

Astronomy from 4 Perspectives: the Dark Universe

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Questions: Supernova cosmology and dark energy

1. FLRW-models and the equation of state

- (a) What are the ingredients (fields?) that enter into a FLRW metric?
- (b) How does each field behave as the universe expands?

2. Light propagation in relativity

- (a) What is the equation that describes light propagation in a curved space-time?
- (b) How does the presence of a body exerting gravity affect light paths?
- (c) How does curvature affect light propagation?
- (d) How does expansion affect light propagation?

3. Distance measures

- (a) How do we measure distance in a curved space-time?
- (b) What is the angular distance?
- (c) How do we disentangle red-shift from curvature?

4. Supernova cosmology

- (a) Why are Supernovae of Type Ia standard candles?
- (b) Why is it important to observe them at high redshift?
- (c) Why are they not enough to fully constrain the cosmology?