

Title: Primordial Non-Gaussianity and Large-Scale Structure

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Abstract: The primordial density fluctuations that seeded large-scale structure are known to be nearly Gaussian, as predicted by most early universe models like slow-roll inflation. Many of these models predict a small (but nonzero!) amount of primordial non-gaussianity, which can subtly affect the statistics of CMB anisotropies. Surprisingly, even a small primordial non-gaussianity can produce enormous changes in the large-scale clustering of galaxies and quasars at late times. I will describe the origin of this effect, and review recent constraints on non-gaussianity using measurements of the clustering of galaxies and quasars in SDSS.

Nongaussianity & Large-scale Structure

Neal Dalal
CITA

with
O. Doré, D. Huterer, A. Shirokov & more

Nongaussianity

1. why I'm interested
2. why everyone else is interested
3. what NG does to large-scale structure
4. constraints!
5. the future

but first, a brief
prologue...



Lensing survey

- with J. Hennawi, M. Gladders, H. Dahle, M. Oguri, et al.
- imaging at WIYN, NOT, Subaru, HST, spectroscopy at Gemini
- increased the number of known lenses by about 5x
- Goals include:
 - ◆ measure masses — calibrate mass-observables relations
 - ◆ find background high-z galaxies that are magnified
 - ◆ measure profiles — test theoretical predictions, constrain cluster physics (e.g. gastrophysics)

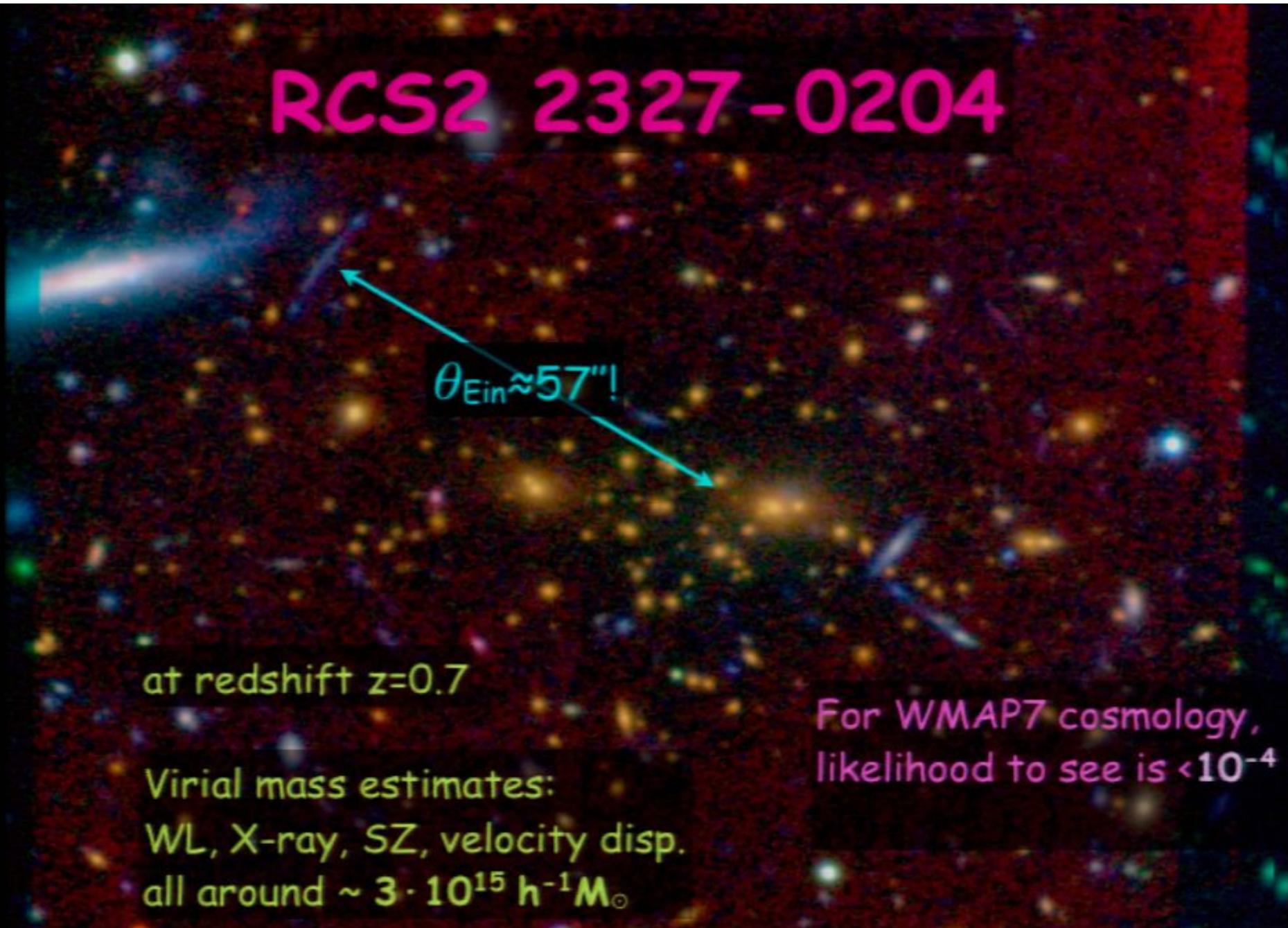


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RCS2 2327-0204



$\theta_{\text{Ein}} \approx 57''!$

at redshift $z=0.7$

Virial mass estimates:

WL, X-ray, SZ, velocity disp.

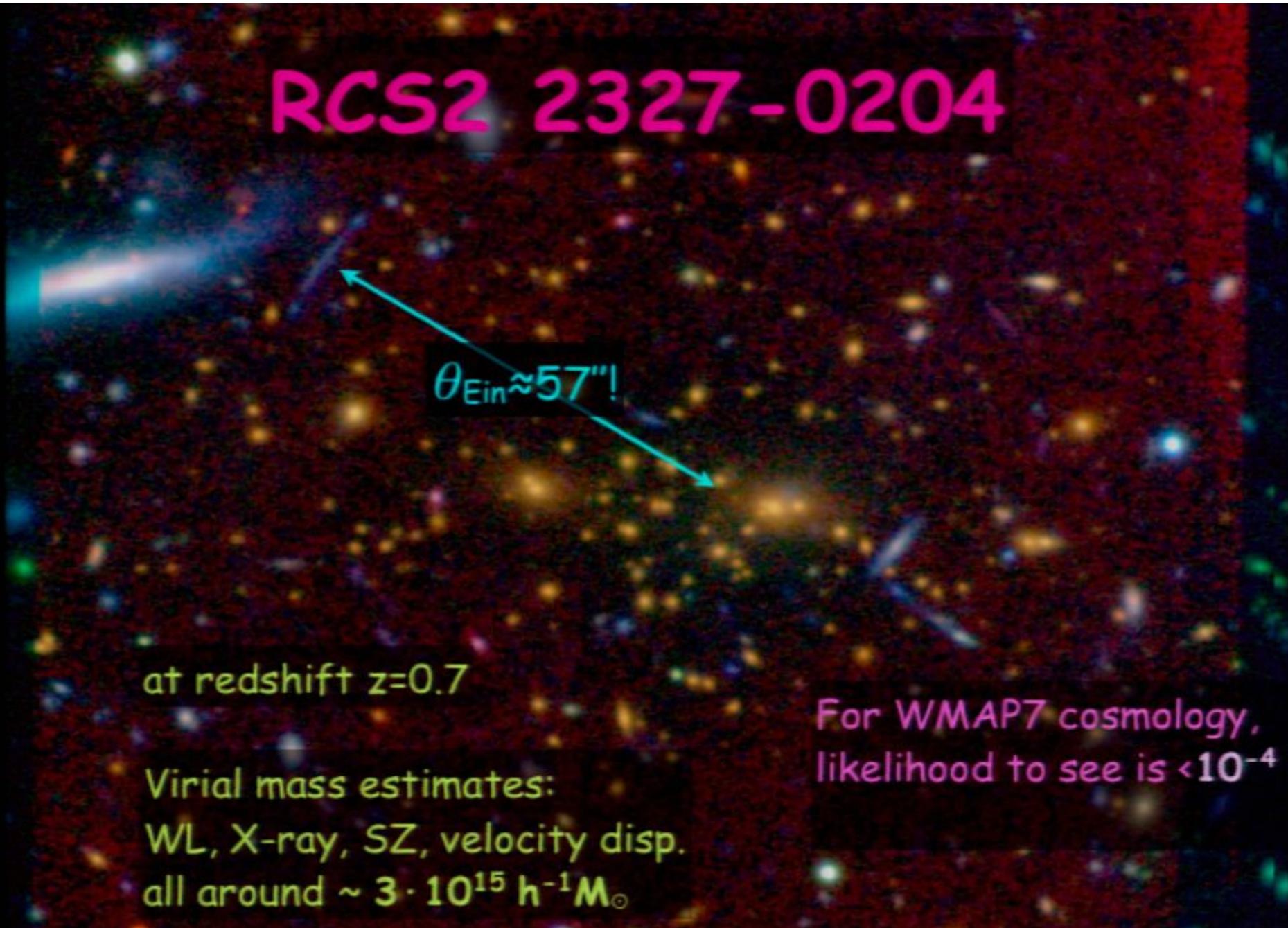
all around $\sim 3 \cdot 10^{15} h^{-1} M_\odot$

For WMAP7 cosmology,
likelihood to see is $< 10^{-4}$!

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any way to save our universe?

any way to save our universe?

one possibility:

primordial nongaussianity!

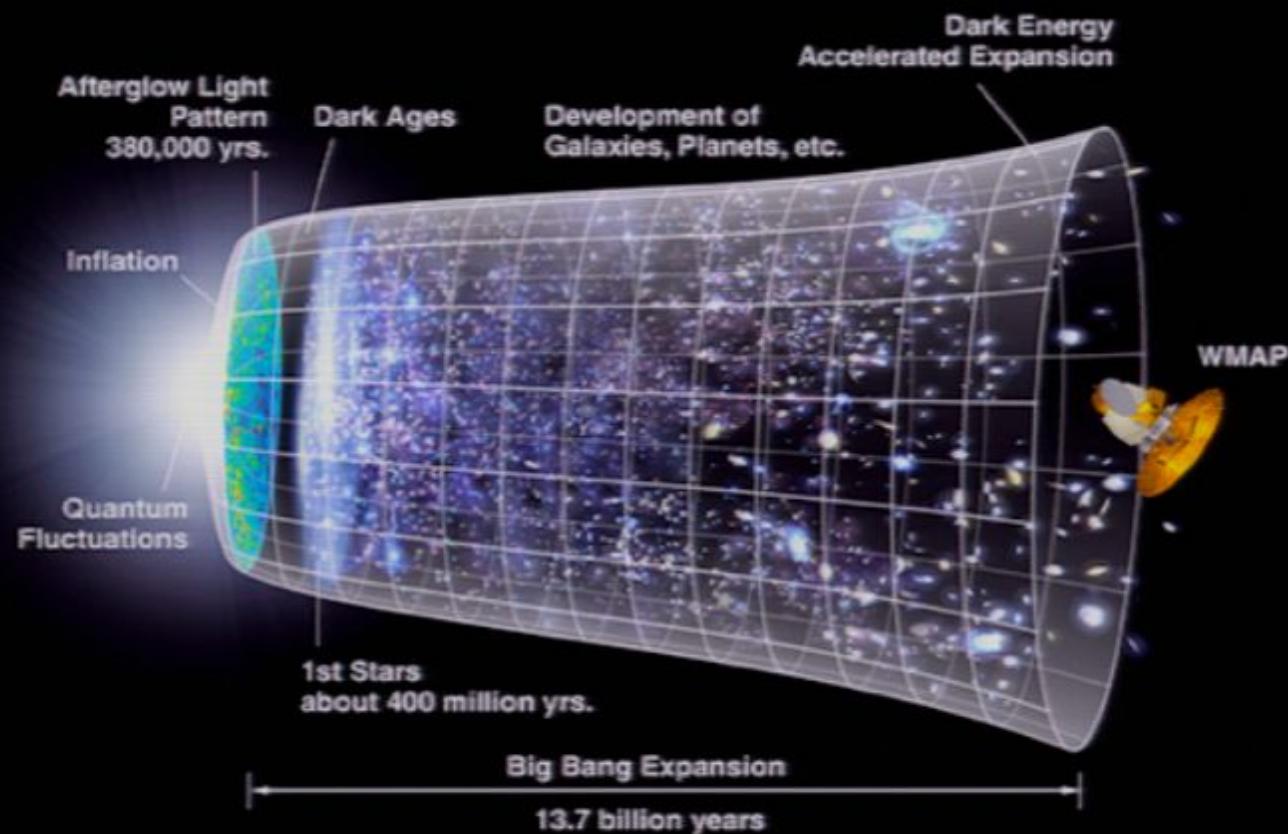
Primordial nongaussianity

- sensitive probe of early-universe physics
- hot topic -- over 100 papers last year alone!
- has surprising effects on large-scale structure

References

- * Dalal et al. (2008), PRD 77 123514 (arXiv:0710.4560)
- * Matarrese & Verde (2008), ApJ 677 77 (arXiv:0801.4826)
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- * Carbone et al. (2008), arXiv:0806.1950
- * Seljak (2008), PRL 102 021302 (arXiv:0807.1770)
- * Slosar (2008), JCAP 08 004 (arXiv:0808.0044)
- * McDonald & Seljak (2008), arXiv:0810.0323
- * Desjacques et al. (2008), arXiv:0811.2748
- * Pillepich et al. (2008), arXiv:0811.4176
- * Wands & Slosar (2009), arXiv:0902.1084

History of the universe



Inflation

- what is it: a period when universe expands exponentially, when dominated by component with $P \approx -\rho$

Inflation

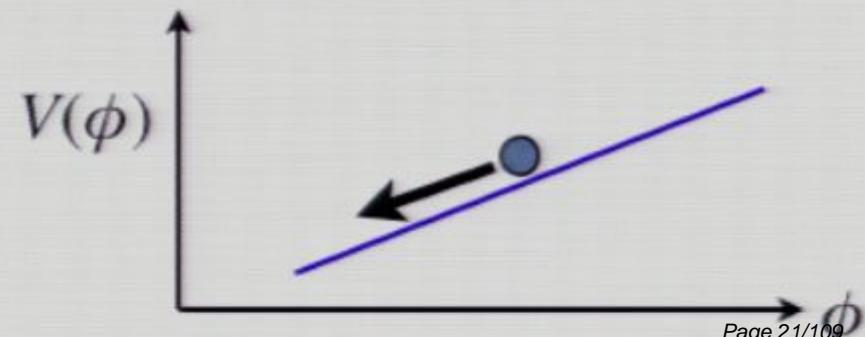
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naturally explains nearly flat, homogeneous, isotropic universe (e.g. why causally disconnected regions have the same T_{CMB})

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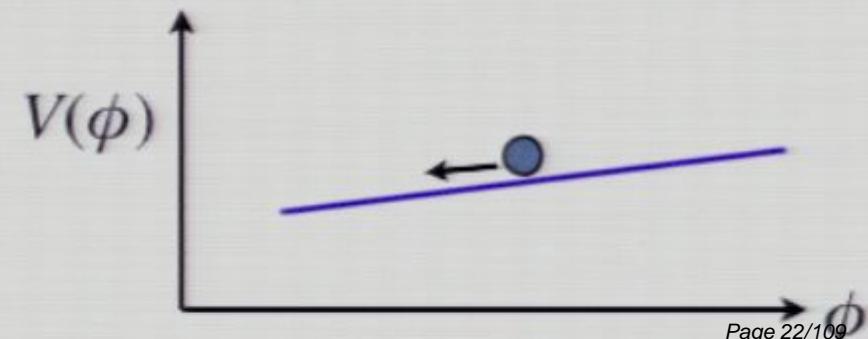
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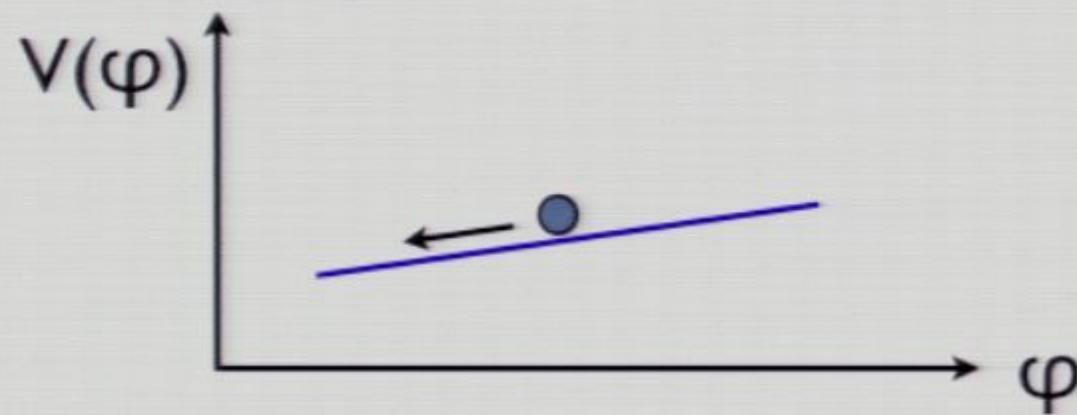


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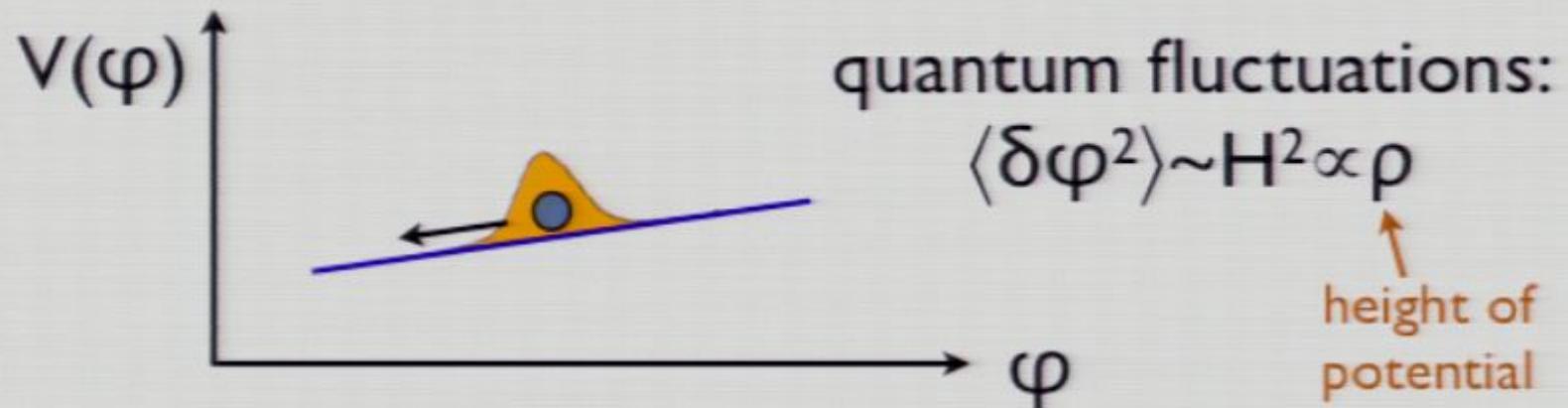
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→ like a free field in de Sitter



Perturbations

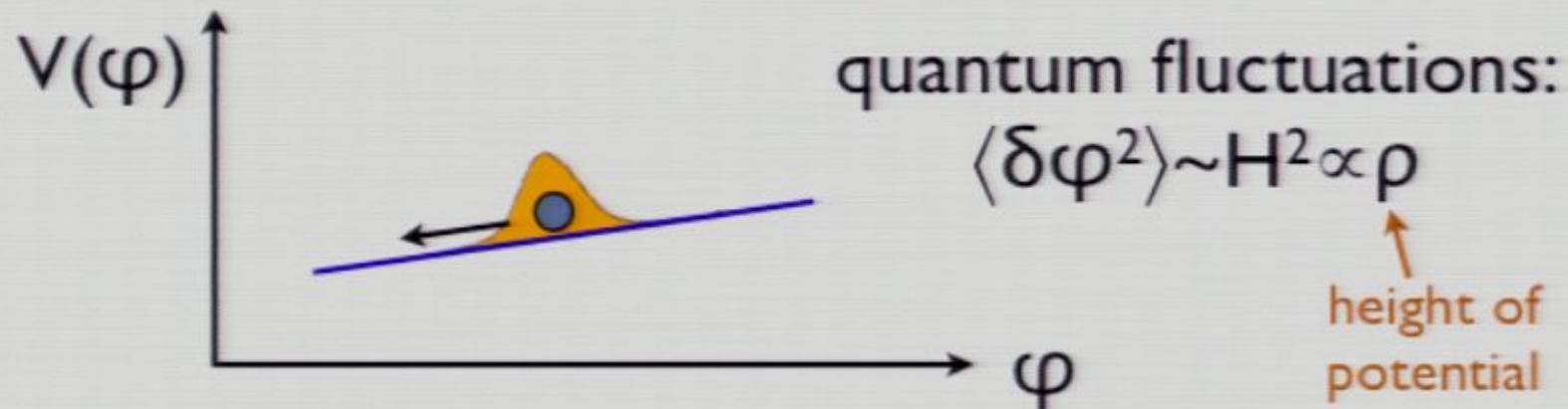


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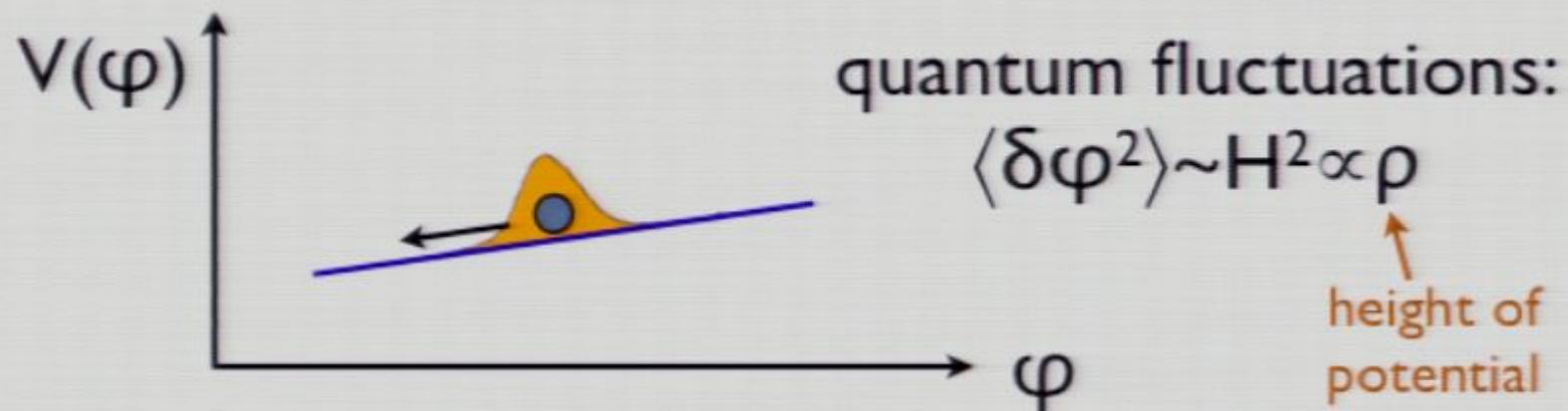
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microscopic \rightarrow macroscopic
quantum \rightarrow classical

