

# 10. II. Describing Space: Isotropic Curved Spaces

## Starting point:

What is the universe expanding into?

- The observable universe is a lower dimensional sub-space expanding within a higher dimensional space.

OR

- We can describe the expanding 3D universe without reference to higher dimensions (has proven more useful prescription).

Note: Here, we restrict ourselves to the macroscopic description of curved space; all issues of quantum gravity (string theory) will be left out.

## II.1 A brief reminder about metrics

### Example 1:

Static, Euclidean space can be fully described by its metric, describing the distance  $d$  between two nearby points:

$$d^2 = dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2$$

In general, a metric is written in tensor form:

$$d^2 = g_{\mu\nu} \cdot dx^\mu dx^\nu$$

with

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

for the example above.

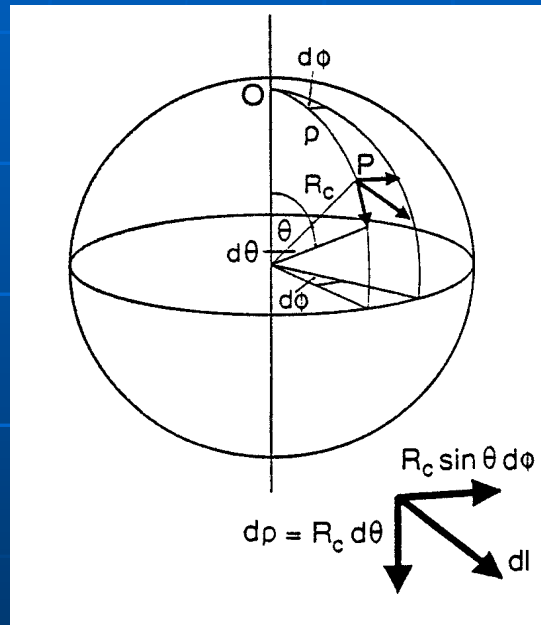
Note: For static, Euclidean space  $g_{\mu\nu}$  does **not** depend on:

- the co-ordinates  $dx^\mu$
- time

but this is special!

## Example 2: Surface of a sphere

Simplest example of an isotropic, curved, two-dimensional space.  
Note: There is no preferred direction, even if we pick a polar coordinate system.



Metric:

$$dl^2 = R_c^2 d\theta^2 + R_c^2 \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2$$

Define  $\hat{\rho}$  as the shortest distance (along the "great circle") between two points, e.g. O and P ("geodesic distance"):

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{G} = \frac{\hat{\rho}}{R_c} \quad \text{and} \quad dl^2 = d\hat{\rho}^2 + R_c^2 \sin^2(\hat{\rho} / R_c) d\varphi^2$$

Now define:

$$x \equiv R_c \sin\left(\frac{\hat{\rho}}{R_c}\right) \Rightarrow dx^2 = \left[1 - \sin^2\left(\frac{\hat{\rho}}{R_c}\right)\right] d\varphi^2$$

and define the curvature  $\kappa \equiv \frac{1}{R_c^2}$

$$\Rightarrow d\hat{\rho}^2 = \frac{dx^2}{1 - \kappa x^2}$$

$\Rightarrow dl^2 = dx^2 / (1 - \kappa x^2) + x^2 d\varphi^2$   
metric for the 2-sphere

Note:  $d\rho = \frac{dl}{x} \Rightarrow x$  measures the "angular diameter distance" on a sphere (as in Euclidean space)!

Note:

- The metric

$$g = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{1-\kappa x^2} & 0 \\ 0 & x^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

describes the isotropic 2D-sphere of curvature  $\kappa$  without reference to a 3<sup>rd</sup> dimension.

- Three qualitatively different cases:
  - (1)  $\kappa > 0 \Rightarrow R_c$  real: spherical space
  - (2)  $\kappa = 0 \Rightarrow R_c \rightarrow \infty$ : flat, Euclidean space
  - (3)  $\kappa < 0 \Rightarrow R_c$  imaginary: hyperbolic space
- We can either make the radial part of the metric look Euclidean:

$$dl^2 = d\hat{\rho}^2 + R_c^2 \sin^2 \left( \frac{\hat{\rho}}{R_c} \right) d\varphi^2$$

or the tangential part  $dl^2 = \frac{dx^2}{1-\kappa x^2} + x^2 d\varphi^2$

- So far, static metric; no time dependence.

