

Gaussian Random Fields

Lecture course LSS2014
University Groningen
Nov. 2014-Jan. 2015

Power Spectrum

Power Spectrum $P(k)$

$$\delta(\mathbf{x}) = \int \frac{d\mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^3} \hat{\delta}(\mathbf{k}) e^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (2\pi)^3 P(k_1) \delta_D(\mathbf{k}_1 - \mathbf{k}_2) &\equiv \langle \hat{f}(\mathbf{k}_1) \hat{f}^*(\mathbf{k}_2) \rangle \\ &\quad \updownarrow \\ P(k) &\propto \langle \hat{f}(\mathbf{k}) \hat{f}^*(\mathbf{k}) \rangle \end{aligned}$$

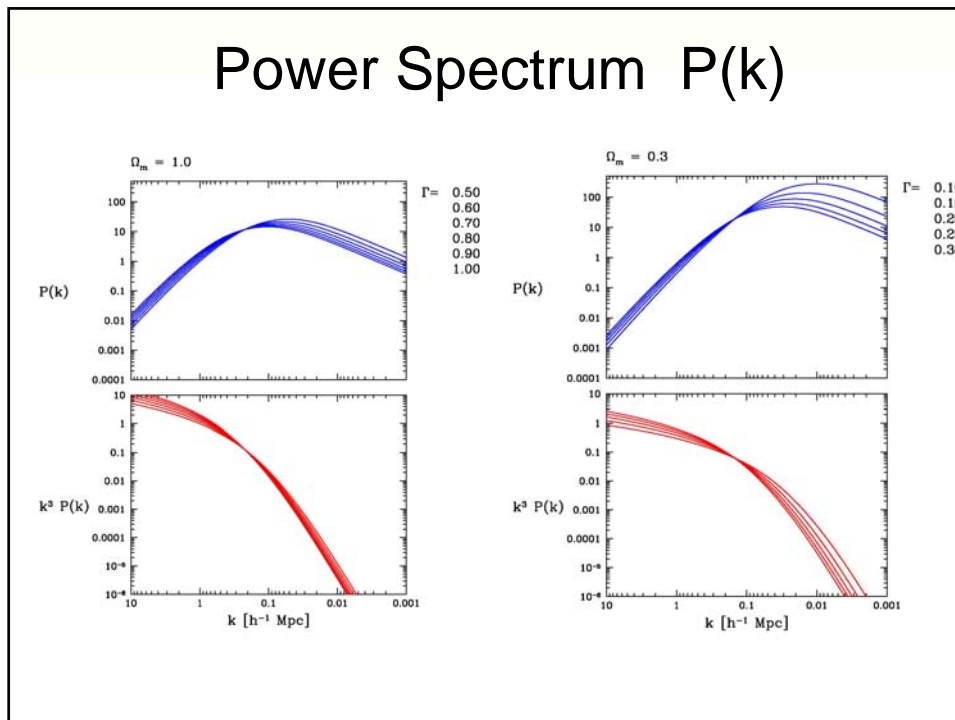
CDM Power Spectrum $P(k)$

$$P_{\text{CDM}}(k) \propto \frac{k^n}{[1 + 3.89q + (16.1q)^2 + (5.46q)^3 + (6.71q)^4]^{1/2}} \times \frac{[\ln(1 + 2.34q)]^2}{(2.34q)^2}$$

$$q = k/\Gamma$$

$$\Gamma = \Omega_{m,0} h \exp\left\{-\Omega_b - \frac{\Omega_b}{\Omega_{m,0}}\right\}$$

Power Spectrum $P(k)$



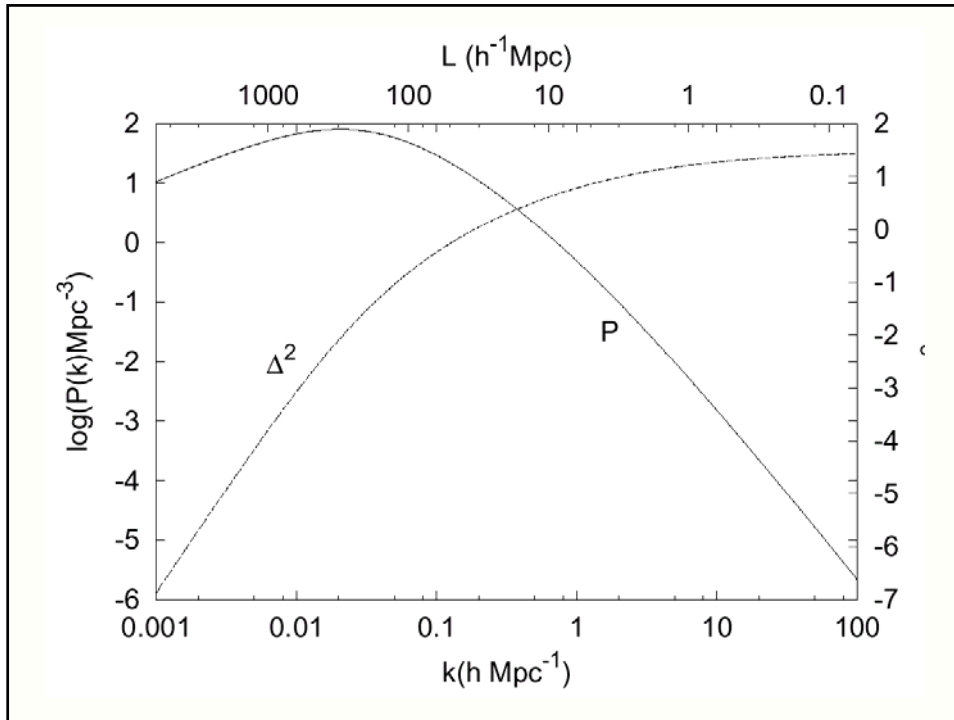
Power Spectrum - Correlation Function

$$P(k) = \int d^3 r \xi(\vec{r}) e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}}$$

