

Critical events and mergers

Eric Pichon-Pharabod

Joint work with Corentin Cadiou, Dmitri Pogosyan, Christophe Pichon

Université Paris-Saclay

Outline

- I. Large scale structures
- II. Critical event theory
- III. Attraction cones
- IV. Merger characteristics
- V. Conclusions and perspectives

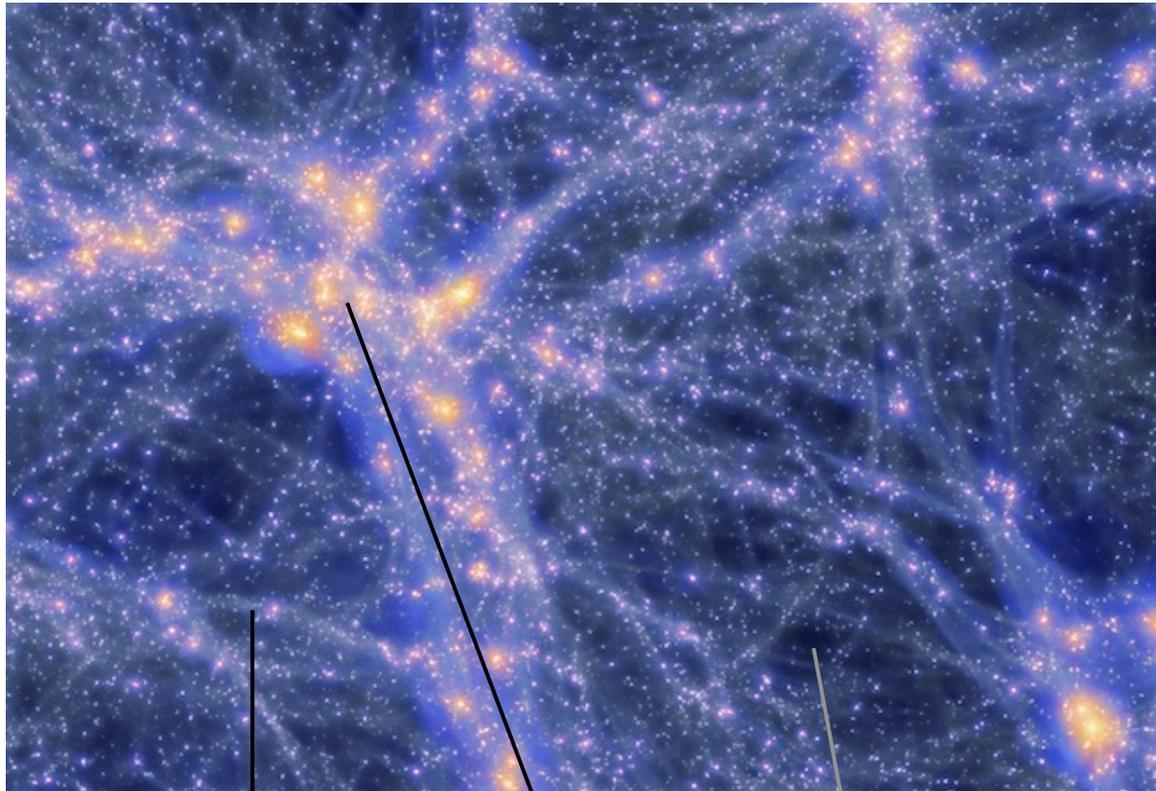
Outline

- I. Large scale structures
- II. Critical event theory
- III. Attraction cones
- IV. Merger characteristics
- V. Conclusions and perspectives

Web like structure

MareNostrum

~10 Mpc

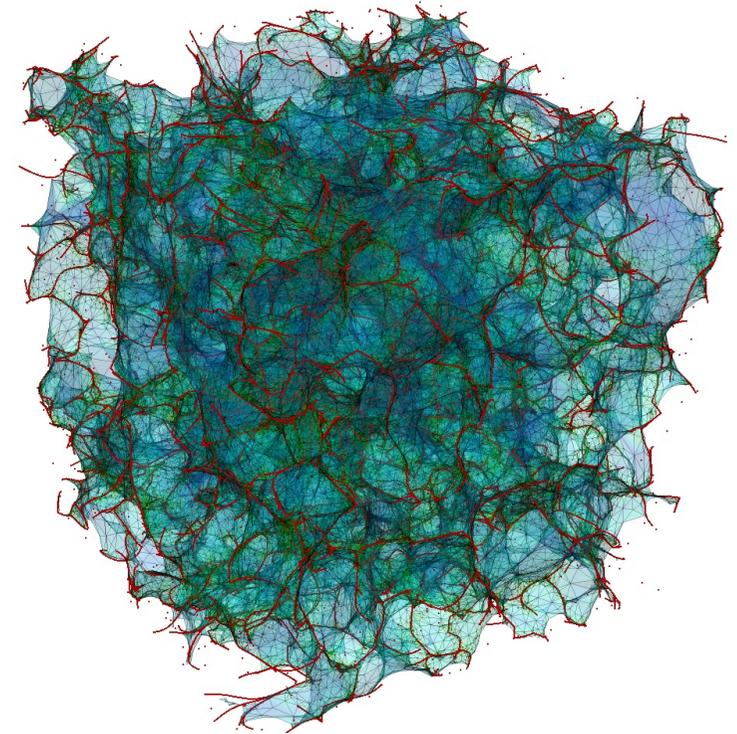


Filament/Wall

Peak

Void

~100 Mpc



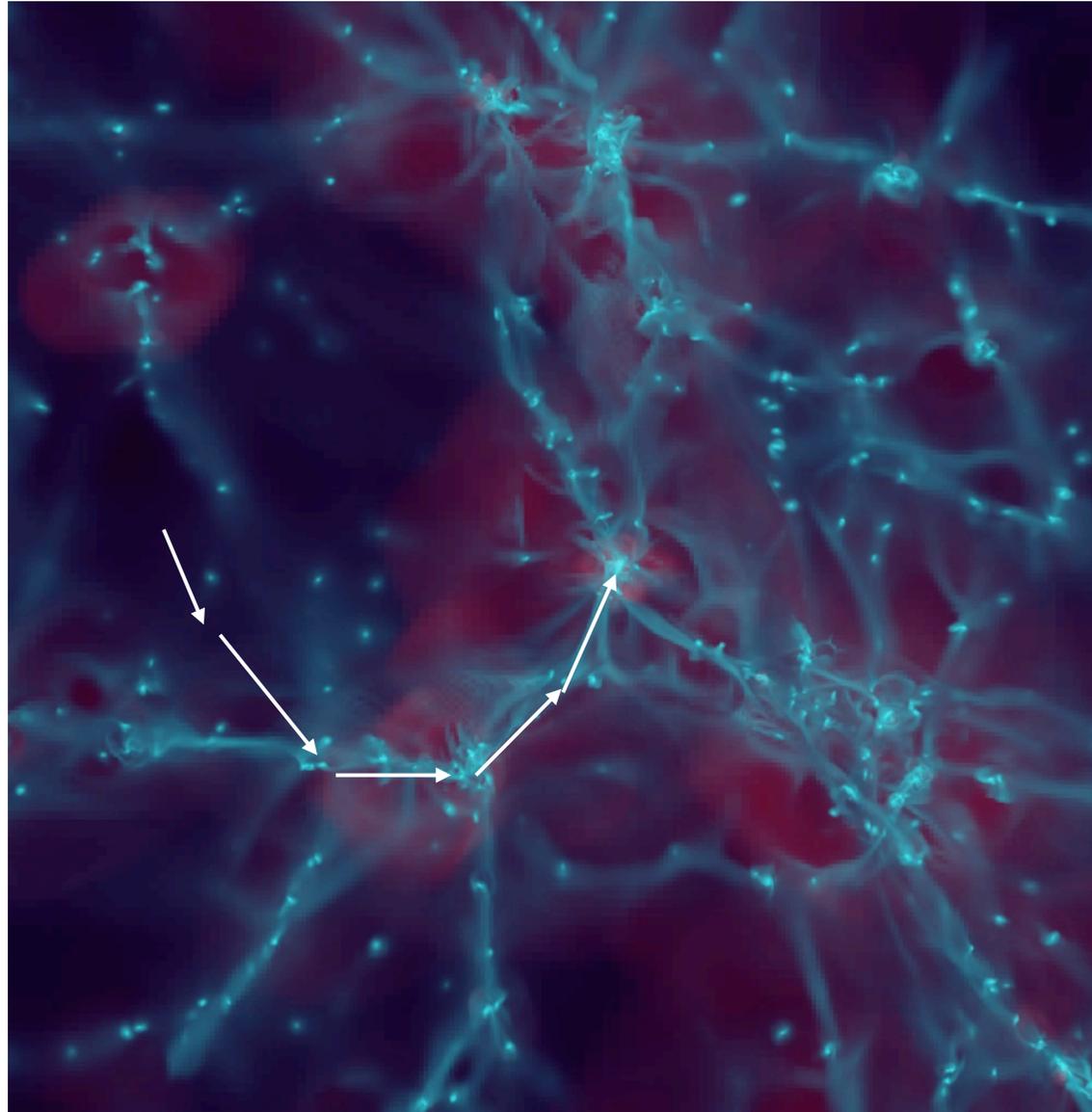
The Horizon Simulation



~10 Mpc

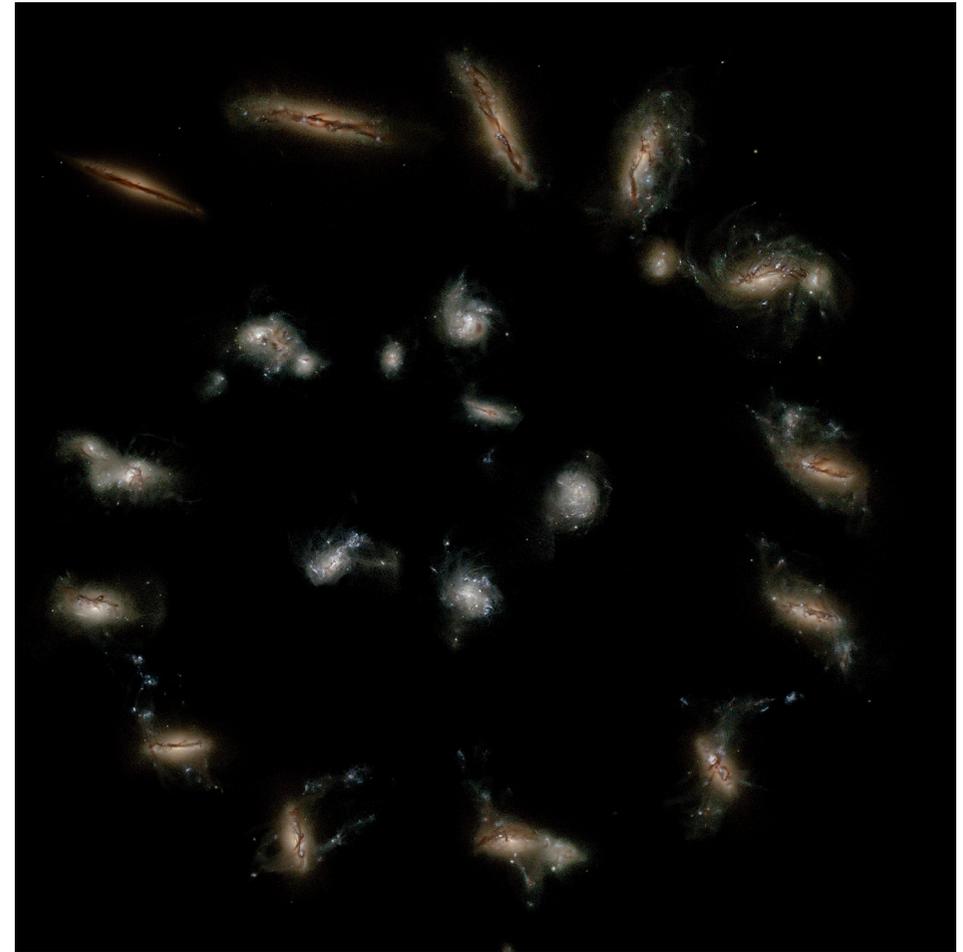
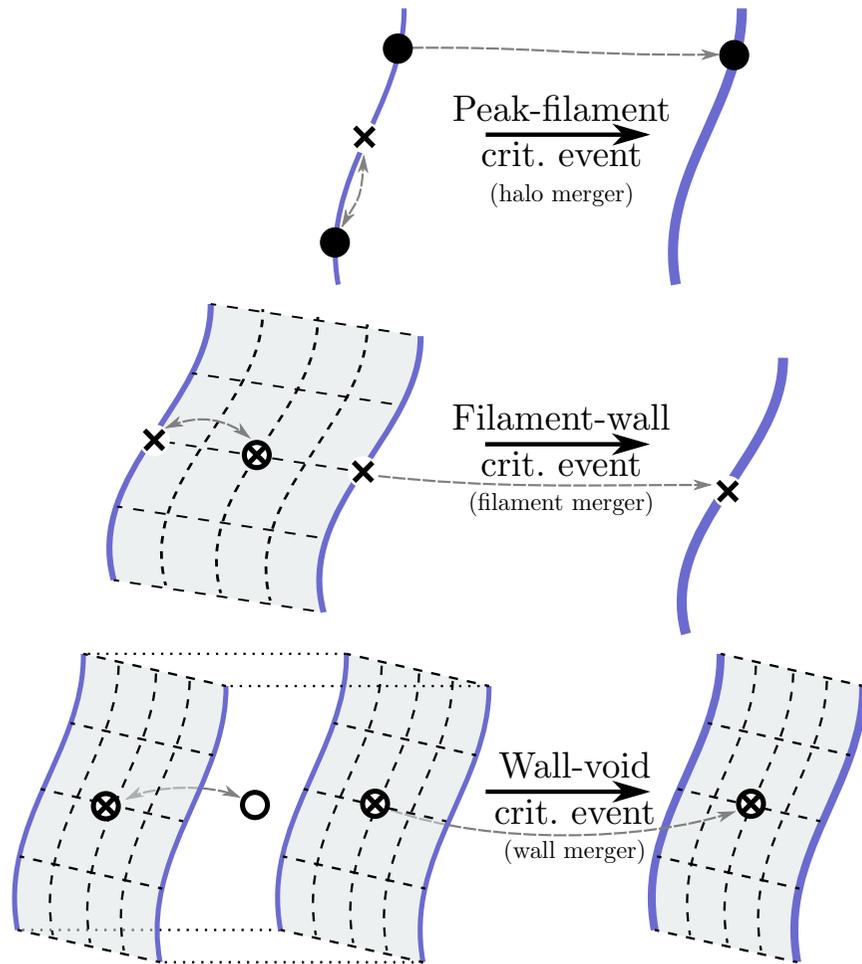
The NewHorizon Simulation

