

(quantitative) COSMOLOGY with the LYMAN- α FOREST

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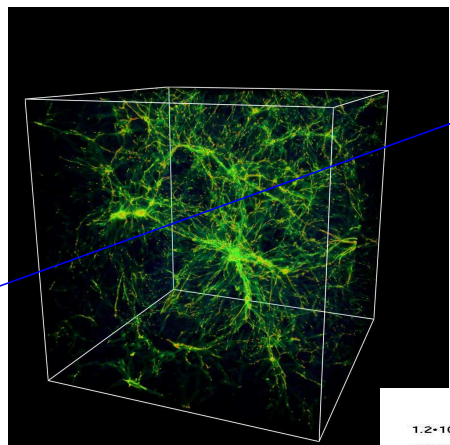


1. Cosmological significance of the Lyman- α forest
2. LUQAS: The observational sample
3. Hydro-dynamical simulations of the Lyman- α forest
4. Cosmological parameters – Implications for: Inflation, (Neutrinos and WDM masses) & Ionizing Background

Viel, Haehnelt, Springel, 2004, MNRAS, 354, 684
 Viel, Weller, Haehnelt, astro-ph/0407294, MNRAS, in press

www.ast.cam.ac.uk/~rtnigm/luqas.htm

Santa Barbara, 23rd November 2004

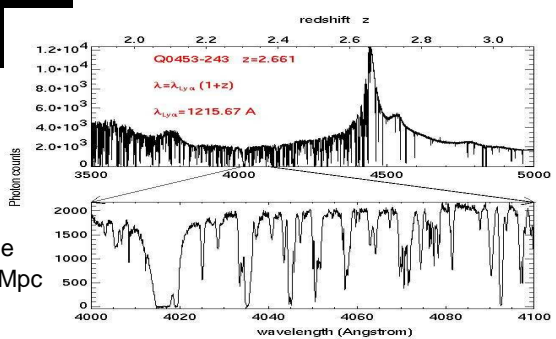


80 % of the baryons at $z=3$ are in the Lyman- α forest

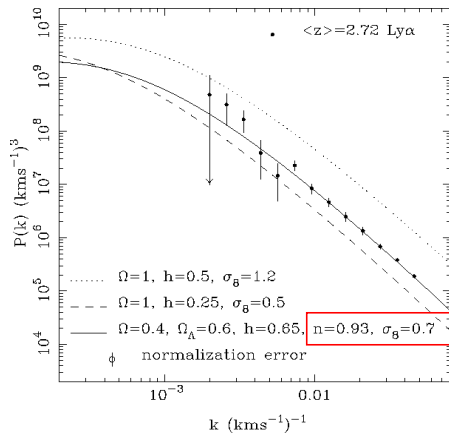
baryons as tracer of the dark matter density field

$\delta_{IGM} \sim \delta_{DM}$ at scales larger than the Jeans length ~ 1 com Mpc

$\tau \sim (\delta_{IGM})^{1.6} T^{-0.7}$



the WMAP era.....



before WMAP

Croft et al. 2002

Tilt in the spectrum $n < 1$?

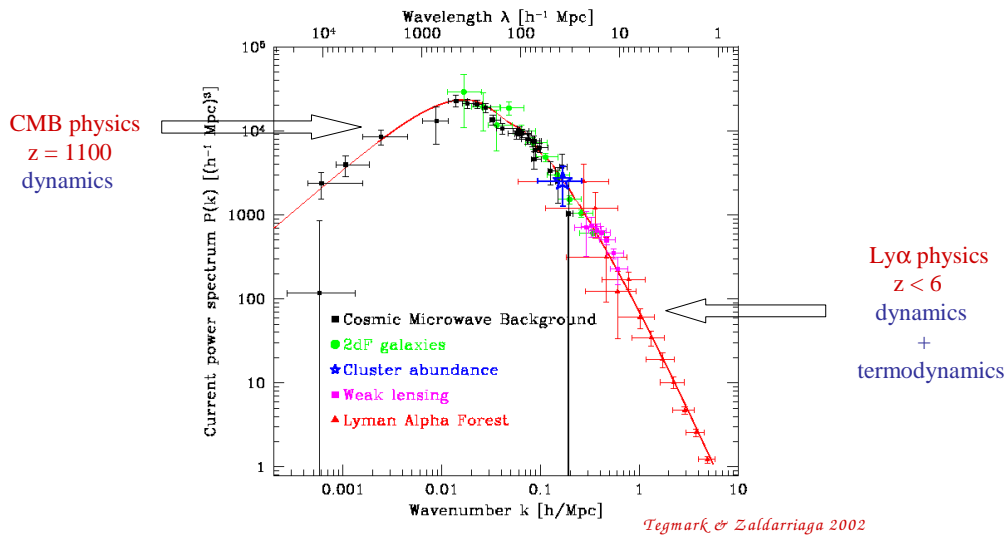
Running spectral index $dn/d\ln k < 0$?

WMAP

Verde et al. 2003

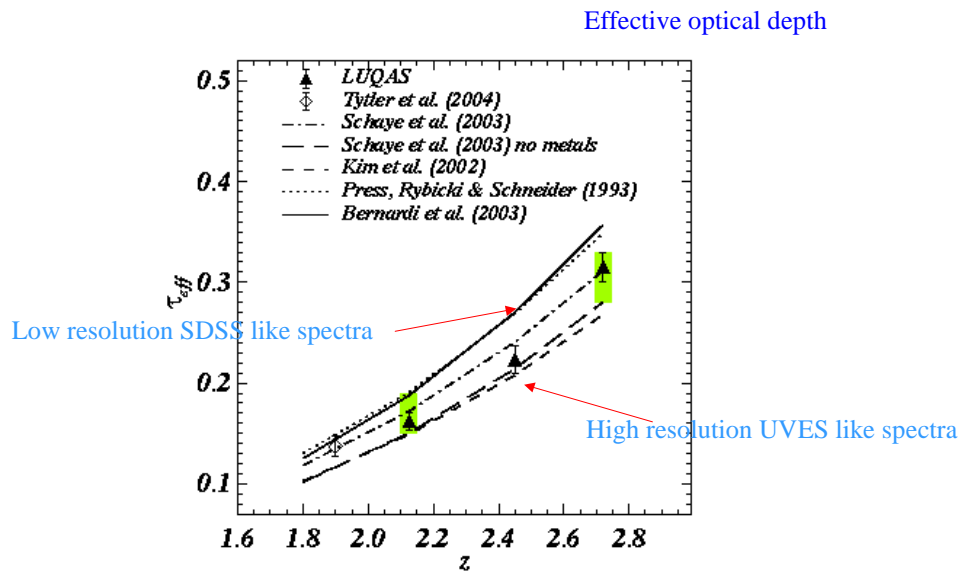
LCDM model			
Parameter	WMAP	+IIST	+SN
Ω_{tot}	$1.038^{+0.087}_{-0.04}$	1.001 ± 0.018	1.008 ± 0.017
Parameter ($\Omega_{tot} \equiv 1$)			
	WMAP	+CDI+ACDAR	+2dFGRS
n_s	0.93 ± 0.04	0.97 ± 0.03	0.97 ± 0.03
			0.96 ± 0.02
Running index model			
	($r \equiv 0$)	$\Omega_{tot} \equiv 1$	
	WMAP	+CDI+ACDAR	+2dFGRS
$n_s (k_0 = 0.05 Mpc^{-1})$	0.93 ± 0.07	0.91 ± 0.06	$0.92^{+0.04}_{-0.08}$
$dn_s/d\ln k$	-0.047 ± 0.04	-0.055 ± 0.038	$-0.03^{+0.02}_{-0.023}$
			$-0.03^{+0.018}_{-0.017}$
Running index Tensor			
		$\Omega_{tot} \equiv 1$	
	WMAP	+2dFGRS	+2dFGRS+Ly α
$n_s (k_0 = 0.002 Mpc^{-1})$	$1.20^{+0.12}_{-0.13}$	$1.18^{+0.12}_{-0.11}$	1.13 ± 0.08
$dn_s/d\ln k$	$-0.077^{+0.030}_{-0.032}$	$-0.075^{+0.044}_{-0.045}$	$-0.055^{+0.026}_{-0.029}$
$r (k_0 = 0.002 Mpc^{-1})$ (95% constraint)	< 1.28	< 1.14	< 0.9

