

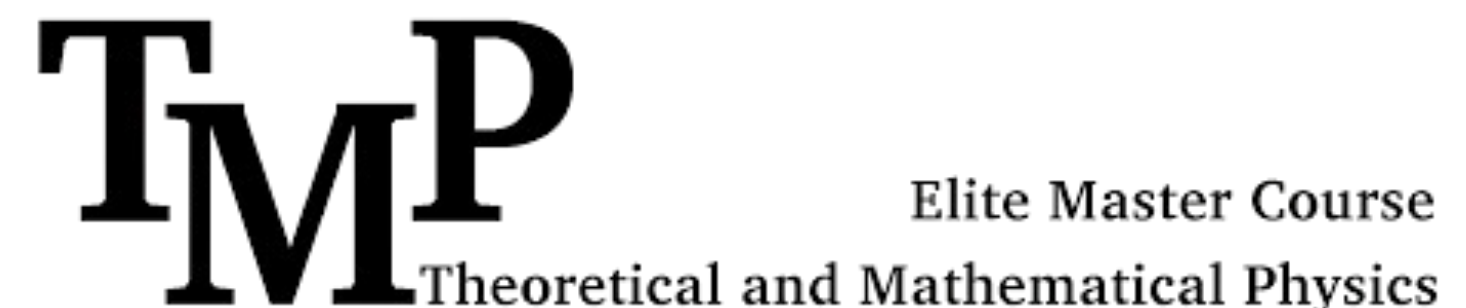
Loop Corrections in the Effective Field Theory of Large-Scale Structure

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M.Sc. Theoretical and Mathematical Physics

Advisors: **Prof. Dr. Johannes Henn, Dr. Fabian Schmidt**

February 24, 2026



What is the EFTofLSS?

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Large-scale structure

Late-time distribution of matter and galaxies

- Tracer of primordial fluctuations + information on other dynamical stages of cosmic history
- **3D surveys** → ultra-precision cosmology

[BOSS, Euclid, DESI, LSST, SphereX, ...]

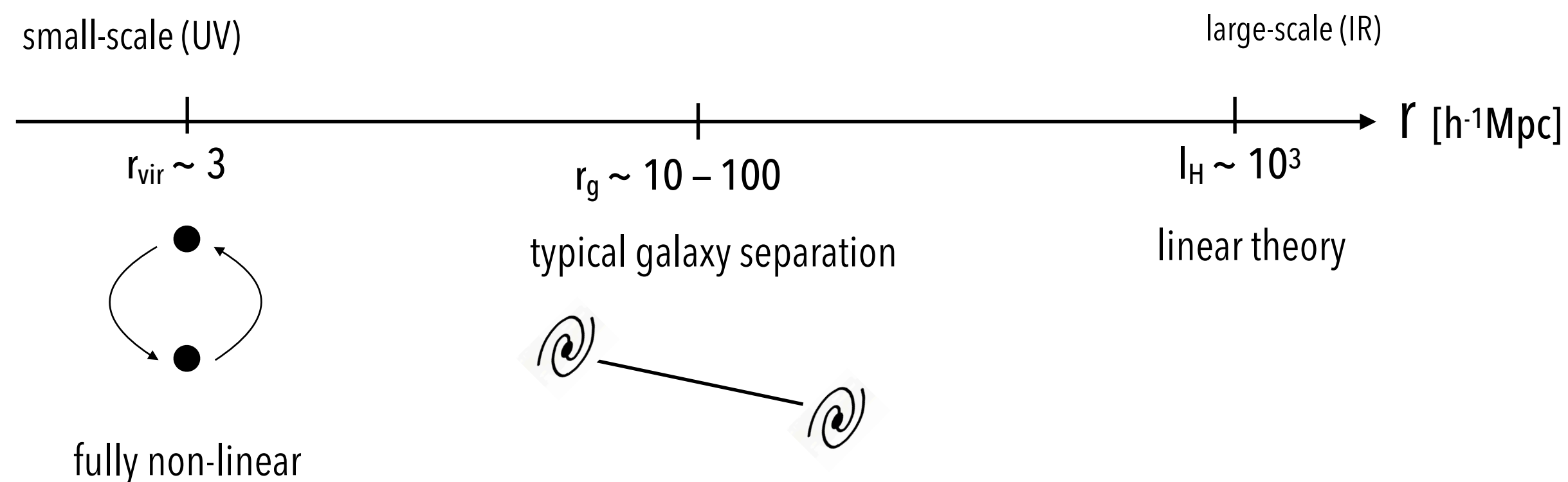
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We need accurate theoretical model



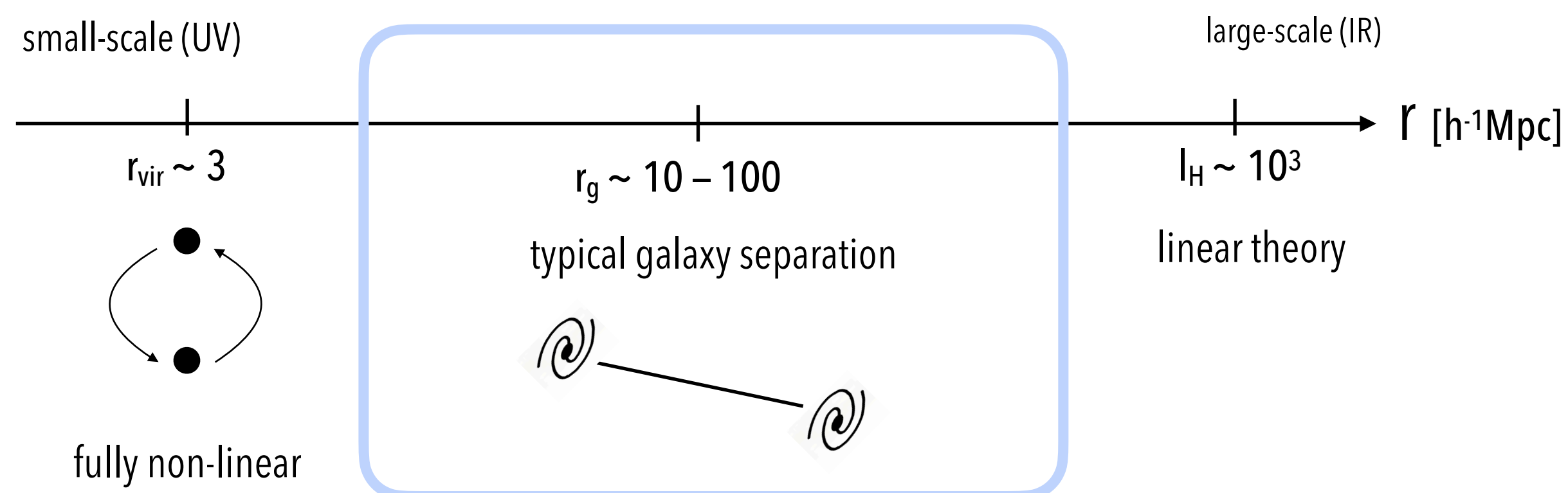
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separation of scales
→

EFTofLSS

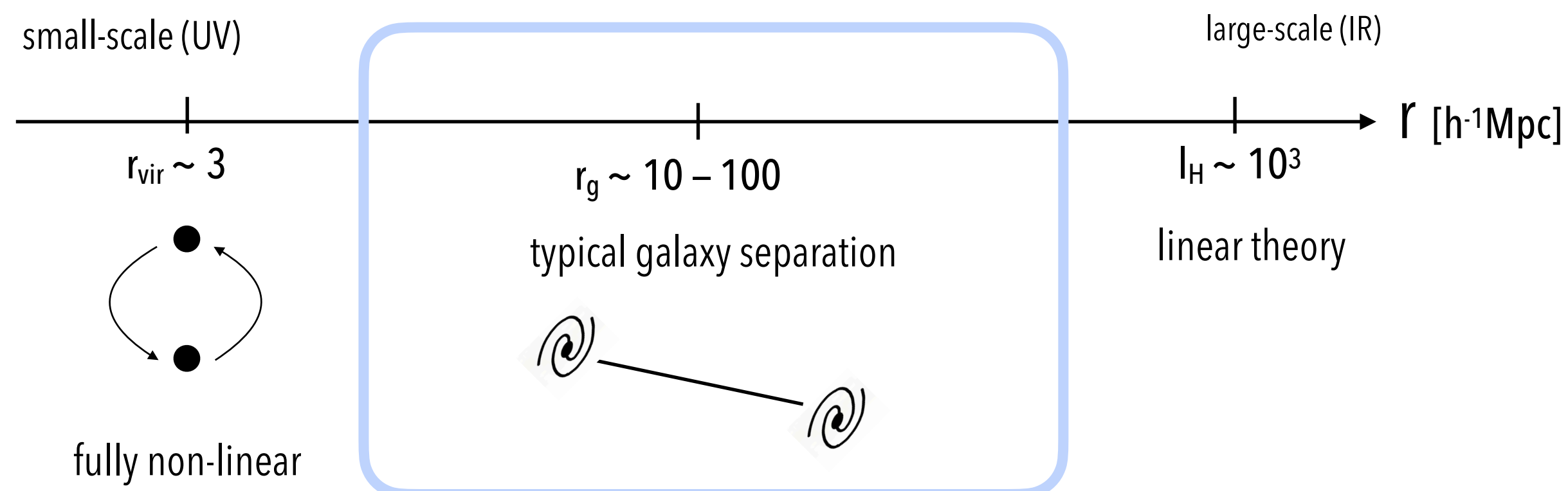
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Galaxies / DM halos as perturbations on top of a homogeneous and isotropic background

Non-ideal effective fluid description

$$\delta_{\Lambda}(\tau, \mathbf{x}) \equiv \frac{\rho(\tau, \mathbf{x})}{\bar{\rho}(\tau)} - 1 \quad \theta_{\Lambda}^i(\tau, \mathbf{x}) \quad + \text{UV counterterms}$$

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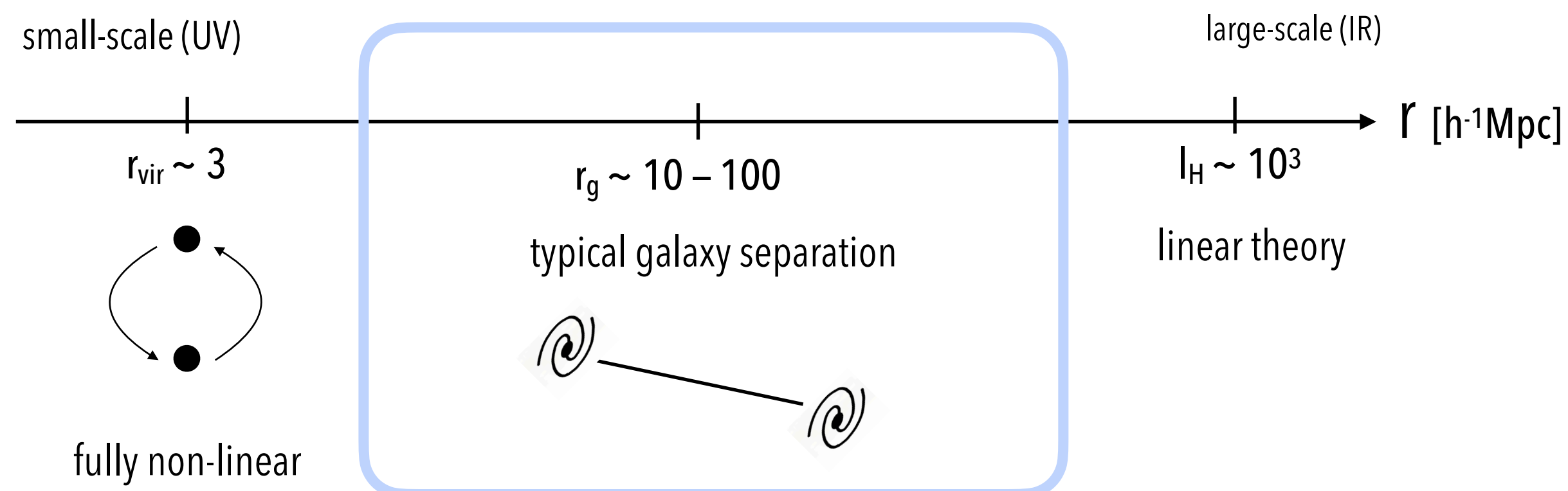
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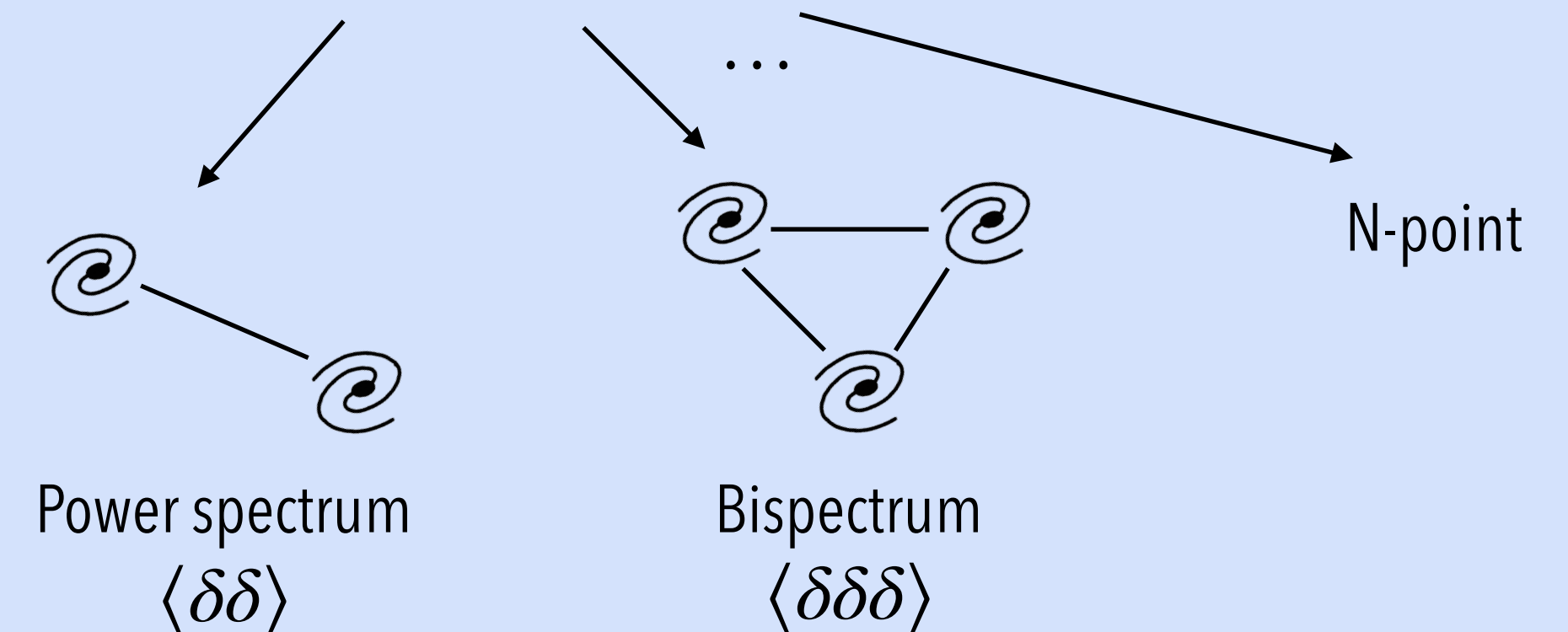
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Correlation functions



