



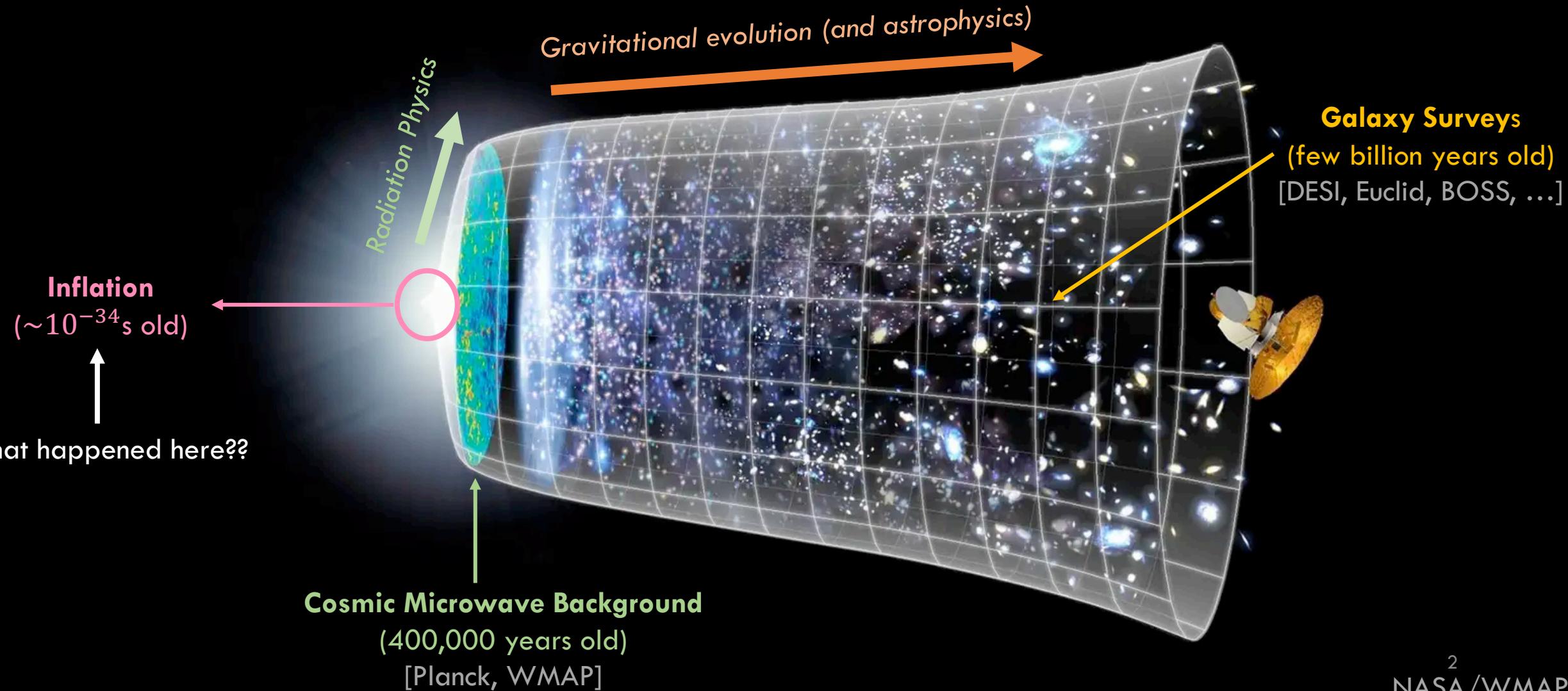
# Galaxy Surveys: A Precision Probe of Inflation

Oliver H. E. Philcox

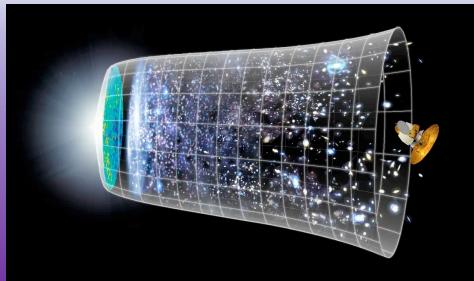
Columbia University  
Simons Foundation



# Our View of the Universe

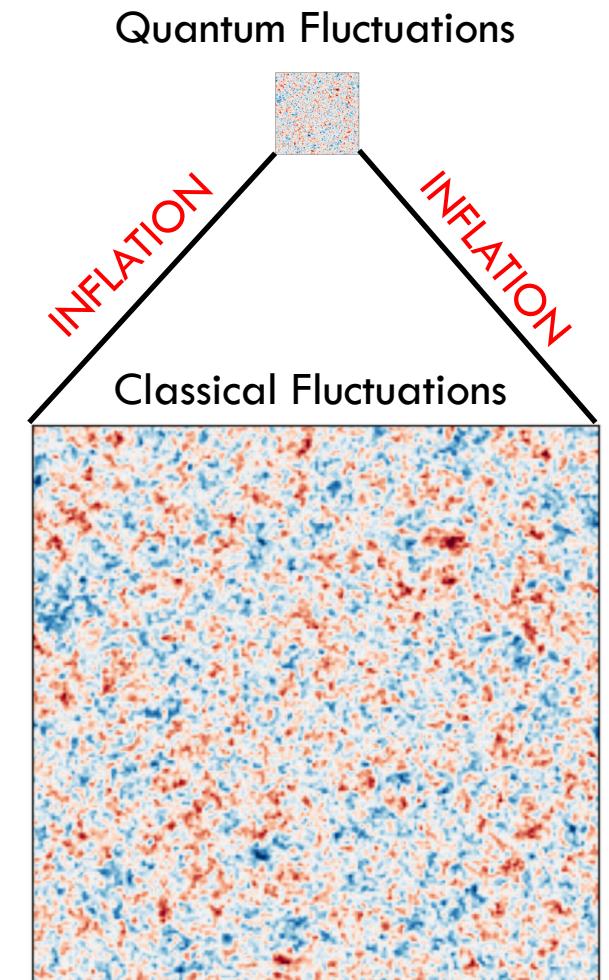


# What Do We Know About Inflation?



## Background

- (Almost) **exponential** expansion of spacetime  
→ **Scale-free**

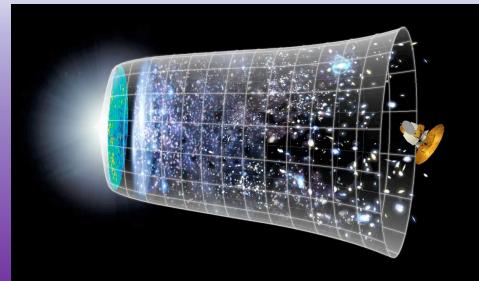


## Perturbations

- **Quantum** vacuum fluctuations sourced **classical** curvature perturbations  
→ (Almost) **Gaussian** distribution of fluctuations

$$\zeta \sim \text{Gaussian}[P(k)], \quad P(k) = \langle \zeta(\mathbf{k}) \zeta^*(\mathbf{k}) \rangle$$

# What Do We Know About Inflation?



## Simplest model

- Caused by a **single field** evolving along an (almost) **flat potential** [Single Field Slow Roll]

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{inf}} \sim \frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi)^2 - V(\phi)$$

**But:**

- What is the **energy scale** of inflation?
- What was the **potential**?
- Were there **other fields** during inflation?
- Did the fields **interact**?

$$E \sim 10^{14} \text{GeV} ?$$

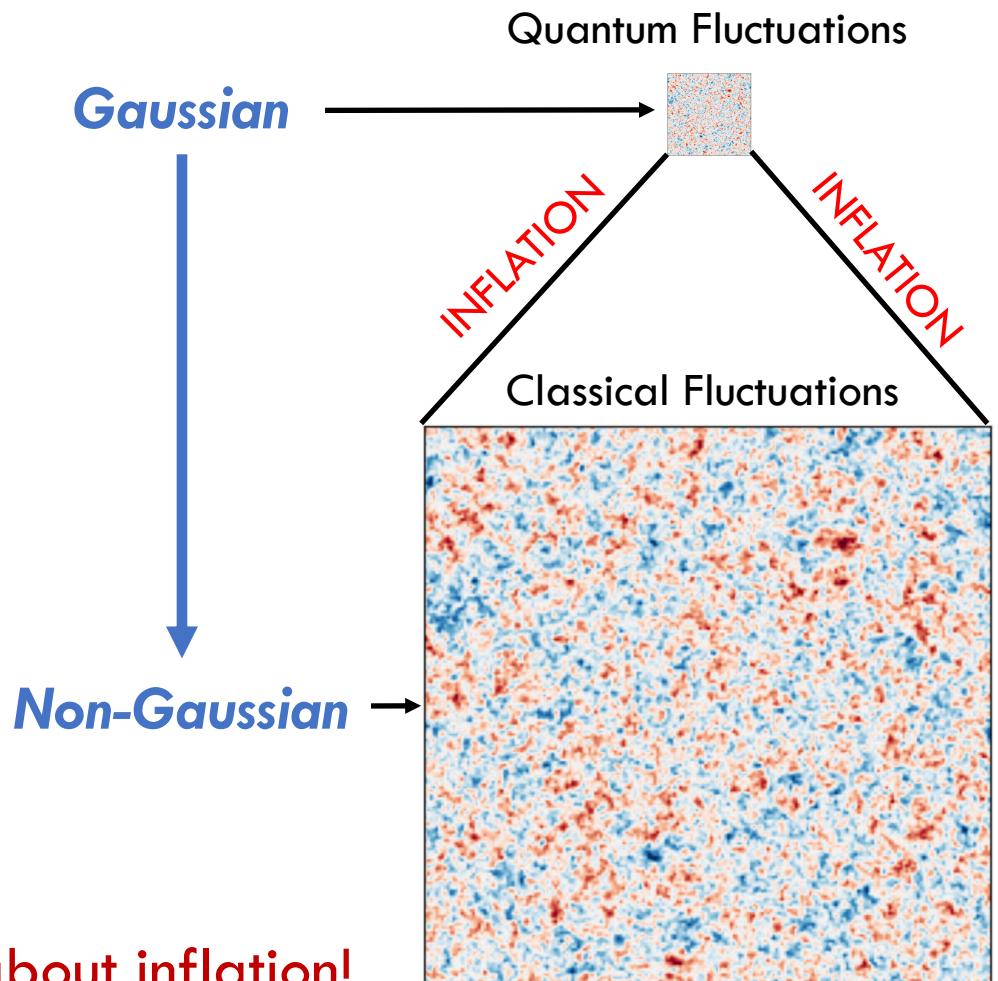
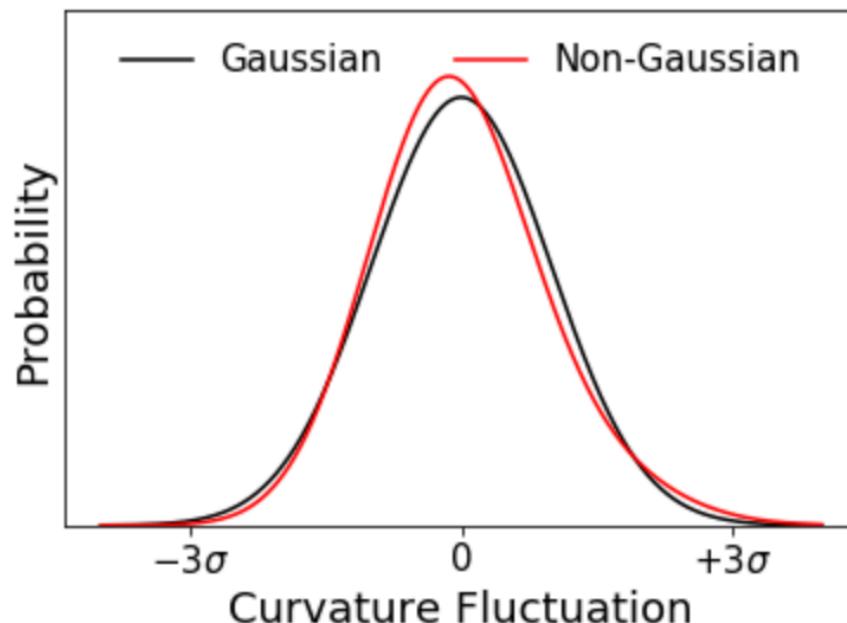
$$V(\phi) = ???$$

$$\phi \rightarrow \phi, \chi, \psi_\mu, \dots$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{inf}} \supset \dot{\phi}^3 + \dots$$

# How to Probe Inflation

New physics in inflation  
→ non-Gaussian fluctuations



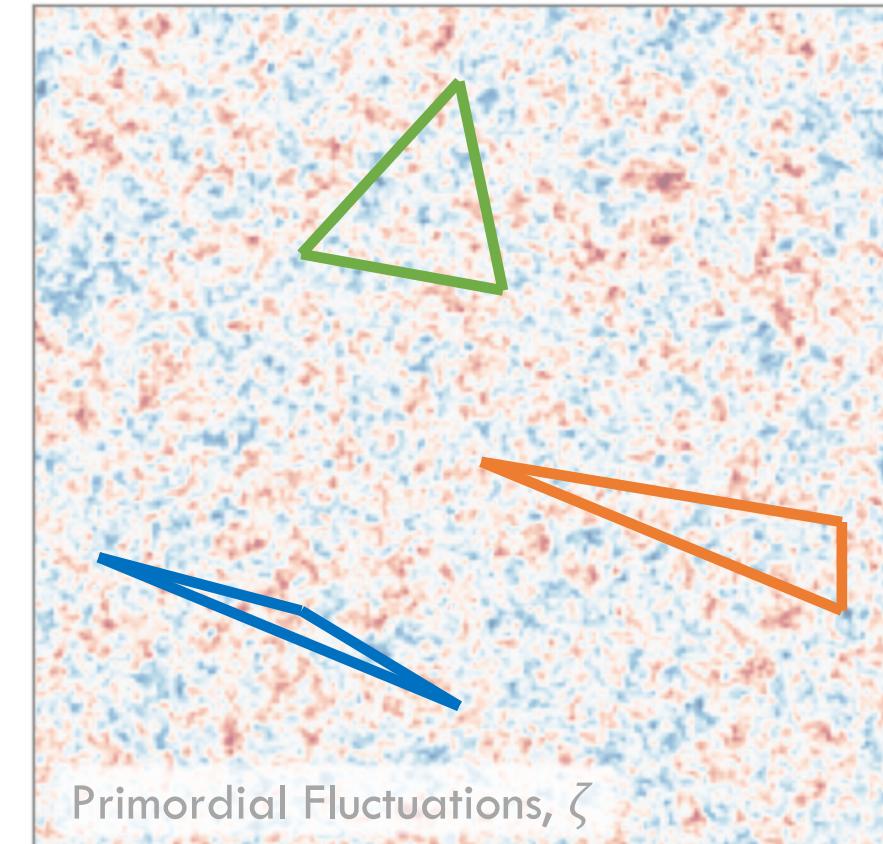
By measuring the non-Gaussianity, we can learn about inflation!

