

Investigating the Cosmological Impact of Expanding Radio Galaxies on Large-Scales

Paramita Barai



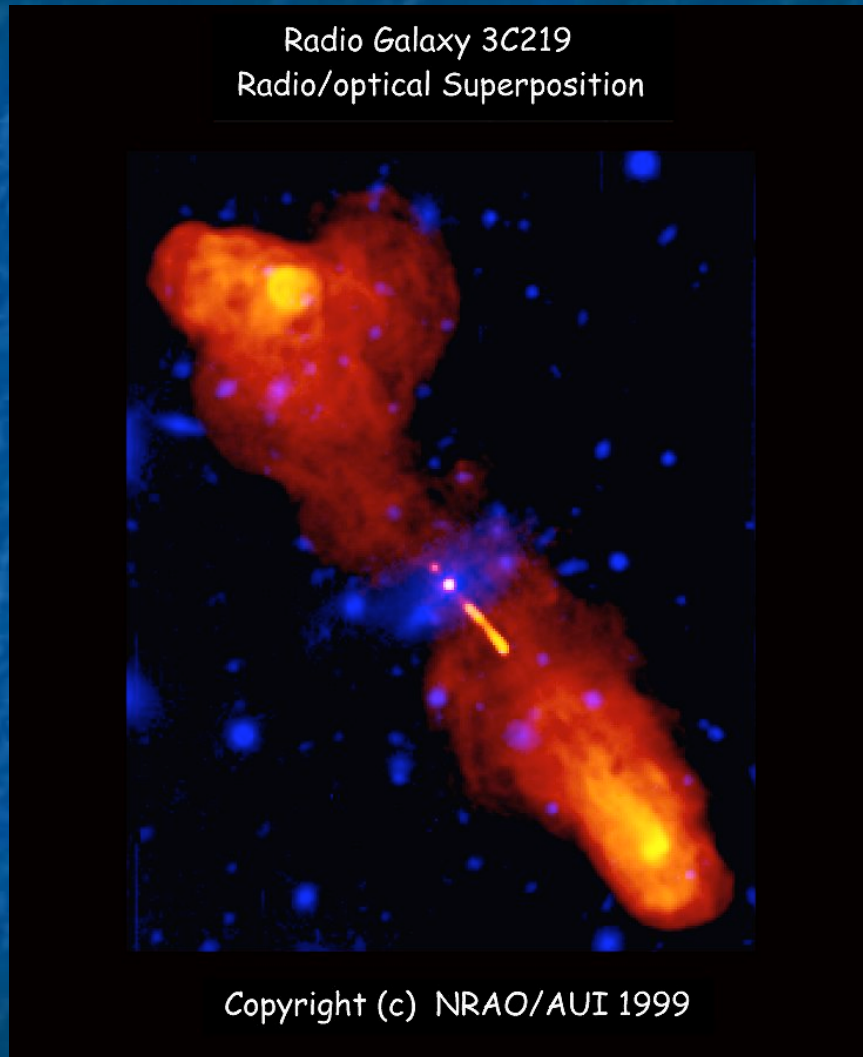
Université Laval
Québec City, Canada



7th May, 2009

CRAQ Meeting (Duchesnay, Quebec)

Radio Galaxy

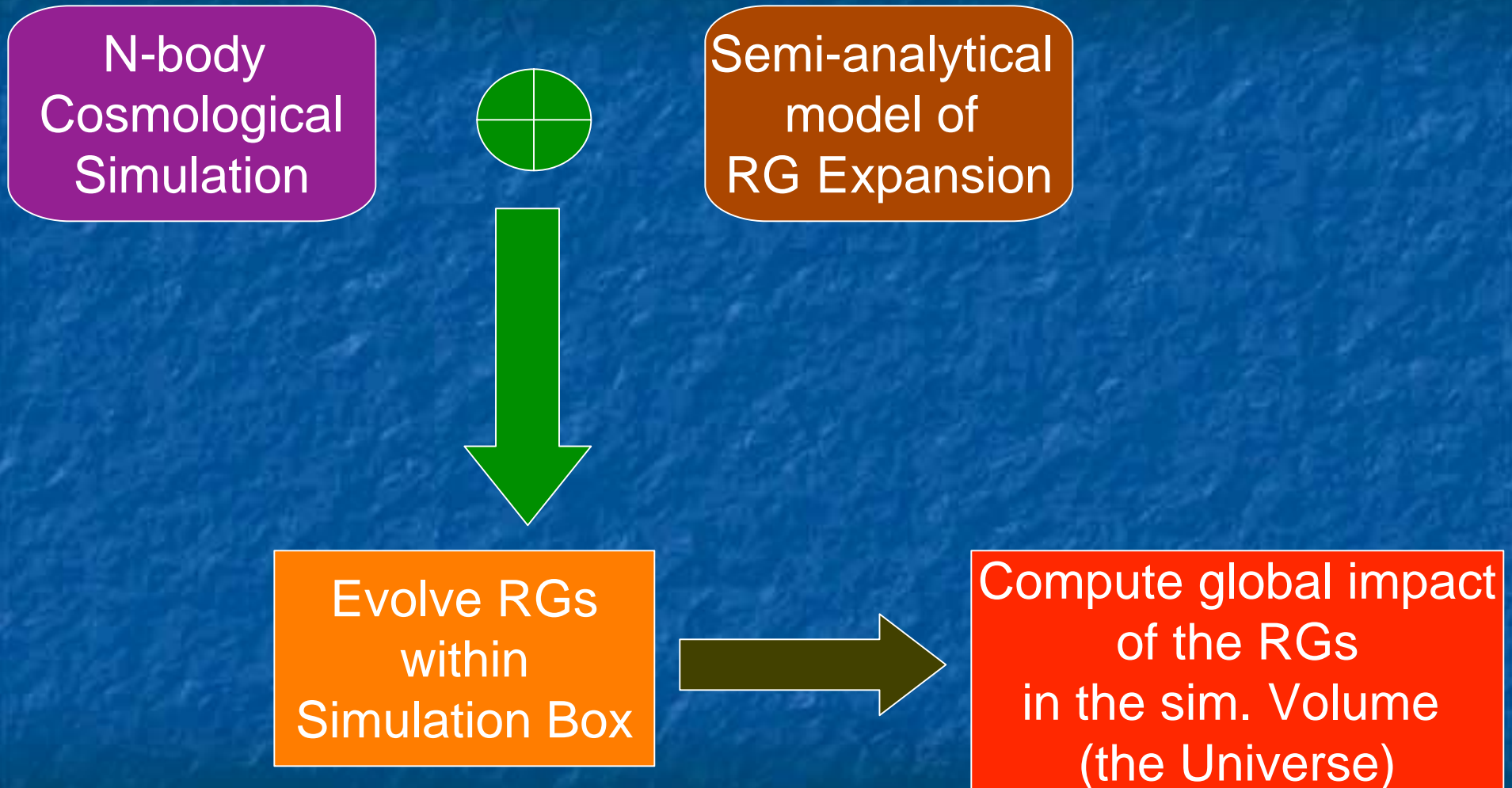


- A class of AGN
 - SMBH at centers of active galaxies radiate huge amounts of energy ⇒ AGN
- Strong radio emission, in a pair of lobes / cocoons extending over 100s of kpc - Mpc
- Mostly hosted by giant elliptical galaxies

