

# CLUES FROM $\mathcal{Q}$ AND ALCOCK-PACZYŃSKI TESTS

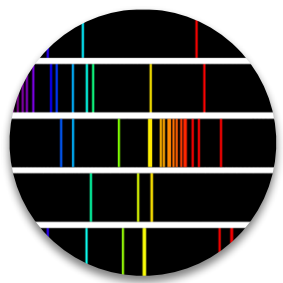


McGill

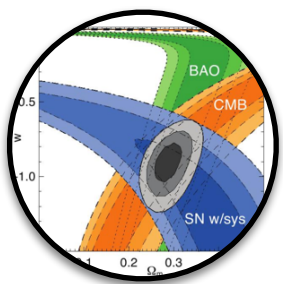
Adrian Liu  
McGill University



# On today's agenda



In the era of **multiple spectral lines**, what are some interesting opportunities **beyond “just” cross correlations?**



How can we **look past astrophysics** during cosmic dawn and reionization to place constraints on **fundamental cosmological parameters?**



# Clues from $\mathcal{Q}$

Sarkar, Iles, **AL** (2025), in prep.



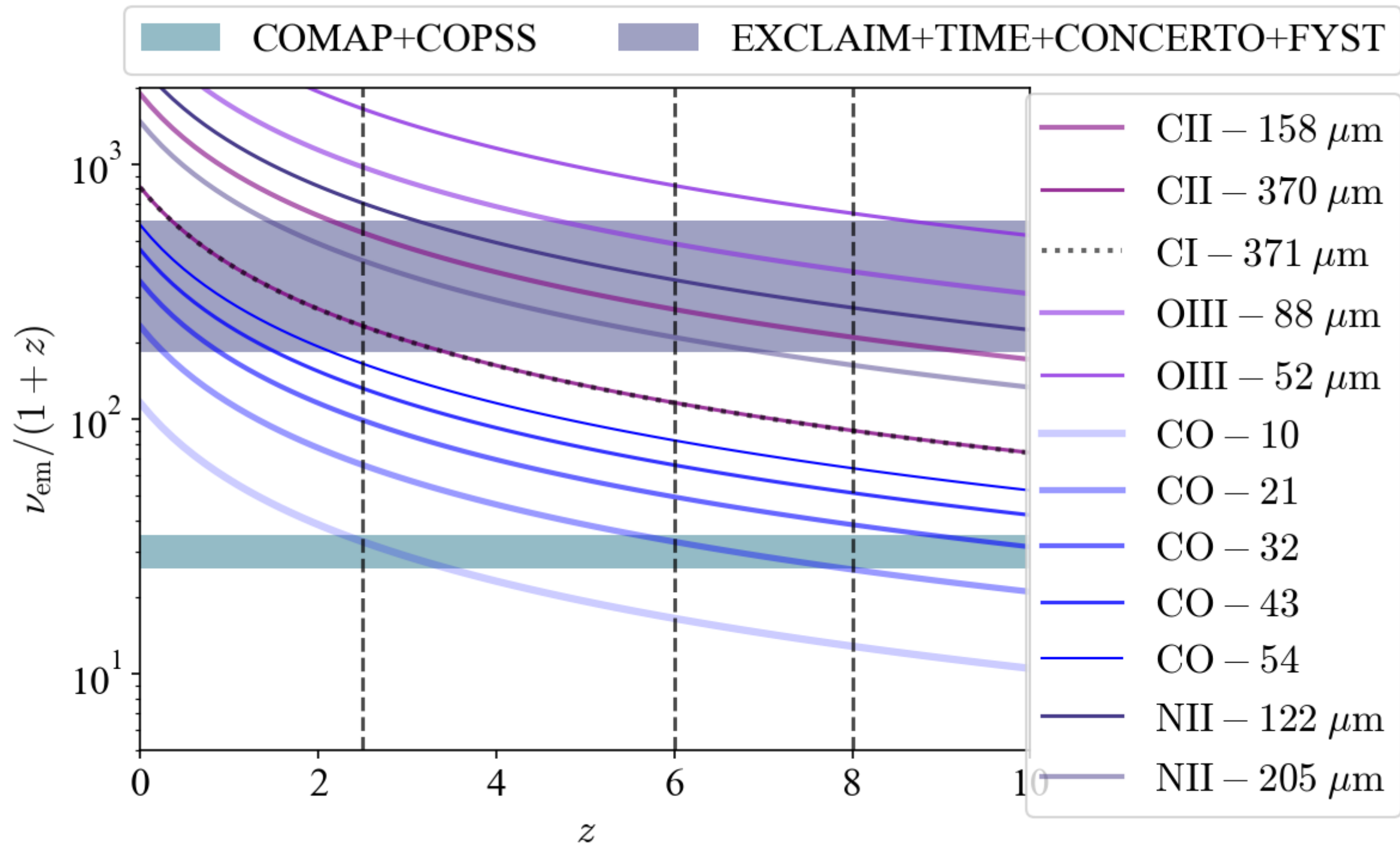
Dr. Debanjan Sarkar  
McGill University



Ella Iles  
McGill undergrad —> ???



It no longer seems crazy to imagine an era of  $N$  lines covering the same redshift...





...and with this prospect comes new opportunities

$$\hat{P}_{aa} \equiv \frac{P_{ab}P_{ac}}{P_{bc}}$$

Beane et al. (2019)



...and with this prospect comes new opportunities

$$\hat{P}_{aa} \equiv \frac{P_{ab}P_{ac}}{P_{bc}}$$

Beane et al. (2019)

**Do the relevant assumptions (linear bias, strong inter-line correlation) hold?**

...and with this prospect comes new opportunities

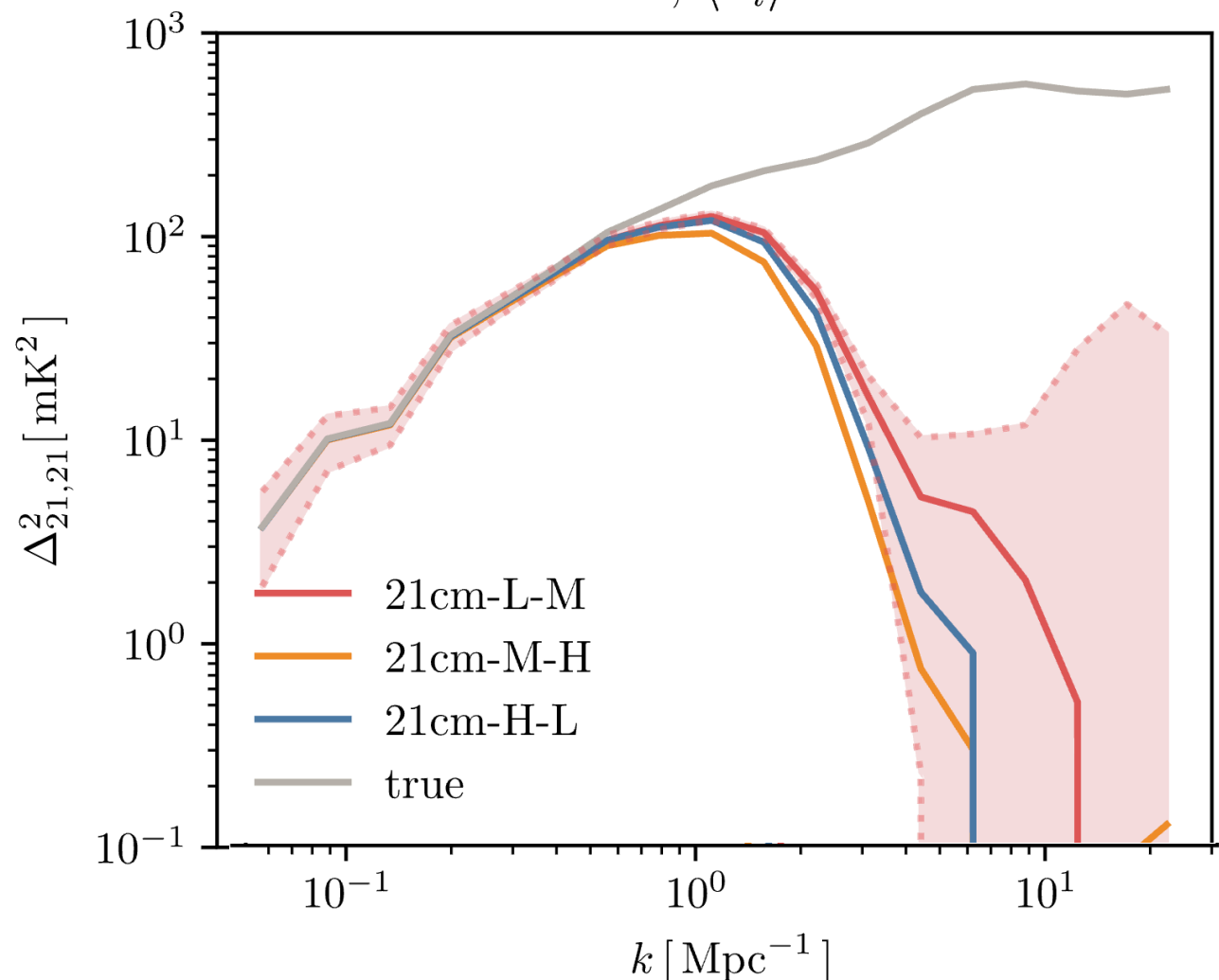
$$\hat{P}_{aa} \equiv \frac{P_{ab}P_{ac}}{P_{bc}}$$

**Do the relevant assumptions (linear bias, strong inter-line correlation) hold?**

Simulations are ok, but what if we aren't sure about the modelling?

Beane et al. (2019)

$z = 8.34, \langle x_i \rangle = 0.36$





# Data-driven way to test the assumptions

$$Q_{abcd} \equiv \frac{P_{ab}P_{cd}}{P_{ac}P_{bd}}$$

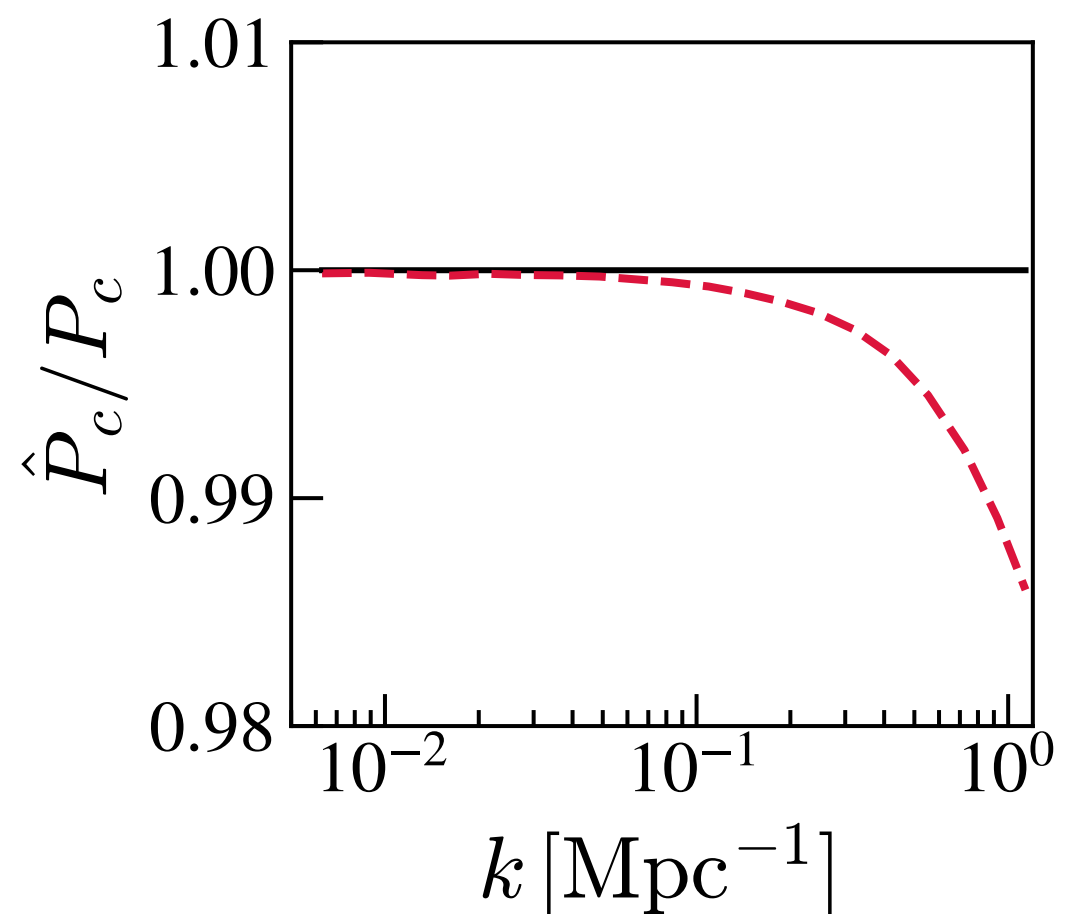
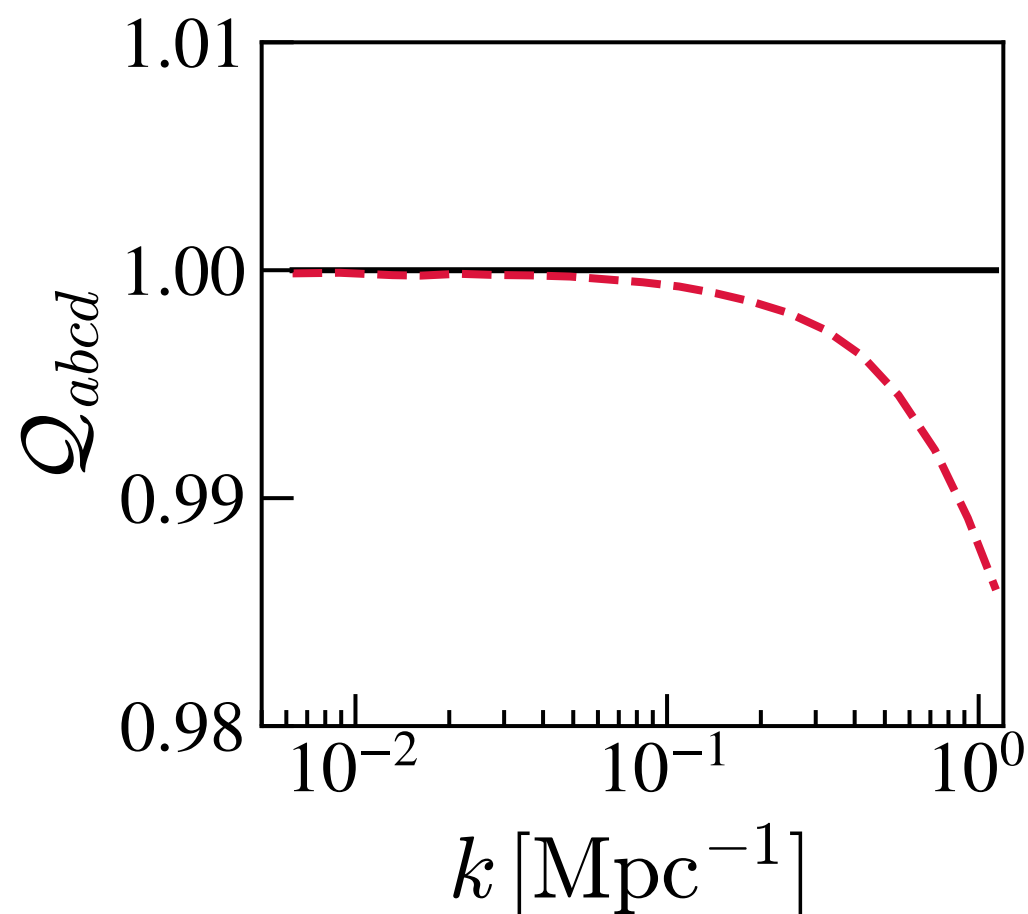
# Data-driven way to test the assumptions

$$Q_{abcd} \equiv \frac{P_{ab}P_{cd}}{P_{ac}P_{bd}} \rightarrow 1 \text{ if the Beane et al. assumptions hold}$$

# Data-driven way to test the assumptions

$$Q_{abcd} \equiv \frac{P_{ab} P_{cd}}{P_{ac} P_{bd}} \rightarrow 1 \text{ if the Beane et al. assumptions hold}$$

(a) [CII] 158  $\mu\text{m}$ , (b) [OIII] 88  $\mu\text{m}$ , (c) [NII] 122  $\mu\text{m}$ , (d) [NII] 205  $\mu\text{m}$





Under many reasonable  
scenarios this works.

