

The ESSENCE of Supernovae

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SCALE OF THE UNIVERSE

BIG BANG

DECELERATION

ACCELERATION

PRESENT

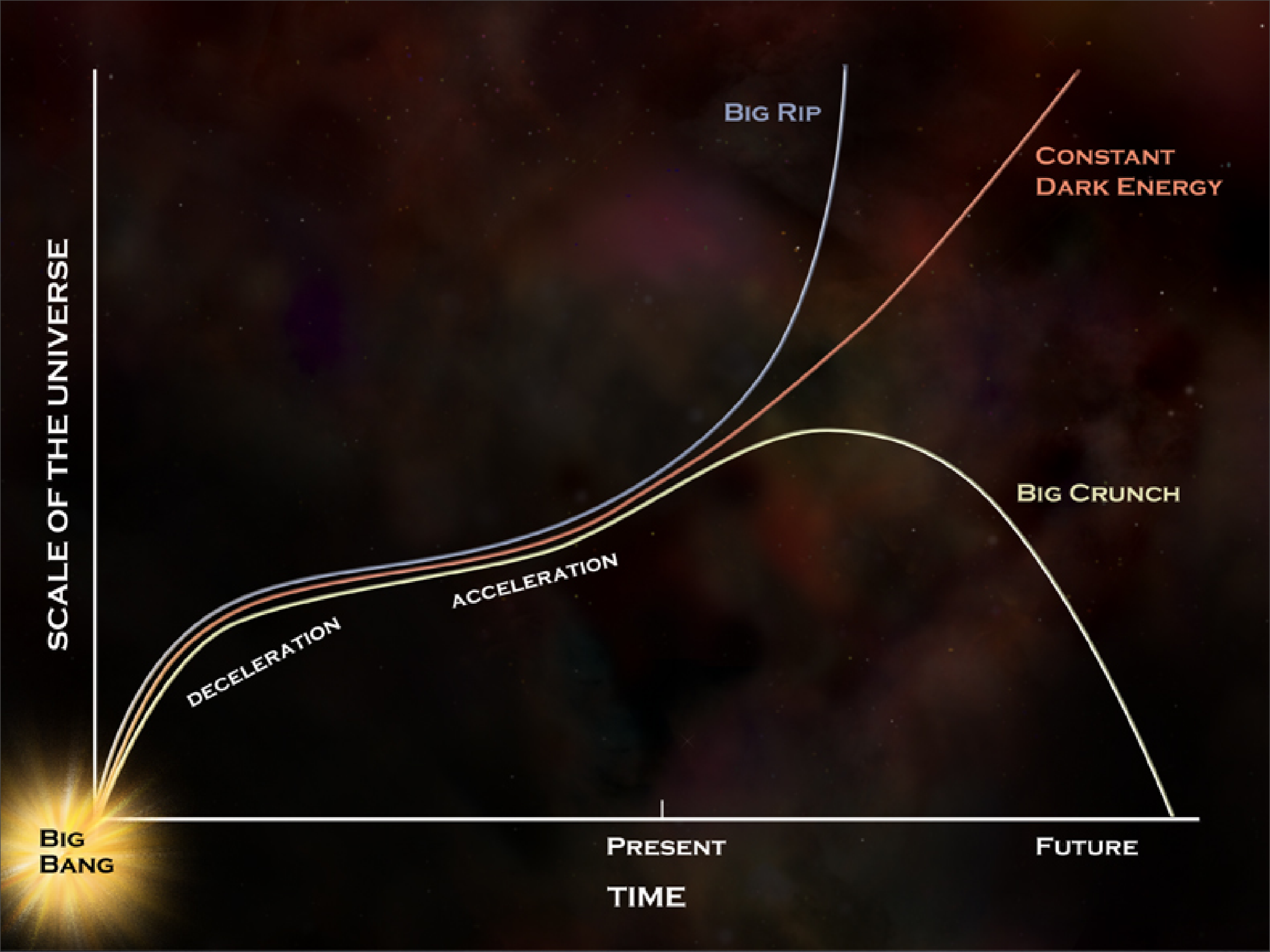
TIME

BIG RIP

CONSTANT DARK ENERGY

BIG CRUNCH

FUTURE



The Basic Question:

Is $w = -1$?

The Basic Question:

Is a cosmological constant model
consistent with our observations
of the Universe?

The ESSENCE Survey



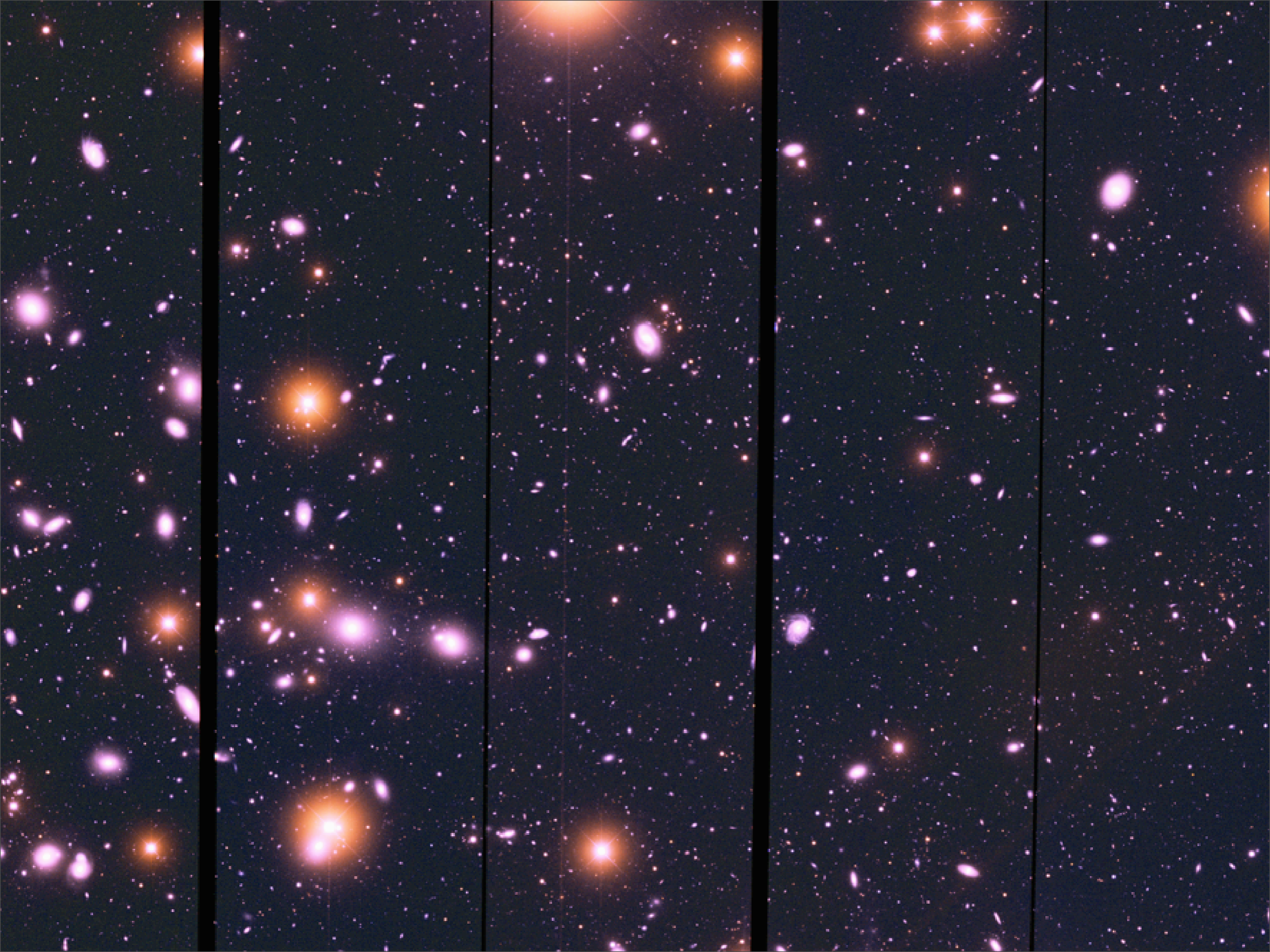
- Determine w to 10% or $w \neq -1$
- 6-year project on CTIO 4m telescope in Chile; 12 sq. deg.
- Wide-field images in 2 bands
- Same-night detection of SNe
- Spectroscopy
 - Keck, VLT, Gemini, Magellan
- Goal is 200 SNeIa, $0.2 < z < 0.8$
- Data and SNeIa public real-time