## II.2 Robertson-Walker Metric

- Generalize the metric of the "two-sphere" to three dimensions:

$$dl^2 = d\hat{\rho}^2 + R_c^2 \sin^2 \left( \frac{\hat{\rho}}{R_c} \right) \cdot [d^2\mathcal{G} + \sin^2 \mathcal{G} d\varphi^2]^*$$

or

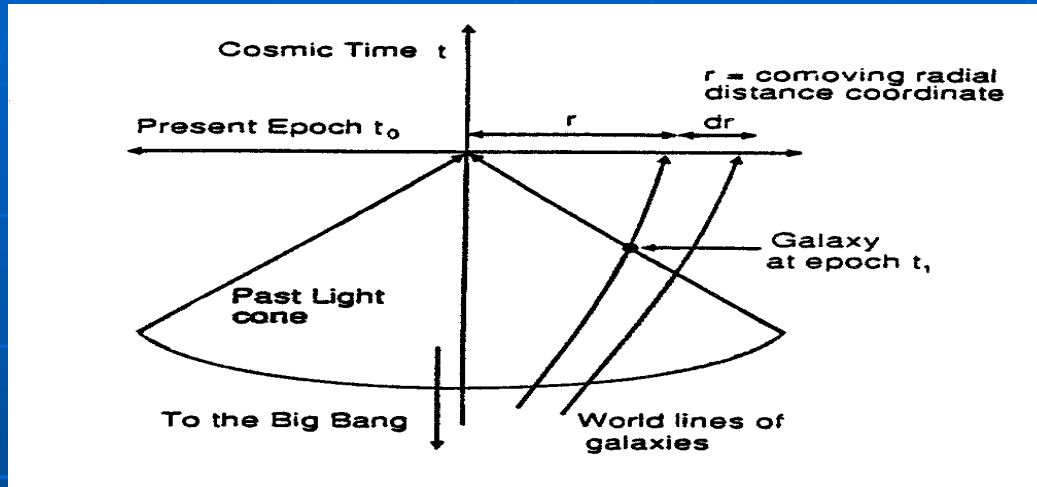
$$dl^2 = \frac{dx^2}{1 - \kappa x^2} + x^2 [d\mathcal{G}^2 + \sin^2 \mathcal{G} d\varphi^2]^*$$

- Introduce time:
  - in Euclidean space (special relativity, Minkowski metric)

$$ds^2 = dt^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} (dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2)$$

( $c^2$  = speed of light;  $dl^2$  could be from \*)

- We need to do this to understand observations of distant objects (distant = past) for photons:  
 $ds^2 \equiv 0!$



- We have seen that the universe **cannot** be static, unless it is empty  $\Rightarrow$  time evolution.

If the universe is (and remains) homogeneous and isotropic ("cosmological principle"), then uniform expansion (or contraction) is the only alternative.

The radial distances to two points  $i$  and  $j$  vary with time as

$$\frac{\hat{\rho}_i(t_1)}{\hat{\rho}_j(t_1)} = \frac{\hat{\rho}_i(t_2)}{\hat{\rho}_j(t_2)} \Rightarrow \frac{\hat{\rho}_i(t_1)}{\hat{\rho}_i(t_2)} = \frac{a(t_1)}{a(t_2)}$$

for any observer and for any distance  $\hat{\rho}_i$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{\rho}(t) = a(t) \cdot r$$