The primordial dark matter power spectrum



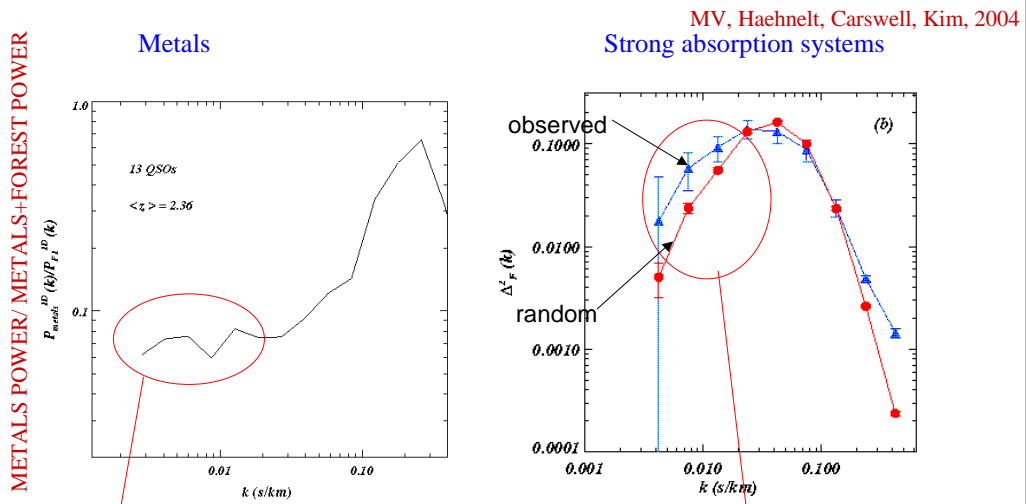
CMB + Lyman α \implies Long lever arm \implies Relation: $P_{FLUX}(k) - P_{MATTER}(k) ??$
 Constrain spectral index and shape

The LUQAS sample –II systematic errors



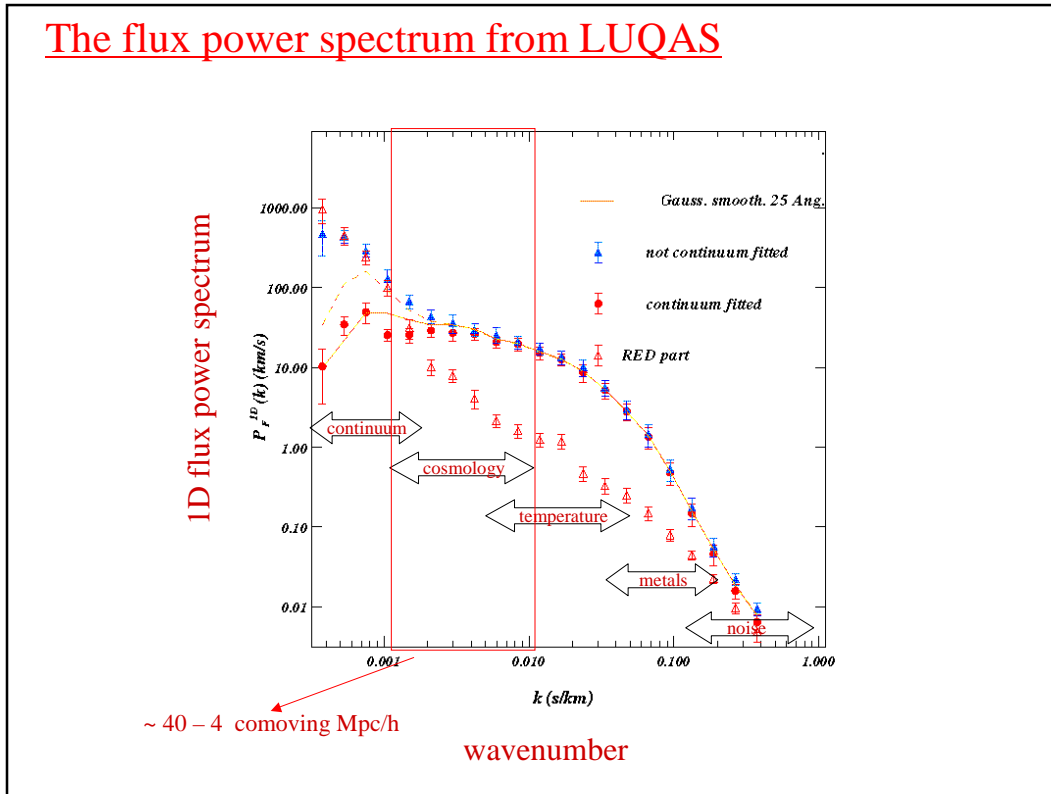
$\langle F \rangle = \exp(-\tau_{\text{eff}})$ Power spectrum of $F/\langle F \rangle$

The LUQAS sample –III systematic errors



Few % even at very large scales

Clustering can contribute up to 20-30 %
 - inclusion of this effect by the SDSS dramatically changes their results
 4 σ detection of `runn.spectr.index` \rightarrow no running change in the slope of a factor 0.06 at $k=0.009$ s/km



Effective bias method (Croft et al. 2002)

$$P_{\text{FLUX}}(k) = b^2(k) P_{\text{MATTER}}(k)$$

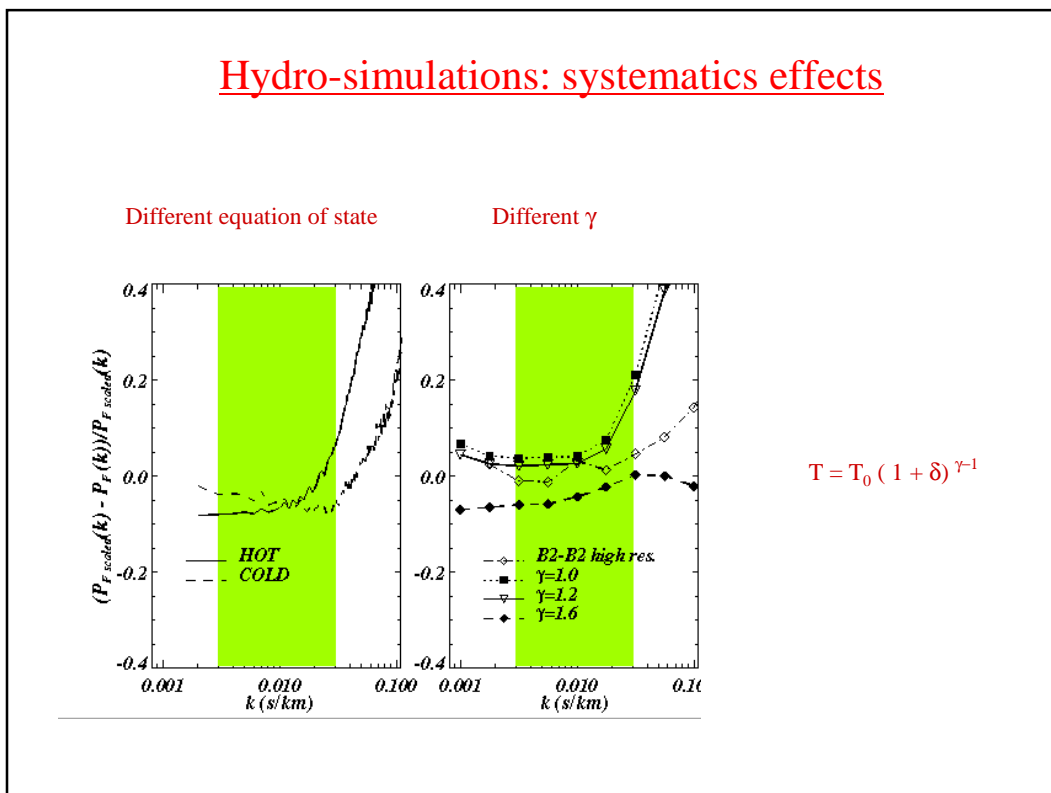
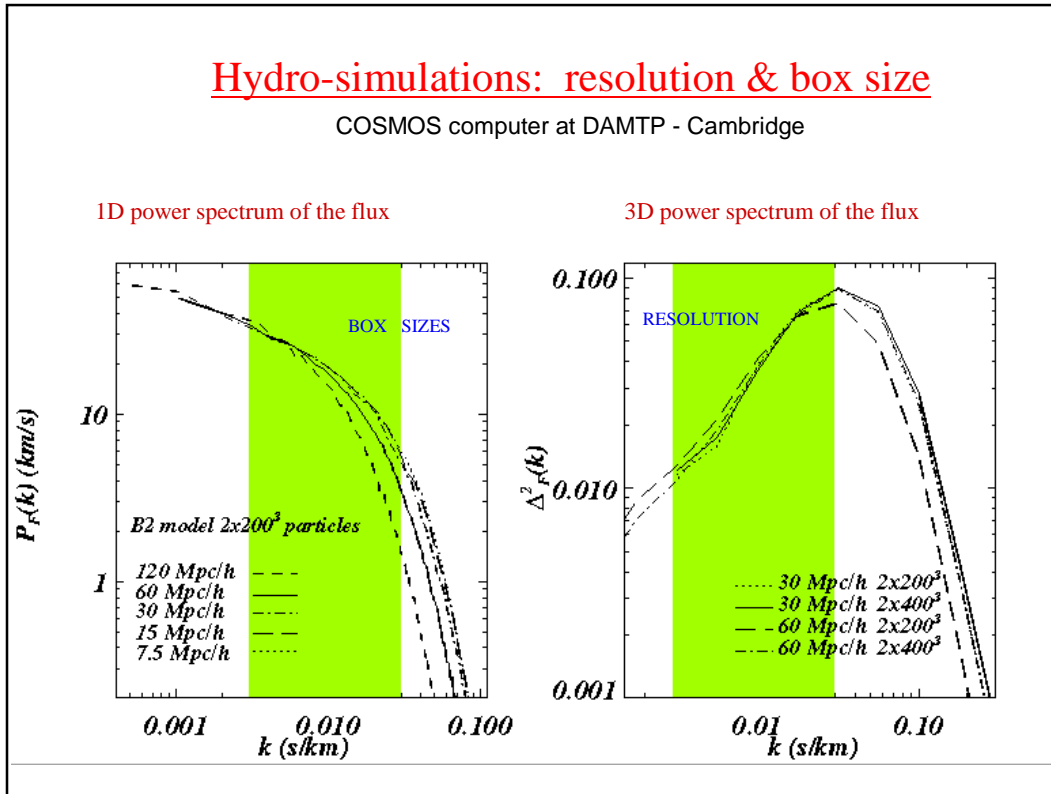
From hydro-simulations

