

Astro 507  
Lecture 35  
April 21, 2014

Announcements:

- **Problem Set 6 due Wednesday April 30**

Last time: began theory of structure formation  
→ evolution of perturbations to a FLRW cosmology

At minimum: we will want to describe baryons & dark matter  
as inflationary perturbations grow thru radiation, matter eras  
→ *gravity* and photon, baryon *pressure* mandatory  
schematically:

$$\Gamma \quad \text{acceleration} = -\text{gravity} + \text{pressure} \quad (1)$$

*Q: implications for baryons vs dark matter?*

# Dynamics of Cosmological Perturbations: Toolbox

need dynamics of inhomogeneous “fluids”

in expanding FLRW background

★ full treatment: general relativistic perturbation theory

mandatory for some results  $Q$ : *which?*

★ good-enough treatment: Newtonian dynamics in FLRW

as usual, benefits: intuition & simplicity

costs: limited range of validity

# Newtonian Fluid Dynamics & Self-Gravity

Each cosmic species is “fluid” described by fields

- mass density  $\rho(\vec{x}, t)$
- velocity  $\vec{v}(\vec{x}, t)$
- pressure  $P(\vec{x}, t)$ : from equation of state  $P = P(\rho, T)$

In Newtonian limit: dynamics governed by

*mass conservation (continuity)*  $\partial_t \rho + \nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{v}) = 0$

*Euler: “F = ma”*  $\rho d\vec{v}/dt = \rho \partial_t \vec{v} + \rho \vec{v} \cdot \nabla \vec{v} = -\nabla P - \rho \nabla \Phi$

Note: fixed/non-comoving coords need “*convective derivative*”

$$d\vec{v}(\vec{x}, t)/dt = (\partial_t + \dot{x}_i \partial_i) \vec{v} = \partial_t \vec{v} + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla \vec{v}$$

Newtonian gravity: inverse square  $\rightarrow$  *Poisson*  $\nabla^2 \Phi = 4\pi G \rho$

$\omega$  These are general (albeit Newtonian only)

$\rightarrow$  now apply to the Universe

## Linear Theory 0: Newtonian, Non-expanding

consider *static*, uniform (infinite) distribution of matter  
and introduce small perturbations

$$\rho(\vec{x}) = \rho_0 [1 + \delta(\vec{x})] \quad (2)$$

$$v(\vec{x}) = \vec{u}(\vec{x}) \quad (3)$$

$$\Phi_{\text{grav}}(\vec{x}) = \Phi_0 + \Phi_1(\vec{x}) \quad (4)$$

where  $\delta \ll 1$ , and  $\Phi_1, \vec{u}$  “small”

we want: time development of (initially) small perturbations  
following Sir James Jeans  
many key ideas of full expanding-Universe GR result  
already appear here!

Newtonian fluid equations: continuity (mass conservation)

$$\rightarrow \partial_t \rho + \nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{v}) = 0 \quad (5)$$

$$\rho_0 \dot{\delta} + \rho_0 \nabla \cdot \vec{u} \approx 0 \quad (6)$$

Euler (“ $F = ma$ ”);

$$\rho d\vec{v}/dt = \rho \partial_t \vec{v} + \rho \vec{v} \cdot \nabla \vec{v} = -\nabla p - \rho \nabla \Phi \quad (7)$$

$$\rho_0 \dot{\vec{u}} \approx -\rho_0 c_s^2 \nabla \delta - \rho_0 \nabla \Phi_1 \quad (8)$$

where **adiabatic sound speed**  $c_s^2 = \partial p / \partial \rho$

Gravity: Poisson (Gauss’ law = inverse square force)

$$\nabla^2 \Phi = 4\pi G \rho \quad (9)$$

$$\nabla^2 \Phi_1 \approx 4\pi G \rho_0 \delta \quad (10)$$

note inconsistency=cheat!  $\nabla^2 \Phi_0 \neq 4\pi G \rho_0$ : “*Jeans swindle*”

can combine to single eq for linearized density contrast:

$$\partial_t^2 \delta - c_s^2 \nabla^2 \delta = 4\pi G \rho_0 \delta \quad (11)$$

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Q: behavior for pressureless fluid? “switched-off” gravity?  
physical significance? important scales?