Perturbations



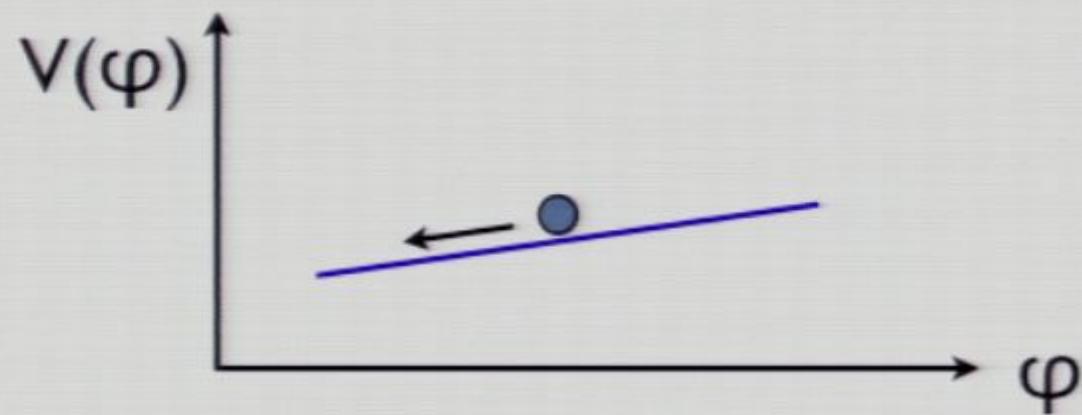
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spectrum $\langle \delta\varphi^2 \rangle$
- spectral index $(1-n_s) \propto V'/V$
slow-roll parameter ε

Perturbations



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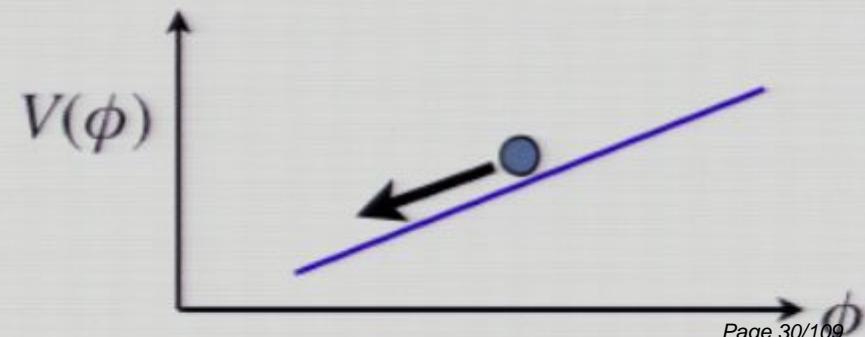
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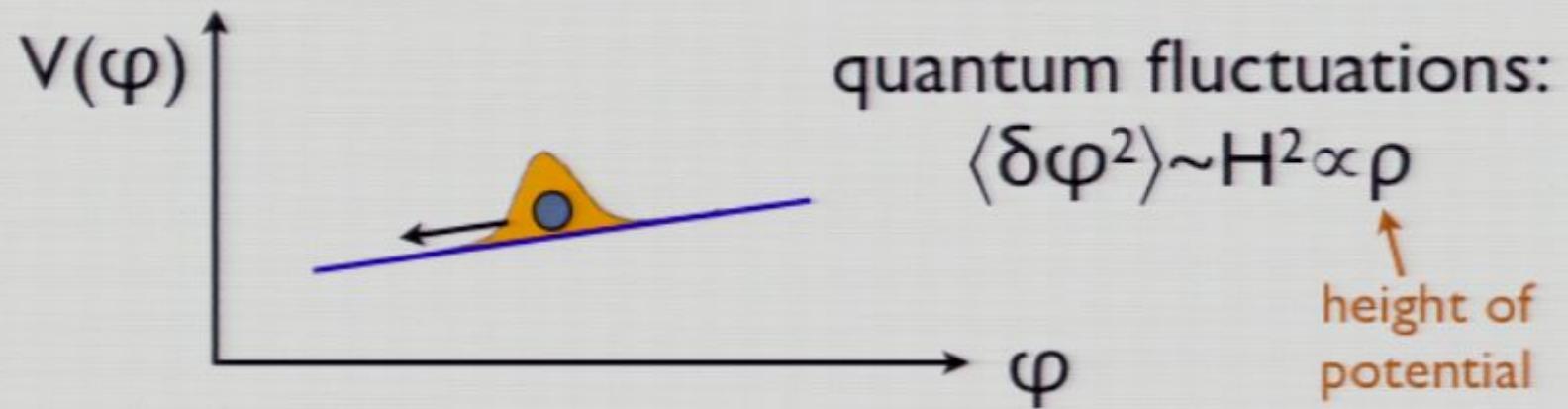
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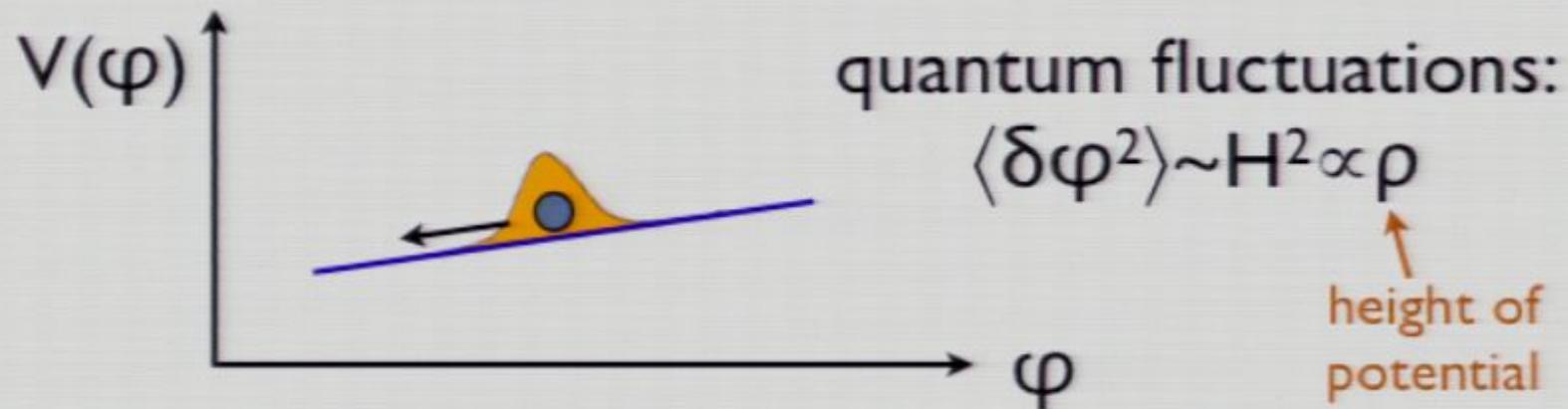
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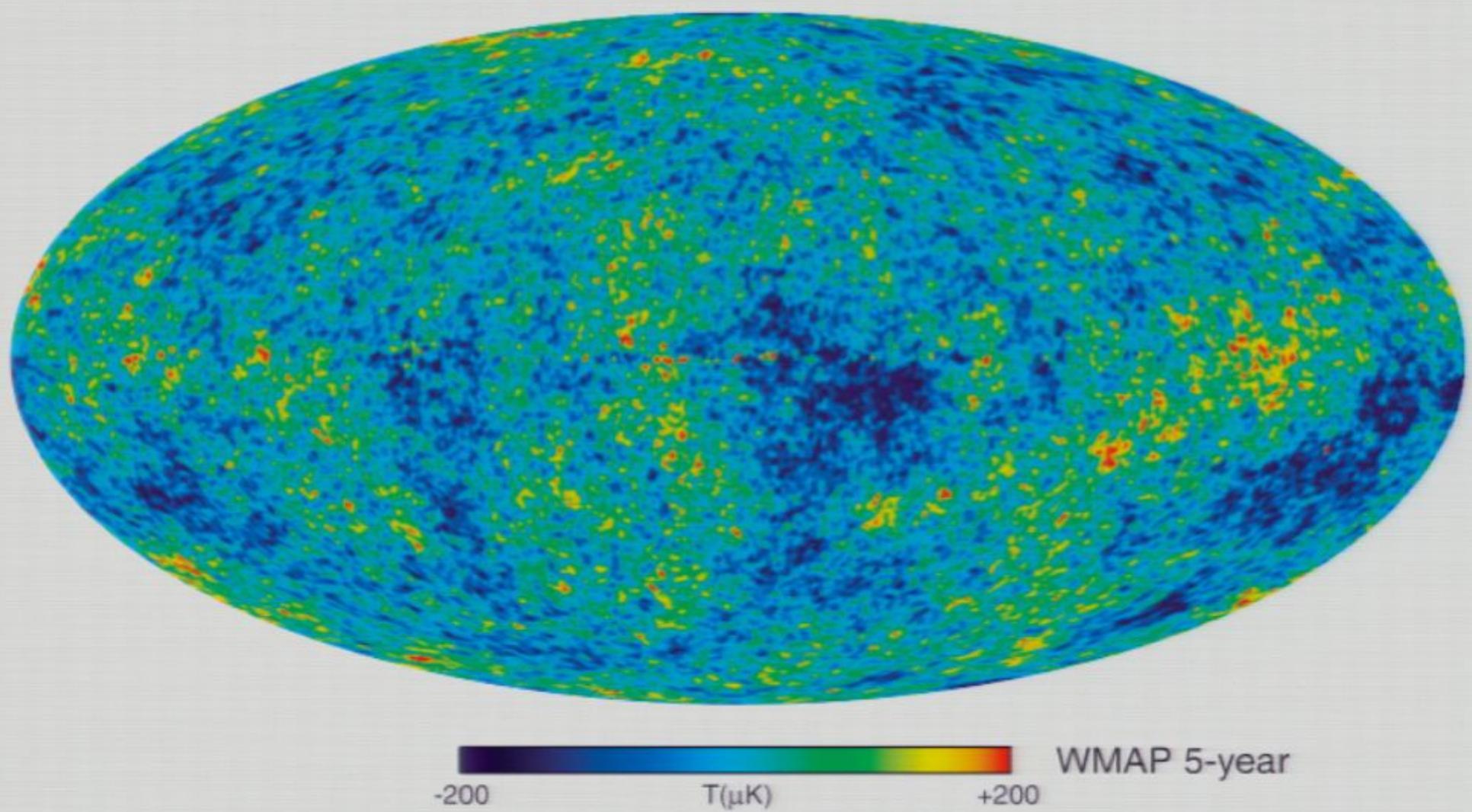


Perturbations

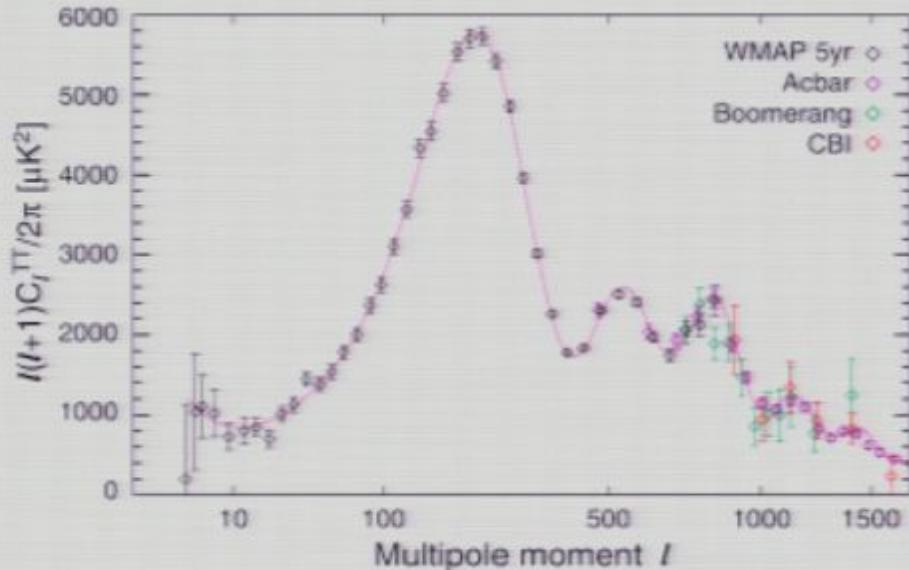


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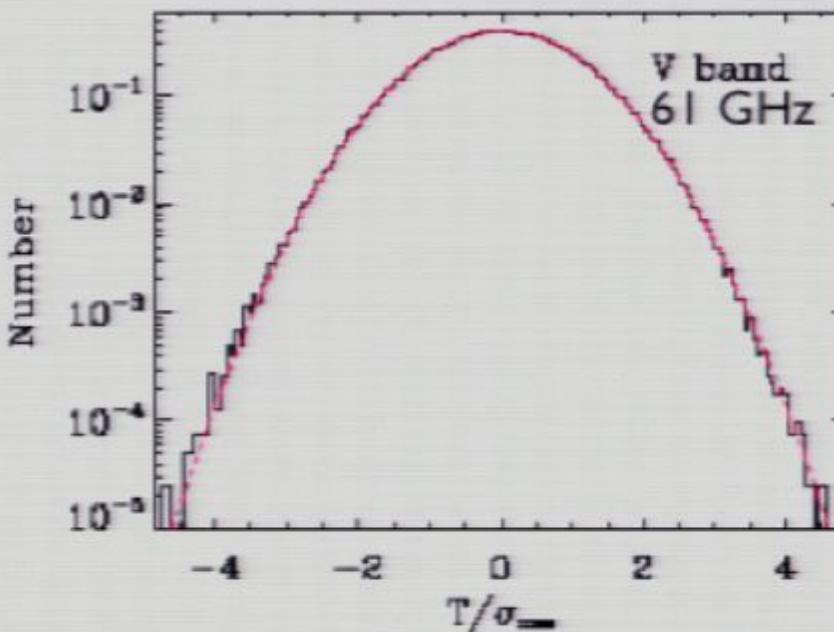
about 380,000 years later



CMB data support inflation



- CMB fluctuations are almost scale-invariant
 $n_s \approx 0.96$
(looks different due to evolution: gravity+hydro)



- CMB fluctuations are (close to) Gaussian!

Inflation report card

Universe is:

- (nearly) homogeneous & isotropic ✓
- (nearly) flat ✓

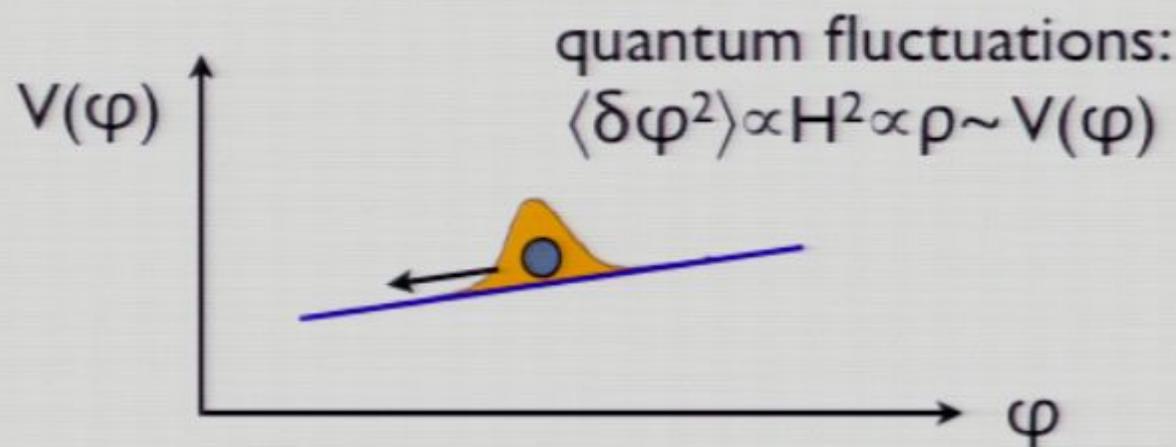
Perturbations are:

- (nearly) scale-invariant ✓
- adiabatic ✓
- (nearly) Gaussian ✓

- but inflation generically predicts SOME nongaussianity

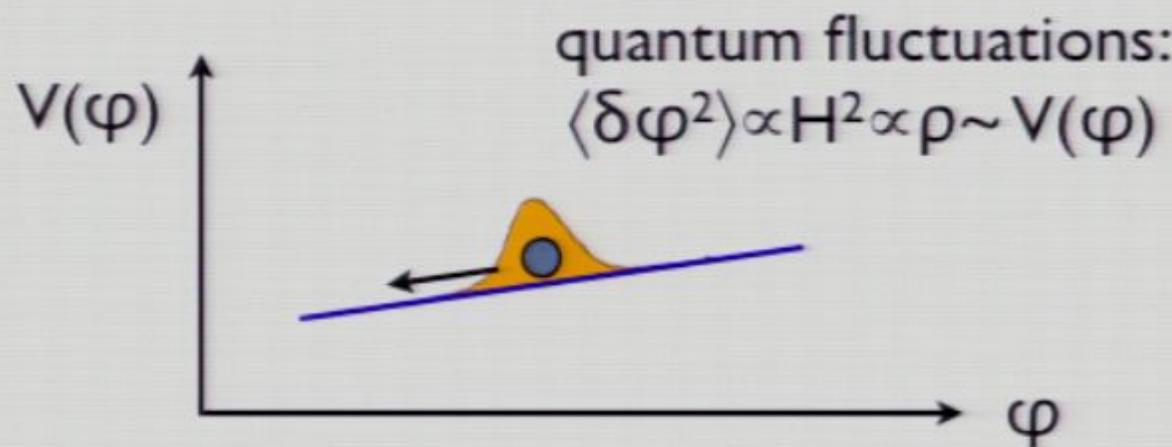
simplest nongaussianity

see, e.g.,
Maldacena (2003)



