

# The anomalous cosmic dipole : Testing the cosmological principle

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Théorie, Univers et Gravitation (TUG) meeting, LPENS, Paris 10-12 octobre

# The Cosmological principle

The Universe is **homogeneous** and **isotropic**

Translation and Rotation invariance

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$$ds^2 = -c^2 dt^2 + a^2(t)(dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2)$$

FLRW

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FLRW

Homogeneous but anisotropic  Axis

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + a_x(t)^2 dx^2 + a_y(t)^2 dy^2 + a_z(t)^2 dz^2$$

Bianchi

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Inhomogeneous & isotropic  Centre

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Inhomogeneous & isotropic  Centre

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + X^2(r, t) dr^2 + A^2(r, t) (d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\varphi^2)$$

LTB

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LTB

Inhomogeneous & anisotropic

$$ds^2 = dt^2 - A^2 dx^2 - B^2 (dy^2 + dz^2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} ds^2 = & dt^2 - (A_{\parallel}^2 \sin^2 \theta + A_{\perp}^2 \cos^2 \theta) dr^2 \\ & - (A_{\parallel}^2 \cos^2 \theta + A_{\perp}^2 \sin^2 \theta) d\theta^2 \\ & - (A_{\parallel}^2 - A_{\perp}^2) \sin \theta \cos \theta dr d\theta + -A_{\parallel}^2 \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2. \end{aligned}$$

(eg Szekeres models)

# The Cosmological principle

1915

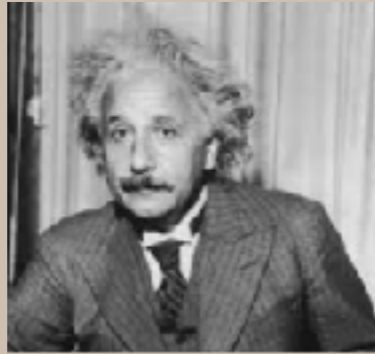
$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} Rg_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi GT_{\mu\nu}$$

# The Cosmological principle

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1917

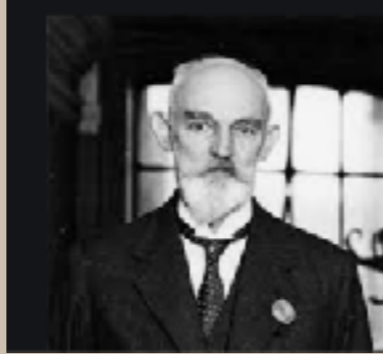
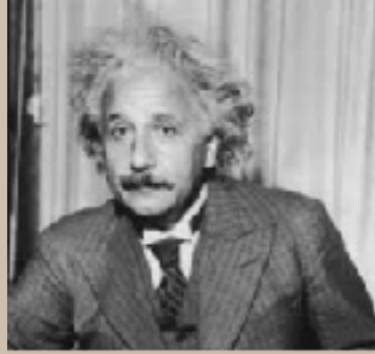


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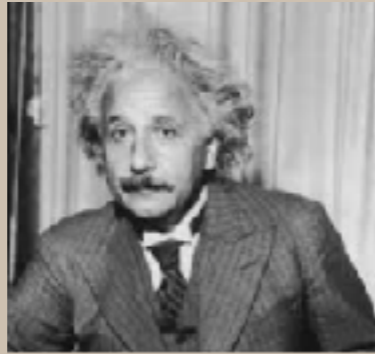


# The Cosmological principle

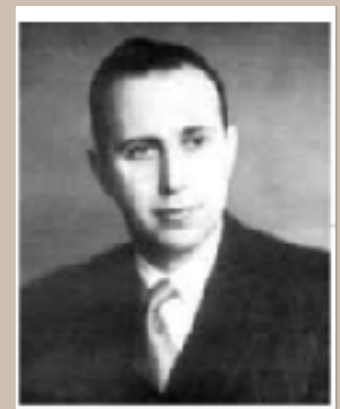
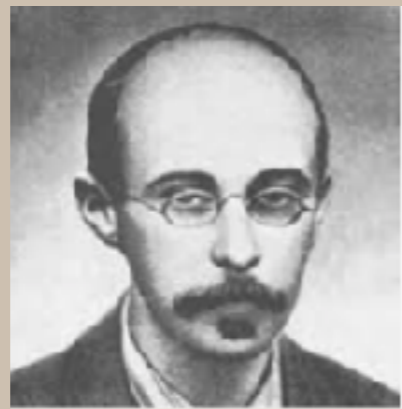
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1917



1922-1935



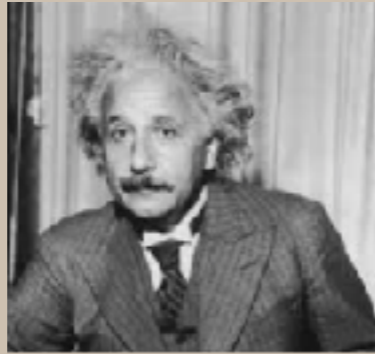


# The Cosmological principle

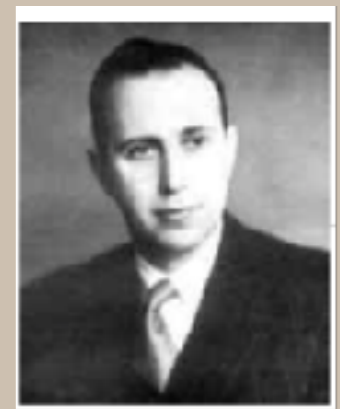
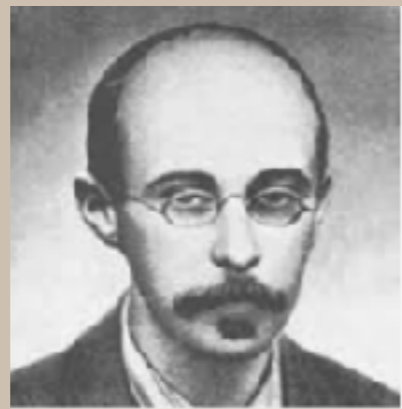
1915

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} Rg_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi GT_{\mu\nu}$$

1917



1922-1935



1932

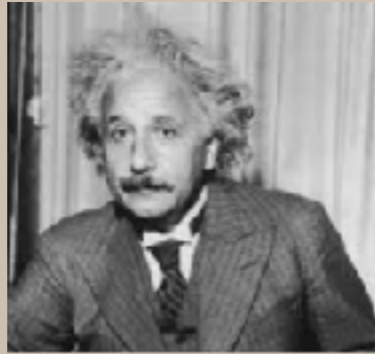


# The Cosmological principle

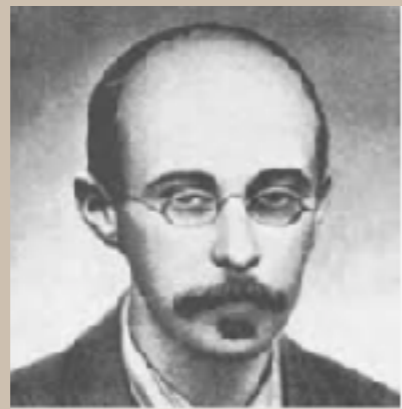
1915

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} Rg_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi GT_{\mu\nu}$$

1917



1922-1935



1932



1935

The Cosmological principle  
Milne



# A new basis for cosmology

BY P. A. M. DIRAC, F.R.S.

*St John's College, Cambridge*

*(Received 29 December 1937)*

We now feel the need for some new assumptions on which to build up a theory of cosmology. This need is partially satisfied by the assumptions, which Milne calls the Cosmological Principle, that, apart from local irregularities, the universe is everywhere uniform and has spherical symmetry (in three dimensions)

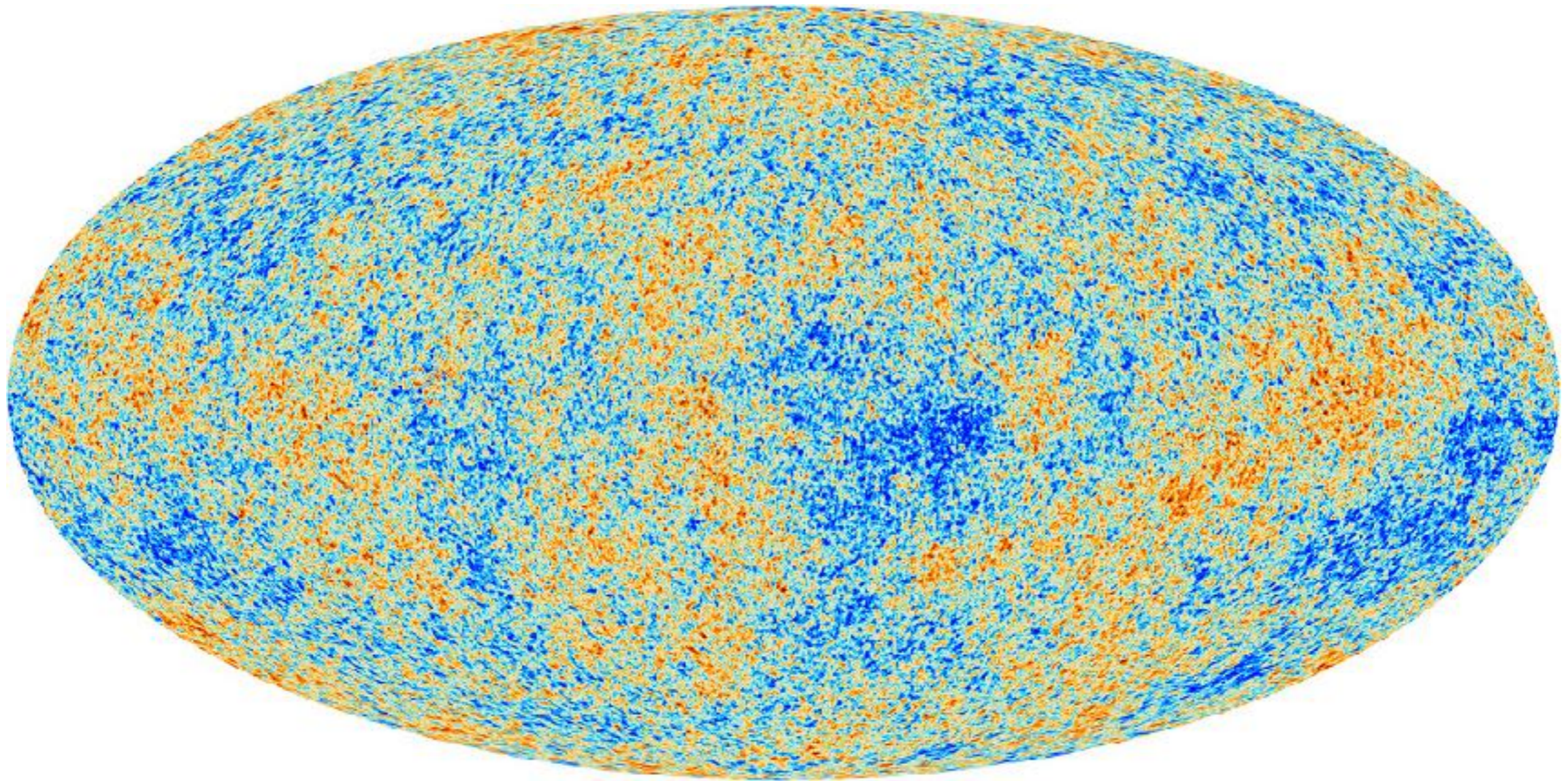
these assumptions are fairly

plausible and have a great simplifying effect on the subject, and until there is more definite evidence of their inadequacy it does not seem worthwhile to try more complicated schemes.



Observational evidence for the cosmological principle

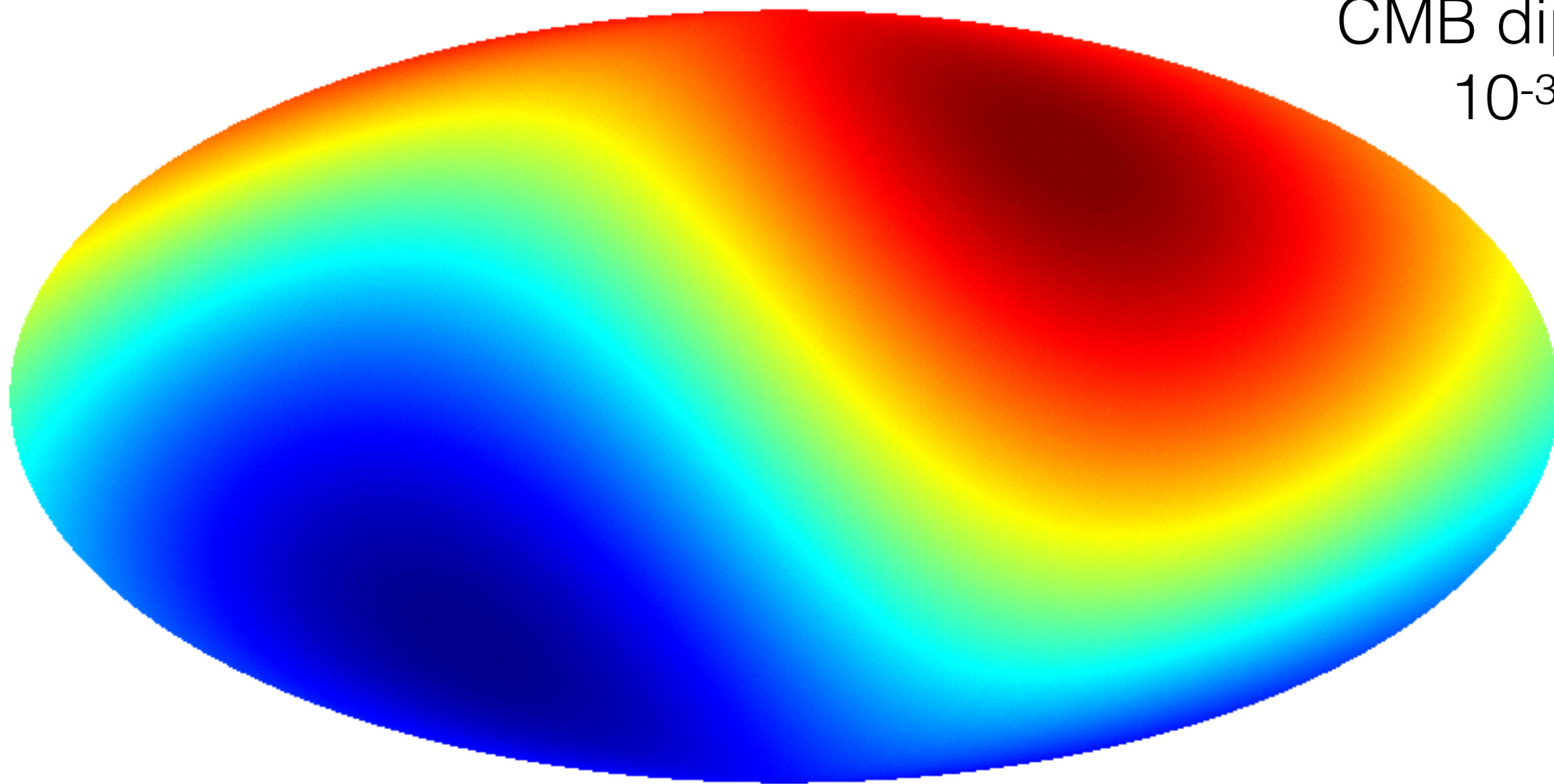
## Cosmic microwave background





# Cosmic microwave background Dipole — Anisotropy

CMB dipole  
 $10^{-3}$



-3354  3354  $\mu\text{K}_{\text{CMB}}$

# Comment on the Anisotropy of the Primeval Fireball\*

P. J. E. PEEBLES† AND DAVID T. WILKINSON†

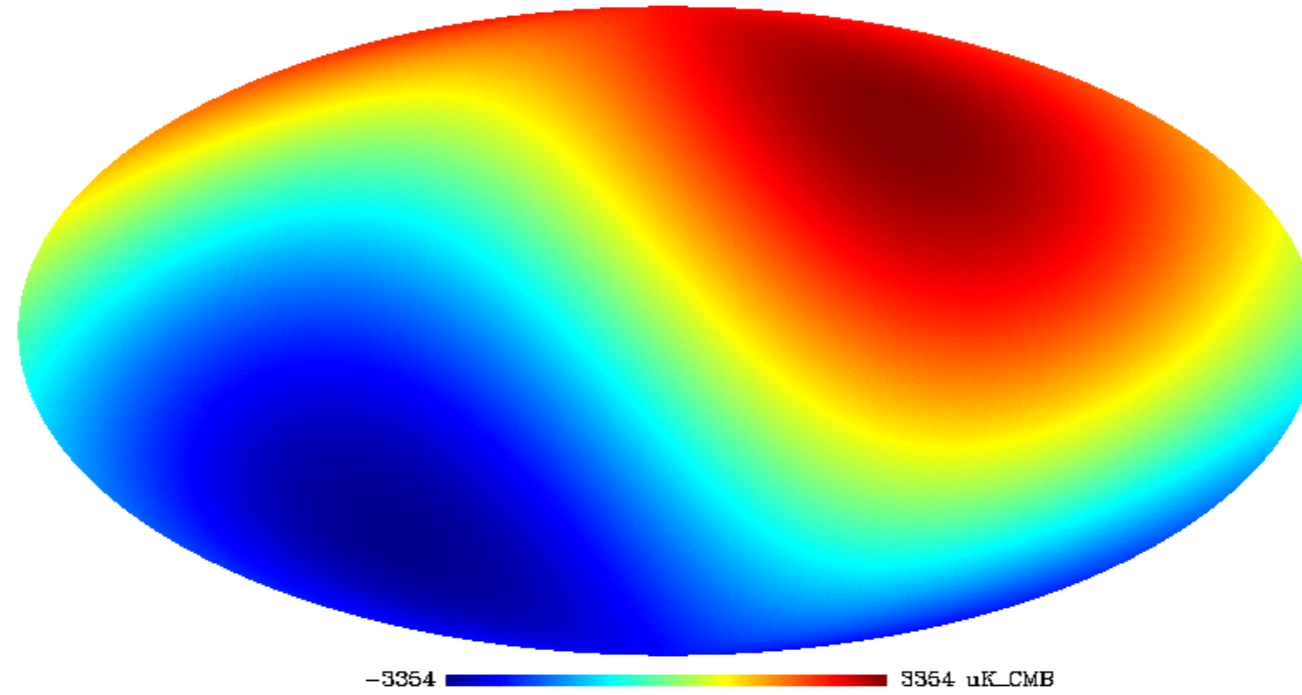
*Palmer Physical Laboratory, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey 08540*

(Received 17 June 1968)

$$\mathcal{T}'(\theta') = \mathcal{T}(1 - v^2/c^2)^{1/2} [1 - (v/c) \cos\theta']^{-1},$$

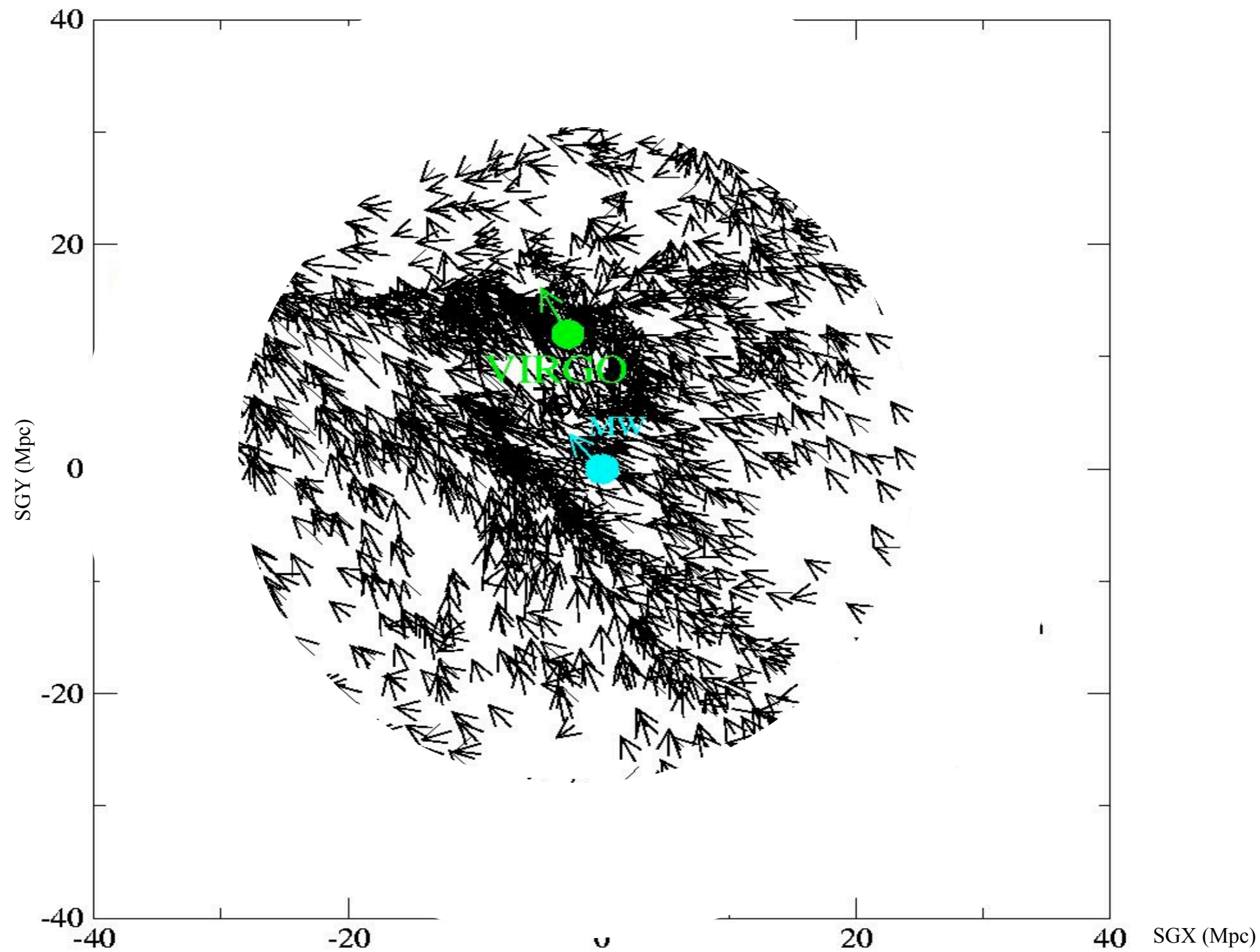
# The origin of the CMB dipole ?