Density contrast evolves as

$$\partial_t^2 \delta - c_s^2 \nabla^2 \delta = 4\pi G \rho_0 \delta \quad (12)$$

solutions are of the form

$$\delta(t, \vec{x}) = A e^{i(\omega t - \vec{k} \cdot \vec{x})} \equiv D(t) \delta_0(\vec{x}) \quad (13)$$

where  $\delta_0(\vec{x}) = e^{-i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}}$  is init Fourier amp  
and time evolution is set by exponent  $\omega(k)$ :

$$\omega^2 = c_s^2 k^2 - 4\pi G \rho_0 \equiv c_s^2 (k^2 - k_J^2) = \left(\frac{c_s}{k_J}\right)^2 \left[\left(\frac{\lambda_J}{\lambda}\right)^2 - 1\right] \quad (14)$$

key scale: **Jeans length**

$$k_J = \frac{\sqrt{4\pi G \rho_0}}{c_s} \quad \lambda_J = \frac{c_s}{\sqrt{G \rho_0 / \pi}} \sim c_s \tau_{\text{freefall}} \quad (15)$$

- associate Jeans mass:  $M(\lambda_J/2) = 4\pi/3 \rho_0 (\pi/k_J)^3 \sim c_s^3 / G^{3/2} \rho_0^{1/2}$  —  
Q: physically, what expect for  $\lambda < \lambda_J$ ?  $\lambda > \lambda_J$ ?

perturbation growth  $\delta_k(t) = \delta_k(t_0)e^{i\omega t}$ , with

$$\omega^2 = c_s^2 k^2 - 4\pi G \rho_0 \equiv c_s^2 (k^2 - k_J^2) \quad (16)$$

Jeans length  $\sim c_s \tau_{\text{freefall}}$ : sound travel distance in freefall time

$\rightarrow \lambda/\lambda_J \sim$  number of pressure wave crossings during freefall

if  $k > k_J$  so  $\lambda < \lambda_J$ , small scales: pressure can repel contraction

$\omega$  real: oscillations about hydrostatic equilibrium

if  $k < k_J$  so  $\lambda > \lambda_J$ , large scales: pressure ineffective

$\omega$  imaginary, exponential collapse

runaway perturbation growth  $D(t) = e^{\omega t} \sim e^{+t/t_{\text{freefall}}}$

(also an uninteresting decaying mode  $e^{-\omega t}$ )

- ↘ Q: but what about expanding Universe?  
should grav instability be stronger or weaker?

# Linear Theory I: Newtonian Analysis in Expanding U.

Recall: Newtonian analysis legal for small scales, weak gravity  
→ okay for linear analysis inside Hubble length  
apply to **matter-dominated U.**

## Coordinate choices

**Eulerian** time-indep grid  $\vec{x}$  fixed in physical space

expansion moves unperturbed fluid elts past as  $\vec{x}(t) = a(t)\vec{r}$

**Lagrangian** coords  $\vec{r}$  time-indep but expand in physical space

following fluid element: *locally* comoving

⇒ spatial gradients:  $\nabla_{\vec{x}} = (1/a)\nabla_{\vec{r}}$

*Unperturbed (zeroth order) eqs,*

using  $\rho_0 = \rho_0(t)$ ,  $\vec{v}_0 = \frac{\dot{a}}{a}\vec{x} = \dot{a}\vec{r}$

$$\partial_t \rho_0 + \nabla \cdot (\rho_0 \vec{v}) = \dot{\rho}_0 + \rho_0 \frac{\dot{a}}{a} \nabla_{\vec{x}} \cdot \vec{x} = 0 \quad (17)$$

$$\dot{\rho}_0 + 3\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\rho_0 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \rho_0 \propto a^{-3} \quad (18)$$



