

# Constraining cosmology with density-split clustering

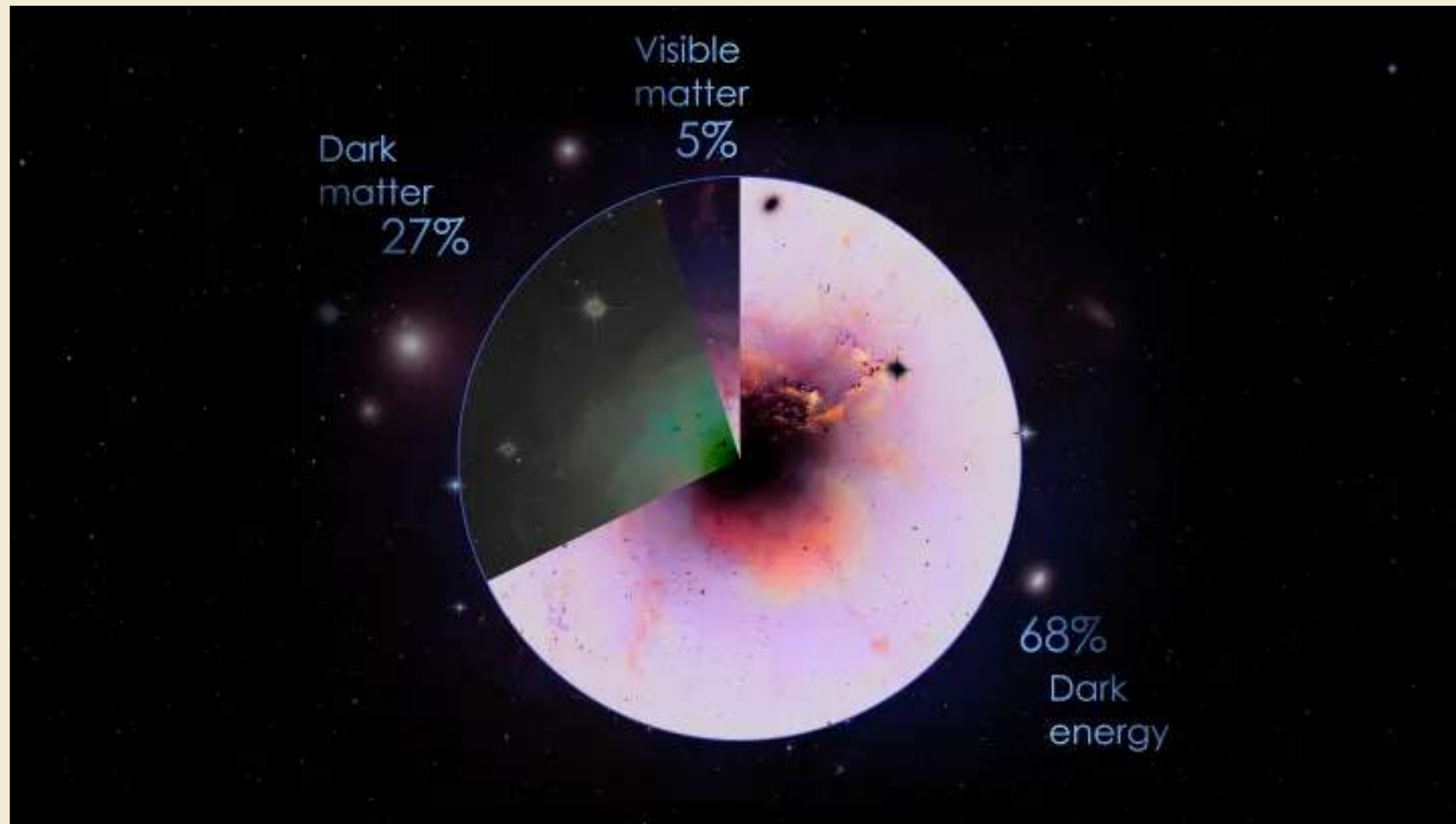
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**Postdoctoral Fellow**

**Waterloo Centre for Astrophysics**

**In Collaboration with: Carolina Cuesta-Lazaro, Will Percival, Sandy Yuan, Yan-Chuan Cai, Sesh Nadathur, Mathilde Pinon, Arnaud de Mattia, Etienne Burtin, Ariel Sanchez, Nelson Padilla, Florian Beutler, Vanina Ruhlmann-Kleider, Daniel Forero-Sanchez, Georgios Valogiannis + DESI**

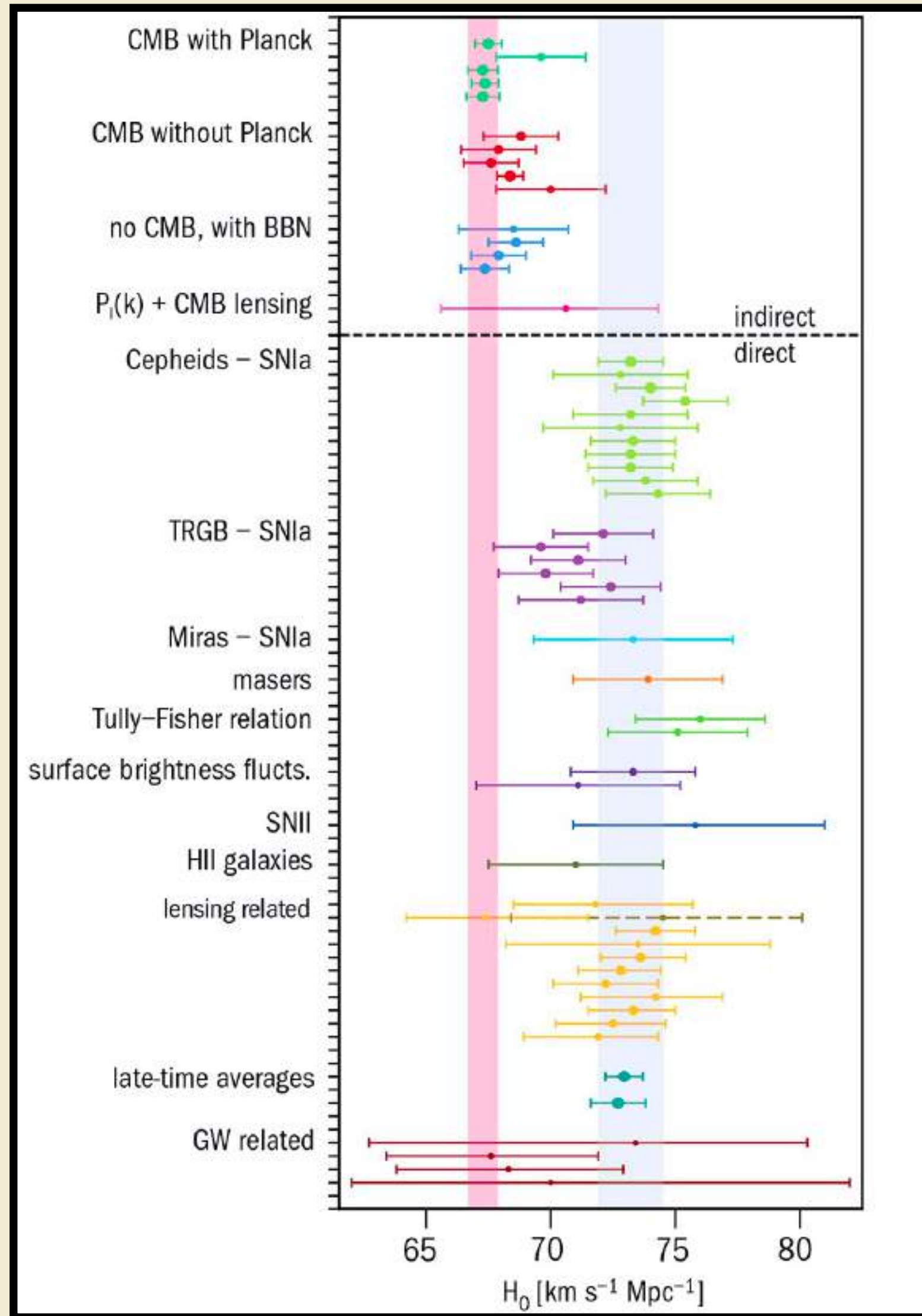
# $\Lambda$ CDM: our cosmological paradigm



Credit: Simons Observatory

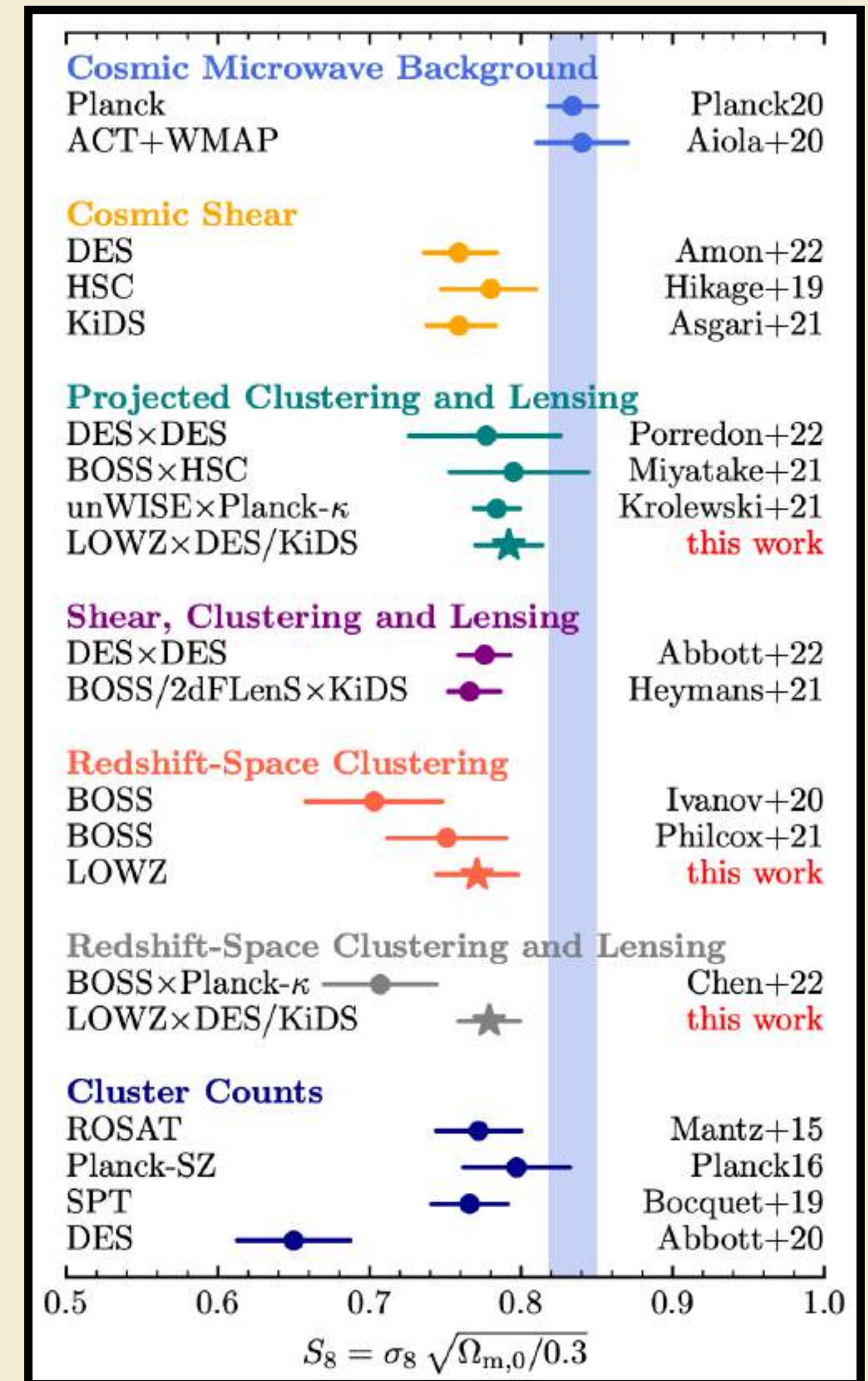
**“There is nothing wrong with  $\Lambda$ CDM, maybe just the  $\Lambda$  and the CDM part”.**