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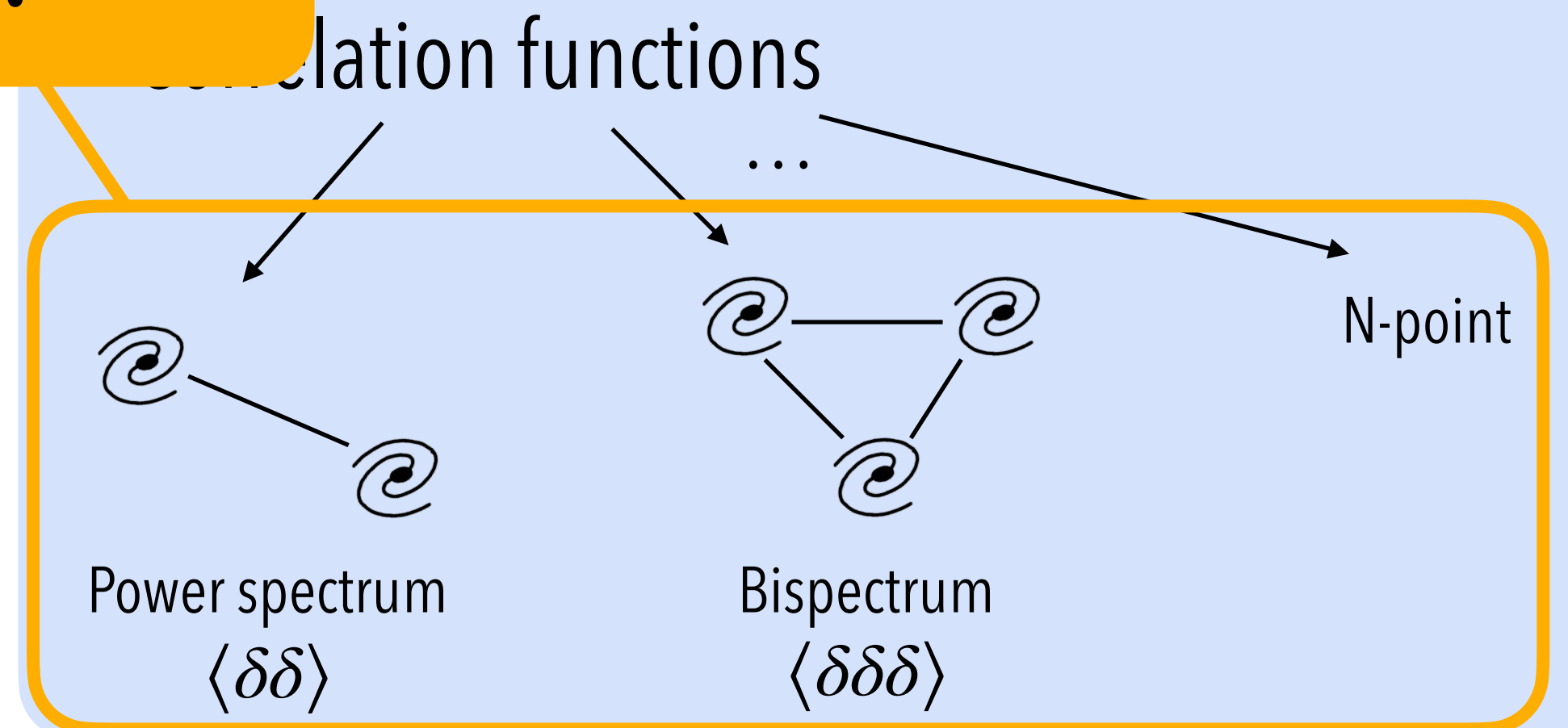
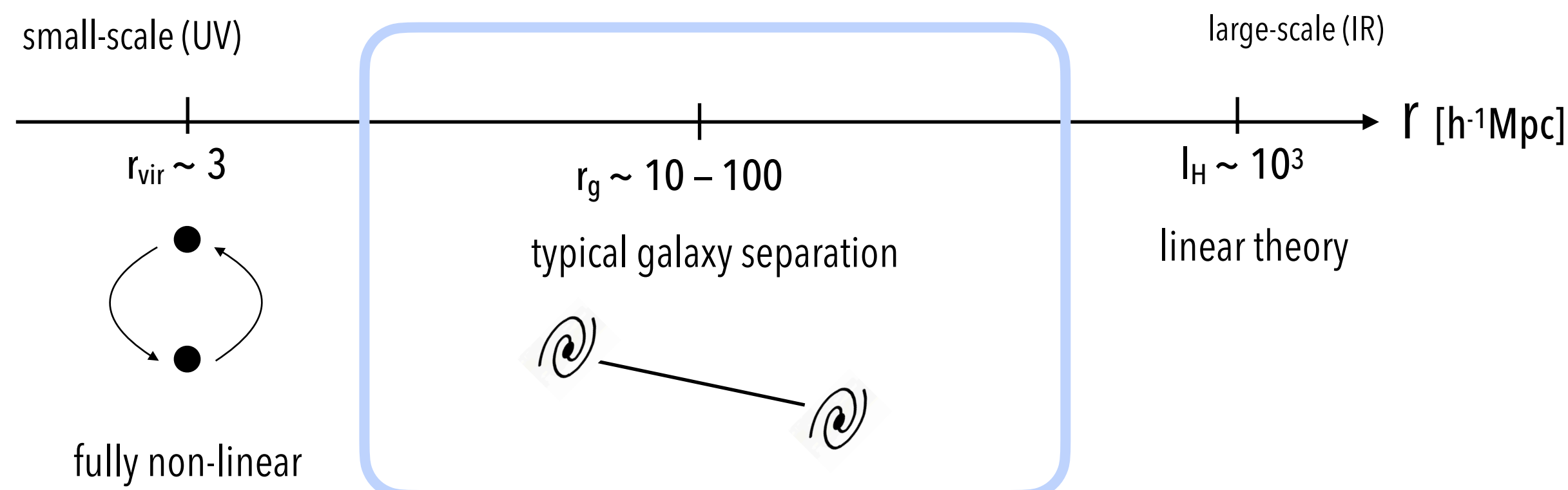
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Can we use QFT methods to compute them?

$$\delta(\tau, \mathbf{x}) \equiv \frac{\rho(\tau, \mathbf{x})}{\bar{\rho}(\tau)} - 1 \quad \theta_{\Lambda}^i(\tau, \mathbf{x}) \quad + \text{UV counterterms}$$

We need accurate theoretical models



Dark matter power spectrum in the EFTofLSS

[Scoccimarro, '96; Bernardeau, Colombi, Gatzaga, Scoccimarro, '02; Carrasco, Hertzberg, Senatore, '12; Pajer, Zaldarriaga, '13; Blas, Garny, Ivanov, Sibiryakov, '16; Philcox, '20; Ivanov, '22...]

$$\langle \delta(\tau, \mathbf{k}) \delta(\tau, \mathbf{k}') \rangle = (2\pi)^3 \delta_D(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{k}') P(\tau, k)$$

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Equations of motion for δ are solved perturbatively \longrightarrow perturbative expansion for the power spectrum

$$P(\tau, k) = D^2(\tau) P_{\text{lin}}(k) + D^4(\tau) P_{1\text{-loop}}(k) + D^6(\tau) P_{2\text{-loop}}(k) + \dots + \text{counterterms}$$

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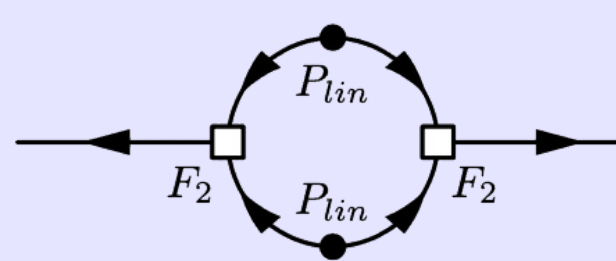
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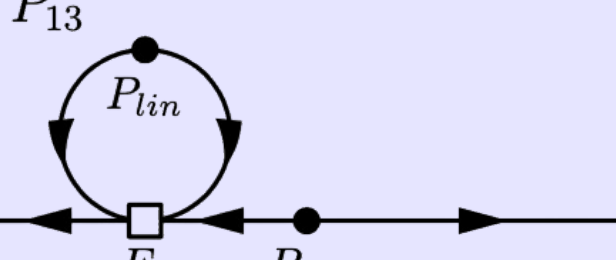
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$$= P_{\text{lin}}(k) \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^3} F_3(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q}, -\mathbf{q}) P_{\text{lin}}(q)$$

[images from Simonović et al, 2017]

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rational functions!
 [Bernardeau et al, 2002]