Motivation & Wider Implications

- Expanding RGs affected galaxy formation & evolution during the **Quasar Era** ($1.5 < z < 3$)
- **Goal** : Probe the large-scale impact of the cosmological population of RGs over the Hubble time
- How much volume of the Universe do the radio lobes occupy ?
- Possible impact in the filled volumes :
 - Trigger star formation
Rees – 1989; De-Young – 1991, Gopal-Krishna & Wiita – 2001
 - Spread magnetic field into IGM
 - Metal enrichment of the IGM \Rightarrow (Joël Germain's talk)
 - Affect the Matter Power Spectrum

Methodology



Cosmological Simulation

- N-body simulations of a cosmological volume
- *PM* (particle-mesh) code
 - Written by Hugo Martel
- Box size (comoving) = $256 h^{-1}$ Mpc
- 256^3 particles, 512^3 grid
- Evolve from $z = 25$ up to $z = 0$
- Λ CDM model (WMAP5)

Redshift & Luminosity Distribution

- Radio Luminosity Function, $\rho(L, z)$
 - From observed low-frequency 3CRR, 6CE and 7CRS complete samples

- Number of RGs : $dN(L, z) = \rho(L, z) d[\log_{10} L] V_{box}$

- Jet kinetic power : [Koerding, E.G. et al. 2008, MNRAS, 383, 277]

$$\log[Q_0(\text{erg s}^{-1})] = 19.1 + \log[L_{151}(\text{W Hz}^{-1} \text{sr}^{-1})]$$

- RG lifetime

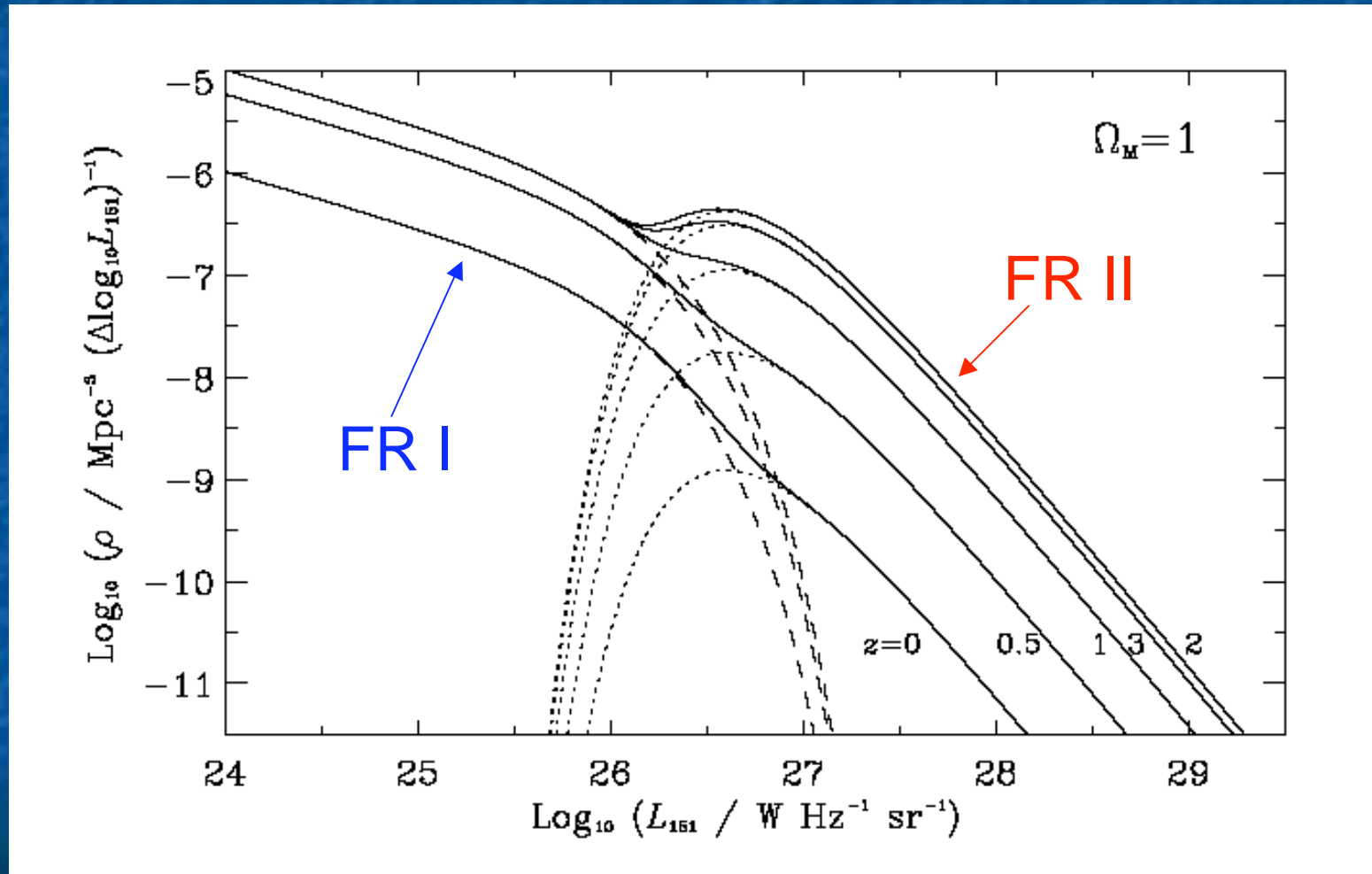
- Fixed : $\tau_{RG} = 10, 100, 500 \text{ Myr}$

