

# Probabilistic large-scale structure inference, cosmic web analysis and information theory

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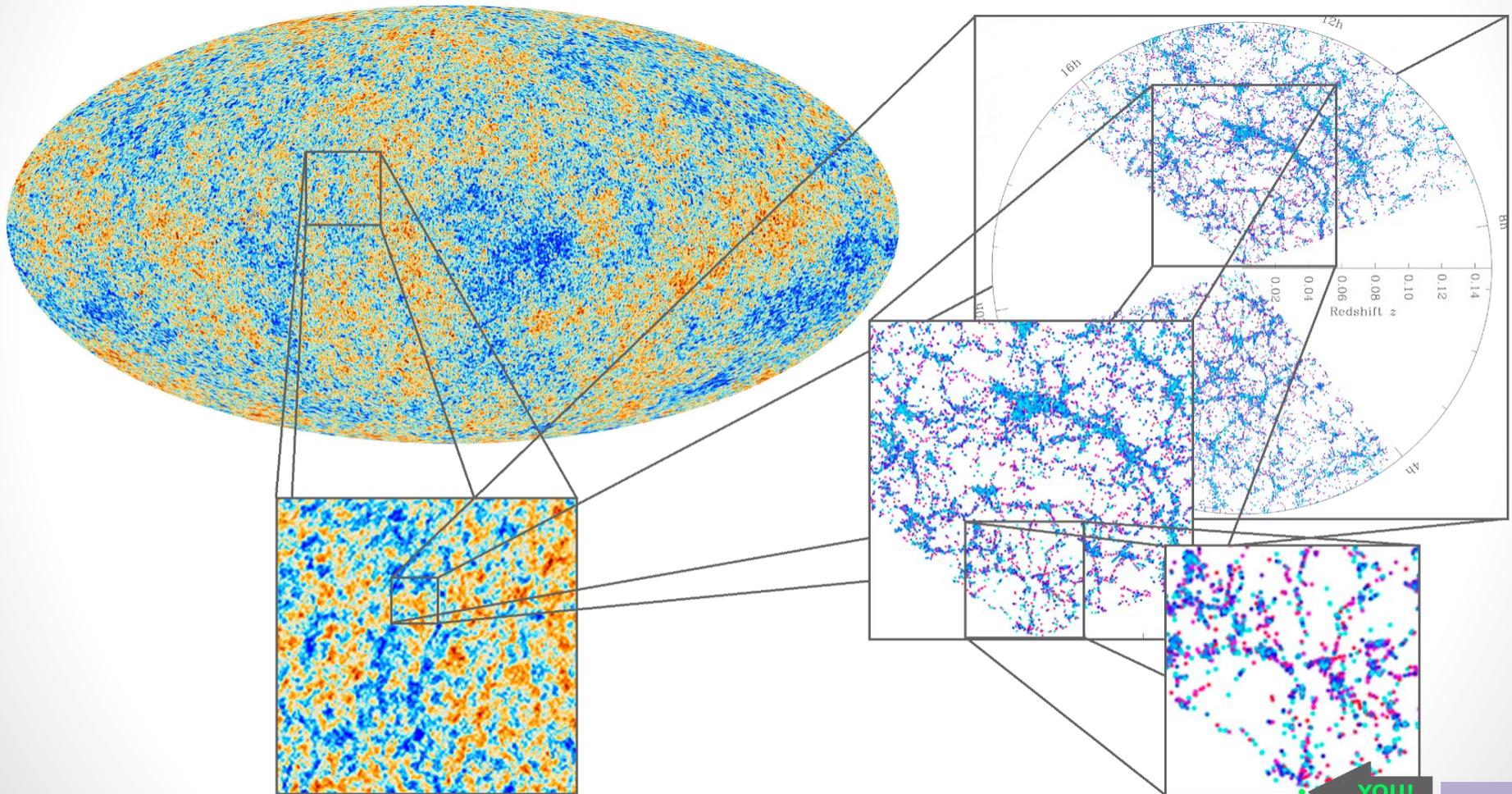
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In collaboration with:

Jens Jasche (ExC Universe, Garching), Guilhem Lavaux (IAP),  
Will Percival (ICG), Benjamin Wandelt (IAP/U. Illinois)

# The big picture: the Universe is highly structured

*You are here. Make the best of it...*



# How did structure appear in the Universe?

## A joint problem!

- How did the Universe begin?
  - What are the statistical properties of the initial conditions?
- How did the large-scale structure take shape?
  - What is the physics of dark matter and dark energy?

# We have theoretical and computer models...

- Initial conditions:  
a Gaussian random field



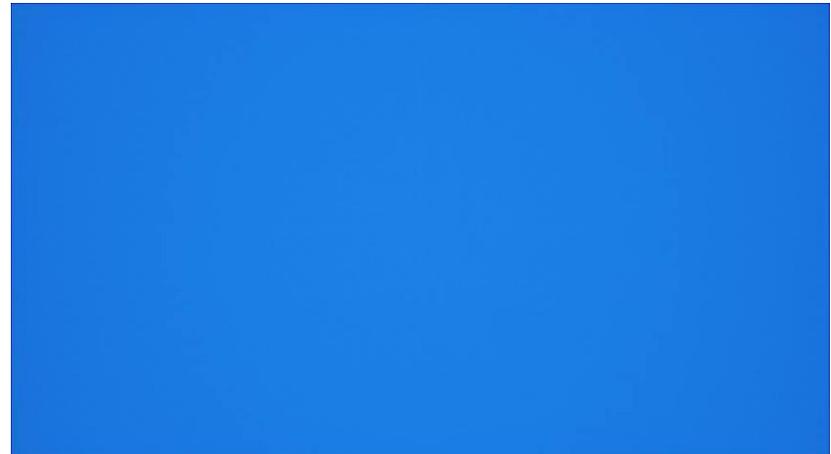
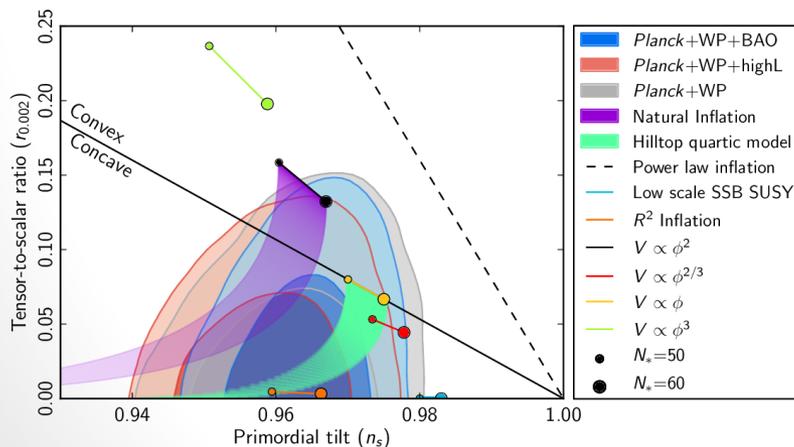
- Structure formation:  
numerical solution of the Vlasov-Poisson system for dark matter dynamics

$$\mathcal{P}(\delta^i | S) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|2\pi S|}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{x,x'} \delta_x^i S_{xx'}^{-1} \delta_{x'}^i\right)$$

Everything seems consistent with the simplest inflationary scenario, as tested by Planck.

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \tau} + \frac{\mathbf{p}}{ma} \cdot \nabla f - ma \nabla \Phi \cdot \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{p}} = 0$$

$$\Delta \Phi = 4\pi G a^2 \bar{\rho} \delta$$



# But some questions remain

1. How do we **test** these frameworks?
  - Usually the two problems of initial conditions and structure formation are addressed in isolation.
  - Ideally, galaxy surveys should be analyzed in terms of the joint constraints that they place on these two questions.
  
2. How did this happen in **our** Universe?

# 1. How do we test our models?



J. Cham - PhD comics

Redshift range	Volume (Gpc <sup>3</sup> )	$k_{\max}$ (Mpc/h) <sup>-1</sup>	$N_{\text{modes}}$
0-1	50	0.15	$10^7$
1-2	140	0.5	$5 \times 10^8$
2-3	160	1.3	$10^{10}$

M. Zaldarriaga

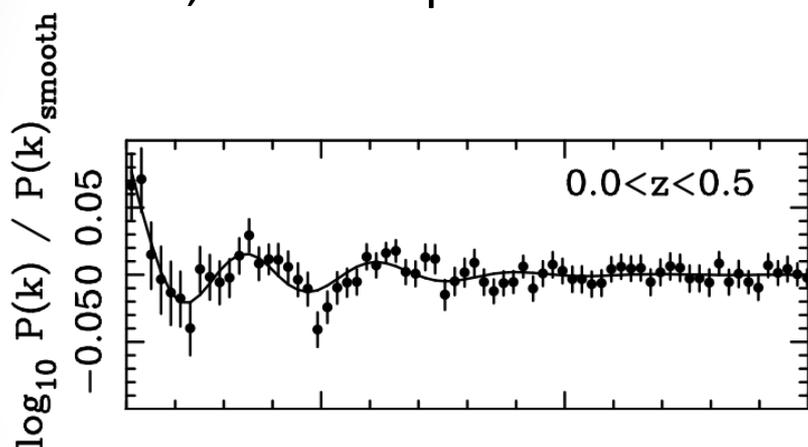
- Precise tests require many modes.
- In 3D galaxy surveys, the number of modes usable scales as  $k_{\max}^3$ .
- The challenge: non-linear evolution at **small scales** and **late times**.
- The strategy:
  - Pushing down the smallest scale usable for cosmological analysis
  - Inferring the initial conditions from galaxy positions



In other words: go beyond the **linear** and **static** analysis of the LSS.

## 2. How did this happen in our Universe?

- This means that we cannot do, for example:



Percival *et al.* 2010, arXiv:0907.1660

- Standard analyses: reduce the data to some statistics, then fit some model parameters

- We have to do a **joint analysis** of all aspects, including **density reconstruction**
  - Provides powerful constraints
  - Propagates uncertainties between all parts of the analysis
  - Avoids using the data twice
- It is a process known as **data assimilation**

Can we just **fit the entire survey?**

# Why Bayesian inference?

- What do we need to fit the entire survey?

Inference of signals = ill-posed problem

- Incomplete observations: finite resolution, survey geometry, selection effects
- Noise, biases, systematic effects
- Cosmic variance

➡ No unique recovery is possible!



“What is the formation history of the Universe?”



“What is the probability distribution of possible formation histories (signals) compatible with the observations?”

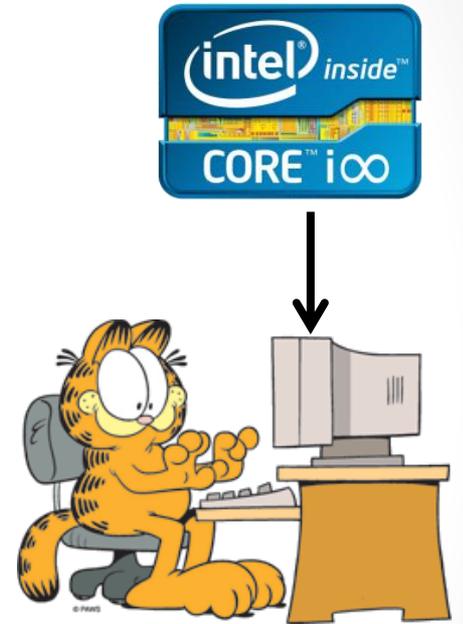
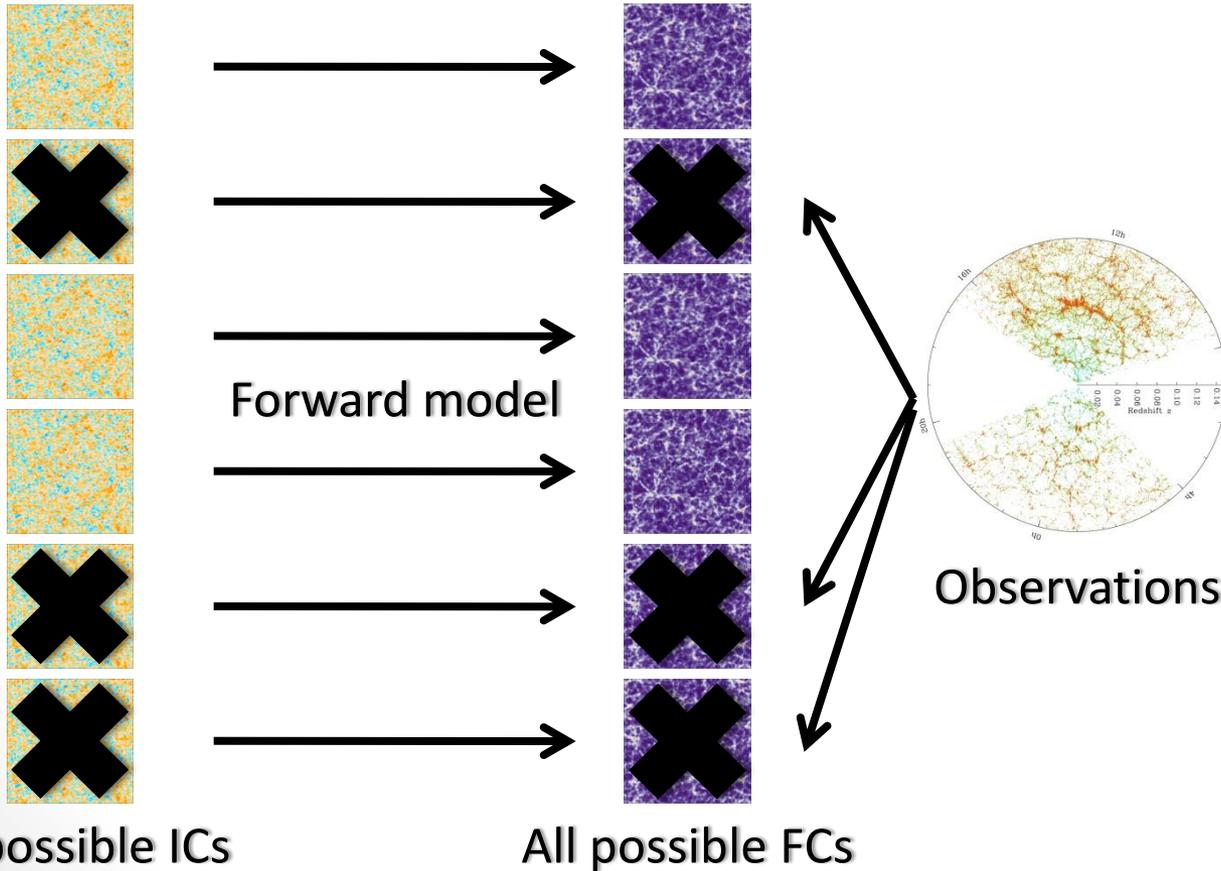
**Bayes' theorem:**  $\mathcal{P}(s|d)\mathcal{P}(d) = \mathcal{P}(d|s)\mathcal{P}(s)$