# Hubble tension

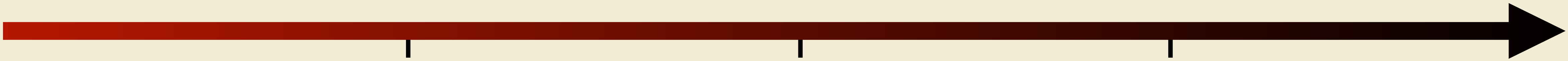


Di Valentino et al. 2021

# S8 tension



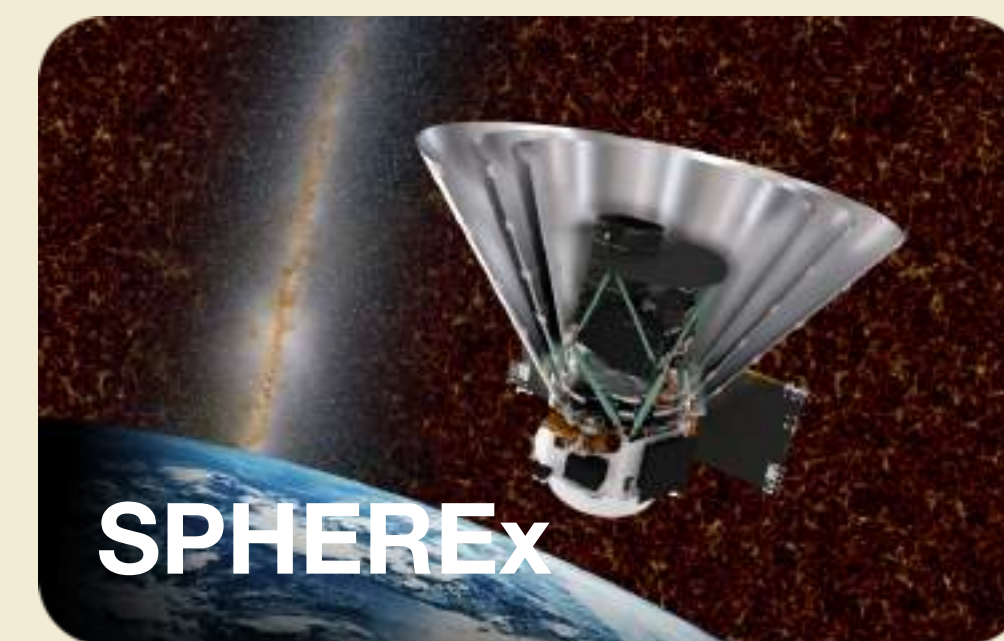
Lange et al. 2023



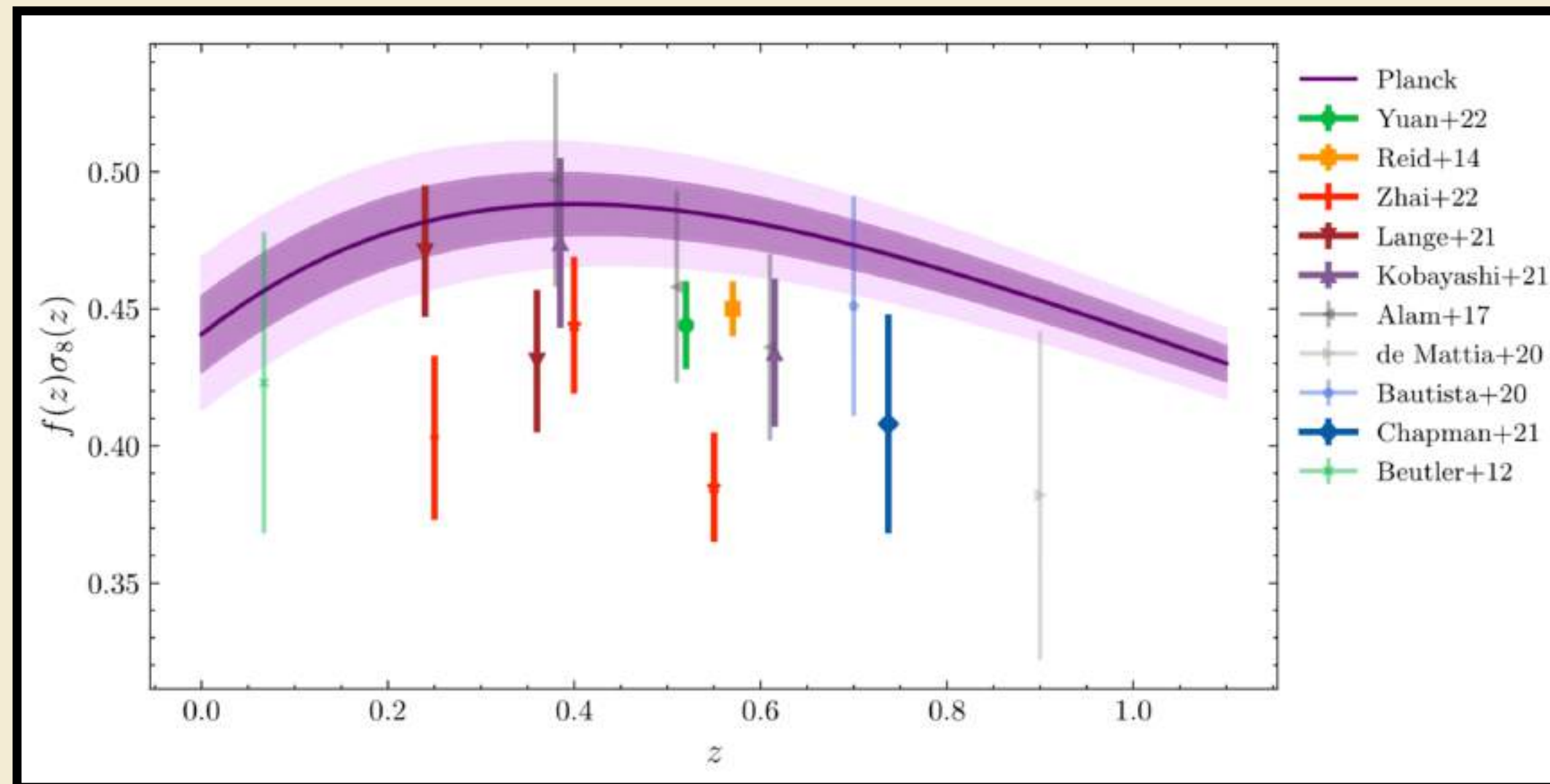
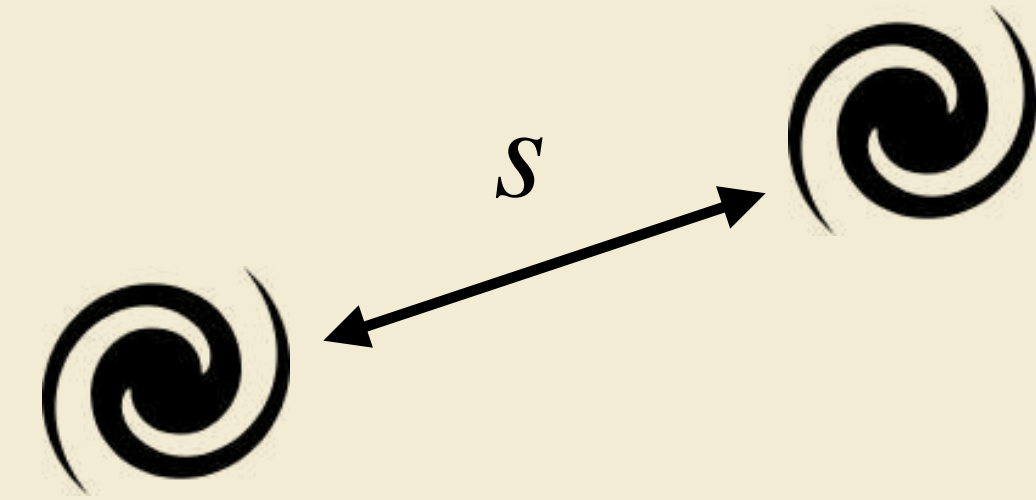
2020

2022

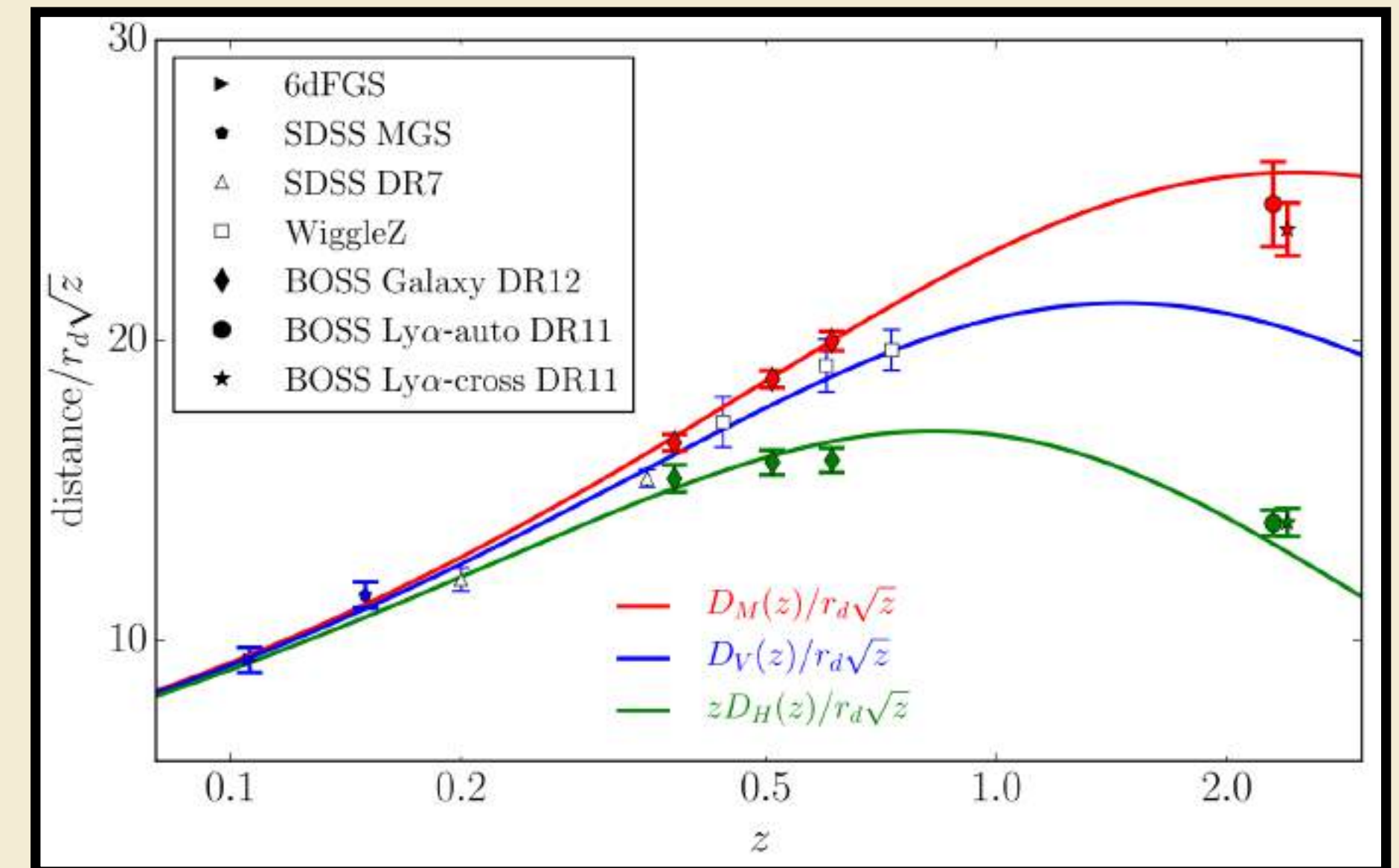
2024



Measurements of the galaxy **power spectrum** or the **two-point correlation function** have allowed precise measurements of the **geometry and growth**.

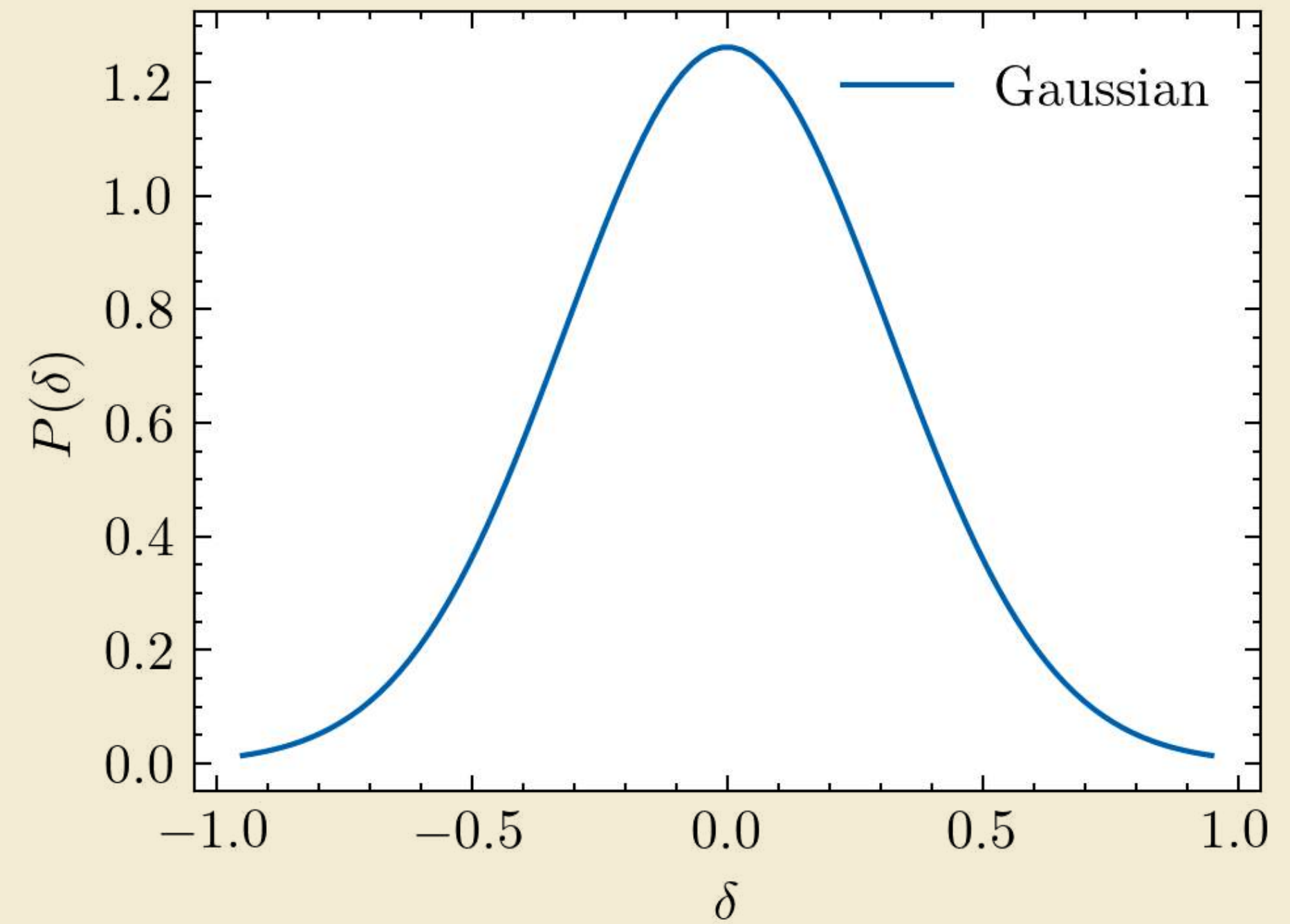
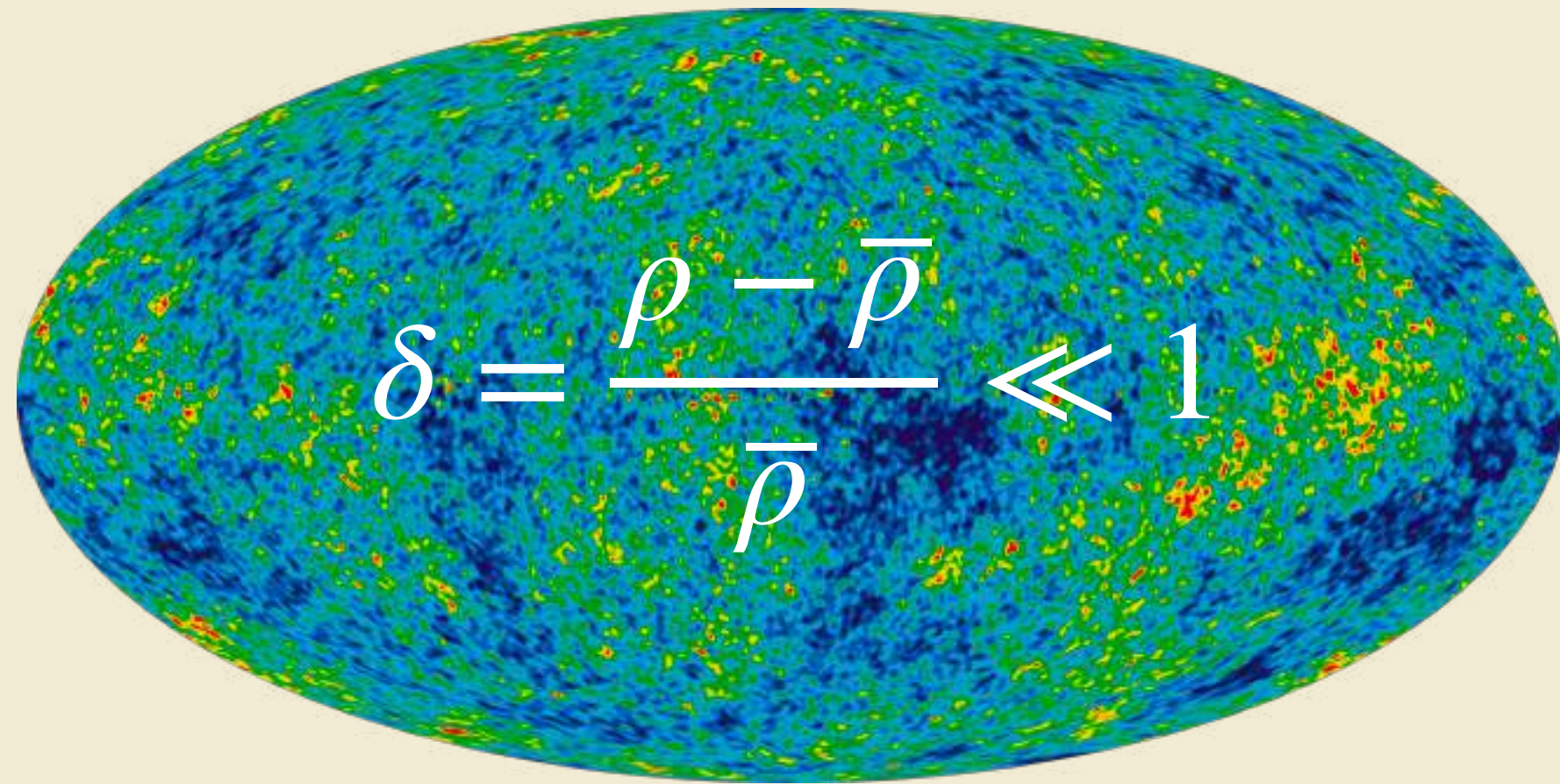