# What Does non-Gaussianity Look Like?

- Non-Gaussianity is parameterized by **correlation functions** e.g. **bispectra**

$$B(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3) = \langle \zeta(\mathbf{k}_1) \zeta(\mathbf{k}_2) \zeta(\mathbf{k}_3) \rangle \neq 0$$

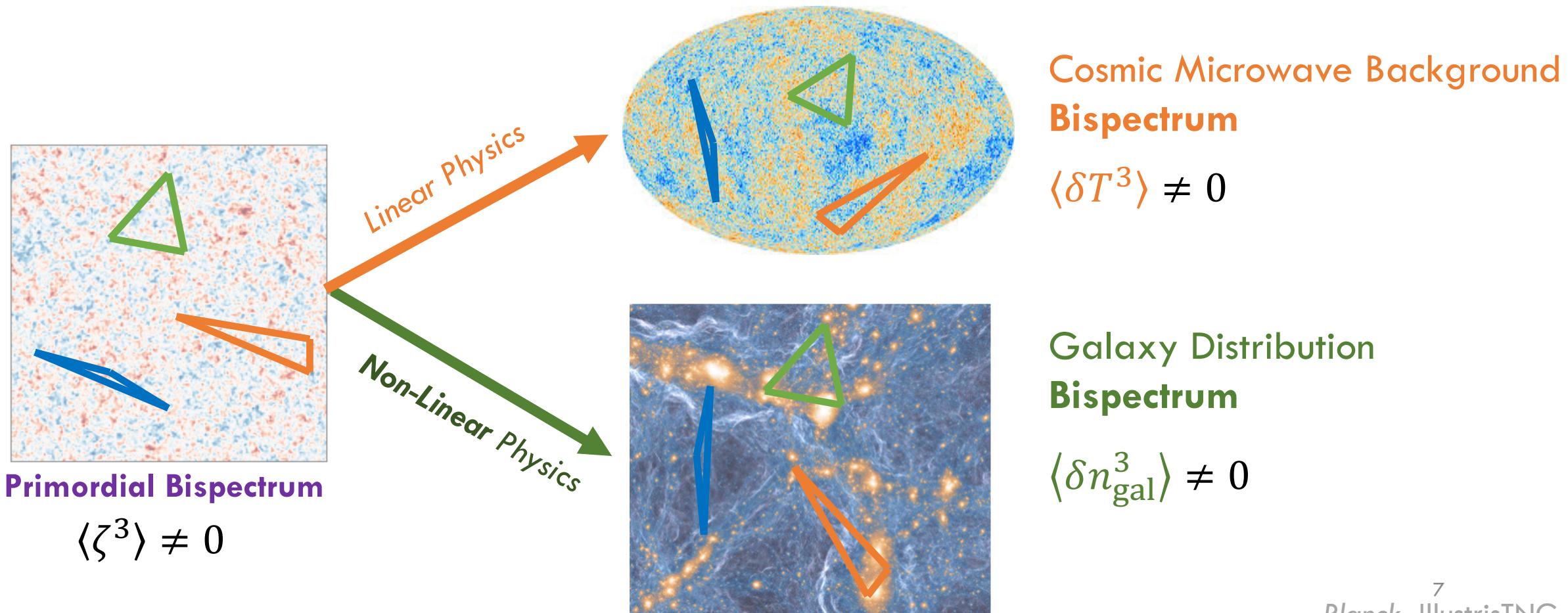
- Different **shapes** constrain different physics:
  - **Equilateral** triangles: **self-interactions**
  - **Squeezed** triangles: **new light fields**
  - **Folded** triangles: **new vacuum states**



$$\zeta \sim \text{Edgeworth}[P(k), B(k_i), T(k_i), \dots]$$

# Measuring non-Gaussianity

- Late-time non-Gaussianity traces **primordial** non-Gaussianity



# CMB Non-Gaussianity

- CMB surveys have constrained **many shapes** of non-Gaussianity

$$\langle \delta T^3 \rangle \sim \langle \zeta^3 \rangle \sim f_{\text{NL}} \times \text{Shape}$$

Planck  
2018

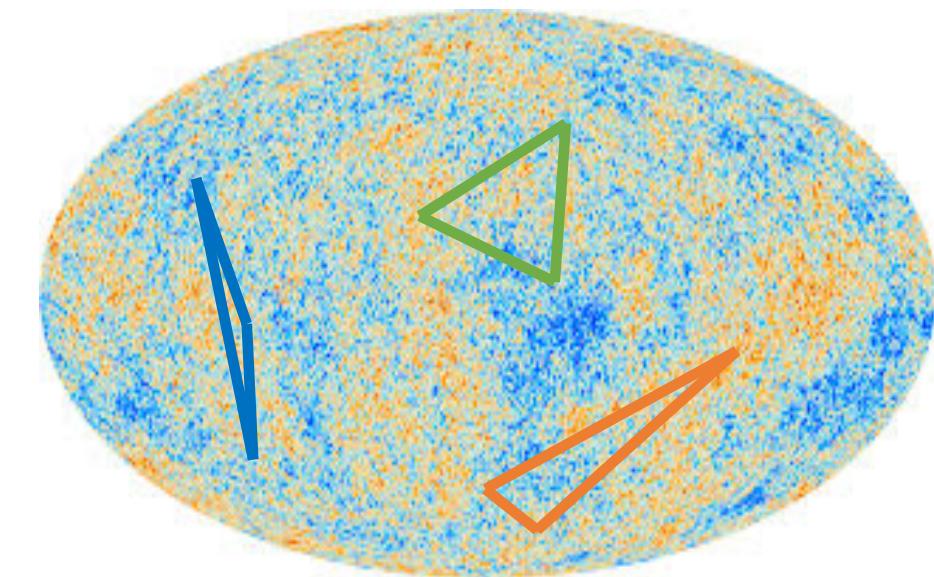
$f_{\text{NL}}$	Local .....	$6.7 \pm 5.6$
	Equilateral .....	$6 \pm 66$
	Orthogonal .....	$-38 \pm 36$

- Primordial non-Gaussianity is **small**:

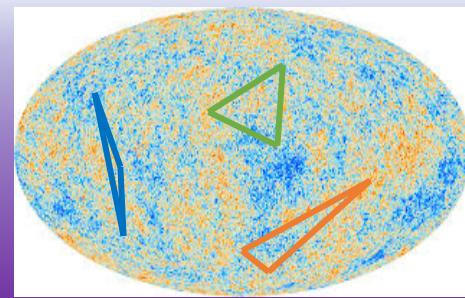
$$10^{-5} |f_{\text{NL}}| \ll 1$$

- But theory target is  $f_{\text{NL}} \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$ ...

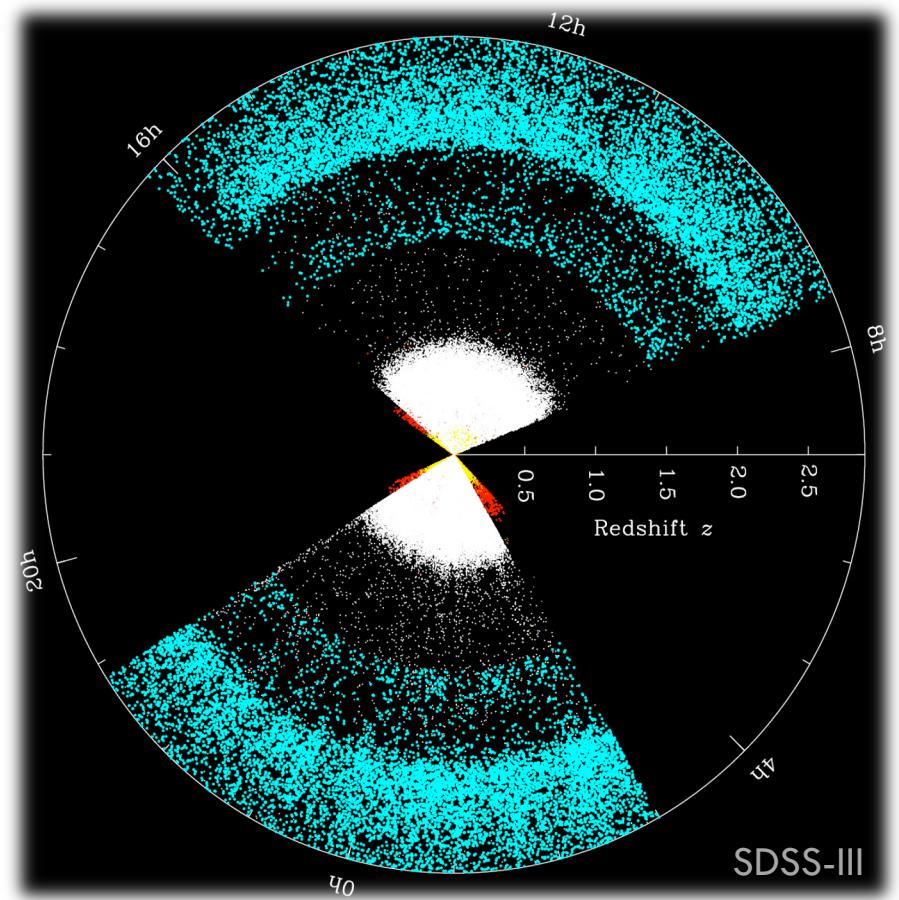
**Can we do better in the future?**



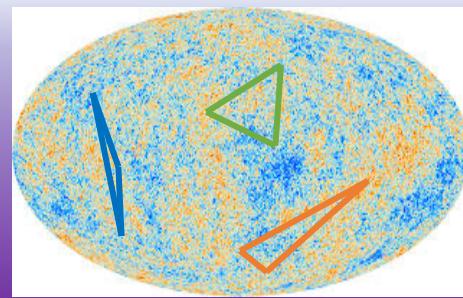
# The Future of Non-Gaussianity



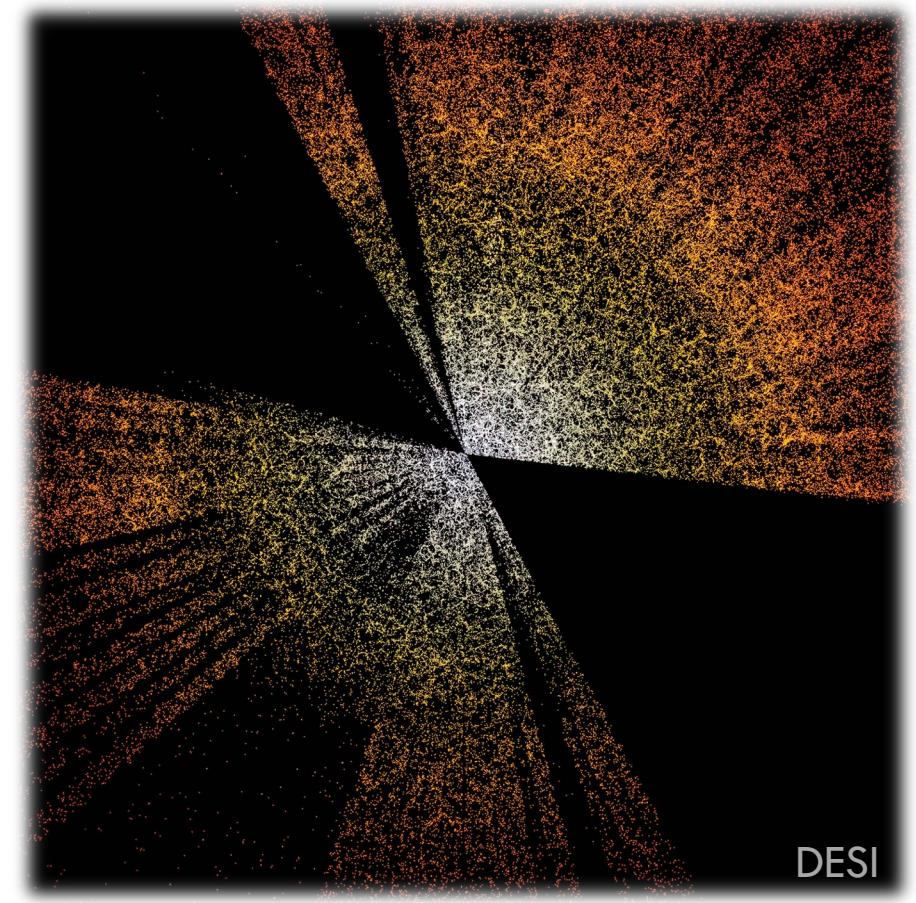
- Future **CMB** experiments will improve bounds by  $\mathcal{O}(2\times)$ 
  - We're running out of modes to look at!
  - Small-scales are **hard**
- What about **galaxy surveys**?
  - Legacy surveys map **a million** galaxies  
[BOSS: 2010s]



# The Future of Non-Gaussianity

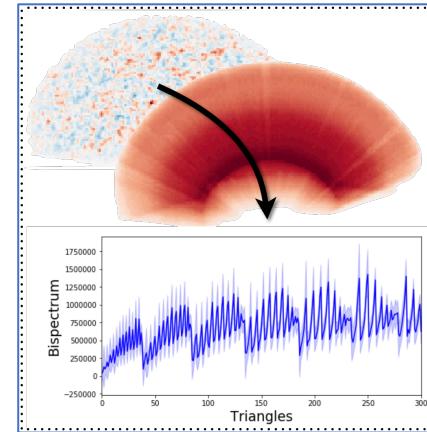
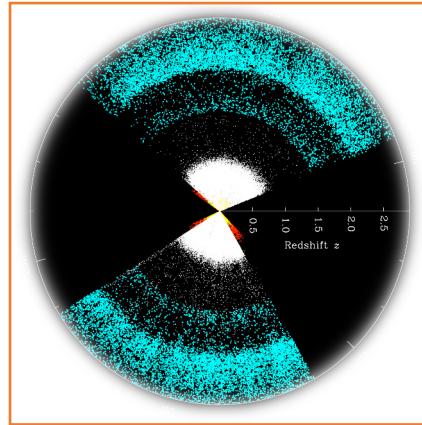


- Future **CMB** experiments will improve bounds by  $\mathcal{O}(2\times)$ 
  - We're running out of modes to look at!
  - Small-scales are **hard**
- What about **galaxy surveys**?
  - Legacy surveys map **a million** galaxies [2010s: BOSS]
  - New surveys map  $\approx 100\times$  more! [2020s: Euclid, DESI, SPHEREx, Rubin, ...]

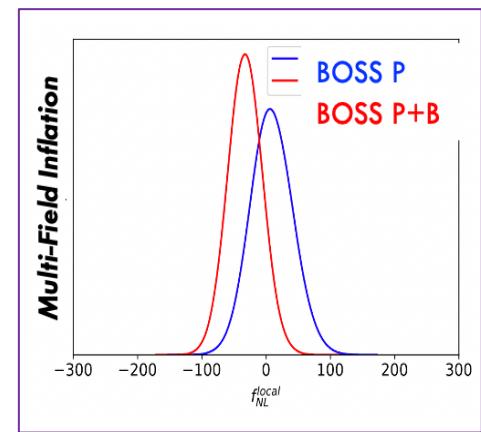


Let's make **galaxy surveys** a tool for **inflationary cosmology**!

# Roadmap: From Public Data to New Physics



$$\begin{aligned}
 Z_1(q_1) &= K_1 + f\mu_1^2, \\
 Z_2(q_1, q_2) &= K_2(q_1, q_2) + f\mu_{12}^2 G_2(q_1, q_2) + \frac{f\mu_{12}q_{12}}{2} K_1 \left[ \frac{\mu_1}{q_1} + \frac{\mu_2}{q_2} \right] + \frac{(f\mu_{12}q_{12})^2}{2} \frac{\mu_1 \mu_2}{q_1 q_2}, \\
 Z_3(q_1, q_2, q_3) &= K_3(q_1, q_2, q_3) + f\mu_{123}^2 G_3(q_1, q_2, q_3) \\
 &\quad + (f\mu_{123}q_{123}) \left[ \frac{\mu_{12}}{q_{12}} K_1 G_2(q_1, q_2) + \frac{\mu_3}{q_3} K_2(q_1, q_2) \right] \\
 &\quad + \frac{(f\mu_{123}q_{123})^2}{2} \left[ \frac{2\mu_{12} \mu_3}{q_1 q_2 q_3} G_2(q_1, q_2) + \frac{\mu_1 \mu_2}{q_1 q_2} K_1 \right] + \frac{(f\mu_{123}q_{123})^3}{6} \frac{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3}{q_1 q_2 q_3}, \\
 Z_4(q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4) &= K_4(q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4) + f\mu_{1234}^2 G_4(q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4) \\
 &\quad + (f\mu_{1234}q_{1234}) \left[ \frac{\mu_{12}}{q_{12}} K_1 G_3(q_1, q_2, q_3) + \frac{\mu_4}{q_4} K_3(q_1, q_2, q_3) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{\mu_{12}}{q_{12}} G_2(q_1, q_2) K_2(q_3, q_4) \right] \\
 &\quad + \frac{(f\mu_{1234}q_{1234})^2}{2} \left[ \frac{2\mu_{12} \mu_4}{q_{1234} q_4} G_3(q_1, q_2, q_3) + \frac{\mu_{12} \mu_3 \mu_4}{q_{12} q_3 q_4} G_2(q_1, q_2) G_2(q_3, q_4) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{2\mu_{12} \mu_5}{q_{12} q_5} K_1 G_2(q_1, q_2) + \frac{\mu_1 \mu_2}{q_1 q_2} K_2(q_3, q_4) \right] \\
 &\quad + \frac{(f\mu_{1234}q_{1234})^3}{6} \left[ 3 \frac{\mu_{12} \mu_3 \mu_4}{q_1 q_2 q_3 q_4} G_2(q_1, q_2) + \frac{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3}{q_1 q_2 q_3} K_1 \right] \\
 &\quad + \frac{(f\mu_{1234}q_{1234})^4}{24} \frac{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3 \mu_4}{q_1 q_2 q_3 q_4},
 \end{aligned} \tag{A.3}$$



## Data

- Galaxy Surveys  
[BOSS]
- CMB fluctuations  
[Planck]

## Estimation

- Power spectrum
- Bispectrum
- Trispectrum

## Theory

- Perturbation theory
- Inflationary theory
- Symmetries

## Constraints

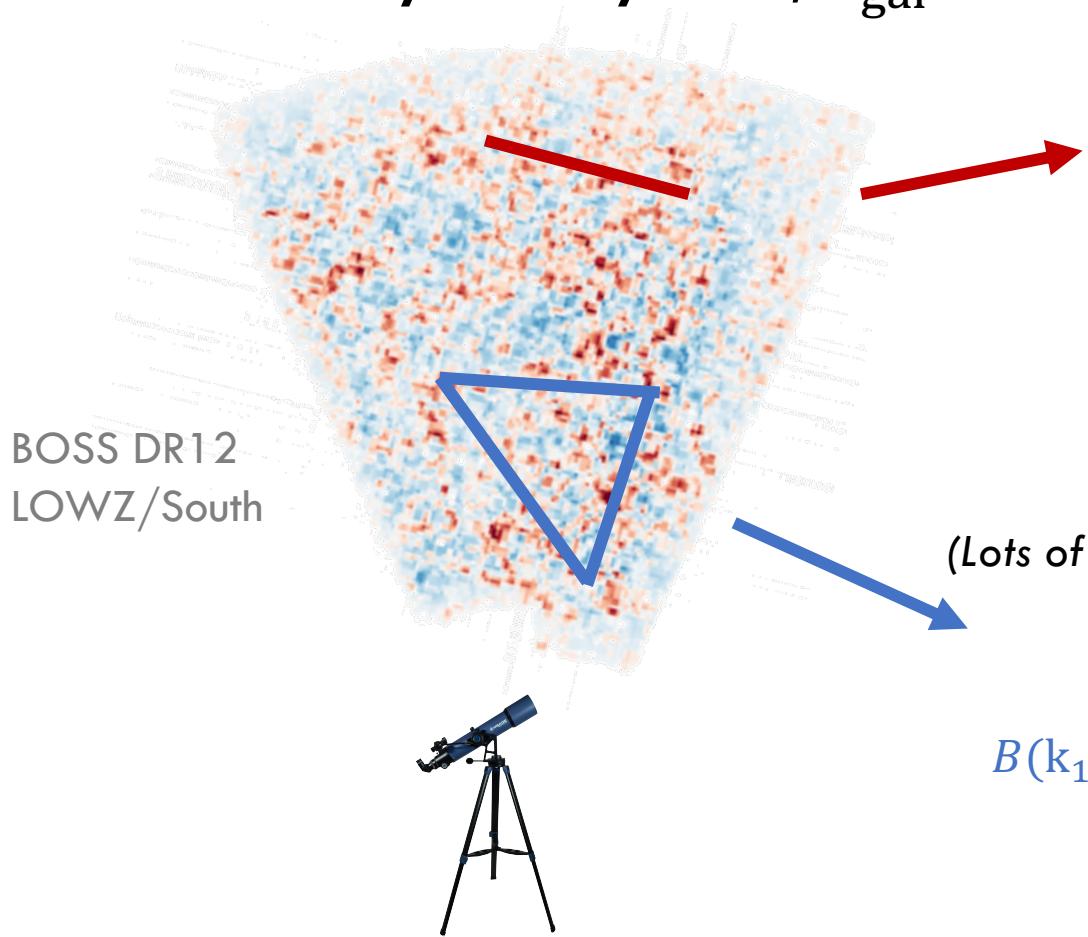
- $\Lambda$ CDM bounds
- $H_0$  &  $S_8$  tensions
- Inflationary interactions
- Parity-violation

All with **public code!**

GitHub: [CLASS-PT](#), [full-shape-likelihoods](#), [PolyBin](#)

# How to Analyze a Galaxy Survey

**Galaxy Density Field,  $n_{\text{gal}}$**



**The Standard Approach**

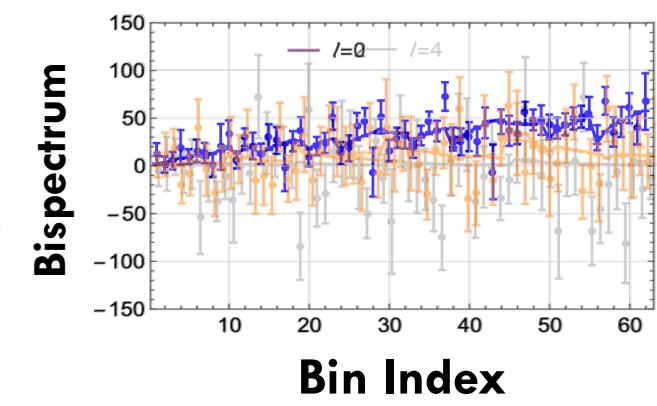
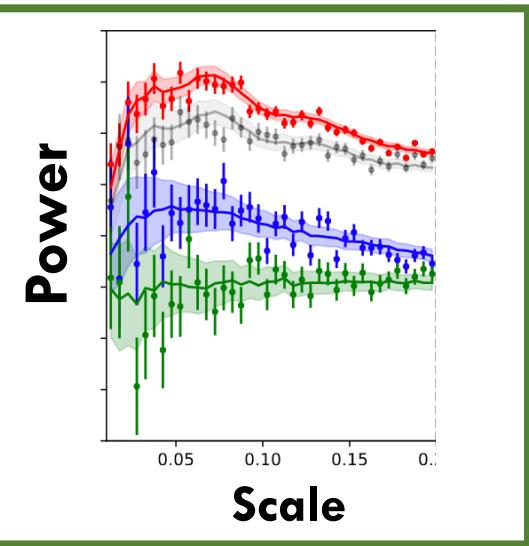
**Power Spectrum**

$$P(k) \sim \int n_{\text{gal}}(k) n_{\text{gal}}^*(k)$$

Use this to learn about dark energy

(Lots of fun estimation problems here!)

**Bispectrum**

$$B(k_1, k_2, k_3) \sim \int n_{\text{gal}}(k_1) n_{\text{gal}}(k_2) n_{\text{gal}}(k_3)$$


# Predicting Galaxy Statistics

- We need a **model** for the observational data

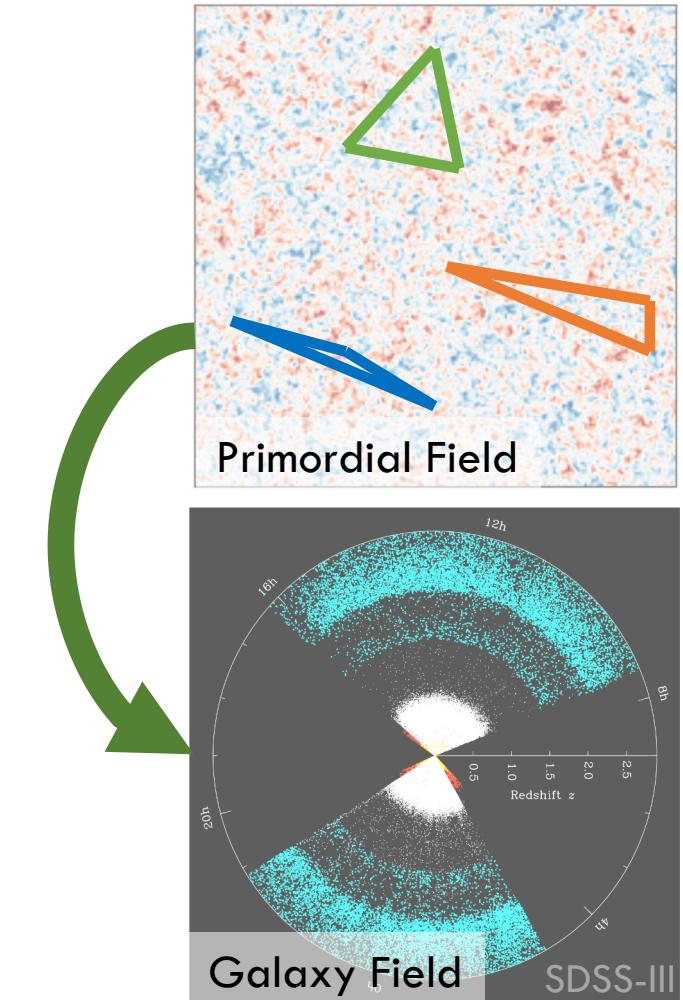
- For the **CMB**, the physics is **linear**:

$$\langle \delta T^3 \rangle \sim \text{Primordial Bispectrum} \sim f_{\text{NL}}$$

- For the **galaxy distribution**, the physics is **non-linear**:

$$\langle \delta n_{\text{gal}}^3 \rangle \sim \text{Primordial Bispectrum} + \text{Gravity}$$

To learn about inflation, we have to **jointly** model  
**primordial physics** and **gravity/hydrodynamics**



# Matter x Effective Field Theory

State-of-the-art method:

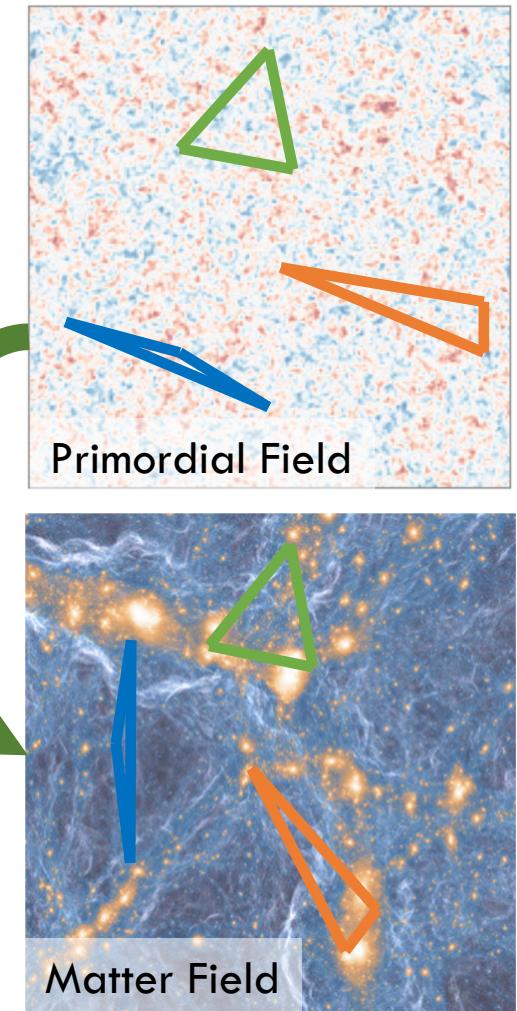
## *Effective Field Theory of Large Scale Structure (EFTofLSS)*

- **Analytic model for the distribution of matter**, solving the **non-ideal** fluid equations given **initial conditions**

$$\delta\rho(\mathbf{x}) \sim \int d\mathbf{k} \zeta(\mathbf{k}) + \int d\mathbf{k}_{1,2} \zeta(\mathbf{k}_1)\zeta(\mathbf{k}_2) + \dots$$

- A **low-energy** theory, valid on **large-scales** ( $k < k_{NL}$ )

- A **renormalized** field theory, fully accounting for **back-reaction** of small onto large scales

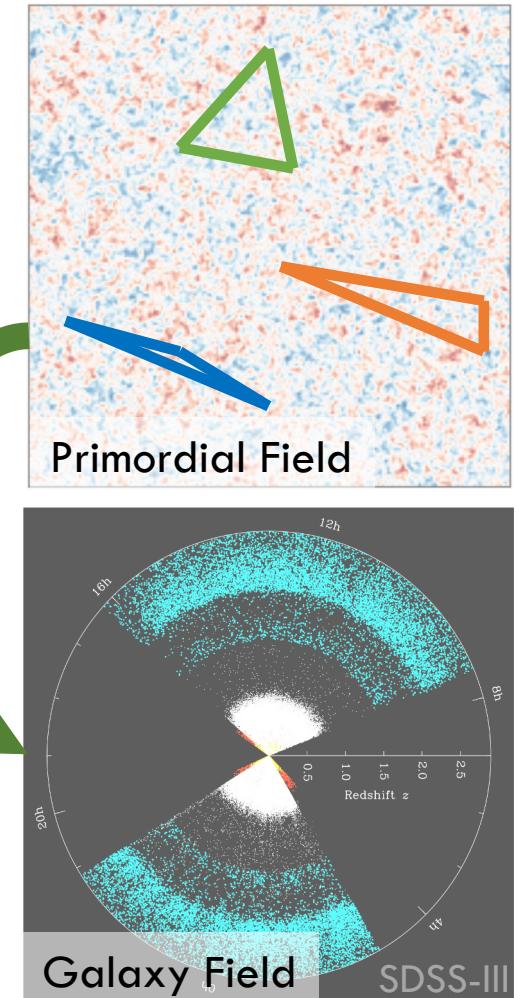


# Galaxies x Effective Field Theory

Incorporate galaxies via **symmetries**:

$$\delta n_{\text{gal}} \sim b_1 \delta \rho + b_2 \delta \rho^2 + b_s \left[ \left( \frac{\partial^i \partial^j}{\partial^2} - \delta_K^{ij} \right) \delta \rho \right]^2 + \dots$$

- A **perturbative expansion** in all operators allowed by:
  - *Translation invariance*
  - *Rotation invariance*
  - *Galilean invariance*
- Free amplitudes are **Wilson coefficients** encoding **hydrodynamics, baryons, and galaxy formation**
- Highly accurate on scales  $k < k_{\text{NL}}$



