

# The evolution of cosmic structure

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#### COBE's near-infrared map of the whole sky



# Spiral galaxies like our own

NGC 891



# Galaxy map of the whole sky



Two Micron All Sky Survey Image Mosaic: Infrared Processing and Analysis Center/Caltech & University of Massachusetts

## "Nearby" large-scale structure



The deepest photo ever made

A 300 hour exposure with the Hubble Space Telescope

Galaxies visible at z>5when  $t < 0.1 t_{a}$ 

# The COBE satellite (1989 - 1993)

- Two instruments made maps of the whole sky in microwaves and in infrared radiation
- One instrument took a precise spectrum of the sky in microwaves



2006 Physics Nobel Prize

## Spectrum of the microwave background



- Spectrum matches a Planckian black-body to better than 1 in 10<sup>-4</sup>
- The early universe was hot, smooth and in thermal equilibrium
- No significant energy input later than ~1 month after the Big Bang

### **COBE's temperature map of the entire sky**



### **COBE's temperature map of the entire sky**



### **COBE's temperature map of the entire sky**



## Structure in the COBE map



One side of the sky is `hot', the other is`cold'
 the Earth's motion through the Cosmos V<sub>Milky Way</sub> = 600 km/s

 Radiation from hot gas and dust in our own Milky Way

• Structure in the Microwave Background itself

## Structure in the Microwave Background

- The structure lies in cosmic 'clouds',  $\sim 4 \ 10^{10}$  l-yrs away
- It reflects weak "sound" waves,  $A \sim 10^{-4}$ , in the clouds
- At the time the Universe was only 400,000 years old, and was 1,000 times smaller and 1,000 times hotter than today

#### The pattern of structure reflects

- A: The global geometry and topology of the Universe
- **B**: The constituents and thermal evolution of the Universe
- C: The process which generated the structure

# The WMAP Satellite at Lagrange-Point L2



## The WMAP of the whole CMB sky



Bennett et al 2003





		Parameter	3 Year Mean	5 Year Mean				
		$100\Omega_b h^2$	$2.229 \pm 0.073$	$2.273 \pm 0.062$				
		$\Omega_c h^2$	$0.1054 \pm 0.0078$	$0.1099 \pm 0.0062$				
		$\Omega_{\Lambda}$	$0.759 \pm 0.034$	$0.742 \pm 0.030$				
	WMAP5	$n_s$	$0.958 \pm 0.016$	$0.963^{+0.014}_{-0.015}$				
		au	$0.089 \pm 0.030$	$0.087 \pm 0.017$				
		$\Delta^2_{\mathcal{R}}$	$(2.35\pm 0.13)\times 10^{-9}$	$(2.41 \pm 0.11) \times 10^{-9}$				
		$\sigma_8$	$0.761 \pm 0.049$	$0.796 \pm 0.036$				
		$\Omega_m$	$0.241 \pm 0.034$	$0.258 \pm 0.030$				
		$\Omega_m h^2$	$0.128 \pm 0.008$	$0.1326 \pm 0.0063$				
		$H_0$	$73.2^{+3.1}_{-3.2}$	$71.9^{+2.6}_{-2.7}$				
F		$z_{\rm reion}$	$11.0\pm2.6$	$11.0 \pm 1.4$				
6000 -		$t_0$	$13.73\pm0.16$	$13.69\pm0.13$				
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## What have we learned from WMAP?

- Our Universe is flat -- its geometry is that imagined by Euclid
- Only a small fraction of it is made of ordinary matter -- about 4.5%
  there is a lot of dark, nonbaryonic matter (about 23%) (which can be "seen" through gravitational lensing)
- Most of it must be a new kind of dark energy (perhaps a cosmological constant) as also inferred from the apparently accelerating expansion
- All structure in the Universe originated as quantum zero-point fluctuations of the *vacuum*, perhaps  $10^{-30}$  s after the Big Bang!

## Everything has formed from nothing

## Gravitational lensing by a galaxy cluster

# Abell 2218 z=0.17



# Large-scale structure from weak lensing



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#### Hubble's "Law" and the expansion history



An accelerating Universe! The return of Einstein's "Eselei" or perhaps the discovery of a new form of mass/energy -- the Dark Energy.





