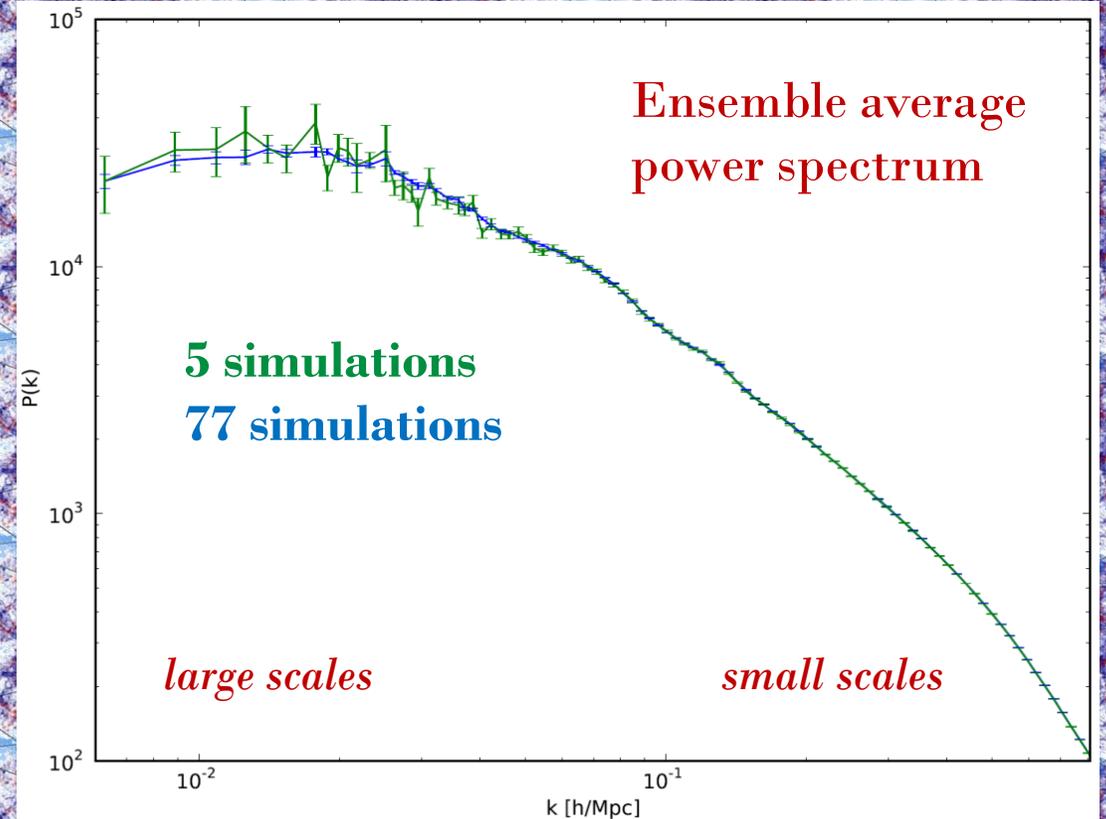


The Indra Simulations on the SciServer Science Platform

Bridget Falck
Johns Hopkins University

Motivation: Cosmic Variance

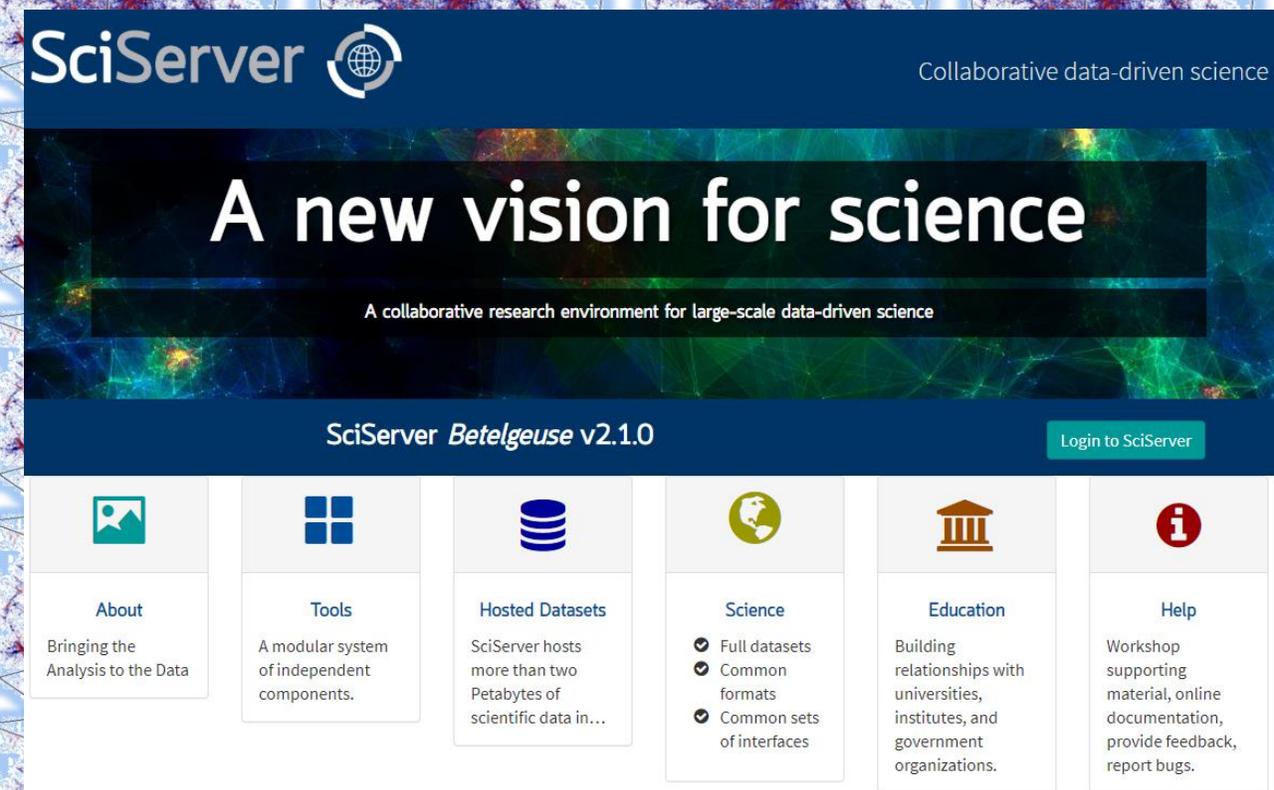
- Theoretical predictions of large-scale structure require numerical simulations, but we can't simulate our observable Universe exactly, only its **statistical properties**
- Both simulations and observations have good statistics on small scales but poor statistics on large scales – the **cosmic variance** limit
- Need to run many simulations with different initial conditions but **same model and parameters**



The Indra Simulations

- Suite of 384 simulations with the same cosmology
 - Each a **1 Gpc/h**-sided box with **1024^3 dark matter particles**, run with L-Gadget code
 - Output: 64 snapshots of particle **positions and velocities**, FOF/SUBFIND **halo catalogs**, and 505 time-steps of Fourier-space **density grids**
- 750 TB of data, available to the public and *computationally-accessible* via the SciServer
 - Ensemble averages and covariances, conditional and extreme statistics, mock galaxy catalogs and lightcones, etc.
 - Test-bed for new data architectures and analysis tools
- Other simulation suites beyond Indra are needed and being produced
 - Vary **cosmological models** and parameters, include **hydrodynamical effects**, etc.
 - Variety of scientific questions and codes means **no standard outputs**