CMB dipole



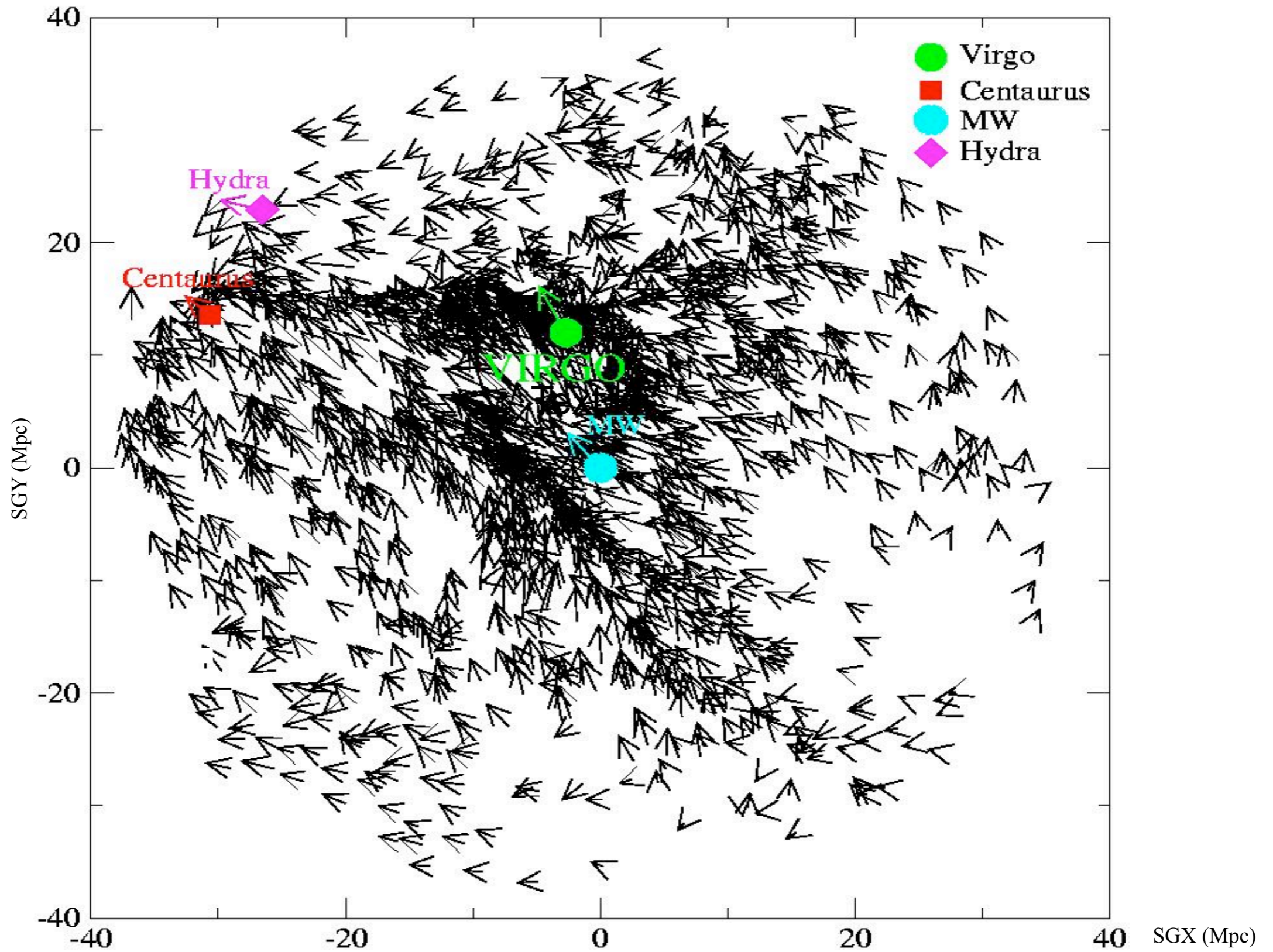
Dipole is purely Kinematic  
Universe is anisotropic

