

Cosmic backreaction and Gauss's law

Cosmoback workshop
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Pierre Fleury



**UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE**

FACULTÉ DES SCIENCES

*Presentation based on Phys. Rev. D 95, 124009 (2017),
and ongoing work with C. Clarkson, T. Clifton, L. Reverberi*

A note on terminology

Paraphrasing *Kolb, Marra, Matarrese (2009)*

« strong backreaction » = inhomogeneities affect expansion law

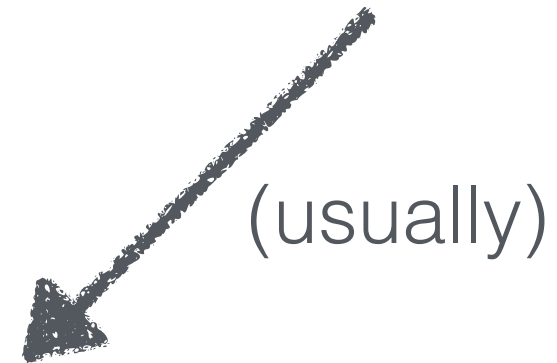
« weak backreaction » = inhomogeneities affect observations

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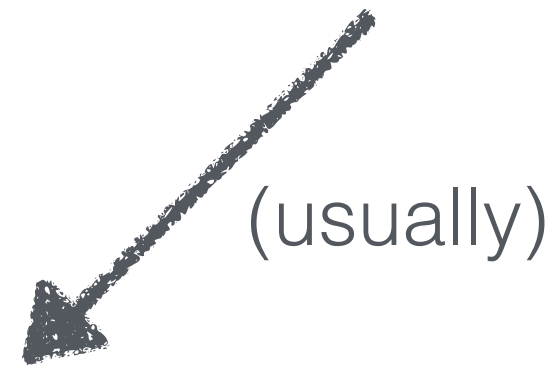
distance - redshift relation

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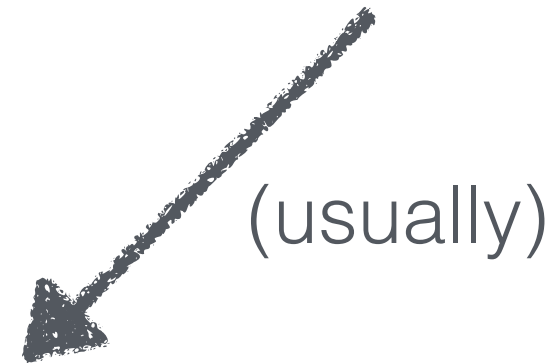
(usually)
angular distance - redshift relation $D_A(z)$

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$D_A(\lambda)$ and $\lambda(z)$

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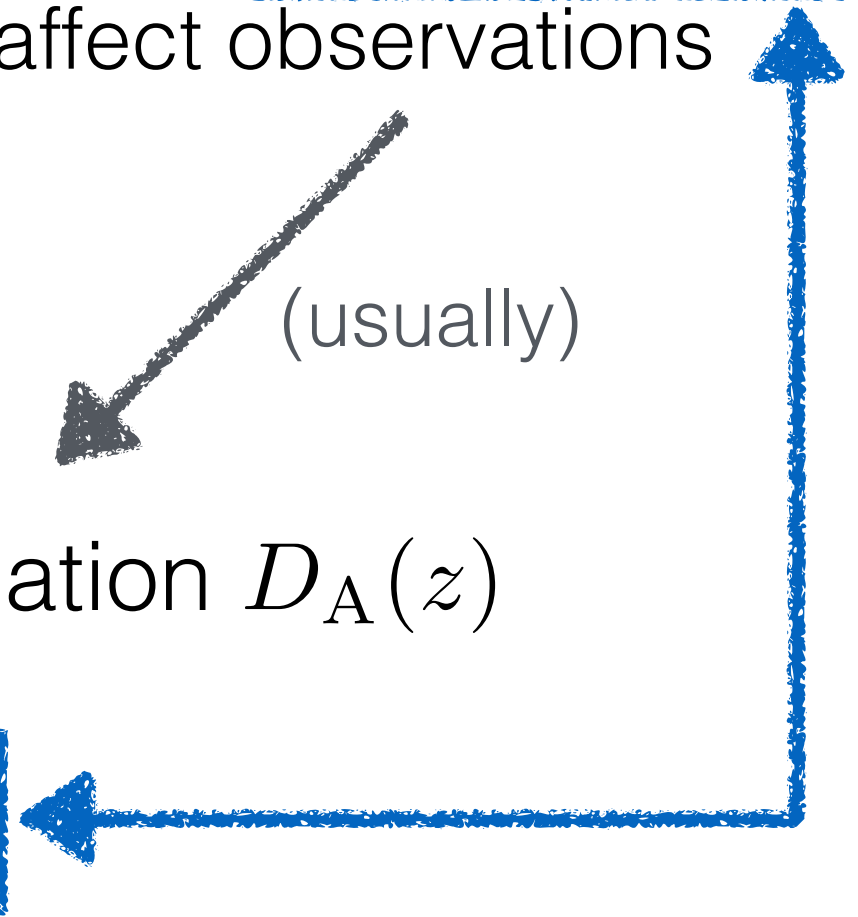
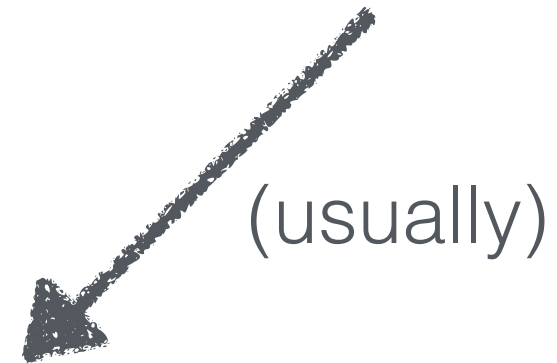
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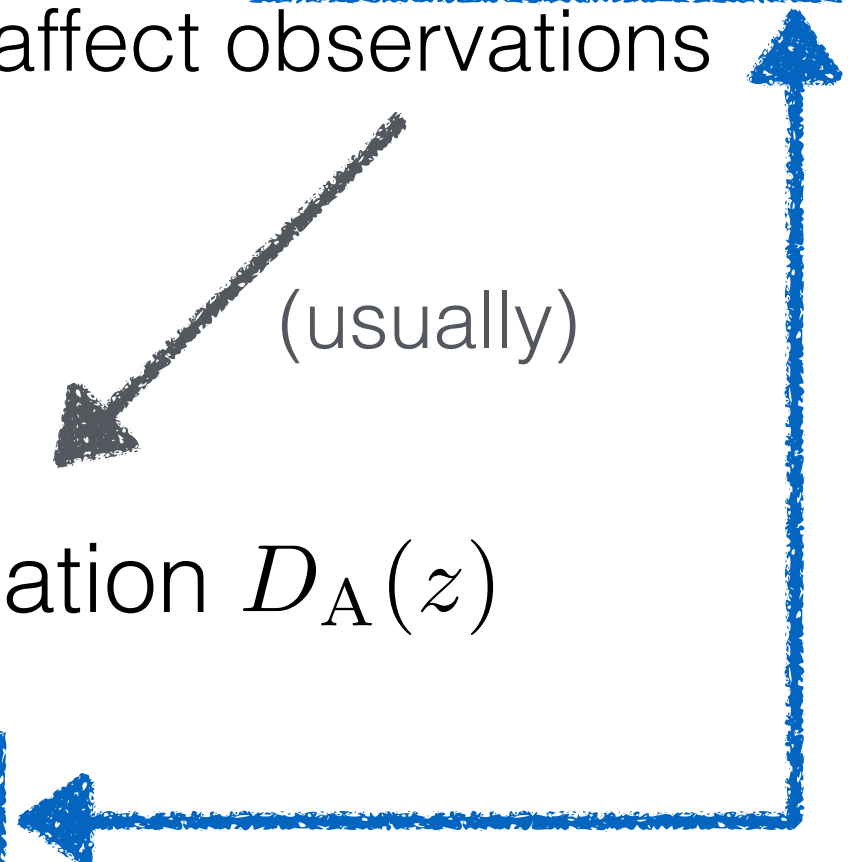
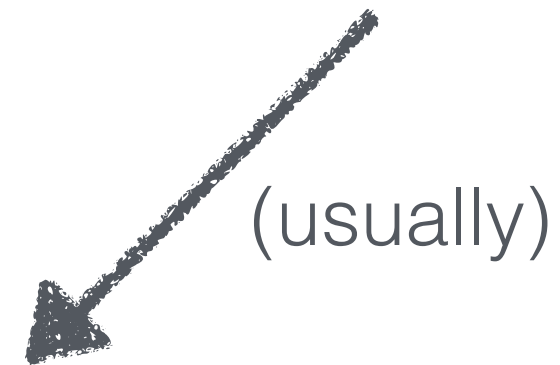
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lensing



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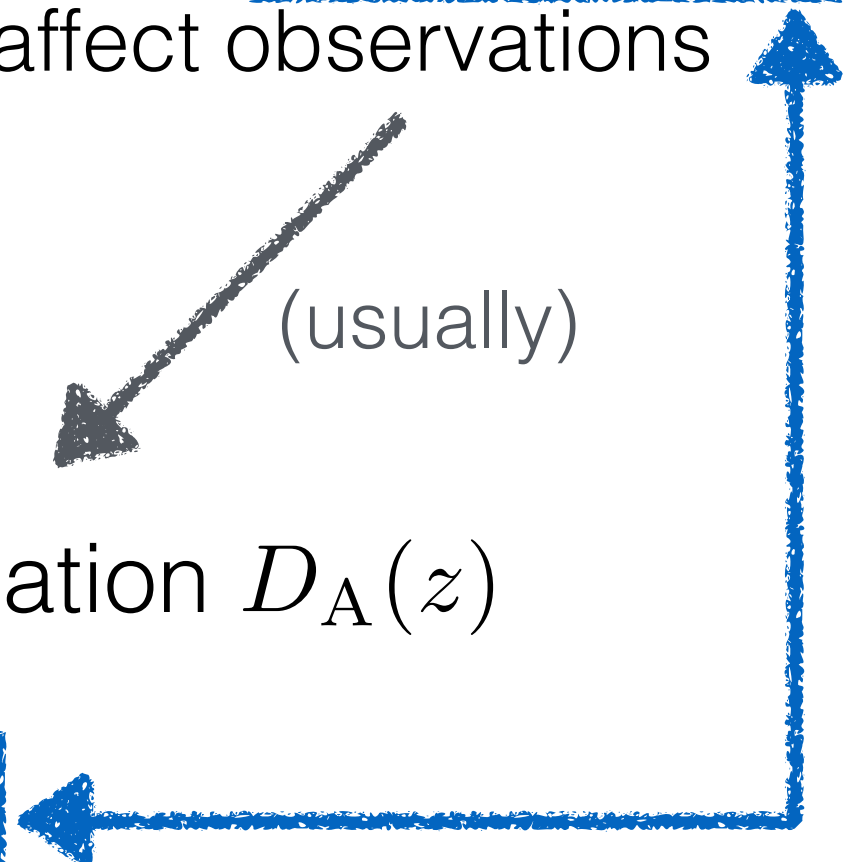
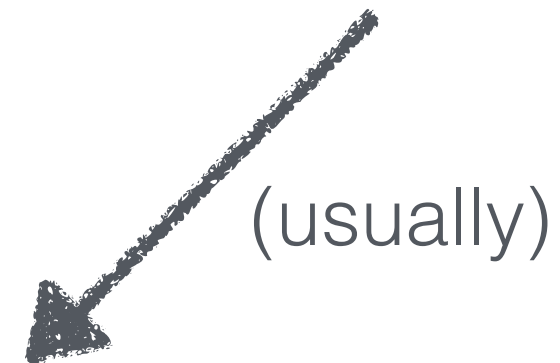
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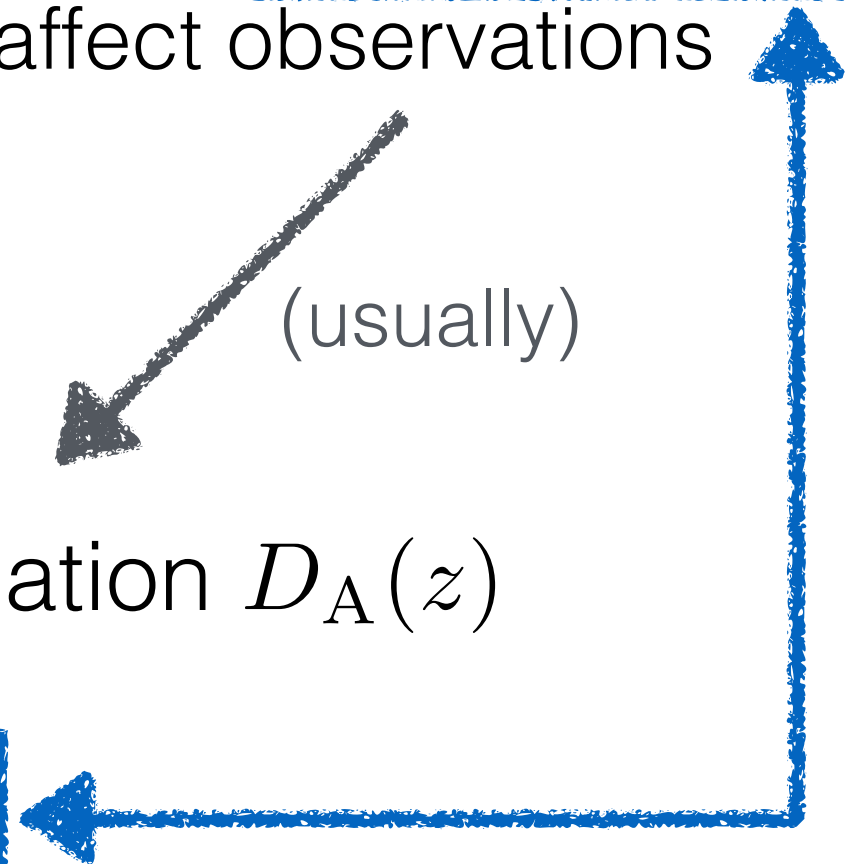
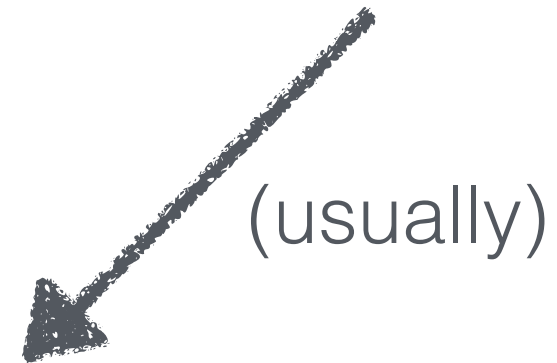
« fitting problem » **[Ellis, 1987]**