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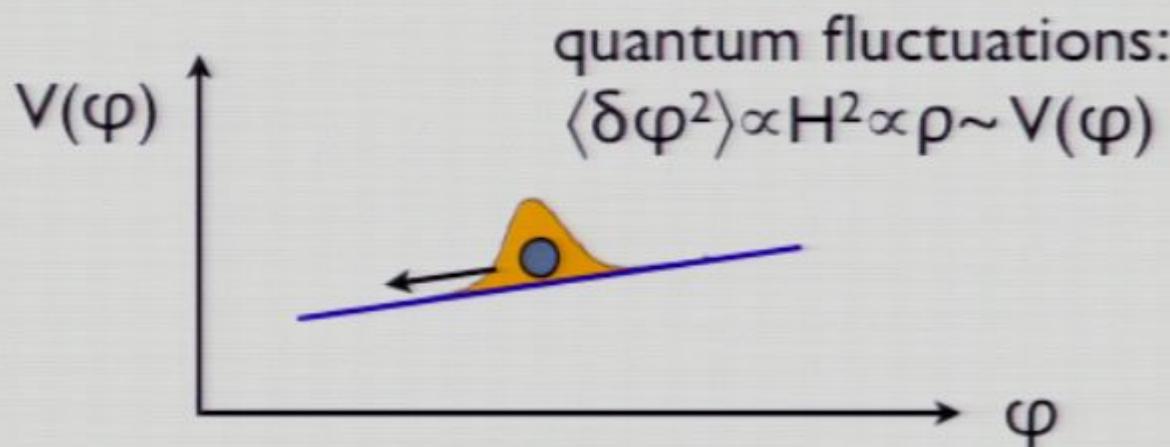
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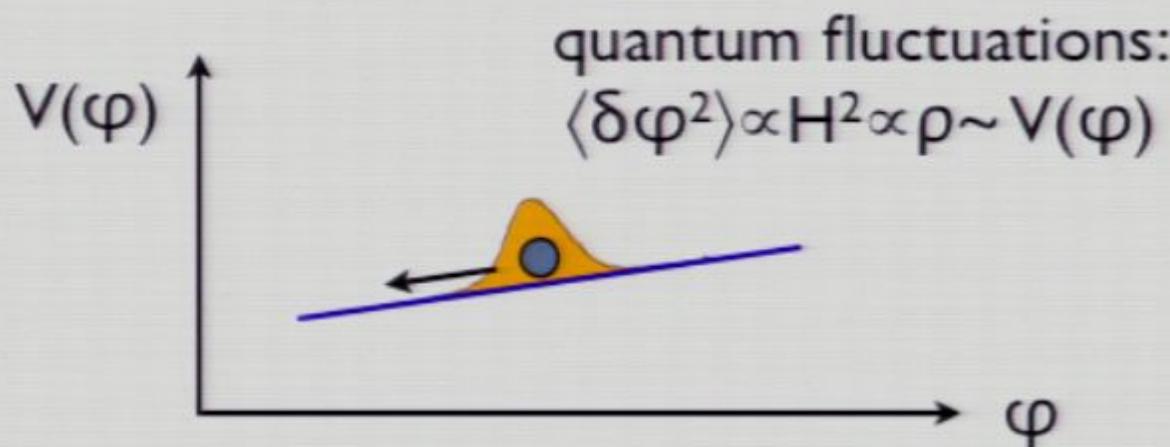
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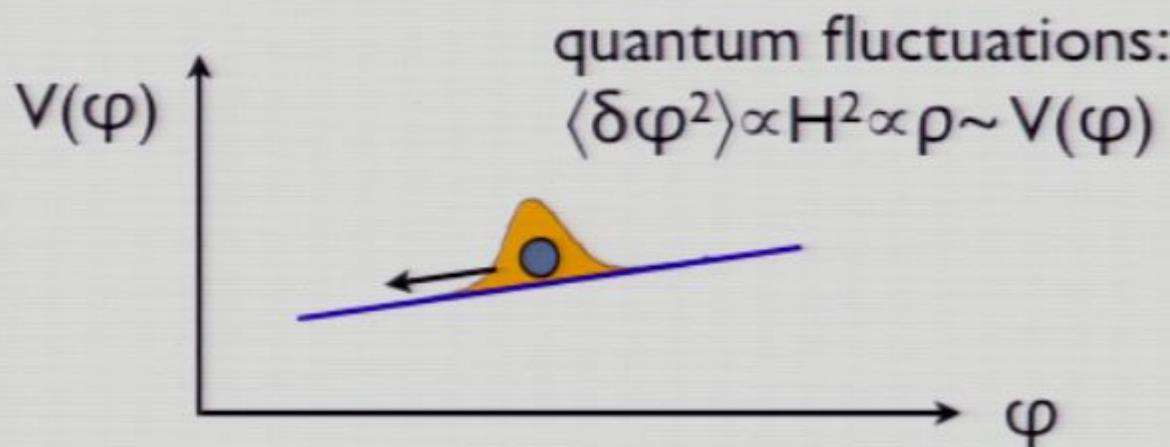


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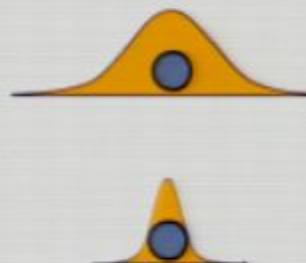


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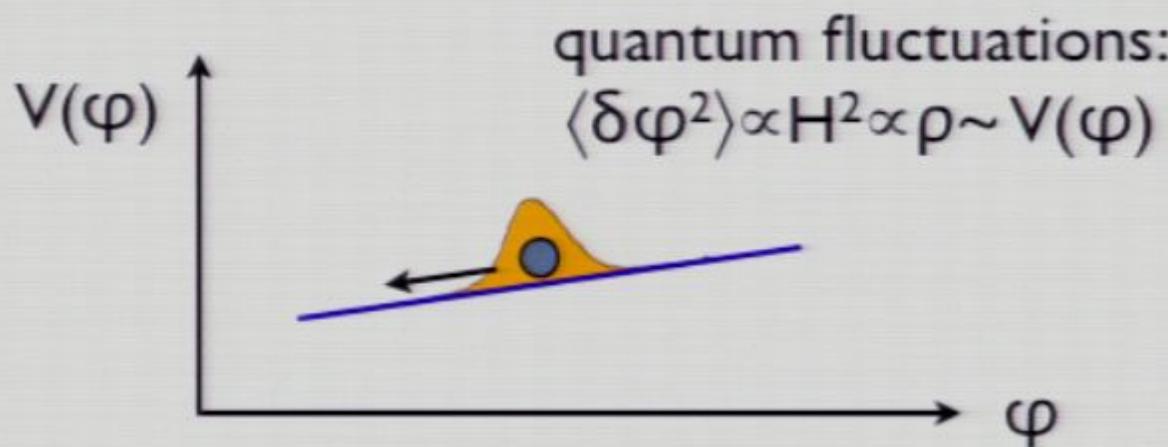


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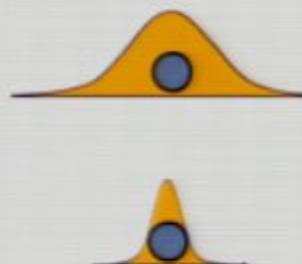


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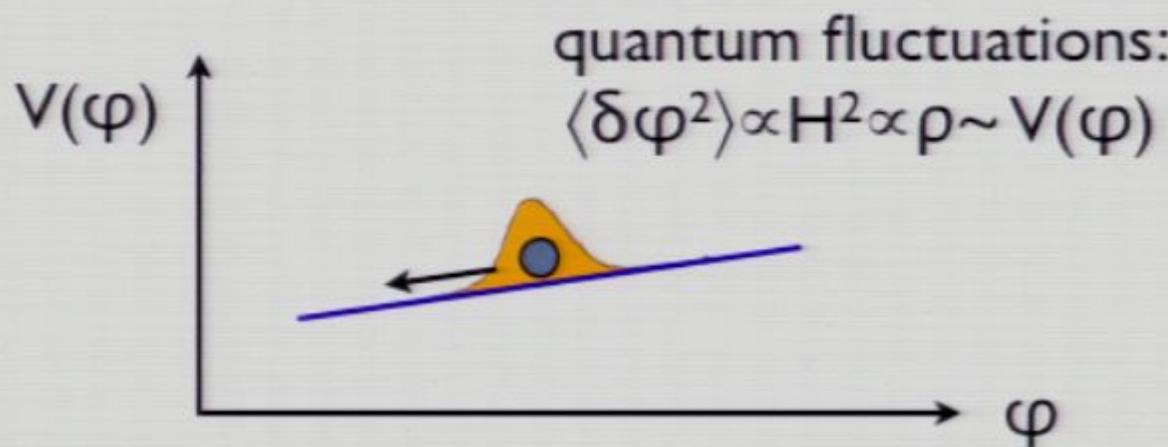


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- $\delta V < 0 \rightarrow$ smaller rms
- nonzero correlation
 $f_{NL} \langle \delta\varphi_{\text{long}} \delta\varphi_{\text{short}}^2 \rangle$
 $\Rightarrow \text{nongaussianity!}$

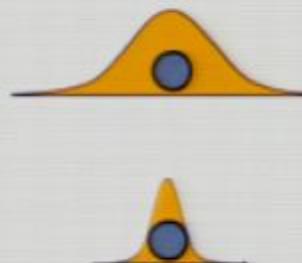


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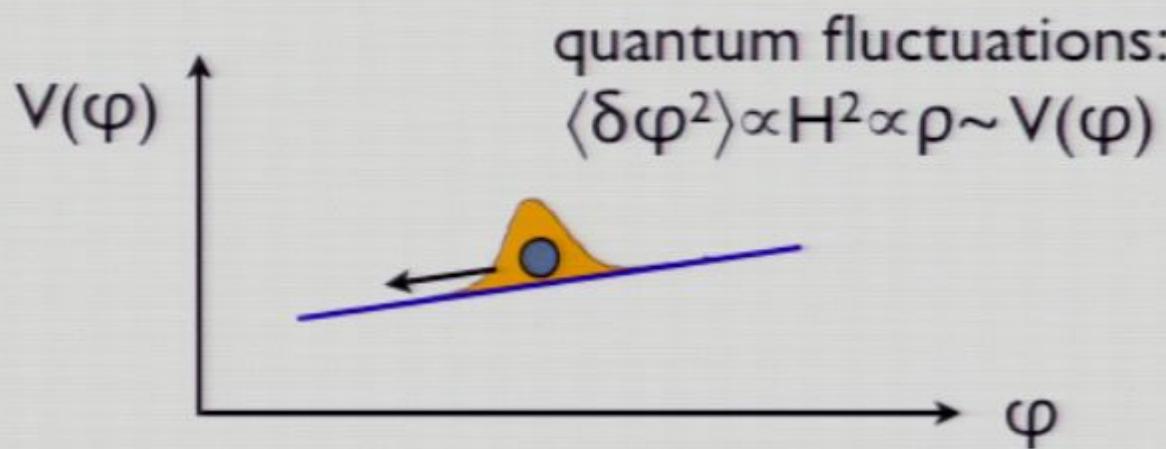


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- how strong?



simplest nongaussianity

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 $f_{\text{NL}} \langle \delta\varphi_{\text{long}} \delta\varphi_{\text{short}}^2 \rangle$
 $\Rightarrow \text{nongaussianity!}$
- how strong?
depends on V'

- for a single field, we have a consistency relation between f_{NL} and $1-n_s$.
- ANY significant detection of local f_{NL} immediately kills ALL single-field models (!)
- But you **can** easily get big f_{NL} in more complicated models

Curvaton scenario

- density fluctuations produced by some **other** field σ that is unimportant during inflation, but dominates afterwards
- this field σ decays, and fraction r of its fluctuations become the observed curvature perturbations ζ
- e.g. $V=m^2\sigma^2$, so $\delta V=m^2(2\sigma\delta\sigma+\delta\sigma^2)$
- $\delta\rho/\rho=2\delta\sigma/\sigma+(\delta\sigma/\sigma)^2$
- if $\zeta=r\delta\rho/\rho$, then comparing to $\zeta+f_{NL}\zeta^2$, we see
- ➡ $f_{NL}\sim r^{-1}$, can be large (e.g. $f_{NL}\sim 100$)

f_{NL} expectations

model

expect

slow-roll scalar

$f_{\text{NL}} \sim 1$ ← from nonlinear
gravity

multiple fields
(e.g. curvaton)

anything, e.g.
 $|f_{\text{NL}}| \sim 1-100$

not inflation
(e.g. ekpyrotic)

$f_{\text{NL}} \sim 30$

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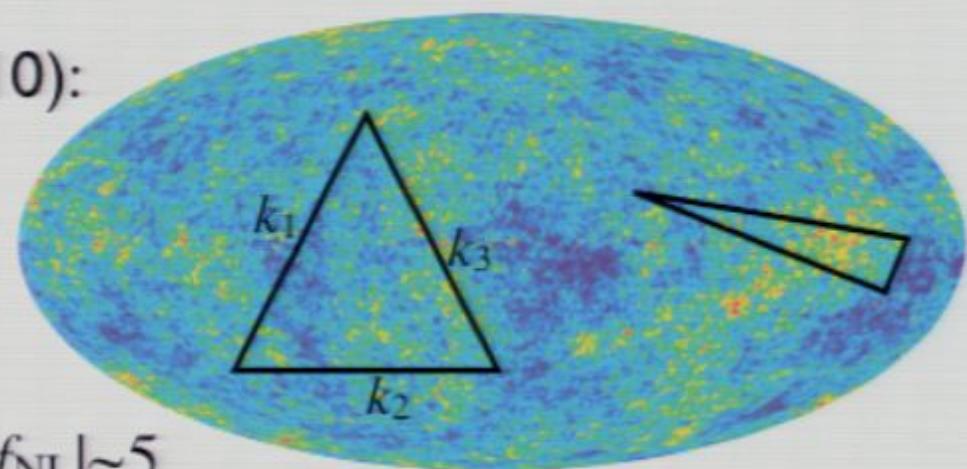
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CMB constraints

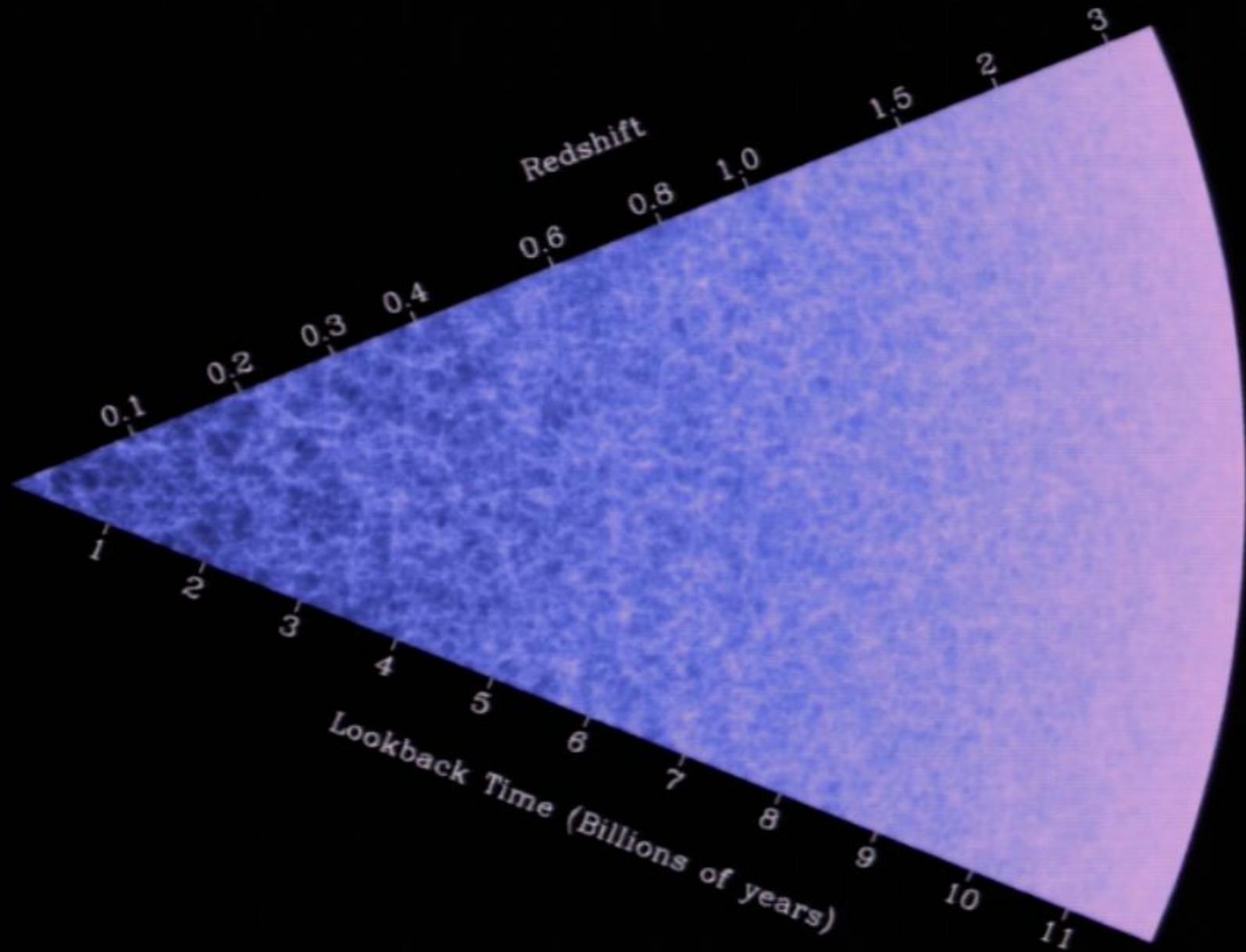
Measurements of CMB bispectrum:

- WMAP7 (Komatsu et al. 2010):
 $-10 < f_{NL} < 74$ (95% conf)
- Planck: forecasted to reach $|f_{NL}| \sim 5$
 - limited eventually by secondaries (e.g. lensing)

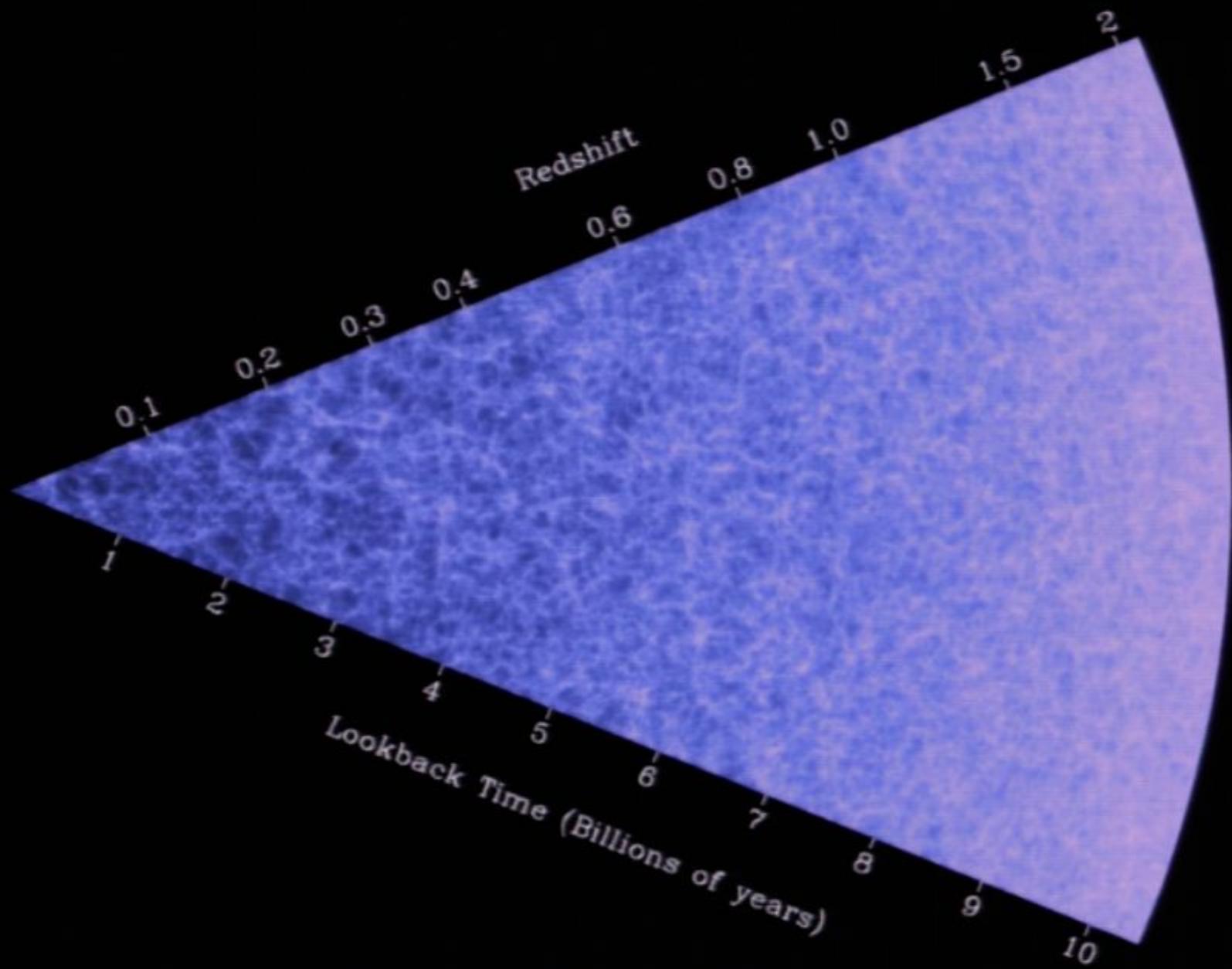


can we do better?

