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MASTER THESIS

Non linear power spectra evolution using Kinetic Field Theory approach

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“We are like butterflies who flutter for a day and think it is forever”

Carl Sagan

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Abstract

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We use the kinetic field theory approach developed in [1–4] to study the evolution of simple primordial power spectra. Kinetic field theory is a microscopic, non equilibrium statistical field theory that can be accustomed to treat large scale structure formation. Due to its features, it overcomes some difficulties arising in other perturbative approaches, the most famous being shell crossing [5]. In particular, we will use the Born approximation applied in kinetic field theory setting, that was proven to be particularly trustworthy compared to N -body simulations [6], to probe the non linear evolution of some simplified primordial power spectra; one will be related to dark matter primordial power spectrum, where the primary concern will be to see if indeed non-linear power spectra have to fall off like k^{-3} asymptotically for large k . Another one we will analyze will be a Gaussian shape power spectrum with mean k_0 ; such a spectrum is cosmologically irrelevant, but nevertheless it is interesting to see what Kinetic field theory predicts for the population of modes far from k_0 .

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List of Abbreviations, constants and parameters

Abbreviations		
KFT		Kinetic Field Teory
QFT		Quantum Field Teory
CMB		Cosmic Microwave Background
LSS		Large Scale Structure (formation)
Λ CDM		“Lambda” (dark energy) Cold Dark Matter (models)
Constants		
Speed of light	c	$2.997\,924\,58 \times 10^8 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ (exact)
Hubble constant (today)	H_0	$70 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$
Gravitational constant	G	$6.674\,08(31) \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}^3 \text{ kg}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-2}$
Parameters		
Baryon density parameter (today)	$\Omega_{\text{mb},0}$	0.04
Dark matter density parameter (today)	$\Omega_{\text{md},0}$	0.26
Dark energy density parameter (today)	$\Omega_{\Lambda,0}$	0.70
Hubble parameter	h	0.7
Galactic variance per $8 \text{ Mpc } h^{-1}$	σ_8	0.8

List of Symbols

Symbol	Description/Name	Find in text
κ	Curvature parameter	
$\vec{x}_j(t) := (\vec{q}_j(t), \vec{p}_j(t))^\top$	6 dimensional phase space vector for particle j	
$\mathcal{J} := \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathbb{1}_3 \\ -\mathbb{1}_3 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	Symplectic matrix	(2.2)
$\mathbf{x}(t) := \vec{x}_j(t) \otimes \vec{e}_j$	Boldface symbols are Kronecker products of this kind	
$\vec{s}, \vec{k}, \vec{l}$	Fourier conjugate wavevectors for $\vec{x}, \vec{q}, \vec{p}$ respectively	
$\int_r := \int \frac{d^3 k_r}{(2\pi)^3} \int \frac{d^3 l_r}{(2\pi)^3} \int dt$	Shortcuts for integrals	
$\vec{\chi}(t) := \begin{pmatrix} \vec{\chi}_{q_j}(t) \\ \vec{\chi}_{p_j}(t) \end{pmatrix}$	Auxiliary 6 dimensional microscopic field	(2.10)
$\mathcal{H}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, t)$	Hamiltonian	
$E(\mathbf{x})$	Equation of motion (defined by $E(\mathbf{x}) = 0$)	(2.6)
$\mathcal{V}(\vec{q}, t)$	Interaction potential	
$v(\vec{q})$	Single particle interaction potential	(2.20)
$S[\mathbf{x}, \chi]$	Functional action	(2.12)
$P_0(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})$	Initial phase-space distribution probability function	(2.47)
$d\Gamma := d\mathbf{x}^{(i)} P_0(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})$	Initial phase space integration measure	(2.13)
$I(t) := \begin{pmatrix} \vec{J}_{q_j}(t) \\ \vec{J}_{p_j}(t) \end{pmatrix} \otimes \vec{e}_j$	Source field conjugate of \mathbf{x}	(2.14)
$K(t) := \begin{pmatrix} \vec{K}_{q_j}(t) \\ \vec{K}_{p_j}(t) \end{pmatrix} \otimes \vec{e}_j$	Source field conjugate of χ	(2.14)
$Z_C[J, K]$	Canonical generating functional	(2.15)

Continued on next page

Symbol	Description/Name	Find in text
\bar{x}	Classical solution of the free equation of motion	(2.17)
$\mathcal{G}(t, t') := \begin{pmatrix} g_{qq}\mathbb{1}_3 & g_{qp}\mathbb{1}_3 \\ g_{pq}\mathbb{1}_3 & g_{pp}\mathbb{1}_3 \end{pmatrix} (t, t')$	Free propagator	(2.18)
$\mathcal{G}(t, t') := \mathcal{G}(t, t') \otimes \mathbb{1}_N$	Kronecker product for the propagator	(2.18)
$\rho(\vec{q}, t)$	Density field	(2.19)
$B(\vec{q}, t)$	Response field	(2.22)
$\Phi(\vec{s}, t) := \begin{pmatrix} \Phi_f(\vec{s}, t) \\ \Phi_B(\vec{s}, t) \end{pmatrix}$	Klimontovich fields	(2.27)
$\sigma(\vec{s}, \vec{t}, \vec{s}', \vec{t}')$	Interaction potential in path integral	(2.29)
$H(\vec{s}, t) := \begin{pmatrix} H_f(\vec{s}, t) \\ H_B(\vec{s}, t) \end{pmatrix}$	Source field conjugate of Φ	(2.30)
$\hat{\Phi}(\vec{s}, t)$	Operator version of Φ	(2.33)
$\hat{\Phi}_\alpha^{(1)}(\vec{s}, t)$	One particle Φ_α operator	(2.33)
$\hat{H}(\vec{s}, t)$	Operator version of H	(2.35)
$\hat{b}_j(\vec{s}, t)$	Response field operator	(2.34)
\hat{S}_1	Operator version of the interaction part of the action	(2.36)
$\delta(\vec{q}, t)$	Density contrast	(2.38)
$Z_C[\mathbf{J}, \mathbf{K}, H]$	Canonical full generating functional	(2.32)
$\vec{u}^i(\vec{q}^{(0)})$	Initial velocity field	(2.40)
$\psi(\vec{q}^{(0)})$	Initial irrotational velocity potential	(2.40)
$P_\delta(k, t)$	Density contrast power spectrum	(2.39)
$\vec{P}(\vec{q}^{(0)})$	Initial momentum dispersion	(2.43)
$\hat{\mathcal{C}}$	Particle correlation operator	(2.50)
$G_{\alpha_1(1)\dots\alpha_n(n)}$	n -point particle correlator	(2.52)
$G_{\rho(1)\rho(2)}$	Density 2-point correlator	(2.51)
$C_{jk}(\vec{q}_{jk}) := \begin{pmatrix} C_{\delta\delta}\mathbb{1}_3 & C_{\delta p}\mathbb{1}_3 \\ C_{p\delta}\mathbb{1}_3 & C_{pp}\mathbb{1}_3 \end{pmatrix} (\vec{q}_{jk})$	Correlation matrix	(2.48), (2.49)
$\mathcal{C} := C_{jk} \otimes \vec{e}_j \otimes \vec{e}_k$	Kronecker product of correlation matrix	(2.48)
L, L_q, L_p	Shift vectors	(2.54), (2.56)

Continued on next page

Symbol	Description/Name	Find in text
σ_n^2	Generalized momentum variance	(2.58)
Q, Q_0, Q_D	Exponential free streaming damping factors	(2.60)
\vec{k}_{jk}	Generalized wave vectors	(2.68)
$\mathcal{P}(k, t)$	Power spectrum from factorization of generating functional	(2.67)
$\xi_\psi(q_{jk})$	ψ Correlation function	(2.72)
π_\parallel, π_\perp	Projectors	(2.70)
$\lambda_\parallel, \lambda_\perp, a_\parallel, a_\perp, a_1, a_2$	Factors arising in factorization of generating functional	(2.69)(2.71), (2.76)
j_n	Spherical Bessel functions	(2.75)
\mathcal{L}	Lagrangian	
$D_+(t)$	Linear growth factor	
η, τ	Time coordinate expressed using the linear growth factor	(3.11)(3.1)
$f(\eta), g(\eta)$	Factors arising in propagator of trajectories in expanding space-time	(3.3), (3.4)
$\vec{f}(\tau)$	Effective force	(3.19)
$\langle S_I \rangle(\vec{k}, \tau)$	Interacting action averaged following Born approximation	(3.23)
$\bar{\mathcal{P}}(\vec{k}, \tau)$	Non linearly evolved power spectrum	(3.24)

Chapter 1

Introduction

Large scale structures formation (LSS) studies necessitate some techniques to probe the non linear regime of structure formation. Right now, N -body simulations applied to this problem have reached an high degree of accuracy, but nevertheless, even with the computational power increase we experienced in recent years, they are time consuming and they cannot span a large range of parameters. Also they cannot shed light on the connection of physical properties of LSS with the fundamental physics. It is thus of interest to try to find out analytical means to probe the non linear regime of LSS formation. Tools that use standard perturbation theory [5], approaches using renormalization group techniques and related [7–9] and others [10, 11] showed that this is not easy to accomplish. The recently developed “kinetic field theory for cosmic structure formation” [1–4, 12] seems a very promising tool to probe semi-analytically the non linear regime. It is based on a microscopic statistical field theory, and enables to avoid notorious problems arising in classical approaches like shell-crossing.

In this thesis, we will use KFT approach to analyze the non linear evolution of some simplified primordial spectrum. We will take into account the fluctuation density field of collisionless dark matter (we will thus ignore all the other species like baryons; nevertheless one can include the effects of baryons in KFT, see [13]) in a standard Λ CDM cosmological setting. In KFT framework, one can attempt to include gravitational interactions using a perturbative approach [1, 4] or using some non perturbative scheme [6]. We will focus on the latter approach for our analysis.

In this chapter we will show the notations and physical conventions we will use throughout the thesis; also in section 1.3 we will resume the cosmological setting relevant for our work. In chapter 2 we review the Kinetic Field Theory (KFT), in particular in section 2.4 we will show how the central object of KFT, the generating functional, can be fully factorized [4], something useful for what we want to do; in chapter 3 we derive the propagator, accounting for the free evolution and a part of the interactions, to use in our cosmological setting [14, 15] and describe our non-perturbative approach to take into account gravitational interactions [6]; in chapter 4 we describe the analysis of power spectra, the original part of our work; finally in chapter 5 one can find a summary of our work, the conclusions and possible future developments.

1.1 Notations

Here we resume the main notations we are using throughout the thesis.

1.1.1 Mathematical objects

In the following, we tried to make the notation as simple as possible but searching also to specify the kind of mathematical object we are dealing with.

We will use the vector symbol (like in \vec{k}) to indicate three dimensional vectors or generic n dimensional vectors (like \vec{e}_j); a vector quantity will be written without the vector symbol when we want to consider its module (for example $k = |\vec{k}|$); quantities that are Kronecker products (defined in appendix A.1) are indicated with boldface symbols (like in \mathbf{k}); we didn't find necessary to use a particular way to denote matrices.

The functional integration in a function $x(t)$ is denoted as $\int \mathcal{D}x$, whereas the ordinary integration over a variable x is simply $\int dx$ as usual.

1.1.2 Dependencies and integrals

To make the formulas not too lengthy, we will often use shortcuts for dependencies or integrals. Since we will work with many quantities with phase space coordinates dependencies, we will find it useful to put the whole dependencies in a single, integer-valued, label we will often generically indicate with the letter r . In general, $\pm r := \{\pm \vec{k}_r, \pm \vec{l}_r, t_r\}$, where \vec{k}_r, \vec{l}_r are the Fourier conjugate of the real phase space coordinates \vec{q}_r, \vec{p}_r respectively. The corresponding shortcut for the integrals will be

$$\int_r := \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \int \frac{d^3l}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{t_0}^{t_f} dt ; \quad (1.1)$$

when we will specify the dependence in this way for a function that depends only on some of the phase space plus time quantities, the previous definitions will be restricted to only the relevant quantities (for example for a quantity A that depends only on \vec{k}, t , $A(1) = A(\vec{k}_1, t_1)$ only).

Since we will also often not specify the dependencies at all when they are clear from the context, we decided nevertheless to clearly specify them in the list of symbols, that you can find in page xi, for quick reference.

1.1.3 Inner products

A generic inner product is denoted with the \cdot symbol; its definition is slightly different (but still very intuitive) based on the quantities it acts on:

Between ordinary vectors : $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = a_j b_j$;

Between Kronecker products : $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = (\vec{a}_j \otimes \vec{e}_j)(\vec{b}_j \otimes \vec{e}_j) = \vec{a}_j \cdot \vec{b}_j$;

Between tuples of fields : $H \cdot \Phi = (H_f H_B)(\Phi_f \Phi_B)^\top = H_{\alpha_j} \cdot \Phi_{\alpha_j}$.

We can also extend the meaning of the inner product, meaning also integration over the variables the quantities that are multiplied depend on, indicating it with \bullet , so that

$$A(r) \bullet B(r) := \int_r A(-r) \cdot B(r) .$$

We finally remark that we will always use, unless it is clearly specified otherwise, the Einstein summation convention, i.e. summation over repeated indices, that appear repeated only in one side of an equation, is understood.

1.1.4 Fourier transform

We will use the following convention for the Fourier transform

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

where we indicate the Fourier transform of f simply by specifying its dependence on \vec{k} .

Conversely, the inverse Fourier transform will be

$$f(\vec{k}) = \int d^3x e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{x}} f(\vec{x}) ,$$

and thus the integral representation of the Dirac delta will be

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

1.2 Physical conventions

The metric signature we will use is the mostly positive $(-+++)$, often used in general relativity. We will use natural units, with $c = \hbar = 1$. We will convert to standard units (the one pertaining the international system of units or usual astronomical units like Mpc) when we will do quantitative analysis.

Quantities evaluated at the initial time will be denoted with the superscript (i) , whereas quantities evaluated at the present time will be denoted with the subscript 0 ; we will also often indicate quantities evaluated in free theory (that is setting the interaction term to zero) with the subscript 0 , but we think confusion will not arise since the difference between the two will always be clear.

As initial time, we will take one early in the matter dominated era (so that the initial matter density parameter $\Omega_m^{(i)} \simeq 1$), and we will normalize the Robertson-Walker scale factor a to be unity at this initial time, $a^{(i)} := a(t^{(i)}) = 1$.

1.3 Cosmological setting summary

Here we will briefly resume the cosmological model we will assume for our discussion.

1.3.1 Standard Λ CDM models

All cosmological models start from the following two assumptions, regrouped in what is called cosmological principle:

- *Isotropy*. The universe, on large scales, is substantially isotropic;
- *Homogeneity*. The universe has no preferred place, i.e. it is homogeneous.

Of course this is true as a first approximation (but still a very good one, especially for early times and/or enough large scales, as the CMB spectrum and large scale surveys show), otherwise we won't see any structure at all and we won't exist.

Upon an isotropic and homogeneous universe, the most general line element compatible with these two symmetries is the Robertson-Walker one, that in spherical coordinates reads¹

$$ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu = -dt^2 + a^2(t) \left(\frac{dr^2}{1 - \kappa r^2} + r^2 (d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2) \right),$$

where $a(t)$ is the scale factor, encoding the expansion behavior of the universe, and where we are using comoving coordinates². The curvature parameter κ can assume the values 0, +1, -1, representing a flat, closed and open universe respectively.

Putting this line element in Einstein equations for general relativity

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G T_{\mu\nu} + \Lambda g_{\mu\nu},$$

together with the stress-energy tensor for a perfect fluid (the appropriate choice within the symmetries we are assuming)

$$T_{\mu\nu} = (\bar{P}(t) + \bar{\rho}(t)) u_\mu u_\nu + \bar{P}(t) g_{\mu\nu},$$

we end up with the first two Friedmann equations³

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a} \right)^2 &=: H^2 = \frac{8\pi G}{3} \bar{\rho} - \frac{\kappa}{a^2} + \frac{\Lambda}{3}, \\ \frac{\ddot{a}}{a} &= -\frac{4\pi G}{3} (\bar{\rho} + 3\bar{P}) + \frac{\Lambda}{3}; \end{aligned}$$

the third Friedmann equation, also called continuity equation, can be derived from the previous two or also from the zero component of the continuity equation $T^{\mu\nu}_{;\nu} = 0$, and reads

$$\dot{\bar{\rho}} + 3H(\bar{\rho} + \bar{P}) = 0.$$

¹Recall that in the following we will use natural units, so in particular we set the speed of light $c = 1$.

²The Robertson-Walker line element has this simple form only in comoving coordinates, i.e. with coordinates comoving with the "cosmic fluid" (that can be represented by the CMB).

³The notation we are using is pretty standard, but just to be clear: $R_{\mu\nu}$ is the Ricci tensor, R is the Ricci scalar, Λ is the cosmological constant (it is meant to represent dark energy here), $\bar{P}(t)$ and $\bar{\rho}(t)$ are the (background) pressure and energy density of the cosmic fluid, dependent only on cosmic time (otherwise they would break homogeneity and isotropy), u_μ is the (covariant) four velocity and $\dot{} := d/dt$.

