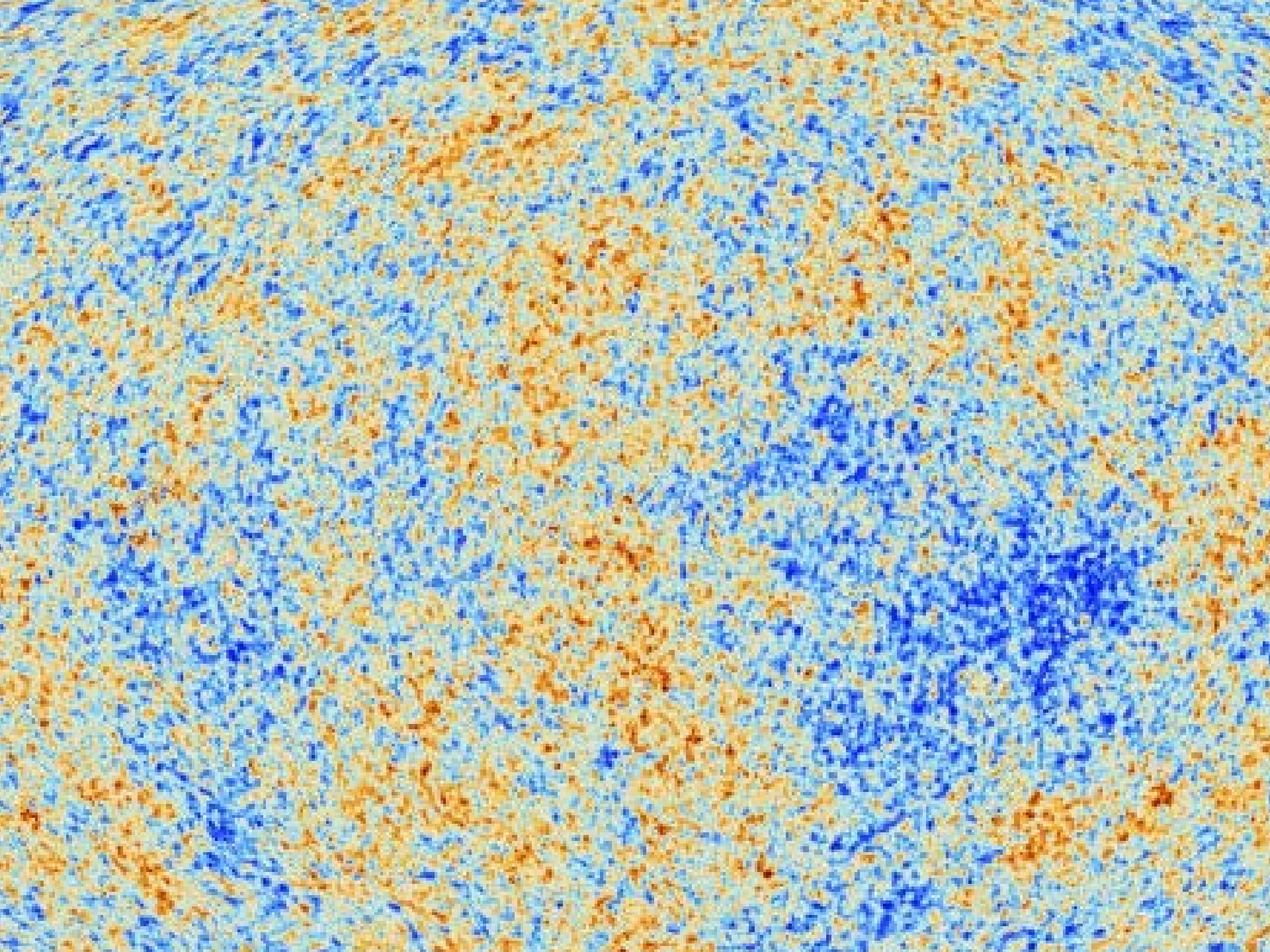


The background of the slide is a classical painting. It depicts a group of figures, possibly a scene from the Bible or a mythological story. The central figure is a man with a beard, wearing a purple robe, looking down. To his left, another man is shown in profile, looking towards the center. The painting is rich in detail, with visible textures and colors like purple, brown, and gold. The entire scene is framed by a white border.

# Cosmology

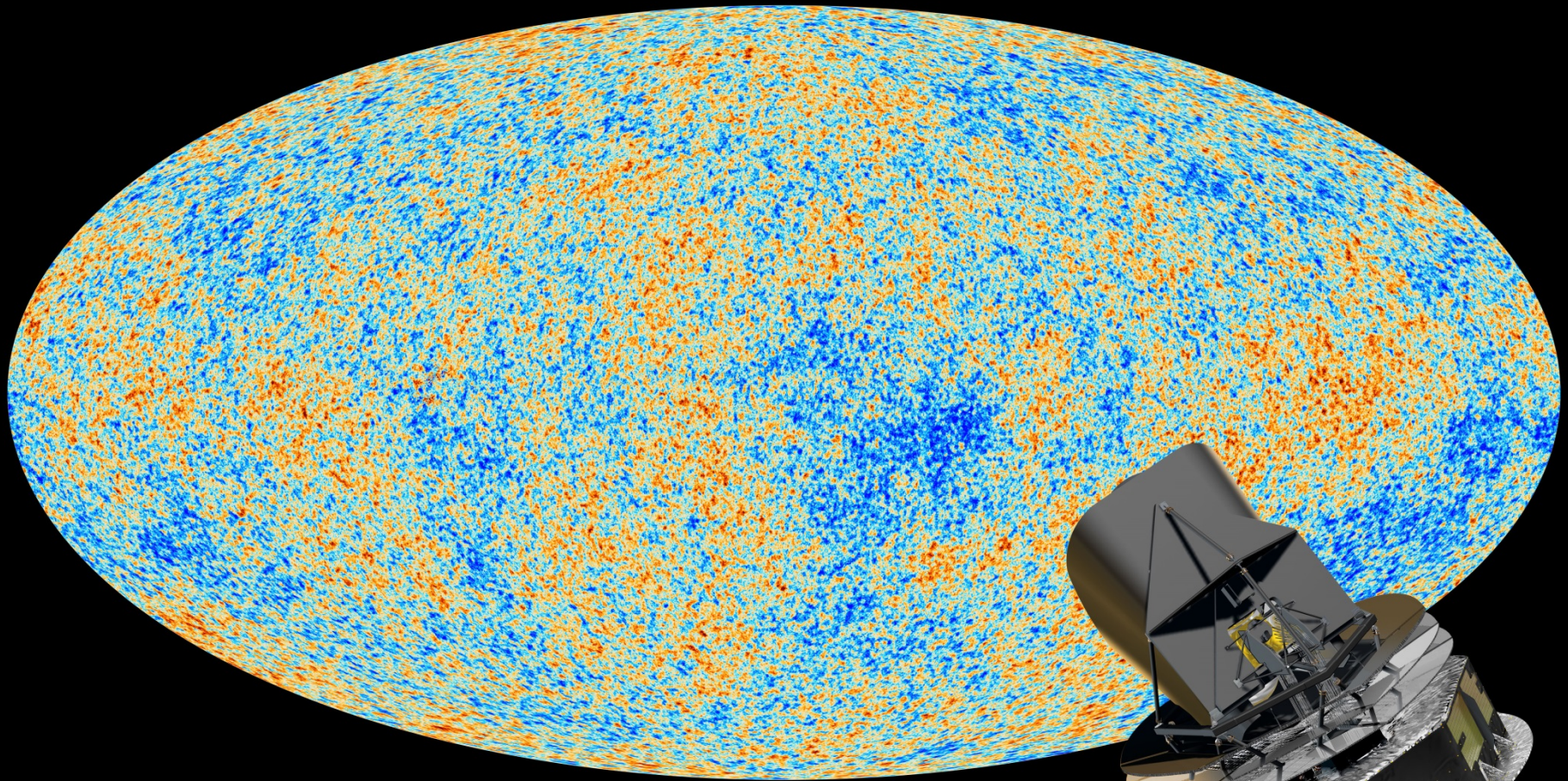
In search of our Origins





# Cosmic Origins

- Universe 380.000 yrs after Big Bang
- 13.8 Gyrs ago (13.798 ± 0.037 Gyrs)
- Temperature  $T = 2.72548 \pm 0.00057$  K
- temperature/density fluctuations ( $\Delta T/T < 10^{-5}$ )



**Planck Baby Photo  
of our Universe**

# Age of Precision Cosmology

Over the past century - in particular the last 2 decades - we have established an amazingly accurate view of the Universe in which we live:

- It was formed in the Hot Big Bang:  $T_0 = 13.798 \pm 0.037$  Gigayears ago
- Space (!!!) is expanding ever since:  $H_0 = 67.74 \pm 0.46$  km/s/Mpc  
expansion accelerating since:  $6.7 \pm 0.4$  Gigayears ago
- It has an average energy density of:  $\rho_0 = 0.862 \pm 10^{-29}$  g/cm<sup>3</sup>
- The outer edge/Horizon of the visible Universe:  
within Horizon:  $d_H \approx 41$  Giga lightyears  
# galaxies  $\approx 100 \times 10^9$   
# stars  $\approx 200 \times 10^{18}$
- On every atom (proton/neutron):  $\approx 1.9 \times 10^9$  photons
- Space is almost perfectly flat:  $\Omega_k \approx 0.000 \pm 0.005$
- Cosmic composition:  
Baryons (protons/neutrons)  $\approx 4.9\%$   
Dark Matter  $\approx 26.8\%$   
Dark Energy  $\approx 68.3\%$



Cosmology,

Science of the Universe





# Cosmology: Science of the Universe

- **Van Dale**  
(astronomical) science or theory of the universe as an ordered unity; study of the structure and evolution of the universe.
- **Broadest Sense:**  
human enterprise joining science, philosophy, theology and the arts to seek to gain understanding of what unifies and is fundamental to our world.
- **Scientific:**  
Study of large and small structures of the Universe





# Essential & Existential Questions Occupying Humanity since Dawn of Civilization

- Where does the World come from ?
  - What is the World made of ?
  - How did the World begin ?
  - When did the World begin ?
    - Did it begin at all ?
- How “big” is the World ? (finite, infinite ...)
  - What is the role of humans in the cosmos ?
    - What is the fate of the Universe ?

# Cosmic Time: Origin and Fate ?

□ Does the Universe have an origin ?

If so, how old is it ?

Or, ... did it always exist, infinitely old ...

□ What is the fate of the Universe ?

... will it always be there, or is there an end ?



# Energy:

# Content of the Universe

- What are the components of the Universe ?
- How does each influence the evolution of the Universe ?  
... and ...
- How is each influenced by the evolution of the Universe ?

# Cosmological Riddles

□ Is our Universe unique, or are there many other Universes (multiverse) ... ?

□ What made the Universe originate ?



# Cosmological Riddles

□ Why are the physical laws as they are ?

Do they need to be ?

□ How many dimensions does the Universe have?

More than 1 timelike + 3 spacelike ?

# Cosmological Riddles

□ ... and ...

□ Are our brains sufficiently equipped to understand and answer the ultimate questions ... ?

# A unique time ...

- The past century, since 1915,  
marks a special epoch
- For the first time in human history,  
we are able to address the  
great questions of Cosmology ...
- scientifically ...