# Galaxies x Effective Field Theory

I use EFTofLSS to predict galaxy **power spectra** and **bispectra**:

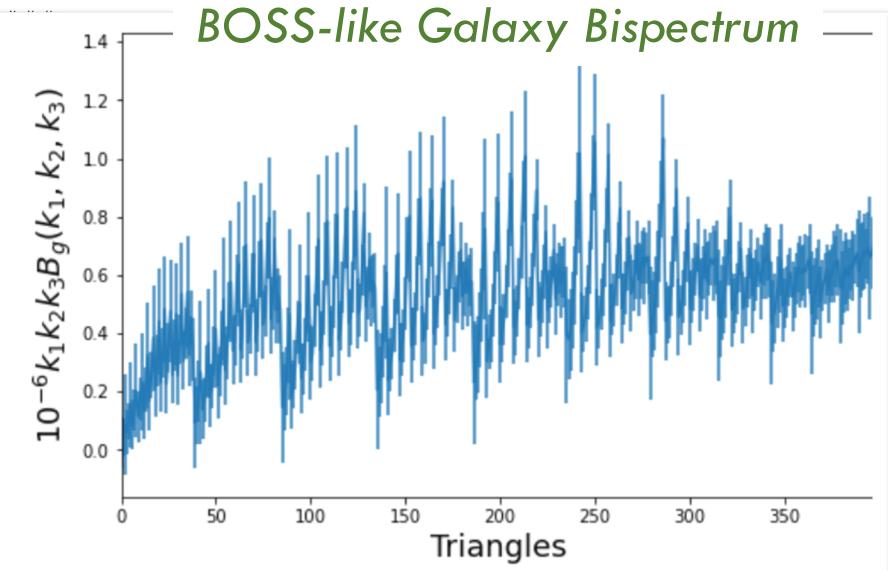
$$P_{\text{gal}} = P_{\text{gal}}(k, \text{cosmology}, \text{bias}, \dots)$$

$$B_{\text{gal}} = B_{\text{gal}}(k_1, k_2, k_3, \text{cosmology}, \text{bias}, \dots)$$

This works:

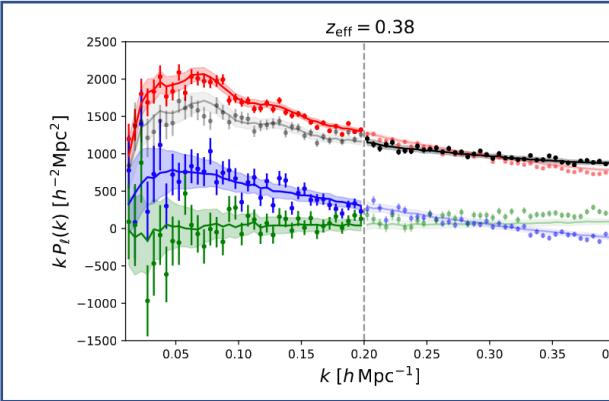
- Efficient C++ implementation [CLASS-PT]
- Full computation in  $\sim 1$  second
- Unbiased parameter recovery for **huge** simulations

$$\begin{aligned} Z_1(\mathbf{q}_1) &= \kappa_1 + J\mu_1, \\ Z_2(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2) &= K_2(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2) + \dots \\ Z_3(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2, \mathbf{q}_3) &= K_3(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2, \mathbf{q}_3) + f\mu_{123}^2 G_3(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2, \mathbf{q}_3) \\ &\quad + (f\mu_{123} q_{123}) \left[ \frac{\mu_{12}}{q_{12}} K_1 G_2(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2) + \frac{\mu_3}{q_3} K_2(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2) \right] \\ &\quad + \frac{(f\mu_{123} q_{123})^2}{2} \left[ 2 \frac{\mu_{12} \mu_3}{q_{12} q_3} G_2(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2) + \frac{\mu_1 \mu_2}{q_1 q_2} K_1 \right] + \frac{(f\mu_{123} q_{123})^3}{6} \frac{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3}{q_1 q_2 q_3} \\ (\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2, \mathbf{q}_3, \mathbf{q}_4) &= K_4(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2, \mathbf{q}_3, \mathbf{q}_4) + f\mu_{1234}^2 G_4(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2, \mathbf{q}_3, \mathbf{q}_4) \\ &\quad + (f\mu_{1234} q_{1234}) \left[ \frac{\mu_{123}}{q_{123}} K_1 G_3(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2, \mathbf{q}_3) + \frac{\mu_4}{q_4} K_3(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2, \mathbf{q}_3) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{\mu_{12}}{q_{12}} G_2(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2) K_2(\mathbf{q}_3, \mathbf{q}_4) \right] \\ &\quad + \frac{(f\mu_{1234} q_{1234})^2}{2} \left[ 2 \frac{\mu_{123} \mu_4}{q_{123} q_4} G_3(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2, \mathbf{q}_3) + \frac{\mu_{12} \mu_{34}}{q_{12} q_{34}} G_2(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2) G_2(\mathbf{q}_3, \mathbf{q}_4) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 2 \frac{\mu_{12} \mu_3}{q_{12} q_3} K_1 G_2(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2) + \frac{\mu_1 \mu_2}{q_1 q_2} K_2(\mathbf{q}_3, \mathbf{q}_4) \right] \\ &\quad + \frac{(f\mu_{1234} q_{1234})^3}{6} \left[ 3 \frac{\mu_{12} \mu_3 \mu_4}{q_{12} q_3 q_4} G_2(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2) + \frac{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3}{q_1 q_2 q_3} K_1 \right] \\ &\quad + \frac{(f\mu_{1234} q_{1234})^4}{4} \end{aligned}$$



# Constraining Inflation from BOSS Galaxies

**Statistics**



**Theory Model**

$$\begin{aligned}
 Z_1(q_1) &= K_1 + f\mu_1^2, \\
 Z_2(q_1, q_2) &= K_2(q_1, q_2) + f\mu_{12}^2 G_2(q_1, q_2) + \frac{f\mu_{12}q_{12}}{2} K_1 \left[ \frac{\mu_1}{q_1} + \frac{\mu_2}{q_2} \right] + \frac{(f\mu_{12}q_{12})^2}{2} \frac{\mu_1 \mu_2}{q_1 q_2}, \\
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 &\quad \quad \left. + \frac{\mu_{12}}{q_{12}} G_2(q_1, q_2) K_2(q_3, q_4) \right] \\
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 &\quad \quad \left. + 2 \frac{\mu_{12} \mu_3}{q_{12} q_3} K_1 G_2(q_1, q_2) + \frac{\mu_1 \mu_2}{q_1 q_2} K_2(q_3, q_4) \right] \\
 &\quad + \frac{(f\mu_{1234}q_{1234})^3}{6} \left[ 3 \frac{\mu_{12} \mu_3 \mu_4}{q_{12} q_3 q_4} G_2(q_1, q_2) + \frac{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3}{q_1 q_2 q_3} K_1 \right] \\
 &\quad + \frac{(f\mu_{1234}q_{1234})^4}{24} \frac{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3 \mu_4}{q_1 q_2 q_3 q_4},
 \end{aligned} \tag{A.3}$$

Spectra-Without-Windows

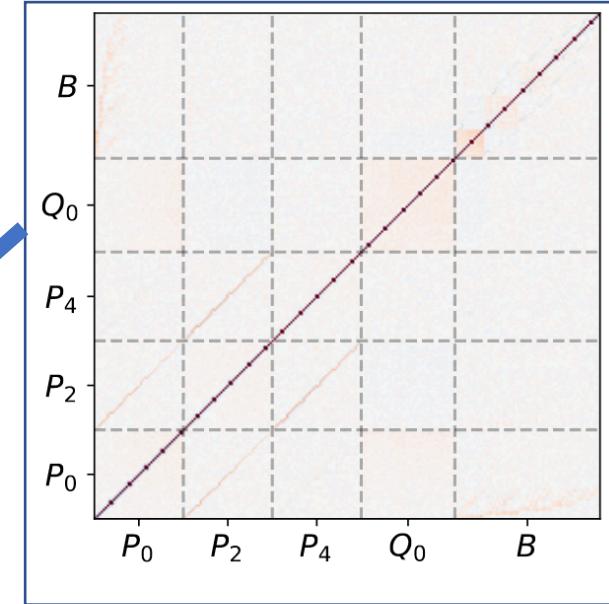
Gaussian likelihood

$$-2\log L = (\hat{P} - P_{\text{theory}}) C^{-1} (\hat{P} - P_{\text{theory}})$$

CLASS-PT

MCMC

Cosmology Constraints:  
(dark matter, dark energy, inflation, ...)



**Covariance Matrices**

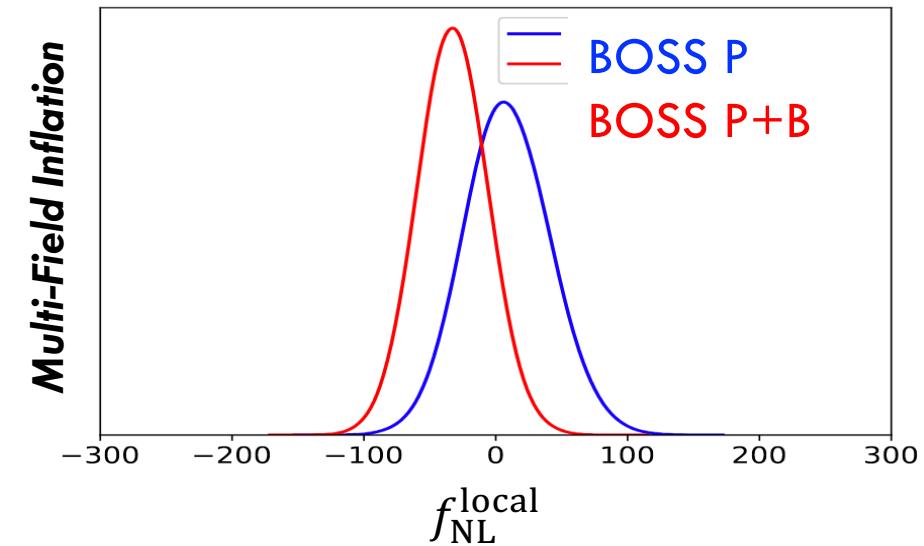
Analysis takes  $O(\text{few})$   
CPU-hours!

# Constraining Inflation from BOSS Galaxies

Two main analyses:

## 1. Local non-Gaussianity

- Probes **light fields** ( $m \ll H$ ) in inflation or non-linear physics **after** inflation
- **First** analysis to feature the **bispectrum**
- No evidence for multi-field inflation!
- 30% improvement from the **bispectrum**



$$f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{local}} = -33 \pm 28$$

(CMB:  $\pm 6$ , Target:  $\pm 1$ )

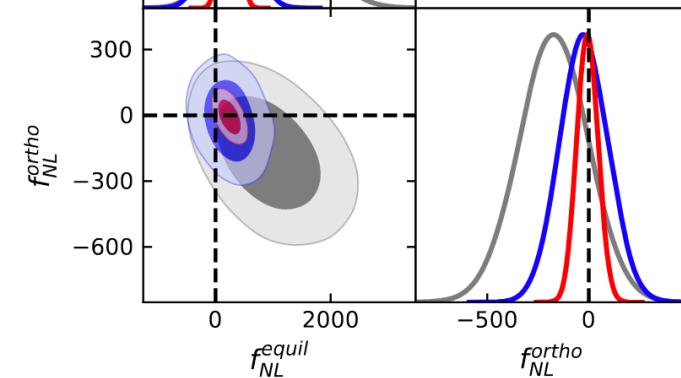
# Constraining Inflation from BOSS Galaxies

Two main analyses:

1. Local non-Gaussianity
2. Non-local non-Gaussianity

- Probes **dynamics** of inflation:  $10^5 f_{\text{NL}} \sim (H/\Lambda)^2$
- **First** non-CMB analysis
- No evidence for self-interactions in inflation!
- Only possible with the bispectrum!

BOSS Aggressive  
BOSS Conservative



$$f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{equil}} = 260 \pm 300$$
$$f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{orth}} = -23 \pm 120$$

(CMB:  $\pm 50, \pm 25$ , Target:  $\pm 1$ )

# Constraining Inflation from BOSS Galaxies

Two main analyses:

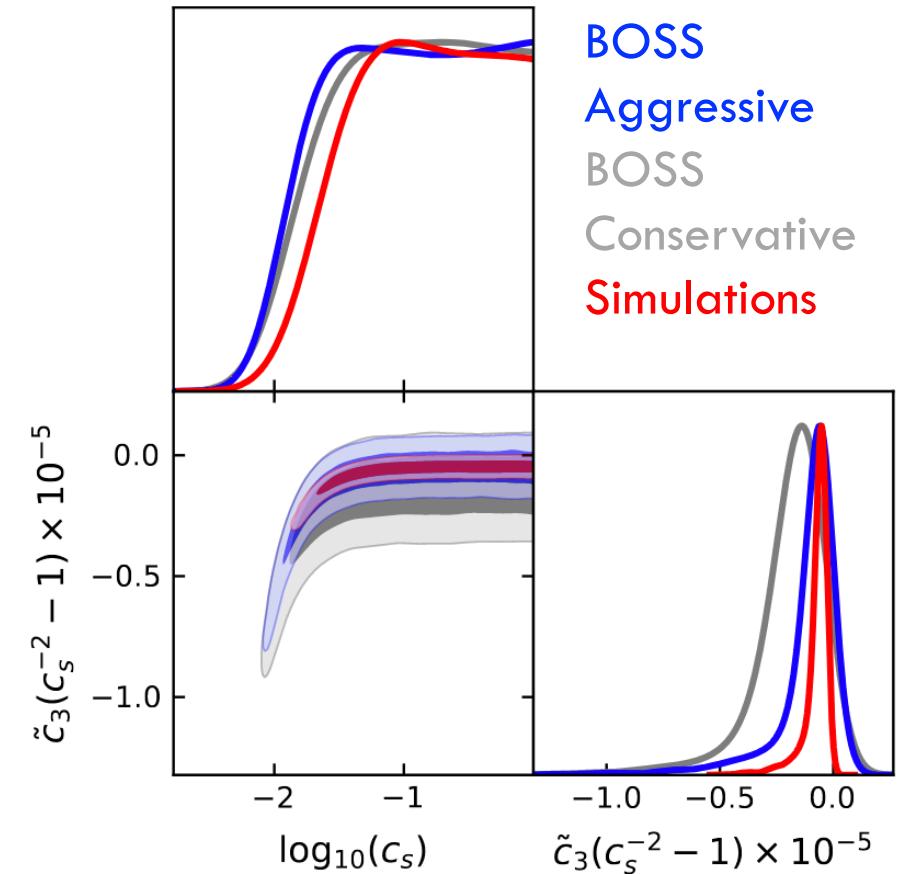
1. Local non-Gaussianity
2. Non-local non-Gaussianity

