

Cosmology with Cosmic Voids

Physics for both infinities :
L'École d'été France Excellence 2017

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Alice Pisani (CPPM)

Credit: Millennium simulation

Summary

- ▶ Extremely short cosmology reminder
- ▶ Voids, a tool for cosmology
- ▶ Finding voids
- ▶ The shape of voids
- ▶ Constraining General Relativity
- ▶ Count to understand Dark Energy

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Cosmology

Cosmology

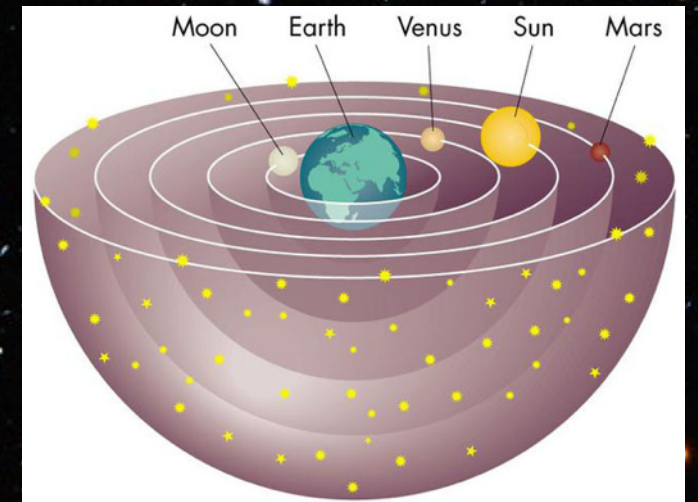
*is the science that studies our
Universe as a whole.*

Cosmology

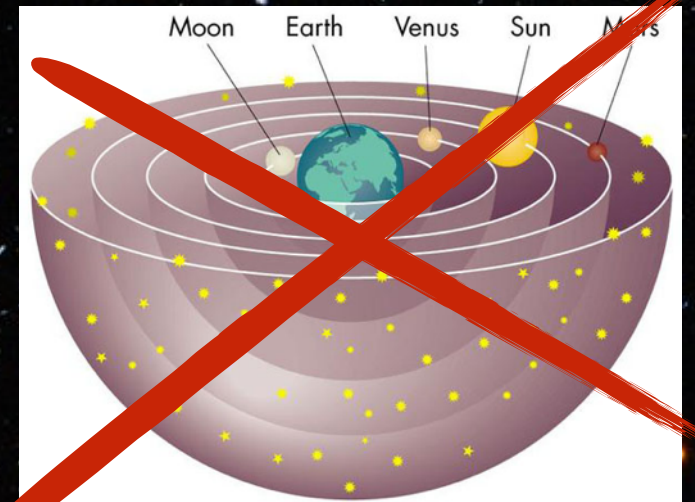
is the science that studies our
Universe as a whole.

So, what do we know about the
Universe?

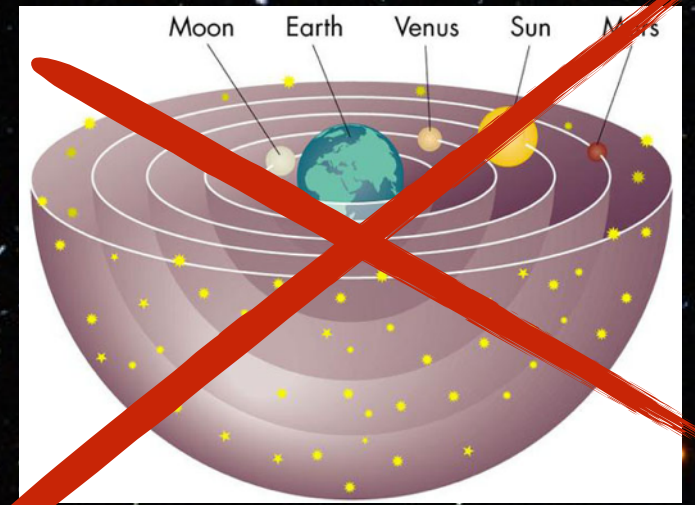
Lessons from the past:
our position is not privileged



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Lessons from the past:
our position is not privileged

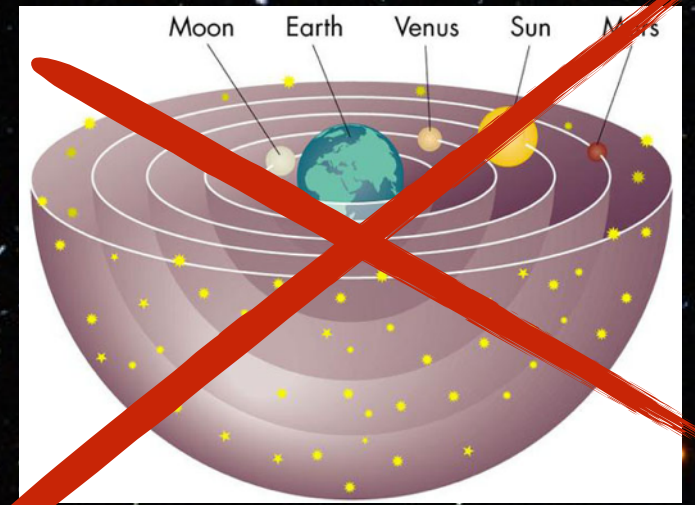


Homogeneity and Isotropy

The same
everywhere

The same in
every direction

Lessons from the past:
our position is not privileged



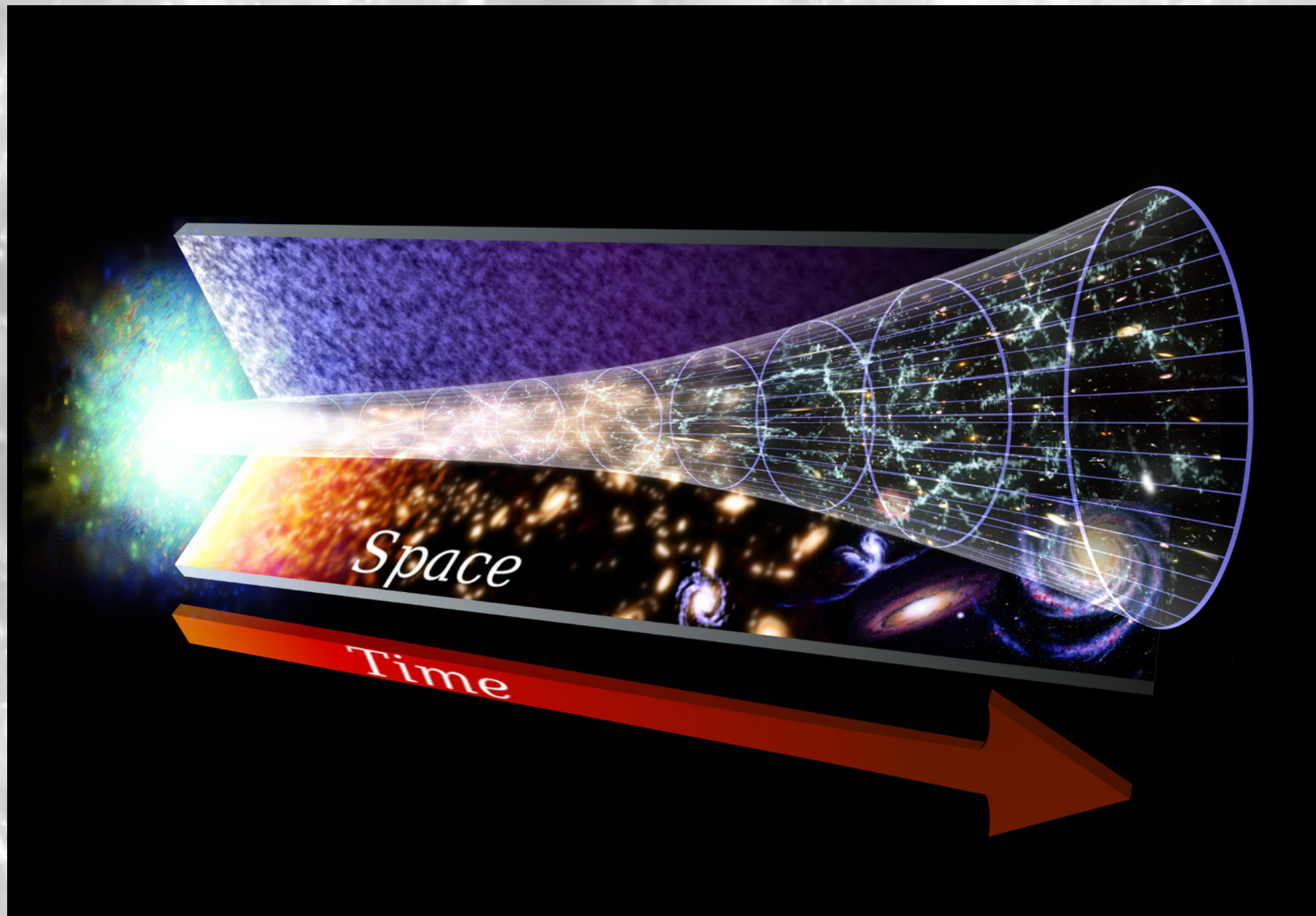
Homogeneity and Isotropy

The same
everywhere

The same in
every direction

The cosmological principle

The Universe is expanding

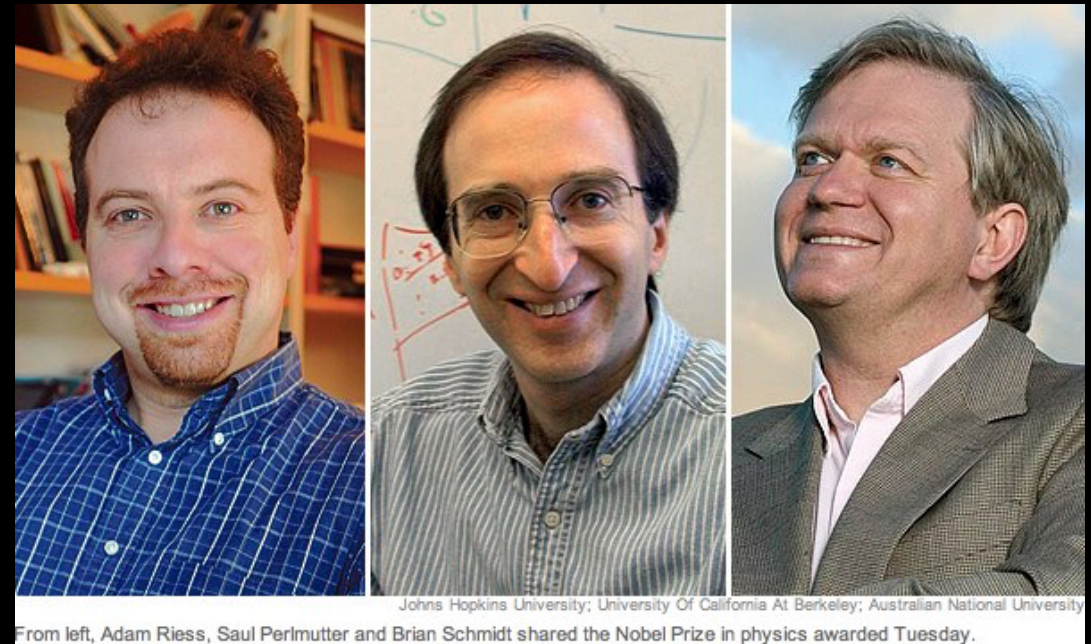


Lemaître, Slipher, Hubble

...at an accelerated rate!

Standard candles
Type Ia Supernovae

Known
Luminosity

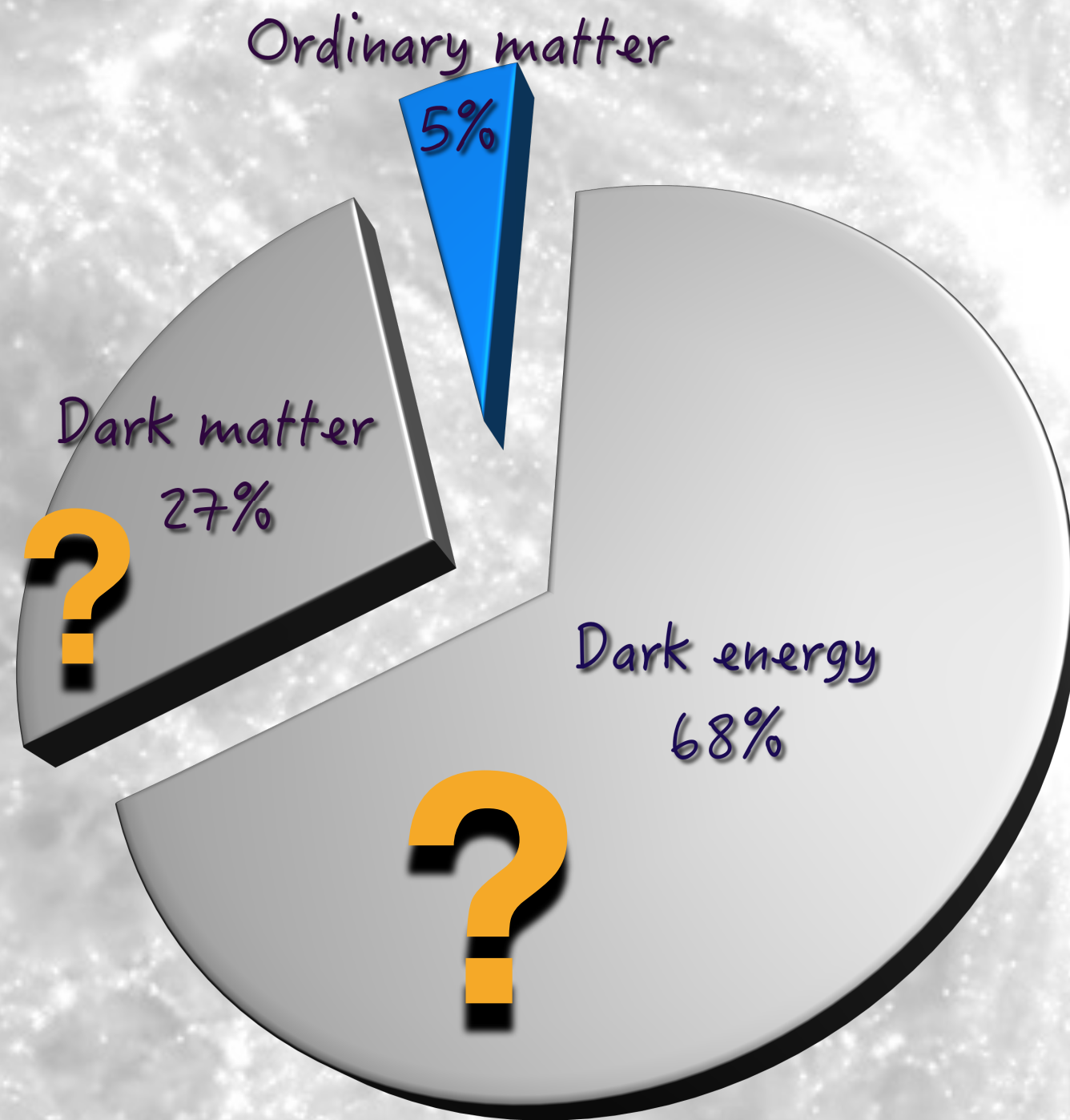


The standard cosmological model

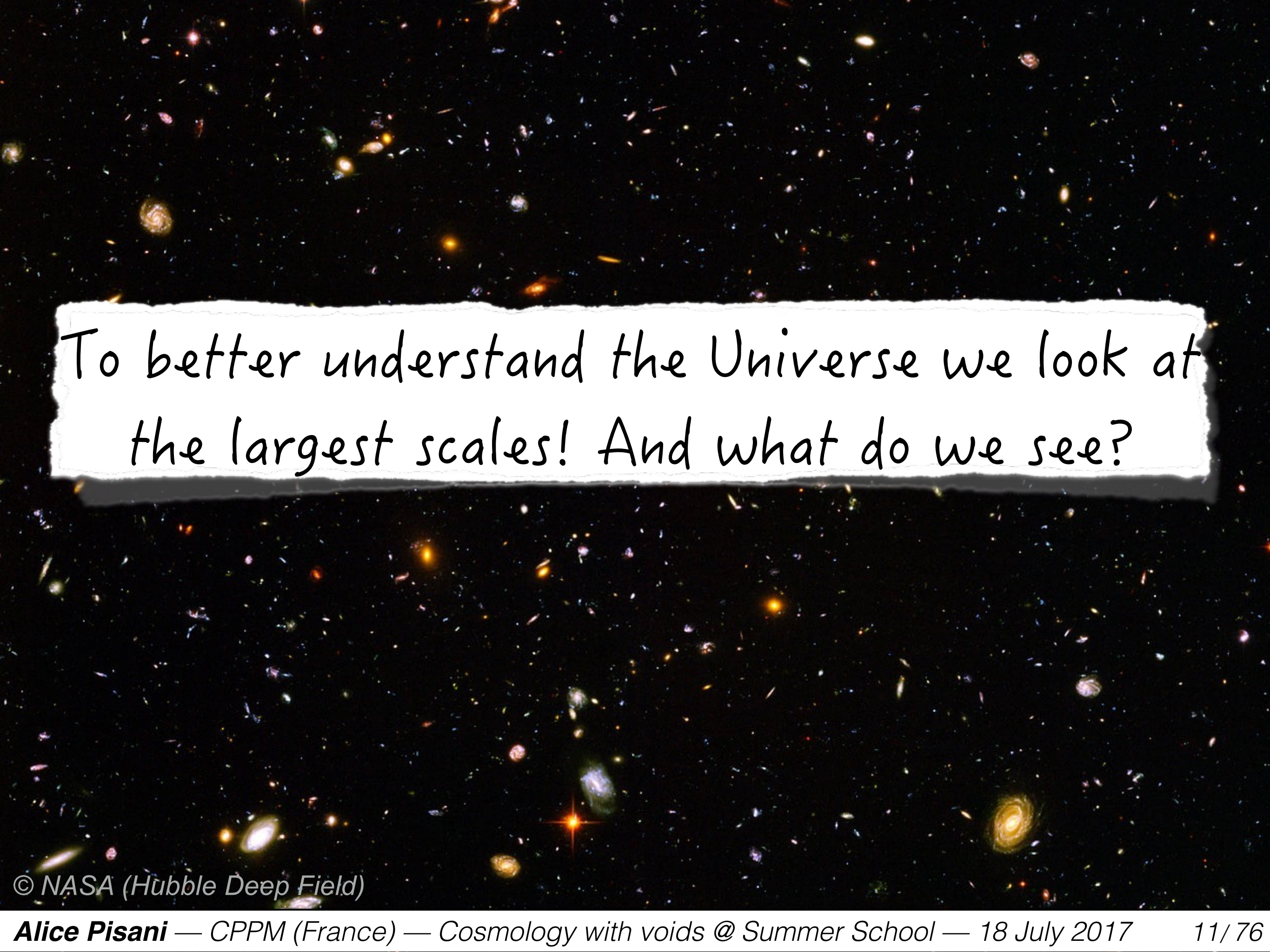
- 1) Cosmological principle
- 2) General relativity is the correct theory of gravity on cosmological scales
- 3) The universe is expanding at an accelerated rate

Λ CDM

Great, we know have our standard model for cosmology !! But to explain the acceleration of the expansion we need ...



Most of the Universe is unknown !

The background of the slide is a deep-field image from the Hubble Space Telescope, showing a vast field of galaxies. The galaxies are of various shapes and sizes, including spiral, elliptical, and irregular forms, scattered across a black cosmic background. Some galaxies are bright and clear, while others are faint and distant. The overall effect is a sense of immense scale and depth in the universe.

To better understand the Universe we look at
the largest scales! And what do we see?

The Universe at Large Scale

Mapping the large scales is a recent possibility

1977



Credit: Thompson and Gregory 1977



Credit: Jaan Einasto private collection

Peebles

Abell

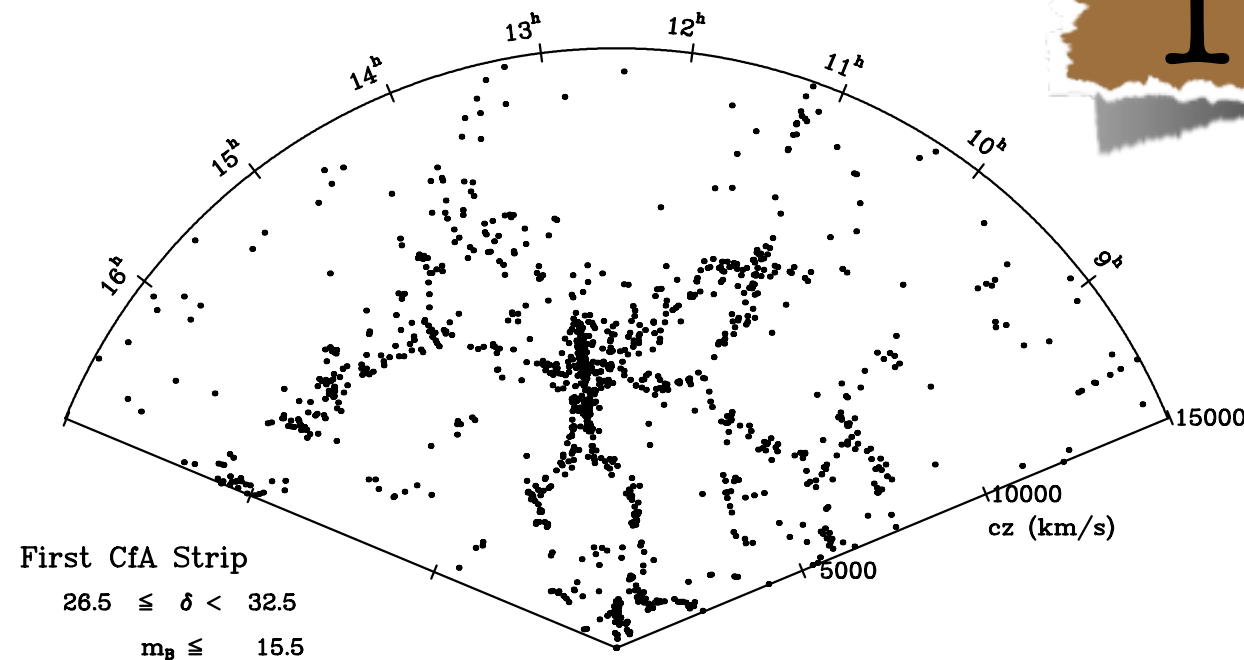
Longair

Einasto

Are voids there?

A first look to the cosmic web

1986



Credit: de Lapparent
et al. 1986

Yes, voids do exist!

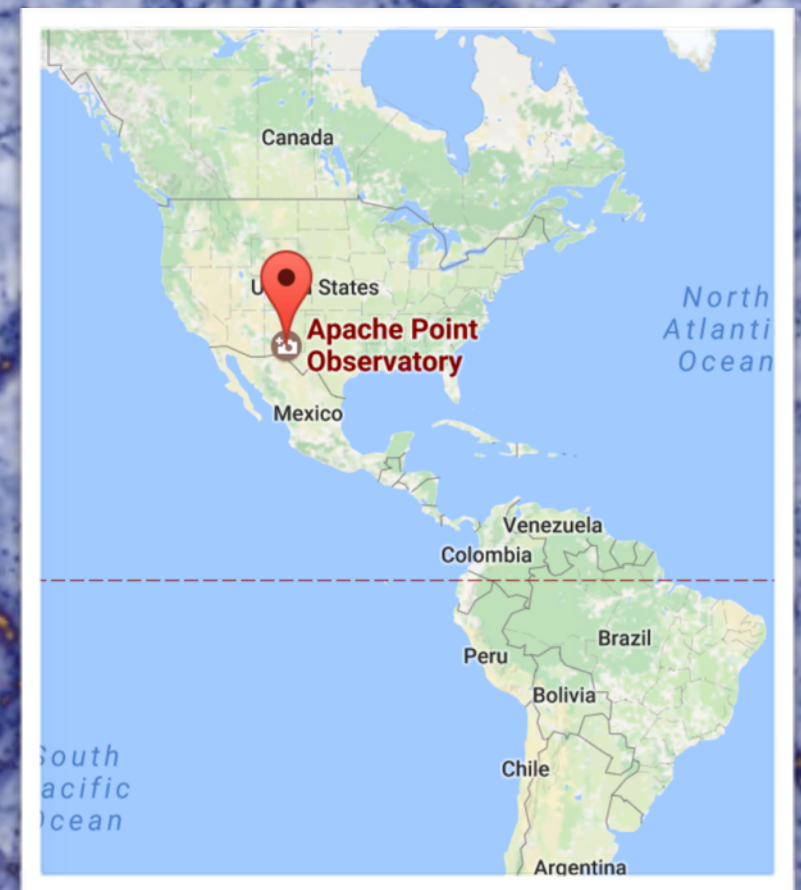
The cosmic web

complex filamentary
supercluster structures

emptier
(not empty!) regions
from 10 to 100 Mpc/h

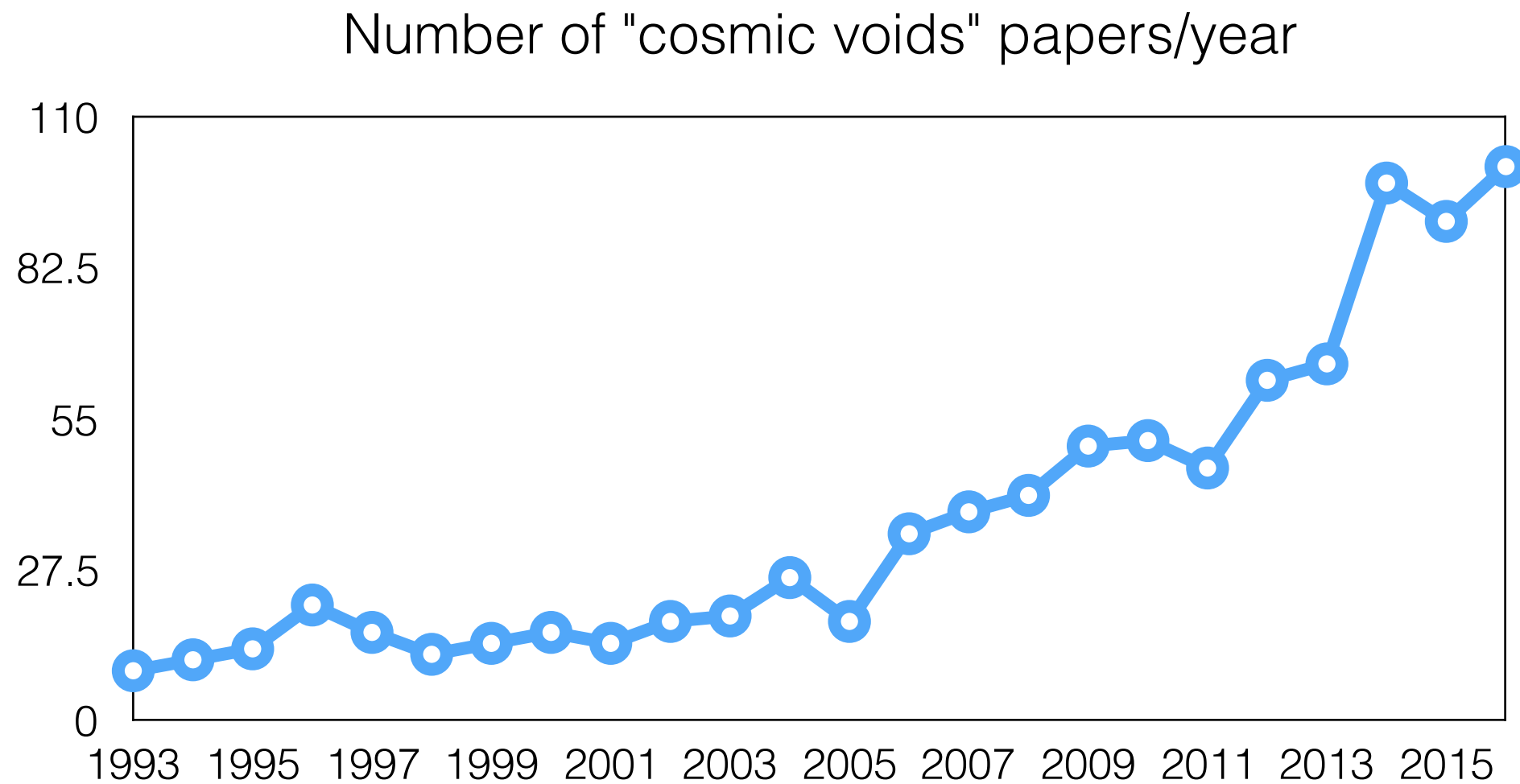
VOIDS

Sloan Digital Sky Survey



A recent field of Cosmology


- ▶ needs large volumes
- ▶ huge development in recent years



Source ADS — just to have an idea

Summary

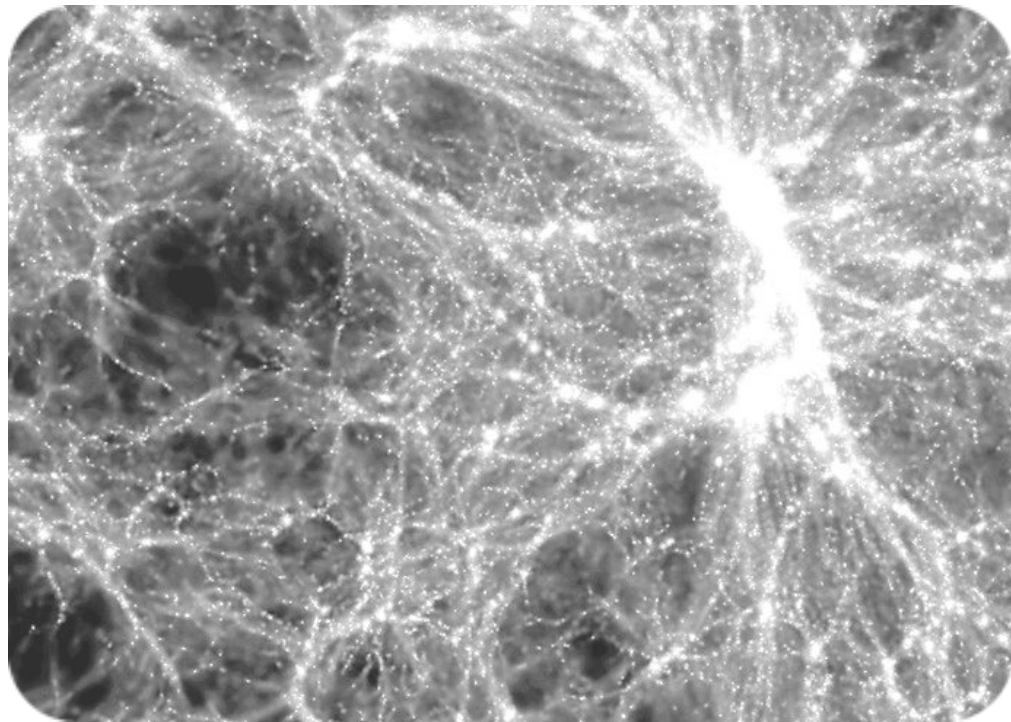
- ▶ Extremely short cosmology reminder
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- ▶ Count to understand Dark Energy

A visualization of the cosmic web, showing a complex network of dark blue filaments and nodes against a lighter blue background. The nodes are represented by small, bright orange-yellow spheres, indicating regions of high density where galaxies are likely to form. The filaments are thin, branching structures that connect these nodes across the entire field of view.

Can we use cosmic voids
to get cosmological
information?

Voids to understand Dark Energy

Voids are emptier by definition



Because there is few matter we can expect to have information on dark energy

If dark energy exists it will rule the evolution of voids and their properties.

If dark energy does not exist ?

