The intergalactic medium as a cosmological tool

MATTEO VIEL INAF & INFN – Trieste

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- What data we got
- How we used them
- What we achieved

The data sets Theoretical framework Results

Why Lyman-α? Small scales high redshift Most of the baryonic mass is in this form Quasars sample 75% of the age of the universe





The data sets



30 HIGH RESOLUTION HIGH S/N

VS

The interpretation: full grid of sims - I



IGM physics

The interpretation: full grid of sims - II

We vary 34 parameters, 3 of which are fixed for our primary result but varied for consistency checks. We give a summary before defining each in detail. In parentheses we give the actual number of parameters for each type:

Parameters $\Delta_L^2(k_p, z_p)$, $n_{\text{eff}}(k_p, z_p)$, and $\alpha_{\text{eff}}(k_p, z_p)$ (3).— Standard linear power spectrum amplitude, slope, and curvature on the scale of the Ly α forest, assuming a typical Λ CDM-like universe. Parameter $\alpha_{\text{eff}}(k_p, z_p)$ is fixed to -0.23 for the main result.

Parameters g' and s' (2).—Modifiers of the evolution of the amplitude and slope with redshift, to test for deviations from the expectation for ACDM. Fixed for main result.

Parameters $\overline{F}(z_p)$ and ν_F (2).—Mean transmitted flux normalization and redshift evolution.

Parameters $T_{i=1...3}$ and $\tilde{\gamma}_{i=1...3}$ (6).—Temperature-density relation parameters, including redshift evolution.

Parameter x_{rei} (1).—Degree of Jeans smoothing, related to the redshift and temperature of reionization.

Parameters $f_{\text{Si}\,\text{III}}$ and $\nu_{\text{Si}\,\text{III}}$ (2).—Normalization and redshift evolution of the Si III–Ly α cross-correlation term.

Parameters $\epsilon_{n,i=1...11}$ (11).—Freedom in the noise amplitude in the data in each SDSS redshift bin.

Parameter α_R (1).—Freedom in the resolution for the SDSS data.

Parameter A_{damp} (1).—Normalization of the power contributed by high-density systems.

Parameters a_{NOSN} and a_{NOMETAL} (2).—Admixture of corrections from the NOSN and NOMETAL hydrodynamic simulations.

Parameters $A_{\rm UV}$ and $\nu_{\rm UV}$ (2).—Normalization and redshift evolution of the correction for fluctuations in the ionizing background.

Parameter x_{extrap} (1).—Freedom in the extrapolation of our small simulation results to low k.

Tens of thousands of models Monte Carlo Markov Chains

- Cosmology

- Cosmology
- Mean flux - T=T₀ (1+δ)^{γ-1}
- Reionization
- Metals
- Noise
- Resolution
- Damped Systems
- Physics
- UV background
- Small scales

McDonald et al. 05

<u>The interpretation: flux derivatives - III</u>

Independent analysis of SDSS power

The flux power spectrum is a smooth function of k and z McDonald et al. 05: fine grid of (calibrated) HPM (quick) simulations Viel & Haehnelt 06: interpolate sparse grid of full hydrodynamical (slow) simulations



but even resolution and/or box size effects if you want to save CPU time

RESULTS

POWER SPECTRUM AND NEUTRINOS

<u>Results Lyman- α only with full grid: amplitude and slope</u>

$$\Delta_L^2(k, z) \simeq \left[\frac{D(z)}{D(z_p)}\right]^2 \Delta_L^2(k_p, z_p) \qquad \times \left[\frac{k}{k_\star(z)}\right]^{3+n_{\rm eff}\left(k_p, z_p\right) + (1/2)\alpha_{\rm eff}\left(k_p, z_p\right) \ln[k/k_\star(z)]}$$

 χ^2 likelihood code distributed with COSMOMC

McDonald et al. 05



Redshift z=3 and k=0.009 s/km corresponding to 7 comoving Mpc/h

<u>Results Lyman- α only with flux derivatives: correlations</u>





Fitting SDSS data with GADGET-2 this is SDSS Ly- α only







FLUX DERIVATIVES

SDSS data only $\sigma_8 = 0.91 \pm 0.07$ $n = 0.97 \pm 0.04$

Summary (highlights) of results

 Tightest constraints to date on neutrino masses and running of the spectral index Seljak, Slosar, McDonald JCAP (2006) 10 014

 Tightest constraints to date on the coldness of cold dark matter MV et al., Phys.Rev.Lett. 100 (2008) 041304

