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August 24, 2009

WE ARE ALL GEOCENTRIST NOW:

['Big Wave' Theory Offers Alternative to Dark Energy](#)
(Clara Moskowitz, 17 August 2009, Space)

Mathematicians have proposed an alternative explanation for the accelerating expansion of the universe that does not rely on the mystifying idea of dark energy.

According to the new proposition, the universe is not accelerating, as observations suggest. Instead, an expanding wave flowing through space-time has caused distant galaxies to appear to be accelerating away from us. This big wave, initiated after the Big Bang that is thought to have sparked the universe, could explain why objects today appear to be farther away from us than they should be according to the Standard Model of cosmology.

"We're saying that maybe the resulting expanding wave is actually causing the anomalous acceleration," said Blake Temple of the University of California, Davis. [...]

Temple compared the wave to what happens when you throw a rock into a pond. In this case, the rock would be the Big Bang, and the concentric ripples that result are like a series of waves throughout the universe. Later on, when the first galaxies start to form, they are forming inside space-time that has already been displaced from where it would have been without the wave. So when we observe these galaxies with telescopes, they don't appear to be where we would expect if there had never been a big wave.

One potential issue with this idea is that it might require a big coincidence.

For the universe to appear to be accelerating at the same rate in all directions, we in the Milky Way would have to be near a local center, at the spot where an expansion wave was initiated early in the Big Bang when the universe was filled with radiation.

Nice dead end Galileo led the credulous down.

Posted by Orrin Judd at August 24, 2009 12:57 PM

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 *b* ★ [1 month ago](#)

- It must be remembered that there is always an infinite number of theories that can fit any given set of observations. Always. Things like Occam's Razor and the Copernican Principle are just guidelines to how to pick one of them.

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 *PapayaSF* ★ [1 month ago](#)

- You leave out the next paragraph:

Temple concedes that this is a coincidence, but said it's possible that we are merely in the center of a smaller wave that affects the galaxies we can see from our vantage point - we need not be in the center of the entire universe for the idea to work.

It's also hard to believe we're at the center of the universe when we're on one planet way off in a spiral arm of our galaxy, which is moving at great speed through space.

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[orrinj](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to PapayaSF](#)

- Except that particle physics already places us at the center.

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[Mikey NTH](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

- If the universe is infinite, then any location for center is as good as another. Like Greenwich is good enough for zero longitude.

The earth orbits the sun, and the sun moves with the Milky Way Galaxy; so the earth is good enough for center in infinity.

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[PapayaSF](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Mikey NTH](#)

- What makes you think the universe is infinite? That's not what observations show.

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[orrinj](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to PapayaSF](#)

- It isn't. We can't see that far.

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[danoso](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Mikey NTH](#)

- You could argue that everywhere is the center ... or have another beer.

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 *Mikey NTH* ★ [1 month ago in reply to danoso](#)

- I would rather say here is the center and have another beer. When true center is found, why then - I'll have another beer.
Until then, earth can be Greenwich.

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 *orrinj* ★ [1 month ago in reply to danoso](#)


- To be capable of arguing is to be the center

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 *Gideon7* ★ [1 month ago](#)

- Just the fact that we can *see* a large fraction of the universe - not a fog or blackness - is evidence of a Creator. He wants us to admire his handiwork.

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 *Randall_Voth* ★ [1 month ago](#)

- My recollection of physics may be dim, but since when have waves displaced the medium they are traveling through?

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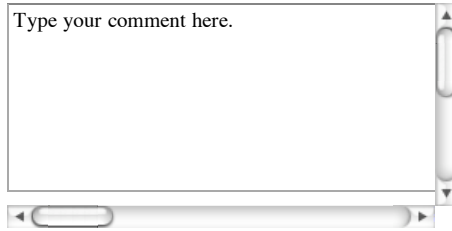
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