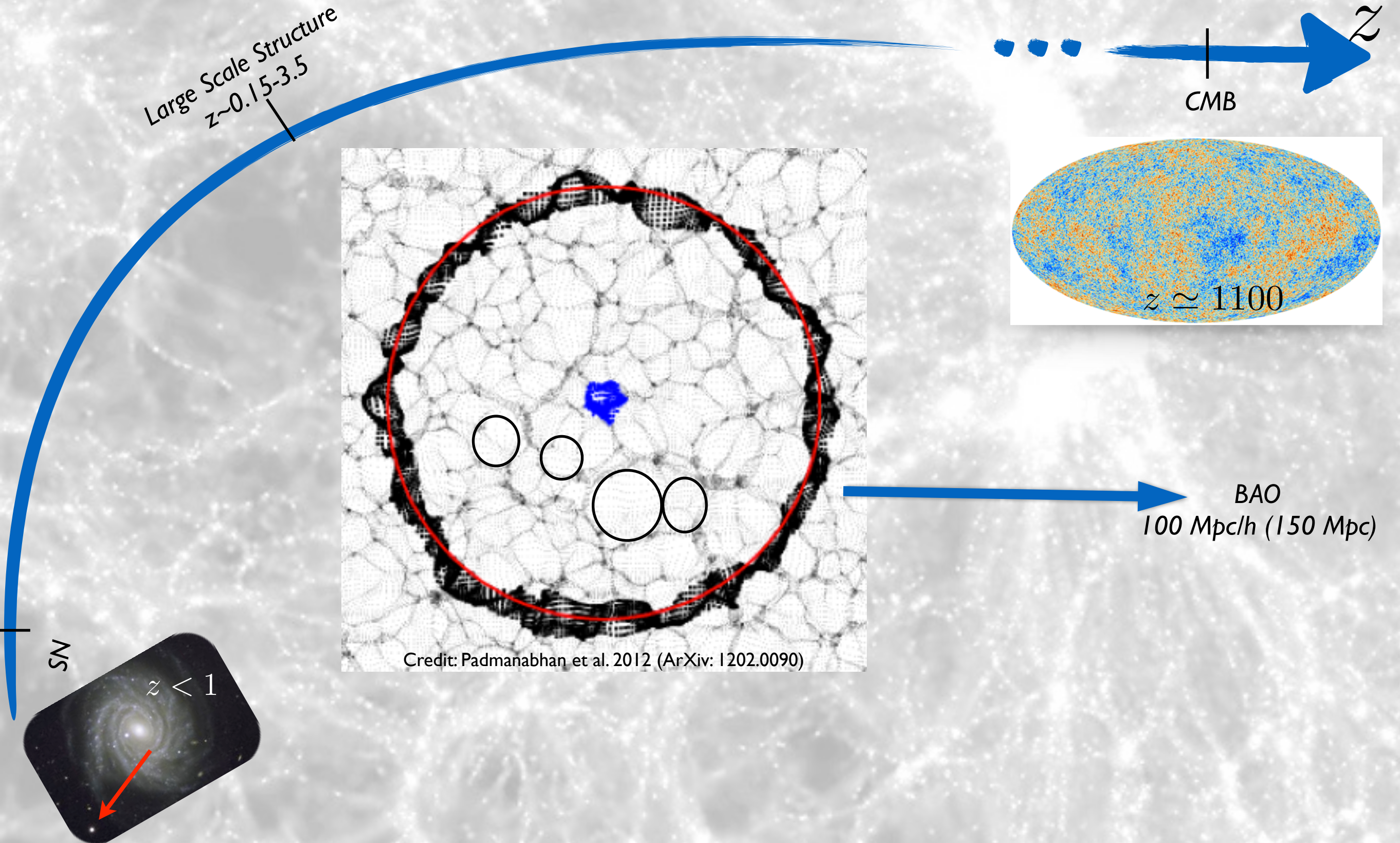
We need another way to explain the accelerated expansion of the Universe.

One possibility is to modify General Relativity at large scales.

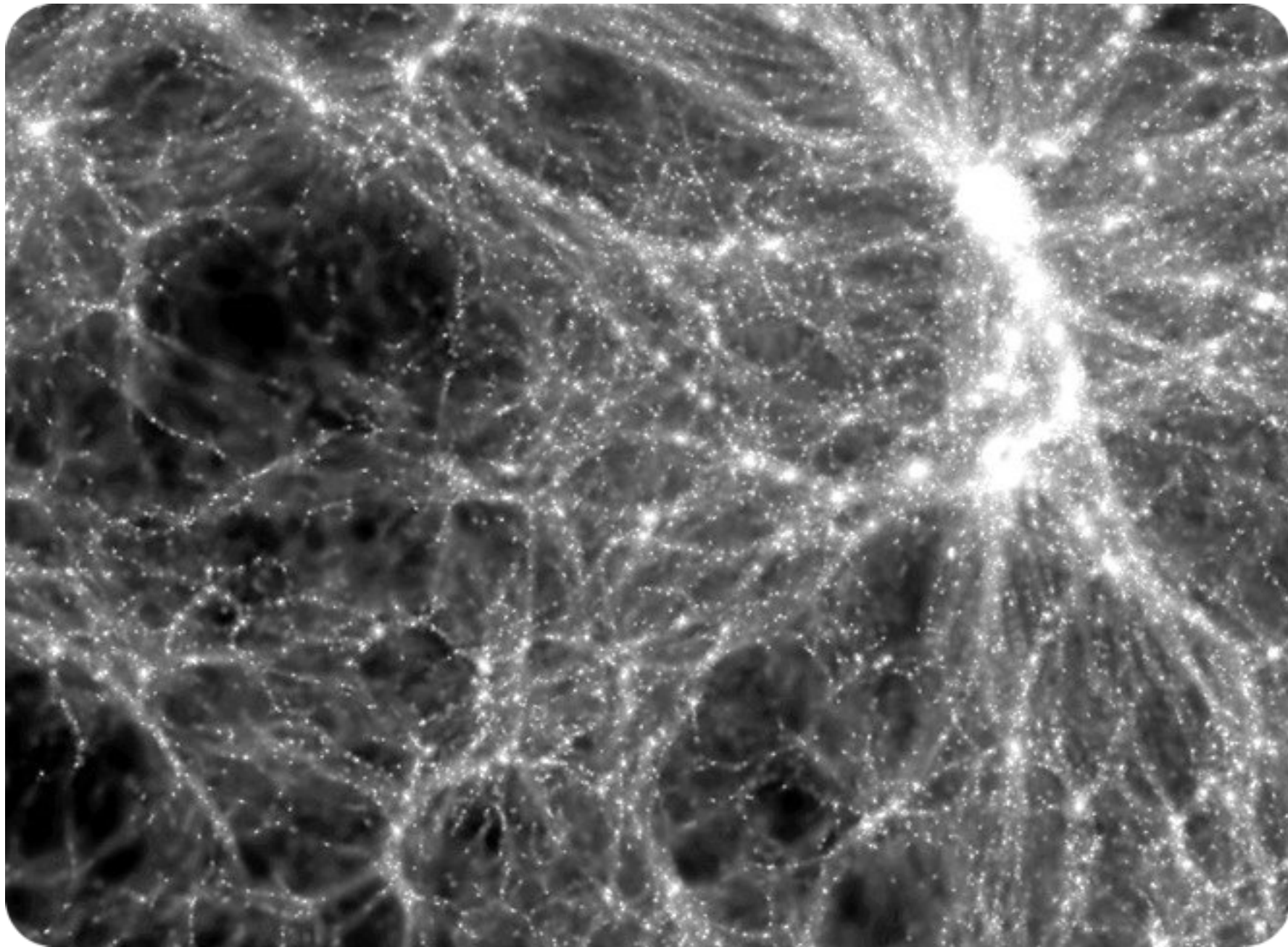
We know that General Relativity is very well constrained in high density environments (e.g. solar system) and at small scales. We thus try to modify it in the case of a low density (such as the current one) and at large scales to explain observations.

Thus it is in a low density regime and at cosmological scales that the models of Modified Gravity can be optimally tested \Rightarrow voids present both these features.

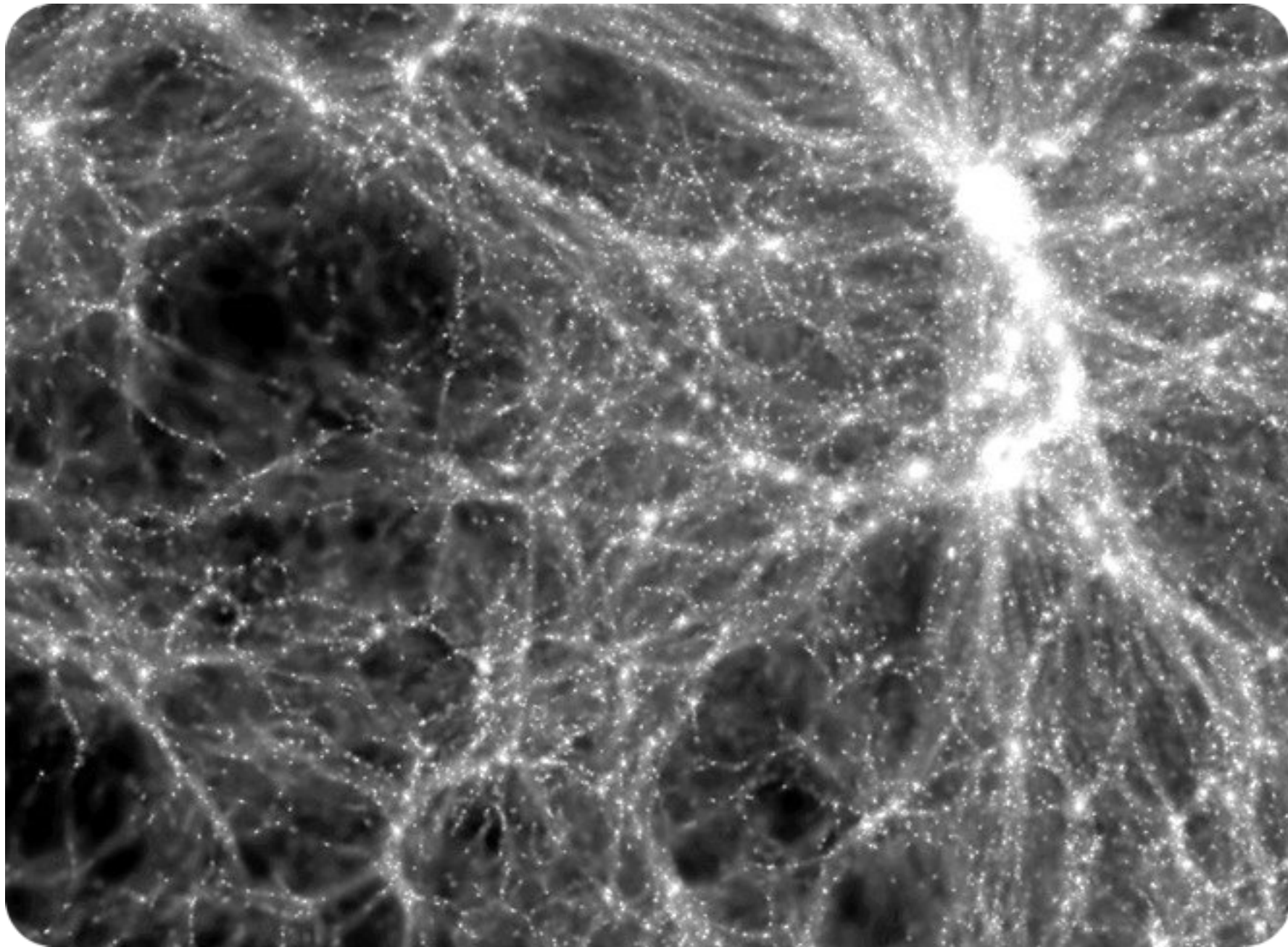
Voids are sensitive at different scales



Studying voids gives a window on dark energy



Studying voids gives a window on dark energy



But first we need to find voids !

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A visualization of the cosmic web, showing a complex network of dark blue filaments and nodes against a lighter blue background. The nodes are represented by bright orange and yellow clusters, indicating regions of high density where galaxies are concentrated. The filaments form a web-like structure, with some thicker and more prominent than others.

How do we find voids?

VIDE: Void IDentification and Examination

Sutter, P. M., Lavaux G., Hamaus N., **Pisani A.**, Wandelt B. D. et al., **Astronomy & Computing** (1406.1191) (ZOB0V, Neyrinck 2008)

galaxies

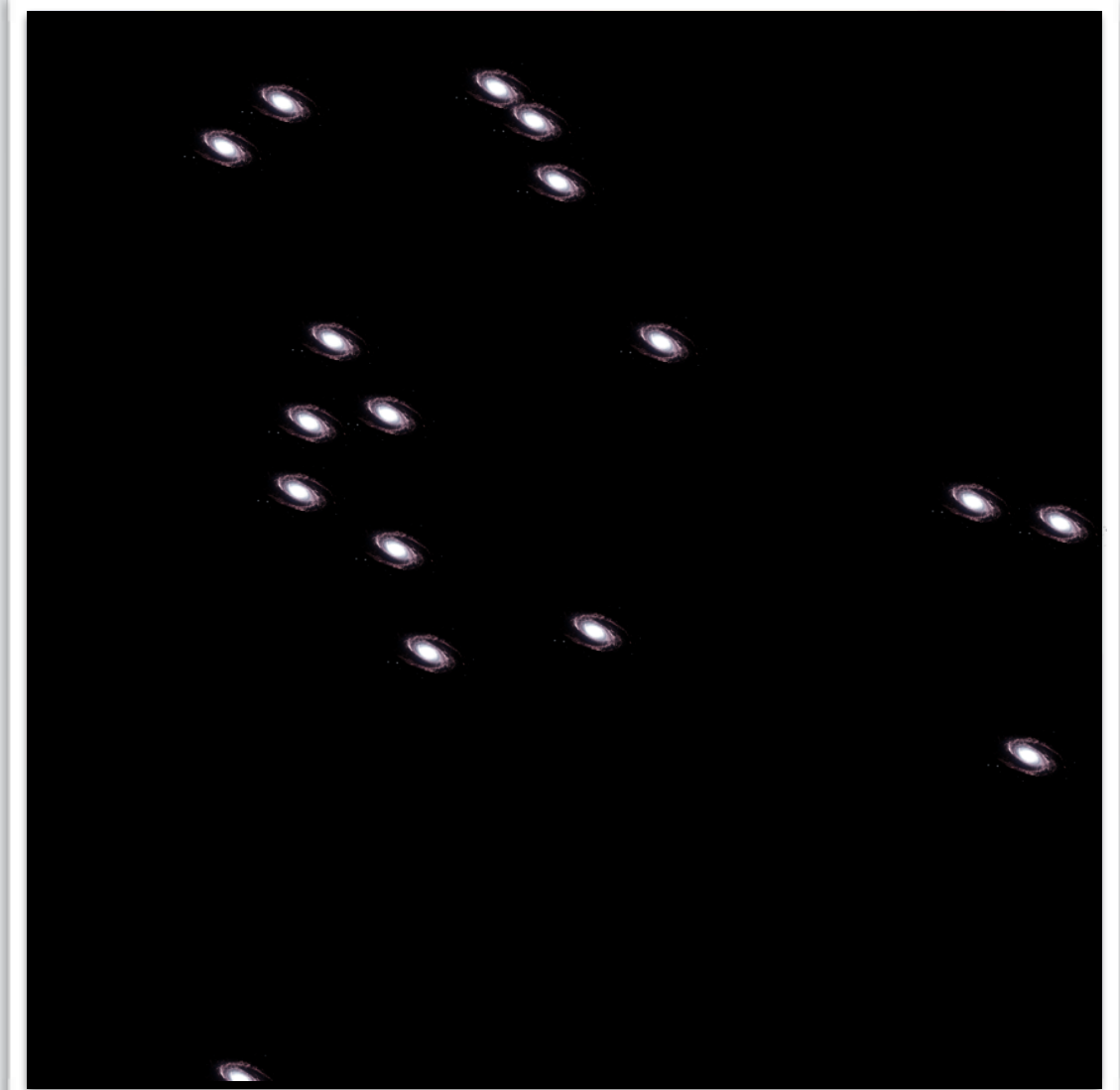


voids

VIDE: Void IDentification and Examination

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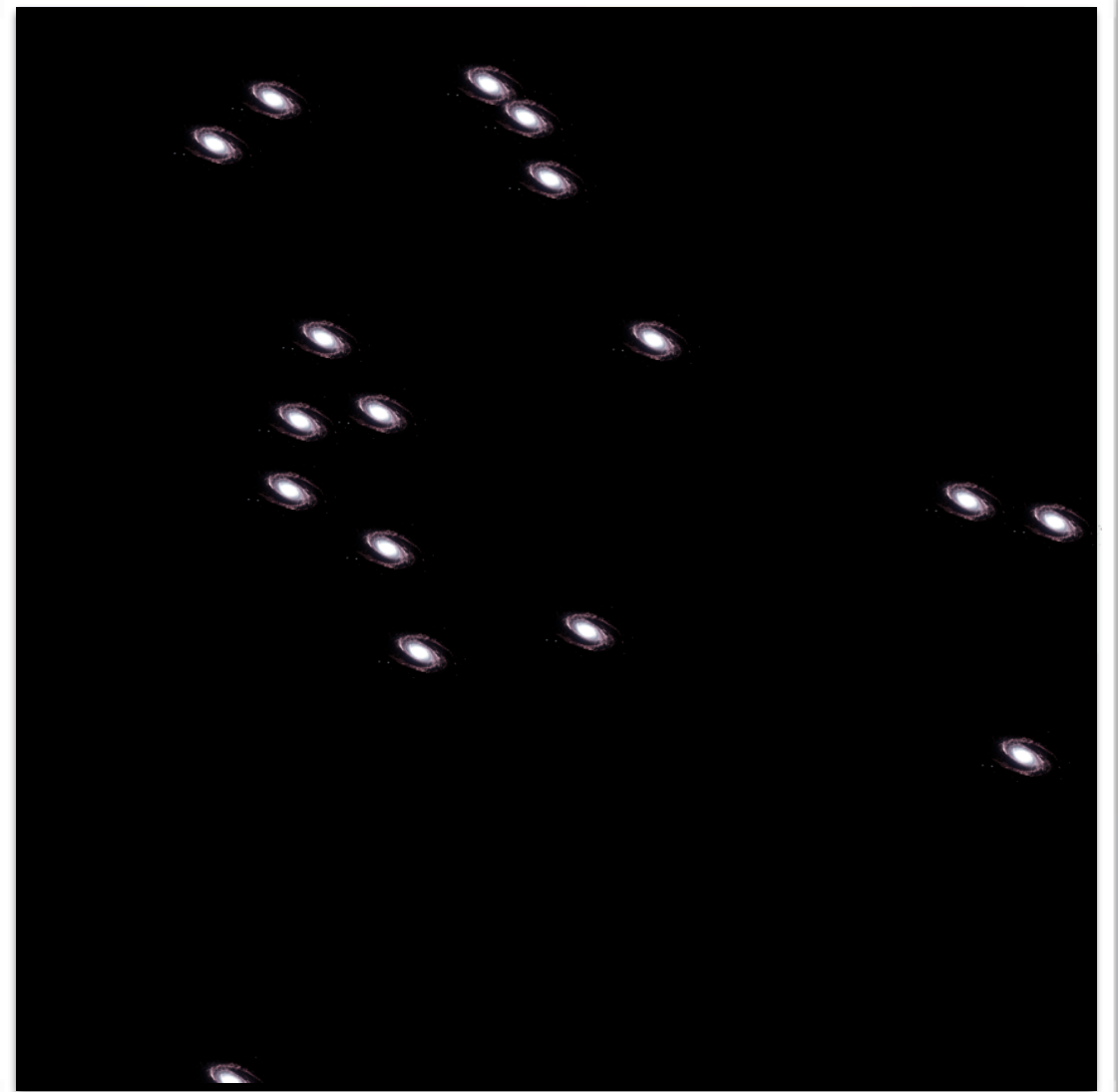


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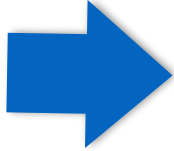
galaxies

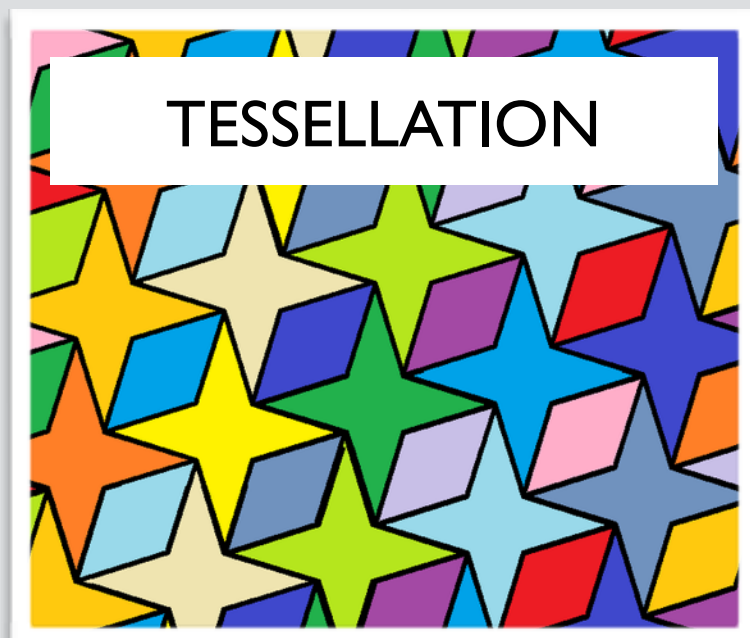
TESSELLATION



VIDE: Void IDentification and Examination

Sutter, P. M., Lavaux G., Hamaus N., **Pisani A.**, Wandelt B. D. et al., **Astronomy & Computing** (1406.1191) (ZOBOV, Neyrinck 2008)

galaxies  Voronoi tessellation



Local density estimation

$$\rho_{local} = \frac{1}{V_{cell}}$$

Icke & Van de Weygaert (1987)

A tessellation with a physical meaning

Galaxy

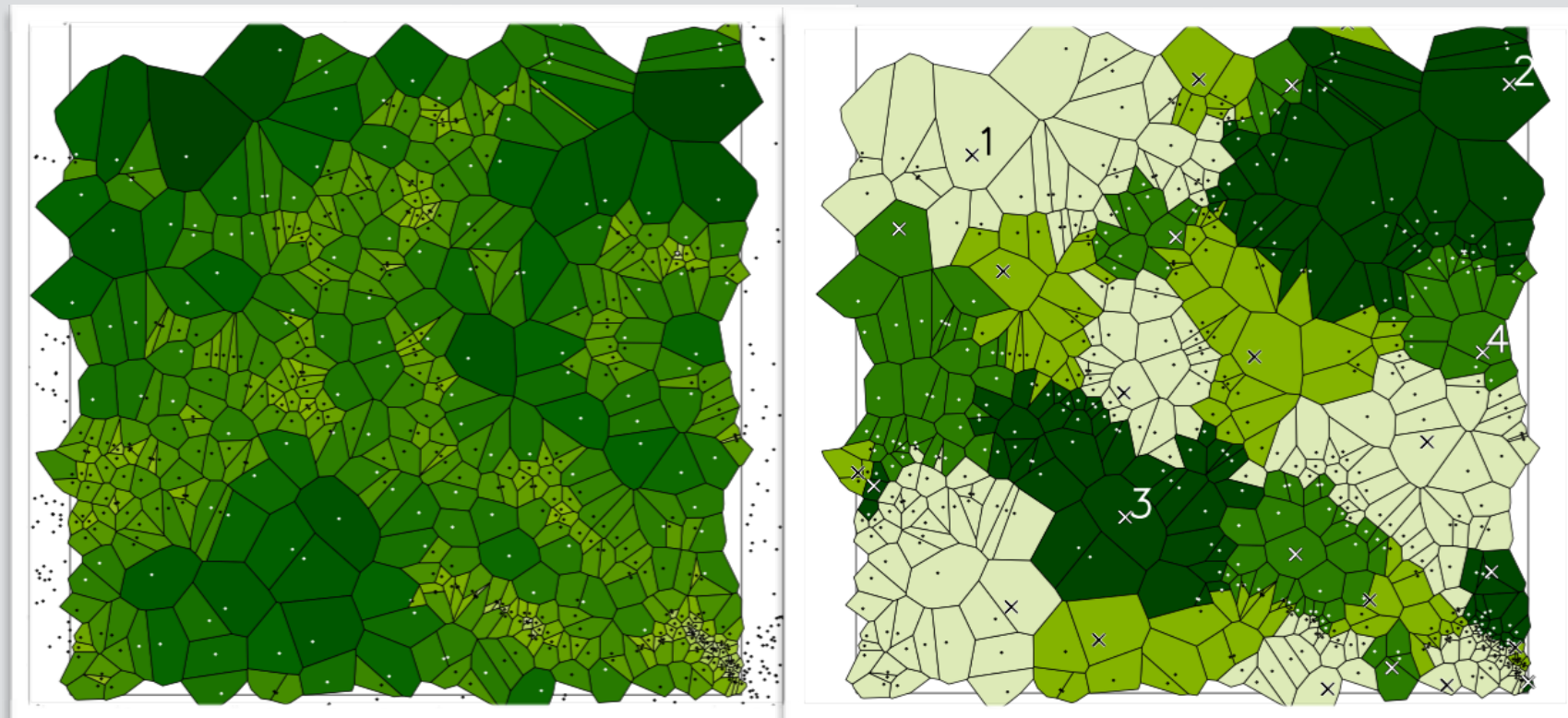
All points closer to the tracer than to any other point



VIDE: Void IDentification and Examination

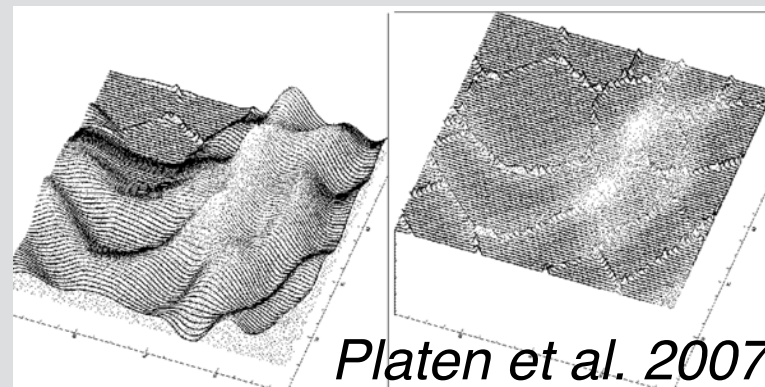
Sutter, P. M., Lavaux G., Hamaus N., **Pisani A.**, Wandelt B. D. et al., **Astronomy & Computing** (1406.1191) (ZOB0V, Neyrinck 2008)

galaxies \rightarrow Voronoi tessellation \rightarrow Watershed transform



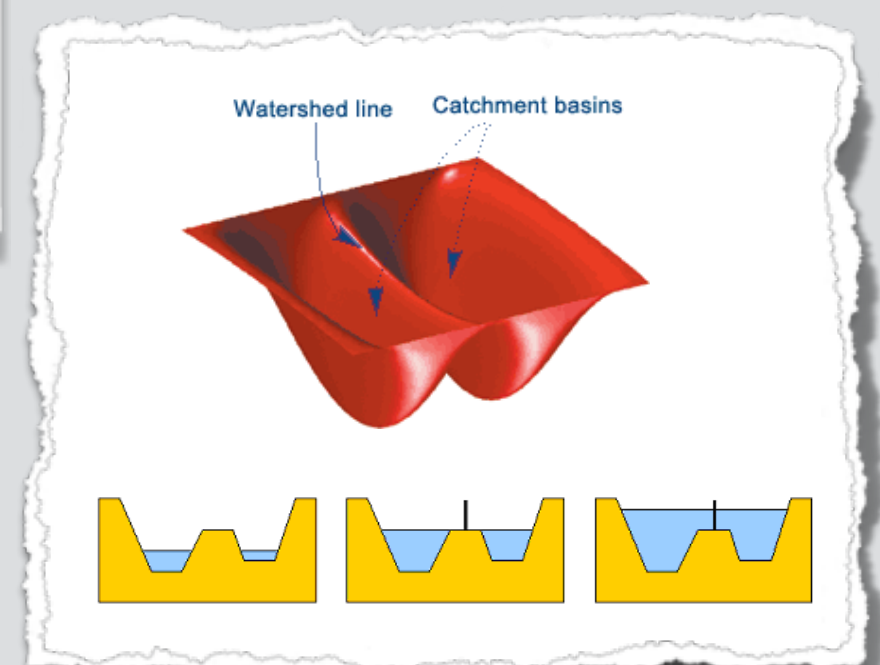
Neyrinck 2008

Merge cells



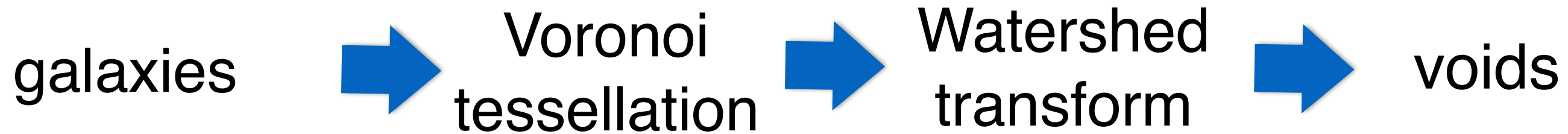
Platen et al. 2007

Merge basins if the wall between them is at a lower density.



VIDE: Void IDentification and Examination

Sutter, P. M., Lavaux G., Hamaus N., **Pisani A.**, Wandelt B. D. et al., **Astronomy & Computing** (1406.1191) (ZOB0V, Neyrinck 2008)



A VOID

Takes mask into account

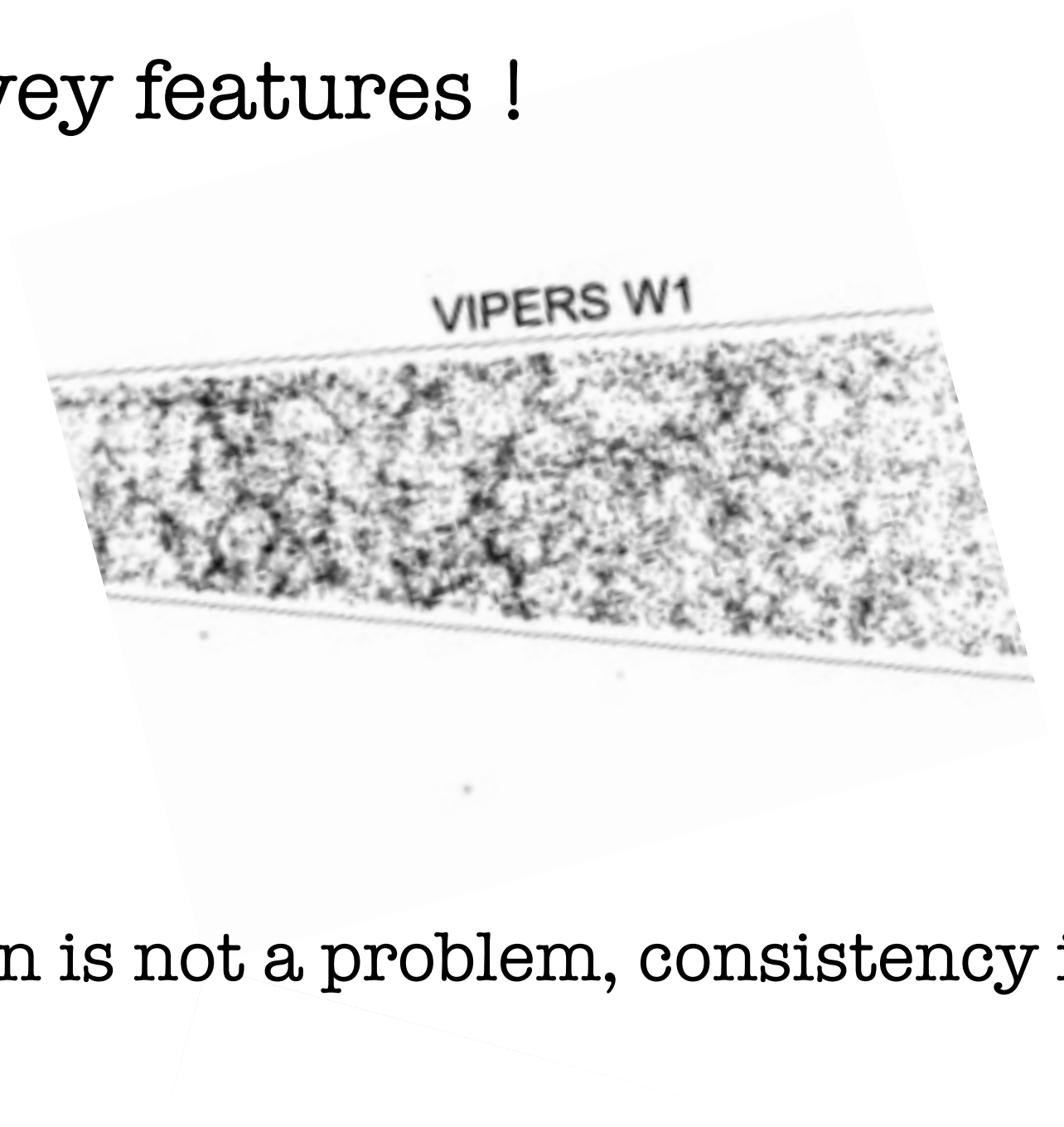
Captures the shape of voids in detail

Captures hierarchical pattern of cosmic web

Credit: Sutter et al. 2012

Void finder choice

- ▶ Depends on application (on what we wish to measure)
- ▶ Depends on the survey features !
- ▶ Ex: VIPERS



Take Home Message: Definition is not a problem, consistency is.