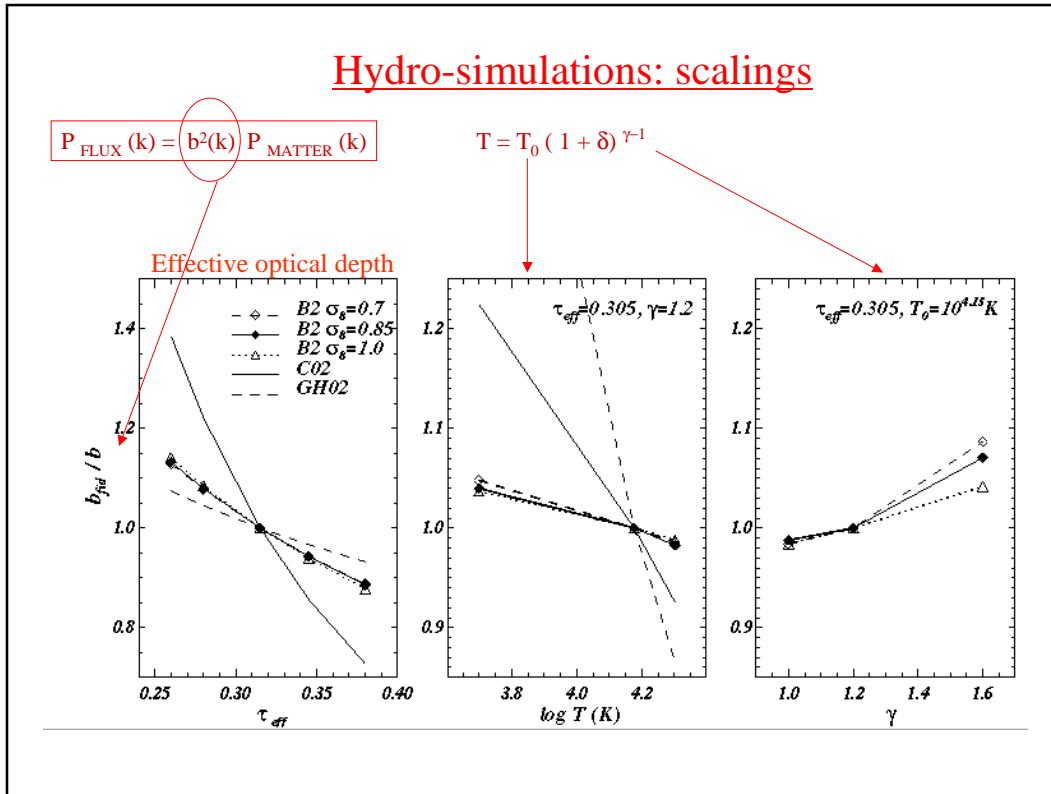
Depends on cosmological parameters, mean flux level, temperature

for critical discussion see Gnedin & Hamilton 2002 and Zaldarriaga Scoccimarro Hui 2003

Main drawbacks: it misses dependence on cosmological parameters
mode coupling is expected
are the forest structure really linear ?

The flux power spectrum seems to be a robust statistics (Galactic winds, DLAs, metals...)
e.g. McDonald et al. (2004)

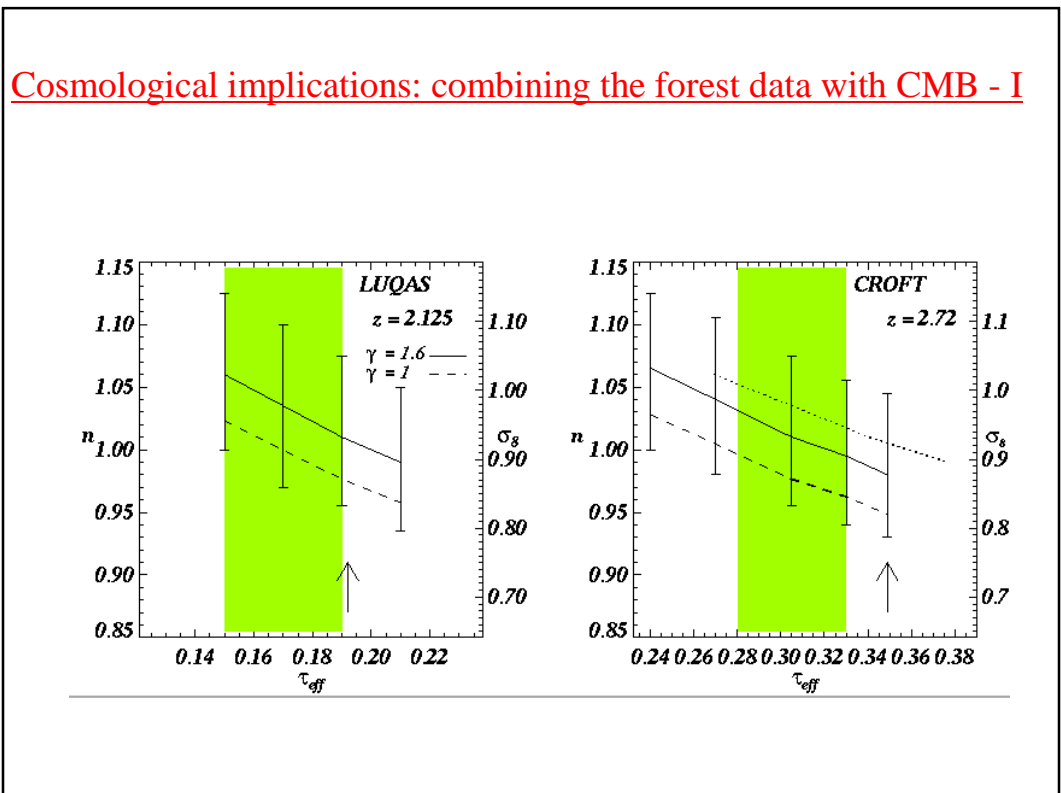
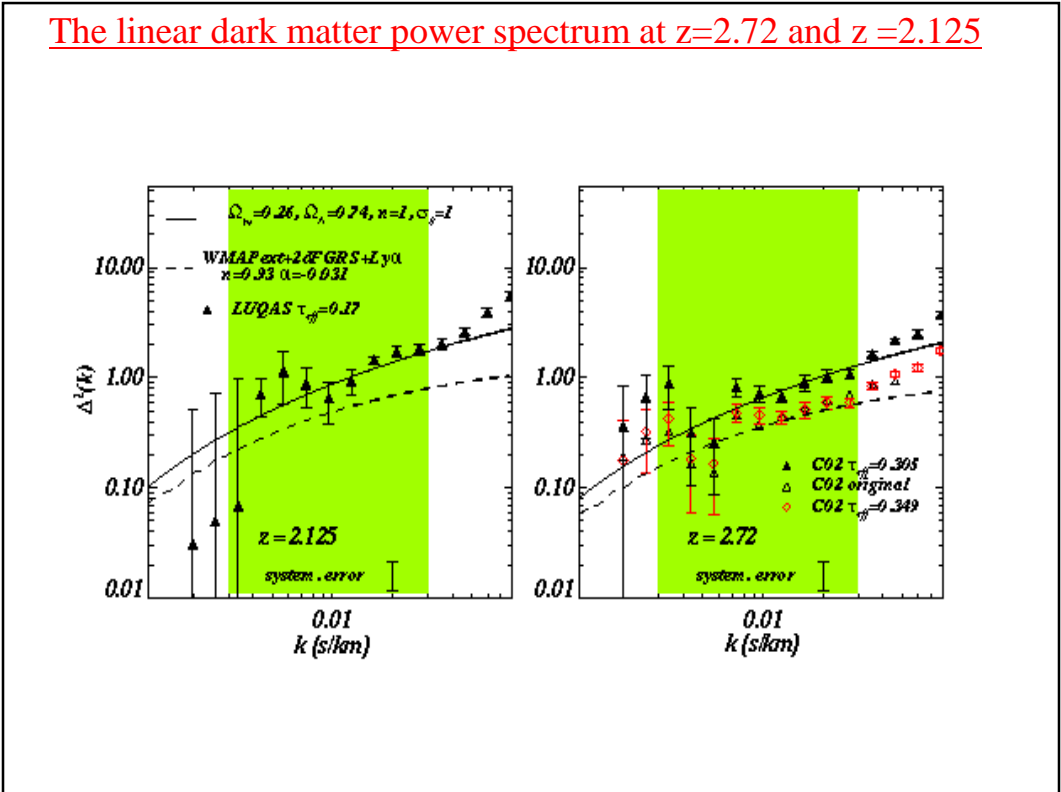