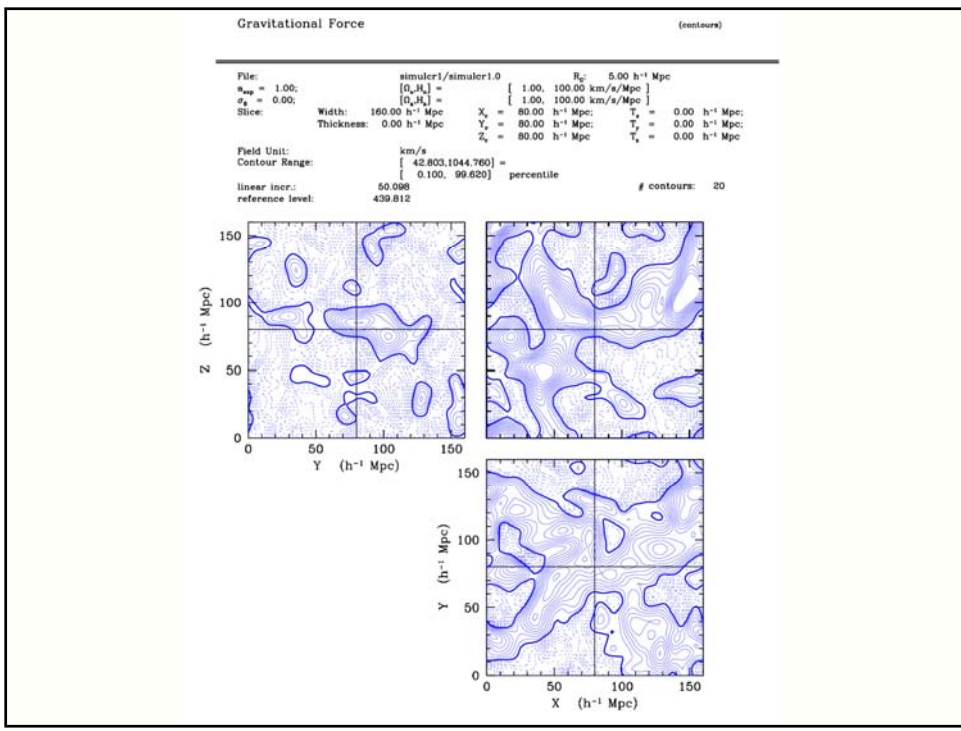
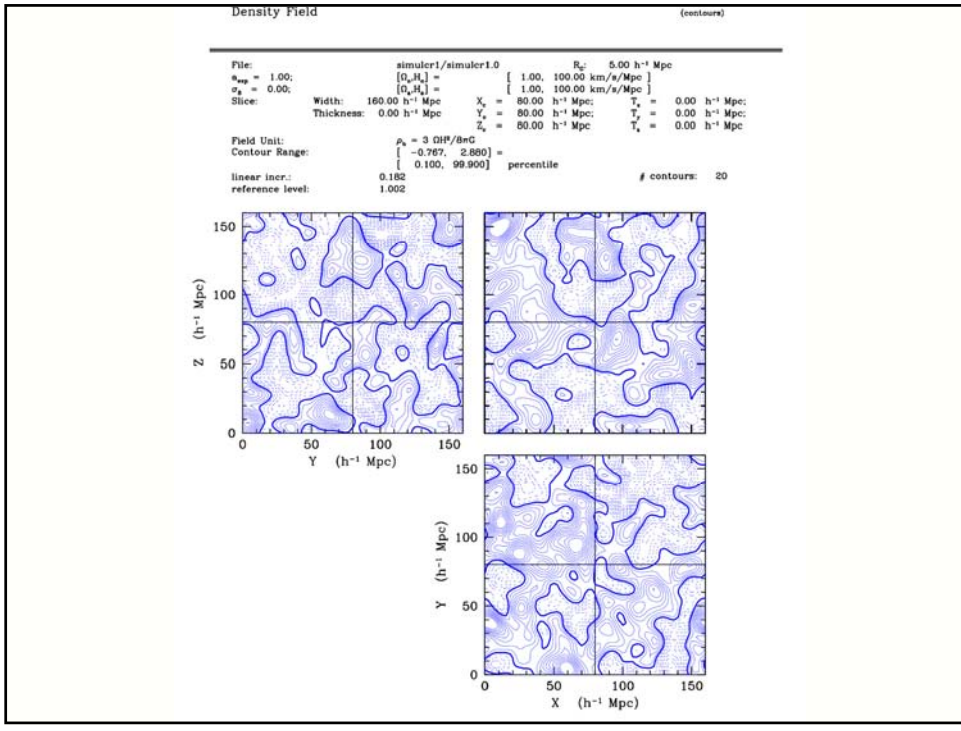
$$\xi(\vec{r}) = \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} P(k) e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}}$$

