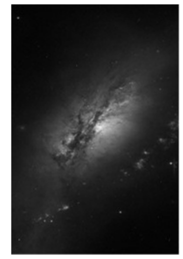
Physics of Galaxies 2018
Lecture 1: Introduction

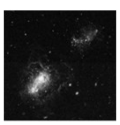
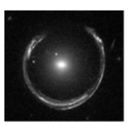

Outline for today I

- Formal Stuff:
  - Course literature
  - Examination
  - Schedule
- Course outline



Outline for today II

- What is a Galaxy?
- Historical Background
- Galaxy Classification
- The Cosmological Framework


Teacher

- Erik Zackrisson
  - Email: erik.zackrisson@physics.uu.se
  - Room 63103
    In astronomy corridor on floor 3 in house 6 – just ring the bell to get in!

Course homepage

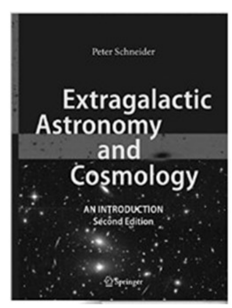
- Link:
  www.astro.uu.se/~ez/kurs/Galaxies18.html

Course literature

Extragalactic Astronomy and Cosmology
Peter Schneider
2014/2015, Springer
Hardback:
ISBN 978-3-642-54082-0
eBook:
ISBN 978-3-642-54083-7

Around 700 SEK

Note: E-version available from UU library



Intermission: What are you looking at?

Examination

- Three exercise sessions
- Hand-in exercises
- Four seminars
- One computer/laboratory exercise
- Written essay (minimum 3 pages) + oral presentation (10 minutes)

But no written test!

Exercise sessions

- **Session 1:** April 19, 15-17
- **Session 2:** May 8, 13-15
- **Session 3:** May 24, 13-15
- **Objective:** Solve problems *together* in class

Exercise sessions

- **Preparation:**
  - Bring pen, paper, calculator/computer, preferably textbook
  - Session I: No preparation required
  - Session II/III: Study exercises and solutions posted on course homepage
- **Grade:** Pass/Fail

  No-show or not actively participating → Need to complete more hand-in exercises

Exercise session I: Fermi problems

Objective: Gain skill in making back-of-the-envelope calculations

Examples:

- How much gold is there in the Milky Way?
- How many galaxies are there in the Observable Universe?

Compete in teams - win marvelous prizes!

Exercises and solutions on the course homepage

Make sure you understand the solutions before coming to exercise session II & III!

The problems we solve in class will be similar.

2. *Brightness and colours of unresolved stellar systems.* Two stars in a close binary system have $m_B = 18.2$ and $m_B = 19.6$, respectively. The first star has a colour $B-V = -0.2$ and the second $B-V = 0.5$. If this system is observed in a telescope which cannot resolve the two components, what would the integrated m_B and $(B-V)$ of this object be?

Solution: At large distances, it becomes increasingly difficult to study the individual stars of stellar populations. There are basically two reasons for this:

1. The flux sensitivity of your telescope may be insufficient to allow the detection of a single, very distant star, whereas the combined light from large numbers of stars at the same distance may push them above the detection limit
2. Limitations in angular resolution of your telescope may blend the light from nearby stars, thereby making distant stellar populations appear as single objects.

Much of contemporary extragalactic astronomy is therefore devoted to the study of the *integrated* light from large numbers of stars. To illustrate this point, Figure. 1 shows the appearance of stellar populations at increasing distances, when observed with current telescopes.

Figure 1: Resolved versus unresolved stellar populations. **a)** A nearby star cluster (the Pleiades, distance 440 ly) in which individual stars can be resolved; **b)** a Milky Way globular cluster (47

Hand-in exercises

- 3 exercises downloadable from the course homepage
- Submit by email **Deadline:** June 14
- **Grade:** Fail, 3, 4, 5
- Collaboration OK, but please don't turn in identical solutions!

