

# Redshifts and the expanding universe

*Paradigm shift or slow dawning?*

Cormac O'Riordain FRAS



# 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)*

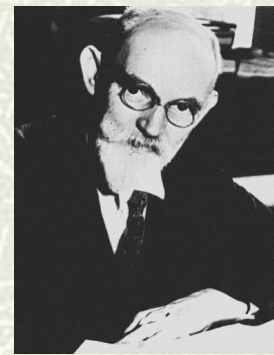
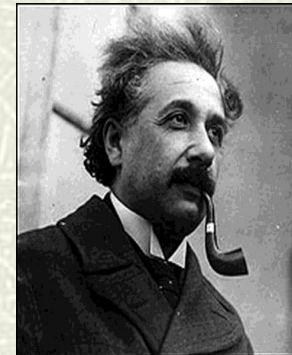
*The Hubble graph of 1929*



## ■ 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 (1930-35)*

*Paradigm shift or slow dawning?*



## ■ New findings *Einstein's steady-state model (1931)*

# 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***





# The spectra of the nebulae

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

*Emission and absorption lines of celestial objects*

## ⌘ Composition of the stars

*William Huggins*



## ⌘ Motion of the stars: Doppler effect

*William Campbell*

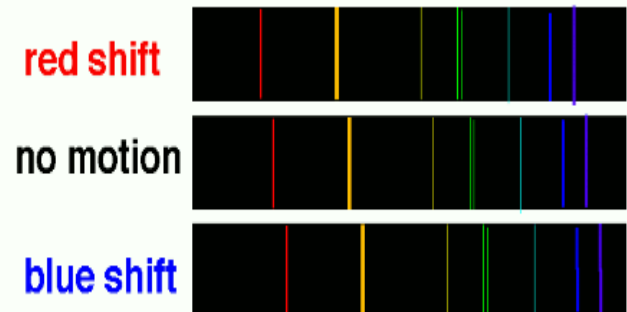
$$\Delta\lambda/\lambda = v/c$$

## ⌘ Spectroscopy of spiral nebulae?

*Composition of nebulae?*

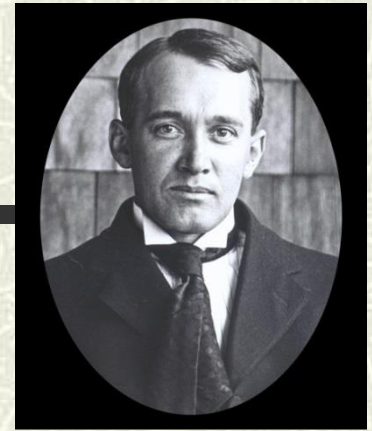
*Motion of nebulae?*

## ⌘ Difficult to resolve



# Slipher and the nebulae

- **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*



V.M. Slipher



# 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: 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)

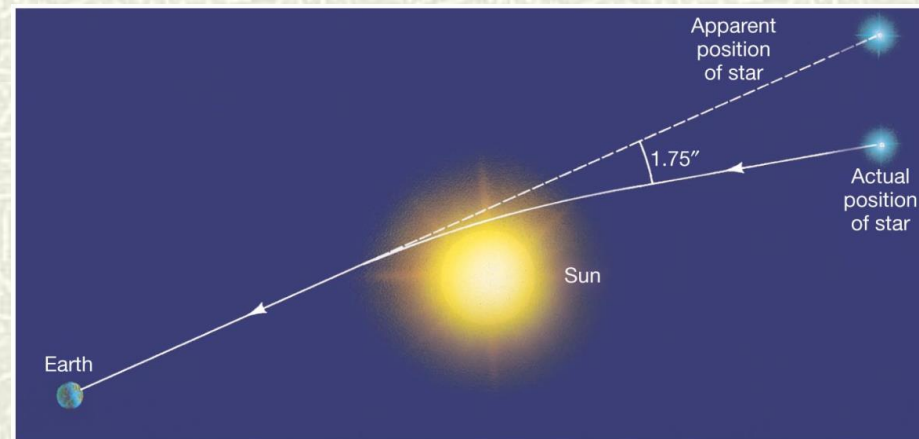
*Measure bending of light?*

*Successful result*

*General relativity well-known*



*Albert Einstein*



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# Relativity and the cosmos

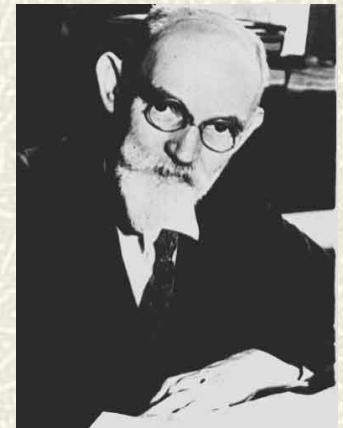
## *Einstein model (1917)*

- 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*



# Redshifts and the de Sitter universe

## # Karl Wirtz (1922,24)

*Redshifts of nebulae increasing with distance*

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



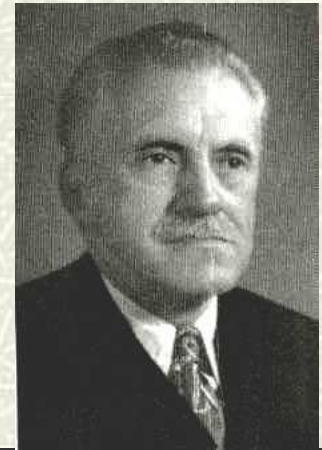
## # Ludwik Silberstein (1924)