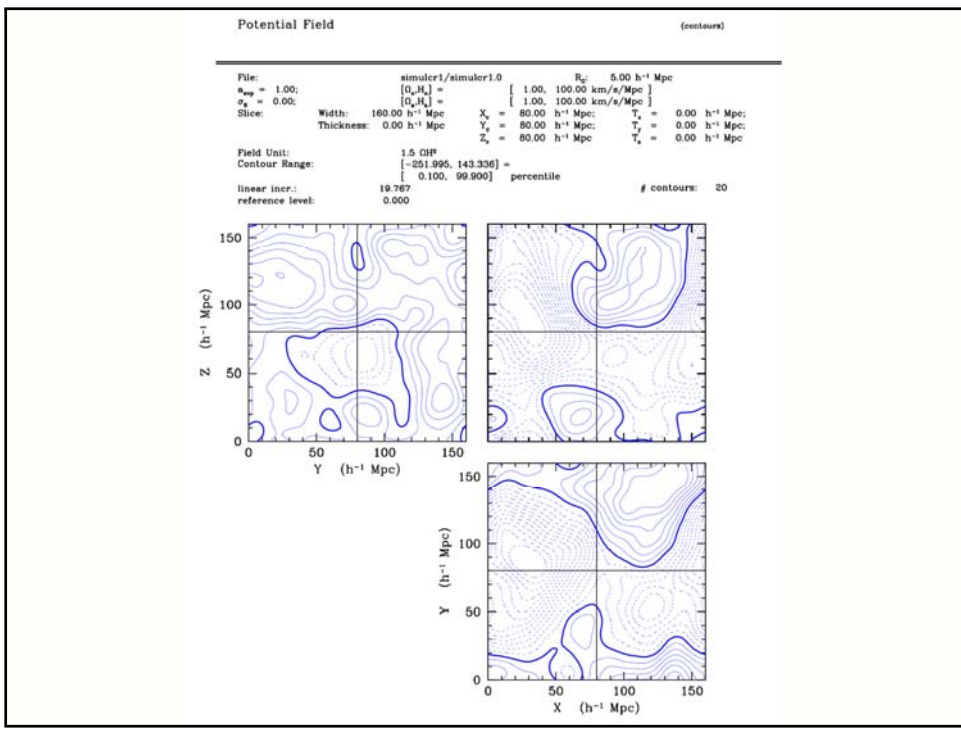
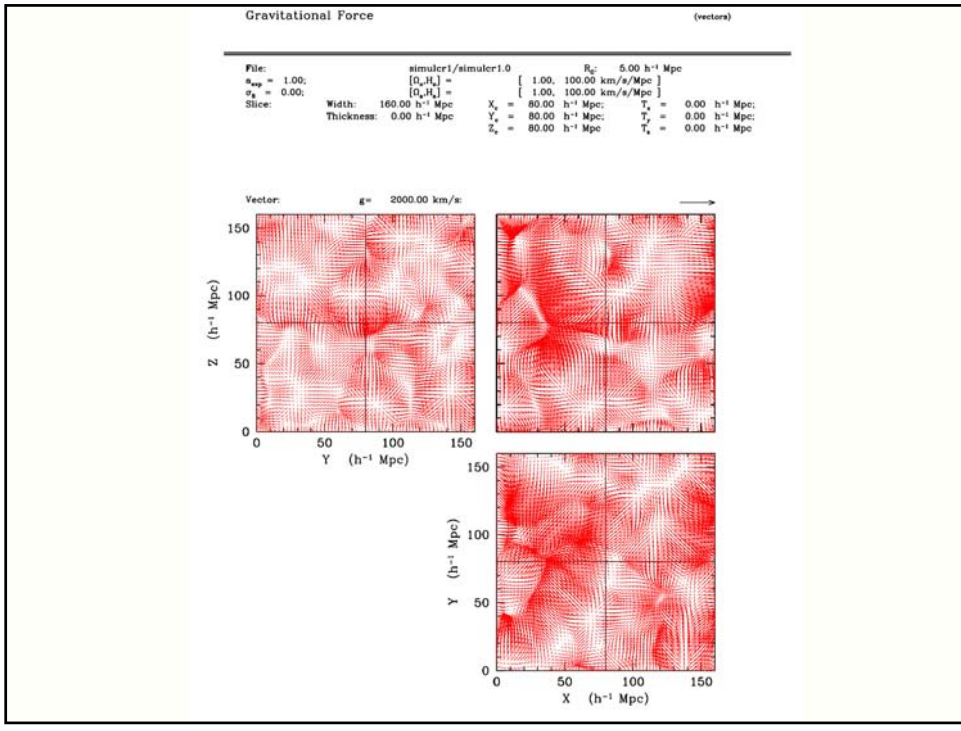
Isotropy:
$$\xi(r) = 4\pi \int_0^\infty \frac{k^2 dk}{(2\pi)^3} P(k) \frac{\sin(kr)}{kr}$$

Delta-power
$$\Delta^2(k) = \frac{1}{2\pi^2} P(k) k^2$$



Field Realizations





Power Spectrum

Phases & Pattern Information

Random Field Phases

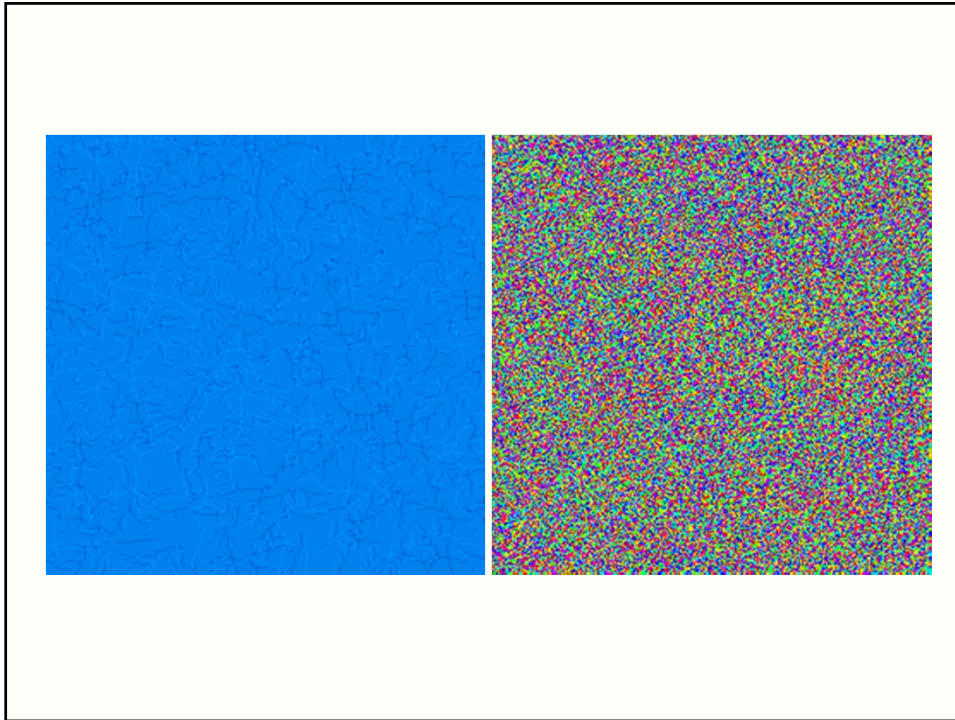
$$f(\vec{x}) = \int \frac{d\vec{k}}{(2\pi)^3} \hat{f}(\vec{k}) e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{x}}$$