(usually)

angular distance - redshift relation $D_A(z)$

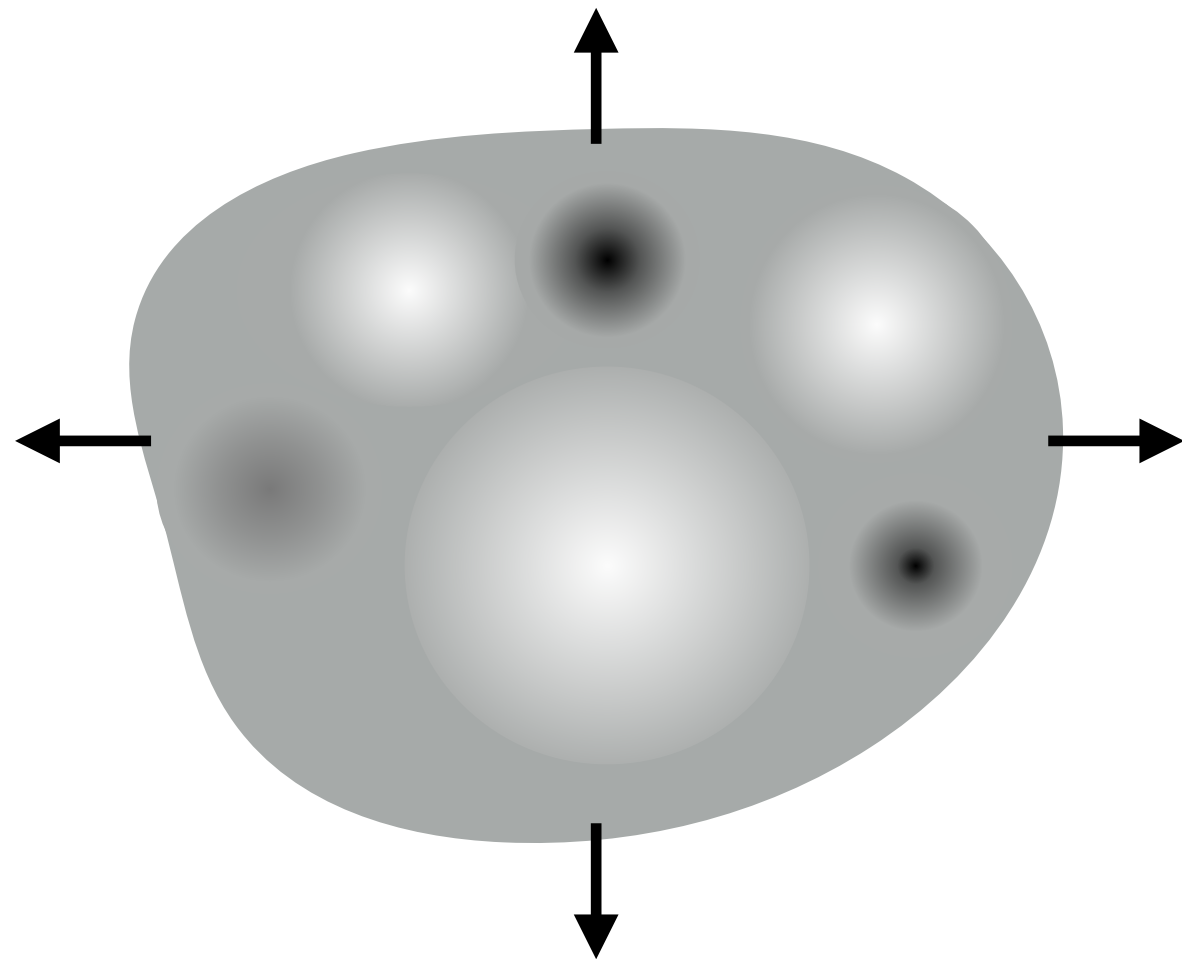
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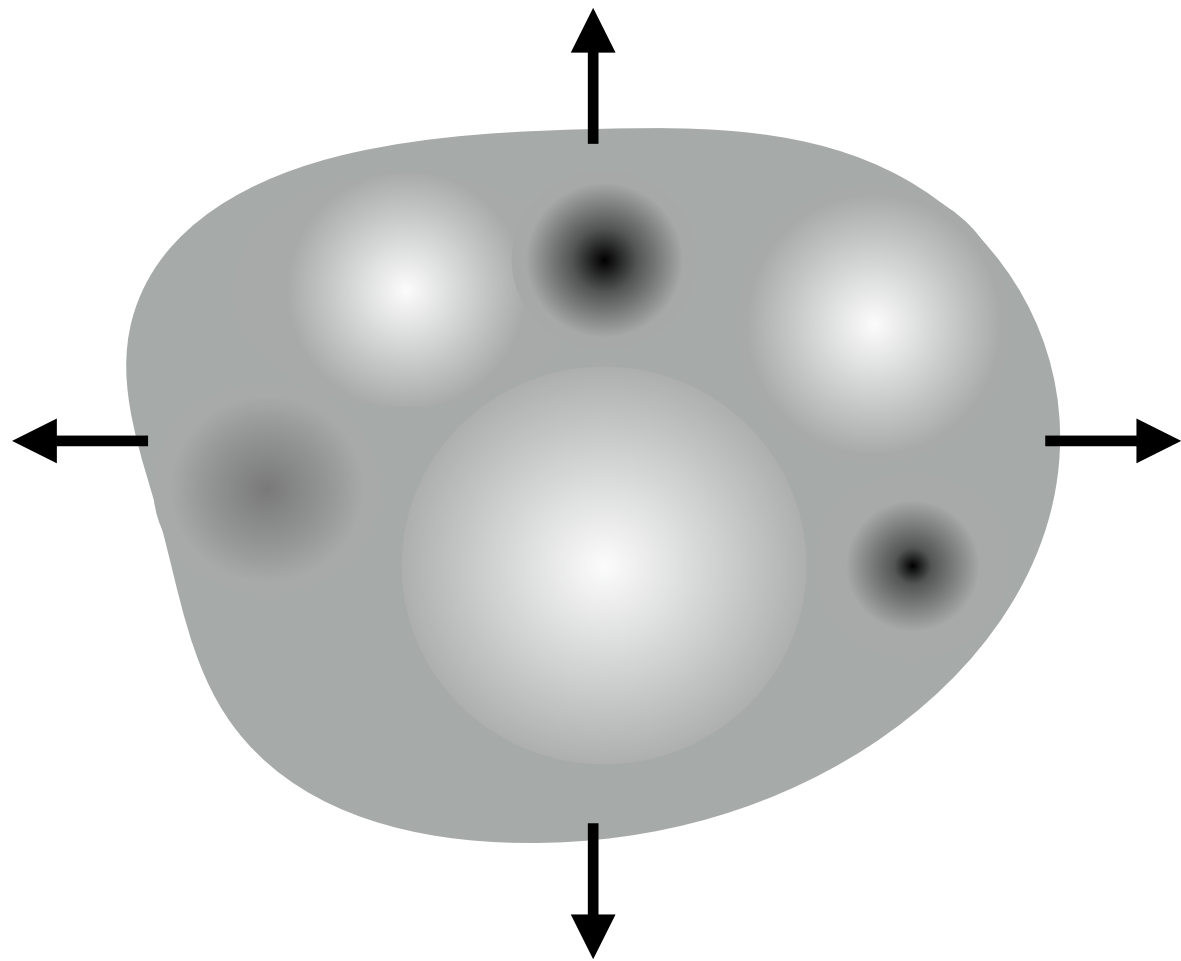
Backreaction: two questions

inhomogeneity

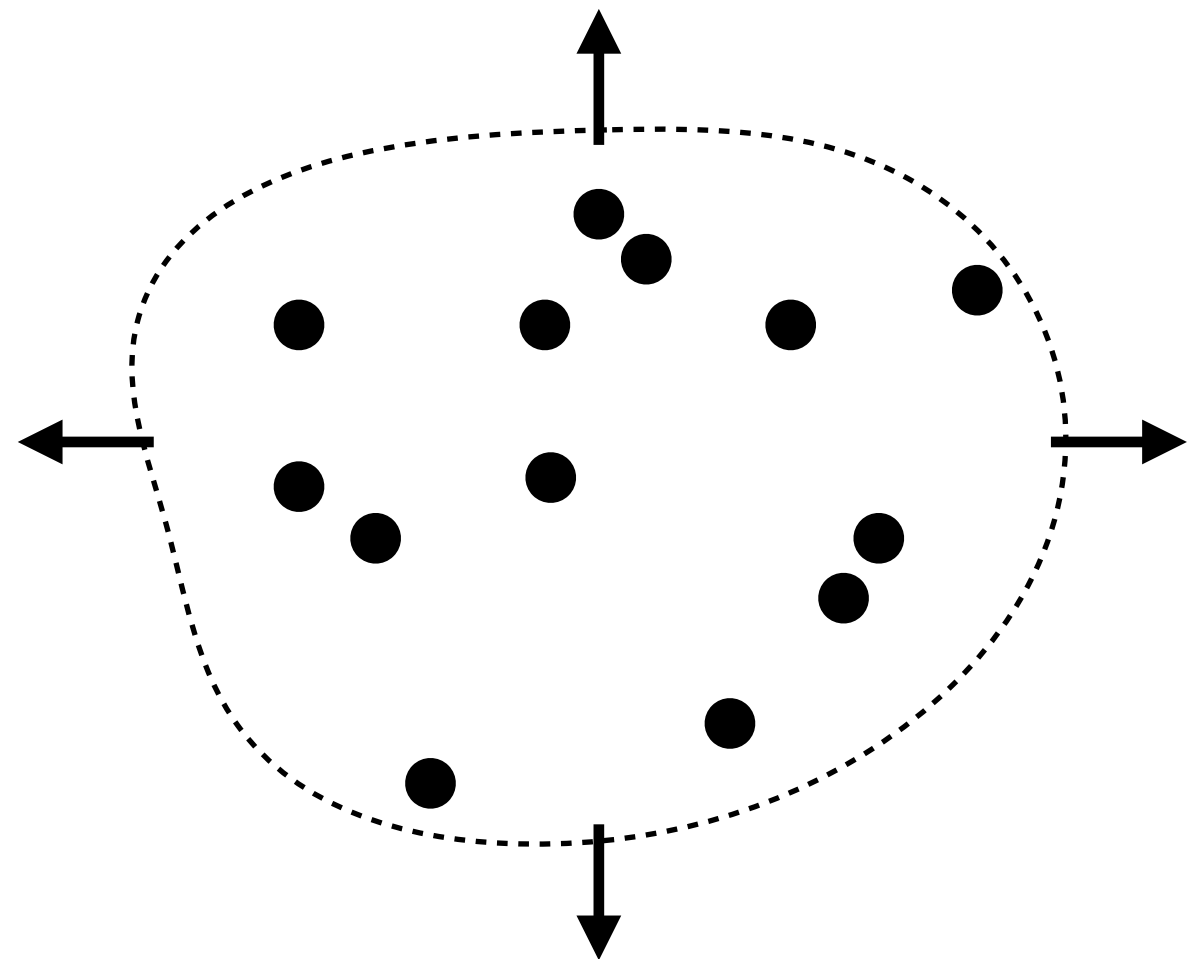


Backreaction: two questions

inhomogeneity



lumpiness/discreteness



**Is there backreaction due to
discreteness?**

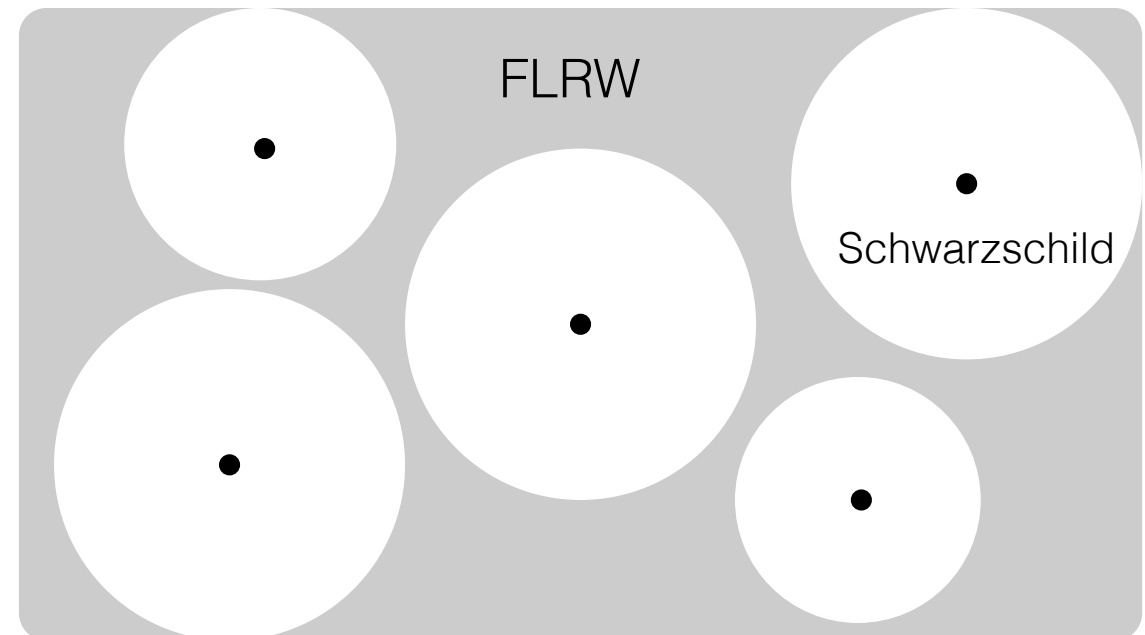
Current status

Results towards « discrete = continuous »

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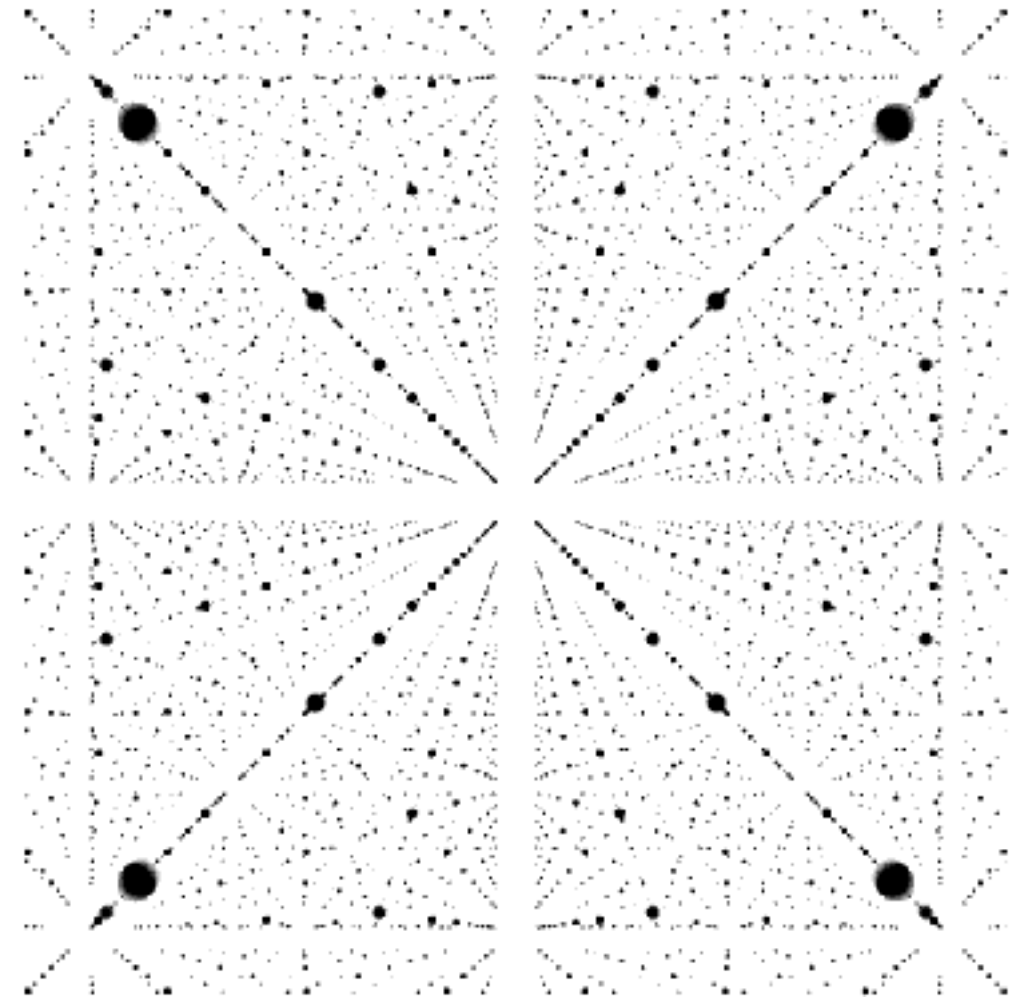
- Swiss-cheese models
[Einstein & Straus 1945]



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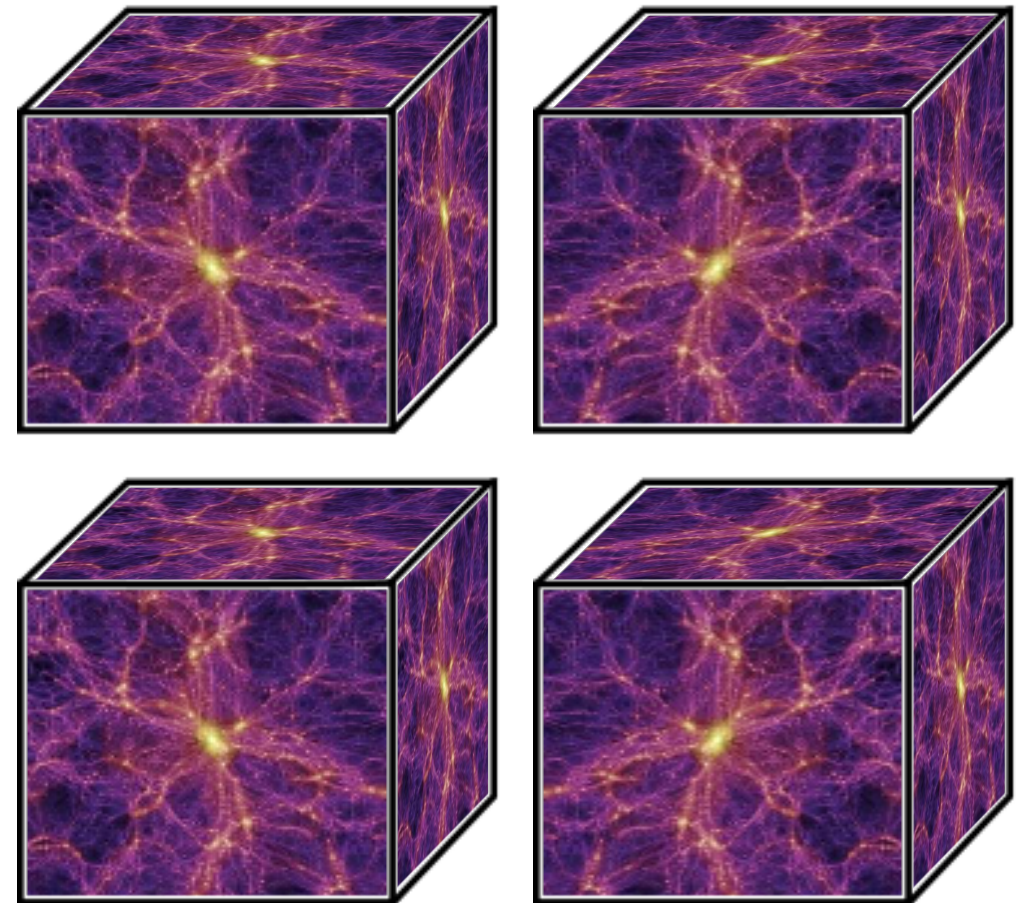
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[Einstein & Straus 1945]
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[Bruneton & Larena 2012]
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- post-Newtonian cosmology
[Sanghai & Clifton 2015]



