

Statistical Analysis in Cosmology

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1 Introduction

- Motivation
- Classes of uncertainty

2 Information theory

- Data model
- Notions of information
- Thermodynamics
- Shannon's entropy
- Fisher information

3 Bayesian approach

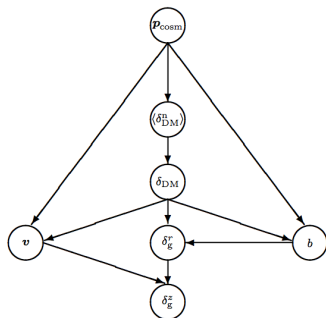
- Conditional probabilities
- Probability theory axioms
- Bayes theorem
- Bayesian inference steps
- Informative priors
- Non-informative priors

Introduction

- the cosmological large-scale structure encodes a wealth of information about the evolution and origin of the Universe
- the data are plagued by many observational effects (sky mask, radial selection, bias, shot noise ...)
- statistical treatment is necessary
- compare observations with theory
- study structure formation

Classes of uncertainty

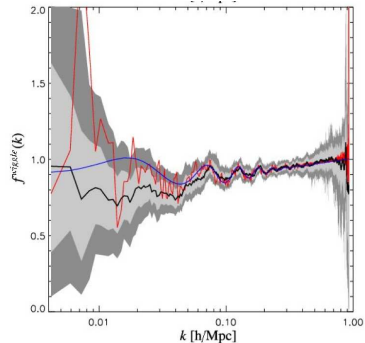
- intrinsic stochastic character: cosmic variance ▶ 1
- physical uncertainties: galaxy bias ▶ 2, nonlinear structure formation ▶ 3
- observational uncertainties: redshift distortions (linear, non-linear) ▶ 4, radial selection function (magnitude limited sample), sky mask (scanning strategy) ▶ 5
- mathematical/representation uncertainties: aliasing effects (mass assignment scheme, pixel window) ▶ 6



scheme: FK & Ensslin 2008

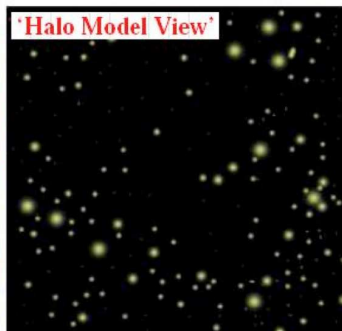
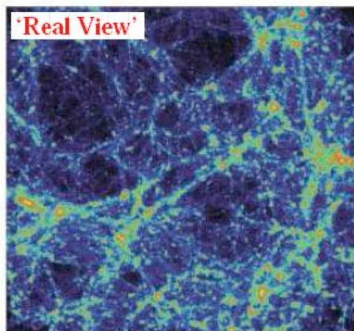
Cosmic variance

- intrinsic variance: particular realization of the Universe
- observational volume variance
- mathematical/representation (grid): number of k -vectors per mode.



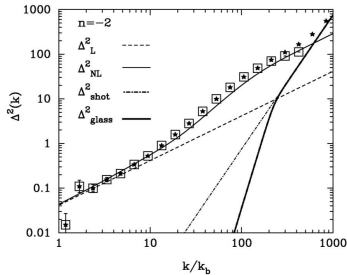
plot: Jasche, FK, Wandelt & Ensslin 2010

Bias



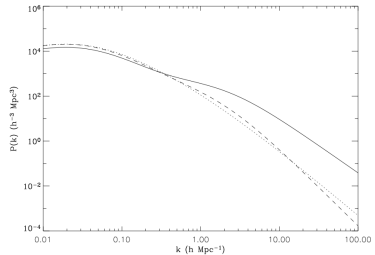
Cooray & Sheth (2002)

Nonlinear clustering



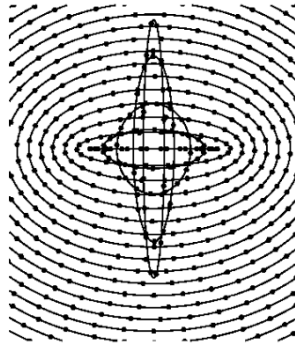
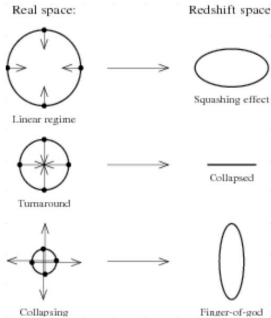
Smith et al 2010; Peacock and
Dodds 94

[▶ back](#)



plot: Erdogdu et al 2004

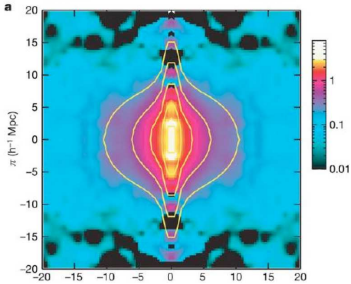
Redshift distortions



take care with this picture!
Nonlinear fogs are due to virialized
random motions.