$r$  = "comoving" or "coordinate" distance,  
 $a$  = expansion factor

Transverse separations

$$\frac{R_c(t) \sin(\hat{\rho} / R_c(t))}{R_c(t_0) \sin(\hat{\rho} / R_c(t_0))} = a(t)$$

with  $t_0 = t_{(now)}$  and  $a_{(now)} \equiv 1$

$$\Rightarrow R_c(t) = R_c(t_0) \cdot a(t) \equiv R \cdot a(t)$$

$$\Rightarrow ds^2 = dt^2 - \frac{a^2(t)}{c^2} \left[ dr^2 + R^2 \sin^2 \left( \frac{r}{R} \right) \cdot (d\mathcal{G}^2 + \sin^2 \mathcal{G} \delta\varphi^2) \right]$$

= **Robertson-Walker Metric (RW-M)**

$R$  = present-day curvature

$r$  = comoving radial coordinates

$a(t)$  = expansion or scale factor

Subsumes all time dependence that is compatible with the cosmological principle.

Again, alternate forms are possible:

$$ds^2 = dt^2 - \frac{a^2(t)}{c^2} \left[ \frac{d\tilde{r}}{1 - \kappa \tilde{r}^2} + \tilde{r}^2 (d\mathcal{G}^2 + \sin^2 \mathcal{G} d\varphi^2) \right]$$

with  $\tilde{r} = R \sin \left( \frac{r}{R} \right)$  "comoving angular diameter distance".

Note: There's always a transform  $\kappa = \tilde{r}^{-2} \rightarrow \tilde{r}^2$   
so that the curvature is  $k = -1, 0, 1$ .

- So far, the evolution of  $a(t)$  is unspecified, i.e. no physics yet, just math.
- General relativity will determine  $a(t)$  as a function of the mass (energy) density **and** link it to  $R$ !
- The "distances"  $r$  and  $\tilde{r}$  are not observable, just coordinate distances.

## II. 3 Observable Quantities in Cosmology

- In curved and expanding space:
  - app. size  $\neq \frac{1}{\text{distance}}$
  - luminosity  $\neq \frac{1}{\text{distance}^2}$
  - Is there a unique measure of distance, anyway?
- Some observables do not depend on the expansion history,  $a(t)$ , which we don't know (yet)!

## II.3.1 Redshift

$$z \equiv \frac{\lambda_{obs} - \lambda_{em}}{\lambda_{em}}$$

The right way of looking at it is **not**:

recession velocity  $(1+z) = \sqrt{\frac{1+v/c}{1-v/c}}$

only for  $v/c \ll 1$ ;  $v = cz$

**but**, time dilation, or the universe's expansion during light travel:

- Consider two wave-crests, emitted at  $t_1$  and  $t_1 + \Delta t_1$ .
- Light follows "null cone", i.e.  $ds^2 = 0$  in RW-M, ( $+ d\vartheta = d\varphi = 0$ ).

$$\Rightarrow dt = - \frac{a(t)}{c} dr \quad r = \text{comoving coordinate}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \int_{t_1}^{t_0} \frac{cdt}{a(t)} = - \int_r^0 dr$$

first crest (1)

$$\int_{t_1 + \Delta t_1}^{t_0 + \Delta t_0} \frac{cdt}{a(t)} = - \int_r^0 dr$$

second crest (2)

The light travel time difference is (b) – (a):

$$\frac{\Delta t_{obs}}{\Delta t_{em}} = \frac{a(t_{obs})}{a(t_{em})} = 1 + z$$

## 11.3.2 Hubble Constant

The Hubble constant,  $H_0$ , is locally defined as  $v_{recession} = H_0 \cdot d$ , where  $d$  is the physical distance to the object.

$$\begin{aligned} v_{rec} &= z \cdot c = \left[ \left( \frac{a(t_{obs})}{a(t_{em})} \right) - 1 \right] c \\ &= \dot{a}(t_{obs}) \cdot d \Rightarrow H_0 = \dot{a}(t_0) \end{aligned}$$

## II. 4 General Relativity in (Not Even) a Nutshell

"One had to be a Newton to notice that the Moon is falling when everyone sees that it doesn't fall."

*Paul Valéry*

"In the spirit of the epigraph, we can say that it took the genius of Einstein to see that the Moon is moving in a straight line, when everyone sees that it doesn't."