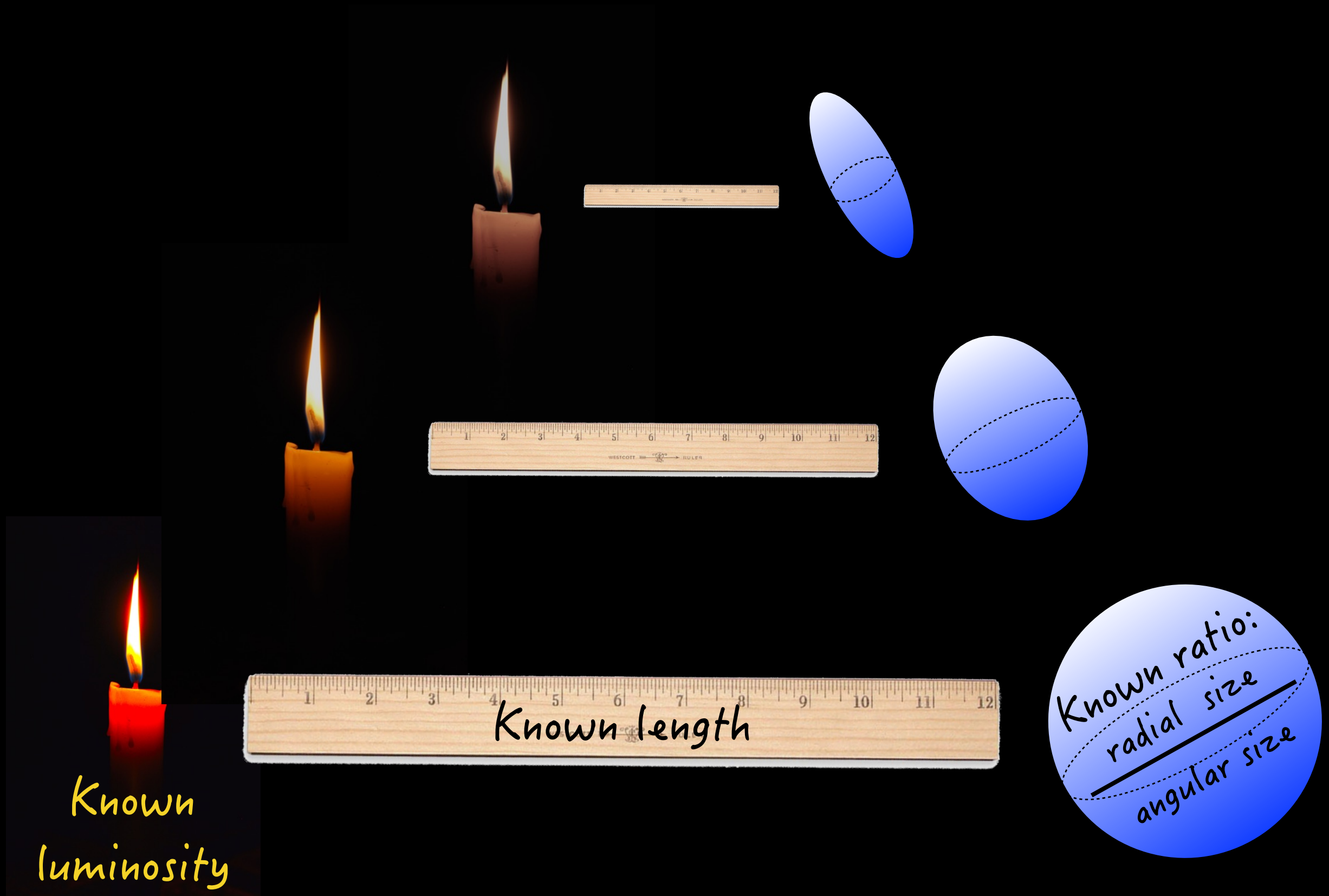
A visualization of the cosmic web, showing a complex network of dark blue filaments and nodes against a lighter blue background. The nodes are represented by small, bright orange-yellow spheres, indicating regions of high density where galaxies are likely to form. The filaments are thin, branching structures that connect these nodes across the entire field of view.

We have voids,
how can we measure
expansion with them?

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Standard objects



Redshift space

Cosmological
model

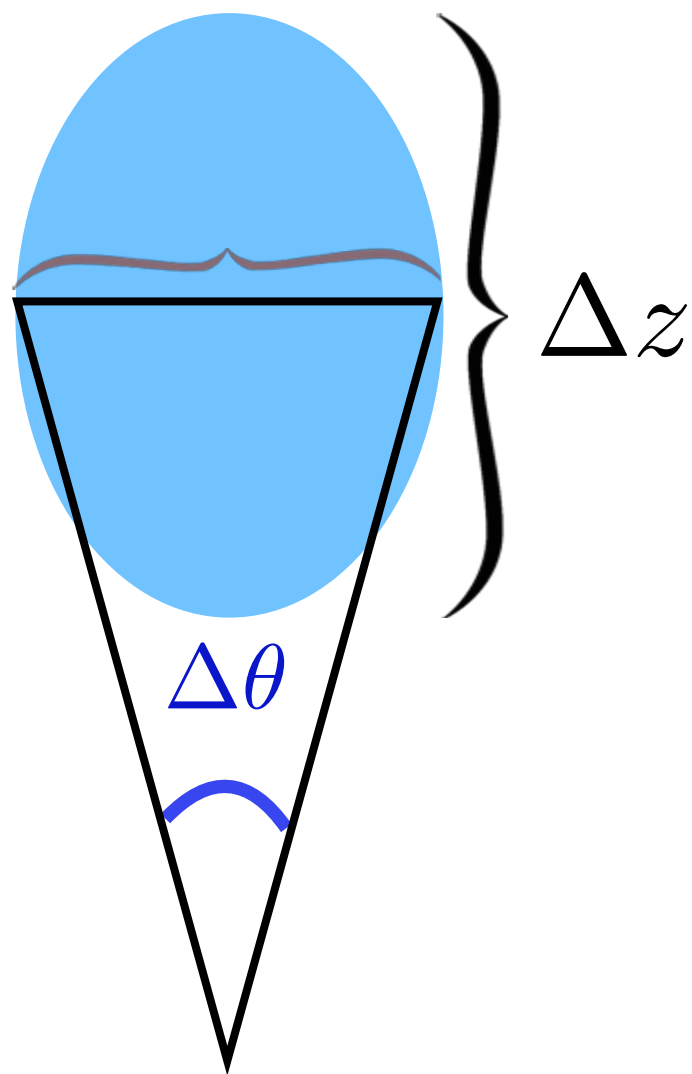
Observing
standard
spheres allows
to test the
model



Real space

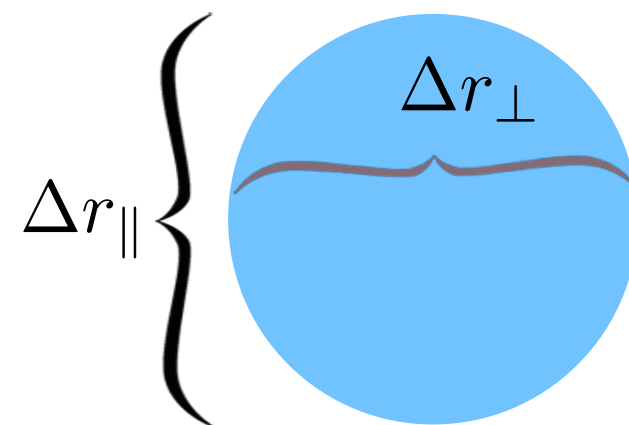
Let's see this more in
detail

What we measure:



Relation?

Real length scales:

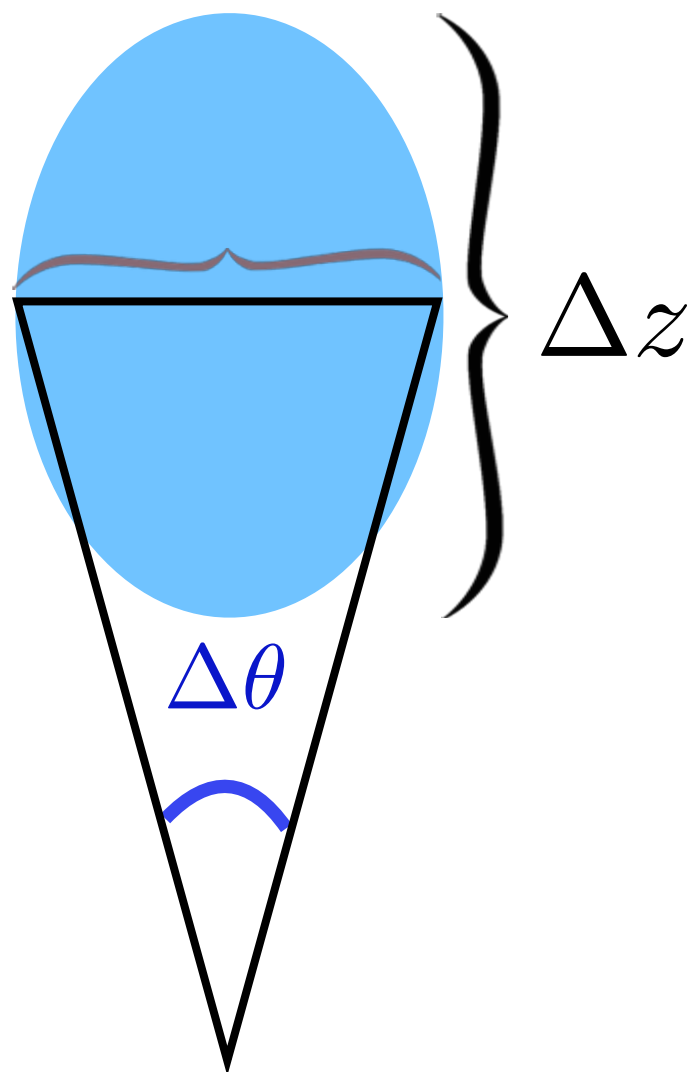


physical sizes of the object

Δr_{\perp} *in the transverse direction*

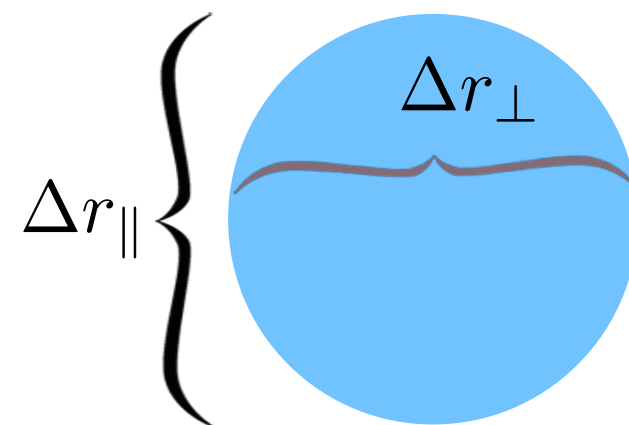
Δr_{\parallel} *in the longitudinal direction*

What we measure:



Relation?

Real length scales:



physical sizes of the object

Δr_{\perp} *in the transverse direction*

Δr_{\parallel} *in the longitudinal direction*

Cosmology, of course !

$$\Delta r_{\perp} = D_A(z) \Delta \theta$$

*angular diameter
distance*

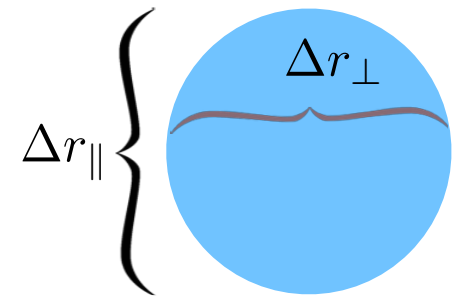
$$c \Delta z = H(z) \Delta r_{\parallel}$$

Hubble parameter

Alcock-Paczyński test (1979)



$$\Delta r_{\perp} = \Delta r_{\parallel}$$



what we
know

$$\frac{c\Delta z}{\Delta\theta} = D_A(z)H(z)$$

what we
don't know

To perform the test we measure stretch $e_V(z) = \frac{\Delta z}{z\Delta\theta} = \frac{D_A(z)H(z)}{cz}$

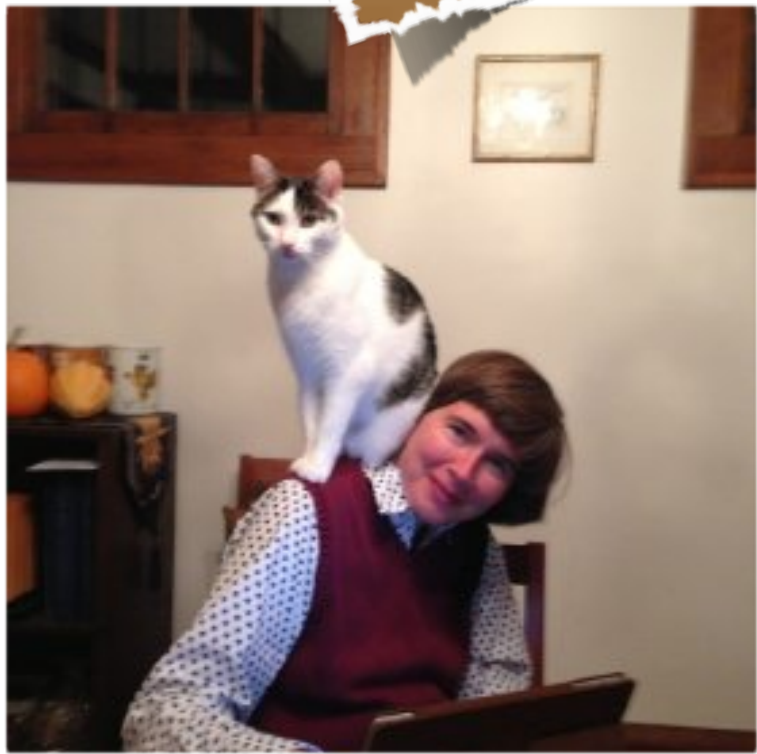
The deviations from fiducial cosmology cause geometrical distortions.

Flat Universe $D_A(z) = \int_0^z \frac{cdz}{H(z)}$

$$H(z) = H_0 \sqrt{\Omega_m(1+z)^3 + \Omega_\Lambda}$$

We need spheres in the Universe to perform the test

1995



Barbara Ryden

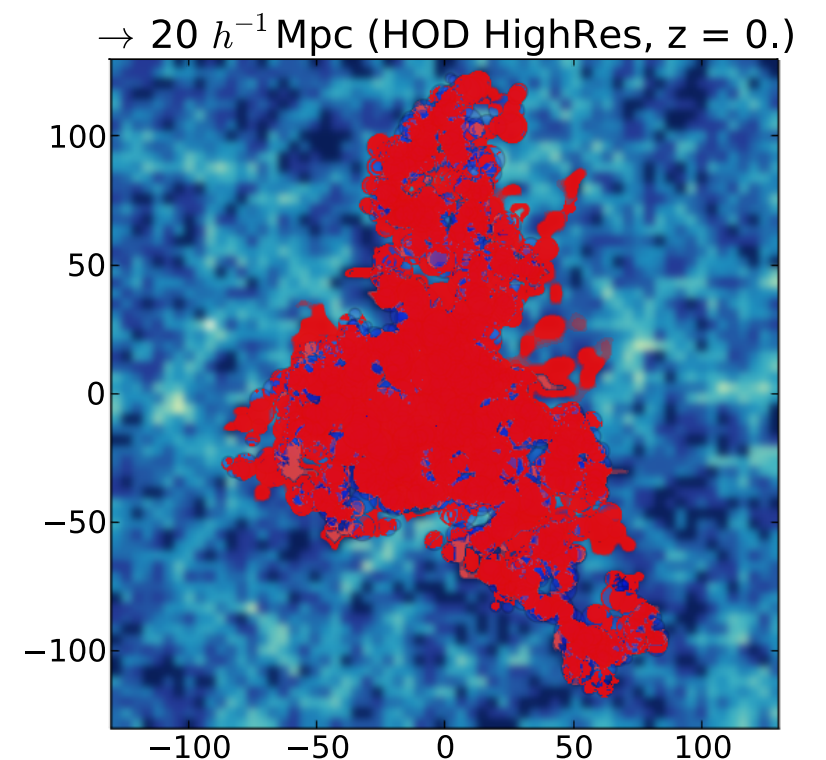
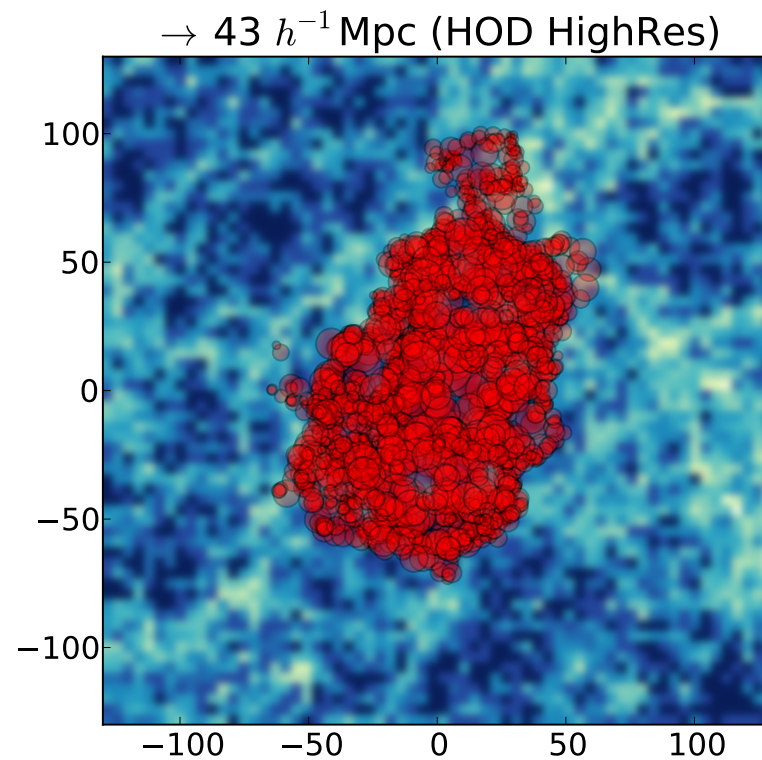
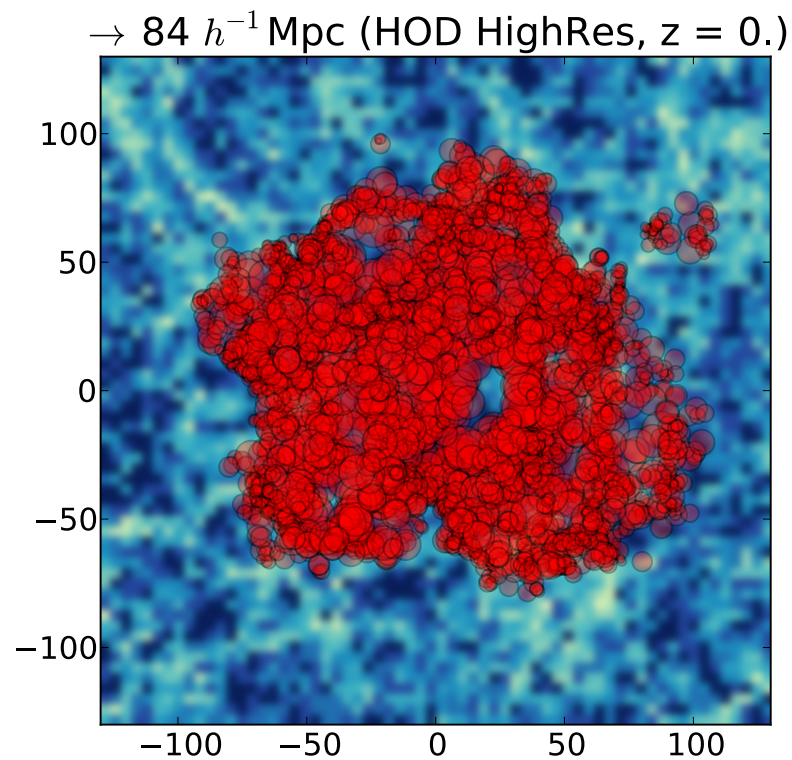
We can use voids for the test.



But: "The accuracy of the estimated values[..] is limited by the intrinsic scatter in the size and shape of the voids." [tests with a toy model of the Universe]

ArXiv: 9506028,9510108

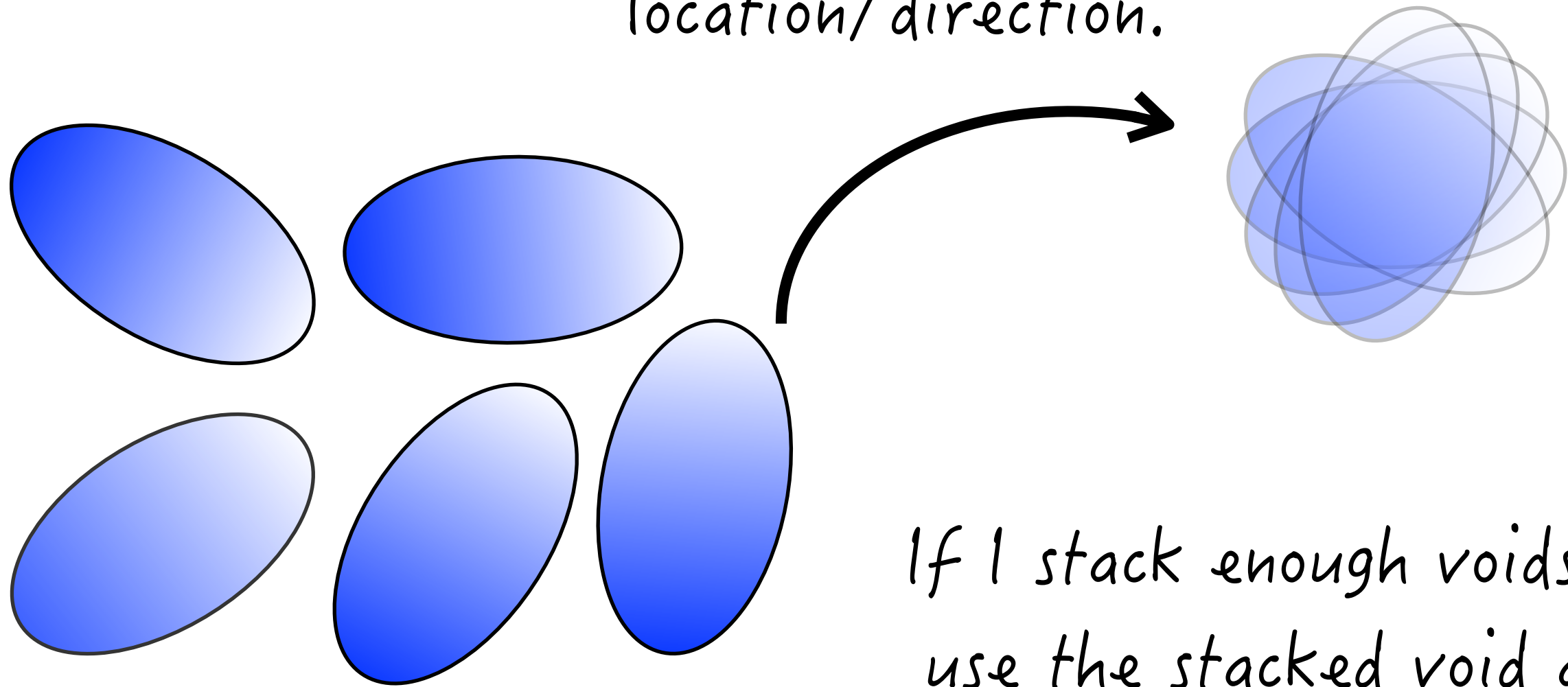
Voids have very different shapes



How do we apply the test?

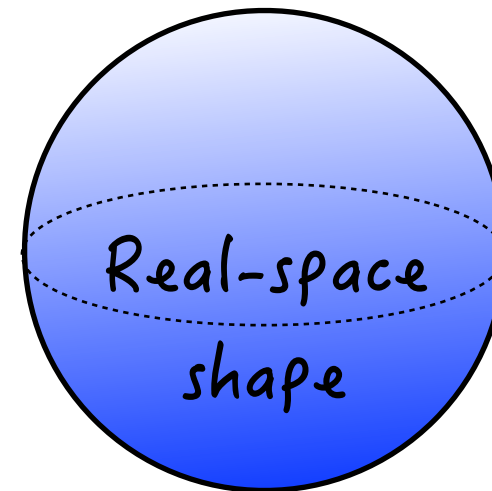
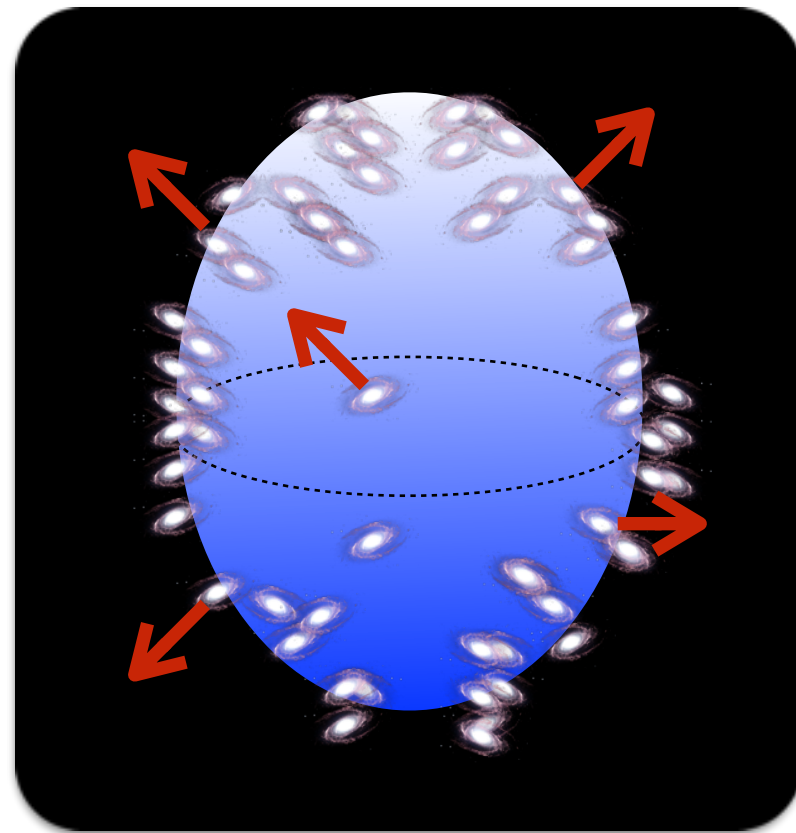
How do we apply the AP test with voids?

Cosmological principle says there is no preferential location/direction.



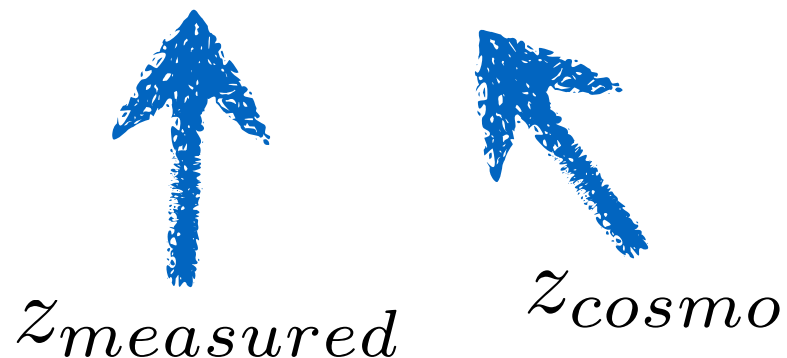
If I stack enough voids I can use the stacked void as my standard sphere.

A stacked void is a standard sphere:
the void shape tells us the cosmology



But... the
velocities of
galaxies also
affect that
shape.

$$cz = H_0 d + v \cos \theta$$

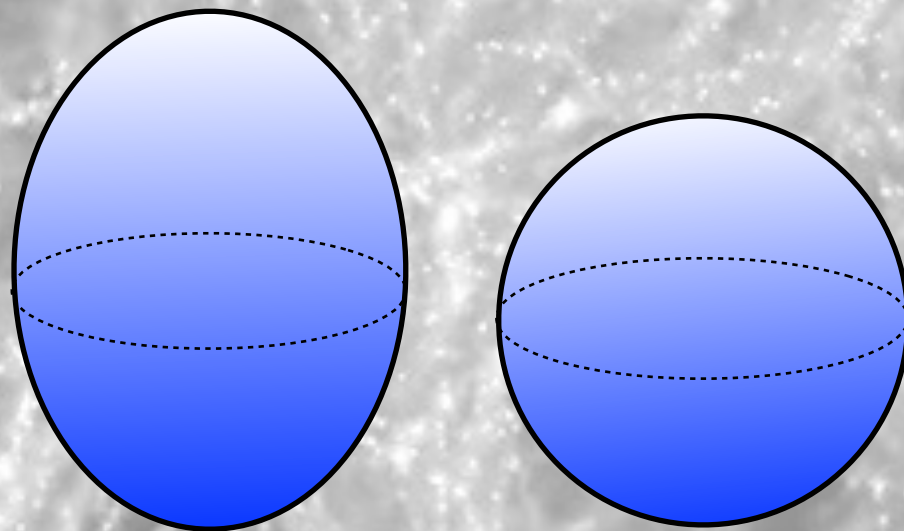


They add distortions to the
large-scale structures, the
redshift-space distortions (RSD).

Velocities will be our main source of systematics!