# The origin of CMB dipole

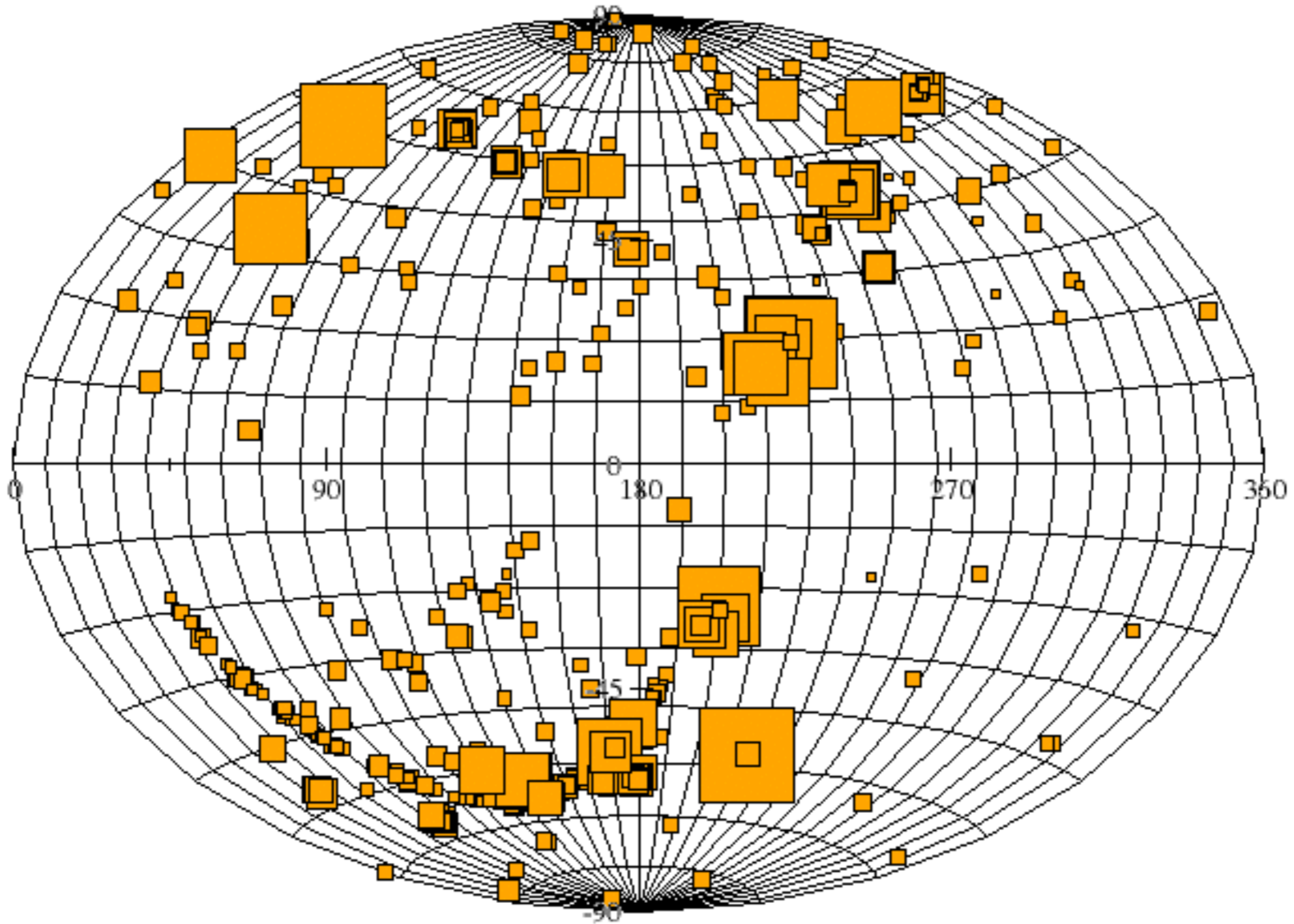




# Convergence to CMB dipole ?!



# Velocities (distances) from SNe Ia Union II compilation

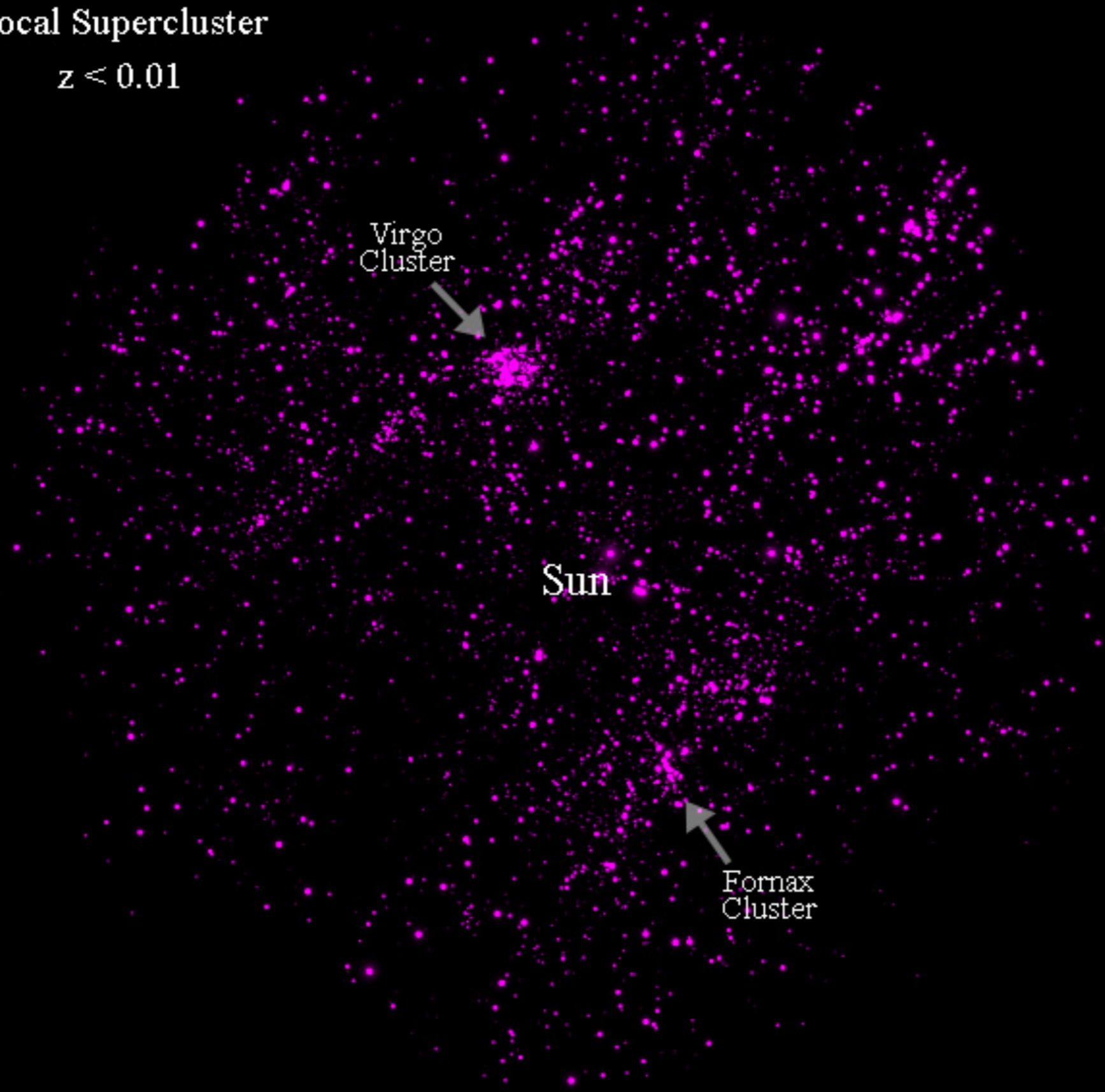




# Bulk flow of increasingly volume: CMB rest frame ?

Local Supercluster

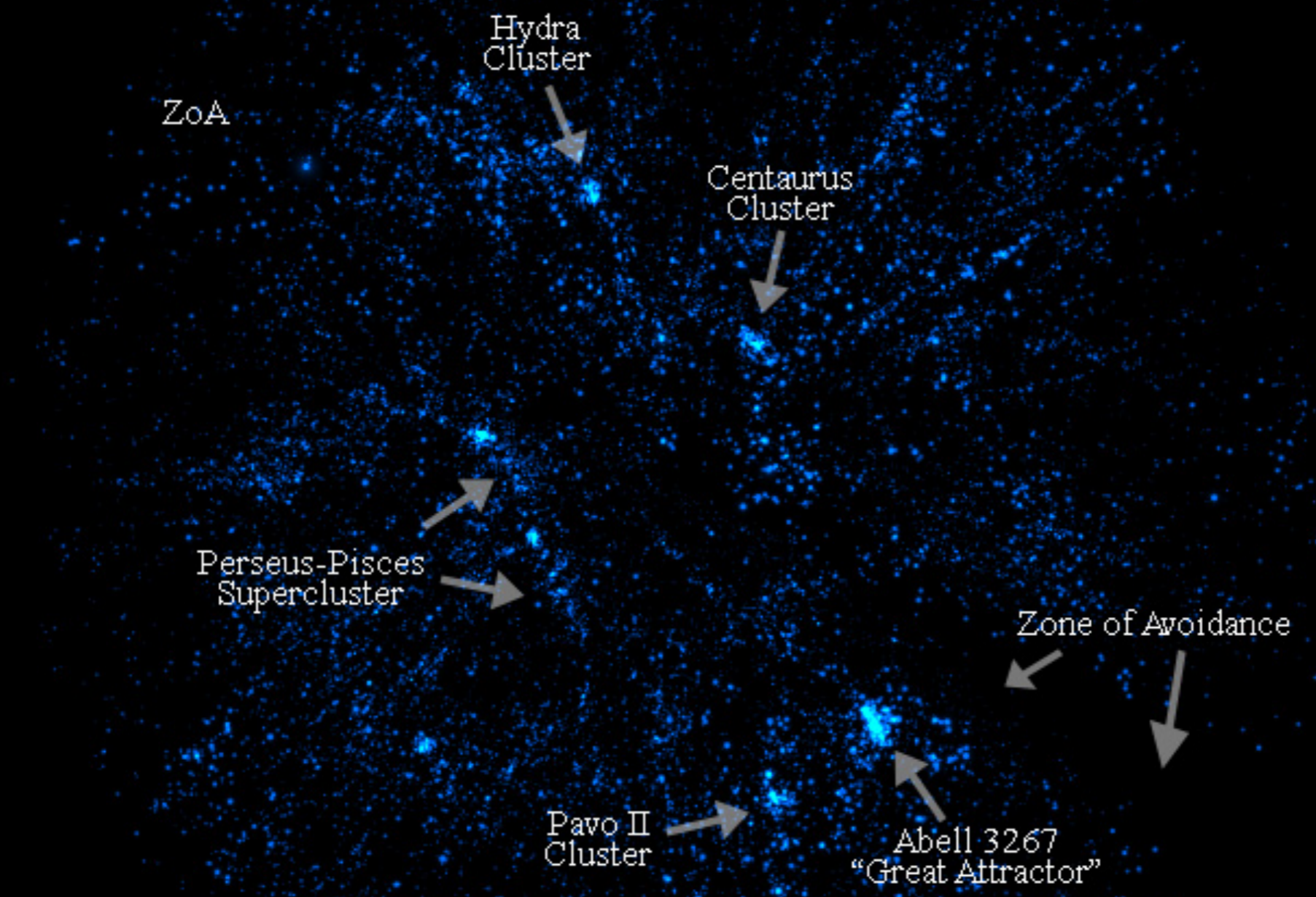
$z < 0.01$



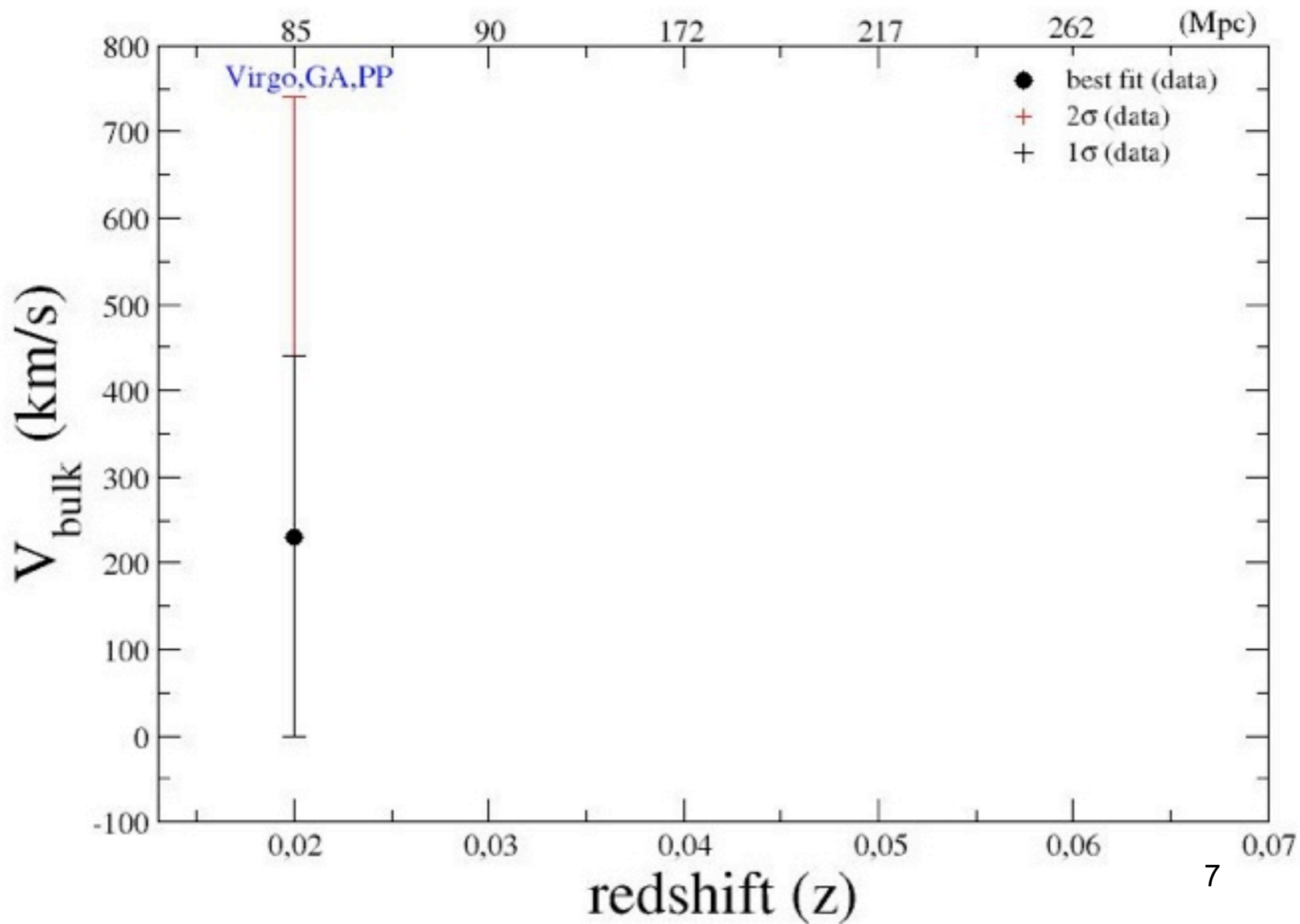


# Bulk flow of increasingly larger volume: CMB rest frame ?

$0.01 < z < 0.02$



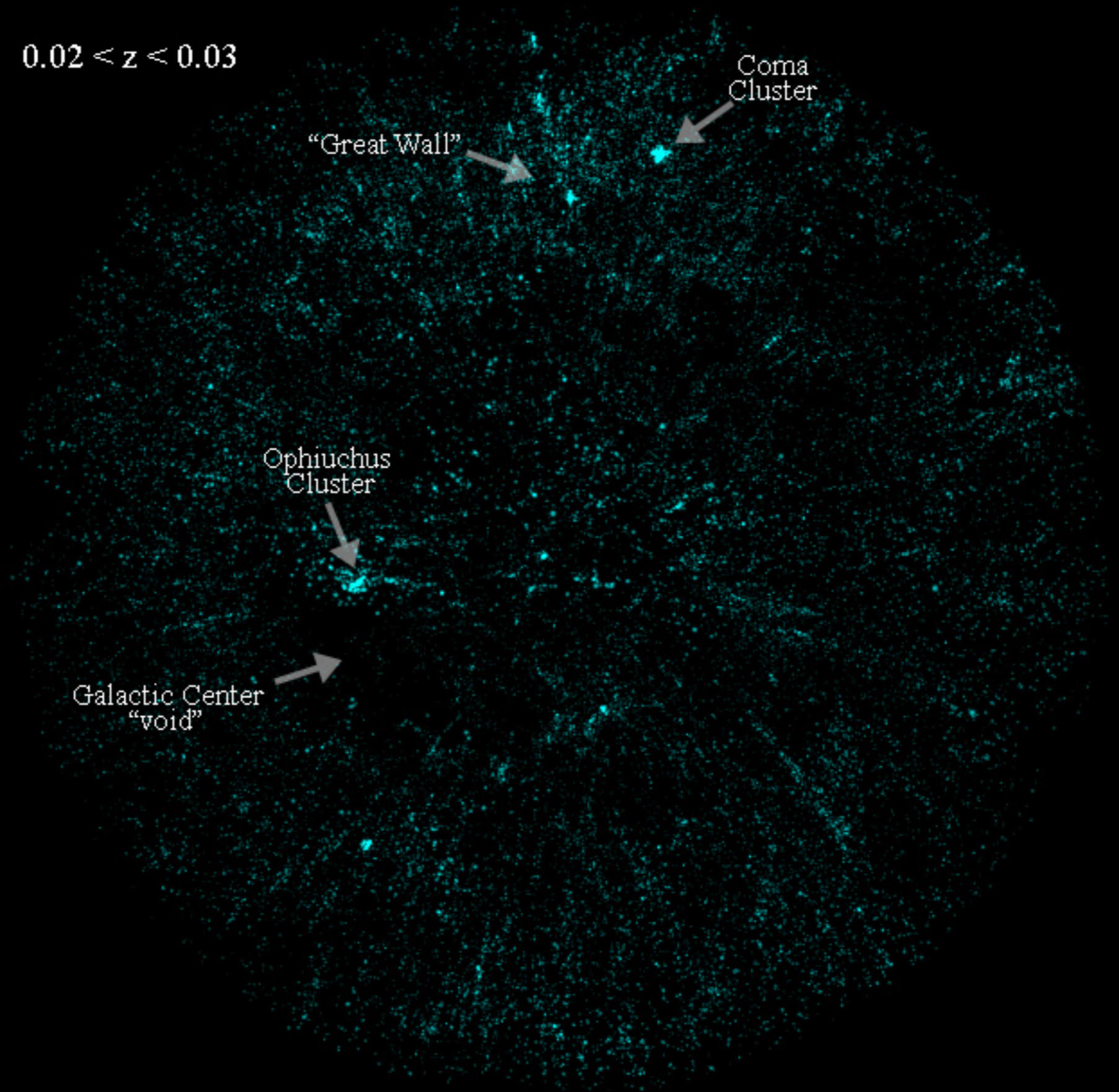
# |Bulk flow| from SNe Ia data



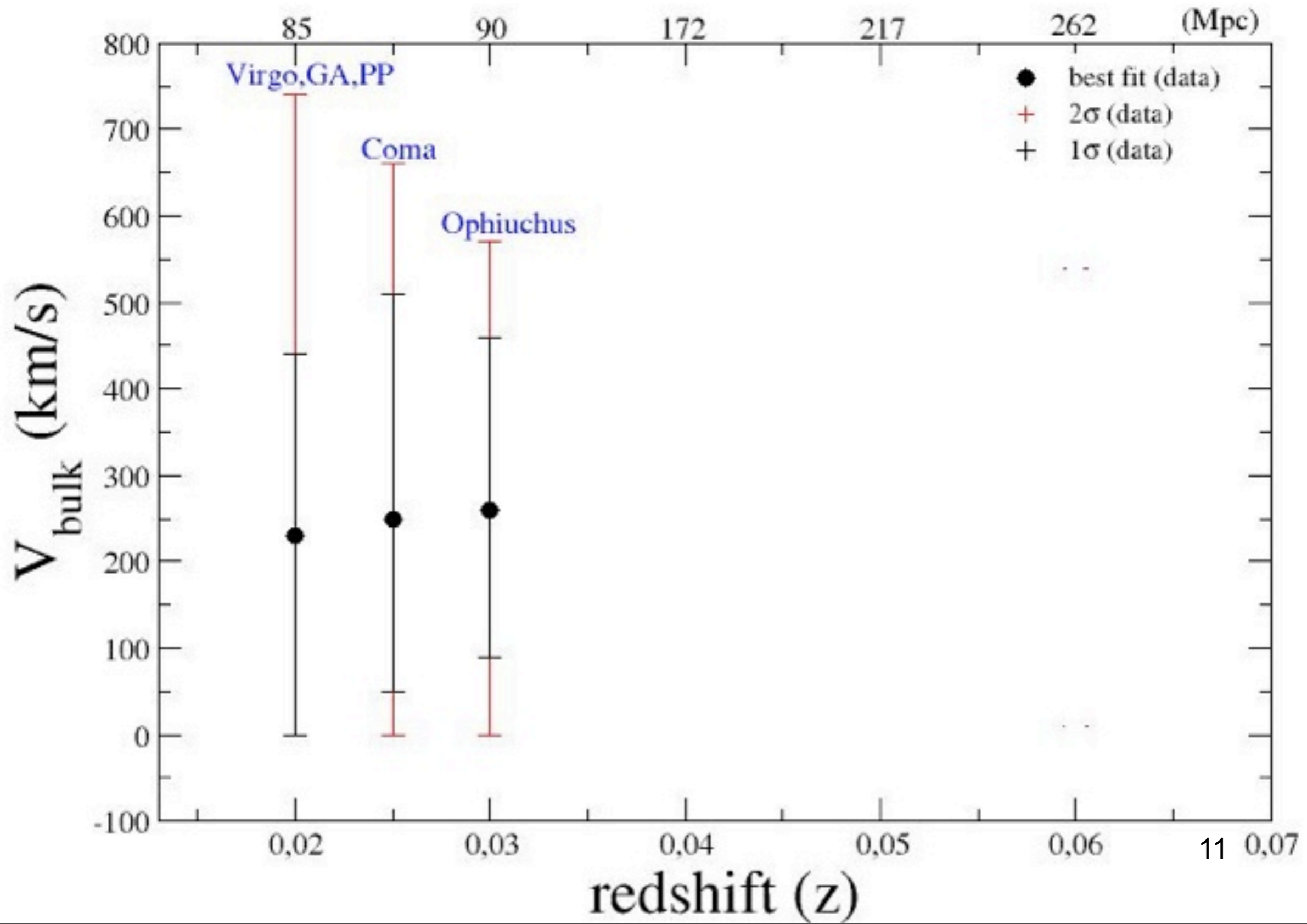


# Bulk flow of increasingly larger volume: CMB rest frame ?

$0.02 < z < 0.03$



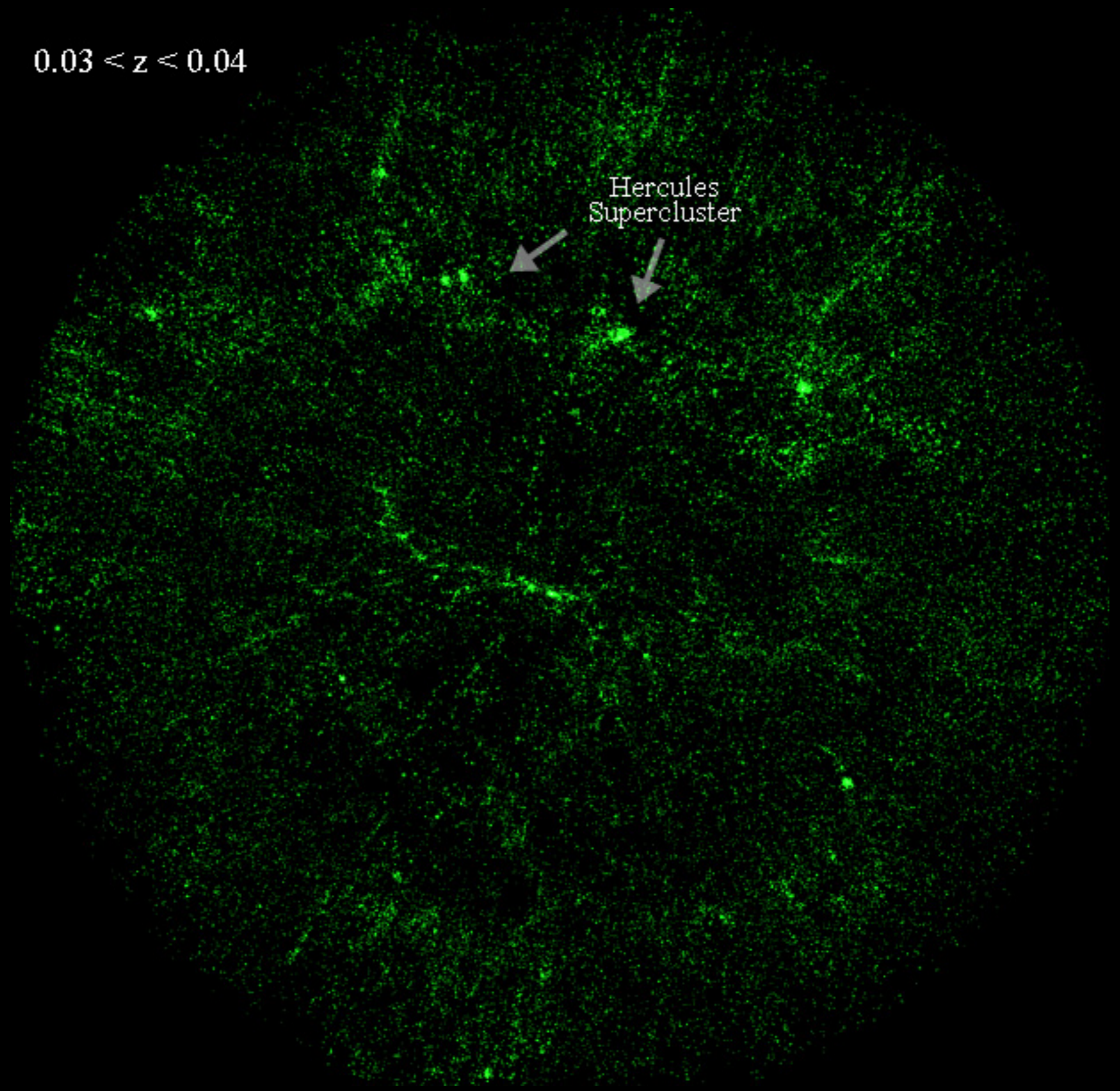
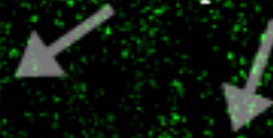
# |Bulk flow| from SNe Ia data





