

# Crises, Tensions and Mysteries in Modern Cosmology

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# Outline

- 1 Cosmology in Brief
- 2 Old Problems in Cosmology
- 3 Crises and tensions
- 4 New Problems in Cosmology

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# Conclusions from observations

The Universe is homogeneous, isotropic, hot and expanding...

## Conclusions

- interval between events gets modified

$$ds^2 = c^2 dt^2 - a^2(t) dx^2$$

in GR expansion is described by the Friedmann equation

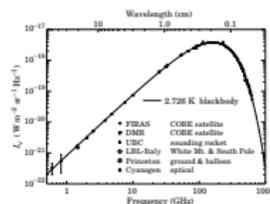
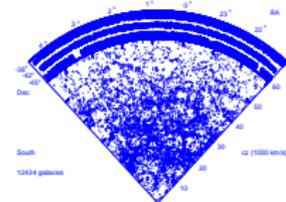
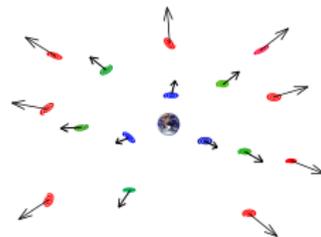
$$\left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\right)^2 = H^2(t) = \frac{8\pi}{3} G \rho_{\text{density}}^{\text{energy}}$$

$$\rho_{\text{density}}^{\text{energy}} = \rho_{\text{radiation}} + \rho_{\text{matter}} + \dots$$

- in the past the matter density was higher, our Universe was “hotter” filled with electromagnetic plasma

$$\rho_{\text{matter}} \propto 1/a^3(t), \quad \rho_{\text{radiation}} \propto 1/a^4(t), \quad \rho_{\text{curvature}} \propto 1/a^2(t)$$

certainly known back to  $T \sim 1 \text{ MeV} \sim 10^{10} \text{ K}$



# Standard cosmological model $ds^2 = dt^2 - a^2(t)dx^2$

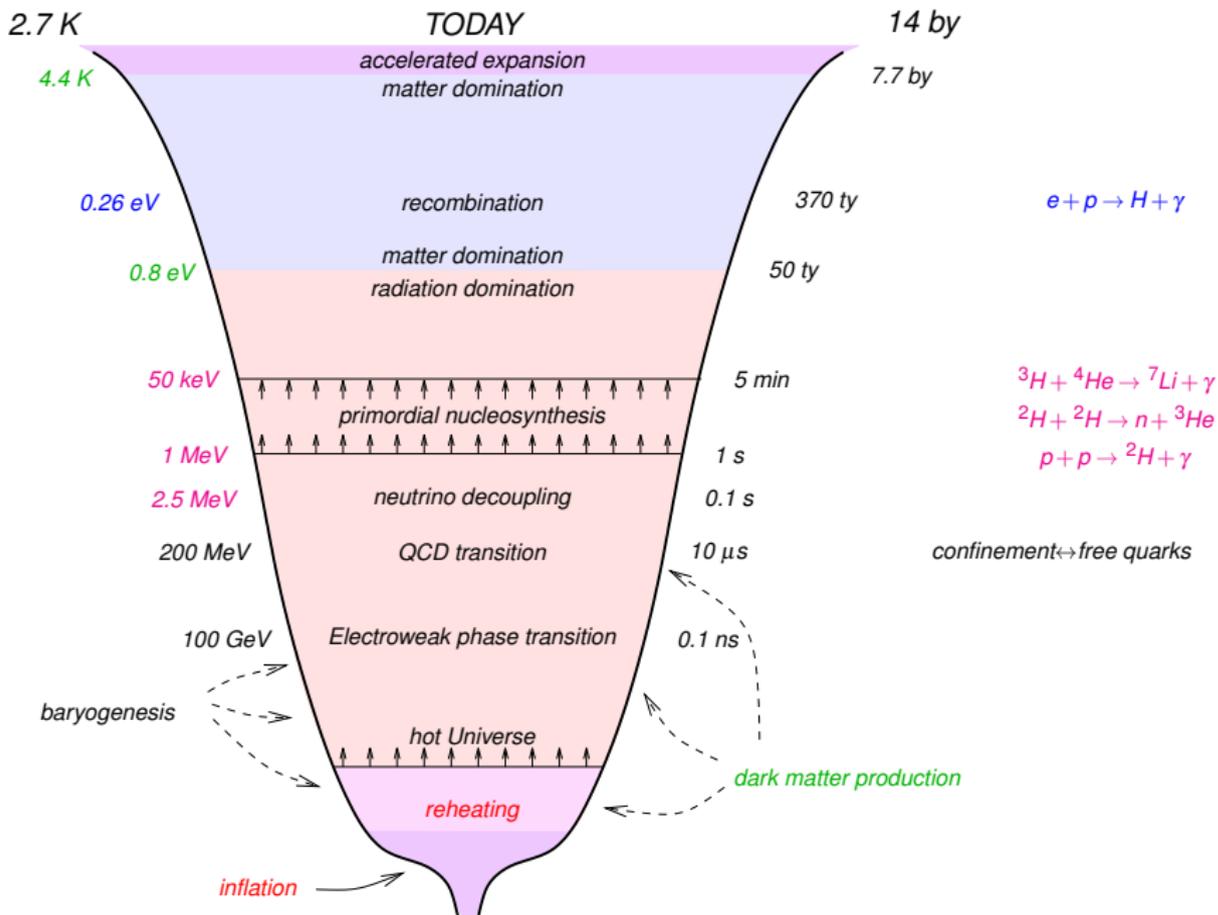
$$\left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\right)^2 \equiv H^2 = H_0^2 \left[ \Omega_\Lambda + (\Omega_{DM} + \Omega_B + \Omega_{\nu, m \neq 0}) \left(\frac{a_0}{a}\right)^3 + (\Omega_\gamma + \Omega_{\nu, m=0}) \left(\frac{a_0}{a}\right)^4 \right]$$

- $l_{s,rec} \sim l_{H,rec}/\sqrt{3} \rightarrow H_0 = h \cdot 100 \text{ km/s/Mpc}$   $h = 0.67$ ,  $\Rightarrow \rho_0 = 5 \text{ GeV/m}^3$
- $T_\gamma = 2.735 \text{ K}$ ,  $\Rightarrow \Omega_\gamma \sim 10^{-5}$
- $N_\nu = 3.03\dots$ ,  $\Omega_\nu h^2 = \frac{\sum m_\nu}{93.12 \text{ eV}}$ ,  $\sum m_\nu < 0.2 \text{ eV} \Rightarrow \Omega_{\nu, \neq 0}, \Omega_{\nu, 0} \sim 10^{-5} ?$
- $\Omega_B = 4.5\% \Rightarrow \eta_B \equiv n_B/n_\gamma = 6 \times 10^{-10}$
- $\Omega_{DM} = 27.5\%$
- $\Omega_\Lambda = 68\% \Rightarrow \text{flat space}$
- adiabatic, gaussian, almost flat matter perturbations

$$\left\langle \left( \frac{\delta\rho}{\rho} \right)^2 \right\rangle \sim A_S \int \frac{dk}{k} \left( \frac{k}{k_*} \right)^{n_S-1}$$

with  $A_S = 3 \times 10^{-9}$  and  $n_S = 0.97$

- no tensor perturbations,  $r \equiv A_T/A_S < 0.05$
- reionization at  $z_{rei} \equiv a_0/a = 8$



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# List of long-standing problems

- What is Dark Energy?
- What is Dark Matter?
- BAU ?
- Why the Universe is flat, homogeneous and isotropic?
- What is the source of perturbations?
- $\text{Li}^7$  in BBN...
- Cores vs Cusps in the galaxy centers...
- Lack of dwarf galaxies...

# Dark Energy: all evidences are from cosmology

Working hypothesis is cosmological constant  $\Lambda \approx (2.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV})^4$  :  
 $\rho = w(t)\rho$  ,  $w = \text{const} = -1$  ,  $\rho = \Lambda$

$$S_\Lambda = -\Lambda \int d^4x \sqrt{-\det g_{\mu\nu}}$$

both parts contribute

$$S_{\text{grav}} = -\frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \sqrt{-\det g_{\mu\nu}} R ,$$

$$S_{\text{matter}} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-\det g_{\mu\nu}} \left( \frac{1}{2} g^{\lambda\rho} \partial_\lambda \phi \partial_\rho \phi - V(\phi) \right)$$

natural values

$$\Lambda_{\text{grav}} \sim 1/G^2 \sim (10^{19} \text{ GeV})^4 , \quad \Lambda_{\text{matter}} \sim V(\phi_{\text{vac}}) \sim (100 \text{ GeV})^4 , (100 \text{ MeV})^4 , \dots$$

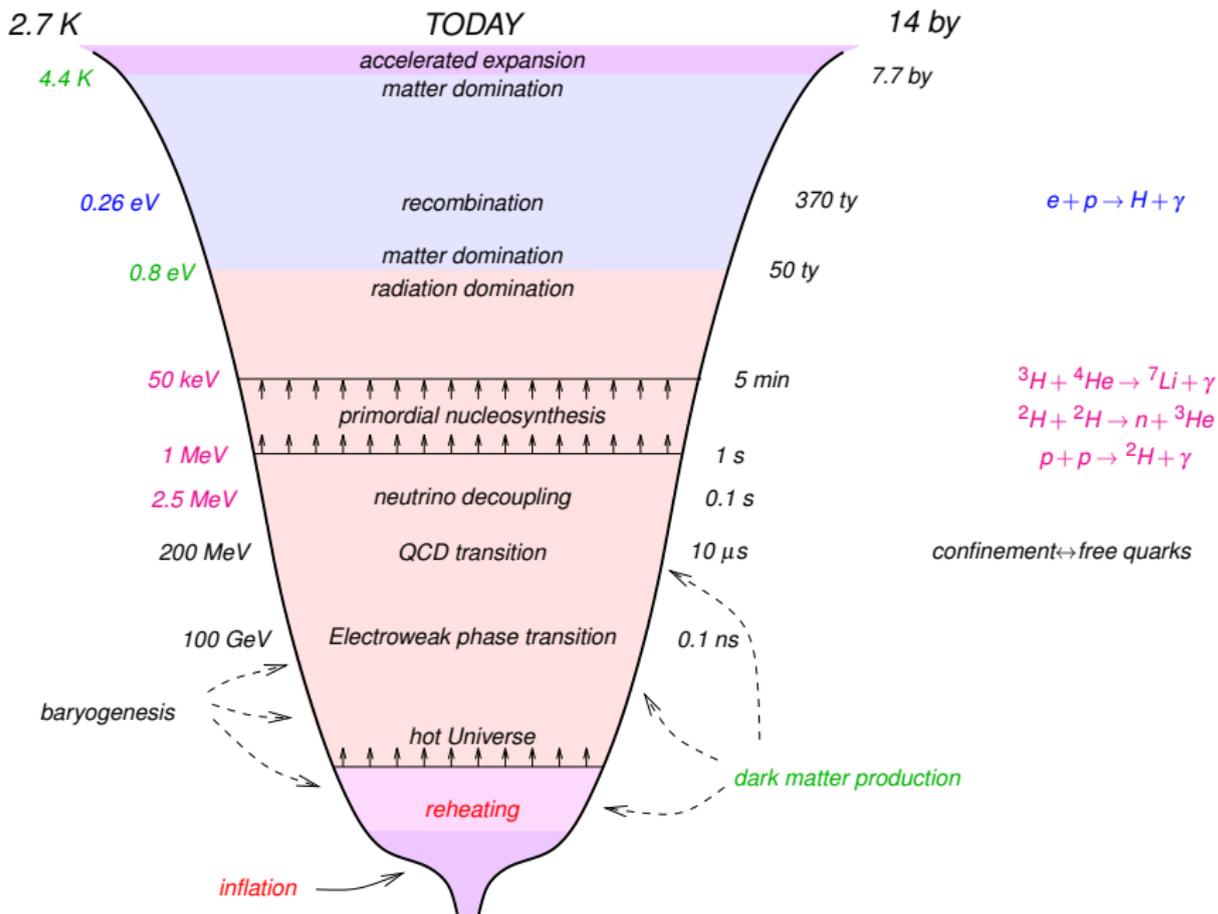
Why  $\Lambda$  is small?

Why  $\Lambda \sim \rho_{\text{matter}}$  ?

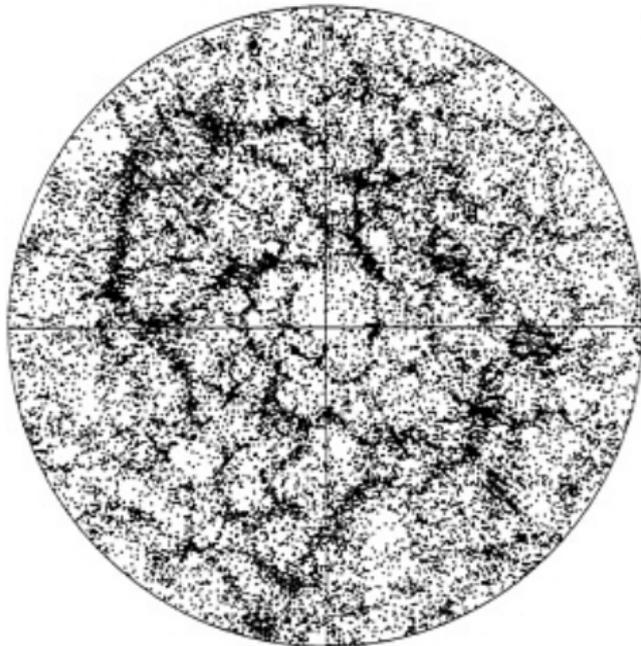
Why  $\rho_B \sim \rho_{DM} \sim \rho_\Lambda$  today?