Hydro-simulations: what have we learnt?

Many uncertainties which contribute more or less equally
(statistical error is not an issue!)

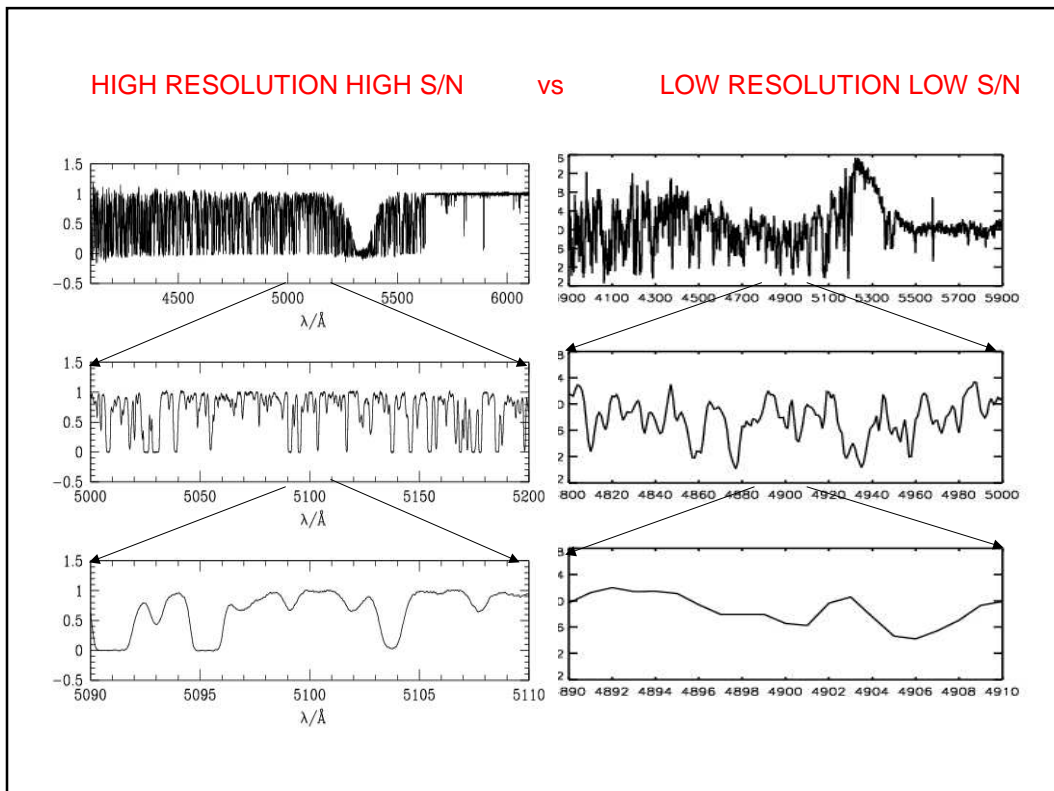
ERRORS	CONTRIBUTION TO FLUCT. AMPL.
Statistical error	4%
Systematic errors	~ 15 %
$\tau_{\text{eff}}(z=2.125)=0.17 \pm 0.02$	8 %
$\tau_{\text{eff}}(z=2.72) = 0.305 \pm 0.030$	7 %
$\gamma = 1.3 \pm 0.3$	4 %
$T_0 = 15000 \pm 10000 \text{ K}$	3 %
Method	5 %
Numerical simulations	8 %
Furhter uncertainties	5 %



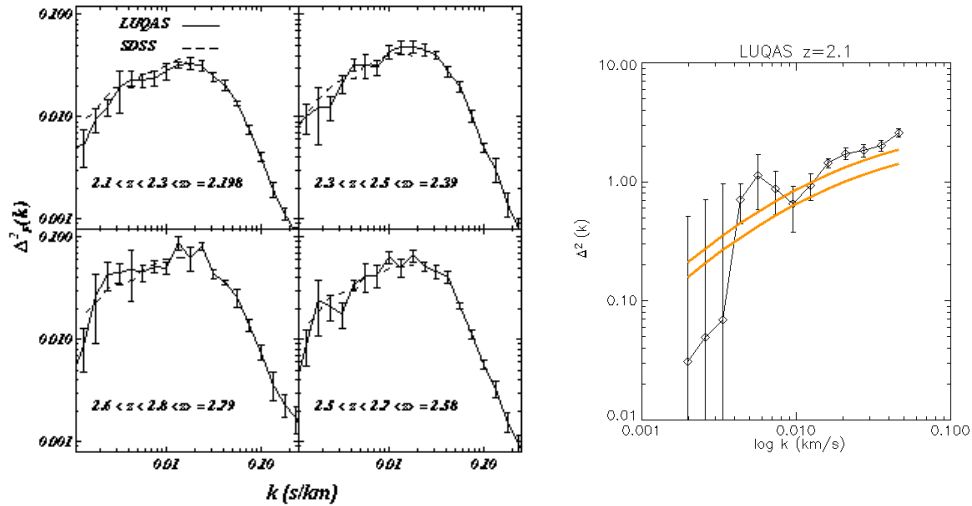
TWO QUESTIONS:

1) *WHICH OBSERVATIONS ?*
high or low resolution?

2) *WHICH SIMULATIONS ?*
full hydro or hydro-pm codes?



