### The Light-Speed Cycle Hypothesis

Clinton Fisher, 2025

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#### **Abstract**

The Light-Speed Cycle Hypothesis proposes that the universe is not on a path toward eternal expansion or thermal death, but toward a second encounter with the light-speed boundary that originally birthed it. As cosmic acceleration continues, spacetime asymptotically approaches the speed of light. At the boundary v=c, time, space, entropy, and causality dissolve. This hypothesis suggests that the universe will ultimately dissolve into non-being — the same null-state from which it emerged — and that this re-entry may catalyse a new Big Bang, establishing a cyclical cosmology governed by light-speed rupture events.

#### 1. Introduction

Contemporary cosmology acknowledges the accelerating expansion of the universe, attributed to a phenomenon termed dark energy. Various models predict different outcomes: heat death, Big Rip, or eternal inflation. However, none reinterpret the expansion as a return trajectory toward the same condition that began the universe. This hypothesis builds on the Light-Speed Boundary Hypothesis, proposing that the universe began when structured energy crossed from the null-state (v = c) into being (v < c). Now, it continues by positing that the universe is accelerating back toward v = c, closing the loop.

# 2. Core Hypothesis

Existence is bounded between two light-speed transitions:

Existence= 
$$\begin{cases} \frac{\text{False, } v \ge c}{\text{True, } v < c} \end{cases}$$

At v = c, proper time  $\tau \to 0$ , causality halts, and spacetime dissolves. Just as the universe emerged from this threshold, it may ultimately return to it.

### 3. Dark Energy as Echo of Rupture

Rather than a force pushing outward, dark energy may be interpreted as the remaining inertia or curvature recoil from the original light-speed rupture. It is not a static cosmological constant but a dynamic echo — the universe accelerating not from within, but being pulled back toward the speed-of-light boundary it once crossed.

## 4. Mathematical Boundary Conditions

As the universe accelerates:

$$\frac{\lim}{t\to\infty} v(t) \to c$$

Then:

- $\tau = t \cdot \sqrt{1 v^2/c^2} \rightarrow 0$
- $dS/dt \rightarrow 0$  (entropy ceases)
- $\partial U \rightarrow N$  (causality dissolves)

The final condition mirrors the first: spacetime ceases not through collapse, but through vanishing differentiation — a return to the null.

## 5. The Light-Speed Cycle

This model defines cosmogenesis as a closed loop:

- 1. **Null-State** (N): v=c, no time, no mass
- 2. Rupture: Structured energy crosses into being
- 3. Expansion: Time, entropy, causality evolve
- 4. **Return Trajectory**: Acceleration continues  $v \rightarrow c$
- 5. **Dissolution**: Universe reverts to null
- 6. New Rupture: Recursive Big Bang

This is a **light-speed cycle**, not a multiverse or inflation cascade — it is the same universe rhythmically pulsing into and out of existence.

#### 6. Implications

- The universe has a terminal state: v = c
- Time and entropy are temporary, bounded phenomena
- The cosmos is not infinite, but cyclically emergent

• There is no need for infinite inflation or eternal fine-tuning

## 7. Proposed Tests

- Measure asymptotic behaviour of cosmic acceleration
- Explore whether entropy shows logarithmic slowdown
- Reinterpret dark energy as metric recoil
- Model causal disconnection near  $v \approx cv$

## 8. Philosophical Considerations

If the universe ends as it began — at v = c — then existence is not linear, but **recursive**. Being arises not from randomness but from rupture. The arrow of time bends not toward infinity, but toward the same wall it emerged from. There, it resets.

#### 9. Conclusion

The Light-Speed Cycle Hypothesis closes the arc of the Light-Speed Boundary Hypothesis. It reframes the fate of the universe not as decay, but as return — a full cycle from being to non-being and back again. In this model, the universe is a finite, measurable breath through the threshold of light.