# List of long-standing problems

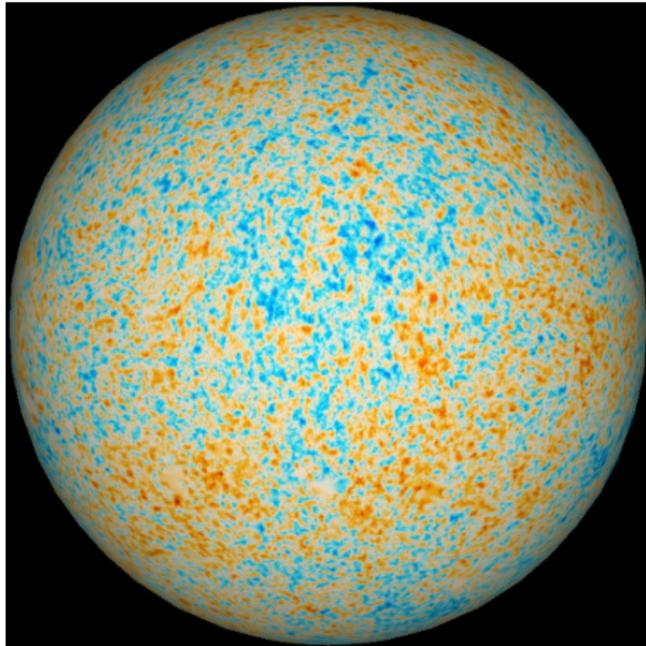
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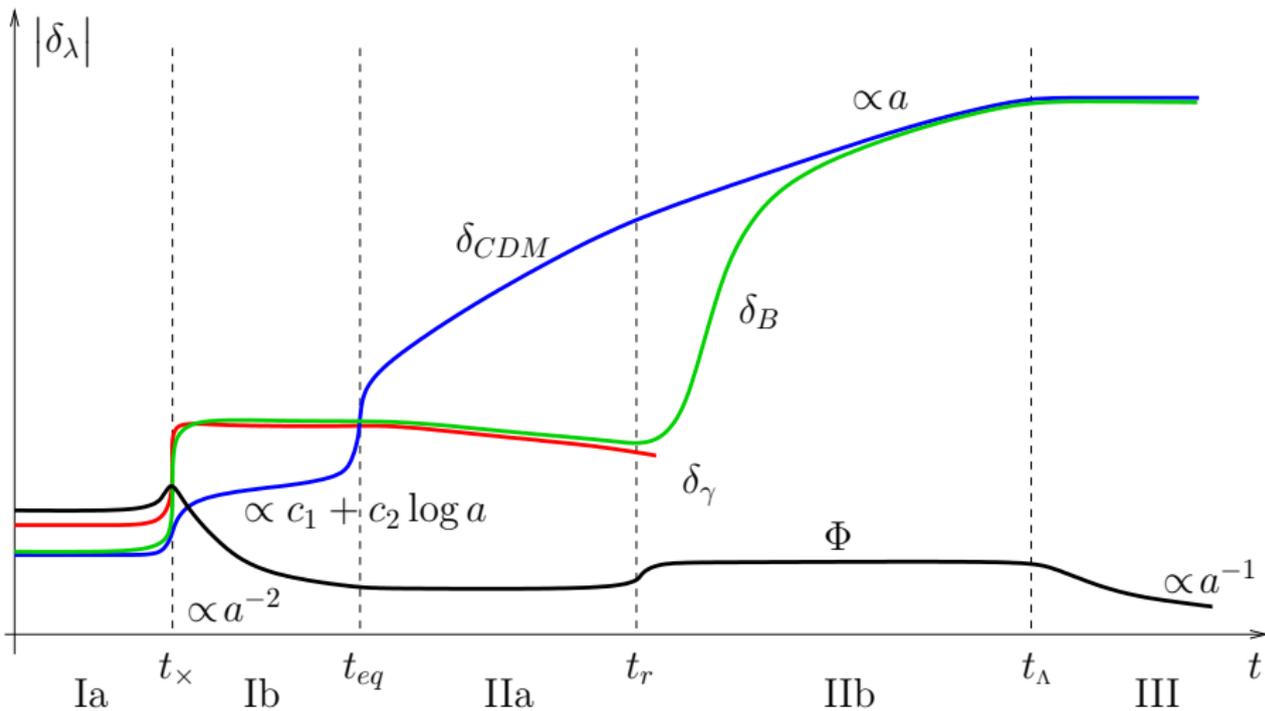
# Inhomogeneous Universe



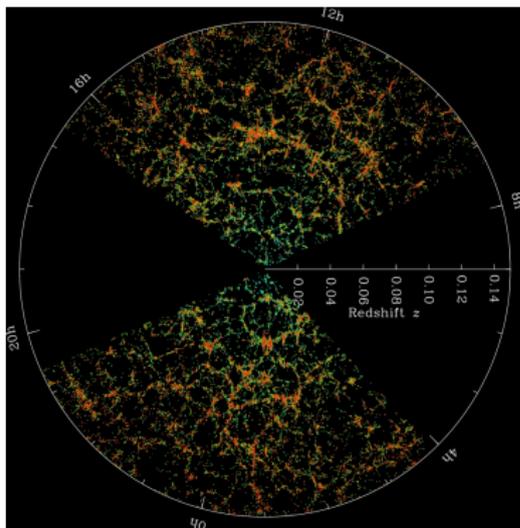
Large Scale Structure



CMB anisotropy

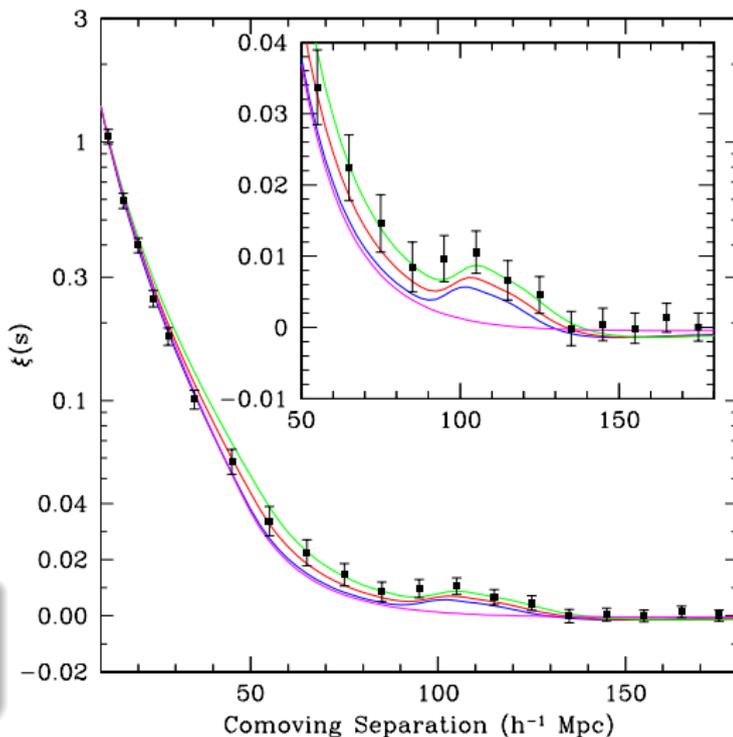
Subhorizon modes ( $k/a > H$ ) at various stages

# Baryon Acoustic Oscillations (BAO), Sakharov



peak at  $r_s \approx 147 \text{ Mpc}$

$$\xi_z(s) \propto \frac{\langle n_z(\vec{x}) n_z(\vec{x} + \vec{z}) \rangle_{\vec{x}}}{n_z n_z}$$



# Dark Matter properties from cosmology: $p = 0$

(If) particles:

1 **stable** on cosmological time-scale  
 requires new (almost) **conserved quantum number**

2 **produced in the early Universe**  
 some time before RD/MD-transition ( $T = 0.8$  eV)

3 **nonrelativistic** particles long before RD/MD-transition ( $T = 0.8$  eV)  
 (either **Cold** or **Warm**,  $v_{RD/MD} \lesssim 10^{-3}$ )

Otherwise no small-size structures, like dwarf galaxies:  
 $I_{fs} = a \int v(t) dt / a(t)$   
 smoothed out by free streaming

If were in **thermal equilibrium**:  $M_X \gtrsim 1$  keV

4 (almost) **collisionless**  $p = 0$ ,  $v_{\text{sound}} = 0$

5 (almost) electrically **neutral** CMB distortion

6 **all matter inhomogeneities (perturbations) are adiabatic:**

$$\delta \left( \frac{n_B}{n_{DM}} \right) = \delta \left( \frac{n_B}{n_\gamma} \right) = \delta \left( \frac{n_\nu}{n_\gamma} \right) = 0$$

# Dark Matter properties from astrophysics

- 1 **stable** on cosmological time-scale
- 2 (almost) **collisionless** to form ellipsoidal halos
- 3 (almost) electrically **neutral** to be Dark
- 4 **stability of globular stellar clusters**  $M_x \lesssim 10^3 M_\odot \approx 10^{61} \text{ GeV}$   
otherwise too strong tidal forces
- 5 **confinement in a galaxy:** quantum physics!

de Broglie wavelength:  $\lambda = 2\pi / (M_x v_x) < l_{\text{galaxy}}$ , for bosons

in a galaxy

$$v_x \sim 0.5 \cdot 10^{-3}$$

→

$$M_x \gtrsim 3 \cdot 10^{-22} \rightarrow 10^{-20} \text{ eV}$$

for fermions

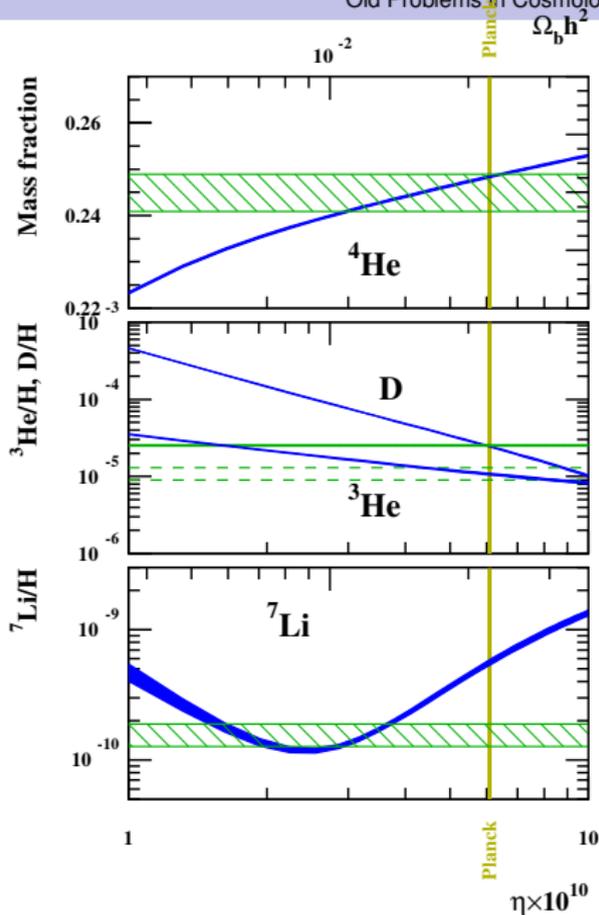
Pauli blocking:

$$M_x \gtrsim 0.75 \rightarrow 1.5 \text{ keV}$$

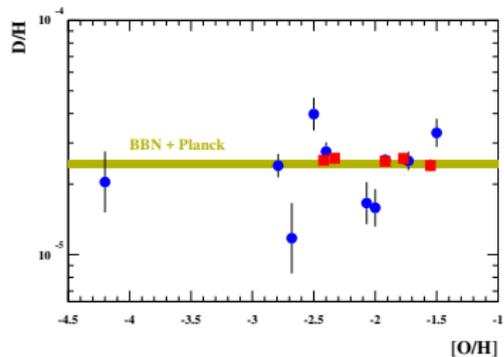
$$f(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{x}) = \frac{\rho_x(\mathbf{x})}{M_x} \cdot \frac{1}{\left(\sqrt{2\pi} M_x v_x\right)^3} \cdot e^{-\frac{\mathbf{p}^2}{2M_x^2 v_x^2}} \Bigg|_{\mathbf{p}=0} \leq \frac{g_x}{(2\pi)^3}$$

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- What is DE?
- What is DM?
- What is responsible for Baryon Asymmetry of the Universe ?
- $\text{Li}^7$  in Big Bang Nucleosynthesis...
- Why the Universe is flat, homogeneous and isotropic?
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1707.01004 Measurement of  $\eta_B = n_B/n_\gamma$   
at  $T \sim 1 \text{ MeV}$



Sakharov conditions for successful  
baryogenesis:

- 1)  $\Delta B \neq 0$
- 2)  $\Delta C \neq 0, \Delta CP \neq 0$
- 3) out-of-equilibrium