Credits: Carolina Cuesta-Lazaro

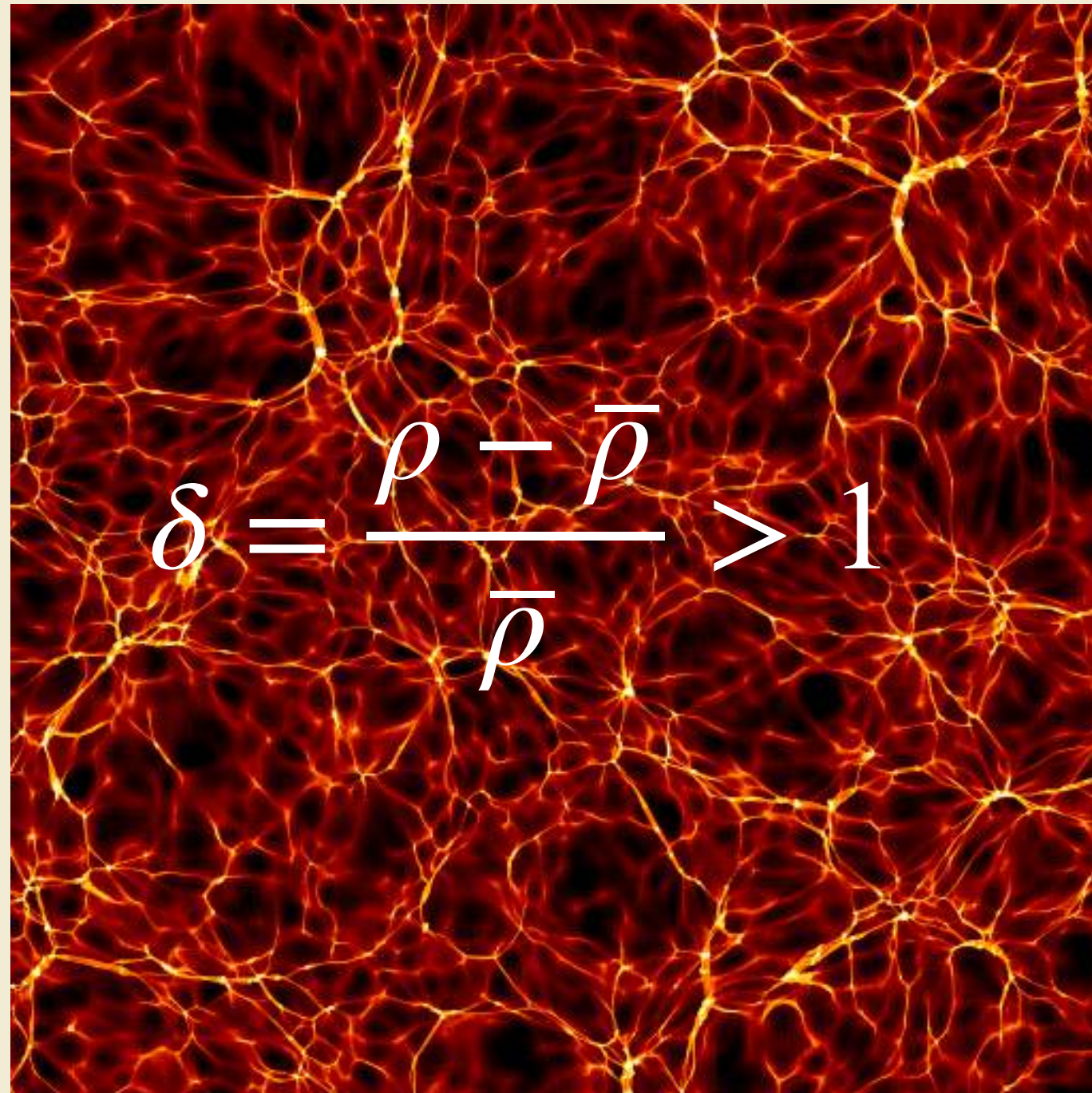


Alam et al. (2017)

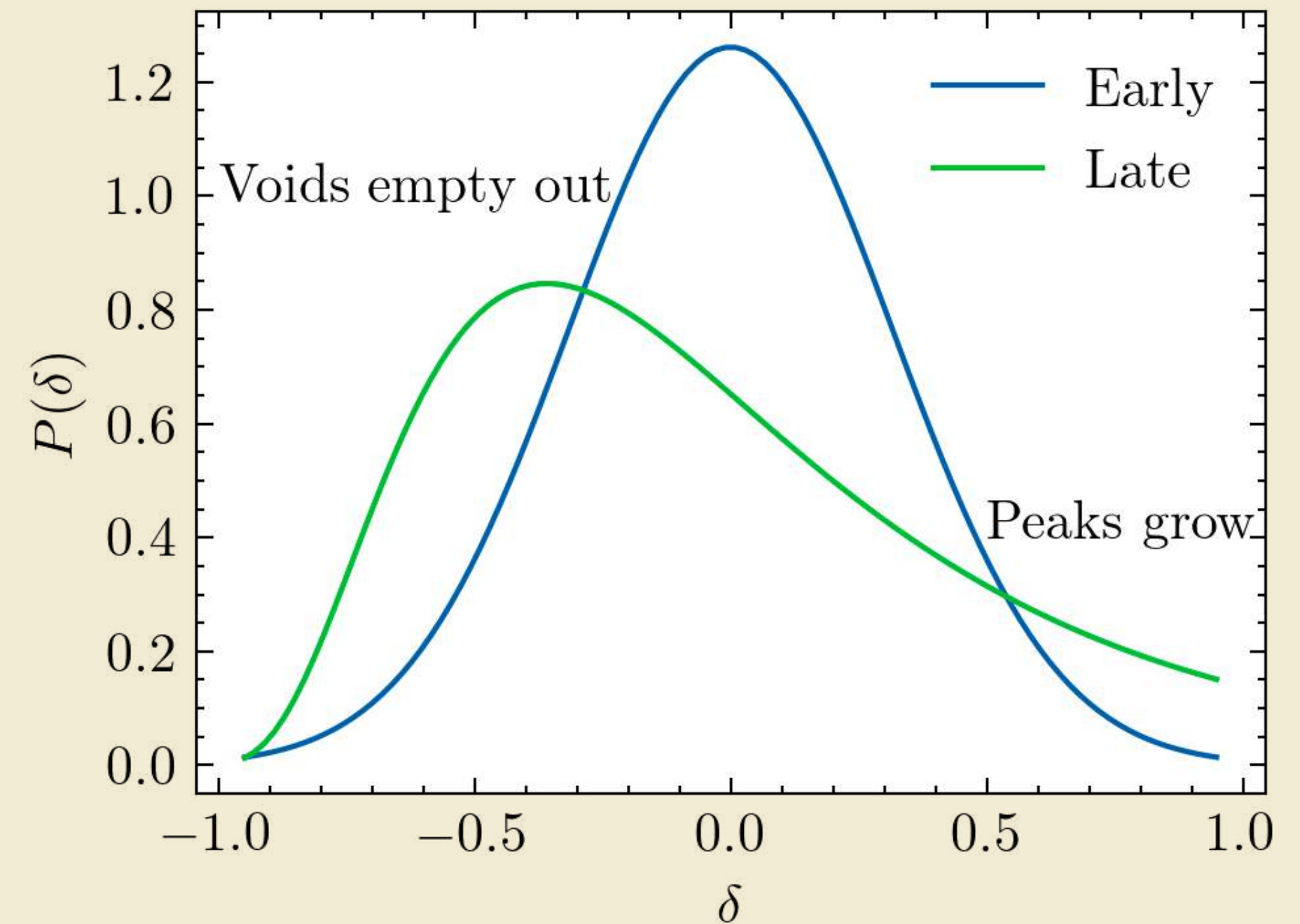
**Early Universe:** Close to Gaussian PDF of density fluctuations.  
Governed by linear dynamics.



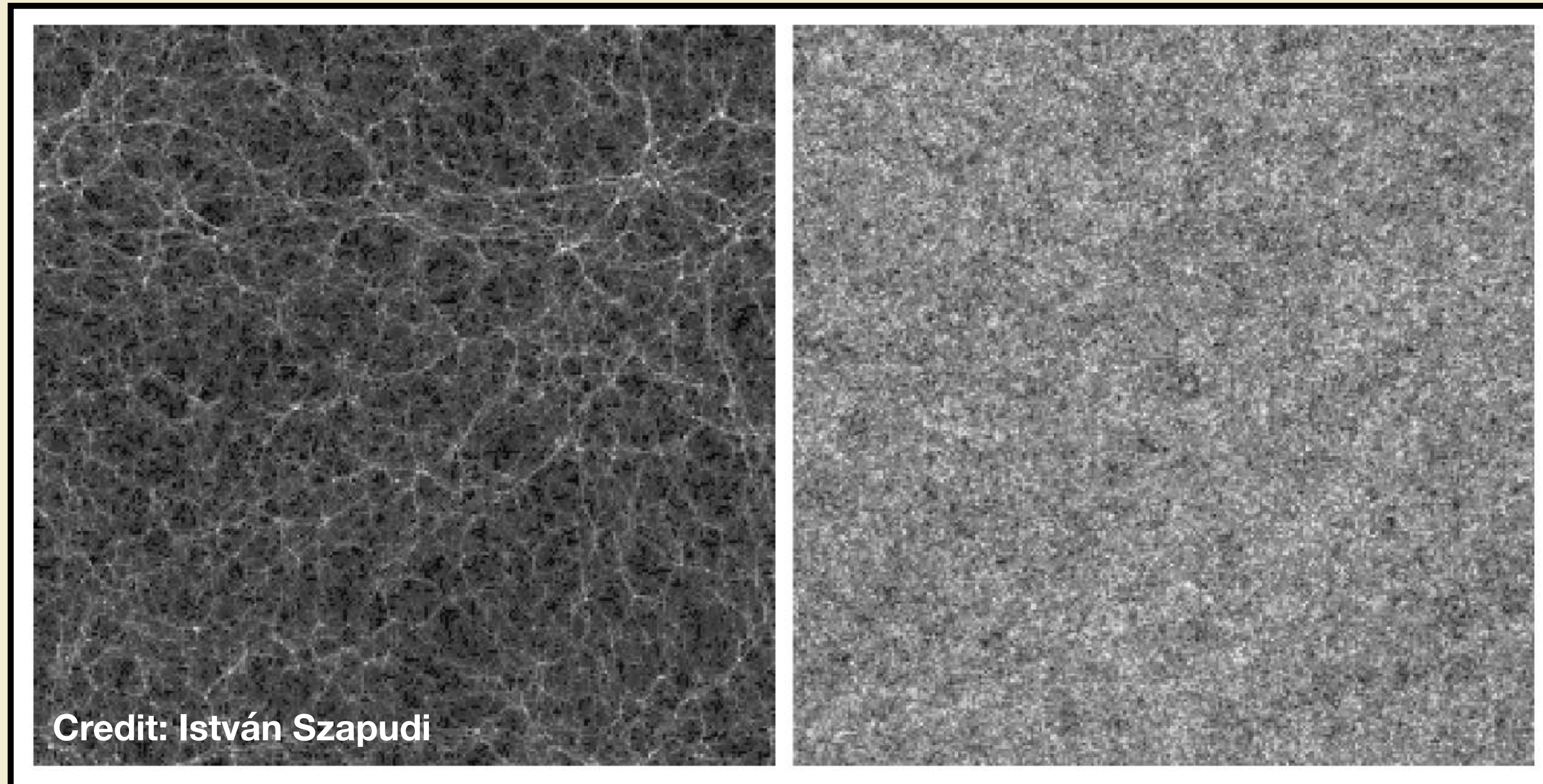
# Late-time Universe: Non-Gaussian density field. Non-linear evolution governing small scales.



A slice through the AbacusSummit cosmological simulation at redshift 1.0.  
Credits: [Lehman Garrison](#)



Two fields with the same two-point correlation function or  $P(k)$ . **Higher-order correlations** become essential to capture non-Gaussian information.





Finding **alternative clustering methods** that can be complemented with the  $P(k)$  is now an active field in cosmology.