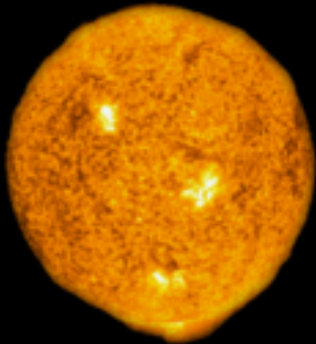


the Universe

has a

Beginning

# Night Sky is Dark



In an infinitely large, old and unchanging Universe each line of sight would hit a star:



Sky would be as bright as surface of star:

Night sky as bright as  
Solar Surface, yet  
the night sky is dark



finite age of Universe (13.8 Gyr)

Cosmology:

observing

the history of the Universe



# Cosmology: exploring Space & Time

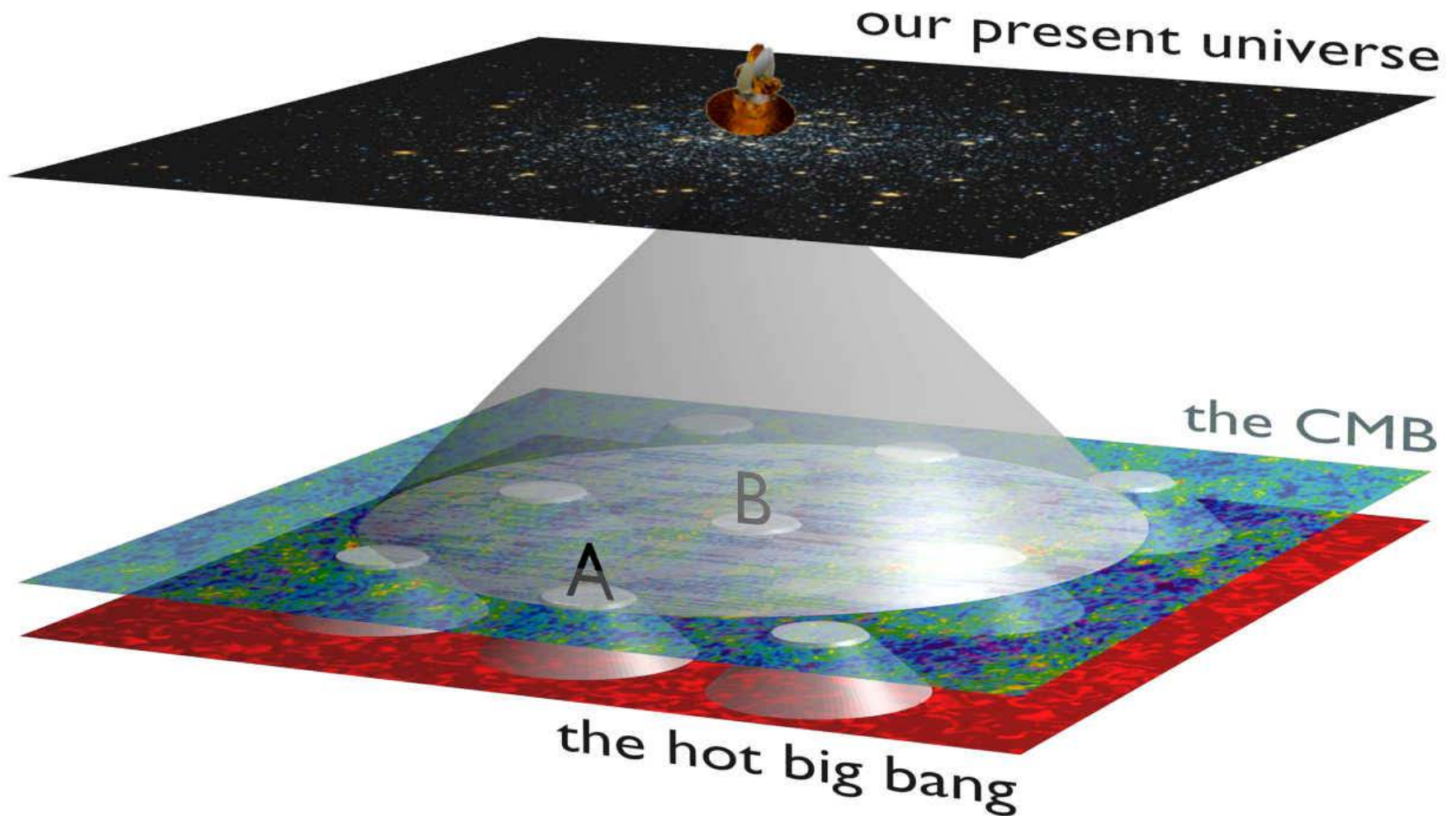
Cosmology is a unique science:

not only it looks out to the deepest realms and  
largest scales of our Universe

on cosmological scales,  
the finite velocity of light becomes a critical factor ...

thus, it also looks back in time, to the earliest moments,  
and thus is the ultimate archaeological science

# Cosmic Depth = Cosmic Time



## Light propagation through the Universe:

light has a finite velocity ( $c=300,000$  km/s)

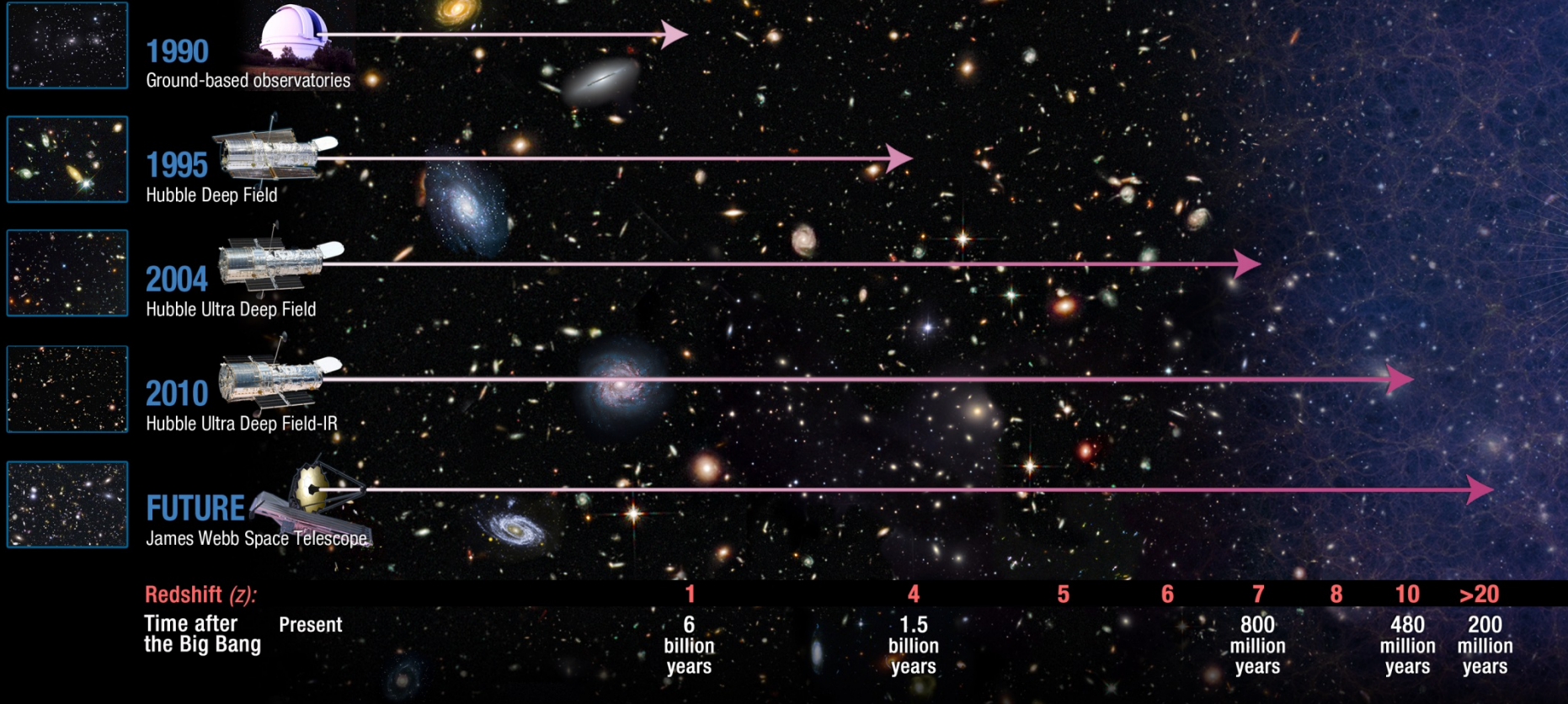
the further you look, the further you look in time !







# Hubble Probes the Early Universe





# Edge of the Visible Universe



WMAP  
CMB  
temperature map

**Earliest View  
of our Cosmos:**

**the Universe  
379,000 years  
after the Big Bang**

# Cosmic Microwave Background

# the Universe:

## a Unique Astrophysical Object

- There is only one (visible) Universe ...
- Finite velocity of light,  $c$ :  
... a look in depth = a look back in time ...
- $c$  & implications for space-time:  
observational cosmology limited to only  
a minor thin “shell” of all of spacetime ...