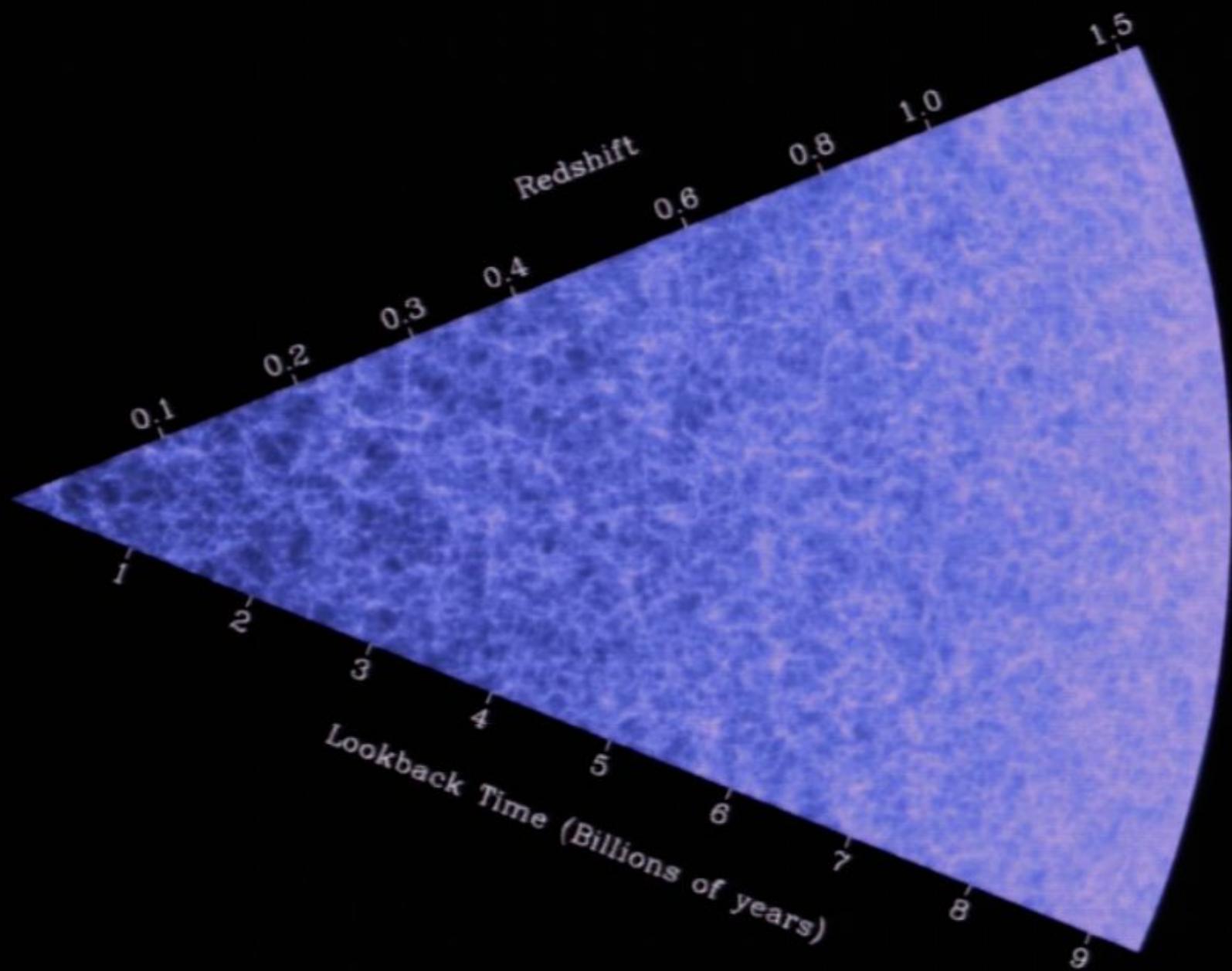
Large-scale structure



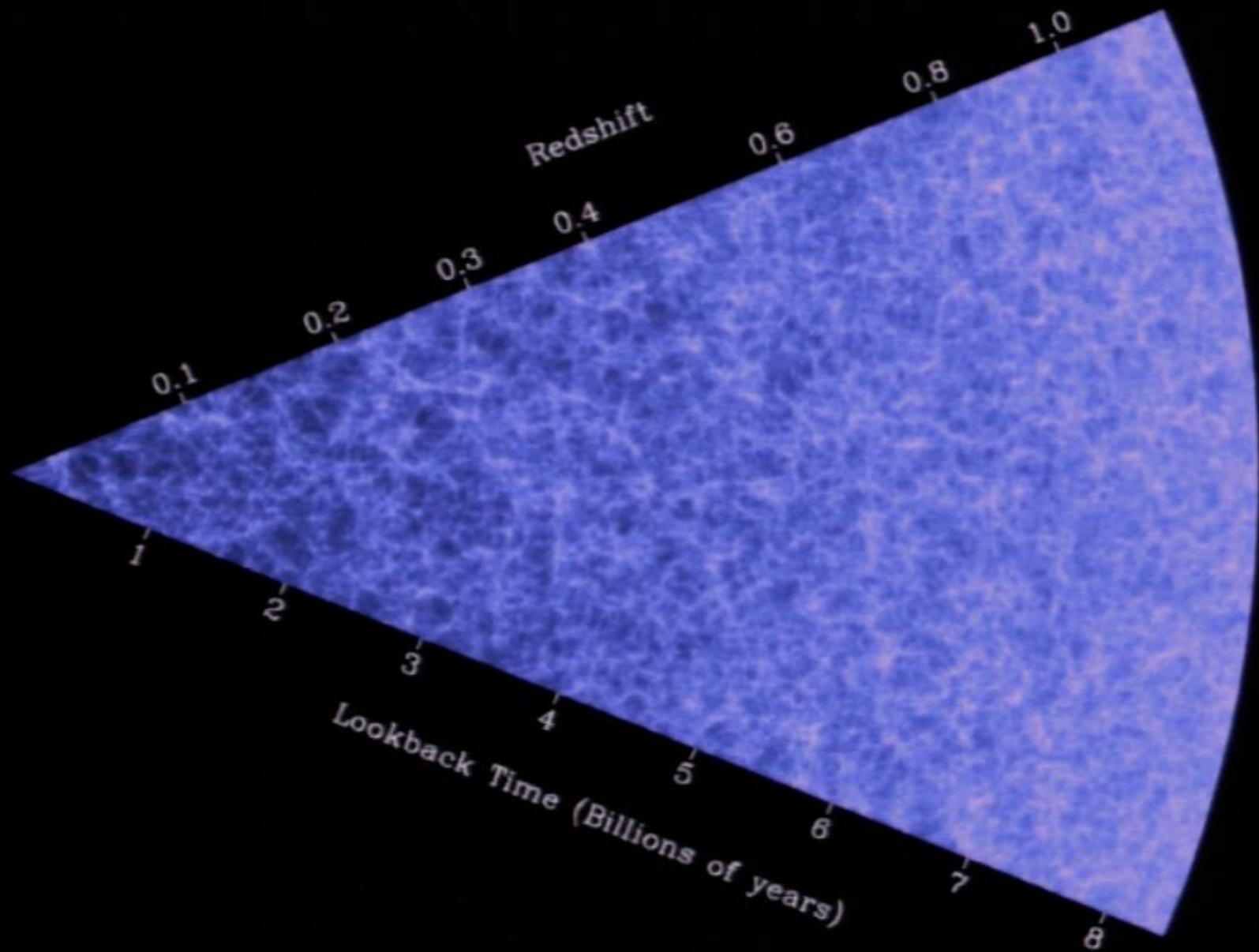
Horizon Run (Kim et al. 2009)



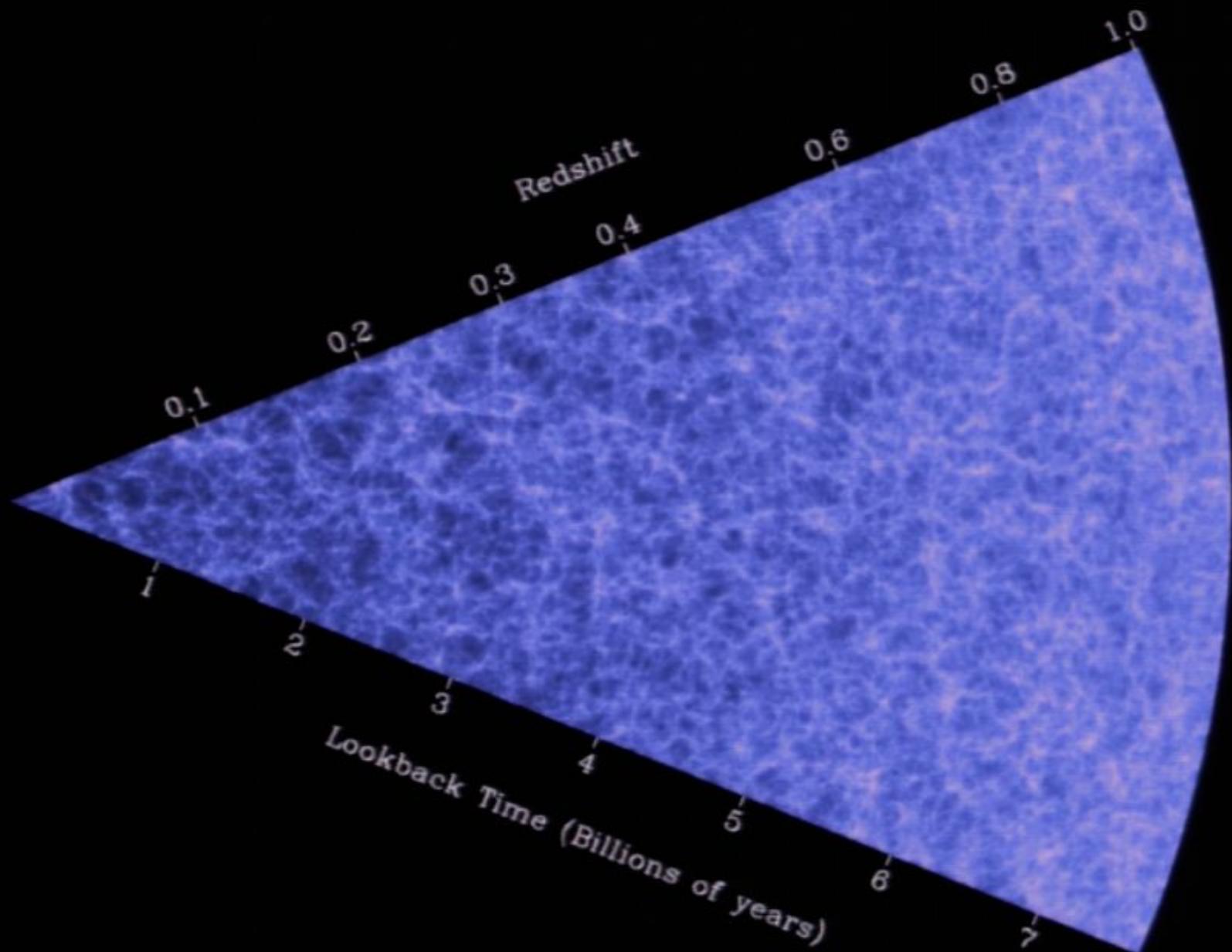
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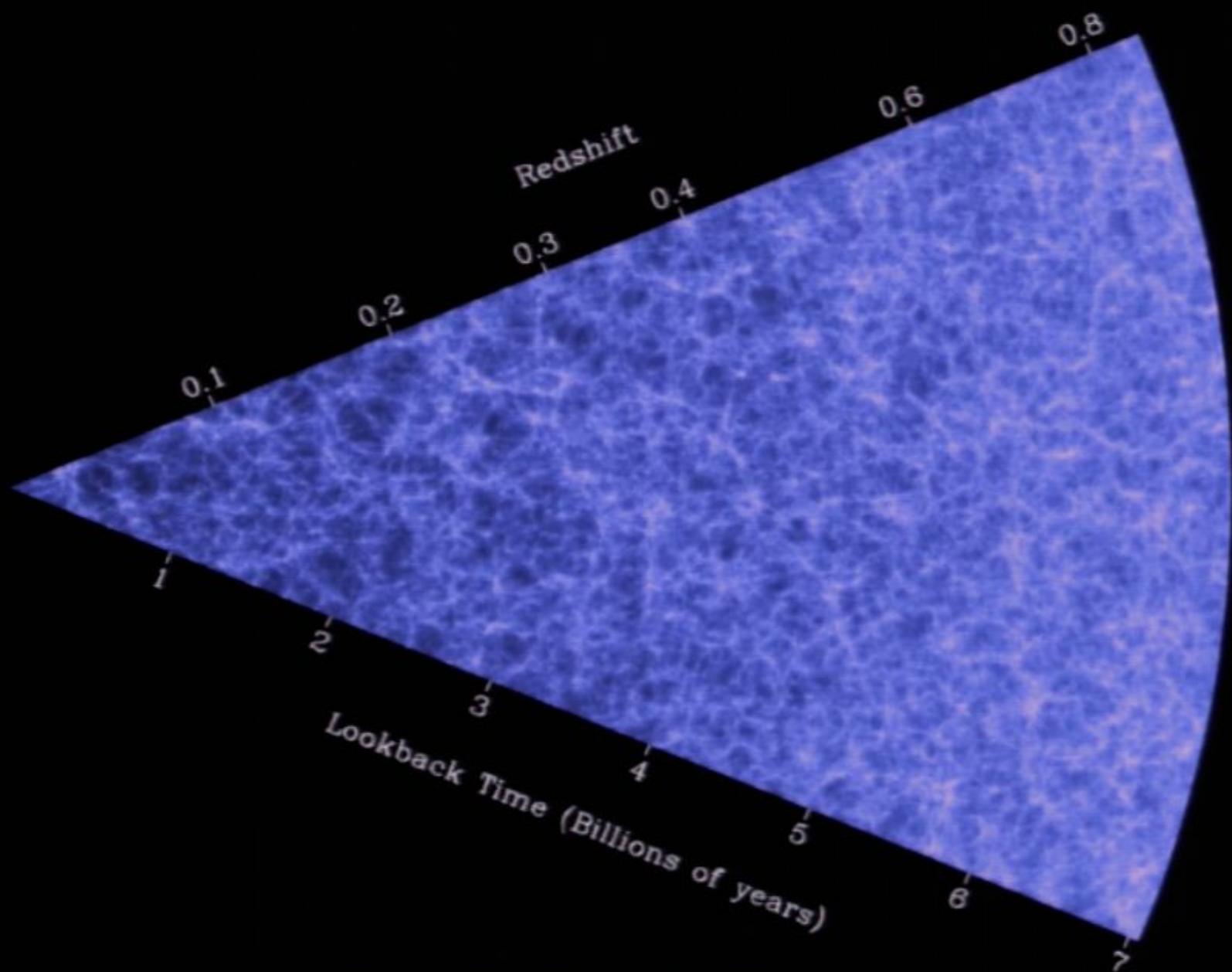
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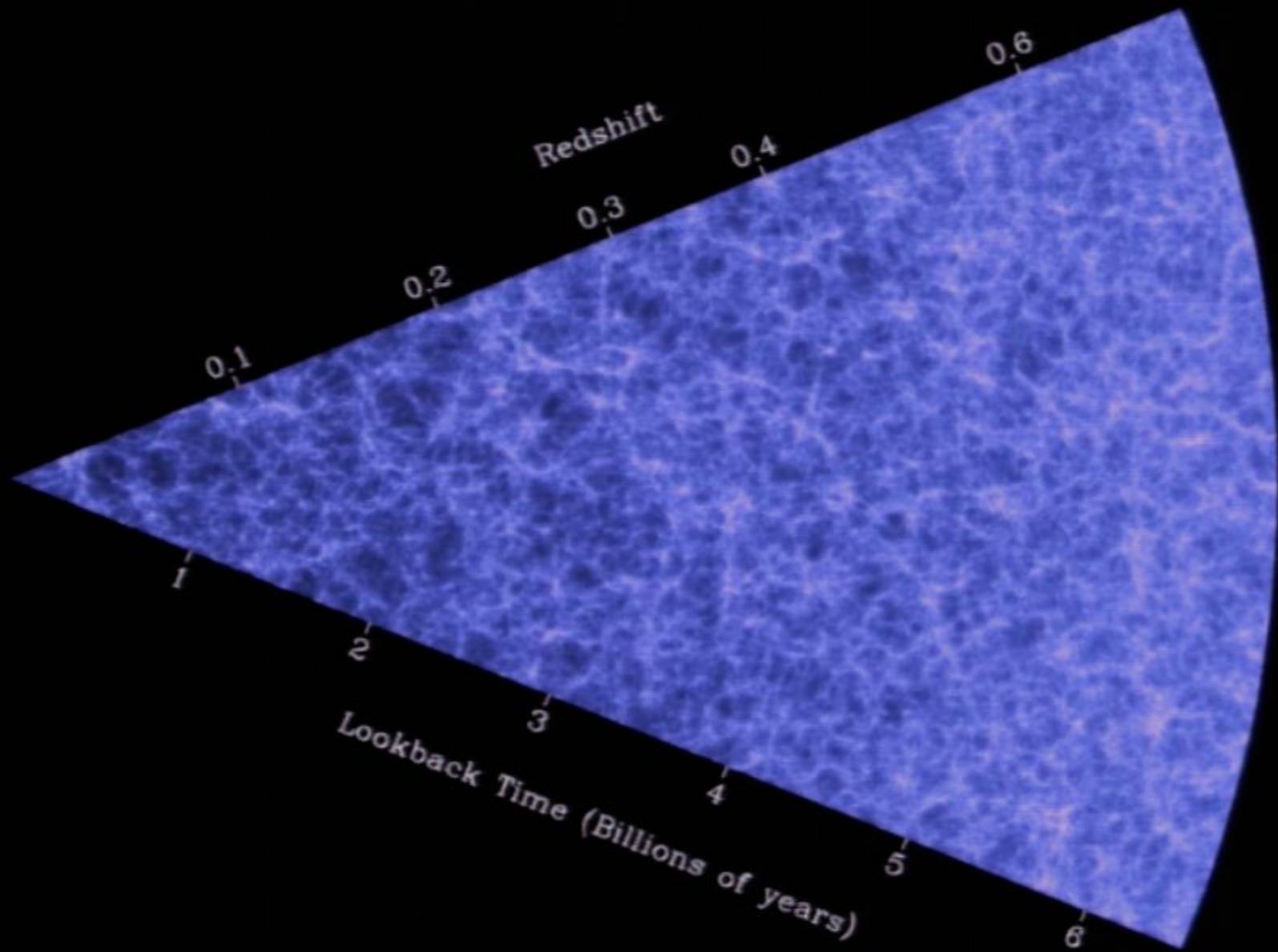
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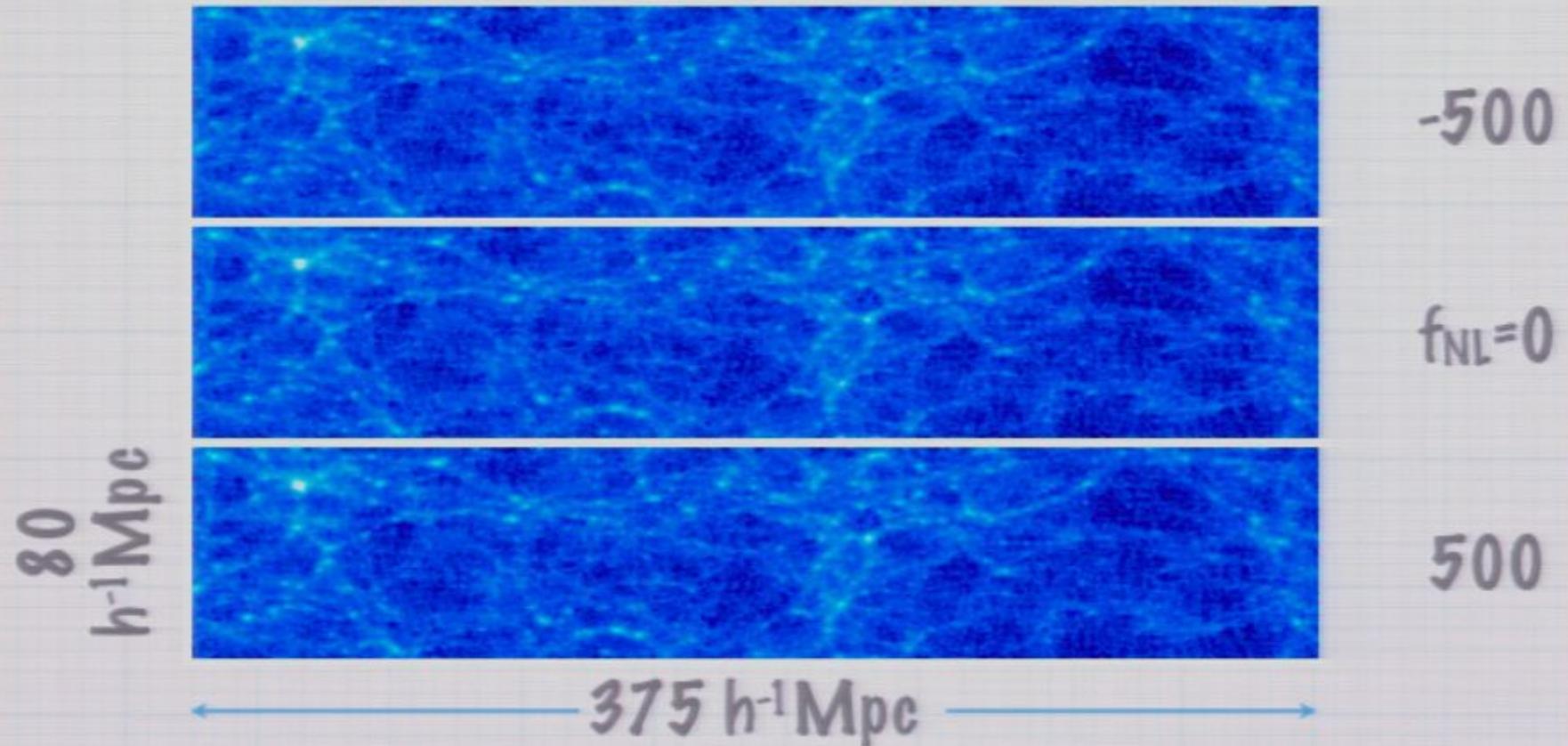