Lyman- α forest + Weak Lensing + WMAP 3yrs



AMPLITUDE

<u>Lyman- α forest + Weak Lensing + WMAP 3yrs</u>

Lesgourgues, MV, Haehnelt, Massey, 2007, JCAP, 8, 11

	wl+wmaps+ly α vhs	$WL+WMAP3+Ly\alpha$ SDSS-d	
σ_8	0.822 ± 0.032	0.800 ± 0.023	
n_s	0.960 ± 0.016	0.971 ± 0.011	ldn/dlnkl
Ω_{0m}	0.282 ± 0.026	0.247 ± 0.016	
h	0.700 ± 0.022	0.730 ± 0.016	
τ	0.094 ± 0.028	0.109 ± 0.026	

WMAP 5yrs

WMAP5only Dunkley et al. 08 $\sigma_8 = 0.796 \pm 0.036$ $n_s = 0.963 \pm 0.015$ $\Omega_m = 0.258 \pm 0.030$ $h = 71.9 \pm 2.7$ $\tau = 0.087 \pm 0.017$ $dn/dlnk = -0.037 \pm 0.028$

WMAP5+BAO+SN Komatsu et al. 08

0.021

 $\sigma_8 = 0.817 \pm 0.026$ $n_s = 0.960 \pm 0.014$ $h = 70.1 \pm 1.3$ $\tau = 0.084 \pm 0.016$

with Lyman- α factor 2 improvements on the running



$$k_{\rm nr} \simeq 0.018 \ \Omega_{\rm m}^{1/2} \left(\frac{m}{1 \, {\rm eV}}\right)^{1/2} h \, {\rm Mpe}^{-1}$$



Active neutrinos - II



RESULTS

WARM DARK MATTER

Or if you prefer.. How cold is cold dark matter?

<u>Lyman- α and Warm Dark Matter - I</u>



30 comoving Mpc/h z=3

In general k FS ~ 5(Tv/Tx (m x/1keV) Mpc⁻¹

Set by relativistic degrees of freedom at decoupling

MV, Lesgourgues, Haehnelt, Matarrese, Riotto, PRD, 2005, 71, 063534



m $_{WDM}$ > 0.5 (2.5) keV from VHS, SDSS m $_{s}$ > 2 (14) keV from VHS, SDSS

See (for numerical studies): Colombi, Dodelson, Widrow, 1996 Colin, Avila-Reese, Valenzuela 2000 Bode, Ostriker, Turok 2001 Abazajian, Fuller, Patel 2001 Wang & White 2007 Colin, Avila-Reese, Valenzuela 2008

Lyman- α and Warm Dark Matter - II



Little room for standard warm dark matter scenarios..... ... the cosmic web is likely to be quite "cold"



RESULTS NEW WARM DARK MATTER MODEL (sterile neutrino)

REVIEW Boyarsky, Lesgourgues, Ruchayskiy, Viel, 2008, arxiv: 0812.0010 Boyarsky, Lesgourgues, Ruchayskiy, Viel, 2008, arxiv: 0812.3256

Lyman- α and Cold+Warm Dark Matter - I





Pure Λ WDM: m > 9.5 keV (frequentist) m > 12 keV (Bayesian)

CWDM: F < 0.40 any mass (frequentist) F < 0.35 any mass (Bayesian)

See also Palazzo, Cumberbatch, Slosar, Silk et al. (2007)

<u>Lyman- α and Cold+Warm Dark Matter - II</u>





Note that for F>0.6 Ly- α bounds are in conflict with X-ray observations at 3 σ !

Lyman- α and resonantly produced sterile neutrinos - I

Shi & Fuller (1999), Asaka, Kusenko, Laine, Shaposhnikov etc.



For $m_{RP} > 2$ keV there is a least one value of Lepton asymmetry for which sterile are the dark matter and satisfy any astrophysical constraints

PRIMORDIAL Non Gaussianities in the IGM



MV, Branchini, Dolag, Grossi, Matarrese, Moscardini 2009, MNRAS

SINERGIES of IGM with other astrophysical and cosmological probes

In the standard ΛCDM scenario

Astrophysics: Low-redshift evolution



Different feedback recipes: AGN, winds

<u>Cosmology: high redshift probes</u>



Xia & MV arXiv:0901.0605

SUMMARY

- Lyman- α forest is an important cosmological probe at a unique range of scales and redshifts in the structure formation era
- Current limitations are theoretical (more reliable simulations are needed for example for neutrino species) and statistical errors are smaller than systematic ones
- Need to fit all the IGM statistics at once (mean flux + flux pdf + flux power + flux bispectrum + ...).
- -Tension with the CMB is partly lifted (σ_8 went a bit up). Still very constraining for what happens at those scales: running (inflation), neutrinos, warm dark matter candidates ...
- IMPORTANCE of SINERGIES with cosmology and astrophysics

Fitting the flux probability distribution function

Bolton, MV, Kim, Haehnelt, Carswell (08)