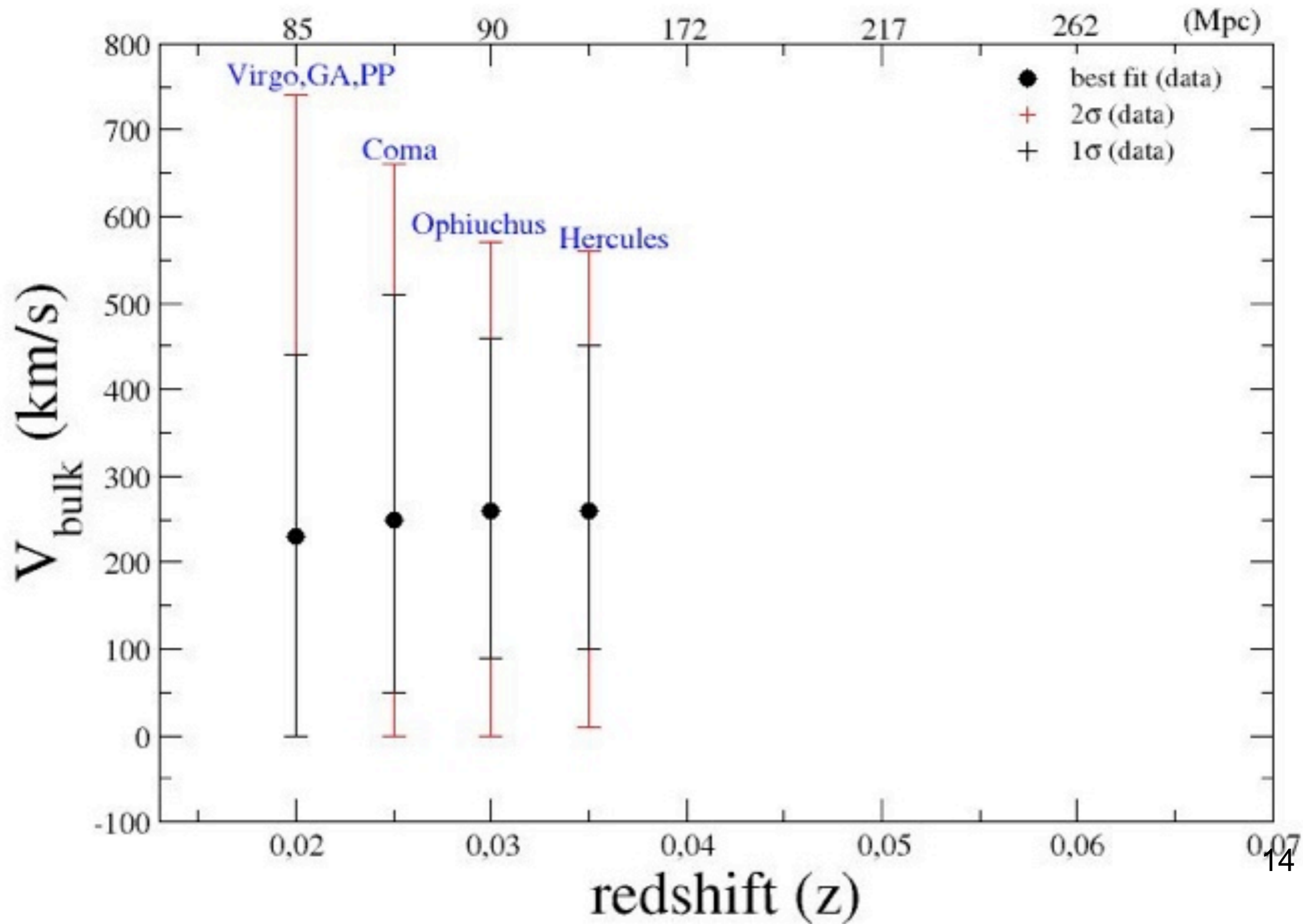
$0.03 < z < 0.04$

Hercules  
Supercluster

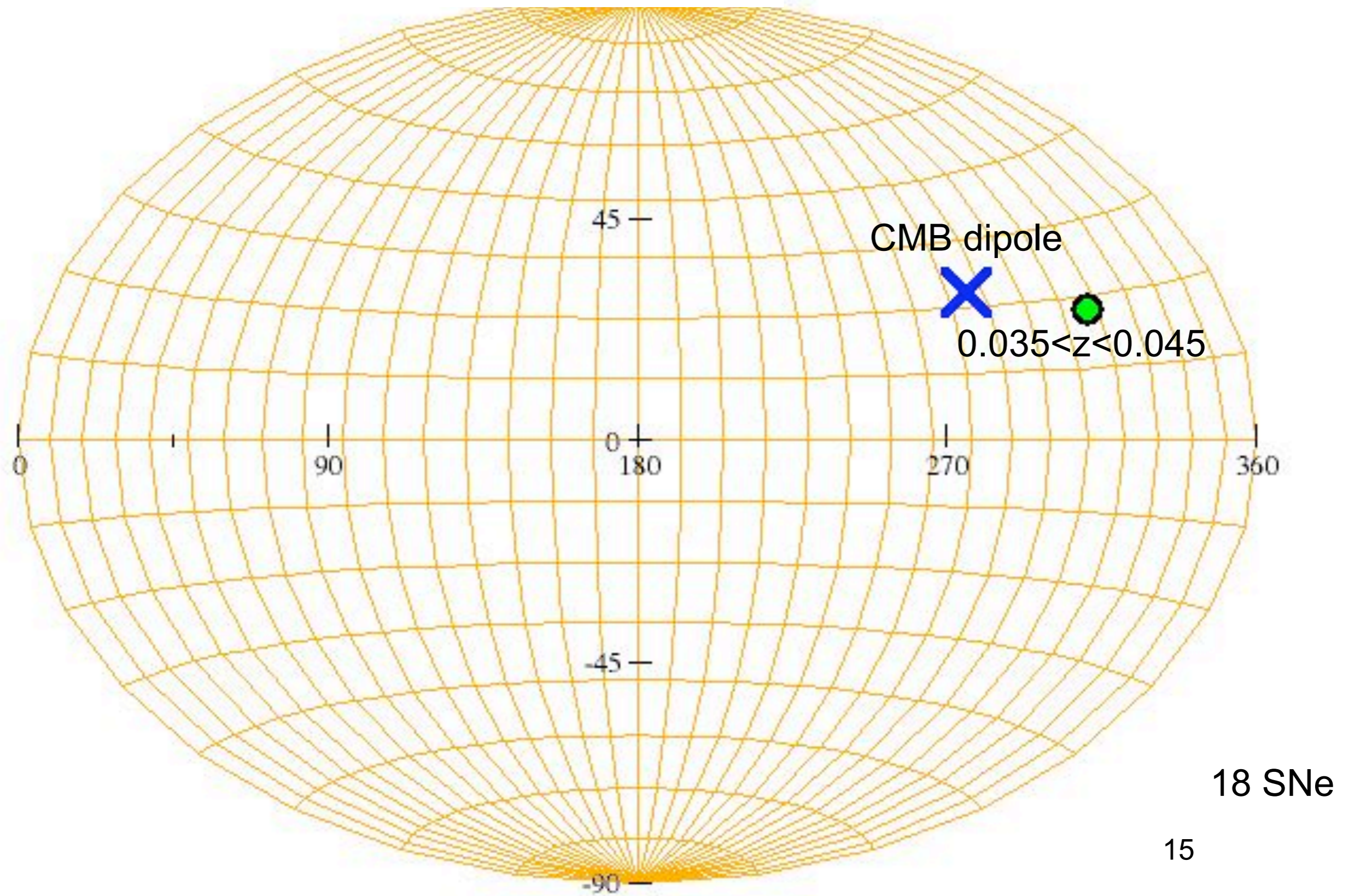




# |Bulk flow| from SNe Ia data



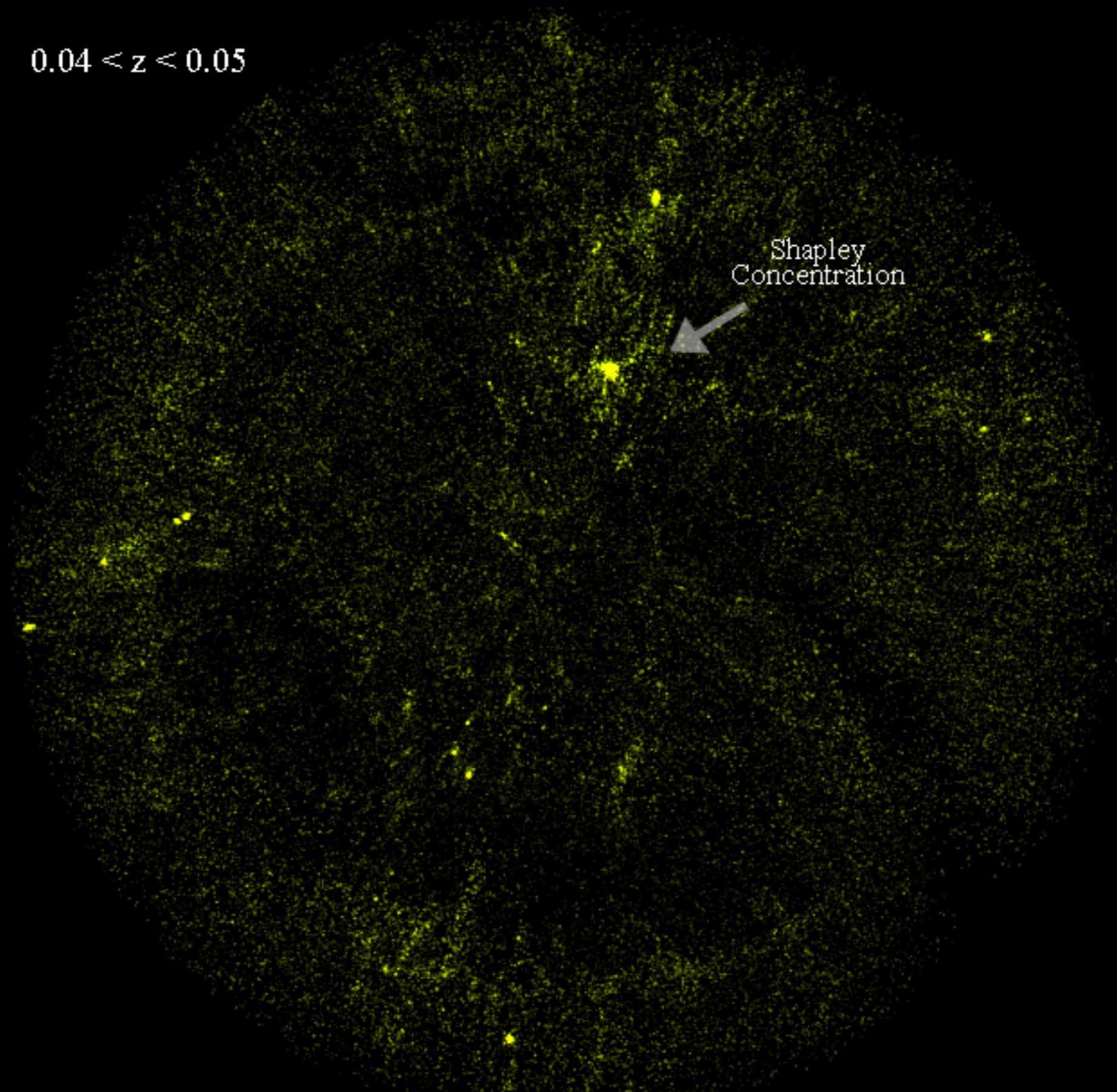
# Bulk flow direction from data



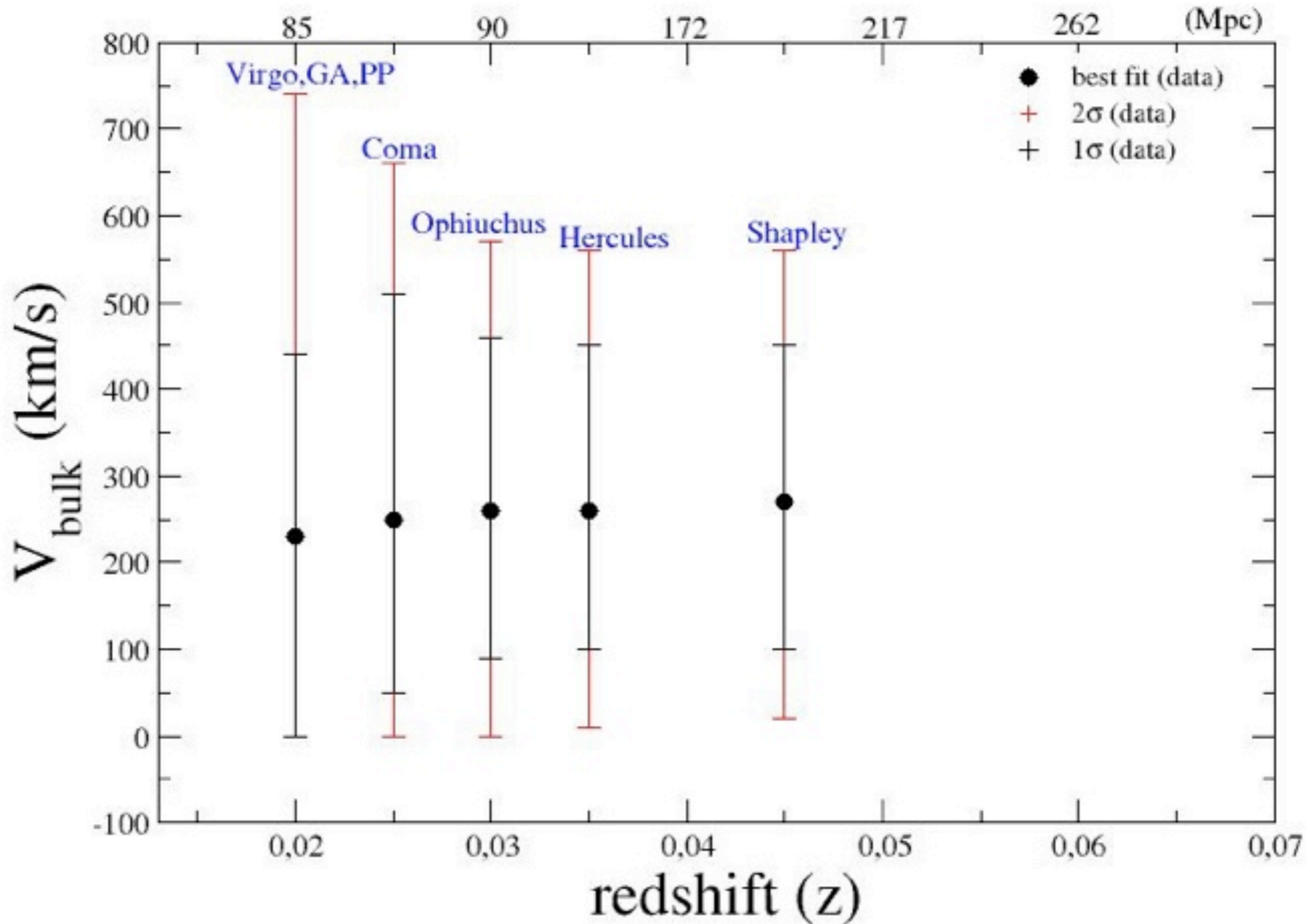


$0.04 < z < 0.05$

Shapley  
Concentration

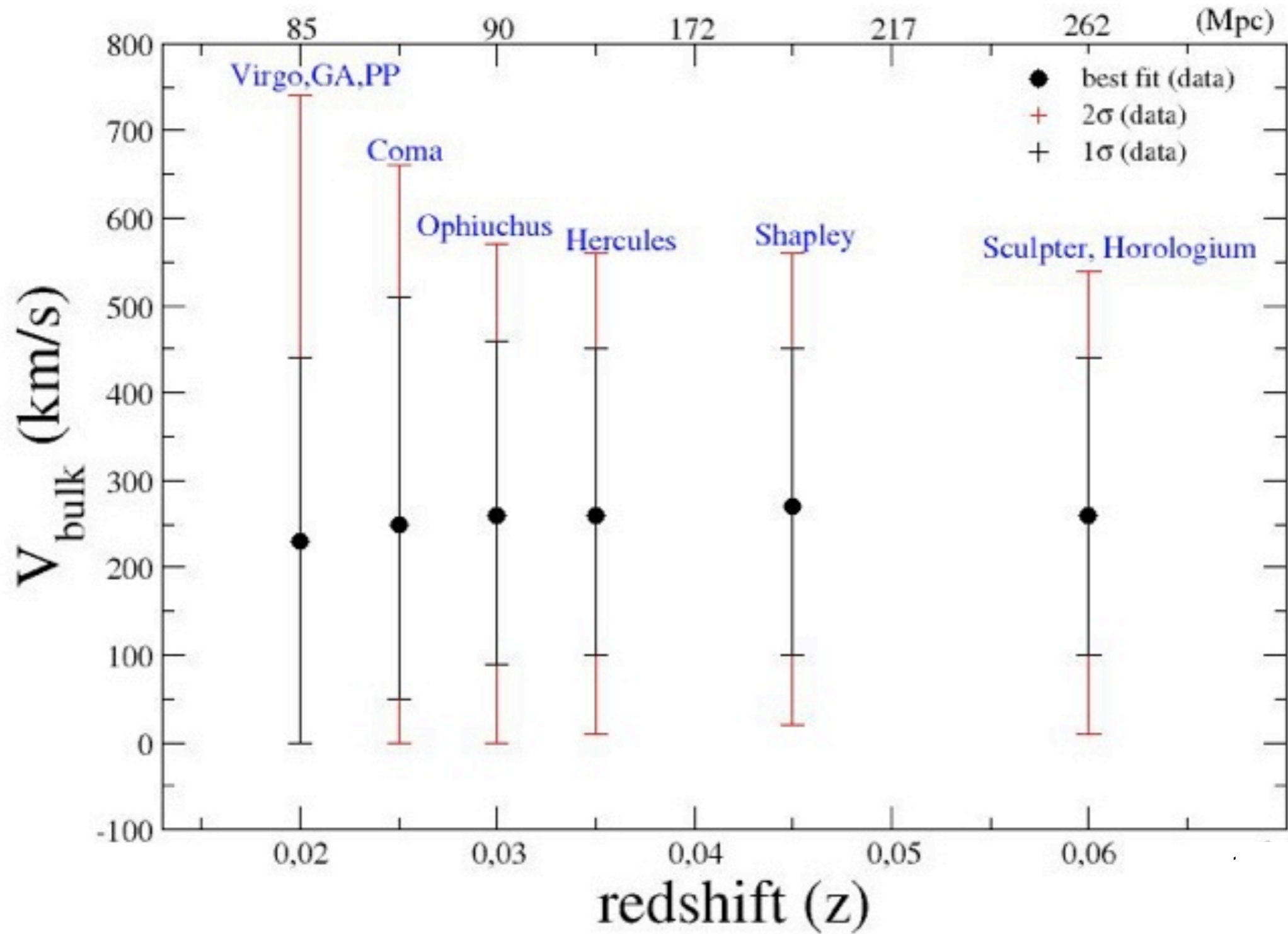


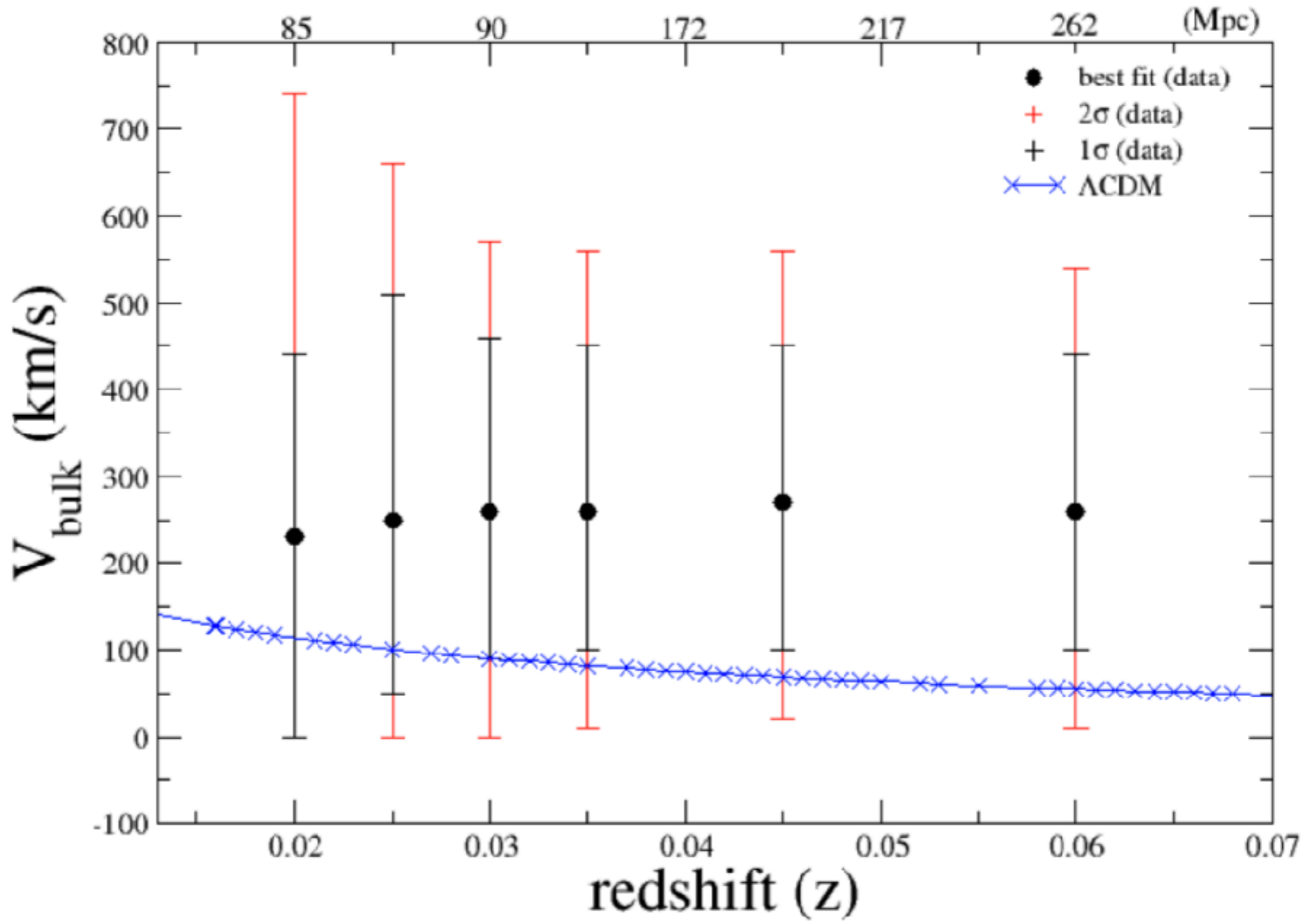
# |Bulk flow| from SNe Ia data



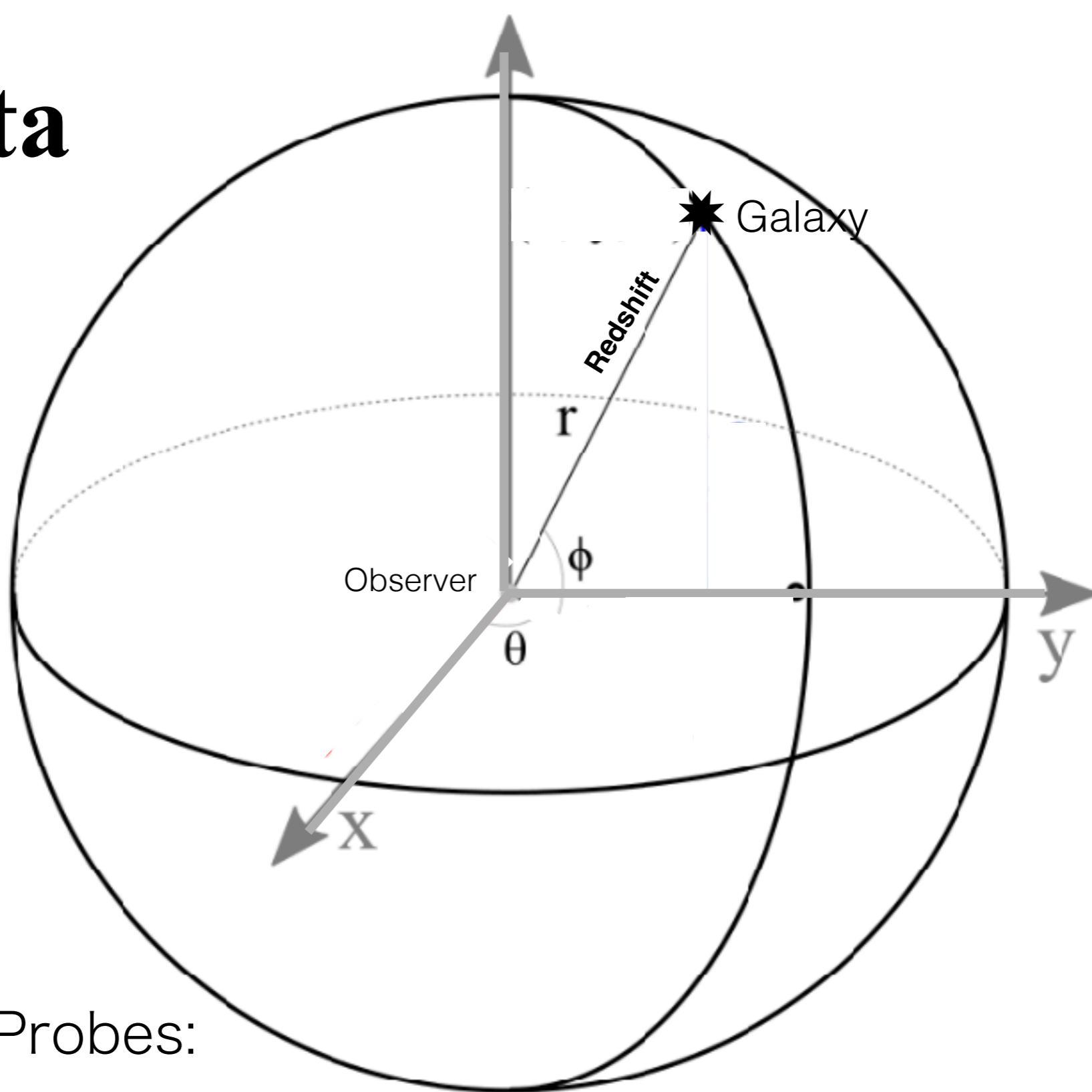


# |Bulk flow| from SNe Ia data





# Real Data



Observational Probes:

(I)  $\Theta, \varphi, z, d$  (SNe Ia ... catalogues)

(II)  $\Theta, \varphi, z$  (redshift catalogues)

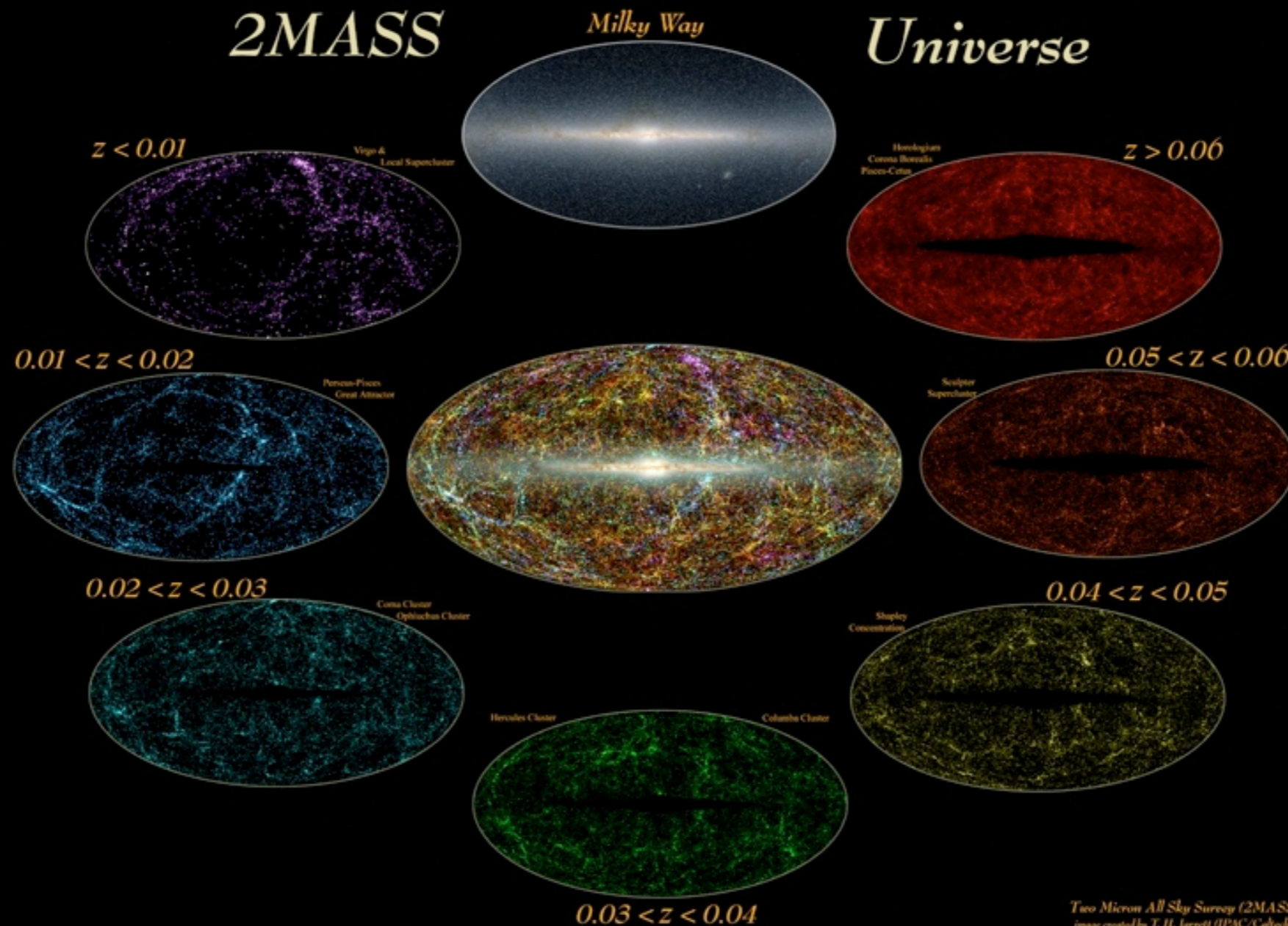
(III)  $\Theta, \varphi$  (photometric catalogues)

# 2MRS redshift survey

(Huchra et al 2005,...)

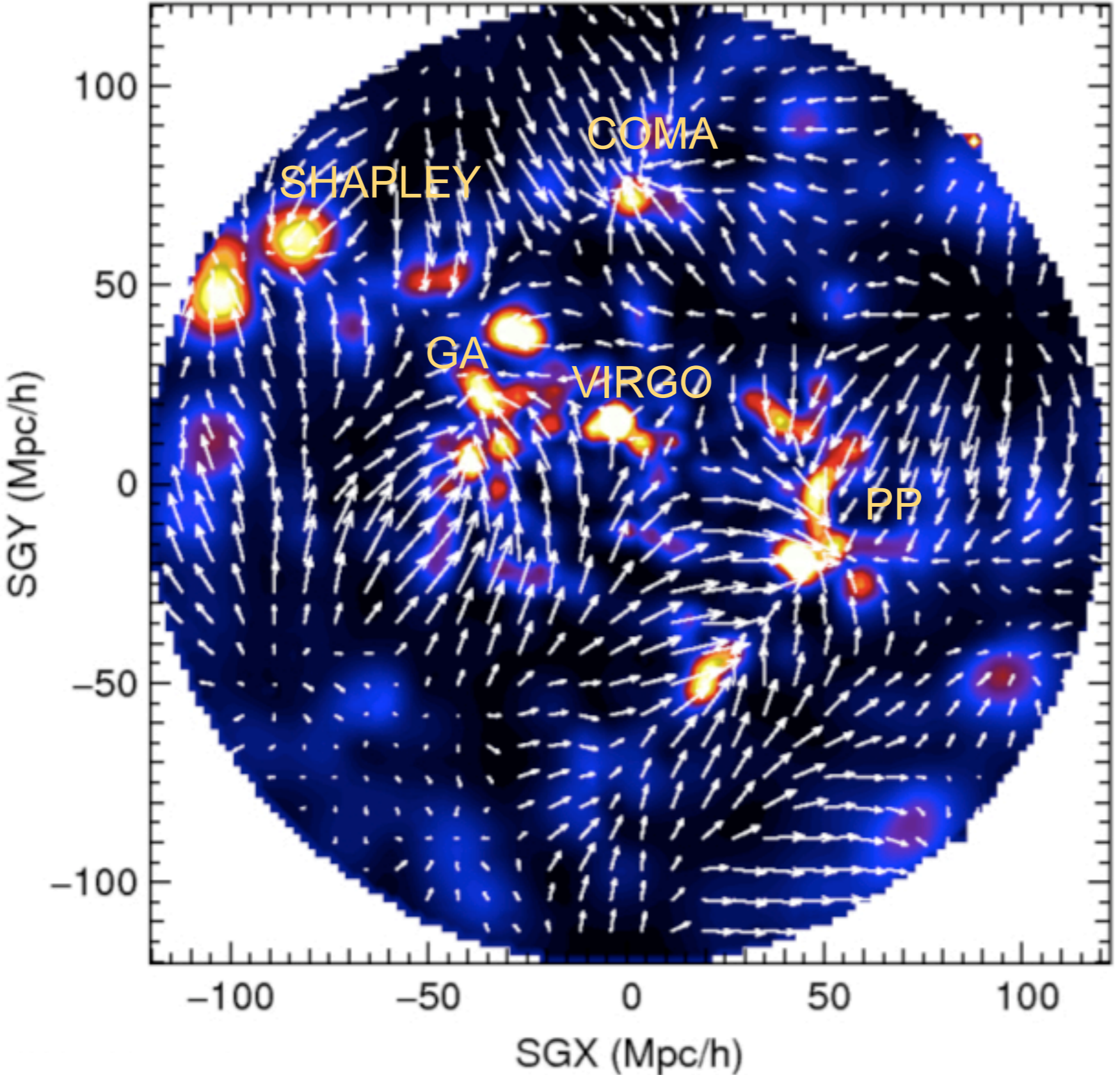
Based upon the 2MASS photometric galaxy catalog , Full sky  
~25000 galaxies, selected with  $K_s < 11.25$

~250 Mpc/h ( $z \sim 0.08$ ) deep , Distribution peaks at ~90 Mpc/h ( $z \sim 0.03$ )

