

The science of the multiverse:
Exploring some key parameters.

(An un-philosophical talk for
philosophers)

Martin Rees

the challenges that motivate cosmologists (uncontroversial!)

- What is out there? Cosmic exploration.
- Interpreting phenomena in terms of known (and perhaps 'new') physics.
- How, from a 'simple beginning', described by a few parameters, did our Universe evolve into its present complexity (stars, planets, people)?
- *Why do the key parameters have their actual values?*
- *Can we understand, at a deeper level, why our Universe is the way it is?*

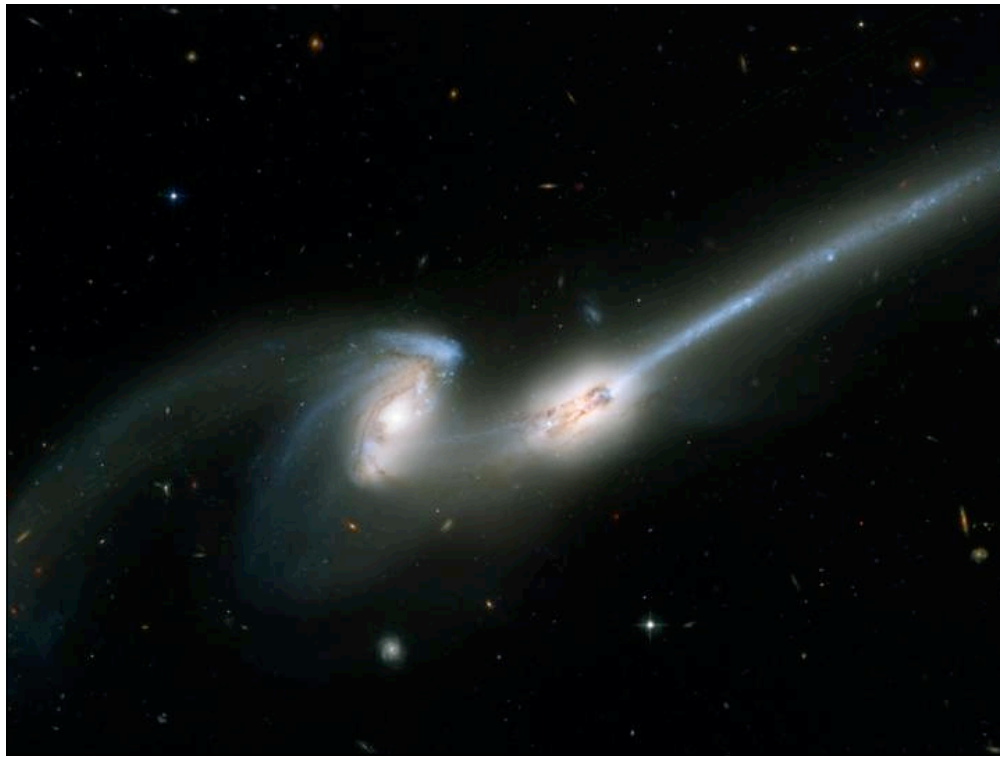


Galaxy collision movie from the Hawaii Research web site. The red indicates the dark matter making up 80% of the mass.

It simulates the formation of the antennae galaxy collision.

Looks like Antennae half way through

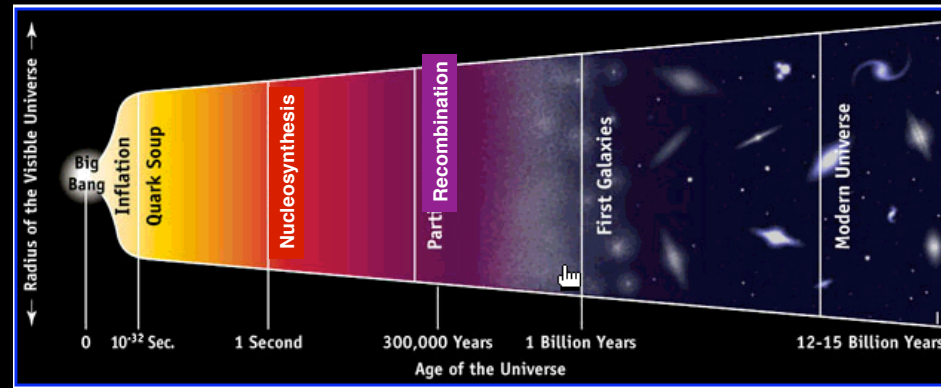
Spanning about 1000 million years



NGC4676 from HST. Galaxies undergoing collision about 160M years after closest approach.

Distance 420Mly

Cosmic Evolution -Cartoon



Well-understood

nonlinear simulations

5 WAYS TO REFUTE "HOT BIG BANG"

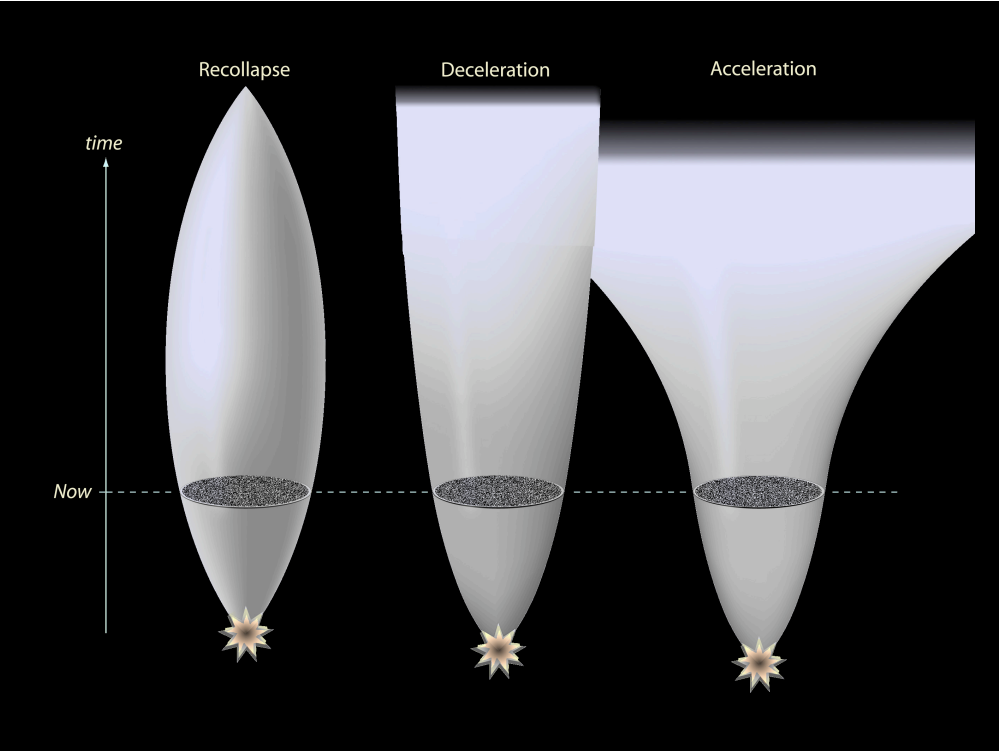
Object with $\ll 23\%$ helium

Millimetre-wave background below prediction

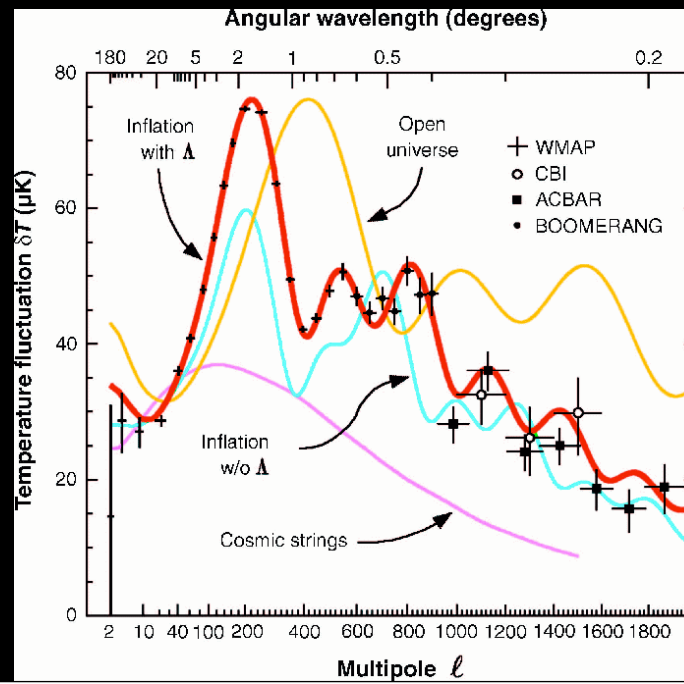
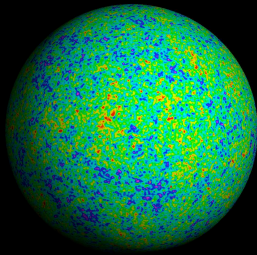
Stable neutrino with mass $100 - 10^6$ eV

Too much deuterium to match baryon density

$\Delta T/T$ too small to account for present structure

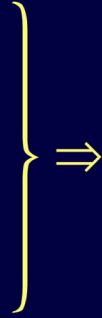


Evidence for 'flatness'
and vacuum energy



Angular scale of
"Doppler peak"
(implying flat universe)

$\Omega_{\text{dark matter}} \approx 0.3$

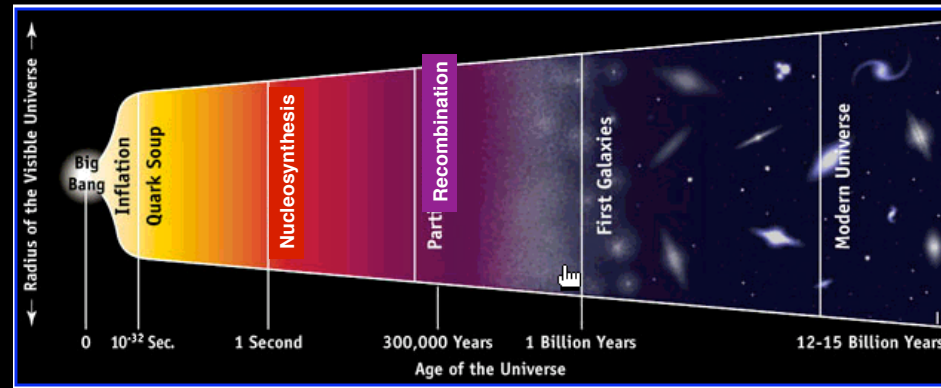


70% of mass-energy
in uniform component
with $p < -\frac{1}{3} \rho c^2$

⋮
ACCELERATION

↑↑
Hubble diagrams
for supernovae

Cosmic Evolution -Cartoon



Well-understood

nonlinear simulations

How extensive is the “physical reality” that’s within the remit of science?

HOW MUCH LIES BEYOND OUR HORIZON (10^{10} l.y distant)?

Cannot be sure of anything beyond present causal horizon.

Moreover, topology could be complex or 'kaleidoscopic'.

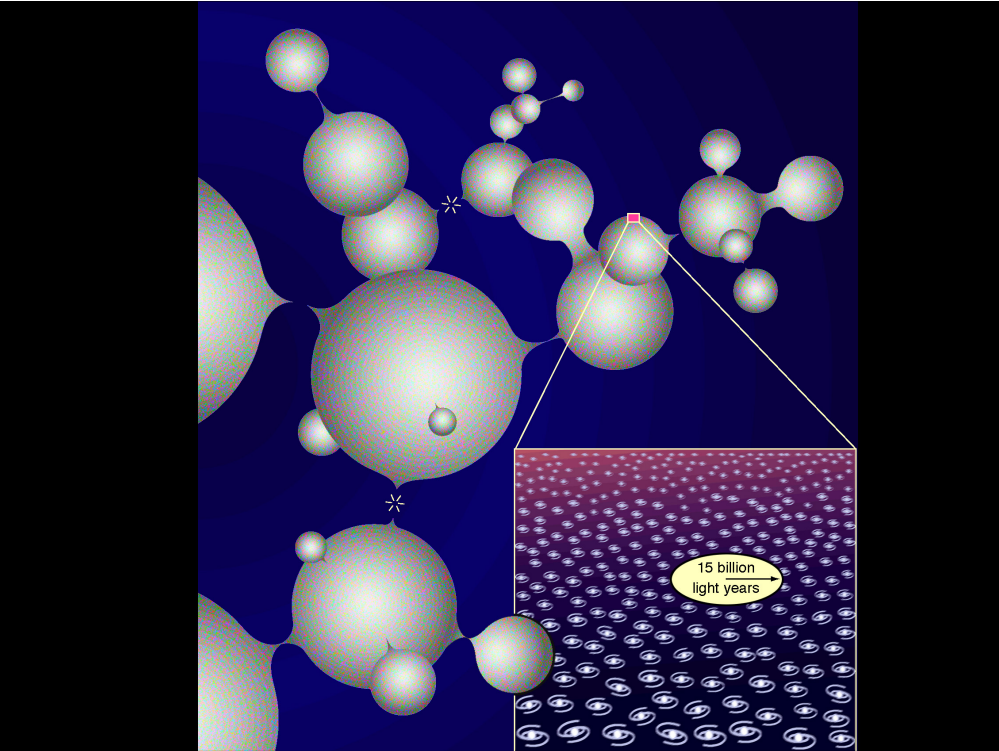
But lack of discernible gradients (in CMB or galaxy counts) across Hubble scale suggest that our universe extends for $> 10^{15}$ l.y

and space could extend $> 10^{100}$ l.y

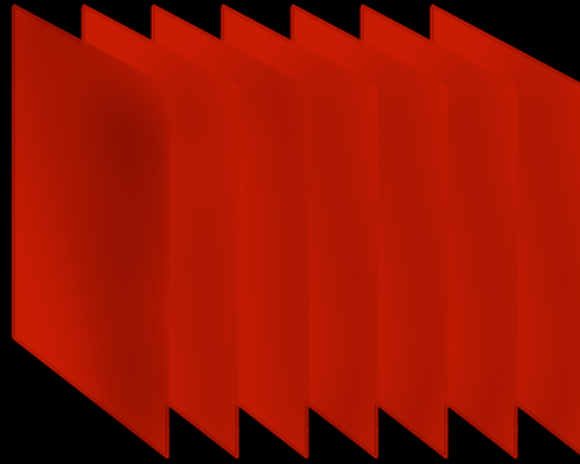
or even >>>>>>

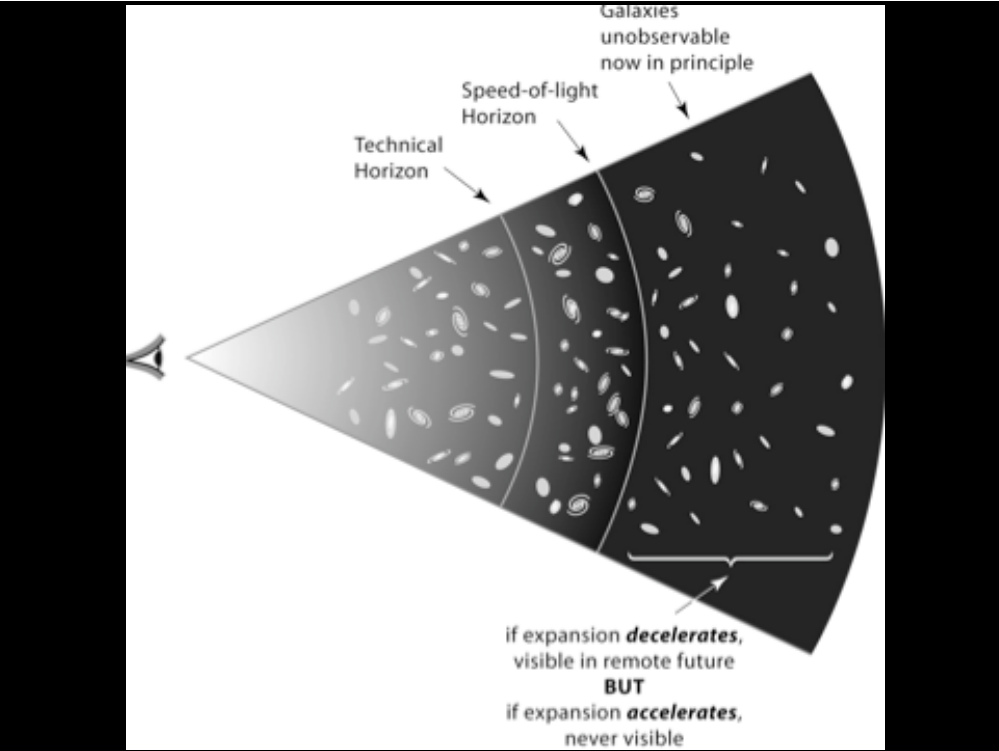
(replicas!)

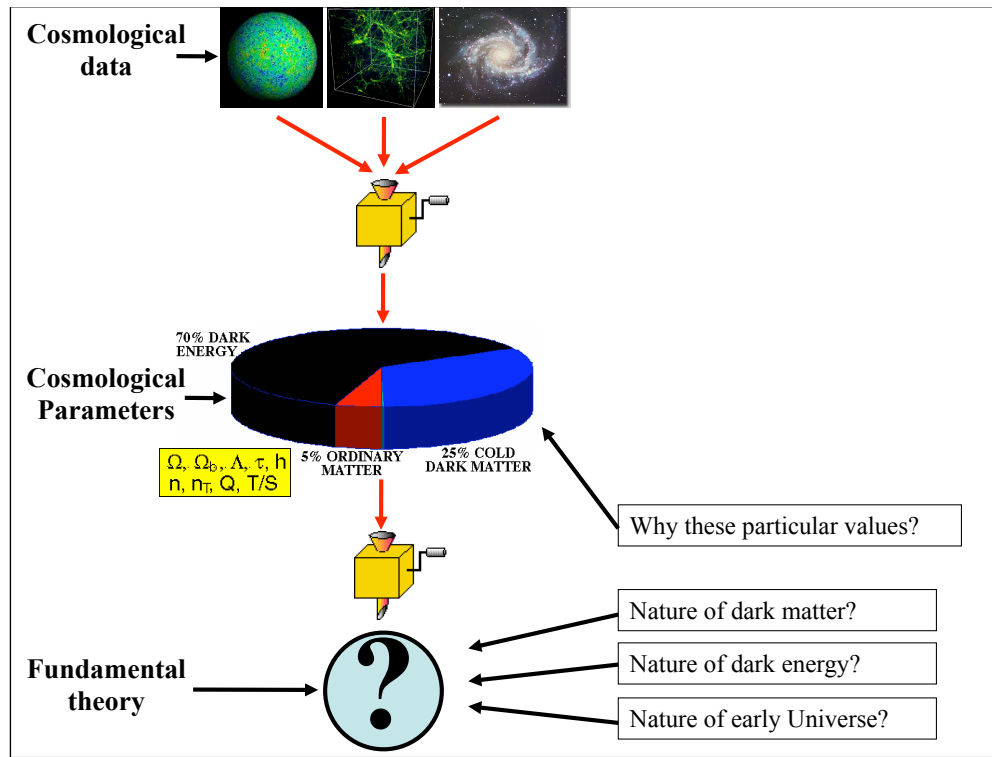
Moreover, this immensity could be the aftermath of just one big bang out of many (eternal inflation, braneworlds, etc)



Braneworlds...







BASIC NUMBERS

Density of baryons, dark matter and dark energy
curvature

Q

Coupling constants, etc

These numbers seem universal over the part of our universe that we can observe.

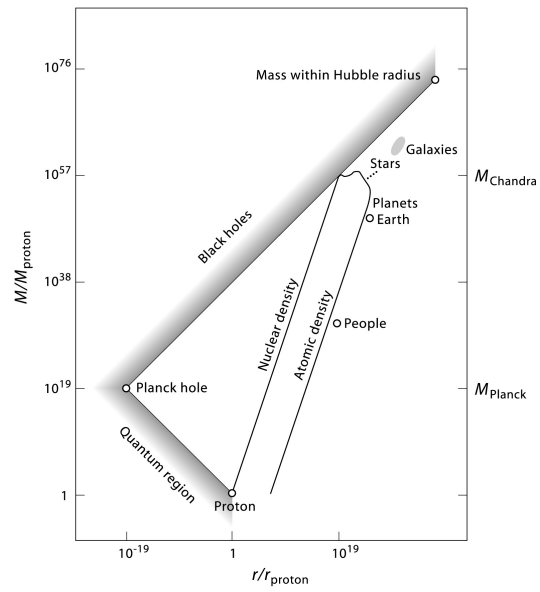
BUT IF THIS OBSERVED DOMAIN IS ONLY AN INFINITESIMAL FRACTION OF PHYSICAL REALITY MAYBE SOME OF THEM ARE -- IN THIS GRANDER CONTEXT -- NOT TRULY UNIVERSAL?

What part of parameter space
allows interesting complexity?

(An exercise in ‘counterfactual
history’ -- interesting irrespective of
‘philosophical’ preconceptions. No
need to introduce the A-word)

Prerequisites for complex cosmos

- *Gravity -- but the weaker the better (At least one very large number in physics)*



Prerequisites for complex cosmos

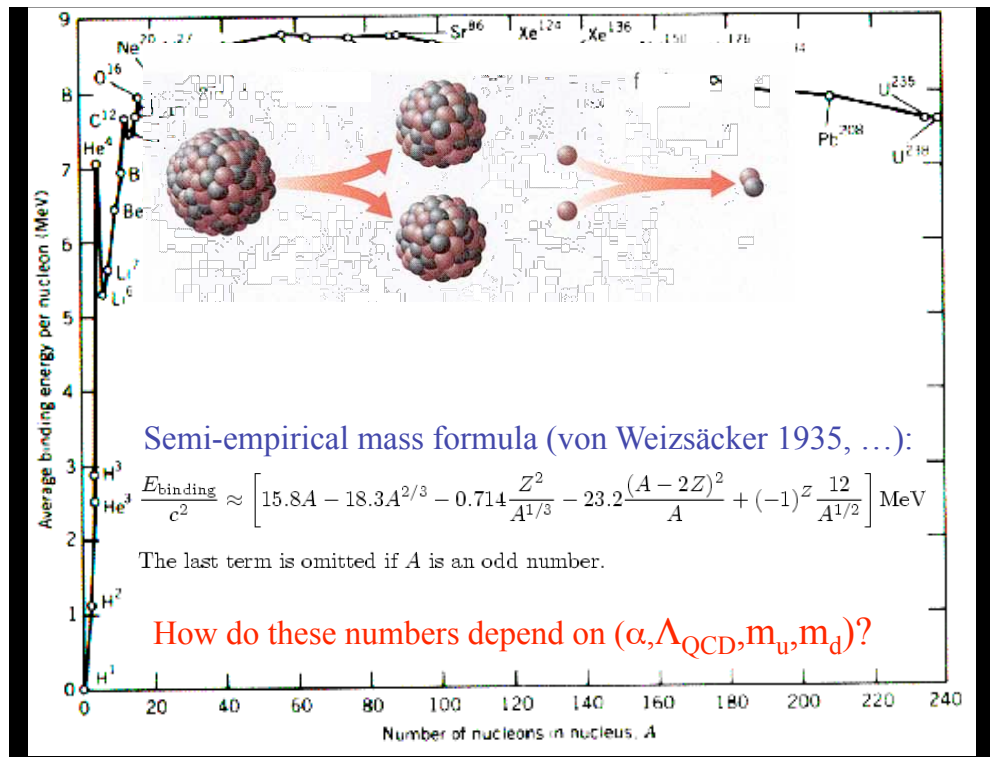
- *Gravity -- but weaker the better (at least one very large number in physics)*
- *Departures from thermodynamic equilibrium*

Prerequisites for complex cosmos

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- *Matter/antimatter asymmetry*

Prerequisites for complex cosmos

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- *Non-trivial chemistry ('tuning' between nuclear and e-m forces)*



Semi-empirical mass formula (von Weizsäcker 1935, ...):

$$\frac{E_{\text{binding}}}{c^2} \approx \left[15.8A - 18.3A^{2/3} - 0.714 \frac{Z^2}{A^{1/3}} - 23.2 \frac{(A-2Z)^2}{A} + (-1)^Z \frac{12}{A^{1/2}} \right] \text{MeV}$$

The last term is omitted if A is an odd number.

How do these numbers depend on $(\alpha, \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}, m_u, m_d)$?

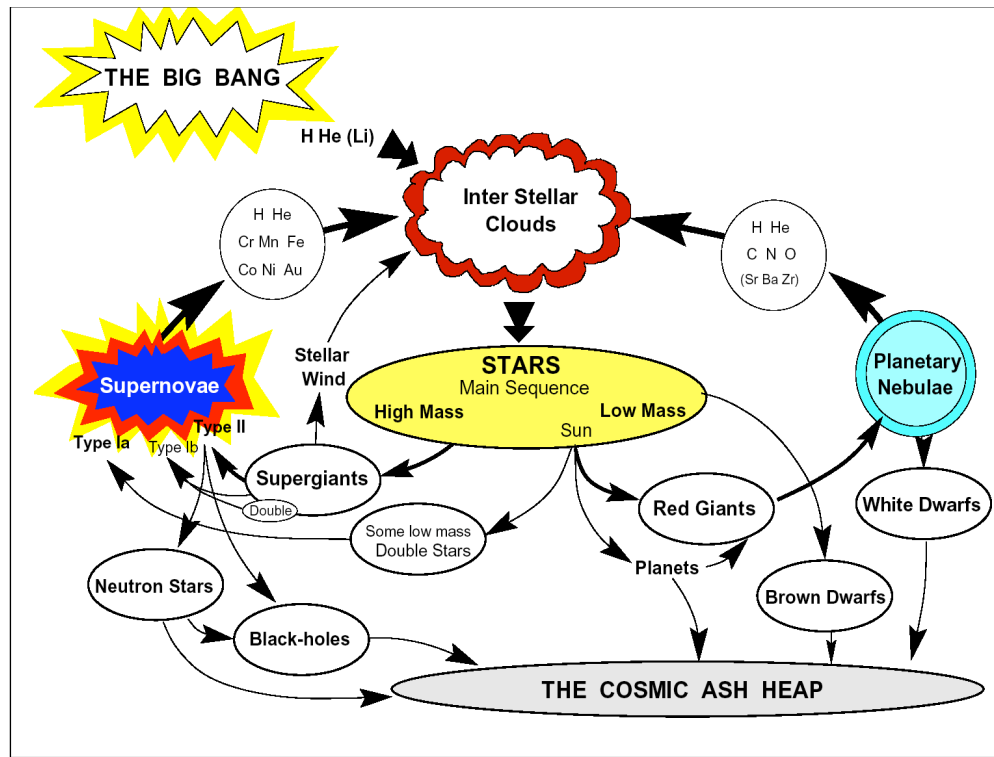
Obviously, at the present time we have more than enough to do in order to understand how the world works the way we find it. But I think *one must have at least a modicum of curiosity about the strange dimensionless numbers that appear in physics.*

There seem to be *two lines of attack* on questions such as these, the *first* to demonstrate that the precise numerical values of the dimensionless *numbers are all entirely necessary to the logical consistency of physics.* The *second* point of view is that some, if not all, of the numbers in question are fluctuations; that in *other places of the universe their values would be different. My inclination is to favour this second point of view. On this second basis the curious placing of the levels in C^{12} and O^{16} need no longer have the appearance of astonishing accidents.* It could simply be that since creatures like ourselves depend on a balance between carbon and oxygen, we can exist only in the portions of the universe where these levels happen to be correctly placed. In other places the level in O^{16} might be a little higher, so that the addition of α -particles to C^{12} was highly resonant. In such a place oxygen would be overwhelmingly more abundant than carbon, and creatures like ourselves could not exist.

Hoyle "Galaxies, Nuclei & Quasars" 1968

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- *At least one star (and '2nd generation' stars?)*



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- *'Tuned' cosmic expansion rate*

Tests of inflation

- ‘flatness’
- Curvature fluctuations close to scale-independent (amplitude Q), but with ‘tilt’ towards large scales
- Tensor/scalar ratio of fluctuation amplitudes non-zero, and a diagnostic of physics in the inflationary era

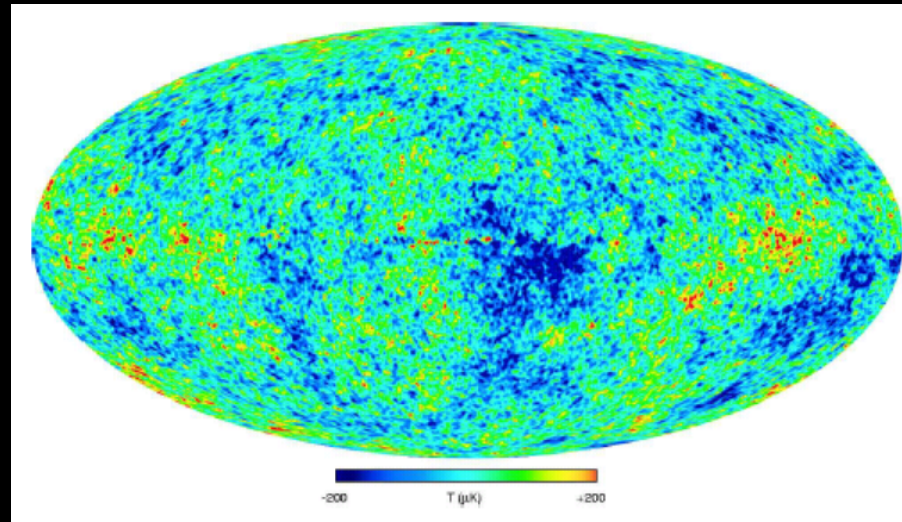
'Fine tuning' of lambda

(also 'fine tuning' of curvature, but
inflation can explain that)

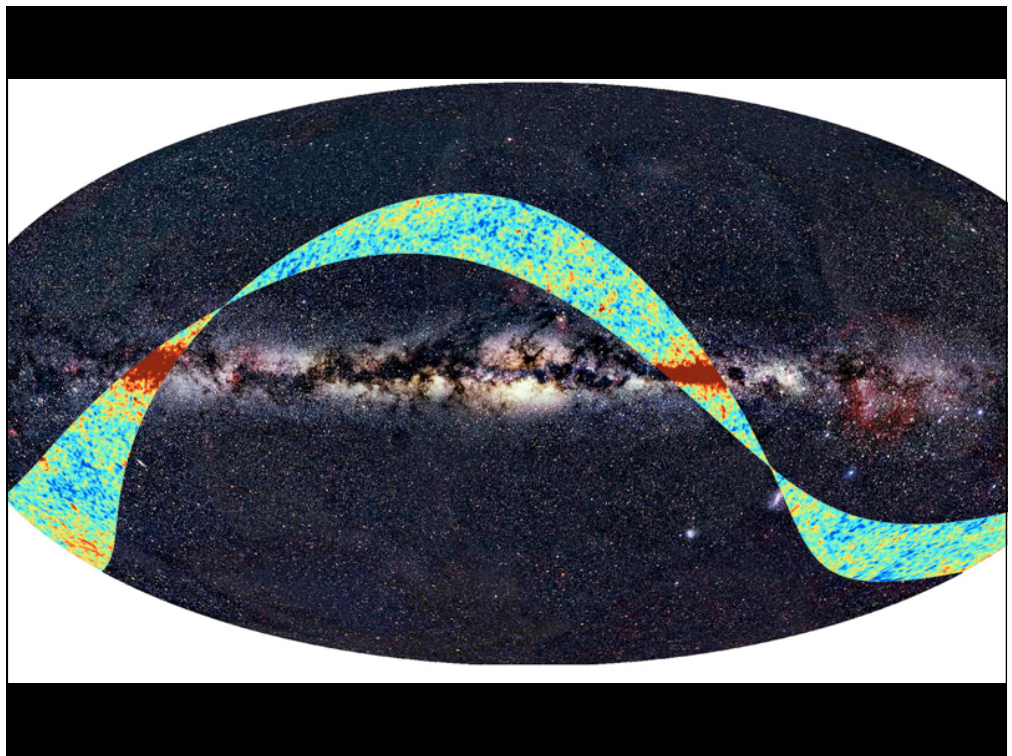
Prerequisites for complex cosmos

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- *At least one star (and '2nd generation' stars?)*
- *'Tuned' cosmic expansion rate*
- *Non-zero fluctuations in early universe*

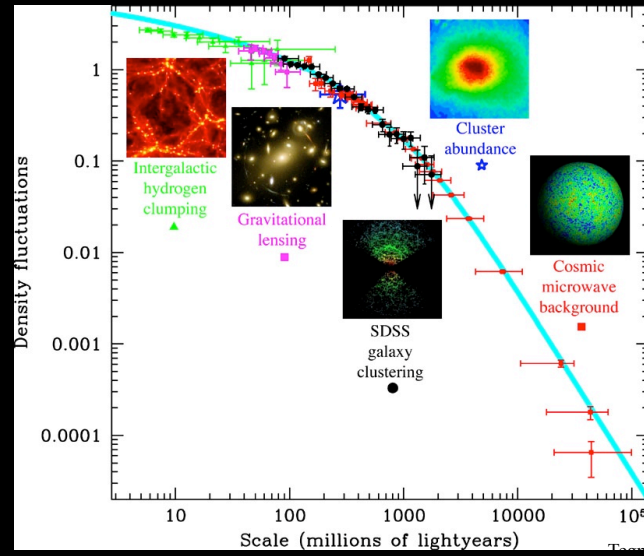
WMAP CBR SKY



Page et al; 2003







We know the DM power spectrum very well!

A fundamental(?) number

The amplitude (Q) of fluctuations in the early universe.

FLUCTUATION AMPLITUDE

$$Q \cong 10^{-5} \left(\sim \frac{\Delta T}{T} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

→ Bound Systems* with Gravitational Binding Energy QMc^2
(Virial Velocity $Q^{1/2}c$)

Max Non-Linear Scale

→ $Q^{1/2}$ x (Hubble Radius).

*Formation of Bound System Requires Expansion Factor of $> \sim Q^{-1}$ After System Enters Horizon.

AN ANAEMIC UNIVERSE ($Q = 10^{-6}$)

Small loosely-bound galaxies form later than in our universe; star formation is still possible, but processed material is likely to be expelled from shallow potential wells. There may be no second-generation stars containing heavy elements, and so no planetary systems at all.

If Q were significantly lower than 10^{-6} , then gas would be unable to cool with a Hubble time.*

In a Λ -dominated universe, isolated clumps could survive for an infinite time without merging into a larger scale of hierarchy. So eventually, for any $Q > 10^{-8}$, a 'star' could form – but by that time there would be merely one minihalo within the entire event horizon!

UNIVERSE WITH $Q > 10^{-3}$

Monster overdensities (up to $10^{18} M_{\odot}$) condense out early enough that they trap the CMB radiation, and collapse as radiation-pressure-dominated hypermassive objects unable to fragment*. This leads to universe of vast holes, clustered on scales up to several percent of Hubble radius (and probably pervaded by intense 'hard' radiation).

It isn't obvious that much baryonic material would ever go into stars. (If so they would be in very compact highly bound systems.)

**This does not require pre-combination collapse. Collapse at (say) 10^7 years would lead to sufficient partial reionization (via strong shocks) to recouple the baryons and CMB.*

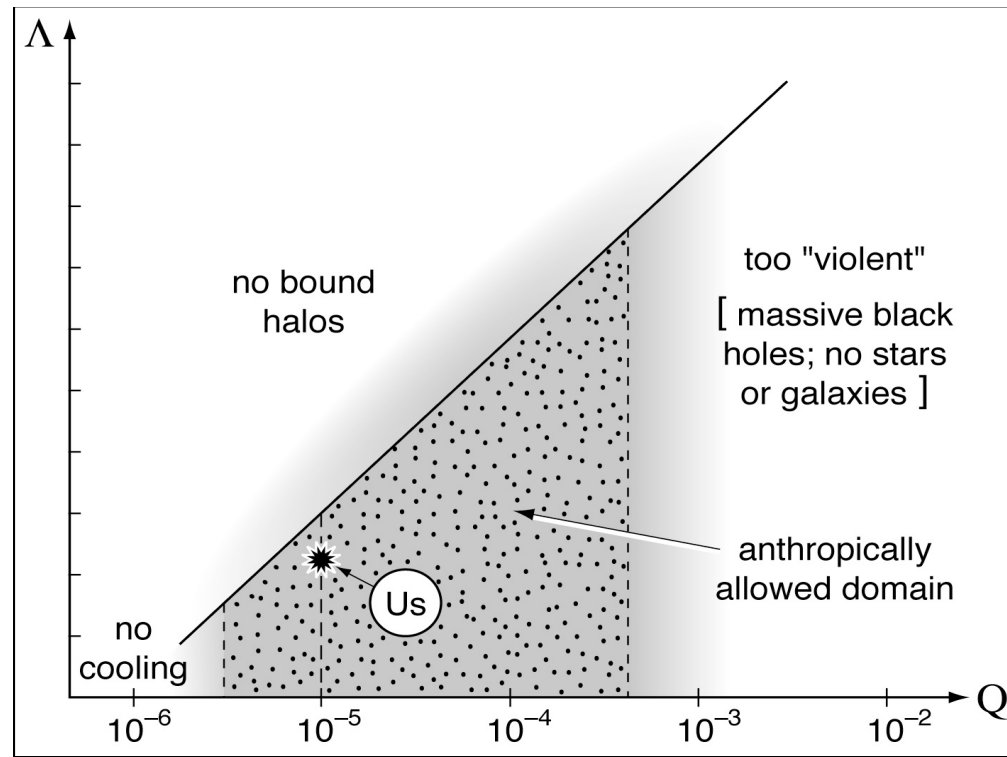
POSSIBLE UNIVERSE WITH $Q = 10^{-4}$

**perhaps more interesting than ours!*

Masses $>\sim 10^{14} M_{\odot}$ condense at $3 \cdot 10^8$ yrs into huge disc galaxies with orbital velocity ~ 2000 km/sec (gas would cool efficiently via Compton cooling, leading probably to efficient star formation).

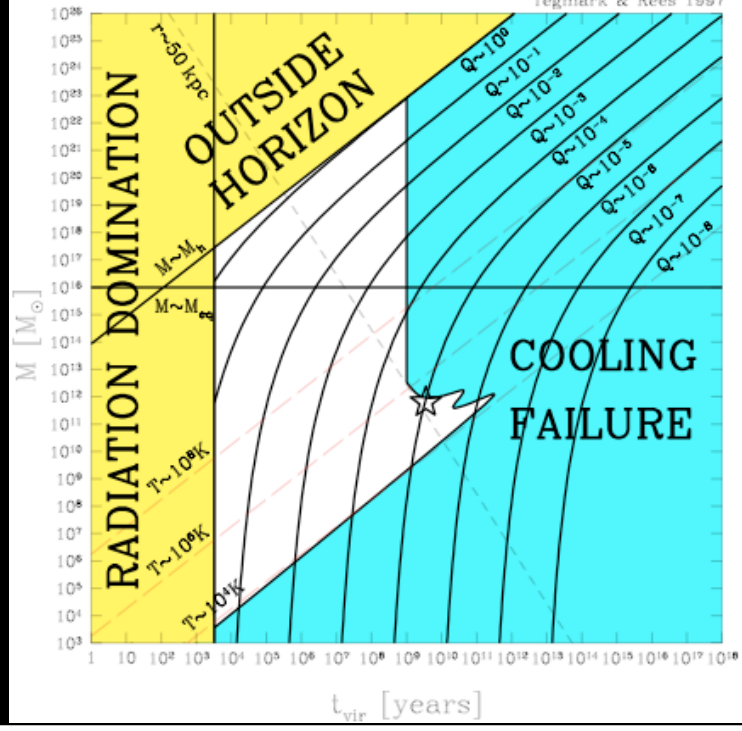
These would, after 10^{10} yrs, be in clusters of
 $>\sim 10^{16} M_{\odot}$.

There would be a larger range of non-linear scales than in our actual universe. Only possible 'disfavouring' feature is that stellar systems may be too packed together to permit unperturbed planetary orbits.

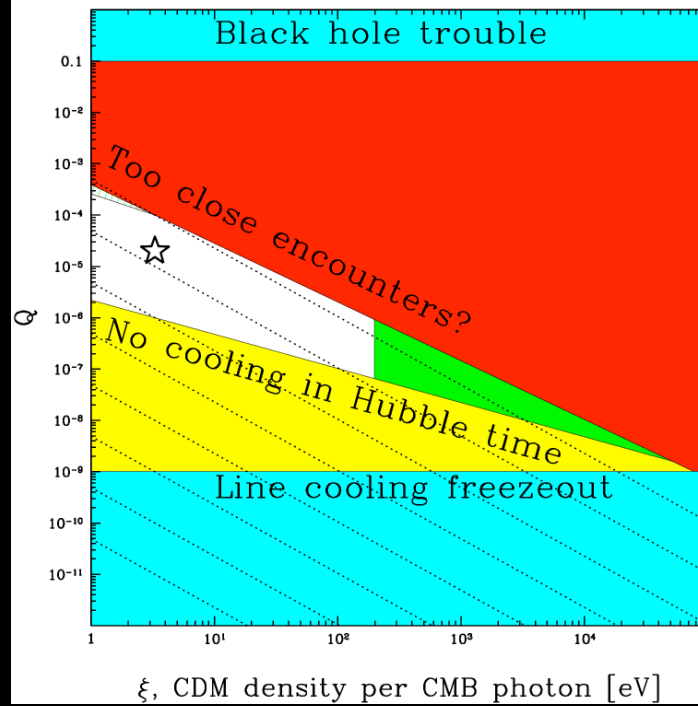


Another fundamental(?) number; dark matter mass per photon

- Affects growth factor and present-day mass spectrum of CDM fluctuations for given Q
- Affects baryon/dark matter density ratio in halos
- *(If dark matter is axions, the prior distribution of this number is known).*



Constraint	Generally
Need nonlinear halos	$ \rho_\Lambda \lesssim \rho_*$
Avoid line cooling freezeout	$Q \gtrsim \alpha^2 \beta$
Primordial black hole excess	$Q \lesssim 10^{-1}$
Need cooling in Hubble time	$Q^3 \xi_b^2 \xi^2 \gtrsim \alpha^{-3} \ln[\alpha^{-2}]^{-16/3} \beta^4 m_p^6 / 125$
Avoid close encounters	
Go nonlinear after decoupling	$\xi Q \lesssim 10^{-3} \alpha^2 \beta m_p$
Need equality before decoupling?	$\xi \gtrsim 0.05 \alpha^2 \beta m_p$
Avoid severe Silk damping	$f_b \lesssim 1/2$
Need disk instability	$f_b \lesssim 10^2$



HOW MANY BIG BANGS?

one

many

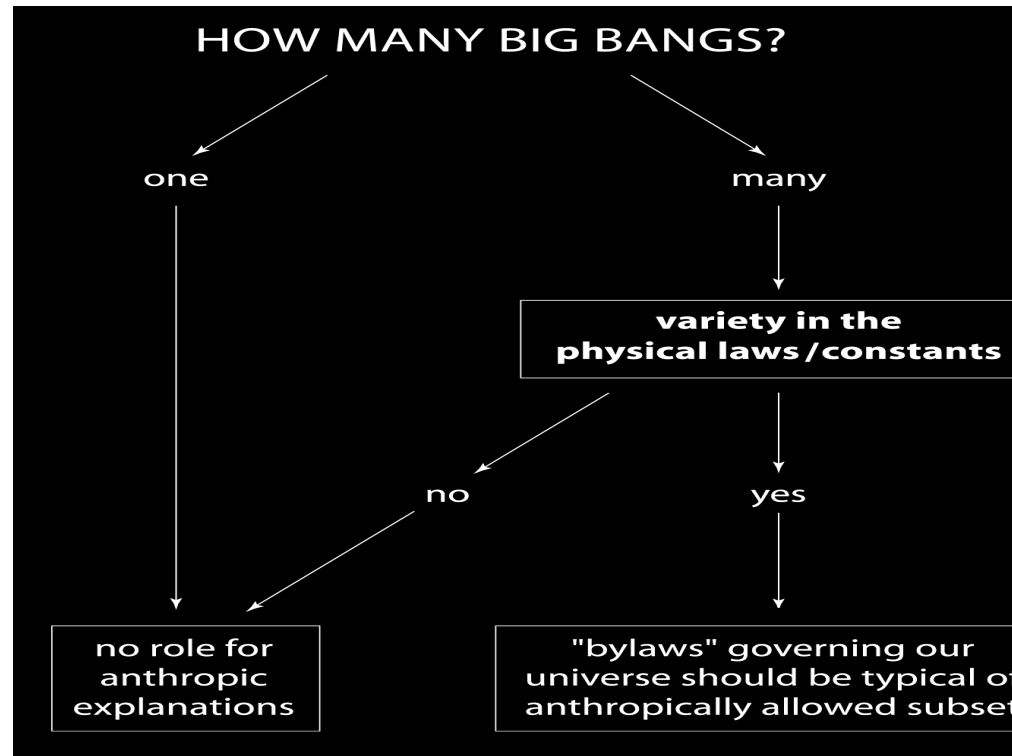
**variety in the
physical laws/constants**

no

yes

no role for
anthropic
explanations

"bylaws" governing our
universe should be typical of
anthropically allowed subset



THE FUNDAMENTAL THEORY

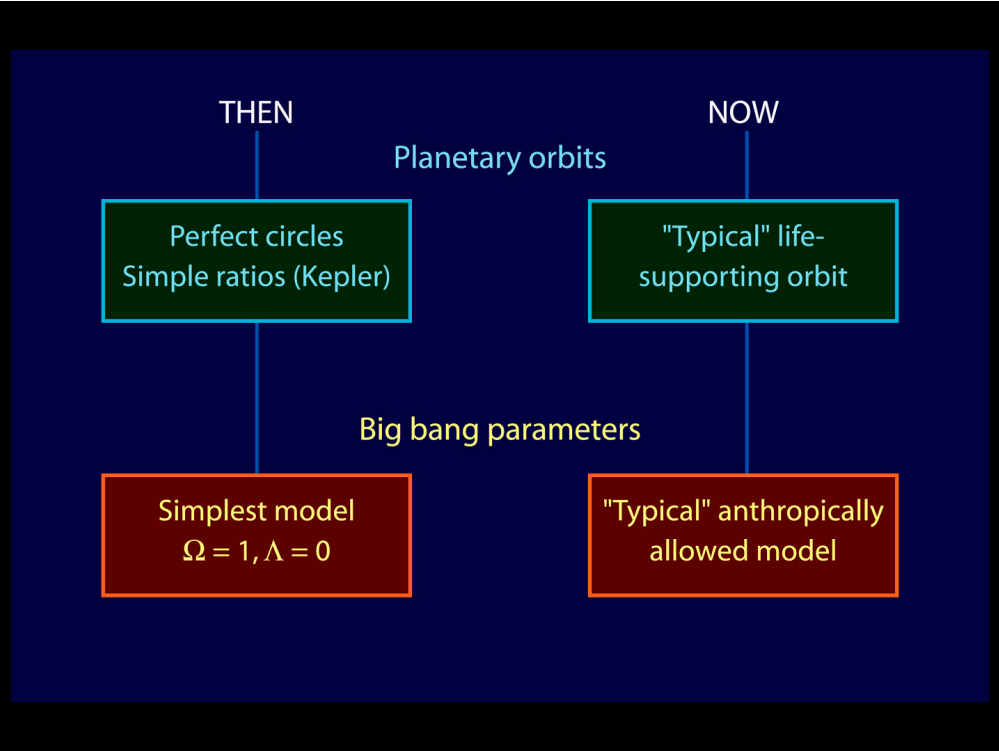
determine all parameters uniquely

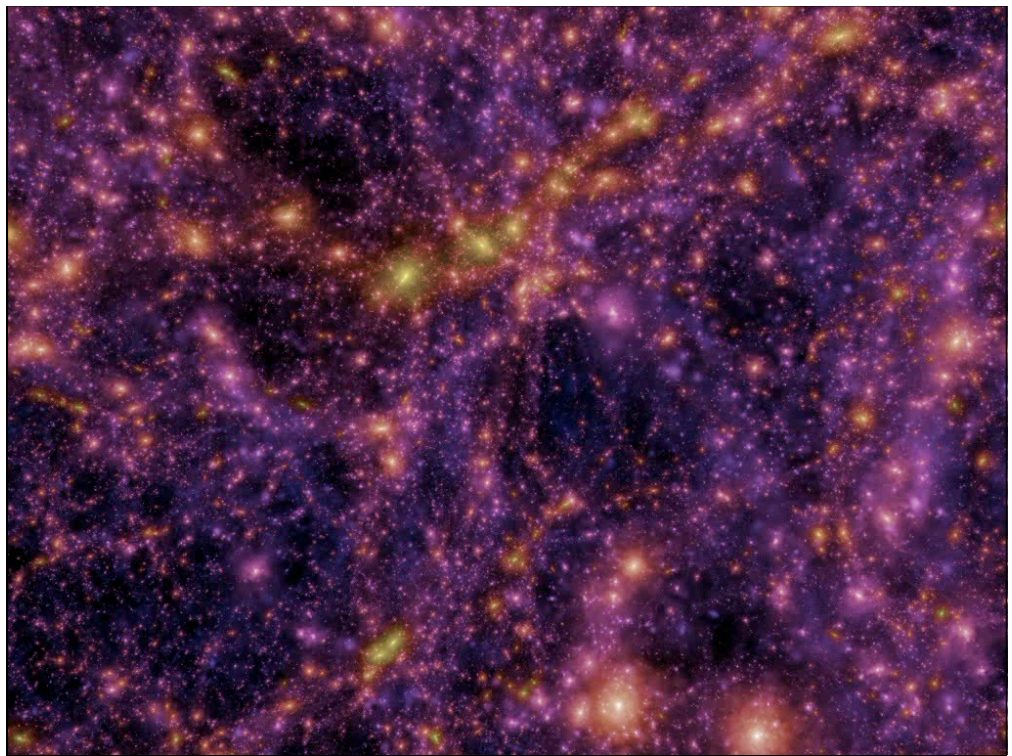
or

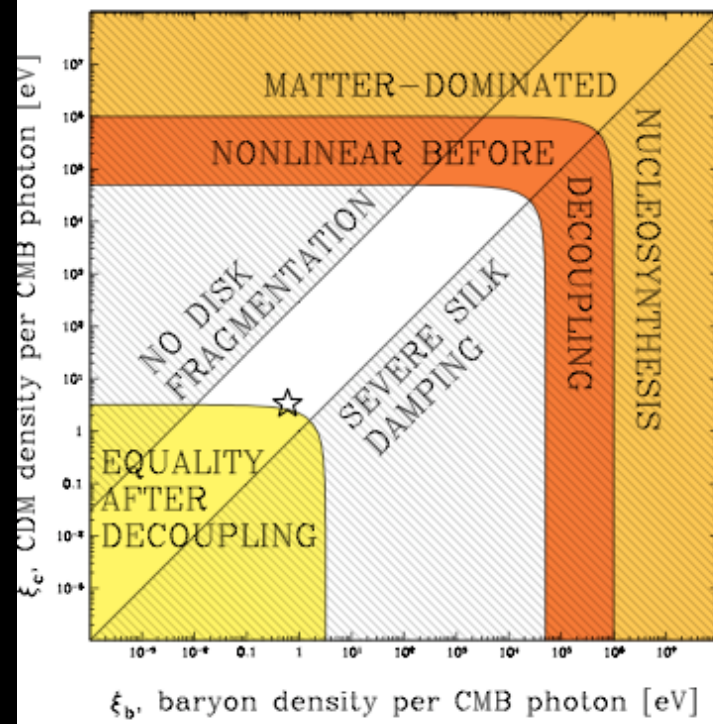
allow universes with several --- or even an infinity of --- values for some parameters, dependent on the outcome of symmetry-breaking, compactification, etc.

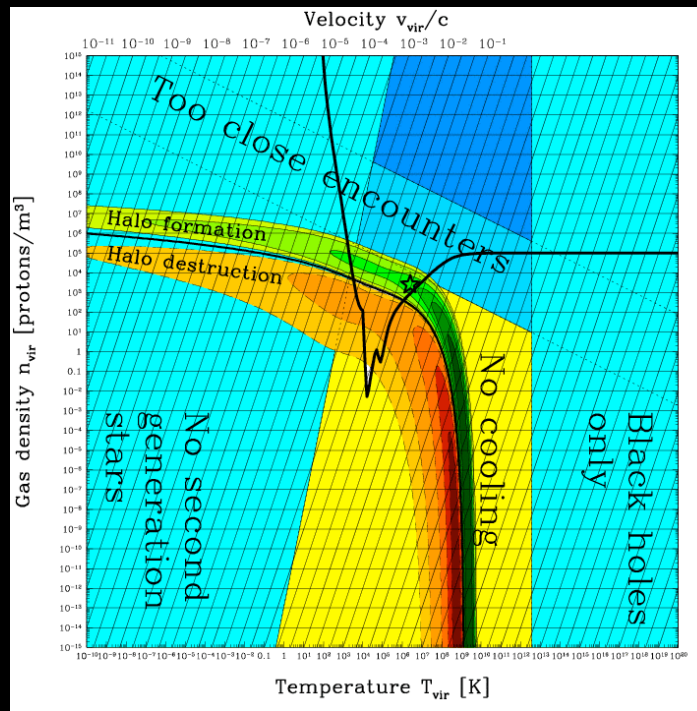
no role for anthropic reasoning

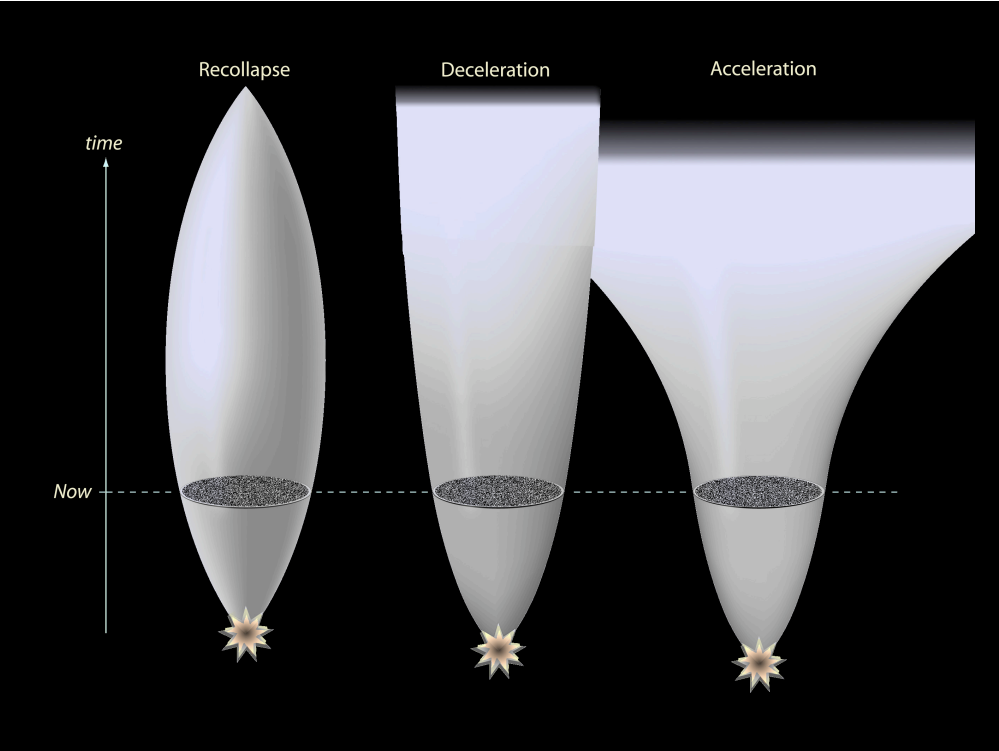
the parameters in our "universe" should be typical of the **anthropically allowed** subset, weighted by the (theory generated) prior probability distribution

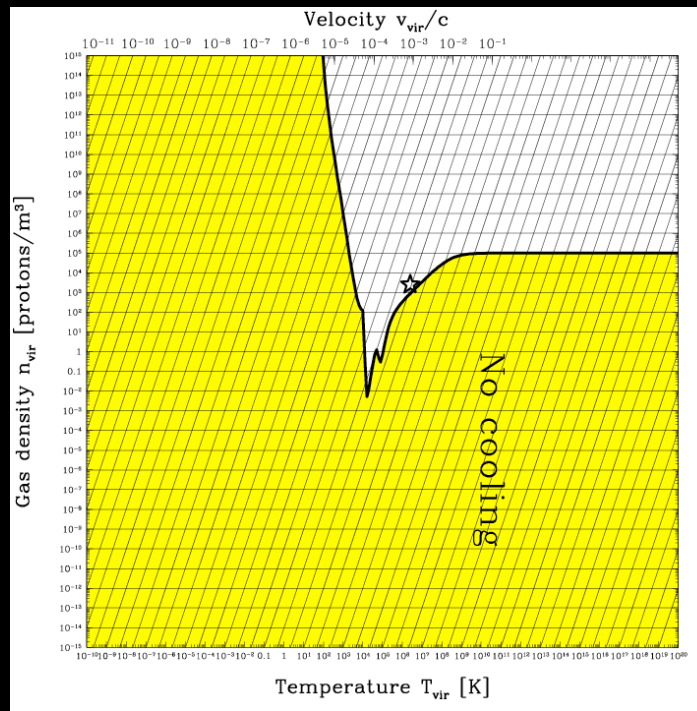


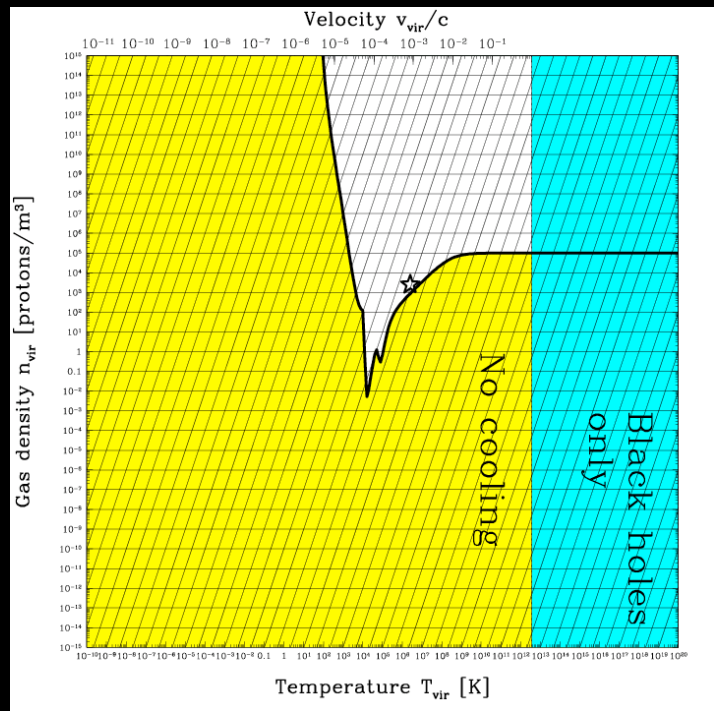




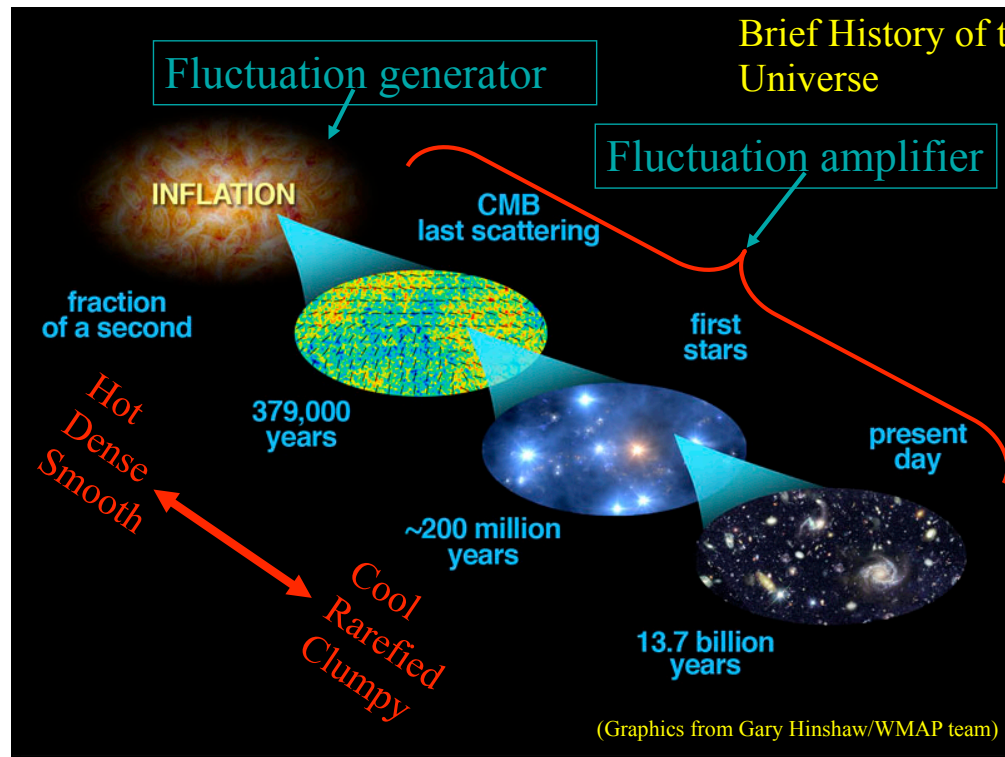


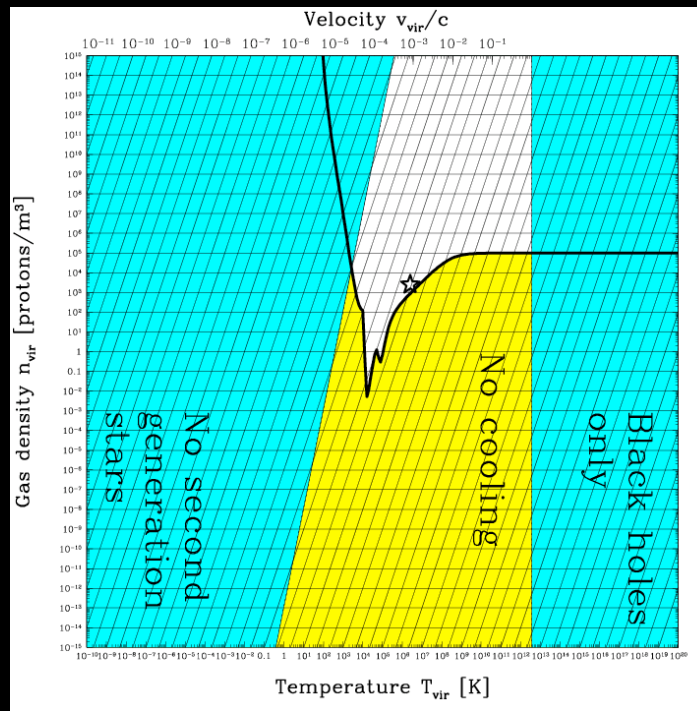


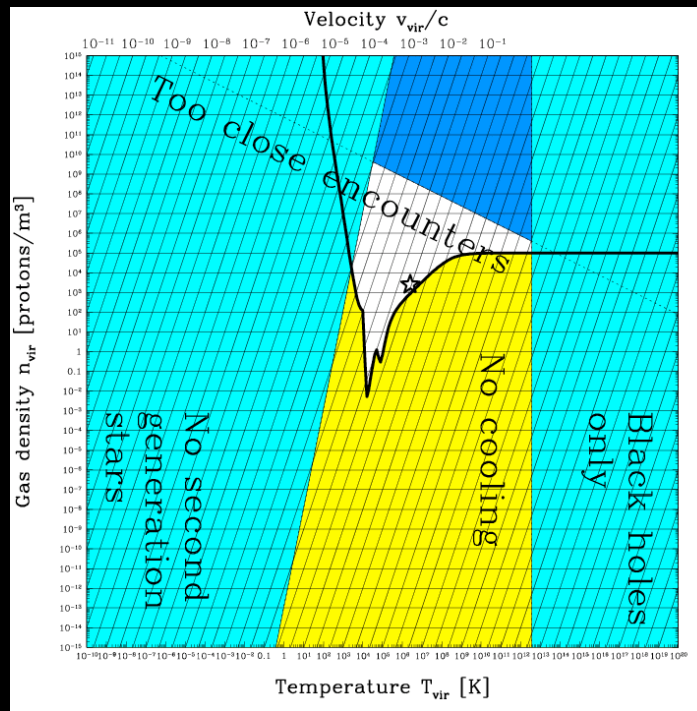


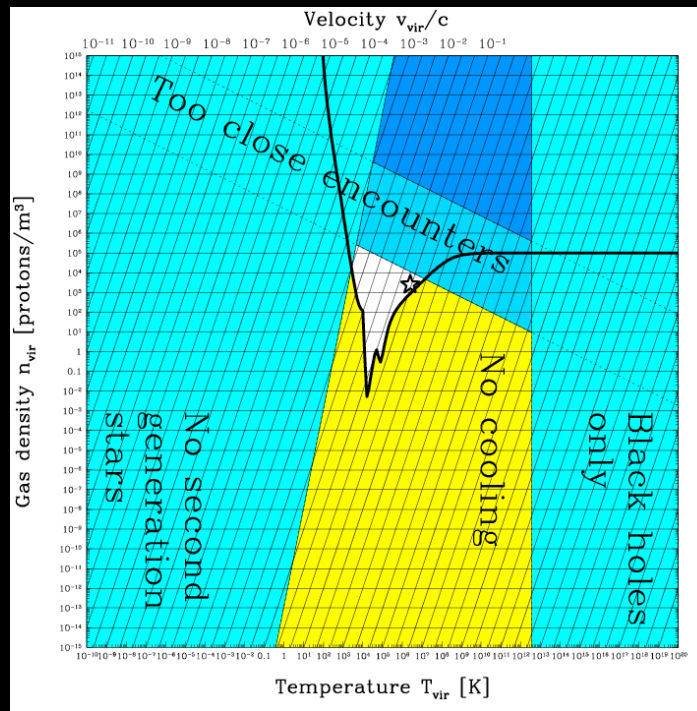


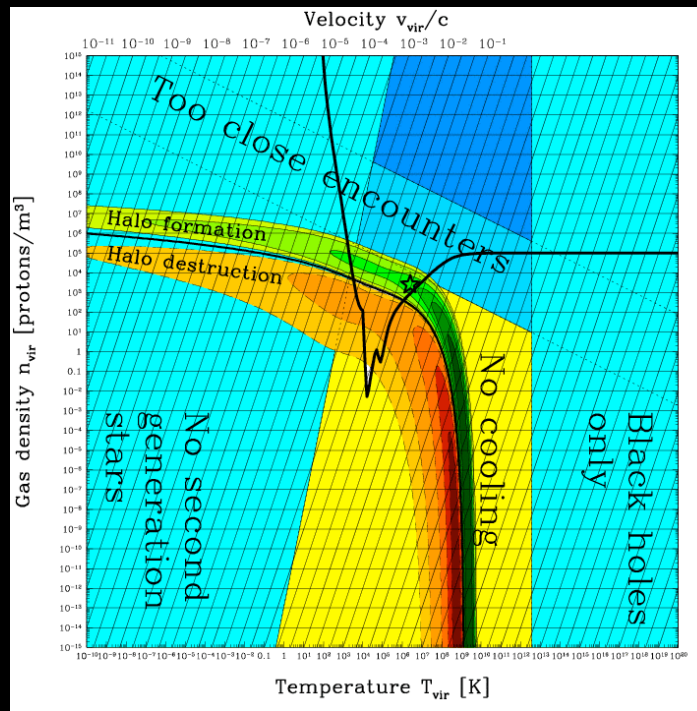
Brief History of the Universe

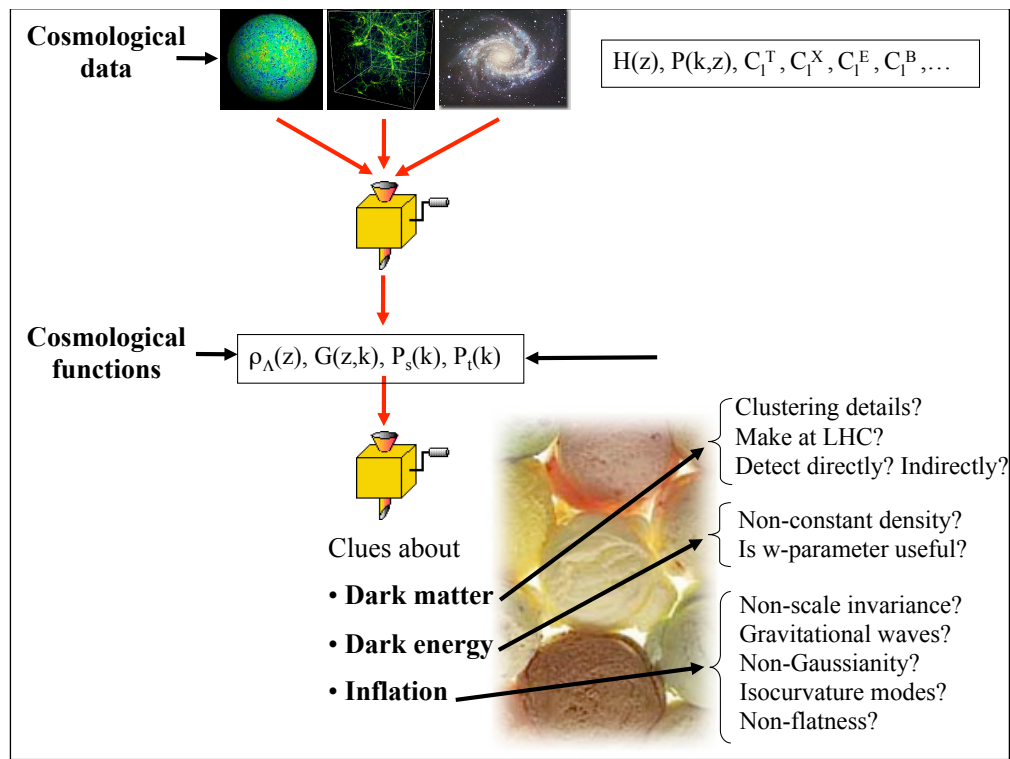


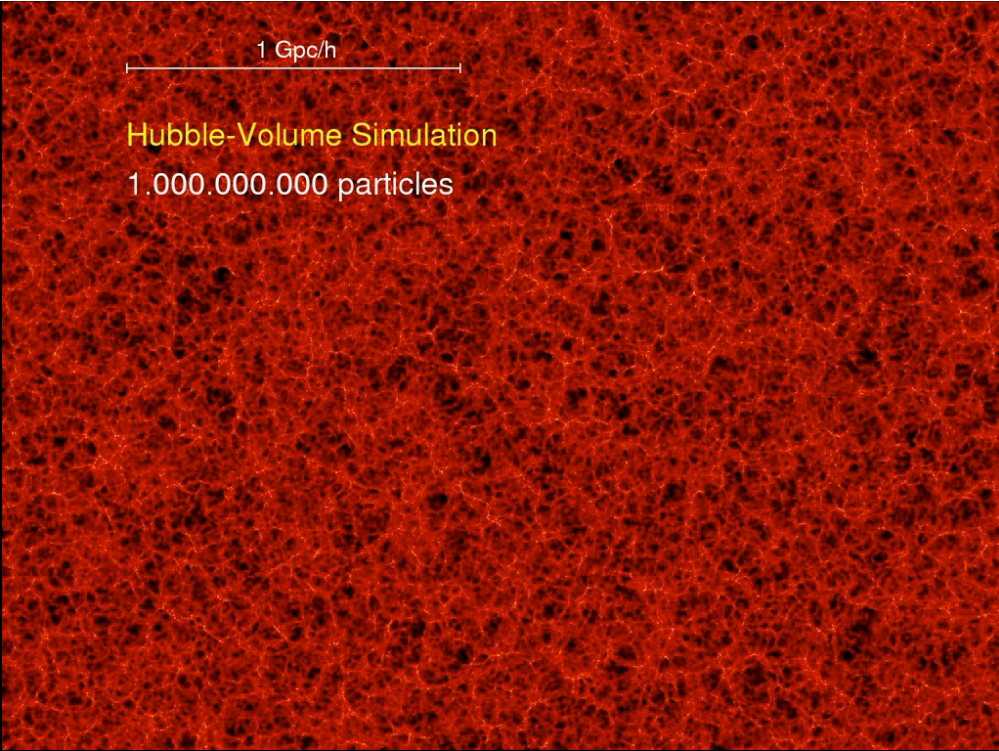






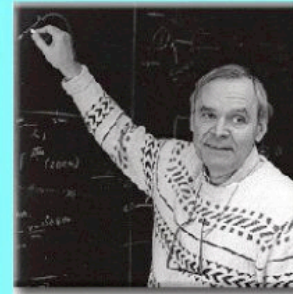




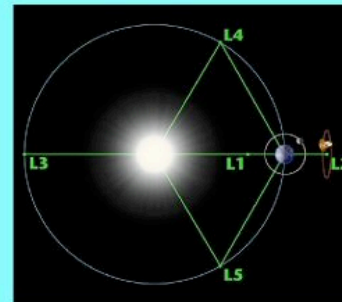
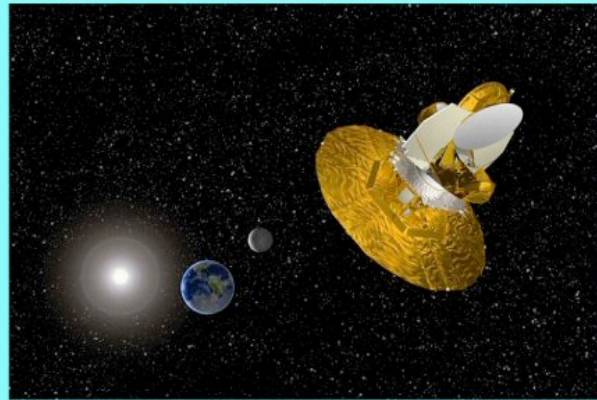


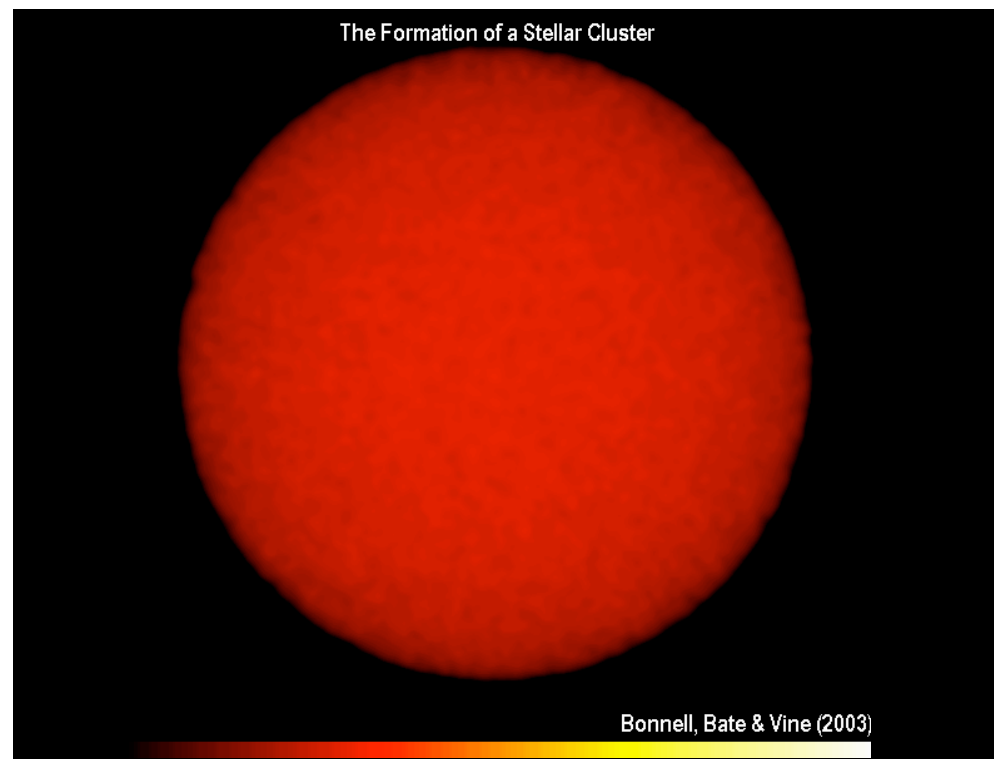
WMAP: Wilkinson Microwave Anisotropy Probe

Images courtesy of NASA/WMAP Science Team



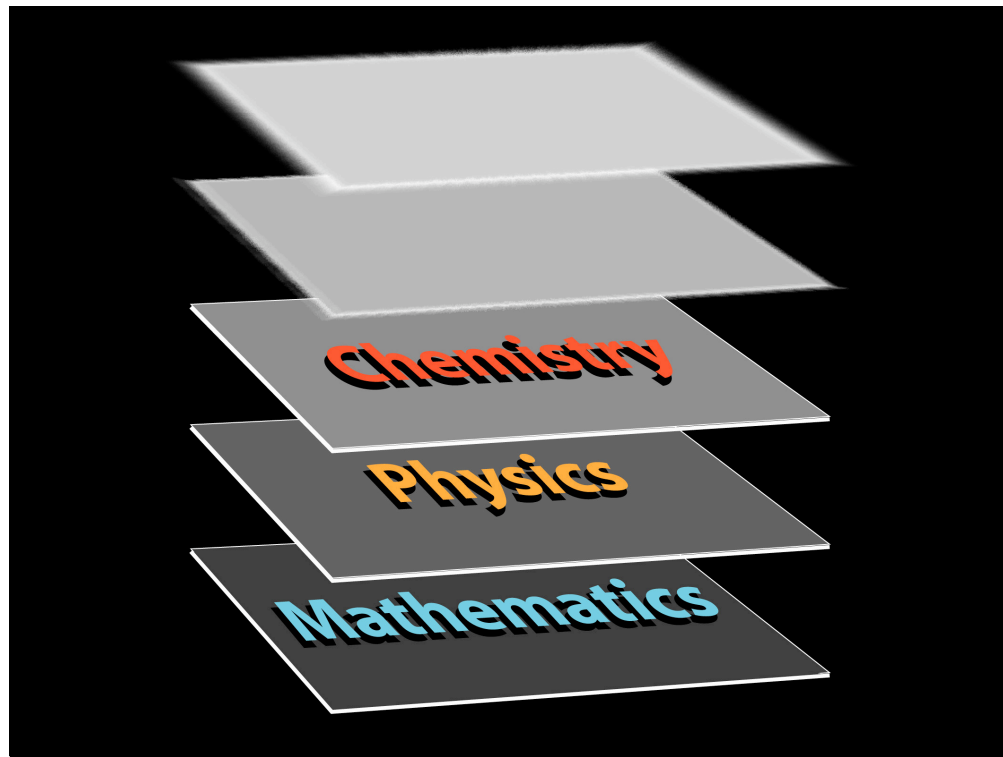
David T. Wilkinson

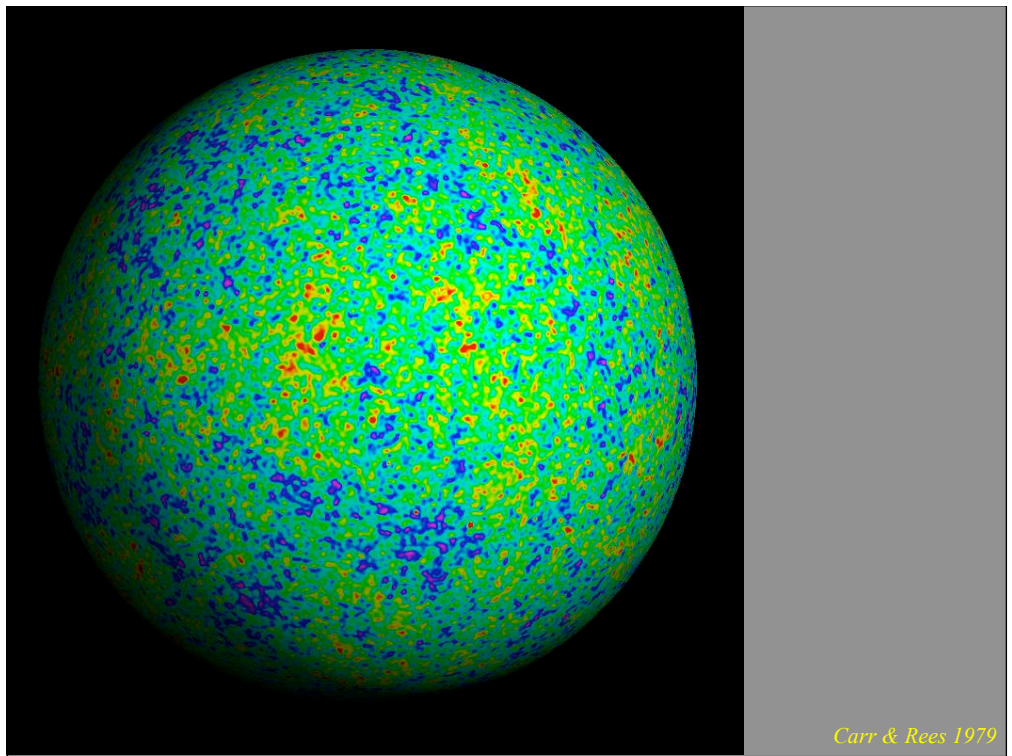




Ian Bonnell, St Andrews. Simulation of 1000 solar mass cloud 0.5 parsec in diameter, collapsing under gravity. It forms 419 stars varying in mass from 0.1 to 30 solar mass

Takes place in 500 000 years.





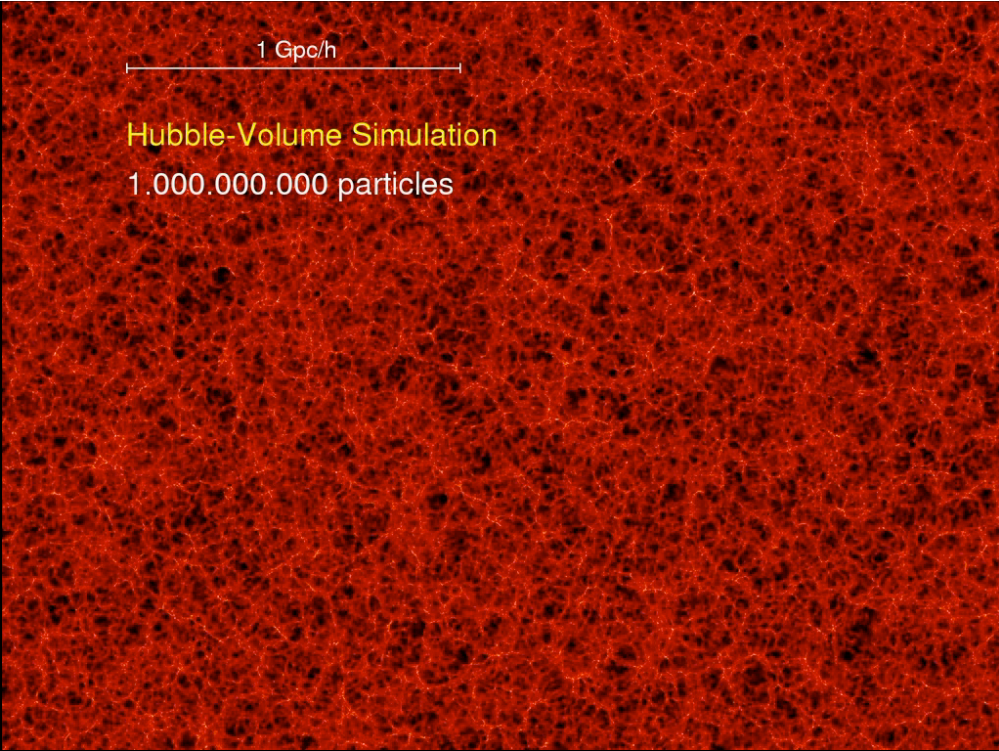
Carr & Rees 1979

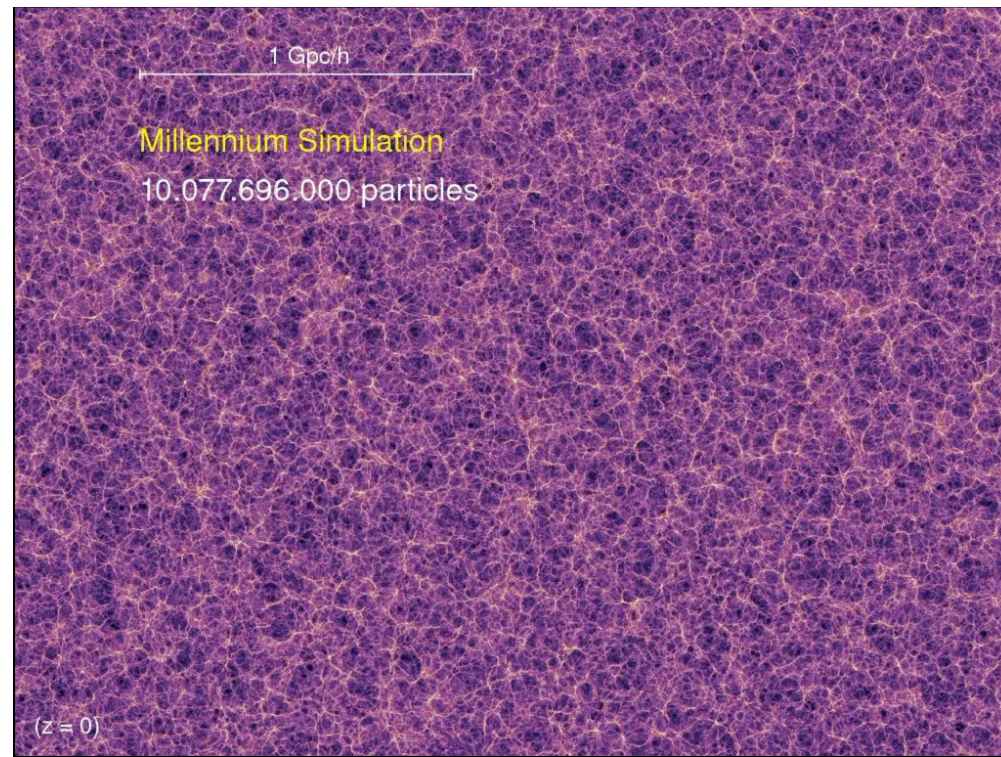
Just six numbers

Six constants of nature whose values must lie in an 'anthropic' range for life to emerge

1. $D = 3$ The number of spatial dimensions
2. $G/E = 10^{-36}$ The ratio of gravitational to electrostatic force
3. $S = 0.007$ A measure of the strong force that binds nuclei
4. $\Omega_{\text{Total}} = 1$ The density of matter/energy in space
5. $Q = 0.00001$ The scale of fluctuations in the microwave background
6. $\Omega_{\Lambda} = 0.7$ Omega lambda, a measure of the vacuum energy of the universe

- Coincidence?
- Consequence?
- Multiverse?





Calculations of
the primal
“cooking” of the
chemical
elements predict

Hydrogen

Helium

Lithium

etc, correctly!

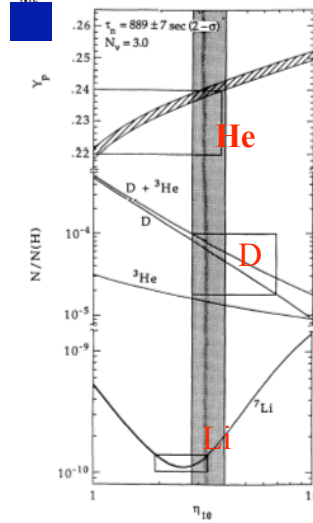
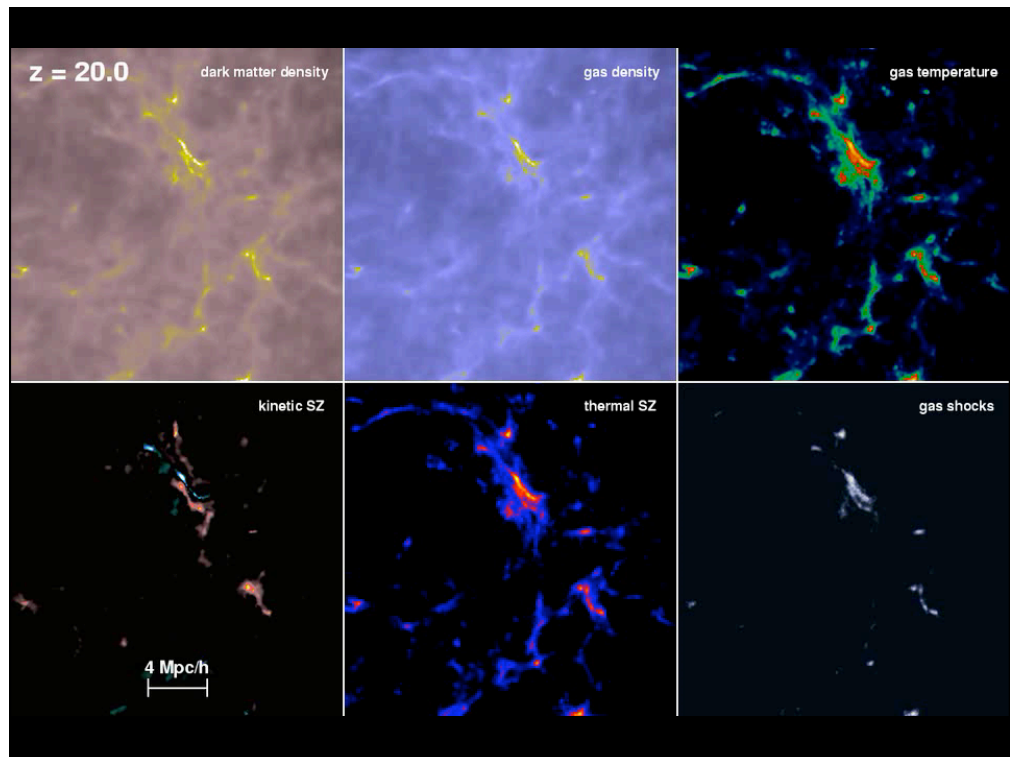
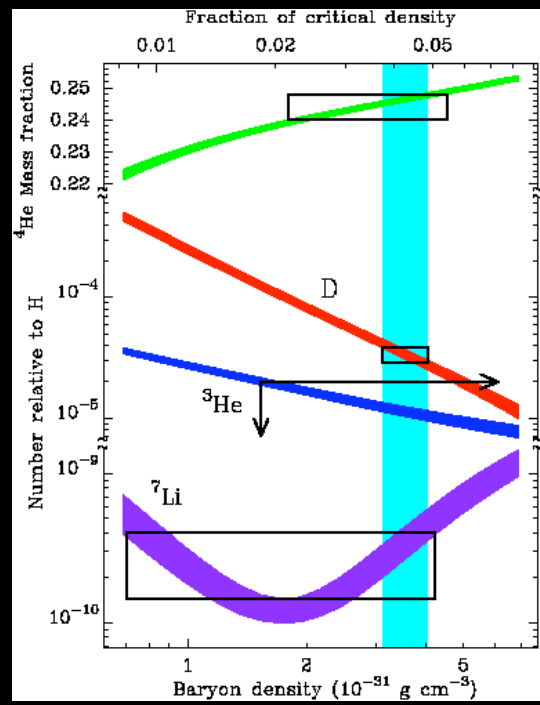


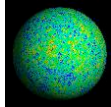
FIG. 13.—Predicted abundances (by number) of D, ${}^3\text{He}$, $D + {}^3\text{He}$, and ${}^7\text{Li}$, and the ${}^4\text{He}$ mass fraction as a function of η for $N_n = 3$ and $882 \leq \tau_n \leq 896$ s. The 95% CL bounds on the abundances (see text) are shown. The vertical band delimits the range of η consistent with the observations.



the challenge

- How, from a 'beginning' described by a few parameters, did our Universe evolve into its present complexity?
- Can we understand, at a deeper level, why our Universe is the way it is?

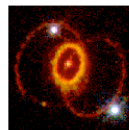




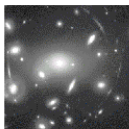
CMB



GALAXY SURVEYS



DISTANT SUPERNOVAE

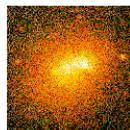


GRAVITATIONAL LENSING

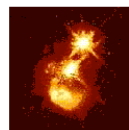
THE COSMIC SMÖRGÅSBORD



BIG BANG NUCLEOSYNTHESIS



GALAXY CLUSTERS



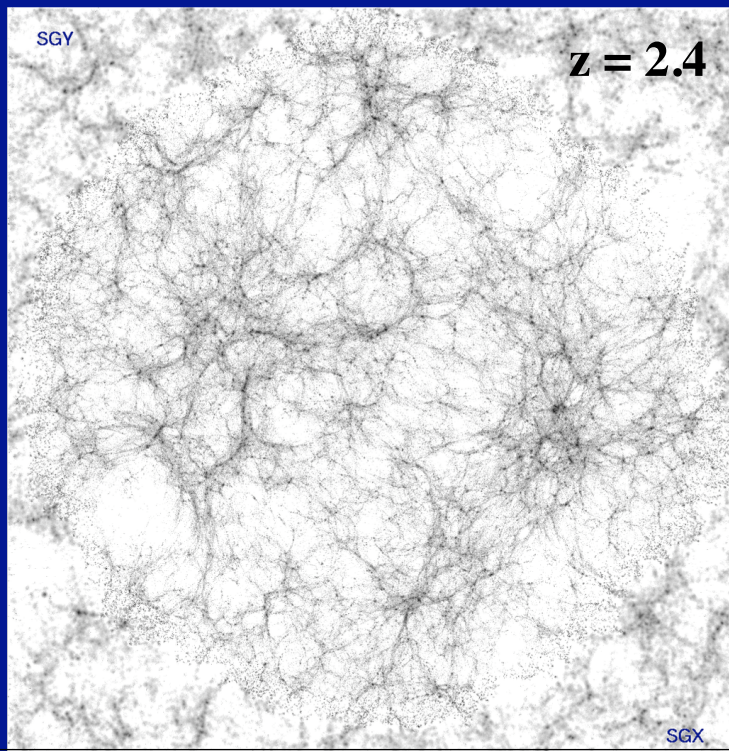
LYMAN ALPHA FOREST



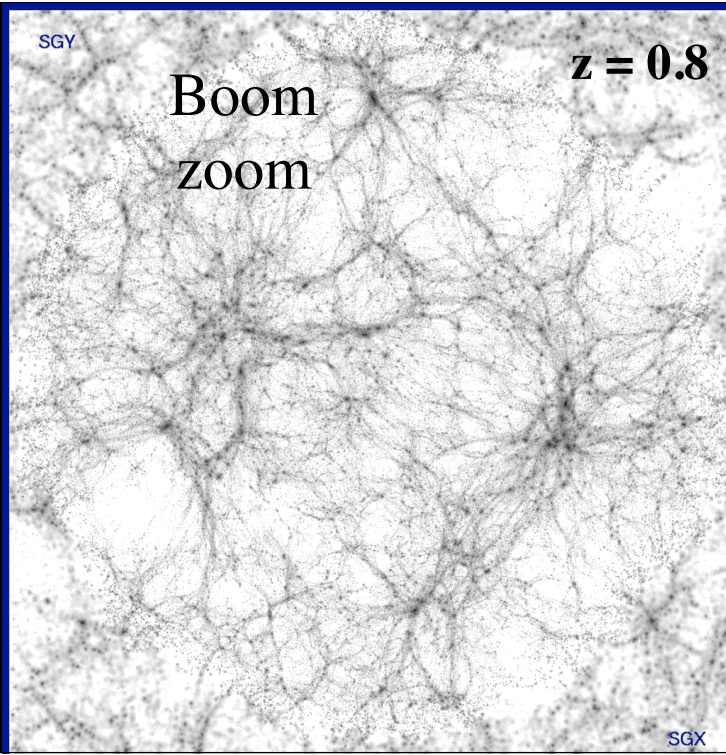
Boom
zoom

$z = 1000$

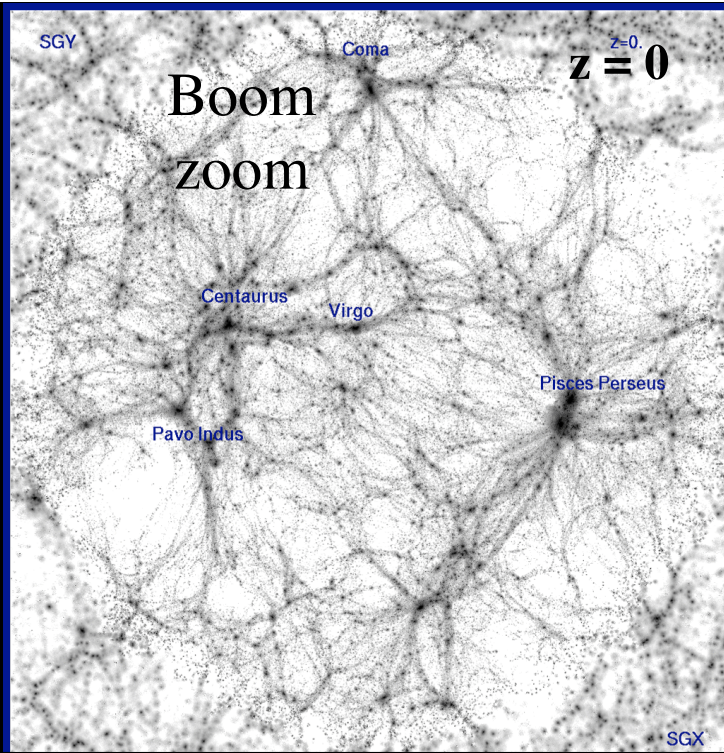
Mathis, Lemson, Springel, Kauffmann, White & Dekel 2001

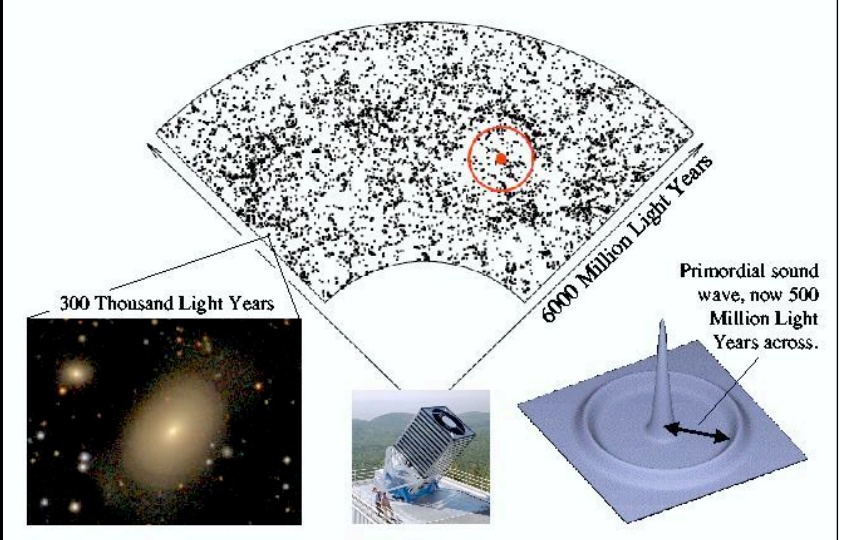


Mathis, Lemson, Springel, Kauffmann, White & Dekel 2001



Mathis, Lemson, Springel, Kauffmann, White & Dekel 2001



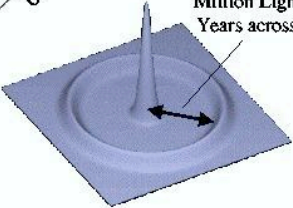


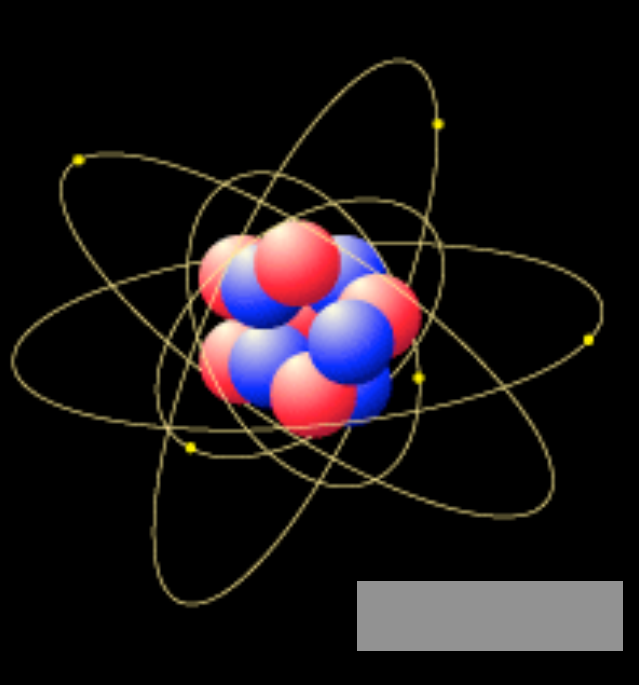
300 Thousand Light Years



600 Million Light Years

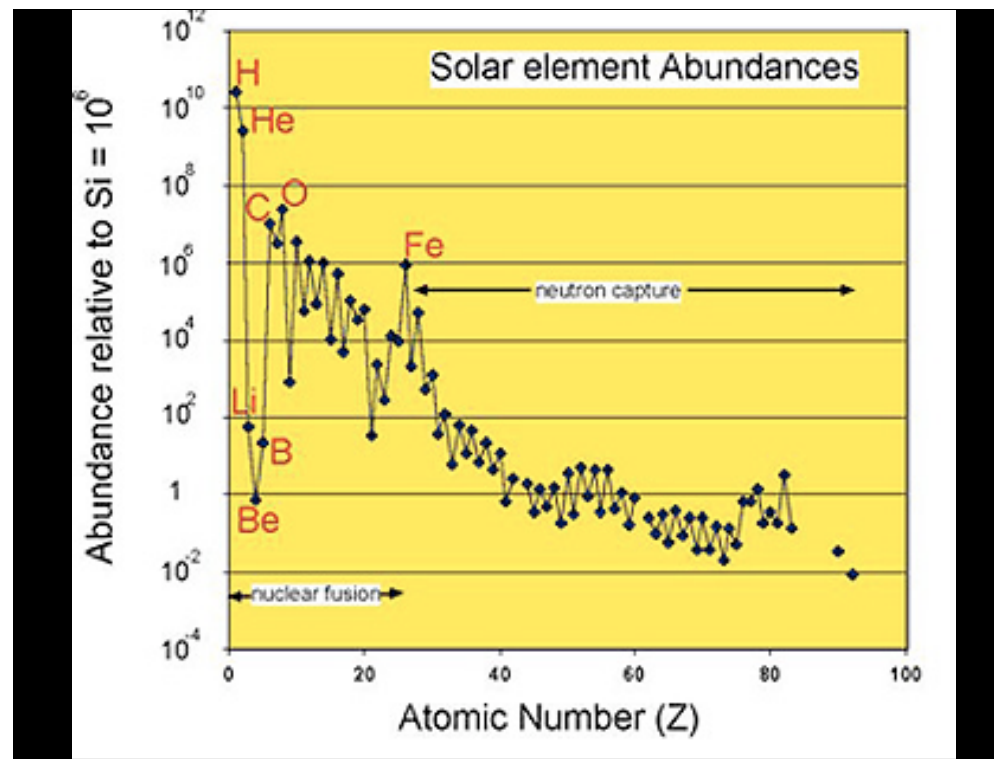
Primordial sound wave, now 500 Million Light Years across.

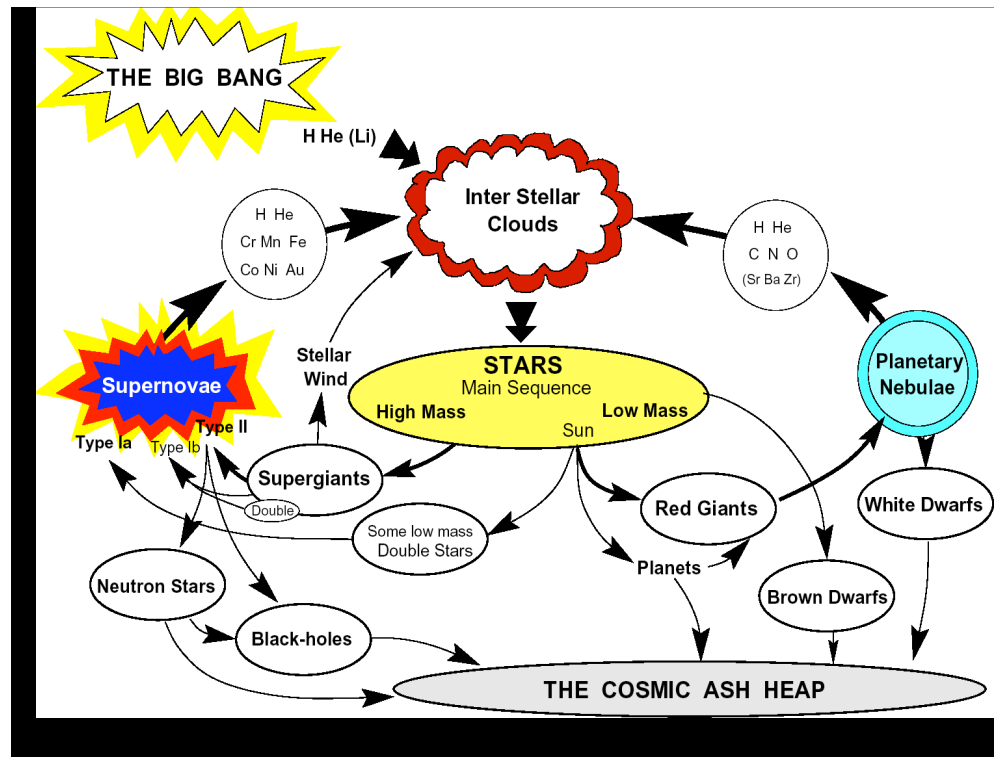


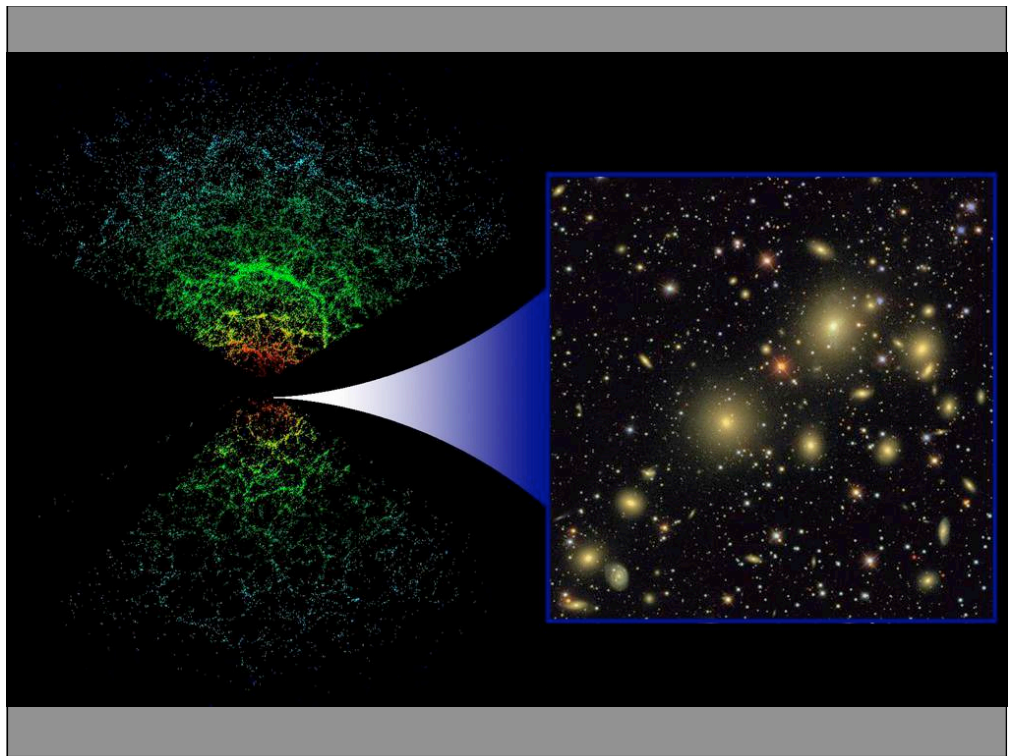


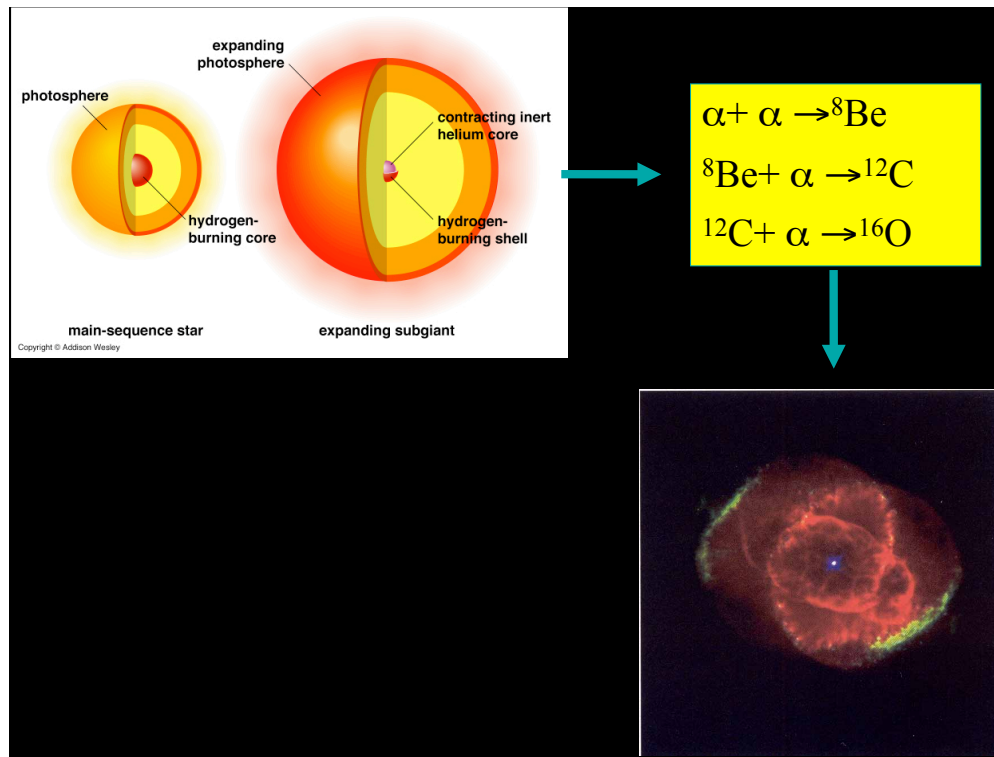
$R \sim 1/m_p \alpha \beta$
 $M \sim m_p$

*Weisskopf 1975
Carr & Rees 1979*



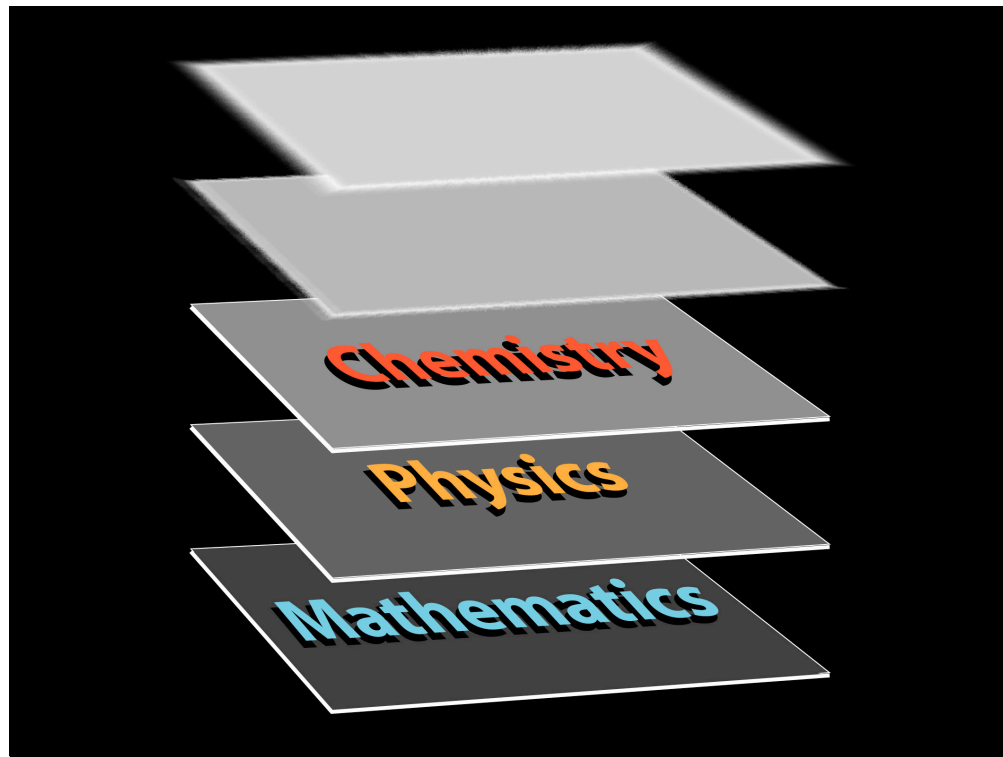


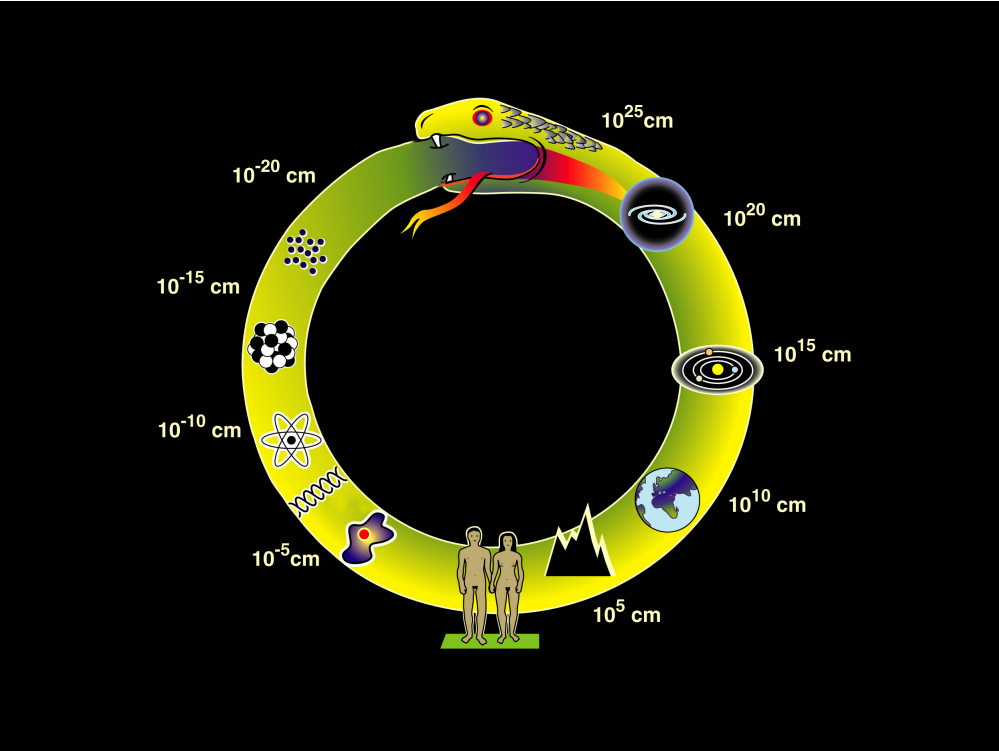


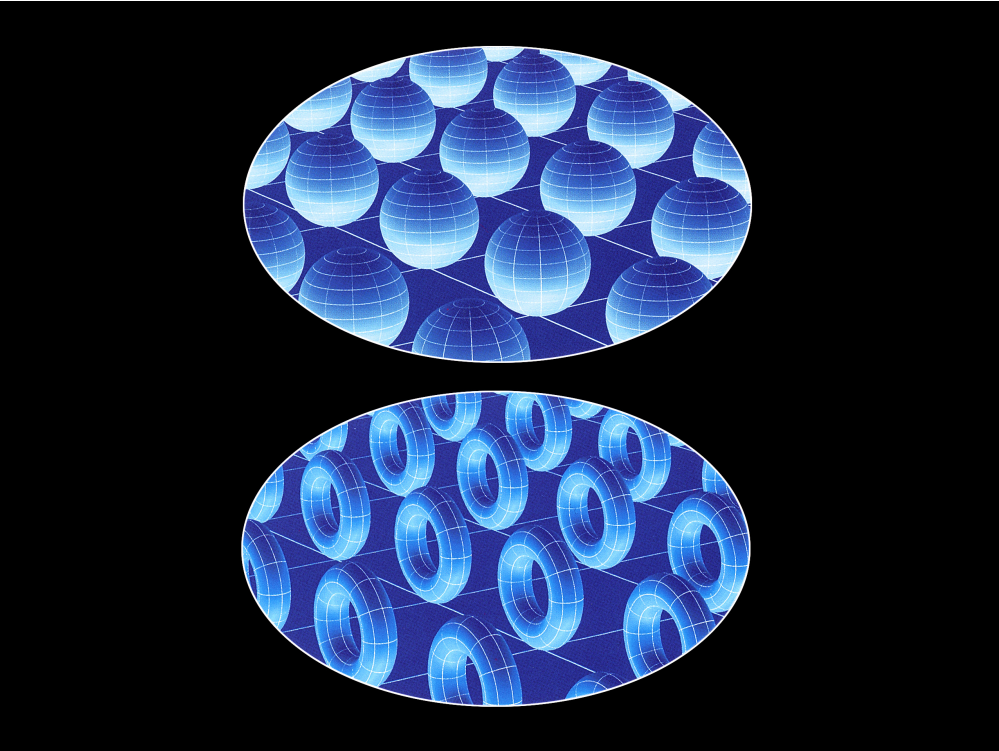


the challenges

- What is out there? Cosmic exploration.
- Interpreting phenomena in terms of known (and perhaps 'new') physics.
- How, from a 'simple beginning', did our Universe evolve into its present complexity (stars, planets, people)?
- Can we understand, at a deeper level, why our Universe is the way it is?







FLUCTUATION AMPLITUDE

$$Q \cong 10^{-5} \left(\sim \frac{\Delta T}{T} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

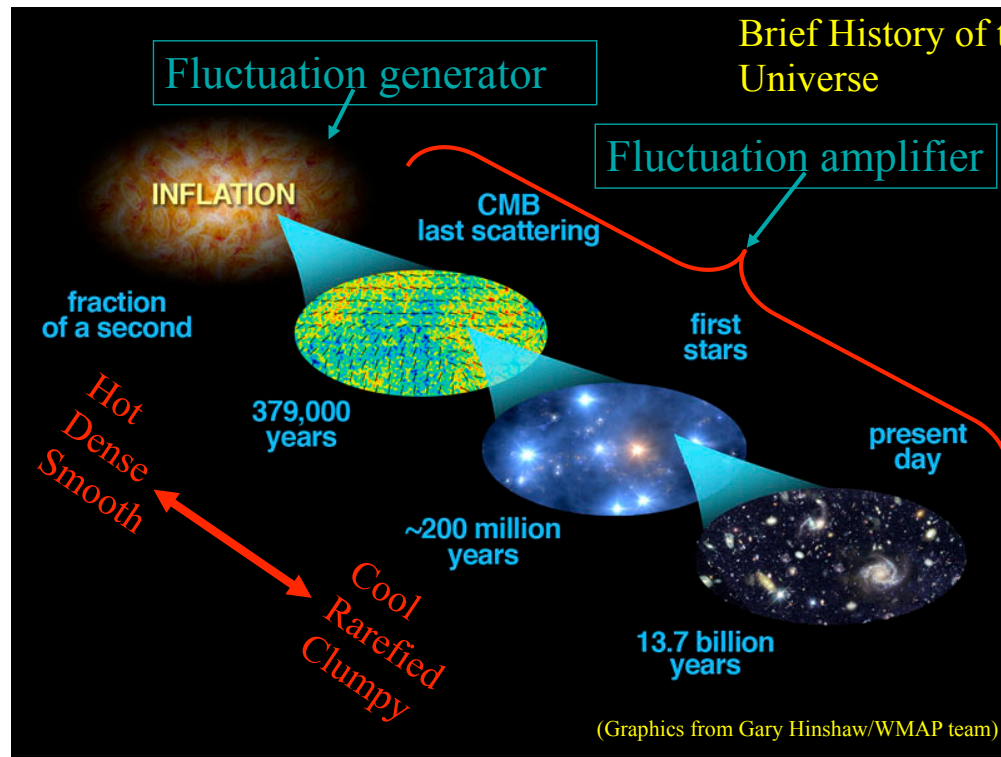
→ Bound Systems* with Gravitational Binding Energy QMc^2
(Virial Velocity $Q^{1/2}c$)

Max Non-Linear Scale

→ $Q^{1/2}$ x (Hubble Radius).

*Formation of Bound System Requires Expansion Factor of $> \sim Q^{-1}$ After System Enters Horizon.

Brief History of the Universe



Calculations of
the primal
“cooking” of the
chemical
elements predict

Hydrogen

Helium

Lithium

etc, correctly!

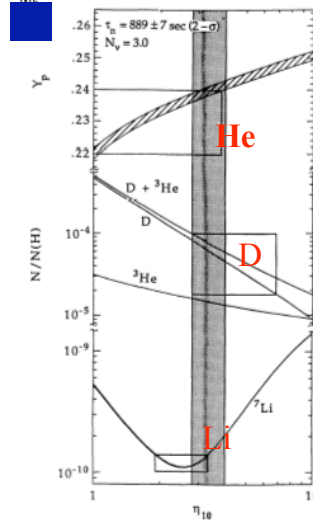


FIG. 13.—Predicted abundances (by number) of D, ${}^3\text{He}$, D + ${}^3\text{He}$, and ${}^7\text{Li}$, and the ${}^4\text{He}$ mass fraction as a function of η for $N_n = 3$ and $882 \leq \tau_n \leq 896$ s. The 95% CL bounds on the abundances (see text) are shown. The vertical band delimits the range of η consistent with the observations.

Just six numbers

Six constants of nature whose values must lie in an 'anthropic' range for life to emerge

1. $D = 3$ The number of spatial dimensions
2. $G/E = 10^{-36}$ The ratio of gravitational to electrostatic force
3. $S = 0.007$ A measure of the strong force that binds nuclei
4. $\Omega_{\text{Total}} = 1$ The density of matter/energy in space
5. $Q = 0.00001$ The scale of fluctuations in the microwave background
6. $\Omega_{\Lambda} = 0.7$ Omega lambda, a measure of the vacuum energy of the universe

- Coincidence?
- Consequence?
- Multiverse?