We can solve this by:

- 1) better modeling of the real space shape
- 2) studying the effect of peculiar velocities
- 3) using the information embedded in velocities

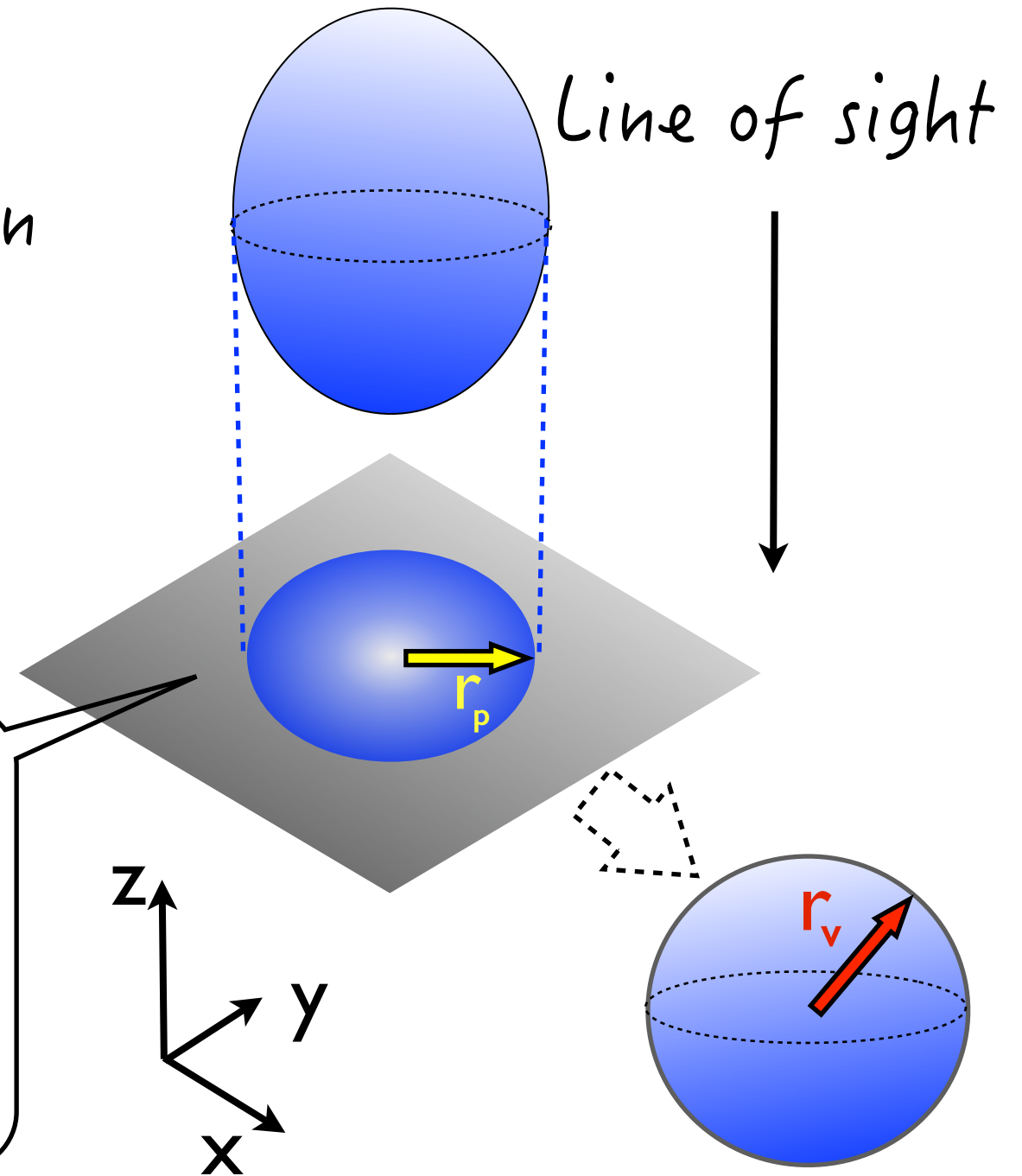


Getting the real space profile

Key idea

Projecting the 3D distribution along the line of sight, the contribution of peculiar velocities disappears.

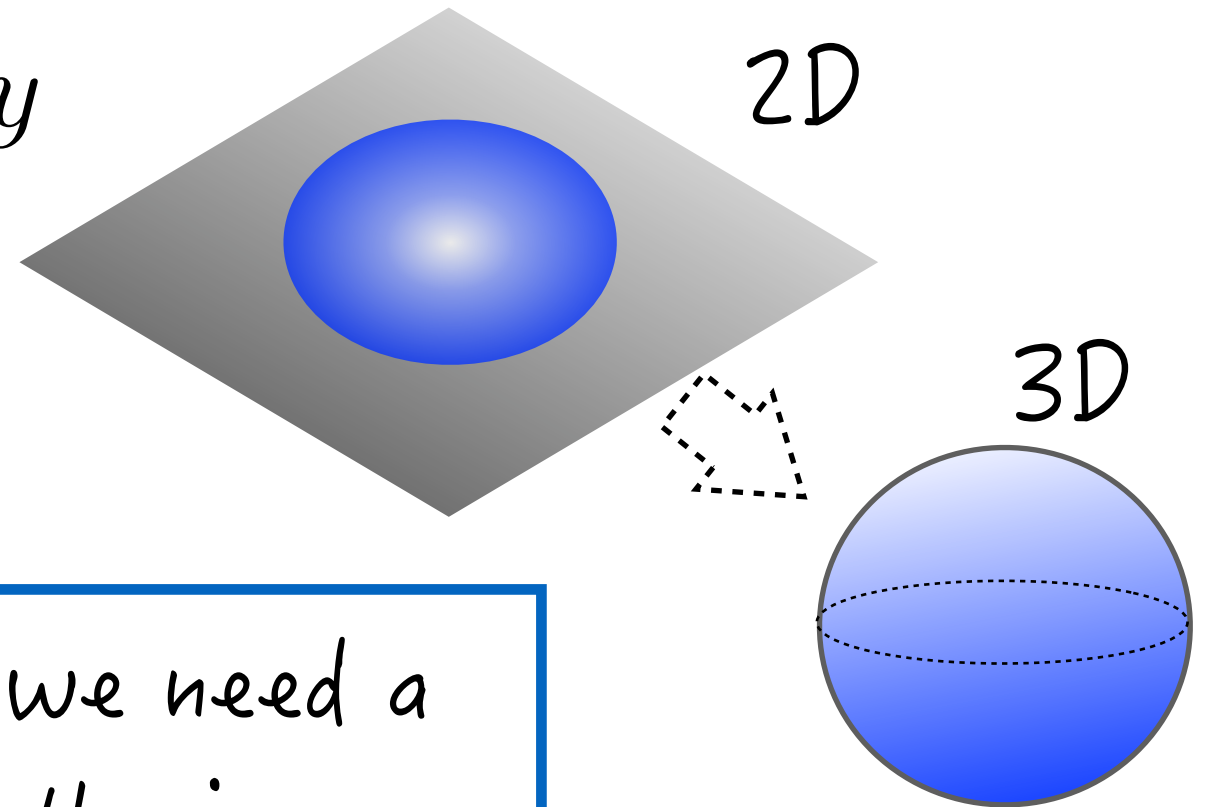
From this projection we reconstruct a 3D profile without the contribution of peculiar velocities.



We can obtain the SPHERICAL density profile of stacked voids in real space.

The Abel inverse transform

$$g(r) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_r^1 \frac{I'(y)}{\sqrt{y^2 - r^2}} dy$$



To test the reconstruction we need a class of functions for which the inverse is known: Abel Pairs

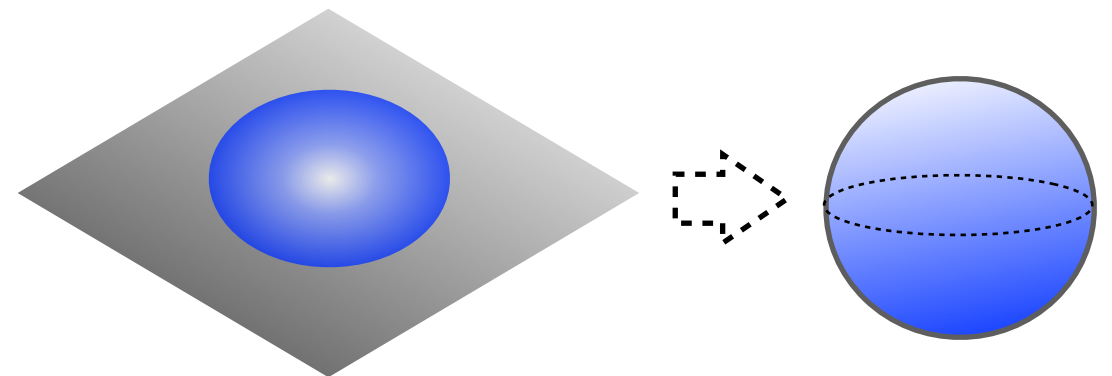
But...

Result I

Fighting ill-conditioning

$$g(r) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_r^1 \frac{I'(y)}{\sqrt{y^2 - r^2}} dy$$

Abel inverse transform:
mathematically well-defined
but *ill-conditioned*!

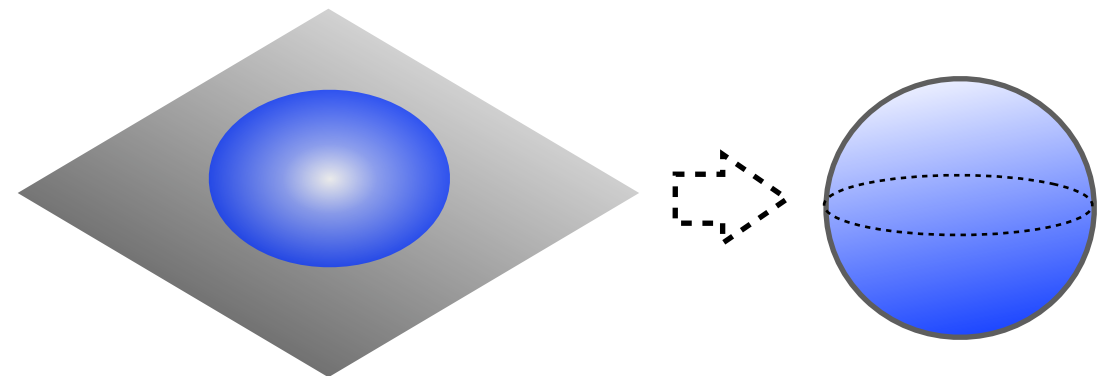
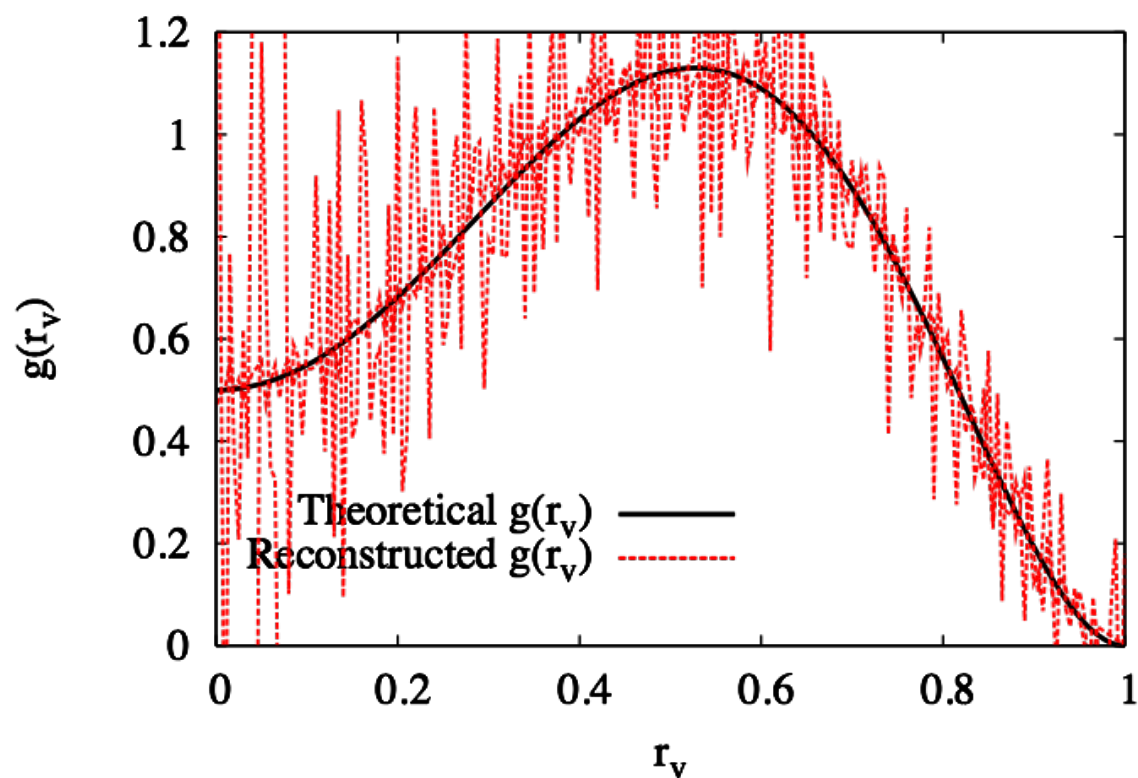


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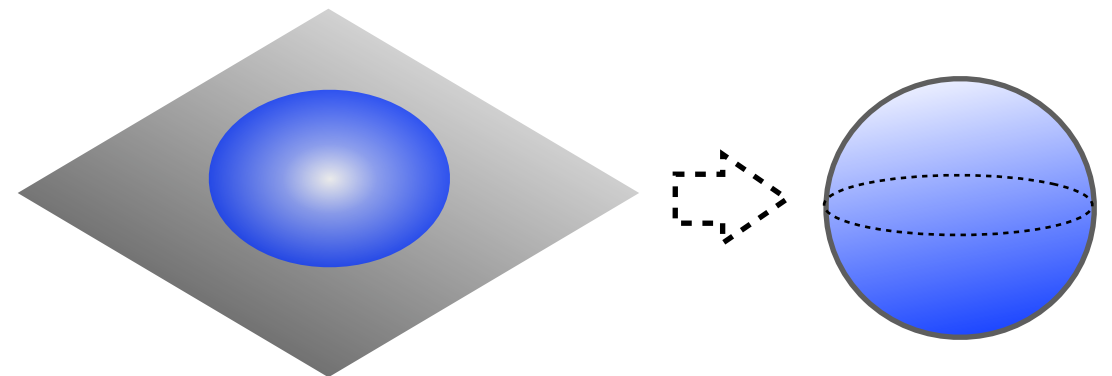
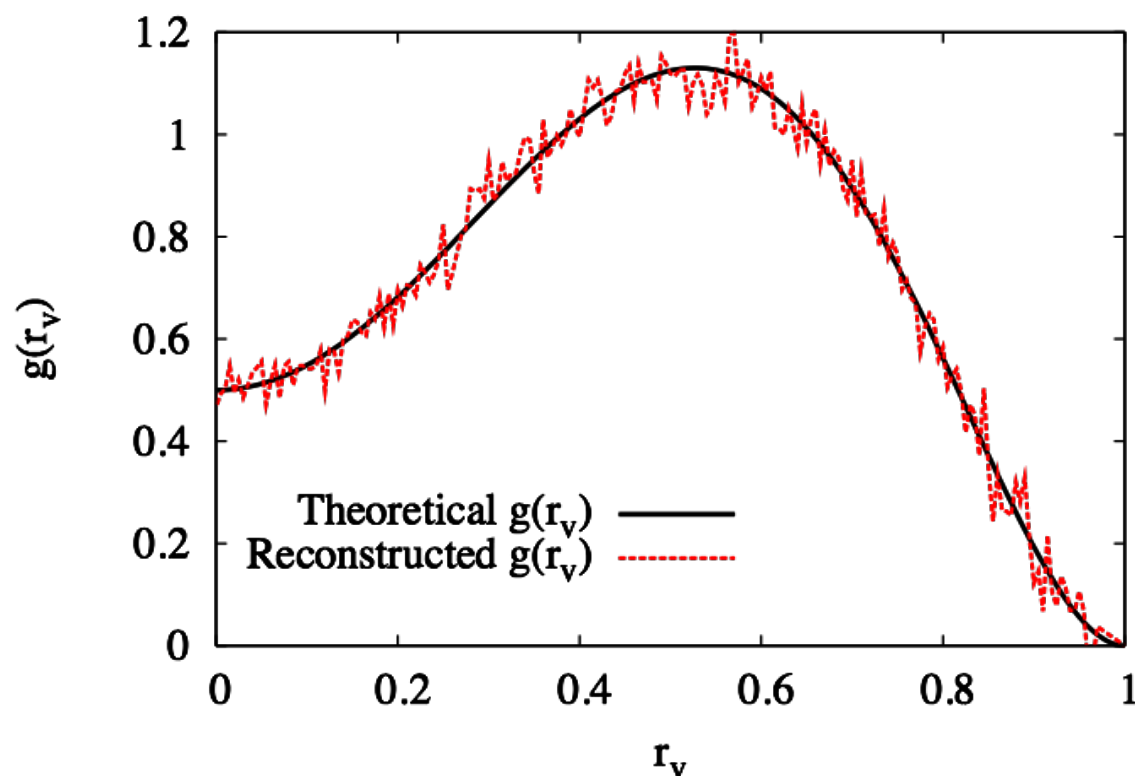


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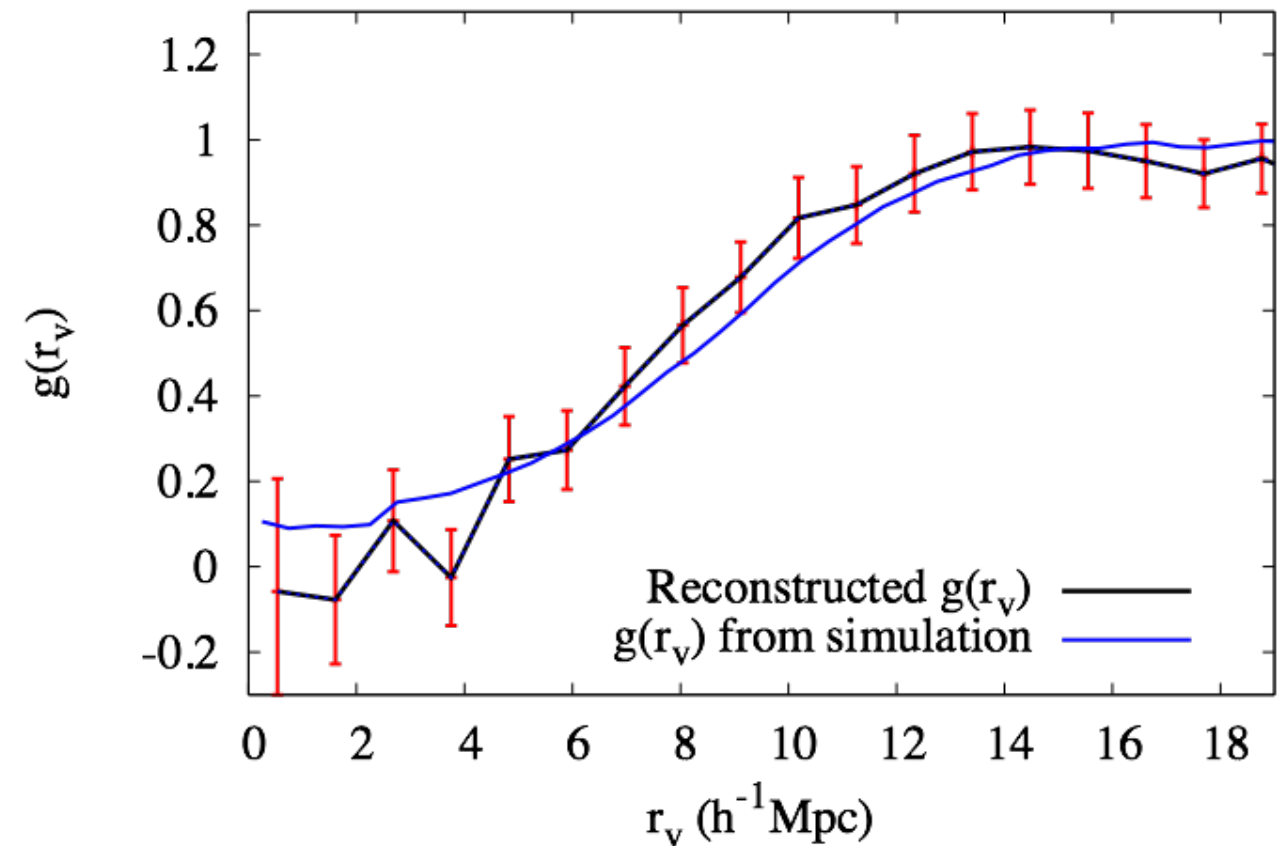
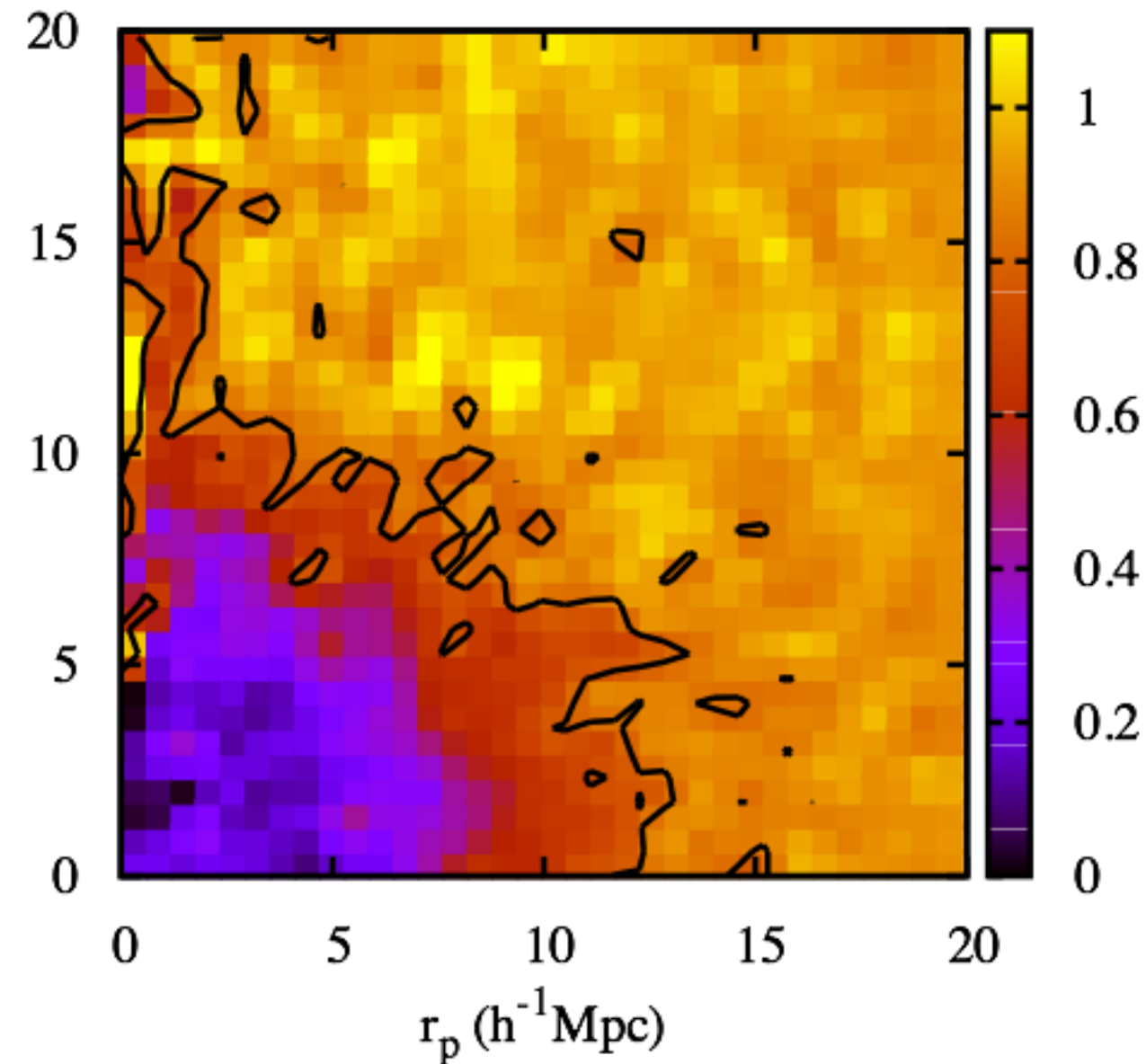
Abel inverse transform:
mathematically well-defined
but *ill-conditioned!*



RESULT:
Very good
reconstruction!

Reconstruction was with an Abel pair,
so it is a particular case

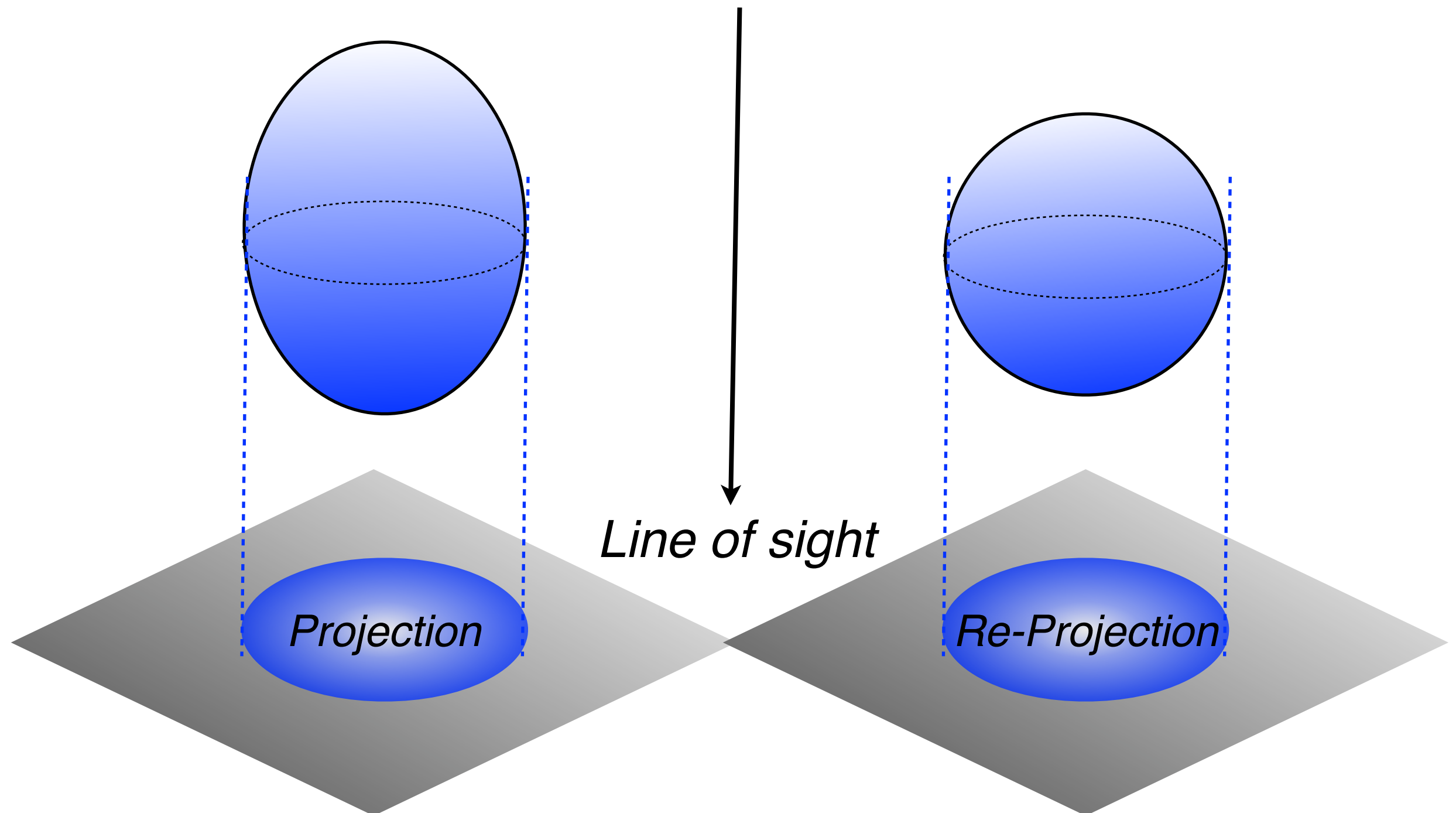
Result II



Stacking from 10 to 12 Mpc/h

arXiv:1306.3052 (A. Pisani, G. Lavaux, P. M. Sutter, B. D. Wandelt 2013, MNRAS)

The sanity check for the reconstruction



Check the reconstruction

Reconstruction from stacked void with HOD model

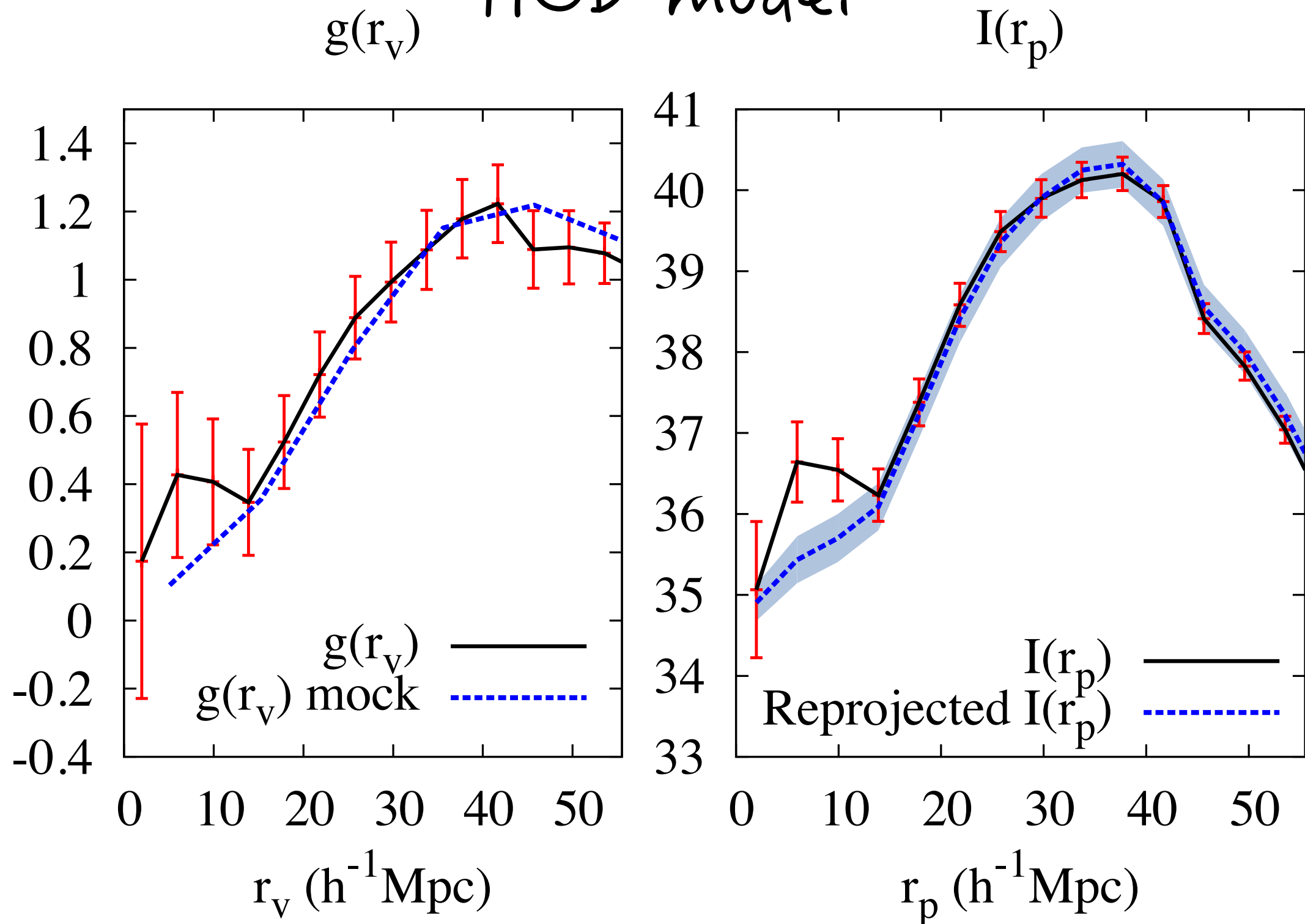
$$\langle N_{\text{cen}}(M) \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \left[1 + \text{erf} \left(\frac{\log M - \log M_{\text{min}}}{\sigma_{\log M}} \right) \right]$$
$$\langle N_{\text{sat}}(M) \rangle = \langle N_{\text{cen}}(M) \rangle \left(\frac{M - M_0}{M'_1} \right)^\alpha$$

