

Summer School 2025

Astronomy &



Astrophysics

Project Report

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**Project Name: Predicting the Hubble Parameter
and the Age of the Universe using Supernovae Ia
Data**

Submitted To

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Designation: Program Supervisor

Institution: India Space Academy

□ Assignment: Measuring Cosmological Parameters Using Type Ia Supernovae

In this assignment, you'll analyze observational data from the Pantheon+SH0ES dataset of Type Ia supernovae to measure the Hubble constant H_0 and estimate the age of the universe. You will:

- Plot the Hubble diagram (distance modulus vs. redshift)
- Fit a cosmological model to derive H_0 and Ω_m
- Estimate the age of the universe
- Analyze residuals to assess the model
- Explore the effect of fixing Ω_m
- Compare low- z and high- z results

Let's get started!

□ Getting Started: Setup and Libraries

Before we dive into the analysis, we need to import the necessary Python libraries:

- `numpy`, `pandas` — for numerical operations and data handling
- `matplotlib` — for plotting graphs
- `scipy.optimize.curve_fit` and `scipy.integrate.quad` — for fitting cosmological models and integrating equations
- `astropy.constants` and `astropy.units` — for physical constants and unit conversions

Make sure these libraries are installed in your environment. If not, you can install them using:

```
```bash pip install numpy pandas matplotlib scipy astropy
```

```
import numpy as np
import pandas as pd
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from scipy.optimize import curve_fit
from scipy.integrate import quad
from astropy.constants import c
from astropy import units as u
```

## □ Load the Pantheon+SH0ES Dataset

We now load the observational supernova data from the Pantheon+SH0ES sample. This dataset includes calibrated distance moduli  $\mu$ , redshifts corrected for various effects, and uncertainties.

## Instructions:

- Make sure the data file is downloaded from [Pantheon dataset](#) and available locally.
- We use `delim_whitespace=True` because the file is space-delimited rather than comma-separated.
- Commented rows (starting with `#`) are automatically skipped.

We will extract:

- `zHD`: Hubble diagram redshift
- `MU_SH0ES`: Distance modulus using SH0ES calibration
- `MU_SH0ES_ERR_DIAG`: Associated uncertainty

More detailed column names and the meanings can be referred here:

Finally, we include a combined file of all the fitted parameters for each SN, before and after light-curve cuts are applied. This is in the format of a .FITRES file and has all the meta-information listed above along with the fitted SALT2 parameters. We show a screenshot of the release in [Figure 7](#). Here, we give brief descriptions of each column. **CID** – name of SN. **CIDint** – counter of SNe in the sample. **IDSURVEY** – ID of the survey. **TYPE** – whether SN Ia or not – all SNe in this sample are SNe Ia. **FIELD** – if observed in a particular field. **CUTFLAG\_SNANA** – any bits in light-curve fit flagged. **ERRFLAG\_FIT** – flag in fit. **zHEL** – heliocentric redshift. **zHELERR** – heliocentric redshift error. **zCMB** – CMB redshift. **zCMBERR** – CMB redshift error. **zHD** – [Hubble](#) Diagram redshift. **zHDERR** – [Hubble](#) Diagram redshift error. **VPEC** – peculiar velocity. **VPECERR** – peculiar-velocity error. **MWEBV** – MW extinction. **HOST\_LOGMASS** – mass of host. **HOST\_LOGMASS.ERR** – error in mass of host. **HOST\_sSFR** – sSFR of host. **HOST\_sSFR.ERR** – error in sSFR of host. **PKMJDINI** – initial guess for PKMJD. **SNRMAX1** – First highest signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) of light curve. **SNRMAX2** – Second highest SNR of light curve. **SNRMAX3** – Third highest SNR of light curve. **PKMJD** – Fitted PKMJD. **PKMJDERR** –

```
Local file path
file_path = "/Users/arnav/Desktop/ISA_Project/Pantheon+SH0ES.dat"

#Now we will extract the relevant data given above to extract for
analysis
data = pd.read_csv(file_path, delim_whitespace=True, comment='#',
header = 0, usecols=['zHD', 'MU_SH0ES', 'MU_SH0ES_ERR_DIAG'])

/var/folders/x2/mg4hfy393fngj494k59zy5z80000gn/T/
ipykernel_39532/3797497264.py:5: FutureWarning: The 'delim_whitespace'
keyword in pd.read_csv is deprecated and will be removed in a future
version. Use ``sep='\s+'`` instead
 data = pd.read_csv(file_path, delim_whitespace=True, comment='#',
header = 0, usecols=['zHD', 'MU_SH0ES', 'MU_SH0ES_ERR_DIAG'])

print(data.head())
```

	zHD	MU_SH0ES	MU_SH0ES_ERR_DIAG
0	0.00122	28.9987	1.516450
1	0.00122	29.0559	1.517470
2	0.00256	30.7233	0.782372
3	0.00256	30.7449	0.799068
4	0.00299	30.7757	0.881212

## □ Preview Dataset Columns

Before diving into the analysis, let's take a quick look at the column names in the dataset. This helps us verify the data loaded correctly and identify the relevant columns we'll use for cosmological modeling.

```
data.columns = ['redshift', 'd-modulus', 'uncertainty']
Renaming the columns to more meaningful names

data.columns

Index(['redshift', 'd-modulus', 'uncertainty'], dtype='object')

print(data.head())
```

	redshift	d-modulus	uncertainty
0	0.00122	28.9987	1.516450
1	0.00122	29.0559	1.517470
2	0.00256	30.7233	0.782372
3	0.00256	30.7449	0.799068
4	0.00299	30.7757	0.881212

```
z = data['redshift'] #Hubble_diagram_redshift
d = data['d-modulus'] #Distance modulus using SH0ES calibration
dmu = data['uncertainty'] #Associated uncertainty

z
```

0	0.00122
1	0.00122
2	0.00256
3	0.00256
4	0.00299
	...
1696	1.61505
1697	1.69706
1698	1.80119
1699	1.91165
1700	2.26137

```
Name: redshift, Length: 1701, dtype: float64
```

## □ Clean and Extract Relevant Data

To ensure reliable fitting, we remove any rows that have missing values in key columns:

- `zHD`: redshift for the Hubble diagram
- `MU_SH0ES`: distance modulus
- `MU_SH0ES_ERR_DIAG`: uncertainty in the distance modulus

We then extract these cleaned columns as NumPy arrays to prepare for analysis and modeling.

```
Filter for entries with usable data based on the required columns
clean_data = data.dropna(subset=['redshift', 'd-modulus',
'uncertainty'])

Extract cleaned columns as NumPy arrays
z = clean_data['redshift'].values
mu = clean_data['d-modulus'].values
dmu = clean_data['uncertainty'].values

z
array([1.22000e-03, 1.22000e-03, 2.56000e-03, ..., 1.80119e+00,
 1.91165e+00, 2.26137e+00])
```

## □ Plot the Hubble Diagram

Let's visualize the relationship between redshift  $z$  and distance modulus  $\mu$ , known as the Hubble diagram. This plot is a cornerstone of observational cosmology—it allows us to compare supernova observations with theoretical predictions based on different cosmological models.

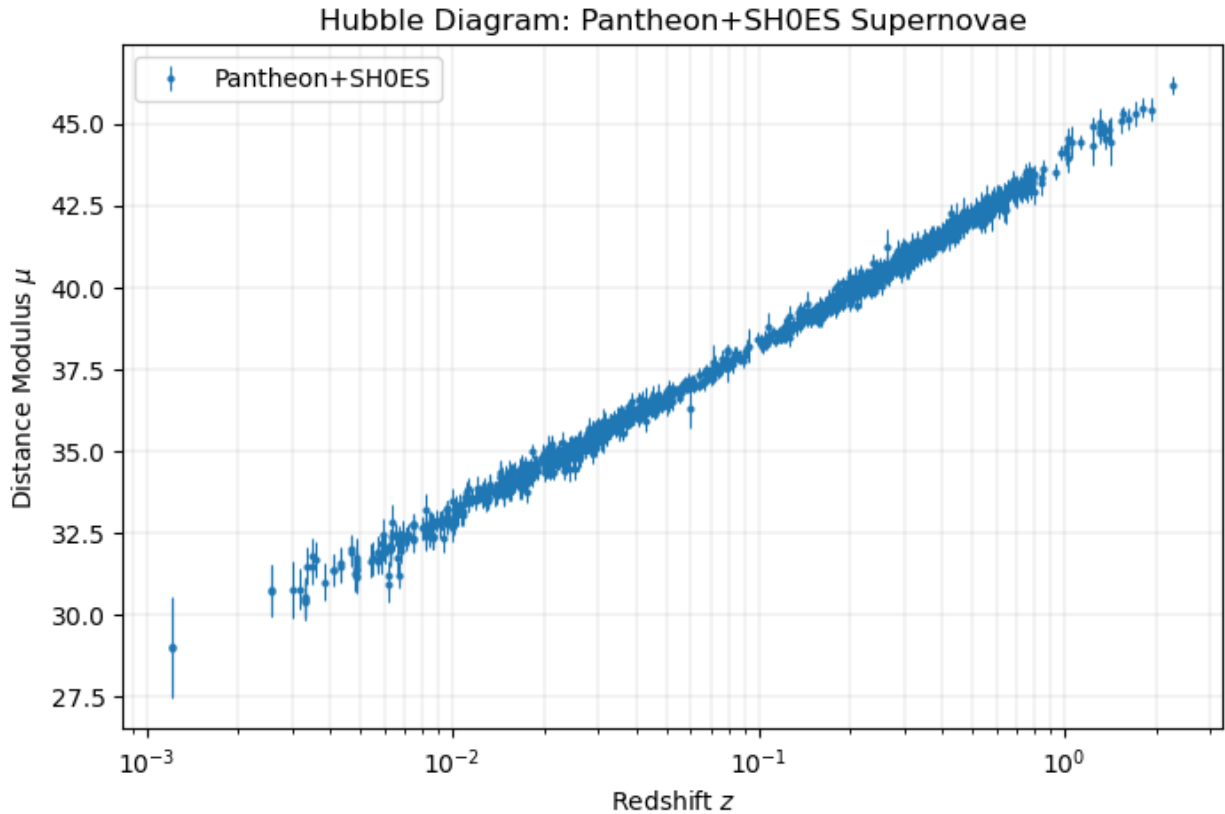
We use a logarithmic scale on the redshift axis to clearly display both nearby and distant supernovae.

```
#Code to plot the distance modulus and the redshift (x-axis) with
labels.