LUQAS vs SDSS



HPM simulations of the forest

$$\frac{d\mathbf{v}}{dt} + H\mathbf{v} = -\nabla\phi - \frac{1}{\rho}\nabla P, \quad \text{equation of motion for gas element}$$

$$\text{if } T = T_0 (1 + \delta)^{\gamma-1}$$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{v}}{dt} + H\mathbf{v} = -\nabla\psi$$

where

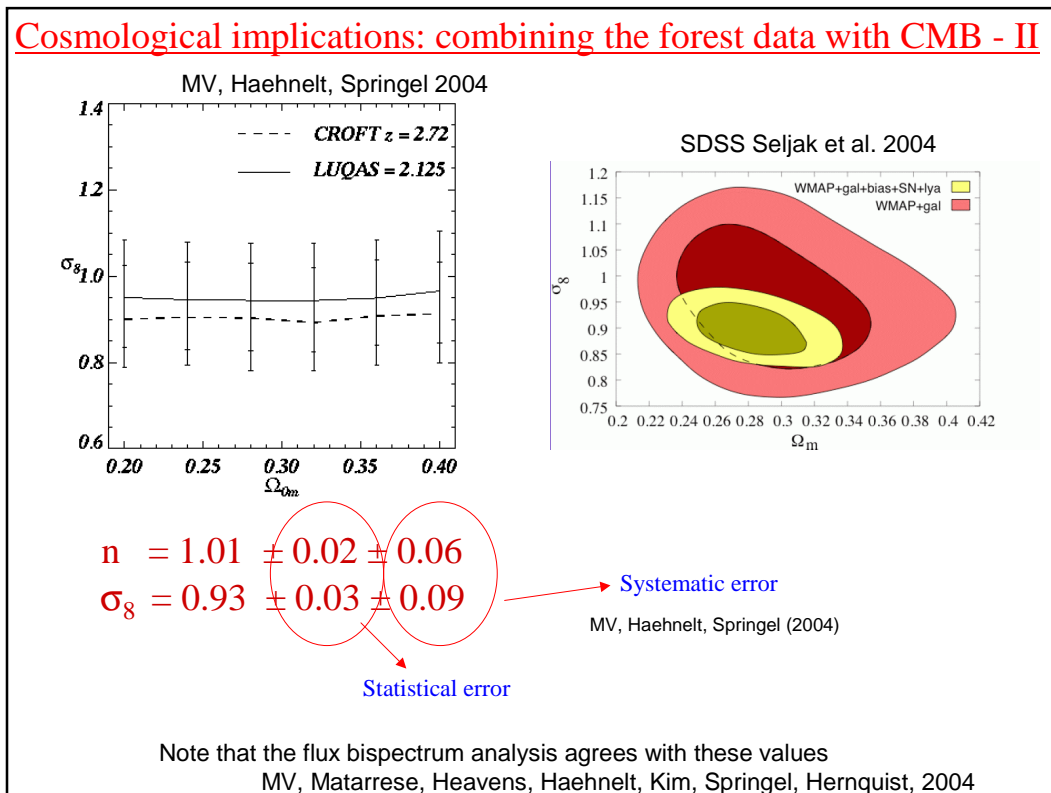
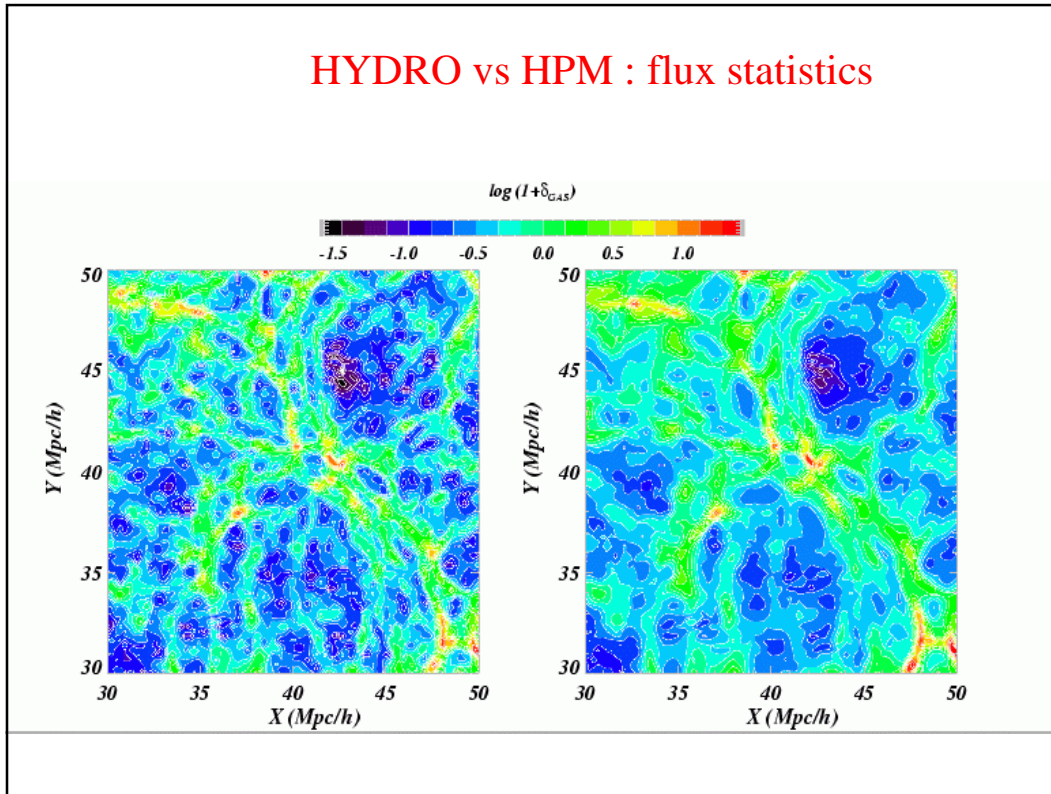
$$\psi = \phi + \mathcal{H},$$

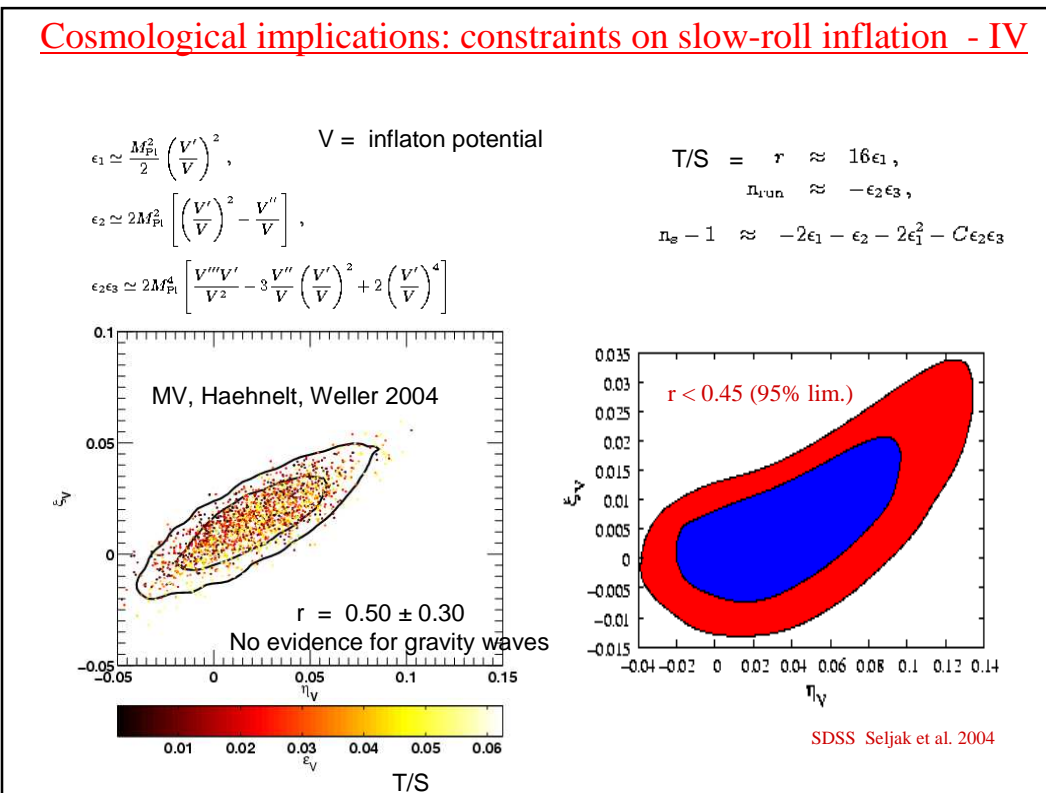
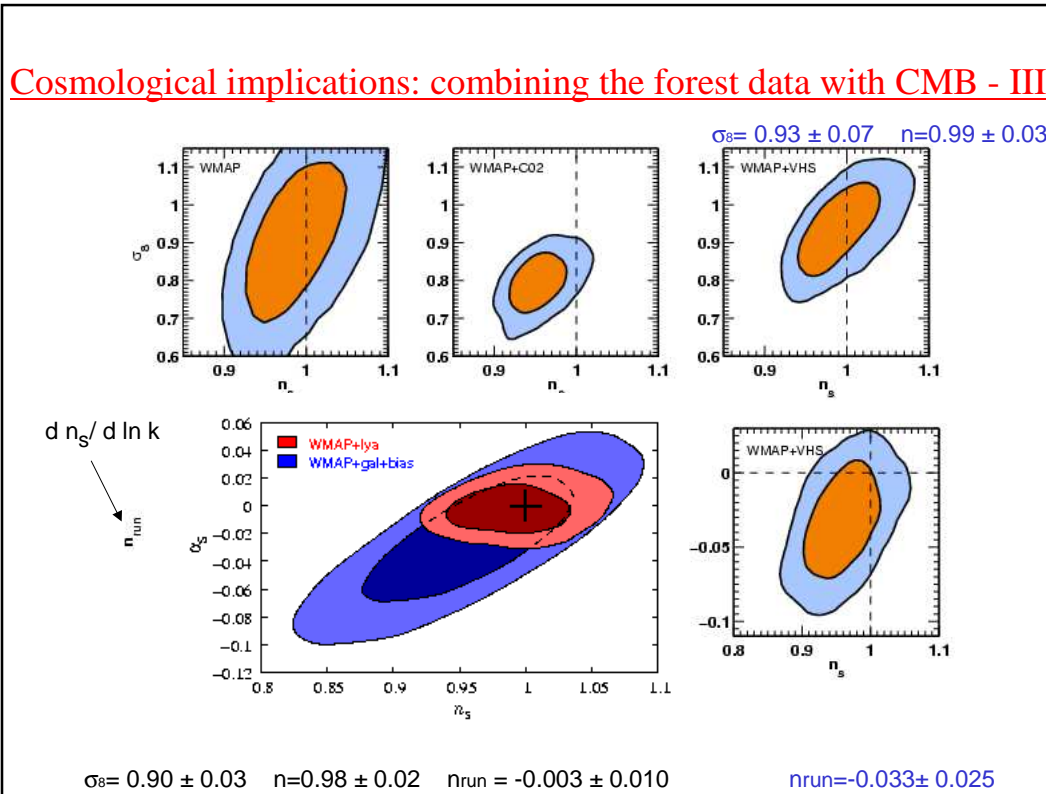
and \mathcal{H} , called *the specific enthalpy*, is