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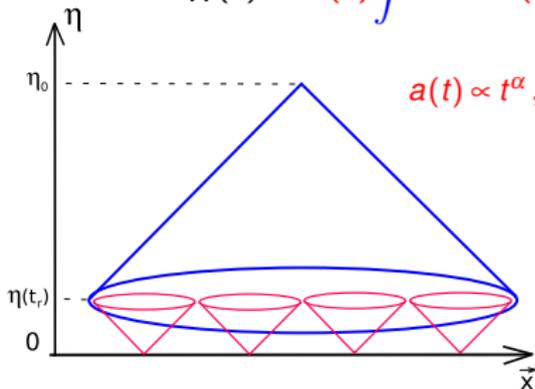
# Horizon problem $l_H(t)$

a distance covered by photon emitted at  $t = 0$

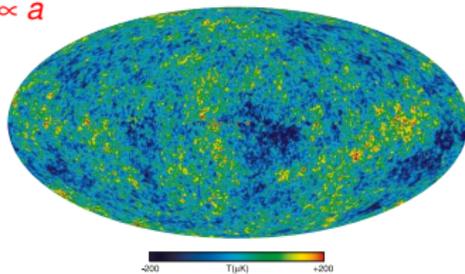
size of the causally connected part, that is the visible part of the Universe (“inside horizon”)

$$ds^2 = dt^2 - a^2(t) dx^2 = a^2(\eta) (d\eta^2 - dx^2) \qquad ds^2 = 0$$

$$l_H(t) = a(t) \int dx = a(t) \int d\eta = a(t) \int_0^t \frac{cdt'}{a(t')} \propto t \propto 1/H(t)$$



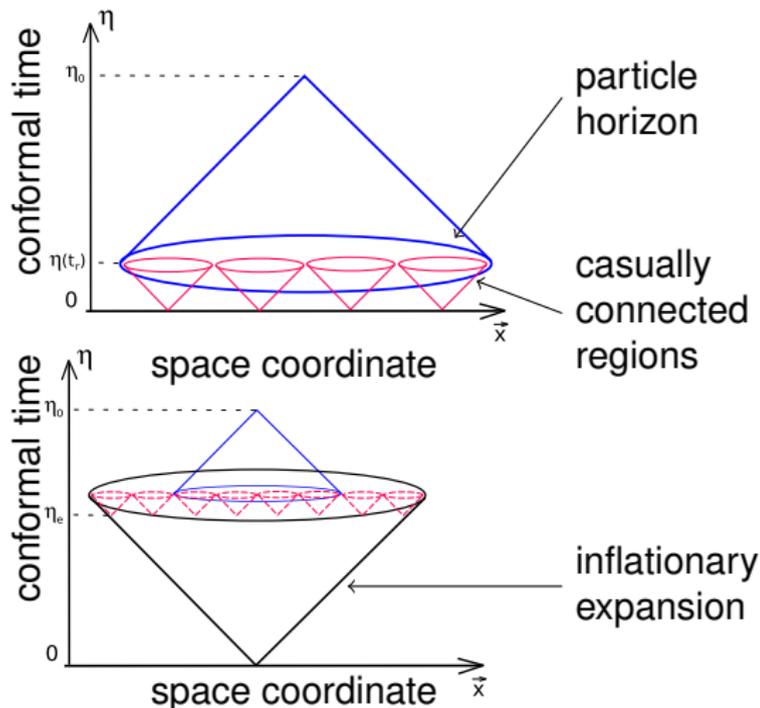
$$a(t) \propto t^\alpha, \quad 0 < \alpha < 1, \quad L_{phys} \propto a$$

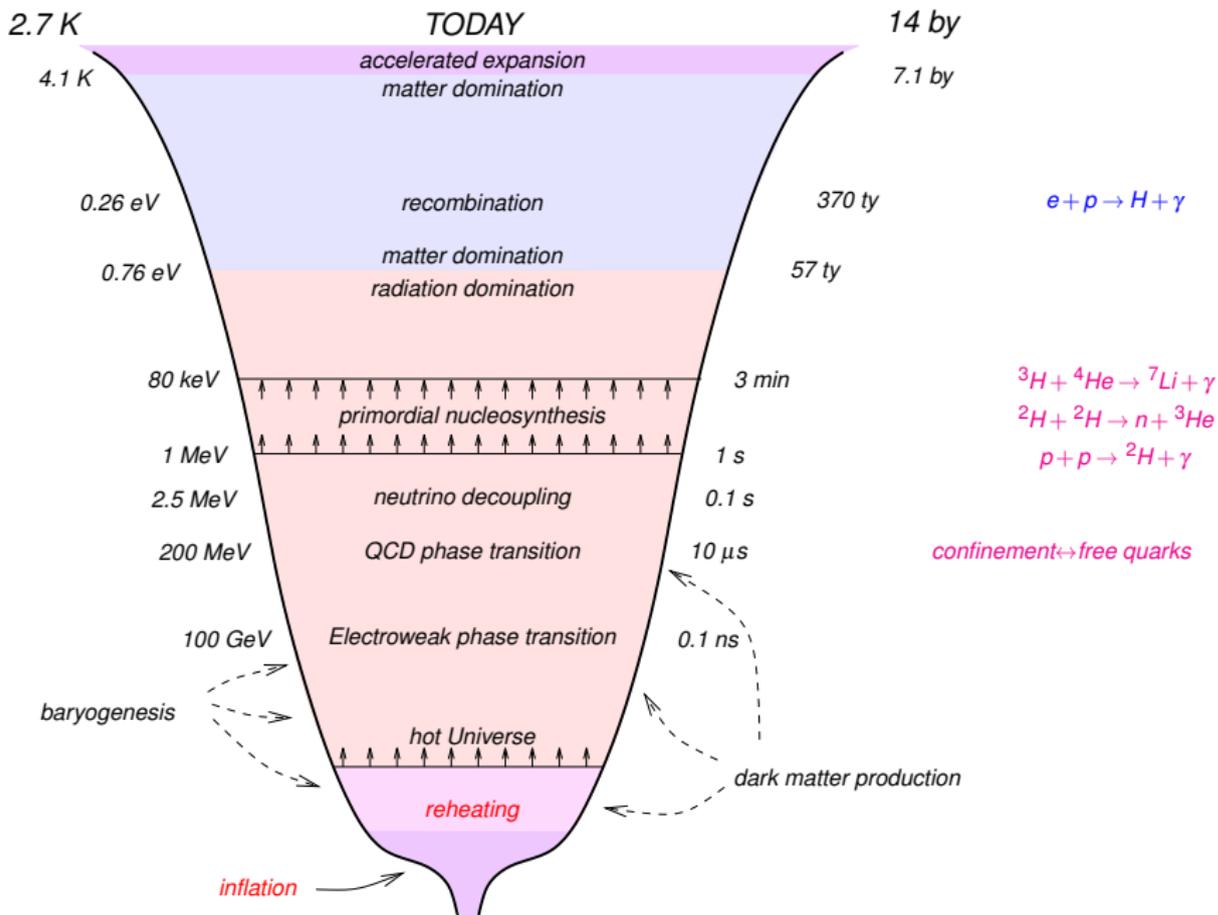


$$l_{H_0}/l_{h,r}(t_0) \sim l_{H_0}/l_{h,r}(t_r) a(t_r)/a_0 \sim H_r/H_0 a(t_r)/a_0 \sim \sqrt{1+z_r} \simeq 30$$

# Inflationary solution of Hot Big Bang problems

- no initial singularity in dS space
- all scales grow exponentially, including the radius of the 3-sphere  
the Universe becomes exponentially flat
- any two particles are at exponentially large distances  
no heavy relics  
no traces of previous epochs!
- no particles in post-inflationary Universe  
to solve entropy problem we need post-inflationary reheating





# Chaotic inflation at large fields: graceful exit

If  $V(\phi)$  dominates by chance

Chaotic inflation, A.Linde (1983), A.Linde (1984)

$$\ddot{\phi} - \Delta\phi/a^2 + 3H\dot{\phi} + V'(\phi) = 0$$

for power-law potential at  $\phi > M_{Pl}$

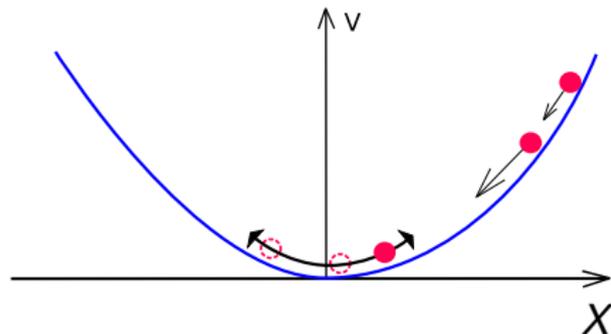
$$V \simeq \text{const}$$

“slow roll” solution

$$H^2 = \frac{8\pi}{3M_P^2} V(\phi), \quad a(t) \propto e^{Ht}$$

valid while slow roll conditions

$$M_P^2 \frac{V''}{V} \ll 1, \quad M_P^2 \frac{V'^2}{V^2} \ll 1$$



Inflaton must couple  
to Standard Model fields

to reheat the Universe  
after inflation

# Quantum perturbations at inflation

$$\ddot{\phi}_k + 3H\dot{\phi}_k + \frac{k^2}{a^2} \phi_k = 0$$

conformal time, rescaled field:  $dt \equiv a(\eta)d\eta$ ,  $\phi \equiv \chi/a(\eta)$ :

$$a = -\frac{1}{H\eta}, \quad \frac{k}{a} = H \quad \longrightarrow \quad k\eta = 1$$

$$\chi_k'' + \left(k^2 - \frac{2}{\eta^2}\right) \chi_k = 0$$

classical solutions

$$\chi_k = C_1 \times e^{ik\eta} \left(1 + \frac{i}{k\eta}\right) + C_2 \times e^{-ik\eta} \left(1 - \frac{i}{k\eta}\right)$$

# Unexpected bonus: generation of perturbations

- Quantum fluctuations of wavelength  $\lambda$  of a free massless field  $\varphi$  have an amplitude of  $\delta\varphi_\lambda \simeq 1/\lambda$
- In the expanding Universe:  $\lambda \propto a$

inflation:  $l_H \sim 1/H = \text{const}$ , so modes “exit horizon”

Ordinary stage:  $l_H \sim 1/H \propto t$ ,  $l_H/\lambda \nearrow$ , modes “enter horizon”

## Evolution at inflation

- inside horizon:  $\lambda < l_H$

$$\lambda \propto a \Rightarrow$$

$$\delta\varphi_\lambda \propto 1/\lambda \propto 1/a$$



- outside horizon:  $\lambda > l_H$

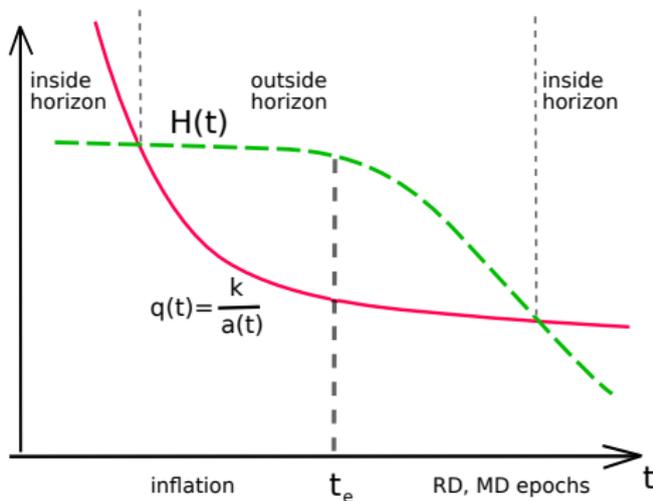
$$\lambda \propto a \Rightarrow$$

$$\delta\varphi_\lambda = \text{const} = H_{\text{infl}} !!!$$

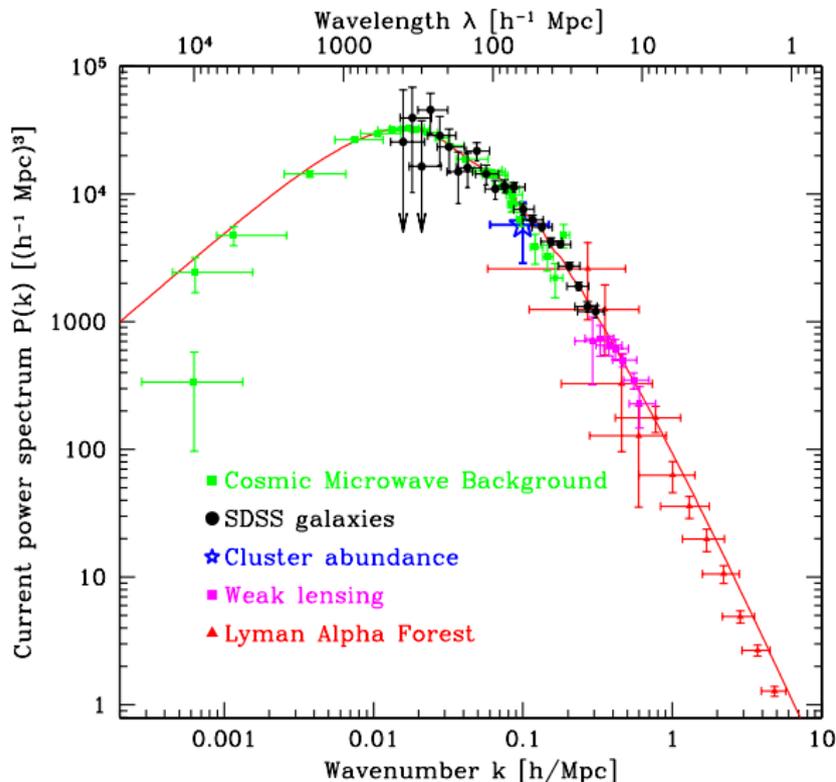


- got “classical” fluctuations:

$$\delta\varphi_\lambda = \delta\varphi_\lambda^{\text{quantum}} \times e^{N_e}$$