- This is related to **microphysics** in the Effective Field Theory of inflation

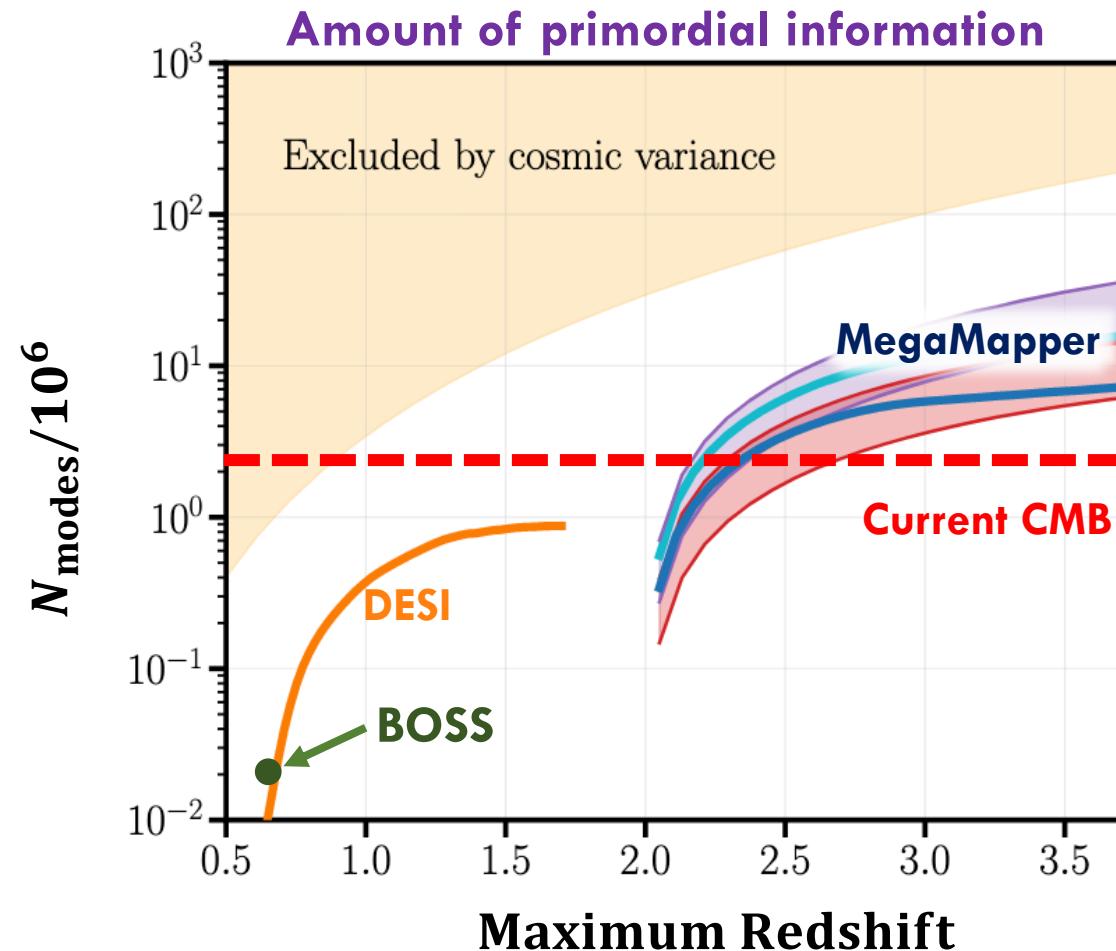
$$S_{\text{EFT}} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ -\frac{M_P^2 \dot{H}}{c_s^2} \left( \dot{\pi}^2 - c_s^2 \frac{(\nabla \pi)^2}{a^2} \right) + \boxed{\frac{M_P^2 \dot{H}}{c_s^2} (1 - c_s^2) \left( \frac{\dot{\pi}(\nabla \pi)^2}{a^2} - \left( 1 + \frac{2}{3} \tilde{c}_3 \right) \dot{\pi}^3 \right)} \right]$$

New physics is here!

- We constrain the sound-speed  $c_s^2 \geq 0.013$  (95% CL)

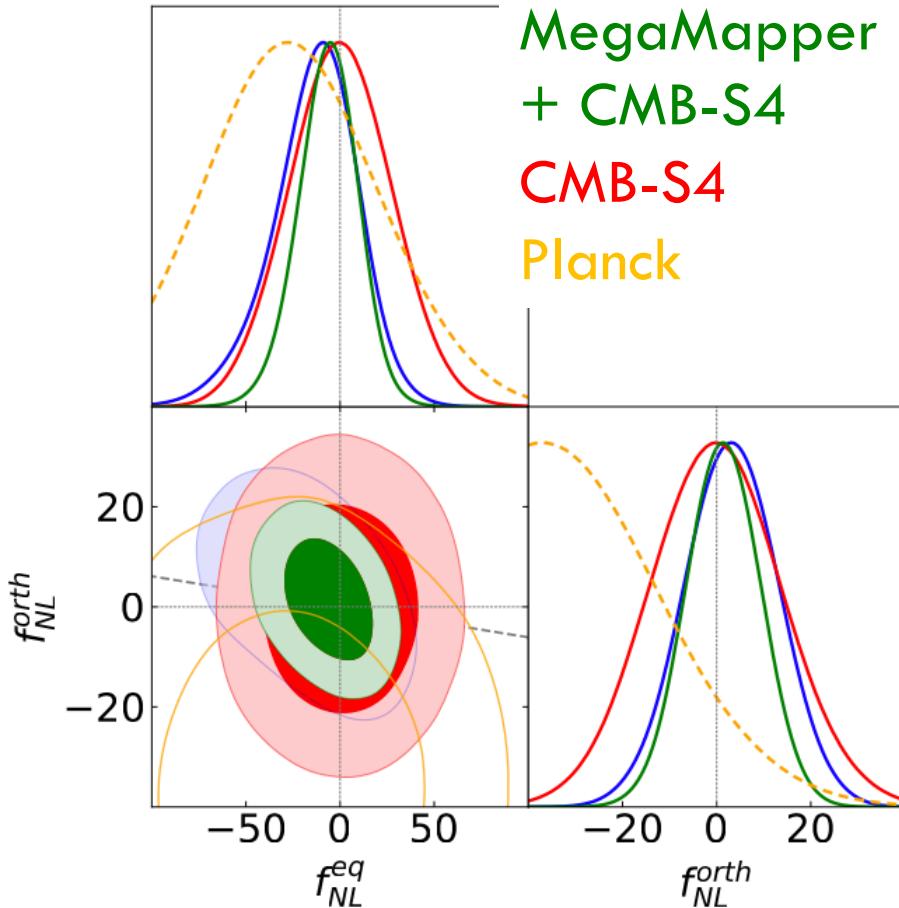


# The future of $f_{\text{NL}}$



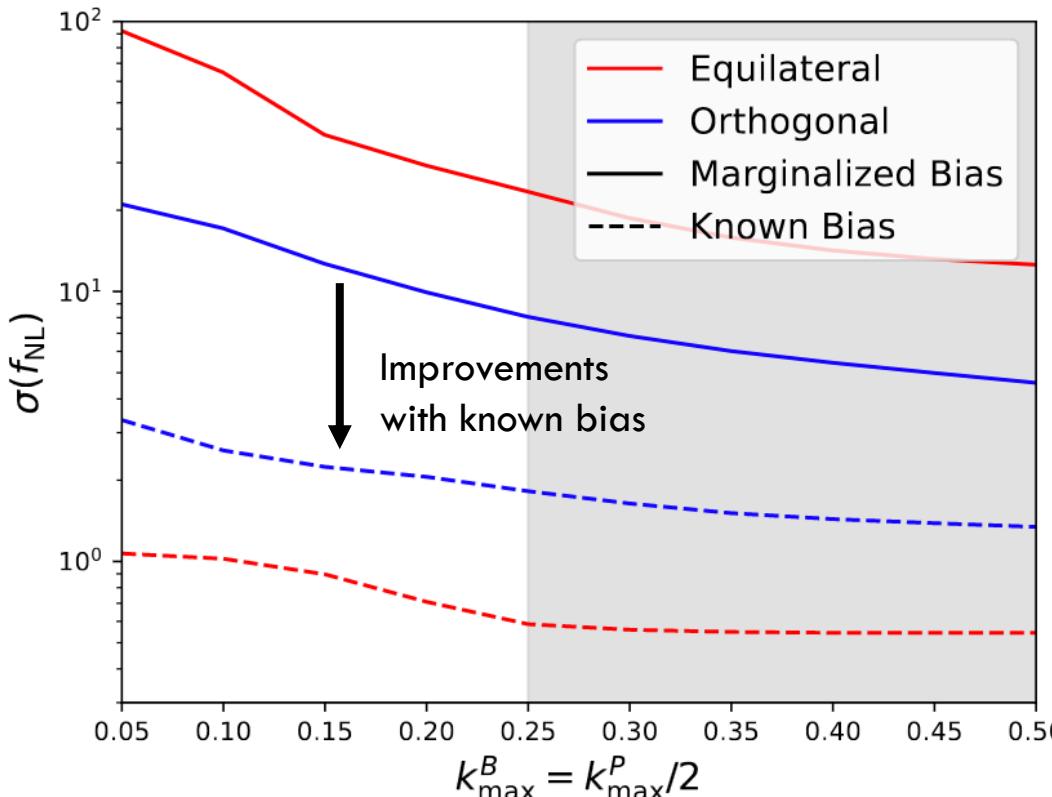
- For now, the **CMB** gives **stronger constraints** than **galaxy surveys**
- This makes sense: the CMB measures **much more** of the Universe
- By Stage-V surveys like **MegaMapper**, **galaxies** will place the **strongest** constraints on inflationary physics

# The future of $f_{NL}$



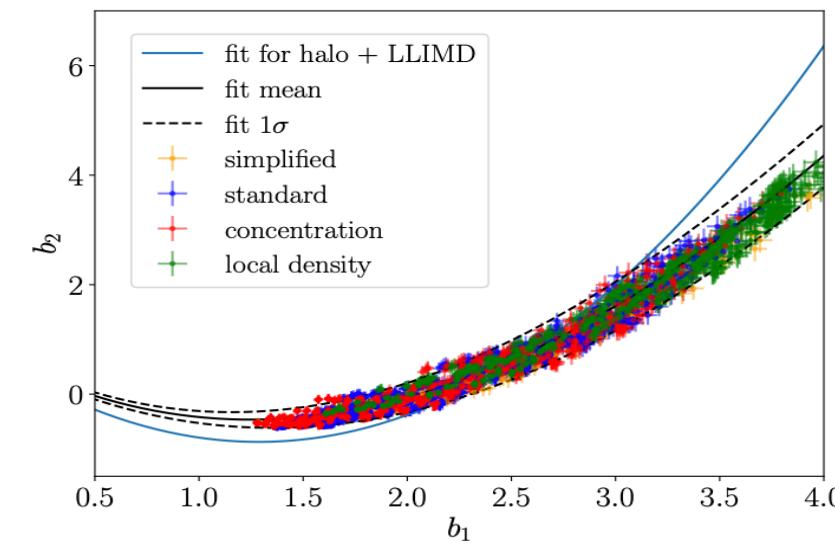
- For now, the **CMB** gives **stronger constraints** than **galaxy surveys**
- This makes sense: the CMB measures **much more** of the Universe
- By Stage-V surveys like **MegaMapper**, **galaxies** will place the **strongest** constraints on inflationary physics
- **Can we do better still?**

# The future of $f_{\text{NL}}$



MegaMapper forecast

- Limiting factor in primordial analyses is knowledge of **galaxy formation**
- Can we calibrate with simulations or semi-analytic models?



# Beyond $f_{\text{NL}}$

There's lots more to explore:

- **Heavy** particles in inflation [ $m \sim H, m > H$ ]
- **Spinning** particles in inflation [ $B_\zeta \sim \text{Legendre}_{\text{spin}}(\theta)$ ]
- **Resonant** non-Gaussianity [ $B_\zeta \sim \text{oscillations}$ ]
- **Different** vacuum states
- **Tensor** correlations

Hard in the CMB!

## Cosmological Collider

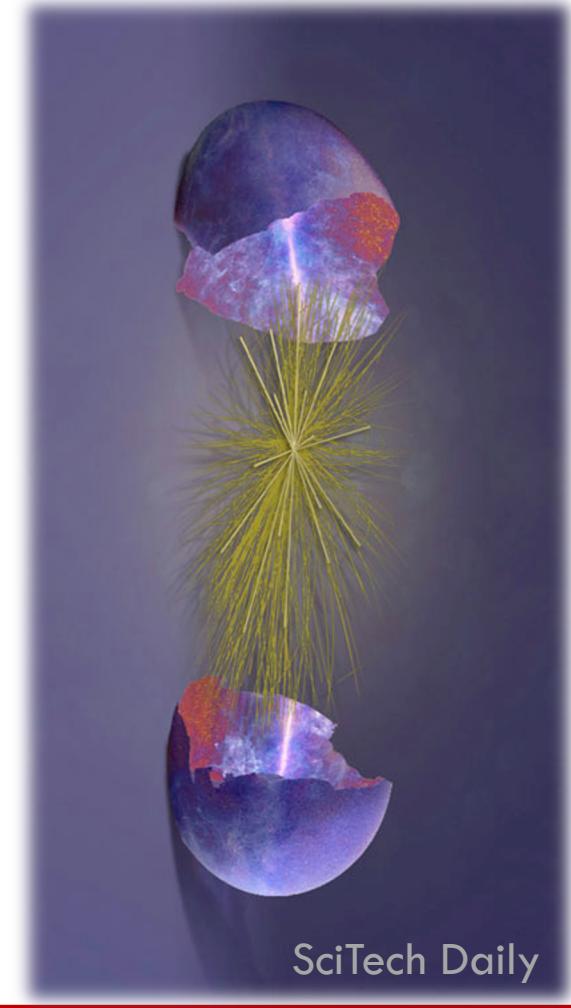
Low-energy remnants  
[curvature fluctuations]



High-energy physics  
[particle scattering]



Low-energy remnants  
[curvature fluctuations]



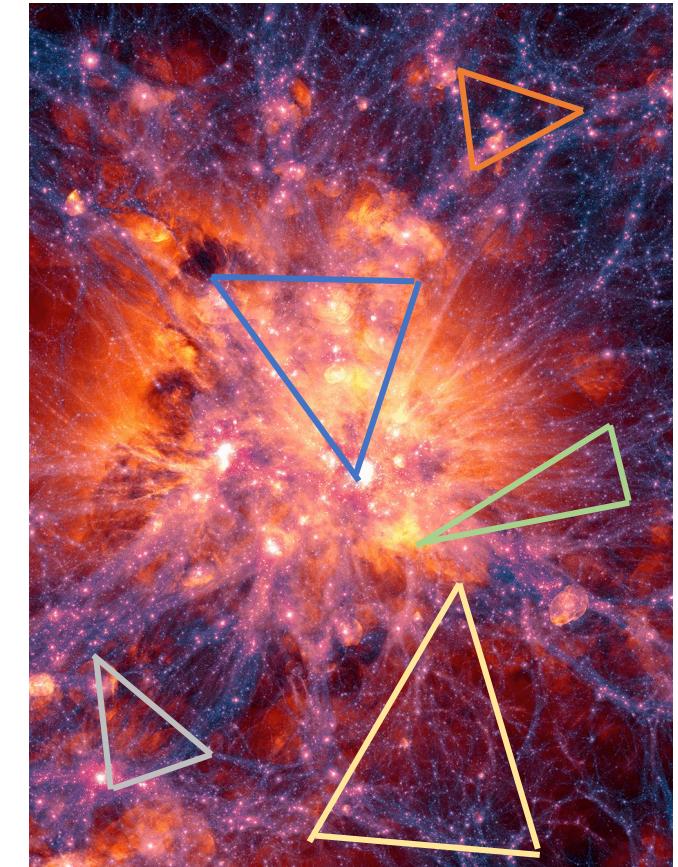
Much of this will need the galaxy **trispectrum**!