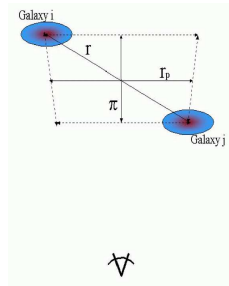
Kaiser 87; Ballinger et al 96; plots:
Hamilton 97, 98

Redshift distortions



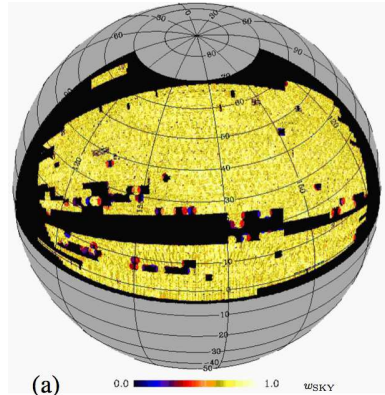
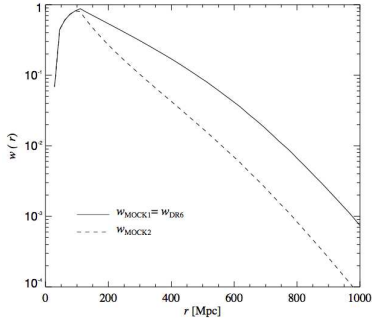
Guzzo et al. 2008 r_p (h^{-1} Mpc)

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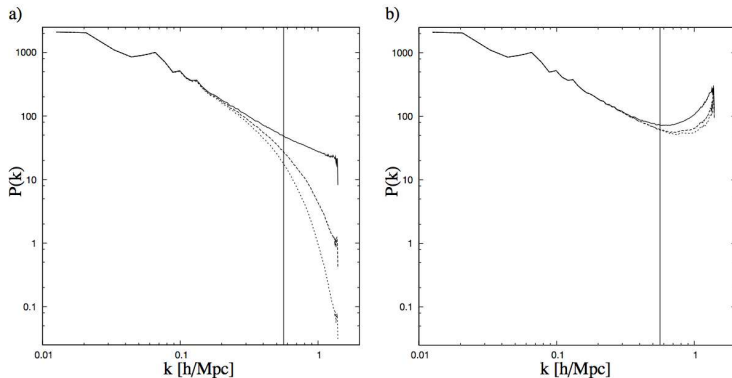
scheme: Stefanie Phleps

Completeness: radial selection function and sky mask



▶ back

Aliasing: Mass assignment scheme



NGP, CIC, TSC

Hockney & Eastwood 81; plots: Jasche, FK & Enslin 2010

Data model: signal degradation model

- Nonlinear data model: data \mathbf{d} m -vector, signal \mathbf{s} n -vector, $n \gg m$

$$\mathbf{d} = R(\mathbf{s}) + \epsilon \quad (1)$$

- Linear data model

$$\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{R}\mathbf{s} + \epsilon \quad (2)$$

$$d_i = \sum_j R_{ij}s_j + n_i \quad (3)$$

- \mathbf{R} response operator ($m \times n$ matrix) may include: mask, selection fct, foregrounds, blurring fct, PSF, pixel window ...
- ϵ noise: random component, white noise, colored noise, attention: mask, selection fct, pixel window etc. (see Jing 2005, FK et al 2009)

Estimate of the signal

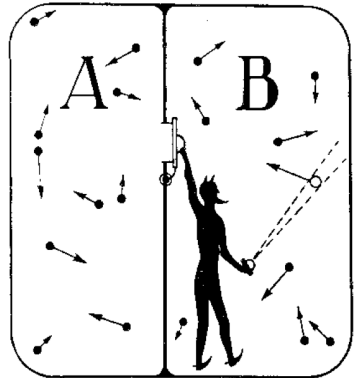
How do we get an estimate of \mathbf{s} : $\hat{\mathbf{s}}$?

Notions of information

- What is information?
- How do we quantify it?
- Etymology: (*Latin*) informare: *give form to the mind*
- Systems theory: *information is any type of pattern that influences the formation of other patterns*
- J. D. Bekenstein 2003: *the physical world is made of information itself*
- Relation between entropy and information: Maxwell's demon

Information and entropy: Maxwell's demon

- Container in thermal equilibrium divided into 2 parts A and B with a trapdoor
- Demon lets faster molecules pass from B to A
- Kinematic energy is reduced in B
- Violation of second law of thermodynamics?
- The information on the molecule velocities increases the overall entropy!
- Information and entropy are tightly related.



