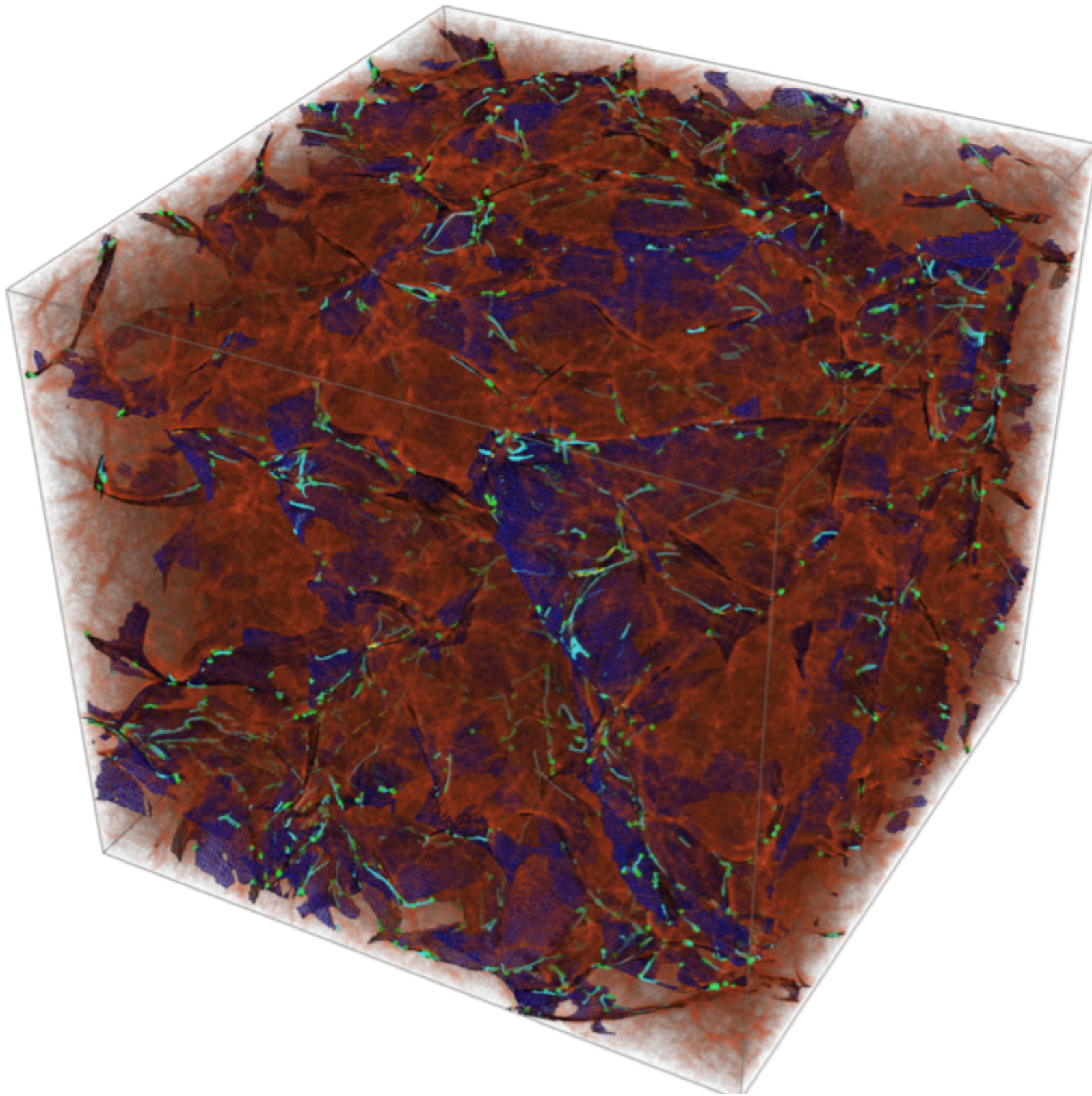
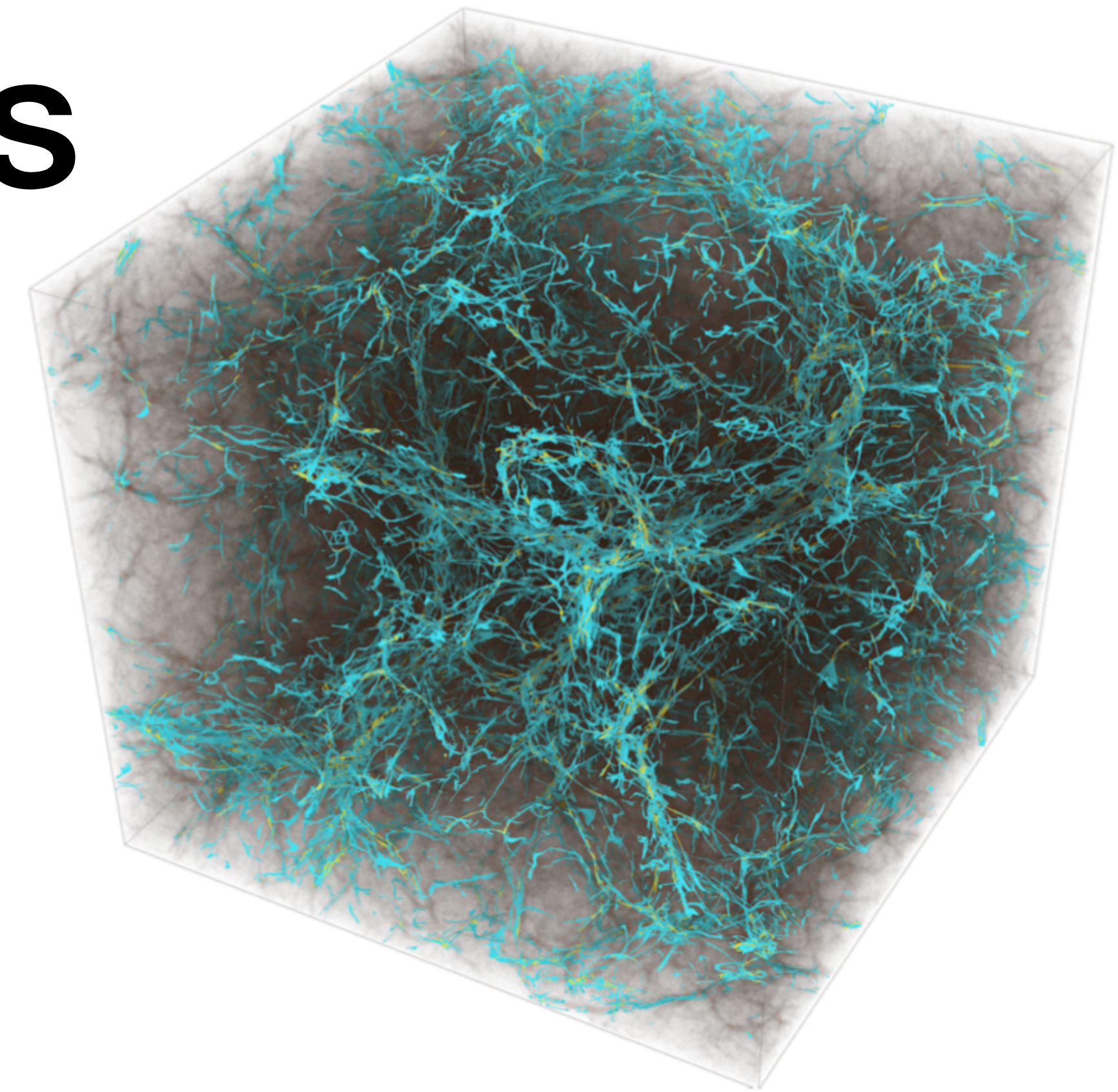


# Dissecting the cosmic web with caustics



Job Feldbrugge  
University of Edinburgh



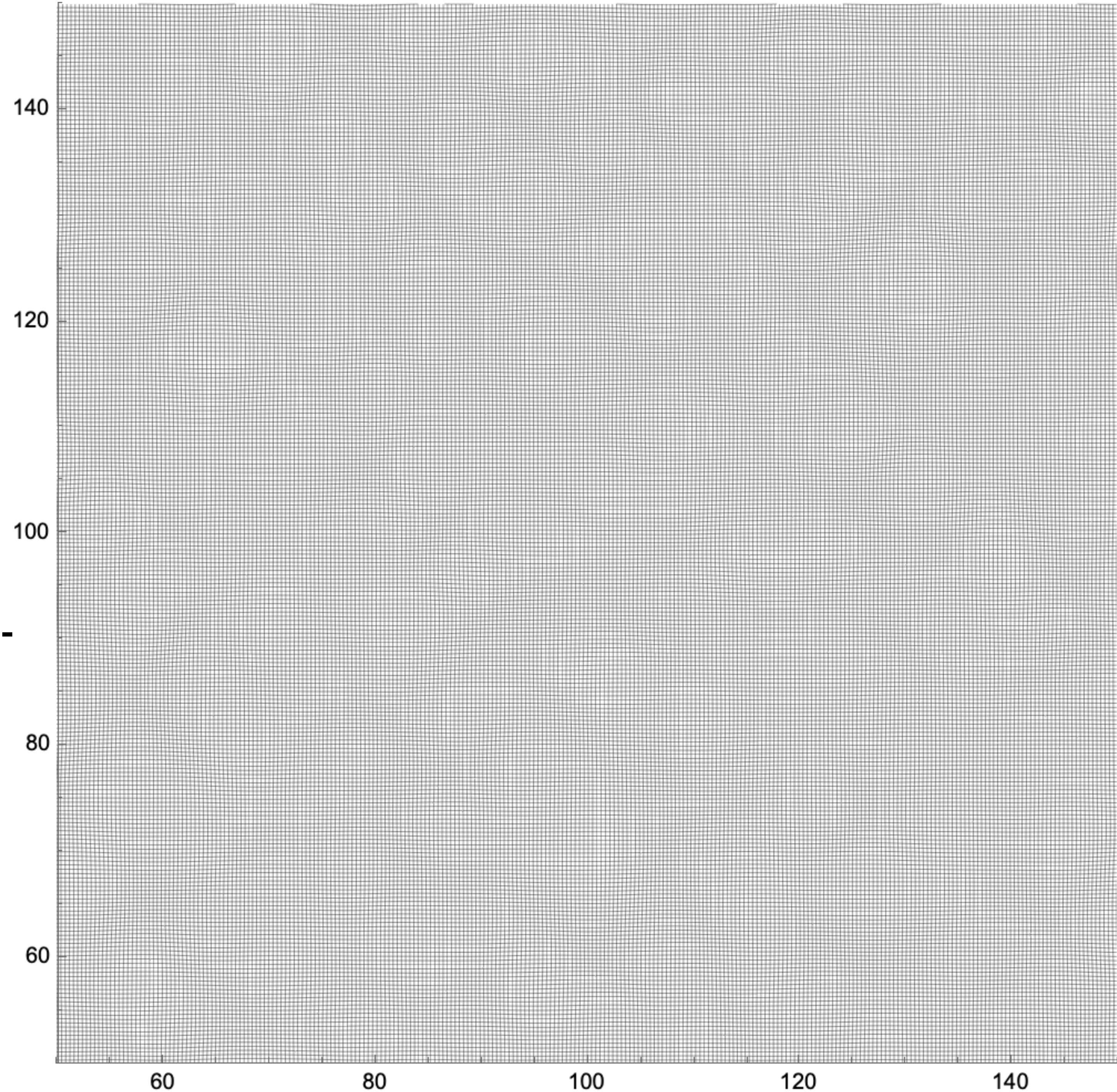
6th of February 2023

Co-evolution of the Cosmic Web and Galaxies across Cosmic Time

# Caustic conditions

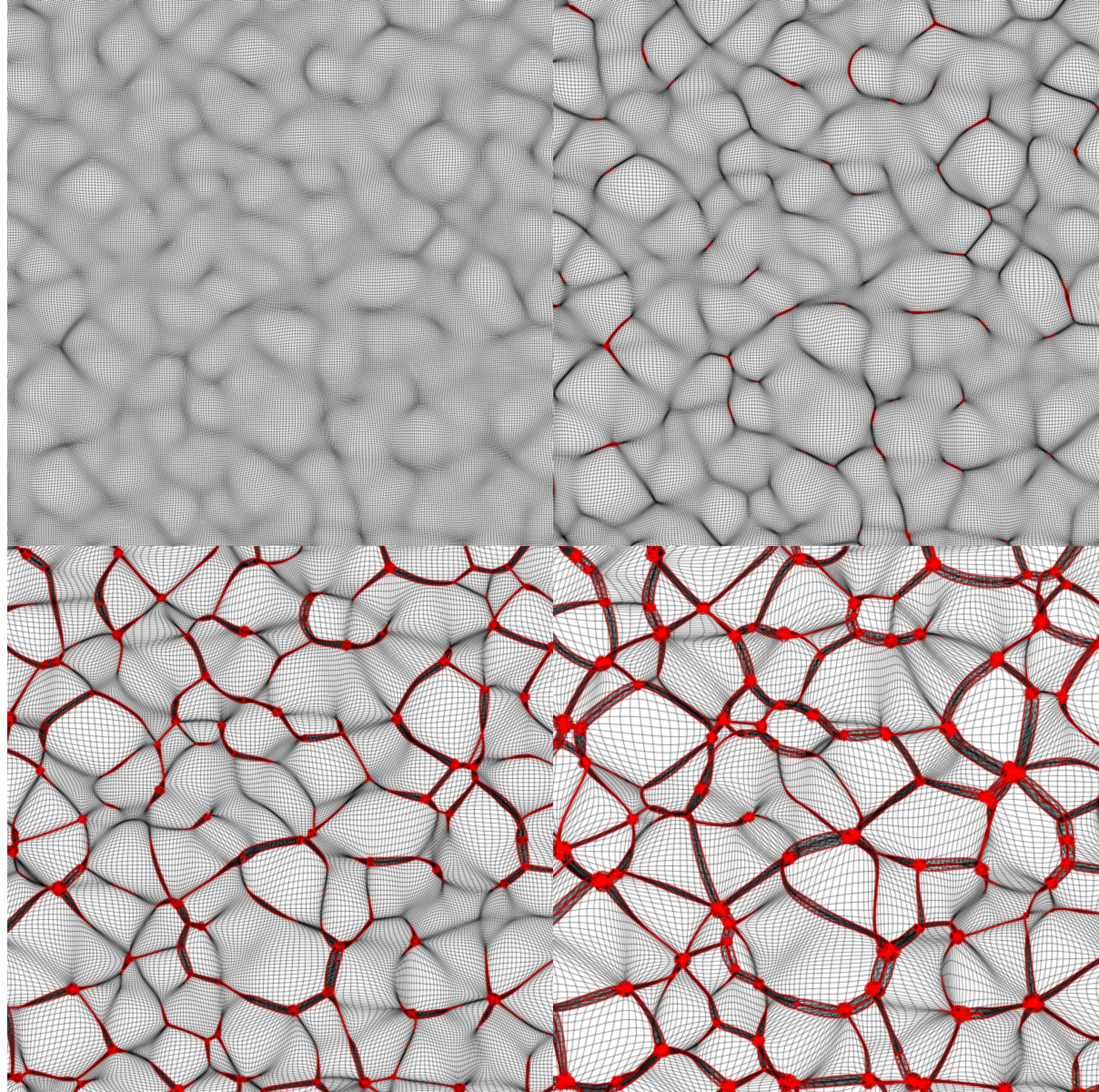
# Caustics

- Dark matter forms the geometric structure of the cosmic web through formation of multi-stream regions
- The caustics bound the multi-stream regions



# Caustics

- Dark matter forms the geometric structure of the cosmic web through formation of multi-stream regions
- The caustics bound the multi-stream regions



# Caustics

- *Vladimir Arnol'd* extended *René Thom's* classification of stable degenerate critical points to **Lagrangian catastrophe theory**
- The **classification of caustics** was applied to *large-scale structure formation* to predict the geometric structure of the *cosmic web*
- Renewed interest, Hidding et al (2013)

1972 NORMAL FORMS FOR FUNCTIONS NEAR DEGENERATE CRITICAL POINTS, THE WEYL GROUPS OF  $A_k$ ,  $D_k$ ,  $E_k$  AND LAGRANGIAN SINGULARITIES

V. I. Arnol'd

1980 EVOLUTION OF SINGULARITIES OF POTENTIAL FLOWS IN COLLISION-FREE MEDIA AND THE METAMORPHOSIS OF CAUSTICS IN THREE-DIMENSIONAL SPACE

V. I. Arnol'd

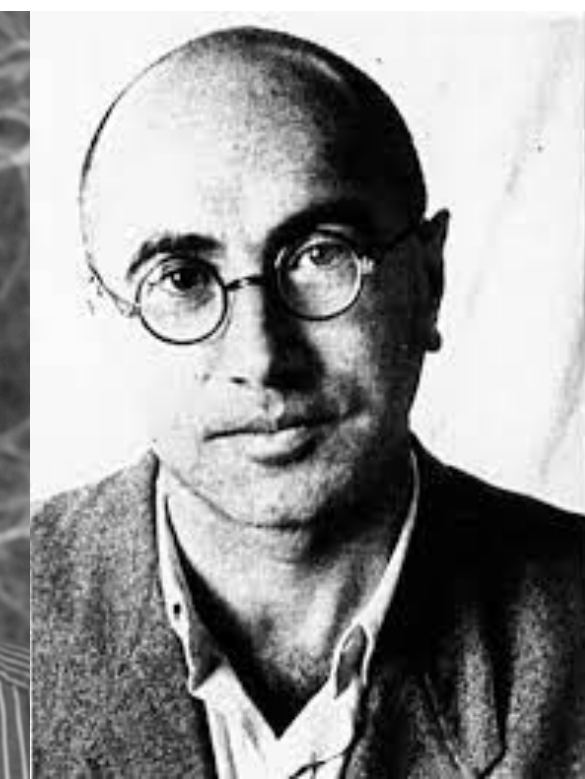
1982 The Large Scale Structure of the Universe I. General Properties. One- and Two-Dimensional Models

V. I. ARNOLD  
*Moscow State University, U.S.S.R.*

and

S. F. SHANDARIN and YA. B. ZELDOVICH  
*Institute of Applied Mathematics, Moscow, U.S.S.R.*

(Received August 11, 1981)



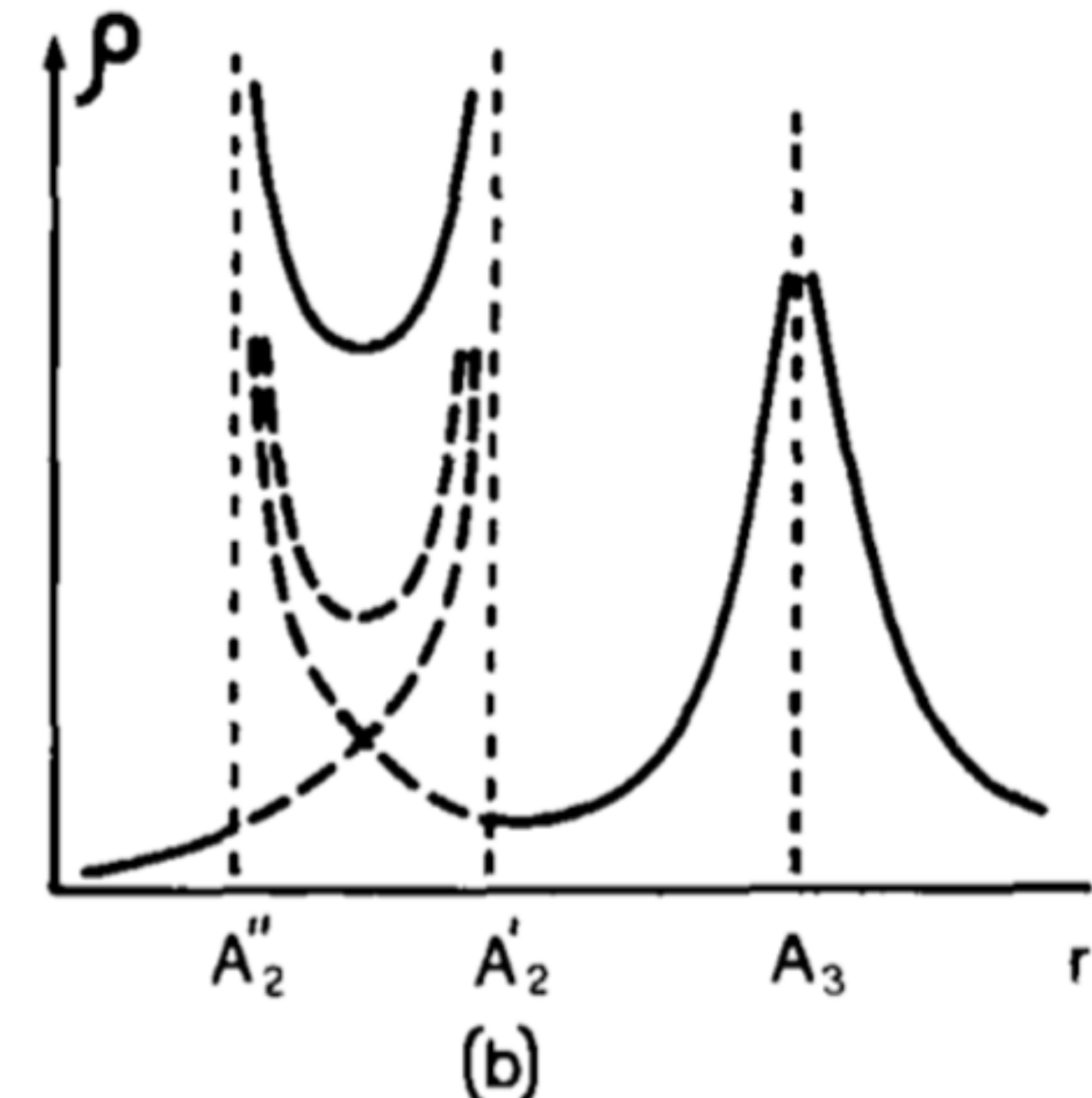
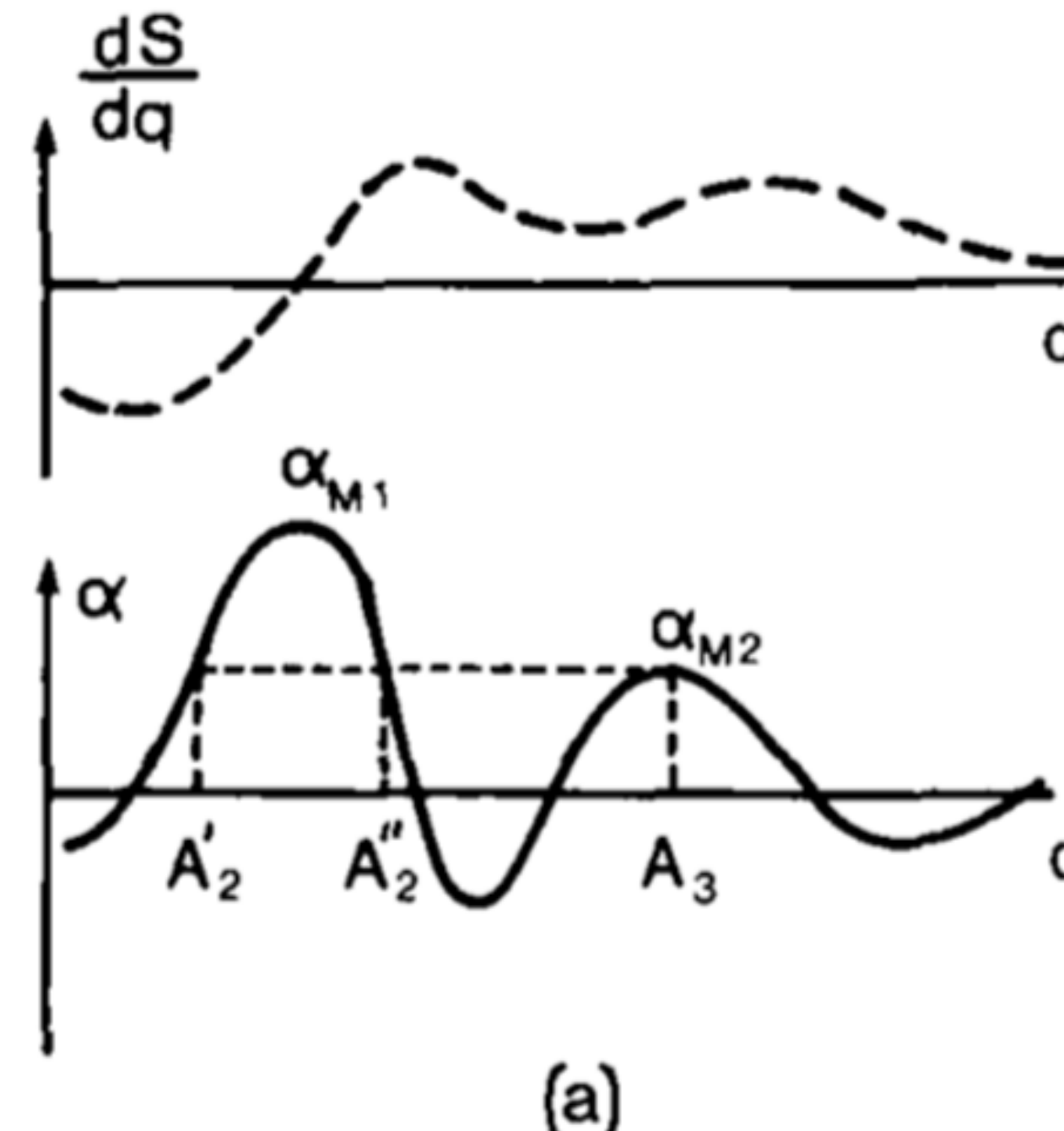
# Caustics

Arnol'd, Shandarin, Zel'dovich (1982)

Lagrangian fluid dynamics

$$\mathbf{x}_t(\mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{q} + \mathbf{s}_t(\mathbf{q})$$

where the displacement map solves the Euler equation and the Poisson equation, while implementing conservation of mass. The density follows as the reciprocal of the Jacobian



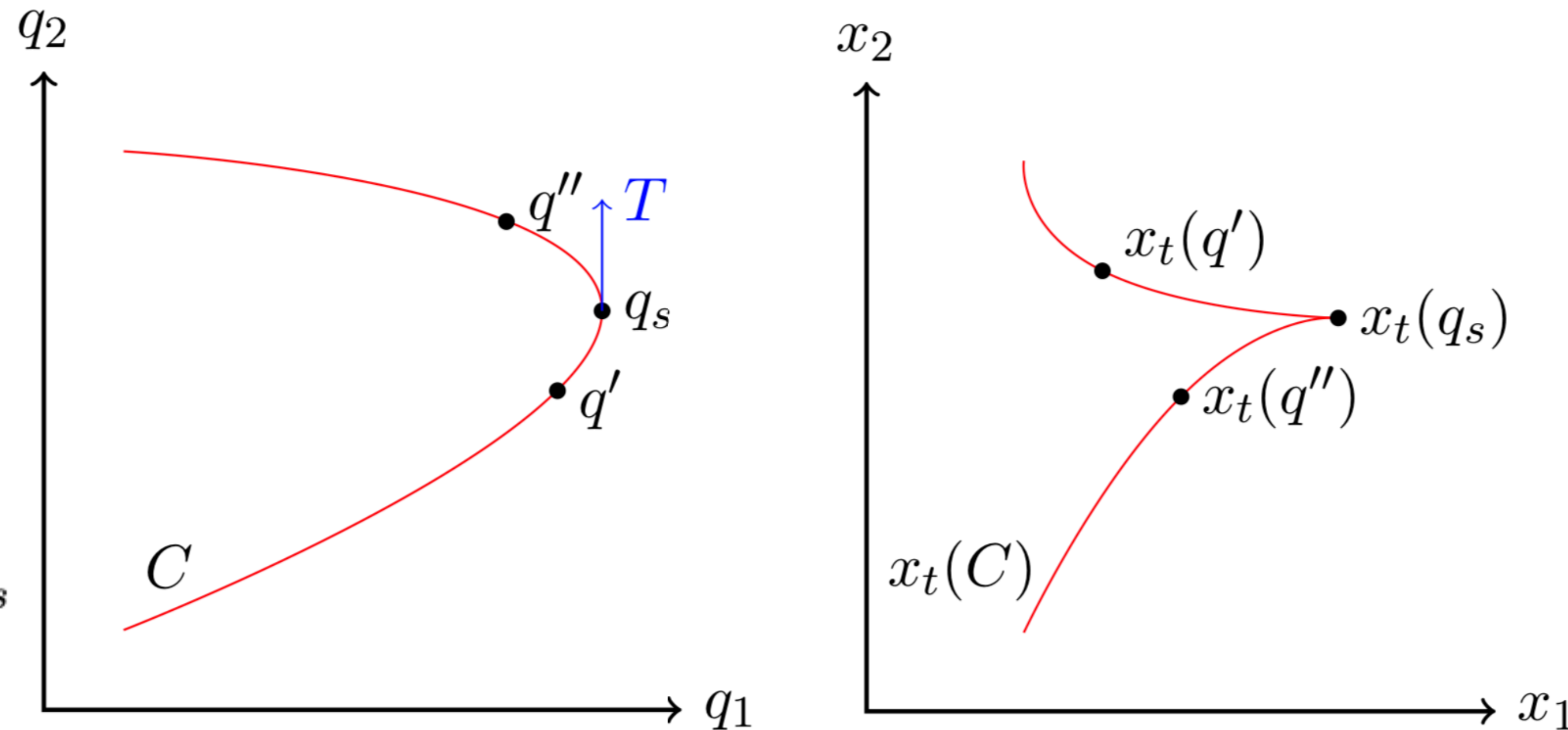
$$\rho_t(\mathbf{x}') = \sum_{\mathbf{q} \in \mathbf{x}_t^{-1}(\mathbf{x}')} \frac{\bar{\rho}}{|\det \nabla \mathbf{x}_t(\mathbf{q})|} = \sum_{\mathbf{q} \in \mathbf{x}_t^{-1}(\mathbf{x}')} \frac{\bar{\rho}}{|1 + \mu_1(\mathbf{q})| |1 + \mu_2(\mathbf{q})| |1 + \mu_3(\mathbf{q})|}$$

with the eigenvalues of the deformation tensor  $\nabla \mathbf{s}_t(\mathbf{q}) \mathbf{v}_i(\mathbf{q}) = \mu_i(\mathbf{q}) \mathbf{v}_i(\mathbf{q})$

# Caustic conditions

Up to recently, we only knew how to evaluate the fold caustic in 2D. Now we can evaluate any caustic in any dimension

$$\frac{\Delta x}{|\Delta q|} = \frac{\|x_t(q') - x_t(q'')\|}{\|q' - q''\|} \rightarrow 0 \quad q', q'' \rightarrow q_s$$



**Theorem:** A manifold  $M \subset L$  forms a singularity under the mapping  $x_t$  in the point  $x_t(q_s) \in x_t(M) \subset E$  at time  $t$ , meaning that  $x_t(M)$  is not smooth in  $x_t(q_s)$ , if and only if there exists at least one nonzero tangent vector  $T \in T_{q_s}M$  satisfying

$$(1 + \mu_{it}(q_s))v_{it}^*(q_s) \cdot T = 0$$

for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, \dim(L)$ .

