

# Einstein, the expanding universe and the big bang

*Paradigm shift or slow dawning?*

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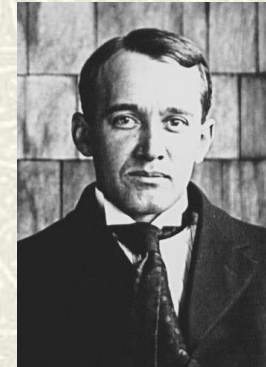
# A drama in three acts?

## # A brief history of observation (1912-1931)

*The redshifts of the spiral nebulae (Slipher)*

*The distances to the nebulae (Hubble)*

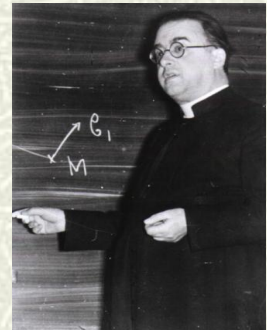
*The Hubble graph of 1929*



## # A brief history of theory (1915-1931)

*The static universes of Einstein and de Sitter*

*The dynamic universes of Friedman and Lemaître*



## # An expanding universe? (1930)

*Explorations of a dynamic universe (1922-35)*

*Slow acceptance by physics community (1935-65)*

## # A slow dawning? Acts IV and V

*Many other actors*

# Act I, scene I: The starry nebulae

- # **Observed by Marius (1614), Halley, Messier**

*Cloudy structures; not planets or stars*

- # **Island universes? Kant, Laplace (1755-96)**

*Galaxies of stars at immense distance?*

*Are stars born in the nebulae?*

- # **Wilhem Herschel**

*36-inch reflecting telescope*

*Catalogue of a thousand (1786)*

- # **Earl of Rosse**

*72-inch reflecting telescope (1845)*

*Some nebulae have spiral structure, stars*

***Problem of resolution, distance***





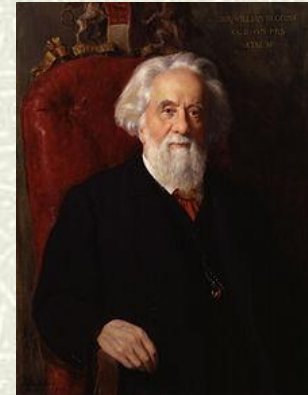
## Scene II: The spectra of the nebulae

### # Photography and spectroscopy (19<sup>th</sup> cent)

*Emission and absorption lines of celestial objects*

### # Composition of the stars and planetary nebulae

*William Huggins*



### # Motion of the stars: Doppler effect

*William Campbell*

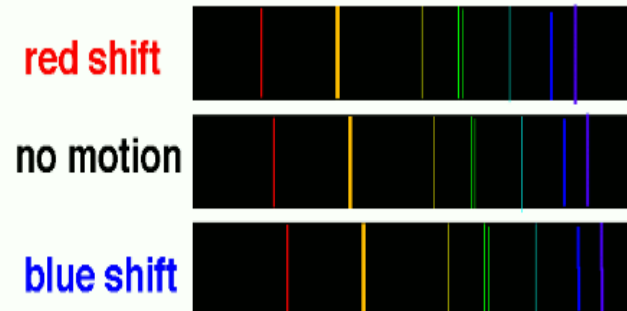
$$\Delta\lambda/\lambda = v/c$$

### # Spectroscopy of spiral nebulae?

*Composition of nebulae?*

*Motion of nebulae?*

### # Difficult to resolve



## Scene III: Slipher and the nebulae



V.M. Slipher

- **Analyse light of the spiral nebulae? (1909)**  
*Lowell Observatory; evolving solar system?*
- **Slipher reluctant**  
*24-inch refractor: larger telescopes failed*
- **Experiments with spectrograph camera**  
*Good results with fast camera lens*
- **Clear spectrum for Andromeda nebula (1912)**  
*Significantly blue-shifted; approaching at 300 km/s?*
- **Many spiral nebulae red-shifted (1915)**  
*Standing ovation (AAS, 1914)*  
*Attended by Hubble*



# Redshifts of the nebulae



- **Spectra of 25 spirals (1917)**

*Large outward velocities*

*Some receding at 1000 km/s*

- **Much faster than stars**

*Gravitationally bound by MW?*

- **Island universe debate**

*“Island universe hypothesis gains favour”*

- **Faintest spectra most redshifted**

*Evidence of expansion? (retrospective)*

- **41 redshifts by 1922**

*Published by Eddington, Strömberg*

*What did they mean?*

$$\Delta\lambda/\lambda = v/c$$

RADIAL VELOCITIES OF TWENTY-FIVE SPIRAL NEBULAE.

Nebula,	Vel.	Nebula,	Vel.
N.G.C. 221	− 300 km.	N.G.C. 4526	+ 580 km.
224	− 300	4565	+1100
598	− 260	4594	+1100
1023	+ 300	4649	+1090
1068	+1100	4736	+ 290
2683	+ 400	4826	+ 150
3031	− 30	5005	+ 900
3115	+ 600	5055	+ 450
3379	+ 780	5194	+ 270
3521	+ 730	5236	+ 500
3623	+ 800	5866	+ 650
3627	+ 650	7331	+ 500
4258	+ 500		



# Act II, Scene I: General relativity

## ■ **Space+time = space-time**

*Spacetime dynamic (1905)*

## ■ **Spacetime distorted by mass**

*Distortion causes other mass to move (1915)*

## **Gravity = curvature of space-time**

$$G_{\mu\nu} = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} T_{\mu\nu}$$

## ■ **Dyson/Eddington expeditions (1919)**

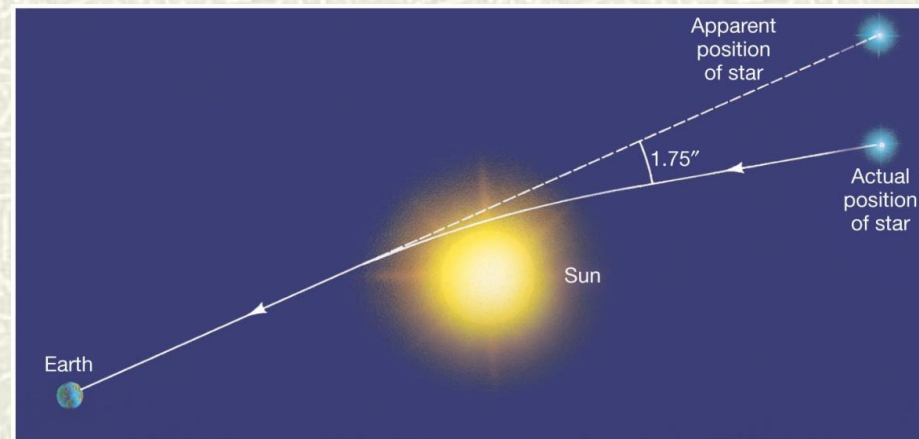
*Measure bending of light?*

*Successful result*

*General relativity well-known*



*Albert Einstein*



## Scene II: Relativity and the cosmos

### *Einstein model (1917)*

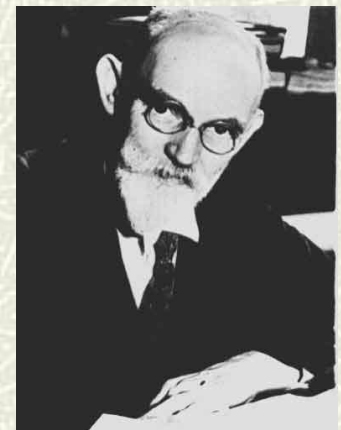
- ✦ Homogenous fluid of uniform density
- ✦ Equations predict dynamic universe
- ✦ No evidence for such a universe
- ✦ Add cosmic constant – ‘static’
- ✦ Closed curvature, finite radius



$$G_{\mu\nu} + \lambda g_{\mu\nu} = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} T_{\mu\nu}$$

