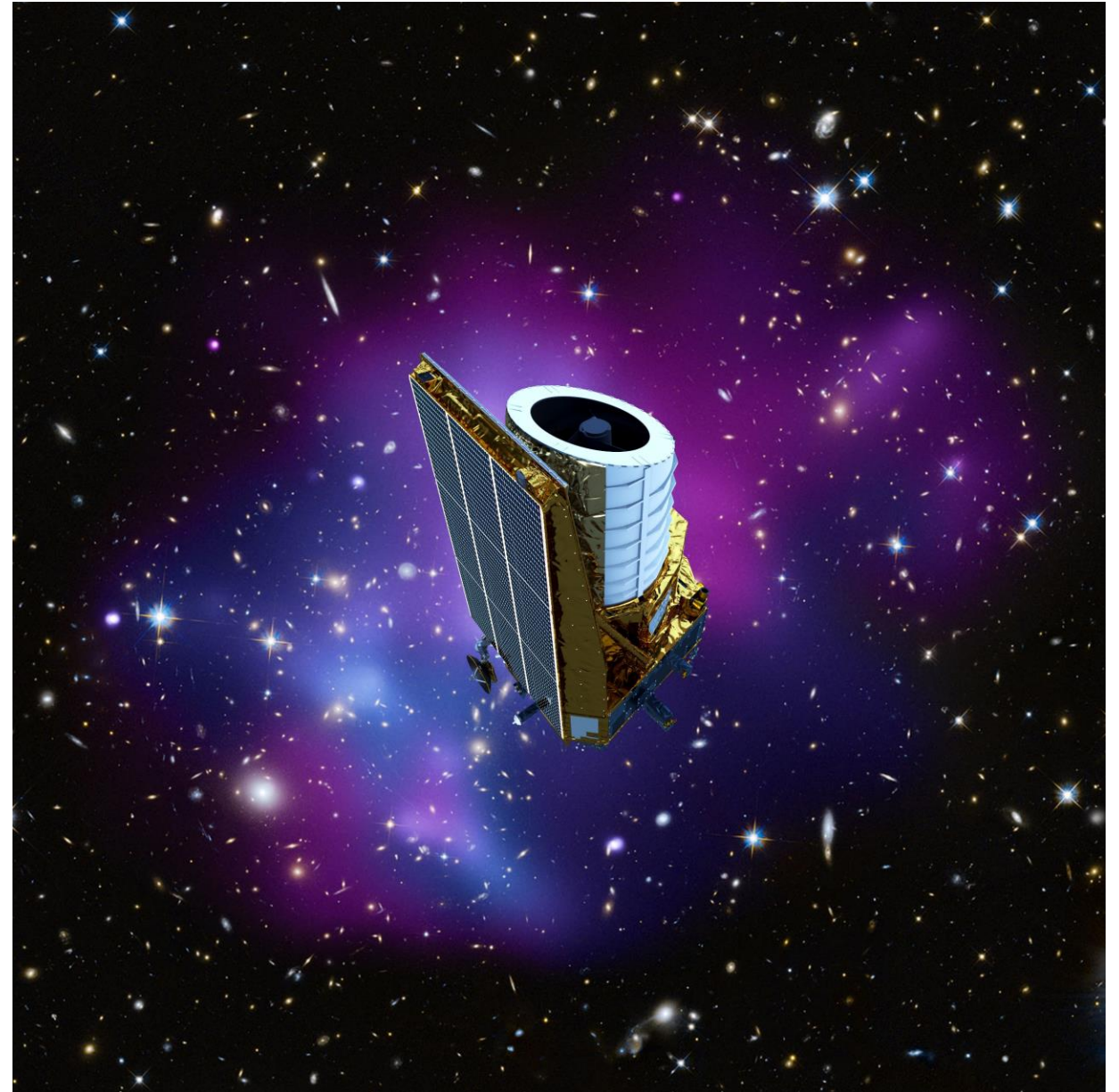


Hamaus et al. ([JCAP 2020](#))

EUCLID VOIDS

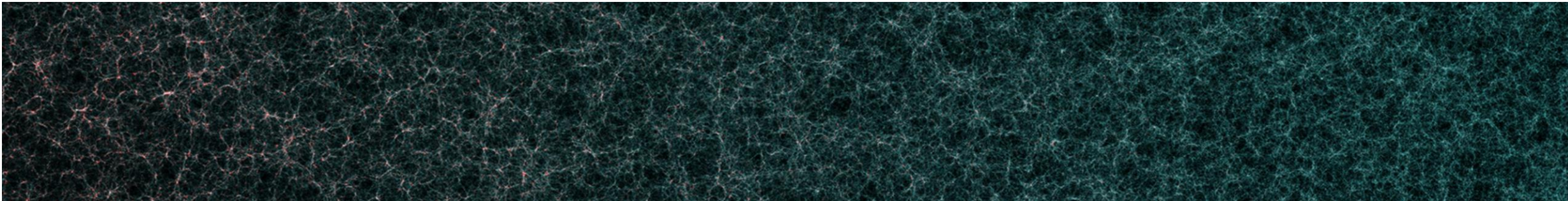


- Space-satellite mission to survey 35% of the sky
- Launch to Lagrange point 2 (L2) in 2023
- $\sim 10^9$ galaxies with $\sim 10^7$ spectra: $\sim 10^5$ voids
- Redshift range:
 - $0.0 < z < 2.5$ (photo-z)
 - $0.9 < z < 1.8$ (spec-z)

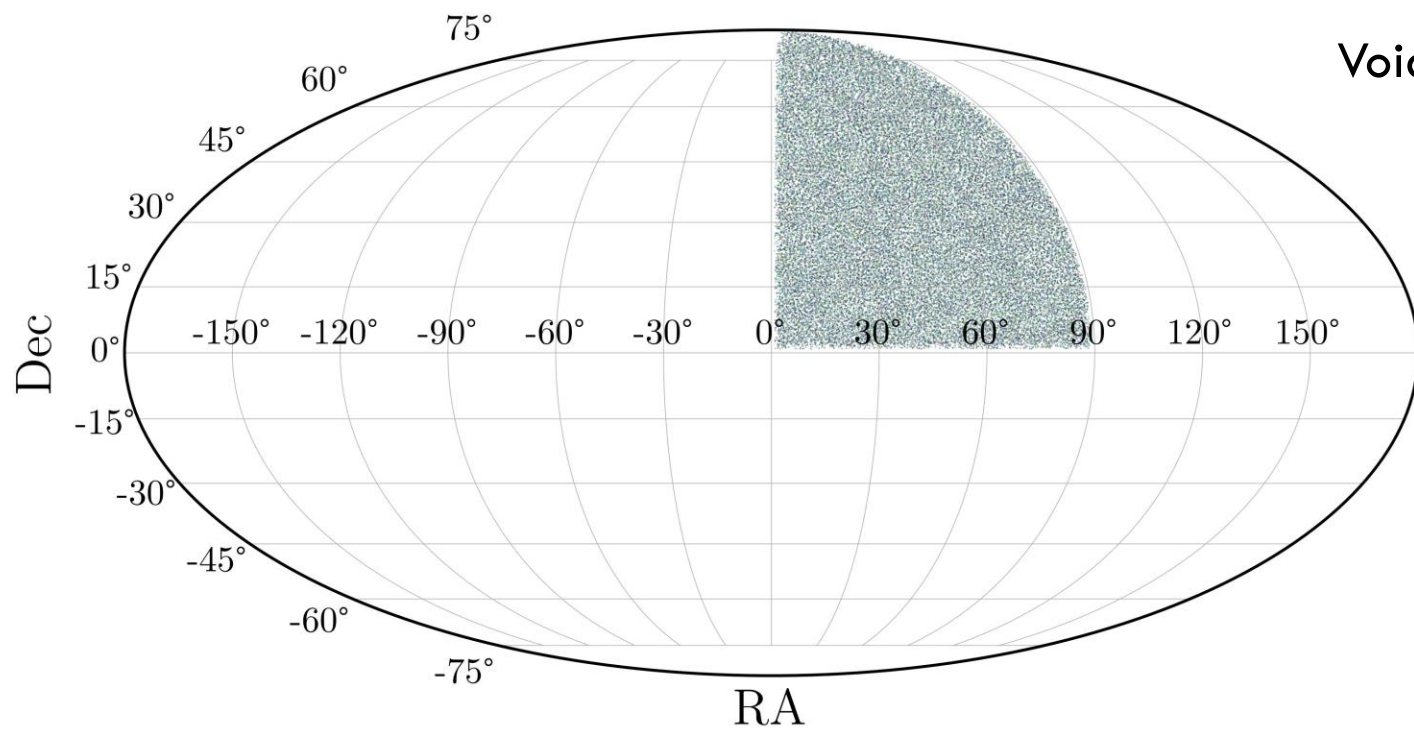


[esa Euclid mission](#)

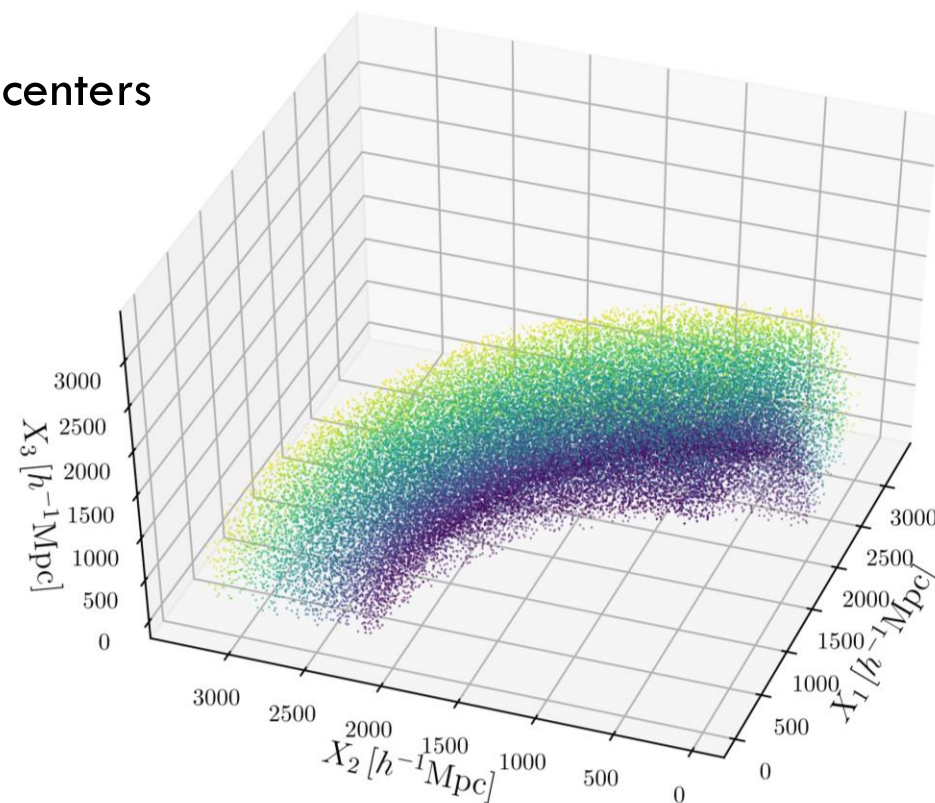
[VIDE](#) voids in *Euclid* [Flagship mock](#) (based on N-body simulation with 2 trillion particles).



