

# Averaging on inhomogeneous spacetimes

Roberto A Sussman  
ICN-UNAM

[sussman@nucleares.unam.mx](mailto:sussman@nucleares.unam.mx)

STARS 2013

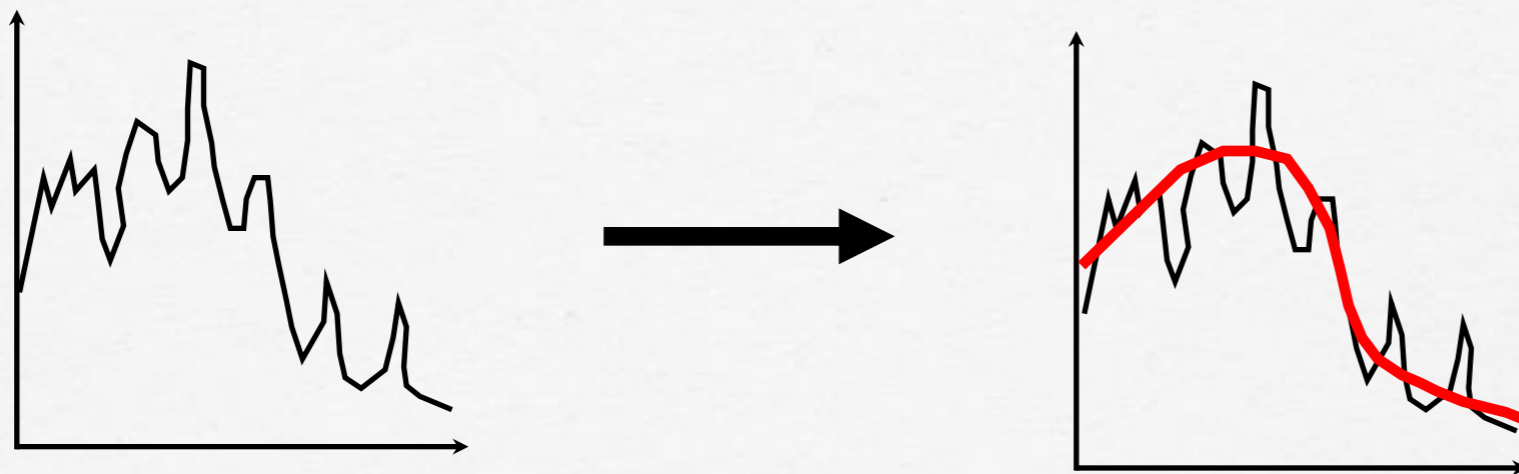
La Habana, Cuba, 3-7 May 2013



## Averaging in GR: why it matters?

- There is always some process of “averaging” when smoothing out “real” discrete matter–energy sources as part of “modeling”

$$G^{ab} = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} T^{ab}, \quad T^{ab} \sim \langle T_{\text{real}}^{ab} \rangle$$



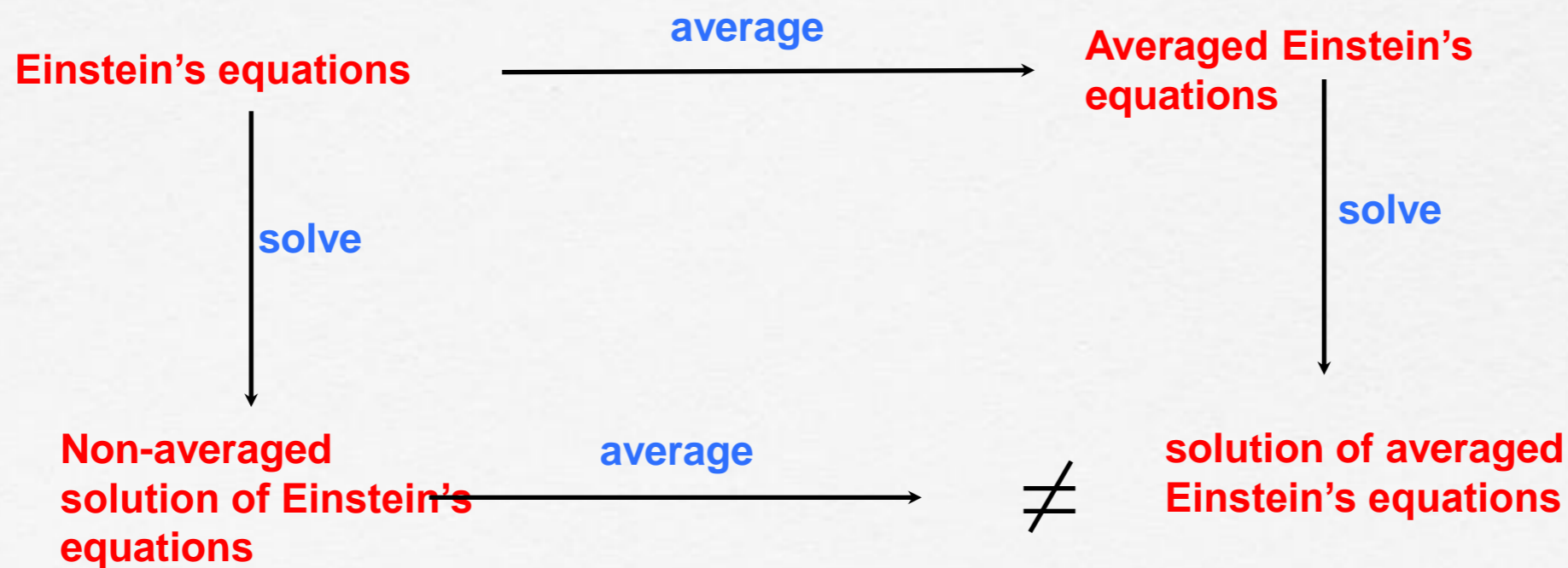
$$\langle \rho_{\text{real}} \rangle = \left\langle \left\langle \sum \left( \frac{m_i c^2}{r_i^3} \right) \right\rangle \right\rangle \sim \rho_{\text{cont.}} \sim \frac{M_{\text{cont.}}}{\ell^3}$$