### *De Sitter (1917)*

- ✦ ‘Empty’ universe
- ✦ Apparently static (co-ordinate system)
- ✦ Cosmic constant determined by curvature of space
- ✦ Redshifts due to time dilation/matter



*Disliked by Einstein: Mach's principle*



## Scene III: Redshifts and the deS universe

### # Karl Wirtz (1922,24)

*Redshifts of nebulae increasing with distance*

*Dispersal effect?  $v = 2200 - 1200 \log (Dm)$*

### # Ludwik Silberstein (1924)

*Relation between redshifts, distance, curvature*

$\Delta\lambda/\lambda = \pm r/R$  (global clusters)

### # Knut Lundmark (1924,25)

*Velocity against distance; clusters, nebulae*

### # Gustav Strömberg (1925)

*Vel/dist relation for globular clusters, nebulae?*



# Scene IV: Friedmann models



*Alexander Friedman 1888 -1925*

## # Allow time-varying solutions to the field equations

*Allow cosmic constant*

*Expanding, contracting universes*

## # Geometry, evolution depends on matter

*Positive curvature (1922)*

*Hyperbolic curvature (1924)*

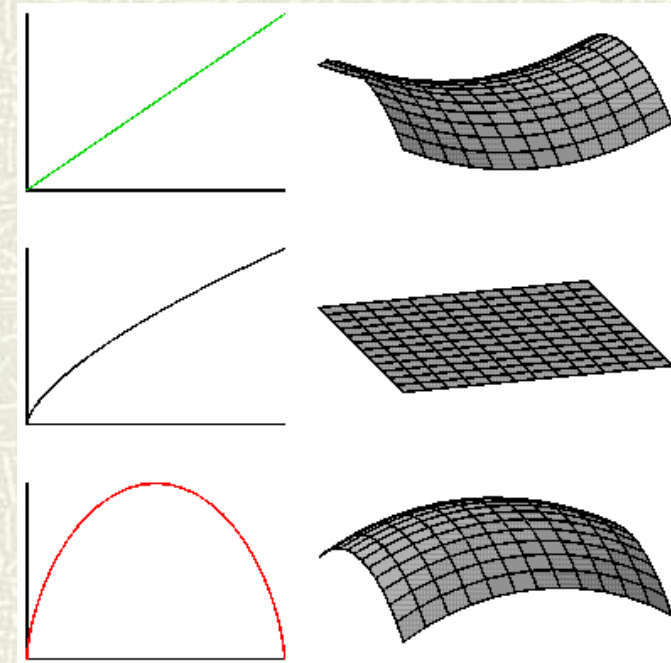
## # Hypothetical models (Zf. Ph.)

*To be decided by astronomy*

## # Disliked by Einstein

*Correction and retraction*

*Ignored by community*





# Scene V: The distances of the nebulae (1925)

## # Hooker telescope (Mt Wilson)

*100-inch reflector (1917)*

## # Edwin Hubble (1921)

*Ambitious and dedicated astronomer*

## # Resolved Cepheid stars in nebulae (1925)

*Leavitt's period-luminosity relation*

*Standard candle*

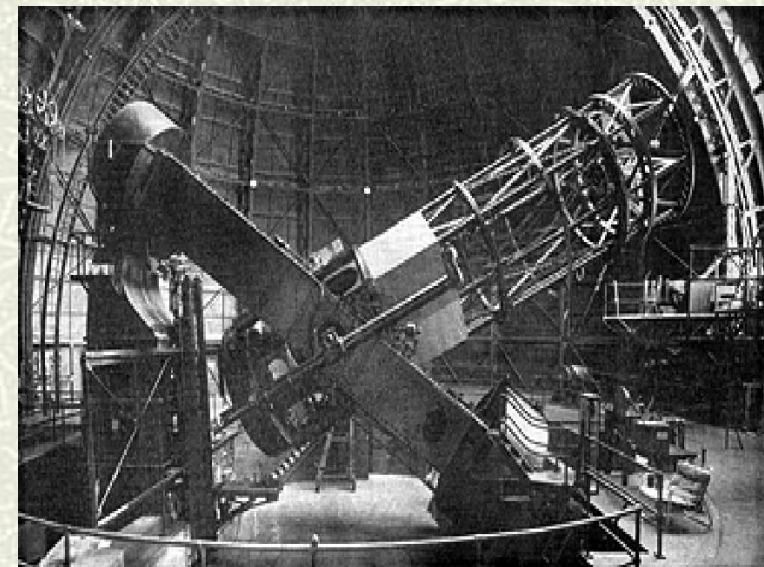
## # Spirals beyond Milky Way

*Beginning of end of 'Great Debate'*

*Nebulae = galaxies*



*Edwin Hubble (1889-1953)*



# Scene VI: A redshift/distance relation (1929)

## ■ Is there a redshift/distance relation for galaxies?

*Motivation: establishing distance to the galaxies*

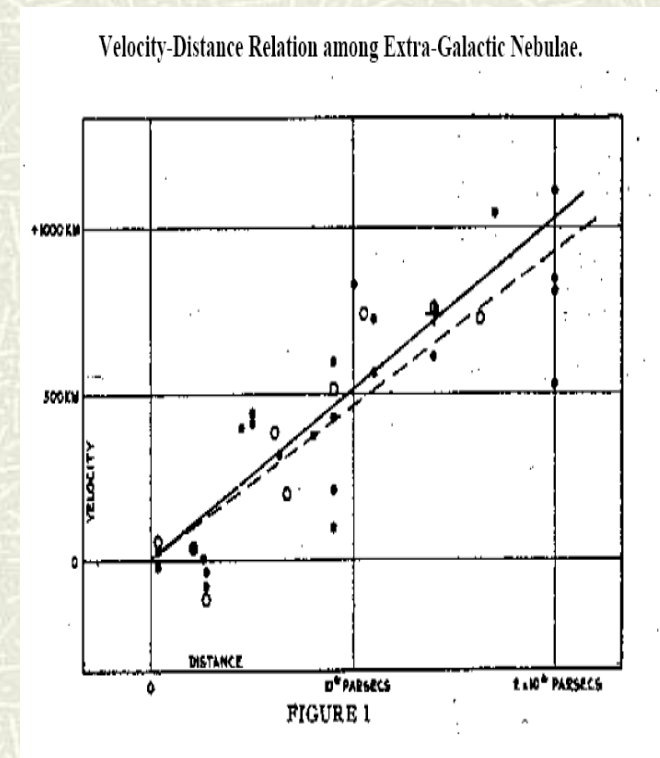
## ■ Combine 24 nebular distances with redshifts

*Redshifts from Slipher : not acknowledged*

## ■ Approx linear relation (Hubble, 1929)

*Some errors (Peacock)*

*Most important point not shown*



## ■ What do the redshifts mean?

*Reference to de Sitter universe*

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



## Act III An expanding universe? (1930-)

- **RAS meeting (1930)**

*Eddington, de Sitter*

*Redshift/distance relation of the nebulae*

*Static models don't fit*

*New model required*

- **Letter from Lemaître**

*Reminds Eddington of his 1927 model*

*Eddington, de Sitter impressed*

- **Expansion of space-time metric?**

*Considered by many theoreticians*

*If redshifts are velocities (Zwicky)*

*If effect is non-local*

*Not accepted by astronomers (Hubble)*

Velocity-Distance Relation among Extra-Galactic Nebulae.