- **N-point correlation functions, polyspectra**
- **Non-linear transformations of the density field**
- **Counts-in-cells statistics**
- **Separate Universes**

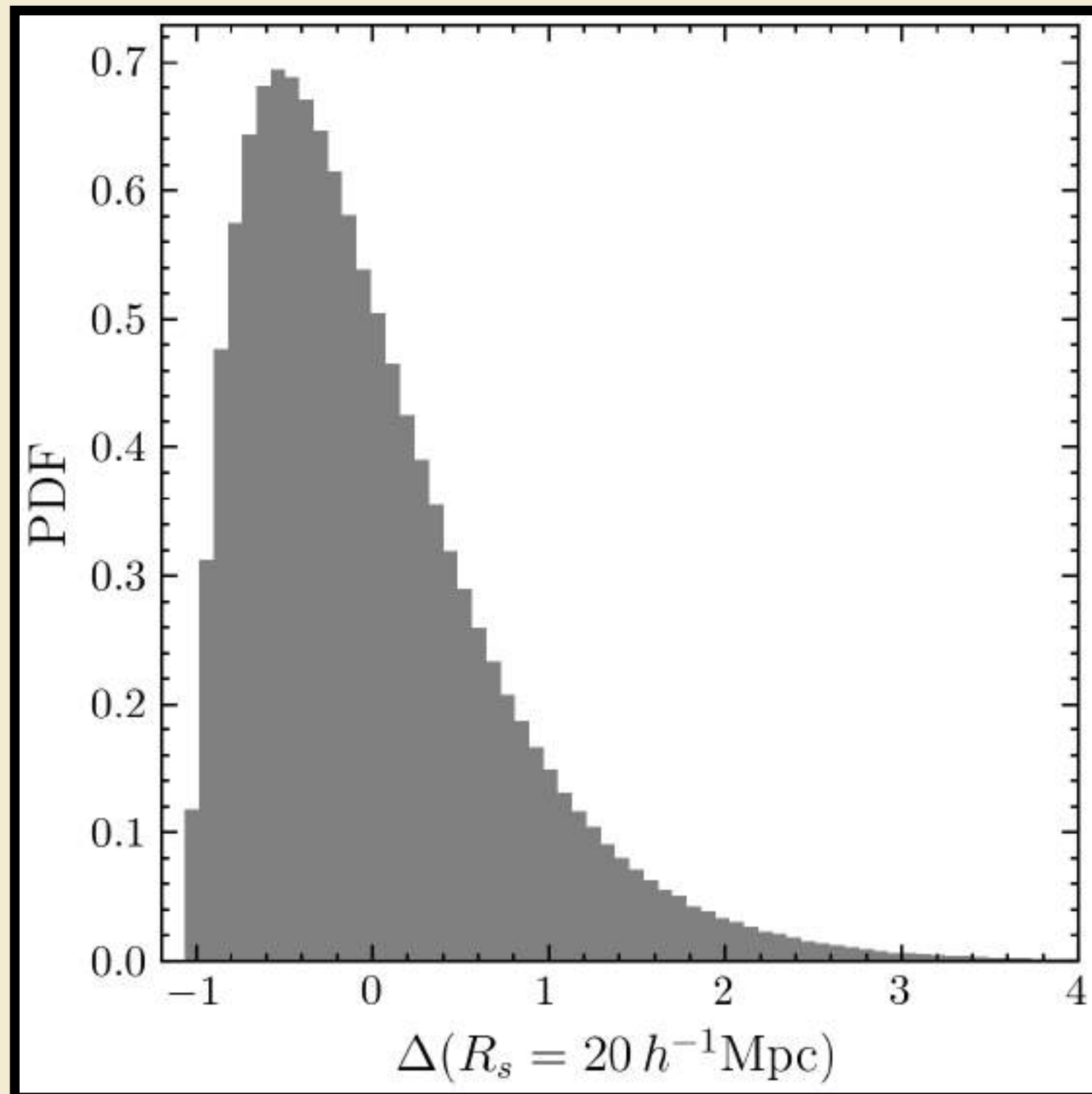
- **Density field reconstruction**
- **Cosmic voids**
- **Marked correlation functions**
- **Wavelet-based methods**
- **Nearest-neighbour statistics**



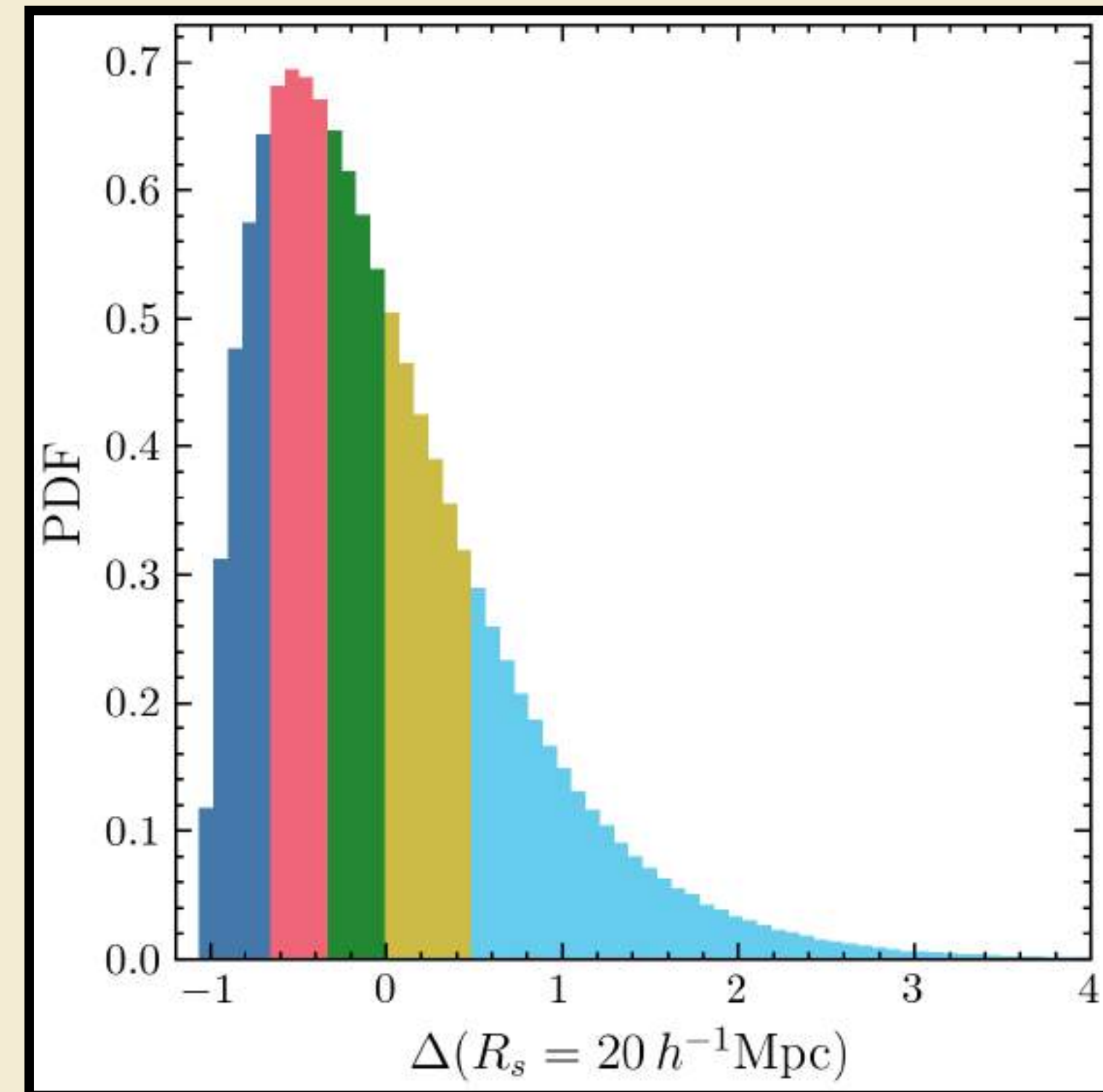
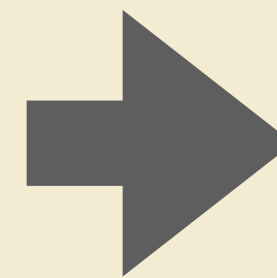
# Density-split clustering

- The density-split clustering method combines galaxy clustering statistics from regions of different environmental density.
- Its sensitivity to non-Gaussian features of the galaxy field allows for extraction of information that is not readily captured by the power spectrum.
- Builds upon existing ideas in the literature, such as weak lensing density split statistics, the separate Universe approach, and counts-in-cells.

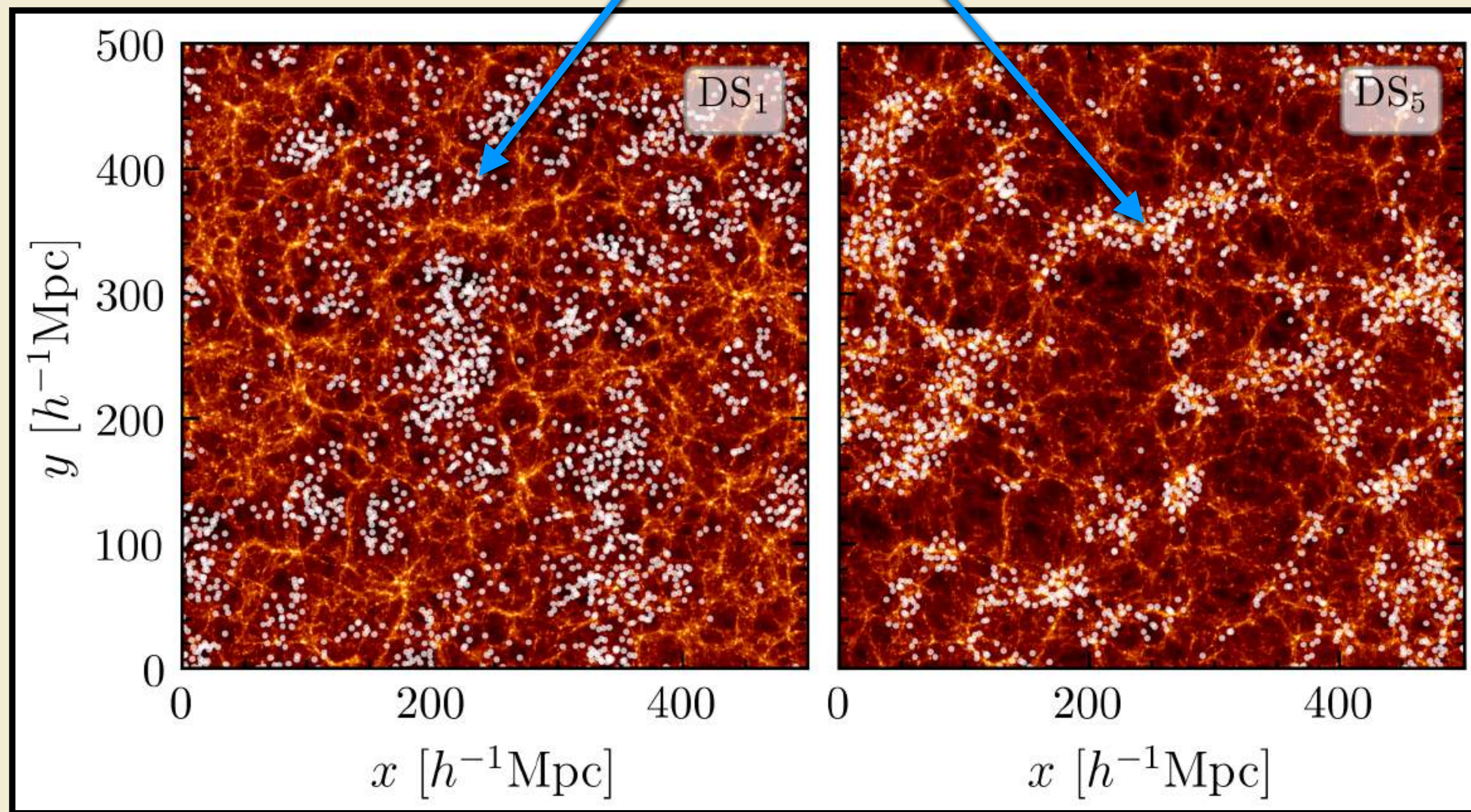
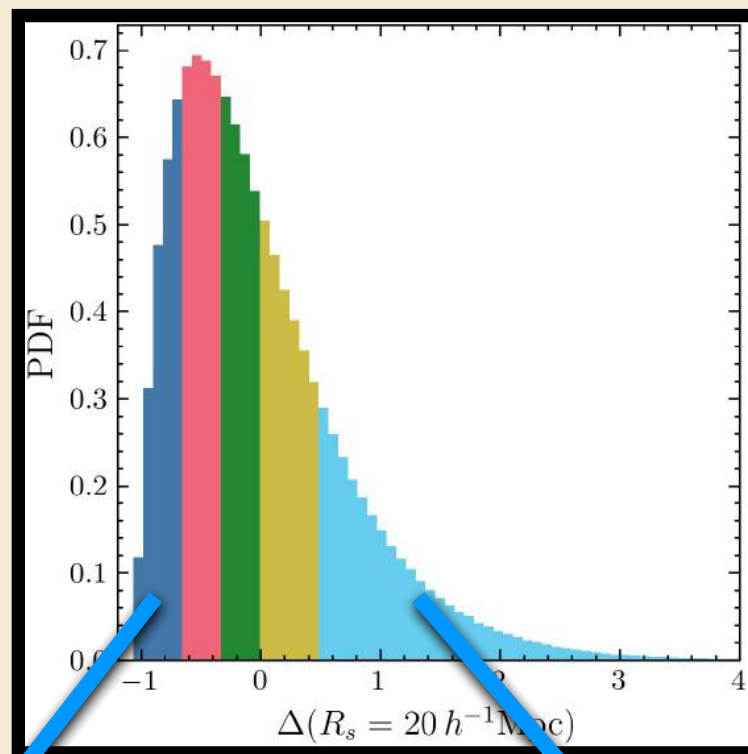
# 1 Splitting the density field