$$\hat{f}(\vec{k}) = \hat{f}_r(\vec{k}) + i \hat{f}_i(\vec{k}) = |\hat{f}(\vec{k})| e^{i\theta(\vec{k})}$$

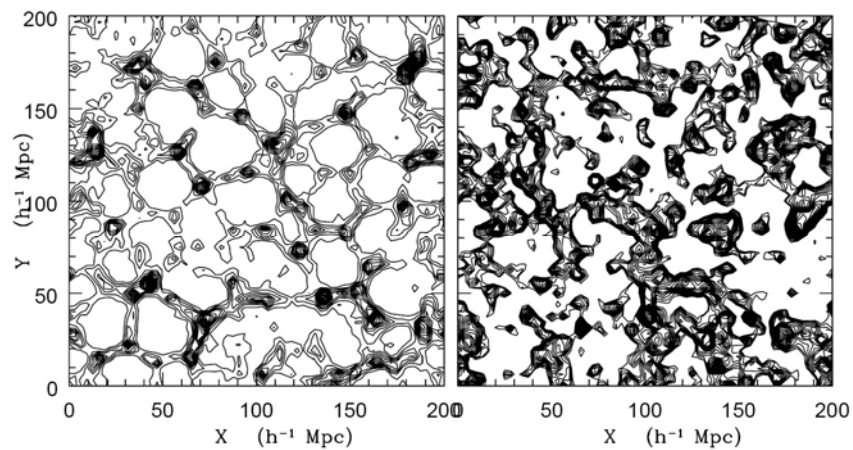
When a field is a Random Gaussian Field, its phases $\theta(\vec{k})$ are uniformly distributed over the interval $[0, 2\pi]$:

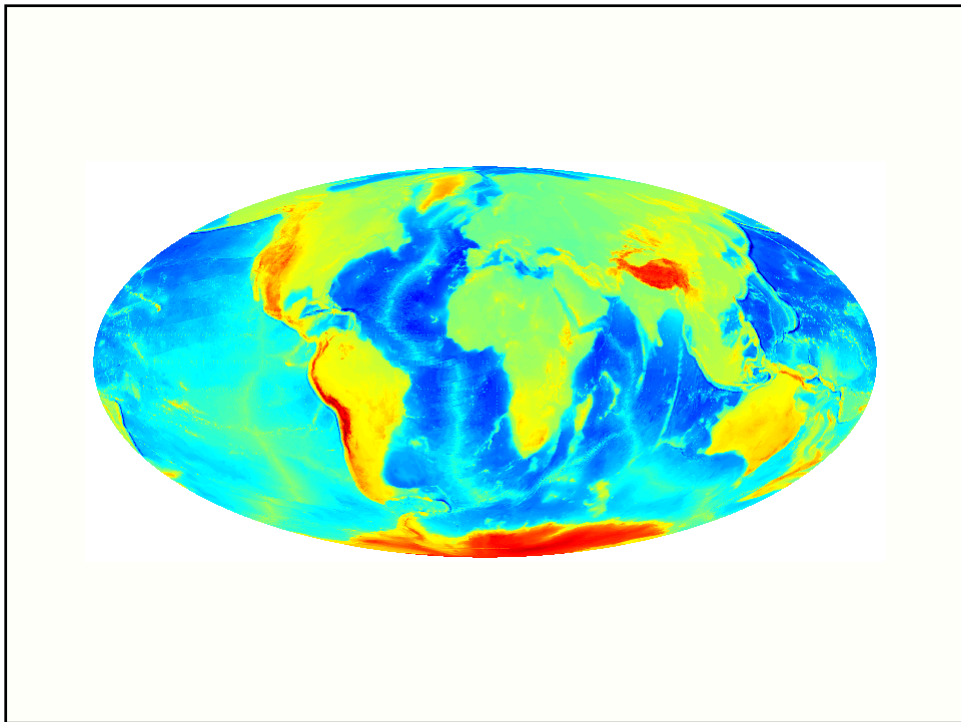
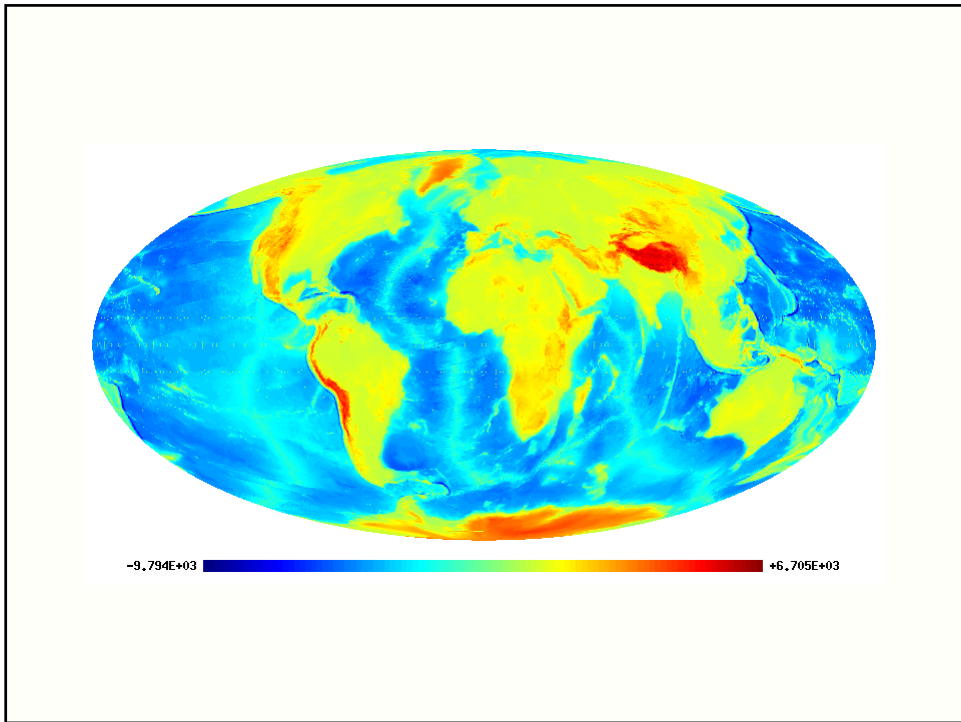
$$\theta(\vec{k}) \in U[0, 2\pi]$$

