*Original Research Article*

Universal Space-time Accelerated Expansion and Luminosities of Some Extragalactic Radio Sources

**Abstract**

We have used both analytical methods and statistical methods to find if there is any possible effect of observed space-time expansion on some extragalactic sources – the radio-loud quasars. This is done by carrying out linear regression analysis on larger radio-loud quasars and on smaller radio-loud quasars. On the luminosity/redshift plane for the more extended quasars, we find that the luminosities of these sources are attenuated as space-time expansion proceeds. Though their more compact counterparts show similar trend on the plot, however, they indicate dissimilarity in their gradient.T he result of the more compact sources shows steeper slope , while that of the more extended sources indicates a flatter slope . This indicates that the more compact quasars have higher luminosities at earlier epoch than the more extended quasars. This disagreement must have originated from the ambient environments in which they are located, since the two sub-classes of objects have been shown to be situated in different ambient media. So, their observable physical processes should not be expected to be precisely the same. Therefore, since the more compact quasars are generally sub-galactic in dimensions, they are affected more by their denser ambient gases. Also, gravity is more noticeable within a typical galaxy whose diameter is roughly than within the intergalactic medium; so, space expansion should naturally be expected to weaken the luminosities of the larger quasars. This is shown in the obtained relation, . The results simply establishes that the observed universal space-time expansion may pose a threat to the luminosities of the more extended radio-loud quasars.

(Keywords: space-time, linear size, quasars, luminosity, radio sources, extragalactic, expansion)

**1. Introduction**

**1.1 Space-time Expansion**

Based on observations, it has been found that the universe is undergoing cosmic expansion. It was first found by Edwin Hubble in 1929. He found a direct positive linear relationship between the velocities with which galaxies recede from each other and their distances of separation. As standard candles (cosmic objects with high and constant luminosity), the Type 1A supernovae have been used to measure distances. Matching their distances with their redshifts indicates that galaxies are actually accelerating away from one another; hence, indicating that the size of the universe is expanding rapidly. Another evidence of accelerated expansion of the universe is from observation of the cosmic microwave background anisotropy. Also, use of voids and super-voids as standard rulers for measuring cosmic distances shows that the universe is expanding with acceleration [1-4]. This approach is quite different from the previously aforementioned evidences; and hence, confirms accelerating expansion of the universe.

Mathematically, Hubble’s law is expressed as ; where is velocity of recession of galaxy, distance to the galaxy, and Hubble’s constant. The relation suggests that if the velocity of a galaxy at distance, , is at time ; thenat distance, , and time, , the velocity will be . Hence, acceleration, , becomes, . This shows that Hubble’s law predicts accelerated expansion.

Furthermore, it has been pointed out by authors that this acceleration is not brought about by the individual galactic dynamics; but rather, by the fabric of the space-time in which these galaxies are located. This simply means that the space-time is undergoing expansion; and this makes all the galaxies appear as if they are individually receding from one another. The energy in the space-time which causes this expansion has been referred to as dark energy. It has been taken to be an intrinsic property of the space-time. Very little is known about dark energy [1-4].

Some models of dark energy include: cosmological constant, and quintessence. It was Albert Einstein (1917),in ad hoc consideration, who attached cosmological constant to his equations for describing his assumed static universe. It had not been discovered that the universe was expanding at the time.He introduced the constant to ensure equilibrium state required for a static universe. Though he felt sorry introducing the constant, authors latter found the constant important in the observed universe expansion. As is understood in the now, is constant everywhere in the universe at any time; and hence, supports the concept of dark energy – whose energy density is observed to be constant as the universe undergoes rapid expansion. In fact, current observations show about percentage composition of the total energy density of the universe is dark energy; while the rest is composed of baryonic matter density, dark matter density, and energy (electromagnetic radiation) density [1-4]. Fig. 1 shows a pie chart for the total energy density of the universe. Blue sector represents dark energy density , Brick-red represents dark matter , and green sector represents baryonic matter/atoms ; while the remaining represents the density contribution by other entities not mentioned in the pie chart.

Moreover, it has been found that dark energy density remains constant while others decrease in value due to the accelerated expansion of the universe over time (see Fig. 2).This simply implies that as contribution to the total energy density by baryonic matter, dark matter, and energy decrease as the universe expands, the contribution by dark energy automatically increases. Of course, the implication is that the universe will continue to undergo accelerated expansion indefinitely, since dark energy which causes the expansion will continue to overcome possible dilution effects that may originate from matter-dominated energy densities.