- Cox-Jaynes theorem: Any system to manipulate “*plausibilities*”, consistent with Cox’s desiderata, is isomorphic to **(Bayesian) probability theory**

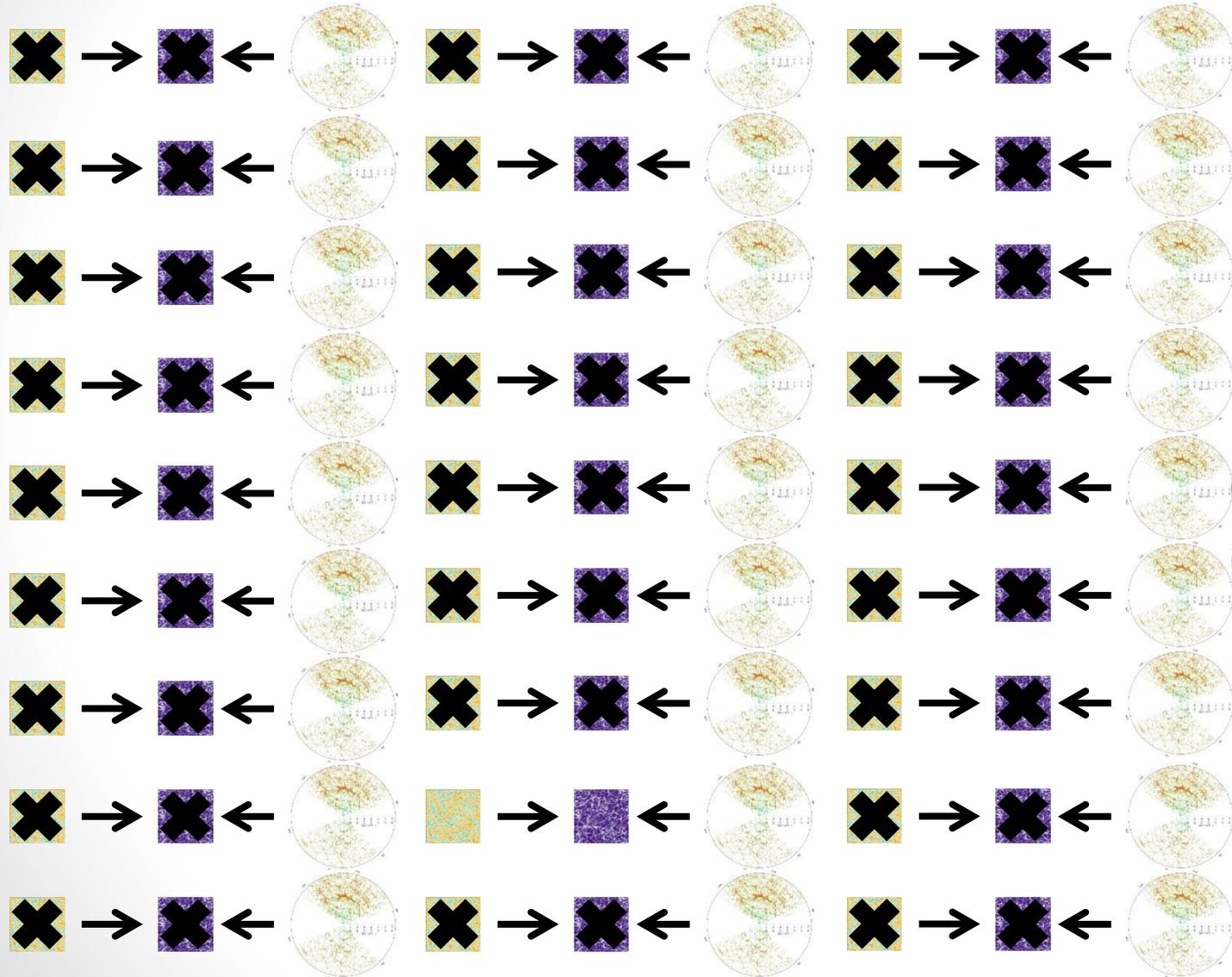
➡ How to do that?

# Bayesian forward modeling: the ideal scenario

Forward model = N-body simulation + Halo occupation +  
Galaxy formation + Feedback + ...



# Bayesian forward modeling: the ideal scenario



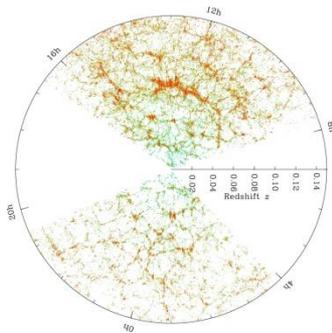
$d \approx 10^7$

# BORG: *Bayesian Origin Reconstruction from Galaxies*



What makes the problem tractable:

- **Sampler:** Hamiltonian Markov Chain Monte Carlo method
- **Data model:** Gaussian prior – Second-order Lagrangian perturbation theory (2LPT) – Poisson likelihood  
(and also: luminosity-dependent galaxy bias, automatic noise level calibration)



Observations

(galaxy catalog + meta-data: selection functions, completeness...)



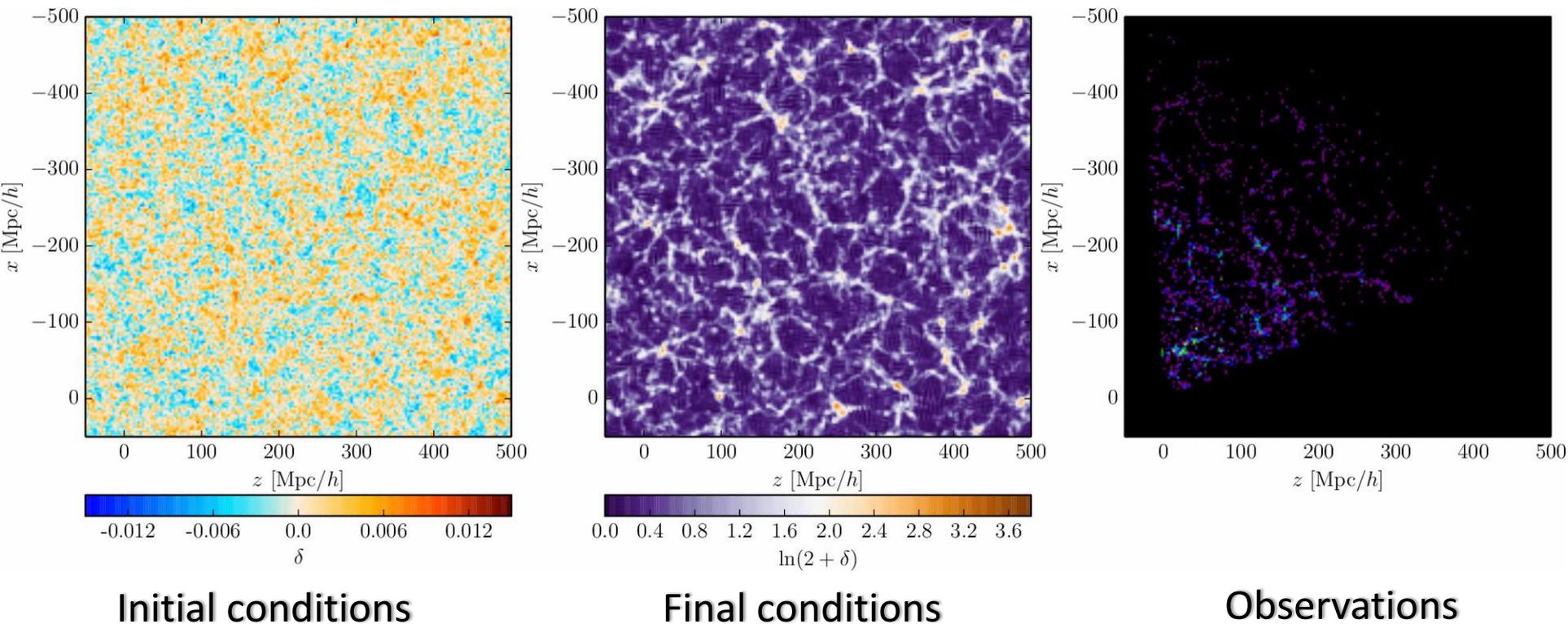
Samples of possible 4D states

Jasche & Wandelt 2013, arXiv:1203.3639

Jasche, FL & Wandelt 2015, arXiv:1409.6308

# CHRONO-COSMOGRAPHY

# BORG at work: SDSS chrono-cosmography

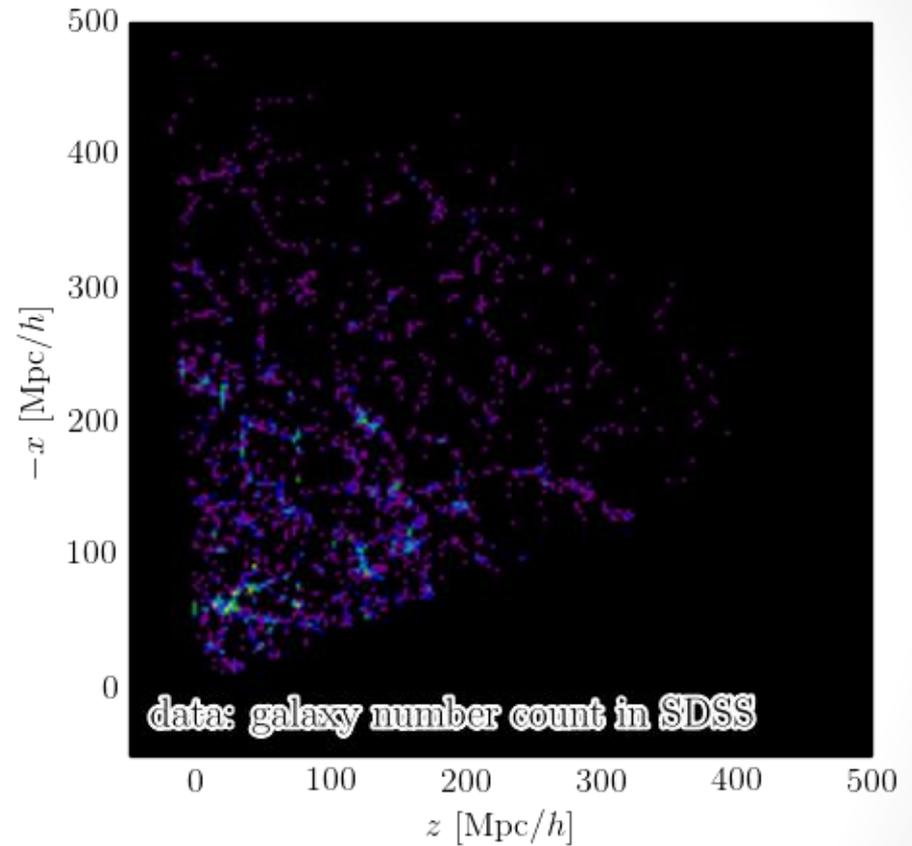
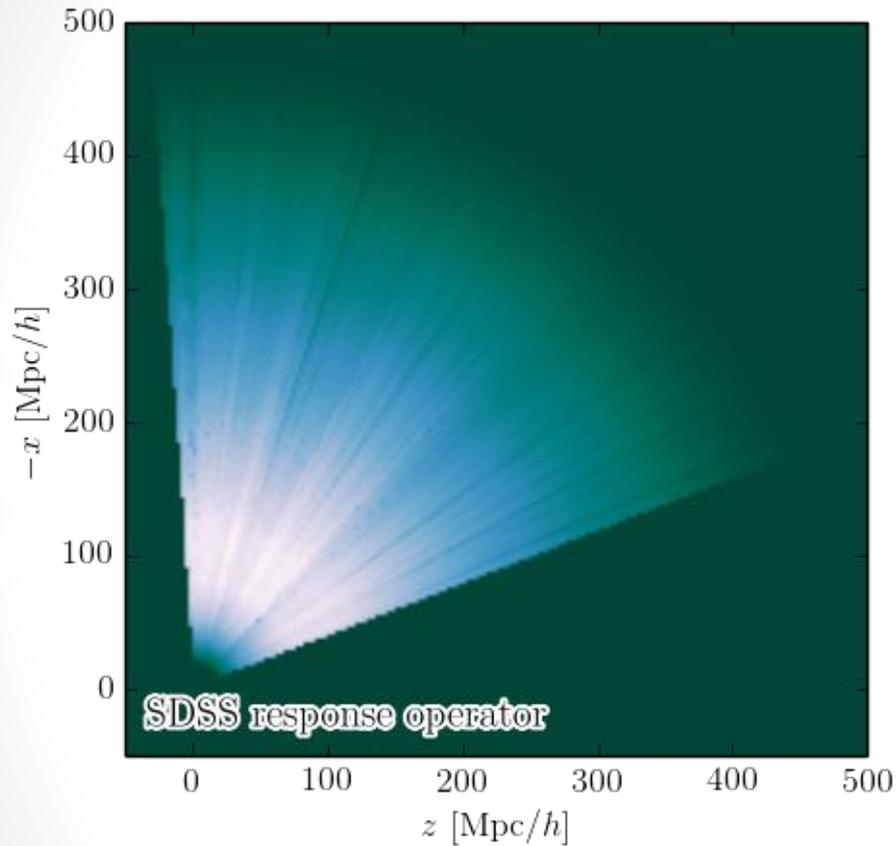


