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**Ovidiu Munteanu\*** ([omuntean@math.uci.edu](mailto:omuntean@math.uci.edu)), Department of Mathematics, University of California, Irvine, CA 92697. *The structure of complete manifolds with positive spectrum.*

We discuss complete noncompact manifolds with Ricci curvature bounded from below by a negative constant and with positive bottom of spectrum. Our talk will also cover some recent developments in the study of the manifolds that have maximal bottom of spectrum. (Received February 19, 2008)