The ESSENCE Survey Wood-Vasey et al 2007



- The SN data require an accelerated expansion today
- With large-scale structure data, they imply a flat Universe with DE
- The DE appears to behave "like" a cosmological constant,  $w \approx -1$
- The implied parameters agree with those obtained independently from the cosmic microwave background

Class	Parameter	WMAP 5-year Mean <sup>b</sup>	WMAP+BAO+SN Mean	
Primary	$100\Omega_b h^2$	$2.273 \pm 0.062$	$2.265\pm0.059$	Putting it
	$\Omega_c h^2$	$0.1099 \pm 0.0062$	$0.1143 \pm 0.0034$	all to goth or
	$\Omega_{\Lambda}$	$0.742 \pm 0.030$	$0.721 \pm 0.015$	all together
	$n_s$	$0.963^{+0.014}_{-0.015}$	$0.960^{+0.014}_{-0.013}$	
	au	$0.087 \pm 0.017$	$0.084 \pm 0.016$	
	$\Delta^2_{\mathcal{R}}(k_0^{e})$	$(2.41 \pm 0.11) \times 10^{-9}$	$(2.457^{+0.092}_{-0.093}) \times 10^{-9}$	
Derived	$\sigma_8$	$0.796 \pm 0.036$	$0.817 \pm 0.026$	_
	$H_0$	$71.9^{+2.6}_{-2.7} \text{ km/s/Mpc}$	$70.1 \pm 1.3 \text{ km/s/Mpc}$	
	$\Omega_b$	$0.0441 \pm 0.0030$	$0.0462 \pm 0.0015$	Komatsu et al 2008
	$\Omega_c$	$0.214 \pm 0.027$	$0.233 \pm 0.013$	
	$\Omega_m h^2$	$0.1326 \pm 0.0063$	$0.1369 \pm 0.0037$	
	$z_{reion}^{f}$	$11.0 \pm 1.4$	$10.8 \pm 1.4$	
	$t_0{}^g$	$13.69 \pm 0.13 \text{ Gyr}$	$13.73 \pm 0.12 \text{ Gyr}$	





## "Explanations" for Dark Energy

- A cosmological constant (i.e. another constant of gravity)
- Dynamical Dark Energy, e.g. quintessence
- A result of "leakage" from higher dimensions
- A reflection of the need to extend/modify General Relativity
- A consequence of the nonlinear behaviour of GR
- The result of systematics in the SN data

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## **Evolving the Universe in a computer**



- Follow the matter in an expanding cubic region
- Start 400,000 years after the Big Bang
- Match initial conditions to the observed Microwave Background
- Calculate evolution forward to the present day

### Views of the dark matter in a Virtual Universe

• The growth of dark matter structures in a thin slice

- A zoom from the whole visible Universe into a galaxy cluster
- A flight through the dark matter distribution
- The assembly of the Milky Way's halo

### Processes shaping the visible Universe

- Shock-heating, radiative cooling and gravitational condensation of gas in DM potential wells
- Star formation and stellar evolution
- Energetic and chemical feedback from star death/supernovae
- Black hole formation and feedback from Active Galactic Nuclei
- Collisions and merging of galaxies
- Condensation and distribution of dust



z = 0 Galaxy Light



## **Galaxy autocorrelation function**

Springel et al 2005



For such a large simulation the purely statistical error bars are negligible even for the galaxies



## Large-scale structure at high redshift

Springel, Frenk & White 2006

Large-scale structure in the galaxy distribution evolves very little with redshift

It is as strong at z=8.5 as at z=0

## A bright quasar and its surroundings at 1 billion years

One of the most massive dark matter clumps, containing one of the most massive galaxies and most massive black holes.



# The quasar's descendant and its surroundings today, at t = 13.7 billion years

One of the most massive galaxy clusters. The quasar's descendant is part of the central massive galaxy of the cluster.



## Formation of the "first"star in the Universe



Yoshida et al 2006

- ΛCDM cosmology
- <sub>z</sub> = 19
- Coherent collapse of "primordial" gas in a ~10<sup>6</sup> M<sub>o</sub> halo
- Formation of a single star of  $\sim 60 100 \text{ M}_{\odot}$

•Objects that reionized the Universe?

## Goals for "late-time" structure formation studies

- Linking the linear early Universe with today's nonlinear world
- Understanding the (coupled) formation and evolution of the first nonlinear objects of galaxies, stars and planets of the central black holes in galaxies of element abundances of large-scale structure
- Clarifying whether visible cosmic structures retain information about the nature of Dark Matter, Dark Energy or the process which originally generated structure