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On the concordance of cosmological data in the case of the generalized Chaplygin gas

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Abstract

The generalized Chaplygin gas cosmology provides a prime example for the class of unified dark matter models, which substitute the two dark components of the standard cosmological Λ CDM concordance model by a single dark component. The equation of state of the generalized Chaplygin gas is characterised by a parameter α such that the standard Λ CDM model is recovered in the case $\alpha = 0$ with respect to the background dynamics and the cosmic microwave background (CMB) statistics. This allows to investigate the concordance of different cosmological data sets with respect to α . We compare the supernova data of the Supernova Cosmology Project, the data of the baryon oscillation spectroscopic survey (BOSS) of the third Sloan digital sky survey (SDSS-III) and the CMB data of the Planck 2015 data release. The importance of the BOSS Lyman α forest BAO measurements is investigated. It is found that these data sets possess a common overlap of the confidence domains only for Chaplygin gas cosmologies very close to the Λ CDM model.

Keywords: dark energy theory, cosmic microwave background, large-scale structure PACS, 98 80 - k, 98 70 V/c, 98 80 Fs

PACS: 98.80.-k, 98.70.Vc, 98.80.Es

1. Introduction

For almost two decades, cosmology possesses a standard cosmological model which allows a remarkable successful description of a large variety of observational data, the Λ CDM concordance model. For a recent review on the various data sets, see e.g. [1]. Although there is currently no competing cosmological model, there remain tensions [2] which justify the investigation of alternatives. The Λ CDM concordance model is based on two dark ingredients, the dark energy in the form of the cosmological constant Λ and the cold dark matter (CDM). There have ever been attempts to establish alternative cosmological models which are based only on a single dark component, the so-called unified dark matter (UDM) models.

The prototypical model for a UDM cosmology is provided by a dark matter fluid having the equation of state $p = -A/\varepsilon$ of the Chaplygin gas, where ε

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