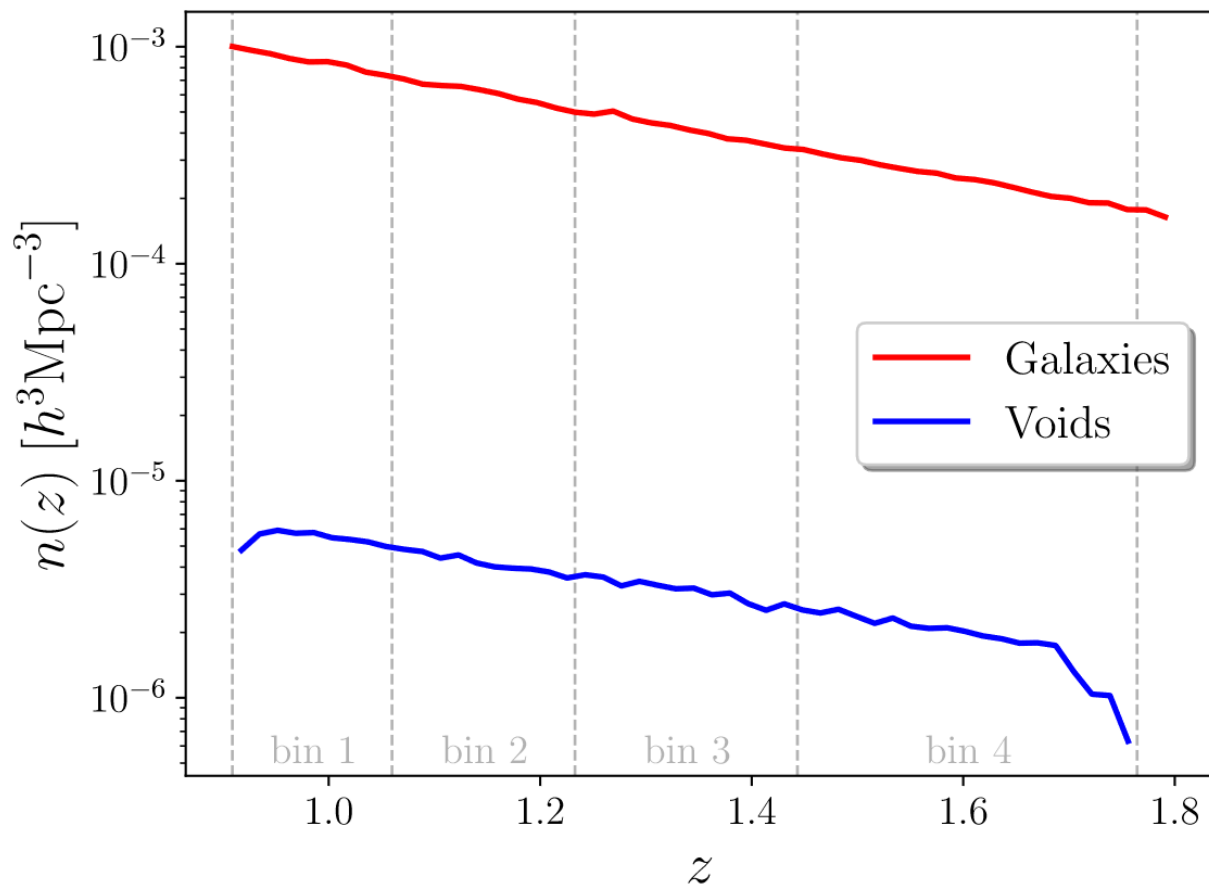
Redshift →



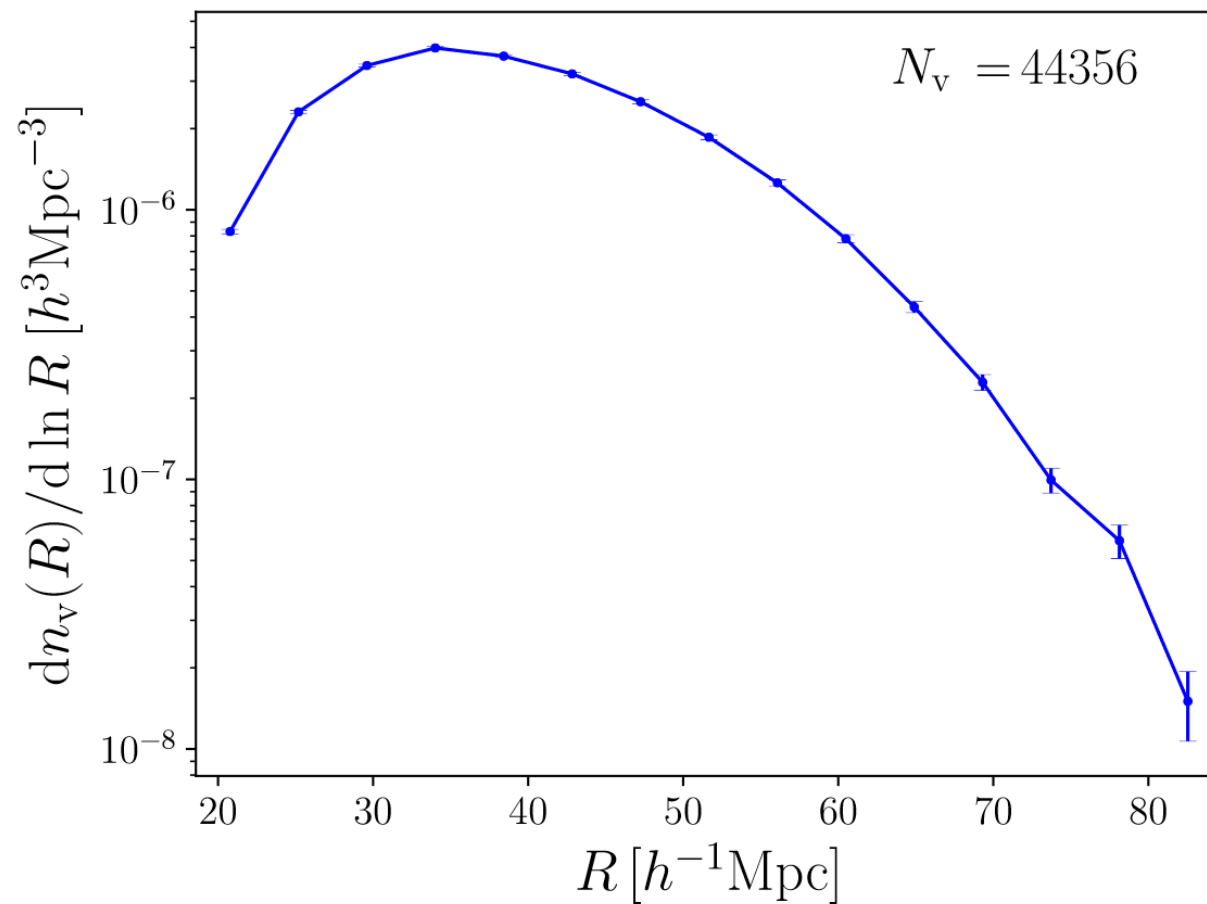
Void centers



Number density of tracers and voids

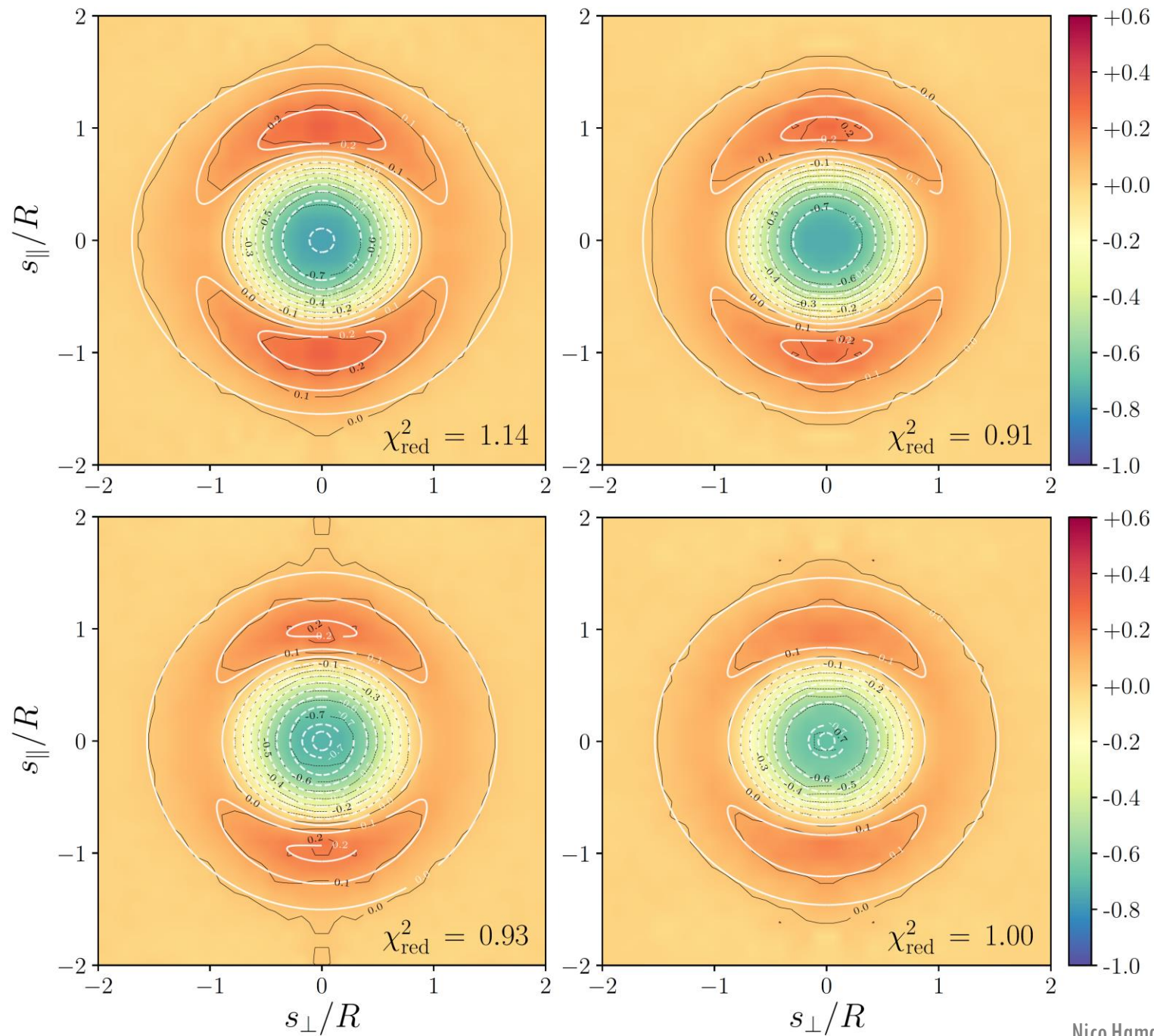


Void size function

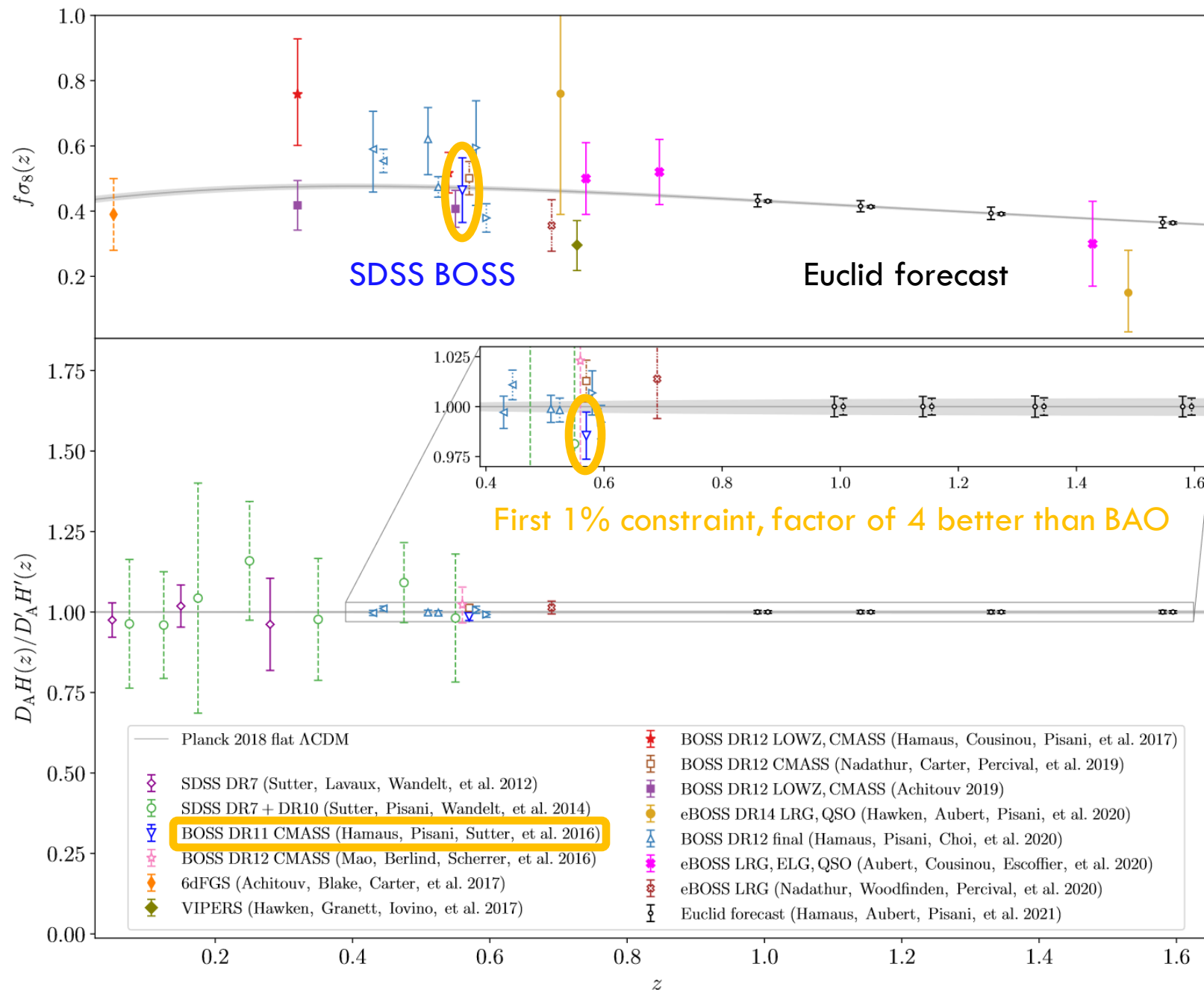


Purity cut on void size: $R > N_s \left(\frac{4\pi}{3} n_g(Z) \right)^{-1/3}$ $N_s = 3$

Plane-of-sky vs. line-of-sight 2D void-galaxy correlation function



Overview of constraints from various galaxy surveys



Method:

RSD only (filled symbols)

RSD+AP (open symbols)

Model calibration:

none (solid)