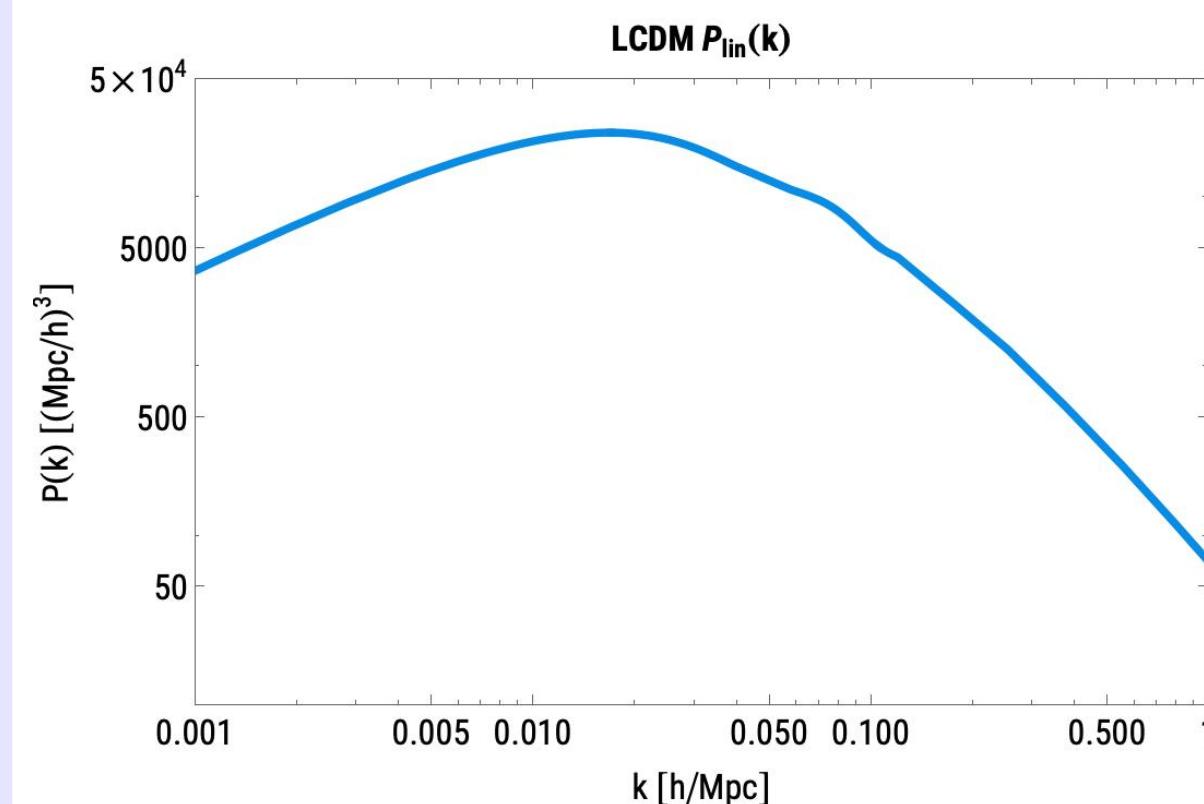
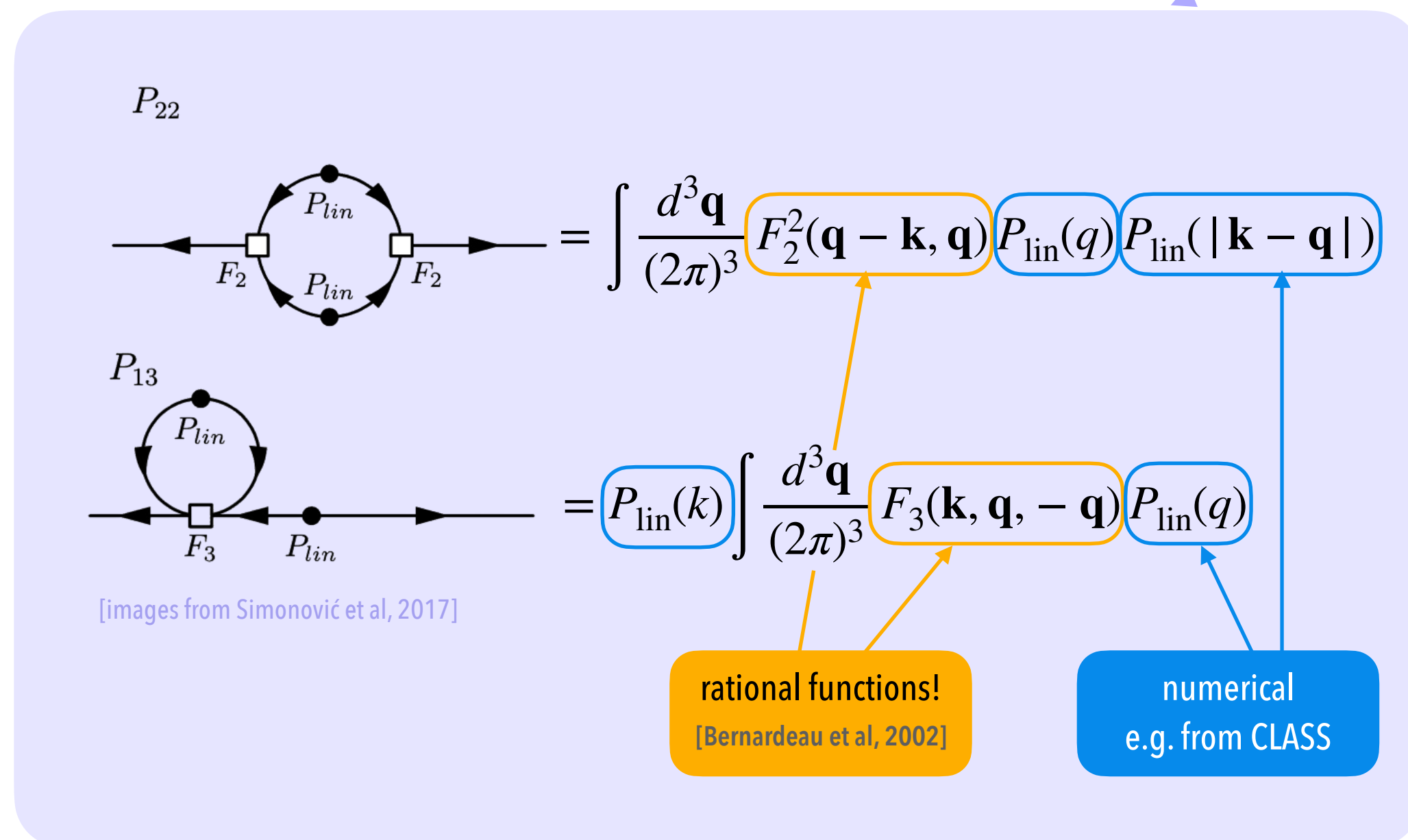
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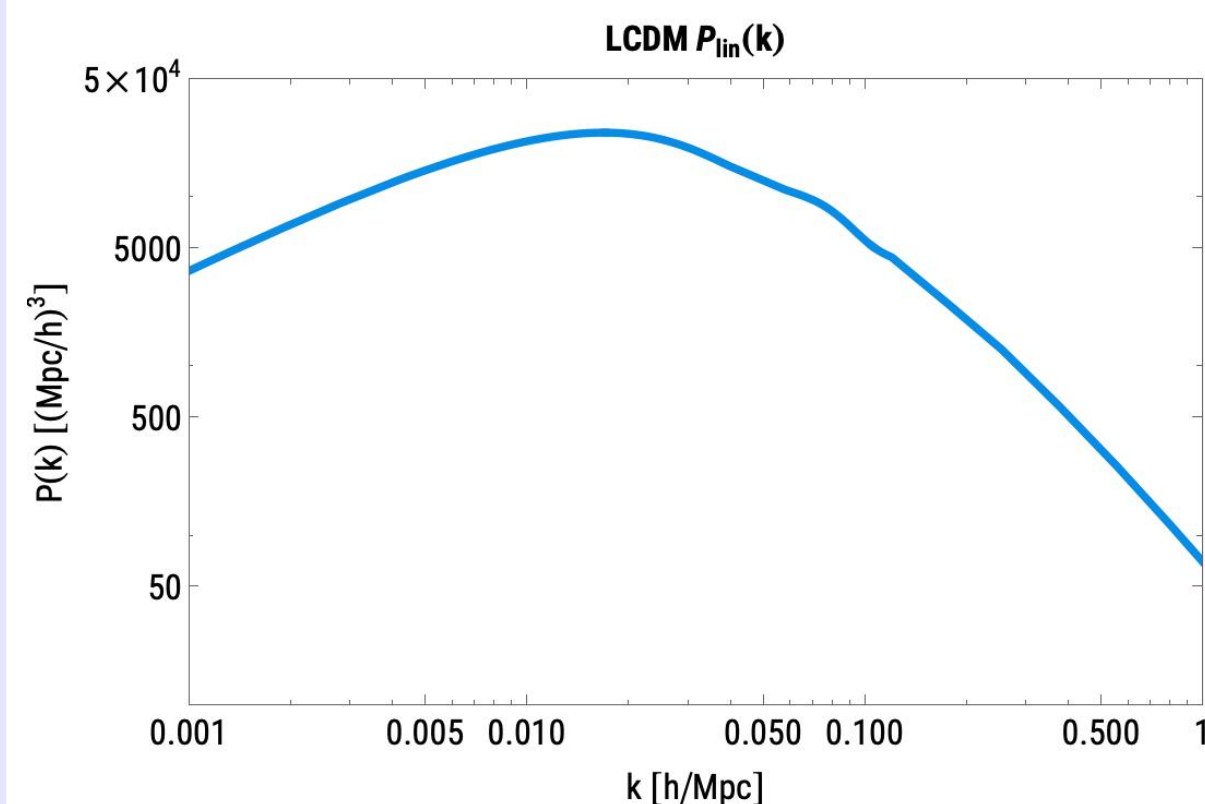
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rational functions!
[Bernardeau et al, 2002]
numerical
e.g. from CLASS

[images from Simonović et al, 2017]



P_{33-II} , P_{33-I} , P_{24} , P_{15}

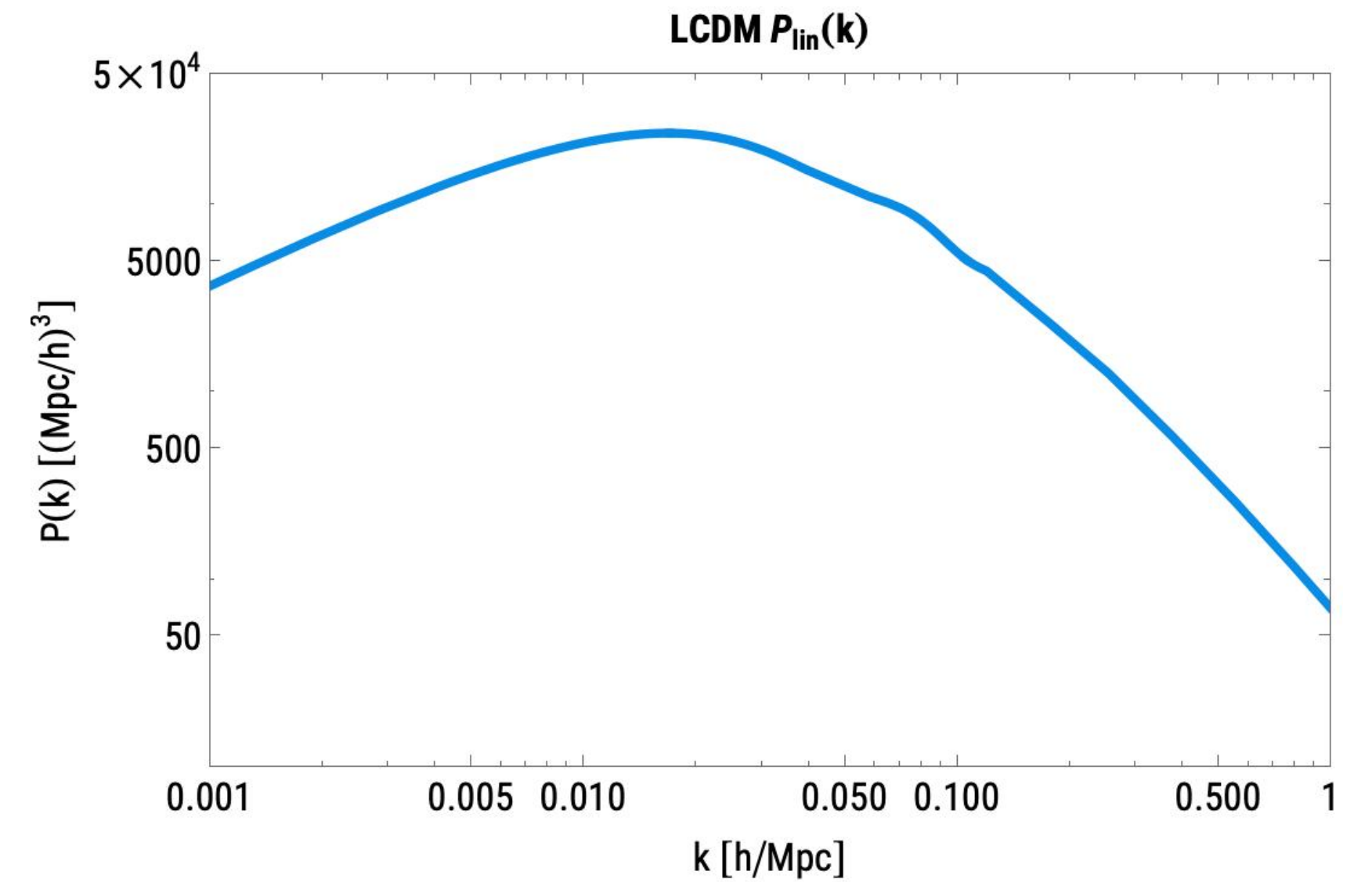
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Efficient evaluation of loop corrections

$P_{\text{lin}}(k)$ has a lot of features \longrightarrow numerical integration is inefficient.

Solution:

approximate $P_{\text{lin}}(k)$ onto set of smoother functions and solve more, but easier loop integrals.

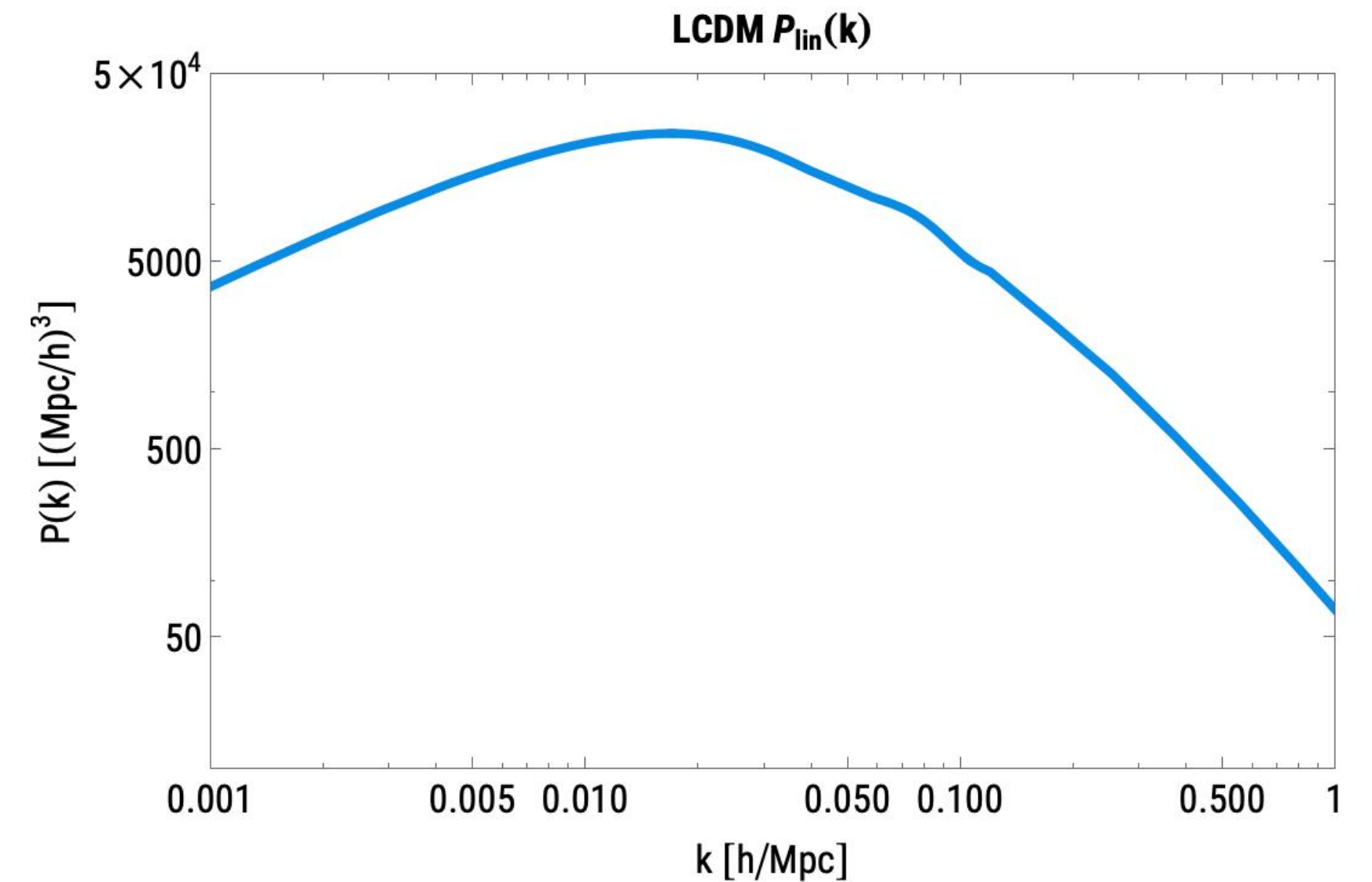


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There are various prescriptions