The BORG SDSS run:

334,074 galaxies,  $\approx 17$  millions parameters, 12,000 samples, 3 TB, 10 months on 32 cores

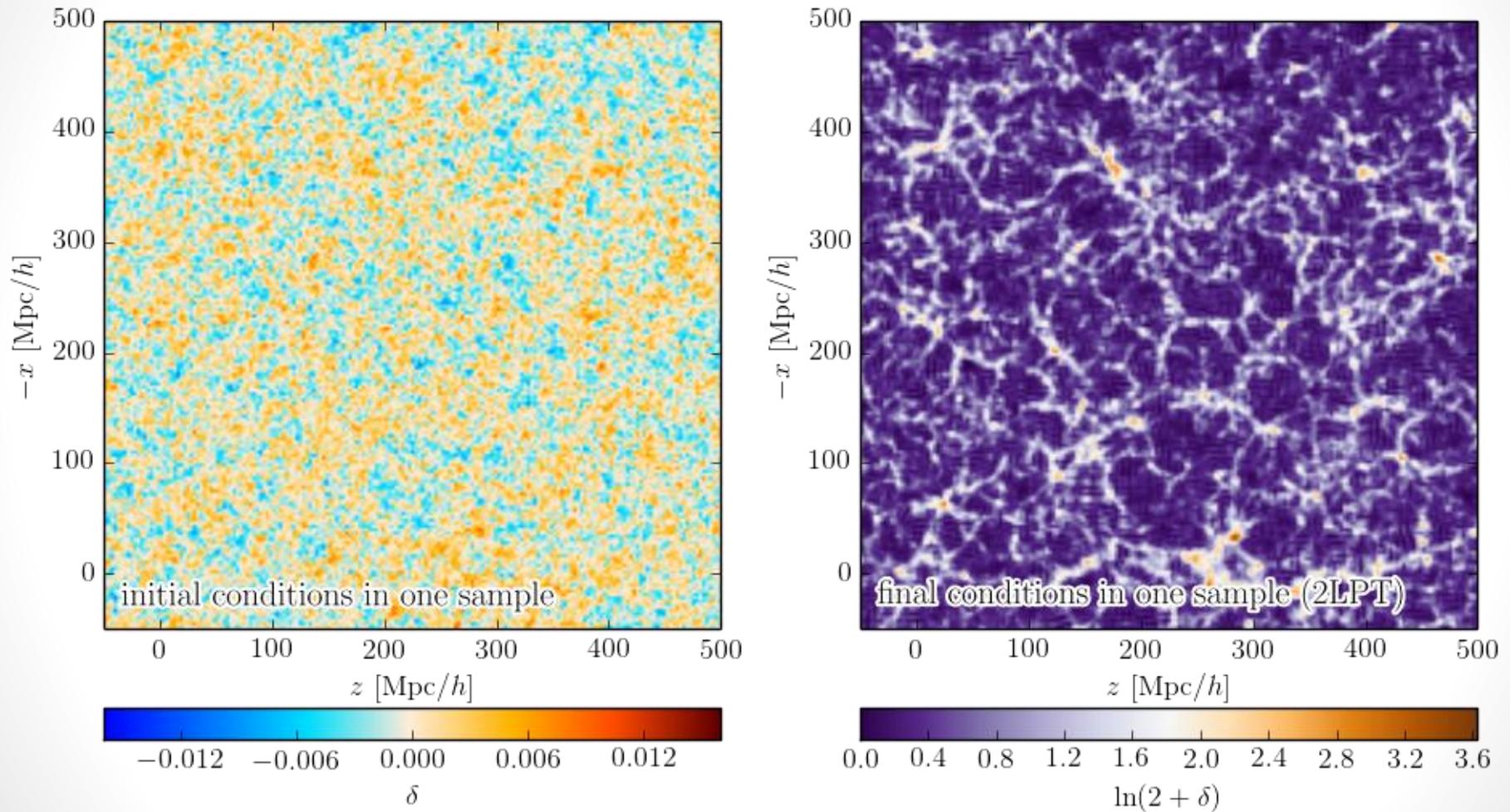
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# Bayesian chrono-cosmography from SDSS DR7