# Actually we observe rather narrow range



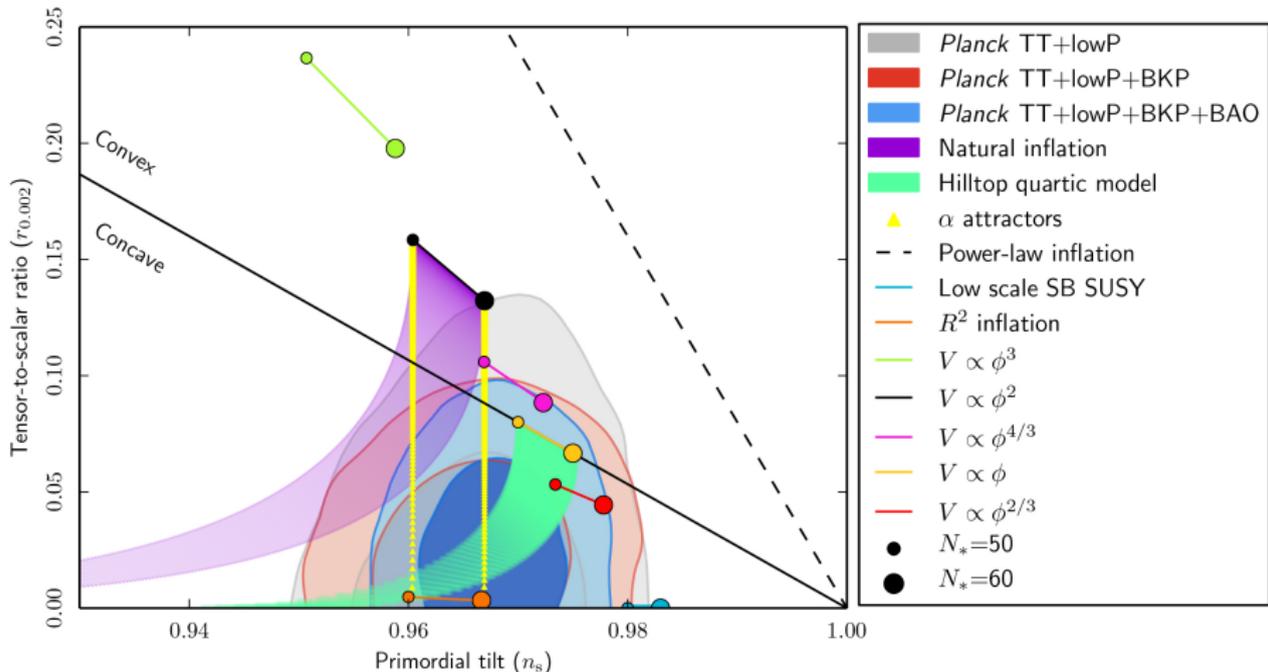
Observable range:

$$\frac{k_{max}}{k_{min}} \sim 10^5$$

$$\Delta N_e \simeq 10$$

Small scales cannot describe:  
for a long time in nonlinear regime

## Planck 2015 bounds on tensor perturbations



$$r = \frac{A_T}{A_S} \propto \frac{\dot{\phi}^2}{H^2 M_{Pl}^2} \propto \left( \frac{V'}{V} \right)^2 \ll 1$$

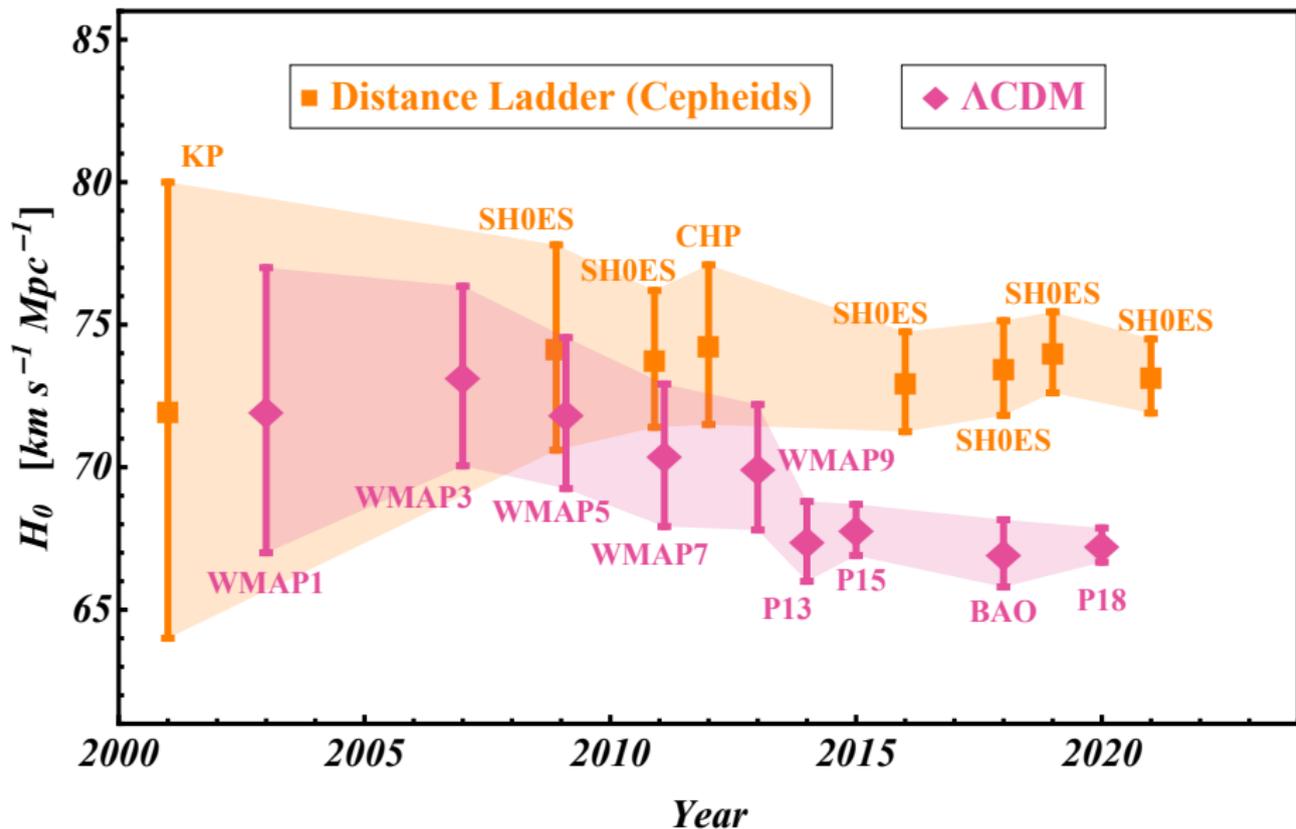
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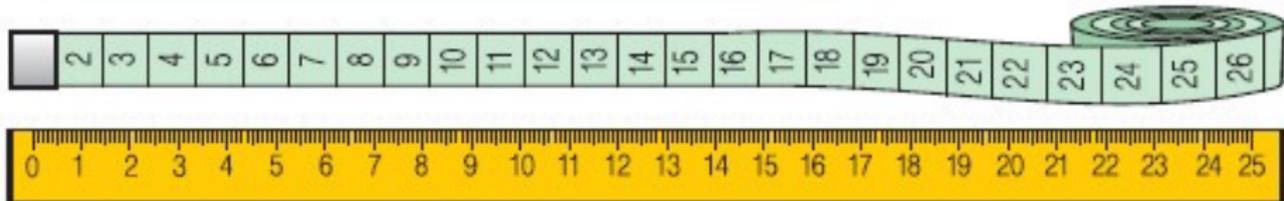
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- Hubble crisis:  $67.4 \pm 0.5$  (Planck) vs  $73.0 \pm 1.0$  (SH0ES)
- $\sigma_8$  tension... 3-2-1  $\sigma$
- Various tensions between different sets of data...



2105.05208

# Distance ladder... from observer



## MEASURE

- size of the Earth orbit

$$2\pi R = v \times 1 \text{ year}$$

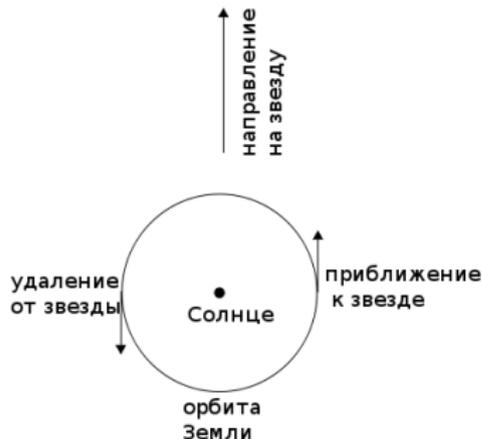
- distance through angle (annual parallax)

$$L = \theta \times 2R$$

- luminosity  $F$  via brightness  $J$  and distance

$$J = \frac{F}{4\pi L^2}$$

- find a relation between  $F$  and other observable (frequency of bursts, decay rate, ...) – **the standard candle is defined !**



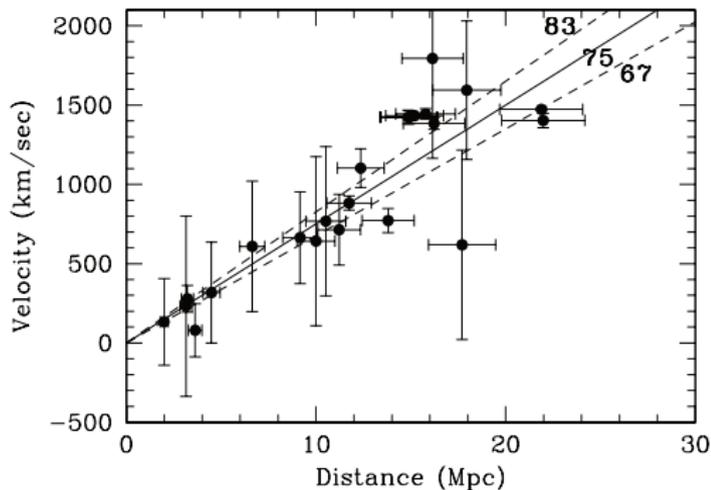
# Distance ladder... from observer



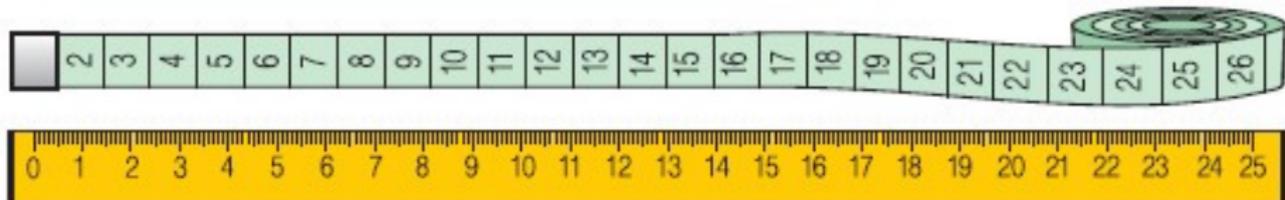
## Measure luminosity with brightness and distance



Hubble Diagram for Cepheids (flow-corrected)