~10 Mpc

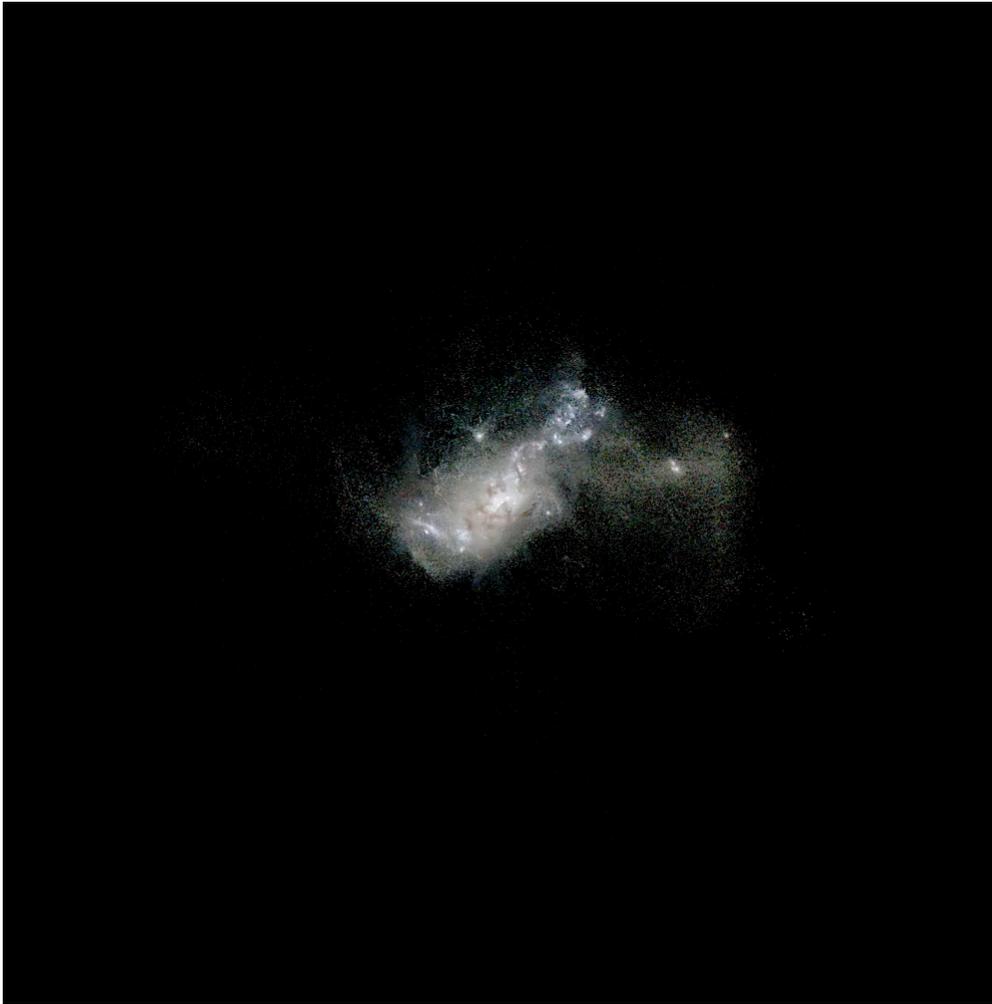


The NewHorizon Simulation

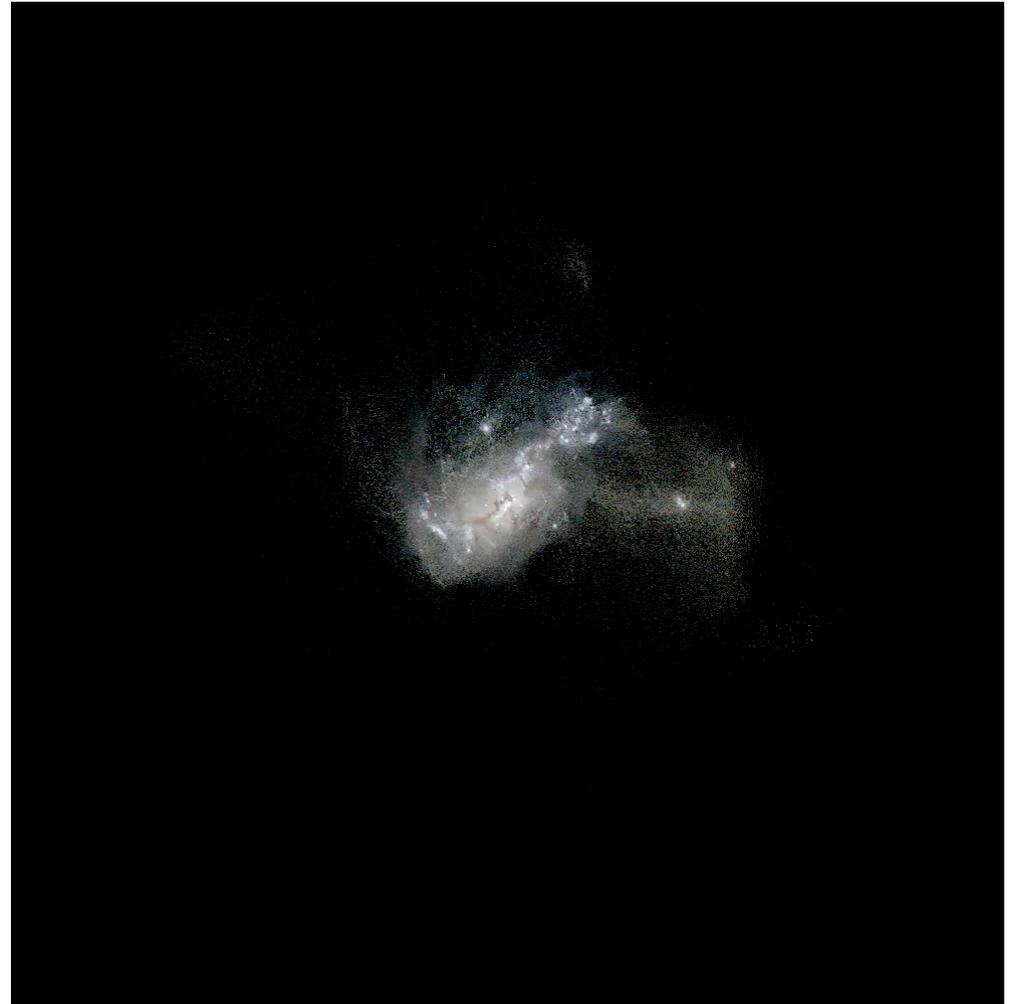
The cosmic web has an impact on galaxy morphology

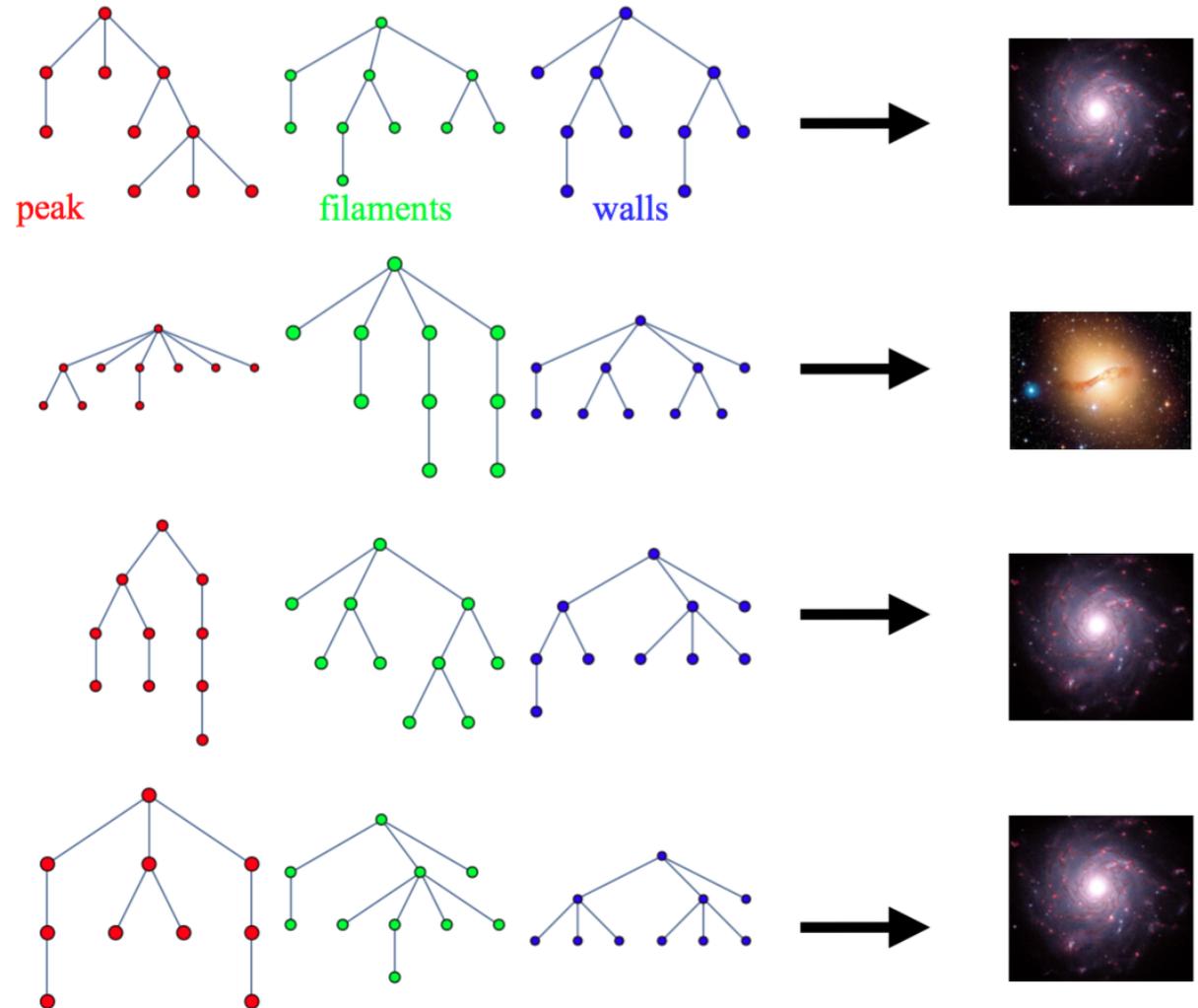


From above



Lateral view

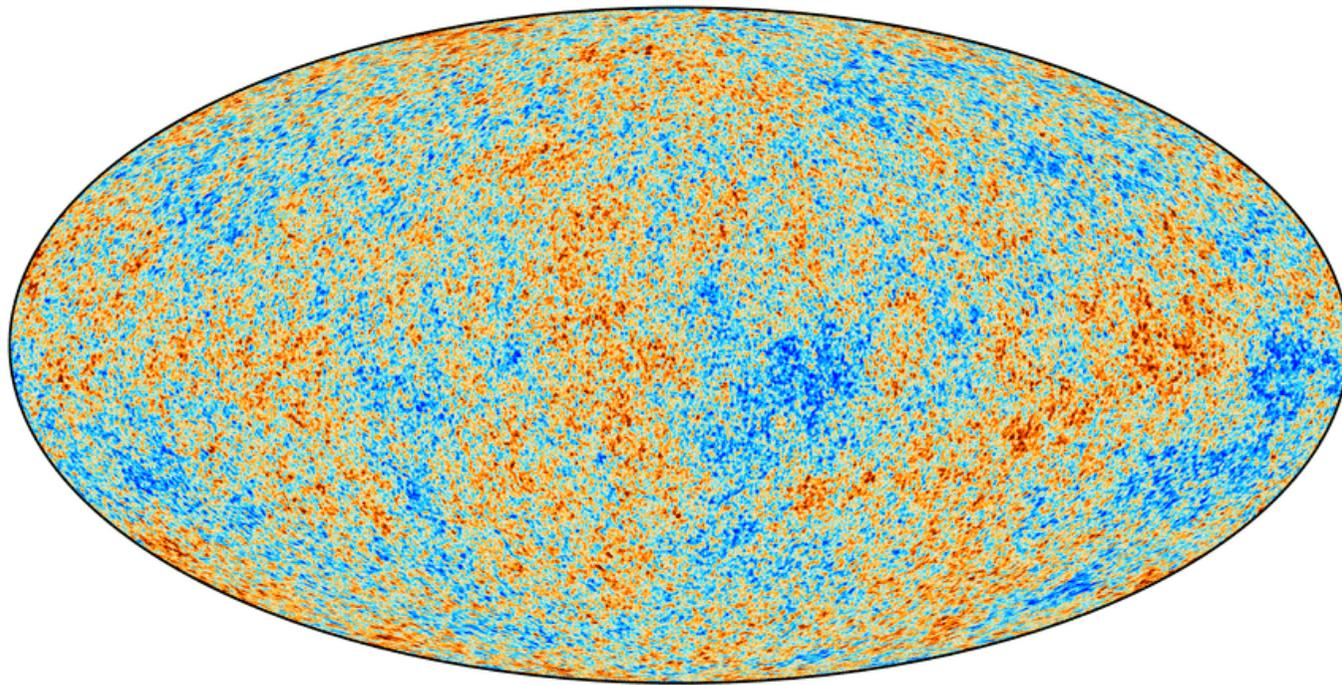
*The New Horizon Simulation*



The morphology of a galaxy is dictated by its **merger history**, as well as the evolution of its environment.

It is in particular sensible to **coalescence of filaments**, which bring cold gas necessary to star formation.

**Can we predict the main characteristics
of the universe directly from its initial
conditions? ?**

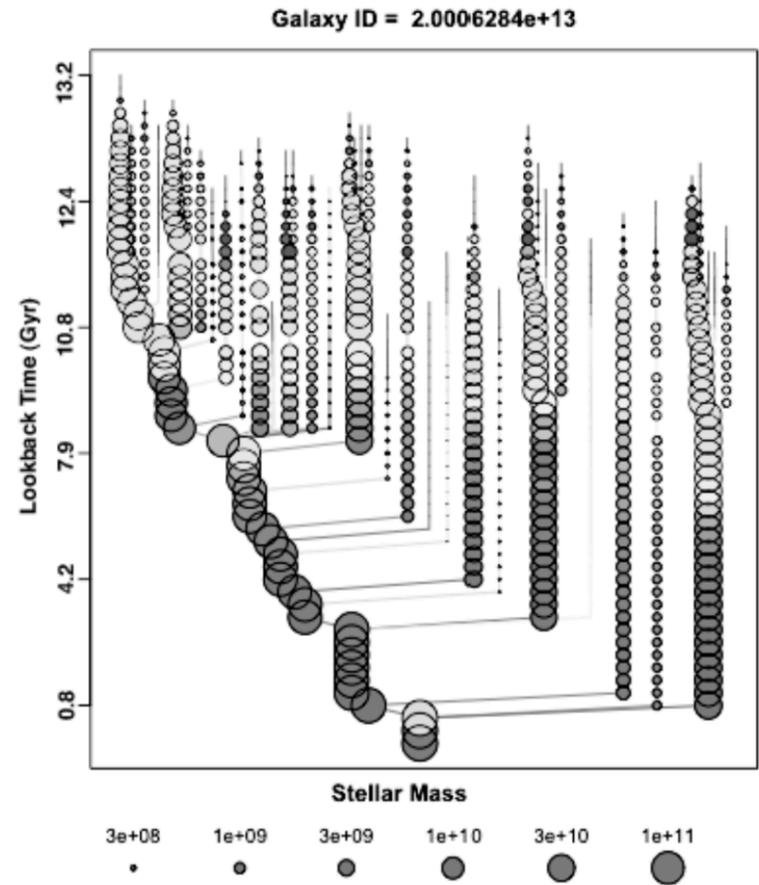
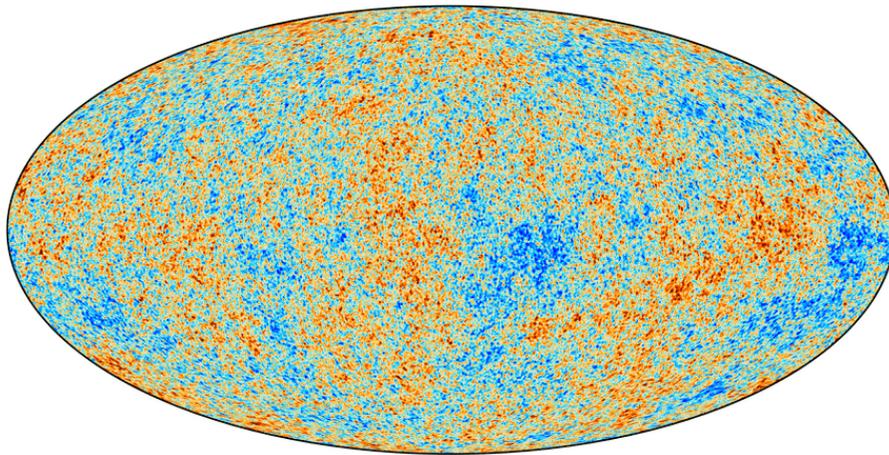