# Caustic conditions

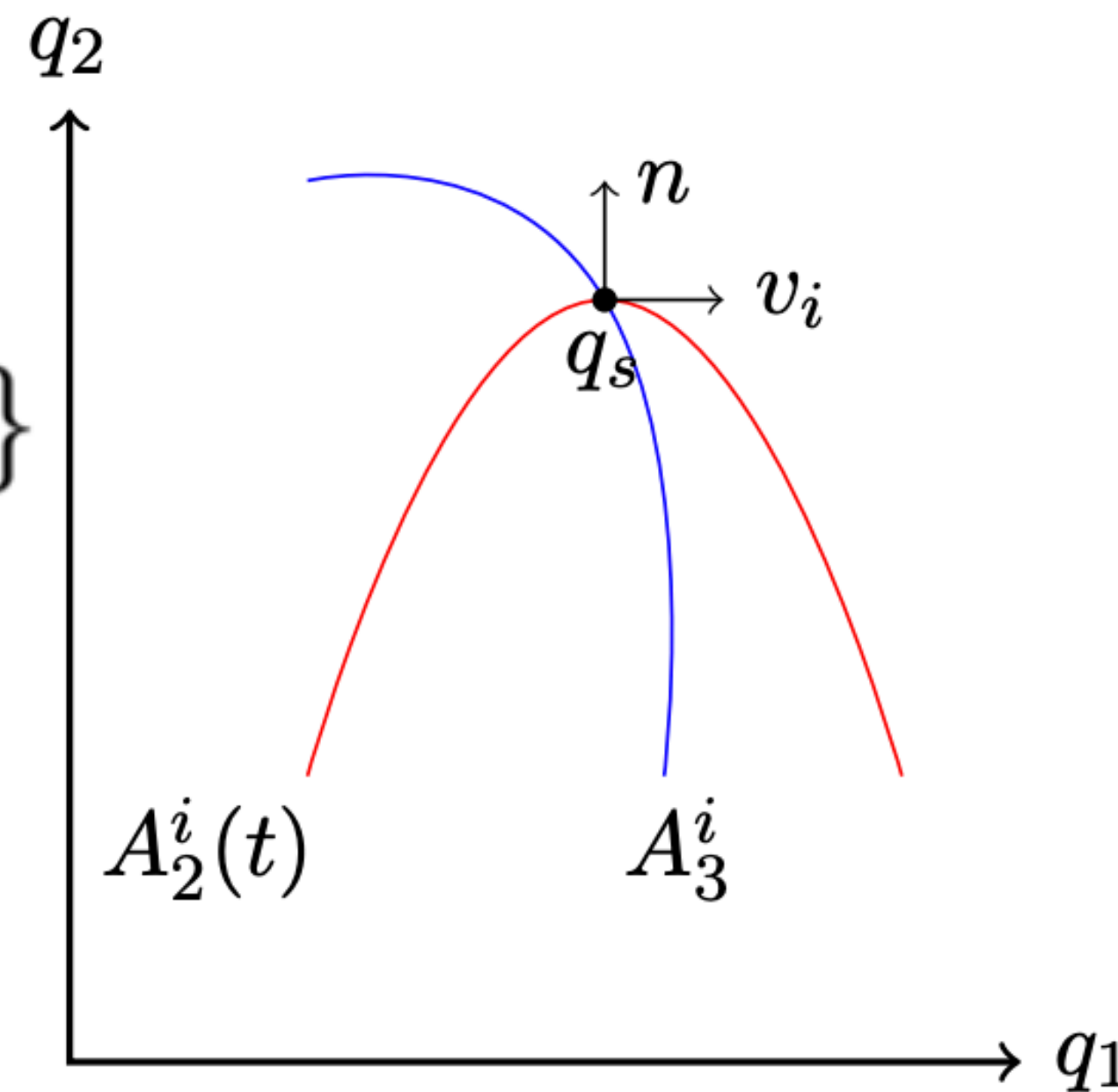
When applying the caustic condition to a Lagrangian space, we obtain the fold condition

$$A_2^i(t) = \{\mathbf{q} \in L \mid 1 + \mu_{it}(\mathbf{q}) = 0\}$$

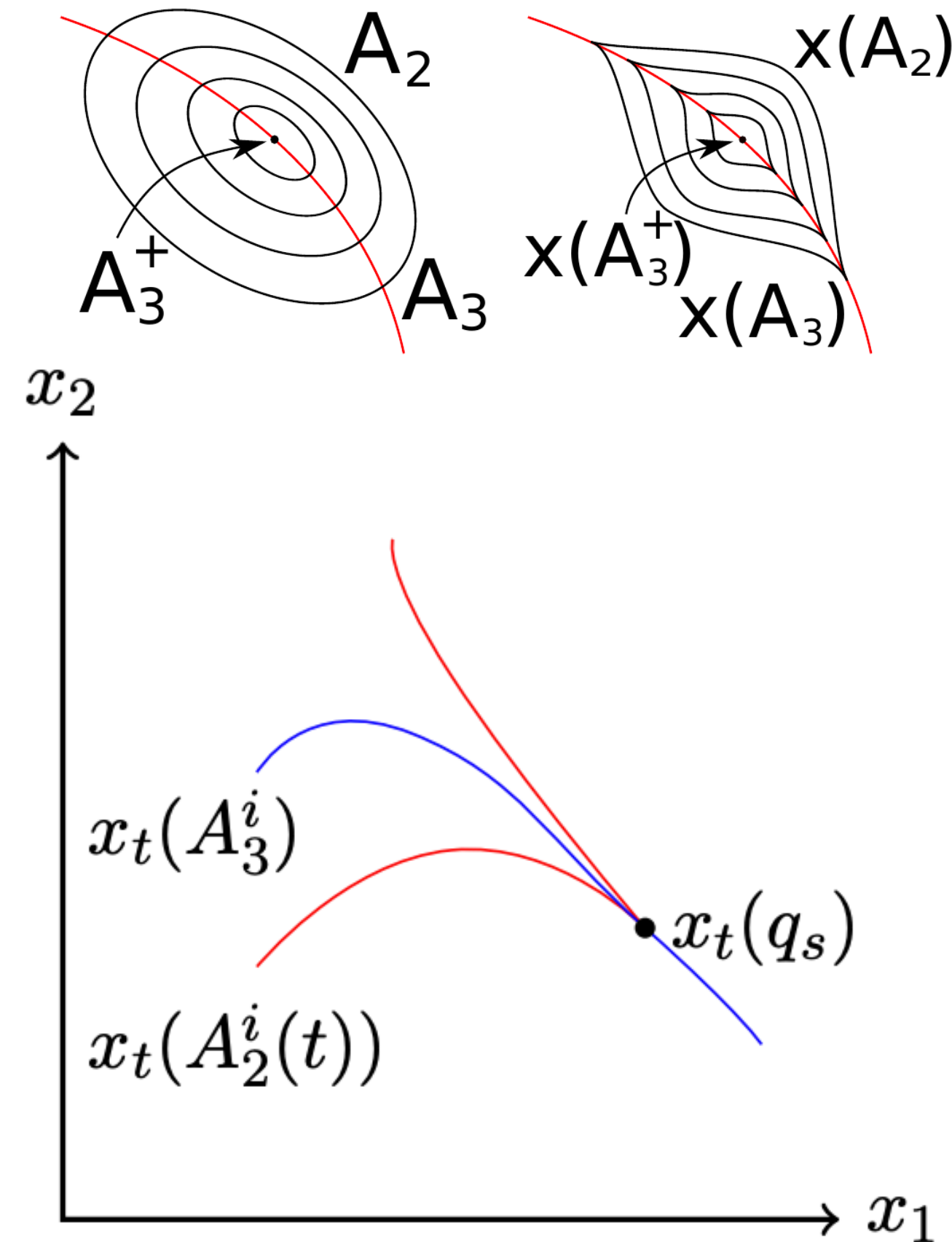
Applying the caustic condition a second time, we obtain the cusp caustic in terms of both the eigenvalue and eigenvector fields

$$A_3^i(t) = \{\mathbf{q} \in L \mid \mathbf{q} \in A_2^i(t), \mathbf{v}_i \cdot \nabla \mu_{it} = 0\}$$

$$(1 + \mu_{it}(q_s))v_{it}^*(q_s) \cdot T = 0$$



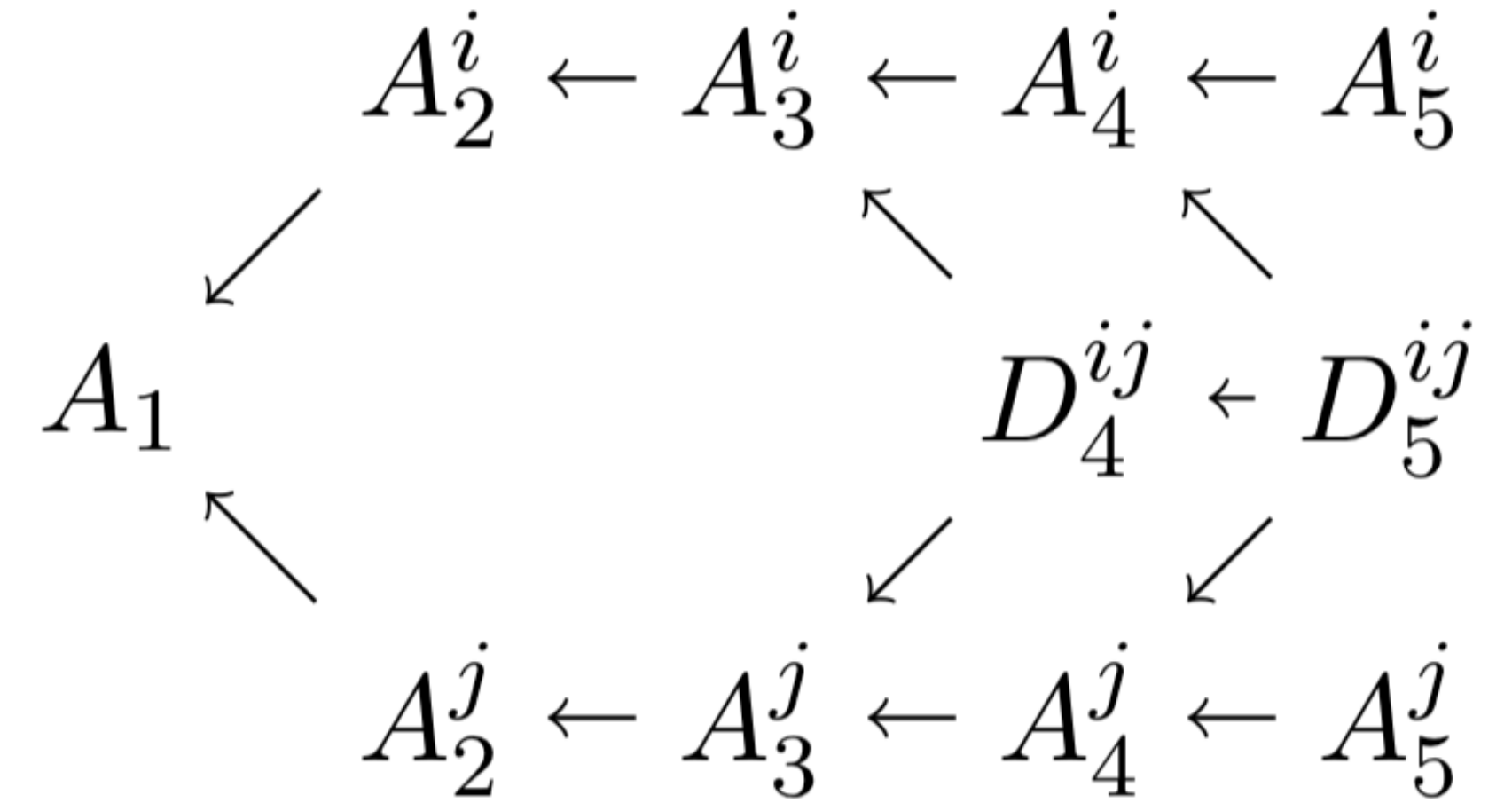
(a) Lagrangian space



(b) Eulerian space



# Caustic conditions



Iterative application of the shell-crossing condition

$$(1 + \mu_{it}(q_s))v_{it}^*(q_s) \cdot T = 0$$

leads to the caustic conditions on both the eigenvalue and eigenvector fields:

- Fold:  $A_2^i(t) = \{\mathbf{q} \in L \mid 1 + \mu_{it}(\mathbf{q}) = 0\}$
- Cusp:  $A_3^i(t) = \{\mathbf{q} \in L \mid \mathbf{q} \in A_2^i(t), \mathbf{v}_i \cdot \nabla \mu_{it} = 0\}$
- Swallowtail:  $A_4^i(t) = \{\mathbf{q} \in L \mid \mathbf{q} \in A_3^i(t), \mathbf{v}_i \cdot \nabla(\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \nabla \mu_{it}) = 0\}$
- Butterfly:  $A_5^i(t) = \{\mathbf{q} \in L \mid \mathbf{q} \in A_4^i(t), \mathbf{v}_i \cdot \nabla(\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \nabla(\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \nabla \mu_{it})) = 0\}$
- Umbilic:  $D_4^{ij}(t) = \{\mathbf{q} \in L \mid 1 + \mu_{it}(\mathbf{q}) = 1 + \mu_{jt}(\mathbf{q}) = 0\}$
- Parabolic:  $D_5^{ij}(t) = \{\mathbf{q} \in L \mid \mathbf{q} \in D_4^{ij}(t), \mathbf{v}_i \cdot \nabla \mu_i = \mathbf{v}_j \cdot \nabla \mu_j = 0\}$

Morse-Smale theory of full deformation tensor field. No free parameters!

# Caustic conditions

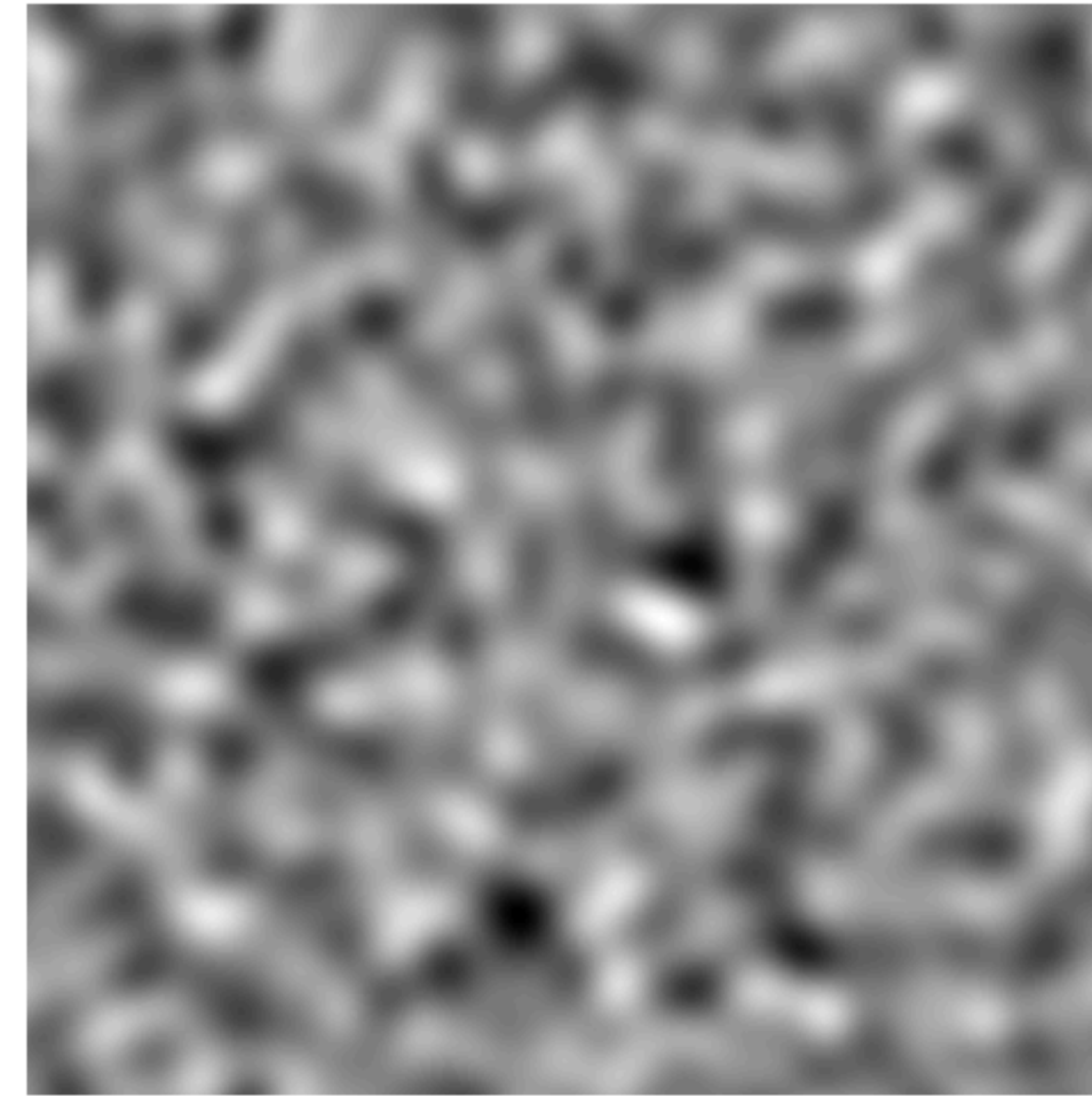
Singularity class	Singularity name	Feature in the 2D cosmic web	Feature in the 3D cosmic web
$A_2$	fold	collapsed region	collapsed region
$A_3$	cuspl	filament	wall or membrane
$A_4$	swallowtail	cluster or knot	filament
$A_5$	butterfly	not stable	cluster or knot
$D_4$	hyperbolic/elliptic	cluster or knot	filament
$D_5$	parabolic	not stable	cluster or knot

The identification of the different caustics in the 2- and 3-dimensional cosmic web

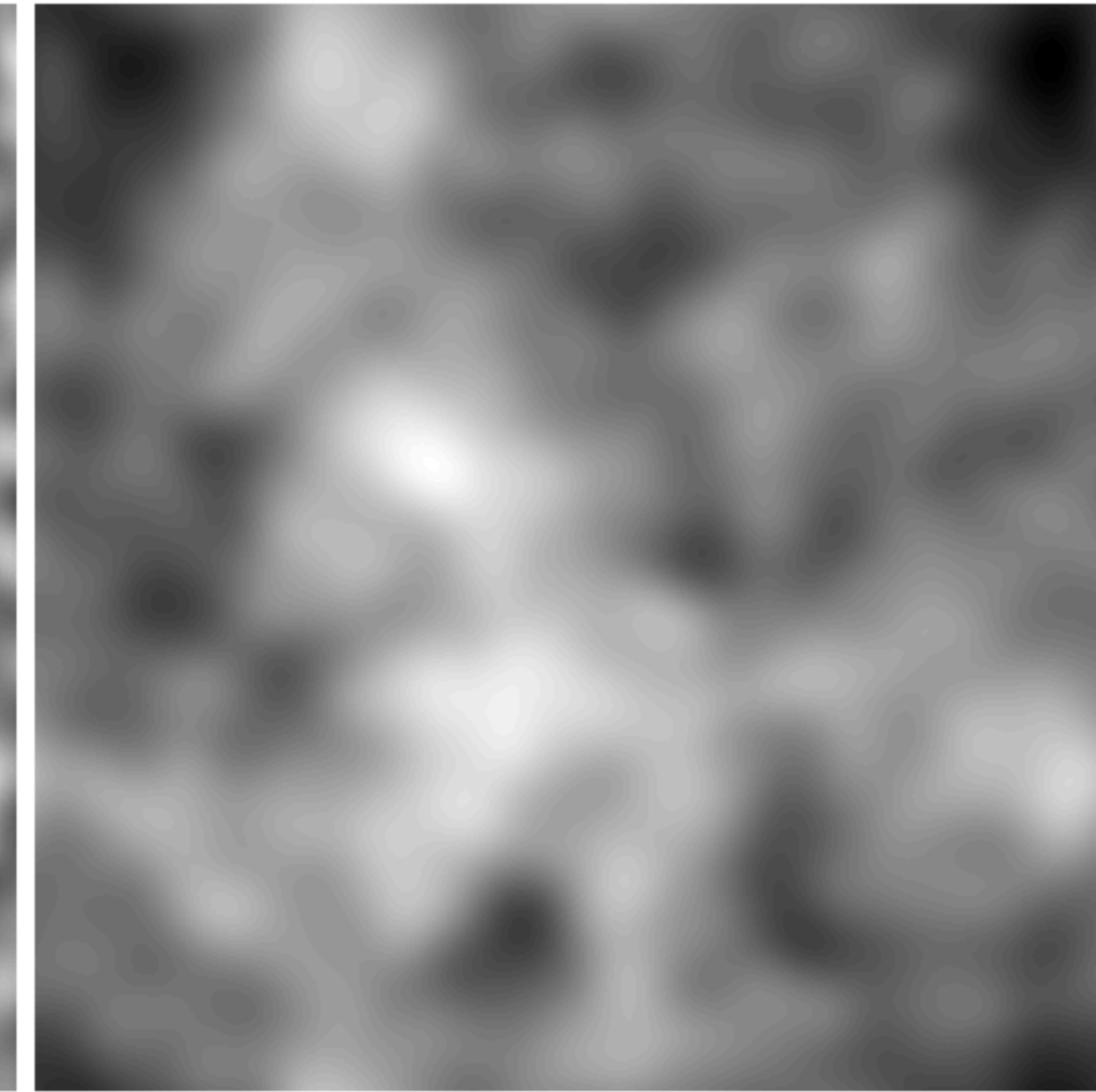
# Caustic conditions

Note that:

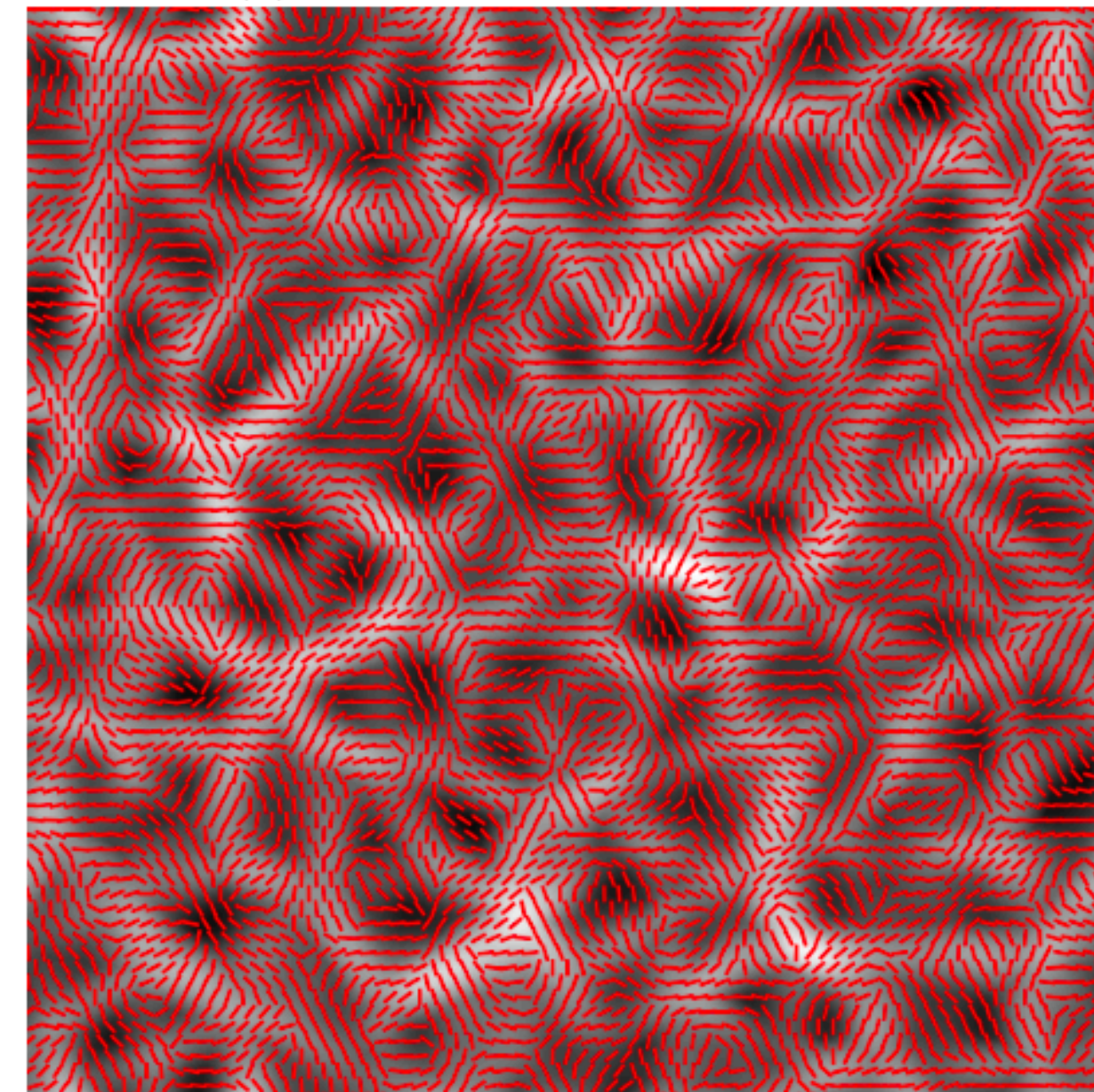
- The eigenvalue and eigenvector fields are non-linear transformations of the density perturbations
- The web-like nature is embedded in the distribution of the eigenvalue *and* eigenvector fields