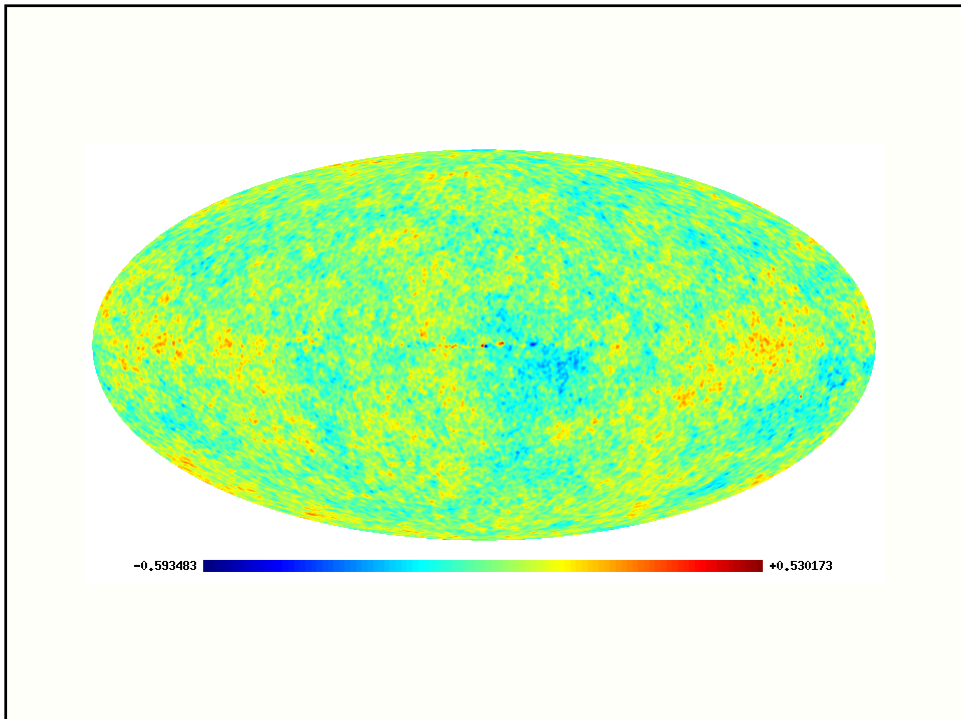
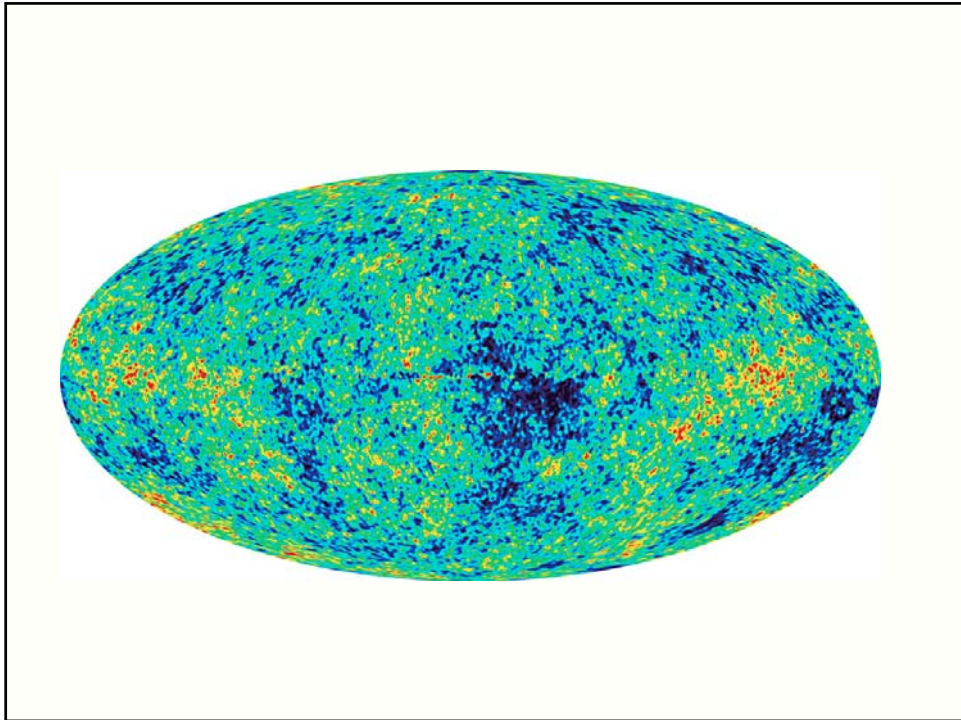
As a result of nonlinear gravitational evolution, we see the phases acquire a distinct non-uniform distribution.

