



Physics > History and Philosophy of Physics

# Did Edwin Hubble plagiarize?

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Recently Block published an astro-ph{{[this http URL](#) (2011).}} insinuating that Lemaitre discovery paper of the Expanding Universe was censored prior to its translation into English and publication in the Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society. Consequently, Lemaitre's credit for the discovery of the velocity-distance correlation was not recognized. We examine here the chain of events leading to the discovery of the 'Hubble law'. Our summary: (a) Lemaitre found a theoretical linear correlation between velocity and distance. (b) Lemaitre assumed the existence of a linear relation between velocity and distance and calculated the coefficient. (c) Hubble took the data plotted it and demonstrated that a linear relation represents the observed data. (d) Hubble never believed in Lemaitre's solution, namely in an expanding universe. Consequently, Hubble never cited Lemaitre. We conclude that the charge that Lemaitre's paper was censored or ignored let alone plagiarized by Hubble, is not founded, and explain why Lemaitre's earlier theoretical discovery and derived 'Hubble constant' was not cited or recognized, by Hubble as well as by many other leading researchers.

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