*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?*

# Friedmann models



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

*Expanding, contracting universes*

*Allow cosmic constant*

- **Geometry, evolution depends on matter**

*Positive curvature (1922)*

*Hyperbolic curvature (1924)*

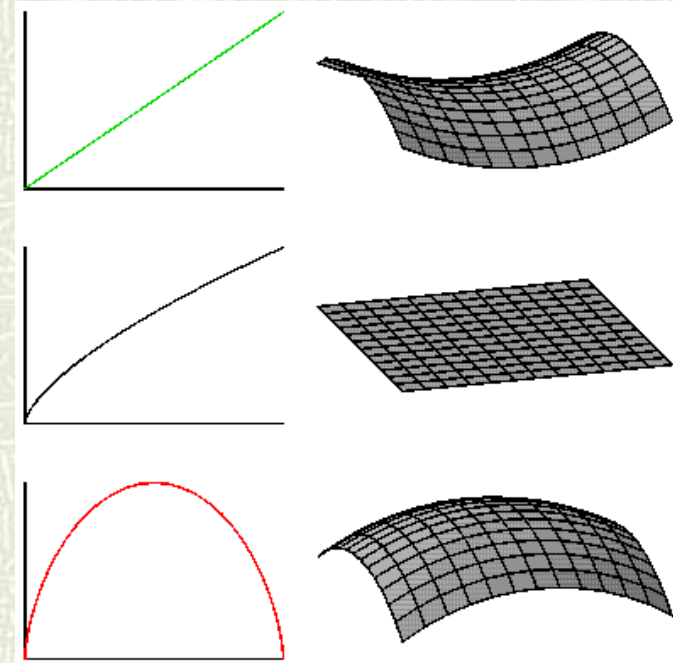
- **Hypothetical models (Zf. Ph.)**

*To be decided by astronomy*

- **Disliked by Einstein**

*Correction and retraction*

*Alexander Friedmann 1888 -1925*



*Ignored by community*



# 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*

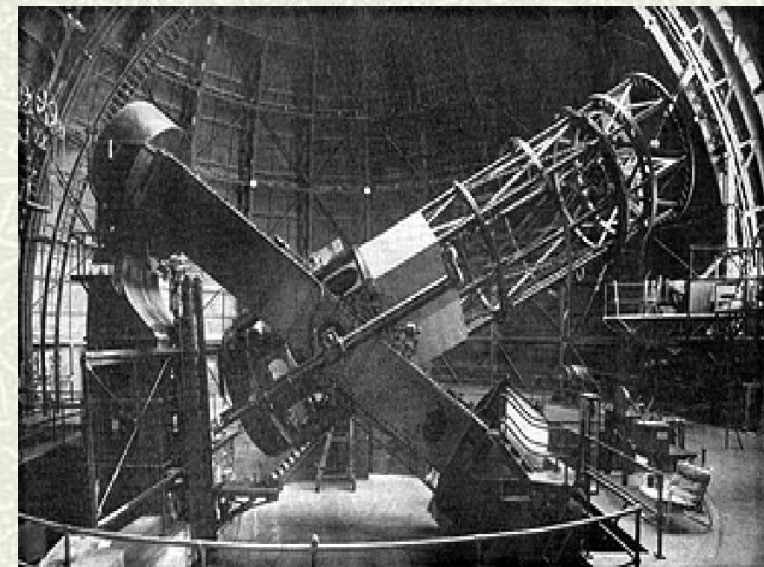
## # Spirals beyond Milky Way

*Beginning of end of 'Great Debate'*

*Nebulae = galaxies*



*Edwin Hubble (1889-1953)*



# 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*

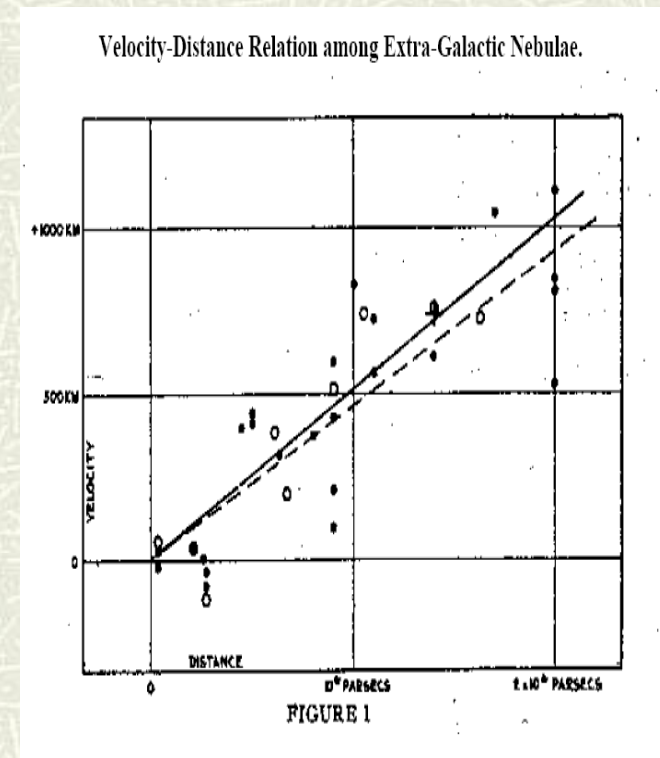
## ■ Approx linear relation (Hubble, 1929)

*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?**

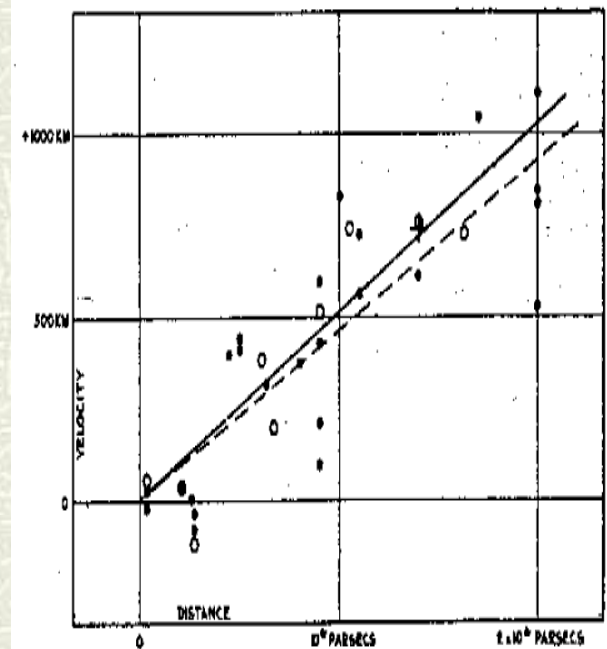
*Considered by many theoreticians*

*If redshifts are velocities (Zwicky)*

*If effect is non-local*

*Not accepted by astronomers (Hubble)*

Velocity-Distance Relation among Extra-Galactic Nebulae.