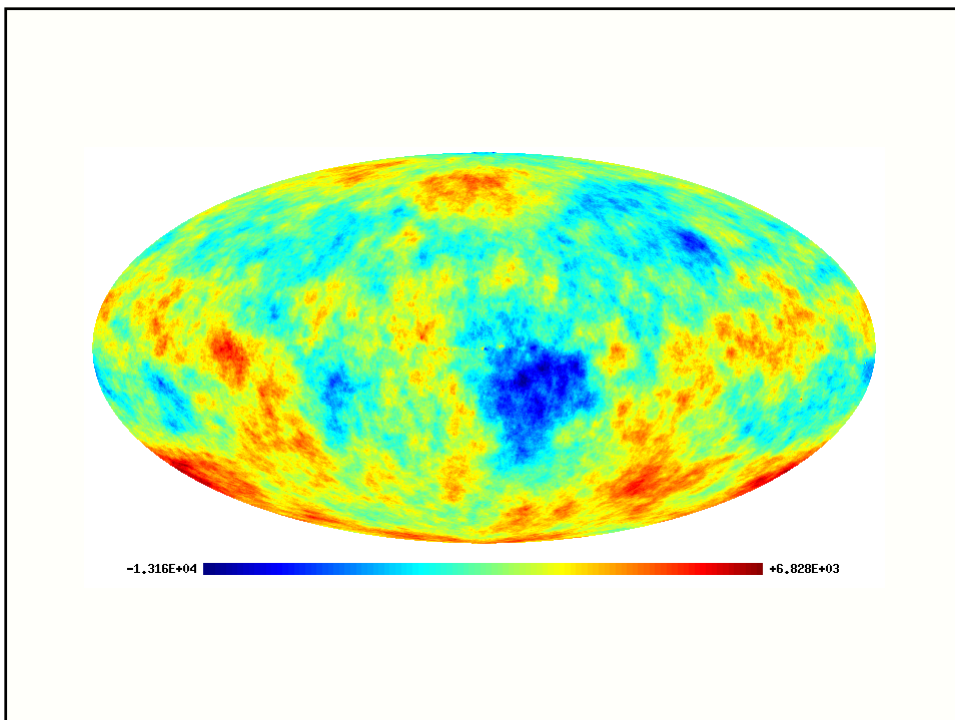
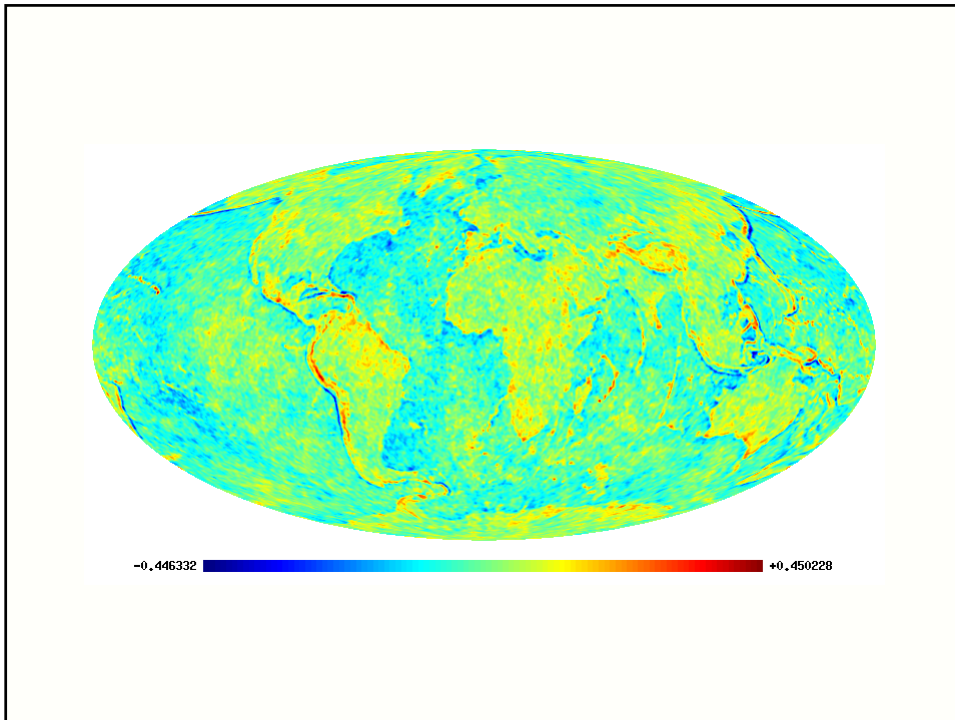


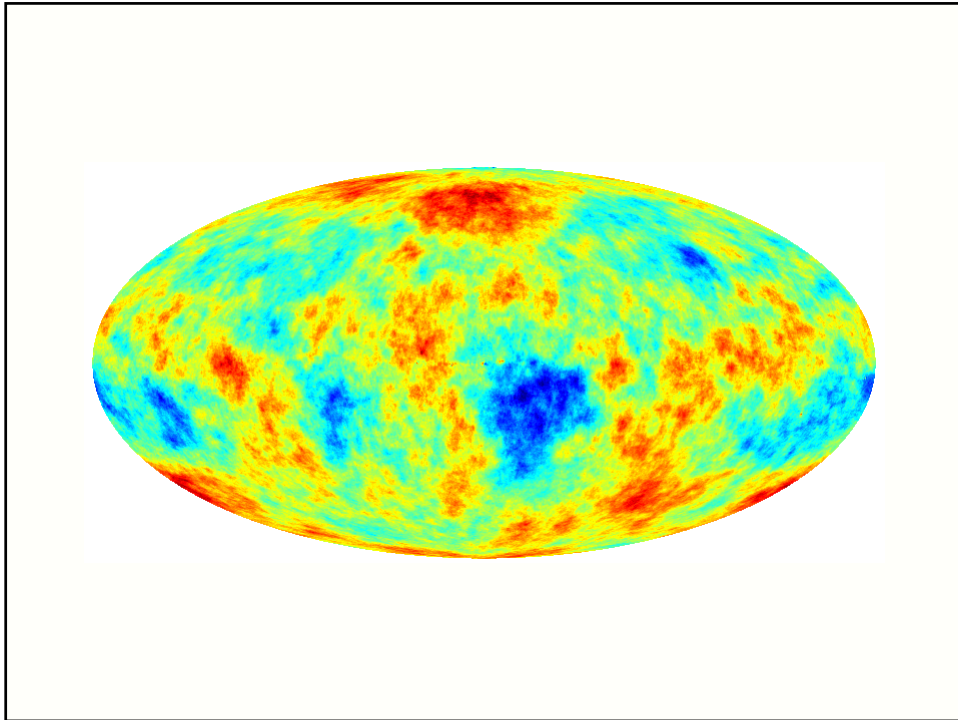
Power Spectrum: Pattern Information & Phases