- Variable : $\tau_{RG} \propto 1/\sqrt{Q_0}$

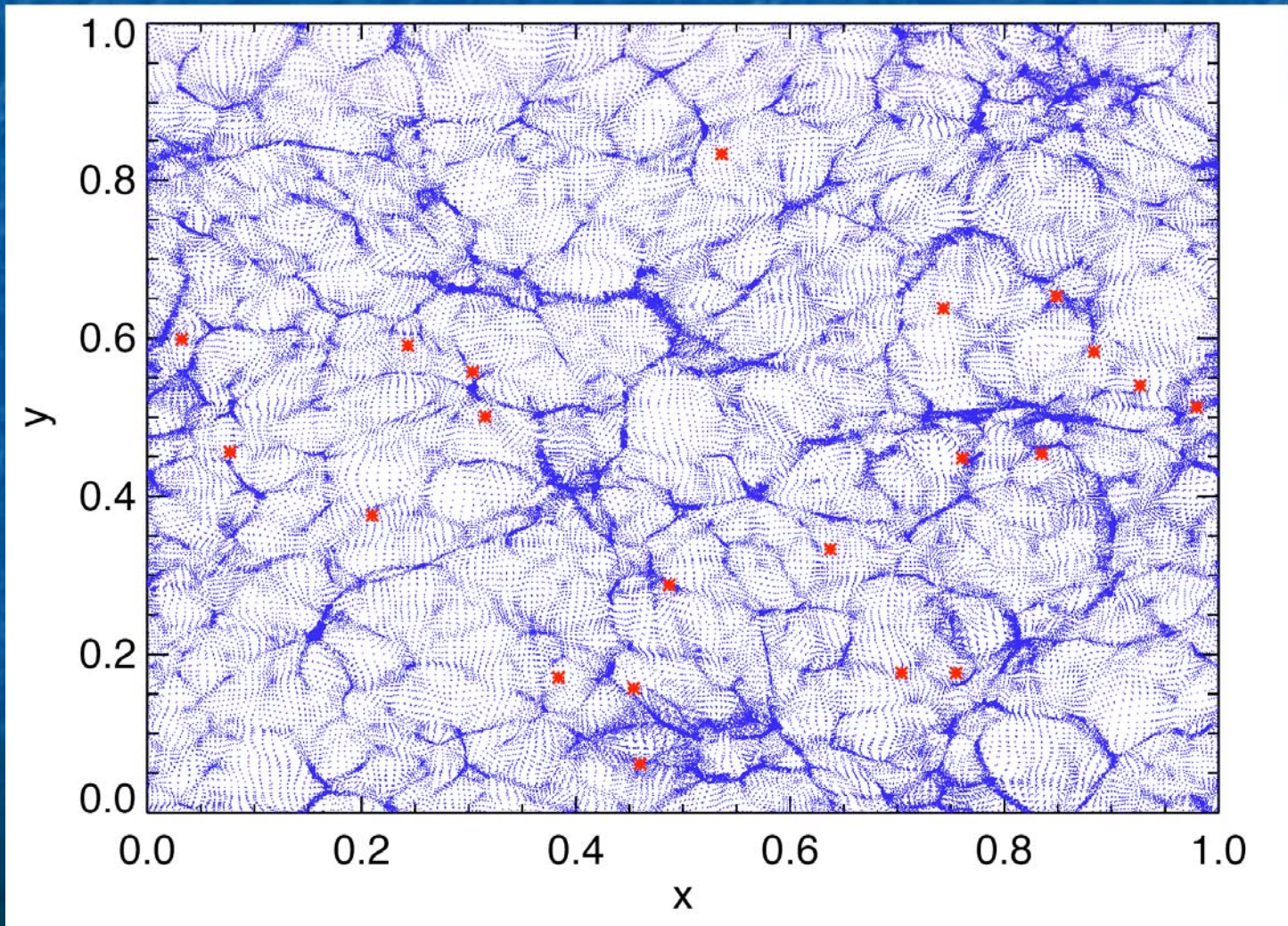
- Daly, R.A. & Guerra E.J. (2002, AJ, 124, 1831)
- Daly, R.A. et al. (2009, ApJ, 691, 1058)

Radio Luminosity Function

(Willott et al. 2001, MNRAS, 322, 536)



- Locate RGs in high-density mesh (PM) cells selected randomly
 - Cell density $> 5 \times$ mean density of simulation box
- Fig : Locations of new-born RGs in a slice of box at $z = 0.5$
 - Blue - Particles (PM), Red - RGs



Ambient Medium for RG Expansion

- Assume: baryonic gas distribution follows dark matter in the simulation box

- Ambient gas density :

$$\rho_x(z, \vec{r}) = \frac{\Omega_B}{\Omega_M} \rho_M(z, \vec{r})$$

- Pressure :

$$p_x(z, \vec{r}) = \frac{\rho_x(z, \vec{r}) K T_x}{\mu}$$

- Temperature (assuming a photoheated medium)

$$T_x = 10^4 \text{ K}$$

- Mean molecular mass :