**But when does this fail?**

Model (LIMpy):  $L = \alpha (\text{SFR})^\beta$

Model (LIMpy):  $L = \alpha (\text{SFR})^\beta$

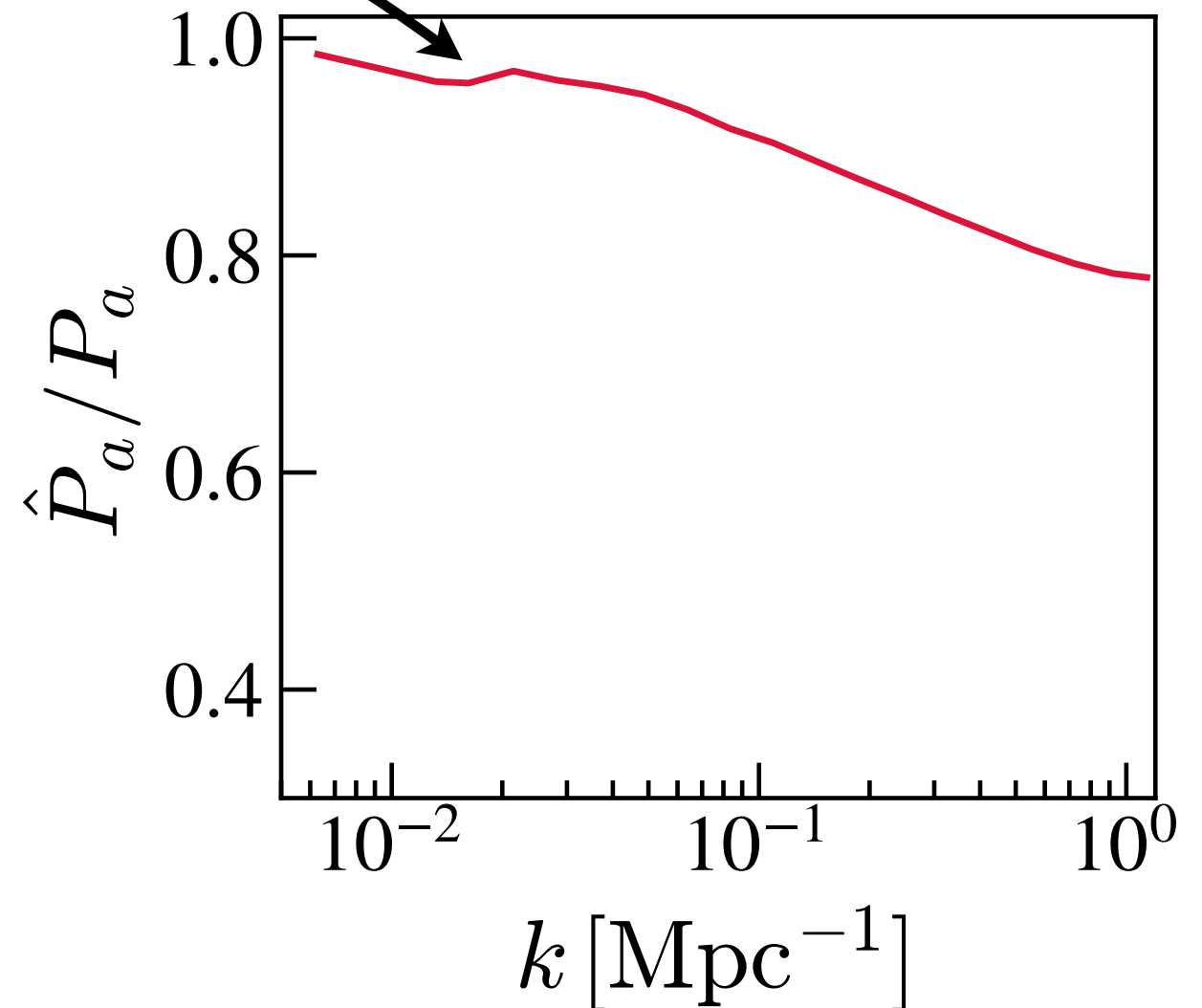
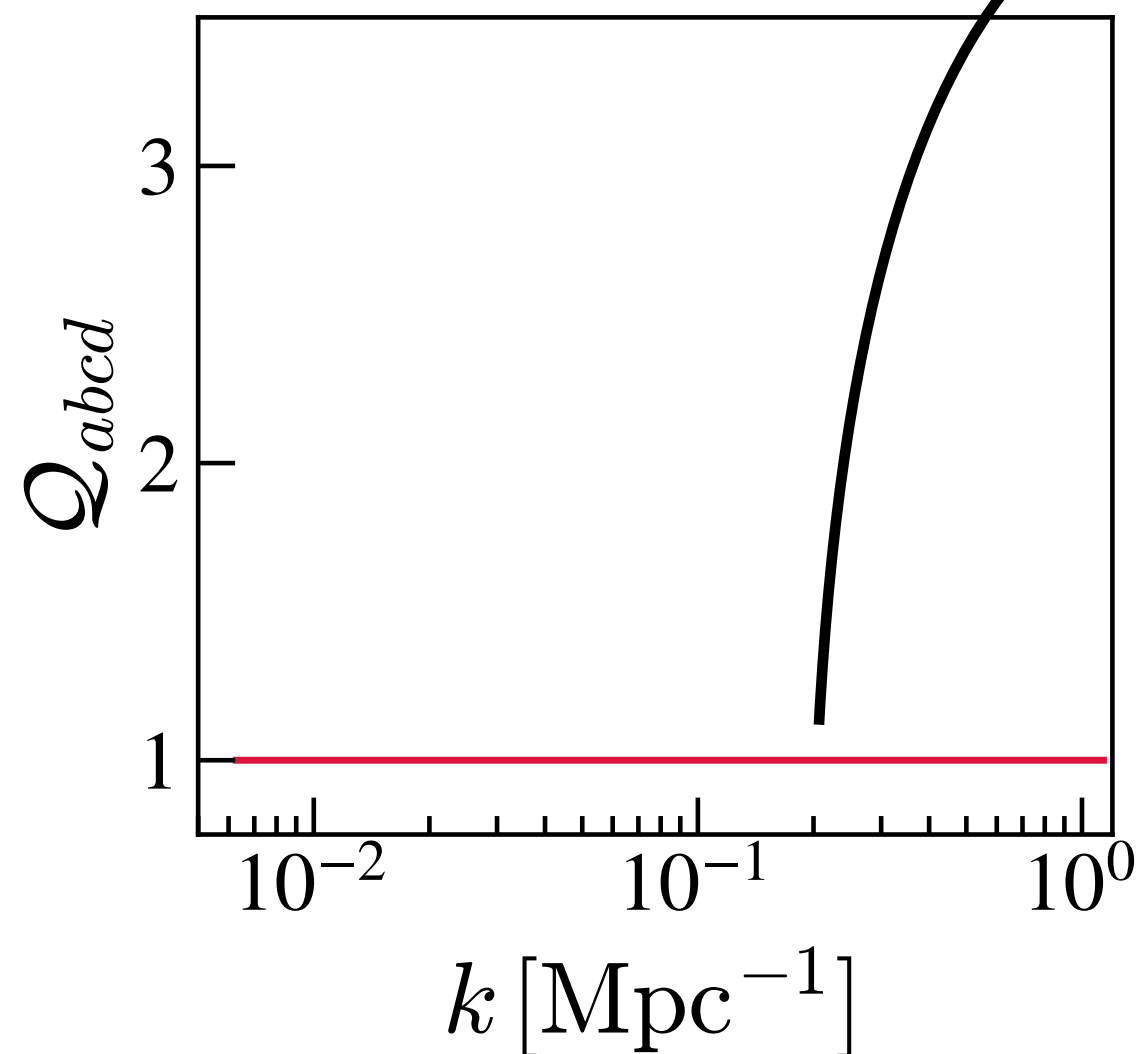
Doesn't matter

Model (LIMpy):  $L = \alpha (\text{SFR})^\beta$  Generally, the more similar  $\beta$ ,  
Doesn't matter the more  $Q \approx 1$  when it's  
suppose to be



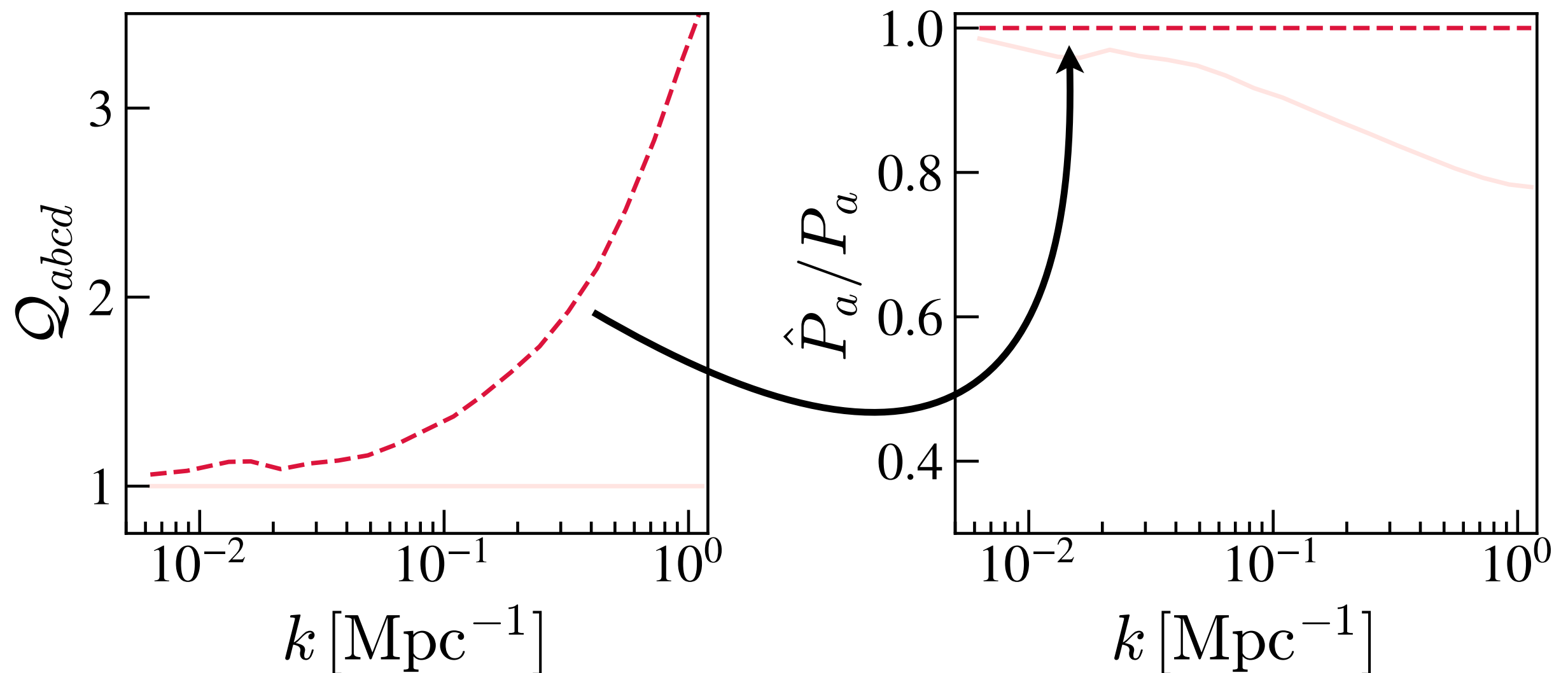
Model (LIMpy):  $L = \alpha (\text{SFR})^\beta$

**False negative** when the target auto spectrum is very different from the other three (similar) lines

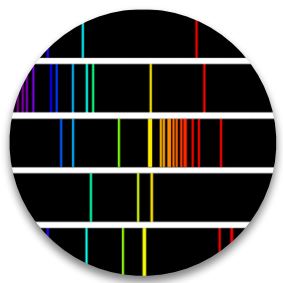


Model (LIMpy):  $L = \alpha (\text{SFR})^\beta$

**False positive** when the four lines (a,b,c,d) are in **two groups** (a,b), (c,d) that are **internally similar but different from each other**

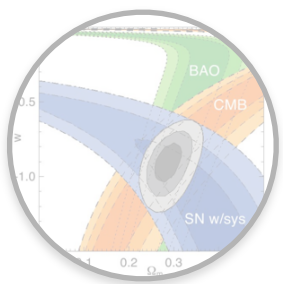


# On today's agenda



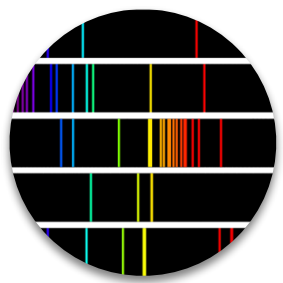
In the era of **multiple spectral lines**, what are some interesting opportunities **beyond “just” cross correlations?**

*Ratios of cross-power spectra can be interesting, both for signal estimation and data-driven null tests*



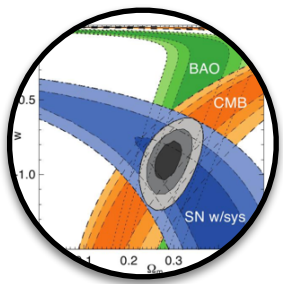
How can we **look past astrophysics** during cosmic dawn and reionization to place constraints on **fundamental cosmological parameters?**

# On today's agenda



In the era of **multiple spectral lines**, what are some interesting opportunities **beyond “just” cross correlations?**

*Ratios of cross-power spectra can be interesting, both for signal estimation and data-driven null tests*



How can we **look past astrophysics** during cosmic dawn and reionization to place constraints on **fundamental cosmological parameters?**

# An Alcock-Paczynski Test on Reionization Bubbles for Cosmology

Thélie, Del Balso, Muñoz, **AL** (2025), Phys. Rev. D **111**, 123501

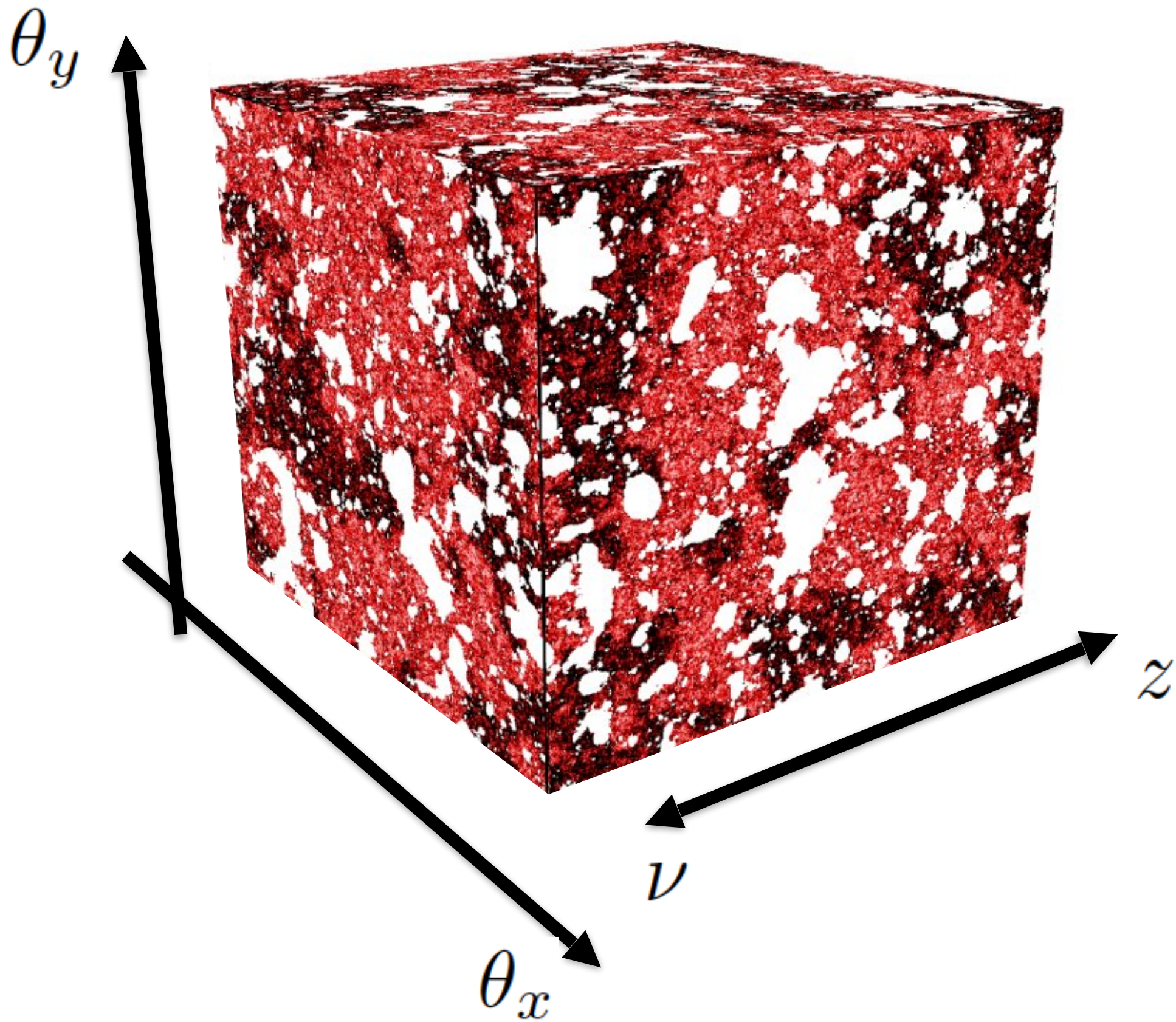


Dr. Emilie Thélie  
UT Austin

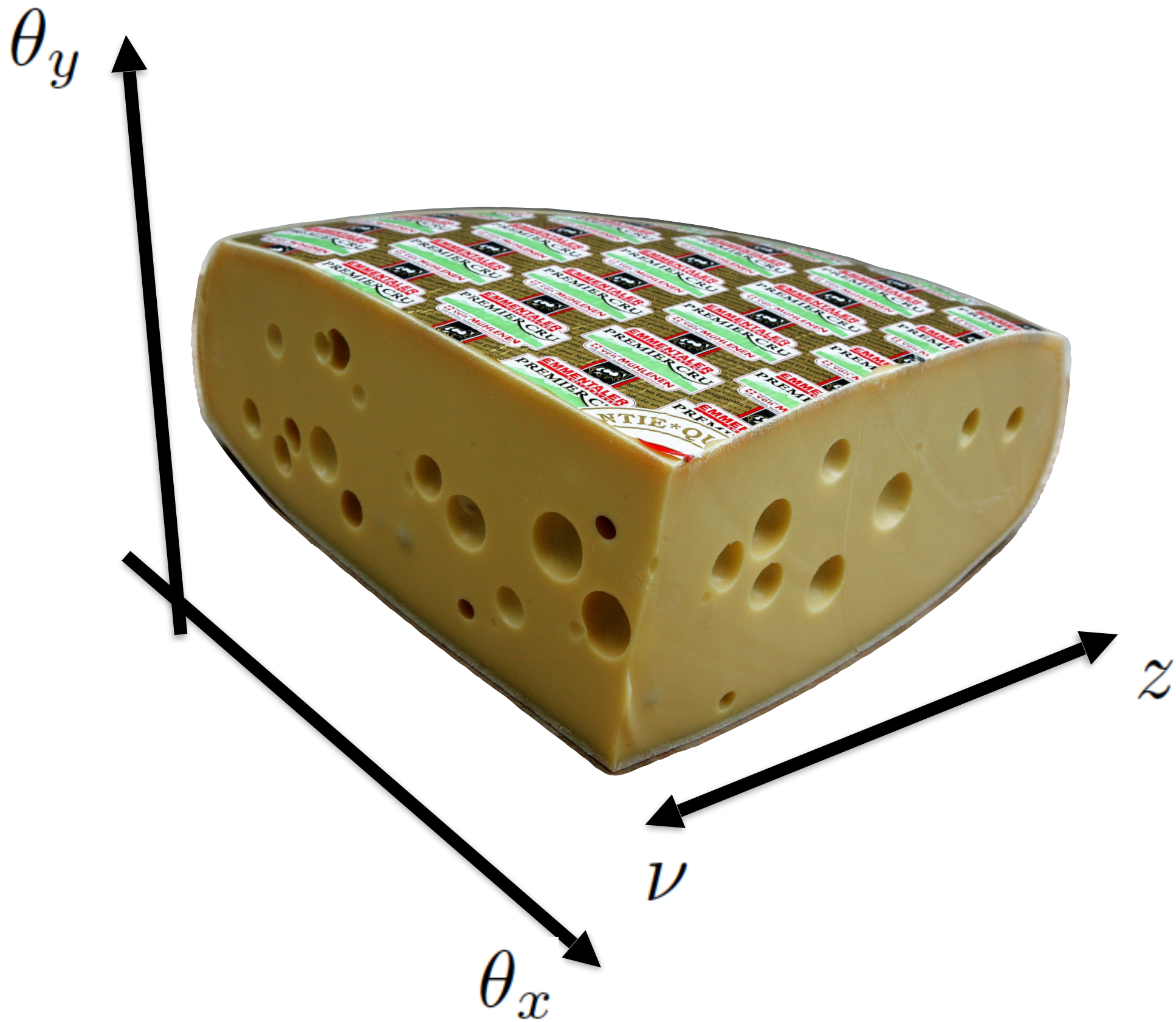


Franco Del Balso  
McGill undergrad —> ???