#Using log scale in x-axis by xscale command.

plt.figure(figsize=(8, 5))
#We will use verticle lines to represent the Uncertainty represented
by the variable dmu.
plt.errorbar(z, mu, fmt='o', yerr=dmu ,markersize=2, elinewidth=0.8,
label='Pantheon+SH0ES')
plt.xlabel("Redshift z")
plt.ylabel("Distance Modulus μ")
plt.title("Hubble Diagram: Pantheon+SH0ES Supernovae")
plt.xscale('log') # Optional: use log scale for better separation at
low z
plt.grid(True, which='both', linewidth=0.2)
plt.legend()
plt.show()

<>:9: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\m'
<>:9: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\m'
/var/folders/x2/mg4hfy393fngj494k59zy5z80000gn/T/ipykernel_39532/41641
0229.py:9: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\m'
plt.ylabel("Distance Modulus μ")
```



*# For better understanding of residuals, we will plot a 'zoomed in' diagram*

```
z_min = 0.001
```

```
z_max = 0.01
```

```
mask = (z >= z_min) & (z <= z_max)
```

```
z_filtered = z[mask]
```

```
mu_filtered = mu[mask]
```

```
dmu_filtered = dmu[mask]
```

```
plt.figure(figsize=(8, 5))
```

```
plt.errorbar(z_filtered, mu_filtered, yerr=dmu_filtered, fmt='o',
 markersize=2, elinewidth=0.8, label=f'z ∈ [{z_min}, {z_max}]')
```

```
plt.xlabel("Redshift z")
```

```
plt.ylabel("Distance Modulus μ")
```

```
plt.title("Filtered Hubble Diagram")
```

```
plt.grid(True)
```

```
plt.legend()
```

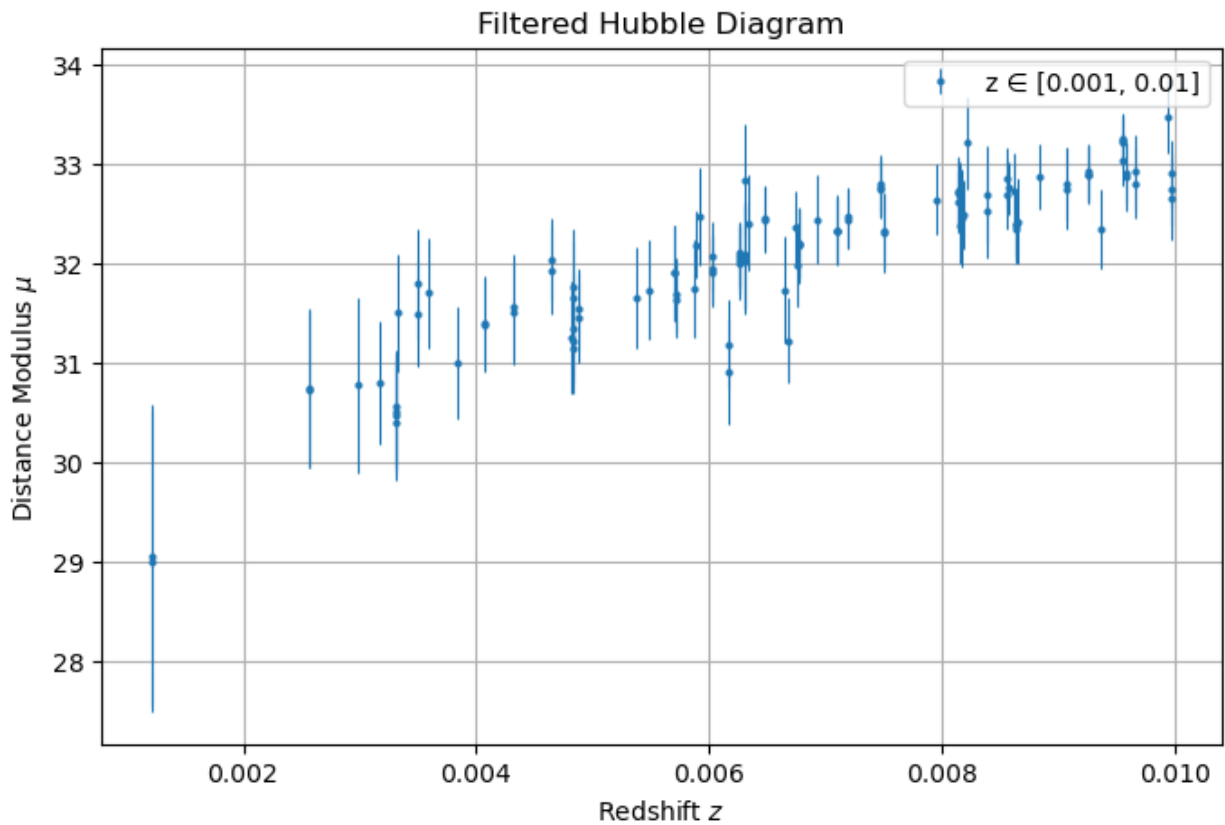
```
plt.show()
```

```
<>:13: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\m'
```

```
<>:13: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\m'
```

```
/var/folders/x2/mg4hfy393fngj494k59zy5z80000gn/T/ipykernel_39532/15302
```

```
79440.py:13: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\m'
plt.ylabel("Distance Modulus μ")
```



## □ Define the Cosmological Model

We now define the theoretical framework based on the flat  $\Lambda C D M$  model (read about the model in wikipedia if needed). This involves:

- The dimensionless Hubble parameter:

$$E(z) = \sqrt{\Omega_m (1+z)^3 + (1 - \Omega_m)}$$

- The distance modulus is:

$$\mu(z) = 5 \log_{10}(d_L / \text{Mpc}) + 25$$

- And the corresponding luminosity distance :

$$d_L(z) = (1+z) \cdot \frac{c}{H_0} \int_0^z \frac{dz'}{E(z')}$$

These equations allow us to compute the expected distance modulus from a given redshift  $z$ , Hubble constant  $H_0$ , and matter density parameter  $\Omega_m$ .



```

Define the E(z) for flat LCDM
def E(z, Omega_m):
 return np.sqrt(Omega_m * (1 + z)**3 + (1 - Omega_m))

Luminosity distance in Mpc, try using scipy quad to integrate.
def luminosity_distance(z, H0, Omega_m):
 integral, _ = quad(lambda zp: 1 / E(zp, Omega_m), 0, z)
 c = 299792.458
 d_L = (c / H0) * (1 + z) * integral # Mpc
 return d_L

Theoretical distance modulus, use above function inside mu_theory to
compute luminosity distance
def dist_mod(z, H0, Omega_m):
 z = np.atleast_1d(z)
 return np.array([5 * np.log10(luminosity_distance(zi, H0,
Omega_m)) + 25 for zi in z]) #for vector input

```

## □ Fit the Model to Supernova Data

We now perform a non-linear least squares fit to the supernova data using our theoretical model for  $\mu(z)$ . This fitting procedure will estimate the best-fit values for the Hubble constant  $H_0$  and matter density parameter  $\Omega_m$ , along with their associated uncertainties.

We'll use:

- `curve_fit` from `scipy.optimize` for the fitting.
- The observed distance modulus ( $\mu$ ), redshift ( $z$ ), and measurement errors.

The initial guess is:

- $H_0 = 70$ ,  $\text{km/s/Mpc}$
- $\Omega_m = 0.3$

```

Initial guess
p0 = [70, 0.3]

Define a wrapper function for curve_fit
def dist_mod_fit(z, H0, Omega_m):
 return dist_mod(z, H0, Omega_m)

Perform the curve fitting
params, cov = curve_fit(dist_mod_fit, z, mu, p0=p0, sigma=dmu,
absolute_sigma=True)

H0_fit, Omega_m_fit = params
H0_err, Omega_m_err = np.sqrt(np.diag(cov))

```

```
Print results
print(f"Fitted H0 = {H0_fit:.2f} ± {H0_err:.2f} km/s/Mpc")
print(f"Fitted Omega_m = {Omega_m_fit:.3f} ± {Omega_m_err:.3f}")
```

```
Fitted H0 = 72.97 ± 0.26 km/s/Mpc
Fitted Omega_m = 0.351 ± 0.019
```

With these fitted values, we will plot the Hubble Diagram again

```
Define your theory function again using the fitted values
def mu_theory(z, H0, Omega_m):
 return dist_mod(z, H0, Omega_m)

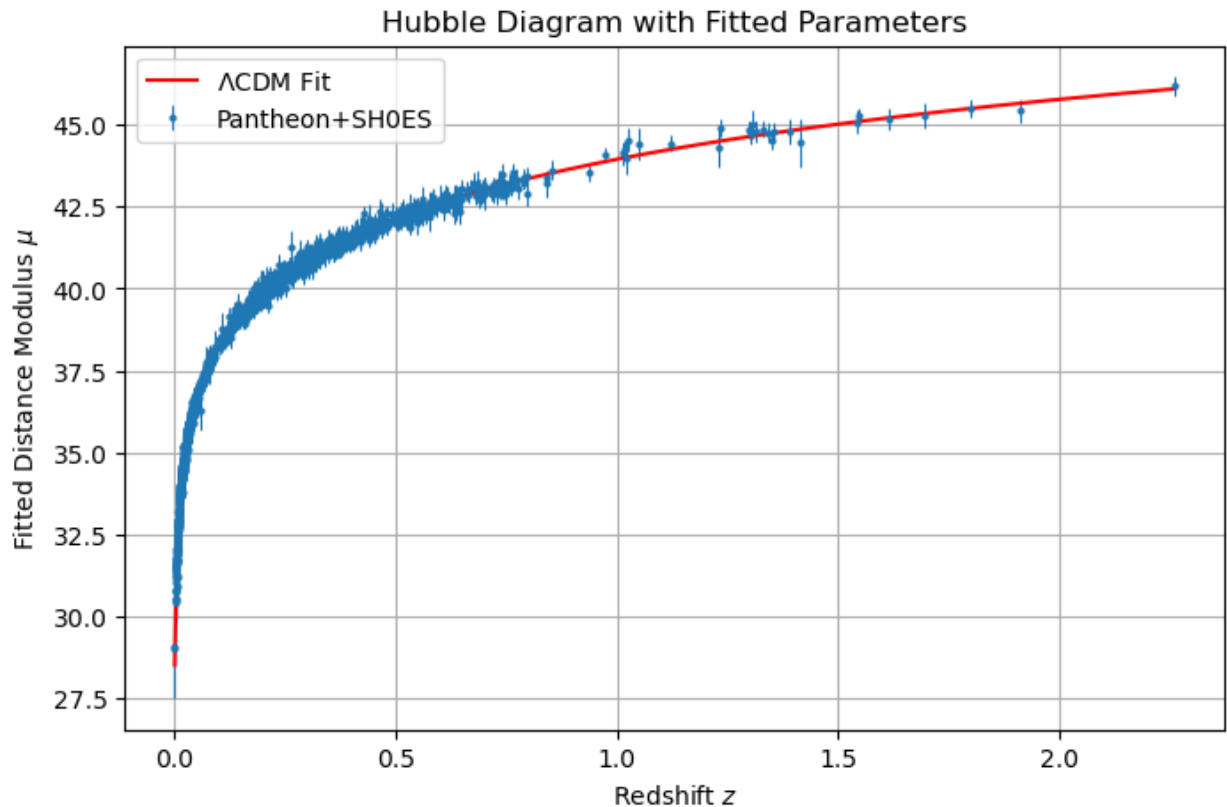
Compute the model distance modulus using fitted values
mu_model = mu_theory(z, H0_fit, Omega_m_fit)

Plot observed data with error bars
plt.figure(figsize=(8, 5))
plt.errorbar(z, mu, yerr=dmu, fmt='o', markersize=2, elinewidth=0.8,
label='Pantheon+SH0ES')

Plot the best-fit model curve
z_model = np.linspace(min(z), max(z), 500) # for plotting z as a
curve
mu_model_curve = mu_theory(z_model, H0_fit, Omega_m_fit)
plt.plot(z_model, mu_model_curve, color='red', label=r'ΛCDM
Fit')

Labels and formatting
plt.xlabel("Redshift z")
plt.ylabel("Fitted Distance Modulus μ")
plt.title("Hubble Diagram with Fitted Parameters")
plt.xscale('linear')
plt.legend()
plt.grid(True)
plt.show()
```

```
<>:19: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\m'
<>:19: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\m'
/var/folders/x2/mg4hfy393fngj494k59zy5z80000gn/T/ipykernel_39532/91617
7278.py:19: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\m'
 plt.ylabel("Fitted Distance Modulus μ")
```



```

H0_planck = 67.4
Omega_m_planck = 0.357
def mu_theory(z, H0, Omega_m):
 return dist_mod(z, H0, Omega_m)

Compute the model distance modulus using fitted values
mu_model = mu_theory(z, H0_planck, Omega_m_planck)

Plot observed data with error bars
plt.figure(figsize=(8, 5))
plt.errorbar(z, mu, yerr=dmu, fmt='o', markersize=2, elinewidth=0.8,
label='Planck 2018 ΛCDM')

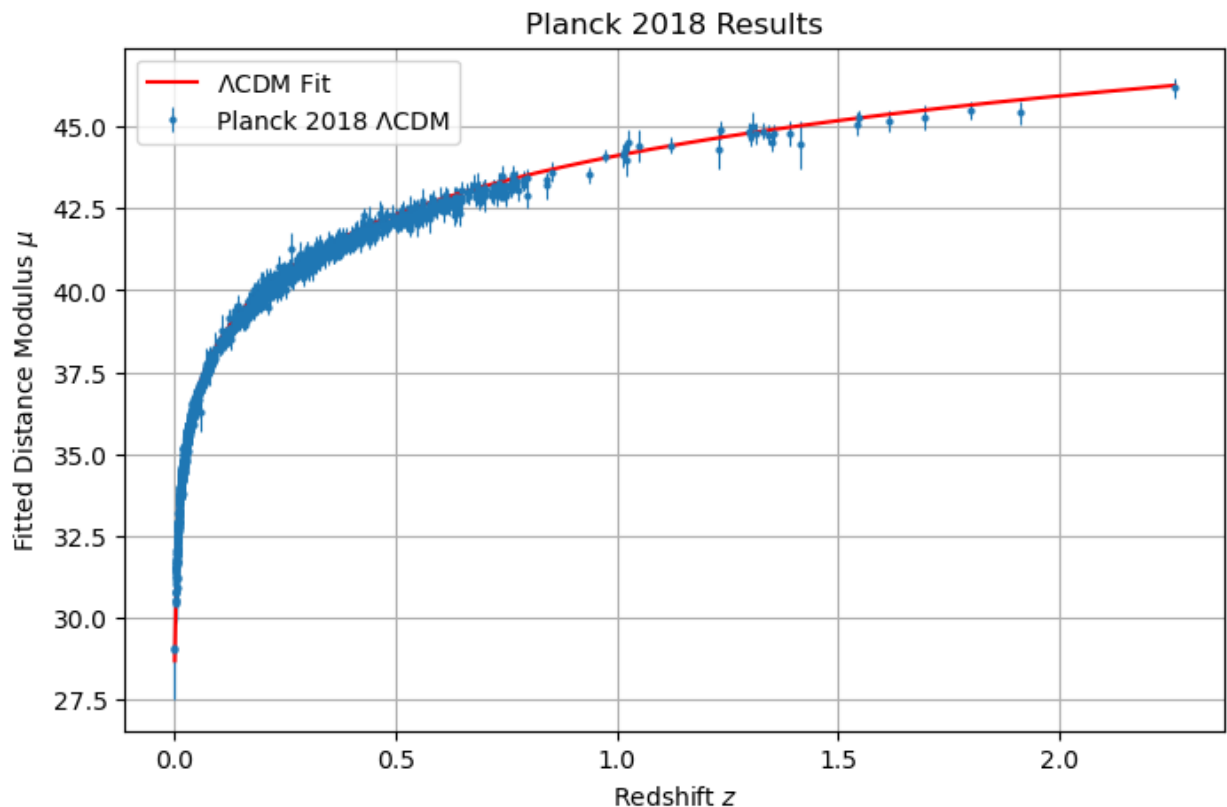
Plot the best-fit model curve
z_model = np.linspace(min(z), max(z), 500) # for plotting z as a
curve
mu_model_curve = mu_theory(z_model, H0_planck, Omega_m_planck)
plt.plot(z_model, mu_model_curve, color='red', label=r'ΛCDM
Fit')

Labels and formatting
plt.xlabel("Redshift z")
plt.ylabel("Fitted Distance Modulus μ")
plt.title("Planck 2018 Results")
plt.xscale('linear')

```

```
plt.legend()
plt.grid(True)
plt.show()
```

```
<>:20: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\m'
<>:20: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\m'
/var/folders/x2/mg4hfy393fngj494k59zy5z80000gn/T/ipykernel_39532/26342
49200.py:20: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\m'
plt.ylabel("Fitted Distance Modulus μ")
```



## □ Estimate the Age of the Universe

Now that we have the best-fit values of  $H_0$  and  $\Omega_m$ , we can estimate the age of the universe. This is done by integrating the inverse of the Hubble parameter over redshift:

$$t_0 = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{(1+z)H(z)} dz$$

We convert  $H_0$  to SI units and express the result in gigayears (Gyr). This provides an independent check on our cosmological model by comparing the estimated age to values from other probes like Planck CMB measurements.

```
Write the function for age of the universe as above
```

```
def age_of_universe(H0, Omega_m):
 # H0 in km/s/Mpc; convert to Gyr^-1
 H0_s = H0 * 1e3 / (3.086e22) # in s^-1
 H0_Gyr = H0_s * (3.154e7 * 1e9) # convert s^-1 to Gyr^-1
 integral, _ = quad(lambda z: 1 / ((1 + z) * np.sqrt(Omega_m_fit *
(1 + z)**3 + (1 - Omega_m_fit))), 0, np.inf)

 t0 = integral / H0_Gyr
 return t0 # in Gyr

Use the fitted values of H0 and Omega_m
t0 = age_of_universe(H0_fit, Omega_m_fit)
print(f"Estimated age of Universe: {t0:.2f} Gyr")

Estimated age of Universe: 12.37 Gyr

t0 = age_of_universe(H0_planck, Omega_m_planck)
print(f"Estimated age of Universe (Planck): {t0:.2f} Gyr")

Estimated age of Universe (Planck): 13.39 Gyr
```

## □ Analyze Residuals

To evaluate how well our cosmological model fits the data, we compute the residuals:

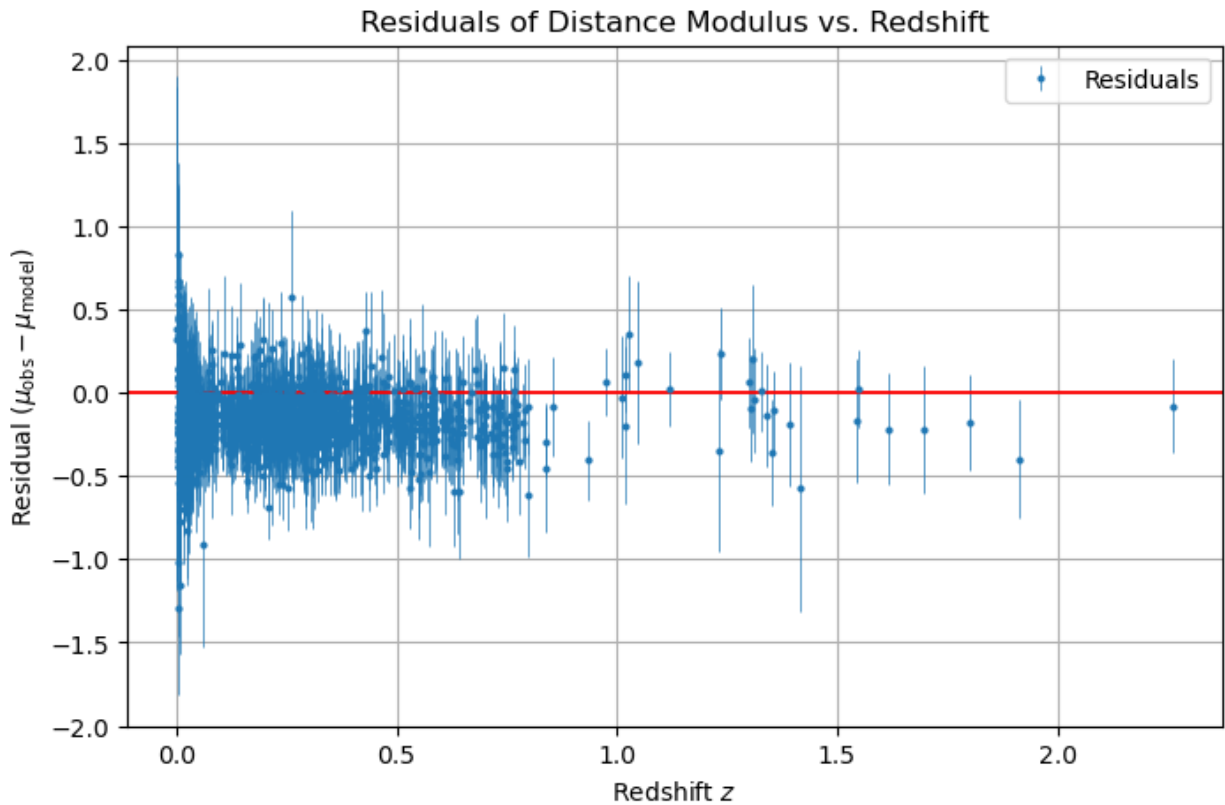
$$\text{Residual} = \mu_{\text{obs}} - \mu_{\text{model}}$$

Plotting these residuals against redshift helps identify any systematic trends, biases, or outliers. A good model fit should show residuals scattered randomly around zero without any significant structure.

```
Write the code to find residual by computing mu_theory and then plot

residuals = mu - mu_model

plt.figure(figsize=(8, 5))
plt.errorbar(z, residuals, yerr=dmu, fmt='o', markersize=2,
elinewidth=0.5, label="Residuals")
plt.axhline(0, color='red', linewidth=1.3)
plt.xlabel("Redshift z")
plt.ylabel(r"Residual $\mu_{\mathrm{obs}} - \mu_{\mathrm{model}}$")
plt.title("Residuals of Distance Modulus vs. Redshift")
plt.grid(True)
plt.legend()
plt.show()
```



## □ Fit with Fixed Matter Density

To reduce parameter degeneracy, let's fix  $\Omega_m = 0.3$  and fit only for the Hubble constant  $H_0$ .

```
def mu_fixed_0m(z, H0):
 return dist_mod(z, H0, Omega_m=0.3)

Try fitting with this fixed value

Initial guess
p0 = [70]

params, cov = curve_fit(mu_fixed_0m, z, mu, p0=p0)

H0_fit = params[0]
H0_err = np.sqrt(cov[0, 0])

Print results
print(f"Fitted H0 = {H0_fit:.2f} ± {H0_err:.2f} km/s/Mpc")

Fitted H0 = 73.23 ± 0.14 km/s/Mpc
```

## □ Compare Low-z and High-z Subsamples

Finally, we examine whether the inferred value of  $H_0$  changes with redshift by splitting the dataset into:

- **Low-z** supernovae ( $z < 0.1$ )
- **High-z** supernovae ( $z \geq 0.1$ )

We then fit each subset separately (keeping  $\Omega_m = 0.3$ ) to explore any potential tension or trend with redshift.

```
Split the data for the three columns and do the fitting again and see
z_range1 = 0.005
z_range2 = 0.3

mask1 = z < z_range1
mask2 = (z >= z_range1) & (z < z_range2)
mask3 = z >= z_range2

z_low = z[mask1]
mu_low = mu[mask1]
dmu_low = dmu[mask1]

z_mid = z[mask2]
mu_mid = mu[mask2]
dmu_mid = dmu[mask2]

z_high = z[mask3]
mu_high = mu[mask3]
dmu_high = dmu[mask3]

def mu_fixed_0m(z, H0):
 return dist_mod(z, H0, Omega_m=0.3)

def fit_H0(z_data, mu_data, dmu_data):
 if len(z_data) < 2:
 raise ValueError
 p0 = [70]
 params, cov = curve_fit(mu_fixed_0m, z_data, mu_data, sigma =
dmu_data, absolute_sigma=True, p0=p0)
 H0 = params[0]
 H0_err = np.sqrt(cov[0, 0])
 return H0, H0_err

H0_low, H0_err_low = fit_H0(z_low, mu_low, dmu_low)
H0_mid, H0_err_mid = fit_H0(z_mid, mu_mid, dmu_mid)
H0_high, H0_err_high = fit_H0(z_high, mu_high, dmu_high)
```

```
Print results
print(f"Low-z fit (z < 0.1): H0 = {H0_low:.2f} ±
{H0_err_low:.2f} km/s/Mpc")
print(f"Mid-z fit (0.1 ≤ z < 1.0): H0 = {H0_mid:.2f} ±
{H0_err_mid:.2f} km/s/Mpc")
print(f"High-z fit (z ≥ 1.0): H0 = {H0_high:.2f} ±
{H0_err_high:.2f} km/s/Mpc")
```

```
Low-z fit (z < 0.1): H0 = 66.74 ± 3.12 km/s/Mpc
Mid-z fit (0.1 ≤ z < 1.0): H0 = 73.37 ± 0.20 km/s/Mpc
High-z fit (z ≥ 1.0): H0 = 73.98 ± 0.32 km/s/Mpc
```

You can check your results and potential reasons for different values from accepted constant using this paper by authors of the [Pantheon+ dataset](#)

You can find more about the dataset in the paper too



# **Constraining the Hubble Constant via Type Ia Supernovae: A Study through the FLRW Metric and Friedmann Equations**

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## ABSTRACT

In this article, we will construct the Hubble Diagram using the Pantheon+SH0ES dataset of Type Ia Supernovae and derive the Friedmann Equation through Newtonian approximations to study the expansion of the universe and determine the cosmological parameters  $H_0$  and  $\Omega_m$ . By plotting the Hubble Diagram, we aim to understand how the universe's expansion evolves with time and compare our locally fitted values with early-universe predictions such as those from Planck 2018, which worked on the CMB.

We study the FLWR metric and the Friedmann equation through which we develop the framework required for the cosmological model called  $\Lambda$ CDM.

We model the luminosity distance using the standard  $\Lambda$ CDM framework, assuming a flat universe with negligible radiation. We then compute the theoretical distance modulus and fit it to the observed data using a least-squares method with the help of `scipy curve_fit`. Through this process, we obtain the fitted values,  $H_0 = 72.97 \pm 0.26$  km/s/Mpc and  $\Omega_m = 0.351 \pm 0.019$

These are consistent with local measurements but differ from the Planck 2018 estimate, which is derived from CMB data at high redshifts and based on early-universe physics. This suggests the Hubble tension may originate from the difference in temporal scales: Planck uses early-universe information, while our analysis captures late-universe local expansion. To understand these differences, we will segregate the redshift data into three ranges and understand why the Hubble constant is different for each range.

Residuals and the covariance matrix are analysed to quantify the uncertainties and correlations between the parameters. The diagonal elements reflect individual parameter uncertainty, while off-diagonal elements encode how tightly coupled these parameters are. We also calculate the age of the universe and define the young and old universe

## I. FLRW Metric and Hubble's Law

From the Special Theory of Relativity, we are familiar with the Minkowski space. It contains 10 symmetries (4 translational, 3 rotational and 3 Lorentz boosts). Lorentz boost symmetry corresponds to symmetry under the Lorentz transformation. The metric for Minkowski space is:

$$ds^2 = -c^2 dt^2 + dx^2$$

For the FLWR Metric, we have fewer symmetries, 6 symmetries (3 translational + 3 rotational), no boost symmetry since it does not stay the same under Lorentz transformation, and also no time symmetry.

### 1.1 CURVATURE METRICS

To understand the FLWR Metric, we first need to derive the structure for a curved space. In our case, we will take a space with positive curvature. We know the metric for flat Euclidean space is:

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

The Euclidean space transformed using spherical coordinates is:

$$x = r \sin \theta \cos \phi, y = r \sin \theta \sin \phi, z = r \cos \theta$$

$$ds^2 = dr^2 + r^2 (d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2)$$

Now, we consider a homogeneous and isotropic space, as our metric should conform to the cosmological principle. We construct a three-dimensional sphere embedded in a four-dimensional Euclidean space.

$$R^2 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + \omega^2$$

Hence, we can say

$$R^2 = \omega^2 + r^2$$

$$\omega^2 = R^2 - r^2 \Rightarrow d\omega = -\frac{r}{\omega} dr \Rightarrow d\omega = -\frac{r}{\sqrt{R^2 - r^2}} dr$$

On further simplification, we have the metric for Positive curvature as:

$$ds^2 = \frac{R^2}{R^2 - r^2} dr^2 + r^2 (d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2)$$

Substituting  $r = R \sin(\chi)$  our final reduced form is:

$$ds^2 = R^2 \left[ d\chi^2 + \sin^2 \chi (d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2) \right]$$

Where each coordinate is represented by 3 angles

$$x = R \sin \chi \sin \theta \cos \phi, y = R \sin \chi \sin \theta \sin \phi, z = R \sin \chi \cos \theta, w = R \cos \chi$$

One key characteristic to note for this metric is that it has finite volume, whereas the Flat Euclidean space( $R^4$ ) or the negative curvature space( $H^3$ ) have infinite volume. To further generalise the metric, we add a variable integer k, which takes specific values to transform into its respective metric

$$ds^2 = \frac{dr^2}{1 - kr^2/R^2} + r^2 (d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2) \text{ where } k = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{Spherical (closed)} \\ 0 & \text{Euclidean (flat)} \\ -1 & \text{Hyperbolic (open)} \end{cases}$$

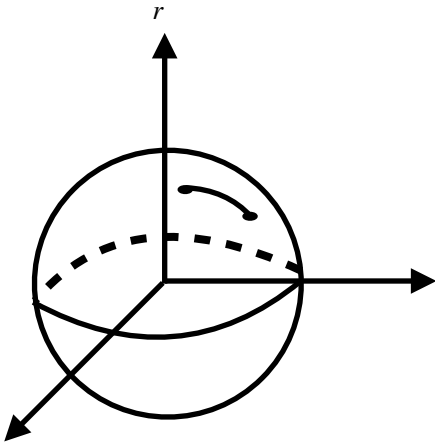
## 1.2 FLWR METRIC

Now that we have the appropriate curvatures and their structures, we input the general metric in the Minkowski metric, replacing the Flat Euclidean  $dx^2$

$$ds^2 = -c^2 dt^2 + a^2(t) \left[ \frac{dr^2}{1 - kr^2/R^2} + r^2 (d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2) \right]$$

Important thing to note here is that if the space is expanding or contracting, the radius of the sphere, i.e. the curvature itself, does not change; rather, the expansion and contraction phenomena are accounted for by the scaling factor  $a(t)$ . We can also collapse the three-dimensional spherical term to one to get the familiar structure of the FLWR metric, which is:

$$ds^2 = -c^2 dt^2 + a^2(t) \left[ \frac{dr^2}{1 - kr^2/R^2} + r^2 d^2\Omega \right]$$



The spatial coordinates are called comoving coordinates. Suppose you have two points on the surface; for intuitive understanding, we will assume the sphere to be a balloon. Hence, the expansion is just filling up the balloon. On expansion, i.e.,  $a(t)$  increases by a factor of 2, the physical distance between the two dots correspondingly increases by a factor of 2. Now, suppose you are observing two particles at a distance of 1.01 Mpc and 1.02 Mpc. After expansion, they will be at 2.02 Mpc and 2.04 Mpc.

Hence, we see that the further the particle is, the faster it goes away. This is called the Hubble law. It roughly says that the galaxies that are  $n$  times further away would recede  $n$  times faster. We can verify isotropy of the universe by the Hubble law since it is rotationally invariant. We can also verify Homogeneity, which states that no matter where you are in space, it will behave identically. If you were at any point on the surface of the balloon, you would see it as expanding in any direction. Also, the scaling factor is only dependent on time, which ensures the expansion or contraction of the universe is the same everywhere at a given time.

### 1.3 HUBBLE PARAMETER AND HUBBLE'S LAW

Under rescaling of coordinates, i.e.  $a \rightarrow \lambda a$ ,  $r \rightarrow \lambda r$ , and  $R \rightarrow \lambda R$ , the metric remains unchanged.

Hence, we take  $a(t_0) = a_0$  as unity where  $t_0$  is the present time.

Now, we choose a function  $a(t)$  such that its derivative is positive, which states that the system is expanding. The comoving coordinates trace a trajectory  $x(t)$ , and the physical distance corresponds to:

$$x_{phys}(t) = a(t) x(t)$$

$$v_{phys}(t) = \frac{dx_{phys}}{dt} = \dot{a}x + a \frac{dx}{dt} = Hx_{phys} + v_{pec}$$

The second term is known as peculiar velocity corresponding to the inherent motion of the galaxy with respect to the cosmological frame, which can also be said as the motion arising due to local gravitational interactions and not due to the expansion of the universe. The first term, which is the Hubble Parameter, is hence defined as

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

For a great range of time, we can assume the Hubble parameter to be approximately constant for a time  $t_0$

$$H(t) \approx H_0$$

The present-day value of the Hubble parameter can be approximated to  $70 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$ . Therefore, a galaxy 0.1 Mpc away would be seen as retreating at a speed of  $7 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$

Assuming that the peculiar velocity is negligible compared to the rate of expansion of the universe, we find a linear relationship between physical velocity and physical distance. This relation is referred to as Hubble's law.

$$v_{phys} = H_0 x_{phys}$$

## II. Cosmological Distances

If we input the speed of light in the FLWR metric, we find out that  $ds^2 = 0$ . This is consistent with the Minkowski space, where massless particles have an invariant interval between two events always equal to zero. On further calculations, we have

$$c dt = \pm \frac{a(t) dr}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{kr^2}{R^2}}}$$

We will now send 2 signals at a time  $t_1$  and  $t_1 + \delta t$  sitting at a comoving coordinate  $r_1$  with respect to the origin with time  $t_0$ . We have the following two equations:-

$$\int_{t_1}^{t_0} \frac{c dt}{a(t)} = \int_0^{r_1} \frac{dr}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{kr^2}{R^2}}} \quad \text{and} \quad \int_{t_1 + \delta t_1}^{t_0 + \delta t_0} \frac{c dt}{a(t)} = \int_0^{r_1} \frac{dr}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{kr^2}{R^2}}}$$

Equating the LHS since the RHS is equal, we get:

$$\int_{t_0}^{t_0 + \delta t_0} \frac{c dt}{a(t)} = \int_{t_1}^{t_1 + \delta t_1} \frac{c dt}{a(t)} \Rightarrow \frac{\delta t_0}{\delta t_1} = \frac{a(t_0)}{a(t_1)}$$

We know  $\delta t_n = \frac{\lambda_n}{c}$ . Therefore, substituting further, we get:

$$\frac{\lambda_0}{\lambda_1} = \frac{a(t_0)}{a(t_1)}$$

The light itself hasn't stretched; the surface it is on has expanded, which can be mistaken for the wavelength being stretched. This phenomenon is called the cosmological redshift due to the expansion of the universe.

We introduce  $z$ , where  $z$  is the redshift parameter

$$1 + z = \frac{1}{a(t_1)} \quad \text{where } z = \frac{\lambda_0 - \lambda_1}{\lambda_1}$$

### 2.1 LUMINOSITY DISTANCE

The luminosity distance is a way to measure how far an object is from the laboratory. It is measured by how dim we receive the light compared to its intrinsic brightness. We know the Luminosity of the object is measured by the product of energy flux, which is energy

received per unit area per unit time and surface area of radius  $D$ , where the energy spreads out, which is very large due to the expansion of the universe.

The energy we observe and the energy emitted are not equal. The Observed energy is reduced due to cosmological redshift, which essentially means the photon has lost energy, and the loss can be calculated by the redshift parameter  $z$

$$E_{obs} = \frac{E_{emit}}{1 + z}$$

In earlier calculations, we also found the relation between time differences in the initial and final states after expansion, which states:

$$\Delta t_{obs} = (1 + z)\Delta t_{emit}$$

This can also be understood as frequency decreasing due to time dilation caused by the expansion of the spacetime fabric.

Therefore, Luminosity, which is proportional to Energy per unit time, reduces by a factor of  $(1 + z)^2$ . Calculating the proper surface area considering the comoving radius:

$$A = 4\pi(a_0 r)^2$$

We move forward assuming  $a_0 = 1$ . Hence, the observed flux will be a ratio of the reduced luminosity (observed luminosity) and the proper surface area

$$F = \frac{L}{4\pi r^2(1 + z)^2}$$

Compared to the standard definition, we obtain the value of luminosity distance

$$d_L = (1 + z) \cdot r(z)$$

Where  $r(z)$  is the comoving distance for a flat universe. Inputting the expression for the comoving distance, we get:

$$d_L(z) = (1 + z) \int_0^z \frac{dz'}{H(z')}$$

Converting this equation from natural units where  $c = 1$  and time/distance is measured in inverse Hubble units, to physical units, we obtain the final expression

$$d_L(z) = (1 + z) \cdot \frac{c}{H_0} \int_0^z \frac{dz'}{E(z')}$$

Where  $E(z)$  is the normalised Hubble parameter

$$E(z) = \frac{H(z)}{H_0}$$



## 2.2 STANDARD CANDLES AND DISTANCE MODULUS

A general issue comes in when we try to measure distances, which is whether the object is far away or just small. Correspondingly, for luminosity distance, the issue translates to is the object is far away or simply intrinsically dim? To tackle this issue, astronomers developed 'references' that one can compare to the observed brightness of these references to understand the distance of the object. These references are called standard candles. One of the most reliable standard candles is the type 1a supernovae. Through its data, we will analyse the Hubble parameter, redshift and the expansion of the Universe. Type 1a supernovae occur when a white dwarf pulls too much matter from its companion star, with which it is in orbit, reaching the Chandrasekhar mass limit, at which point the star collapses, leading to a thermonuclear explosion and often shoots out light brighter than all the stars of the galaxy combined during its peak luminosity.

With the understanding of standard candles and the luminosity distance, we will now develop a function to relate the luminosity distance to the actual measured distance. The distance modulus is the difference between the observed luminosity to the intrinsic luminosity. Say  $m$  is the observed luminosity and  $M$  is the intrinsic luminosity, we have the scaling system as follows:

$$\mu = m - M = -2.5 \log_{10} \left( \frac{F}{F_{10\text{pc}}} \right)$$

The RHS can further be simplified by integrating the inverse square law for distances, stating the energy flux( $F$ ) is inversely proportional to the Luminosity distance. Also, converting pc to Mpc, we get the familiar result:

$$\mu = 5 \log_{10} \left( \frac{d_L}{\text{Mpc}} \right) + 25$$

This formula is used to relate the luminosity distance to the observed brightness of the standard candles, such as Type 1a supernovae.

Until now, we have stated two important quantities for the analysis of the Type 1a Supernovae data and plotting and fitting the Hubble diagram, which are:

$$\mu = 5 \log_{10} \left( \frac{d_L}{\text{Mpc}} \right) + 25 \text{ and } d_L(z) = (1 + z) \cdot \frac{c}{H_0} \int_0^z \frac{dz'}{E(z')}$$

We measure the observed luminosity and obtain the distance modulus by subtracting the intrinsic luminosity we have due to standardisation with the help of standard candles.

Once we obtain the value for  $d_L$  from the distance modulus and compare it with the formula derived from the FLWR metric, we find the value of the redshift parameter  $z$ . The famous plot of the Redshift parameter and the distance modulus is called the Hubble Diagram, which depicts a linear relationship between the two quantities.

To further our understanding, we will learn about the fitting parameters and the Friedmann Equations.

### III. Friedmann Equations and Thermodynamics of the Expansion

The Friedmann equation describes the expansion of the universe as a function of time and is an approximation of Einstein's field equation, which contains the information about the curvature and behaviour of the spacetime fabric. To reach from Einstein's field equation to the Friedmann equation explaining the expansion of the universe, we make two critical assumptions:-

1. The matter behaves as a perfect fluid whose information is contained in the stress-energy tensor.
2. Symmetry of the Cosmological Principle is followed, i.e. we will work with the FLWR metric.

#### 3.1 PERFECT FLUIDS

A perfect fluid in our context has different characteristics compared to the ideal fluid in classical mechanics. Both have a non-viscous nature and don't conduct heat, but the perfect fluid is compressible, while the ideal fluid is not. Another key similarity is that the pressure for both systems is isotropic. The homogeneous and isotropic perfect fluid requires only two quantities to characterise it, namely the energy density (mass-energy per unit volume)  $\rho(t)$  and the pressure  $P(t)$ .

We will consider two cases, a relativistic fluid and a non-relativistic fluid and differentiate them by considering Einstein's energy-mass relation for moving particles

$$E = m^2 c^4 + p^2 c^2$$

For the non-relativistic case (dust),  $pc \ll mc^2$  that means that the energy is mass-dominated.

For the relativistic case (radiation) where the speed is comparable to the speed of light, the energy is momentum-dominated. Hence, we can say

$$E \approx pc$$

We define  $n(p)$  as the number density, which is a distribution for different values of momentum.

$$\frac{N}{V} = \int_0^\infty dp n(p)$$

Pressure in our context can be defined as the flux of momentum across a unit area of surface. For a particle in a box, the pressure on a surface of our choice, say a surface on the xy plane, from the kinetic theory of gases

$$P = \int_0^\infty dp (v_z p_z) n(p)$$

From the equipartition theorem, the pressure exerted in each direction is the same. Hence, we get:

$$P = \frac{1}{3} \int_0^\infty dp (vp) n(p)$$

Approximating the total energy as  $E \approx pc$  and substituting further

$$P = \frac{1}{3} \int_0^\infty dp (E) n(p) \Rightarrow P = \frac{N\langle E \rangle}{3V}$$

Where the energy density is  $\rho = \frac{N\langle E \rangle}{V}$ . Therefore, we get a simple relation between energy density and pressure, which corresponds to the equation of state for a relativistic, homogeneous, isotropic perfect fluid.

$$P = \frac{1}{3} \rho$$

These types of gases are referred to as radiation, and their general equation of state is:

$$P = \omega \rho$$

Whereas for dust, i.e. non-relativistic gases  $\omega = 0$  and  $\omega = 1/3$  for radiation, i.e. relativistic gas.

### 3.2 FRIEDMANN EQUATION

In this article, we will derive the Friedmann equation through Newtonian physics. Ideally, it is formulated through Einstein's field equation using the FLRW metric and the stress-energy tensor. Alas, we move forward with the Newtonian approximation:

The total energy of a particle in a gravitational field is:

$$E = \frac{1}{2} m \dot{r}^2 - \frac{GMm}{r}$$

We can also express the mass  $M$  enclosed within radius  $r$  linearly in terms of its density, since it's a homogeneous medium:

$$E = \frac{1}{2} m \dot{r}^2 - \frac{Gm}{r} \cdot \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3 \rho \Rightarrow E = \frac{1}{2} m \dot{r}^2 - \frac{4\pi G}{3} m r^2 \rho$$

We will now use the earlier substitutions and include the comoving coordinates

$$x_{phys}(t) = a(t) x(t)$$

In our context, it'll look like:

$$r = a(t)x(t) \Rightarrow \dot{r} = \dot{a}x \Rightarrow \dot{r} = \dot{a} \frac{r}{a}$$

On further substitution, we get:

$$E = \frac{1}{2}mr^2 \left[ \left( \frac{\dot{a}}{a} \right)^2 - \frac{8\pi G}{3} \rho \right]$$

We will now shamelessly define the curvature parameter  $k$  discussed earlier in a manner derived from General relativity:

$$E = -\frac{1}{2}mr^2 \frac{kc^2}{a^2}$$

Solving both equations simultaneously, we have arrived at the expression which defines the expansion of the universe as a function of time, the Friedmann Equation:

$$\left( \frac{\dot{a}}{a} \right)^2 = \frac{8\pi G}{3} \rho - \frac{kc^2}{a^2}$$

### 3.3 THERMODYNAMIC INTERPRETATION OF EXPANSION

The first law of thermodynamics for adiabatic processes, i.e. no exchange of energy with the surroundings, hence equating the term  $-TdS$  to zero, giving us:

$$E = -PdV$$

The time-dependent version of the first law goes as follows:

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = -P \frac{dV}{dt}$$

Now, for a small region of fluid, the relation between the physical and comoving volume is:

$$V(t) = a^3(t)V_0 \Rightarrow \frac{dV}{dt} = 3a^2\dot{a}V_0$$

For a volume in space, the total energy in the volume will be its volume multiplied by its energy density. Hence, we get a new expression of Energy:

$$E = \rho a^3 V_0 \Rightarrow \frac{dE}{dt} = (\dot{\rho} a^3 + 3\rho a^2 \dot{a}) V_0$$

Now that we have an expression of both the LHS and the RHS for the time-dependent first law in terms of the scaling factor to account for the expansion of the universe, we give the first law a new structure:

$$\dot{\rho} + 3H(\rho + P) = 0$$

This form of the first law is also called the Continuity Equation in Cosmology.

For dust,  $\omega = 0$  which corresponds to  $\Rightarrow \dot{\rho} + 3H(\rho) = 0$ . On further calculation, we get the relation:

$$\rho = \frac{C}{a^3}$$

This works since the density is decreasing as volume is increasing due to the expansion of the universe. Hence, the dilution of the mass accounts for the conservation of energy.

For radiation,  $\omega = 1/3$ , doing similar calculations, we obtain the relationship between energy density and scaling factor as:

$$\rho = \frac{C}{a^4}$$

The extra  $a^{-1}$  which leads to energy not being conserved is due to the cosmological redshift, which decreases the frequency of a photon over time and hence the energy.

For vacuum energy (Dark Energy),  $\omega = -1$ . This is the actual fascinating world we live in, where energy is not conserved, but the energy density is constant even though the universe is expanding. Here, the total energy increases; one might think this disobeys Noether's theorem, but our system is not time independent, i.e. it is not symmetric in time.

If we simultaneously solve the time-differentiated Friedmann Equation and the Continuity equation, we obtain the second Friedmann Equation

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

From the second Friedmann Equation, we observe a very crucial phenomenon, that the universe is not only expanding, but it is also accelerating. When  $\omega = -1$ , we observe that  $\ddot{a} > 0$ , mathematically proving that our universe is expanding at an accelerating rate.

### 3.4 $\Lambda$ CDM MODEL

The  $\Lambda$ CDM Model ( Lambda Cold Dark Matter ) is the standard model of cosmology based on several important assumptions, some we have discussed and some we have not. We will mention some of the assumptions in the scope of our article below:

### 1) *Cosmological Principle and FLWR metric*

The cosmological principle states that the universe is homogeneous and isotropic. We describe this universe using the FLWR metric in spherical coordinates with curvature  $k = 0$  and a time-dependent scaling factor  $a(t)$ .

### 2) *General Relativity governs gravity*

We are considering all objects with a compressibility factor either less than or equal to 1. Hence, using the field equations of general relativity is the optimal and formal route to choose.

### 3) *Thermal History and Matter Domination*

Radiation-dominated era ( $\omega = 1/3$ ) : until  $z \sim 3400$

$$a(t) \sim t^{1/2}$$

Matter-dominated era ( $\omega = 0$ ) : CMB era, i.e. structure formation occurred here

$$a(t) \sim t^{2/3}$$

$\Lambda$ -dominated era ( $\omega = -1$ ) : acceleration begins  $z \sim 0.7$

$$a(t) \sim e^{Ht}$$

## IV. Measuring Cosmological Parameters Using Type Ia Supernovae

In this section, we will work with data from the Pantheon+SH0ES dataset of Type Ia supernovae to measure the Hubble constant. We will initially plot the log scale curve for lower  $z$  and then fit the cosmological model to the Type Ia supernovae data.

### 4.1 PLOTTING OF THE HUBBLE DIAGRAM

Ignoring all other data in the dataset, we will extract the relevant data, which includes the redshift parameter for their specific distance modulus and its corresponding uncertainty. We will represent the error as a vertical bar for each datapoint through the function `errorbar`.

For lower  $z$ , we see a linear log relationship between the distance modulus and the redshift

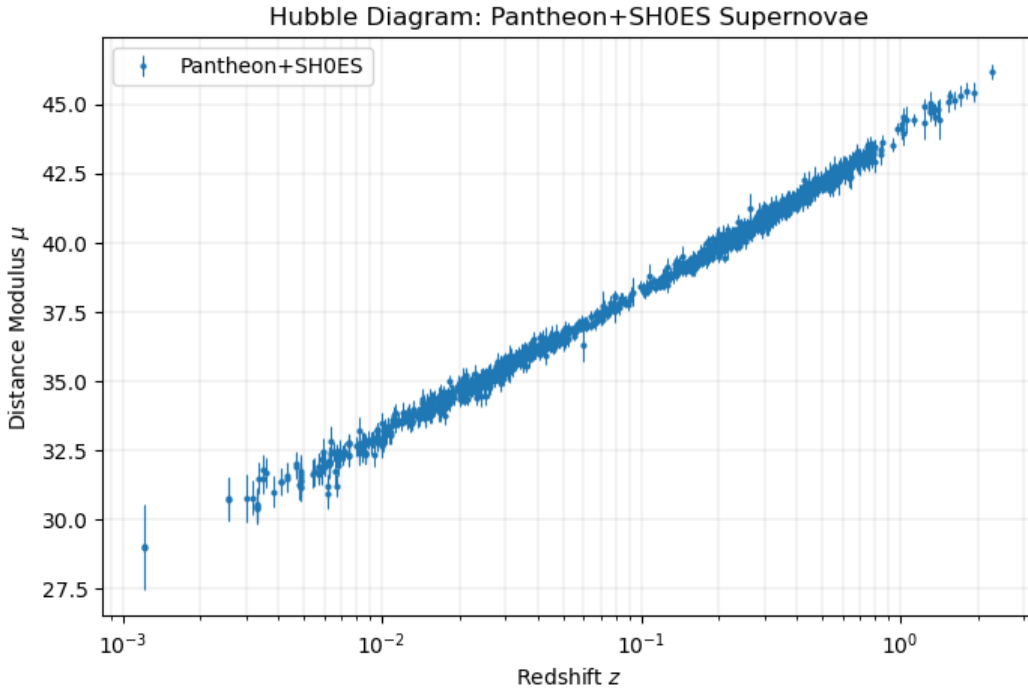


FIG 1. THE FAMOUS HUBBLE DIAGRAM PLOTS THE DISTANCE MODULUS ON THE Y AXIS AND THE REDSHIFT PARAMETER ON A LOG SCALE ON THE X AXIS, PROVIDING US A LINEAR RELATIONSHIP FOR LOWER  $z$

Now, we will define the cosmological model, i.e. the  $\Lambda$ CDM model. We will use three equations:

$$\text{The Dimensionless Hubble parameter:- } E(z) = \sqrt{\Omega_m(1+z)^3 + (1 - \Omega_m)}$$

$$\text{Distance Modulus:- } \mu(z) = 5 \log_{10}(d_L/\text{Mpc}) + 25$$

$$\text{Luminosity Distance:- } d_L(z) = (1 + z) \cdot \frac{c}{H_0} \int_0^z \frac{dz'}{E(z')}$$

We have talked about the Luminosity distance and the distance modulus and their corresponding significance before, but this new structure of the dimensionless Hubble parameter was not discussed.

## 4.2 DIMENSIONLESS HUBBLE PARAMETER

The dimensionless Hubble parameter, or in other terms, the normalised Hubble parameter, describes the normalised rate at which the universe is expanding. The normalisation helps rescale any redshift to the present-day value of  $H_0$ .

$$E(z) = \frac{H(z)}{H_0}$$

To derive the form used in the  $\Lambda$ CDM model, we will need the help of the Friedmann Equation with the cosmological constant

$$\left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\right)^2 = \frac{8\pi G}{3}\rho - \frac{kc^2}{a^2} + \frac{\Lambda c^2}{3}$$

The energy density is segregated into 3 different forms, each of which we have discussed earlier, and how they change with the scaling factor for the expansion

$$\rho = \rho_m + \rho_r + \rho_\Lambda$$

Where the energy densities correspond to matter-dominated, radiation-dominated, and Dark energy-dominated universes. Their relation with the scaling factor is as follows:

$$\rho_m = \frac{C}{a^3}$$

$$\rho_r = \frac{C}{a^4}$$

$$\rho_\Lambda = C$$

Now we consider a flat space, i.e.  $k = 0$  and substitute the specific conditions into the Friedmann equation:

$$H^2 = \frac{8\pi G}{3} [\rho_{m0}(1+z)^3 + \rho_{r0}(1+z)^4] + \frac{\Lambda c^2}{3}$$

Assigning appropriate density parameters, we finally arrive at our result:



$$E(z)^2 = \Omega_m(1+z)^3 + \Omega_r(1+z)^4 + \Omega_\Lambda$$

Neglecting radiation at mid to higher values of the redshift parameter and using the substitution

$$\Omega_m + \Omega_\Lambda = 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Omega_\Lambda = 1 - \Omega_m$$

We obtain the Dimensionless Hubble parameter for low redshifts:

$$E(z) = \sqrt{\Omega_m(1+z)^3 + (1 - \Omega_m)}$$

### 4.3 COVARIANCE MATRIX

The covariance matrix is a square matrix that contains the information about the spread of the uncertainty(variance of the variable) in each dimension and the relationship between each dimension's uncertainty with the other(covariance).

$$\mathbf{C} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{Var}(H_0) & \text{Cov}(H_0, \Omega_m) \\ \text{Cov}(H_0, \Omega_m) & \text{Var}(\Omega_m) \end{bmatrix}$$

The diagonal elements of the matrix correspond to the variation of the Parameters we are considering, i.e. the independent uncertainty each variable possesses. The off-diagonal elements contain the information about how the uncertainty of one variable affects the other, i.e. their interrelationships. If covariance is positive, when one variable increases, the other increases. On the other hand, if covariance is negative, when one variable increases, the other decreases.

For non-linear square fitting, the covariance matrix is approximated by the Jacobian matrix

$$C = \sigma^2 (J^T J)^{-1}$$

where the Jacobian is defined as the partial derivative of the distance modulus with the parameters in consideration

$$J_{ij} = \frac{d\mu(z)}{dp_j} \text{ where } p_j \in \{H_0, \Omega_m\}$$

Correlation is normalised covariance, which gives us a better understanding of the interdependence since relative measurements are often misleading.

$$\rho(H_0, \Omega_m) = \frac{\text{Cov}(H_0, \Omega_m)}{\sigma_{H_0} \sigma_{\Omega_m}}, \quad \rho \in [-1, 1]$$

## 4.4 FITTING THE $\Lambda$ CDM MODEL TO THE TYPE 1A SUPERNOVAE DATA

We will now use the  $\Lambda$ CDM model and fit it to our observational data from the Pantheon+SH0ES dataset to obtain the values for  $H_0$  and  $\Omega_m$  best fitting the Type 1a Supernovae data.

Fitting is a statistical method by which one finds the value of a parameter by comparing the theoretical predictions with observable data. It explores all the possibilities of combinations of the parameters in the neighbourhood of the theoretical prediction to calculate and try to match with the observed data, minimising the discrepancy.

In this analysis, we use the `curve_fit` function from the SciPy library to obtain the value for  $H_0$  and  $\Omega_m$  with their respective error.

Our initial theoretical guess is  $(H_0, \Omega_m) = (70 \text{ km/s/Mpc}, 0.3)$ . Using the `curve_fit` function for the observed values and the uncertainty represented by the Covariance matrix, we obtain the value of the scaling factor and the density parameter for the  $\Lambda$ CDM model as:

Fitted  $H_0 = 72.97 \pm 0.26 \text{ km/s/Mpc}$

Fitted  $\Omega_m = 0.351 \pm 0.019$

Suppose we kept  $\Omega_m$  constant as 0.3, which is the theoretical value from the equation of state, where  $\omega = -1$ , i.e. a fixed matter density is maintained. Fitting the curve to the observable data for finding the value of the Hubble constant  $H_0$ , we obtain:

Fitted  $H_0 = 73.23 \pm 0.14 \text{ km/s/Mpc}$  when  $\Omega_m = 0.3$

## 4.5 UNCERTAINTIES IN SUPERNOVAE COSMOLOGY

The uncertainty in the modulus, which essentially arises from the measurement inaccuracy of the luminosity distance, or inaccuracy in the intrinsic luminosity of a standard candle.

### 1) *Measurement of Luminosity Distance*

An error in the measurement of luminosity distance through photometry is a very common source of residuals (a statistical representation of error).