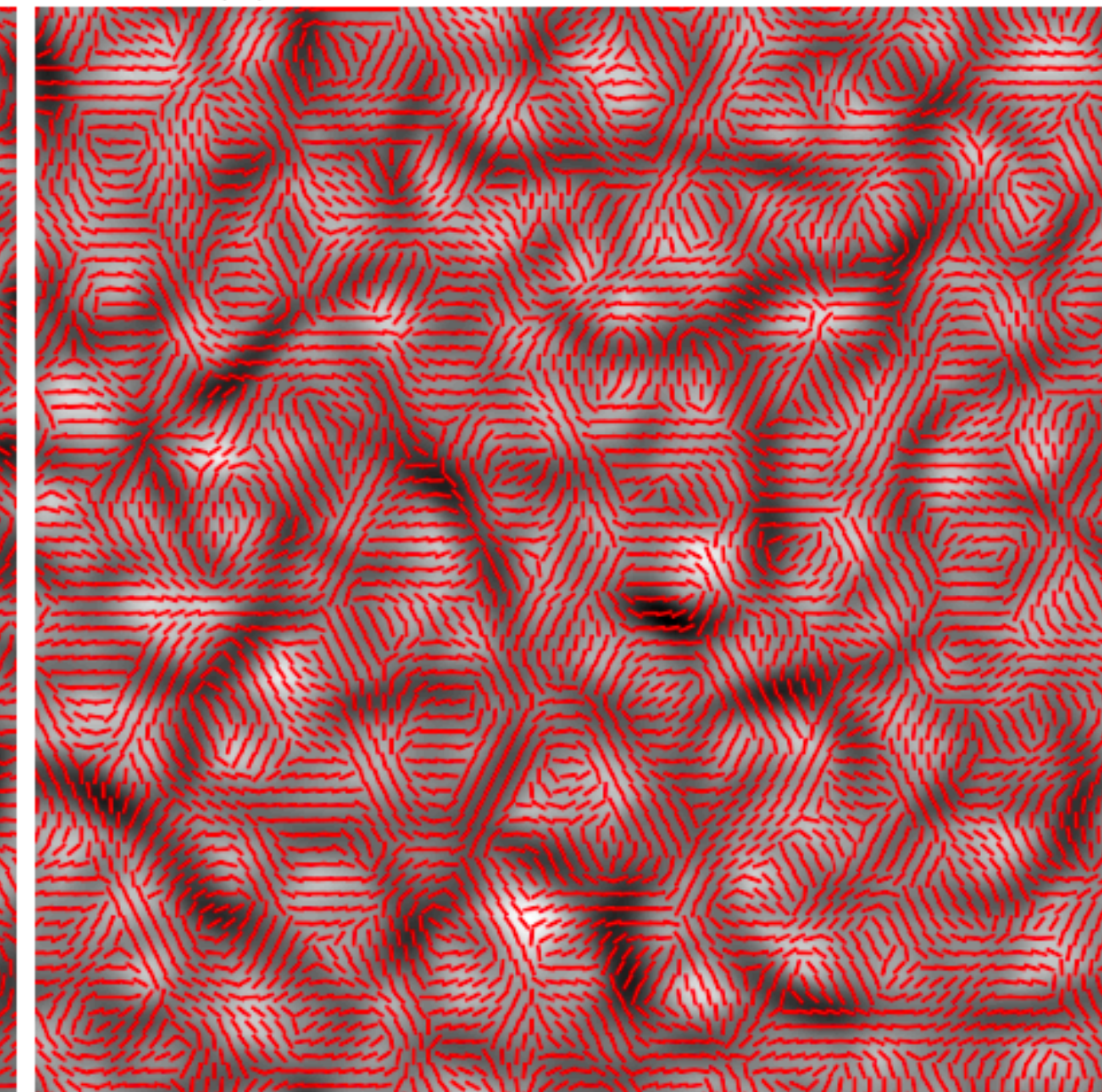
(a) The density perturbation  $\delta$



(b) The displacement potential  $\Psi$

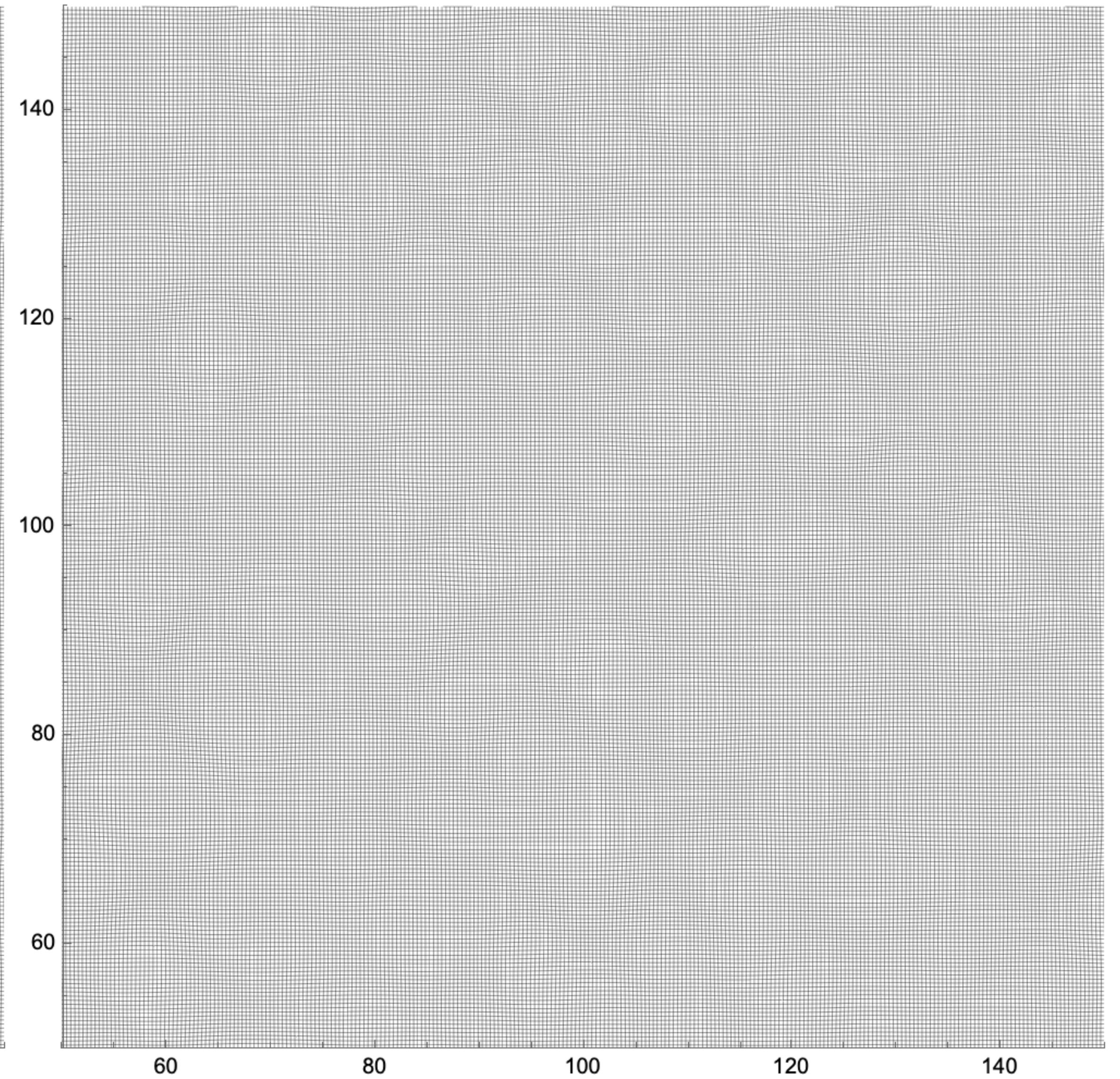
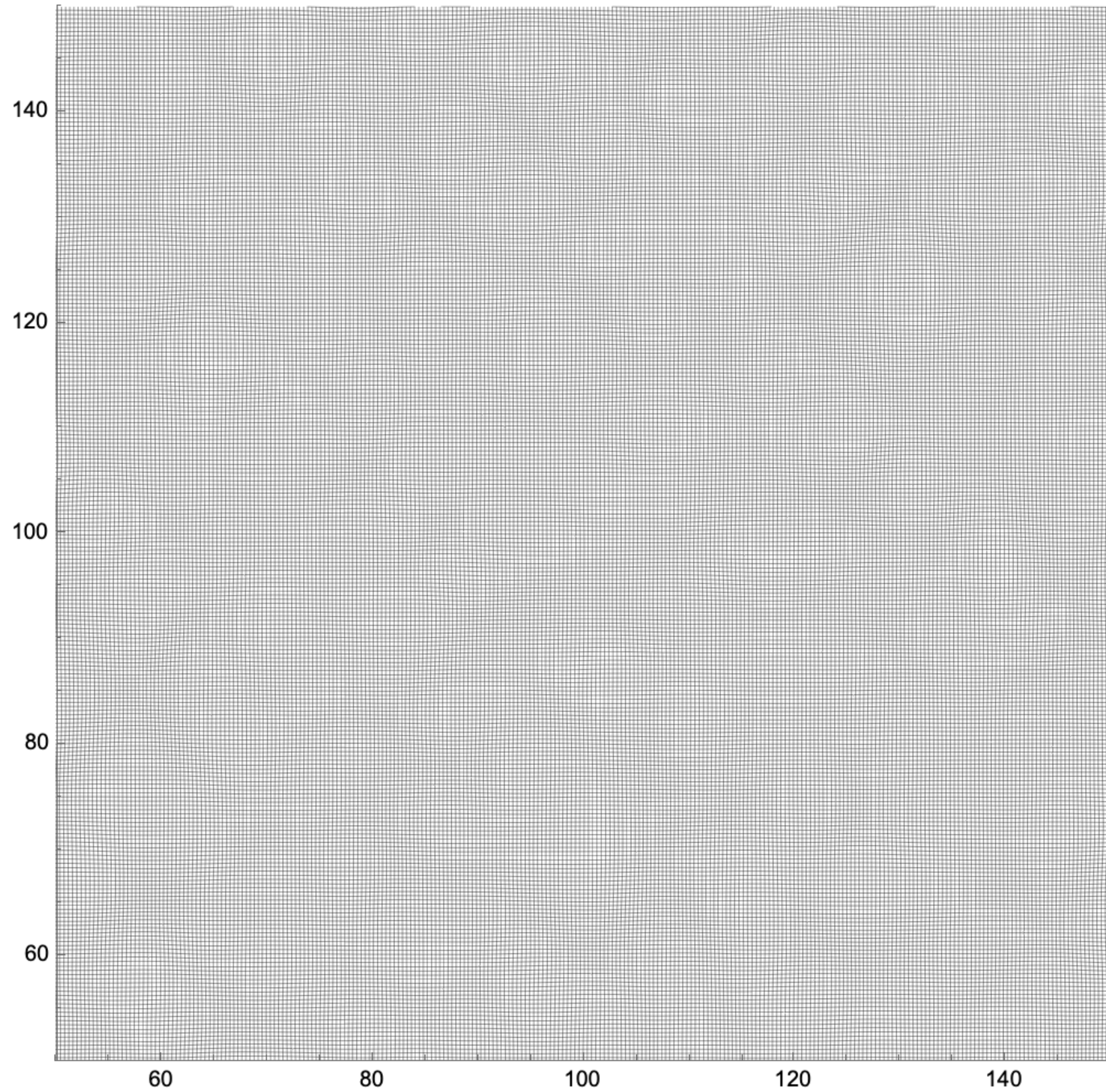