*W. Burke*

# 1. Mass curves space

$$R_{ij} - \frac{R}{2} g_{ij} = 8\pi G T_{ij} + \Lambda g_{ij}$$

Einstein's field equations

$g_{ij}$  = metric tensor

$R_{ij}$  = 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> derivatives of  $g_{ij}$

$R$  = scalar curvature function

$T_{ij}$  = energy-momentum tensor (energy including  $mc^2$ ) in a locally Minkowski coordinate system (at rest w.r.t. a fluid)

$\Lambda$  = "cosmological constant"

$$T_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho & & & 0 \\ & p & & \\ & & p & \\ 0 & & & p \end{pmatrix}$$

$\rho$  = mass density

$p$  = pressure

## 2. Space is locally "flat"

I.e. there is always a local coordinate transformation that transforms

$$g_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & 0 \\ & -1 & \\ 0 & & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

locally general relativity = special relativity

### 3. Particles follow geodesic world lines

- What is "geodesic"? It's the shortest path (world line) from a to b, i.e.

$$\min\left(\int ds^2\right) \quad (\text{all possible paths})$$

- In flat space:  $ds^2 = dt^2 - \frac{dx^2}{c^2}$

⇒ geodesics are straight lines (□ no force)

- In curved space
  - Each particle follows its geodesics.
  - Because  $g_{\mu\nu} \neq \text{constant}$ , neighboring geodesics diverge (□ acceleration, force).

## II.5 World Models and the „Friedman Equation“

Using Einstein's field equations and demanding homogeneity and isotropy, one finds:

$$\frac{\ddot{a}}{a} = -\frac{4\pi G}{3}(\rho + 3p) + \frac{\Lambda}{3}$$

+energy conservation:

$$d(\rho c^2 a^3) = -p d(a^3)$$

Note:

$\rho$  = total mass energy density (matter + photons!)

$p$  = pressure

Continuity equation:

$$\dot{\rho} = -3\frac{\dot{a}}{a}(\rho + P) \quad \text{or} \quad a \frac{d\rho}{da} = -3(\rho + P)$$

Using

$$H(t) = \frac{\dot{a}}{a}$$

one finds

$$H^2 = \frac{8\pi G\rho}{3} + \frac{\Lambda}{3} - \frac{K}{a^2}$$

$K$ =integration constant

## 11.5.1 Classical Friedman Models

Let us first consider pressureless, or "dust", models  $p \equiv 0$  without cosmological constant, i.e.  $\Lambda=0$ :

$$\dot{a}^2 = \frac{8\pi G}{3} \rho \cdot a^2 - \frac{c^2}{R^2} \quad (\text{with } K=R^{-2})$$

Now identify the integration constant with the curvature. Define a critical density:

$$\rho_{crit} = \frac{3H_0^2}{8\pi G} = 1.88 \cdot 10^{-29} \frac{g}{cm^3} h^2$$

Define  $h = \frac{H_0}{100 \text{ km/s/Mpc}}$  and express the actual density in units of  $\rho_{crit}$ :

$$\Omega_0 \equiv \frac{8\pi G \rho_0}{3H_0^2} = \left( \frac{\rho_0}{\rho_c} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{a}^2 = \frac{\Omega_0 H_0^2}{a} - \frac{c^2}{R^2} \quad \otimes$$

using that at present time  $a \equiv 1$ ,  $H_0 = \dot{a}$   
and  $\rho(t) = \rho_0 a^3(t)$

$$\Rightarrow R = \frac{c / H_0}{(\Omega_0 - 1)^{1/2}}$$

$\Rightarrow$  Curvature  $\kappa = \frac{1}{R^2}$  and mass density  $\Omega_0$  are linked!