**Fig. 2:** Schematics (not to scale) comparing dark energy density and other densities (e.g. baryonic matter, dark matter, and energy). Dashed horizontal line represents dark energy; while dotted curved line represents total density contributed by other entities.

Energy density of the universe

Time

Quintessence, on the other hand, is a theoretical framework in which some dynamic field is believed to drive the observed accelerated expansion of the universe. It varies in space and time, and must be light [1-4].

**1.2 Extragalactic Radio Sources and Quasars**

Extragalactic radio sources (EGRS) emit ample amount of radio waves. These sources exhibit high percentage of radio to optical emission. The ratio is generally defined by; where and are flux densities at radio and optical wavelengths respectively [5–9]. They are sited outside the boundaries of the Milky Way, our galaxy. Based on their morphologies, the main sub-classes of these objects include: radio galaxies and radio-loud quasars[8–9]. Also based on their observed linear sizes, we have the large extended sources whose linear sizes, ; and their miniaturized counterparts whose linear sizes are mostly well below . The latter are referred to as the compact steep spectrum (CSS) sources. While the sizes of the extended sources are inter-galactic, those of the CSS sources are sub-galactic. This simply implies that the CSS sources suffer more drag than their large extended counterparts. Hence, some observed physical properties of these two classes of objects should be expected to differ.

Furthermore, on their radio maps, typical structure of these two classes of objects takes the form of two bi-focal relativistic jets that connect the base of the accretion disk to two radio-emitting lobes that are located on both sides of the central component that is more or less coincident with the nucleus (or the core) of the host galaxy [8, 11–12] (see figure 3). In some sources, the lobes contain hotspots believed to be the termination points of the jets [8, 12–14].

**Hotspot**

**Hotspot**

Figure 3: The structure of a typical EGRS.

Source: Authors

**core**

**Lobe**

**Lobe**

**Jet**

**Jet**

The more extended sources have linear sizes, , greater than if Hubble constant is assumed to be. In all cases, their linear sizes jut into intergalactic media. It has been observed that their radio luminosity is in excess ofat frequency; while, values of their overall luminosities range from which are in common with the more compact versions [8–16].

Itis well noted by authors that a significance of jet presence in radio sources is simply an indication of tenuous ambient media [13-18]. Hence, a number of hydrodynamic computer simulations of jet propagations have been performed for their phenomenology [17–20]. Results of these simulations indicate that the jet materials have smaller masses than those of the surrounding media. In addition, Ezeugo J.C. and Ubachukwu A.A. [15] created a mathematical model for evolution of the CSS sources and used the result to estimate their ambient densities.

In this work, we use both analytical methods and statistical methods to find possible effects of observed space-time expansion on some extragalactic sources; namely, the radio-loud quasars. These samples are of two groups – the extended quasars (170 in number) selected from Nilsson 1998 [20], and 27 smaller sources (i.e. the CSS quasars) obtained for O’Dea 1998 [11].

**2.1.LUMINOSITY/REDSHIFT RELATIONFOR THE MORE EXTENDED QUASARS**

We carry out linear regression analysis of observed source luminosity, of the more extended quasars and their corresponding observed redshifts, (Figures 4) in our sample. Result shows that

The correlation coefficient, is good. Transforming the equation, we obtain

This indicates that observed luminosity shows a direct power-law function with observed redshift.

Hubble’s law state that velocity of recession, , linearly relates with source distance, , as

is Hubble parameter. Also, the redshift relation with source velocity of recession is written by

where is speed of light and , redshift. Combining equations (3) and (4) gives

Therefore, equation (2) becomes

In terms of , the last equation becomes

That is the observed linear size scales as ; where we have already define as distance to the source.

In terms of time, we have from equation (3),

which becomes

is time. Solving equations (7) and (9) simultaneously, we obtain

Since the object recedes from us, we attach a minus sign to the velocity of recession, , to obtain

We remember that is not an intrinsic velocity of the source, rather it is the rate of expansion of the space-time in the intergalactic media. Therefore, the last equation suggests that the source luminosity, , of the large extended quasars are attenuated by the accelerated expansion of the space-time. This should be expected because the sources components are intergalactic; and the space-time expansion is actually brought about by dark energy. Effects of dark energy is expected to manifest more in the intergalactic media. So, equation (11) tells us that as long as the source components; namely, the jets and the lobes are not held by gravity, the source luminosities are weakened as more spaces are created in the intergalactic media.