Friedmann equations are two independent equations for three unknowns $a, \bar{\rho}, \bar{P}$, so one usually assume an equation of state like

$$\bar{P} = w\bar{\rho}.$$

Exploiting the previous, using the third Friedmann equation, we have

$$\bar{\rho} = \bar{\rho}(t^{(i)}) \left(\frac{a}{a(t^{(i)})} \right)^{-3(1+w)},$$

where the superscript (i) denotes quantities evaluated at a specified initial time. Physics does not depend on the absolute value of a , so we are free to normalize the scale factor imposing $a(t^{(i)}) = 1^4$. Exploiting also the first Friedmann equation, we can derive from the previous

$$a \propto t^{2/3(1+w)} \implies H = \frac{2}{3(1+w)}.$$

Different components of the universe are characterized by a different equation of state, in particular $w = 0$ for matter and $w = 1/3$ for radiation; using these behaviors, we can express the first Friedmann in terms of the various density parameters today

$$\Omega_{j,0} := \frac{8\pi G}{3H^2} \bar{\rho}_{j,0},$$

where we used 0 as a subscript for quantities evaluated at the present time, and the index j labels the various components (r = radiation, m=matter, md= (cold) dark matter, mb = baryons, Λ = dark energy). So Friedmann becomes

$$H^2 = H_0^2 \left(\Omega_{r,0} a^{-4} + \Omega_{m,0} a^{-3} + \Omega_{\kappa,0} a^{-2} + \Omega_{\Lambda,0} \right).$$

The parameter $\Omega_{\kappa,0}$, that refers to the contribution of the curvature, is very close to zero [16] so that in the following we will consider the curvature κ to be negligible (this is also coherent with inflationary models); the models in which $\kappa = 0$ are also called Einstein-De Sitter models. Instead $\Omega_{r,0}$ refers to radiation, and it is of order $\simeq 10^{-5}$, so it can be neglected during the matter and dark energy dominated epochs (the ones we will consider).

In this thesis, as a background cosmological model, we will use a standard Λ CDM model, i.e. a universe whose expansion and background values of quantities like energy density and pressure are described by Friedmann equations, with parameters [16]

$$H_0 = 100 h \frac{\text{km}}{\text{s Mpc}}, \quad h = 0.7, \quad \Omega_m = 0.3 \begin{cases} \Omega_{mb,0} = 0.04 \\ \Omega_{md,0} = 0.26 \end{cases}, \quad \Omega_{\Lambda,0} = 0.7, \quad \Omega_{r,0} \simeq 0.$$

⁴This is different with the standard choice $a(t_0) = 1$, where t_0 is the time today, but for our purposes our convention is more useful.

1.3.2 Fluctuations and power spectra

In order to explain the growth of structures in the universe, we must deal with fluctuations around the background values, in particular we must deal with

$$\delta = \frac{\rho - \bar{\rho}}{\bar{\rho}},$$

where ρ is the full density, comprehensive of the background mean density $\bar{\rho}$ (obeying Friedmann equations) and the fluctuation $\bar{\rho}\delta$.

We can view the density field as a stochastic field. Inflation predicts primordial fluctuations to be gaussian, and a gaussian random field is completely determined once we know the first two correlators, i.e. the mean and the two-point correlation function. Since for δ the mean is zero by definition, we need only

$$\langle \delta(\vec{r}, t) \delta(\vec{r}', t) \rangle =: \xi_\delta(|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|),$$

where, due to homogeneity and isotropy, ξ can only depend on the distance between the two points considered. Usually in cosmology one focuses on the power spectrum, that is defined, in Fourier space, as

$$\langle \delta(\vec{k}, t) \delta(\vec{k}', t) \rangle =: (2\pi)^3 \delta_D(\vec{k} + \vec{k}') P_\delta(k, t);$$

using this definition, it is easy to see that the power spectrum is the Fourier transform of ξ_δ (this fact is also known as the Wiener-Khinchine theorem).

Inflationary models predict the following primordial power spectrum

$$P_\delta^{(p)} \propto k^{n_s}, \quad (1.2)$$

where the superscript (p) here means primordial (i.e. immediately after inflation) and n_s is the scalar spectral index; from CMB measurements, $n_s = 0.96$ at 95% of confidence level [16]; it is therefore very near unity (that is, the primordial power spectrum after inflation is very near to a perfect Harrison-Zel'dovich spectrum, which has $n_s = 1$).

In a full relativistic treatment, one should take into account relativistic effects arising for scales larger than the comoving Hubble radius $r_H := 1/aH$; in fact modes that are outside the Hubble radius (that is modes whose typical comoving length is greater than r_H) cannot be in causal contact.

Of course r_H is not constant in time, in particular during accelerated expansion (as the one that hypothetically happened in the early universe during inflation, and the one is happening now, in dark energy dominated era) it shrinks, so that modes that were previously inside r_H can go out of it and they could be no more in causal contact. A picture of this behavior can be found in figure 1.1.

For scales smaller than the Hubble radius, the equation of motions reduce to the ones pertaining Newtonian gravity; the effects of the expansion of the universe are encoded only in the redefinition of the coordinates used (comoving coordinates are the proper ones) and in the redefinition of the gravitational potential.

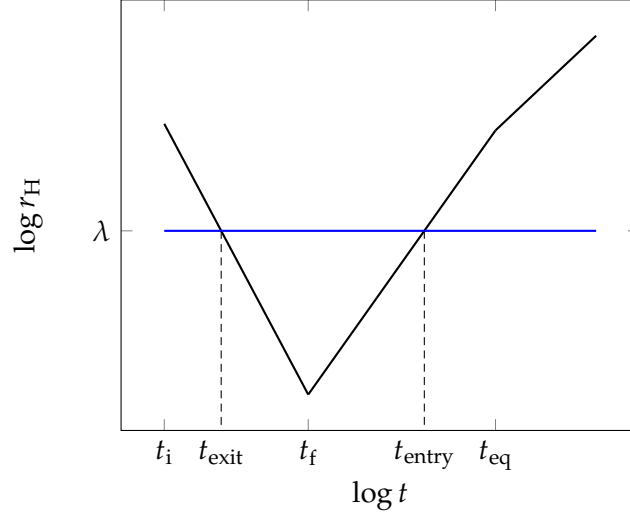


FIGURE 1.1: Behavior of the comoving Hubble radius with respect to time in log-log axes; t_i is the time when inflation begins, t_f when inflation ends, t_{eq} the equivalence between matter and radiation; here is represented a comoving scale λ , that exits the horizon at t_{exit} during inflation (as most of the modes relevant for structure formation do) and re-enters it at t_{entry} during radiation domination.

1.3.3 Fluctuations evolution

To find the equations for the fluctuations, the proper setting is of course again general relativity; however, a full relativistic treatment must deal with subtleties like gauge problems and such (see [17]); for our purposes, since we will deal with cold dark matter (which is non relativistic) the Newtonian approach we mentioned in the previous section is more than enough.

Here we will briefly go through the Eulerian perturbation theory by exploiting the so called Vlasov equation for collisionless dark matter particles. Some of the results we will obtain in this section will be used in the main body of the thesis.

Lagrangian of collisionless dark matter. We want here to derive an expression for the lagrangian of collisionless dark matter particles in an expanding space-time. We will need this in order to obtain the Vlasov equation.

Consider at first the following lagrangian for a single particle of mass m

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}m\dot{r}^2 - m\varphi(\vec{q}, t),$$

where here we will consider $\vec{q} = \vec{r}/a$ as a comoving quantity (with $a := a(t)$ as the Robertson-Walker scale factor), $\dot{} := d/dt$ and $\varphi(\vec{q}, t)$ as the Newtonian gravitational potential satisfying

$$\nabla_{\vec{q}}^2 \varphi(\vec{q}, t) = 4\pi G a^2 \rho(\vec{q}, t), \quad (1.3)$$

where we recall $\rho(\vec{q}, t) = \bar{\rho}(t)(1 + \delta(\vec{q}, t))$. Since if we change the lagrangian adding a total time derivative we won't change the equations of motion, we pass to

$$\mathcal{L}' = \mathcal{L} - \frac{d\psi}{dt}, \quad \psi = \frac{1}{2}ma\dot{a}q^2,$$

and the new lagrangian becomes (we drop the prime)

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}ma^2\dot{q}^2 - \frac{m}{2}a\ddot{a}q^2 - m\phi = \frac{1}{2}ma^2\dot{q}^2 - m\phi, \quad (1.4)$$

where in the last step, with $\phi := \varphi - \varphi_b$, we exploited the second Friedmann equation (without the pressure term) and the expression for the background gravitational potential (solution of (1.3) with $\rho(\vec{q}, t) = \bar{\rho}(t)$), respectively

$$\ddot{a} = -\frac{4\pi G}{3}a\bar{\rho}(t); \quad \varphi_b = \frac{2}{3}\bar{\rho}(t)\pi Ga^2q^2.$$

Vlasov equation. We are interested in the collisionless Boltzmann equation, so we need the hamiltonian

$$\mathcal{H} = \vec{p} \cdot \vec{q} - \mathcal{L} = \frac{p^2}{2ma^2} + m\phi,$$

where we used

$$\vec{p} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \vec{q}} = ma^2\dot{\vec{q}}.$$

The collisionless Boltzmann equation for the particle distribution function $f(\vec{q}, \vec{p}, t)$ is

$$\mathbb{C}[f] = 0 = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \dot{\vec{q}} \cdot \nabla_{\vec{q}} f + \dot{\vec{p}} \cdot \frac{df}{d\vec{p}},$$

and using the Hamilton equations

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\vec{q}} &= \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial \vec{p}} = \frac{\vec{p}}{ma^2}, \\ \dot{\vec{p}} &= -\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial \vec{q}} = -m\nabla\phi, \end{aligned}$$

we find the Vlasov equation

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \frac{\vec{p}}{ma^2} \cdot \nabla_{\vec{q}} f - m\nabla_{\vec{q}}\phi \cdot \frac{df}{d\vec{p}} = 0} \quad (1.5)$$

Continuity and Euler equations. Solving the non linear and non local Vlasov equation is not easy, so we consider its first two moments:

$$\rho(\vec{q}, t) = \frac{m}{a^3} \int d^3p f(\vec{q}, \vec{p}, t) \quad (\text{zero moment})$$

$$\vec{v}(\vec{q}, t) = \frac{N}{ma} \int d^3p \vec{p} f(\vec{q}, \vec{p}, t) = \frac{1}{a^4\rho} \int d^3p \vec{p} f(\vec{q}, \vec{p}, t) \quad (\text{first moment})$$

where in the first we divided by a^3 since we are interested in the physical volume and not the comoving one, and on the last $N = (\int d^3p f)^{-1} = m/a^3\rho$ is a normalization factor.

Now taking Vlasov equation, multiplying it by m and integrating over \vec{p} we find, with $H = \dot{a}/a$ as the Hubble constant

$$\dot{\rho} + 3H\rho + \frac{1}{a}\nabla_{\vec{q}} \cdot (\rho\vec{v}) = 0, \quad (1.6)$$

that is the continuity equation, whereas if again we multiply Vlasov by p^i and integrate over \vec{p} we find (after some work)

$$\frac{\partial v^i}{\partial t} + H v^i + \frac{1}{a} v^j \frac{\partial v^i}{\partial x^j} = -\frac{1}{a} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x^i} - \frac{1}{a} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} (\Pi^{ij} \rho),$$

where at the end we have a second moment related quantity (that represents the dispersion of velocity)

$$\Pi^{ij} = \frac{\langle p^i p^j \rangle}{m^2 a^2} - v^i v^j,$$

where the angle brackets means average over phase space coordinates. We see that an equation for the n -th moment contains also the $n + 1$ -th moment. To truncate this set of equations, we can assume for example that the Π^{ij} term is zero (i.e. negligible velocity dispersion, this is the so called single stream approximation), thus obtaining

$$\frac{\partial \vec{v}}{\partial t} + H \vec{v} + \frac{1}{a} (\vec{v} \cdot \nabla) \vec{v} = -\frac{1}{a} \nabla \phi, \quad (1.7)$$

that is the Euler equation for a non static background.

Fluctuation equations. Expressing (1.3) with respect to fluctuation δ , we obtain (exploiting the third Friedmann equation $\dot{\rho} = -3H\bar{\rho}$ to get rid of the background density)

$$\dot{\delta} + \frac{1}{a} \nabla \cdot ((1 + \delta) \vec{v}) = 0;$$

take its time derivative and exploit (1.7) and (1.3) to obtain, at linear level on the fluctuations δ, v, ϕ

$$\ddot{\delta} + 2H\dot{\delta} - 4\pi G \bar{\rho} \delta = 0. \quad (1.8)$$

This is the equation for fluctuations at linear level, valid as long as the fluctuations remain small. Using the first Friedmann equation, we can rewrite it as (assuming the relevant Ω to be unity)

$$\ddot{\delta} + 2H\dot{\delta} - \frac{3}{2} H^2 \delta = 0;$$

the analogous treatment for radiation (accounting properly for the pressure) brings one to the equation

$$\ddot{\delta} + 2H\dot{\delta} - 4H^2 \delta = 0.$$

In Einstein-De Sitter models, $H = 2/3(1 + w)t$, so with the ansatz $\delta \propto t^n$, we find

$$n = \begin{cases} 2/3, & -1 & \text{matter dominated,} \\ \pm 1, & & \text{radiation dominated.} \end{cases}$$

We clearly see that we have a growing mode and a decaying mode, denoted respectively by

$$\delta(t) = \delta(t^{(i)}) \frac{D_{\pm}(t)}{D_{\pm}(t^{(i)})}.$$

The linearly evolved power spectrum, neglecting the decaying mode, will thus be $p_{\delta}^{\text{linear}} \propto D_+^2 P_{\delta}^{(i)}$. Usually it is useful to use the growing factor D_+ , instead of the

cosmic time t as a time variable; this is something we will also do, as one can see in section 3.1.

1.3.4 Power spectrum after radiation domination

According to the standard hot big bang model (see for example [18]), the Universe at very early stages underwent an inflationary expansion, and the quantum fluctuations of the hypothetical scalar field that causes it (the inflaton) are believed to be the seed of density fluctuations that, thanks to Jean's instability mechanisms and the likes, will form the structures we see all around us. Theories of inflation predicts the Harrison-Zel'dovich spectrum (1.2); then the universe underwent the radiation dominated era.

During radiation domination, we derived $D_+ \propto t \propto a^2$; but fluctuation modes that were inside the Hubble radius were suppressed by radiation pressure, whereas the ones that were outside of it keep increasing like a^2 , before entering again. This translates in a suppression factor proportional to k^{-2} . The power spectrum at small scales will thus have a k^{-4} suppression during this period, until the matter dominated era.

Taking as initial time one early in the matter dominated era, approximating $n_s \approx 1$, we have thus

$$P_\delta^{(i)}(k) \sim \begin{cases} k & k \ll k_{\text{eq}} \\ k^{-3} & k \gg k_{\text{eq}} \end{cases}. \quad (1.9)$$

This is the typical behavior of power spectrum for dark matter at the beginning of matter dominated era, where the large scale behavior is still set by inflation whereas the small scale behavior feel the radiation damping. We remark that, at the time of matter-radiation equivalence, linear theory is still expected to hold.

We have a starting shape for the power spectrum; its overall amplitude can instead be determined by the galactic variance today in a scale $R = 8 \text{ Mpc}/h$, defined by

$$\sigma_8 = \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} P_\delta(k) W_R^2(k), \quad (1.10)$$

where $W_R(k)$ is the window function filtering a scale R . We will take a value of $\sigma_8 = 0.8$ throughout this thesis.

Eulerian theory we briefly sketched here and other perturbative approaches have their problems, and it is difficult to make them work also in the non linear regime. This is why one is interested in other possible approaches, attempting to at least tackle the weakly non-linear regime of LSS formation. Kinetic field theory is one of them, and we will introduce it to the reader on next chapter.

Chapter 2

Kinetic Field Theory approach

Kinetic Field Theory (KFT) is basically a non equilibrium statistical field theory for classical fields, in particular we will consider as fields the phase space coordinates $\vec{x}_j = (\vec{q}_j, \vec{p}_j)^\top$, where the index j , $1 \leq j \leq N$, labels the particle we are considering and N is the number of particles. These particles are meant to represent macroscopic objects like galaxies and such (the usual starting point in cosmology); notice that this is also the starting assumption of N -body simulations (see for example [19]).

For these particle phase space coordinates, the Hamilton equations

$$\partial_t \vec{x}_j = \mathcal{J} \partial_j \mathcal{H} , \quad (2.1)$$

hold, where \mathcal{H} is the hamiltonian and \mathcal{J} is the symplectic matrix

$$\mathcal{J} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathbb{1}_3 \\ -\mathbb{1}_3 & 0 \end{pmatrix} , \quad (2.2)$$

and $\mathbb{1}_n$ is the n dimensional identity matrix.

It is important to remark at this point that, since the particles we are considering follow the hamiltonian flow, and since trajectories in phase space do not cross, we will avoid the notorious problem of shell crossing [5].

We want to consider systems of N particles, so we introduce the following Kronecker products:

$$\boldsymbol{q} = \vec{q}_j \otimes \vec{e}_j , \quad \boldsymbol{p} = \vec{p}_j \otimes \vec{e}_j ,$$

and also

$$\boldsymbol{x} = \vec{x}_j \otimes \vec{e}_j , \quad (2.3)$$

where \vec{e}_j is the N dimensional vector whose the only non zero entry is the j -th one and it is equal to one, $(\vec{e}_j)_k = \delta_{jk}$, and the summation over j is implied. We will use boldface symbols for quantities that are Kronecker products, all defined in the same way as in (2.3), in the following. We introduce also the scalar product between two Kronecker products as

$$\boldsymbol{a} \cdot \boldsymbol{b} := \vec{a}_j \cdot \vec{b}_j .$$

With these definitions we can concisely express for example the Hamilton equations (2.1) for all N particles, defining

$$\boldsymbol{F} := (\mathcal{J} \otimes \mathbb{1}_N) \cdot (\partial_j \otimes \vec{e}_j) , \quad (2.4)$$

as

$$\partial_t \boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{F} \mathcal{H} \quad (2.5)$$

(more insights on Kronecker products are given in appendix A.1). The advantage of this notation with Kronecker products is thus clear, we can concisely express quantities that involve all the particles we are considering without getting mad with too many indices.