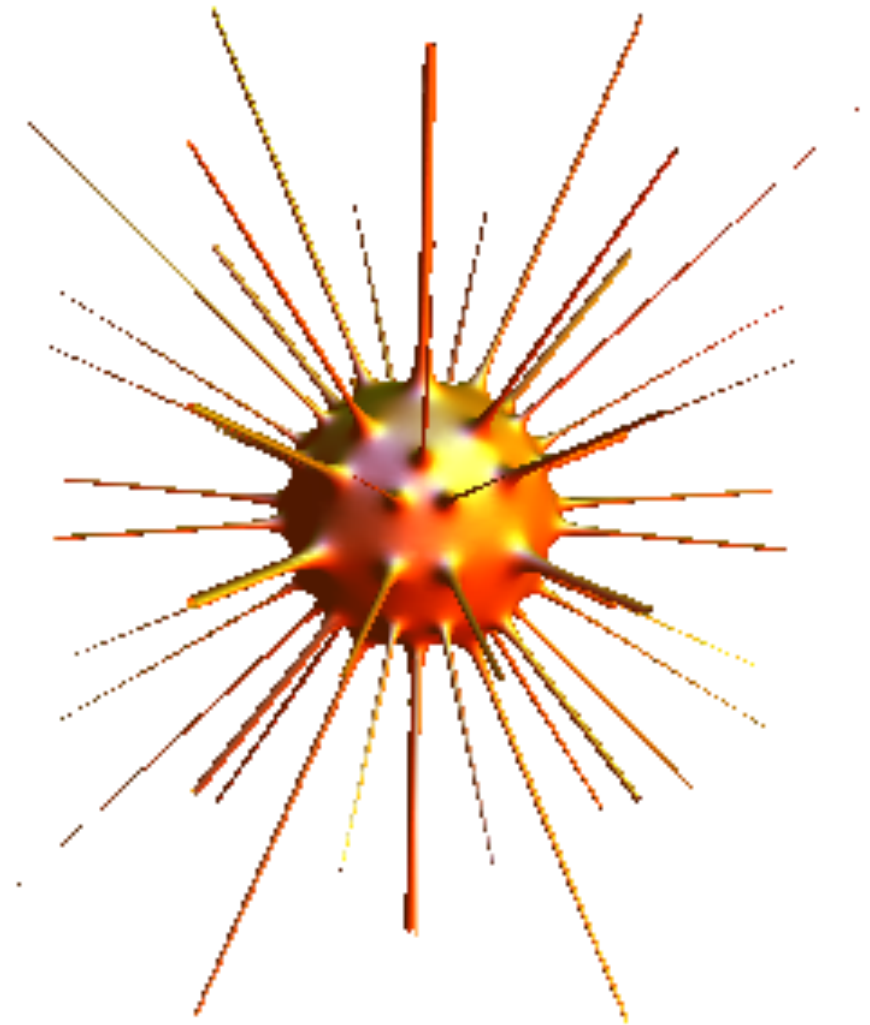
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- post-Newtonian cosmology
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...but some backreaction found in *finite* lattice universes

[Clifton et al. 2012]
[Korzynski 2014]



A Newtonian approach



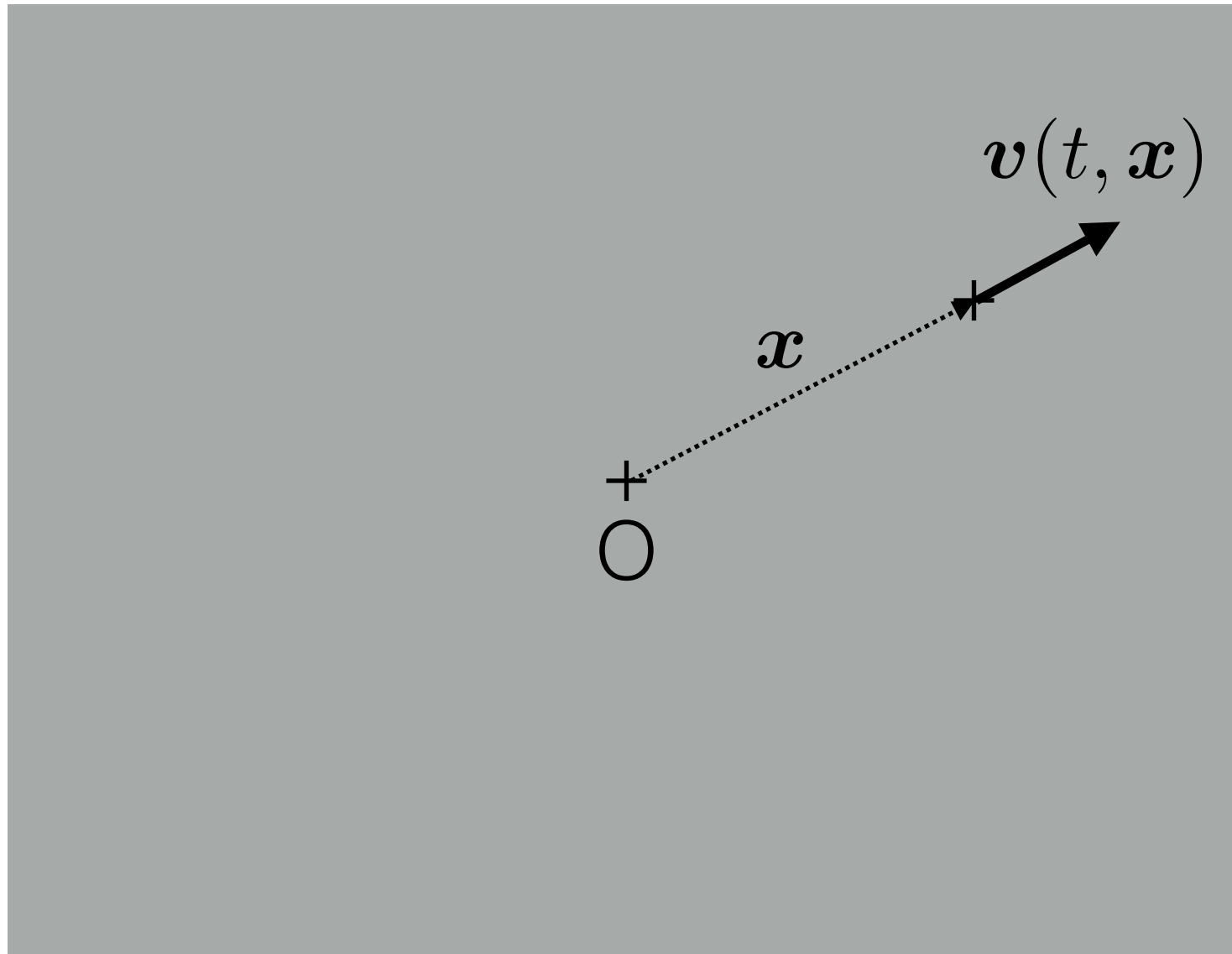
homogeneous self-gravitating system

A Newtonian approach



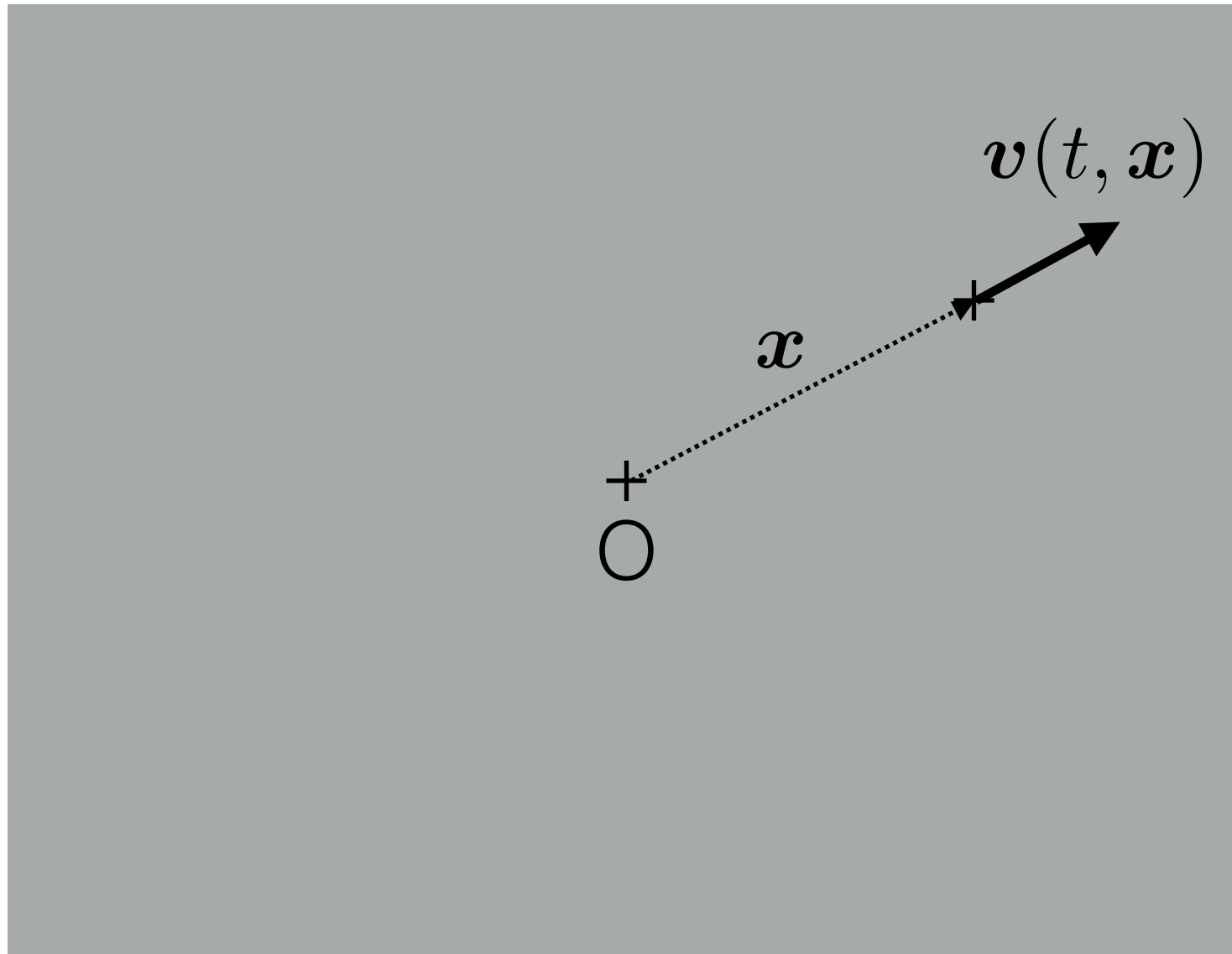
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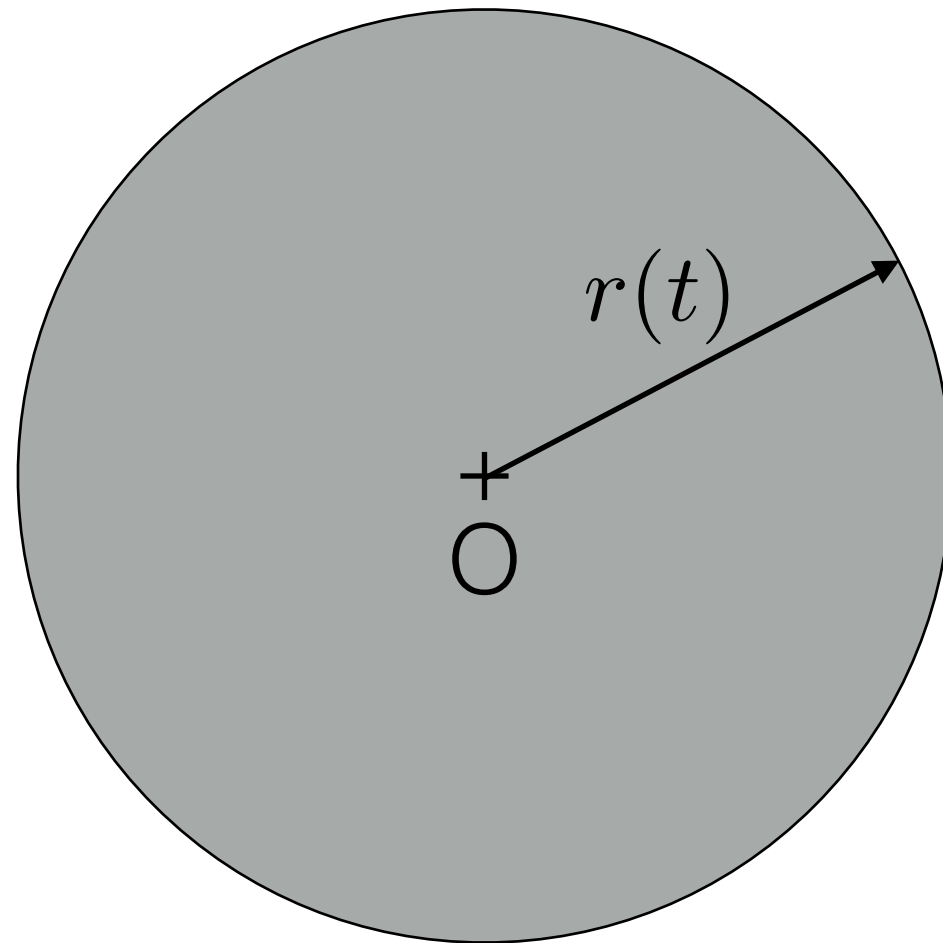
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$$\mathbf{v}(t, \mathbf{x}) = H(t)\mathbf{x}$$