*Expansion of space?*

# Lemaître's universe (1927,31)



## ■ Redshifts of galaxies = cosmic expansion?

*Rate of expansion from ave. distance and redshift*

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

*Fr Georges Lemaître*

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

*de Sitter model not static (1925)*

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

*Not an empirical law*

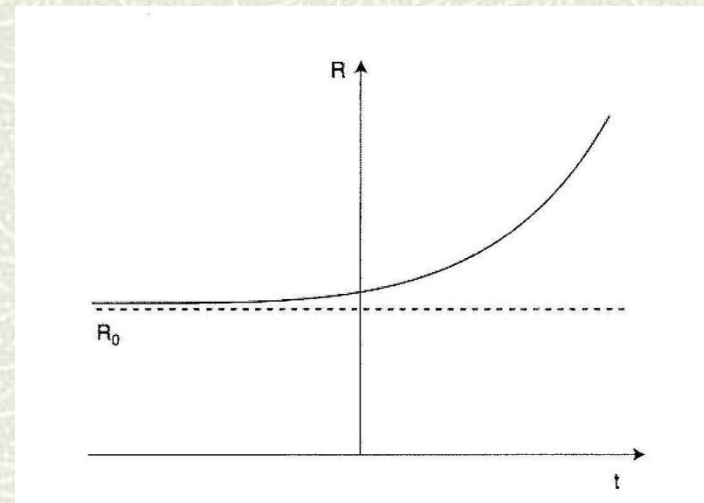
*Edited in 1931 translation*

## ■ No beginning: indefinite age

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

## ■ Rejected by Einstein

*An idea whose time had not yet come*





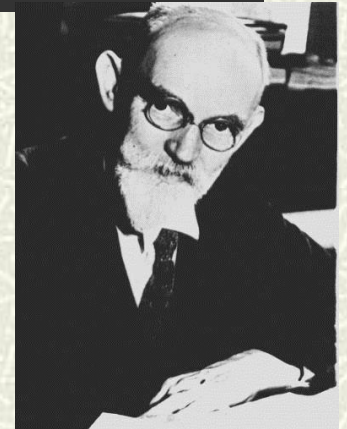
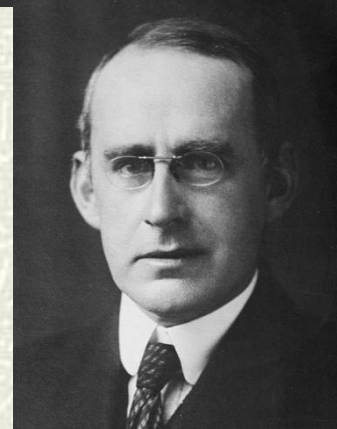
# Dynamic cosmic models (1930-32)

- **Eddington (1930, 31)**

*On the instability of the Einstein universe*

*The Eddington-Lemaître model*

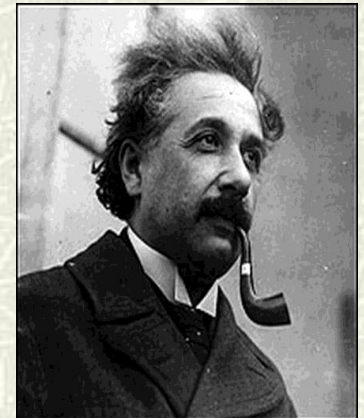
*Expansion caused by condensation?*



- **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 ....*

# Tolman's 'annihilation' model

## ■ Non-static line element (1930)

*Einstein, de Sitter models ruled out*

$$ds^2 = - \frac{e^{2kt}}{\left(1 + \frac{4r^2}{R^2}\right)^2} (dx_1^2 + dx_2^2 + dx_3^2) + c^2 dt^2$$

## ■ Cause of cosmic expansion?

*General evolutionary process*

*Transformation of matter into radiation*

## ■ Rate of transformation

*From Hubble's law and from stellar physics*

## ■ May have influenced Einstein

*Steady-state model*



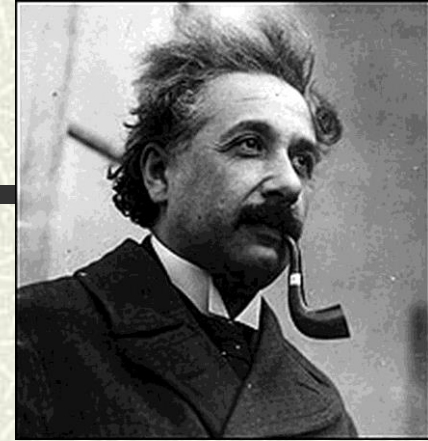
$$\frac{\delta\lambda}{\lambda} = k\Delta l$$

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

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



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



## ✚ Instability of static universe

*Eddington's paper*

## ✚ Hubble's observations

*Expanding cosmos*

Remove cosmic constant?

*Friedmann-Einstein universe  
Transl. O'Rai fearaigh et al*

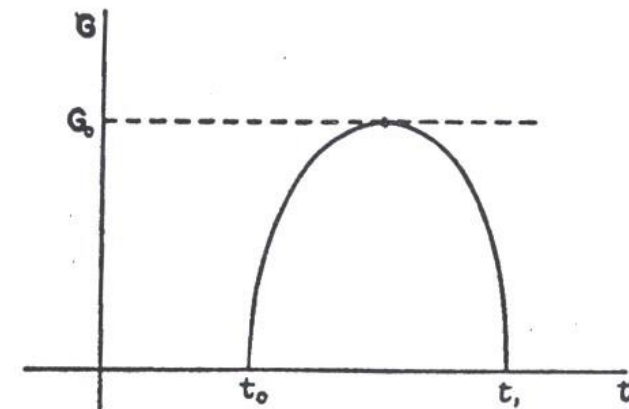
$$\left(\frac{dP}{dt}\right)^2 = c^2 \frac{P_0 - P}{P}$$

