



ΓΕΝΙΚΟ ΣΕΜΙΝΑΡΙΟ ΤΜΗΜΑΤΟΣ ΦΥΣΙΚΗΣ

PHYSICS COLLOQUIUM

Thursday 29 November 2007
17:00-18:00

3rd Floor Seminar Room

*"Type Ia Supernova Explosions: Energetics,
Nucleosynthesis, and Cosmology"*

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ABSTRACT

The inference drawn from studies of the Cosmological distance scale - including the use of Type Ia Supernovae as distance indicators - that the rate of expansion of the Universe is increasing, has generated greatly increased interest in Type Ia supernova science. The standard model consists of the thermonuclear incineration of a carbon-oxygen white dwarf star which has grown in mass (via accretion) to the Chandrasekhar limit. We discuss questions concerning nuclear energetics and nucleosynthesis, emphasizing the crucial role played by ^{56}Ni . We then review recent three-dimensional simulations of the deflagration phase of the gravitationally confined detonation model of Type Ia supernovae.