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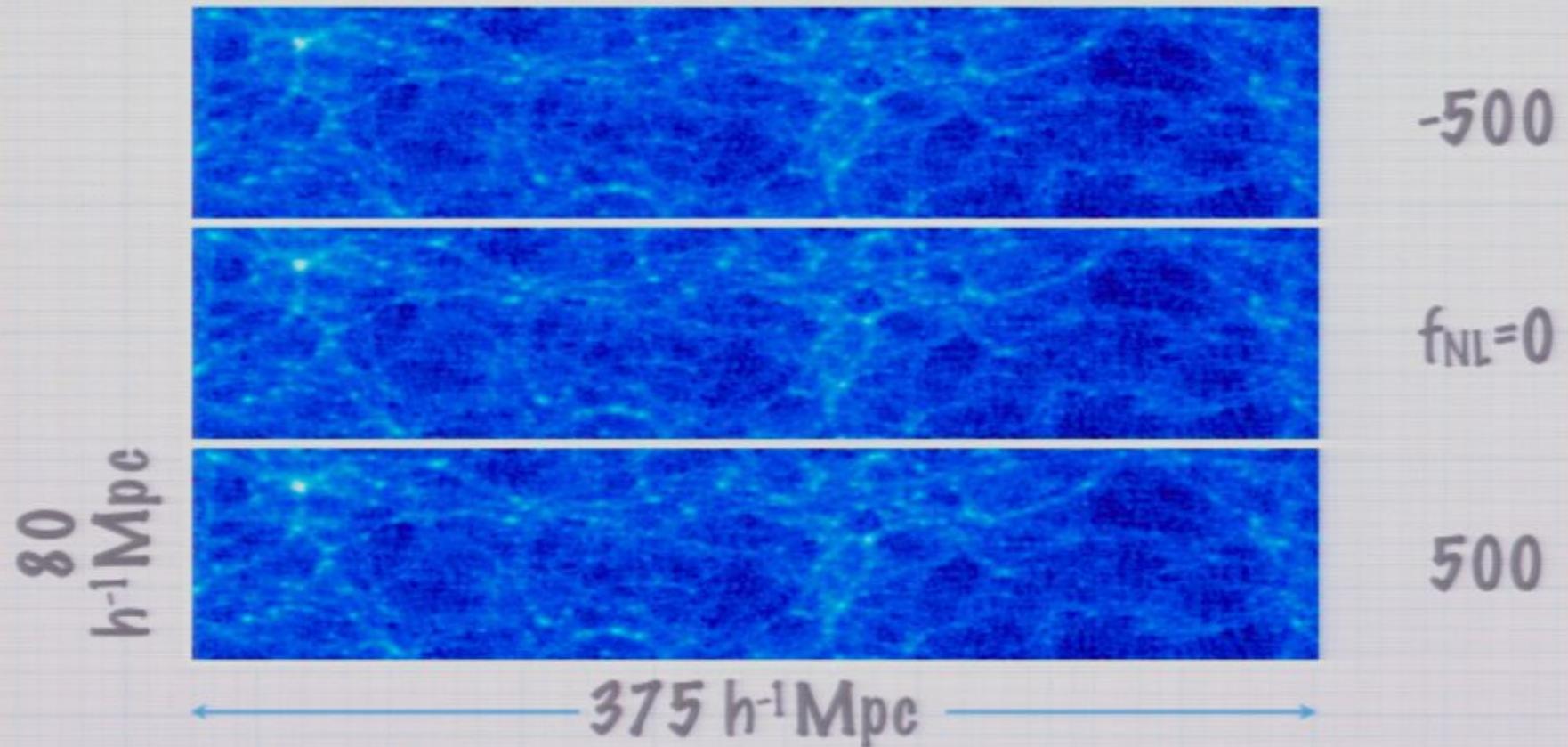
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NG & large-scale structure



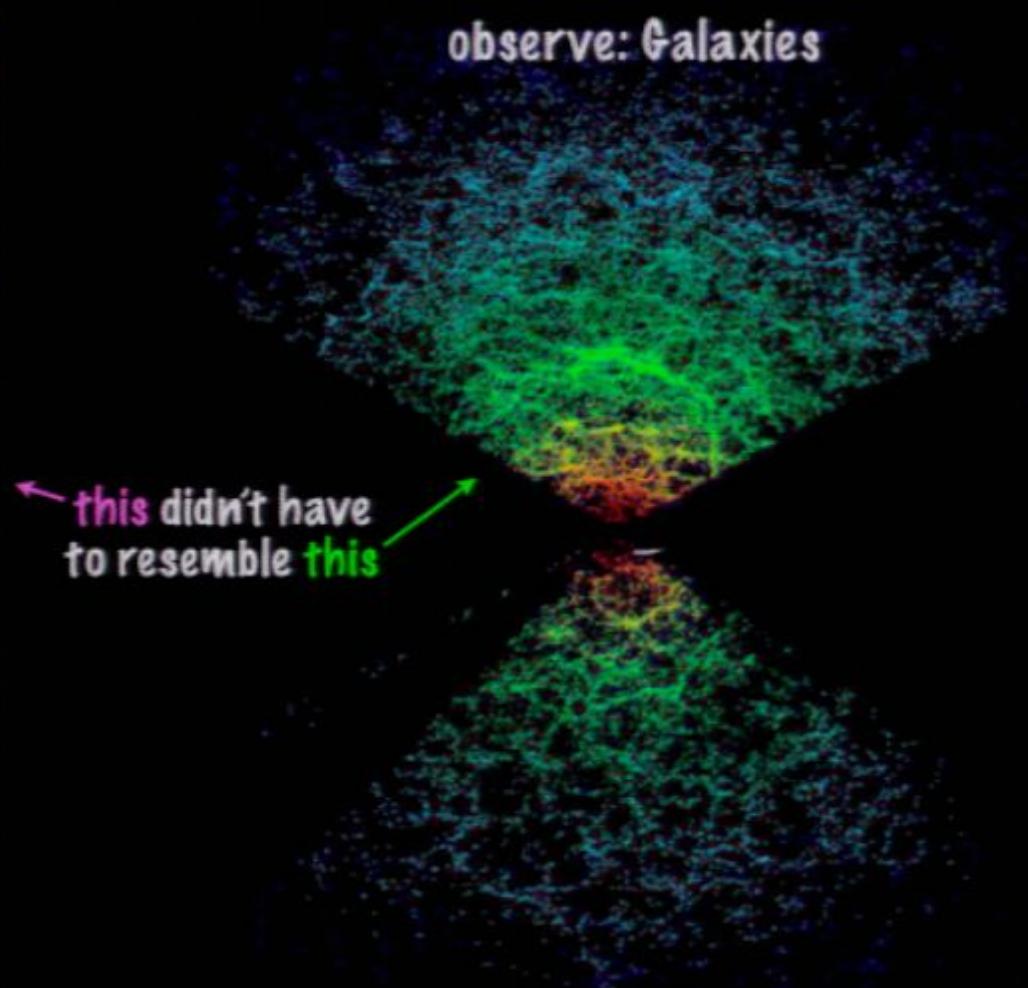
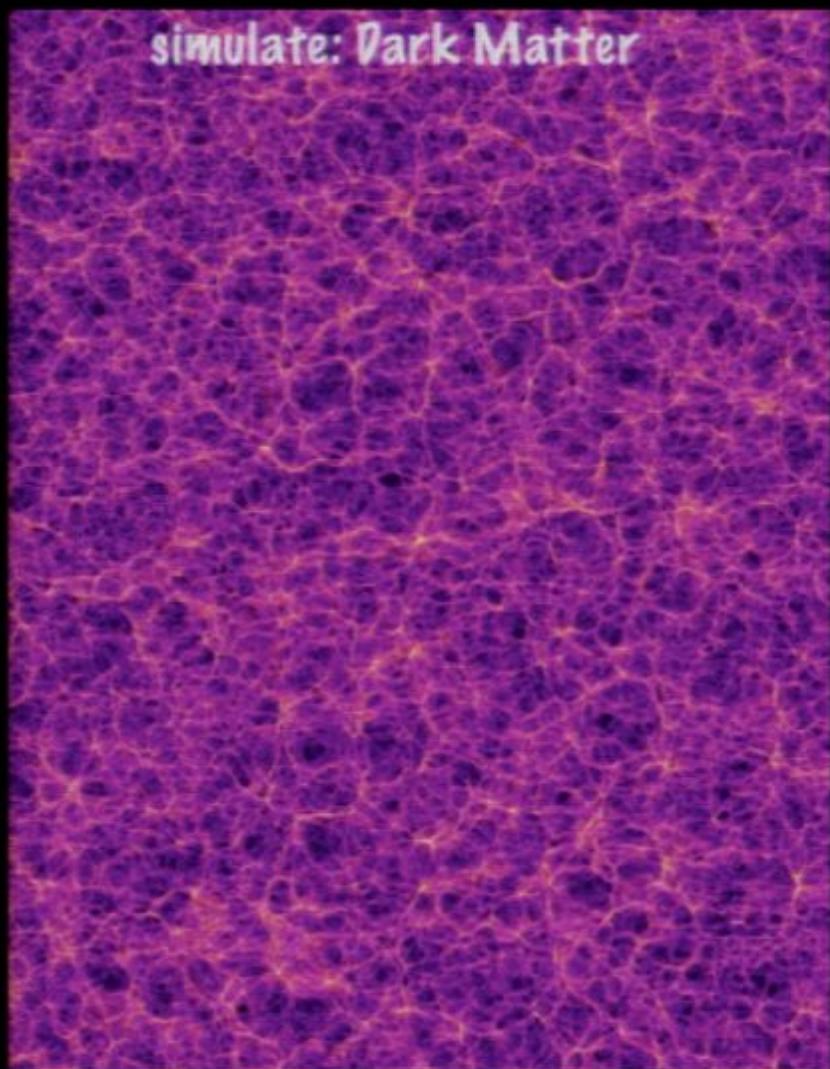
it doesn't seem like much changes!

NG & large-scale structure



it doesn't seem like much changes!

Observing the Cosmic Web



Millennium Simulation (Springel et al.)

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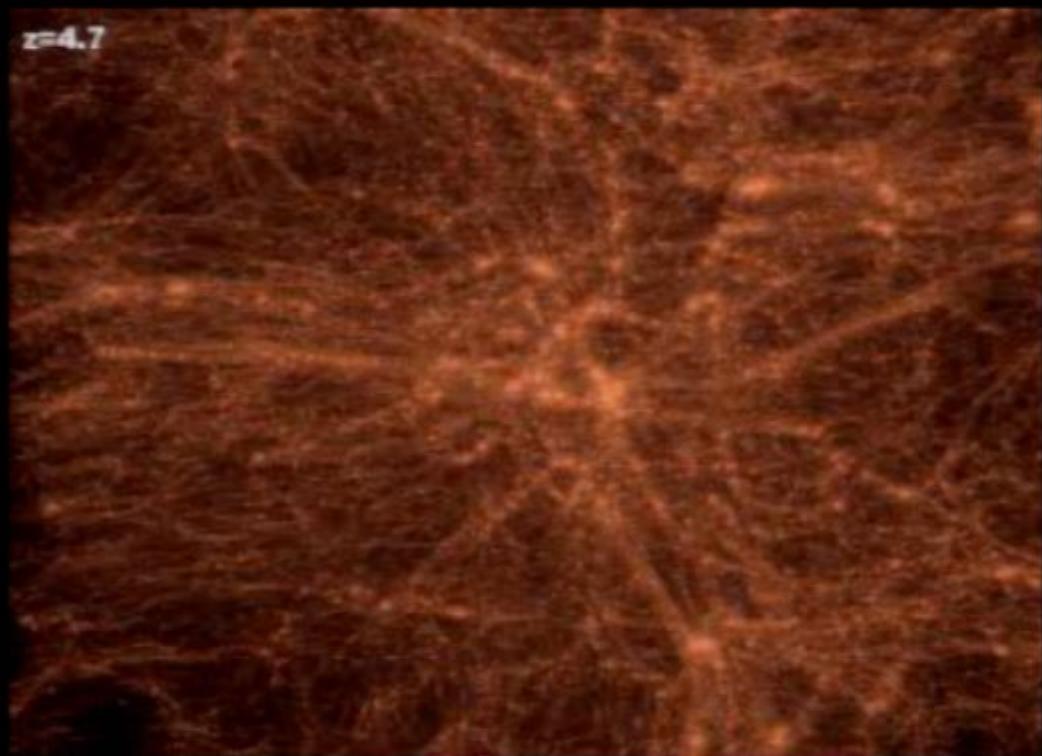
SDSS galaxy distribution
(Tegmark et al.)

- * Fortunately, essentially all tracers (like galaxies or quasars) live inside of **Dark Matter Halos**
- * massive halos form from collapse of **peaks** of the initial (linear) density field, so peak statistics → halo statistics

dark matter halos

Halos are cosmological objects
that are:

- collapsed in all 3 dimensions
- gravitationally self-bound,
- virialized



“Via Lactea”
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dark matter halos

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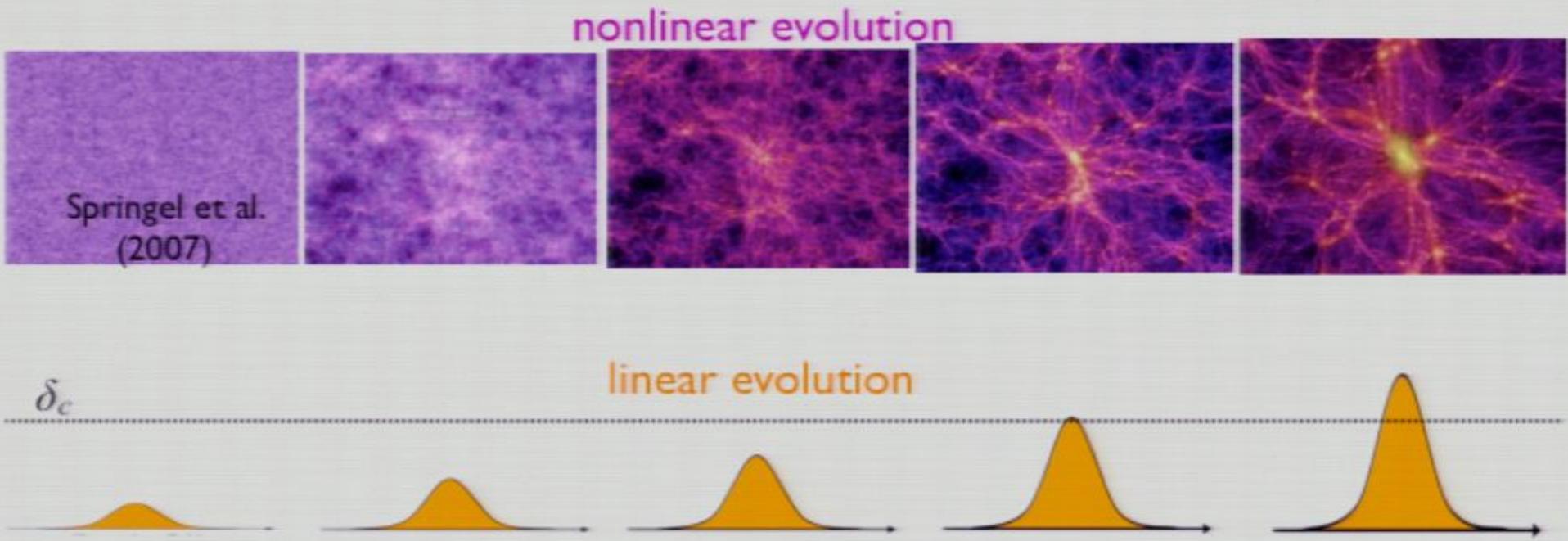
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halo formation (over)simplified

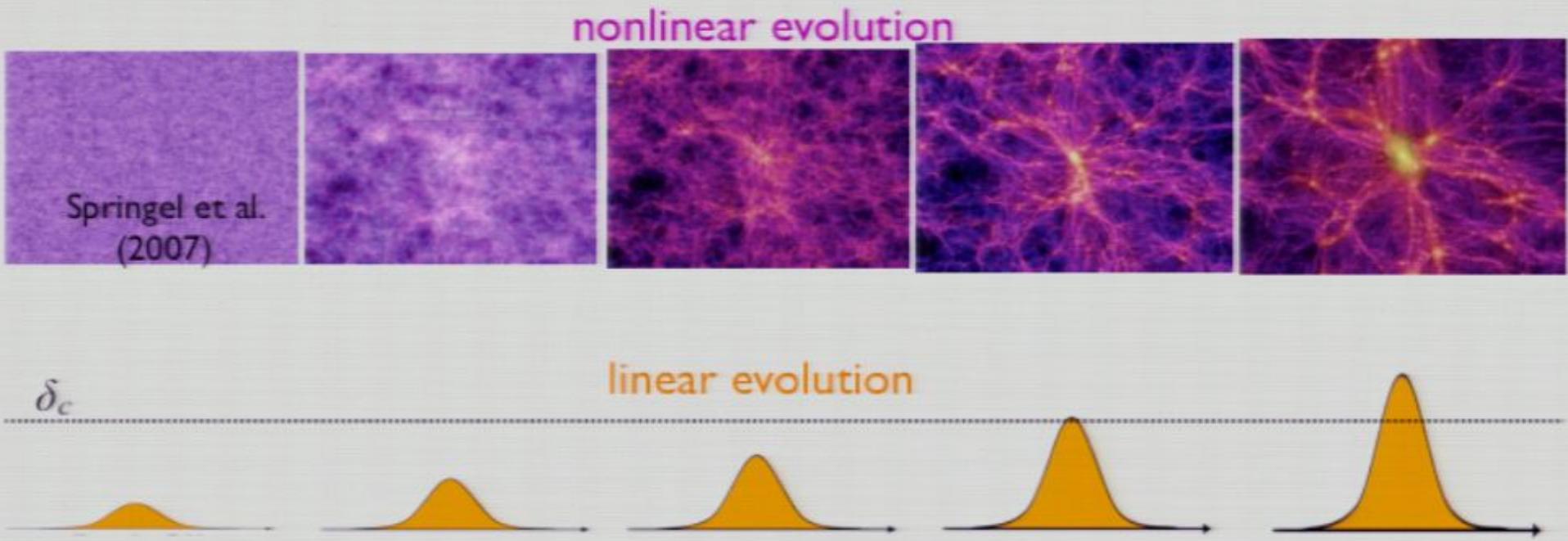
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- halos collapse when **linearly evolved** peak height reaches a threshold δ_c (Gunn & Gott 1972)

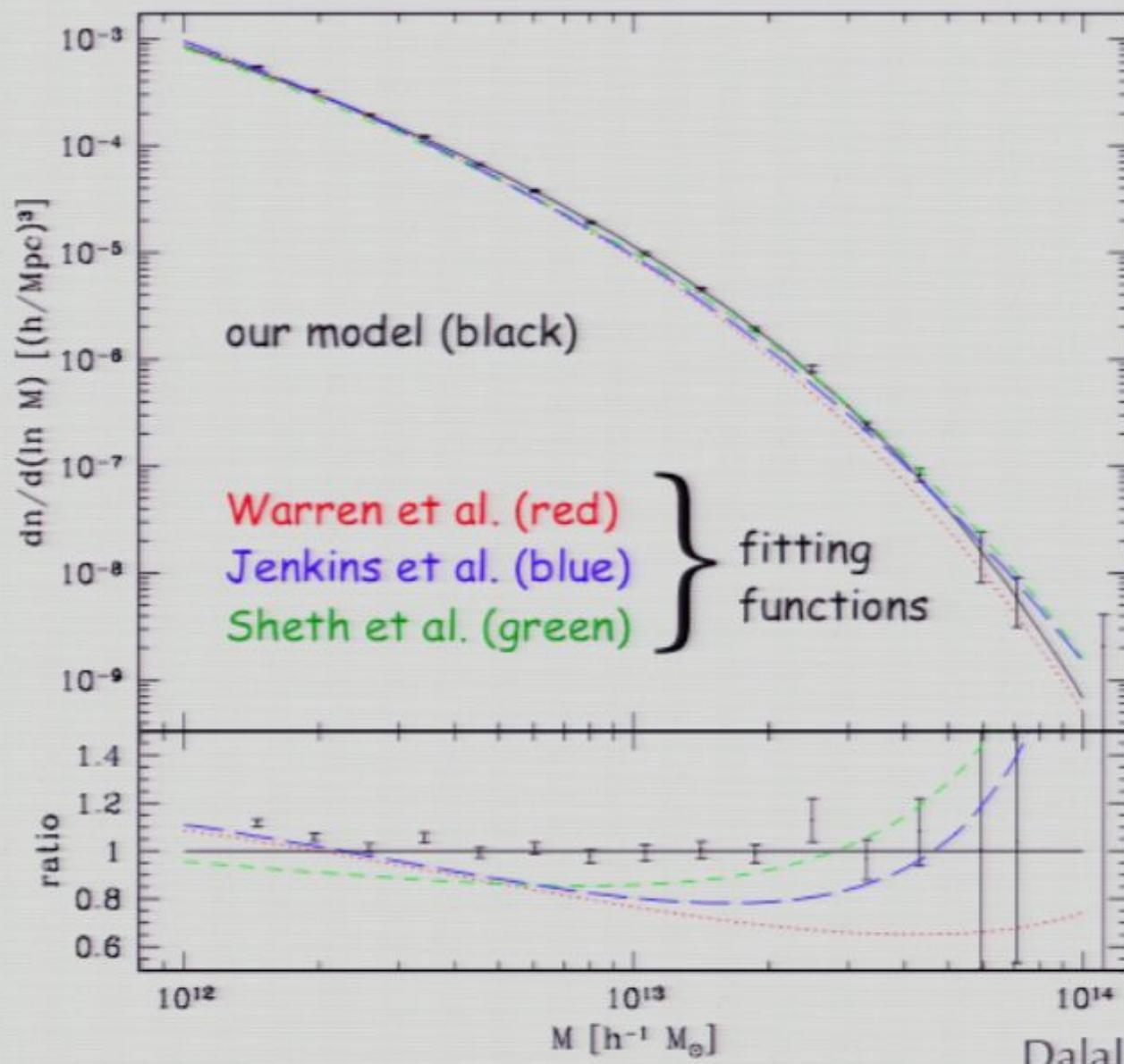
halo formation (over)simplified

- this seems complicated! but we can model halo formation simply, using a (reasonable) correspondence with linear perturbation theory