$$\mathcal{H}(\rho) = \frac{P(\rho)}{\rho} + \int_1^\rho \frac{P(\rho')}{\rho'^2} d\rho'.$$

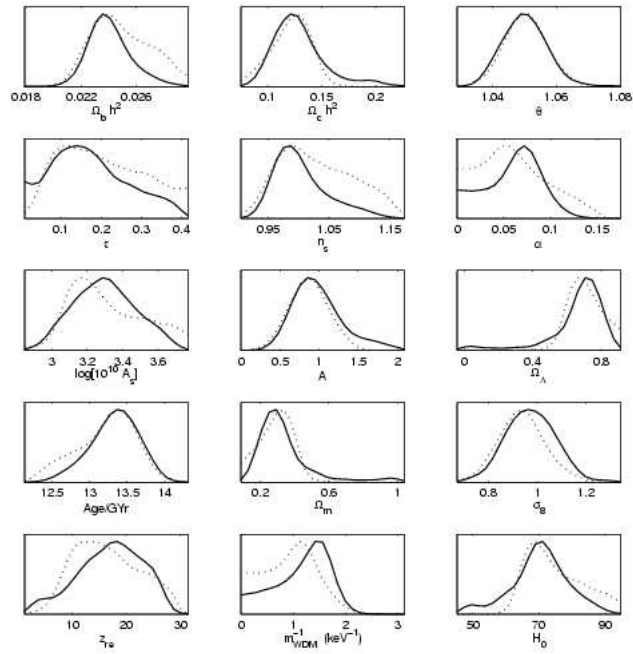
We thus conclude that the IIPM approximation can be successfully used to model the Lyman-alpha forest when a 10-15% accuracy is sufficient.

Gnedin & Hui 1998





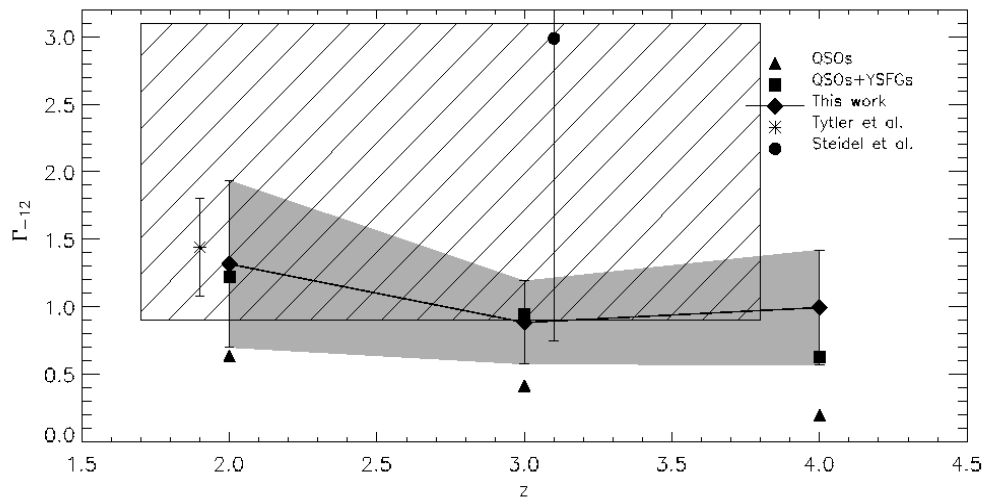
Cosmological implications: constraints on neutrinos and WDM -V



Viel, Lesgourgues, Matarrese, Riotto, Haehnelt in prep.

Ionizing background

With the fluctuating Gunn – Peterson approximation



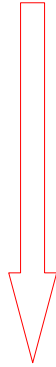
Bolton, Haehnelt, MV, Springel, 2004, astro-ph/0411072

SUMMARY

1. LUQAS: a unique high resolution view on the Universe at $z=2.1$
2. Hydro-dynamical simulations of the Lyman- α forest. Systematic Errors? Differences between hydro codes?
3. Cosmological parameters: no fancy things going on
 $\sigma_8 = 0.93$ $n = 1$ no running
substantial agreement between SDSS and LUQAS but SDSS has smaller error bars not because of the larger sample but because of the different theoretical modelling
Some (weak) constraints on inflationary models.

Brief historical overview

'ISOLATED' CLOUDS



NETWORK OF FILAMENTS

- Gunn & Peterson (1965): a uniform IGM at redshift 2 is very highly ionized, to avoid very large HI opacity;
- Bahcall & Salpeter (1965): if it is not uniformly distributed then absorption lines [gas in clusters of galaxies?];
- Lynds (1971): a forest of lines, the Ly α forest, not related to clusters, but intergalactic clouds along the line of sight;
- ⇒ The idea was of a "two-phase" medium: clouds confined by the intercloud medium [IGM], with pressure confinement (Sargent et al. 1980) or dark-matter mini halos (Rees 1986);
- ⇒ Other idea: unified, but not uniform intergalactic medium. Originally from Black (1981) and Coor (1981), who suggested that Ly α forest was a relic of primordial fluctuations with $\lambda \sim 1$ Mpc;
- McGill (1991), Bi (1992) considered an evolution of the IGM in cold dark matter models and found that a "median-fluctuated" medium, instead of discrete clouds, reproduced most of the observations;
- N-body + Hydro simulations (Cen et al. 1994), semi-analytical models (Bi et al., 1993).