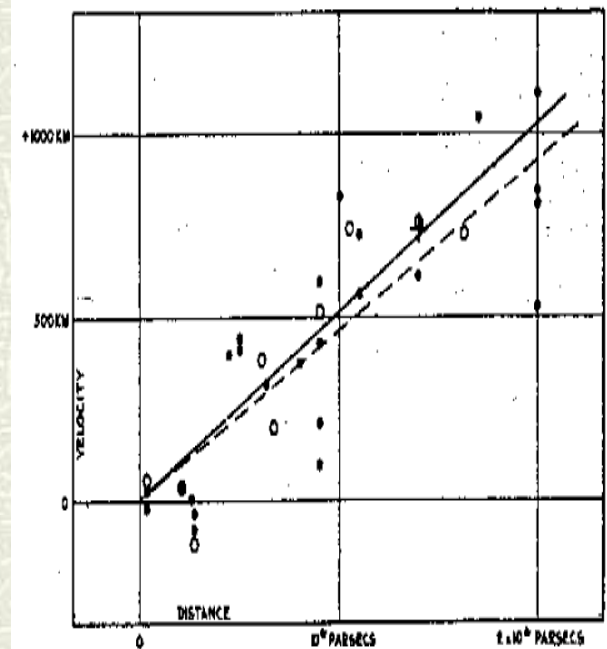


FIGURE 1

*Cosmic expansion?*

# Scene 1: Lemaître's universe (1927)



## ■ Matter-filled $U$ of expanding radius

*de Sitter model not static (1925)*

*New evolving solution : Einstein  $\rightarrow$  de Sitter*

*Fr Georges Lemaître*

## ■ Redshifts of galaxies = cosmic expansion?

*Rate of expansion from ave. distance and redshift*

$$H = 585 \text{ km/s/Mpc}$$

*Not an empirical law*

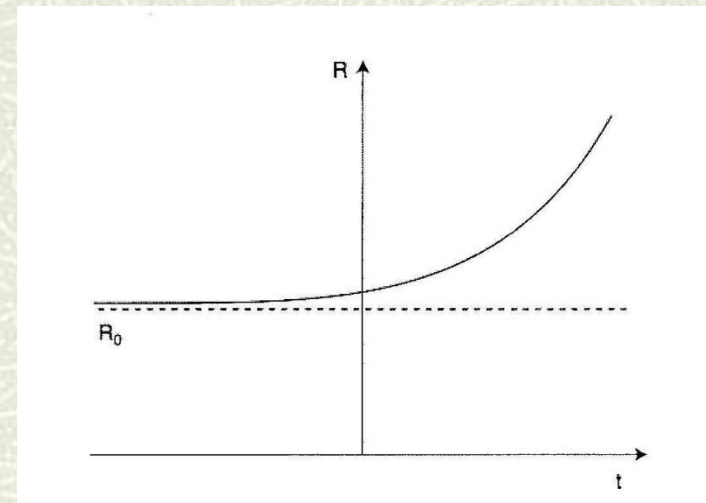
*Edited in 1931 translation*

## ■ No beginning: indefinite age

*Starts from Einstein universe at  $t = -\infty$*

## ■ Rejected by Einstein

*An idea whose time had not yet come*





## Scene II: Dynamic cosmic models (1931,32)

- **Eddington (1930, 31)**

*On the instability of the Einstein universe*

*The Eddington-Lemaître model*

*Expansion caused by condensation?*

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

*Further remarks on the expanding universe*

*Expanding universes of every flavour*

- **Tolman (1930, 31)**

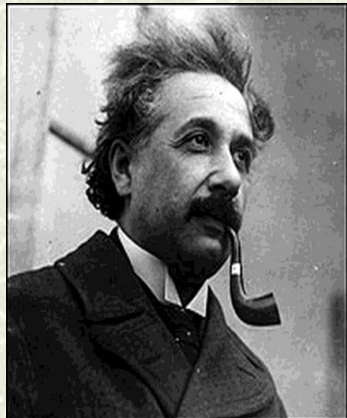
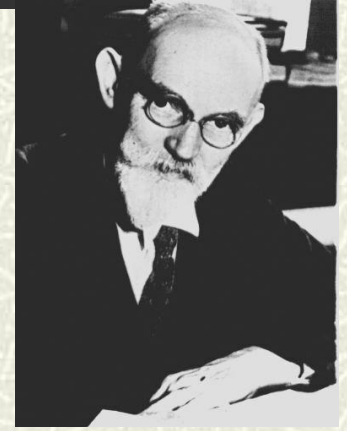
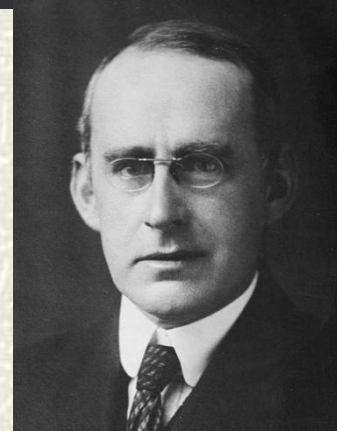
*On the behaviour of non-static models*

*Expansion caused by annihilation of matter ?*

- **Einstein (1931, 32)**

*Friedmann-Einstein model  $\lambda = 0, k = 1$*

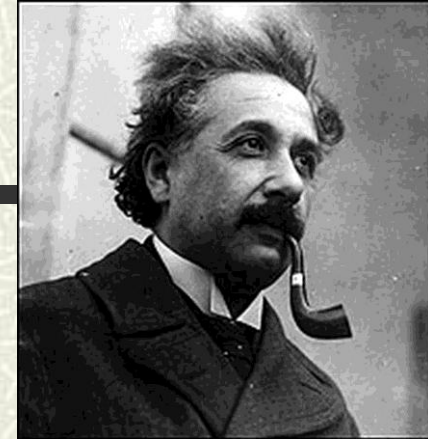
*Einstein-deSitter model  $\lambda = 0, k = 0$*



*If redshifts represent velocities...*

*If effect is non-local ....*

# Einstein's 1931 model ( $F-E$ )



## ✚ Instability of static universe

*Eddington's paper*

## ✚ Hubble's observations

*Expanding cosmos*

Remove cosmic constant?