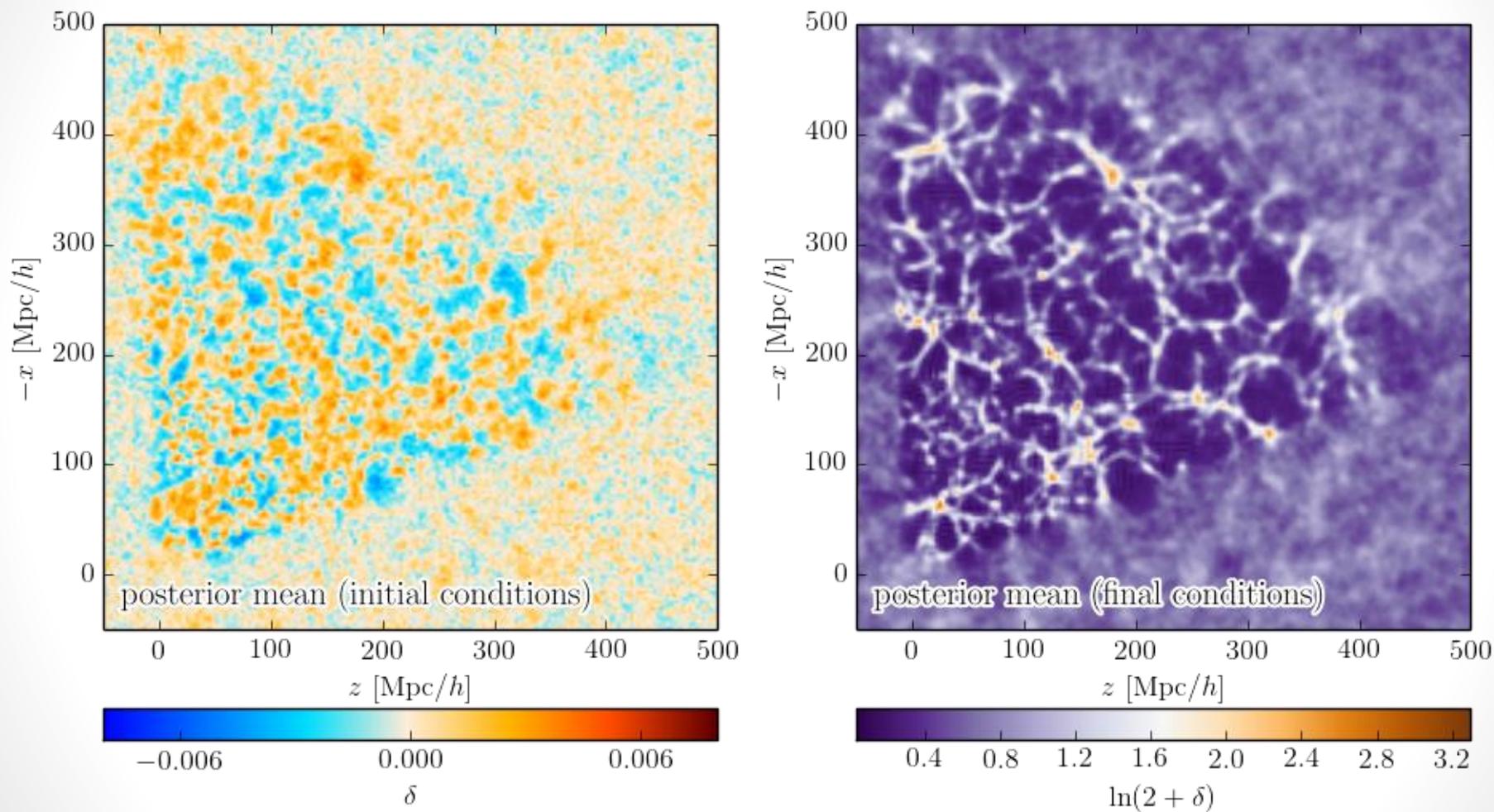
Data

# Bayesian chrono-cosmography from SDSS DR7



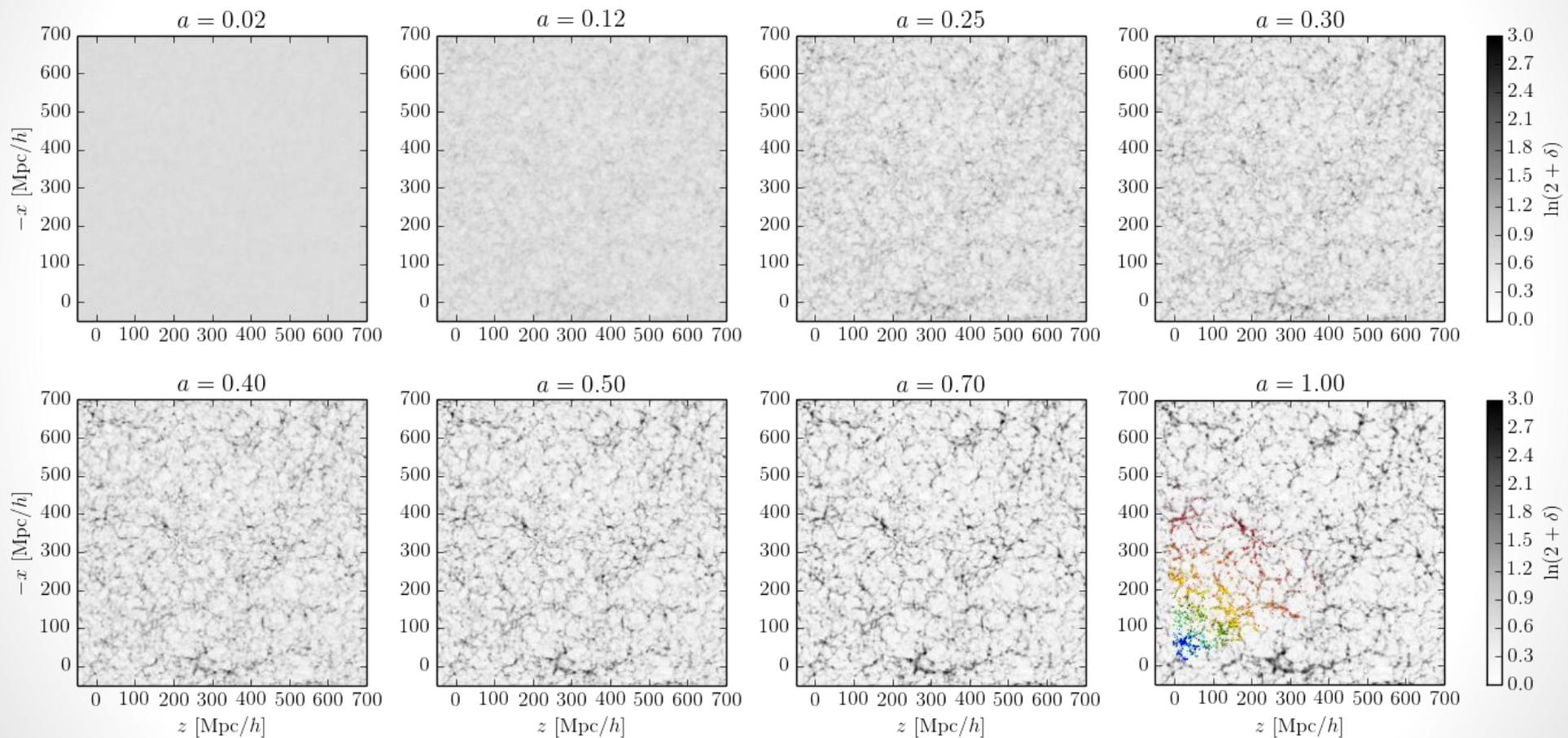
One sample

# Bayesian chrono-cosmography from SDSS DR7

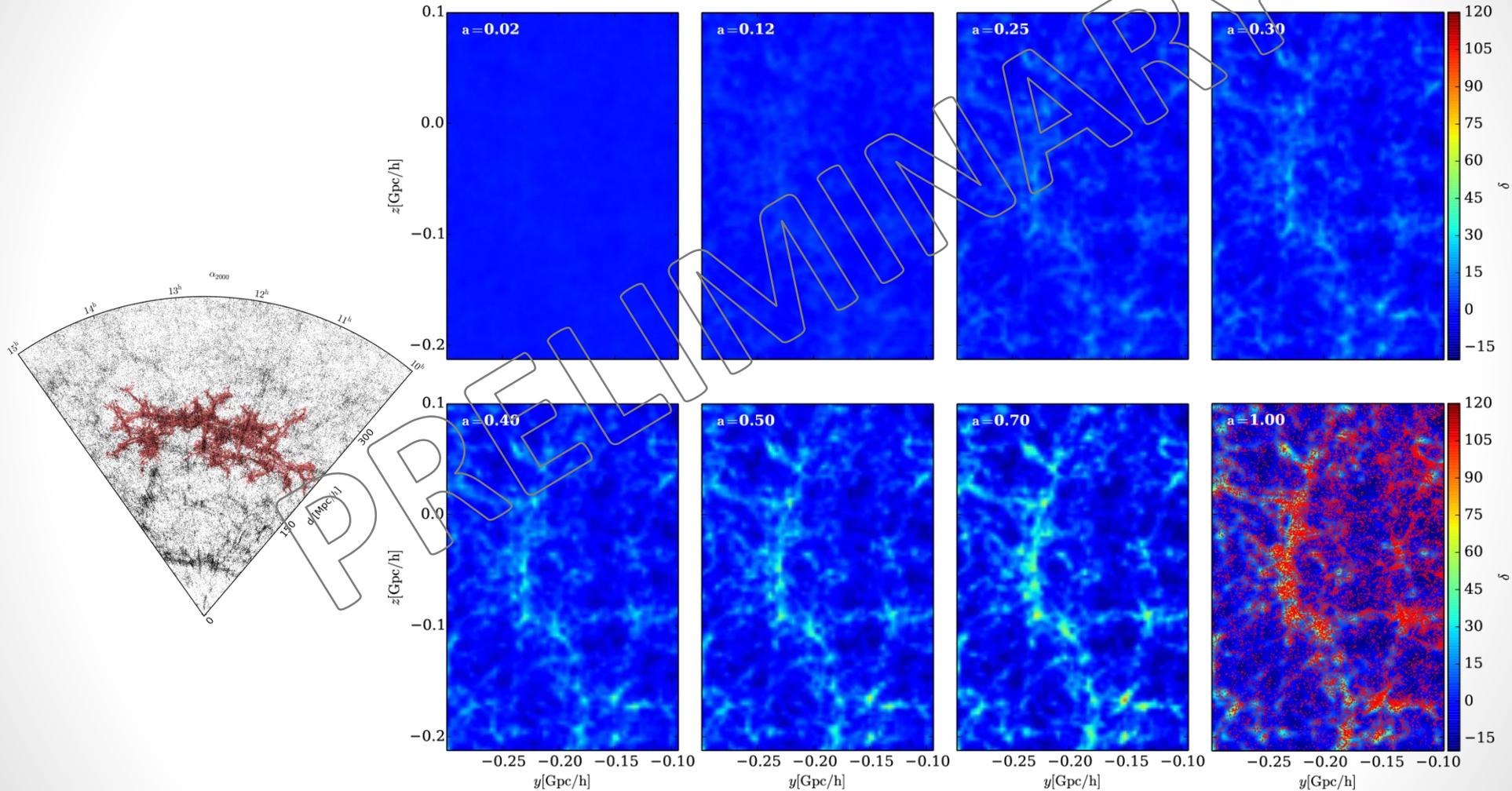


Posterior mean

# Evolution of cosmic structure

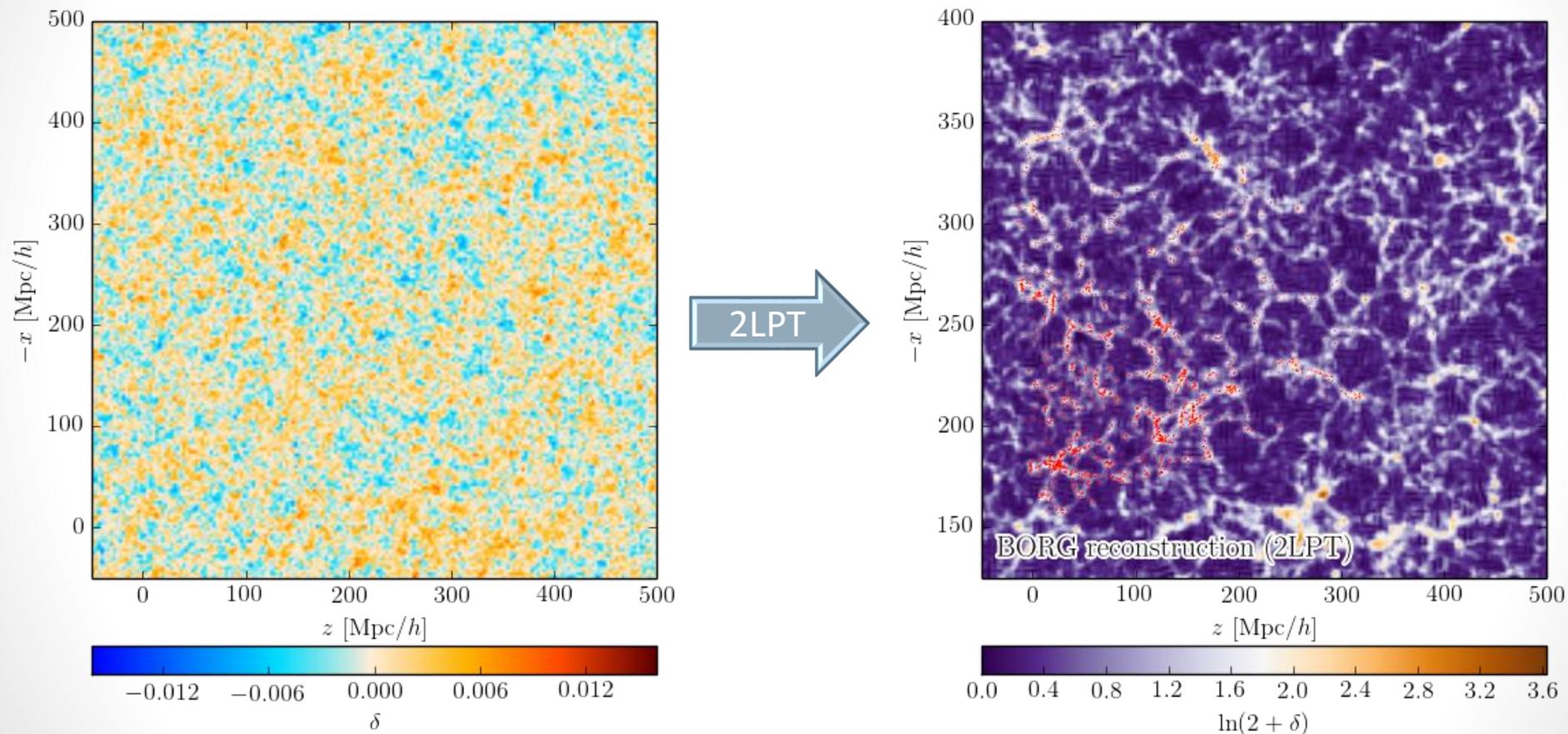


# The formation history of the Sloan Great Wall

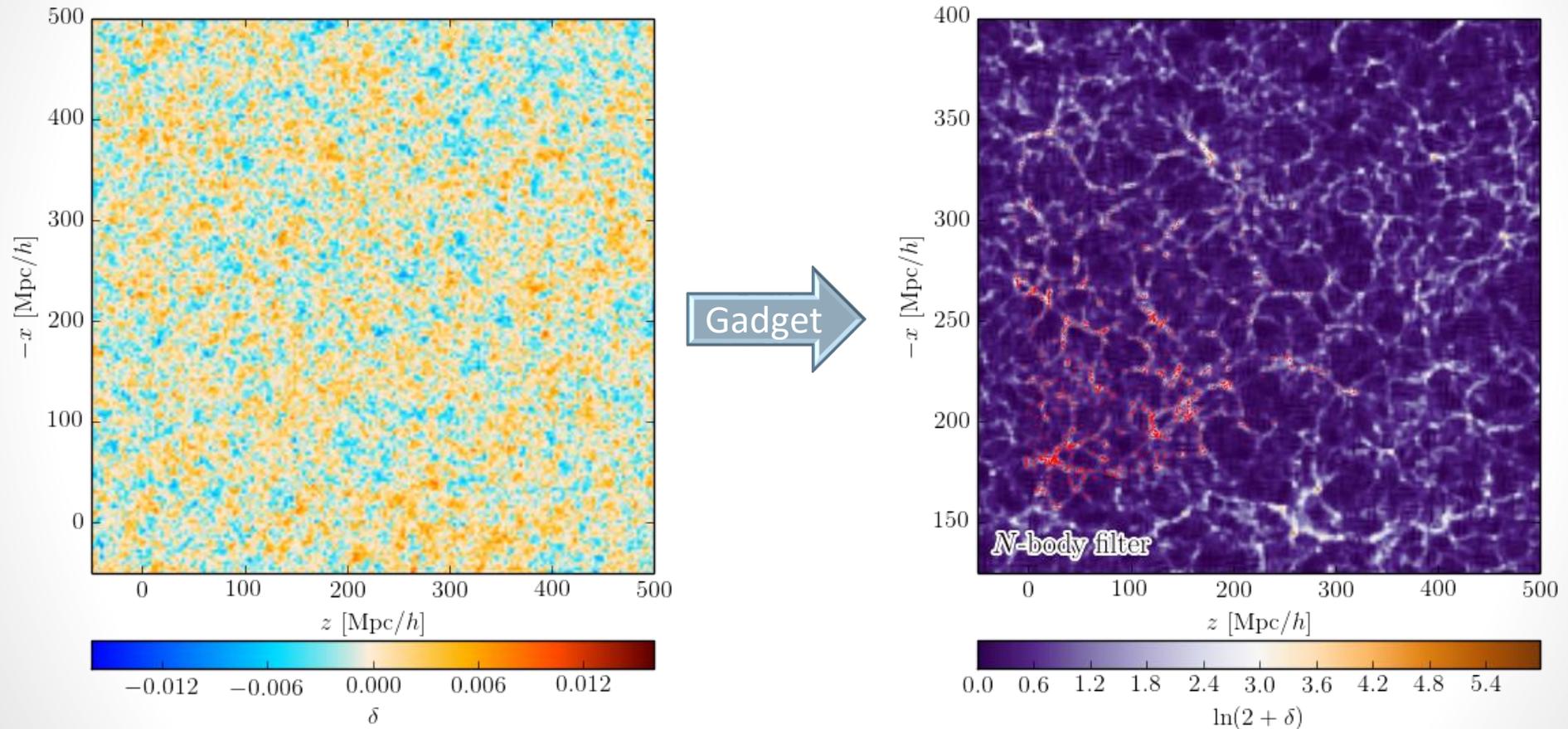


# THE NON-LINEAR REGIME OF STRUCTURE FORMATION

# Non-linear filtering via constrained simulations



# Non-linear filtering via constrained simulations



# COLA: *CO*moving Lagrangian Acceleration

- Write the displacement vector as:  $\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{s}_{\text{LPT}} + \mathbf{s}_{\text{MC}}$

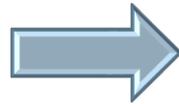
Tassev & Zaldarriaga 2012, arXiv:1203.5785

- Time-stepping (omitted constants and Hubble expansion):

**Standard:**

$$\partial_{\tau}^2 \mathbf{s} = -\nabla \Phi$$

2LPT  
~ 3 timesteps

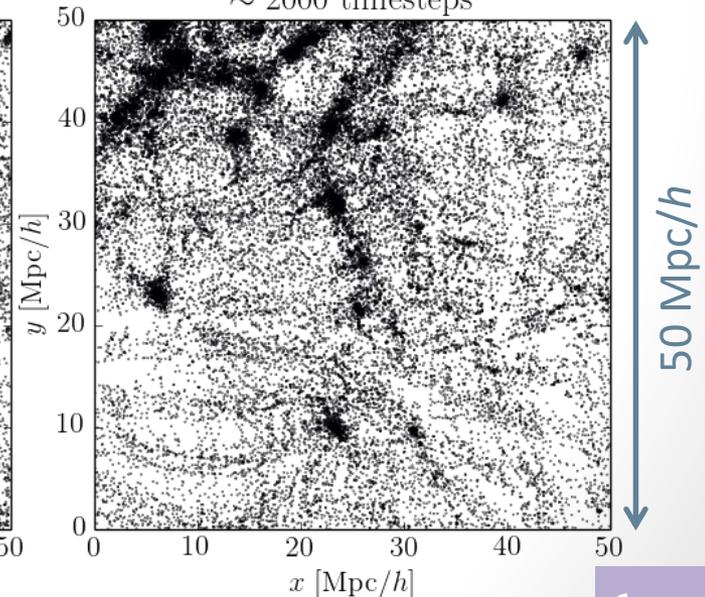
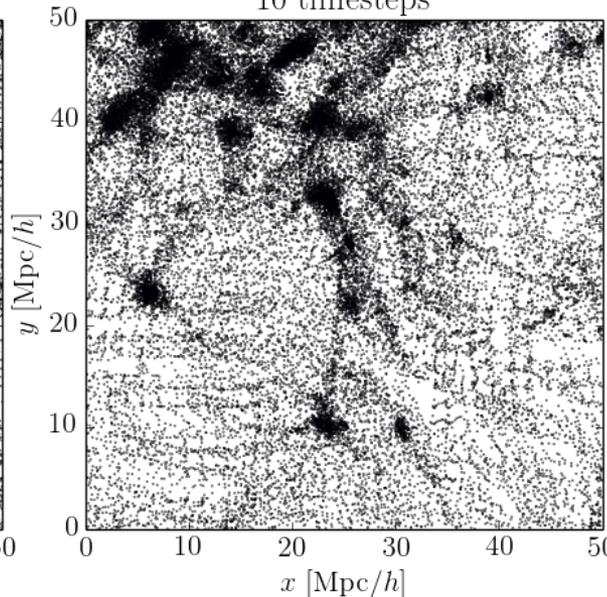
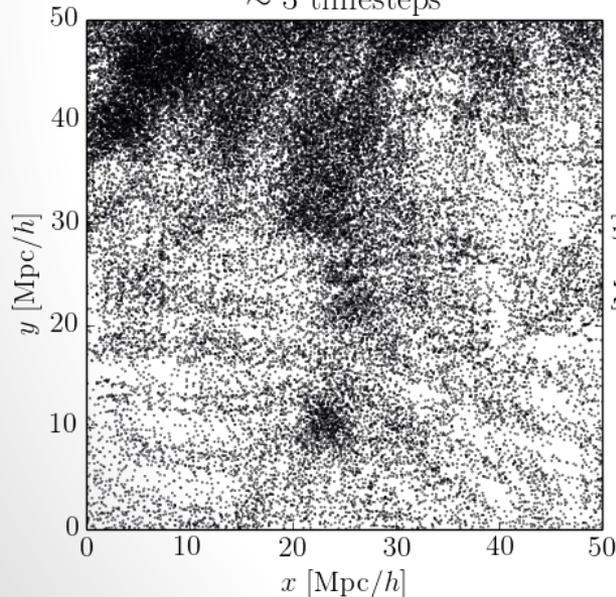