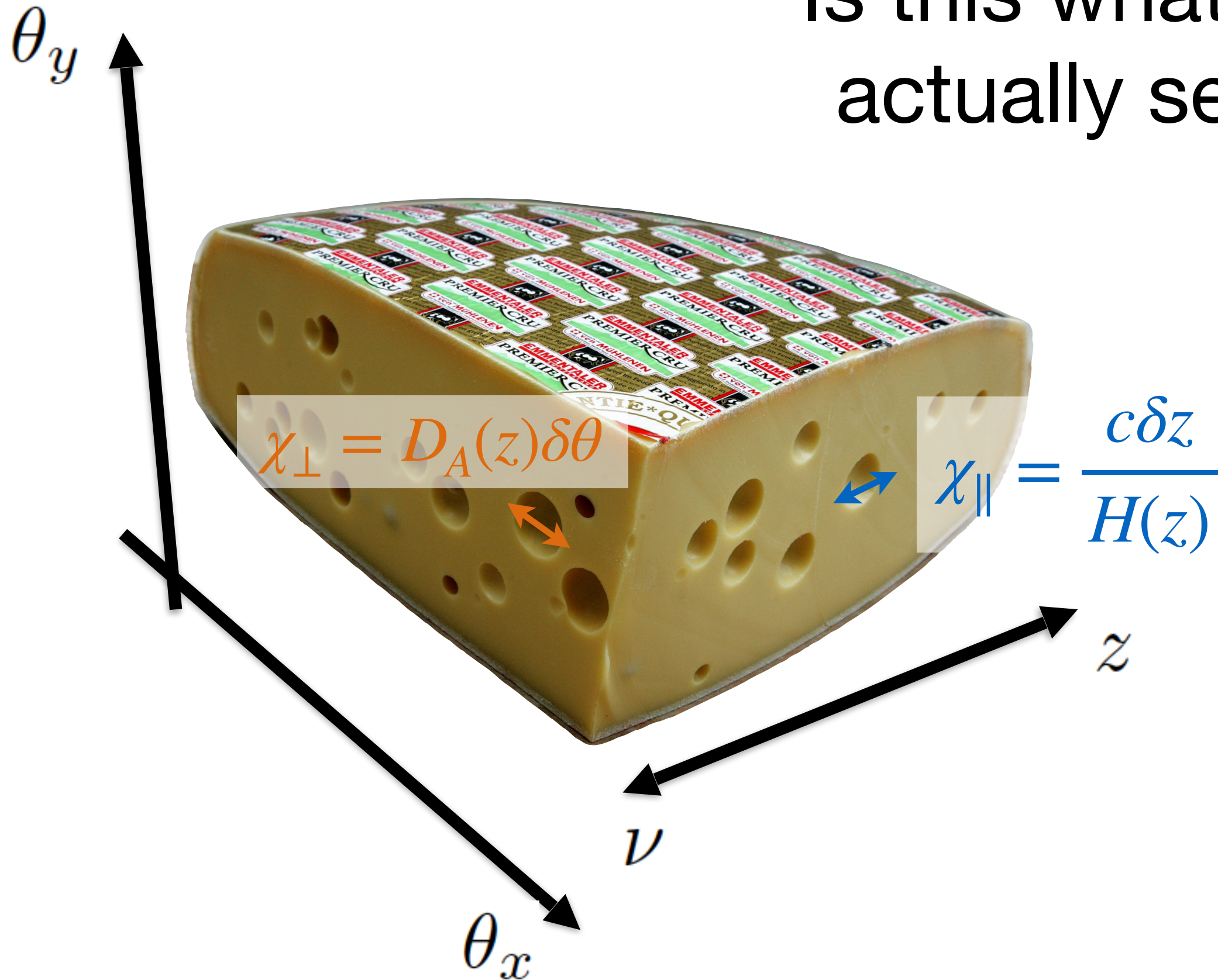






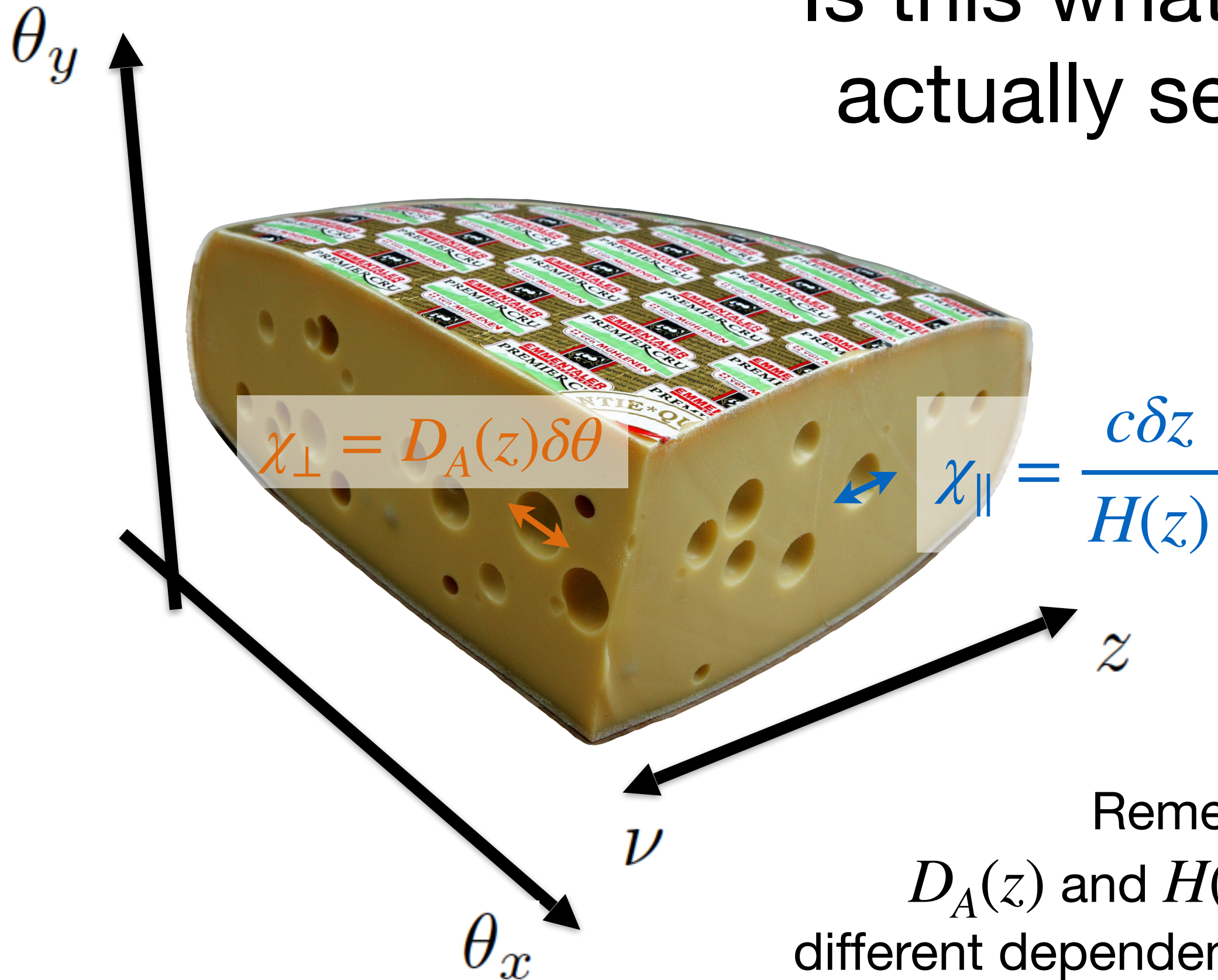


Is this what we  
actually see?





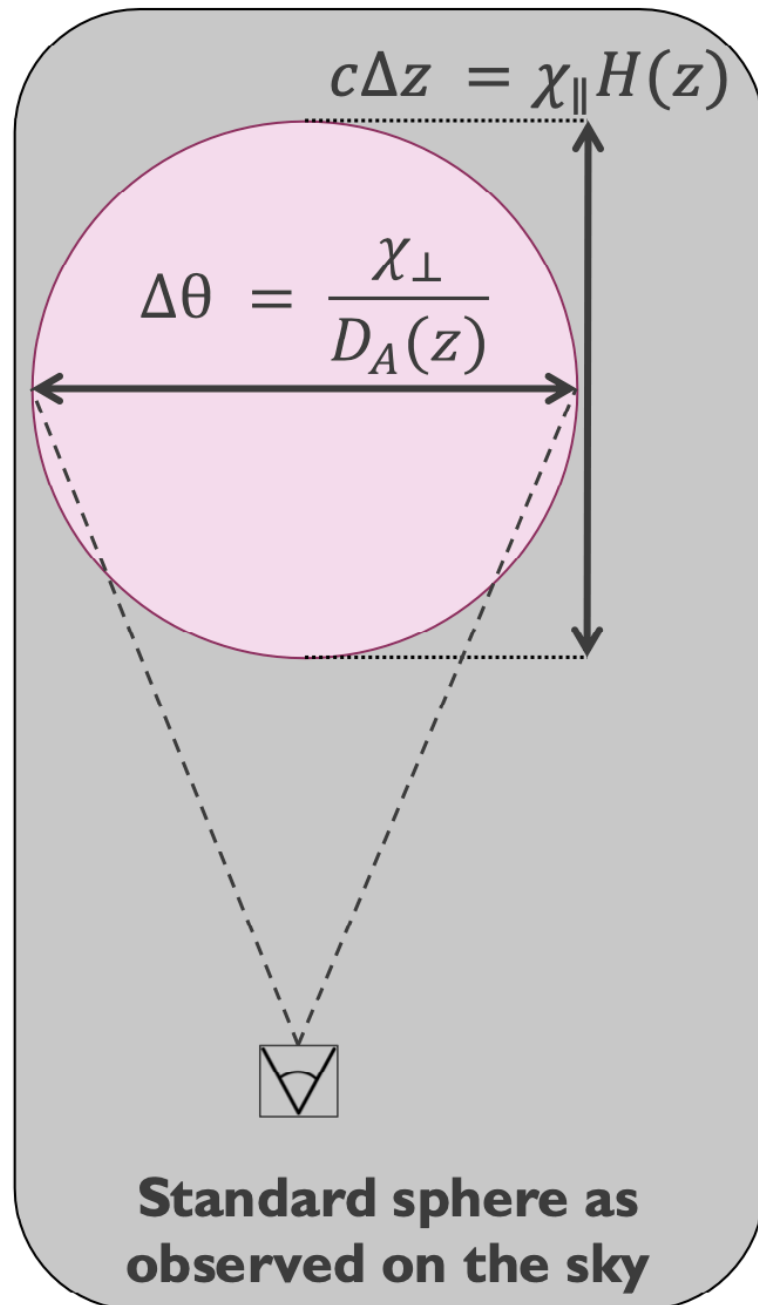
Is this what we  
actually see?



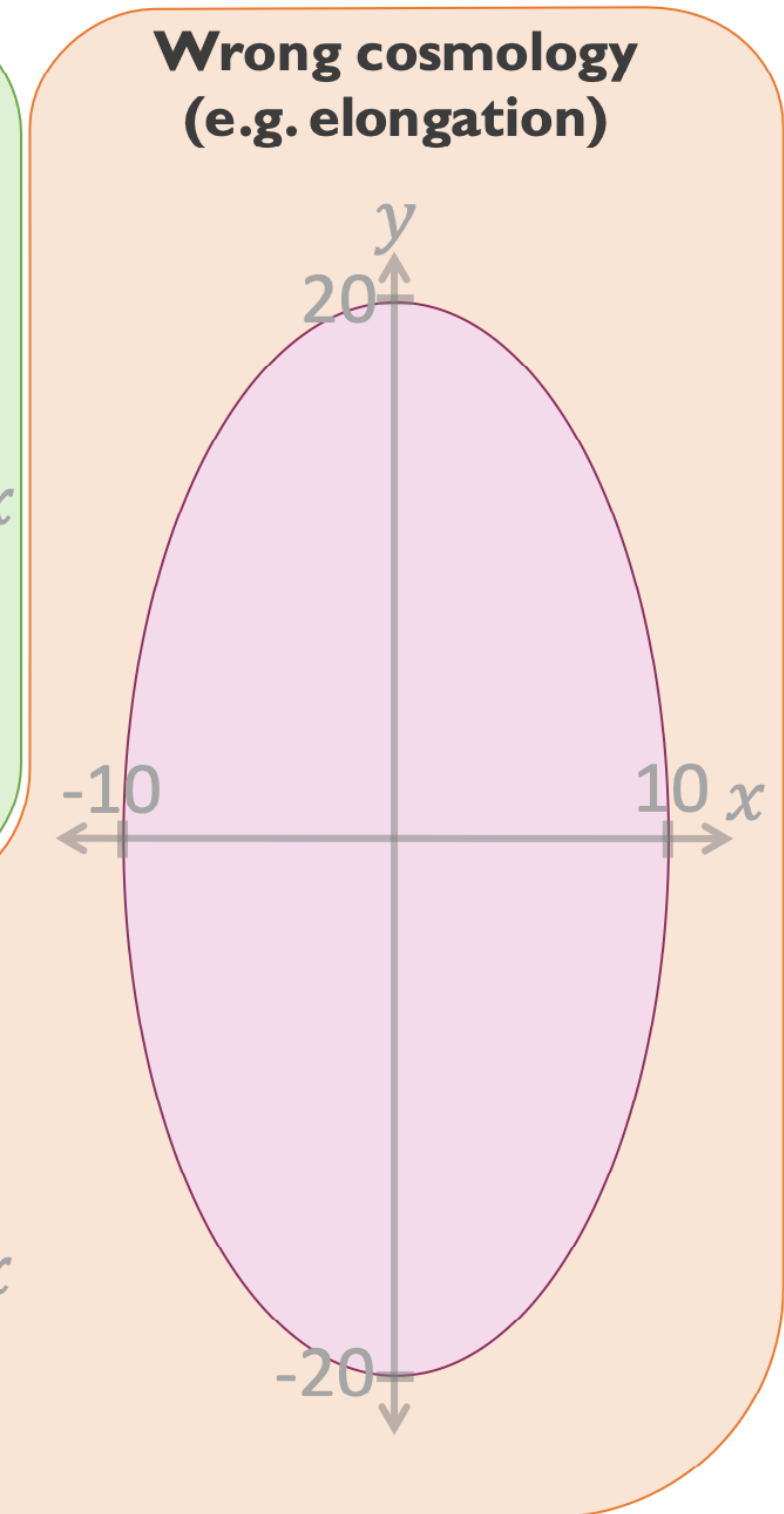
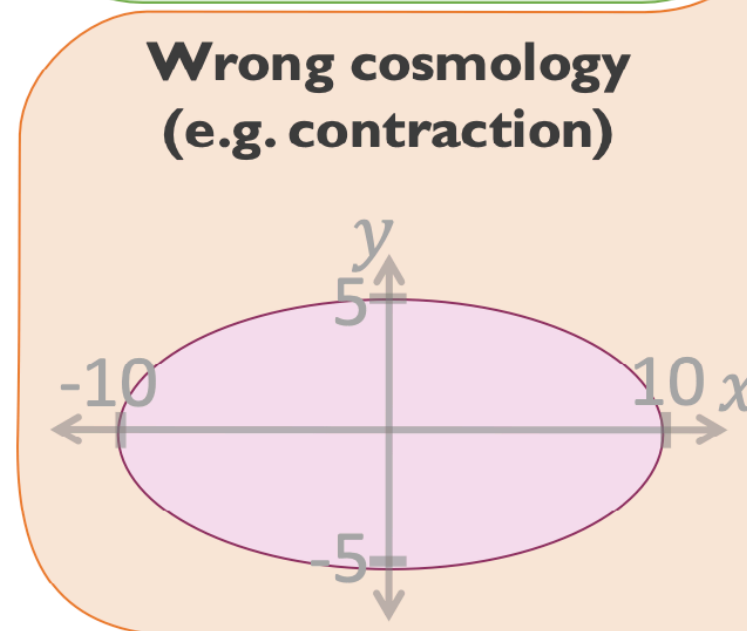
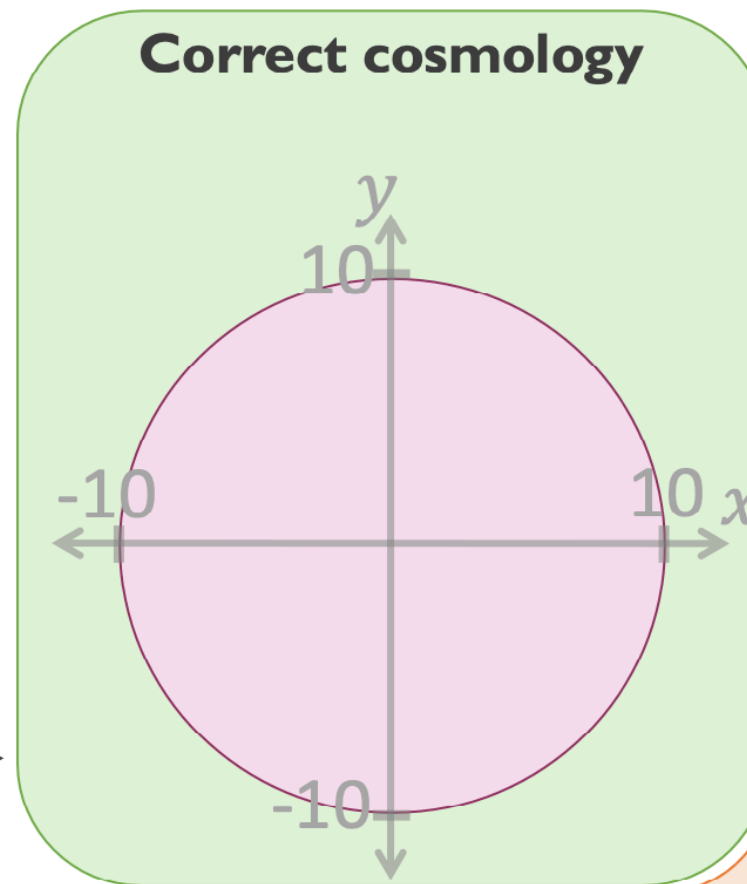
Remember...