FFTLog

[Simonović et al, '17]

State of the art

Power spectrum 1-loop

Bispectrum 1-loop

(fully analytic)

Massive propagators

[Anastasiou et al, '23; '25]

State of the art

Power spectrum 1-loop (analytic)

Power spectrum 2-loop (numerical)

COBRA

[Vlah et al, '25]

State of the art

Power spectrum 1-loop

Power spectrum 2-loop

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Efficient evaluation of loop corrections

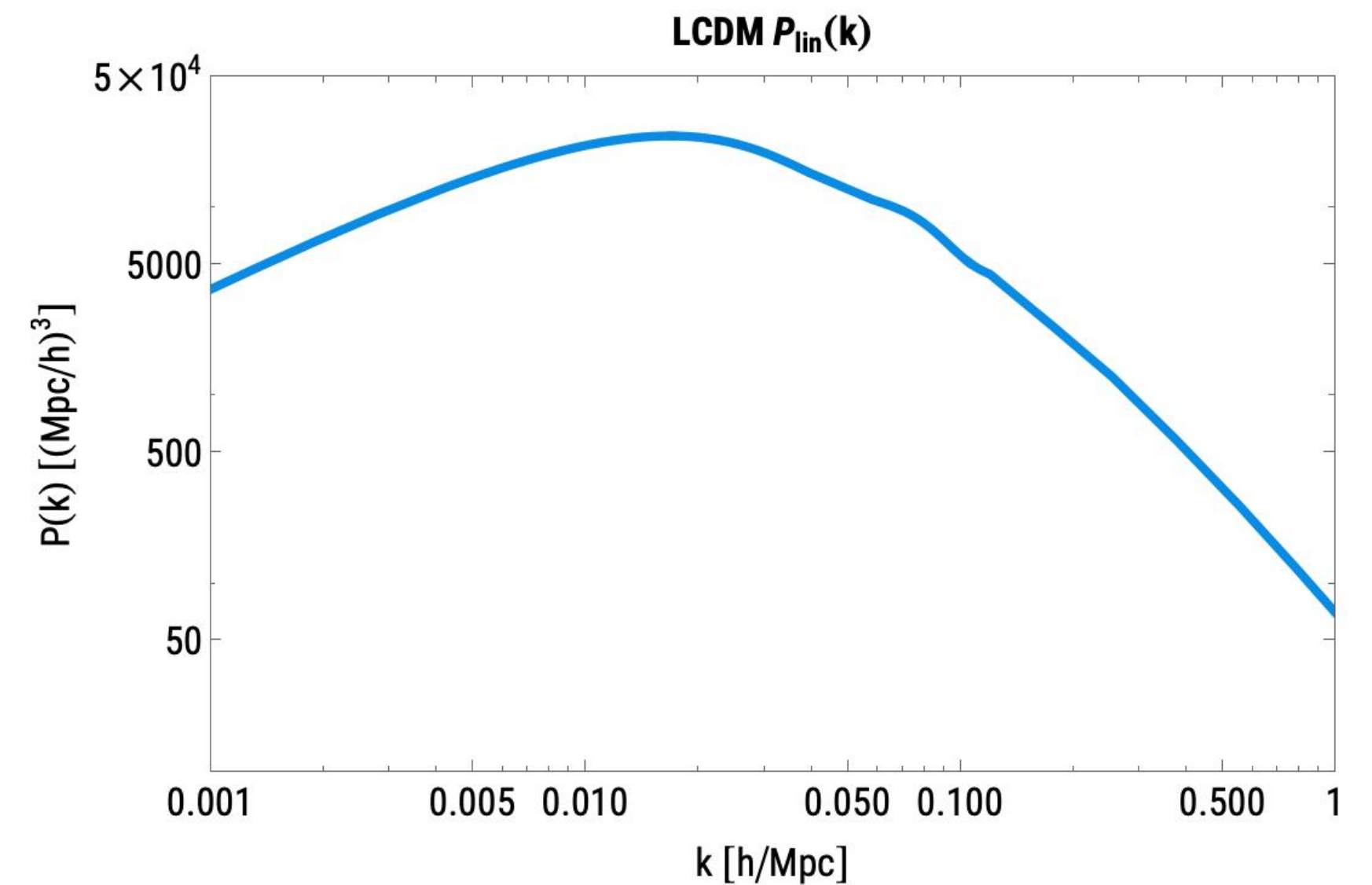
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**let's compute power spectrum at
2-loops *analytically***

s prescriptions



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The two-loop power spectrum using FFTLog

FFTLog prescription

[Simonović et al, '17]

Decompose $P_{\text{lin}}(k)$ onto power laws

$$P_{\text{lin}}(k_n) = \sum_m c_m k_n^{\nu + i\eta_m}$$

Discrete Mellin Transform
(FFTLog)

[Hamilton, '00]

FFTLog prescription

[Simonović et al, '17]

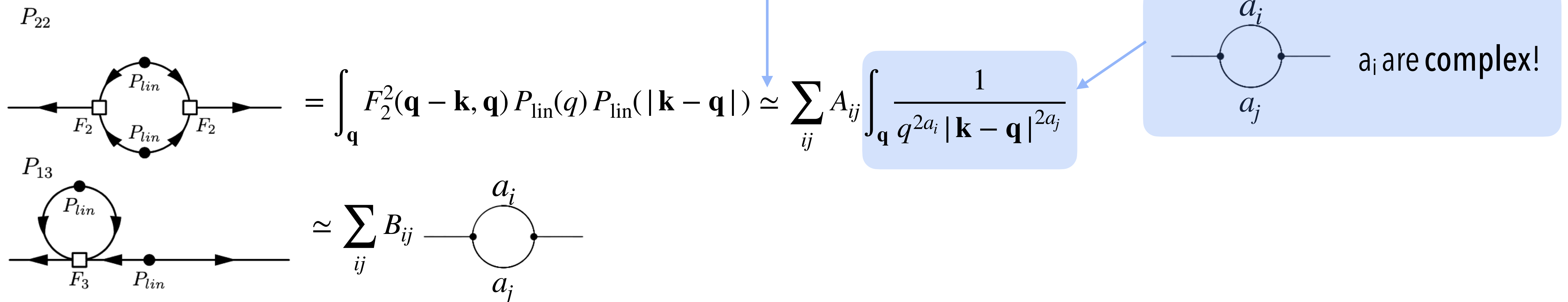
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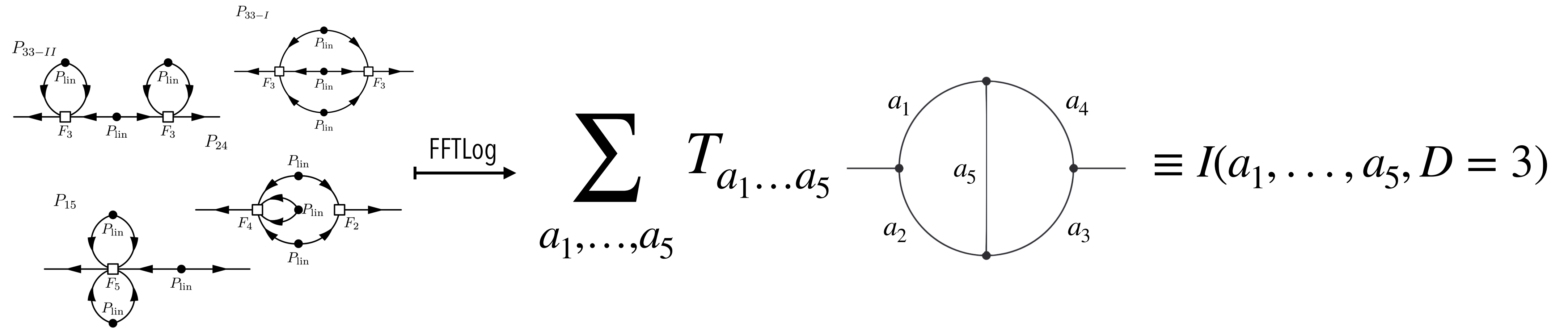
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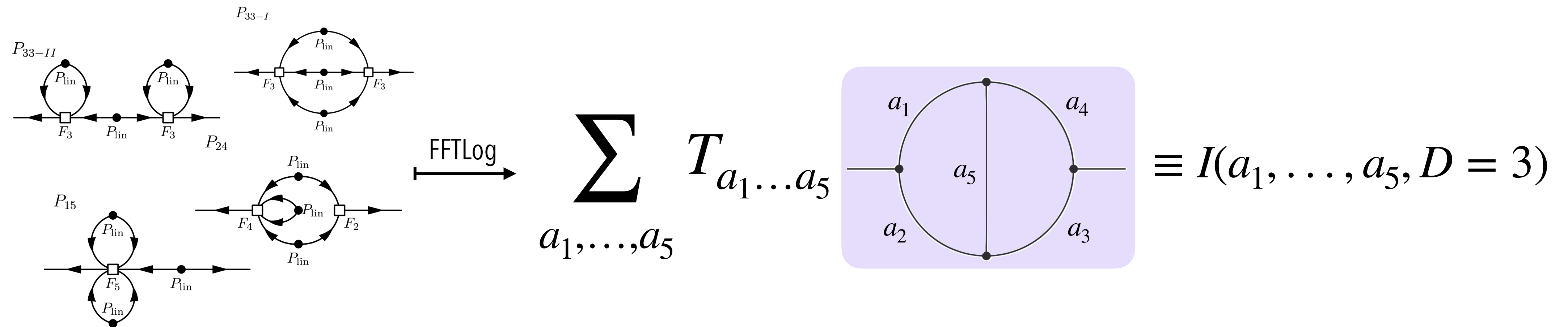
Cosmological loops decompose onto QFT-like integrals with analytic solution



