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Constraining Temporal Oscillations of Cosmological Parameters Using Type Ia Supernovae

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The existing set of type Ia supernovae (SNe Ia) is now sufficient to detect oscillatory deviations from the canonical Λ CDM cosmology.

We determine that the Fourier spectrum of the Pantheon data set of spectroscopically well-observed SNe Ia is consistent with the predictions of Λ CDM.

We also develop and describe two complementary techniques for using SNe Ia to constrain those alternate cosmological models that predict deviations from Λ CDM that are oscillatory in conformal time.

The first technique uses the reduced χ^2 statistic to determine the likelihood that the observed data would result from a given model.

The second technique uses bootstrap analysis to determine the likelihood that the Fourier spectrum of a proposed model could result from statistical fluctuations around Λ CDM.

We constrain three oscillatory alternate cosmological models: one in which the dark energy equation of state parameter oscillates around the canonical value of $w_\Lambda = -1$, one in which the energy density of dark energy oscillates around its Λ CDM value, and one in which gravity derives from a scalar field evolving under an oscillatory coupling.

We further determine that any alternate cosmological model that produces distance modulus residuals with a Fourier amplitude of $\simeq 36$ millimag is strongly ruled out, given the existing data, for frequencies between $\simeq 0.08 \text{ Gyr}^{-1} h_{100}$ and $\simeq 80 \text{ Gyr}^{-1} h_{100}$.

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