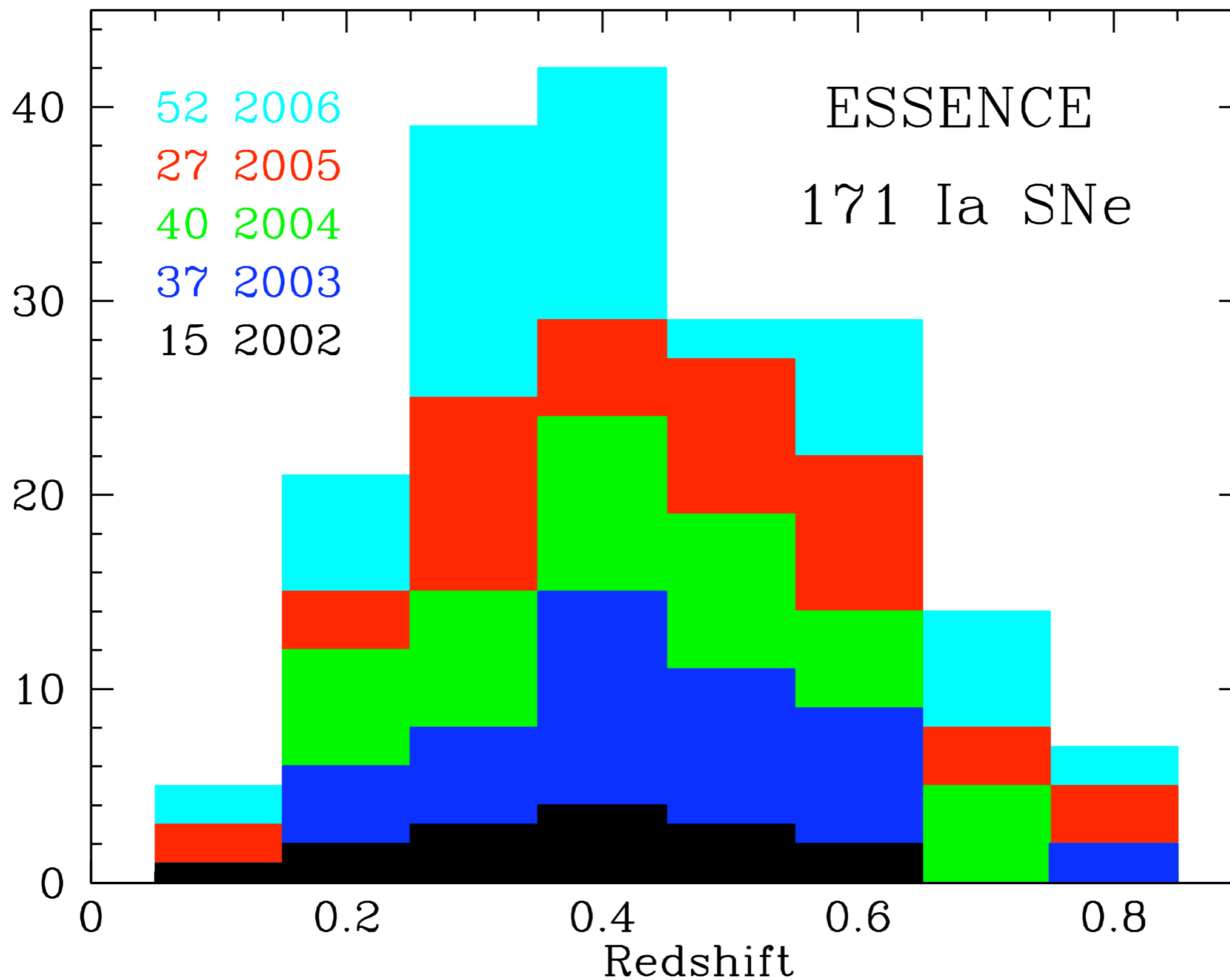
ESSENCE Survey Team

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Ricardo Covarrubias	Univ. of Washington	Adam Riess	STScI/JHU