## ✚ Adopt Friedmann 1922 analysis

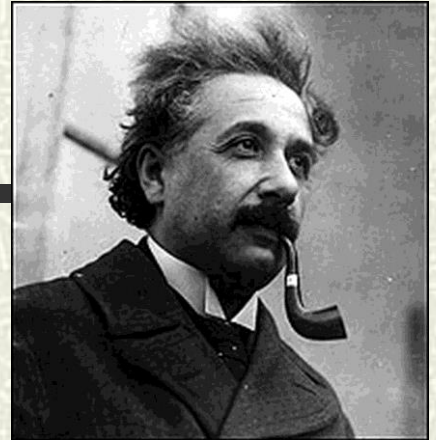
*Time-varying universe,  $k=1$ ,  $\lambda=0$*

## ✚ 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 ( $10^{10}$  yr)*

## ■ Not a periodic solution

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

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



# Einstein-deSitter model (1932)

## # Remove curvature (*Occam's razor*)

*All curvatures possible (Heckmann)*

## # Adopt Friedmann analysis

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

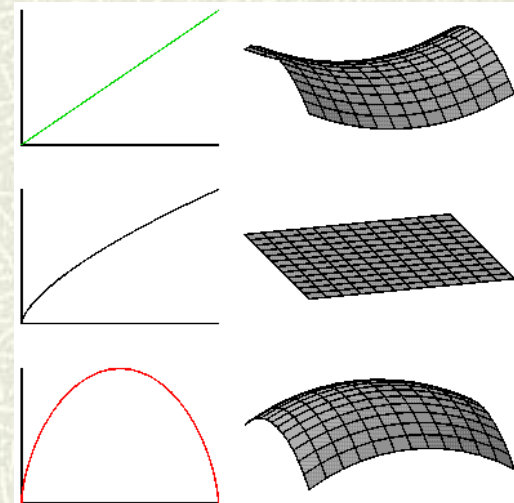
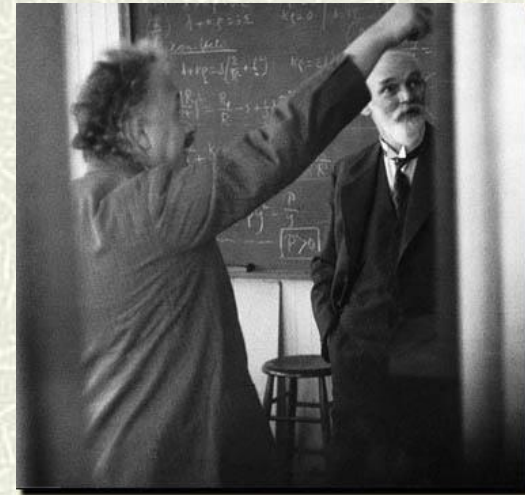
*Critical universe*