Galaxy overdensity measured at random query positions



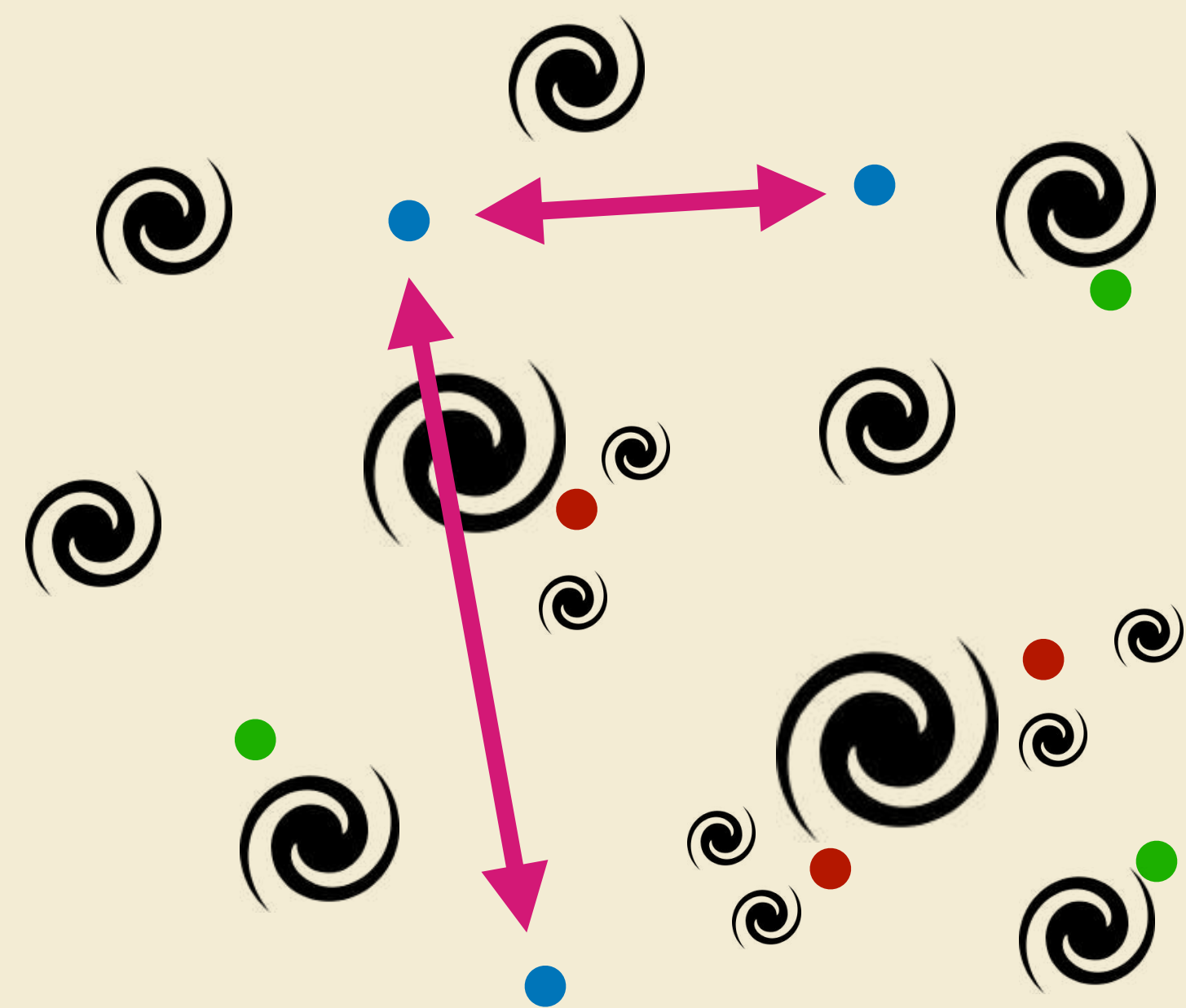
Query points are split into quintiles



## 2 Clustering statistics

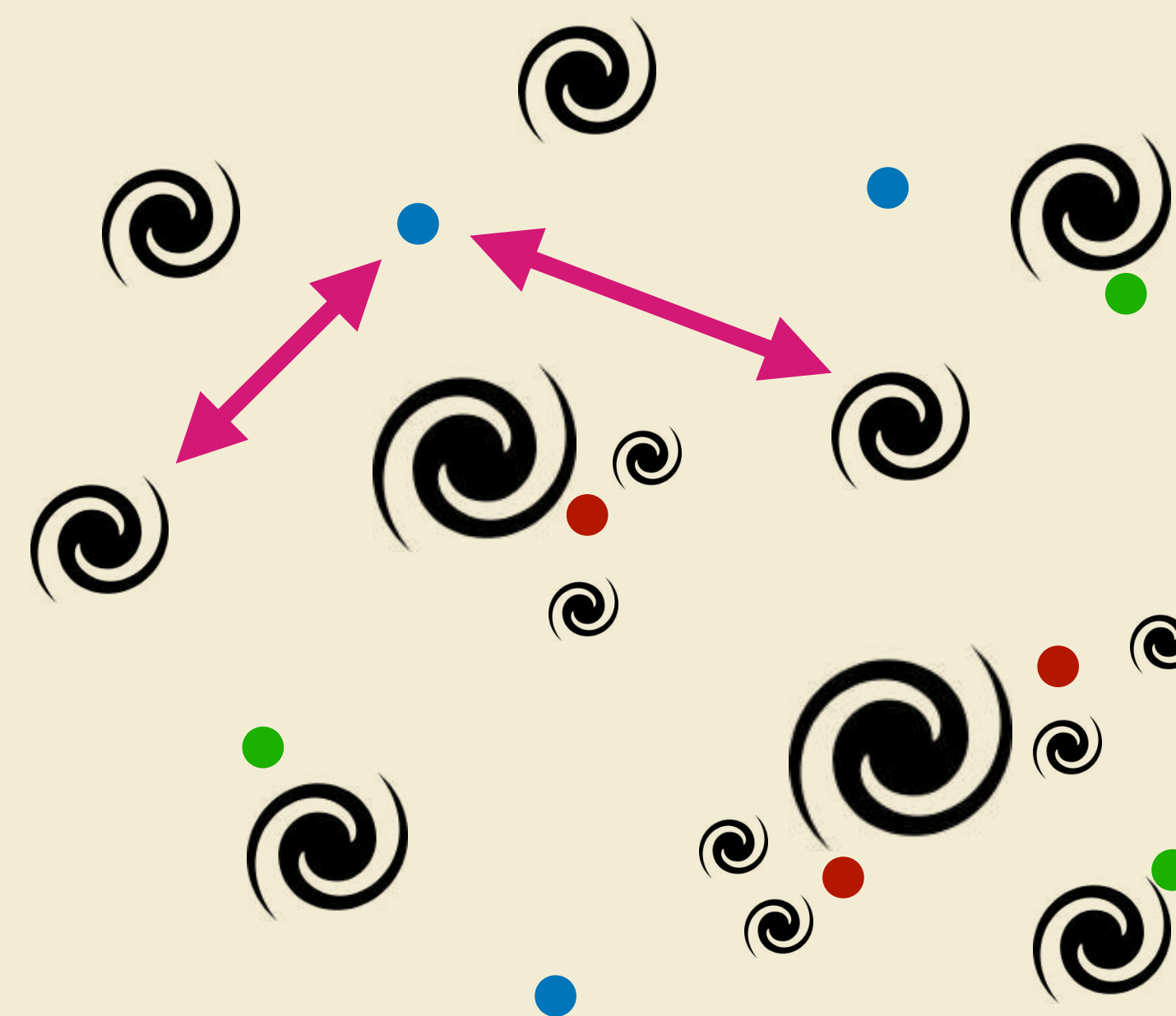
$$\xi^{qq}(s)$$

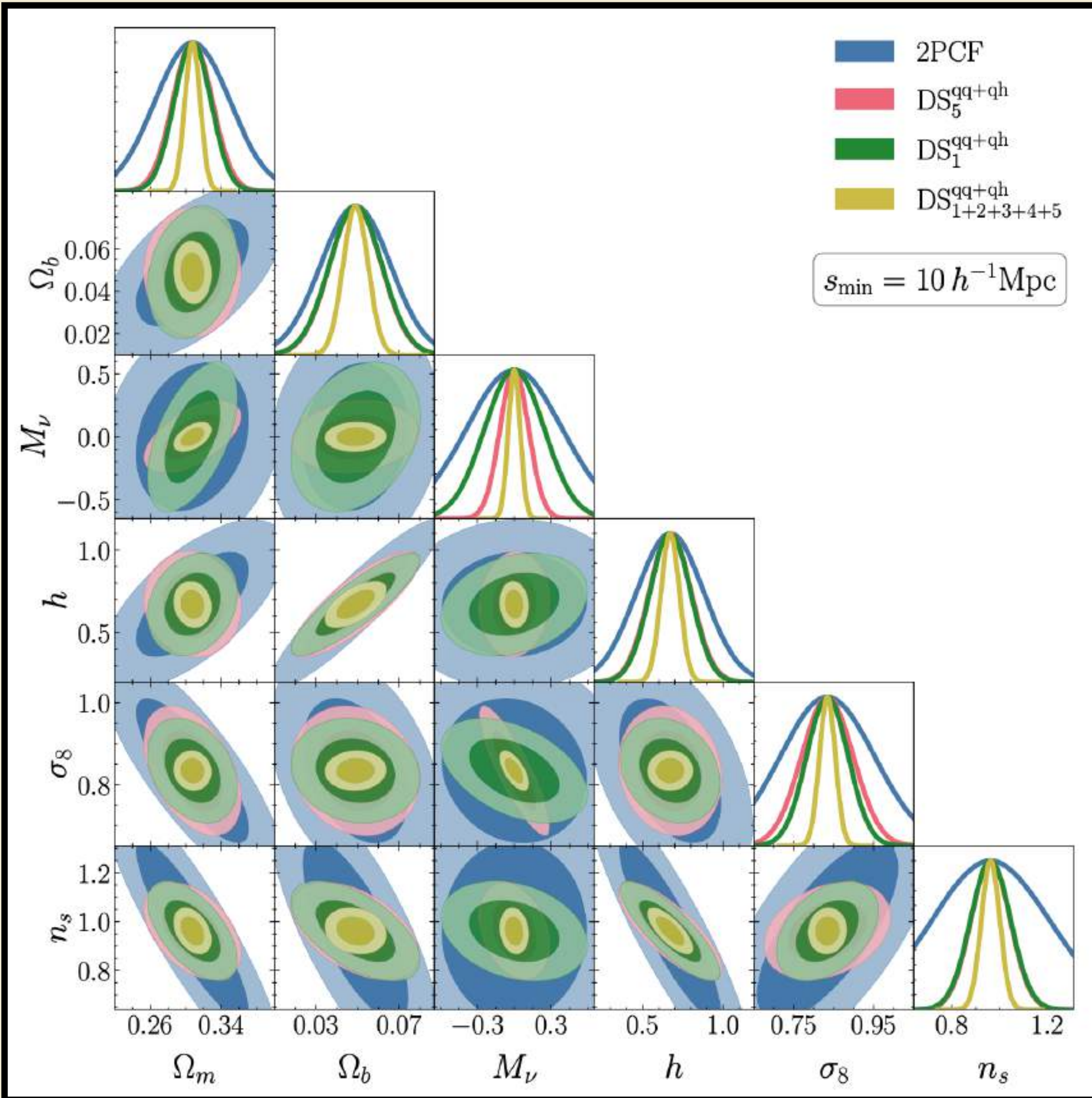
Quintile autocorrelation  
function



$$\xi^{qg}(s)$$

Quintile-galaxy cross-  
correlation function





## Fisher forecasts based on the Quijote cosmological simulations

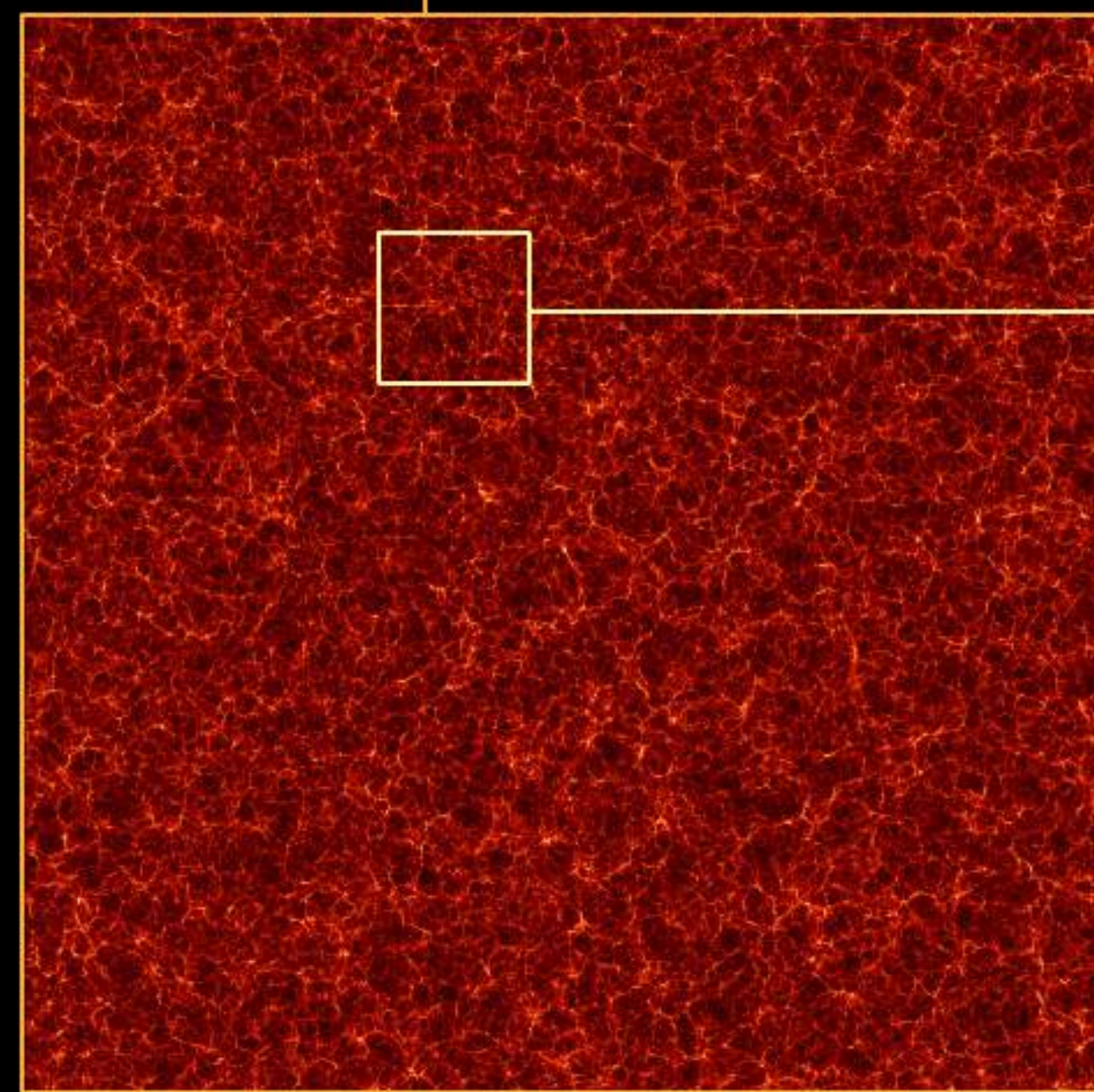
- DS provides **more precise constraints** on the parameters of the  $\Lambda$ CDM model compared to the 2PCF.
- DS improves the **constraints on the sum of neutrino masses** by a factor of 8 and by factors of 5, 3, 4, 6, and 6 for  $\Omega_m$ ,  $\Omega_b$ ,  $h$ ,  $n_s$ , and  $\sigma_8$ , respectively.

