# The Big Bang

Is it true?

Dr Cormac O'Raifeartaigh FRAS

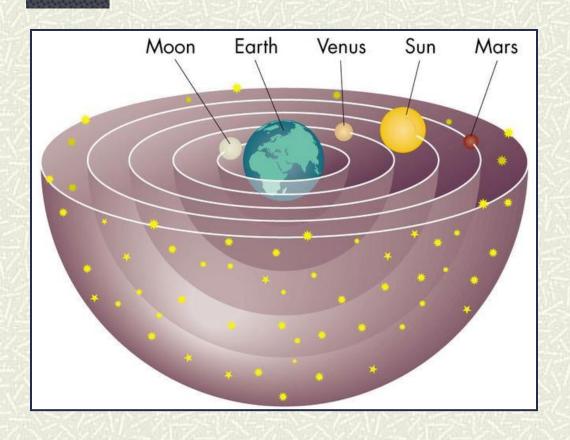
## Cosmology: the study of the universe

- **How big is the universe?**Is it finite or infinite?
- **♯ How old is the universe?**Is it eternal?
- **How did it begin?** *How will it end?*
- **■** What is the nature of time?



Not science?

#### The Greek universe



Eternal universe

Earth motionless

Centre of universe

All motion about earth

Stars quite close

Aristotle (350 BC) Ptolemy (200 AD)

### The Renaissance universe

Copernicus (15th cent)
Sun-centered system?

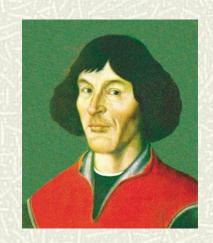
**Kepler** (16th cent)

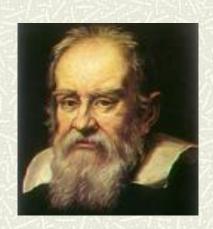
Elliptical orbits of the planets

Galileo (16th cent): telescope

Moons of Jupiter, phases of Venus,

Does earth move as other planets?





Many solar systems?

### Newton's universe

- Planet orbits due to gravity
- Gravity caused by sun's mass
- Attractive force
- Infinite, eternal universe

Olber's Paradox?



Newton (1642-1727)



## Astronomy (19th, 20th cent)

- # Powerful telescopes
- # Photography

# Spiral nebulae The great debate (1920)

- **■** Within the Milky Way?
- **♯** Distinct galaxies?

How big is the Universe?



Harlow Shapley vs Heber Curtis

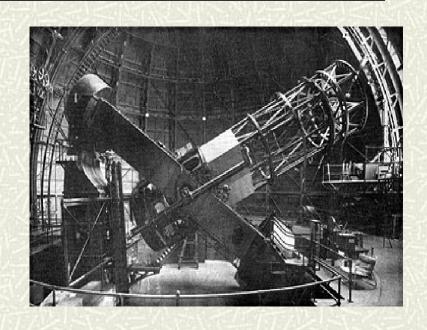


## The galaxies (1925)



Edwin Hubble

- # Cepheid stars in nebulae
- # Standard candles
- # Huge distance



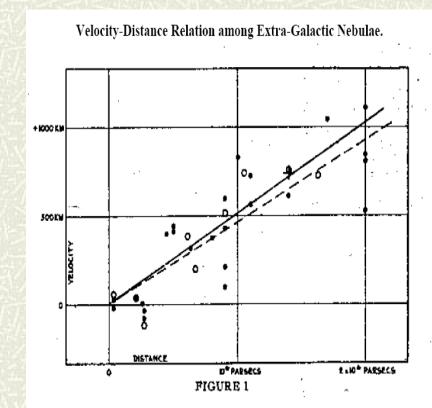
Hooker 100-inch reflector

#### Many galaxies

### The runaway galaxies (Hubble)

- # Galaxies moving away
- Investigated relation between distance and motion
- # Hubble's Law (1929)