- halos collapse when **linearly evolved** peak height reaches a threshold δ_c (Gunn & Gott 1972)

(Gaussian) halo mass function



peaks in local NG

usual parameterization is $\Phi_{\text{NG}} = \phi + f_{\text{NL}} \phi^2$

Salopek & Bond 1990;
Komatsu & Spergel 2001;
Maldacena 2003

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Poisson eqn:

a Gaussian field

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Poisson eqn:

a Gaussian field

$$\nabla^2 \Phi_{\text{NG}} = \nabla^2 \phi + 2 f_{\text{NL}} [\phi \nabla^2 \phi + |\nabla \phi|^2]$$

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Poisson eqn:

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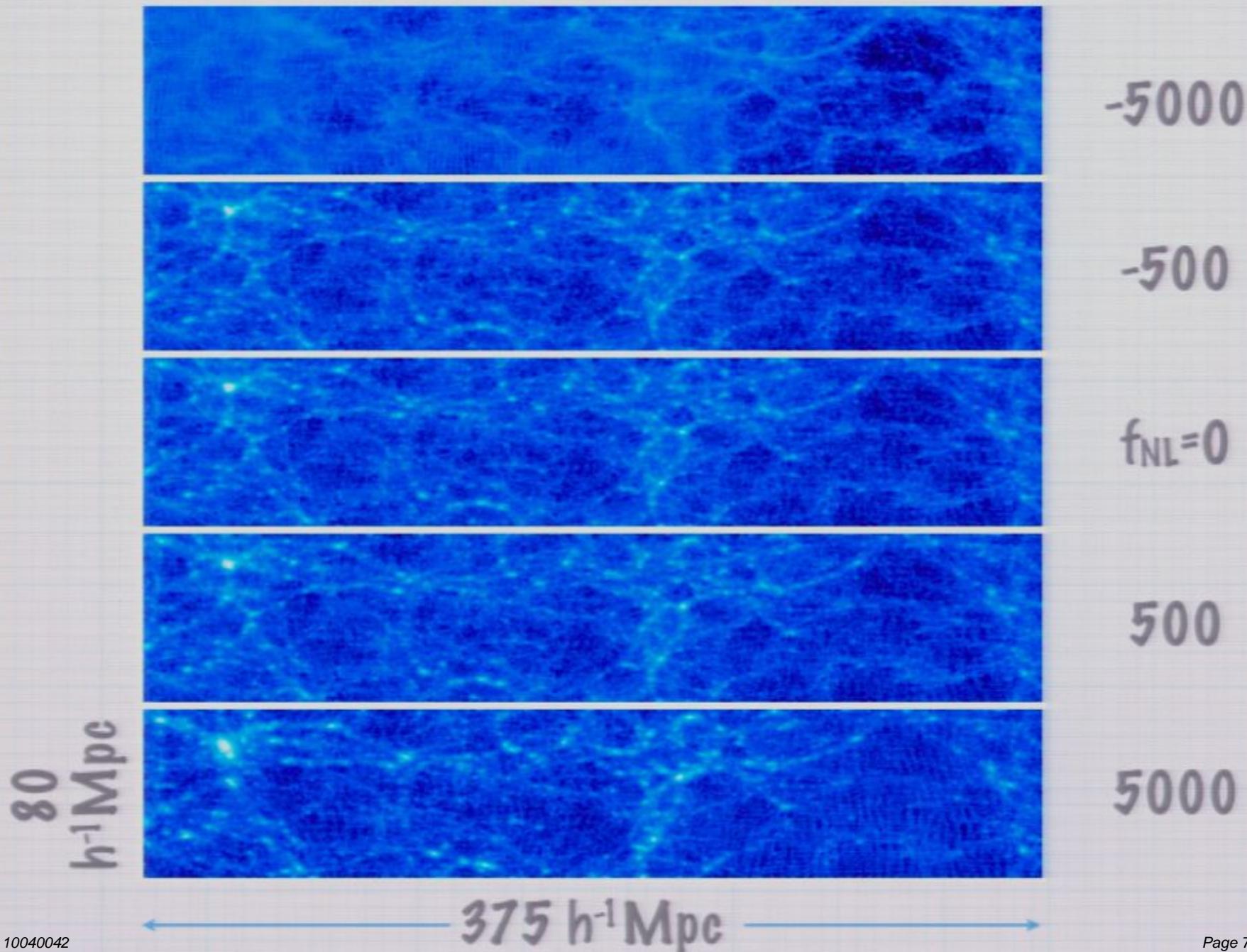
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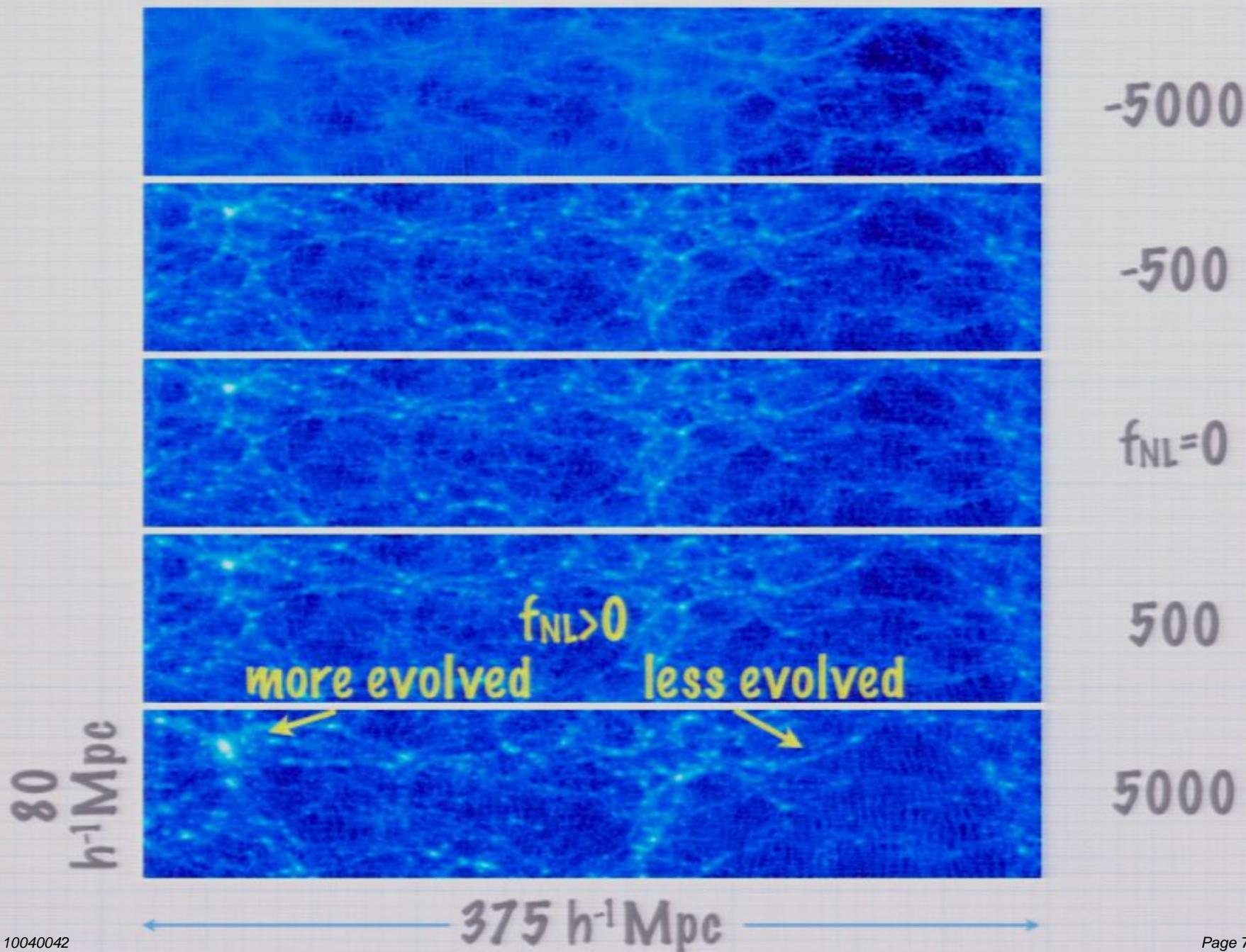
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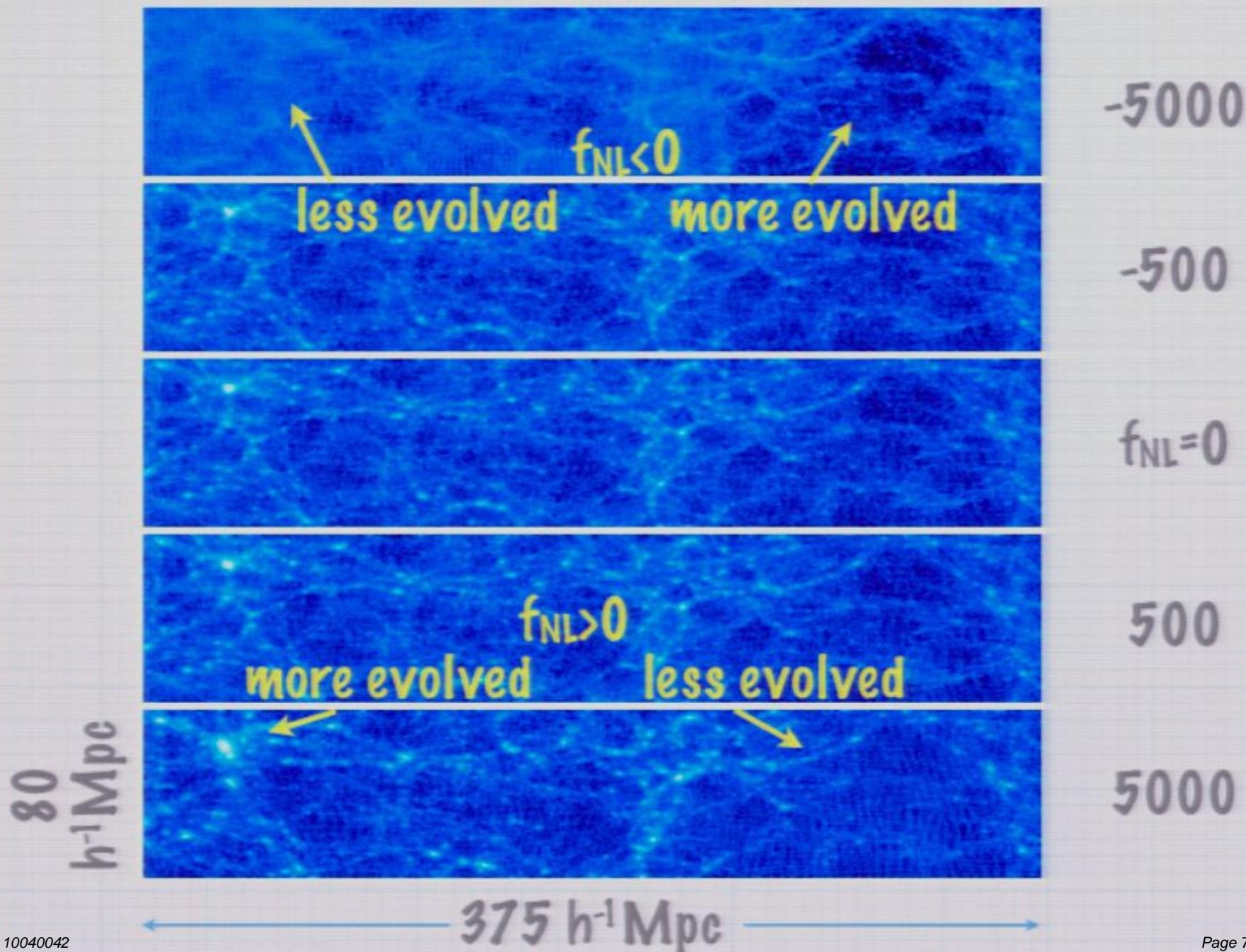
neglecting 2nd term gives:

$$\delta_{\text{NG}} \approx \delta (1 + 2 f_{\text{NL}} \phi)$$

- * this f_{NL} -dependent change in peak heights changes the number of halos that form
- * so counting objects can be used to probe NG, though this signature is often degenerate with other cosmological parameters (see e.g. Matarrese et al. 2000, LoVerde et al. 2008)







halo clustering

- * predict halo clustering from the clustering of peaks
- * clustering is usually measured by the "**bias**" $b = d(\log n)/d\delta$

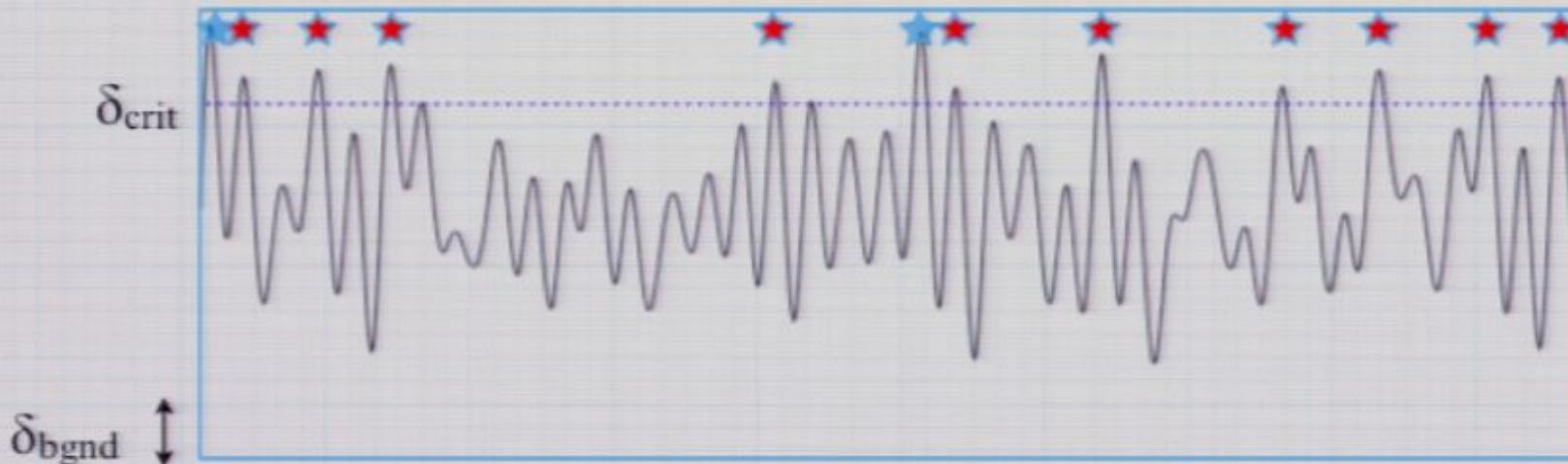
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halo clustering

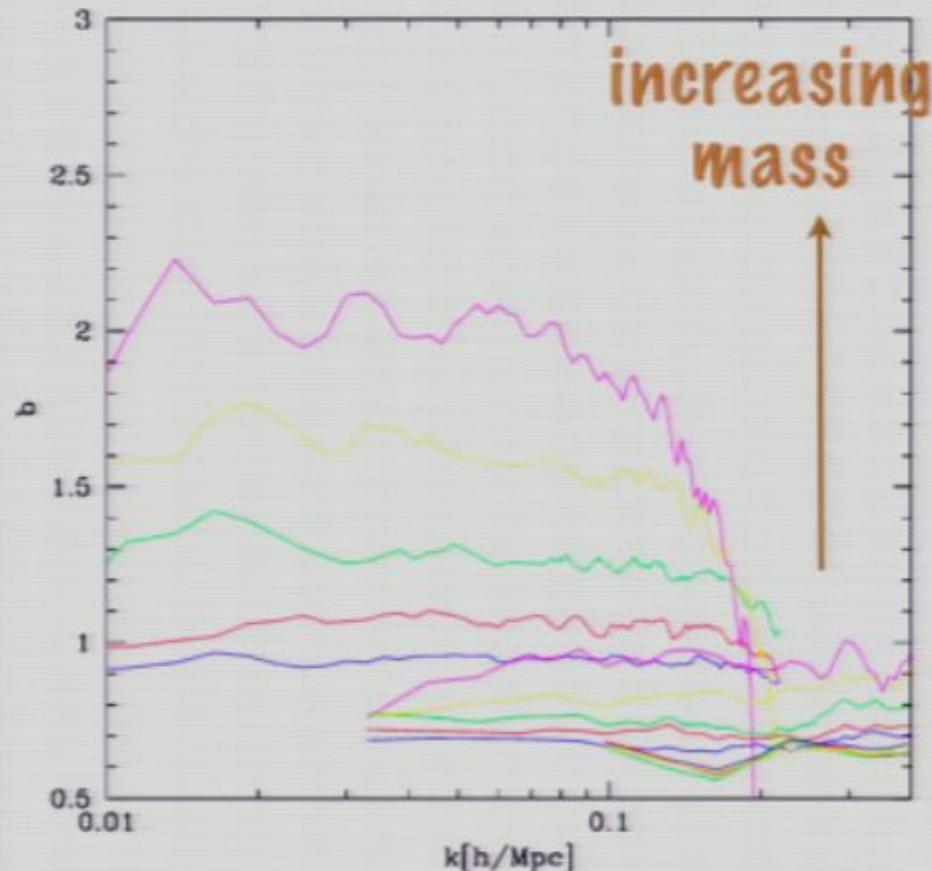
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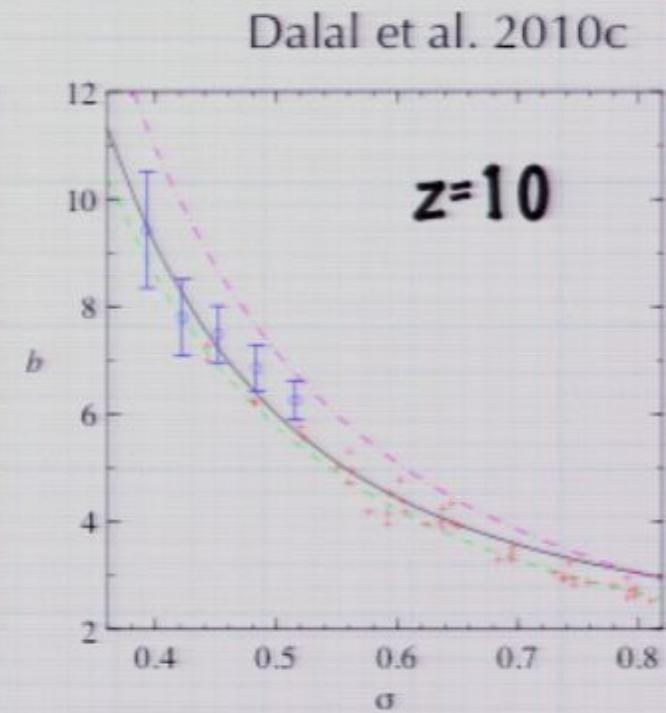
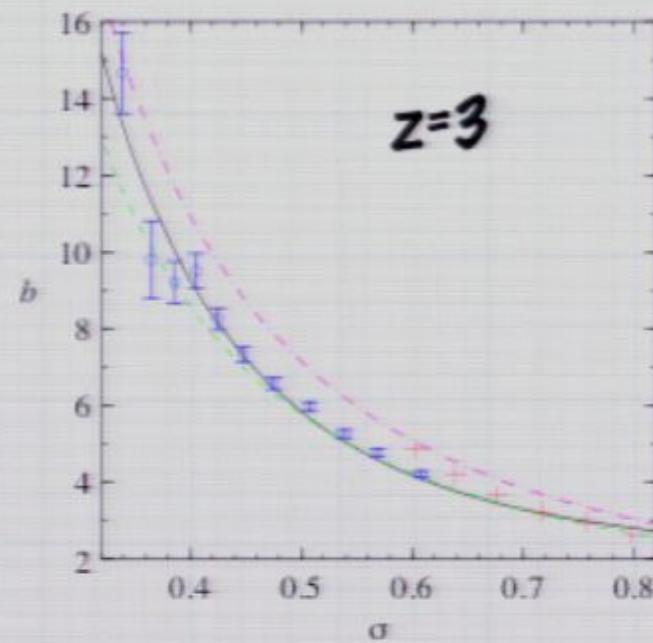
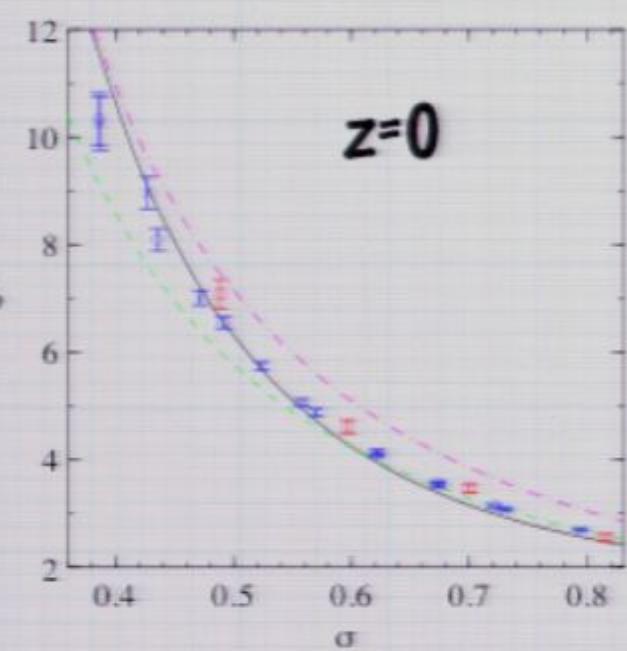
- * for large scales where $\delta \ll 1$, this gives $\delta_h = b \delta$, $\xi_h = b^2 \xi$, etc.

