2021 Ph H1 Q11

Section: Our Dynamic Universe

Topic: The Expanding Universe

The redshift of light from a distant galaxy is z=0.125.

What is the approximate distance to this galaxy?

Step-by-step solution:

Step 1 – Use redshift to calculate recessional velocity:

$$v = z \cdot c = 0.125 \cdot 3.00 \times 10^8 = 3.75 \times 10^7 \,\text{m/s}$$

Step 2 – Use Hubble's Law to calculate distance:

$$v = H_0 d$$
 \Rightarrow $d = \frac{v}{H_0} = \frac{3.75 \times 10^7}{2.3 \times 10^{-18}} = 1.63 \times 10^{25} \,\mathrm{m}$

Final Answer:

D

Revision Tips:

- $z = \frac{v}{c}$ is a good approximation when z < 1
- Hubble's Law: $v = H_0 d$
- Use standard value $H_0 = 2.3 \times 10^{-18} \, \mathrm{s}^{-1}$
- · Always express final answers in standard form