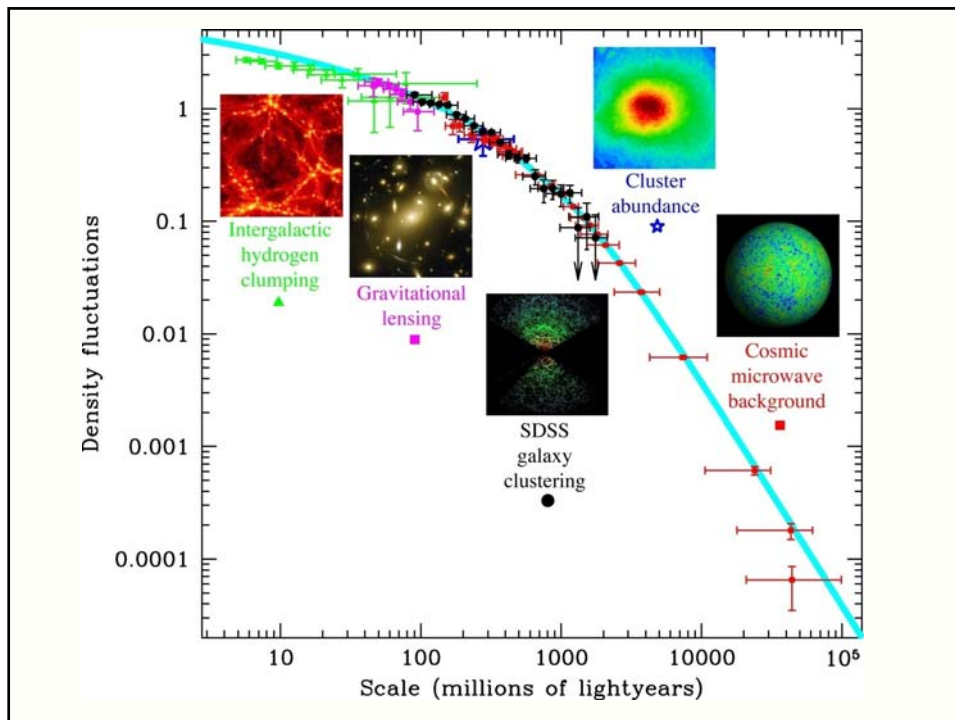








Power Spectrum Measurement

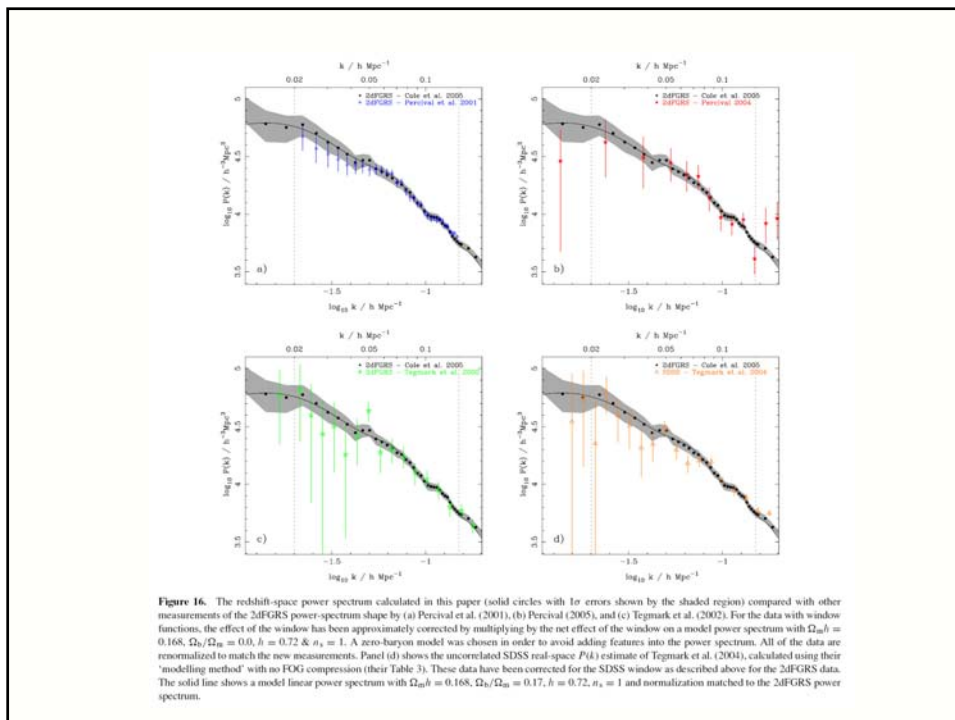
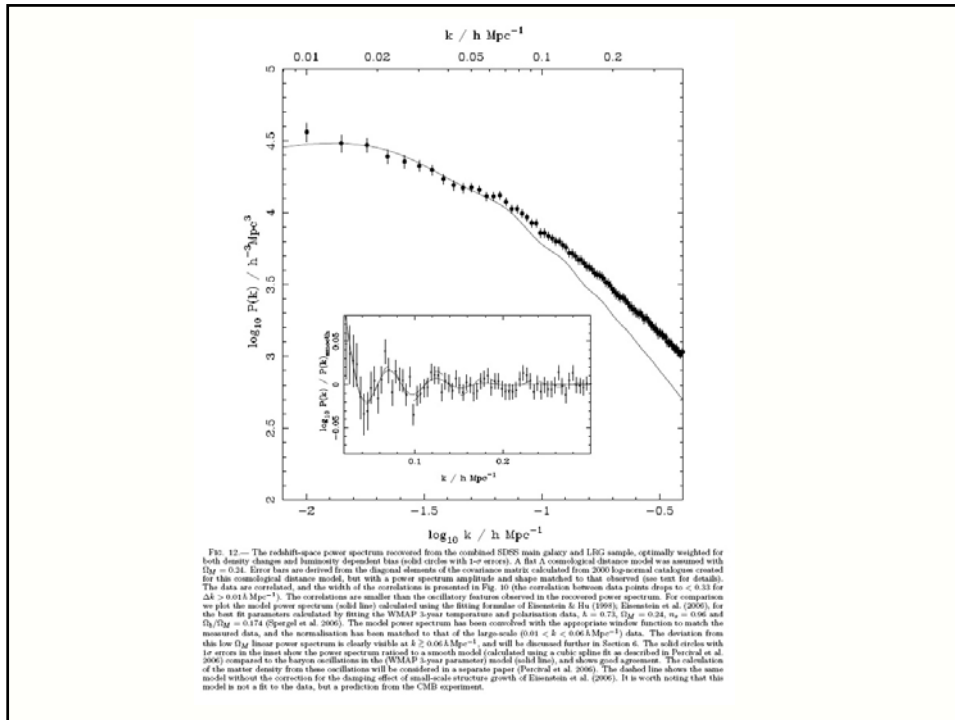


