

# What is Cosmology?

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- A. A branch of trigonometry that focuses on the “**Cosine**”
- B. The study of **cosmetics**
- C. The study of the **cosmos**
- D. The study of Soviet-era **Cosmonauts**

# What is Cosmology?

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*The origin, evolution, and ultimate fate of the Universe*



# About myself

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- Ting Li
- PhD in Physics in 2016 from Texas A&M University
- Joined Fermilab as a Postdoctoral Fellow
- Observational Cosmologist/Astrophysicist
- Working on Dark Energy Survey Experiment





# Dark Energy Survey







# Dark Energy Survey Collaboration

~400 scientists from around  
the world

Fermilab, UIUC/NCSA, University of Chicago,  
LBNL, NOAO, University of Michigan, University  
of Pennsylvania, Argonne National Lab, Ohio  
State University, Santa-Cruz/SLAC/Stanford,  
Texas A&M





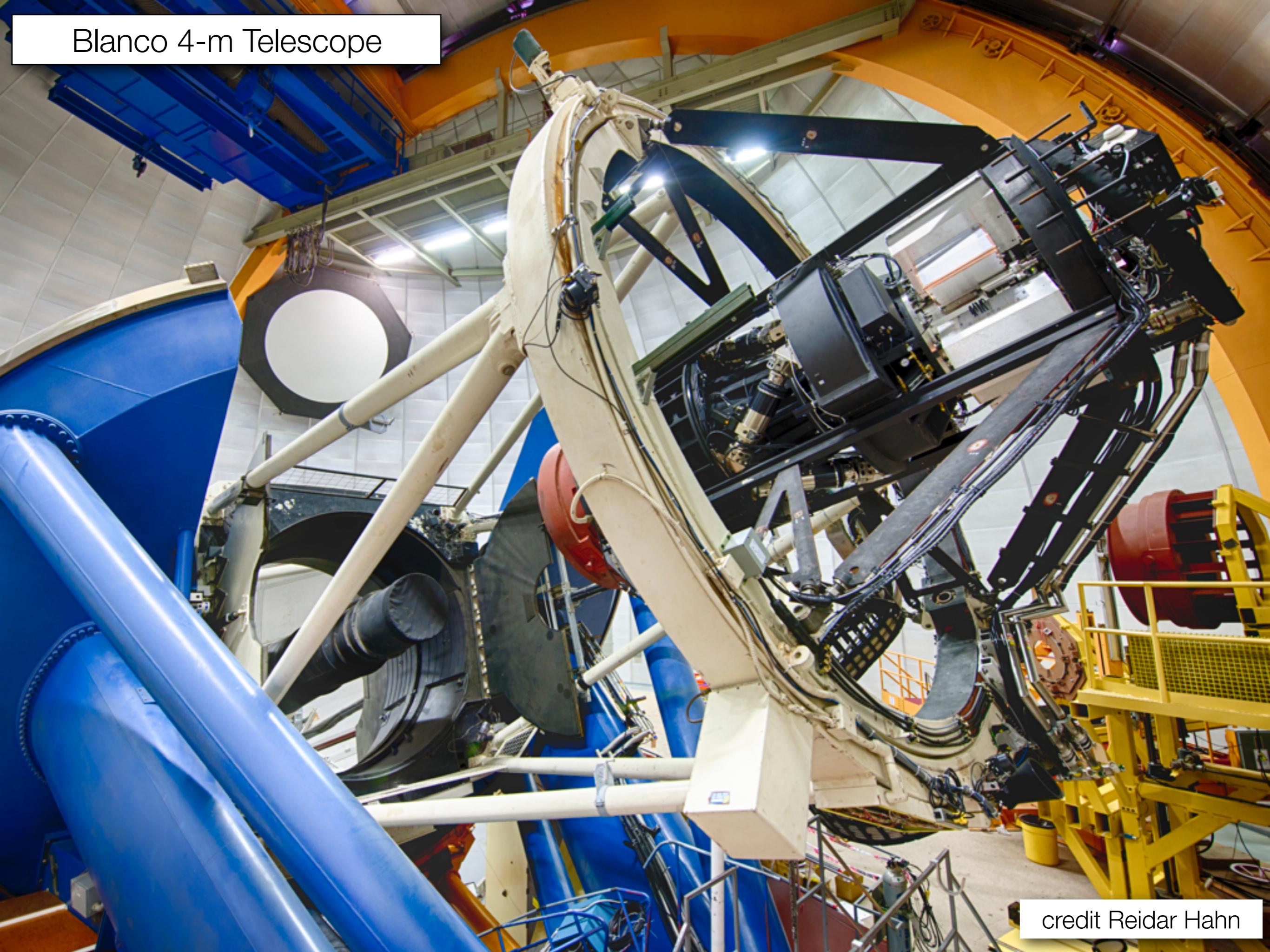


# Cerro-Tololo Inter-American Observatory

Credit: Reidar Hahn, Yuanyuan Zhang



# Blanco 4-m Telescope



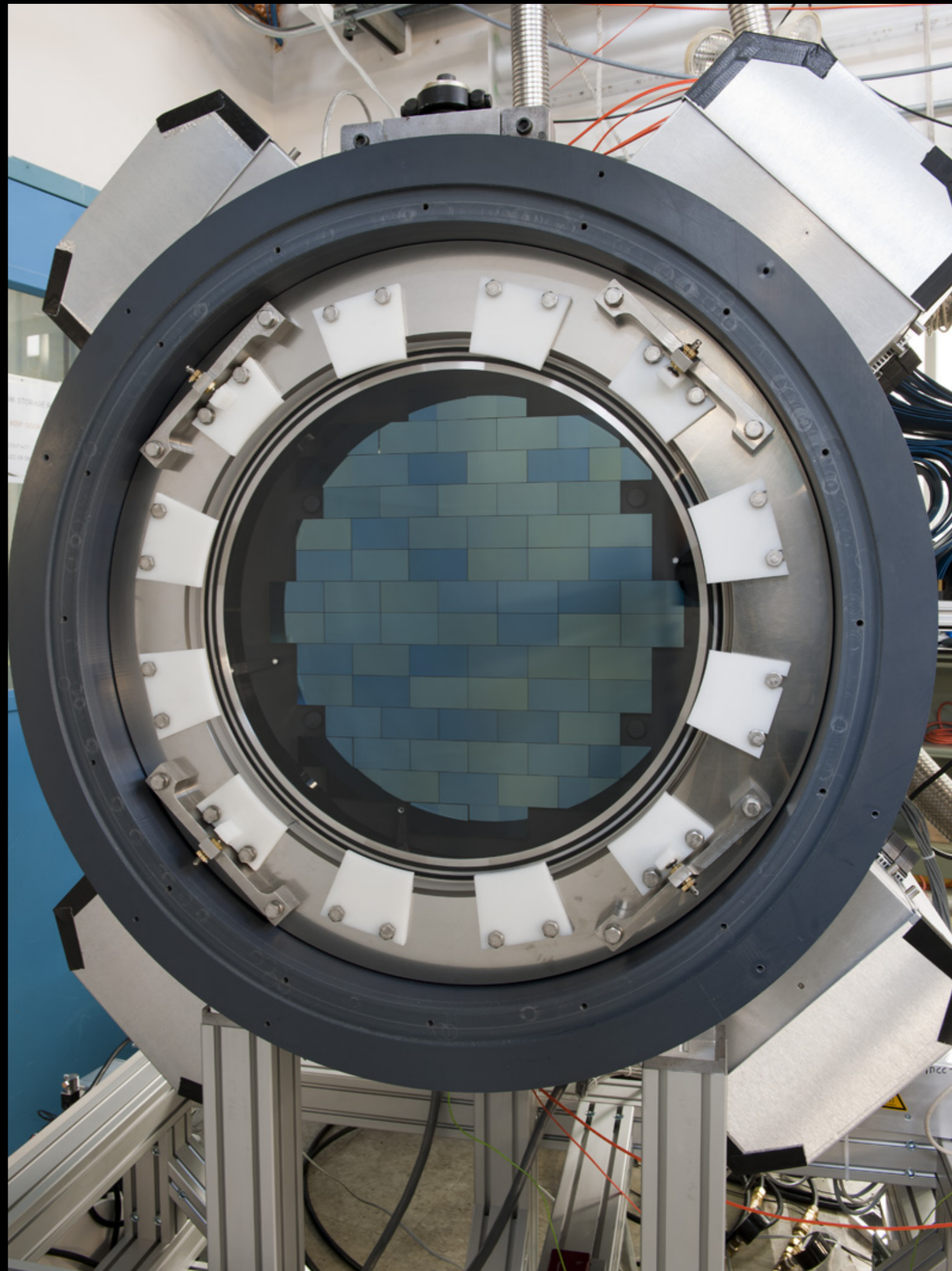
credit Reidar Hahn



# 570-Million pixel Dark Energy Camera

Built here at Fermilab

Installed on the Blanco  
telescope in 2012







# First Images



Fornax Cluster  
of Galaxies

First Light on  
Sept. 12, 2012





# First Images



Galaxy NGC 1365 in Fornax Cluster

image from a single detector





NGC 1512 at 38 million light-years





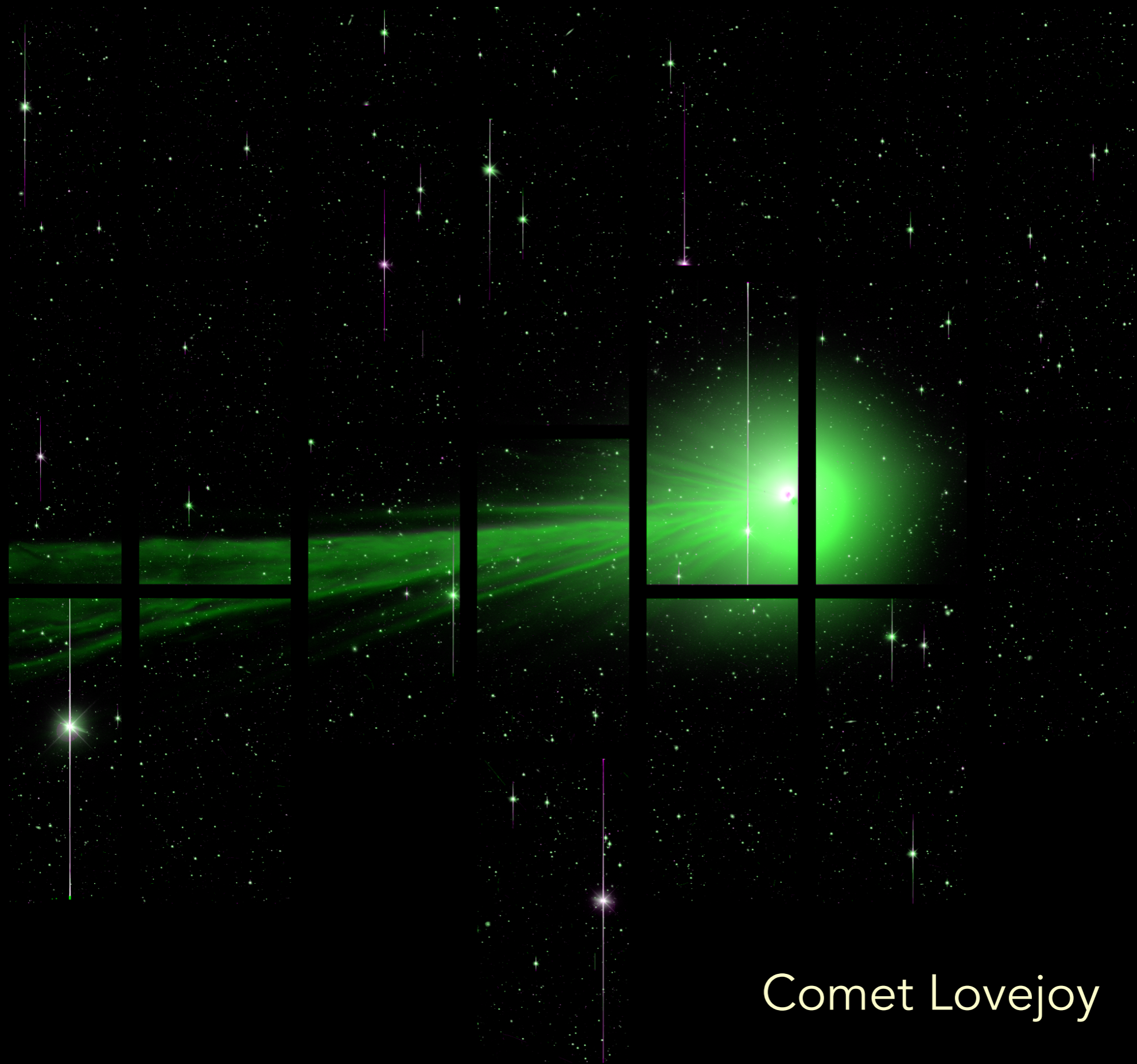
Cluster of  
Galaxies





Orion nebula



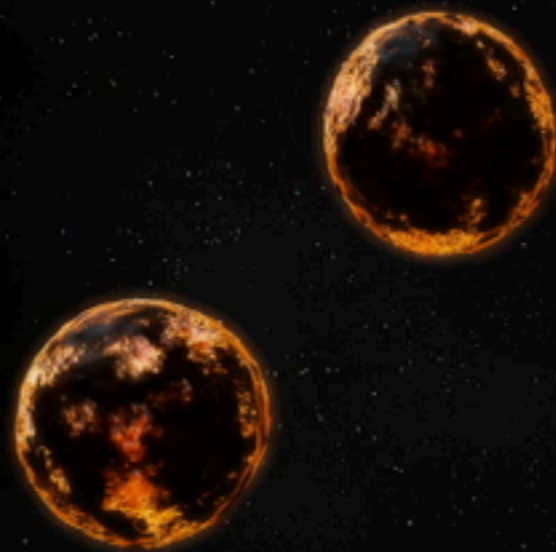


Comet Lovejoy

# Gravitational Wave: GW170817

## Binary Neutron Star Merger

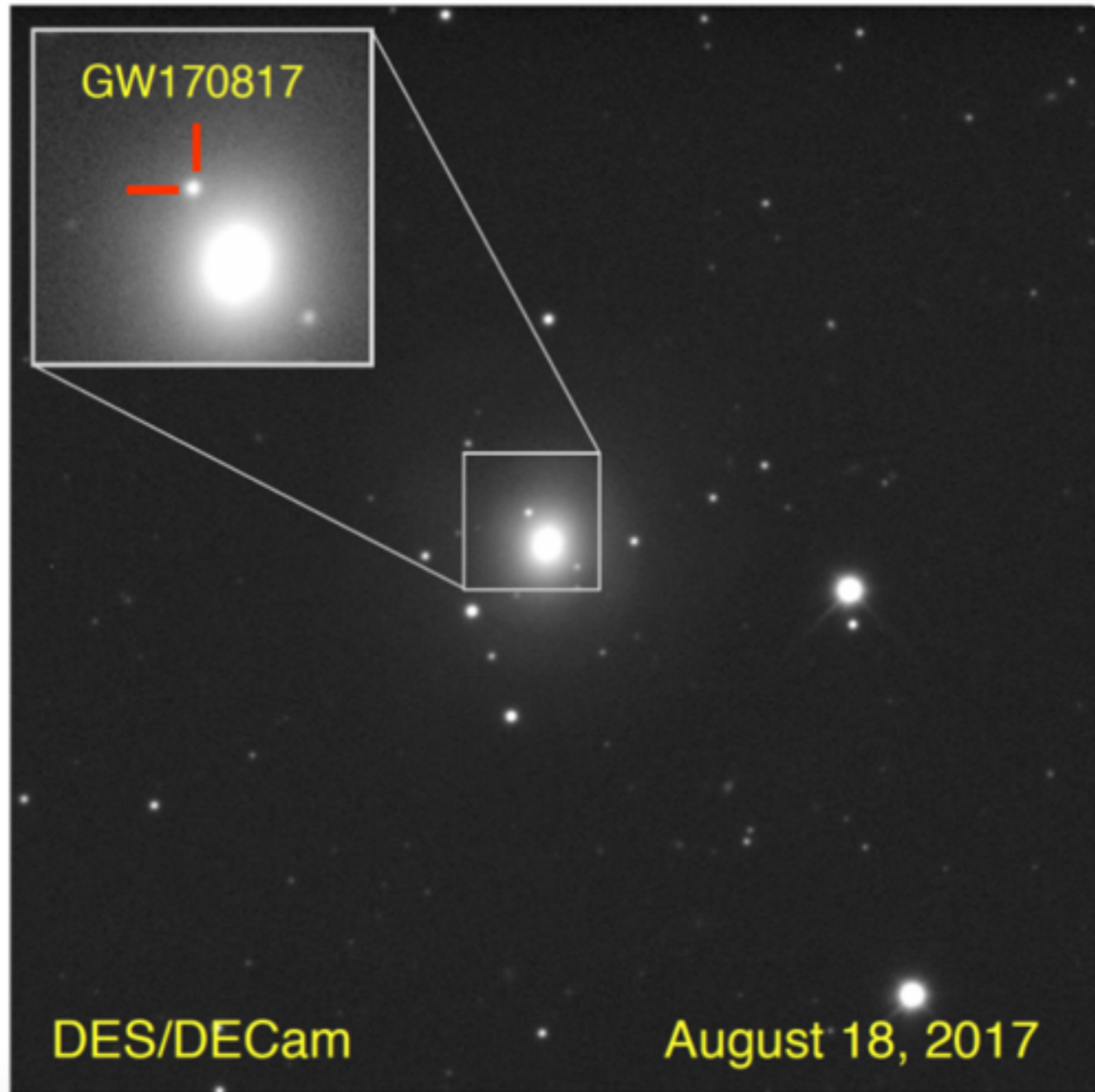
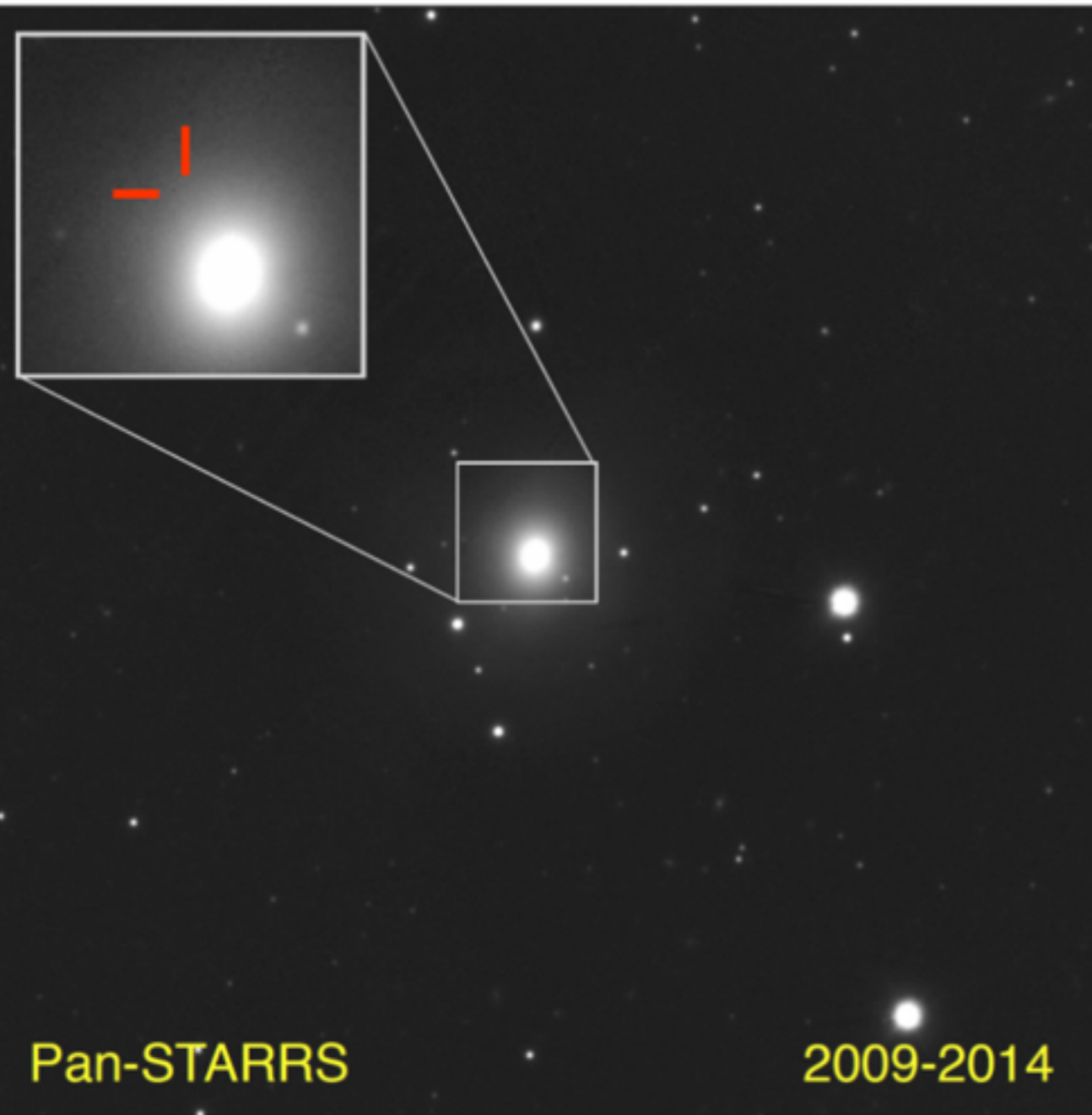
### Optical Counterpart — Kilonova



# Gravitational Wave: GW170817

## Binary Neutron Star Merger

### Optical Counterpart — Kilonova



Credit: P. K. Blanchard / E. Berger / Pan-STARRS / DECam

# Gravitational Wave: GW170817

## Binary Neutron Star Merger

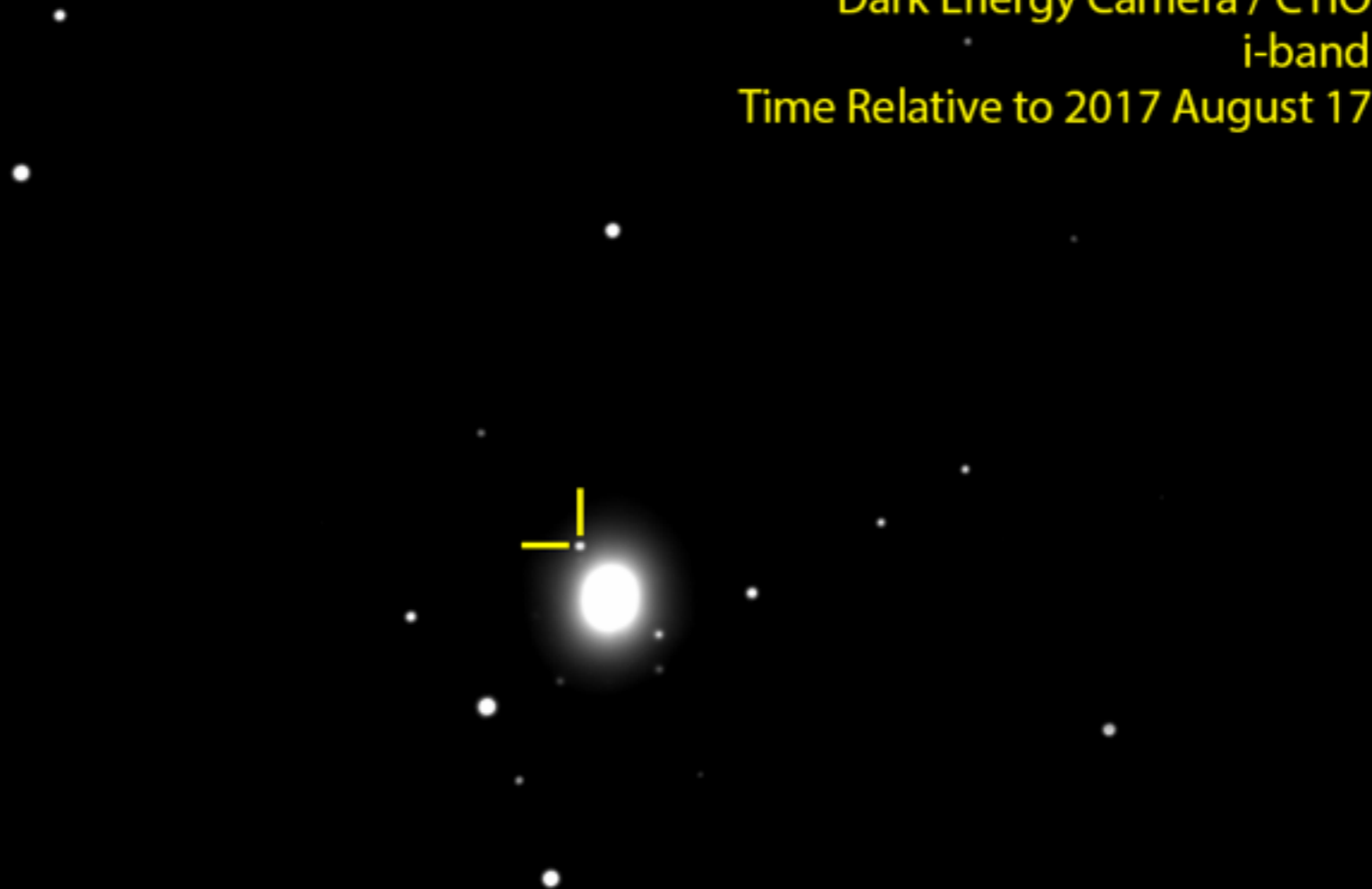
### Optical Counterpart —Kilonova

Dark Energy Camera / CTIO  
i-band

Time Relative to 2017 August 17

+0.5 days

Credit: P. S. Cowperthwaite / E. Berger  
Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics



Questions?



Now Let's Learn  
Something About the  
Universe!

# What is Cosmology?

---

*The origin, evolution, and ultimate fate of the Universe*

**The Universe started with a Big Bang**

The Origin

**We are all Stardust**

The Evolution

**The Universe is mostly “Dark”**

The Fate

Some preparations are required!

Observations

Measurements

Scientists use numbers and units

# What is the most difficult measurement in observational cosmology?

- A. Positions of the stars/galaxies on the sky
- B. Brightnesses of the stars/galaxies
- C. Motions of the stars/galaxies
- D. Distances to the stars/galaxies

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# What is the most difficult measurement in observational cosmology?

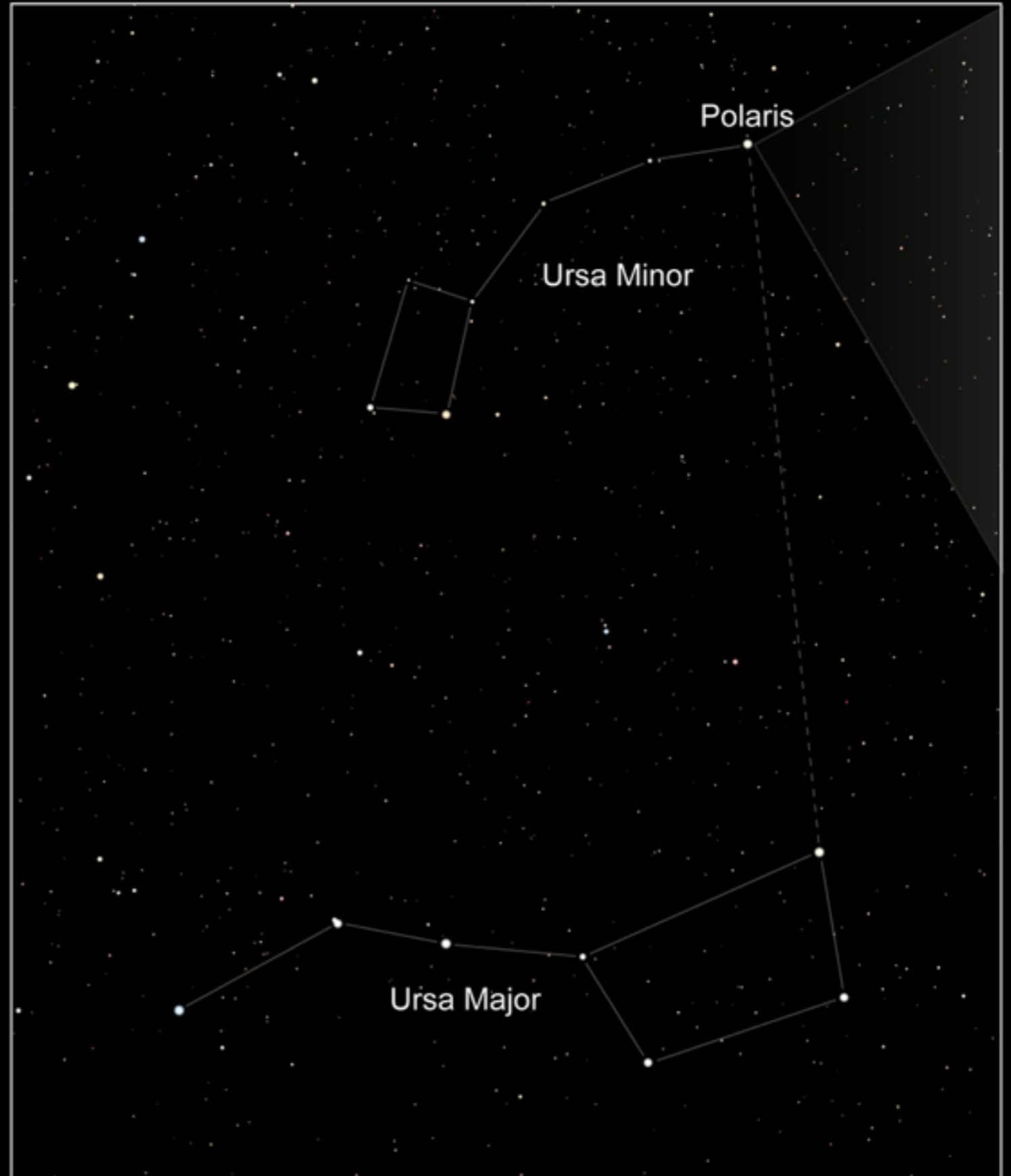
- A. Positions of the stars/galaxies on the sky
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- B. Brightnesses of the stars/galaxies
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# Polaris



# Polaris



# Polaris

Right Ascension — RA  
(celestial longitude)

**02h 30m 41.6s**

Declination — Dec  
(celestial latitude)

**+89° 15' 38.1"**

24 hours = 360 deg / 1 circle

1 hour = 15 deg

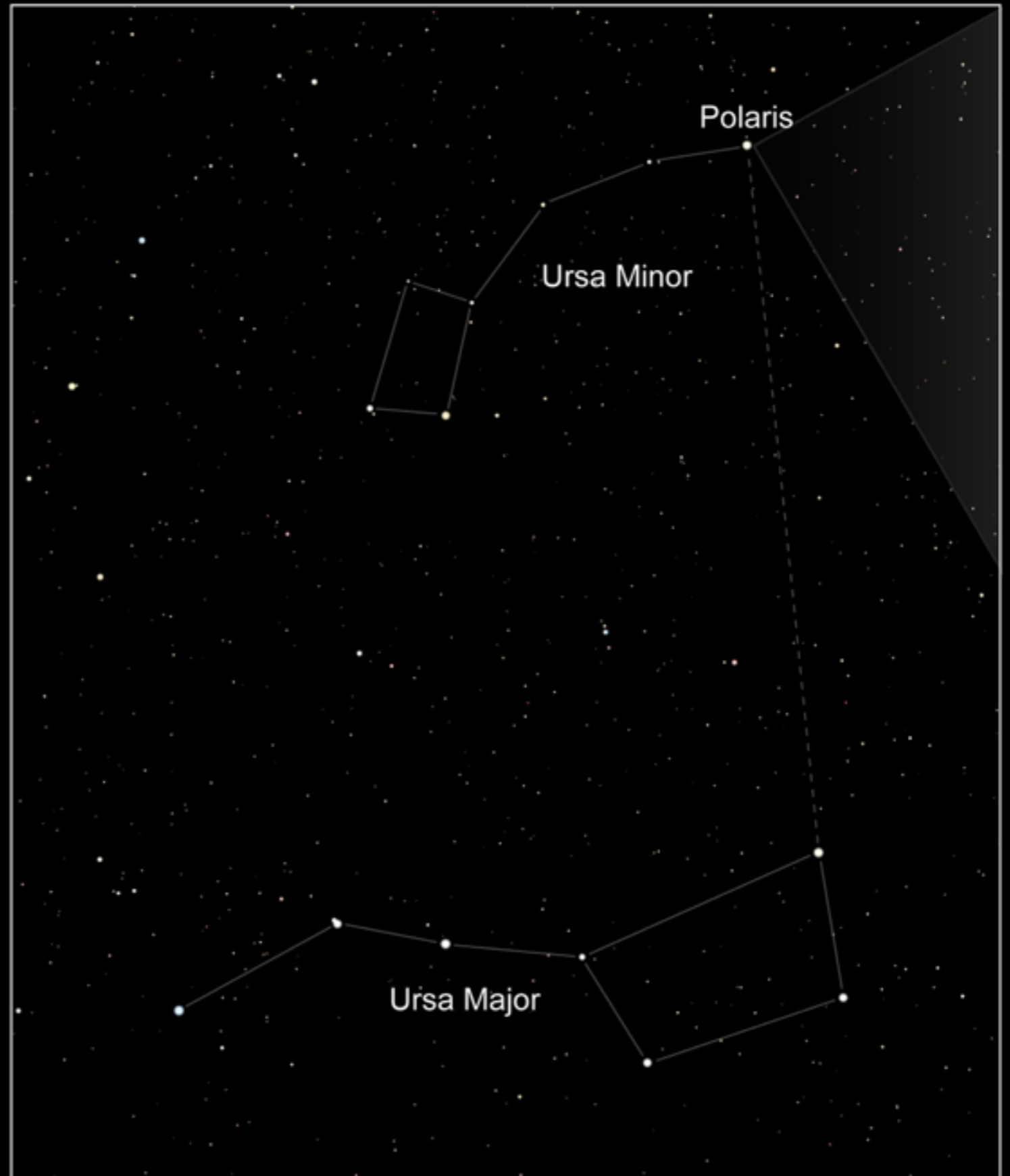
60 minute = 1 hour

60 second = 1 minute

60 arcminute (') = 1 deg

60 arcsecond (") = 1 arcminute

15 arcsecond = 1 second

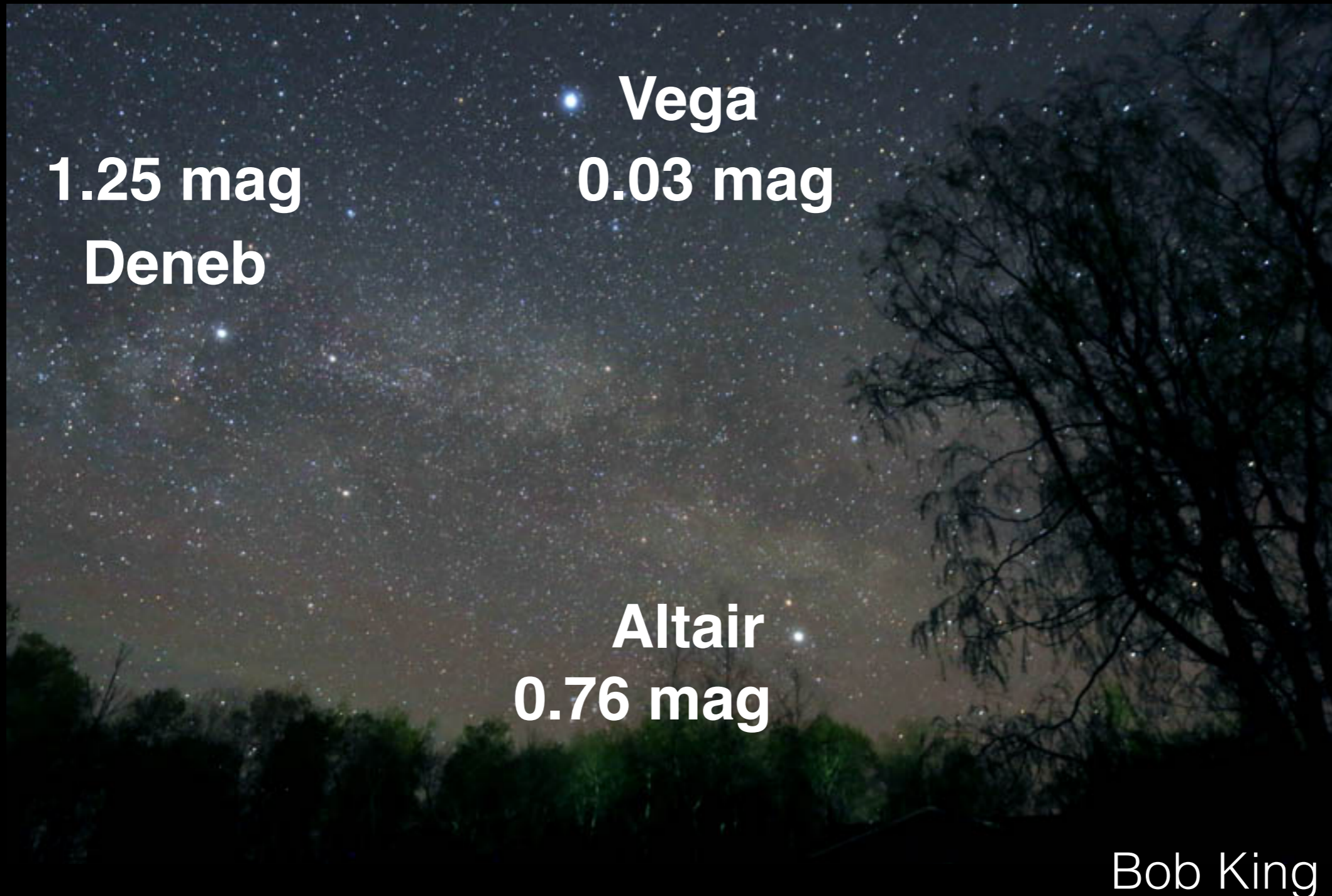


# What is the most difficult measurement in observational cosmology?

- A. Positions of the stars/galaxies on the sky
  - astrometry
- **B. Brightnesses of the stars/galaxies**
  - **photometry**
- C. Motions of the stars/galaxies
  - spectroscopy
- D. Distances to the stars/galaxies



# Summer Triangle



**1.25 mag**  
**Deneb**

**Vega**  
**0.03 mag**

**Altair**  
**0.76 mag**

Bob King

**Brighter stars has smaller magnitude**

# What is the most difficult measurement in observational cosmology?

- A. Positions of the stars/galaxies on the sky
  - astrometry
- B. Brightnesses of the stars/galaxies
  - photometry
- C. Motions of the stars/galaxies
  - spectroscopy
- **D. Distances to the stars/galaxies**

Question:  
How to measure  
distance?