$$\langle p_{\text{real}} \rangle = \left\langle \left\langle \sum \left( \frac{m_i v_i^2}{r_i^3} \right) \right\rangle \right\rangle \sim p_{\text{cont.}} \sim \rho_{\text{cont.}} T_{\text{cont.}}$$

**Averaging exact solutions of Einstein's equations  
NOT EQUAL TO solving the averaged Einstein's equations:**

$$\langle G_{ab}[g_{ab}] \rangle \neq \langle G_{ab} \rangle [\langle g_{ab} \rangle],$$

$$\langle \mathcal{R}_{ab} \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \langle g_{ab} \mathcal{R} \rangle = \langle \mathcal{R}_{ab} \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \langle g_{ab} \rangle \langle \mathcal{R} \rangle - \mathbf{corr}(g_{ab}, \mathcal{R})$$





## Best attempt so far by R Zalaletdinov's "Macroscopic Gravity:

Zalaletdinov R M, *Averaging Problem in Cosmology and Macroscopic Gravity*, Online Proceedings of the Atlantic Regional Meeting on General Relativity and Gravitation, Fredericton, NB, Canada, May 2006, ed. R.J. McKellar (*Preprint arXiv:gr-qc/0701116*)  
 Coley A A and Pelavas N 2007 *Phys.Rev. D* **75** 043506; Coley A A, Pelavas N and Zalaletdinov R M 2005 *Phys.Rev.Lett.* **95** 151102

=> Macroscopic gravity is a non-perturbative geometrical approach (Zalaletdinov - 1992-2005) to resolve the Averaging Problem: a reformulation in a broader context as the problem of macroscopic description of gravitation

▲ Classical physical phenomena possess two levels of description (Lorentz, 1897, 1916):

The microscopic description  $\iff$  The discrete matter model

↓ by a suitable averaging procedure ↓

The macroscopic description  $\iff$  The continuous matter model

Lorentz 'theory of electrons

Maxwell's electrodynamics

$$F_{,\nu}^{\mu\nu} = \frac{4\pi}{c} j^\mu = 4\pi \sum_i q_i u^\mu(t_i) \quad \rightarrow \langle \text{averaging} \rangle \rightarrow \quad H^{\mu\nu}{}_{,\nu} = \frac{4\pi}{c} \langle j \rangle^\mu = \frac{4\pi}{c} (J^\mu - cP^{\mu\nu})$$

$$F_{[\alpha\beta,\gamma]} = 0 \quad \rightarrow \langle \text{averaging} \rangle \rightarrow \quad \langle F \rangle_{[\alpha\beta,\gamma]} = 0, \quad H^{\mu\nu} = \langle F \rangle^{\mu\nu} + 4\pi P^{\mu\nu}$$

**Problem:** Macroscopic Gravity is INTRACTABLE.

**ALSO:** we should take these analogies with a big “grain of salt”, as they often fail ...

- XIX century analogy between **elastic waves** and **electromagnetic waves** --- gave rise to the notion of “ether” as fixed reference frame