Physics of Galaxies
Hand-in exercises 2018

Instructions: These are the three problems you need to solve to pass the course if you have already actively participated in the three exercise sessions. In case you failed to participate in either of these, you should contact the teacher for additional problems to solve in order to pass the course. Hand-written solutions are quite acceptable, but submission via email is highly encouraged (and will allow for a swifter evaluation), so please consider scanning your solutions (or taking photos of them) and submitting them in electronic format. The deadline for handing in solutions to these problems is **June 14, 2018**.

1. *Cosmic star formation.* How many stars are there in the observable Universe? Make an order-of-magnitude estimate of this, quantify the uncertainty and make a top-3 list of the most important shortcomings/simplifications that are likely to affect your estimate (and clearly explain why this is so).

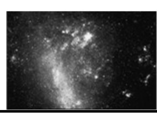
2. *Population synthesis.* Use the table of stellar parameters below to generate a simple population synthesis model. Assume that the stellar population of your model galaxy only consists of three types of stars (O5, A0 and M0), all formed at the same time, and that the relative number of stars of each type is given by the Salpeter IMF.
a) What is the (B-V) colour and M/L_V ratio of this population at an age of 1 Myr?
b) Assuming that the population has aged sufficiently for all the O stars to die (and no longer contribute to the light emitted), what is the (B-V) colour and the M/L_V ratio (where M is defined as $M = M_{stars} + M_{gas} + M_{remnants}$)?

Note: If you didn't actively participate in the exercise sessions, you need to hand in additional exercises – please contact me if this situation should arise

Intermission: What are you looking at?

Literature exercise

- Choose subject individually
- Find suitable articles
  - Published papers (ADS abstract service)
    http://adsabs.harvard.edu/abstract_service.html
    Preprints:
    http://www.arxiv.org
- Written report (≥ 3 pages), deadline May 25
  - **Grade:** Fail, 3, 4, 5
- Oral presentation (≈ 10 minutes), May 31
  - **Grade:** Fail, 3, 4, 5

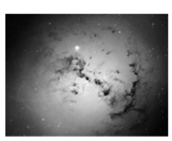



Required format of written report

- Abstract
- Introduction
- Main text (with references)
- Reference list
  - Should be mostly research or review papers
  - Please avoid using the textbook, popular science papers or homepages as references
    Exception: Links to project pages of upcoming telescopes, surveys etc. may be necessary if there is no proper paper out yet

Suggested topics

- The first stars
- 21 cm cosmology
- Origin of supermassive black holes
- Ultrafaint dwarfs
- Extragalactic background radiation
- Galactic archeology
- Magnetic fields in galaxies
- Conditions for life on galactic scales
- Science cases of future telescopes (pick one!):
  - James Webb Space Telescope
  - The Extremely Large Telescope
  - Square Kilometer Array




But please feel free to suggest other topics!

Seminars

- Small "simulations" of what working as a scientist is really like
- Four seminars:
  - 1. May 9, 10-13 or 13-16 (two groups)
  - 2. May 17, 15-17
  - 3. May 22, 13-15
  - 4. May 29, 13-15
    (two groups + extra time slot may be needed)
- Instructions available from course homepage

Seminars

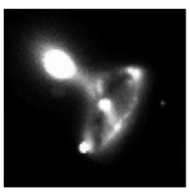
- Purpose:
  - Practice finding and reading relevant research papers
  - Practice critical thinking
  - Practice analyzing astronomical data
  - Practice scientific creativity
  - Practice communication skills
  - Practice working in a team
- What if you cannot attend the seminars?
  - Have to hand in written report instead (→ more work!)

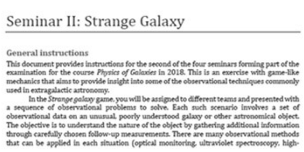
Seminar I: Virtual Reality Exercise

- **Grade:** Pass/fail
- Details pending… Stay tuned!

