An Inhomogeneous World View

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We live in an Accelerating & Isotropic Universe



Type la Supernovae

The Standard ACDM model





The Pillars of the ΛCDM model



- General Relativity
- The FRW model of a homogeneous universe
- Dark Matter & fields with strange equations of state

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Modify Gravity

- General Celativity
- The FRW model of a homogeneous universe
- Dark Matter & fields with strange equations of state



Alternative scenario I Its Swiss Cheese

The filling factor of small voids is > 80%; light rays will go through small locally open universes

> The universe is full of holes, like a Swiss Cheese



Alternative scenario II We are living inside a giant void

At the center the universe is locally open

At infinity the universe is a flat Einstein de Sitter Universe

several Giga parsec

How does a Central Void Help Explain Dark Energy?

We observe in the redshift cone: Acceleration can be due to both spatial and temporal changes in the expansion rate. Maybe the Universe is tricking us?

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Void Construction 101 The Lemaître-Tolman-Bondi Model

 Describes a space-time, which has spherical symmetry in the spatial dimensions, but with time and radial dependence

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + X^2(r,t) \, dr^2 + A^2(r,t) \, d\Omega^2$$

Defining an effective matter density and the Hubble rate as

$$H(r,t) = \frac{\dot{A}(r,t)}{A(r,t)},$$

$$F(r) = H_0^2(r) \Omega_M(r) A_0^3(r),$$

$$k(r) = H_0^2(r) \left(\Omega_M(r) - 1\right) A_0^2(r)$$

,

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A "local analogy" to the Friedman equation can be derived

$$H^{2}(r,t) = H^{2}_{0}(r) \left[\Omega_{M}(r) \left(\frac{A_{0}(r)}{A(r,t)} \right)^{3} + (1 - \Omega_{M}(r)) \left(\frac{A_{0}(r)}{A(r,t)} \right)^{2} \right]$$

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where $H_0(r)$, the expansion rate at t_0 , and $\Omega_M(r)$, the total matter density inside r at t_0 , uniquely describes our model.

^{Sunctional form fixed due to gauge choice A simple model for the void}



Constraining LTB Models with Geometric Cosmological Data

Constraining Cosmological Data

Type la Supernovae: 307 SNe compiled by many different sources, and published as the UNION data set.
 Simple to do since we just fit against d_L(z)

- 1st acoustic peak in the CMB: d_C(z_{rec}), sound horizon
- Radial Baryon Acoustic Oscilations:
 - Sound horizon, and the longitudinal Hubble rate H_L

Fitting the Type Ia Supernovae

The best fit model has no problems with Type Ia Sne, It basically reproduces the standard Λ CDM z-d_L relation.



Fitting the 1st Peak in the CMB



The fit to the *first* peak is ok - we did not try to fit all data LTB perturbation theory is needed to explain low *I* (ISW)

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Radial Baryon Acoustic Scale

Primordial sound wave, now 120 Mpc across

> Acoustic oscillations are frozen sound waves and the physical size is known from early universe physics



Measuring the correlation function along the line of sight gives a clean measure of $H_1(z)$

 $H_L(z)r_s(z)$

Radial Baryon Acoustic Scale



Scanning the Model Space



Yellow: Everything, Blue: SNe Ia. Green: CMB. Purple: BAO

The Type Ia Supernovae constrain $\Omega_{
m matter}$

• CMB constrains the Hubble param, because $\Omega_{out}=1$ & $\omega_{b}=const$

Scanning the Model Space



- Yellow: Everything, Blue: SNe Ia. Green: CMB. Purple: BAO
- The SNe and BAO pushes the void size to > 2 Gpc
- Some tension between BAO and SNe (high-z SNe are useful)

Best Fit and Marginalised Errors

	H_0	$H_{r=0}$	$H_{r=\infty}$
units	$100 \rm \ km \ s^{-1} \ Mpc^{-1}$		
Priors	0.50 - 0.95	0.4 - 0.89 (0.33-0.63
Best Fit ± 2 - σ	$0.67 {\pm} 0.03$	0.58	0.45
	$\Omega_{\rm in}$	r_0	Δr
units	$\Omega_{\rm in}$	r_0 Gpc	Δr r_0
units Priors	$\Omega_{\rm in}$ 0.05-0.35	r_0 Gpc 0.5-4.5	$\begin{array}{c} \Delta r \\ r_0 \\ 0.1\!-\!0.9 \end{array}$

Conclusions From First Part

- An LTB model of a giant void can convincingly fit a large set of current cosmological observations and do it as well as the ΛCDM model.
- The void model only contains 4 parameters: It is a simple model.
- The best fit void size is ~2.7±1 Gpc, approximately the size of the cold spot in the CMB, if it was near the surface of last scattering.
- Combining many small voids in a "swiss-cheese universe" does not seem to work