*Friedmann-Einstein universe*

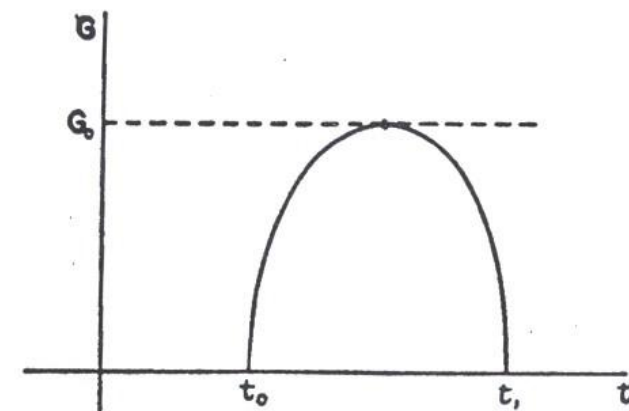
$$\left(\frac{dP}{dt}\right)^2 = c^2 \frac{P_0 - P}{P}$$

## ✚ Adopt Friedmann 1922 analysis

*Time-varying universe,  $k=1$ ,  $\lambda=0$*

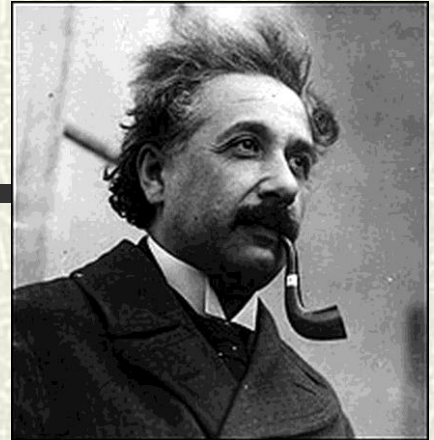
## ✚ Age and singularity problems

*Attributes to limitations of theory*





# Einstein's 1931 model (F-E)



*Oxford lecture (May 1931)*



## Numerical estimates of radius and density

*Use Hubble parameter*

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

## Calculations problematic

$$H_0 \sim 500 \text{ kms}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1} : D^2 \sim 10^{-55} \text{ cm}^{-2}$$

## Age estimate problematic

*Age from Friedmann*

## Not a periodic solution

*"Model fails at  $P = 0$ "*

$$\begin{aligned} D &= \frac{1}{c} \frac{1}{l} \frac{dl}{dt} = \frac{1}{c} \frac{1}{P} \frac{dP}{dt} \\ D^2 &= \frac{1}{P^2} \frac{P_0 - P}{P} \sim \frac{1}{P^2} \quad (1a) \\ D^2 &= \frac{K_0}{3} \frac{P_0 - P}{P} \sim \frac{1}{P} K_0 \quad (2a) \\ D^2 &\sim 10^{-53} \\ \rho &\sim 10^{-26} \\ P &\sim 10^8 \text{ L.y.} \\ \lambda &\sim 10^{10} (10^{11}) \end{aligned}$$

# Einstein-deSitter model (1932)

## # Remove curvature

*Not known (Occam's razor)*

## # Adopt Friedmann analysis

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

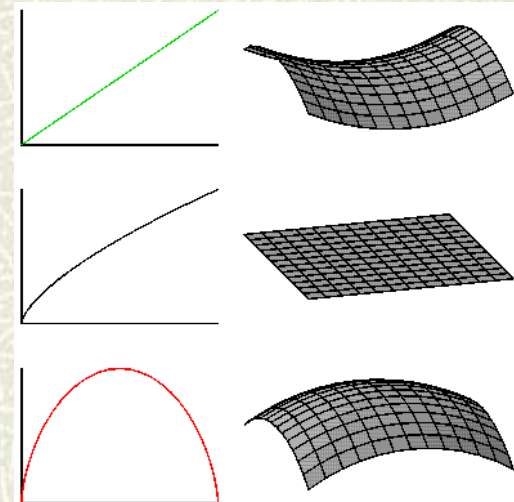
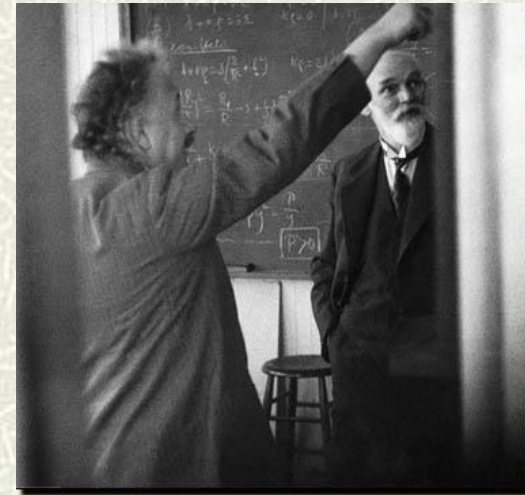
*Critical universe*

## # Calculate critical density

$10^{-28} \text{ g/cm}^3$  : agrees with astrophysics

## # Well-known model

*Despite age problem*

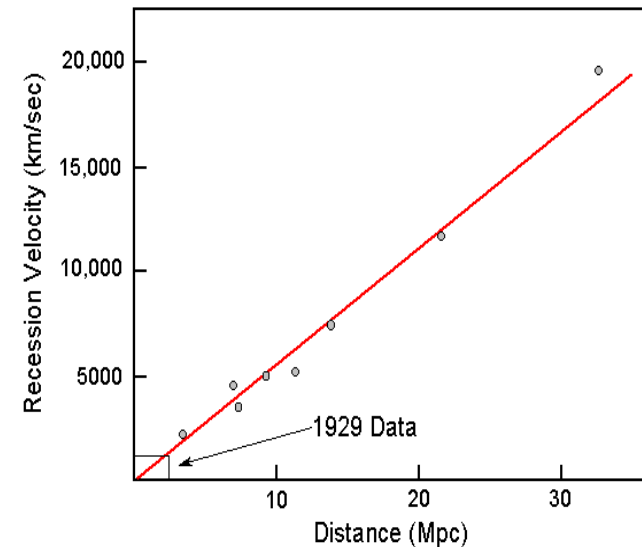




# Models: observational parameters needed

- # **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*

# The formation of galaxies

## ■ Growth in static medium

*Natural fluctuations in density*

*Exponential growth by gravitational collapse*

$$\lambda_j = c_s / (G\rho_0/\pi)^{1/2}$$

## ■ Growth in expanding medium

*Lemaître 1934, Tolman 1935*

*Linear growth of density perturbations*

$$\delta\rho/\rho \propto R$$

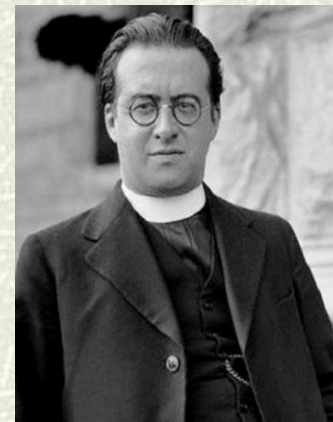
## ■ Structure not from density fluctuations?