SciServer Science Platform



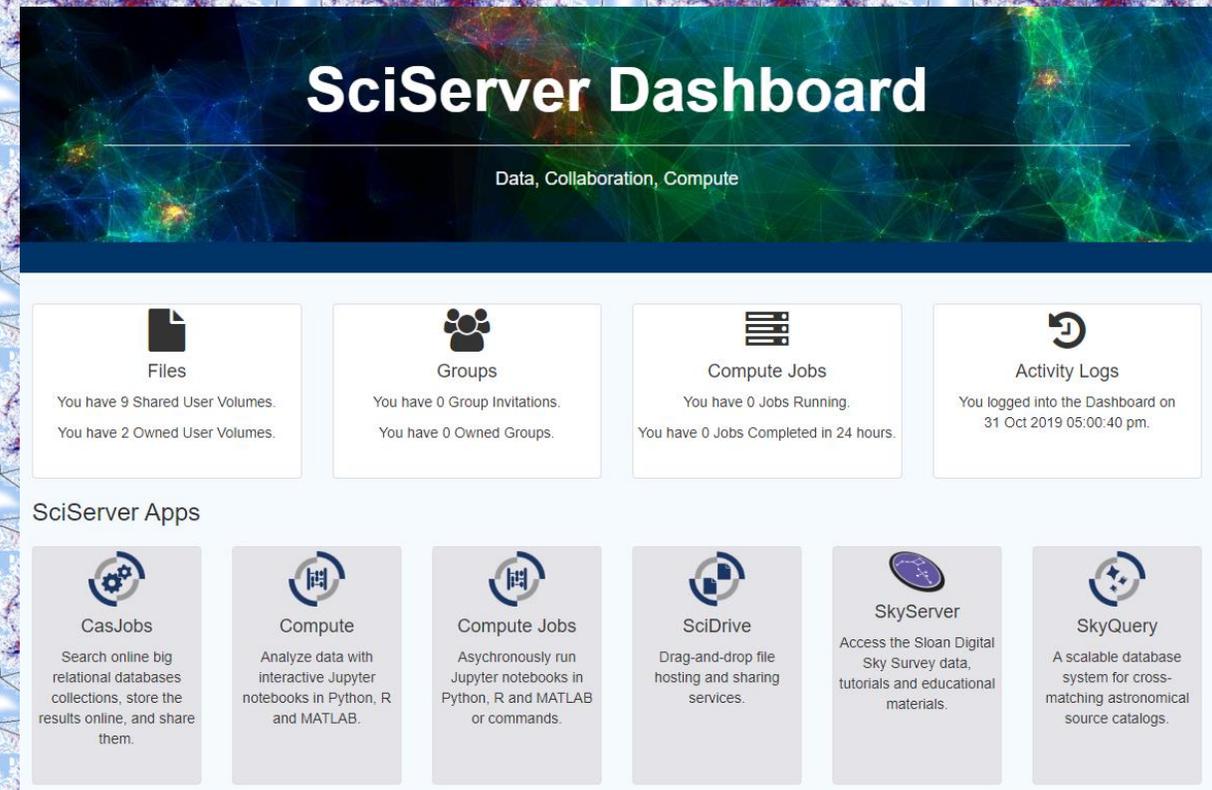
SciServer  Collaborative data-driven science

A new vision for science

A collaborative research environment for large-scale data-driven science

SciServer *Betelgeuse* v2.1.0 [Login to SciServer](#)

- About**
Bringing the Analysis to the Data
- Tools**
A modular system of independent components.
- Hosted Datasets**
SciServer hosts more than two Petabytes of scientific data in...
- Science**
 - Full datasets
 - Common formats
 - Common sets of interfaces
- Education**
Building relationships with universities, institutes, and government organizations.
- Help**
Workshop supporting material, online documentation, provide feedback, report bugs.