Seminar II: Strange galaxy

- **Grade:** Pass/fail
- Puzzle-solving game aiming to teach you about observational techniques in extragalactic astronomy
- Preparation: Read section 1.3-1.4 in textbook





Seminar II: Strange Galaxy

General instructions

This document provides instructions for the second of the four seminars forming part of the examination for the course *Physics of Galaxies* in 2018. This is an exercise with game-like mechanics that aims to provide insight into some of the observational techniques commonly used in extragalactic astronomy.

In the *Strange galaxy* game, you will be assigned to different teams and presented with a sequence of observational problems to solve. Each such scenario involves a set of observational data on an unusual, poorly understood galaxy or other astronomical object. The objective is to understand the nature of the object by gathering additional information through carefully chosen follow-up measurements. There are many observational methods that can be applied in each situation (optical monitoring, ultraviolet spectroscopy, high-

Seminar III: An amazing discovery / Crackpot?

- **Grade:** Pass/fail
- Role-playing exercise
- Preparation:
  - Study the two scenarios in the instructions
  - Read the material available in the student portal

Seminar III: An amazing discovery / Crackpot?

General instructions

This document provides instructions for the third of the four seminars forming part of the examination for the course *Physics of Galaxies* in 2018. This is a role-playing exercise that will cast you into situations that scientists (and especially astronomers) frequently encounter, yet in general tend to be rather poorly prepared for.

The point of this exercise is to:

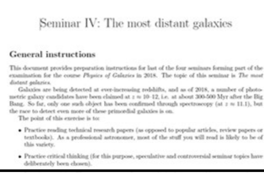
- Practice reading research papers, press releases and other scientific texts in the field of extragalactic astronomy
- Practice critical thinking
- Practice interacting with the public and with journalists in a professional manner, and also to get some feeling for what it may feel like to be on the other side of this conversation.

This seminar features two separate role-playing scenarios – *An amazing discovery* and *Crackpot?* – with each scenario revolving around the meeting of two different characters. Each scenario will take about one hour to enact, including some time to get into character at the start of each scenario and some time for feedback and discussions afterwards.

At the start of each scenario, all students will be randomly assigned into pairs and given one of the two roles available. Since you won't know beforehand which role you'll get to play, you

Seminar IV: The most distant galaxies

- **Grade:** Fail, 3, 4, 5
- Preparation:
  - Read suggested papers + others
  - Answer questions + analyze dataset
  - Prepare to present answers and results in class



Seminar IV: The most distant galaxies

General instructions

This document provides preparation instructions for last of the four seminars forming part of the examination for the course *Physics of Galaxies* in 2018. The topic of this seminar is *The most distant galaxies*.

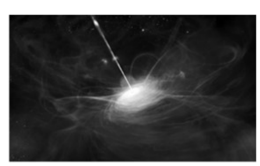
Galaxies are being detected at ever-increasing redshifts, and as of 2018, a number of photometric galaxy candidates have been claimed at $z \approx 10$-12, i.e. at about 300-500 Myr after the Big Bang. So far, only one such object has been confirmed through spectroscopy (at $z \approx 11.1$), but the race to detect even more of these primordial galaxies is on.

The point of this exercise is to:

- Practice reading technical research papers (as opposed to popular articles, review papers or textbooks). As a professional astronomer, most of the stuff you will read is likely to be of this variety.
- Practice critical thinking (for this purpose, speculative and controversial seminar topics have deliberately been chosen).

Database exercise ("lab")

- Introduction to exercise in lecture 6
- Complete individually and hand in report no later than June 7
- **Grade:** Fail, 3, 4, 5



Intermission: What are you looking at?

Schedule I

Complete schedule on course homepage!

- 8 Lectures:
  - March 22, 13—15
  - March 27, 13—15
  - April 10, 15—17
  - April 12, 15—17
  - April 17, 13-15
  - April 24, 13—15 ← **Includes introduction to database exercise**
  - April 26, 13—15
  - May 3, 13—15
- 3 Exercise sessions:
  - April 19, 15—17
  - May 8, 13—15
  - May 24, 13—15

Schedule II

- Oral presentations of literature exercises
  - May 31, 13—15 + additional date?