Far-away galaxies rushing away at a speed proportional to distance

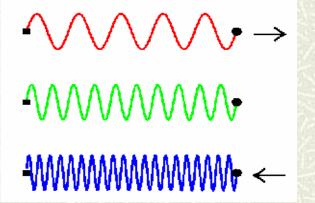


$$v = H_0 d$$

## Motion of galaxies: redshift



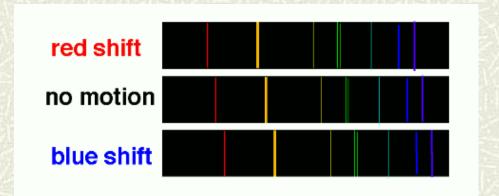
Vesto Slipher



frequency of light depends on motion of source relative to observer

Doppler Effect

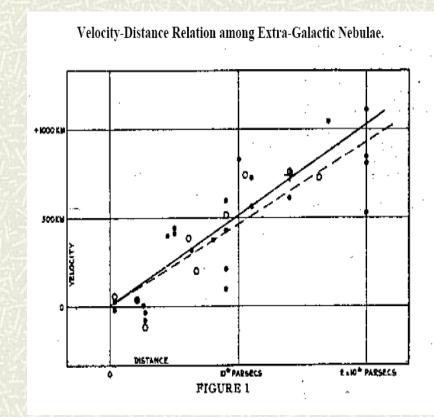
measure motion of stars from light emitted



## The runaway galaxies (Hubble)

- **♯** Galaxies moving away
- Investigated relation between distance and motion

Far-away galaxies rushing away at a speed proportional to distance



$$v = H_0 d$$

### Explanation?

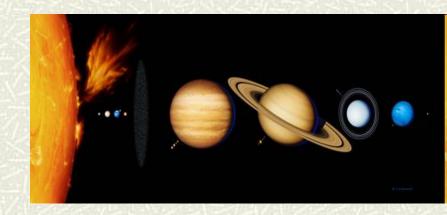
#### Newton

- Gravity pulls in not out
- Space is fixed
- Time has no beginning

How can galaxies be receding? What is pushing out?



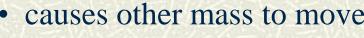
Isaac Newton



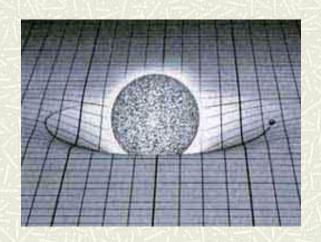
## Modern theory of gravity

#### General theory of relativity (Einstein, 1916)

- speed of light = speed limit
- space + time not fixed
- affected by mass
- causes other mass to move



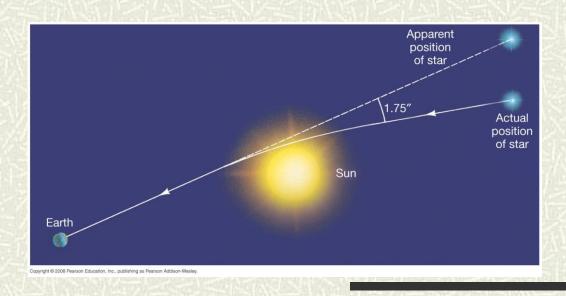




gravity = curvature of space-time

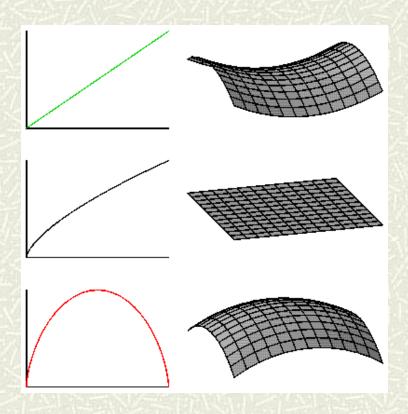
## Evidence for general relativity

- Perihelion of Mercury
- Bending of light by gravity (1919)
- Black holes
- Time stretching by gravity
- GPS



## Relativity and the universe

#### Apply Einstein's gravity to the cosmos



- # Predicts dynamic Universe
- **♯** Space expanding, contracting

**Einstein:** static universe Add cosmological constant  $\lambda$ 

**Friedmann:** 3 possibilities  $\Omega = d/d_c$ Depends on matter

### Lemaître's universe (1927)



New evolving solution : Einstein  $\rightarrow$  de Sitter



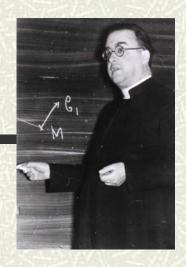
Rate of expansion from mean distances and redshifts H = 585 km/s/Mpc

**■ No beginning: indefinite age** 

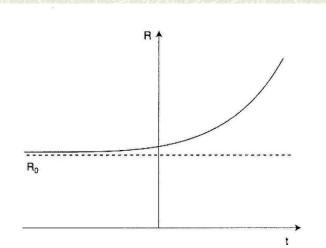
Starts from Einstein universe at  $t = -\infty$ 

**■** Rejected by Einstein (1927)

"Votre physique est abominable"



Fr Georges Lemaître



### An expanding universe? (1930-)

#### • RAS meeting (1930)

Eddington, de Sitter
Redshift/distance relation of the nebulae
Static models don't fit
New model required

#### Expansion of space-time metric?

Considered by many theoreticians

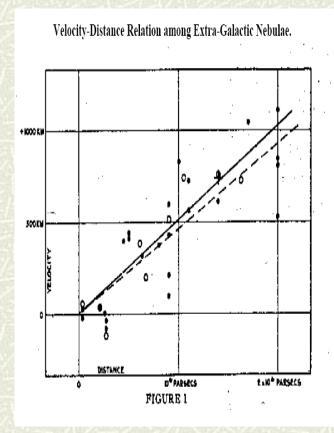
If redshifts are velocities (Zwicky)

If effect is non-local

Not accepted by astronomers (Hubble)

#### Letter from Lemaître

Reminds Eddington of his 1927 model Eddington, de Sitter impressed



Cosmic expansion?

### The expanding universe (1930 -)

#### • 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

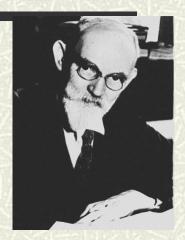
#### • Tolman (1930, 31)

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

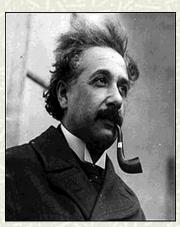
#### • Einstein (1931, 32)

Friedman-Einstein model  $\lambda = 0$ , k = 1Einstein-deSitter model  $\lambda = 0$ , k = 0









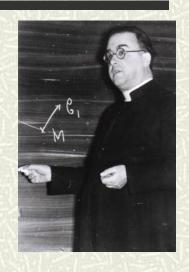
If redshifts represent expansion...

Evolving models

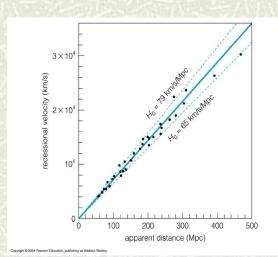
## An origin for the universe?

- # Rewind Hubble graph
- $\blacksquare$  U smaller in the past
- # Extremely dense, extremely hot
- **U**Quantum beginning?

Calculate age
Younger than the stars?



Fr Georges Lemaitre



## The 'big bang' model (1931)

 $\blacksquare U$  originally concentrated in tiny volume

# Extremely dense, hot

# Expanding and cooling since

Wrong age (Hubble)

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

### Additional evidence

- **■** How did the chemical elements form?
- **♯** Nuclear physics (1940s)
- **♯** Not in the stars
- **■** In Lemaitre's infant universe?
- **#** *H*, *He* nuclei (1 s)
- U = 75% H, 25% He
- **♯** Agrees with observation





Georges Gamow



### Prediction: cosmic radiation?

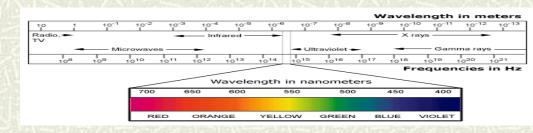
- **#** Radiation of infant universe
- **★** Released when atoms formed (300,000 yr)
- **★** Still observable today?

  Low temp, microwave frequency



Alpher, Gamow and Herman

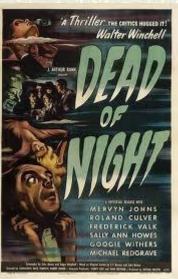
No-one looked (1940s)



## Steady-state model (1950s)



Fred Hoyle



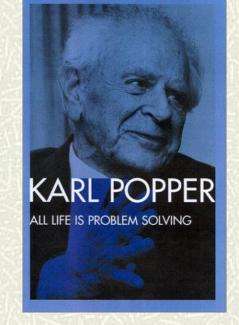
- # Rival model
- **#** Expanding universe

#### BUT

- **♯** Matter continuously created
- **♯** No beginning

## Steady-State vs Big Bang (1950s)

- Continuous creation?
- Density of matter constant ?
- U unchanging, eternal ?
- Young universe similar to today ?