Rockstar halo finder + HOD model assigns central and satellite galaxies
(Behroozi et al. 2013) to a dark matter halo (Zheng et al. 2007)

Matching the features of SDSS DR7

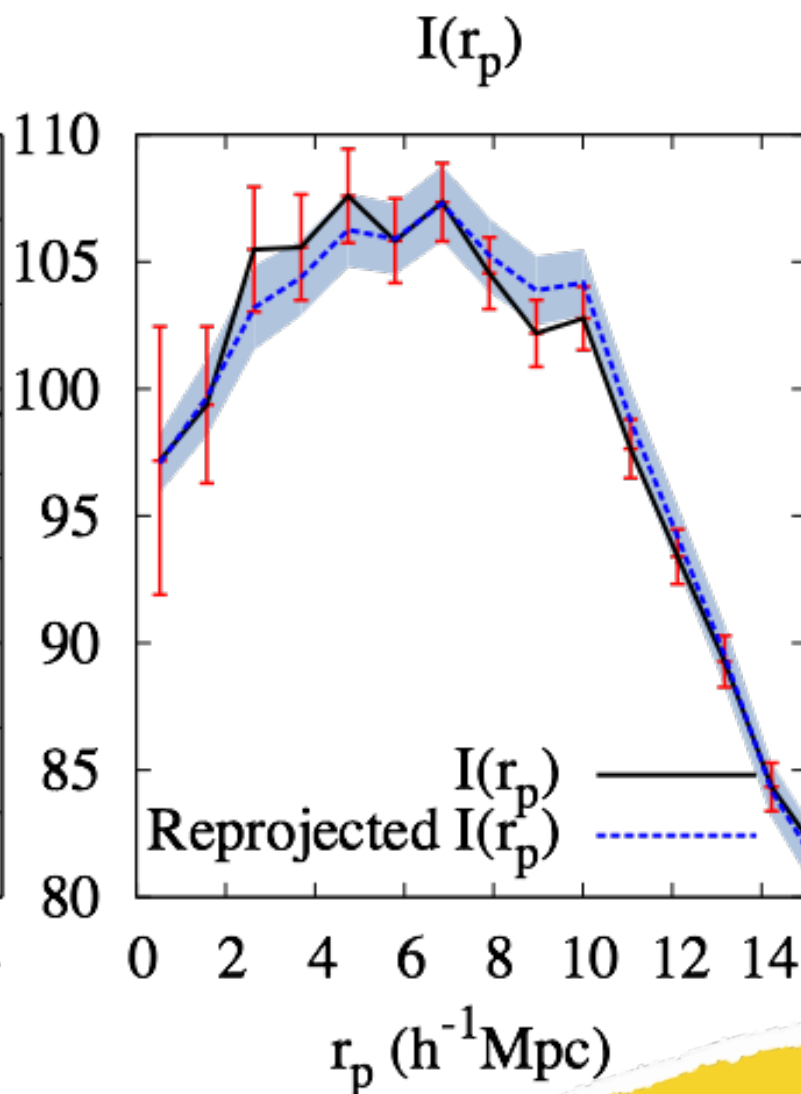
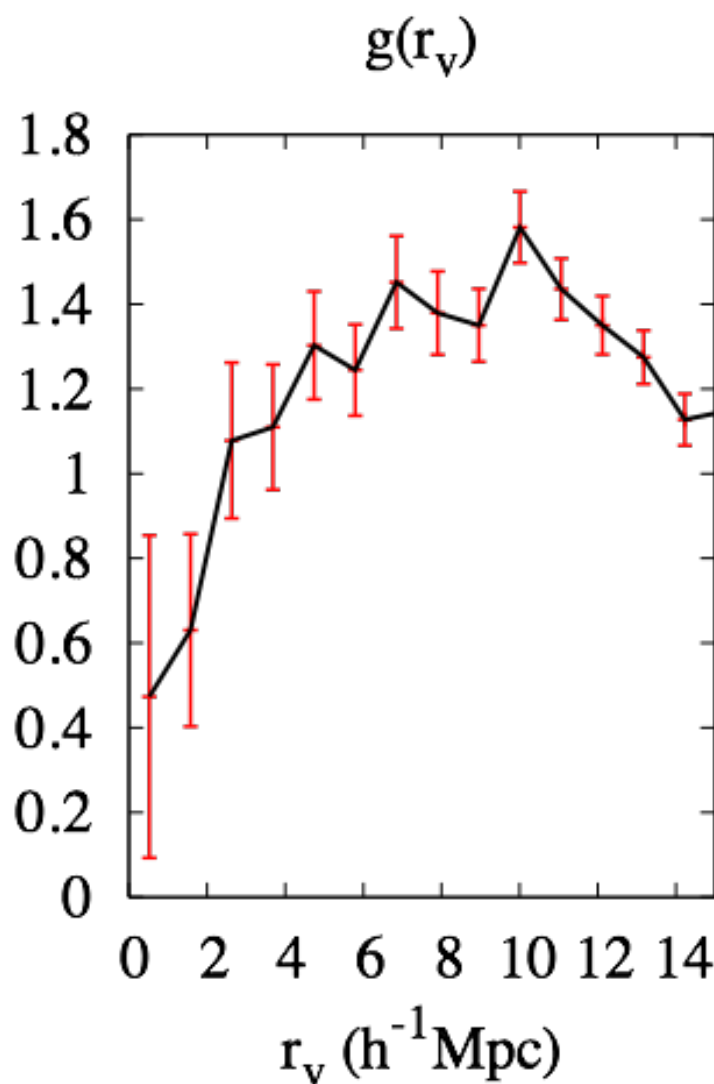
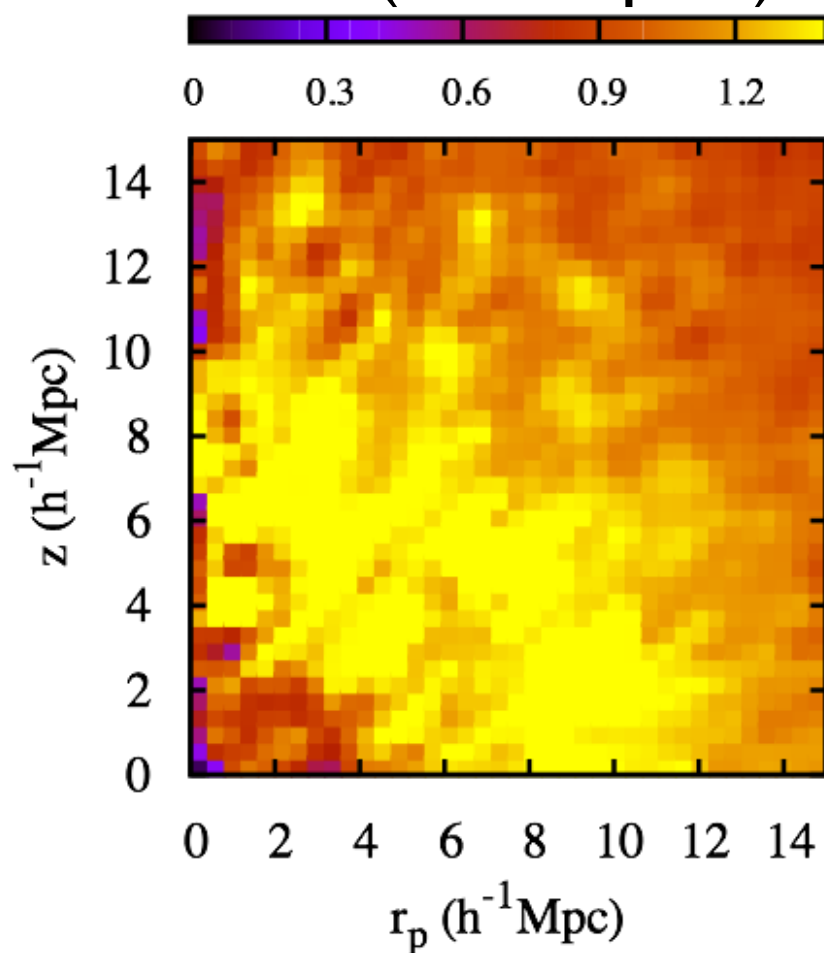
Reconstruction from stacked void of

HOD model



Result III

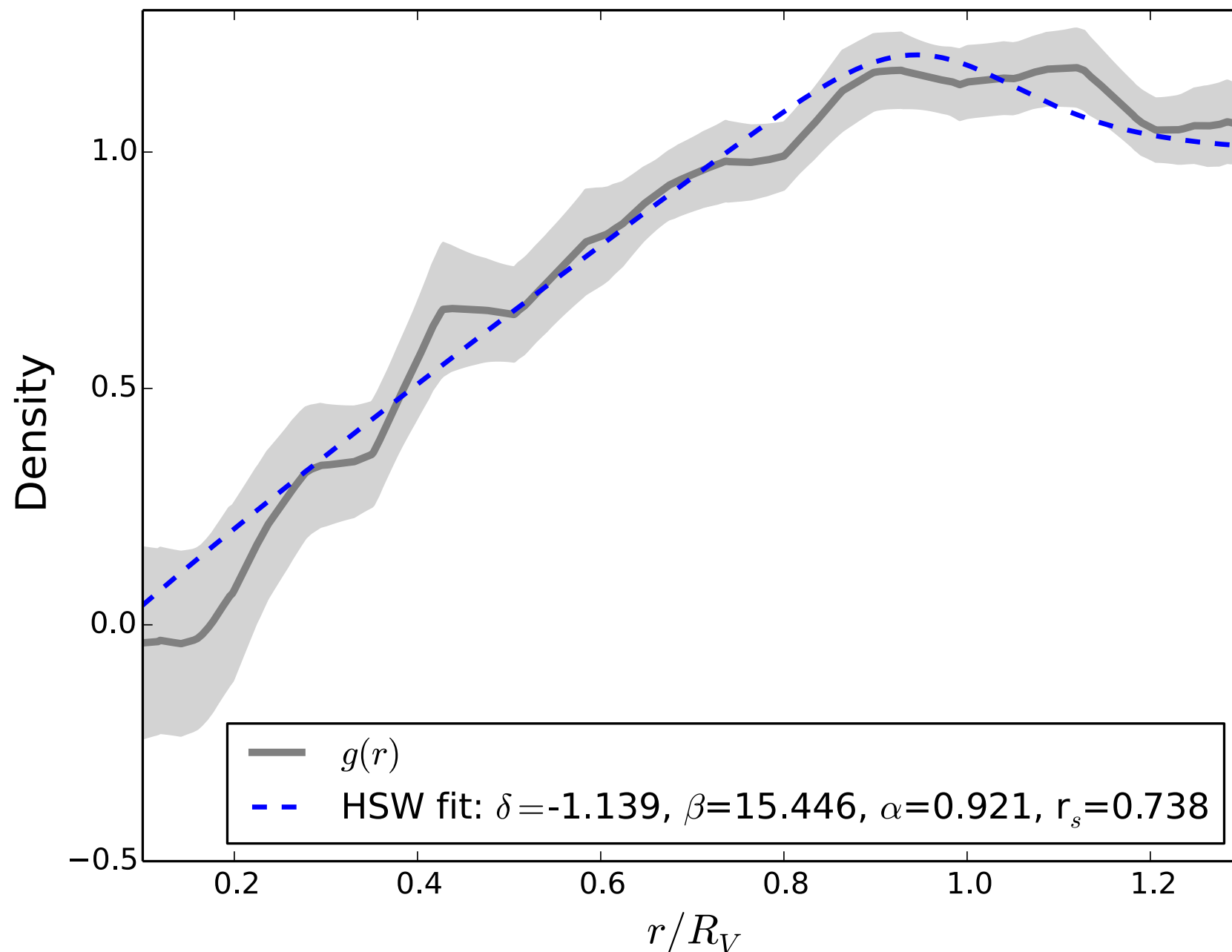
Dim (5-15 Mpc/h)



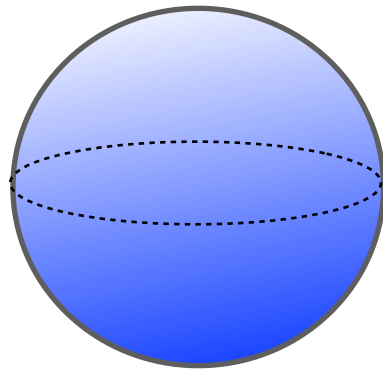
Stack radius	Redshift	Dataset	Galaxies	Voids
5-15	0.05-0.10	dim2	173929	173
10-15	0.05-0.10	dim2	43527	41
20-25	0.10-0.15	bright1	21241	17
25-45	0.15-0.20	bright2	51913	37

Model independent!
No assumption about RSD

Average real space void from SDSS DR7 matches simulations

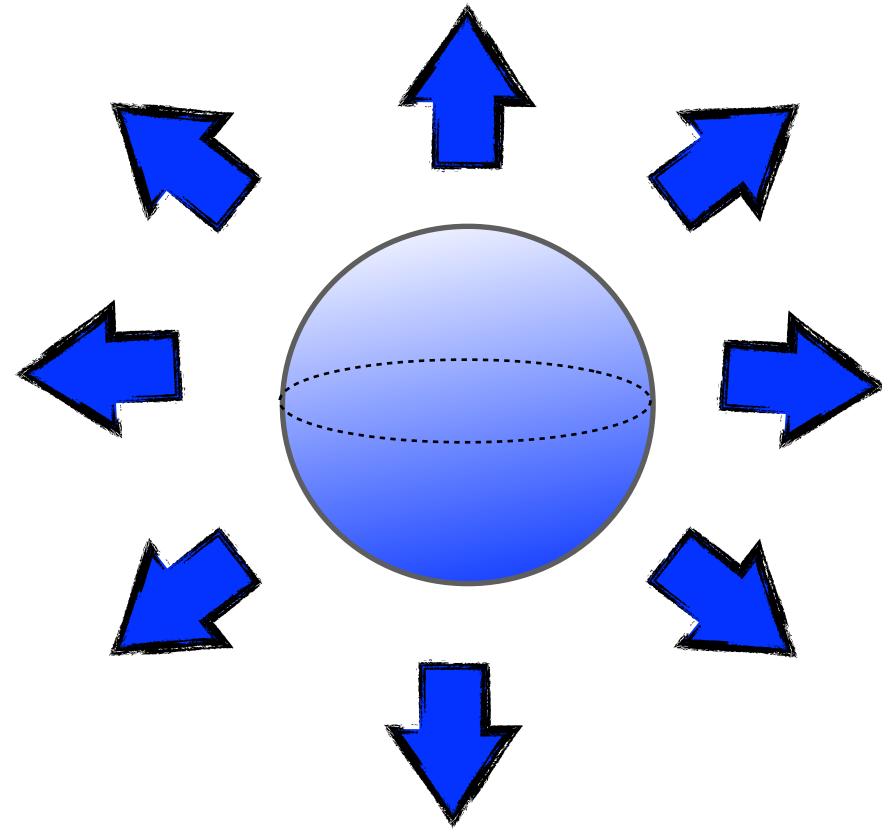
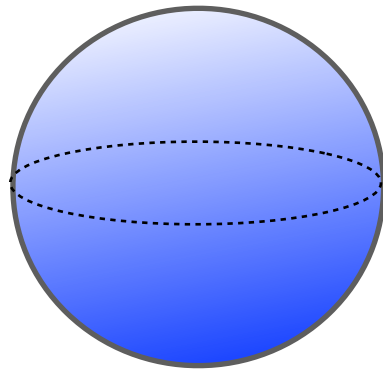


What do we know about voids?



STATIC!!!!

What do we know about voids?



STATIC!!!!

DYNAMICS ????

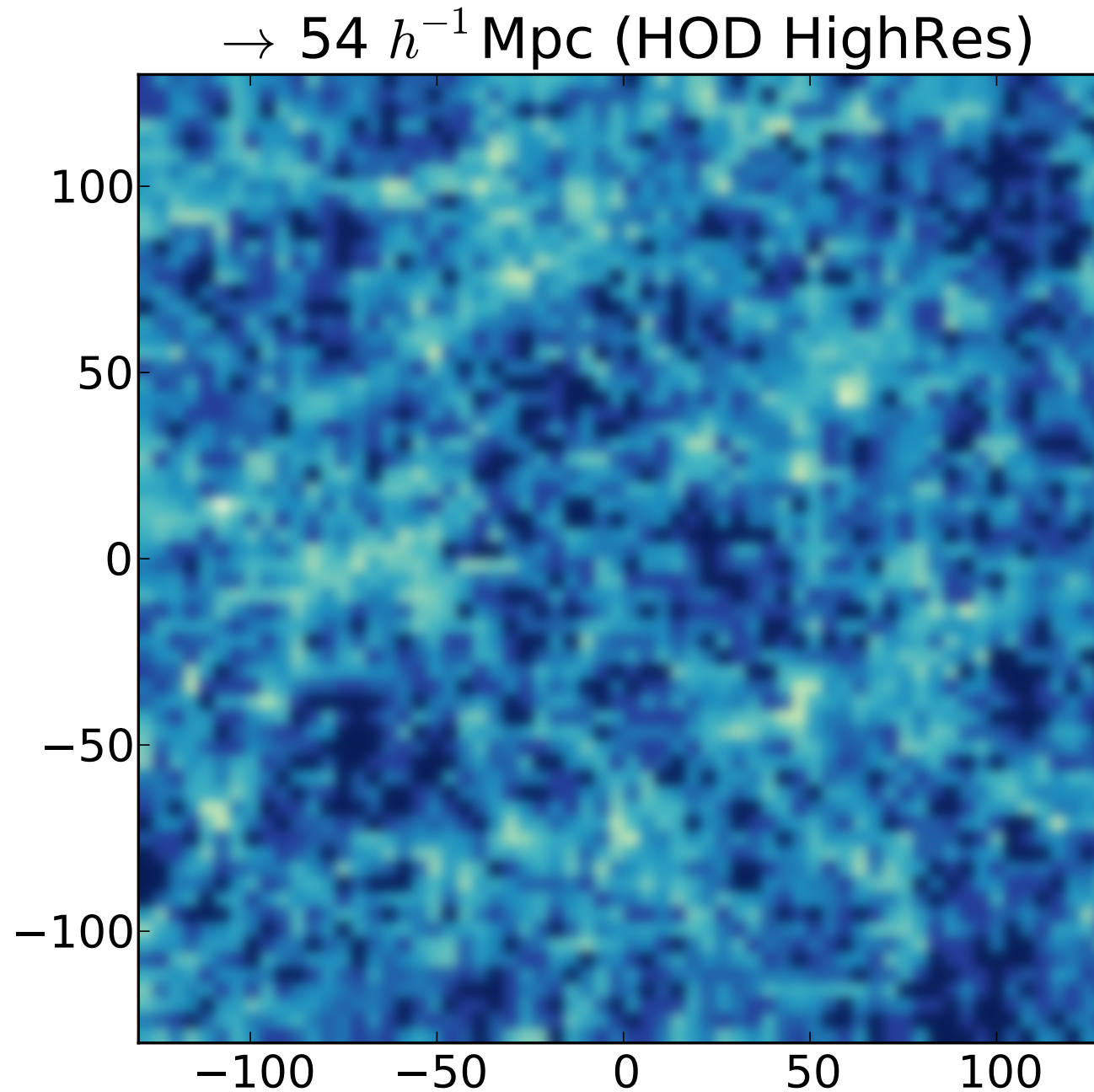
“Really” looking at voids...



How do velocities impact the way
the void finder selects voids?

Let's give a look at voids...

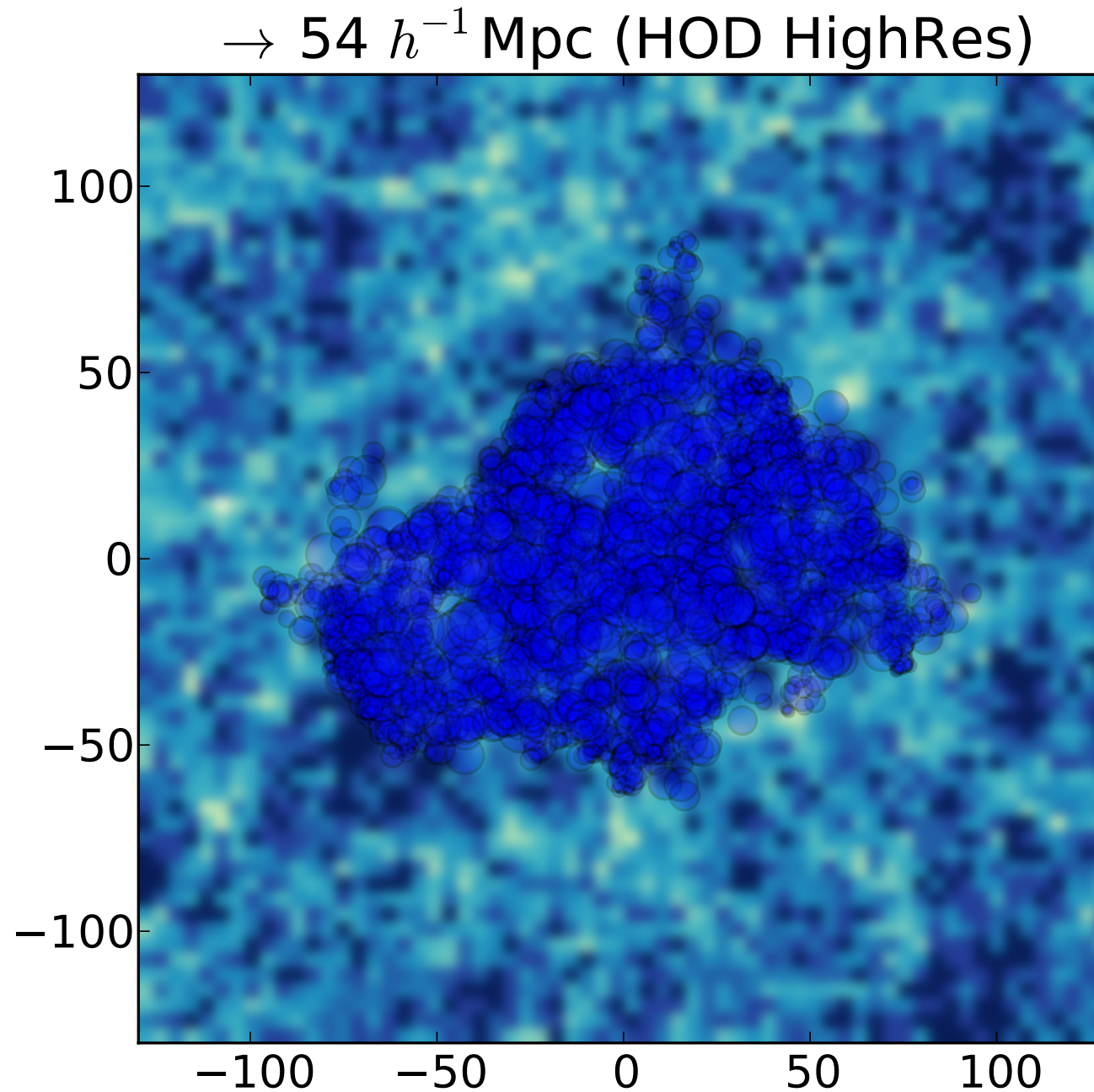
HOD nopv
versus
HOD + pv



Is the cosmological signal washed out by velocities in a certain kind of voids? Can we identify them and boost the cosmological signal?

Let's give a look at voids...

HOD nopv
versus
HOD + pv

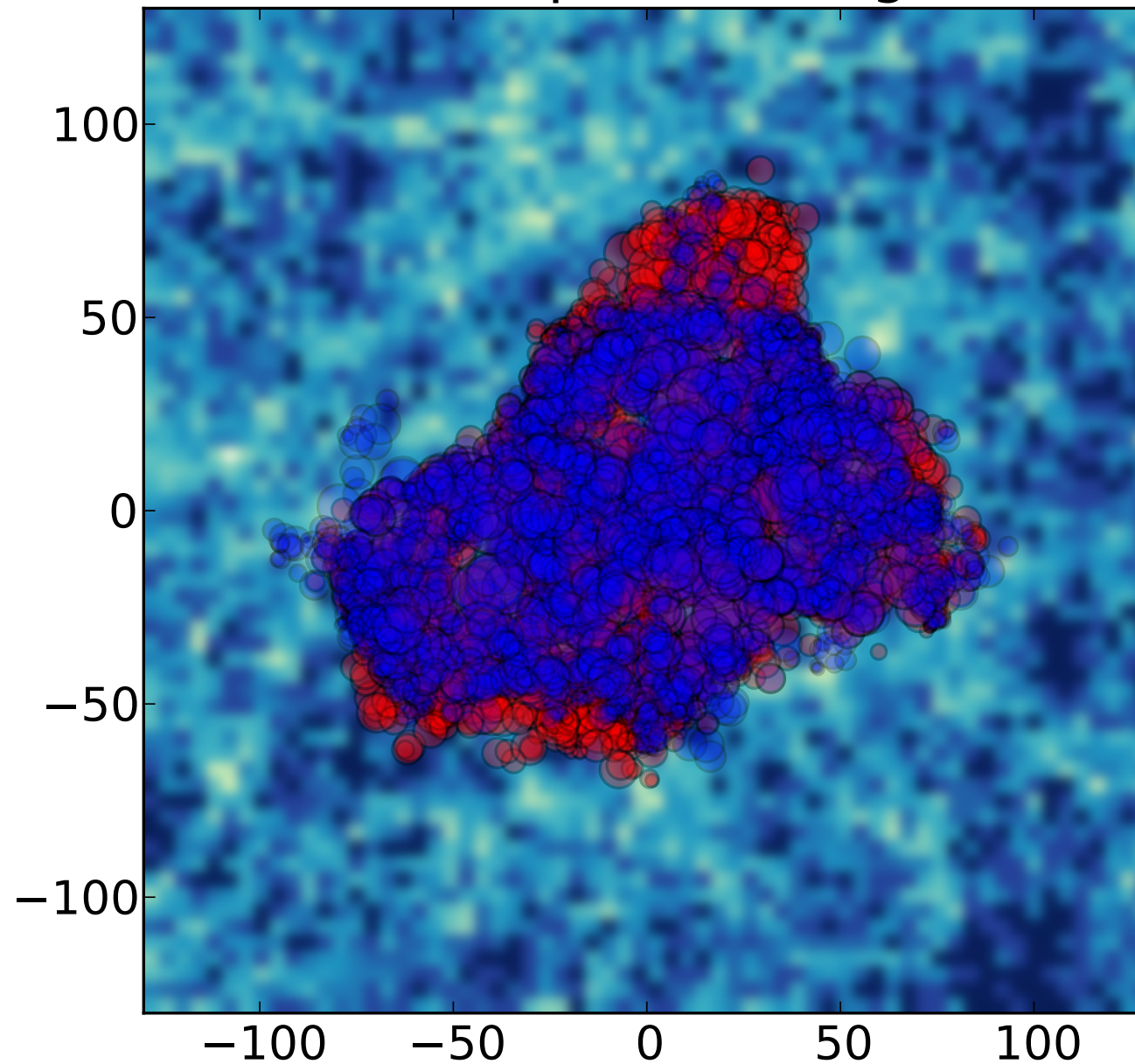


Is the cosmological signal washed out by velocities in a certain kind of voids? Can we identify them and boost the cosmological signal?

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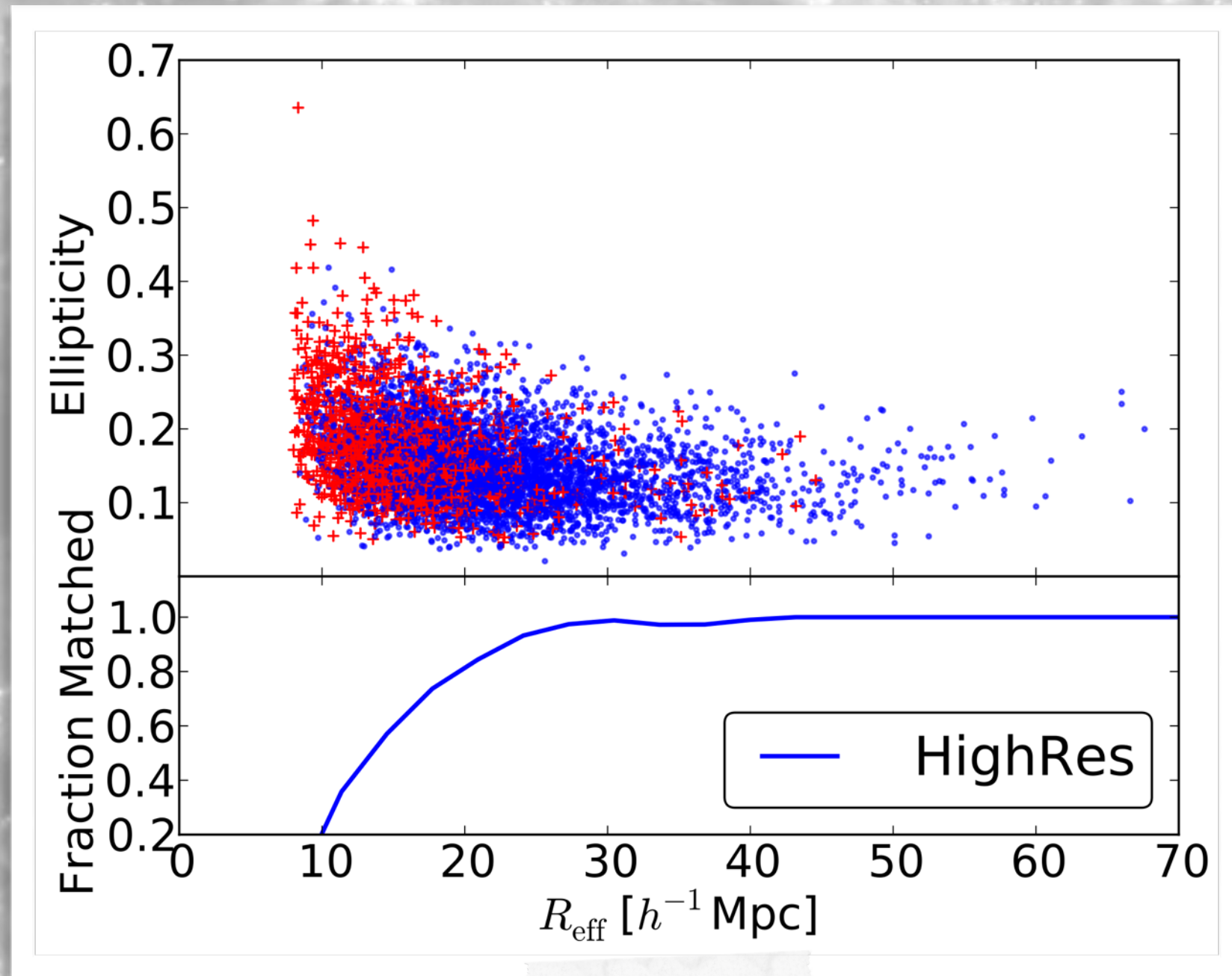
→ $54 h^{-1}$ Mpc (HOD HighRes)

HOD nopv
versus
HOD + pv



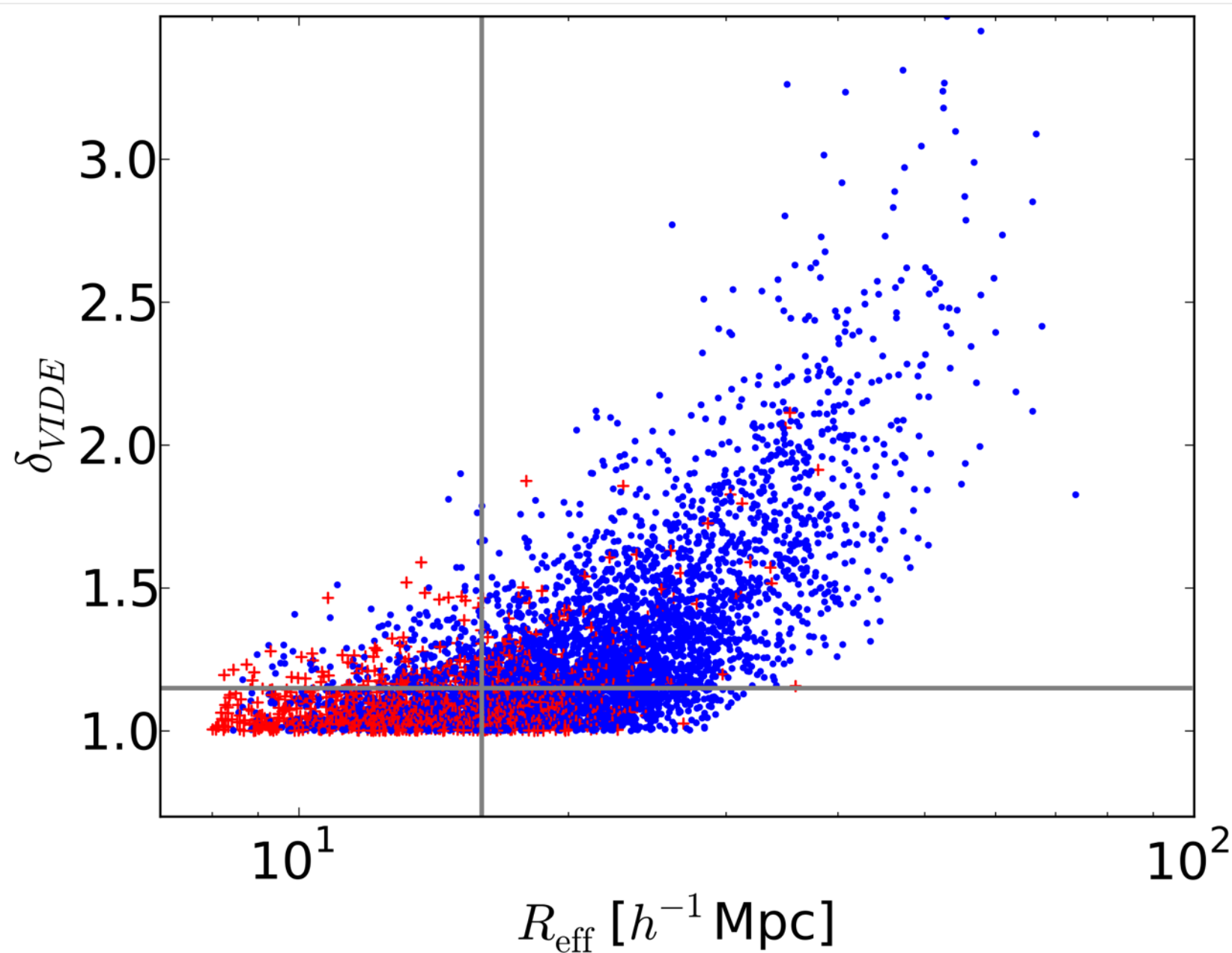
Is the cosmological signal washed out by velocities in a certain kind of voids? Can we identify them and boost the cosmological signal?