# Distance ladder... from cefeids to supernovae



Measure the brightness  $J$  of the object of luminosity  $F$

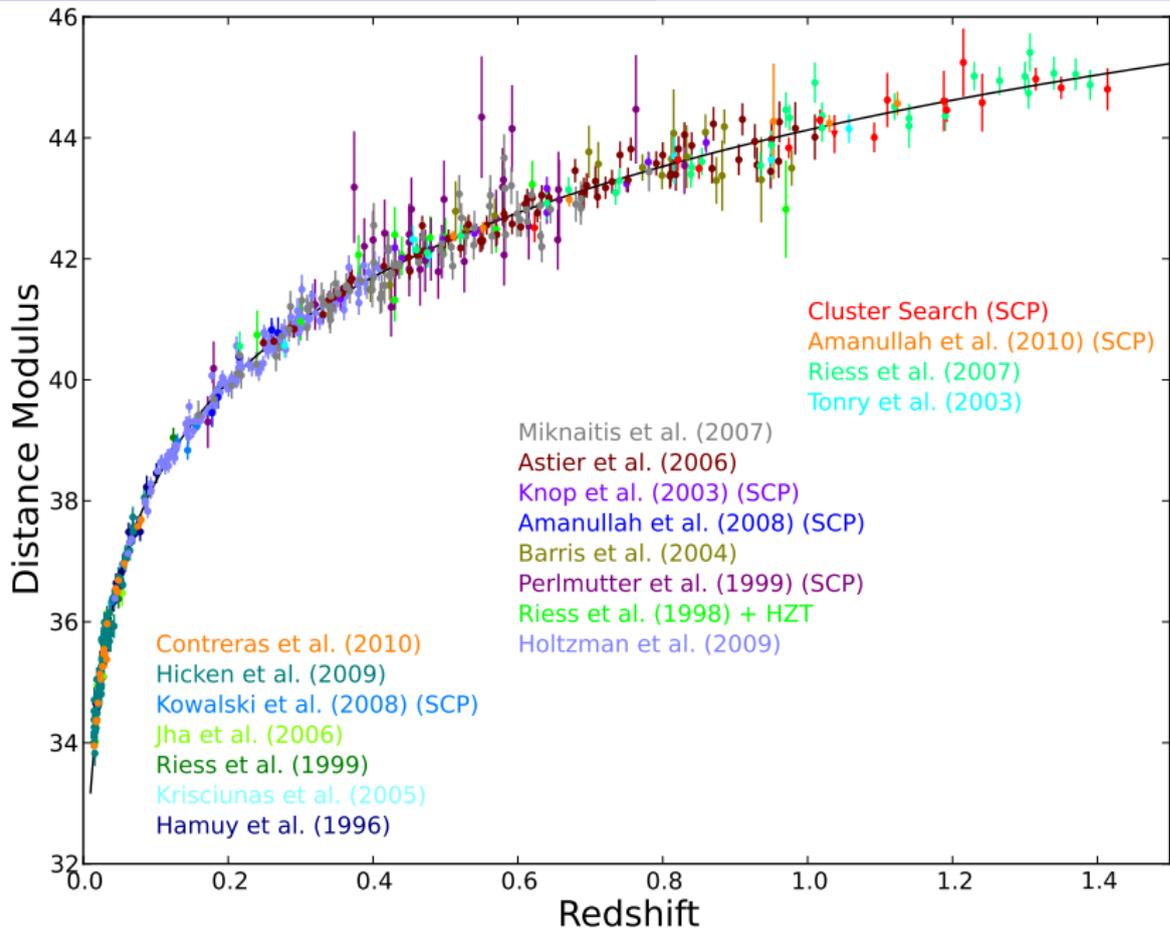
– “standard candles”

$$J = \frac{F}{4\pi L^2} \rightarrow J = \frac{F}{4\pi L^2(1+z)(1+z)} \quad \frac{\text{energy}}{\text{time} \times \text{area}}$$



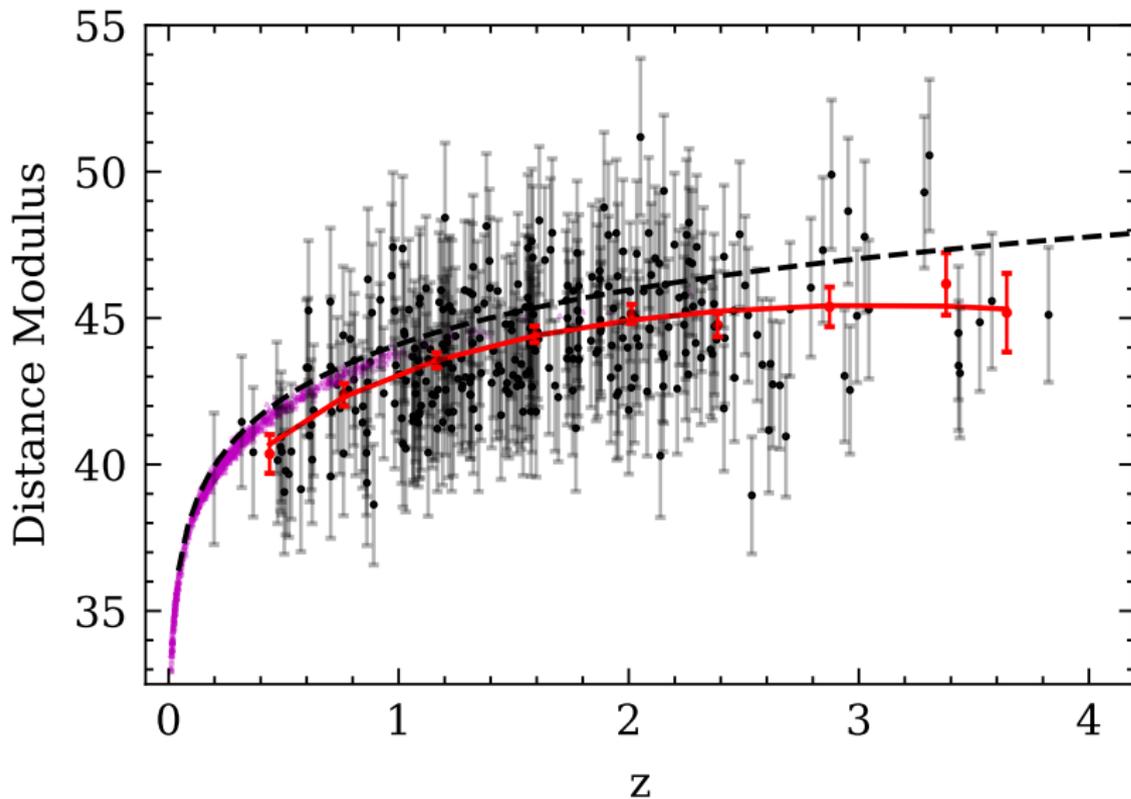
In the expanding Universe it gets modified

$$J = \frac{F}{4\pi d_{ph}^2}, \quad \text{where} \quad d_{ph} \equiv (1+z) \times L = (1+z) \int_0^z \frac{dz'}{H(z')}$$

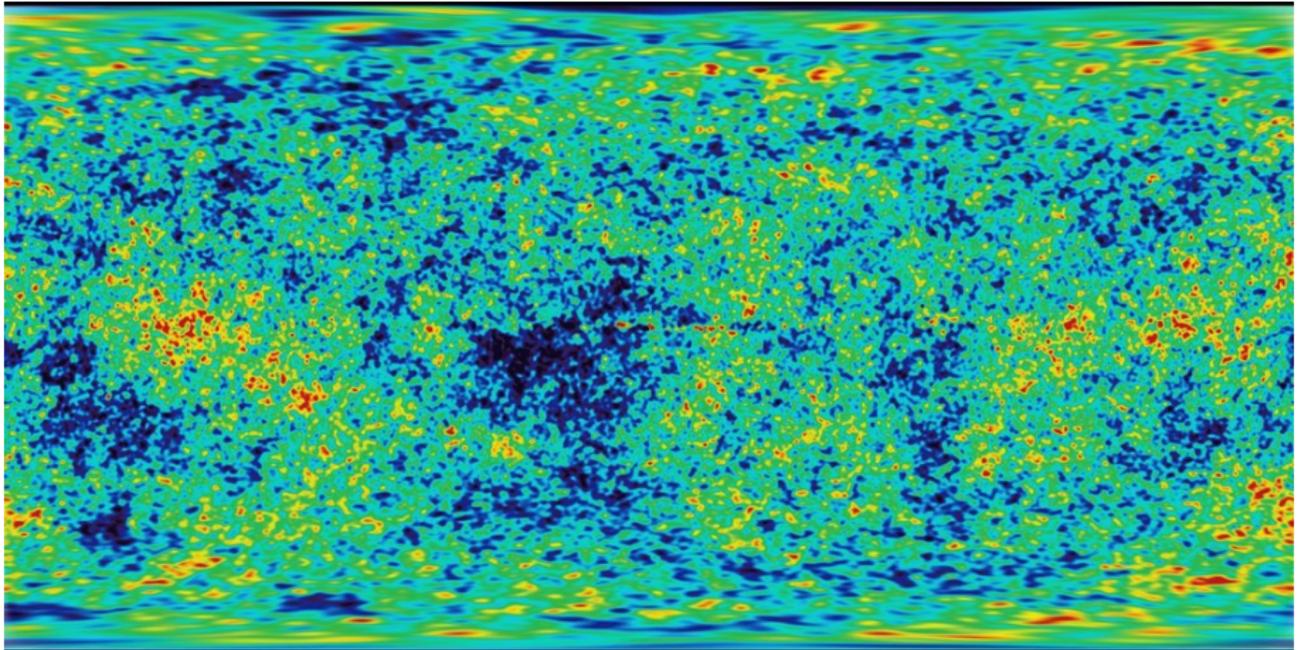


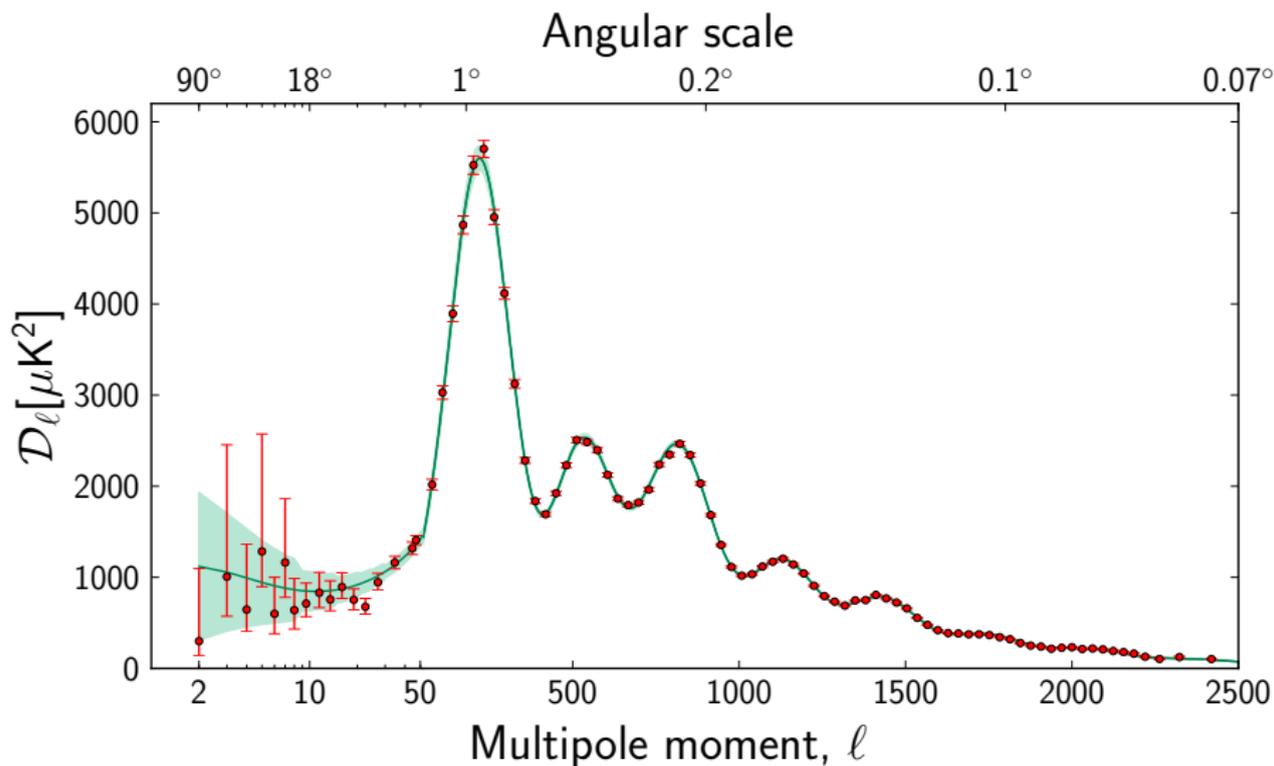
# Next step is quasars

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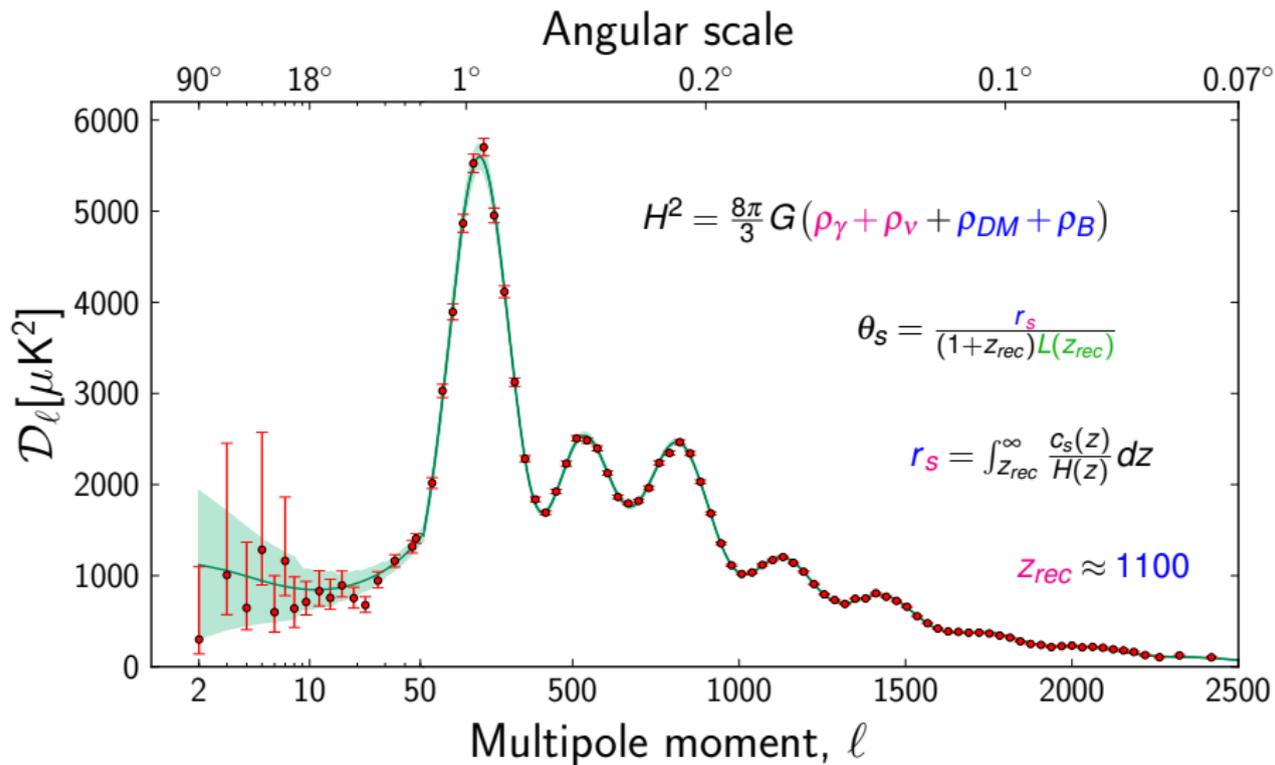


