

### Gravity:

#### **Ruler of the Universe**

#### Four Fundamental Forces of Nature

#### Strong Nuclear Force

Responsible for holding particles together inside the nucleus.

The nuclear strong force carrier particle is called the gluon.

The nuclear strong interaction has a range of 10<sup>-15</sup> m (diameter of a proton).

#### • Electromagnetic Force

Responsible for electric and magnetic interactions, and determines structure of atoms and molecules.

The electromagnetic force carrier particle is the photon (quantum of light)

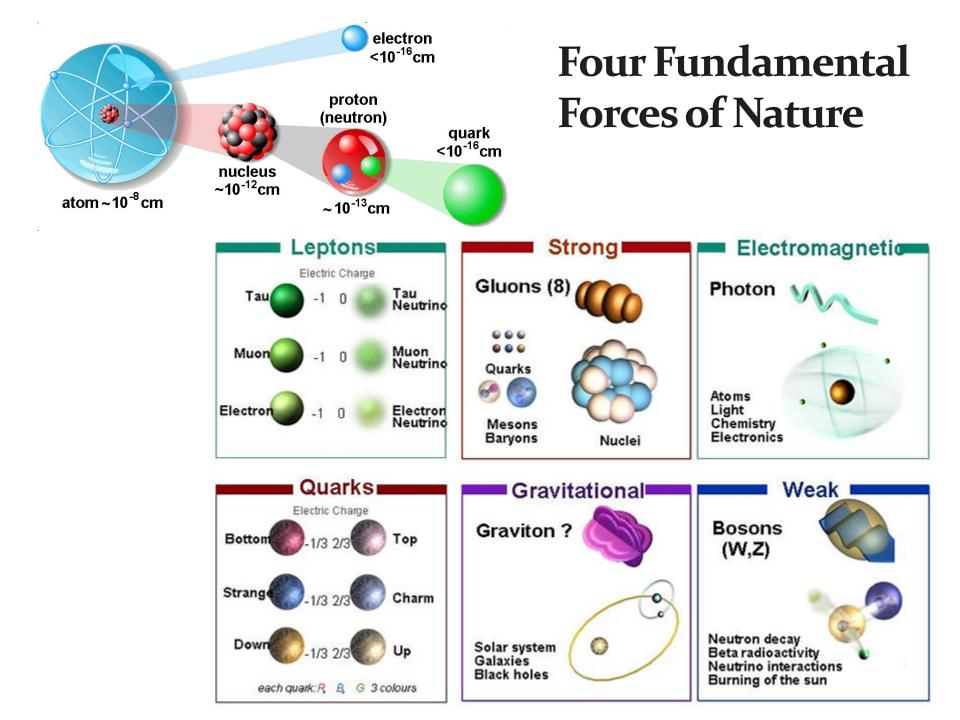
The electromagnetic interaction range is infinite.

#### Weak Force

Responsible for (beta) radioactivity. The weak force carrier particles are called weak gauge bosons ( $Z,W^+,W^-$ ). The nuclear weak interaction has a range of 10<sup>-17</sup> m (1% of proton diameter).

#### Gravity

Responsible for the attraction between masses. Although the gravitational force carrier The hypothetical (carrier) particle is the graviton. The gravitational interaction range is infinite. By far the weakest force of nature.



Interaction	Current Theory	Mediators	Relative Strength <sup>[1]</sup>	Long-Distance Behavior	Range(m)
Strong	Quantum chromodynamics (QCD)	gluons	10 <sup>38</sup>	1 (see discussion below)	10 <sup>-15</sup>
Electromagnetic	Quantum electrodynamics (QED)	photons	10 <sup>36</sup>	$\frac{1}{r^2}$	infinite
Weak	Electroweak Theory	W and Z bosons	10 <sup>25</sup>	$\frac{e^{-m_{W,Z}r}}{r}$	10 <sup>-18</sup>
Gravitation	General Relativity (GR)	gravitons	1	$\frac{1}{r^2}$	infinite

The weakest force is Gravity !

However, note that

 $g = G\frac{m}{r^2}$ 

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The weakest force is Gravity !

However:

- its range is infinite, not shielded
- it is cumulative as all mass adds,

while electromagetic charges can be + or -, cancelling each others effect.

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The weakest force, by far, rules the Universe ...

Gravity has dominated its evolution, and determines its fate ...

# Newton's

# Static Universe

# The Unchanging Universe

**In two thousand years of astronomy,** 

no one ever guessed that the universe might be expanding.

To ancient Greek astronomers and philosophers, the universe was seen as the embodiment of perfection, the heavens were truly heavenly:

- unchanging, permanent, and geometrically perfect.

In the early 1600s, Isaac Newton developed his law of gravity, showing that motion in the heavens obeyed the same laws as motion on Earth.

# Newton's Universe

- However, Newton ran into trouble when he tried to apply his theory of gravity to the entire universe.
- Since gravity is always attractive,
   his law predicted that all the matter in the universe should eventually clump into one big ball.
- Newton knew this was not the case, and assumed that the universe had to be static
- **So he conjectured that:**

the Creator placed the stars such that they were

``at immense distances from one another."

- absolute and uniform time
- space & time independent of matter
- dynamics: action at distance
   instantaneous
- Universe edgeless, centerless & infinite
- Cosmological Principle:
  - Universe looks the same at every

place in space, every moment in time
absolute, static & infinite space

# Einstein's

# Dynamic & Geometric Universe

### **Albert Einstein**

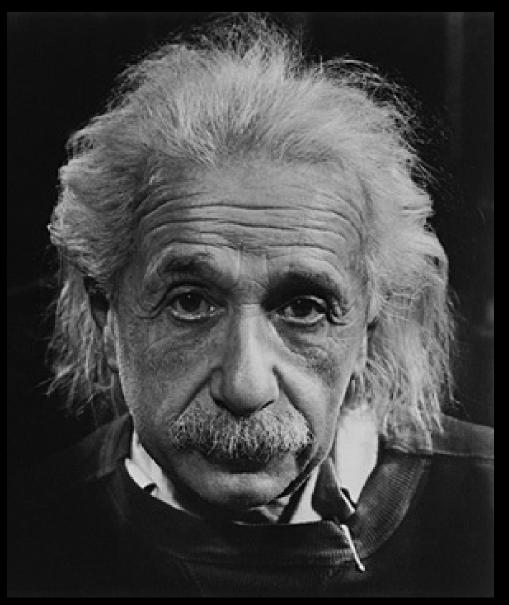
Albert Einstein (1879-1955; Ulm-Princeton)

father of General Relativity (1915),

opening the way towards Physical Cosmology

The supreme task of the physicist is to arrive at those universal elementary laws from which the cosmos can be built up by pure deduction.

(Albert Einstein, 1954)



### Relativity: Space & Time

- Special Relativity, published by Einstein in 1905
- states that there is no such thing as absolute Space or Time
- Space and Time are not wholly independent, but aspects of a single entity, Spacetime

# Einstein's principle of relativity

#### • Principle of relativity:

- All the laws of physics are identical in all inertial reference frames.
- Constancy of speed of light:
  - Speed of light is same in all inertial frames (e.g. independent of velocity of observer, velocity of source emitting light)

## Einstein's Universe

In 1915,

Albert Einstein completed his General Theory of Relativity.

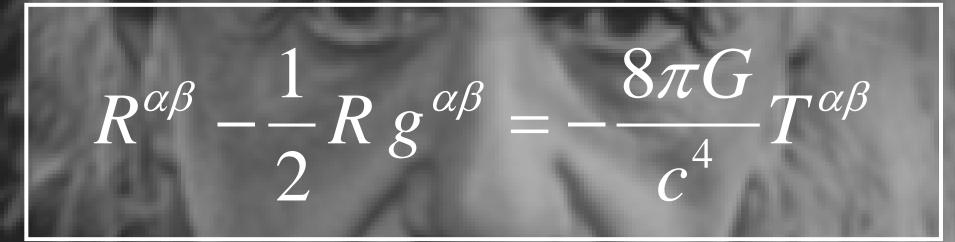
General Relativity is a "metric theory":
 gravity is a manifestation of the geometry, curvature, of space-time.

 Revolutionized our thinking about the nature of space & time:
 no longer Newton's static and rigid background,
 a dynamic medium, intimately coupled to the universe's content of matter and energy.

 All phrased into perhaps the most beautiful and impressive scientific equation known to humankind, a triumph of human genius,

### **Einstein Field Equations**

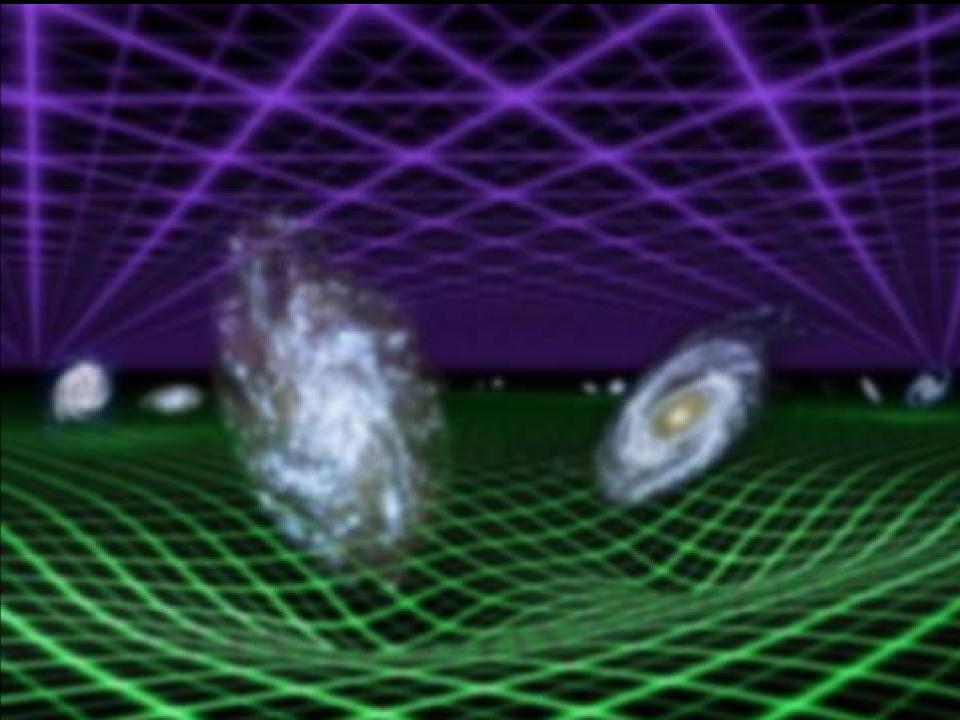
... Spacetime becomes a dynamic continuum, integral part of the structure of the cosmos ... curved spacetime becomes force of gravity



... its geometry rules the world, the world rules its geometry...

#### Einstein's Universe

- spacetime is dynamic
- local curvature & time determined by mass
- bodies follow shortest path through curved spacetime (geodesics)
- dynamics: action through curvature space
   travels with velocity of light



### **Einstein's Metric theory of Gravity:**

### how Gravity = Curved Space

#### **Inertial vs Gravitational Mass**

• a larger mass experiences a stronger gravitational force than a light mass	gravitational mass	
<ul> <li>a larger mass is more difficult to get moving than a ligt mass</li> </ul>	inertial mass	
• As a result, a heavy mass falls equally fast as the light mass:		

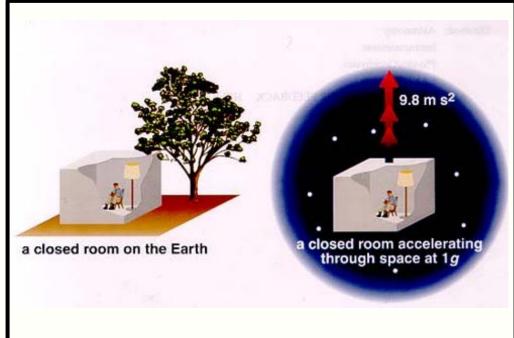
Gravitational Mass = Inertial Mass

# **Equivalence Principle**

Einstein's "happiest thought' came from the realization of

the equivalence principle

Einstein reasoned that:



There is no experiment that can distinguish between uniform acceleration and a uniform gravitational field.

# **Equivalence Principle**

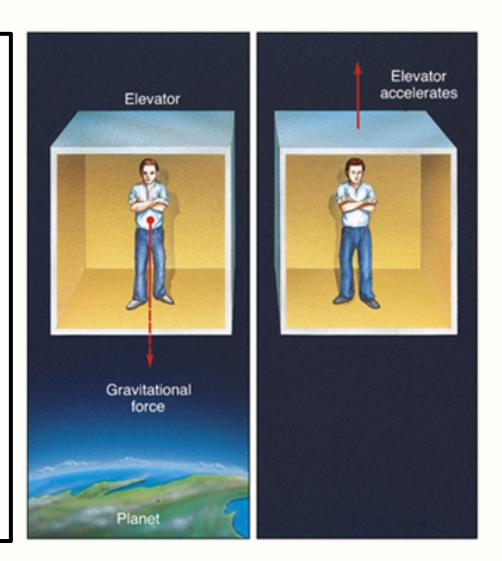
being in

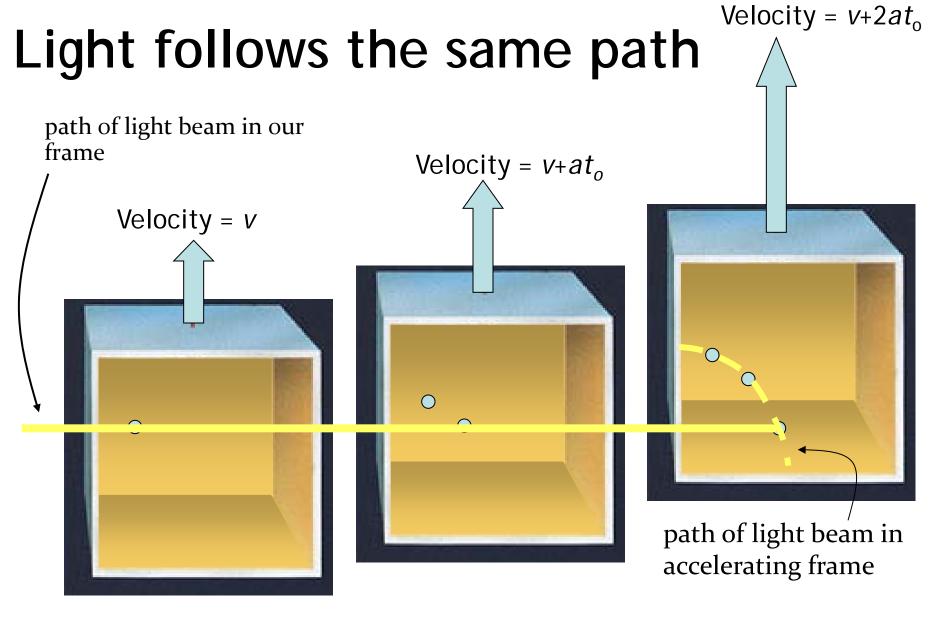
#### an accelerating frame

#### indistinguishable

from being in

a gravitational field





*t*=0

 $t = t_{o}$ 

 $t=2t_{o}$ 

### Gravity & Curved Spacetime

 Equivalence of acceleration of a frame & location in gravitational field



in gravity field, light follows a curved path

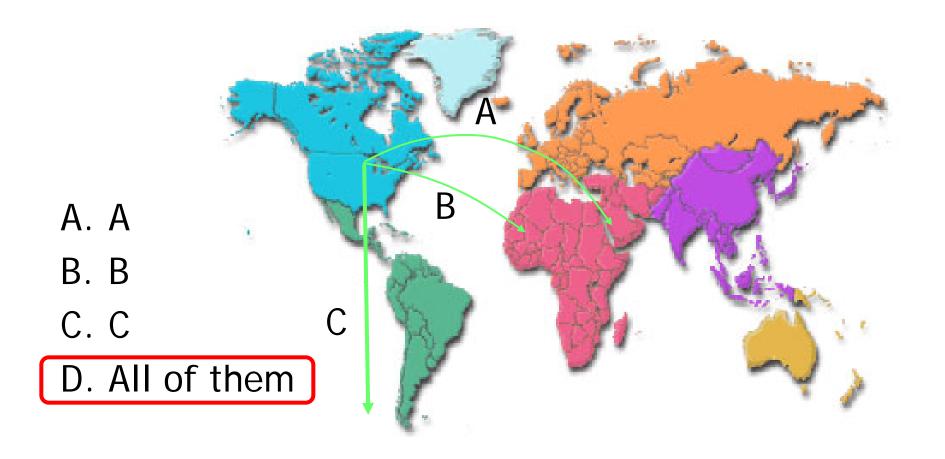
• Curved paths:

straight lines in curved spacetime: (cf. flightpaths airplanes over surface Earth) Geodesics

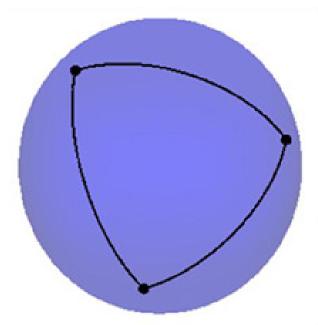
• Fundamental tenet of *General Relativity*:

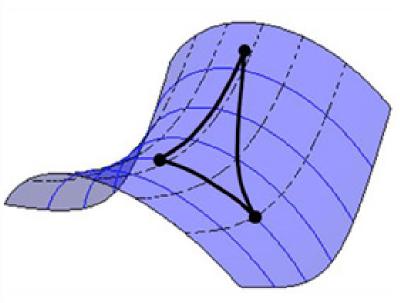
!!!!!!!! Gravity is the effect of curved spacetime !!!!!!!!

#### which of these is a straight line?



# Curved Space: Positive vs. Negative





positively curved space sphere

Triangle angles >180 degrees Circle circumference <  $2\pi$ r negatively curved space saddle Triangle angles <180 degrees Circle circumference > 2πr

#### the

# **Cosmological Principle**

# **General Relativity**

A crucial aspect of any particular configuration is the geometry of spacetime: because Einstein's General Relativity is a metric theory, knowledge of the geometry is essential.

Einstein Field Equations are notoriously complex, essentially 10 equations. Solving them for general situations is almost impossible.

However, there are some special circumstances that do allow a full solution. The simplest one is also the one that describes our Universe. It is encapsulated in the

#### **Cosmological Principle**

On the basis of this principle, we can constrain the geometry of the Universe and hence find its dynamical evolution.

#### Cosmological Principle: the Universe Simple & Smooth

"God is an infinite sphere whose centre is everywhere and its circumference nowhere" Empedocles, 5<sup>th</sup> cent BC

**Cosmological Principle:** 

Describes the symmetries in global appearance of the Universe:

- Homogeneous
- Isotropic



The Universe is the same everywhere: - physical quantities (density, T,p,...)

The Universe looks the same in every direction

- Universality
- Uniformly Expanding





Physical Laws same everywhere

The Universe "grows" with same rate in - every direction

- at every location

all places in the Universe are alike" Einstein, 1931

# Geometry of the Universe

#### **Fundamental Tenet**

of (Non-Euclidian = Riemannian) Geometry

#### There exist no more than THREE uniform spaces:

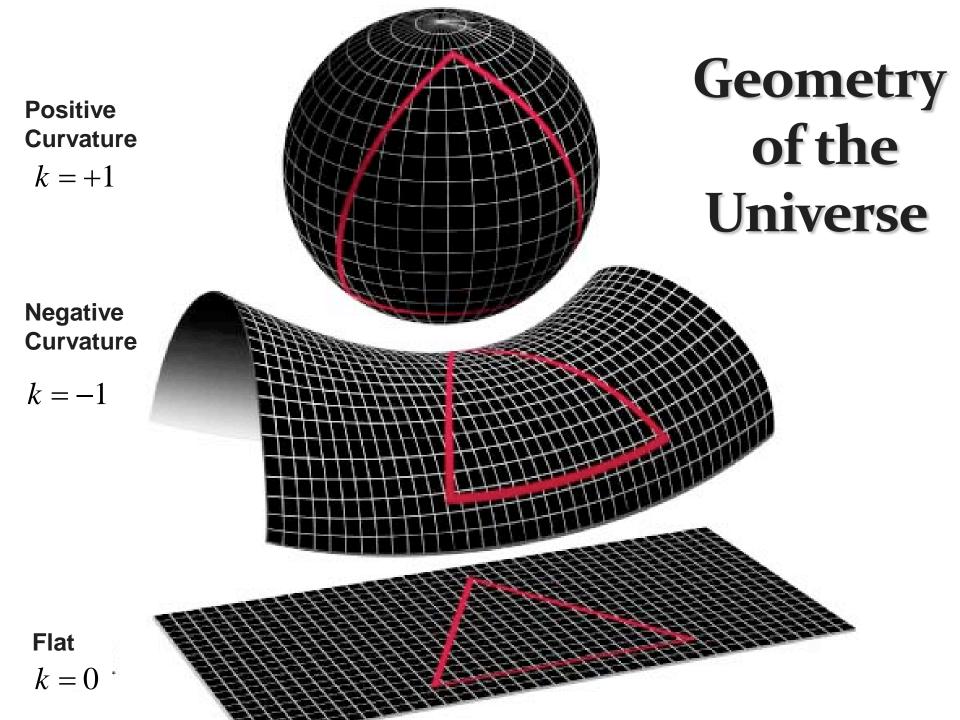
- 1) Euclidian (flat) Geometry
- 2) Hyperbolic Geometry
- 3) Spherical Geometry

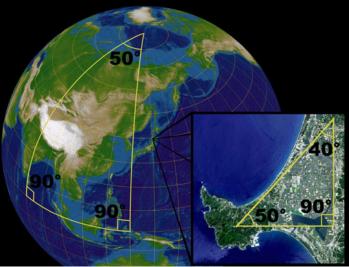
Euclides

Gauß, Lobachevski, Bolyai

Riemann

uniform= homogeneous & isotropic (cosmological principle)





# **Uniform Spaces:**

#### **Geometric Characteristics**

	Parallel Lines	Triangular Angles	Circumference Circle	Curvature	Extent	Boundary
		$\alpha+\beta+\gamma$	$x \equiv \frac{S}{2r}$	k		
Flat Space	parallels: 1 never intersects	π	π	0	open: infinite	unbounded
Spherical Space	parallels: $\infty$ along great circles, all intersect	$> \pi$	$< \pi$	$1/R^2 > 0$	closed: finite	unbounded
Hyperbolic Space	parallels: $\infty$ diverge & never intersect	$< \pi$	$> \pi$	$-1/R^2 < 0$	open: infinite	unbounded

#### Friedmann, Lemaitre

**&** 

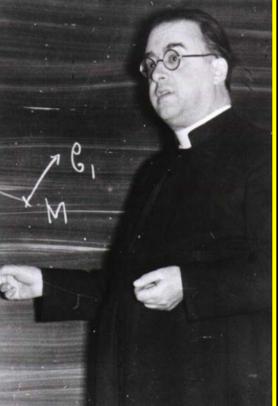
### **Cosmic Expansion History**

## Friedmann & Lemaitre



Alexander Friedmann George Lemaitre

(1888 -1925) (1894-1966)



They discovered (independently) theoretically the expansion of the Universe as a solution to the Theory of General Relativity.

... and derived the equations that describe the expansion and evolution of the universe,

the foundation for all of modern Cosmology:

#### Friedmann-Lemaitre Equation

### **Evolving Universe**

- Einstein, de Sitter, Friedmann and Lemaitre all realized that in General Relativity, there cannot be a stable and static Universe:
- The Universe either expands, or it contracts ...
- Expansion Universe encapsulated in a

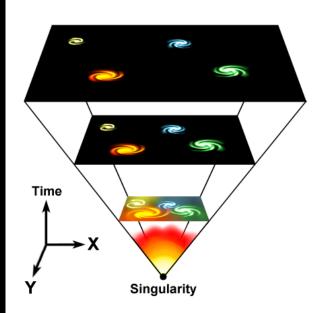
**GLOBAL expansion factor a(t)** 

• All distances/dimensions of objects uniformly increase by a(t):

at time t, the distance between two objects i and j has increased to

$$\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j = a(t) \left( \vec{r}_{i,0} - \vec{r}_{j,0} \right)$$

Note: by definition we chose a(t<sub>o</sub>)=1,
 i.e. the present-day expansion factor



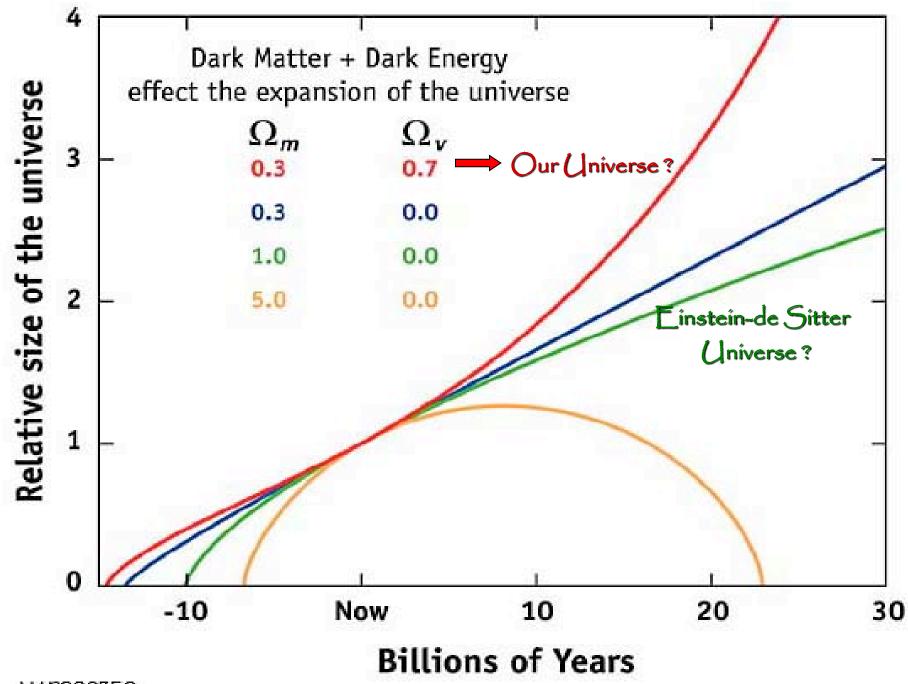
#### Evolution & Fate Friedmann-Robertson-Walker-Lemaitre Universe

Completely determined by 3 factors:

energy and matter content
 (density and pressure)

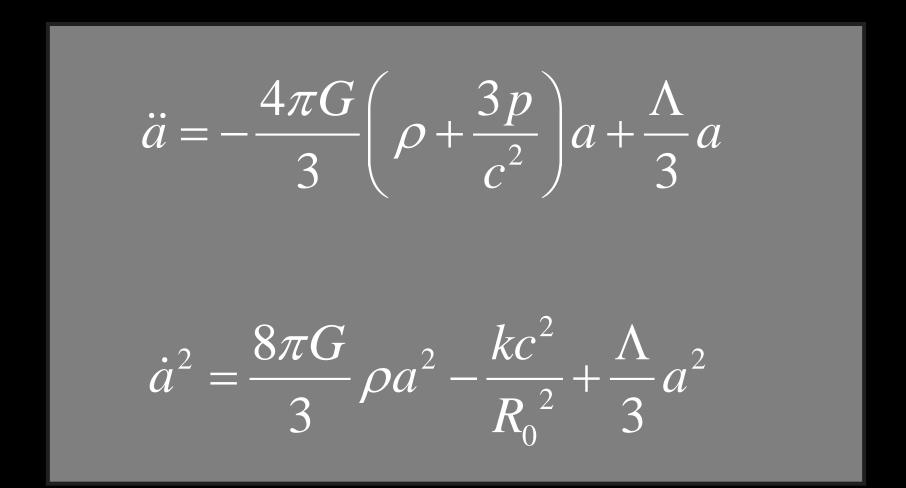
geometry of the Universe
 (curvature)

□ Cosmological Constant



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#### Friedmann-Robertson-Walker-Lemaitre Universe



#### Friedmann-Robertson-Walker-Lemaitre Universe

Because of General Relativity, the evolution of the Universe is determined by four factors:

<pre>1 density</pre>		$\rho(t)$			
[] pressure		p(t)			
<pre>□ curvature</pre>		$kc^2$ / $R_0^2$	k = 0, +1, -1		
cosmological	constant	Λ	$R_0$ : present curvature radius		
	<ul> <li>- in relativity, energy &amp; momentum need to be seen as one physical quantity (four-vector)</li> <li>- pressure = momentum flux</li> </ul>				
Density & Pressure:	seen as o	one physical qua	ntity (four-vector)		

## FRW Dynamics

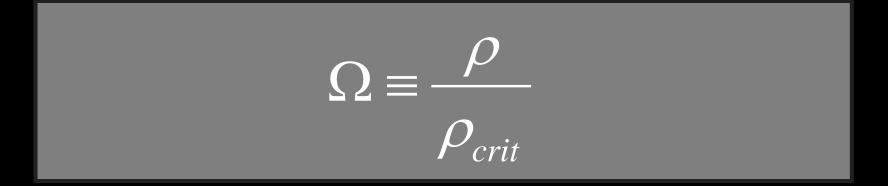
In a FRW Universe, densities are in the order of the critical density, the density at which the Universe has a flat curvature

$$\rho_{crit} = \frac{3H_0^2}{8\pi G} = 1.8791h^2 \times 10^{-29} g \, cm^{-3}$$

$$\rho_0 = 1.8791 \times 10^{-29} \,\Omega h^2 \ g \ cm^{-3}$$
$$= 2.78 \times 10^{11} \,\Omega h^2 \qquad M_{\odot} Mpc^{-3}$$

## FRW Dynamics

In a matter-dominated Universe, the evolution and fate of the Universe entirely determined by the (energy) density in units of critical density:



Arguably, 🛛 is the most important parameter of cosmology !!!

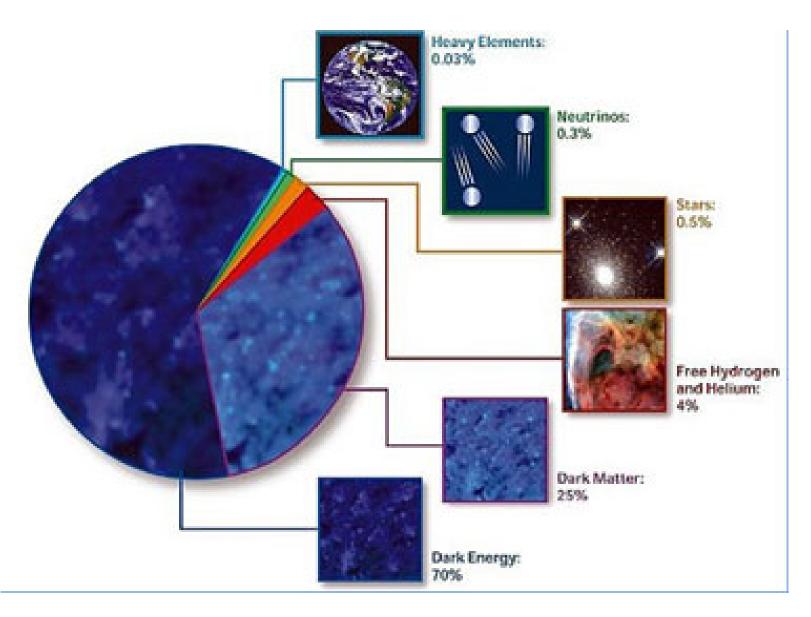
Present-day Cosmic Density:

$$\rho_0 = 1.8791 \times 10^{-29} \,\Omega h^2 \,g \,cm^{-3}$$
$$= 2.78 \times 10^{11} \,\Omega h^2 \qquad M_{\odot} Mpc^{-3}$$

#### what the Universe exists of:

#### **Cosmic Constituents**

### **Cosmic Components**

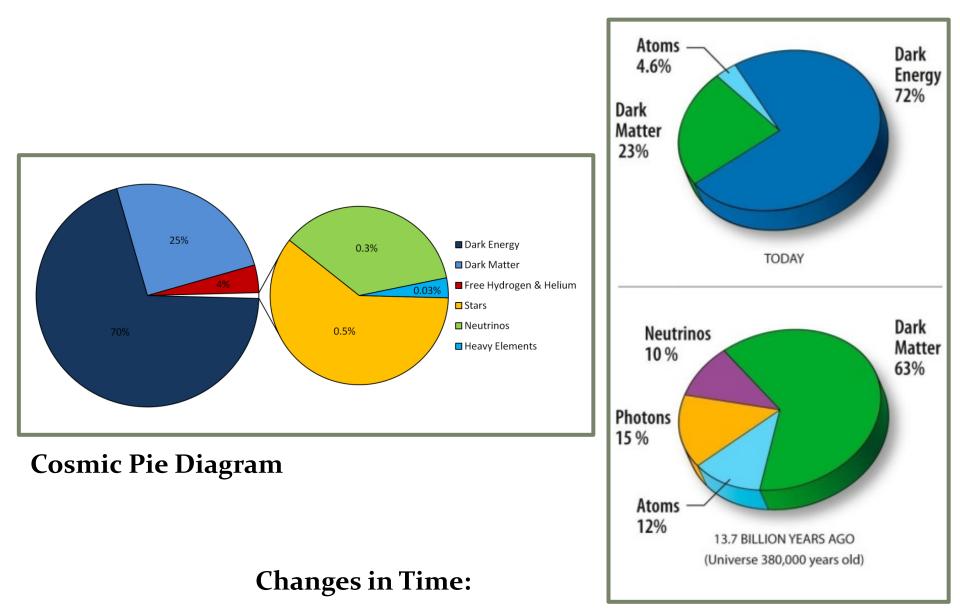


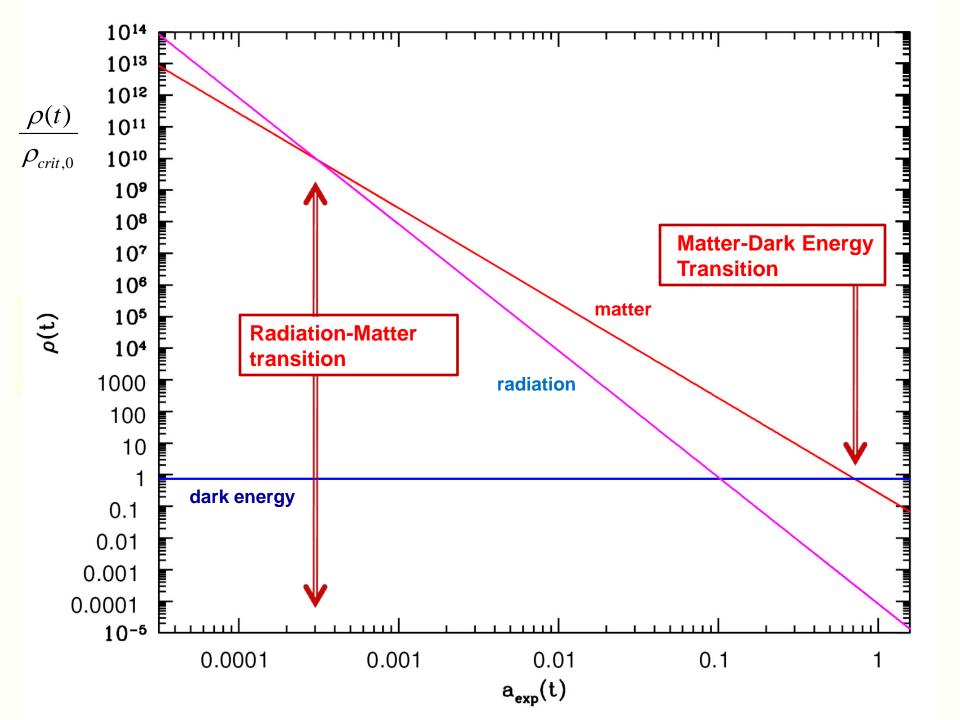
#### **Cosmic Energy Inventarisation**

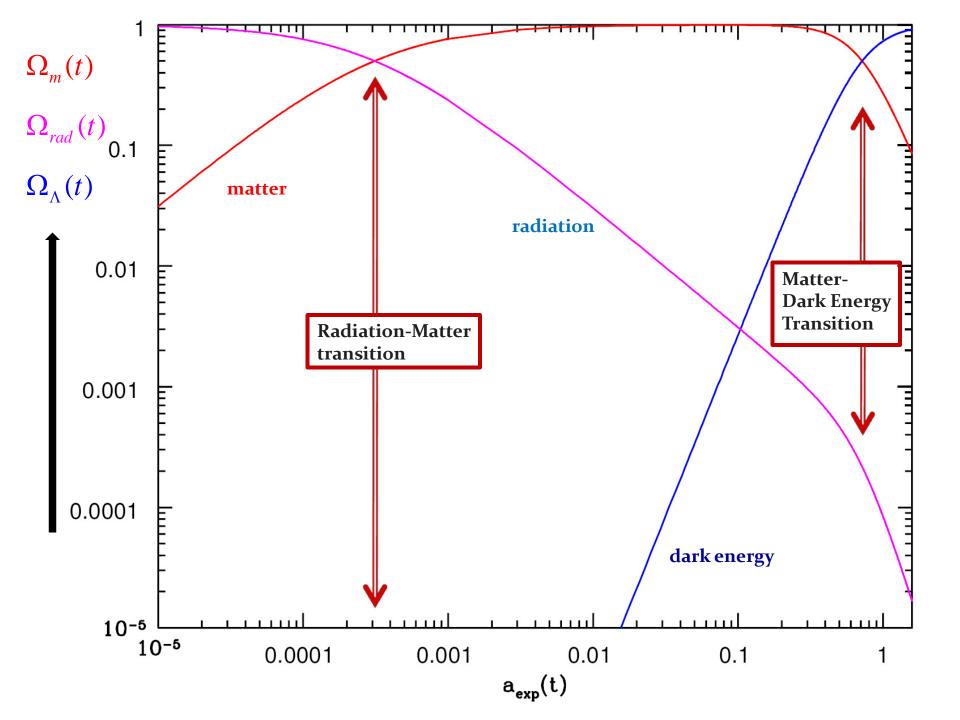
1	dark sector		0.70   0.00	$0.954 \pm 0.003$
$1.1 \\ 1.2$	dark energy dark matter		$\begin{array}{c} 0.72 \pm 0.03 \\ 0.23 \pm 0.03 \end{array}$	
1.2	primeval gravitational waves		$\lesssim 10^{-10}$	
1.5	primeval gravitational waves		$\stackrel{\sim}{\sim}$ 10	
2	primeval thermal remnants		and a stand of the stand	$0.0010 \pm 0.0005$
2.1	electromagnetic radiation		$10^{-4.3\pm0.0}$	
2.2	neutrinos		$10^{-2.9\pm0.1}$	
2.3	prestellar nuclear binding energy		$-10^{-4.1\pm0.0}$	
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	$0.016\pm0.005$		
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	$0.00055 \pm 0.00014$	
3.6	neutron stars		$\frac{0.00030 \pm 0.00003}{0.00005 \pm 0.00002}$	
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		$10^{-6}$	sterren slechts
3.12	condensed matter		$10^{-5.6\pm0.3}$	~0.1% energie
3.13	sequestered in massive black holes		$10^{-5.4}(1+\epsilon_n)$	Heelal
4	primeval gravitational binding energy			$-10^{-6.1\pm0.1}$
4.1	virialized halos of galaxies		$-10^{-7.2}$	
4.2	clusters		$-10^{-6.9}$	
4.3	large-scale structure		$-10^{-6.2}$	

#### Fukugita & Peebles 2004

## **Cosmic Constitution**







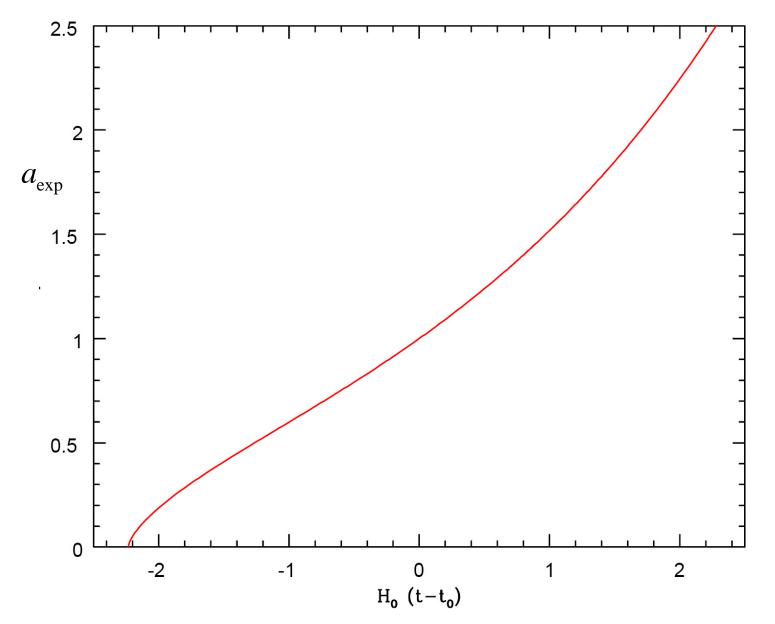
#### **Our Universe:**

### the Concordance Cosmos

#### **Concordance Universe Parameters**

Hubble Paramet	ter	$H_0 = 71.9 \pm 2.6 \ km \ s^{-1} \ Mpc^{-1}$		
Age of the Unive	rse	$t_0 = 13.8 \pm 0.1  Gyr$		
Temperature CM	/IB	$T_0 = 2.725 \pm 0.001 K$		
Matter	Baryonic Matter Dark Matter	$\Omega_m = 0.27$	$\Omega_b = 0.0456 \pm 0.0015$ $\Omega_{dm} = 0.228 \pm 0.013$	
Radiation	Photons (CMB) Neutrinos (Cosmic)	$\Omega_{rad} = 8.4 \times 10^{-5}$	$\Omega_{\gamma} = 5 \times 10^{-5}$ $\Omega_{\nu} = 3.4 \times 10^{-5}$	
Dark Energy		$\Omega_{\Lambda} = 0.726 \pm 0.015$		
Total		$\Omega_{tot} = 1.0050 \pm 0.0061$		

## **Concordance** Expansion

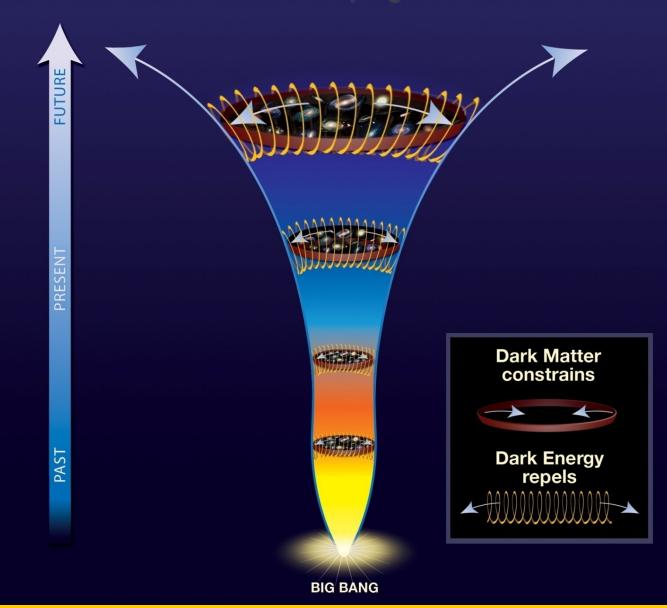


Heden & Toekomst: VERSNELLING

Vroeger: VERTRAGING

#### Cosmic tug of war

The force of dark energy surpasses that of dark matter as time progresses.



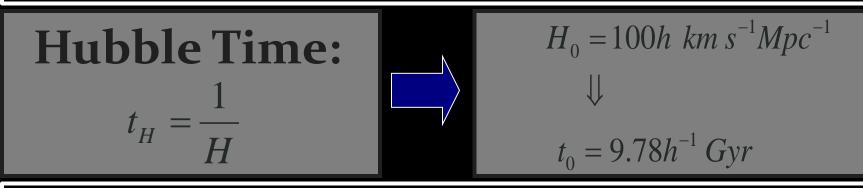
### Age of the Universe

## Hubble Time

<sup>1</sup>The repercussions of Hubble's discovery are truly tremendous:

the inescapable conclusion is that the universe has a finite age !

I Just by simple extrapolation back in time we find that at some instant the objects will have touched upon each other, i.e.  $r(t_H)=o$ . If we assume for simplicity that the expansion rate did remain constant (which it did not !), we find a direct measure for the age of the universe, the



The Hubble parameter is usually stated in units of km/s/Mpc.

It's customary to express it in units of 100 km/s/Mpc, expressing the real value in terms of

the dimensionless value  $h=H_o/[100 \text{ km/s/Mpc}]$ .

The best current estimate is  $H_0=72 \text{ km/s/Mpc}$ . This sets  $t_0\sim 10 \text{ Gyr}$ .

## Hubble Parameter

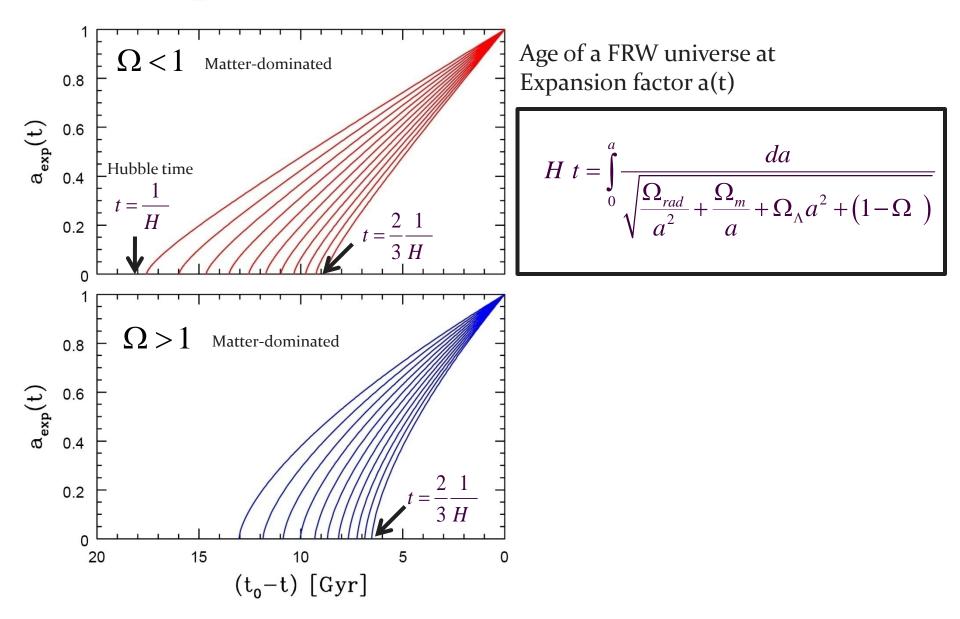
For a long time, the correct value of the Hubble constant H<sub>o</sub>
 was a major unsettled issue:

 $H_0 = 50 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1} \longrightarrow H_0 = 100 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$ 

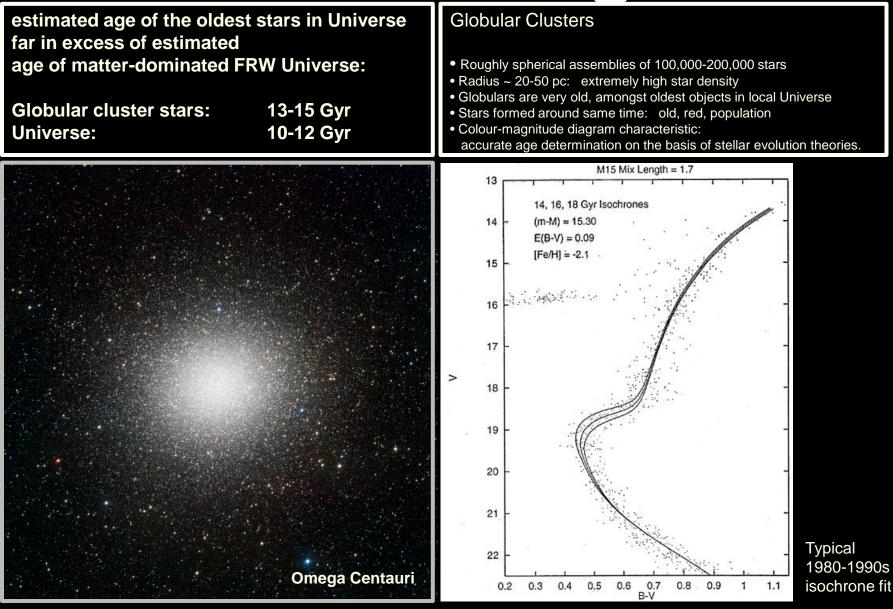
- This meant distances and timescales in the Universe had to deal with uncertainties of a factor 2 !!!
- Following major programs, such as Hubble Key Project, the
   Supernova key projects and the WMAP CMB measurements,

$$H_0 = 71.9^{+2.6}_{-2.7} \, km \, s^{-1} Mpc^{-1}$$

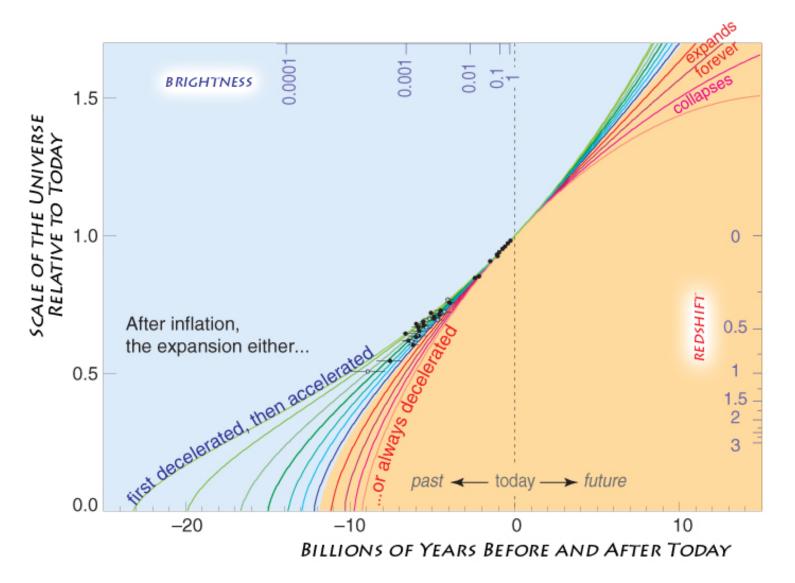
## Age of the Universe



## **Cosmic Age**



## **Concordance** Expansion

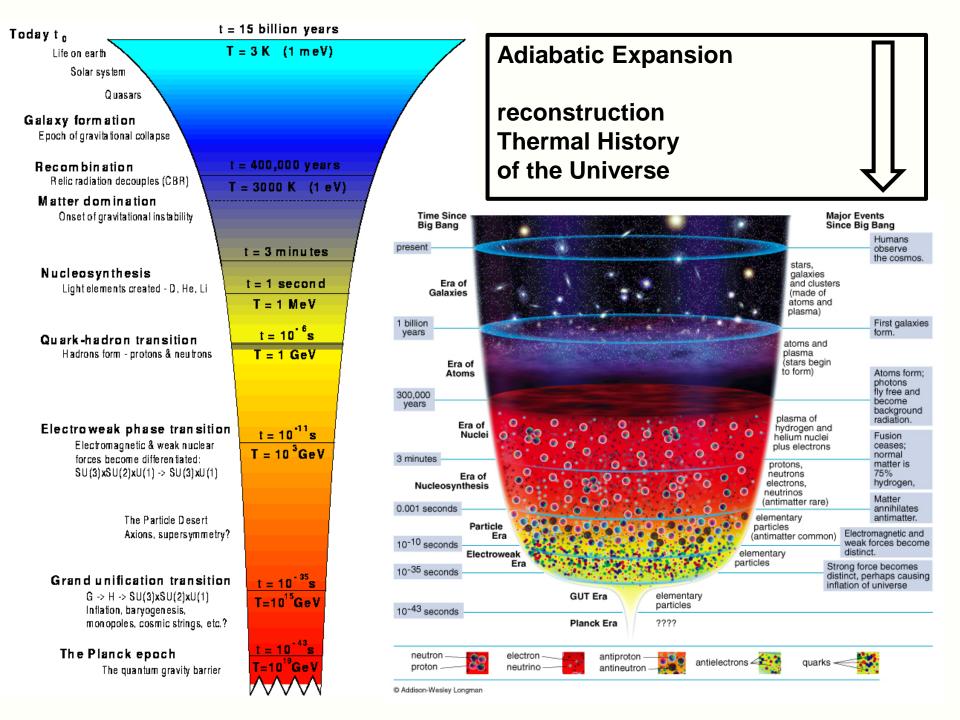


### Adiabatic Expansion

### **Adiabatic Expansion**

- The Universe of Einstein, Friedmann & Lemaitre expands *adiabacally*
- Energy of the expansion of the Universe corresponds to the decrease in the energy of its constituents
- The Universe COOLS as a result of its expansion !

 $T(t) \propto 1/a(t)$ 



### **Cosmic Epochs**

#### <u>Planck Epoch</u>

Phase Transition Era

<u>Hadron Era</u>

<u>Lepton Era</u>

<u>Radiation Era</u>



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  $t < 10^{-43} sec$ 

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

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

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

 $1 \min < t < 379,000 \text{ yrs}$ 

t>379,000 yrs

### **Big Bang:**

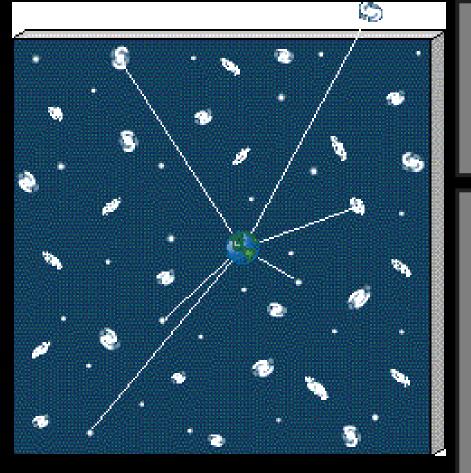
### the Evidence

# **Big Bang Evidence**

<u>Olber's paradox:</u> the night sky is dark finite age Universe (13.7 Gyr)

- <u>Hubble Expansion</u> uniform expansion, with expansion velocity ~ distance: v = H r
- <u>Explanation Helium Abundance 24%:</u> light chemical elements formed (H, He, Li, ...) after ~3 minutes ...
- <u>The Cosmic Microwave Background Radiation:</u> the 2.725K radiation blanket, remnant left over hot ionized plasma — neutral universe (379,000 years after Big Bang)
- <u>Distant, deep Universe indeed looks different ...</u>

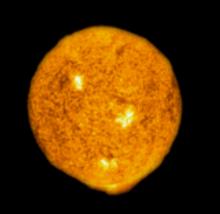
## 1. Olber's Paradox



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:

## 1. Olber's Paradox



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

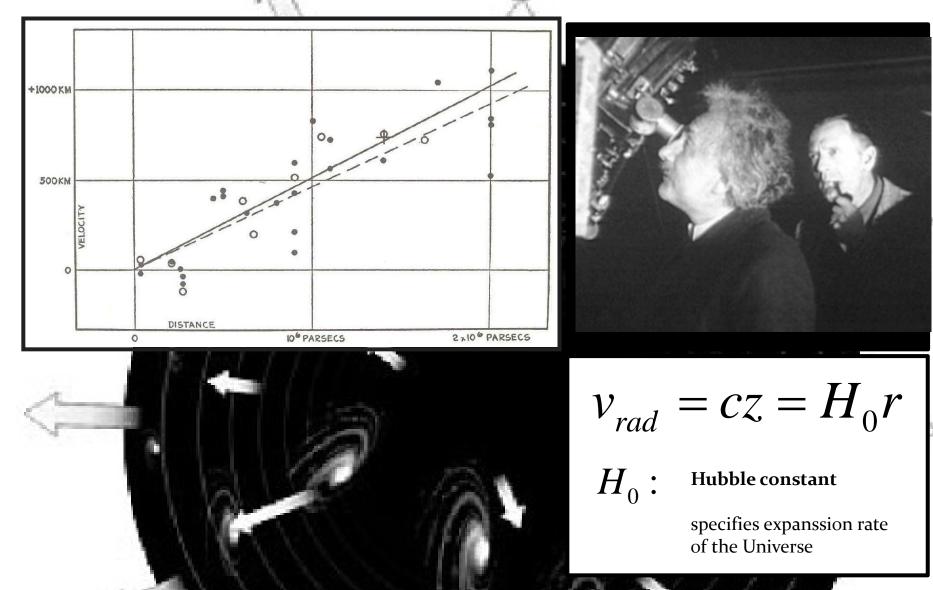
Sky would be as bright as surface of star:

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



finite age of Universe (13.8 Gyr)

#### 2. Hubble Expansion

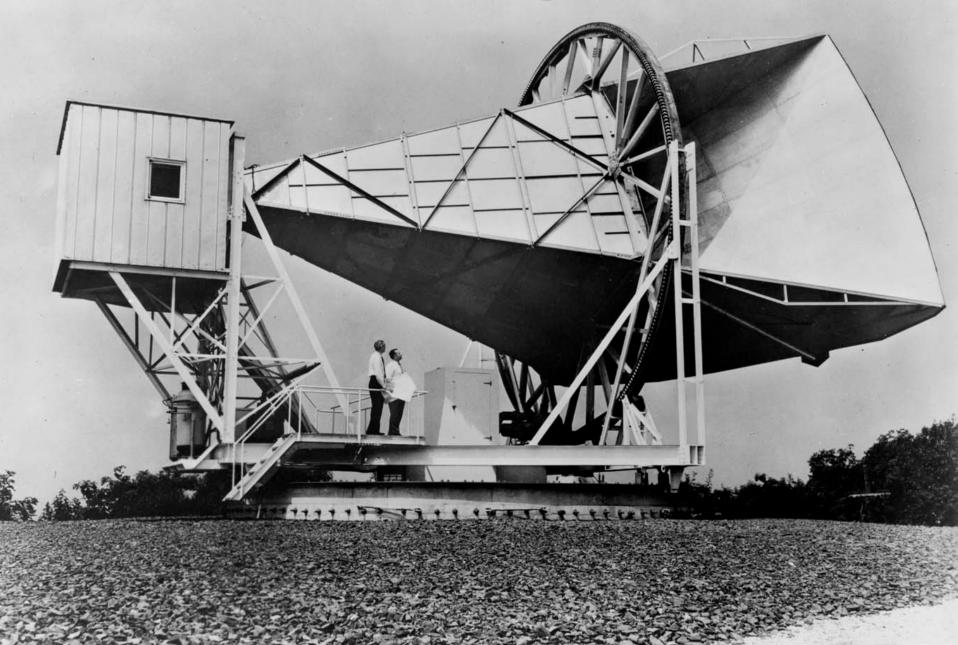


# 3. And there was light ...

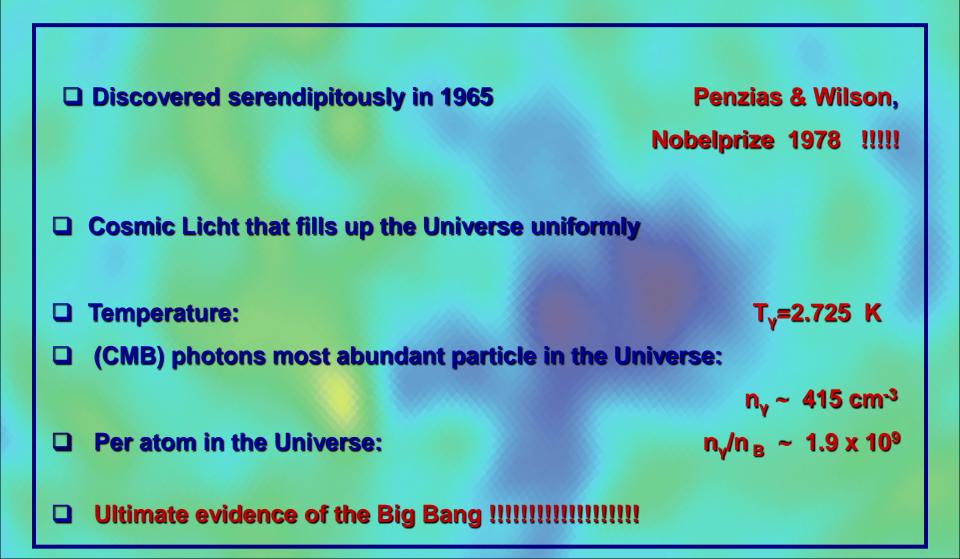
# ... and there was light ...

379.000 years after the Big Bang

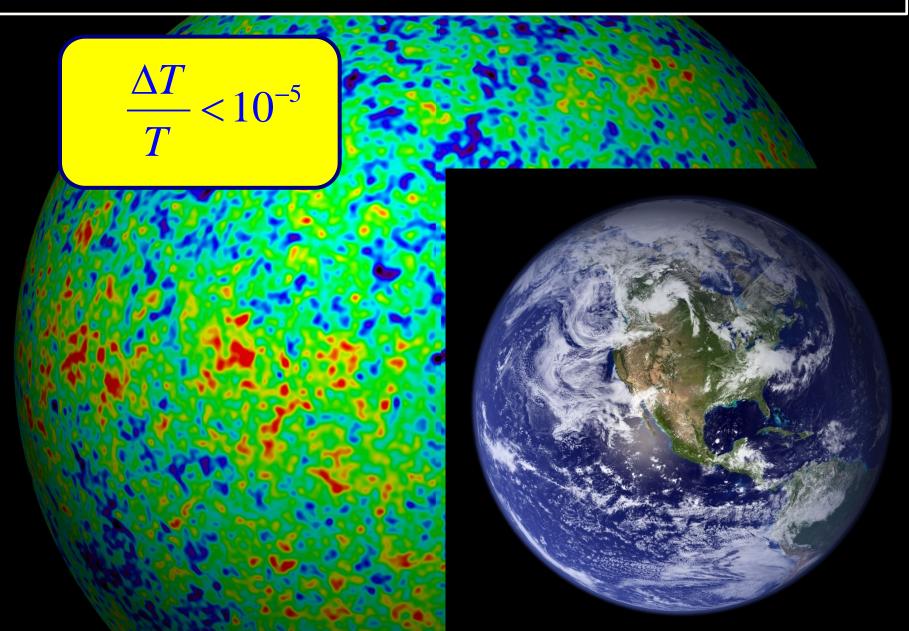
#### 3. Cosmic Microwave Background Radiation



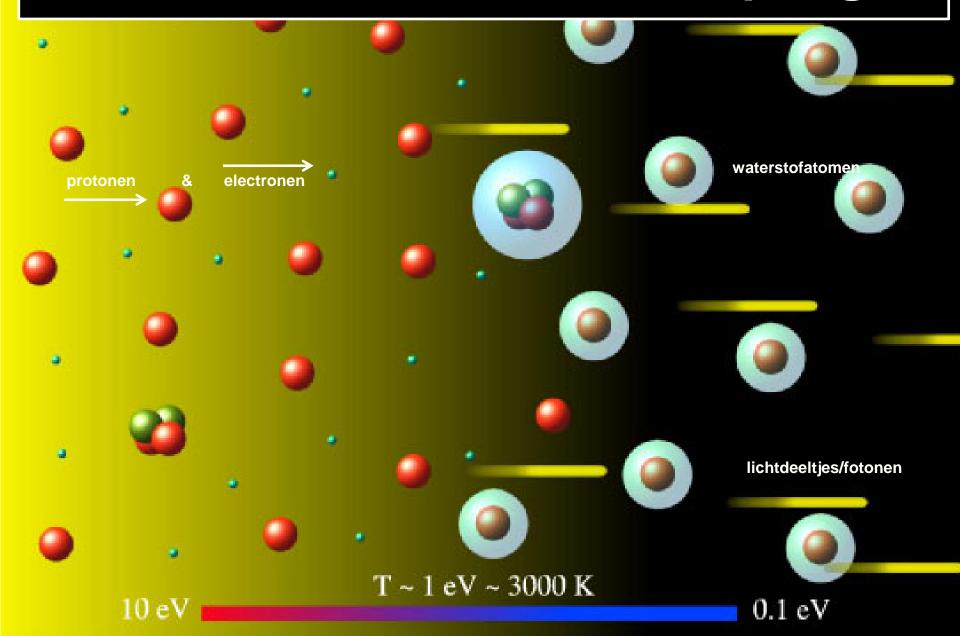
#### Cosmic Light (CMB): the facts

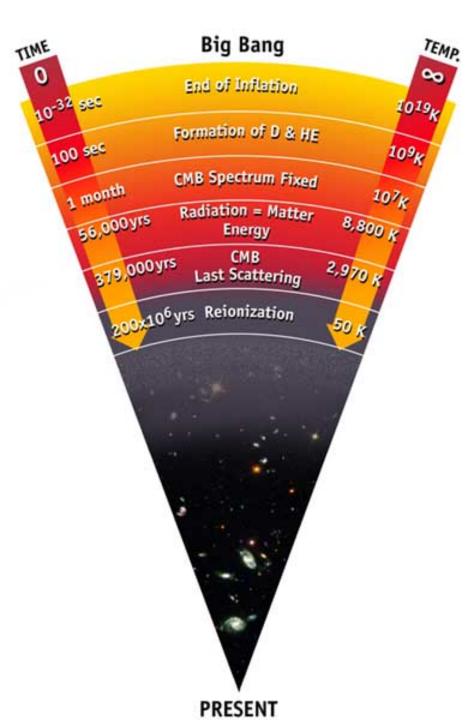


#### **Extremely Smooth Radiation Field**



### **Recombination & Decoupling**





We can only see the surface of the cloud where light

# the Cosmic TV Show



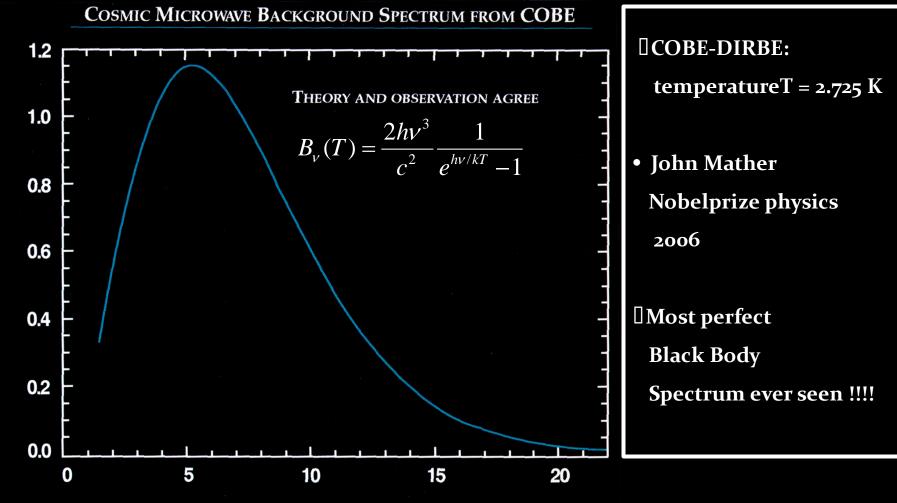
#### Note:

far from being an exotic faraway phenomenon, realize that the CMB nowadays is counting for approximately 1% of the noise on your (camping) tv set ...

!!!! Live broadcast from the Big Bang !!!!

Courtesy: W. Hu

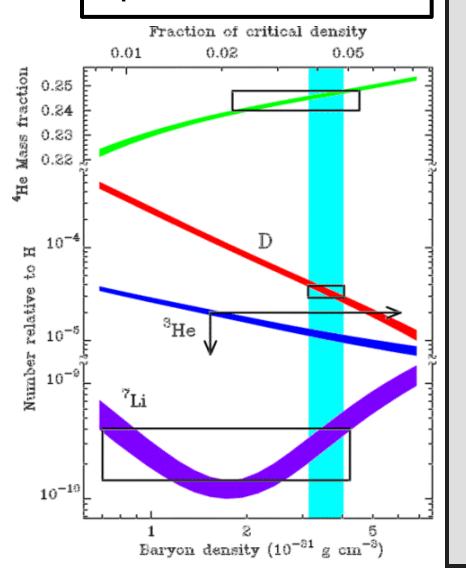
### Energy Spectrum Cosmic Light



Waves / centimeter

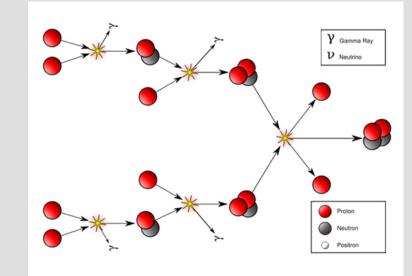
## 4. Proton-Neutron & Helium

p/n ~1/7: 1 min na BB



Mass Fraction Light Elements

24%4He nucleitracesD, 3He, 7Li nuclei75%H nuclei (protons)



Between 1-200 seconds after Big Bang, temperature dropped to 10<sup>9</sup> K:

Fusion protons & neutrons into light atomic nuclei

# 5. the Changing Universe

Timeline of the Universe

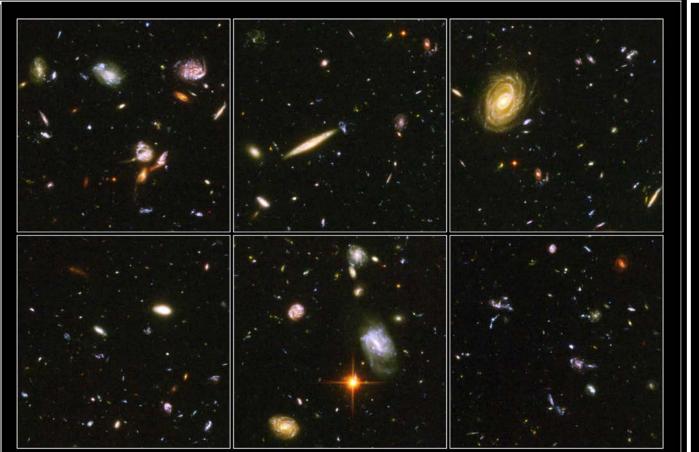


At great depths the Universe looks completely different

and thus long ago : Depth= Time

Galaxies in Hubble Ultra Deep Field

# 5. the Changing Universe



Hubble Ultra Deep Field Details Hubble Space Telescope • Advanced Camera for Surveys

NASA, ESA, S. Beckwith (STScl) and the HUDF Team

STScI-PRC04-07c

At great depths the Universe looks completely different

- and thus long ago : Depth= Time

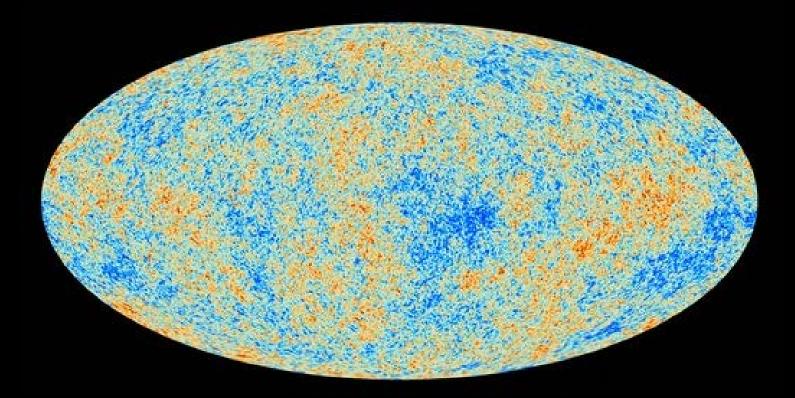
Galaxies in Hubble Ultra Deep Field

## Cosmic Curvature

# How Much ?

## **Cosmic Curvature**

### **Cosmic Microwave Background**

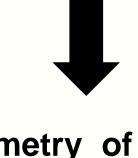


Map of the Universe at Recombination Epoch (Planck, 2013):
□ 379,000 years after Big Bang
□ Subhorizon perturbations: primordial sound waves
□ ΔT/T < 10-5</li>

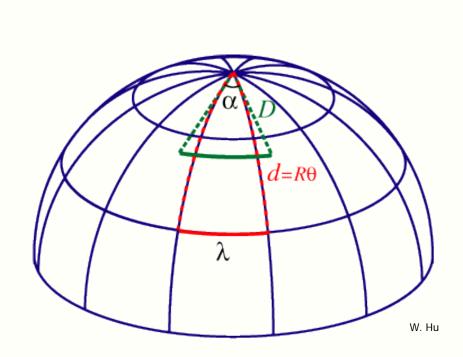
# **Measuring Curvature**

Measuring the Geometry of the Universe:

- Object with known physical size, at large cosmological distance
- Measure angular extent on sky
- Comparison yields light path, and from this the curvature of space

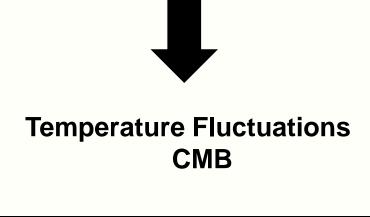


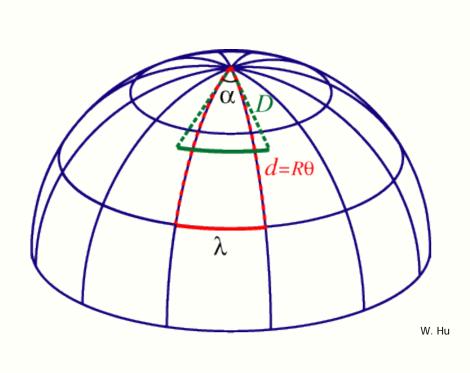
Geometry of Space



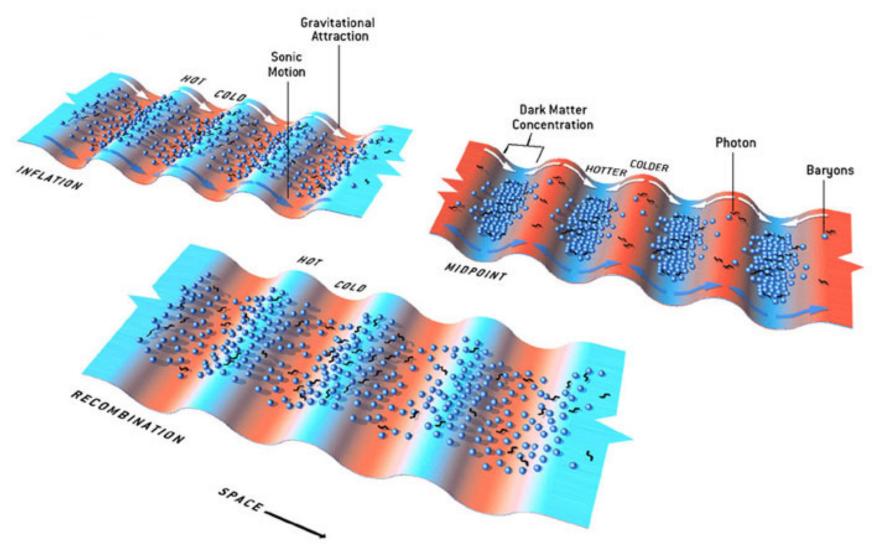
# **Measuring Curvature**

- Object with known physical size, at large cosmological distance:
- **Sound Waves in the Early Universe !!!!**





### **Fluctuations-Origin**

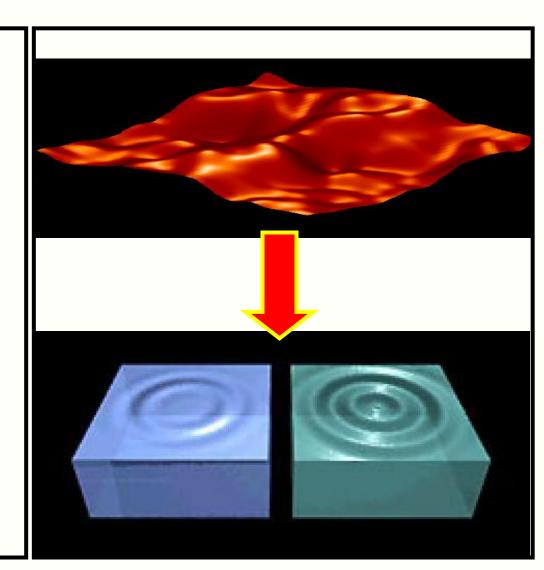


# **Music of the Spheres**

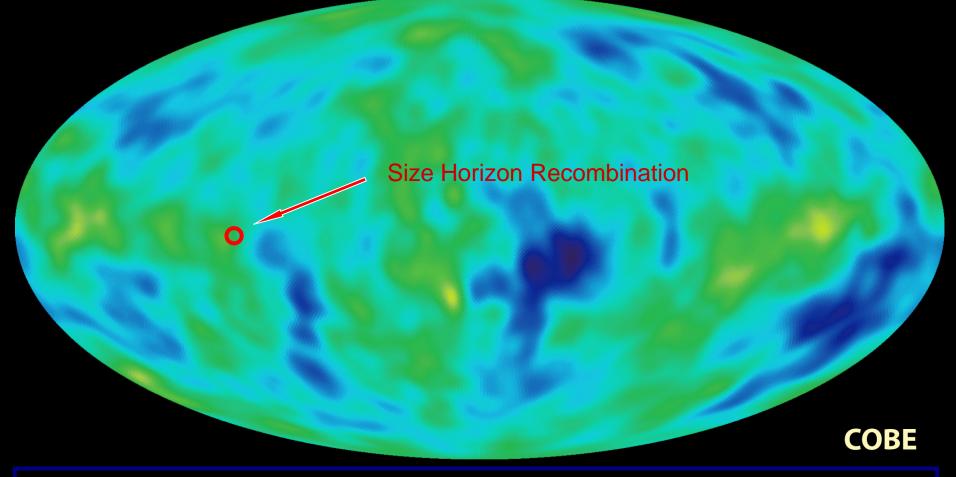
- small ripples in primordial matter & photon distribution
- gravity:
  - compression primordial photon gas
  - photon pressure resists
- compressions and rarefactions in photon gas: sound waves
- sound waves not heard, but seen:
  - compressions: (photon) T higher

lower

- rarefactions:
- fundamental mode sound spectrum
  - size of "instrument":
  - (sound) horizon size last scattering
- Observed, angular size:  $\theta \sim 1^{\circ}$ 
  - exact scale maximum compression, the "cosmic fundamental mode of music" W. Hu



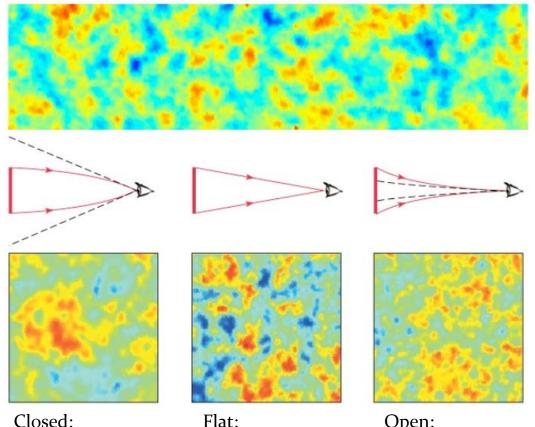
## **Cosmic Microwave Background**



COBE measured fluctuations:> 7°Size Horizon at Recombination spans angle~ 1°

### Flat universe from CMB

#### • First peak: flat universe



appear as big

as they are

hot spots

appear larger

Open: spots appear smaller

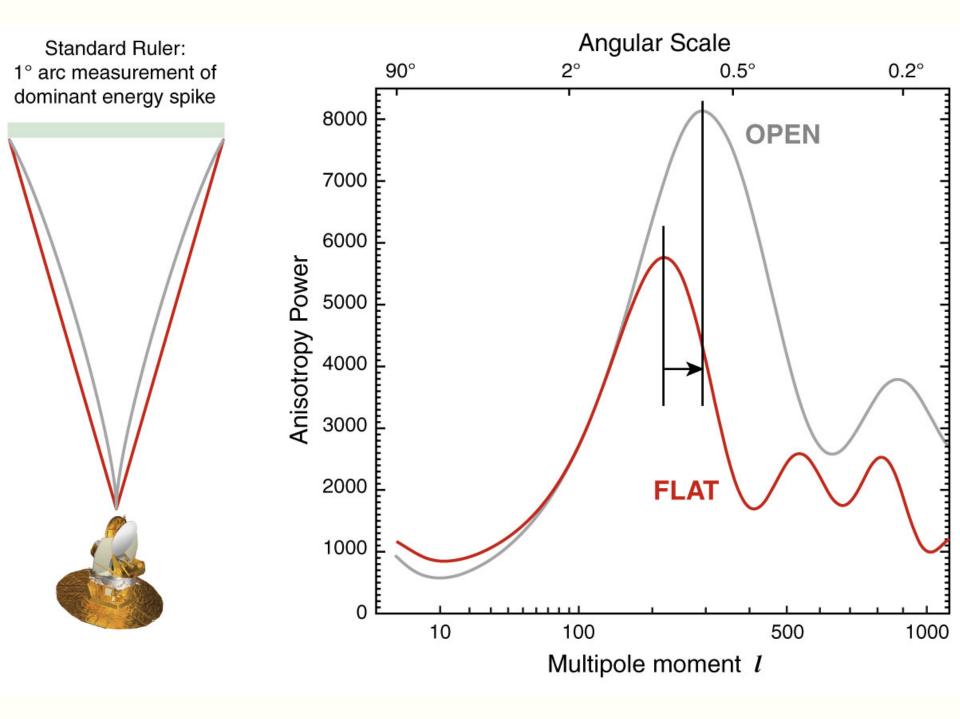
We know the redshift and the time it took for the light to reach us:

from this we know the

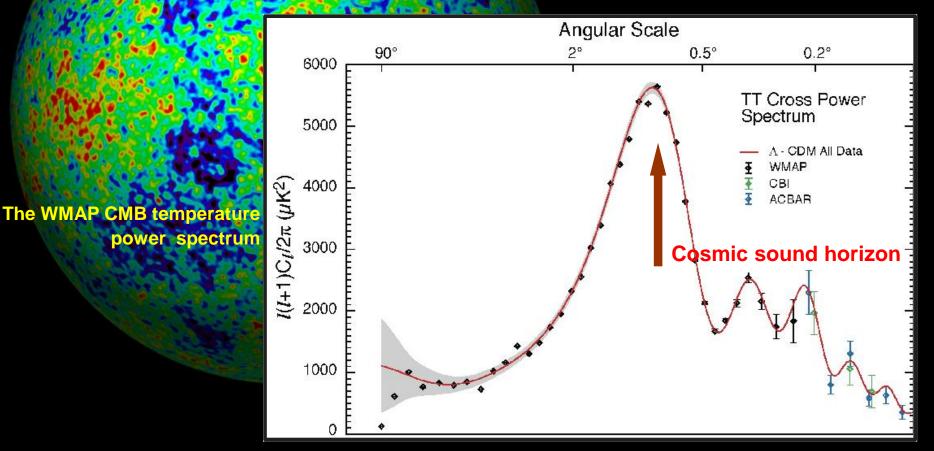
- length of the legs of the triangle
- the angle at which we are measuring the sound horizon.

$$v \approx \frac{c}{\sqrt{3}}$$

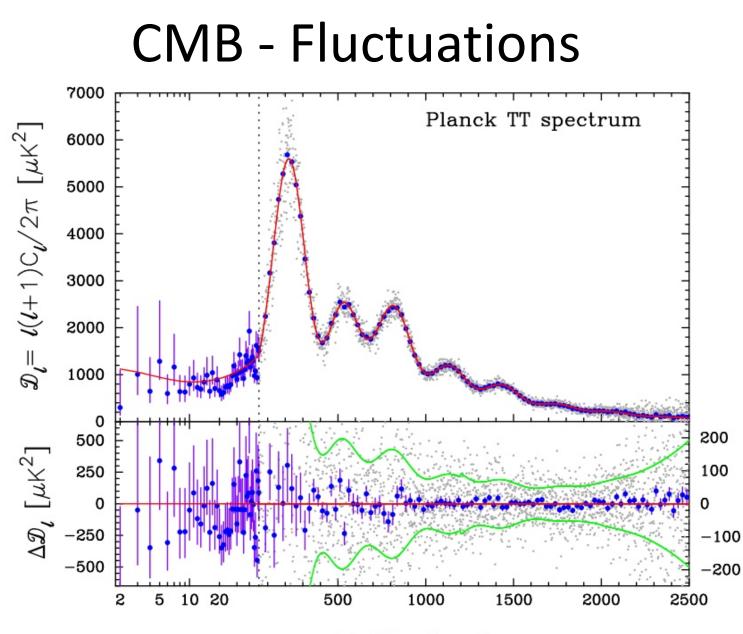
$$\ell \approx 200/\sqrt{1-\Omega_k}$$



#### The Cosmic Tonal Ladder



The Cosmic Microwave Background Temperature Anisotropies: Universe is almost perfectly FLAT !!!!



Multipole *l* 

## **Cosmic Horizons**

# **Cosmic Horizons**

Fundamental Concept for our understanding of the physics of the Universe:

Physical processes are limited to the region of space with which we are or have ever been in physical contact.

What is the region of space with which we are in contact ? Region with whom we have been able to exchange photons (photons: fastest moving particles)

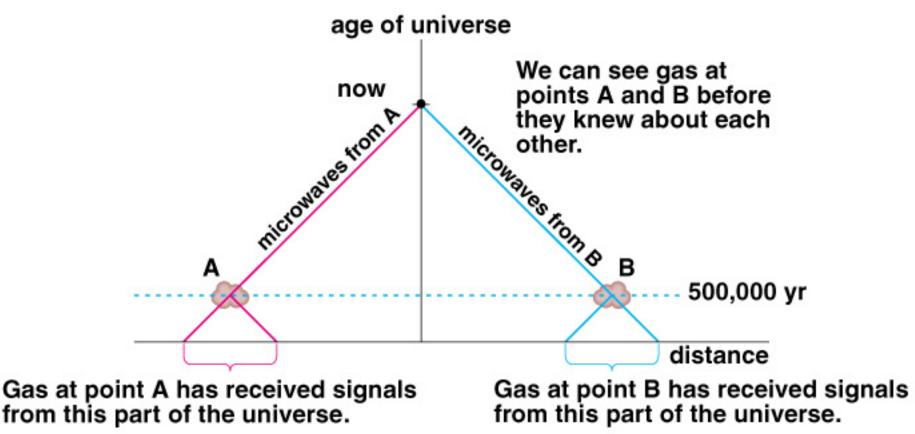
From which distance have we received light.

Complication: - light is moving in an expanding and curved space - fighting its way against an expanding background

This is called the

#### Horizon of the Universe

# **Cosmic Horizons**



Copyright C Addison Wesley.

#### Horizon of the Universe: distance that light travelled since the Big Bang

#### **EXPANDING UNIVERSE, SHRINKING VIEW**

The universe may be infinite, but consider what happens to the patch of space around us (*purple sphere*), of which we see only a part (*yellow inner sphere*). As space expands, galaxies (*orange spots*) spread out. As light has time to propagate, we observers on Earth (or our predecessors or descendants) can see a steadily increasing volume of space. About six billion years ago, the expansion began to accelerate, carrying distant galaxies away from us faster than light.

Region of space

 At the onset of acceleration, we see the largest number of galaxies that we ever will.

Observable region

#### NOTE:

Galaxy

Because space is expanding uniformly, alien beings in other galaxies see this same pattern. 2 The visible region grows, but the overall universe grows even faster, so we actually see a smaller fraction of what is out there.

3 Distant galaxies (those not bound to us by gravity) move out of our range of view. Meanwhile, gravity pulls nearby galaxies together.

## **Cosmic Future**

### **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.



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.

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 TRILLION 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.

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.