Information and entropy

- Entropy

$$S = -k_B \sum_i P_i \ln P_i \quad (4)$$

- density of states Ω

$$S = k_B \ln \Omega \quad (5)$$

Shannon's entropy

- Claude Elwood Shannon (April 30, 1916 – February 24, 2001), father of information theory, electronic engineer worked for Bell Labs (Shannon 1948 *A mathematical theory of communication* [▶ link](#))
- Shannon's entropy

$$H(\mathbf{x}) = - \sum_i P(x_i) \log_b P(x_i) \quad (6)$$

units of entropy: $b=2$: bits; $b=e$: nats; $b=10$: dits

- conditional entropy

$$H(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i,j} P(x_i, y_j) \log_b \frac{P(y_j)}{P(x_i, y_j)} \quad (7)$$

Shannon's entropy

- Kullback Leibler distance between two distributions (Jones test!)

$$D_{\text{KL}}(P||Q) = \sum_i P_i \log_b \frac{P_i}{Q_j} \quad (8)$$

- Mutual information

$$I(x, y) = \sum_{i,j} P(x_i, x_j) \log_b \frac{P(x_i, x_j)}{P(x_i)P(y_j)} \quad (9)$$

Cramer-Rao inequality/lower bound

- Harald Cramer (September 25, 1893 – October 5, 1985)
 Swedish mathematician, actuary, and statistician
- Calyampudi Radhakrishna Rao (born September 10, 1920)
 Indian statistician. Prof. em. at Penn State Univ. and Res.
 Prof. Univ. at Buffalo (still today! look at [link](#))
- unbiased estimator

$$\langle \hat{s} \rangle = s \quad (10)$$

$$\langle \hat{s} - s \rangle \equiv \int dd P(d|s)(\hat{s} - s) = 0 \quad (11)$$

- $\partial/\partial s \rightarrow$

$$\int dd (\hat{s} - s) \frac{\partial P(d|s)}{\partial s} - \int dd P(d|s) = 0 \quad (12)$$

Cramer-Rao inequality/lower bound

- Cauchy Schwarz inequality, inner product:

$$|\langle x, y \rangle|^2 \leq \langle x, x \rangle \langle y, y \rangle \quad (14)$$

$$\rightarrow \left[\int dd \left(\frac{\partial \ln P(d|s)}{\partial s} \right)^2 P(d|s) \right] \left[\int dd (\hat{s} - s)^2 P(d|s) \right] \geq 1 \quad (15)$$

- Mean Squared Error (MSE)

$$e^2(s) \equiv \langle (\hat{s} - s)^2 \rangle = \int dd (\hat{s} - s)^2 \quad (16)$$

- Fisher information

$$\mathcal{I}(s) \equiv \int dd \left(\frac{\partial \ln P(d|s)}{\partial s} \right)^2 P(d|s) \equiv \left\langle \left(\frac{\partial \ln P(d|s)}{\partial s} \right)^2 \right\rangle \quad (17)$$

Cramer-Rao inequality/lower bound



$$e^2 \mathcal{I} \geq 1 \quad (18)$$

■ If $e^2 \mathcal{I} = 1 \rightarrow$ Minimum Variance Unbiased (MVU) estimator

■ In general there is a statistical bias $B(\hat{s}) \equiv \langle \hat{s} \rangle - s$

$$\text{MSE}(\hat{s}) = \text{VAR}(\hat{s}) + B^2(\hat{s}) \quad (19)$$

$$\text{VAR}(\hat{s}) \equiv \sigma^2(s) \equiv \langle (\hat{s} - \langle \hat{s} \rangle)^2 \rangle \quad (20)$$

Fisher information

- Score

$$\mathcal{S} \equiv \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \ln P(d|s) = \frac{1}{P(d|s)} \frac{\partial P(d|s)}{\partial s} \quad (21)$$

- Fisher information: variance of the score

$$\mathcal{I}(s) \equiv \left\langle \left(\frac{\partial \ln P(d|s)}{\partial s} \right)^2 \right\rangle \quad (22)$$

- regularity condition

$$\int dd \frac{\partial^2 P(d|s)}{\partial s^2} = 0 \quad (23)$$

-

$$\mathcal{I}(s) = - \left\langle \frac{\partial^2 \ln P(d|s)}{\partial s^2} \right\rangle \quad (24)$$