# CMB map

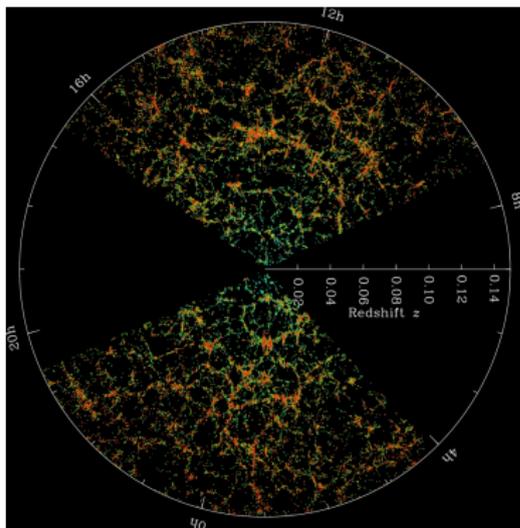


fit to  $\Lambda$ CDM model $\theta_{rec}, \Omega_{DM}h^2, \Omega_B h^2, z_{rei}, A_S, n_s$ 

# The way to infer the Hubble constant

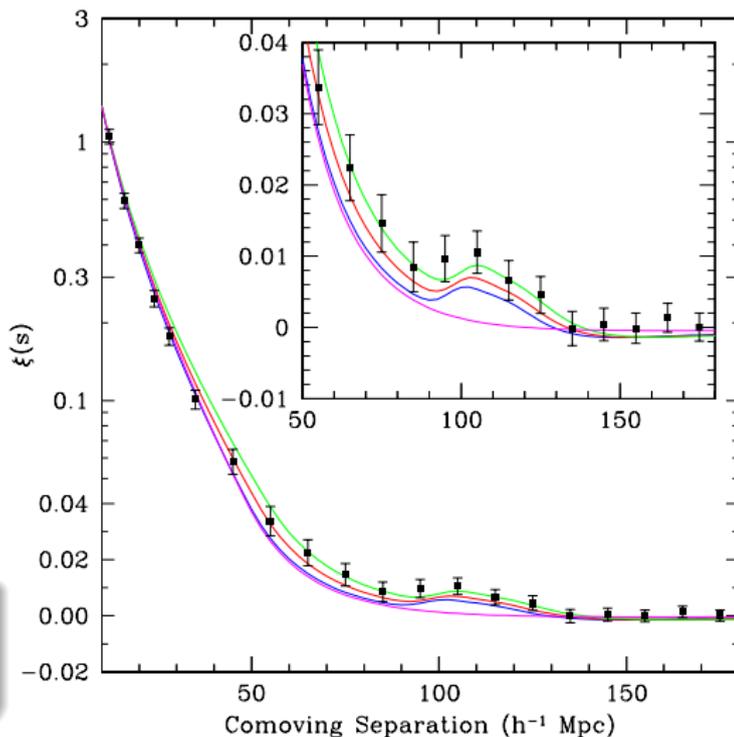


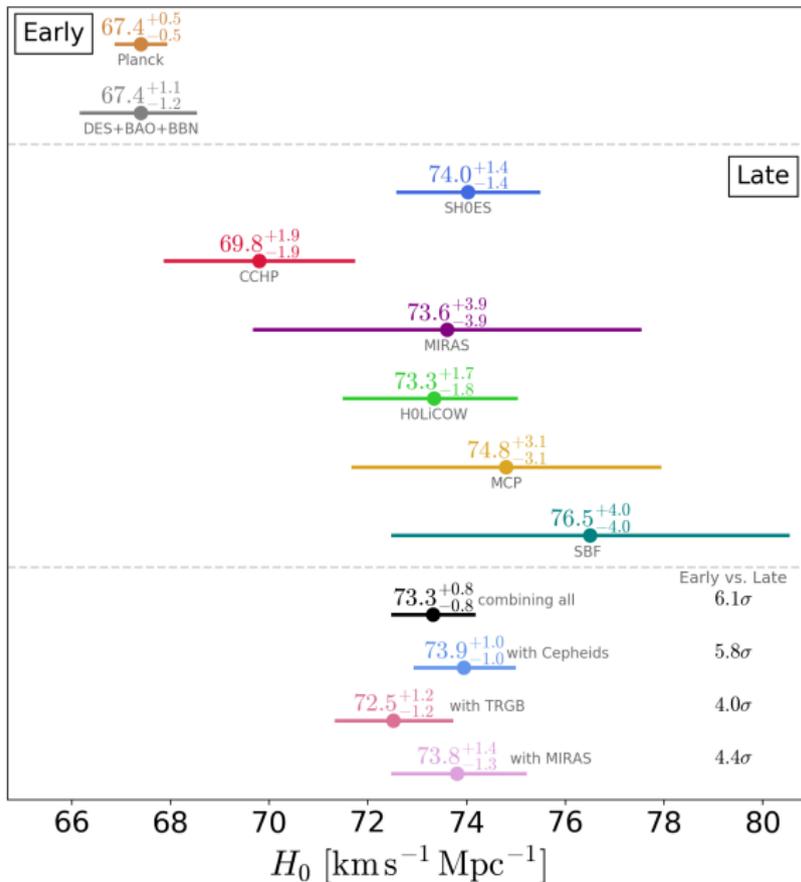
# Baryon Acoustic Oscillations (BAO), Sakharov



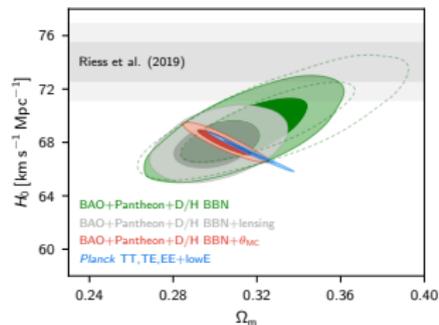
peak at  $r_s \approx 147 \text{ Mpc}$

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flat -  $\Lambda$ CDM

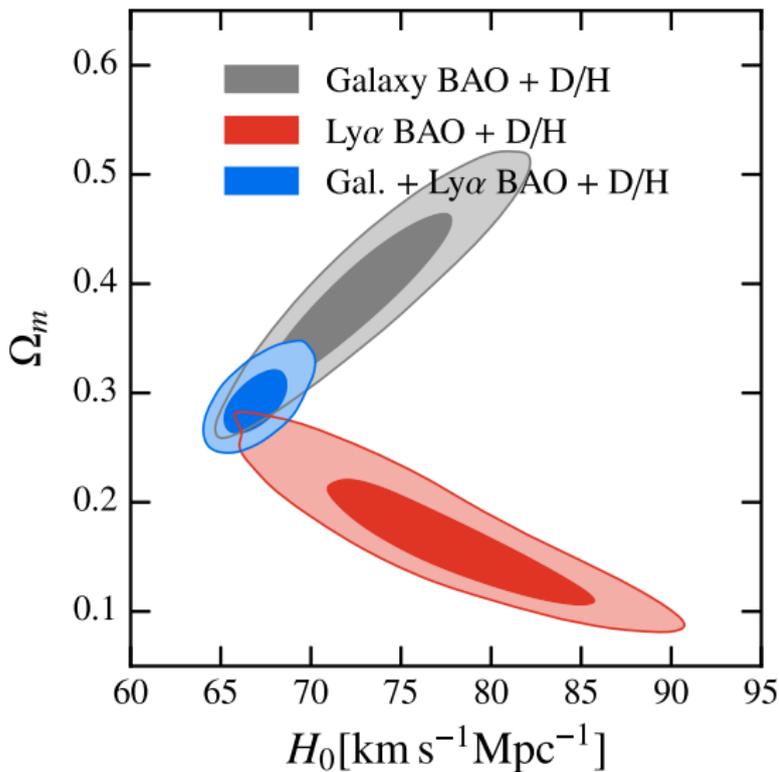
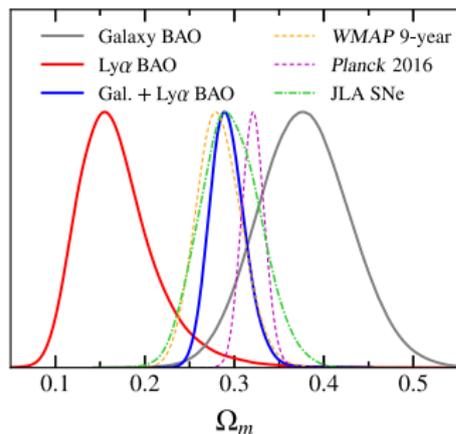
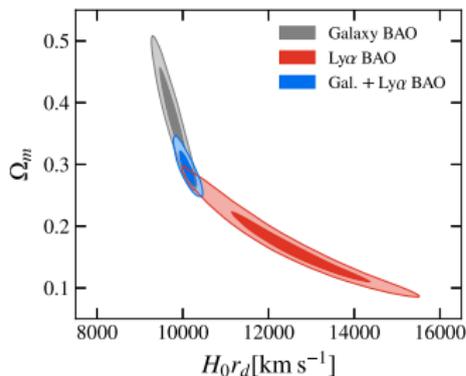
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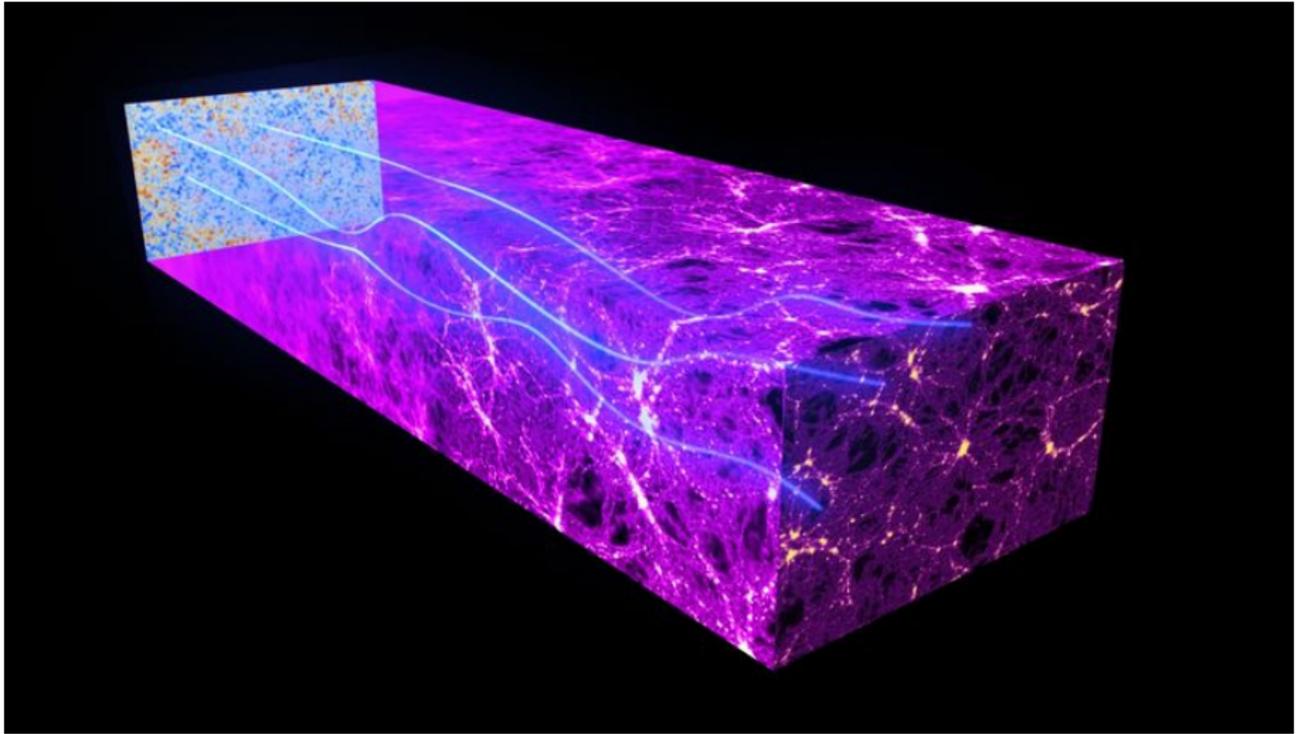
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Impact of BAO: Galaxies vs Ly- $\alpha$ 