(Gaussian) halo bias

- If halo formation depends only on local matter distribution, then we expect $b \rightarrow \text{const}$ as $k \rightarrow 0$
(Scherrer & Weinberg 1998)
- and that's what we see in simulations!
- with NG, peaks depend on potential φ , which is non-local!



(Gaussian) halo bias



Dalal et al. 2010c

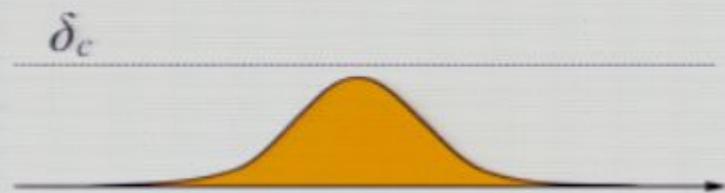
curves: our model (black)

Mo & White (magenta) ← Press-Schechter

Sheth et al. (green)

Nongaussian halo bias

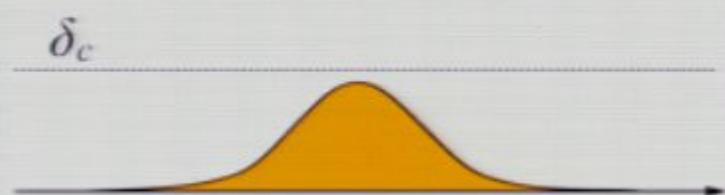
consider the effect of a background mode with density δ and potential φ on peaks



Nongaussian halo bias

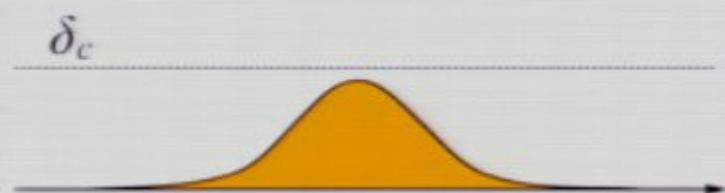
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- * density δ raises peak heights



Nongaussian halo bias

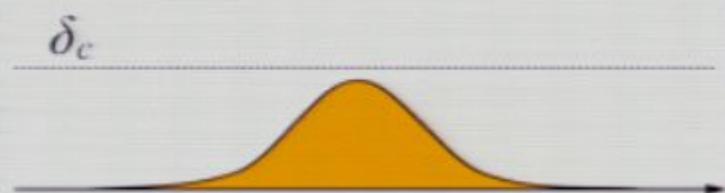
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- * density δ raises peak heights
- * because $\delta_{\text{NG}} \approx \delta (1 + 2 f_{\text{NL}} \varphi)$, potential φ raises heights by $2 f_{\text{NL}} \delta_{\text{pk}} \varphi$.

Nongaussian halo bias

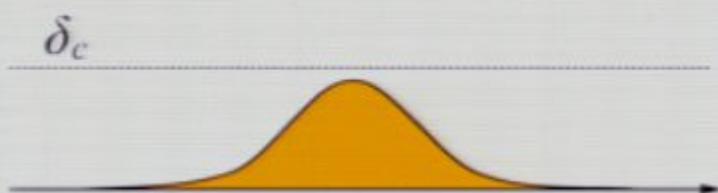
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$\delta_h(k) = b [\delta(k) + 2 f_{\text{NL}} \delta_{\text{pk}} \varphi_p(k)]$, and using the Poisson eqn:

Nongaussian halo bias

consider the effect of a background mode with density δ and potential φ on peaks



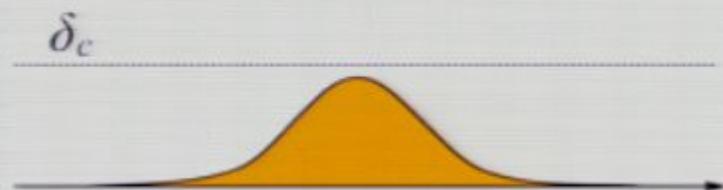
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$$\begin{aligned}\delta_h(k) &= b \left[1 + 2 f_{\text{NL}} \delta_c \frac{3\Omega_m}{2aTr_H^2 k^2} \right] \delta(k) \\ &= b_{\text{NG}}(k) \delta(k)\end{aligned}$$

Nongaussian halo bias

consider the effect of a background mode with density δ and potential φ on peaks



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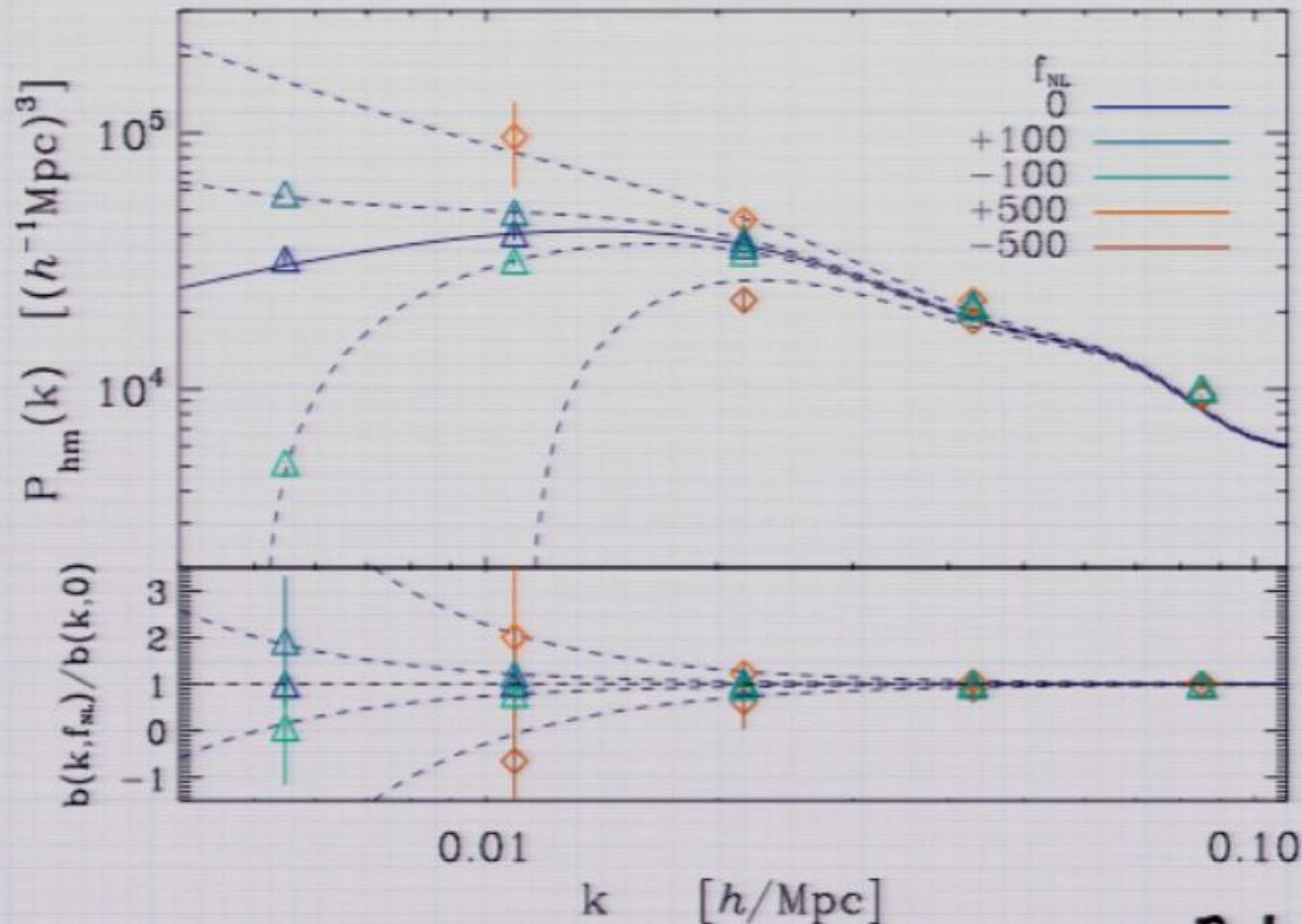
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this is the
important piece!!

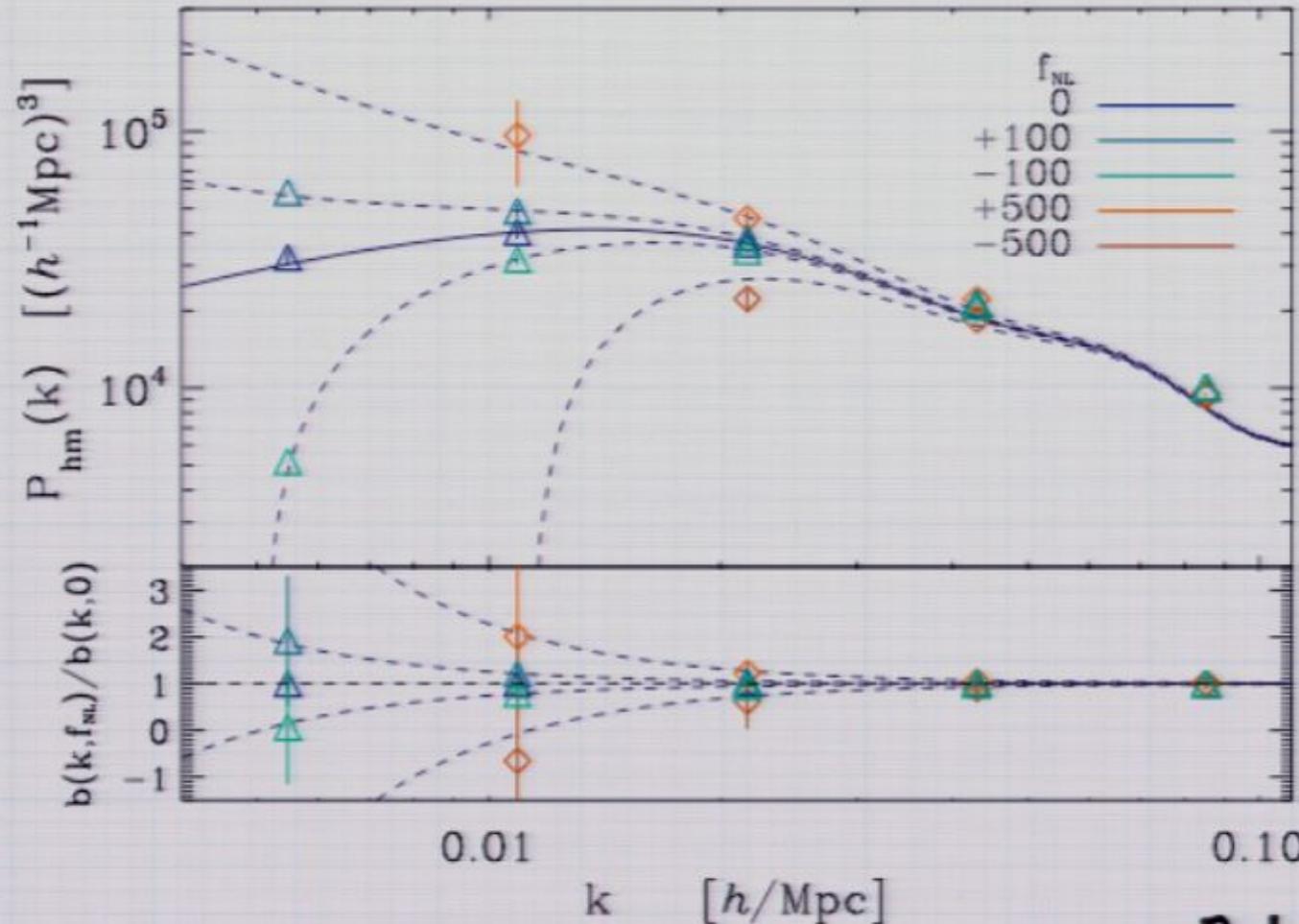
Large-scale clustering

$$\Delta b(k) = 2b_L f_{\text{NL}} \delta_{\text{crit}} \frac{3\Omega_m}{2ag(a)T(k)r_H^2 k^2}$$



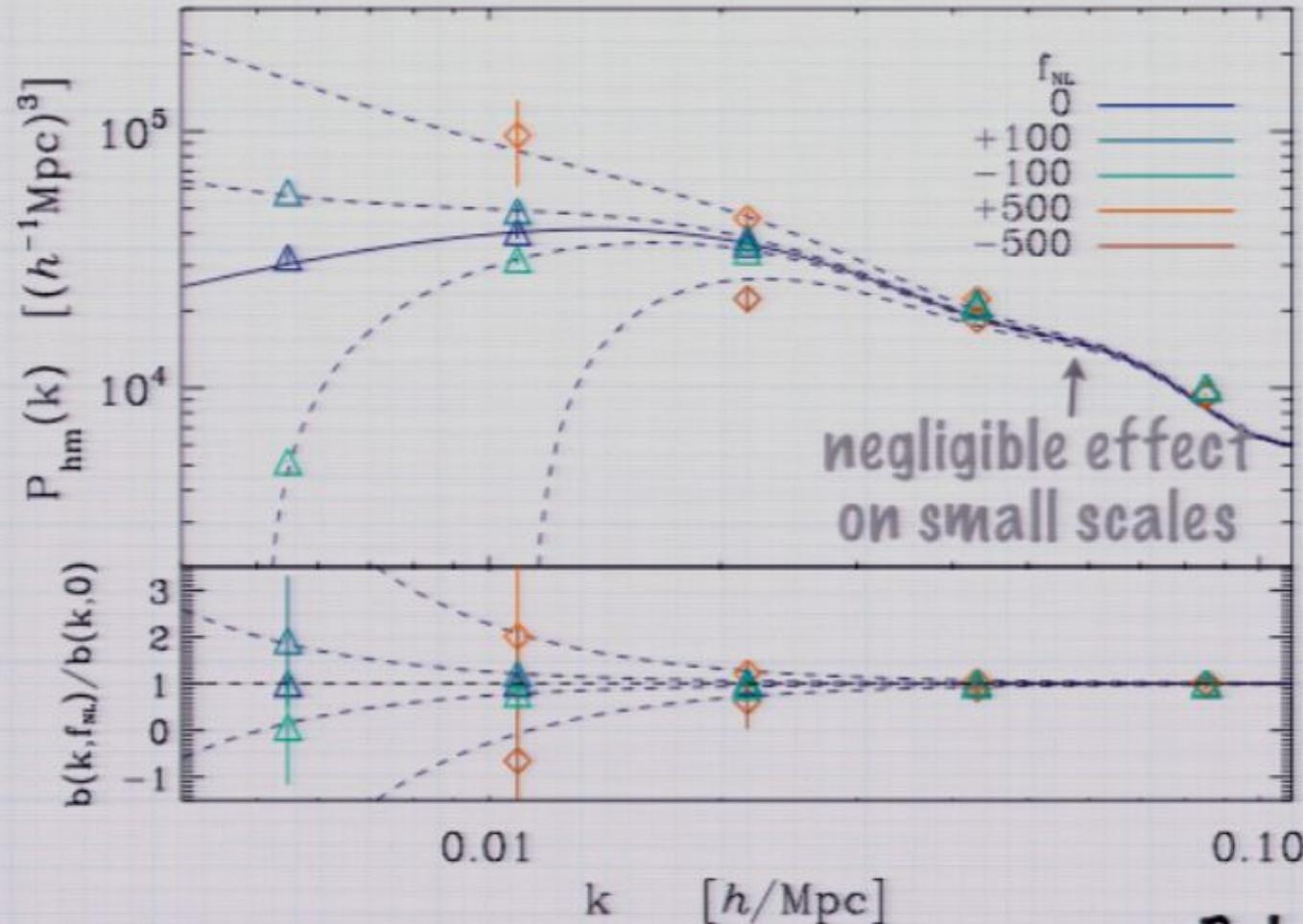
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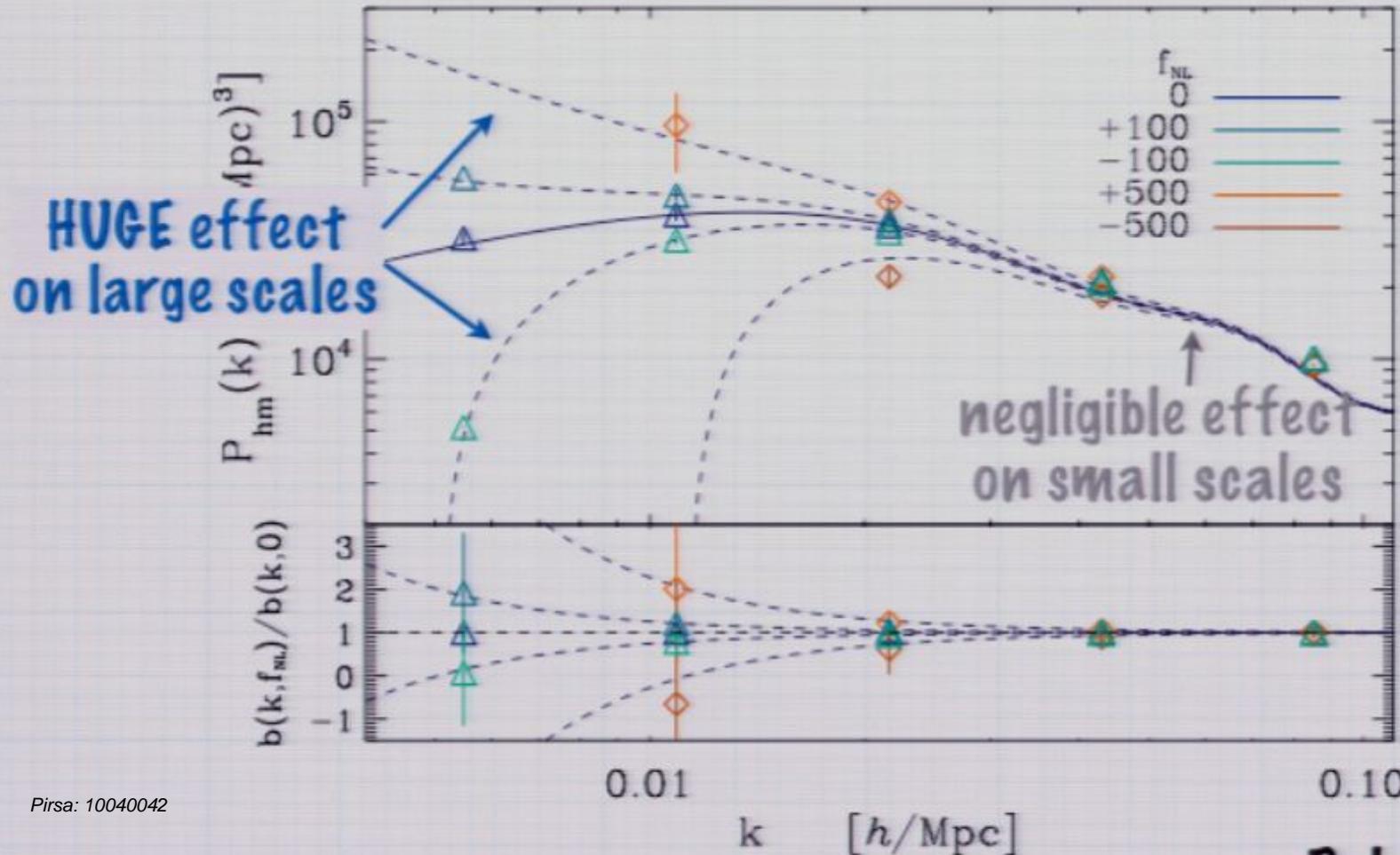
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observational constraints on f_{NL}

how to measure this?

