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First data from the Dark Energy Spectroscopic Instrument (DESI)

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The Dark Energy Spectroscopic Instrument (DESI) started its main survey in May 2021. Over 5 years, it will measure the spectra and redshifts of about 35 millions galaxies and quasars over 14,000 square degrees. This 3D map will be used to reconstruct the expansion history of the universe up to $z=3.5$, and measure the growth rate of structure in the redshift range 0.7-1.6 with unequaled precision. In this presentation, I will show some preliminary results from the first months of observation. I will also review the forecasted performance of the DESI survey, and show how it will dramatically improve our understanding of dark energy, inflation, and the mass of the neutrinos.

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