## # Calculate critical density

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

## # Well-known model

*Despite age problem*



# An origin for the universe? (1931)

## # Rewind Hubble graph

*U smaller in the past*

## # Extremely dense, extremely hot

*Primeval atom*

*Expanding and cooling since*

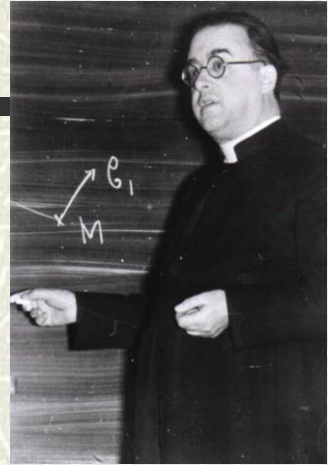
## # Singularity problem

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

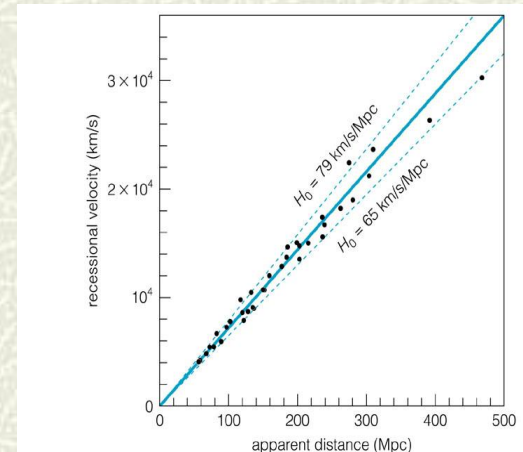
*Quantum theory*

## # 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*

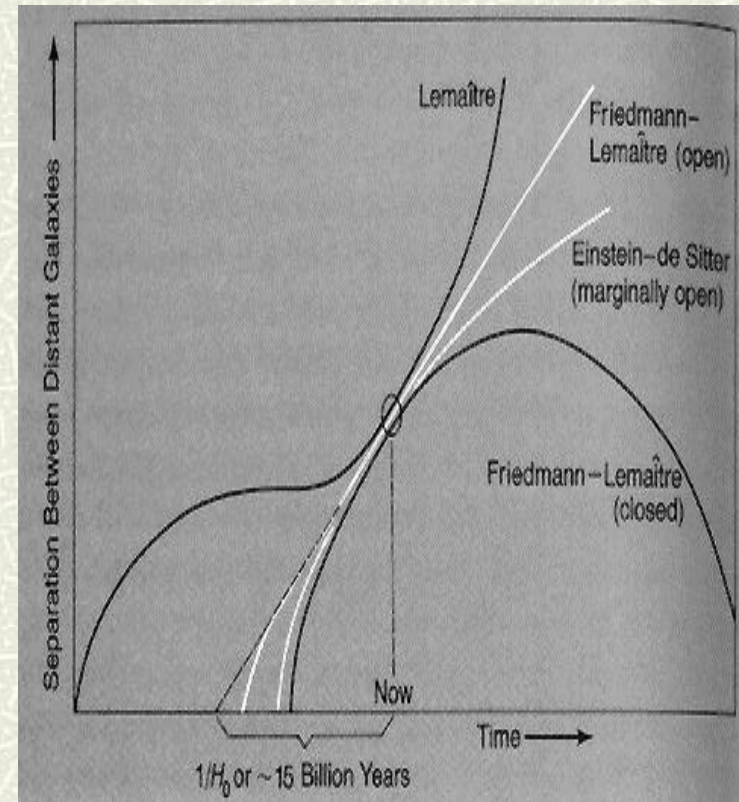
## ✦ Indefinite timespan

*No age problem*

*Formation of structure?*

## ✦ Accelerated expansion

*de Sitter universe at large  $t$*



*Cosmic rays = radiation  
from early universe?*

# Formation of galaxies?

## ■ Growth in static universe

*Natural fluctuations in density*

*Exponential growth by gravitational collapse*

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

## ■ Growth in expanding universe

*Lemaître 1934, Tolman 1935*

*Linear growth of density perturbations*

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

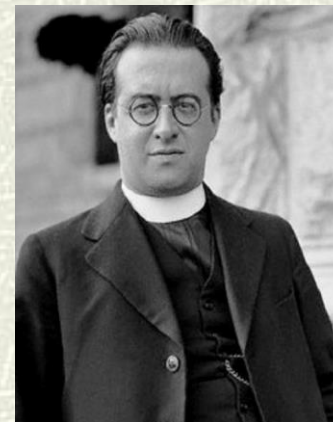
## ■ Structure not from density fluctuations?

*New mechanism needed*

*Eddington-Lemaître model?*



*James Jeans*

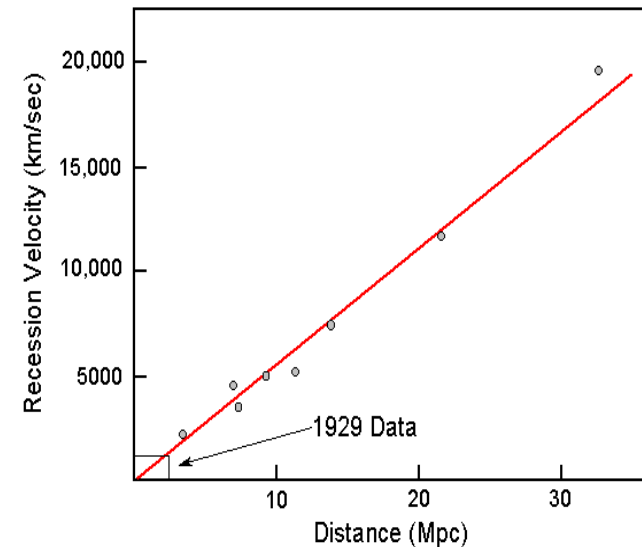




# Observational parameters needed

- # **Spatial curvature**  $k = -1, 0, 1?$
- # **Cosmic constant**  $\lambda = 0?$
- # **Deacceleration**  $q_0 = -\ddot{R}/\dot{R}^2$
- # **Density of matter**  $\rho < \rho_{crit}?$
- # **Hubble constant**  $\dot{R}/R = 500 \text{ kms}^{-1}\text{Mpc}^{-1}?$
- # **Timespan**  $\tau = 10^9 \text{ yr}?$

Hubble & Humason (1931)



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

*Hubble and Tolman 1935*

# Paradigm shift or slow dawning?

- # **Hubble/Slipher**      *Empirical law for nebulae*
- # **Friedmann**      *Time-varying solutions*
- # **Lemaître**      *Theory and observation*
- # **Models**      *de Sitter, Eddington, Einstein,  
Tolman, Robertson*



*Slow emergence of theory and evidence*



# Bonus: Einstein's steady-state model

## ⚡ Non-static line element (1931)

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

## ⚡ Age problem

*Conflict with stellar ages*

Die Litter und Tolman haben bereits gezeigt, dass es Lösungen der Gleichungen (1) gibt, welche den Beobachtungen gerecht werden. Es ergab sich aber die Schwierigkeit, dass die Theorie stets auf einen zeitlichen Anfang führte, <sup>der ungefähr</sup> ~~von der Größen-~~ <sup>Ausdehnung</sup>  $10^{10} - 10^{11}$  Jahre zurückliegt, was uns verschiedenen Gründen unannehmbar schien.

## ⚡ Non-evolving universe

*Continuous formation of matter*

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

Ihre Nachfolgenden will ich auf eine Lösung der Gleichung (1) aufmerkamen machen, welche Hubble's Thatsache 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

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

## ⚡ Anticipates Hoyle et al.

*Fundamental flaw*

*Not published*

# Einstein's exploration of a 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  $\lambda = 0$*

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

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

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

Betrachtet man ein durch physische Massstäbe begrenztes Volumen, so wandert unangesezt materielle Teilchen aus demselben heraus. Damit die Dichte konstant bleibe, müssen immer neue Massenteilchen in dem Volumen aus dem Raume entstehen.

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



Für Nachfolgendes will ich auf eine Lösung der Gleichung (1) aufmerksam 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

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

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

Betrachtet man ein durch physische Messstäbe begrenztes Volumen, so wandert ~~man~~ unangeseht materielle Teilchen aus demselben heraus. Damit die Dichte konstant bleibe, müssen immer neue Materieteilchen in dem Volumen aus dem Raume entstehen.

Der Erhaltungssatz bleibt dadurch gewahrt, dass bei Setzung des 2-Gliedes der Raum selbst nicht energetisch leer ist; seine Geltung wird bekanntlich durch die Gleichungen (1) gewährleistet.