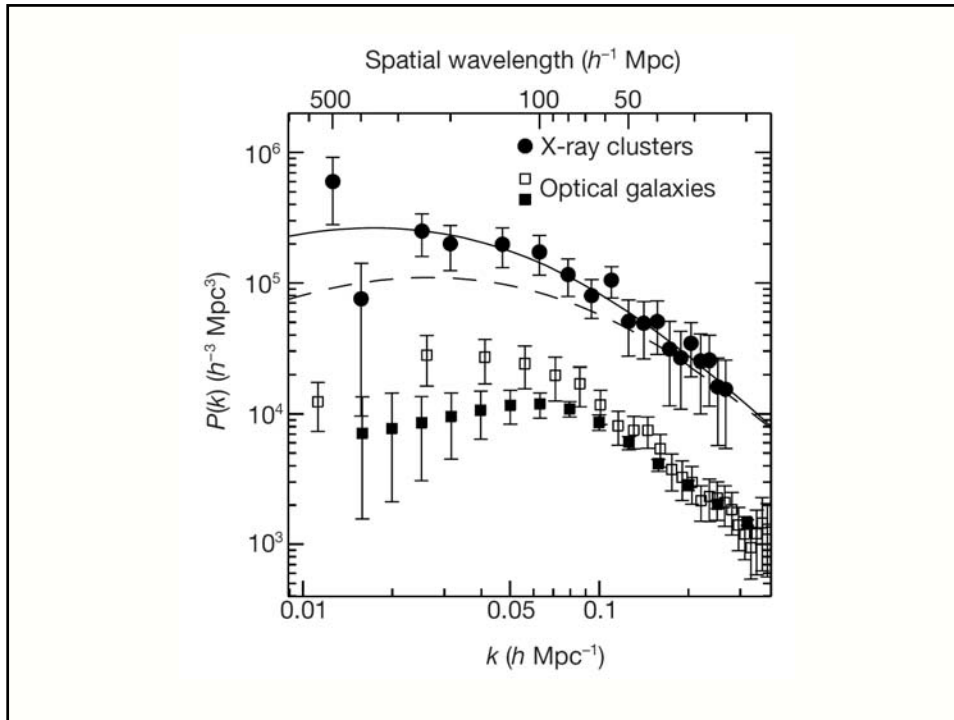
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Ergodic Theorem

Statistical Cosmological Principle

Cosmological Principle:

Universe is Isotropic and Homogeneous

Homogeneous & Isotropic Random Field $\psi(\vec{x})$:

Homogenous $p[\psi(\vec{x} + \vec{a})] = p[\psi(\vec{x})]$

Isotropic $p[\psi(\vec{x} - \vec{y})] = p[\psi(|\vec{x} - \vec{y}|)]$

Within Universe one particular realization $\psi(\vec{x})$:

Observations: only spatial distribution in that one particular $\psi(\vec{x})$
Theory: $p[\psi(x)]$

Ergodic Theorem

Ensemble Averages



**Spatial Averages
over one realization
of random field**

- Basis for statistical analysis cosmological large scale structure
- In statistical mechanics Ergodic Hypothesis usually refers to time evolution of system, in cosmological applications to spatial distribution at one fixed time

Ergodic Theorem

Validity Ergodic Theorem:

- Proven for Gaussian random fields with continuous power spectrum
- Requirement:

spatial correlations decay sufficiently rapidly with separation

such that

many statistically independent volumes in one realization



All information present in complete distribution function $p[\psi(\vec{x})]$ available from single sample $\psi(\vec{x})$ over all space

Fair Sample Hypothesis

- Statistical Cosmological Principle

+

- Weak cosmological principle
(small fluctuations initially and today over Hubble scale)

+

- Ergodic Hypothesis

fair sample hypothesis
(Peebles 1980)