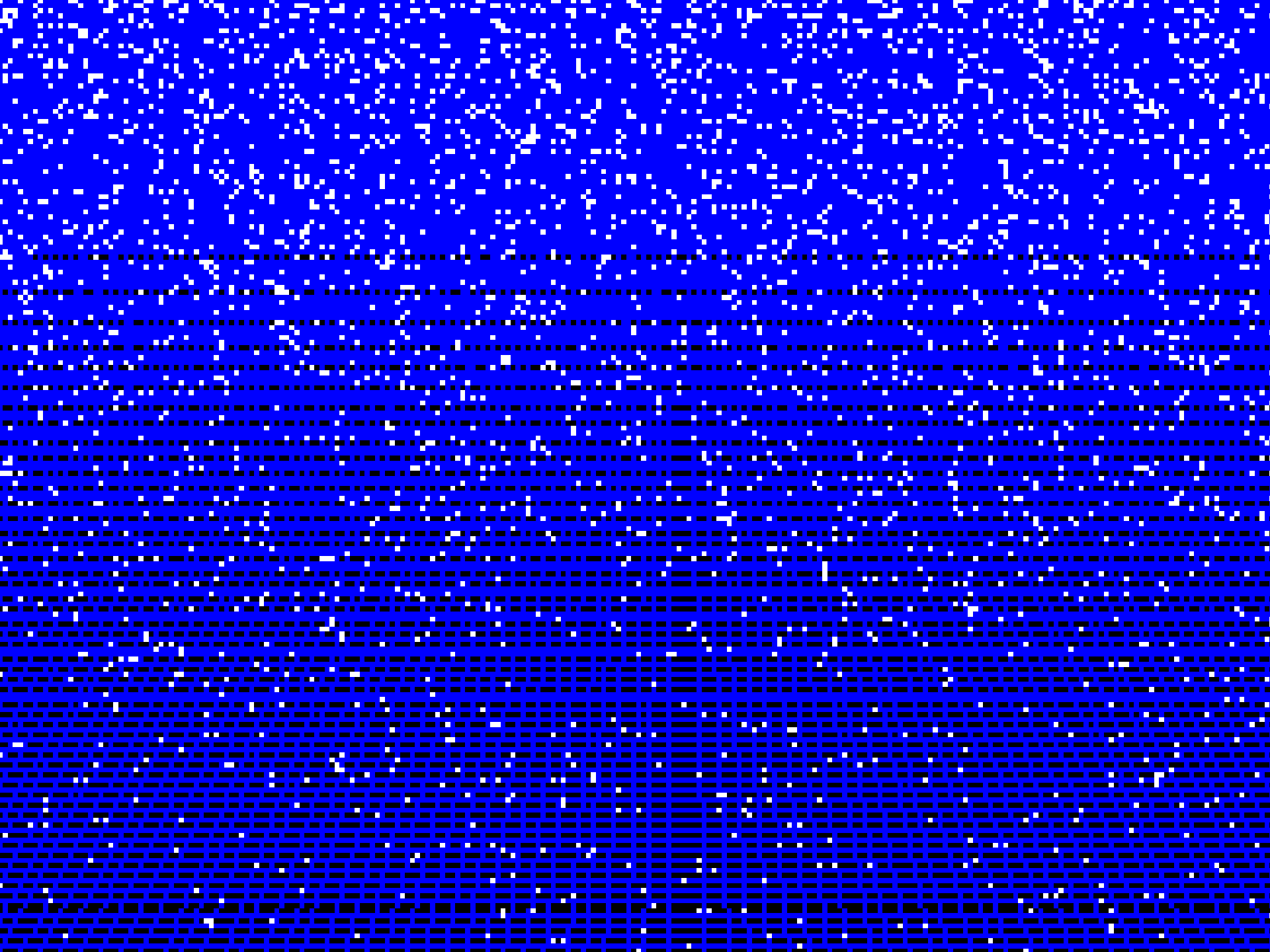
13.8 Gigayears

of

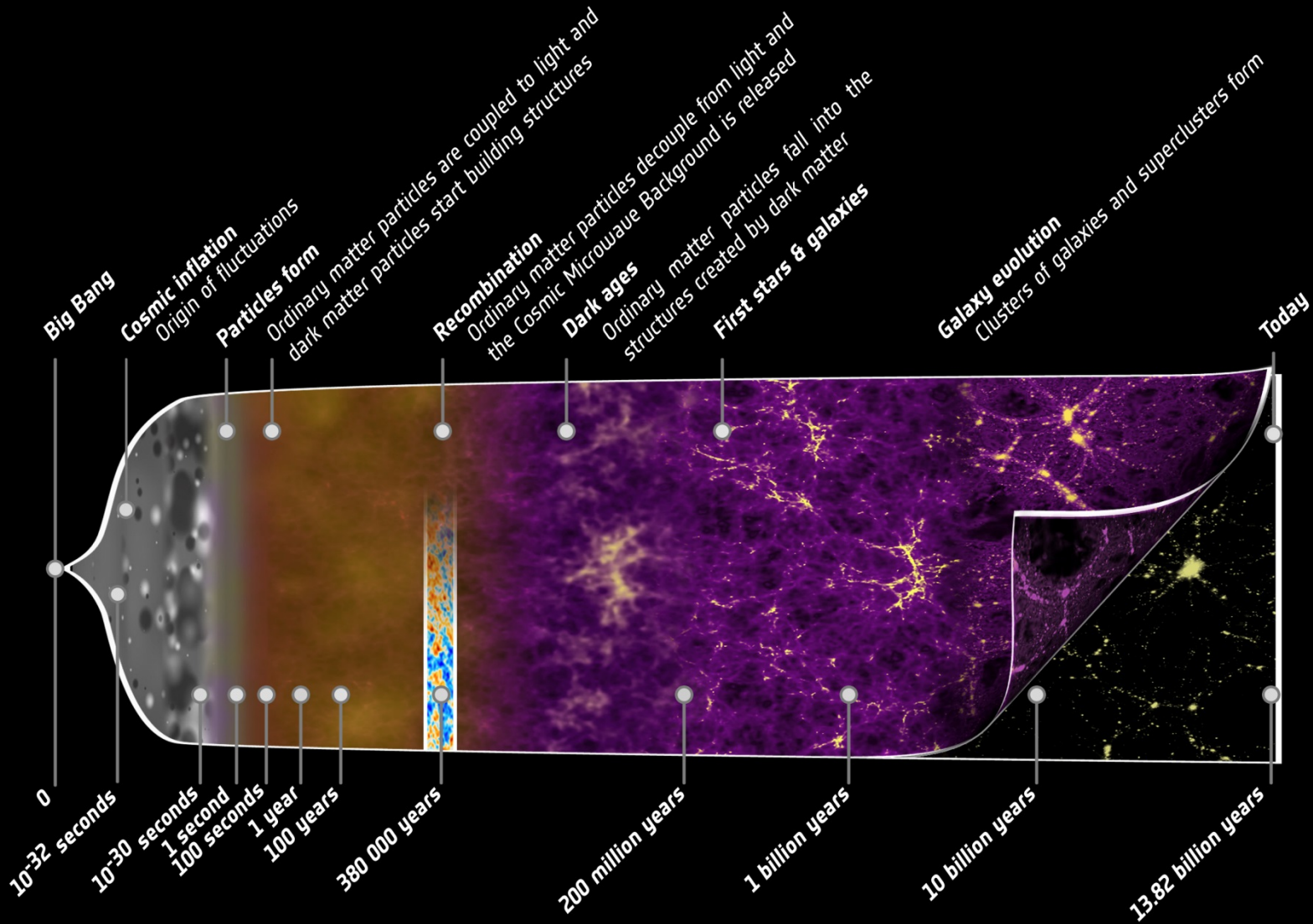
Cosmic History







# Big Bang Chronology

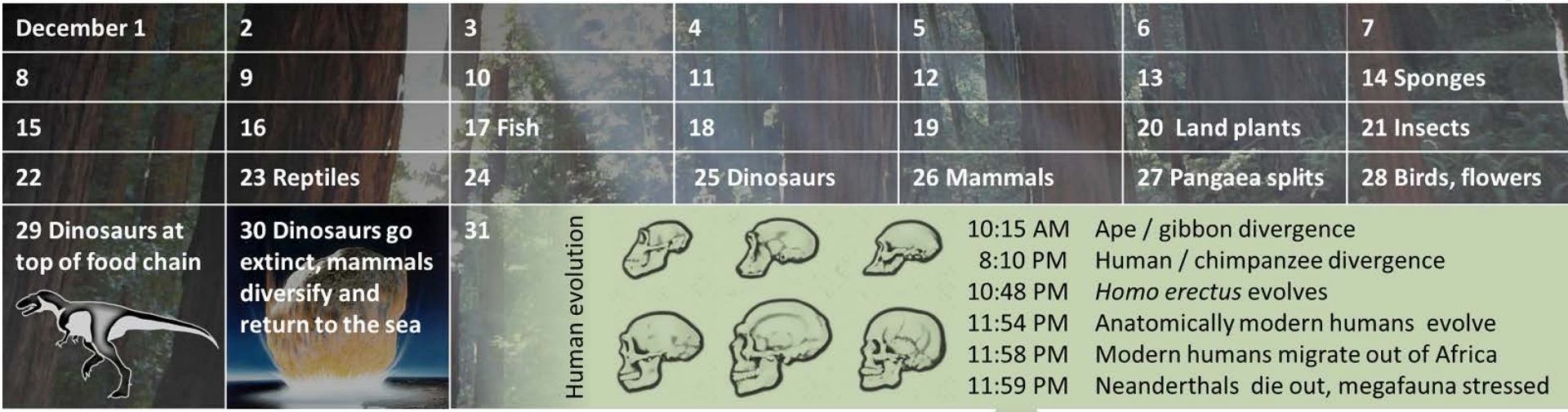
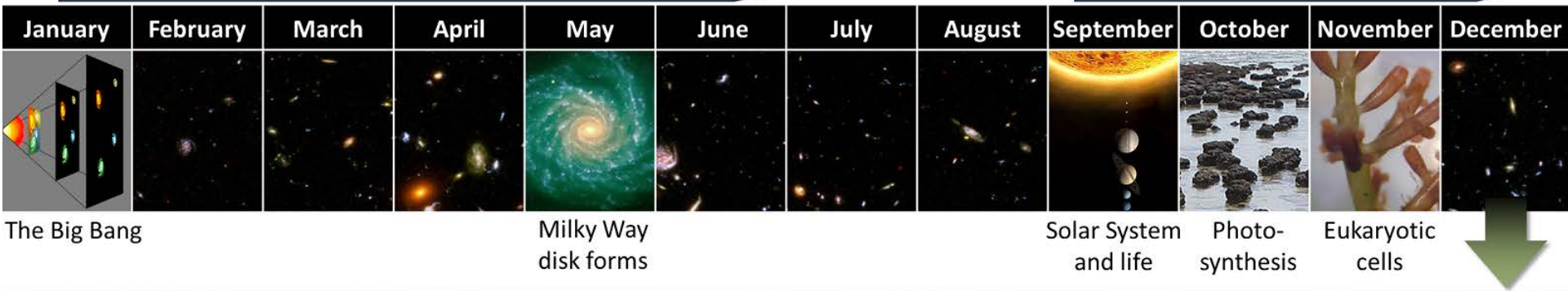




# Cosmic Calendar

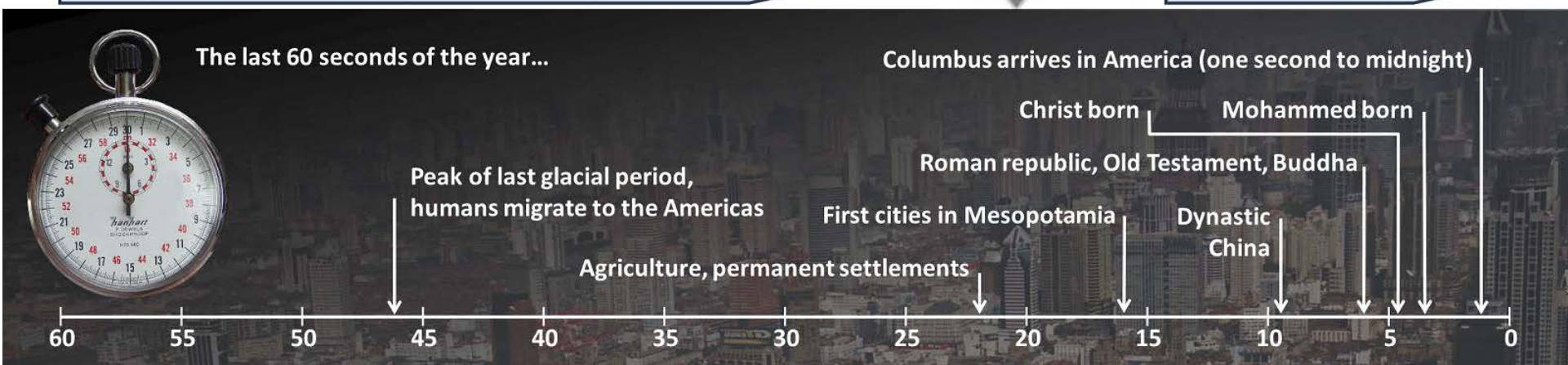
Known from telescopes looking back in time, physical models

Geologic record, fossils, genetic drift



Known from radiocarbon dating, DNA extraction from remains

Written record





# Cosmic Composition



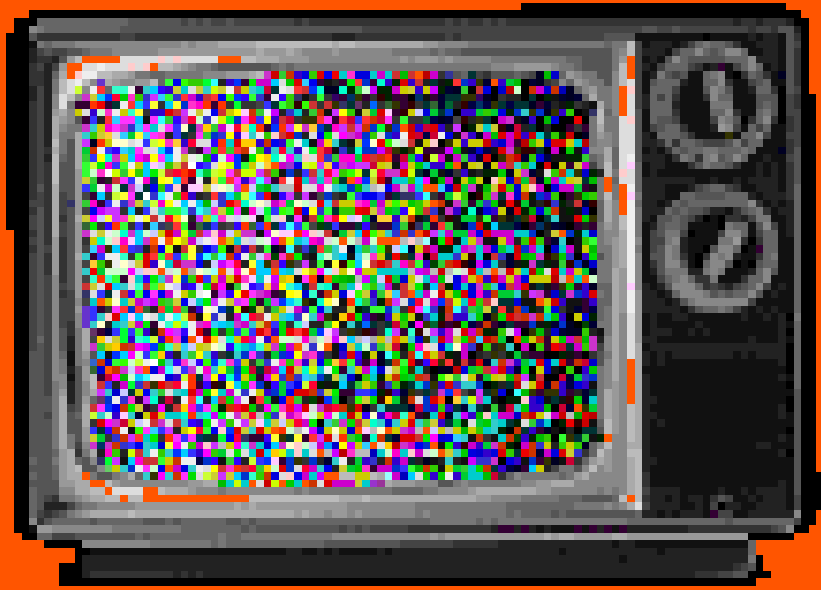
# **Cosmic Light: most abundant species**

**By far,  
the most abundant particle species  
in the Universe**

**to every proton/neutron**

$$n_{\gamma}/n_B \sim 1.9 \text{ billion}$$

# the Cosmic TV Show



Note:

The cosmic microwave background is not an exotic phenomenon:

1% of the radiation (noise) on your (camping) tv is this CMB radiation:

!!!! Live broadcast Big Bang !!!!