**Failed !!**

- **Canonical Quantization** (Wheeler De Witt) 1970-1980's attempts to quantize gravity by analogy with quantization of electromagnetism: Hamiltonian formalism + “canonical variables” (p,q) + Poisson Parenthesis ---- Classical Commutators become Quantum Operators (Klein-Gordon equation in “super space”)

**Failed !!**



**Consolation:** we know how to do “spatial” average of covariant scalars along 3-dimensional “time slices”

**Problem:** only applicable to spacetimes for which Einstein Equations can be reduced to purely scalar modes (LRS spacetimes):

- 3-dimensional Lie groups with 2-dimensional orbits (spherical symmetry)
- Most Bianchi models

**Best known formalism by Thomas Buchert.**

Buchert T, 2000 *Gen. Rel. Grav.* **32** 105; Buchert T, 2000 *Gen. Rel. Grav.* **32** 306-321; Buchert T 2001 *Gen. Rel. Grav.* **33** 1381-1405; Ellis G F R and Buchert T 2005 *Phys. Lett. A* **347** 38-46; Buchert T and Carfora M 2002 *Class. Quant. Grav.* **19** 6109-6145; Buchert T 2006 *Class. Quantum Grav.* **23** 819; Buchert T, Larena J and Alimi J M 2006 *Class. Quantum Grav.* **23** 6379; Buchert T 2005 *Class. Quantum Grav.* **22** L113-L119; Buchert T 2006 *Class. Quantum Grav.* **23** 817-844 (Preprint arXiv:gr-qc/0509124)

**Good things:** it is a tractable formalism, it provides a non-trivial modification of the dynamics by emergence of “back-reaction” terms (the statistical correlation functions from non-linearity)

**Problem:** does not yield a closed self-consistent set of dynamical equations unless we make “ad hoc” assumptions on the back-reaction terms



# Examine scalar averaging by means of Szekeres dust models

## Why Szekeres models?

Szekeres models offer a much better description of cosmological structure than spherical LTB models

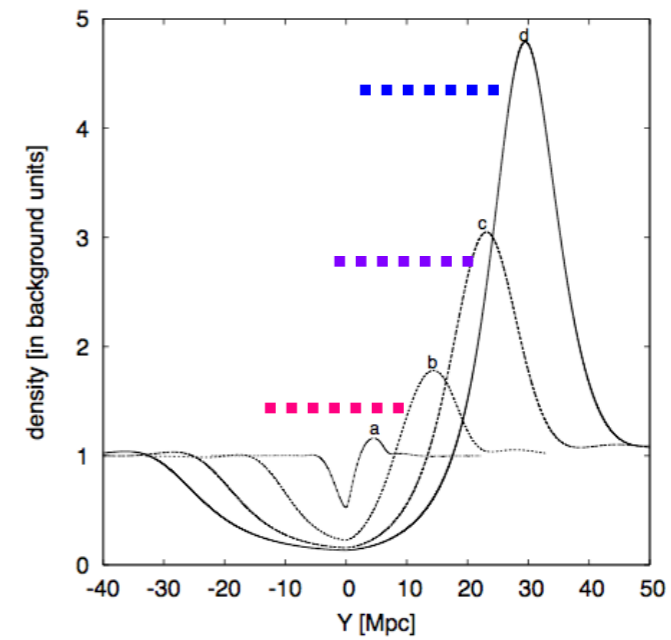
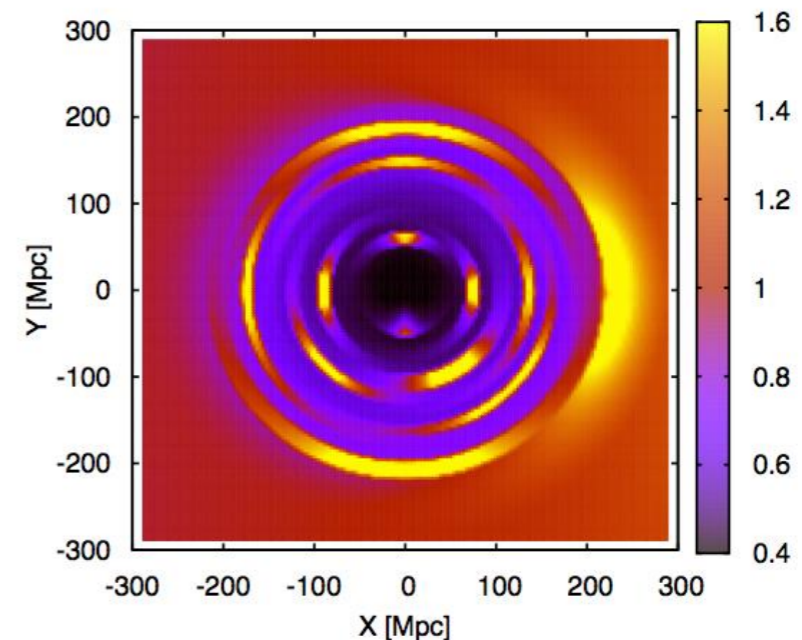
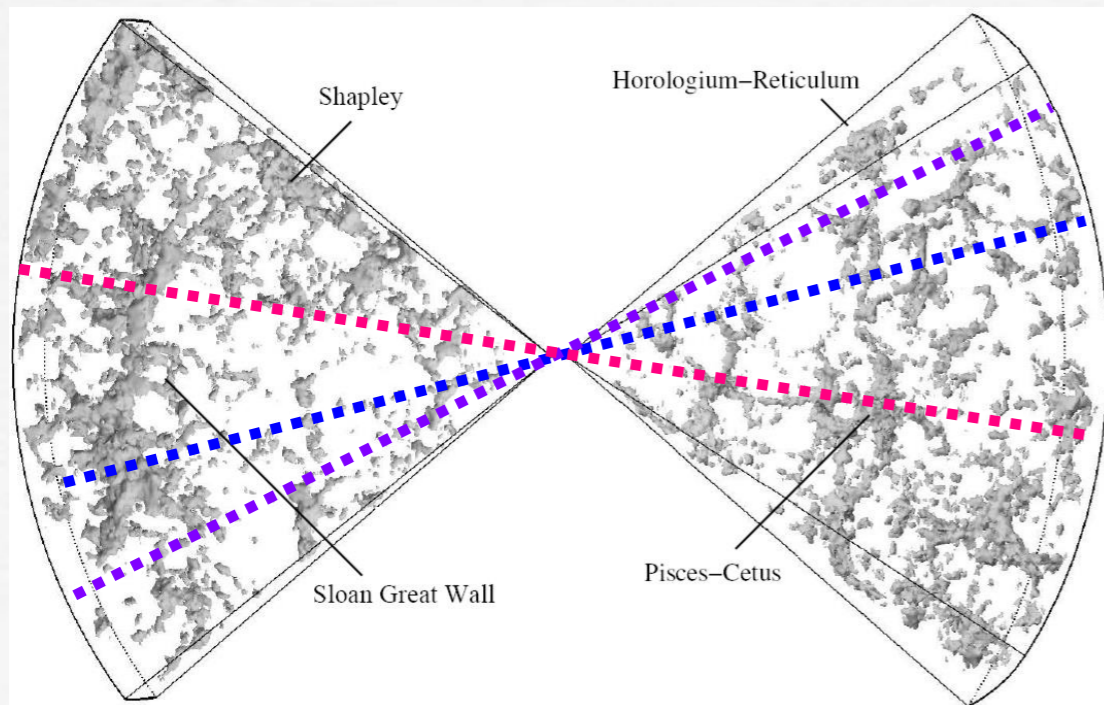


Figure 5. The density profile for different time instants: a — 1 Gy after the Big Bang, b — 5.5 Gy, c — 10 Gy, d — present instant.



But observations are not the full story

Szekeres models are theoretically interesting !!

★ They are among the less idealized inhomogeneous & anisotropic geometries: do not admit isometries (in general). NOT spherically nor axially symmetric.

→ mathematically interesting candidates to test theoretical issues not (necessarily) related to fitting observations.

→ Averaging: connection to Perturbation theory and Statistical Mechanics:

FLRW background	↔	averaged scalars
Perturbations	↔	local scalars
Gravitational entropy	↔	inhomogeneity (disorder)



# Dynamics through 1+3 formalism

## Covariant objects:

density

$$\rho,$$

expansion

$$H \equiv \frac{\theta}{3}$$

shear

$$\sigma_{ab} = \tilde{\nabla}_{(a} u_{b)} - H h_{ab}$$

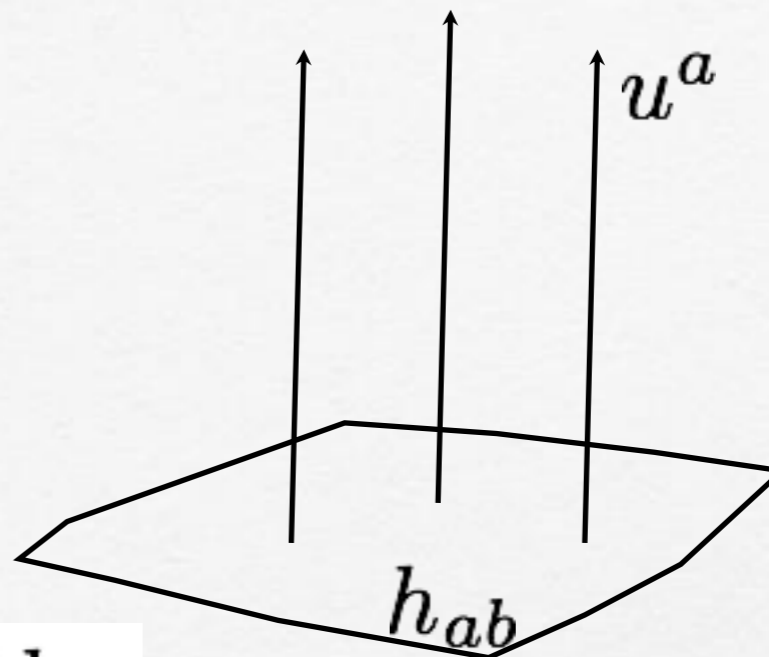
electric Weyl

$$E_{ab} = u^c u^d C_{acbd}$$

spatial curvature

$$K \equiv \frac{{}^3\mathcal{R}}{6}$$

Zero vorticity &  
zero 4-acceleration



# Einstein's Equations = Dynamical System

$$\dot{\rho} = -3H\rho$$

$$\dot{H} = -H^2 - \frac{4\pi}{3}\rho - \frac{1}{3}\sigma_{ab}\sigma^{ab}$$

$$\dot{\sigma}_{\langle ab \rangle} = -2H\sigma_{ab} - \sigma_{\langle ac}\sigma_{b \rangle}^c - E_{ab}$$

$$\dot{E}_{\langle ab \rangle} = -3HE_{ab} - 4\pi\rho\sigma_{ab} + 3\sigma_{\langle ac}E_{b \rangle}^c$$

**FLRW subset**

$$\{\rho, H, K\}$$

## Constraints

$$\tilde{\nabla}_b \sigma_a^b - 2\tilde{\nabla}_a H = 0$$

$$\tilde{\nabla}_b E_a^b - \frac{4\pi}{3}\tilde{\nabla}_a \rho = 0$$

$$H^2 = \frac{8\pi}{3}\rho - K - \sigma_{ab}\sigma^{ab}$$

**Hamiltonian constraint**



# Are there dynamical effects from averaging ?

Yes because General Relativity is a NON-LINEAR theory:

$$\left\langle \frac{\partial A}{\partial t} \right\rangle \neq \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \langle A \rangle \quad \langle AB \rangle \neq \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle$$

FLRW Raychaudhuri equation  
with Lambda:

$$\dot{\mathcal{H}} = -\mathcal{H}^2 - \frac{4\pi}{3}\rho + \Lambda,$$

Szekeres Raychaudhuri equation  
without Lambda:

$$\dot{\mathcal{H}} = -\mathcal{H}^2 - \frac{4\pi}{3}\rho - \sigma_{ab}\sigma^{ab},$$

Let's average Sz equation:

$$\langle \mathcal{H} \rangle = \frac{\int \mathcal{H} dV_p}{\int dV_p}, \quad \langle \rho \rangle = \frac{\int \rho dV_p}{\int dV_p}$$

The result is:

$$\langle \mathcal{H} \rangle \cdot = -\langle \mathcal{H} \rangle^2 - \frac{4\pi}{3}\langle \rho \rangle + Q,$$

where the "backreaction" is

$$Q \equiv \langle (\mathcal{H} - \langle \mathcal{H} \rangle)^2 \rangle - \langle \sigma_{ab}\sigma^{ab} \rangle,$$

Therefore, if:  $Q > 0$  IT CAN PLAY THE ROLE OF A COSMOLOGICAL  
CONSTANT (accelerating expansion of averages)

- Can we observed the effects of Back-Reaction?