# Coda: 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*





# Paradigm shift or slow dawning?

## # Revolutionary v normal science

*Normal science interspersed by revolutions*

## # The paradigm shift

*Change of worldview occurs*

*Social factors important*

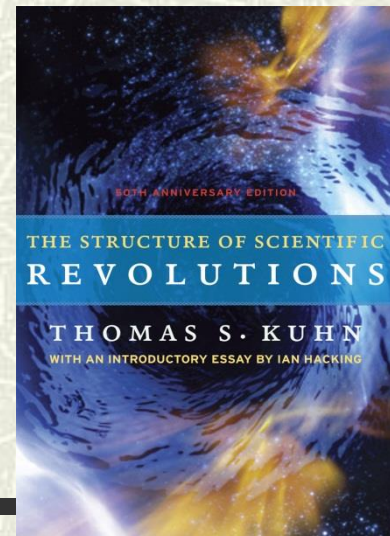
## # Incommensurability

*New worldview incommensurate with old*

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



*Thomas Kuhn*



# The big bang model - questions

## # Nature of dark energy?

*Role in BB?*

## # Nature of dark matter?

*Particle experiments?*

## # Which model of inflation?

*The multiverse?*

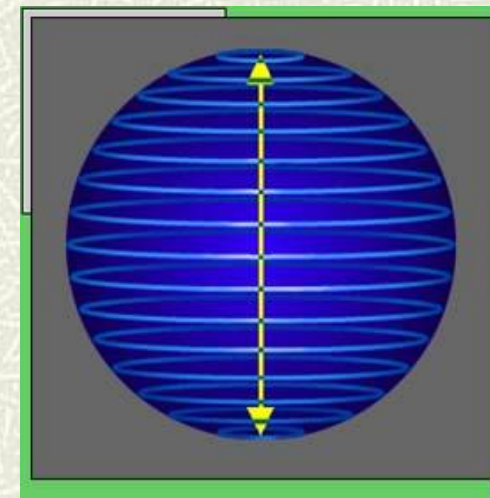
## # The singularity problem

*What banged?*

*What does time zero mean?*



*No-boundary universe*



**The case is never closed**



# Act V Cosmic background radiation

## # Search for radio signals

*Large, sensitive receiver*

## # Universal signal (1965)

*From every direction*

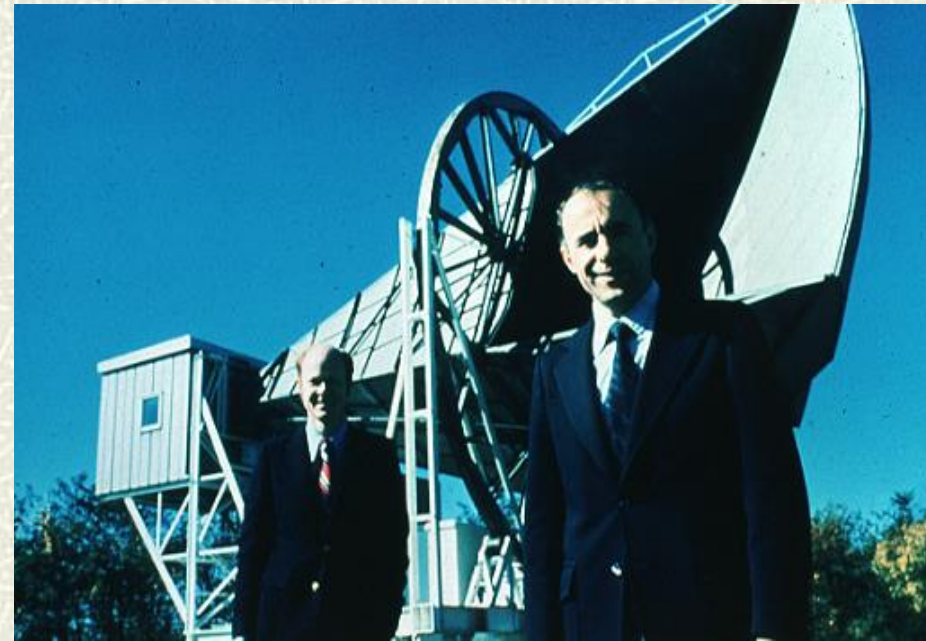
## # Low frequency (microwave)