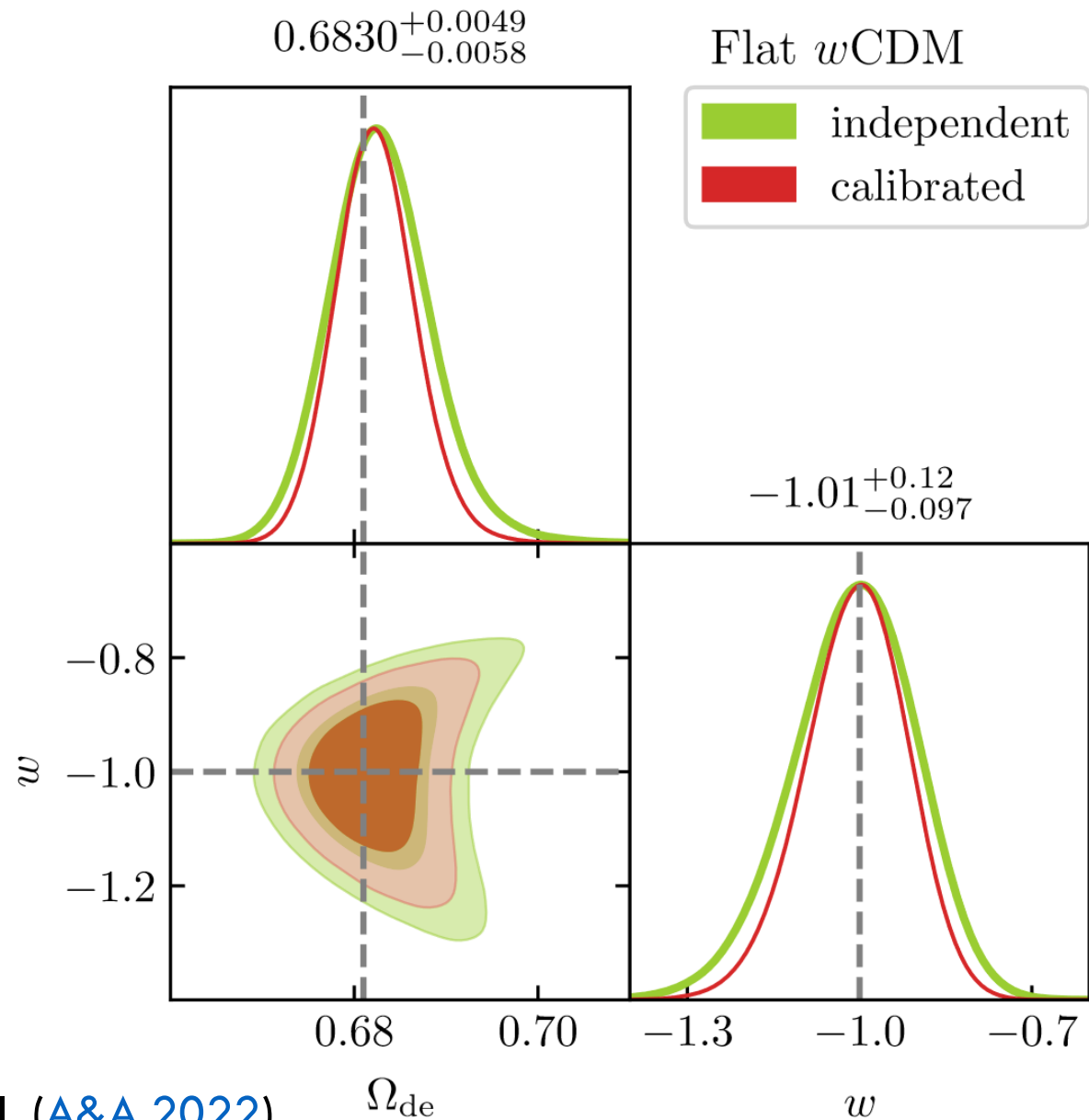
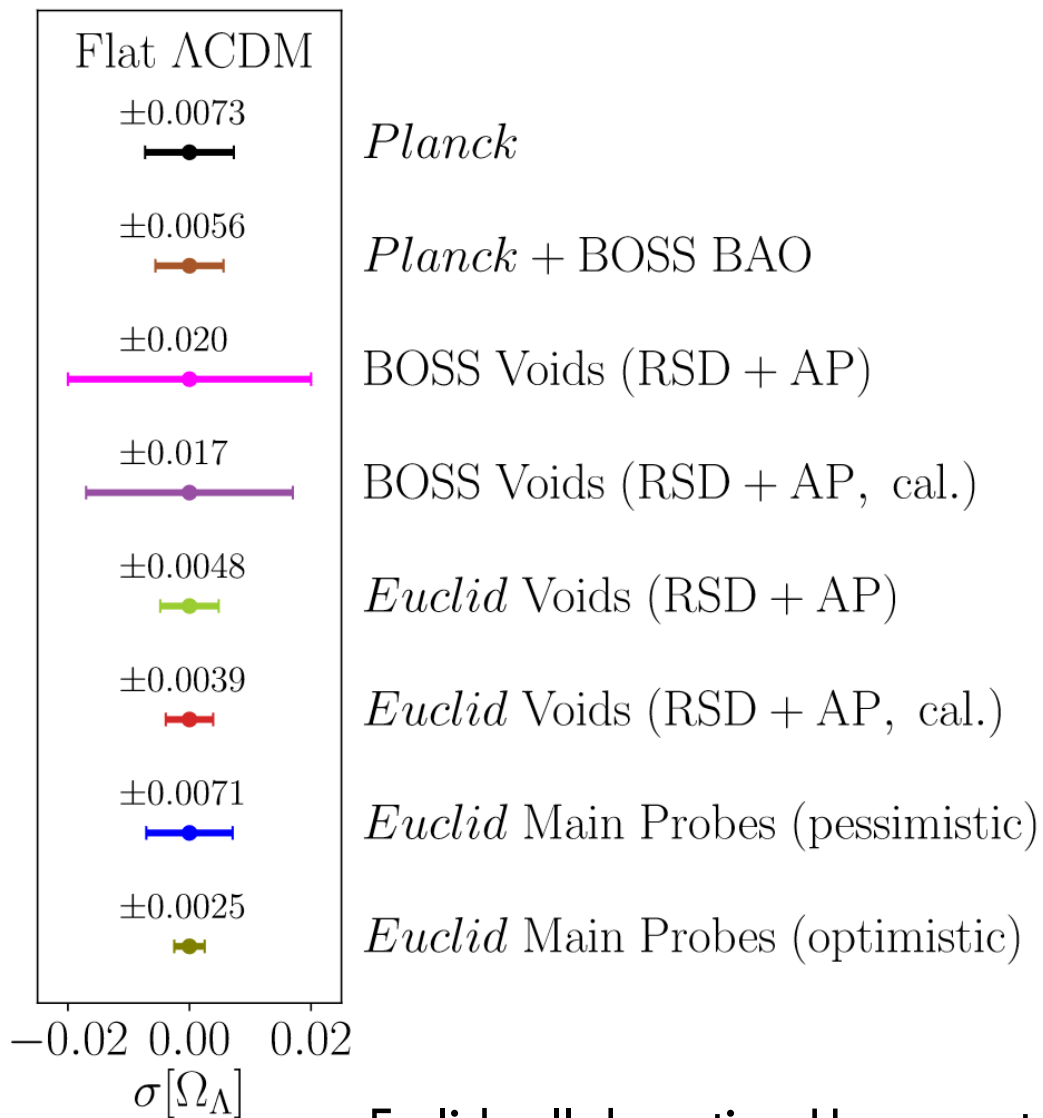
with mocks (dotted)

with sims & mocks (dot-dashed)

Reference:

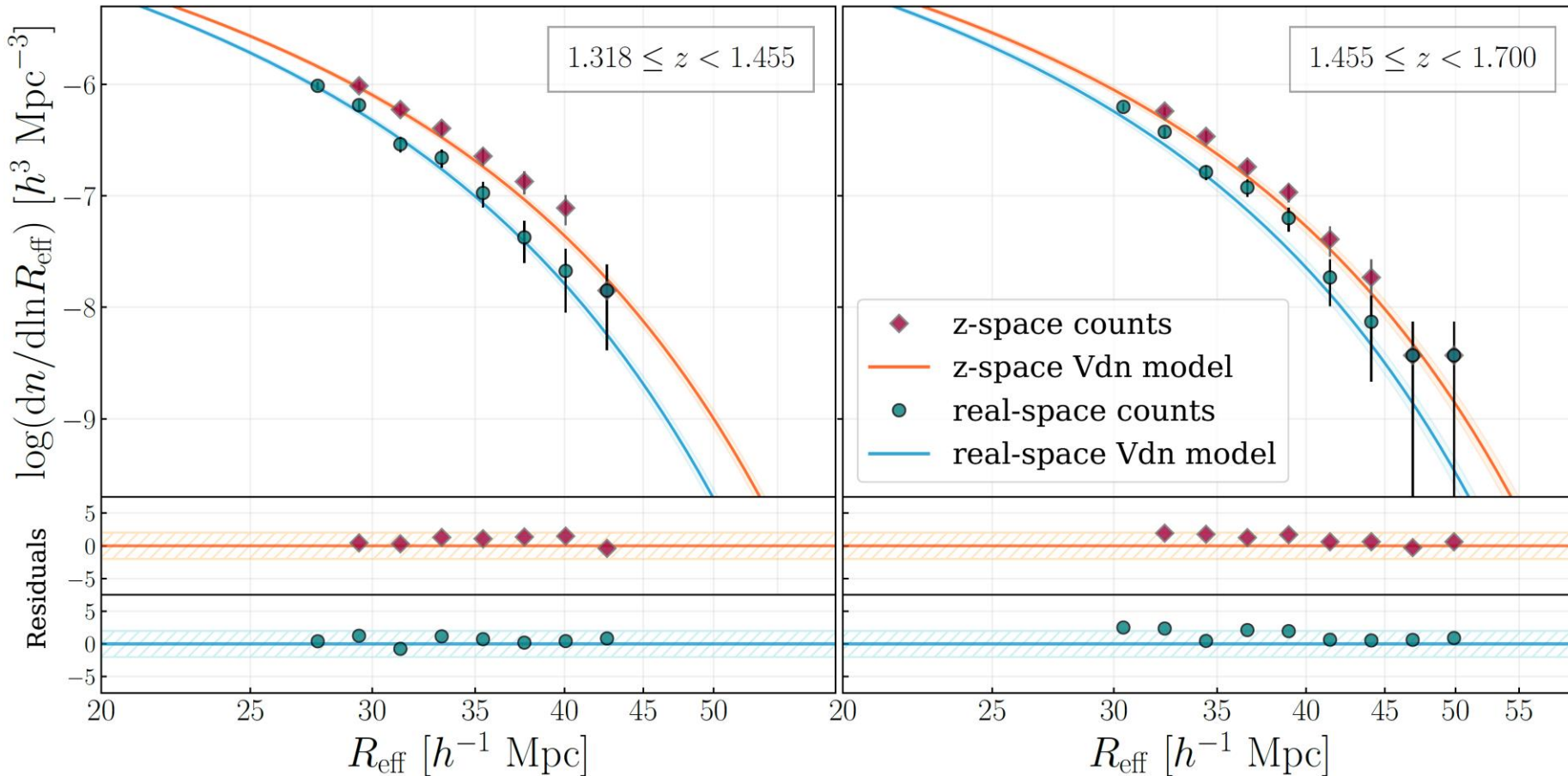
Planck 2018 (gray line)

Constraints on dark energy as stand-alone probe, extrapolated to full *Euclid* footprint of 15 000 sq. deg.



Euclid collaboration: Hamaus et al. ([A&A 2022](#))

VOID SIZE FUNCTION



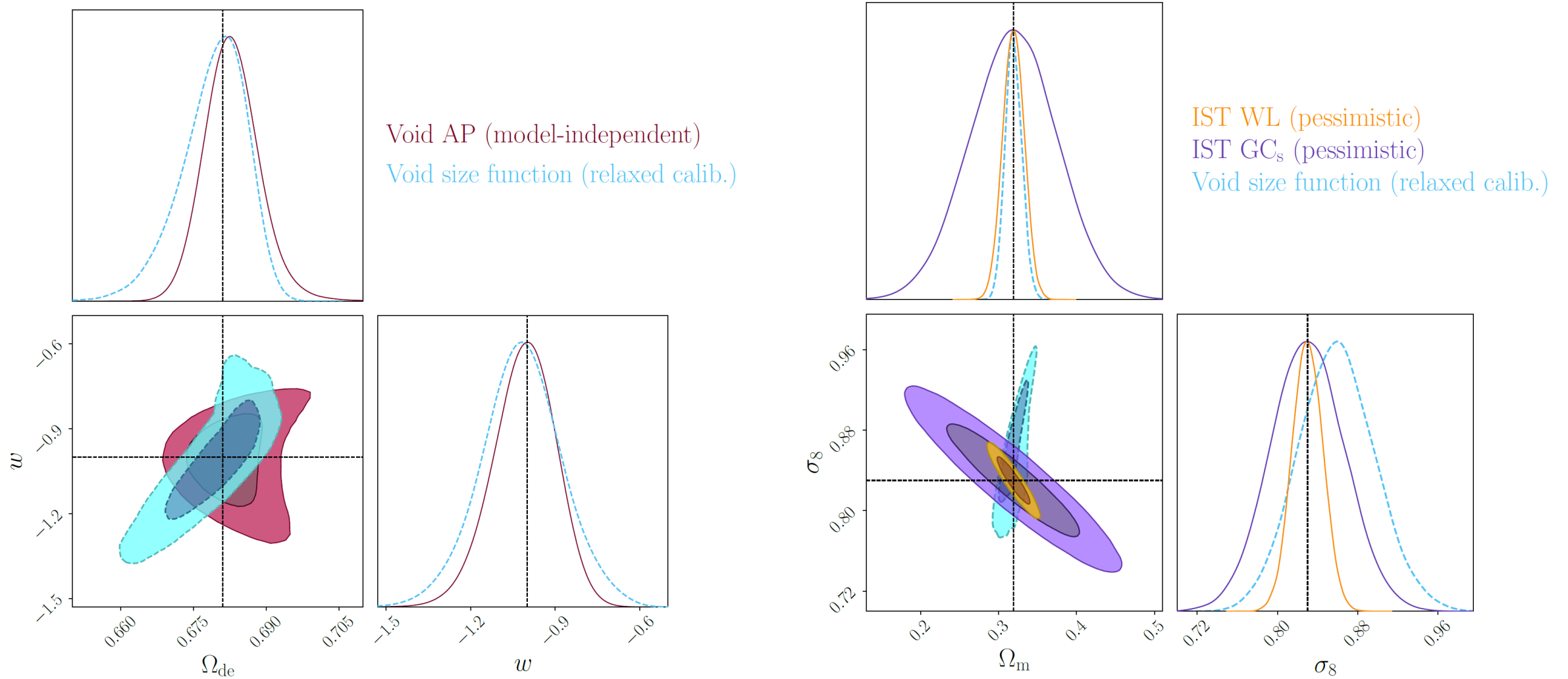
Sofia Contarini



Giovanni Verza

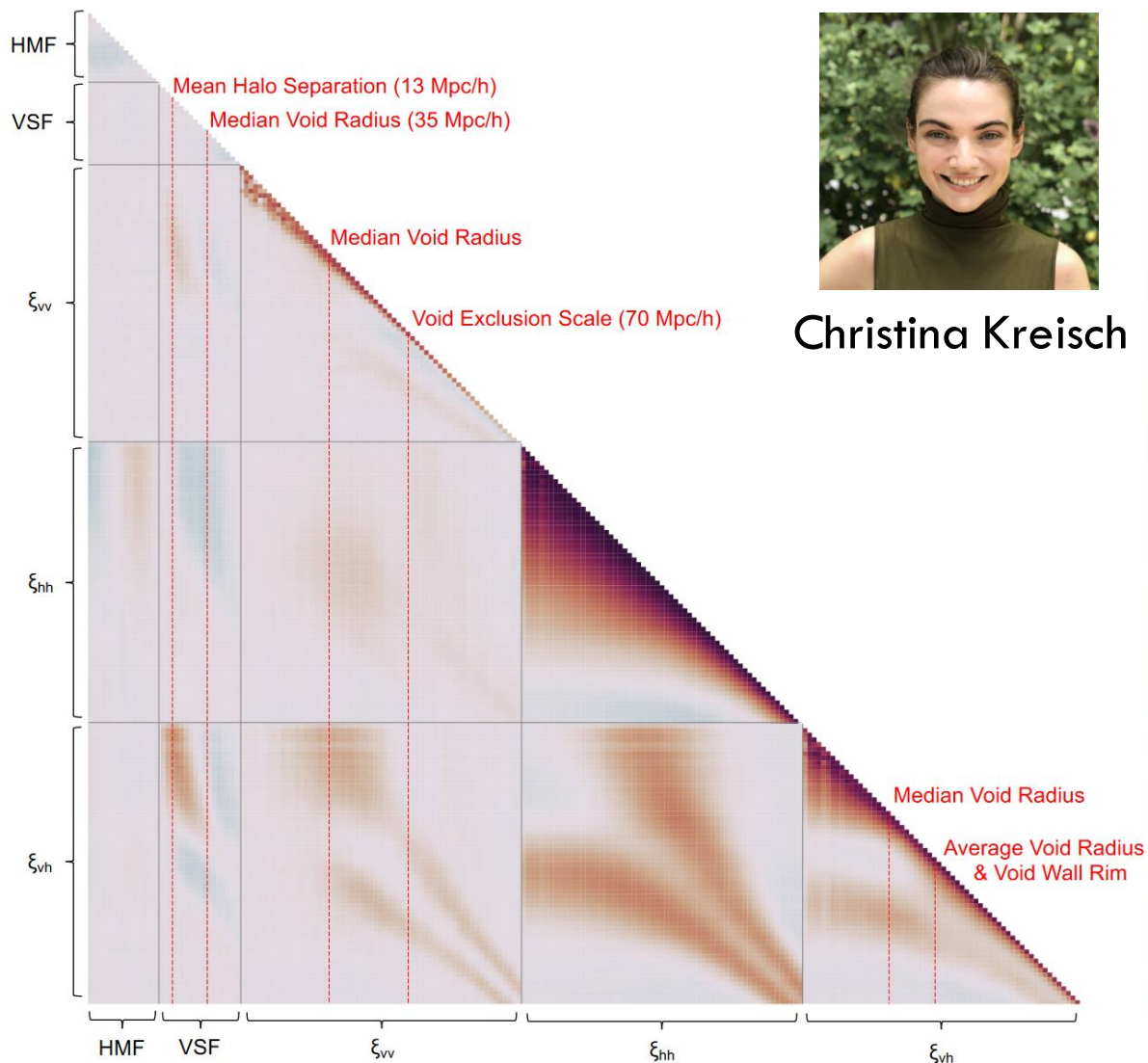
Euclid collaboration: Contarini, Verza et al. incl. Hamaus ([A&A 2022](#))

Let's break degeneracies!

