Observational Cosmology

- a laboratory for fundamental physics



MPI-K, Heidelberg 24.11.2011 Marek Kowalski



- Introduction
- Cosmological probes
- Cosmological constraints

Observation:The Universe is ExpandingPrinciples:Homogeneous, isotropicTheory:General Relativity

$$H^{2} = \left(\frac{\dot{R}}{R}\right)^{2} = \frac{8\pi G}{3}\rho_{M} + \frac{\Lambda}{3} - \frac{k}{R^{2}} \qquad \left| \frac{1}{H^{2}} \right|^{2}$$

$$\Omega_M + \Omega_\Lambda + \Omega_k = 1$$

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Matter Density
Cosmological Constant/ Dark
Energy

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1998: Discovery of Dark Energy



Nobel prize for physics 2011









Nobel prize for physics 2011



The standard model of cosmology: ACDM

Ingredients of ΛCDM:

- Cosmological constant
- Cold Dark Matter
- Baryons
- 3 light neutrino flavors
- Ampl. of primord. fluctuations
- Index of power spectrum



The standard model of cosmology: ACDM

Beyond the standard model:

- Non-Λ dark energy
- Hot dark matter,
 e.g. massive neutrinos
- Additional relativistic species,
 e.g extra neutrino species
- Tensor perturbations
 & running spectral index
 ⇒ physics of Inflation



Cosmological Probes: Selected new results

Cosmic Microwave Background

New ground based data from: South Pole Telescope (SPT) & Atacama Cosmology Telescope (ACT)



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WMAP

Cosmic Microwave Background



Galaxy Clusters



Picture credit: ESA

First science results of Planck (A&A, 2011)

SNe la Hubble Diagram



SNe la Hubble Diagram



SNe at large Redshifts (z>1)

SN 1997cj



Twin Keck telescopes on Mauna Kea.

HST Survey of Clusters with $z \ge 1$



Cycle 14, 219 orbits (PI S. Perlmutter) 24 clusters from RCS, RDCS, IRAC, XMM

Survey of z>0.9 galaxy clusters
⇒ SNe from cluster & field
⇒ about 2 x more efficient
⇒ enhencement of early hosts
⇒ 20 new HST SNe
⇒ 10 high quality z>1 SNe!





Supernova Cosmology Project Suzuki et al., 2011

HST Survey of Clusters with $z \ge 1$



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Baryon Acoustic Oscillation

Acoustic "oscillation" lengh scale from CMB visible in the distribution of galaxies \Rightarrow Standard ruler of cosmology.



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WiggleZ survey – Blake et al, 2011

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Cosmological Constraints: Selected new results

ΛCDM



SNe (Union 2.1, Suzuki et. al, 2011) BAO (Percival et. al, 2010) CMB (WMAP-7 year data, 2010)

$$\Omega_{\Lambda} = 0.729 \pm 0.014$$

and allowing for curvature:

 $\Omega_k = 0.002 \pm 0.005$

Fundamental Problems of Vacuum Energy/Cosmological Constant:



Dark Energy



Equation of state: *p=wp*

Constant w: *w*=-0.995±0.078

Dark Energy



Equation of state: *p=wp*

Constant w: *w*=-0.951±0.078

Redshift dependent w: $w(a)=w_0+(1-a) \ge w_a$ $W_a = 0.14\pm0.68$

No deviation from w=-1 (i.e. Λ)

Redshift dependent EOS



Constraints on Inflation parameters

e.g. Chaotic Inflation (Linde, 1983)

 $V(\phi) = \lambda \phi^{p}$

Power spectrum of curvature perturbations



 $\Delta_R^2(k) \propto \left(\frac{k}{k_0}\right)^{n_s - 1}$

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Scalar spectral index $n_s = 0.966 \pm 0.011$ Tensor-to-scalar ratio r < 0.21

SPT+ WMAP7 (Keisler et al. 2011)

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Number of relativistic species (neutrinos!)



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Neutrino mass from CMB & large scale structure

Damping of correlation power due to free streaming at epoch of radiation-matter equality:



$$\left(\frac{\Delta P}{P}\right) \approx -0.8 \left(\frac{\sum m_v}{1 \text{ eV}}\right) \left(\frac{0.1}{\Omega_{\text{m}}h^2}\right)$$

Combination of CMB+BAO+H₀:

$$\sum m_{v} < 0.5 \text{ eV} (95\% \text{CL})$$

e.g. Komatsu et al (2010)

Similar mass bounds also for LSND-like sterile neutrinos

Hamann et al (2010)

- Cosmology today is about precision
- Multiple probes for highest sensitivity
- ΛCDM looks strong so far despite interpretational problems with dark energy
- Many new surveys committed, hence significant progress expected!



Vikhlini et al. ApJ, 2009

Upcoming surveys: eROSITA, DES, ...

Assuming step-wise constant w:

