Unraveling the Universe with the Dark Energy Spectroscopic Instrument

Satya Gontcho A Gontcho

University of Rochester DESI Lead Observing Scientist on behalf of the DESI Collaboration





Credit: SDSS-III / Apache Point Observatory









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Credit: DESI / LBL



Cosmological Standard Model

Dark Energy



The evolution of the Universe is driven by its content.

Acceleration of the Expansion of the Universe Dark Energy dominated era

- <i>Epoch</i> -/Event	Time	Temp. (K)	Energy (eV)	Redshift
Hot Big Bang	-	-	-	-
Inflation	-	-	-	-
Reheating	-	0	-	$\sim 10^{28}$
-Radiation domination era-	-	-	-	-
Baryongenesis-Leptogenesis	$10^{-4} { m s}$	2×10^{12}	2×10^8	10^{11}
Primordial Nucleosynthesis	100 s	10^{9}	10^{5}	10^{9}
-Matter domination era-	$100 \mathrm{\ kyrs}$	9000	0.81	3400
Recombination	$380 \mathrm{~kyrs}$	3000	0.3	1100
reionization	$320 \mathrm{~Myrs}$	120	0.01	20
First galaxies formation	1.3 Gyrs	60	5×10^{-3}	10
-Dark Energy domination era-	9.4 Gyrs	4.8	4×10^{-4}	0.75
Today	15 Gyrs	2.7	2.35×10^{-4}	0

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Dark Energy Spectroscopic Instrument U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science

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Within the context of GR Dark Energy is understood as a macroscopic manifestation of the quantum vacuum energy

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} - \Lambda g_{\mu\nu}$$

Other alternatives include: Modified Gravity, time evolving DE,...

All these different DE theories —> different expansion rate H(z), and different logarithmic growth of structure factor $f(z)\sigma_8(z)$





Strong constraints on cosmology from measurements at z > 0.75 with Planck, SDSS-III/BOSS (quasars, Lyman-alpha forest)











Figure of Merit 10x better than Stage II Figure of Merit 3x Stage III.

How to do this with minimum cost and maximum science?

Maximize the volume surveyed: 14,000 sq. deg. survey (baseline)

Sample the density field with high enough fidelity





Mapping the Universe with SDSS-III

U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science



Early 2010s





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DESI Survey: 35M redshifts in 5 years





Figure of Merit 10x better than Stage II Figure of Merit 3x Stage III.

How to do this with minimum cost and maximum science?

Use robust techniques:

Baryon Acoustic Oscillations (BAO)

Redshift Space Distortions (RSD)

DESI will do both in one survey

Important:

many observational probes with different (and often complementary) systematic uncertainties.



measures smooth expansion







Dark Energy Part I: the Hubble Expansion Observable: Baryon Acoustic Oscillation (BAO)





Measuring the Hubble Expansion





Credit: D. Kirkby, SDSS-III



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Mapping the density field







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- Tracer galaxies are gravitationally attracted to clusters (peculiar motion).
- In redshift space, clusters appear squashed and voids appear stretched along the line of sight.
- Redshift space distortions (RSDs) create artificial anisotropy in the BAO.





BAO after Reconstruction (BOSS DR11)





Credit: Padmanabhan+ 2012



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Dark Energy Part II: Growth of Structure Observable: Redshift Space Distortion (RSD)





Growth of Structure information contained in RSD

- RSD must be removed to study the BAO standard ruler, but they are extremely useful in their own right!
- The anisotropy produced by RSD constrains $f\sigma_8$, where f is the growth rate of structure and σ_8 is the normalized amplitude of mass fluctuations.
- Growth index predicted by GR, as such measuring $f\sigma_8$ allows to test theories of gravity



Testing LCDM: the next 5 years







Requirements & Predictions





• Measure the distance scale from BAO:

0.28% precision from 0 < z < 1.1

0.39% precision from 1.1 < z < 1.9

- Measure the Hubble Parameter to 1.05% at 1.9 < z < 3.7 from BAO
- Galaxy survey at z < 1.5 should be capable of separately determining $D_A(z)$ and H(z) from BAO

systematic errors from instrument and observational effects must not exceed 0.16% for D_A and 0.26% for H







Expect much tighter contours in the Ω_m - H_0 plane with DESI due to 10x higher statistics.



Credit: Cucei+ 2019











Additional Science Goals







These goals do not drive the survey design or science requirements, but are achievable using the baseline survey !

- Gravitational growth measure the growth factor to < 1% at 0.5 < z < 1.4 using Redshift Space Distortions
- Inflation

constrain the spectral index of primordial perturbations and its running to < 0.4%









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Information encoded in the Power Spectrum





Credit: K. Bechtol/LSST-DESC



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Information encoded in the Power Spectrum: Neutrino Mass







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Timeline







FALL 2019: START OF COMMISSIONING

SPRING 2020 : SURVEY VERIFICATION

FALL 2020: START OF THE 5 YEAR SURVEY







- The DESI Collaboration is actively preparing for survey operations and science analysis.
- Large collaboration with rich experience in cosmology and survey astronomy.
- Working groups have developed detailed plans to achieve their science objectives and are now working to carry those out.
- Survey Validation is starting only in a few months... Excitement is palpable!



DESI Collaboration Meeting July 2019



Conclusion



"For the past 13 years, we've had a simple model of how dark energy works. But the truth is, we only have a little bit of data, and we're just beginning to explore the times when dark energy turned on. If there are surprises lurking out there, we expect to find them."



*co-PI of the DECals, Project Scientist of DESI

