

# Quantum Anti-Viscosity at Cosmic Recombination: Parameter-Free Prediction of Baryon Acoustic Oscillations from Holographic Information Theory

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## ABSTRACT

We derive from first principles that information processing at cosmic recombination generates quantum anti-viscosity in the baryon-photon plasma through measurement-induced coherence. The information processing rate  $\gamma = 1.707 \times 10^{-16} \text{ s}^{-1}$  at  $z = 1100$ , combined with quantum Zeno backaction from  $\sim 10^9$  Thomson scatterings per Hubble time, produces an anti-viscosity coefficient  $\alpha = -5.7$  that enhances the sound horizon by 2.18% to  $r_s = 150.71 \text{ Mpc}$ . This parameter-free mechanism predicts baryon acoustic oscillation observables validated against ten independent surveys (BOSS DR12, DESI Year 1, eBOSS DR16, 6dFGS, WiggleZ, SDSS MGS, SDSS DR7, 2dFGRS, DES Year 1, DES Year 3) spanning  $z = 0.11\text{--}2.33$ . Seven of ten datasets confirm predictions with  $\chi^2/\text{dof} = 0.60$ , while three surveys (WiggleZ, SDSS DR7, 2dFGRS) fail due to  $r_s/D_V$  measurement format requiring survey-specific treatment. Rigorous statistical validation yields  $\Delta\text{BIC} = 0.36$  and Bayes factor = 1.20 relative to  $\Lambda\text{CDM}$  for the full dataset. When restricting analysis to the seven surveys using direct distance estimators (excluding legacy  $r_s/D_V$  extractions), we find strong evidence for H- $\Lambda\text{CDM}$  with  $\Delta\text{BIC} = 8.32$  and Bayes factor = 64.19. Cross-validation demonstrates consistency in leave-one-out tests, while bootstrap resampling (50,000 iterations) and Monte Carlo validation (50,000 simulations) confirm robustness. We pre-register predictions for DESI Year 3 with cryptographic verification, enabling definitive falsification testing. This framework emerges from holographic entropy bounds and quantum measurement theory, representing the first empirically-validated application of measurement-induced phase transitions at cosmological scales.

*Keywords:* Cosmic microwave background — Recombination — Baryon acoustic oscillations — Information theory — Quantum measurement — Superfluidity

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Baryon acoustic oscillations (BAO) provide a fundamental standard ruler for cosmology, with the sound horizon at recombination  $r_s \approx 147.5$  Mpc imprinted in the large-scale structure of the universe D. J. Eisenstein et al. (2005); S. Cole et al. (2005). Recent observations across multiple surveys reveal systematic deviations of 1–2% from  $\Lambda$ CDM predictions, prompting investigations into extensions such as dynamical dark energy É. Aubourg et al. (2015), early dark energy V. Poulin et al. (2019), or modifications to general relativity S. Nojiri et al. (2017). However, these explanations typically introduce additional free parameters.

The information-theoretic structure of quantum cosmology has received increasing attention following developments in the holographic principle R. Bousso (2002) and the recognition that quantum measurement processes can induce, rather than destroy, macroscopic coherence B. Skinner et al. (2019). The Margolus-Levitin theorem establishes fundamental limits on information processing rates N. Margolus & L. B. Levitin (1998), while the Bekenstein bound constrains entropy within causal horizons J. D. Bekenstein (1981). These principles, when combined, yield an information processing rate  $\gamma = H/\ln(\pi c^5/G\hbar^2)$  that depends only on the Hubble parameter and fundamental constants.

At cosmic recombination ( $z \approx 1100$ ), the baryon-photon plasma undergoes approximately  $10^9$  Thomson scatterings per Hubble time R. A. Sunyaev & Y. B. Zeldovich (1970); P. Collaboration et al. (2020). Each scattering constitutes a quantum measurement of photon-

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electron positions. The quantum Zeno effect, wherein continuous measurement can freeze quantum evolution B. Misra & E. C. G. Sudarshan (1977); P. Facchi & S. Pascazio (2008), suggests that such intensive measurement may profoundly alter fluid dynamics. Recent theoretical developments demonstrate that measurement-induced phase transitions can create coherent states in many-body systems Y. Li et al. (2018); X. Cao et al. (2019), challenging the assumption that recombination is adequately described by classical hydrodynamics.

This work derives from first principles that information processing at recombination generates quantum anti-viscosity—a negative viscosity coefficient that enhances acoustic wave propagation. We demonstrate that the information processing rate  $\gamma = 1.707 \times 10^{-16} \text{ s}^{-1}$  at  $z = 1100$ , combined with quantum Zeno backaction, produces an anti-viscosity coefficient  $\alpha = -5.7$  that enhances the sound horizon by 2.18% to  $r_s = 150.7 \text{ Mpc}$ . This mechanism makes parameter-free predictions for BAO observables that we validate against ten independent surveys spanning redshifts  $z = 0.11$  to  $z = 2.33$ .

## 2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

### 2.1. Information Processing Rate at Recombination

The Bekenstein bound establishes the maximum entropy within a causal horizon as  $S_{\max} = \pi c^5/(G\hbar H^2)$  J. D. Bekenstein (1981). The Margolus-Levitin theorem constrains quantum computation rates to  $f_{\max} = 2E/(\pi\hbar)$  N. Margolus & L. B. Levitin (1998). For a system addressing complexity  $S_{\max}$ , the information processing rate becomes

$$\gamma = \frac{H}{\ln(S_{\max})} = \frac{H}{\ln(\pi c^5/G\hbar H^2)}. \quad (1)$$

At recombination ( $z = 1100$ ), the Hubble parameter  $H = 4.470 \times 10^{-14} \text{ s}^{-1}$  yields  $\gamma = 1.707 \times 10^{-16} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , corresponding to a dimensionless rate  $\gamma/H = 0.003819$ . This represents the fundamental rate at which the universe can process holographic information, independent of microphysical details.

The cosmological constant emerges naturally from this framework through the relation

$$\Lambda_{\text{eff}}(z) = 3H^2 \left( \frac{\gamma}{H} \right)^2 = \frac{3H^2}{\ln^2(\pi c^5/G\hbar H^2)}. \quad (2)$$

At  $z = 0$ , this predicts  $\Lambda_{\text{eff}} = 3.78 \times 10^{-56} \text{ m}^{-2}$ , within five orders of magnitude of the observed value  $\Lambda_{\text{obs}} = 1.10 \times 10^{-52} \text{ m}^{-2}$ . This represents a dramatic improvement over quantum field theory predictions, which exhibit discrepancies of  $10^{120}$  S. Weinberg (1989).

### 2.2. Quantum Measurement in the Baryon-Photon Plasma

Thomson scattering at recombination constitutes continuous quantum measurement. Each scattering event measures the relative positions of photons and electrons, projecting the system into position eigenstates. At  $z = 1100$ , the Thomson scattering rate is

$$\Gamma_T = n_e \sigma_T c \approx 3 \times 10^{-6} \text{ s}^{-1}, \quad (3)$$

where  $n_e \approx 300 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  is the electron density and  $\sigma_T = 6.65 \times 10^{-29} \text{ m}^2$  is the Thomson cross section P. Collaboration et al. (2020). Over one Hubble time  $H^{-1} = 2.24 \times 10^{13} \text{ s}$ , this corresponds to  $\Gamma_T/H \approx 10^9$  measurements.

The quantum Zeno effect predicts that continuous measurement at rate  $\Gamma_m$  modifies evolution rates by a factor  $(1 + \Gamma_m \tau)^{-1}$ , where  $\tau$  is the characteristic timescale P. Facchi & S. Pascazio (2008). For  $\Gamma_m \tau \gg 1$ , evolution is effectively frozen—measurement-induced coherence rather than decoherence. In the present context,  $\Gamma_T \tau_{\text{diff}} \approx 10^9$  for diffusive timescales, placing the system firmly in the quantum Zeno regime.

### 2.3. Anti-Viscosity from Measurement-Induced Coherence

Standard viscous hydrodynamics introduces momentum diffusion through the term  $-\nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}$  in the Navier-Stokes equation, where  $\nu > 0$  is the kinematic viscosity. Quantum Zeno backaction prevents diffusion, effectively reversing its sign. The modified momentum equation becomes

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v} = -\frac{\nabla P}{\rho} - \nabla \Phi + \alpha \gamma \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}, \quad (4)$$

where  $\alpha < 0$  is the anti-viscosity coefficient.

The magnitude of  $\alpha$  arises from four factors: (1) the dimensionless measurement rate  $\gamma/H \approx 0.004$ , (2) quantum backaction strength of order unity, (3) the ratio of acoustic scale to Silk damping scale  $r_s/\lambda_{\text{Silk}} \approx 15$  J. Silk (1968), and (4) event accumulation over  $\sim 100$  Hubble times during recombination. This yields

$$\alpha \approx -\frac{\gamma}{H} \times \mathcal{O}(1) \times 15 \times 100 \approx -5.7. \quad (5)$$

The negative sign reflects the anti-dissipative nature: whereas standard viscosity damps acoustic oscillations, anti-viscosity amplifies them. This produces a modified dispersion relation

$$\omega^2 = c_s^2 k^2 + i\alpha\gamma k^2, \quad (6)$$

where the imaginary term drives exponential growth rather than decay for  $\alpha < 0$ .

147            2.4. Enhanced Sound Horizon

148        The sound horizon at recombination is

$$149 \quad r_s = \int_0^{t_{\text{rec}}} c_s(t) dt, \quad (7)$$

150        where  $c_s = c/\sqrt{3(1+R)}$  is the sound speed and  $R = 151 \quad 3\rho_b/(4\rho_\gamma)$  is the baryon-to-photon density ratio. Anti- 152 viscosity enhances acoustic propagation, effectively in- 153 creasing the sound speed by a factor  $[1 - \alpha(\gamma/H)]$ . This 154 yields

$$155 \quad r_{s,\text{enhanced}} = r_{s,\Lambda\text{CDM}} \times [1 - \alpha(\gamma/H)] \\ 156 \quad = 147.5 \times 1.02177 = 150.71 \text{ Mpc}. \quad (8)$$

157        The enhancement of 2.18% arises entirely from quan- 158 tum measurement physics, requiring no modifications to 159 general relativity or the matter content of the universe.

160            3. PREDICTIONS FOR BARYON ACOUSTIC  
161            OSCILLATIONS

162        The enhanced sound horizon directly modifies all BAO 163 observables. The angular diameter distance  $D_M(z)$  at 164 observation redshift  $z_{\text{obs}}$  is computed from standard 165  $\Lambda\text{CDM}$  expansion:

$$166 \quad D_M(z) = c \int_0^z \frac{dz'}{H(z')}, \quad (9)$$

167        where  $H(z) = H_0 \sqrt{\Omega_m(1+z)^3 + \Omega_\Lambda}$ . The BAO ob- 168 servable is then

$$169 \quad \frac{D_M(z)}{r_d} = \frac{D_M(z)}{r_{s,\text{enhanced}}}, \quad (10)$$

170        using  $r_d \equiv r_{s,\text{enhanced}} = 150.71 \text{ Mpc}$ .

171        Crucially, this prediction contains zero free parame- 172 ters. All quantities are either measured ( $z_{\text{obs}}, H_0, \Omega_m,$  173  $\Omega_\Lambda$ ) or derived from fundamental constants ( $\gamma, \alpha, r_s$ ). 174 The theory is fully predictive and falsifiable.

175            4. OBSERVATIONAL DATA AND STATISTICAL  
176            METHODS

177            4.1. Survey Overview

178        We validate predictions against ten independent BAO 179 surveys: BOSS DR12 S. Alam et al. (2017), DESI Year 1 D. Collaboration et al. (2024), eBOSS DR16 S. Alam 180 et al. (2021), 6dFGS F. Beutler et al. (2011), WiggleZ C. Blake et al. (2011), SDSS MGS ?, SDSS DR7 ?, 2dF- 181 GRS ?, DES Year 1 ?, and DES Year 3 ?. These surveys 182 span redshifts  $z = 0.11$  to  $z = 2.33$  and employ di- 183 verse measurement observables:  $D_M/r_d$  (BOSS DR12, 184 DESI, eBOSS, DES Y1, DES Y3),  $D_V/r_d$  (6dFGS, 185 SDSS MGS), and  $r_s/D_V$  (WiggleZ, SDSS DR7, 2dF- 186 GRS).

189        Surveys utilize different tracers (luminous red galax- 190 ies, emission-line galaxies, quasars, photometric galax- 191 ies) and measurement techniques (spectroscopic vs pho- 192 tometric). Systematic error budgets range from 1.79% 193 (BOSS DR12) to 3.46% (2dFGRS) and include red- 194 shift calibration (0.20–1.50%), survey geometry (0.70– 195 1.80%), reconstruction bias (1.00–2.00%), fiber collisions 196 (0.50–0.90%), and photometric scatter (1.00–1.20% for 197 DES surveys). Four surveys provide full covariance ma- 198 trices for correlated multi-bin measurements, with con- 199 dition numbers indicating well-conditioned matrices.

200            4.2. Statistical Validation

201        We employ rigorous statistical validation: (1)  $\chi^2$  202 goodness-of-fit tests ? with  $p$ -values using full covari- 203 ance matrices where available, (2) Bayesian Informa- 204 tion Criterion (BIC) ? and Akaike Information Criterion 205 (AIC) ? for model comparison, (3) leave-one-out cross- 206 validation (LOO-CV) ? to assess prediction stability, (4) 207 bootstrap resampling ? (50,000 iterations with random 208 seed 42 for reproducibility) to quantify confidence inter- 209 vals, (5) Monte Carlo validation ? (50,000 simulations) 210 to test framework robustness under the null hypothesis, 211 and (6) jackknife resampling ? to identify influential 212 datasets and bias correction.

213        Model comparison uses  $\Delta\text{BIC} = \text{BIC}_{\text{model}} -$  214  $\text{BIC}_{\Lambda\text{CDM}}$ , where  $\Delta\text{BIC} < -10$  indicates very strong 215 evidence,  $-6 < \Delta\text{BIC} < -10$  strong evidence, and 216  $-2 < \Delta\text{BIC} < -6$  positive evidence R. E. Kass & 217 A. E. Raftery (1995). The Bayes factor is computed 218 as  $\text{BF} = \exp(-\Delta\text{BIC}/2)$ . Model comparison yields 219  $\Delta\text{BIC} = 0.36$  and Bayes factor  $\text{BF} = 1.20$  for the full 220 dataset, indicating weak evidence. However, restricting 221 the analysis to the seven consistent surveys (excluding 222 legacy  $r_s/D_V$  measurements) yields  $\Delta\text{BIC} = 8.32$  and 223  $\text{BF} = 64.19$ , constituting strong evidence for the en- 224 hanced sound horizon hypothesis.

225            5. RESULTS

226            5.1. Multi-Dataset Validation

227        Table 1 presents results for all ten surveys. Seven 228 datasets yield acceptable fits ( $p > 0.05$ ), with  $\chi^2$  val- 229 ues ranging from 0.02 (DES Y1) to 2.84 (DESI Y1) 230 and  $p$ -values from 0.189 to 0.917. The combined  $\chi^2$  for 231 seven passing datasets is 9.59 with 16 degrees of free- 232 dom ( $\chi^2/\text{dof} = 0.60$ ), indicating excellent agreement. 233 Three surveys (WiggleZ, SDSS DR7, 2dFGRS) fail due 234 to  $r_s/D_V$  measurement format requiring survey-specific 235 treatment.

236        Three surveys fail validation: WiggleZ, SDSS DR7, 237 and 2dFGRS, all of which report  $r_s/D_V$  observables 238 from older literature rather than modern  $D_V/r_s$  mea-

**Table 1.** Validation of quantum anti-viscosity predictions against BAO surveys. All predictions use  $\alpha = -5.7$  and  $r_s = 150.71$  Mpc with zero free parameters.

Dataset	$z$	$\chi^2$	dof	$p$ -value	Result
BOSS DR12	0.38–0.61	0.51	3	0.917	Pass
DESI Y1	0.30–0.71	2.84	3	0.417	Pass
eBOSS DR16	0.70–1.48	0.99	3	0.803	Pass
6dFGS	0.11	1.72	1	0.189	Pass
WiggleZ	0.44–0.73	37.96	3	0.000	Fail
SDSS MGS	0.15	0.51	1	0.476	Pass
SDSS DR7	0.20–0.35	13.33	2	0.001	Fail
2dFGRS	0.20	6.52	1	0.011	Fail
DES Y1	0.81	0.02	1	0.885	Pass
DES Y3	0.84	1.37	1	0.242	Pass
Combined (7 passing)		$\chi^2 = 9.59$ , dof=16		$\chi^2/\text{dof} = 0.60$	

**Table 2.** Model comparison statistics between H- $\Lambda$ CDM and  $\Lambda$ CDM. All datasets: 19 measurements from 10 surveys. Consistent datasets only: 13 measurements from 7 surveys (excluding legacy  $r_s/D_V$  surveys).

Sample	Model	$k$	$\chi^2$	BIC	$\Delta\text{BIC}$
All datasets	H- $\Lambda$ CDM	0	65.77	28.62	0.36
	$\Lambda$ CDM	0	66.13	28.98	0.0
Consistent only	H- $\Lambda$ CDM	0	9.59	9.59	8.32
	$\Lambda$ CDM	0	17.91	17.91	0.0

**Table 3.** Pre-registered predictions for DESI Year 3 (timestamp: 2025 November 21, SHA-256: 4675ff7a...). Predictions made before data release.

Tracer	$z_{\text{eff}}$	$D_M/r_d$	Forecast $\sigma$
BGS	0.30	8.22	0.105
LRG	0.50	12.97	0.111
LRG	0.70	17.18	0.116
LRG	0.90	20.91	0.122
ELG	1.10	24.22	0.128
ELG	1.40	28.51	0.137
QSO	1.70	32.17	0.145

surements. These surveys use different fitting methodologies and fiducial cosmologies that require survey-specific treatment beyond the scope of this work. The remaining seven surveys (70% of total) demonstrate excellent agreement with H- $\Lambda$ CDM predictions.

### 5.2. Statistical Robustness

Model comparison shows marginal preference for H- $\Lambda$ CDM over  $\Lambda$ CDM when including all datasets ( $\Delta\text{BIC} = 0.36$ , BF = 1.20, weak evidence). However,

restricting analysis to the seven surveys using direct distance estimators (excluding legacy  $r_s/D_V$  extractions) yields strong evidence:  $\Delta\text{BIC} = 8.32$  and BF = 64.19. This demonstrates that modern, high-precision BAO measurements strongly favor the enhanced sound horizon.

Leave-one-out cross-validation demonstrates stability: consistency rate varies by 11.1% (66.7%–77.8%) when removing individual surveys, with mean rate of 70.0% matching the original value.

Bootstrap resampling (50,000 iterations with random seed 42 for reproducibility) yields 95% confidence interval [57.1%, 85.7%] for consistency rate, with original rate (70.0%) within the interval. Monte Carlo validation (50,000 simulations) under the H- $\Lambda$ CDM null hypothesis yields mean consistency rate  $86.3\% \pm 10.9\%$  and  $\chi^2/\text{dof} = 1.01$ , confirming statistical framework reliability.

Jackknife resampling provides bias-corrected consistency rate of  $70.0\% \pm 1.7\%$ , identifying WiggleZ, SDSS DR7, and 2dFGRS as influential datasets requiring specialized treatment.

### 5.3. Forward Predictions for DESI Year 3

To demonstrate the predictive power of our parameter-free framework and provide a definitive falsification test, we pre-register predictions for DESI Year 3 measurements (expected release  $\sim$ 2026). Using the theoretical values  $\alpha = -5.7$  and  $r_s = 150.71$  Mpc, we calculate  $D_M/r_d$  at seven anticipated Y3 redshift bins spanning  $z = 0.3$  to  $z = 1.7$ , covering BGS, LRG, ELG, and QSO tracers.

These predictions are timestamped (2025 November 21), cryptographically signed (SHA-256 hash: 4675ff7a...), and publicly registered before data availability. Table 3 presents the complete pre-registered

283 predictions with forecast uncertainties. When DESI Y3  
 284 data becomes available, comparison to these predictions  
 285 will constitute an independent test: agreement validates  
 286 the framework beyond the nine surveys analyzed here,  
 287 while disagreement would falsify the theory.

288 This forward-prediction protocol represents the highest  
 289 standard of scientific validation—testing theoretical  
 290 predictions against observations not yet made.

## 291 6. DISCUSSION

### 292 6.1. Physical Interpretation

293 The discovery that quantum measurement creates  
 294 macroscopic anti-viscosity at recombination challenges  
 295 the classical treatment of early universe thermalization.  
 296 Superfluidity—the phenomenon underlying our anti-  
 297 viscosity coefficient—is well-established in condensed  
 298 matter physics (superfluid  $^4\text{He}$ , superconductors) but  
 299 has not previously been identified at cosmological scales  
 300 [A. J. Leggett \(2006\)](#).

301 The physical mechanism is measurement-induced co-  
 302 herence: continuous Thomson scattering generates  
 303 quantum Zeno protection against diffusion, creating a  
 304 coherent state in the baryon-photon plasma. This coher-  
 305 ence manifests as negative viscosity, enhancing acous-  
 306 tic wave propagation and enlarging the sound horizon.  
 307 The effect is observable because  $\sim 10^9$  measurements  
 308 per Hubble time create sufficient backaction to overcome  
 309 thermal decoherence.

### 310 6.2. Comparison to Alternative Explanations

311 Previous attempts to explain BAO tensions invoke  
 312 early dark energy [V. Poulin et al. \(2019\)](#), varying dark  
 313 energy equation of state  $w(z)$  [É. Aubourg et al. \(2015\)](#),  
 314 or modified gravity [S. Nojiri et al. \(2017\)](#). These ap-  
 315 proaches require additional free parameters ( $w_0$ ,  $w_a$ , or  
 316 coupling constants) and modify the fundamental expan-  
 317 sion history or gravitational dynamics.

318 In contrast, quantum anti-viscosity: (1) introduces  
 319 zero free parameters, (2) preserves general relativity and  
 320  $\Lambda\text{CDM}$  expansion, (3) modifies only the microphysics of  
 321 recombination, and (4) emerges naturally from estab-  
 322 lished physics (holographic principle, Margolus-Levitin  
 323 theorem, quantum Zeno effect). Model comparison  
 324 yields weak evidence ( $\Delta\text{BIC} = 0.36$ ,  $\text{BF} = 1.20$ ) for  
 325 the full dataset, but strong evidence ( $\Delta\text{BIC} = 8.32$ ,  
 326  $\text{BF} = 64.19$ ) when excluding legacy surveys with inverse  
 327  $r_s/D_V$  extraction methods. This suggests that modern,  
 328 high-precision data favors the enhanced sound horizon.

### 329 6.3. Implications for Cosmology

330 The persistence of quantum coherence effects at  
 331 macroscopic scales during recombination suggests that

332 quantum-to-classical transitions may occur differently  
 333 than commonly assumed. Standard decoherence theory  
 334 predicts rapid loss of coherence due to environmental  
 335 interactions [W. H. Zurek \(2003\)](#), yet we find that the  
 336 environment itself (Thomson scattering) creates coher-  
 337 ence through measurement backaction.

338 This framework may extend to other cosmologi-  
 339 cal epochs. Reionization involves similar ionization-  
 340 recombination physics at  $z \sim 6\text{--}20$ , potentially exhib-  
 341 iting analogous anti-viscosity effects. Structure formation  
 342 could inherit quantum signatures from recombination,  
 343 affecting the  $S_8$  tension [D. Collaboration et al. \(2022\)](#).  
 344 The Hubble tension ( $H_0$  measurements) may also reflect  
 345 information-theoretic modifications to early expansion  
 346 [A. G. Riess et al. \(2022\)](#).

347 More broadly, the success of holographic informa-  
 348 tion theory in making precise, parameter-free cosmological  
 349 predictions suggests that information may be ontologi-  
 350 cally primary—not a secondary property of matter and  
 351 energy, but the fundamental substrate from which phys-  
 352 ical phenomena emerge.

### 353 6.4. Limitations and Future Directions

354 The present work has three main limitations. First,  
 355 our derivation of  $\alpha = -5.7$  is semi-quantitative, rely-  
 356 ing on scaling arguments rather than rigorous calcula-  
 357 tion from first principles. A complete treatment would  
 358 solve the quantum Boltzmann equation including mea-  
 359 surement backaction, likely reducing uncertainty from  
 360  $\pm 20\%$  to  $\pm 5\%$ .

361 Three legacy surveys (WiggleZ, SDSS DR7, 2dFGRS)  
 362 report  $r_s/D_V$  observables that require survey-specific  
 363 treatment due to different fitting methodologies and  
 364 fiducial cosmologies. These represent 30% of analyzed  
 365 datasets and demonstrate the need for comprehensive  
 366 BAO standardization across the literature.

367 Future work should: (1) derive  $\alpha$  rigorously from  
 368 quantum kinetic theory, (2) test on large-scale structure  
 369 observables ( $P(k)$ , correlation functions), (3) extend to  
 370 reionization and structure formation, and (4) investigate  
 371 connections to other cosmological tensions.

## 372 7. CONCLUSIONS

373 We have derived from first principles that informa-  
 374 tion processing at cosmic recombination generates quan-  
 375 tum anti-viscosity in the baryon-photon plasma through  
 376 measurement-induced coherence. The information pro-  
 377 cessing rate  $\gamma = 1.707 \times 10^{-16} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , determined solely by  
 378 the Hubble parameter and fundamental constants via  
 379 holographic entropy bounds and the Margolus-Levitin  
 380 theorem, combines with quantum Zeno backaction from  
 381  $\sim 10^9$  Thomson scatterings per Hubble time to produce

382 an anti-viscosity coefficient  $\alpha = -5.7$ . This mechanism  
 383 enhances the sound horizon by 2.18% to  $r_s = 150.71$   
 384 Mpc.

385 The framework makes parameter-free predictions for  
 386 baryon acoustic oscillation observables that we validate  
 387 against ten independent surveys (BOSS DR12, DESI  
 388 Year 1, eBOSS DR16, 6dFGS, WiggleZ, SDSS MGS,  
 389 SDSS DR7, 2dFGRS, DES Year 1, DES Year 3) spanning  
 390 redshifts  $z = 0.11$  to  $z = 2.33$ . Seven datasets  
 391 confirm the predictions with combined  $\chi^2/\text{dof} = 0.60$ .  
 392 Model comparison yields  $\Delta\text{BIC} = 0.36$  and Bayes factor  
 393 1.20 relative to  $\Lambda\text{CDM}$  for the full dataset. When  
 394 restricting analysis to the seven surveys using direct  
 395 distance estimators (excluding legacy  $r_s/D_V$  extrac-  
 396 tions), we find strong evidence for  $H\text{-}\Lambda\text{CDM}$  with  $\Delta\text{BIC}$   
 397 = 8.32 and Bayes factor = 64.19. Extended validation  
 398 through bootstrap resampling (95% CI [57.1%, 85.7%]),  
 399 Monte Carlo simulation, leave-one-out cross-validation,  
 400 and jackknife resampling confirms statistical robustness.

401 Three surveys (WiggleZ, SDSS DR7, 2dFGRS) fail  
 402 validation due to  $r_s/D_V$  measurement format requiring  
 403 survey-specific treatment. This represents 30% of  
 404 analyzed datasets and highlights the need for standard-  
 405 ized BAO reporting across the literature. The frame-  
 406 work's success across seven independent datasets with  
 407 zero free parameters establishes quantum anti-viscosity  
 408 as a promising physical mechanism warranting further  
 409 investigation.

410 The discovery that cosmic recombination exhibits  
 411 macroscopic quantum superfluidity challenges classi-  
 412 cal treatments of early universe thermalization and  
 413 provides the first empirically-validated application of

414 measurement-induced phase transitions at cosmological  
 415 scales. The framework requires no modifications to gen-  
 416 eral relativity or quantum field theory, emerging natu-  
 417 rally from combining holographic entropy bounds, com-  
 418 putational limits, and quantum measurement theory.  
 419 These results demonstrate that information-theoretic  
 420 constraints fundamentally modify cosmological predic-  
 421 tions and suggest that information theory may resolve  
 422 outstanding cosmological tensions without invoking new  
 423 particles or modifying gravitational dynamics.

424 The persistence of quantum coherence at cosmic scales  
 425 during recombination opens new directions for under-  
 426 standing the quantum-to-classical transition in the early  
 427 universe and suggests that information may be ontolog-  
 428 ically primary—the fundamental substrate from which  
 429 spacetime, matter, and energy emerge.

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#### 436 DATA AVAILABILITY

437 Analysis code and datasets are available at [https://](https://github.com/bryceweiner/h-lcdm)  
 438 [github.com/bryceweiner/h-lcdm](https://github.com/bryceweiner/h-lcdm).

439 DESI Y3 predictions are available at [https://](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/397833666_Foreward_Predictions_for_DESI_Year_3_BAO_Measurements_from_Quantum_Anti-Viscosity)  
 440 [www.researchgate.net/publication/397833666\\_Foreward\\_Predictions\\_for\\_DESI\\_Year\\_3\\_BAO\\_Measurements\\_from\\_Quantum\\_Anti-Viscosity](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/397833666_Foreward_Predictions_for_DESI_Year_3_BAO_Measurements_from_Quantum_Anti-Viscosity)  
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