$$\mu = 0.611 \text{ a.m.u.}$$

Phases Of RG Evolution

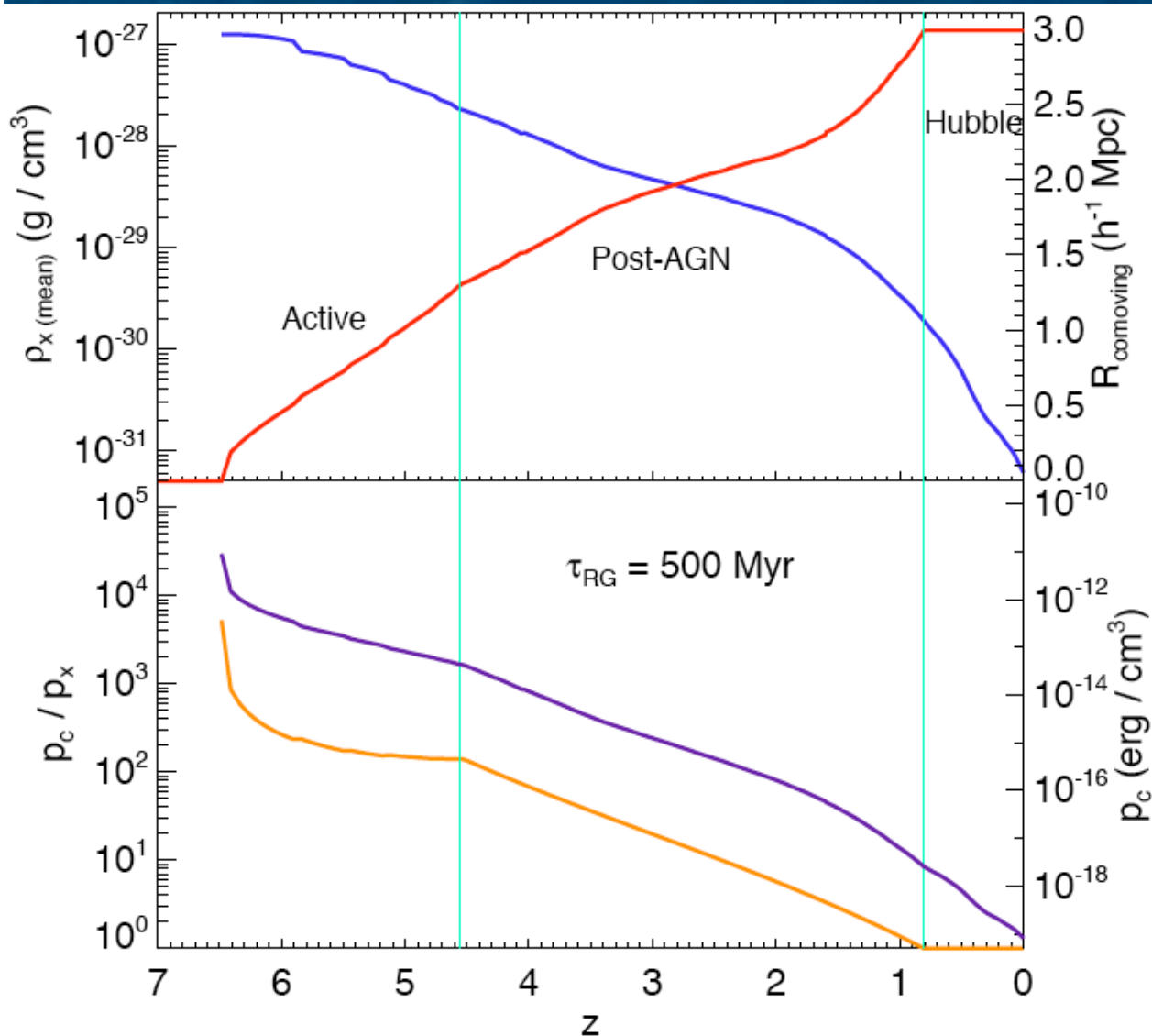
Active Life

- Central SMBH is actively accreting
- Self-similar RG expansion (cylindrical shape)
- Highly overpressured : $p_c \gg p_x$

Post-Activity Phase

- SMBH is no more active \Rightarrow dead RG
- When overpressured, $p_c > p_x$
 - Sedov-Taylor expansion with adiabatic loss
 - Spherical shape
- When reach pressure equilibrium, $p_c = p_x$
 - Passive Hubble evolution, $R_{\text{comoving}} = \text{Constant}$

Evolution of a Single RG



Top:

external density &
comoving radius.

Bottom:

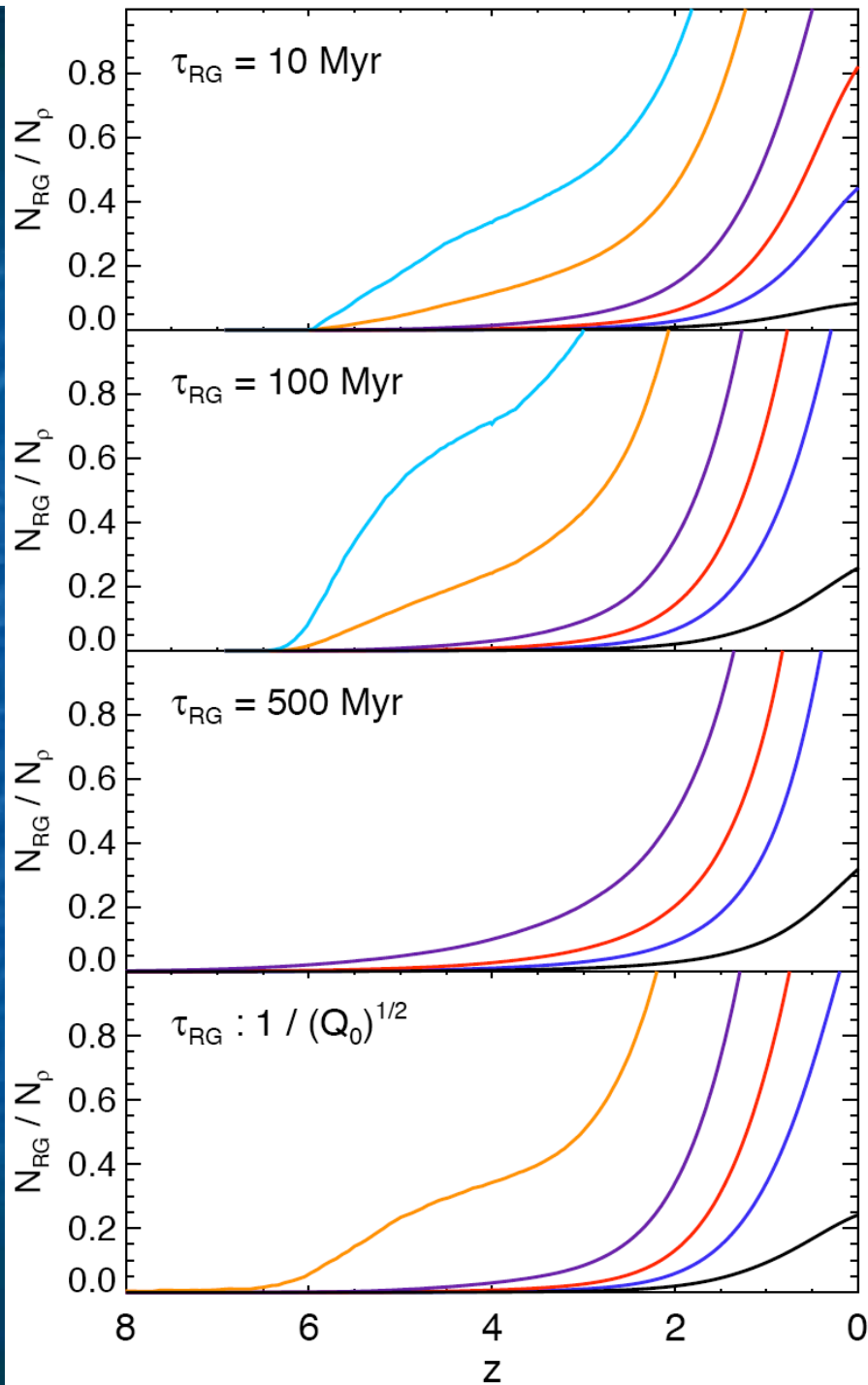
Overpressure &
Cocoon Pressure.

Vertical blue lines
separate phases
of expansion:
Active, Post-AGN
and Hubble.