Poisson:

$$\nabla^2 \Phi_0 = \frac{1}{x^2} \partial_x (x \partial_x \Phi_0) = 4\pi G \rho_0 \Rightarrow \Phi_0 = \frac{2\pi G \rho_0}{3} x^2 = \frac{2\pi G \rho_0}{3} a^2 r^2$$
$$\nabla_{\vec{x}} \Phi_0 = \frac{4\pi G \rho_0}{3} \vec{x} \quad \nabla_{\vec{r}} \Phi_0 = \frac{4\pi G \rho_0}{3} a \vec{r}$$

Euler

$$d(\dot{a}\vec{r})/dt = \ddot{a}\vec{r} = \frac{\ddot{a}}{a} \vec{x} = -\frac{4\pi G \rho_0}{3} \vec{x} \quad (19)$$

$$\frac{\ddot{a}}{a} = -\frac{4\pi G \rho_0}{3} \quad (20)$$

Fried accel; with continuity  $\rightarrow$  Friedmann

Zeroth order fluid equations  $\rightarrow$  usual expanding U  
in non-rel approximation

Now add perturbations  $\rho_1 = \rho_0 \delta$ ,  $\vec{v}_1$ ,  $\Phi_1$

simplest to use comoving (Lagrangian) coords

follow observers in unperturbed Hubble flow

perturbation fluid elements  $\vec{x}(t) = a(t)\vec{r}(t)$

peculiar fluid velocity  $\vec{v}_1(t) = a(t)\vec{u}(t)$

plug in, keep only terms linear in perturbations ( $\nabla = \nabla_{\vec{r}}$ )

→ *perturbation evolution to first (leading, linear) order*

$$\dot{\vec{u}} + 2\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\vec{u} = -\frac{1}{a^2}\nabla\Phi_1 - \frac{1}{a}\frac{\nabla\delta p}{\rho_0} \quad (21)$$

$$\dot{\delta} = -\nabla \cdot \vec{u} \quad (22)$$

consider the case of  $\Phi_1 = 0$  and  $\delta p = 0$ , but initial  $\vec{u} \neq 0$

10 Q: *what does this represent physically? what happens? why?*

Q: *implications for the situation when  $\Phi_1 \neq 0$  and  $\delta p \neq 0$ ?*

## Velocity Perturbation Evolution

peculiar velocity  $\vec{v}_1 = a(t) \vec{u}$  evolves as

$$\dot{\vec{u}} + 2\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\vec{u} = -\frac{1}{a^2}\nabla\Phi_1 - \frac{1}{a}\frac{\nabla\delta p}{\rho_0} \quad (23)$$

if no pressure nor density perturbations  
then  $\dot{u} = -2Hu$ , and so  $u \propto 1/a^2$   
and physical speed evolves as  $v_1 \propto 1/a$

but recall: long ago derived FLRW test particle speed  
evolves as  $\vec{v}(t) = \vec{v}_0/a(t)$

→ pressureless fluid's peculiar vel redshifts same as free particle  
→ expansion acts as “drag” on particles

if  $\Phi_1, \delta p \neq 0$ : Hubble “drag” still present

*removes kinetic energy from collapsing objects*

allows total energy to change (decrease) with time

→ *binding increases!*

## Linearized Density Evolution

now look for plane-wave solutions  $\leftrightarrow$  write as Fourier modes  
e.g.,  $\delta(\vec{r}) \sim e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}}$ , with  $\vec{k}$  **comoving wavenumber**

$$\ddot{\delta}_k + 2\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\dot{\delta}_k = \left(4\pi G\rho_0 - \frac{c_s^2 k^2}{a^2}\right) \delta_k \quad (24)$$

if no expansion ( $a = 1, \dot{a} = 0$ ), recover Jeans solution

with expansion:

- Hubble “friction” or “drag”  $-2H\dot{\delta}$  opposes density growth
- still critical Jeans scale:  $k_J = \sqrt{4\pi G\rho_0 a^2 / c_s^2}$   
expect oscillations on small scales, collapse on larger