**Modified:**

$$\partial_{\tau}^2 \mathbf{s}_{\text{MC}} = \partial_{\tau}^2 (\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{s}_{\text{LPT}}) = -\nabla \Phi - \partial_{\tau}^2 \mathbf{s}_{\text{LPT}}$$

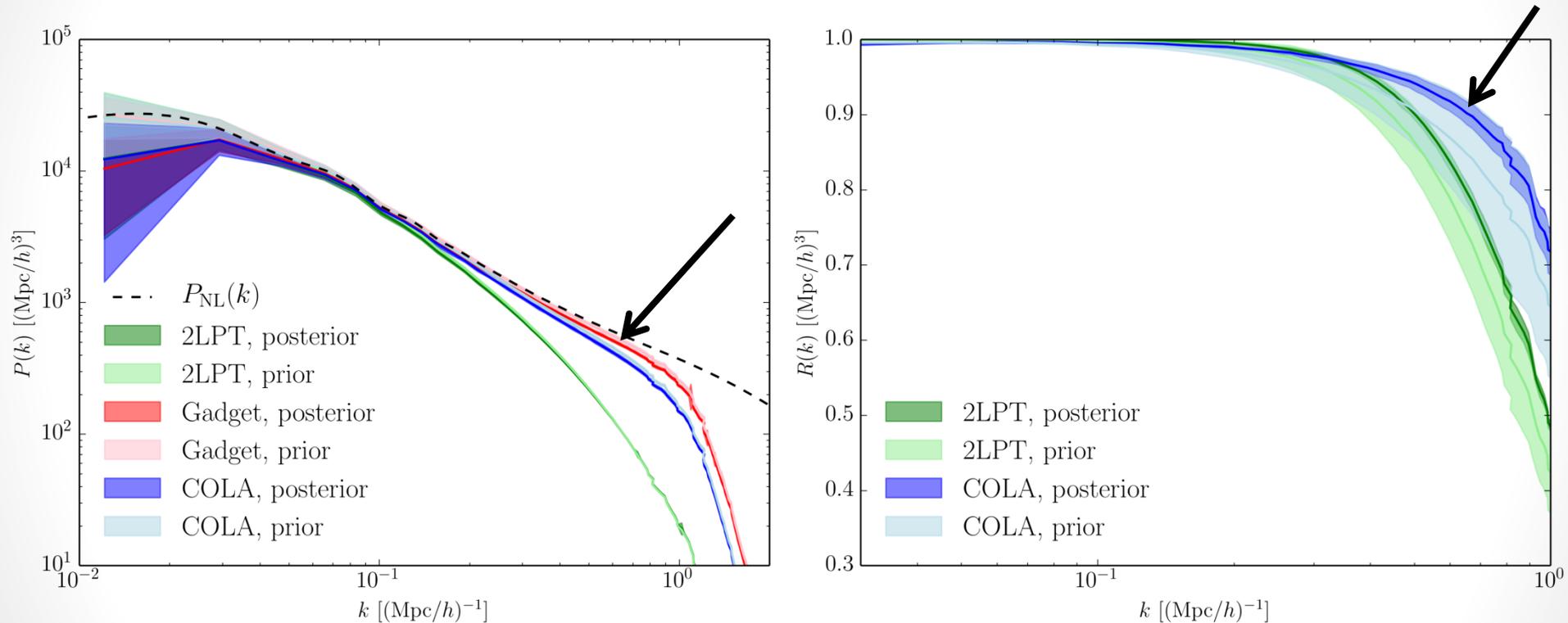
COLA  
10 timesteps

GADGET  
~ 2000 timesteps



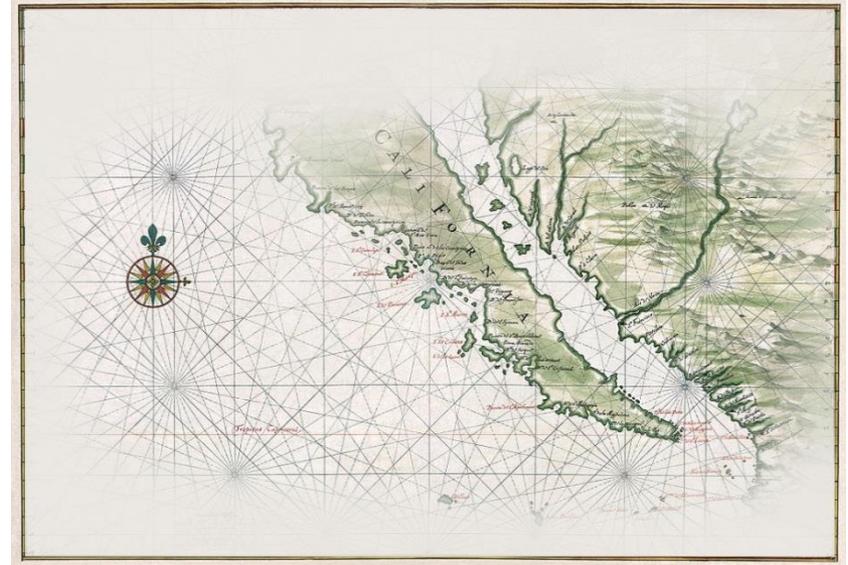
Tassev, Zaldarriaga & Eisenstein 2013, arXiv:1301.0322

# Non-linear filtering improves the fit

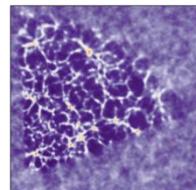
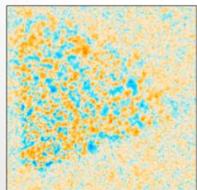
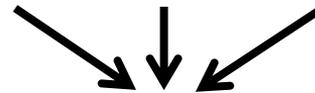
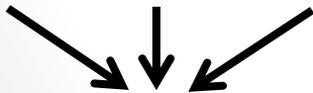
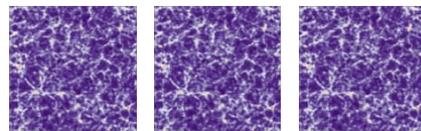
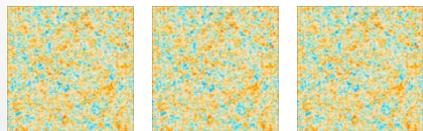


# HOW IS THE COSMIC WEB WOVEN?

# Uncertainty quantification



Uncertainty quantification is crucial!



Can we **propagate** uncertainty quantification to **cosmic web analysis**?

Yes, and this is what yields a connection with **information theory**!

# Cosmic web classification procedures

void, sheet, filament, cluster?

- The **T-web**:

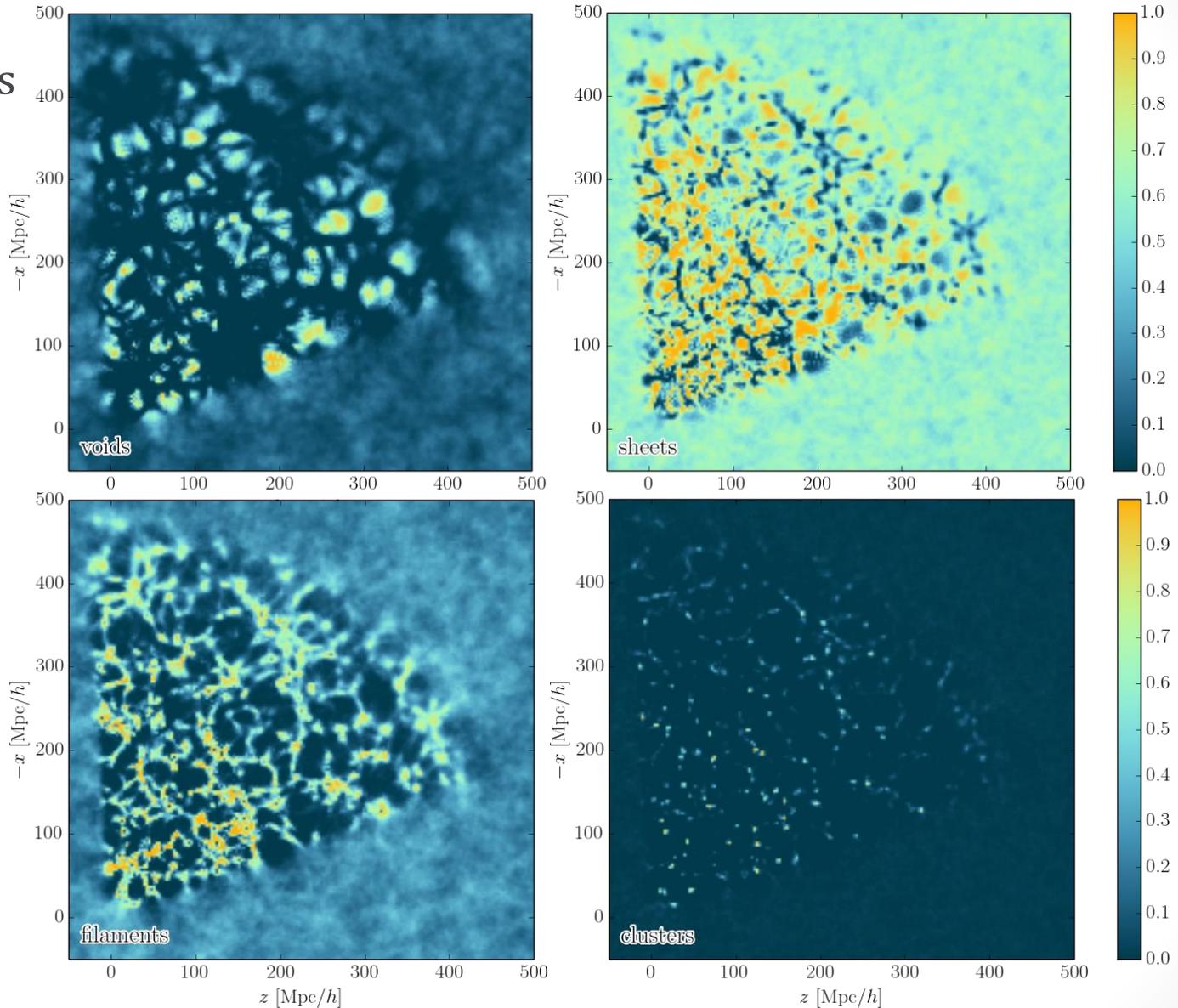
uses the sign of  $\mu_1, \mu_2, \mu_3$ : eigenvalues of the tidal field tensor,

Hessian of the gravitational potential:  $T_{ij}(\mathbf{x}) = \partial_i \partial_j \Phi(\mathbf{x})$

*Hahn et al. 2007, arXiv:astro-ph/0610280*

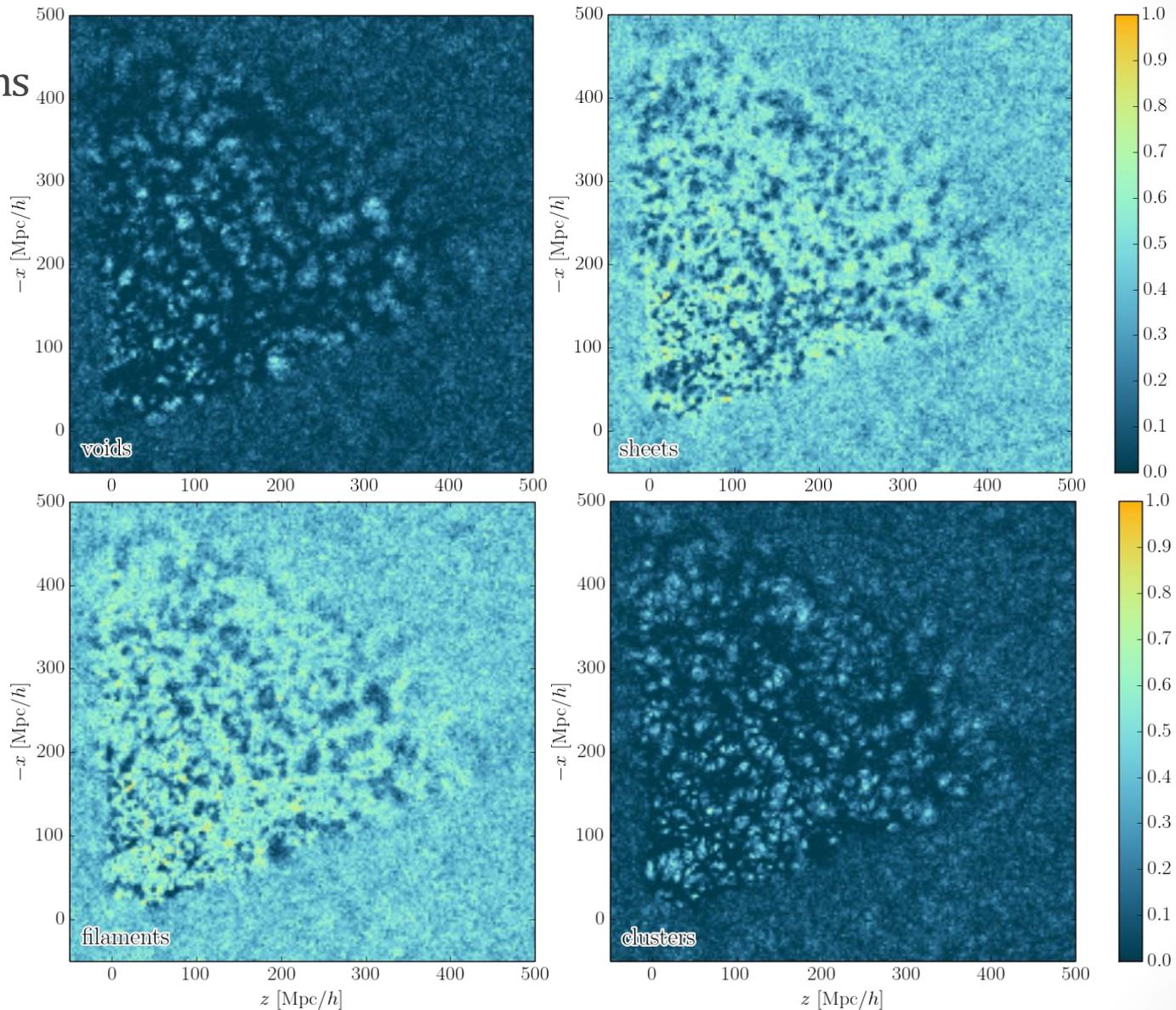
# T-web structures inferred by BORG

Final conditions



# T-web structures inferred by BORG

Initial conditions



# A decision rule for structure classification

- Space of “input features”:

$$\{T_0 = \text{void}, T_1 = \text{sheet}, T_2 = \text{filament}, T_3 = \text{cluster}\}$$