2-loop power spectrum: the massless kite integral



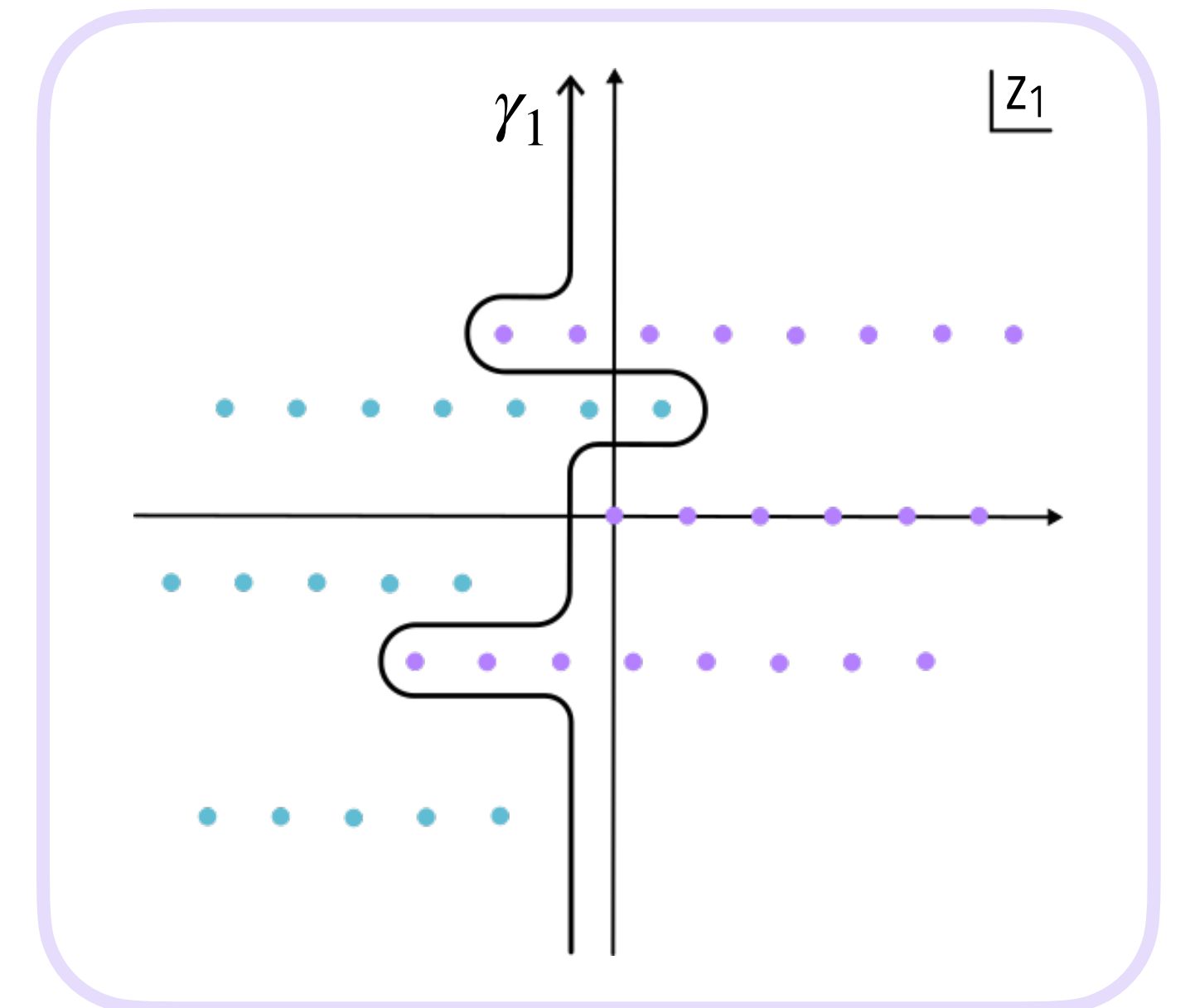
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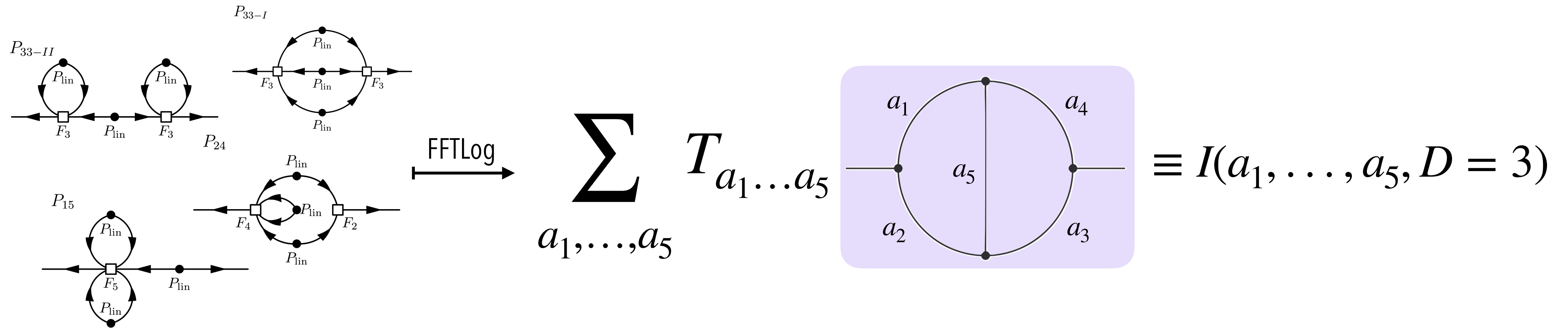
1) Evaluation of the Master Integral

2-fold Mellin-Barnes representation

$$I(a_j; D) = \int_{\gamma_1} \int_{\gamma_2} dz_1 dz_2 \frac{\prod \Gamma(A_j + B_j z_1 + C_j z_2)}{\prod \Gamma(E_j + F_j z_1 + G_j z_2)}$$



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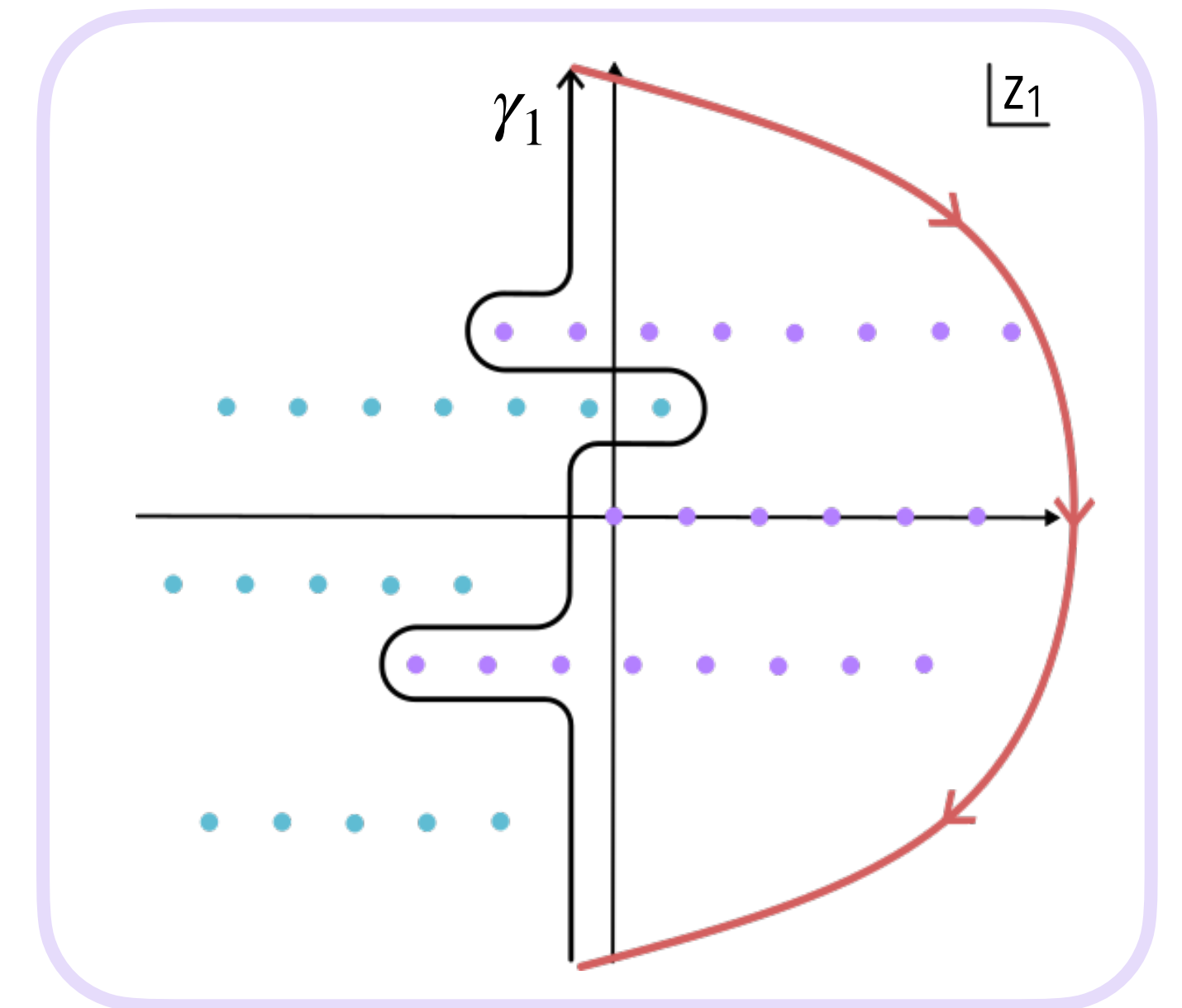
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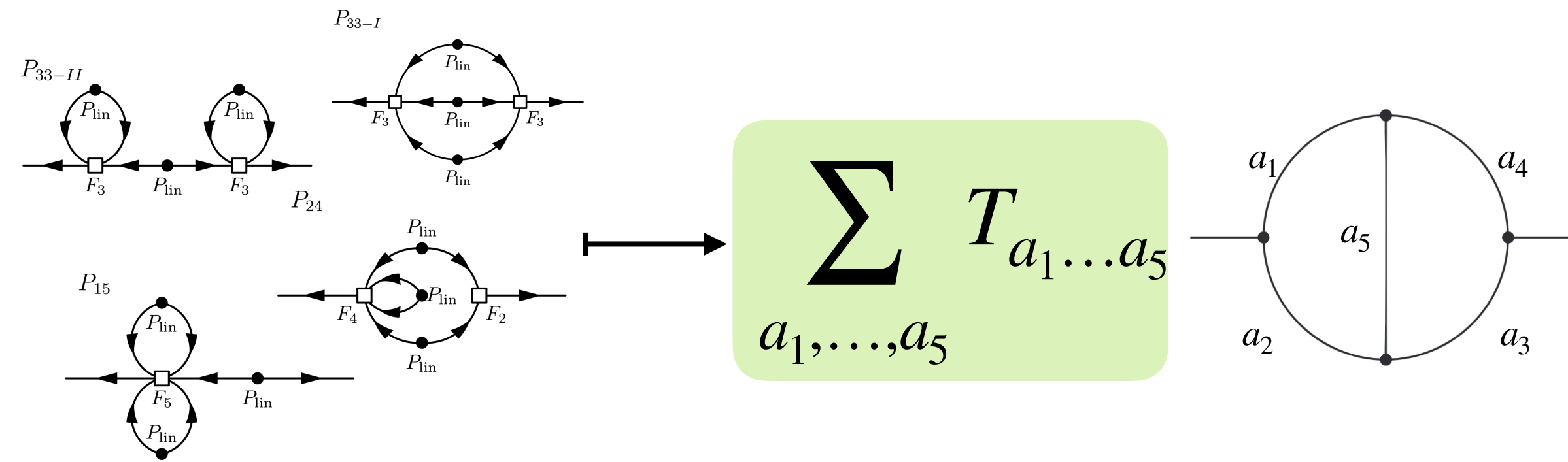
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Double sum representation

$$\sum_n \frac{\prod_i \Gamma(\dots)}{\prod_j \Gamma(\dots)} {}_4F_3(1)$$



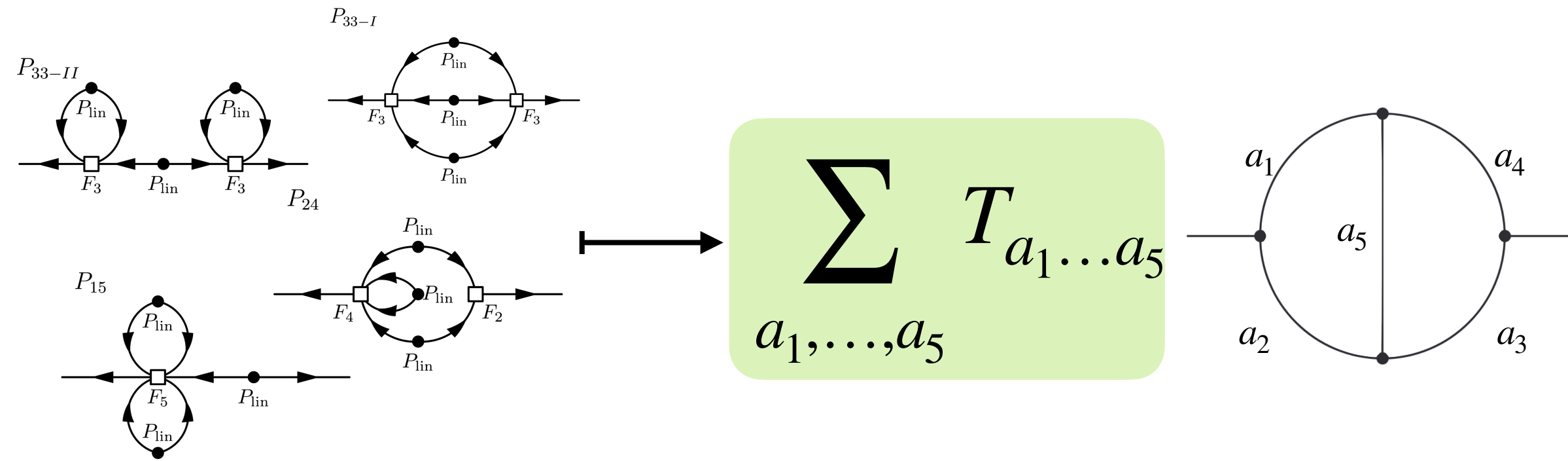
2-loop power spectrum: towards the full result