Falsification possible

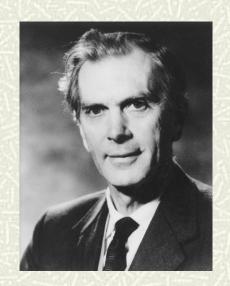
### Radio-astronomy (1960s)

- **♯** Study most distant galaxies
- **♯** Compare with local galaxies
- **■** Density the same at all times? (SS)
- **♯** Or different? (BB)

Answer: different

End of steady-state model

Cambridge 3C survey



Martin Ryle

## Bonus: cosmic radiation (1965)

#### CMB discovered accidentally

**♯** Universal signal

**♯** Low frequency (microwave)

**■** Low temperature (3K)



Penzias and Wilson

Echo of Big Bang!

BB model goes mainstream

## The big bang – is it true?



Superhot, superdense

Expanding and cooling

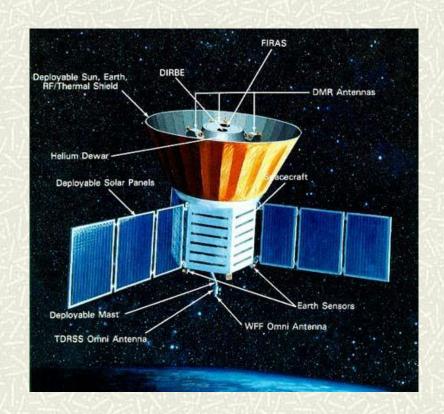
- $\sqrt{1}$ . The expansion of the U
- $\sqrt{2}$ . The abundance of H and He
- $\sqrt{3}$ . The evolution of galaxies
- $\sqrt{4}$ . The cosmic background radiation

How did it start?

#### Part II Modern measurements

- New measurements of CMB
- Full spectrum
- Comparison with theory

- Balloon experiments
- Satellite experiments

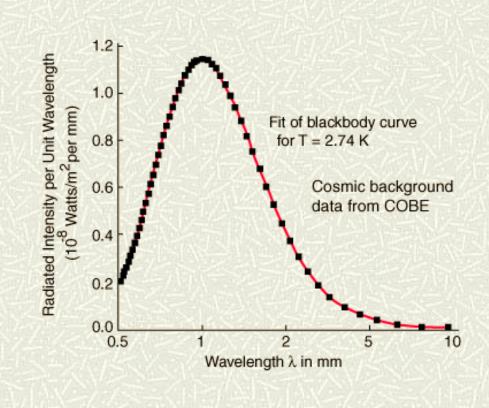


COBE satellite (1992)

### COBE measurements of CMB

- Expected temperature
- Expected frequency
- Perfect blackbody spectrum

- Radiation very uniform
- Galaxy formation?
- *Variation of 1 in* 10<sup>5</sup>



Nobel Prize 2006

COBE (1992)

#### **Problems**

#### **Background radiation raised new questions**

**♯** Horizon problem why so uniform?

**Galaxy** problem how did galaxies form?

**#** Flatness problem *fine balance?* 

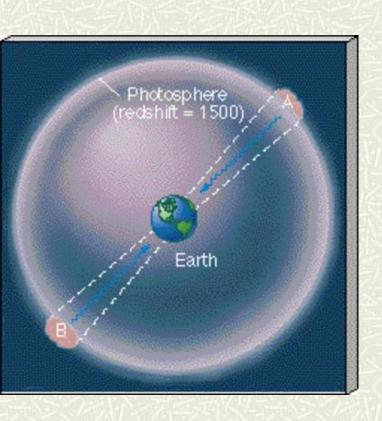
Singularity problem  $\infty$  density,  $\infty$  curvature at t = 0?



Stephen Hawking

quantum gravity?

### The horizon problem



Two distant regions of background radiation have very similar temps

#### Why?

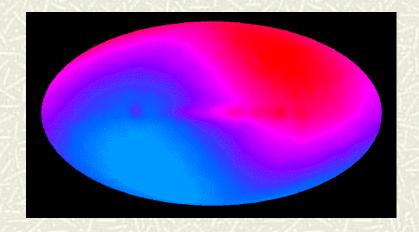
Too far apart to be causally connected

- Finite speed of light
- Finite age of cosmos

Is U too big?

## Galaxy formation problem

- ★ Microwave background smooth on large scale
- **■** No obvious deviations from homogeneity (1 in 100,000)



### The flatness problem

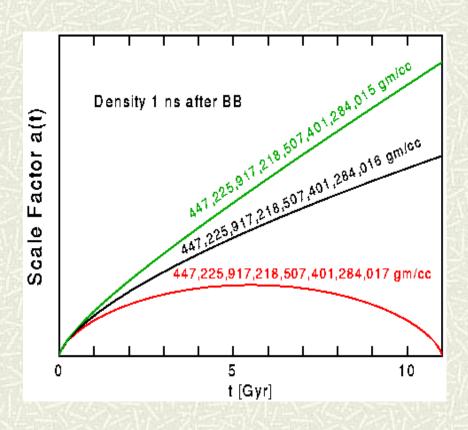
Slightest deviation from flatness

Runaway expansion or crunch

$$\frac{Not\ observed}{\Omega = 1}$$

Why so finely balanced initially?

Astrophysics:  $\Omega = 0.3$  (matter)



At t = 1 s,  $\Omega = 1$  to within 1:10<sup>15</sup>)

## Solution: Inflation (1981)

- **♯** Initial exponential expansion
- **♯** Driven by *phase transition*

#### Repulsive force

- $\blacksquare$  Expansion of  $10^{26}$  in  $10^{-32}$  s
- **#** Smooths out inhomogeneities
- **#** Smooths out curvature

'No hair' universe

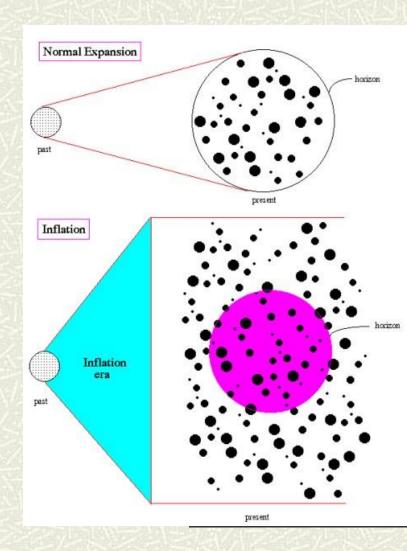
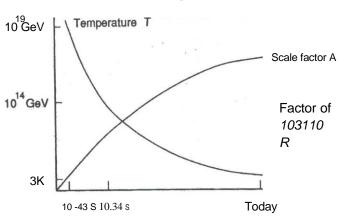


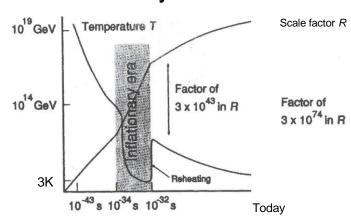
Figure 5.7. Comparison of the evolution of the scale factor and temperature in the standard Big Bang and inflationary cosmologies.

The scale factor can be thought of as the distance between any two points which partake in the uniform expansion of the Universe.

#### Standard Big Bang



#### **Inflationary Scenario**

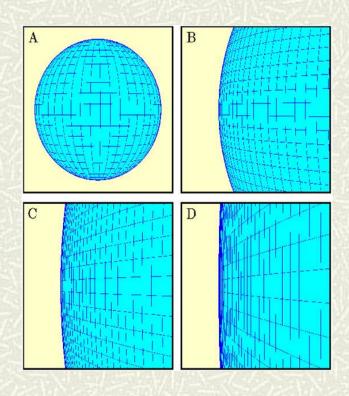


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## The inflationary universe

- ★ Solves flatness problem
   Geometry driven towards flatness
- **■** Solves horizon problem *Early U incredibly small*
- ★ Mechanism for galaxy formation
   Natural variations inflated

$$\Omega = 1$$
?



Conflict between theorists and experimentalists

#### Dark Matter

- # First suggested in 1930s
- # Stellar motion

# normal gravitational effect but cannot be seen directly

- # Explains motion of stars
- # Explains motion of galaxies
- # Explains gravitational lensing

Matter = 
$$OM(30\%) + DM(70\%)$$

Also suggested by nucleosynthesis

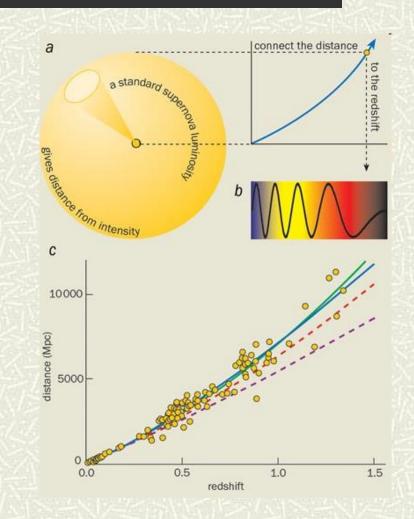


$$\Omega = 0.3$$

## Dark Energy (the return of $\lambda$ )

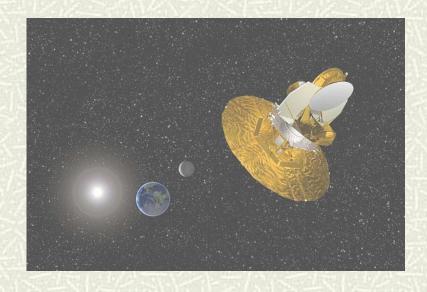
- # Furthest galaxies too far away
- # Hubble expansion accelerating
- $\blacksquare$  Geometry of U flat
- **♯** Support for inflation

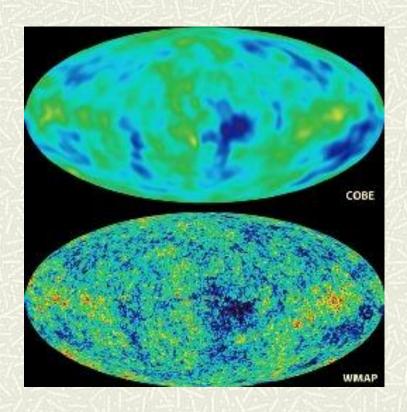
Caused by dark energy



## WMAP Satellite (2002)

- Details of CMB spectrum
- Details of galaxy formation
- Details of flatness of *U*





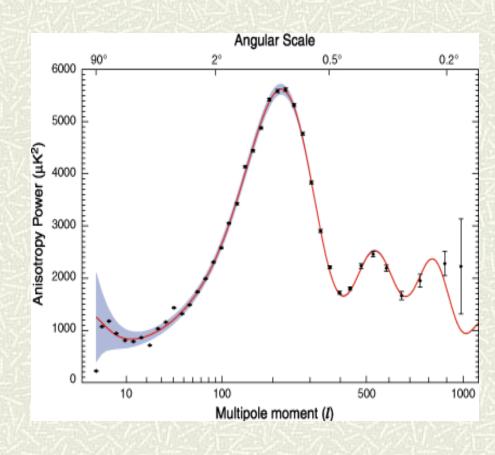
Cosmic microwave background

## WMAP measurements of CMB (2005)

- **♯** Flat geometry (to 1%)
- $\blacksquare$  Spectrum of *T* variations

Agreement with supernova data

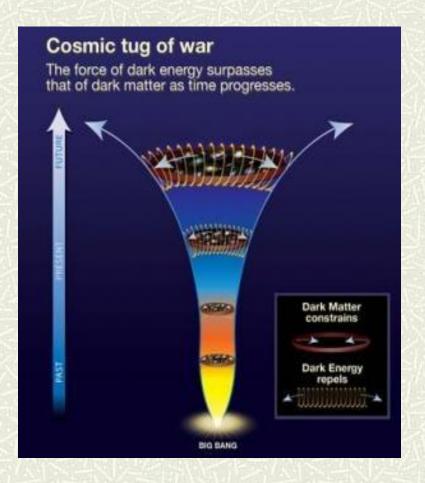
Strong support for inflation



Fit to theory

## Dark Energy

- **#** Cosmological constant?
- **■** Predicted by relativity
- ★ Natural tendency of space to expand
- **■** Energy of vacuum?
- **■** Why so small?
- **■** Why of similar density to matter?
- **♯** Not well understood
- **#** Fate of universe?



