

Astronomical Society of Southern Africa



Section Director: Derek Duckitt

Activity areas: Cosmology and Astrophysics

Specialists & Collaborators: Maciej Soltynski (Cosmology, Astrophysics), Case Rijdsijk (Cosmology, Astrophysics), Bruce Bassett (Cosmology), Dr. Ian Glass (Astrophysics), Bruce Dickson (Cosmology, Astrophysics).

ASSA COSMOLOGY DIRECTOR'S REPORT - AUG 2025

Since the 2024 Cosmology report we have continued with the History of the Universe series:

History of the Universe - series of 33 videos

- 22. Why is Everything made of Atoms? - Tue 06-Aug
- 23. Have we really found the Theory of Everything? - Tue 03-Sep
- 24. How does Light Actually Work? - Tue 01-Oct
- 25. Is Time Travel Possible in our Universe? - Tue 05-Nov
- 33. What Is The Most Powerful Thing In The Universe? - Tue 03-Dec
- 26. How did the Universe Begin? (part 1) - Tue 04-Feb
- 26. How did the Universe Begin? (part 2) - Tue 04-Mar
- 27. What is Hidden in the Darkness at the Beginning of Time? - Tue 01-Apr
- 28. How Early Could Life Have Appeared In The Universe? - Tue 06-May
- 29. Are The First Stars Really Still Out There? - Tue 03-Jun
- 30. What did James Webb really see at the Beginning of Time? - Tue 01-Jul

In a test to see whether we could increase attendance by holding a hybrid in person plus Zoom meeting at Onrus Manor visitor's centre, we tried that at the December meeting, with a few more attendees as a result. It remains a concern that only 2 or 3 non-Hermanus ASSA members attend these sessions each month despite being advertised via the ASSA communications.

I enjoy presenting these, and the attendees we do have seem to enjoy the spirited discussions after the presentations as well, so I will continue for the next few months with the rest of the series, and follow up with similar presentations when we have completed this series.

Regards

Derek Duckitt

ASSA Cosmology Director

Hermanus Centre Chair