

# MG-PICOLA Documentation

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## Introduction

This code is based on the L-PICOLA code written by Cullan Howlett & Marc Manera. For a documentation of L-PICOLA see the L-PICOLA [GITHub](#) page.

## Compilation

Requires the FFTW3 library (needs to be compiled with `-enable-float` to use the `SINGLE_PRECISION` option).

Requires GSL (GNU Scientific Library)

Compile the code as `make -f Makefile.model` and run as `mpirun -np 1 MG_PICOLA_MODEL paramfile.txt`. See paramfiles for some example parameter-files.

## Random notes

The scale-dependent version needs the define `SCALEDEPENDENT`. This version requires several Fourier transforms per time-step which makes the code 5 times slower.

The lightcone version of the code have not been tested, but should work fine for the scale-independent version of the case (i.e. using `LCDM` growth-factors).

Some optimizations should be done in the `SCALEDEPENDENT` versions with respect to `Output()`. Currently we recompute the LPT fields twice here. Should be changed.

When running with a modified model note that what the code calls `ΛCDM` is the cosmological model which has no modifications to the growth-rate of perturbations (i.e. not fifth-forces). However if the background is modified then this will be what we call `ΛCDM`.

The original fitting functions for the `ΛCDM` growth-functions can be found as `*_LCDMFit` in `src/new_cosmo.h`.

The time-variable in the integration of growth-factors is  $dy = \frac{da}{E(a)a^3}$ .

Functions of scale (Fourier wavenumber) require  $k$  to be in units of  $h/\text{Mpc}$  ( $2\pi/B$  times the integer wave-number where  $B$  is the box-size).

## Modifying the code

If one wants to add a new model then one likely only needs to modify the file `src/user_defined_functions.h`. This requires the user to specify functions like  $\mu(k, a) = \frac{G_{\text{eff}}(k, a)}{G}$ , the Hubble-function  $E(a) = H(a)/H_0$  and its derivatives, a screening method and screening-function (if the model has screening) plus adding relevant parameters to the code.

If one needs to do any initialization, computing different stuff in a new model then this can be done in the function `src/user_defined_functions.h::init_modified_version()`.

## Parameter file

The code uses the same parameter-file as `PICOLA` with some additions. Note that even if some of the features below are not used the way the parameters are read requires them to be in the parameter-file. In this case the particular values do not matter so just add them with arbitrary values. The main flags are:

- **modified\_gravity\_active = 0, 1** Main flag to turn on or off the modifications of gravity.
- **include\_screening = 0, 1** Main flag to turn on or off the screening method of Winther & Ferreira 2015.

## Initial conditions

- **input\_pofk\_is\_for\_lcdm = 0, 1** The input power-spectrum is assumed to be for  $\Lambda\text{CDM}$  and we will use the MG growth-factor to rescale it.
- **input\_sigma8\_is\_for\_lcdm = 0, 1** Only used if `input_pofk_is_for_lcdm = 1`. Useful if one wants to do MG and  $\Lambda\text{CDM}$  simulations with exactly the same IC. The power-spectrum is normalized according to the linear  $\Lambda\text{CDM}$  model. This means the linear  $\sigma_8$  for a MG run will be different than what is in the parameter-file.

The code can also read IC from file:

- **ReadParticlesFromFile = 0, 1** Main flag to read Ramses / Gadget snapshots and using this as the IC instead of generating the IC in the code. Useful to run COLA simulations with the same IC as previous full N-body simulations.
- **TypeInputParticleFiles = integer** Ramses is 1, ascii is 2 and gadget is 3.

- **NumInputParticleFiles = integer** How many Ramses / Gadget / Ascii files there are to read.
- **InputParticleFileDir = string** Path to the folder containing the snapshot.
- **InputParticleFilePrefix = string** Prefix of the particle-filenames, e.g. gadget in /InputParticleFileDir/gadget.0. Ignored for Ramses-files as we assume it's the standard 'part\_0000X.out0000Y' format.
- **RamsesOutputNumber = integer** The number X in part\_0000X.out0000Y. Ignored for ascii / gadget

## Halo Finding

The code has the FoF halo-finder MatchMaker<sup>1</sup> written by David Alonso included. This has not been properly tested yet so use with care. It also require some memory (the way I merged it in is quite inefficient as it copies particles we have into a the MM struct, with some tweek we should be able to use the PICOLA particles directly). To use this option compile the code with the define MATCHMAKER\_HALOFINDER and add the following options to the parameterfile:

- **mm\_run\_matchmaker = 0, 1** Main flag to turn on halo-finding. Will compute the halo-catalog every time we output.
- **mm\_output\_pernode = 0, 1** One output-file per node (1) or one file in total (0).
- **mm\_output\_format = 0, 1, 2** Ascii (0), Fits (1) or Binary (2). Fits require the cfitsio library plus being compiled with the define MATCHMAKER\_USEFITS.
- **mm\_min\_npart\_halo = int** The minimum number of particles in the FoF groups for we to define it a halo.
- **mm\_linking\_length = float** The FoF linking length in terms of the mean inter-particle distance (0.2 is a commonly used value).
- **mm\_dx\_extra\_mpc = float** Size of buffer region in the same units as the boxsize. 3.0 Mpc/h is a safe value to use.

## Power-spectrum evaluation

The code can do a simple power-spectrum evaluation. This requires the code to be compiled with the define COMPUTE\_POFK. If this define is not set then the parameters below should not be in the parameter-file. If the values entered does not make sense the code will adjust this to the fiducial value. The computation is done right after we have computed  $\delta(k)$  which is needed for forces so there is basically no cost associated with computing this.