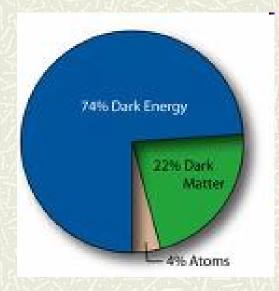
## New big bang model: A-CDM

## A flat, accelerating universe containing matter, dark matter and dark energy

1. Ordinary matter: 4% (astrophysics)

2. Dark matter: 22% (astrophysics)

3. Dark energy: 74% (supernova, CMB)



**ACDM** 

$$\Omega = 1$$

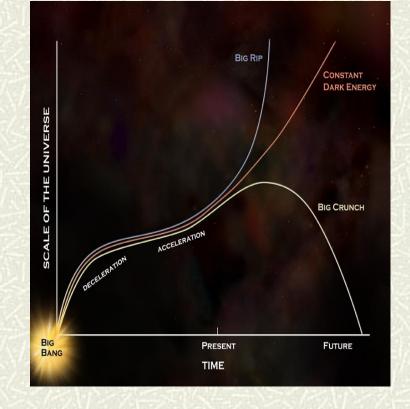
## Putting it all together

#### Basic evidence (BB model)

- The expanding universe
- The abundance of the elements
- The evolving galaxies
- The cosmic background radiation

#### **Modern measurements**

- The CMB spectrum
- Inhomogeneties (galaxy formation)
- Flat Geometry (supernovae)



A flat, accelerating universe containing matter, dark matter and dark energy

### Is it true? Problems

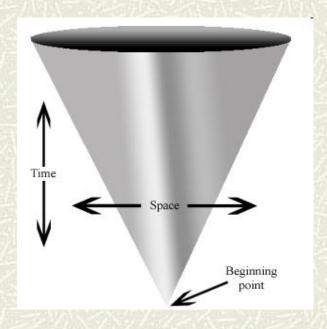
**★** Nature of dark energy? *Fate of universe?* 

**■** Nature of dark matter?

**★** Which model of inflation?

The multiverse

**■** What happened at time zero? *Quantum gravity?* 



Something from nothing?

rder

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עוניברקונוה העבבות בובמעלות

# Cites Hubble's law

Stability of static universe?

**#** Cites evolving models (Tolman)

Conflict with stellar ages

Q: Alternative solution

Expanding, unchanging cosmos?

Continuous creation of matter

Associated with  $\lambda$  - energy of space

**#** Anticipates Hoyle model

Doesn't work: no creation term Explored and discarded

Zum kosmologischen Problem.

\*\*A: Zimstein.

See wichtigste grundseistzliche Schwerigkeist, welche sich zeigt, wem man nach der trt fragt, mie die Materie die Keine Reum in sehr grossen Dimensionen afüllt, liegt bekanntlich durin, duss der Granitationsgesetze im telgemeinen mit der Hypothese einer endlichen mitteren Tichte du Materie micht verträglich sind. Schon zu der Zeit, als man noch allymeine an Newtons Gravitations-Theorie fisthielt, hat deshalt Seeliger das Newtons sehr Gesetz durchteine Hostands-tunktion modifiziert, welche fitz grosse Abstrände werheblich schneller abfällt als ze.

 $\alpha' = \frac{\kappa}{3} e^{2} \frac{\kappa c^{2}}{3} e^{-\kappa c} \cdot (4)$ 

Die Vielete ist also konstant und bertimmt die Zepansion bes auf das Vorgeichen.

### Einstein's steady-state model

#### **♯** Why does model fail?

De Sitter model (9/4 $\rightarrow$  -3/4)

$$\rho = 0$$

#### **#** How is matter formed?

No 'creation' term

#### # Einstein's crossroads

Realised S-S model requires term

Declined to add term to GFE

#### **#** Evolving models

Less contrived

Set 
$$\lambda = 0$$

reduce 
$$\alpha^2 = \frac{1}{3} \varphi \epsilon^2 \frac{\kappa c^2}{3} \varphi \cdots (4)$$

Die Dielete ist also konstant und bestimmt die Tepansion Les auf des Vorzeichen.

The Nachfolgender will set are fine Lössing der Gleichung (4) aufwertesten machen, welche Herbfel's Thatsuchere gerecht wird, und in welcher die Dielete zeitliche konstant est. Itere Lösung ist zwar in dem allzemeinen Schema Tolman's urthalten, scheint aber hisher wielet in Betracht zezogen worden zu seen.

1 Den setze au

Der Erhaltungssatz bleebt deelurch zewahrt, dass bei Tetzung des 2-Gleedes der Rames selbst wicht energetisch leer est; seine Geltung wird behaumtlich durch des Gleichungen (1) gewährleistet.