*New mechanism needed*

*Eddington-Lemaître model?*



*James Jeans*





# Scene III: An origin for the universe?

## # Rewind Hubble graph

*U smaller in the past*

## # Extremely dense, extremely hot

*Primeval atom*

*Expanding and cooling since*

## # Singularity problem

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

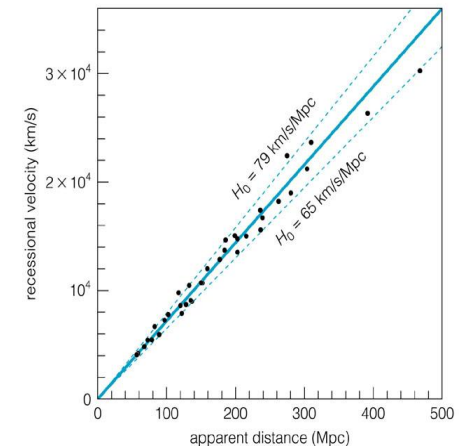
*Quantum theory*

## # Age problem

*U younger than stars?*



*The big bang*



# Lemaître's hesitating universe (1931-34)

## ✦ Primeval atom

*Explosive expansion from radioactive decay*

## ✦ Expansion slows down

*Positive cosmic constant*

*Energy of vacuum; stagnation*

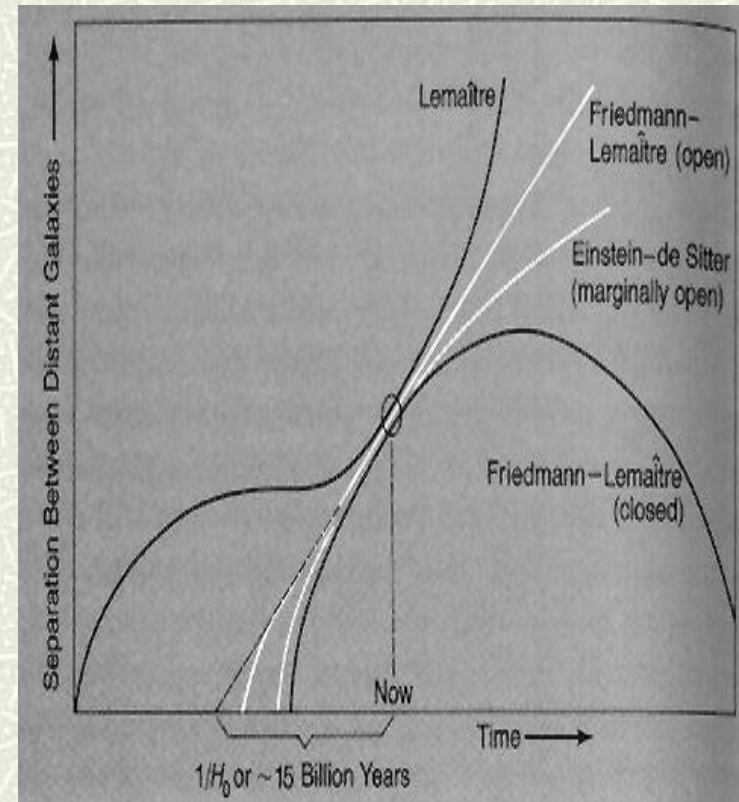
## ✦ Indefinite timespan

*No age problem*

*Formation of structure?*

## ✦ Accelerated expansion

*de Sitter universe at large  $t$*

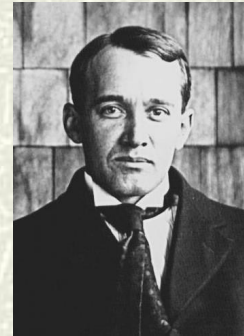


*Cosmic rays = radiation  
from early universe?*



# Finale: Paradigm shift or slow dawning?

# **Hubble/Slipher**      *Empirical law for nebulae*



# **Friedmann**      *Time-varying solutions*



# **Lemaître**      *Theory and observation*

Obs: Parsons, Huggins, Leavitt, Shapley

Models I: Einstein, de Sitter, Weyl, Lanczos, Robertson

Models II: Einstein, de Sitter, Eddington, Tolman, Robertson

*Slow emergence of theory and evidence*

**Slow acceptance: no upsurge of interest 1935-65**



## Act IV      Slow acceptance: 1935-65

### # **Hot big bang** (1940s)

*Nucleosynthesis in the hot infant universe?*

*Background radiation from early universe?*

### # **Little interest from community**

*No search for the cosmic radiation*

*General relativity difficult, abstruse*

### # **Steady-state universe** (1948)

*Continuous creation of matter from vacuum*

*No age or singularity problems*

### # **Later ruled out by experiment** (1960s)

*Radio-galaxy counts, CMB*



*Gamow, Alpher and Hermann*



*Hoyle, Bondi and Gold*



# Act V Cosmic background radiation

## # Search for radio signals

*Large, sensitive receiver*

## # Universal signal (1965)

*From every direction*

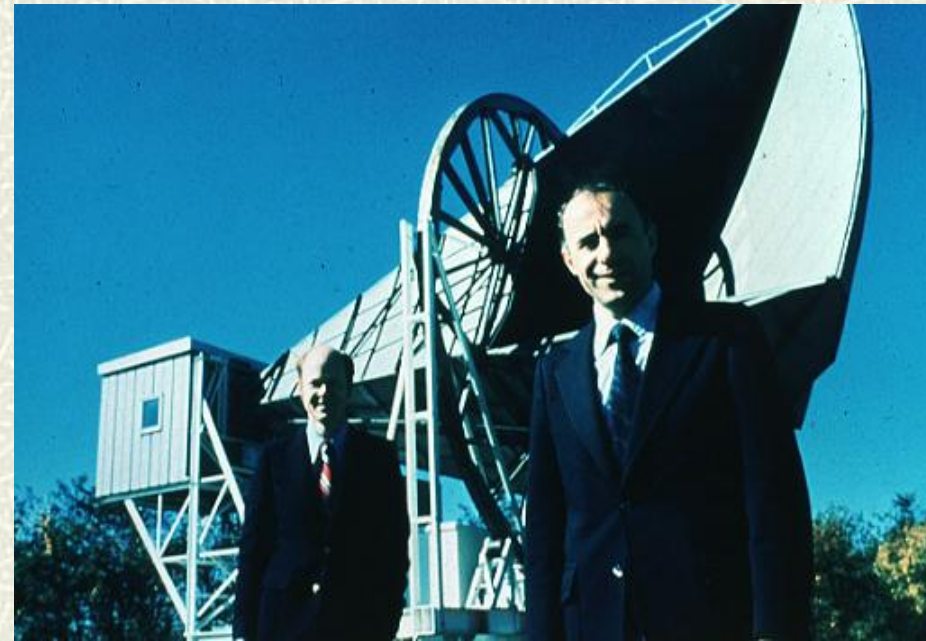
## # Low frequency (microwave)