$D_A(z)$  and  $H(z)$  have  
different dependencies on  
cosmological parameters

# Converting angles and redshifts to comoving distances requires cosmological assumptions



Converting  
angles to  
distances





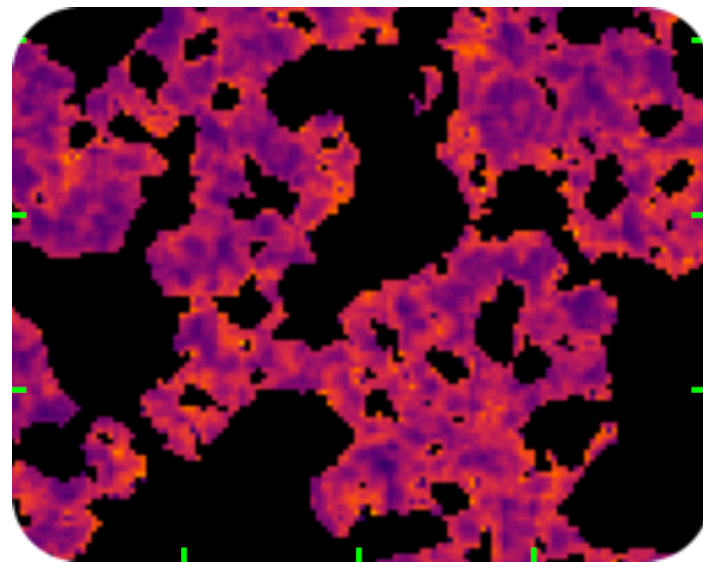
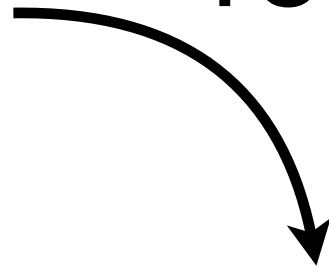
# Standard spheres

will only appear spherical if we have a correct cosmological mapping between observer coordinates and theory coordinates, which means we can work in reverse and

**constrain cosmological  
parameters by testing for  
sphericity**



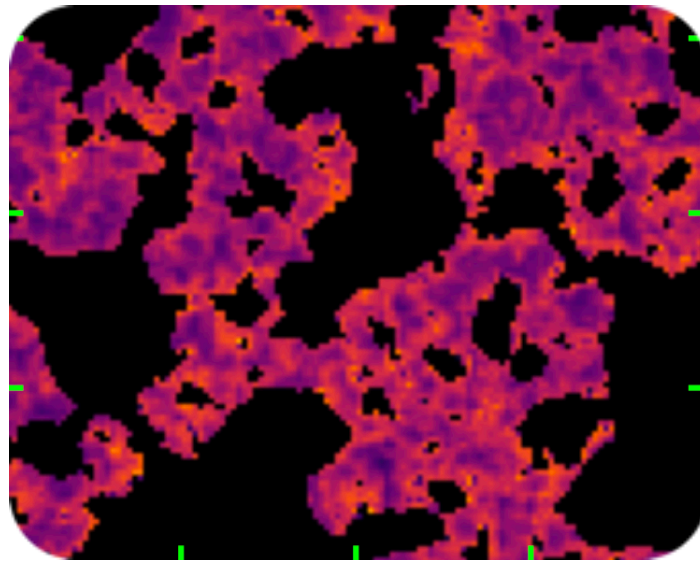
An actual  
reionization  
model



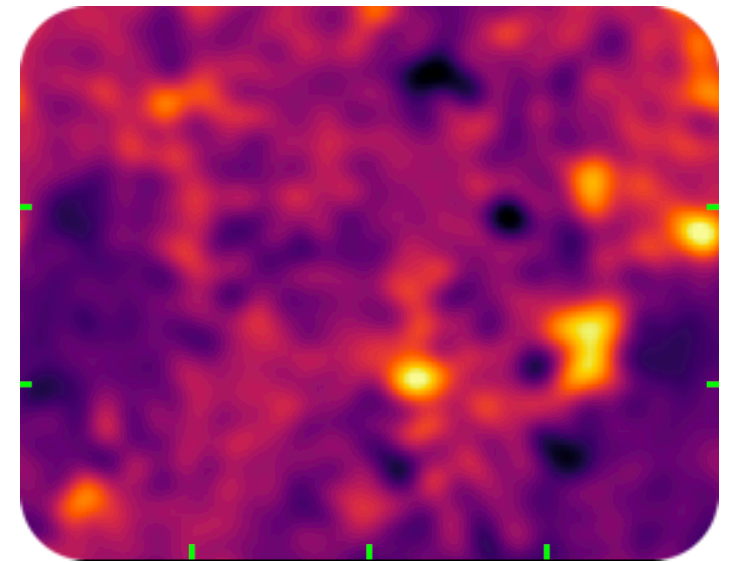
We don't have standard spheres!



An actual  
reionization  
model

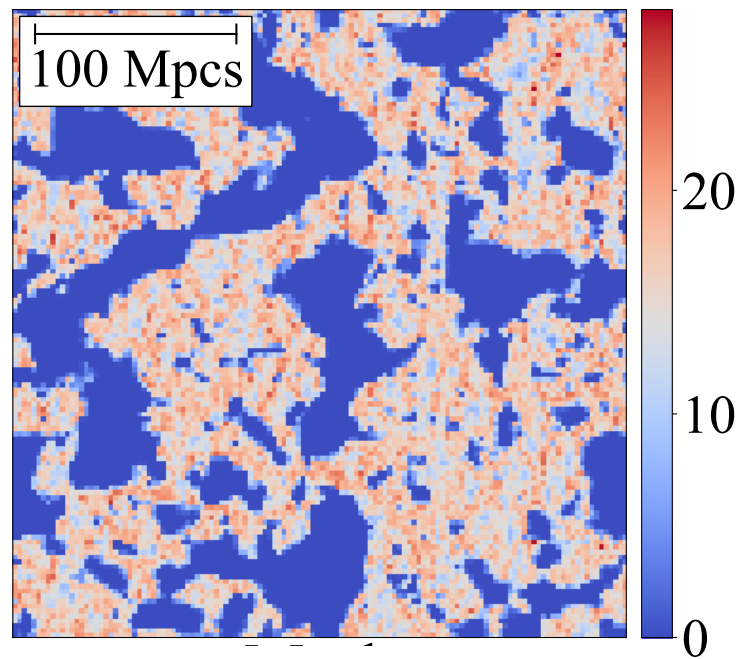


After  
foreground  
filtering

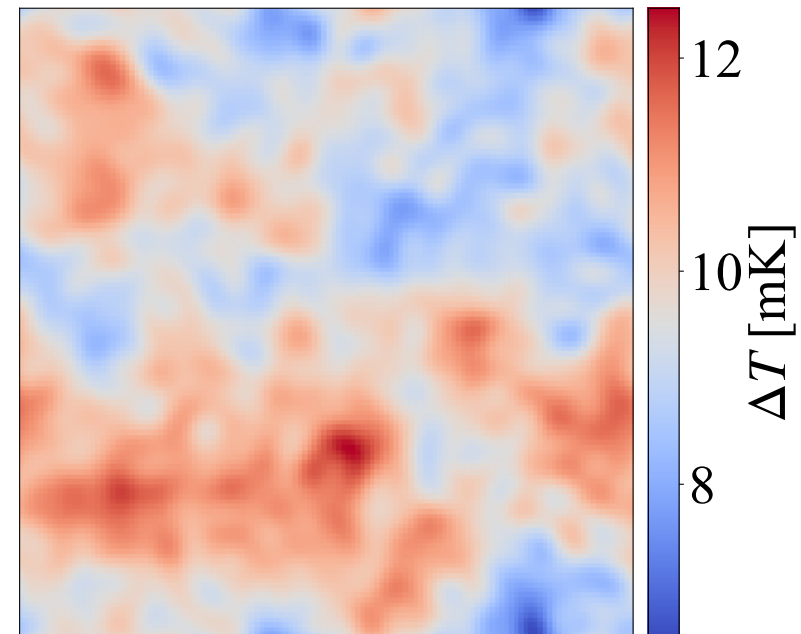


We don't have standard spheres!

Filtering the data can get rid of contaminants,  
but **destroy lots of information**....



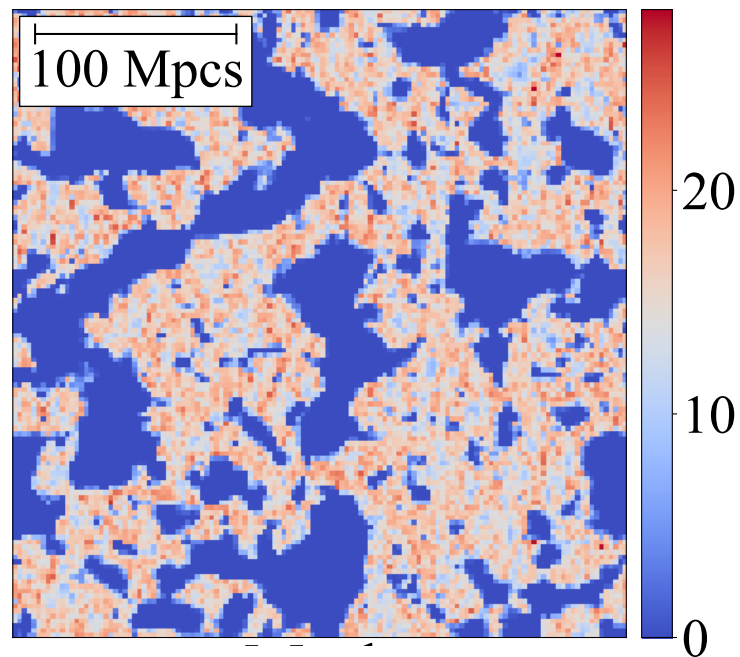
Original



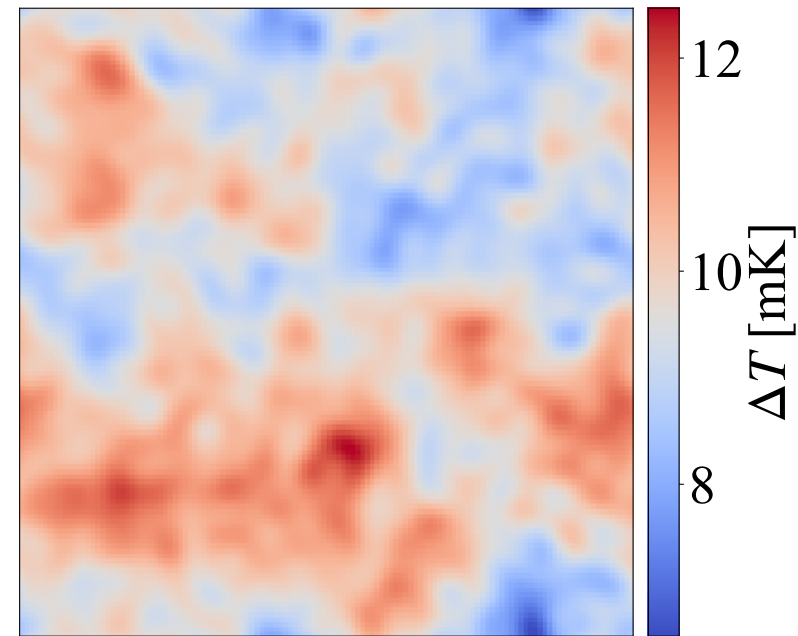
Filtered



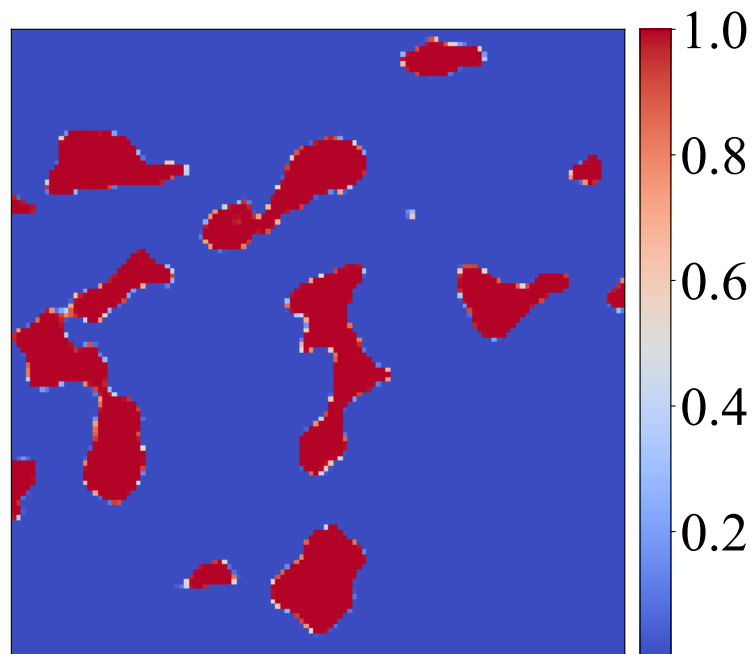
Filtering the data can get rid of contaminants,  
but **destroy lots of information**....



Original



Filtered



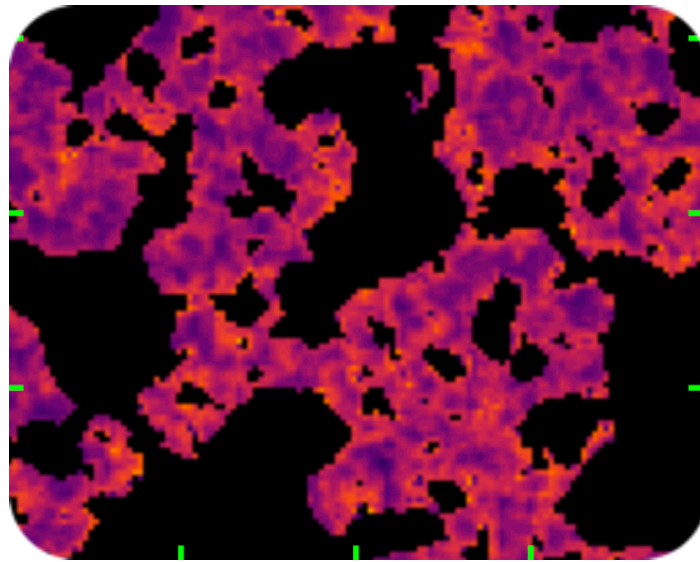
Predicted ionization

....but perhaps **machine learning** can  
save the day!

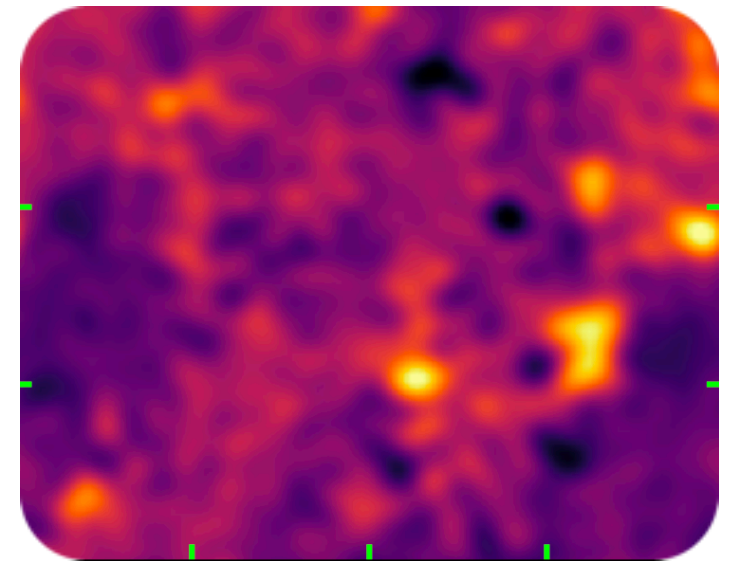
- Gagnon-Hartman, Cui, Kennedy, **AL**, Ravanbakhsh (2021) MNRAS **504**, 4716
- Kennedy, Colaço Carr, Gagnon-Hartman, **AL**, Mirocha, Cui (2024) MNRAS **529**, 3684



An actual  
reionization  
model



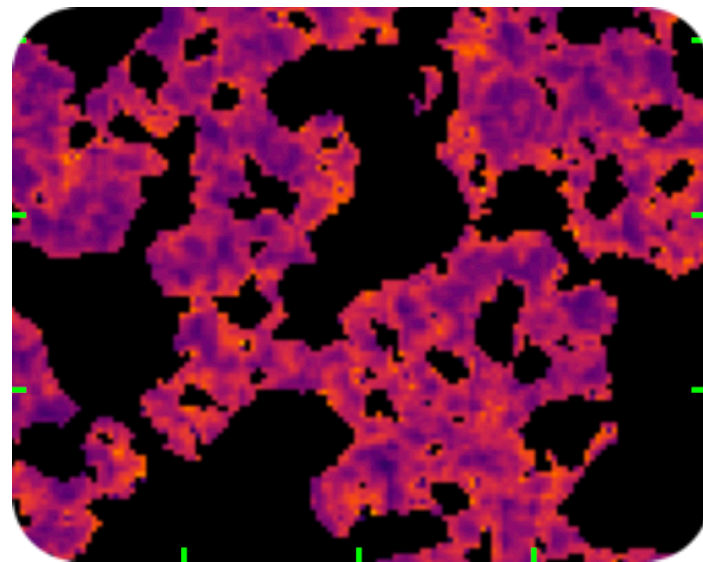
After  
foreground  
filtering



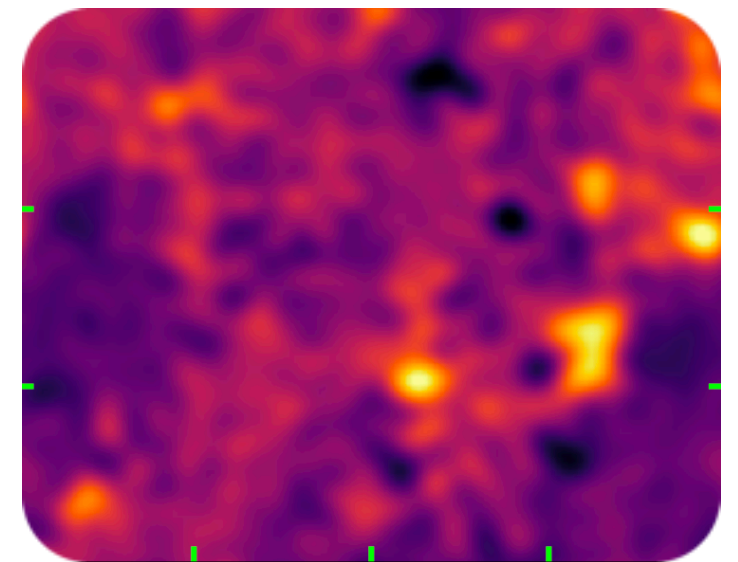
We don't have standard spheres!



An actual  
reionization  
model



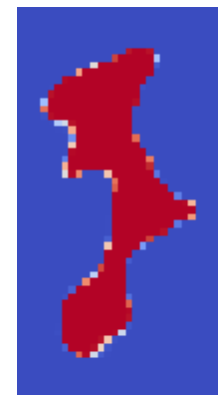
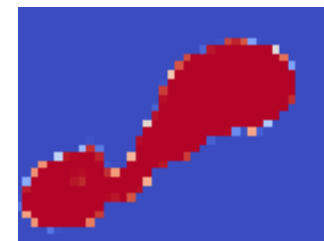
After  
foreground  
filtering



ML reconstruction  
of ionized bubbles

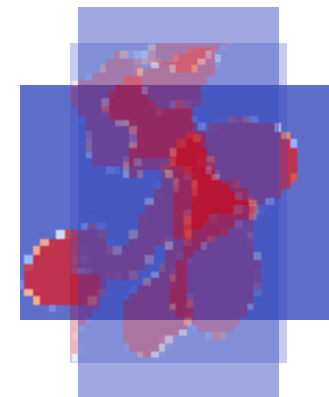
We don't have standard spheres!