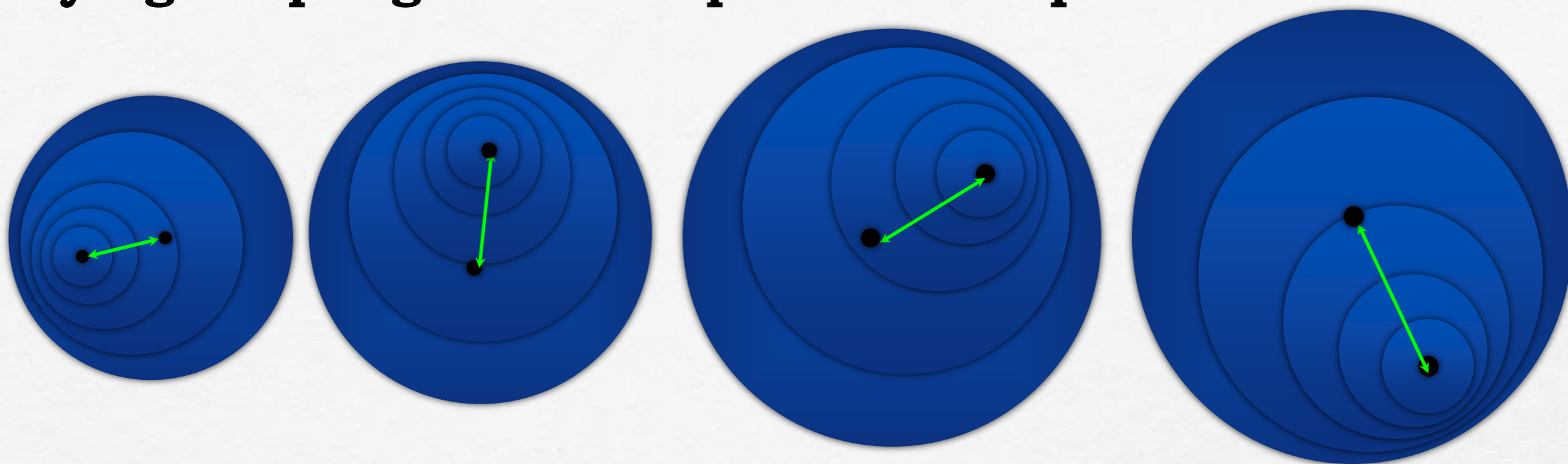
YES (IN PRINCIPLE)

- Can we use Back-Reaction to substitute the Cosmological Constant of the concordance LCDM model?

Unfortunately NO



**EFFECTS OF AVERAGING:** Szekeres models are a time varying coupling of a monopole and a dipole:



scalars expressible as:  $A = A^{(m)}(t, r) + A^{(d)}(t, r, \theta, \phi)$

but for every domain we have:  $\langle A^{(d)} \rangle_q = 0$

Therefore: averages are spherically symmetric  $\langle A \rangle_q = \langle A^{(m)} \rangle_q(t, r)$

**Conjecture:** averaging “smooths out” non-spherical structure

## Try the following task: weighed average

Construct averages (“q-averages”) with WEIGHT factor F such that

★ q-averages of scalars common to FLRW:  $\langle \rho \rangle_q$ ,  $\langle H \rangle_q$ ,  $\langle K \rangle_q$ ,

satisfy FLRW evolution laws

★ Define dimensionless q-fluctuations

$$\delta(\rho) = \frac{\rho - \langle \rho \rangle_q}{\langle \rho \rangle_q}, \quad \delta(H) = \frac{H - \langle H \rangle_q}{\langle H \rangle_q}, \quad \delta(K) = \frac{K - \langle K \rangle_q}{\langle K \rangle_q},$$

**DEMAND** that the dynamics of Szekeres models is completely determined by q-averages and their q-fluctuations

The idea leads to a **RIGOROUS** perturbation formalism in which:

★ FLRW “background” defined by q-averaged scalars

★ The “perturbations” are the q-fluctuations



## The result is encouraging: Szekeres = exact perturbations on FLRW

### Evolution equations:

$$\langle \dot{\rho} \rangle_q = -3 \langle \rho \rangle_q \langle H \rangle_q,$$

$$\langle \dot{H} \rangle_q = -\langle H \rangle_q^2 - \frac{4\pi}{3} \langle \rho \rangle_q,$$

FLRW evolution equations  
“background” evolution.

$$\dot{\delta}^{(\rho)} = -3(1 + \delta^{(\rho)}) \langle H \rangle_q \delta^{(H)},$$

$$\dot{\delta}^{(H)} = -(1 + 3\delta^{(H)}) \langle H \rangle_q \delta^{(H)} + \frac{4\pi \langle \rho \rangle_q}{3 \langle H \rangle_q} (\delta^{(H)} - \delta^{(\rho)}),$$

evolution of “perturbations”

### Constraints are purely algebraic:

$$2\delta^{(H)} = \langle \Omega \rangle_q \delta^{(\rho)} + [1 - \langle \Omega \rangle_q] \delta^{(K)},$$

$$\delta^{(\Omega)} = \delta^{(\rho)} - 2\delta^{(H)},$$

$$\langle \Omega \rangle_q = \frac{8\pi \langle \rho \rangle_q}{3 \langle H \rangle_q^2},$$

$$\langle H \rangle_q^2 = \frac{8\pi}{3} \langle \rho \rangle_q - \langle K \rangle_q,$$

Friedman FLRW equation  
and FLRW Omega factor

**The perturbations provide an invariant measure of inhomogeneity**

$$\delta(\rho) = \frac{\xi}{1-\xi}, \quad \xi \equiv \frac{\psi_2}{\mathcal{R}}$$

**Ratio of Weyl to Ricci curvature.**

$$\delta(H) = -\frac{\zeta}{1-\zeta}, \quad \zeta \equiv \frac{\Sigma}{H} \quad \text{where: } \Sigma \text{ is the eigenvalue of } \sigma_{ab}$$

**Ratio of anisotropic to isotropic expansion.**



## Relation between fluctuations and invariants

$$\mathbf{D}(A) = A(t, r, x, y) - \langle A \rangle_q(t, r)$$

$$\mathcal{R}_{cd}^{ab} = \frac{8\pi}{3} \rho \left( 3\delta_{[c}^{[a} \delta_{d]}^{b]} + 6\delta_{[c}^{[a} u^{b]} u_{d]} - \delta_{[c}^a \delta_{d]}^b \right) - \frac{4\pi}{3} \mathbf{D}(\rho) \left( h_{[c}^{[a} - 3u_{[c} u^{a]} \right) \mathbf{e}_{d]}^b, \quad (19)$$

$$\mathcal{R}_b^a = 4\pi \rho (h_b^a + u^a u_b), \quad (20)$$

$$E_{ab} = -\frac{4\pi}{3} \mathbf{D}(\rho) \mathbf{e}_{ab}, \quad C_{cd}^{ab} = -\frac{4\pi}{3} \mathbf{D}(\rho) \left( h_{[c}^{[a} - 3u_{[c} u^{a]} \right) \mathbf{e}_{d]}^b, \quad (21)$$

$$\sigma_{ab} = -\mathbf{D}(\mathcal{H}) \mathbf{e}_{ab}, \quad \mathcal{H}_{ab} = \mathcal{H} h_{ab} - \mathbf{D}(\mathcal{H}) \mathbf{e}_{ab}, \quad (22)$$

while their scalar contractions take the form:

$$\mathcal{R}_{abcd} \mathcal{R}^{abcd} = \frac{256\pi^2}{3} \left( [\mathbf{D}(\rho)]^2 + \frac{5}{4} \rho^2 \right), \quad \mathcal{R}_{ab} \mathcal{R}^{ab} = 64\pi^2 \rho^2, \quad (23)$$

$$C_{abcd} C^{abcd} = \frac{256\pi^2}{3} [\mathbf{D}(\rho)]^2 = 8E_{ab} E^{ab}, \quad (24)$$

$$\sigma_{ab} \sigma^{ab} = 6[\mathbf{D}(\mathcal{H})]^2, \quad \sigma_{ab} E^{ab} = \frac{4\pi}{3} \mathbf{D}(\rho) \mathbf{D}(\mathcal{H}). \quad (25)$$

**Averages of quadratic invariants are statistical moments: variances & covariances of the density and Hubble scalar:**

$$\mathbf{Var}_q(A) \equiv \langle A^2 \rangle - \langle A \rangle^2 \quad \mathbf{Cov}_q(A, B) \equiv \langle AB \rangle - \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle$$

$$\langle \sigma_{ab} \sigma^{ab} \rangle_q = 6 \langle \Sigma^2 \rangle_q = 6 \mathbf{Var}_q(\mathcal{H}),$$

$$\langle E_{ab} E^{ab} \rangle_q = 6 \langle \mathcal{E}^2 \rangle_q = 6 \langle (\Psi_2)^2 \rangle_q = \frac{32\pi^2}{3} \mathbf{Var}_q(\rho),$$

$$\langle \sigma_{ab} E^{ab} \rangle_q = 6 \langle \Sigma \mathcal{E} \rangle_q = 8\pi \mathbf{Cov}_q(\rho, \mathcal{H}),$$

$$\langle \mathcal{R}_{abcd} \mathcal{R}^{abcd} \rangle_q = \frac{256\pi^2}{3} \left[ \mathbf{Var}_q(\rho) + \frac{5}{4} \langle \rho^2 \rangle_q \right] = \frac{4}{3} \left[ \mathbf{Var}_q(\mathcal{R}) + \frac{5}{4} \langle \mathcal{R}^2 \rangle_q \right], \quad (32)$$

$$\langle C_{abcd} C^{abcd} \rangle_q = \frac{256\pi^2}{3} \mathbf{Var}_q(\rho) = \frac{4}{3} \mathbf{Var}_q(\mathcal{R}) = 8 \langle E_{ab} E^{ab} \rangle_q, \quad (33)$$

where we used the fact that  $\langle \mathcal{R} \rangle_q = 8\pi \langle \rho \rangle_q$  and  $\mathcal{R}_{ab} \mathcal{R}^{ab} = \mathcal{R}^2$ .