2.1 Generating functional formalism

We now develop, as it is common in statistical field theories, the generating functional for our system of N classical particles.

At first we rewrite (2.5) in the form

$$E(\mathbf{x}) = \partial_t \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{F} \mathcal{H}_0 + \partial_{(-\mathcal{J} \mathbf{x}_q)} \mathcal{V} = 0, \quad (2.6)$$

where we split the free part of the equation of motion (here represented by \mathcal{H}_0) and the interaction part (with the interaction potential $\mathcal{V}(\vec{q}, t)$). We also used the notation

$$\partial_{(-\mathcal{J} \mathbf{x}_q)} := -\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathcal{J} \vec{x}_{q_j}} \otimes \vec{e}_j, \quad \vec{x}_{q_j} := \begin{pmatrix} \vec{q}_j \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2.7)$$

We want a path integral representation of our system. Since the system is classical, the path that solves the equation of motion is unique, call it \mathbf{x}_{cl} ; we can use the functional Dirac delta and express the probability that the configuration \mathbf{x} is in $\mathbf{x}(t_f)$ at a time t_f given that at $t = t^{(i)}$ was at $\mathbf{x}(t^{(i)})$ as

$$P[\mathbf{x}(t_f), \mathbf{x}(t^{(i)})] = \int \mathcal{D}'' \mathbf{x} \delta_{\text{D}}[\mathbf{x}(t_f) - \mathbf{x}_{\text{cl}}[t_f, \mathbf{x}(t^{(i)})]], \quad (2.8)$$

where we remarked the fact that \mathbf{x}_{cl} is completely specified by the initial conditions, and $\mathcal{D}'' \mathbf{x}$ means that upon integration I keep \mathbf{x} fixed at the two extrema $t = t^{(i)}$ and $t = t_f$. This is the expression for classical path integral (see also [20]), and its meaning is simple: we are just summing over all paths $\mathbf{x}(t)$ at fixed extrema, and the delta ensures that the only contribution is given by the solution of the equations of motion (2.5).

We can exploit the integral representation of the delta to write

$$\delta_{\text{D}}[f(\mathbf{x})] = \int \mathcal{D} \chi \exp \left(i \int dt \chi \cdot f(\mathbf{x}) \right), \quad (2.9)$$

with f a generic function, where we introduced the auxiliary field

$$\chi(t) := \begin{pmatrix} \vec{\chi}_{q_j}(t) \\ \vec{\chi}_{p_j}(t) \end{pmatrix} \otimes \vec{e}_j, \quad (2.10)$$

that we needed to perform the integration. We thus find (see appendix B.1 for details)

$$P[\mathbf{x}(t_f), \mathbf{x}(t^{(i)})] = \int \mathcal{D}'' \mathbf{x} \mathcal{D} \chi e^{iS}, \quad (2.11)$$

where S is the action

$$S[\mathbf{x}, \chi] = \int_{t^{(i)}}^{t_f} dt \chi \cdot E[\mathbf{x}]. \quad (2.12)$$

Introducing random initial conditions, we should average the (2.11) with

$$\int d\mathbf{x}^{(i)} P_0(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}) =: \int d\Gamma_i , \quad (2.13)$$

where $\mathbf{x}^{(i)} := \mathbf{x}(t = t^{(i)})$ and $P_0(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})$ is the probability assigned to the initial configuration $\mathbf{x}^{(i)}$. Notice that here we are not dealing with an integration over functions, hence this is an ordinary integration over $6N$ dimensions.

In the end the generating functional is obtained by introducing the source fields

$$J(t) := \begin{pmatrix} \vec{J}_{q_j}(t) \\ \vec{J}_{p_j}(t) \end{pmatrix} \otimes \vec{e}_j , \quad K(t) := \begin{pmatrix} \vec{K}_{q_j}(t) \\ \vec{K}_{p_j}(t) \end{pmatrix} \otimes \vec{e}_j , \quad (2.14)$$

yielding the canonical generating functional¹

$$Z_C[J, K] = \int d\Gamma_i \int \mathcal{D}'x \mathcal{D}\chi \exp \left(i \int_{t^{(i)}}^{t_f} dt (\chi \cdot E[x] + J \cdot x + K \cdot \chi) \right) . \quad (2.15)$$

where we have integrated also over the final configurations, here represented by $\mathcal{D}'x$ where the single prime means that the integration over the paths is made by keeping fixed only the initial conditions.

Looking at the free generating functional $Z_{C,0}$ (that is the previous with the substitution $E \rightarrow E_0 := \partial_t x + F\mathcal{H}_0$, this last step coming from (2.6)), we can perform some integrations to arrive at (see B.1)

$$Z_{C,0}[J, K] = \int d\Gamma_i \exp \left(i \int_{t^{(i)}}^{t_f} dt J \cdot \bar{x} \right) , \quad (2.16)$$

with $\bar{x}(t)$ as the solution of the free equation of motion coupled with the source K , i.e.

$$\bar{x}(t) = \mathcal{G}(t, t^{(i)})x^{(i)} - \int_{t^{(i)}}^{t_f} dt' \mathcal{G}(t, t')K(t') , \quad (2.17)$$

and with the propagator

$$\mathcal{G}(t, t') = \mathcal{G}(t, t') \otimes \mathbb{1}_N , \quad \mathcal{G}(t, t') = \begin{pmatrix} g_{qq}(t, t')\mathbb{1}_3 & g_{qp}(t, t')\mathbb{1}_3 \\ g_{pq}(t, t')\mathbb{1}_3 & g_{pp}(t, t')\mathbb{1}_3 \end{pmatrix} . \quad (2.18)$$

2.2 Collective fields

We want to use KFT in the cosmic structure formation setting, so we should now connect the microscopic phase space coordinates fields with the macroscopic ones, representing collective properties of the particle ensemble. Since the primary concern of cosmic structure formation regards density fluctuations, we shall certainly connect the collective density field with the particle ensemble properties. For N point particles with equal mass (here supposed to be unity only for simplicity), the

¹We are dealing with a canonical ensemble since we are considering the number of particles N as fixed.

collective density field is given by a sum of delta contributions,

$$\rho(\vec{q}, t) = \sum_{j=1}^N \delta_D(\vec{q} - \vec{q}_j(t)) . \quad (2.19)$$

Now assume that we can write the potential as a sum over all point-particle potentials v as

$$\mathcal{V}(\vec{q}, t) = \sum_j v(\vec{q} - \vec{q}_j(t)) ; \quad (2.20)$$

with this (not severe) assumption we can recast in a useful form the interaction term E_1 coming from (2.6),

$$E_1(\mathbf{q}) := \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \partial_{\vec{q}_j} \end{pmatrix} \mathcal{V} \otimes \vec{e}_j ;$$

we can express it in terms of the density field as

$$\mathcal{V} = \int d^3y v(\vec{q} - \vec{y}) \sum_{j=1}^N \delta_D(\vec{y} - \vec{q}_j(t)) = \int d^3y v(\vec{q} - \vec{y}) \rho(\vec{y}, t) . \quad (2.21)$$

Exploit the Dirac delta to write

$$\partial_{\vec{q}_j} \mathcal{V} = \int d^3q \delta_D(\vec{q} - \vec{q}_j) \partial_{\vec{q}} \mathcal{V} = - \int d^3q (\partial_{\vec{q}} \delta_D(\vec{q} - \vec{q}_j)) \mathcal{V} ;$$

defining the response field

$$B(\vec{q}, t) := \sum_j \vec{\chi}_{p_j} \cdot \partial_{\vec{q}} \delta_D(\vec{q} - \vec{q}_j(t)) , \quad (2.22)$$

we can write the interaction part of the action, exploiting also (2.21), as

$$S_1 := \int dt \chi \cdot E_1(\mathbf{x}) = - \int dt \int d^3q \int d^3y B(\vec{q}, t) v(\vec{q} - \vec{y}) \rho(\vec{y}, t) . \quad (2.23)$$

From now on, we will use the shortcut notations for dependencies and integrals as stated in section 1.1.2, i.e. we indicate only the label r (generally an integer number) for the whole dependencies.

So expressing everything with respect to Fourier transform quantities the (2.23), one can easily arrive at

$$S_1 = -(2\pi)^3 \int_r B(-r) v(r) \rho(r) \delta_D(\vec{l}_r) , \quad (2.24)$$

where $\delta_D(\vec{l}_r)$ is there since the potential does not depend on momenta.

So we need the expression of ρ, B in Fourier space. Notice that, looking at (2.19) and (2.22), they involve a sum over all the particles, so that we can consider their so called one particle contribution. For the field density

$$\rho_j(\vec{q}, t) := \delta_D(\vec{q} - \vec{q}_j(t)) = \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i\vec{k} \cdot (\vec{q} - \vec{q}_j(t))} =: \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{q}} \rho_j(\vec{k}, t) ,$$

so the one particle contribution to density field in Fourier space is

$$\rho_j(r) = e^{-i\vec{k}_r \cdot \vec{q}_j(t_r)} ; \quad (2.25)$$

analogously, the one particle contribution for the response field B in Fourier space will be

$$B_j(r) = i\vec{k}_r \cdot \vec{\chi}_{p_j}(t_r) \rho_j(r) . \quad (2.26)$$

We thus introduce the so called Klimontovich doublet of collective fields

$$\Phi(r) = \begin{pmatrix} \Phi_f(r) \\ \Phi_B(r) \end{pmatrix} := \sum_{j=1}^N \begin{pmatrix} \rho_j(\vec{k}_r, t_r) e^{-i\vec{l}_r \cdot \vec{p}_j(t_r)} \\ B_j(\vec{k}_r, t_r) e^{-i\vec{l}_r \cdot \vec{p}_j(t_r)} \end{pmatrix} , \quad (2.27)$$

that reduces to ρ, B if they are evaluated at $\vec{l} = 0$. In the end we can write (explicit calculations are made in appendix B.3)

$$S_1 = \int_r \int_{r'} \Phi^\top(-r) \sigma(r, -r') \Phi(r) = \Phi \bullet \sigma \bullet \Phi , \quad (2.28)$$

with

$$\sigma(r, r') = -\frac{1}{2} (2\pi)^9 \delta_D(t_r - t'_r) \delta_D(\vec{k}_r + \vec{k}'_r) \delta_D(\vec{l}_r) \delta_D(\vec{l}'_r) v(r) \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} . \quad (2.29)$$

Since we have introduced these new fields, we should also introduce accordingly other source fields, which will couple to the collective fields in the generating functional, so we will introduce the term

$$\exp\left(i \int_r H(-r) \cdot \Phi(r)\right) = e^{iH \bullet \Phi} , \quad H(r) = \begin{pmatrix} H_f(r) \\ H_B(r) \end{pmatrix} , \quad (2.30)$$

inside $Z_{C,0}^2$.

To finally write the full generating functional, we only need the operator form of the new collective and source fields, so that, as it is common in QFT, we can write the interaction part as an exponential of operators acting on the free functional $Z_{C,0}$.

The operator form of (2.26) and (2.25) is given by the substitution

$$\mathbf{x}(t) \rightarrow -i \frac{\delta}{\delta \mathbf{J}(t)} , \quad \mathbf{\chi}(t) \rightarrow -i \frac{\delta}{\delta \mathbf{K}(t)} , \quad (2.31)$$

so that we can write³

$$Z_{C,0}[H, J, K] = \exp\left(i \int_r H(r) \cdot \hat{\Phi}(r)\right) Z_{C,0}[J, K] , \quad (2.32)$$

²Notice that the source field H depends also on wavenumbers \vec{k} and \vec{l} differently from J, K that depend only on time. This is coherent, since collective fields are macroscopic fields.

³Some insights on this approach in including terms on the generating functional by means of operators is given in appendix B.2.

where $\hat{\Phi}$ is the operator version of (2.27), whose explicit expression is, with $\vec{s} = (\vec{k} \ \vec{l})^\top$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\Phi}(r) &= \sum_j \left(\frac{\exp\left(-\vec{s}_r \cdot \delta / \delta \vec{J}_j(t_r)\right)}{\left(\vec{k}_r \cdot \delta / \delta \vec{K}_{p_j}(t_r)\right) \exp\left(-\vec{s}_r \cdot \delta / \delta \vec{J}_j(t_r)\right)} \right) \\ &=: \sum_j \hat{\Phi}_j^{(1)}(r) =: \sum_j \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\Phi}_{f_j}^{(1)}(r) \\ \hat{\Phi}_{B_j}^{(1)}(r) \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (2.33)$$

where one can see from the structure of $\hat{\Phi}_{B_j}$ that we can write

$$\hat{\Phi}_{B_j}^{(1)} = \hat{b}_j(r) \hat{\Phi}_{f_j}^{(1)}(r), \quad \hat{b}_j(r) := \vec{k}_r \cdot \frac{\delta}{\delta \vec{K}_{p_j}(t_r)}. \quad (2.34)$$

We can now include the interaction term (2.28) again using its operator form, obtained with the substitution

$$\Phi(r) \rightarrow \hat{H}(r) := -i \frac{\delta}{\delta H(-r)}, \quad (2.35)$$

so that

$$\hat{S}_1 = \int_r \int_{r'} \hat{H}^\top(-r) \sigma(r, -r') \hat{H}(r') = \hat{H} \bullet \sigma \bullet \hat{H}. \quad (2.36)$$

At last, the full generating functional can be written as

$$Z_C[H, J, K] = e^{i\hat{S}_1} e^{iH \bullet \hat{\Phi}} Z_{C,0}[J, K]. \quad (2.37)$$

2.3 Initial phase space probability distribution

We need now to specify the initial probability distribution. Since our aim is to apply the machinery we developed to cosmic structure formation, the microscopic degrees of freedom need to be correlated in such a way that the corresponding density, a macroscopic (or collective, since it resumes a collective property of the particle ensemble we are considering) field, together with the comoving peculiar momenta $\vec{P}^{(i)}(\vec{q})$, become homogeneous and isotropic gaussian fields⁴. Calling the density contrast

$$\delta(\vec{q}, t) := \frac{\rho(\vec{q}, t) - \bar{\rho}}{\bar{\rho}}, \quad (2.38)$$

where $\bar{\rho}$ is the mean density, we recall that we can define the power spectrum as

$$\langle \delta(\vec{k}, t) \delta(\vec{k}', t) \rangle =: (2\pi)^3 \delta_D(\vec{k} + \vec{k}') P_\delta(k, t). \quad (2.39)$$

Since we are discussing random gaussian fields, the power spectrum (together with the mean) is all we need to know; what we should do now is to see how our assumptions, made on the macroscopic density, affects $P(x^{(i)})$ that involves particles. The

⁴Here we will not deal with primordial non gaussianities, that to the best of our current knowledge (see [21]) are not relevant.

derivation is not straightforward, so we will do it in next subsection and summarize the main formulas and results in subsection 2.3.2.

2.3.1 Derivation of $P(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})$

In order to derive a $P(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})$ relevant for cosmic structure formation, the standard assumption is that the initial velocity field is irrotational⁵, i.e. we can define a velocity potential ψ such that

$$\vec{u}^{(i)} = \nabla \psi, \quad (2.40)$$

where in this whole section all the derivatives are done with respect to initial configuration variables $\vec{q}^{(i)}$. Writing

$$\vec{q}(t) = \vec{q}^{(i)} + b(t)\vec{u}^{(i)}, \quad (2.41)$$

for a certain monotonic function b with normalization $b(t^{(i)}) = 1$, we have, exploiting continuity

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(t) d^3q(t) &= \rho(t^{(i)}) d^3q^{(i)} = \bar{\rho} \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial q^{(i)}}{\partial q(t)} \right) \right| d^3q(t) \\ \implies \rho(t) &= \bar{\rho} \left| \det \left(\delta_{ij} + b(t) \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial q_i^{(i)} \partial q_j^{(i)}} \right) \right|^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

where $\bar{\rho} = \rho(t^{(i)})$ is the mean density, and we used (2.41) to simplify the expression of the jacobian; exploiting the generic approximation valid at linear level

$$\det(\mathbb{1} + A) = e^{\ln \det(\mathbb{1} + A)} = e^{\text{Tr} \ln(\mathbb{1} + A)} \simeq e^{\text{Tr} A} \simeq 1 + \text{Tr} A,$$

that holds for a generic $n \times n$ matrix A (considered as a perturbation), we can write (at linear level in the fluctuations)

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(t) &\simeq \bar{\rho} (1 + b(t) \nabla^2 \psi)^{-1} \simeq \bar{\rho} (1 - b(t) \nabla^2 \psi) =: \bar{\rho} (1 + \delta(t)) \\ \implies \delta(t^{(i)}) &=: \delta^{(i)} = -\nabla^2 \psi. \end{aligned} \quad (2.42)$$

If we consider particles with unitary mass, we write for the initial momentum simply

$$\vec{p}^{(i)} = \nabla \psi, \quad (2.43)$$

so that both the initial density contrast and the initial momentum are related by the velocity potential. Since the remaining discussion in this subsection involves quantities evaluated at initial time, we can drop the superscript (i) in the following.