*Low temperature (3K)*

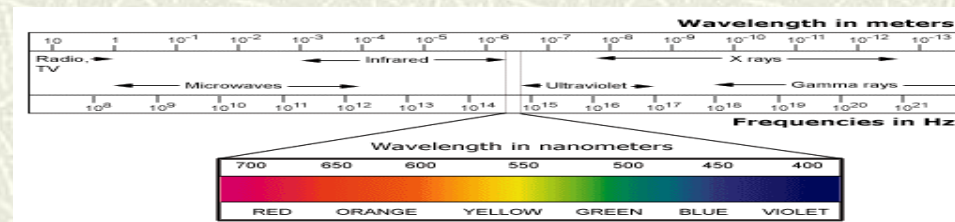
## # Echo of big bang

*Radiation from early universe*

**BB model goes mainstream**



*Penzias and Wilson*



# Cosmology today

- **Satellite measurements of CMB**

*No interference from atmosphere*

- **Expected temperature**

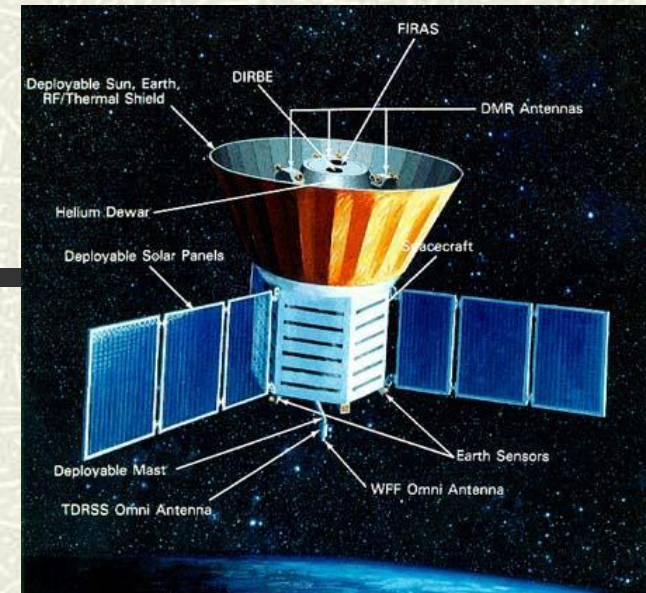
*Expected frequency*

- **Full spectrum**

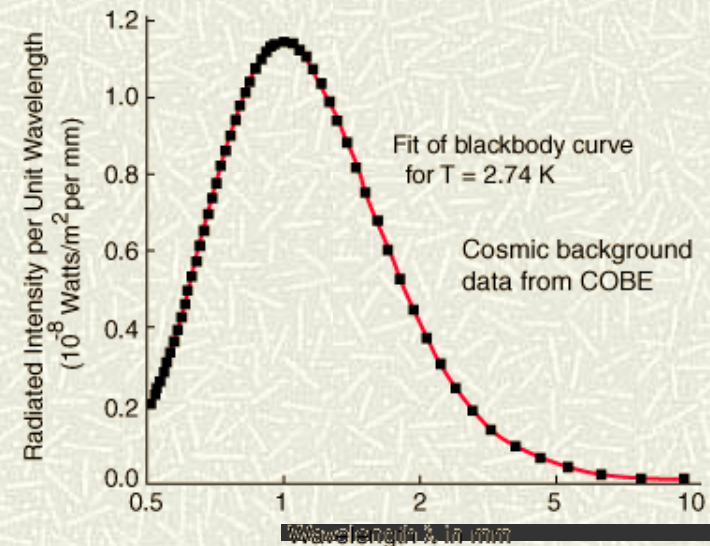
*Perfect blackbody spectrum*

- **Perturbations**

*Variation of 1 in  $10^5$*



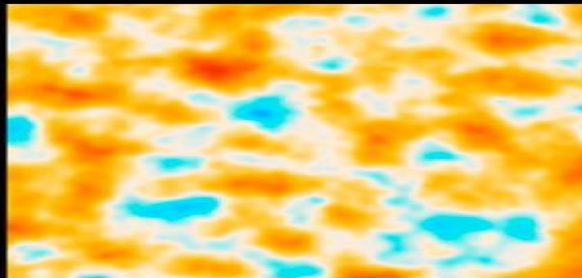
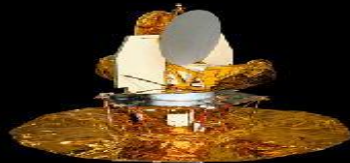
*COBE satellite (1992)*