Planck

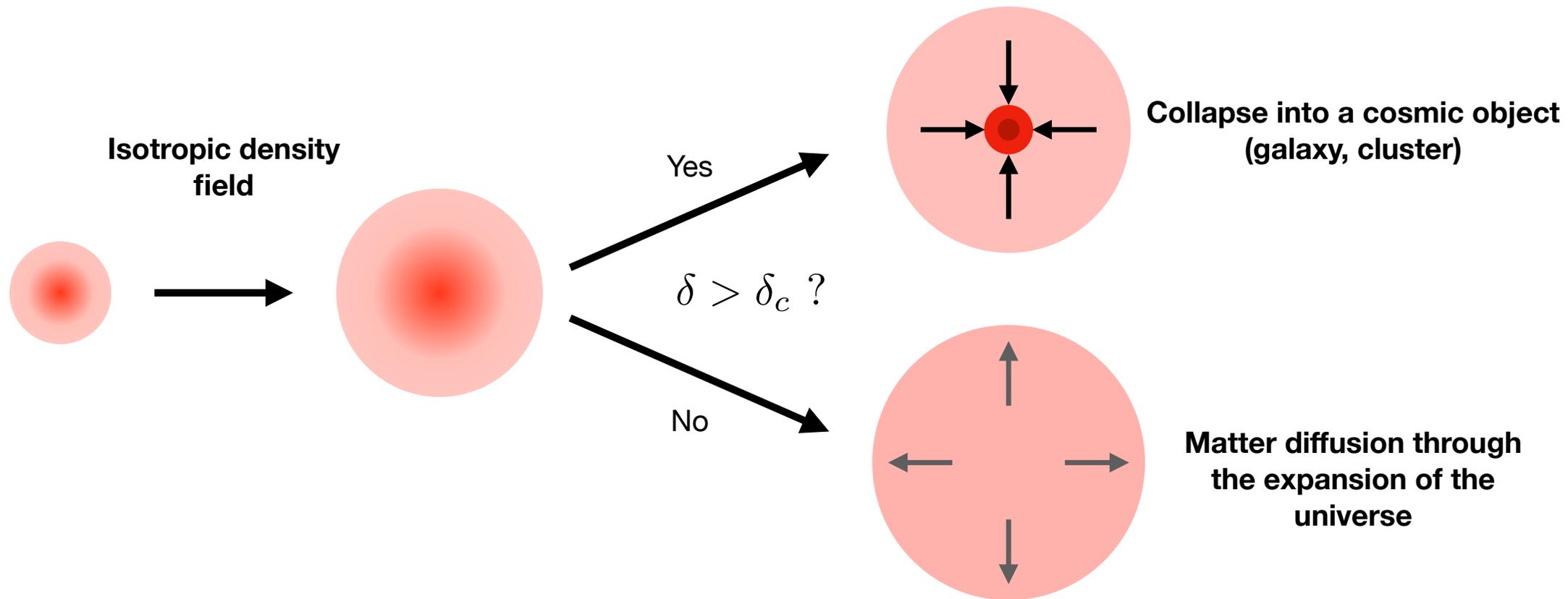
Outline

- I. Large scale structures
- II. Critical event theory**
- III. Attraction cones
- IV. Merger characteristics
- V. Conclusions and perspectives

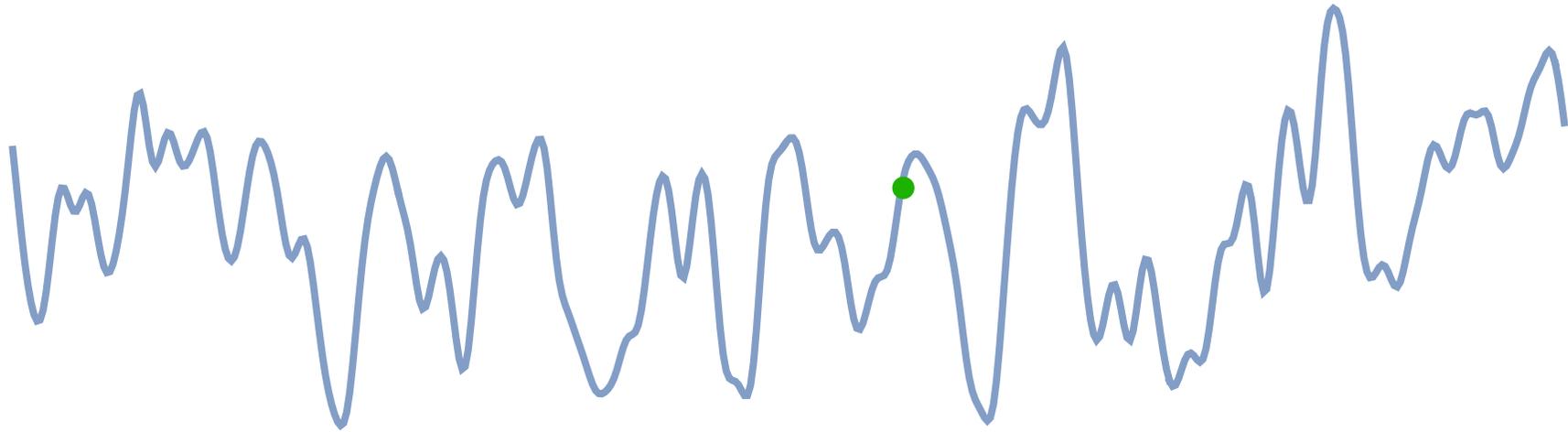
Can we make statistical predictions based solely on the initial conditions?



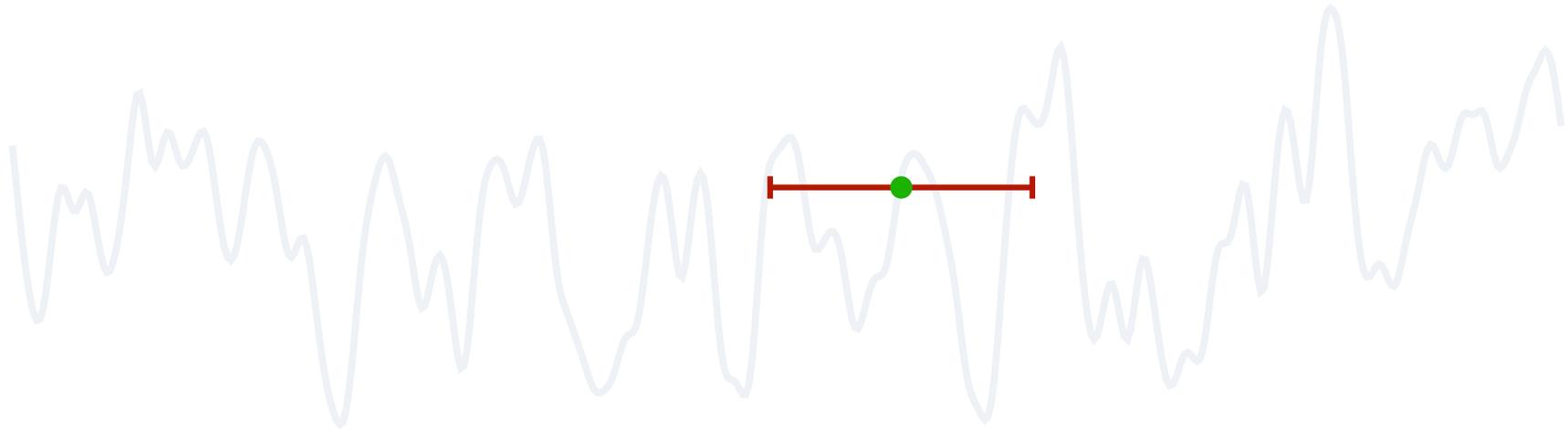
The spherical collapse model



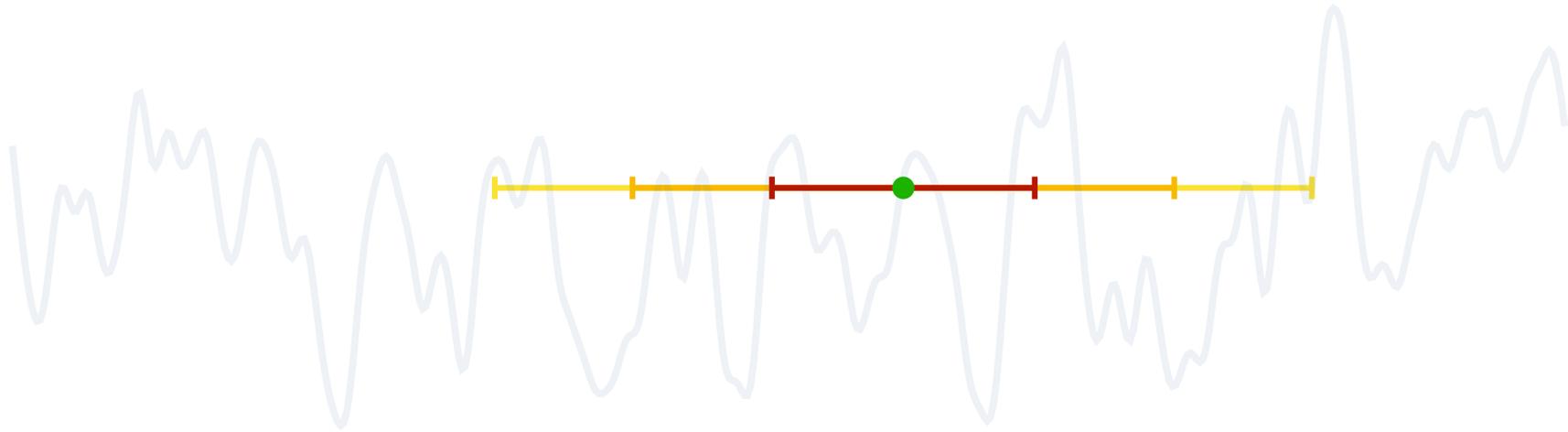
The spherical collapse model



The spherical collapse model



The spherical collapse model

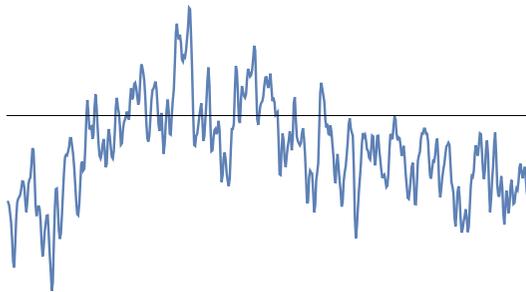


The cosmic web as critical points

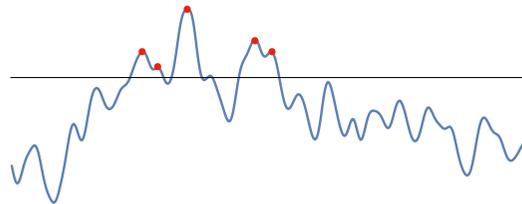
At every point of the field, we take the average density in a sphere of increasing radius

This amounts to smoothing the field with a **top-hat filter**.

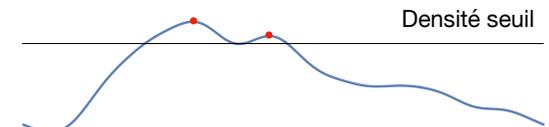
Initial field



Slightly smoothed field



Strongly smoothed field

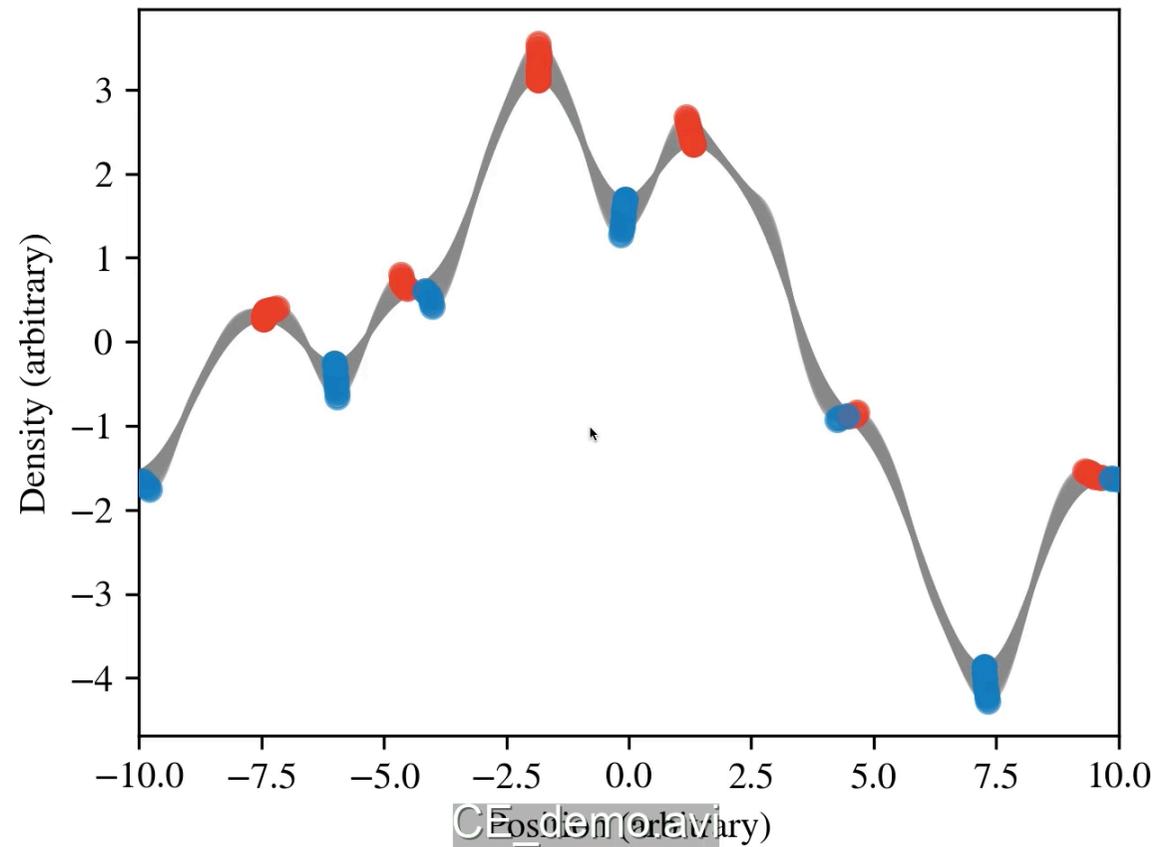
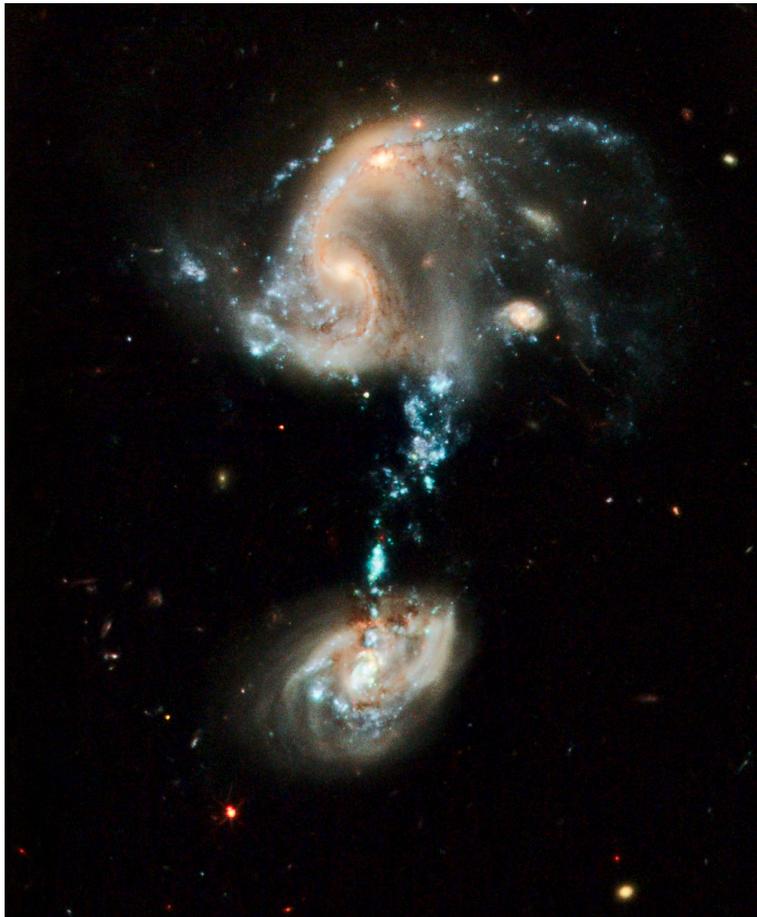


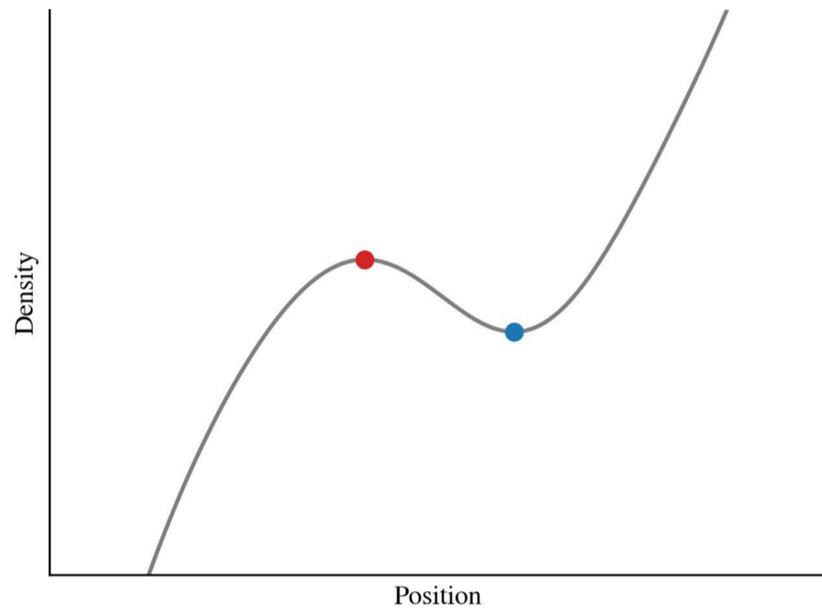
We may link the critical points of the field (minima, maxima, saddle points) to the particular points of the cosmic web (voids, nodes, walls and filaments)

The spherical collapse model gives a correspondance between the **density/smoothing** and the **cosmic time/mass** of objects.

