Statistics of cosmic fields in the large deviation regime



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How is the cosmic web woven?



Vlasov-Poisson equations: dynamics of a self-gravitating collisionless fluid

Liouville theorem:

Poisson equation:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{\mathbf{p}}{ma^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}} - m\nabla\phi \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \end{bmatrix} f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{t}) = \mathbf{0}$$
$$\Delta\phi = 4\pi a^2 G(\rho - \bar{\rho})$$

These highly non-linear equations can be solved using numerical simulations or analytically in some specific regimes. Exact solutions are crucial to understand the details of structure formation.

Before shell-crossing, moments>2 can be neglected (velocity dispersion,...) and we get evolution equations for the cosmic density and velocity fields:

 $\partial \delta$

continuity equation:

Euler equation:

$$\overline{\partial t} + \frac{1}{a} \nabla \cdot \left[(1+\delta) \mathbf{u} \right] = 0$$

$$\frac{u_i}{\partial t} + \frac{\dot{a}}{a} u_i + \frac{u_j \partial_j u_i}{a} = -\frac{\partial_i \phi}{a} - \frac{\partial_j [\rho_{ij}]}{\rho_a}$$

The spherical collapse dynamics

A solution is known for an initial spherically symmetric fluctuation thanks to Gauss theorem.



The evolution of the radius of the shell of mass M is given by

$$\ddot{R}=-\frac{GM}{R^2}$$
 where M is $M=\frac{4}{3}\pi R^3\left(\rho-\frac{\Lambda}{8\pi G}\right)$

Parametric solutions are known in an EdS Universe (numerical integration has to be done in the general case).

$$\frac{R}{R_m} = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \cos \eta)$$
$$\frac{t}{t_m} = \frac{1}{\pi}(\eta - \sin \eta)$$

An initially overdense sphere expands until turnaround and collapses for a linearly interpolated density $\delta_c\approx 1.686$.



Assumption: cosmic fields can be expanded wrt initial fields $\delta(\mathbf{x}, t) = \delta_1(\mathbf{x}, t) + \delta_2(\mathbf{x}, t) + \cdots$ All orders can then be computed hierarchically

$$\delta_n(\mathbf{k}) = \int d^3 \mathbf{q}_1 \dots \int d^3 \mathbf{q}_n \, \delta_D(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{q}_{1\dots n}) F_n(\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_n) \delta_1(\mathbf{q}_1) \dots \delta_1(\mathbf{q}_n)$$
PT kernels



This approach is valid in the weakly non-linear regime where $|\delta| << 1$ i.e at high redshift / large scale.

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No!



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How to go beyond **without introducing a myriad of free parameters**?

How to go beyond the weakly non-linear regime?

Need: configurations in which

- -solutions from first principles can be found
- -solutions are accurate as deep as possible in the non-linear regime

Motivation:

-theorists: we want to understand the physical processes driving structure formation! -galaxy surveys: huge datasets that will need to be modelled very precisely to optimally extract the underlying cosmological information

Idea: use the symmetry!

Proposed configurations: count-in-(spherical)cells

 $\mathcal{P}(\rho_1) = ?$





Cosmic density PDF





Cosmic density PDF



Driving parameter: variance σ (=amplitude of fluctuations)



 σ^2 , $<\delta^3>_c \propto \sigma^4$, $<\delta^4>_c \propto \sigma^6$, ...



The PDF of $x=\delta/\sigma$ can then be written as an Edgeworth expansion (in powers of σ):

$$P(x) = G(x) \left[1 + \sigma \frac{S_3}{3!} H_3(x) + \sigma^2 \left(\frac{S_4}{4!} H_4(x) + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{S_3}{3!} \right)^2 H_6(x) \right) + \cdots \right]$$

which can be derived from the cumulant generating function of $\rho {=} 1 {+} \delta$

$$\exp \varphi(\lambda) = \int P(\rho) \exp(\lambda \rho) \leftrightarrow P(\rho) = \int_{-i\infty}^{i\infty} \frac{\mathrm{d}\lambda}{2i\pi} \exp(\lambda \rho - \varphi(\lambda))$$

Laplace transform

inverse Laplace transform

where
$$\varphi(\lambda) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^i}{i!} \left< \rho^i \right>_c$$
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<u>Problem</u> : When this series is truncated at some orders, the PDF is unphysical : it is not normalised and can take negative values.

<u>Solution</u> : **large-deviation theory** provides us with a model for the PDF which does not suffer from those issues. All cumulants are exact at tree-order.

«An unlikely fluctuation is brought about by the least unlikely among all unlikely paths »

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 R_1

 R_{2}

Large deviations principle One-point density PDF

 R_1

Cosmic PDFs as a cosmological probe?

 ρ_1

R

Bernardeau 94 Valageas 02 Bernardeau&Reimberg 16

Large-deviation Theory: what is the most likely initial configuration a final density originates from?