SciServer Dashboard

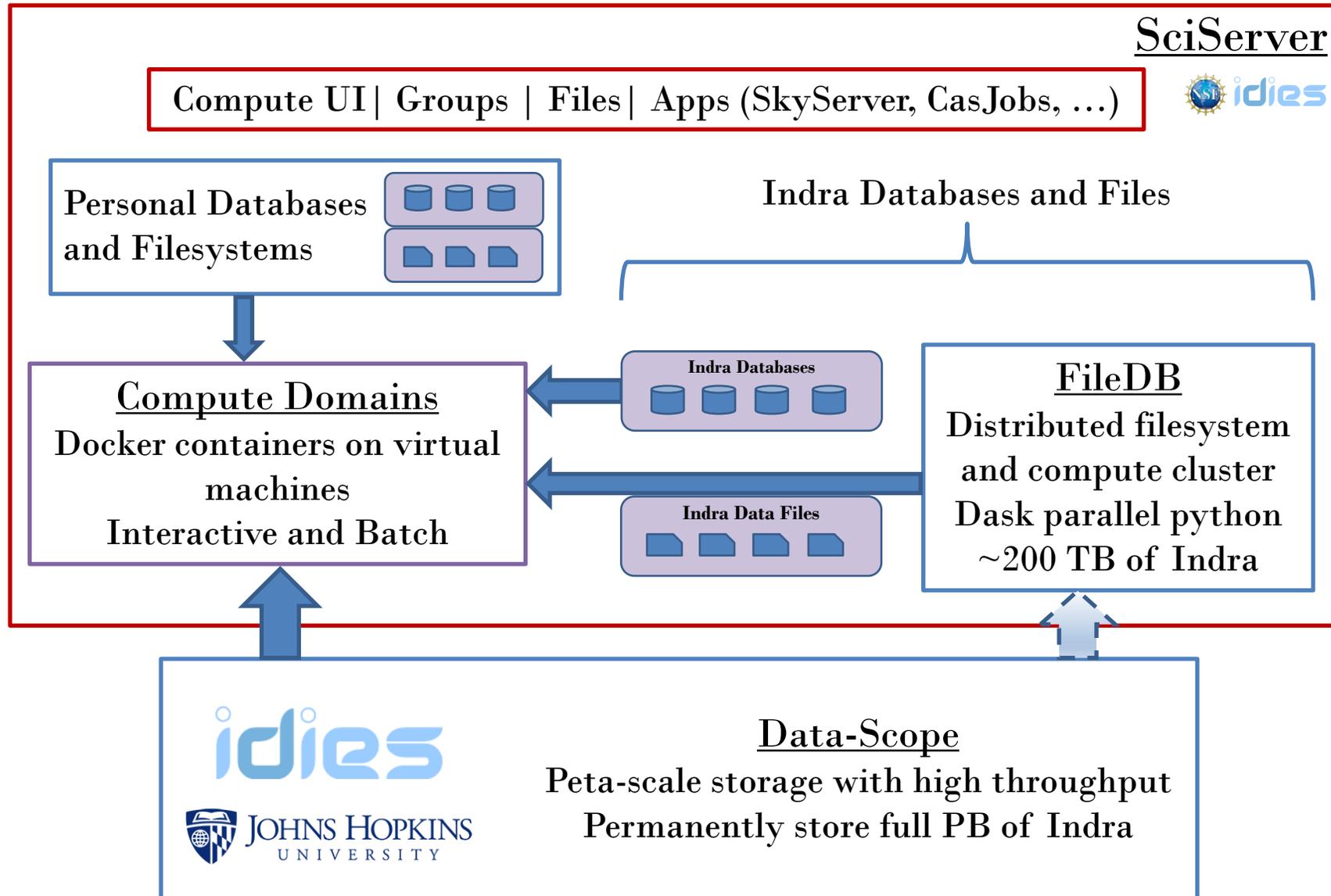
Data, Collaboration, Compute

- Files**
You have 9 Shared User Volumes.
You have 2 Owned User Volumes.
- Groups**
You have 0 Group Invitations.
You have 0 Owned Groups.
- Compute Jobs**
You have 0 Jobs Running.
You have 0 Jobs Completed in 24 hours.
- Activity Logs**
You logged into the Dashboard on 31 Oct 2019 05:00:40 pm.

SciServer Apps

- CasJobs**
Search online big relational databases collections, store the results online, and share them.
- Compute**
Analyze data with interactive Jupyter notebooks in Python, R and MATLAB.
- Compute Jobs**
Asynchronously run Jupyter notebooks in Python, R and MATLAB or commands.
- SciDrive**
Drag-and-drop file hosting and sharing services.
- SkyServer**
Access the Sloan Digital Sky Survey data, tutorials and educational materials.
- SkyQuery**
A scalable database system for cross-matching astronomical source catalogs.