*Low temperature (3K)*

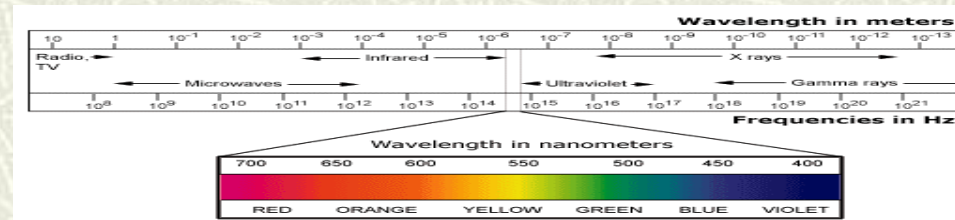
## # Echo of big bang

*Radiation from early universe*

**BB model goes mainstream**



*Penzias and Wilson*



# Cosmology today

- **Satellite measurements of CMB**

*No interference from atmosphere*

- **Expected temperature**

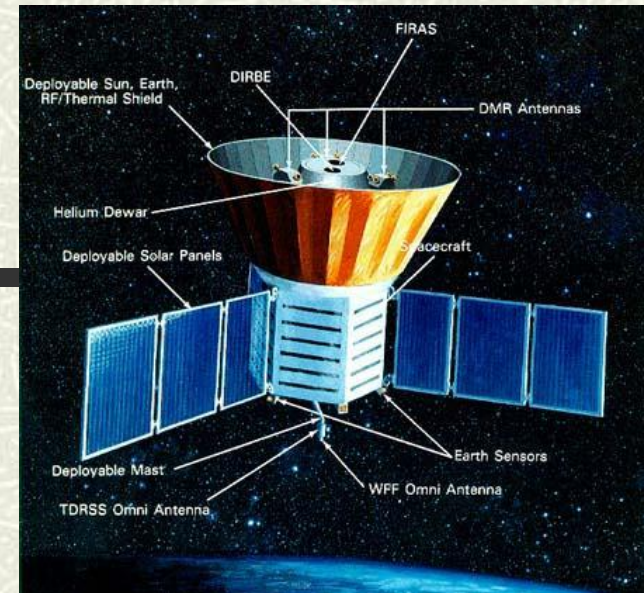
*Expected frequency*

- **Full spectrum**

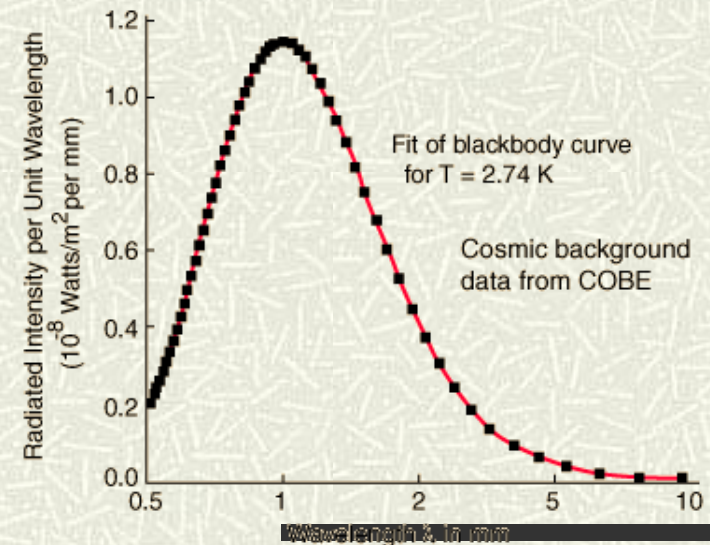
*Perfect blackbody spectrum*

- **Perturbations**

*Variation of 1 in  $10^5$*



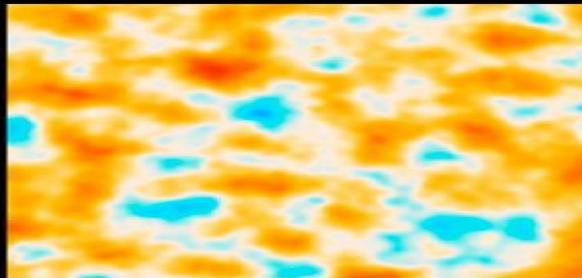
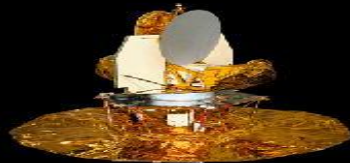
*COBE satellite (1992)*



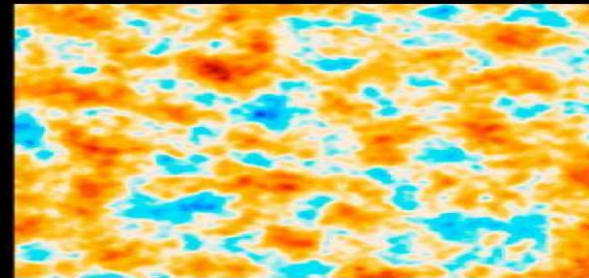




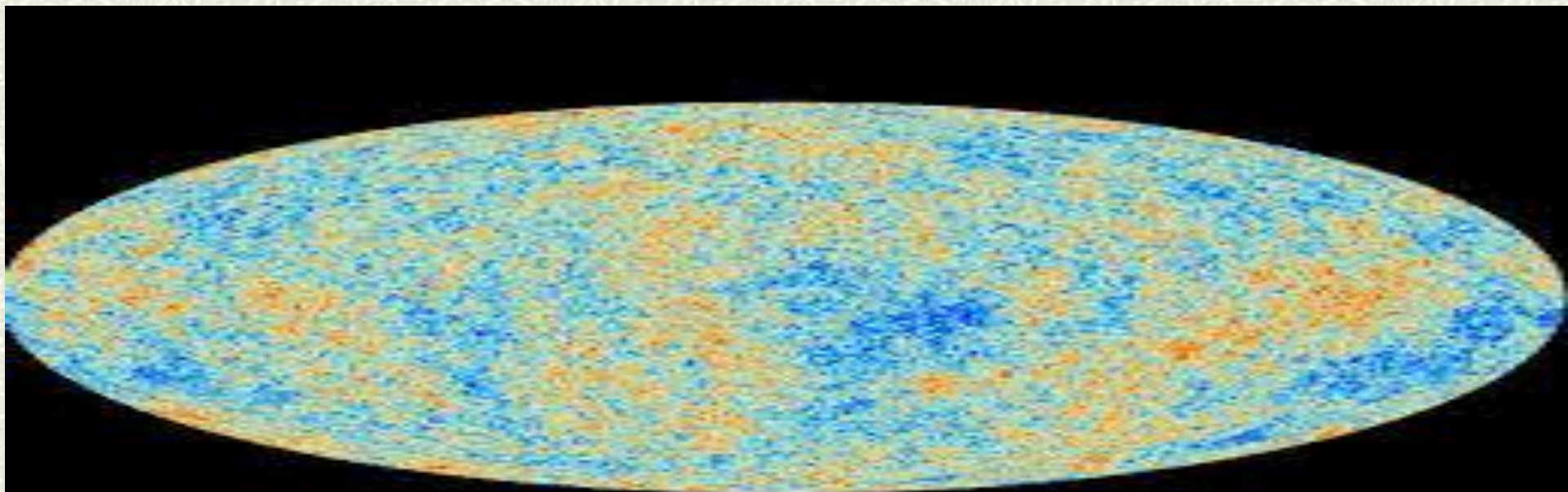
COBE



WMAP



Planck



# Paradigm shift or slow dawning?

## # Revolutionary v normal science

*Normal science interspersed by revolutions*

## # The paradigm shift

*Change of worldview occurs*

*Social factors important*

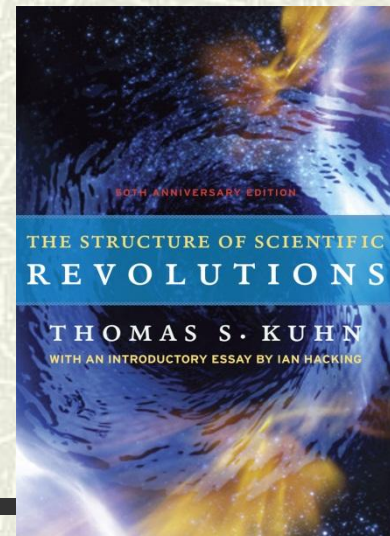
## # Incommensurability

*New worldview incommensurate with old*

**Exp U:** *Slow exploration of theory and observation*  
*Slow acceptance of new paradigm (1935-65)*



*Thomas Kuhn*





# Coda: Einstein's steady-state model

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האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים

## ■ Non-static line element (1930)

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

## ■ Age problem

*Conflict with stellar ages*

## ■ Non-evolving universe

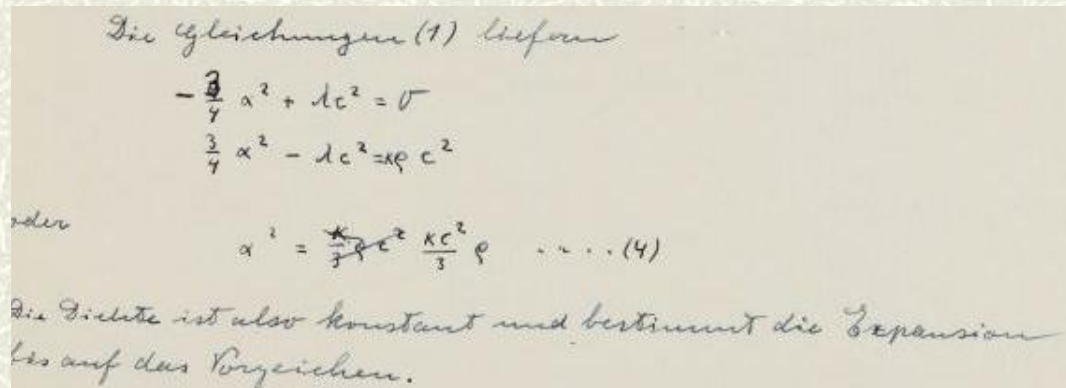
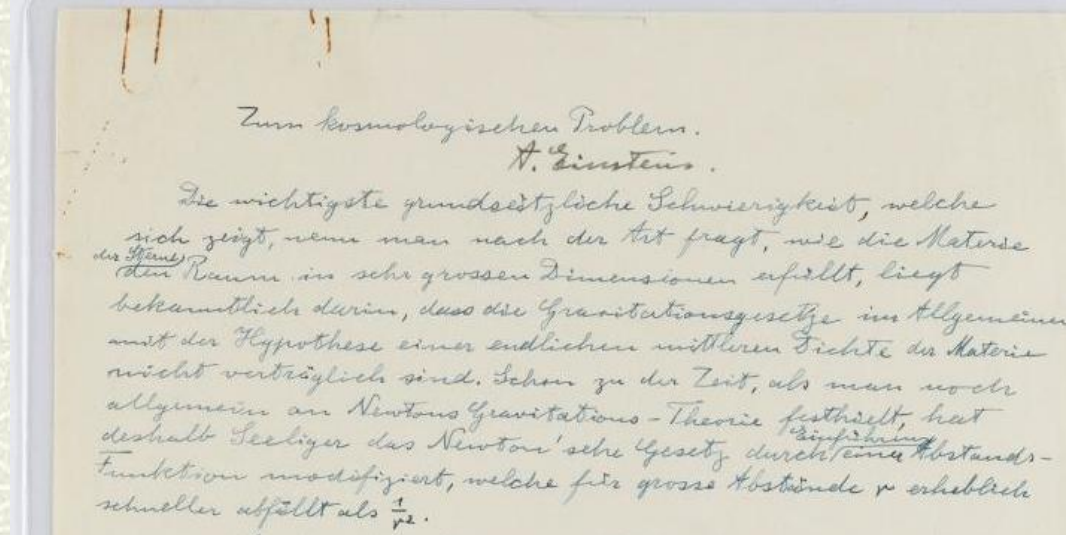
*Continuous creation of matter*

*Associated with  $\lambda$ : energy of space*

## ■ Anticipates Hoyle et al.

*Not published*

*Declines creation term*



# Tolman's annihilation of matter

## # Non-static line element (1930)

*Einstein, de Sitter models ruled out*

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

## # Cause of cosmic expansion?

*General evolutionary process*

*Transformation of matter into radiation*

## # Rate of transformation

*From Hubble's law and from stellar physics*

## # Influenced Einstein

*Steady-state model*



$$\frac{\delta\lambda}{\lambda} = k\Delta l$$

$$\frac{1}{M} \frac{dM}{dt} = -3k$$

$$k = 5 \times 10^{-10} \text{ yr}^{-1}$$



# New results: Planck Satellite (ESA, 2013)

## 1. Improved sensitivity

$$\Delta T/T \approx 1 \times 10^{-6}$$

## 2. Full spectrum of $T$ anisotropy

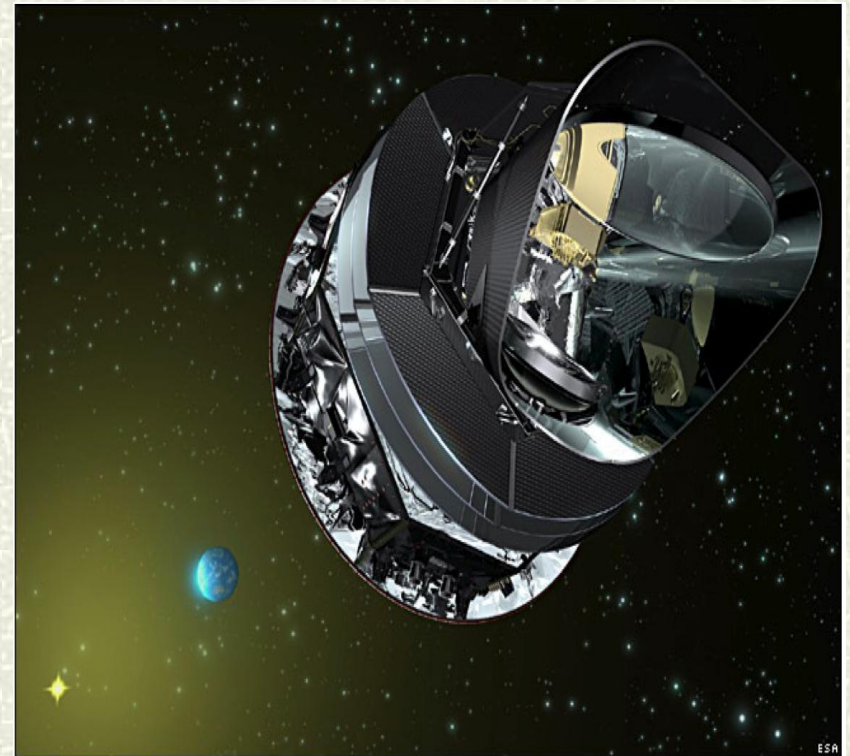
*New acoustic peaks : scale invariance?*  
*Accurate values for  $\Omega_{\Lambda}$ ,  $\Omega_{\text{M}}$*

## 3. Gravitational lensing

*Remove degeneracies*

## 4. Polarization measurements

*E-modes: fluctuations*  
*B-modes: gravity waves?*





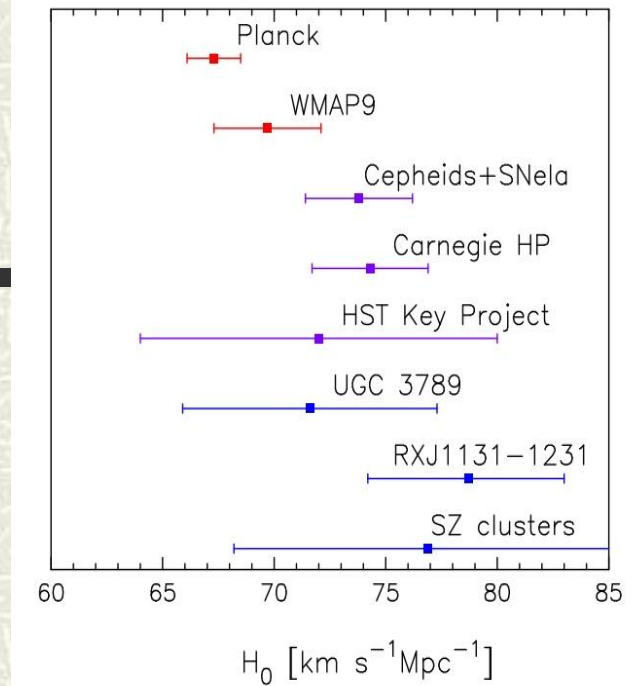
# Planck results (2013)