We can write the probability for finding a particle labeled with j at position \vec{q}_j with momentum \vec{p}_j as

$$P(\vec{q}_j, \vec{p}_j) = \int d\delta(\vec{q}_j) \int d\vec{P}(\vec{q}_j) P(\vec{q}_j | \delta(\vec{q}_j)) P(\vec{p}_j | \vec{P}(\vec{q}_j)) P(\delta(\vec{q}_j), \vec{P}(\vec{q}_j)); \quad (2.44)$$

⁵This assumption relies on the fact that, at linear level, vector perturbations usually decay (see [17])

now, recalling the definition of density given in (2.19), the probability that the particle we are considering is in \vec{q}_j , given the density value at the same point, will be proportional to this value⁶, thus

$$P(\vec{q}_j | \rho(\vec{q}_j)) = \frac{\rho(\vec{q}_j)}{N},$$

where the factor N , the number of particles, comes from normalization condition $\int \rho(\vec{q}) dV = N$. This, using the definition of the density contrast (2.38), implies

$$P(\vec{q}_j | \delta(\vec{q}_j)) = \frac{\bar{\rho}}{N} (1 + \delta(\vec{q}_j));$$

using also

$$P(\vec{p}_j | \vec{P}(\vec{q}_j)) = \delta_D(\vec{p}_j - \vec{P}(\vec{q}_j)),$$

that means that \vec{p}_j and $\vec{P}(\vec{q}_j)$ have basically the same meaning in this context (remember we are evaluating everything at the initial time), we arrive at

$$P(\vec{q}_j, \vec{p}_j) = \frac{\bar{\rho}}{N} \int d\delta(\vec{q}_j) (1 + \delta(\vec{q}_j)) P(\delta(\vec{q}_j), \vec{p}_j).$$

The generalization to the full Kronecker product is straightforward,

$$P(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p}) = V^{-N} \prod_{j=1}^N \left(\int d\delta(\vec{q}_j) (1 + \delta(\vec{q}_j)) P(\delta(\vec{q}_j), \vec{p}_j) \right), \quad (2.45)$$

where $V = N\bar{\rho}^{-1}$.

We need now to find $P(\delta(\vec{q}_j), \vec{p}_j)$. To evaluate it, we consider its characteristic function; since we are discussing gaussian random fields with zero mean, the corresponding characteristic function, regrouping for brevity the random fields in the doublet

$$\mathbf{d} := \begin{pmatrix} \delta(\vec{q}_j) \\ \vec{P}(\vec{q}_j) \end{pmatrix} \otimes \vec{e}_j = \begin{pmatrix} \delta(\vec{q}_j) \\ \vec{p}_j \end{pmatrix} \otimes \vec{e}_j =: \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{d}_\delta \\ \mathbf{d}_p \end{pmatrix},$$

will be

$$\Phi_{\mathbf{d}}(\mathbf{t}) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{t}^\top \mathbf{C} \mathbf{t}\right), \quad (2.46)$$

with \mathbf{t} as the Fourier conjugate of \mathbf{d} and \mathbf{C} as the N -point covariance matrix

$$\mathbf{C} := C_{jk} \otimes (\vec{e}_j \otimes \vec{e}_k) =: \begin{pmatrix} C_{\delta_j \delta_k} & \vec{C}_{\delta_j p_k}^\top \\ \vec{C}_{p_j \delta_k} & C_{p_j p_k} \end{pmatrix} \otimes (\vec{e}_j \otimes \vec{e}_k) =: \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{C}_{\delta\delta} & \mathbf{C}_{\delta p} \\ \mathbf{C}_{p\delta} & \mathbf{C}_{pp} \end{pmatrix},$$

with

$$C_{jk} := \begin{pmatrix} \langle \delta(\vec{q}_j) \delta(\vec{q}_k) \rangle & \langle \delta(\vec{q}_j) \vec{P}(\vec{q}_k) \rangle^\top \\ \langle \vec{P}(\vec{q}_j) \delta(\vec{q}_k) \rangle & \langle \vec{P}(\vec{q}_j) \otimes \vec{P}^\top(\vec{q}_k) \rangle \end{pmatrix}.$$

⁶Here the label j means that we are considering the particle j , but the corresponding \vec{q}_j can range over all the possible values the coordinate can take; what we are saying here is that, since the contribution to the density is a sum of Dirac delta contributions, the more "deltas" I have on the point \vec{q} , the more probable a particle can be found there, and if I have no deltas in the point \vec{q} , then of course I must have a zero probability to find any particle there.

We can connect every element of the covariance matrix with the power spectrum; in fact, from the definition (2.39) it immediately follows

$$C_{\delta_j \delta_k} = \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} P_\delta(k) e^{-i\vec{k} \cdot (\vec{q}_j - \vec{q}_k)} ;$$

for the others, it suffices to exploit (2.43) and the last equation in (2.42) to write, in Fourier space

$$\vec{P}(\vec{k}) = i \frac{\vec{k}}{k^2} \delta(\vec{k}) ,$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \vec{P}(\vec{q}_j) \delta(\vec{q}_k) \rangle &= i \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} k^{-2} \vec{k} P_\delta(k) e^{-i\vec{k} \cdot (\vec{q}_j - \vec{q}_k)} , \\ \langle \vec{P}(\vec{q}_j) \otimes \vec{P}^\top(\vec{q}_k) \rangle &= - \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} \vec{k} \otimes \vec{k} k^{-4} P_\delta(k) e^{-i\vec{k} \cdot (\vec{q}_j - \vec{q}_k)} . \end{aligned}$$

The probability function we are searching will be the inverse Fourier of (2.46)

$$\begin{aligned} P(\mathbf{d}) &= \int \frac{d\mathbf{t}_p}{(2\pi)^{3N}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{t}_p^\top \cdot \mathbf{C}_{pp} \cdot \mathbf{t}_p + i \mathbf{t}_p \cdot \mathbf{p}\right) \\ &\times \int \frac{d\mathbf{t}_\delta}{(2\pi)^N} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{t}_\delta^\top \cdot \mathbf{C}_{\delta\delta} \cdot \mathbf{t}_\delta - \mathbf{t}_\delta^\top \cdot \mathbf{C}_{\delta p} \cdot \mathbf{t}_p + i \mathbf{t}_\delta \cdot \boldsymbol{\delta}\right) ; \end{aligned}$$

now put the previous in (2.45), and define the part affected by the δ integration

$$I_1(\mathbf{t}_\delta) := \prod_{j=1}^N \left(\int d\delta(\vec{q}_j) (1 + \delta(\vec{q}_j)) \right) \exp(i \mathbf{t}_\delta \cdot \boldsymbol{\delta}) ,$$

use the substitution $z_j := 1 + \delta(\vec{q}_j)$ to obtain

$$I_1(\mathbf{t}_\delta) = \exp\left(-i \sum_{j=1}^N t_{\delta_j}\right) \prod_{j=1}^N \left(\int dz_j z_j e^{i t_{\delta_j} z_j} \right) = \exp\left(-i \sum_{j=1}^N t_{\delta_j}\right) \prod_{j=1}^N \left(-2\pi i \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{\delta_j}} \delta_D(t_{\delta_j}) \right) ,$$

where we exploited the integral representation of the delta on the last step. Then for the \mathbf{t}_δ integration,

$$\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{t}_p) := \int \frac{d\mathbf{t}_\delta}{(2\pi)^N} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{t}_\delta^\top \cdot \mathbf{C}_{\delta\delta} \cdot \mathbf{t}_\delta - \mathbf{t}_\delta^\top \cdot \mathbf{C}_{\delta p} \cdot \mathbf{t}_p\right) I_1(\mathbf{t}_\delta) ,$$

exploit the derivatives of the Dirac deltas in I_1 to obtain

$$\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{t}_p) = i^N \prod_{j=1}^N \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t_{\delta_j}} \right) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{t}_\delta^\top \cdot \mathbf{C}_{\delta\delta} \cdot \mathbf{t}_\delta - \mathbf{t}_\delta^\top \cdot \mathbf{C}_{\delta p} \cdot \mathbf{t}_p - i \sum_{j=1}^N t_{\delta_j}\right) \Big|_{\mathbf{t}_\delta=0} ;$$

the explicit expression of the previous, playing with derivatives, can be seen to be

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{t}_p) = & \prod_{j=1}^N \left(1 - i \sum_{m=1}^N \vec{C}_{\delta_n p_m} \cdot \vec{t}_{p_m} \right) + \sum_{i < j} C_{\delta_i \delta_j} \prod_{\{n\}' } \left(1 - i \sum_{m=1}^N \vec{C}_{\delta_n p_m} \cdot \vec{t}_{p_m} \right) \\ & + \sum_{\{i < j, k < l\}'_{i < k}} C_{\delta_i \delta_j} C_{\delta_k \delta_l} \prod_{\{n\}' } \left(1 - i \sum_{m=1}^N \vec{C}_{\delta_n p_m} \cdot \vec{t}_{p_m} \right) + \dots, \end{aligned}$$

where the primed set $\{n\}'$ excludes the previous indices picked up on the previous sum, whereas the prime in $\{i < j, k < l\}'_{i < k}$ indicates that no label may be shared between pairs in any individual term of the sum.

Finally, for the \mathbf{t}_p integration, we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{d\mathbf{t}_p}{(2\pi)^{3N}} \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{t}_p) \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{t}_p^\top \cdot \mathbf{C}_{pp} \cdot \mathbf{t}_p + i \mathbf{t}_p \cdot \mathbf{p} \right) &= \mathcal{C} \left(\frac{\partial}{i \partial \mathbf{p}} \right) \int \frac{d\mathbf{t}_p}{(2\pi)^{3N}} \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{t}_p^\top \right. \\ &\quad \left. \cdot \mathbf{C}_{pp} \cdot \mathbf{t}_p + i \mathbf{t}_p \cdot \mathbf{p} \right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{3N} \det(\mathbf{C}_{pp})}} \mathcal{C} \left(\frac{\partial}{i \partial \mathbf{p}} \right) \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{p}^\top \cdot \mathbf{C}_{pp}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{p} \right), \end{aligned}$$

where on the first step we used the trick explained in appendix B.2 to put \mathcal{C} outside the integral and on the last step we exploited the standard result for gaussian integrals (A.1).

2.3.2 Summary of initial phase space computations

The final expression for the initial phase space probability is

$$P(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}) = \frac{V^{-N}}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{3N} \det(\mathbf{C}_{pp})}} \mathcal{C} \left(\frac{\partial}{i \partial \mathbf{p}^{(i)}} \right) \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{p}^{(i)\top} \cdot \mathbf{C}_{pp}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{p}^{(i)} \right), \quad (2.47)$$

where \mathbf{C} is the N -point covariance matrix, $\mathbf{C} := C_{jk} \otimes (\vec{e}_j \otimes \vec{e}_k)$, with

$$\begin{aligned} C_{jk} &:= \begin{pmatrix} C_{\delta_j \delta_k} & \vec{C}_{\delta_j p_k}^\top \\ \vec{C}_{p_j \delta_k} & \mathbf{C}_{p_j p_k} \end{pmatrix} \\ &:= \begin{pmatrix} \left\langle \delta^{(i)}(\vec{q}_j^{(i)}) \delta^{(i)}(\vec{q}_k^{(i)}) \right\rangle & \left\langle \delta^{(i)}(\vec{q}_j^{(i)}) \vec{P}^{(i)}(\vec{q}_k^{(i)}) \right\rangle^\top \\ \left\langle \vec{P}^{(i)}(\vec{q}_j^{(i)}) \delta^{(i)}(\vec{q}_k^{(i)}) \right\rangle & \left\langle \vec{P}^{(i)}(\vec{q}_j^{(i)}) \otimes \vec{P}^{(i)\top}(\vec{q}_k^{(i)}) \right\rangle \end{pmatrix}; \end{aligned} \quad (2.48)$$

since in cosmic structure formation the initial momentum field is irrotational and related to density contrast via continuity equation, that is, with $\vec{u}^{(i)}$ as the initial velocity field and ψ the velocity potential,

$$\vec{u}^{(i)} = \nabla \psi, \quad \delta^{(i)} = -\nabla^2 \psi,$$

we can express all the covariance matrix terms with respect to the density fluctuation power spectrum:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \delta^{(i)}(\vec{q}_j^{(i)}) \delta^{(i)}(\vec{q}_k^{(i)}) \rangle &= \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} P_\delta(k) e^{-i\vec{k} \cdot (\vec{q}_j^{(i)} - \vec{q}_k^{(i)})}, \\ \langle \vec{P}^{(i)}(\vec{q}_j^{(i)}) \delta^{(i)}(\vec{q}_k^{(i)}) \rangle &= i \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} k^{-2} \vec{k} P_\delta(k) e^{-i\vec{k} \cdot (\vec{q}_j^{(i)} - \vec{q}_k^{(i)})}, \\ \langle \vec{P}^{(i)}(\vec{q}_j^{(i)}) \otimes \vec{P}^{(i)\top}(\vec{q}_k^{(i)}) \rangle &= - \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \vec{k} \otimes \vec{k} k^{-4} P_\delta(k) e^{-i\vec{k} \cdot (\vec{q}_j^{(i)} - \vec{q}_k^{(i)})}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.49)$$

and at last \mathcal{C} is the operator

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C} \left(\frac{\partial}{i\partial \vec{p}^{(i)}} \right) &= \prod_{j=1}^N \left(1 - i \sum_{m=1}^N \vec{C}_{\delta_n p_m} \cdot \frac{\partial}{i\partial \vec{p}_m^{(i)}} \right) + \sum_{i < j} C_{\delta_i \delta_j} \prod_{\{n\}'} \left(1 - i \sum_{m=1}^N \vec{C}_{\delta_n p_m} \cdot \frac{\partial}{i\partial \vec{p}_m^{(i)}} \right) \\ &+ \sum_{\{i < j, k < l\}_{i < k}'} C_{\delta_i \delta_j} C_{\delta_k \delta_l} \prod_{\{n\}'} \left(1 - i \sum_{m=1}^N \vec{C}_{\delta_n p_m} \cdot \frac{\partial}{i\partial \vec{p}_m^{(i)}} \right) + \dots, \end{aligned} \quad (2.50)$$

where the primed set $\{n\}'$ excludes the previous indices picked up on the previous sum, whereas the prime in $\{i < j, k < l\}_{i < k}'$ indicates that no label may be shared between pairs in any individual term of the sum.

2.4 Factorizing the free generating functional

Our primary interest regards the computation of the power spectrum, defined in (2.39), that is related to the density correlator. In our formalism, this can be seen to be given by

$$(2\pi)^3 \delta_D(\vec{k}_1 + \vec{k}_2) P_\delta(k, t) = \hat{H}_{f_1}(1) \hat{H}_{f_2}(2) Z_C[H] \Big|_{H, \vec{l}_1 \vec{l}_2 = 0} =: G_{\rho(1)\rho(2)}; \quad (2.51)$$

in general, we will thus need to evaluate density correlators of this kind. What we want to show now is that, in the free case, density correlators completely factorize.

A general correlator has the form

$$G_{\alpha_1(1) \dots \alpha_n(n)} := \langle \Phi_{\alpha_1}(1) \dots \Phi_{\alpha_n}(n) \rangle = \hat{H}_{\alpha_1}(1) \dots \hat{H}_{\alpha_n}(n) Z_C[H] \Big|_{H=0}, \quad (2.52)$$

where α_j can stand for f or B (density or respond field), or other macroscopic field labels one could define from these two. Then, restricting to the free case, one sees, from (2.32),

$$\begin{aligned} G_{\alpha_1(1) \dots \alpha_n(n)}^{(0)} &= e^{iH \cdot \hat{\Phi}} \hat{\Phi}_{\alpha_1}(1) \dots \hat{\Phi}_{\alpha_n}(n) Z_{C,0}[J, K] \Big|_{H, J, K=0} = \\ &= \left(\sum_j \hat{\Phi}_{\alpha_{1,j}}^{(1)}(1) \right) \dots \left(\sum_j \hat{\Phi}_{\alpha_{n,j}}^{(1)}(n) \right) Z_{C,0}[J, K] \Big|_{J, K=0}; \end{aligned} \quad (2.53)$$

it is clear then that the previous is a sum of one-particle contribution terms like

$$\hat{\Phi}_{\alpha_{1,1'}}^{(1)}(1) \cdots \hat{\Phi}_{\alpha_{n,n'}}^{(1)}(n) Z_{C,0}[J, K] \Big|_{J, K=0},$$

where prime indices label the particular particle. Since we are considering an ensemble of indistinguishable particles, the full correlator (2.53) will be a sum over all possible ways of combining N indices in subgroups of n elements. **Every term of this sum will give an equal contribution, so what we need to consider is only one one-particle contribution with arbitrary assignment of indices. Then the real result, i.e. the sum, will contain only an overall, irrelevant constant factor.**

Considering thus only n one-particle density operators, we can show that

$$\hat{\Phi}_{f_1'}^{(1)}(1) \cdots \hat{\Phi}_{f_n'}^{(1)}(n) Z_{C,0}[J, K] \Big|_{J, K=0} = Z_{C,0}[L, 0],$$

with

$$L = - \sum_{m=1}^n \vec{s}_m \delta_D(t - t_m) \otimes \vec{e}_{j_m} = - \sum_{m=1}^n \begin{pmatrix} \vec{k}_m \\ \vec{l}_m \end{pmatrix} \delta_D(t - t_m) \otimes \vec{e}_{j_m}, \quad (2.54)$$

where j_m labels the particle that corresponds to the dependence label m . In fact, using (2.16) and (2.33), we see that

$$\hat{\Phi}_{f_{j_m}}^{(1)}(m) Z_{C,0}[J, K] = \int d\Gamma_i \exp\left(i \int_{t^{(i)}}^{t_f} dt J \cdot \vec{x}\right) e^{-\vec{s}_m \cdot \vec{x}_{j_m}(t_m)} = Z_{C,0}[J + L, K],$$

where L is easily seen to be

$$L = -\vec{s}_m \delta_D(t - t_m) \otimes \vec{e}_{j_m},$$

and the (2.54) easily follows in the general case.