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ESSENCE SNeIa To Date

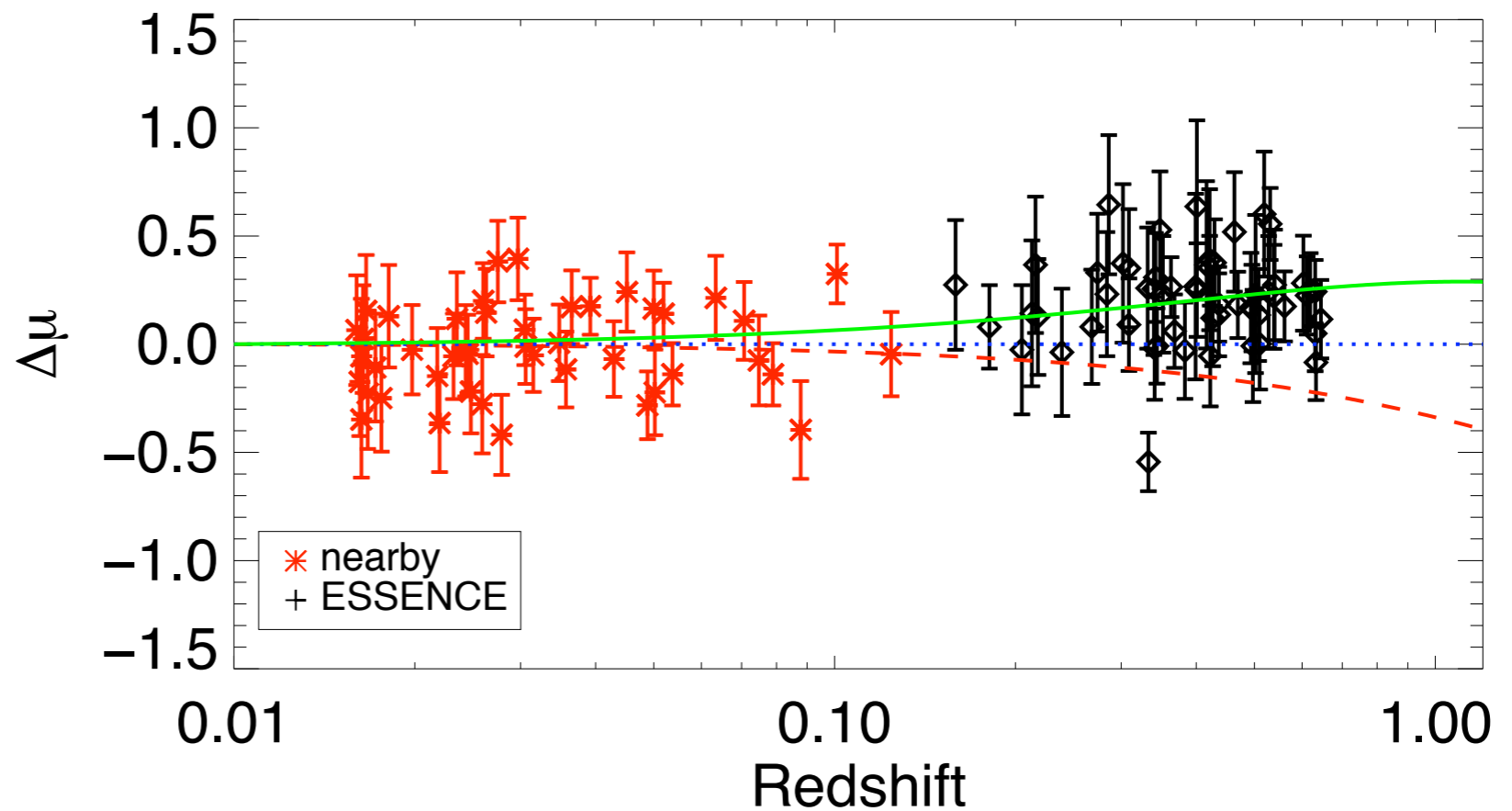
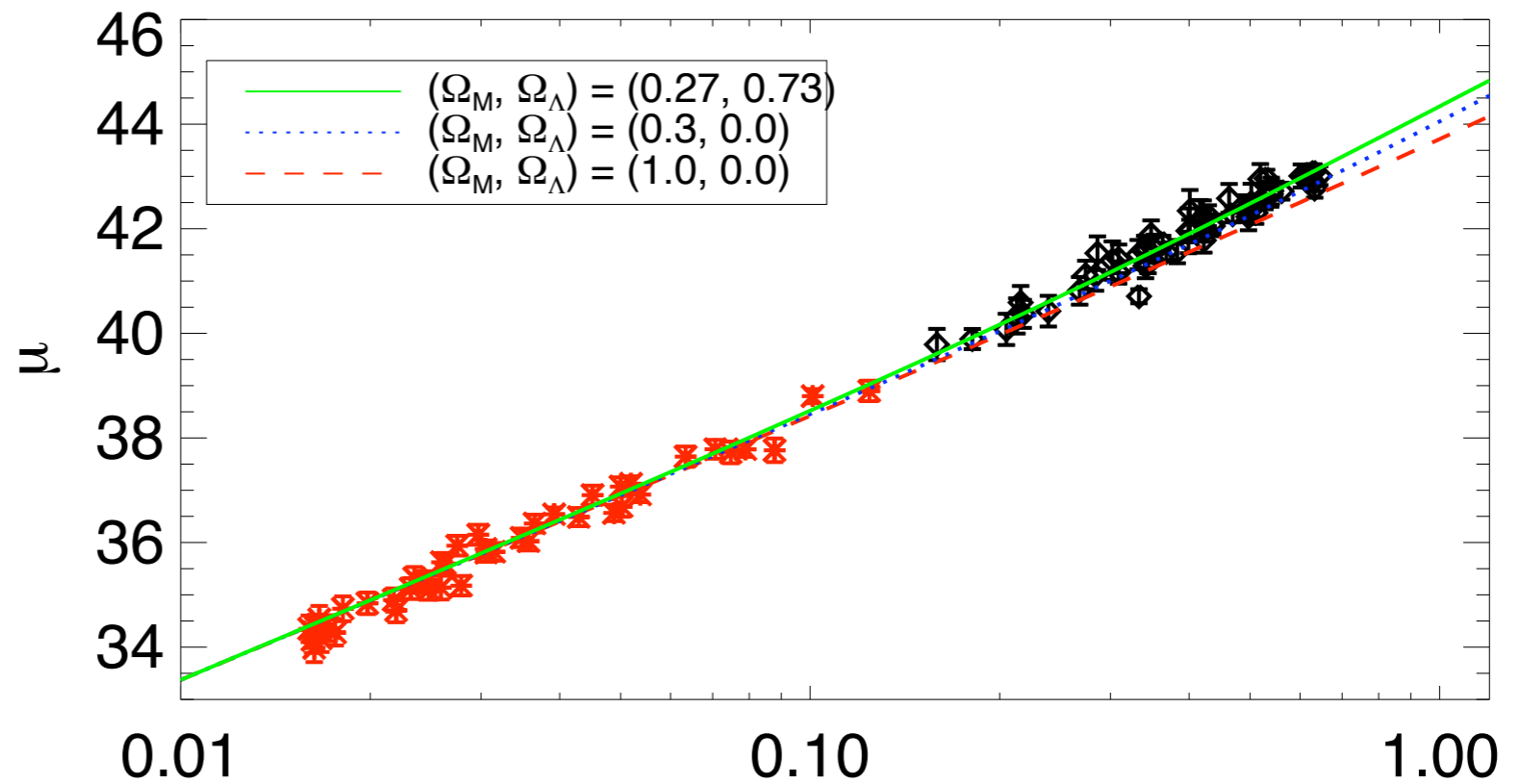