Constraining Void Models with "non-geometric" measurements

$\propto -1600 v -750 \alpha -$

Using the CMB dipole to constrain our position in the void



- An off-center observer will see an extra dipole in the CMB because of different *integrated* expansion rates – i.e. redshifts – in different directions.
- Same effect for Supernovae, can be combined
- For a large void the constraint is pretty tight ~ 40 Mpc h⁻¹

(Blomqvist & Mörtsell 2010)

Using the Kinetic Sunyaev-Zeldovich Effect



SUNYAEV-ZELDOCH Effect: CMB photons gain energy by inverse Compton scattering with hot electrons in a cluster of galaxies If the cluster is moving compared to the CMB we have an extra Doppler component

Using the Kinetic Sunyaev-Zeldovich Effect



FIG. 1.—Frequency dependence of the SZ effect for a cluster with optical depth $\tau = 0.01$, gas temperature 10 keV, and a peculiar velocity of -500 km s^{-1} (toward the observer). The thermal SZ spectrum is indicated by the dashed line, the kinematic effect by the dot-dashed line. The shaded regions indicate the bands in which SuZIE II observes.

The Induced Dipole for an Off-centered Cluster



Forecasted kSZ for void models



Future Bounds from ACT or SPT

- While the ACT and the SPT telescopes will make thousands of thermal SZ cluster observations we need follow up in X-rays, radio and/or optical for kSZ
- In the very first kSZ data release the LTB model could be definitively ruled out



Using Cosmic reionization as a mirror

u-distortion

A blackbody spectrum at temperature T mixed with a blackbody at temperature T+ Δ T produces a *u*-distorted blackbody.

Stebbins, astro-ph/0703541

$$\begin{split} u[\hat{n}] &= \frac{3}{16\pi} \int_0^\infty dz' \frac{d\tau}{dz'} \int d\hat{n}' (1 + (\hat{n} \cdot \hat{n}')^2) \\ &\times \left(\frac{\Delta T}{T} [\hat{n}, \hat{n}, z] - \frac{\Delta T}{T} [\hat{n}', \hat{n}, z] \right)^2 \end{split}$$

Degenerate with Compton y-distortion parameter: u = 2y FIRAS: y < 15 x 10⁻⁶ (95%): Fixen et al, ApJ 473, 576 (1996)

Slide from Robert Caldwell's presentation at Cosmo 2008

The next frontier: **Structure Formation & Perturbations**





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Summary

- Void models, observationally, seem a real alternative to the standard model. While they break with the Copernican principle, they do not need dark energy.
- A void model with a size of ~2.7 Gpc yields a very good fit to observations constraining the *geometry* of the universe.
- There are many new observations and ways to tests the model related to structure, and to distortions of the CMB:
 - CMB and large scale structure (More theory+simulations)
 - Remote measurements of the CMB: The Kinetic Sunyaev Zeldovich effect (Apex, ACT, SPT, Planck)
 - Spectral distortions in the CMB (FIRAS is almost good enough)

Outlook

- The void model may be ruled out in the near future, just like the Swiss Cheese model was
- But given the quality of the observations today, people will keep testing inhomogeneous models – it is the next natural step after FRW
- The void model may be wrong, but it helps in getting a better understanding of the perturbed ACDM model
- Example:
 - How are Ω_{matter} and Ω_{Λ} biased by a local void? How do we cope with the bias ?

Using LTB to model the impact of a small void on Supernova Cosmology



Impact of a small void on Supernova Cosmology



The LTB model is extended with Λ

- We can then embed a small void we use 70 Mpc *h*⁻¹ in a LCDM universe
- We construct a sample of 301 supernovae with z<1.7
 - When fitting a LCDM model to the mock data, the impact can be appreciable for upcoming surveys
- It is essential to discard low redshift supernovae with z<0.02 for a <1% error



Can we measure geometry ??

The shear to expansion ratio gives a normalised measure of inhomogeneity, with a straight forward theoretical interpretation

$$\varepsilon = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{\sigma}{\Theta} = \frac{H_T - H_L}{H_L + 2H_T}$$

• Notice that $H_L = H_T + \partial_{InA} H_T$

Radial inhomogeneity $\Leftrightarrow \epsilon \neq 0$

• The strength of ϵ is that it can be measured in the future by combining radial BAO measurements (giving H_L) and measurements of the distance (giving d_A)

$$\varepsilon = \frac{\sqrt{1 - k(r)} - H_L(d_A + (1 + z) \, d'_A(z))}{2\sqrt{1 - k(r)} + H_L(d_A - 2(1 + z) \, d'_A(z))}$$

Can we measure geometry ??



A void model from Chaotic Inflation





(Linde, Linde, Mezhlumian, PLB 345, 203, 1995)

The Infloid = LTB Model



Could the *Cold Spot* in the cosmic microwave background be an infloid ?



Approximately 2 Gpc comoving size