# Units for Distances/Length

**miles**

**light-year (ly)**

**km**

**meter**

**minutes**

**mph**

**Ångström**

**km/s**

**parsec**

**foot**

**Mpc**

**kilograms**

**Astronomical Unit (AU)**



# Units for Distances/Length

miles

light-year (ly)

$9 \times 10^{15}$  meter

km

1000 meter

minutes

meter

mph

Ångström

km/s

$10^{-10}$  meter

foot

Mpc

parsec

kilograms

Astronomical Unit (AU)

$1.5 \times 10^{11}$  meter

Question:  
How to measure  
distance?

# Trigonometric Parallaxes

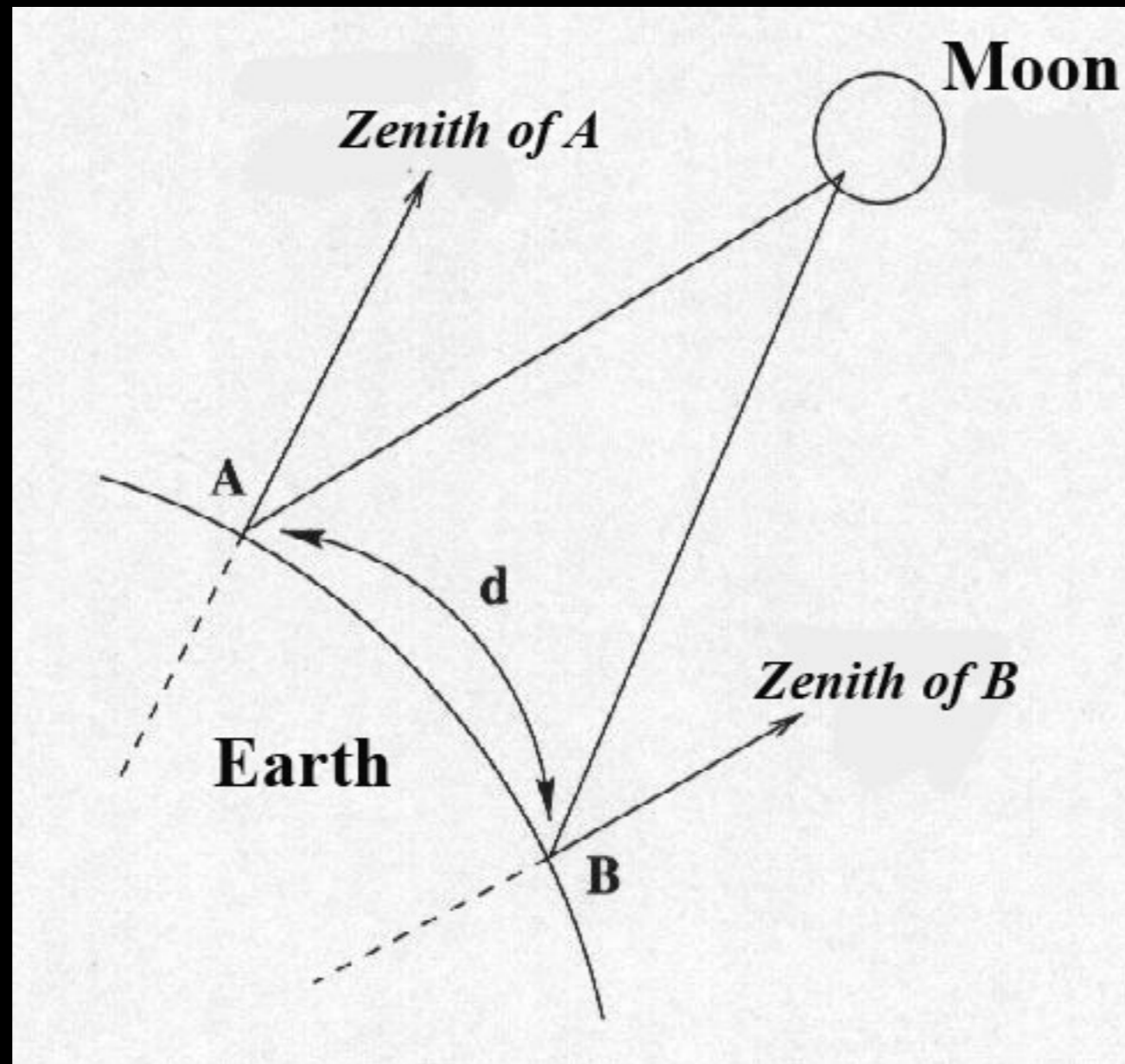
- First word: Trigonometry + metric (measure) = Trigonometric: Measuring the angles.
- Second word: Base is Parallel. Parallax means measuring the amount that an object shifts from two different vantage points.

# Trigonometric Parallaxes — 1

**Experiment with your finger**

# Trigonometric Parallaxes — 2

## Distance to the Moon

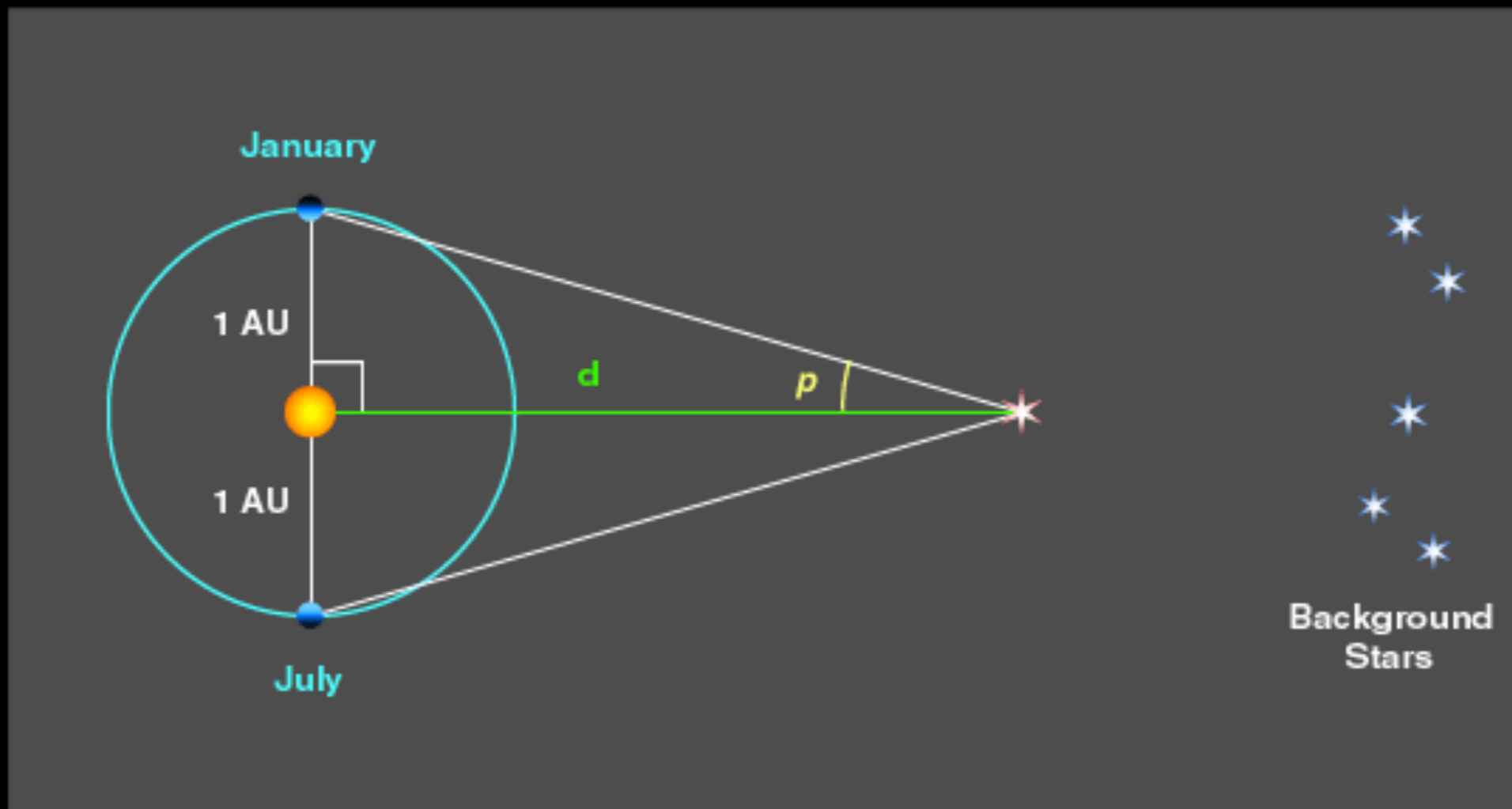


# Trigonometric Parallaxes — 2

**What is the longest  
baseline we can have?**

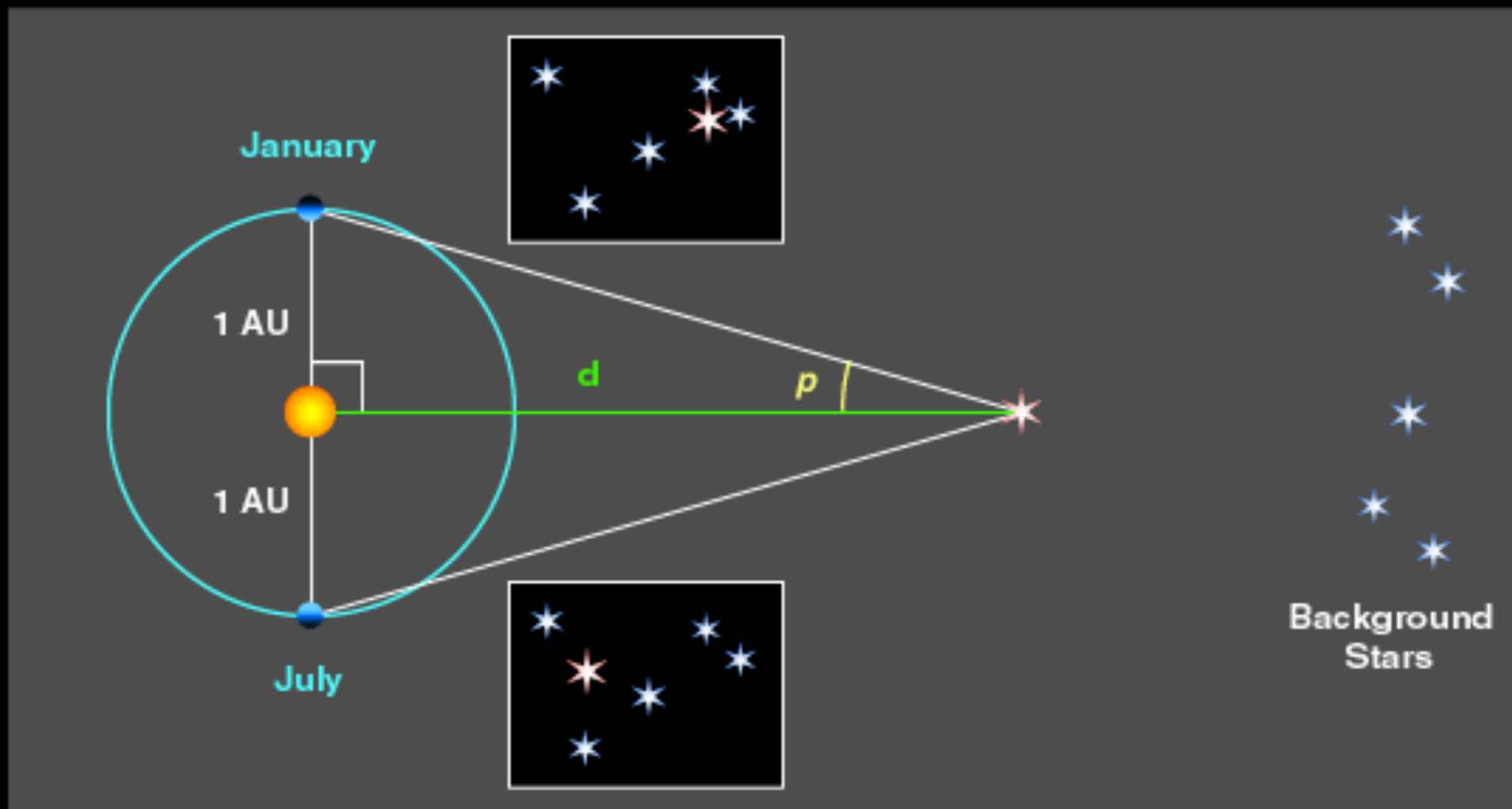
# Trigonometric Parallaxes — 3

## Distance to a Star



# Trigonometric Parallaxes — 3

## Distance to a Star



Measure the Position of the Stars



# Trigonometric Parallaxes — 3

## Definition

**Baseline = 1 AU**

**Measure a shift of  $p$  in arcsecond**

**Distance to the star in parsec (pc) is**

$$d = 1/p$$

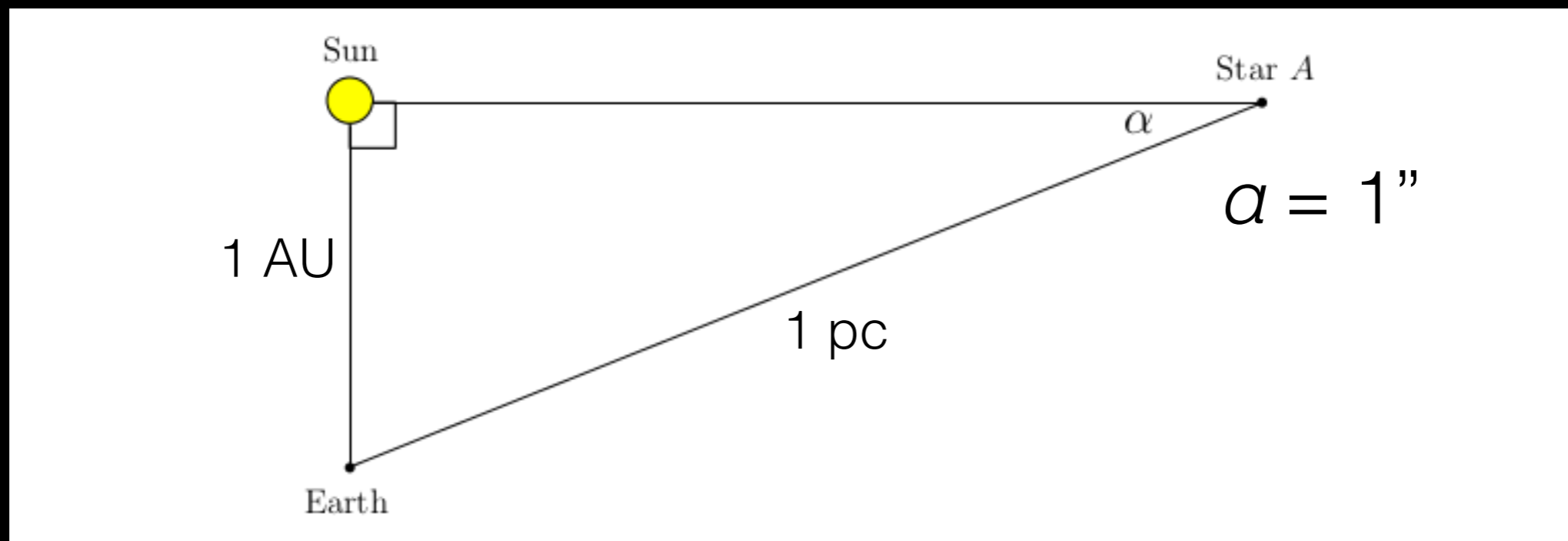
*shift = 1" , d = 1 pc*

*shift = 0.5" , d = 2 pc*

*...*

# Trigonometric Parallaxes — 3

## Distance to a Star



$$1 \text{ pc} = 3.26 \text{ ly} = 3 \times 10^{16} \text{ m}$$

# Trigonometric Parallaxes — 3

The Farthest Star Parallax can go

$$d \sim 10,000 \text{ pc} \sim 10 \text{ kpc}$$

$$p = 0.0001''$$

# Trigonometric Parallaxes — 3

The Farthest Star Parallax can go

$$d \sim 10,000 \text{ pc} \sim 10 \text{ kpc}$$

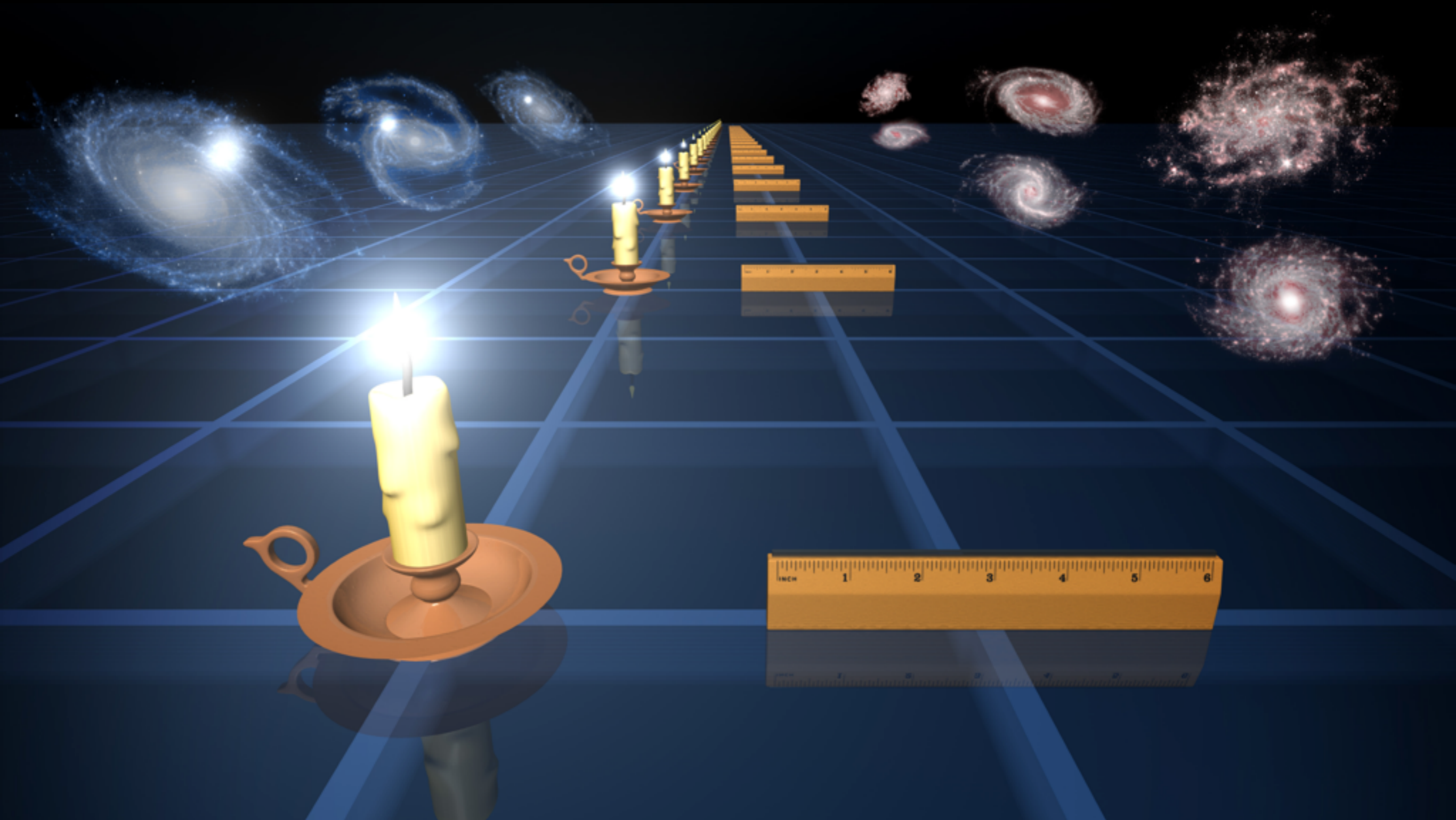
$$p = 0.0001''$$

What about more distance stars?



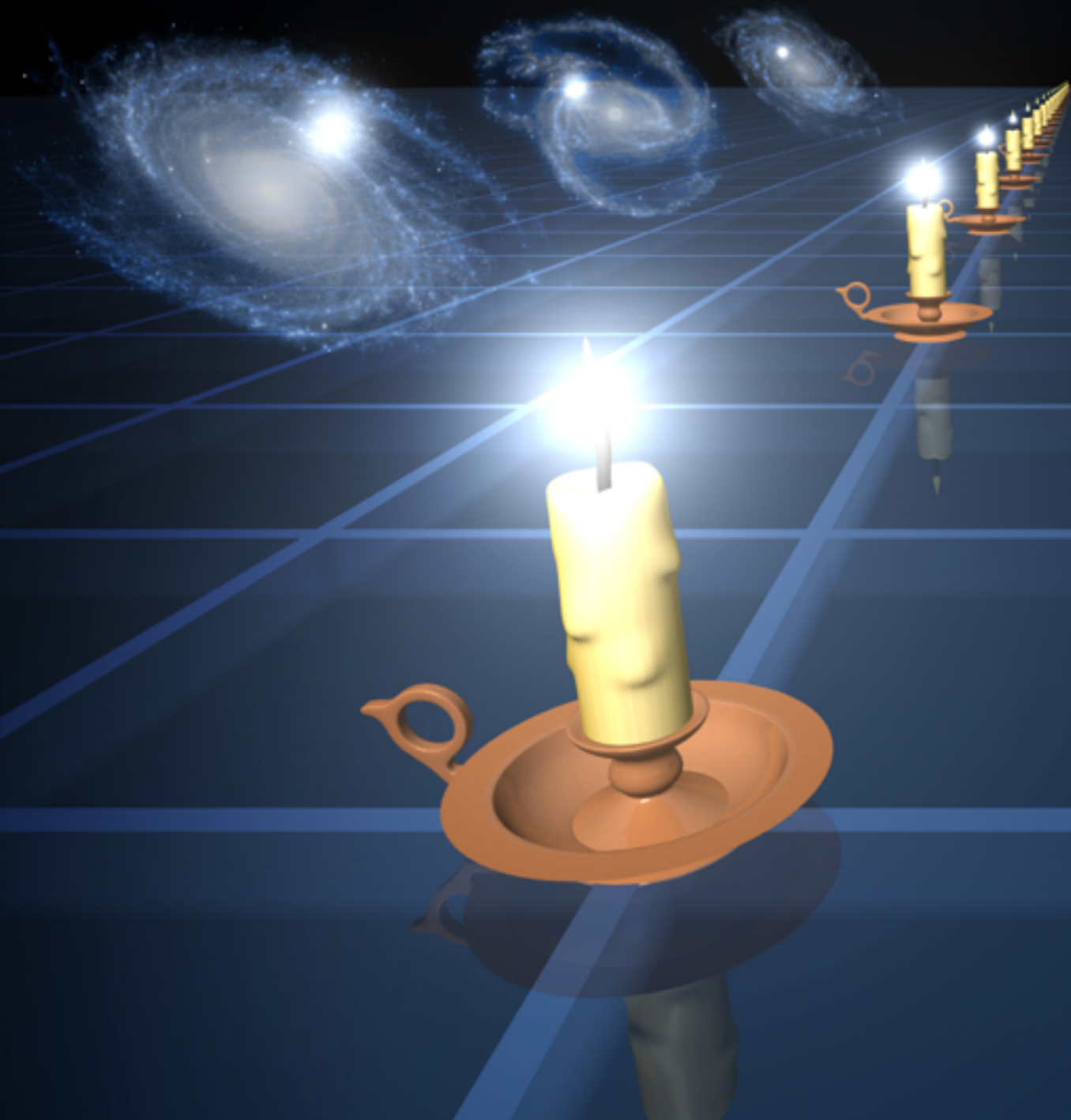
# Standard Candles

# Standard Rulers



# Standard Candles

Measure the Brightness of the Stars



$$\text{Brightness} = \frac{\text{Luminosity}}{4\pi d^2}$$

If the candle is twice further, then it is four times dimmer.

If we know the luminosity of a star or a galaxy, then we can measure the distance to it.



# Distance to the Moon

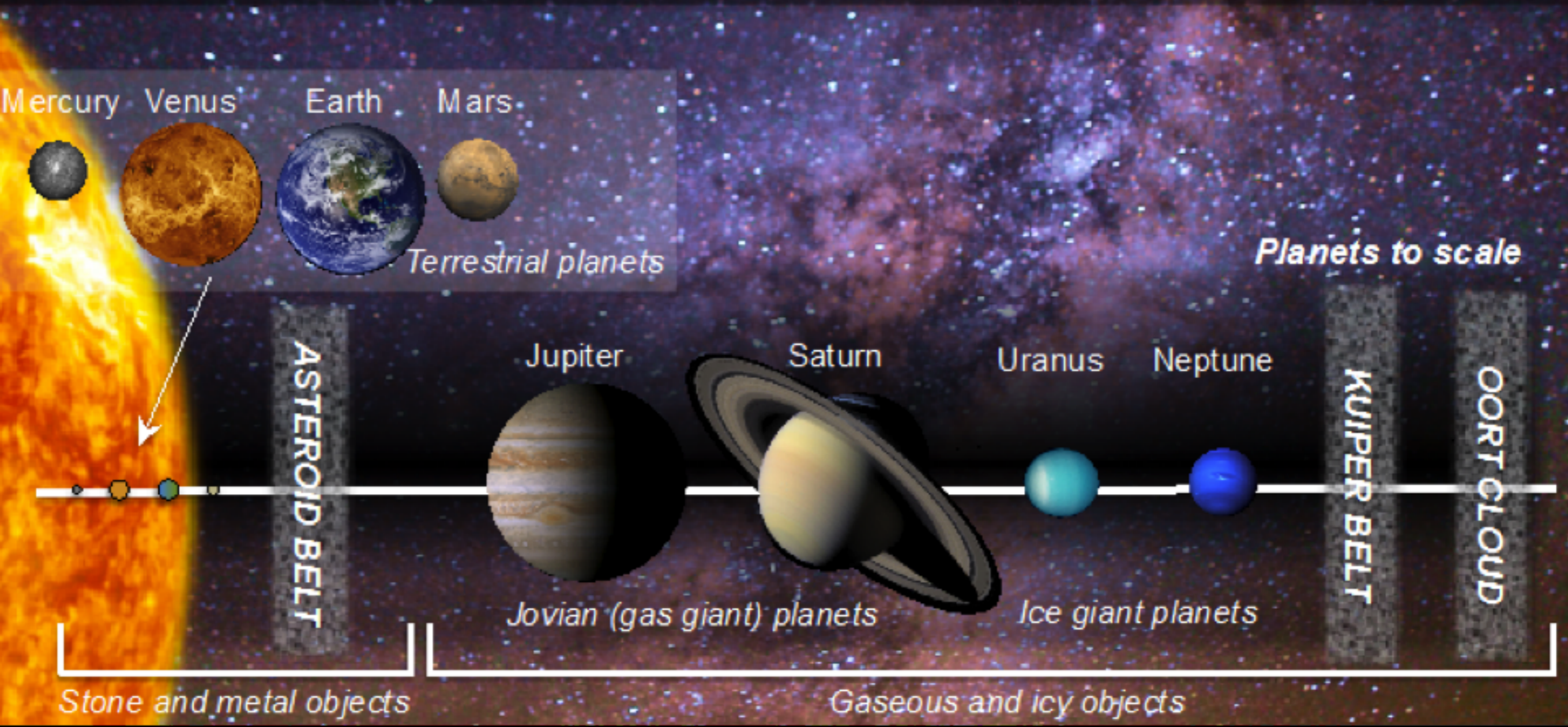
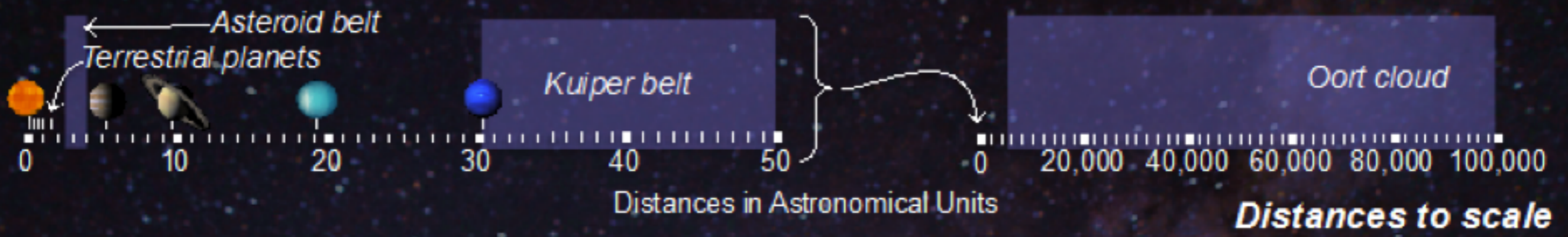