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<sup>1</sup>See <https://github.com/damonge/MatchMaker>

- **pofk\_compute\_every\_step = 0, 1** Main flag to turn on off  $P(k)$  evaluation at every step.
- **pofk\_bintype = integer** Linear spacing (0) or logarithmic spacing (1) of the bins. Put to 0 to use fiducial value [LINEAR]
- **pofk\_nbins = integer** Number of bins between kmin and kmax. Put to 0 to use fiducial value [Nmesh]
- **pofk\_kmin = float** Minimum wavenumber in h/Mpc. Fiducial value [0.0]
- **pofk\_kmax = float** Maximum wavenumber in h/Mpc (should be smaller than  $\sim \sqrt{3} \cdot 2\pi/\text{Box} \cdot \text{Nmesh}$ ). Put to 0 to use fiducial value [ $2\pi/B \cdot \text{Nmesh}$ ]
- **pofk\_subtract\_shotnoise = 0, 1** Flag to turn on or off shotnoise subtraction.

The code can also compute the first multipole moments  $P_0, P_2, P_4$  of the redshift space power-spectrum in the global parallel plane approximation (we average over 2 axes)  $P_\ell(k) = (2\ell + 1) \langle L_\ell(\mu) |\delta(k)|^2 \rangle$  where  $L_\ell$  is the Legendre polynomial and  $\mu = k_z/k = \cos \theta$ . This requires 2 extra FFTs. For the scale-dependent version of the code, if the COLA method is in use, we require [P[i].dDdy] to contain  $dD/dy$  apposed to  $\Delta D$  as needed for the time-stepping. This is to be able to add the COLA velocity field to the particles. This is available when we output so it's a bit cheaper to compute it there.

- **pofk\_compute\_rsd\_pofk = 0, 1, 2** Main flag to turn on off RSD  $P_\ell(k)$  evaluation. Compute RSD power-spectrum at every step (1), every time we output (2) or not at all (0).

In addition some power-spectrum estimation codes for post-processing of the data is included, see the SimplePofk folder.

## Massive neutrinos

Not added to the repository yet. Include massive neutrinos (only for the scaledependent version of the code so far). Requires CAMB (or similar, but read routines for other formats not included yet) transfer functions for massive neutrinos.

- **nu\_include\_massive\_neutrinos = 0, 1** Main flag to include massive neutrinos.
- **nu\_sum\_mass = float** The sum of neutrino masses in eV. This is translated into  $\Omega_\nu$  and the CDM+baryon density is put to  $\Omega_{cb} = \Omega - \Omega_\nu$ .
- **nu\_transfer\_info\_file = string** Path to the info-file which again contains a list of filenames with redshifts to CAMB transfer-functions.

### $w_0, w_a$ parametrization for background

The often used parametrization for the dark energy equation of state  $w(a) = w_0 + w_a(1 - a)$  is included in the code and is activated if we compile with the define EQUATIONOFSTATE\_PARAMETRIZATION. For the parameter-file one must add:

- **w\_0 = float** The value of  $w$  at  $z = 0$ .
- **w\_a = float** The derivative  $-dw/da$  at  $z = 0$ .

### DGP model

The normal-branch DGP model with a  $\Lambda$ CDM background. The requires the code to be compiled with the define DGP\_GRAVITY and a choice of smoothing-filter GAUSSIANFILTER (standard), TOPHATFILTER or SHARPKFILTER.

- **Rsmooth = float** The radius in (Mpc/h) of the Fourier space smoothing kernel which we use to smooth the density field with for density-screening. The smoothing kernel itself is set in the Makefile (gaussian, tophat or sharp-k).
- **rcH0\_DGP = float** The crossover-scale  $r_c H_0/c$ . Typical values for cosmological simulations are in the range 0.5 – 5, i.e.  $r_c = 1.5 - 15$  Gpc/h.

### $f(R)$ gravity

This is the Hu-Sawicky  $f(R)$  model. If true growth-factors then this requires the code to be compiled with the define SCALEDEPENDENT (in addition to FOFR\_GRAVITY). Otherwise use the flag **use\_lcdm\_growth\_factors = 1**.

- **fofr0 = float** The value of  $f_R$  in the cosmological background today. Typical values for cosmological simulations are  $10^{-4} - 10^{-6}$ .
- **n\_fofr = float** The value of  $n$  in the Hu-Sawicky  $f(R)$  function.  $n = 1$  is the fiducial value and the most commonly used in the literature.

### $\{m(a), \beta(a)\}$ models

This is implemented in the code, and one should just have to specify  $m(a)$  and  $\beta(a)$  in **src/user\_defined\_functions.h** and add relevant parameters to the parameter-file to be able to use this. The integration of  $\phi(a)$  needed for the screening method is done automatically (in **src/new\_cosmo.h::compute\_phi\_of\_a()**) however one should double check that this gives the correct results. This requires the code to be compiled with the define MBETAMODEL.

## Jordan-Brans-Dicke model

The constrained Jordan-Brans-Dicke model. When solving the background and scalar field equation we enforce  $G_{\text{eff}}/G = \frac{1}{\phi} \frac{4+3\omega_{\text{BD}}}{4+3\omega_{\text{BD}}}$  to be unity at  $a = 1$ . This is done by taking in physical density parameters and solving the background equations selecting the initial scalar field value so that  $\phi(a = 1)$  has the desired value. The hubble parameter is a derived quantity. This requires the code to be compiled with the define BRANSDICKE.

- **wBD** The JBD parameter.
- **Omegah2** The physical matter density parameter
- **Omegarh2** The physical radiation density parameter
- **Omegavh2** The physical dark energy density parameter

Note that the Omega and HubbleParam in the parameter-file is ignored and recalculated from the parameters above.