ESSENCE Hubble Diagram

Wood-Vasey et al.,
astro-ph/0701041,
submitted to ApJ

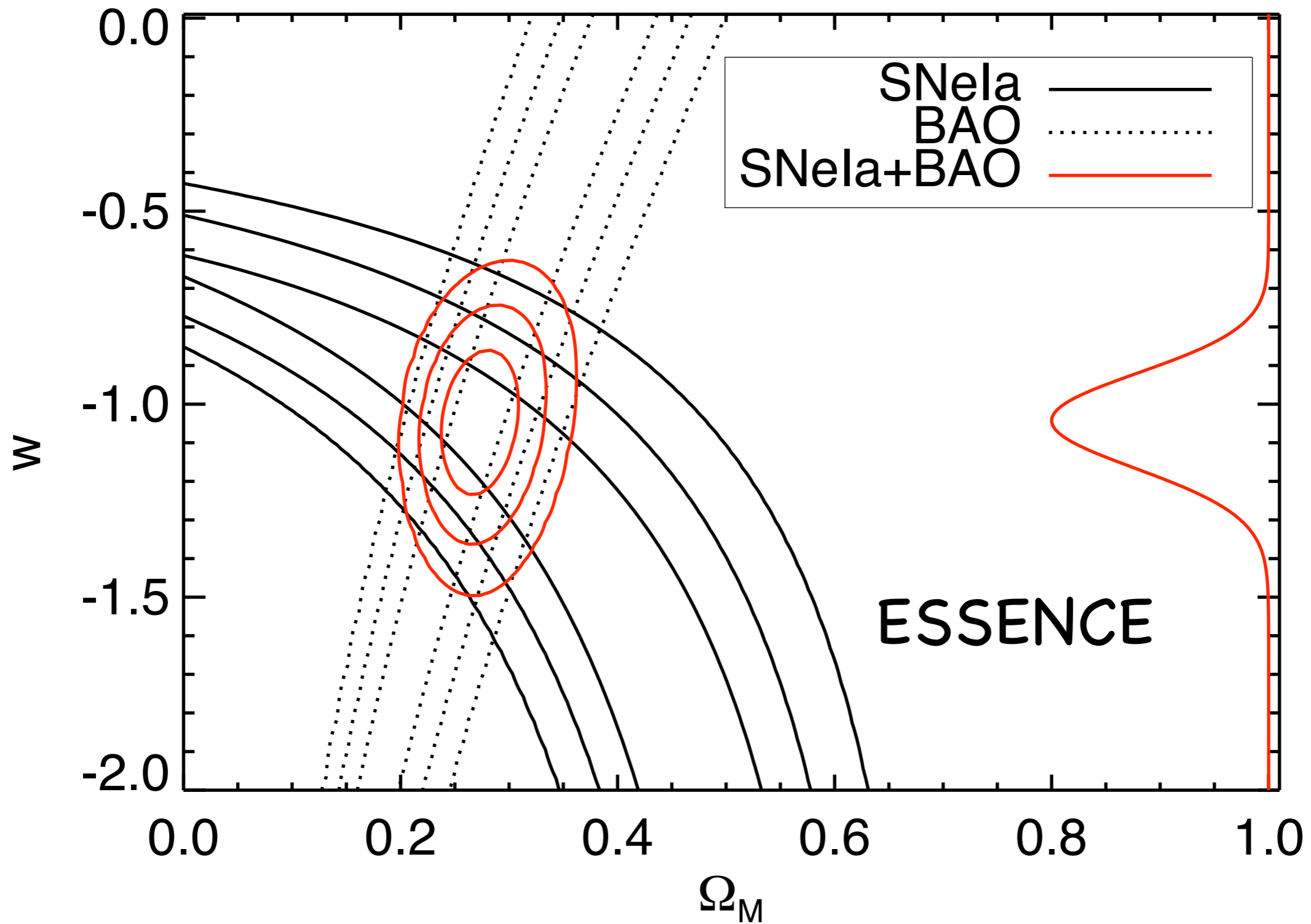
see also

Miknaitis et al.,
astro-ph/0701043,
submitted to ApJ

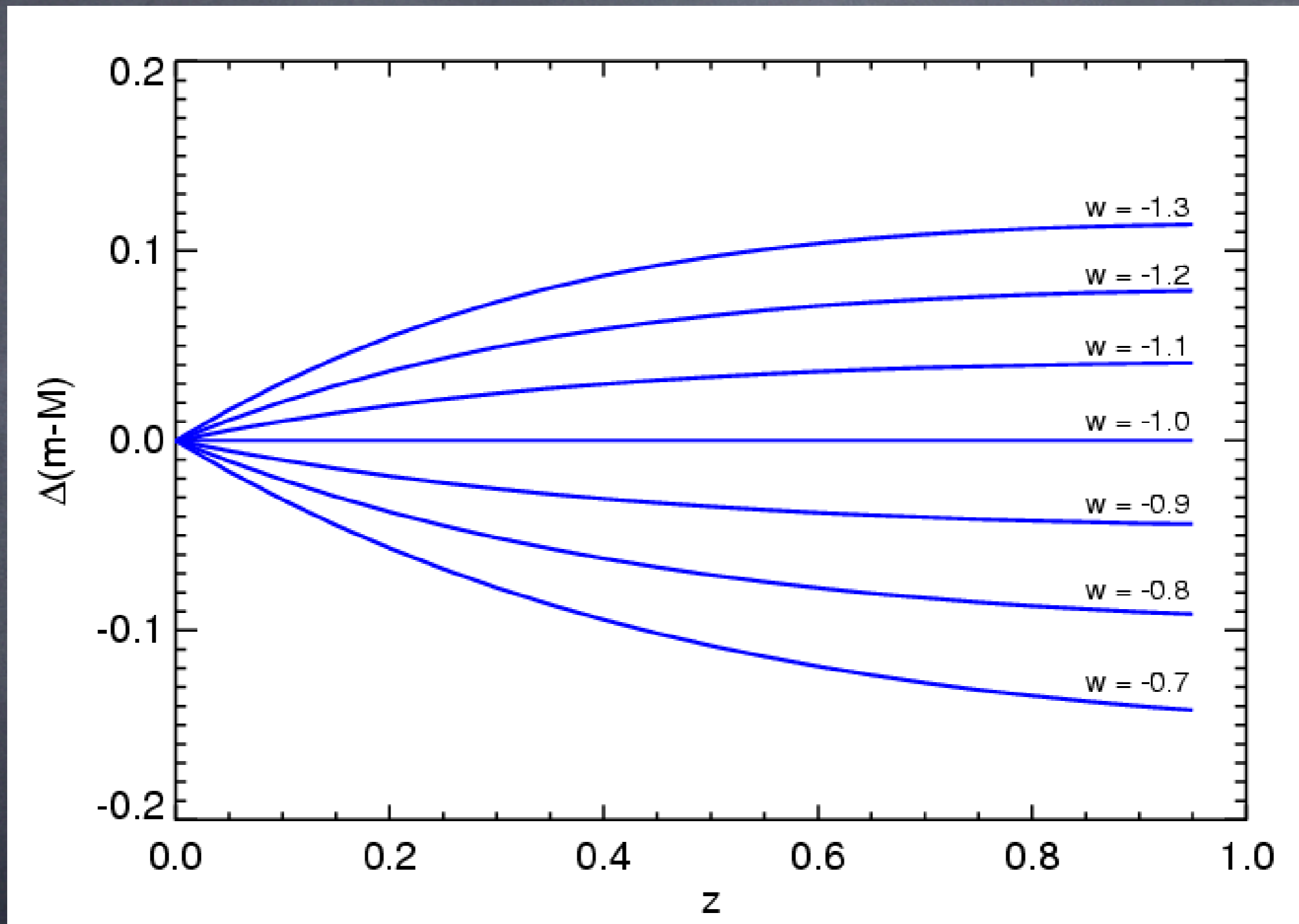


Flat,
constant- w

$$w = -1.05 \pm 0.11 \pm 0.13$$



Equation-of-State Signal



Difference in apparent SN brightness vs. z
 $\Omega_{\Lambda}=0.70$, flat cosmology

Table 5. Potential Sources of Systematic Error on the Measurement of w

Source	dw/dx	Δx	Δ_w	Notes
Phot. errors from astrometric uncertainties of faint objects	1/mag	0.005 mag	0.005	
Bias in diff im photometry	0.5 / mag	0.002 mag	0.001	
CCD linearity	1 / mag	0.005 mag	0.005	
Photometric zeropoint diff in R,I	2 / mag	0.02 mag	0.04	
Zpt. offset between low and high z	1 / mag	0.02 mag	0.02	
K-corrections	0.5 / mag	0.01 mag	0.005	
Filter passband structure	0 / mag	0.001 mag	0	
Galactic extinction	1 / mag	0.01 mag	0.01	
Host galaxy R_V	0.02 / R_V	0.5	0.01	“glosz”
Host galaxy extinction treatment	0.08	prior choice	0.08	different priors
Intrinsic color of SNe Ia	3 / mag	0.02 mag	0.06	interacts strongly with prior
Malmquist bias/selection effects	0.7 / mag	0.03 mag	0.02	“glosz”
SN Ia evolution	1 / mag	0.02 mag	0.02	
Hubble bubble	$3/\delta H_{\text{effective}}$	0.02	0.06	
Gravitational lensing	$1/\sqrt{N}$ / mag	0.01 mag	< 0.001	Holz & Linder (2005)
Grey dust	1 / mag	0.01 mag	0.01	
Subtotal w/o extinction+color	...	...	0.082	
Total	...	...	0.13	
Joint ESSENCE+SNLS comparison	...	...	0.02	photometric system
Joint ESSENCE + SNLS Total	...	...	0.13	

Some Potential Systematics

- Understanding of host galaxy dust
- Hubble bubble trouble
- Gravitational lensing
- Evolutionary effects in SNe
- Biases in low redshift sample
- Search efficiency/selection

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Pretty much . . .