2) Full cosmological contributions

→ $\mathcal{O}(10^7)$ integral configurations per diagram

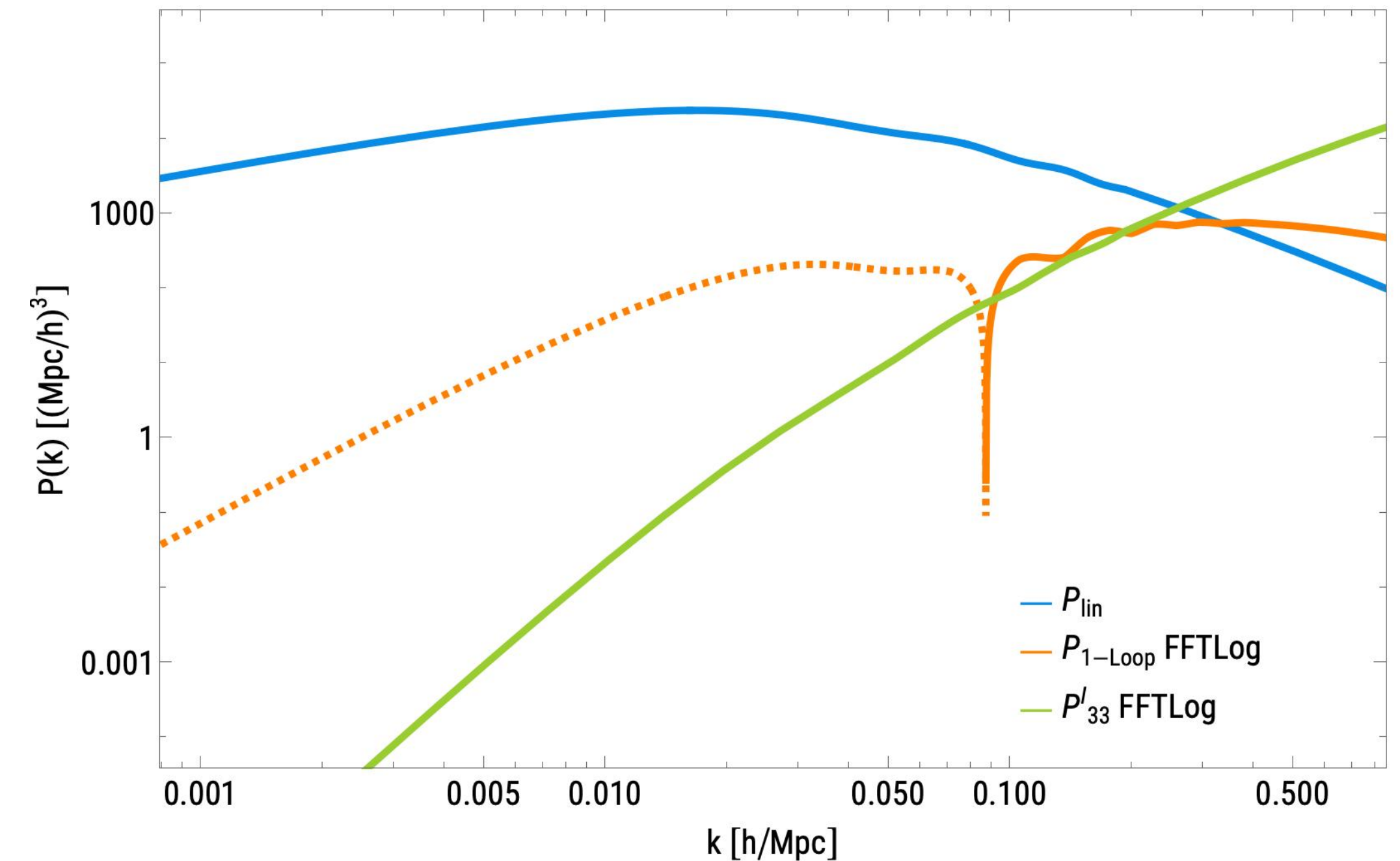
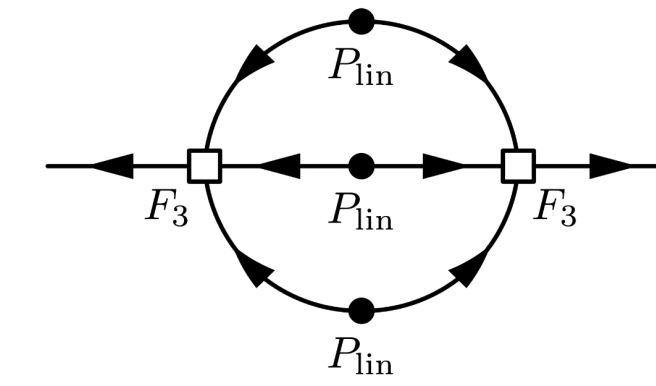
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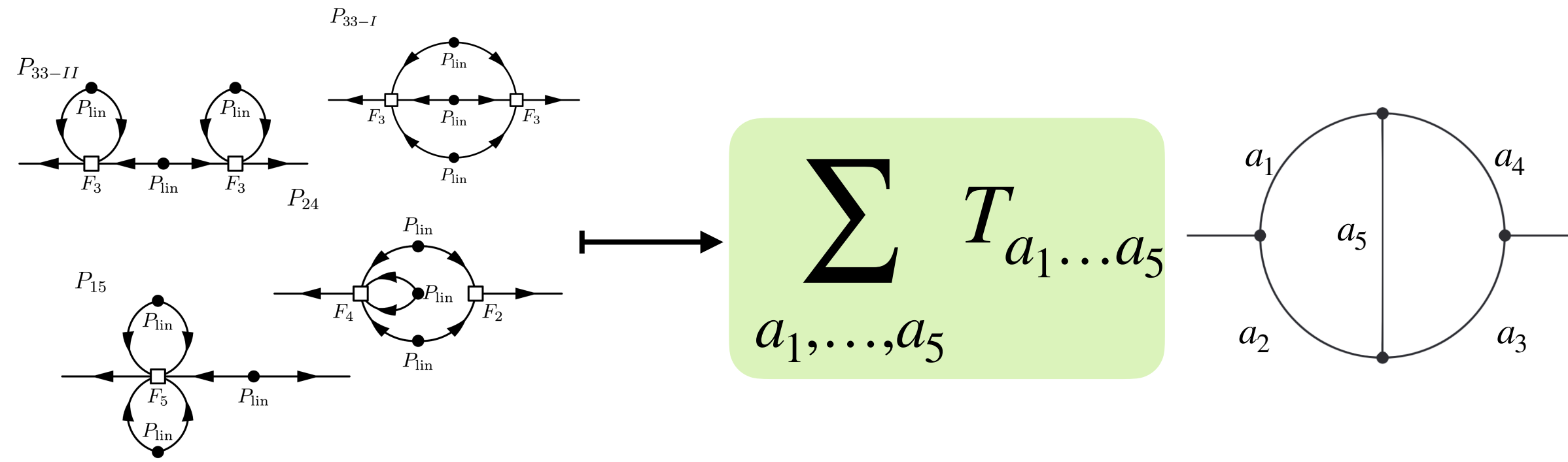
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P_{33}^I contribution



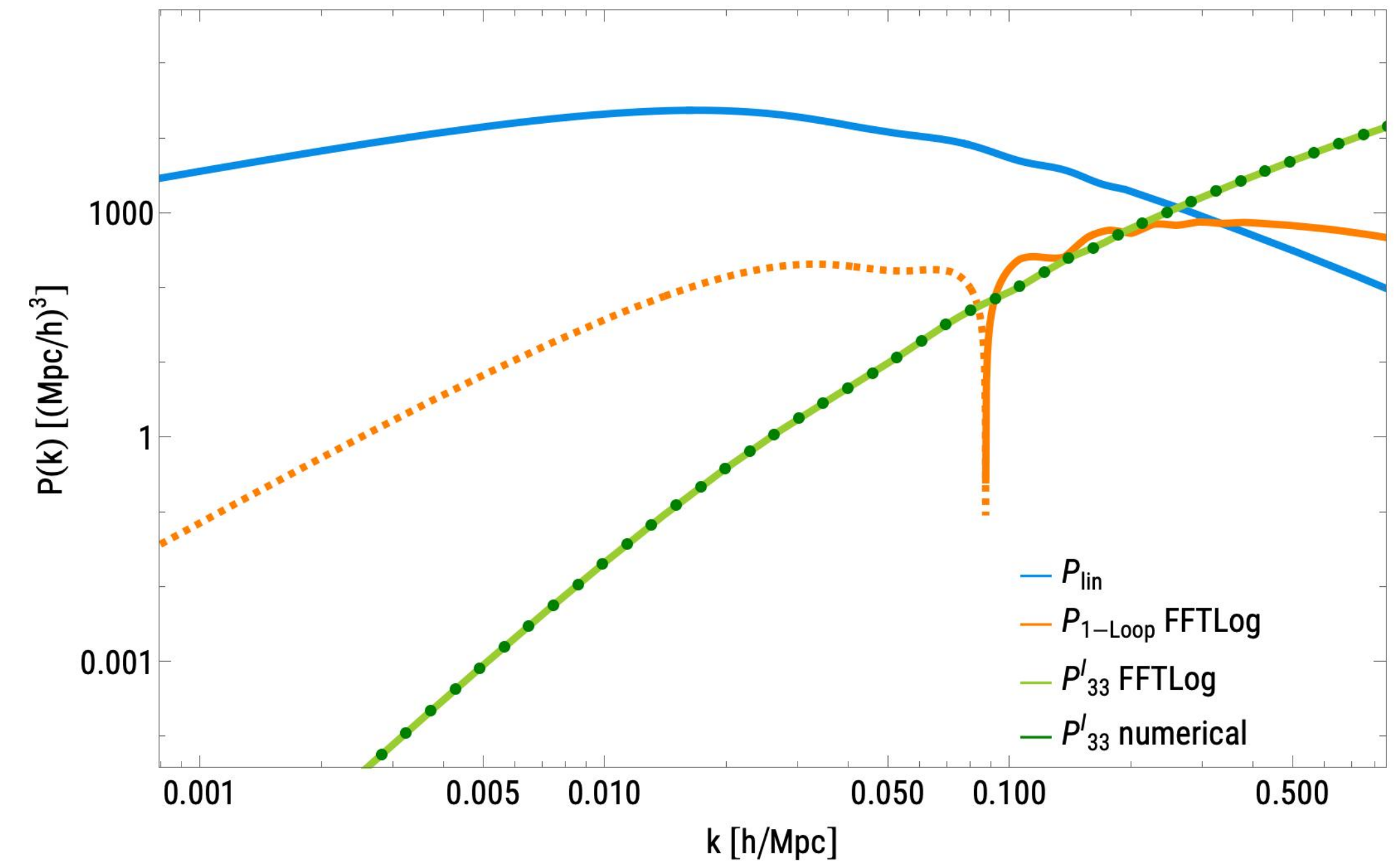
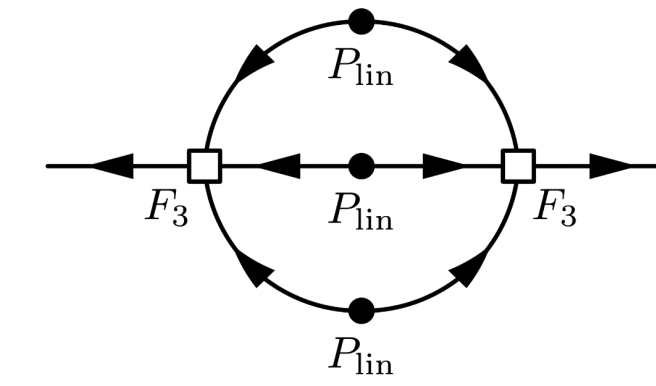
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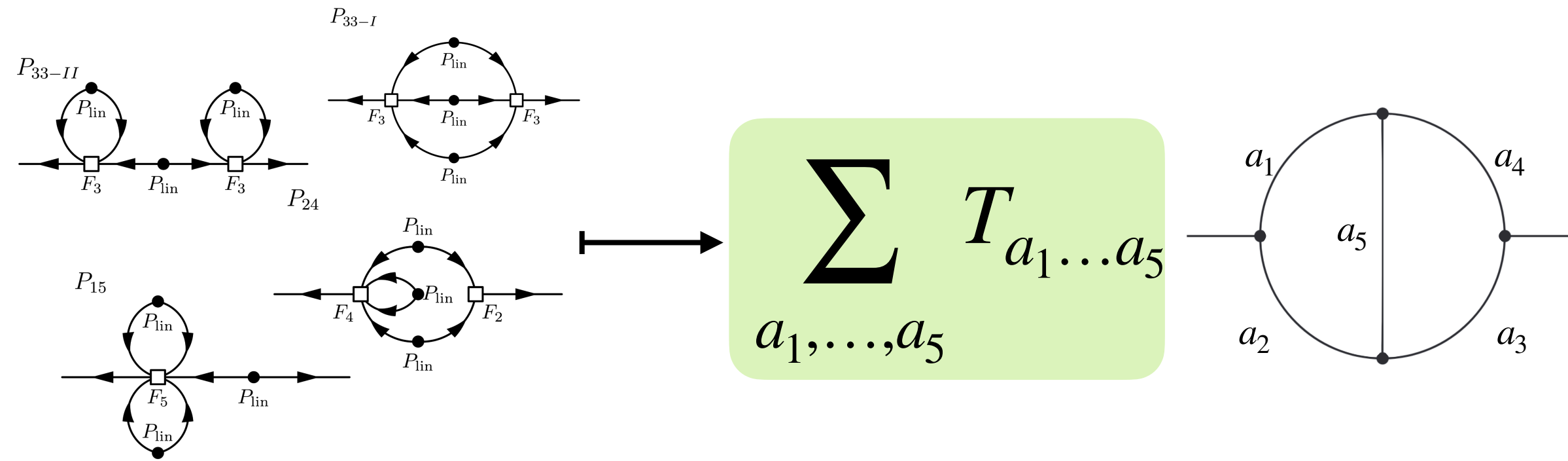
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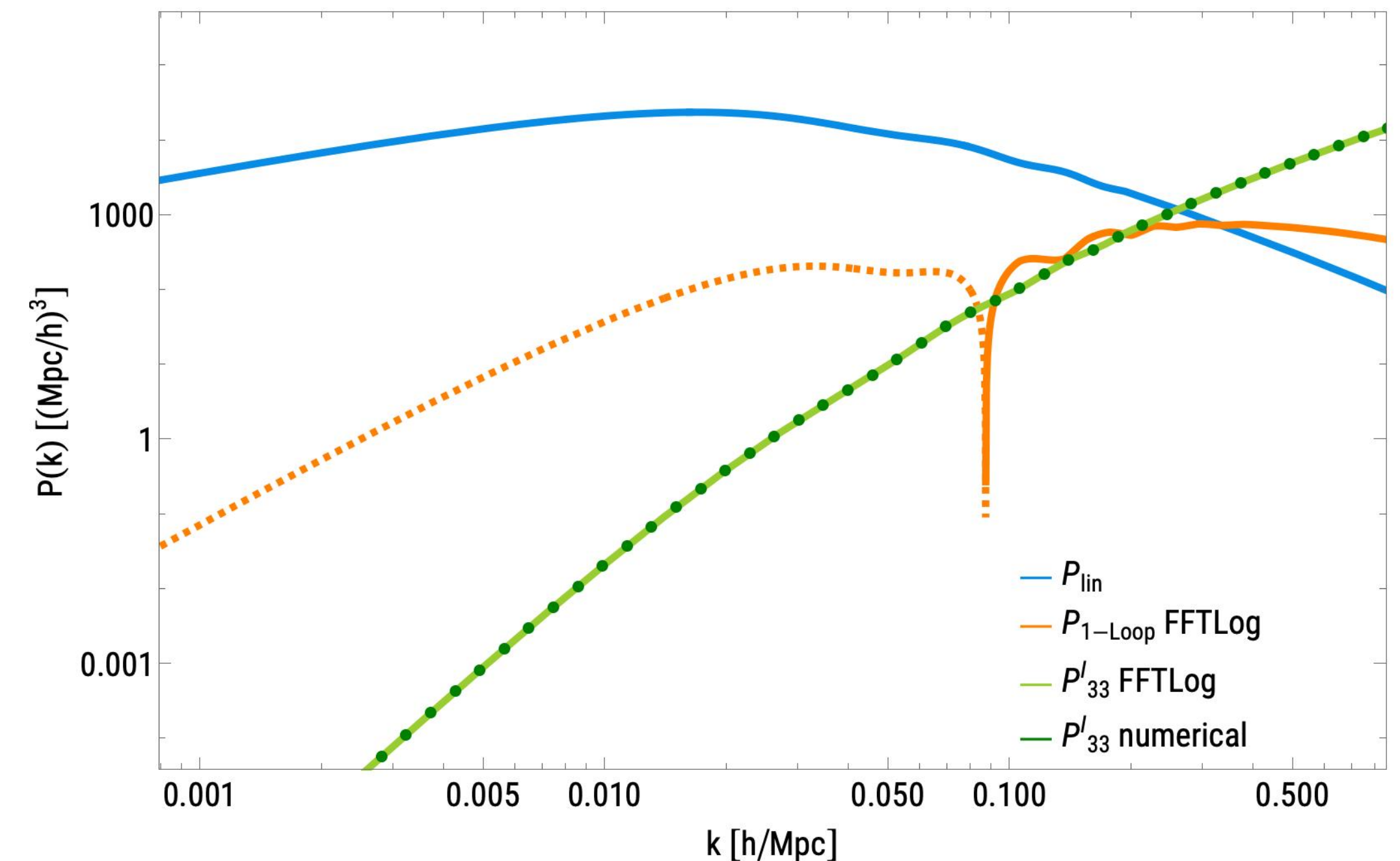
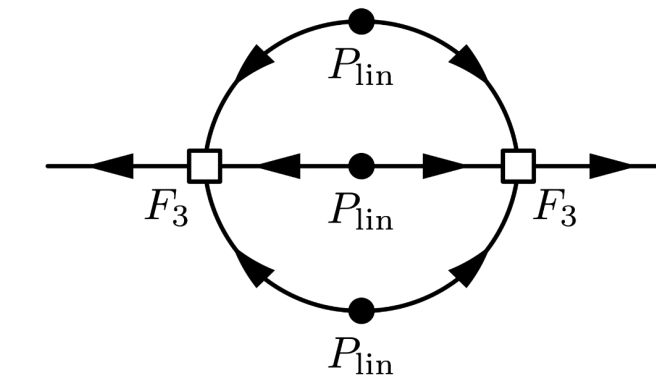
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The next steps