2.2. LUMINOSITY/REDSHIFT RELATION FOR CSS QUASARS

We also obtain data (Figures 5) for the CSS quasars in our sample.

In addition to the foregoing, we carry out linear regression of data for the CSS quasars (Figure 5).We obtain a relation given by

(with good correlation coefficient given by ). Transforming the equation, we obtain

We notice that this is in of consonance with the result obtained for the more extended quasars (see equation (2)); except the result of the CSS quasars shows steeper slope, while the result of the more extended quasars indicates a flatter slope . This indicates that CSS quasars have higher luminosities at earlier epoch.

We ask ourselves what must have caused this disagreement. We noted earlier that these two sub-classes of objects are embedded in different ambient media. So, their observable physical processes should not be expected to be exactly the same. Therefore since the CSS sources are sub-galactic in dimensions, they are affected more by their denser ambient media. Also, gravity is more pronounced within a typical galaxy than within the intergalactic medium; so, space expansion is expected to yield little or no positive result in the source luminosity.

Solving for in terms of time and space expansion velocity just as we did in the previous section, we obtain

which shows that

This suggestively shows that the effects of the observed space-time expansion on CSS quasars are smaller than the effects on the larger quasars. This may be the reason why CSS sources show higher luminosities at earlier epoch than their more extended counterparts.

**3. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION**

The sources used in this work are two sub-classes of extragalactic objects; and usually they show similar properties as mentioned earlier on the radio maps except on their observed sizes. The more extended radio-loud quasars are intergalactic while the more compact (CSS) radio-loud quasars are sub-galactic in dimensions. In this work, we have carried out linear regression analyses of observed source linear sizes, and their corresponding observed redshifts, (Figure 4)of the more extended radio-loud quasars; as well as those of the CSS radio-loud quasars (Figure 5).

For the larger quasars, correlation coefficient, shows, and is very good. Therefore, we have the relation, (i.e. equation 2). Combining this result and Hubble’s law yields (i.e. equation 6). This shows that observed source luminosity scales with source distance as . Also, in terms of velocity of recession, we obtain (i.e. equation 11). We have attached a minus sign to the expressions to indicate that the object is receding from us.

Here, we need to understand that this velocity of recession is not propelled by intrinsic source kinetic energy, instead, it is brought about by creation of more spaces in the fabric of space-time. Therefore, equation (11) states that the luminosities of the larger quasars are decreased by the accelerated expansion of the space-time. We expect this because both the radio-emitting jets and lobes straddling the central core of a typical extended radio-loud quasars are (i) intergalactic in dimensions; and (ii) are not gravitating about each other and about the central engine. An implication of these is that since these components are not held by gravity and are located in the intergalactic medium, the source luminosity are expected to be attenuated by the creation of more spaces in the intergalactic media which drives the observed accelerated expansion of the universe.

Dark energy is the culprit driving accelerated expansion of the space. Effects of dark energy are expected to manifest most in the intergalactic media because they are the most rarefied environments in the universe. So, equation (11) tells us that as long as the source components; namely, the jets and the lobes are not held by gravity, the source luminosities are diminished as more spaces are created in the intergalactic media.

We also obtain data (Figures 5) for the more compact (CSS) radio-loud quasars in our sample. Results of the linear regression show good correlation with coefficient given as. Result indicates that luminosity and redahift relates according to the equation,(i.e. equation 13) We notice that this result is in harmony with result obtained for the more extended quasars (see equation 2); except the result of the CSS quasars shows steeper slope , while that of the more extended quasars shows a flatter slope . This indicates that CSS quasars have higher luminosities at earlier epoch than the larger extended quasars.

This disagreement must have originated from the ambient environments in which they are located, since the two sub-classes of objects have been shown to be situated in different ambient media [15]. So, their observable physical processes should not be expected to be precisely the same. Therefore since the CSS sources are generally sub-galactic in dimensions (i.e. linear sizes are below ), they are affected more by their denser ambient gases. Also, gravity plays noticeable role within a typical galaxy (diameter of a typical galaxy is ) than within the intergalactic medium; so, space expansion should unsurprisingly attenuate the luminosities of the larger quasars. This is shown in the relation, (i.e. equation 15). The results establishes that the observed universal space-time expansion may pose a threat to the luminosities of the more extended radio-loud quasars.

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