(c) The first eigenvalue and eigenvector fields  $\lambda_1$ , and  $v_1$

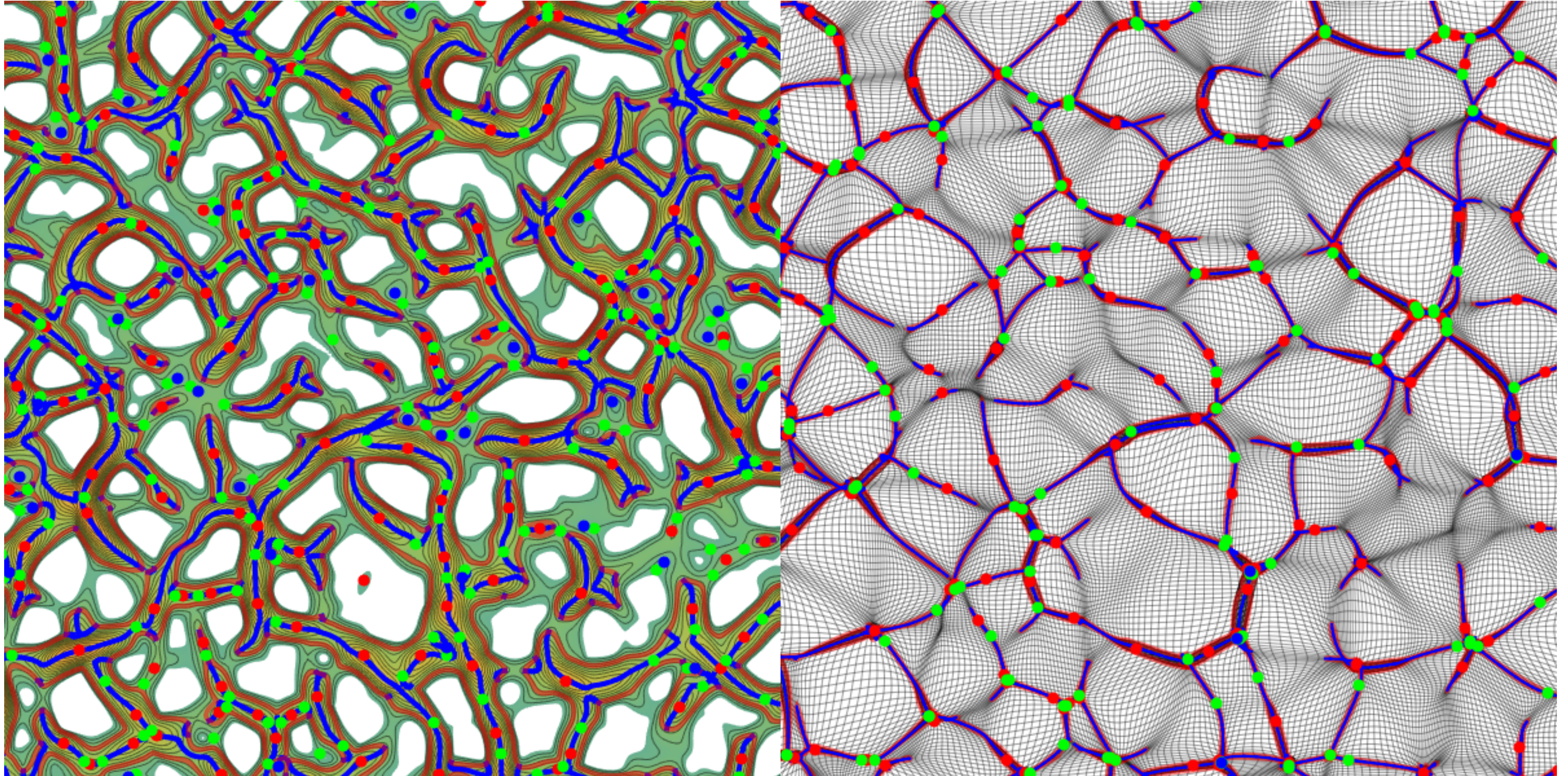


(d) The second eigenvalue and eigenvector fields  $\lambda_2$ , and  $v_2$

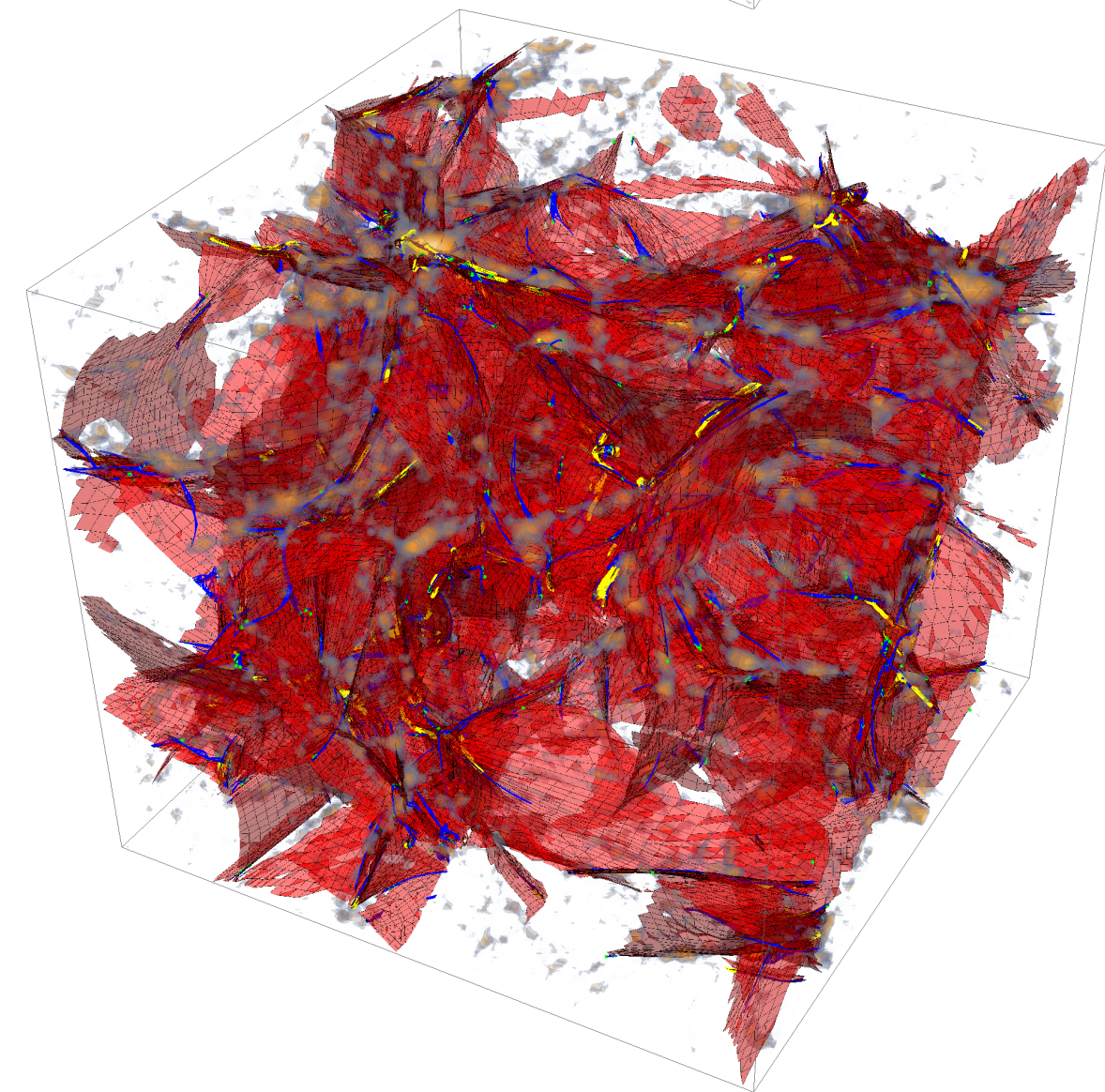
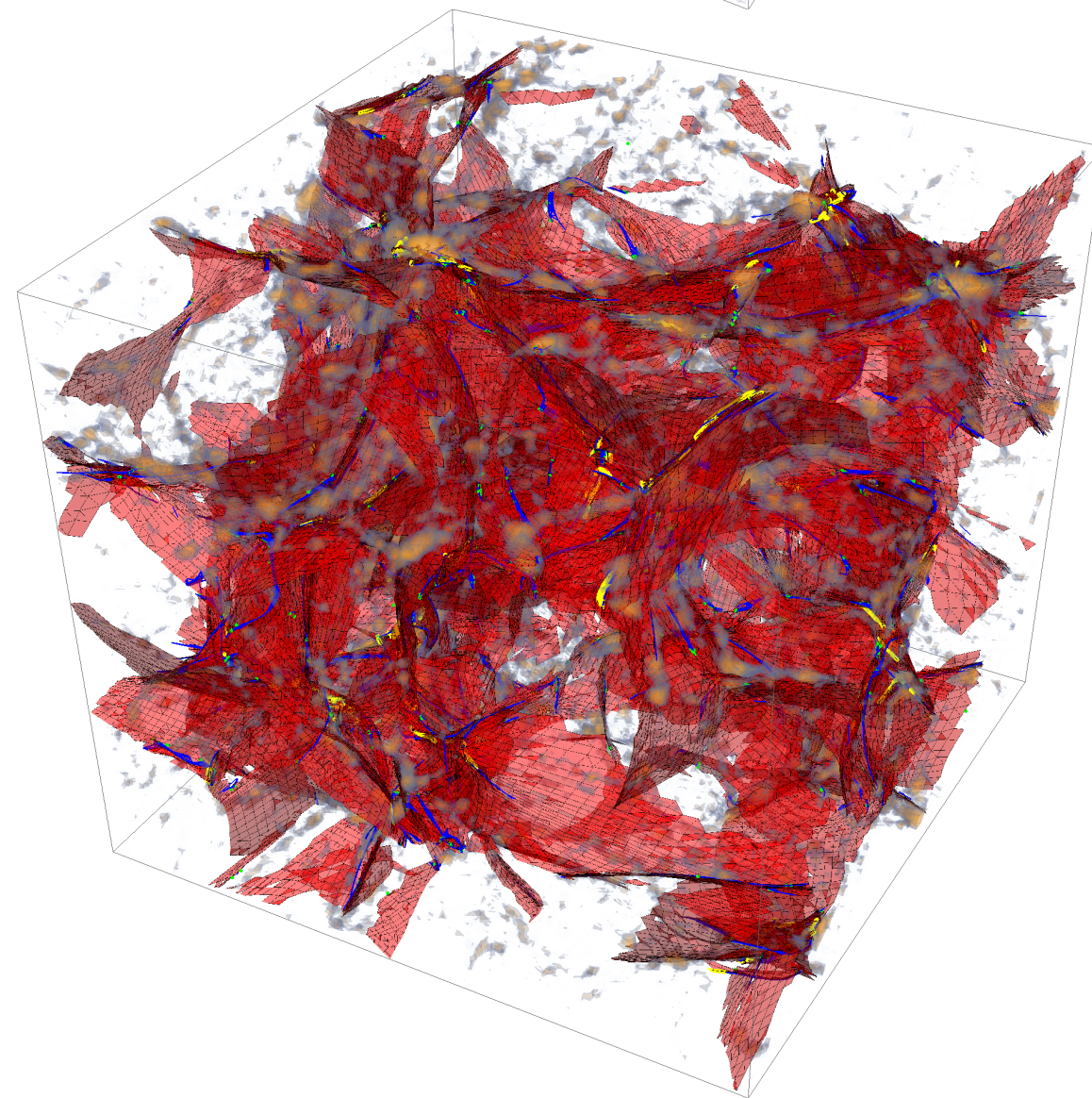
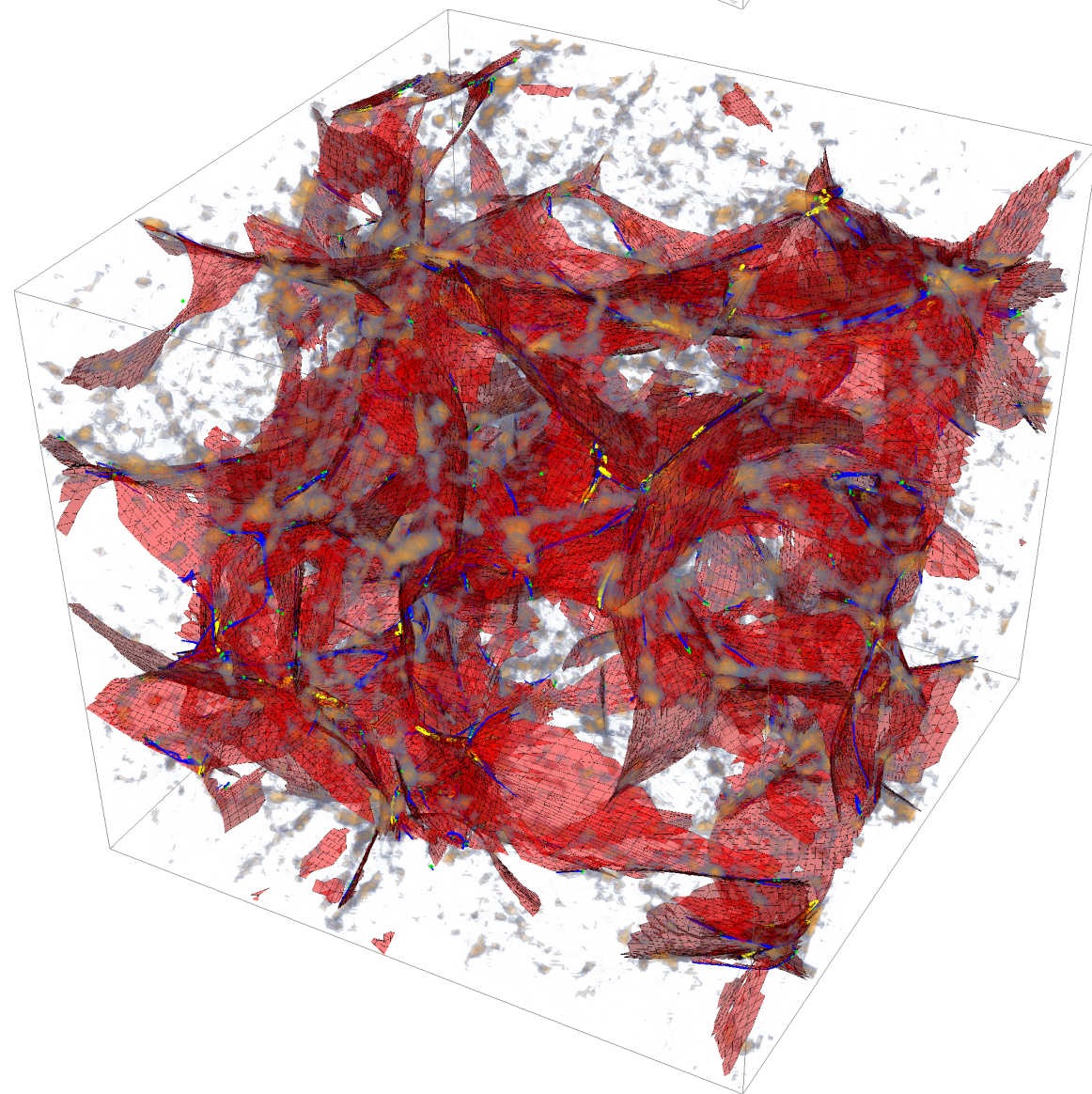
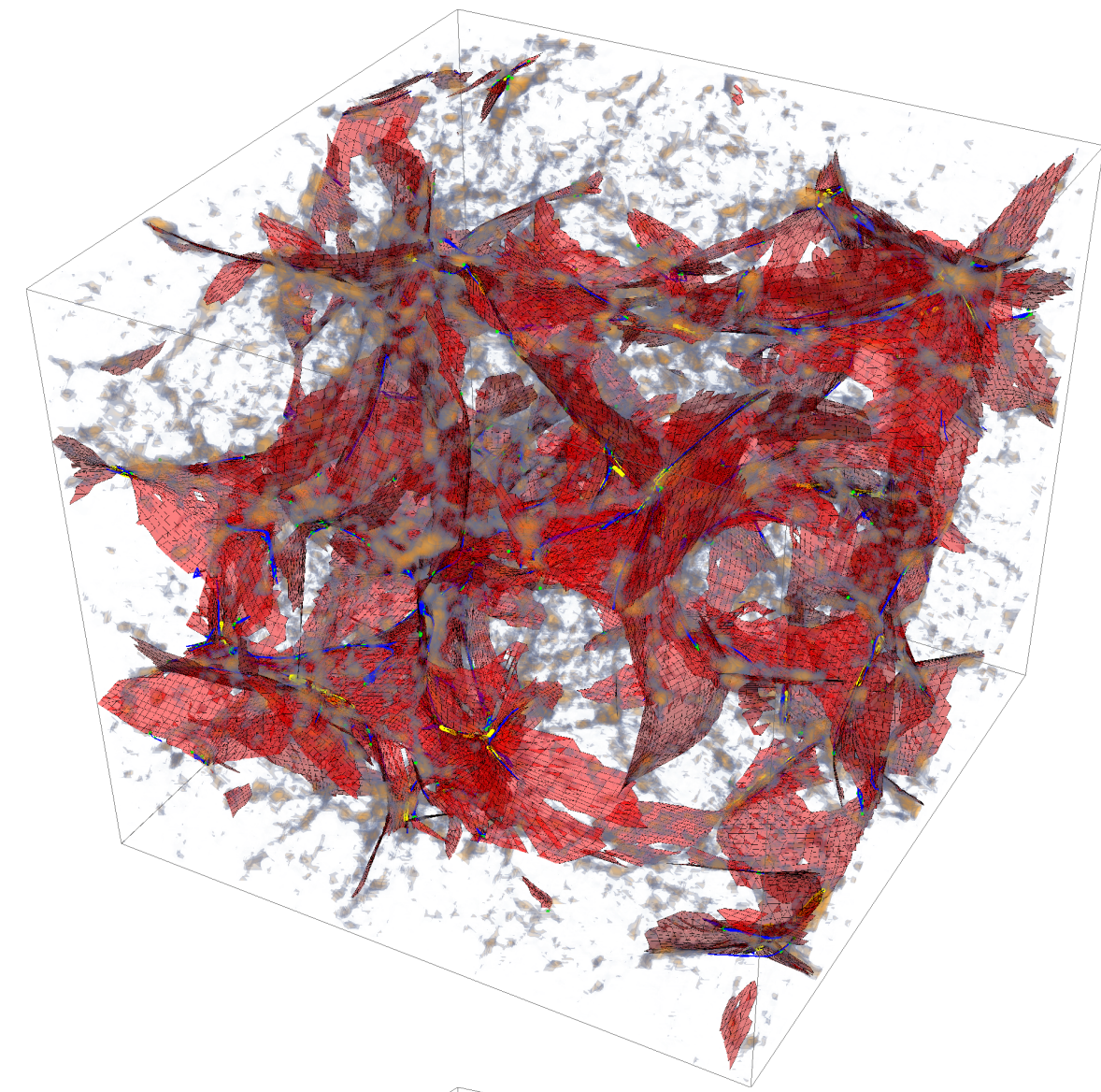
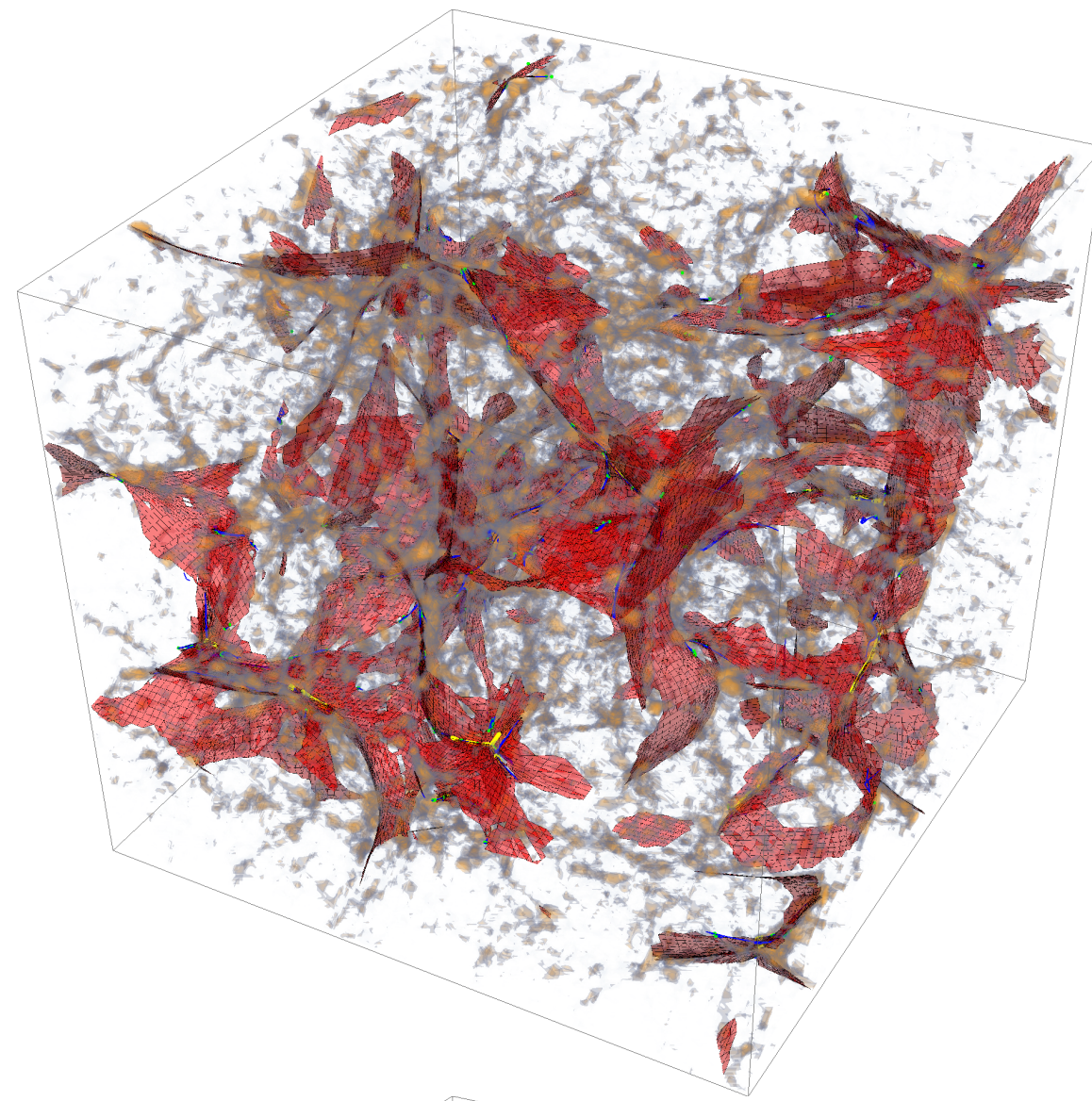
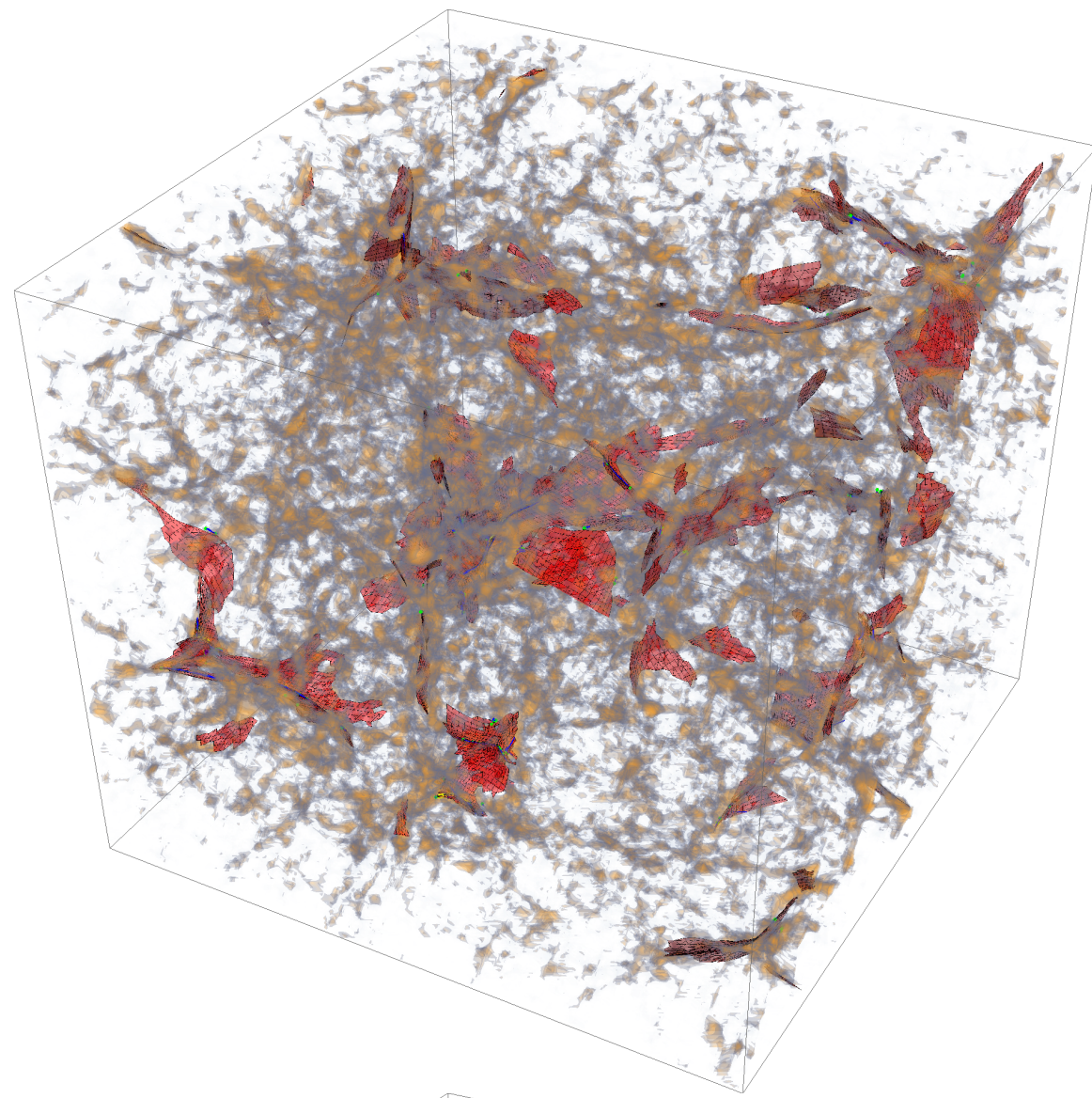
# Caustic conditions



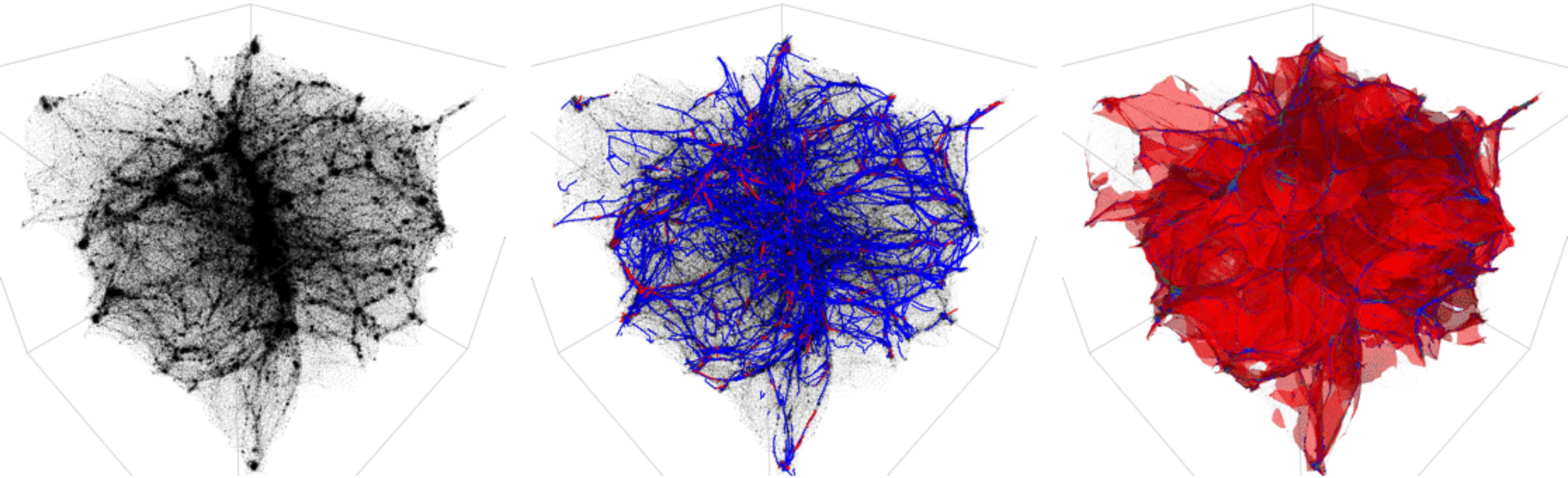
# Caustic conditions



# Caustic conditions



# Caustic conditions



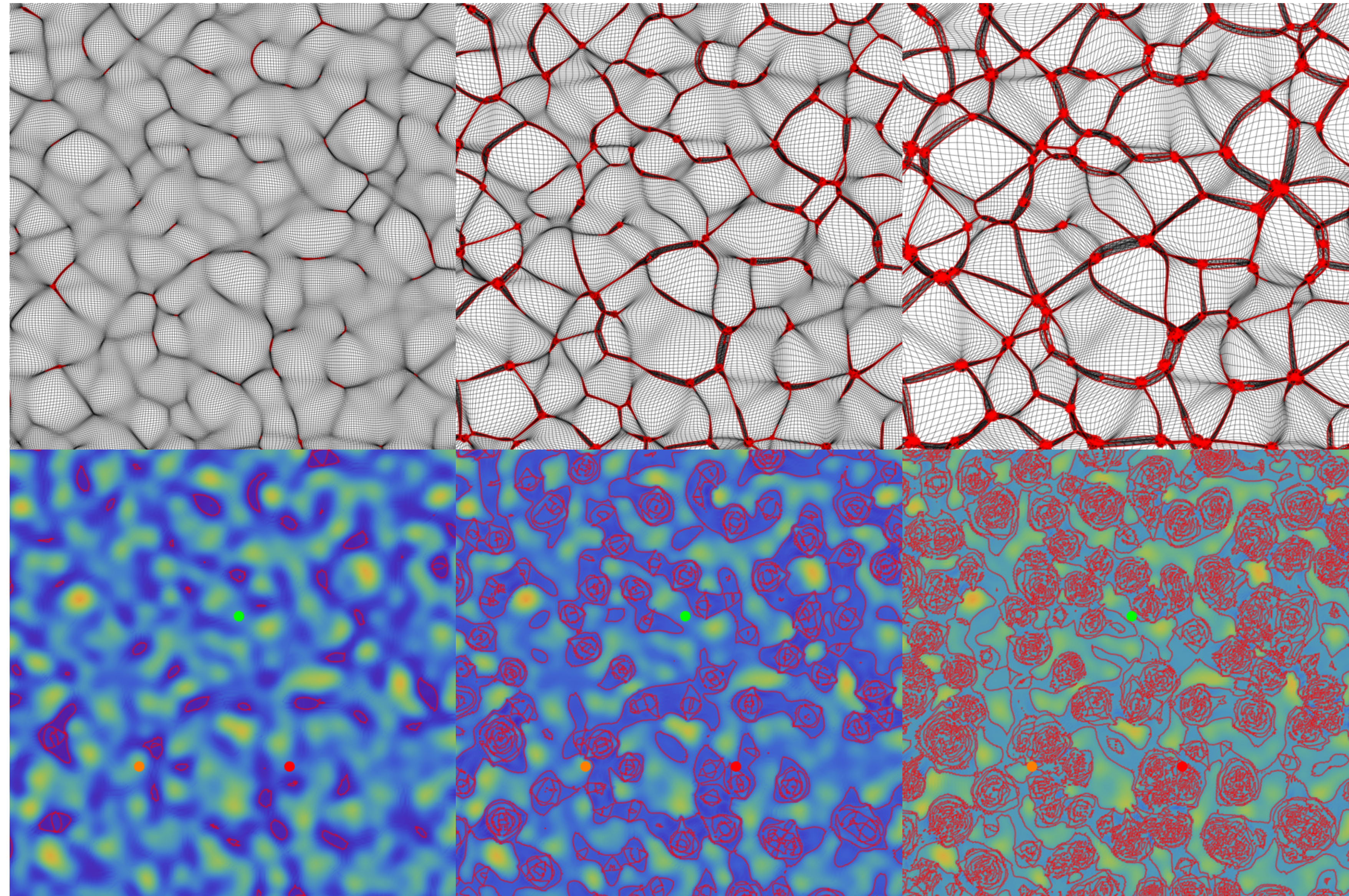
# Topology of the cosmic web



# Topology

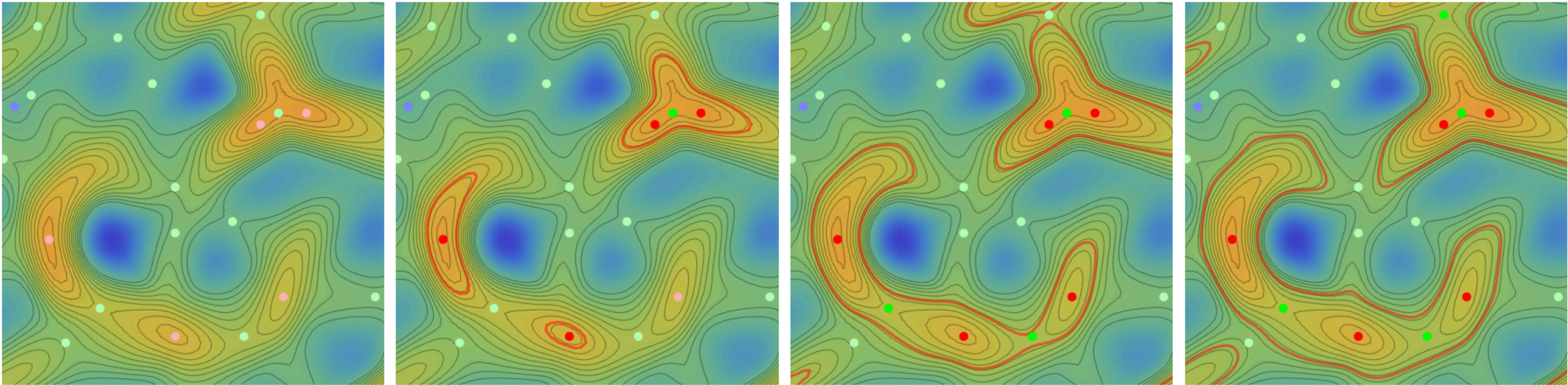
The Lagrangian map  
forms a fold caustic  
when the  
deformation tensor  
becomes singular

$$\det \nabla \mathbf{x}_t(\mathbf{q}) = 0$$

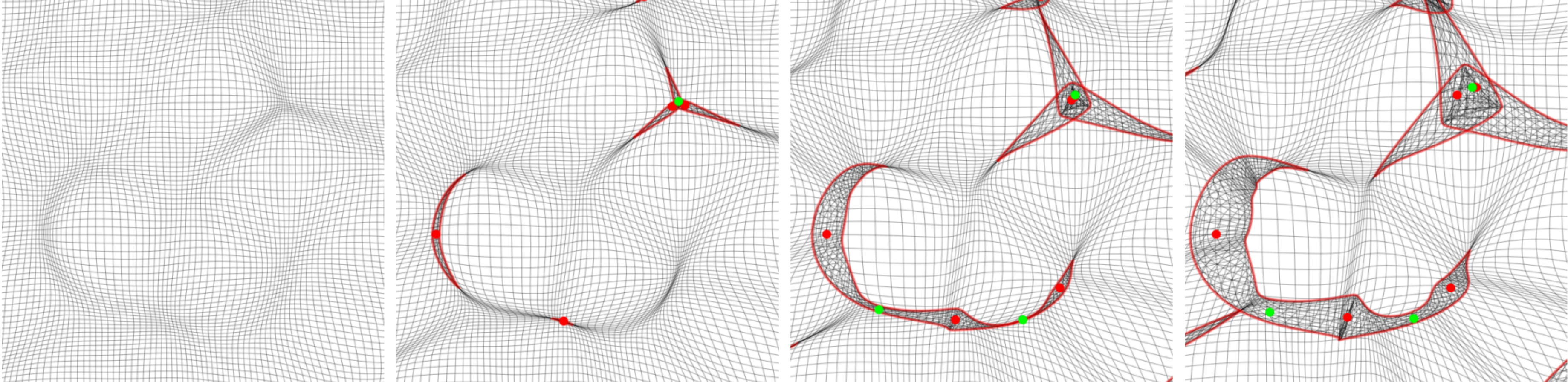


# Topology

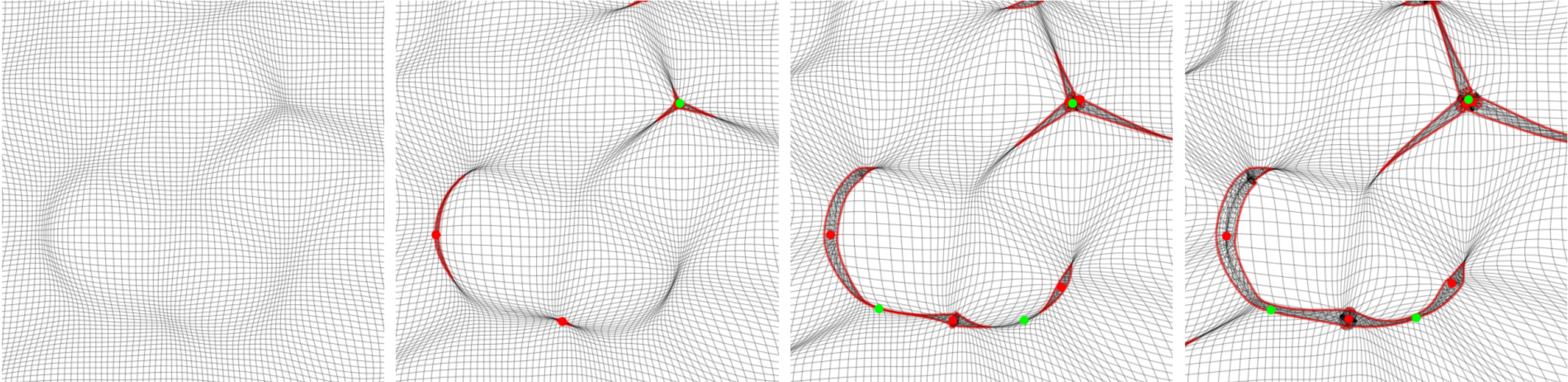
Critical points of the  
eigenvalue fields