The action of $\hat{\Phi}_B$ operators in this case is then straightforward; from (2.34), we see that the only new thing is the action of $\hat{b}_j(r)$, that can be done after the evaluation of all the $\hat{\Phi}_{f_j}^{(1)}(j)$ operators and after setting $J = 0$, so consider

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{b}_{j_r}(r) Z_{C,0}[L, K] \Big|_{K=0} &= \vec{k}_r \cdot \frac{-i\delta}{\delta \vec{K}_{p_r}(t_r)} \left\{ \int dt \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\delta_D(t - t_i) \vec{s}_i \cdot \left[\mathcal{G}(t, t^{(i)}) \vec{x}_{j_i}^{(i)} \right. \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. \left. - \int_{t^{(i)}}^t dt' \mathcal{G}(t, t') \vec{K}_{j_i}(t') \right] \right) \right\} Z_{C,0}[L, K] \Big|_{K=0} \\ &= i \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\vec{k}_r \cdot \vec{k}_i g_{qp}(t_r, t_i) + \vec{k}_r \cdot \vec{l}_i g_{pp}(t_r, t_i) \right) \delta_{j_r j_i} Z_{C,0}[L, 0] \end{aligned}$$

where the last Kronecker delta refers to particle indices (the delta does not remove the sum, since the sum is made with respect to dependence labels, and different dependence labels can be shared by the same particle). Since response factors will appear with the interaction potential σ that contains $\delta(\vec{l})$ factors, usually the term $\vec{k}_r \cdot \vec{l}_i g_{pp}(t_r, t_i)$ on the last line can be safely put to zero.

We can give a more explicit expression if we consider only momentum-momentum correlations in (2.47), that is if we put $\mathcal{C} = 1$; This approximation is justified as

long as we treat systems with unbound g_{qp} component of the propagator and for sufficiently late times **explain better this**. Notice at first that we can write, using (2.16)

$$Z_{C,0}[L,0] = \int d\Gamma_i \exp \left(-i \int dt \sum_m \delta_D(t-t_s) \left(\vec{k}_m \cdot (g_{qq}(t_s,0) \vec{q}_{jm}^{(i)} + g_{qp}(t_s,0) \vec{p}_{jm}^{(i)}) + \vec{l}_m \cdot (g_{pq}(t_s,0) \vec{q}_{jm}^{(i)} + g_{pp}(t_s,0) \vec{p}_{jm}^{(i)}) \right) \right) =: \int d\Gamma_i e^{iL_q \cdot \mathbf{q}^{(i)} + iL_p \cdot \mathbf{p}^{(i)}}, \quad (2.55)$$

where we defined

$$\begin{aligned} L_q &= - \sum_m (\vec{k}_m g_{qq}(t_s,0) + \vec{l}_m g_{pq}(t_s,0)) \otimes \vec{e}_{jm} =: \sum_m \vec{L}_{qjm} \otimes \vec{e}_{jm}, \\ L_p &= - \sum_m (\vec{k}_m g_{qp}(t_s,0) + \vec{l}_m g_{pp}(t_s,0)) \otimes \vec{e}_{jm} =: \sum_m \vec{L}_{pjm} \otimes \vec{e}_{jm}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.56)$$

Inserting (2.47) with $\mathcal{C} = 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} Z_{C,0}[L,0] &= \frac{V^{-N}}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{3N} \det(\mathbf{C}_{pp})}} \int d\mathbf{q}^{(i)} d\mathbf{p}^{(i)} \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{p}^{(i)\top} \cdot \mathbf{C}_{pp}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{p}^{(i)} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + iL_p \cdot \mathbf{p}^{(i)} + iL_q \cdot \mathbf{q}^{(i)} \right) = V^{-N} \int d\mathbf{q}^{(i)} \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} L_p^\top \cdot \mathbf{C}_{pp} \cdot L_p + iL_q \cdot \mathbf{q}^{(i)} \right), \end{aligned} \quad (2.57)$$

where on the last step we used the standard result (A.1).

It will be useful to consider

$$\mathbf{C}_{pp} = \frac{\sigma_1^2}{3} \mathbb{1}_3 \otimes \mathbb{1}_N + \sum_{j \neq k} C_{p_j p_k} \otimes \vec{e}_j \otimes \vec{e}_k$$

where

$$\sigma_n^2 := \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} k^{2n-4} P_\delta(k); \quad (2.58)$$

it is then clear that we split the term that involve the same particle correlator and different particle correlators. This reflects in

$$\begin{aligned} Q &:= L_p^\top \cdot \mathbf{C}_{pp} \cdot L_p = \frac{\sigma_1^2}{3} \sum_j \vec{L}_{p_j}^2 + \sum_{j \neq k} \vec{L}_{p_j}^\top C_{p_j p_k} \vec{L}_{p_k} \\ &=: Q_0 - Q_D + \sum_{j \neq k} \vec{L}_{p_j}^\top C_{p_j p_k} \vec{L}_{p_k}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.59)$$

with the definitions

$$Q_0 := \frac{\sigma_1^2}{3} \left(\sum_j \vec{L}_{p_j} \right)^2, \quad Q_D := \frac{\sigma_1^2}{3} \sum_{j \neq k} \vec{L}_{p_j} \cdot \vec{L}_{p_k}; \quad (2.60)$$

these are meaningful, in fact we will see that Q_0 will vanish in the important case related to the power spectrum, and Q_D will be connected to the free streaming damping.

2.4.1 Deriving the factorization

Now we are ready to demonstrate the factorization of the generating functional. The derivation is quite technical, so we will resume its most important results and formulas in section 2.4.2.

Start from

$$Z_{C,0}[L,0] = V^{-N} \int d\mathbf{q}^{(i)} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{L}_p^\top \cdot \mathbf{C}_{pp} \cdot \mathbf{L}_p + i \mathbf{L}_q \cdot \mathbf{q}^{(i)}\right); \quad (2.61)$$

the exponential actually depends only on l different particle labels due to the expression of \mathbf{L}_p (see (2.56)), where l is the number of density operators acting on the generating functional. So, $N - l$ integrations yield only a volume factor V . For the other integrations, since \mathbf{C}_{pp} depends only on the coordinate differences $\vec{q}_{ij} := \vec{q}_j^{(i)} - \vec{q}_k^{(i)}$, it is useful to rewrite the term in the exponential as

$$\mathbf{L}_q \cdot \mathbf{q} = \vec{L}_{q_1} \cdot \vec{q}_1^{(i)} + \vec{L}_{q_2} \cdot (\vec{q}_{21} - \vec{q}_1) + \dots = \left(\sum_{j=1}^l \vec{L}_{q_j}\right) \cdot \vec{q}_1^{(i)} + \sum_{j=2}^l \vec{L}_{q_j} \cdot \vec{q}_{j1};$$

now the integration over the single $\vec{q}_1^{(i)}$ can be carried without any effect on $\mathbf{L}_p^\top \cdot \mathbf{C}_{pp} \cdot \mathbf{L}_p$ part (that depends only on coordinate differences), thus yielding a delta. Changing also the integration variable, we have then

$$Z_{C,0}[L,0] = \frac{(2\pi)^3}{V^l} \delta_D \left(\sum_{j=1}^l \vec{L}_{q_j} \right) \prod_{j=2}^l \int d^3 q_{j1} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{L}_p^\top \cdot \mathbf{C}_{pp} \cdot \mathbf{L}_p + i \sum_{j=2}^l \vec{L}_{q_j} \cdot \vec{q}_{j1}\right);$$

now \mathbf{C}_{pp} depends also on the other coordinate differences

$$\vec{q}_{ab} := \vec{q}_{a1} - \vec{q}_{b1}, \quad b = 2, \dots, (l-1), \quad a = (b+1), \dots, l, \quad (2.62)$$

so the idea now is to integrate over all coordinate differences, by introducing appropriate deltas enforcing the constraint (2.62). So we write

$$\begin{aligned} Z_{C,0}[L,0] &= \frac{(2\pi)^3}{V^l} \delta_D \left(\sum_{j=1}^l \vec{L}_{q_j} \right) \prod_{j>k}^l \int d^3 q_{jk} \left(\prod_{a>b} \delta_D(\vec{q}_{ab} - \vec{q}_{a1} + \vec{q}_{b1}) \right) \\ &\times \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{L}_p^\top \cdot \mathbf{C}_{pp} \cdot \mathbf{L}_p + i \sum_{j=2}^l \vec{L}_{q_j} \cdot \vec{q}_{j1}\right). \end{aligned} \quad (2.63)$$

Write the deltas using their integral representation

$$\delta_D(\vec{q}_{ab} - \vec{q}_{a1} + \vec{q}_{b1}) = \int \frac{d^3 k_{ab}}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i \vec{k}'_{ab} \cdot (\vec{q}_{ab} - \vec{q}_{a1} + \vec{q}_{b1})};$$

we can then regroup all the phase factors appearing in (2.63) as

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=2}^l \vec{L}_{q_j} \cdot \vec{q}_{j1} + \sum_{a>b} \vec{k}'_{ab} \cdot (\vec{q}_{ab} - \vec{q}_{a1} + \vec{q}_{b1}) &= \sum_{j=2}^l \left(\vec{L}_{q_j} - \sum_{c=2}^{j-1} \vec{k}'_{jc} + \sum_{d=j+1}^l \vec{k}'_{dj} \right) \cdot \vec{q}_{j1} \\ &+ \sum_{a>b} \vec{k}'_{ab} =: \sum_{j>k}^l \vec{k}'_{jk} \cdot \vec{q}_{jk}, \end{aligned}$$

with

$$\vec{k}_{ij} := \begin{cases} \vec{L}_{q_j} - \sum_{c=2}^{j-1} \vec{k}'_{jc} + \sum_{d=j+1}^l \vec{k}'_{dj} & \text{for } k=1, j \in \{2, \dots, l\} \\ \vec{k}'_{ij} & \text{otherwise .} \end{cases}$$

So (2.63) becomes (using also the splitting (2.59), and recalling that Q_0, Q_D do not depend on coordinate differences)

$$\begin{aligned} Z_{C,0}[L, 0] &= \frac{(2\pi)^3}{V^l} \delta_D \left(\sum_{j=1}^l \vec{L}_{q_j} \right) e^{-(Q_0 - Q_D)/2} \prod_{a>b} \int \frac{d^3 k_{ab}}{(2\pi)^3} \prod_{j>k} \\ &\times \int d^3 q e^{-\vec{L}_{p_j}^\top C_{p_j p_k} \vec{L}_{p_k} + i \vec{k}_{jk} \cdot \vec{q}_{jk}} ; \end{aligned} \quad (2.64)$$

we have left the last line of the previous to simplify.

Notice that we can correlate $C_{p_j p_k}$ with the velocity potential correlation function

$$\xi_\psi(q_{jk}) = \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} P_\psi(k) e^{i \vec{k} \cdot \vec{q}_{jk}} = \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} k^{-4} P_\delta(k) e^{i \vec{k} \cdot \vec{q}_{jk}} ,$$

(where on the last step we exploited (2.42) to write $P_\psi = k^{-4} P_\delta$). In fact, looking at the last of (2.50), we have

$$C_{p_j p_k} = -(\nabla \otimes \nabla) \xi_\psi(q_{jk}) .$$

Due to isotropy, ξ_ψ can only depend on the modulus of the coordinate vector difference, thus it is useful to express the derivatives with respect to it; writing only q as the argument of ξ_ψ for simplicity, we have

$$\nabla \otimes \nabla = (\hat{q} \otimes \hat{q}) \frac{d^2}{dq^2} + (\mathbb{1}_3 - \hat{q} \otimes \hat{q}) \frac{1}{q} \frac{d}{dq} ,$$

with \hat{q} as the unit vector pointing in the direction of \vec{q} . In the end, using the previous two equations,

$$C_{p_j p_k} = -(\hat{q} \otimes \hat{q}) \xi_\psi''(q) - (\mathbb{1}_3 - \hat{q} \otimes \hat{q}) \frac{\xi_\psi'(q)}{q} .$$

We want to express it with respect to the projectors

$$\pi_{jk}^\parallel := \hat{k}_{jk} \otimes \hat{k}_{jk} , \quad \pi_{jk}^\perp := \mathbb{1}_3 - \pi_{jk}^\parallel ,$$

so we impose

$$(\hat{q} \otimes \hat{q}) \xi_\psi''(q) (\mathbb{1}_3 + \hat{q} \otimes \hat{q}) \frac{\xi_\psi'(q)}{q} \stackrel{!}{=} a_\parallel(q) \pi_{jk}^\parallel + a_\perp(q) \pi_{jk}^\perp .$$

In order to obtain the expressions for a_{\parallel}, a_{\perp} , multiply the previous by the projectors π_{jk}^{\parallel} and by π_{jk}^{\perp} and take their trace; exploiting, with $\mu := \hat{k}_{jk} \cdot \hat{q}$,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr } \pi_{jk}^{\parallel} &= \sum_{i=x,y,z} (\hat{k}_{jk})_i^2 = 1 = \text{Tr}(\hat{q} \otimes \hat{q}), \\ \text{Tr}(\pi_{jk}^{\parallel} \pi_{jk}^{\parallel}) &= \sum_{i,l} ((\hat{k}_{jk})_i (\hat{k}_{jk})_l)^2 = \left(\sum_{i=x,y,z} (\hat{k}_{jk})_i^2 \right)^2 = 1, \\ \text{Tr}(\pi_{jk}^{\parallel} \pi_{jk}^{\perp}) &= 0, \\ \text{Tr}(\pi_{jk}^{\parallel} \hat{q} \otimes \hat{q}) &= \sum_{i,l} ((\hat{k}_{jk})_i \hat{q}_l)^2 = \left(\sum_{i=x,y,z} (\hat{k}_{jk})_i \hat{q}_i \right)^2 = \mu^2, \\ \text{Tr}(\pi_{jk}^{\perp} \hat{q} \otimes \hat{q}) &= \text{Tr}(\pi_{jk}^{\parallel} (\mathbb{1}_3 - \hat{q} \otimes \hat{q})) = 1 - \mu^2, \\ \text{Tr}(\pi_{jk}^{\perp} (\mathbb{1}_3 - \hat{q} \otimes \hat{q})) &= 1 + \mu^2, \end{aligned}$$

we end up with

$$a_{\parallel}(q) = \mu^2 \xi_{\psi}''(q) + (1 - \mu^2) \frac{\xi'_{\psi}(q)}{q}, \quad a_{\perp}(q) = \frac{1 - \mu^2}{2} \xi_{\psi}''(q) + \frac{1 + \mu^2}{2q} \xi'_{\psi}(q).$$

Defining for simplicity

$$\lambda_{jk}^{\parallel} := \frac{\vec{L}_{p_j}^{\top} \pi_{jk}^{\parallel} \vec{L}_{p_k}}{g_{qp}^2(t, 0) k_{jk}^2}, \quad \lambda_{jk}^{\perp} = \frac{\vec{L}_{p_j}^{\top} \pi_{jk}^{\perp} \vec{L}_{p_k}}{g_{qp}^2(t, 0) k_{jk}^2},$$

we can rewrite the last line in (2.64) as

$$\int d^3 q e^{g_{qp}^2(t, 0) k_{jk}^2 (a_{\parallel} \lambda_{jk}^{\parallel} + a_{\perp} \lambda_{jk}^{\perp})} e^{i \vec{k}_{jk} \vec{q}} =: (2\pi)^3 \delta_D(\vec{k}_{jk}) + \mathcal{P}_{jk}, \quad (2.65)$$

with

$$\mathcal{P}_{jk}(k_{jk}, t) = \int d^3 q \left(e^{g_{qp}^2(t, 0) k_{jk}^2 (a_{\parallel} \lambda_{jk}^{\parallel} + a_{\perp} \lambda_{jk}^{\perp})} - 1 \right) e^{i \vec{k}_{jk} \vec{q}}.$$

The particular splitting we made in (2.65) can be understood once we consider the application to the power spectrum, something we will do in section 2.4.3.

