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**Why Is the Expansion of the Universe Accelerating?**

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For more than a decade, a number of cosmological observations have been indicating that the expansion of the universe is accelerating. Cosmic acceleration and the questions associated with it have become one of the most challenging and puzzling problems in cosmology and physics. Cosmic acceleration can be caused by (i) a repulsive dark energy pervading the universe, (ii) an extension to General Relativity that takes effect at cosmological scales of distance, or (iii) the acceleration may be an apparent effect due to the fact that the expansion rate of space-time is uneven from one region to another in the universe. I will review the basics of these possibilities and provide some recent results on these questions.