# Beyond Perturbation Theory

- All the above analyses assume **perturbativity**:

*EFTofLSS:* A **low-energy** theory, valid on **large-scales** ( $k < k_{\text{NL}}$ )

- Volume of information scales as  $k_{\text{max}}^3 \rightarrow$  we are **missing** significant information
- This is difficult to **model** explicitly: galaxy formation is hard and already limiting!
- **Solution:** use **conserved quantities** and **symmetries**



# Beyond Perturbation Theory

What symmetries can we use?

## 1. Galilean invariance

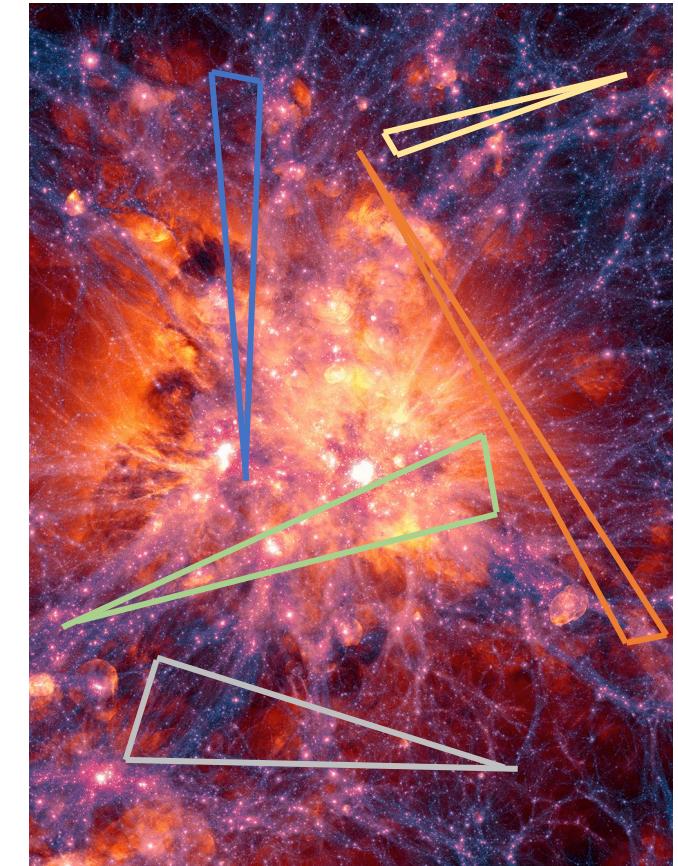
$$\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{s}(t), \quad \mathbf{v} \rightarrow \mathbf{v} - \dot{\mathbf{s}}(t), \quad \phi \rightarrow \phi + \Delta\phi$$

- This is a **non-perturbative** symmetry of the **equations of motion**
- It relates to **Ward Identities** and **Soft Theorems**:

$$\lim_{q \rightarrow 0} \frac{q^2 \mathcal{B}(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}')}{\mathcal{P}(q)} = 0$$

- This **consistency relation** is **violated** by local  $f_{NL}$

We can measure local  $f_{NL}$  from highly non-linear scales



# Beyond Perturbation Theory

## What symmetries can we use?

### 1. Galilean invariance

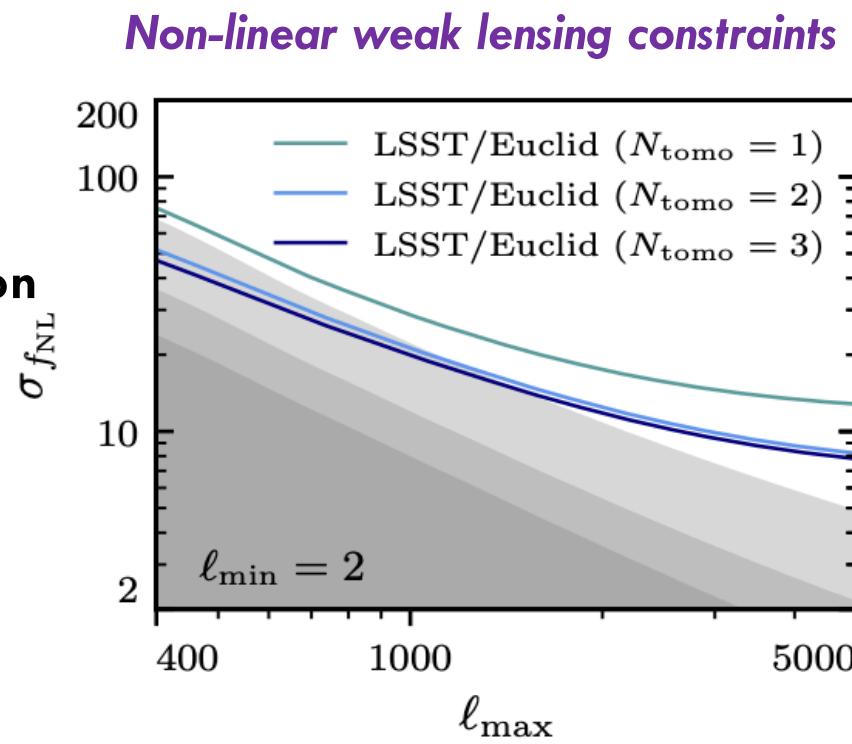
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# Beyond Perturbation Theory

**What symmetries can we use?**

1. Galilean invariance

2. Parity symmetry

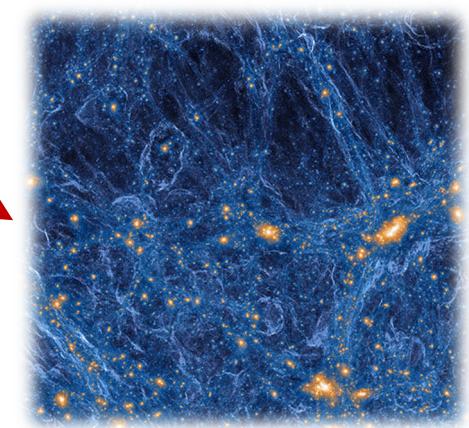
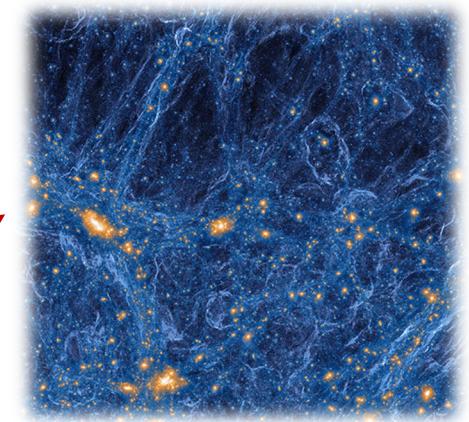
- Is the Universe invariant under a **point reflection**?

$$f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, t) \rightarrow f(-\mathbf{x}, -\mathbf{y}, t) = f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, t) ??$$

- **General Relativity** and **hydrodynamics** preserve this symmetry

- Is **inflation** parity-symmetric?

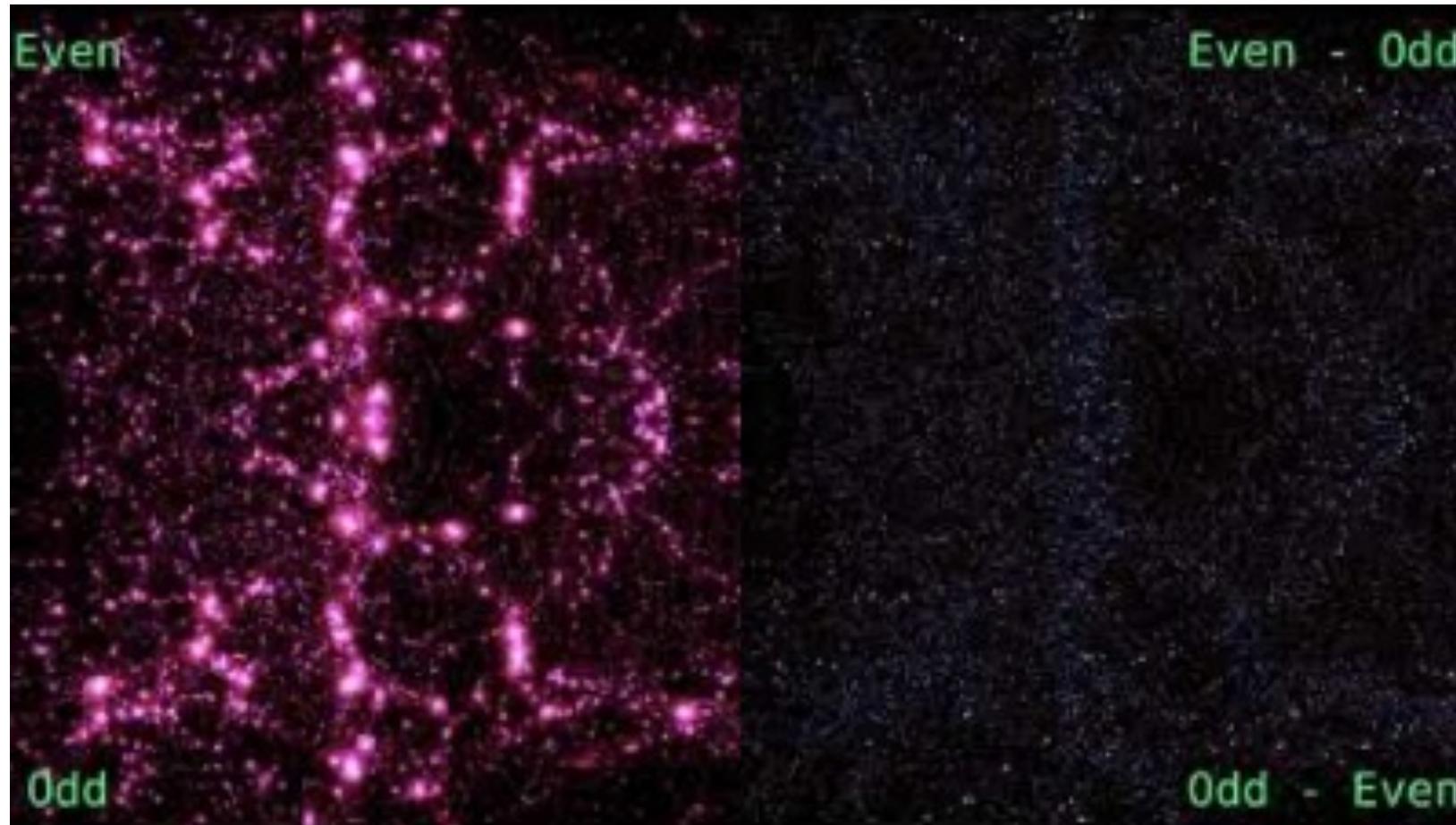
*Which is the  
true Universe?*





# A Parity-Violating Universe

**QUIJOTE-Odd:** 1000 simulated universes with parity-violating **initial conditions**



# How To Search for Parity-Violation

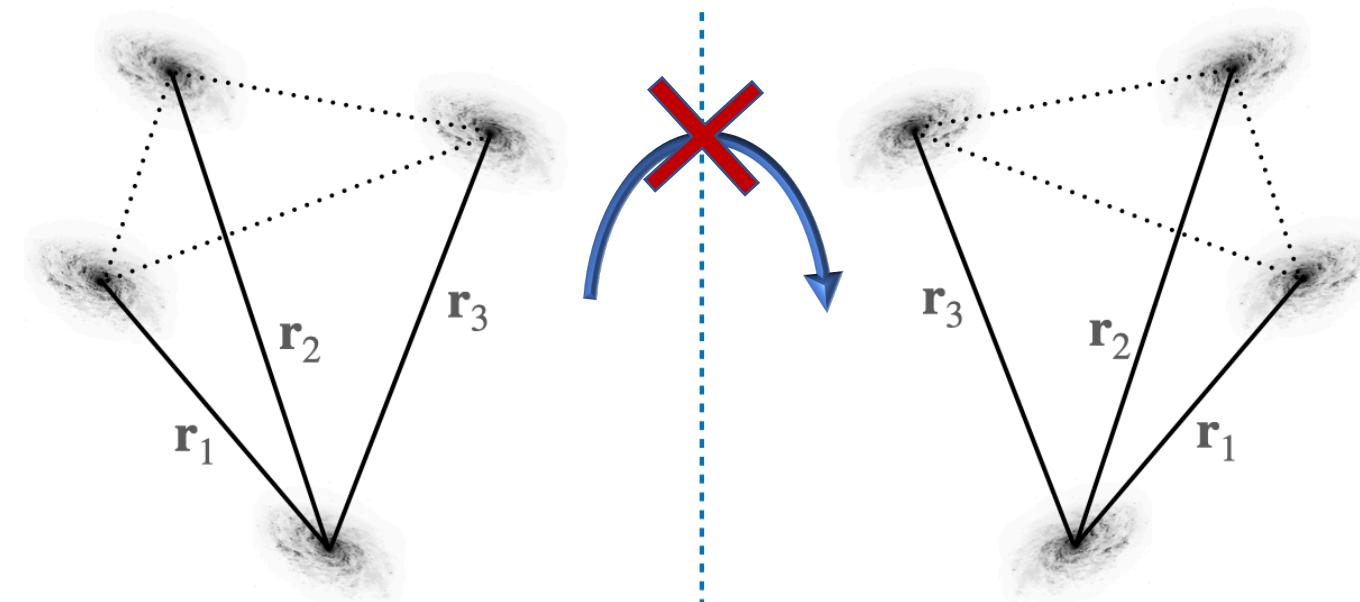
**Scalar observables:**

- Galaxy density
- CMB fluctuations

We need a **triple product**:  $\mathbf{r}_1 \cdot \mathbf{r}_2 \times \mathbf{r}_3$

Statistics:

- **Four-point correlation function**
- **Trispectrum**

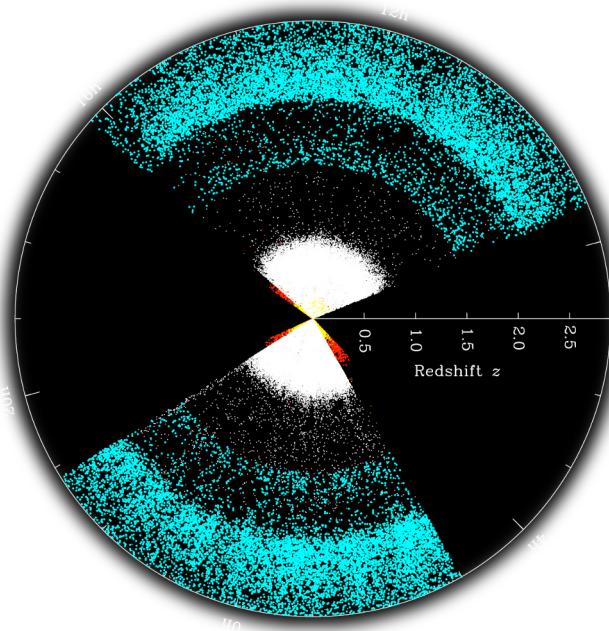


$$\zeta_4(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_3)$$

$$\mathbb{P} [\zeta_4(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_3)]$$

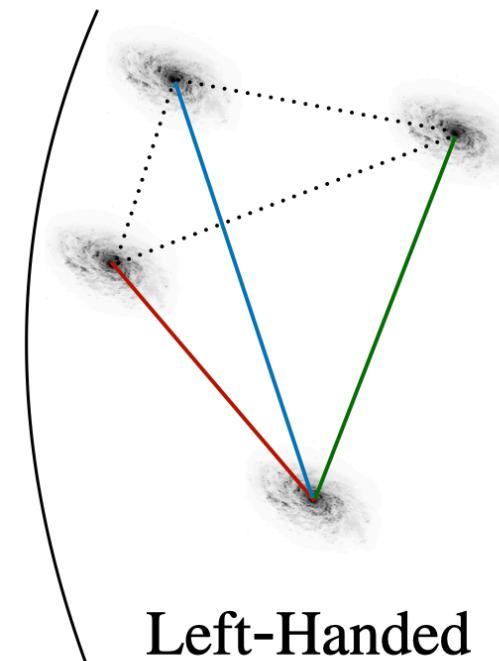
# How To Search for Parity-Violation

Measure the four-point function from  $10^6$  BOSS galaxies



**BOSS Galaxy Sample**

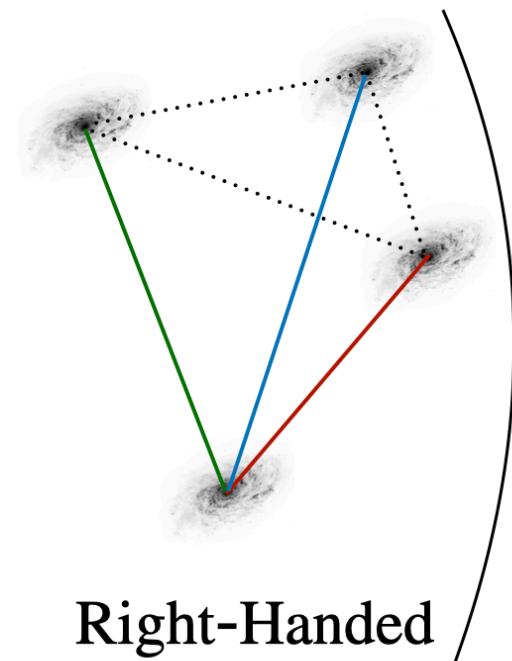
*ENCORE* Code  
→



Left-Handed  
 $\mathbf{r}_1 \cdot \mathbf{r}_2 \times \mathbf{r}_3 > 0$

Zero without  
parity-violation!