2.4.2 Factorization final result

In the end the one-particle contribution of l density operators $\hat{\Phi}_f|_{\vec{l}=0}$ to the correlator is

$$\begin{aligned} Z_{C,0}[L, 0] &= V^{-l} (2\pi)^3 \delta_D \left(\sum_{j=1}^l \vec{L}_{q_j} \right) e^{-(Q_0 - Q_D)/2} \prod_{2 \leq b < a}^l \int \frac{d^3 k_{ab}}{(2\pi)^3} \\ &\quad \times \prod_{1 \leq k < j}^l ((2\pi)^3 \delta_D(\vec{k}_{jk}) + \mathcal{P}_{jk}), \end{aligned} \quad (2.66)$$

with⁷

$$\mathcal{P}_{jk}(k_{jk}, t) = \int d^3q \left(e^{g_{qp}^2(t,0)k_{jk}^2(a_{\parallel}\lambda_{jk}^{\parallel} + a_{\perp}\lambda_{jk}^{\perp})} - 1 \right) e^{i\vec{k}_{jk}\vec{q}}, \quad (2.67)$$

as the non linearly evolved power spectrum, as we will see, and

$$\vec{k}_{ij} := \begin{cases} \vec{L}_{q_j} - \sum_{b=2}^{j-1} \vec{k}'_{jb} + \sum_{a=j+1}^l \vec{k}'_{aj} & \text{for } k=1, j \in \{2, \dots, l\} \\ \vec{k}'_{ij} & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad (2.68)$$

where the primed wave vectors are the Fourier conjugates of the coordinate differences $\vec{q}_{ij} := \vec{q}_i - \vec{q}_j$; also

$$\lambda_{jk}^{\parallel} := \frac{\vec{L}_{p_j}^{\top} \pi_{jk}^{\parallel} \vec{L}_{p_k}}{g_{qp}^2(t,0)k_{jk}^2}, \quad \lambda_{jk}^{\perp} = \frac{\vec{L}_{p_j}^{\top} \pi_{jk}^{\perp} \vec{L}_{p_k}}{g_{qp}^2(t,0)k_{jk}^2}, \quad (2.69)$$

with the projectors (indicating as \hat{k} the unit vector pointing in the direction of \vec{k}_{jk})

$$\pi_{jk}^{\parallel} = \hat{k} \otimes \hat{k}, \quad \pi_{jk}^{\perp} = \mathbb{1}_3 - \pi_{jk}^{\parallel}, \quad (2.70)$$

and with

$$a_{\parallel}(q) = \mu^2 \xi_{\psi}''(q) + (1 - \mu^2) \frac{\xi'_{\psi}(q)}{q}, \quad a_{\perp}(q) = \frac{1 - \mu^2}{2} \xi_{\psi}''(q) + \frac{1 + \mu^2}{2q} \xi'_{\psi}(q), \quad (2.71)$$

where μ is the angle between \vec{q} and \vec{k}_{21} , $\mu := \hat{q} \cdot \hat{k}_{21}$, and ξ_{ψ} is the correlation function for the initial velocity potential

$$\xi_{\psi}(q_{jk}) = \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} P_{\psi}(k) e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{q}_{jk}} = \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} k^{-4} P_{\delta}(k) e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{q}_{jk}}. \quad (2.72)$$

We can simplify further these last expressions, in fact we can integrate on the solid angle to find

$$\xi_{\psi}(q) = \frac{1}{2\pi^2 q} \int_0^{\infty} dk k^{-3} P_{\delta}(k) \sin(kq) = \frac{1}{2\pi^2} \int_0^{\infty} dk k^{-2} P_{\delta}(k) j_0(kq), \quad (2.73)$$

so that the derivatives are

$$\begin{aligned} \xi'_{\psi}(q) &= -\frac{q}{2\pi^2} \int_0^{\infty} dk P_{\delta}(k) \frac{j_1(kq)}{kq}, \\ \xi''_{\psi}(q) &= \frac{1}{2\pi^2} \int_0^{\infty} dk P_{\delta}(k) \left(j_2(kq) - \frac{j_1(kq)}{kq} \right), \end{aligned} \quad (2.74)$$

⁷Here q refers to the initial momentum integration, but since in the end is a dummy variable (i.e. it is always integrated), we will not explicitly put the superscript (i) for simplicity.

where j_0, j_1, j_2 are the spherical Bessel functions

$$\begin{aligned} j_0(x) &:= \frac{\sin x}{x}, \\ j_1(x) &:= \frac{\sin x}{x^2} - \frac{\cos x}{x}; \\ j_2(x) &:= \left(\frac{3}{x^2} - 1\right) \frac{\sin x}{x} - \frac{3 \cos x}{x^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.75)$$

We can recast (2.71) as

$$a_{\parallel}(q) = a_1(q) + \mu^2 a_2(q), \quad 2a_{\perp}(q) = 2a_1(q) + (1 - \mu^2)a_2(q),$$

with

$$a_1(q) := -\frac{1}{2\pi^2} \int dk P_{\delta}(k) \frac{j_1(kq)}{kq}, \quad a_2(q) := \frac{1}{2\pi^2} \int dk P_{\delta}(k) j_2(kq). \quad (2.76)$$

2.4.3 Power spectrum

Specializing the (2.66) for the action of two density operators, we obtain

$$Z_0[L, 0] = \frac{(2\pi^3)}{V^2} \delta_D(\vec{L}_{q_1} + \vec{L}_{q_2}) e^{-(Q_0 - Q_D)/2} ((2\pi)^3 \delta_D(\vec{k}_{21}) + \mathcal{P}_{21}); \quad (2.77)$$

since it is a two-point density correlator, from (2.51), if computed at $\vec{l} = 0$ and at equal time, it contains informations regarding the free power spectrum. So in the following we will assume $\vec{l}_1 = \vec{l}_2 = 0$ and $t_1 = t_2 \equiv t$. The delta in (2.77) ensures $\vec{L}_{q_1} = -\vec{L}_{q_2}$ so that $\vec{k}_1 = -\vec{k}_2$, implying $Q_0 = 0$ and

$$Q_D = -2 \frac{\sigma_1^2}{3} k_1^2 g_{qp}^2(t, 0);$$

the only wave vector we have to consider is $\vec{k}_{21} = \vec{L}_{q_2} = -g_{qq}(t, 0)\vec{k}_1$; this implies that the projector π_{21}^{\parallel} points in the same direction of \vec{k}_1 ; hence the (2.69) becomes

$$\lambda_{21}^{\parallel} = -1, \quad \lambda_{21}^{\perp} = 0.$$

Collecting everything, we have (setting $g_{qq} \equiv 1$ as it is often the case)

$$Z_0[L, 0] = \frac{(2\pi^3)}{V^2} \delta_D(\vec{k}_1 + \vec{k}_2) e^{-\sigma_1^2 g_{qp}^2(t, 0) k_1^2 / 3} ((2\pi)^3 \delta_D(\vec{k}_{21}) + \mathcal{P}_{21}) \quad (2.78)$$

with

$$\mathcal{P}_{21} =: \mathcal{P} = \int d^3q \left(e^{-g_{qp}^2(t, 0) k_1^2 a_{\parallel}} - 1 \right) e^{i\vec{k}_1 \cdot \vec{q}}. \quad (2.79)$$

This last term, as can be seen from (2.78) (ignoring the $\delta_D(\vec{k}_{21})$ contribution, that only sets $\vec{k}_{21} = 0$, thus representing an unimportant contribution to the mean), is indeed the non linear evolved power spectrum apart for the exponential damping factor involving Q_D ; this damping is due to free streaming, that at late times damps the

power spectrum given by the initial correlations; if interaction is not there to counterbalance this damping, structures cannot form and the power spectrum becomes flat (see [3] for more on the interplay between diffusion and interaction within KFT).

We can give an approximate expression for (2.79) at early times; in fact in this situation, the argument of the exponential is little, so that we can write

$$\mathcal{P} \simeq -g_{qp}^2(t,0)k_1^2 \int d^3q a_{\parallel}(q) e^{i\vec{k}_1 \cdot \vec{q}}; \quad (2.80)$$

to evaluate the last integral, we will need to evaluate quantities of the form

$$I_n^\alpha(k) := 2\pi \int_0^\infty dq q^n \zeta_\psi^{(n)}(q) \int_{-1}^1 d\mu \mu^\alpha e^{i\mu kq},$$

with $\zeta_\psi^{(n)}$ as the n -th derivative of (2.72); using

$$\int_{-1}^1 d\mu \mu^\alpha e^{i\mu kq} = \frac{1}{(ik)^\alpha} \partial_q^\alpha \int_{-1}^1 d\mu e^{i\mu kq} = \frac{1}{(ik)^\alpha} \partial_q^\alpha \left(2 \frac{\sin kq}{kq} \right) = \frac{2}{(ik)^\alpha} \partial_q^\alpha j_0(kq);$$

exploiting the recurrence relation of the Bessel functions

$$j_n(x) = (-x)^n \left(\frac{1}{x} \frac{d}{dx} \right)^n j_0(x),$$

we have, exploiting also the expressions (2.73) and (2.74)

$$\begin{aligned} I_1^0(k) &= -\frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty dq \int_0^\infty dk' P_\delta(k') \frac{q j_1(k'q)}{k'} j_0(kq), \\ I_2^1(k) &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty dq \int_0^\infty dk' P_\delta(k') \frac{q j_1(k'q)}{k'} (j_2(kq) - j_1(kq)), \\ I_2^2(k) &= -\frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty dq \int_0^\infty dk' P_\delta(k') q^2 \left(j_2(k'q) - \frac{j_1(k'q)}{k'q} \right) (j_2(kq) - j_1(kq)); \end{aligned}$$

so we have

$$\int d^3q a_{\parallel}(q) e^{i\vec{k}_1 \cdot \vec{q}} = 2\pi \int_0^\infty q^2 \int_{-1}^1 d\mu a_{\parallel}(q) e^{i\mu k_1 q} = I_2^2(k) + I_1^0(k) - I_2^1(k) = -k^{-2} P_\delta(k_1),$$

where we exploited the relation

$$\int_0^\infty dx x^2 j_n(\alpha x) j_n(\beta x) = \frac{\pi}{2\alpha^2} \delta_D(\alpha - \beta).$$

In the end, (2.80) becomes

$$\mathcal{P}(k_1, t) \simeq g_{qp}^2(t,0) P_\delta(k_1), \quad (2.81)$$

valid for early times. This is thus the expected linear growth of the power spectrum, and this justifies, as we anticipated, the splitting we made in (2.65).

Chapter 3

Propagators and interactions

We have seen in the previous chapter how to compute the free correlators and cumulants, exactly or with some approximations. In order to go further and give specific (and computable) expressions of the quantities of interest, we need an initial power spectrum, the Green function for the free evolution and the interaction term; these three ingredients are basically the only parameters in our theory.

To study the evolution of some given initial power spectrum, we must first establish the free propagator that is more suitable to describe cosmological situations and a way to implement gravitational interactions. As we will see, it is possible to compute exactly the Green function for point particles in cosmology, but nevertheless one could be interested in improved forms, that could already contain part of the interaction (think about the Zel'dovich approximation); but to fully account for the interactions of course we are forced to rely on some approximation scheme; in this chapter we will introduce a non perturbative scheme, based on the Born approximation.

3.1 Trajectories in an expanding space-time

To describe the trajectories of collisionless dark matter particles in an expanding space time, we must refer to what we did in section 1.3.3; in particular, we will need the Lagrangian (1.4) we derived there and the Poisson equation (1.3).

We want here to use as a time coordinate the growth factor $D_+(a(t))$, that is we will use

$$\tau := D_+(t) - D_+^{(i)}, \quad (3.1)$$

with $D_+^{(i)}$ as the growth factor at the initial time (so that $\tau^{(i)} = 0$); we will normalize the scale factor such that $a(\tau^{(i)}) = 1$. We can relate the new time coordinate with the old one as

$$\frac{d}{dt} = HfD_+ \frac{d}{d\tau}, \quad (3.2)$$

with

$$f = \frac{d \ln D_+}{d \ln a}, \quad H = \frac{1}{a} \frac{da}{dt}. \quad (3.3)$$

Under this change of time coordinate, the lagrangian (1.4) changes, using the invariance of the action, as

$$S = \int dt \mathcal{L}(\vec{q}, d\vec{q}/dt, t) = \int d\tau \mathcal{L}'(\vec{q}, d\vec{q}/d\tau, \tau) = \int dt \frac{d\tau}{dt} \mathcal{L}' \implies \mathcal{L}' = \frac{d\tau}{dt} \mathcal{L};$$

using

$$g(\tau) := a^2 D_+ f H H^{(i)-1}, \quad (3.4)$$

with $H^{(i)}$ as the initial Hubble parameter, we can write the new lagrangian, factorizing the constant $mH^{(i)}$, dropping the prime and redefining $\dot{} := d/d\tau$, as

$$\mathcal{L}(\vec{q}, \dot{\vec{q}}, \tau) = \frac{g(\tau)}{2} \dot{q}^2 - v(\vec{q}, \tau),$$

with the effective gravitational potential

$$v(\vec{q}, \tau) = \frac{a^2 \phi}{g(\tau) H^{(i)2}}.$$

The Poisson equation for the fluctuation ϕ can be written, exploiting (1.3), in terms of comoving densities ρ_c , $\bar{\rho}_c$ as

$$\nabla_{\vec{q}}^2 \phi = \frac{4\pi G}{a} (\rho_c - \bar{\rho}_c); \quad (3.5)$$

recall that the matter density parameter is defined, specialized at the initial time, as

$$\Omega_m^{(i)} = \frac{8\pi G}{3} H^{(i)2} \bar{\rho}^{(i)}; \quad (3.6)$$

since the mean mass density scales as $\bar{\rho} \propto a^{-3}$, the comoving $\bar{\rho}_c = a^3 \bar{\rho}$ is constant, so that we can write the previous substituting $\bar{\rho}^{(i)}$ with $\bar{\rho}_c$ (exploiting also our normalization $a(\tau^{(i)}) = 1$). We can thus rewrite the Poisson (3.5) as

$$\nabla_{\vec{q}}^2 v(\vec{q}, \tau) = \frac{3a}{2g(\tau)} \Omega_m^{(i)} \delta. \quad (3.7)$$

The canonically conjugate momentum is

$$\vec{p} := \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\vec{q}}} = g(\tau) \dot{\vec{q}},$$

so the hamiltonian is

$$\mathcal{H} = \vec{p} \cdot \dot{\vec{q}} - \mathcal{L} = \frac{p^2}{2g(\tau)} + v(\vec{q}, \tau),$$

and the Hamilton equations yield

$$\dot{\vec{q}} = g^{-1}(\tau) \vec{p}, \quad \dot{\vec{p}} = -\nabla_{\vec{q}} v \implies \ddot{\vec{q}} + \frac{\dot{g}}{g} \dot{\vec{q}} + \nabla \left(\frac{v}{g} \right) = 0. \quad (3.8)$$

We can rewrite them as

$$\dot{\vec{x}} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -g^{-1}\mathbb{1}_3 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -\nabla_{\vec{q}}v \end{pmatrix},$$

whose retarded solution is (see also appendix A.3)

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{x}(\tau) &= \int_0^\tau d\tau' \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -\nabla_{\vec{q}}v \end{pmatrix} \exp\left(-\int_{\tau'}^\tau d\tau'' \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -g^{-1}(\tau'')\mathbb{1}_3 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) \\ &= \int_0^\tau d\tau' \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -\nabla_{\vec{q}}v \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{1}_3 & \int_{\tau'}^\tau d\tau'' g^{-1}(\tau'')\mathbb{1}_3 \\ 0 & \mathbb{1}_3 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

where on the last step we exploited, with

$$A := \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \int_{\tau'}^\tau d\tau'' g^{-1}(\tau'')\mathbb{1}_3 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

the fact that $A^2 = 0$, so that $\exp(A) = \mathbb{1}_6 + A$; this implies that the retarded Green function is

$$\mathcal{G}(\tau, \tau') = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{1}_3 & g_{qp}(\tau, \tau')\mathbb{1}_3 \\ 0 & \mathbb{1}_3 \end{pmatrix} \Theta(\tau - \tau'), \quad (3.9)$$

with Θ as the Heaviside function, and

$$g_{qp}(\tau, \tau') := \int_{\tau'}^\tau \frac{d\tau''}{g(\tau'')}.$$

Thus the free trajectories are given by

$$\vec{q}^{(0)}(\tau) = \vec{q}^{(i)} + g_{qp}(\tau, 0)\vec{p}^{(i)}. \quad (3.10)$$

3.1.1 Alternative formulation

We can express the results of previous section also using as time coordinate

$$\eta := \ln\left(\frac{D_+}{D_+^{(i)}}\right); \quad (3.11)$$

it is easy to see that the choice of η instead of τ as a time coordinate does not change much the discussion we made in section 3.1; provided that one redefines

$$g(\eta) := \frac{g(\tau)}{D_+},$$

you can trust all the formulas we used in section 3.1 from (3.4) to (3.10) with the substitution $\tau \rightarrow \eta$ and $g(\tau) \rightarrow g(\eta) = a^2 H f H^{(i)-1}$.