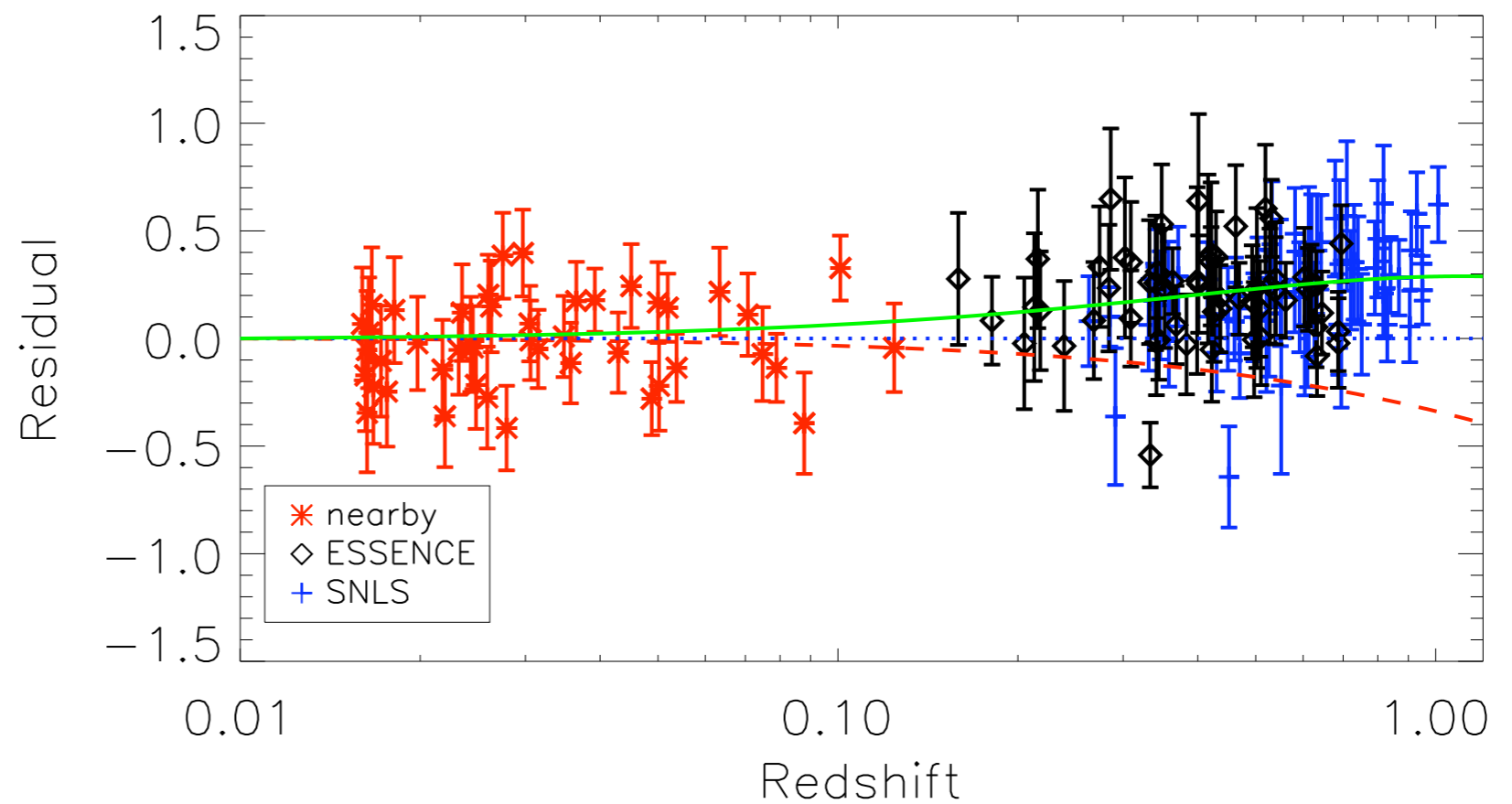
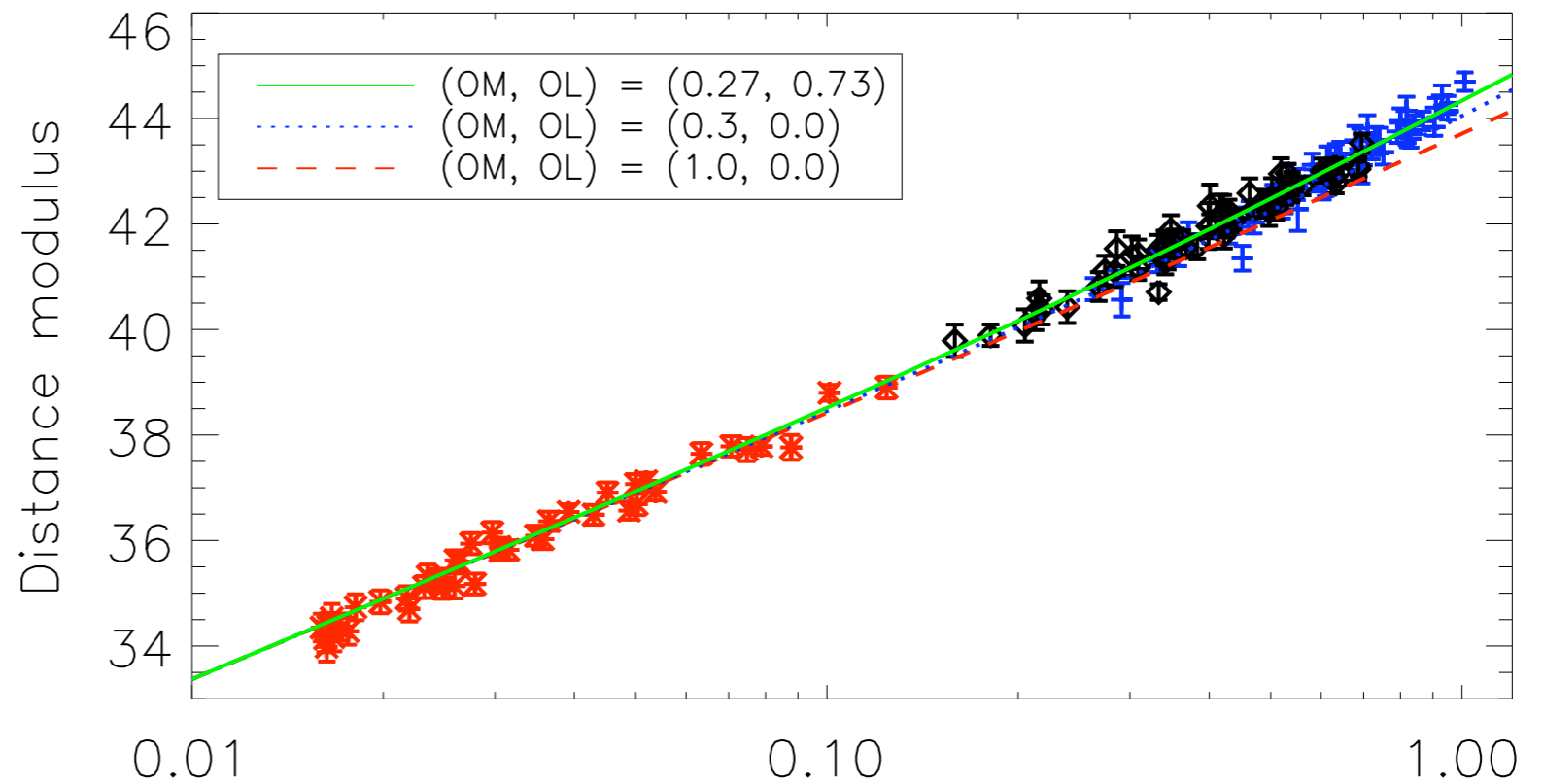
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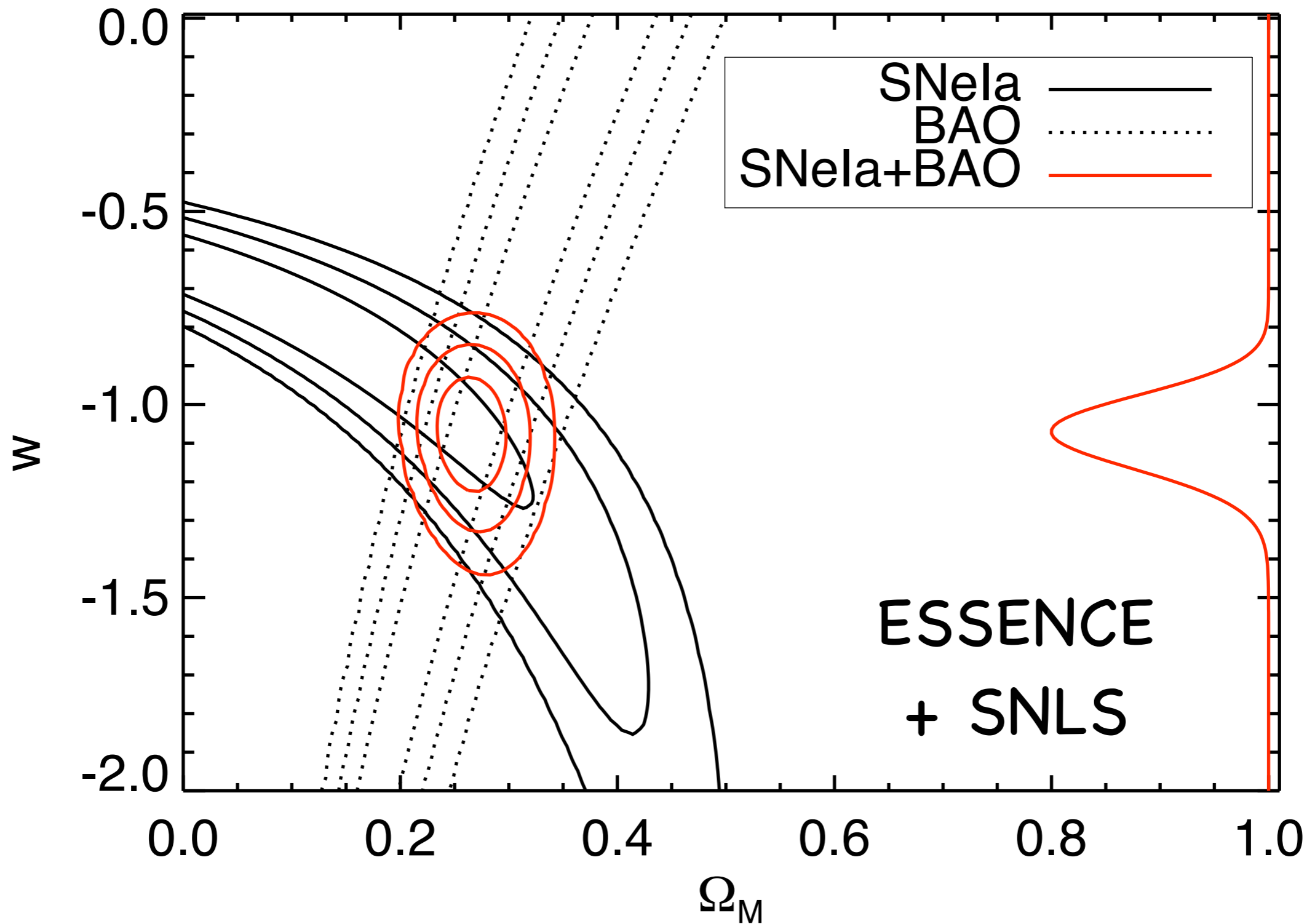
As far as we can tell . . .