- Space of “actions”:

$$\{a_0 = \text{“decide void”}, a_1 = \text{“decide sheet”}, a_2 = \text{“decide filament”}, a_3 = \text{“decide cluster”}, a_{-1} = \text{“do not decide”}\}$$

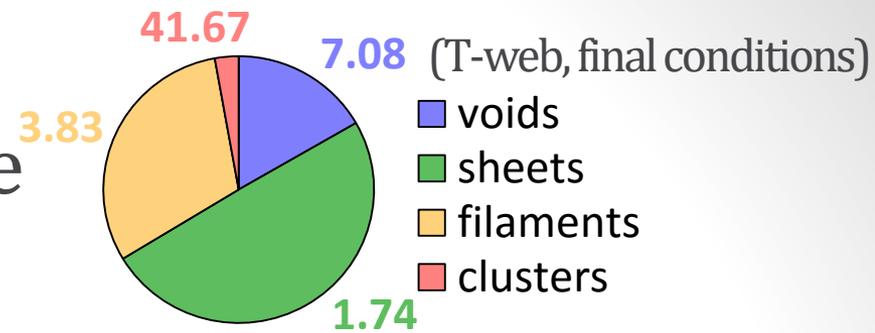
➡ A problem of **Bayesian decision theory**:

one should take the action that maximizes the utility

$$U(a_j(\vec{x}_k)|d) = \sum_{i=0}^3 G(a_j|T_i) \mathcal{P}(T_i(\vec{x}_k)|d)$$

- How to write down the gain functions?

# Gambling with the Universe



- One proposal:
 
$$G(a_j | T_i) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\mathcal{P}(T_i)} - \alpha & \text{if } j \in \llbracket 0, 3 \rrbracket \text{ and } i = j & \text{“Winning”} \\ -\alpha & \text{if } j \in \llbracket 0, 3 \rrbracket \text{ and } i \neq j & \text{“Loosing”} \\ 0 & \text{if } j = -1. & \text{“Not playing”} \end{cases}$$

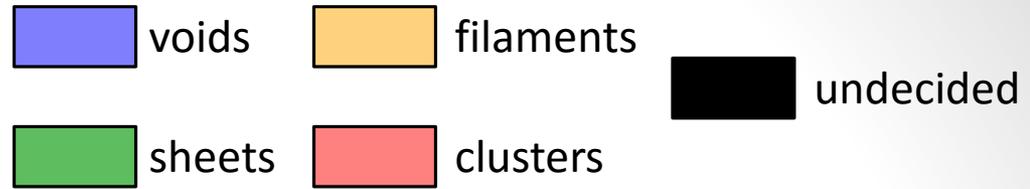
- Without data, the expected utility is

$$U(a_j) = 1 - \alpha \quad \text{if } j \neq -1 \quad \text{“Playing the game”}$$

$$U(a_{-1}) = 0 \quad \text{“Not playing the game”}$$

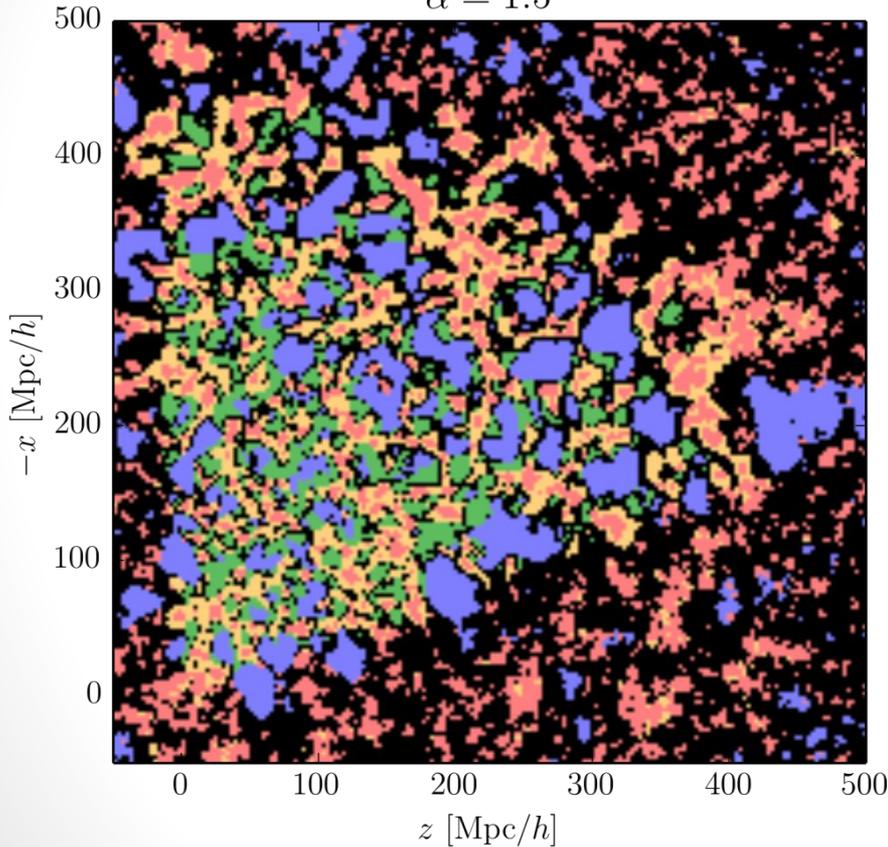
- With  $\alpha = 1$ , it's a *fair game*  $\Rightarrow$  always play  $\Rightarrow$  “speculative map” of the LSS
- Values  $\alpha > 1$  represent an *aversion for risk*  $\Rightarrow$  increasingly “conservative maps” of the LSS

# Playing the game...



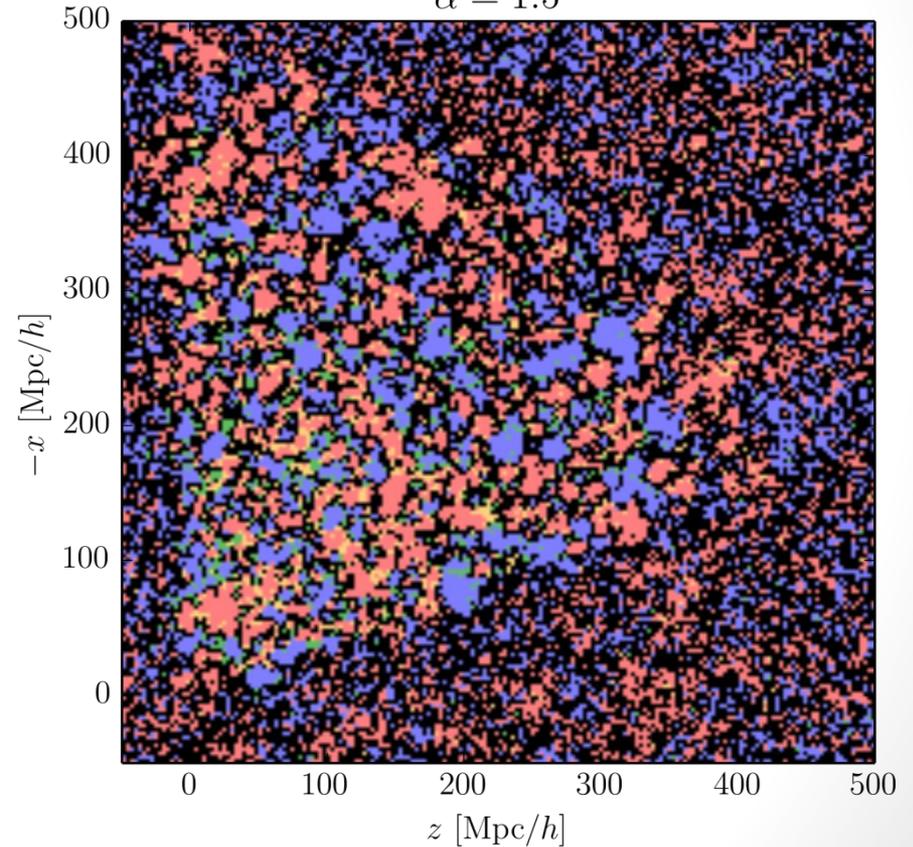
Final conditions

$\alpha = 1.5$



Initial conditions

$\alpha = 1.5$



# Inference of the dark matter phase-space sheet

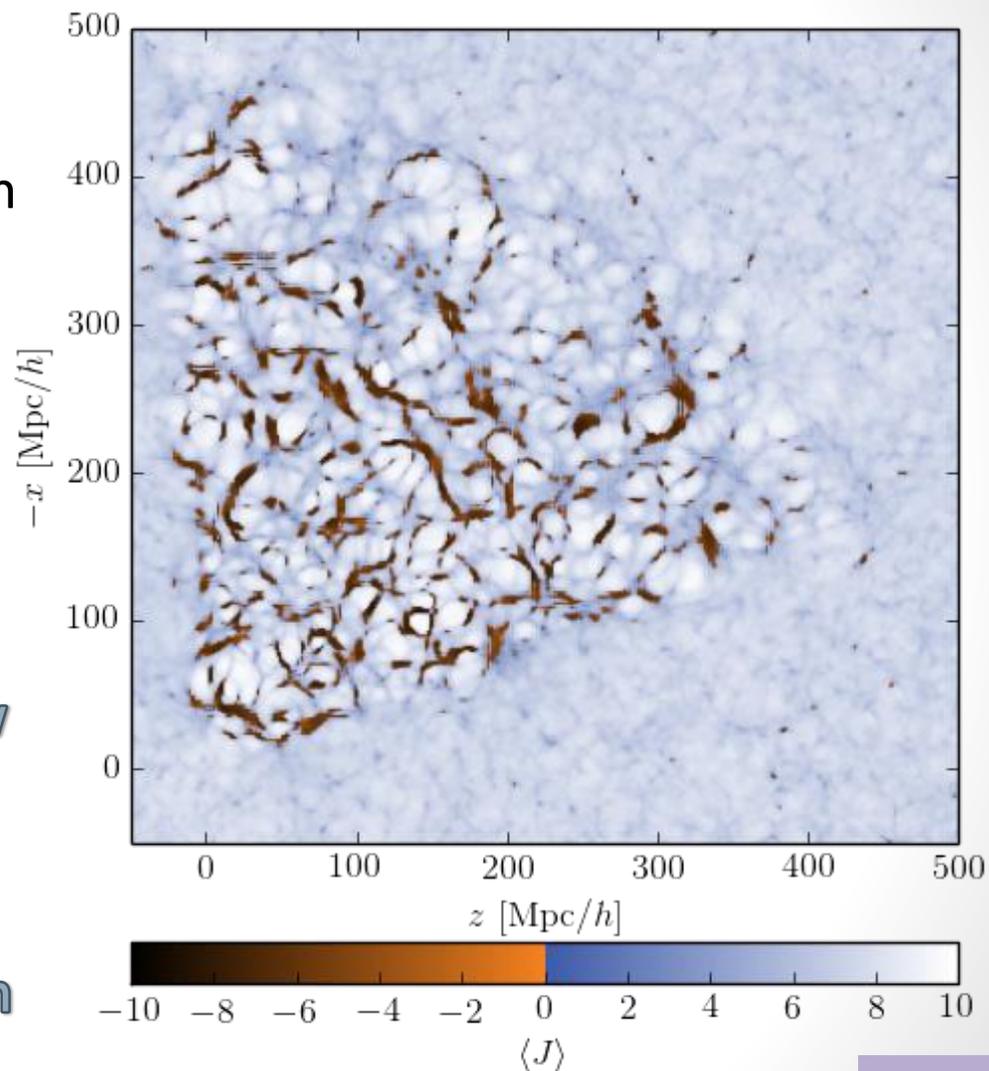
- The dark matter phase-space sheet has been studied so far in simulations

e.g. Neyrinck 2012, arXiv:1202.3364

Abel, Hahn & Kaehler 2012, arXiv:1111.3944

Shandarin, Habib & Heitmann 2012, arXiv:1111.2366

- BORG infers **Lagrangian dynamics** in real data
- This is opening the way to **new confrontations** between data and theory
- Identified structures have a direct **physical interpretation**



FL, Jasche, Lavaux & Wandelt 2016, arXiv:1601.00093

# Cosmic web classification procedures

void, sheet, filament, cluster?