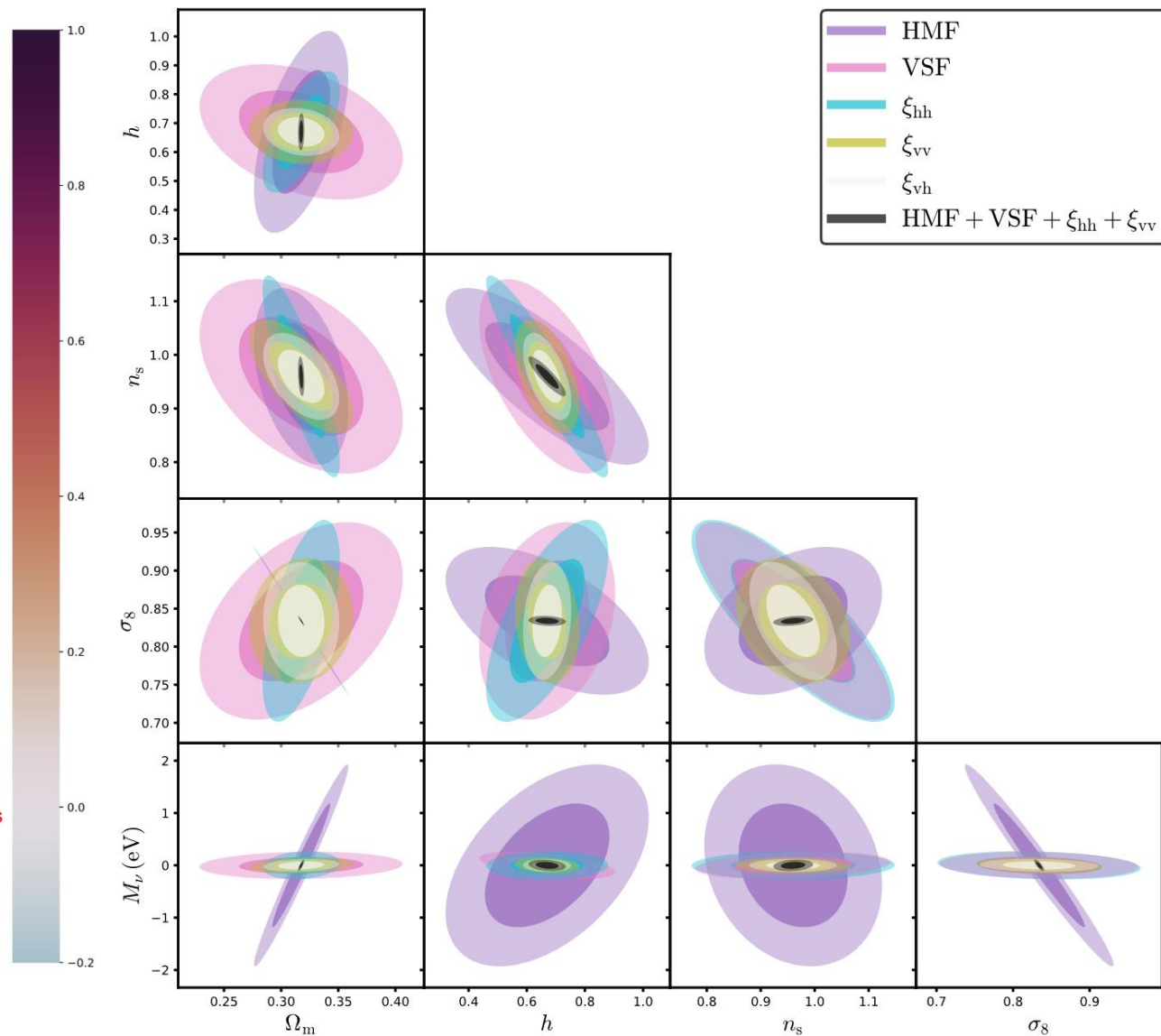


Euclid collaboration: Contarini, Verza et al. incl. Hamaus ([A&A 2022](#))

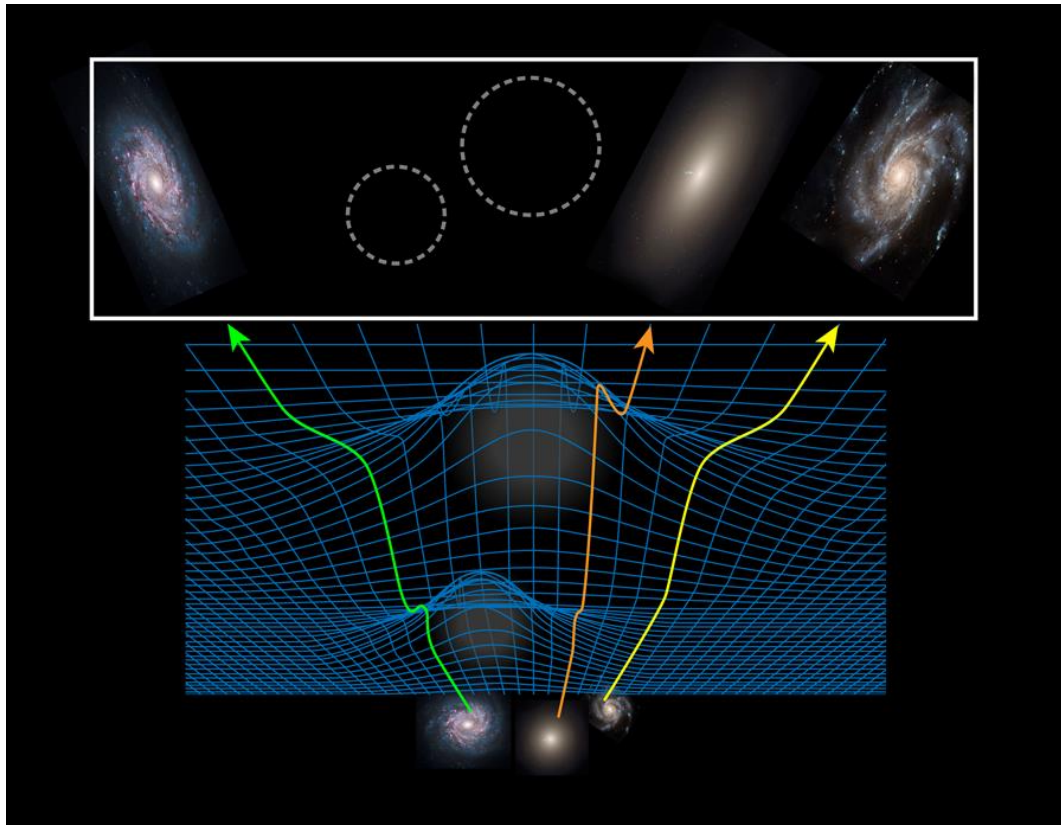
Complementarity / Orthogonality with other probes (Fisher forecast with “Quijote” simulations)



Christina Kreisch



VOID LENSING



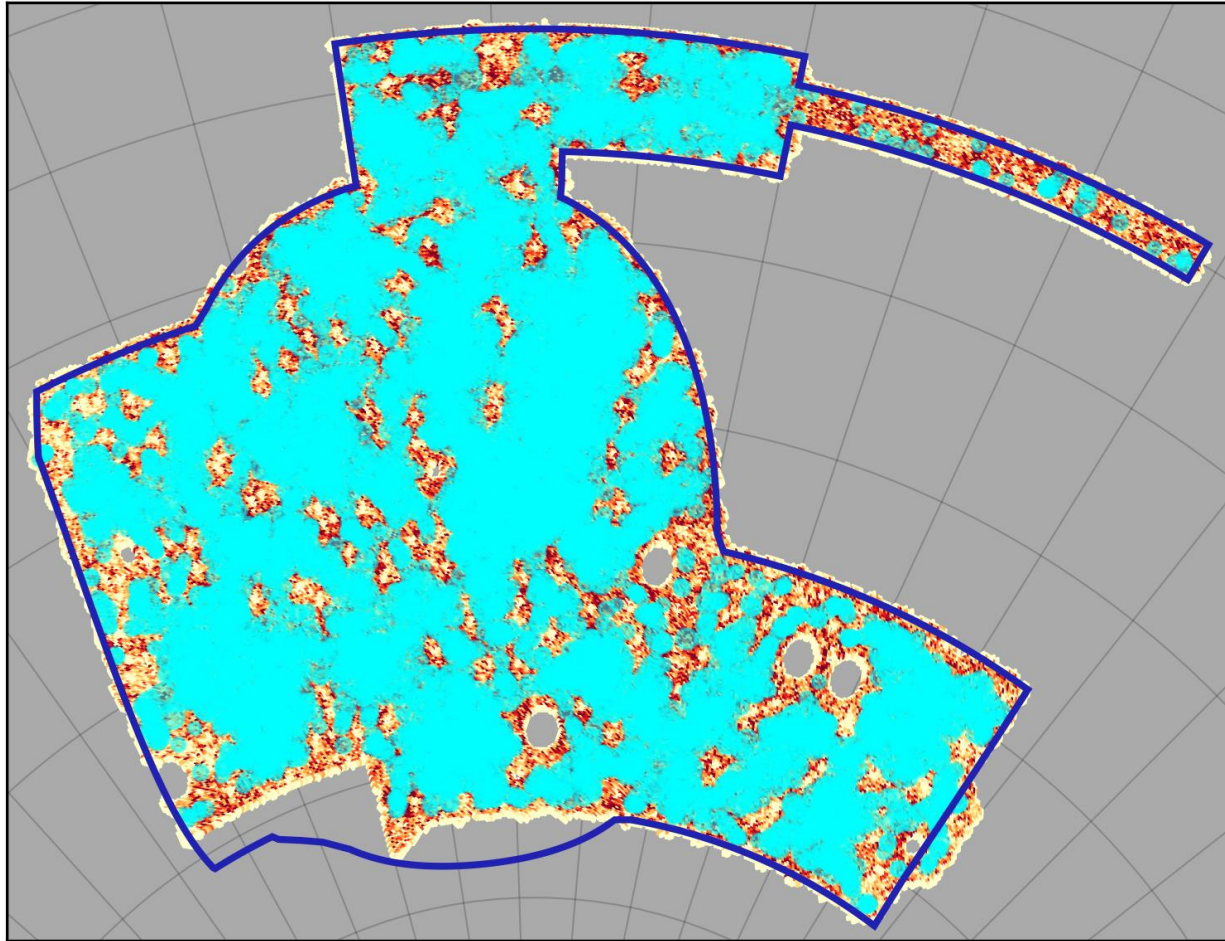
APS (Alan Stonebraker)



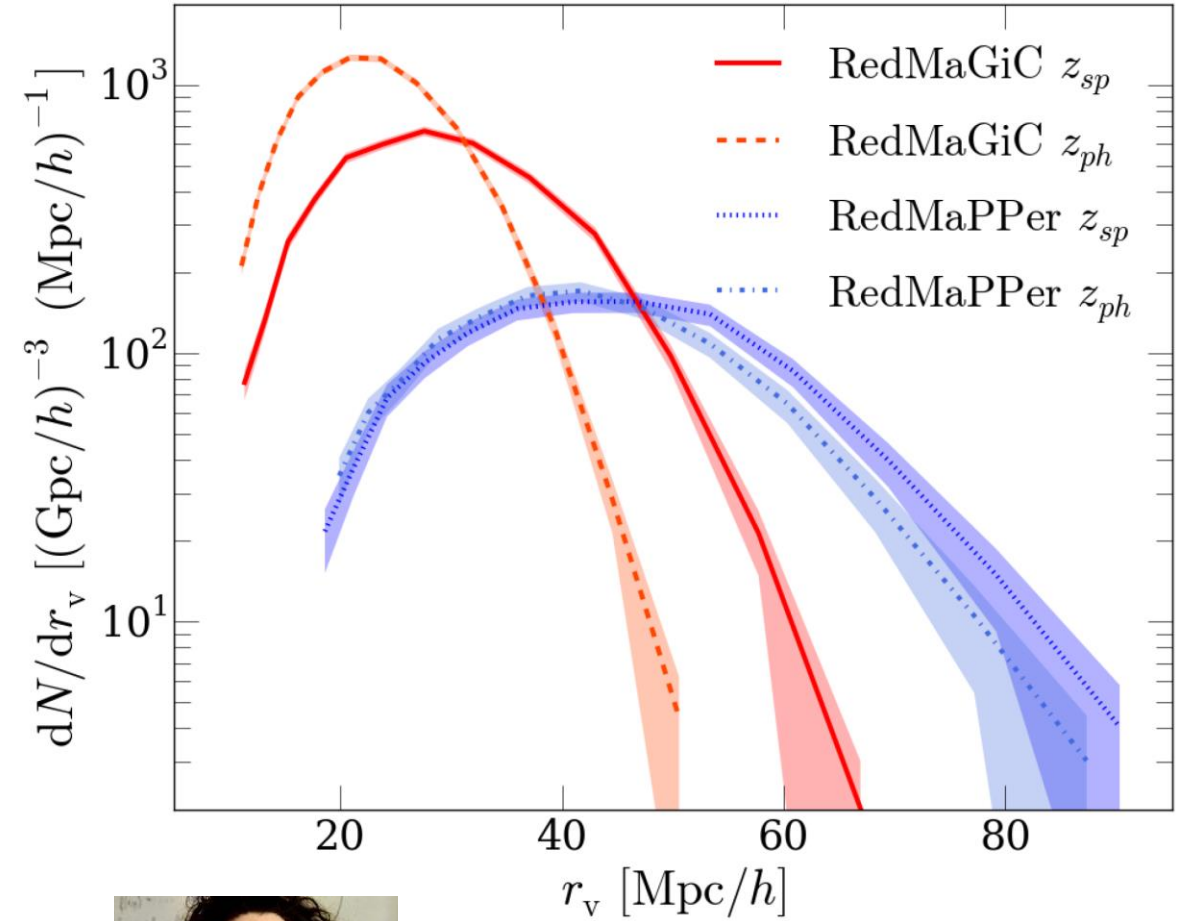
LSST (Rubin) / JWST (NASA)