Volume of Box Filled

- Count mesh cells in the simulation box occurring inside the volume of one/more RG cocoon
- Total number of filled cells, N_{RG}
⇒ total volume of box occupied by RGs
- Express the total volume filled as a fraction of volumes of various overdensities in the box

$$N_{\rho} = N(\rho > C\rho_{mean})$$
$$\rho_{mean} = (1+z)^3 \Omega_M \frac{3H_0^2}{8\pi G}$$



Fractional
Volumes of
box of various
overdensities
filled by RGs

(N_{ρ} with $C = 0, 1, 2, 3, 5, 7$)

Global Average Values

- Cocoon energy density :

$$u_E = 3p_c$$

- Magnetic energy density :

$$u_B = \frac{u_E}{2} = \frac{B_c^2}{8\pi}$$

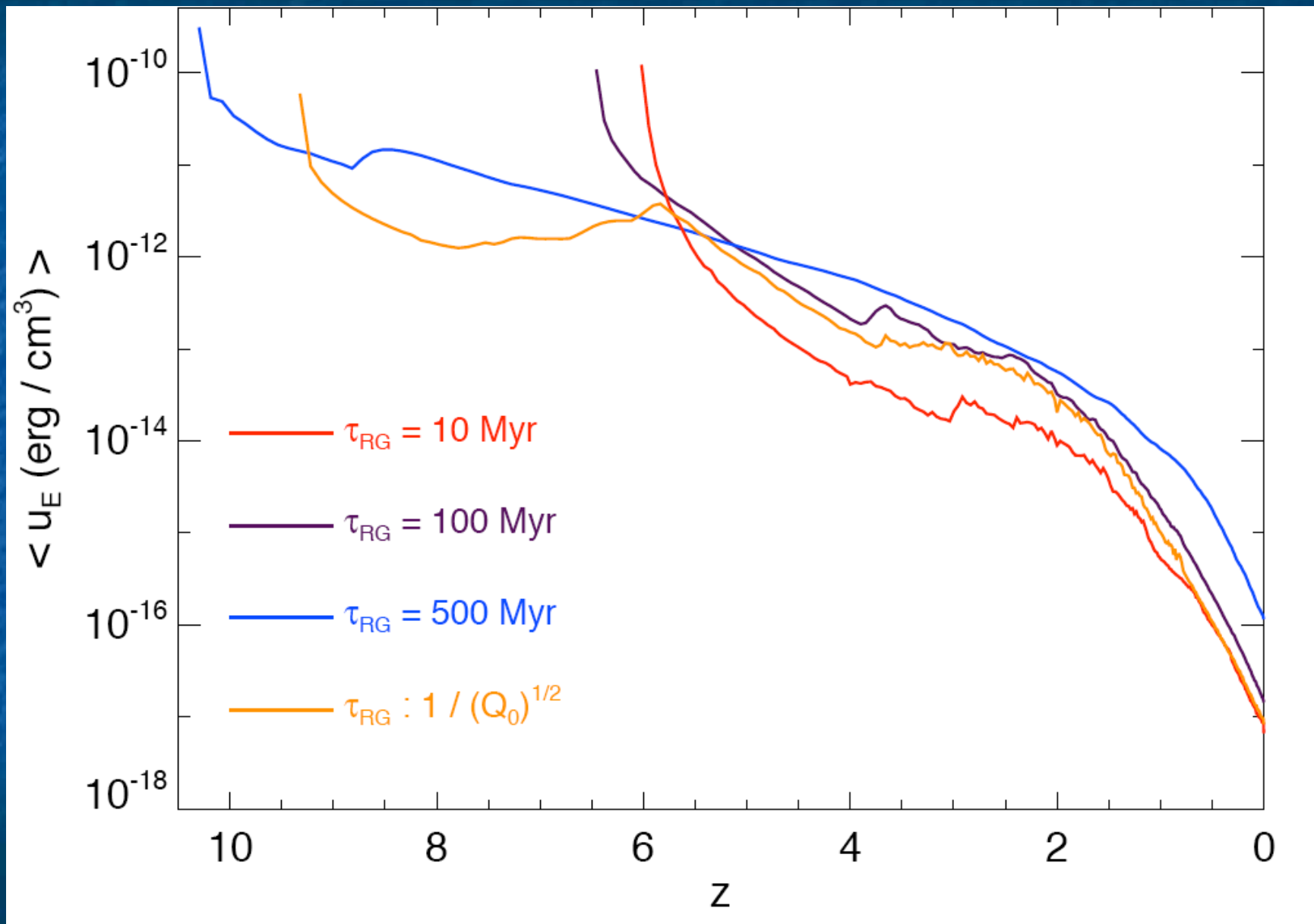
- Mean thermal energy density of ambient medium :

$$\bar{u}_{T,x} = \frac{3\bar{\rho}_x kT_x}{2\mu}$$

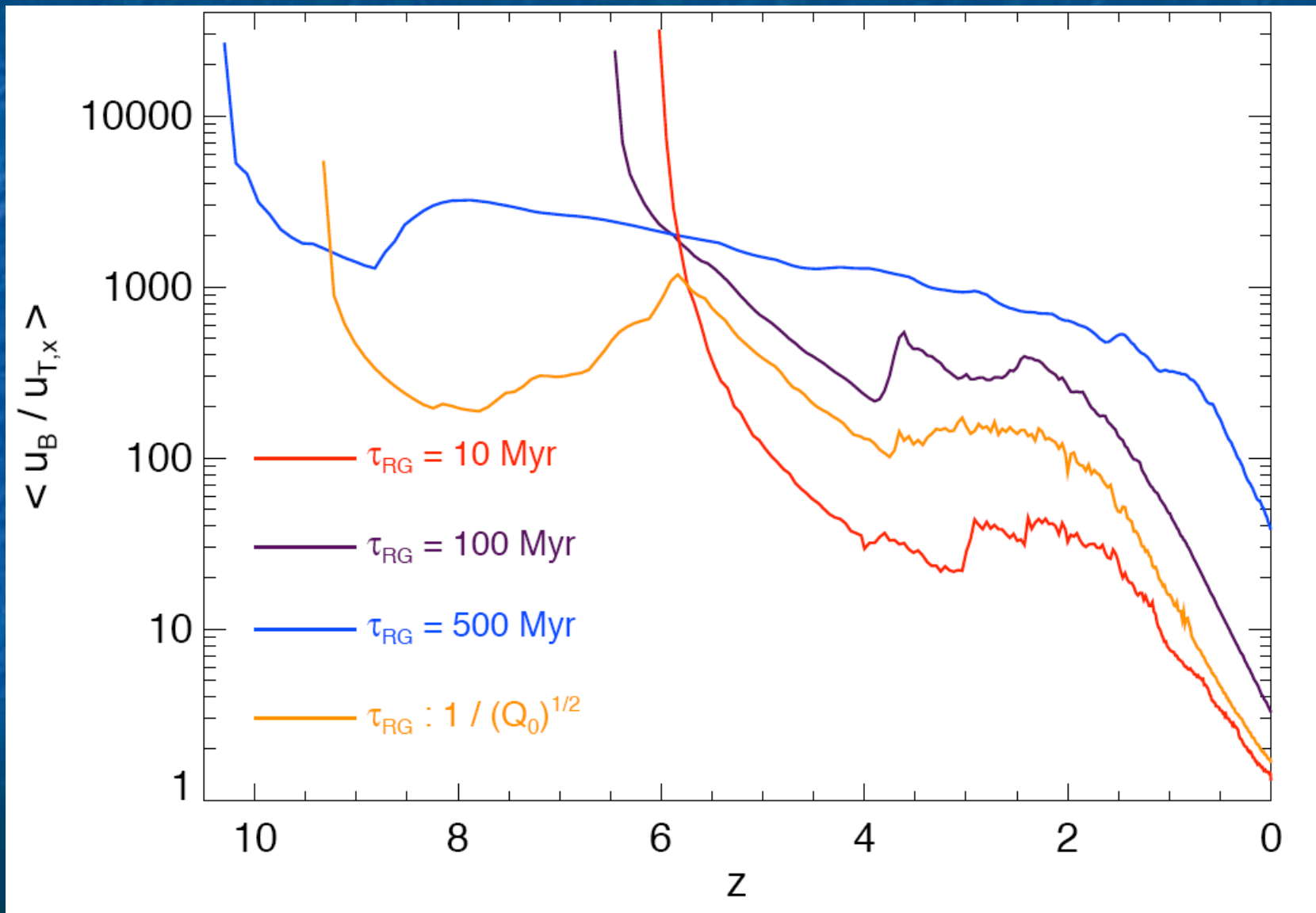
- Volume-weighted average :

