COSMIC ARCHAEOLOGY

Joseph Silk Dec 2nd 2015

Edgar Allen Poe 1809-1849



Heinrich Olbers 1758-1840



OLBERS' PARADOX: why is the night sky so dark?

Were the succession of stars endless, then the background of the sky would present us a uniform luminosity, like that displayed by the Galaxy – since there could be absolutely no point, in all that background, at which would not exist a star. The only mode, therefore, in which, under such a state of affairs, we could comprehend the voids which our telescopes find in innumerable directions, would be by supposing the distance of the invisible background so immense that no ray from it has yet been able to reach us at all.

Thomas Digges 1546-1595







Hubble eXtreme Deep Field (XDF) Hubble Space Telescope • ACS/WFC • WFC3/IR

NASA and ESA

STScl-PRC12-37

The local universe



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

2MASS infrared galaxy survey: 10⁶ galaxies

Why the sky is dark at night

Olbers' Paradox

Divide universe into shells of galaxies Each shell contributes according to its area ($\sim r^2$) and its contribution decreases as $1/r^2$

So each shell contributes equally

There is no limit if the universe is infinite

Resolution:

The universe has a finite age, 13.7 billion years otherwise there would be too many stars

RELICS FROM THE ORIGIN OF SPACE-TIME

the fundamental forces of nature

THE BEGINNING



RELICS FROM 10⁻³⁶ second AFTER THE BIG BANG

The distant universe



The distant universe (ctd)



Planck satellite: cosmic microwave background fluctuations at 1 part in 10⁵

• Age of the universe from the expansion



- Age of the universe from the expansion
- Age from radioactive chemistry

"NEW-BORN YOUNG OLD 238 decays with half life 4×10 % radiogenic isotope of lead only formed by this decay process Th232 -> Pb208 13.9×1044 also U235 -> Pb207 0.7×10 yr

ORIGIN OF THE LIGHT ELEMENTS

| H | | | в | Big Band | a | L | Larg | ge rs | \$ r | Supe | er- ae | | | | | | В |
|----------|----|--|------------|-------------|------------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Li | Be | | | Cosr | nic | | Sma | all | | Man | - | Bc | C S L | N s L | O S L | F | Ne s L |
| Na | Mg | c rays s stars m made | | | | | | | | | AI s L | Si s L | PL | S L | CI | Ar | |
| K | Ca | SC | Ti s L | V s L | Cr L | Mn | Fe s L | Co \$ | Ni | Cu | Zn L | Ga \$ | Ge \$ | As | Se \$ | Br | Kr |
| Rb \$ | Sr | Y | Zr | Nb | Mo \$ L | TCL | Ru s L | Rh \$ | Pd s L | Ag \$ L | Cd s L | In \$ L | Sn \$ L | Sb \$ | Te \$ | \$ | Xe |
| Cs \$ | Ba | ~ | Hf \$ L | Ta s L | W \$ L | Re \$ | Os \$ | lr s | Pt \$ | Au \$ | Hg \$ L | TI s L | Pb \$ | Bi | Po | At \$ | Rn \$ |
| Fr | Ra | 9 | | 6 | Dr | Dv | Ha | Er | Tm | Vh | 1 | | | | | | |
| 3 | | | La | L | \$ L | \$ L | \$ L | \$ L | s s | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | S S | \$ | \$ L | s s |
| | | | Ac \$ | Th | Pa | U \$ | Np \$ | Pu | Am | Cm M | Bk M | Cf M | Es | Fm | Md | No | Lr |

ROBERT HERMAN, GEORGE GAMOW, RA PH AI PHER

predicted origin of light elements & fossil radiation in 1949

The Origin of Chemical Elements

R. A. ALPHER* Applied Physics Laboratory, The Johns Hopkins University, Silver Spring, Maryland

AND

H. BETHE Cornell University, Ithaca, New York

AND

G. GAMOW The George Washington University, Washington, D. C. February 18, 1948



AUCUST 1950

What happened to plan in the faut and they

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by Compt Contro

predicted origin of light elements & fossil radiation in 1949





ORIGIN OF THE HEAVY ELEMENTS

We are the ashes of stars



Margaret Burbidge

Geoff Burbidge

Fred Hoyle

Willy Fowler

Margaret Burbidge





Willy Fowler

Fred Hoyle

Relic of an exploding star recorded by Chinese astronomers in 1054



CIRCULATION OF THE DEBRIS

CIRCULATION OF THE DEBRIS

GALACTIC DISRUPTION

A computer simulation of a disrupted infalling dwarf galaxy

Bonnell 2015

A computer simulation

22

Cooper et al 2010

A nearby galaxy

Martinez-Delgado et al 2008

THE FIELD OF STREAMS

ULTRAFAINT DWARF GALAXIES

A gamery of SDSS uwart galaxies

GALAXY COLLISIONS

Interacting Galaxies Arp 273

C 4938-4939 • Antennae Calaxies

some typical galaxies

Searching for evidence of a collision between galaxies...its like a crime scene

RADIO FOSSILS

The sausage cluster

1 Mpc

The toothbrush cluster

0.075

5.00, 100

Мрс

0.100

GAMMA RAY FOSSIL CLOSE TO HOME

GAMMA RAY FOSSIL CLOSE TO HOME

gamma ray sources as seen by the FERMI satellite

The diffuse gamma ray background

Codity MACA/DOC/Earmil AT/D Einkhoiner

A GIGANTIC EXPLOSION OCCURRED A MILLION YEARS AGO AT THE CENTRE OF THE MILKY WAY

How we do cosmology

By looking far away, into the remote past By searching for nearby fossils

How we do cosmology

- By looking far away, into the remote past By searching for nearby fossils
 - The questions we pose Where do we come from? What is the universe made of? Where are we going?

How we do cosmology

- By looking far away, into the remote past By searching for nearby fossils
 - The questions we pose Where do we come from? What is the universe made of? Where are we going? We are still searching...