**Individual** bubbles are definitely  
not spherical...

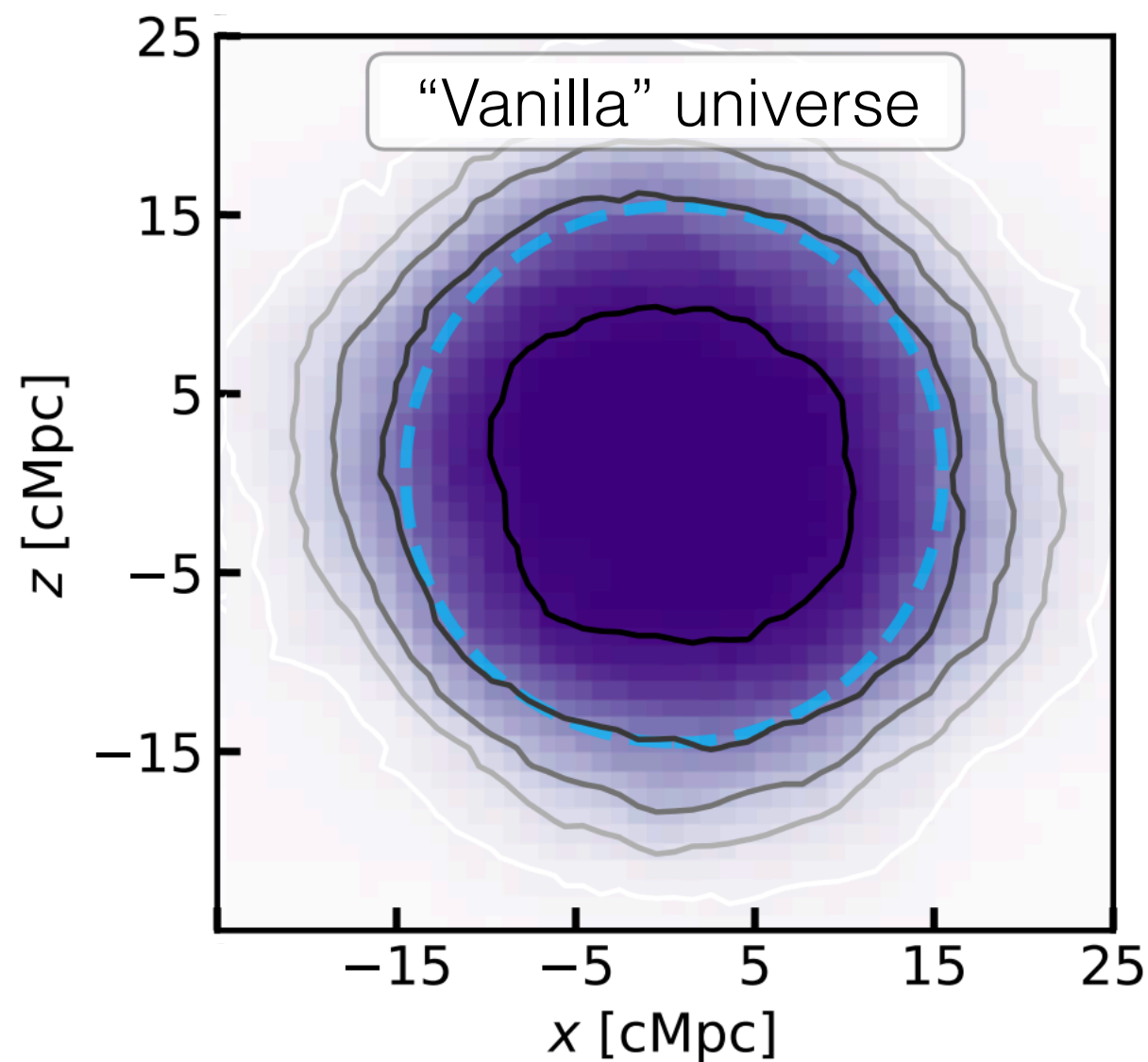




...but our Universe has no preferred direction, so the weird shapes will be randomly oriented and **stacks** of bubbles should be statistically spherical

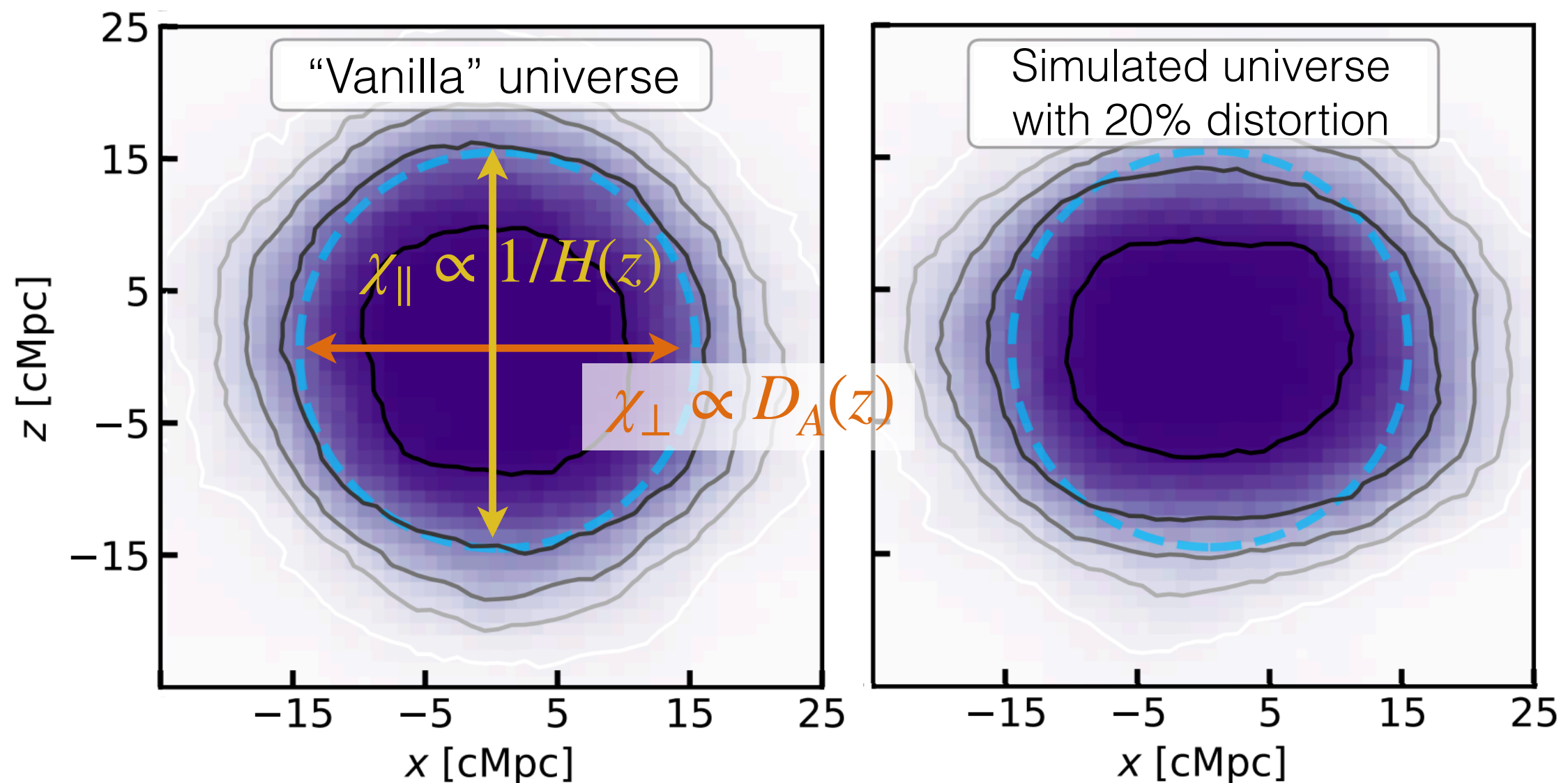


...but our Universe has no preferred direction, so the weird shapes will be randomly oriented and **stacks** of bubbles should be statistically spherical

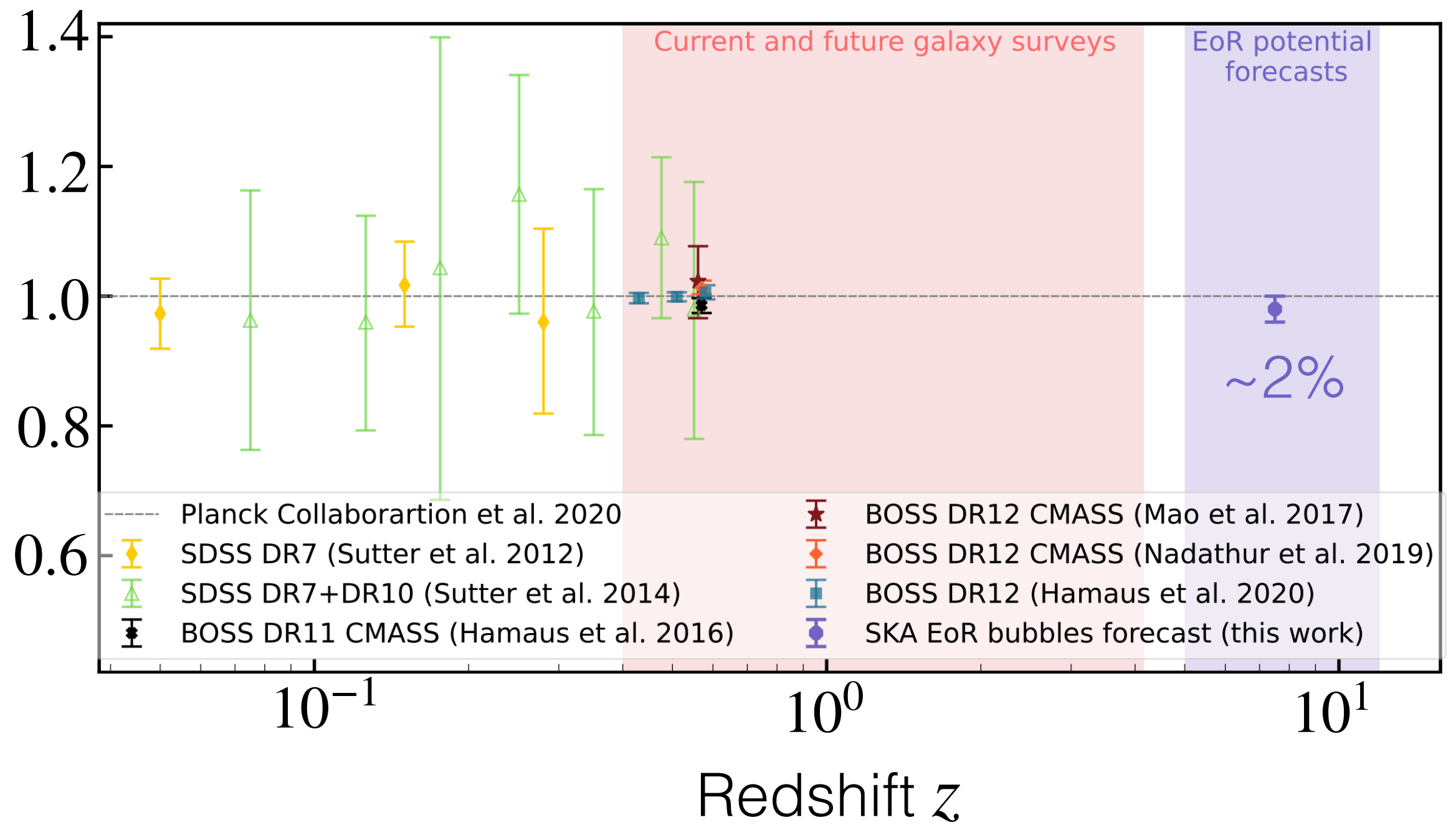


Measuring the sphericity (or lack thereof)  
constrains the parameter combination

$$\chi_{\perp}/\chi_{\parallel} \propto D_A H$$

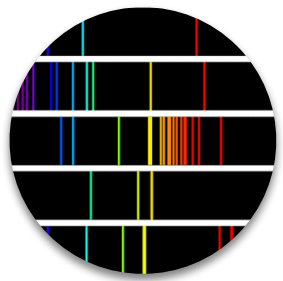


Ratio of  $D_A H$  to fiducial guess



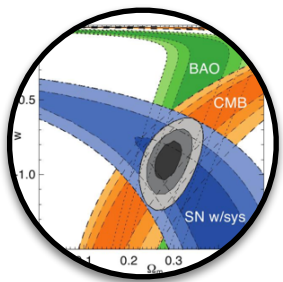


# On today's agenda



In the era of **multiple spectral lines**, what are some interesting opportunities **beyond “just” cross correlations?**

*Ratios of cross-power spectra can be interesting, both for signal estimation and data-driven null tests*



How can we **look past astrophysics** during cosmic dawn and reionization to place constraints on **fundamental cosmological parameters?**

*Use ML to recover bubbles that can be stacked. Stacks will only appear spherical if our cosmological parameter (and therefore distance measures) are correct*

Backup Slides

Wedge

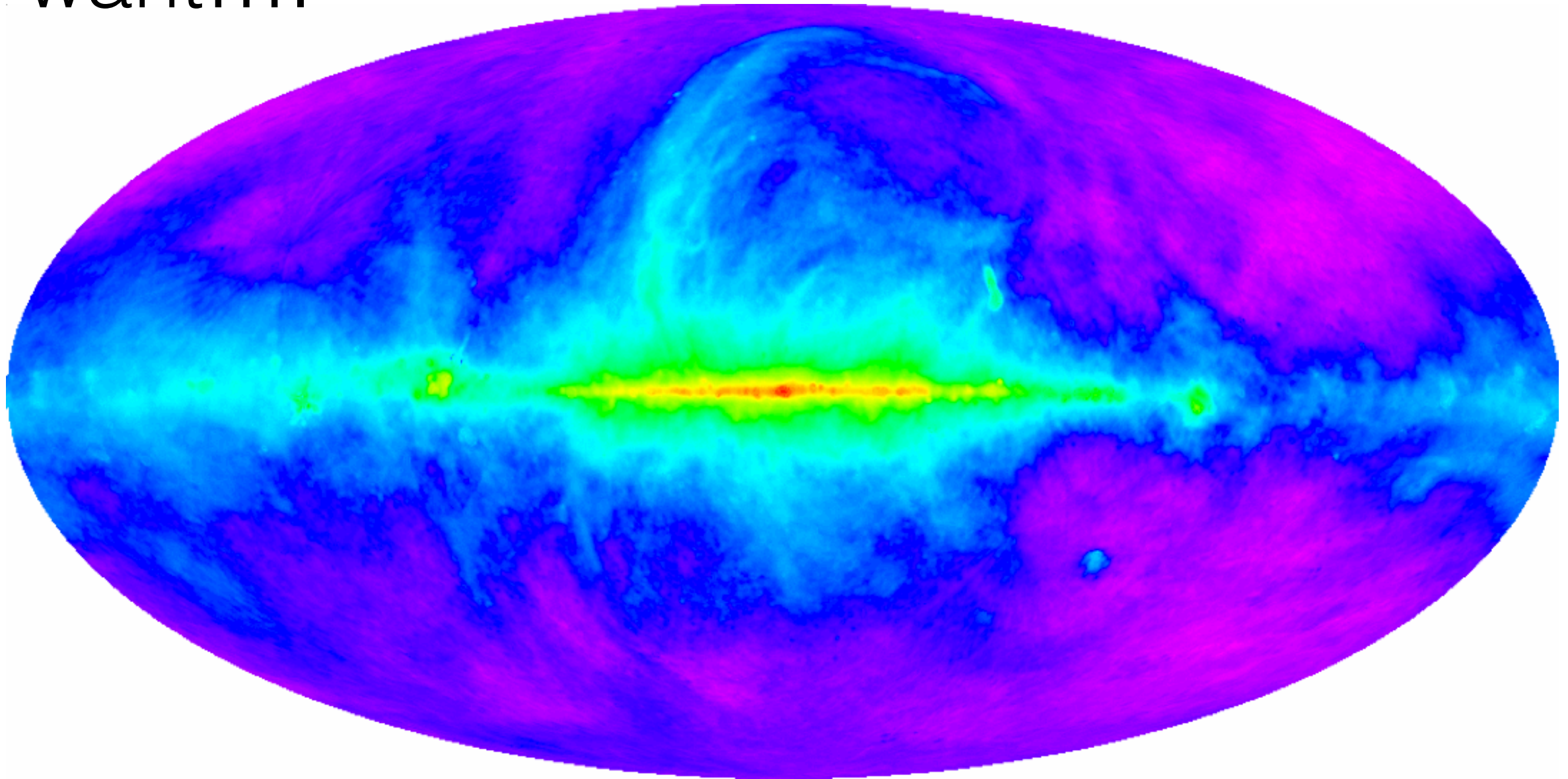
The strongest observational effect is  
that our measurements are strongly  
contaminated by

**foreground emission**

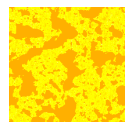
that is  $\sim 10^4$  to  $10^5$  times brighter  
than the cosmological signal



A huge portion is not what you want....

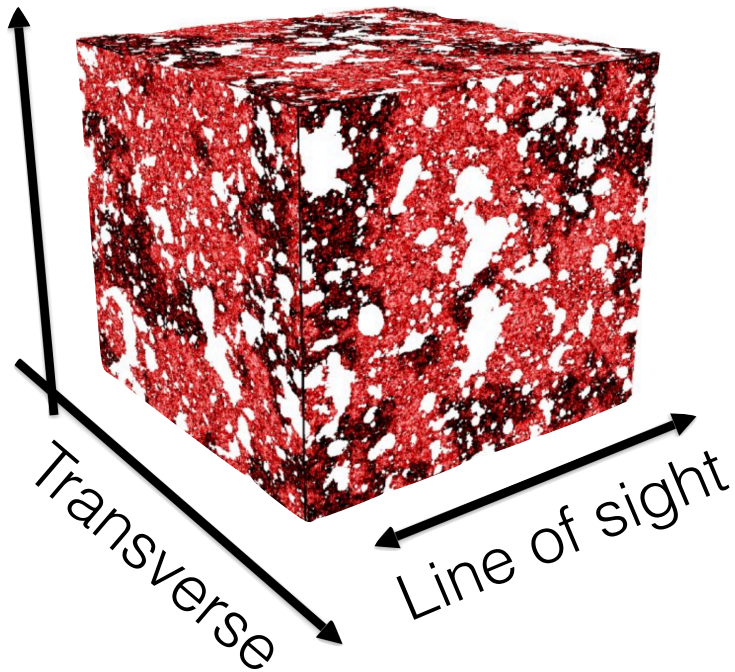


....and just a tiny portion is what you're interested in

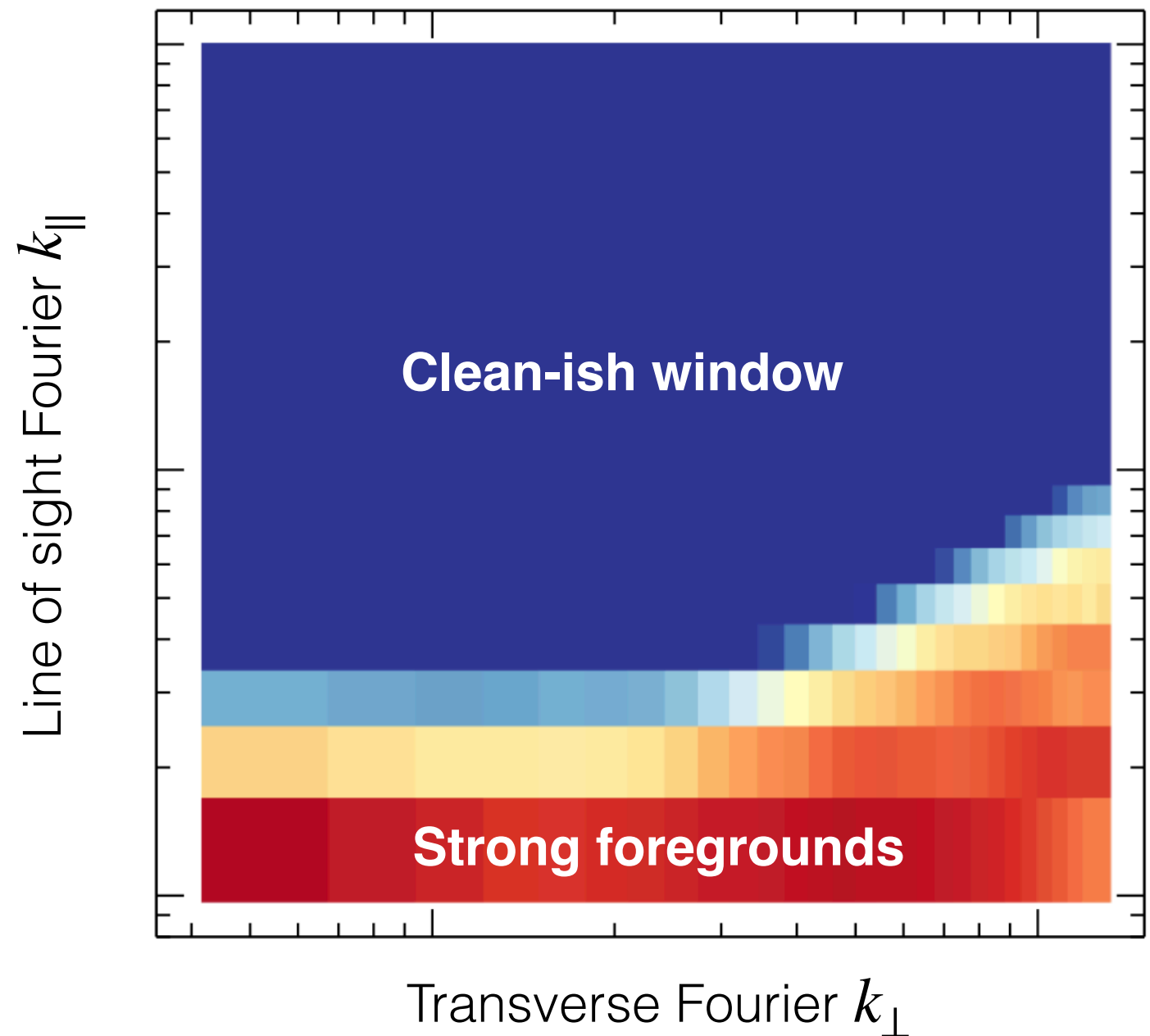
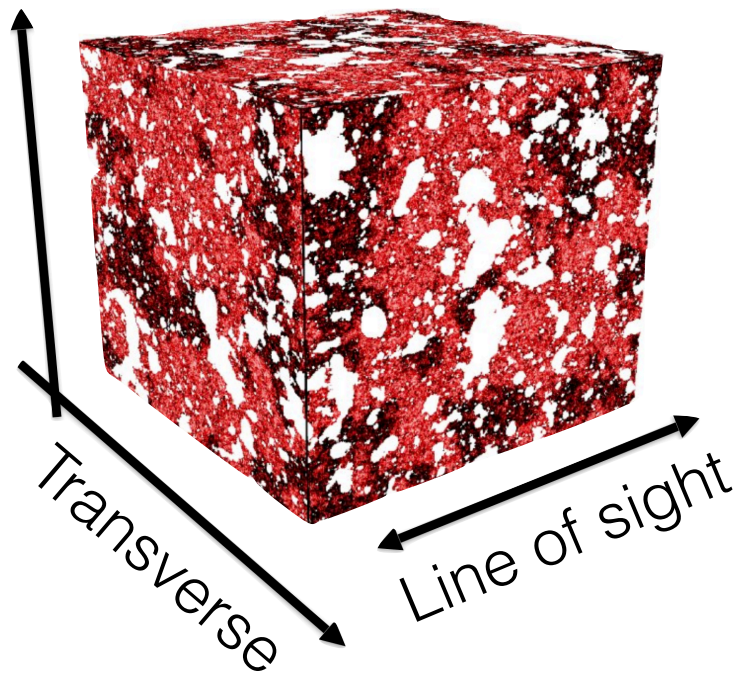


**Filtering** in Fourier space may  
be a solution...

**Filtering** in Fourier space may  
be a solution...

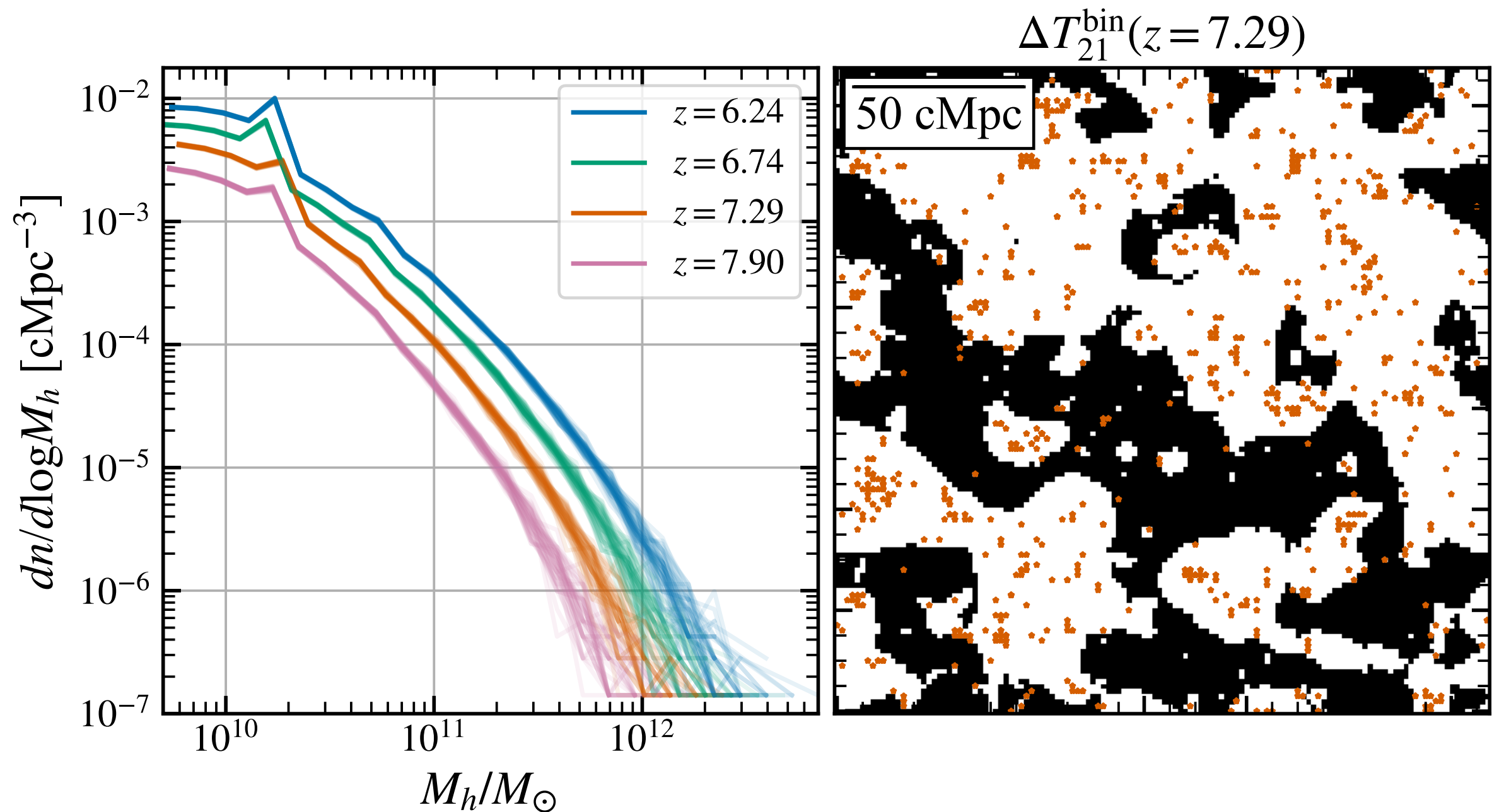


# **Filtering** in Fourier space may be a solution...



ML





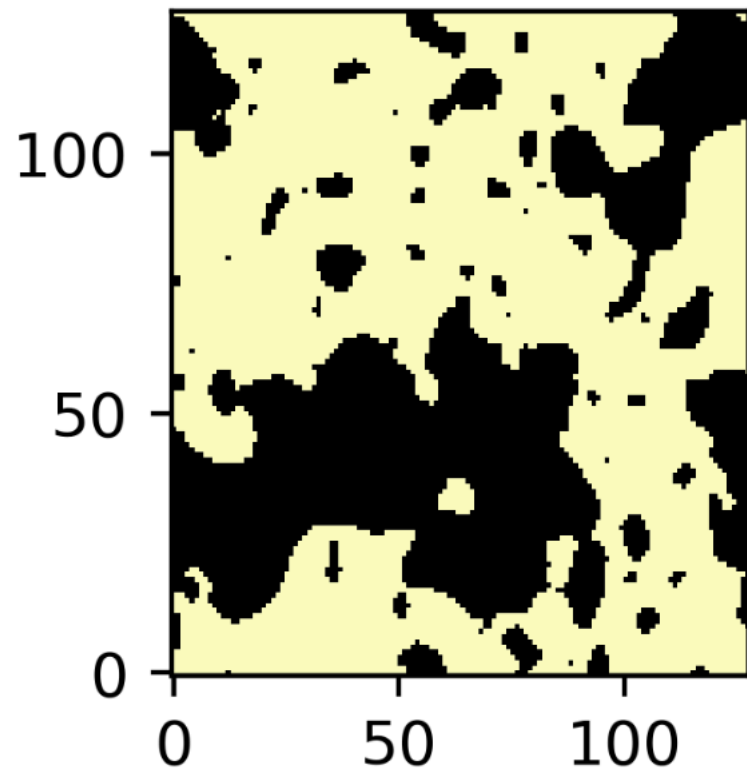
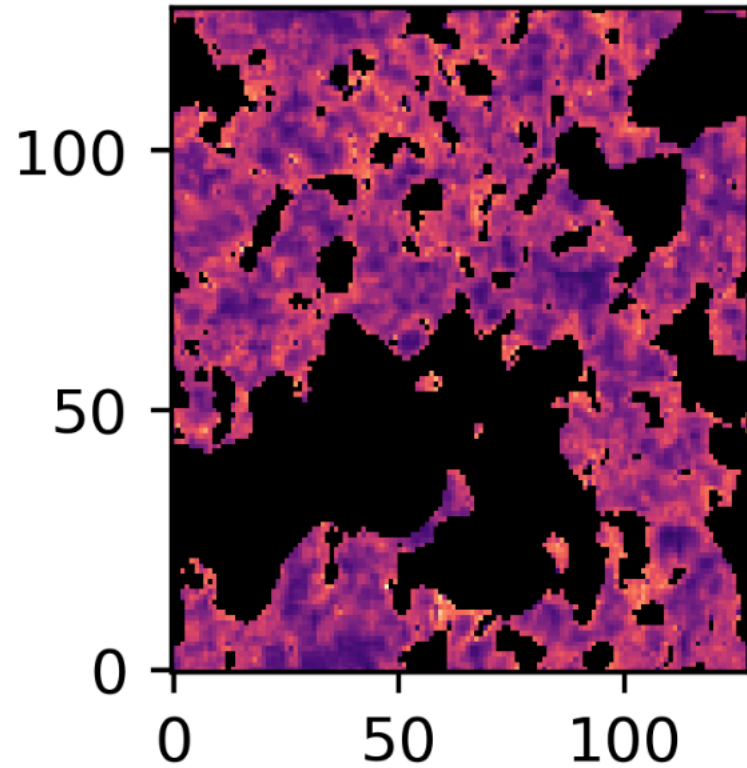
These maps can be used as a  
guide map for galaxies!

Kennedy, Carr, Gagnon-Hartman, **AL** et al. (2024)  
MNRAS **529**, 3684

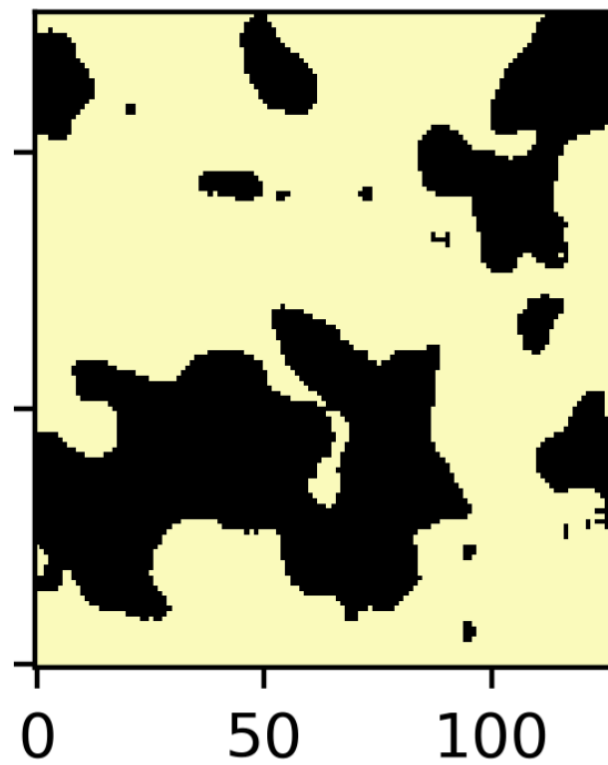


Jacob Kennedy  
Former McGill undergrad

Or if we have already found the galaxies, we can improve the reconstruction of bubbles!