$$\langle A \rangle = \frac{\sum AV_{RG}}{\sum V_{RG}}$$

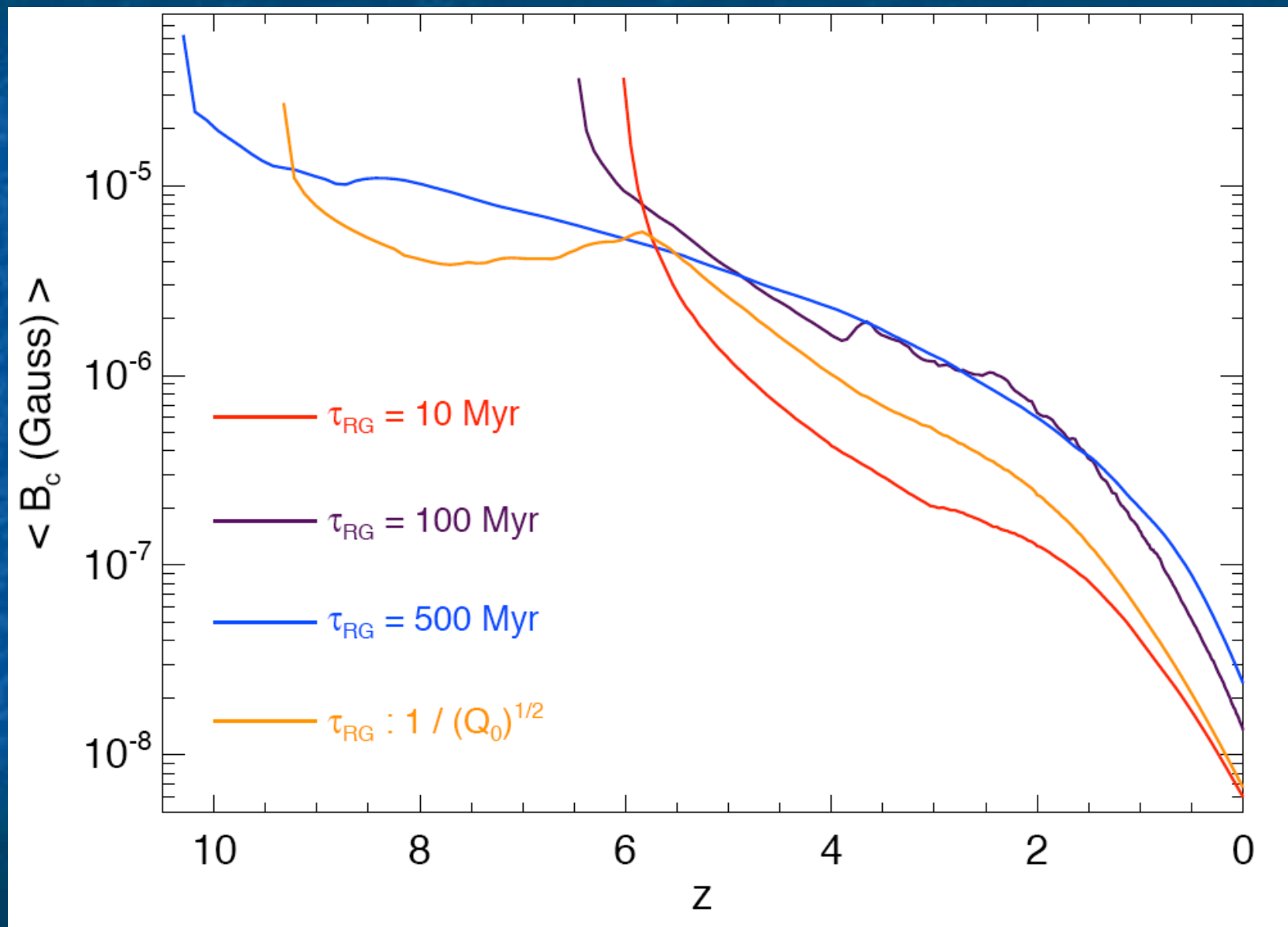
Total Energy Density Inside RG Cocoon Volumes