Fisher information



$$\mathcal{I}(s) = -\left\langle \frac{\partial^2 \ln P(d|s)}{\partial s^2} \right\rangle \quad (25)$$



$$\begin{aligned} &= - \int dd P(d|s) \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial s} \left(\frac{1}{P(d|s)} \frac{\partial P(d|s)}{\partial s} \right) \right] \\ &= - \int dd P(d|s) \left[-\frac{1}{P(d|s)^2} \left(\frac{\partial P(d|s)}{\partial s} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{P(d|s)} \frac{\partial^2 P(d|s)}{\partial s^2} \right] \\ &= \int dd P(d|s) \frac{1}{P(d|s)^2} \left(\frac{\partial P(d|s)}{\partial s} \right)^2 - \int dd \frac{\partial^2 P(d|s)}{\partial s^2} \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

Fisher information

- Generalization to Fisher matrix

$$\mathcal{I}(s)_{ij} = -\left\langle \frac{\partial^2}{\partial s_i \partial s_j} \ln P(d|s) \right\rangle \quad (27)$$

- Information may be seen to be a measure of the *sharpness/curvature* of the support curve ($\ln P(d|s)$) near the Maximum Likelihood estimate of \mathbf{s} .
- What is the Maximum Likelihood?

Estimator of the signal

- expectation/mean/ensemble average of \mathbf{s} :

$$E[\mathbf{s}] = \langle \mathbf{s} \rangle \quad (28)$$

- take care specify ensemble average!

$$E[\mathbf{s}] = \int d\mathbf{s} d\mathbf{p} P(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{p} | \mathbf{d}) \mathbf{s} = \langle \mathbf{s} \rangle_{(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{p} | \mathbf{d})} \quad (29)$$

Probability theory axioms

- Sum rule: *OR* (Venn diagram)

$$P(\mathbf{a}_1 + \mathbf{a}_2|\mathbf{c}) = P(\mathbf{a}_1|\mathbf{c}) + P(\mathbf{a}_2|\mathbf{c}) - P(\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2|\mathbf{c}) \quad (30)$$

- Product rule: *AND*

$$P(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}|\mathbf{c}) = P(\mathbf{a}|\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c})P(\mathbf{b}|\mathbf{c}) \quad (31)$$

- Invariance under permutation of arguments

$$P(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{d}|\mathbf{p}) = P(\mathbf{s}|\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{p})P(\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{p}) \quad (32)$$

$$P(\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{s}|\mathbf{p}) = P(\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{p})P(\mathbf{s}|\mathbf{p}), \quad (33)$$

Probability distribution functions are always conditioned on some prior information!

Bayes theorem: the posterior/inference

- Thomas Bayes (c. 1702 – 17 April 1761) was an English mathematician and Presbyterian minister

$$P(\mathbf{s}|\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{p}) = \frac{P(\mathbf{s}|\mathbf{p})P(\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{p})}{P(\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{p})} \quad (34)$$

posterior = prior \times likelihood/evidence

- Likelihood: $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{s}|\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{p}) = \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{p})$
- update of prior with posterior \rightarrow learning algorithm
- Bayesian notion of information: information is encoded in conditional probability distribution functions

Evidence

- normalization of the posterior
- marginalization over the signal

$$P(\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{p}) = \int d\mathbf{s} P(\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{s}|\mathbf{p}) = \int d\mathbf{s} P(\mathbf{s}|\mathbf{p})P(\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{p}) \quad (35)$$

Bayesian inference steps

- Definition of the prior: knowledge of the underlying signal
- Definition of the likelihood: nature of the observed data
- Linking the prior to the likelihood: link signal to the data
- Bayes theorem: the posterior
- Maximization of the posterior: Maximum a posteriori: MAP
- Sampling the posterior: MCMC (read Neal 93), importance sampling, population Monte Carlo (M. Kilbinger)

Informative priors

- Gaussian prior (Wiener 1949, Rybicki & Press 1992, Zaroubi et al 1995) → Thikonov regularization
- Lognormal prior/nonlinear transformation (Tarantola & Valette 1982, FK et al 2010)
- Expanded Gaussian prior (Juszkiewiz et al 95, Bernardeau & Kofman 95, Colombi 94, FK 2010)

Gaussian prior

- Gaussian likelihood

$$P(\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{p}) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{s}^\dagger \mathbf{S}^{-1}\mathbf{s}\right) \quad (36)$$

$$\mathbf{S} = \langle \mathbf{s}\mathbf{s}^\dagger \rangle_{(\mathbf{s}|\mathbf{p})}$$