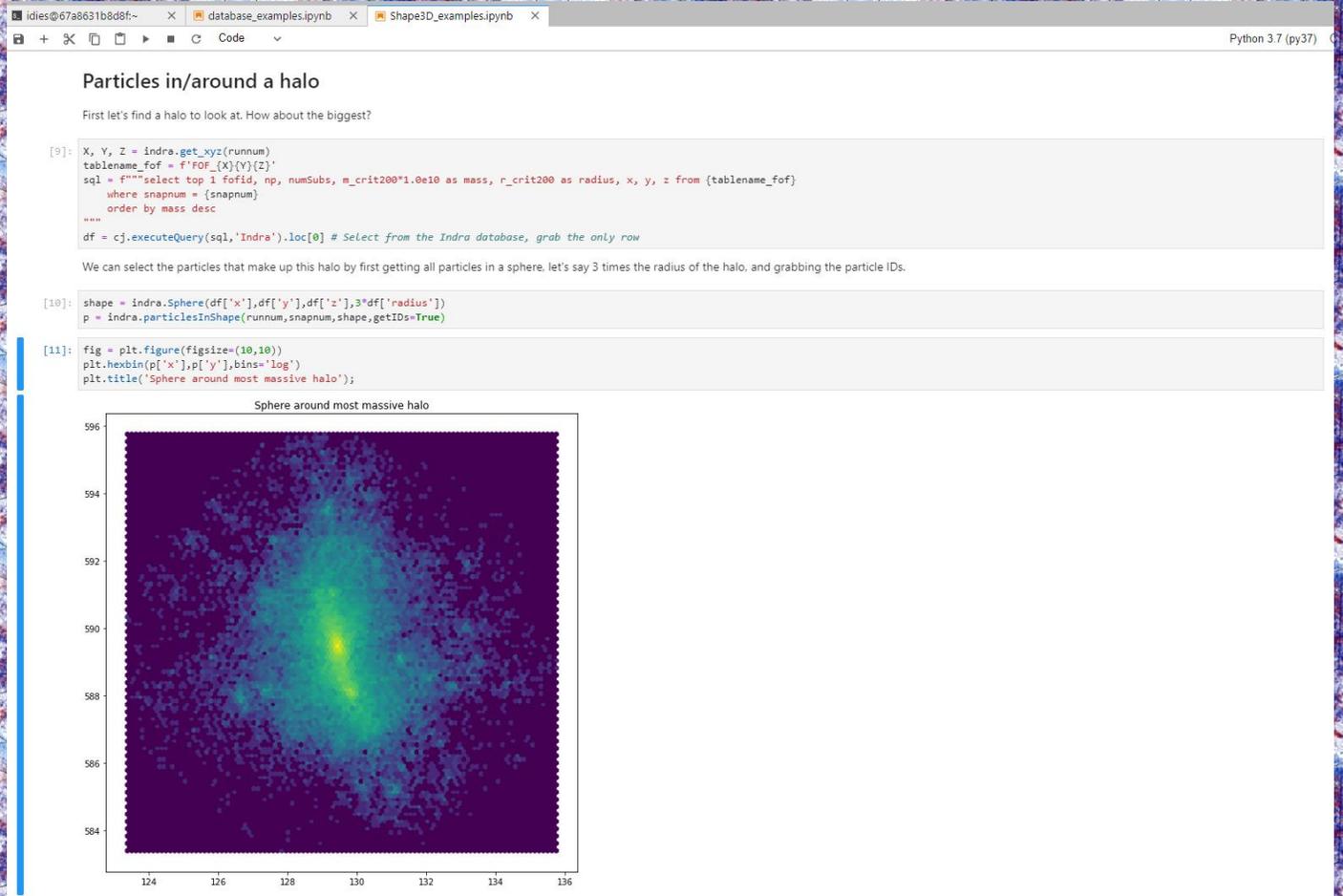
Indra Infrastructure



- Permanent read-only storage connected to compute domain
- Distributed filesystem for parallel computation
- Leverage relational databases
- Accessible through SciServer with its collaboration tools and hosted astrophysical datasets