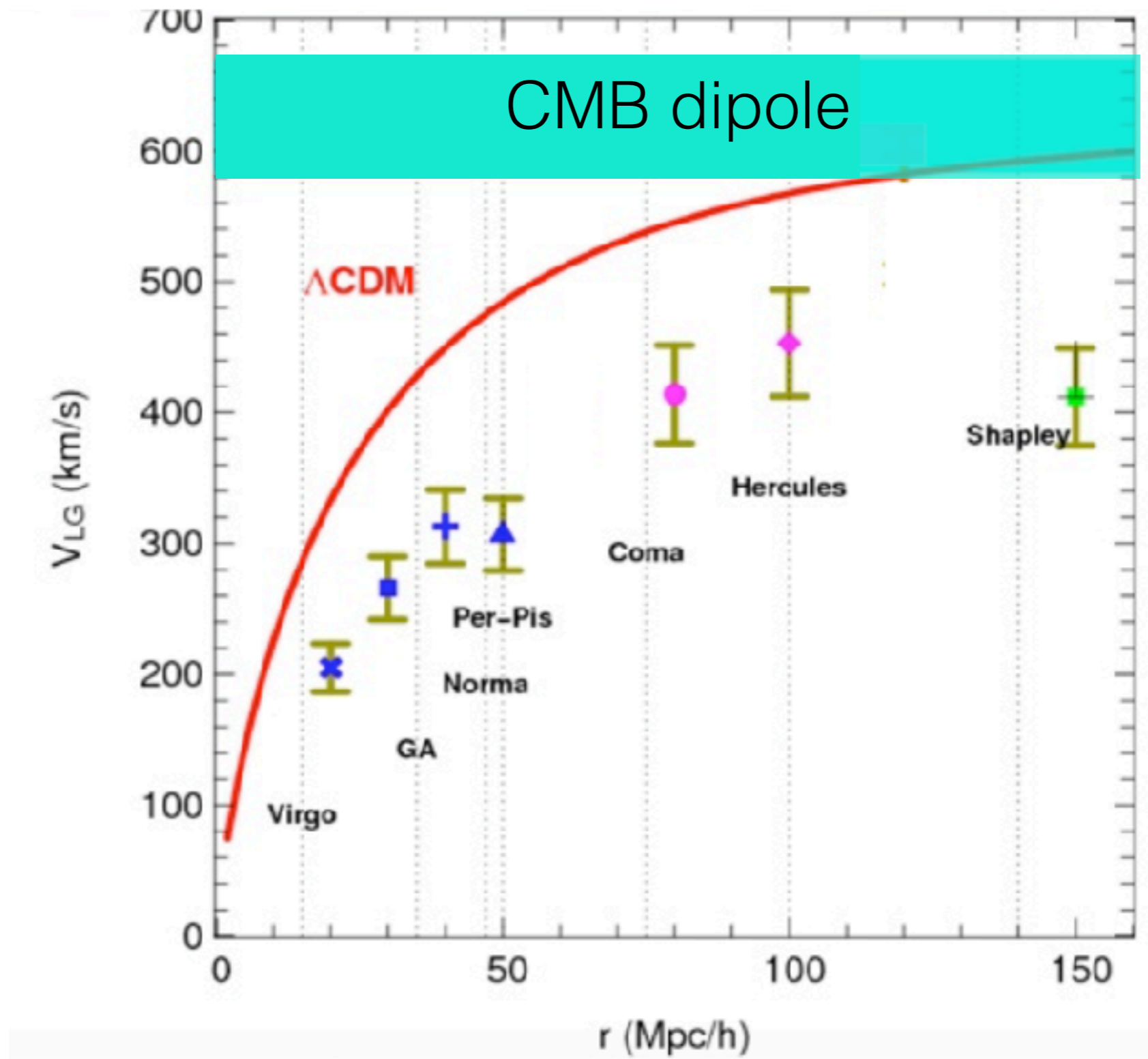




# Velocity field of 2MRS: from great attractor to Shapley infall

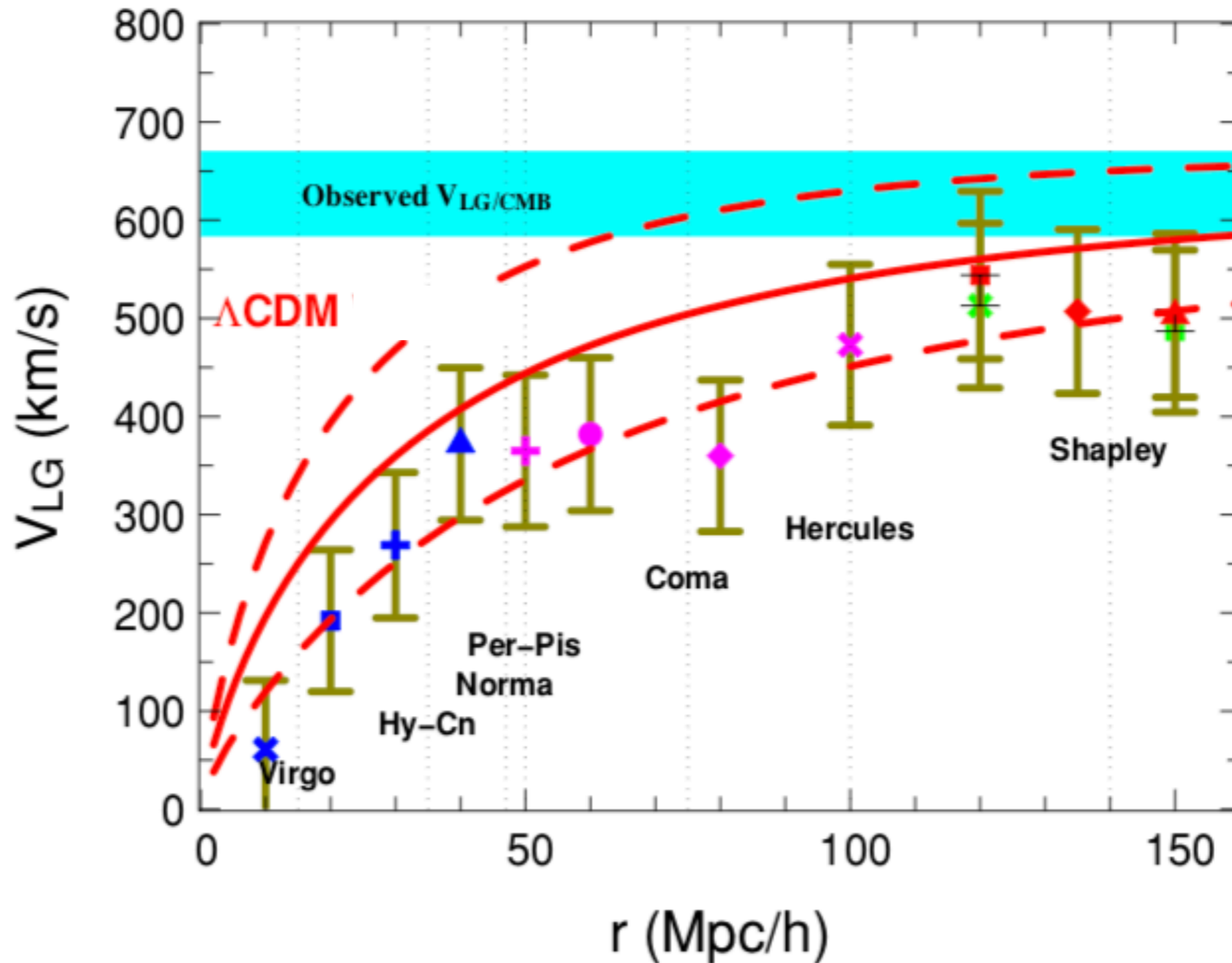


# Test of cosmological principle : CMB rest frame



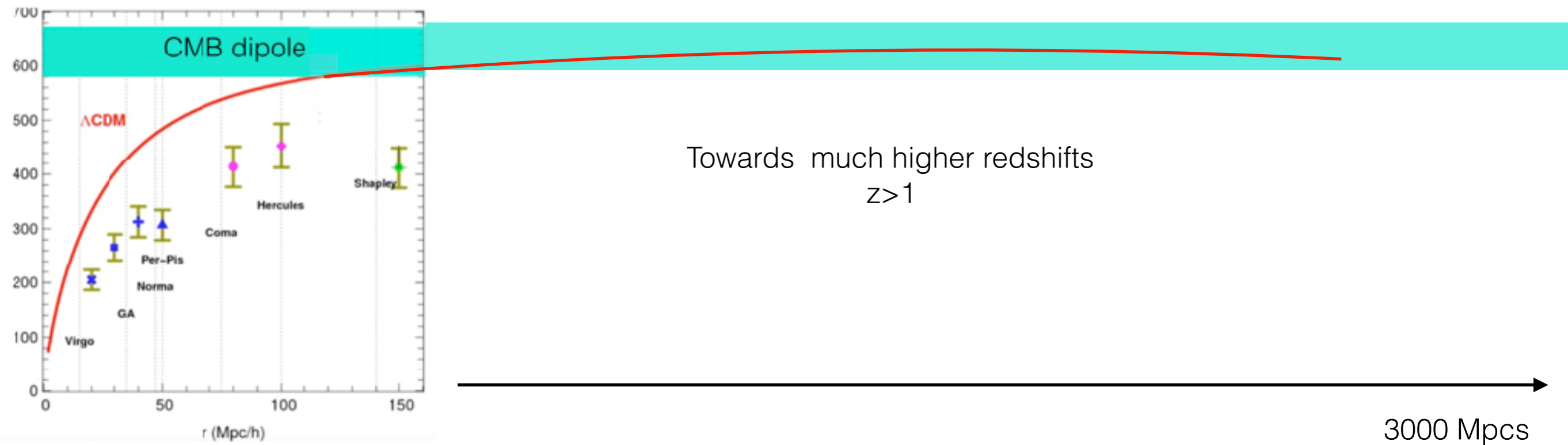
Cosmological principle:  
rest-frame of high redshift "sources" = CMB rest frame

# Test of cosmological principle : CMB rest frame



Cosmological principle:  
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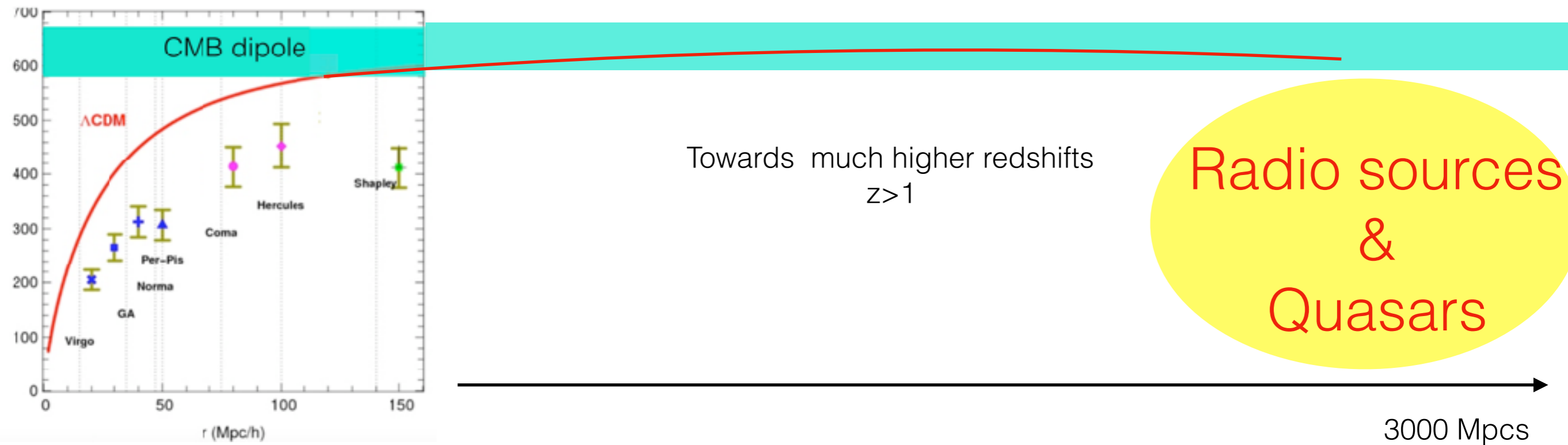
# Test of cosmological principle : CMB rest frame



Cosmological principle:  
rest-frame of high redshift “sources” = CMB rest frame

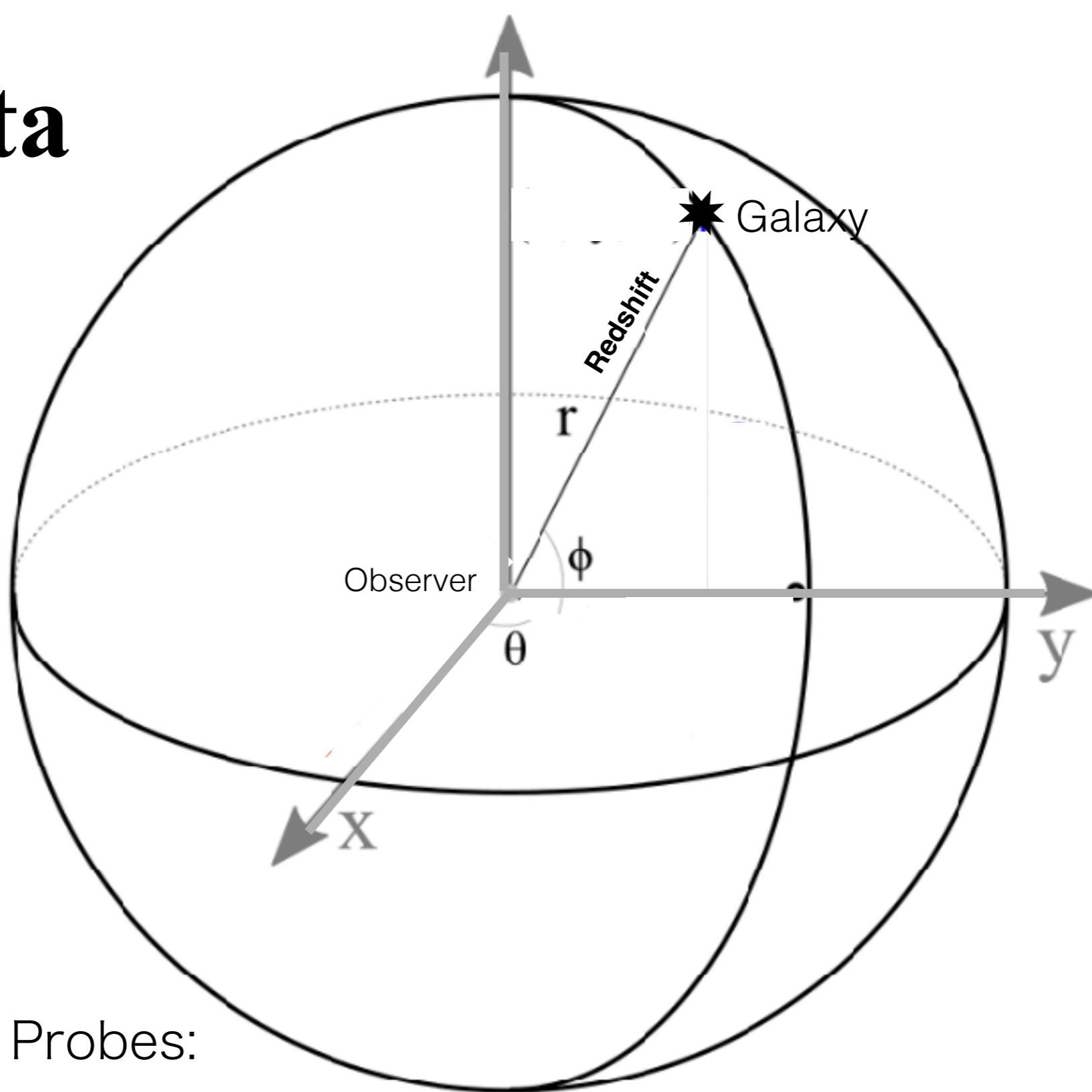


# Test of cosmological principle : searching for CMB rest frame



Dipole in the rest-frame of high redshift sources = Dipole in the CMB rest frame

# Real Data



Observational Probes:

(I)  $\Theta$ ,  $\varphi$ ,  $z$ ,  $d$  (distance catalogues)

(II)  $\Theta$ ,  $\varphi$ ,  $z$  (redshift surveys)

(III)  $\Theta$ ,  $\varphi$  (Imaging surveys)

# Aberration

IV. A Letter from the Reverend Mr. James Bradley Savilian Professor of Astronomy at Oxford, and F.R.S. to Dr. Edmond Halley Astronom. Reg. &c. giving an Account of a new discovered Motion of the Fix'd Stars.



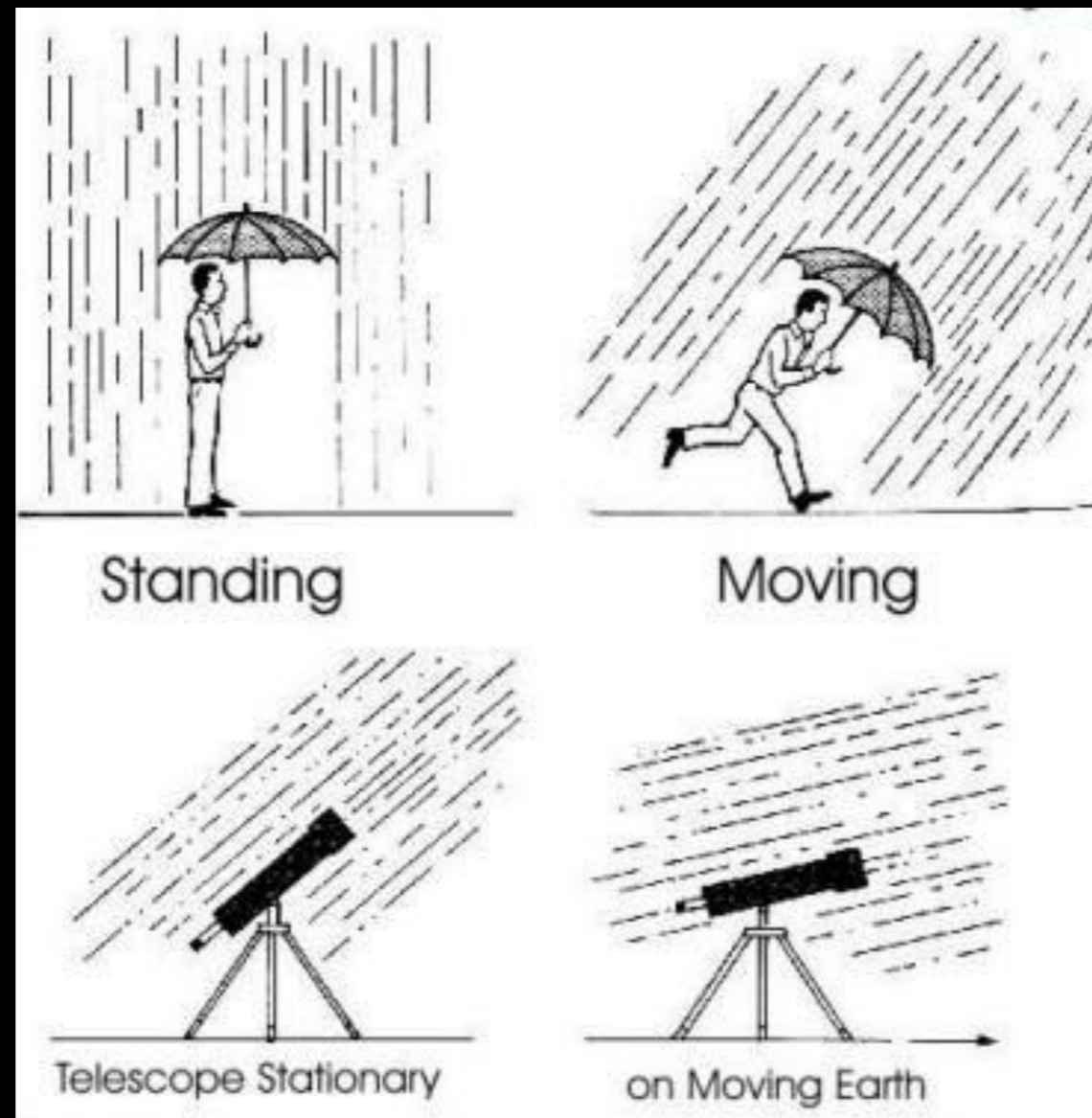
1727.			1728.		
	d.	"		d.	"
September	- 14	29 $\frac{1}{2}$	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	April	- - 16 18 $\frac{1}{2}$
-	- 24	24 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 $\frac{1}{2}$	May	- - 5 24 $\frac{1}{2}$
October	- - 16	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	June	- - 5 32
November	- 11	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	-	- - 25 35
December	- 14	4	3	July	- - 17 36
1728					
February	- 17	2	3	August	- 2 35
March	- - 21	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	September	- 20 26 $\frac{1}{2}$



# Probe 3 : Imaging surveys

## $\Theta, \phi$

### Aberration and Doppler boosting



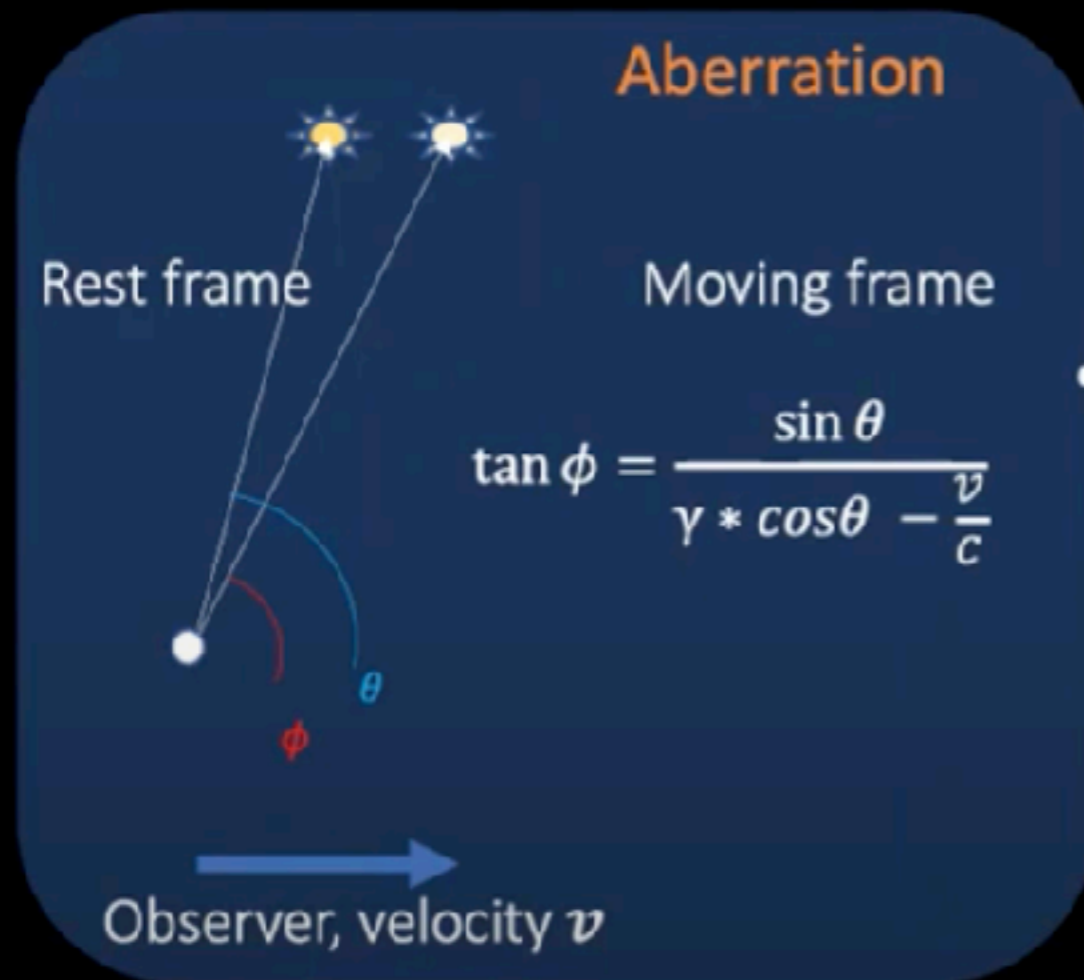
Colin, Mohayaee, Rameez, Sarkar, MNRAS 2017  
Rameez, Mohayaee, Sarkar, Colin, MNRAS 2018  
Colin, Mohayaee, Rameez, Sarkar, MNRAS 2019  
Mohayaee, Rameez, Sarkar, 2020  
Secrest, von Hausegger, Rameez, Mohayaee, Sarkar, Colin ..., 2021, 2022

# Probe 3 : Imaging surveys

$\Theta, \phi$

## Aberration and Doppler boosting

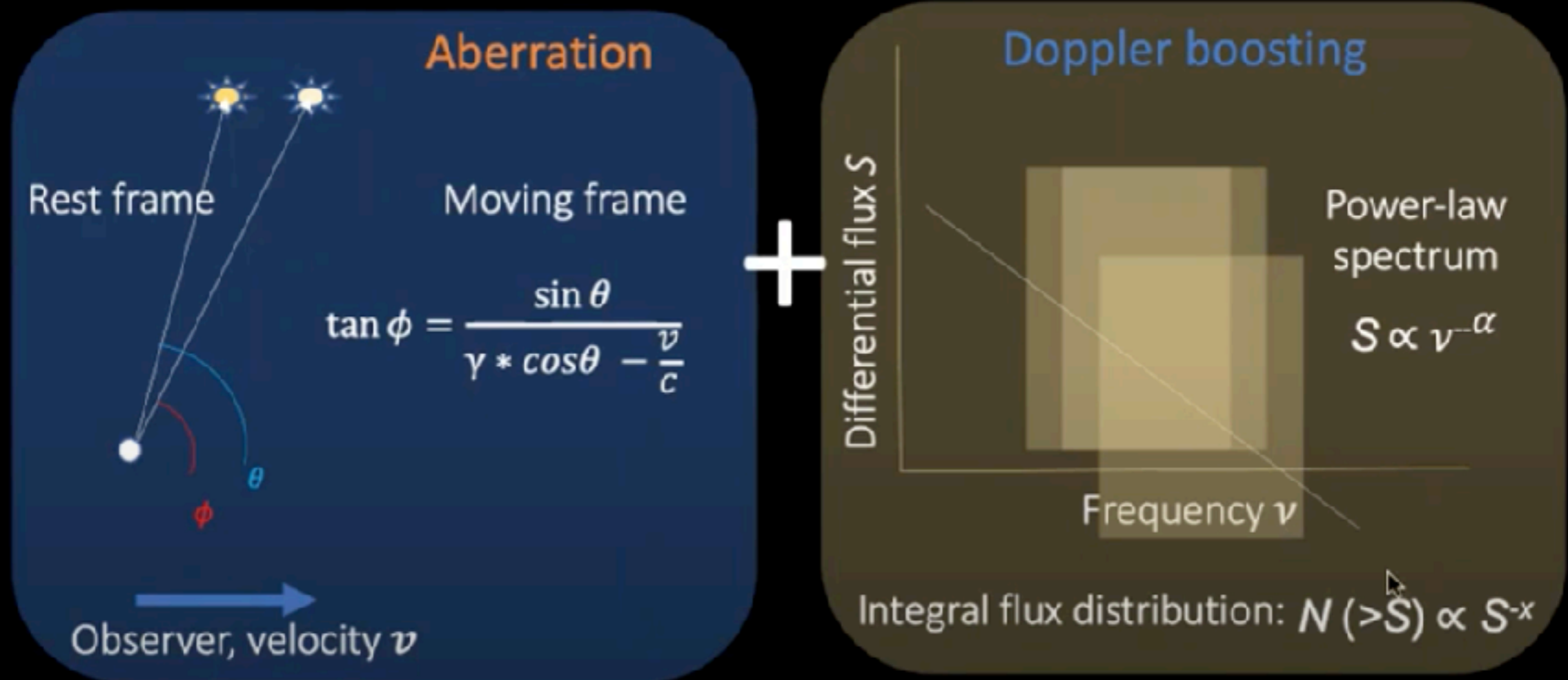
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# Probe 3 : Imaging surveys