Grades

- Final grade will be the mean grade from:
  - Seminar 4
  - Written report on literature exercise
  - Oral presentation of literature exercise
  - Report from database exercise
  - Hand-in exercises
- No final grade will be computed until you have a reached a passing grade (3 or higher) for each of these
- Please note that you also need a passing grade from the three exercise sessions and seminar 1, 2 & 3 to complete the course

Grades – example

1) Seminar 4
   Grade: 4
2) Written report on literature exercise
   Grade: 4
3) Oral presentation on literature exercise
   Grade: 3
4) Report on computer exercise
   Grade: 5
5) Hand-in exercises
   Grade: 3

Calculate mean grade: (4+ 4+ 3 + 5 +3) /5 = 3.8 ≈ 4
Final grade: 4:

How much time will I have to spend on this course?

My estimates:

- Attending lectures, exercise sessions, seminars etc. ≈ 0.75 week
- Reading the textbook ≈ 1.25 weeks
- Preparing for exercise sessions ≈ 0.5 week
- Preparing for seminars (mostly seminar IV) ≈ 1 week
- Computer exercise ≈ 1 week
- Literature exercise (written report + oral presentation) ≈ 1.5 weeks
- Hand-in problems ≈ 0.5 week

Sum: 6.5 weeks, i.e. ≈ 10 hp

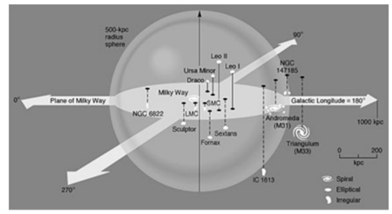
Course Outline

- Lecture 1:
  - Introduction
  - Historical Background
  - Galaxy Classification
  - The Cosmological Framework



Course Outline

- Lecture 2:
  - The Astronomical Distance Scale
  - The Milky Way
  - The Local Group



Course Outline

- Lecture 3:
  - Dark matter in galaxies
  - The dark halo
  - Subhalos
  - Mass-to-light ratios
  - Baryon fractions

Course Outline

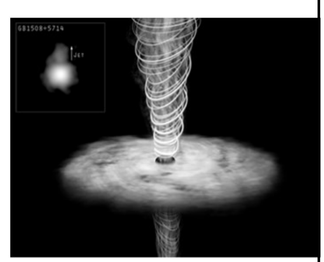
- Lecture 4:
  - Disk galaxies
  - Elliptical galaxies

Course Outline

- Lecture 5:
  - Star formation
  - Population synthesis
  - Galaxy spectra
  - The interstellar medium
  - The cosmic star formation history

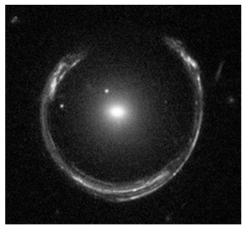
Course Outline

- Lecture 6:
  - Black holes
  - Active galaxies:
    - Quasars
    - Blazars
    - Seyfert Galaxies
    - Radio Galaxies
  - Introduction to database exercise



Course Outline

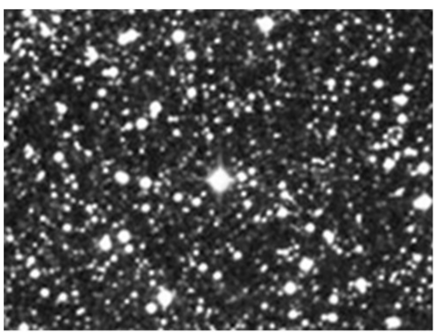
- Lecture 7:
  - Galaxy groups
  - Galaxy clusters
  - Gravitational lensing



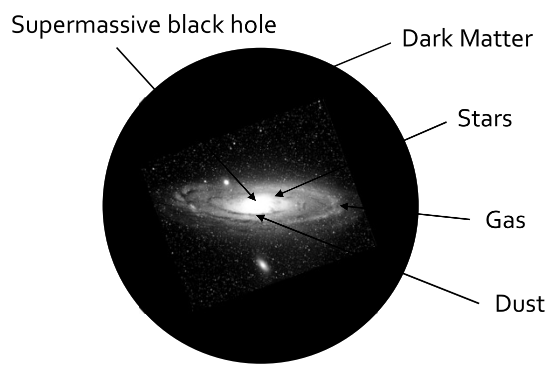
Course Outline

- Lecture 8:
  - The high-redshift Universe
  - Cosmic reionization
  - The first stars and galaxies

Intermission: What are you looking at?