## The gravitational entropy functional of Morita & Buchert)

$$S - S_{\text{eq}} = \gamma_0 \int_{\mathcal{D}} p_i \ln \left[ \frac{p_i}{P} \right] \mathcal{F} dV_p = \gamma_0 \int_{\mathcal{D}} \rho \ln \left[ \frac{\rho}{\langle \rho \rangle_q} \right] \mathcal{F} dV_p$$

$$\frac{\dot{S}}{\mathcal{V}_q} = -3\gamma_0 \mathbf{Cov}_q(\rho, \mathcal{H}) = -3\gamma_0 \langle \mathbf{D}(\rho) \mathbf{D}(\mathcal{H}) \rangle_q \geq 0, \quad (37)$$

so that:

$$\mathbf{Cov}_q(\rho, \mathcal{H}) = \langle \mathbf{D}(\mathcal{H}) \mathbf{D}(\rho) \rangle_q[r] < 0 \Rightarrow \dot{S}(r) > 0, \quad (38)$$

This condition can also be given in terms of the q-average of a scalar invariant by:

$$\langle \sigma_{ab} E^{ab} \rangle_q[r] < 0 \Rightarrow \dot{S}(r) > 0, \quad (39)$$

which is a very elegant way to connect (34) with an unequivocal and completely coordinate independent marker of inhomogeneity, as it contains contributions from density and velocity fluctuations. It remains to prove in

# Connection and/or analogies to Statistical Mechanics

**WARNING:** under construction, so  
expect lots of hand waiving !!!



## Phase space in Microcanonical ensemble

Take as phase space coordinates:

$$\{p, q\} = \{\rho, H\}$$

Allowed phase space states:

$$\{\Delta p, \Delta q\} = \{1 + \delta^{(\rho)}, 1 + \delta^{(H)}\} = \left\{ \frac{\rho}{\langle \rho \rangle_q}, \frac{H}{\langle H \rangle_q} \right\}$$

Phase space volume occupied by Szekeres model:

$$\omega = [1 + \delta^{(\rho)}] [1 + \delta^{(H)}]$$

**Microcanonical entropy:** available volume in phase space

$$S = k_B \ln \omega = k_B [\ln(1 + \delta^{(\rho)}) + \ln(1 + \delta^{(H)})]$$

**Notice:** FLRW models are a point of phase space with zero entropy

$$\delta^{(\rho)} = \delta^{(H)} = 0$$

## Canonical Ensemble (part 2)

**SYSTEM:** compact comoving domain,

**HEAT BATH:** remaining "exterior" of manifold.

**Partition function**  $Z(\beta, J_\rho, J_K) = \int_{\mathcal{D}} \exp(-\beta H - J_\rho \rho - J_K K) dV_p,$

★ **Ensamble averages are expectation values:**

$$-\left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \ln Z \right]_{J_\rho = J_K = 0} = \frac{\int H e^{-\beta H} dV_p}{\int e^{-\beta H} dV_p} = \langle H \rangle_q$$

$$-\left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial J_\rho} \ln Z \right]_{J_\rho = J_K = 0} = \frac{\int \rho e^{-\beta H} dV_p}{\int e^{-\beta H} dV_p} = \langle \rho \rangle_q \quad \Rightarrow \quad \beta = -\frac{\ln F}{H}$$

$$-\left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial J_K} \ln Z \right]_{J_\rho = J_K = 0} = \frac{\int K e^{-\beta H} dV_p}{\int e^{-\beta H} dV_p} = \langle K \rangle_q$$

★ **Entropy:**

$$S = k_B [\beta \langle H \rangle_q + \ln Z] = k_B \left[ -\frac{\ln F}{1 + \delta(H)} + \ln \int_{\mathcal{D}} F \exp(-J_\rho \rho - J_K K) dV_p \right]$$

**Must satisfy:**  $\dot{S} \geq 0,$   $\nabla_a S^a \geq 0$  where  $S^a = n S u^a$



THANKS FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION