

# Einstein, relativity and the big bang

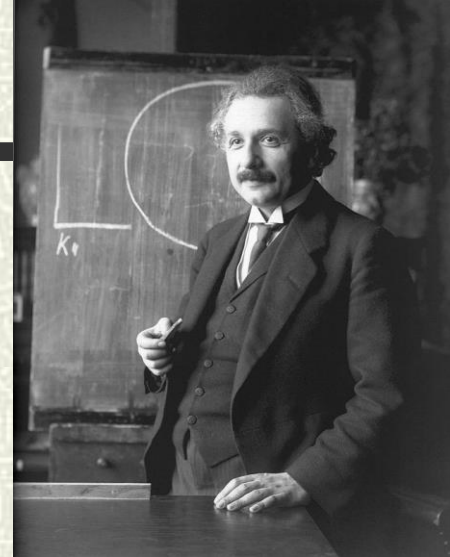
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Werner Nahm (DIAS) and Simon Mitton (Univ. of Cambridge)



# Overview



*Einstein in California (1931)*

## # 100 years of relativity

*The special theory of relativity (1905)*

*The general theory of relativity (1915)*

## # Relativity and the universe

*The static models of Einstein and de Sitter*

*The dynamic models of Friedman and Lemaître*

## # The expanding universe (1930)

*The recession of the galaxies*

*Einstein's 'big bang' models of 1931 and 1932*

*New research into Einstein's models of 1931 and 1932*

*Einstein's steady-state model*

## # Conclusions: Einstein and the big bang



# The special theory of relativity (1905)



## Two new principles for inertial observers

*Invariance of laws of physics (including electromagnetism)*

*Invariance of the speed of light*

## Implications for space and time

*Space, time not absolute: distorted by motion*

## Predictions

*Length contraction; time dilation*

*Mass increase; equivalence of mass and energy*

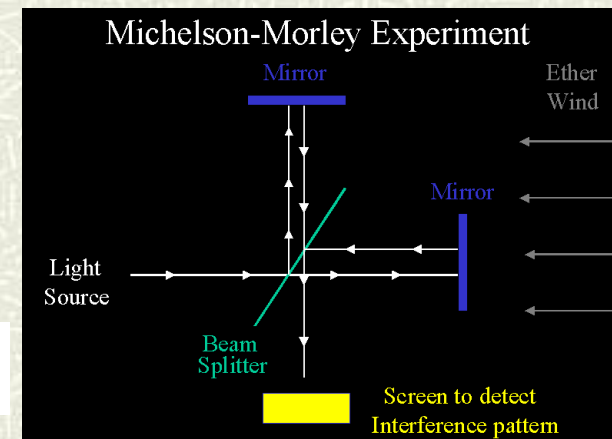
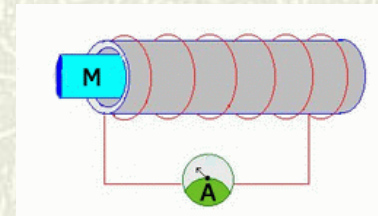
$$E = mc^2$$

## Space-time

*Space + time = space-time*

*4-dimensional entity*

$$ds^2 = dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2 - c^2 dt^2$$

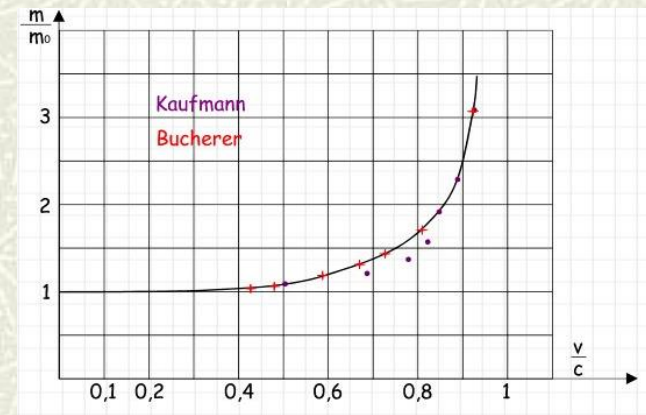


# Evidence for special relativity

## ⌘ Mass increase

*The experiments of Kaufmann and Bucherer*

$$m' = \frac{m_0}{\sqrt{1 - v^2 / c^2}}$$

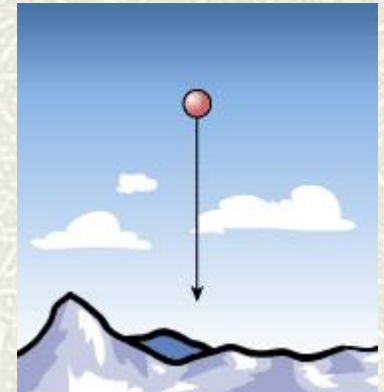


## ⌘ Time dilation

*The long-lived muon*

$$2 \mu s \rightarrow 22 \mu s$$

$$t' = \frac{t_0}{\sqrt{1 - v^2 / c^2}}$$



## ⌘ Invariance of the speed of light

*Many experiments to measure  $c$*

## ⌘ Particle experiments at the LHC

*Maximum velocity =  $c$*

*Mass increase*

*Particle creation*

$$E = mc^2$$





# General relativity (1915)

## # The general theory of relativity (1915)

*Relativity and accelerated frames?*

*Relativity and gravity?*

## # Two new principles

*Principle of equivalence*

*Mach's principle*

## # Predictions

*Space-time distorted by mass*

*Gravity = curvature of space-time*

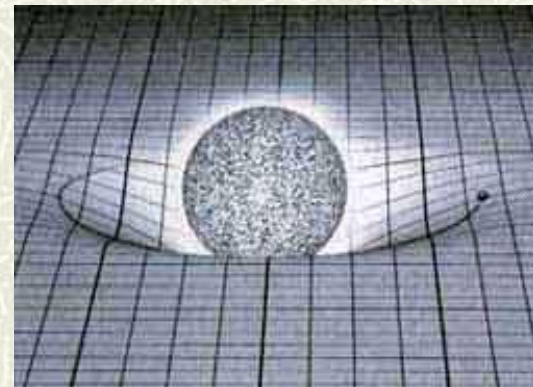
$$\underline{G}_{\mu\nu} = -\frac{8\pi G}{c^4} \underline{T}_{\mu\nu}$$

## # Empirical evidence

*Orbit of Mercury: bending of starlight (Eddington, 1919)*



*Albert Einstein  
1879-1955*



# Evidence for general relativity

## # Bending of distant light by stars

*Gravitational lensing*

## # Gravitational redshift

*Shift in wavelength of light due to grav. field*

## # Gravitational time dilation

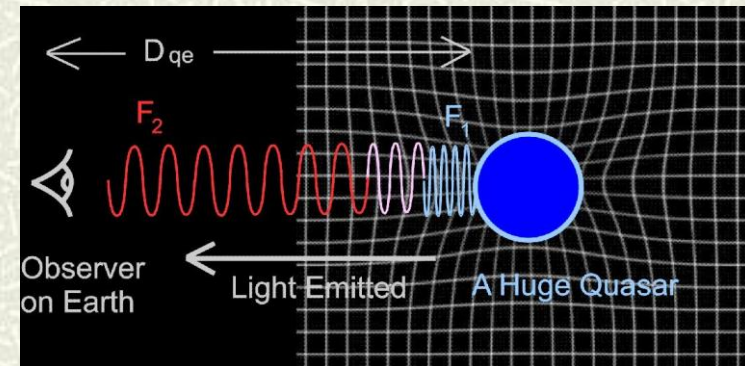
*GPS corrections*

## # Black holes

*Centre of galaxies*

## # Gravitational waves

*Hulse –Taylor binary system*





## II Relativity and the universe

### ‡ Apply general relativity to the cosmos (1917)

*Ultimate test for new theory of gravitation*

### ‡ Assumptions

*Static universe*

*Isotropic and homogeneous*

*Null solution*

$$\underline{G}_{\mu\nu} = -\frac{8\pi G}{c^4} \underline{T}_{\mu\nu}$$

### ‡ Cosmological constant $\lambda$

*Add term to GFE for non-zero solution*

*Universe of closed curvature: no boundary problem*

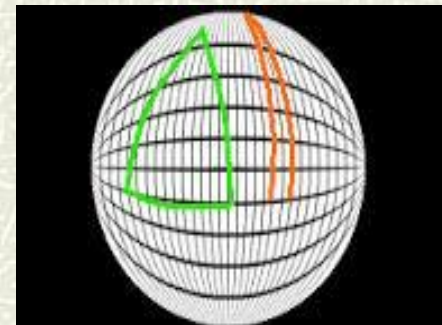
*Cosmic radius and matter density defined by  $\lambda$*

$$\underline{G}_{\mu\nu} + \lambda \underline{g}_{\mu\nu} = -\frac{8\pi G}{c^4} \underline{T}_{\mu\nu}$$

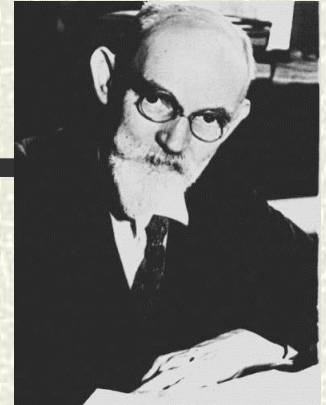
$$\lambda = \frac{\kappa \rho}{2} = \frac{1}{R^2}$$



*Einstein's universe*



# The de Sitter universe (1917)



## ■ Apply general relativity to the cosmos

*Include cosmological constant*

## ■ ‘Empty’ universe solution

*Reasonable approximation*

$$G_{\mu\nu} + \lambda g_{\mu\nu} = 0$$

*Curvature of space proportional to cosmic constant*

## ■ Disliked by Einstein

*Conflict with Mach’s principle*

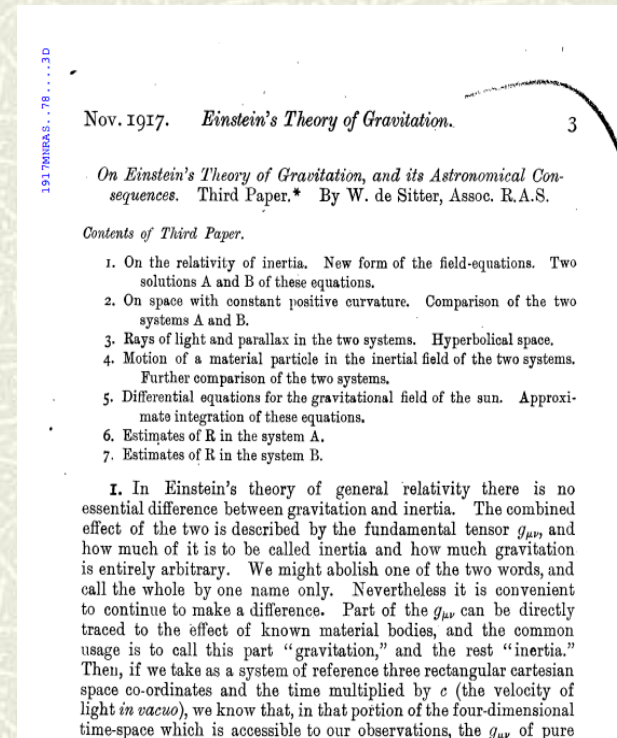
*Singularity problem?*

*Beginning of Einstein’s dislike for cosmic constant*

## ■ Interest from astronomers

*Radiation from matter redshifted – Slipher effect?*

*Static or non-static model? (Weyl 1923, Lemaître 1925)*





# Friedman models of the cosmos



Alexander Friedman  
(1888 -1925)

## Time-varying solutions (1922)

*Universe of time-varying radius*

*Assume positive spatial curvature*

*Two independent differential equations from GFE*

$$\frac{3R'^2}{R^2} + \frac{3c^2}{R^2} - \lambda = \kappa c^2 \rho,$$

$$\frac{R'^2}{R^2} + \frac{2RR''}{R^2} + \frac{c^2}{R^2} - \lambda = 0.$$

## Expanding sphere

*Density of matter decreases over time*

## Ignored by community

*Considered 'suspicious' by Einstein*

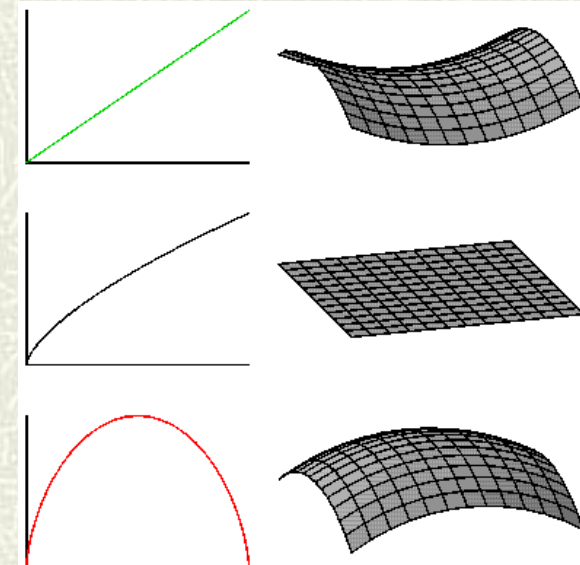
*Mathematical correction, later retracted*

*"To this a physical reality can hardly be ascribed"*

$$\frac{1}{c^2} \left( \frac{dR}{dt} \right)^2 = \frac{A - R + \frac{\lambda}{3c^2} R^3}{R}$$

## Negative spatial curvature (1924)

*Cosmic evolution, geometry depends on matter content*



# Lemaître's universe (1927)



## Expanding model of the cosmos from GR

*Similar to Friedman 1922 model*

*Starts from static Einstein universe*

$$3\frac{R'^2}{R^2} + \frac{3}{R^2} = \lambda + \kappa\rho$$

$$2\frac{R''}{R} + \frac{R'^2}{R^2} + \frac{1}{R^2} = \lambda - \kappa p$$

*Fr Georges Lemaître*

## Redshifts of nebulae = expansion of space?

*Redshifts from Slipher, distances from Hubble*

$$H = 585 \text{ kms}^{-1}\text{Mpc}^{-1}$$

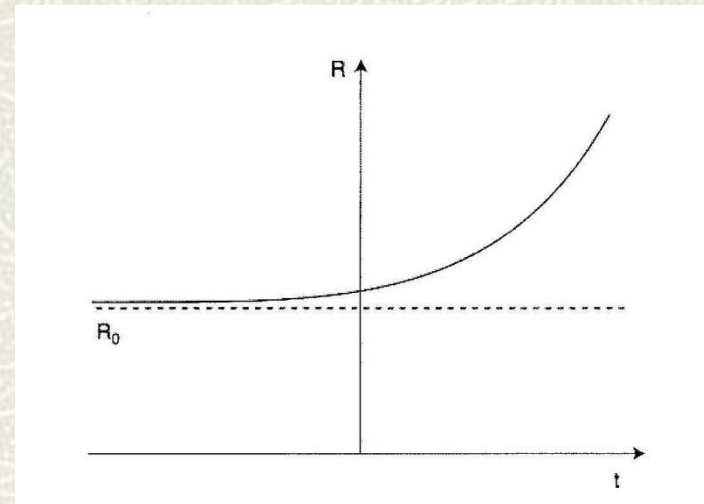
## Ignored by community

*Belgian journal (in French)*

*Rejected by Einstein: "Votre physique est abominable"*

*Lemaître informed of Friedman's solution*

*Einstein not up-to-date with astronomy?*





# III Astronomy and the universe

## # The 'Great Debate' (1900-1920)

*Spiral nebulae = clusters of stars ?*

*Galaxies beyond Milky Way?*

*Light from many spirals red-shifted (Slipher 1915, 1917)*



## # The Hooker telescope (1917)

*100-inch reflector*

*Edwin Hubble (1921)*

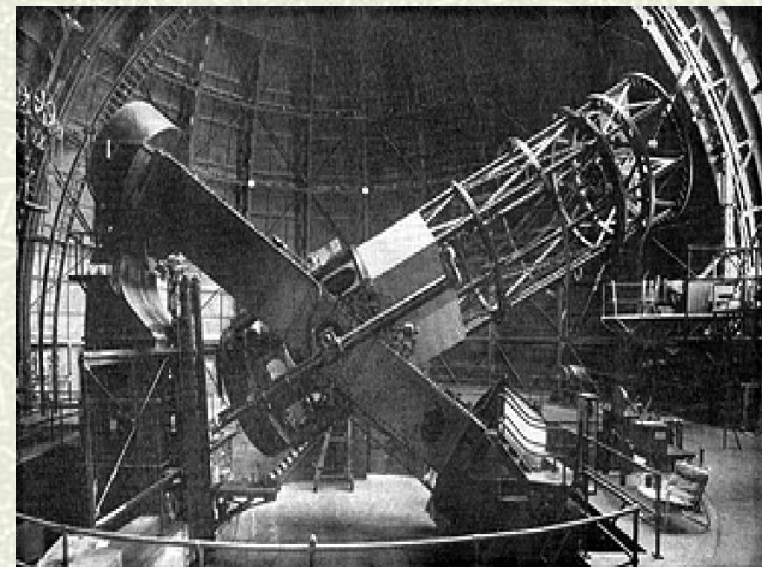
## # Distance of 2 spirals

*Cepheid variables resolved in nebulae*

*Leavitt's period-luminosity relation*

## # Spirals far beyond Milky Way (1925)

*A universe of galaxies*



# Motion of nebulae: redshift



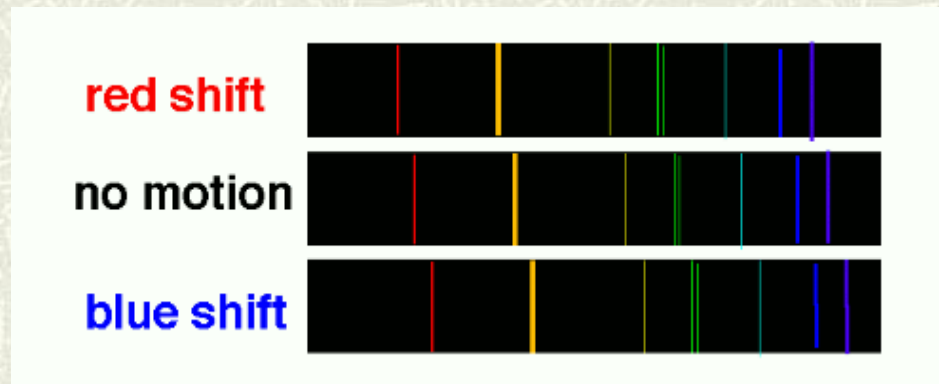
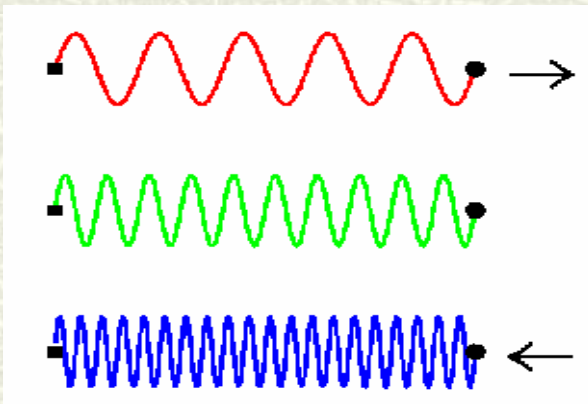
*Vesto Slipher*

*Frequency* of light depends on motion of source relative to observer

## *Doppler Effect*

Measure motion of nebulae by measuring light emitted

Light from most nebulae red shifted





# Hubble's law



*Edwin Hubble (1889-1953)*

## ■ A redshift/distance relation for the nebulae?

*Motivation: establishing distances of all nebulae*

## ■ Combined 24 distances with redshifts

*Redshifts from Slipher: not acknowledged*

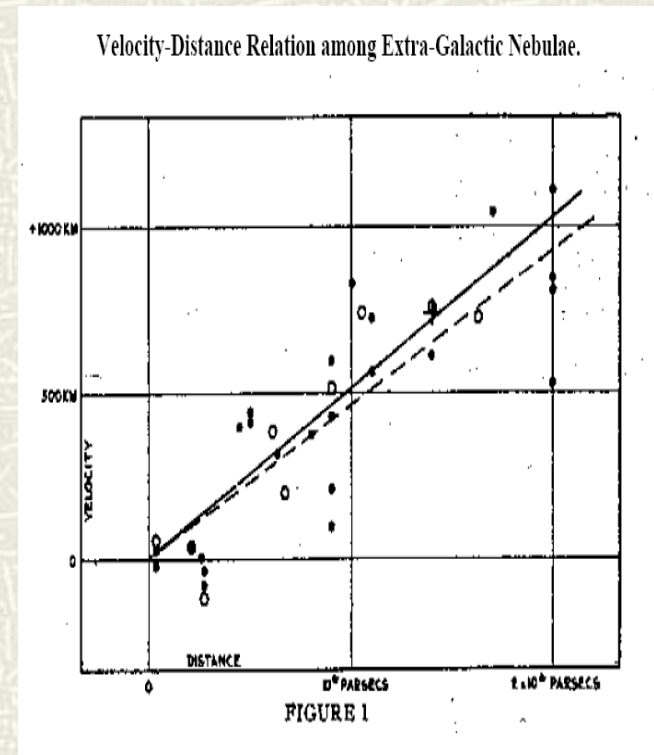
## ■ Linear relation (Hubble, 1929)

$H = 500 \text{ kms}^{-1} \text{Mpc}^{-1}$  : some errors

*Most important data point not shown*

## ■ Landmark result in astronomy

*Not cosmology*



# The expanding universe

- **RAS meeting (1930)**

*Eddington, de Sitter*

*If redshifts are velocities, and if effect is non-local*

*Static cosmic models don't match observations*

- **Time-varying universe?**

*Hubble's law = expansion of space?*

- **Lemaître expanding model**

*Eddington contacted by Lemaître*

*1927 model republished in English (1931)*

- **Friedman-Lemaître models circulated**

*Time-varying radius*

*Time-varying density of matter*

*Evolving universe*

Velocity-Distance Relation among Extra-Galactic Nebulae.

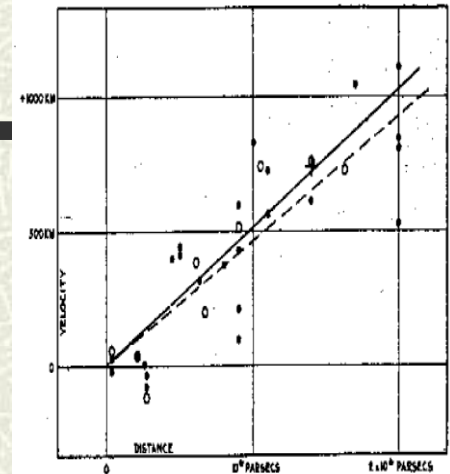


FIGURE 1

1931MNRAS...91...483L

Mar. 1931. *Homogeneous Universe of Constant Mass.*

483

*A Homogeneous Universe of Constant Mass and Increasing Radius accounting for the Radial Velocity of Extra-galactic Nebulae.* By Abbé G. Lemaître.

(Translated by permission from "Annales de la Société scientifique de Bruxelles," Tome XLVII, série A, première partie.)

## 1. Introduction.

According to the theory of relativity, a homogeneous universe may exist such that all positions in space are completely equivalent; there is no centre of gravity. The radius of space  $R$  is constant; space is elliptic, i.e. of uniform positive curvature  $1/R^2$ ; straight lines starting from a point come back to their origin after having travelled a path of length  $\pi R$ ; the volume of space has a finite value  $\pi^2 R^3$ ; straight lines are closed lines going through the whole space without encountering any boundary.

Two solutions have been proposed. That of de Sitter ignores the existence of matter and supposes its density equal to zero. It leads to special difficulties of interpretation which will be referred to later, but it is of extreme interest as explaining quite naturally the observed receding velocities of extra-galactic nebulae, as a simple consequence of the properties of the gravitational field without having to suppose that we are at a point of the universe distinguished by special properties.

The other solution is that of Einstein. It pays attention to the evident fact that the density of matter is not zero, and it leads to a relation between this density and the radius of the universe. This relation forecasted the existence of masses enormously greater than any known at the time. These have since been discovered, the distances



# The expanding, evolving universe (1930 -)

- **Eddington (1930, 31)**

*On the instability of the Einstein universe  
Expansion caused by condensation?*

- **Tolman (1930, 31)**

*On the behaviour of non-static models  
Expansion caused by annihilation of matter ?*

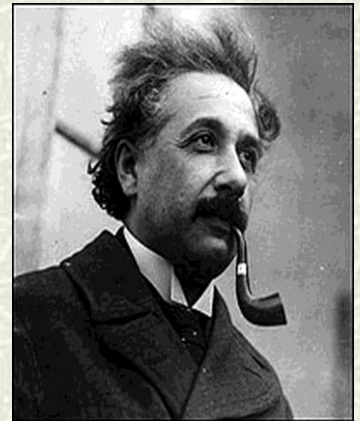
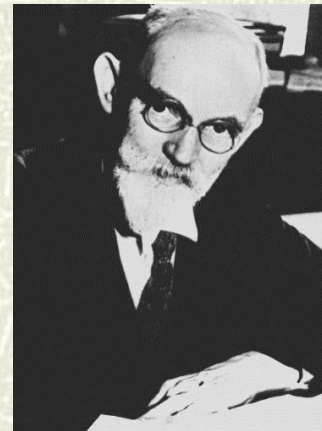
- **de Sitter (1930, 31)**

*Further remarks on the expanding universe  
Expanding universes of every flavour*

- **Einstein (1931, 32)**

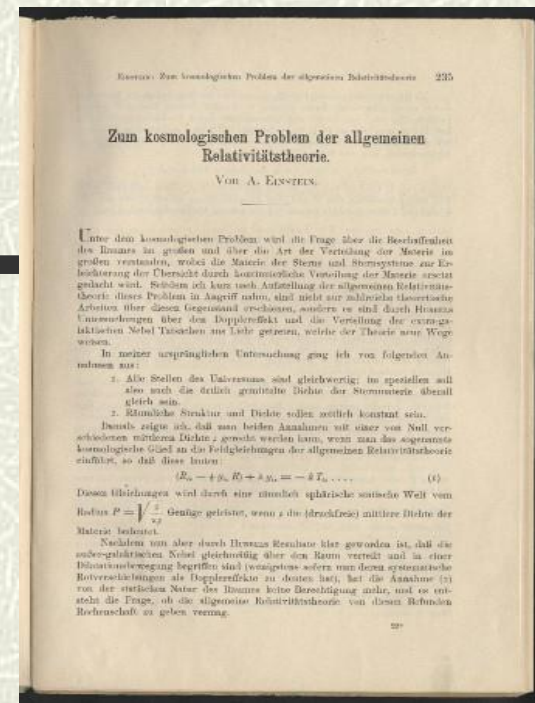
*Friedman-Einstein model  $k=1, \lambda=0$   
Einstein-de Sitter model  $k=0, \lambda=0$*

*Occam's razor?*



*If redshifts represent expansion...*  
*Evolving models*

# IV Einstein's 1931 model



## ■ Einstein's first dynamic model of the cosmos

*Often cited, rarely read (not translated)*

$$\frac{3P'^2}{P^2} + \frac{3c^2}{P^2} - \lambda = \kappa c^2 \rho$$

## ■ Adopts Friedman 1922 model

*Time-varying, closed universe:  $k=1$*

*Cosmic constant redundant:  $\lambda g_{\mu\nu} = 0$*

$$\frac{P'^2}{P^2} + \frac{2P''}{P} + \frac{c^2}{P^2} - \lambda = 0$$

## ■ Extraction of parameters!

*Radius, density of matter*

*$R \sim 10^8$  lyr,  $\rho \sim 10^{-26}$  g/cm<sup>3</sup>*

$$D = \frac{1}{P} \frac{dP}{dt} \cdot \frac{1}{c}$$

$$D^2 = \frac{1}{P^2} \frac{P_0 - P}{P}$$

$$\left(\frac{dP}{dt}\right)^2 = c^2 \frac{P_0 - P}{P}$$

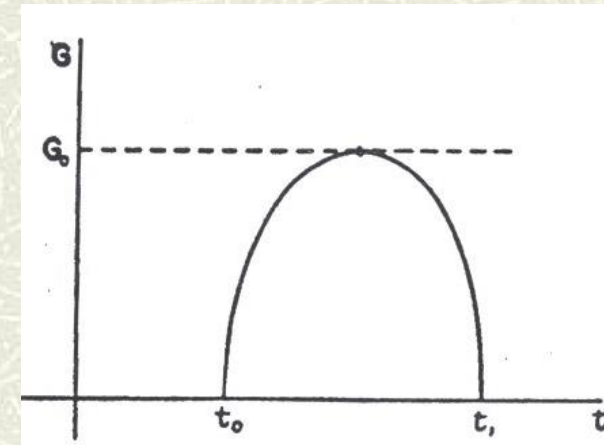
## ■ Timespan problem

*$10^{10}$  yr: conflict with astrophysics*

*Attributed to simplifying assumptions (homogeneity)*

$$D^2 \sim \kappa \rho$$

$$P \sim \frac{1}{D}$$





# Einstein's 1931 model revisited

## First translation into English

*O'Raifeartaigh and McCann 2014*

$$D = \frac{1}{P} \frac{dP}{dt} \cdot \frac{1}{c}$$

$$D^2 = \frac{1}{P^2} \frac{P_0 - P}{P}$$

$$P \sim \frac{1}{D}$$

## Anomalies in calculations of radius and density

$$P \sim 10^8 \text{ yr}, \rho \sim 10^{-26} \text{ g/cm}^3$$

*Should be*  $P \sim 10^9 \text{ yr}, \rho \sim 10^{-28} \text{ g/cm}^3$

$$D^2 = \frac{1}{3} \kappa \rho \frac{P_0 - P}{P}$$

$$D^2 \sim \kappa \rho$$

*Oxford lecture  
(May 1931)*

## Source of error?

*Oxford:*  $D^2 \sim 10^{-53} \text{ cm}^{-2}$  (should be  $10^{-55} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ )

*Time miscalculation*  $t \sim 10^{10} \text{ yr}$  (should be  $10^9 \text{ yr}$ )

*Non-trivial error: misses conflict with radioactivity*

## Not a cyclic model

*“Model fails at  $P = 0$ ”*

*Contrary to what is often stated*

$$D = \frac{1}{c} \frac{1}{P} \frac{dP}{dt} = \frac{1}{c} \frac{1}{P} \frac{dP}{dP} \frac{dP}{dt}$$

$$D^2 = \frac{1}{P^2} \frac{P_0 - P}{P} \sim \frac{1}{P^2} \quad (1a)$$

$$D^2 = \frac{\kappa \rho}{3} \frac{P_0 - P}{P} \sim \frac{1}{P^2} \quad (2a)$$

$$D^2 \sim 10^{-53}$$

$$\rho \sim 10^{-26}$$

$$P \sim 10^8 \text{ yr}$$

$$t \sim 10^{10} (10^{11}) \text{ yr}$$

# Einstein-de Sitter model (1932)

## Curvature not a given in dynamic models

*Not observed empirically*

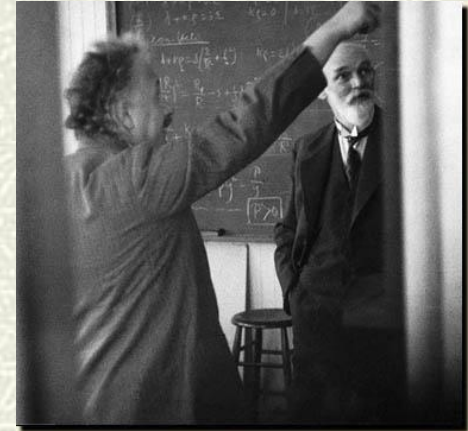
*Remove spatial curvature (Occam's razor)*

$$ds^2 = -R^2(dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2) + c^2 dt^2$$

$$\frac{3R'^2}{R^2} + \frac{3c^2}{R^2} - \lambda = \kappa c^2 \rho,$$

$$\frac{1}{R^2} \left( \frac{dR}{cdt} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{3} \kappa \rho.$$

$$h^2 = \frac{1}{3} \kappa \rho$$



## Simplest Friedman model

*Time-varying universe with  $\lambda = 0$ ,  $k = 0$*

*Important hypothetical case: critical universe*

*Critical density :  $\rho = 10^{-28} \text{ g/cm}^3$*

## Becomes standard model

*Despite high density of matter*

*Despite age problem*

*Time evolution not considered in paper – see title*

### PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

Volume 18

March 15, 1932

Number 3

#### ON THE RELATION BETWEEN THE EXPANSION AND THE MEAN DENSITY OF THE UNIVERSE

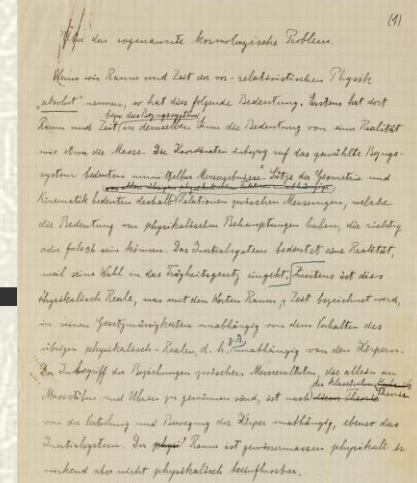
BY A. EINSTEIN AND W. DE SITTER

Communicated by the Mount Wilson Observatory, January 25, 1932

In a recent note in the *Göttinger Nachrichten*, Dr. O. Heckmann has pointed out that the non-static solutions of the field equations of the general theory of relativity with constant density do not necessarily imply a positive curvature of three-dimensional space, but that this curvature may also be negative or zero.



# Einstein-de Sitter model revisited



## ■ Einstein's cosmology review of 1933

*Review of dynamic models from first principles*

*Culminates in Einstein-de Sitter model*

*Cosmic constant banished*

*Possibility of flat geometry*

$$2A \frac{d^2 A}{dt^2} + \left( \frac{dA}{dt} \right)^2 = 0$$

$$3 \left( \frac{\frac{dA}{dt}}{A} \right)^2 = \kappa \rho c^2.$$

## ■ Parameters extracted

*Critical density of  $10^{-28} \text{ g/cm}^3$  : reasonable*

*Timespan of  $10^{10}$  years: conflict with astrophysics*

*Attributed to simplifications (incorrect estimate)*

$$3h^2 = \kappa \rho c^2 (= 8\pi K \rho)$$

$$A = c(t - t_0)^{\frac{2}{3}}$$

## ■ Published in 1933!

*French book; small print run*

*Intended for scientific journal; not submitted*

*Significant paper*

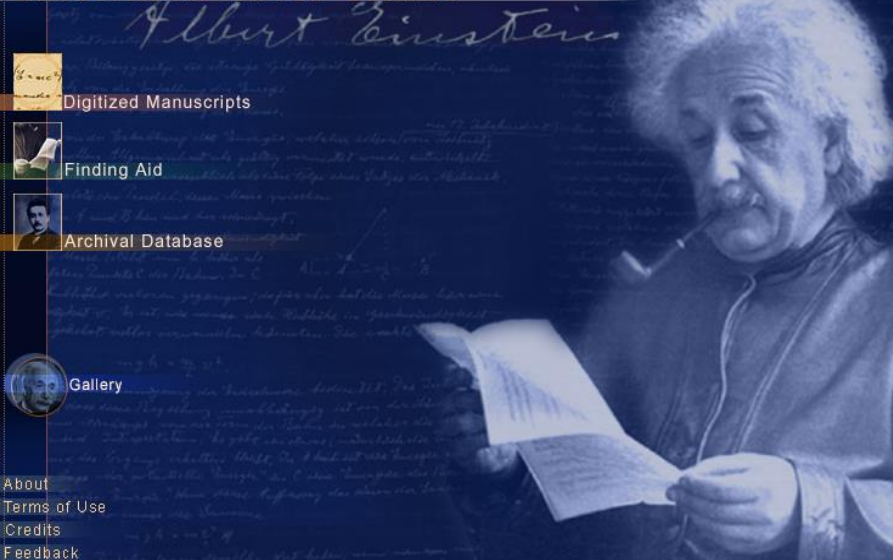
$$t - t_0 = \frac{2}{3h}$$



### SUR LA STRUCTURE COSMOLOGIQUE DE L'ESPACE <sup>(1)</sup>

Si nous appelons l'espace et le temps de la physique prérelativiste « absolu », il faut y voir la signification suivante. Tout d'abord l'espace et le temps et, par suite, le système de référence, y figurent dans le même sens comme réalité que, par exemple, la masse. Les coordonnées du système de référence choisi y correspondent immédiatement à des résultats de mesure <sup>(2)</sup>. Les propositions de géométrie et de cinématique signifient pour cette raison des relations entre des mesures ayant la valeur d'affirmations physiques, qui peuvent être vraies ou fausses. Le système d'inertie possède une réalité physique, parce que son choix entre dans la loi d'inertie. En second lieu, cette réalité physique, qui est désignée par les termes espace + temps, est, quant à ses lois, indépendante du comportement des autres réalités physiques, par exemple, des corps.

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JPG

Über das sogenannte kosmologische Problem.

by Einstein, Albert (Author)

Date: 1932-09-01

Archival Call Number: 1-115

Document Type: Autograph Draft of Document (ADDf)



DB Info

Kosmologische Betrachtungen zur allgemeinen Relativitätstheorie.

by Einstein, Albert (Author)

Date: 1917-02-08

Archival Call Number: 90-9

Document Type: Printed Document (PD)



DB Info

Die Beantwortung Ihrer Frage, überhaupt kosmologischer Fragen

by Einstein, Albert (Author)

Date: 1929-09-20

Archival Call Number: 25-231

Document Type: Carbon/File Copy of Typed Letter (TLC)



DB Info

Das kosmologische Glied soll überholt sein.

by Hopf, Ludwig (Author)

Date: 1932-06-14

Archival Call Number: 13-306

Document Type: Autograph Letter Signed (ALS)

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Archival Call Number: 1-115

Begin Date: 1932-09-01

End Date: 1932-09-30

Main Author: Einstein, Albert (Author)

Other Persons: Mayer, Walther (Author)

Language: German

Archival Location: Albert Einstein Archives, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel

Number of Pages: 11.



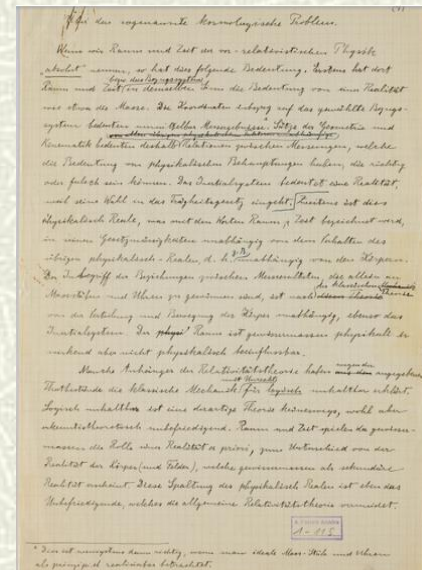
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# Bonus: Einstein's steady-state model

## # Unpublished manuscript

*Archived as draft of F-E model (1931)*

*Similar title, opening to F-E model*

## # Something different

*Cosmological constant*

*“Constant matter density determines expansion”*

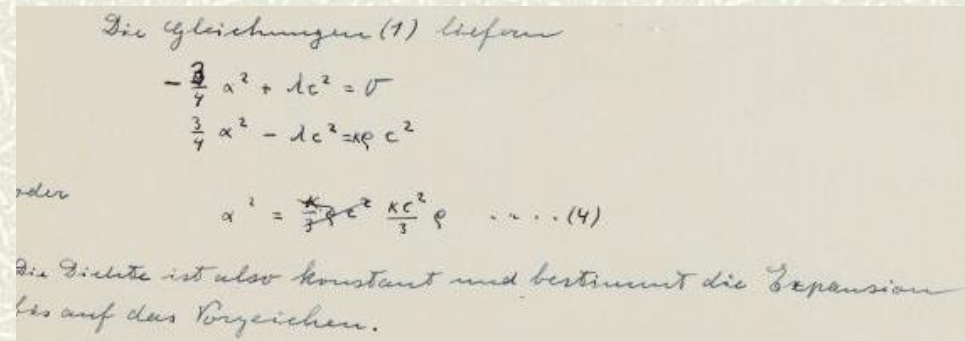
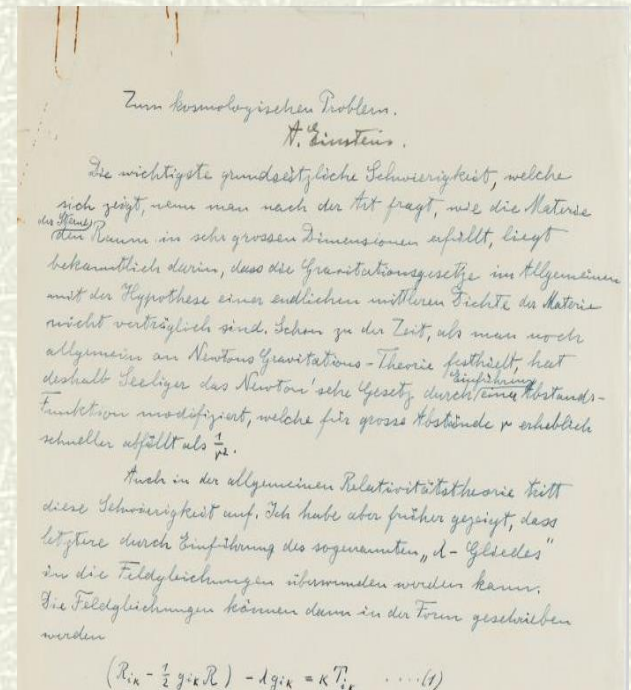
## # Steady-state model

*Continuous formation of matter from vacuum*

*Fatal flaw; null solution*

*Abandoned, not amended*

*Anticipates controversial theory (Hoyle)*



# Einstein's steady-state model (philosophy)

## New solution

*“In what follows, I wish to draw attention to a solution to equation (1) that can account for Hubbel's facts, and in which the density is constant over time”*

## Matter creation

*“If one considers a physically bounded volume, particles of matter will be continually leaving it. For the density to remain constant, new particles of matter must be continually formed within that volume from space “*

## Dark energy

*“The conservation law is preserved in that, by setting the  $\lambda$ -term, space itself is not empty of energy; its validity is well known to be guaranteed by equations (1).”*



# Abandoned model

## # de Sitter line element

*Correct geometry*

## # Simultaneous equations

$$\alpha^2 = \frac{\kappa c^2}{3} \rho$$

*Error in derivation*

*Null solution*

## # Einstein's crossroads

*Realised problem on revision*

*Declined to amend GFE*

## # Evolving models

*Less contrived and set  $\lambda = 0$*

Im Nachfolgenden will ich auf eine Lösung der Gleichung (1) aufmerktsam machen, welche Hubble's Thatsachen gerecht wird, und in welcher die Dichte zeitlich konstant ist. Diese Lösung ist zwar in dem allgemeinen Schema Tolman's enthalten, scheint aber bisher nicht in Betracht gezogen worden zu sein.

1. Ich setze an

$$ds^2 = -e^{\alpha t} (dx_1^2 + dx_2^2 + dx_3^2) + c^2 dt^2 \dots (3)$$

Die Gleichungen (1) liefern

$$-\frac{3}{4} \alpha^2 + \lambda c^2 = 0$$

$$\frac{3}{4} \alpha^2 - \lambda c^2 = \kappa \rho c^2$$

oder

$$\alpha^2 = \frac{\kappa c^2}{3} \rho \dots (4)$$

Die Dichte ist also konstant und bestimmt die Expansion bis auf das Vorzeichen.

Der Erhaltungssatz bleibt dadurch unvariiert, dass bei Setzung des  $\lambda$ -Glieder der Raum selbst nicht energetisch leer ist; seine Erfüllung wird bekanntlich durch die Gleichungen (1) gewährleistet.

Die Gleichungen (1) liefern

$$-\frac{3}{4}\alpha^2 + \lambda c^2 = 0$$

$$\frac{3}{4}\alpha^2 - \lambda c^2 = \kappa \rho c^2$$

oder

$$\alpha^2 = \frac{\kappa c^2}{3} \rho c^2 \dots (4)$$

Die Dichte ist also konstant und bestimmt die Expansion bis auf das Vorzeichen.

Taking  $T_{44} = \rho c^2$  (all other components zero) in the *time* component of equation (1) we obtain  $\left(R_{44} - \frac{1}{2}g_{44}R\right) - \lambda g_{44} = \kappa \rho c^2$ .

This gives on analysis  $-3\alpha^2/4 + 3\alpha^2/2 - \lambda c^2 = \kappa \rho c^2$   
the second of Einstein's simultaneous equations.

From the *spatial* component of equation (1), we obtain  $\left(R_{ii} - \frac{1}{2}g_{ii}R\right) - \lambda g_{ii} = 0$ .

This gives on analysis  $3\alpha^2/4 - 3\alpha^2/2 + \lambda c^2 = 0$   
for the first of the simultaneous equations.

It is plausible that Einstein made a sign error here, initially getting  $3\alpha^2/4 + 3\alpha^2/2 + \lambda c^2 = 0$  for this equation. (W. Nahm)



# A significant find

## # New perspective on steady-state theory (1950s)

*Logical possibility: not a crank theory*

## # Insight into Einstein's philosophy

*Discards model rather than introduce new term to GFE*

*Occam's razor approach*

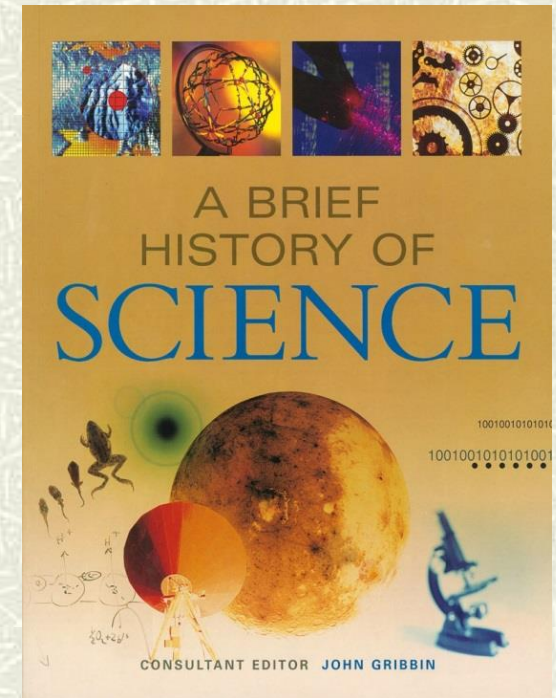
## # Insight into scientific progress

*Unsuccessful theories important*

*Understanding the development of successful theories*

*Not Kuhnian paradigm shift*

*Slow dawning*



*Links with modern cosmology*

*Dark energy: creation energy and  $\lambda$*

*Cosmic inflation: de Sitter metric*

# Einstein's lost theory uncovered

Physicist explored the idea of a steady-state Universe in 1931.

Daide Castelvechi

24 February 2014

## New Discovery Reveals Einstein Tried To Devise A Steady State Model Of The Universe

2 comments, 2 called-out + Comment Now + Follow Comments

Almost 20 years before the late Fred Hoyle and his colleagues devised the [Steady State Theory](#), Albert Einstein toyed with a similar idea: that the universe was eternal, expanding outward with a consistent input of spontaneously generating matter.

An Irish physicist came across the paper last year and could hardly believe. According to this week's article in [Nature](#),

model of the universe very different to today's [Big Bang](#) Theory.

The manuscript, which hadn't been referred to by scientists for decades,



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# Einstein's Lost Theory Uncovered

The famous physicist explored the idea of a steady-state universe in 1931

**nature**

Feb 25, 2014 | By Daide Castelvechi and Nature magazine

A manuscript that lay unnoticed by scientists for decades has revealed that Albert Einstein once dabbled with an



www.irishtimes.com/news/science/wit-researchers-discover-lost-einstein-model-of-universe-1.1713487

THE IRISH TIMES

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Monday, March 10, 2014

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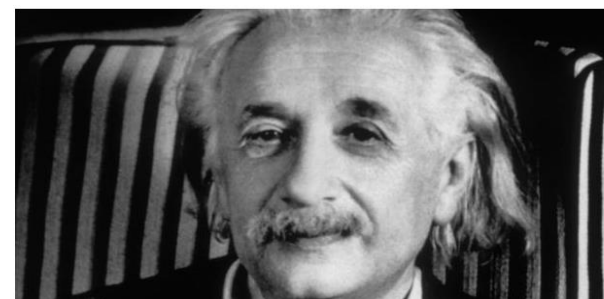
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## WIT researchers discover 'lost' Einstein model of universe

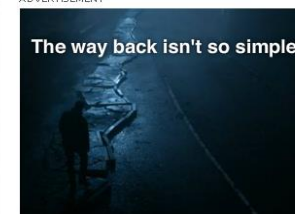
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# The steady-state universe (1948)

## # Expanding but unchanging universe

*Hoyle, Bondi and Gold (1948)*

*Disliked speculation about physics of early epochs*

*Perfect cosmological principle?*



*Bondi, Gold and Hoyle*

## # Continuous creation of matter

*Very little matter required*

*No beginning, no age paradox*

## # Replace $\lambda$ with creation term (Hoyle)

$$G_{\mu\nu} + C_{\mu\nu} = k T_{\mu\nu}$$

## # Improved version (1962)

$$G_{\mu\nu} + \lambda g_{\mu\nu} = k T (C_{\mu} + C_{\nu})$$



*Hoyle and Narlikar (1962)*

# Steady-state vs big bang

## # Optical astronomy (1950s)

*Amended timescale of expansion (Baade, Sandage)*

*Age problem removed*

## # Radio-astronomy (1960s)

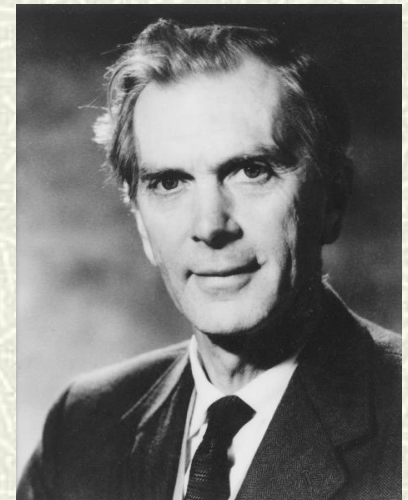
*Galaxy distributions at different epochs*

*Cambridge 3C Survey (Ryle)*

## # Cosmic microwave background

*Low temperature, low frequency*

*Remnant of early universe*





# Results: publications

## ■ Einstein's 1931 model

*Einstein's cosmic model of 1931 revisited; an analysis and translation of a forgotten model of the universe.* O'Raifeartaigh, C. and B. McCann. 2014 **Eur. Phys. J (H)** 39(1):63-85

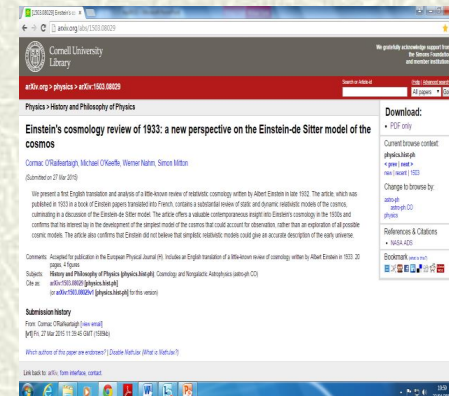
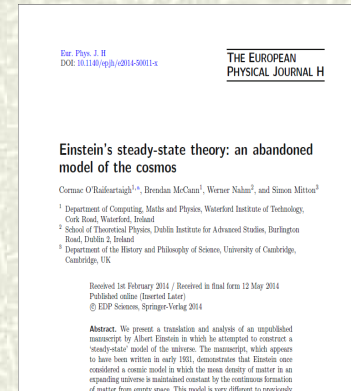
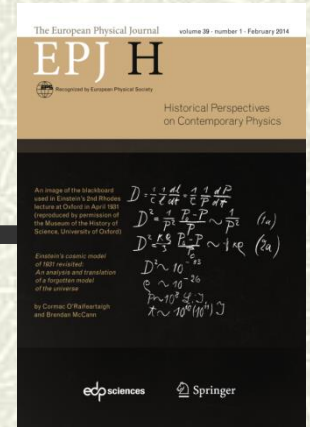
## ■ Einstein's steady-state manuscript

*Einstein's steady-state theory: an abandoned model of the cosmos.* O'Raifeartaigh, C., B. McCann, W. Nahm and S. Mitton. 2014 **Eur. Phys. J (H)** 39(3):353-367

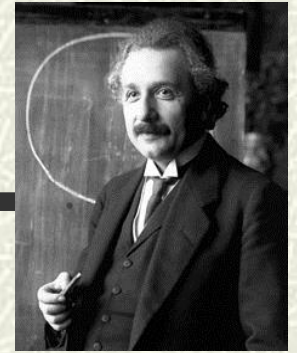
## ■ Einstein-de Sitter model

*Einstein's cosmology review of 1933: a new perspective on the Einstein-de Sitter model of the cosmos.* O'Raifeartaigh, C., M.O'Keeffe, W. Nahm and S. Mitton. 2015. To be published in **Eur. Phys. J (H)**

## ■ Review paper: conclusions



# Einstein's cosmology: conclusions



## # Major test for general relativity

*Assumptions; space-time = space + time*

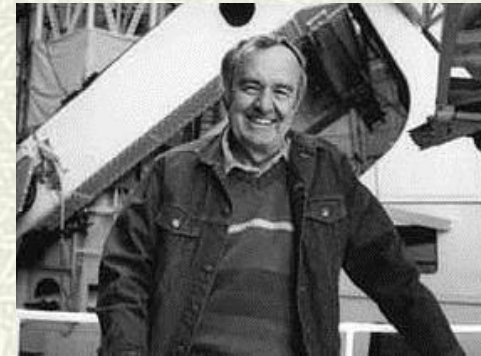
*Homogeneous, isotropic and static universe*

## # Embraces dynamic cosmology

*New evidence – new models (JMK)*

*Timespan of Friedman models puzzling*

*Steady-state universe?*



Hubble constant revised

## # Evolving models (less contrived)

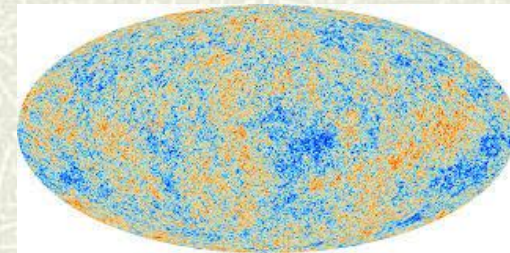
*Simplest models first*

*Extraction of parameters; compatible with observation?*

*Timespan puzzle attributed to simplifying assumptions*

*No discussion of origins (wary of extrapolations)*

***Verdict (1933, 1945): more data needed***



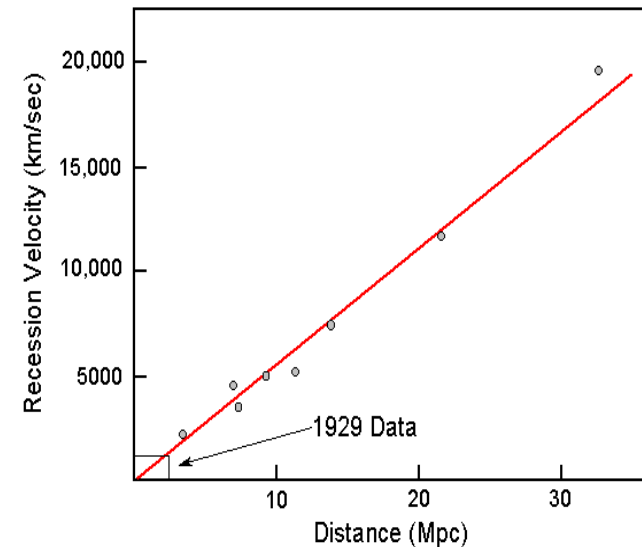
Cosmic microwave background  
Homogeneous, flat universe



# Observational parameters needed (1930s)

- # **Spatial curvature**  $k = -1, 0, 1?$
- # **Cosmic constant**  $\lambda = 0?$
- # **Deacceleration**  $q_0 = -\ddot{R}/\dot{R}^2$
- # **Density of matter**  $\rho < \rho_{crit}?$
- # **Timespan**  $\tau = 10^{10} \text{ yr}?$
- # **Hubble constant**  $\dot{R}/R = 500 \text{ kms}^{-1}\text{Mpc}^{-1}?$

Hubble & Humason (1931)



*What do redshifts represent?  
Is expansion a local effect?*

*Hubble and Tolman 1935*

# Einstein's steady-state model and cosmology today

## # Dark energy (1998)

*Accelerated expansion (observation)*

*Positive cosmological constant*

## # Einstein's dark energy

*“The conservation law is preserved in that, by setting the  $\lambda$ -term, space itself is not empty of energy; its validity is well known to be guaranteed by equations (1).”*

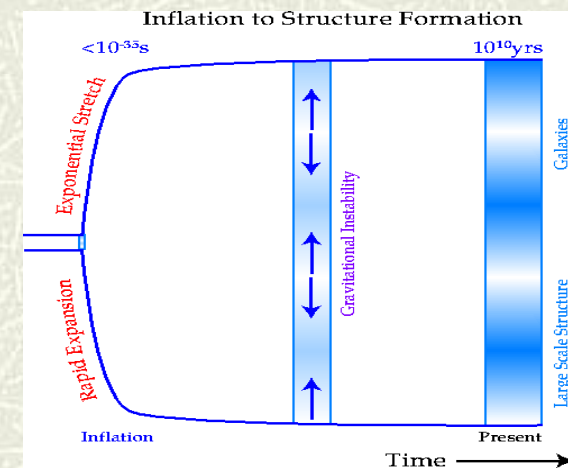
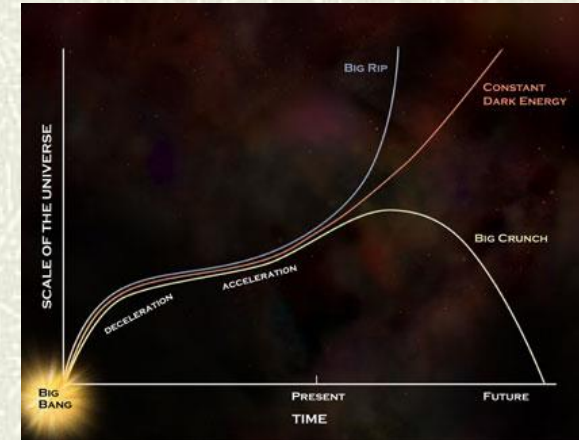
## # Cosmic inflation

*Inflationary models use de Sitter metric*

*Used in all steady-state models*

*Flat curvature, constant rate of matter creation*

*Different time-frame!*





ORIGINS OF THE EXPANDING UNIVERSE:  
1912–1932



Edited by  
Michael J. Way and Deidre Hunter

## Einstein's steady-state theory: an abandoned model of the cosmos

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**Abstract.** We present a translation and analysis of an unpublished manuscript by Albert Einstein in which he attempted to construct a 'steady-state' model of the universe. The manuscript, which appears to have been written in early 1931, demonstrates that Einstein once considered a cosmic model in which the mean density of matter in an expanding universe is maintained constant by the continuous formation of matter from empty space. This model is very different to previously

## Einstein's cosmic model of 1931 revisited: an analysis and translation of a forgotten model of the universe

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**Abstract.** We present an analysis and translation of Einstein's 1931 paper "Zum kosmologischen Problem der allgemeinen Relativitätstheorie" or "On the cosmological problem of the general theory of relativity". In this little-known paper, Einstein proposes a cosmic model in which the universe undergoes an expansion followed by a contraction, quite different to the monotonically expanding Einstein-de Sitter model of 1932. The paper offers many insights into Einstein's cosmology in the light of the first evidence for an expanding universe and we consider his views of issues such as the curvature of space, the cosmological constant, the singularity and the timespan of the expansion. A number of original

An image of the blackboard used in Einstein's 2nd Rhodes lecture at Oxford in April 1931 (reproduced by permission of the Museum of the History of Science, University of Oxford)

$$\begin{aligned} D &= \frac{1}{c} \frac{d}{dt} = \frac{1}{c} \frac{d}{P} \frac{dP}{dt} \\ D^2 &= \frac{1}{P^2} \frac{d^2 P}{dt^2} \sim \frac{1}{P^2} \quad (1a) \\ D^2 &= \frac{K}{3} \frac{P_0 - P}{P} \sim \frac{1}{P} \quad (2a) \\ D^2 &\sim 10^{-53} \\ c &\sim 10^{-26} \\ P &\sim 10^8 \text{ yr} \\ \tau &\sim 10^{10} (10^{11}) \text{ yr} \end{aligned}$$

Einstein's cosmic model of 1931 revisited: An analysis and translation of a forgotten model of the universe

by Cormac O'Riartaigh and Brendan McCann

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Subjects: History and Philosophy of Physics (physics.hist-ph); Cosmology and Nongalactic Astrophysics (astro-ph.CO)

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Comments: 20 pages, 2 figures. To be published in the book 'The Philosophy of Cosmology: Foundations and Perspectives' (Cambridge University Press)

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# A cosmic puzzle

## # What is causing recession of the galaxies ?

*If redshifts are velocities*

*If effect is non-local*

## # Newton's law of gravity

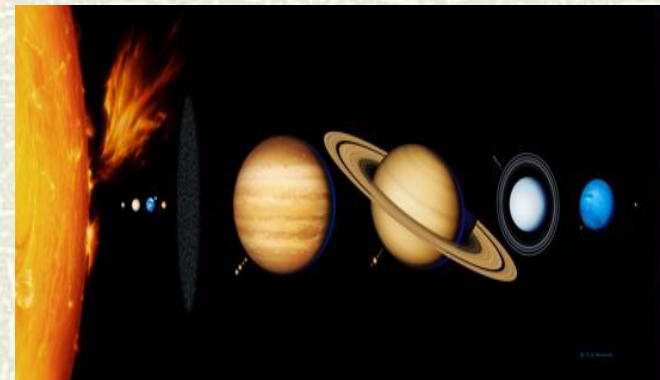
*Gravity pulls in, not out*

*No other long range force for neutral matter*

## # Space, time are fixed

*Not affected by contents of universe*

*Eternal, infinite universe*





# Conclusions

## # Cosmology – a testing ground for general relativity?

*Assumptions; space-time = space + time*

*Homogeneity and isotropy*

*Static universe*



## # Dynamic cosmology

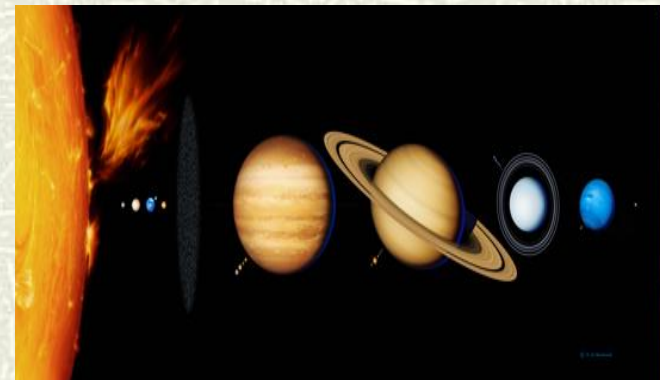
*Steady-state universe?*

*Evolving models less contrived*

## # Evolving models

*Timespan problem: attributed to assumptions*

*Origins puzzle: ignored*



## # Verdict

*More data needed*

# An origin for the universe? (1931)



*Fr Georges Lemaître*

- # Expanding  $U$  smaller in the past
- # Rewind expanding model to early epochs
- # Extremely dense, extremely hot
- # Expanding and cooling ever since
- # Explosive beginning at  $R = 0$ ?

Later called 'The big bang'



$\infty$  density,  $\infty$  temp at  $t = 0$  ?



# Einstein's steady-state model and cosmology today

## ■ Accelerated expansion (1998)

*Supernova measurements*

*Dark energy – positive cosmological constant*



## ■ Einstein's dark energy

*“The conservation law is preserved in that, by setting the  $\lambda$ -term, space itself is not empty of energy; its validity is well known to be guaranteed by equations (1).”*

**Anticipates positive cosmological constant**

## ■ De Sitter line element

$$ds^2 = -e^{at} (dx_1^2 + dx_2^2 + dx_3^2) + c^2 dt^2 \dots$$

*Necessary for all steady-state models*

*Identical to inflationary models (different time-frame)*