Magnification and tangential shear

Voids in the Dark Energy Survey (DES)

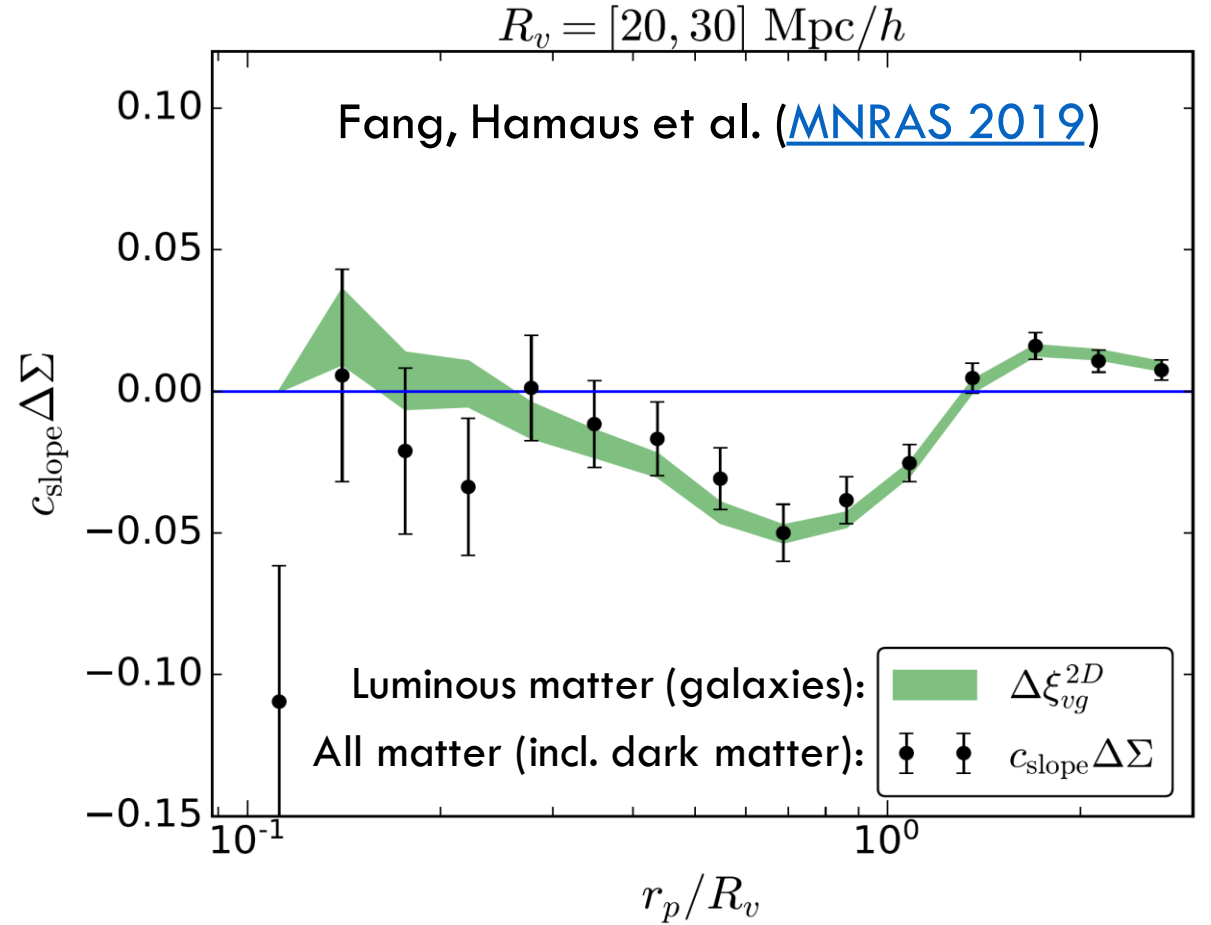
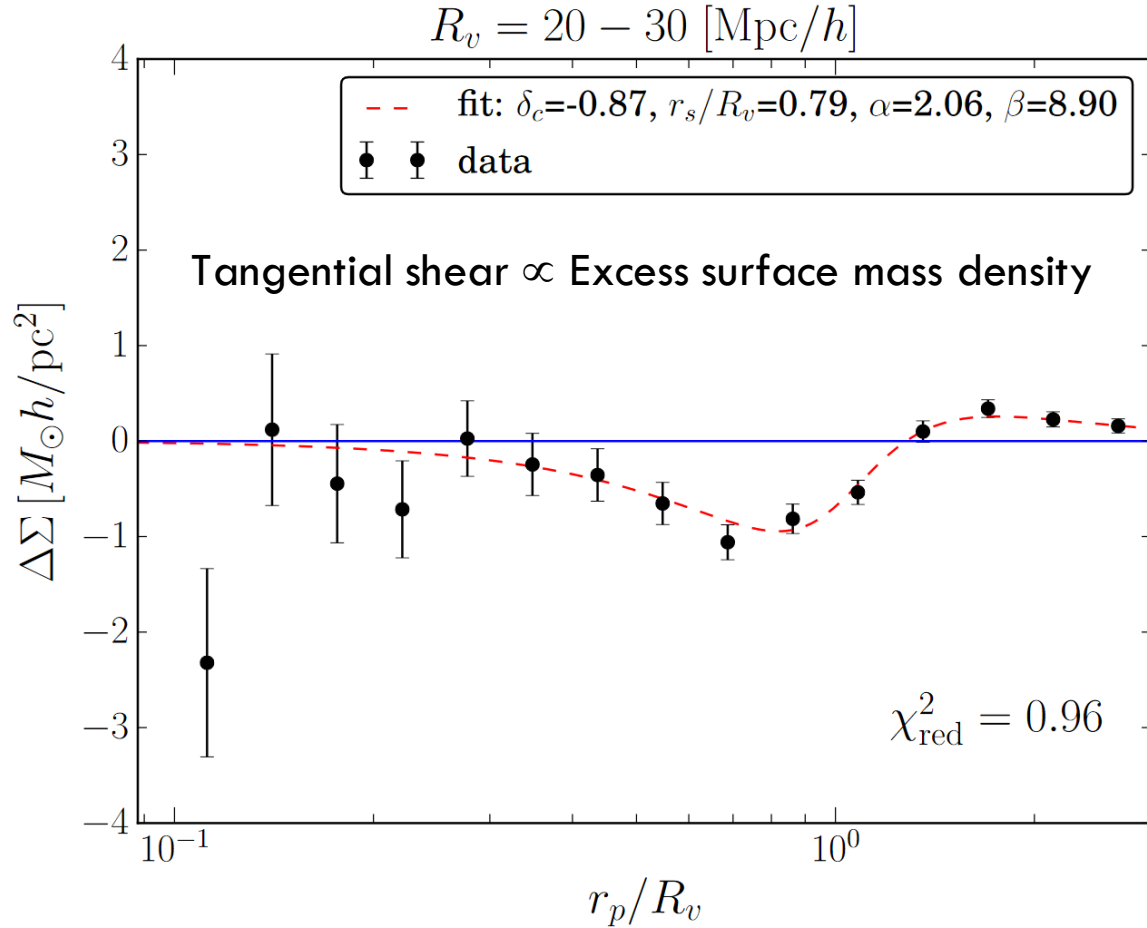


Pollina, Hamaus et al. ([MNRAS 2019](#))



Giorgia Pollina

Voids in the Dark Energy Survey (DES) – Weak-lensing profiles



$$\left. \begin{aligned}
 \text{All matter (incl. dark matter): } \Delta\Sigma(r_p) &\equiv \bar{\Sigma}(< r_p) - \Sigma(r_p) \\
 \text{Luminous matter (galaxies): } \Delta\xi_{\text{vg}}^{2D}(r_p) &\equiv \bar{\xi}_{\text{vg}}^{2D}(< r_p) - \xi_{\text{vg}}^{2D}(r_p)
 \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \Delta\xi_{\text{vg}}^{2D}(r_p) = \frac{b_g}{\langle \Sigma_m \rangle} \Delta\Sigma(r_p)$$

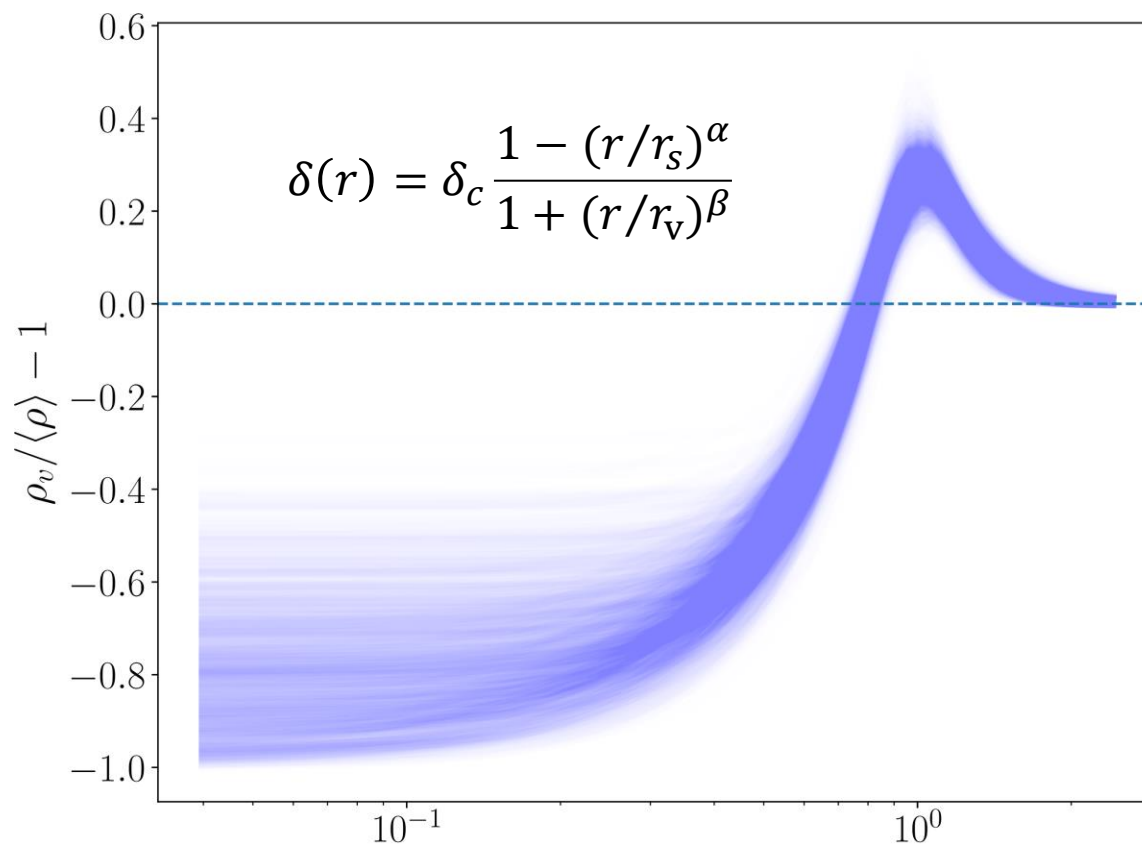
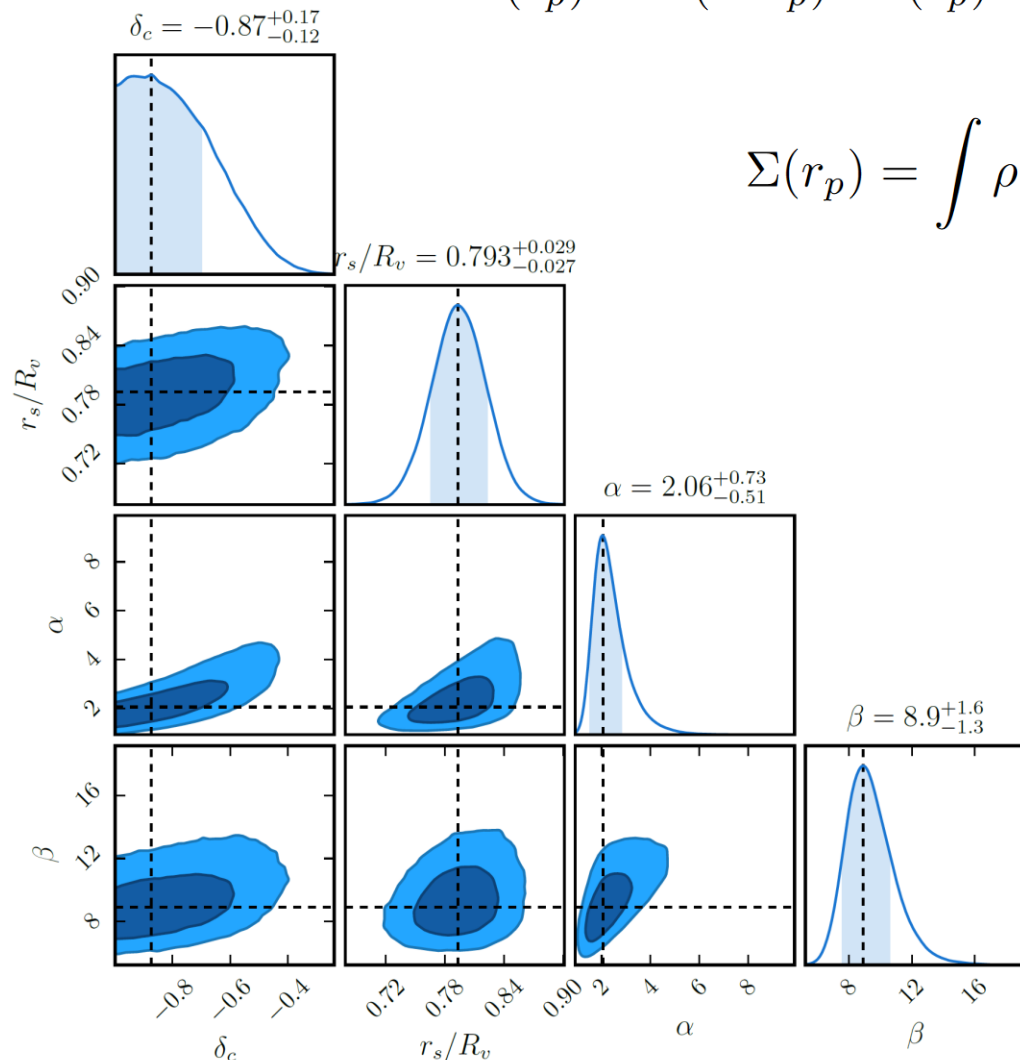
Voids in the Dark Energy Survey (DES) – Inferred (dark) matter density profile



Yuedong Fang

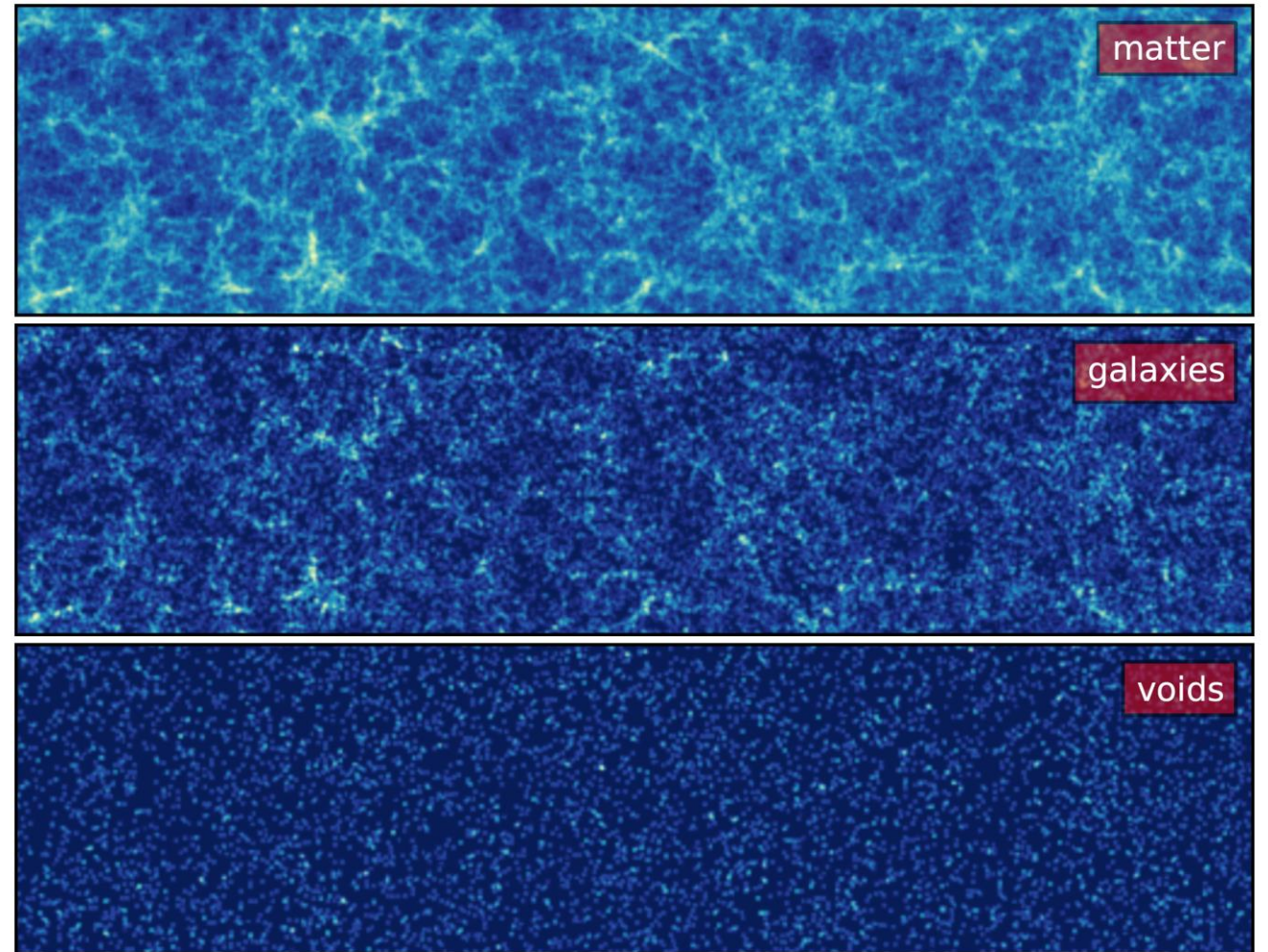
$$\Delta\Sigma(r_p) \equiv \bar{\Sigma}(< r_p) - \Sigma(r_p) = \Sigma_{\text{crit}} \gamma_+(r_p), \quad \Sigma_{\text{crit}} = \frac{c^2}{4\pi G} \frac{D_A(z_s)}{D_A(z_1)D_A(z_1, z_s)}$$

$$\Sigma(r_p) = \int \rho \left(\sqrt{[r_z - D_A(z_1)]^2 + r_p^2} \right) dr_z$$



VOID CLUSTERING

- Spatial distribution of voids beyond their own extent.
- Voids can be considered as tracers of the large-scale structure.
- Large scales retain information from the initial conditions

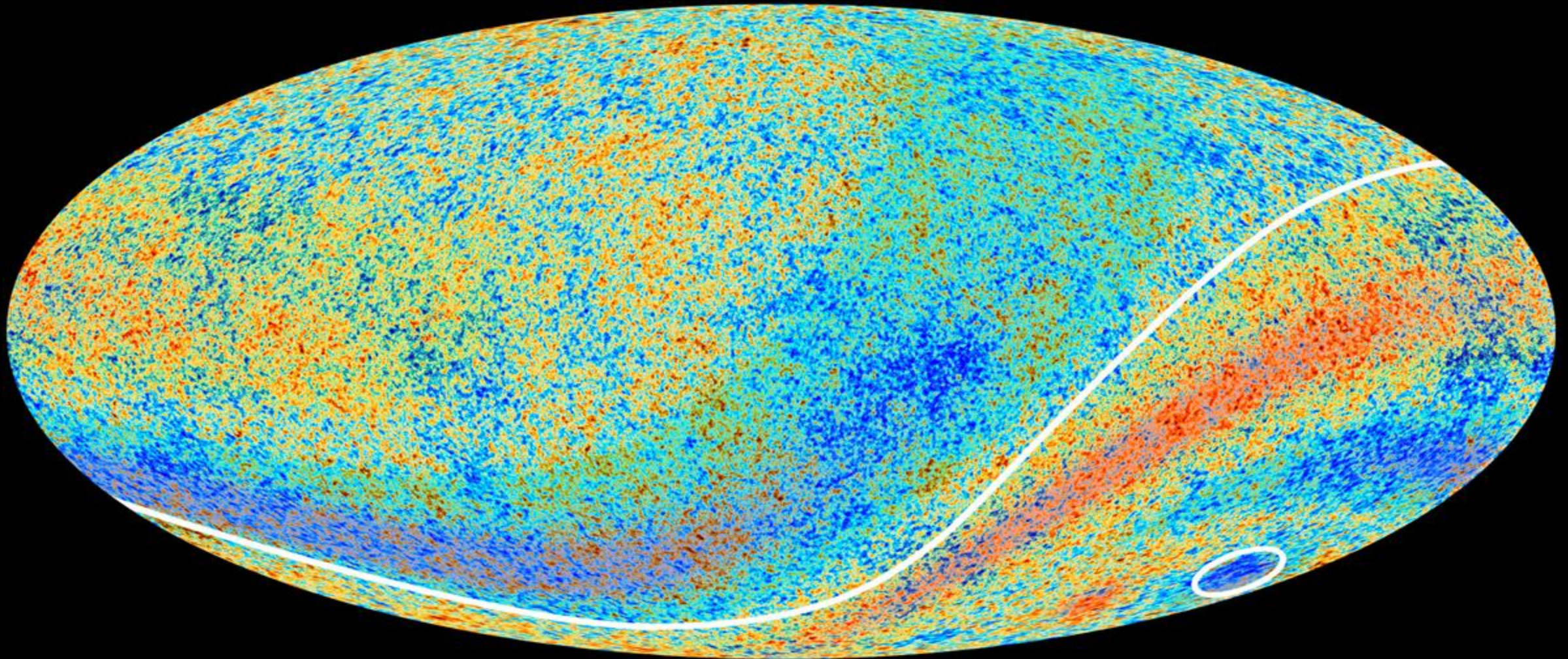


Gaussian initial conditions for structure formation?



→ **THE COSMIC MICROWAVE BACKGROUND**

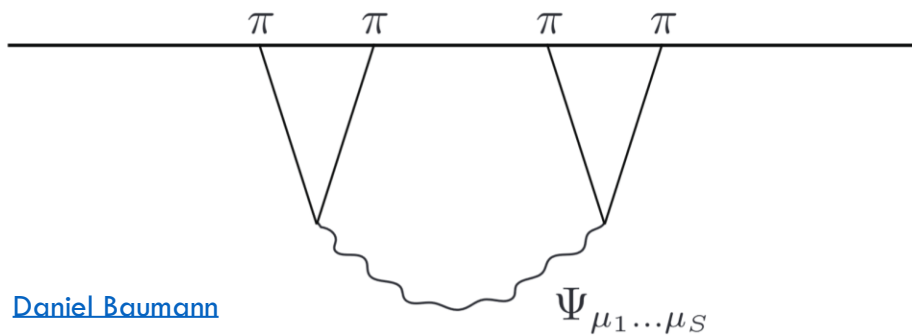
Planck Legacy Release 2018



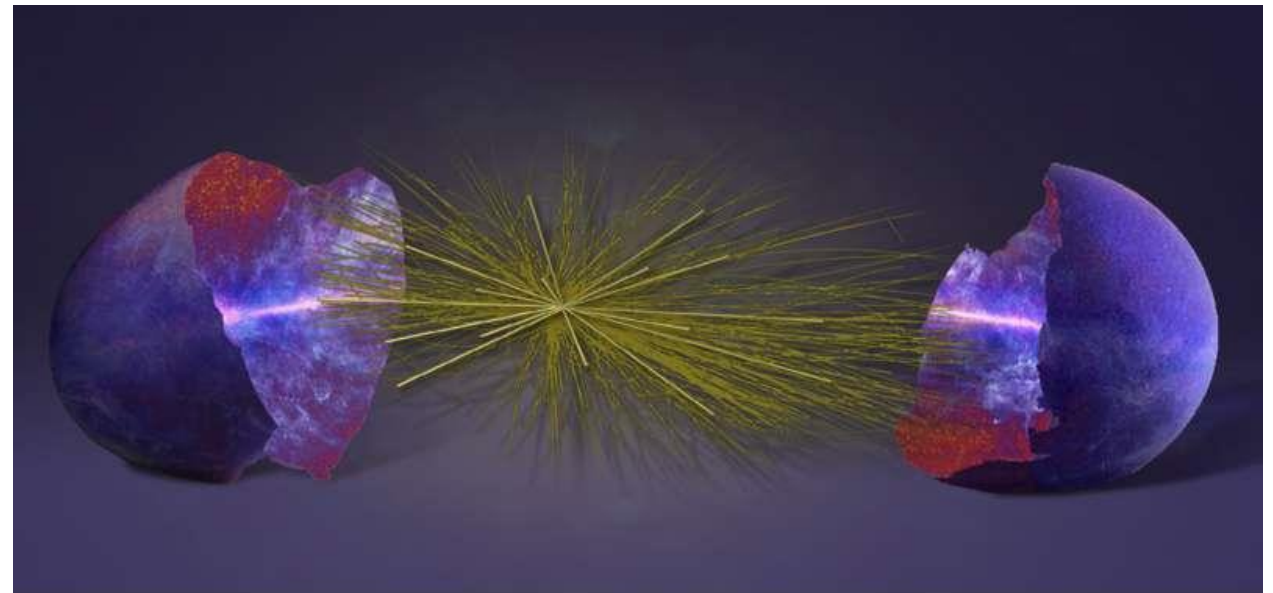
Primordial gravitational potential, expanded around Gaussian:

$$\Phi(\mathbf{x}) = \Phi_G(\mathbf{x}) + f_{\text{NL}}[\Phi_G^2(\mathbf{x}) - \langle \Phi_G^2 \rangle]$$

- f_{NL} measures degree of “**Primordial Non-Gaussianity**”. Current best limit by Planck: $|f_{\text{NL}}| < 5$
- A detection of $|f_{\text{NL}}| > 1 - n_s \sim \mathcal{O}(10^{-2})$ could hint at **multiple fields / particles** interacting during early inflationary phase (in addition to the *inflaton*)
- “**Cosmological Collider Physics**” (Arkani-Hamed & Maldacena, [arXiv 1503.08043](https://arxiv.org/abs/1503.08043))



[Daniel Baumann](#)



[Paul Shellard](#)