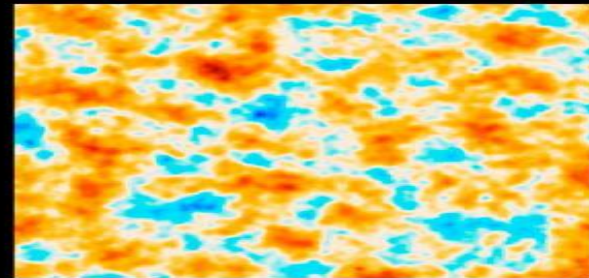




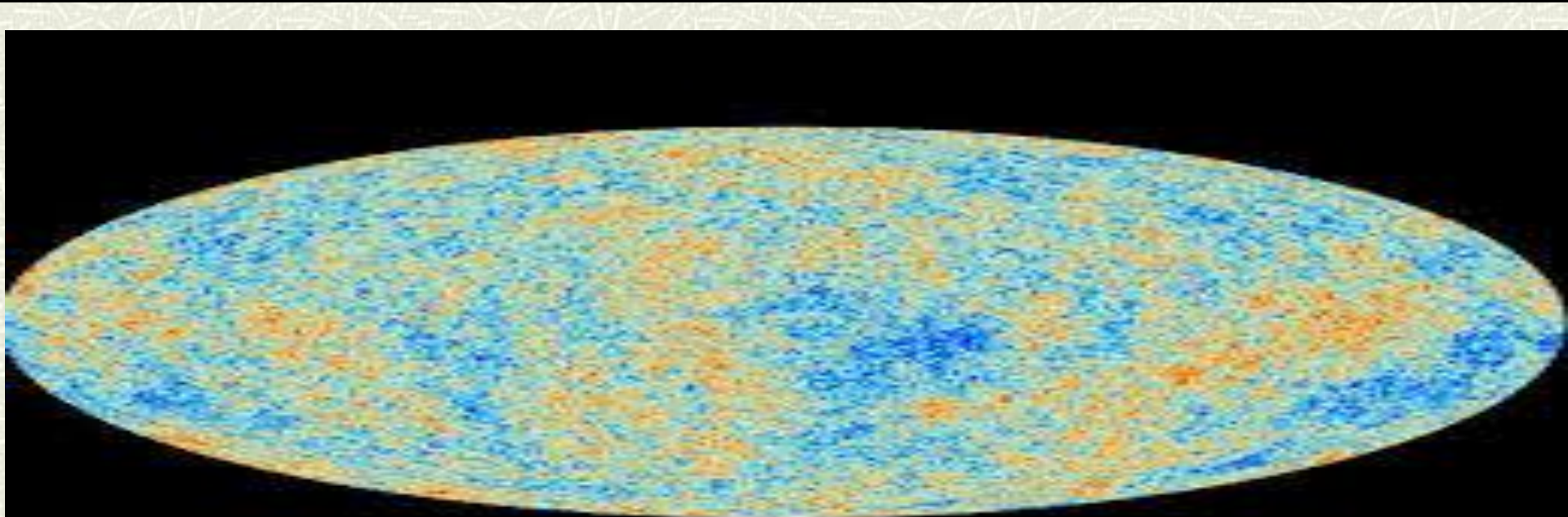
COBE



WMAP



Planck





# 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  $\Omega_{\Lambda}$ ,  $\Omega_{\text{M}}$*

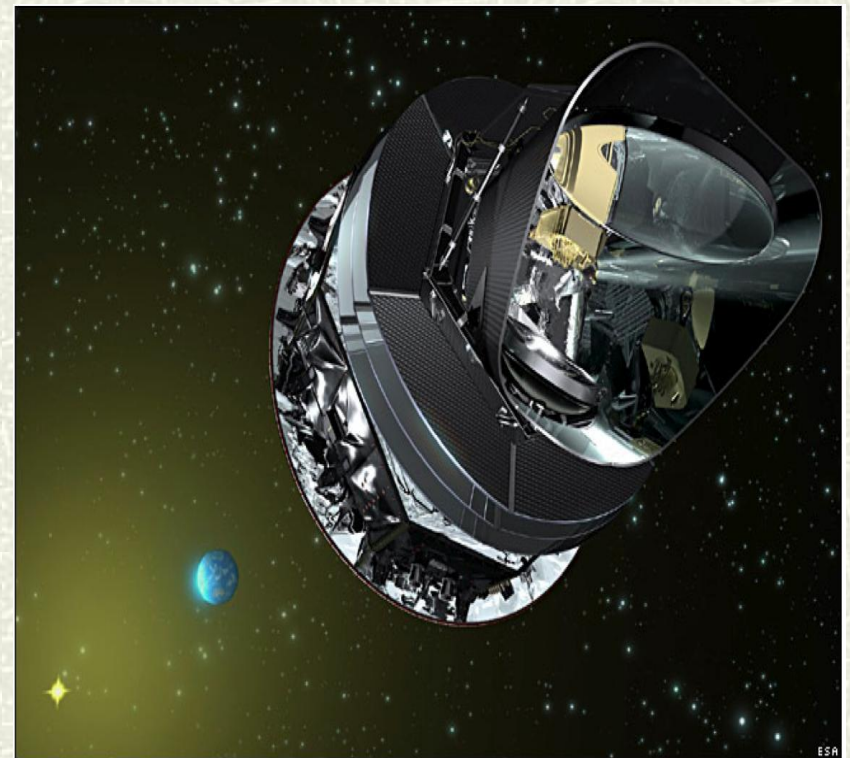
## 3. Gravitational lensing

*Remove degeneracies*

## 4. Polarization measurements

*E-modes: fluctuations*

*B-modes: gravity waves?*



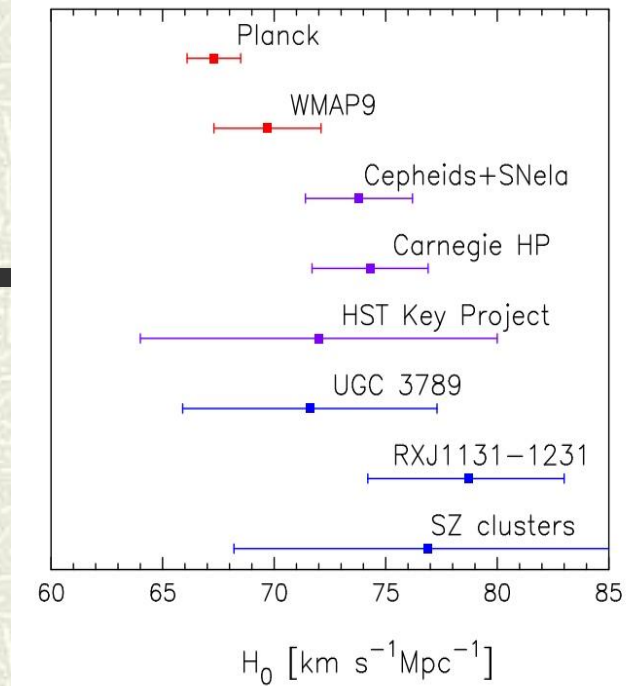
# Planck results (2013)

## 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

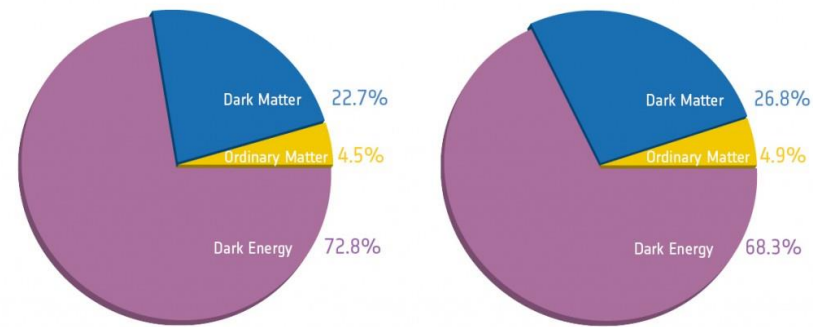
$$\Omega_k = -0.0005 \pm .07$$

## 3. Positive cosmic constant

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

## 4. New mass/energy parameters

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



Before Planck

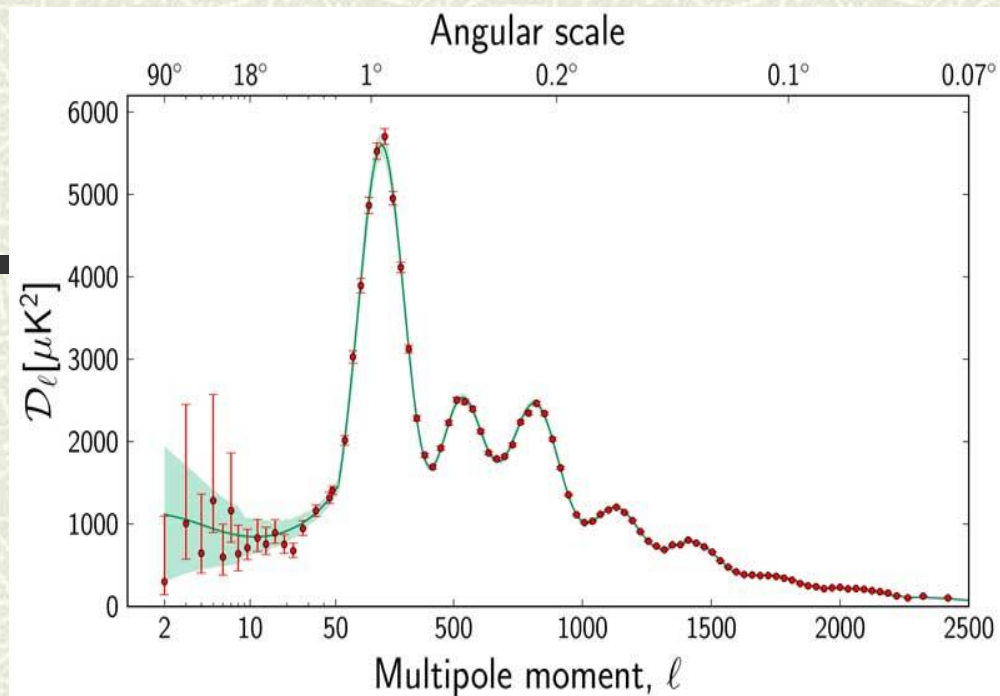
After Planck



# 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*