1707.06547

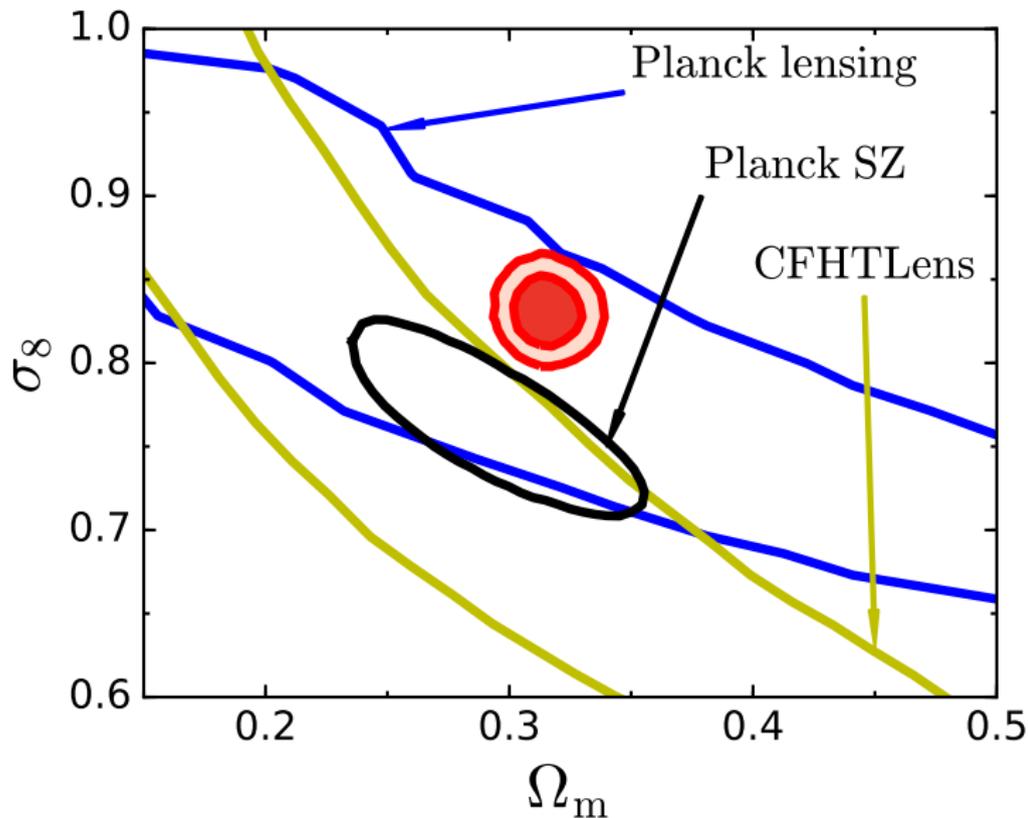


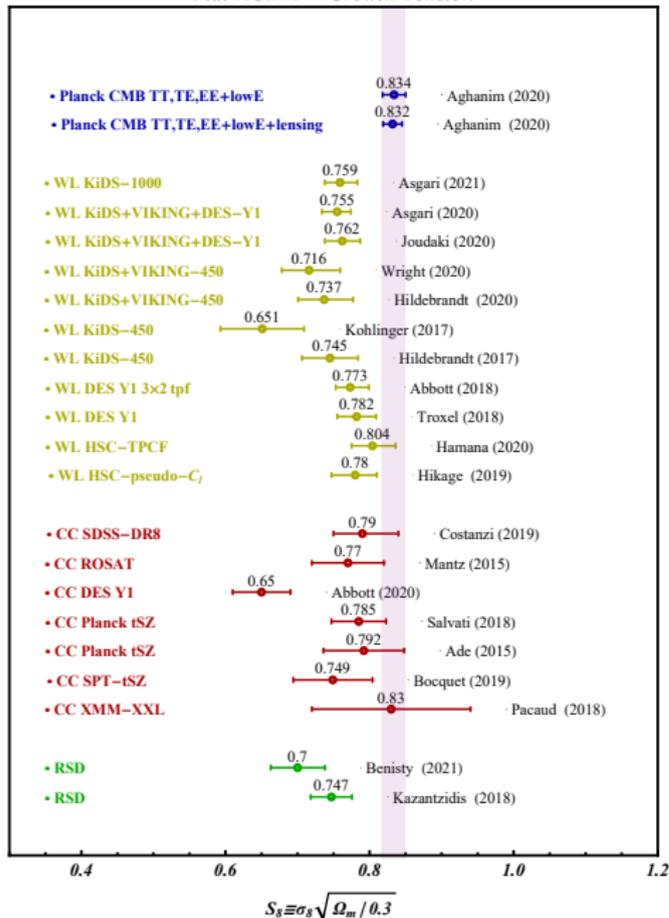
# Matter in expanding Universe



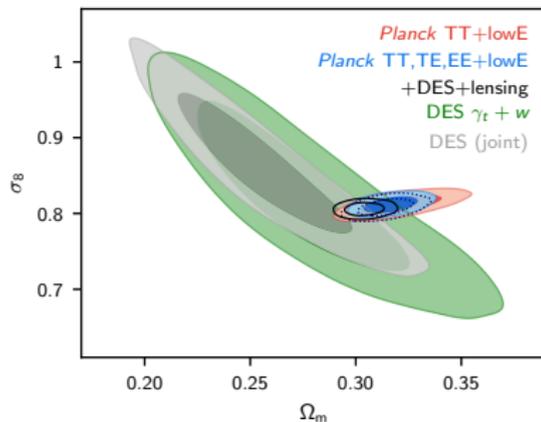
## Lensing vs clusters

1801.07348



Flat  $\Lambda$ CDM – Growth Tension

2105.05208



1807.06209

# Outline

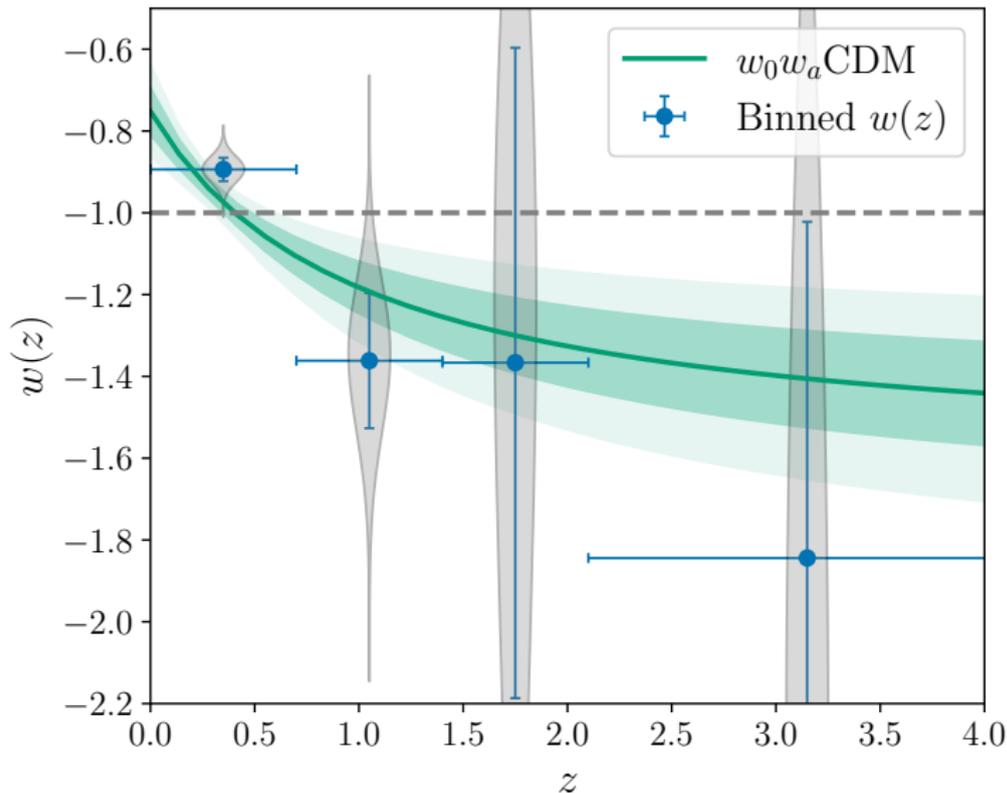
- 1 Cosmology in Brief
- 2 Old Problems in Cosmology
- 3 Crises and tensions
- 4 New Problems in Cosmology**

# New Problems in Cosmology

- DESI (DR2 BAO) observes DE evolution: the phantom crossing in the past!!
- CMB anisotropy: ACT excludes ( $2\sigma$ ) “simple” single models (including Starobinsky, Linde&Kalosh attractors etc)
- JWST&ALMA observes old galaxies in the young Universe ( $z \simeq 10$ )
- JWST observes Superheavy ( $10^6 M_{\odot}$ ) BH in the young Universe ( $z \simeq 10$ )
- LIGO&VIRGO observe GW from  $10^2 M_{\odot}$  mass scale binary BHs

Results of DESI: DE evolution  $\rho = \omega(z)\rho$ 

2503.14738



$$H^2 = \left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\right)^2 = \frac{8\pi}{3}\rho$$

$$\dot{\rho} + 3H(\rho + p) = 0$$

$\omega = -1$ :  $p = -\rho$   
gives  $\rho = \text{const}$

$\omega > -1$  gives  $\rho \searrow$

$\omega < -1$  gives  $\rho \nearrow$

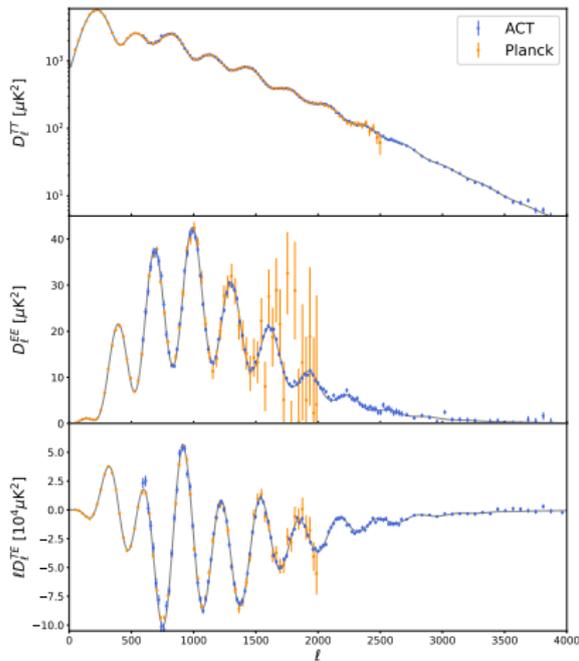
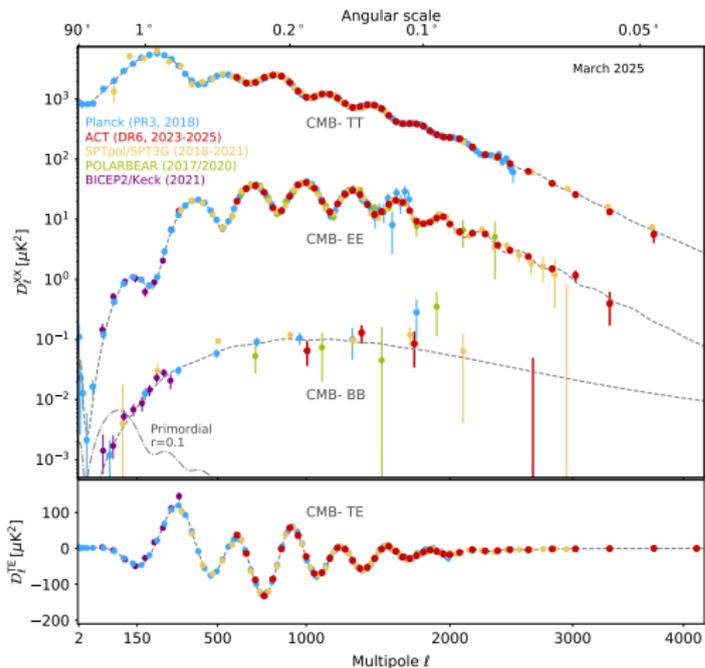
$\omega = 0$  is an  
oscillator:  
 $\langle E_k \rangle = \langle E_p \rangle$   
dark matter

$$\delta\rho = c_s^2 \delta\rho$$

$$\frac{\frac{1}{2}\dot{\phi}^2 + V(\phi)}{\frac{1}{2}\dot{\phi}^2 - V(\phi)} < -1$$