- Wiener-filter $\hat{\mathbf{s}} = \mathbf{F}\mathbf{d}$ with

$$\mathbf{F} = (\mathbf{S}^{-1} + \mathbf{R}^\dagger \mathbf{N}^{-1} \mathbf{R})^{-1} \mathbf{R}^\dagger \mathbf{N}^{-1} = \mathbf{S} \mathbf{R}^\dagger (\mathbf{R} \mathbf{S} \mathbf{R}^\dagger + \mathbf{N})^{-1}$$

$$\mathbf{N} \equiv \langle \boldsymbol{\epsilon}\boldsymbol{\epsilon}^\dagger \rangle_{(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}|\mathbf{p})}$$

- take care with the definition of the noise matrix

Non-informative priors

- Flat prior
- Jeffrey's prior (prior for the power-spectrum: FK & Ensslin 08)
- Entropic prior (Jaynes 63, Narayan & Nityananda 86, Skilling 89, FK & Ensslin 08)
- (Edwin Thompson Jaynes (Waterloo, Iowa, July 5, 1922 St. Louis, Missouri, April 30, 1998) Professor of Physics at Washington University in St. Louis) [▶ link](#)

Flat prior

- improper prior: integral diverges to infinity
- maximization leads to maximum likelihood ML
- Gaussian likelihood

$$P(\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{p}) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\chi^2(\mathbf{s})\right) \quad (37)$$

$$\chi^2(\mathbf{s}) \equiv \boldsymbol{\epsilon}^\dagger \mathbf{N}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$$

- COBE-filter: $\mathbf{F} = (\mathbf{R}^\dagger \mathbf{N}^{-1} \mathbf{R})^{-1} \mathbf{R}^\dagger \mathbf{N}^{-1}$

Flat prior

- Poissonian likelihood

$$P(\mathbf{N}|\boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{p}) = \prod_i \exp(-\lambda_i) \frac{\lambda_i^{N_i}}{N_i!} \quad (38)$$

- Richardson-Lucy deconvolution algorithm (Richardson 1972, Lucy 1974, Shepp & Vardi 1982)

Lognormal prior

- continuity equation:

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} + \frac{1}{a}\rho\nabla_{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0, \quad (39)$$

- solution:

$$\rho = \langle \rho \rangle e^s, \quad s = - \int dt \frac{1}{a} \nabla_{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \mathbf{v}, \quad (40)$$

- if s is Gaussian at all times $\rightarrow \rho$ is lognormal distributed (Coles & Jones 91)
- when structures start to virialize the peculiar velocity field changes
- relax the Gaussian assumption Colombi 94: skewed lognormal model with the 1D Edgeworth expansion. (based on the skewed Gaussian Edgeworth expansion: Juszkiewicz, Bouchet & Colombi 93)

Multidimensional

- Let me introduce here the multidimensional case:

$$\Phi_i \equiv \ln \rho_i - \langle \ln \rho \rangle = s_i - \mu_i, \quad \nu_i \equiv \sum_j S_{ij}^{-1/2} \Phi_i, \quad (41)$$

$$s_i = \ln(\rho_i / \langle \rho \rangle) = \ln(1 + \delta_{Mi})$$

Multidimensional

Multidimensional Edgeworth expansion

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(\Phi) &= \frac{d\boldsymbol{\nu}}{d\Phi} P(\boldsymbol{\nu}) = (\det(\mathbf{S}))^{-1/2} G(\boldsymbol{\nu}) \\
 &\times \left[1 + \frac{1}{3!} \sum_{ijk} \langle \nu_i \nu_j \nu_k \rangle_c h_{ijk}(\boldsymbol{\nu}) + \frac{1}{4!} \sum_{ijkl} \langle \nu_i \nu_j \nu_k \nu_l \rangle_c h_{ijkl}(\boldsymbol{\nu}) \right. \\
 &\left. + \frac{1}{6!} \sum_{ijklmn} \left[\frac{1}{3!3!2} \sum_{j_1 \dots j_6 \in [1, \dots, 6]} \tilde{\epsilon}_{j_1 \dots j_6} \langle \nu_{j_1} \nu_{j_2} \nu_{j_3} \rangle_c \langle \nu_{j_4} \nu_{j_5} \nu_{j_6} \rangle_c \right]_{10} h_{ijklmn}(\boldsymbol{\nu}) + \dots \right], \tag{42}
 \end{aligned}$$