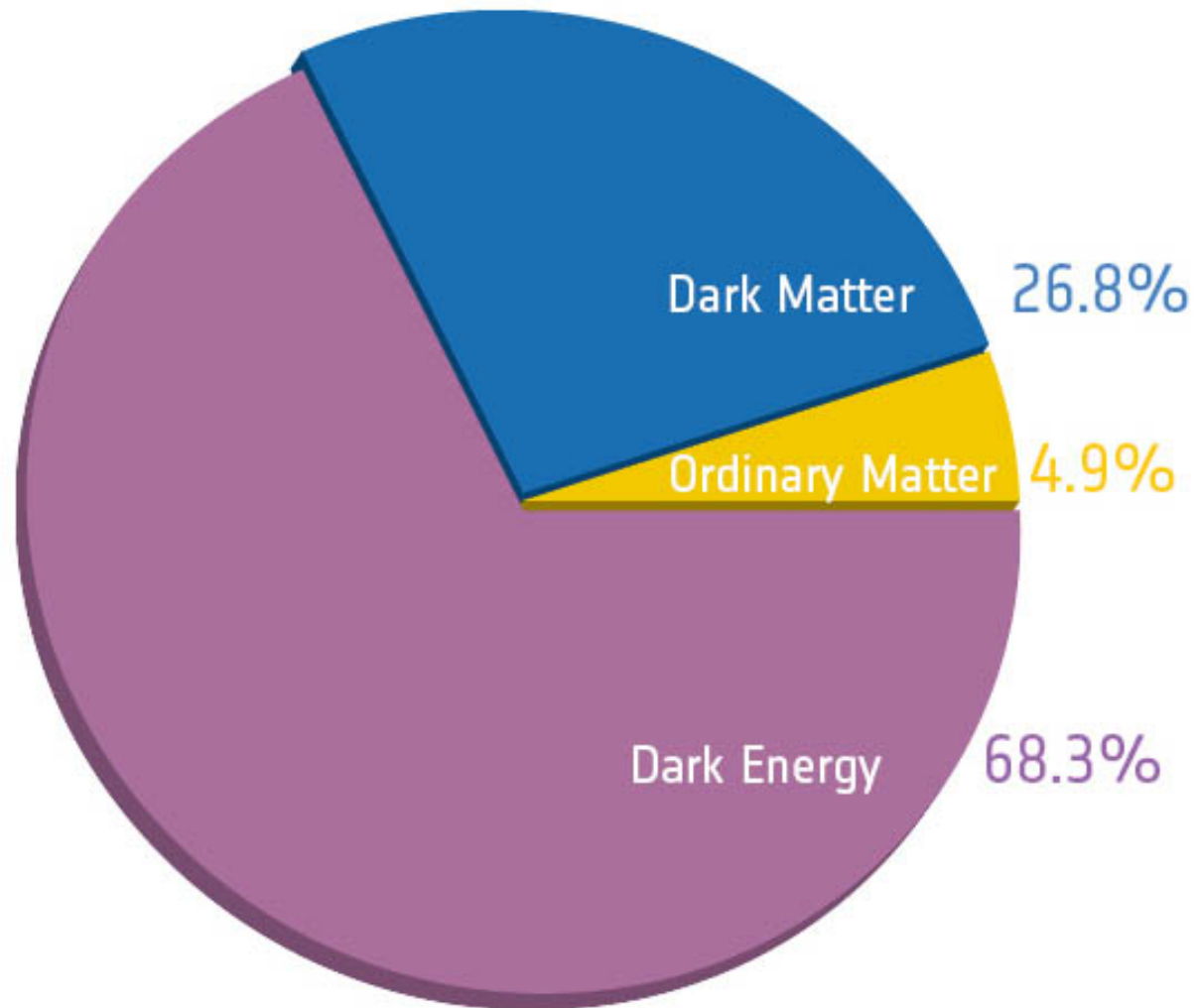
Courtesy: W. Hu

# Cosmic Energy Inventory

1	dark sector			$0.954 \pm 0.003$
1.1	dark energy		$0.72 \pm 0.03$	
1.2	dark matter		$0.23 \pm 0.03$	
1.3	primeval gravitational waves		$\lesssim 10^{-10}$	
2	primeval thermal remnants			$0.0010 \pm 0.0005$
2.1	electromagnetic radiation		$10^{-4.3 \pm 0.0}$	
2.2	neutrinos		$10^{-2.9 \pm 0.1}$	
2.3	prestellar nuclear binding energy		$-10^{-4.1 \pm 0.0}$	
3	baryon rest mass			$0.045 \pm 0.003$
3.1	warm intergalactic plasma		$0.040 \pm 0.003$	
3.1a	virialized regions of galaxies	$0.024 \pm 0.005$		
3.1b	intergalactic	$0.016 \pm 0.005$		
3.2	intracluster plasma		$0.0018 \pm 0.0007$	
3.3	main sequence stars	spheroids and bulges	$0.0015 \pm 0.0004$	
3.4		disks and irregulars	$0.00055 \pm 0.00014$	
3.5	white dwarfs		$0.00036 \pm 0.00008$	
3.6	neutron stars		$0.00005 \pm 0.00002$	
3.7	black holes		$0.00007 \pm 0.00002$	
3.8	substellar objects		$0.00014 \pm 0.00007$	
3.9	HI + HeI		$0.00062 \pm 0.00010$	
3.10	molecular gas		$0.00016 \pm 0.00006$	
3.11	planets		$10^{-6}$	
3.12	condensed matter		$10^{-5.6 \pm 0.3}$	
3.13	sequestered in massive black holes		$10^{-5.4}(1 + \epsilon_n)$	
4	primeval gravitational binding energy			$-10^{-6.1 \pm 0.1}$
4.1	virialized halos of galaxies		$-10^{-7.2}$	
4.2	clusters		$-10^{-6.9}$	
4.3	large-scale structure		$-10^{-6.2}$	



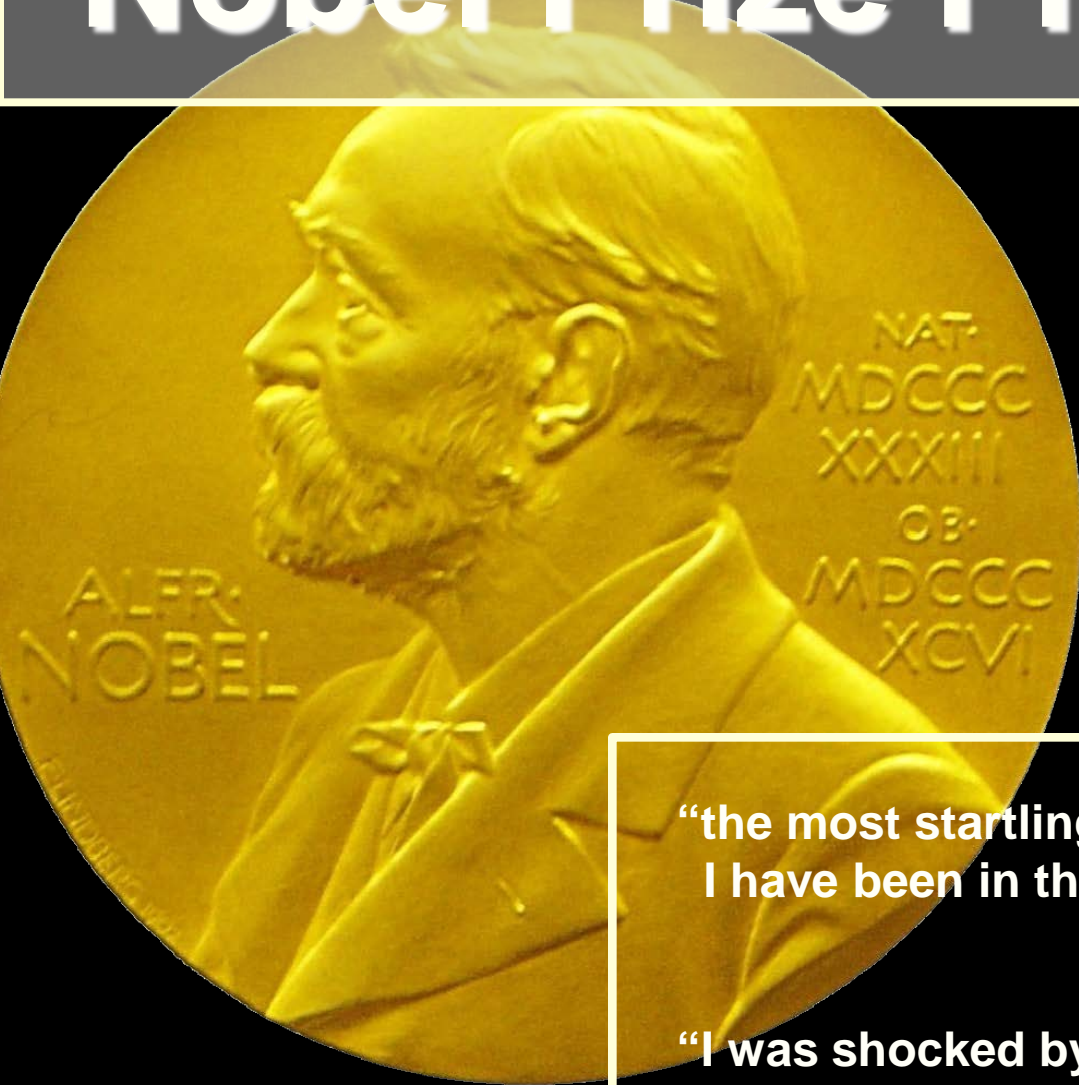
# Cosmic Constituents



Fate

of the Universe

# Nobel Prize Physics 2011



**“the most startling discovery in physics since I have been in the field.”**

**E. Witten**

**“I was shocked by my discovery, I just assumed we made a mistake”**

**Brian Schmidt**



# Accelerated Expansion of the Universe

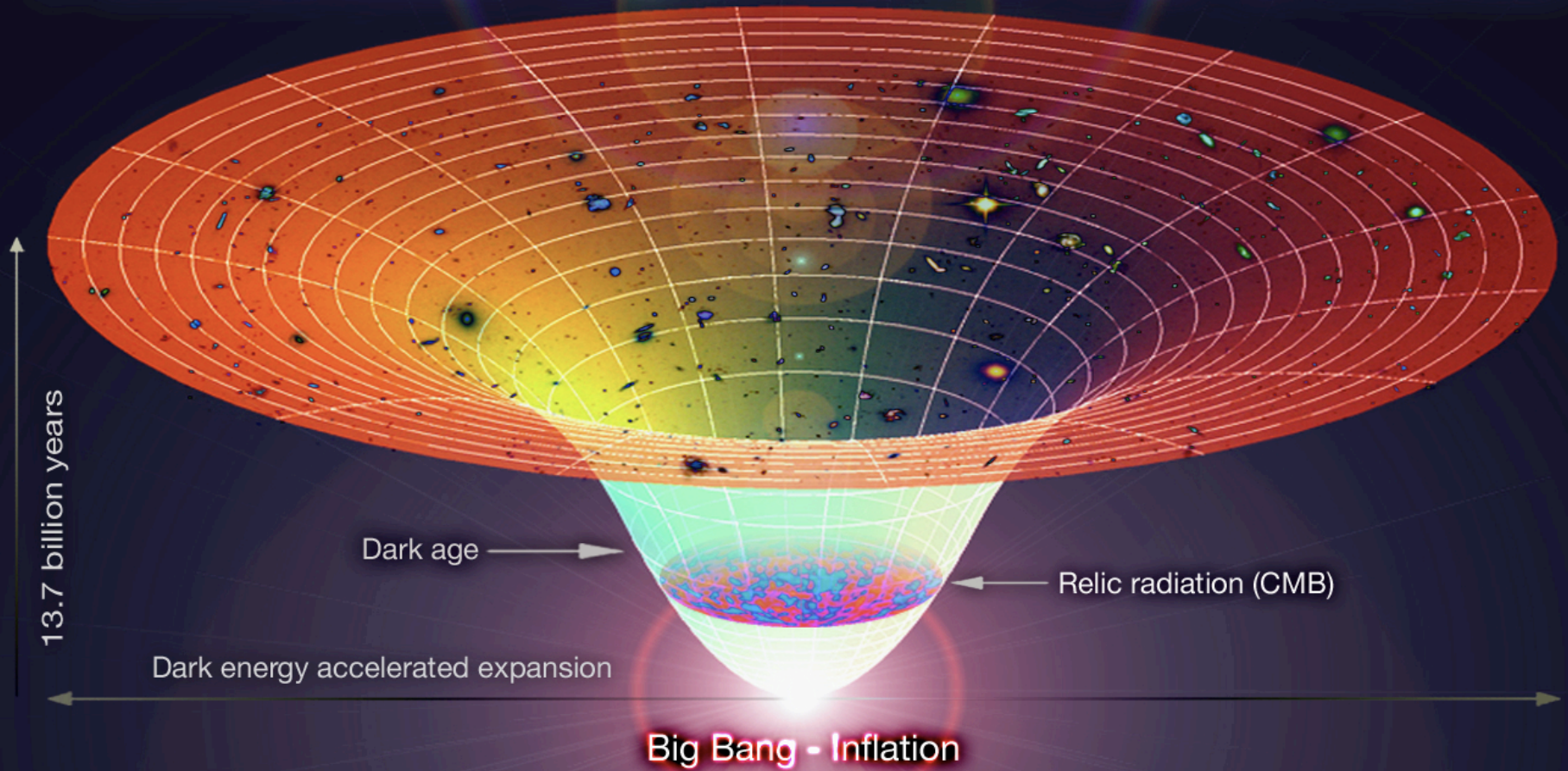


image: Coldcreation

# Cosmic Fate

## 100 Gigayears: the end of Cosmology

The night sky on Earth (assuming it survives) will change dramatically as our Milky Way galaxy merges with its neighbors and distant galaxies recede beyond view.



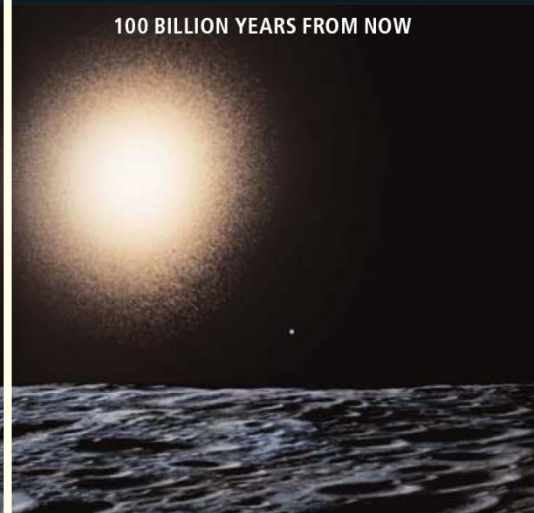
NOW

DIFFUSE BAND stretching across the sky is the disk of the Milky Way. A few nearby galaxies, such as Andromeda and the Magellanic Clouds, are visible to the naked eye. Telescopes reveal billions more.



5 BILLION YEARS FROM NOW

ANDROMEDA has been moving toward us and now nearly fills the sky. The sun swells to red giant size and subsequently burns out, consigning Earth to a bleak existence.



100 BILLION YEARS FROM NOW

SUCCESSOR to the Milky Way is a ball-like supergalaxy, and Earth may float forlornly through its distant outskirts. Other galaxies have disappeared from view.



100 TRILLION YEARS FROM NOW

LIGHTS OUT: The last stars burn out. Apart from dimly glowing black holes and any artificial lighting that civilizations have rigged up, the universe goes black. The galaxy later collapses into a black hole.



# Precision Cosmology



# Age of Precision Cosmology

Parameter	Value	Description
<i>Basic parameters</i>		
$H_0$	$70.9^{+2.4}_{-3.2} \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$	Hubble parameter
$\Omega_b$	$0.0444^{+0.0042}_{-0.0035}$	Baryon density
$\Omega_m$	$0.266^{+0.025}_{-0.040}$	Total matter density (baryons + dark matter)
$\tau$	$0.079^{+0.029}_{-0.032}$	Optical depth to reionization
$A_s$	$0.813^{+0.042}_{-0.052}$	Scalar fluctuation amplitude
$n_s$	$0.948^{+0.015}_{-0.018}$	Scalar spectral index
<i>Derived parameters</i>		
$\rho_0$	$0.94^{+0.06}_{-0.09} \times 10^{-26} \text{ kg/m}^3$	Critical density
$\Omega_\Lambda$	$0.732^{+0.040}_{-0.025}$	Dark energy density
$z_{\text{ion}}$	$10.5^{+2.6}_{-2.9}$	Reionization red-shift
$\sigma_8$	$0.772^{+0.036}_{-0.048}$	Galaxy fluctuation amplitude
$t_0$	$13.73^{+0.13}_{-0.17} \times 10^9 \text{ years}$	Age of the universe

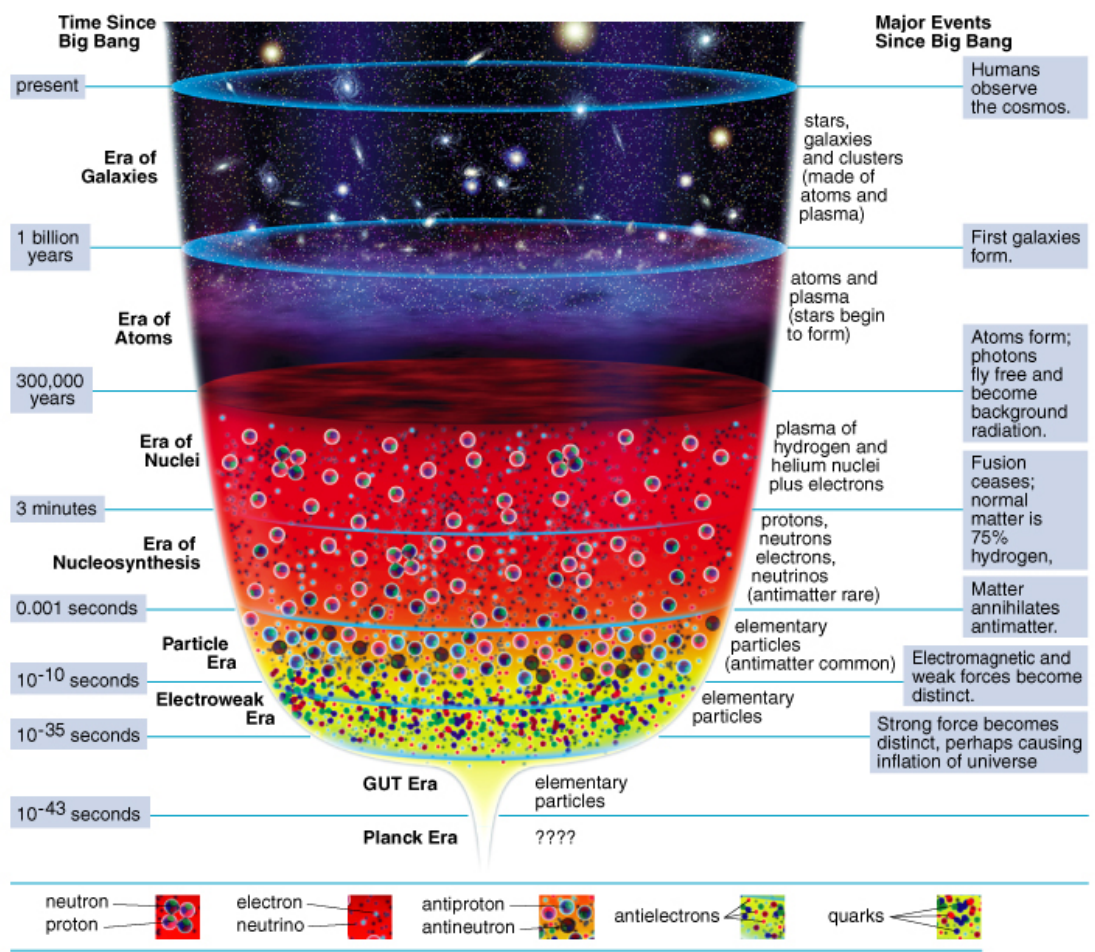
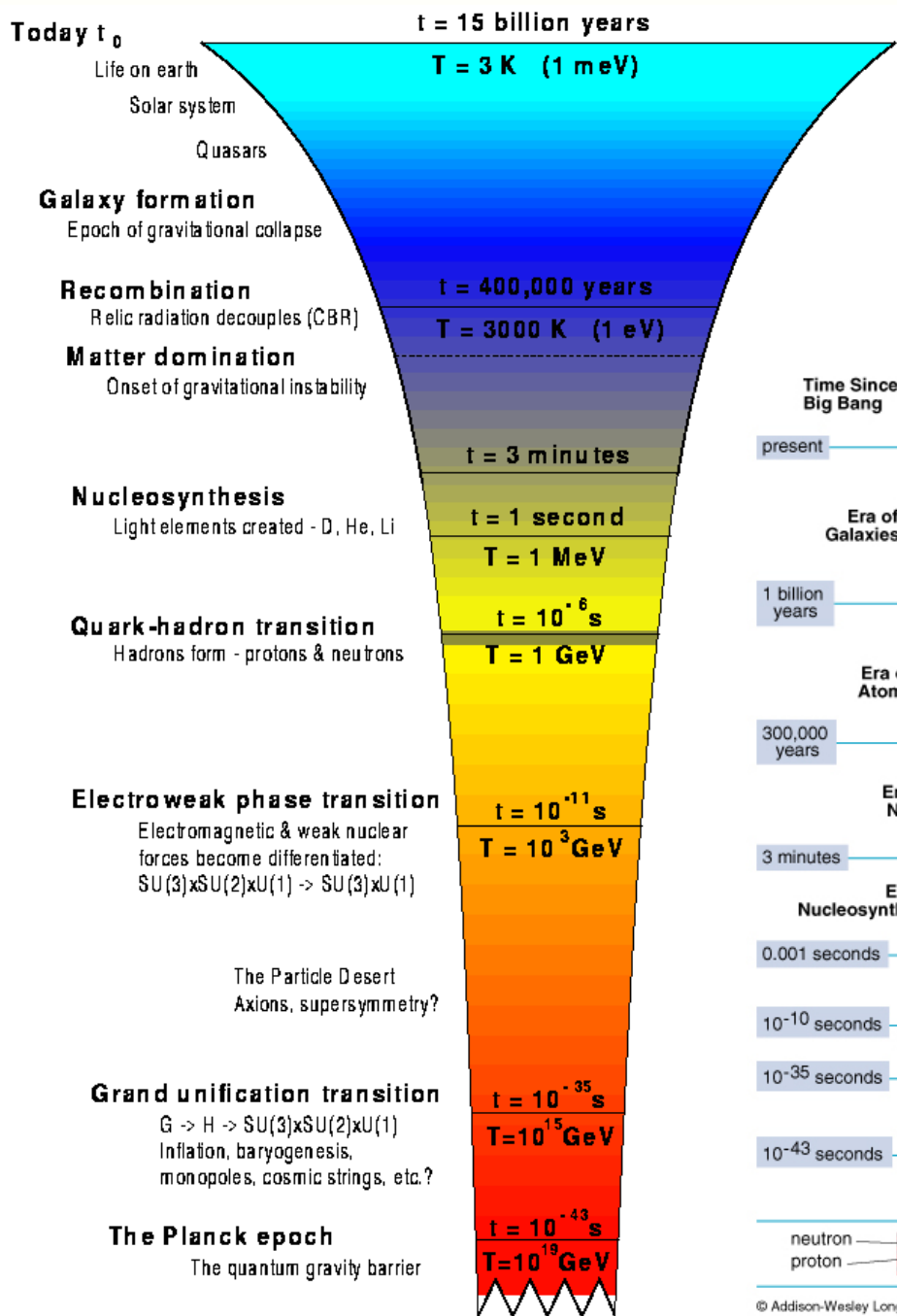
Parameter	TT+lowP 68 % limits	TT+lowP+lensing 68 % limits	TT+lowP+lensing+ext 68 % limits	TT,TE,EE+lowP 68 % limits	TT,TE,EE+lowP+lensing 68 % limits	TT,TE,EE+lowP+lensing+ext 68 % limits
$\Omega_b h^2$	$0.02222 \pm 0.00023$	$0.02226 \pm 0.00023$	$0.02227 \pm 0.00020$	$0.02225 \pm 0.00016$	$0.02226 \pm 0.00016$	$0.02230 \pm 0.00014$
$\Omega_c h^2$	$0.1197 \pm 0.0022$	$0.1186 \pm 0.0020$	$0.1184 \pm 0.0012$	$0.1198 \pm 0.0015$	$0.1193 \pm 0.0014$	$0.1188 \pm 0.0010$
$100\theta_{MC}$	$1.04085 \pm 0.00047$	$1.04103 \pm 0.00046$	$1.04106 \pm 0.00041$	$1.04077 \pm 0.00032$	$1.04087 \pm 0.00032$	$1.04093 \pm 0.00030$
$\tau$	$0.078 \pm 0.019$	$0.066 \pm 0.016$	$0.067 \pm 0.013$	$0.079 \pm 0.017$	$0.063 \pm 0.014$	$0.066 \pm 0.012$
$\ln(10^{10} A_s)$	$3.089 \pm 0.036$	$3.062 \pm 0.029$	$3.064 \pm 0.024$	$3.094 \pm 0.034$	$3.059 \pm 0.025$	$3.064 \pm 0.023$
$n_s$	$0.9655 \pm 0.0062$	$0.9677 \pm 0.0060$	$0.9681 \pm 0.0044$	$0.9645 \pm 0.0049$	$0.9653 \pm 0.0048$	$0.9667 \pm 0.0040$
$H_0$	$67.31 \pm 0.96$	$67.81 \pm 0.92$	$67.90 \pm 0.55$	$67.27 \pm 0.66$	$67.51 \pm 0.64$	$67.74 \pm 0.46$
$\Omega_\Lambda$	$0.685 \pm 0.013$	$0.692 \pm 0.012$	$0.6935 \pm 0.0072$	$0.6844 \pm 0.0091$	$0.6879 \pm 0.0087$	$0.6911 \pm 0.0062$
$\Omega_m$	$0.315 \pm 0.013$	$0.308 \pm 0.012$	$0.3065 \pm 0.0072$	$0.3156 \pm 0.0091$	$0.3121 \pm 0.0087$	$0.3089 \pm 0.0062$
$\Omega_m h^2$	$0.1426 \pm 0.0020$	$0.1415 \pm 0.0019$	$0.1413 \pm 0.0011$	$0.1427 \pm 0.0014$	$0.1422 \pm 0.0013$	$0.14170 \pm 0.00097$
$\Omega_m h^3$	$0.09597 \pm 0.00045$	$0.09591 \pm 0.00045$	$0.09593 \pm 0.00045$	$0.09601 \pm 0.00029$	$0.09596 \pm 0.00030$	$0.09598 \pm 0.00029$
$\sigma_8$	$0.829 \pm 0.014$	$0.8149 \pm 0.0093$	$0.8154 \pm 0.0090$	$0.831 \pm 0.013$	$0.8150 \pm 0.0087$	$0.8159 \pm 0.0086$
$\sigma_8 \Omega_m^{0.5}$	$0.466 \pm 0.013$	$0.4521 \pm 0.0088$	$0.4514 \pm 0.0066$	$0.4668 \pm 0.0098$	$0.4553 \pm 0.0068$	$0.4535 \pm 0.0059$
$\sigma_8 \Omega_m^{0.25}$	$0.621 \pm 0.013$	$0.6069 \pm 0.0076$	$0.6066 \pm 0.0070$	$0.623 \pm 0.011$	$0.6091 \pm 0.0067$	$0.6083 \pm 0.0066$
$z_{re}$	$9.9^{+1.8}_{-1.6}$	$8.8^{+1.7}_{-1.4}$	$8.9^{+1.3}_{-1.2}$	$10.0^{+1.7}_{-1.5}$	$8.5^{+1.4}_{-1.2}$	$8.8^{+1.2}_{-1.1}$
$10^9 A_s$	$2.198^{+0.076}_{-0.085}$	$2.139 \pm 0.063$	$2.143 \pm 0.051$	$2.207 \pm 0.074$	$2.130 \pm 0.053$	$2.142 \pm 0.049$
$10^9 A_s e^{-2\tau}$	$1.880 \pm 0.014$	$1.874 \pm 0.013$	$1.873 \pm 0.011$	$1.882 \pm 0.012$	$1.878 \pm 0.011$	$1.876 \pm 0.011$
Age/Gyr	$13.813 \pm 0.038$	$13.799 \pm 0.038$	$13.796 \pm 0.029$	$13.813 \pm 0.026$	$13.807 \pm 0.026$	$13.799 \pm 0.021$
$z_*$	$1090.09 \pm 0.42$	$1089.94 \pm 0.42$	$1089.90 \pm 0.30$	$1090.06 \pm 0.30$	$1090.00 \pm 0.29$	$1089.90 \pm 0.23$
$r_*$	$144.61 \pm 0.49$	$144.89 \pm 0.44$	$144.93 \pm 0.30$	$144.57 \pm 0.32$	$144.71 \pm 0.31$	$144.81 \pm 0.24$
$100\theta_*$	$1.04105 \pm 0.00046$	$1.04122 \pm 0.00045$	$1.04126 \pm 0.00041$	$1.04096 \pm 0.00032$	$1.04106 \pm 0.00031$	$1.04112 \pm 0.00029$
$z_{drag}$	$1059.57 \pm 0.46$	$1059.57 \pm 0.47$	$1059.60 \pm 0.44$	$1059.65 \pm 0.31$	$1059.62 \pm 0.31$	$1059.68 \pm 0.29$
$r_{drag}$	$147.33 \pm 0.49$	$147.60 \pm 0.43$	$147.63 \pm 0.32$	$147.27 \pm 0.31$	$147.41 \pm 0.30$	$147.50 \pm 0.24$
$k_D$	$0.14050 \pm 0.00052$	$0.14024 \pm 0.00047$	$0.14022 \pm 0.00042$	$0.14059 \pm 0.00032$	$0.14044 \pm 0.00032$	$0.14038 \pm 0.00029$
$z_{eq}$	$3393 \pm 49$	$3365 \pm 44$	$3361 \pm 27$	$3395 \pm 33$	$3382 \pm 32$	$3371 \pm 23$
$k_{eq}$	$0.01035 \pm 0.00015$	$0.01027 \pm 0.00014$	$0.010258 \pm 0.000083$	$0.01036 \pm 0.00010$	$0.010322 \pm 0.000096$	$0.010288 \pm 0.000071$
$100\theta_{s,eq}$	$0.4502 \pm 0.0047$	$0.4529 \pm 0.0044$	$0.4533 \pm 0.0026$	$0.4499 \pm 0.0032$	$0.4512 \pm 0.0031$	$0.4523 \pm 0.0023$
$f_{2000}^{143}$	$29.9 \pm 2.9$	$30.4 \pm 2.9$	$30.3 \pm 2.8$	$29.5 \pm 2.7$	$30.2 \pm 2.7$	$30.0 \pm 2.7$
$f_{2000}^{143 \times 217}$	$32.4 \pm 2.1$	$32.8 \pm 2.1$	$32.7 \pm 2.0$	$32.2 \pm 1.9$	$32.8 \pm 1.9$	$32.6 \pm 1.9$
$f_{2000}^{217}$	$106.0 \pm 2.0$	$106.3 \pm 2.0$	$106.2 \pm 2.0$	$105.8 \pm 1.9$	$106.2 \pm 1.9$	$106.1 \pm 1.8$