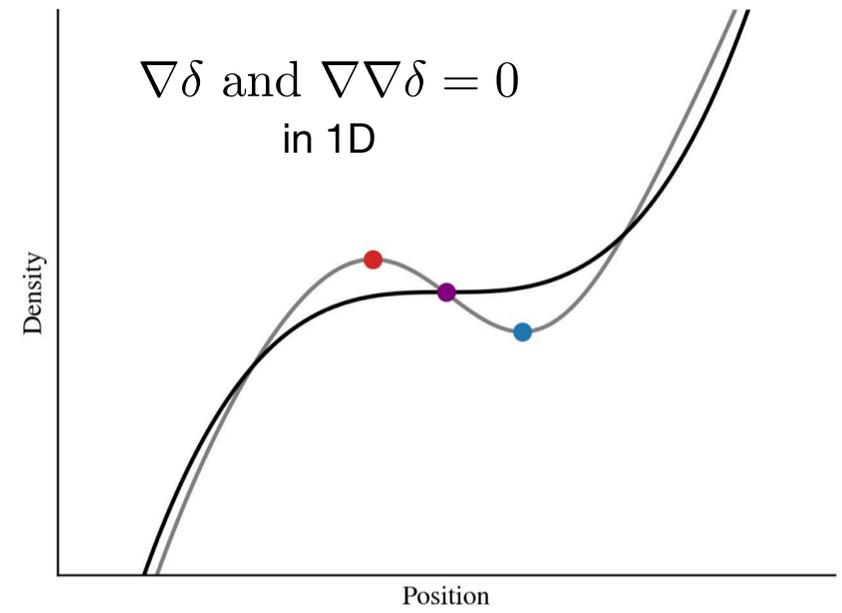
In particular, the **smoothing radius** monotonically increases with time at the peaks, and is thus a **proxy for time**.

Mergers and critical events



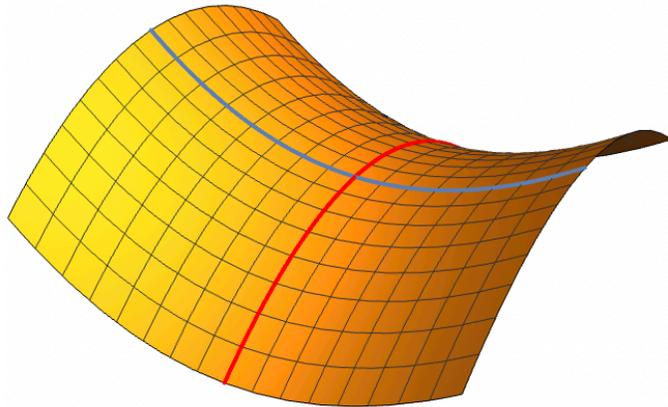


Smoothing
→



Critical point

**Signature
of the Hessian**

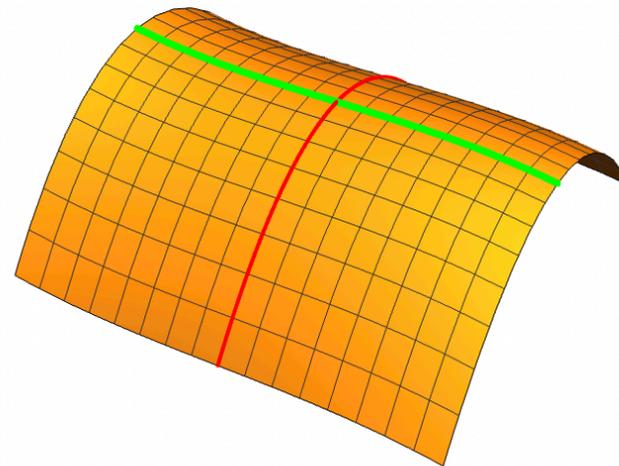


Saddle point

- +

Voids

+ + +



Saddle-maximum
critical event

- 0

Walls

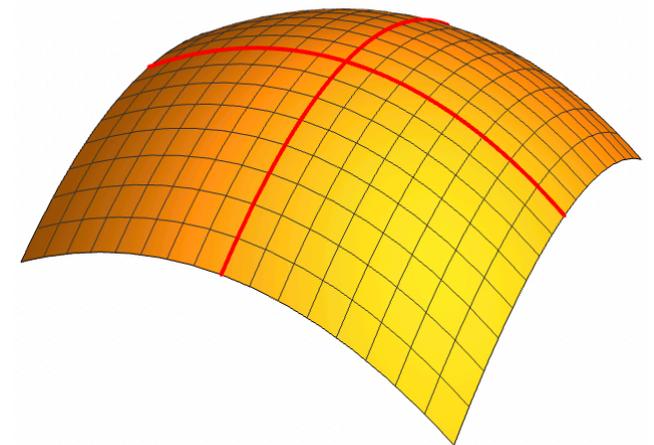
- + +

Filaments

- - +

Peaks

- - -



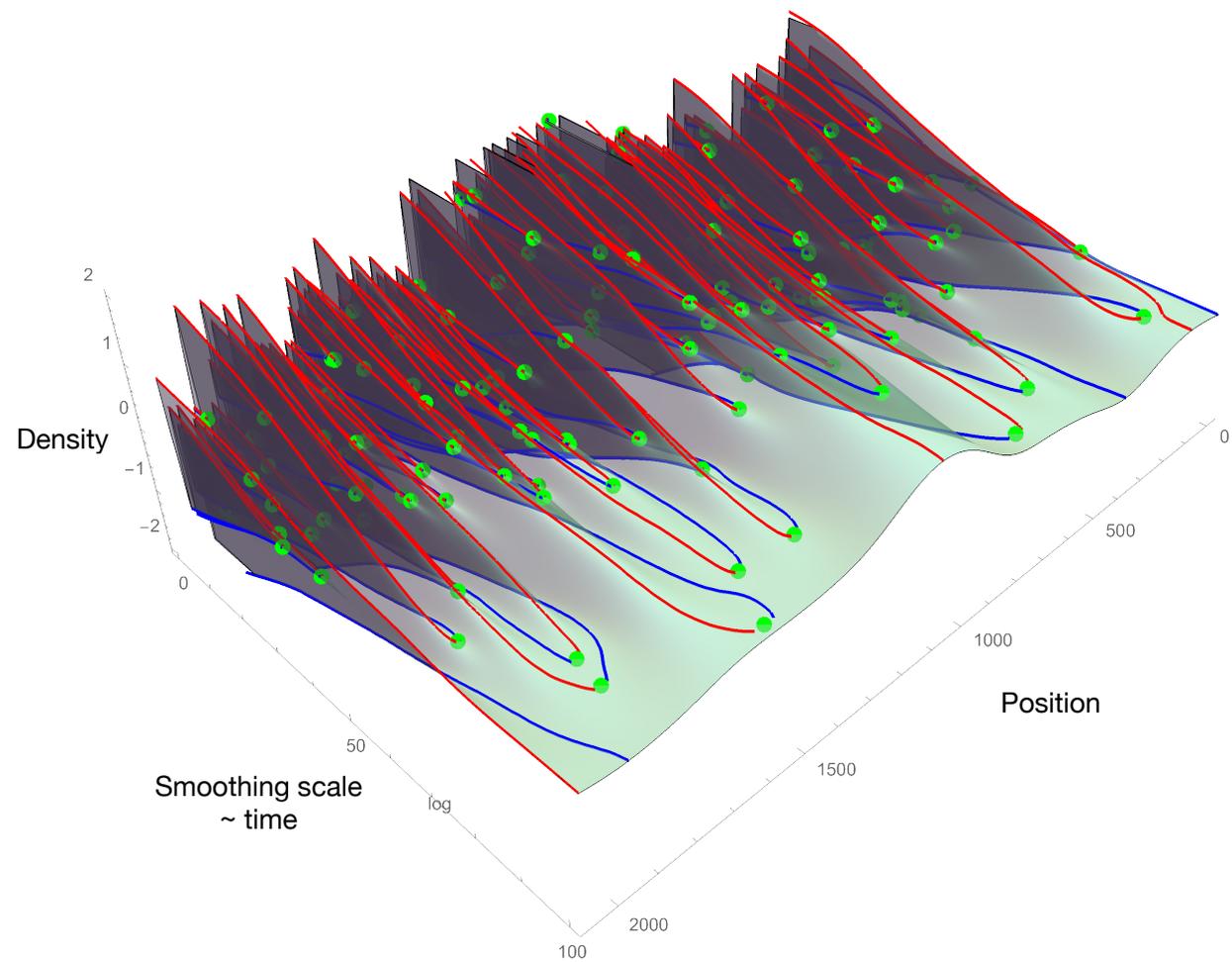
Maximum

- -

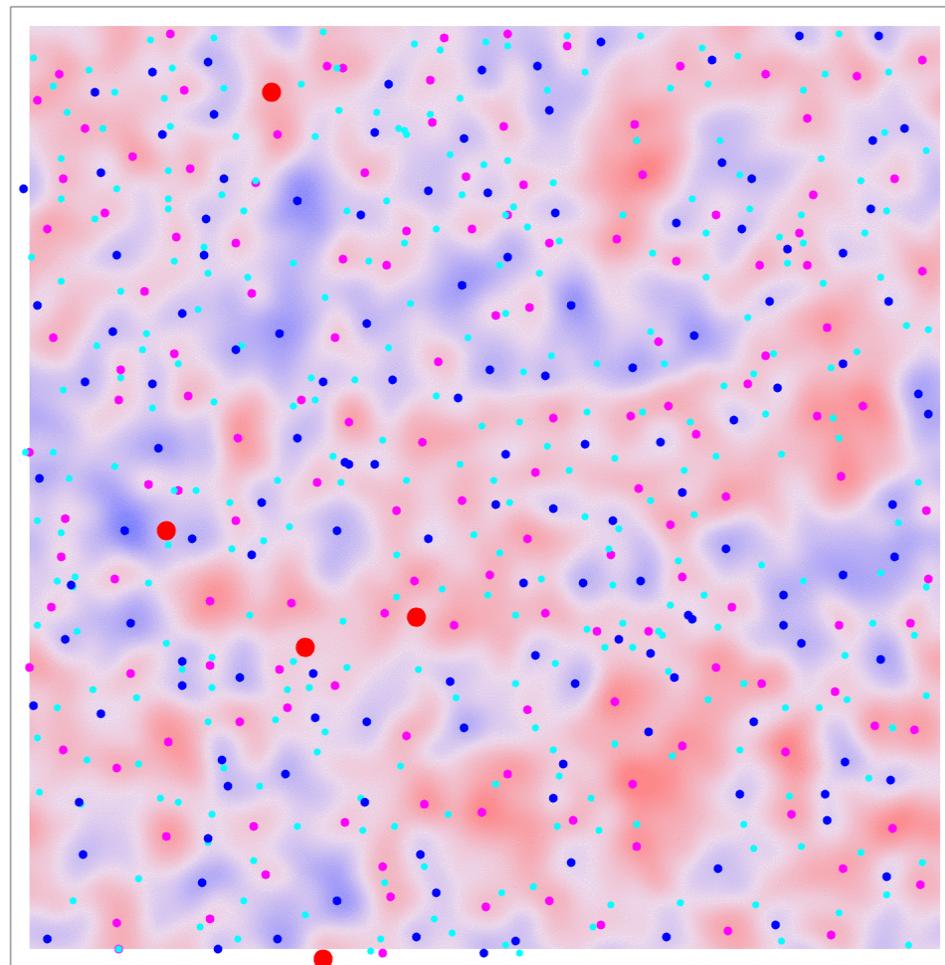
$$\nabla \delta = 0 \text{ and } \det(\nabla \nabla \delta) = 0$$

Replacing the top-hat filter with a Gaussian filter, we may get analytical expressions for statistical properties of events.

Critical events

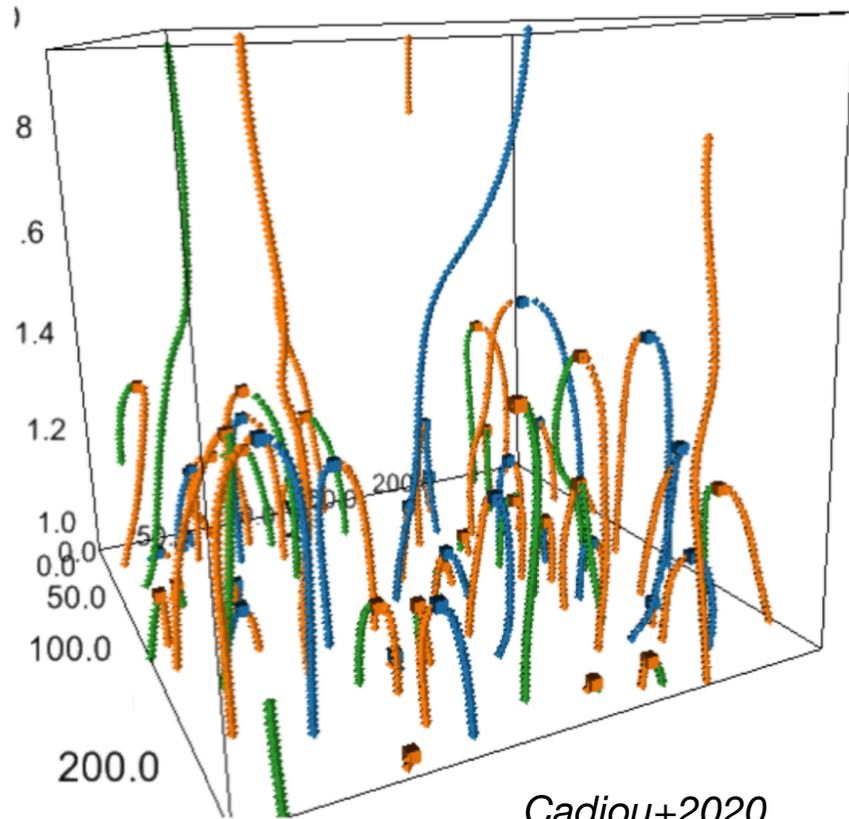


In one ...