Which voids are affected most?



The number of voids without match
is high for small voids.

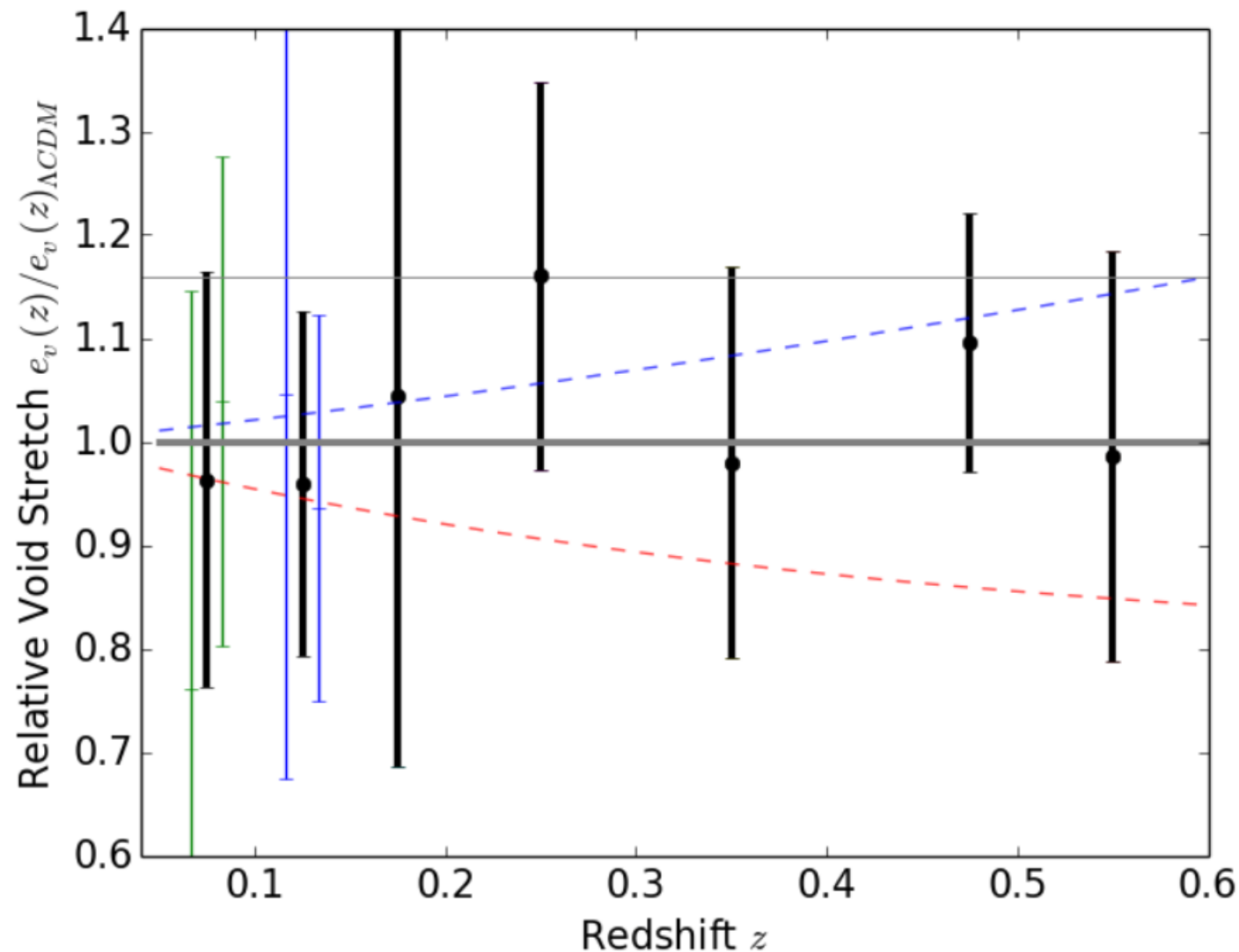
Identify them by properties



Applying cuts on these quantities we can boost the signal to noise for cosmological signal.

arXiv:1506.07982 (Pisani, Sutter, Wandelt, 2015b)

Allows to constrain the matter content of the Universe



$$e_V(z) = \frac{\Delta z}{z \Delta \theta} = \frac{D_A(z) H(z)}{cz}$$

Flat Universe $D_A(z) = \int_0^z \frac{cdz}{H(z)}$

$$H(z) = H_0 \sqrt{\Omega_m (1+z)^3 + \Omega_\Lambda}$$

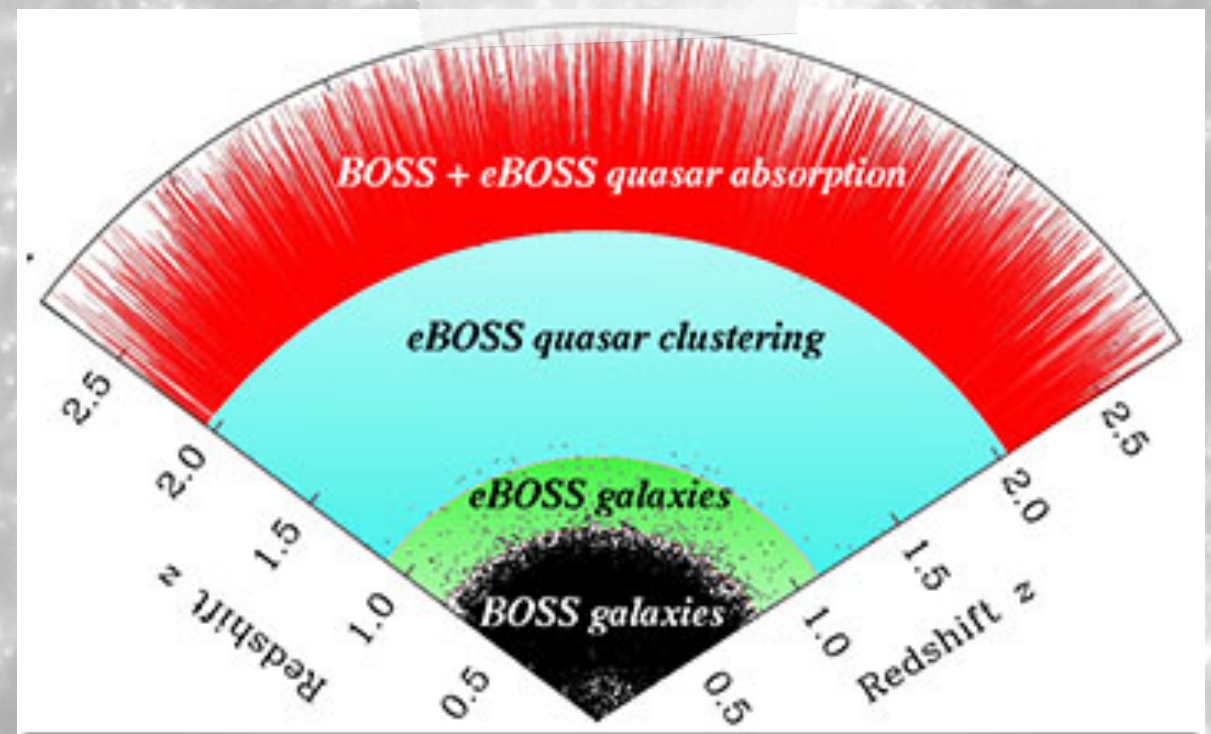
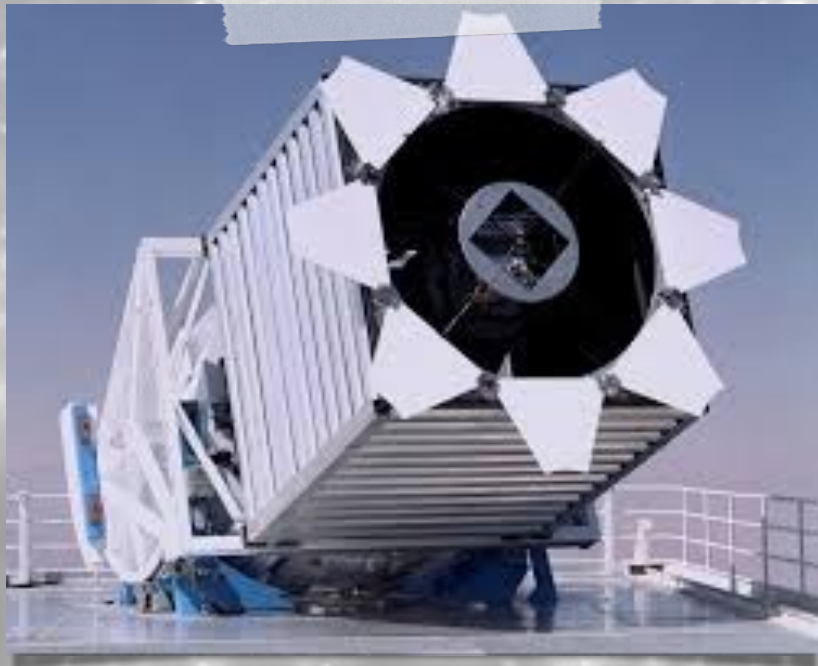
$$\Omega_m + \Omega_\Lambda = 1$$

Guidelines to boost the cosmological information



Apply cuts on radius and δ_{VIDE} that match our physical sense \Rightarrow boost the signal to noise for cosmological information.

BOSS provided us with an amazing number of galaxies, to be increased by eBOSS



Model the velocities: void-galaxy cross-correlation

$$1 + \tilde{\xi}_{\text{vg}}(\tilde{\mathbf{r}}) = \int \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{r}) [1 + \xi_{\text{vg}}(\mathbf{r})] d^3v = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathcal{P}(v_{\parallel}, \mathbf{r}) \frac{\rho_v(r)}{\bar{\rho}} dv_{\parallel}$$

We suppose a Gaussian velocity distribution: $v_v(r) \frac{r_{\parallel}}{r}$

$$\mathcal{P}(v_{\parallel}, \mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_v(\mathbf{r})} \exp \left[-\frac{\left(v_{\parallel} - v_v(r) \frac{r_{\parallel}}{r} \right)^2}{2\sigma_v^2(\mathbf{r})} \right]$$

Gaussian
streaming model,
Fisher 1995

With $\sigma_v^2(\mathbf{r}) = \sigma_{\parallel}^2(r) \frac{r_{\parallel}^2}{r^2} + \sigma_{\perp}^2(r) \left(1 - \frac{r_{\parallel}^2}{r^2} \right)$

(assuming $\sigma_{\parallel, \perp}(r) \equiv \sigma_v = \text{const.}$)

The velocity profile of voids

Imposing mass conservation we can show that

$$v_v(r) \simeq -\frac{1}{3} \frac{f(z)H(z)}{1+z} r \Delta_{vm}(r)$$

P. J. E. Peebles, The large-scale structure of the universe. 1980.

$f(z)$ linear growth rate of density perturbations

$$\Delta_{vm}(r) = \frac{3}{r^3} \int_0^r \left(\frac{\rho_{vm}(q)}{\bar{\rho}_m} - 1 \right) q^2 dq$$

Cumulated density profile

Modeling the density profile

$$\frac{\rho_{\text{vm}}(r)}{\bar{\rho}_{\text{m}}} - 1 = \delta_c \frac{1 - (r/r_s)^\alpha}{1 + (r/r_v)^\beta},$$

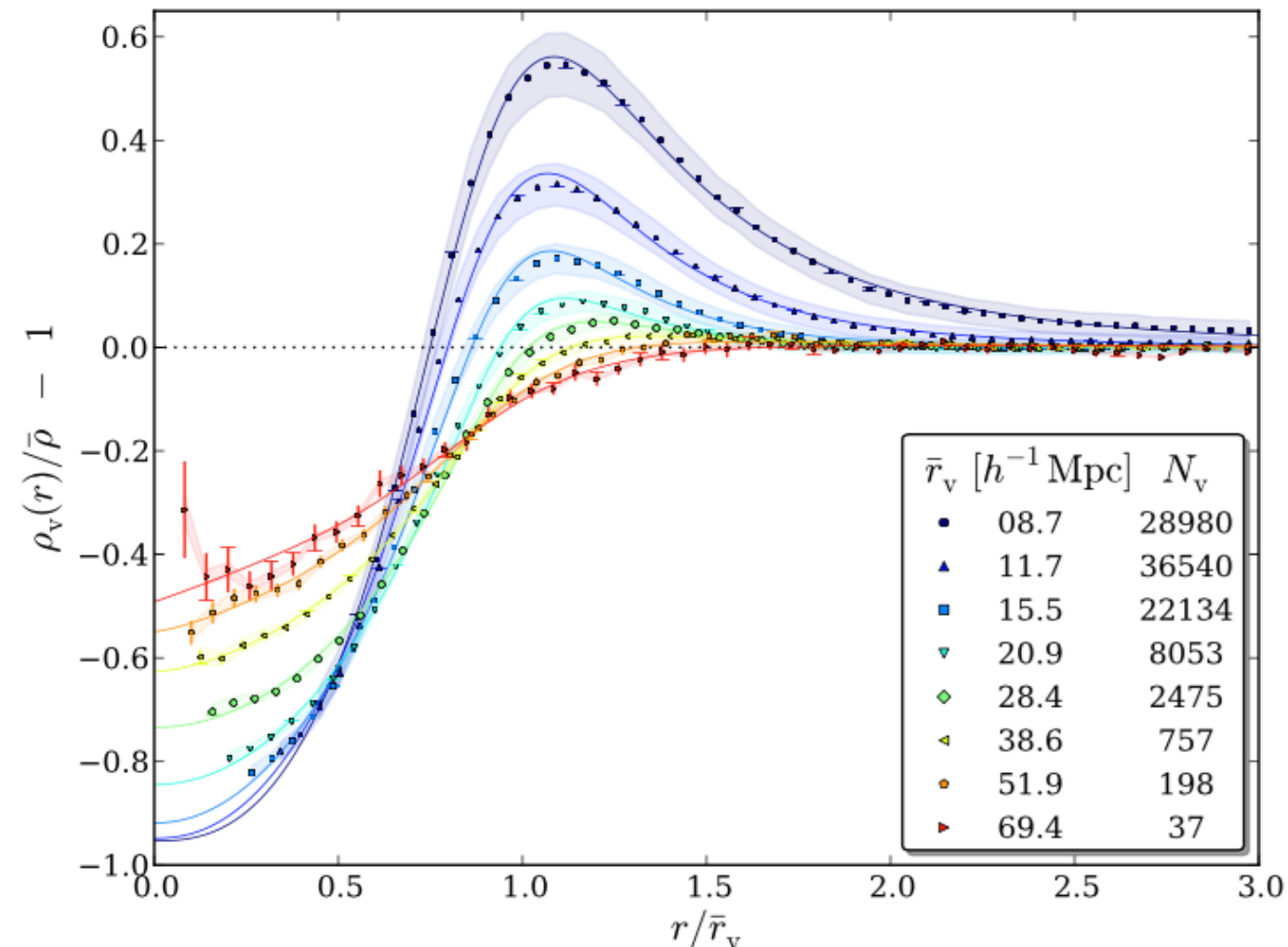
δ_c density contrast

r_s radius at which density
equal mean density

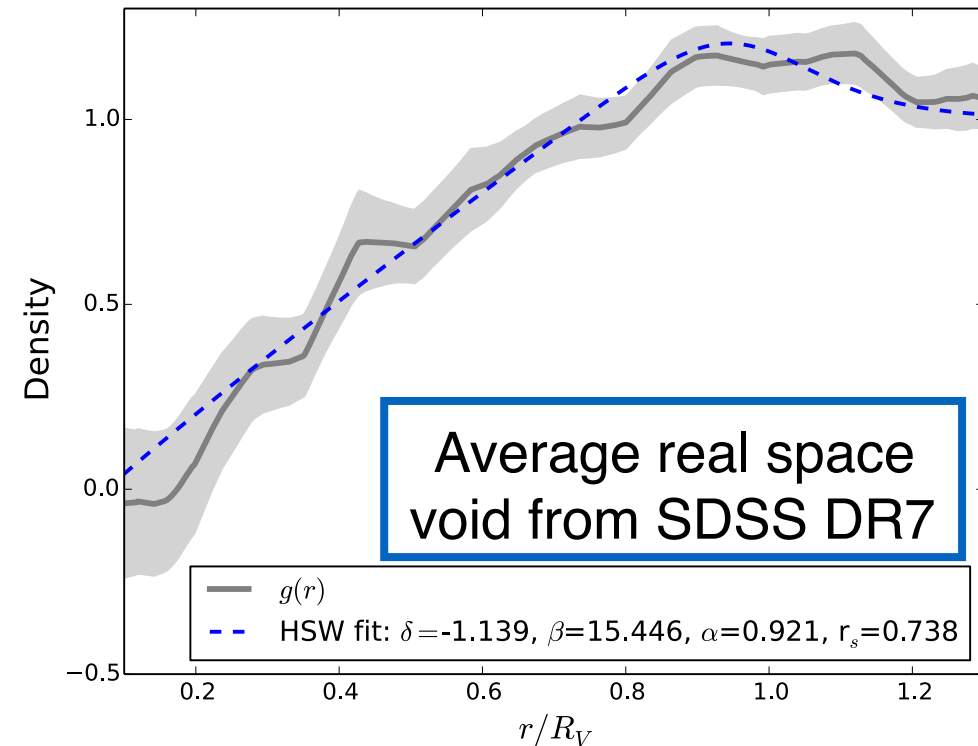
α slope before wall

β slope after wall

α, β linear functions of r_s / \bar{r}_v

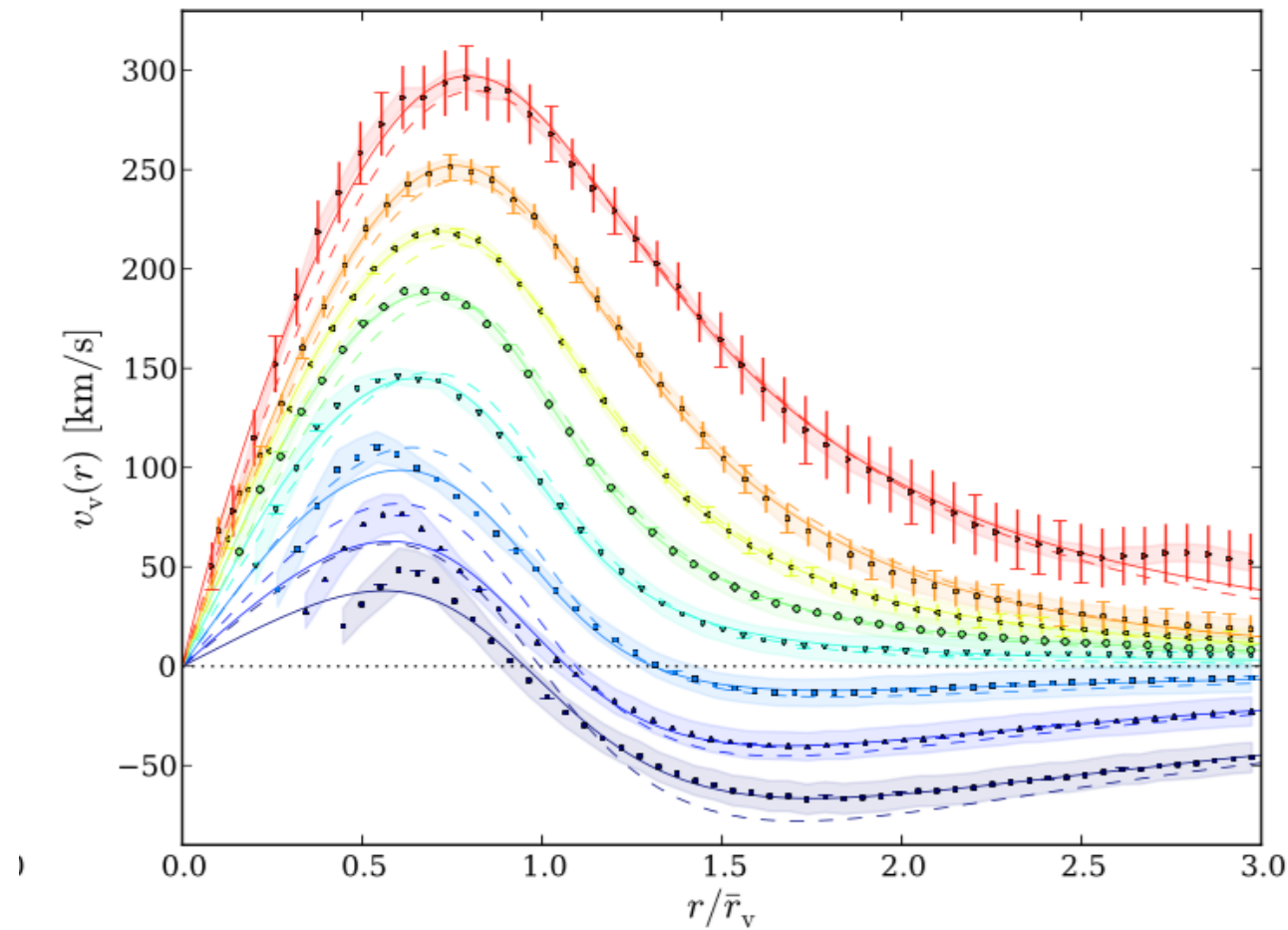


$$R_V \equiv \left(\frac{3}{4\pi} V \right)^{1/3}$$

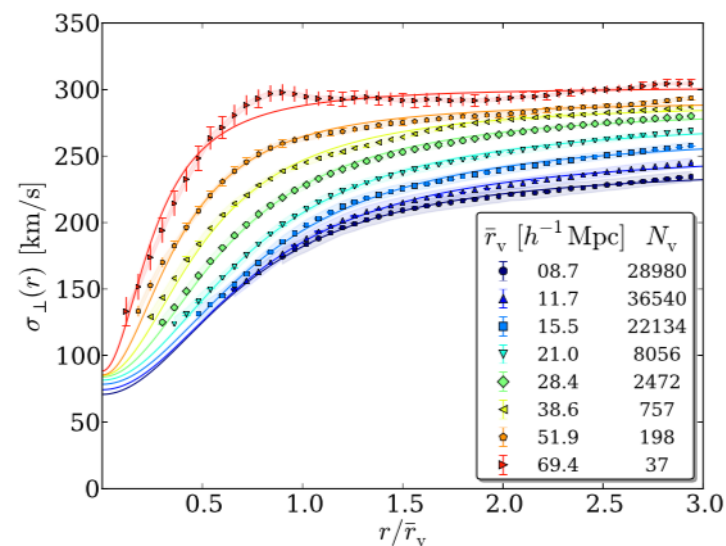
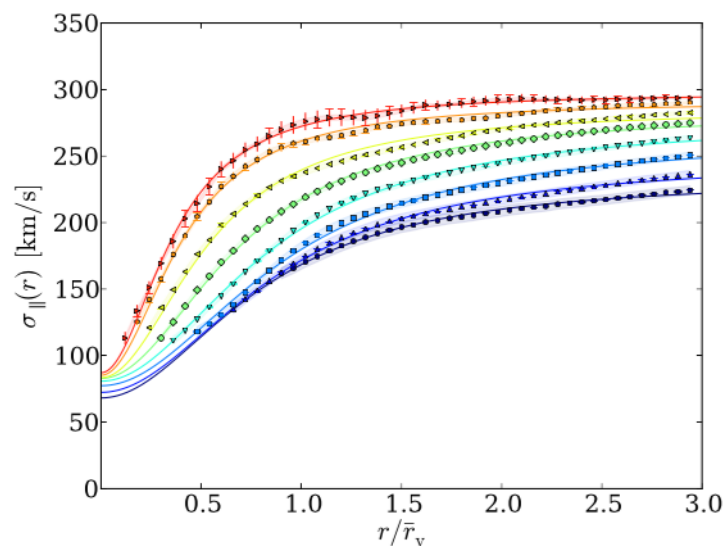


