# **Mapping the Universe**

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### Galaxies

#### **Dark Matter**

### Early 3-D Maps of the Universe



### **Sloan Digital Sky Survey**

- 1988 O' Hare airport meeting (U. Chicago, Princeton) Goal: to conduct a survey that would make a large 3D map of the universe (1 million galaxies).
- Apache Point, NM site selected
- 1992 Alfred P. Sloan foundation made first commitment to project (total of \$25 million)
- Eight universities join the project Today: 40 institutions with 200+ scientists
- Building of new telescope, camera, spectrograph
- 1998 First light!
- 2000-2016 Full survey operations



## **Apache Point, New Mexico**

**Elevation: 9100 feet** 







### SDSS imaging camera

- 30 2048x2048 CCDs
- 5 color filters
- 126 megapixels!

## SDSS imaging camera









## Drift scanning



## Drift scanning



## Drift scanning





#### 500 million objects

### January 2011



## Perseus galaxy cluster

### Spectrum



Wavelength of light

### **Emission of light**

### Absorption of light



## The Expanding Universe



#### A galaxy's spectrum can tell us how far away it is.



Nearby

#### Distant

Blue



#### Selecting objects for spectroscopy

Choose 1000 targets in a 3° diameter circle

(about half a percent of all detected objects)



1000 objects (holes) per plate

## Fiber-optic cables



## Over 2500 plates!

### January 2015

### 4 million spectra







## 300,000 years after Big Bang $^{12h}$ u8 14.6 billion years 0.00 06 Redshift z after Big Bang 12 10 20Y 5 $q_0$

#### Neutrinos are ruled out as dark matter!



#### What Is Dark Matter Made Of?



#### The Standard Model of Particle Physics