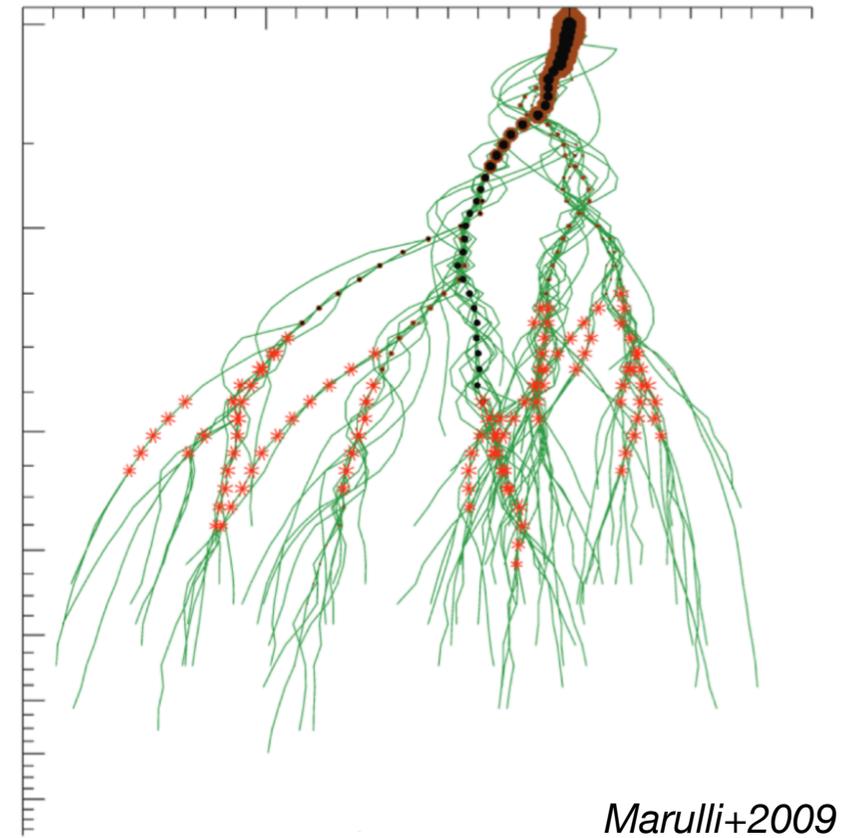


... and two dimensions

Statistic analysis from critical event theory



Merging history of a cosmological object, obtained from simulations

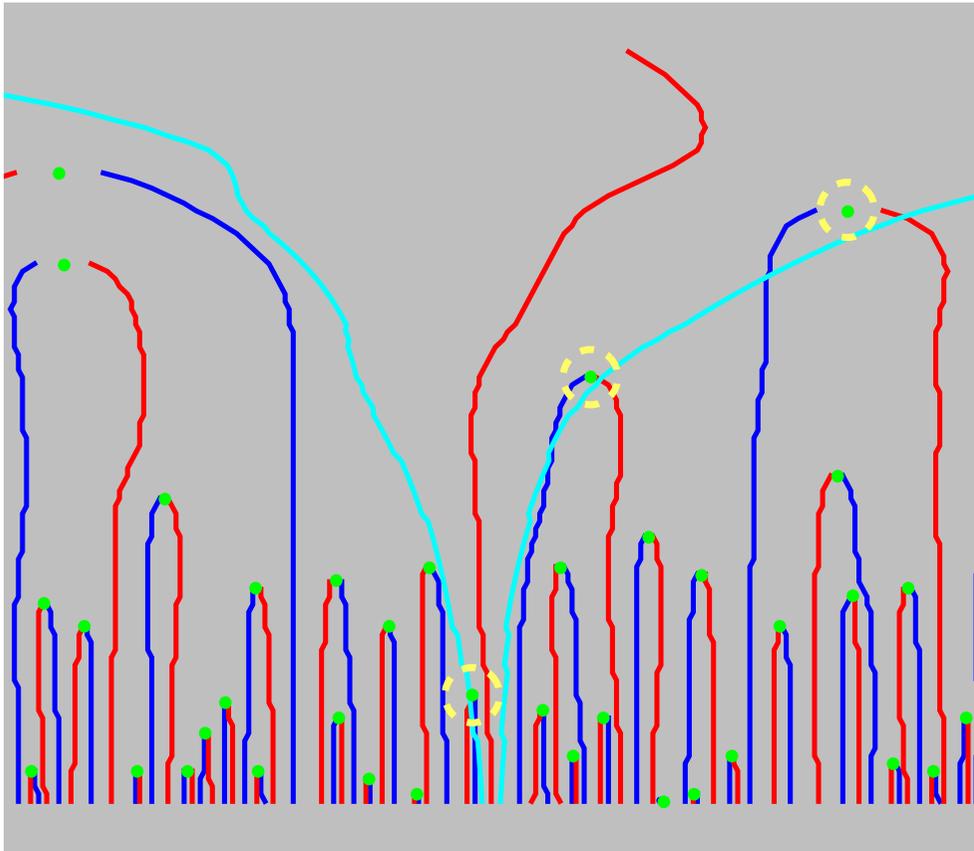


How can we recover the pair of peaks involved in a merging event?

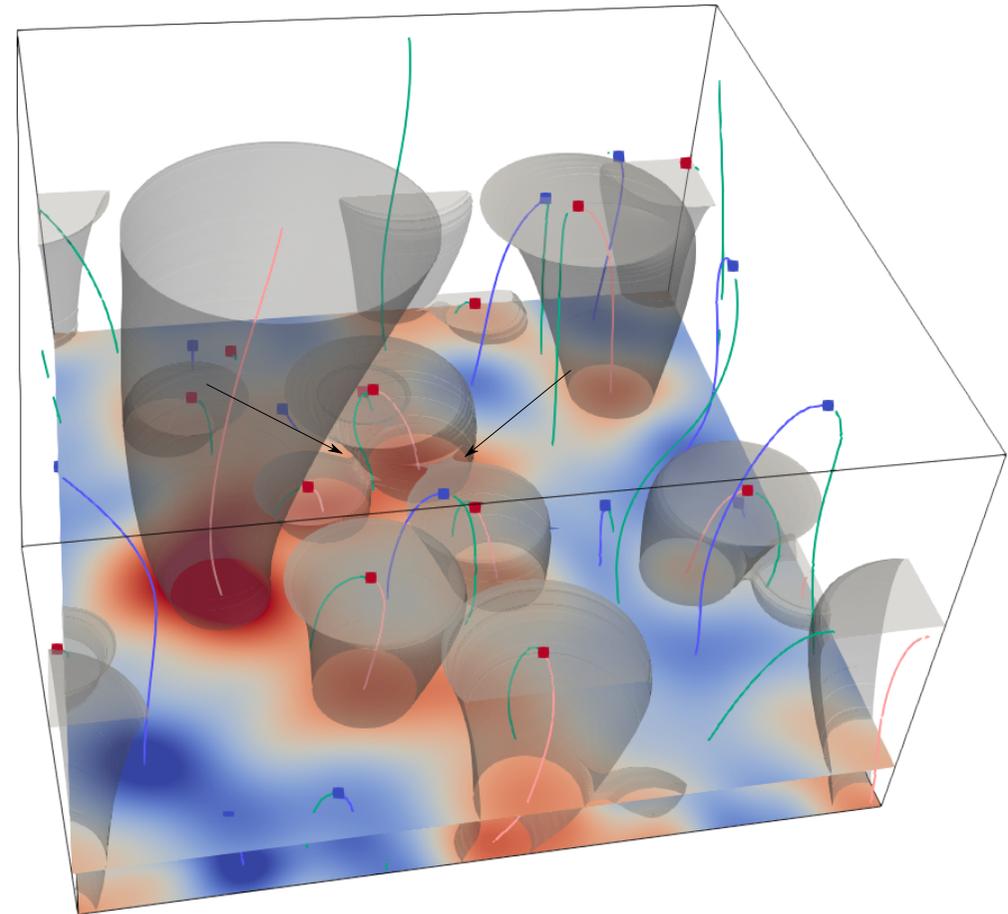
Outline

- I. Large scale structure
- II. Critical event theory
- III. Attraction cones**
- IV. Merger characteristics
- V. Conclusions and perspectives

Attraction cones

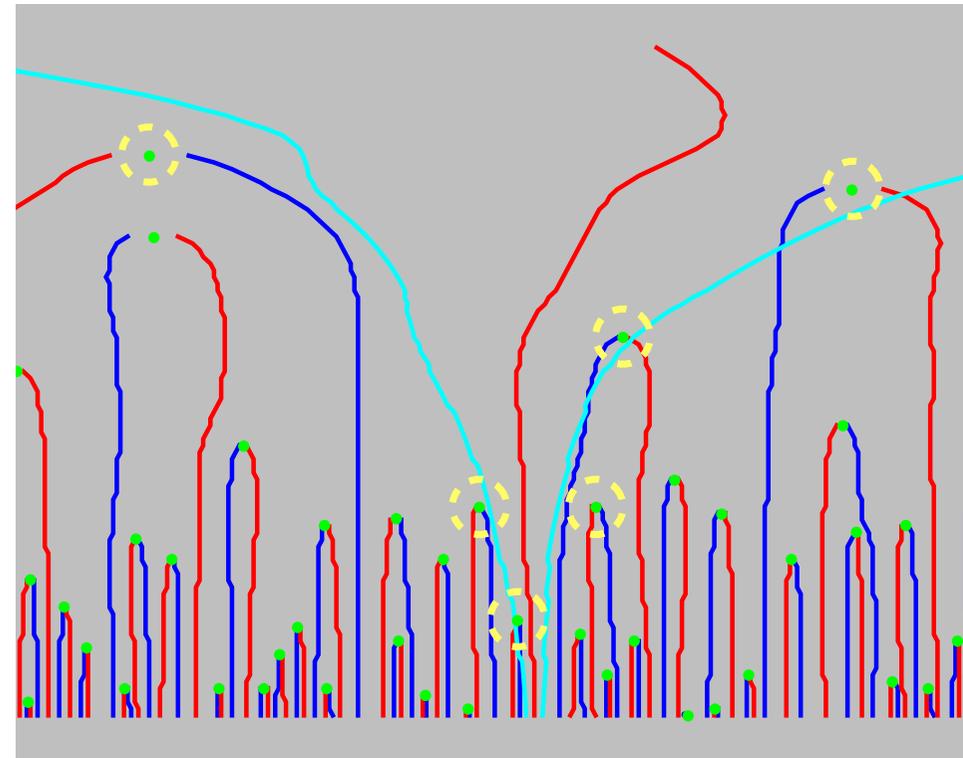
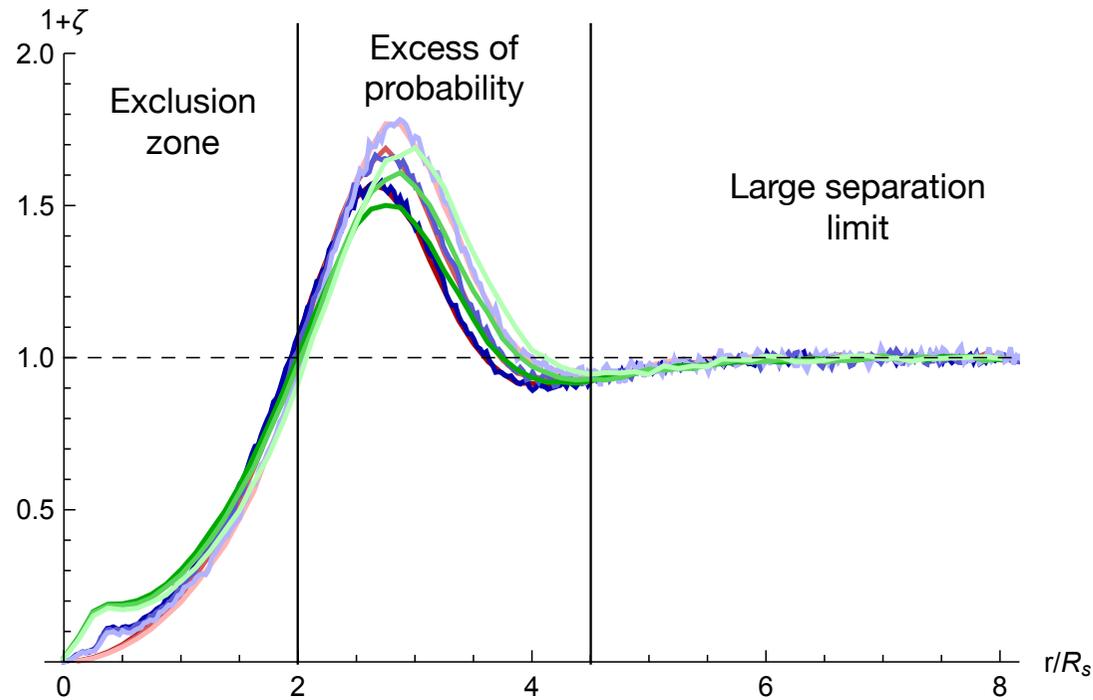


We use the **distance from the critical points** to decide in which object a critical event merges.



What cone opening angle should we consider ?

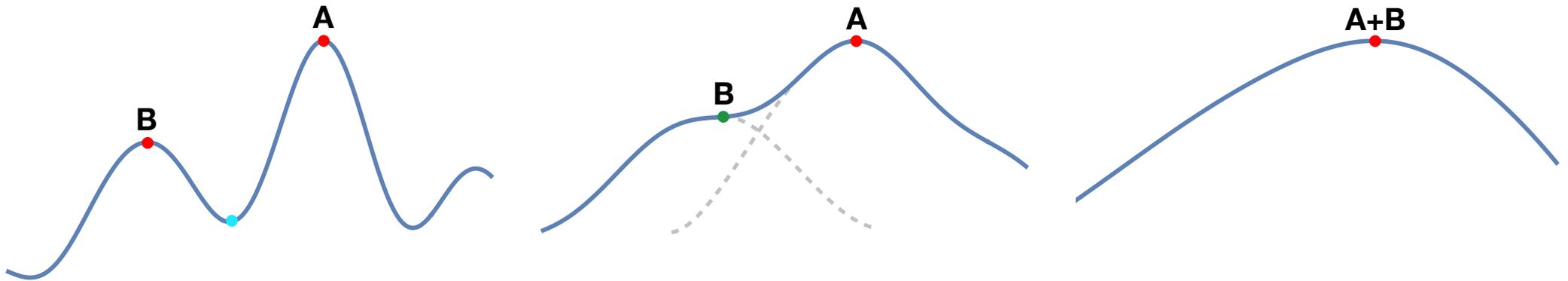
To answer this question, we analyse the **mixed two point correlation function** between critical events and peaks.



