

The Early Universe

The first few microseconds

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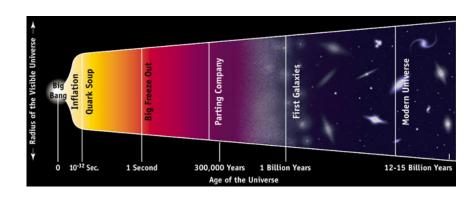
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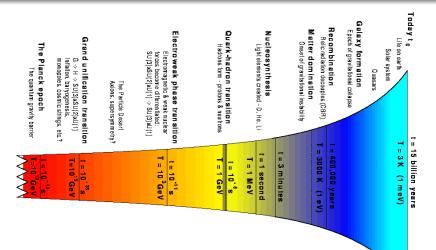
Outline

- Introduction
- 2 GTR
- Cosmology
 - Cosmological models
 - Inflation

The Expanding Universe

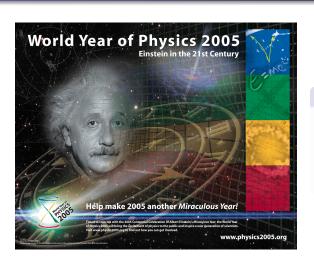


The Expanding Universe





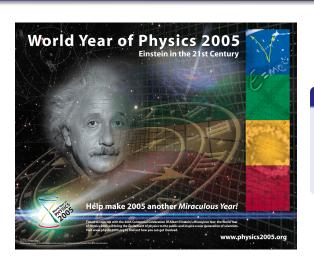
Einstein Year



Papers in 1905

- Photoeffect
- Brownian motion
- Special relativity
- $E = mc^2$

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Special Relativity (1905)

- Unify Mechanics and Electrodynamics
- Equations of motion the same in inertial frames
- The principle of relativity

- Unify Gravity and Relativity
- Equations of motion the same in all frames
- Inspired by Mach's Principle (Rotation relative to distant stars)
- Einstein's equivalence principle
 - ("eliminate" gravitation in local inertial frame, laws of special relativity



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- Strong gravitational fields
 - Compact stars, black holes
 - GTR ** Newtonian gravity
- Large distances
 - Cosmology
 - Expansion of the Universe
 - Cosmological redshift
- High precision in weak fields
 - Gravitational redshift
 - Deflection of light in gravitational fields
 - Precession of planetary orbits
 - Syncronization of clocks in gravitaional fields (GPS)
- Gravitational waves
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Space-time metrics

flat space-time

Minkowski metric

- $d\tau^2 = dt^2 dx^2 dy^2 dz^2 = \sum_{\mu\nu} \eta_{\mu\nu} dx^{\mu} dx^{\nu}$ $\mu, \nu \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$
- $\eta_{\mu\nu} = \eta^{\mu\nu} = \text{diag}(1, -1, -1, -1)$
- $x^{\mu} = (x^0, x^1, x^2, x^3) \equiv (t, x, y, z)$
- $\mathbf{X}_{\mu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} \mathbf{X}^{\nu} \equiv \sum_{\nu} \eta_{\mu\nu} \mathbf{X}^{\nu}$ (Summation convention)
- Scalar product $A_{\mu}B^{\mu}=\eta_{\mu\nu}A^{\mu}B^{\nu}$ Lorentz scalar
- A_{μ} covariant, A^{μ} contravariant vectors



Space-time metrics

curved space-time

GTR: Gravity ←⇒ curvature of space-time

- $d\tau^2 = g_{\mu\nu}(x)dx^{\mu}dx^{\nu}$
- Cannot bring $g_{\mu\nu}(x)$ in Minkowski form by coord. trafo
- ullet $g^{\mu
 u}=g^{
 u\mu},\,g^{\mu
 u}g_{
 u\lambda}=\delta^{\mu}_{\lambda}$
- Equation of motion

$$\frac{d^2x^{\lambda}}{d\tau^2} + \Gamma^{\lambda}_{\mu\nu} \frac{dx^{\mu}}{d\tau} \frac{dx^{\nu}}{d\tau} = 0$$

Connection coefficient (Cristoffel symbol)

$$\Gamma^{\lambda}_{\mu
u} = rac{1}{2} g^{\lambda\sigma} \left\{ rac{\partial g_{\mu\sigma}}{\partial x^{
u}} + rac{\partial g_{
u\sigma}}{\partial x^{\mu}} - rac{\partial g_{\mu
u}}{\partial x^{\sigma}}
ight\}$$

Curved space-time Useful relations

Four-velocity

•
$$u^{\mu} = dx^{\mu}/d\tau$$
 $u_{\mu} = dx_{\mu}/d\tau$

Equations of motion valid in an arbitrary frame

$$\frac{du^{\mu}}{d\tau} + \Gamma^{\mu}_{\nu\lambda} u^{\nu} u^{\lambda} = 0$$

$$\frac{du_{\mu}}{d\tau} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial g_{\nu\lambda}}{\partial x^{\mu}} u^{\nu} u^{\lambda} = 0$$

• $\partial g_{\nu\lambda}/\partial x^{\mu}=0 \ \Rightarrow \ u^{\mu}={\rm constant}$

Weak field limit

ullet $g_{00}=1+2\phi$ $\phi=-GM/r$ (Newtonian grav. potential)

