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'Big Wave' Theory Offers Alternative to Dark Energy

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08-19-2009, 06:40 AM #1 ([permalink](#))

Jason
Funny title here

'Big Wave' Theory Offers Alternative to Dark Energy

Summary here



Join Date: Dec 2001
Location: Tampa, FL
Posts: 8,182
OS: Windows XP

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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. "We're saying that dark energy may not really be the correct explanation."

The researchers derived a set of equations describing expanding waves that fit Einstein's theory of general relativity, and which could also account for the apparent acceleration. Temple outlines the new idea with Joel Smoller of the University of Michigan in the Aug. 17 issue of the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

While more research will be needed to see if the idea holds up, "the research could change the way astronomers view the composition of our universe," according to a summary from the journal.

<http://www.space.com/scienceastronom...ternative.html>

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08-21-2009, 02:21 PM

#2 ([permalink](#))

Mcninjaguy

Mentor, Games Team



Join Date: Jun 2008
 Location: Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
 Posts: 9,510
OS: Windows 7 Ultimate RTM 64bit

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Blog Entries: [1](#)



Re: 'Big Wave' Theory Offers Alternative to Dark Energy

Its like looking through water from the air. Everything appears off center and a little farther away.



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Microsoft MVP Neal K

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08-21-2009, 02:37 PM

#3 ([permalink](#))

Phædrus2401

Hardware Tech Team



Join Date: Mar 2009
 Location: New Orleans
 Posts: 2,000
OS: Vista Ultimate x64 SP1 + Fedora 11 + Ubuntu 9.04 (virtualized)

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Re: 'Big Wave' Theory Offers Alternative to Dark Energy

The problem with that theory is that in order for observations to be what they are the wave would have to be cone-shaped, and Earth must be at the tip. That is because the increase in rate of acceleration away from earth is linear in all directions. If it were a wave, even if we were at its crest the rate of increase in acceleration would appear to [accelerate](#) the further away things got; a fourth order increase, rather than a third order one.

Something similar was discussed in Scientific American a couple months ago, but most experts consider it unlikely.



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