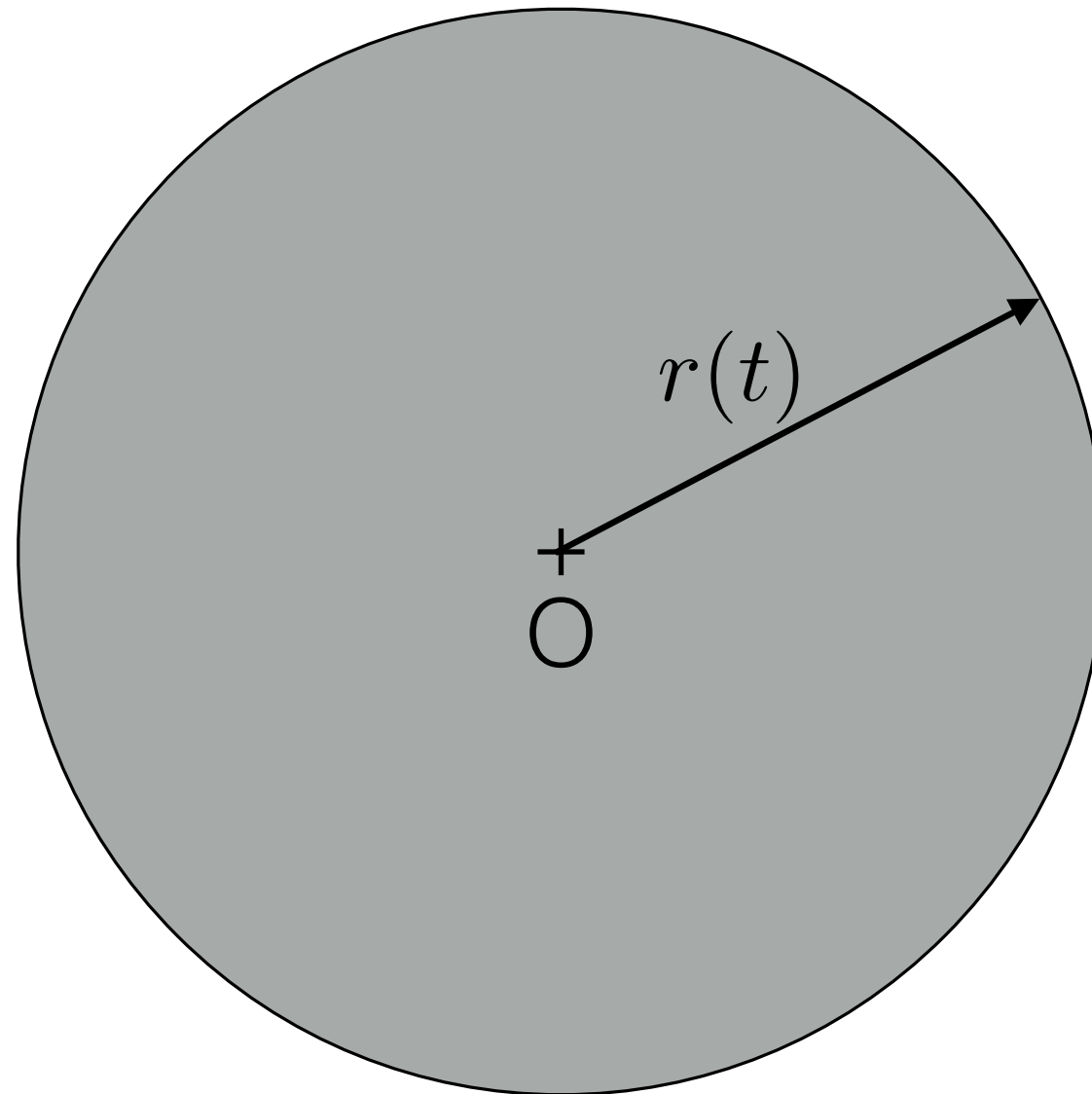
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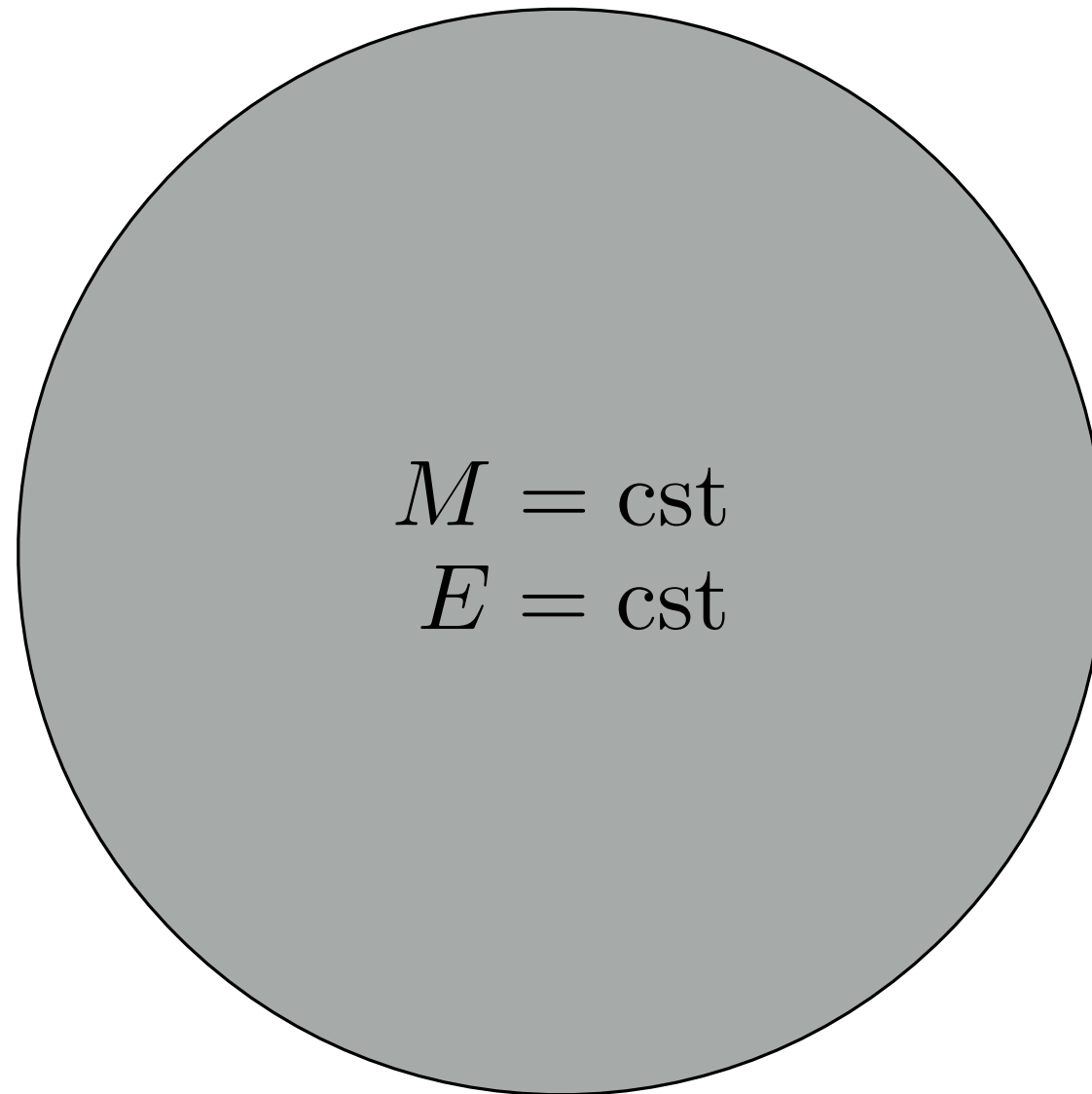
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A Newtonian approach

$$\begin{aligned} E &= E_{\text{kin}} + E_{\text{grav}} \\ &= \int d^3\mathbf{x} \frac{\rho v^2}{2} - \int d^3\mathbf{x} d^3\mathbf{x}' \frac{G\rho^2}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|} \\ &= \frac{3}{10} M H^2 r^2 - \frac{3}{5} \frac{GM^2}{r}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} M &= \text{cst} \\ E &= \text{cst} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{v}(t, \mathbf{x}) = H(t)\mathbf{x}$$

A Newtonian approach

$$\begin{aligned} E &= E_{\text{kin}} + E_{\text{grav}} \\ &= \int d^3x \frac{\rho v^2}{2} - \int d^3x d^3x' \frac{G\rho^2}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|} \\ &= \frac{3}{10} M H^2 r^2 - \frac{3}{5} \frac{GM^2}{r}, \end{aligned}$$

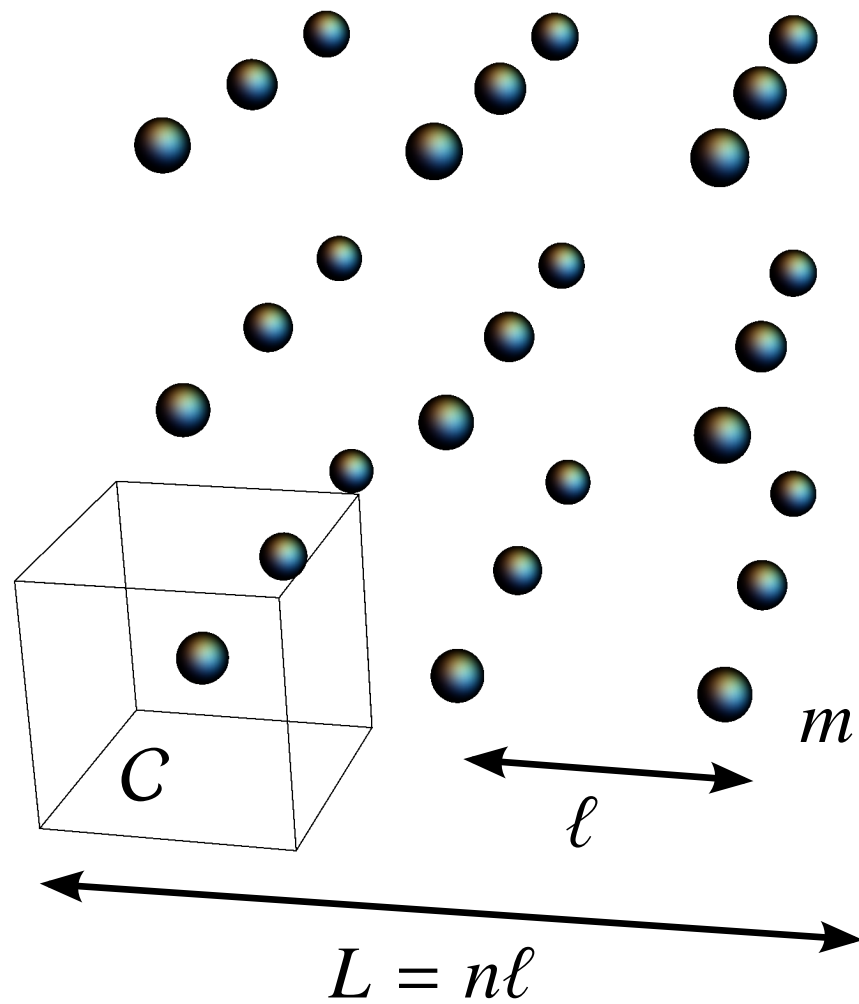
$$H^2 = \frac{8\pi G\rho}{3} - \frac{K}{a^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} M &= \text{cst} \\ E &= \text{cst} \end{aligned}$$

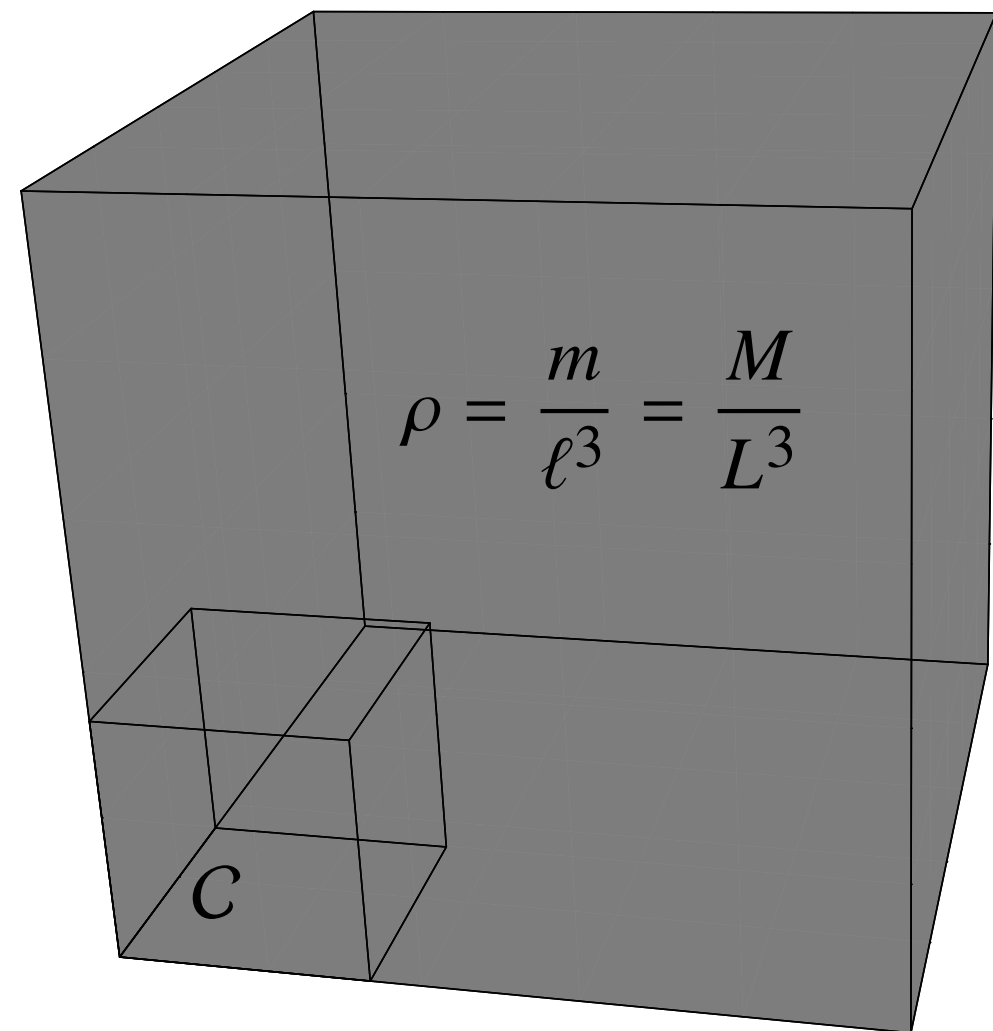
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Two models

discrete model (D)

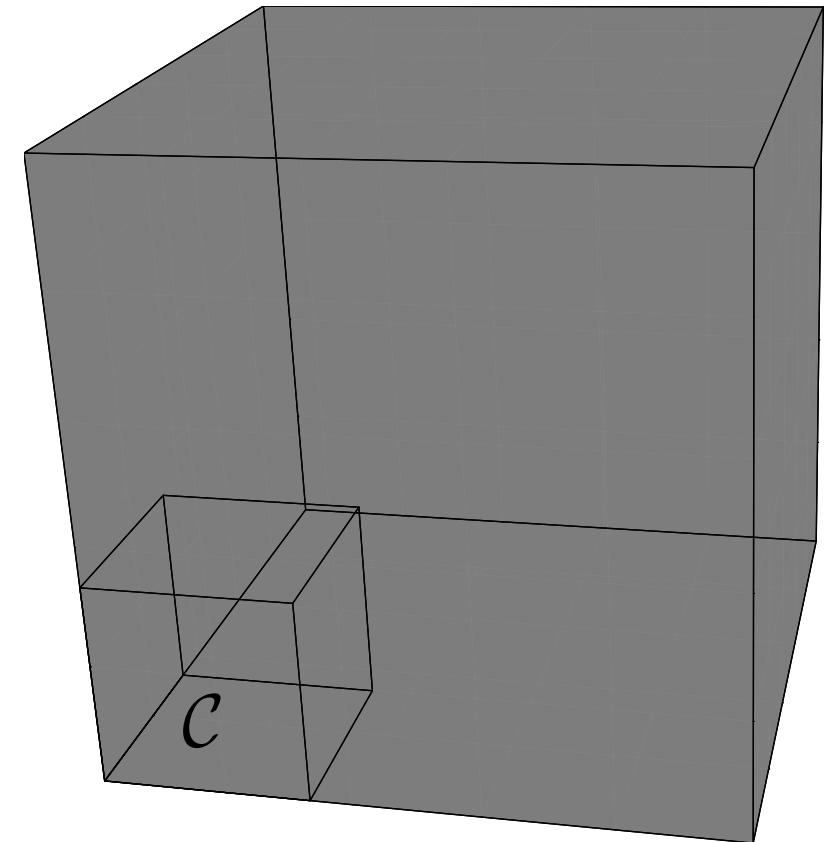


continuous model (C)



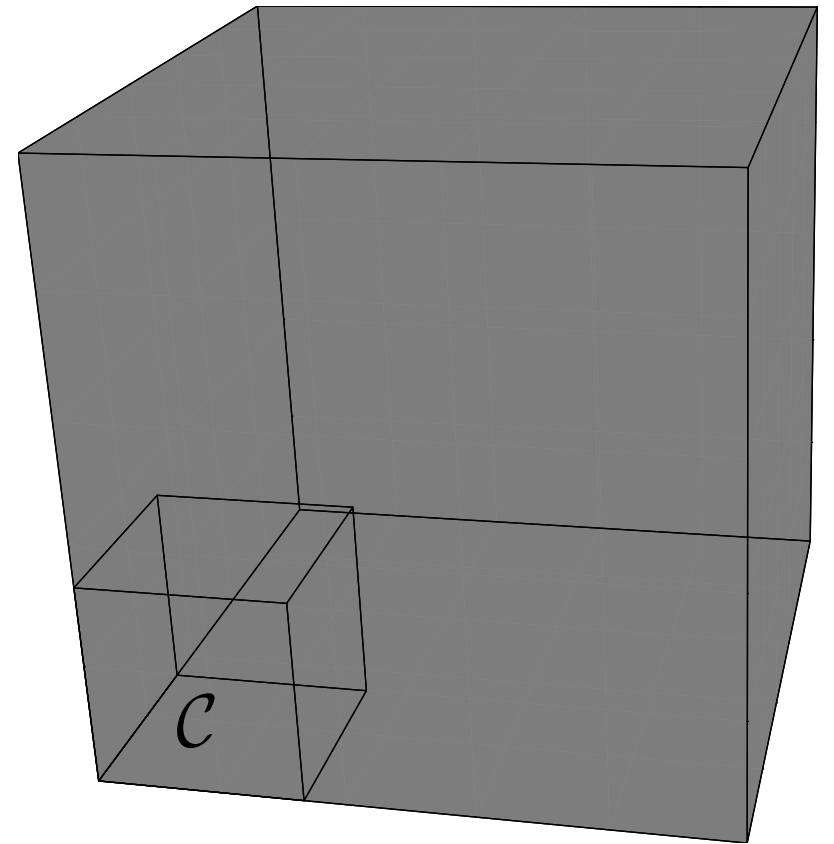
Gravitational energy

$$E_{\text{grav}}^{(C)} = - \int d^3 \boldsymbol{x} d^3 \boldsymbol{x}' \frac{G \rho^2}{|\boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{x}'|}$$