Lognormal model

- 0th order: lognormal model ($G(\boldsymbol{\nu}) \rightarrow P(\boldsymbol{\delta}_M|\mathbf{S})$)
 $\langle \ln \rho_i \rangle = \ln \langle \rho \rangle + \mu_i$

$$P(\boldsymbol{\delta}_M|\mathbf{S}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{N_{\text{cells}}} \det(\mathbf{S})}} \prod_k \frac{1}{1 + \delta_{Mk}} \quad (43)$$

$$\times \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} (\ln(1 + \delta_{Mi}) - \mu_i) S_{ij}^{-1} (\ln(1 + \delta_{Mj}) - \mu_j) \right),$$

multidimensional implementation for matter field reconstructions:

FK, Jasche & Metcalf 2009; applied to SDSS DR7: Jasche, FK, Li & Ensslin 2010

- when $\delta_M \ll 1 \rightarrow$ Gauss distribution

Maximum a posteriori

- Let us define the *energy* $E(\mathbf{s})$

$$E(\mathbf{s}) \equiv -\ln(P(\mathbf{s}|\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{S})), \quad (44)$$

- MAP

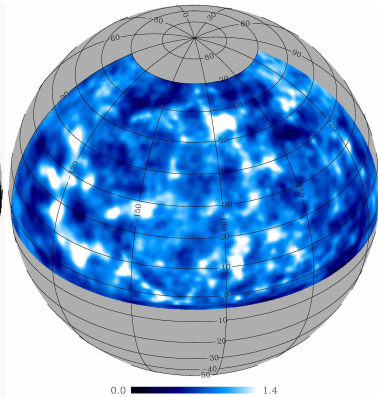
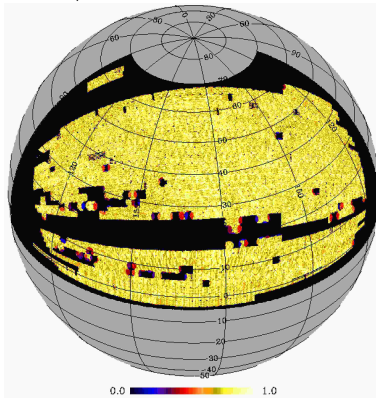
$$\frac{\partial E(\mathbf{s})}{\partial s_i} = 0, \quad (45)$$

- Krylov conjugate gradient schemes (FK & Ensslin 2008; Jasche, FK, Wandelt, Ensslin 2009; FK, Jasche, & Metcalf 2009)

$$s_i^{j+1} = s_i^j - \sum_k T_{ik} \frac{\partial E(\mathbf{s})}{\partial s_k}, \quad (46)$$

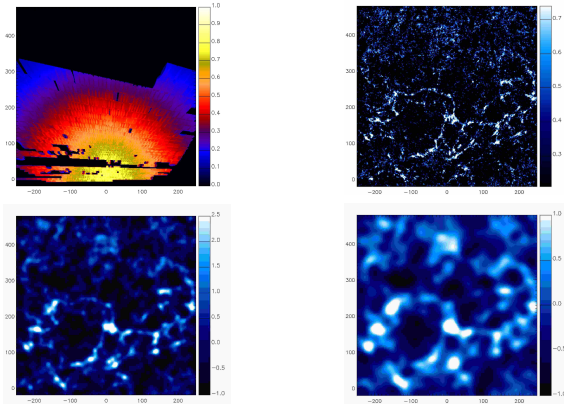
Results: Wiener filter reconstruction of the SDSS DR6

Wiener-filter with the ARGO code: FK, Jasche, Li, Ensslin, Metcalf,
Wandelt, Lemson & White 2009



Results: detection of a super-void in the SDSS DR6

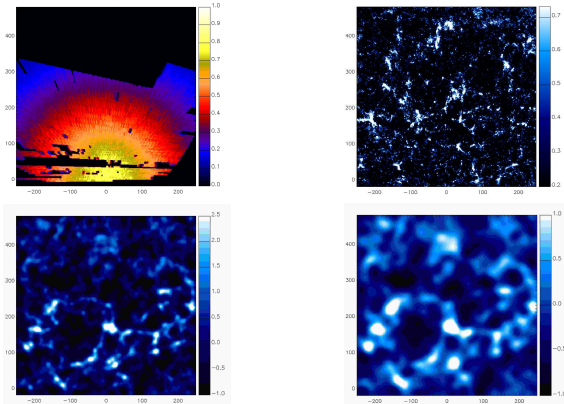
(about 250.000 galaxies from the main sample)



FK, Jasche, Li, Ensslin, Metcalf, Wandelt, Lemson & White 2009

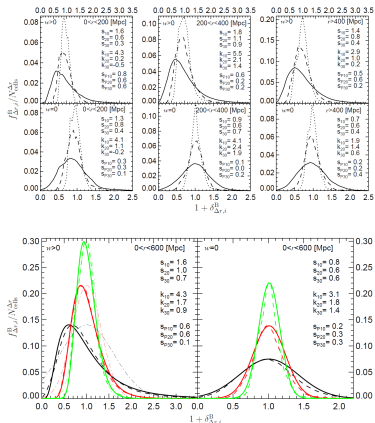
Results: detection of a super-void in the SDSS DR6

(about 250.000 galaxies from the main sample) → cluster prediction



FK, Jasche, Li, Ensslin, Metcalf, Wandelt, Lemson & White 2009

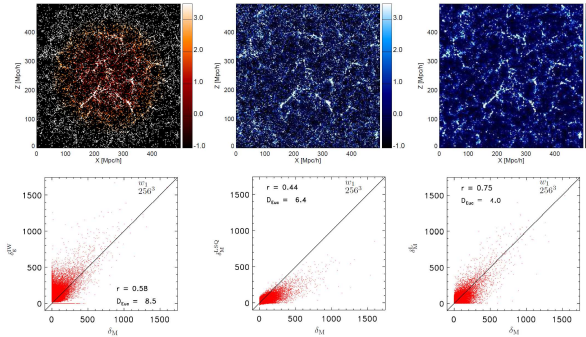
Results: matter statistics in the SDSS DR6



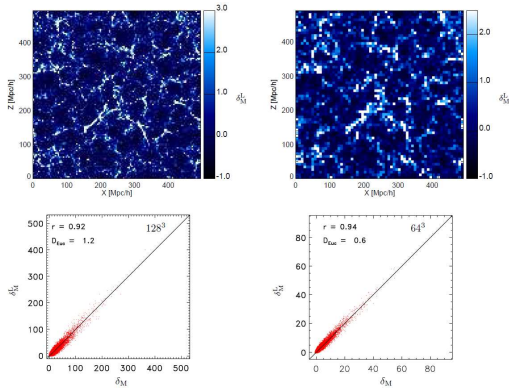
FK, Jasche, Li, Ensslin, Metcalf, Wandelt, Lemson & White 2009

Results: lognormal filter against Wiener filter and inverse weighting

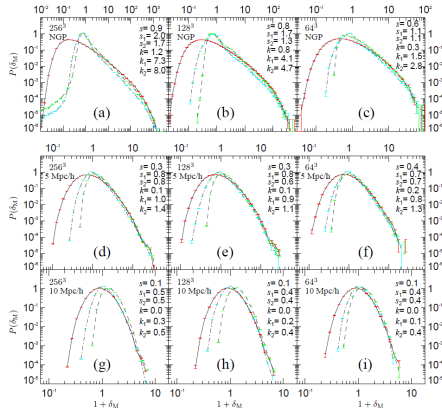
tests with the Millenium Run including selection function effects (about 350.000 mock galaxies)



Results: lognormal filter against Wiener filter and inverse weighting



Results: matter statistics in the lognormal reconstruction



FK, Jasche & Metcalf 2009 (upgrade of the ARGO code)

Markov Chains

- Andrey Markov (June 14, 1856 N.S. July 20, 1922) was a Russian mathematician
- Famous papers:
 - A.A. Markov. "Extension of the limit theorems of probability theory to a sum of variables connected in a chain". reprinted in Appendix B of: R. Howard. Dynamic Probabilistic Systems, volume 1: Markov Chains. John Wiley and Sons, 1971. (original in Russian 1906)
 - applied to language and vowels: [▶ link](#)
- Gibbs-sampling, Metropolis-Hastings, Hybrid MCMC, Hamiltonian MCMC, etc

Gaussian distributions: Gibbs sampling

- Geman & Geman 84, Wandelt 04, Eriksen et al 07, FK & Ensslin 08, Jasche, FK, Wandelt & Ensslin 10, (read Neal 93)
- Power spectrum and map sampling

$$\mathbf{s}^{j+1} \sim P(\mathbf{s}|\mathbf{S}^j, \mathbf{d}) \quad (47)$$

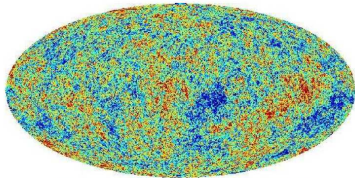
$$\mathbf{S}^{j+1} \sim P(\mathbf{S}|\mathbf{s}^{j+1}) \quad (48)$$

- Wiener filter

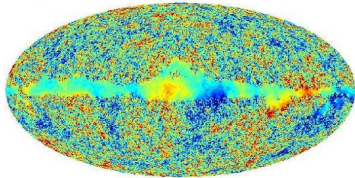
$$\mathbf{s}^j = \hat{\mathbf{s}}^j + \mathbf{y}^j \quad (49)$$