Zel'dovich  
approximation



N-body simulation



# Topology

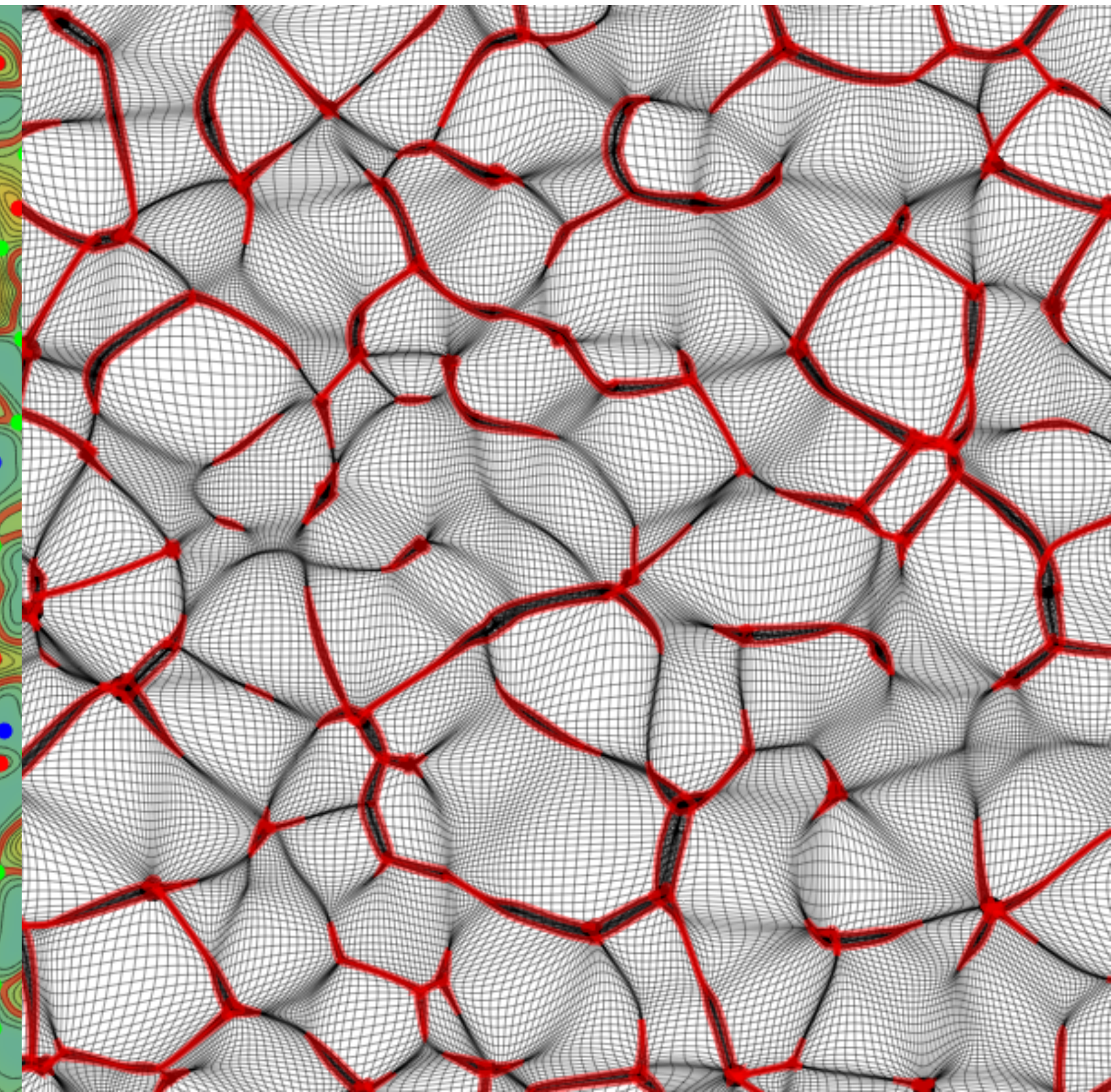
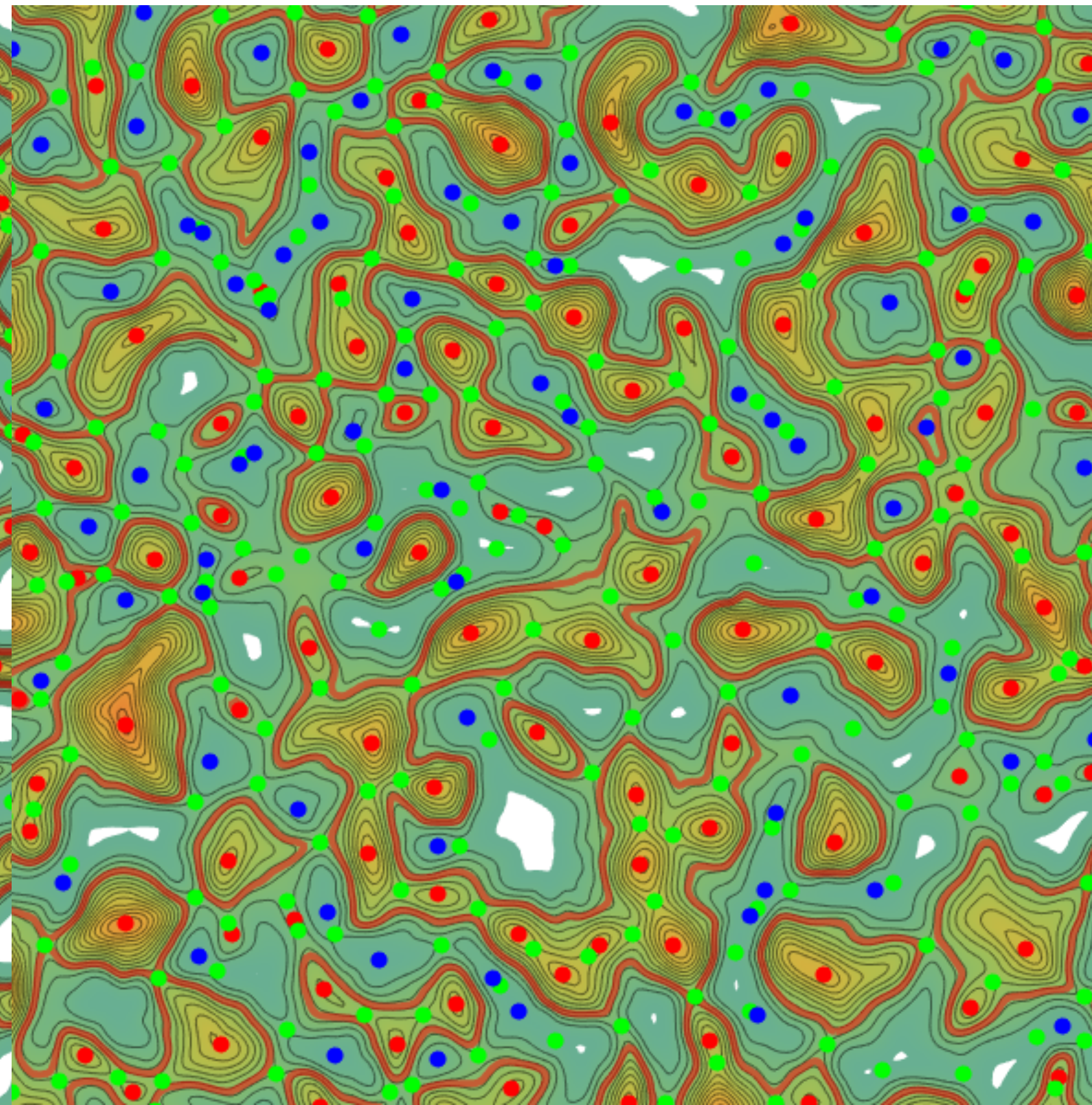
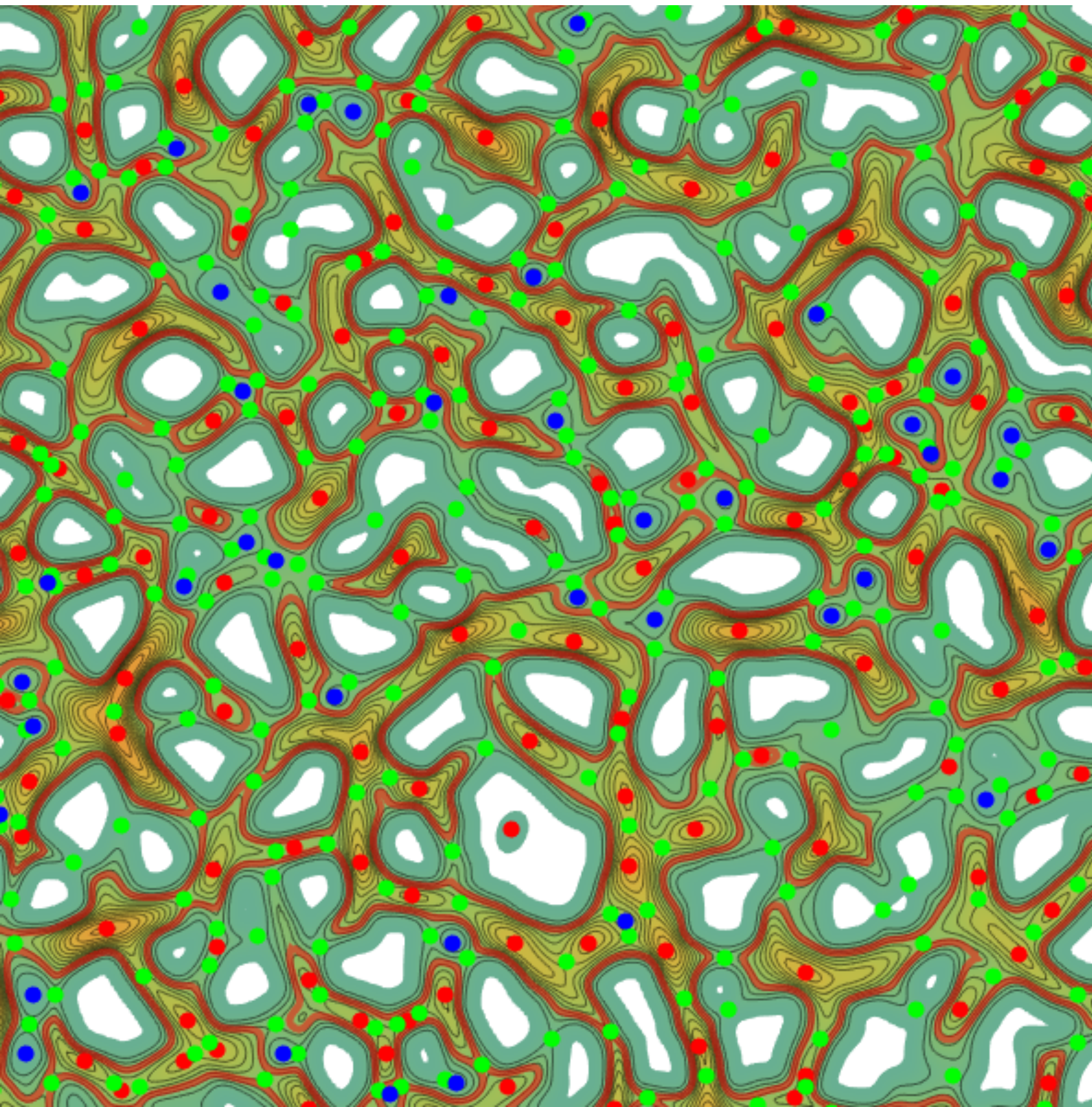
Comparison of skeleton of the Zel'dovich approximation and the N-body simulation

Feldbrugge, Yan, Weygaert (2023)  
Wilding, Feldbrugge, Weygaert (in prep)  
Sklansky, Feldbrugge, Weygaert (in prep)

Zel'dovich approximation

N-body simulation

N-body simulation

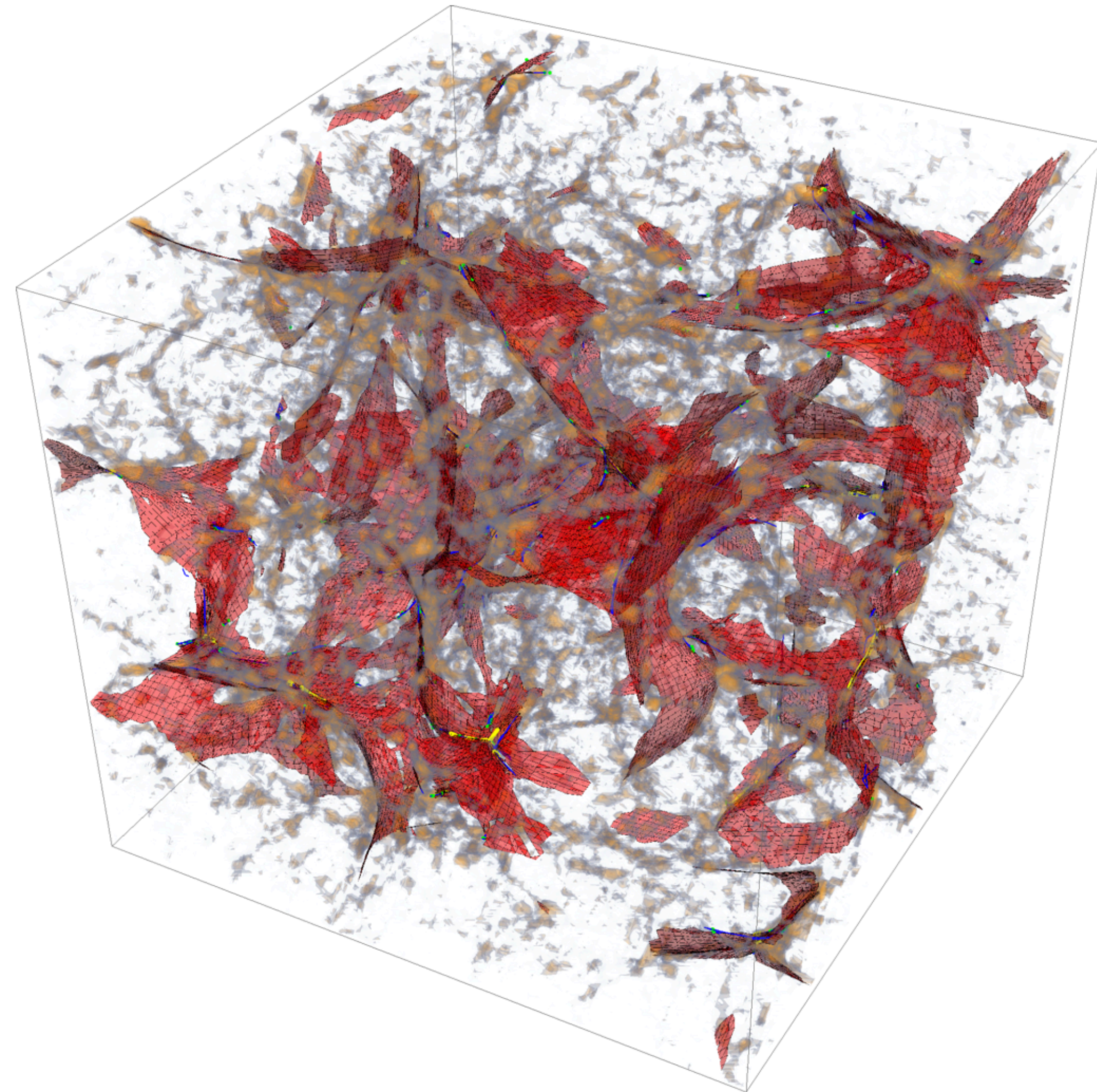


# **Non-linear constrained GRFs**

# Dressing the caustic skeleton

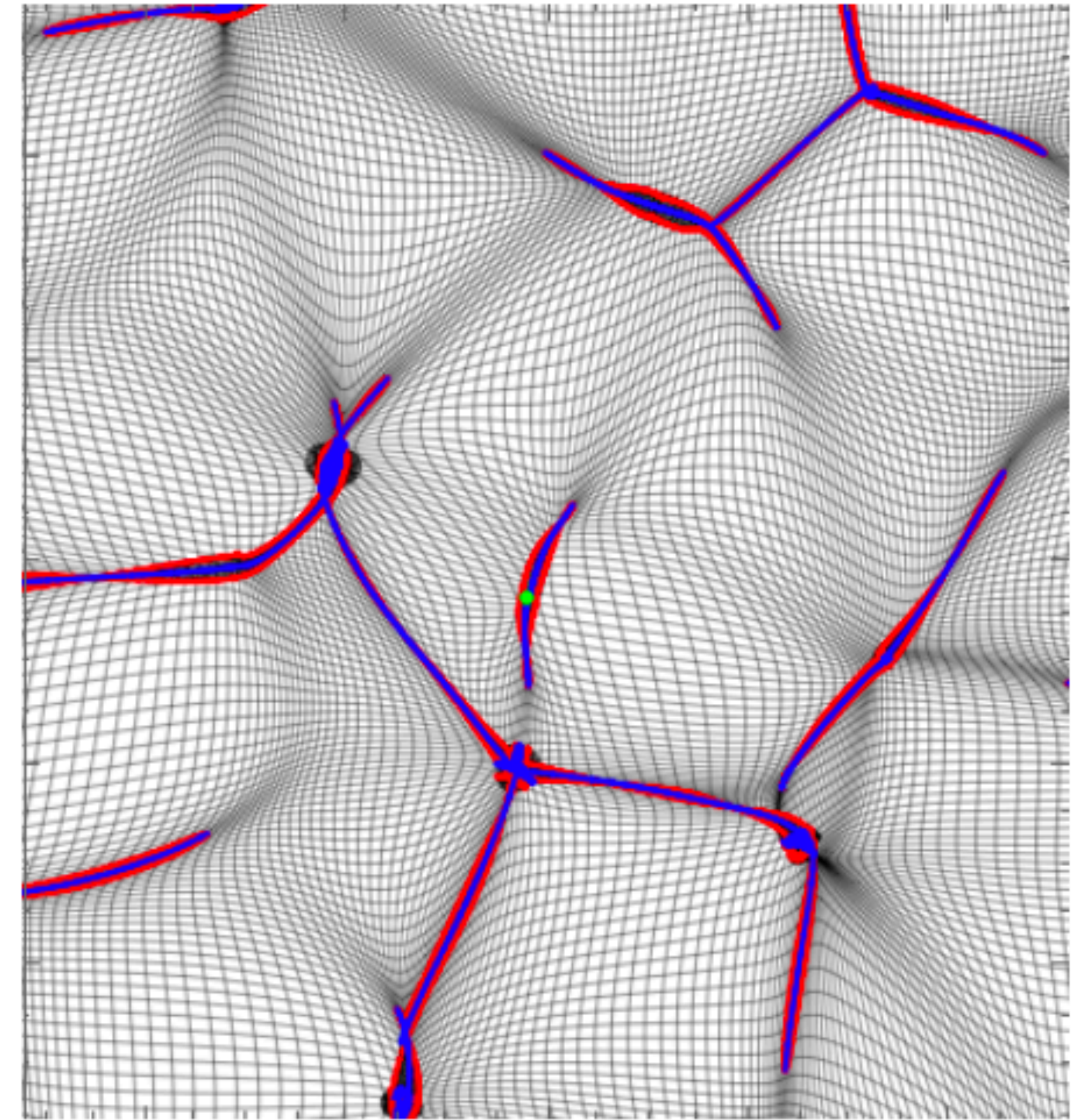
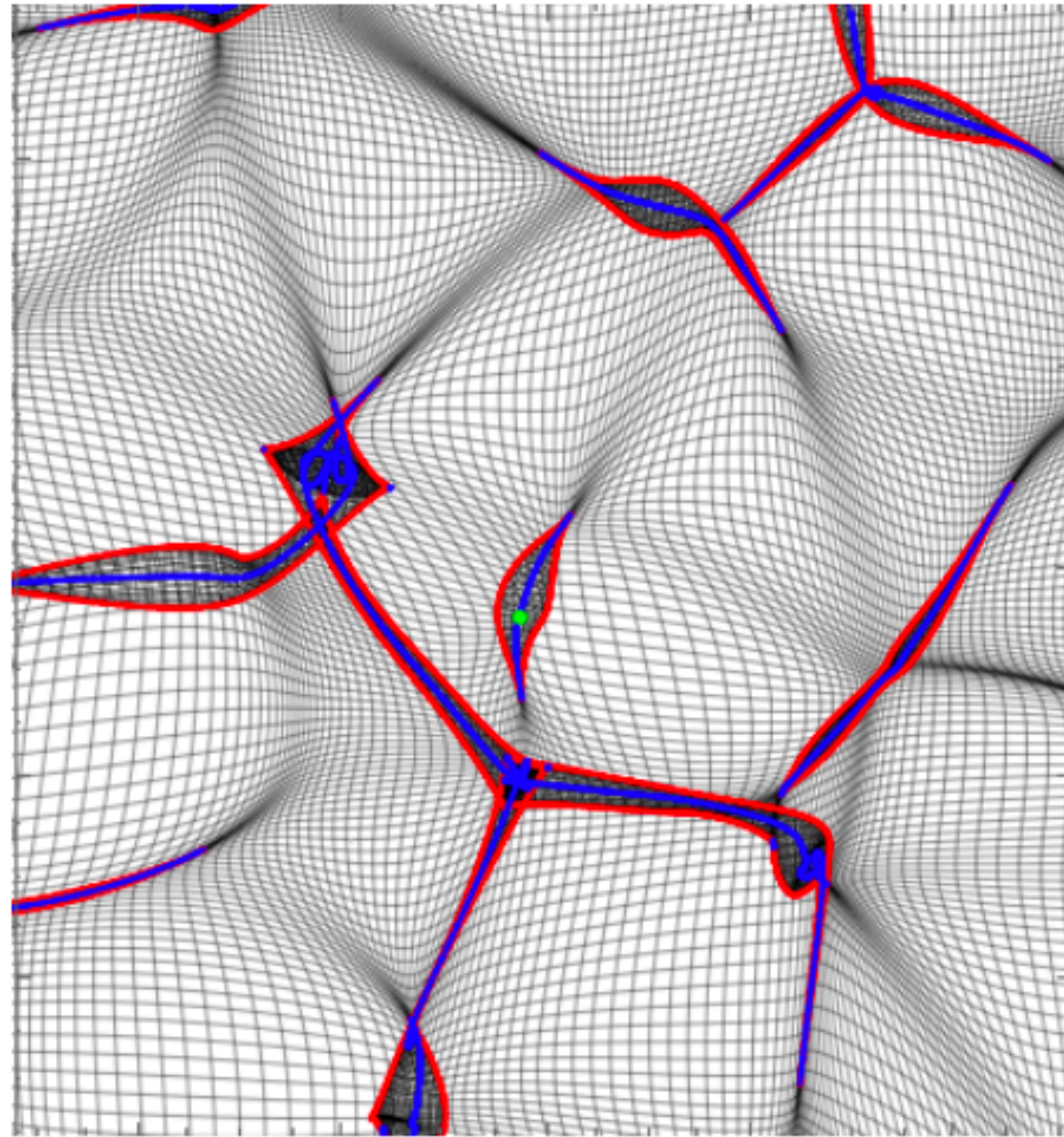
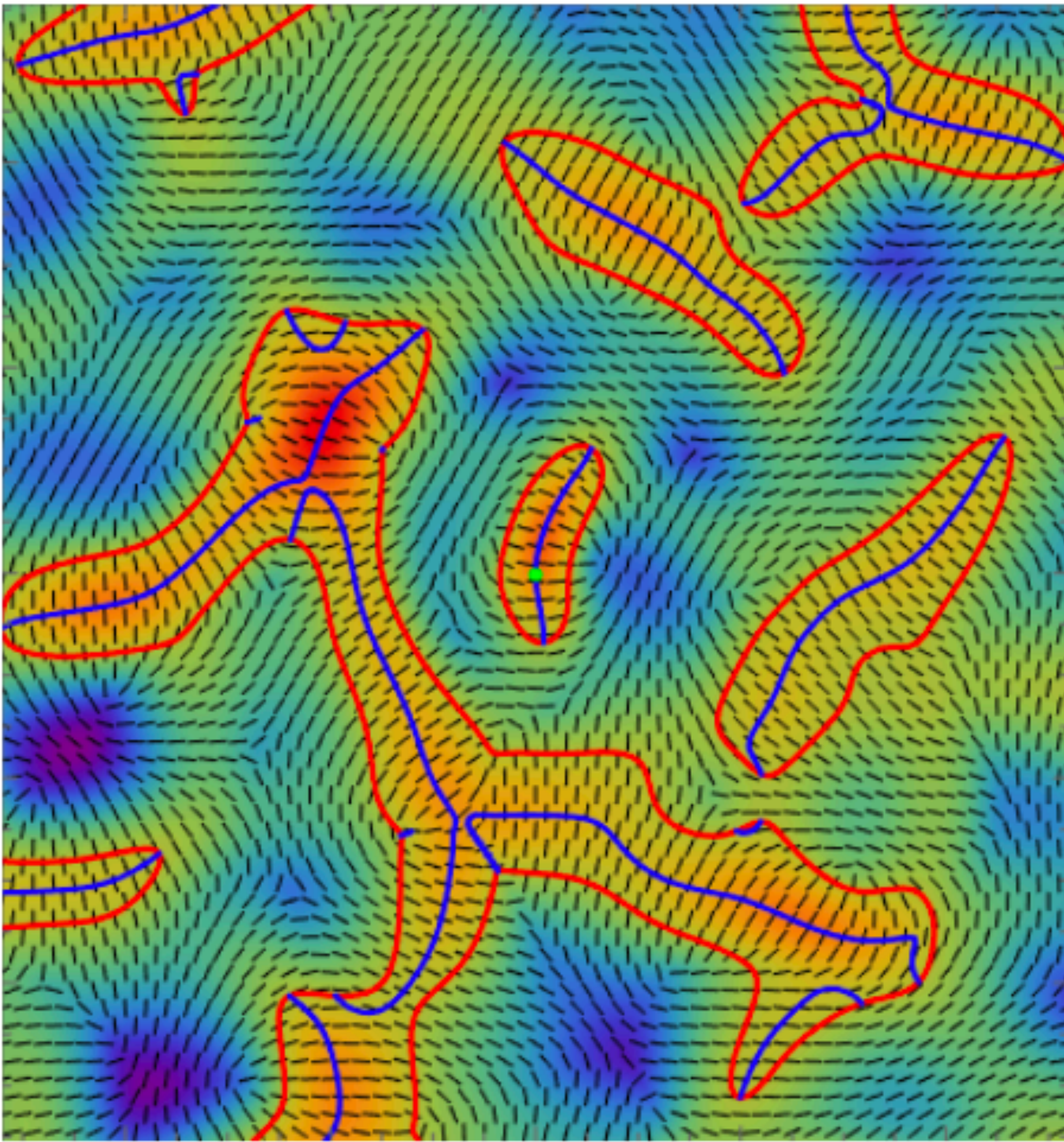
Assessing the mass distribution in and around the caustic spine of the cosmic web:

- What are the properties of walls/filaments/clusters?
- What is their mass distribution?
- How do they form and relate to the initial conditions?
- Detailed merging history and hierarchical evolution of the filamentary network?



# Dressing the caustic skeleton

Can we construct dedicated initial conditions for the systematic study of the different elements of the cosmic web forming at specified times?