# Director's Cut Extras

## Correlation Function

Taking  $\langle \delta(\vec{x})^2 \rangle$  gives  $(\delta\rho/\rho)_{\text{rms}}^2$

→ overlap of density contrast with itself  
(at same point in space)

What about  $\xi(\vec{r}) = \langle \delta(\vec{x})\delta(\vec{x} + \vec{r}) \rangle$  (fixed  $\vec{r}$ , avg over  $\vec{x}$ )  
(two-point or auto-) correlation function

- physical significance?
  - what if  $\rho$  at each space point independent of all other points?
  - opposite case: what if strictly periodic (lattice)?
- sign(s)? meaning of sign(s)?
- behavior at large, small  $|\vec{r}|$ ?
- significance of  $r$  at which  $\xi(r) = 0$ ?
- dependence on  $\hat{r} = \vec{r}/|\vec{r}|$ ?

Correlation function: avg of density contrast overlap with itself, “lagged” by spacing  $\vec{r}$ :

$$\xi(\vec{r}) = \langle \delta(\vec{x}) \delta(\vec{x} + \vec{r}) \rangle = \frac{1}{V} \int \delta(\vec{x}) \delta(\vec{x} + \vec{r}) d^3\vec{x} \quad (25)$$

- physically: given  $\delta$  somewhere, measures typical  $\delta$  separated by  $\vec{r}$
- if each space point independent of all others, no matter how close, then:  
 $\xi(\vec{r}) = 0$  for  $\vec{r} \neq 0$
- but even if this were ever true, local physics *must* remove independence
- since  $\delta \in (-1, \infty)$ ,  $\xi$  can be negative (must be for some  $r$ !)

*Demo-toy model transparencies*

15 Q: if structure in a lattice, what does  $\xi$  measure?

Q: what is significance of first zero of  $\xi$ ?

## Correlation function in an idealized “Lattice Universe”

- if lattice of galaxy clusters,  $\xi$  oscillates with lattice periodicity  
→ gives typical cluster size, and typical cluster separation  
true even if not lattice

## Correlation function generally:

- first  $\xi(\vec{r}) = 0$  gives typical cluster size
- small  $\vec{r}$ : must have  $\xi \rightarrow (\delta\rho/\rho)^2 > 0$   
large  $\vec{r}$ : correlations must vanish  $\xi \rightarrow 0$   
(cosmo principle/horizons)
- isotropy:  $\xi(\vec{r}) = \xi(r)$  independent of direction



In Fourier space:

$$\xi(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{V} \int \delta(\vec{x}) \delta(\vec{x} + \vec{r}) d^3\vec{x} \quad (26)$$

$$= \frac{V}{(2\pi)^6} \int \delta_{\vec{k}} \delta_{\vec{q}} e^{-i(\vec{k}+\vec{q})\cdot\vec{r}} e^{-i\vec{q}\cdot\vec{r}} d^3\vec{k} d^3\vec{q} d^3\vec{x} \quad (27)$$

$$= \frac{V}{(2\pi)^3} \int \delta_{\vec{k}} P(k) e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}} d^3\vec{k} \quad (28)$$

$$= \int \Delta^2(k) e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}} \frac{dk}{k} \quad (29)$$

correlation function is Fourier transf of power spectrum  $P(k)$

*Q: why observationally useful?*

example of general case:  $P(k)$  “all you need know”  
about density field for Gaussian fluctuations...

## Power-Law Spectra

Consider a power-law power spectrum  $P(k) \sim k^n$

- useful approximation over large  $k$  ranges
- inflation predicts initial conditions of this form
- recall  $\Delta^2(k) \sim k^3 P(k) \sim k^{n+3}$   
homogeneity  $\rightarrow n > -3$   
also must be cutoff at large  $k$   $Q$ : *physical meaning?*

Note: this is only a first approximation

But we will see that the *true* power spectrum  
is *not* a power law

- theory predicts deviations (“baryon acoustic oscillations”)
- observations have begun to detect these