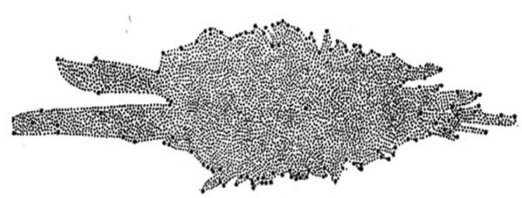


The Anatomy of Galaxies



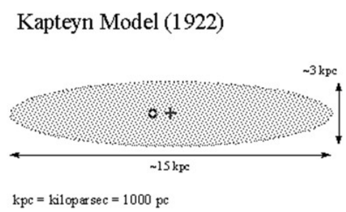
Historical Background: The Milky Way

Historical Background: The Milky Way



- The "Herschel Universe" (late 1700s): Sun almost in the centre of Milky way
- Dust obscuration towards centre of the Milky Way (left side of figure) not accounted for

Historical Background: The Milky Way

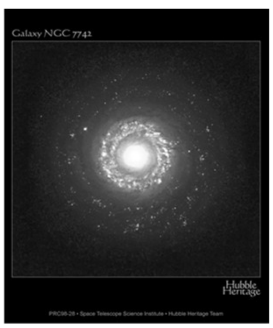


- Sun offset from centre
- Dust obscuration still not accounted for → wrong scale

Historical Background: Other Galaxies

- Mid-1800s: William Parsons (Lord Rosse) discovers spiral structure in nebulae
- 1912: Henrietta Leavitt discovers period-luminosity relation for Cepheids
- 1920s – The Great Debate
  - Shapley (local objects) VS Curtis (outside Milky Way)
  - Outcome: Spiral Nebulae are external galaxies
- 1929 – Expansion of the Universe (Hubble´s law)

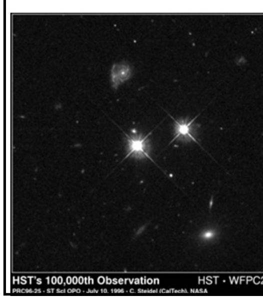
Historical Background: Active Galaxies

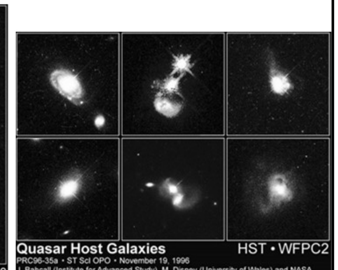


- 1943 - Seyfert Galaxies

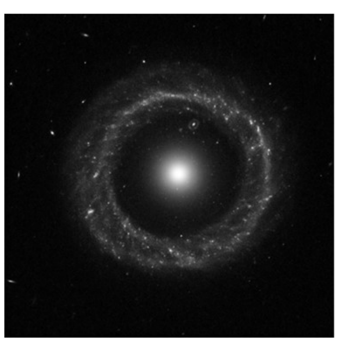
Historical Background: Quasars/QSO

- 1960s – Radio Galaxies, Quasars
- Quasi-Stellar Object: QSO, Quasar

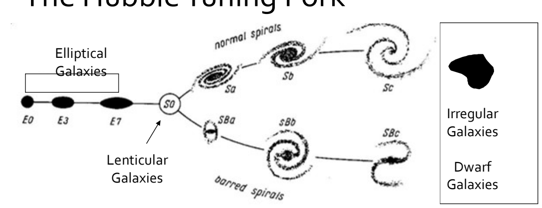




Intermission: What are you looking at?