—



Right-Handed  
 $\mathbf{r}_1 \cdot \mathbf{r}_2 \times \mathbf{r}_3 < 0$

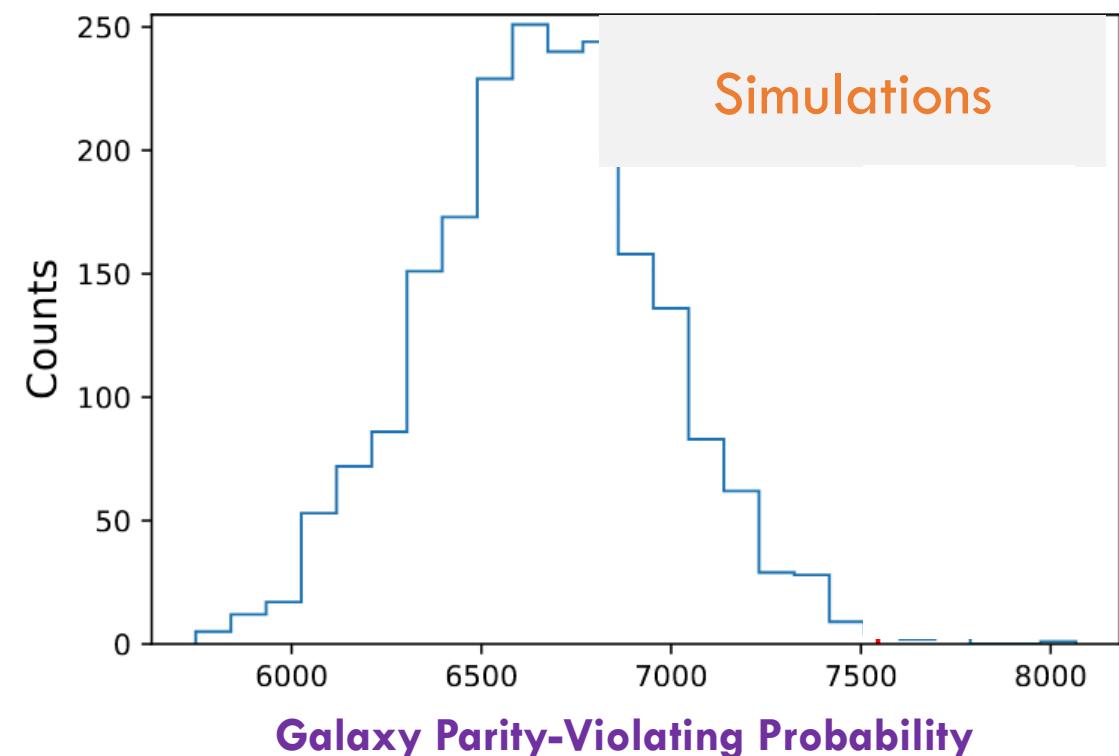
# How To Search for Parity-Violation

This is **hard** to analyze in practice:

- We need the **covariance** of a 4-point function
- Need to model an **8-point** function down to (mildly) **non-linear** scales

Perform a **simulation-based**  $\chi^2$  analysis of the observed data

$$\chi^2 \equiv \zeta^{\text{odd}} \text{Cov}_{\zeta}^{-1} \zeta^{\text{odd}}$$



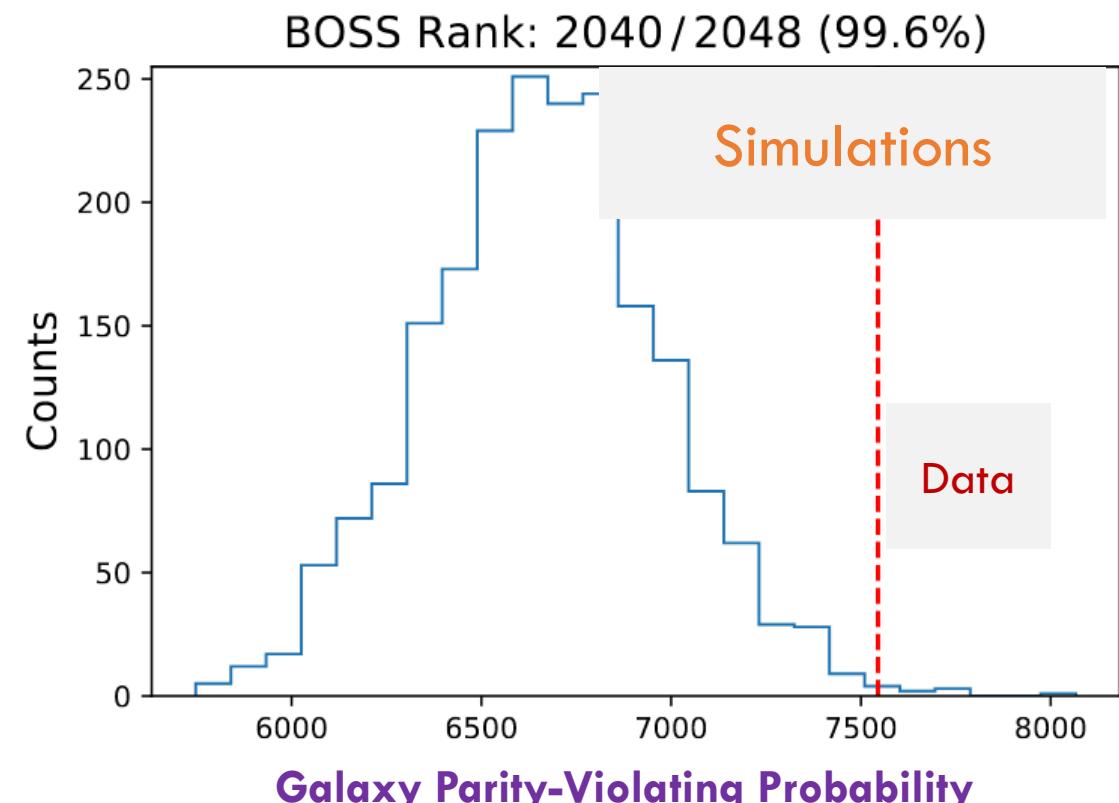
# Detecting Parity-Violation?

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3 $\sigma$  detection of parity-violation??

# Detecting Parity-Violation?

Quanta magazine Physics Mathematics Biology

COSMOLOGY Asymmetry Detected in the Distribution of Galaxies

COLUMBIA NEWS Is the Universe Asymmetrical?

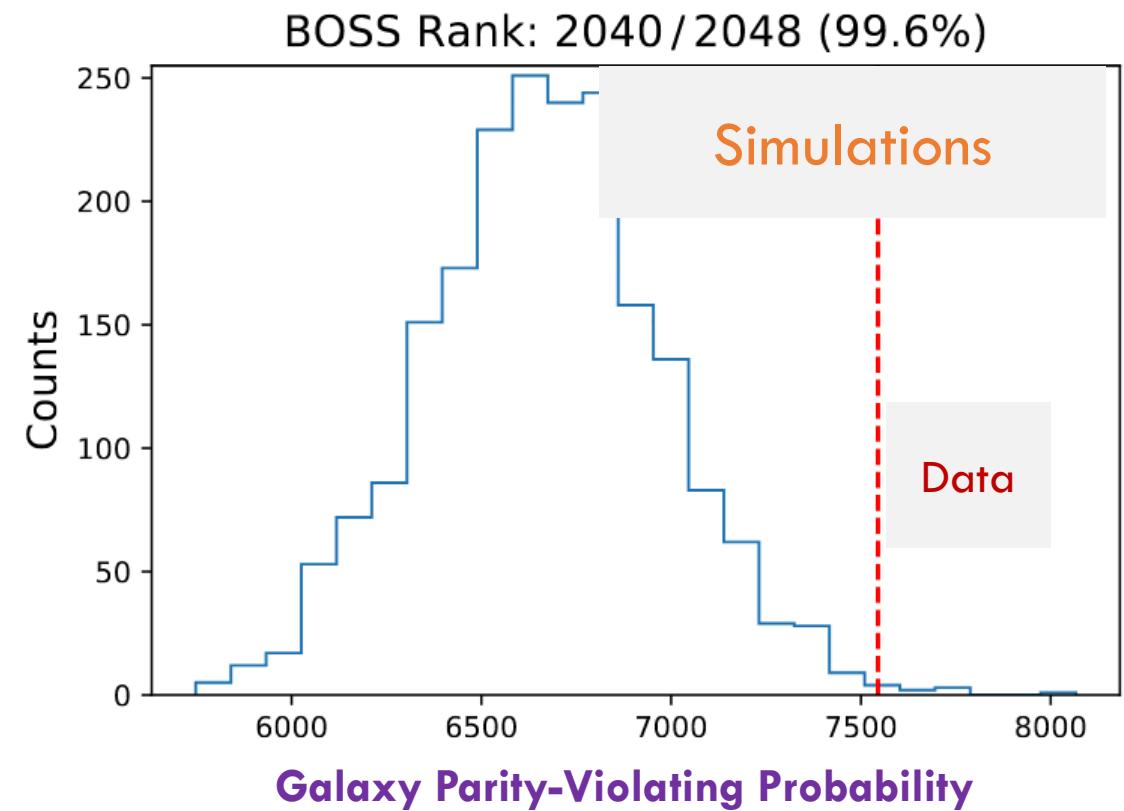
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The universe is surprisingly lopsided and we don't know why

MIRROR UNIVERSE? OLIVER PHILCOX

A large black arrow points from the right side of the collage towards the histogram on the right.

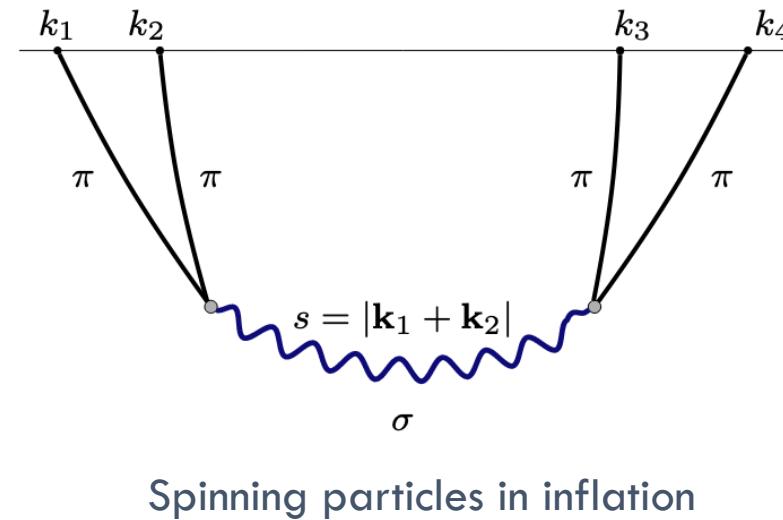


3 $\sigma$  detection of parity-violation??

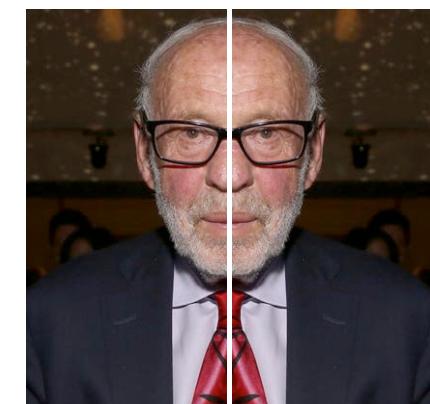
# Detecting Parity-Violation?