Rough meaning of  $n$ :

for a lengthscale  $x \sim \lambda \sim 1/k$ ,

imagine “filtering” or “smoothing” density field over this scale

i.e., replace true density at each point with

density averaged over radius  $x$

then for each lengthscale  $x$

corresponding mean mass scale is  $M \sim \rho_0 x^3 \sim x^3$

then  $(\delta_{\text{rms}})^2 \sim \int_0^{1/x} \Delta(k) dk/k \sim M^{-(n+3)/3}$

and so root-mean-square mass fluctuation is

$$\delta_{\text{rms}} \sim M^{-(n+3)/6} \quad (30)$$

recall: for large  $k$ ,  $P(k) \sim k \rightarrow n = 1$

$\rightarrow \delta_{\text{rms}} \sim M^{-2/3}$  drops for large masses:

approach homogeneity as  $M \rightarrow \infty$

## Correlation Function

if  $P(k) \sim k^n$ , then  $\xi$  also a power law:

$\xi(r) \sim r^{-(n+3)}$ ; for galaxies

$$\xi_{\text{gal}}(r) \simeq \left( \frac{r}{5 h^{-1} \text{ Mpc}} \right)^{-1.8} \quad (31)$$

where **correlation length**  $r_{\text{corr}} = 5 h^{-1} \text{ Mpc}$

sets scale where  $\xi$  starts to become small

→ typical structure size

note SDSS galaxy-galaxy  $\xi$  index gives  $n \sim -1.2$

consistent with SDSS galaxy-galaxy  $P(k)$  measurements  
on the same scales (**check!**)

## Filtered Density

Conceptually useful, and observationally practical to imagine “filtering” the density field  $\rho(\vec{x})$  over some lengthscale  $R$ , mass scale

$$M(R) = \rho_0 V(R) = 1.16 \times 10^{12} h^{-1} \left( \frac{R}{1 h^{-1} \text{ Mpc}} \right)^3 M_\odot \quad (32)$$

→ gives “smoothed” field at this scale

To implement mathematically, introduce **window function** weights the neighboring points; simplest is “top hat”

$$W(r; R) = \begin{cases} 1 & r \leq R \\ 0 & r > R \end{cases} \quad (33)$$

using this, we have a “filtered variance”

$$\sigma^2(R) = \int d^3\vec{x} \delta(\vec{x})^2 W(|\vec{x}|; R) \quad (34)$$

$$= \frac{V}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3\vec{k} P(k) W_k \simeq \Delta^2(k \sim 1/R) \quad (35)$$

## Scale of Nonlinearities Now

Key scale  $R$ : where  $\sigma^2(R) = 1 \rightarrow$  linear/nonlinear boundary

empirically: near  $R \sim 10$  Mpc

i.e.,  $M \sim 10^{15} M_{\odot} \rightarrow$  rich clusters!

$\rightarrow$  scale just becoming nonlinear today

key parameter set by convention:  $\sigma_8$  a.k.a. “sigma-8”

$$\sigma_8^2 \equiv \sigma^2(8 h^{-1} \text{ Mpc}) \simeq 0.8 \quad (36)$$

## Gaussian Perturbations

So far: compared sizes of perturbations across **different** scales  $k$   
→ via shape of  $P(k) = |\delta_k|^2$

but can also ask: at one **fixed** scale  $k$   
what range of amplitudes  $\delta_k$  appear?

i.e., sample Fourier amplitude  $\delta_k$  over  
different volumes  $V \gg k^{-3}$

each a “realization” of true underlying cosmic sample  
→ what distribution results?

if **Fourier mode** amplitudes **independent**

and arise from causally disconnected regions

then central limit theorem (“law of averages”)

→  $\delta_k$  **Gaussian** distributed

→ this is also prediction from inflation

i.e., for density field smoothed over size  $R$   
probability of finding fluctuation amplitude  $\delta$  is

$$P(\delta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma(R)}} e^{-\delta^2/2\sigma^2(R)} \quad (37)$$

implicitly require  $|\delta| \ll 1$  Q: *why*

Observationally: holds as far as we can tell