the

first moments



# Adiabatic Expansion reconstruction Thermal History of the Universe

# Episodes Thermal History

Planck Epoch

Phase Transition Era

Hadron Era

Lepton Era

Radiation Era

Post-Recombination Era

GUT transition  
electroweak transition  
quark-hadron transition

muon annihilation  
neutrino decoupling  
electron-positron annihilation  
primordial nucleosynthesis

radiation-matter equivalence  
recombination & decoupling

Structure & Galaxy formation  
Dark Ages  
Reionization  
Matter-Dark Energy transition

$t < 10^{-43}$  sec

$10^{-43}$  sec  $< t < 10^5$  sec

$t \sim 10^{-5}$  sec

$10^{-5}$  sec  $< t < 1$  min

$1$  min  $< t < 379,000$  yrs

$t > 379,000$  yrs

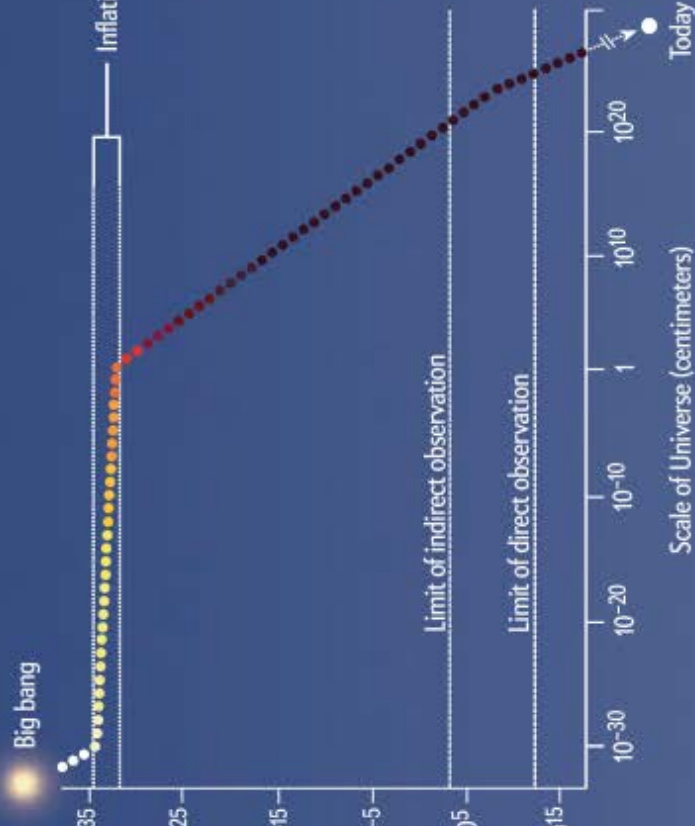
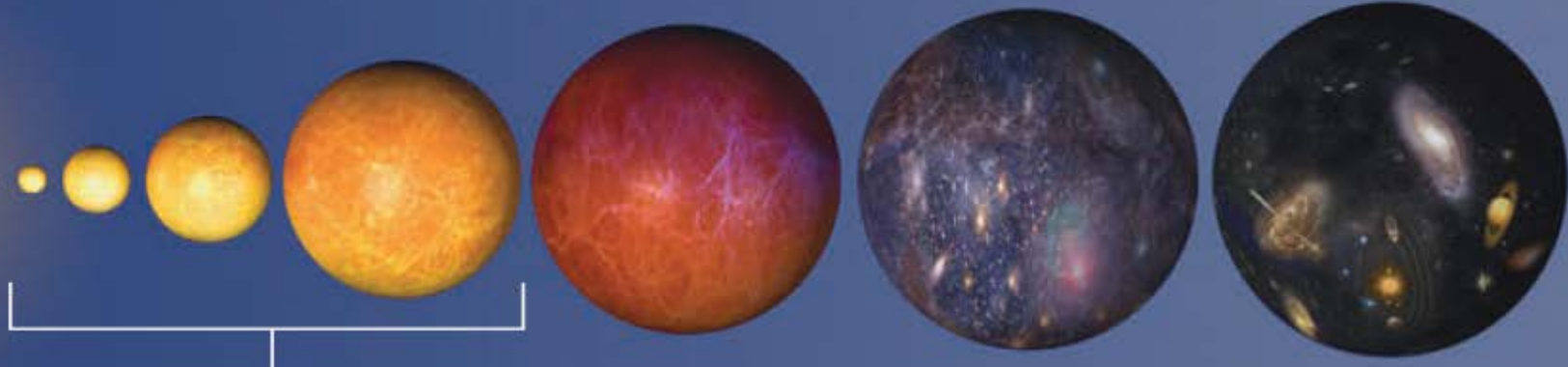


$10^{-36}$  sec  
after Big Bang:

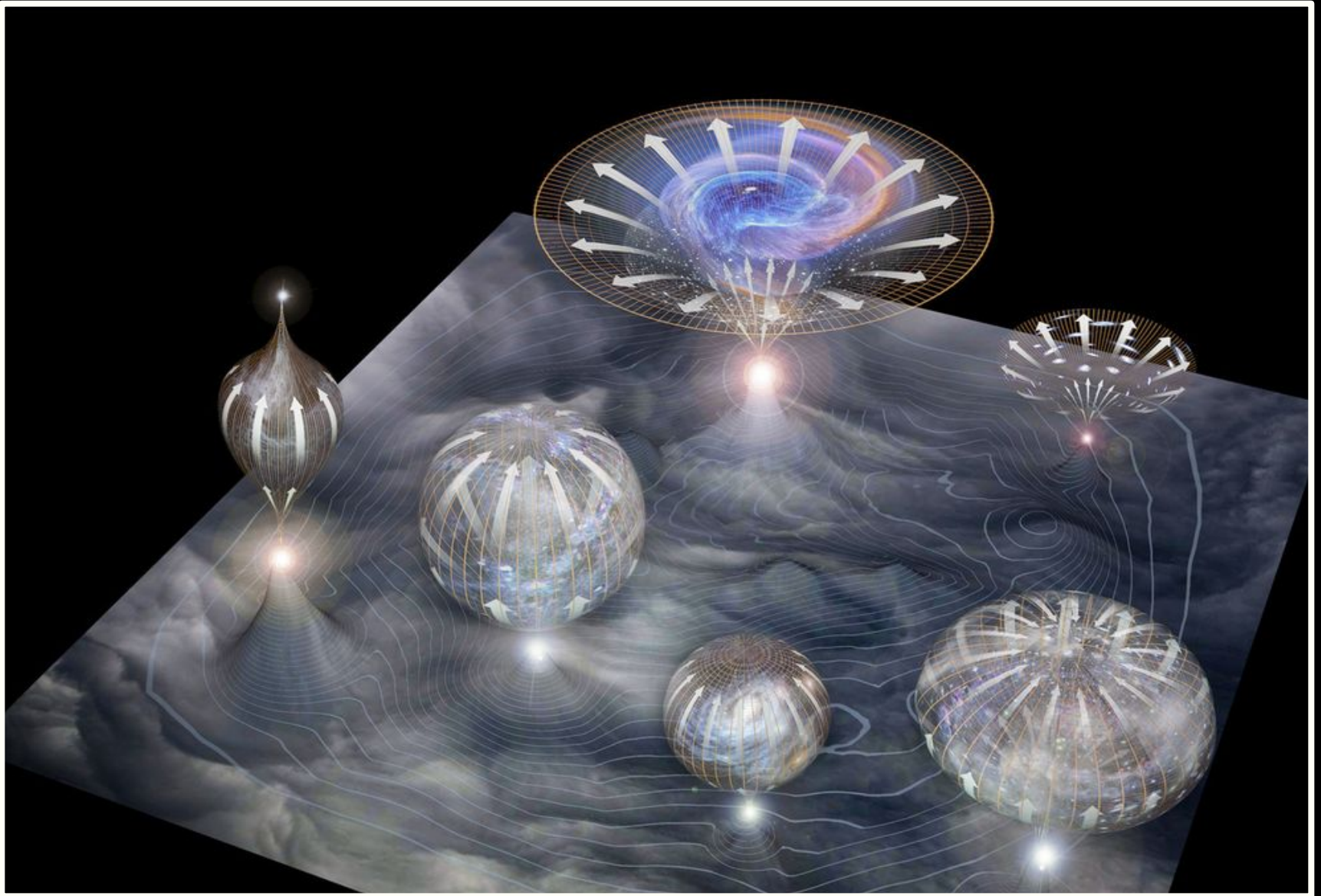
Inflation of the Universe



Time



# Inflation & Multiverse



Milky Way:

our Galaxy





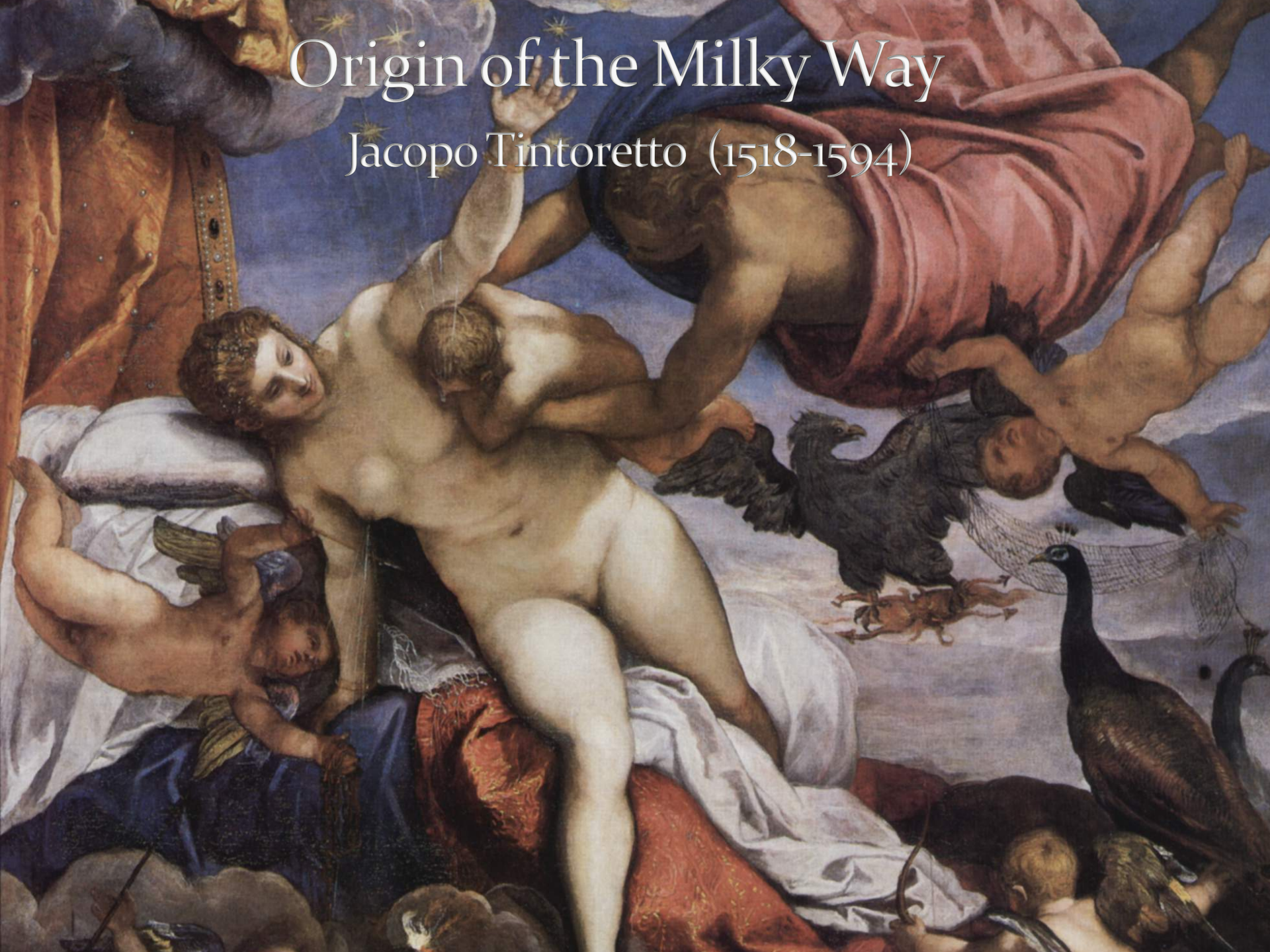
© Luc Perrot

"Over the Top" by Luc Perrot ([www.lucperrot.fr](http://www.lucperrot.fr)). The central bulge of the Milky Way rises over a volcano in Réunion Island of France (southern Indian Ocean). The first winner in Beauty of the Night Sky category. The 2014 International Earth & Sky Photo Contest. [twanight.org/contest](http://twanight.org/contest)



# Origin of the Milky Way

Jacopo Tintoretto (1518-1594)



# Kyklos Galaktikos

- Als de oude Grieken op een heldere zomeravond naar de hemel keken, zagen ze daar een zwakke band van licht die zich uitstrekte van horizon tot horizon. Het deed hen denken aan een stroom melk ...
- ze voorzagen dit ontzagwekkende fenomeen van de naam ``Kyklos Galaktikos" ofwel melkachtige cirkel.

- Mythe 1:

Melkweg gecreeerd door Heracles toen hij een baby was. Zijn vader was Zeus, zijn menselijke moeder Alcmene. Zeus besloot om het kindje Heracles te laten zogen bij zijn goddelijke vrouw Hera terwijl ze sliep, zodat de baby goddelijke eigenschappen zou krijgen. Toen Hera wakker werd en realiseerde dat ze een onbekend kind zoogde, duwde ze hem weg, en de gemorste melk werd de Melkweg.

- Mythe 2:

De melk is afkomstig van de godin Rhea, de vrouw van Cronus. Cronus at zijn eigen kinderen om zijn positie als oppergod van het Pantheon en als hemelgod te verzekeren. Rhea vatte het plan om haar nieuw geboren zoon Zeus te redden. Ze wikkelde een steen in babykieren en gaf het aan Cronus om het te verslinden. Cronus vroeg haar het kind nog eenmaal te zogen voor het te verzwelgen, en de melk die ze gaf toen ze de rots pretendeerde te zogen werd de Melkweg.







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# GIGAGALAXY ZOOM

Dive into the Milky Way

.....  
[www.eso.org/gigagalaxy](http://www.eso.org/gigagalaxy)





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# GIGAGALAXY ZOOM

Dive into the Milky Way

.....  
[www.eso.org/gigagalaxy](http://www.eso.org/gigagalaxy)



the Milky Way Galaxy:  
as it would appear from a distant vista point,  
outside its plane (face-on view)





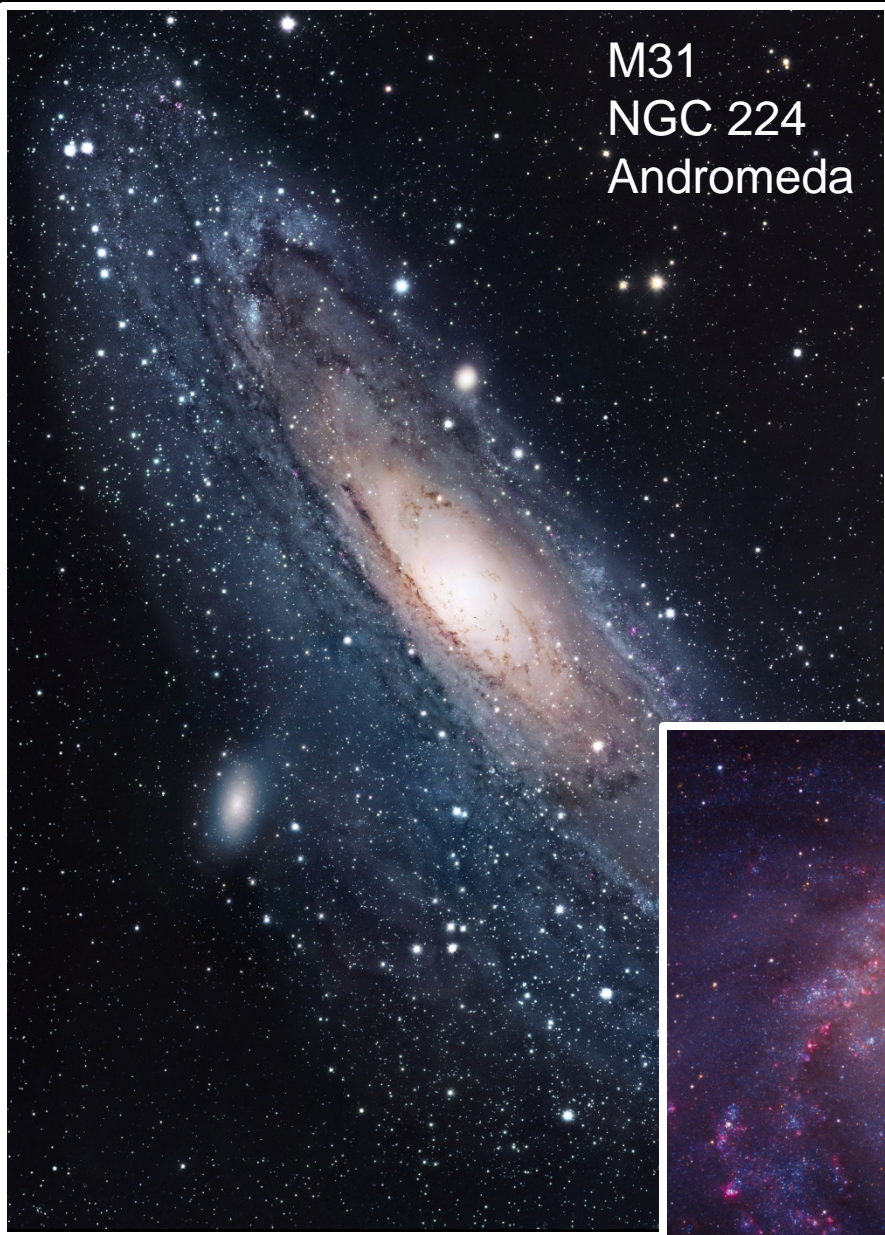
Galaxies:

Island Universes

# Local Group

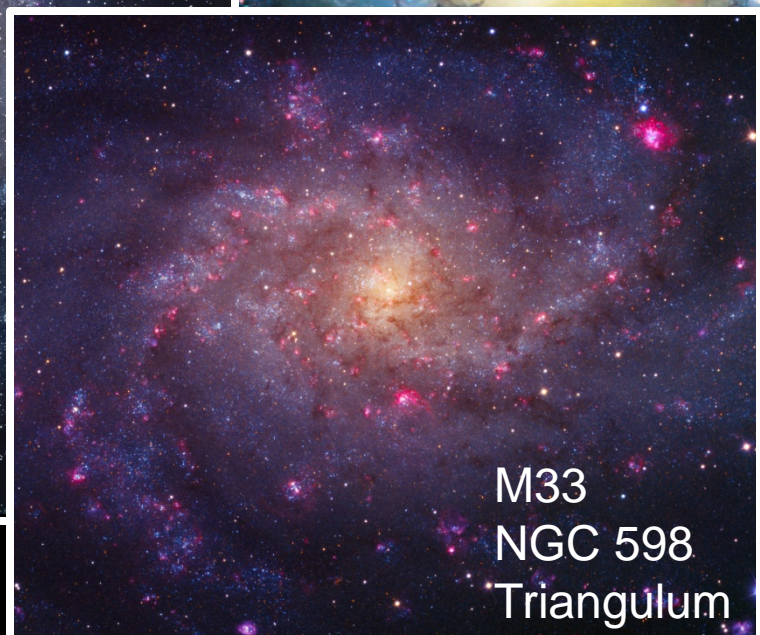
## Group Portrait

M31  
NGC 224  
Andromeda



The Galaxy  
Milky Way

M33  
NGC 598  
Triangulum







**... Galaxies ...**



A collage of numerous galaxies in various colors and shapes, arranged in a grid-like pattern. The galaxies are shown in different orientations and colors, including blue, yellow, and orange, set against a dark background. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent grey box in the center.