ESSENCE +SNLS Hubble Diagram



Flat,
constant- w

$$w = -1.07 \pm 0.09 \pm 0.13$$



Global SNIa Hubble Diagram

Hamuy 1996a,b

Riess 1998

Perlmutter 1999

Riess 1999

Riess 2001

Tonry 2003

Knop 2003

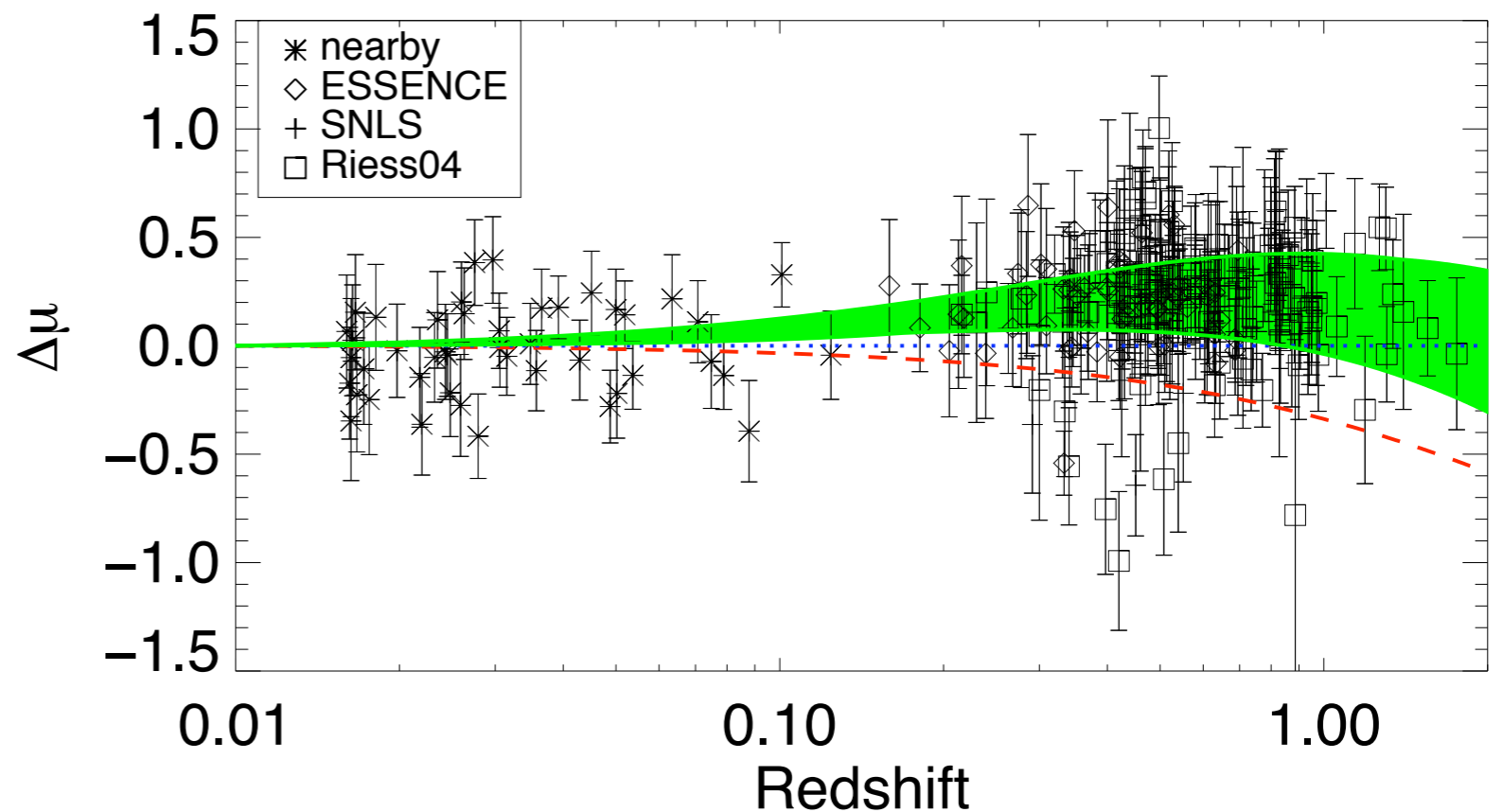
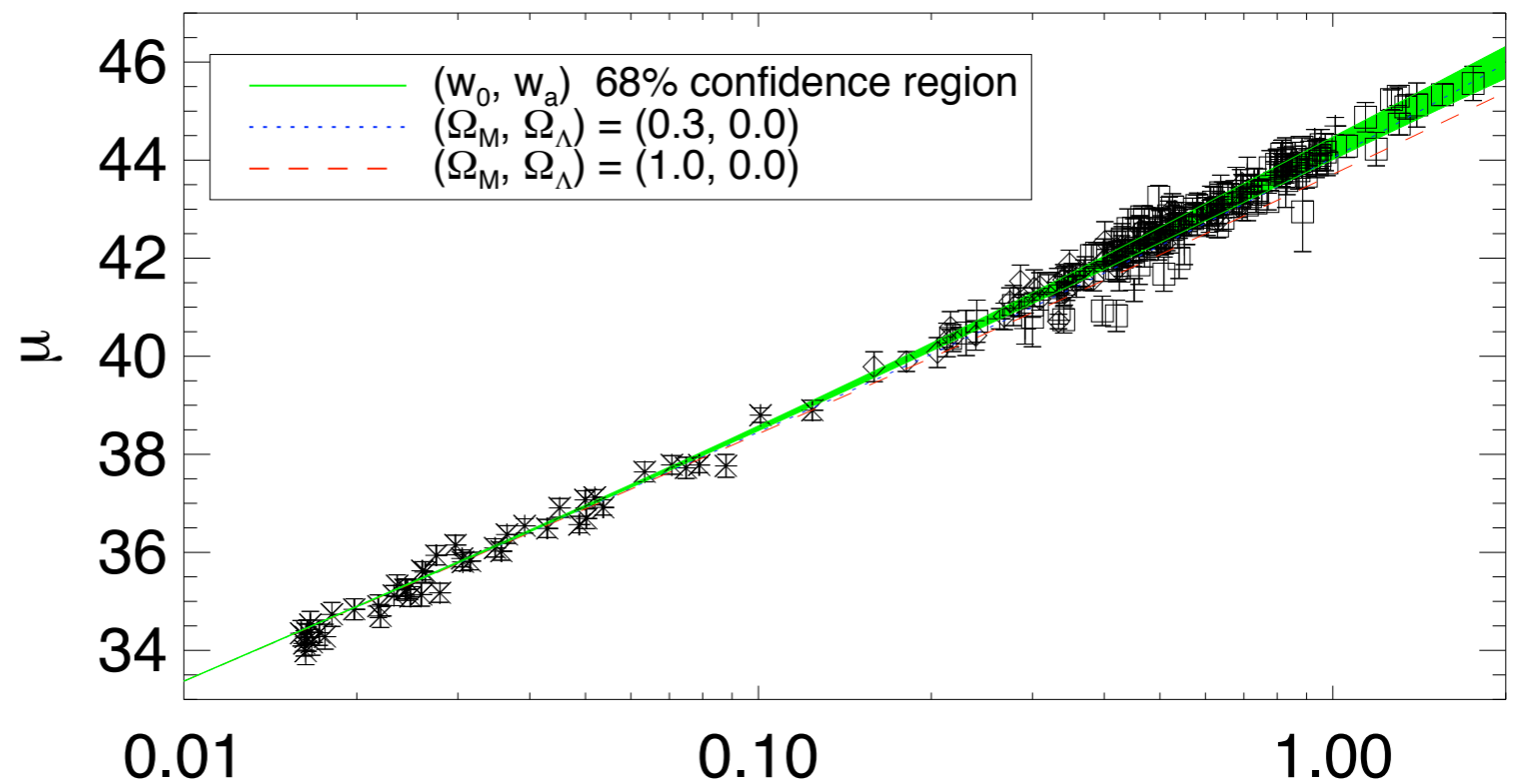
Barris 2004