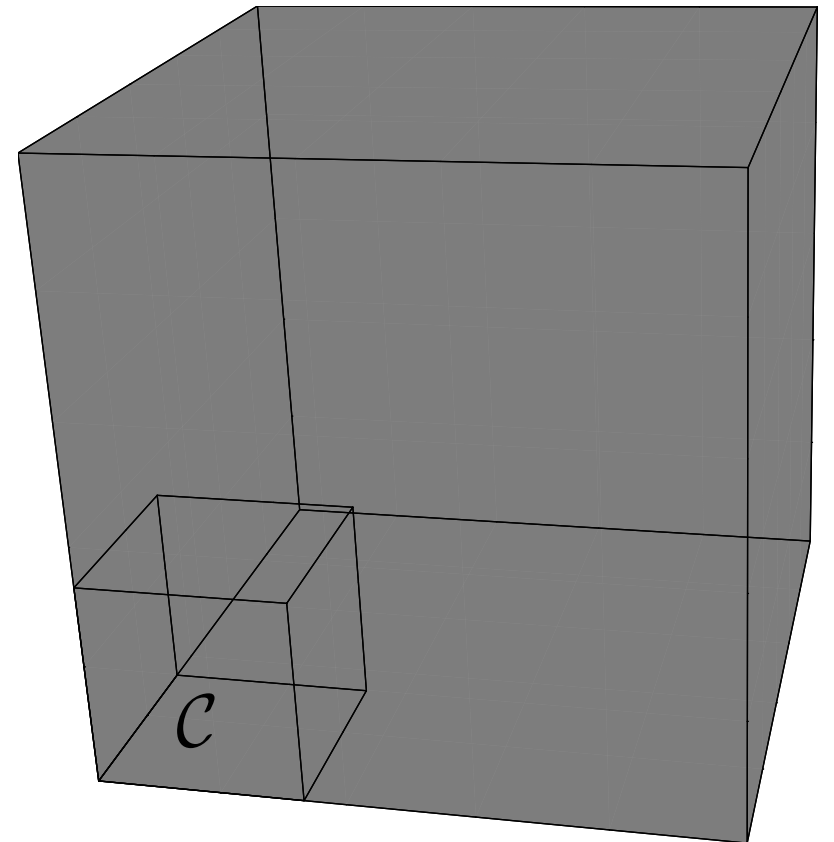
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$$E_{\text{grav}}^{(\mathcal{C})} = - \sum_{\mathcal{C}} \int_{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}' \in \mathcal{C}} d^3 \mathbf{x} d^3 \mathbf{x}' \frac{G \rho^2}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|}$$
$$- \sum_{\mathcal{C} \neq \mathcal{C}'} \int_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}, \mathbf{x}' \in \mathcal{C}'} d^3 \mathbf{x} d^3 \mathbf{x}' \frac{G \rho^2}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|}$$



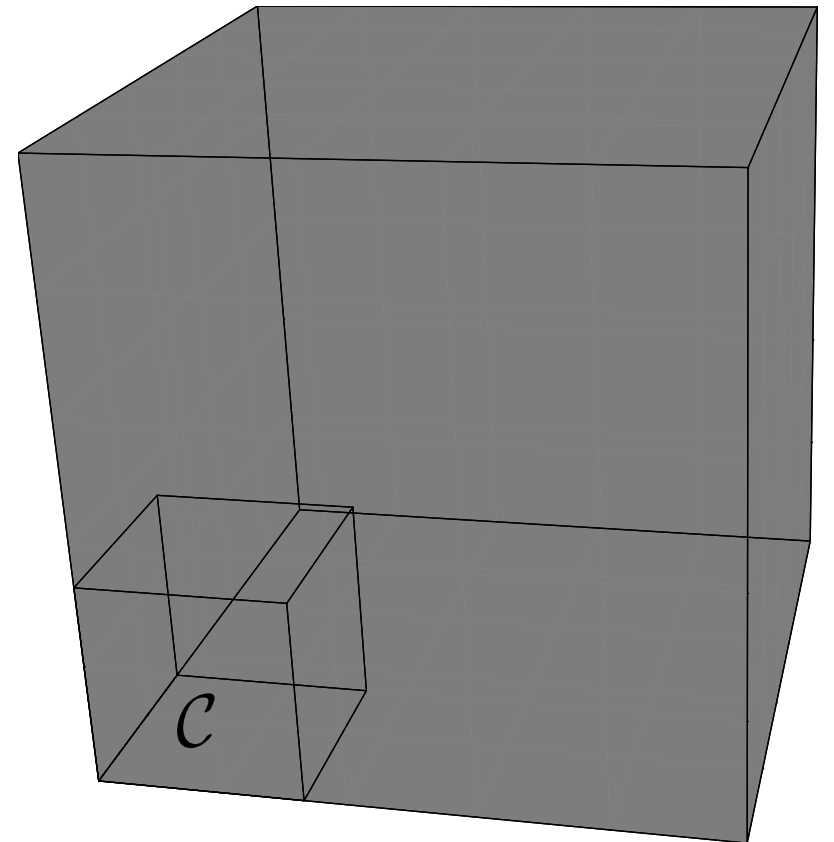
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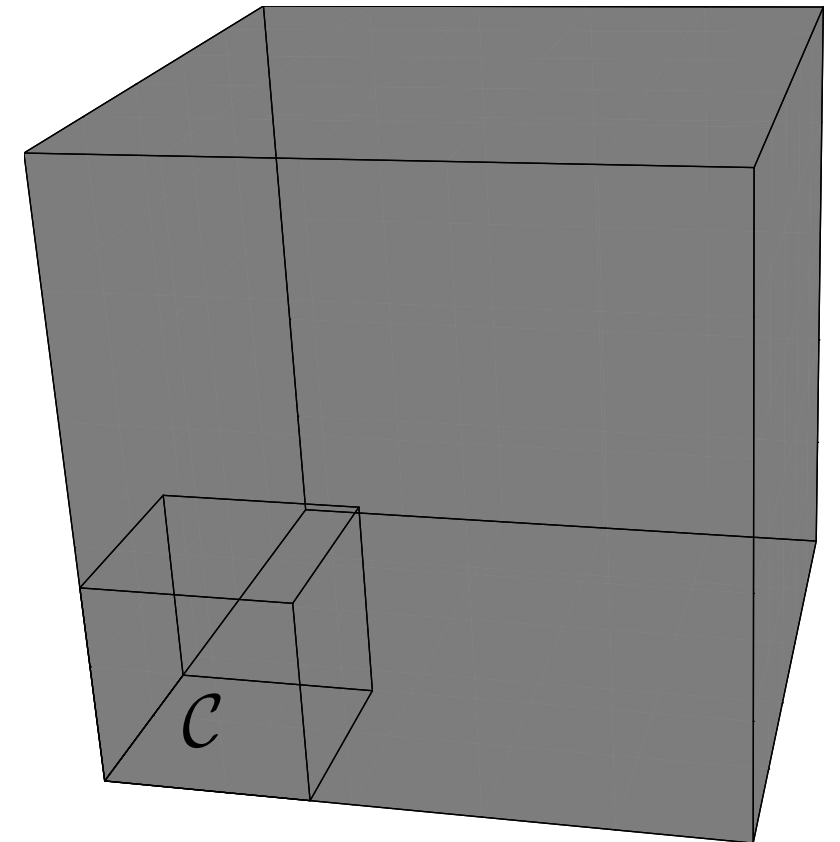
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Gravitational energy

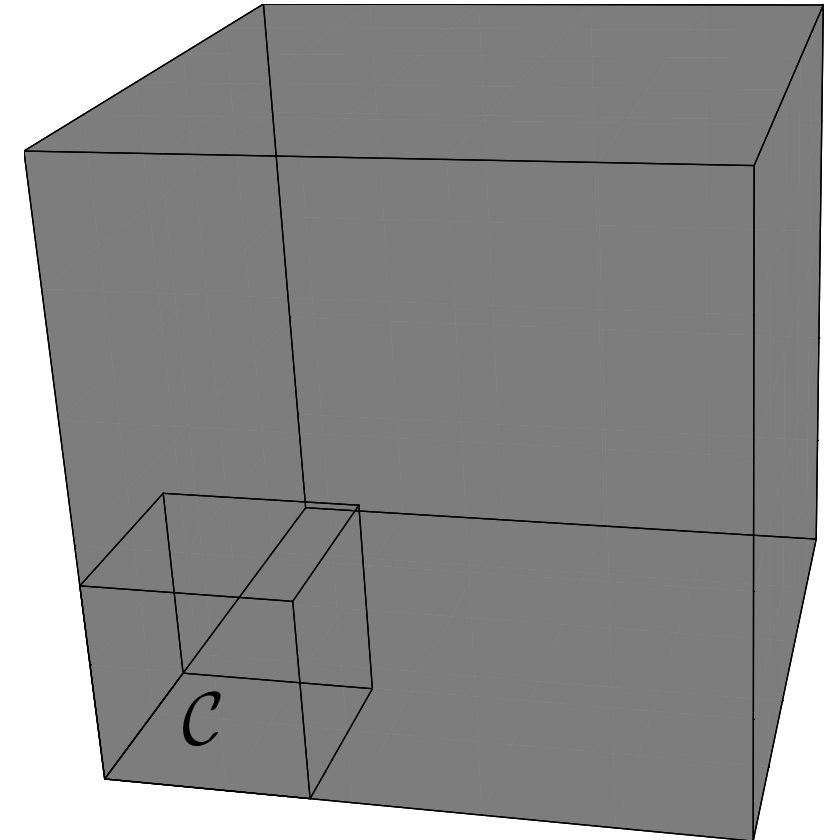
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$$E_{\text{grav,self}} \propto Gm^2/\ell$$

Gravitational energy

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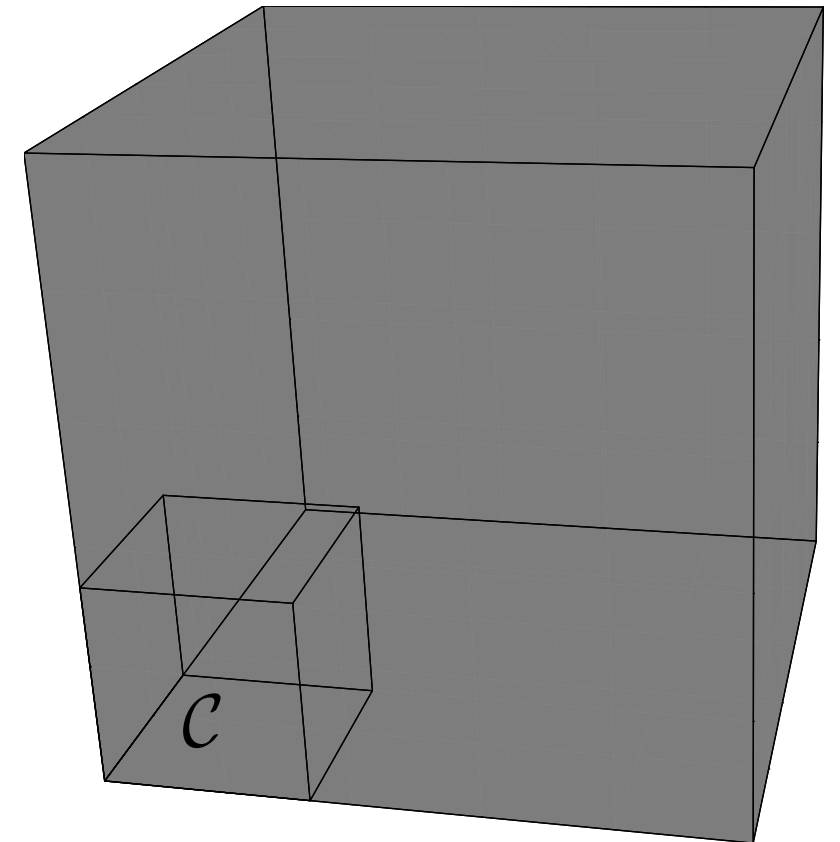


$$E_{\text{grav, self}} \propto Gm^2/\ell \quad \longrightarrow \quad \frac{E_{\text{grav}}^{(\mathcal{C})}}{E_{\text{grav, self}}} = \frac{M^2 \ell}{m^2 L} = N^{5/3}$$

Gravitational energy

$$E_{\text{grav}}^{(C)} = N^{-2/3} E_{\text{grav}}^{(C)}$$

$$\underbrace{- \sum_{C \neq C'} \int_{\mathbf{x} \in C, \mathbf{x}' \in C'} d^3 \mathbf{x} d^3 \mathbf{x}' \frac{G \rho^2}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|}}_{E_{\text{grav,int}}}$$

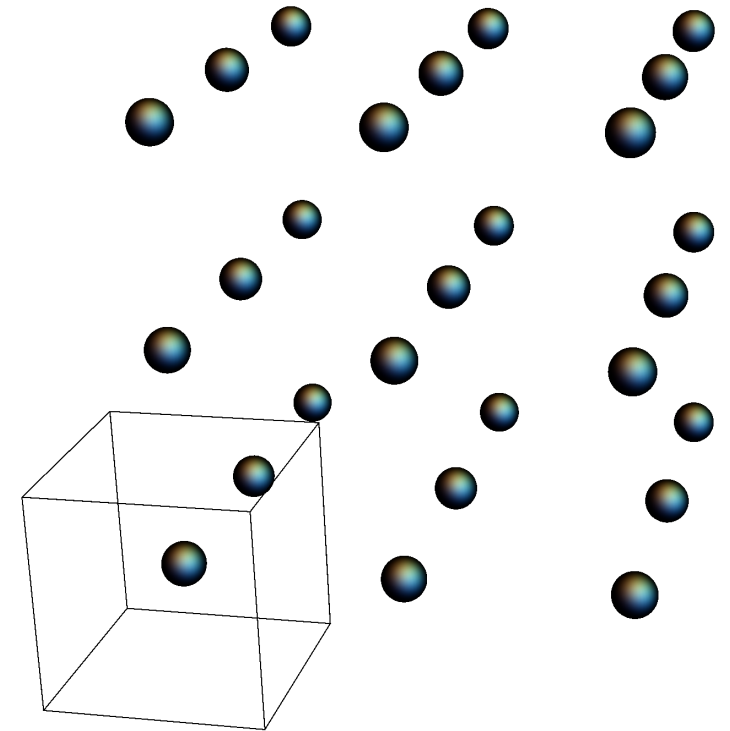


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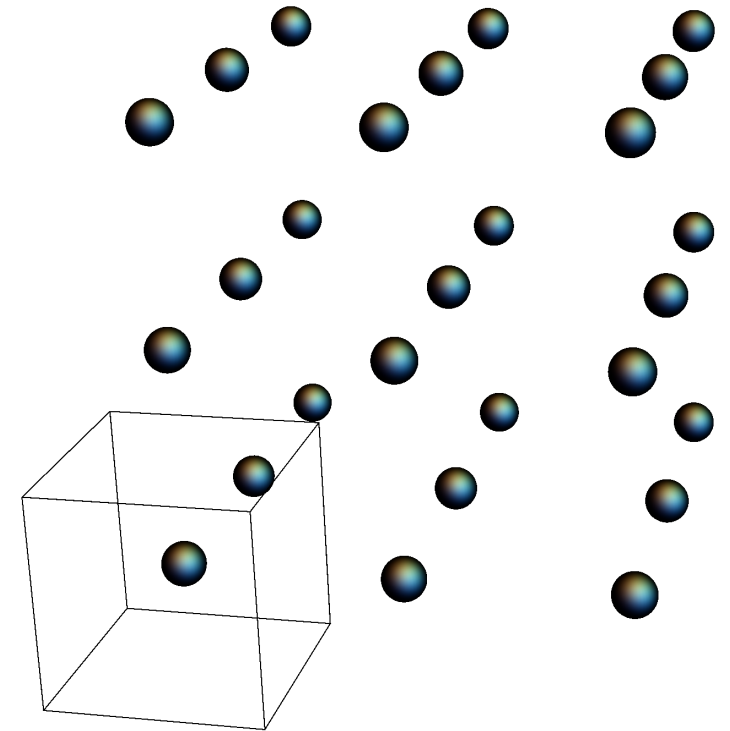


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$$\text{Gauss's law} \quad \longrightarrow \quad E_{\text{grav,int}} \approx E_{\text{grav}}^{(D)}$$

Gravitational energy

$$E_{\text{grav}}^{(\text{C})} = N^{-2/3} E_{\text{grav}}^{(\text{C})} + E_{\text{grav}}^{(\text{D})}$$