### 2) *Intrinsic luminosity of Type 1a Supernovae*

Type 1a Supernovae are not perfect standard candles. We can only move forward with a set of assumptions, leading them to be accepted as Standard Candles. When the assumptions meet their limit, the intrinsic value or the absolute magnitude will show uncertainty.

### 3) *High Redshift*

The formulation we have done was under the assumption that we will work with a lower range of redshift parameters. Once we reach a range of higher redshifts. Errors will pile up due to the non-linear nature of the curve for higher redshifts. We will compare the higher redshift and lower redshift samples quite shortly.

## 4.6 RESIDUAL ANALYSIS

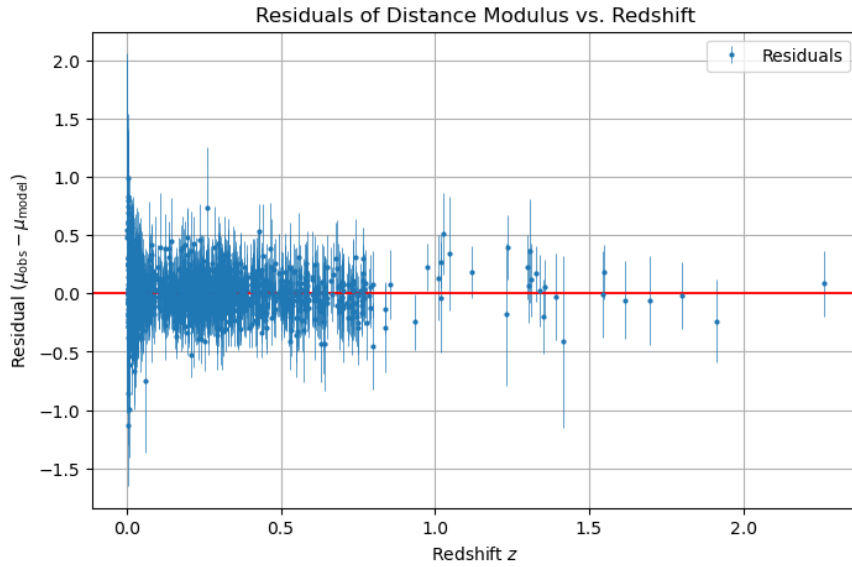
A Residual is the vertical distance between a data point and the regression line. They correspond to the uncertainty in the measurement

It is crucial to do residual analysis since it gives us an idea of how well our cosmological model fits the observable data.

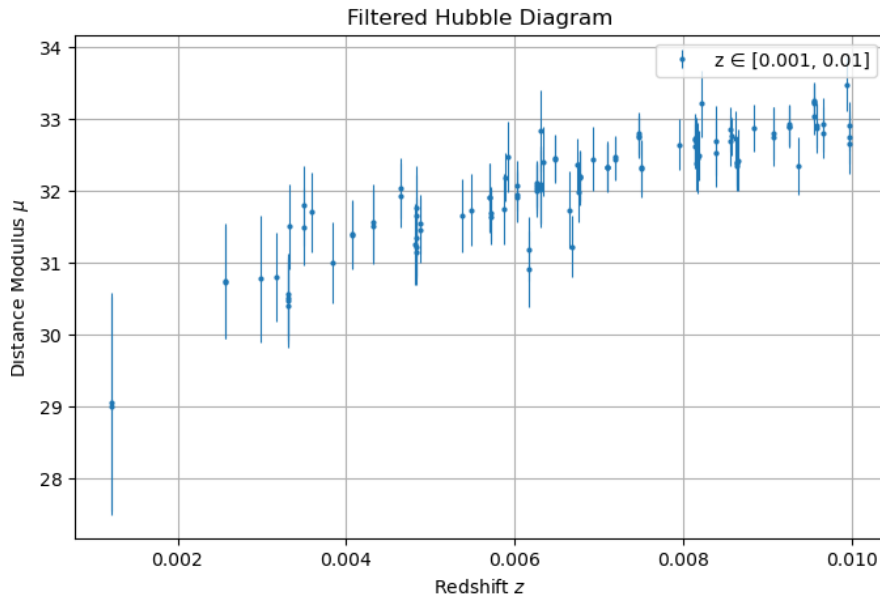
$$Residual = \mu_{obs} - \mu_{model}$$

A good model fit should show residual scatter randomly around zero without any significant structure, since that nullifies as much uncertainty as possible.

We can see that the mean residual is near zero. Since our equations were approximated for lower redshifts, the residual will increase as we move forward in the redshift parameter values. After plotting, we observe that there is no systematic trend depicting wrong or missing physics. Hence, we can confidently say that our best-fitted values of the  $\Lambda$ CDM model are in the acceptable range.



**FIG 3. PLOTTING THE RESIDUALS AGAINST REDSHIFT TO IDENTIFY POSSIBLE SYMMETRIES OR PATTERNS LEADING TO NON ZERO MEAN**



**FIG 2. ZOOMED INTO THE HUBBLE DIAGRAM TO DEPICT THE RESIDUALS**

## V. Results and Interpretation

This is the last section of the article, where we will make our analytical conclusions and relevant comparisons.

### 5.1 BEST-FITTED HUBBLE PARAMETER AND COMPARISON WITH PLANCK 18 RESULTS

The value we get for the Hubble constant by fitting the  $\Lambda$ CDM cosmological model to the observational data of the Standard candle Type 1a supernovae is

$$\text{Fitted } H_0 = 72.97 \pm 0.26 \text{ km/s/Mpc}$$

$$\text{Fitted } \Omega_m = 0.351 \pm 0.019$$

If we fix  $\Omega_m = 0.3$ , corresponding to a dark matter energy-dominated universe, which is our universe. We will again fit the model, but this time only the Hubble constant with an already assumed density parameter, we get:

$$\text{Fitted } H_0 = 73.23 \pm 0.14 \text{ km/s/Mpc when } \Omega_m = 0.3$$

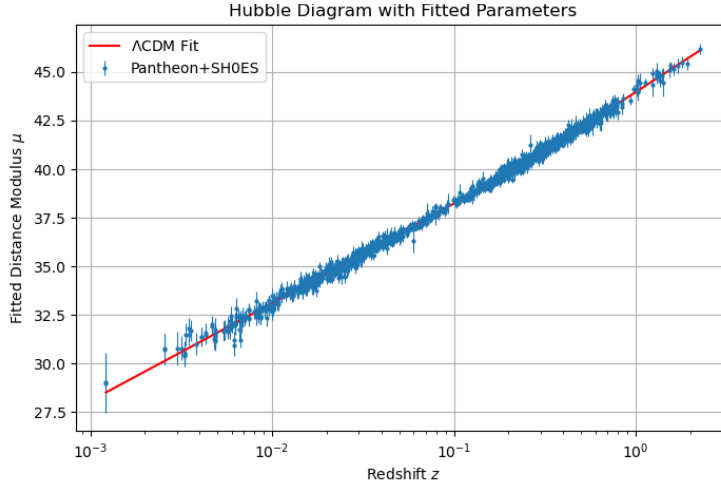


FIG 4. THE FITTED HUBBLE DIAGRAM ON A LOG SCALE

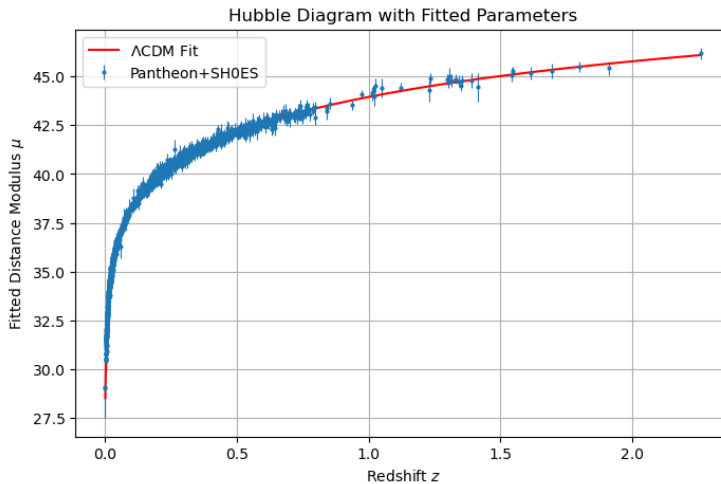


FIG 5. THE FITTED HUBBLE DIAGRAM ON A LINEAR SCALE

We will now input these values to obtain a modelled distance module through which we will plot a revised Hubble diagram, or so to speak, a Hubble Diagram with fitted parameters. The results for the higher redshifts are consistent with our prediction, which states that at higher  $z$ , the residuals will deviate from the  $\Lambda$ CDM fit.

Now, to compare the results of the Planck 2018, we will try to achieve this via plotting for the parameters obtained by the Planck 2018 dataset:

PARAMETERS	MY RESULTS	PLANCK 2018
$H_0$	$72.97 \pm 0.26$ km/s/Mpc	$67.4 \pm 0.5$ km/s/Mpc
$\Omega_m$	$0.351 \pm 0.019$	$0.315 \pm 0.007$

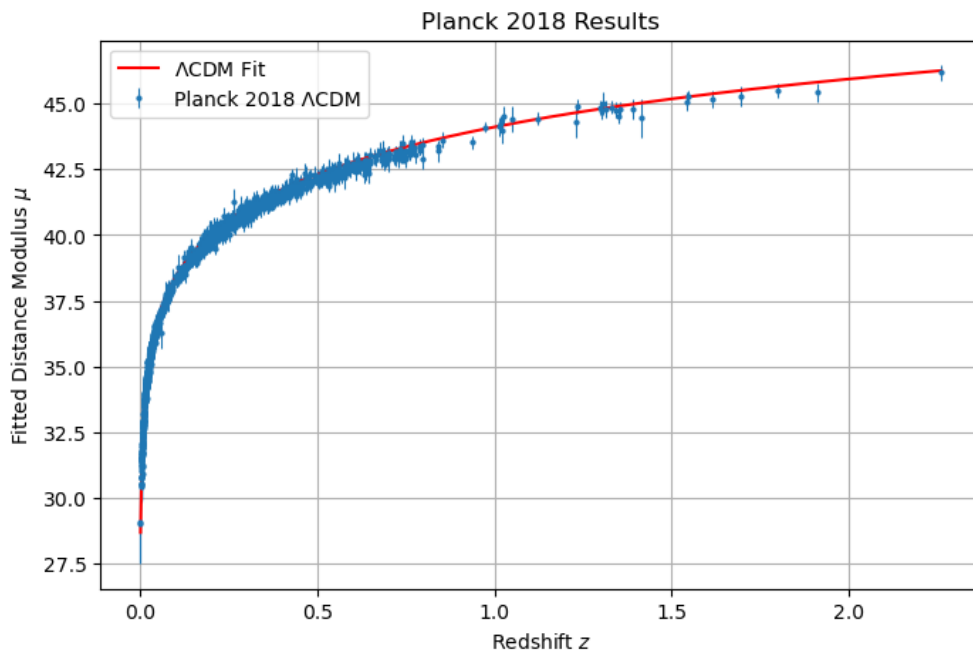


FIG 6. THE HUBBLE DIAGRAM MEASURED VIA THE PLANCK 18 DATASET

## 5.2 COMPARING THE VALUES OF THE HUBBLE CONSTANT FOR DIFFERENT RANGES OF $z$

We will separate the data into three sections, low, mid, and high redshift and see the fitted value of  $H_0$  for each. Low  $z$  ranges from 0 to 0.05, mid  $z$  ranges from 0.05 to 0.3, and high  $z$  ranges from 0.3 to infinity.

We apply these ranges and use the same function we coded to fit the previous data of  $z$ , and we obtain:

Low- $z$  fit ( $z < 0.1$ ):  $H_0 = 66.74 \pm 3.12$  km/s/Mpc  
 Mid- $z$  fit ( $0.1 \leq z < 1.0$ ):  $H_0 = 73.37 \pm 0.20$  km/s/Mpc  
 High- $z$  fit ( $z \geq 1.0$ ):  $H_0 = 73.98 \pm 0.32$  km/s/Mpc

Redshift is a tag on light which gives us the information on how far or how long the light has travelled. When we discuss high redshift values, which are significantly greater than one, we are referring to light that has travelled through space for a long time, leading to the conclusion that it originates from a younger and denser universe.

For redshift values less than one, the light was emitted more recently, from a closer object.

A redshift of around 1 will bring us halfway back in cosmic time, whereas a redshift value of 1100 corresponds to the CMB era.

From our previous sections, we know

$$\lambda_{obs} = a(t_0)\lambda_{emit}$$

$$z = \frac{\lambda_{obs} - \lambda_{emit}}{\lambda_{emit}} = \frac{a(t_0)}{a(t_{emit})} - 1$$

From the above formula, we see that redshift and the time-dependent scaling factor are inversely proportional. Hence, the higher the redshift of a photon, the further back in time it is, or it belongs to  $1/a(t)$  times smaller universe. Redshift is therefore a cosmic clock. The Hubble law at low  $z$  can be approximated to

$$v \approx cz = H_0 d \quad \Rightarrow \quad z \propto d$$

This is linear at lower redshift, but non-linear as redshift increases. This phenomenon reflects the accelerated expansion of the universe due to dark matter.

For a flat  $\Lambda$ CDM universe:

$$H(z)^2 = H_0^2 [\Omega_m(1+z)^3 + \Omega_\Lambda]$$

Say we take a limit  $z \rightarrow 0$ , the matter term decreases while the dark matter term stays constant. This means that  $\ddot{a} > 0$  when  $z \rightarrow 0$ .

For the low  $z$  range, our best-fitted value is highly in agreement with the Planck 18 observation. This is because the Planck 18 measures the value of  $H_0$  at  $z$  corresponding to 1100, i.e. the early universe and then uses the  $\Lambda$ CDM model to calculate the value for  $z \rightarrow 0$ . This method is model-dependent as it assumes that the model works in the entire range of  $z$ .

By the direct fit method, the best-fitted values for lower  $z$  are in accordance with Planck 18's measurement. The benefit of this method is that it is relatively less dependent on the  $\Lambda$ CDM Model, but it generates large errors since it uses a very short range of  $z$ .

Our method of fitting using standard candles gives a deviation from the result of lower  $z$  because of the phenomenon called the Hubble tension.

### 5.3 THE HUBBLE TENSION

The Hubble tension arises from the large discrepancies between the two methods of measurement of the Hubble constant, which sets the absolute scale of the universe. The Planck 18 satellite measurement and the SH0ES dataset measurement have a discrepancy of 5.6 km/s/Mpc. The giant difference in the value of the Hubble Constant between the two datasets is due to the difference in the method of measurement. The Planck satellite determines the Hubble constant via Cosmic microwave radiation(CMB), where the model is used to extrapolate the value of  $H_0$  over a long time frame.

On the other hand, SH0ES data uses the Luminosity of standard candles to calculate the distance modulus. This type of measurement is called a local measurement, which does not involve the evolution of a system with time and is measured in a relatively short time frame. In our context, we refer to the late universe.

The Hubble tension could potentially have various theoretical implications, such as the breakdown of our current cosmological model or time-varying dark energy. The issue is not resolved yet.

A possible solution to the Hubble Tension is the relaxation of the  $\Lambda$ CDM Model, meaning to allow more freedom and loosen the strict assumptions. Some of the strict assumptions of the  $\Lambda$ CDM Model are:

- A constant dark energy
- A flat universe
- Negligible Early dark energy(radiation and matter dominated universe)

The corresponding relaxed model will have such assumptions:

- Dark energy varies with time
- Presence of Early dark energy

### 5.4 THE AGE OF THE UNIVERSE

From our earlier calculations, we have:

$$a(t) = \frac{1}{1+z} \text{ and } H(t) = \frac{\dot{a}(t)}{a(t)}$$

Now, we begin our derivation

$$t_0 = \int_0^{t_0} dt$$

$$t_0 = \int_{a=0}^{a=1} \frac{da}{\dot{a}} = \int_0^1 \frac{da}{aH(a)}$$

After doing a change of variable  $a(t) = \frac{1}{1+z}$ , we get the following expression

$$t_0 = \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{(1+z)H(z)} dz$$

We will now solve this integral through Python using the built-in quad function of scipy. Taking the best-fitted values of  $H_0$  and  $\Omega_m$  obtained from the Pantheon+SH0ES dataset, which are:

$$\text{Fitted } H_0 = 72.97 \pm 0.26 \text{ km/s/Mpc}$$

$$\text{Fitted } \Omega_m = 0.351 \pm 0.019$$

We get the estimated value of the age of the universe as 12.37 billion years.

If we consider Planck 18's values of  $H_0$  and  $\Omega_m$ , we will get a closer answer to the actual age of the universe (13.8 billion years), which is:-

$$H_0 = 67.4 \pm 0.5 \text{ km/s/Mpc}$$

$$\Omega_m = 0.315 \pm 0.007$$

We get a better estimate of the age of the universe as 13.39 billion years.

The Pantheon+SH0ES dataset has a larger Hubble constant ( $H_0$ ) value compared to the Planck 18 datasets' Hubble constant. This larger  $H_0$  corresponds to a faster-growing universe. Hence, reaching the present state faster. This universe appears younger. Whereas for the Planck 18 dataset's Hubble constant, the universe is older as the expansion rate is relatively slower.

Hence, as a conclusion, the SH0ES database implies a younger universe, and the Planck 18 database implies an older universe. This again is a consequence of the Hubble tension.



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