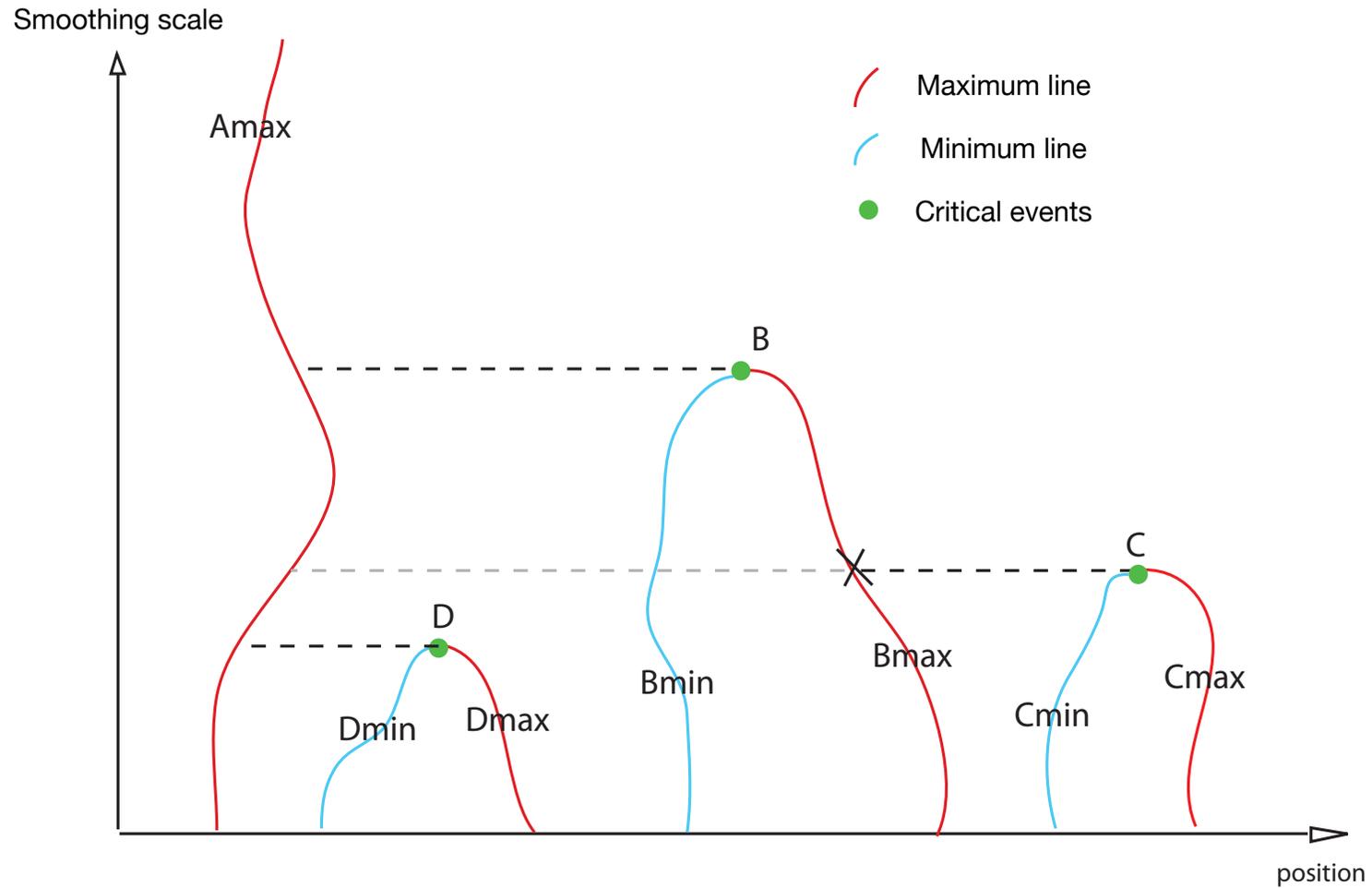
Cone angle equal to 2

Topological mergers in 1D

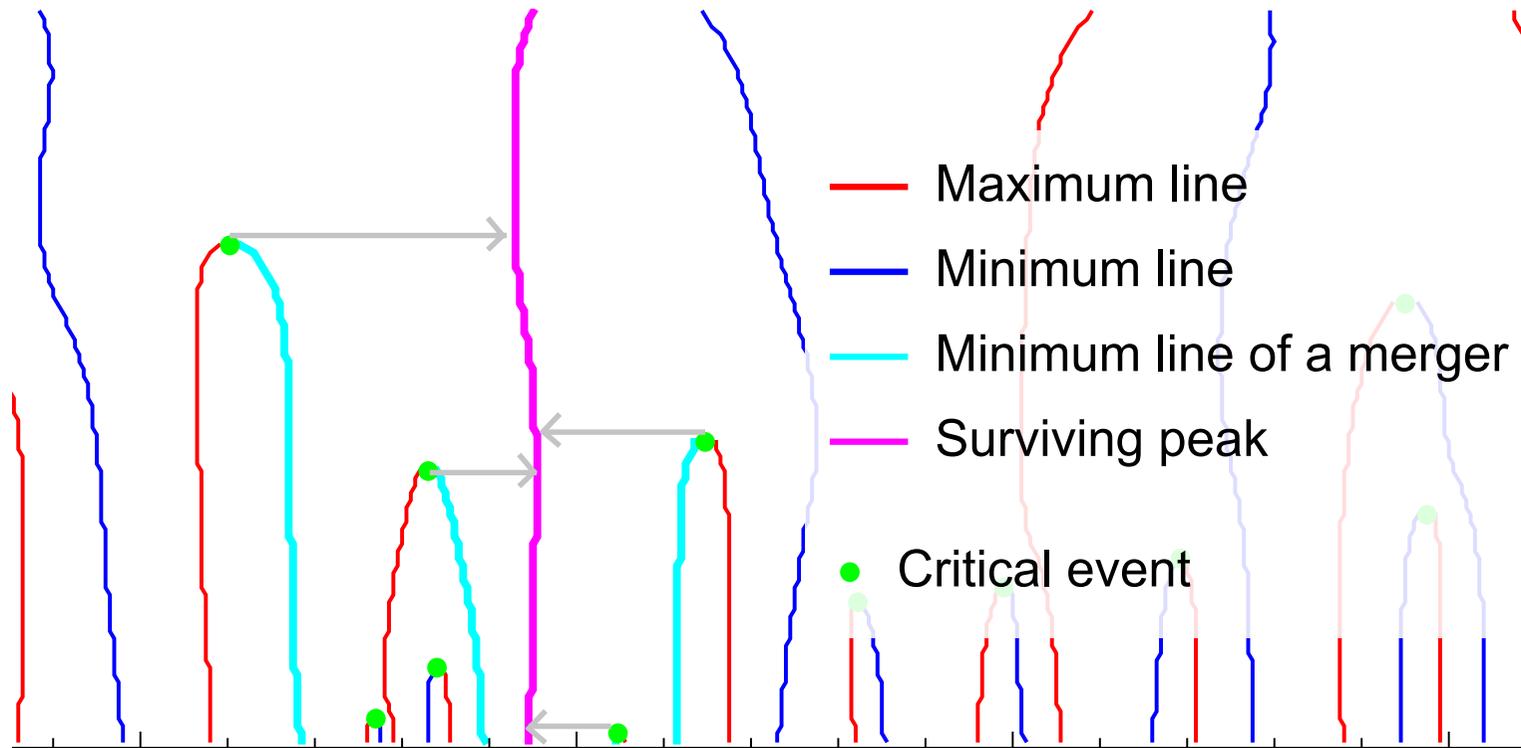
In one dimension, the peak associated to the merging of a critical event is the **adjacent peak**.



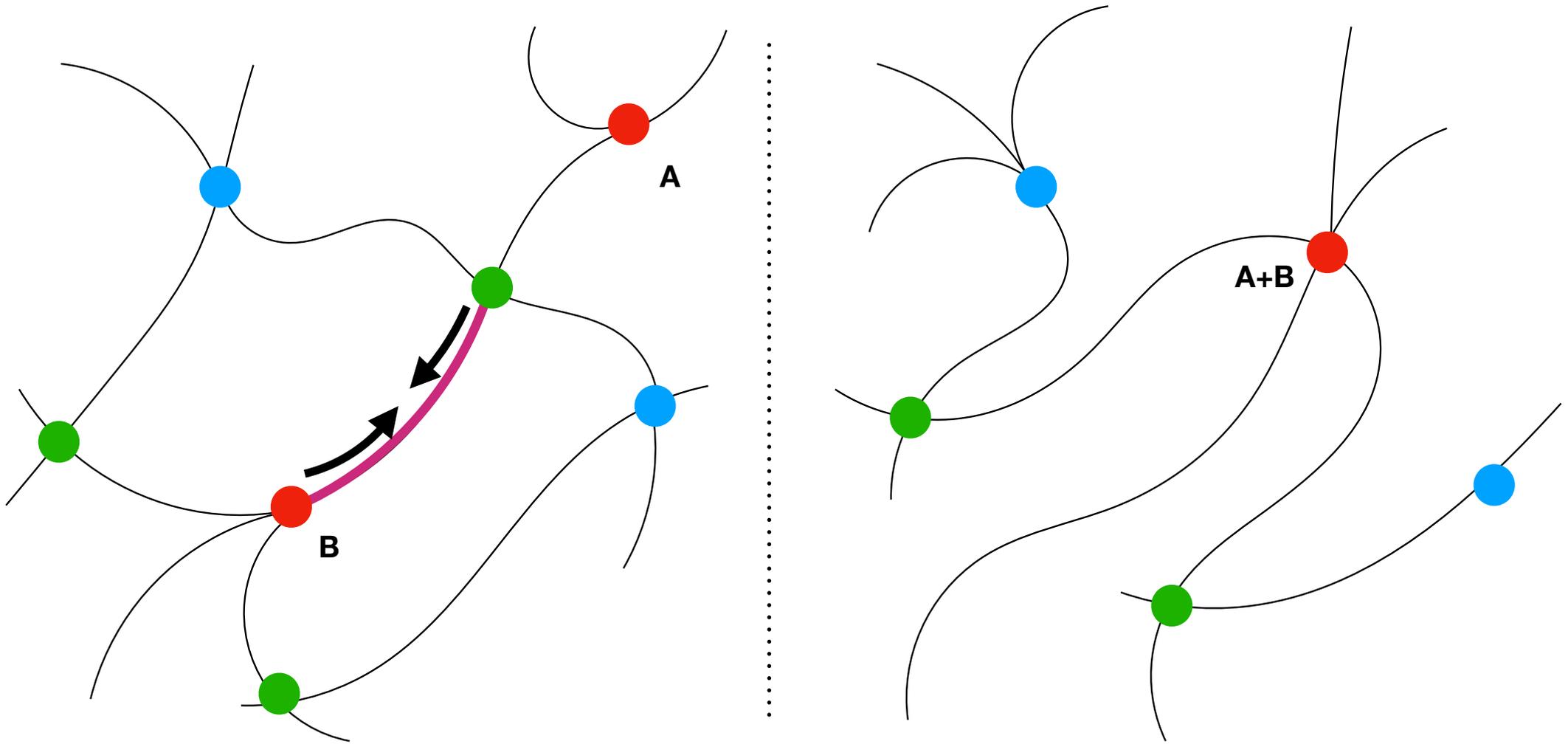
Topological mergers in 1D



Topological mergers in 1D

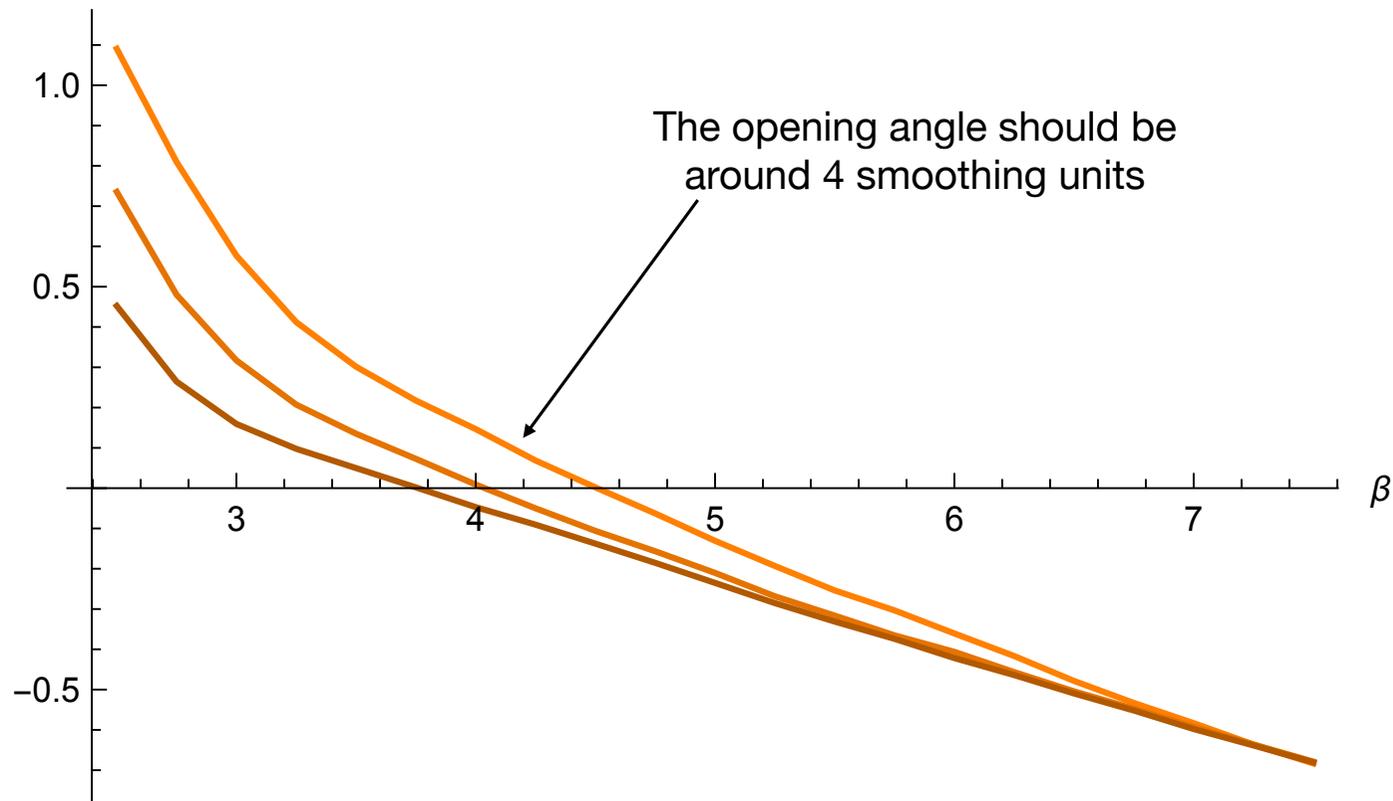
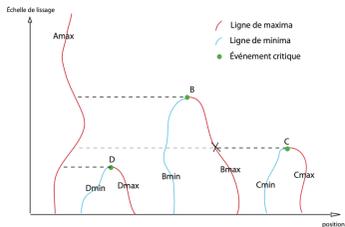
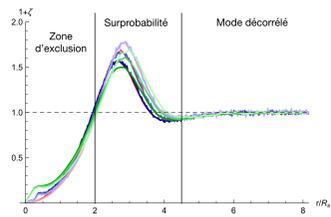


Topological mergers in 2D (and 3D), using the skeleton



Comparison with cones (in 1D)

Mean difference between number of topological mergers
and number of mergers in a cone of angle β



Power spectrum

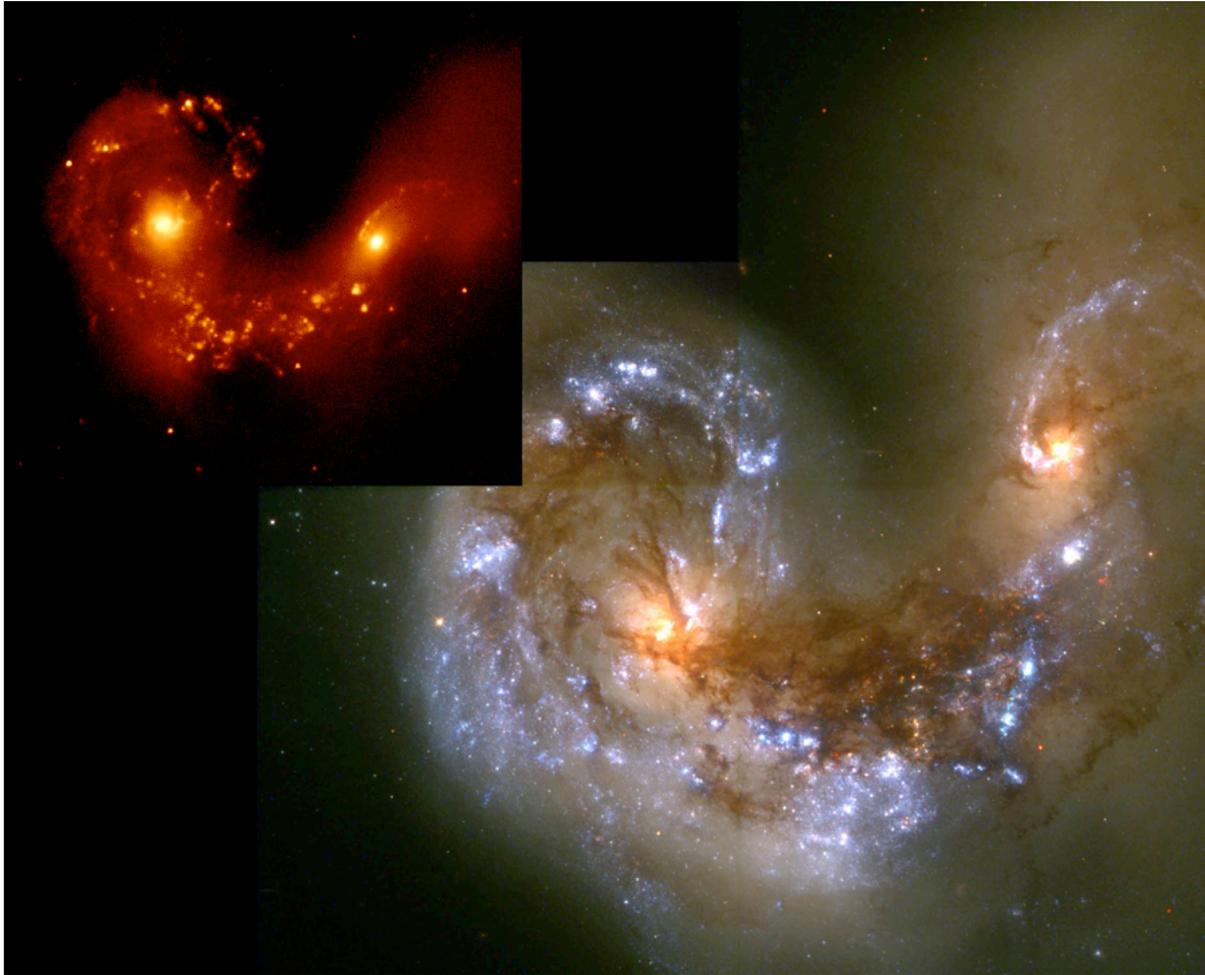
- $n_s = -0.5$
- $n_s = 0$
- $n_s = 0.5$

Can we use critical event theory to make pertinent cosmological predictions?

Outline

- I. Large scale structures
- II. Critical event theory
- III. Attraction cones
- IV. Merger characteristics**
- V. Conclusions and perspectives

Mass acquired by mergers



The morphology of a galaxy is linked to its **merger history**, as well as the **characteristics** of these mergers (mass, number, time).

We use the spherical collapse model to assign a coherent mass to mergers associated to a critical event.