Riess 2004

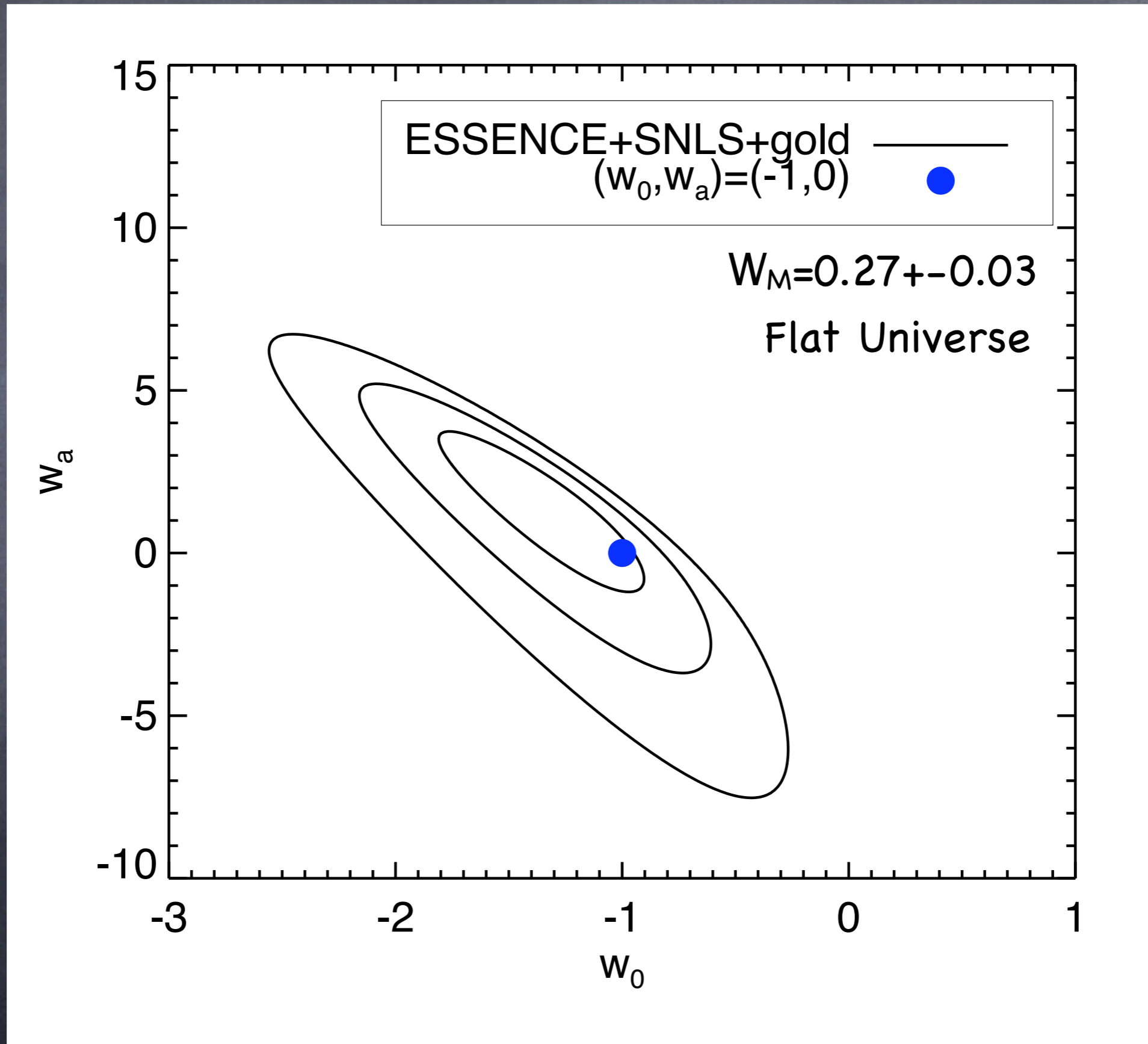
Clochiatti 2005

Astier 2006

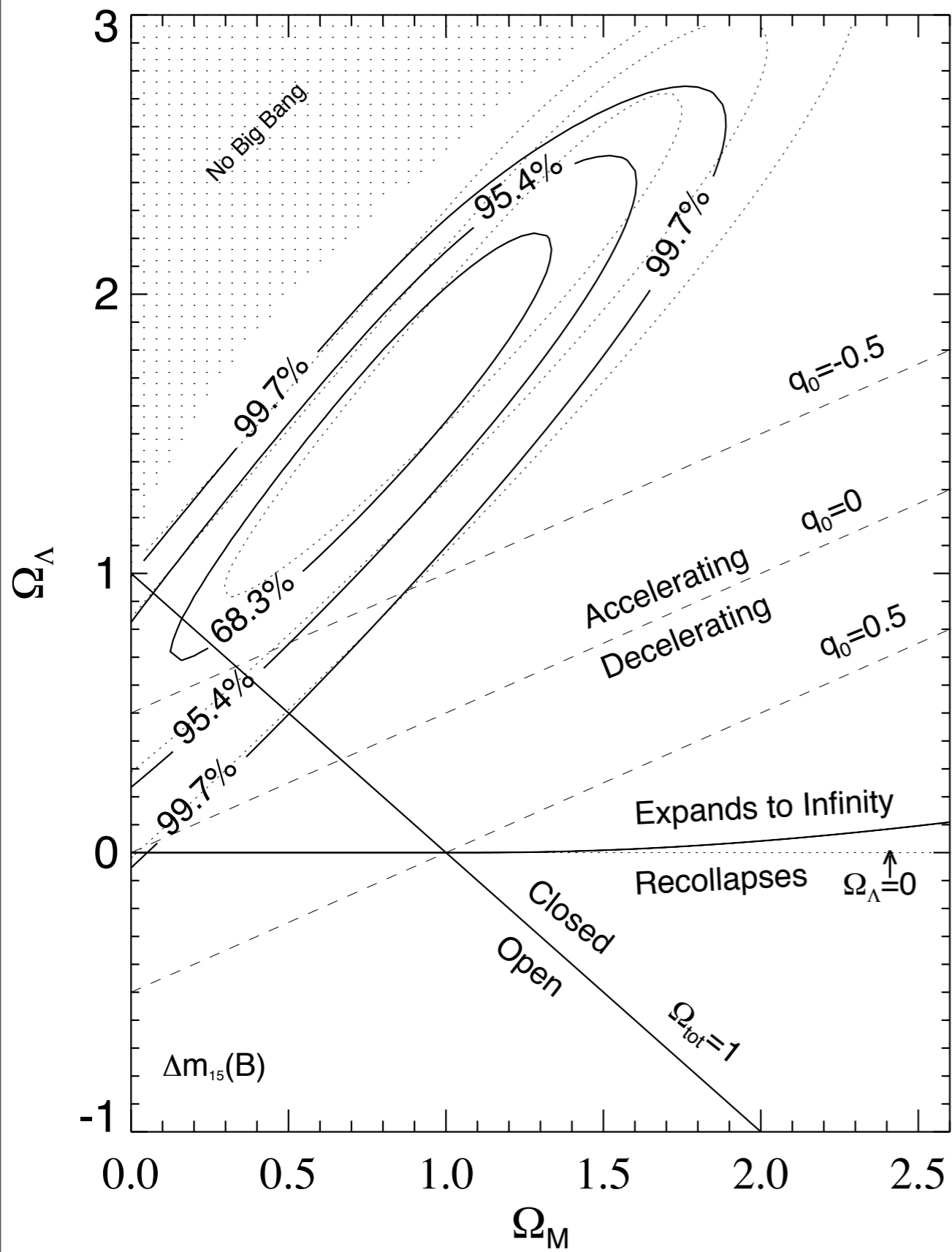
Jha 2006



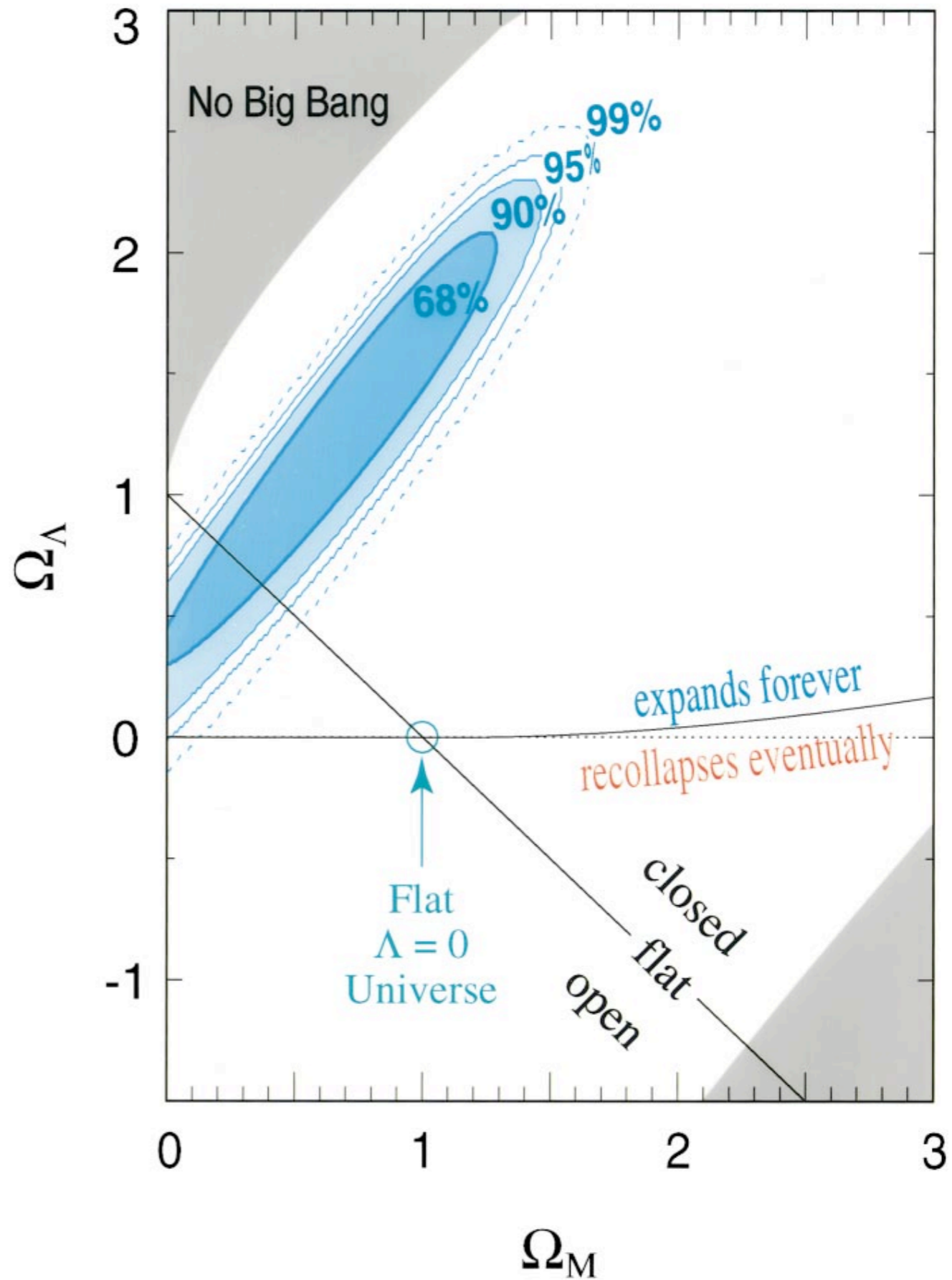
Constraints on $w=w_0+w_a(1-a)$

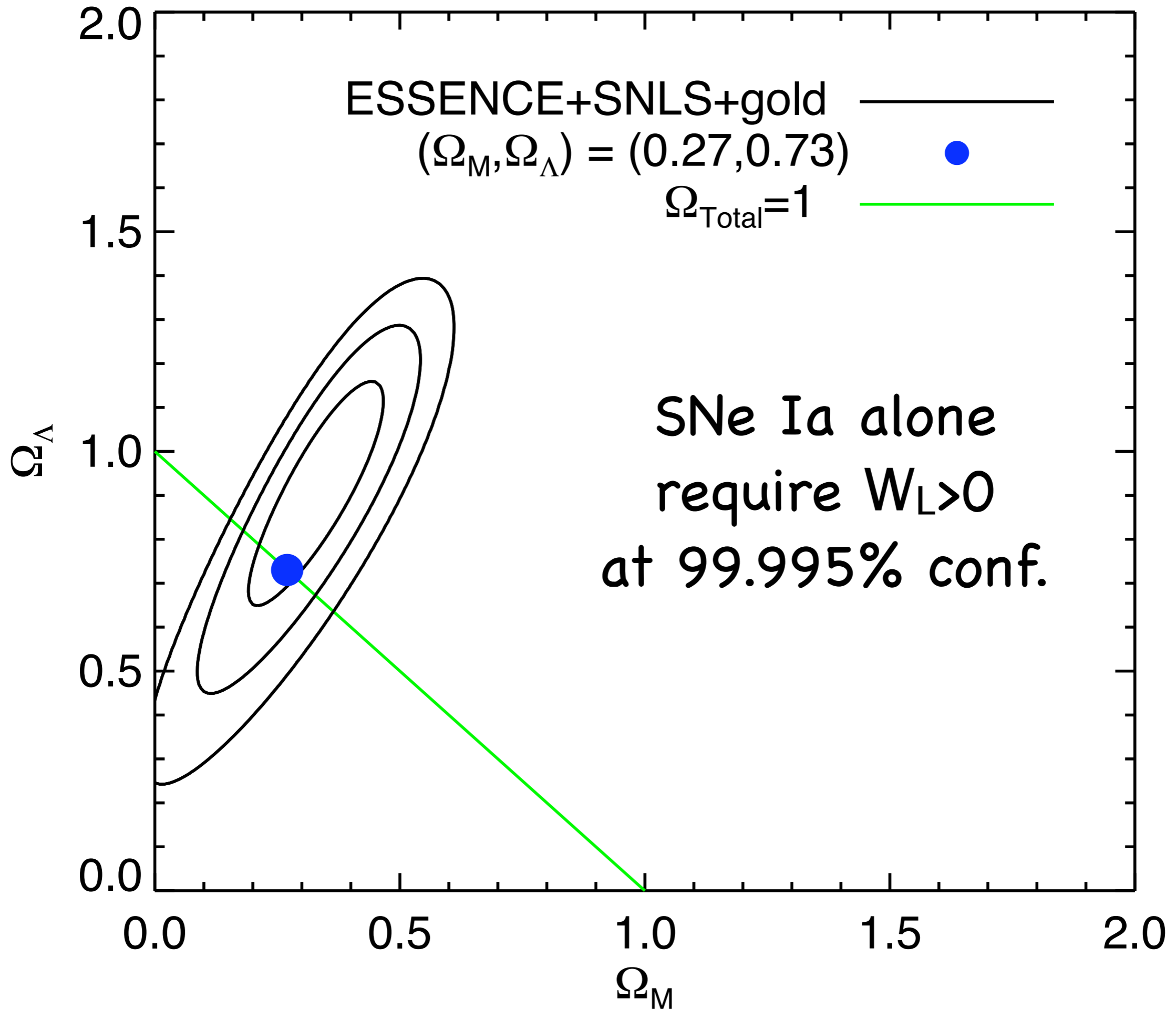


Riess et al. (1998, AJ)



Perlmutter et al. (1999, ApJ)





Summary

- The accelerating Universe poses a significant challenge to theory, experiment and observation.
- Flat Universe model with a cosmological constant works fine.
- Current goal: w to 10% or $w \neq -1$
- Higher redshift, $z > 1$, to go for variable w
- Additional nearby SNIa vital

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- Flat Universe model with a cosmological constant works fine.
- Current goal: w to 10% or $w \neq -1$
- Higher redshift, $z > 1$, to go for variable w
- Additional nearby SNIa vital
- Mo' data . . . Mo' better . . .