Galaxy Classification
The Hubble Tuning Fork



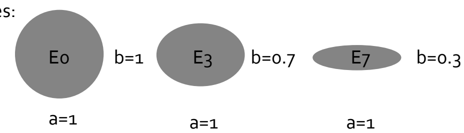
Other famous classification schemes:
- de Vaucoleur
- van den Bergh
- Vorontsov-Velyaminov

Galaxy Classification

Elliptical galaxies

- Type: E*n*, $n = 10\,(a - b)/a$.
- Major and minor axes: *a* and *b*
- → E0 circular, E7 galaxies the most flattened.

Examples:

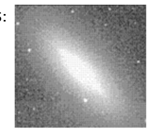


Galaxy Classification

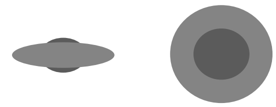
Lenticular galaxies

- Disk and central bulge, but no spiral arms
- SB0 if barred, S0 otherwise

Examples:



S0

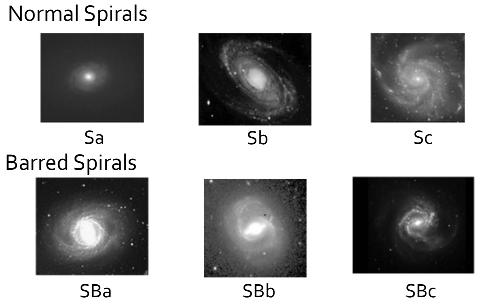


Edge-on

Face-on

Galaxy Classification

Normal Spirals

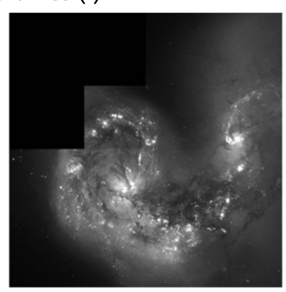


- Large bulges
- Tightly wound spiral arms
- Few star-forming regions in arms

- Small bulges
- Loosely wound spiral arms
- Many star-forming regions in arms

Galaxy Classification

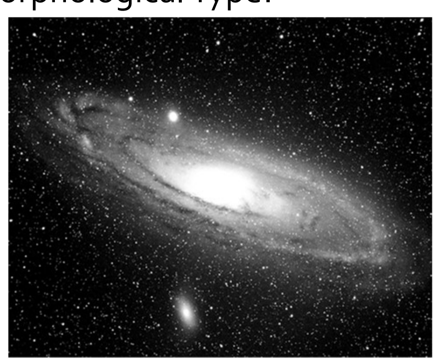
Irregular galaxies (I)



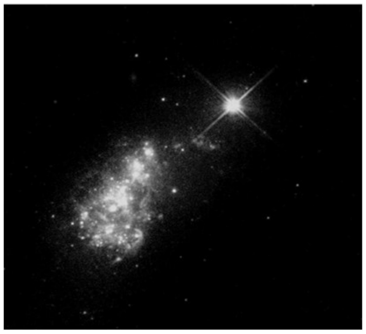
Galaxy Classification

Dwarf galaxies (dE, dSph, dI…) – Low-luminosity objects

Morphological Type?



Morphological Type?

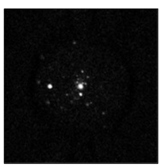


What is the Point of Morphological Classification?

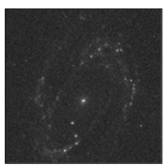
Hubble class correlates with:

- Gas content
- Dust content
- Star-forming properties
- Spectrum
- Metallicity

Morphological Complications

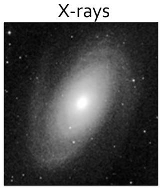


X-rays

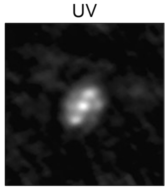


UV

Optical



Near-IR



Far-IR

Same galaxy (M81) at different wavelengths!