If we decide to express the equation of motion in terms of a rescaled momenta

$$\vec{p}' := g^{-1}(\eta)\vec{p},$$

we have to compute its time derivative (in this subsection, $\dot{\cdot} := d/d\eta$)

$$\dot{\vec{p}}' = -g^{-1}(\eta) \nabla_{\vec{q}} v - g^{-1}(\eta) \vec{p}' \dot{g}(\eta) ,$$

exploiting $Hf = D_+^{-1} dD_+/dt$, $\dot{D}_+/D_+ = 1$ (recalling (3.2)) and

$$\frac{d^2 D_+}{dt^2} + 2H \frac{dD_+}{dt} = \frac{3}{2} \Omega_m H^2 D_+ ,$$

(see (1.8), with $\delta = D_+ \delta^{(i)}$) we have

$$\frac{\dot{g}}{g} = \frac{1}{a^2 f H} \left(2a\dot{a} \frac{1}{D_+} \frac{dD_+}{dt} + \frac{a^2}{Hf} \left(\frac{1}{D_+} \frac{d^2 D_+}{dt^2} - \left(\frac{1}{D_+} \frac{dD_+}{dt} \right)^2 \right) \right) = - \left(1 - \frac{3}{2} \frac{\Omega_m}{f^2} \right) ,$$

so that, redefining $V := g^{-1}v$ and dropping primes from the new momentum, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\vec{q}} &= \vec{p} , \\ \dot{\vec{p}} &= \left(1 - \frac{3}{2} \frac{\Omega_m}{f^2} \right) \vec{p} - \nabla_{\vec{q}} V \approx -\frac{1}{2} \vec{p} - \nabla_{\vec{q}} V , \end{aligned}$$

where on the last step we used $\Omega_m/f^2 \approx 1$, approximation that is valid for most of Λ CDM cosmologies (see [22]). In this approximation, the Green function, analogously to what we did previously, is

$$\mathcal{G}(\eta, \eta') = \exp \left(- \int_{\eta'}^{\eta} d\eta'' \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\mathbb{1}_3 \\ 0 & 1/2 \mathbb{1}_3 \end{pmatrix} \right) \Theta(\eta - \eta') ;$$

to compute the exponential, notice that, using schematically

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathbb{1}_3(\eta - \eta') \\ 0 & -1/2 \mathbb{1}_3(\eta - \eta') \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2a \\ 0 & -a \end{pmatrix} =: A ,$$

we have

$$A^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -2a^2 \\ 0 & a^2 \end{pmatrix} , \quad A^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2a^3 \\ 0 & -a^3 \end{pmatrix} \implies e^A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2(a - \frac{1}{2}a^2 + \frac{1}{3!}a^3 + \dots) \\ 0 & 1 - a + \frac{1}{2}a^2 - \frac{1}{3!}a^3 + \dots \end{pmatrix} ,$$

and thus it is easy to see that the free propagator for dark matter particles in Newtonian dynamics in this alternative approach will be

$$\mathcal{G}(\eta, \eta') = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{1}_3 & 2(1 - \exp(-\frac{1}{2}(\eta - \eta'))) \mathbb{1}_3 \\ 0 & \exp(-\frac{1}{2}(\eta - \eta')) \mathbb{1}_3 \end{pmatrix} \Theta(\eta - \eta') . \quad (3.12)$$

The new V obeys, looking at (3.7), the Poisson

$$\nabla_{\vec{q}}^2 V(\vec{q}, \eta) = \frac{3a}{2g^2(\eta)} \Omega_m^{(i)} \delta = \frac{3}{2} \frac{\Omega_m^{(i)} H_i^2}{a^3 H^2 f^2} \delta = \frac{3}{2} \frac{\Omega_m}{f^2} \delta \approx \frac{3}{2} \delta ,$$

where on the third step we used

$$\Omega_m = \frac{8\pi G}{3H^2} \bar{\rho} = \frac{8\pi G}{3a^3 H^2} \bar{\rho}_c = \frac{\Omega_m^{(i)}}{a^3 H^2} H_i^2 ,$$

where on the last step we exploited (3.6).

So in this setting, the single-particle gravitational potential in Fourier space, from

$$V(\vec{q}, \eta) = \sum_{j=1}^N v(|\vec{q} - \vec{q}_j(\eta)|) ,$$

reads

$$v(k) = -\frac{3}{2} \frac{1}{\rho k^2} .$$

3.2 Improved Zel'dovich propagator

We would like to search for propagators that already capture part of the interaction, like for example the one given by the Zel'dovich approximation.

Inspired by (A.3), we search for solutions of the form

$$\vec{q}(\tau) = \vec{q}_0 + g_{qp}(\tau, 0) \dot{\vec{q}}_0 + \int_0^\tau d\tau' g_{qp}(\tau, \tau') \vec{f}(\tau') , \quad (3.13)$$

where $\vec{f}(\tau)$ can be regarded as an effective force term, whereas g_{qp} is now the improved propagator we are searching for. In the Zel'dovich approximation, the trajectories are straight ones provided that one uses as time coordinate the linear growing factor τ ; the propagator within this approximation is thus

$$g_{qp}(\tau, \tau') = \tau - \tau' ; \quad (3.14)$$

Taking two times the derivative of (3.13), we have

$$\ddot{\vec{q}}(\tau) = \ddot{g}_{qp}(\tau, 0) \dot{\vec{q}}_0 + \dot{g}_{qp}(\tau, \tau) \vec{f}(\tau) + \int_0^\tau d\tau' \ddot{g}_{qp}(\tau, \tau') \vec{f}(\tau') .$$

The matching of the last of (3.8), that is the equation of the trajectories in an expanding space-time, with the previous using the Zel'dovich propagator (3.14) implies

$$\vec{f}(\tau) = -\frac{\dot{g}}{g} \dot{\vec{q}} - \nabla v .$$

This is the effective force corresponding to the Zel'dovich approximation. An improvement to this picture (see also [14]) can be given by the following effective force

$$\vec{f}(\tau) = \frac{\dot{g}}{g} h(\tau) \dot{\vec{q}} - \nabla v , \quad h(\tau) := \frac{1}{g} - 1 ; \quad (3.15)$$

for early times, we have $h(\tau) \rightarrow 0$ so that with this choice you don't have an initial velocity dependent contribution. With this new \vec{f} , we can rewrite (3.8) as

$$\ddot{\vec{q}}(\tau) - \dot{h}(\tau) \dot{\vec{q}}(\tau) = \vec{f}(\tau) .$$

This equation has the same structure of (A.2), so it has the same solution (A.3), that is

$$\dot{\vec{q}}(\tau) = e^{h(\tau)} \dot{\vec{q}}_0 + e^{h(\tau)} \int_0^\tau d\tau' \vec{f}(\tau') e^{-h(\tau')} ; \quad (3.16)$$

this implies that the improved propagator is

$$g_{qp}(\tau, \tau') = \int_{\tau'}^{\tau} d\tau'' e^{h(\tau'')-h(\tau')} . \quad (3.17)$$

Notice that, since for late times $h(\tau) \rightarrow -1$, the previous reduces to the Zel'dovich propagator (3.14) times e^{-1} .

Finally, we want to find an expression for the effective force in this improved Zel'dovich picture. Using (3.16) and (3.15), we obtain the following equation for \vec{f} ,

$$\vec{f}(\tau) = \frac{\dot{g}}{g} h(\tau) e^{h(\tau)} \left(\vec{q}_0 + \int_0^{\tau} d\tau' \vec{f}(\tau') e^{-h(\tau')} \right) - \nabla v ; \quad (3.18)$$

we want to put it in the form of (A.2), so redefine for simplicity

$$\alpha^{-1}(\tau) := \frac{\dot{g}}{g} h(\tau) e^{h(\tau)} ,$$

multiply the (3.18) by $\alpha(\tau)$, derive with respect to τ and obtain

$$\dot{\vec{f}} + \frac{\dot{\alpha}}{\alpha} \vec{f} - \frac{e^{-h}}{\alpha} \vec{f} = -\frac{1}{\alpha} \frac{d}{d\tau} \alpha \nabla v ;$$

this has indeed the same form of (A.2), and has the particular solution (exploiting (A.3) and integrating by parts)

$$\vec{f}(\tau) = -\nabla v - \frac{\dot{g}h}{g^2} \int_0^{\tau} d\tau' g \nabla v . \quad (3.19)$$

This can be seen as the effective force particles in this improved Zel'dovich picture feel, and we will use this to account for interactions in next section.

3.3 The Born approximation

Return back at equations (2.16) and (2.17); one way we could have to include interactions is to consider the interaction term together with the source term K in the solution of the equation of motion, that is

$$\bar{x}(t) = \mathcal{G}(t, t^{(i)}) x^{(i)} - \int_{t^{(i)}}^{t_f} dt' \mathcal{G}(t, t') \left(K_p(t') + \nabla_q \mathcal{V} \right) ;$$

then to account for the action of the density operators, consider the (2.16) with $J = L$ and $K = 0$ with our new solution of the equation of motion; this changes the (2.55) as (putting also $\vec{l} = 0$)

$$\begin{aligned} Z_C[L, 0] &= \int d\Gamma_i e^{iL_q \cdot q^{(i)} + iL_p \cdot p^{(i)}} \exp \left(i \sum_m \vec{k}_m \cdot \int_{t^{(i)}}^{t_m} dt' g_{qp}(t_m, t') \nabla_{j_m} \mathcal{V} \right) \\ &:= \int d\Gamma_i e^{iL_q \cdot q^{(i)} + iL_p \cdot p^{(i)} + iS_I} , \end{aligned} \quad (3.20)$$

where we have the new interaction term

$$S_I = \sum_m \vec{k}_m \cdot \int_{t^{(i)}}^{t_m} dt' g_{qp}(t_m, t') \nabla_{j_m} \mathcal{V} ;$$

what we want to do now is to consider an effective force for $\nabla_{j_m} \mathcal{V}$ like the one in (3.19), with

$$\vec{f}_j = -\nabla_j \mathcal{V} ,$$

where j labels the particle over which the effective force acts. Having in mind the formula for the power spectrum (2.78), taking into account the Dirac delta that ensures $\vec{k}_1 = -\vec{k}_2$, we can write

$$S_I = -\vec{k}_1 \cdot \int_{t^{(i)}}^t dt' g_{qp}(t, t') (\vec{f}_1(t') - \vec{f}_2(t')) .$$

We can consider for example the force acting on particle 1 as the sum of all forces acting on it due to other particles; so we can recast the force terms as

$$\vec{f}_1 - \vec{f}_2 = \sum_{j \neq 1}^N \vec{f}_{1j} - \sum_{j \neq 2}^N \vec{f}_{2j} = 2\vec{f}_{12} + \sum_{j=3}^N (\vec{f}_{1j} - \vec{f}_{2j}) ,$$

where we exploited Newton's third law $\vec{f}_{12} = -\vec{f}_{21}$. The sum involving particles with $j \geq 3$ can be put to zero, since in an isotropic field we should expect that the average of the forces that acts on particle one and two caused by them should vanish. So we end up with

$$S_I = -\vec{k}_1 \cdot \int_{t^{(i)}}^t dt' g_{qp}(t, t') \vec{f}_{12}(t') .$$

For the potential, we will use the one we derived in (3.8), v/g , that, exploiting (3.7), obeys the Poisson

$$\nabla_{\vec{q}}^2 \left(\frac{v}{g} \right) (\vec{q}, \tau) = \frac{3a}{2g^2(\tau)} \Omega_m^{(i)} \delta ,$$

so the one particle equivalent in Fourier space will obey

$$\bar{v}(\vec{k}, \tau) = -\frac{3a}{2g^2(\tau)\bar{\rho}k^2} \Omega_m^{(i)} =: -\frac{A(\tau)}{\bar{\rho}k^2} , \quad A(\tau) := \frac{3a}{2g^2(\tau)} \Omega_m^{(i)} ;$$

so we can write, in real space, the gradient of potential of particle 2 at the position of the particle 1 (that will enter in \vec{f}_{12}), as

$$\nabla_{\vec{q}_1(\tau)} \bar{v}_2(\vec{q}, \tau) =: \nabla_1 \bar{v}_2 = -i \frac{A(\tau)}{\bar{\rho}} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{\vec{k}}{k^2} e^{i\vec{k} \cdot (\vec{q}_1(\tau) - \vec{q}_1(\tau))} .$$

Now enters the approximation: the idea is to substitute the previous by a suitable average over the particles 1 and 2, so that one can factorize out of the generating functional the whole interaction term. This average can be done using the correlation function; in fact we can express the probability to find particle 1 and 2 at a separation $q_{12} := |\vec{q}_1 - \vec{q}_2|$ as

$$P_{12} = \bar{\rho}(1 + \xi_{12}(q_{12})) ,$$

where ξ_{12} is the correlation function, representing the excess probability over the mean, random $\bar{\rho}$ one to find particle 2 at a distance q_{12} from particle 1. We use this

probability to make the average, yielding, in Fourier space

$$\langle \nabla_1 \bar{v}_2 \rangle(\vec{k}) = \bar{\rho} \int d^3 q_{12} \zeta_{12}(q_{12}) \nabla_1 \bar{v}_2(q_{12}, \tau) e^{-i\vec{k} \cdot (\vec{q}_1 - \vec{q}_2)} ; \quad (3.21)$$

using the convolution theorem, we can express the previous as the convolution of the Fourier transform of ζ_{12} , that is related to the power spectrum, and $\nabla_1 \bar{v}_2$; for the power spectrum, we can use the linearly evolved one damped on free streaming scale, that is use

$$D_+^2 \bar{P}_\delta(k) := D_+^2 e^{-\sigma_1^2 g_{qp}^2 k^2 / 3} P_\delta^{(i)}(k) .$$

So we can write (3.21) as

$$\langle \nabla_1 \bar{v}_2 \rangle(\vec{k}, \tau) = -iA(\tau) D_+^2 \int \frac{d^3 k'}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{\vec{k} - \vec{k}'}{|\vec{k} - \vec{k}'|^2} \bar{P}_\delta(k') ;$$

we can simplify the previous by integrating over the angles; with $\mu := \hat{k} \cdot \hat{k}'$, where hatted quantities are the corresponding unit vectors, and $y := k'/k$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{d^3 k'}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{\vec{k} - \vec{k}'}{|\vec{k} - \vec{k}'|^2} \bar{P}_\delta(k') &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \int_{-1}^1 d\mu \int_0^\infty k'^2 \frac{k(\hat{k} - y\hat{k}')}{k^2(1 + y^2 - 2y\mu)} \bar{P}_\delta(k') \\ &= \frac{k^2 \hat{k}}{(2\pi)^2} \int_0^\infty dy y^2 J(y) \bar{P}_\delta(ky) , \end{aligned}$$

where

$$J(y) := \int_{-1}^1 d\mu \frac{1 - \mu y}{1 + y^2 - 2\mu y} = 1 + \frac{1 - y^2}{2y} \ln \frac{1 + y}{|1 - y|} .$$

In the end the gravitational potential gradient average reads (by truncating the integration at $y = 1$ in order to cut modes on scales smaller than the density fluctuation considered)

$$\langle \nabla_1 \bar{v}_2 \rangle(\vec{k}, \tau) = -iA(\tau) D_+^2 \frac{k^2 \hat{k}}{(2\pi)^2} \int_0^1 dy y^2 J(y) \bar{P}_\delta(ky) ; \quad (3.22)$$

insert this in (3.19), yielding what we denote with $\langle \vec{f}_{12} \rangle$, in order to obtain the averaged interacting action

$$\langle S_I \rangle = -\vec{k}_1 \cdot \int_{t^{(i)}}^\tau d\tau' g_{qp}(\tau, \tau') \langle \vec{f}_{12} \rangle(\vec{k}, t') . \quad (3.23)$$

This averaged action does not depend anymore on initial positions and momenta, so we can factorize it out of the integral from (3.20) and obtain the final result for the non linear evolved power spectrum of KFT within our assumptions and approximations

$$\boxed{\bar{\mathcal{P}}(\vec{k}, \tau) = e^{-Q_D + i\langle S_I \rangle} \mathcal{P}(\vec{k}, \tau)} \quad (3.24)$$

Chapter 4

Power spectra analysis

After all the efforts we made in the previous chapters, we are finally ready to analyze the non linear evolution of primordial power spectra using KFT approach.

As initial power spectra, in this work we will study the evolution of two types: one is

$$P_{\delta}^{(i)}(k) = Ak \left(1 + \left(\frac{k}{k_0} \right)^2 \right)^{-n/2} ; \quad (4.1)$$

for $n > 0$, this power spectrum goes like k for $k \ll k_0$, whereas it goes like k^{1-n} for $k \gg k_0$, thus mimicking the dark matter behavior (1.9) for $n = 4$. Its interest comes from the study of its small scale behavior; we thus would like to see, by varying n , what is its asymptotic behavior, if it always falls like k^{-3} or it has a certain dependence on the choice of n . We will call this initial spectrum the “dark matter power spectrum”.

Another is the one with gaussian shape

$$P_{\delta}^{(i)}(k) = A \exp \left(-\frac{(k - k_0)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right) ; \quad (4.2)$$

a power spectrum like that is very unusual in cosmology, but nevertheless it could be interesting to see how wavenumbers far from k_0 are filled. We will call this initial spectrum the “Gaussian power spectrum”.

The constant A appearing in front of these initial power spectra is a normalization constant, to be determined using the value for today’s variance σ_8 , whereas k_0 is a reference wavenumber; for the dark matter power spectrum it can be taken as the one corresponding to the size of Hubble radius at matter-radiation equality for example, but we will keep it general as long as we can.

The evolution equation we will use will be the (3.24) derived within the Born approximation. Regarding the parameters and setting of our discussion:

- we will take as the initial time one near the beginning of matter dominated epoch, so that $\Omega_m^{(i)} = 1$;
- as background cosmological model, we will assume a standard Λ CDM universe with $\Omega_{\text{md}} = 0.26$, $\Omega_{\Lambda} = 0.7$, $\Omega_{\text{mb}} = 0.04$, $h = 0.7$, $\sigma_8 = 0.8$ at zero redshift (i.e. today);
- the free propagator will be the improved Zel’dovich one (3.17), that already accounts for part of the interaction;

- interactions are taken into account within the non-perturbative Born approximation, using the effective force term (3.19) and the averaging scheme depicted in section 3.3.

We resume here all the equations implied by (3.24) we should try to solve (written explicitly): from also (2.78), (2.79) (neglecting the $\delta_D(\vec{k})$ term, that only sets $\vec{k} = 0$, thus representing an unimportant contribution to the overall mean)

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\mathcal{P}}(\vec{k}, \tau) = & \exp\left(-\frac{1}{3}\left(\int \frac{d^3k'}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{P_\delta^{(i)}(k')}{k'^2}\right) g_{qp}^2(\tau, 0) k^2 + i \langle S_I \rangle\right) \left(\int d^3q\right. \\ & \times \left.\left(\exp\left\{-g_{qp}^2(\tau, 0) k^2 \left[\frac{1}{2\pi^2} \int_0^\infty dk' P_\delta^{(i)}(k') \left((\hat{k} \cdot \hat{q})^2 j_2(k'q) - \frac{j_1(k'q)}{k'q}\right)\right]\right\} - 1\right) e^{i\vec{q} \cdot \vec{k}}\right); \end{aligned}$$

with $\tau = D_+(t) - D_+^{(i)}$ and from (3.17)

$$g_{qp}(\tau, \tau') = \int_{\tau'}^\tau d\tau'' \exp\left(\left(a^2 D_+ f H H^{(i)-1}\right)^{-1}(\tau'') - \left(a^2 D_+ f H H^{(i)-1}\right)^{-1}(\tau')\right),$$

with $f = d \ln D_+ / d \ln a$; and also from (3.23), (3.19)

$$\begin{aligned} \langle S_I \rangle(\vec{k}, \tau) = & -2\vec{k} \cdot \int_0^\tau d\tau' g_{qp}(\tau, \tau') \left(-\langle \nabla_1 \bar{v}_2 \rangle(\vec{k}, \tau') - \left(2\frac{\dot{a}}{a} + \frac{\dot{f}}{f} + \frac{\dot{H}}{H}\right) \right. \\ & \times \left. \frac{1 - a^2 D_+ f H H^{(i)-1}}{a^4 D_+^2 f^2 H^2 H^{(i)-2}} \int_0^{\tau'} d\tau'' (a^2 D_+ f H H^{(i)-1})(\tau'') \langle \nabla_1 \bar{v}_2 \rangle(\vec{k}, \tau'') \right), \end{aligned}$$

and finally from (3.22)

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \nabla_1 \bar{v}_2 \rangle(\vec{k}, \tau) = & -i \frac{3H^{(i)2}}{2a^3 D_+ f^2 H^2} \frac{k^2 \hat{k}}{(2\pi)^2} \int_0^1 dy y^2 \left(1 + \frac{1-y^2}{2y} \ln \frac{1+y}{|1-y|}\right) \\ & \times \exp\left(-\frac{1}{3}\left(\int \frac{d^3k'}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{P_\delta^{(i)}(k')}{k'^2}\right) g_{qp}^2(\tau, 0) k^2 y^2\right) P_\delta^{(i)}(ky). \end{aligned}$$

Apart for the initial power spectrum, what we need are the cosmological parameters $a(t)$, $D_+(t)$ (and hence H , $H^{(i)}$, f), to be determined by using our background cosmological model.

4.1 Solving the integrals

The expression we need to analyze is not easy to handle, so we cannot expect to find an analytical solution for $\bar{\mathcal{P}}$; nevertheless something, once we insert the initial power spectrum of interest, can be done.

4.1.1 Dark matter spectrum

The first integrals we can try to solve are the ones that do not depend on cosmological quantities; one is

$$\sigma_1^2 = \frac{A}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3k \frac{1}{k} \left(1 + \left(\frac{k}{k_0} \right)^2 \right)^{-n/2} = \frac{A}{2\pi^2} \int_0^\infty \frac{k}{\left(1 + \left(\frac{k}{k_0} \right)^2 \right)^{n/2}} ;$$

for $n > 2$, this integral converges and can be easily solved (putting for example $x = k/k_0$), yielding

$$\sigma_1^2 = \frac{A}{2\pi^2} \frac{k_0^2}{n-2}, \quad n > 2.$$

The integrals that involve the Bessel functions can be solved numerically using methods suitable for fast oscillating integrals (see for example the Levin collocation scheme in [23, 24]); for brevity, let's call

$$\begin{aligned} a_1(q) &= -\frac{A}{2q\pi^2} \int_0^\infty dk' \left(1 + \left(\frac{k'}{k_0} \right)^2 \right)^{-n/2} j_1(k'q), \\ a_2(q) &= \frac{A}{2\pi^2} \int_0^\infty dk' k' \left(1 + \left(\frac{k'}{k_0} \right)^2 \right)^{-n/2} j_2(k'q), \end{aligned}$$

the integral we have to solve then becomes

$$\mathcal{P}(k, \tau) = 2\pi \int_0^\infty dq q^2 \int_{-1}^1 d\mu \left(e^{-g_{qp}^2(\tau,0)k^2(a_1(q) + \mu^2 a_2(q))} - 1 \right) e^{iqk\mu}; \quad (4.3)$$

the integral in μ can be seen to be

$$(4.3)_{\mu\text{-part}} = \int_{-1}^1 d\mu \left(e^{-g_{qp}^2(\tau,0)k^2(B_2(q) + \mu^2 B_1(q))} - 1 \right) \cos(qk\mu),$$

this comes from the fact that the imaginary part of the integrand, being an odd function in μ , gives zero. This last integral admits a representation involving the error function erf, where

$$\operatorname{erf} x = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt,$$

but from a numerical point of view, it is better to directly solve (4.3) using 2-D Levin collocation scheme.

The other integrals involve cosmological quantities, so we shall use some fit formula for the cosmological parameters of interest **TODO explain**. The integrals, again, must then be solved numerically.

4.1.2 Gaussian spectrum

For the Gaussian power spectrum case, the results for the integrals we know how to solve is

$$\sigma_1^2 = \frac{A}{(2\pi^2)} \int_0^\infty dk \exp\left(-\frac{(k-k_0)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right),$$

put $x = (k - k_0)/\sqrt{2}\sigma$ and the result is

$$\sigma_1^2 = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}}\sigma \left(1 - \operatorname{erf}\left(-\frac{k_0}{\sqrt{2}\sigma}\right)\right).$$

Supposing a sharp gaussian peak (and a not too little k_0 , i.e. we are not forcing a mode corresponding to a very large scale), we can safely approximate the previous by taking the limit $k_0/\sigma \rightarrow \infty^1$, yielding

$$\sigma_1^2 = \sqrt{2\pi}\sigma.$$

Then the steps for the evaluation of the integrals are the same we have already explained in section 4.1.1.

¹The error function $\operatorname{erf}(x)$ goes very rapidly to the value -1 for negative values.

Chapter 5

Summary and conclusions

Appendix A

Mathematical tools

A.1 Kronecker products

A Kronecker product between two generic matrices A, B , with A a $m \times n$ matrix and B a $p \times q$ one, is defined as

$$A \otimes B := \begin{pmatrix} A_{11}B & \cdots & A_{1n}B \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ A_{m1}B & \cdots & A_{mn}B \end{pmatrix}.$$

The Kronecker product has the following properties:

$$\begin{aligned} A \otimes (B + C) &= A \otimes B + A \otimes C, \quad (A + B) \otimes C = A \otimes C + B \otimes C, \\ (kA) \otimes B &= k(A \otimes B) = A \otimes (kB), \\ A \otimes (B \otimes C) &= (A \otimes B) \otimes C, \\ (A \otimes B)^\top &= A^\top \otimes B^\top, \\ \text{Tr}(A \otimes B) &= \text{Tr } A \text{ Tr } B; \end{aligned}$$

Also if A, C and B, D can be separately multiplied, we have

$$(A \otimes B)(C \otimes D) = (AC) \otimes (BD).$$

The idea behind our usage of the Kronecker product is to encode the many particle structure of the quantities we use on the second factor of the product. As an example, we see the explicit expression behind (2.5):

$$\partial_t \mathbf{x} = \partial_t \begin{pmatrix} q_j^x \vec{e}_j \\ q_j^y \vec{e}_j \\ \vdots \\ p_j^z \vec{e}_j \end{pmatrix} = \partial_t \begin{pmatrix} q_1^x \\ q_2^x \\ \vdots \\ q_N^x \\ q_1^y \\ \vdots \\ p_N^z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} (\mathcal{J}\partial_j)^{(1)} \vec{e}_j \\ (\mathcal{J}\partial_j)^{(2)} \vec{e}_j \\ \vdots \\ (\mathcal{J}\partial_j)^{(6)} \vec{e}_j \end{pmatrix} \mathcal{H} = \begin{pmatrix} (\mathcal{J}\partial_1)^{(1)} \\ (\mathcal{J}\partial_2)^{(1)} \\ \vdots \\ (\mathcal{J}\partial_N)^{(1)} \\ (\mathcal{J}\partial_2)^{(1)} \\ \vdots \\ (\mathcal{J}\partial_N)^{(6)} \end{pmatrix} \mathcal{H},$$

where $(\mathcal{J}\partial_j)^{(i)}$ is the i -th component of $\mathcal{J}(\partial_{\vec{q}_j} \partial_{\vec{p}_j})^\top$. These are indeed the $6N$ Hamilton equations of the system.

Our compact notation thus allows us to treat these $6N$ dimensional quantities with little effort.

A.2 Gaussian integrals

We show here how to solve what is basically the only functional integral we can exactly solve, the gaussian integral. Let's start with an example in a finite number of dimensions, define

$$Z[\vec{b}] = \mathcal{N} \int \left(\prod_{i=1}^n dx_i \right) \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} k_{ij} x_i x_j + i \sum_j b_j x_j \right),$$

where $i \sum_j b_j x_j$ is the source term and \mathcal{N} is a normalization factor; then we make the change of variables

$$\vec{y} = i k^{-1} \vec{b}, \quad \vec{x} = \vec{y} + \vec{z};$$

with this the exponent becomes

$$-\frac{1}{2} x_i k_{ij} x_j + i b_i x_i = -\frac{1}{2} z_i k_{ij} z_j - \frac{1}{2} b_i k_{ij}^{-1} b_j,$$

so

$$Z[\vec{b}] = \mathcal{N} \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} b_i k_{ij}^{-1} b_j \right) \int \left(\prod_{i=1}^n dz_i \right) \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} z_i k_{ij} z_j \right),$$

now diagonalize k as $\sum k_{ij} z_i z_j = \sum \lambda_i \xi_i^2$, where λ_i are the eigenvalues of k . We thus end up with a standard gaussian integral, the final result is

$$Z[\vec{b}] = \mathcal{N} (2\pi)^{n/2} (\det k)^{-1/2} \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} b_i k_{ij}^{-1} b_j \right);$$

imposing $Z[0] = 1$, we have

$$Z[\vec{b}] = \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} b_i k_{ij}^{-1} b_j \right).$$

All this procedure can be extended to the functional case

$$Z[J] = \mathcal{N} \int \mathcal{D}q \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} \int dx dy q(x) k(x, y) q(y) + i \int dx q(x) J(x) \right),$$

yielding (with the proper normalization)

$$Z[J] = \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} \int dx dy J(x) k^{-1}(x, y) J(y) \right). \quad (\text{A.1})$$

A.3 Solving linear inhomogeneous equations

Consider a non homogeneous equation of the type

$$(\partial_t + a(t))f(t) = b(t); \quad (\text{A.2})$$

an homogeneous solution is simply given by

$$f_0(t) = f(0) \exp\left(-\int_0^t dt' a(t')\right).$$

To find a particular solution, let's apply the variation of constants method: use the trial solution

$$f(t) = C(t) \exp\left(-\int_0^t dt' a(t')\right),$$

insert it in (A.2) to obtain

$$\exp\left(-\int_0^t dt' a(t')\right) \partial_t C(t) = b(t) \implies C(t) = \int_0^t dt' b(t') \exp\left(\int_0^{t'} dt'' a(t'')\right),$$

so that we can write the particular solution as

$$\begin{aligned} f(t) &= \exp\left(-\int_0^t dt' a(t')\right) \int_0^t dt' b(t') \exp\left(\int_0^{t'} dt'' a(t'')\right) \\ &= \int_0^t dt' b(t') \exp\left(-\int_{t'}^t dt'' a(t'')\right). \end{aligned}$$

The full solution can be written as

$$f(t) = G(t,0)f(0) + \int_0^t dt' G(t,t')b(t'), \quad (\text{A.3})$$

with the Green function corresponding to (A.2)

$$G(t,t') = \exp\left(-\int_{t'}^t dt'' a(t'')\right) \Theta(t-t').$$

Appendix B

Some derivation details

B.1 Classical path integral

Here we will see some details about the derivations of (2.11), (2.16),

We can use the following property of the delta function: given the function $E(\mathbf{x})$, if E has a zero in \mathbf{x}_{cl} , then we can formally write

$$\delta_{\text{D}}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_{\text{cl}}) = \delta_{\text{D}}(E(\mathbf{x})) |E'(\mathbf{x}_{\text{cl}})| ; \quad (\text{B.1})$$

collecting $|E'(\mathbf{x}_{\text{cl}})|$ in an unimportant overall constant factor, and using the integral representation of the delta (2.9) we have, from (2.8), indeed the (2.11).

Now regarding (2.16), we can reverse the previous reasoning: the piece affected by the integration over χ in free part of (2.15) becomes

$$\int \mathcal{D}\chi e^{i\chi \cdot (E_0(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{K})} = \delta_{\text{D}}(E_0(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{K}) ,$$

so that the part affected by $\int \mathcal{D}'\mathbf{x}$ becomes

$$\int \mathcal{D}'\mathbf{x} \delta_{\text{D}}(E_0(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{K}) \exp\left(i \int dt \mathbf{J} \cdot \mathbf{x}\right) = \exp\left(i \int dt \mathbf{J} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{x}}\right) ,$$

where $\bar{\mathbf{x}}$, that comes from the Dirac delta integration, is the solution of the classical equation of motion with source \mathbf{K} as written in (2.17).

B.2 Including interaction terms

Here we will see the logic behind the inclusion of interaction terms, common in QFT, as seen for example in (2.37).

Imagine we have a function of a quantity ϕ we call $f(\phi)$, and that we have the expression

$$A(J) := \int d\phi f(\phi) e^{iJ\phi} ,$$

if for example $f(\phi) = \exp(\phi)$, then we can think of it in terms of its Taylor expansion

$$\exp(\phi) = 1 + \phi + \frac{1}{2}\phi^2 + \dots ;$$

now a function of an operator is defined in terms of the function's Taylor expansion as well, like for example

$$\exp\left(-i\frac{d}{dJ}\right) := 1 - i\frac{d}{dJ} - \frac{1}{2}\frac{d^2}{dJ^2} + \dots,$$

so

$$\exp\left(-i\frac{d}{dJ}\right)e^{iJ\phi} = \left(1 + \phi + \frac{1}{2}\phi^2 + \dots\right)e^{iJ\phi} = e^\phi e^{iJ\phi};$$

in general this trick works for every sufficiently regular function, so that

$$f\left(-i\frac{d}{dJ}\right) \int d\phi e^{iJ\phi} = \int d\phi f(\phi) e^{iJ\phi}.$$

With this technique, we can pull out from an integral for example the interaction terms by exploiting the source terms (like J, K of the main body of this thesis) and this trick.

B.3 Deriving (2.28)

At first, we should explicitly show the validity of (2.24); from (2.23), by expressing everything in terms of Fourier transform,

$$\begin{aligned} S_1 &= - \int dt \int d^3q \int d^3y \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{q}} B(t, \vec{k}) \int \frac{d^3n}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i\vec{n}\cdot(\vec{q}-\vec{y})} v(\vec{n}) \int \frac{d^3m}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i\vec{m}\cdot\vec{y}} \rho(t, \vec{m}) \\ &= - \int dt \int d^3n d^3m \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \underbrace{\int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i\vec{q}\cdot(\vec{k}+\vec{n})}}_{\delta_D(\vec{k}+\vec{n})} \underbrace{\int \frac{d^3y}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i\vec{y}\cdot(\vec{m}-\vec{n})}}_{\delta_D(\vec{m}-\vec{n})} B(t, \vec{k}) v(\vec{n}) \rho(t, \vec{m}) \\ &= -(2\pi)^3 \int dt \frac{d^3n}{(2\pi)^3} B(t, -\vec{n}) v(\vec{n}) \rho(t, \vec{n}) \int \frac{d^3l}{(2\pi)^3} \delta_D(\vec{l}), \end{aligned}$$

that indeed it is the (2.24) once one uses our notation; now we write explicitly (2.28)

$$\begin{aligned} S_1 &= -\frac{1}{2}(2\pi)^9 \int \frac{d^3k_r}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{d^3l_r}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{d^3l_{r'}}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{d^3k_{r'}}{(2\pi)^3} dt_r dt_{r'} \delta_D(\vec{k}_r - \vec{k}_{r'}) \delta_D(\vec{l}_r) \delta_D(\vec{l}_{r'}) v(r) \\ &\quad \times (\Phi_f(r) \Phi_B(-r) + \Phi_f(-r) \Phi_B(+r)) \end{aligned}$$

then, since $\Phi_f(r) = \rho(r)$, $\Phi_B(r) = B(r)$ when evaluated at $\vec{l}_r = 0$, we have indeed the equivalence of (2.24) and (2.28).

Appendix C

Numerical techniques

In this chapter we will review the main numerical techniques we used to solve the integrals ...

TODO

Appendix D

Cosmological parameters

In this appendix we will see the formulas for the cosmological parameters referring to the standard Λ CDM universe we exploited to solve the various integrals of chapter 4. **TODO**.

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