

Lecture 25

30 April 2009



HOMEWORK 09:


**Due tonight,
11:59pm**

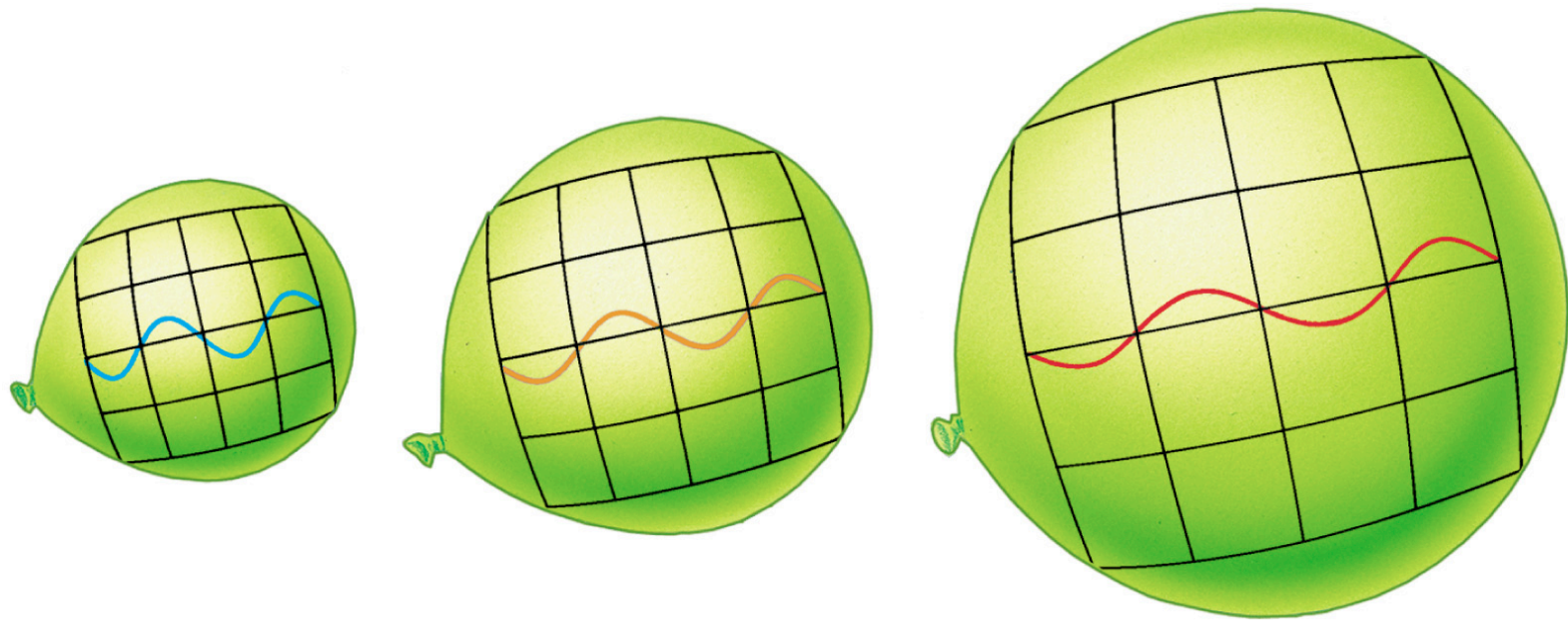
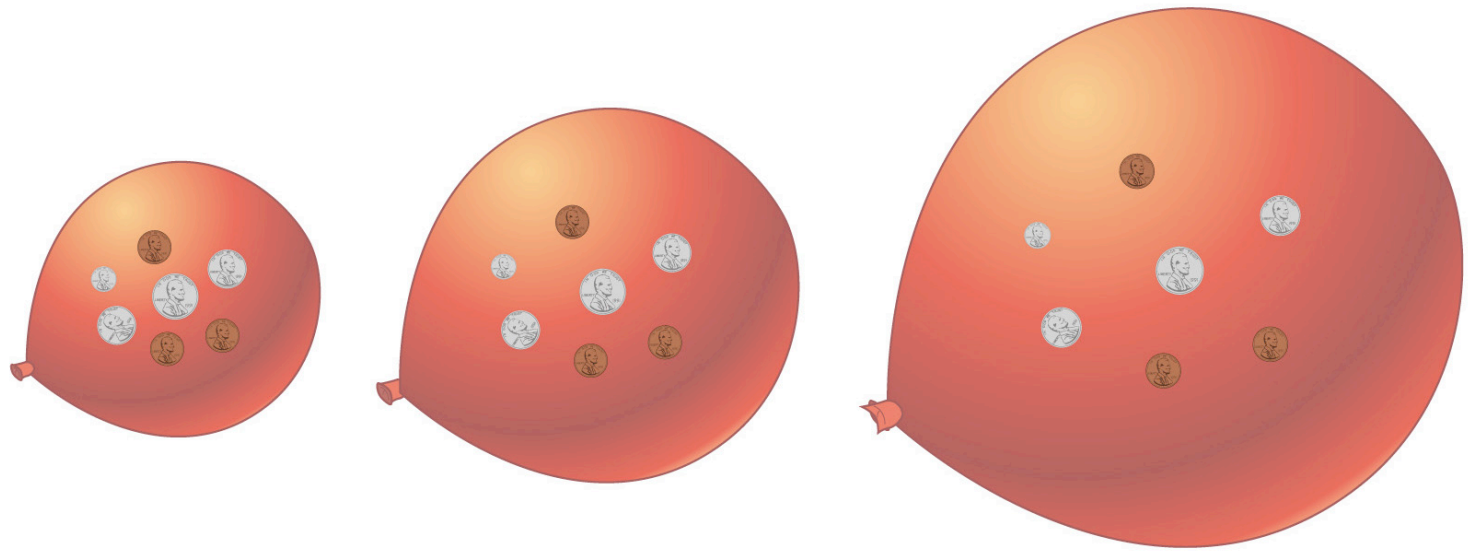
**FINALS: Friday 8th
May 2009, 08:00am**

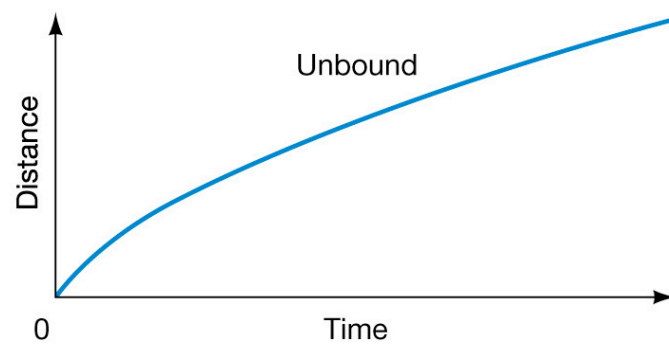
- **SCIENCE TOPICS:**
Dark Energy and
The Fate of the Universe
- **READING**
Ch.17, Sections 17.2-17.7
- **PRACTICE: Ch 17**
Review: 1, 2, 5, 6
Self-test: 1, 2, 5, 6, 10,
Problems: 4, 5

The Fate of the Universe

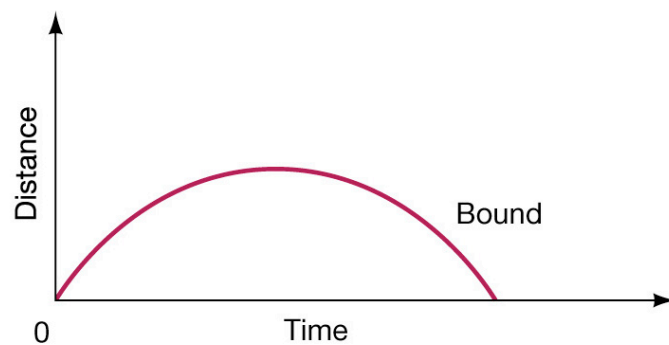
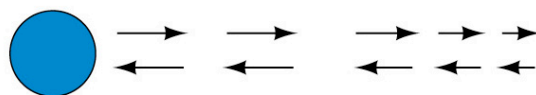
... depends on
what the Universe
is made of.

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- The background of the slide is a Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB) fluctuation map, showing a complex pattern of red, yellow, and blue speckles representing temperature variations across the sky.
- The CMB tells the **TOTAL AMOUNT** of **matter** and **energy** in the Universe.
 - Evidence from **galaxies** tells that most of the **matter** is in the form of dark matter
 - *BUT even then* there isn't enough matter and energy to tally with the CMB
 - Something **VERY** strange is going on...

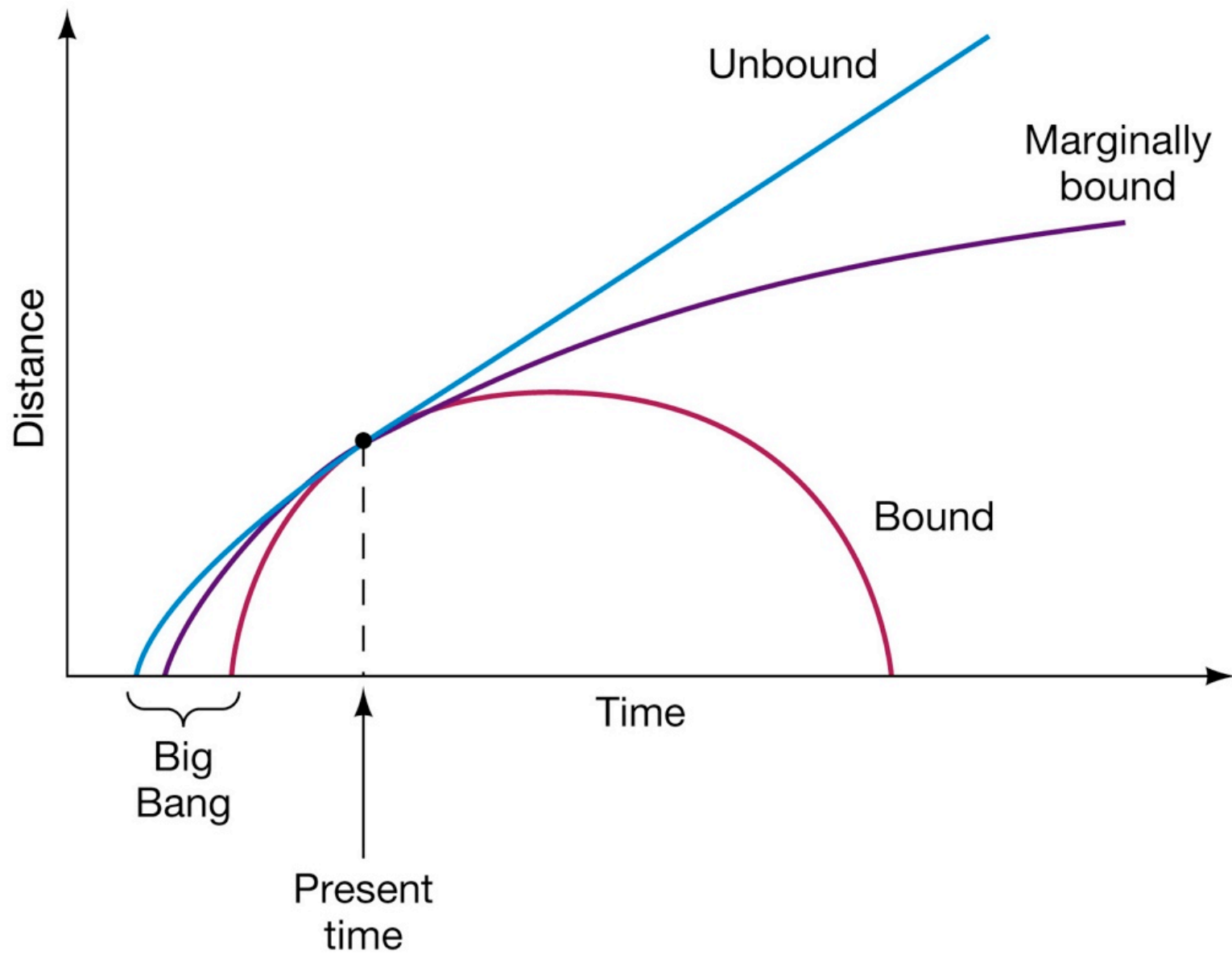


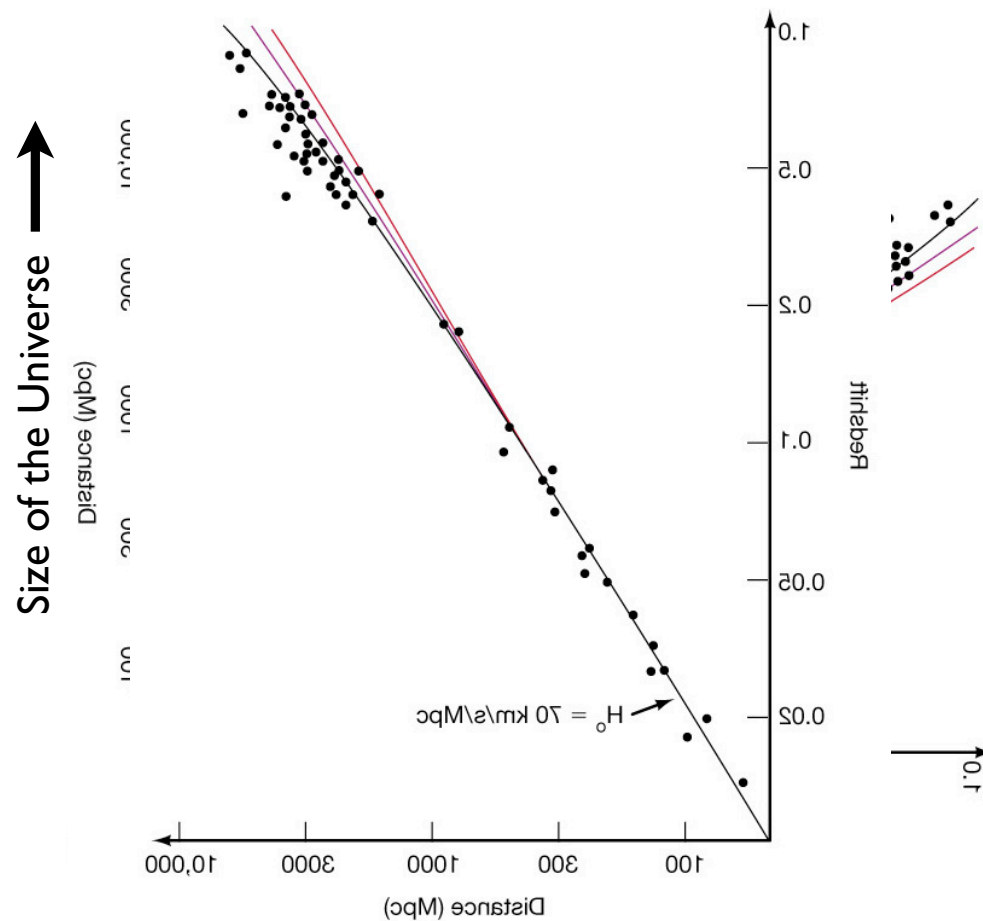
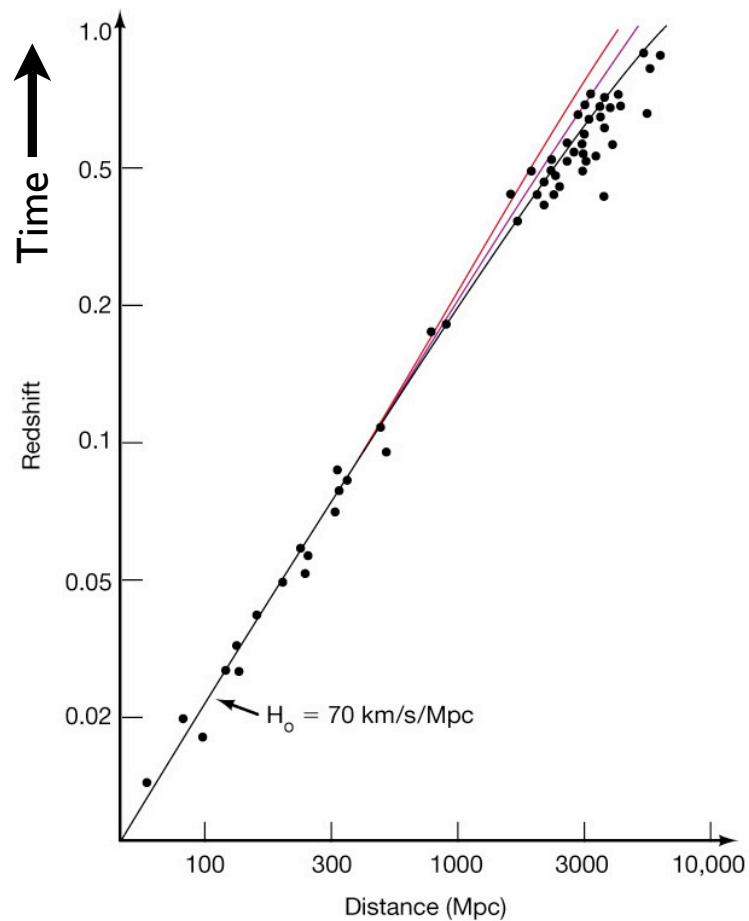


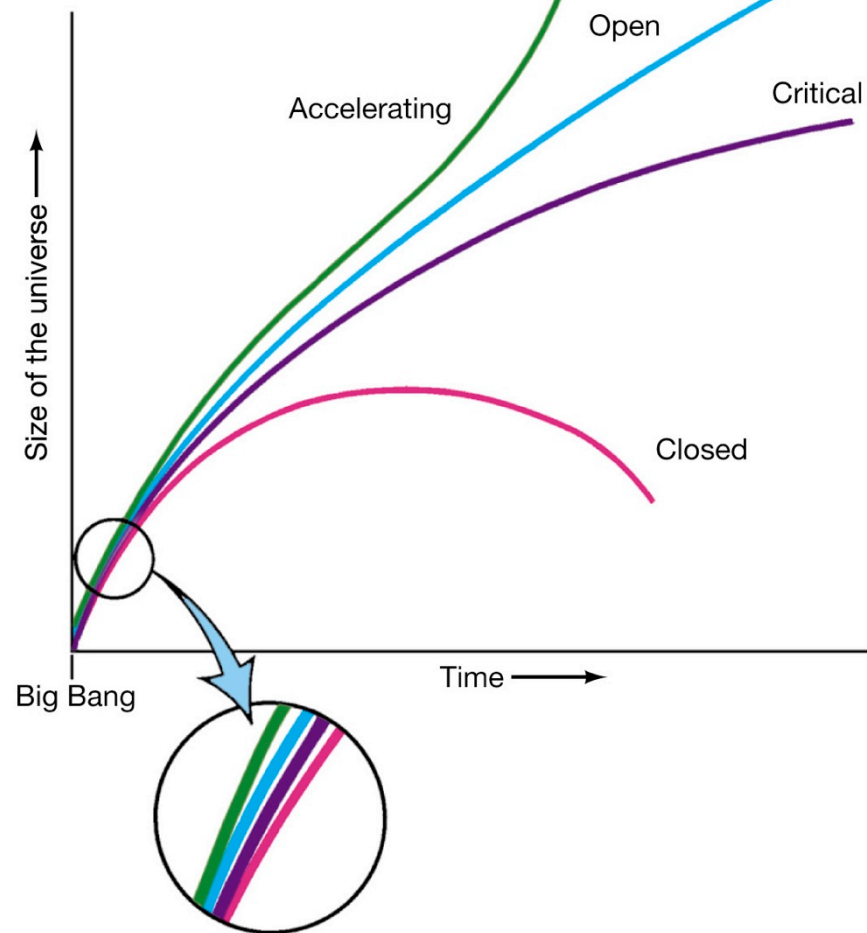
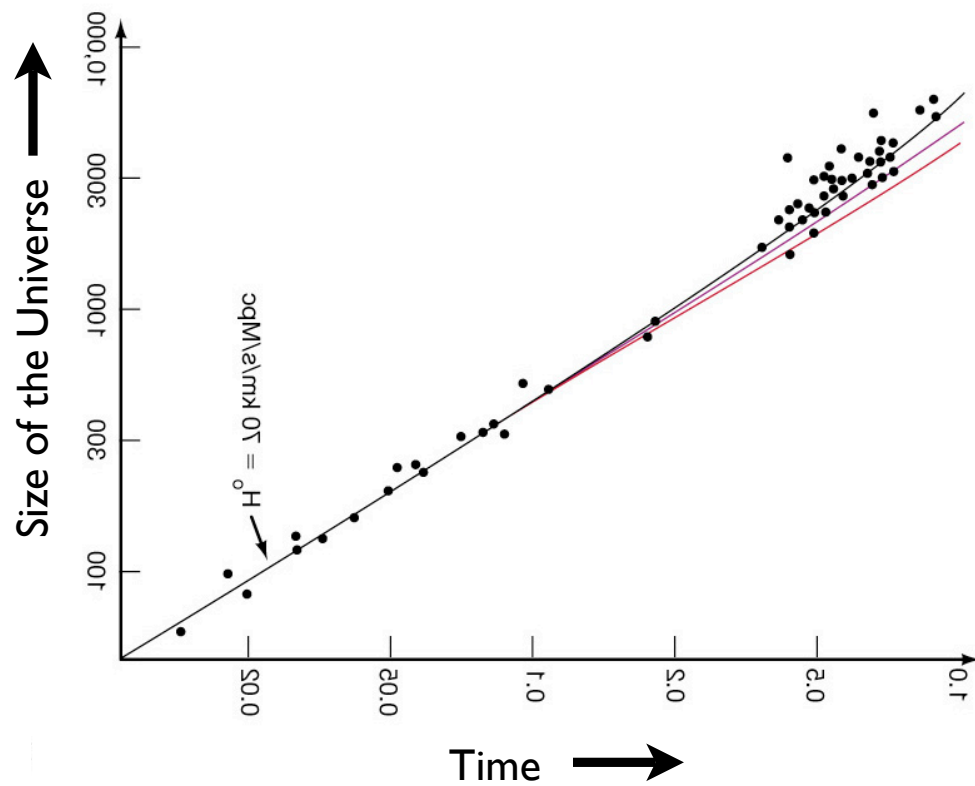
(a)

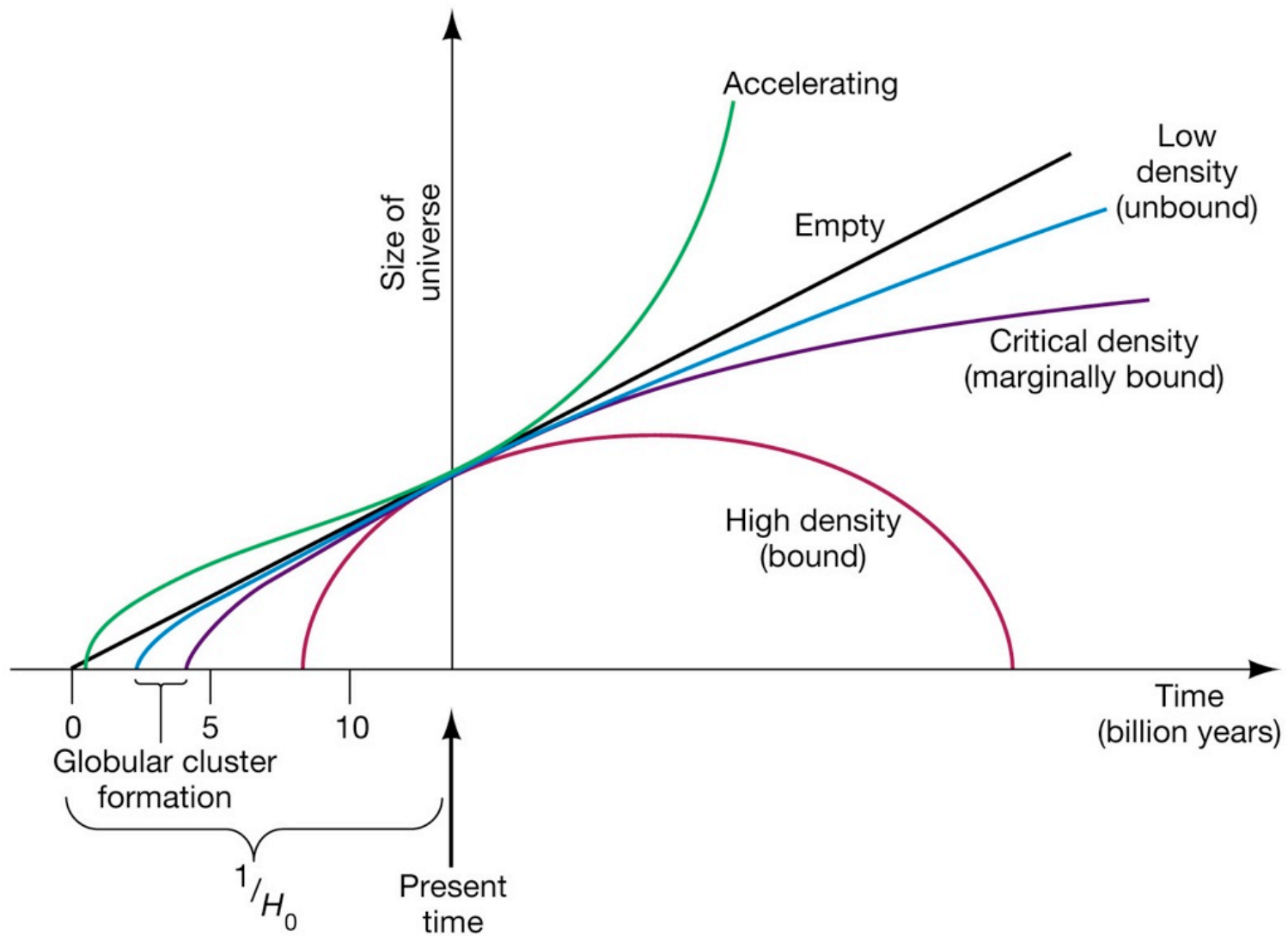


(b)









Einstein's Greatest ``blunder''

- Einstein's Theory of Gravity, ``General Relativity'' 1916-7.
- ``The Big Bang Theory'' not until 1920s...

Type Ia Supernova

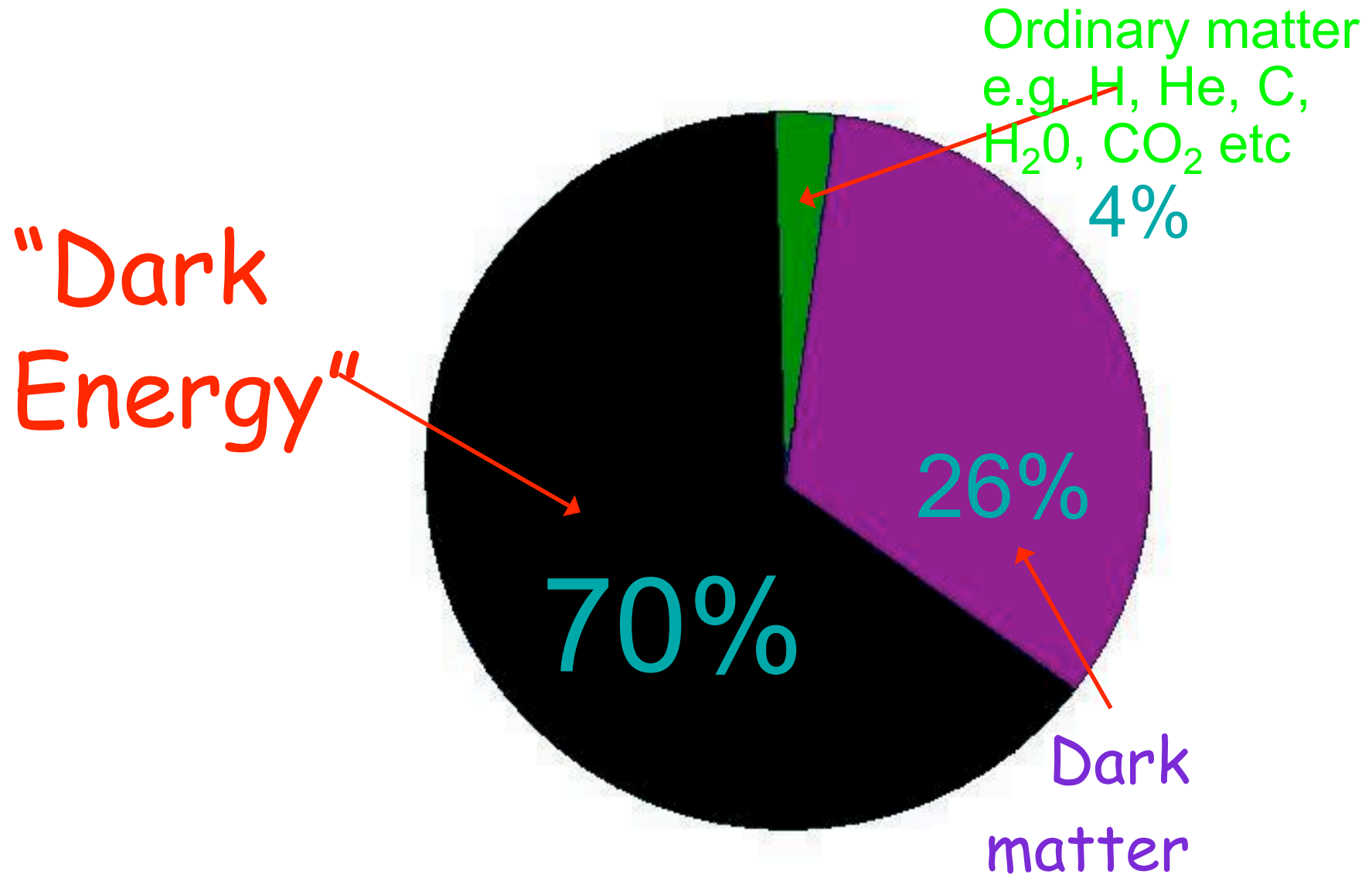
- Late 1990s...

DARK ENERGY

Dark Energy

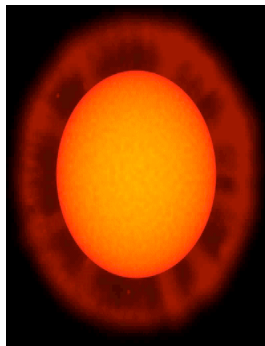
- is weird.
- “Anti-gravity” (has -ve pressure)
- Have NO clue to what it is (just have very good evidence it is there)
- Predictions from best theories of Particle Physics suggest a “natural energy scale” of Dark Energy.
- Problem is, when you do the sums, you are out by a factor of **10^{120} (!!!!!!!)**
- (Arguably) The biggest challenge/problem/question in physical science at the beginning of the C.21st.

What is the Universe made of?



How will the Universe end?

We think that the Universe will go in to a BIG CHILL. This means that eventually, as the Universe continues to **expand and cool**, all the **stars** will go out and the Universe will be left with just a **sea of Black Holes...**



Now 5 billion 100 billion 1000 billion 10^{36} 10^{100} time (years)

The Sun
becomes a
red giant &
then fades

Galaxies
move very
far apart

Stars begin
to die and
fade

White dwarf
star and
neutron star
era

All that's left
are black holes