The ultimate standard candles for large luminosity distances: Supernovae type la



Low Redshift Type Ia Template Lightcurves



Why they are good Standard Candles:

Empirical Relation:

Peak Luminosityinversely proportional to decay timescale of brightness

- well calibrated locally where luminosity can be determined by other methods



Top:Hubble diagram with Supernovae type la:

Distance modulus m - M= 5log(d_L/10pc) -uses "astronomer" units rather than "physicist" units (eg Mpc)

Points= observations Curves= fits with different cosmological models (best fit = LCDM model)

Bottom: residuals of data points from fits

Solid line shows Accepted model (LCDM): Omega_M= 0.27, Omega_{Lambda} = 0.73



Angular diameter distance for flat cosmological models with different combinations of Omega_M and Omega_{Lambda}





Lookback time vs. Redshift for different cosmological models

In both plots from top to bottom we have increasing contribution of Omega_m

Accepted model (LCDM): Omega_M~ 0.3, Omega_{Lambda} ~ 0.7

Note age of the Universe (=asymptotic limit of curves) increases for increasing Omega_{Lambda}

Dependence on "h" (uncertainty in Hubble constant), which is measured to be ~ 0.7 (~0.68 from Planck 2015 results)