

The Elastic Universe

On the large sheet of paper, lay down your Elastic Universe and above it mark the positions of the ten galaxy stickers labeled A to J. As a group, choose a galaxy to be your home.

Our home is galaxy _____.

To model the universe expanding, one person should hold your group's home galaxy still (press down with a finger), while the second person pulls on both ends of the elastic.

When the elastic is stretched, the third person can mark the new positions of the galaxies on the chart paper underneath the elastic.

If you take the elastic away, you can now compare the positions of the galaxies before and after stretching.

Fill in this table to help you make the comparison:

Galaxy	Difference between position of galaxy before and after stretching. (cm)	Distance of galaxy from your home galaxy (cm)
A		
B		
C		
D		
E		
F		
G		
H		
I		
J		

What do you notice about what happens to the distance between galaxies when you stretch your Elastic Band Universe?