

Collaborators: Dr Tim Clifton (Supervisor) Dr Chris Clarkson Dr Sophia Goldberg Dr Karim Malik

### **Multi-Scale Perturbation Theory** A theoretical tool for late universe cosmology with **nonlinear structures**

Kit Gallagher - PhD Student - QMUL







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- So our notion of "realism" becomes a question of approximation...
- What are the most physical simplifying approximations we can make?

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- Equations linearise at ALL ORDERS in  $\epsilon$
- Smaller corrections can be calculated by considering inhomogeneous linear problem with higher order ( $\epsilon^{n>1}$ ) source terms

### SUCCESS!

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### THIS APPROACH IS EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL



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Small fluctuation assumption **breaks down** in the late universe due to **GRAVITATIONAL COLLAPSE** on small scales!









#### is not very well modelled by





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$$\phi_2(k) \sim \int dq \, \phi_1(q-k) \, \delta_1(q)$$

Conceivable that large  $\delta$  at small scales could have an effect on quantities at larger scales!

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2. Typical velocities are small:

 $v \sim \eta \sim 10^{-2}$ 

3. The gravitational field is weak everywhere:

 $U \sim \eta^2$ 


#### Small velocities and weak fields lead to...

$$\frac{v}{c} = \frac{1}{c} \frac{dx}{dt} \sim \eta \implies \frac{d}{dt} \sim \eta \frac{d}{dx}$$

$$\rho \sim U \sim \eta^2$$

#### **SMALL TIME DERIVATIVES:**

Equations change structure from wave equations to Poisson equations



 $h_{ij} \sim \eta^4$ 



Can think of approximating  $\mathcal{N}(x,t)$  by  $\mathcal{M}(x)$ 

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...and see how they might interact?

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#### What's it meant to look like?

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Choose:

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 $\epsilon \sim \eta^2 \sim \frac{L_N^2}{L_C^2} \sim 10^{-4}$ 

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This choice is well motivated by physical observations!

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$$u^{\mu} = \frac{1}{a}(1-U-\phi, v_{N}^{i} + v^{i})$$

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...where  $\{U, \rho_N, v_{Ni}\}$  are treated like the leading order parts of a **post-Newtonian expansion**...

a

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 $\mathcal{A}$ 

...and  $\{\phi, \psi, \rho, v_i\}$  are treated like standard 1st order cosmological perturbations.

Obtain homogeneous Friedmann-like behaviour...

 $\mathscr{H}^2 = \frac{8\pi a^2 \bar{\rho}}{3}$ 

 $\bar{\rho}' + 3\mathscr{H}\bar{\rho} = 0$ 

Obtain homogeneous Friedmann-like behaviour...

#### ...with inhomogeneities governed by NONLINEAR Newtonian fluctuations!

 $\mathscr{H}^2 = \frac{8\pi a^2 \bar{\rho}}{3}$  $\bar{\rho}' + 3\mathscr{H}\bar{\rho} = 0$  $\overline{\delta'_N + \theta_N} = -\partial_i (\overline{\delta_N v_N^i})$  $\theta_N + \mathcal{H}\theta_N + \nabla^2 U = -\partial^i (v_{Ni}\partial^j v_{Ni})$  $\nabla^2 U = \frac{3\mathcal{H}^2}{2}\delta_N$ 

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Density contrasts  $\sim \mathcal{O}(1)$ !!!

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$$H$$

Density contrasts  $\sim \mathcal{O}(1)!!!$ 

$$\rho^{(0,2)} = \rho_N = \bar{\rho} + \delta \rho_N \sim \frac{\eta^2}{L_N^2} \implies \delta_N = \frac{\delta \rho_N}{\bar{\rho}} \sim 1$$

Ĥ
$$\begin{aligned} (\psi + U)'' + 3\mathcal{H}(\psi + U)' &= \frac{4\pi a^2 \bar{\rho}}{3} (1 + \delta_N) v_N^2 + \mathcal{H}(\psi' - \phi') + \frac{1}{3} \nabla^2 (\psi - \phi) \\ &+ \frac{7}{6} (\nabla U)^2 + \frac{2}{3} (\phi + \psi + 2U) \nabla^2 U \end{aligned}$$

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$$D^{i}{}_{j}(\psi - \phi) + 2(\phi + \psi + 2U)D^{i}{}_{j}U + 2\partial^{i}U\partial_{j}U - \frac{2}{3}\delta^{i}_{j}(\nabla U)^{2} = 8\pi a^{2}\bar{\rho} (1 + \delta_{N}) \left(v_{N}^{i}v_{Nj} - \frac{1}{3}\delta^{i}{}_{j}v_{N}^{2}\right)$$

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 ...get quadratic products of nonlinear Newtonian source terms

$$\begin{split} (\psi + U)'' + 3\mathscr{H}(\psi + U)' &= \frac{4\pi a^2 \bar{\rho}}{3} (1 + \delta_N) v_N^2 + \mathscr{H}(\psi' - \phi') + \frac{1}{3} \nabla^2 (\psi - \phi) \\ &= \frac{7}{6} (\nabla U)^2 + \frac{2}{3} (\phi + \psi) + 2U) \nabla^2 U \\ D^i_{\ j}(\psi - \phi) + 2(\phi + \psi) + 2U) D^i_{\ j}U + 2\partial^i U \partial_j U - \frac{2}{3} \delta^i_j (\nabla U)^2 = \\ &= 8\pi a^2 \bar{\rho} \left(1 + \delta_N\right) \left(v_N^i v_{Nj} - \frac{1}{3} \delta^i_j v_N^2\right) \end{split}$$

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 AND spatially varying coefficients in linear operator!?!

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We take approximate solutions from Newtonian perturbation theory for  $\{U, \rho_N, v_{Ni}\}$ - see what happens? Compare to normal perturbation theory?

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...then if we can split the **Newtonian quantities** as...

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...we can do the same thing for the **cosmological ones**!

$$\psi = \psi^{(1)} + \psi^{(2)} + \dots$$
$$\delta = \delta^{(1)} + \delta^{(2)} + \dots$$

**General Relativity**  
$$G_{\mu\nu} + \Lambda g_{\mu\nu} = \kappa T_{\mu\nu}$$





![](_page_87_Figure_0.jpeg)

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 At second approximation - recover an approximation to 2nd order perturbation theory (missing some terms)

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 At second approximation - recover an approximation to 2nd order perturbation theory (missing some terms)

 At third approximation - recover an approximation to 3rd order perturbation theory (missing A LOT of terms)

![](_page_94_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_95_Figure_1.jpeg)

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Seem to have good agreement down to  $k > 10^{-3} \,\mathrm{Mpc}^{-1}$ 

**GR corrections** normally scale as  $\sim \frac{\mathscr{H}^2}{k^2}$ 

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The **2PPT correctly identifies** all the Poisson gauge  $\frac{\mathcal{H}^2}{k^2}$  terms scaling as  $\sim \frac{k^2}{k^2}$ 

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...BUT then would have to consider even higher order products of the nonlinear terms
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4.

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- 4. "Upgrade" the Newtonian perturbation theory sector (Renormalised PT, EFTofLSS)
- 5. Check the soft theorems!

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#### THANK YOU!