In principle, one has to sum over all possible paths:



Different initial configurations can lead to the same final state! What is the most likely one? *Conjecture*: Spherical symmetry enforces this most likely path to be the *Spherical Collapse dynamics*.



$$\tau \to \rho = \zeta_{\rm SC}(\tau)$$

 $r_0 \to r = r_0 \rho^{-1/3}$

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Large-deviation Theory: in a nutshell

LDP tells us how to compute the **cumulant generating function** from the initial conditions using the spherical collapse as the « mean dynamics »:

$$\varphi(\{\lambda_k\}) = \sup_{\rho_i} (\lambda_i \rho_i - I(\rho_i))$$
 Varadhan's theorem

The density **PDF** is then obtained via an inverse Laplace transform of the CGF

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- This is exact in the zero variance limit. We then extrapolate to non zero values.
- **Parameter-free** theory which depends on cosmology through : the spherical collapse dynamics, the linear power spectrum and growth of structure.
- Predictions are fully **analytical** if one applies the LDP to the log Uhlemann+16

Varadhan's

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Cosmic PDFs as a cosmological probe?



Bernardeau+14 Uhlemann+16 SC+16b



σ_R**=0.51**

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We have developed a fast and easy-to-use public code...



The companion paper "Constraining the nature of dark energy via density PDF" by S. Codis, F. Bernardeau, C. Pichon, C. Uhlemann and S. Prunet illustrates

the possible use of LSSFast for cosmological data analysis.

Any questions or remarks can be emailed to codis@cita.utoronto.ca



Bernardeau+15 Uhlemann+16

Two-cell PDF







Higher density environments have more negative slopes (peaks!).

Statistics of cosmic fields in the large deviation regime



GN

Large deviations principle
 One-point density PDF
 Cosmic PDFs as a cosmological probe?

Where is the cosmology dependence?

To get one-cell PDF, one has to:

1) know the rate function of the initial conditions e.g (Gaussian):

$$I(\tau(R_0)) = \sigma^2(R_p) \times 1/2\tau(R_0)^2 / \sigma^2(R_0)$$

where the initial variance is a function of the linear power spectrum

$$\sigma^{2}(R) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{3}} \int d^{3}\mathbf{k} P_{\rm lin}(k) W_{\rm TH}^{2}(kR)$$

2) deduce the rate function of the final densities from the Contraction Principle



ML estimator for the variance

The full knowledge of the PDF can be used to estimate the redshift evolution of the density variance σ and therefore the DE e.o.s through D(z).

Maximum Likelihood estimator :
$$\hat{\sigma}_{ML}^2 = \operatorname{argmax}_{\tilde{\sigma}^2} \prod_{i=1}^N \mathcal{P}(\rho_i | \tilde{\sigma}^2)$$

Sample variance : $\hat{\sigma}_A^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (\rho_i - 1)^2$
When the PDF becomes non-Gaussian (high σ), the sample variance is sub-optimal compared to the ML estimator

SC+16b

PDF as a cosmological probe



15,000 square degrees R = 10 h⁻¹ Mpc 0.1<z<1

SC+16b

PDF as a cosmological probe



15,000 square degrees R = 10 h⁻¹ Mpc 0.1<z<1

Error budget?

Maximum likelihood requires proper handling of **correlations** between spheres at **finite** separations.

The large-deviation principle provides a framework to compute the expected two-point correlations in the (not so) large separation limit

dark matter correlation density bias
$$P(\rho(x), \rho'(x+r_e)) = P(\rho)P(\rho')[1+\xi(r_e)b(\rho)b(\rho')]$$

where the large-deviations bias is

$$b(\rho) = \frac{\zeta_{\rm SC}^{-1}(\rho)}{\sigma^2(R\rho^{1/3})}$$
 spherical collapse encodes Plin(k)



Error budget?

donsity hiss

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SC+16b

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Halo bias can be accounted for and marginalised over for cosmological experiments... We use a quadratic log bias model: $\log \rho_m = b_0 + \beta_1 \sigma \log \rho_h + \beta_2 \sigma \log^2 \rho_h$



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+ 2pt PDF

PDF as a cosmological probe



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Uhlemann+I7e



densities in redshift bins

Densities in long cylinders: same formalism applies with cylindrical collapse

$$\zeta_{CC}(\tau_{2D}) = \left(1 - \frac{\tau_{2D}}{\nu}\right)^{-\nu}$$
$$\nu \approx 1.3$$



Conclusion

- Multi-scale density PDF can be predicted in the mildly non-linear regime with surprising accuracy (<1% for σ =O(1)) even in the rare event tails
- Predictions are fully analytical, parameter-free and explicitly cosmology-dependent
- Cosmic variance can be predicted from first principle

horizon-AGN

 We have an accurate model for biased density tracers, velocities, projected densities and (in progress) cosmic shear maps, including primordial non-Gaussianities



Large deviation principle:

an unlikely fluctuation is brought about by the least unlikely of all unlikely paths.

comparison with log normal



log-normal accuracy

large-deviation theory accuracy

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comparison with log normal : biased tracers



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