# Constrained GRF theory

- Goal: Generate Gaussian random fields subject to constraints.
- Linear constraints: Hoffman-Ribak algorithm: **Bertschinger 1987**  
**Hoffman, Ribak 1991**  
**van de Weygaert & Bertschinger 1996**
  - The statistical properties of the residue of a cGRF with respect to the mean field is independent of the values of the constraints
  - Generate GRF → Measure constraint values → Evaluate corresponding mean field → Evaluate residue → Add residue to mean field with target constraint values
- Drawback: Algorithm only works for **linear** constraints on a Gaussian field

# Constrained GRF theory

Given the constraints:  $\Gamma = \{C_i[f; \mathbf{q}_i] = c_i, i = 1, \dots, M\}$ , **Bertschinger 1987**  
**Hoffman, Ribak 1991**  
**Bertschinger and Weygaert 1996**

we obtain the mean field:  $\bar{f}_c(\mathbf{q}) = \langle f(\mathbf{q}) | \Gamma \rangle$   
$$= \bar{f}(\mathbf{q}) + \sum_{i,j=1}^M \xi_i(\mathbf{q}) \xi_{ij}^{-1} (c_j - \bar{C}_j)$$

and the variance of the residue:  $\langle \delta f(\mathbf{q})^2 | \Gamma \rangle = \sigma_0^2 - \sum_{i,j=1}^M \xi_i(\mathbf{q}) \xi_{ij}^{-1} \xi_j(\mathbf{q})$

To generate realizations, we generate an unconstrained GRF, find the  $c_i$ 's, find the residue and add the residue to the mean field of the target constraint values



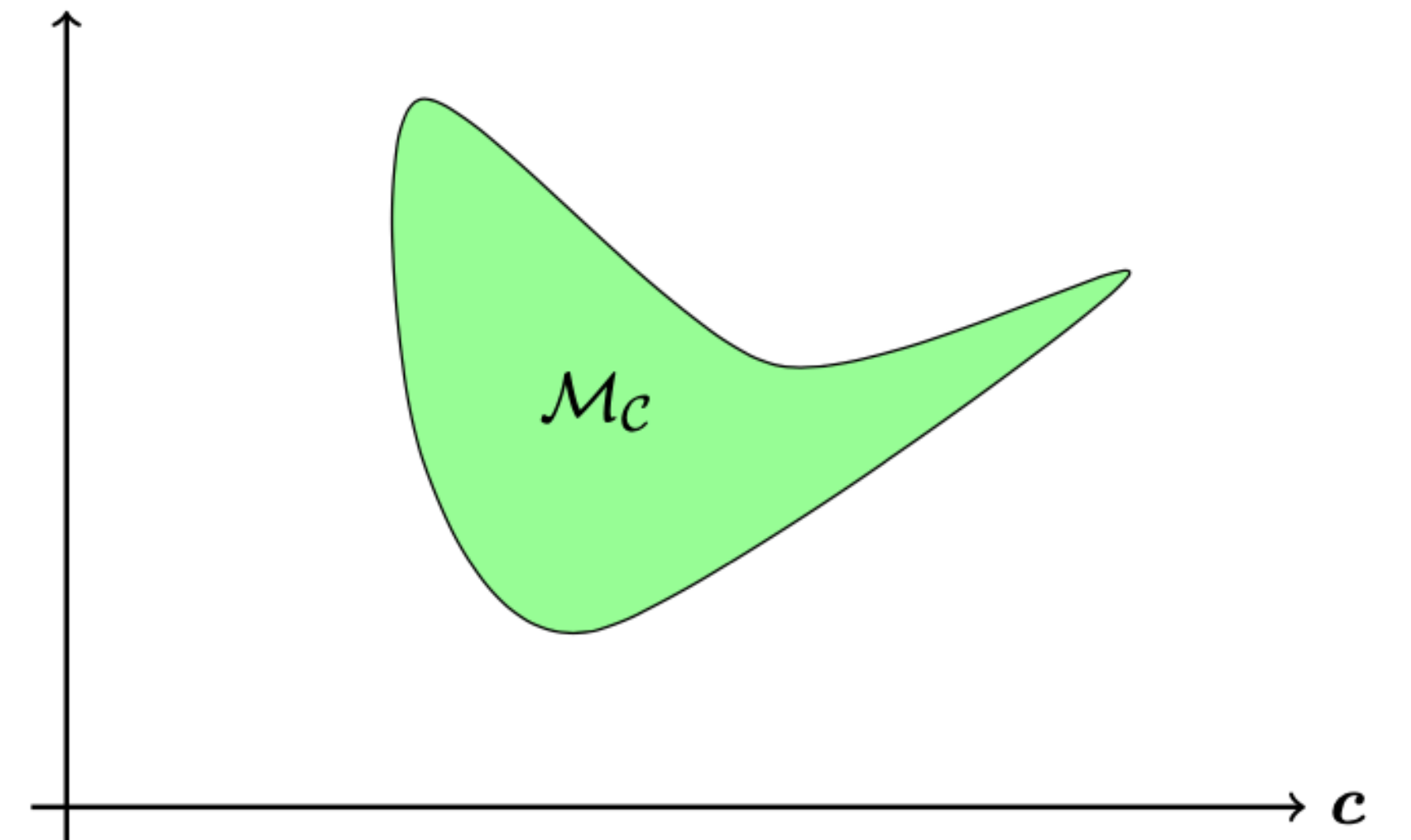
# Non-linear constraints

- The eigenvalue and eigenvector fields are not Gaussian, and the caustic conditions are non-linear. For this reason, we develop non-linear constraint Gaussian random field theory

$$\mathcal{M}_c = \{\mathbf{c} \mid \mathcal{C}_i(\mathbf{c}) = 0 \text{ for all } i = 1, \dots, N\}.$$

- On this constraint manifold, we find the induced probability density

$$p(\mathbf{c} \mid \mathbf{c} \in \mathcal{M}_c) = \frac{p(\mathbf{c})}{\int_{\mathcal{M}_c} p(\mathbf{c}) d\mathbf{c}}.$$



# Non-linear constraints

- Using the properties of the constraint manifold we can leverage the Hoffman-Ribak principle for non-linear constraints:

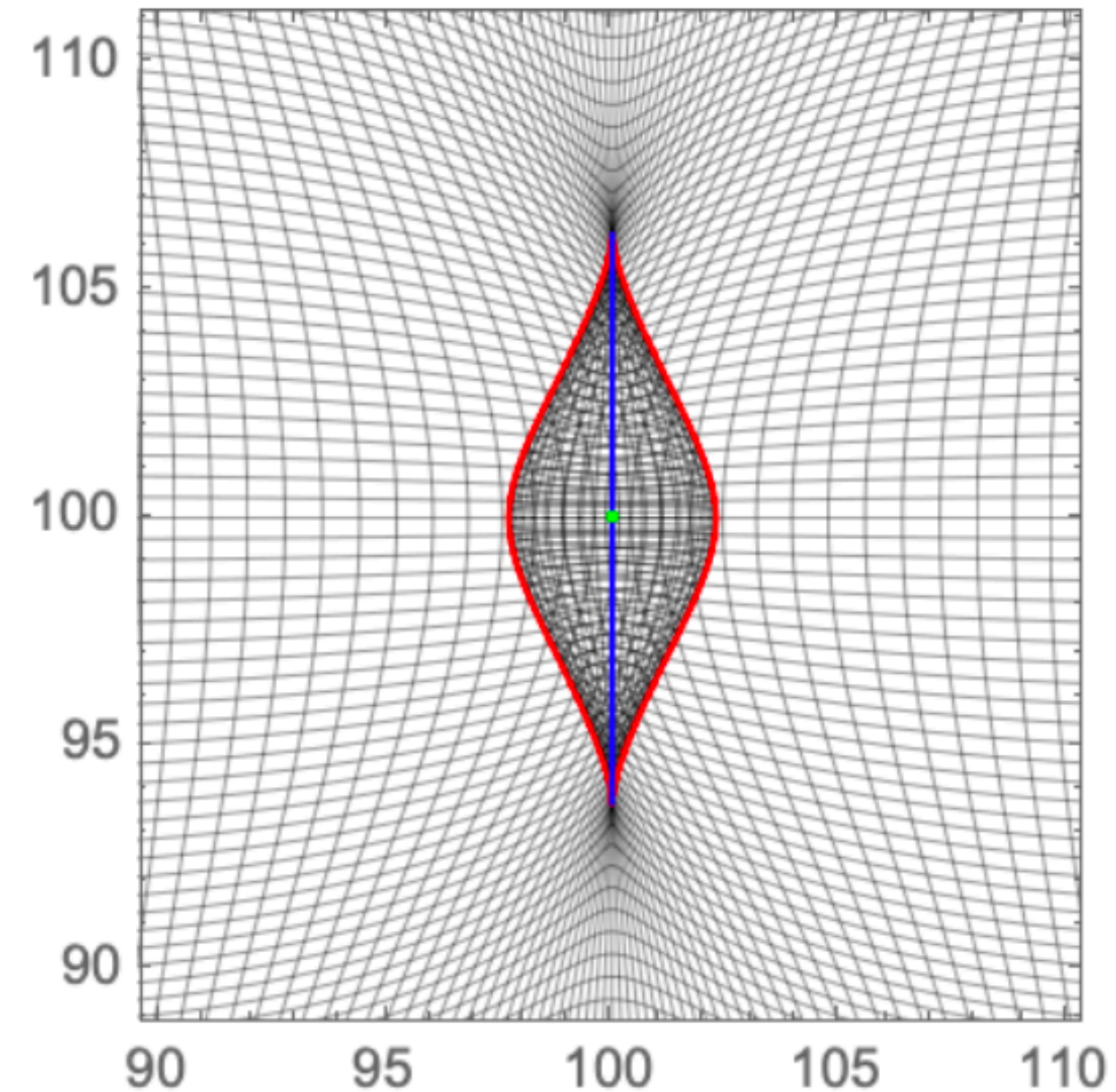
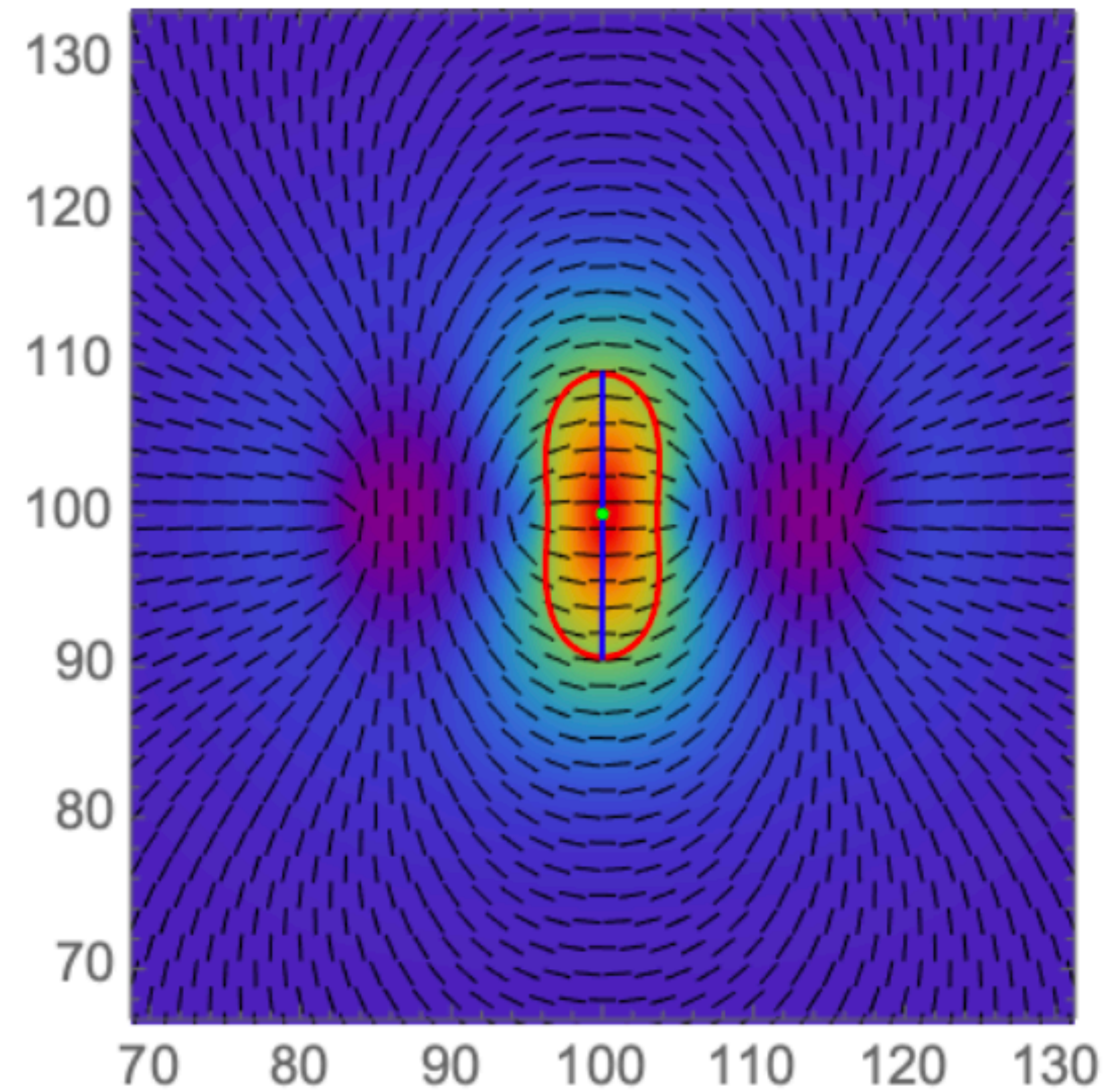
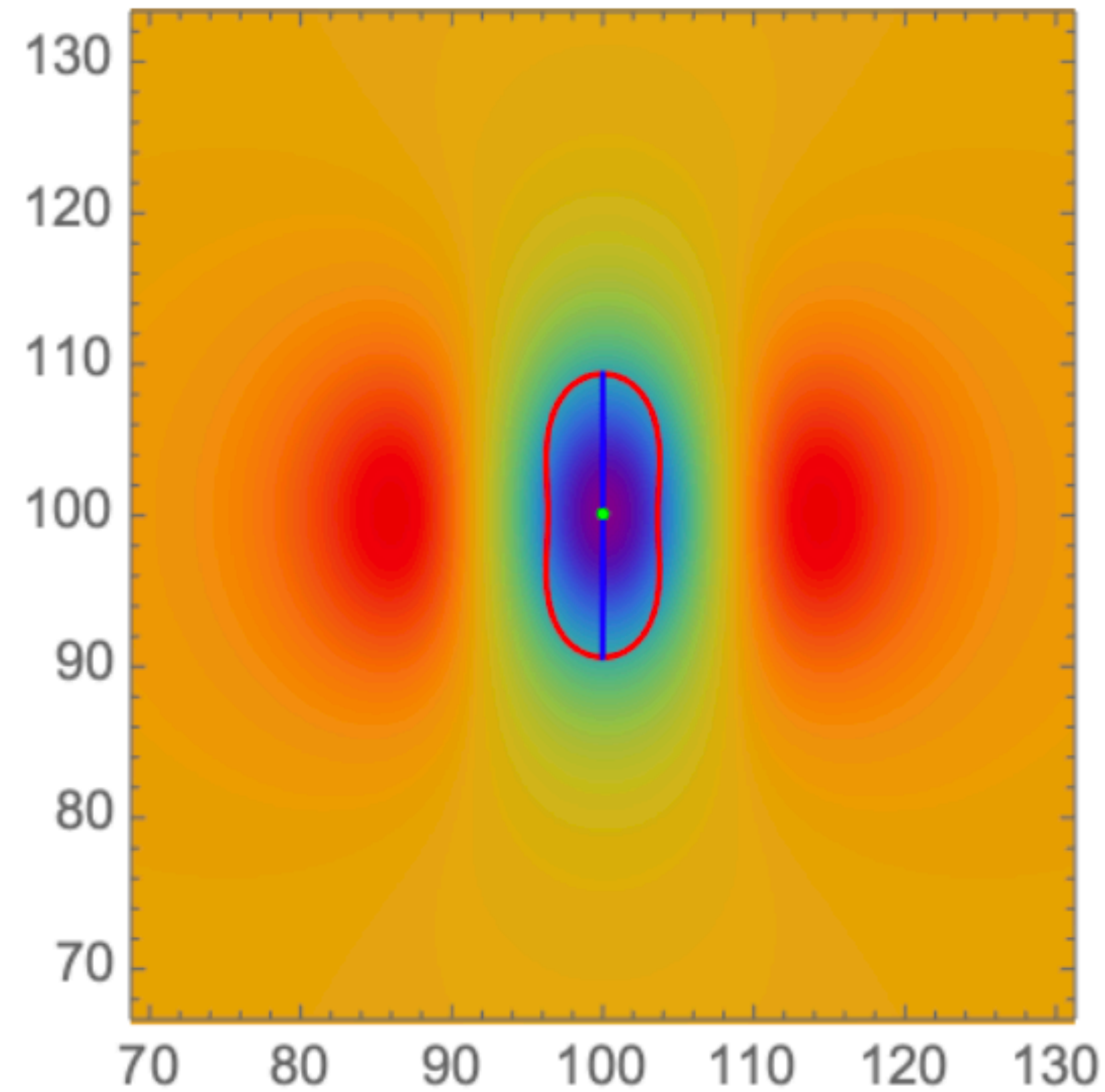
- The mean field:  $\bar{f}_c(\mathbf{q}) = \bar{f}_{\bar{c}}(\mathbf{q}), \quad \bar{c} \equiv \langle \mathbf{c} | \Gamma \rangle = \int_{\mathbf{c} \in \mathcal{M}_c} \mathbf{c} p(\mathbf{c} | \mathbf{c} \in \mathcal{M}_c) d\mathbf{c},$

- The variance:

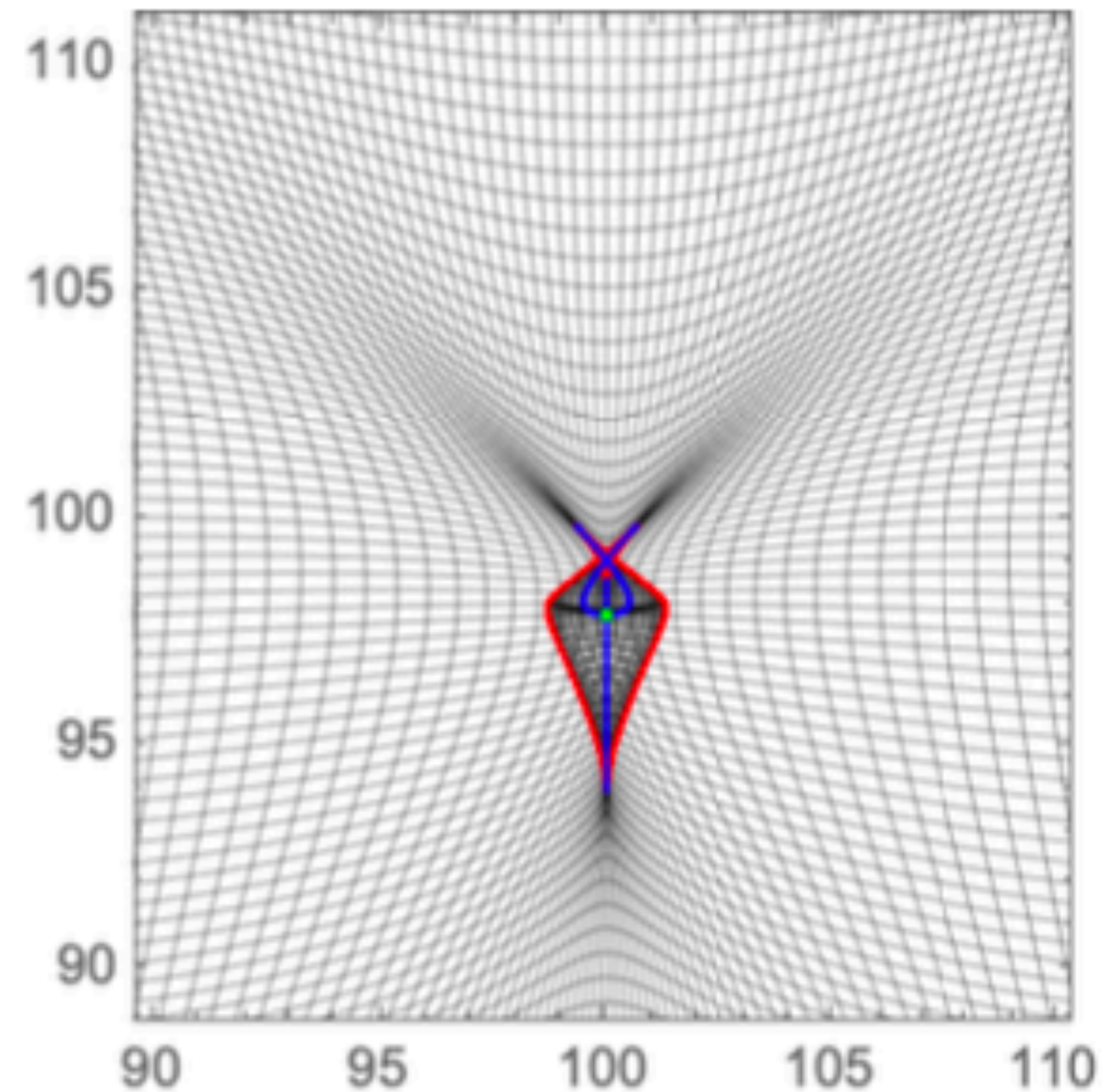
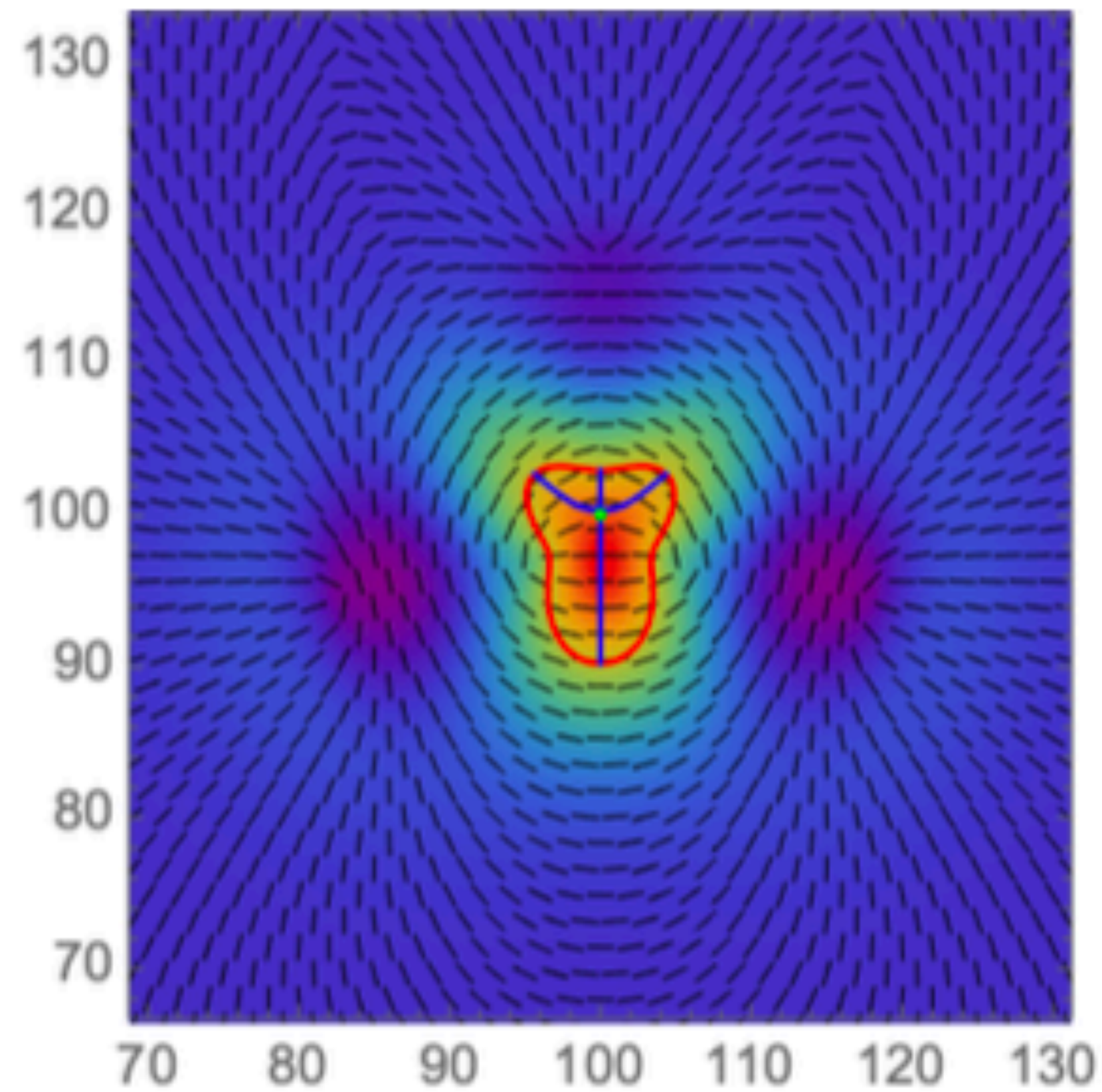
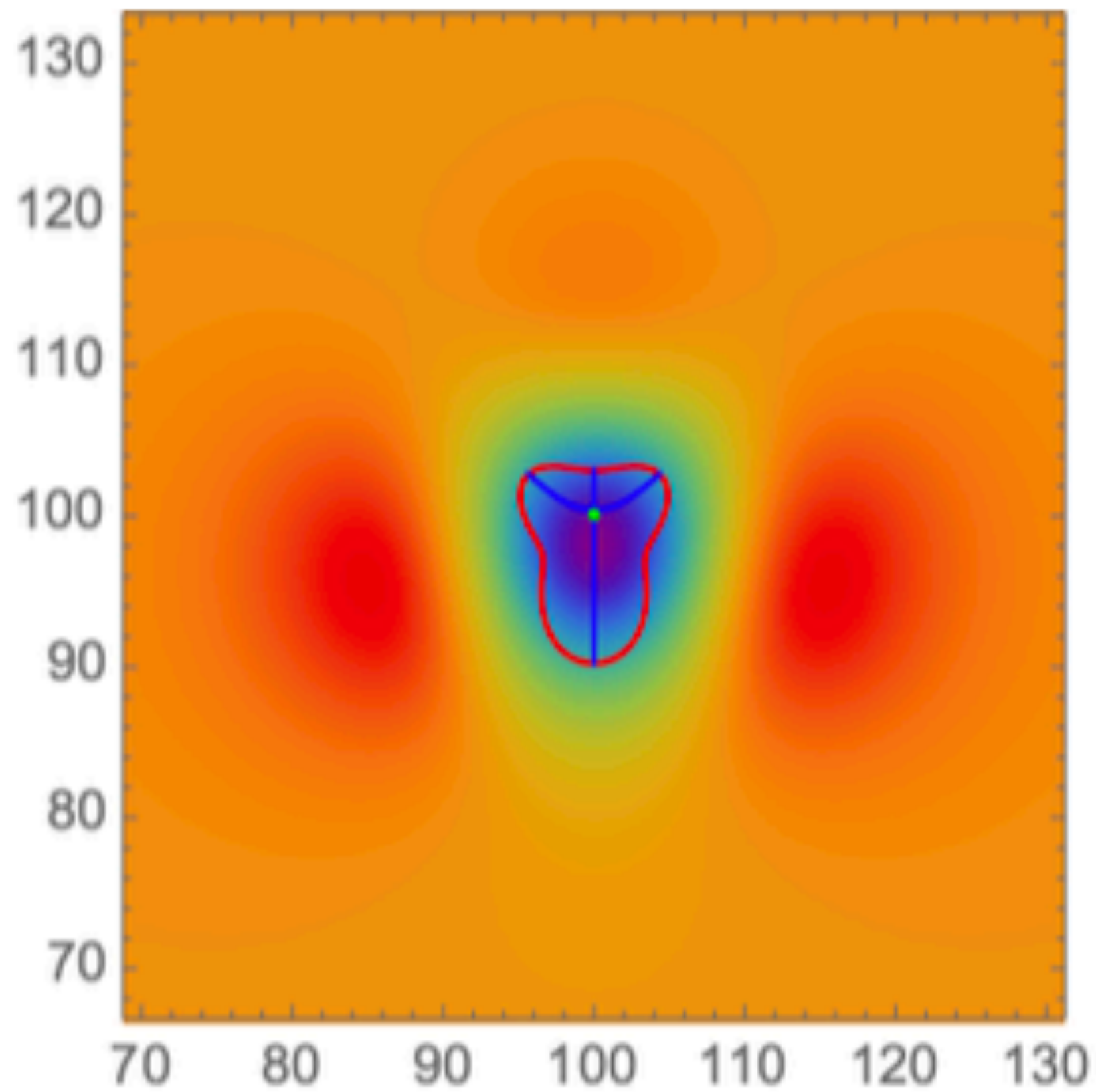
$$\langle \delta f(\mathbf{q})^2 | \Gamma \rangle = \sigma_0^2 - \sum_{i,j=1}^M \xi_i(\mathbf{q}) \zeta_{ij}^{-1} \xi_j(\mathbf{q}), \quad \zeta_{ij}^{-1} = \xi_{ij}^{-1} - \sum_{k,l=1}^M \xi_{ik}^{-1} \text{cov}(c_k, c_l | \mathbf{c} \in \mathcal{M}_c) \xi_{lj}^{-1}$$

- To generate realizations, we first sample the constraint manifold. Given the constraint values, we use the Hoffman-Ribak algorithm
- Very efficient and does not require expensive MCMC techniques

