

Cosmology Seminar

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The Basics of Photometric Redshifts

Photometric redshifts are one of the cornerstones of modern surveys, allowing for the efficient, but imprecise measurement of millions of galaxy redshifts to greater distance and fainter magnitude limits than allowed by traditional spectroscopic methods. In this talk I will summarize some of the basic elements of photometric redshift computation, some limitations of the technique, as well as future extensions of the method. As an example of the effect of photometric redshift errors I will also discuss the calculation of the galaxy luminosity function, and show how a modified estimator can account for the redshift uncertainties inherent with the use of photometric redshifts.

Thursday March 6, 2008
12:10 PM - Room 416 PHY/GEO