- The **T-web**:

uses the sign of  $\mu_1, \mu_2, \mu_3$ : eigenvalues of the tidal field tensor, Hessian of the gravitational potential:  $T_{ij}(\mathbf{x}) = \partial_i \partial_j \Phi(\mathbf{x})$

Hahn *et al.* 2007, arXiv:astro-ph/0610280

- **DIVA**:

uses the sign of  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$ : eigenvalues of the shear of the Lagrangian displacement field:  $R_{\ell m}(\mathbf{q}) = \partial_m \Psi_\ell(\mathbf{q})$

Lavaux & Wandelt 2010, arXiv:0906.4101

- **ORIGAMI** :

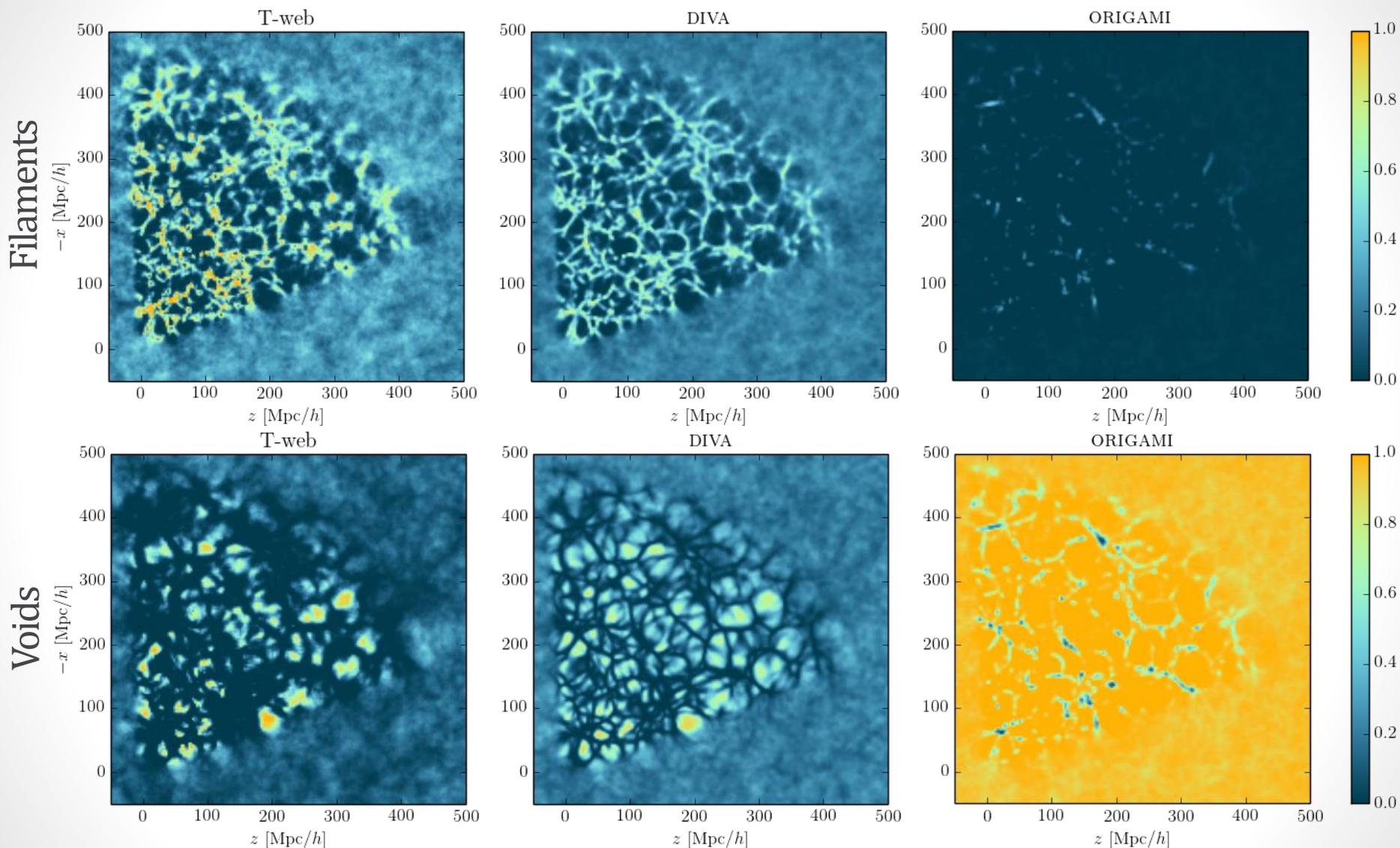
uses the dark matter “phase-space sheet” (number of orthogonal axes along which there is shell-crossing)

Falck, Neyrinck & Szalay 2012, arXiv:1201.2353

Lagrangian  
classifiers

now usable  
in real data!

# Comparing classifiers



FL, Jasche & Wandelt 2015, arXiv:1502.02690

FL, Jasche, Lavaux & Wandelt 2016, arXiv:1601.00093

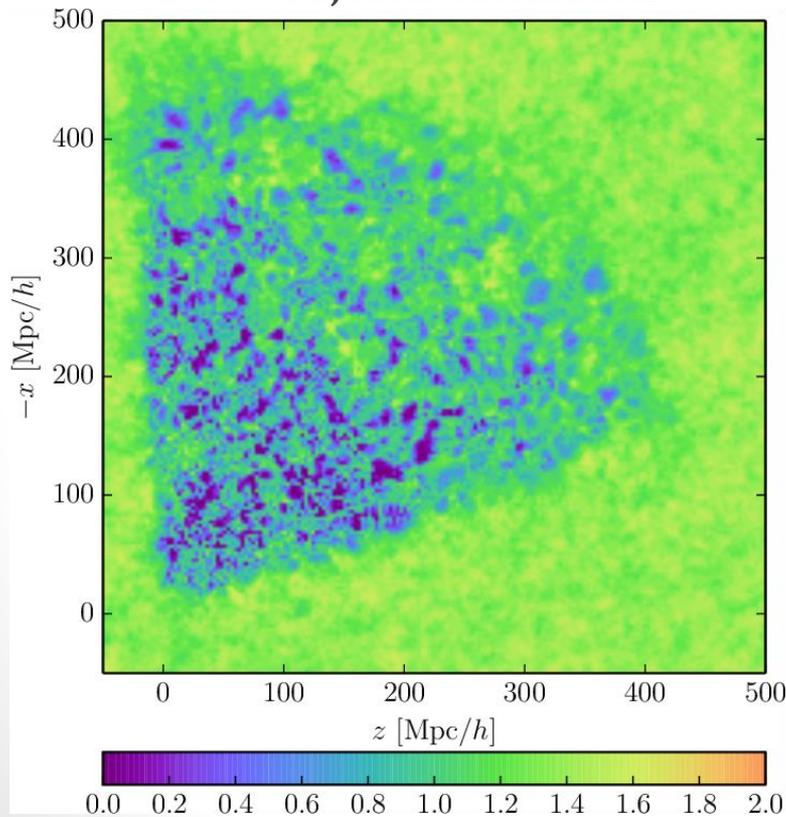
# COSMIC WEB ANALYSIS AND INFORMATION THEORY

# What is the information content of these maps?

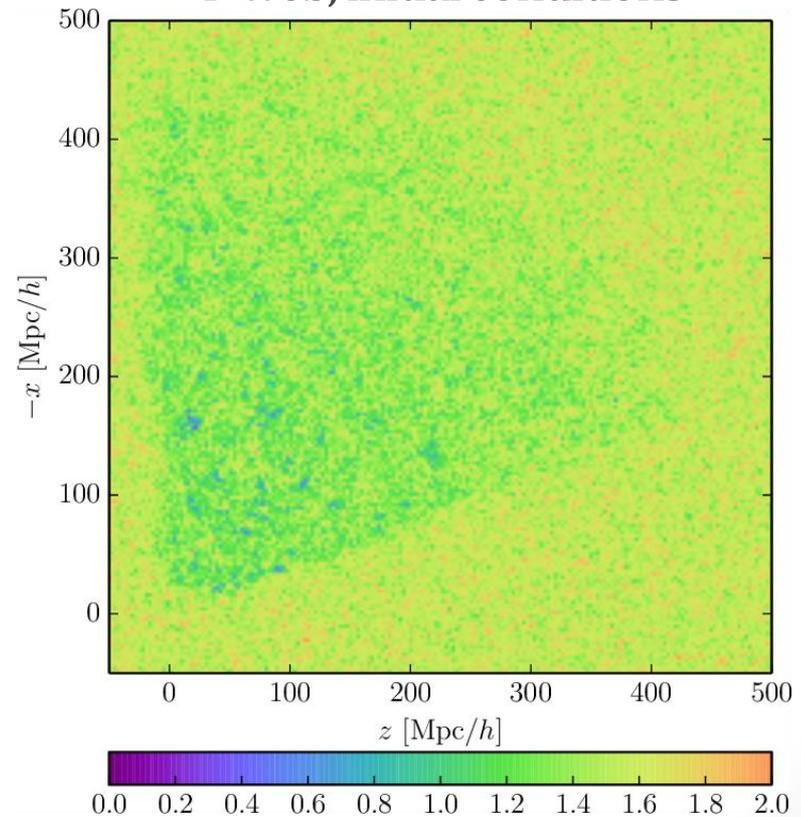
Shannon entropy

$$H [\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{T}(\vec{x}_k)|d)] \equiv - \sum_{i=0}^3 \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{T}_i(\vec{x}_k)|d) \log_2(\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{T}_i(\vec{x}_k)|d)) \quad \text{in shannons (Sh)}$$

T-web, final conditions



T-web, initial conditions

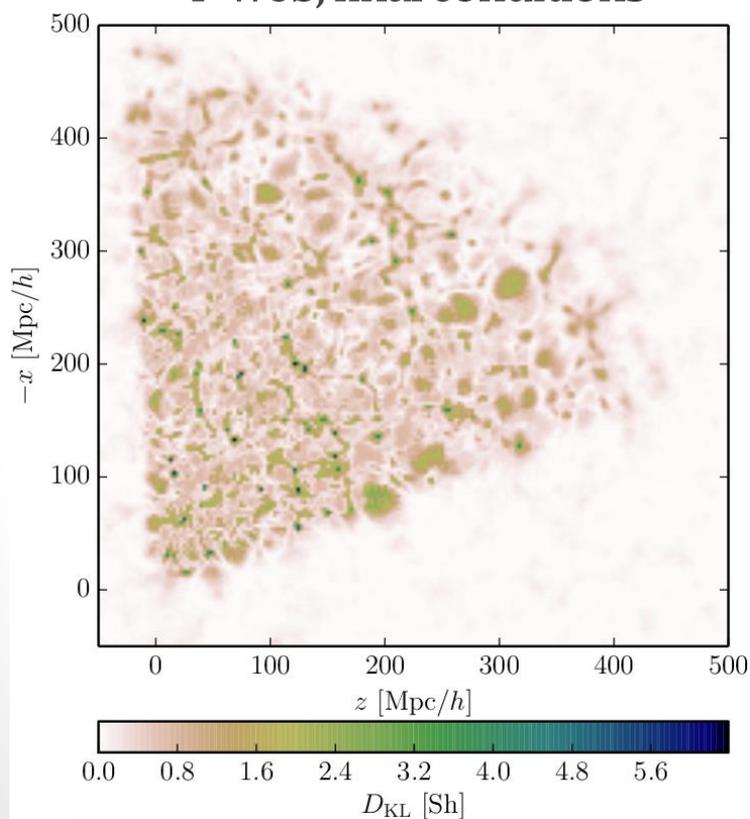


# How much did the data surprise us?

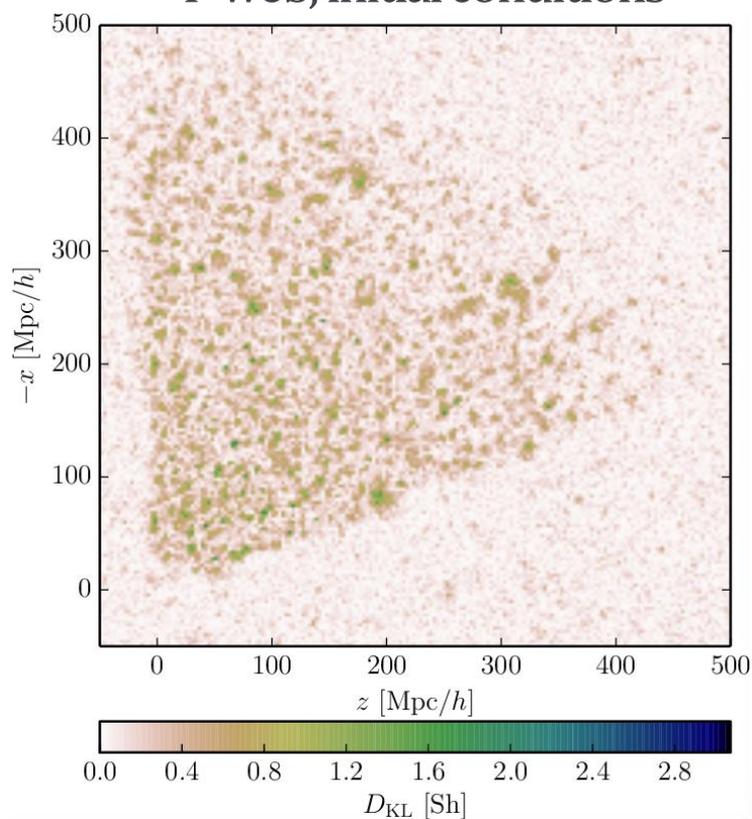
information gain a.k.a. relative entropy or Kullback-Leibler divergence posterior/prior

$$D_{\text{KL}} [\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{T}(\vec{x}_k)|d) || \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{T})] = \sum_i \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{T}_i(\vec{x}_k)|d) \log_2 \left( \frac{\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{T}_i(\vec{x}_k)|d)}{\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{T}_i)} \right) \quad \text{in Sh}$$