NATURE | NEWS

#### Einstein's lost theory uncovered

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

Davide Castelvecchi

24 February 2014

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



Almost 20 years before the late Fred Hoyle and his colleagues devised the <u>Steady State Theory</u>, 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 <u>Nature</u>,

model of the universe very different to today's Big Bang Theory.

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





#### SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN™

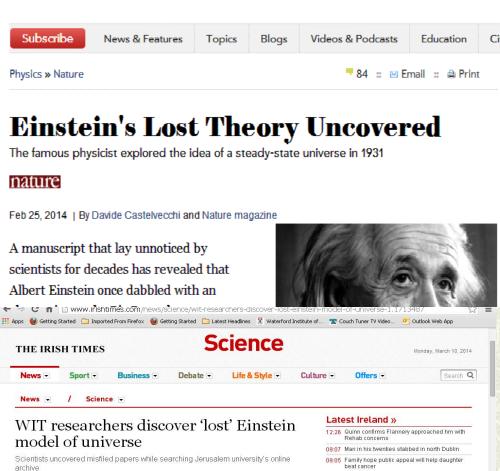


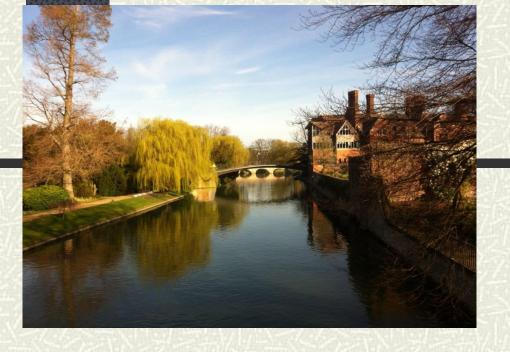
08:42 Gardaí investigate death of woman in Dublin

08:25 Flannery faces call from all parties to attend

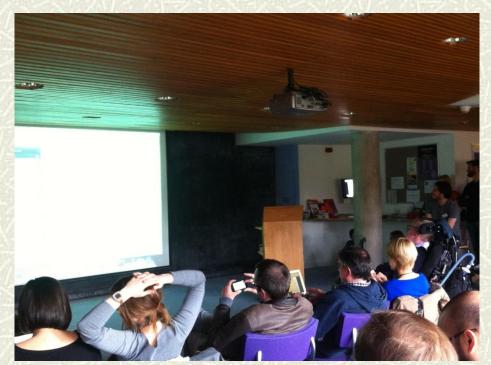
The way back isn't so simple

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# 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)."

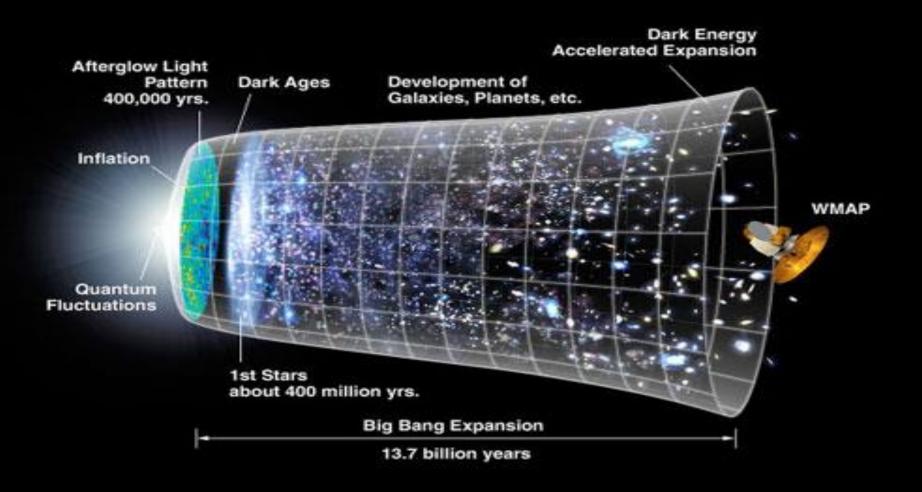
Anticipates the discovery of an accelerated expansion Anticipates positive comological constant

#### **#** De Sitter line element

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

Identical to inflationary models

**Different time-frame** 



Further reading: The Big Bang (Simon Singh)
Antimatter (CÓR)