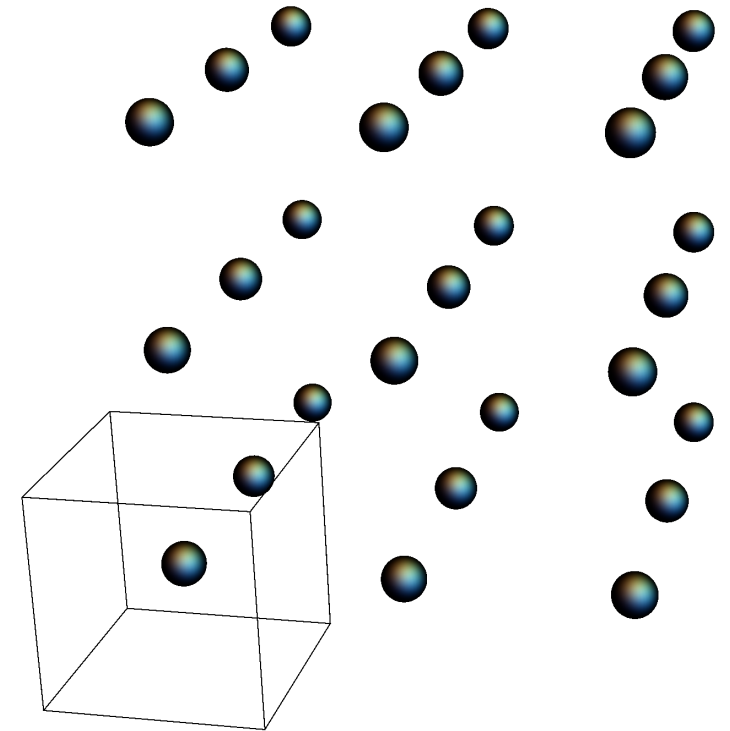


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Gauss's law \longrightarrow $E_{\text{grav,int}} \approx E_{\text{grav}}^{(\text{D})}$

Gravitational energy

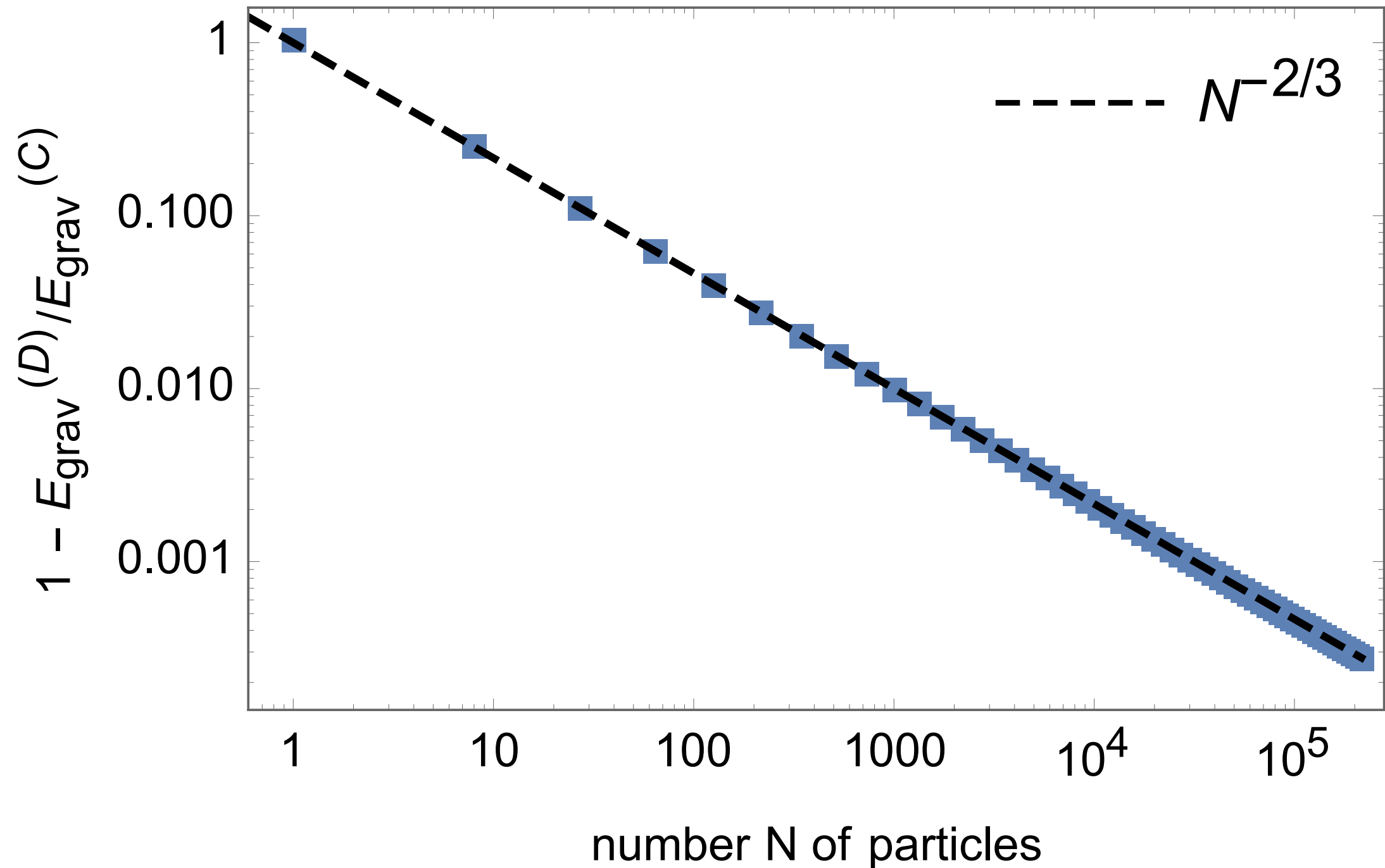
$$E_{\text{grav}}^{(\text{D})} \approx \left(1 - N^{-2/3}\right) E_{\text{grav}}^{(\text{C})}$$



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Gauss's law \longrightarrow $E_{\text{grav,int}} \approx E_{\text{grav}}^{(\text{D})}$

I am not lying to you



Kinetic energy

Kinetic energy

...similar calculations...

We actually get the same scaling law:

$$E_{\text{kin}}^{(\text{D})} = \left(1 - N^{-2/3}\right) E_{\text{kin}}^{(\text{C})}$$

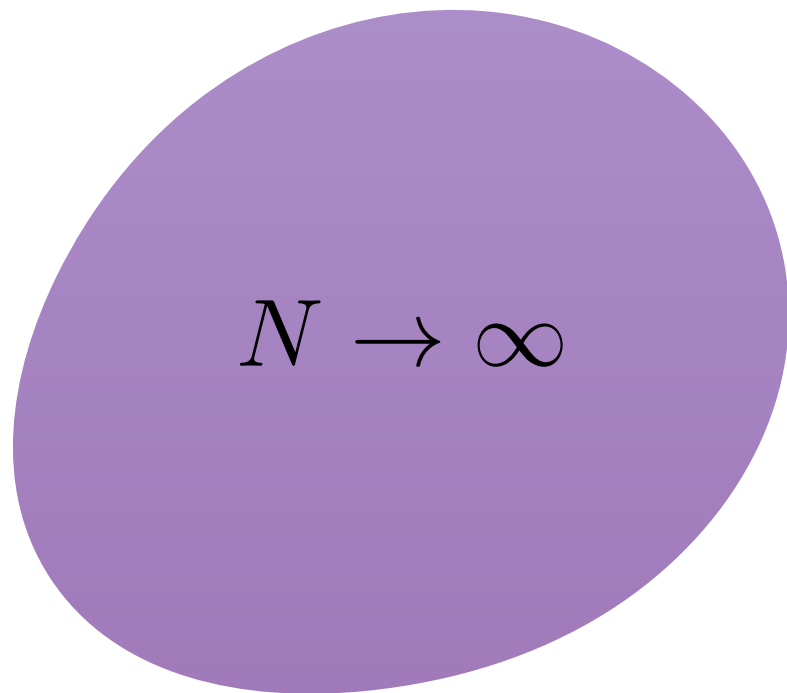
So what happens?

$$\begin{aligned} E^{(D)} &= E_{\text{kin}}^{(D)} + E_{\text{grav}}^{(D)} \\ &= \left(1 - N^{-2/3}\right) \left(E_{\text{kin}}^{(C)} + E_{\text{grav}}^{(C)}\right) \\ &= \left(1 - N^{-2/3}\right) E^{(C)} \\ K^{(D)} &= \left(1 - N^{-2/3}\right) K^{(C)} \end{aligned}$$

Discrete model: **same dynamics** as the continuous model,
but with a renormalized spatial curvature

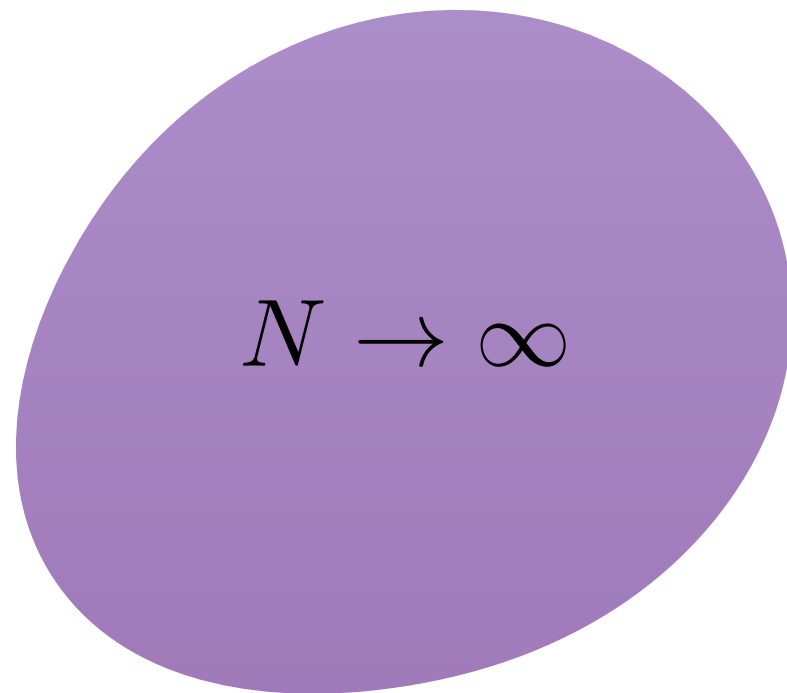
A scenario

early times
very homogeneous

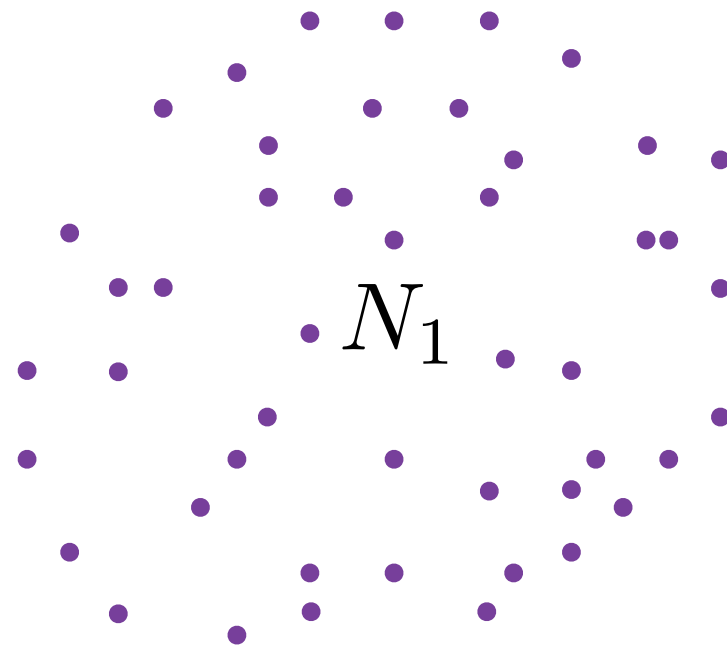


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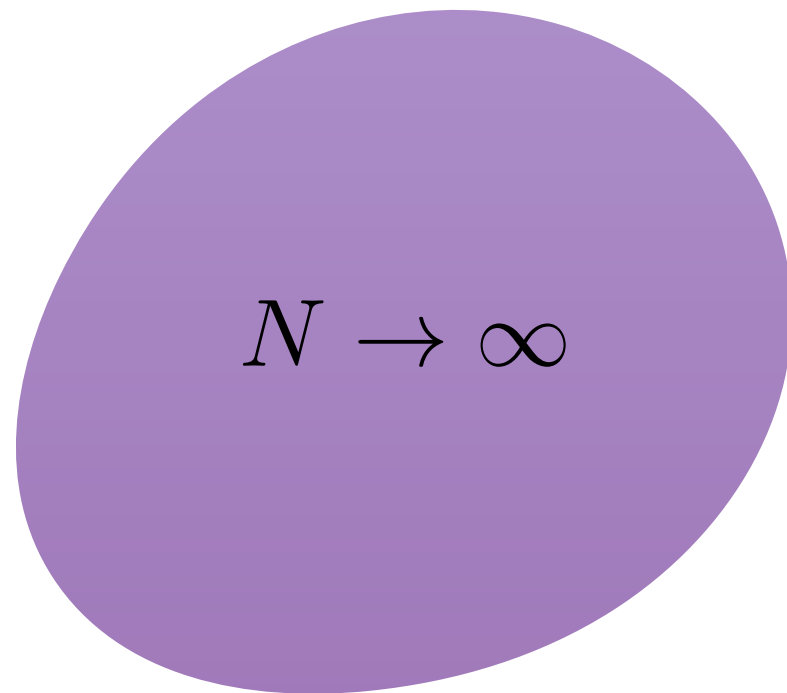


small structures
form

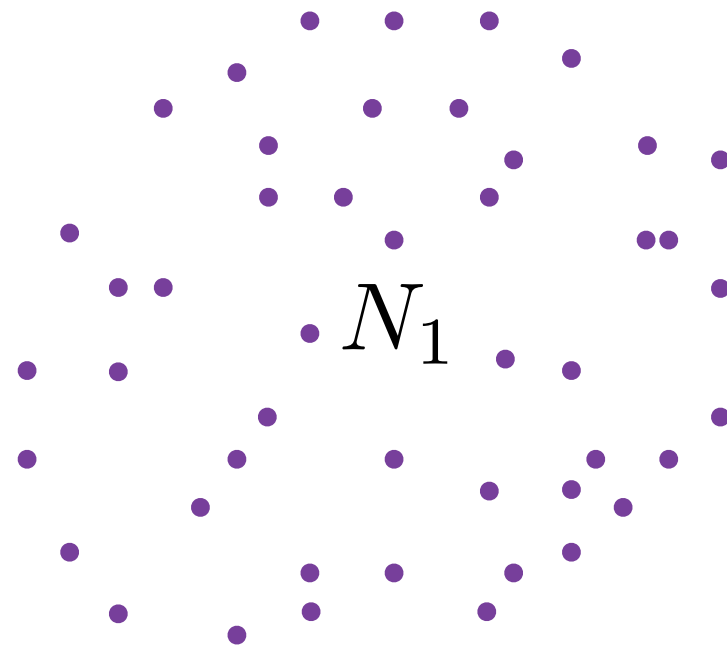


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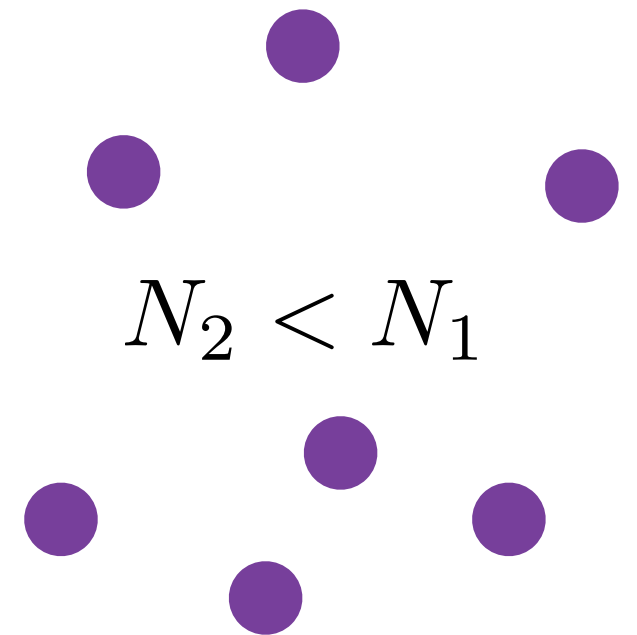
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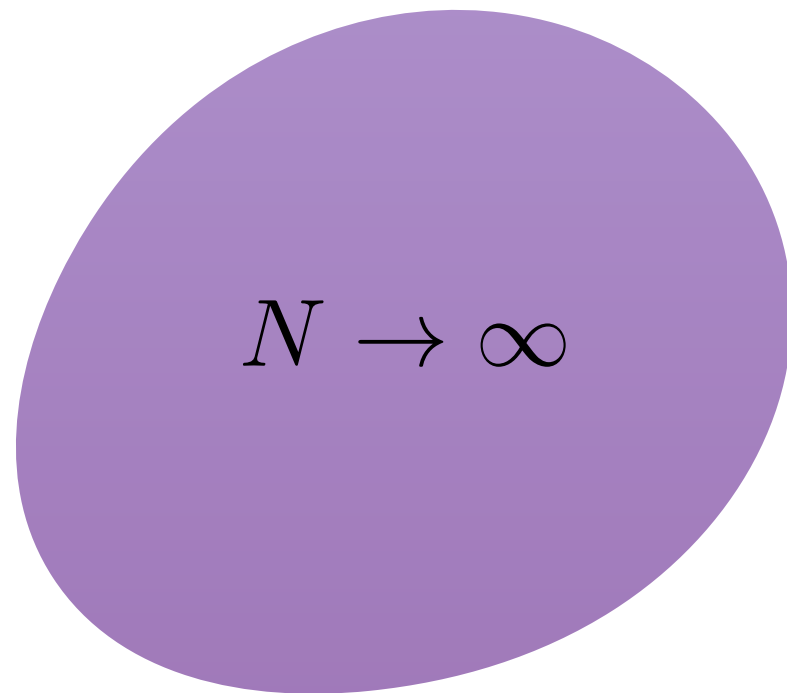