In particular, space is flat if  $\Omega_0 = 1$  or  $\rho = \rho_{crit}$

- spherical geometry:  $\Leftrightarrow \Omega_0 > 1$ , re-collapse
- hyperbolic geometry:  $\Leftrightarrow \Omega_0 < 1$ , infinite expansion
- flat space:  $\Leftrightarrow \Omega_0 = 1$

The most convenient solution for  $a(t)$  in  $\oplus$  is in parametric form:

$$a(\vartheta) = \alpha_1 \cdot (1 - \cos \vartheta) \quad t(\vartheta) = \alpha_2 \cdot (\vartheta - \sin \vartheta)$$

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{\Omega_0}{2(\Omega_0 - 1)}$$

$$\alpha_2 = \frac{\Omega_0}{2 H_0 (\Omega_0 - 1)^{3/2}}$$

How are redshift (observable) and time (not observable) related in these models?

Using 
$$\dot{a} = \frac{8\pi G \rho_0}{3a} - \frac{c^2}{R^2}$$

and 
$$a = \frac{1}{1+z}, \quad R = \frac{c / H_0}{(\Omega_0 - 1)^{1/2}}, \quad \Omega_0 = \rho / (3 H_0^2 / 8 \pi G)$$

we get 
$$\frac{dz}{dt} = - H_0 (1+z)^2 (\Omega_0 z + 1)^{1/2}$$

So the time from the big bang to redshift  $z$  is

$$t = \int_0^t dt = - \frac{1}{H_0} \int_\infty^z \frac{dz}{(1+z)^2 (\Omega_0 z + 1)^{1/2}}$$

## 11.5.2 Models with a Cosmological Constant

Energy content of the universe:

a)  $\rho_{mass} \sim a^{-3}$

b)  $\rho_{radiation} \sim a^{-4}$

c)  $\rho_{vac} = const. \Leftrightarrow \Omega_{vac} \equiv \Lambda c^2 / 3H_0^2$

$\Rightarrow$  In general

$$\frac{8\pi G\rho}{3} = H_0^2 (\Omega_M a^{-3} + \Omega_{rad} a^{-4} + \Omega_{vac})$$

or

$$H^2(a) = H_0^2 \left[ \Omega_{vac} + \Omega_M a^{-3} + \Omega_{rad} a^{-4} - (\Omega_0 - 1) a^{-2} \right]$$

where  $(\Omega_0 - 1)$  reflects the curvature.

## 11.5.2 Simple Limiting Solutions

$$H^2(a) = H_0^2 \left[ \Omega_{vac} + \Omega_M a^{-3} + \Omega_{rad} a^{-4} - (\Omega_0 - 1) a^{-2} \right]$$

$$(1) \quad \left( \frac{\dot{a}}{a} \right)^2 = H_0^2 \Omega_{rad} a^{-4} \leftrightarrow \dot{a}a = const \leftrightarrow a \sim t^{1/2} \text{ at early epochs}$$

$$(2) \quad \left( \frac{\dot{a}}{a} \right)^2 = H_0^2 \Omega_M a^{-3} \leftrightarrow a \sim t^{2/3} \text{ matter dominated}$$

$$(3) \quad \left( \frac{\dot{a}}{a} \right)^2 = H_0^2 \Omega_\Lambda \leftrightarrow a \sim e^t \text{ dominant } \Lambda \text{ (late epochs)}$$

## II.6 General Solutions of the Friedman Equation

The Friedman equation can be written in the following form:

$$\frac{\dot{a}}{a} = H_0 \cdot E(z) = H_0 \cdot \sqrt{\Omega_M (1+z)^3 + \Omega_R (1+z) + \Omega_\Lambda}$$

with  $\Omega_M \equiv \frac{8\pi G\rho_0}{3H_0^2}$ ,  $\Omega_K = (H_0 a_0 R)^{-2}$ , and  $a = (1+z)^{-1}$

$$\Omega_\Lambda = \frac{\Lambda}{3H_0^2} \text{ and } \Omega_{M+\text{rad}} + \Omega_K + \Omega_\Lambda = 1.$$