# Distance to the Moon



Moon



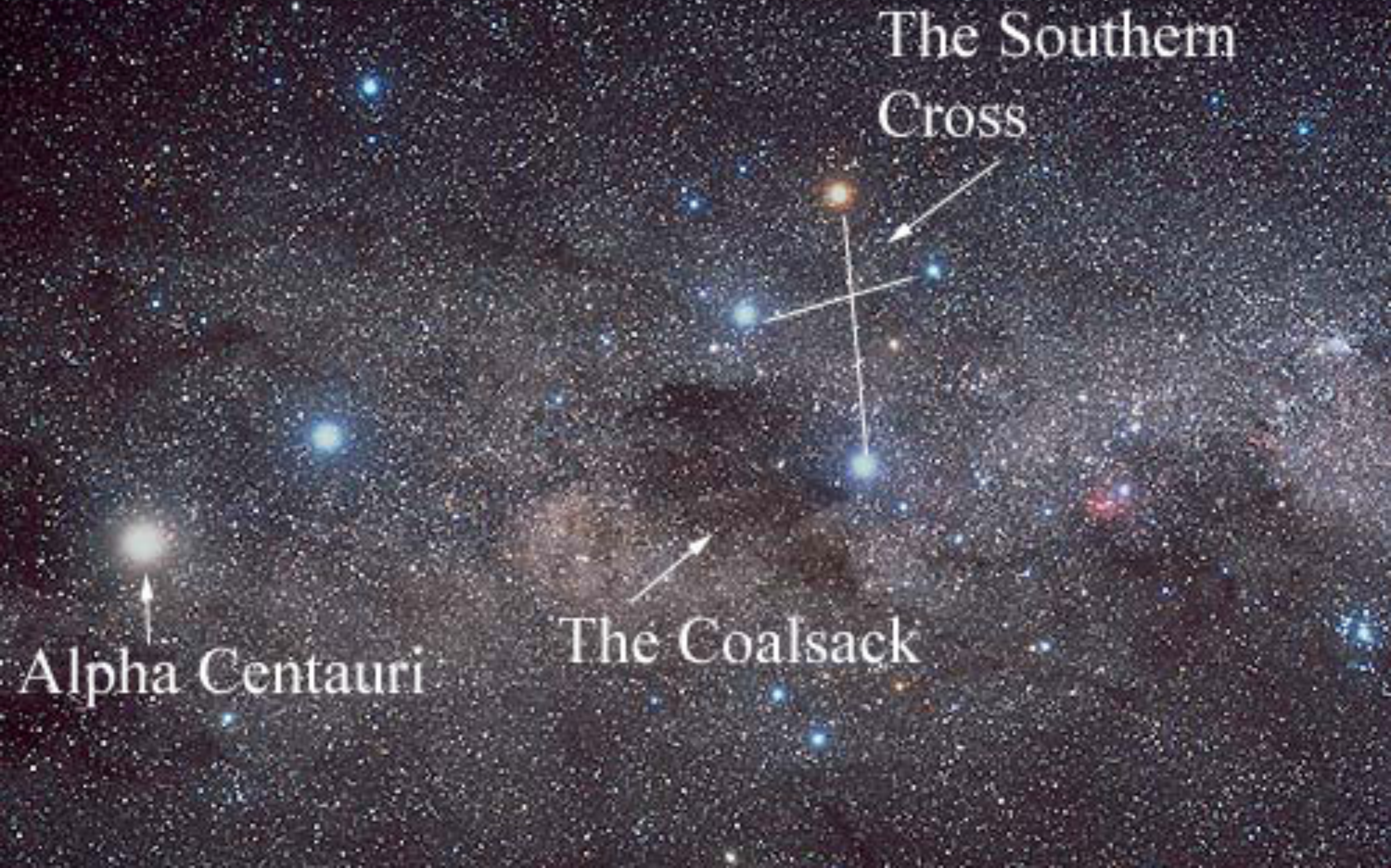


Distance to the Edge of Solar System:  
150,000,000 km



# Distance to the Nearest Star

Proxima Centauri: 40,208,000,000,000 km



The Southern  
Cross

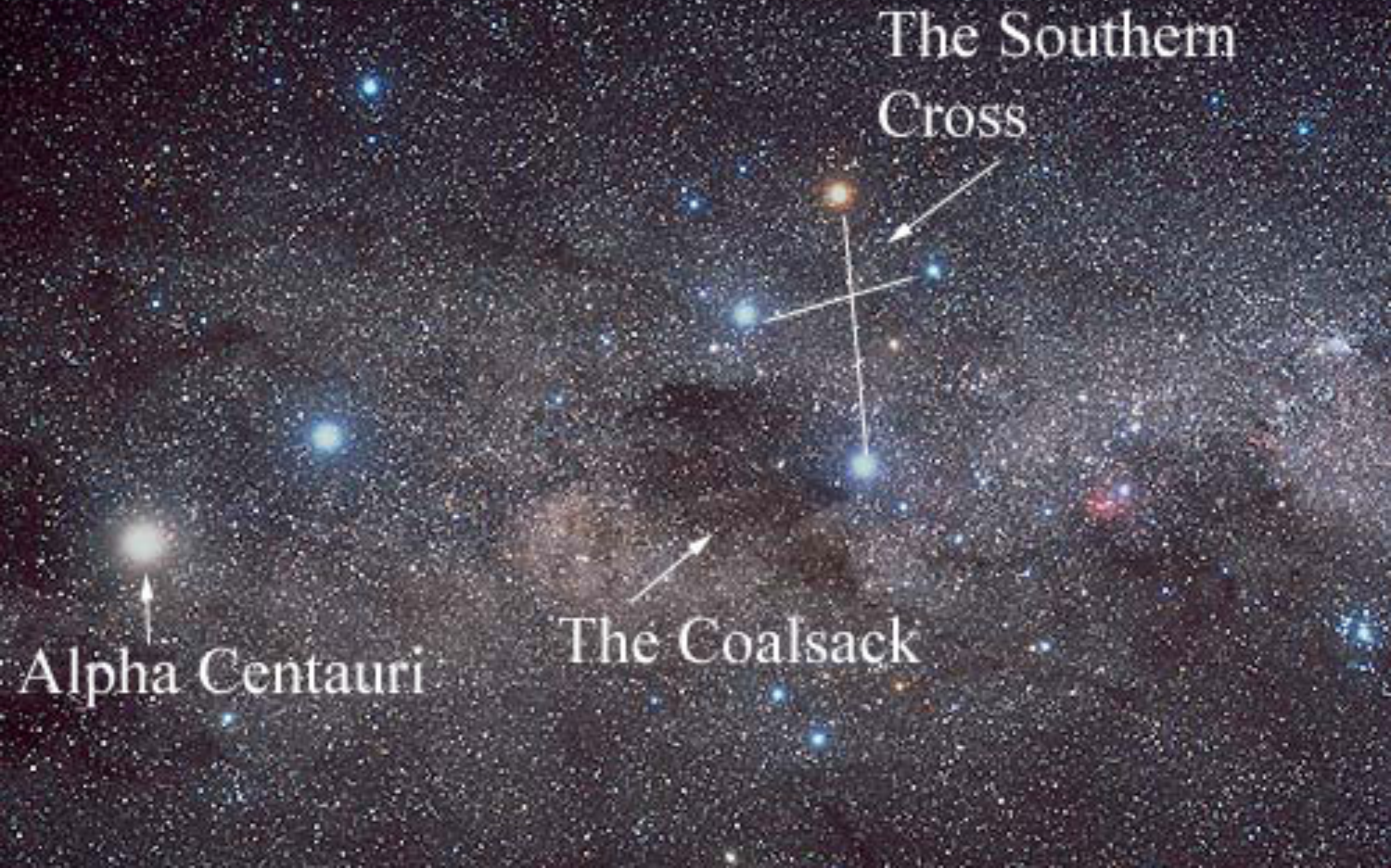
The Coalsack

Alpha Centauri



# Distance to the Nearest Star

Proxima Centauri: 1.3 pc



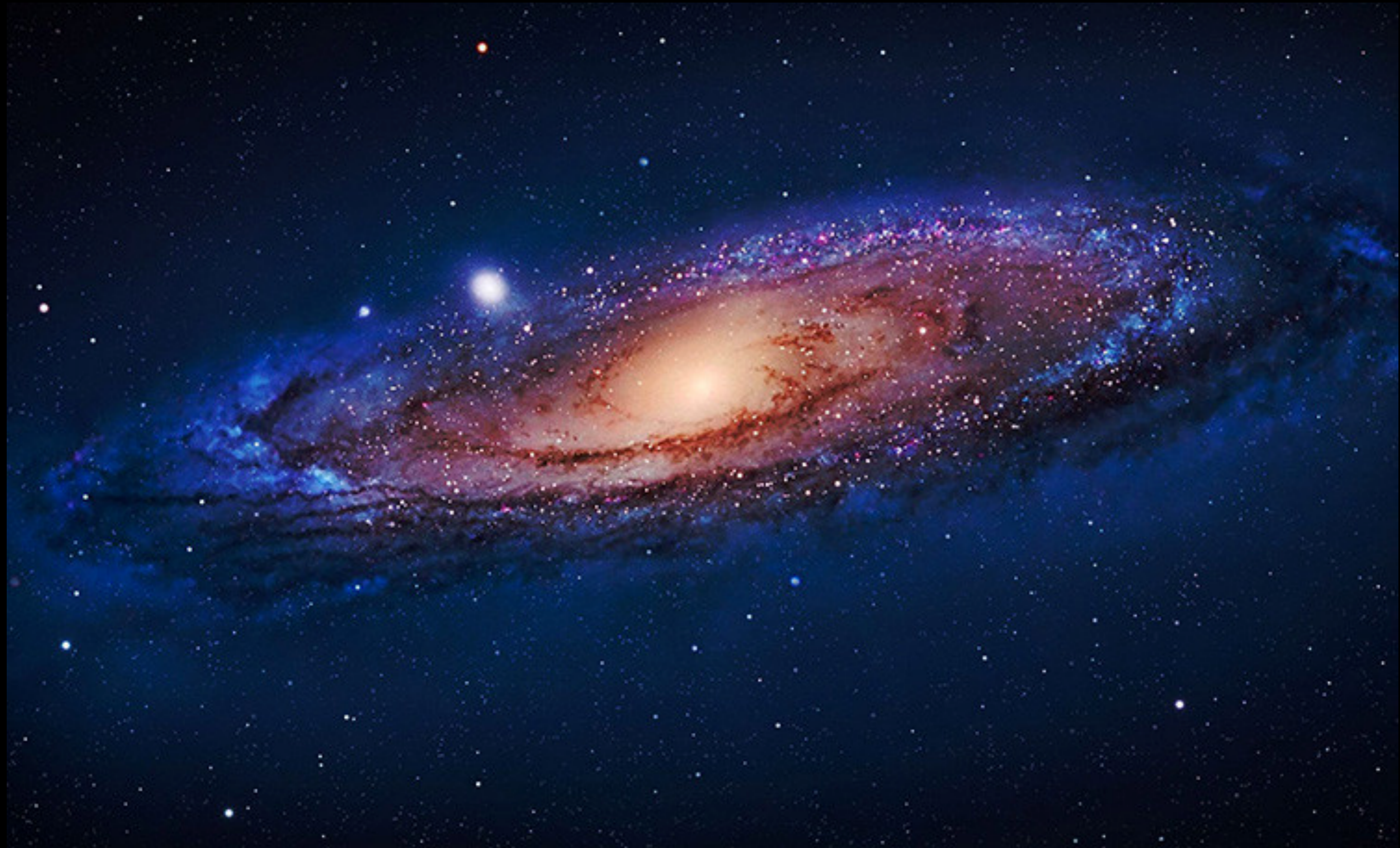
The Southern  
Cross

Alpha Centauri

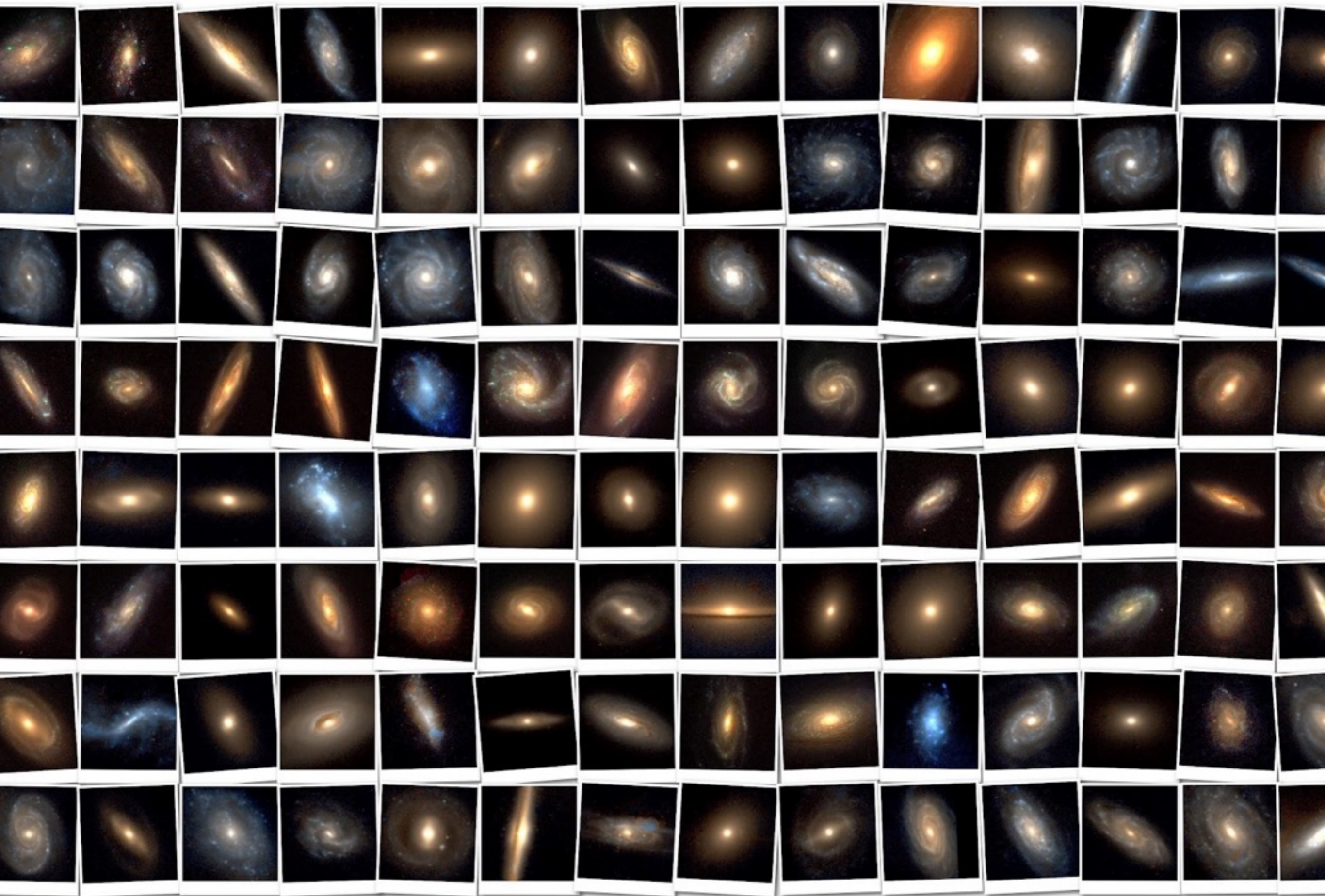
The Coalsack



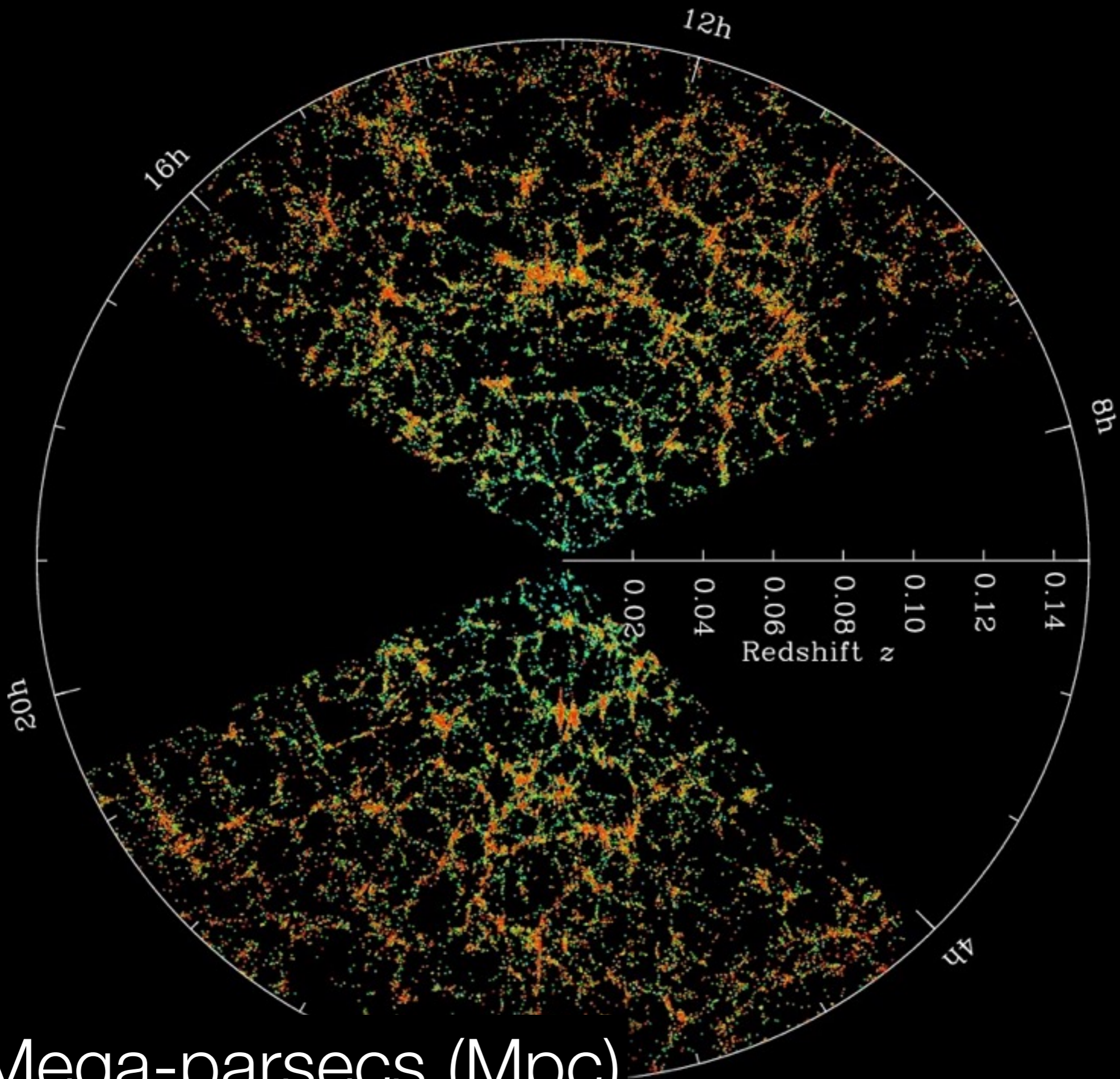
Distance to Our Neighbor  
Andromeda Galaxy (M31): 0.8 Mpc











600 Mega-parsecs (Mpc)



# Size of Observable Universe

- 14 000 Mpc (14 Gpc or 46 billion light-years)

# Size of an Atom

- 1 Ångström

**Ratio  $\sim 10^{36}$**

To summarize ...

**Distance  
Measurements**

→ **Trigonometric Parallaxes**

position / astrometry

→ **Standard Candles**

brightness / photometry

→ .....  
.....

# What is the most difficult measurement in observational cosmology?

- A. Positions of the stars/galaxies on the sky
  - astrometry
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# Stellar Spectrum

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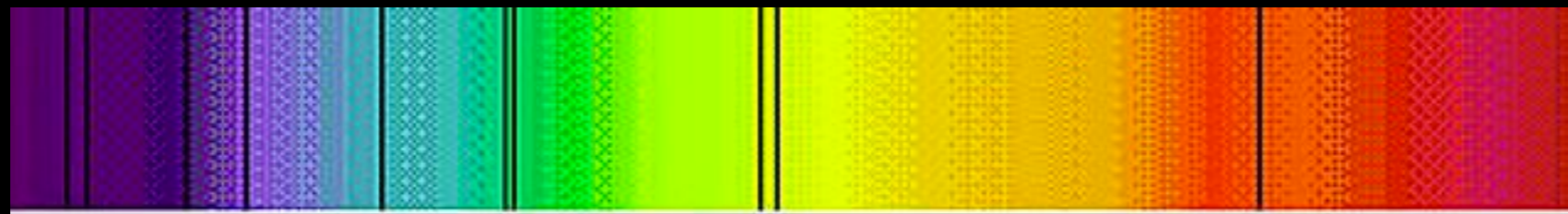


**300 nm**

**700 nm**

# Doppler Effect

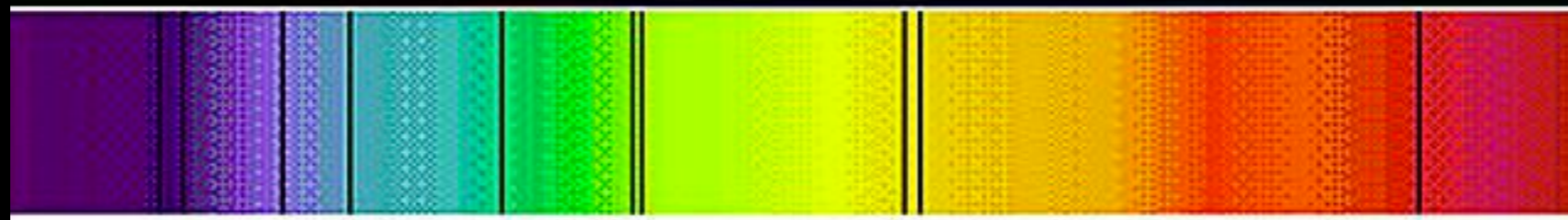
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MOVING TOWARD YOU: BLUESHIFT



AT REST



REDSHIFTED: MOVING AWAY FROM YOU



# Motion of a Star

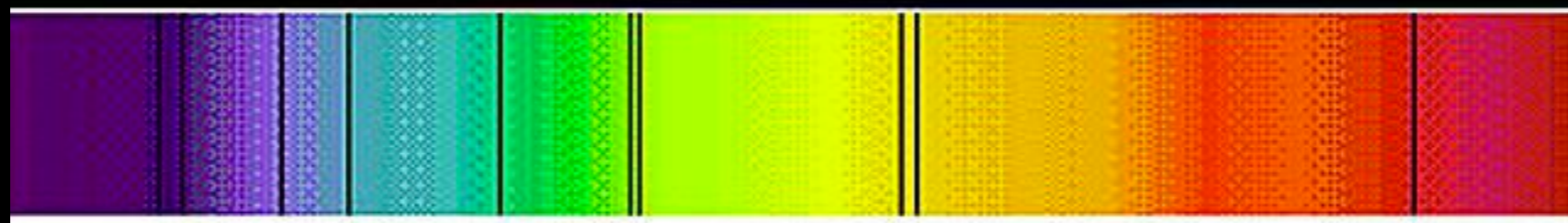
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For example, if a line at 500 nm, is shifted to 500.5 nm, then the star is moving away from us at a speed of

$$\frac{v}{c} = \frac{\Delta\lambda}{\lambda} = \frac{500.5 - 500}{500} \longrightarrow v = 0.001c = 300 \text{ km/s}$$



AT REST



REDSHIFTED: MOVING AWAY FROM YOU

# What is the most interesting/ important/difficult measurements in observational cosmology?

- A. Positions of the stars/galaxies on the sky
  - astrometry
- B. Brightnesses of the stars/galaxies
  - photometry
- C. Motions of the stars/galaxies
  - spectroscopy
- D. Distances to the stars/galaxies



Questions?

Now Let's Learn  
Something About the  
Universe!



**The Universe started with a Big Bang**

The Origin

**We are all Stardust**

The Evolution

**The Universe is mostly “Dark”**

The Fate

Edwin  
Hubble



University of Chicago

1909 National Champions

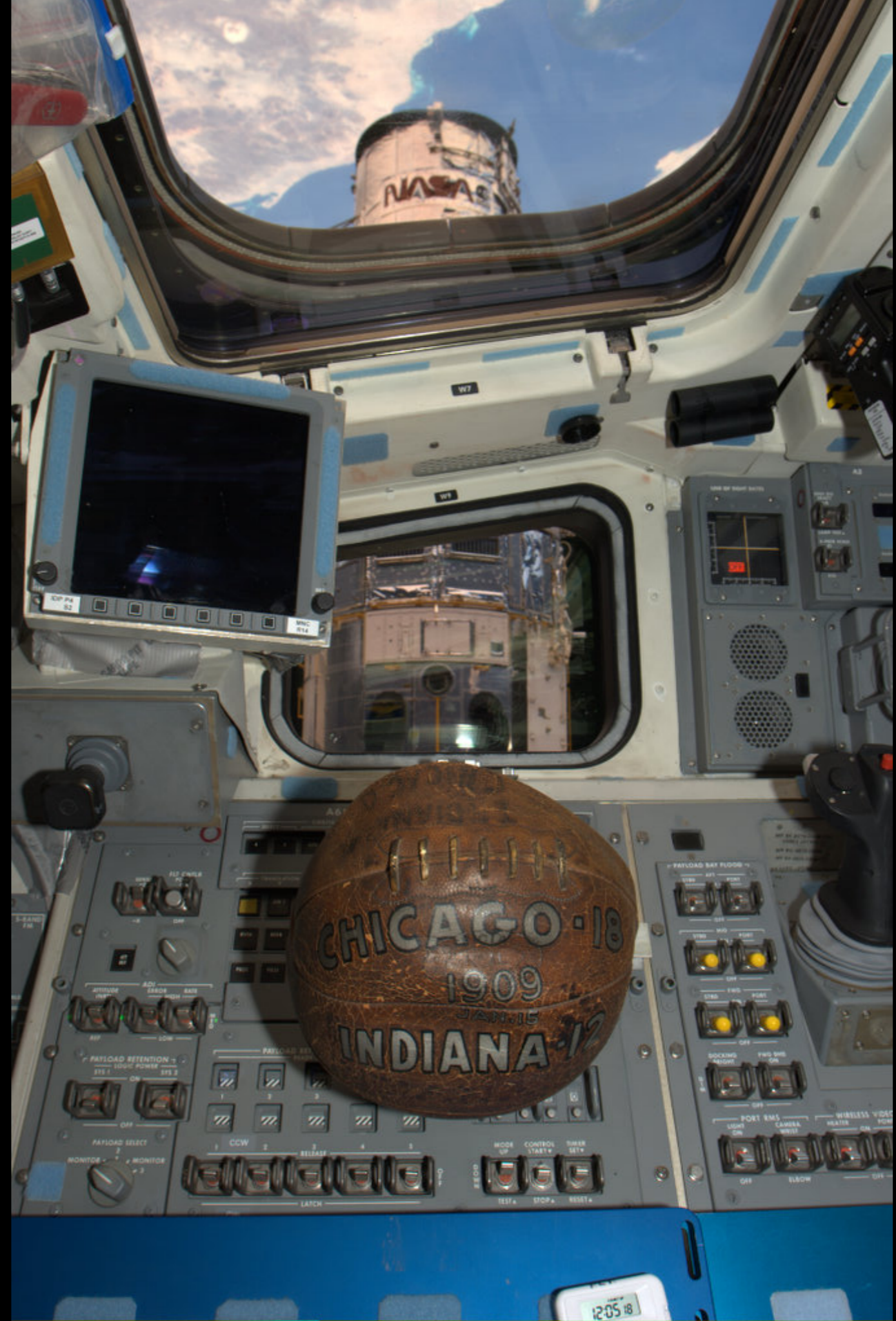


March Madness 1909

Chicago 18  
Indiana 12

Hubble's U.Chicago National  
Championship Basketball on  
board of the Space Shuttle

Hubble Space Telescope in  
background






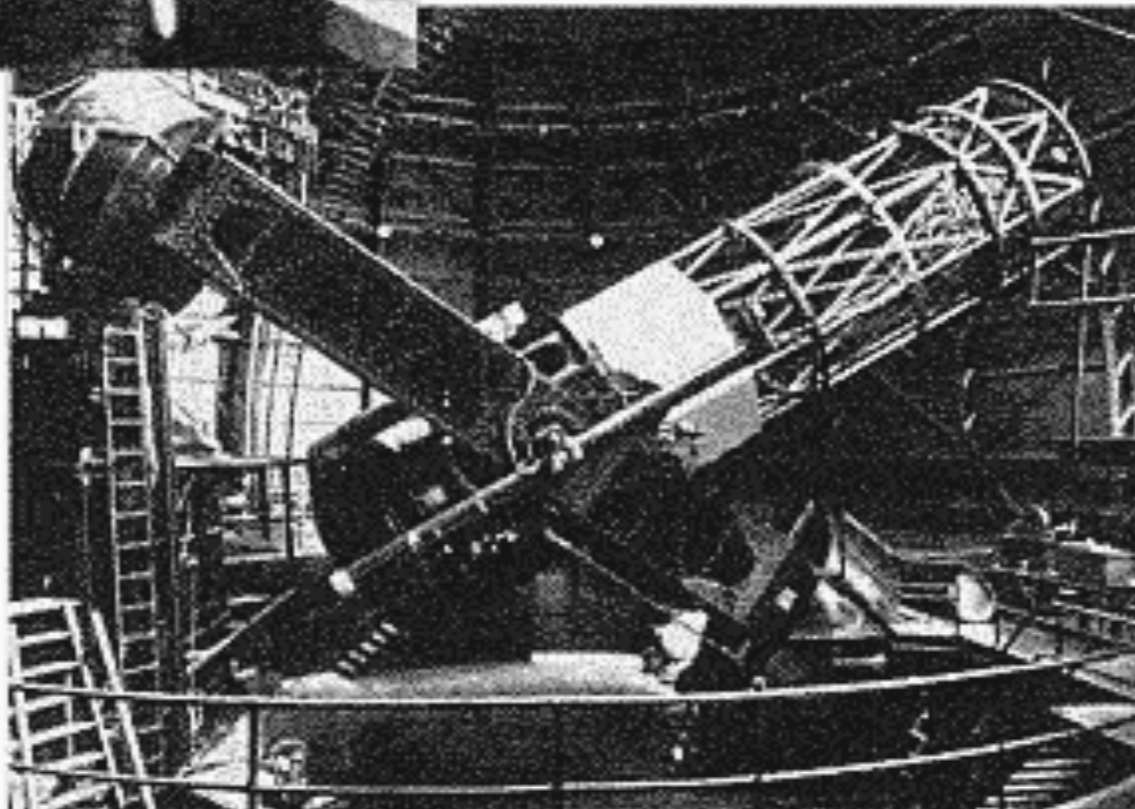
# DISCOVERY OF EXPANDING UNIVERSE



Edwin Hubble

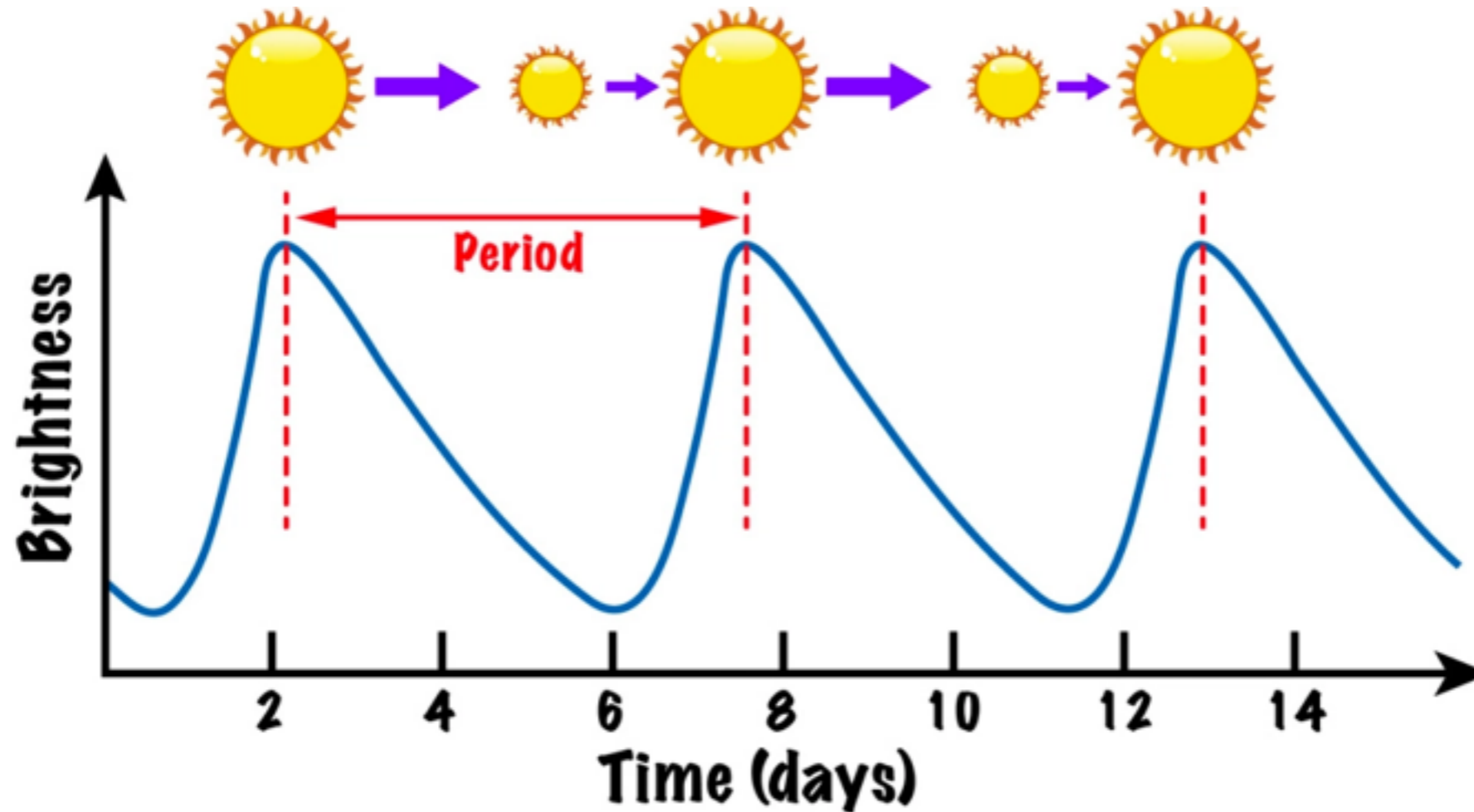
Nearby Galaxies A diagram consisting of the text 'Nearby Galaxies' on the left. Two arrows originate from the right side of this text. One arrow points upwards and to the right towards the word 'Motions'. The other arrow points downwards and to the right towards the word 'Distances'.

Standard Candles: **Cepheid variable stars**



Mt. Wilson  
100 Inch  
Telescope

# Standard Candles: Cepheid variable stars



**Period** → **Luminosity** → **Distance**

# DISCOVERY OF EXPANDING UNIVERSE



Edwin Hubble

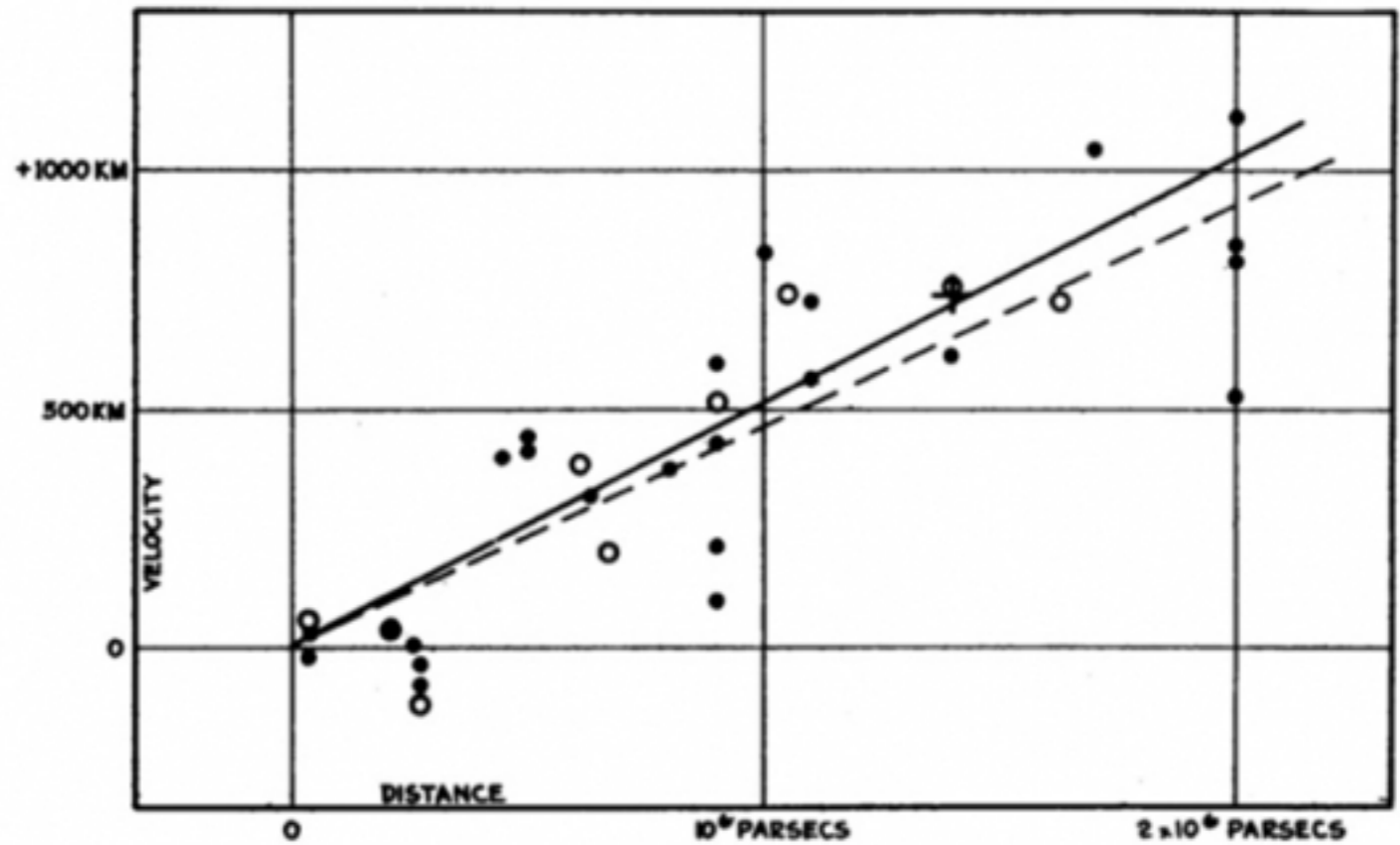
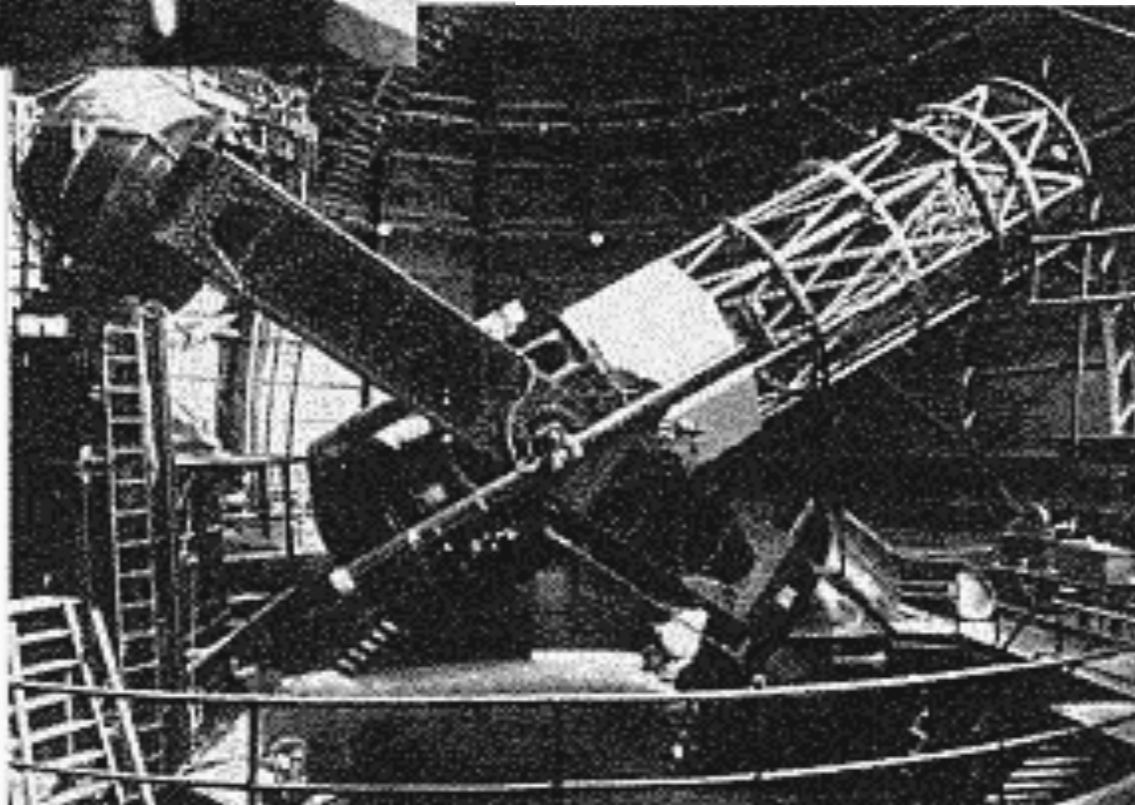


FIGURE 1

Velocity-Distance Relation among Extra-Galactic Nebulae.

Hubble (1929)

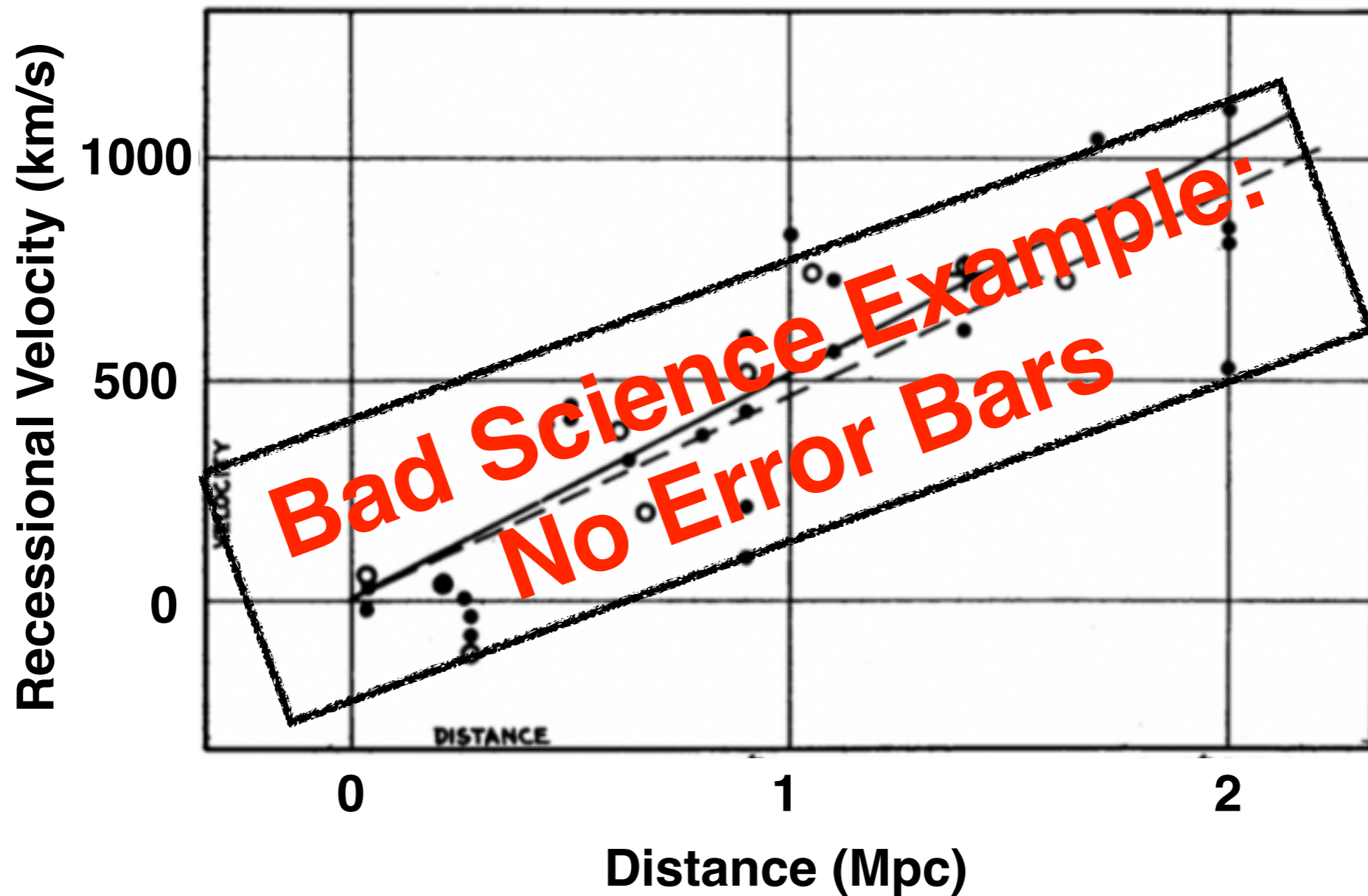
Measure the  
Cepheid  
Variable stars  
in nearby  
galaxies



Mt. Wilson  
100 Inch  
Telescope



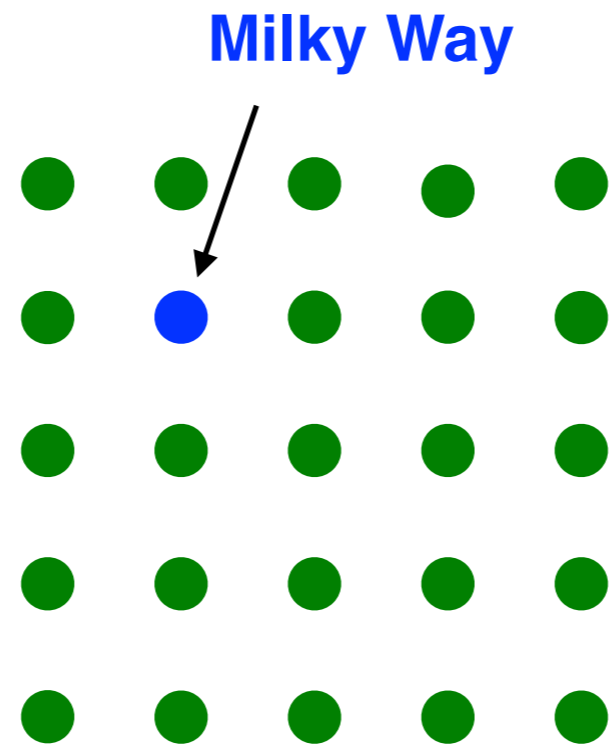
# Hubble's Law



The further the galaxies, the faster they are moving away from us.

# The Universe is Expanding

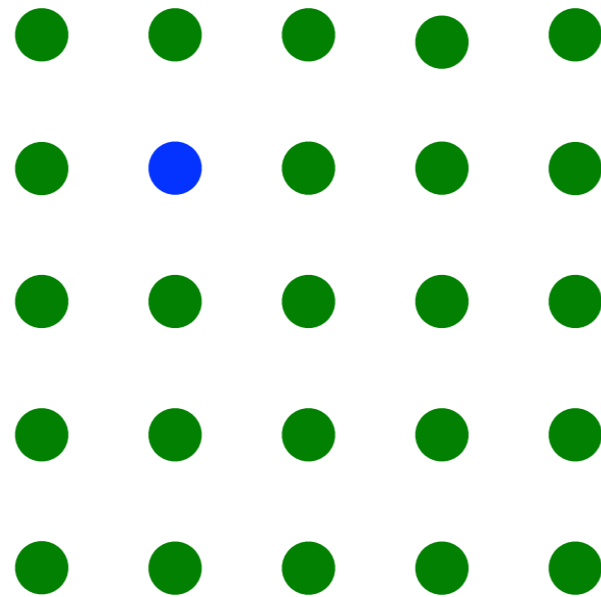
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# The Universe is Expanding

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**$t = t_1$**

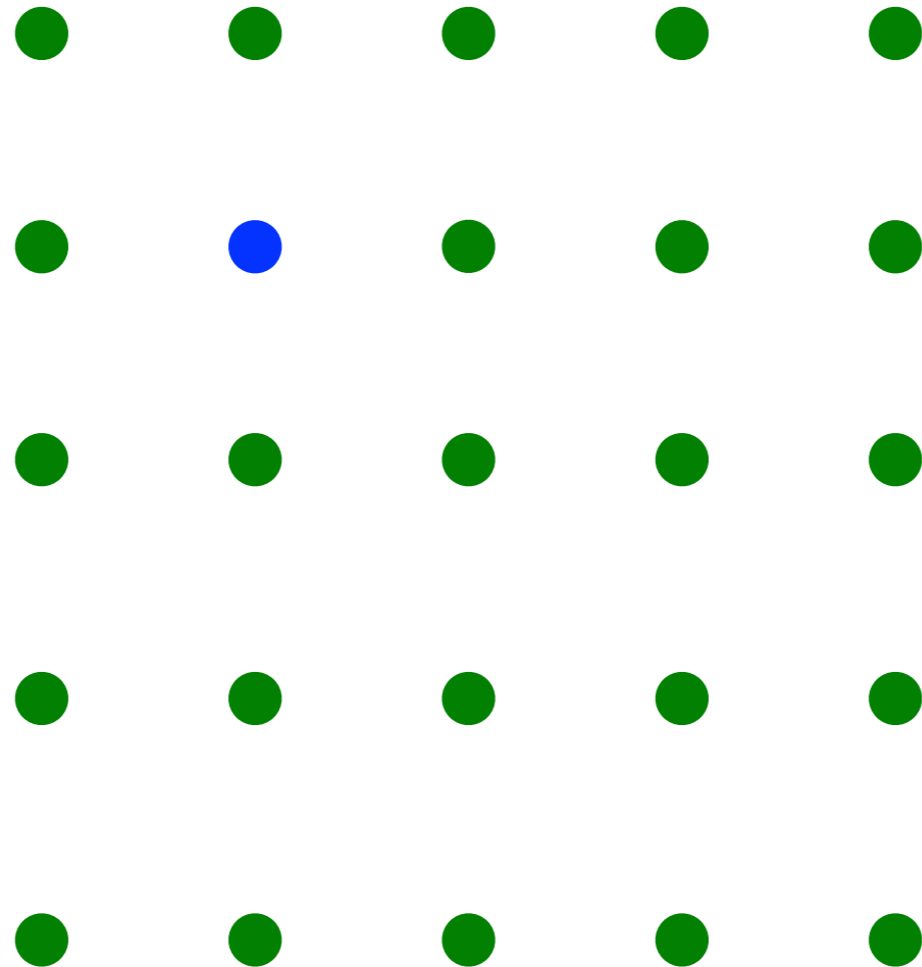




# The Universe is Expanding

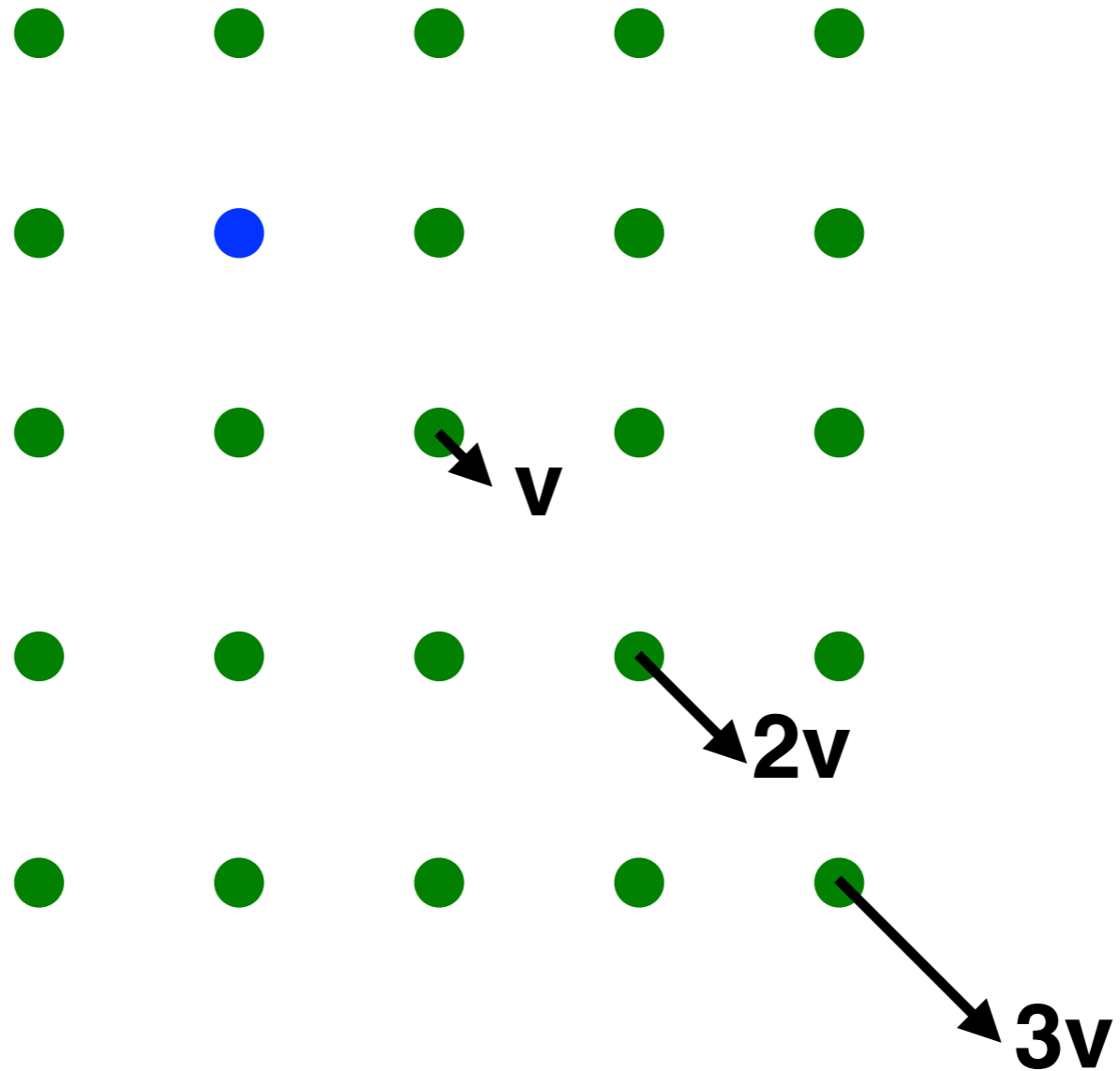
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**$t = t_2$**



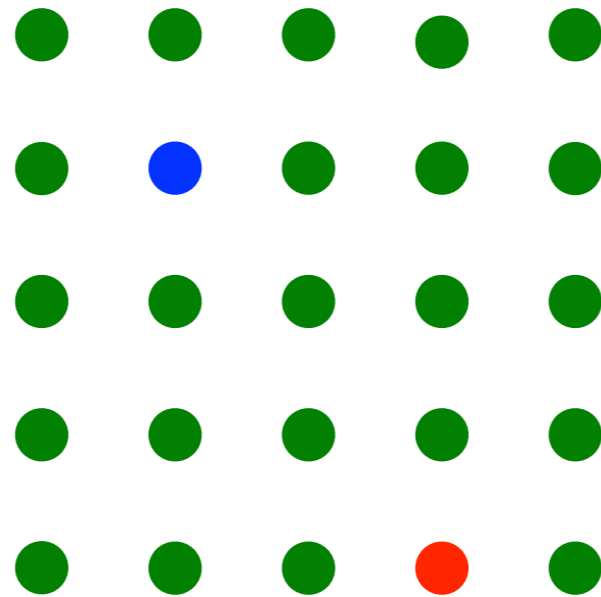
# The Universe is Expanding

---



# Are We the Center of the Universe?

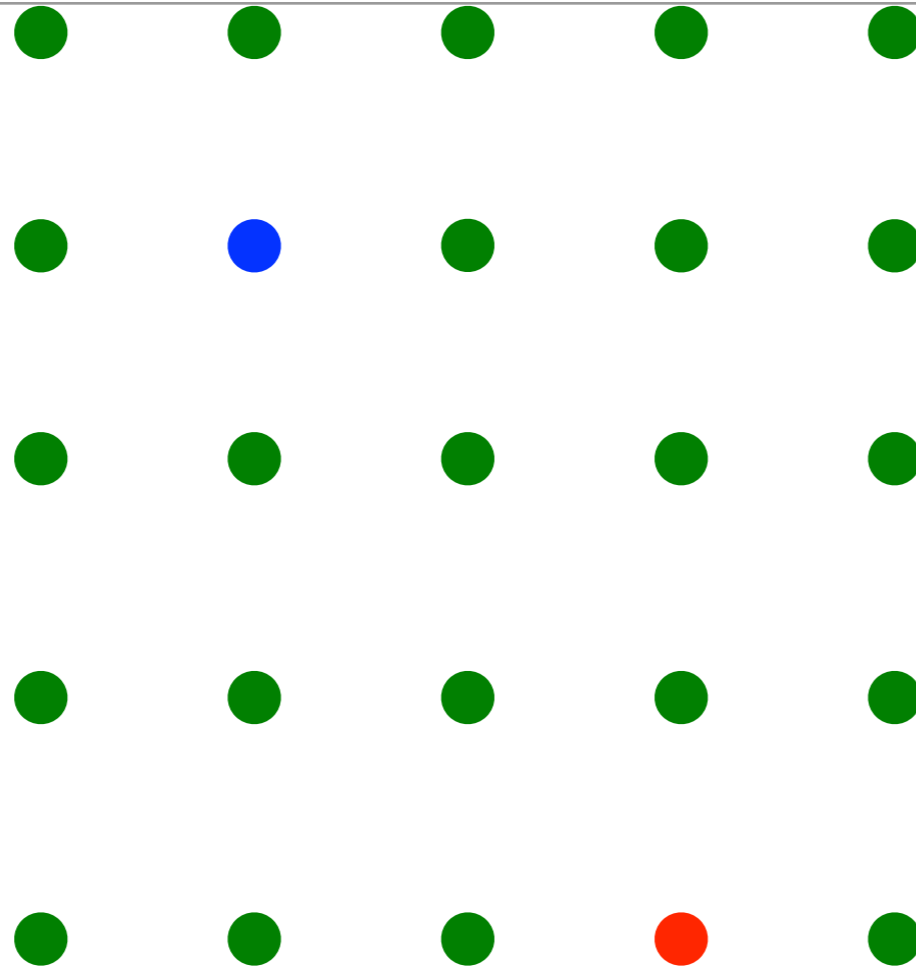
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# Are We the Center of the Universe?

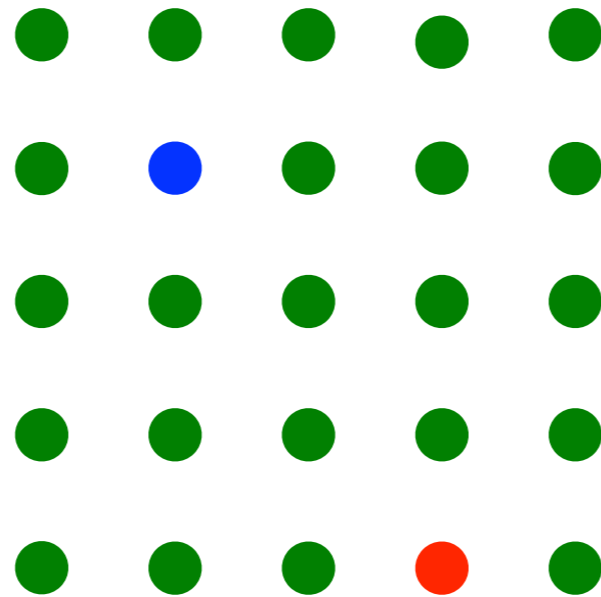
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**NO!**

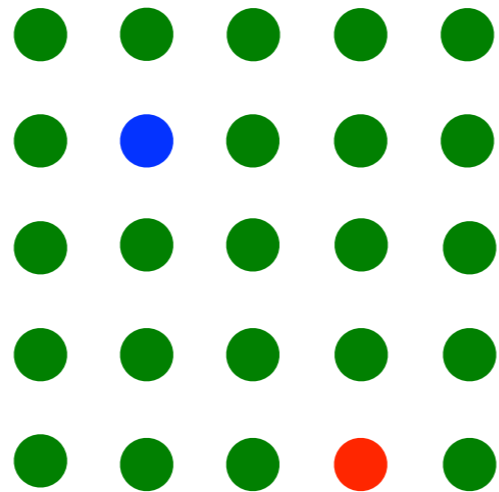
# How about backwards in time?

---



# How about backwards in time?

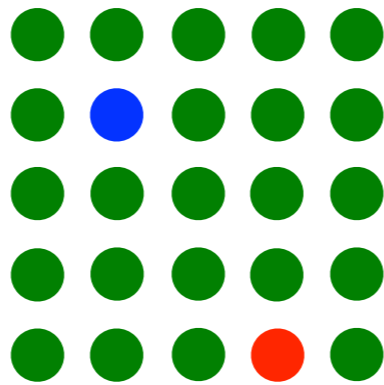
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# How about backwards in time?

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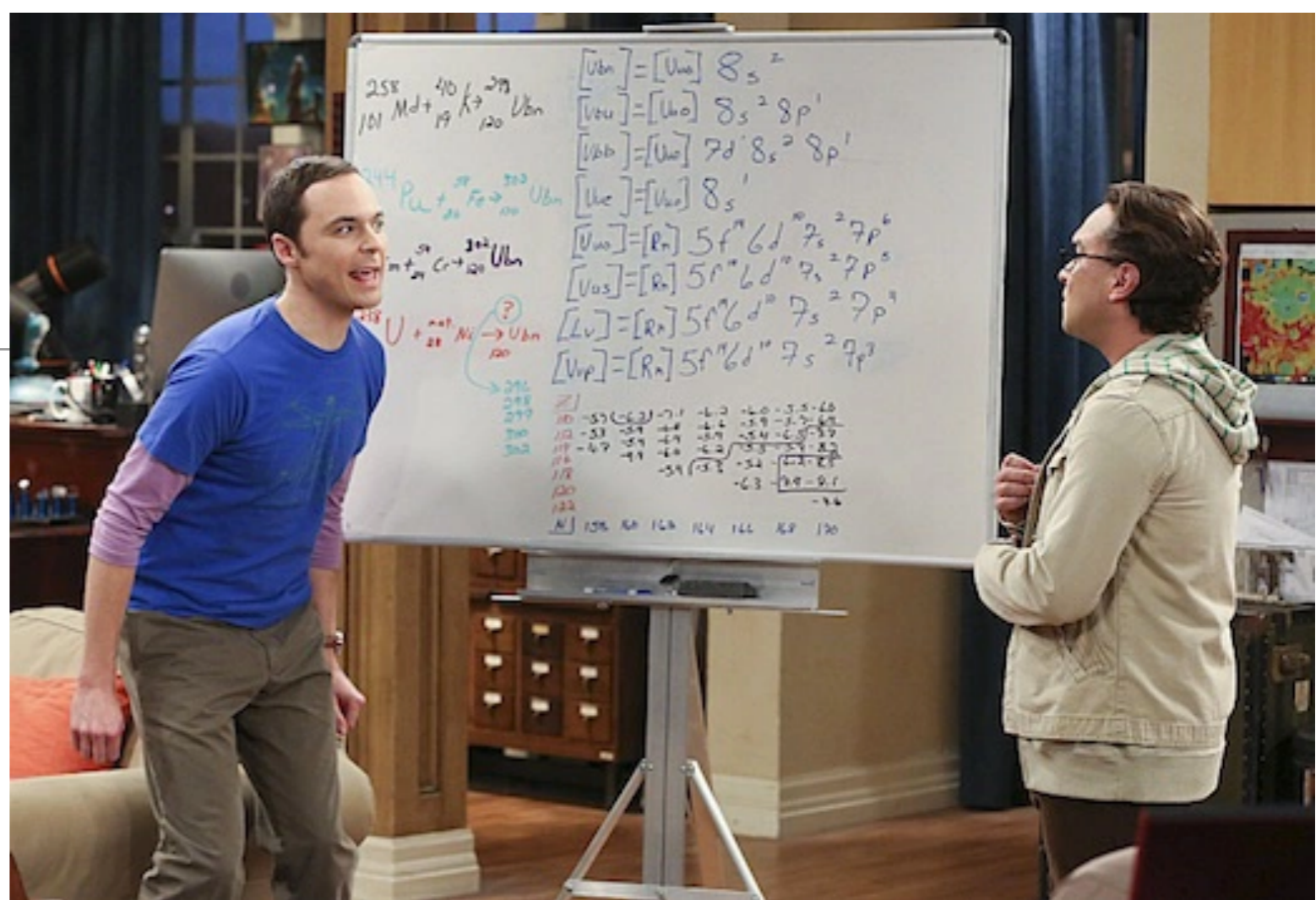








# the Big BANG THEORY





# Steady State Model vs “Big Bang” Model

---

Universe is infinitely old, time has no beginning and no end.



**Fred Hoyle  
(1915-2001)**

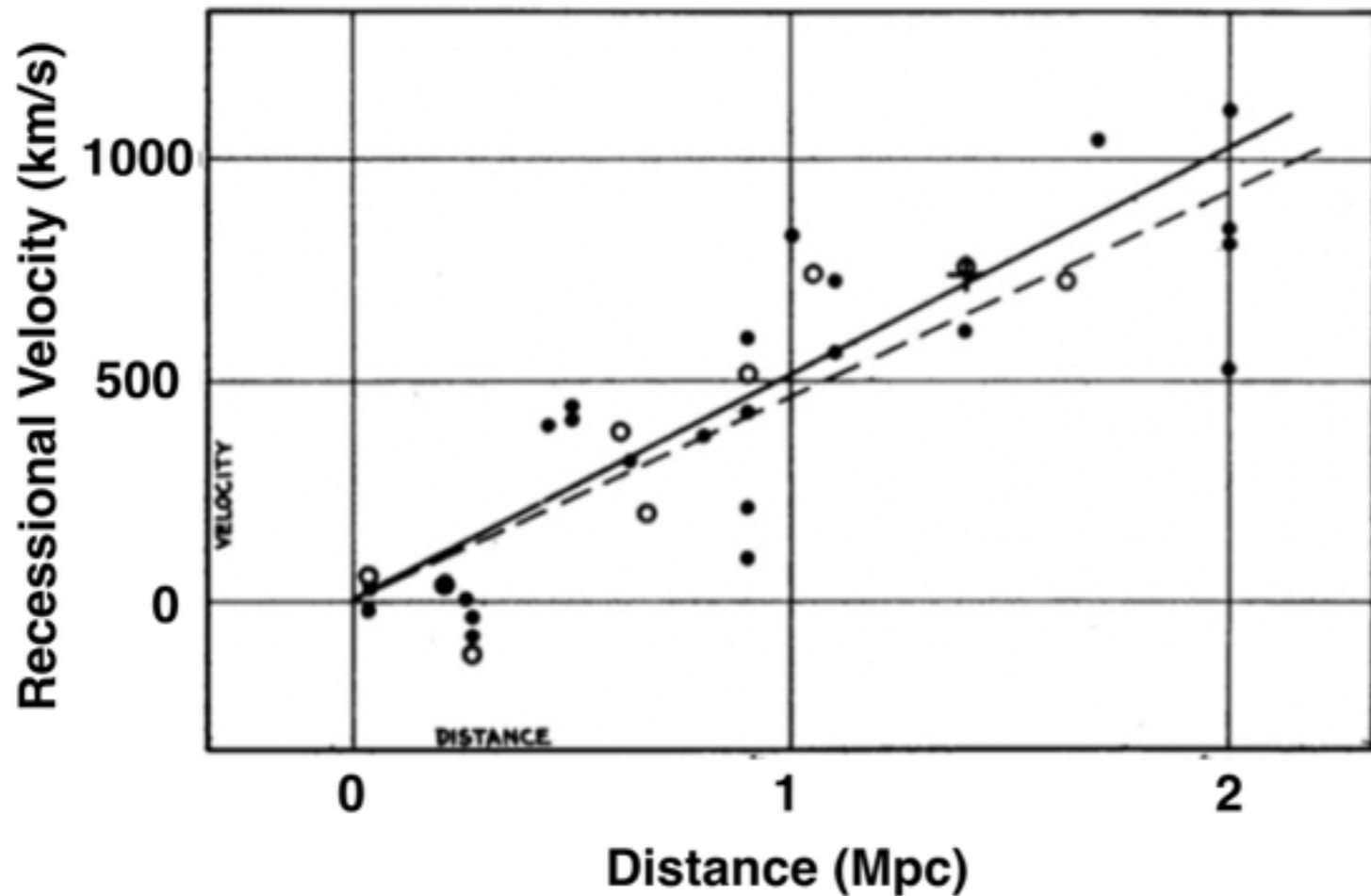
Universe is finite, and was hotter and denser in the past.



**George Gamow  
(1904-1968)**

# Hubble Constant

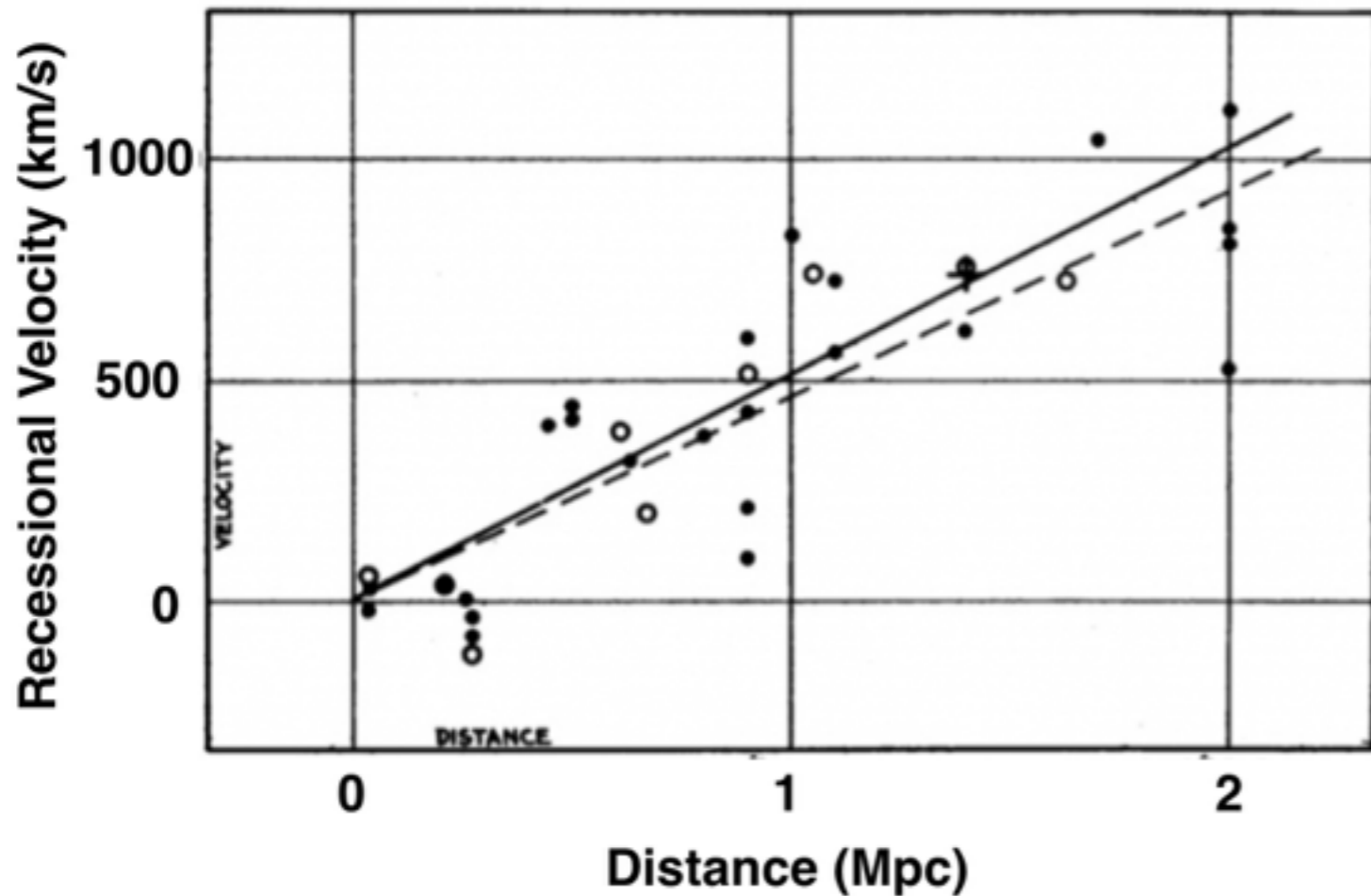
$H_0 = \text{velocity} / \text{distance}$



Hubble's estimation  
 $H_0 = 500 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$

$$\frac{1}{H_0} \sim \frac{\text{Distance}}{\text{Velocity}}$$

**Hubble Constant**  
 **$H_0 = \text{velocity} / \text{distance}$**



Hubble's estimation  
 $H_0 = 500 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$

$$\frac{1}{H_0} \sim \text{TIME}$$

**Age of the Universe**  
**~ 2 billion years**

**Earth ~ 4.6 billion years**

**Current best estimation**  
 **$H_0 \sim 70 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$**



**Age of Universe**  
**~ 14 billion years**



# Steady State Model vs “Big Bang” Model

---

Universe is infinitely old,  
time has no beginning and no  
end

Universe is finite, and was  
hotter and denser in the past

Two hypotheses. Which one is correct?

Scientific Method

—————> Making testable predictions!

# Some Critical Thinking

---

If “Big Bang” theory is correct, the Universe is very hot and dense at the beginning.

As the Universe expands, the temperature drops.

Physicists calculated that current Universe should have a temperature of 3 K. ( -454.27 °F)

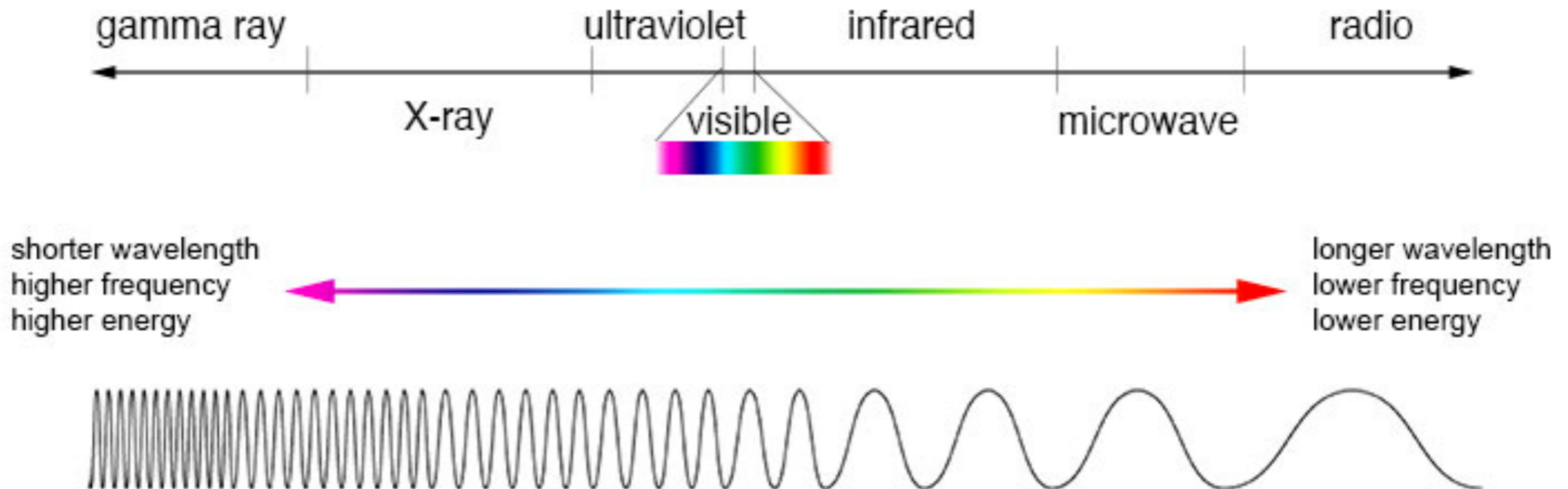
What signal will we see for this 3 K Universe?

Universe glow in microwave.

## **Cosmic Microwave Background Radiation**

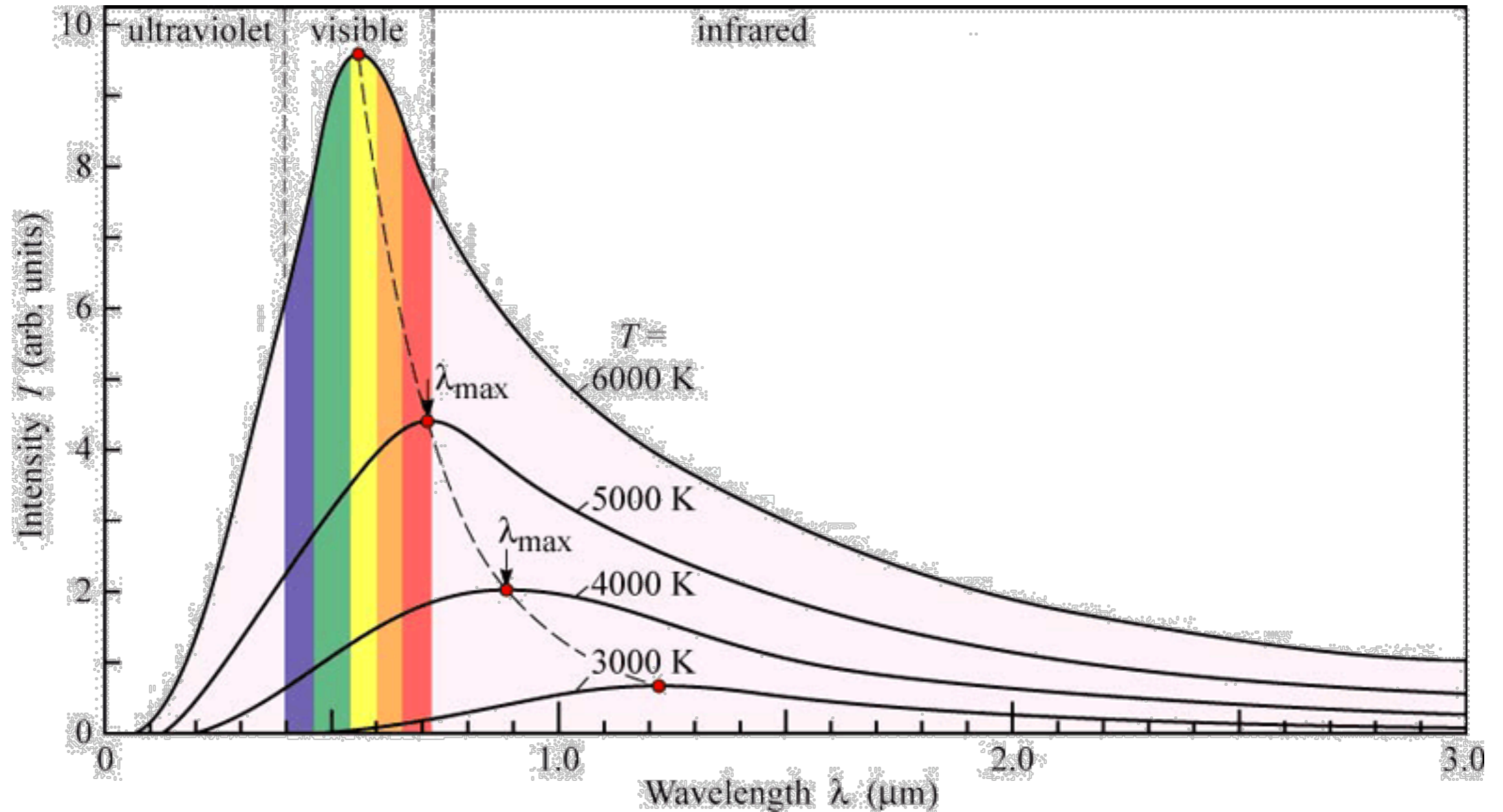
# Electromagnetic Spectrum

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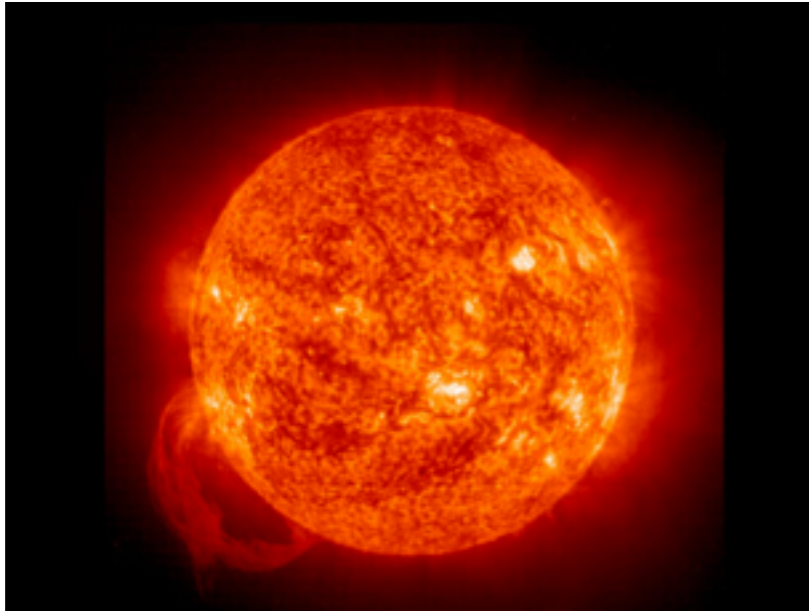


# Thermal/Blackbody Radiation



# Thermal/Blackbody Radiation

---



Sun ( $\sim 6000$  K) glow in visible.

We ( $\sim 300$  K) glow in infrared.



The Universe ( $\sim 3$  K) glow in microwave.

# Some Critical Thinking

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## **Cosmic Microwave Background Radiation**

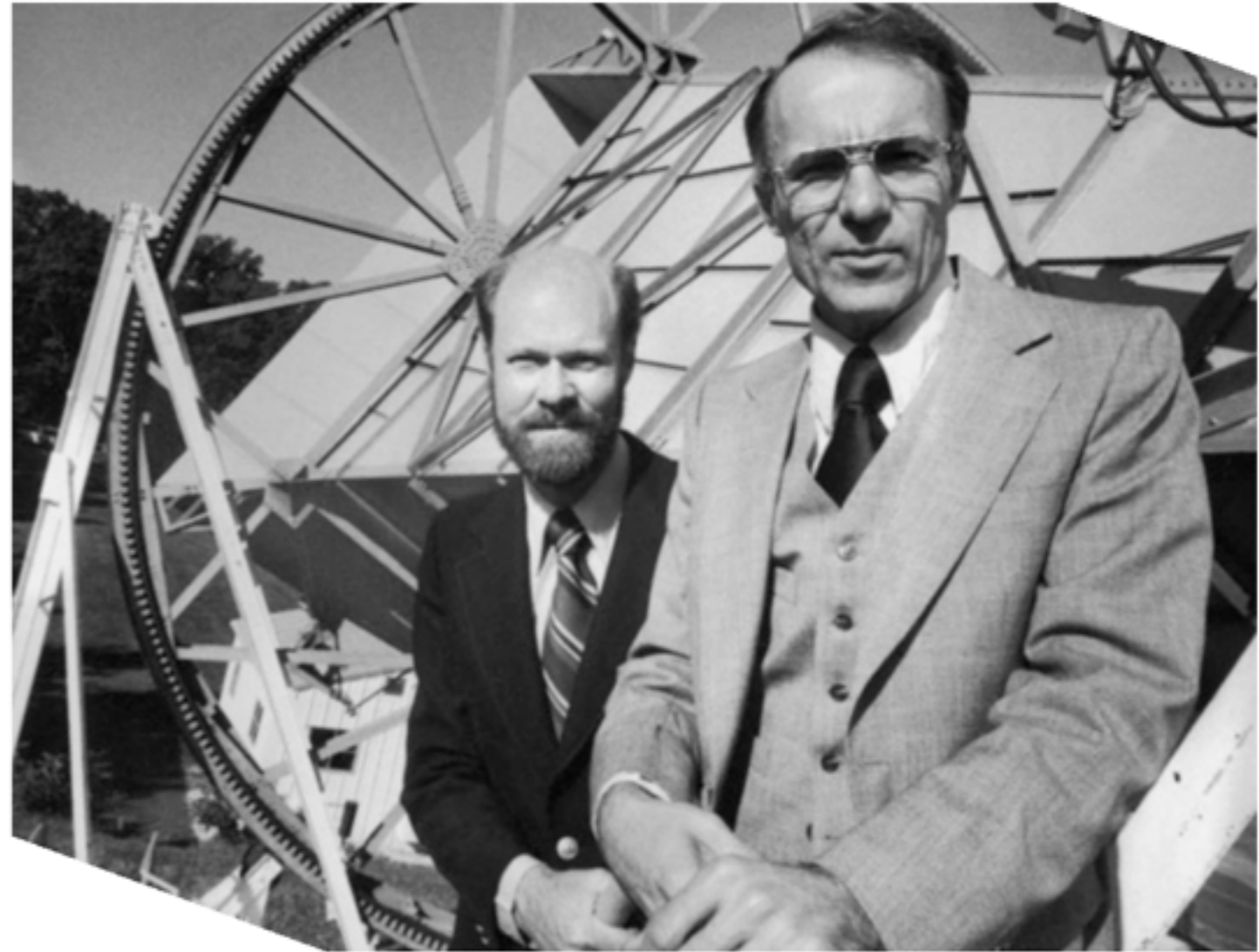


# Story of the Discovery

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**Working for Bell Lab, in 1964 Wilson and Penzias were building a huge horn antennae to communicate with AT&T's Telstar satellite.**

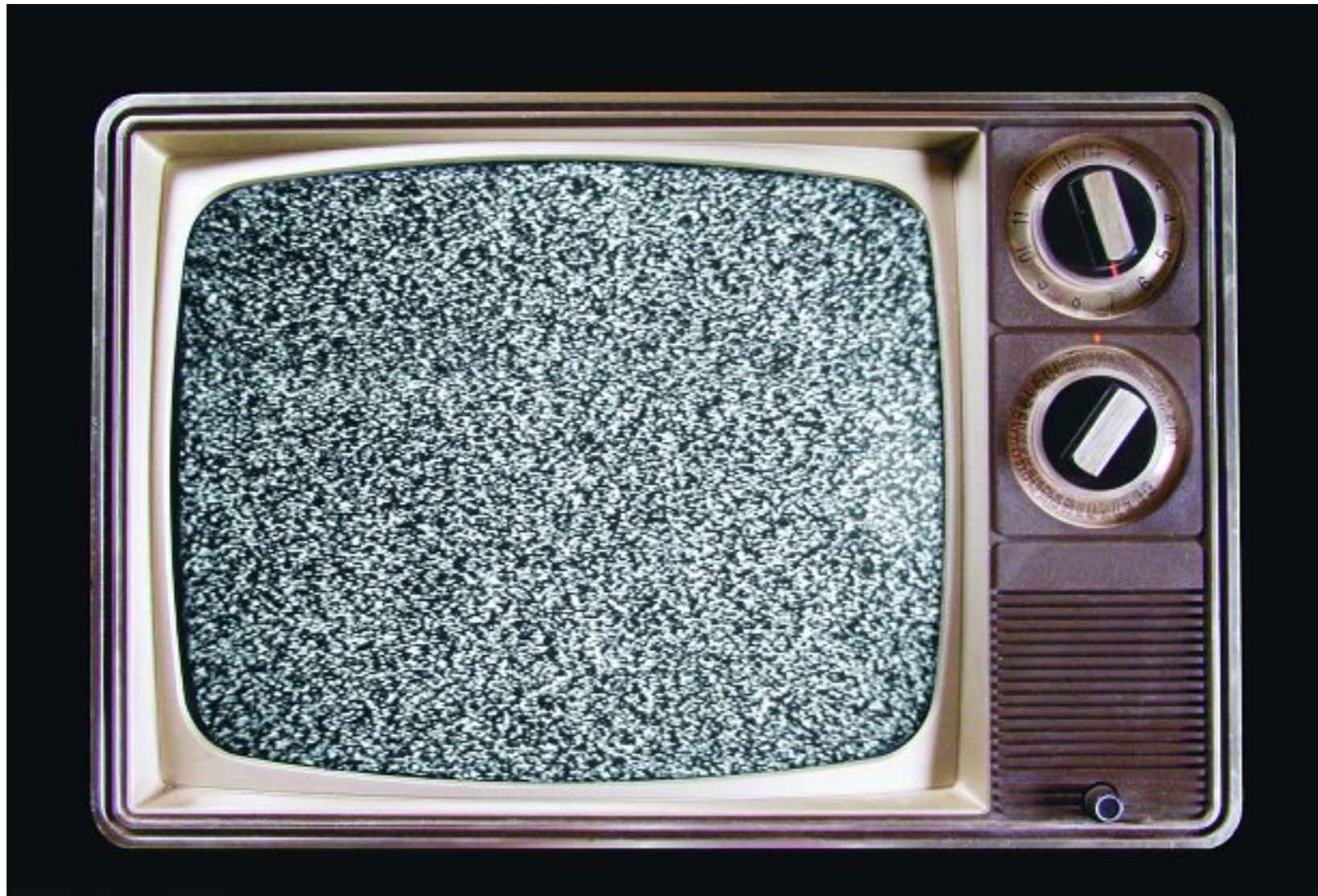
**They detected a continuous noise from all directions of the sky.**



**Robert Wilson (left) and Arno Penzias (right) with their 6m Microwave antennae (horn).**

# Story of the Discovery

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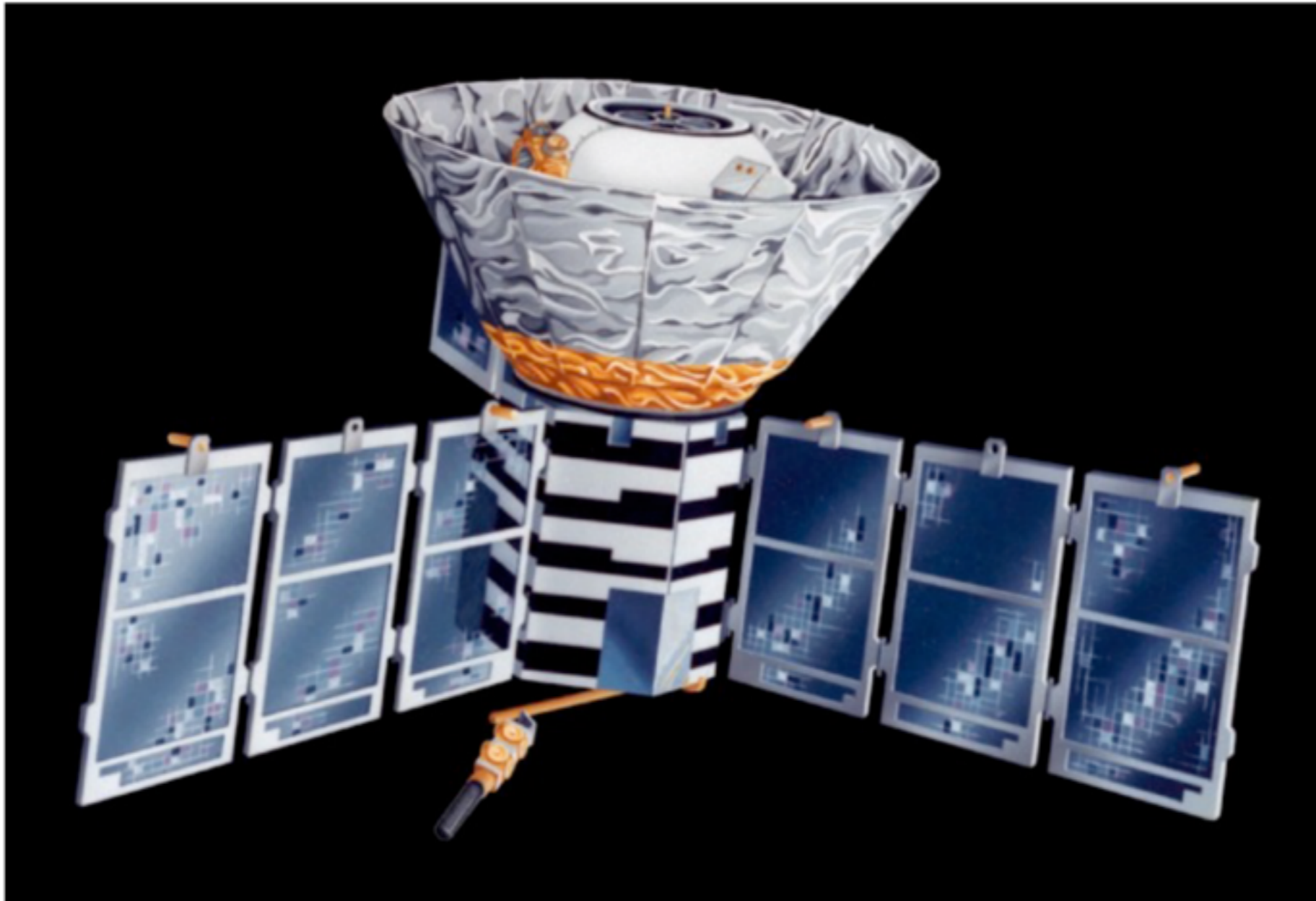


A very small fraction of the TV noise is from the CMB radiation



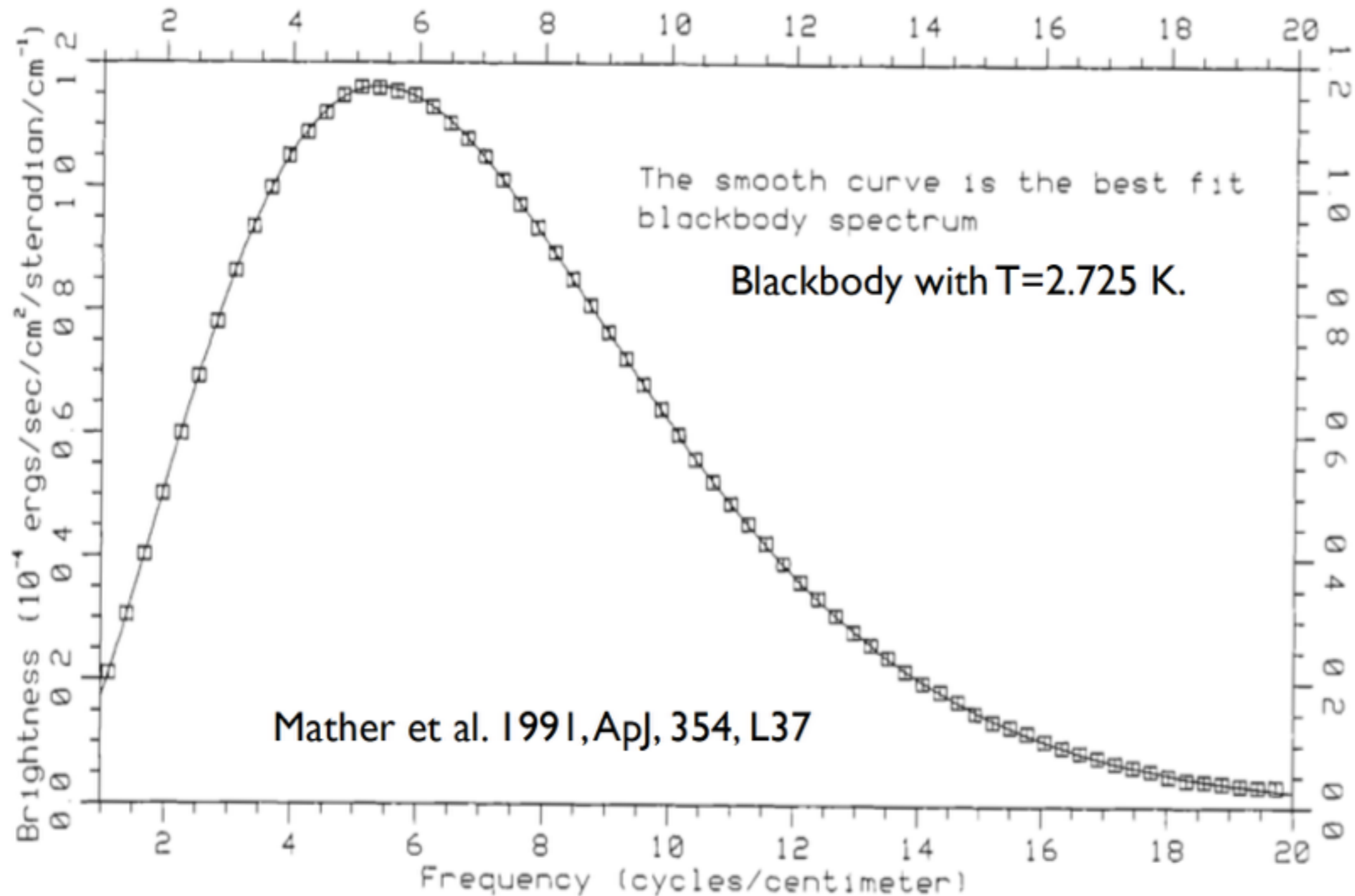
# COsmic Background Explorer (COBE)

In 1991 the COBE satellite measured the full spectrum of the CMB.





# Cosmic Microwave Background Radiation



This result was a death sentence for the Steady State Model.

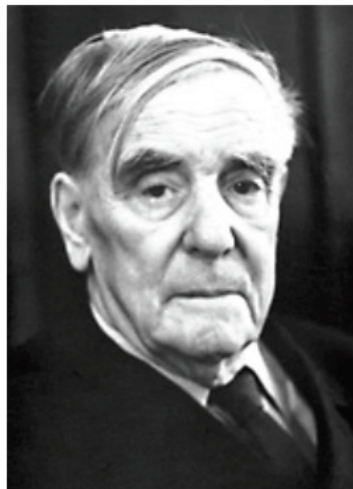
# Cosmic Microwave Background Radiation



## The Nobel Prize in Physics 1978

"for his basic inventions and discoveries in the area of low-temperature physics"

"for their discovery of cosmic microwave background radiation"



**Pyotr Leonidovich Kapitsa**

🏆 1/2 of the prize

USSR

Academy of Sciences  
Moscow, USSR

b. 1894  
d. 1984



**Arno Allan Penzias**

🏆 1/4 of the prize

USA

Bell Laboratories  
Holmdel, NJ, USA

b. 1933  
(in Munich, Germany)



**Robert Woodrow Wilson**

🏆 1/4 of the prize

USA

Bell Laboratories  
Holmdel, NJ, USA

b. 1936



## The Nobel Prize in Physics 2006

"for their discovery of the blackbody form and anisotropy of the cosmic microwave background radiation"



Photo: NASA

**John C. Mather**

🏆 1/2 of the prize

USA

NASA Goddard Space  
Flight Center  
Greenbelt, MD, USA

b. 1946

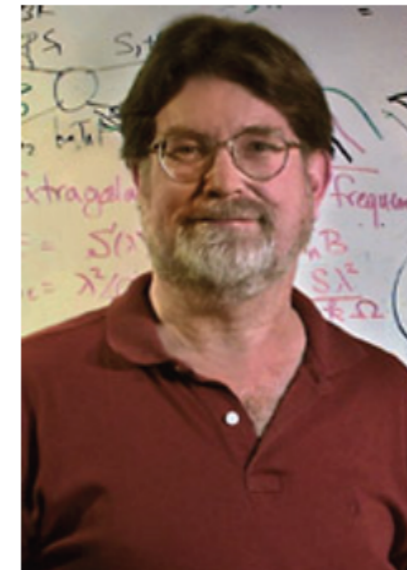


Photo: R. Kaltschmidt/LBNL

**George F. Smoot**

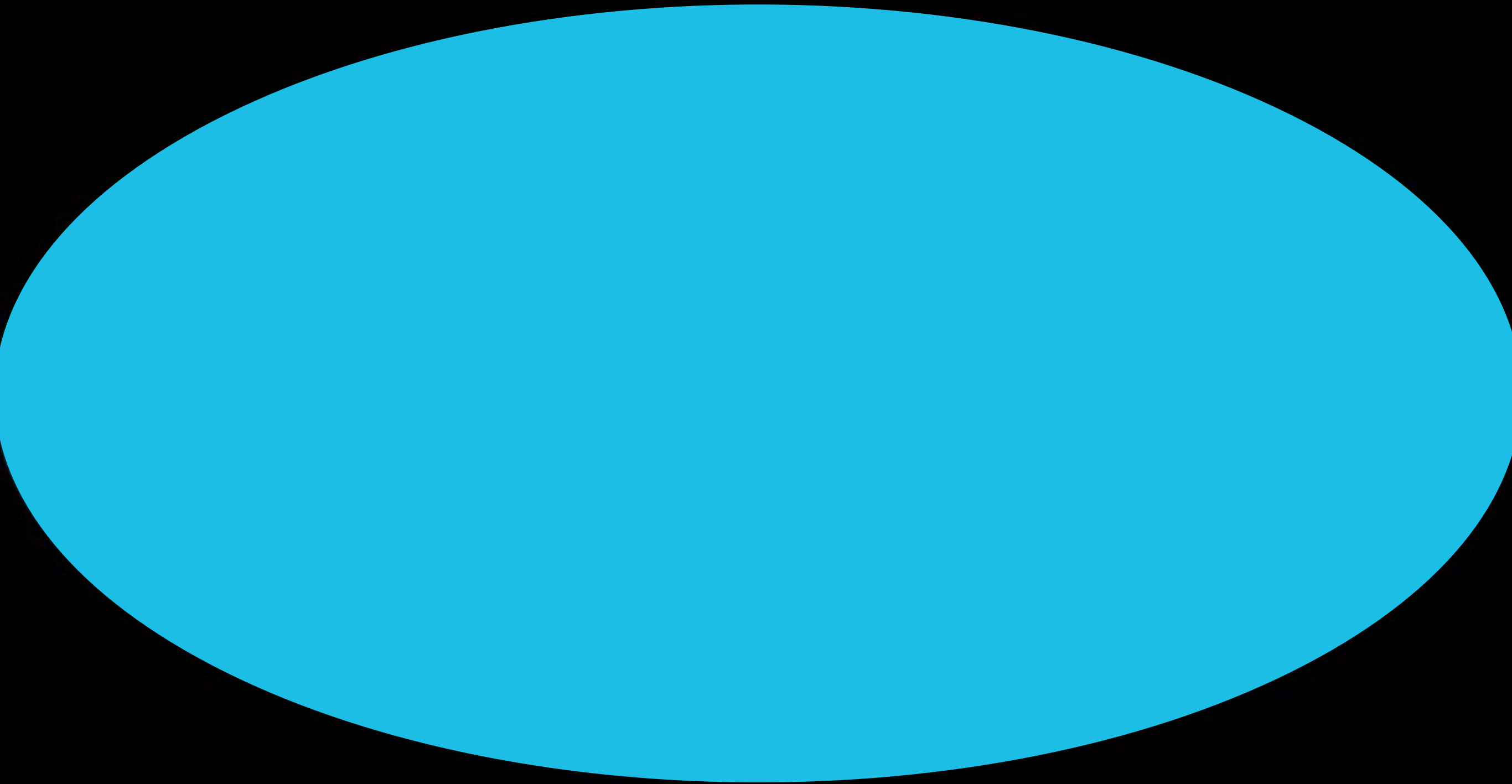
🏆 1/2 of the prize

USA

University of California  
Berkeley, CA, USA

b. 1945

# Cosmic Microwave Background Radiation

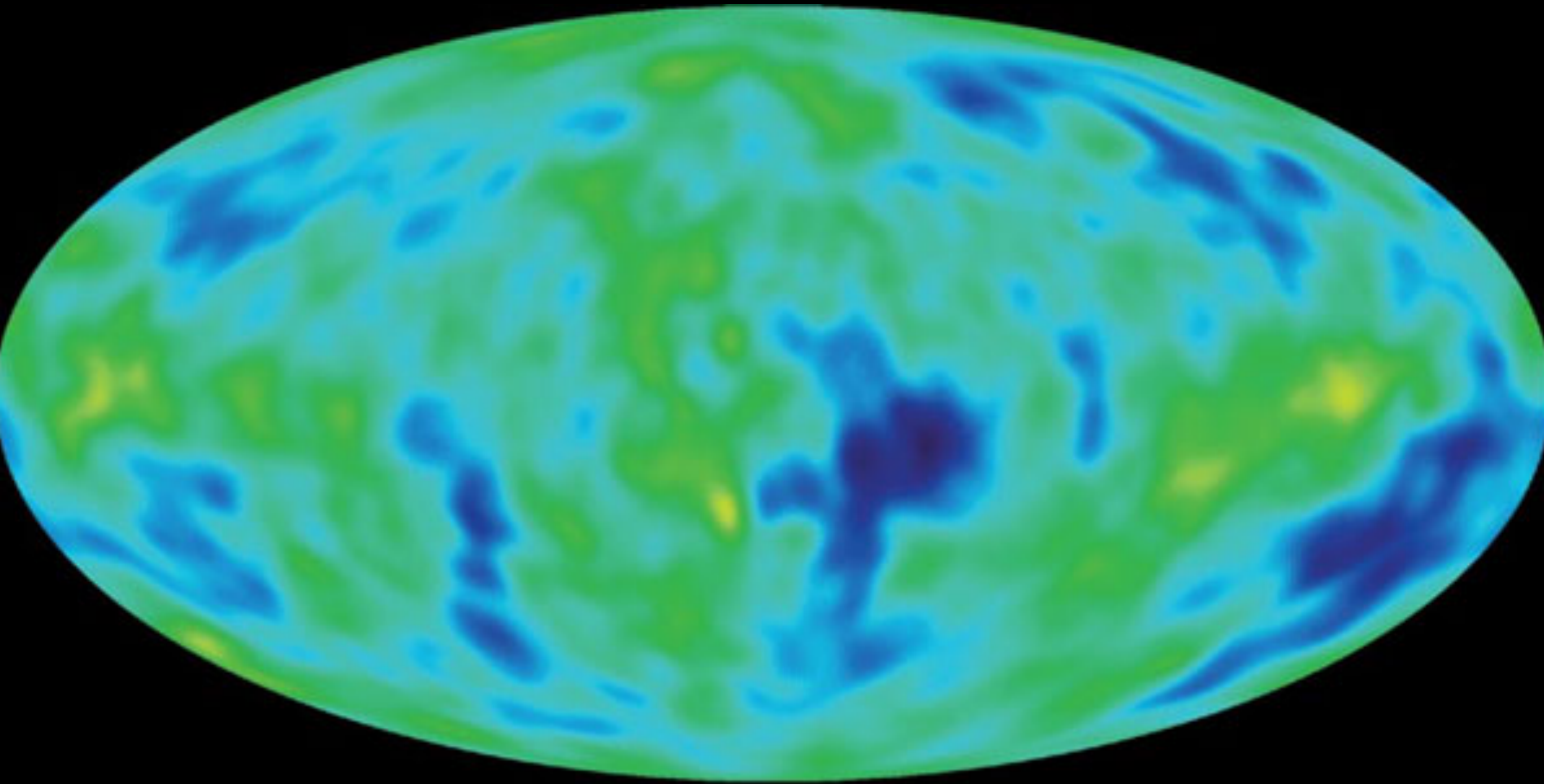


COBE Satellite

Temperature  $\sim 2.7$  K



# Cosmic Microwave Background Radiation



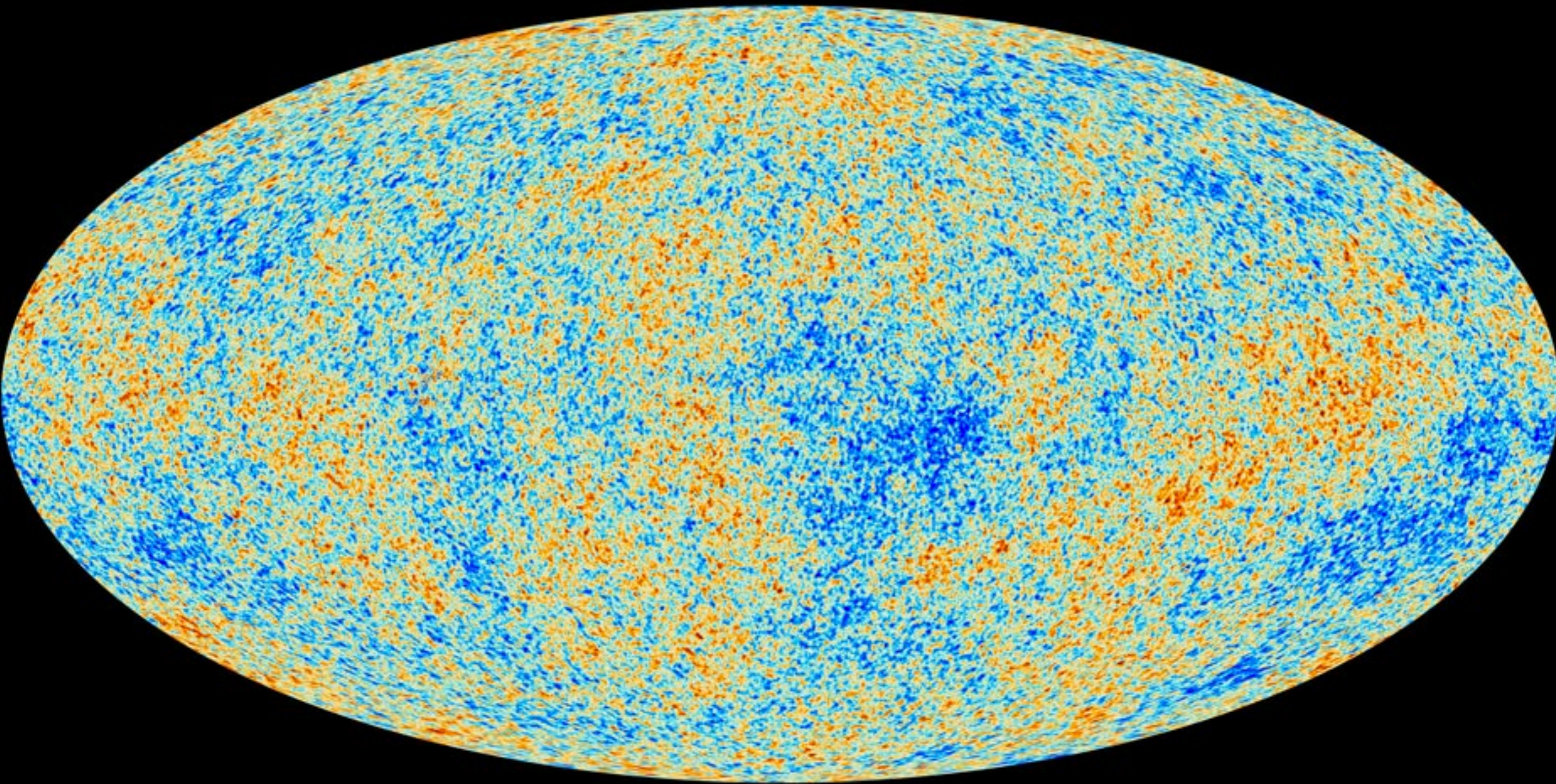
COBE Satellite

Temperature  $\sim 2.7$  K

Temperature difference  $< 0.01$  K



# Cosmic Microwave Background Radiation



Planck Satellite

Temperature  $\sim 2.7$  K

Temperature difference  $< 0.01$  K



Questions?



**The Universe started with a Big Bang**

The Origin

**We are all Stardust**

The Evolution

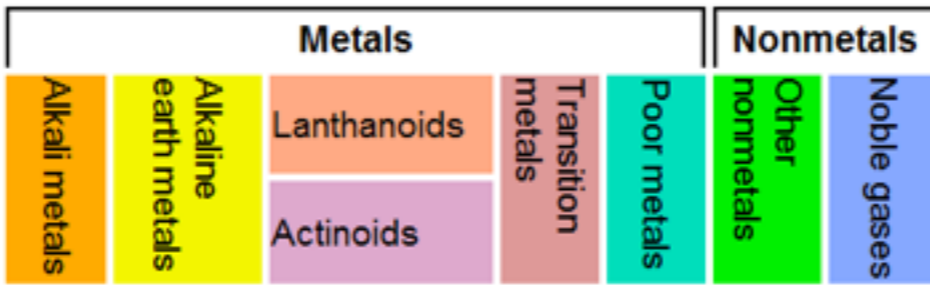
**The Universe is mostly “Dark”**

The Fate

# Periodic Table of Elements

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1 <b>H</b> Hydrogen 1.00794	2 <b>He</b> Helium 4.002602																
3 <b>Li</b> Lithium 6.941	4 <b>Be</b> Beryllium 9.012182																
11 <b>Na</b> Sodium 22.98976928	12 <b>Mg</b> Magnesium 24.3050																
19 <b>K</b> Potassium 39.0983	20 <b>Ca</b> Calcium 40.078	21 <b>Sc</b> Scandium 44.955912	22 <b>Ti</b> Titanium 47.867	23 <b>V</b> Vanadium 50.9415	24 <b>Cr</b> Chromium 51.9961	25 <b>Mn</b> Manganese 54.938045	26 <b>Fe</b> Iron 55.845	27 <b>Co</b> Cobalt 58.933195	28 <b>Ni</b> Nickel 58.6934	29 <b>Cu</b> Copper 63.546	30 <b>Zn</b> Zinc 65.38	31 <b>Ga</b> Gallium 69.723	32 <b>Ge</b> Germanium 72.64	33 <b>As</b> Arsenic 74.92160	34 <b>Se</b> Selenium 78.96	35 <b>Br</b> Bromine 79.904	36 <b>Kr</b> Krypton 83.798
37 <b>Rb</b> Rubidium 85.4678	38 <b>Sr</b> Strontium 87.62	39 <b>Y</b> Yttrium 88.90585	40 <b>Zr</b> Zirconium 91.224	41 <b>Nb</b> Niobium 92.90638	42 <b>Mo</b> Molybdenum 95.96	43 <b>Tc</b> Technetium (97.9072)	44 <b>Ru</b> Ruthenium 101.07	45 <b>Rh</b> Rhodium 102.90550	46 <b>Pd</b> Palladium 106.42	47 <b>Ag</b> Silver 107.8682	48 <b>Cd</b> Cadmium 112.411	49 <b>In</b> Indium 114.818	50 <b>Sn</b> Tin 118.710	51 <b>Sb</b> Antimony 121.760	52 <b>Te</b> Tellurium 127.60	53 <b>I</b> Iodine 126.90447	54 <b>Xe</b> Xenon 131.293
55 <b>Cs</b> Caesium 132.9054519	56 <b>Ba</b> Barium 137.327	57-71	72 <b>Hf</b> Hafnium 178.49	73 <b>Ta</b> Tantalum 180.94788	74 <b>W</b> Tungsten 183.84	75 <b>Re</b> Rhenium 186.207	76 <b>Os</b> Osmium 190.23	77 <b>Ir</b> Iridium 192.222	78 <b>Pt</b> Platinum 195.084	79 <b>Au</b> Gold 196.966569	80 <b>Hg</b> Mercury 200.59	81 <b>Tl</b> Thallium 204.3833	82 <b>Pb</b> Lead 207.2	83 <b>Bi</b> Bismuth 208.9804	84 <b>Po</b> Polonium (209)	85 <b>At</b> Astatine (210)	86 <b>Rn</b> Radon (222)
87 <b>Fr</b> Francium (223)	88 <b>Ra</b> Radium (226)	89 <b>Ac</b> Actinium (227)	90 <b>Th</b> Thorium 232.0377	91 <b>Pa</b> Protactinium 231.036888	92 <b>U</b> Uranium 238.02891	93 <b>Np</b> Neptunium (237)	94 <b>Pu</b> Plutonium (244)	95 <b>Am</b> Americium (243)	96 <b>Cm</b> Curium (247)	97 <b>Bk</b> Berkelium (247)	98 <b>Cf</b> Californium (251)	99 <b>Es</b> Einsteinium (252)	100 <b>Fm</b> Fermium (257)	101 <b>Md</b> Mendelevium (258)	102 <b>No</b> Nobelium (259)	103 <b>Lr</b> Lawrencium (262)	

- C** Solid
- Hg** Liquid
- H** Gas
- Rf** Unknown



Hydrogen and some helium was made at the beginning of the Universe (Big Bang).

For elements with no stable isotopes, the mass number of the isotope with the longest half-life is in parentheses.

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57 <b>La</b> Lanthanum 138.90547	58 <b>Ce</b> Cerium 140.116	59 <b>Pr</b> Praseodymium 140.90766	60 <b>Nd</b> Neodymium 144.242	61 <b>Pm</b> Promethium (145)	62 <b>Sm</b> Samarium 150.36	63 <b>Eu</b> Europium 151.964	64 <b>Gd</b> Gadolinium 157.25	65 <b>Tb</b> Terbium 158.92535	66 <b>Dy</b> Dysprosium 162.500	67 <b>Ho</b> Holmium 164.93032	68 <b>Er</b> Erbium 167.259	69 <b>Tm</b> Thulium 168.93421	70 <b>Yb</b> Ytterbium 173.054	71 <b>Lu</b> Lutetium 174.9668
89 <b>Ac</b> Actinium (227)	90 <b>Th</b> Thorium 232.03806	91 <b>Pa</b> Protactinium 231.036888	92 <b>U</b> Uranium 238.02891	93 <b>Np</b> Neptunium (237)	94 <b>Pu</b> Plutonium (244)	95 <b>Am</b> Americium (243)	96 <b>Cm</b> Curium (247)	97 <b>Bk</b> Berkelium (247)	98 <b>Cf</b> Californium (251)	99 <b>Es</b> Einsteinium (252)	100 <b>Fm</b> Fermium (257)	101 <b>Md</b> Mendelevium (258)	102 <b>No</b> Nobelium (259)	103 <b>Lr</b> Lawrencium (262)

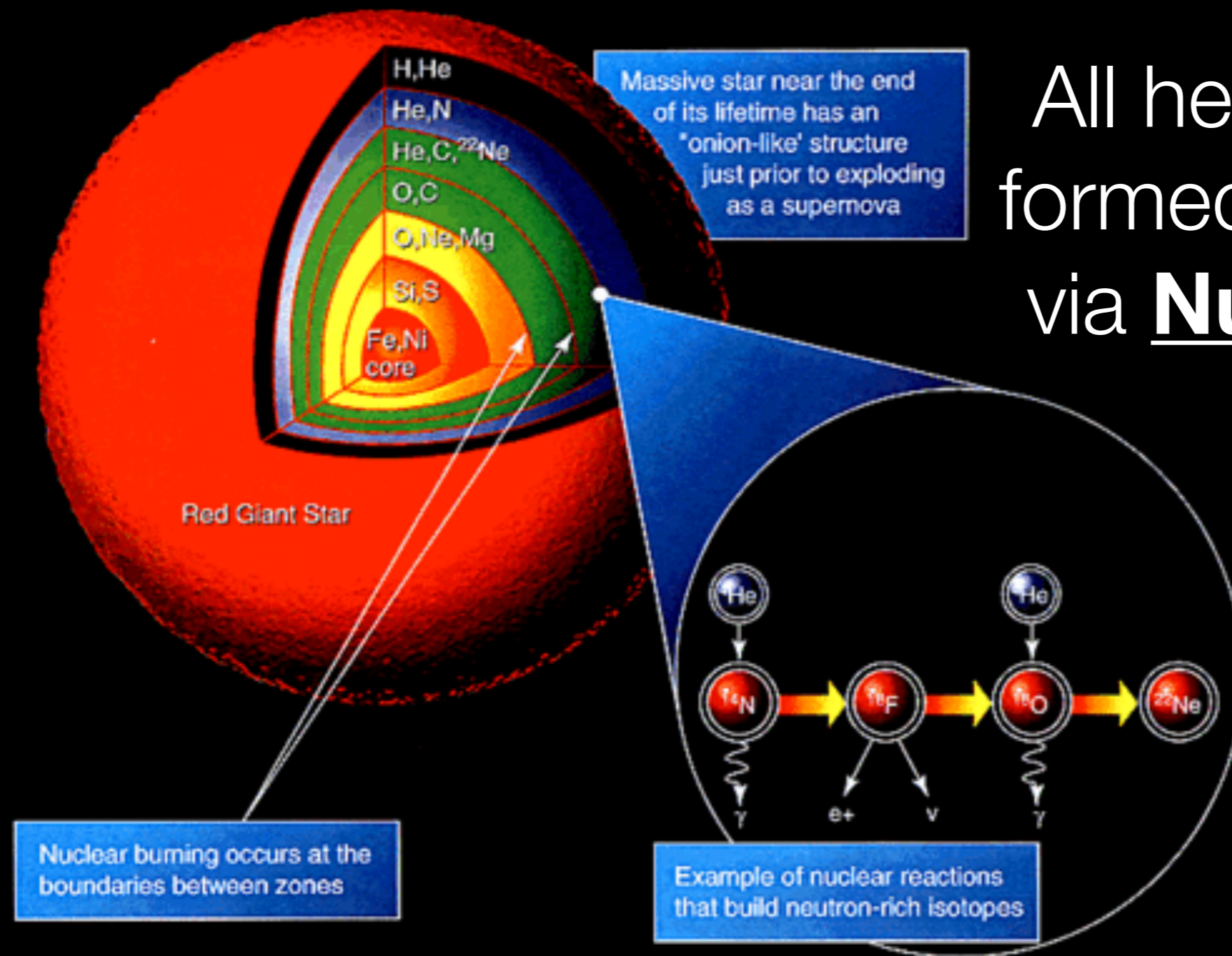
Where are the heavier  
elements from?



How can our Sun  
produce heat?

**Nuclear Fusion**

All heavier elements formed inside of stars via **Nuclear Fusion**



Hydrogen → Helium → Carbon → Oxygen → Neon → Magnesium → Silicon → Iron

Stellar Nucleosynthesis

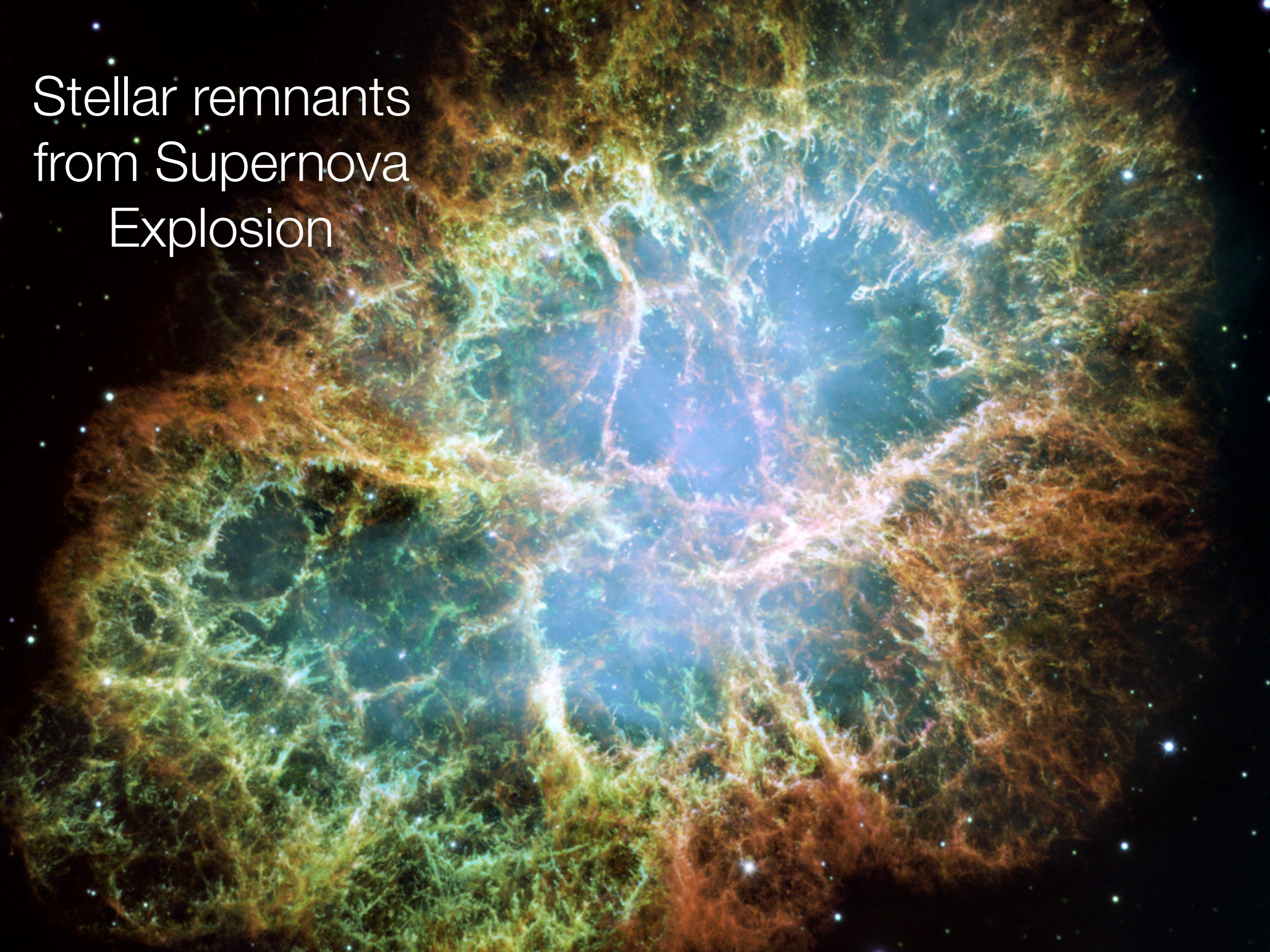




**Supernova:** an exploding star.  
The death of a massive star.

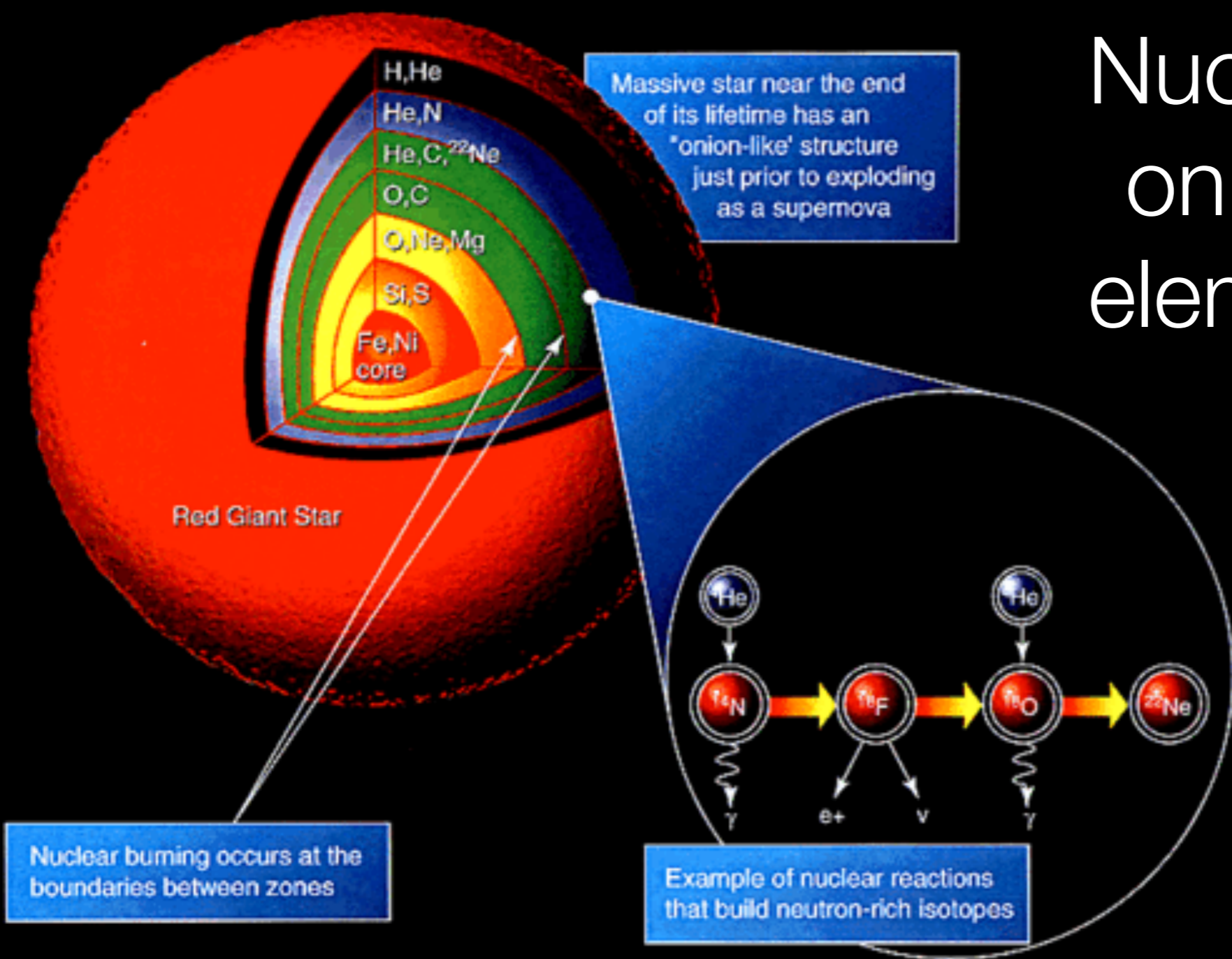


Stellar remnants  
from Supernova  
Explosion





Nuclear Fusion only produce elements up to **iron.**



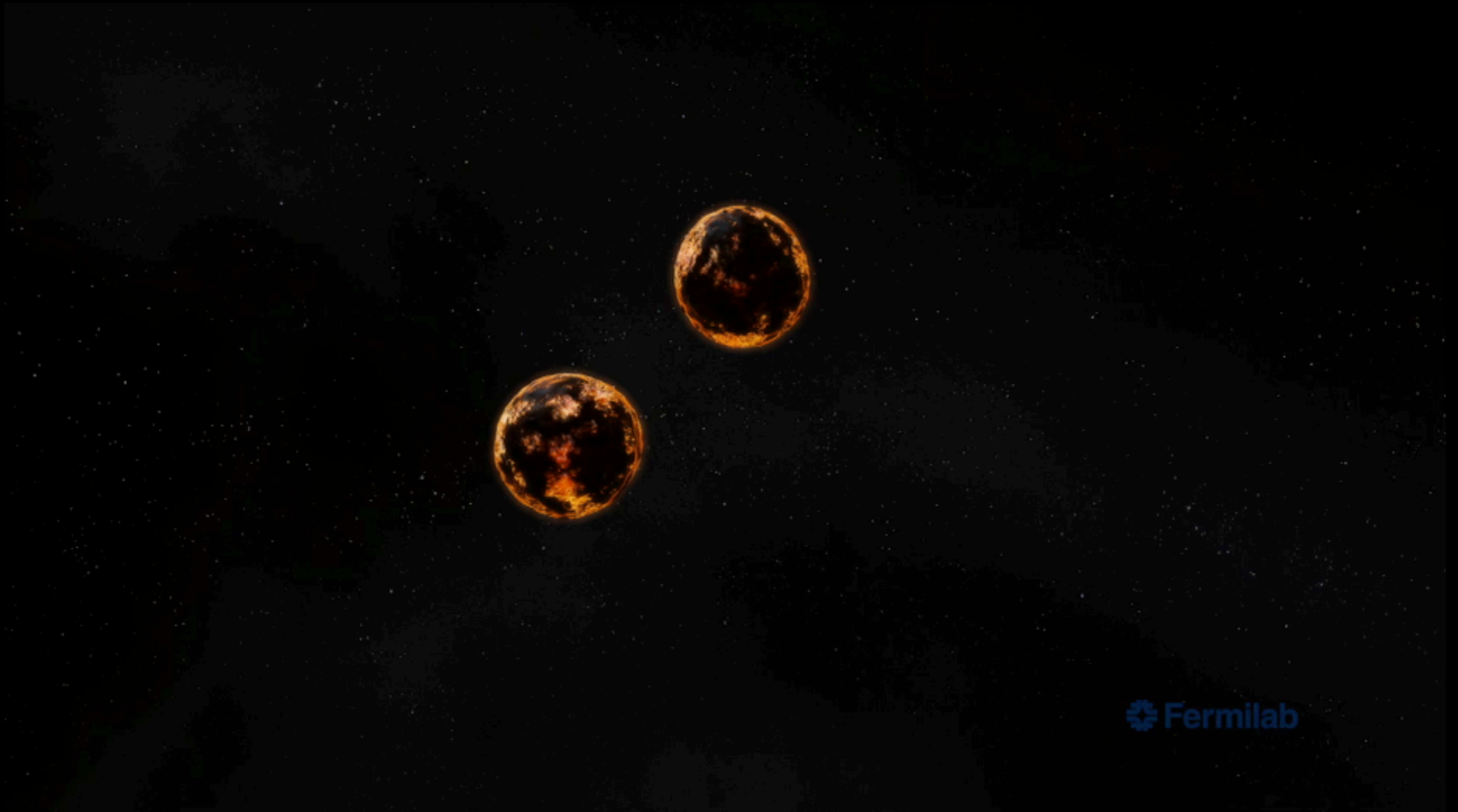
Hydrogen → Helium → Carbon → Oxygen → Neon → Magnesium → Silicon → Iron

Think about an element heavier  
than iron.



Gold

# Gold are produced via Binary Neutron Star Merger



Questions?