Power spectra with voids

$$P_{xy}(k) = \langle \delta_x(\mathbf{k}) \delta_y^*(\mathbf{k}) \rangle$$

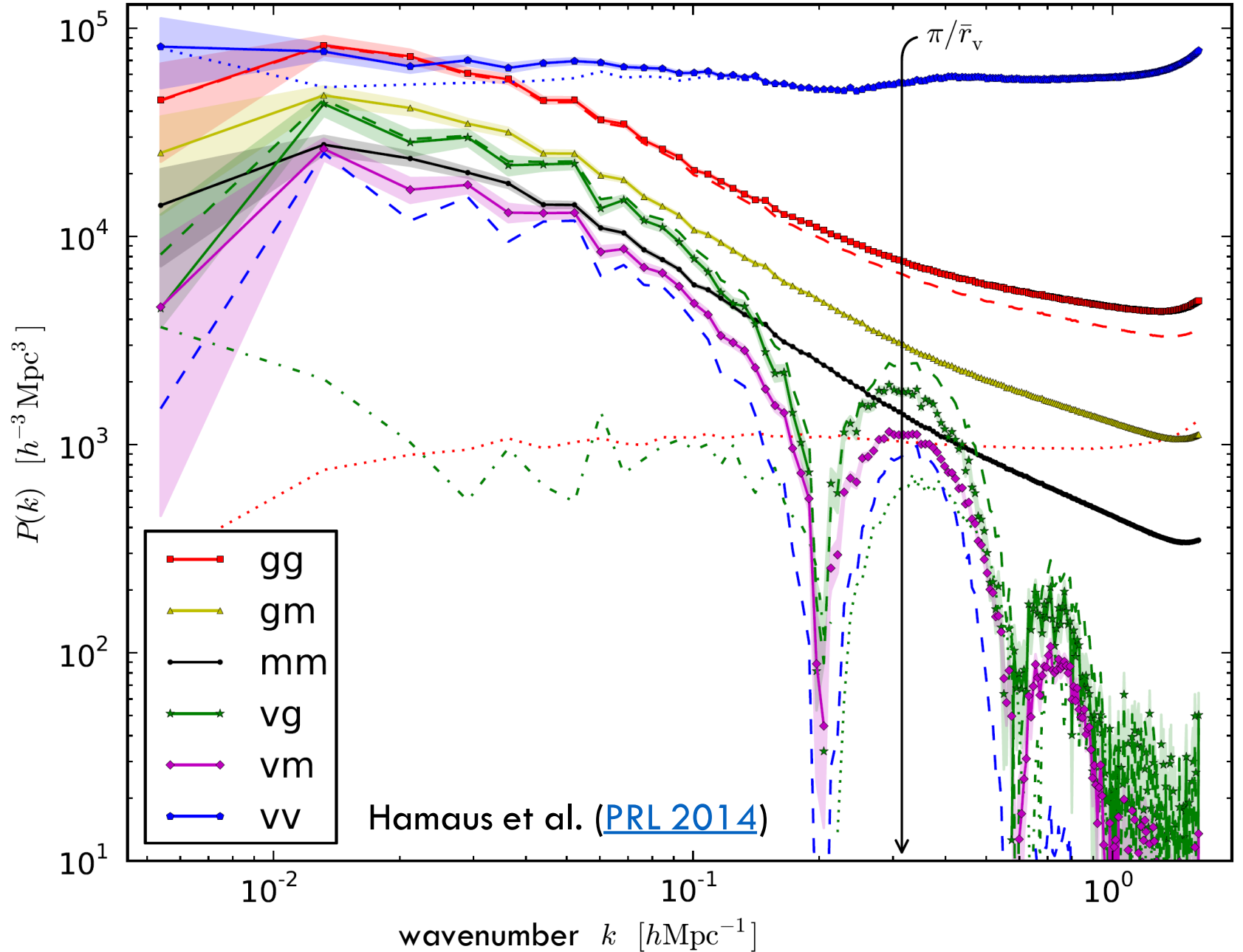
$$= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int \xi_{xy}(r) e^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}} d^3r$$

“2-point function” in
Fourier space

Solid: Signal + Noise

Dotted: Shot Noise

Dashed: Signal

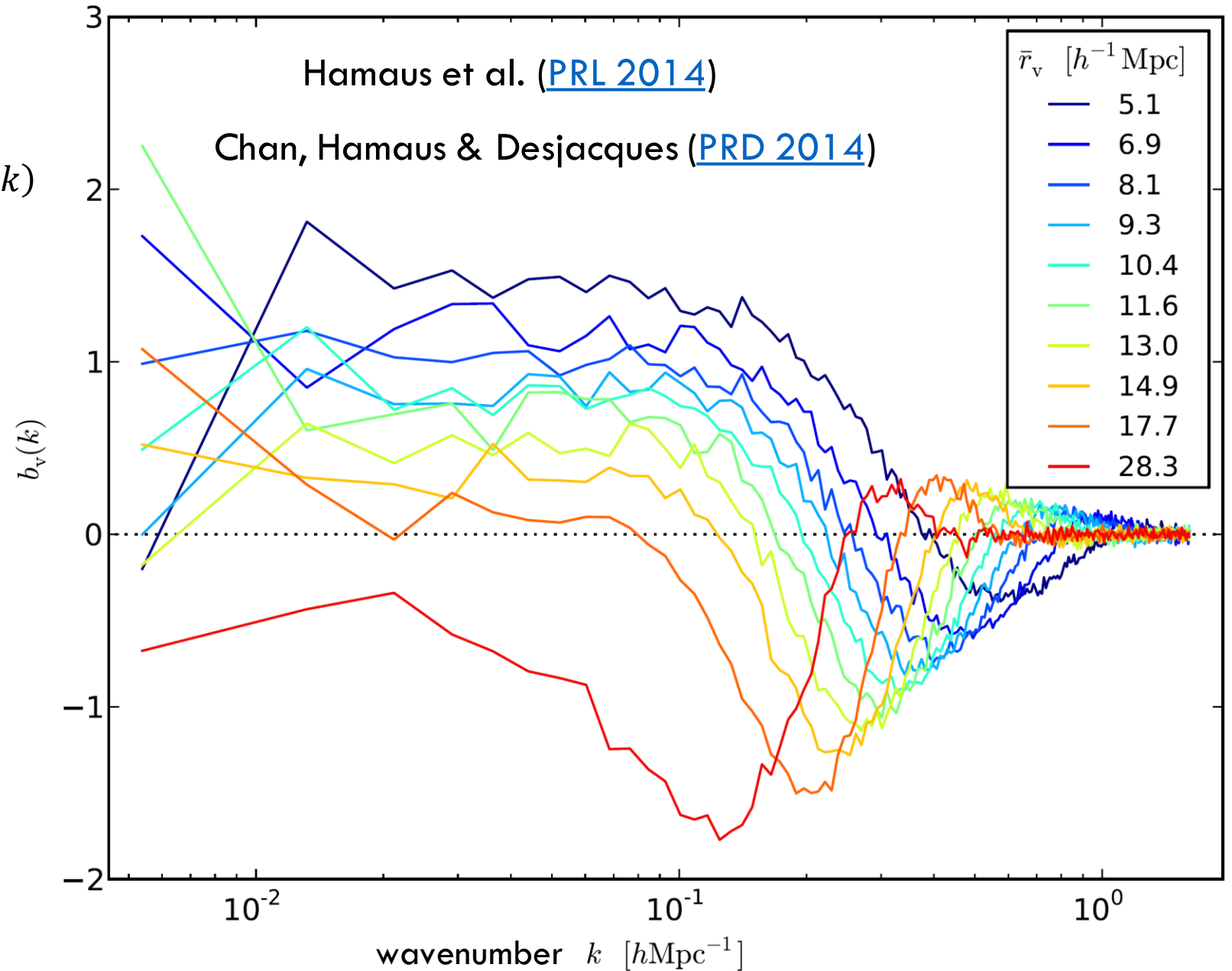


Bias of voids

$$P_{\text{vm}}(k) = \langle b_{\text{v}} \delta(\mathbf{k}) \delta^*(\mathbf{k}) \rangle = b_{\text{v}} P_{\text{mm}}(k)$$

➤ Multiplies amplitude of density fluctuations

- Constant on large scales
- Modulated by density profile on small scales
- Overcompensated: positive
- Undercompensated: **negative**



Bias of voids with primordial non-Gaussianity

Primordial potential, expanded around Gaussian:

$$\Phi(\mathbf{x}) = \Phi_G(\mathbf{x}) + f_{\text{NL}}[\Phi_G^2(\mathbf{x}) - \langle \Phi_G^2 \rangle]$$

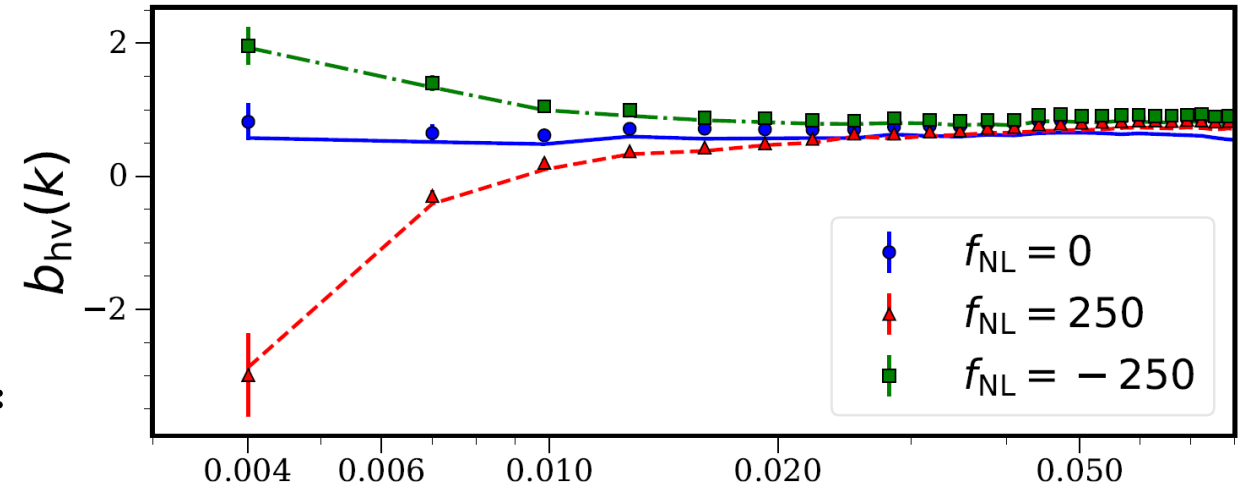
Results in scale-dependent bias (Dalal et al. [PRD 2008](#)):

$$b(k, f_{\text{NL}}) \approx b_G + f_{\text{NL}}(b_G - 1)\delta_c \frac{3\Omega_m H_0^2}{k^2 T(k) D(z)}$$

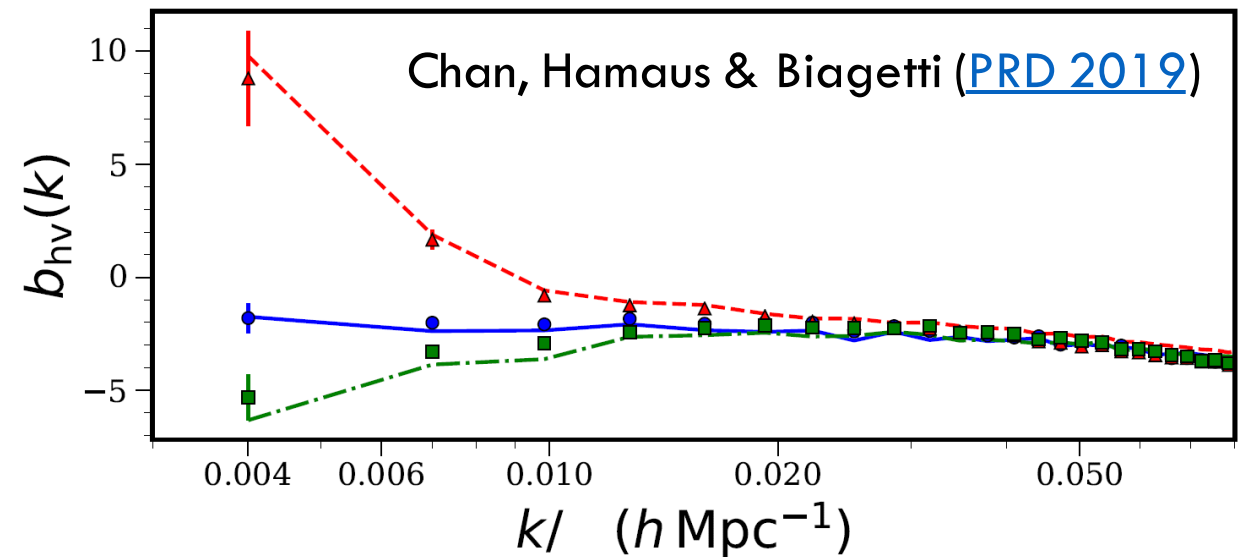
Voids: exchange positive δ_c by **negative** δ_v

- Error on f_{NL} shrinks by up to factor of **2** incl. voids
- Recovers missing information from troughs in the initial random field

$M_h = 1.1 \times 10^{13} M_\odot h^{-1}$, $R_v = 15.0 \text{ Mpc}/h$



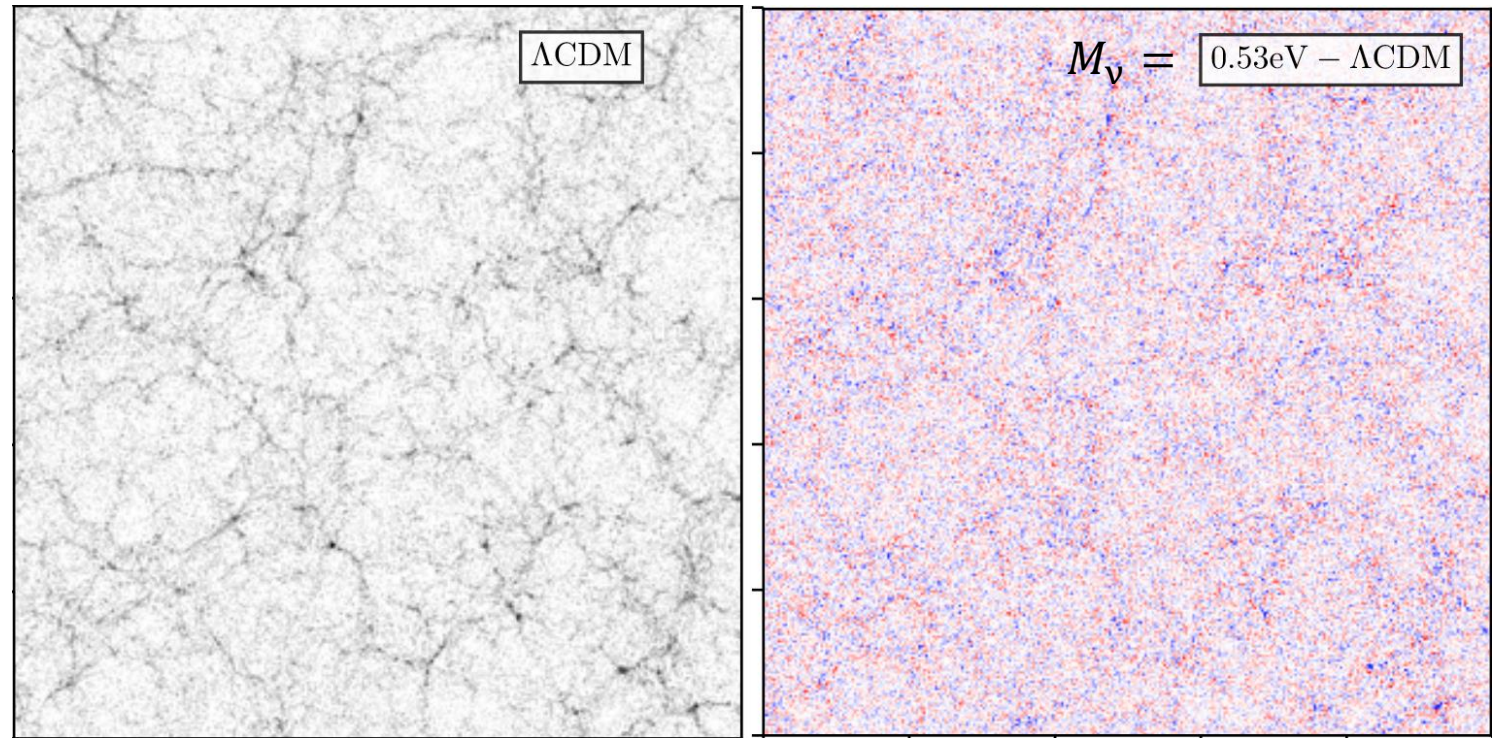
$M_h = 1.1 \times 10^{13} M_\odot h^{-1}$, $R_v = 35.0 \text{ Mpc}/h$