T-web, final conditions



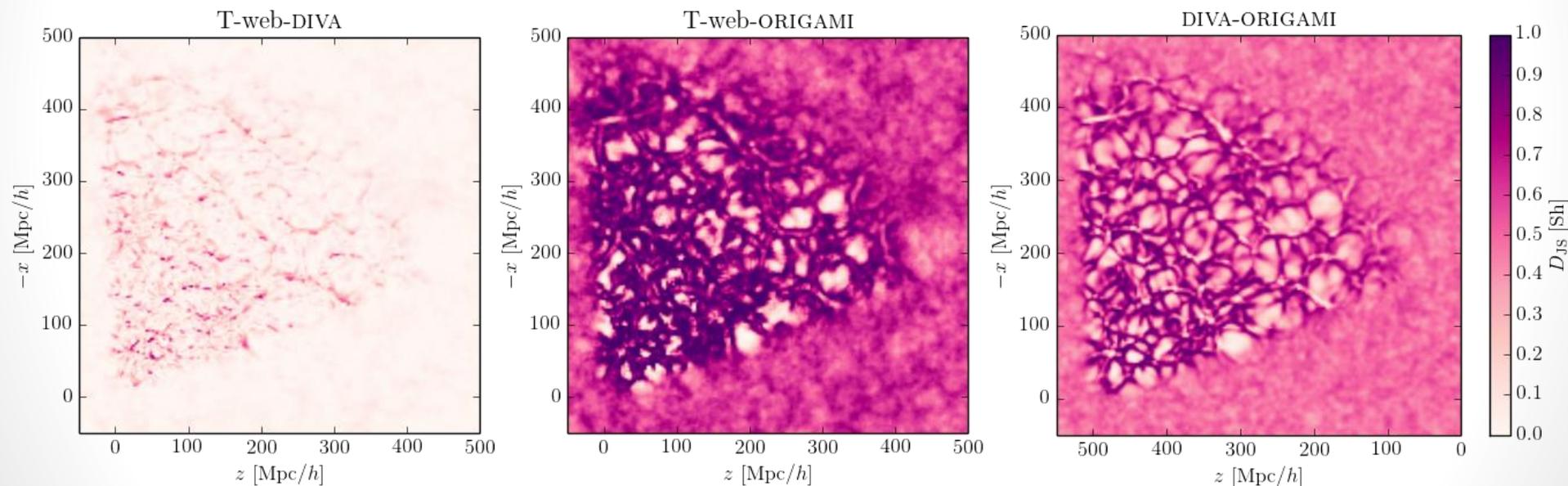
T-web, initial conditions



# How similar are different classifications?

Jensen-Shannon divergence

$$D_{\text{JS}}[\mathcal{P} : \mathcal{Q}] \equiv \frac{1}{2} D_{\text{KL}} \left[ \mathcal{P} \parallel \frac{\mathcal{P} + \mathcal{Q}}{2} \right] + \frac{1}{2} D_{\text{KL}} \left[ \mathcal{Q} \parallel \frac{\mathcal{P} + \mathcal{Q}}{2} \right]$$



(more about the Jensen-Shannon divergence later)

# Which is the best classifier?

- Can we extend the decision problem to the space of classifiers?
- As before, the idea is to maximize a utility function

$$U(\xi) = \langle U(d, T, \xi) \rangle_{\mathcal{P}(d, T | \xi)}$$

- An important notion: the **mutual information** between two random variables

$$\begin{aligned} I[X : Y] &\equiv D_{\text{KL}}[\mathcal{P}(x, y) || \mathcal{P}(x)\mathcal{P}(y)] \\ &= \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}, y \in \mathcal{Y}} \mathcal{P}(x, y) \log_2 \left( \frac{\mathcal{P}(x, y)}{\mathcal{P}(x)\mathcal{P}(y)} \right) \end{aligned}$$

- **Property:**  $I[X : Y] = \langle D_{\text{KL}}[\mathcal{P}(x|y) || \mathcal{P}(x)] \rangle_{\mathcal{P}(Y)}$

Mutual information is the expectation of the Kullback-Leibler divergence of the conditional from the unconditional distribution.

# Bayesian problems

1. Optimal parameter inference

example: information content of cosmic web maps

2. Model selection

example: dark energy models

3. Prediction of future observations

example: galaxy properties

(Some numerical results for classifier utilities in the upcoming paper)

# 1. Utility for parameter inference:

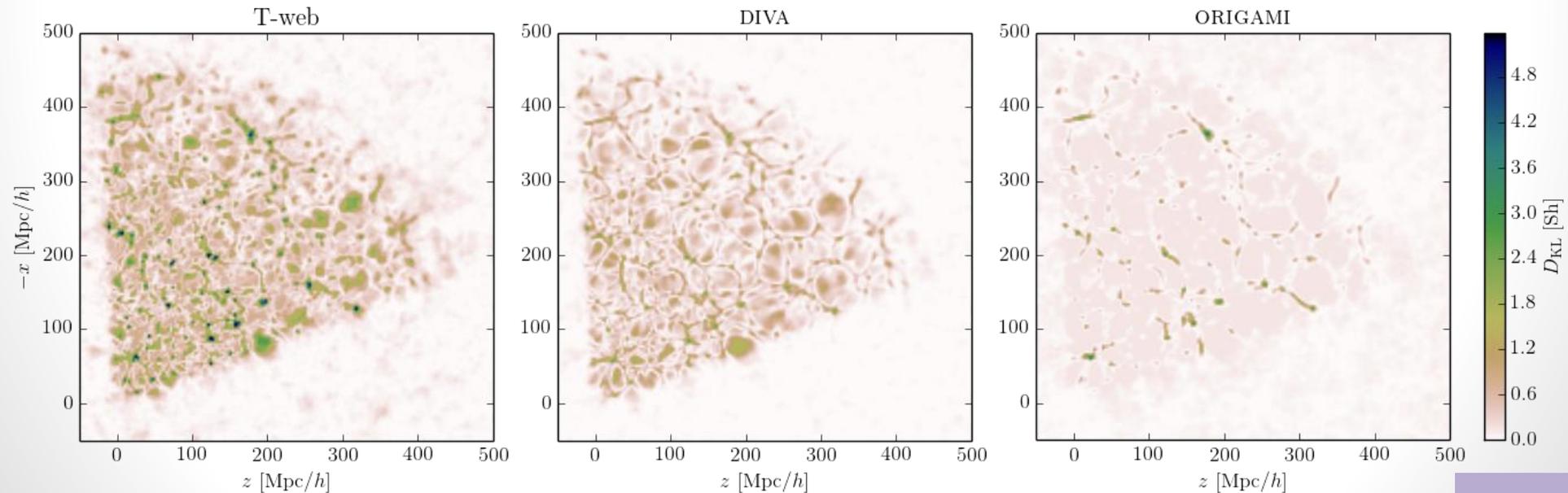
cosmic web analysis

- In analogy with the formalism of **Bayesian experimental design**: maximize the **expected information gain** for cosmic web maps

$$U_1(d, \xi)(\vec{x}_k) = D_{\text{KL}} [\mathcal{P}(T(\vec{x}_k)|d, \xi) || \mathcal{P}(T|\xi)]$$

$$U_1(\xi) = I[T:d|\xi]$$

classification data



## 2. Utility for model selection:

dark energy equation of state

- For example, consider three dark energy models with  
 $w = -0.9, w = -1, w = -1.1$
- The **Jensen-Shannon divergence** between posterior predictive distributions can be used as an approximate **predictor for the change in the Bayes factor**

Vanlier *et al.* 2014, BMC Syst Biol 8, 20 (2014)

- In analogy:  $U_2(d, \xi)(\vec{x}_k) = D_{\text{JS}} [\mathcal{P}(\text{T}(\vec{x}_k)|d, \mathcal{M}_1) : \mathcal{P}(\text{T}(\vec{x}_k)|d, \mathcal{M}_2) | \xi]$

$$U_2(\xi) = I[\mathcal{M} : \mathcal{R}(d) | \xi]$$

model classifier      mixture distribution

$$\mathcal{R}(d) \equiv \frac{\mathcal{P}(\text{T}(\vec{x}_k)|d, \mathcal{M}_1) + \mathcal{P}(\text{T}(\vec{x}_k)|d, \mathcal{M}_2)}{2}$$

### 3. Utility for prediction of new data: galaxy colors

- Maximize the **expected information gain** for some new quantity

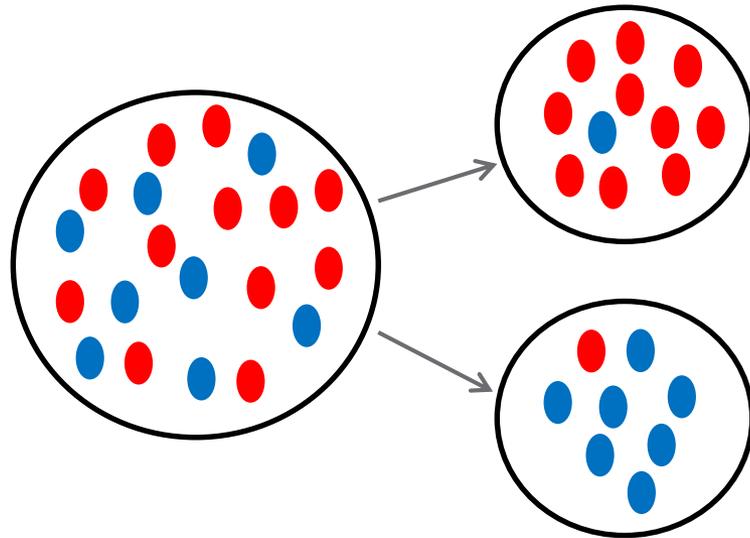
$$U_3(d, T, \xi) = D_{\text{KL}} [\mathcal{P}(c|d, T, \xi) || \mathcal{P}(c|\xi)]$$

$$U_3(\xi) = I[c: T | \xi]$$

predicted data    classification

### 3. Utility for prediction of new data: galaxy colors

- How to compute the information gain?



child1 entropy:

$$H = -\frac{10}{11} \log_2 \left( \frac{10}{11} \right) - \frac{1}{11} \log_2 \left( \frac{1}{11} \right) = 0.4395$$

child2 entropy:

$$H = -\frac{8}{9} \log_2 \left( \frac{8}{9} \right) - \frac{1}{9} \log_2 \left( \frac{1}{9} \right) = 0.5033$$

parent entropy:

$$H = -\frac{8}{20} \log_2 \left( \frac{8}{20} \right) - \frac{12}{20} \log_2 \left( \frac{12}{20} \right) = 0.9709$$

weighted average entropy of children:

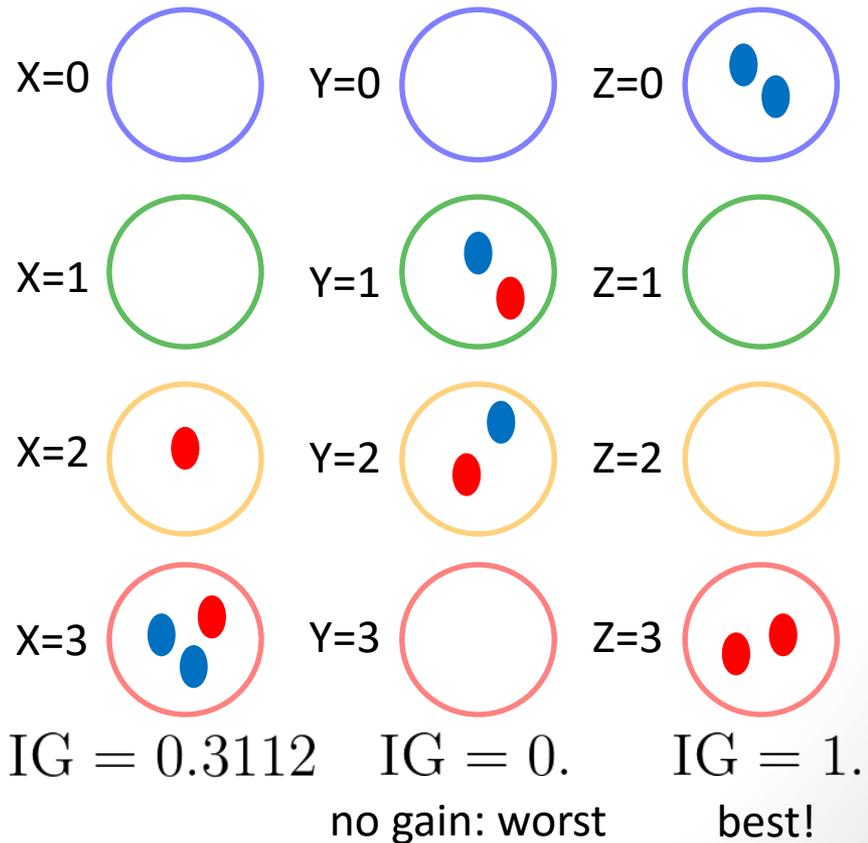
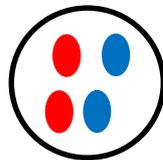
$$\frac{11}{20} \times 0.4395 + \frac{9}{20} \times 0.5033 = 0.4682$$

information gain for this split:  $0.9709 - 0.4682 = 0.5027$  Sh

# 3. Utility for prediction of new data: galaxy colors

- A **supervised machine learning** problem!
  - 3 **features** = classifications (T-web, DIVA, ORIGAMI) with
  - 4 **possible values** (void, sheet, filament, cluster)
  - 2 **classes** (red, blue)

X	Y	Z	C
3	2	3	I
3	1	3	I
2	2	0	II
3	1	0	II



# Summary & concluding thoughts

- A new method for principled analysis of galaxy surveys:  
**Bayesian large-scale structure inference**
  - Uncertainty quantification (noise, survey geometry, selection effects and biases)
  - Non-linear and non-Gaussian inference, with improving techniques
- Application to data: four-dimensional **chrono-cosmography**
  - Simultaneous analysis of the morphology and formation history of the large-scale structure
  - Physical reconstruction of the initial conditions
  - Characterization of the dynamic cosmic web underlying galaxies
- Probabilistic analysis of the cosmic web yields a data-supported **connection between cosmology and information theory**