bigger structures
form

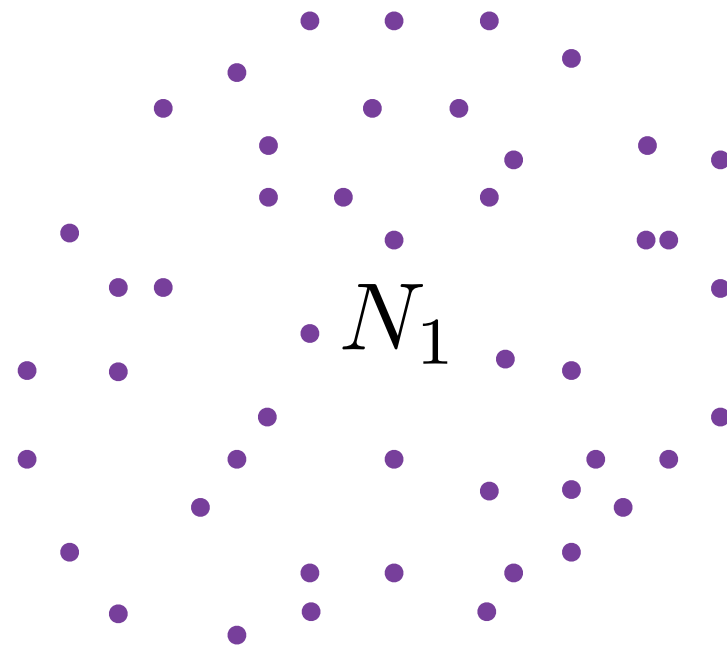


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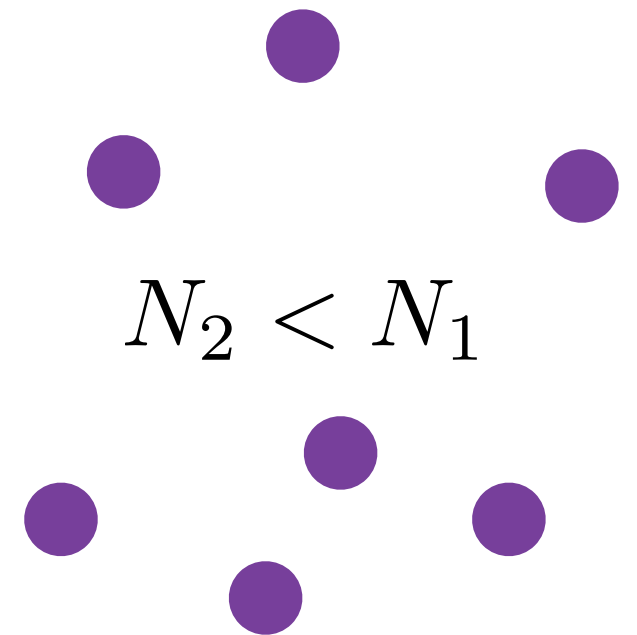
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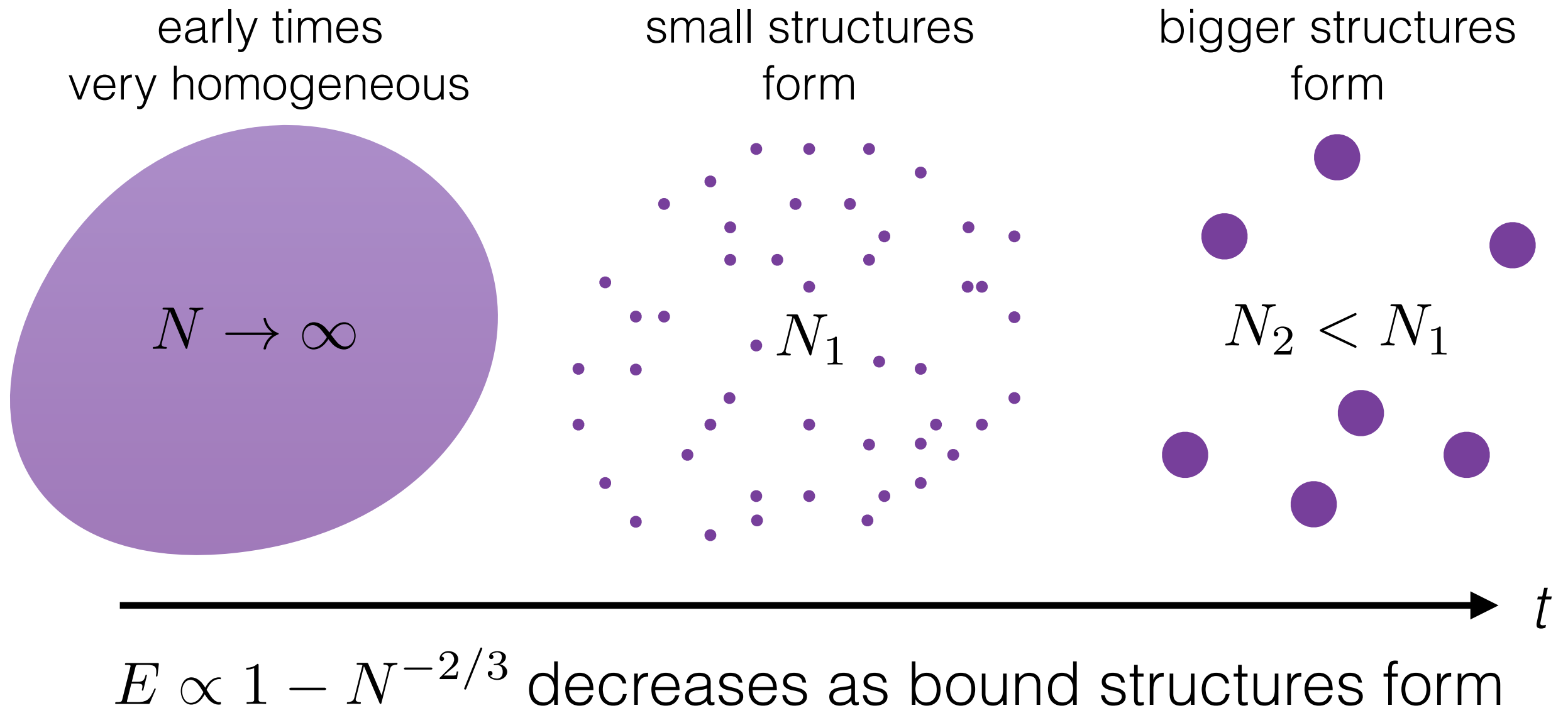


bigger structures
form



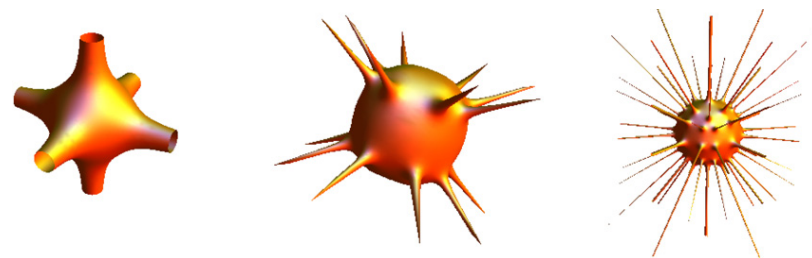
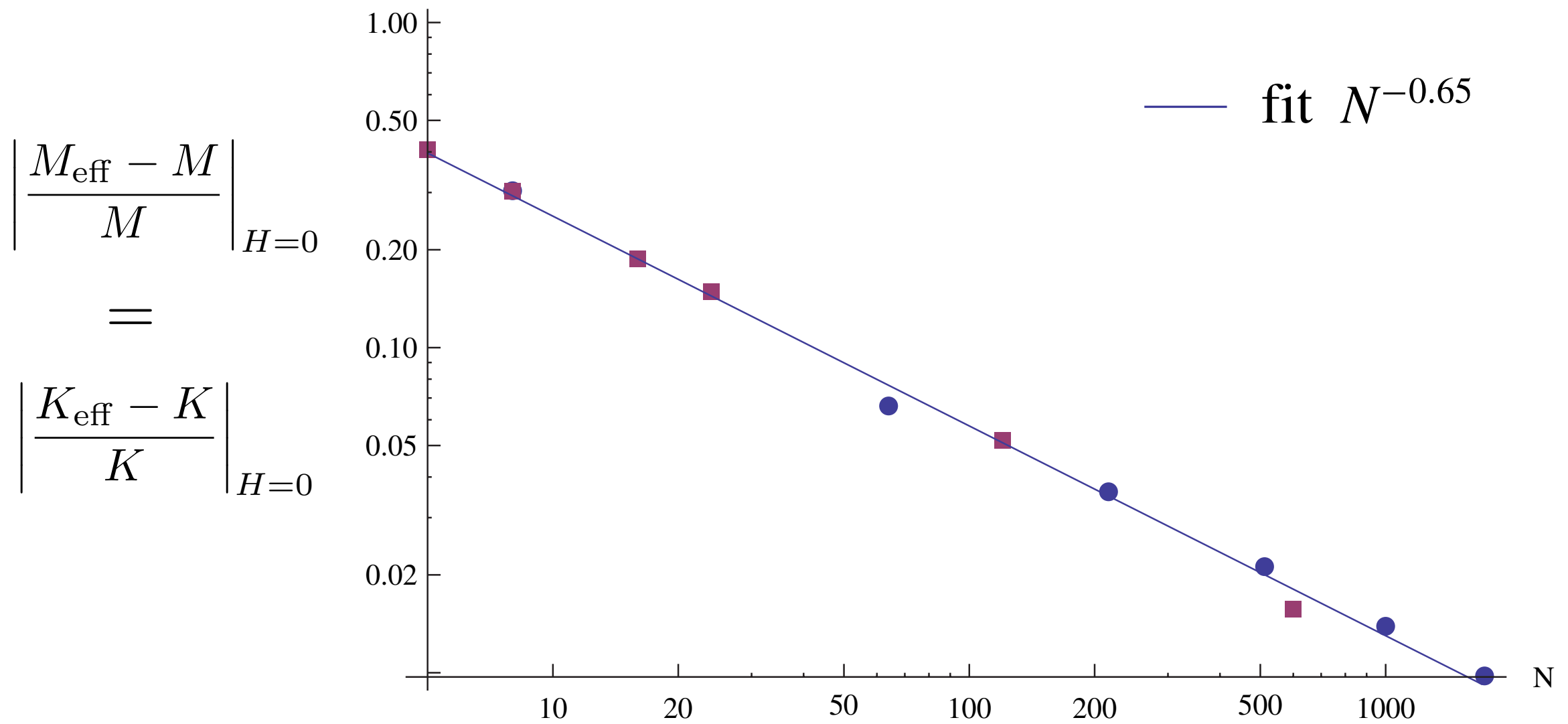
$E \propto 1 - N^{-2/3}$ decreases as bound structures form t

A scenario



Interpretation: energy leaks from the expansion dynamics towards internal degrees of freedom.

Comparison with relativistic results



[Korzynski, 2014]

[Clifton, Rosquist, Tavakol, 2012]

Newtonian conclusions

- Positively curved Universe: the formation of bound structures effectively weakens spatial curvature
- Infinite Universe: no effect
- Explains the discrepancies between previous results in the literature (finite vs infinite lattices)

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- Infinite Universe: no effect
- Explains the discrepancies between previous results in the literature (finite vs infinite lattices)

Key ingredient: Gauss's law

**What about alternative
theories of gravity?**

Example: scalar tensor

$$S = S_{\text{EH}}[g_{\mu\nu}] + S_{\phi}[\phi] + S_{\text{m}}[\psi, C^2(\phi)g_{\mu\nu}]$$

Example: scalar tensor

$$S = \underline{S_{\text{EH}}[g_{\mu\nu}]} + S_{\phi}[\phi] + S_{\text{m}}[\psi, C^2(\phi)g_{\mu\nu}]$$

general relativity

Example: scalar tensor

$$S = \underline{S_{\text{EH}}[g_{\mu\nu}]} + \underline{S_{\phi}[\phi]} + \underline{S_{\text{m}}[\psi, C^2(\phi)g_{\mu\nu}]}$$

general relativity

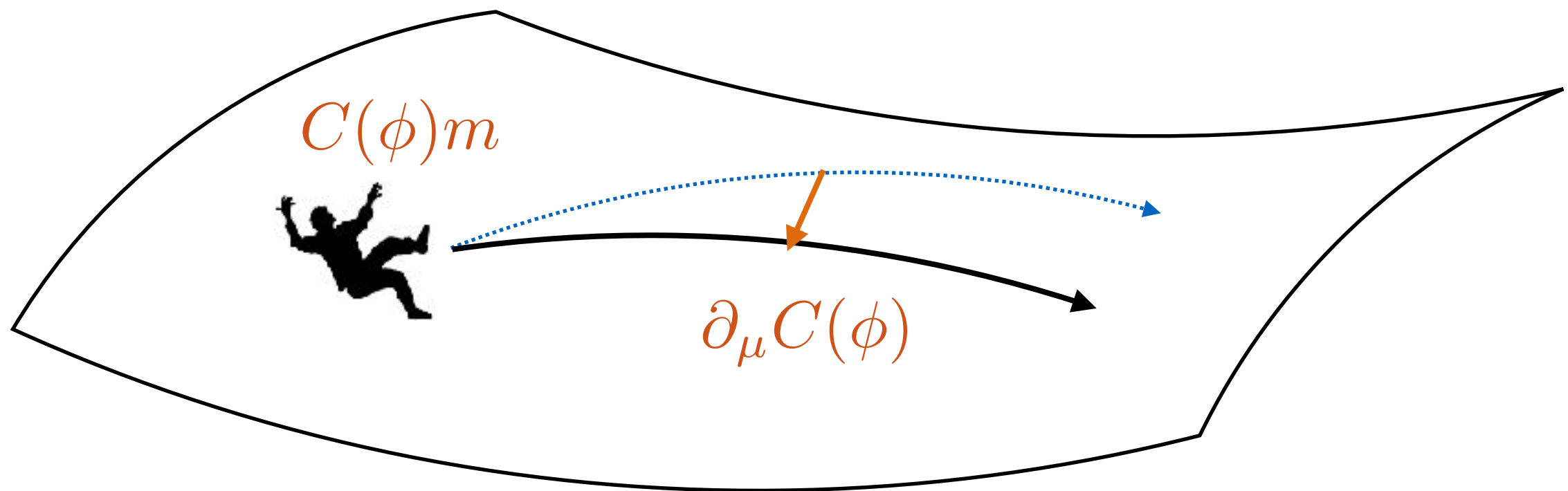
fifth force

Example: scalar tensor

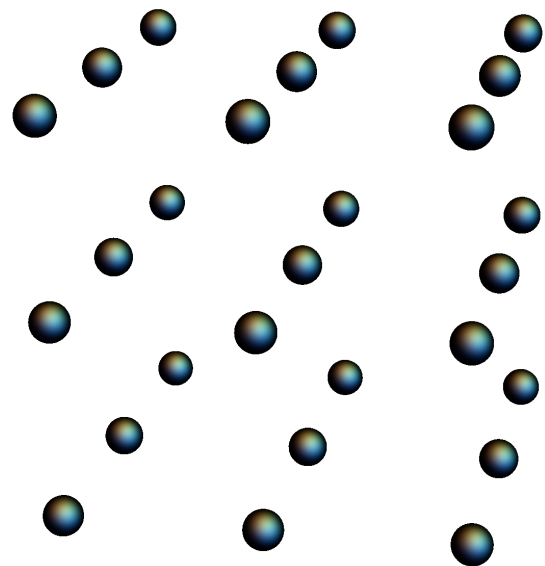
$$S = \underline{S_{\text{EH}}[g_{\mu\nu}]} + \underline{S_{\phi}[\phi]} + S_{\text{m}}[\psi, \underline{C^2(\phi)g_{\mu\nu}}]$$