$\mathbf{y}^j = ((\mathbf{S}^j)^{-1} + \mathbf{R}^\dagger \mathbf{N}^{-1} \mathbf{R})^{-1} ((\mathbf{S}^j)^{-1/2} \mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{R}^\dagger \mathbf{N}^{-1/2} \mathbf{x}_2)$ with Gaussian random variates \mathbf{x}_1 and \mathbf{x}_2

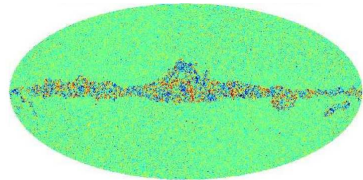
Gaussian distributions: Gibbs sampling



-200 μK 200 μK



-200 μK 200 μK



-200 μK 200 μK

Eriksen et al 2007

Sampling the posterior

- Hamiltonian sampling (Taylor et al 2010, Jasche & FK 2010)

$$H(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{p}) = K(\mathbf{p}) + E(\mathbf{s}), \quad (50)$$

- kinetic term with a given mass as the variance for the momenta

$$K(\mathbf{p}) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{p}^\dagger \mathbf{M}^{-1} \mathbf{p}, \quad (51)$$

- Marginalization over the momenta

$$P(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{p}) = \frac{e^{-H}}{Z_H} = \frac{e^{-K}}{Z_K} \frac{e^{-E}}{Z_E} = P(\mathbf{p})P(\mathbf{s}), \quad (52)$$

- Please note, that the kinetic PDF is a Gaussian
- Marginalization occurs by drawing momenta from a Gaussian and

Sampling the posterior

- Hamiltonian evolution equations: $(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{p}) \rightarrow (\mathbf{s}', \mathbf{p}')$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{p}}{dt} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial \mathbf{s}} = -\frac{\partial E}{\partial \mathbf{s}}, \quad (53)$$

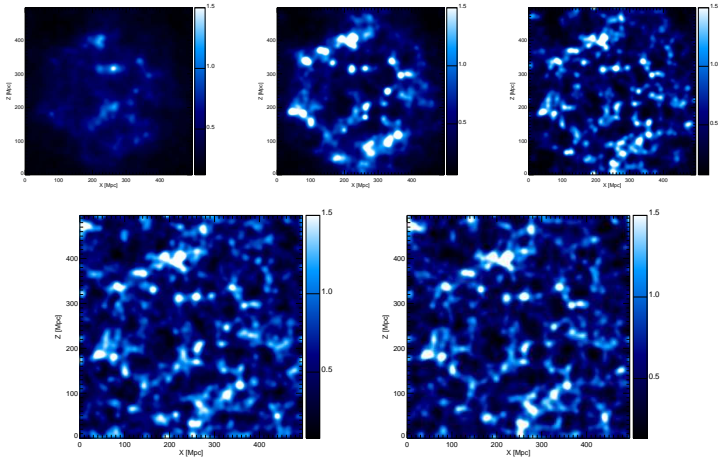
$$\frac{d\mathbf{s}}{dt} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial \mathbf{p}} = \mathbf{M}^{-1}\mathbf{p}, \quad (54)$$

- Metropolis-Hastings acceptance step

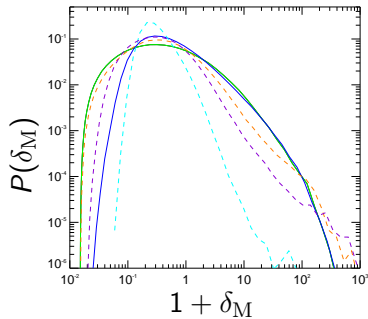
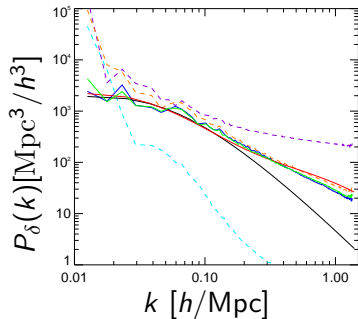
$$p_a = \min(1, e^{-\delta H}), \quad (55)$$

$\delta H = H(\mathbf{s}', \mathbf{p}') - H(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{p}) \rightarrow$ we do not care about the evidence!

Skewed matter statistics: FK tbs



Skewed matter statistics: FK tbs



Conclusions

- There is a need to compare observations with theory as precisely as possible.
- Observations are plagued by many uncertainties which require a statistical treatment.
- The Bayesian approach is flexible and clear.
- We have shown that we can deal with complex models in this framework.