# Generating the cusps/filaments



# Generating the swallowtails/clusters



# Generating the umbilics/clusters

Caustic condition

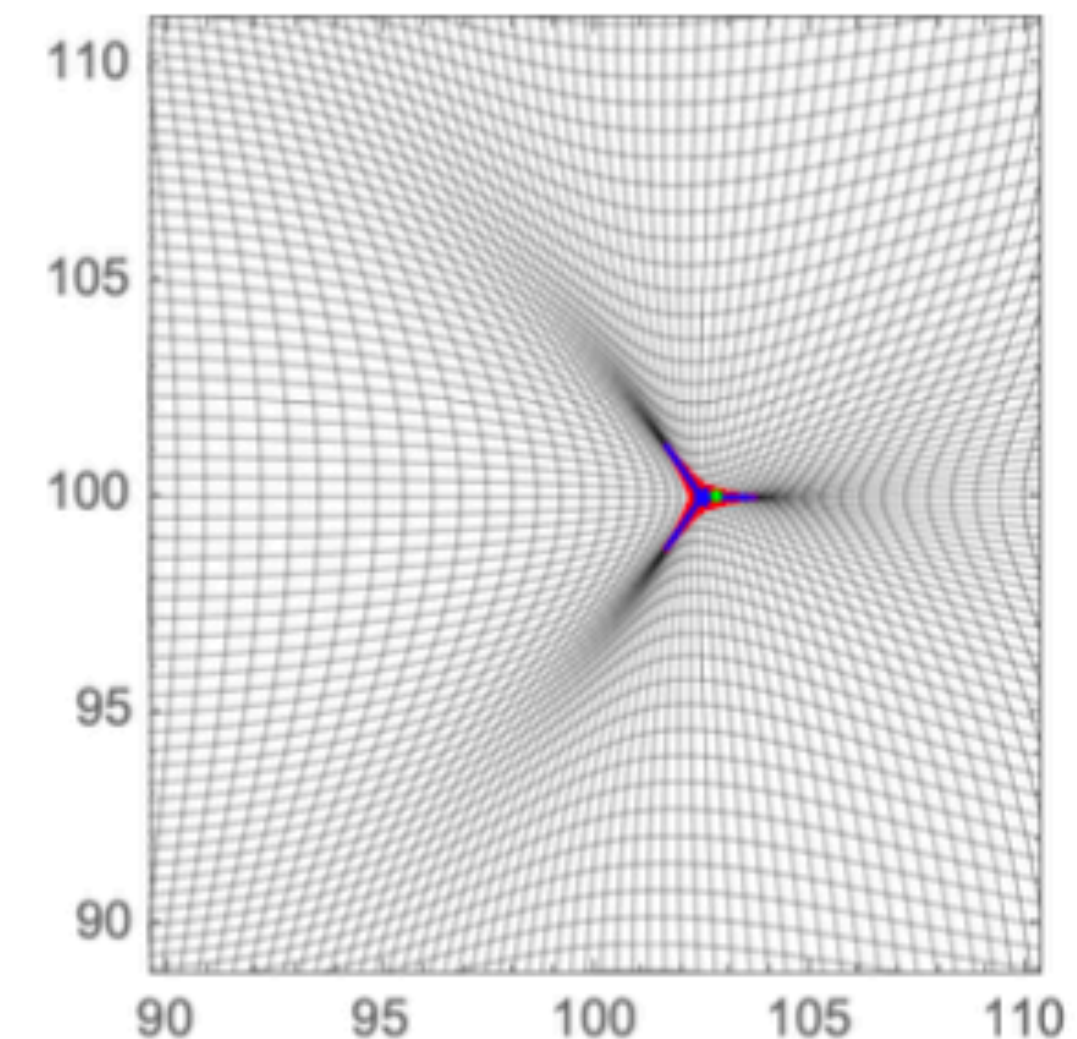
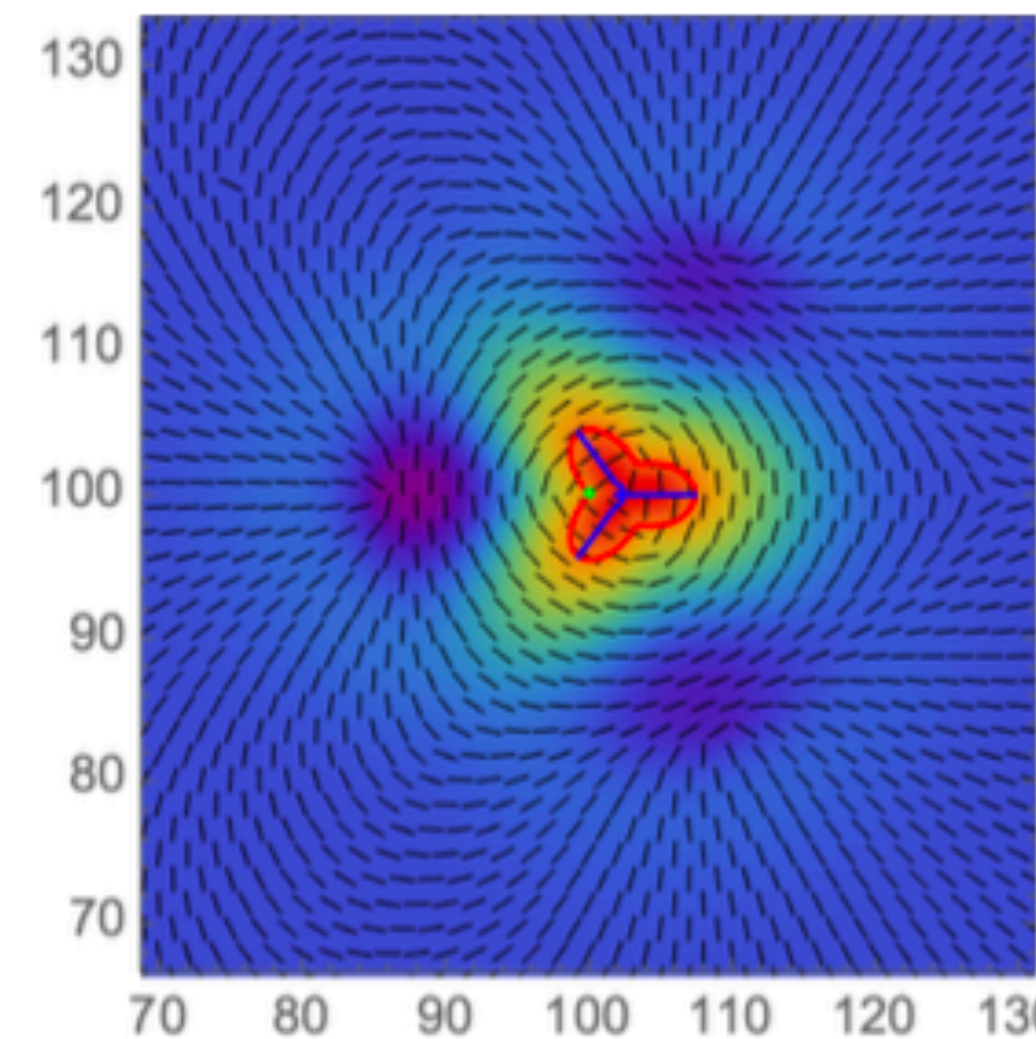
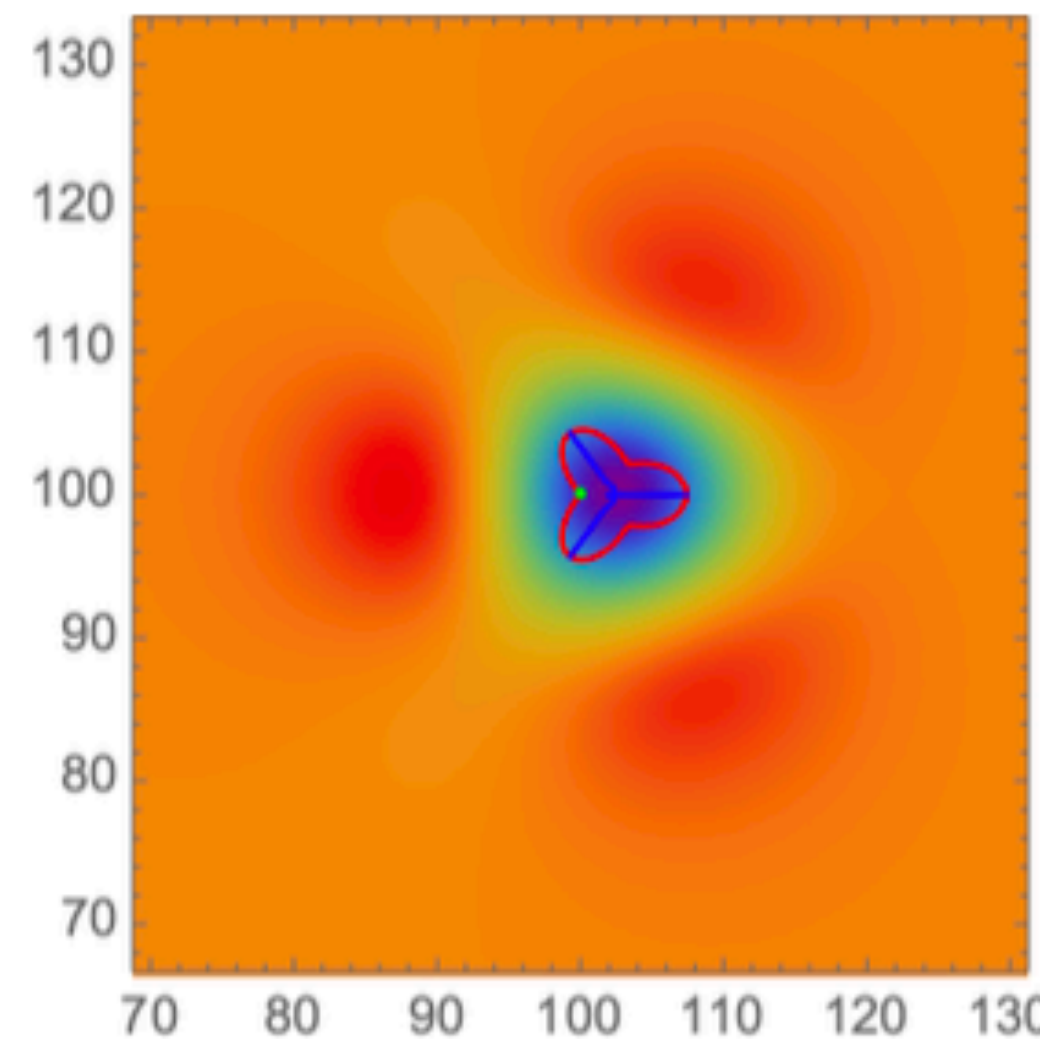
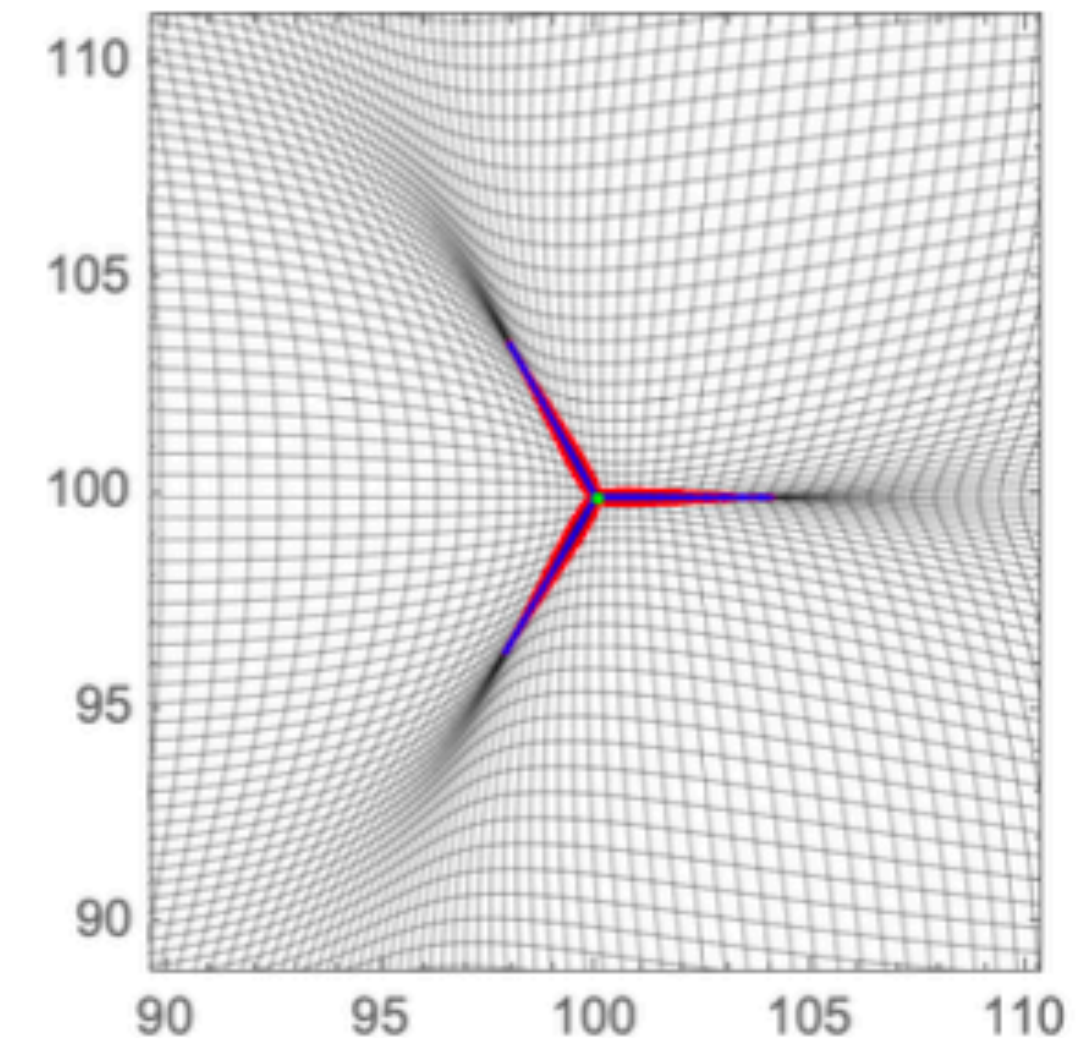
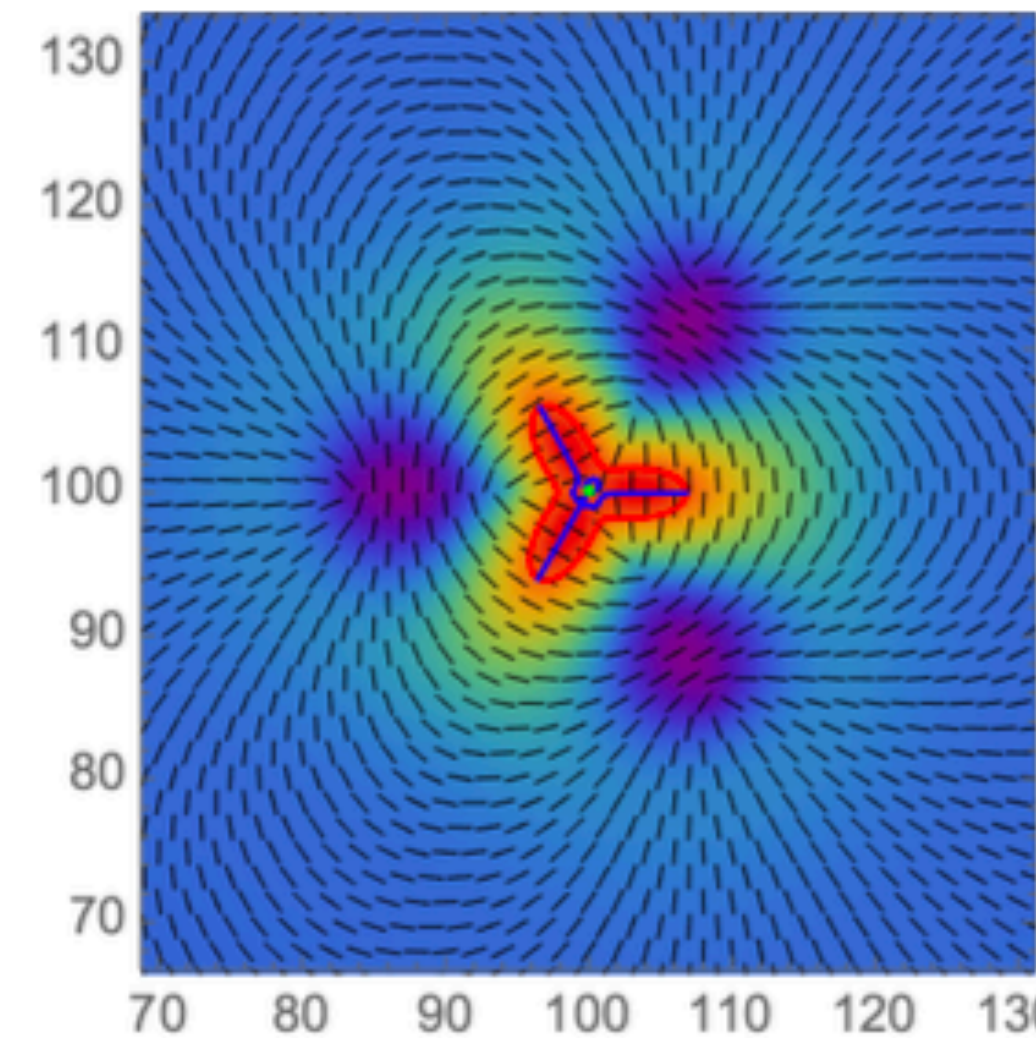
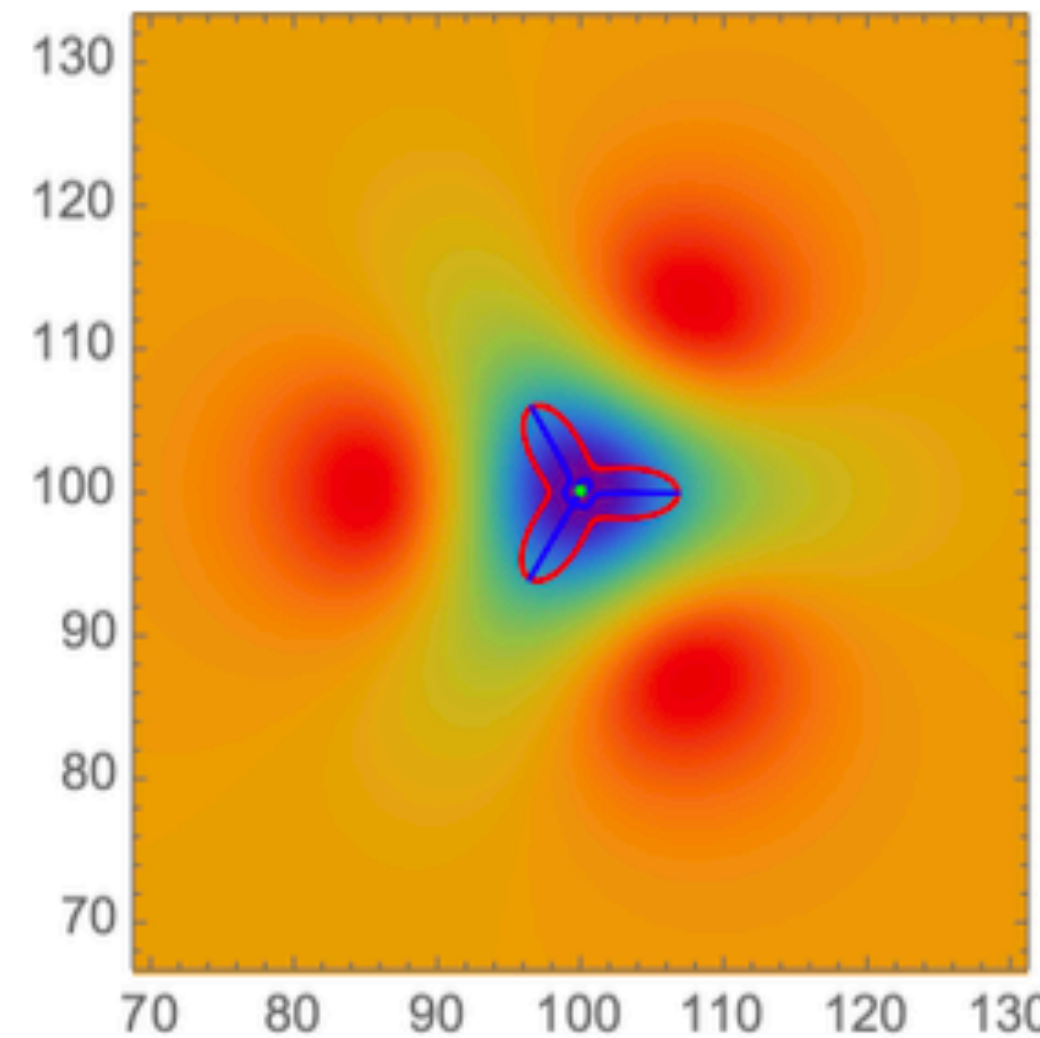
$$b_+(t)\lambda_1(\mathbf{q}_c) = b_+(t)\lambda_2(\mathbf{q}_c) = 1.$$

Elliptic umbilic:

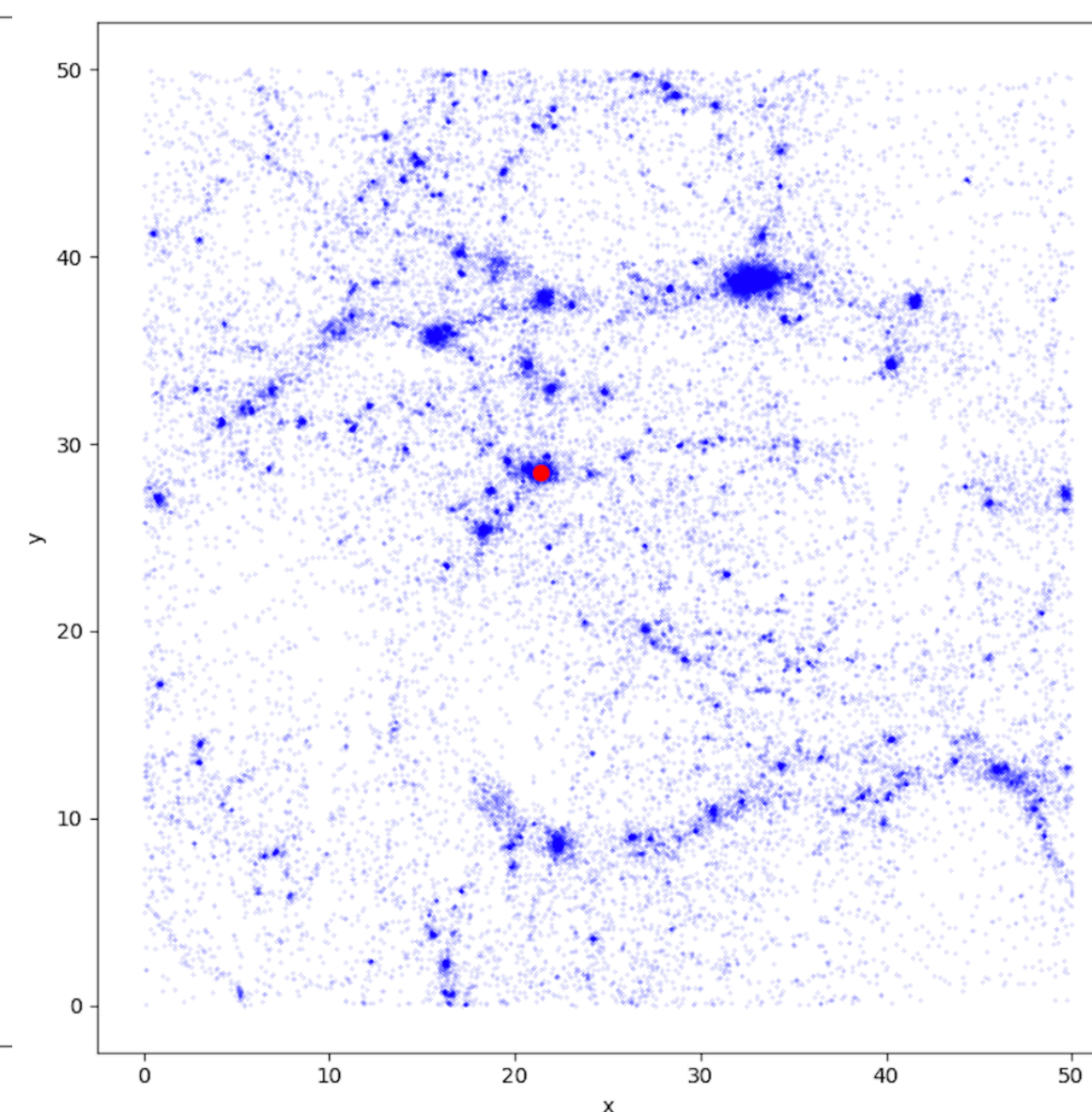
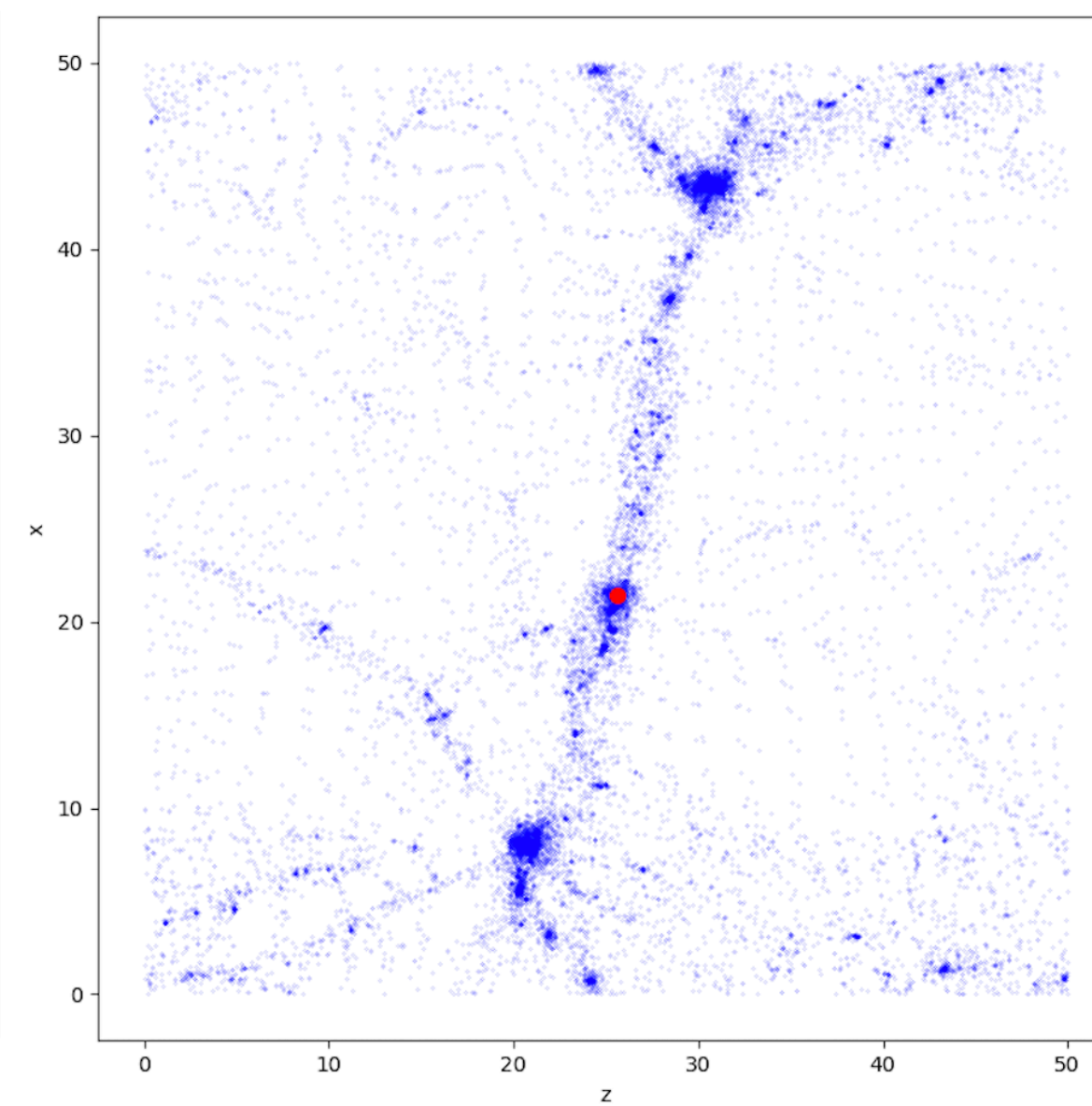
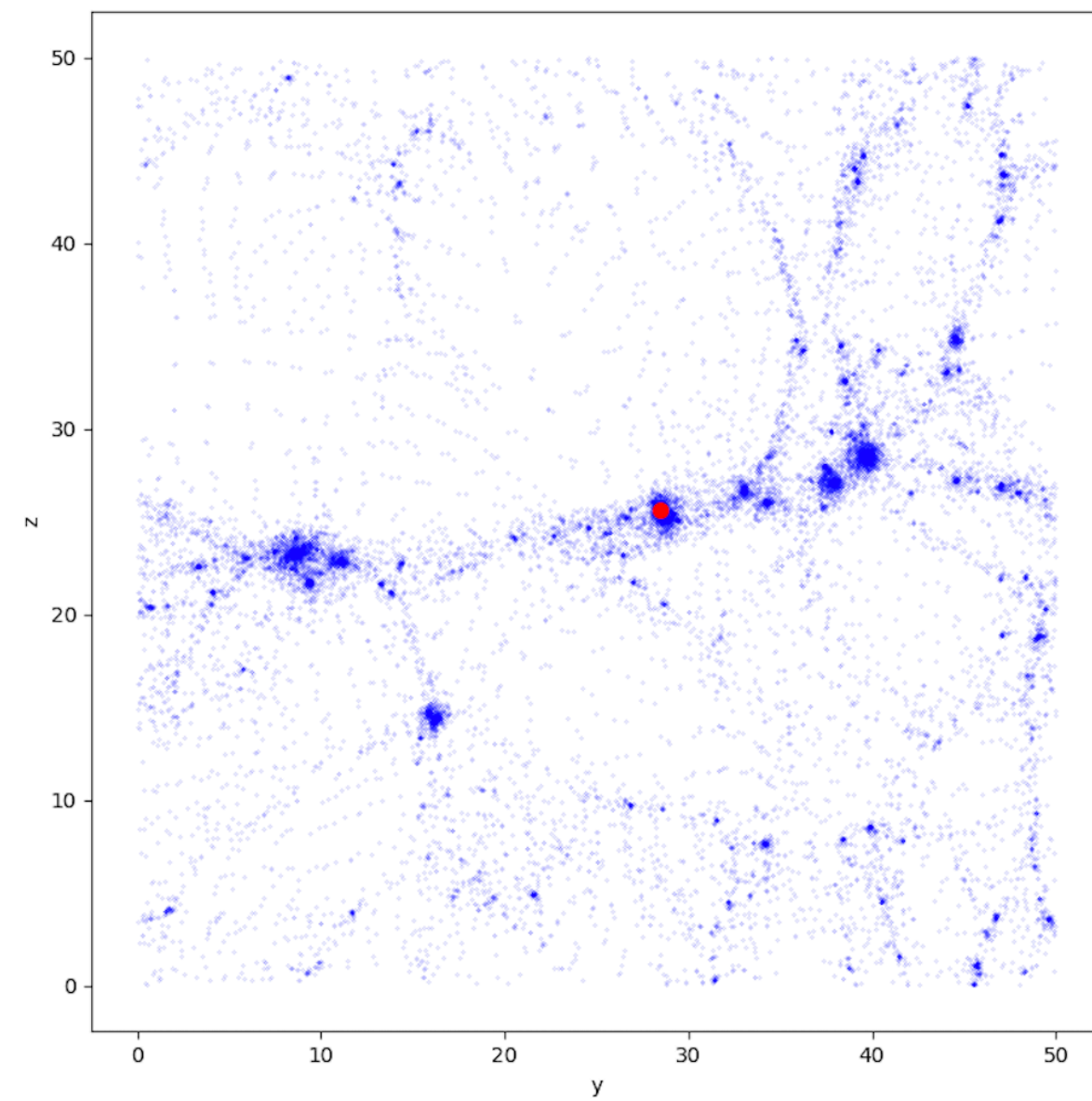
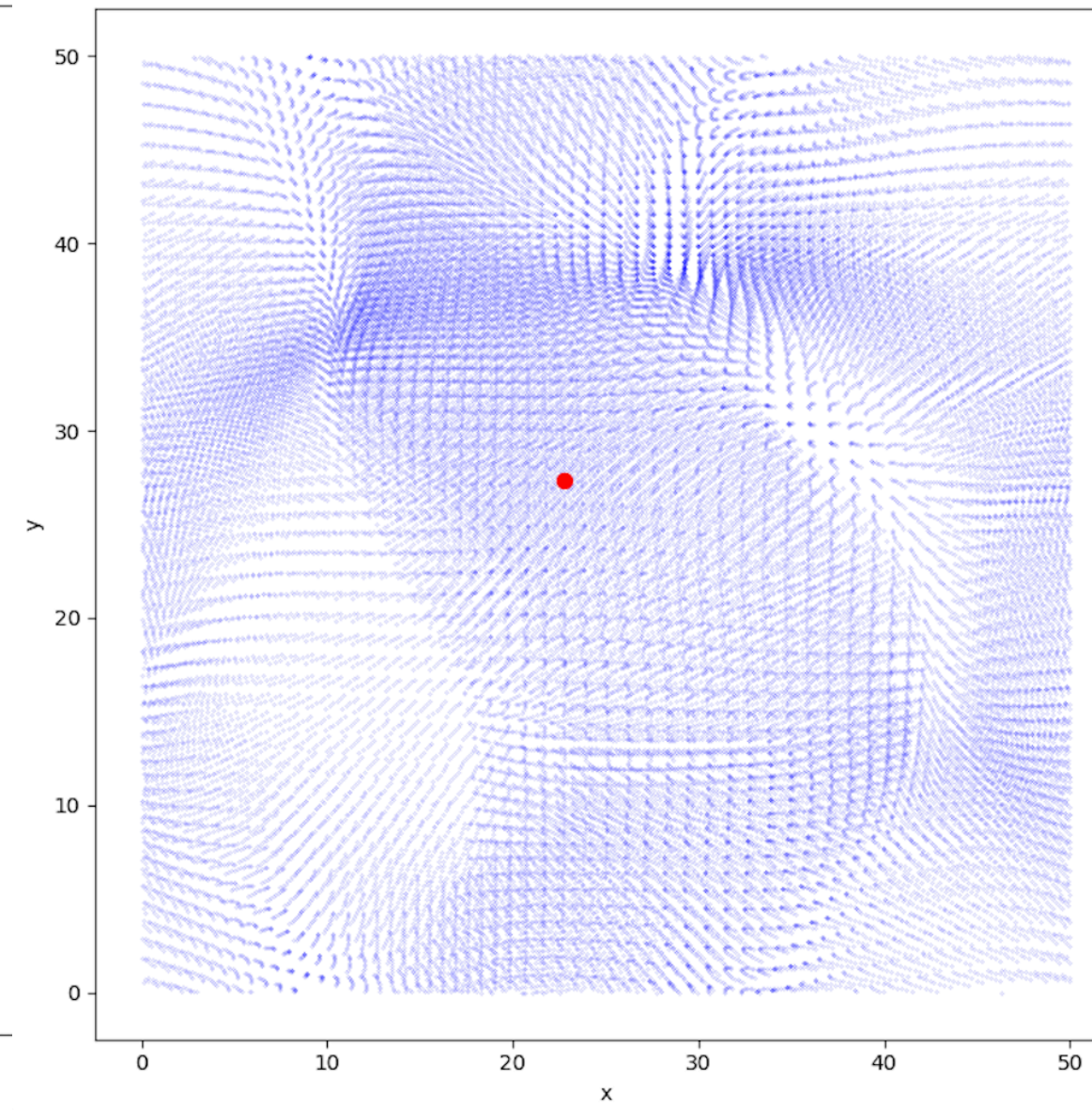
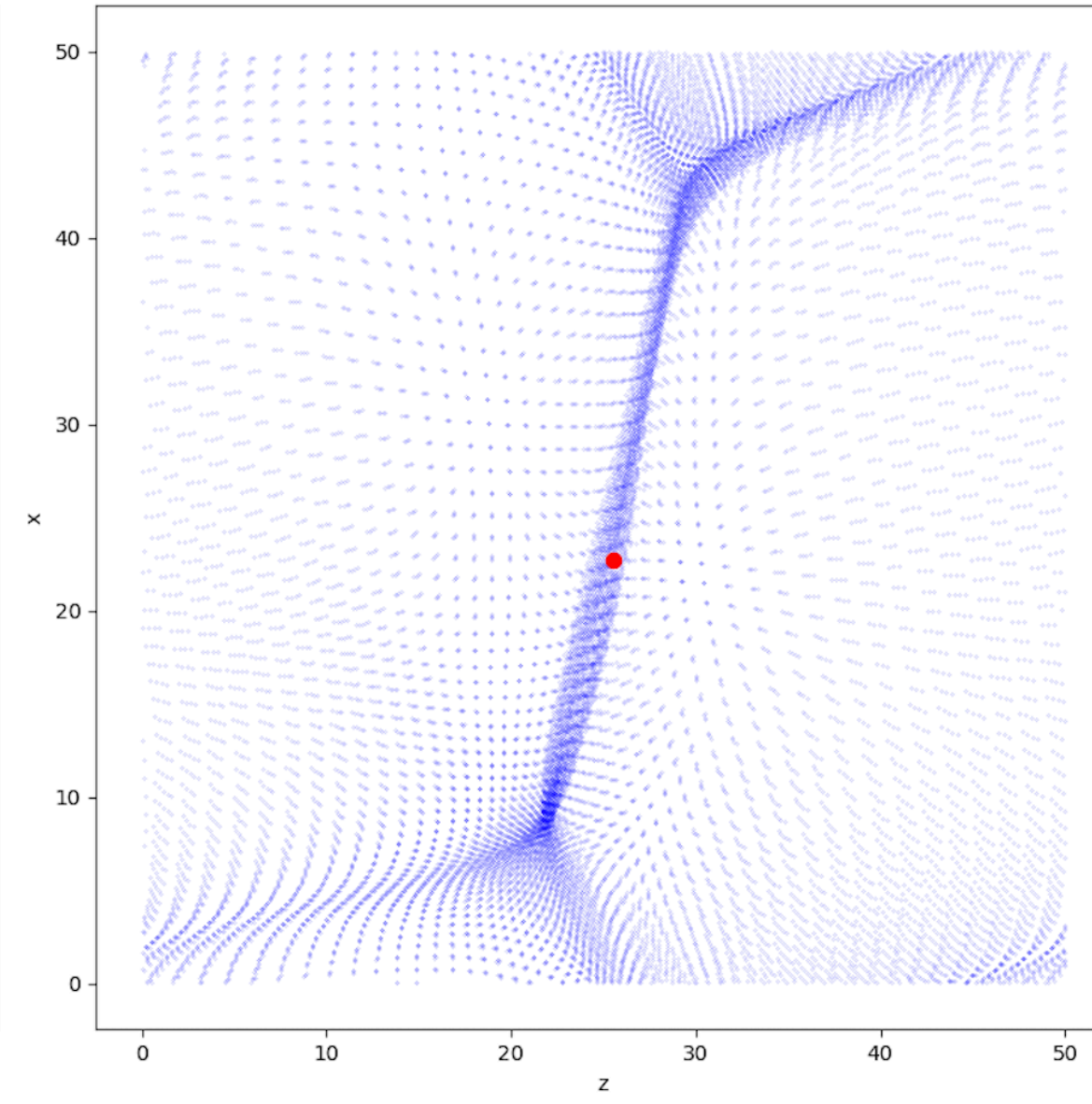
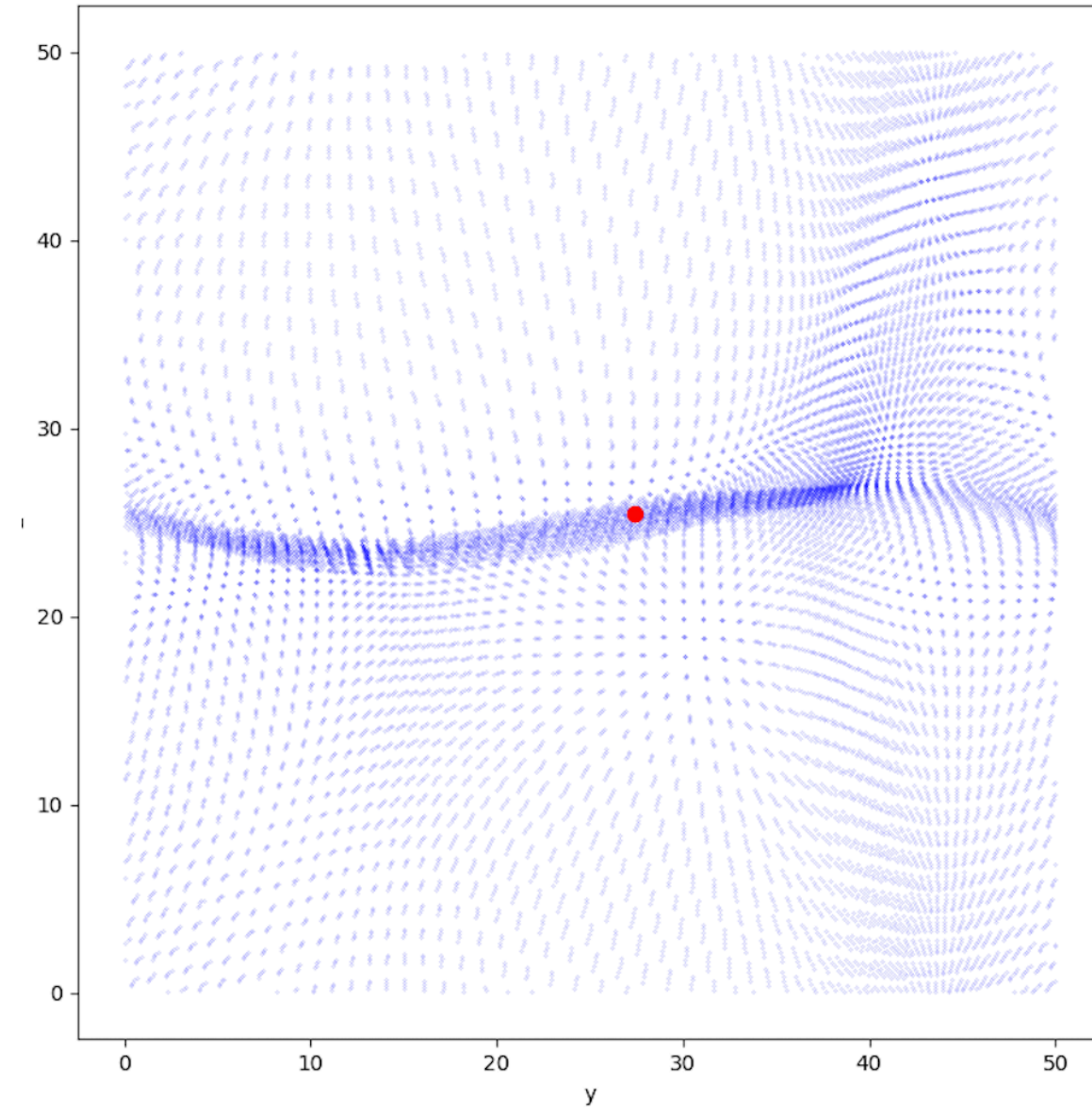
$$\det(\mathcal{H} [\det(I - b_+\psi)]) > 0.$$

Hyperbolic umbilic:

$$\det(\mathcal{H} [\det(I - b_+\psi)]) < 0.$$



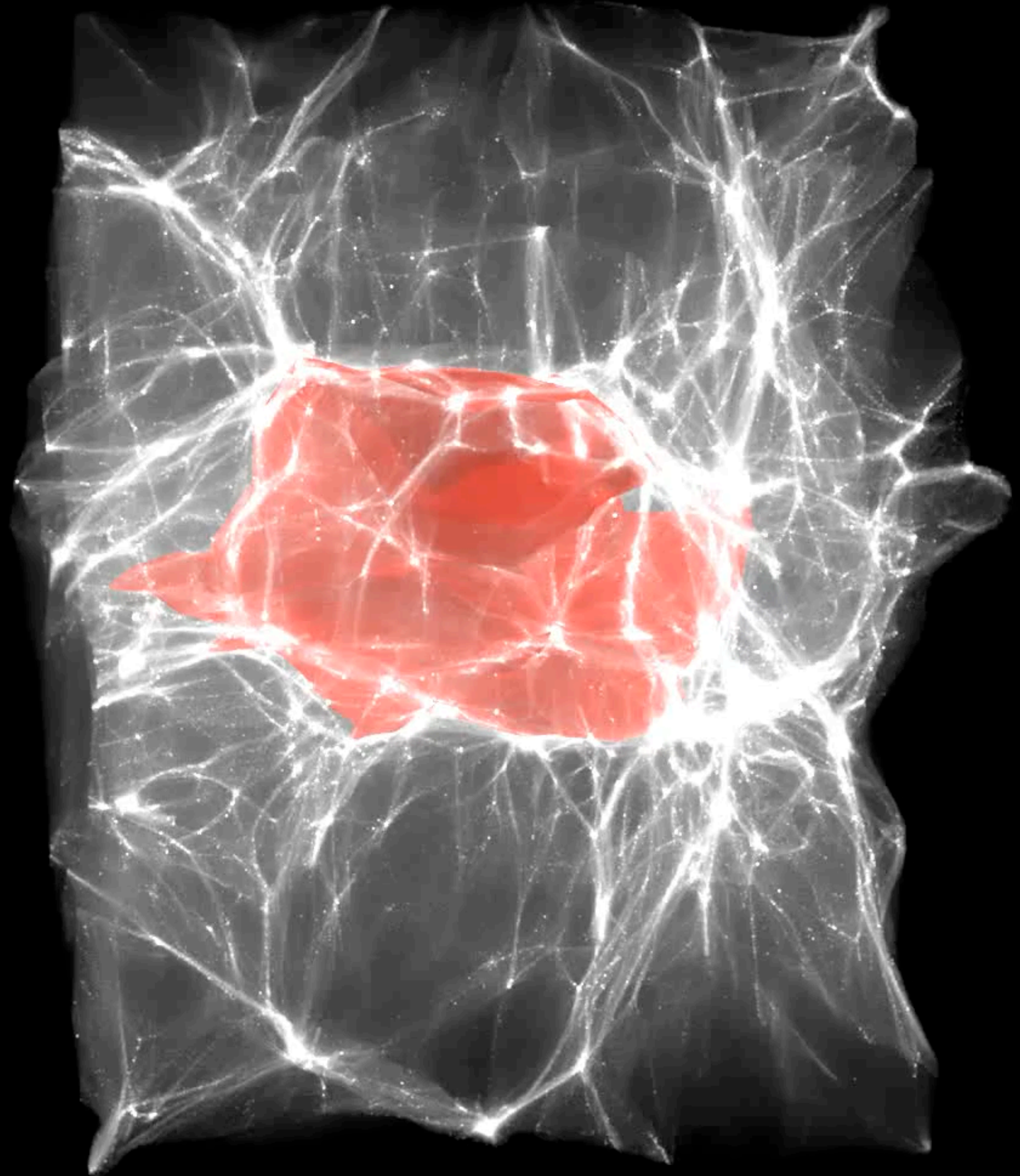
# Realizations



# Constrained Gaussian Random field theory

By generating customized initial conditions, using non-linear constrained Gaussian random field theory, we can systematically study the different elements of the cosmic web

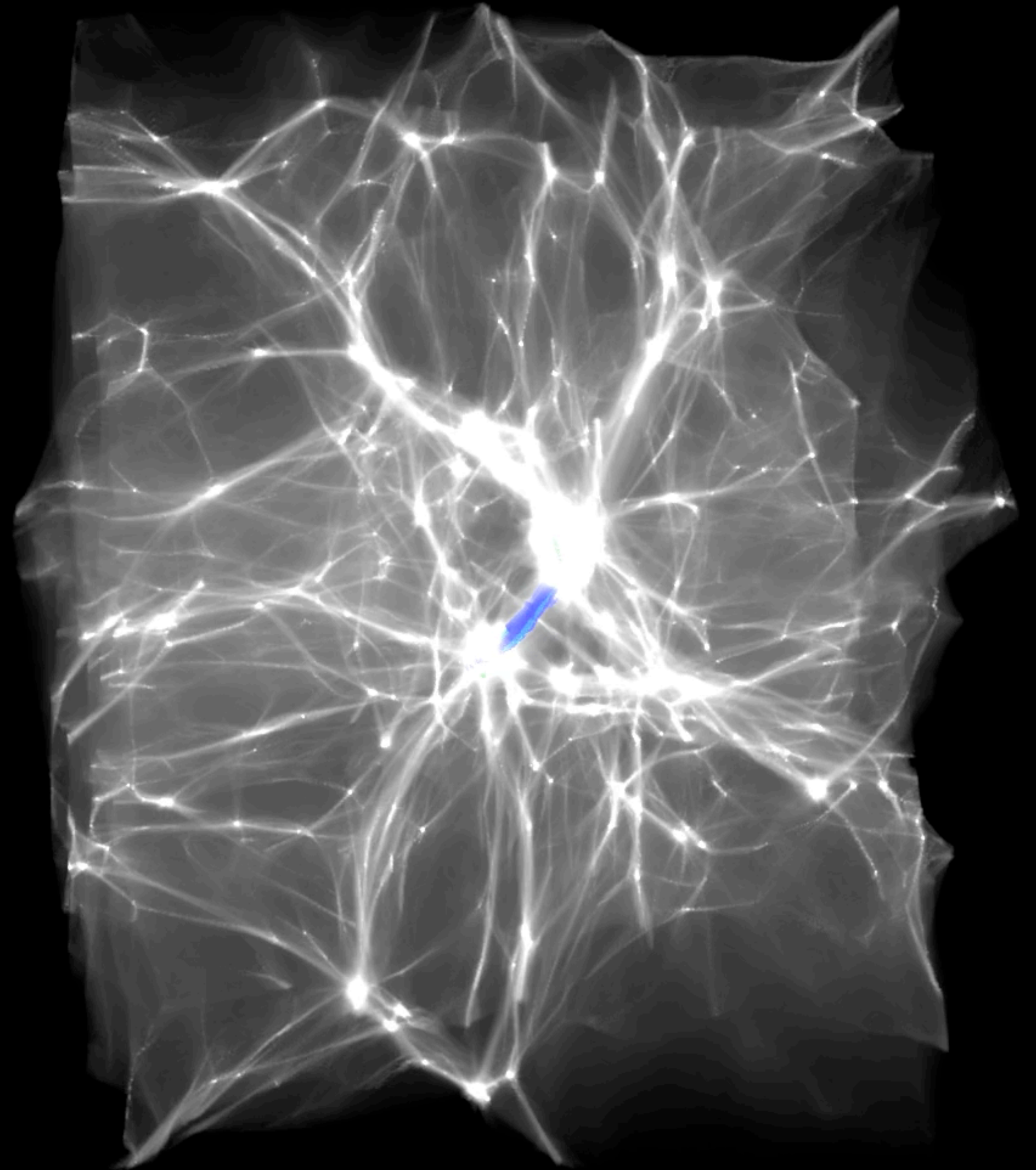
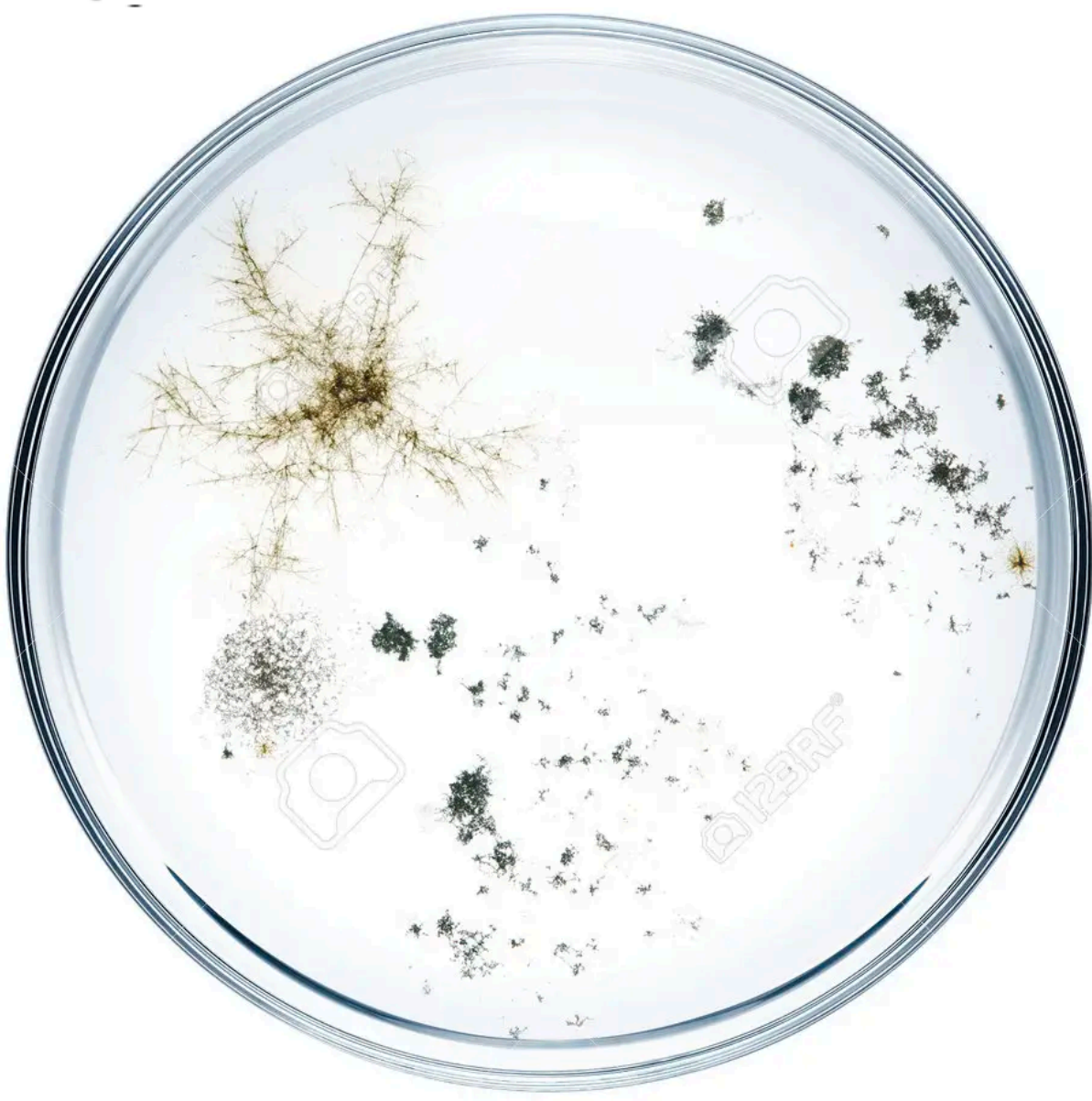
$$A_3^i(t) = \{ \mathbf{q} \in L \mid \mathbf{q} \in A_2^i(t), \mathbf{v}_i \cdot \nabla \mu_{it} = 0 \}$$



# Constrained Gaussian Random field theory

By generating customized initial conditions, using non-linear constrained Gaussian random field theory, we can systematically study the different elements of the cosmic web

$$D_4^{ij}(t) = \{\mathbf{q} \in L \mid 1 + \mu_{it}(\mathbf{q}) = 1 + \mu_{jt}(\mathbf{q}) = 0\}$$





# Conclusion

- Shell-crossing condition enables us to derive caustic conditions in 3D
- Caustic skeleton of cosmic web depends on the eigenvalue *and* eigenvector fields
- Filaments and walls do not require multiple shell-crossings
- This formalism enables a systematic analysis of the topology of the cosmic web
- We extend constrained Gaussian random field theory to non-linear constraints
- We generate constrained initial conditions tied to the dynamics of structure formation

