Panel Session II - Beyond Einstein: From the big bang to black holes

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Einstein's Predictions

Three startling predictions of Einstein's relativity:

- The expansion of the Universe (from a big bang)
- Black holes
- Dark energy acting against the pull of gravity

Observations confirm these predictions...

... the last only four years ago

Hubb le discovered the expanding Universe in 1929

Black holes found in our Galaxy and at the center of quasars over the past three decades

Evidence for an accelerating Universe was observed in 1998

Realizing Science Beyond Einstein

Three inter-linked elements that work together:

1. Einstein Great Observatories providing breakthrough increases in capabilities to address all Beyond Einstein science:
   - LISA: Gravitational waves from merging black holes and the early Universe
   - Constellation-X: Spectroscopy close to the event horizon of black holes and place constraints on dark side of the Universe

2. Einstein Probes to address focused science objectives:
   - Determine the nature of the Dark Energy
   - Search for the signature of inflation in the microwave background
   - Take a census of Black Holes of all sizes in the local Universe

3. A technology program, theoretical studies and an education program to inspire future generations of scientists and engineers towards the vision:
   - Directly detect the gravitational waves emitted during the Big Bang
   - Image and resolve the event horizon of a Black Hole

SEU Science

... accretion disks, Big Bang, black holes, cosmic magnetic fields, cosmic rays, dark energy, dark matter, extreme environments, gamma-ray bursts, jets, large-scale structure, microwave background, neutron stars, nucleosynthesis, relativity, supernovae...

$10^{-26}$ cm (UHE Cosmic Rays) to $10^{15}$ cm (Gravitational wave

Great Decade:

CMB fluctuations (COBE, BOOMERanG, MAXIMA, MAP, ...)

Gamma-Ray Bursts (CGRO, HETE-2, Swift, Glast, ...)

Ubiquity of black holes (Chandra, ASCA, HST, ...)

Top priority: Answer the most profound question raised, but not answered, by Einstein.

What Powered the Big Bang?

Gravitational Waves Can Escape from Earliest Moments of the Big Bang

Inflation: (Big Bang plus 10^-32 Seconds)

Big Bang plus 300,000 Years

Big Bang plus 15 Billion Years

Light
What Powered the Big Bang?

Gravitational waves leave a distinctive imprint on polarization pattern of CMB

Gravitational waves from inflation and phase transition may be detected directly

Vacuum energy powered inflation—some form of it may be the "dark energy"

What Happens at the Edge of a Black Hole?

X-Ray Spectroscopy
- Japan-US ASCA satellite discovered iron lines near the event horizon of a black hole
- Line exhibits a strong redshift and provides a unique probe of the inner regions of black holes

Gravitational Radiation
- Black hole binaries produce gravitational waves in all phases of their evolution
- Test of GR in all three phases

What is the Dark Energy?

Einstein introduced the Cosmological Constant to explain what was then thought to be a static Universe, "my biggest mistake . . ."

A surprising recent discovery has been the discovery that the expansion of the Universe is accelerating.

Implies the existence of dark energy that makes up 70% of the Universe

Dark Energy maybe related to Einstein's Cosmological Constant; its nature is a mystery.

Solving this mystery may revolutionize physics . . .

Beyond Einstein Program

GREAT
Inflation
Black Hole
Observer

LISA
Dark Energy
Probe

IRAX
Black Hole
Imager

CONSORTIUM
X

Detector
Black Hole
Superluminal
Detection

GREAT
FINDER
PROBE

GREAT
VISIONS

Science and Technology Precursors

LIGO
GEO

Comments

1

25
Gravitational Wave Astronomy

Black holes, neutron stars, and white dwarfs orbiting each other emit gravitational waves.

The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeing new landscapes, but in having new eyes. - Marcel Proust

Image a Black Hole!

Hubble, Chandra, and other observatories are showing black holes are common place in the Universe.

Black holes provide a unique laboratory to test Einstein's theory of gravity.

A future black hole imager with a resolution one million times Hubble will observe the effects Einstein predicted.

Galactic Binaries, including future type I supernovae

Compact Objects Orbiting Massive Black Hole: High eccentric orbits of strong field gravity

Formation of Massive Black Holes, cores of active galactic nuclei, formed before most stars

Einstein Probes

Three focused missions, each designed to address a single high priority science question:

- Priority and science topic determined via NASA strategic planning process, using National Academy recommendations
  - Dark Energy Probe
  - Inflation Probe
  - Black Hole Finder Probe

- Competed Principal Investigator missions
  - Implementation approach determined by peer review
  - Launched every 3-4 years
  - $350-500M class missions

National Research Council Endorsements

Astronomy & Astrophysics in the New Millennium
2001 Decadal Survey (McKee-Taylor)

Major Initiatives:
1. NGST
2. Constellation-X Observatory
3. Terrestrial Planet Finder
4. Single Aperture Far Infrared Observatory

Moderate Initiatives
1. Gamma-ray Large Area Space Telescope
2. Laser Interferometer Space Antenna
3. Solar Dynamics Observatory
4. Energetic X-Ray Imaging Survey Telescope
5. Advanced Radio Interferometry Between Space & Earth
National Research Council Endorsements

Connecting Quarks with the Cosmos 2002 (Turner) Not a priority list.

- Measure the polarization of the CMB
- Determine the properties of dark energy
- Use space to probe basic laws of physics (Con-X, LISA)
  - (Highest energy cosmic rays)
  - (High-energy-density physics)
  - (Interagency Initiative)
  - (Neutrino masses)

Beyond Einstein Timeline

- Timeline Changed with FY'05 Budget
- LISA Launch NET 2012
- Constellation-X Launch NET 2016
- Einstein probes Deferred
- Technology Efforts Continue
- Beyond Einstein Foundation Science Program Continues

Education and Public Outreach

Big Bang and black holes capture the imagination and can be used to teach physical science at all levels

Beyond Einstein will address the national education priority by inspiring future generations of scientists and engineers, as only NASA can...

The 21st Century

How did the Universe begin? Does time have beginning & an end? Does space have edges? The questions are as old as human curiosity. But the answers have always seemed beyond the reach of science...

until now!