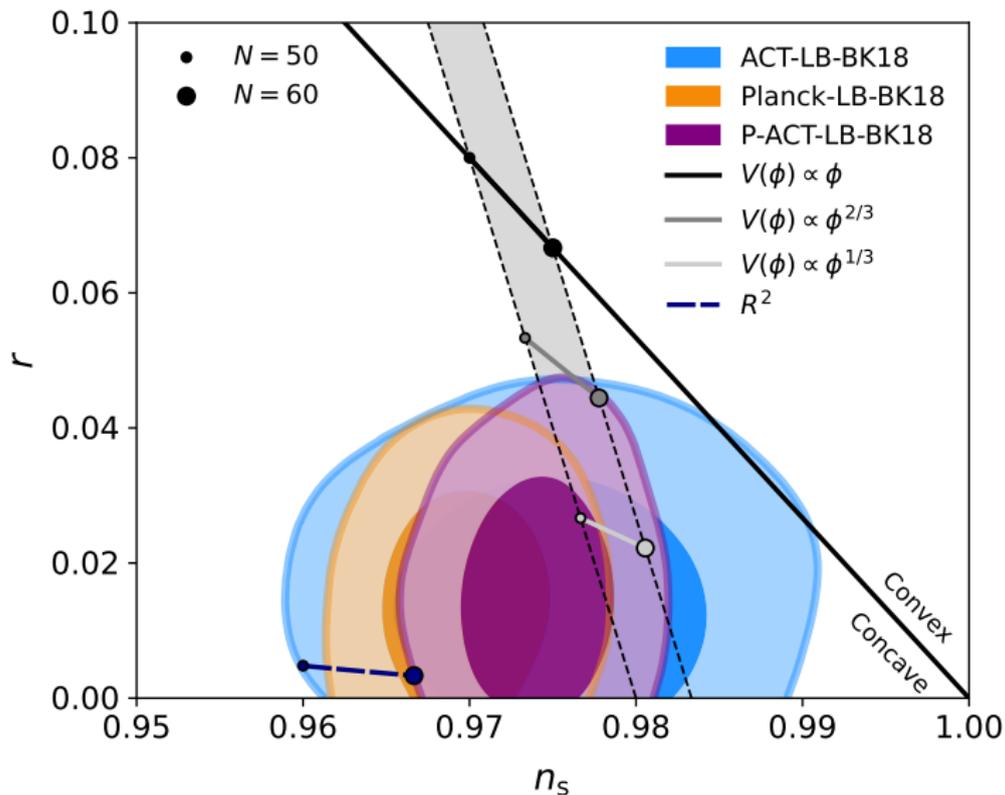
## All CMB data (ACT !!)

2503.14452



## Simple models are excluded

2503.144454



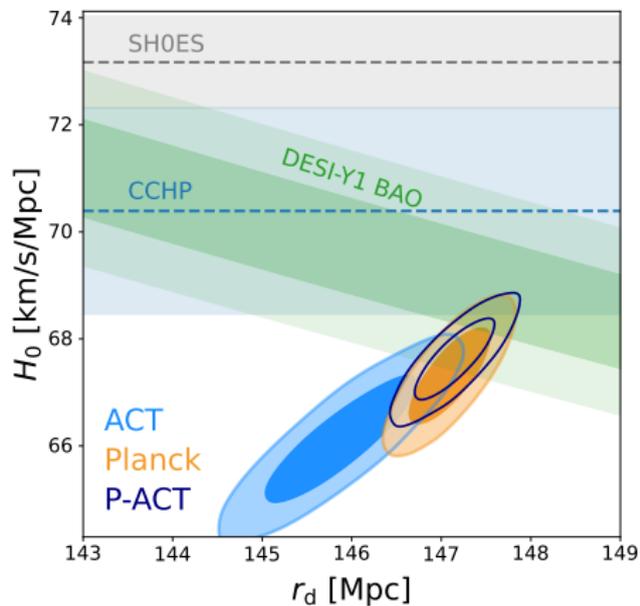
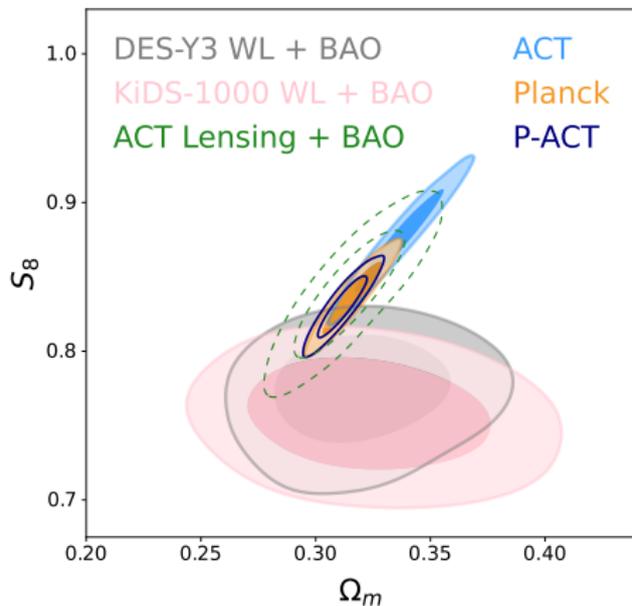
# Problems in Cosmology: Multicomponent solutions?

- Hubble crisis:  $67.4 \pm 0.5$  (Planck) vs  $73.0 \pm 1.0$  (SH0ES)
- $\sigma_8$  tension... 3-2-1  $\sigma$
- DESI (DR2 BAO) observes DE evolution: the phantom crossing in the past!!
  
- CMB anisotropy: ACT excludes ( $2\sigma$ ) “simple” single models (including Starobinsky, Linde&Kalosh attractors etc)
- JWST&ALMA observes old galaxies in the young Universe ( $z \simeq 10$ )
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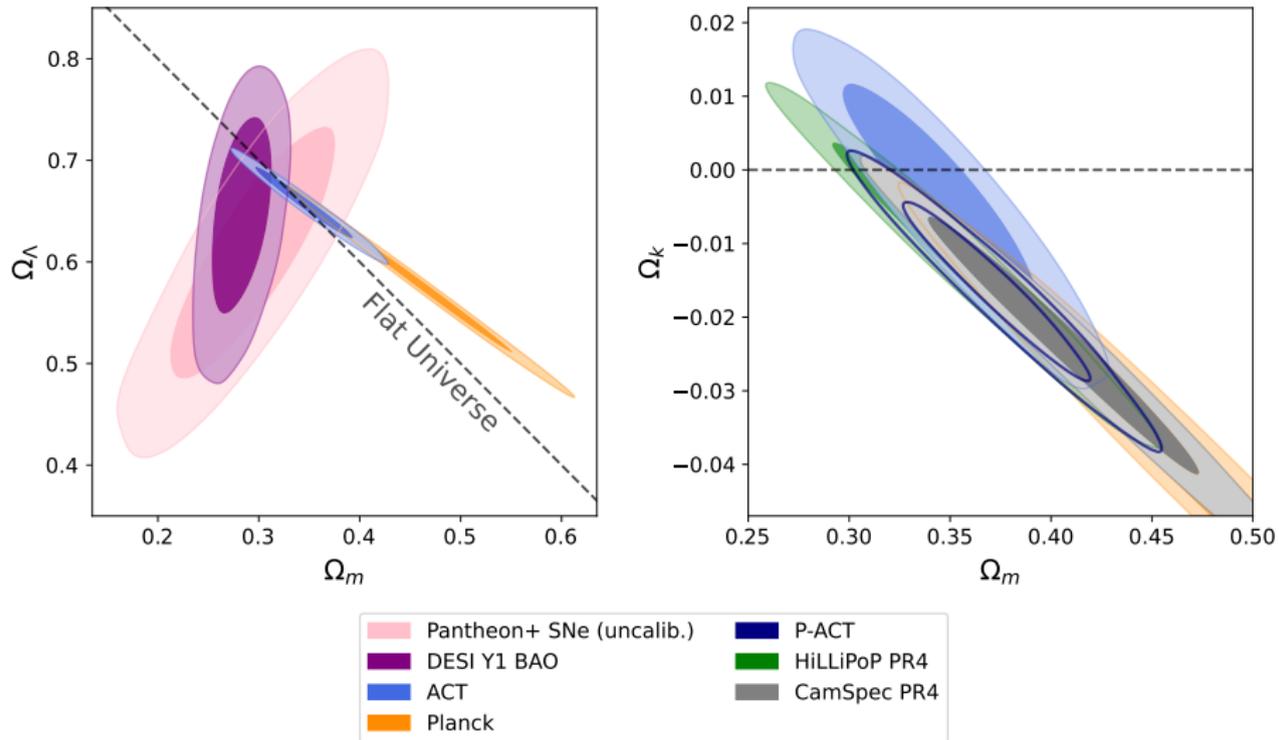
# ACT and crisis and tensions

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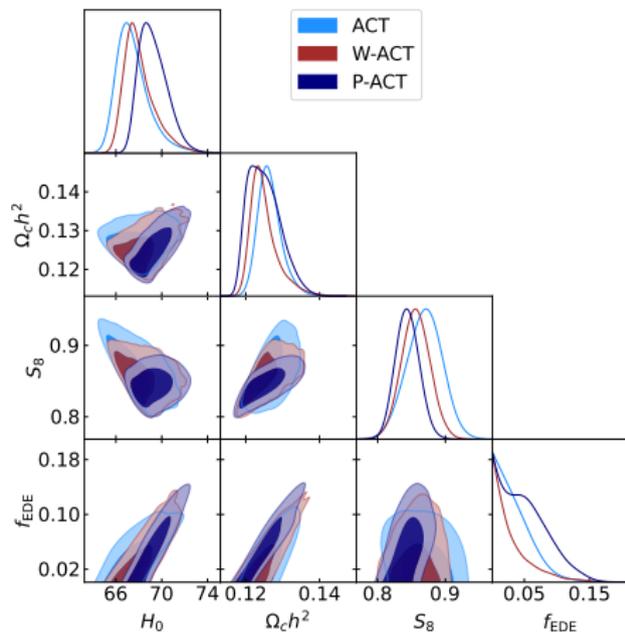
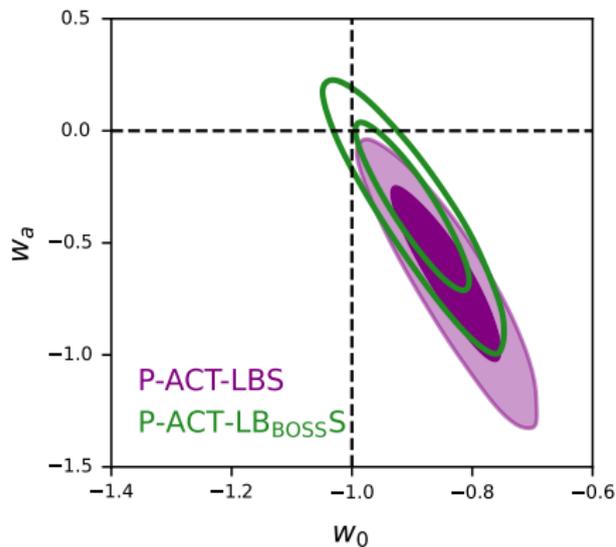
## ACT and standard cosmology

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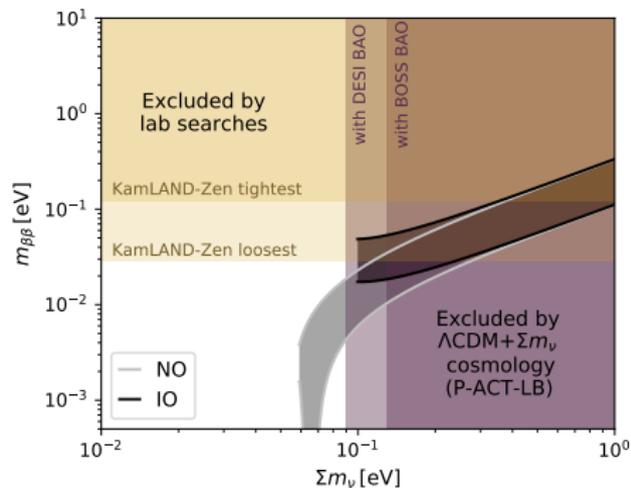
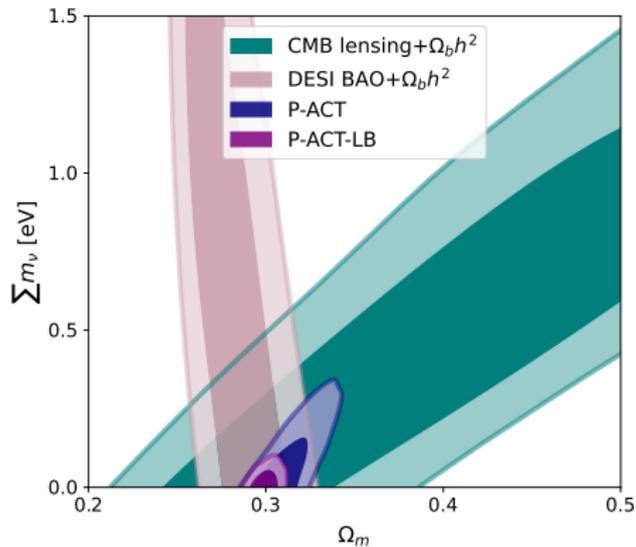
## ACT and non-standard cosmology

2503.14454



## Cosmological data and neutrino masses

2503.14454



## CMB, Lensing, BAO

2503.14454

