

Can quantum vacuum be the physical origin of Acceleration?

Alain Blanchard



Arnaud Dupays (LCAR), Brahim Lamine (LKB)
Chania "Recent developments in Gravity", June 26, 2012



Acceleration from SNIa Hubble diagram

SNIa are bright objects that can be detected at large distances.

Up to $z \sim 2$ i.e. $t(z) \sim 3$ Gyr

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Distant SNIa

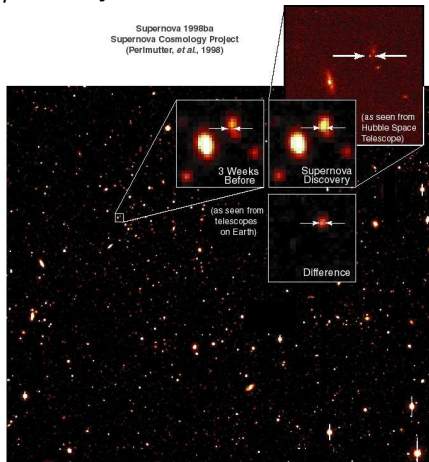
Just look for distant supernovae...

Distant SNIa

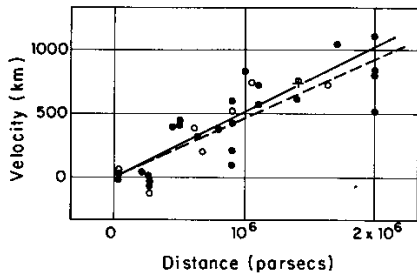
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One SNIa/galaxy/century

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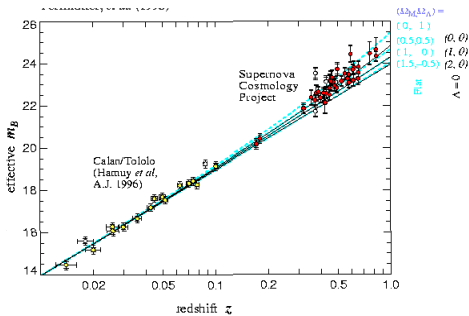
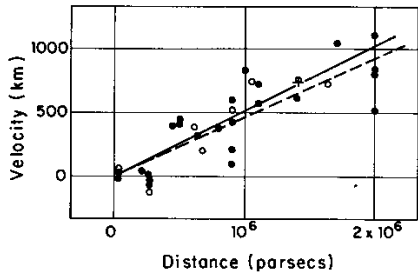
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SNIa Hubble diagram



SNIa Hubble diagramm



Acceleration!!

Nobel Prize in Physics 2011

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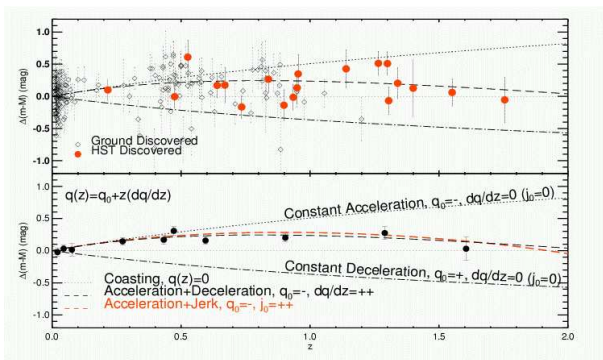
S. Perlmutter, A. Riess, B. Schmidt

Distant SNIa Hubble diagram

$$\ddot{R} \propto -(\rho_m(1+z)^3 - 2\rho_\Lambda)R$$

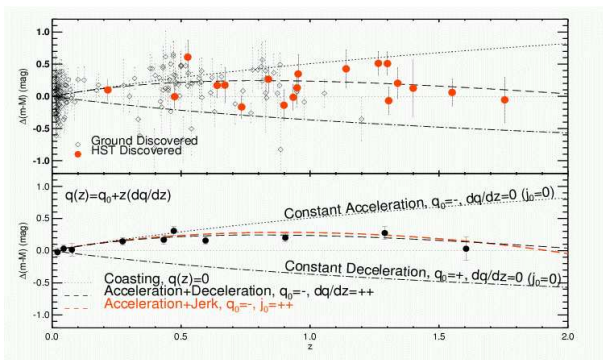
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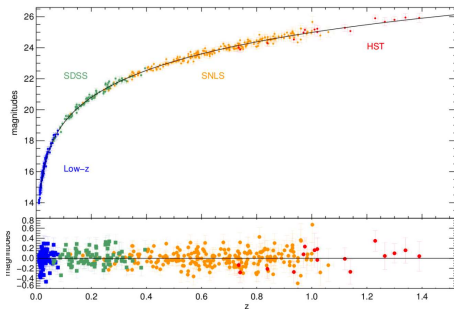
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→ Acceleration+deceleration!!

SNIa Hubble diagram (2012)

SNLS



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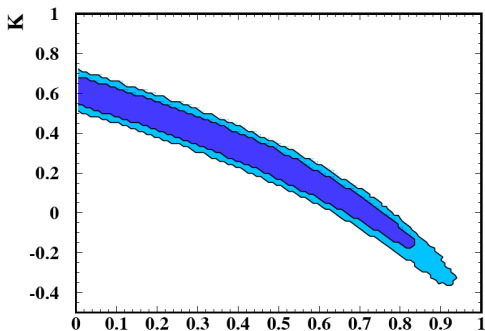
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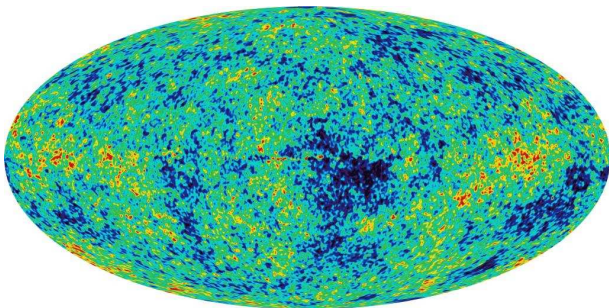
Fit the Hubble diagram with K and Λ



L. Ferramacho, A. Blanchard, Y. Zolnierowski (2009) Ω_Λ

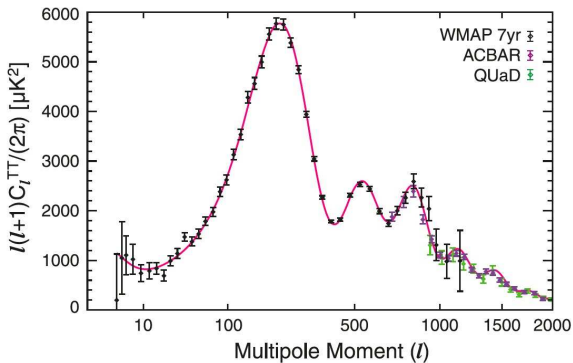
Cosmic microwave radiation fluctuations

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WMAP 1, 3, 5, 7,...

Cosmic microwave radiation fluctuations



Cosmic microwave radiation fluctuations

Essentially geometric:

$$z_{lss} \approx 1090$$

Angular distance to the CMB is the key parameter, combined with the acoustic scale r_s corresponding to the sound horizon at l_s :

$$l_A = \frac{D_{ang}(z_{lss})}{r_s}$$

The shift parameter:

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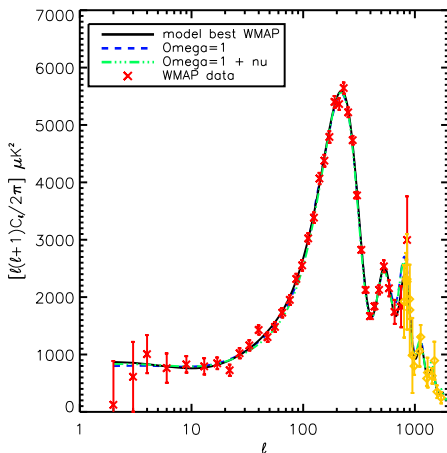
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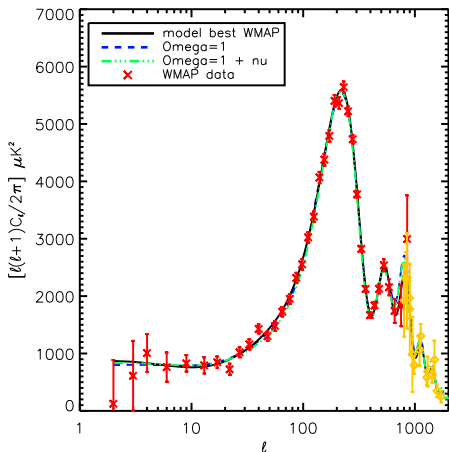
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Degeneracy in parameters allows to reproduce the C_l
Blanchard et al., 2003

Conclusion (at this point)

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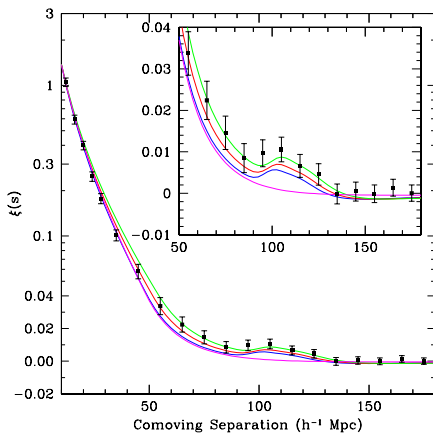
Neither SNIa nor CMB strongly require acceleration!

But...

The sound horizon is also imprinted in the matter distribution:

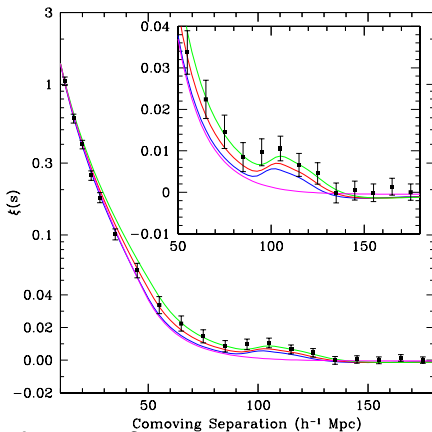
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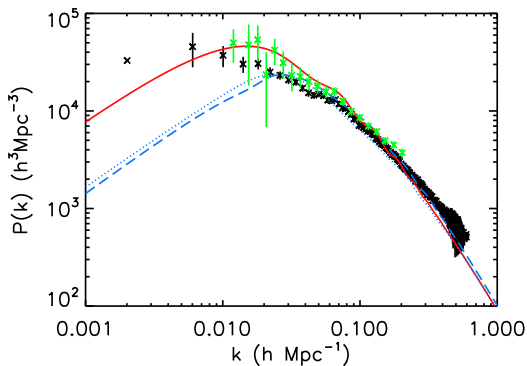
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This was a prediction of Λ CDM

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Standard Cosmological model: Λ CDM

Parameters in Λ CDM

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SNIa, CMB, $P(k)$

Standard Cosmological model: Λ CDMParameters in Λ CDM

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SNIa, CMB, P(k)

Parameter	Vanilla	Vanilla + Ω_k	Vanilla + w	Vanilla + Ω_k + w
$\Omega_b h^2$	0.0227 ± 0.0005	0.0227 ± 0.0006	0.0228 ± 0.0006	0.0227 ± 0.0005
$\Omega_c h^2$	0.112 ± 0.003	0.109 ± 0.005	0.109 ± 0.005	0.109 ± 0.005
θ	1.042 ± 0.003	1.042 ± 0.003	1.042 ± 0.003	1.042 ± 0.003
τ	0.085 ± 0.017	0.088 ± 0.017	0.087 ± 0.017	0.088 ± 0.017
n_s	0.963 ± 0.012	0.964 ± 0.013	0.967 ± 0.014	0.964 ± 0.014
$\log(10^{10} A_s)$	3.07 ± 0.04	3.06 ± 0.04	3.06 ± 0.04	3.06 ± 0.04
Ω_k	0	-0.005 ± 0.007	0	-0.005 ± 0.0121
w	-1	-1	-0.965 ± 0.056	-1.003 ± 0.102
Ω_Λ	0.738 ± 0.015	0.735 ± 0.016	0.739 ± 0.014	0.733 ± 0.020
Age	13.7 ± 0.1	13.9 ± 0.4	13.7 ± 0.1	13.9 ± 0.6
Ω_m	0.262 ± 0.015	0.270 ± 0.019	0.261 ± 0.020	0.272 ± 0.029
σ_8	0.806 ± 0.023	0.791 ± 0.030	0.816 ± 0.014	0.788 ± 0.042
z_{re}	10.9 ± 1.4	11.0 ± 1.5	11.0 ± 1.5	11.0 ± 1.4
h	0.716 ± 0.014	0.699 ± 0.028	0.713 ± 0.015	0.698 ± 0.037

L. Ferramacho, A. Blanchard, Y. Zolnierowski (2009)

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COSMOLOGY MARCHES ON



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$$\ddot{R} \propto -(\rho + 3P)R$$

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In GR, the source of gravity is ρ and P :

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So that the gravity strength is repulsive and proportional to R

...

Historical aspects

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So is this the origin of the acceleration ?

Historical aspects

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The Vacuum catastrophe (Weinberg, 1989):

$$\rho_v = \langle 0 | T^{00} | 0 \rangle = \frac{1}{2(2\pi)^3} \int_0^{+\infty} k d^3\mathbf{k}$$

highly divergent.

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$$\rho_v(k_c) \propto \frac{k_c^4}{16\pi^2}$$

Equation of state

The pressure:

$$p_v = (1/3) \sum_i \langle 0 | T^{ii} | 0 \rangle = \frac{1}{3} \frac{1}{2(2\pi)^3} \int_0^{+\infty} k d^3\mathbf{k}$$

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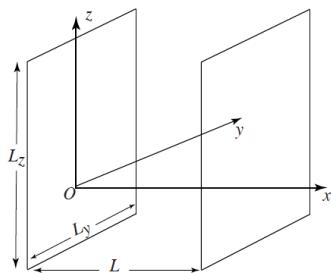
→ usual conclusion on zero-point energy contribution.
 (does not hold for a massive field cf J.Martin 2012)

Casimir effect

Where is there vacuum contribution in laboratory physics?

Casimir effect

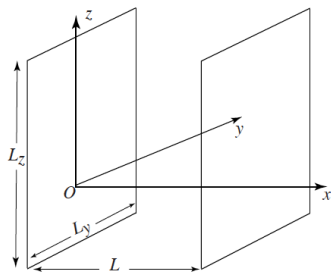
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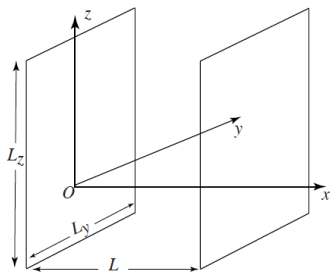
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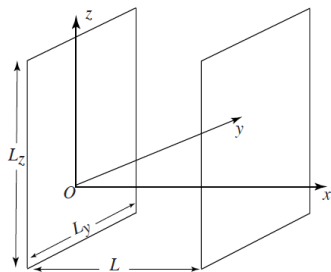
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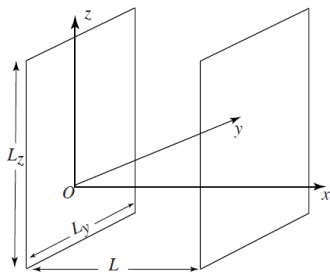
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Brown & Maclay (1968)

Casimir effect from higher dimension

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$$\omega^2 = k^2 + \frac{n^2}{R^2}$$

At high energy, only modes with λ smaller than ct have to be taken into account i.e.:

$$\rho_V = \frac{5\hbar c}{8\pi^3 R} \int_{\omega > \omega_H}^{\infty} k^2 dk \left[\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \left(k^2 + \frac{n^2}{R^2} \right)^{1/2} \right]$$

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However, as long as $ct \ll 2\pi R$ vacuum should be that of a massless field in a 4+1D space time i.e.:

$$\rho_v = 0$$

Isotropy ends...

when $\omega_H \sim \frac{1}{R}$, this is the last time at which symmetries ensure $\rho_v = 0$. Then

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Later, when $ct \gg 2\pi R$ i.e. $\omega_H \sim 0$

$$\rho_v = \frac{5\hbar c}{8\pi^3 R} \int_0^\infty k^2 dk [...] = \frac{5\hbar c}{8\pi^3 R} \int_0^{1/R} k^2 dk [...]$$

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The condition :

$$\omega = \sqrt{k^2 + \frac{n^2}{R^2}} < \frac{1}{R}$$

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$R \sim 25\mu\text{m}$ fits data. Corresponding to $E \sim 1\text{TeV}$

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Acceleration could be the direct manifestation of the quantum gravitational vacuum: $w = -1$