Morphological Complications

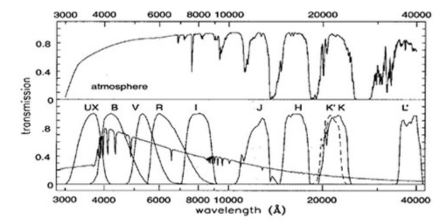
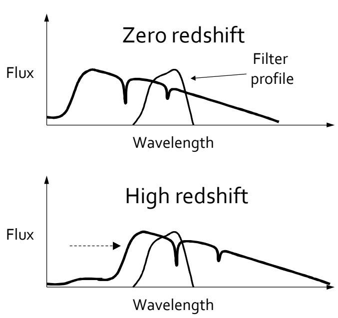


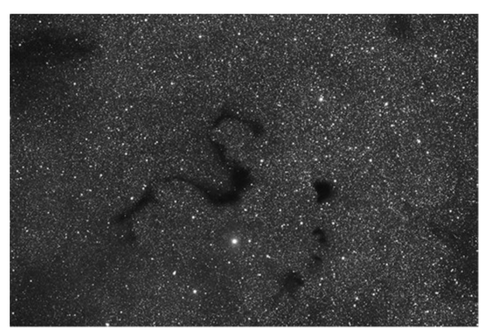
Figure 1.7 Above, atmospheric transmission in the optical and near-infrared. Below, flux F_λ of a model A0 star, with transmission curves $T(\lambda)$ for standard filters from Bessell, PASP 102, 1181; 1990. UX is a version of the U filter that takes account of atmospheric absorption. For $JHK'KL'$, $T(\lambda)$ is for transmission through the atmosphere and subsequently through the filter.

Morphological Complications

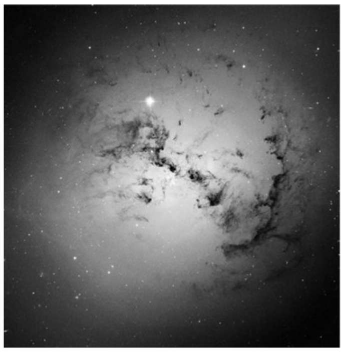


- Same filter probe different parts of spectrum at high and low redshifts
- Two galaxies with identical morphologies at a given rest wavelength may appear to have different morphologies

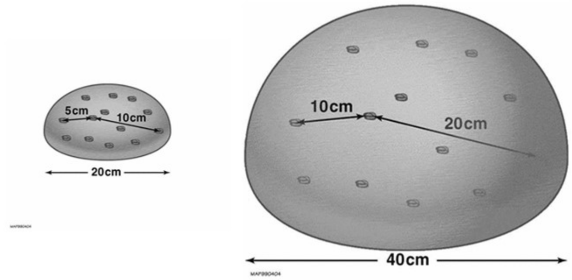
Intermission: What are you looking at?



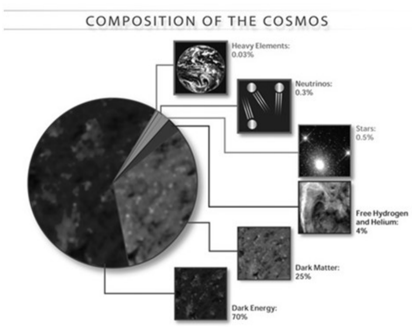
Intermission: What are you looking at?



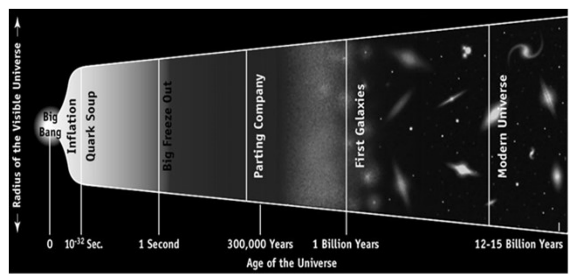
The Cosmological Framework I



The Cosmological Framework II



The Cosmological Framework III



The Cosmological Framework IV

- $\Omega_i = \rho_i / \rho_c$
- ρ_c = critical density of the Universe
- $\Omega_{Tot} \approx 1.0$
- $\Omega_{Baryons} \approx 0.04$
- $\Omega_M \approx 0.3$
- $\Omega_\Lambda \approx 0.7$