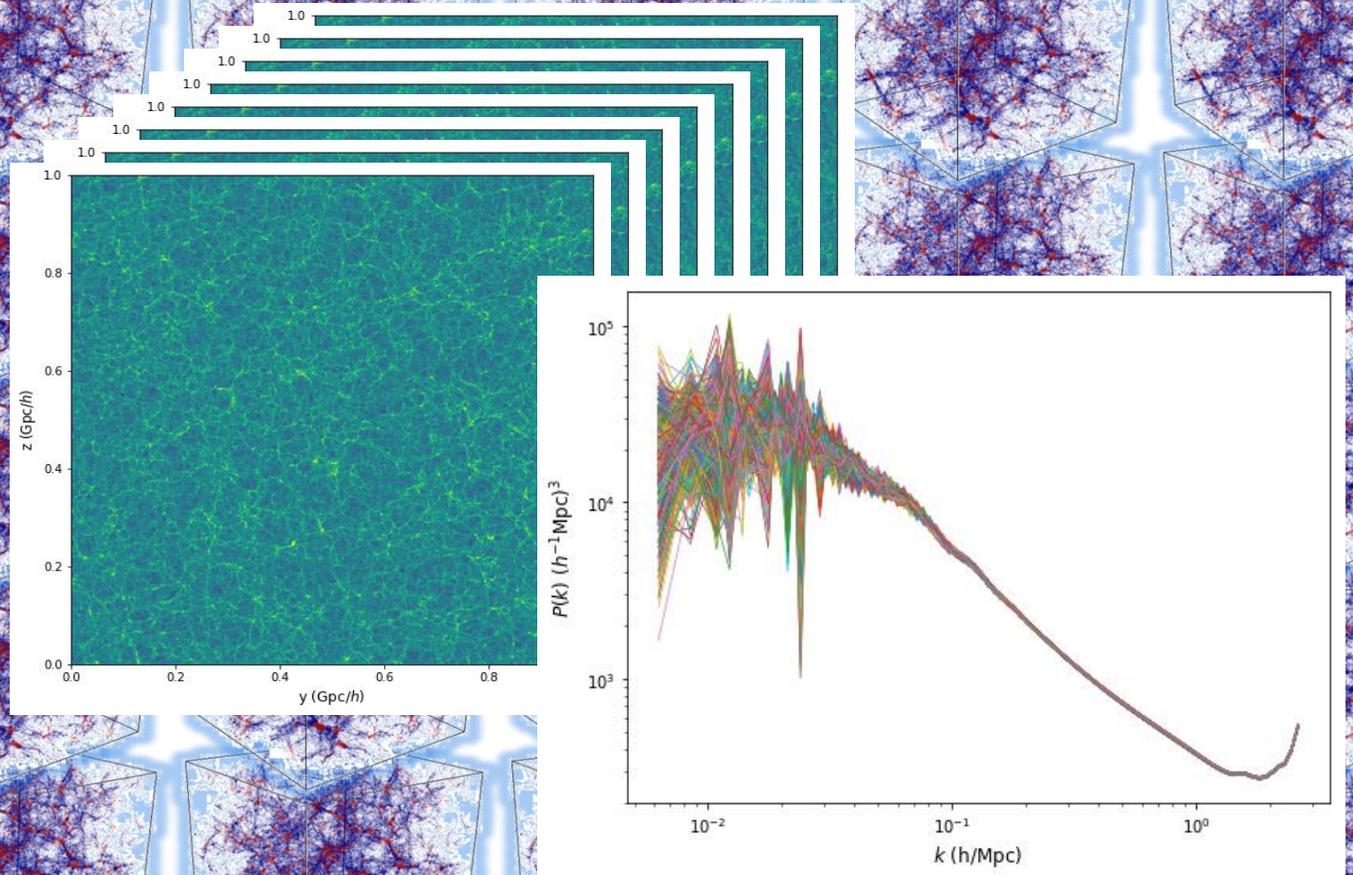
The indra-tools software library

- Python library to read and interact with data
 - Don't assume expert users
 - Make it easier for experts
 - Hide the file system
- Example notebooks
 - Make it easy to get started
 - Show sample database queries
 - Explain advanced features (e.g., Shape3D)



Infrastructure that enables heavy computation

- FileDB distributed filesystem with a Dask parallel python cluster
- 448 Cloud-In-Cell density grids calculated in 2 hours!
- 481 billion particles total
- Still testing different use cases and building job submission capability



Discussion Questions

- ❏ What hardware and technologies are required to host large public data sets and make them computationally accessible?
- ❏ What are the unique requirements or challenges of hosting simulated data vs. observational archives?
- ❏ When we plan archives for large missions, how do we ensure that we don't leave theory behind?
- ❏ ...