Beyond the power spectrum with large-deviation theory



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How is the cosmic web woven?



correlation function (= power spectrum)

cosmic web: voids, walls, filaments, nodes



Subsequent gravitational evolution is **non-Gaussian**: need to go beyond 2-pt and study **higher order statistics** e.g 3-pt correlation function (= bispectrum)

How to extract information?

Which observables to use?

Power spectrum

Which observables to use?

Power spectrum + bispectrum?

Which observables to use?

Power spectrum + bispectrum?

Issues: to enter into the non-linear regime, one probably needs to introduce plenty of free parameters.

Is it worth it?

Can we find other observables which can be predicted from first principles and can probe the mildly non-linear regime?

Yes, there is one such configuration: counts in cells, for which the spherical symmetry allows to reduce the effect of the small scales.

$$\mathcal{P}(\rho_1,\cdots,\rho_n)=?$$





Cosmic density PDF



Can we predict this non-linear density PDF?

From cumulants to PDF



Bernardeau' 94

 $\langle \delta^n \rangle$ $S_n = \frac{\langle 0^n \rangle_c}{\sigma^{2n-2}}$

From cumulants to PDF

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

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

which can be derived from the cumulant generating function of ρ =1+ δ

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

Laplace transform inverse Laplace transform



 $S_n =$

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<u>Problem</u> : When this series is truncated at some orders, the PDF is unphysical : it is not normalised and can take negative values.

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

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

Beyond the power spectrum with large deviations theory

Large deviation principle One-point density PDF

 R_1

Cosmic PDFs as a cosmological probe?

 R_{2}

 ρ_1

R

Large-deviation Theory:

what is the most likely initial configuration a final density originates from?

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



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



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

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

Large-deviation Theory: in a nutshell

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

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

Why?

$$\begin{split} \varphi(\lambda_k) &= \left\langle \exp(\sum_i \lambda_i \rho_i) \right\rangle = \int_0^\infty \prod_i d\rho_i P(\{\rho_k\}) \exp\left(\sum_i \lambda_i \rho_i\right) \\ &\simeq \lambda_i \left\langle \rho_i \right\rangle + \lambda_i \lambda_j \left\langle \rho_i \rho_j \right\rangle + \dots \end{split}$$
initial density contrast
$$\begin{split} &|= \int \mathcal{D}\left[\tau(\vec{x})\right] \mathcal{P}\left[\tau(\vec{x})\right] \exp(\lambda_i \rho_i \left[\tau(\vec{x})\right]) \\ &\searrow known \ Gaussian \ PDF \ \mathcal{P}(\tau) \propto e^{-I(\tau)} \end{split}$$
contraction
$$\begin{split} &= \int d\tau_i \exp\left(\lambda_i \zeta_{SC}(\tau_i) - I(\tau_i)\right) \end{split}$$

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

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

Beyond the power spectrum with large deviations theory



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



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One-cell density PDF



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



This program is made publicly available in the hope that it will be useful in scientific research but without any warranty.

The companion paper "Constraining the nature of dark energy via density PDF" by S. Codis, F. Bernardeau, C. Pichon, C. Uhlemann and S. Prunet illustrates the possible use of LSSFast for cosmological data analysis.

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



Bernardeau+15 Uhlemann+16

Two-cell PDF







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

Beyond the power spectrum with large deviations theory



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

Where is the cosmology dependence?

To get one-cell PDF, one has to:

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

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

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

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

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



ML estimator for the variance

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

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

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

SC+16b

PDF as a cosmological probe



19

15,000 square degrees

R = 10 h⁻¹ Mpc

0.1<z<1

SC+16b

PDF as a cosmological probe



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

Error budget?

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

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

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

where the large-deviations bias is

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



Error budget?

donsity hiss

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SC+16b

PDF as a cosmological probe



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

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



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Measuring the PDF then allows us to constrain σ and the bias parameters:



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+ 2pt PDF

PDF as a cosmological probe



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

Uhlemann+I7e



densities in redshift bins

Densities in long cylinders: same formalism applies with cylindrical collapse

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



Conclusion

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

horizon-AGN

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



Large deviation principle:

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