**The Universe started with a Big Bang**

The Origin

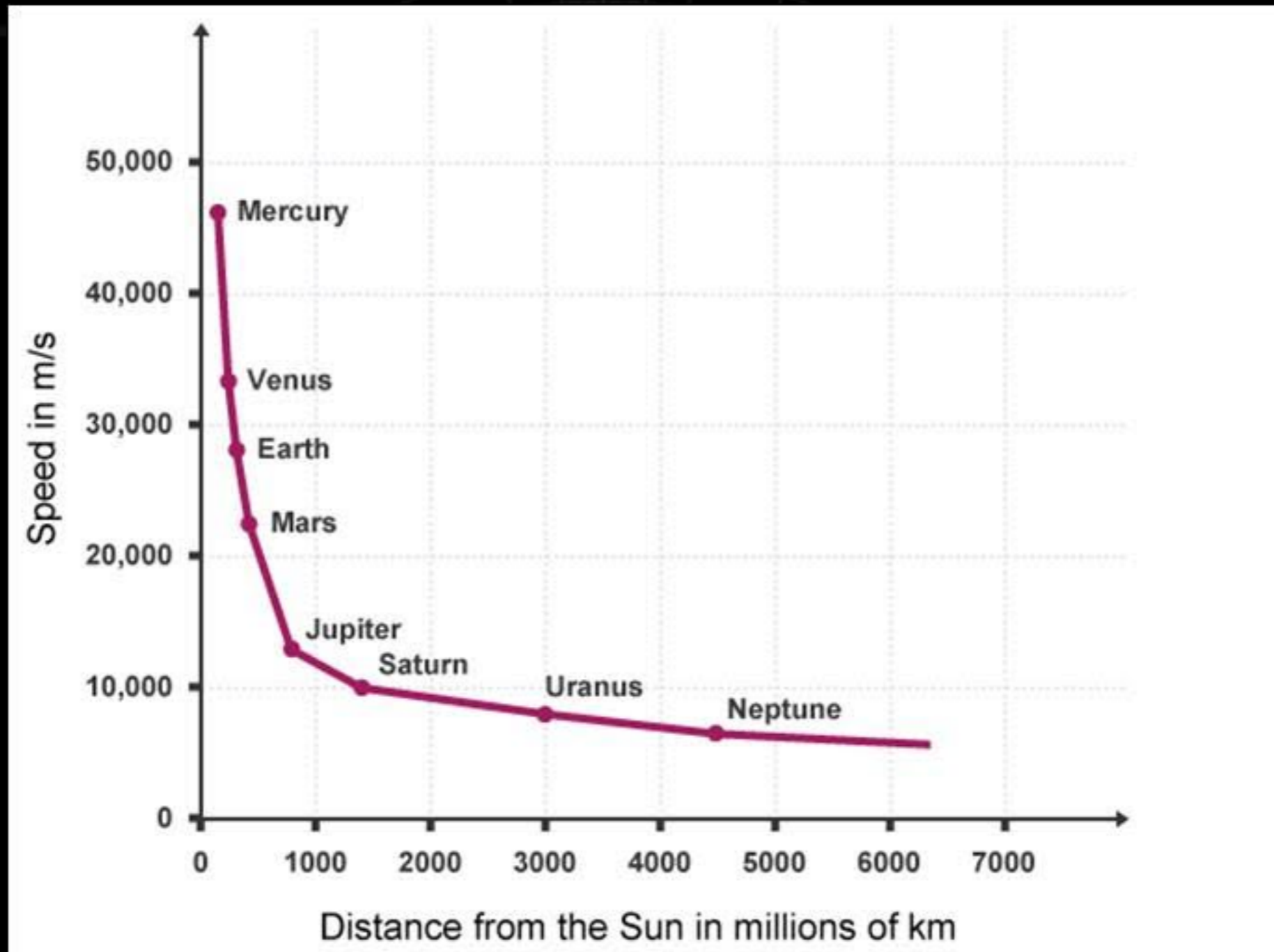
**We are all Stardust**

The Evolution

**The Universe is mostly “Dark”**

The Fate

# Orbital Motion of Planets in Our Solar System



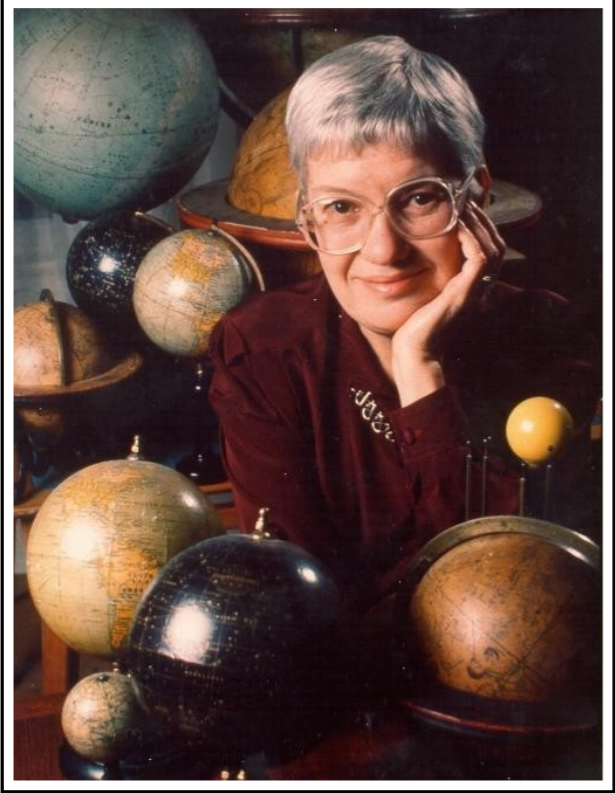


# How about the Orbital Motion in a Galaxy?

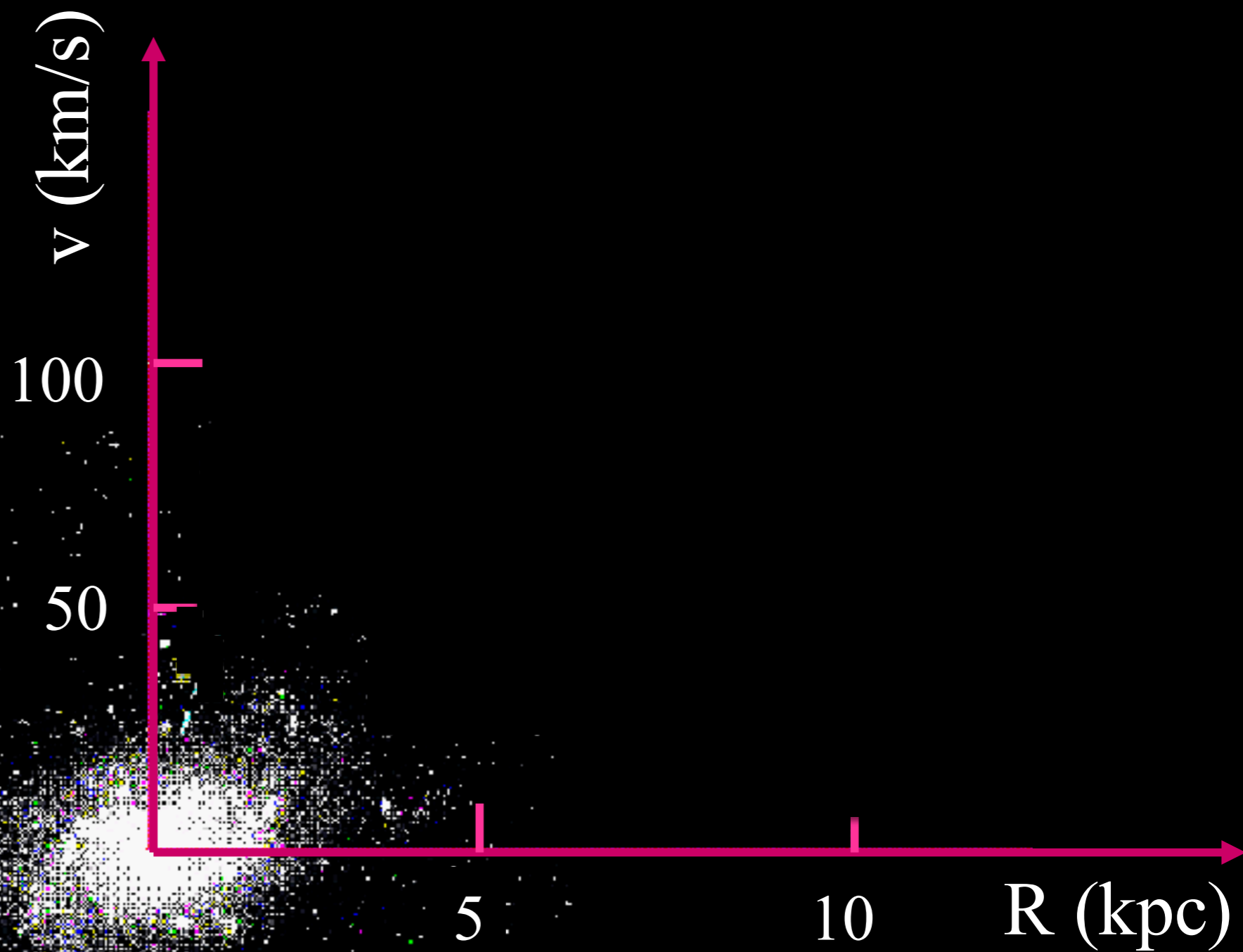
*Galaxy M33  
Triangulum Galaxy*

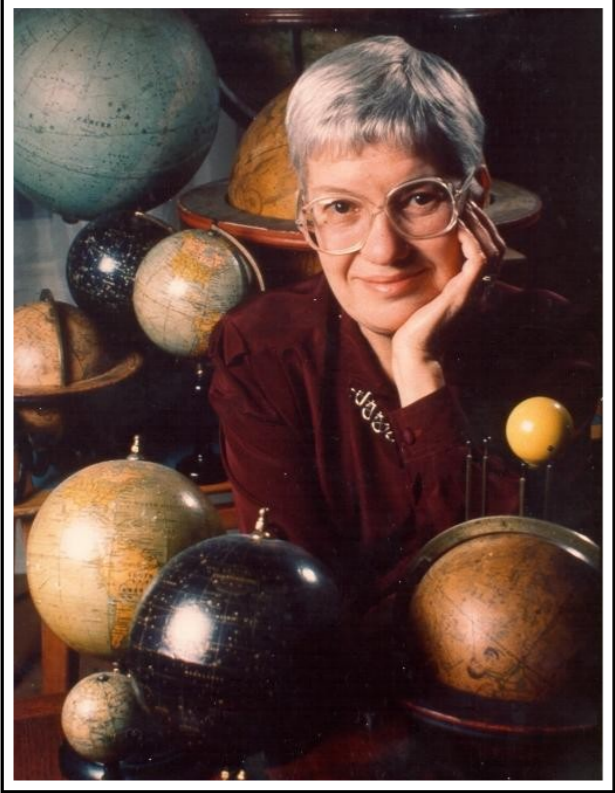


# Orbital Motion in Galaxy M33



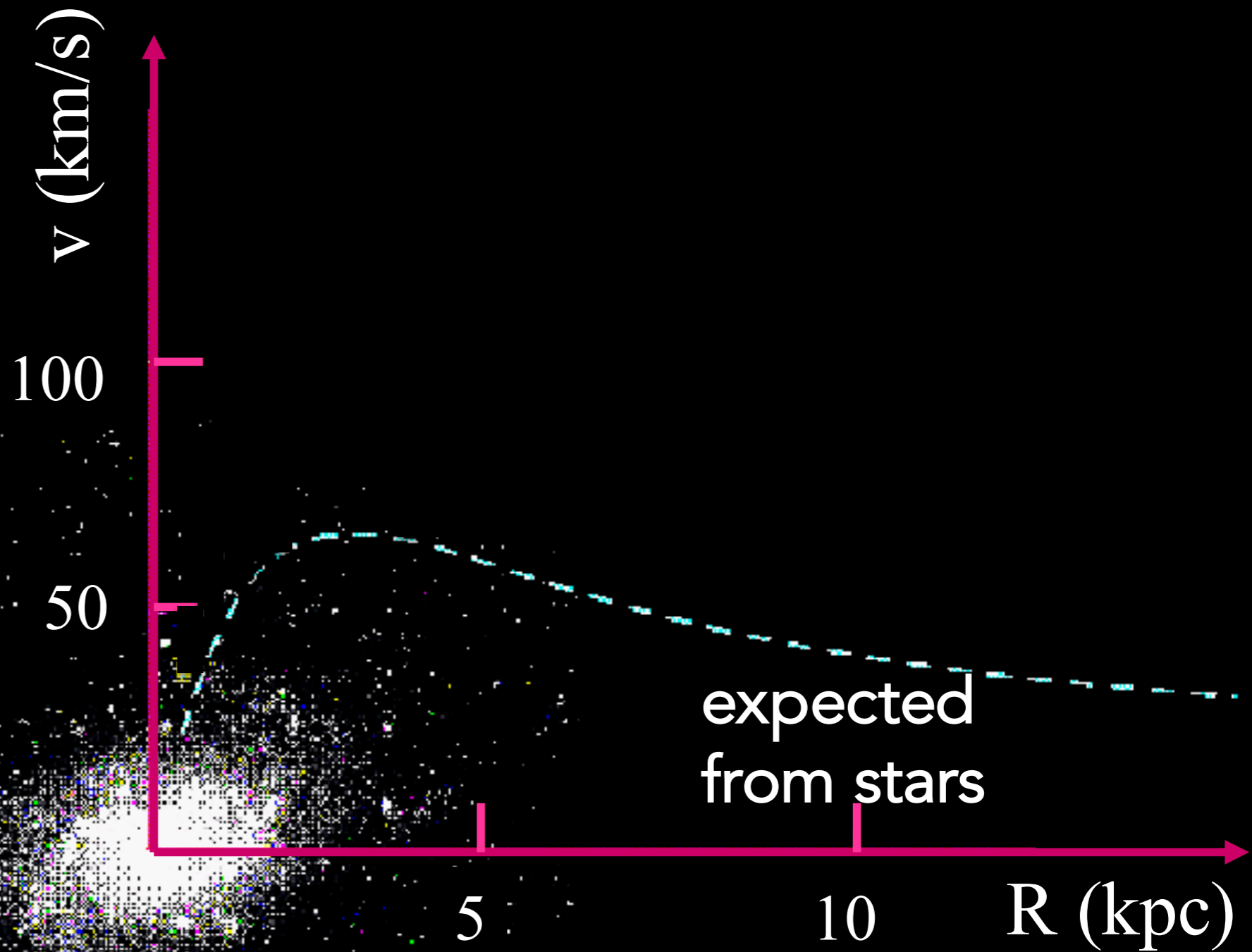
Vera Rubin  
(1970's)

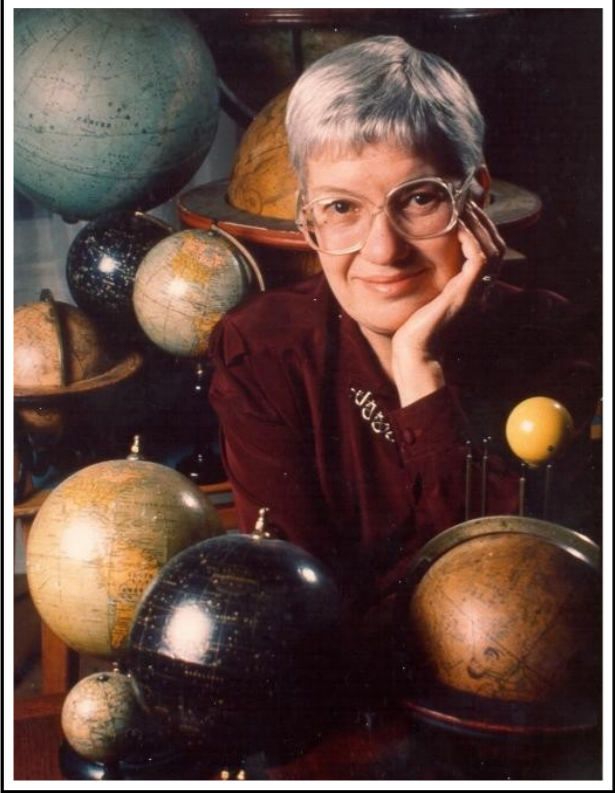




Vera Rubin  
(1970's)

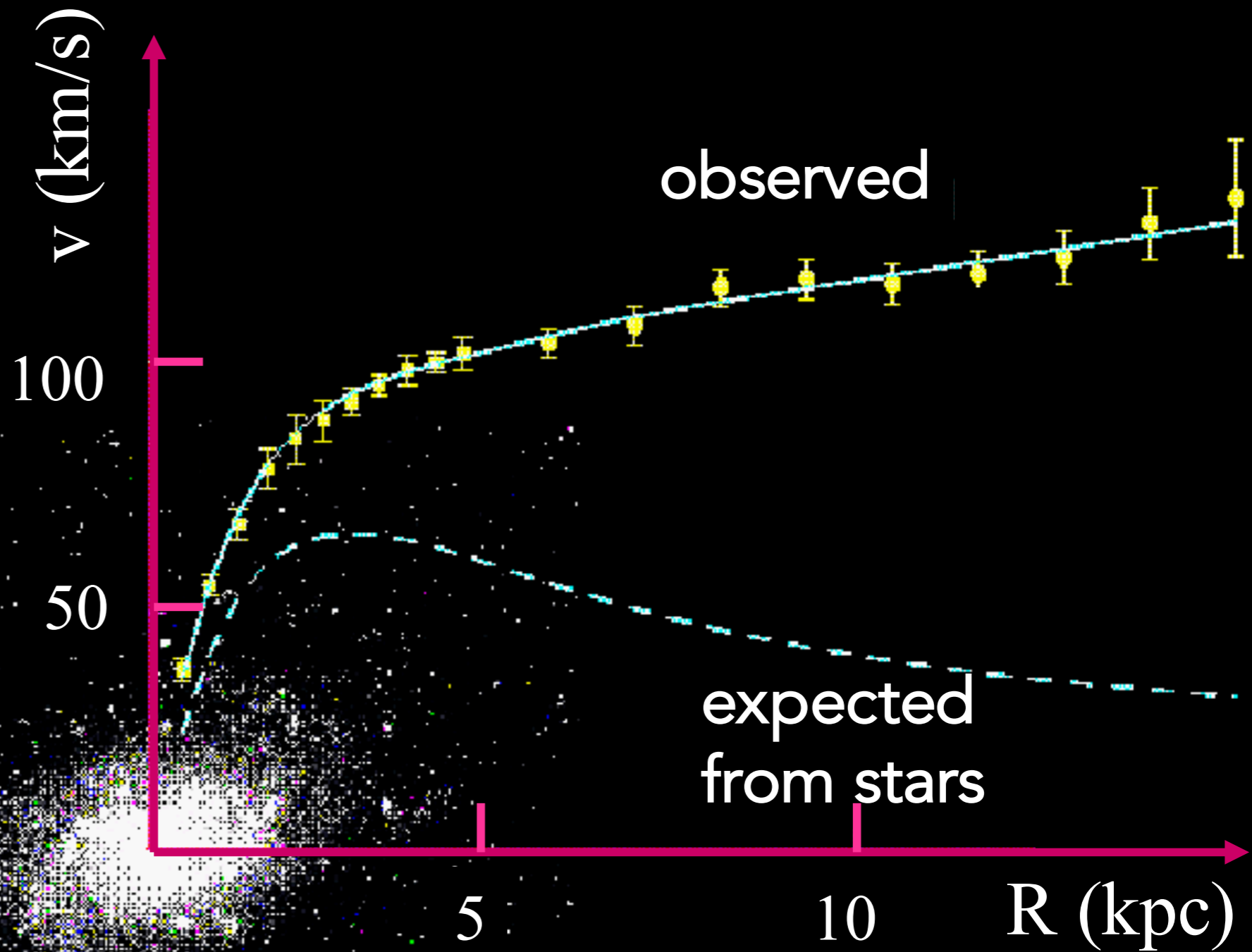
## Orbital Motion in Galaxy M33



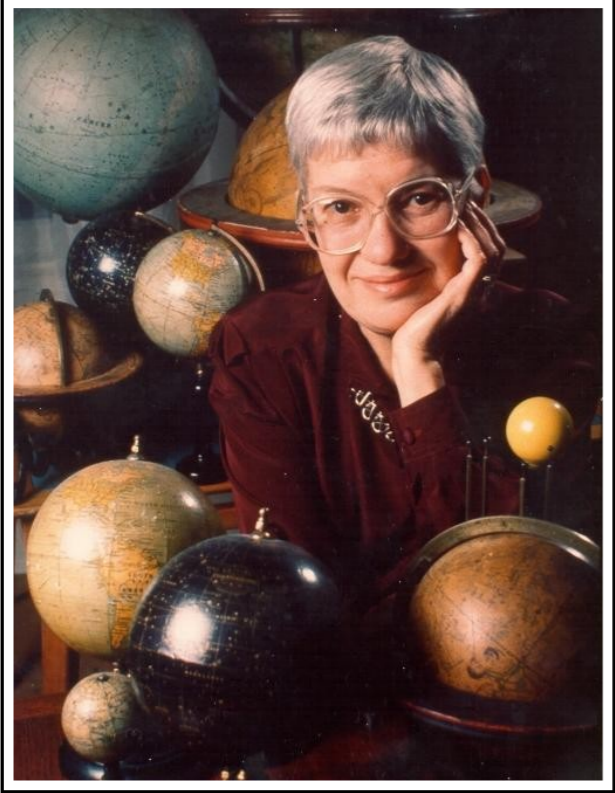


Vera Rubin  
(1970's)

## Orbital Motion in Galaxy M33

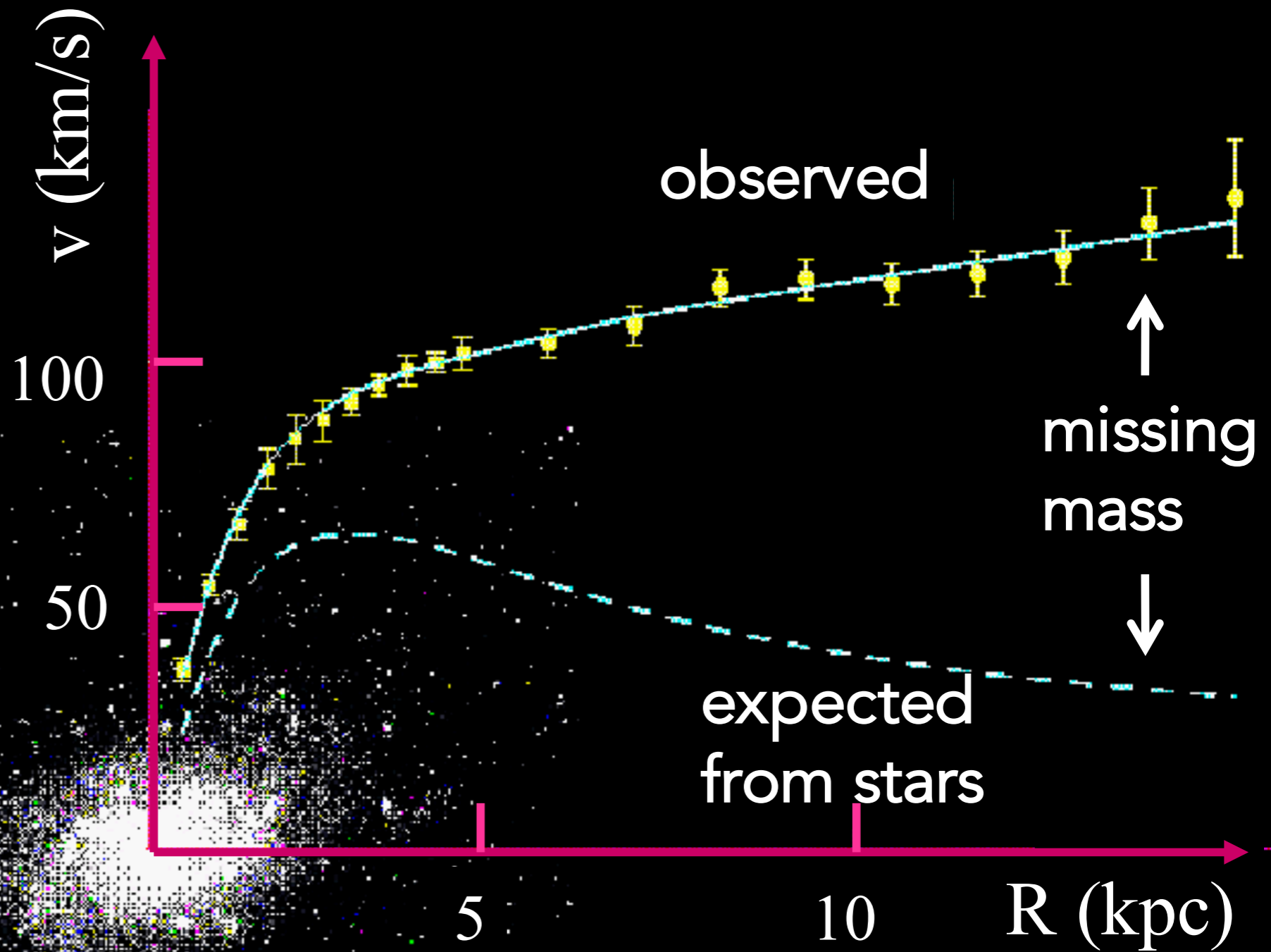


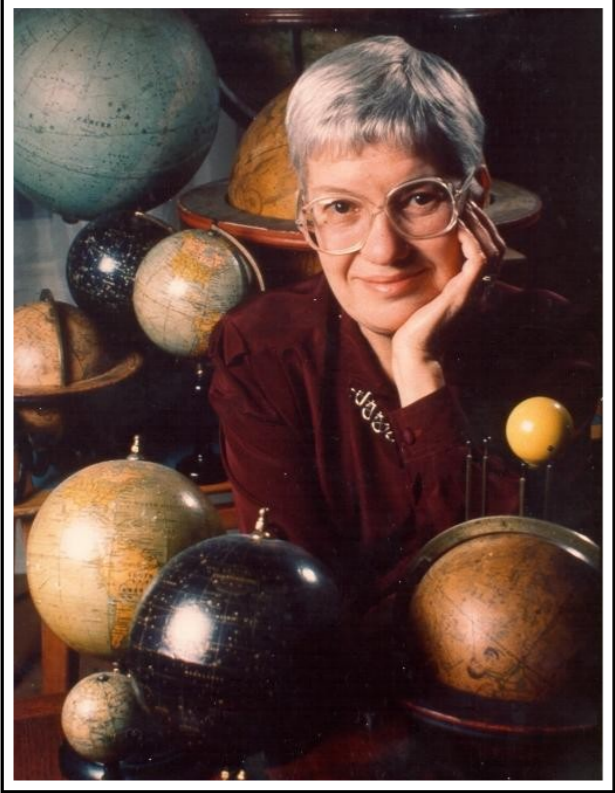




Vera Rubin  
(1970's)

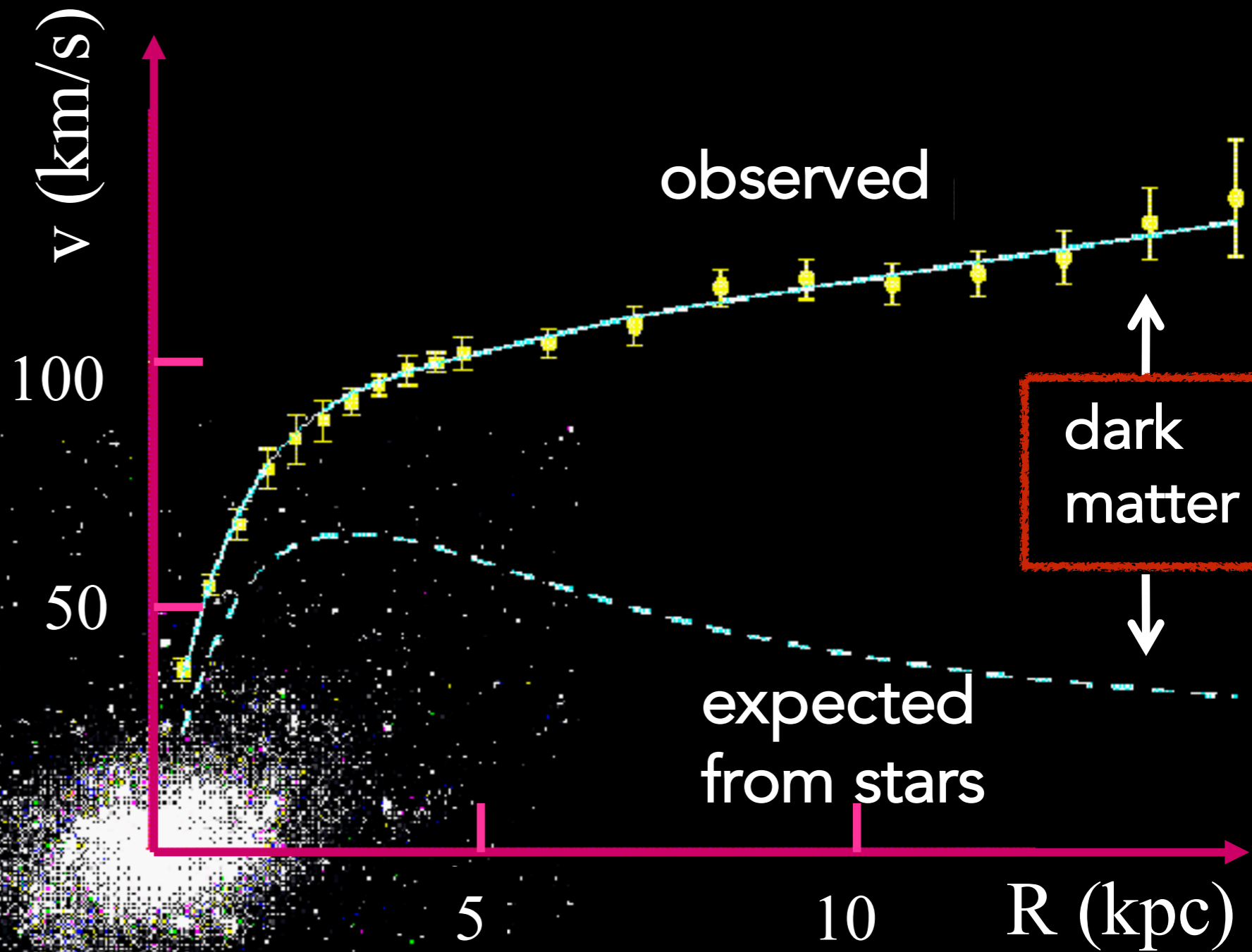
# Orbital Motion in Galaxy M33





Vera Rubin  
(1970's)

# Orbital Motion in Galaxy M33



# What is Dark Matter?

- Dark matter does not produce any light or electromagnetic wave
- We know dark matter is there because it exerts gravitational pull on the stars we can see in galaxies.
- Dark matter must be made of something other than atoms (or quarks): perhaps **a new kind of elementary particle** that we've never seen before.



Questions?

# The Ultimate Fate of the Universe

- The Universe is expanding.

Big Bang

- Gravity pull everything together.

ordinary matter and dark matter

- The expansion should be slowing down.

measuring the deceleration rate  $q_0$

Throw a ball to the sky and what  
will happen?

Group Discussion



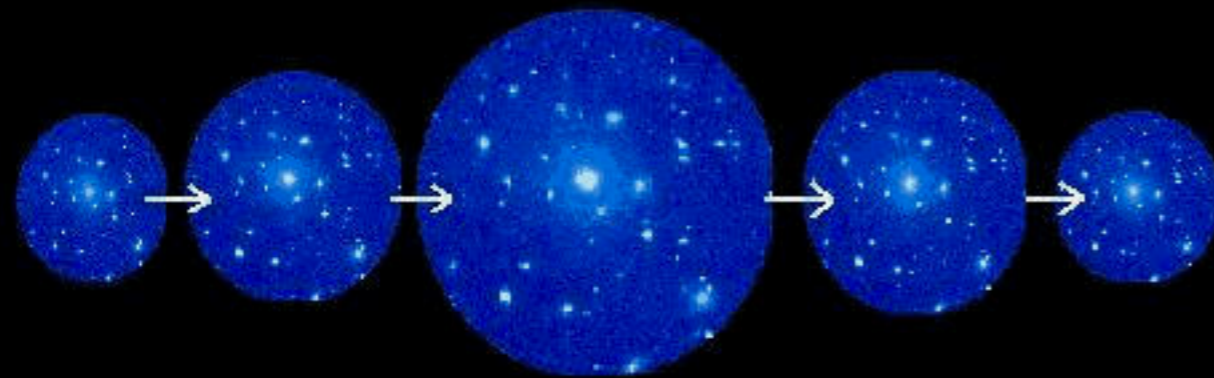
# Throw a ball to the sky and what will happen?

- The ball will slow down and fall back.
- The ball will slow down but leave the Earth.
- The ball will slow down and orbit the Earth.

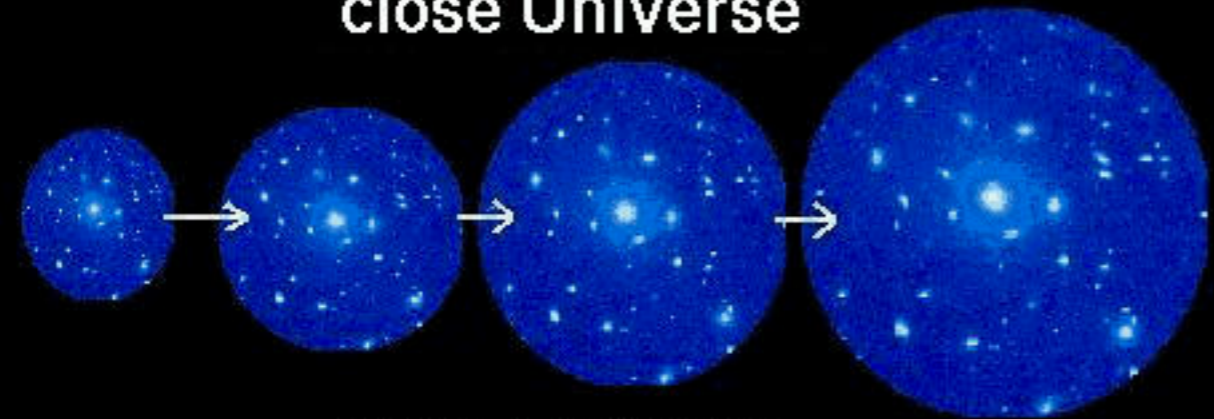
Initial Speed

Mass of the Earth

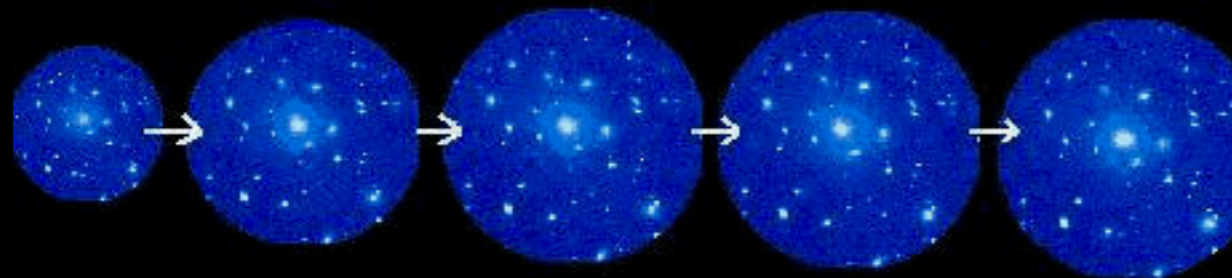
# The Ultimate Fate of the Universe



close Universe

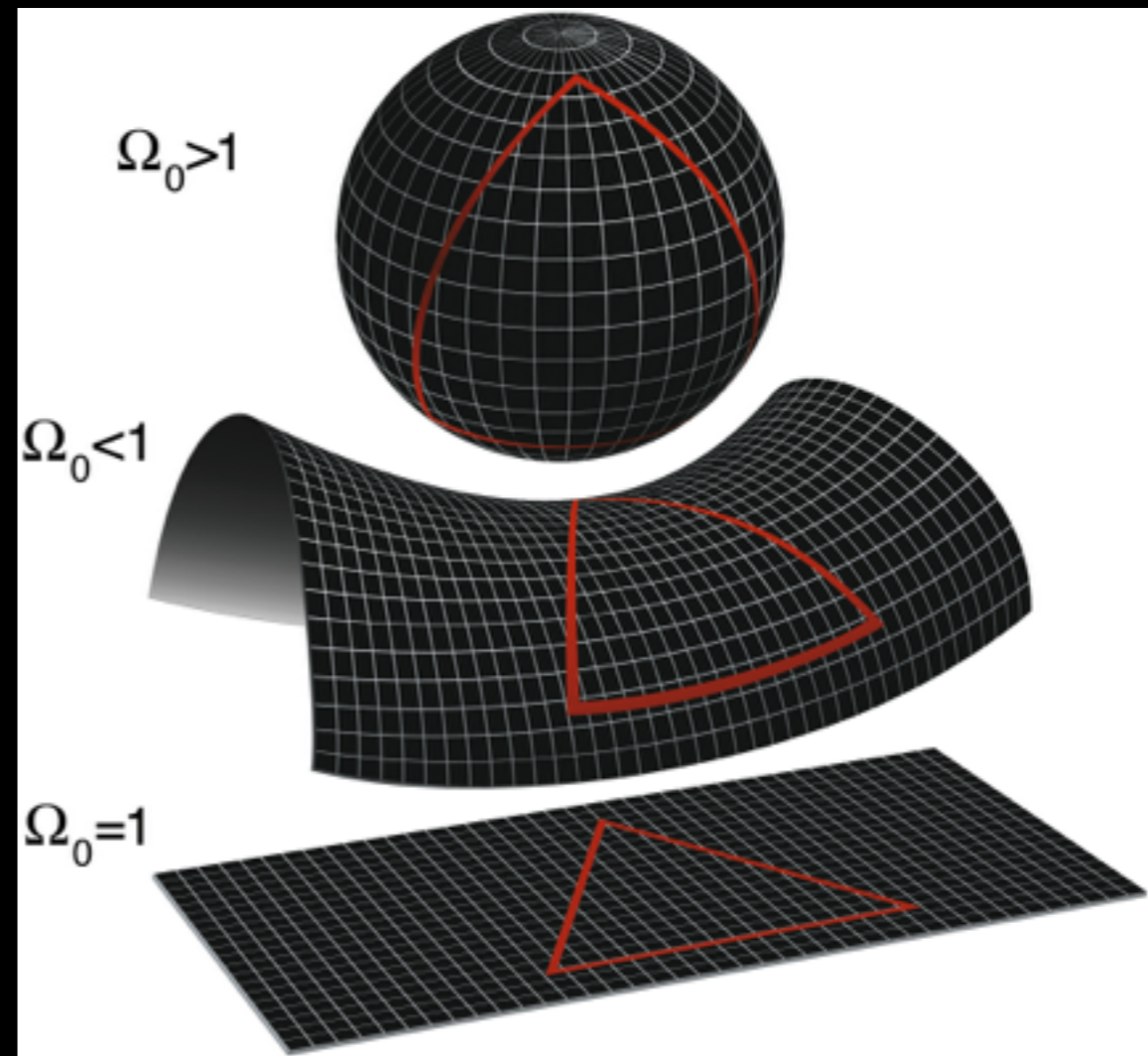


open Universe



flat Universe

Initial Expansion Speed



Density of the Universe

# Which one if the fate of the Universe?

- A. The ball will slow down and fall back / close Universe
- B. The ball will slow down but leave the Earth / open Universe
- C. The ball will slow down and orbit the Earth / flat Universe
- D. None of the above.





**Supernova:** an exploding star.  
A Standard Candle.



# Distance

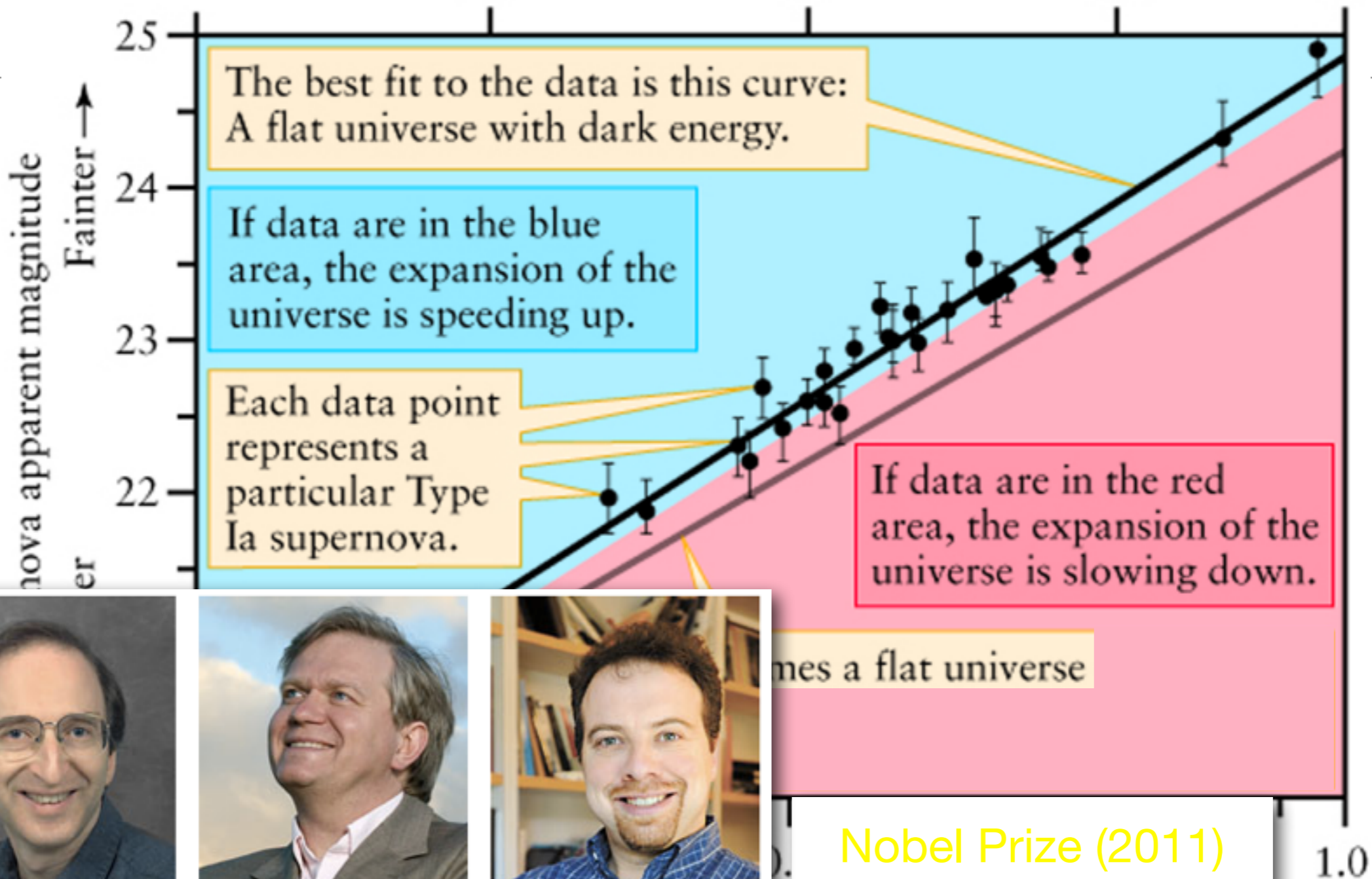


Photo: Roy Kaltschmidt. Courtesy: Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Saul Perlmutter



Photo: Belinda Pratten, Australian National University

Brian P. Schmidt



Photo: Homewood Photography

Adam G. Riess

Nobel Prize (2011)  
For the discovery of  
the acceleration of  
the Universe

1998

The Universe is  
Accelerating!





# Cerro-Tololo Inter-American Observatory



# Throw a ball straight up and what will happen?

- A. The ball will slow down and fall back.
- B. The ball will slow down but leave the Earth.
- C. The ball will slow down and orbit the Earth.
- D. The ball speed up and rocket out of the Earth**

# What causes Cosmic Speed-up?

Two possibilities:

1. The Universe is filled with stuff that gives rise to `anti-gravity'. We now call this

Dark Energy

2. Our understanding of gravity (which comes from Einstein) is wrong.

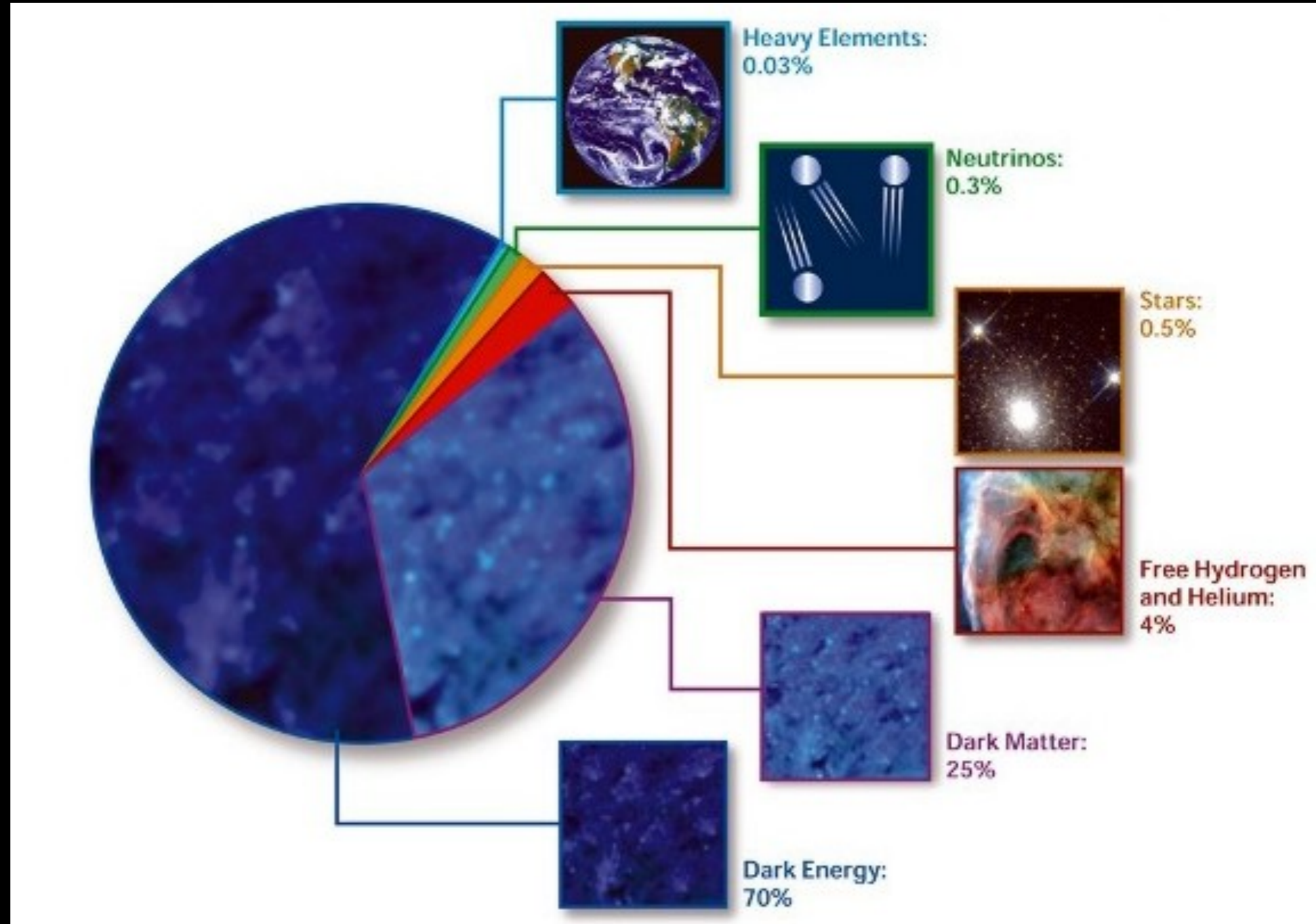


# 95% of the Universe is Dark

**Ordinary Matter:** atoms

**Dark Matter:** holds galaxies together, helps them form

**Dark Energy:** `gravitationally repulsive' stuff that speeds up cosmic expansion

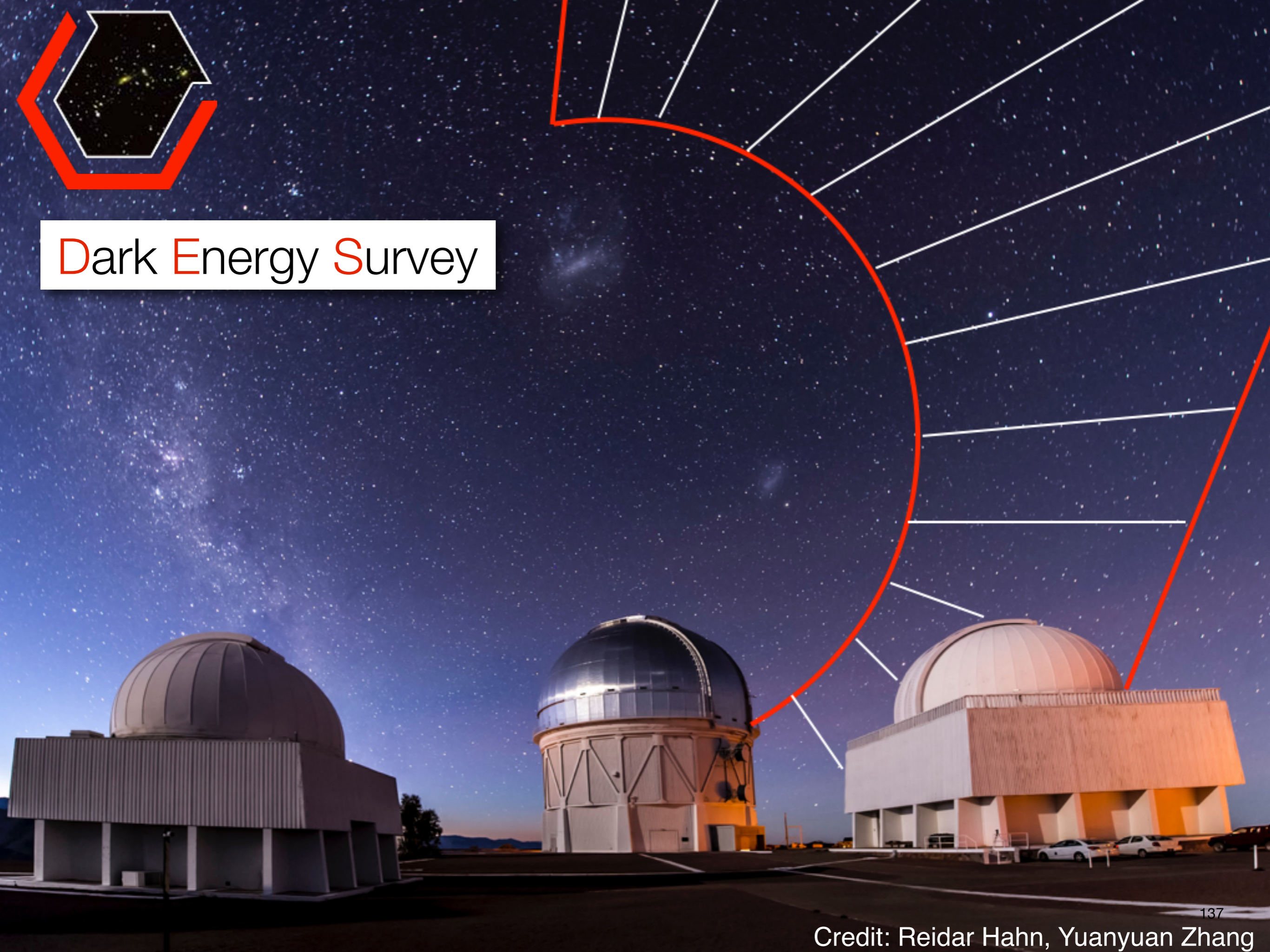


What is Dark Energy?





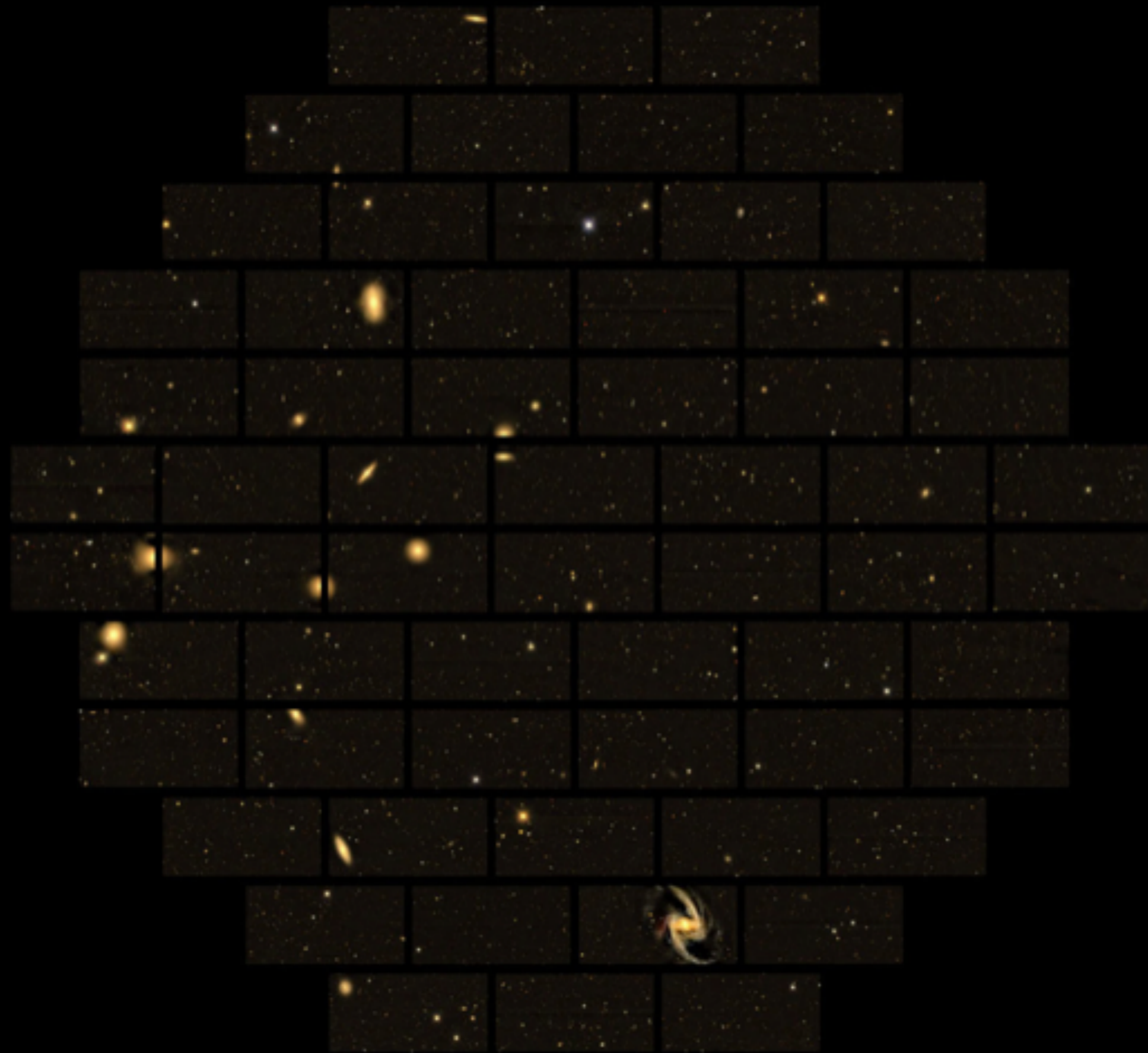
# Dark Energy Survey





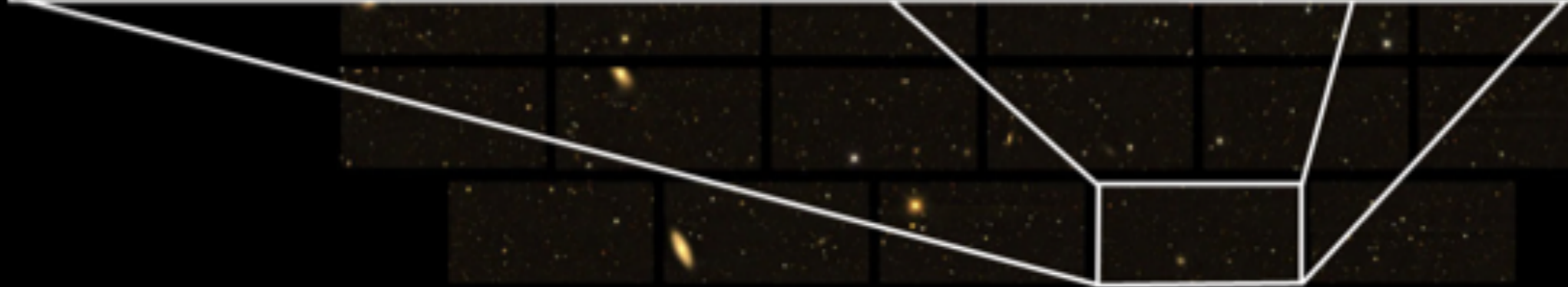
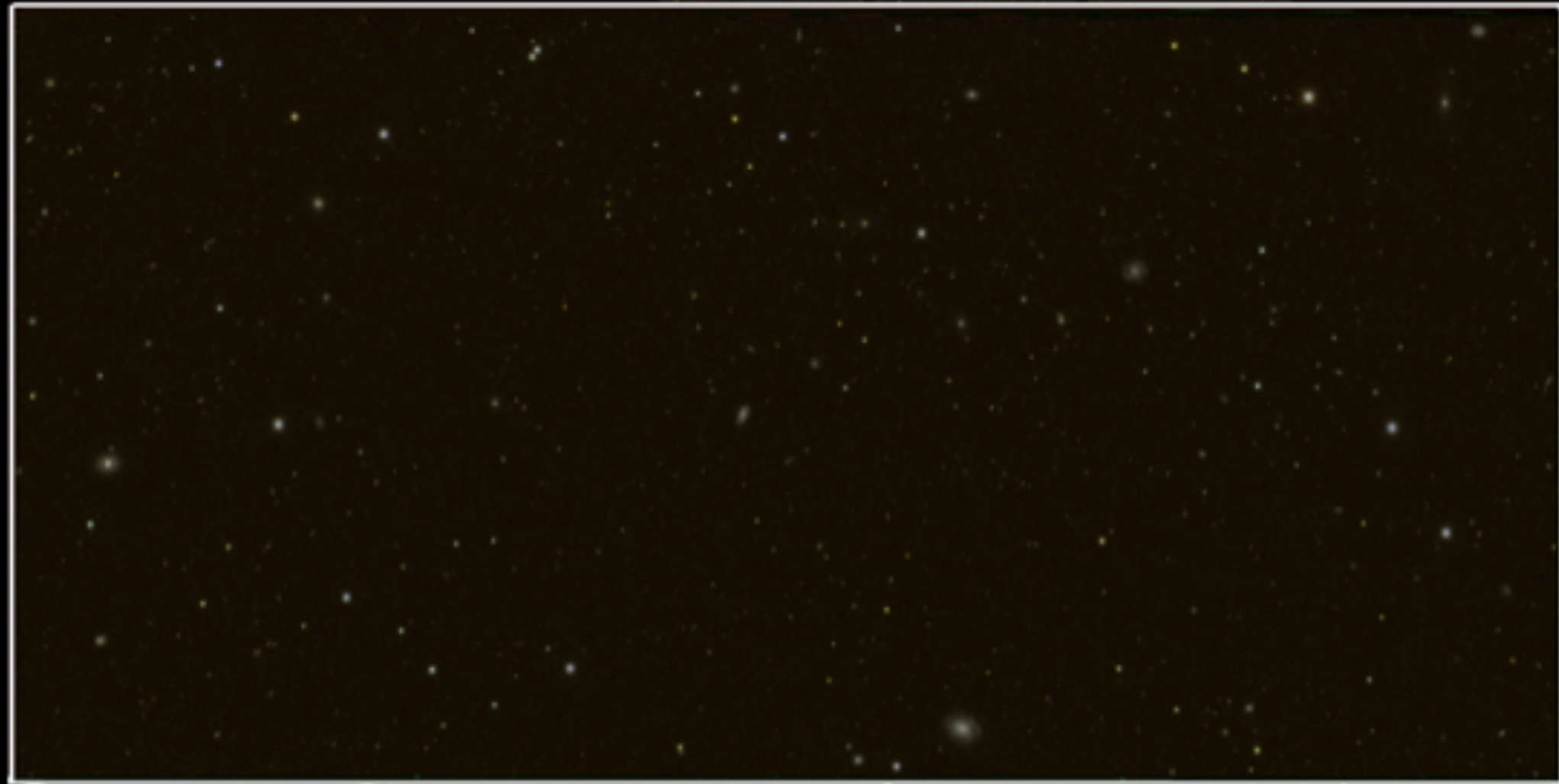


THE DARK ENERGY SURVEY





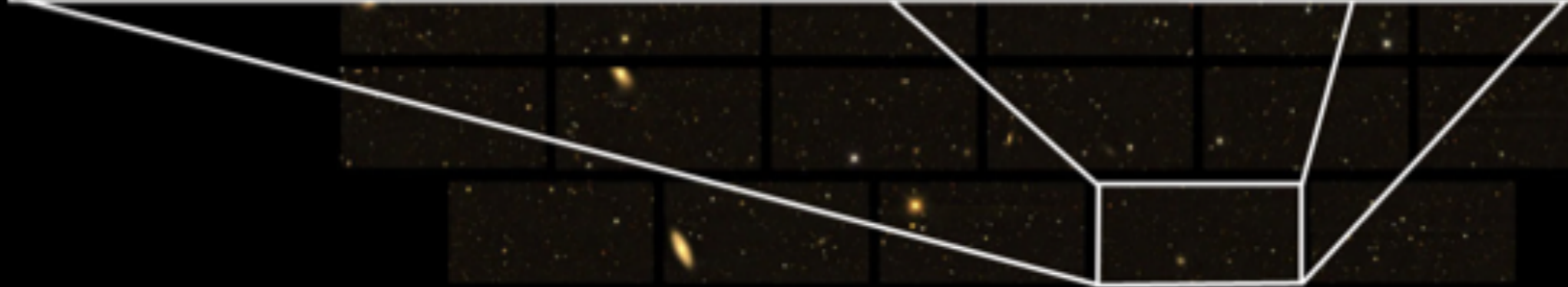
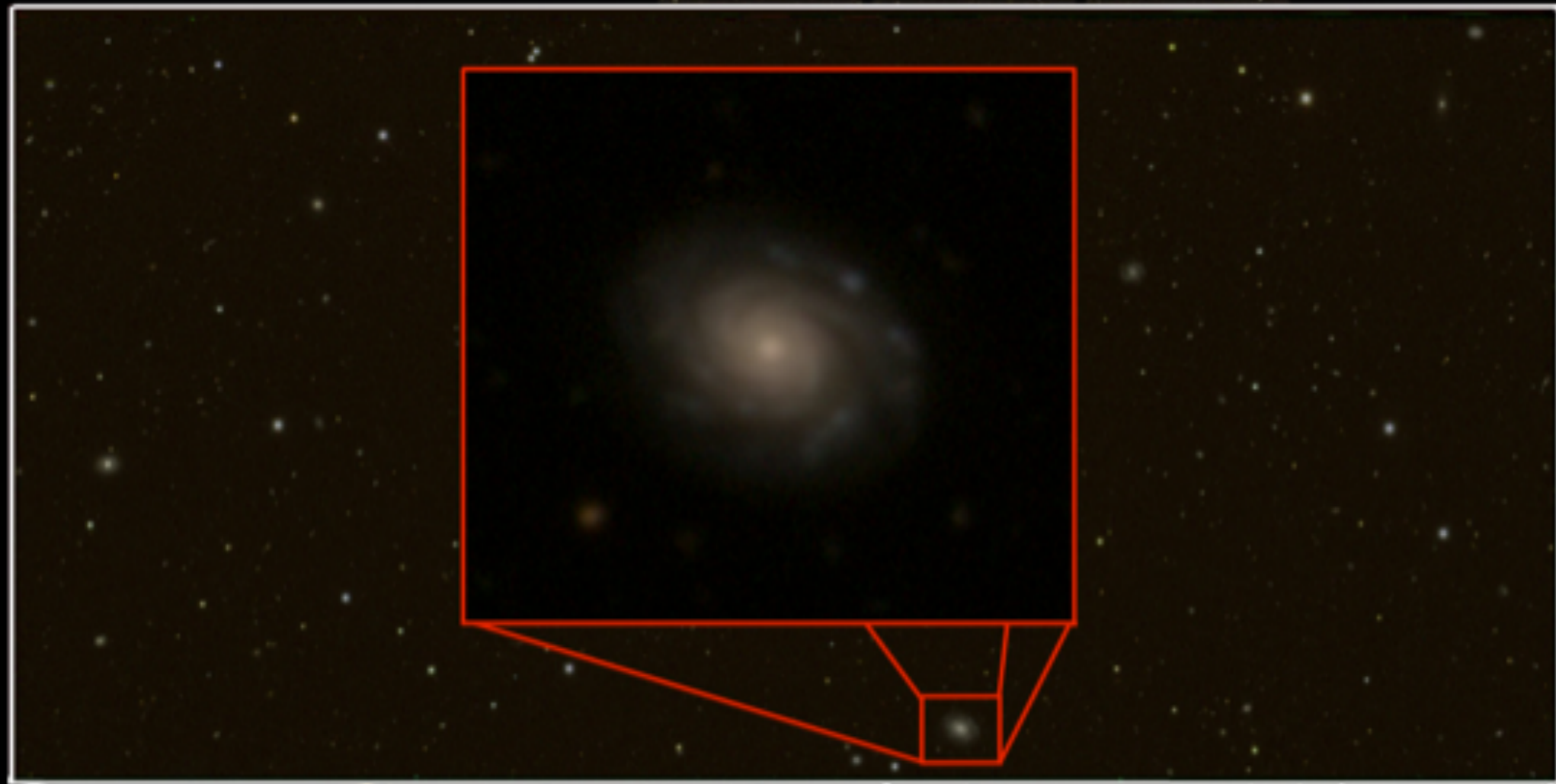
THE DARK ENERGY SURVEY







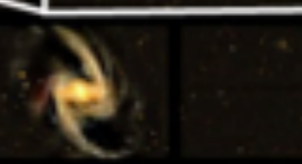
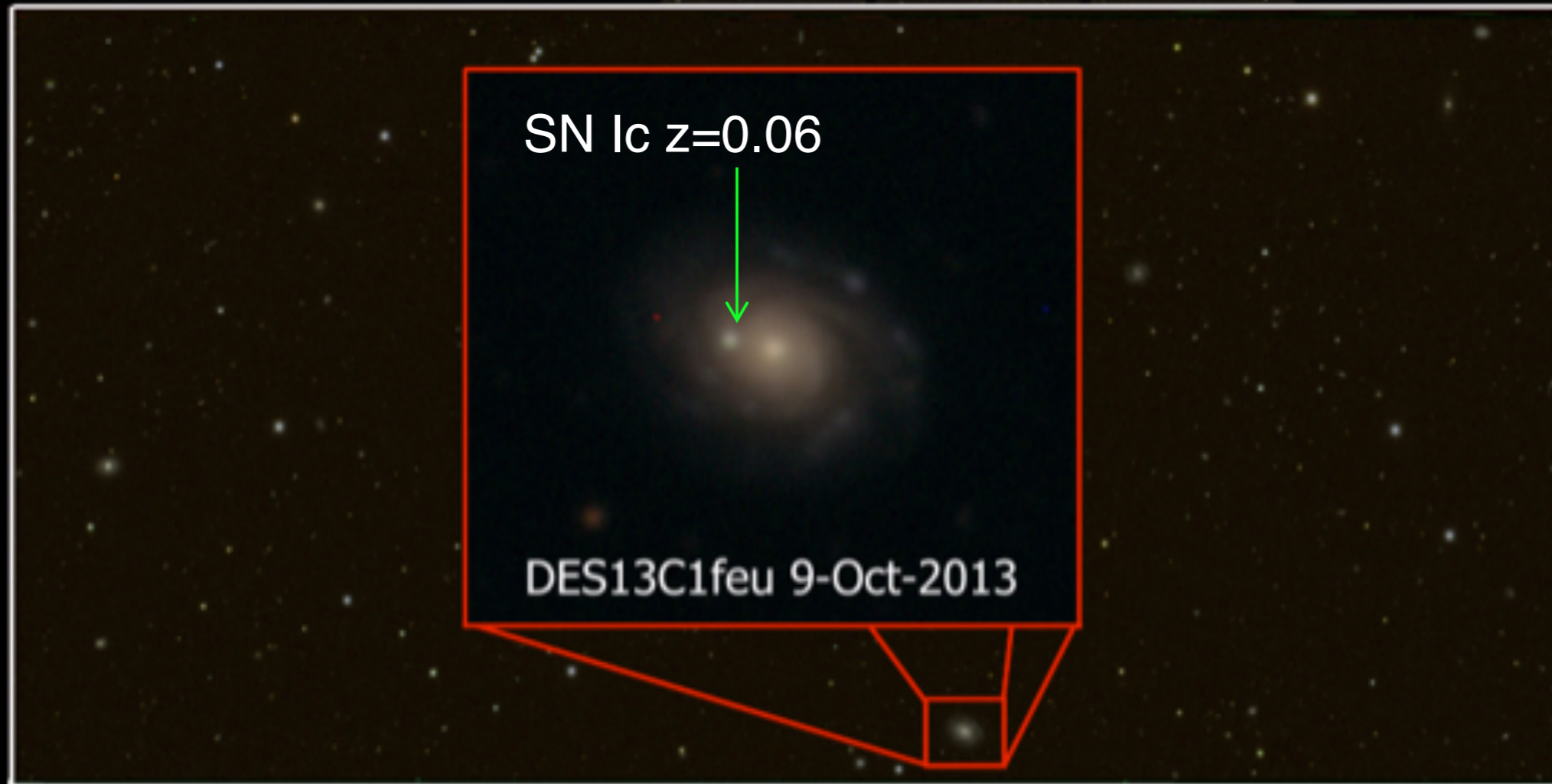
THE DARK ENERGY SURVEY







# Finding more supernovae



Questions?

**The Universe started with a Big Bang**

The Origin

**We are all Stardust**

The Evolution

**The Universe is mostly “Dark”**

The Fate



**Great Scientists may not make best  
figures — Hubble**

**The important scientific discoveries are  
sometimes not from the scientists —  
engineers**

**When you are set to measure something  
A (deceleration rate), then you found  
something B (acceleration)**

# Cosmology

*The origin, evolution, and ultimate fate of the Universe*



“ Chagrined a little that we have been hitherto able to produce nothing in this way of use to mankind; and the hot weather coming on, when the electrical experiments are not so agreeable, it is proposed to put an end to them for this season, somewhat humorously, in a party of pleasure on the banks of the Skuyllkill. Spirits, at the same time, are to be fired by a spark sent from side to side through the river, without any other conductor than the water; an experiment which we some time since performed to the amazement of many. A turkey is to be killed for our dinner by electrical shock, and roasted by the electrical jack, before a fire kindled by the electrified bottle; when the healths of all the famous electricians in England, Holland, France, and Germany are to be drank in electrified bumpers [toasting glasses], under the discharge of guns from the electrical battery.”

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)

Across the Earth, right now, millions of people are looking up into the night sky. No one owns the stars or the planets or the Milky Way. No one owns the Moon. We all see the same sky, and the sky belongs to all mankind; it is our inheritance from the Creation of the Universe.

I believe this is a part of basic human rights -- the right to wonder. It is also the most revolutionary of human rights, because it is the right to question and discover. It is the right to lift our souls and hopes into the sky, and to receive in return a sense of connection among human beings that transcends all boundaries and that, one day, may bring us peace.

-- Nicholas B. Suntzeff



THE END

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**THANK YOU**