Mass accreted by mergers

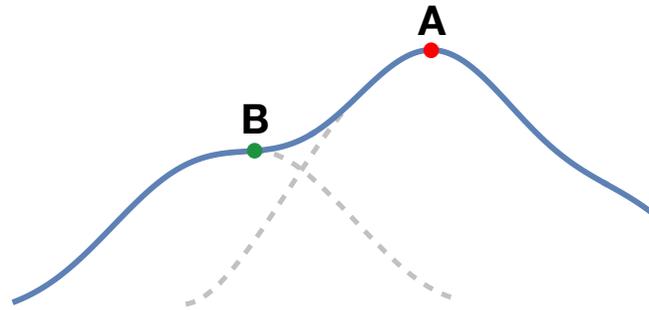
Mass is proportional to the cube of the smoothing radius

$$M = \bar{\rho} \times V \propto \bar{\rho} \times R^3$$

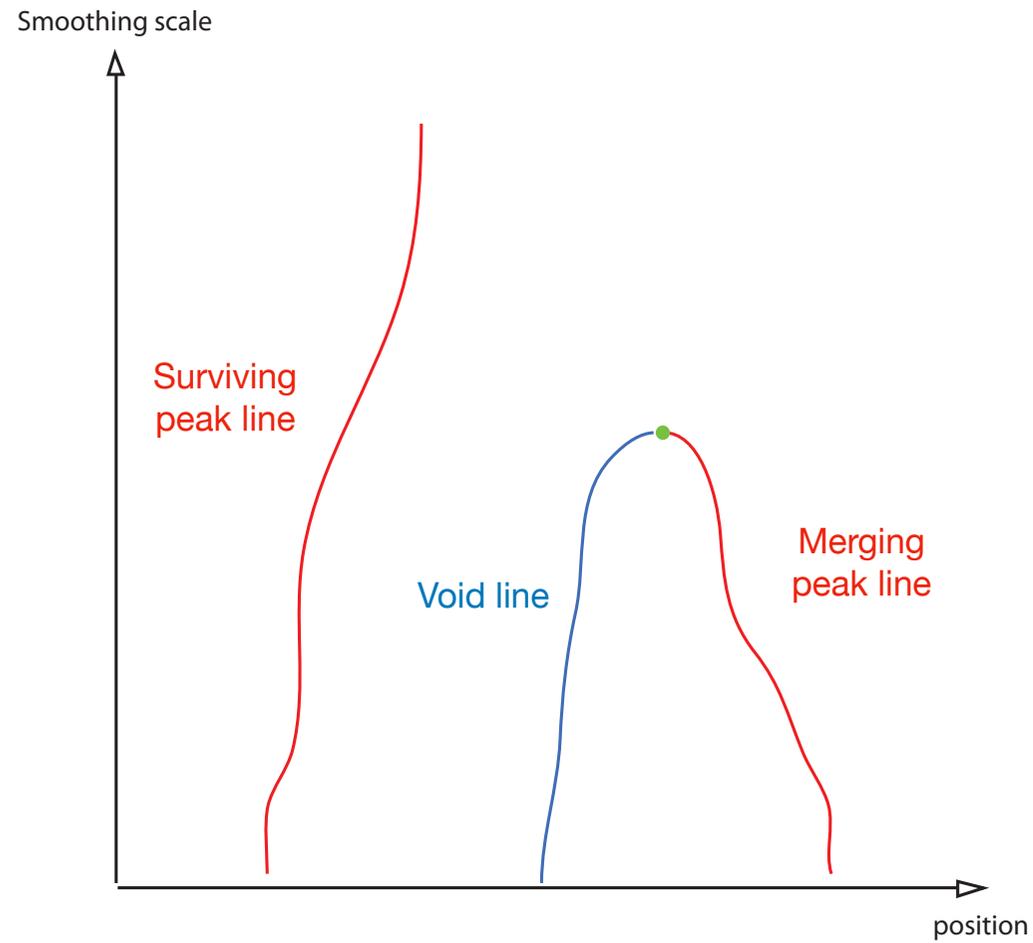
The **existence time** of an object is a decreasing function of the **overdensity** of the peak that is associated to it.

$$z = f\left(\frac{\delta_c}{\delta}\right)$$

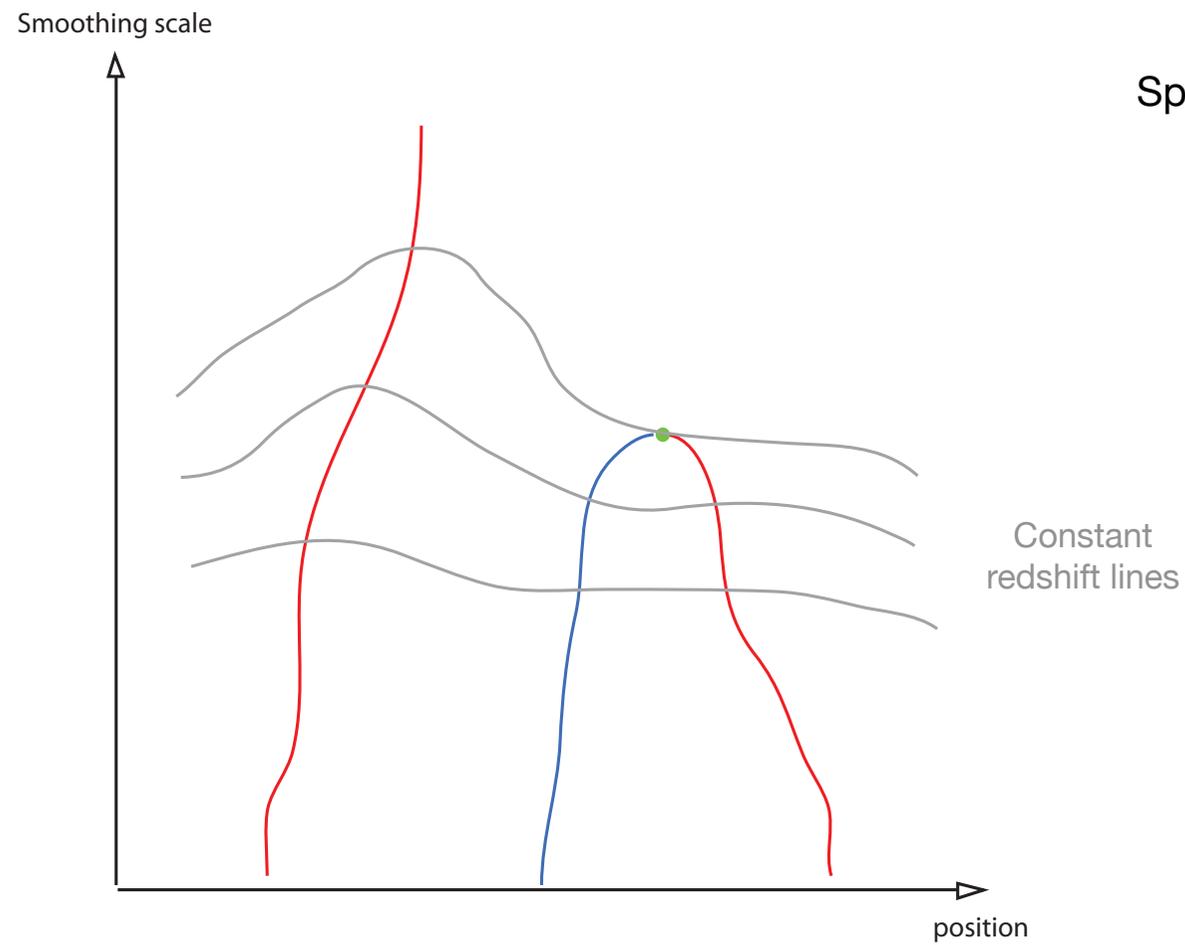
We wish to compare the mass of two merging objects **at a given time**, taking care to **not count mass twice**.



