

itself. We would improve in the “what stuff is made of” department from a woefully bad F to a barely respectable C+ (or possibly an A+). 2) The Copernican Principle, for all the weight it carries in the modern mind, is an unproven assumption, and a handful of researchers have recently set out to prove it (Caldwell and Stebbins 2008). In the words of Hubble (1937):

[T]he statement that all observers, regardless of their location, will see the same general picture of the universe... is a sheer assumption.

3) Accepting the apparent spherical redshift distribution as real does not require a return to the medieval picture with the Earth stationary at the precise center of the universe. The vast scale of the universe implies that if the center of the redshift distribution were as far away as the nearest galaxy, for example, we would still be at the “center” of the universe to within one part in a million. 4) Our unsavory association with a special space-time event is an unavoidable fact of nature. Postulating an expanding universe in order to remain consistent with the Copernican Principle simply substitutes a unique location in space with a unique point in time (the so-called Coincidence Problem). Of course neither choice should pose a particular philosophical problem for a creationist, whether young universe or otherwise.

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