## 1. New Hubble constant

$67.3 \pm 1.2 \text{ km/s/MPC}$

*Age = 13.8 billion yr*

*No age conflict with astrophysics*



## 2. Curvature: flat

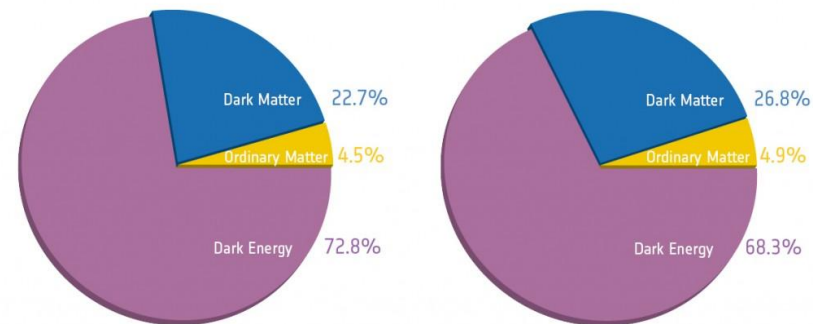
$$\Omega_k = -0.0005 \pm .07$$

## 3. Positive cosmic constant

$$\Omega_\Lambda = 68\%$$

## 4. New mass/energy parameters

$$\Omega_{\text{DM}} = 27\%, \quad \Omega_{\text{OM}} = 4.9\%$$



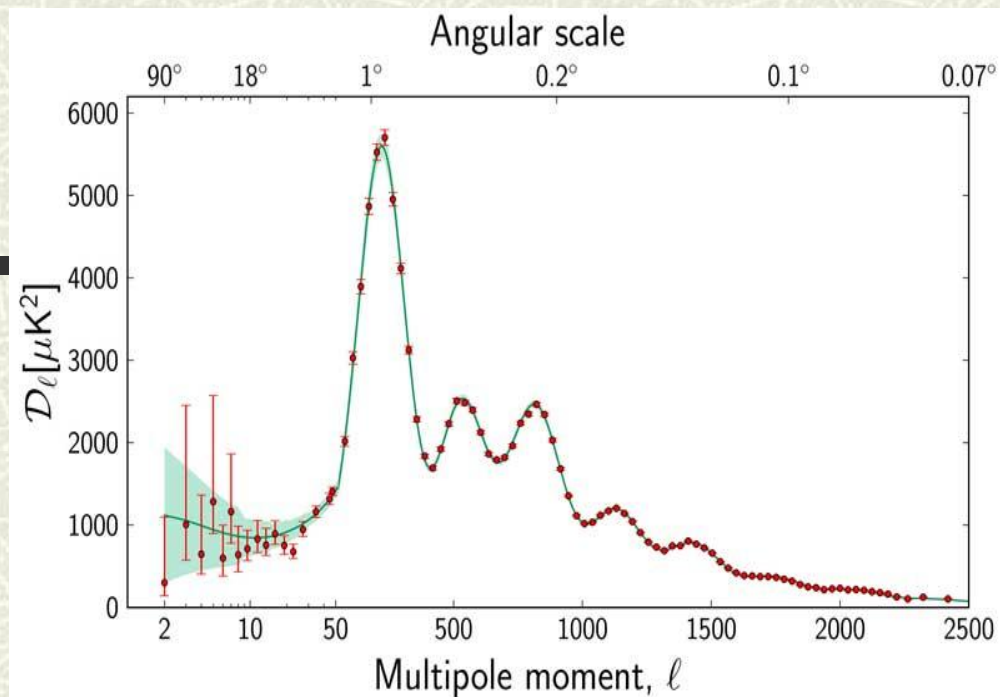
Before Planck

After Planck

# Planck Results

## 1. Power spectrum

*Not scale invariant  $n_s = 0.96$*

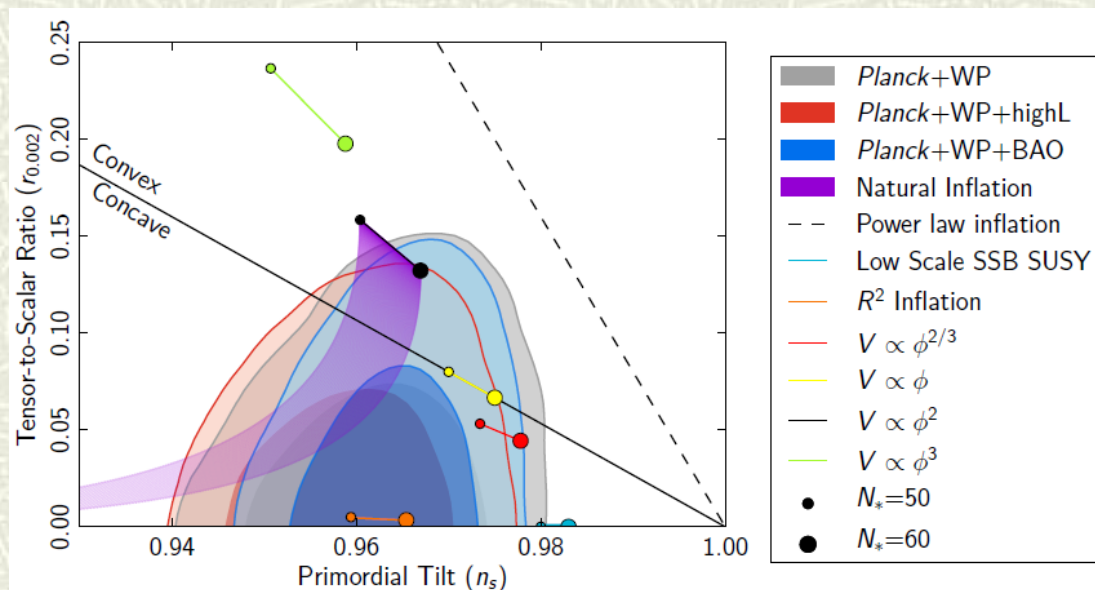


## 2. Compatible with inflation

*Simple 'slow-roll' models  
Higgs-type field?*

## 3. Complex inflation out

*Double field out  
Hybrid models out  
Cyclic models out*



# The big bang model - questions

## # Nature of dark energy?

*Role in BB?*

## # Nature of dark matter?

*Particle experiments?*

## # Which model of inflation?

*The multiverse?*

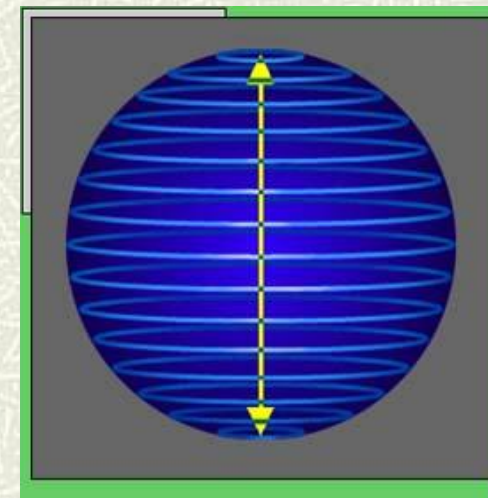
## # The singularity problem

*What banged?*

*What does time zero mean?*



*No-boundary universe*



**The case is never closed**