general relativity

fifth force

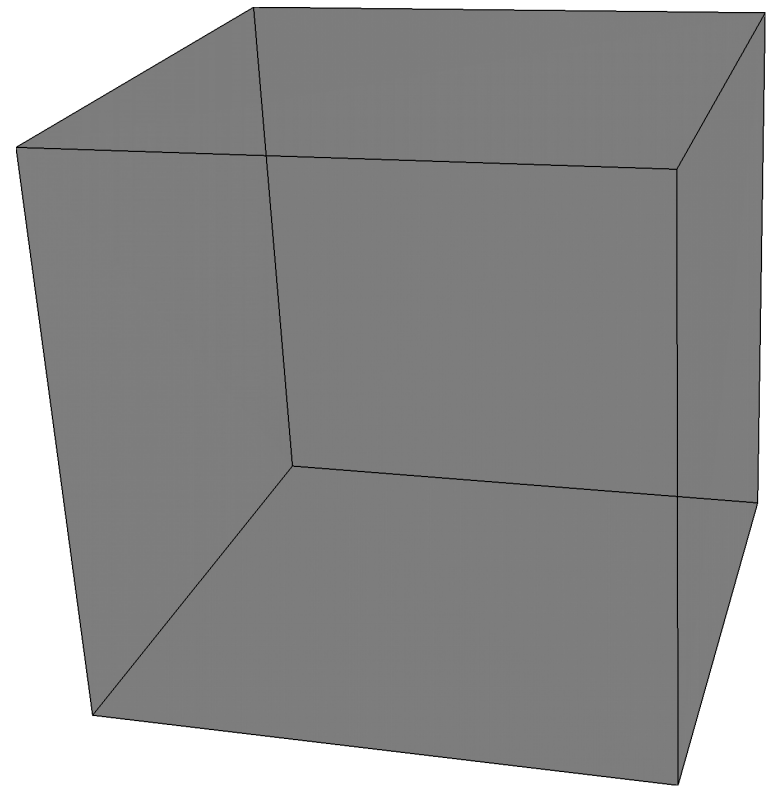


Discrete and continuous



$$\phi(t, \mathbf{x})$$

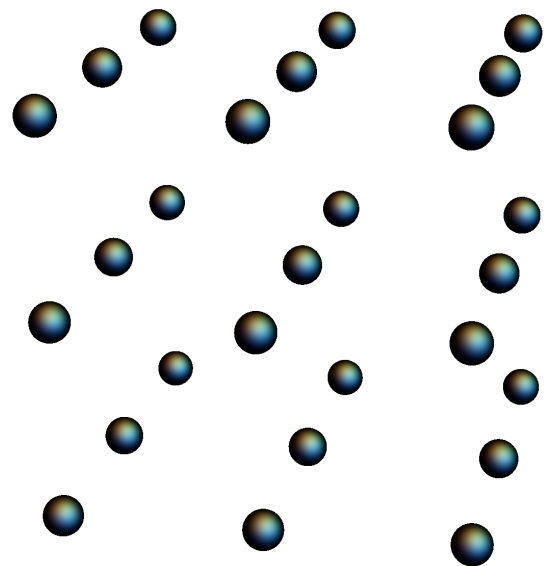
fifth force?



$$\phi(t)$$

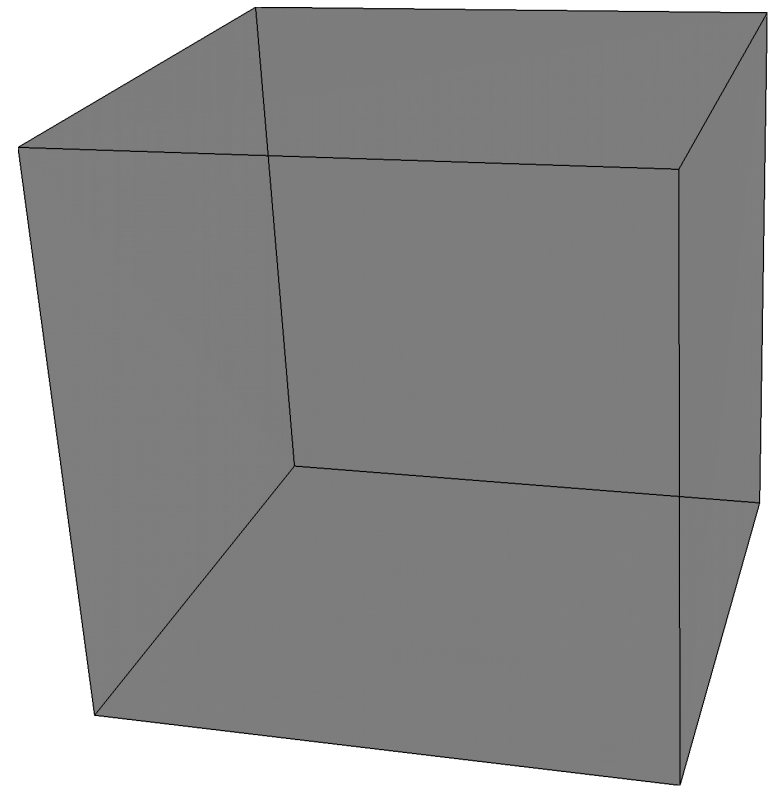
no additional force

Discrete and continuous



$$\phi(t, \mathbf{x})$$

fifth force?



$$\phi(t)$$

no additional force

If the scalar field has no potential, the expansion dynamics is **unchanged** [Sanghai & Clifton 2017]

Escaping Gauss's law (in modified gravity)

- modification of gravity with a potential (Yukawa-like fifth force)
- screening mechanisms
- compact dark matter (PBH, ...)

Conclusion

- In Newtonian gravity / GR, discreteness causes backreaction in positively curved universes
- The correction is realistically small, and vanishes in an infinite Universe
- Gauss's law is central in this mechanism
- In alternative theories of gravity, the amplitude of the corrections must be evaluated

Back-up slides

Yukawa gravity

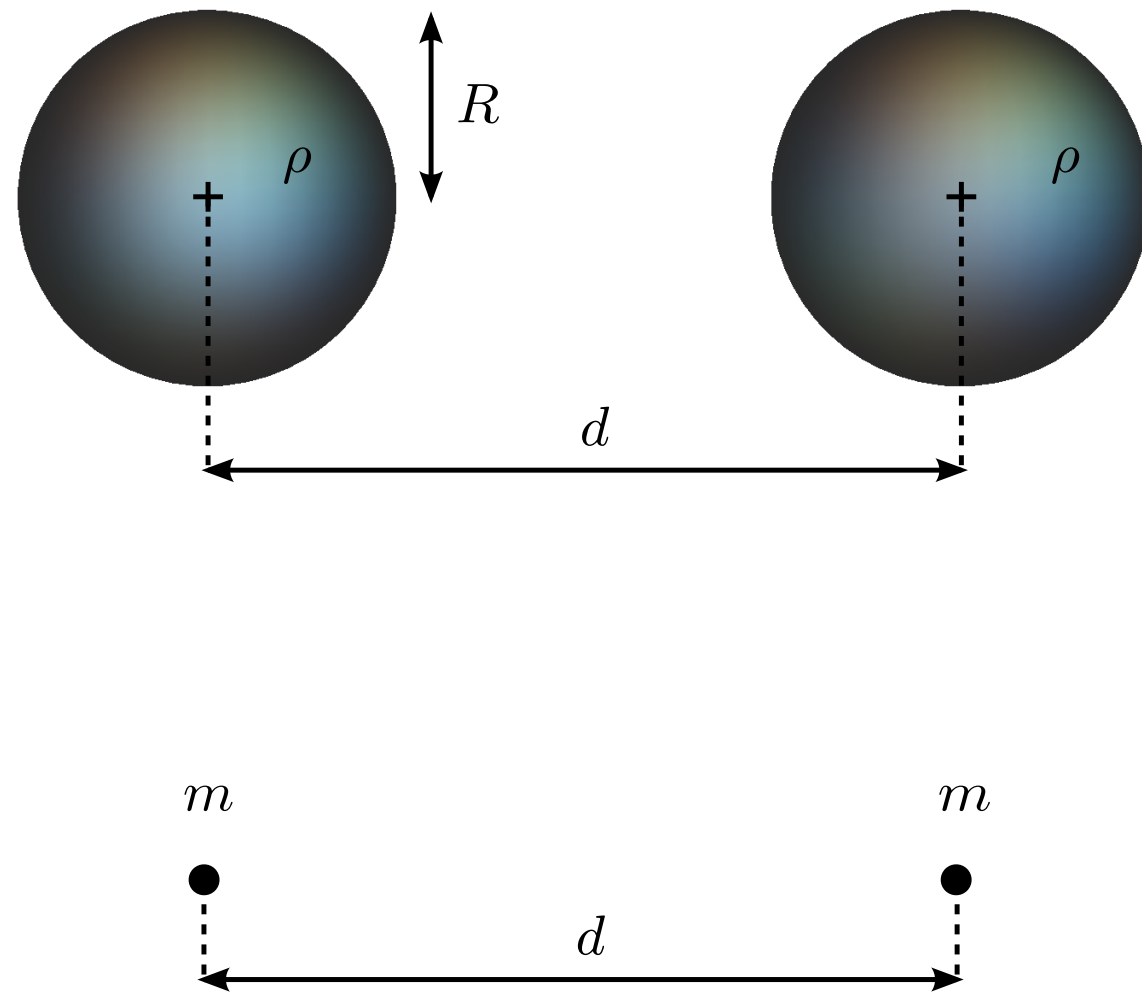
$$\Delta\Phi - \lambda^{-2}\Phi = 4\pi G\rho$$

$$\int_{\partial\mathcal{D}} \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS = -4\pi GM_{\mathcal{D}} - \lambda^{-2} \int_{\mathcal{D}} \Phi \, dV$$

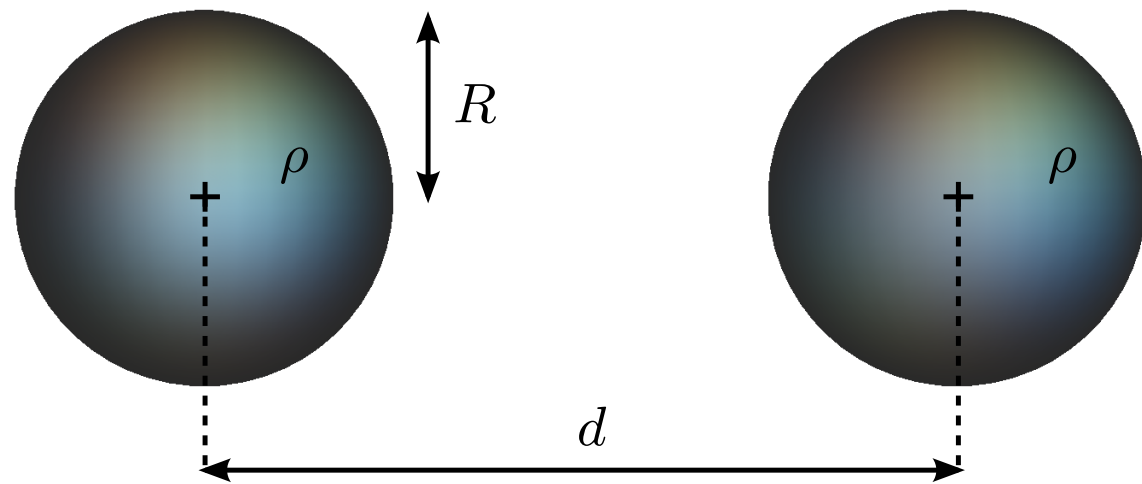


I violate Gauss

A consequence



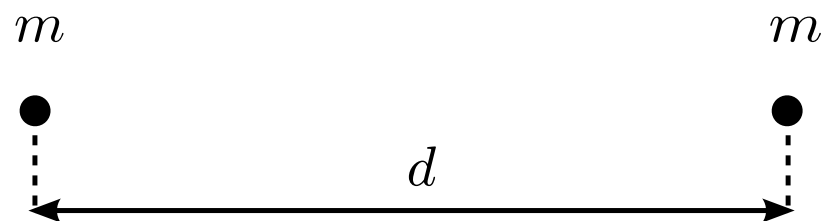
A consequence



$$\frac{E_{\text{grav,int}}^{\circ-\circ}}{E_{\text{grav,int}}^{\bullet-\bullet}} = \Gamma^2 \left(\frac{R}{\lambda} \right)$$

with

$$\Gamma(x) \equiv \frac{3}{x^3} (x \cosh x - \sinh x)$$

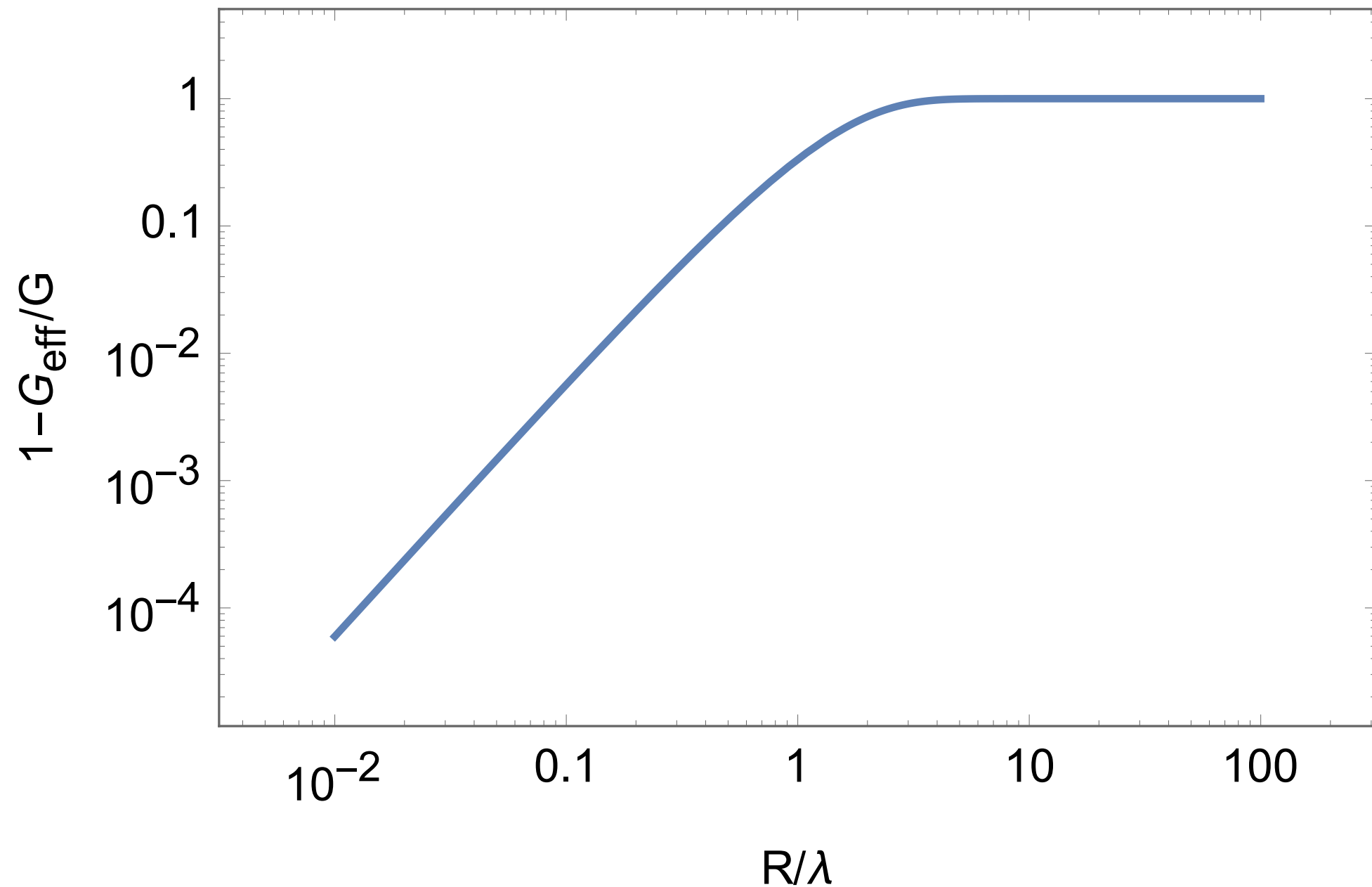


Backreaction effect

Contrary to the Newtonian case:

- forming bound structures does **not** have the same effect on kinetic and gravitational energies;
- a correction **persists** even in an infinite universe;
- it is equivalent to renormalizing Newton's constant:

$$\frac{G_{\text{eff}}}{G} = \frac{1}{\Gamma^2(R/\lambda)} \left[1 - \frac{2}{5} \left(\frac{R}{\lambda} \right)^2 \Delta \left(\frac{R}{\lambda} \right) \right]$$



λ : Compton wavelength of the graviton

R : radius that the largest bound structures should have if they had the mean density of the Universe