**Many ways to violate parity in inflation:**

1. Spinning particle exchange?
2. Ghost inflation?
3. Chern-Simons gravitational waves?
4. Gauge fields with loops?



Ghost inflation



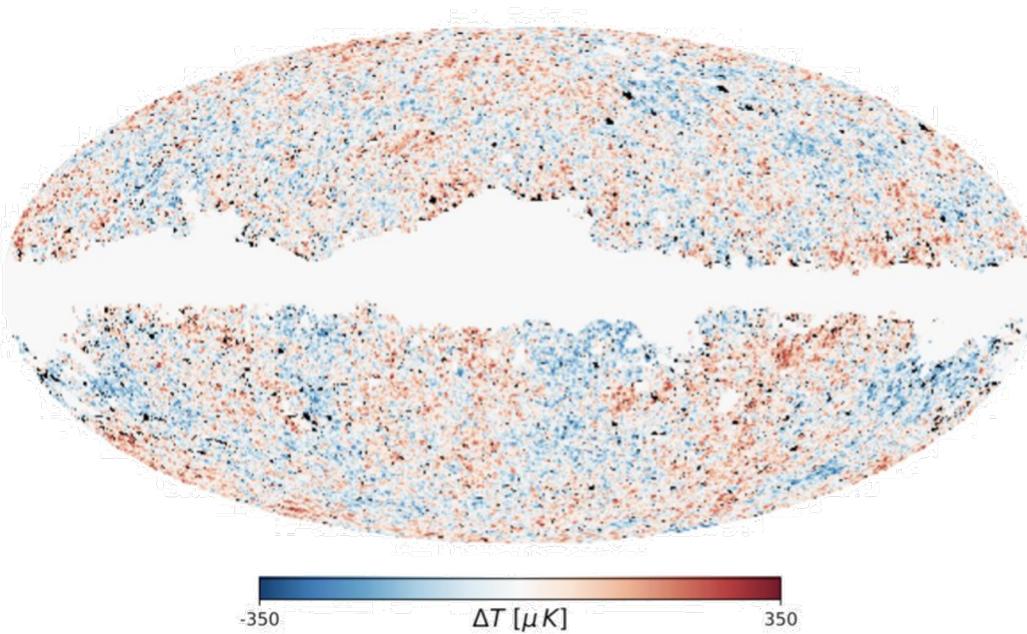
Chern-Simons inflation

**But: No evidence for an inflationary source from the 18 models we tried!**

# Undetecting Parity-Violation



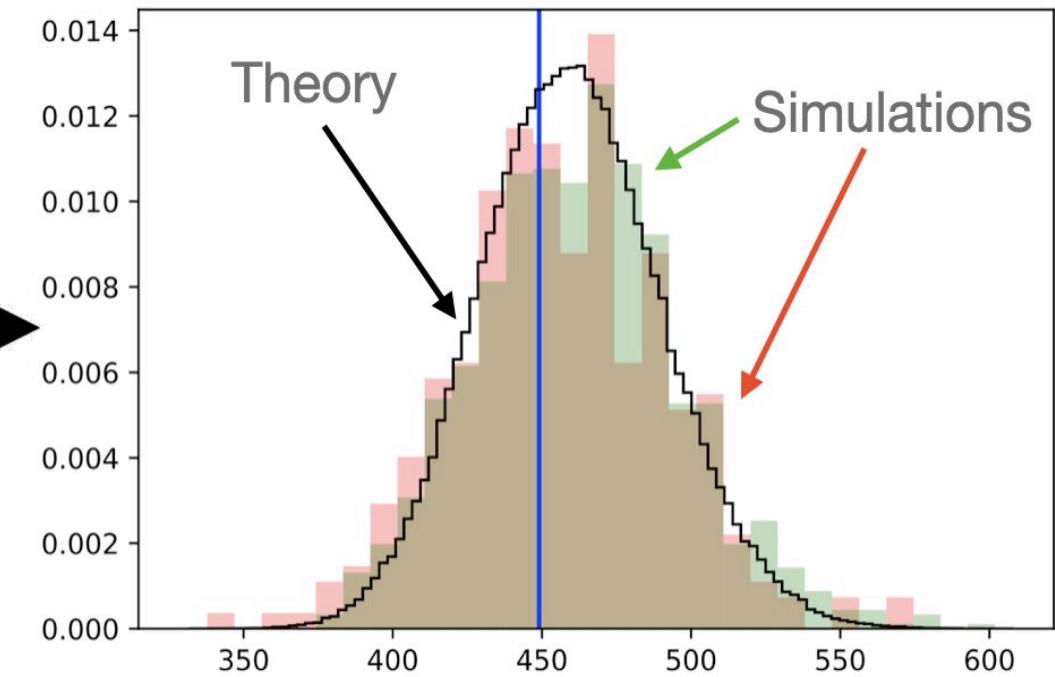
**Planck Temperature and Polarization**



**PolyBin**



**Planck data**



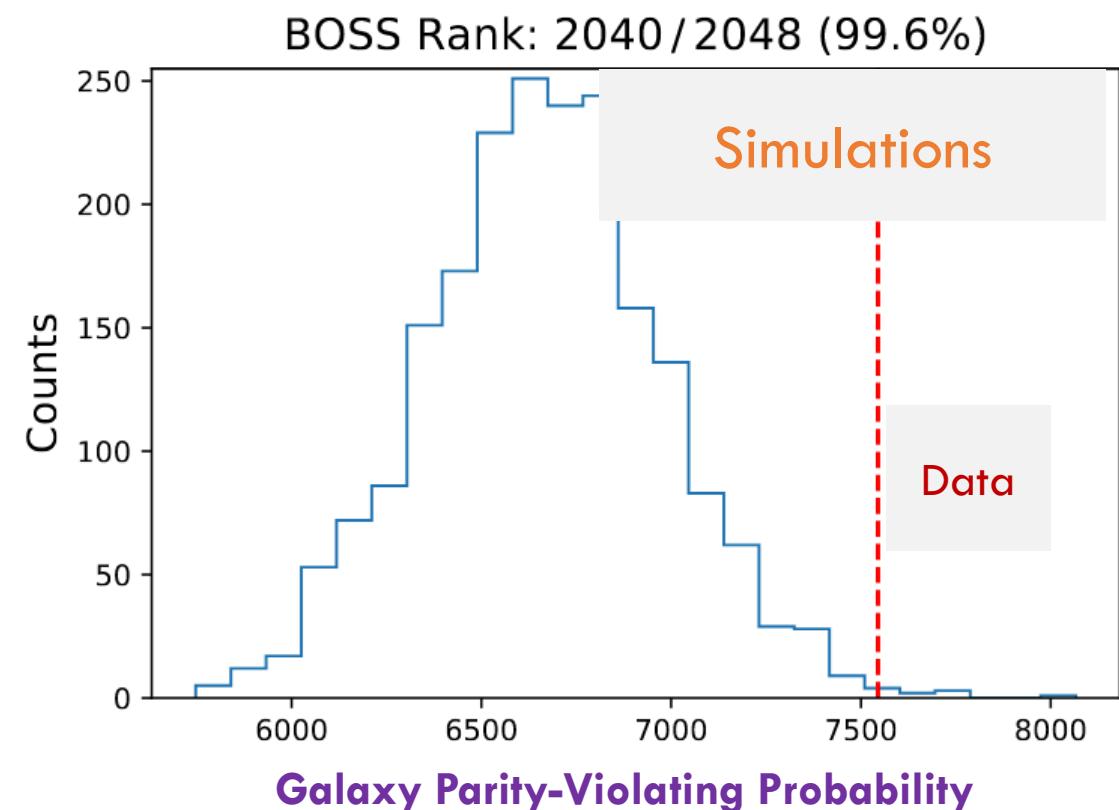
**<  $0.5\sigma$  detection with  
250x more modes**

**CMB Parity-Violating Probability**

# What Was Responsible for the Galaxy Signal?

## Cosmological options

- A **primordial** model that **averages out** in the CMB
- Late-time physics on **large** scales



3 $\sigma$  detection of parity-violation??

# What Was Responsible for the Galaxy Signal?

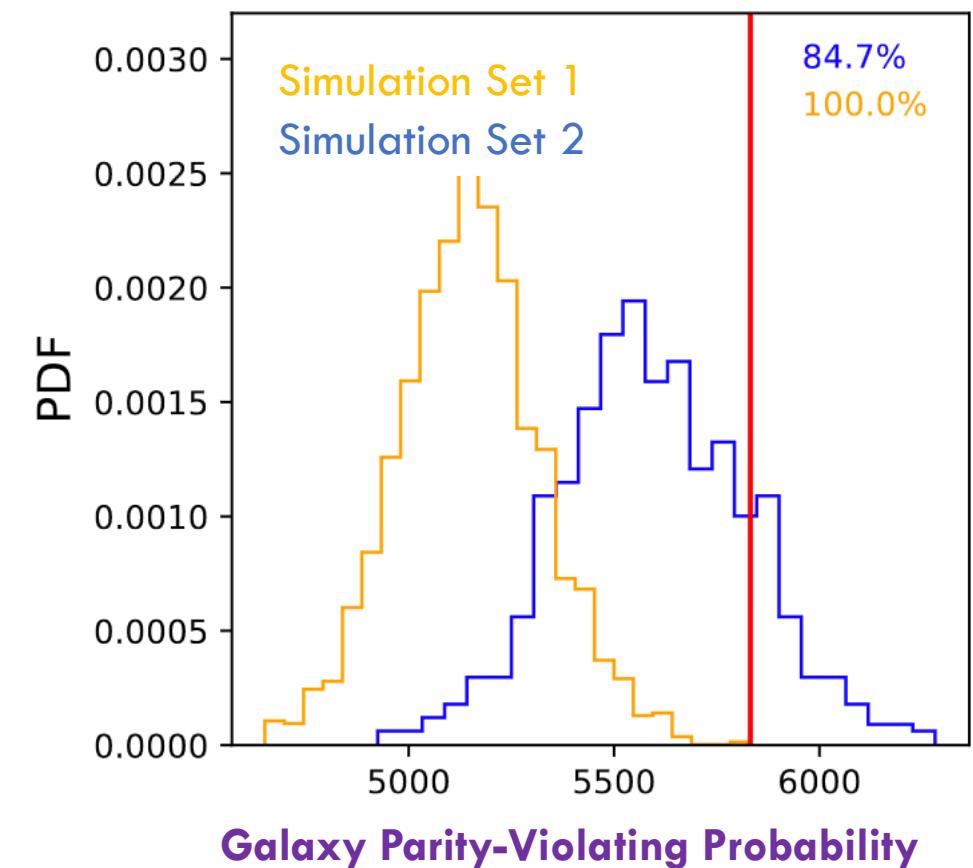
## Cosmological options

- A **primordial** model that **averages out** in the CMB
- Late-time physics on **large** scales

## Non-cosmological options

- Systematics in **data**
- Systematics in **analysis**

**Are the simulations reliable?**



# Does the Universe Violate Parity?

**BOSS galaxy survey:**

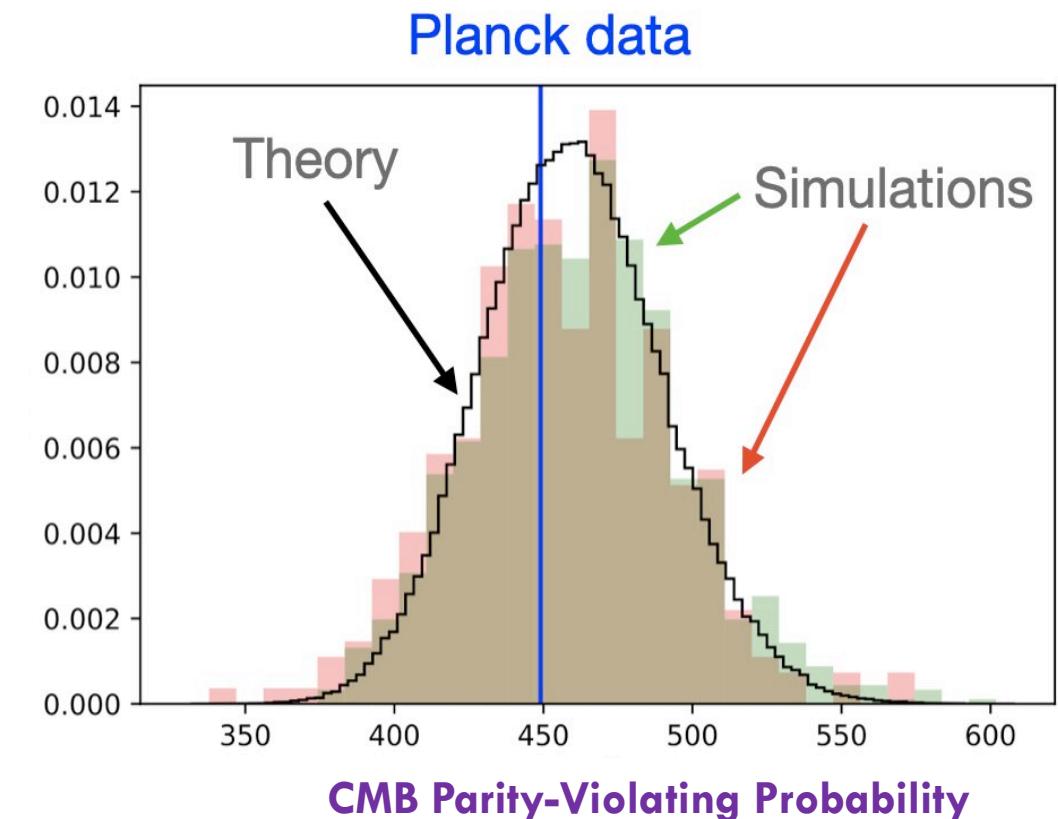
Yes!  $3\sigma$  detection of parity-violation

**Planck Cosmic Microwave Background:**

No!  $< 0.5\sigma$  detection of parity-violation

- Possible explanation: inaccurate **simulations**

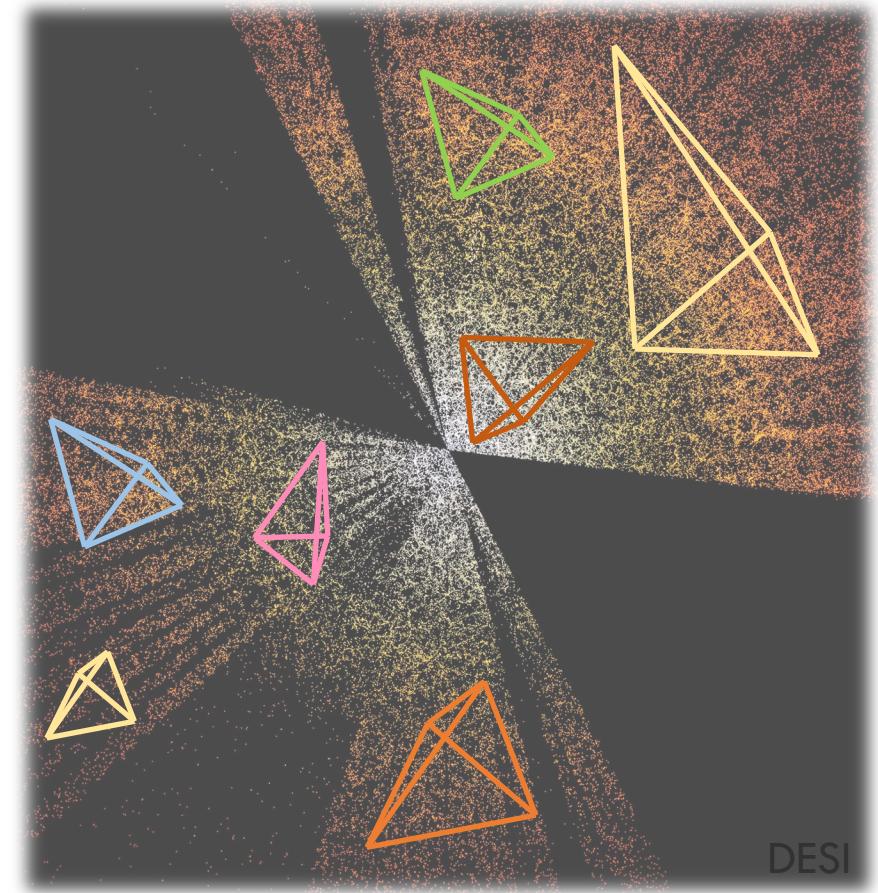
Despite the non-detection, this opens up an **entirely new sector for constraining inflation!**



# The Future

- The volume of the Universe mapped by galaxy surveys will **increase by  $\approx 100\times$**  in the next decade
- We have a unique opportunity to pin down **inflationary particle physics**
- This will require:
  - High-resolution **data** [DESI, Euclid, ...]
  - Robust **statistics** [Bispectra, Trispectra, ...]
  - Accurate **theoretical** models [perturbative, symmetries, ...]

We have already developed a lot of the technology to do this!



# Summary

- Non-Gaussianity in **galaxy surveys** can probe **new physics in inflation**
- We can **directly** constrain this via **perturbative and non-perturbative** methods
- **There's a lot to discover:** cosmological colliders, parity-violation, new particles, and beyond!

## Contact

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[oliverphilcox.github.io](https://oliverphilcox.github.io)