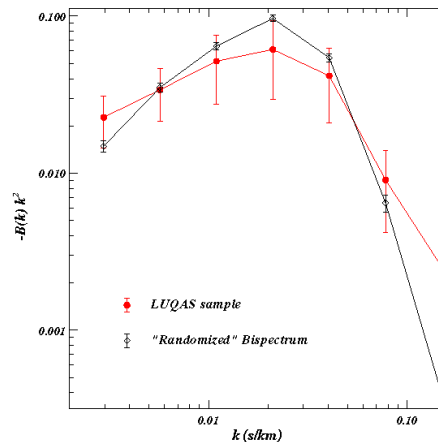
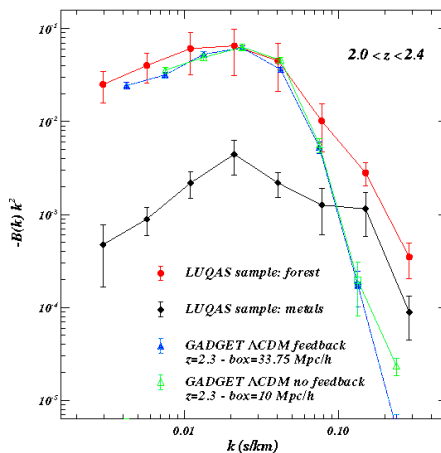
PROBES OF THE JEANS SCALE



COSMOLOGICAL PROBES

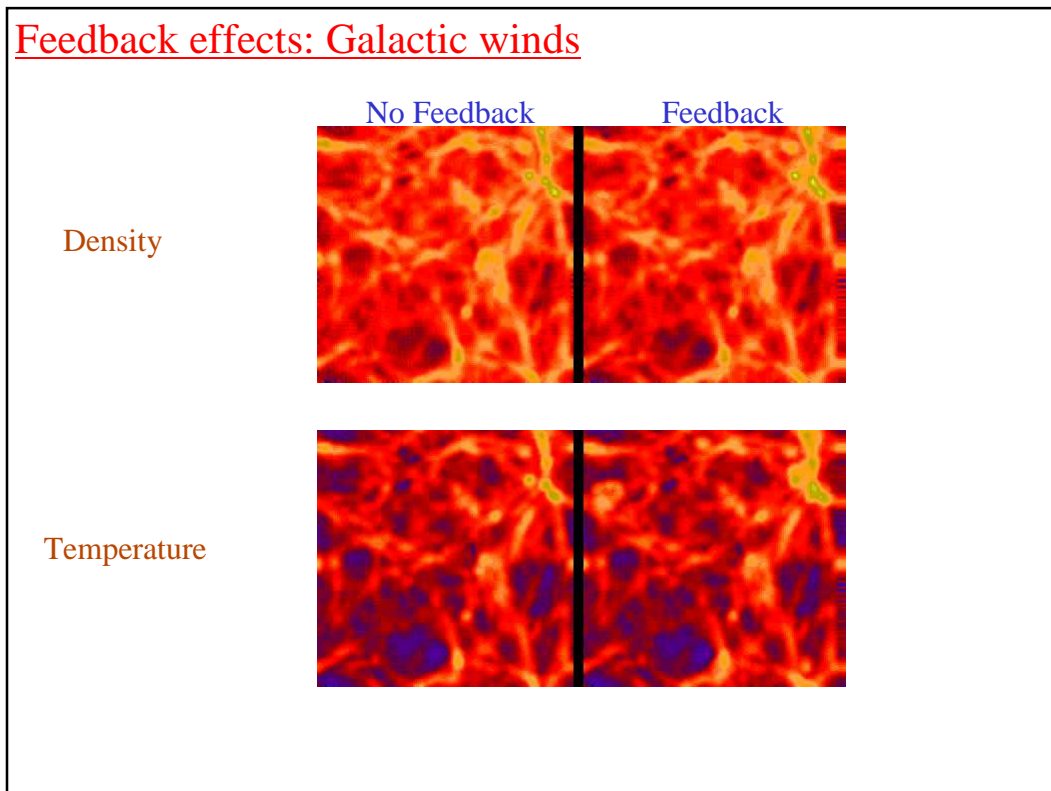
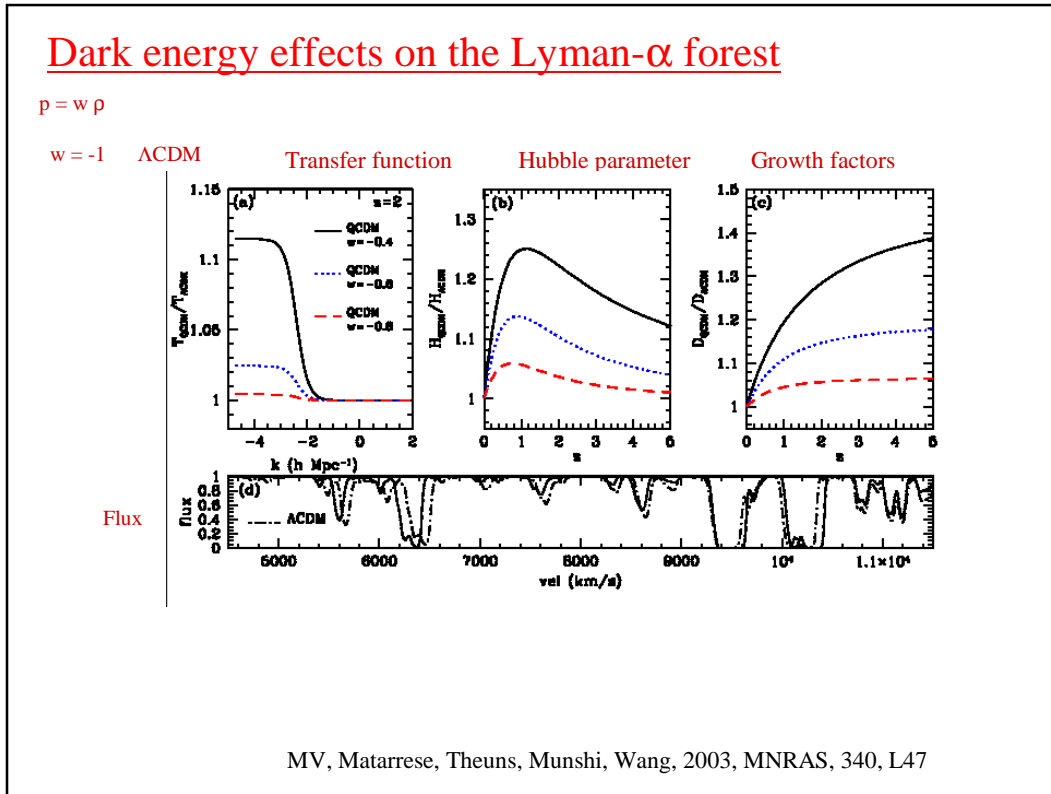
The flux bispectrum

Fourier transform of the 3-points correlation function

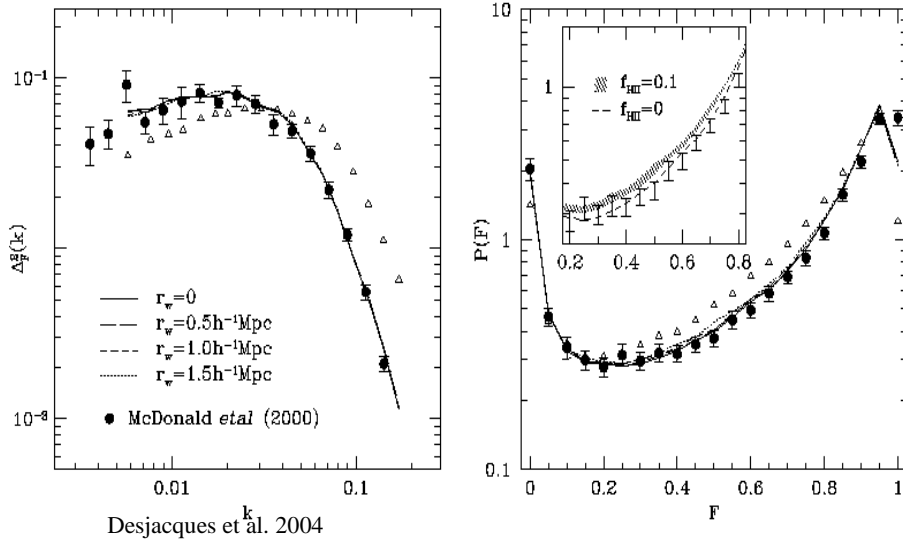


Feedback in the form of galactic winds does not affect the forest

MV, Matarrese, Heavens, Haehnelt, Kim, Springel, Hernquist, 2004, MNRAS, 347, 26L

