Welcome to...

## The Dark Side of the Universe

Prof. Scott Watson (Syracuse University)

### This talk will be available at:

### https://gswatson.expressions.syr.edu

My research would not be possible without the financial support of:





### I am a theoretical cosmologist.





### This is what our lab looks like

### **Stephen is still working hard!**

### The images we see shapes our lives in a dramatic way.



### However, most of the stuff in the universe looks like this:

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There are some stars and galaxies, maybe some aliens

### Most of the universe is invisible to us



## There are some stars, galaxies, and maybe some aliens

# But most of the universe is invisible to our eyes!



### Most of the universe is invisible to us





# And the dark side is growing!



### Questions we will address today:

• How do we know the composition of the universe?





• What is Dark Matter?



• What is Dark Energy?

• What is our final destiny?



### **Early Days of Cosmology**









### **Today's Cosmological Standard Model**





FIRST STARS 400.000.000 YEARS AFTER BIG BANG

INFLATION

6

### THE BIG BANG

COSMIC MICROWAVE BACKGROUND 400.000 YEARS AFTER

Now 13.700.000.000 YEARS AFTER BIG BANG

BIG BANG

FIRST GALAXIES 1000.000.000 YEARS AFTER BIG BANG



### Why is the sky dark at night?

### Question: Why is the night sky dark?



## The universe is expanding!

### Question: Why is the night sky dark?



The expansion implies the universe had a beginning, and so the stars are not infinitely old. The universe changes in time.

### It takes time for light to travel to us!



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Andromeda (nearest galaxy)

# It took around 14 Billion years for the light from the Big Bang to reach us!



### You can see it on your TV! (well, in the old days)



### The Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB)

### What is Microwave Radiation?

## THE ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM



As the universe cooled, so did the CMB.

#### THE ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM

# As the universe cooled, so did the CMB.





### The CMB is not exactly - 454 F



### **The CMB** (as seen by the Planck Satellite)





### Red = hotBlue = cold



# This photo is telling us the state of the universe about 13 Billion years ago!



The differences in temperature teach us about the contents back then.





Image courtesy of Wayne Hu: <u>http://background.uchicago.edu/~whu</u>



# Inflation (early accelerated expansion) provides an origin for the fluctuations





**Data today** 

#### Improved understanding of Inflation

Data as of 2009





### **CMB** Polarization and Primordial Gravity Waves





#### E-mode Polarization (DASI - 2002)







#### **CMB** Polarization and Primordial Gravity Waves

E-mode Polarization (DASI – 2002)







#### Gravity Waves can also produce B-mode Polarization





### **The Inflaton Hierarchy Problem**

with O. Ozsoy and K. Sinha, Phys. Rev. D91 (2015)



### What happened next?



# Using theory and experiments we can compare the universe then to the universe now!







Observing galaxies teaches us about how they formed and what was around at that time.





### We make these observations beyond only visible light!


#### Different ingredients cook differently.













#### **Different ingredients cook differently.**





#### **Different ingredients give us different universes!**



We learn from these observations the ingredients of the universe 14 Billion years ago.







CMB pic (400,000 years)

#### Most of the Universe had to be Dark Matter (No marbles, sorry!)

## After 14 Billion years of cooking, the universe has changed!







After 14 Billion years of cooking, the universe has changed!







Contents of the Universe Today

#### Questions we will address today:

• How do we know the composition of the universe?



• What is Dark Matter?



• What is Dark Energy?

What is Dark Matter?

# Its dark and its matter





#### So far we have observed it indirectly.







#### Atoms are not fundamental

#### We probe inside the Atom using particle colliders







#### STANDARD MODEL of ELEMENTARY PARTICLES FORCES

# Many successful discoveries, but no Dark Matter yet!







#### We discovered the Higgs particle!

#### Could there be more particles?





# Supersymmetry theories suggest new particles that could be the Dark Matter



# Stay Tuned!!!!!!

#### Questions we will address today:

How do we know the composition of the universe?



• What is Dark Energy?

Thank you for coming.



## The Universe is Accelerating today! We call the stuff driving the acceleration, "<u>Dark Energy</u>"







But again, this observation is indirect.

# Einstein's legacy and Dark Energy







General Relativity

$$R_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R = 8\pi G T_{\mu\nu}$$



# General Relativity



 $\frac{1}{R_{\mu\nu}} + \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R = 8\pi G T_{\mu\nu}$ 

Curvature of Space (and time)

Energy and Matter (planets, atoms, toothbrushes)

# **General Relativity**



Curvature of Space (and time)

Energy and Matter (planets, atoms, toothbrushes)



# General Relativity



Curvature of Space (and time)

Energy and Matter (planets, atoms, toothbrushes)

# $+\Lambda g_{\mu\nu}$

This new term causes the universe to accelerate!

#### Is the Dark Energy a Cosmological Constant?

# We expect space-time to contain quantum fluctuations







#### **Inflationary Fluctuations**



#### Hawking radiation from Black Holes



Could vacuum fluctuations be causing the acceleration?



#### Could vacuum fluctuations be causing the acceleration?



# If Dark Energy is not a Cosmological Constant then what is it?

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# Dark Energy suppresses the growth of density fluctuations



Huterer et al, Snowmass report, 1309.5385

The Virgo Consortium (1996)

#### Constraints on the EFT of Cosmic Acceleration

$$ds^{2} = -(1+2\Phi) dt^{2} + a^{2} (1-2\Psi) d\vec{x}^{2}$$

 $\Phi$  Growth of Structure

 $\Phi+\Psi$  Gravitational Lensing





#### Welcome to the Metaverse



Is our universe the only one?

# String Landscape?

visualparadox.com

#### Questions we will address today:

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#### EARTH: 600 million years in the future The sun will be hot enough to cause oceans to begin to steam.
#### EARTH: 4.5 billion years in the future Oceans are gone, sun is beginning to swell...



EARTH: 5 billion years in the future Andromeda galaxy will collide with ours at 20 billion yrs.

EARTH: 100 billion years in the future Our galaxy becomes an island "super-ball" We can not see other galaxies! (due to the acceleration)





#### EARTH: 100 trillion years in the future Stars have burned out, all proofs of our cosmic history are lost! The universe goes out with a whimper...



### The future depends on the fate of Dark Energy!



## Cosmology has come a long way...





(13.7 Billion years ago)

Mostly Dark Energy now (13.7 Billion years later)

# What is our place in the Universe?



Scene from "Men in Black"



# Thank you for listening.