In flat space, the actual distance  $D$  equals the "coordinate distance"  $\hat{\rho}$  with

$$\hat{\rho} = \frac{c}{H_0} \int_0^z \frac{dz}{E(z)}$$

In general,

$$D(z) = \frac{c}{H_0 \sqrt{\Omega_R}} \sinh\left(\sqrt{\Omega_R} \frac{\hat{\rho} H_0}{c}\right) \rightarrow \Omega_K > 0$$

$$D(z) = \hat{\rho}(z) \rightarrow \Omega_K = 0$$

$$D(z) = \frac{c}{H_0 \sqrt{-\Omega_R}} \sin\left(\sqrt{-\Omega_R} \frac{\hat{\rho} H_0}{c}\right) \rightarrow \Omega_K < 0$$

# Distance Measure(s) in Cosmology

present epoch Hubble constant

$$H_0 = 100 h \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$$

Hubble time

$$t_H \equiv \frac{1}{H_0} = 9.78 \times 10^9 h^{-1} \text{ yr} = 3.09 \times 10^{17} h^{-1} \text{ s}$$

Hubble radius/distance

$$D_H \equiv \frac{c}{H_0} = 3000 h^{-1} \text{ Mpc} = 9.26 \times 10^{25} h^{-1} \text{ m}$$

“Omega Matter”

$$\Omega_M \equiv \frac{8\pi G \rho_0}{3 H_0^2}$$

“Omega Lambda”

$$\Omega_\Lambda \equiv \frac{\Lambda c^2}{3 H_0^2}$$

“equiv. Omega curvature”

$$\Omega_M + \Omega_\Lambda + \Omega_k = 1$$

redshift

$$z \equiv \frac{\nu_e}{\nu_o} - 1 = \frac{\lambda_o}{\lambda_e} - 1$$

## Comoving distance (line-of-sight)

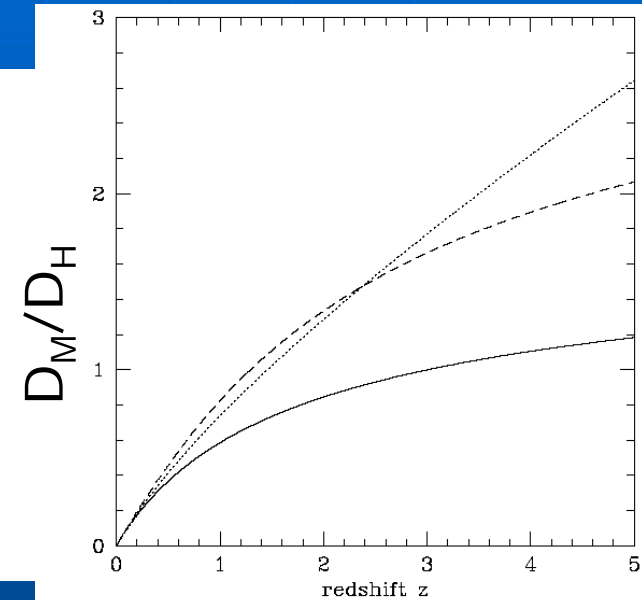
=invariant under expansion

$$E(z) \equiv \sqrt{\Omega_M (1+z)^3 + \Omega_k (1+z)^2 + \Omega_\Lambda} \quad H(z) = H_0 E(z)$$

$$D_C = D_H \int_0^z \frac{dz'}{E(z')}$$

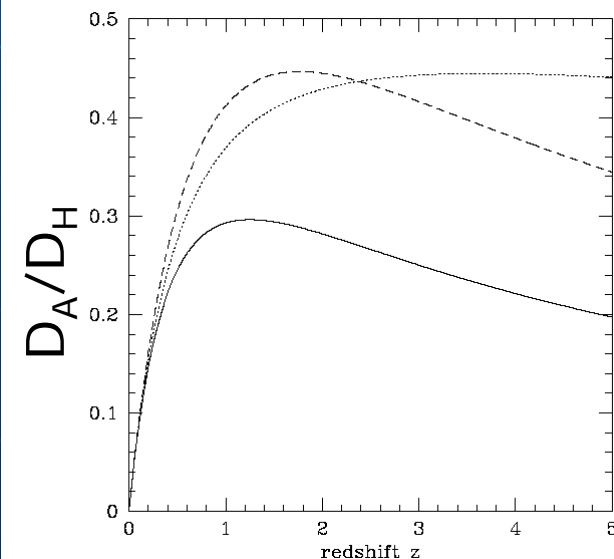
## Comoving distance (transverse)

$$D_M = \begin{cases} D_H \frac{1}{\sqrt{\Omega_k}} \sinh \left[ \sqrt{\Omega_k} D_C / D_H \right] & \text{for } \Omega_k > 0 \\ D_C & \text{for } \Omega_k = 0 \\ D_H \frac{1}{\sqrt{|\Omega_k|}} \sin \left[ \sqrt{|\Omega_k|} D_C / D_H \right] & \text{for } \Omega_k < 0 \end{cases}$$



## Angular diameter distance

$$D_A = \frac{D_M}{1+z} = \text{phys. size of object} / \text{observed angular size}$$



# Luminosity distance

The *luminosity distance*  $D_L$  is defined by the relationship between bolometric (ie, integrated over all frequencies) flux  $S$  and bolometric luminosity  $L$ :

$$D_L \equiv \sqrt{\frac{L}{4\pi S}}$$

$$D_L = (1+z) D_M = (1+z)^2 D_A$$

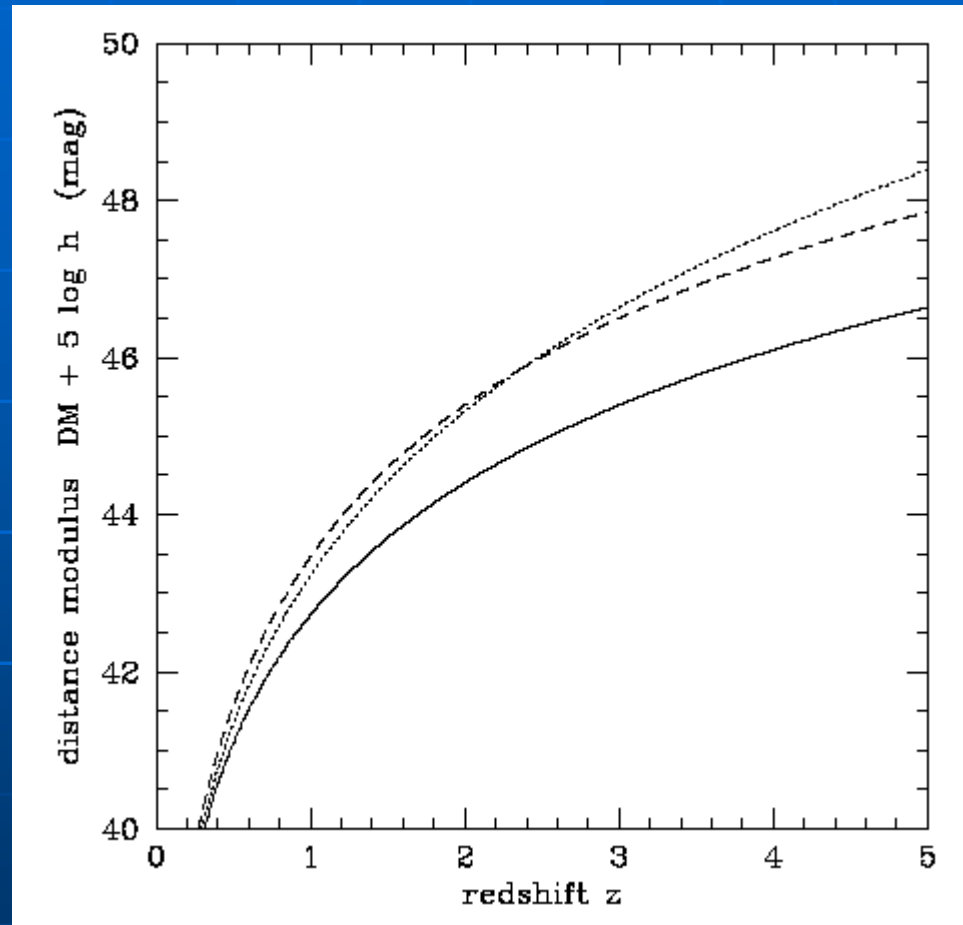
$$S_\nu = (1+z) \frac{L_{(1+z)\nu}}{L_\nu} \frac{L_\nu}{4\pi D_L^2} \quad S_\lambda = \frac{1}{(1+z)} \frac{L_{\lambda/(1+z)}}{L_\lambda} \frac{L_\lambda}{4\pi D_L^2}$$