- analytic continuation to full parameter domain
- systematic inclusion of **EFT counterterms**

P_{33}^I contribution



Outlook

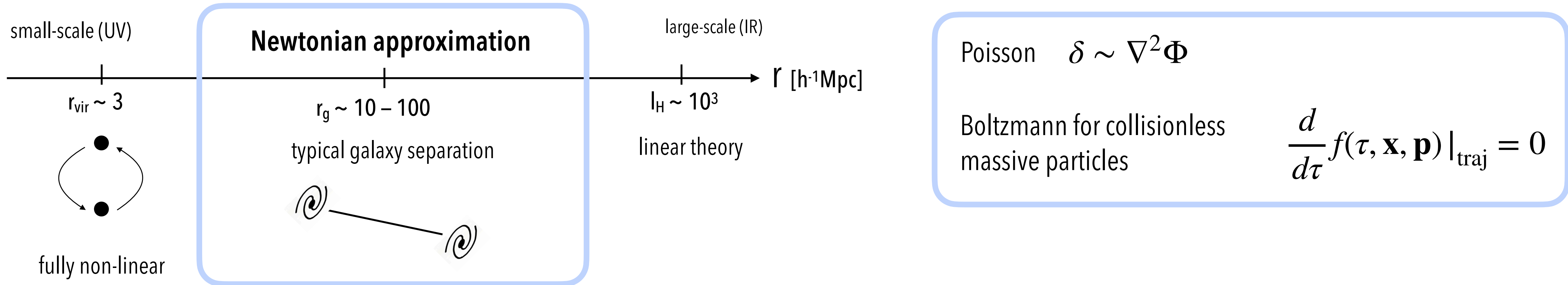
- 1) Automation of full 2-loop power spectrum pipeline (improving convergence and handling of imaginary parts)
- 2) Extend to **higher loops** and **legs** [Steele, Baldauf, '21; Anastasiou, Favorito, Lewandowski, Senatore, Zheng, '25]
- 3) Higher loops for **galaxy correlation functions** [Desjacques, Jeong, Schmidt, '19; Bakx, Chisari, Vlah, '25]
- 4) FFTLog decomposition of **numerical bases** for $P_{\text{lin}}(k)$ [Bakx, Chisari, Vlah, '25]

Thank you!

Backup slides

Cold dark matter in the Newtonian limit

[Carrasco et al, '12]



Boltzmann hierarchy

$$\rho(\vec{x}, t) = \frac{m}{a^3} \int d^3p f(\vec{x}, \vec{p}) = \frac{m}{a^3} \sum_n \delta^{(3)}(\vec{x} - \vec{x}_n),$$

$$\pi^i(\vec{x}, t) = \frac{1}{a^4} \int d^3p p^i f(\vec{x}, \vec{p}) = \frac{m}{a^3} \sum_n v_n^i \delta^{(3)}(\vec{x} - \vec{x}_n),$$

$$\sigma^{ij}(\vec{x}, t) = \frac{1}{ma^5} \int d^3p p^i p^j f(\vec{x}, \vec{p}) = \sum_n \frac{m}{a^3} v_n^i v_n^j \delta^{(3)}(\vec{x} - \vec{x}_n).$$

Integrate out UV physics

$$\mathcal{O}_l(\vec{x}, t) = [\mathcal{O}]_\Lambda(\vec{x}, t) = \int d^3x' W_\Lambda(\vec{x} - \vec{x}') \mathcal{O}(\vec{x}')$$

$$\int d^3p p^{i_1} \dots p^{i_n} \left[\frac{Df}{Dt} \right]_\Lambda(\vec{x}, \vec{p}) = 0$$

Equations of motion in real space, including first order counterterms

$$\nabla^2 \phi_l = \frac{3}{2} H_0^2 \Omega_m \frac{a_0^3}{a} \delta_l + \dots,$$

$$\dot{\delta}_l = -\frac{1}{a} \partial_i ((1 + \delta_l) v_l^i),$$

$$\dot{v}_l^i + H v_l^i + \frac{1}{a} v_l^j \partial_j v_l^i + \frac{1}{a} \partial^i \phi_l = -\frac{1}{a} c_s^2 \partial^i \delta_l + \frac{3}{4} \frac{c_{sv}^2}{H a^2} \partial^2 v_l^i + \frac{4c_{bv}^2 + c_{sv}^2}{4H a^2} \partial^i \partial_j v_l^j - \Delta J^i +$$

Standard Perturbation Theory (SPT)

[Bernardeau et al, '02]

Equations of motion in Fourier space, NO counterterms

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{\delta}(\mathbf{k}, \tau)}{\partial \tau} + \tilde{\theta}(\mathbf{k}, \tau) = - \int d^3 \mathbf{k}_1 d^3 \mathbf{k}_2 \delta_D(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}_{12}) \alpha(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2) \tilde{\theta}(\mathbf{k}_1, \tau) \tilde{\delta}(\mathbf{k}_2, \tau),$$

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{\theta}(\mathbf{k}, \tau)}{\partial \tau} + \mathcal{H}(\tau) \tilde{\theta}(\mathbf{k}, \tau) + \frac{3}{2} \Omega_m \mathcal{H}^2(\tau) \tilde{\delta}(\mathbf{k}, \tau) = - \int d^3 \mathbf{k}_1 d^3 \mathbf{k}_2 \delta_D(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}_{12})$$

$$\times \beta(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2) \tilde{\theta}(\mathbf{k}_1, \tau) \tilde{\theta}(\mathbf{k}_2, \tau)$$

$$\alpha(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2) \equiv \frac{\mathbf{k}_{12} \cdot \mathbf{k}_1}{k_1^2}, \quad \beta(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2) \equiv \frac{k_{12}^2 (\mathbf{k}_1 \cdot \mathbf{k}_2)}{2k_1^2 k_2^2}$$

Non-linear growth induces mode coupling

$$F_2(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2) = \frac{5}{7} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\mathbf{q}_1 \cdot \mathbf{q}_2}{q_1 q_2} \left(\frac{q_1}{q_2} + \frac{q_2}{q_1} \right) + \frac{2}{7} \frac{(\mathbf{q}_1 \cdot \mathbf{q}_2)^2}{q_1^2 q_2^2}$$

$$G_2(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2) = \frac{3}{7} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\mathbf{q}_1 \cdot \mathbf{q}_2}{q_1 q_2} \left(\frac{q_1}{q_2} + \frac{q_2}{q_1} \right) + \frac{4}{7} \frac{(\mathbf{q}_1 \cdot \mathbf{q}_2)^2}{q_1^2 q_2^2}$$

Perturbative solution for the density field

$$\delta(\tau, \mathbf{k}) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} D^n(\tau) \delta^{(n)}(\mathbf{k})$$

$$D(a) = \frac{5}{2} \Omega_m^0 \mathcal{H}_0^2 \frac{\mathcal{H}}{a} \int_0^a \frac{da'}{\mathcal{H}^3}$$

$$\delta^{(n)}(\mathbf{k}) = \left[\prod_{i=1}^n \int d^3 \mathbf{q}_i \right] \delta_D(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{q}_{1\dots n}) F_n(\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_n) \prod_{i=1}^n \delta^{(1)}(\mathbf{q}_i)$$

$$F_n(\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_n) = \sum_{m=1}^{n-1} \frac{G_m(\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_m)}{(2n+3)(n-1)} [(2n+1)\alpha(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2) F_{n-m}(\mathbf{q}_{m+1}, \dots, \mathbf{q}_n) + 2\beta(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2) G_{n-m}(\mathbf{q}_{m+1}, \dots, \mathbf{q}_n)],$$

$$G_n(\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_n) = \sum_{m=1}^{n-1} \frac{G_m(\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_m)}{(2n+3)(n-1)} [3\alpha(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2) F_{n-m}(\mathbf{q}_{m+1}, \dots, \mathbf{q}_n) + 2n\beta(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2) G_{n-m}(\mathbf{q}_{m+1}, \dots, \mathbf{q}_n)]$$

(where $\mathbf{k}_1 \equiv \mathbf{q}_1 + \dots + \mathbf{q}_m$, $\mathbf{k}_2 \equiv \mathbf{q}_{m+1} + \dots + \mathbf{q}_n$, $\mathbf{k} \equiv \mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2$ and $F_1 = G_1 \equiv 1$).

gaussian!
can apply Wick's theorem

SPT loop contributions for the DM power spectrum

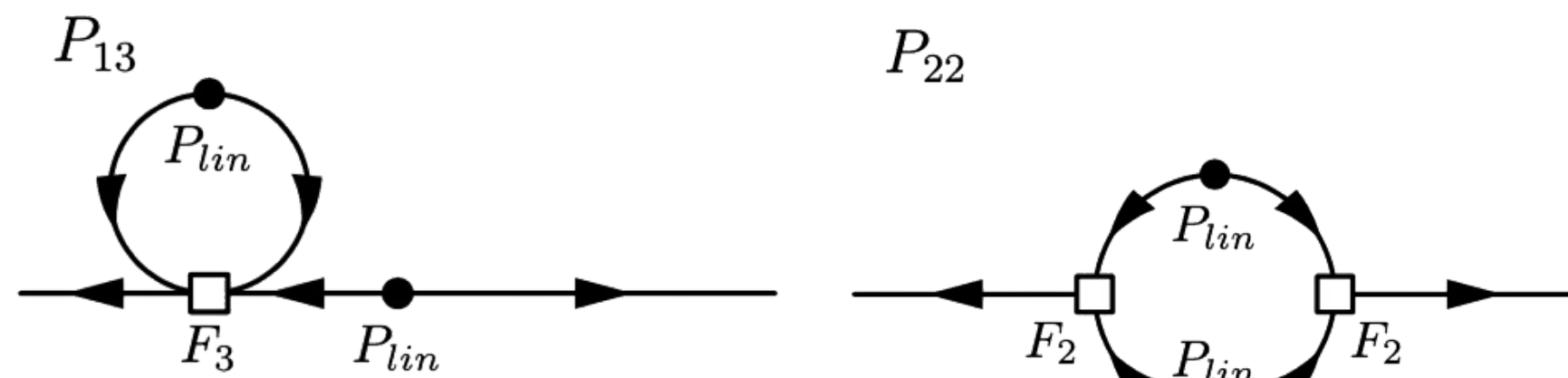
[Simonović et al, '17; Ivanov, '23]