$\Theta, \phi$

## Aberration and Doppler boosting





# Aberration

Ellis and Baldwin 1984

Anisotropy in source distribution  observer's velocity

Aberration and Doppler boosting

$$\text{Dipole} = [2 + x(1 + \alpha)]v/c.$$

$$dN/d\Omega(>S_\nu) \propto S_\nu^{-x}$$

$$S_\nu \propto \nu^{-\alpha}$$

Independent of distance to the source

## **On the expected anisotropy of radio source counts**

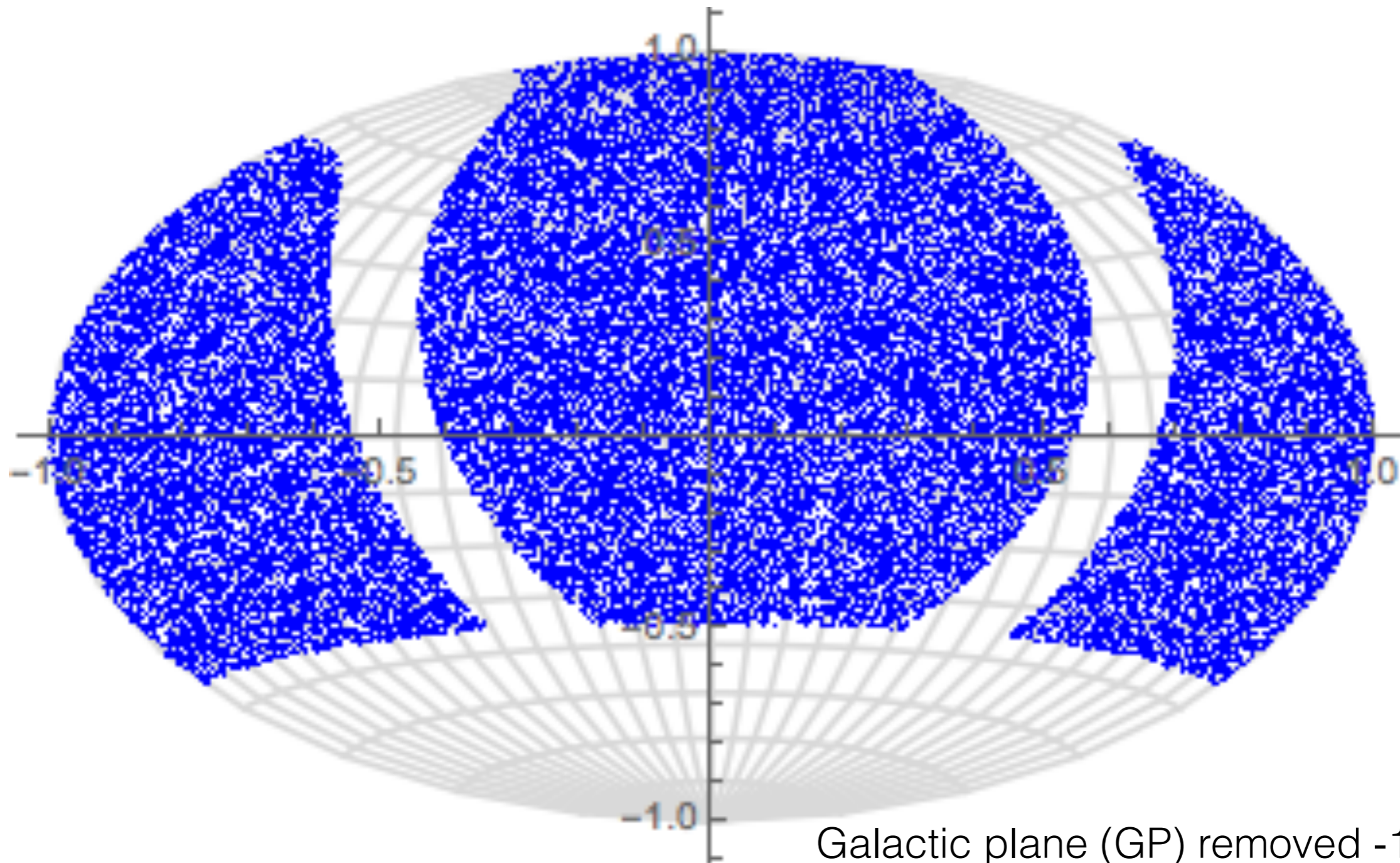
G. F. R. Ellis<sup>★</sup> and J. E. Baldwin<sup>†</sup> *Orthodox Academy of Crete,  
Kolymbari, Crete*

Thus existence of such an observed anisotropy is a test of the isotropy of the source counts in their rest frame. The great power of this test is that the measurements can be made (and the result must hold) for any source counts, whether in a wide or a narrow solid angle, for flat or steep source spectra, etc, irrespective of selection effects or source evolution, as long as the forward and backward measurements are done in the identical manner.

# DATA: NRAO VLA Sky Survey Catalogue (NVSS)

1773488 Radio galaxies

583587 Radio galaxies in  $10 \text{ mJy} < \text{Flux} < 1000 \text{ mJy}$

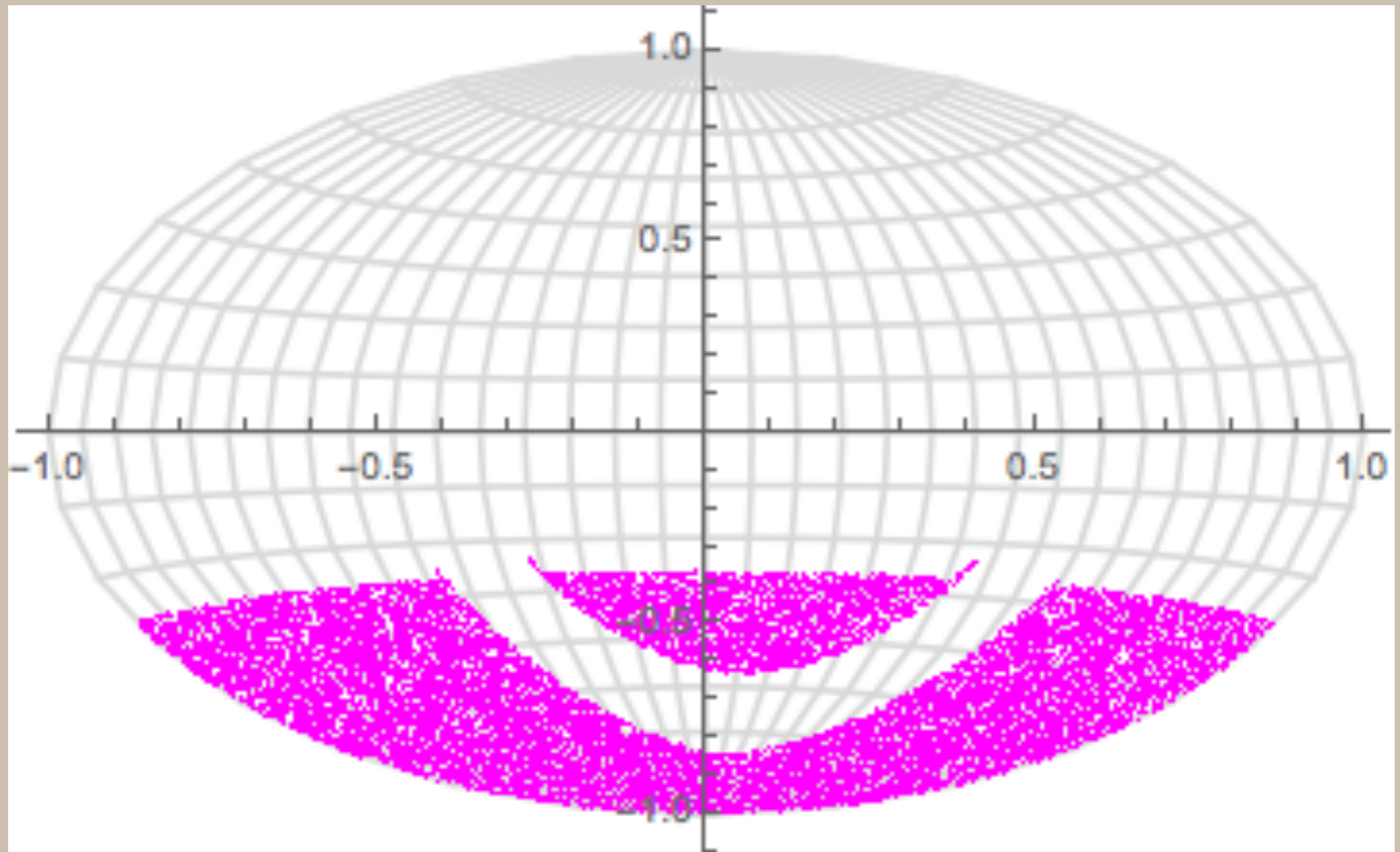




# DATA: The Sydney University Molonglo Sky Survey SUMSS

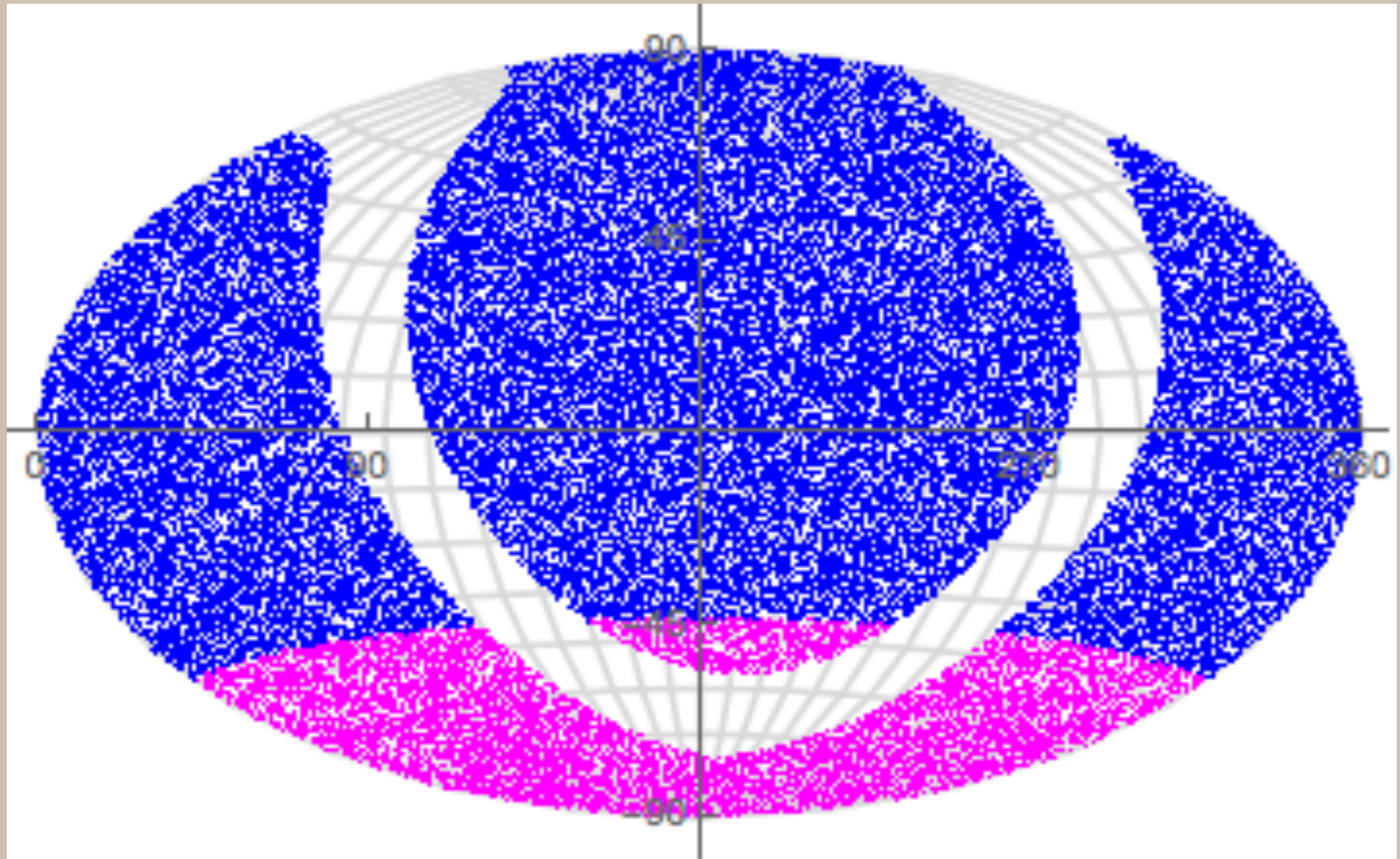
211050 Radio galaxies

183720 Radio galaxies in  $10 \text{ mJy} < \text{Flux} < 1000 \text{ mJy}$



# DATA: NVSS+SUMSS

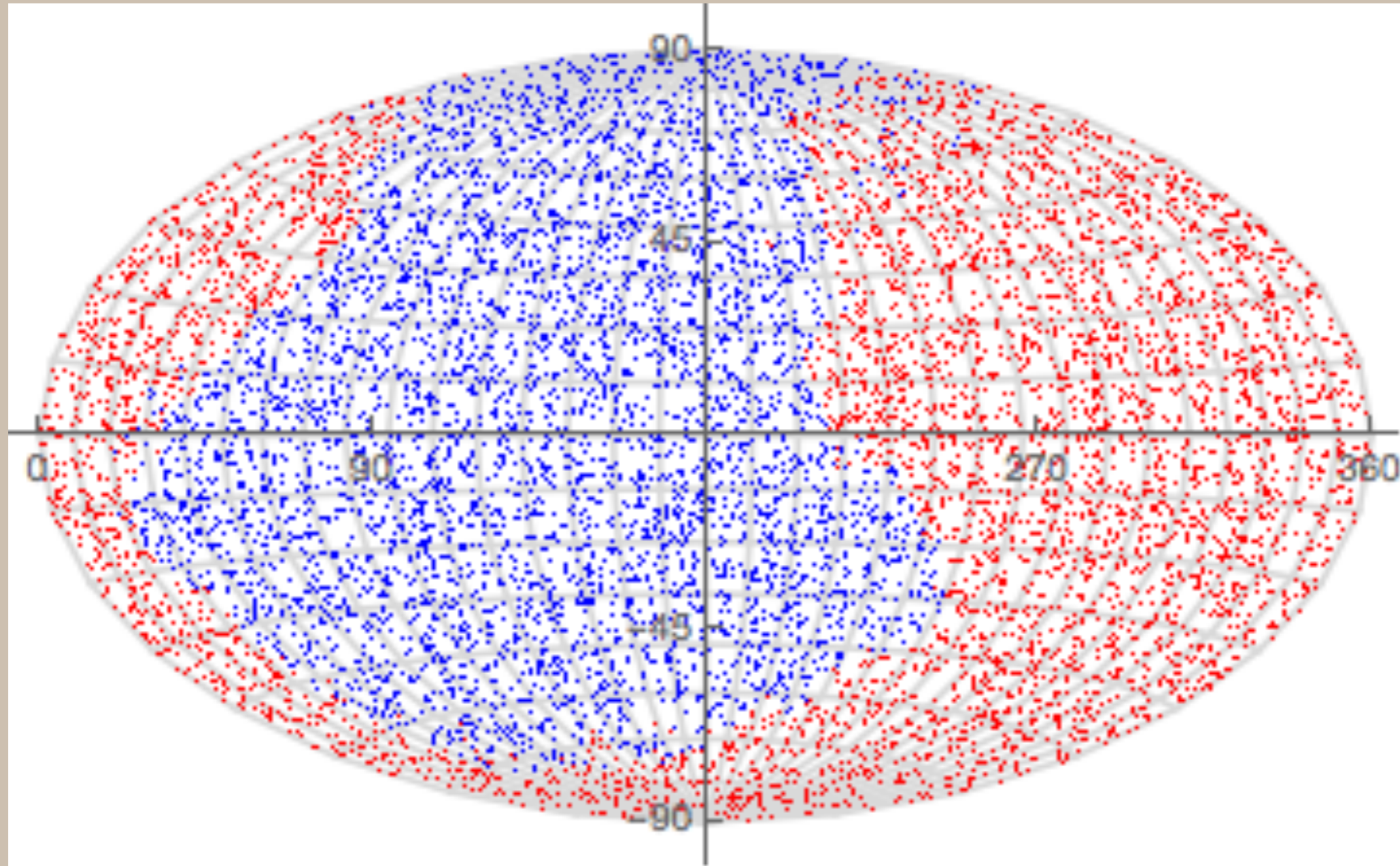
576461 Radio galaxies in  $10 \text{ mJy} < \text{Flux} < 1000 \text{ mJy}$





# Searching for dipole

We randomly select a direction ( $\theta = \{-\pi/2, \pi/2\}$  and  $\varphi = \{0, 2\pi\}$ ) and count Number of galaxies in each hemisphere



Mean number of galaxies in each hemisphere: 345192., Max difference between two hemispheres: 5185 galaxies

**Red: hemispheres containing LESS galaxies than the mean**

**Blue: Hemispheres containing MORE galaxies than the mean**

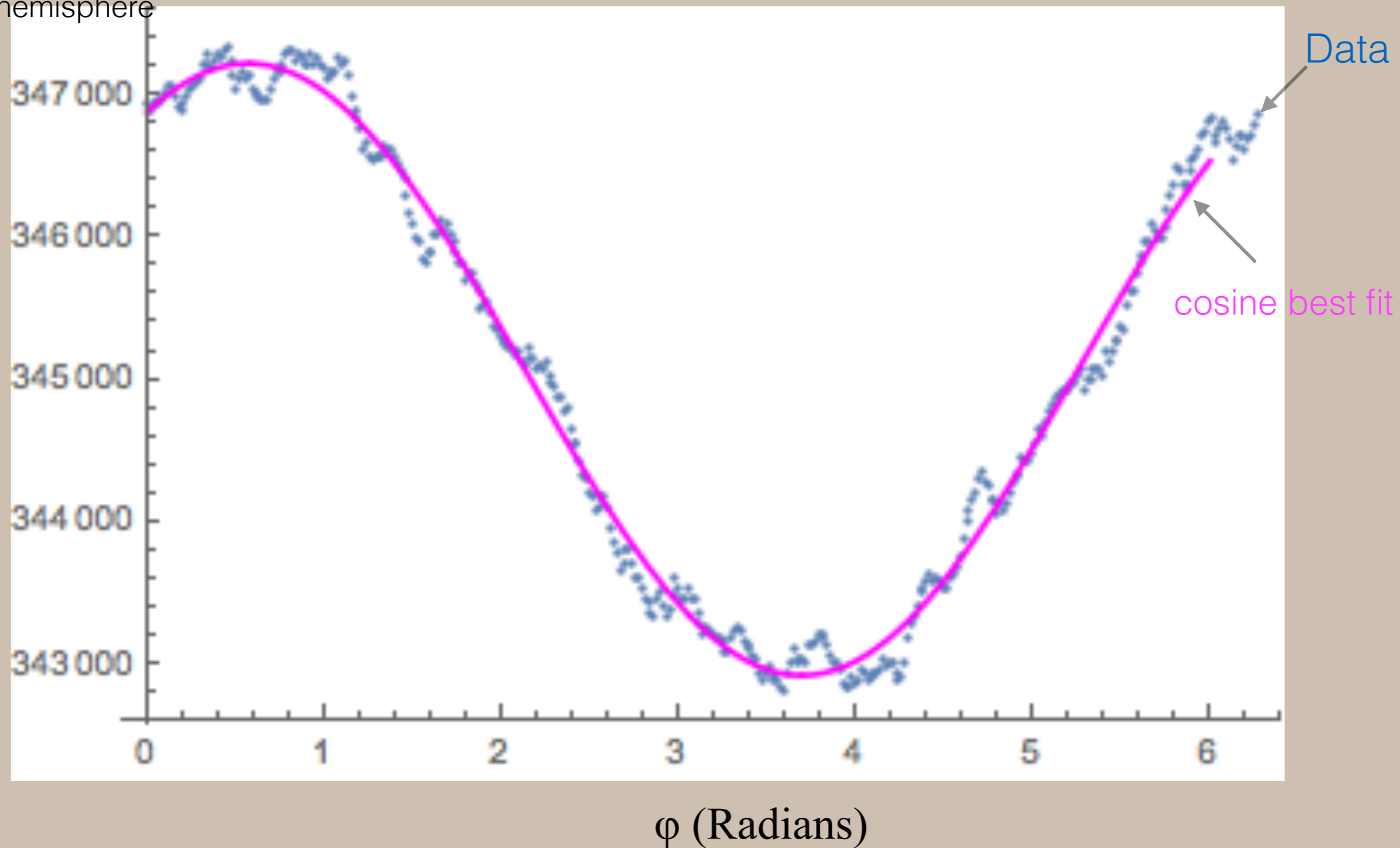


# Searching for dipole

Example of hemispherical counting:

Here we fix the axis  $\theta=\{0,90\}$  and turn  $\varphi$  every one degree

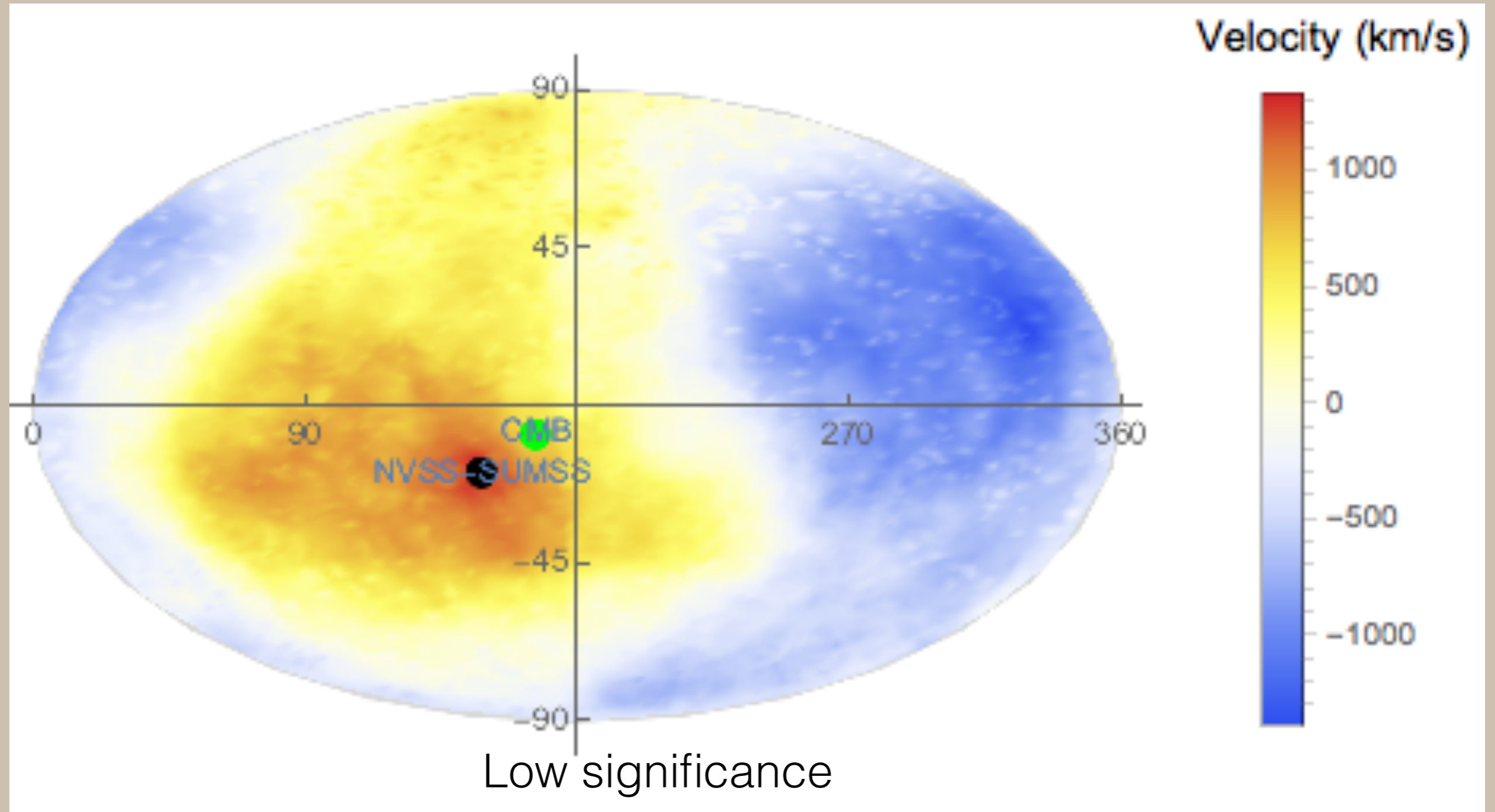
N in hemisphere



# Dipole

Dipole direction: {RA=156°, DEC=-17°} compare to CMB Dipole {RA=168°, DEC=-7°}

Dipole Amplitude : velocity of barycentre of solar system w.r.t. Radio galaxies restframe = 1097 km/s  
velocity of barycentre of solar system w.r.t. CMB restframe = 369 km/s



# Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer

WISE : (Wright et al. 2010) & NEOWISE (Mainzer et al. 2011)

CatWISE : Eisenhardt et al 2020

positions and the four-band photometry for 747,634,026 objects

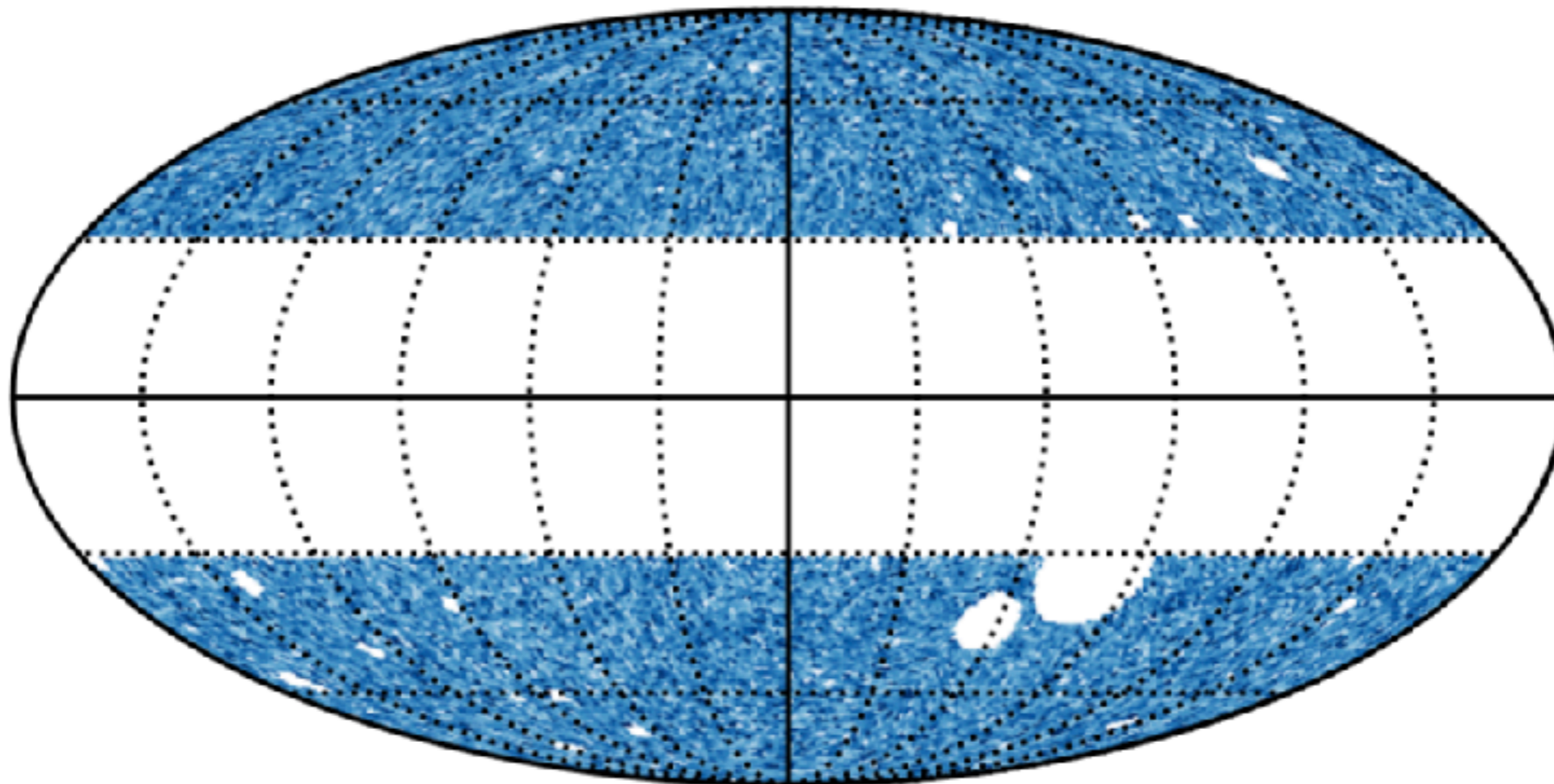
Full-sky **mid-infrared** survey in:

3.4um (W1) (2009 – present)

4.6um (W2) (2009 – present)

12um (W3) (2009 – 2010)

22um (W4) (2009 – 2010)

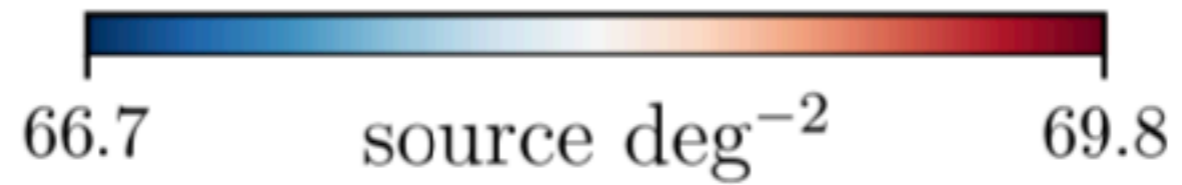




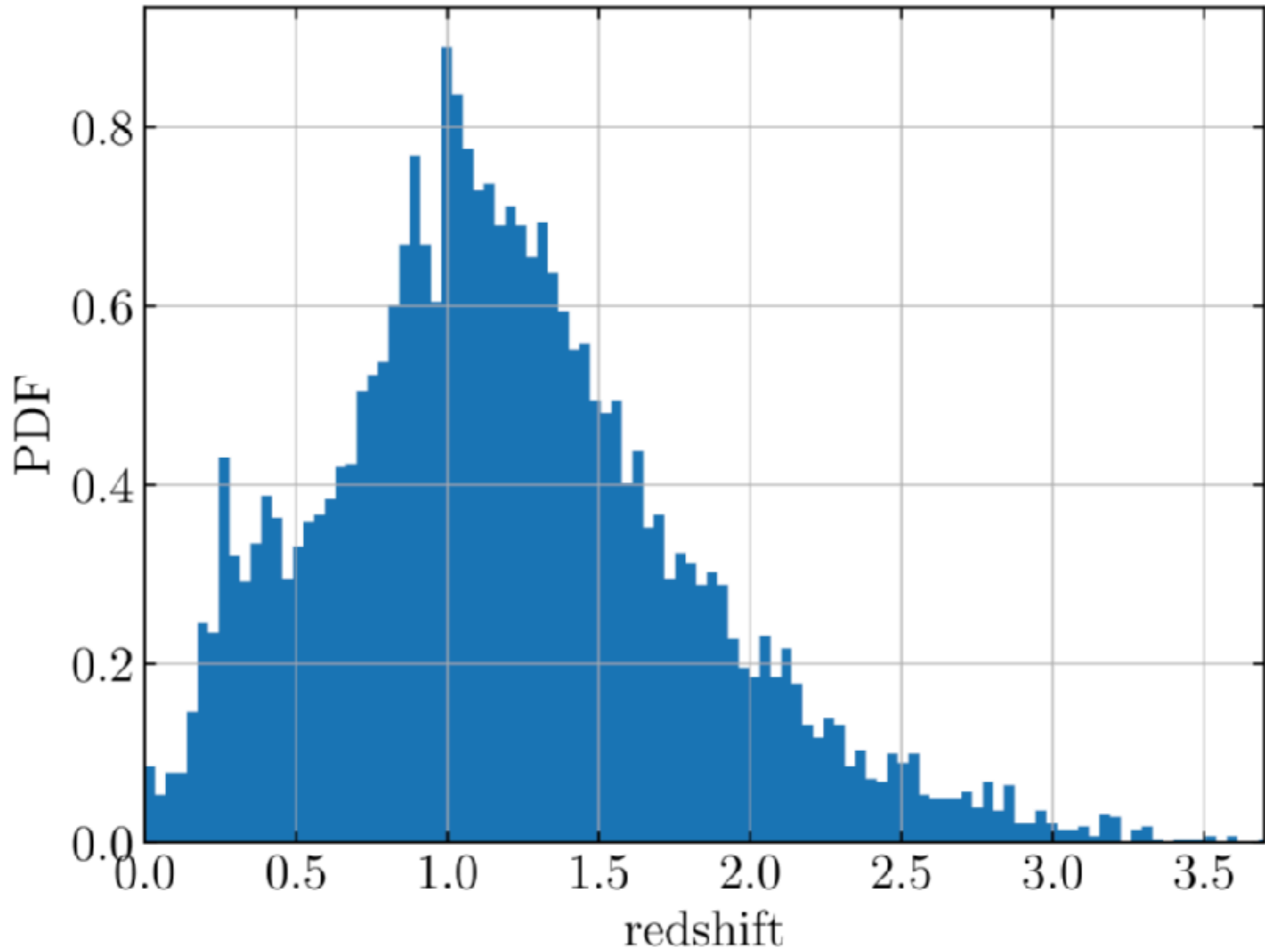
# The Dipole

Quasar Dipole = 0.01554,  $(l, b) = (238^\circ.2, 28^\circ.8)$ .

CMB dipole. = 0.007,  $(l, b) = (276^\circ, 30^\circ)$



# Redshift distribution

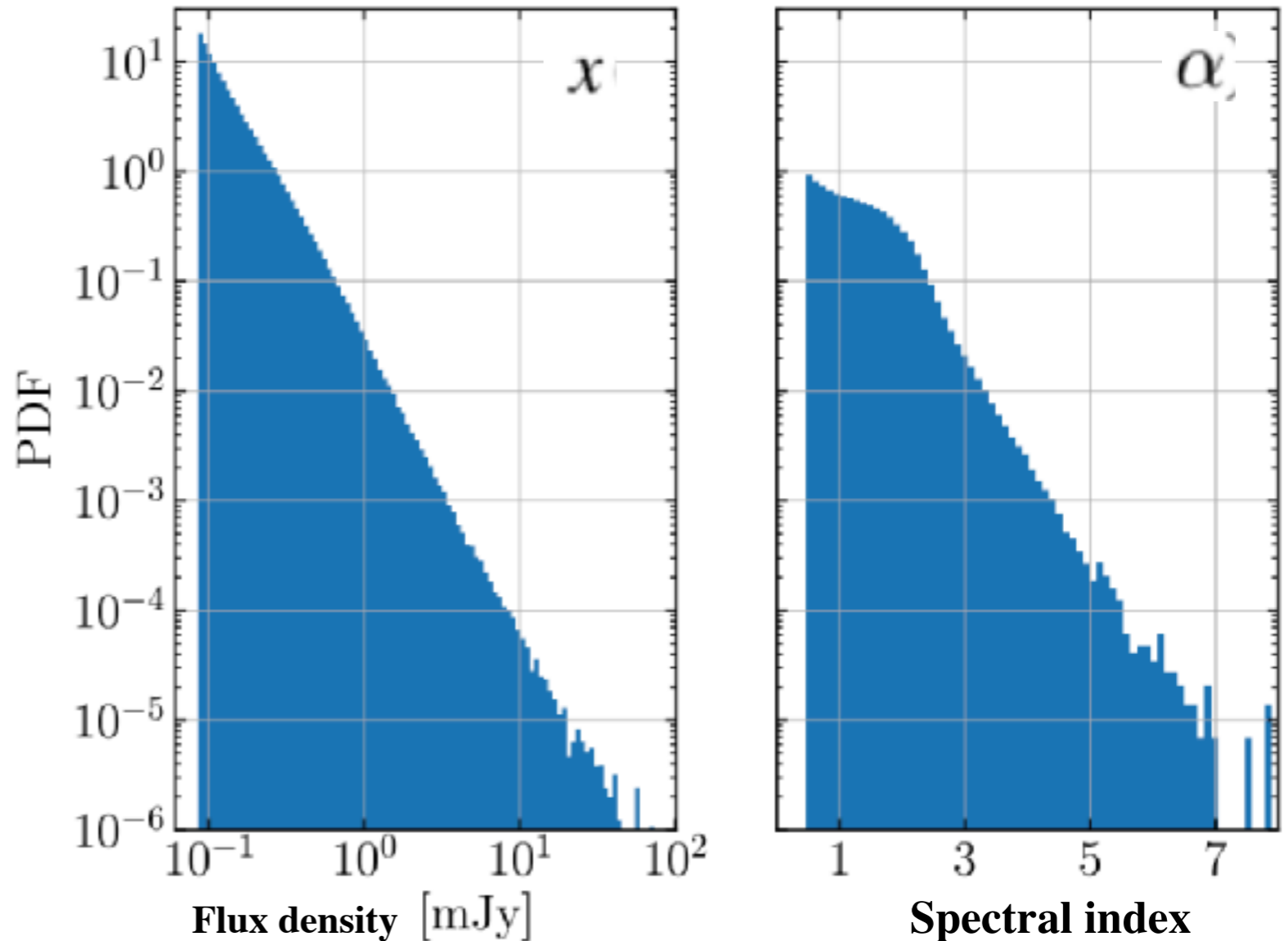


# Statistical significance

$10^7$  random sky

mimicking CatWISE  
same masks,  
estimator, flux....

$$\text{Dipole} = [2 + x(1 + \alpha)]v/c.$$



The null Hypothesis:

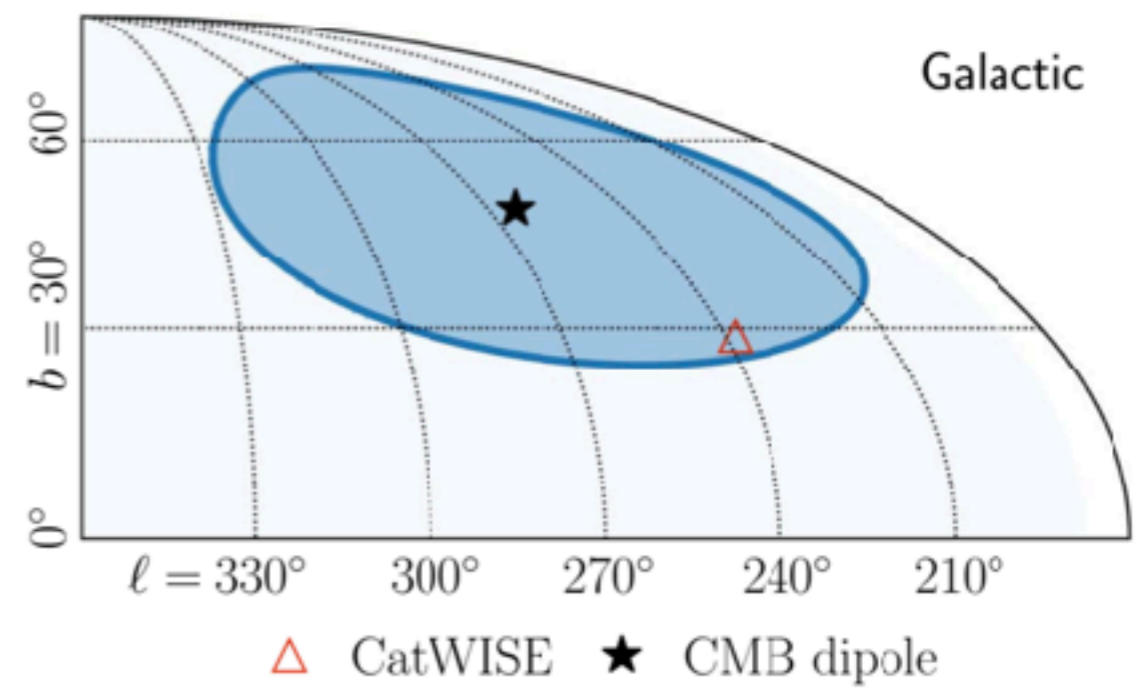
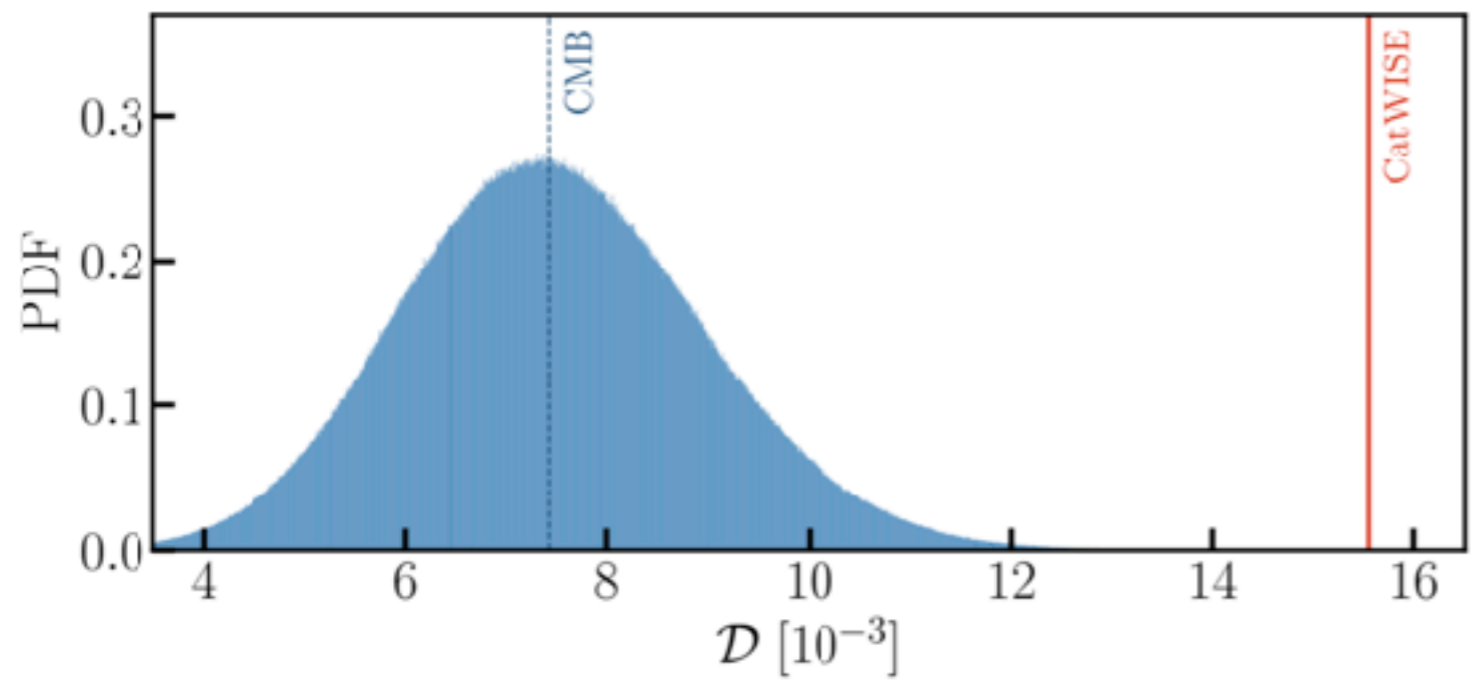
An observer moving with a velocity of 369.82 km/s (CMB expectation) can see a dipole twice that of CMB” !

Rejected : p value of  $5 \times 10^{-7}$



# Statistical significance

4.9 sigma



# Is quasar data consistent with radio data ?

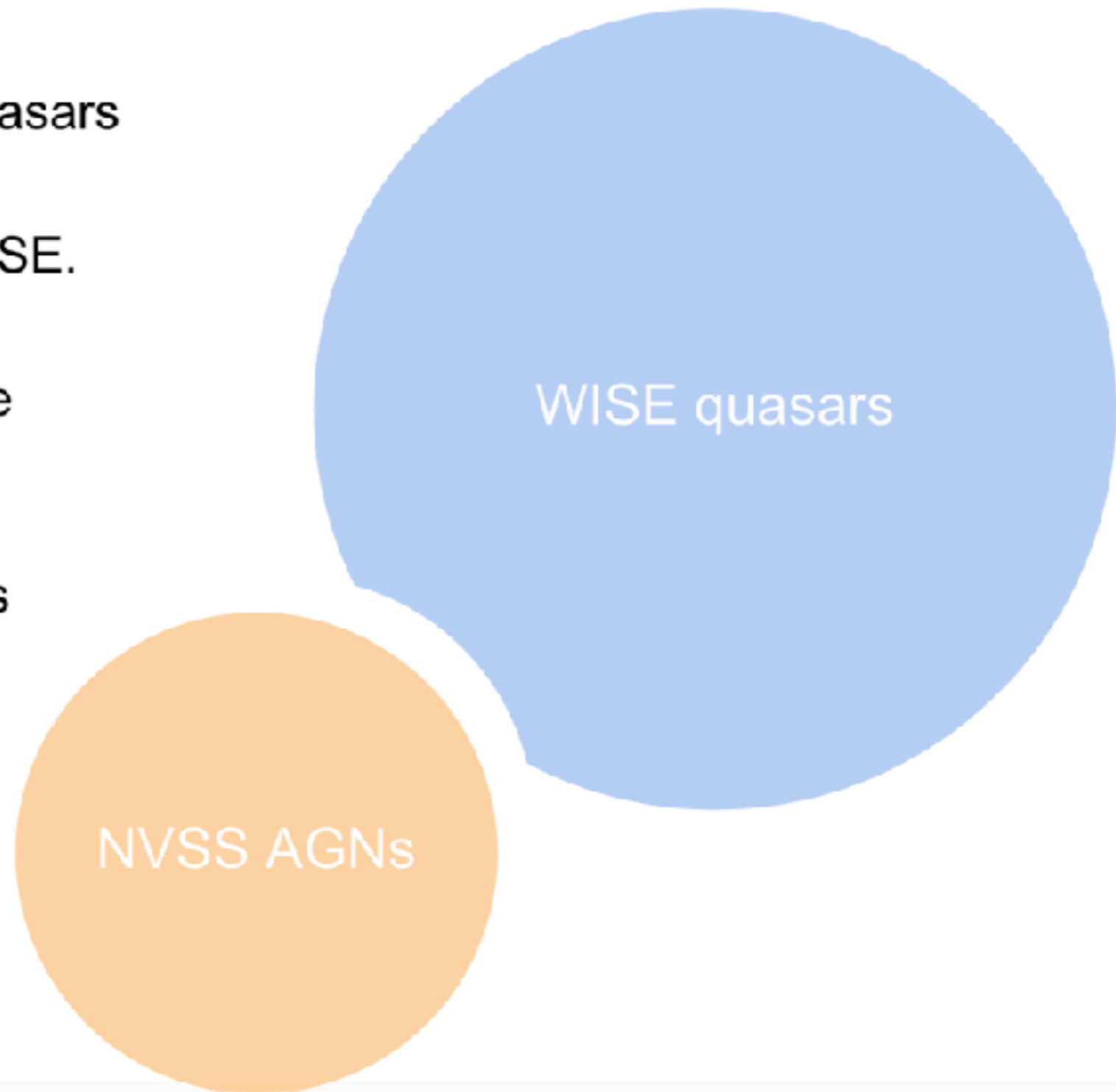
Shared sources: 1.4% of WISE quasars

Removed shared sources from WISE.

Kept sources in NVSS to maximize sources in smaller catalog.

WISE quasars in unshared regions removed randomly to preserve uniformity.

→ **Totally orthogonal catalogs.**



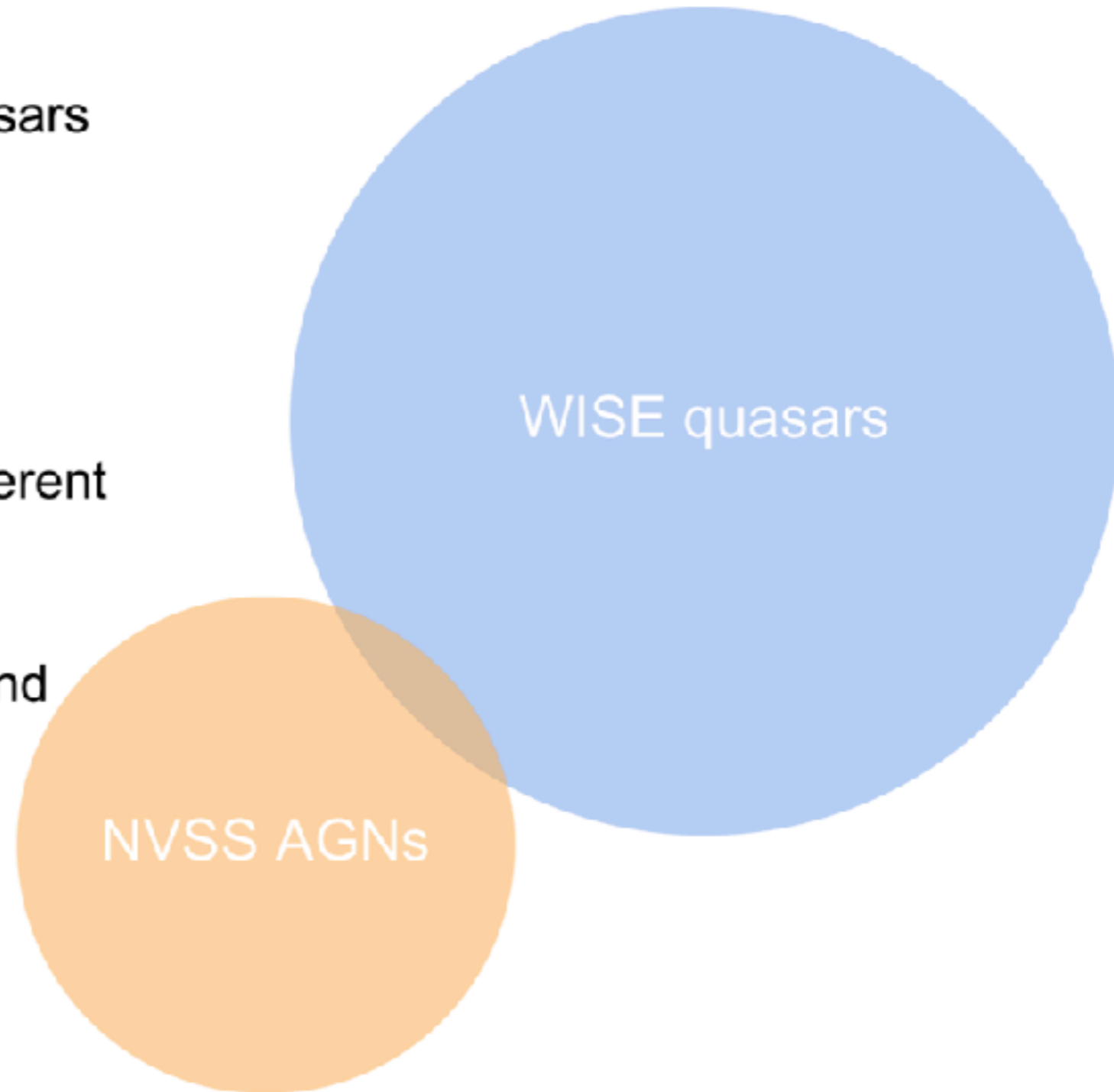
# Is quasar data consistent with radio data ?

Shared sources: **1.4%** of WISE quasars

Why?

Radio galaxies and quasars are different kinds of object!

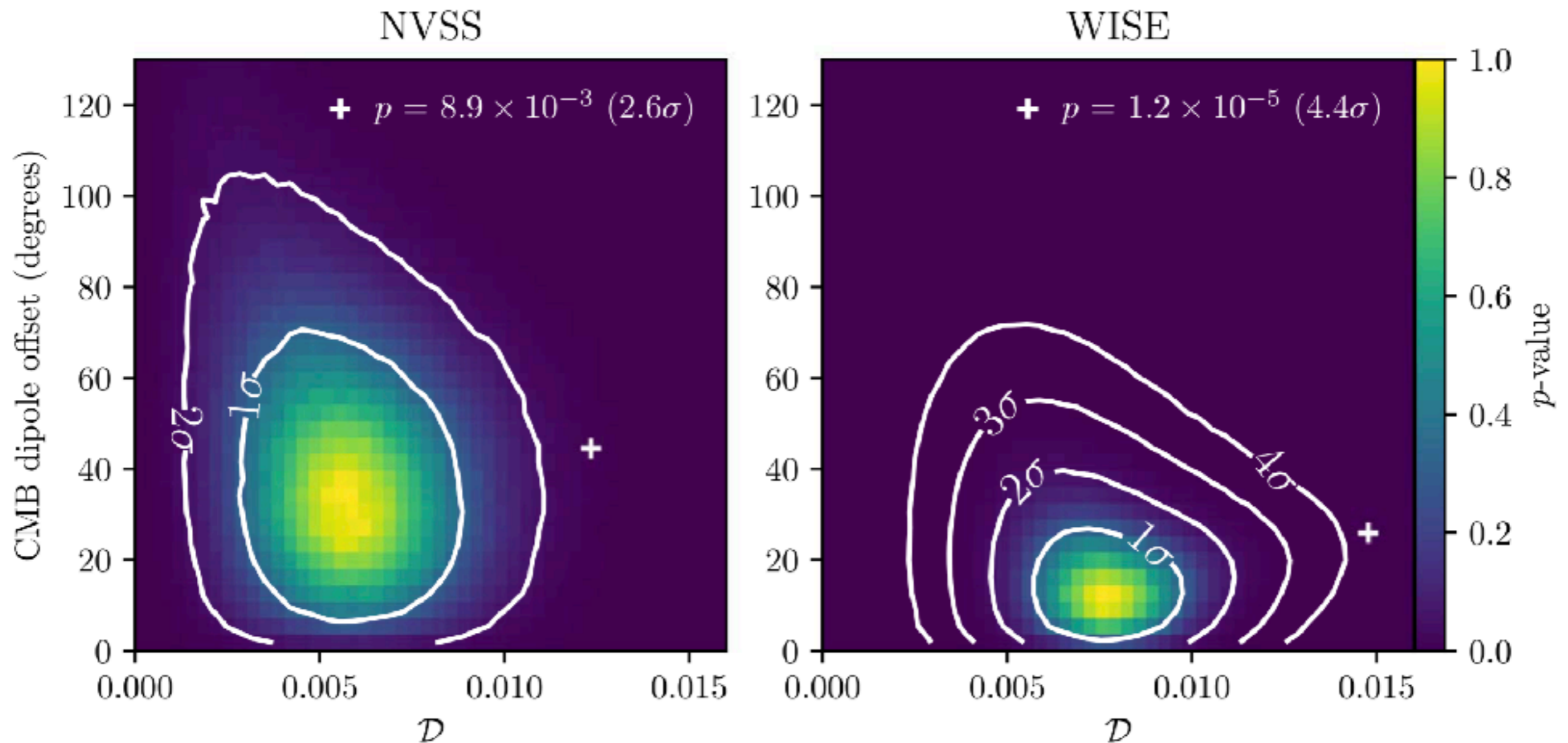
- Radio galaxies: evolved, “red and dead” massive ellipticals
- Quasars: bluer, gas-rich disk galaxies





# Joint Analysis: Infrared (Wise) and radio sources (NVSS)

Statistical significance: 5.1 sigma



## **All data and codes made public:**

Code and data → <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4431089>

Our paper (open access):

<https://ui.adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2021ApJ...908L..51S/abstract>

# George Ellis and Baldwin

MNRAS, 1984

variations of the microwave background radiation. If the standards of rest determined by the MBR and the number counts were to be in serious disagreement, one would have to abandon either

- (a) the idea that the radio sources are at cosmological distances, or
- (b) the interpretation of the cosmic microwave radiation as relic radiation from the big bang, or
- (c) the standard FRW Universe models.



# **Anomalies in Physical Cosmology**

**P. J. E. Peebles**

**Nobel laureate 2019**

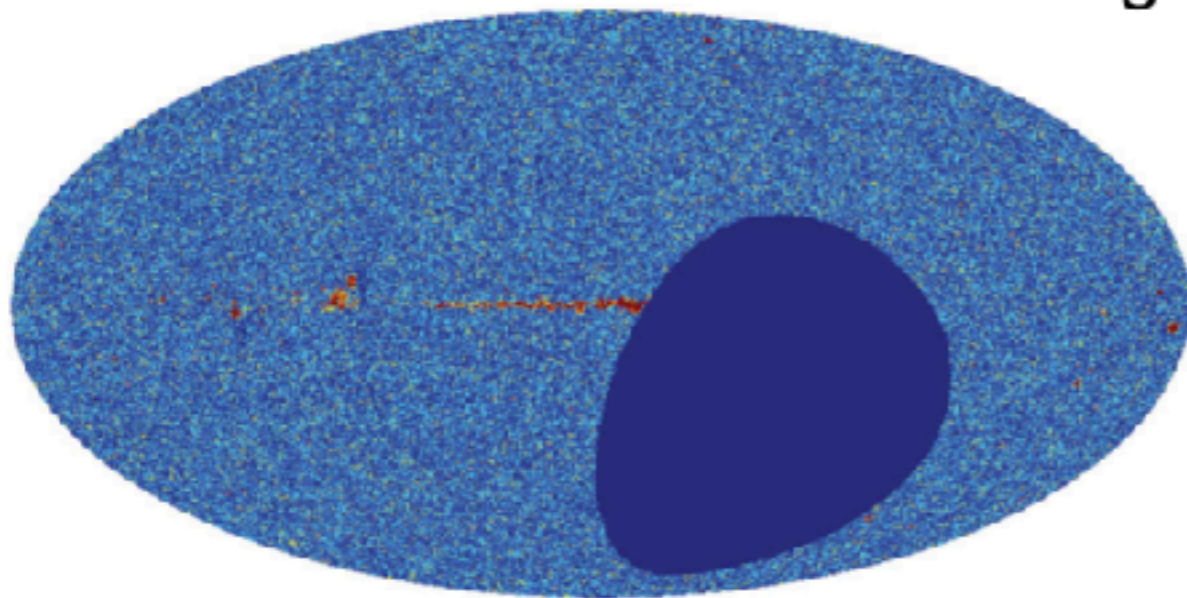
Annals of Physics **2022**

The  $\Lambda$ CDM cosmology passes demanding tests that establish it as a good approximation to reality. The theory is incomplete, of course, and open issues are being examined in active research programs.

The dipole anisotropy in the distribution of objects at distances comparable to the Hubble length is about in the direction expected from the kinematic effect if the dipole anisotropy in the CMB is due to our motion relative to the rest frame defined by the mean mass distribution, but the dipole amplitude is at least twice the prediction. This anomaly is about as well established as the Hubble Tension, yet the literature on the kinematic effect is much smaller than the 344 papers with the phrase “Hubble Tension” in the abstract in the SAO/NASA Astrophysics Data System. (I expect the difference is an inevitable consequence of the way we behave.)

***Merci !***

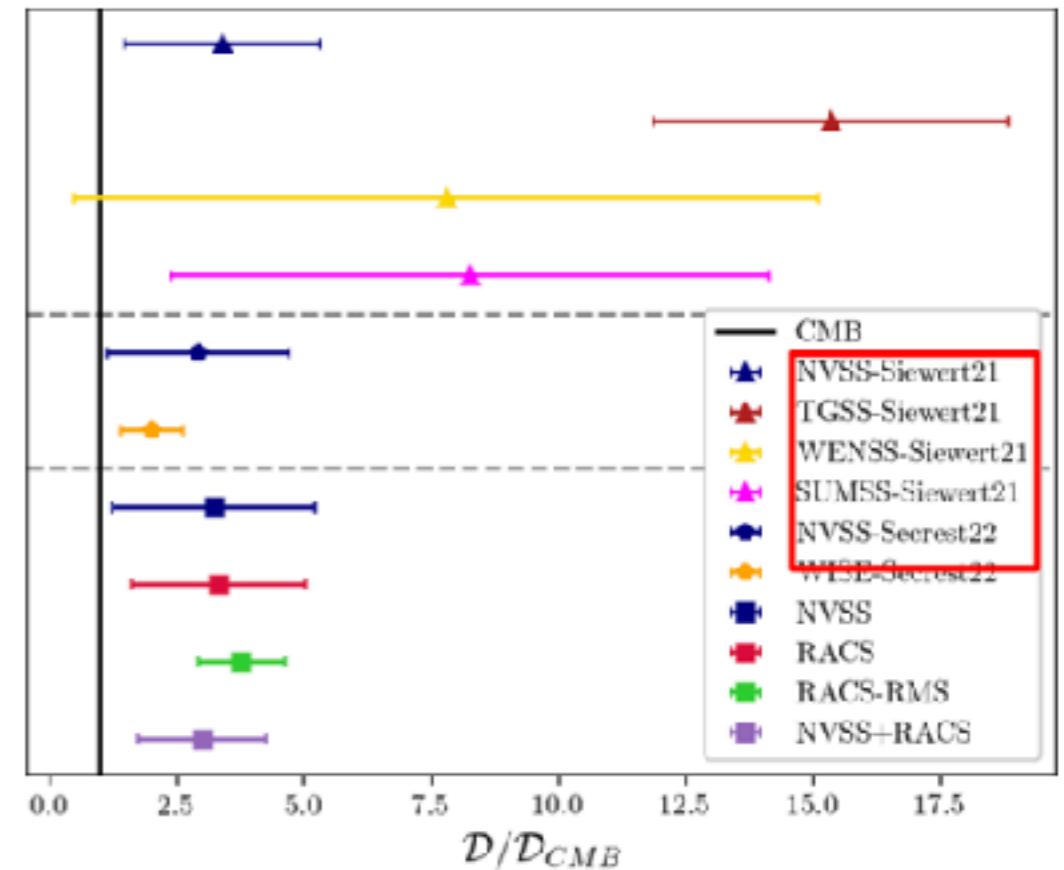
# The NRAO VLA Sky Survey (NVSS; 1998): first constraints with ~0.5 million radio galaxies



Gibelyou & Huterer (2012)

(Except Blake & Wall 2002), Singal (2011), Gibelyou & Huterer (2012), Rubart & Schwarz (2013), Tiwari et al. (2015), Tiwari & Nusser (2016), Colin et al. (2017), Bengaly et al. (2018), Siewert et al. (2021):

→  $\sim 3\sigma$  tension with kinematic expectation!



Radio results with  $3\sigma$  error bars from Wagenveld et al. (2023) with some earlier radio results highlighted

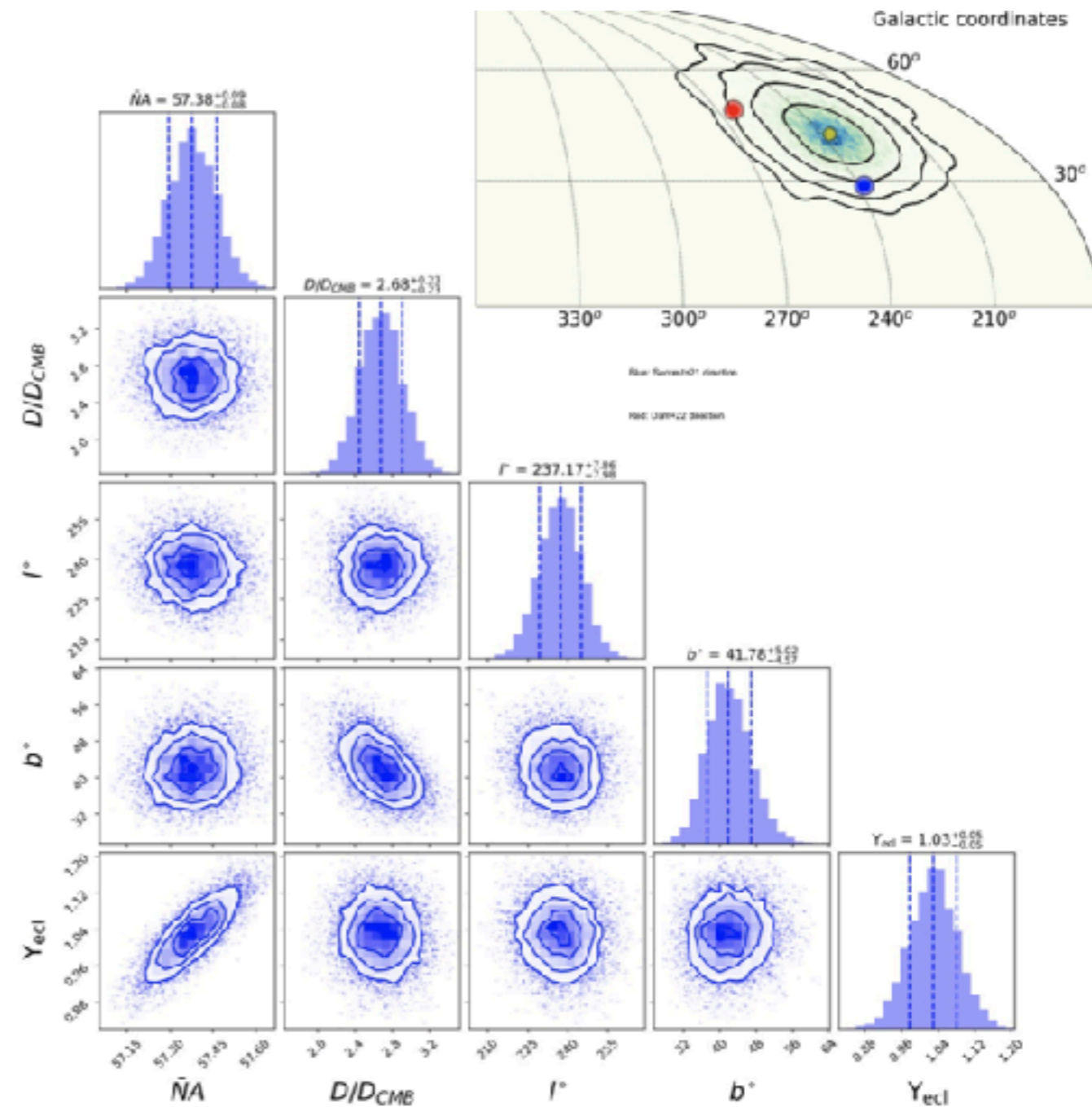
# Okay, Bayesian...

Dam+23 performed a Bayesian analysis of the WISE quasar catalog from Secrest+21

- Poissonian likelihood
- Uniform priors

→ Found  $D/D_{\text{CMB}} = 2.7$

Marginalizing over all other parameters, CMB dipole amplitude rejected at  $5.7\sigma$  level



NA = mean count per sky pixel;  $Y_{\text{ecl}}$  = fractional offset of ecliptic latitude bias from value found by Secrest+21



# Okay, Bayesian...

Wagenveld+23

- Used multi-Poisson MLE with novel term to account for survey non-uniformity to maximize source counts in estimator.

Reject CMB dipole at  $4.8\sigma$  level, *the highest using only radio data.*

My view: Orthogonality of radio galaxies and quasars suggests joint significance of cosmic dipole problem exceeding  $6\sigma$ !