With the help  
of galaxies

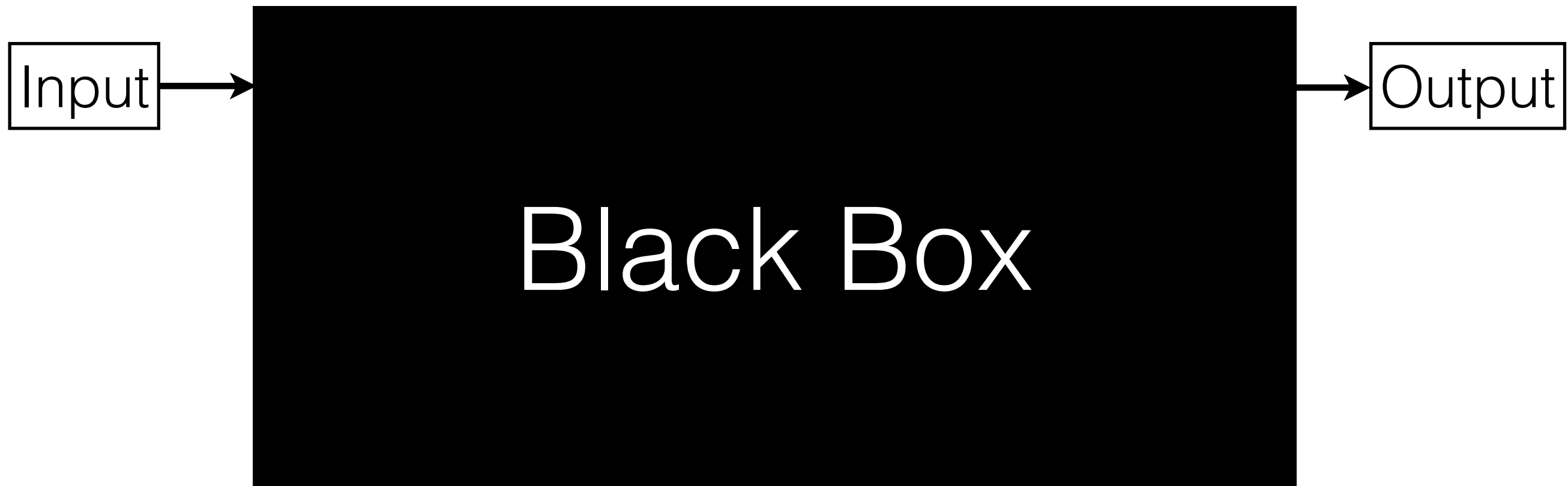


Without using  
galaxies

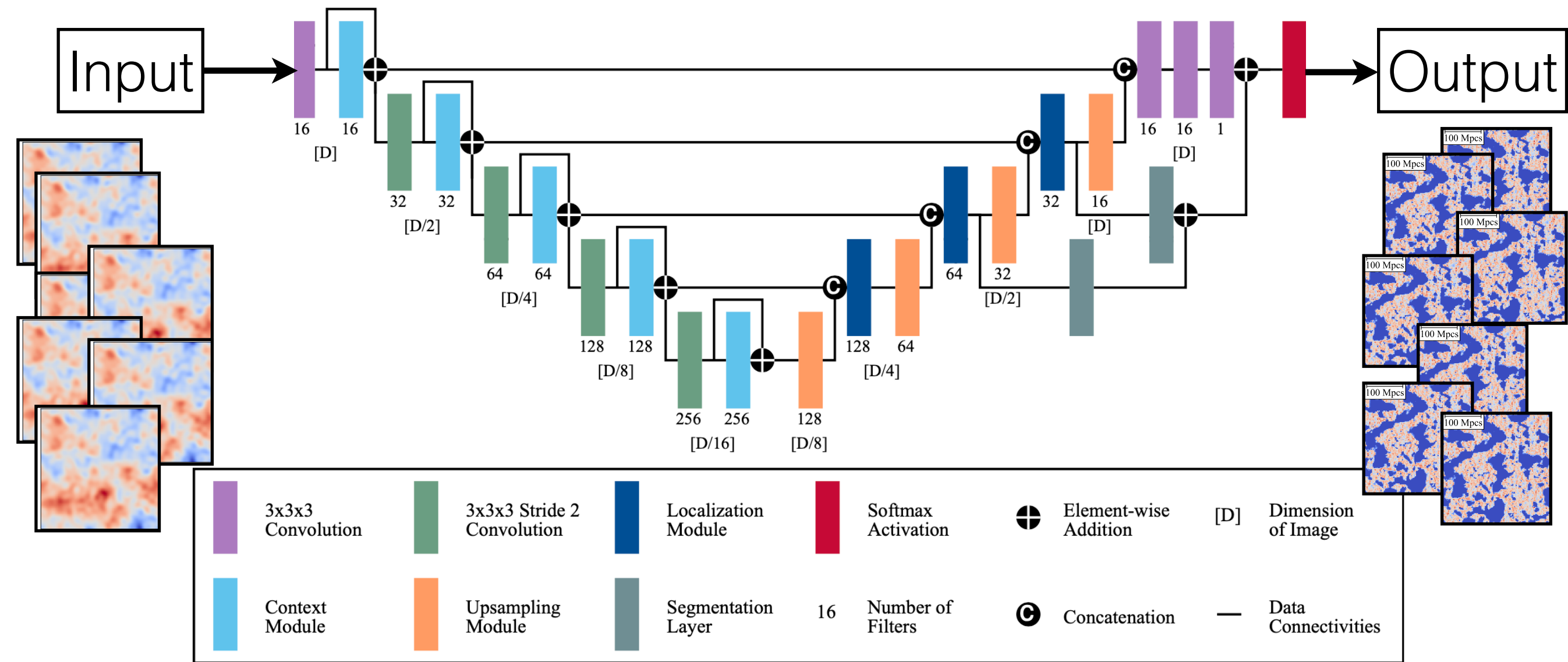


Franco del Balso

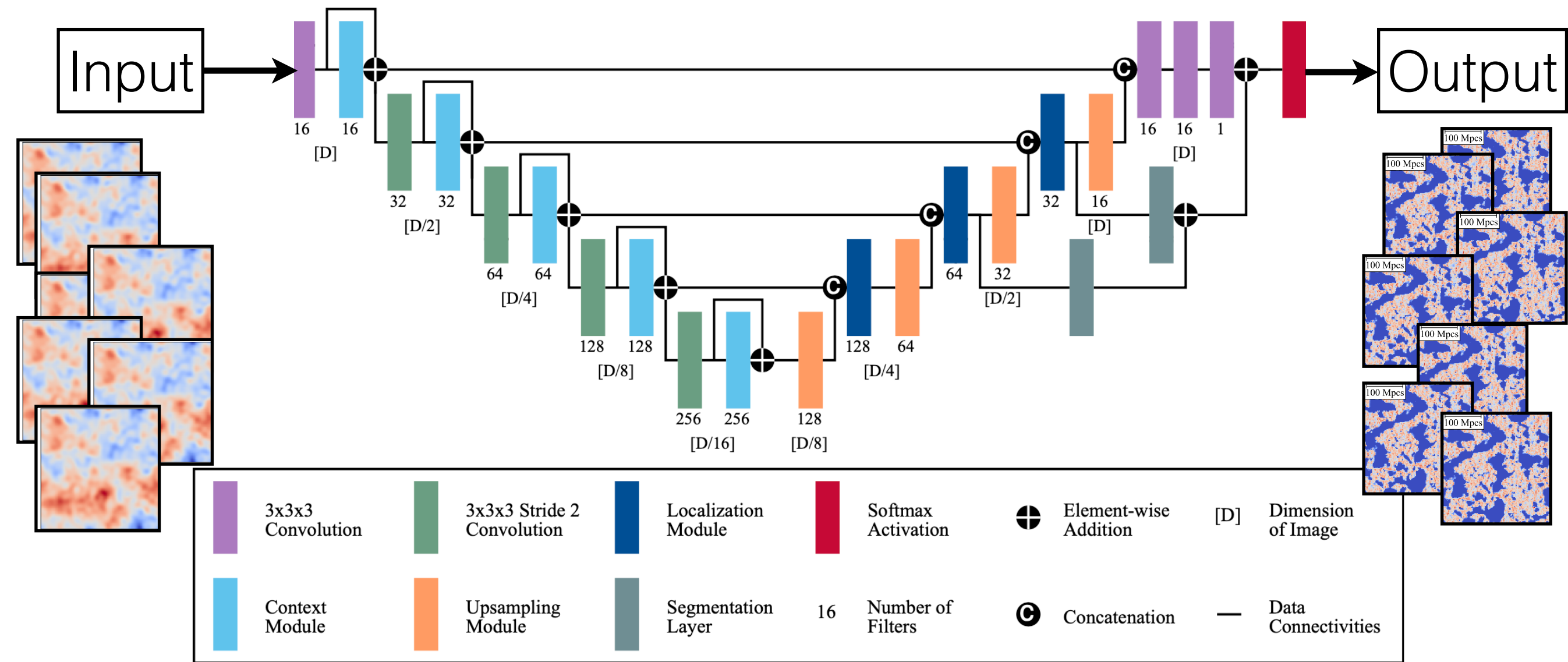
# How can this possibly even work?!



# How can this possibly even work?!



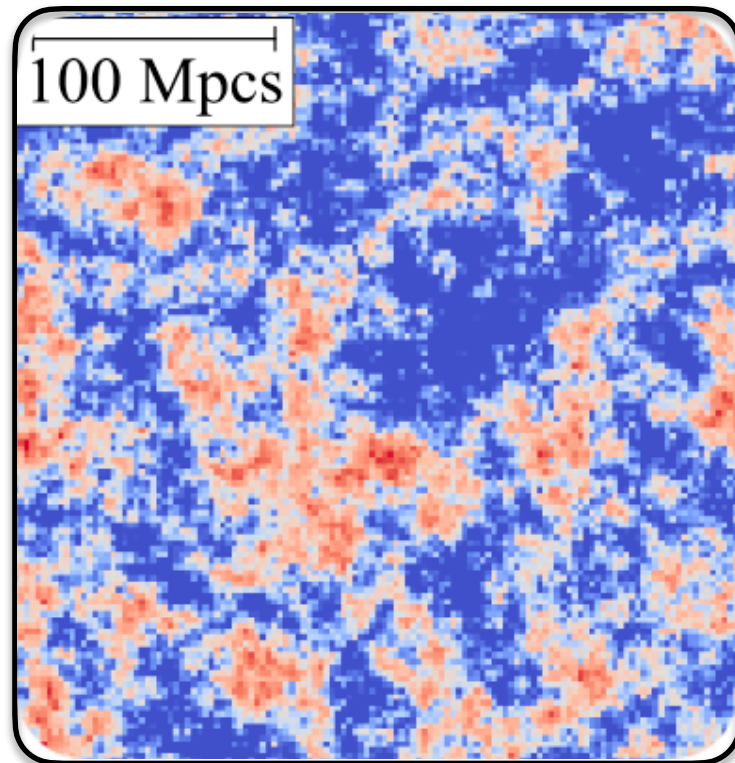
# How can this possibly even work?!



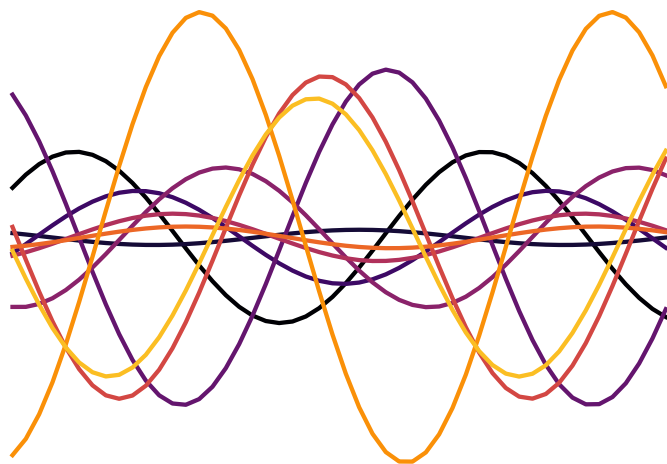
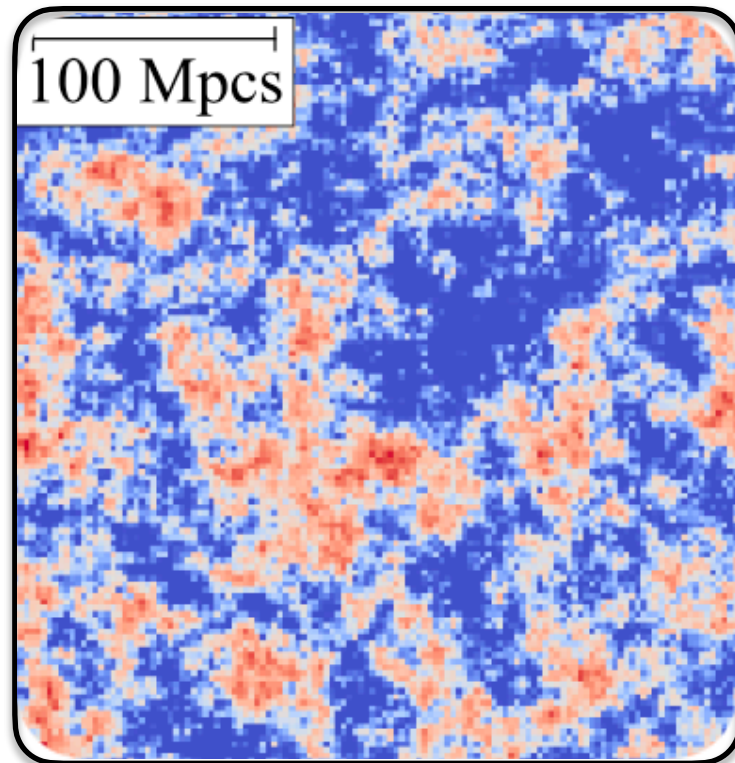
Machine learning isn't magic. It can't get information that isn't there.



# Gaussian Fields

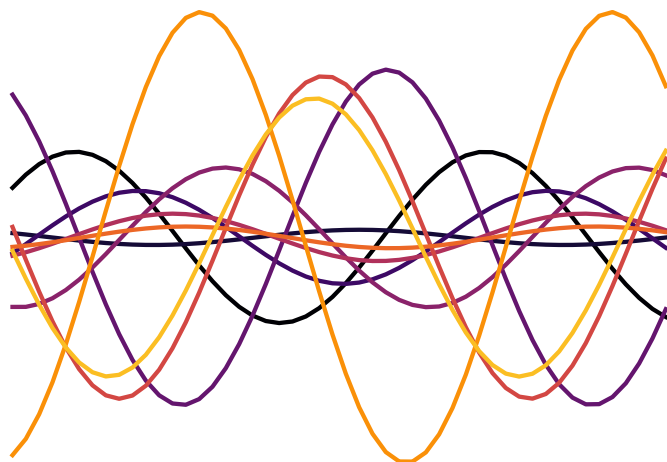
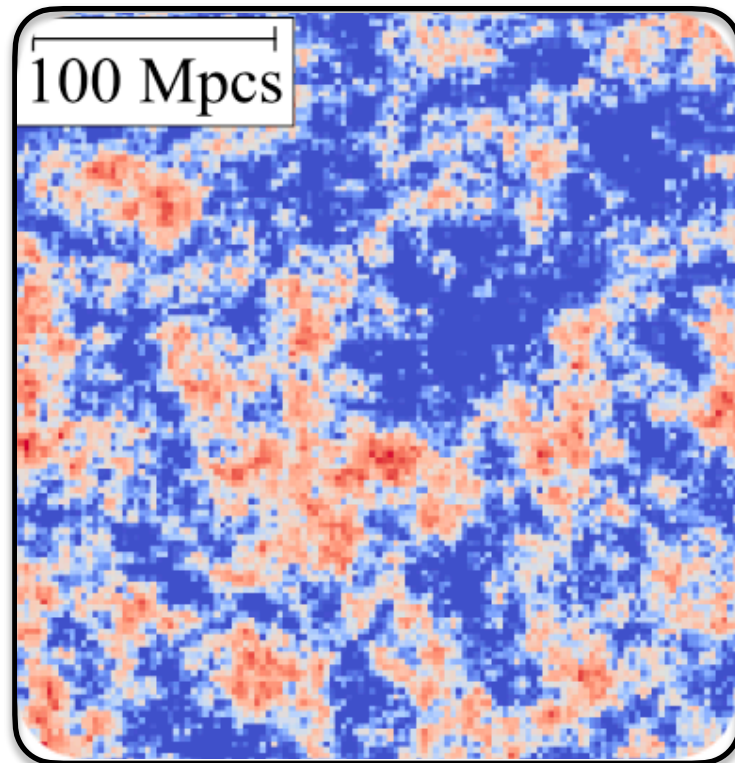


# Gaussian Fields

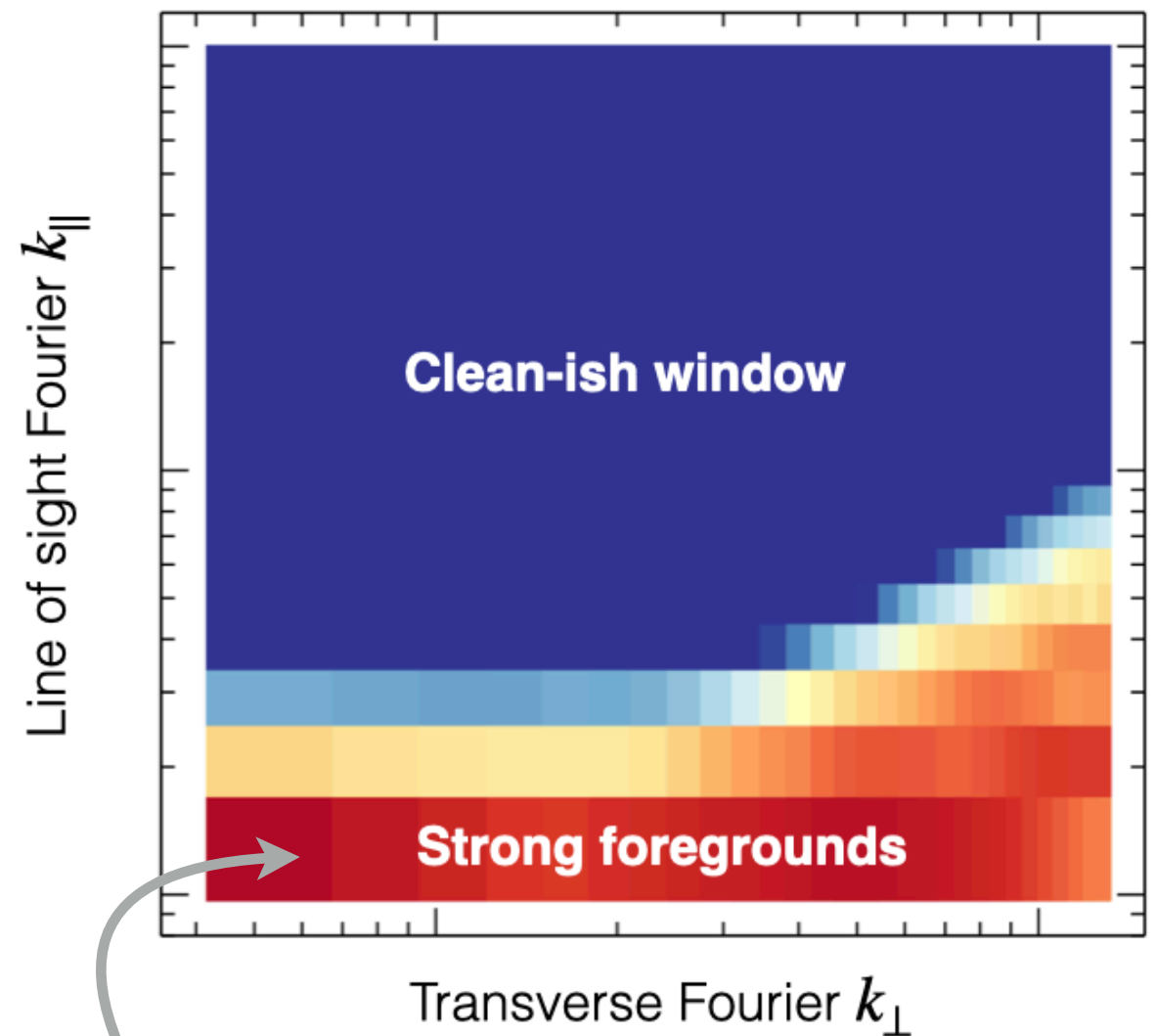


**Fourier modes are  
uncorrelated with one another**

# Gaussian Fields

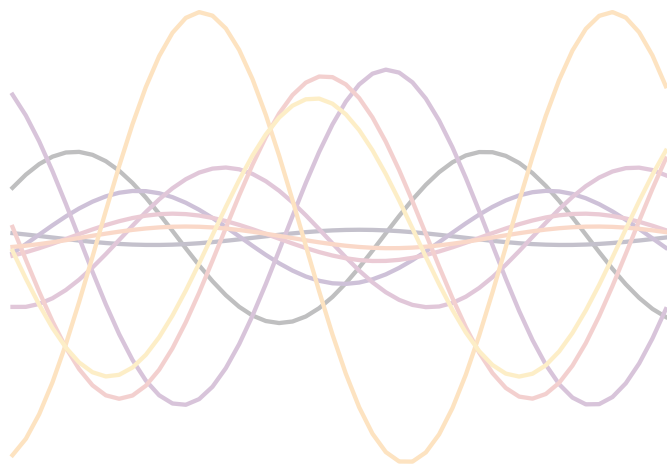
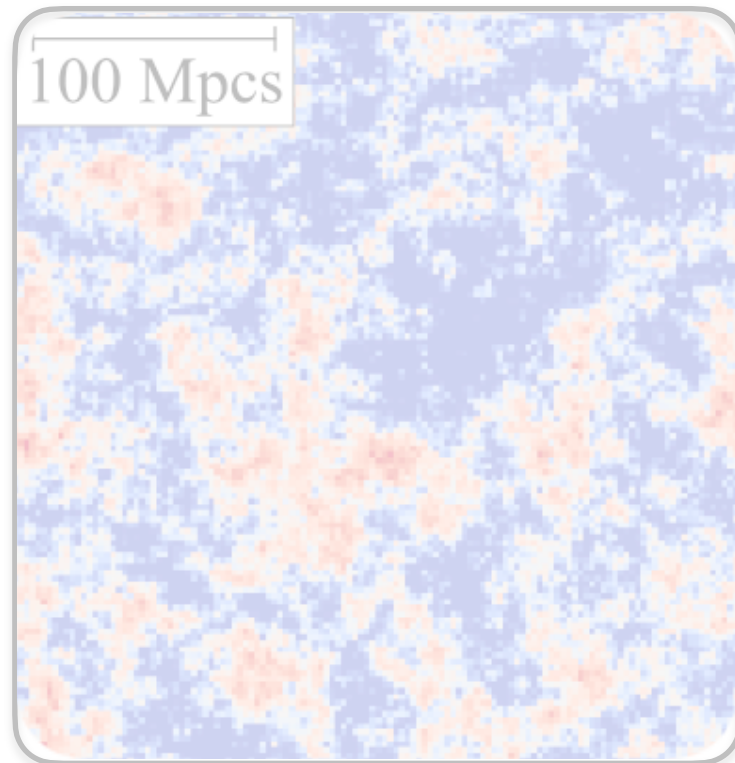