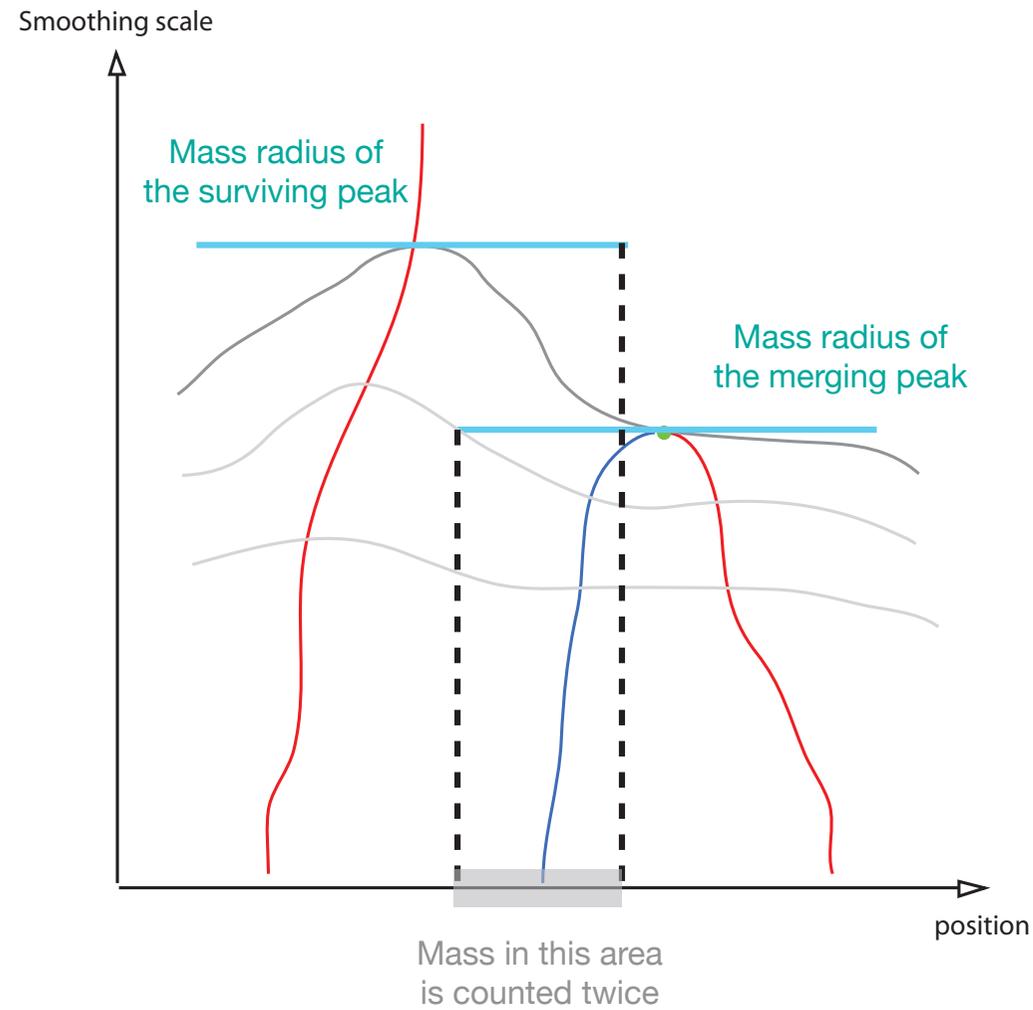
The double pointer method



The double pointer method

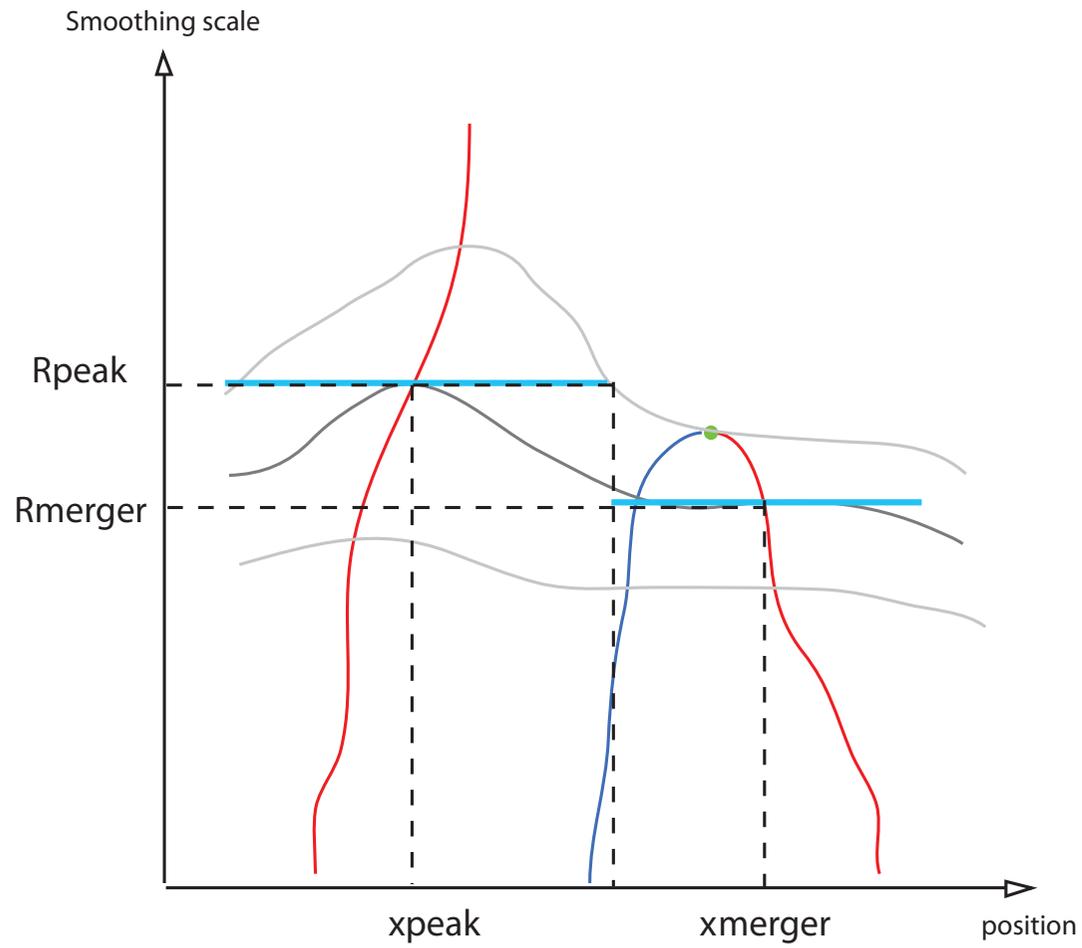


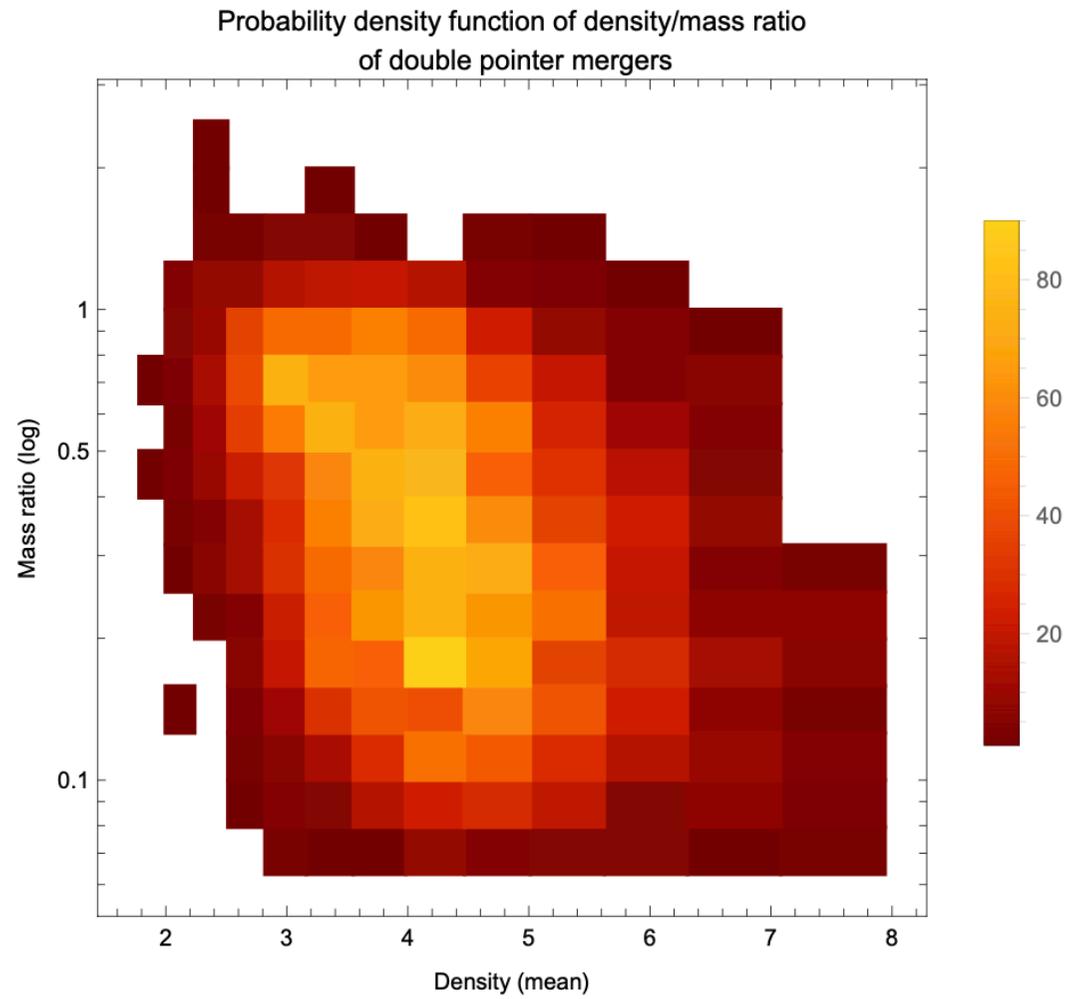
The double pointer method



$$M = \bar{\rho} \times V \propto \bar{\rho} \times R^3 \quad \text{In 3D}$$

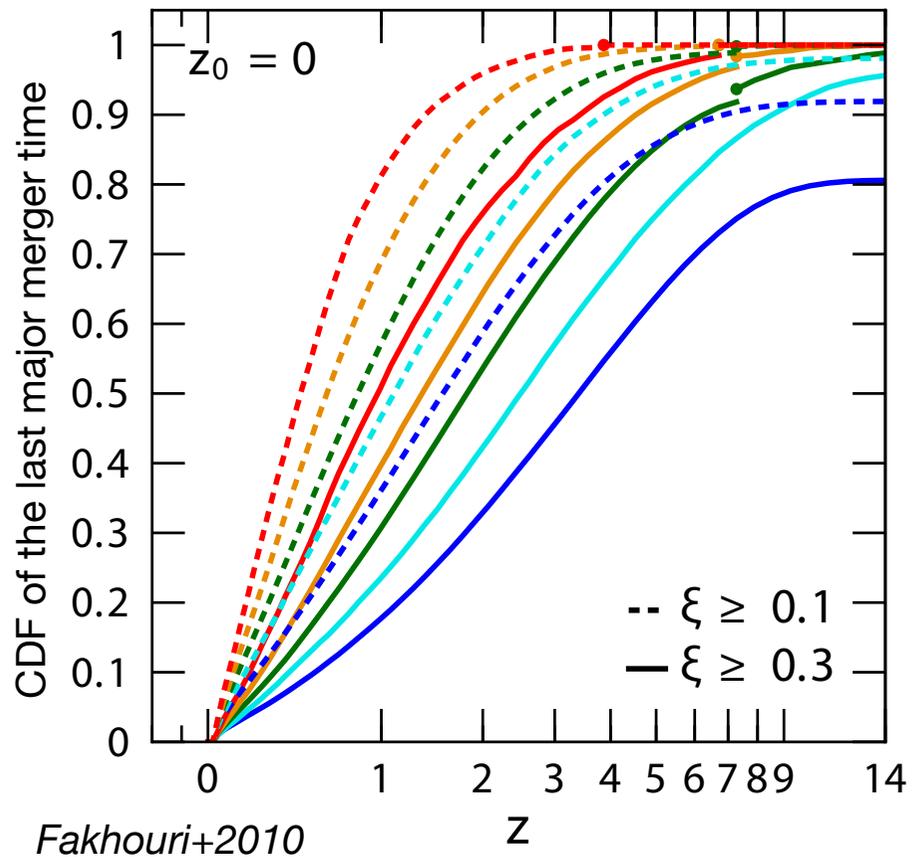
The double pointer method



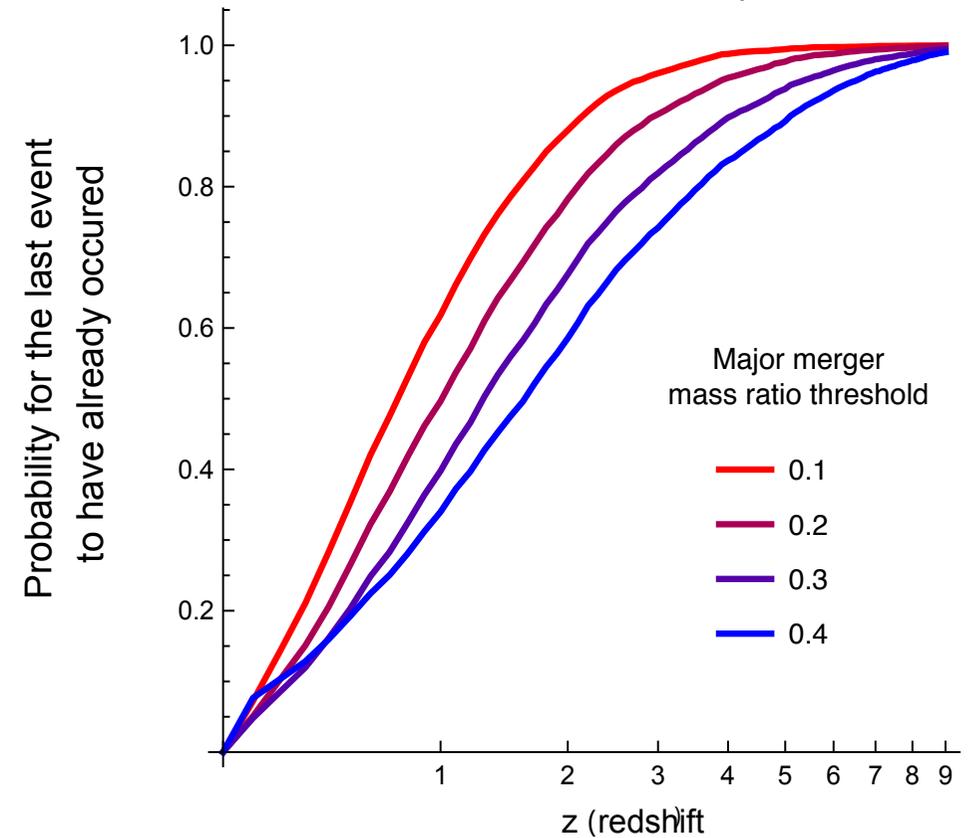


First comparison to cosmological simulations

Simulation cosmologique



CDF of redshift at which the last major merger occurred in a halo's past history



Outline

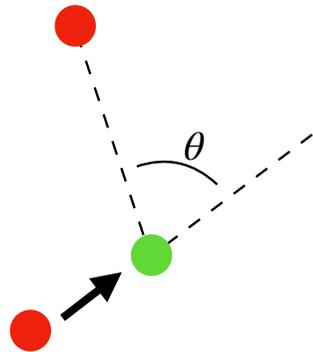
- I. Large scale structures
- II. Critical event theory
- III. Attraction cones
- IV. Merger characteristics
- V. Conclusions and perspectives

Conclusions

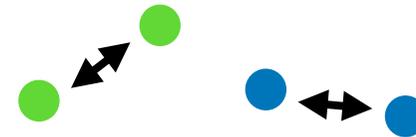
Critical event theory provides a useful framework to make predictions about the geometry of mergers from first principle.

Perspectives

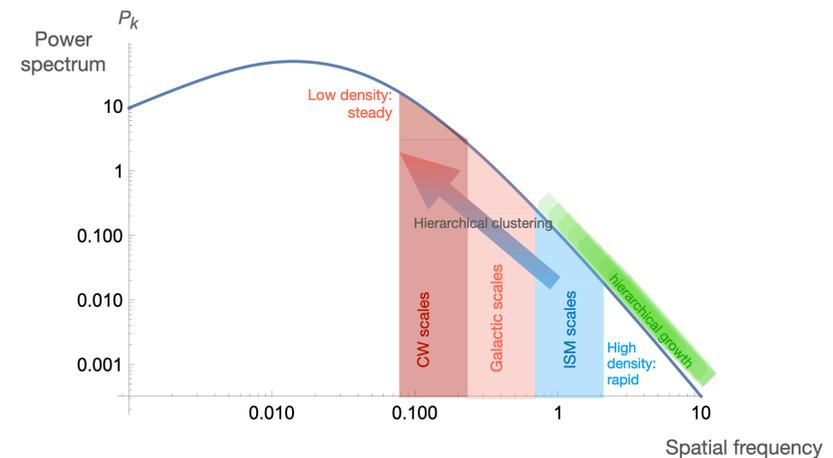
- Filament-filament and wall-wall mergers



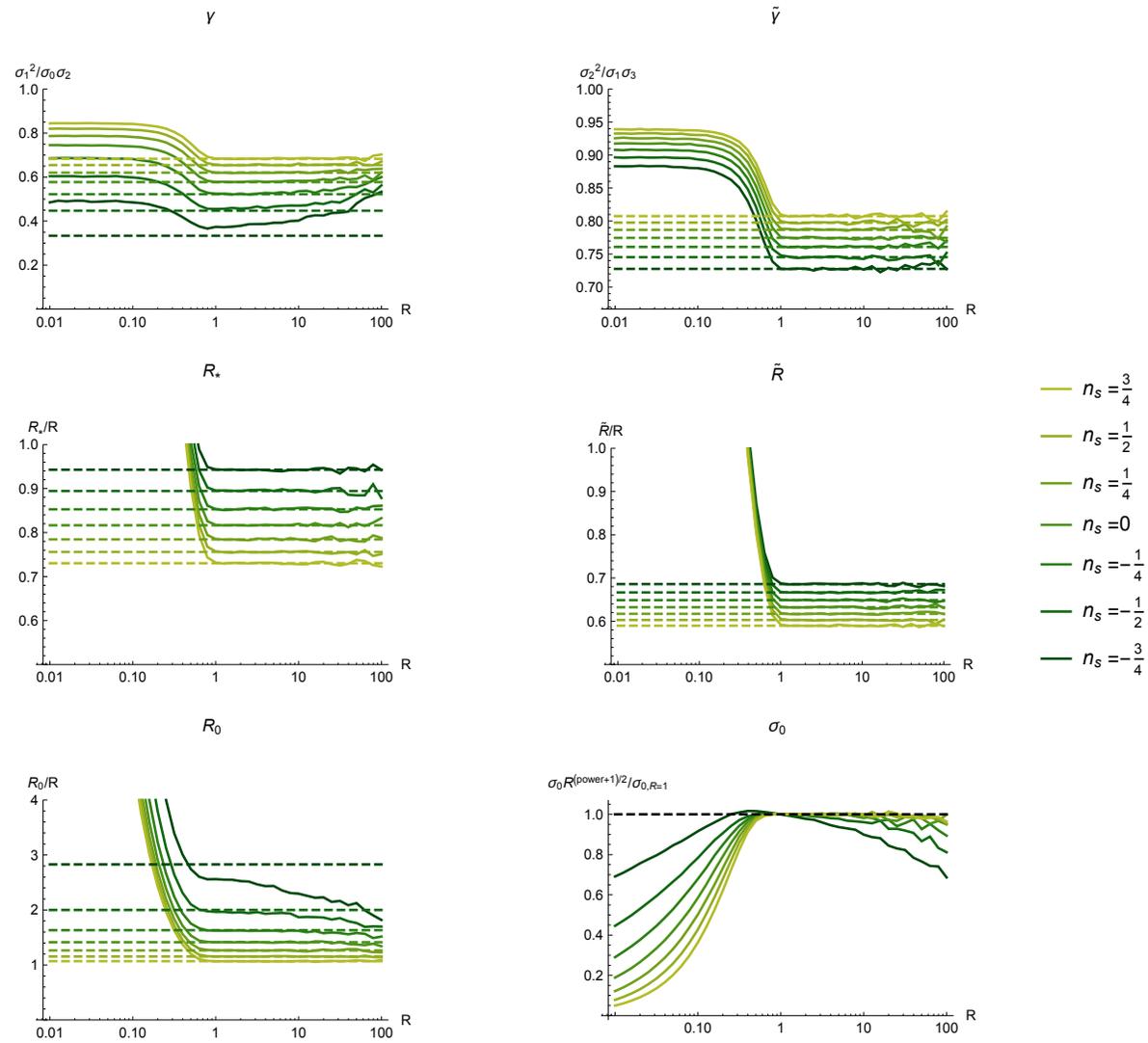
- Proxy for angular momentum associated to mergers by parametrising by the direction of the vanishing eigenvalue of the Hessian

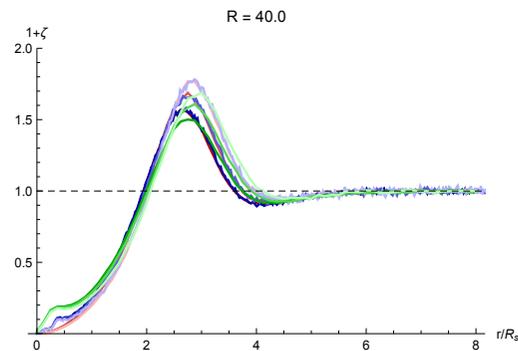
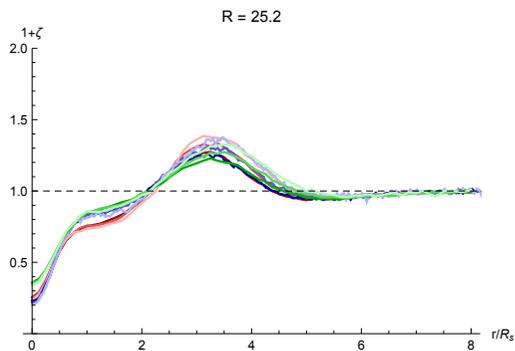
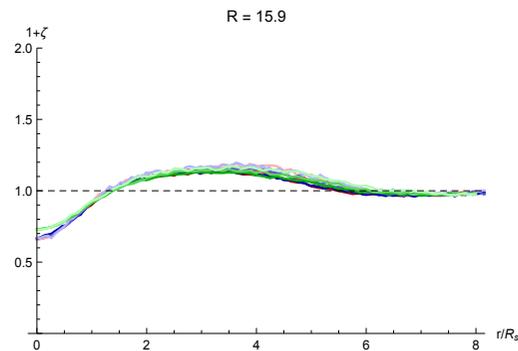
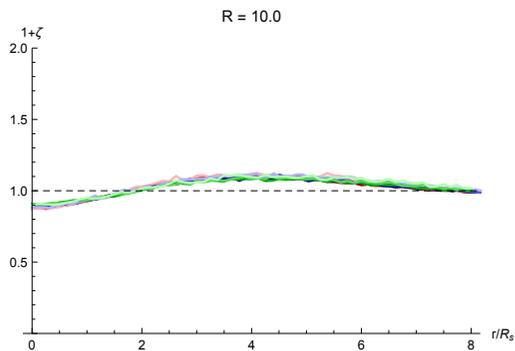
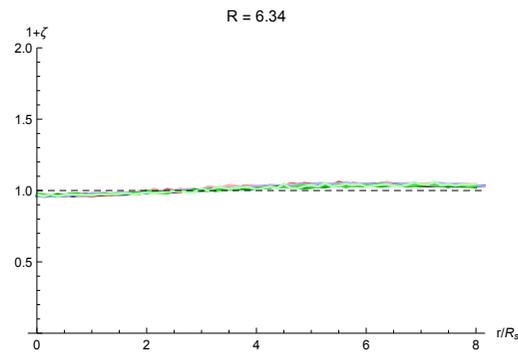
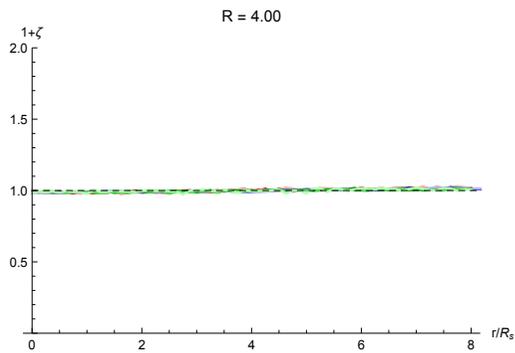


- Make merger rate evolution predictions with respect to the power spectrum

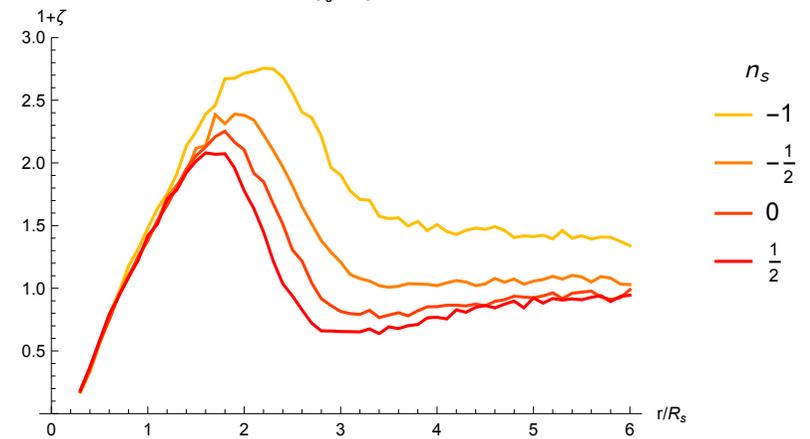


Thank you!





Monte-Carlo integration
of the two point function for peak/event in 2D
 $\delta_c=1.5$



Monte-Carlo integration
of the two point function for peak/event in 3D
 $\delta_c=1.5$