# AbacusSummit: A Massive Set of High-Accuracy, High-Resolution $N$ -Body Simulations

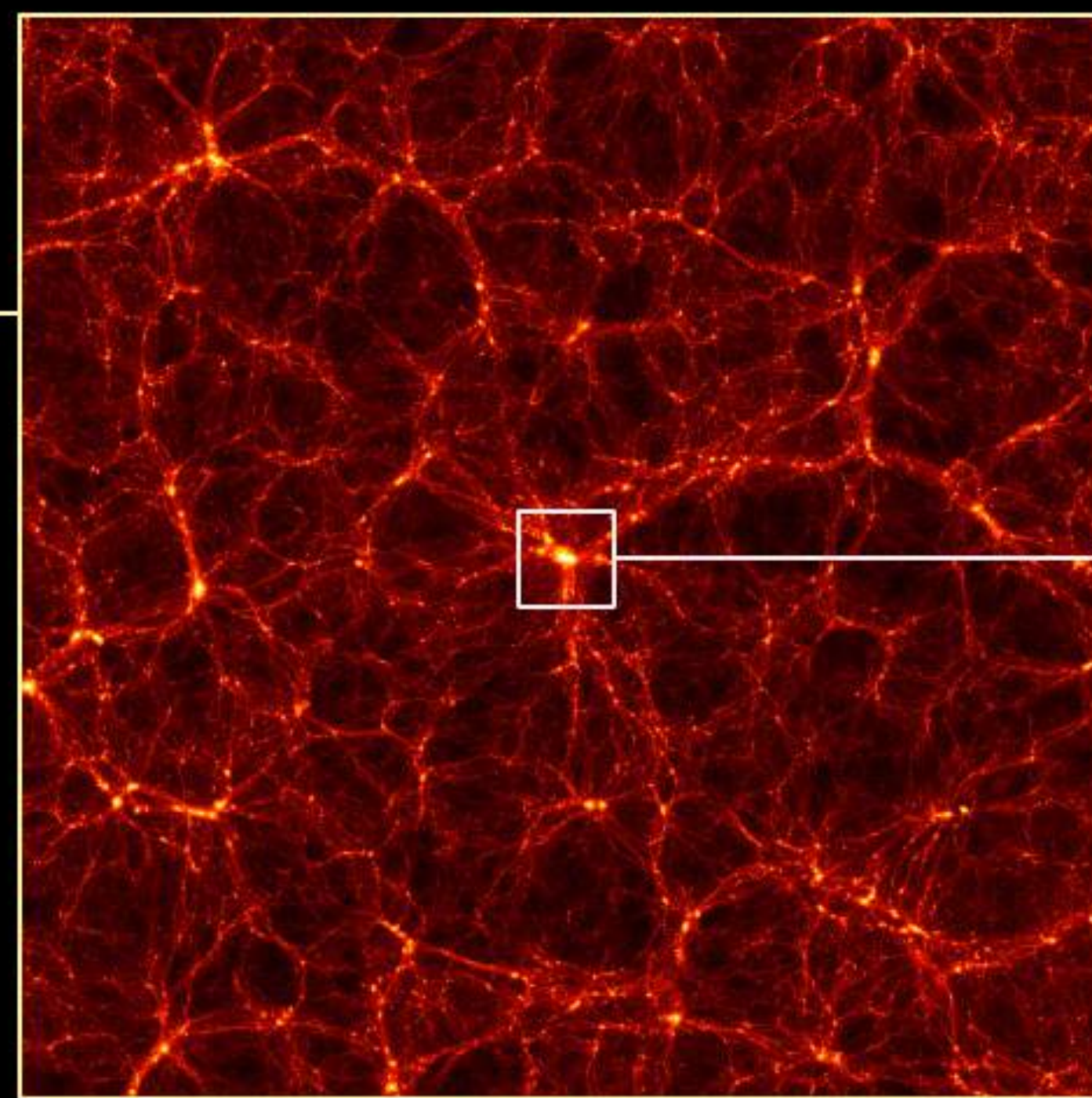
Nina Maksimova, Lehman Garrison, Daniel Eisenstein, Boryana Hadzhiyska, Sownak Bose, and Thomas Satterthwaite



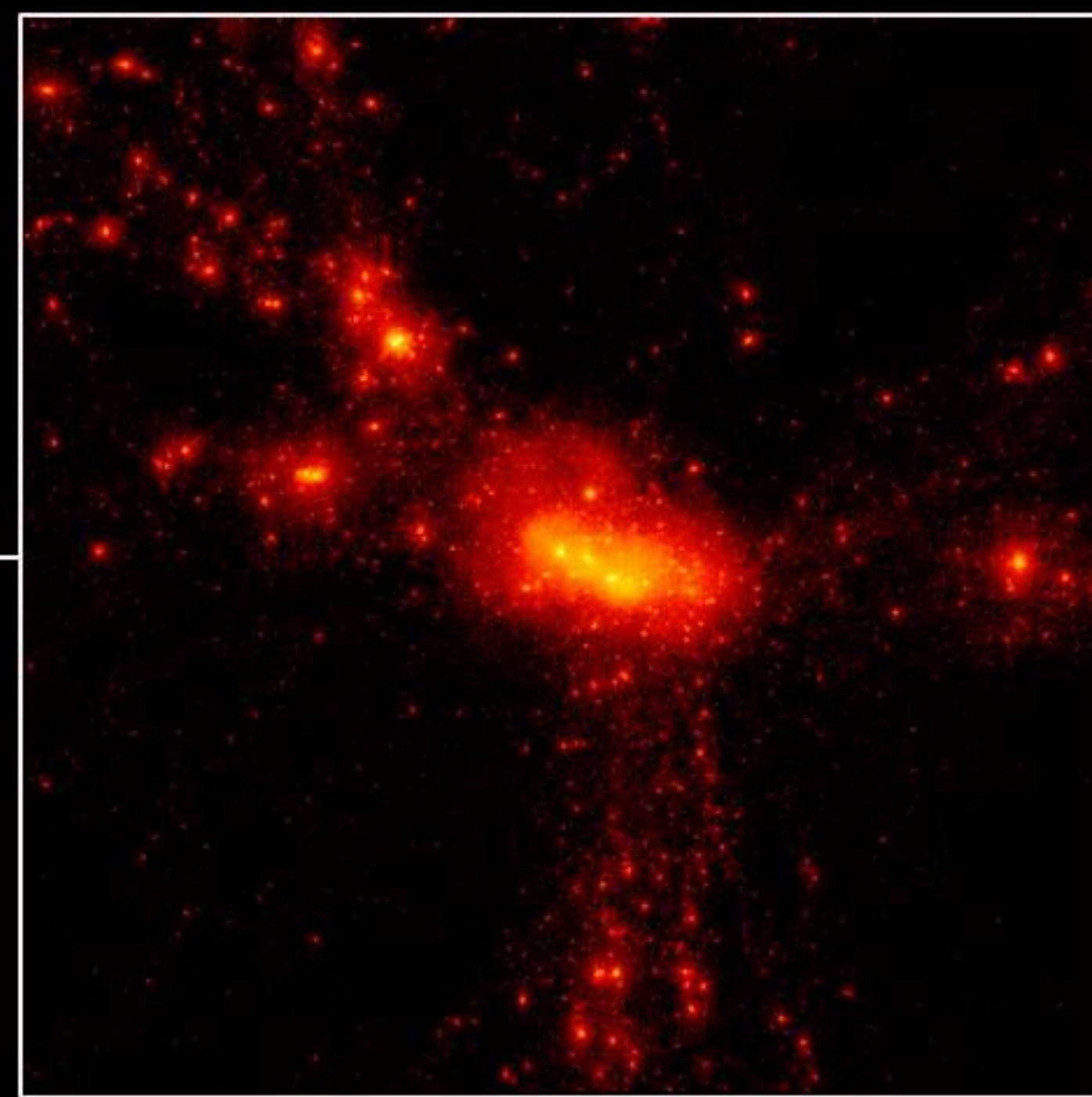
139 base simulations | 60 trillion particles | 97 cosmologies | 67 billion halos | Particle mass  $2 \times 10^9 h^{-1} M_{\odot}$  | [AbacusSummit.readthedocs.io](https://AbacusSummit.readthedocs.io)



Size: 2 Gpc/h



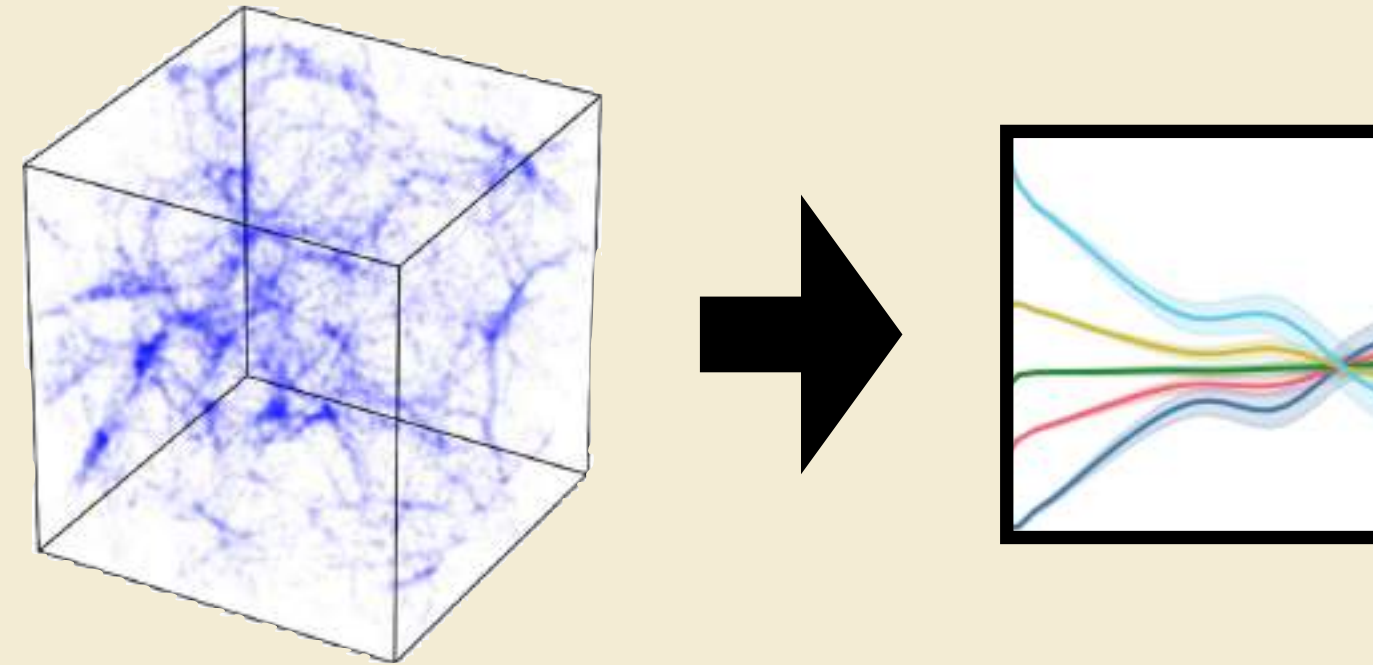
Size: 250 Mpc/h



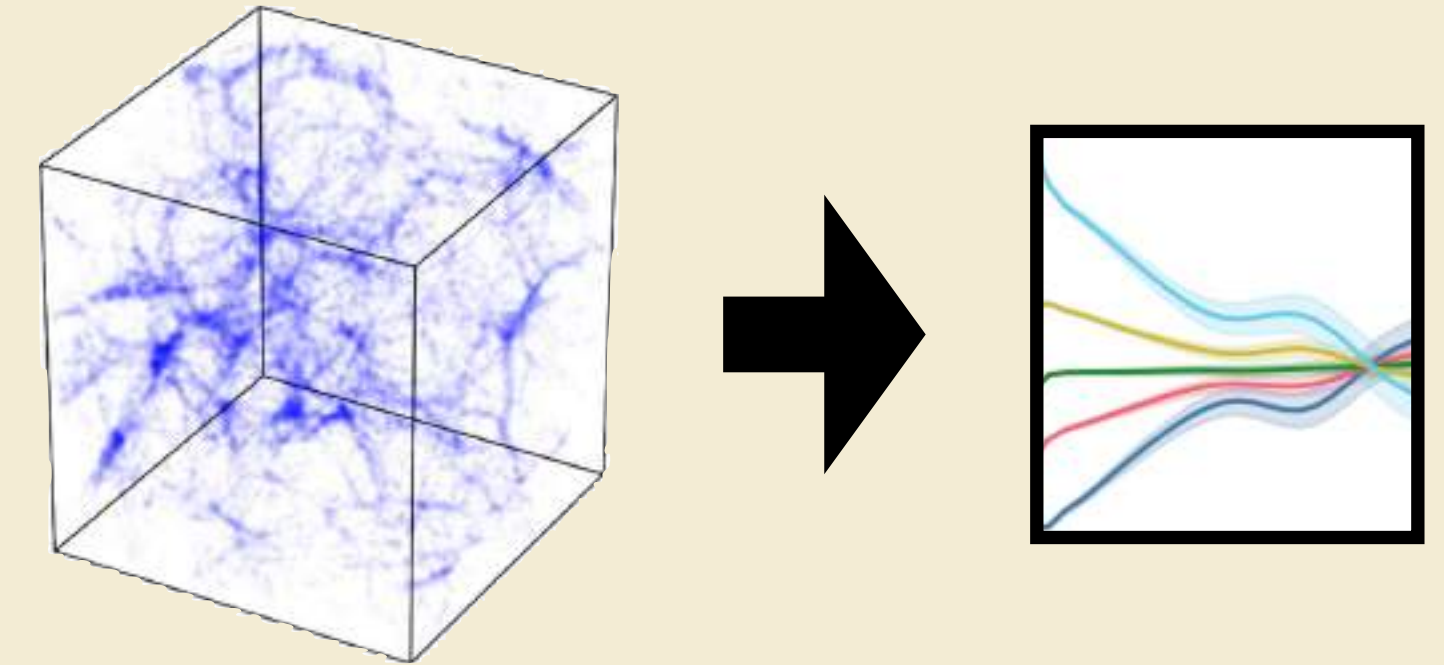
Size: 20 Mpc/h

# A simulation-based model for DSC

$$\theta_1 = \{ \Omega_m^1, \Omega_b^1, \sigma_8^1, \dots \}$$

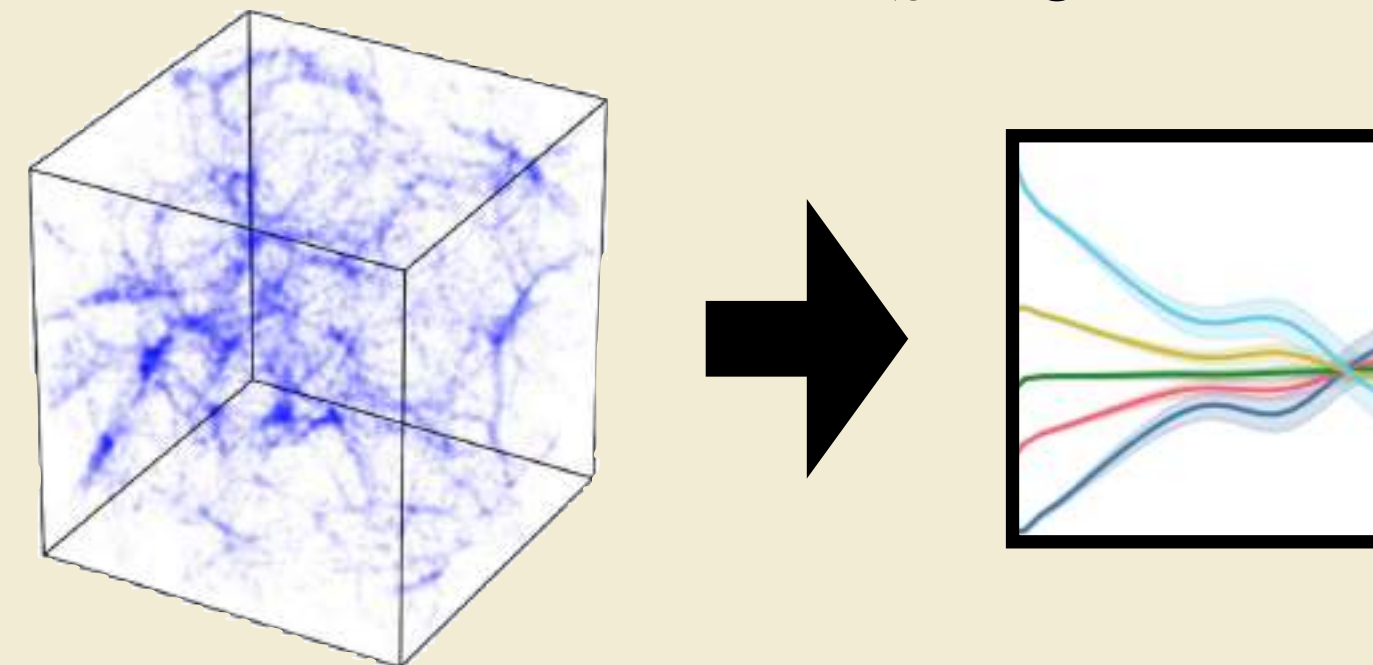


$$\theta_2 = \{ \Omega_m^2, \Omega_b^2, \sigma_8^2, \dots \}$$

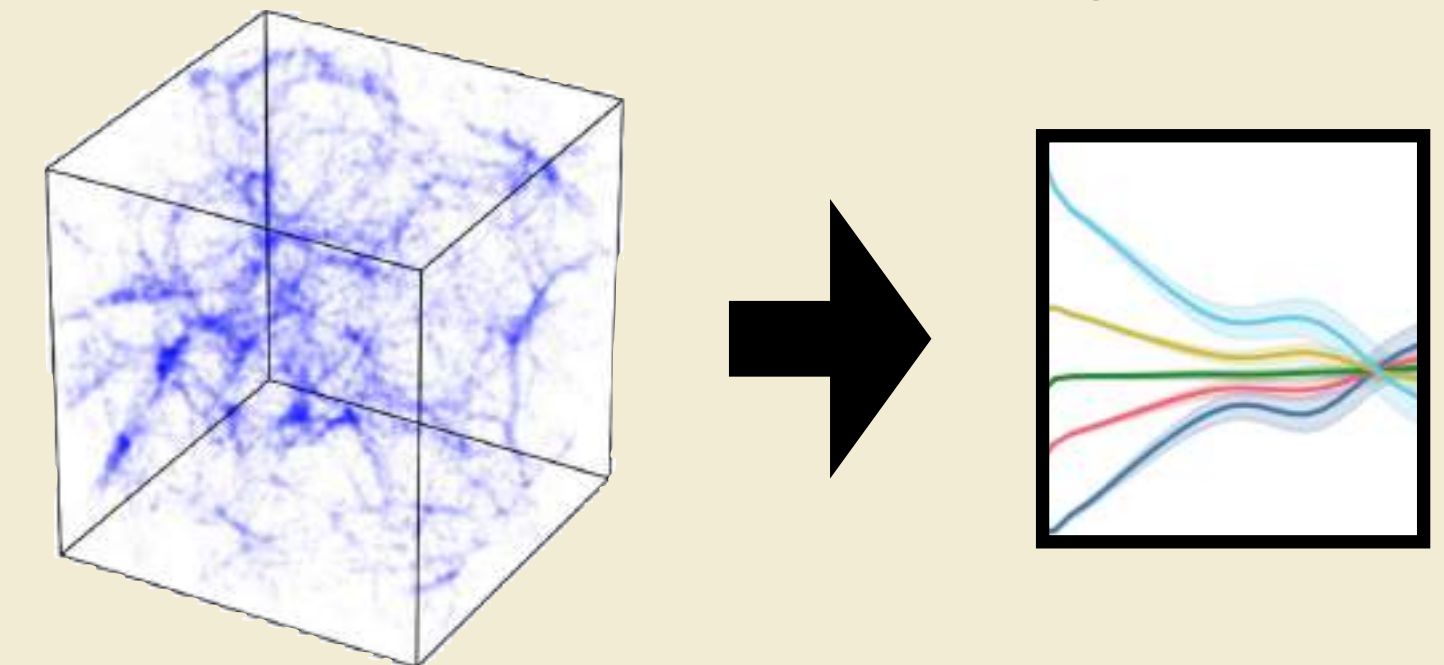


85 simulations with same initial conditions, but different cosmological parameters

$$\theta_3 = \{ \Omega_m^3, \Omega_b^3, \sigma_8^3, \dots \}$$

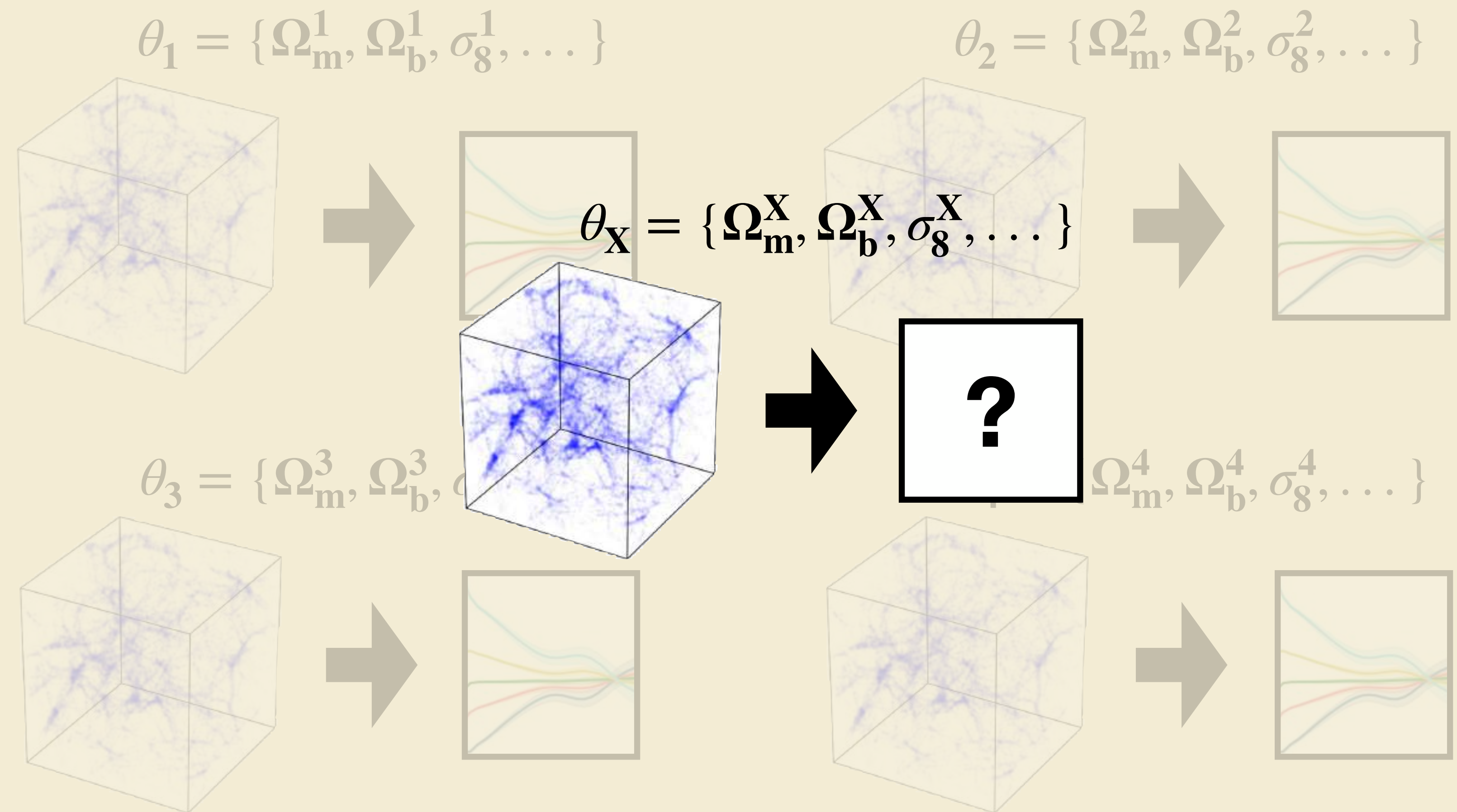


$$\theta_4 = \{ \Omega_m^4, \Omega_b^4, \sigma_8^4, \dots \}$$

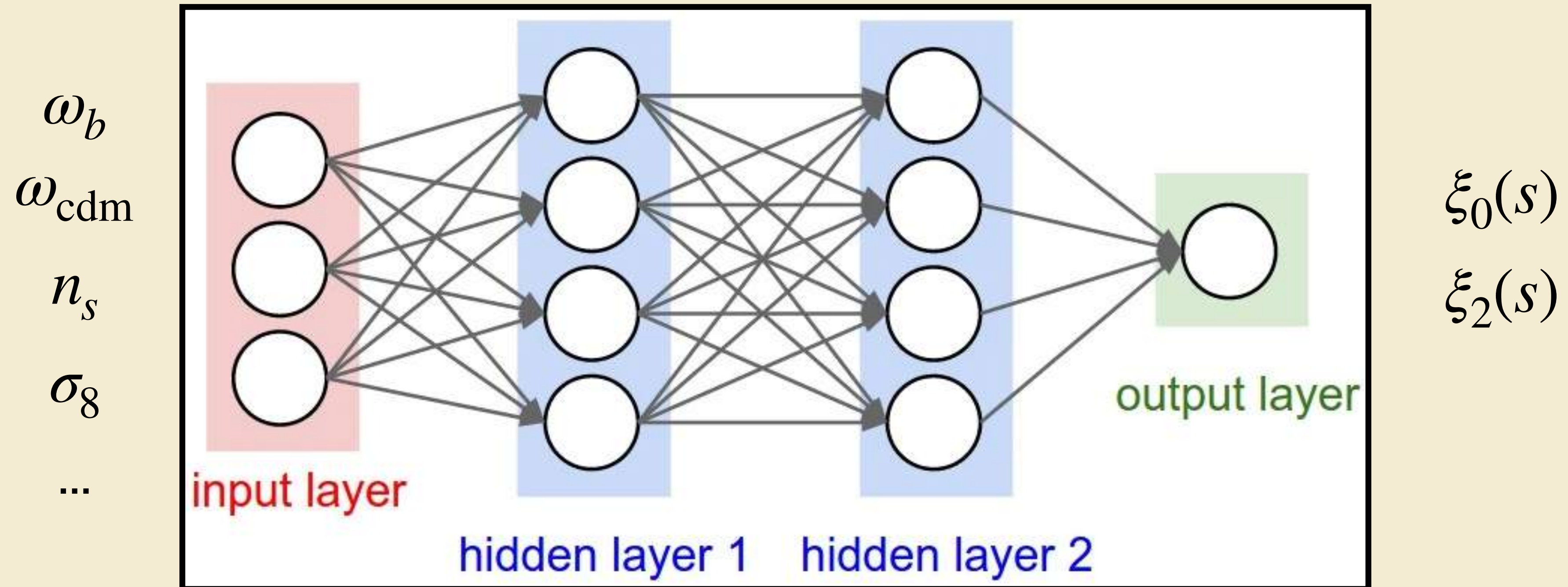




# A simulation-based model for DSC

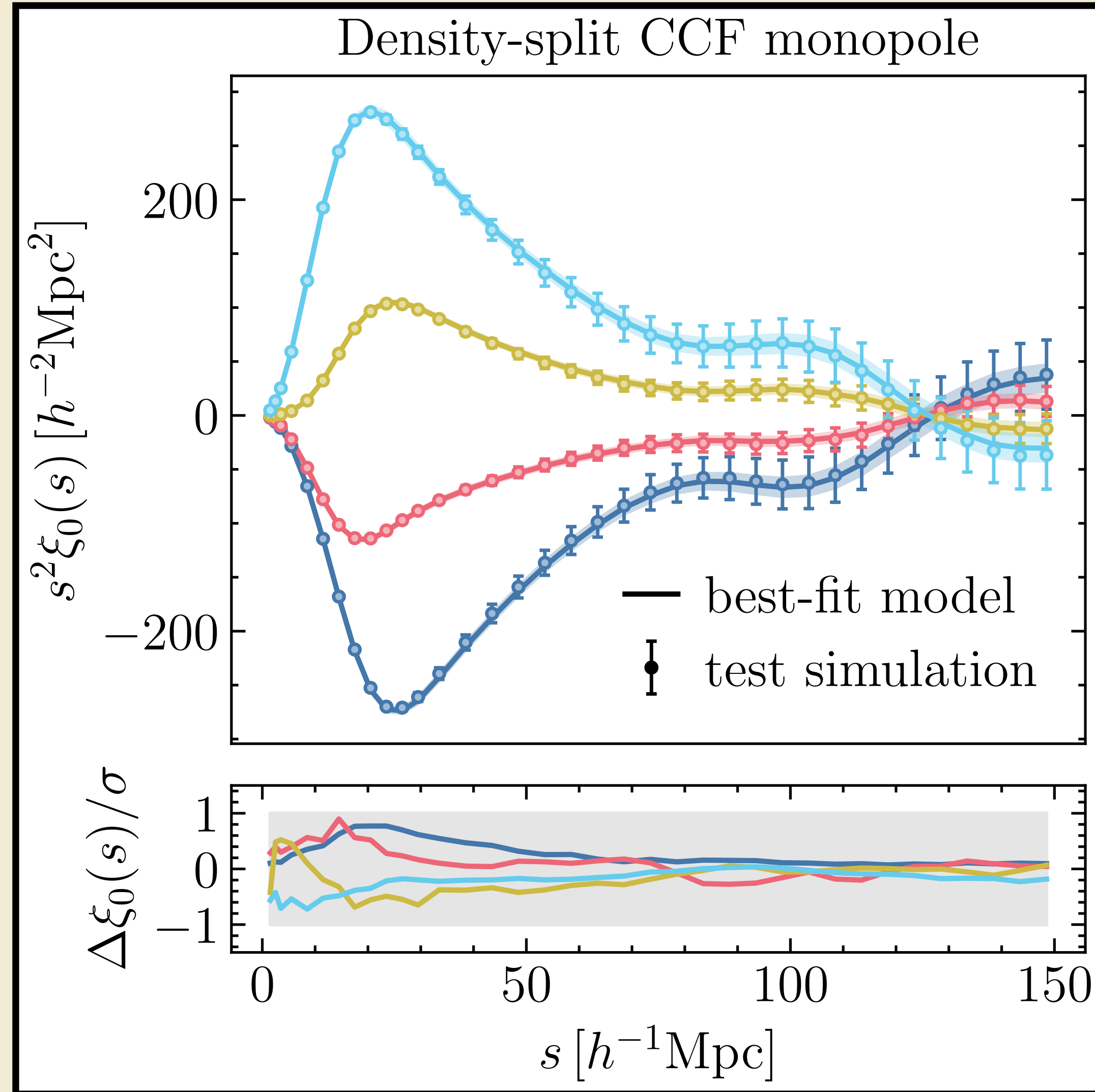


# Using **neural networks** to emulate clustering statistics

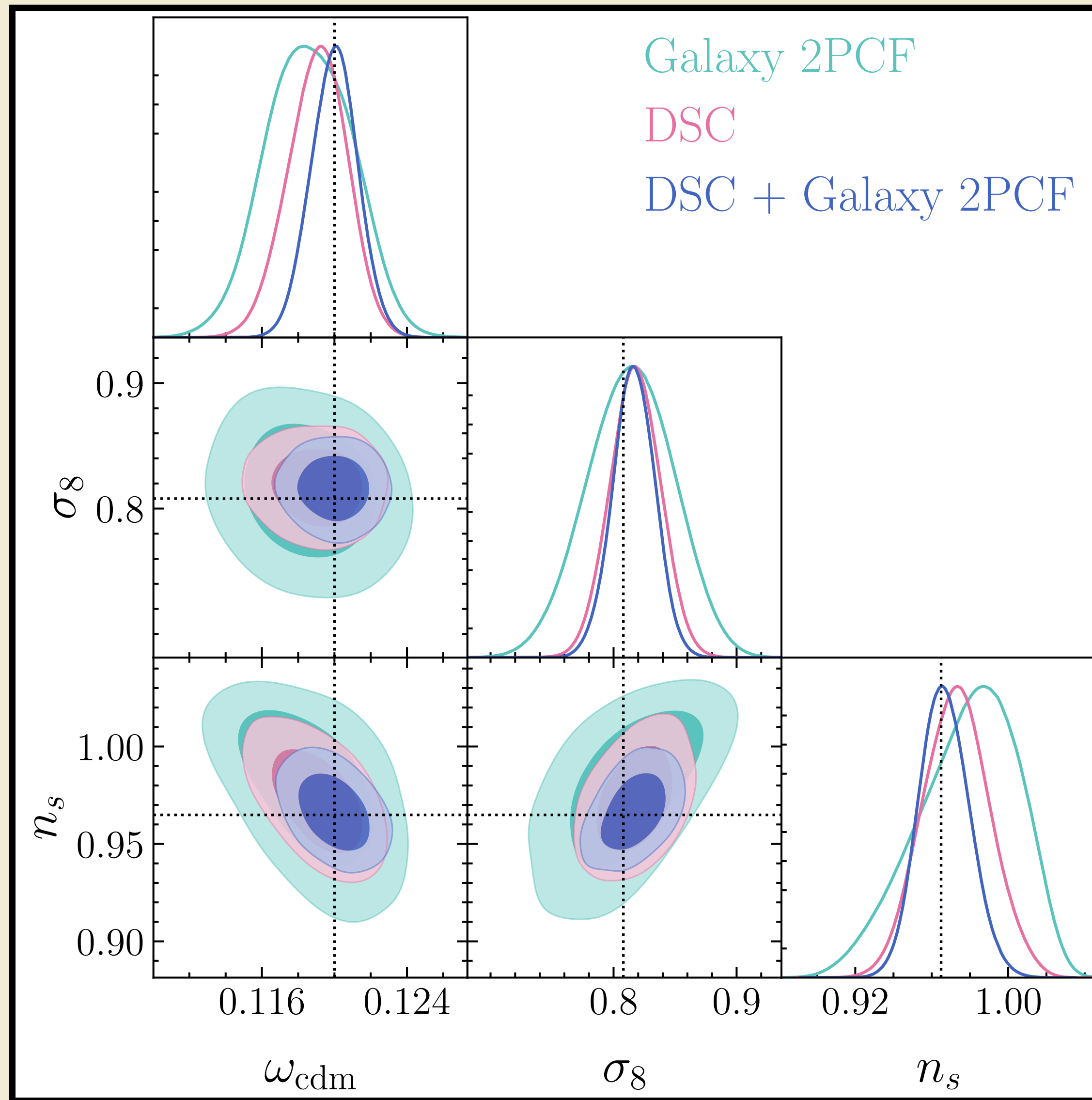


**Loss function**

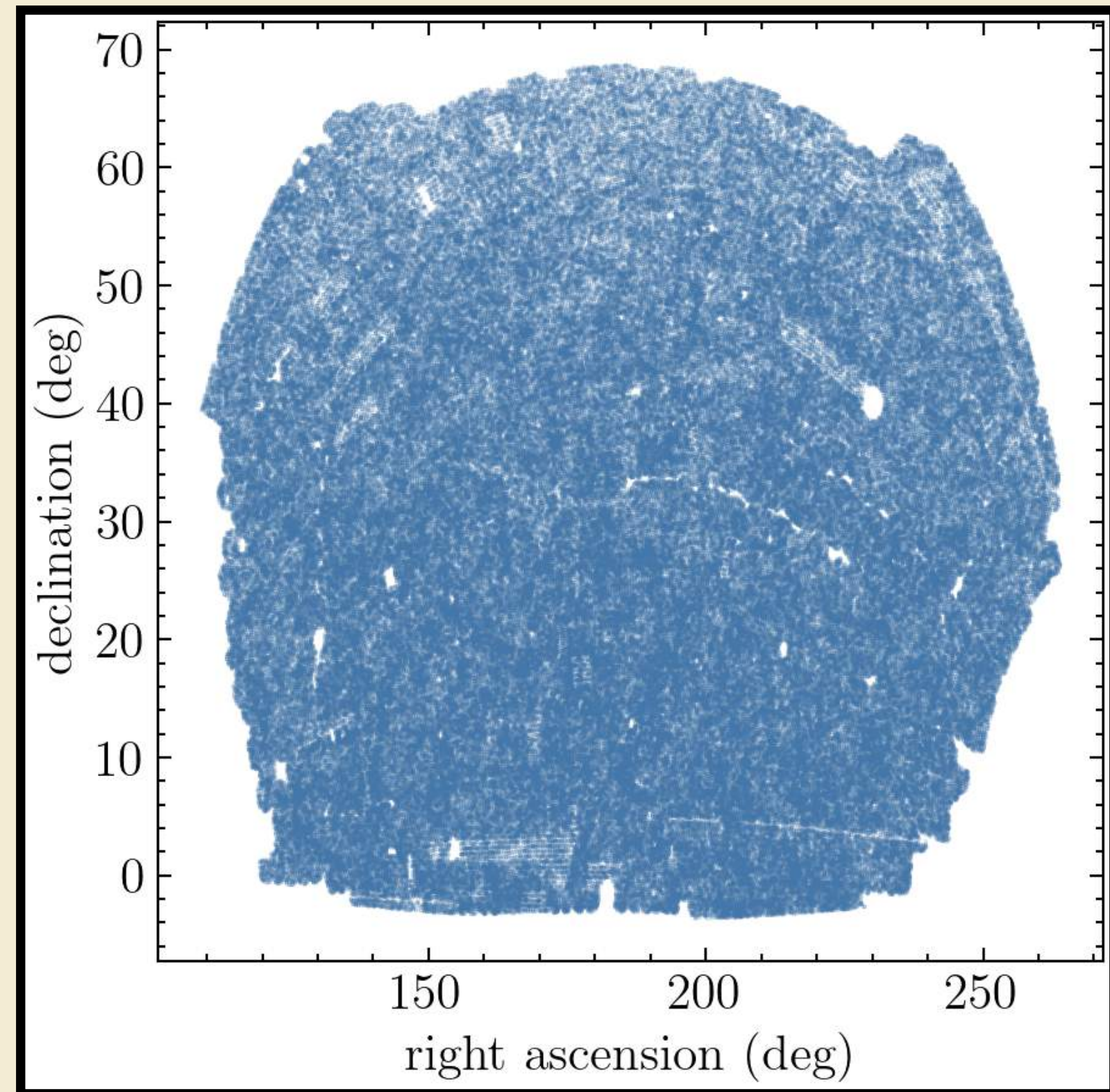
$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=0}^N |y_{\text{true}}^i - y_{\text{predicted}}^i|,$$



Cuesta-Lazaro et al. (in preparation)

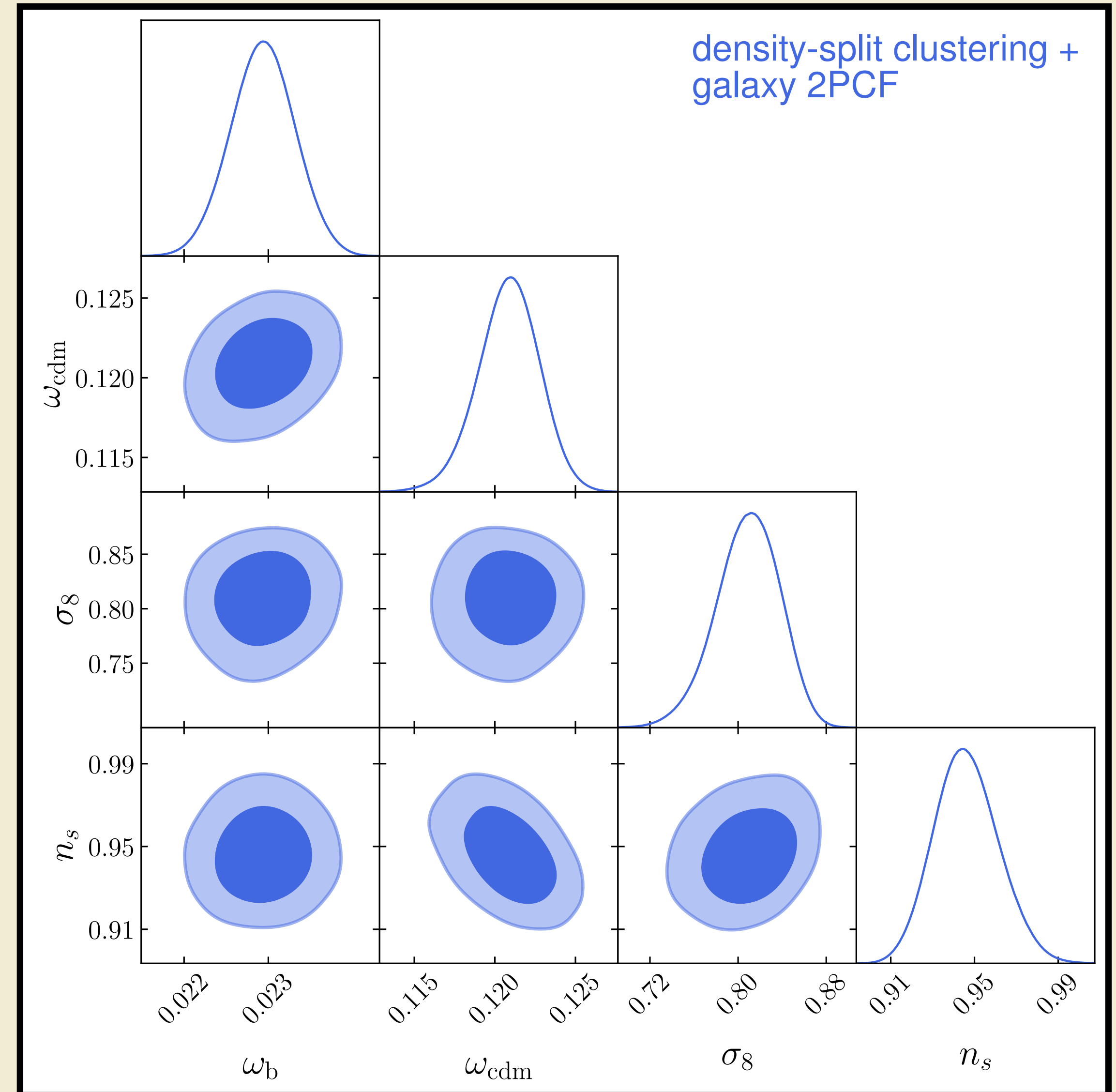


# Density-split clustering in BOSS CMASS



Angular footprint of CMASS galaxies

Paillas et al. (in preparation)



# Summary and conclusions



[github.com/epaillas](https://github.com/epaillas)



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- Higher-order clustering statistics are crucial for extracting all cosmological information that is available from **non-Gaussian density fields**.
- Apart from polyspectra, several **novel clustering techniques** are now being applied in galaxy surveys, including the marked power spectrum, wavelet-based methods, nearest-neighbour distributions and counts-in-cells.
- **Density-split clustering** allows extraction of cosmological information from different density environments, including voids and clusters.
- We have constructed an **emulator for density-split statistics** that is currently being applied to BOSS, providing accurate and precise cosmological constraints down to small scales.