ArXiv: 1403.5499 Hamaus et al. 2014, 1306.3052 Pisani et al. 2014

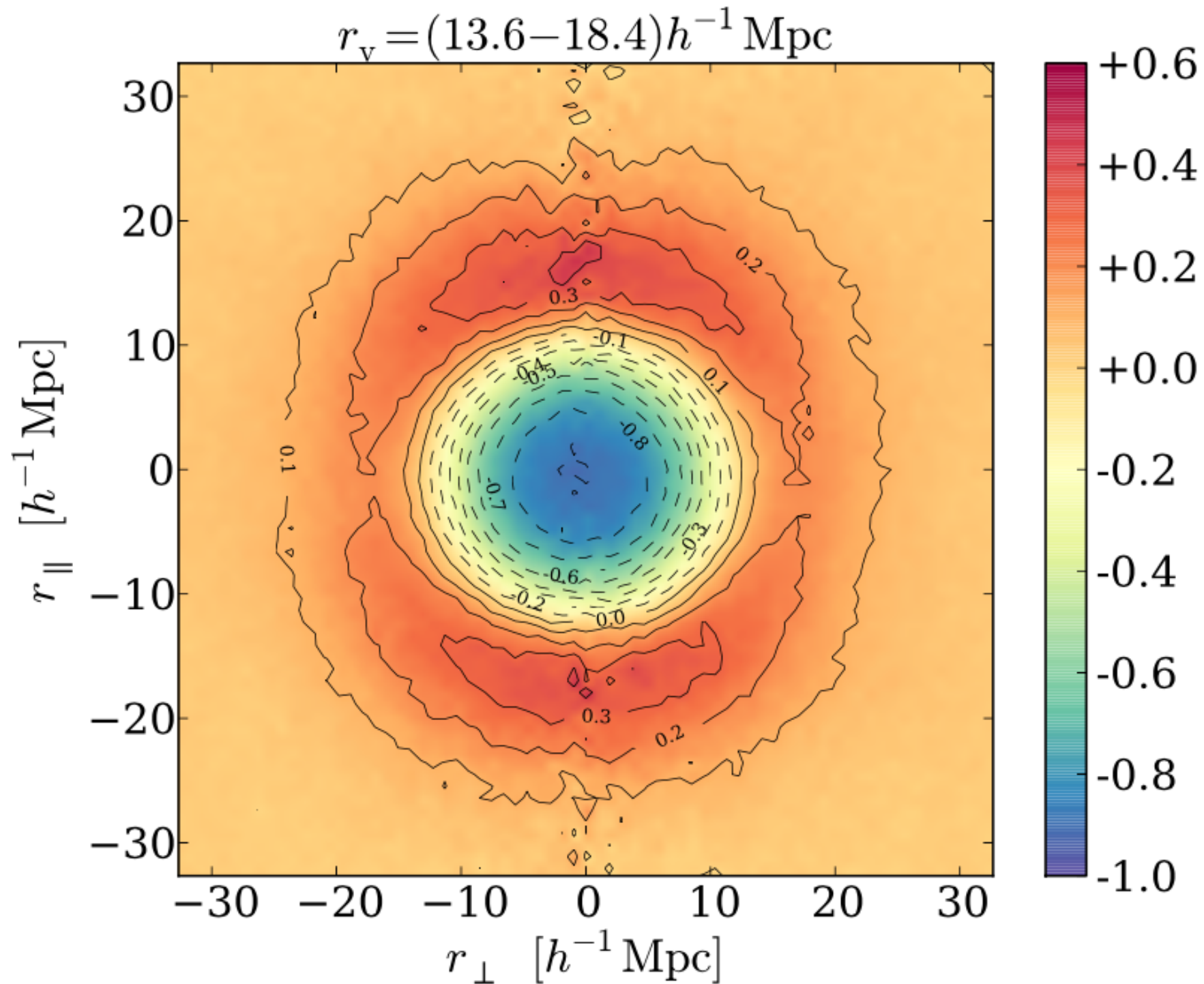
The velocity profile



$$v_v(r) \simeq -\frac{1}{3} \frac{f(z)H(z)}{1+z} r \Delta_{\text{vm}}(r) ,$$



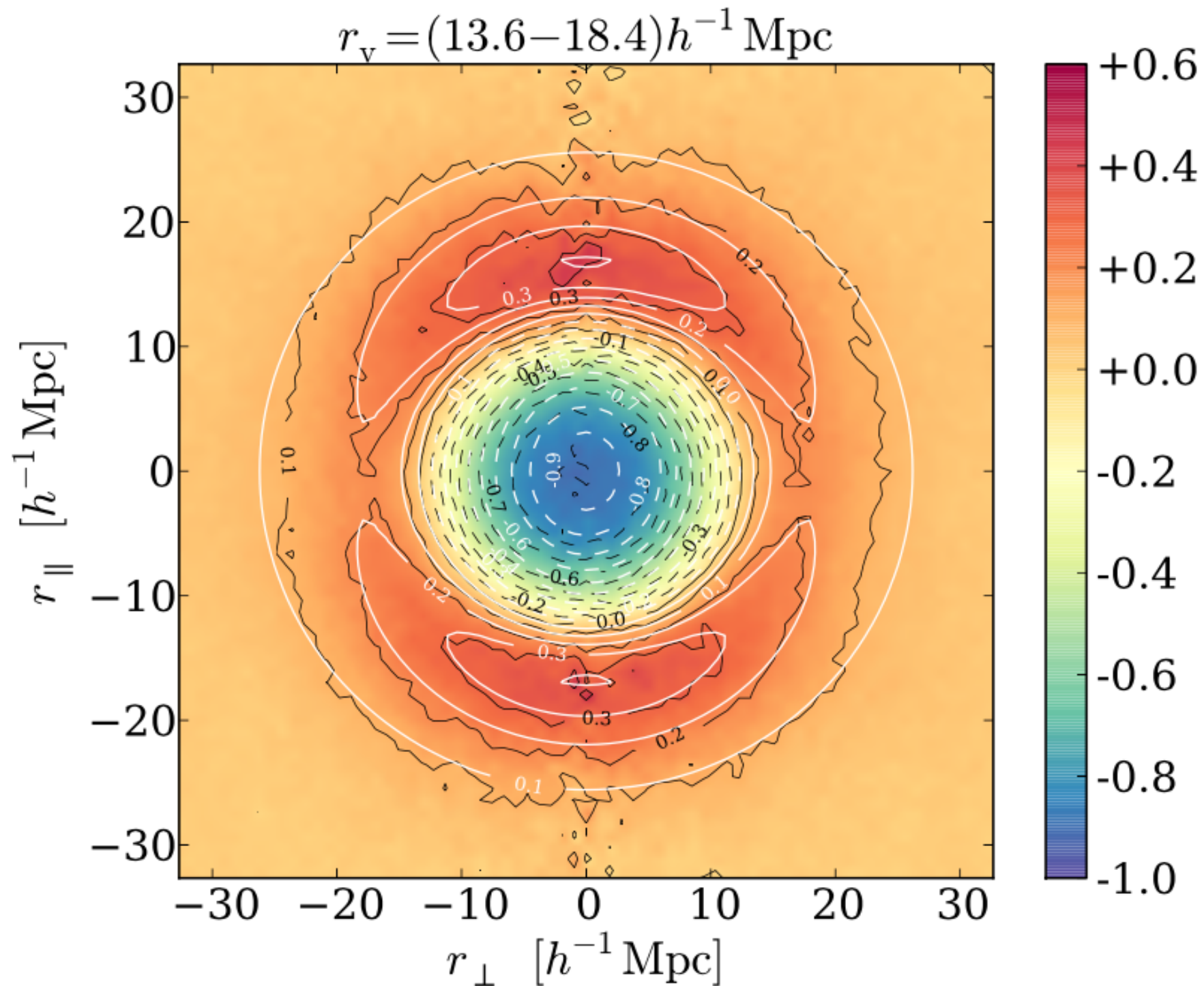
Model velocities around voids



Simulation

Hamaus et al 2015 ArXiv: 1507.04363

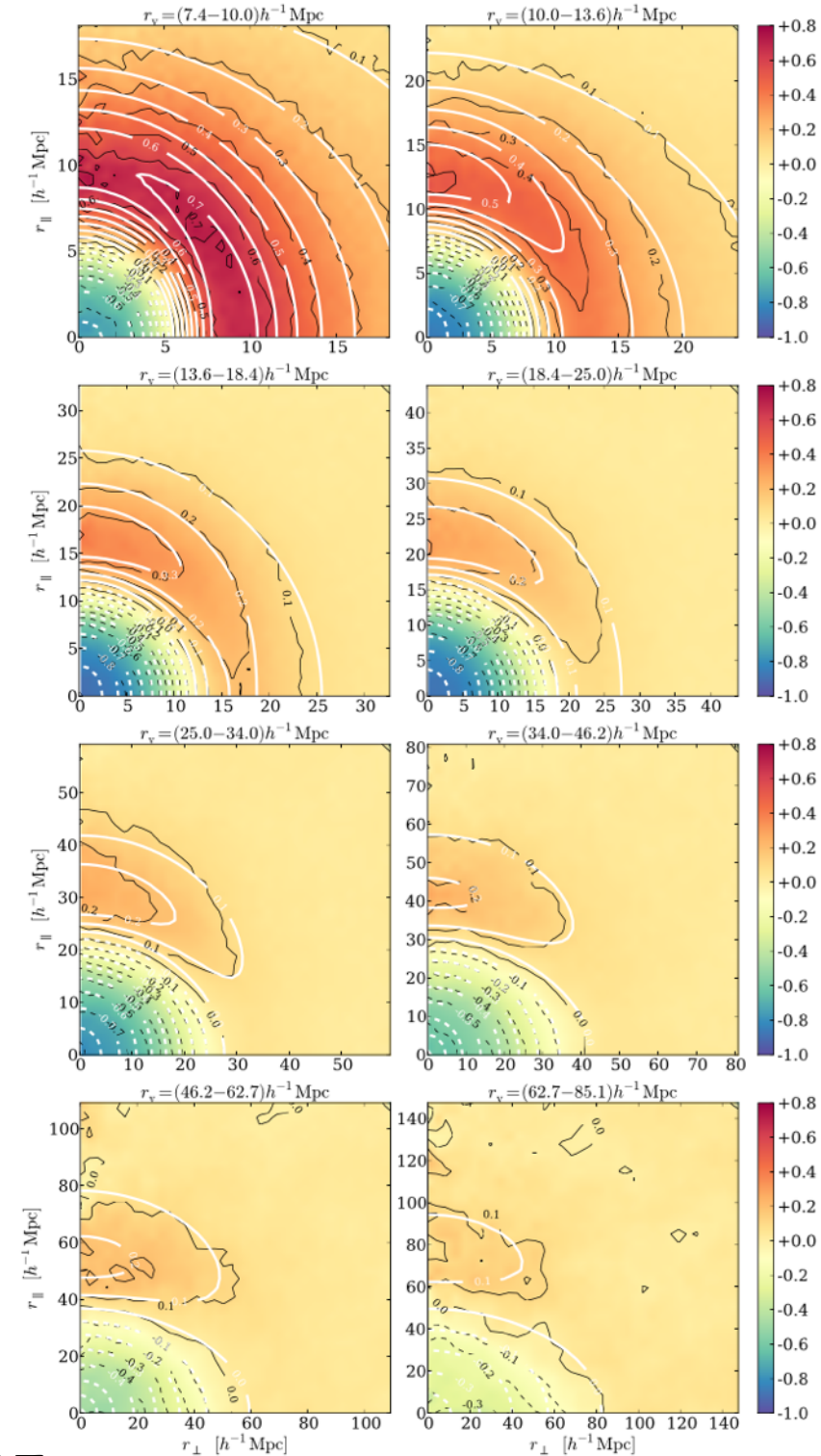
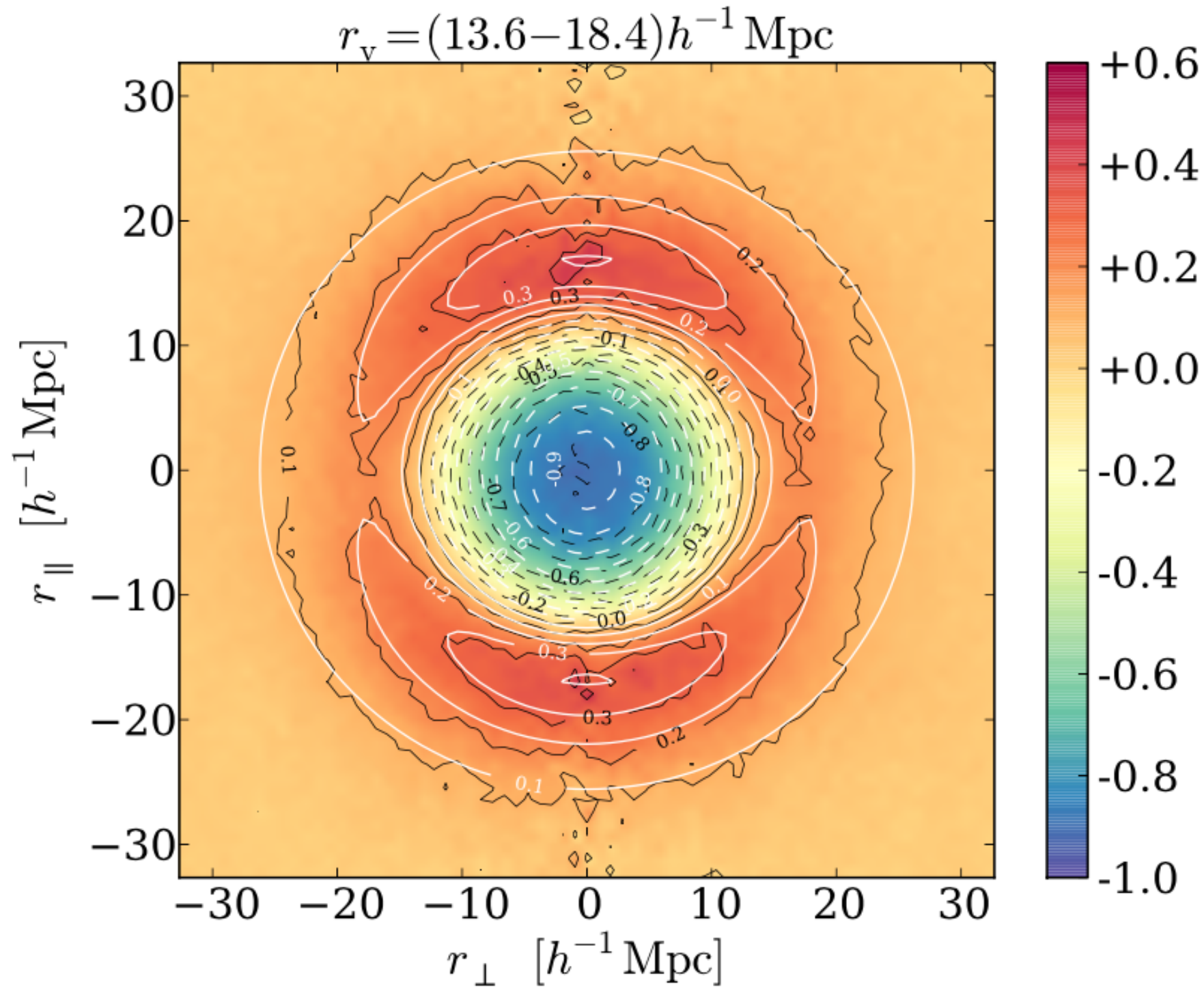
Model velocities around voids



Simulation

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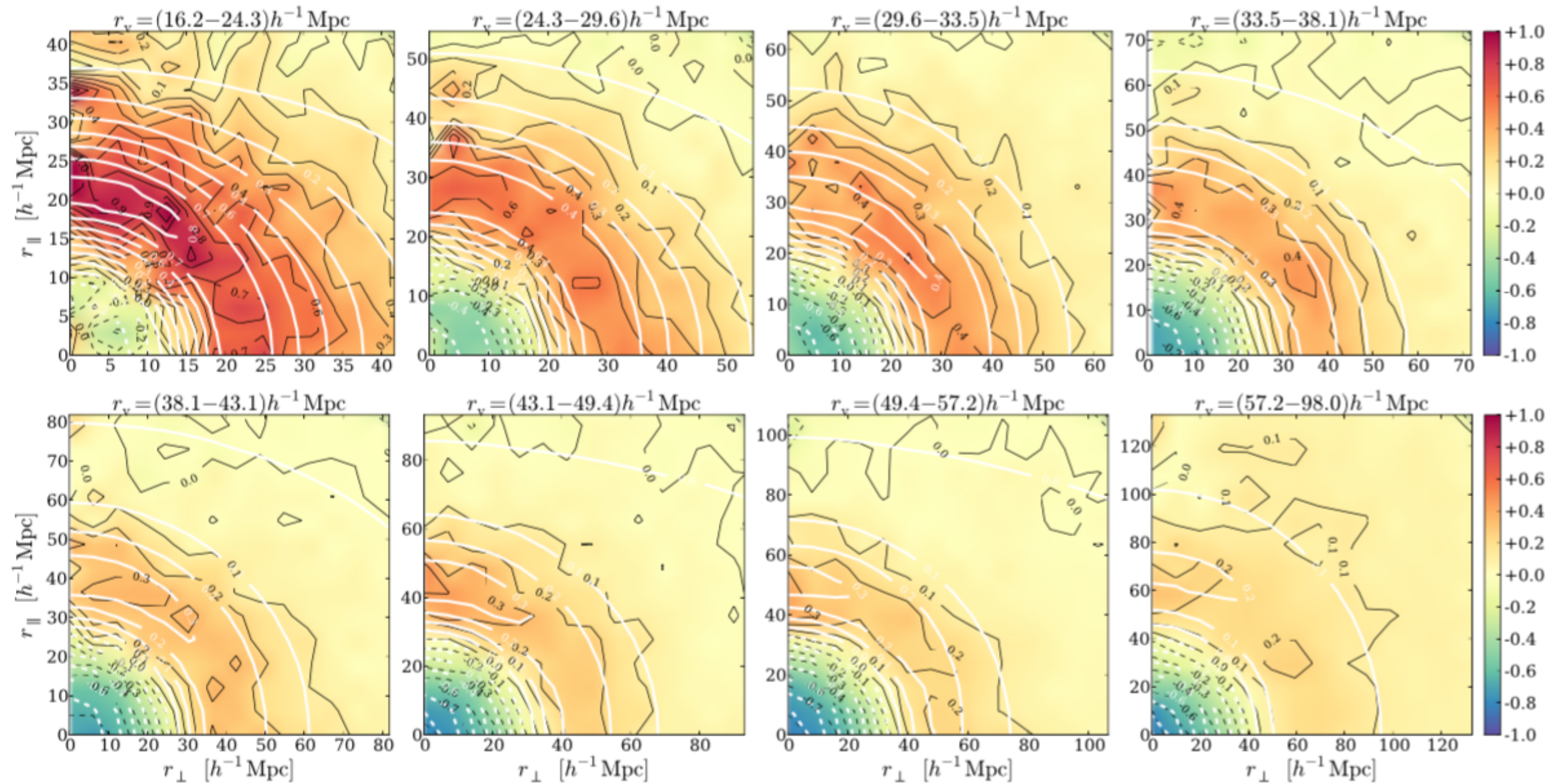
Model velocities around voids



Simulation

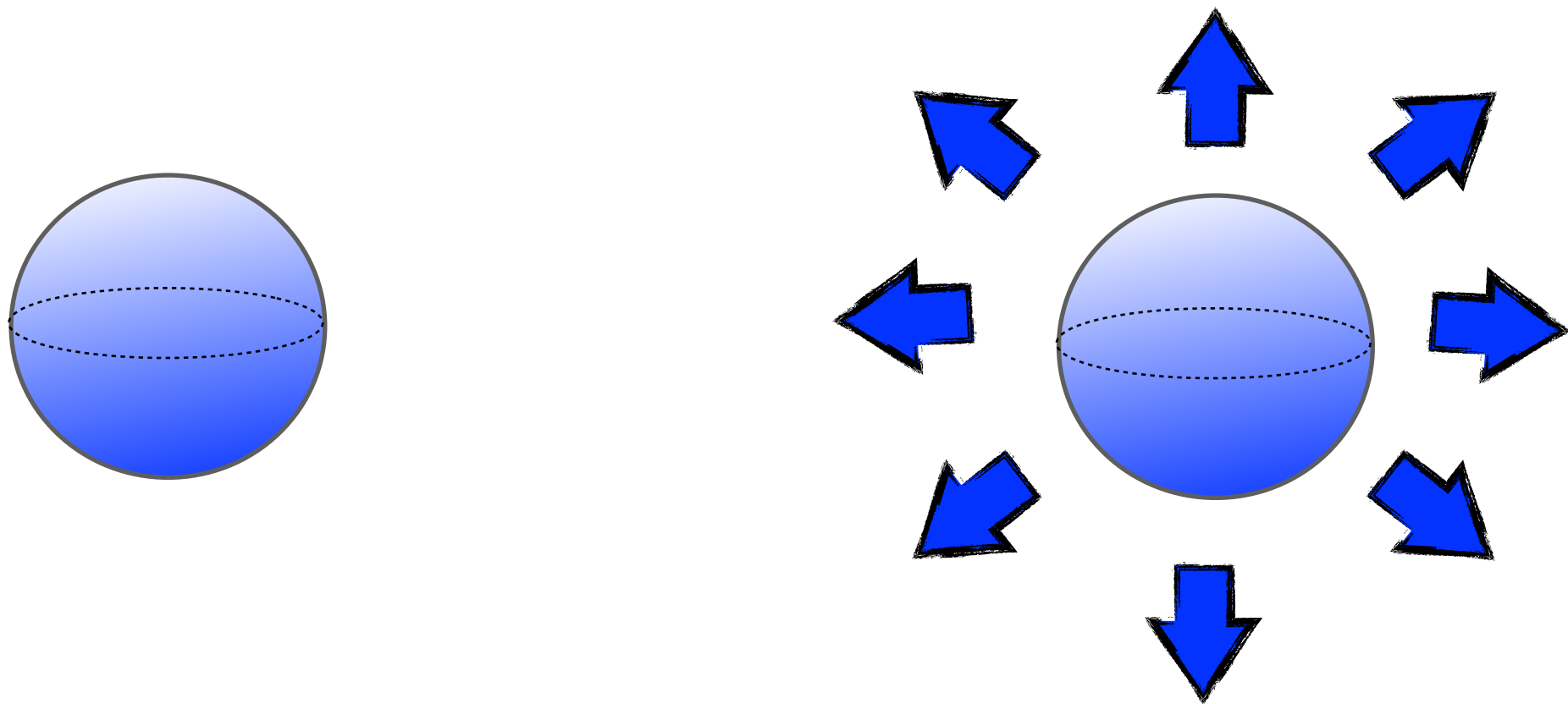
Hamaus et al 2015 ArXiv: 1507.04363

SDSS data (BOSS CMASS)



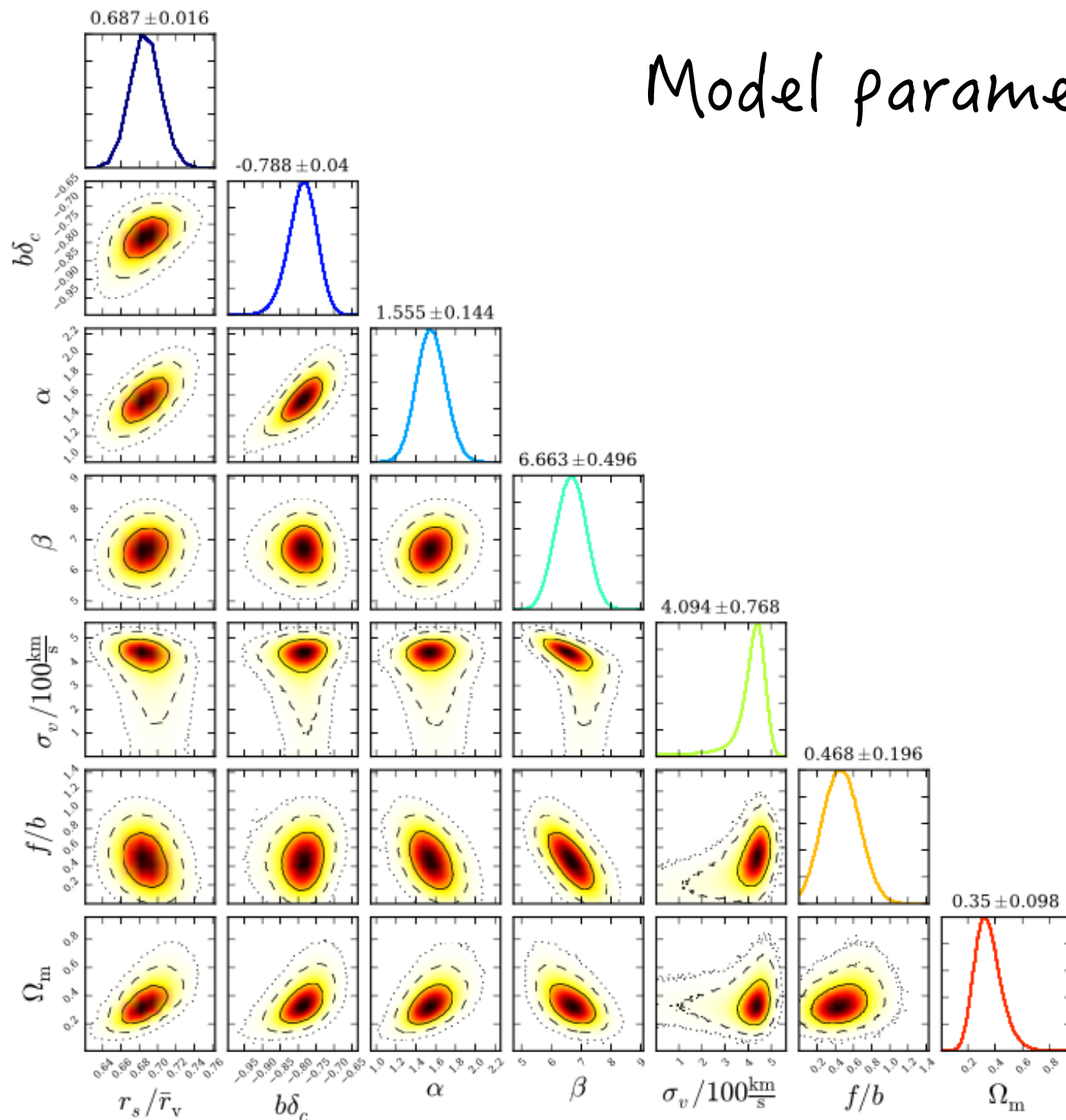
Hamaus et al 2016 arXiv: 1602.01784

We can model everything now

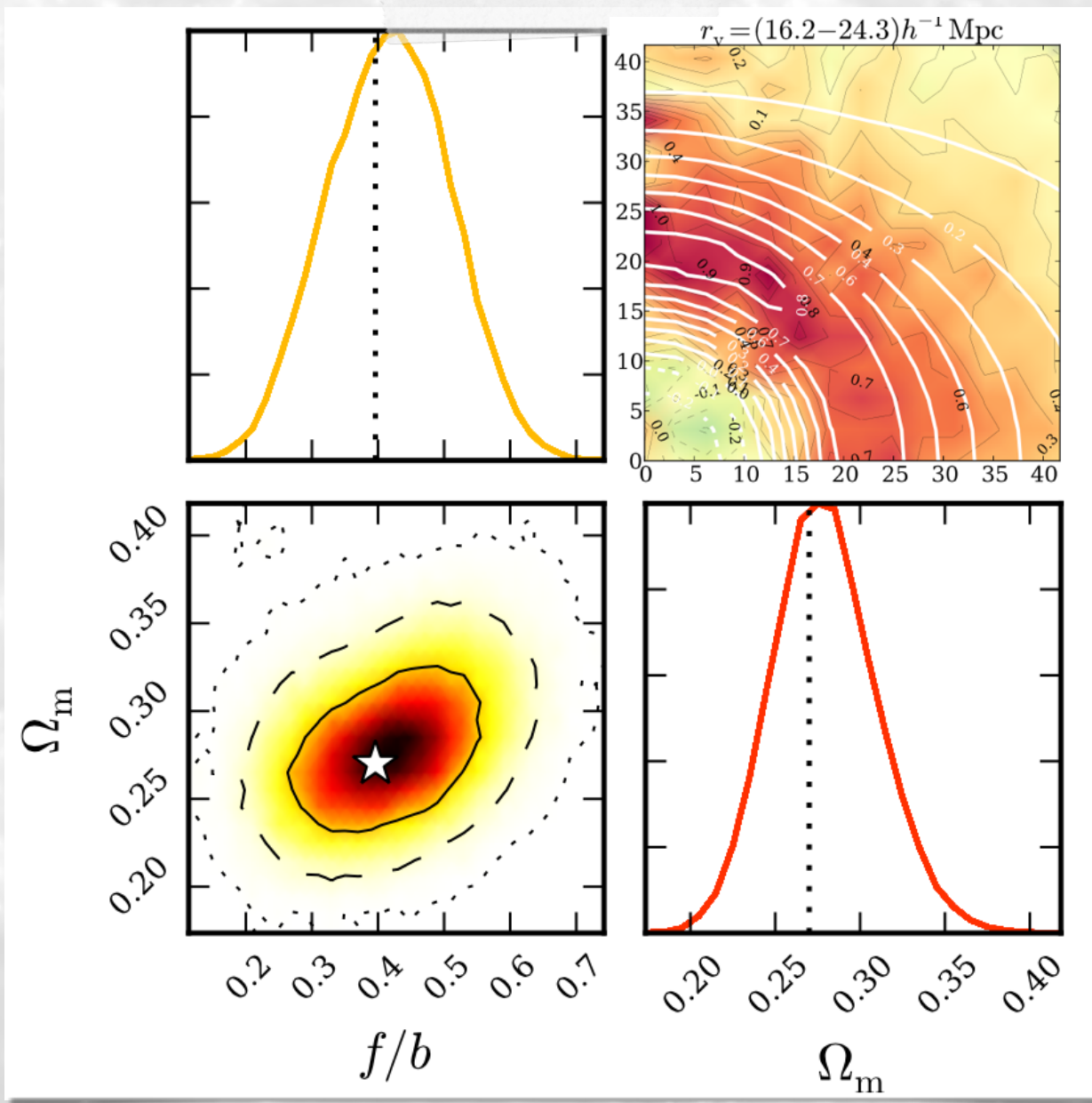


We can model everything now

Model parameters (AP+RSD)



RSD+ AP: competitive constraints



The matter content is constrained at a precision level !

And the model allows to test General Relativity (which still works !)

Summary

- ▶ Extremely short cosmology reminder
- ▶ Voids, a tool for cosmology
- ▶ Finding voids
- ▶ The shape of voids
- ▶ Constraining General Relativity
- ▶ Count to understand Dark Energy

As a bonus: analyzing the velocities around voids allows to constrain General Relativity in an independent way

$f(z)$ linear growth rate of density perturbations

$$\beta = \frac{f}{b} = \frac{\Omega_m(z)^\gamma}{b}$$

In General Relativity
 $\gamma \sim 0.55$, we can predict the
theoretical value for f in our
cosmological model (LCDM+RG).

Measuring multipoles of the void-galaxy correlation function

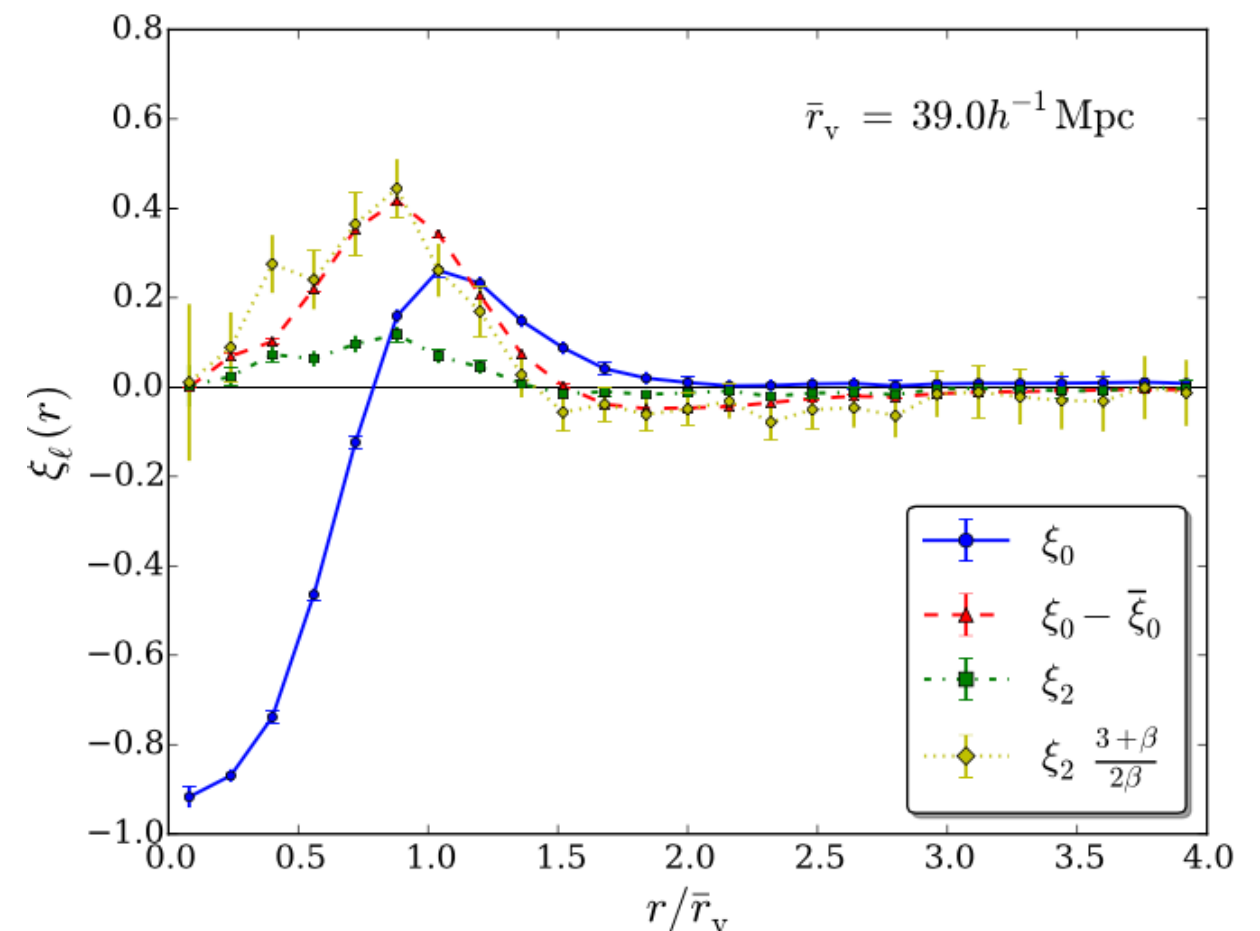
Decomposing them into Legendre's polynomials

$$\xi_\ell(r) = \int_0^1 \xi^s(r, \mu) (1 + 2\ell) P_\ell(\mu) d\mu \quad \beta = \frac{f}{b} = \frac{\Omega_m(z)^\gamma}{b}$$

$$\xi_0(r) = \left(1 + \frac{\beta}{3}\right) \xi(r)$$

$$\xi_2(r) = \frac{2\beta}{3} [\xi(r) - \bar{\xi}(r)]$$

➡ $\xi_0(r) - \bar{\xi}_0(r) = \xi_2(r) \frac{3 + \beta}{2\beta}$



Cai et al. 2016 , ArXiv: 1603.05184; Hamaus et al. 2017 ArXiv:1705.05328

Updated constraints on General Relativity

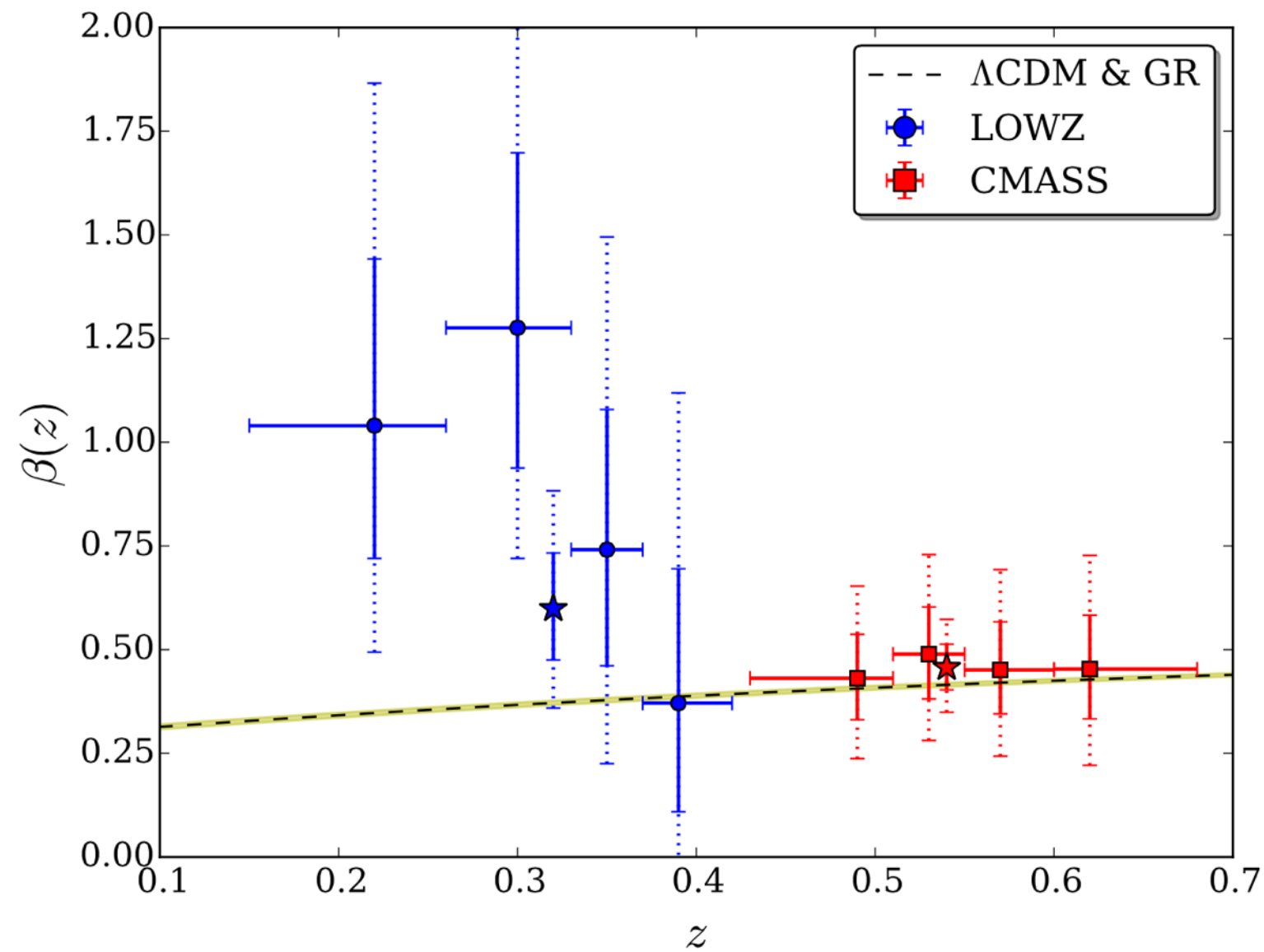


Figure 9. Growth rate constraints as a function of redshift from LOWZ (blue circles) and CMASS (red squares). Stars represent the joint constraint from voids of all redshifts in each sample. Vertical solid lines indicate 1σ , dotted lines 2σ confidence intervals. Horizontal lines delineate redshift bins. The dashed line with yellow shading shows $\beta = \Omega_m^\gamma(z)/b$, with $\Omega_m(z=0) = 0.308 \pm 0.012$ [70], $\gamma = 0.55$ [45], and $b = 1.85$ [52], assuming a flat Λ CDM cosmology and GR.