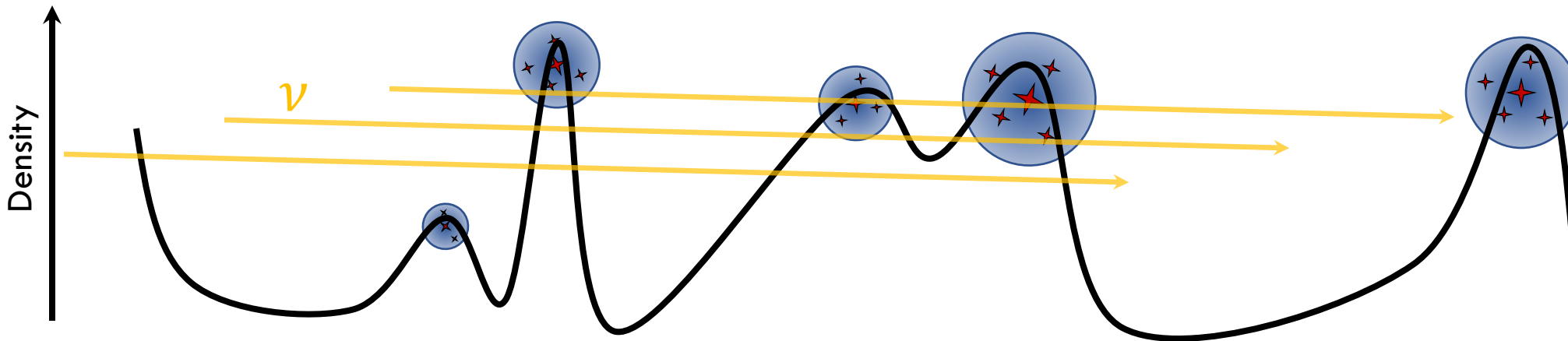
Voids in massive-neutrino cosmologies

Massive neutrinos freely stream into voids, and gravitationally drag other forms of (dark) matter with them

- Effect depends on neutrino mass M_ν (sum over species)

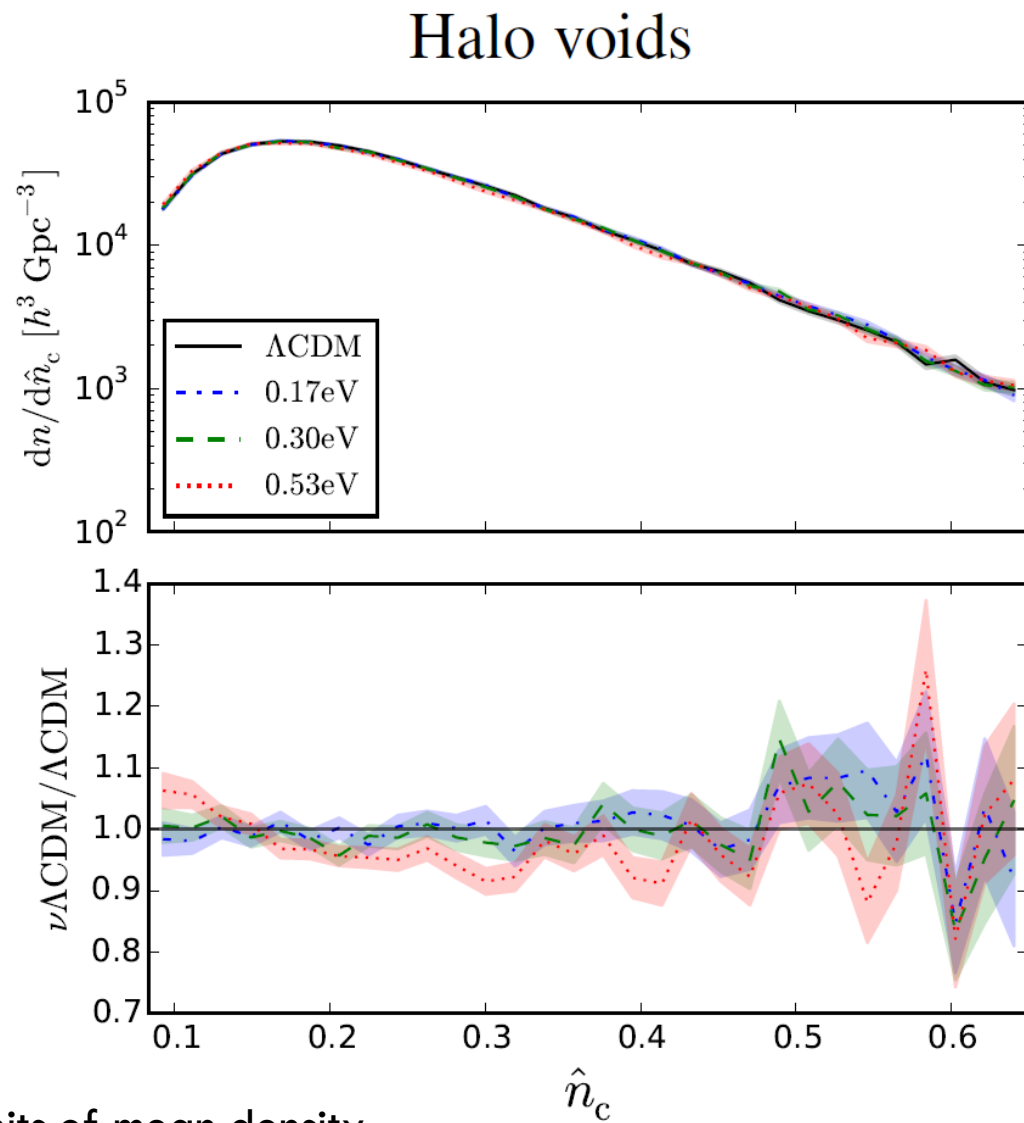
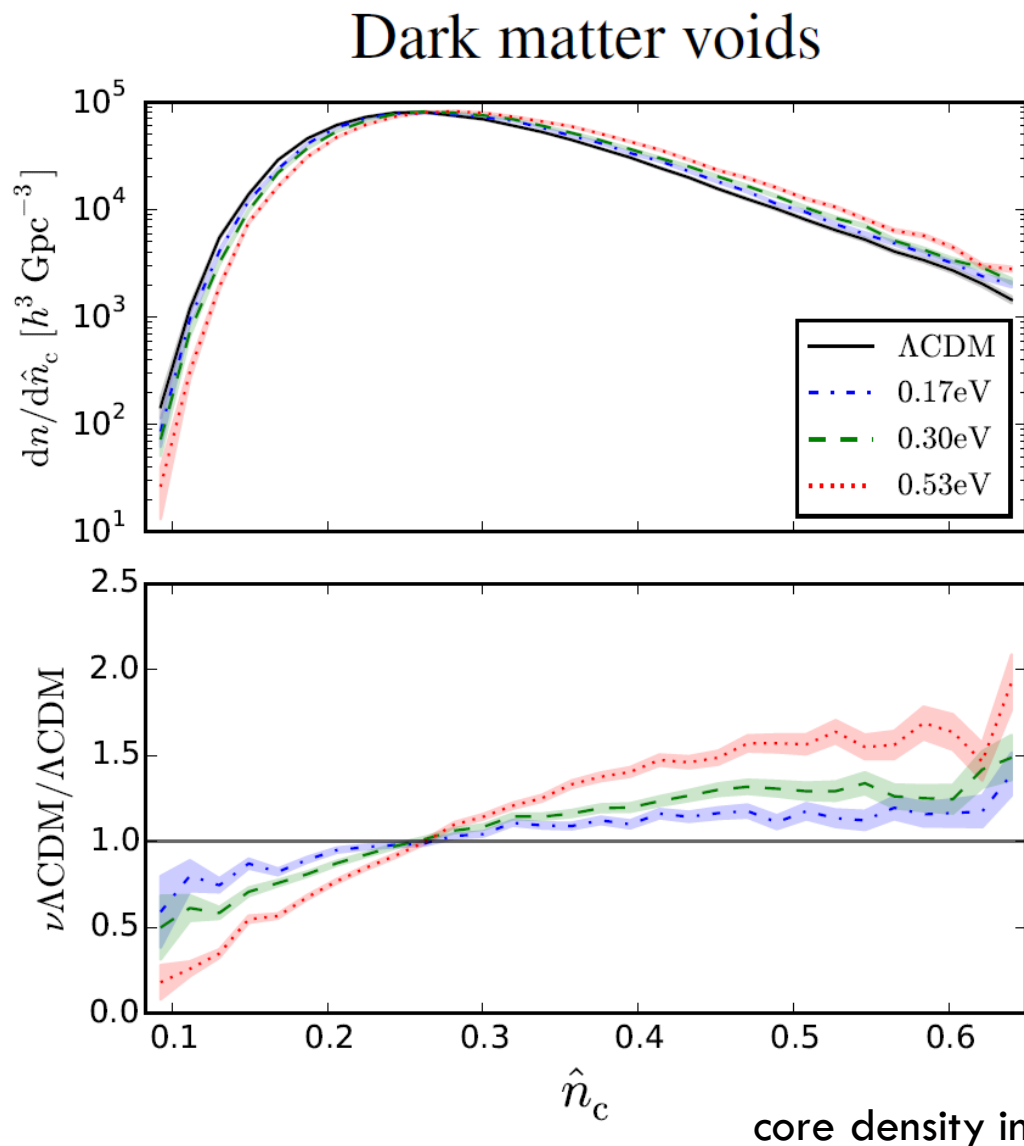


DEMNUi simulations, Carbone et al. ([JCAP 2016](#))

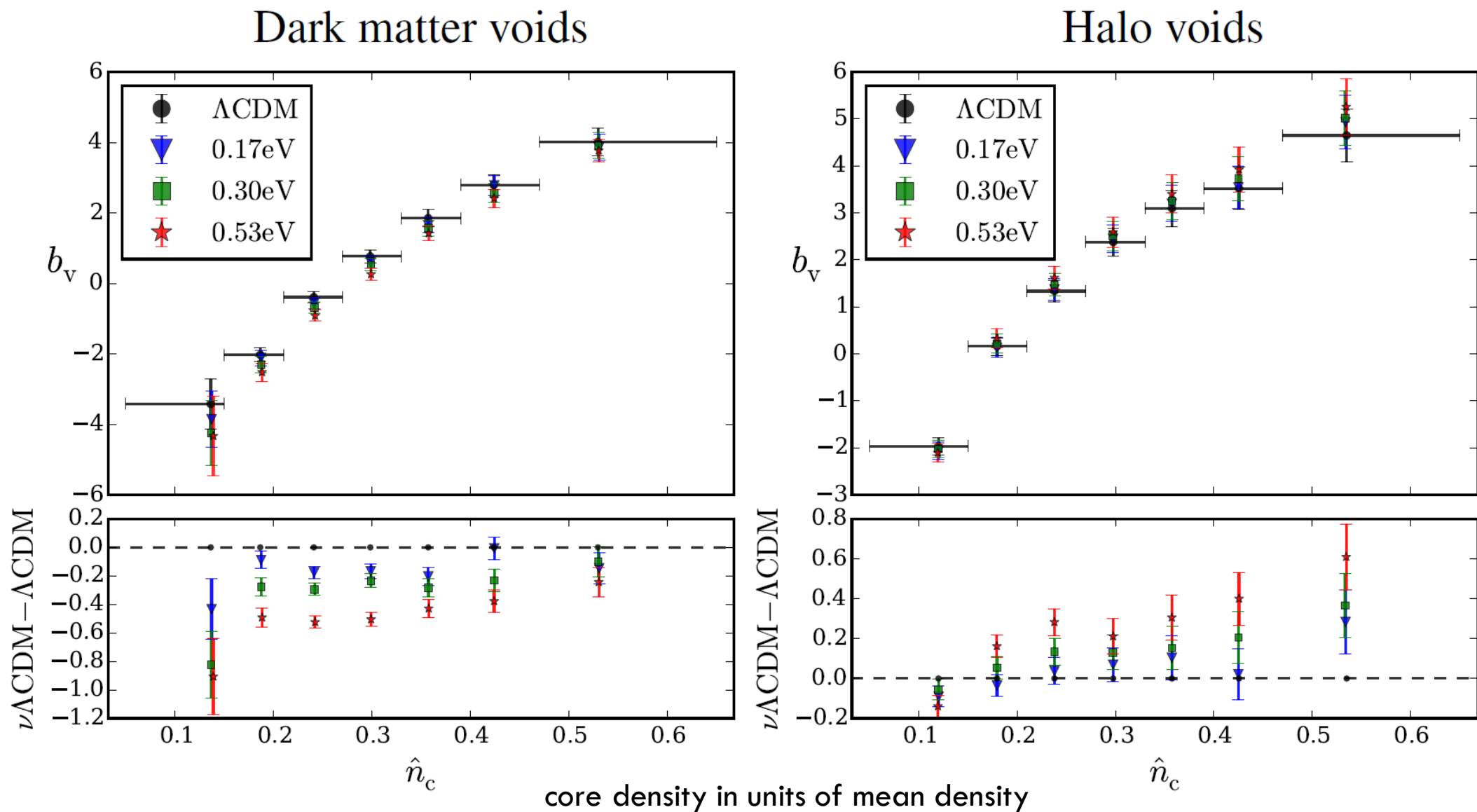


Nico Schuster

Voids in massive-neutrino cosmologies: **abundance** (Schuster, Hamaus et al., [JCAP 2019](#))



Voids in massive-neutrino cosmologies: **bias** (Schuster, Hamaus et al., [JCAP 2019](#))



CONCLUSIONS

- ❖ **Geometric distortions** of voids measure $D_A H(z)$ with sub-percent accuracy, constraining **dark energy**
- ❖ **Dynamic distortions** of voids additionally provide $\beta(z) = f(z)/b(z)$, facilitating **tests of gravity**
- ❖ **Gravitational lensing** can be used to infer the **dark matter** density profile of voids
- ❖ **Void clustering** may reveal insights on the physics of **inflation** (f_{NL}) and **massive neutrinos** (M_ν)
- ❖ DESI, Euclid, PFS, Roman, Rubin, SPHEREx... will each provide at least $\mathcal{O}(10^5)$ **voids** (for free).

We live in the age of exploration for voids!



[Waldseemüller \(1508\)](#)