Power spectrum at NLO

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \delta_{\mathbf{k}} \delta_{\mathbf{k}'} \rangle &= \langle (\delta_{\mathbf{k}}^{(1)} + \delta_{\mathbf{k}}^{(2)} + \delta_{\mathbf{k}}^{(3)}) (\delta_{\mathbf{k}'}^{(1)} + \delta_{\mathbf{k}'}^{(2)} + \delta_{\mathbf{k}'}^{(3)}) \rangle \\ &= \langle \delta_{\mathbf{k}}^{(1)} \delta_{\mathbf{k}'}^{(1)} \rangle + \langle \delta_{\mathbf{k}}^{(2)} \delta_{\mathbf{k}'}^{(2)} \rangle + 2 \langle \delta_{\mathbf{k}}^{(3)} \delta_{\mathbf{k}'}^{(1)} \rangle \\ &= (2\pi)^3 \delta_D^{(3)}(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{k}') (P_{11} + P_{13} + P_{22}), \end{aligned}$$

$$P_{22}(k) = \langle \delta_{\mathbf{k}}^{(2)} \delta_{\mathbf{k}'}^{(2)} \rangle' = 2 \int_{\mathbf{q}} [F_2(\mathbf{q} - \mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q})]^2 P_{11}(q) P_{11}(|\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{q}|),$$

$$P_{13}(k) = 2 \langle \delta_{\mathbf{k}}^{(1)} \delta_{\mathbf{k}'}^{(2)} \rangle' = 6 P_{11}(k) \int_{\mathbf{q}} F_3(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q} - \mathbf{q}) P_{11}(q).$$



Power spectrum at NNLO

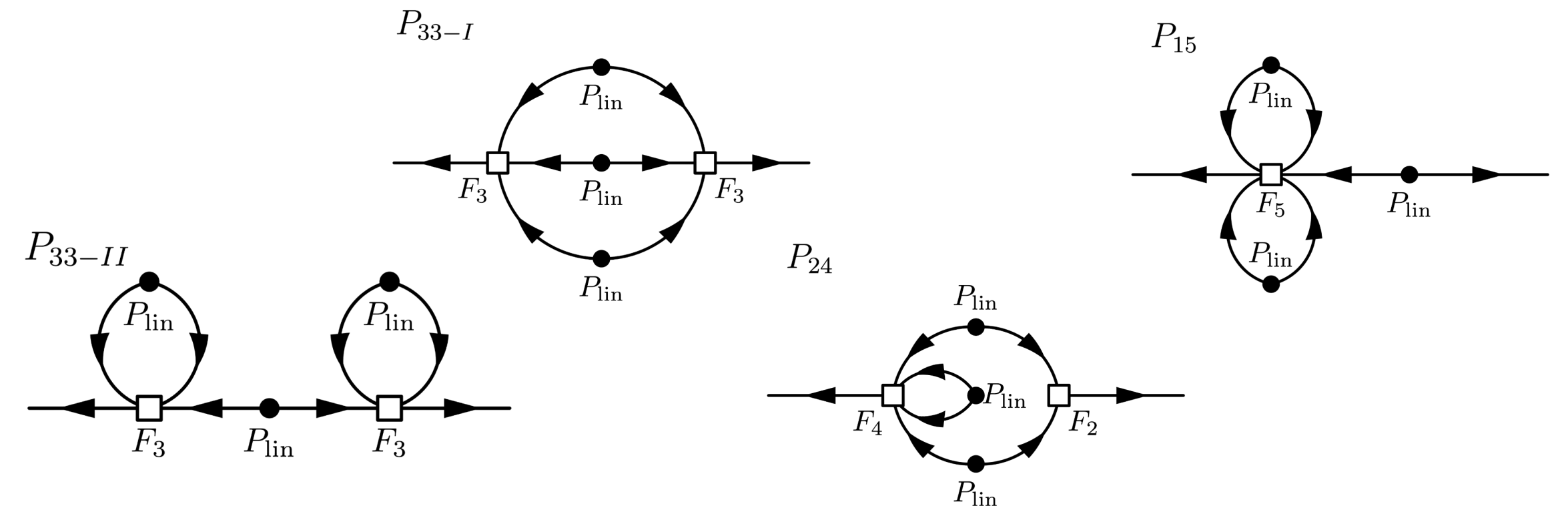
$$P_{2-loop}(k, \tau) = D^4(\tau) [P_{33}^I(k) + P_{33}^{II}(k) + P_{24}(k) + P_{15}(k)]$$

$$P_{33}^I(k) = 9 P_{lin}(k) \int_{\mathbf{q}} F_3(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q}, -\mathbf{q}) P_{lin}(q) \int_{\mathbf{p}} F_3(-\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{p}, -\mathbf{p}) P_{lin}(p),$$

$$P_{33}^{II}(k) = 6 \int_{\mathbf{q}} \int_{\mathbf{p}} F_3(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k} - \mathbf{q} - \mathbf{p}) F_3(-\mathbf{q}, -\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q} + \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{k}) P_{lin}(q) P_{lin}(p) P_{lin}(|\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{q} - \mathbf{p}|),$$

$$P_{24}(k) = 24 \int_{\mathbf{q}} \int_{\mathbf{p}} F_2(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{k} - \mathbf{q}) F_4(\mathbf{p}, -\mathbf{p}, -\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{q} - \mathbf{k}) P_{lin}(q) P_{lin}(p) P_{lin}(|\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{q}|),$$

$$P_{15}(k) = 30 P_{lin}(k) \int_{\mathbf{q}} \int_{\mathbf{p}} F_5(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q}, -\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p}, -\mathbf{p}) P_{lin}(q) P_{lin}(p).$$



Perturbative solutions including counterterms

[Baldauf et al, '15; Ivanov, '23]

Equations of motion in real space, $a(t)$ time dependence

$$\mathcal{H}^2 \left[-a^2 \partial_a^2 + \frac{3}{2} (\Omega_m - 2) a \partial_a + \frac{3}{2} \Omega_m \right] \delta_{\mathbf{k}} = \mathcal{H}^2 \mathcal{I}_\beta + \mathcal{H} \partial_a (a \mathcal{H} \mathcal{I}_\alpha),$$

$$\mathcal{H}^2 \left[a^2 \partial_a^2 + \left(4 - \frac{3}{2} \Omega_m \right) a \partial_a + \left(2 + \frac{\partial_a^2 \mathcal{H}}{\mathcal{H}} + \left(4 - \frac{3}{2} \Omega_m \right) \frac{\partial_a \mathcal{H}}{\mathcal{H}} - 3 \Omega_m \right) \right] \theta_{\mathbf{k}} = -\partial_a (a \mathcal{H}^2 \mathcal{I}_\beta) - \frac{3}{2} \Omega_m \mathcal{H}^2 \mathcal{I}_\alpha,$$

$$\mathcal{I}_\alpha = - \int_{\mathbf{q}_1 \mathbf{q}_2} \delta_D^{(3)}(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{q}_{12}) \alpha(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2) \theta_{\mathbf{q}_1} \delta_{\mathbf{q}_2}$$

$$\mathcal{I}_\beta = - \int_{\mathbf{q}_1 \mathbf{q}_2} \delta_D^{(3)}(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{q}_{12}) \beta(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2) \theta_{\mathbf{q}_1} \theta_{\mathbf{q}_2}$$

Green's function

$$G_\delta(a, a') = H(a - a') \frac{2}{5} \frac{1}{\mathcal{H}_0^2 \Omega_m^{(0)}} \frac{D_+(a')}{a'} \left(\frac{D_-(a)}{D_-(a')} - \frac{D_+(a)}{D_+(a')} \right)$$

Including counterterms

$$\mathcal{H}^2 \mathcal{I}_\beta \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^2 \mathcal{I}_\beta + \tau_\theta$$

$$\tau_\theta \equiv \partial^i \left[\frac{1}{\rho_\ell} \partial^j \sigma_{ij} \right] = (c_s^2 \partial^2 \delta + \partial^i J_i)$$

$$\delta_{\mathbf{k}}^{(\sigma)} = \int da' G_\delta(a, a') \tau_\theta(a')$$

NLO solution including counterterms

$$\delta_{\mathbf{k}}^{\text{NL}} = \delta_{\mathbf{k}}^{(1)} + \delta_{\mathbf{k}}^{(2)} + \delta_{\mathbf{k}}^{(3)} + \delta_{\mathbf{k}}^{\text{stress.}} + \delta_{\mathbf{k}}^{\text{stoch.}}$$

SPT solutions

effective pressure

only autocorrelates

$$\delta_{\mathbf{k}}^{\text{stress.}} = -\gamma_\Lambda k^2 \delta_{\mathbf{k}}^{(1)} \equiv - \int da' G_\delta(a, a') k^2 c_s^2(a') \delta_{\mathbf{k}}^{(1)}(a')$$

$$\langle \delta^{\text{stoch.}}(\mathbf{k}') \delta^{\text{stoch.}}(\mathbf{k}) \rangle' = P_J(k) = R_{\text{stoch.}}^7 k^4 + \dots$$

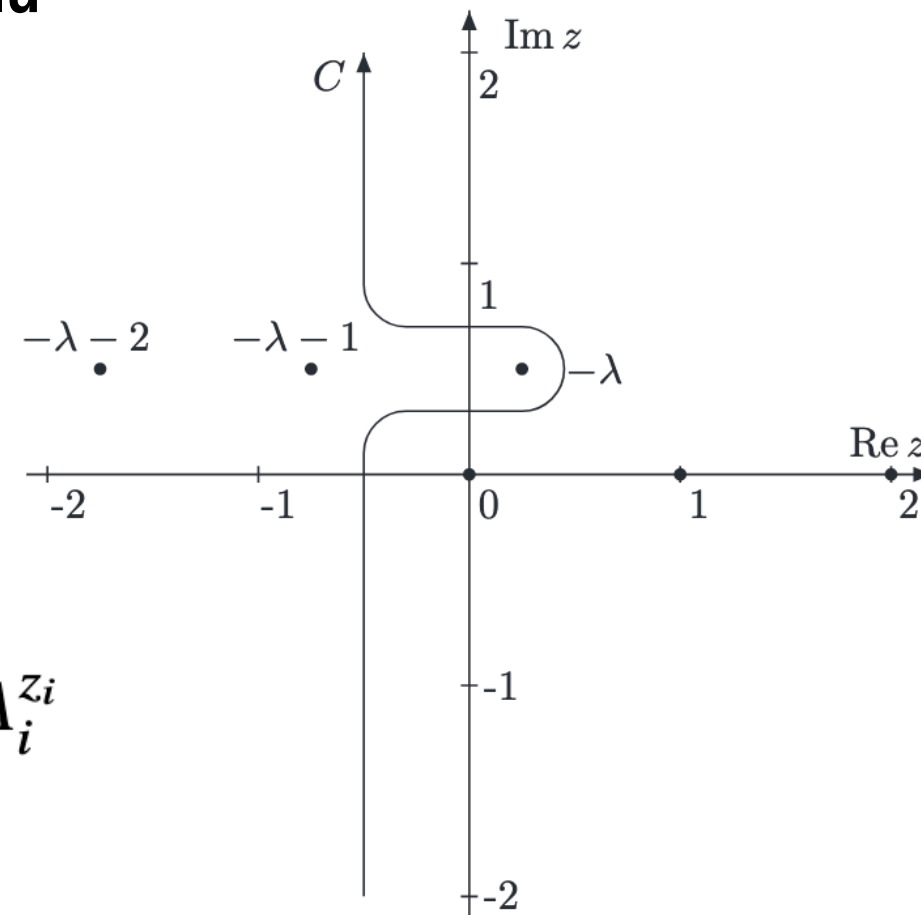
Mellin-Barnes integrals and special functions

[Smirnov, '06; Dubovyk et al, '22]

Master Mellin-Barnes formula

$$\frac{1}{(A+B)^\lambda} = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\lambda)} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} dz \Gamma(\lambda+z) \Gamma(-z) A^z B^{-\lambda-z}$$

$$\frac{1}{(A_1 + \dots + A_n)^\lambda} = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\lambda)} \frac{1}{(2\pi i)^{n-1}} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} dz_2 \dots \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} dz_n \prod_{i=2}^n A_i^{z_i} \\ \times A_1^{-\lambda-z_2-\dots-z_n} \Gamma(\lambda+z_2+\dots+z_n) \prod_{i=2}^n \Gamma(-z_i).$$



Generalized hypergeometric functions

$${}_pF_q(a_1, \dots, a_p; b_1, \dots, b_q; z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a_1)_n \dots (a_p)_n}{(b_1)_n \dots (b_q)_n} \frac{z^n}{n!} = \\ = \frac{\Gamma(b_1) \dots \Gamma(b_q)}{\Gamma(a_1) \dots \Gamma(a_p)} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\Gamma(n+a_1) \dots \Gamma(n+a_p)}{\Gamma(n+b_1) \dots \Gamma(n+b_q)} \frac{z^n}{n!}$$

MB representation for the massless 2-loop kite integral

$$I(a_i; D) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(a_1)\Gamma(a_2)\Gamma(a_3)\Gamma(D-a_{125})} \int_{\gamma_1} \int_{\gamma_2} dz_1 dz_2 \frac{\Gamma(-z_1)\Gamma(-z_2)\Gamma(D/2-a_3+z_1)\Gamma(D/2-a_4+z_2)\Gamma(a_5+z_1+z_2)\Gamma(-a_{15}+D/2-z_1)\Gamma(-a_{25}+D/2-z_2)\Gamma(a_{34}-D/2-z_1-z_2)\Gamma(a_{125}-D/2+z_1+z_2)}{\Gamma(a_3-z_1)\Gamma(a_4-z_2)\Gamma(-a_{34}+D+z_1+z_2)}$$