$$DM \equiv 5 \log \left( \frac{D_L}{10 \text{ pc}} \right)$$

$$m = M + DM + K$$

$K$  is the k-correction

$$K = -2.5 \log \left[ (1+z) \frac{L_{(1+z)\nu}}{L_\nu} \right] = -2.5 \log \left[ \frac{1}{(1+z)} \frac{L_{\lambda/(1+z)}}{L_\lambda} \right]$$

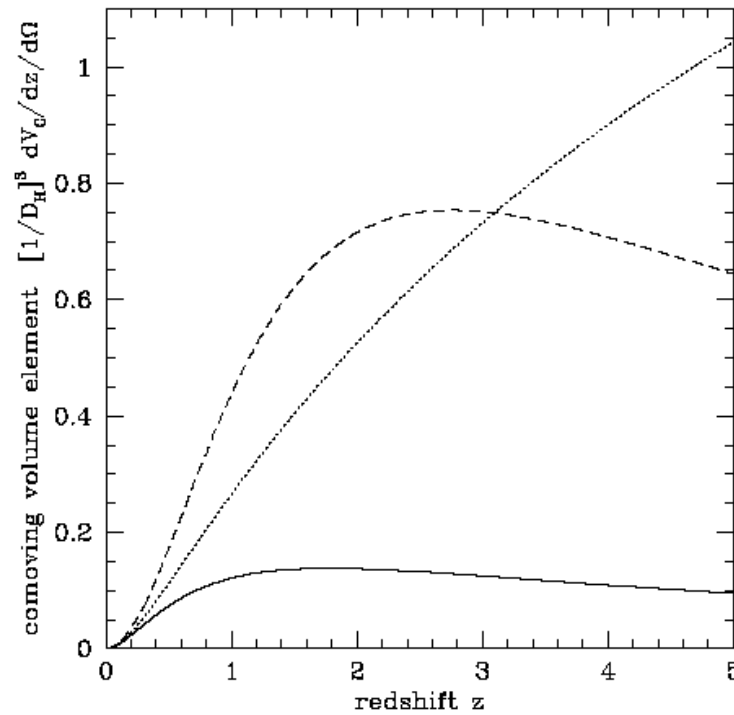


# Comoving volume

$$dV_C = D_H \frac{(1+z)^2 D_A^2}{E(z)} d\Omega dz$$

total comoving volume, all-sky, out to redshift  $z$

$$V_C = \begin{cases} \left( \frac{4\pi D_H^3}{2\Omega_k} \right) \left[ \frac{D_M}{D_H} \sqrt{1 + \Omega_k \frac{D_M^2}{D_H^2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{|\Omega_k|}} \operatorname{arcsinh} \left( \sqrt{|\Omega_k|} \frac{D_M}{D_H} \right) \right] & \text{for } \Omega_k > 0 \\ \frac{4\pi}{3} D_M^3 & \text{for } \Omega_k = 0 \\ \left( \frac{4\pi D_H^3}{2\Omega_k} \right) \left[ \frac{D_M}{D_H} \sqrt{1 + \Omega_k \frac{D_M^2}{D_H^2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{|\Omega_k|}} \operatorname{arcsin} \left( \sqrt{|\Omega_k|} \frac{D_M}{D_H} \right) \right] & \text{for } \Omega_k < 0 \end{cases}$$



# Lookback time

$$t_L = t_H \int_0^z \frac{dz'}{(1+z')E(z')}$$