**... a Universe of Galaxies ...**

**100 billion galaxies in observable Universe**

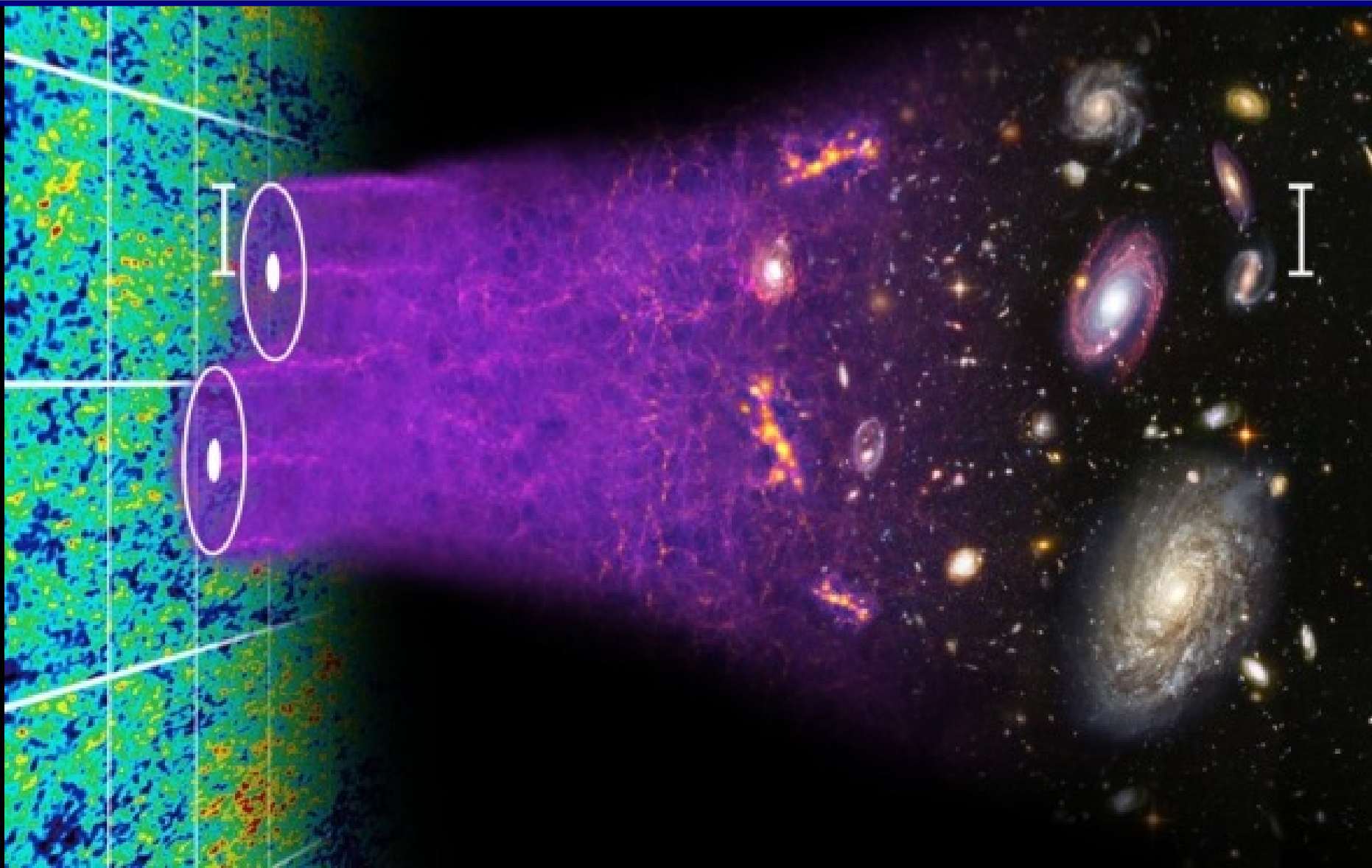


formation of

Structure in the Cosmos



# Formation Cosmic Structures



on scales of  $\sim 0.1$  -100s Mpc

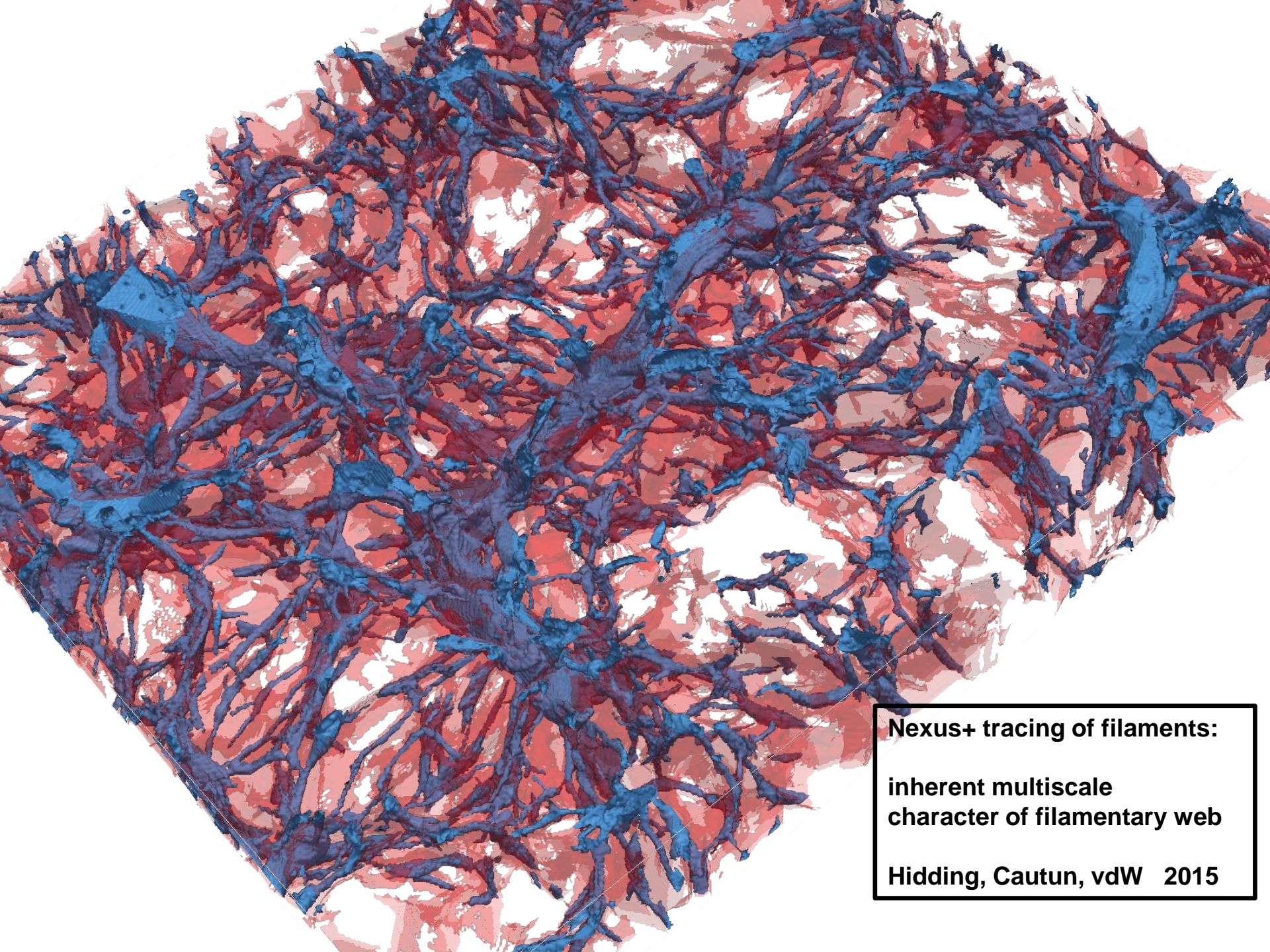
complex weblike pattern

in which  
matter, gas & galaxies  
aggregate in

- compact clusters,
  - elongated filaments
  - flattened sheets
- around
- cosmic voids

# Cosmic Web





**Nexus+ tracing of filaments:**

**inherent multiscale  
character of filamentary web**

**Hidding, Cautun, vdW 2015**



# Cosmology

Ancient Answers

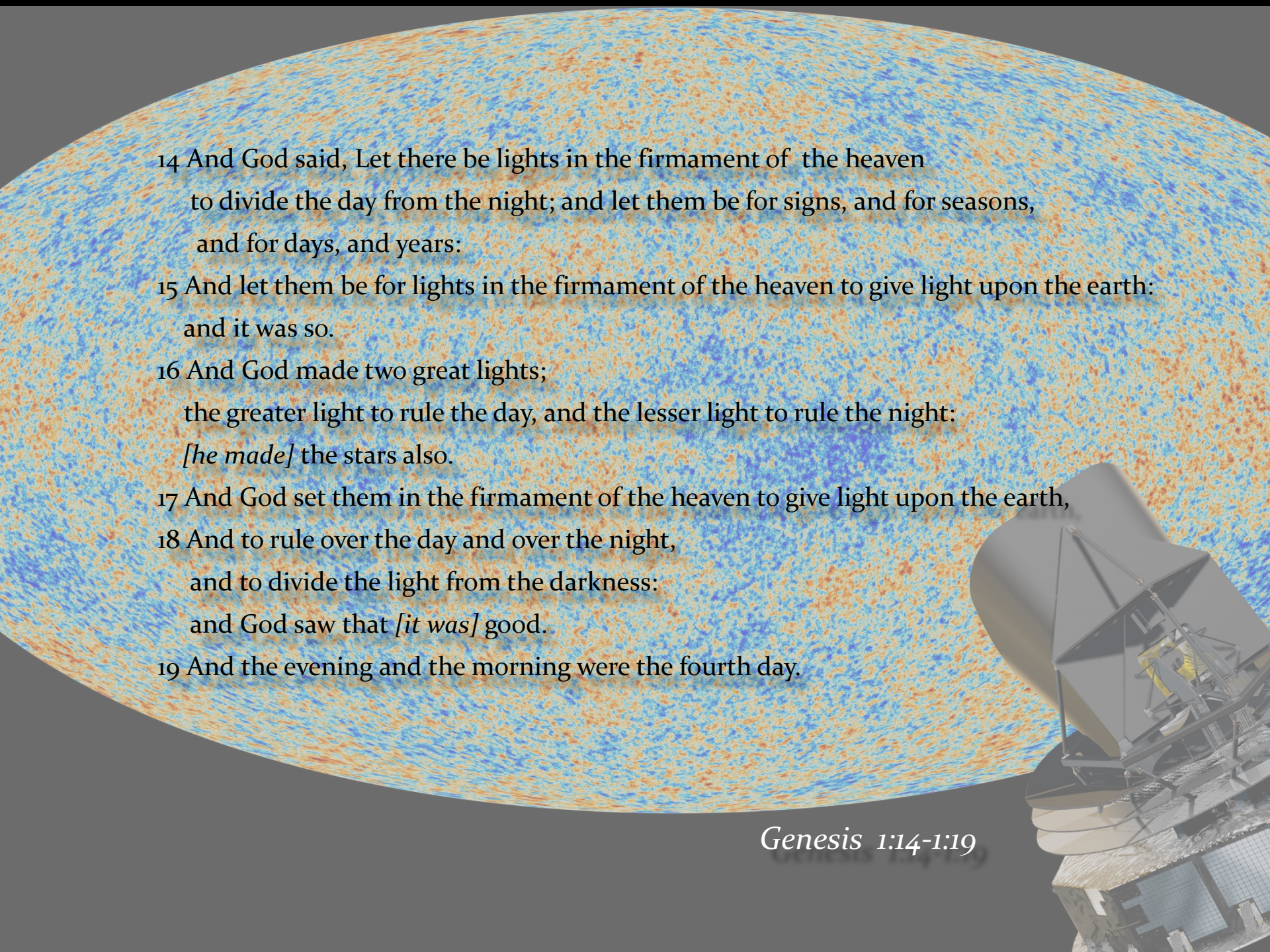




**"In the beginning God  
created the heavens and the earth"**

Genesis 1; 1-26





14 And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven  
to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons,  
and for days, and years:

15 And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth:  
and it was so.

16 And God made two great lights;  
the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night:  
*[he made]* the stars also.

17 And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth,  
18 And to rule over the day and over the night,  
and to divide the light from the darkness:  
and God saw that *[it was]* good.

19 And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

*Genesis 1:14-1:19*



# Enuma Elis

Enuma Elis is  
the Babylonian creation mythos.

Striking similarity to Genesis

Important source for understanding  
Babylonian worldview, centered on the  
supremacy of Marduk  
and the creation of humankind for the  
service of the gods.



## Marduk and the Dragon

Marduk, chief god of Babylon, destroys – with his thunderbolt –  
Tiamat the dragon of primeval chaos

When the sky above was not named  
And the earth beneath did not yet bear a name  
And the primeval Apsu, who begat them,  
And chaos, Tiamat, the mother of them both,  
Their waters were mingled together,  
And no field was formed, no marsh was to be seen;  
When the gods none had been called into being.

# Hindu Cosmology

- **The Nasadiya Sukta**

(after the incipit *ná ásat* "not the non-existent"), also known as the

- **Hymn of Creation,**

is the 129th hymn of the 10th Mandala of the

- **Rigveda (10:129).**

It is concerned with cosmology and the origin of the universe



# Nasadiya Sukta – Hymn of Creation

There was neither non-existence nor existence then;  
Neither the realm of space, nor the sky which is beyond;  
What stirred? Where? In whose protection?

There was neither death nor immortality then;  
No distinguishing sign of night nor of day;  
That One breathed, windless, by its own impulse;  
Other than that there was nothing beyond.

Darkness there was at first, by darkness hidden;  
Without distinctive marks, this all was water;  
That which, becoming, by the void was covered;  
That One by force of heat came into being;

Who really knows? Who will here proclaim it?  
Whence was it produced? Whence is this creation?  
Gods came afterwards, with the creation of this universe.  
Who then knows whence it has arisen?

Whether God's will created it, or whether He was mute;  
Perhaps it formed itself, or perhaps it did not;  
Only He who is its overseer in highest heaven knows,  
Only He knows, or perhaps He does not know.

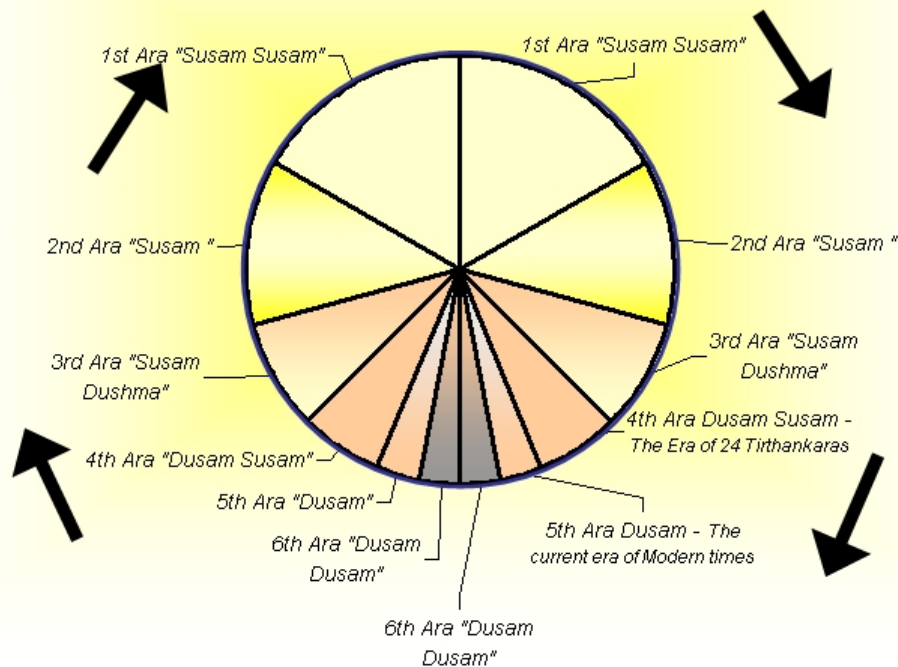
# Jain Cosmology

According to Jain doctrine,

- the universe and its constituents always existed
- the universe was not created, and there is no creator

The Jain Cosmic Wheel of time

Utsarpani - the Half Cycle of  
Increasing Happiness



Avsarpani - the Half Cycle of  
Increasing Sorrow



नौकनी  
लि २५