Ratio of Magnetic Energy Density to Mean External Thermal Energy Density



Equipartition Magnetic Field Within RG Filled Volumes



Matter Power Spectrum, $P(k)$

$$\delta(\vec{x}) = \frac{\rho(\vec{x}) - \bar{\rho}}{\bar{\rho}}$$

$$\delta(\vec{k}) = \text{Fourier Transform} [\delta(\vec{x})]$$

$$\vec{k} = [i, j, k] \frac{2\pi}{L_{\text{box}}}$$

$$P(k) = \frac{V_{\text{box}}}{N^6} |\delta(\vec{k})|^2$$

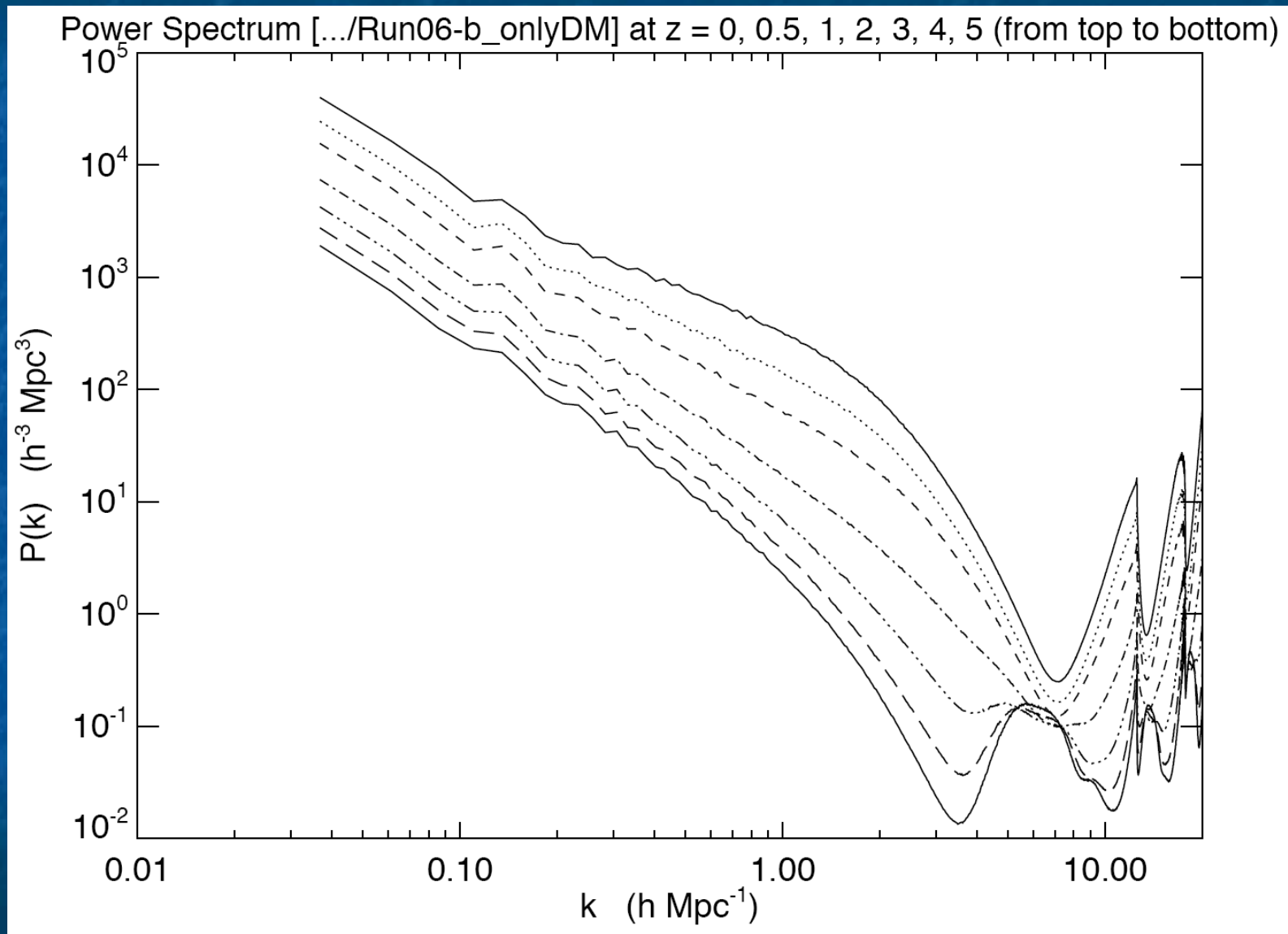
- Baryons are displaced from interior cells of RG volume and collected in the boundary cells
- η = Efficiency of baryon stripping
- Increased density of boundary cells:

$$\rho_{\text{new,bound}} = \rho_{\text{old,bound}} + \left(\frac{\Omega_B}{\Omega_M} \right) \left(\frac{\eta}{N_{\text{bound}}} \right) \sum_1^{N_{\text{in}}} \rho_{\text{old,in}}$$

- Decreased density of interior cells:

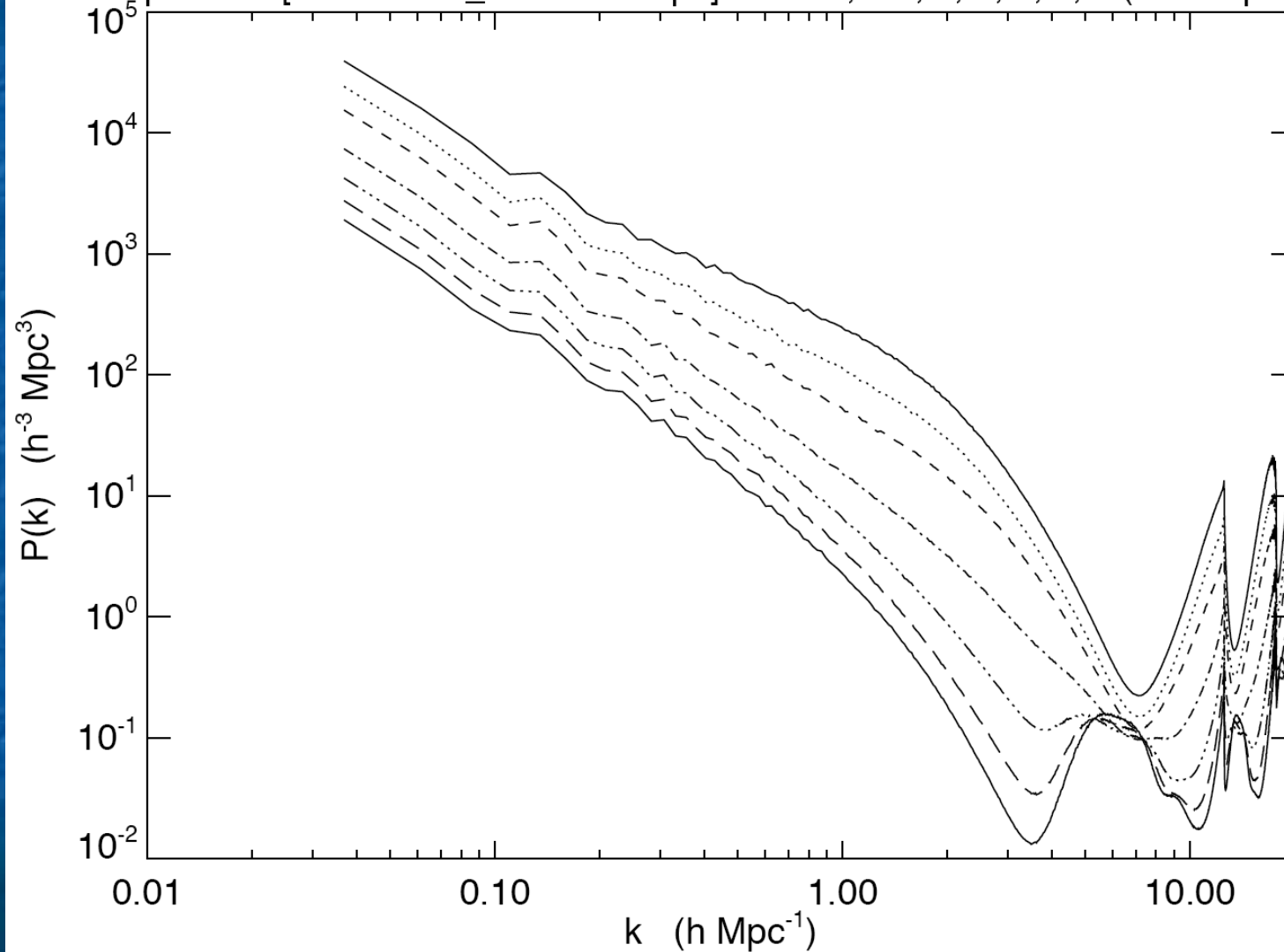
$$\rho_{\text{new,in}} = \rho_{\text{old,in}} - \left(\frac{\Omega_B}{\Omega_M} \right) \eta \rho_{\text{old,in}}$$

Baryons Unperturbed by RGs

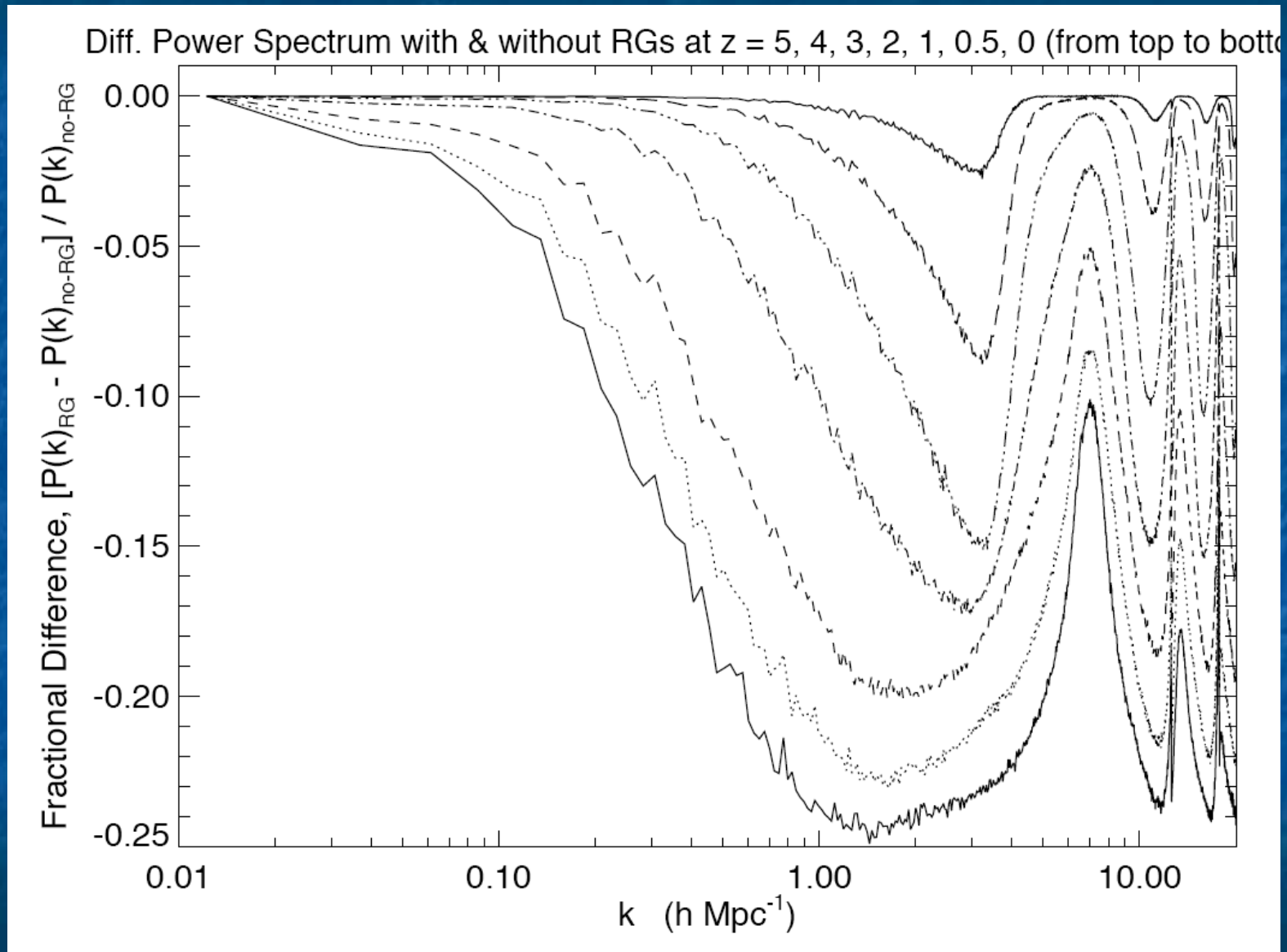


Baryons Displaced by RGs ($\eta = 1$)

Power Spectrum [.../Run07-b_wRG-EffStrip1] at $z = 0, 0.5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$ (from top to bottom)



Difference Caused by RGs



Summary

- Implemented a semi-analytical model of RG expansion in N-body simulations
- Published results [Barai, P. 2008, ApJ, 682, L17]
 - RG cocoons pervade 10 – 30 % of the total volume by the present
 - Few cases occupy 100% of the overdense regions by $z \sim 0.3$
 - Volume averaged quantities in the filled regions at $z = 0$
 - Energy Density $\sim 10^{-17}$ erg cm^{-3}
 - Magnetic field $\sim 10^{-8}$ Gauss
- Ongoing & Future work :
 - Matter power spectrum (upto 25% decrease at $z=0$)
 - Compton y -parameter of the Sunyaev-Zeldovich effect
 - Acceleration of cosmic rays, Reionization, ..., etc, ...

Active Life

- Self-similar RG expansion
 - Cylindrical shape with length $2R_h$, radius R_0

- Jet advance

$$\frac{Q_0}{A_h c} = \rho_x \left(\frac{dR_h}{dt} \right)^2$$

- Energy

- Pressure $E_c = 2Q_0 t_{age}$

- Relativistic cocoon plasma with Γ_c : $p_c V_{RG} = (\Gamma_c - 1) E_c$

- Sideways shock

- Overpressured : $p_c \gg p_x$

$$p_c = \rho_x \left(\frac{dR_0}{dt} \right)^2$$

Post-Activity Evolution

- Spherical Expansion when overpressured, $p_c > p_x$

- Sedov-Taylor adiabatic expansion

$$R_c = \xi_0 \left(\frac{E_c t_{age}^2}{\bar{\rho}_x} \right)^{1/5}$$

- Total energy during active-life

$$E_c = 2Q_0 \tau_{RG}$$

- Adiabatic loss

$$p_c R_c^{3\Gamma_x} = \text{constant}$$

- Spherical RG cocoon expansion

- When reach pressure equilibrium, $p_c = p_x$

- Passive Hubble evolution, $R_{\text{comoving}} = \text{Constant}$