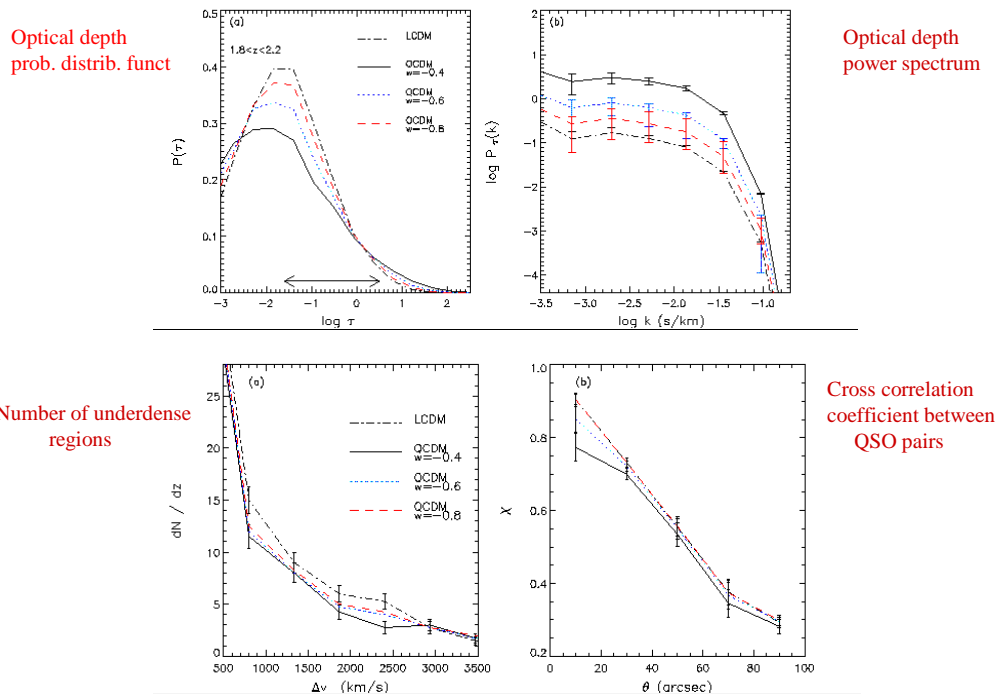


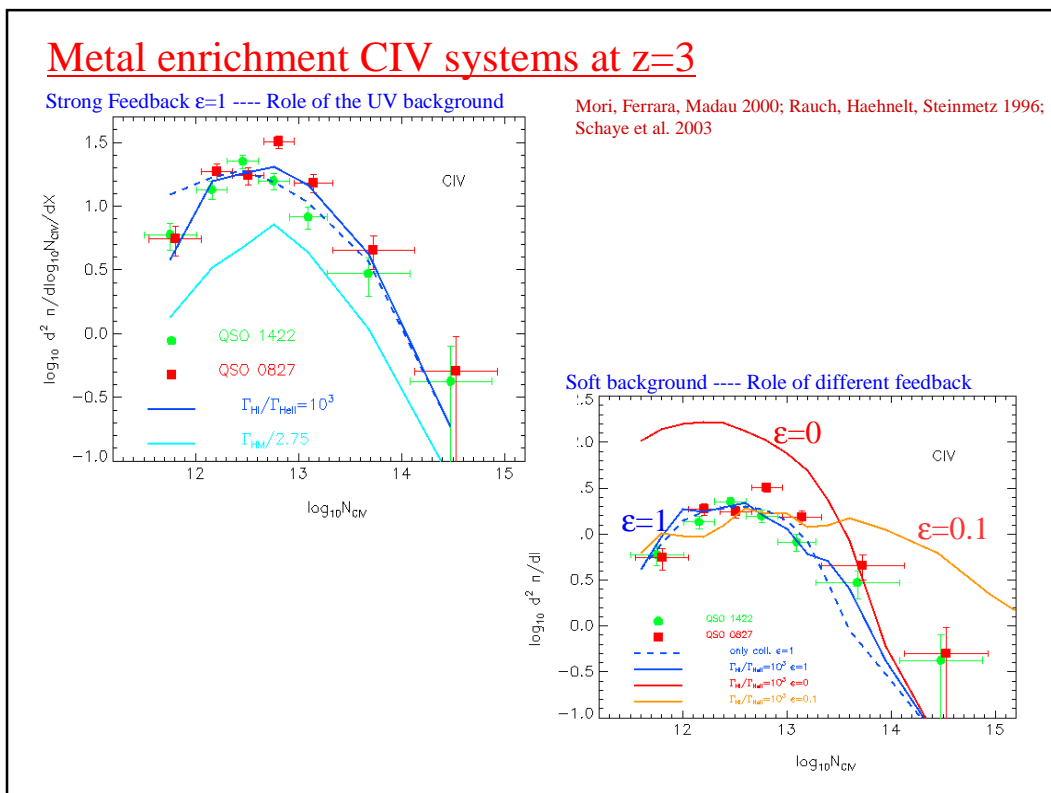
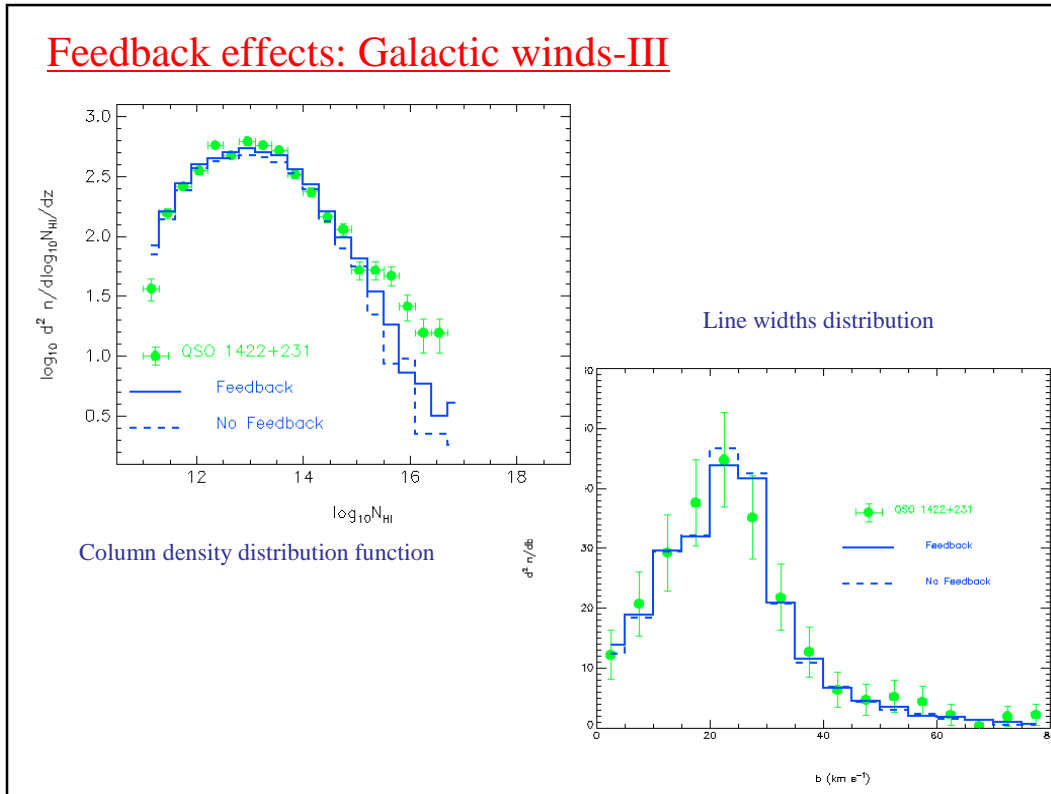
Feedback effects: Galactic winds-II



Theuns T., MV, Kay S., Schaye J., Carswell R., Tzanavaris P., 2002, *ApJL*, 578, 5

Dark energy effects on the Lyman- α forest-II





Lyman- α : Pros & Cons



'Simple' physics in which baryons trace the underlying dark matter density field

It probes a range of scales and redshifts not probed by other observations such as galaxies or CMB ($0 < z < 6.3$, $0.1 < k < 1 \text{ h/Mpc}$)

Many QSOs spectra available (SDSS, Keck, UVES)



Continuum fluctuations from distant QSOs or 'real' fluctuations of the matter distribution? (see Hui et al. 2001)

Modelling of the IGM still needs high resolution hydro-dynamical simulations (discrepancy between different simulations)

Understanding of the systematic errors has recently led to controversial results (mean flux level, metal lines, strong absorption systems)