Summary

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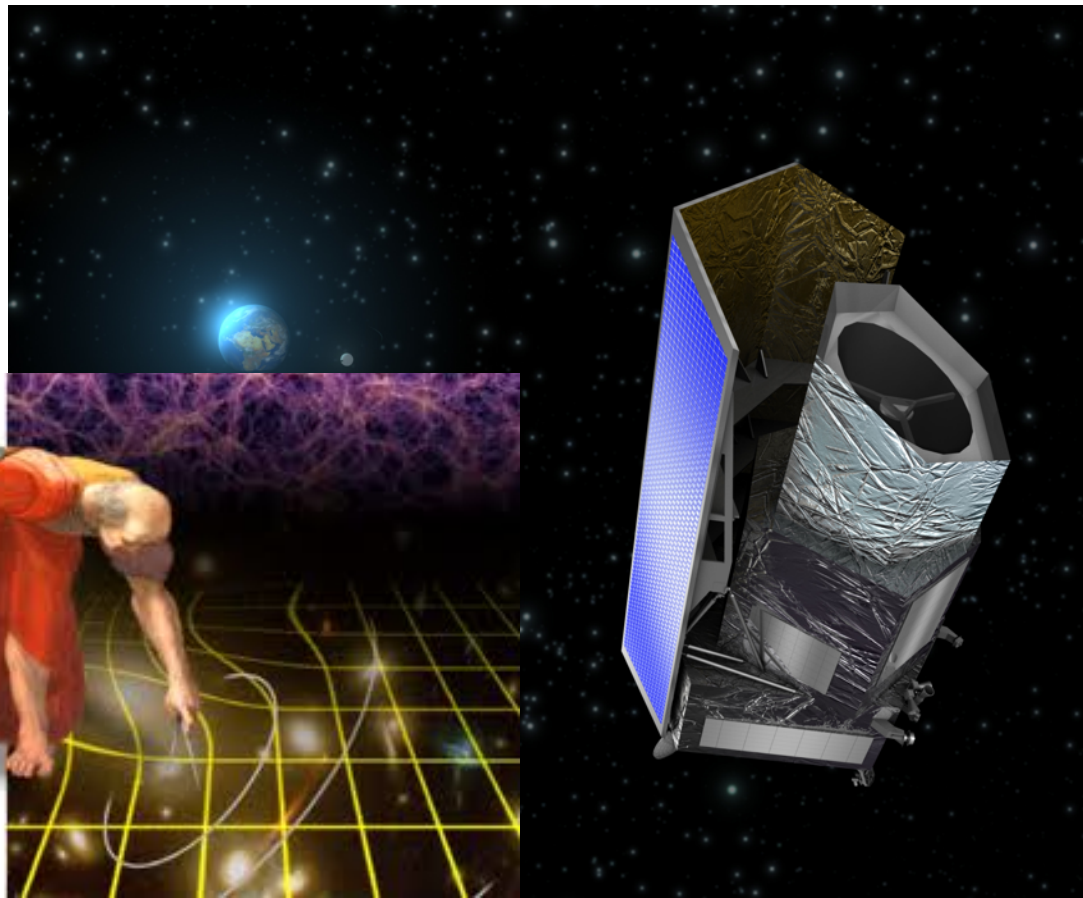
The importance of a large sample

All this work done with ~3000
voids, what can we expect from
the future?

Back to the future: betting on LSS with upcoming surveys

Back to the future: betting on LSS with upcoming surveys

SDSS



EUCLID

$$5.0 \cdot 10^7$$

WFIRST

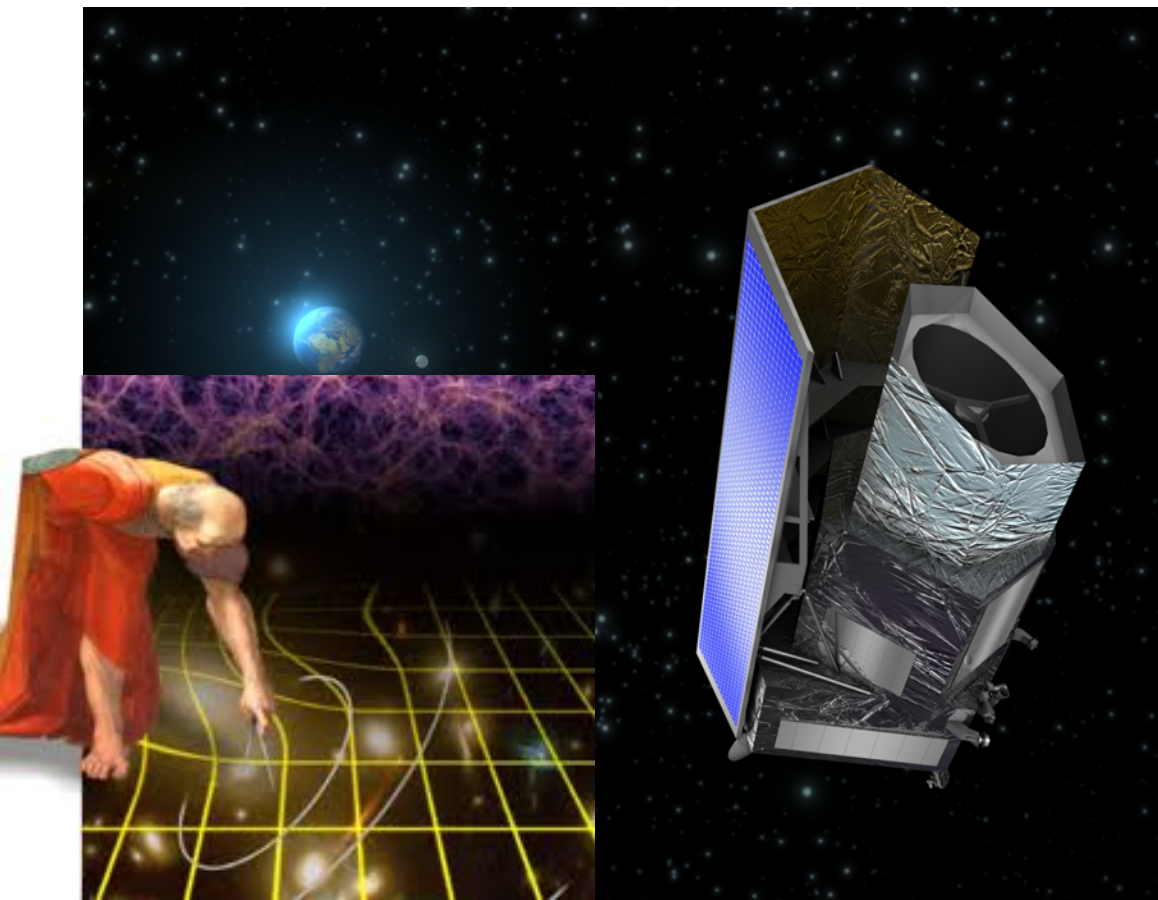
$$2.0 \cdot 10^7$$



Density profiles of increased
precision + a huge statistic
for AP test, RSD

Back to the future: betting on LSS with upcoming surveys

SDSS



EUCLID

$$5.0 \cdot 10^7$$

WFIRST

$$2.0 \cdot 10^7$$



Density profiles of increased
precision + a huge statistic
for AP test, RSD

How many voids?

Theory

Sheth Van de Weygaert
excursion set model for void
abundance (2004)

+

Simulation

Tuned on the survey to obtain
the parameter of the model
and marginalise on parameter

+

Survey

Take into account features
such as galaxy number
density, survey area, redshift
covering

Theory

Sheth Van de Weygaert
excursion set model for void
abundance (2004)

+

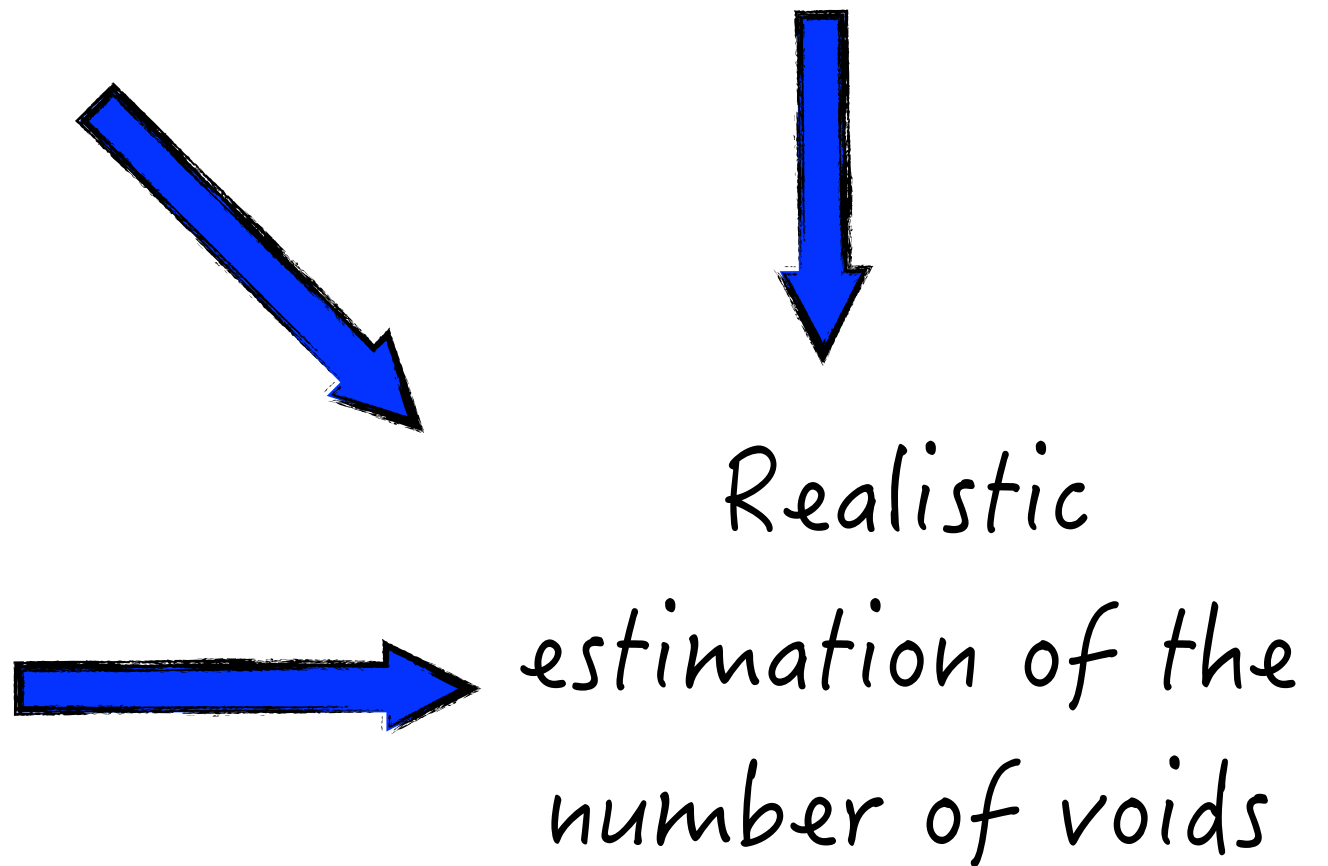
Simulation

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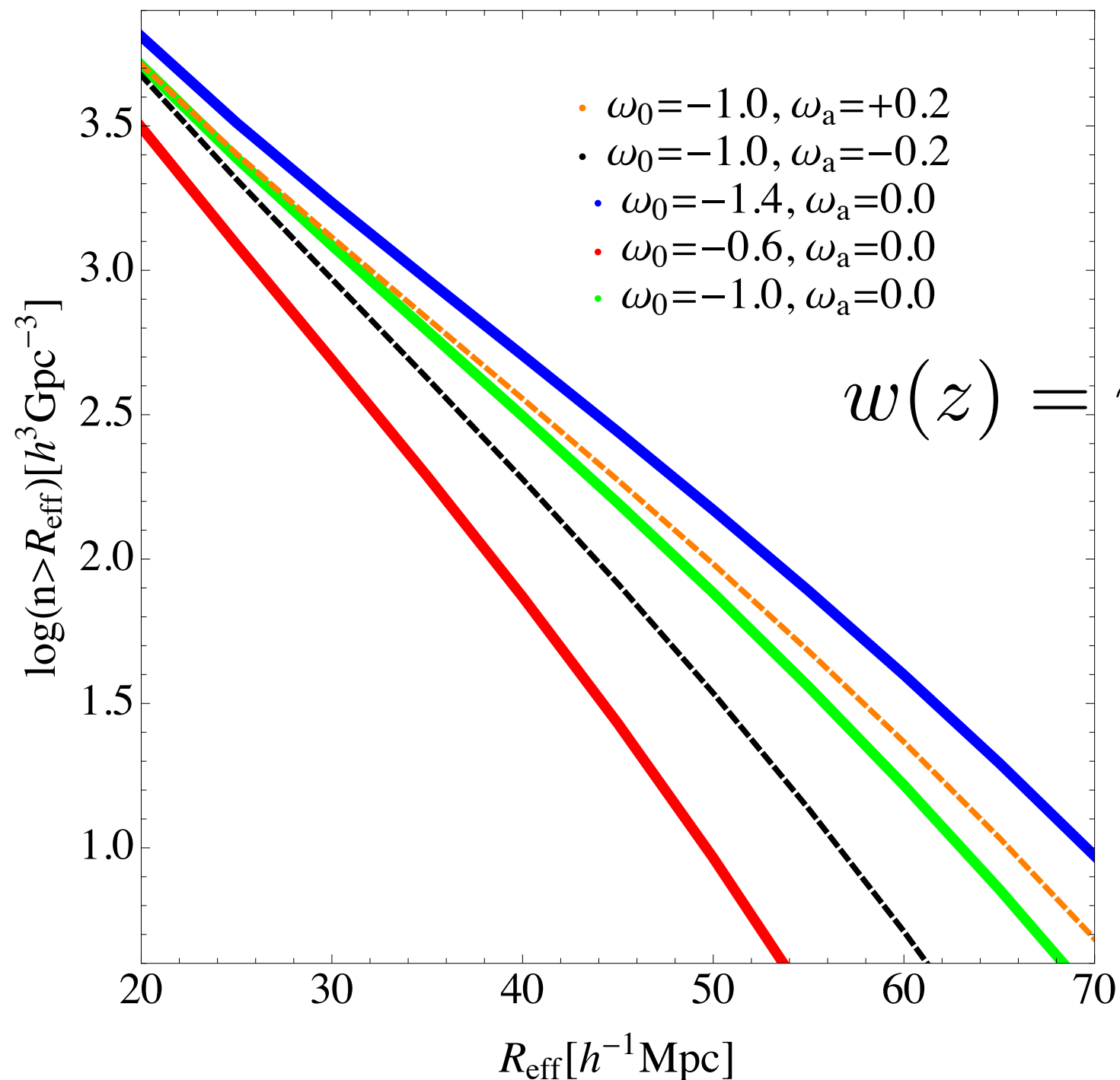
+

Survey

Take into account features
such as galaxy number
density, survey area, redshift
covering



Void abundance to constrain DE

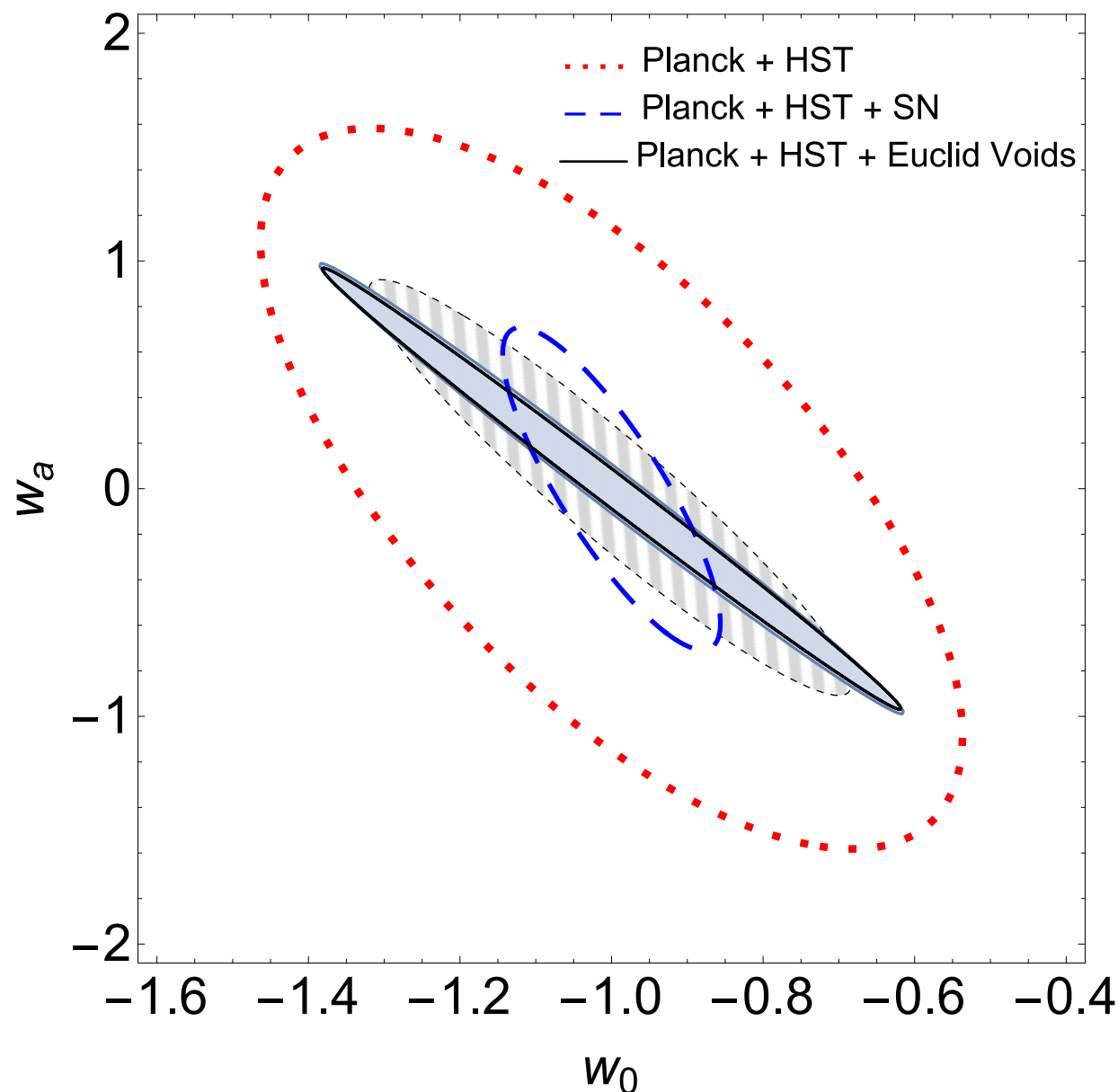


$$w(z) = w_0 + w_a \frac{z}{z+1}$$

time
evolution
of DE ?

Comparing future surveys:

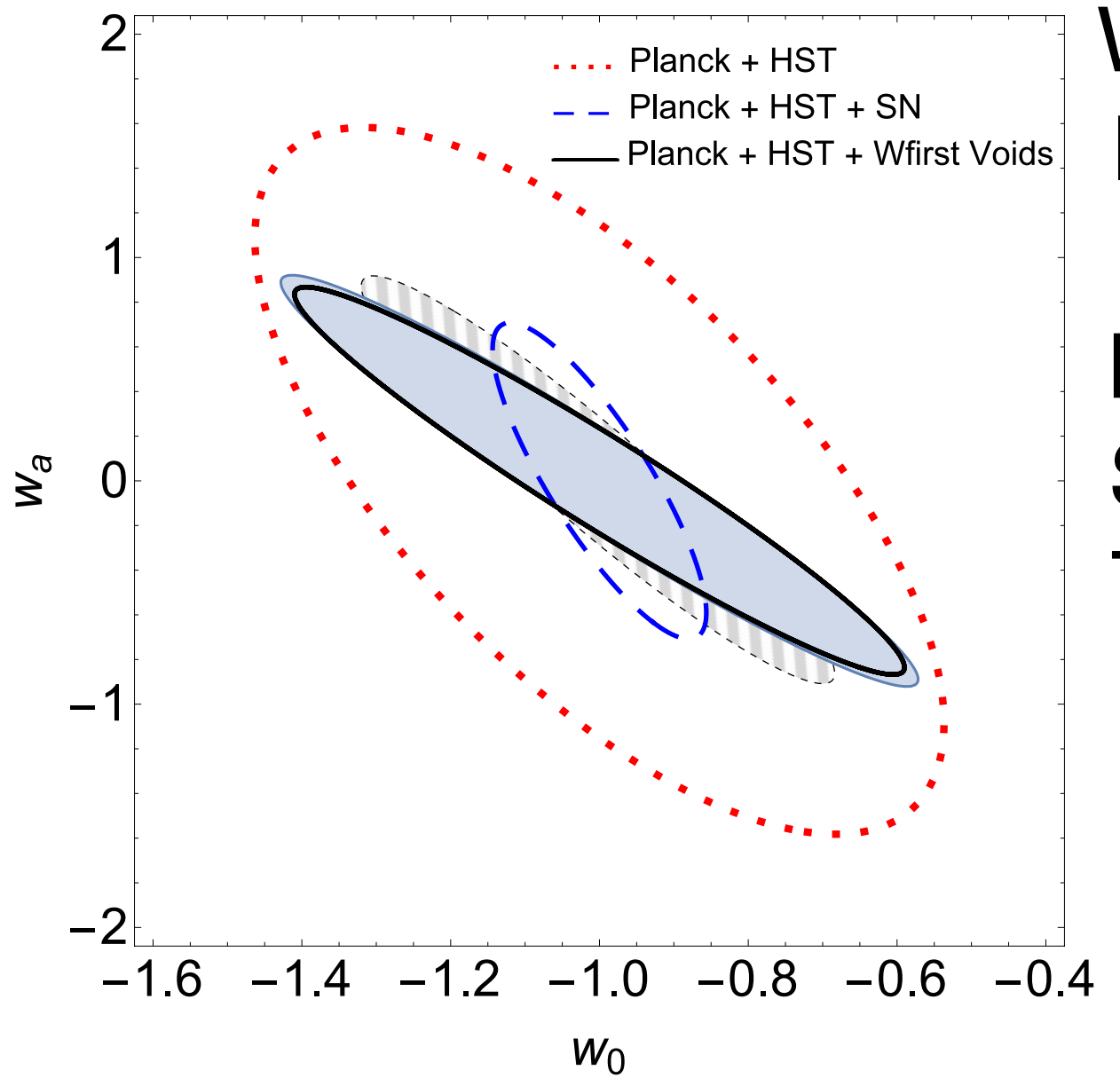
E
U
C
L
I
D



7.8×10^5

Abundance, density profiles of
increased precision & a huge
statistic for AP test

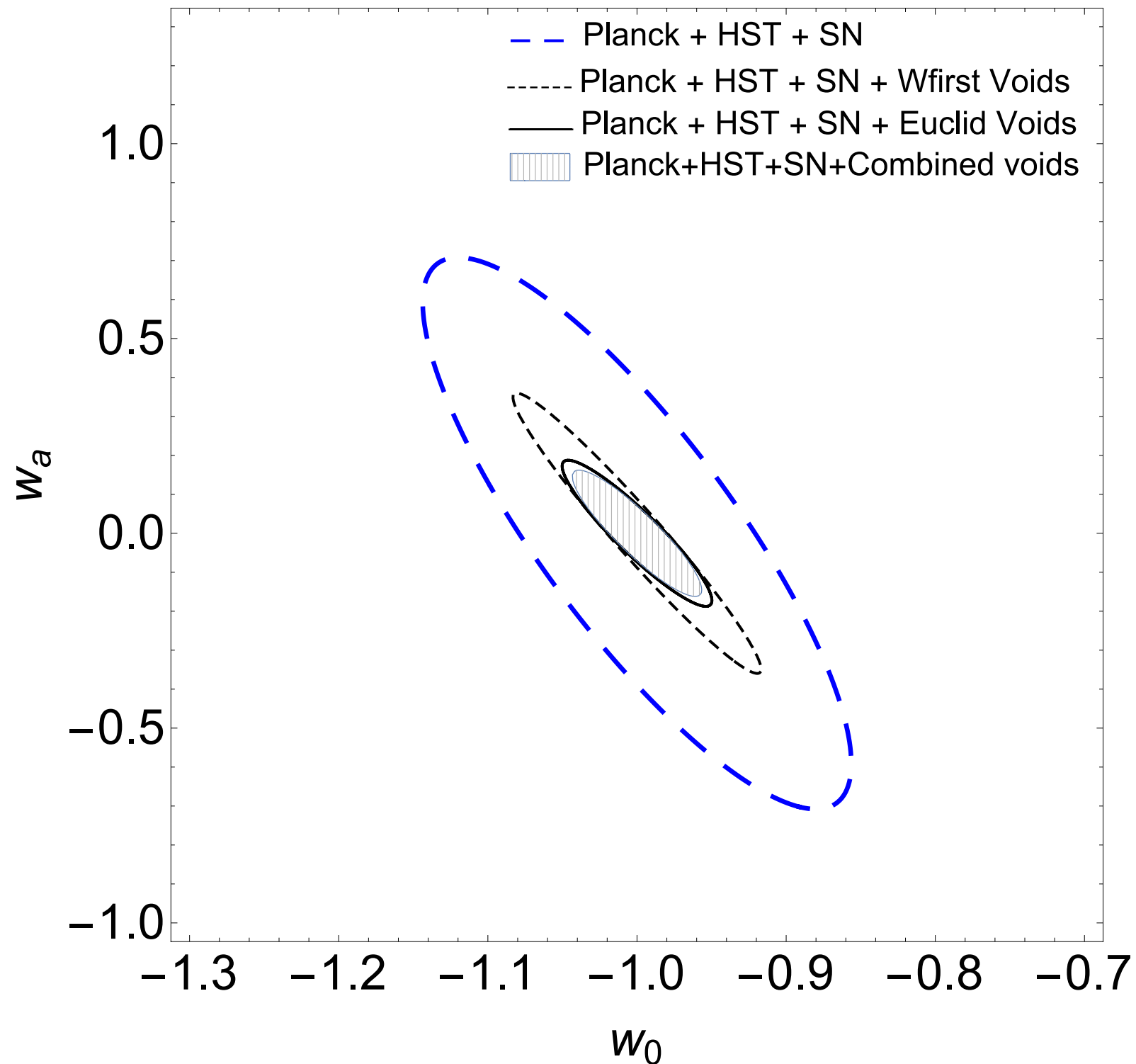
W
F
I
R
S
T



2.5×10^5

Pisani, Sutter, Hamaus, Alizadeh, Biswas, Wandelt, Hirata — *Phys. Rev. D* 2015 arXiv:1503.07690

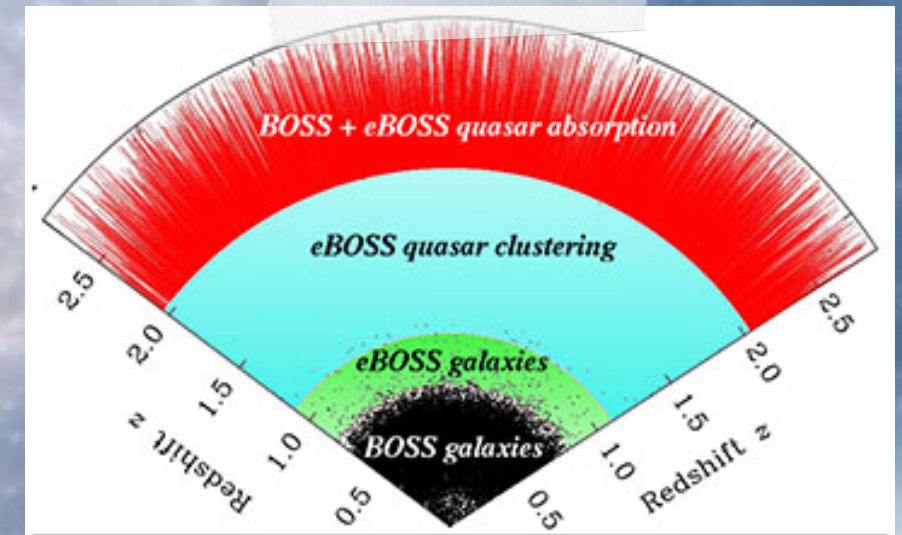
Combining future surveys:



Pisani, Sutter, Hamaus, Alizadeh, Biswas, Wandelt, Hirata — *Phys. Rev. D* 2015 arXiv:1503.07690

Take home messages

Lots of unknown in the current cosmological model



Voids as a new tool to constrain cosmology

Find voids

shape: AP test, RSD, void number: abundance

Farther and with more voids

Sloan Telescope
Sacramento Mountains, Sunspot