**Fourier modes are  
uncorrelated with one another**



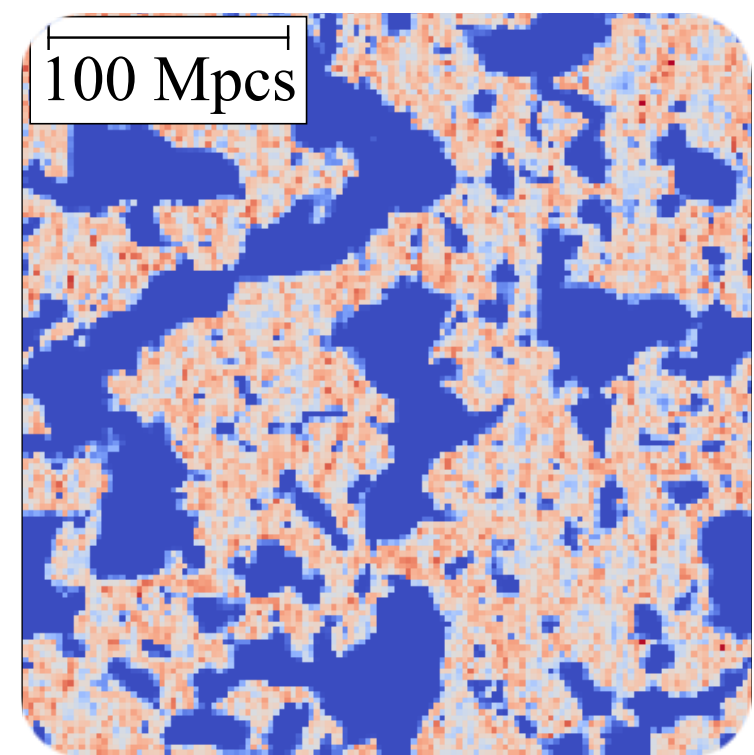
**For a Gaussian field, if  
these modes are filtered  
out, they are gone forever**

## Gaussian Fields

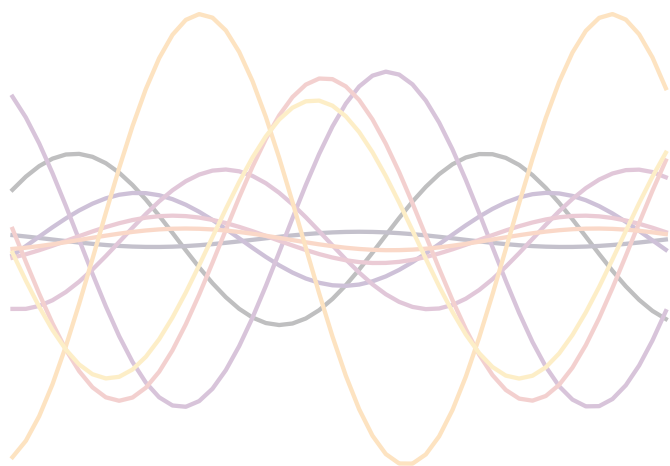
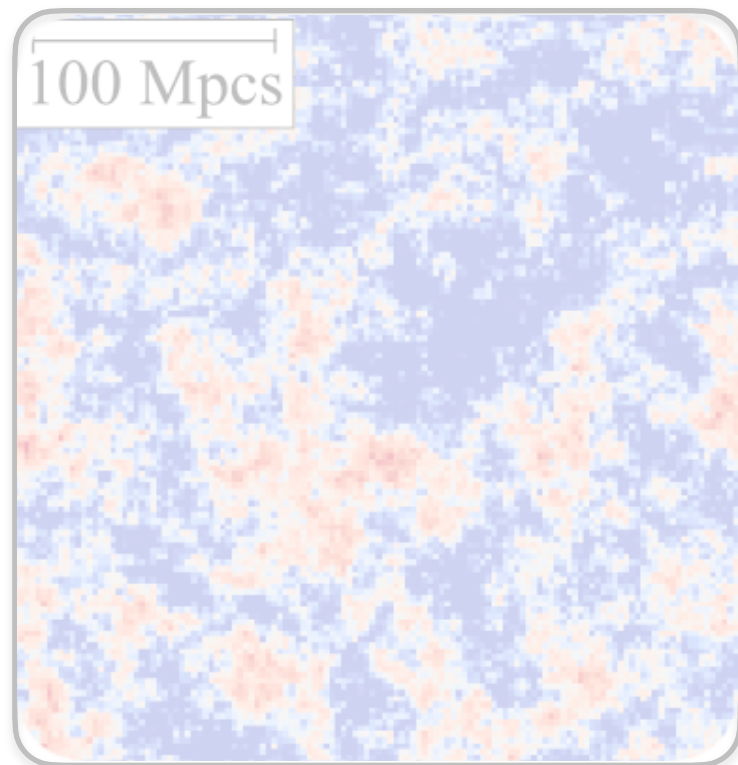


Fourier modes are  
uncorrelated with one another

## Non-Gaussian Fields

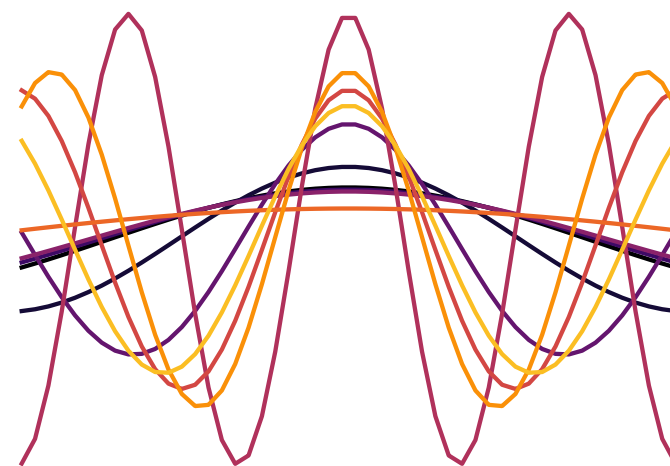
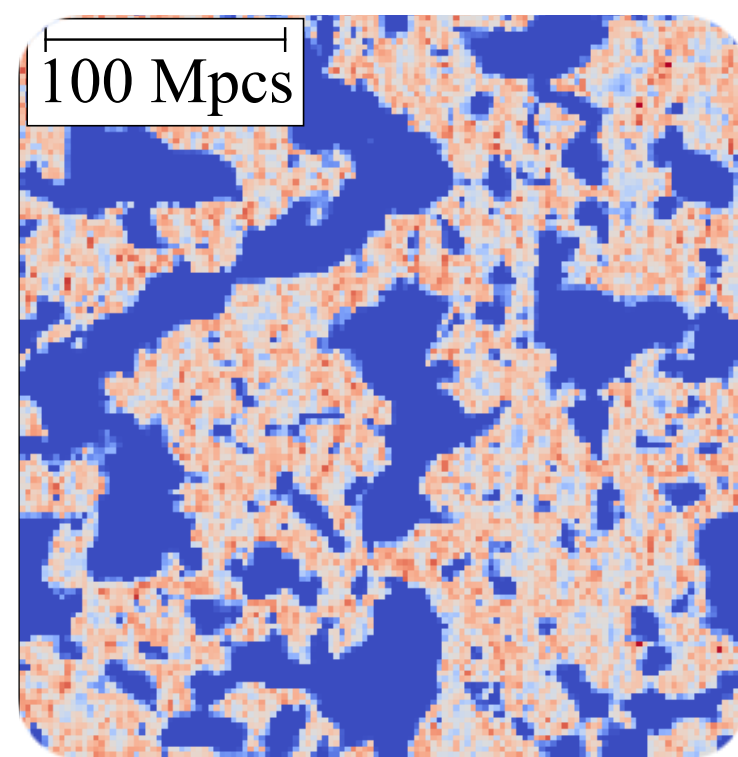


## Gaussian Fields



Fourier modes are  
uncorrelated with one another

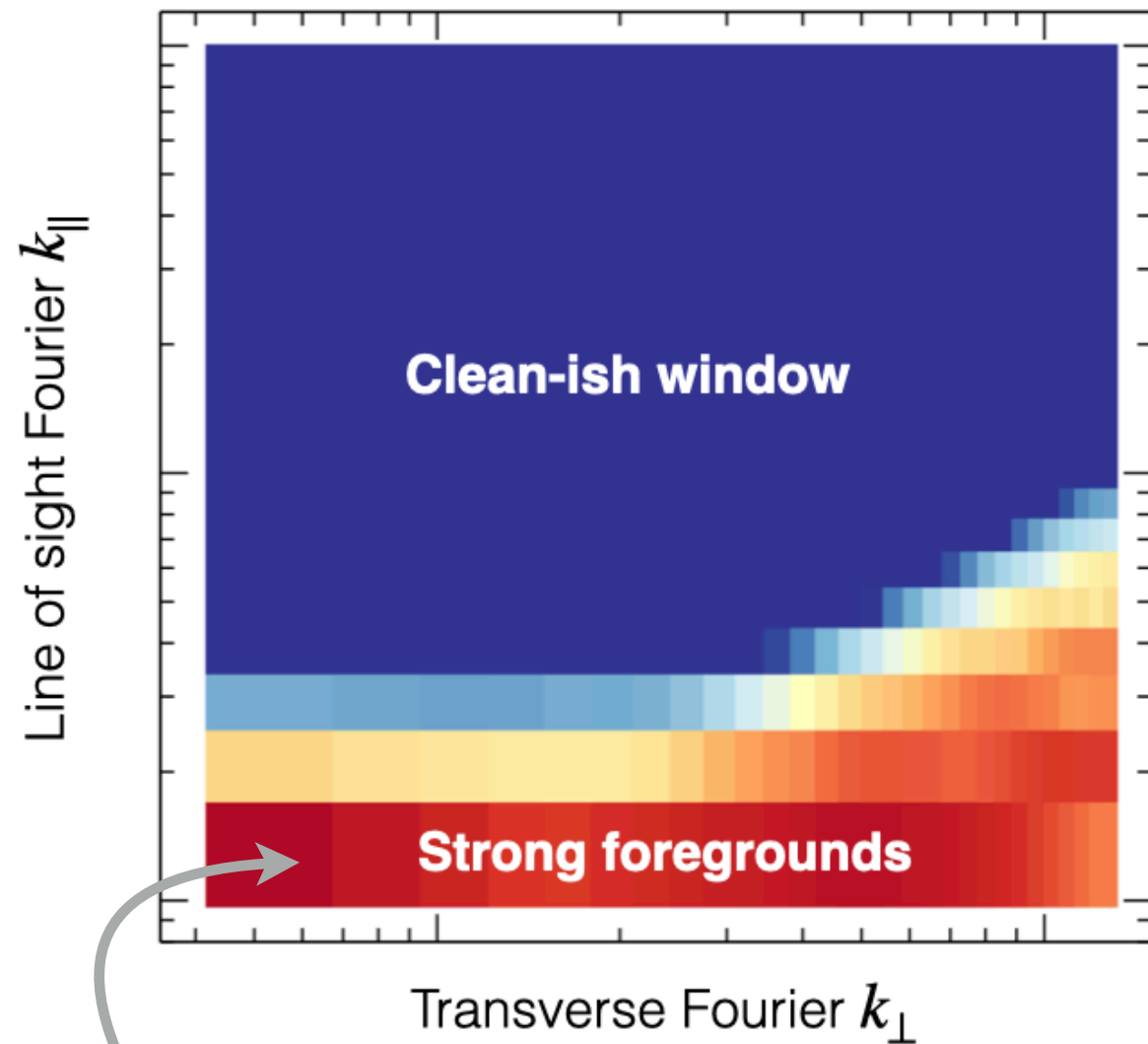
## Non-Gaussian Fields



Fourier modes are correlated  
with one another

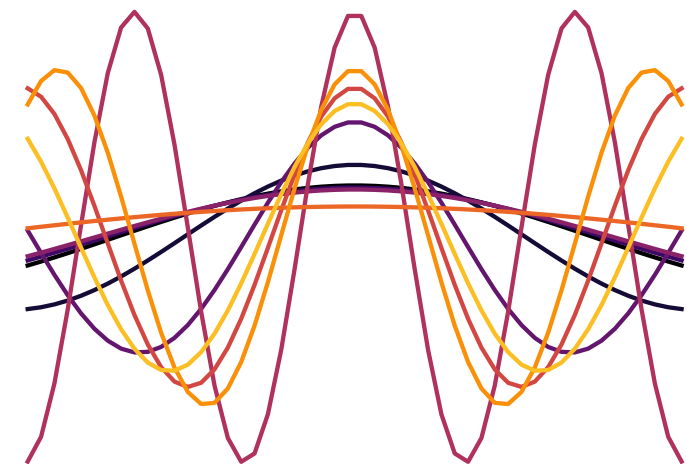
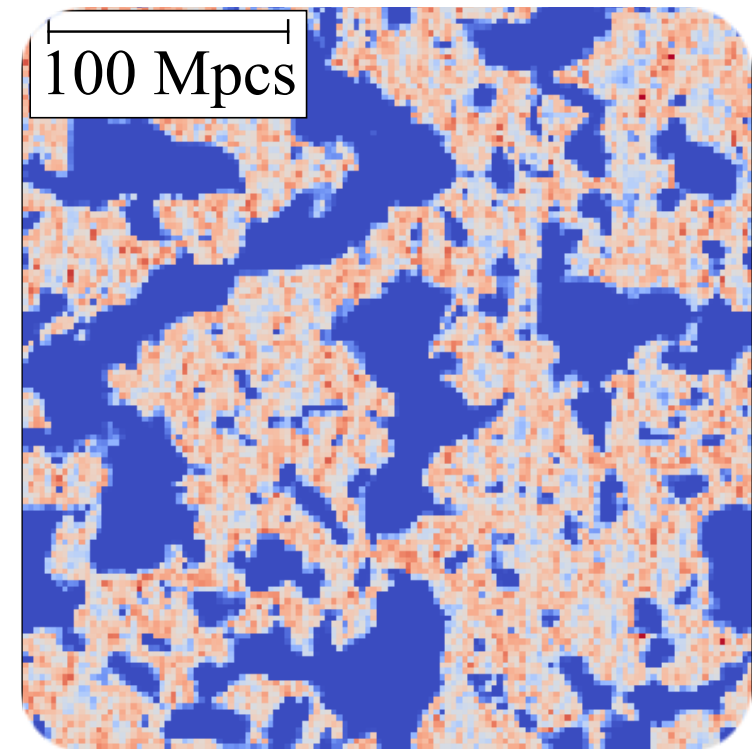


## Gaussian Fields



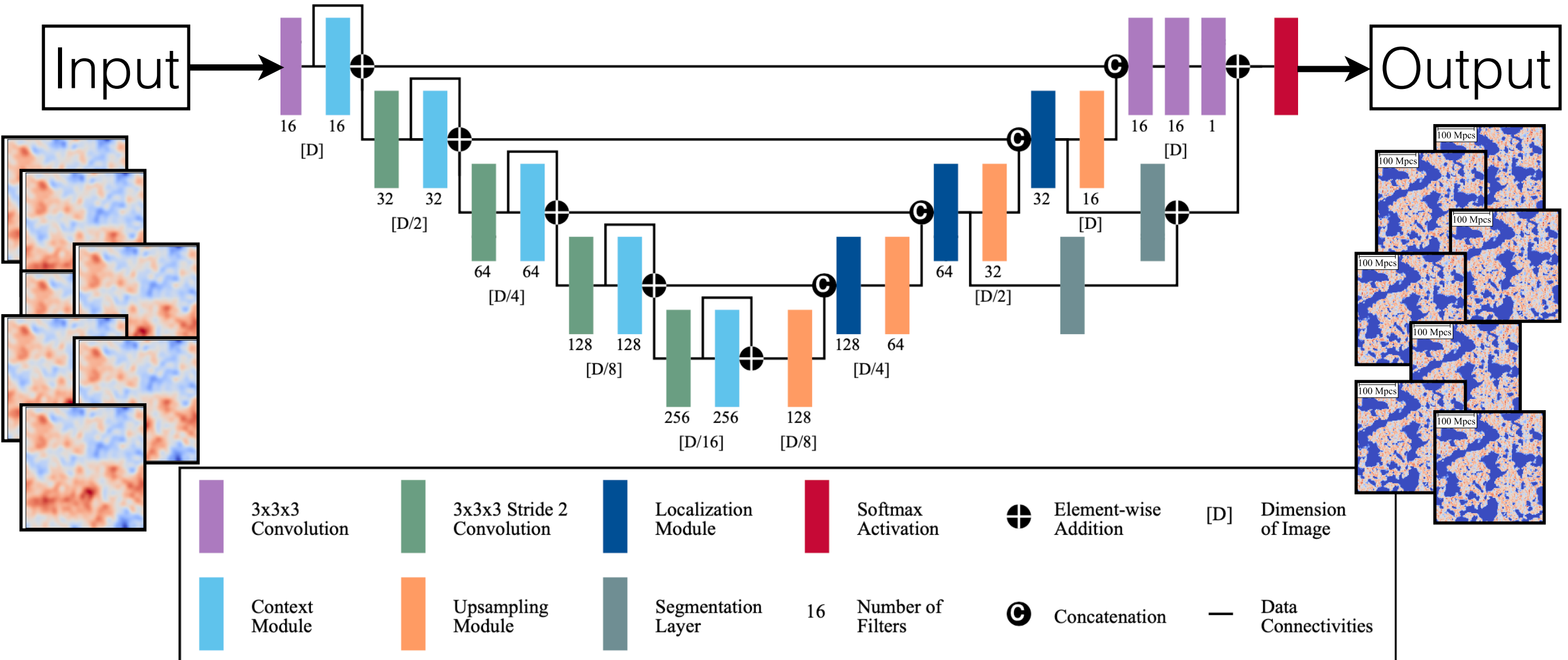
For a non-Gaussian field, if these modes are filtered out, there is still some hope for reconstructing them from the measured modes

## Non-Gaussian Fields



Fourier modes are correlated with one another

# How can this possibly even work?!



Machine learning isn't magic. It is using the **non-Gaussianity in the signal** to restore images