

Sloan Digital Sky Survey



An international collaboration of 14 institutions with more than 200 involved scientists.



38 institutions including Vanderbilt

Apache Point, New Mexico

Elevation: 9100 feet







SDSS imaging camera

- 30 2048x2048 CCDs
- 5 color filters
- 126 megapixels!

SDSS imaging camera









Drift scanning



Drift scanning



June 2003 53 million objects



March 2004 88 million objects



Sept 2004 141 million objects



June 2005 180 million objects



June 2006 215 million objects



June 2007 287 million objects



Oct 2008 357 million objects



























Pal 5 star cluster

NGC 6070 galaxy



Selecting objects for spectroscopy

Choose 640 targets in a 3º diameter circle

(about half a percent of all detected objects)



Fiber-optic cables





Spectrum



Wavelength of light

Over 2000 plates!

SDSS is state of the art!

- Imaging covering ¼ of sky : 100,000,000 galaxies detected
- Spectra of 1,500,000 galaxies and redshifts
- Also seen: stars in our galaxy, asteroids, quasars, etc...



Most galaxies move through space due to the gravitational pull of surrounding structures.

This motion is called *peculiar* motion.

Peculiar velocities cause doppler shifts, which add to the redshift.

Hubble flow "velocity": $H_0 d$

Radial component of peculiar velocity:

$$V_r$$

Total radial "velocity":

$$H_0 d + v_r$$

Redshift according to the doppler effect is: $z = \frac{V_r}{C}$

So the inferred velocity from a measured redshift is: CZ

And the inferred distance is:

$$d = \frac{cz}{H_0}$$

But what is really being measured is: $\frac{CZ}{H_0} = d + \frac{V_r}{H_0}$









• Large scales: compression

$$H_0 R > \left\langle v_{\rm pec} \right\rangle$$



• Small scales: smearing (fingers of God)

$$H_0 R < \left< v_{\rm pec} \right>$$





Redshift as distance estimator

 $d = \frac{cz}{H_0} - \frac{v_r}{H_0}$

$$\sigma_d = \frac{v_r}{H_0} \to \frac{\sigma_d}{d} = \frac{v_r}{H_0 d}$$

Redshift wins over other distance indicators at large distance.



Redshift



Doppler shift:

$$1 + z_{\rm cosm} = \frac{\lambda_{\rm stretched}}{\lambda_{\rm emit}}$$
$$1 + z_{\rm doppler} = \frac{\lambda_{\rm obs}}{\lambda_{\rm stretched}}$$

Combined effects:

$$1 + z = (1 + z_{\text{cosm}})(1 + z_{\text{doppler}})$$

Redshift

This is different from the Doppler interpretation where cosmological redshift is due to an expansion velocity.

$$v_{\text{tot}} = v_{\text{cosm}} + v_{\text{pec}} \longrightarrow z_{\text{tot}} = z_{\text{cosm}} + z_{\text{pec}}$$

Instead, the correct formula is:

$$z_{\rm tot} = z_{\rm cosm} + z_{\rm pec} + z_{\rm cosm} \cdot z_{\rm pec}$$



CfA survey

2dF survey



2dF survey



2dF survey





SDSS Main



SURVEY	YEARS	N _{gals}	d _{max}	Area
CfA	1977-1982	2,395	150 Mpc	Ν
CfA2	1985-1995	18,000	150 Mpc	Ν
SSRS2	1994	5,500	150 Mpc	S
PSCz	1998	15,000	150 Mpc	All-sky
LCRS	1996	25,000	600 Mpc	N+S Slices 700 deg ²
2dF	2001	250,000	600 Mpc	N+S 1500 deg ²
SDSS	1998-2008	1 million	600 Mpc	1/5 of sky
SDSS LRG	1998-2008	100,000	1 Gpc	1/5 of sky
DEEP2	2002-2005	50,000	2-3 Gpc	3 deg ²
VVDS	2002-2010	150,000	2-3 Gpc	16 deg ²
SDSS3 BOSS	2008-2014	1.5 million	1.8 Gpc	1/4 of sky
SDSS4 eBOSS	2014-2020	700,000	2.4 Gpc	1/4 of sky
DESI	2018-2022	20 million	5 Gpc	1/3 of sky
Euclid	2020-2026	52 million	5 Gpc	1/3 of sky