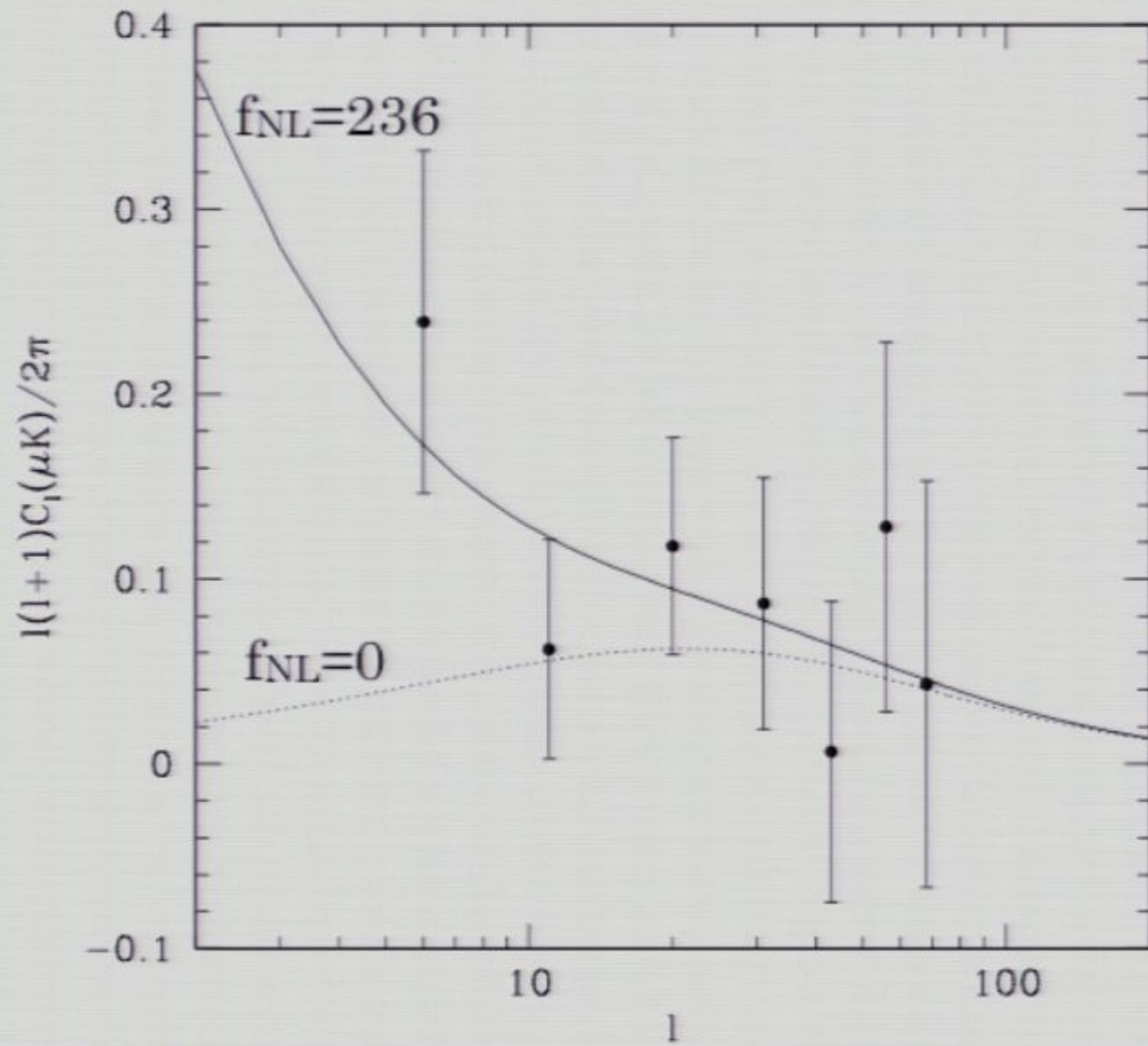
- * Want large scales ($k < 0.01$):

- large f_{sky}
- high z

- * possible issues:

- * require photometric calibration across the sky to be **very homogeneous**.
 - * Foregrounds (e.g. Galactic dust extinction) can mimic the signal!
- **datasets used for BAO measurements are ideal.**

Constraints from: NVSS radio sources, $z \sim 1$

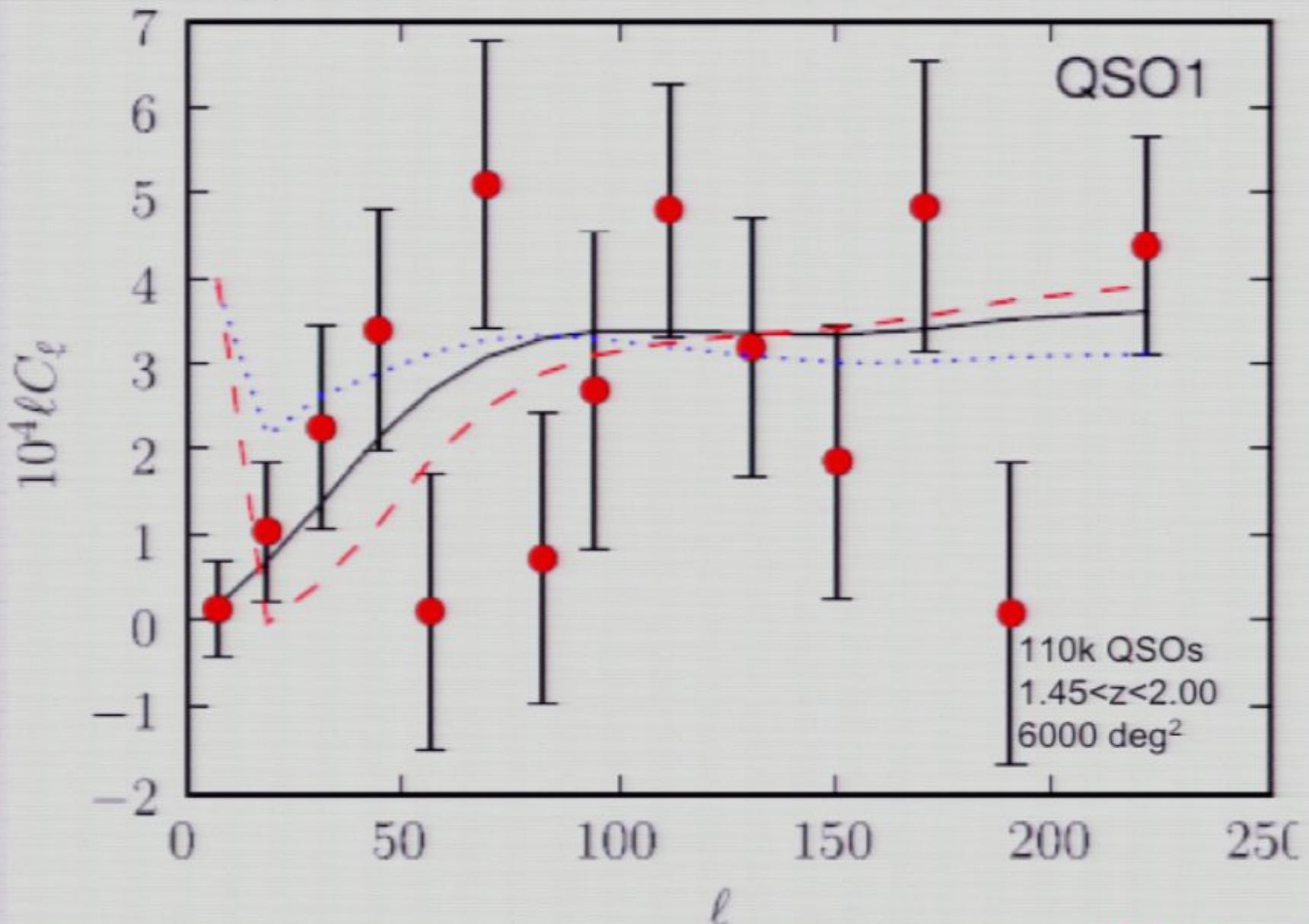


Pirsa: 10040042
 $f_{NL} = 236 \pm 127$ (68%)

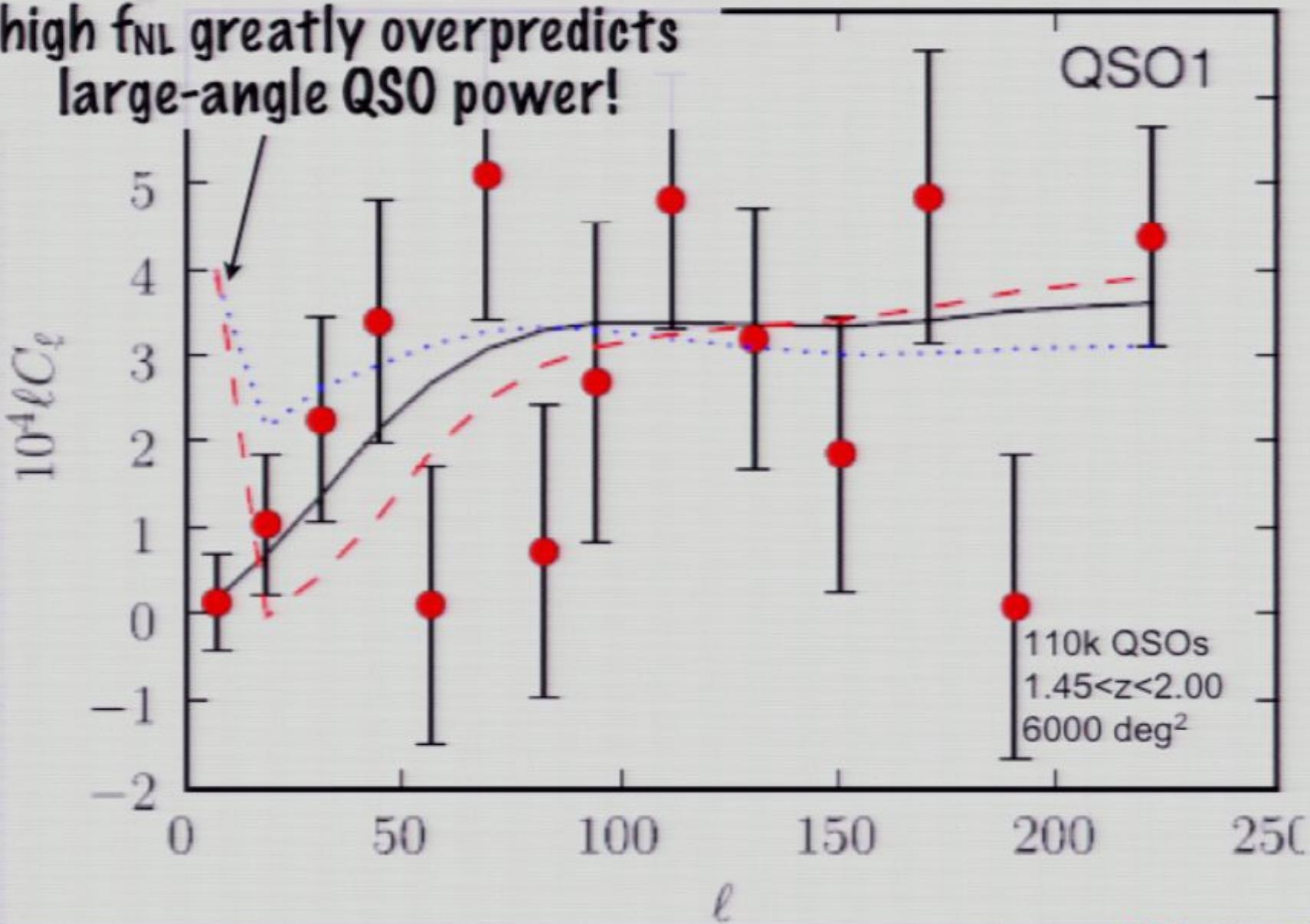
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Afshordi & Tolley 2008

Application to SDSS

- Samples:
 - Spectro-z LRGs (Tegmark et al 06)
 - Photo-z LRGs (Padmanabhan et al 07)
 - Photo-z quasars (Ho et al 08 ISW sample) – $1.45 < z < 2.00$ slice
(0.65—1.45 excluded due to red star correlation)
 - ISW effect (from Ho et al 08, no constraining power)
- + CMB (WMAP5+CBI+ACBAR+VSA), SNLS
 - Fixes underlying matter power spectrum shape
- Search for evidence of excess power on the largest scales in the survey.



high f_{NL} greatly overpredicts
large-angle QSO power!



current constraints: SDSS

at 95% confidence:

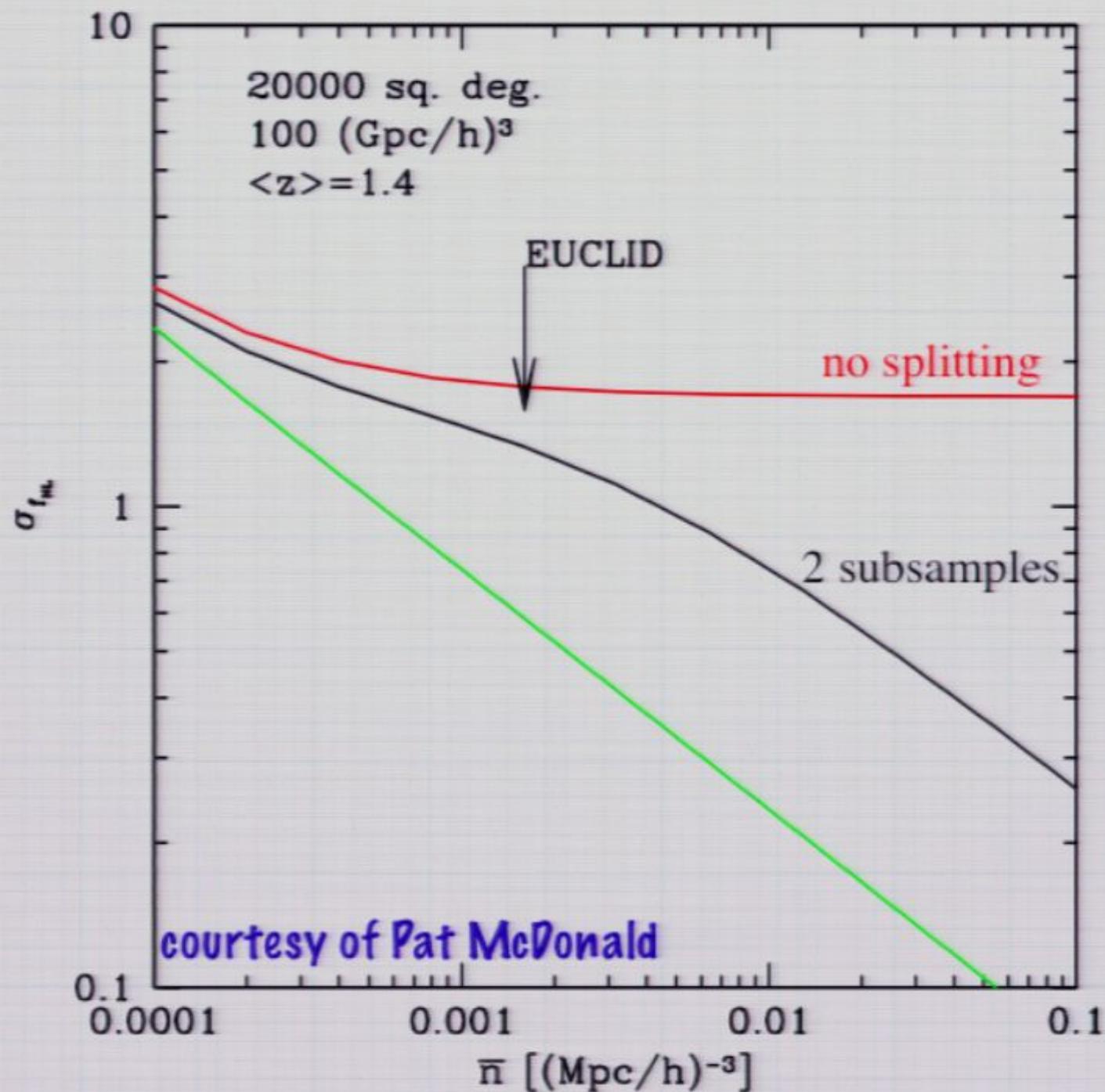
- CMB: $f_{NL} = 51 \pm 60$ (Komatsu et al. 2008)
- LSS: $f_{NL} = 31+39-60$ (Slosar et al. 2008)
- combined: $f_{NL} = 37+33-38$
- Overall $\sim 2\sigma$ evidence for $f_{NL} > 0$
- what's in the near future... ?

Future NG from measurements of $b(k)$

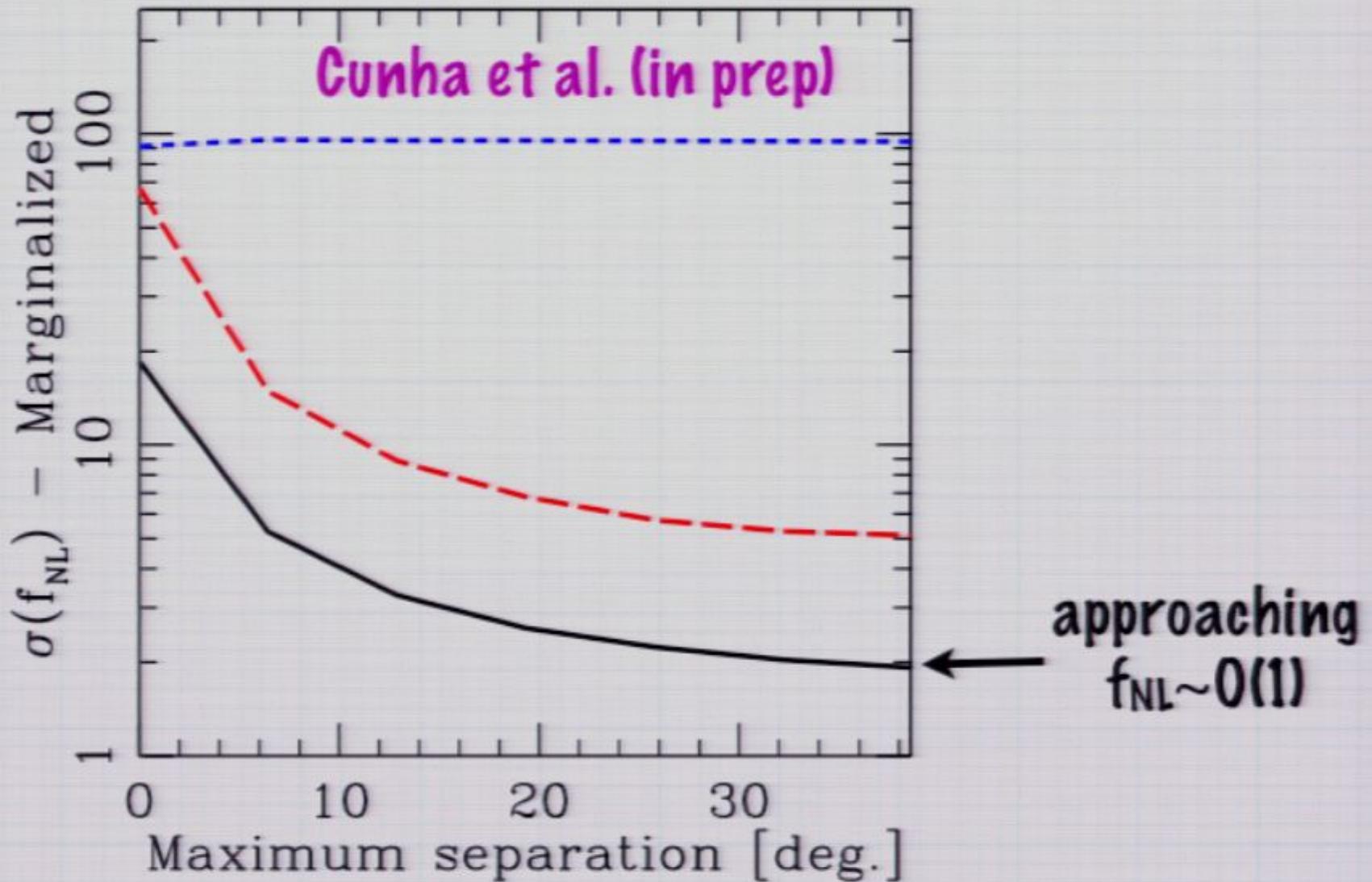
- Numerous cosmological probes, such as the baryon acoustic oscillations (BAO) or probes of Integrated Sachs-Wolfe effect (galaxy-CMB cross-corr) can be used to measure $b(k)$
- The effect (going as k^2) provides a fairly unique signature and a clear target; **almost no degeneracy with other cosmological parameters**
- Expect accuracy of order $\sigma(f_{NL}) < 10$ or even ~ 1 in the future

TABLE 1
GALAXY SURVEYS CONSIDERED

survey	z range	sq deg	mean galaxy density (h/Mpc) ³	$\Delta f_{NL}/q'$ LSS
SDSS LRG's	$0.16 < z < 0.47$	7.6×10^3	1.36×10^{-4}	40
BOSS	$0 < z < 0.7$	10^4	2.66×10^{-4}	18
WFMOS low z	$0.5 < z < 1.3$	2×10^3	4.88×10^{-4}	15
WFMOS high z	$2.3 < z < 3.3$	3×10^2	4.55×10^{-4}	17
ADEPT	$1 < z < 2$	2.8×10^4	9.37×10^{-4}	1.5
EUCLID	$0 < z < 2$	2×10^4	1.56×10^{-3}	1.7
DES	$0.2 < z < 1.3$	5×10^3	1.85×10^{-3}	8
PanSTARRS	$0 < z < 1.2$	3×10^4	1.72×10^{-3}	3.5
LSST	$0.3 < z < 3.6$	3×10^4	2.77×10^{-3}	0.7



Galaxy clusters



the future

- * clusters have mass $\sim 1000 \times$ larger than galaxies
⇒ probe $10 \times$ larger scales
- * so we can constrain scale-dependence of $f_{NL}(k)$!
(in progress with S. Shandera)
- * Lyman- α Forest (e.g. from BOSS / BigBOSS) also looks promising for this
- * forecasts look good enough to rule out / detect many alternatives to inflation (e.g. ekpyrotic)

Summary

- * Non-Gaussianity is a really sensitive & informative probe of early universe physics
 - complementary to tensors
- * we can predict how LSS is modified for nonzero f_{NL} .
 - mass function: bigger f_{NL} means more clusters
 - clustering: f_{NL} causes scale-dependent bias on ultra-large scales
 - and of course halo bispectrum is modified...
- * current LSS constraints (Slosar et al.): $f_{NL} = 37+33-38$
- * upcoming surveys can get to $|f_{NL}| < 1$!
improvement in LSS bounds by 2 orders of magnitude!

stop

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RCS2 2327-0204



$\theta_{\text{Ein}} \approx 57''!$

at redshift $z=0.7$

Virial mass estimates:

WL, X-ray, SZ, velocity disp.

all around $\sim 3 \cdot 10^{15} h^{-1} M_\odot$

For WMAP7 cosmology,
likelihood to see is $< 10^{-4}$!