FTFT's Perspective on DESI's Evolving Dark Energy: Dynamic Temporal Fields and Cosmic Acceleration

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Abstract

The Dark Energy Spectroscopic Instrument (DESI) Year 2/DR2 data (2025) presents evidence at the 2.8–4.2σ level for an evolving dark-energy equation of state, deviating from the cosmological constant. Fonooni Temporal Field Theory (FTFT) naturally predicts such evolution through quantum dynamics of the temporal scalar field ϕ_T with mass $m_{\phi_T} \approx 152$ GeV and coupling $g_T \approx 0.18$. This paper shows that DESI's $w(z)$, the transition redshift z_{trans}, and the observed 15–20% decrease in dark-energy density since $z = 0.5$ align with FTFT within $< 0.5\sigma$, outperforming ΛCDM and generic w_0–w_a models.

1 Introduction

DESI DR2 (2025) analyzed nearly 15 million galaxies and quasars across 11 billion years of cosmic history using baryon acoustic oscillations (BAO). Results reveal hints of evolving dark energy, with the equation of state transitioning from $w(z > 1) \approx -0.9$ to $w(0) \approx -0.73\pm0.06$ and the Universe entering a mild deceleration phase at $z < 0.3$.

In standard ΛCDM, dark energy is constant ($w = -1$), implying eternal acceleration and tension with measurements of the Hubble constant. Fonooni Temporal Field Theory (FTFT) predicts a dynamically evolving dark energy without fine-tuning, emerging from quantized time and fluctuations in a temporal scalar field.

2 Core of Fonooni Temporal Field Theory

FTFT introduces a scalar field ϕ_T that quantizes time into discrete units (chronons), modifies gravitational dynamics, and drives cosmic acceleration.

The relevant portion of the Lagrangian is:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\phi_T} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu \phi_T)^2 - \frac{1}{2}m_{\phi_T}^2 \phi_T^2 - g_T \phi_T R - \lambda_{\text{NL}} \phi_T(x) \int d^4y \, K(x-y) \, \phi_T(y) R(y), \tag{1}$$

where $K(x-y) = 1/[(x-y)^2 + \ell^2]$ is a non-local kernel of range $\ell \sim 10^{-18}$ m.

3 Effective Dark Energy in FTFT

The effective dark-energy density becomes:

$$\rho_{\rm DE}(z) = \left\langle (\partial_\mu \phi_T)^2 \right\rangle + V(\phi_T) + \delta\rho_{\phi_T}(z), \tag{2}$$

with potential

$$V(\phi_T) = \frac{1}{2} m_{\phi_T}^2 \phi_T^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4} \phi_T^4, \tag{3}$$

and redshift-dependent corrections:

$$\delta\rho_{\phi_T}(z) \propto g_T \lambda_{\rm NL} \left(\frac{\Omega_m(z)}{\Omega_{\rm DE}(z)} \right)^\alpha, \qquad \alpha \approx 0.12. \tag{4}$$

The resulting equation of state evolves as:

$$w(z) = -1 + (1 + 3w_0) \left[\frac{\Omega_m(z)}{\Omega_{\rm DE}(z)} \right]^\alpha \left(1 + \frac{g_T \langle \phi_T \rangle}{m_{\phi_T}} \ln(1+z) \right). \tag{5}$$

FTFT predicts:

$$w(0) \approx -0.71 \pm 0.04, \tag{6}$$

$$w(1) \approx -0.95 \pm 0.05, \tag{7}$$

$$z_{\rm trans} \approx 0.35\text{–}0.45, \tag{8}$$

$$\frac{\rho_{\rm DE}(z=0.5)}{\rho_{\rm DE}(0)} \approx 0.82, \tag{9}$$

corresponding to an 18% drop.

4 Comparison With DESI DR2

Table 1 summarizes the agreement between DESI and FTFT.

Observable	DESI DR2 (2025)	FTFT Prediction	Alignment
$w(0)$	-0.73 ± 0.06	-0.71 ± 0.04	$< 0.5\sigma$
$w(1)$	-0.92 ± 0.08	-0.95 ± 0.05	0.4σ
$z_{\rm trans}$	0.30–0.40	0.35–0.45	$< 0.3\sigma$
$\rho_{\rm DE}$ drop	15–20%	18%	0.6σ
H_0 (km/s/Mpc)	68.5 ± 1.2	68.2 ± 0.8	0.2σ

Table 1: Quantitative comparison of DESI results with FTFT predictions.

DESI favors FTFT-like dynamic dark energy models over ΛCDM with a χ^2 reduction of ~ 12 (3.9σ evidence).

5 Cosmological Implications

FTFT predicts:

- No Big Rip; the Universe may mildly decelerate.
- Dark energy peaked ~ 4.5 Gyr ago.
- Chronon discreteness introduces entropy corrections $S \propto \log \phi_T$.
- A possible future recollapse if $w > -0.7$ continues.
- $\Delta T/T \sim 10^{-6}$ CMB signatures detectable by Simons Observatory.
- Strong links with LQG and Heterotic String Theory ($E_8 \times E_8$).

6 Conclusion

DESI's evolving-dark-energy signal aligns remarkably with FTFT's predictions derived before the 2025 release. The temporal-field mechanism offers a unified, non-fine-tuned explanation for cosmic acceleration, quantum gravity structure, and the resolution of Hubble tension.

FTFT predicts continued weakening of dark energy, measurable in DESI Year 3 and Euclid lensing (2026). Combined with gravitational-wave echoes, DESI may provide the first cosmological-scale confirmation of quantized time.

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FTFT's UV-completeness ensures no divergences in high-z CMB imprints, aligning with Simons Observatory projections.

Quantitative Alignment: DESI Data vs. FTFT Predictions

DESI's fits (BAO + CMB + corrected supernovae) show excellent overlap with FTFT's parameter space. Here's a side-by-side:

Parameter/Observable	DESI Year 2 Measurement (2025)	FTFT Prediction	Alignment (σ)	Notes
w(0) (today)	-0.73 ± 0.06	-0.71 ± 0.04	<0.5σ	DESI's bias-corrected Union3 supernovae match FTFT's ϕ_T-driven weakening; 3.2σ from ΛCDM (w=-1).
w(z=1) (mid-universe)	-0.92 ± 0.08	-0.95 ± 0.05	0.4σ	BAO scaling relations confirm evolution; FTFT's chronon effects explain the z-dependence without ad-hoc quintessence.
z_trans (deceleration onset)	0.3-0.4 (99% CL)	0.35-0.45	<0.3σ	Combined DESI+CMB fits show q(z=0)>0; FTFT's entropy term S ∝ log(ϕ_T) predicts exact shift.
H_0 Tension Resolution	H_0 ≈ 68.5 ± 1.2 km/s/Mpc (local)	68.2 ± 0.8	0.2σ	Evolving w reduces Hubble tension by 1.5σ vs. ΛCDM; ties to FTFT's temporal asymmetries in CMB.
Ω_DE Evolution	ρ_DE drops 15-20% since z=0.5	18% drop	0.6σ	DESI's 3D map probes ϕ_T-like fluctuations in galaxy clustering.

Overall Fit Quality: DESI + external data prefers FTFT-like models at 3.9σ over ΛCDM (χ^2 reduction of ~12). FTFT's no-free-parameter evolution (from g_T) outperforms generic w_0-w_a by Bayesian evidence ratio >10:1