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Covariant derivatives

- In curved space-time the differential dA^{μ} is not a vector
- $DA^{\mu} = A^{\mu}_{;\nu} dx^{\nu}$ transforms like a vector

$$A^{\mu}_{\;\;;\nu} = rac{\partial A^{\mu}}{\partial x^{
u}} + \Gamma^{\mu}_{\lambda
u} A^{\lambda}$$
 Covariant derivative

$$A_{\mu;
u} = rac{\partial A_{\mu}}{\partial x^{
u}} - \Gamma^{\lambda}_{\mu
u} A_{\lambda}$$

Scalar product

$$\frac{\partial A_{\mu}B^{\mu}}{\partial x^{\nu}} = \frac{\partial A_{\mu}}{\partial x^{\nu}}B^{\mu} + A_{\mu}\frac{\partial B^{\mu}}{\partial x^{\nu}}$$

ullet Metric tensor: $D\!A_\mu = g_{\mu
u}D\!A^
u \,\Rightarrow\, D\!g_{\mu
u} = 0$



Tensors

• Second covariant derivative $A_{\mu;\nu;\lambda}-A_{\mu;\lambda;
u}=R^{\sigma}_{\mu
u\lambda}A_{\sigma}$

$$R^{\sigma}_{\mu\nu\lambda} = \frac{\partial \Gamma^{\sigma}_{\mu\lambda}}{\partial x^{\nu}} - \frac{\partial \Gamma^{\sigma}_{\mu\nu}}{\partial x^{\lambda}} + \Gamma^{\sigma}_{\alpha\nu}\Gamma^{\alpha}_{\mu\lambda} - \Gamma^{\sigma}_{\alpha\lambda}\Gamma^{\alpha}_{\mu\nu}$$

- Riemann tensor vanishes if and only if space-time is flat
- Ricci tensor $R_{\mu
 u} = R^{
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- Scalar curvature $R=g^{\mu\nu}R_{\mu\nu}$
- Einstein tensor $G^{\mu\nu}=R^{\mu\nu}-\frac{1}{2}g^{\mu\nu}R$
- Covariant divergence $G^{\mu\nu}_{\;\;;\mu}=0$
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Energy-momentum tensor

$$T^{\mu
u}(x) = \int rac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} rac{k^\mu k^
u}{k^0} f(\vec{k}, x)$$

- In local restframe for system in local equilibrium $T^{\mu\nu}(x)=\mathrm{diag}(\varepsilon,p,p,p)$ $p=\mathrm{pressure},\ \varepsilon=\mathrm{energy}\ \mathrm{density},\ E=\int T^{00}d^3x$
- In a general frame (Minkowski metric) $T^{\mu\nu} = (\varepsilon + p)u^{\mu}u^{\nu} \eta^{\mu\nu}p$
- Conservation of energy and momentum: $\partial_{\nu}T^{\mu\nu}=0$
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Energy-momentum tensor

A gas of photons

• In rest frame of gas $(\beta = 1/T)$

$$\varepsilon = 2 \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} |\vec{k}| \frac{1}{e^{\beta |\vec{k}|} - 1} = \frac{\pi^2}{15} T^4$$

$$p = \frac{\pi^2}{45}T^4 = \frac{1}{3}\varepsilon$$

General property of gas of massless particles:

$$p = \varepsilon/3 \Rightarrow T^{\mu}_{\mu} = \varepsilon - 3p = 0$$

• $\varepsilon + 3p > 0$



Energy-momentum tensor II

Massive particles

For T << m</p>

$$\varepsilon = \sum_{spin} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} k^0 f(\vec{k}) \simeq m \sum_{spin} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} f(\vec{k}) \simeq m n$$

$$p = \sum_{spin} \int rac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} rac{ec{k}^2}{k^0} f(ec{k}) \simeq T \ n << arepsilon$$

- $T^{\mu\nu} \simeq \text{diag}(\varepsilon, 0, 0, 0), \qquad T^{\mu}_{\ \mu} \simeq \varepsilon$
- $\varepsilon + 3p > 0$



Energy-momentum tensor III

Vacuum

Vacuum should be Lorentz invariant

$$\mathcal{T}^{\mu
u} = arepsilon_{ ext{vac}} \, \eta^{\mu
u} = ext{diag}(arepsilon_{ ext{vac}}, -arepsilon_{ ext{vac}}, -arepsilon_{ ext{vac}}, -arepsilon_{ ext{vac}})$$

- $p_{vac} = -\varepsilon_{vac}$
- "Normal" vacuum: $p_{vac} = \varepsilon_{vac} = 0$
- Unstable vacuum: $\varepsilon_{vac} > 0$, $p_{vac} < 0$,

$$\varepsilon_{vac} + p_{vac} = 0$$

• $\varepsilon + 3p < 0$



Motivation

$$\vec{\nabla}^2 \phi(\vec{x}) = 4\pi G \rho(\vec{x}) \qquad \rho(\vec{x}) = mn(\vec{x})$$

- Connect curvature of space with energy momentum content. Ansatz: $G^{\mu\nu} = \kappa T^{\mu\nu}$ $(G^{\mu\nu}_{;\nu} = 0)$
- Determine κ . Newtonian limit: $G^{00} = \vec{\nabla}^2 g^{00} = \kappa \varepsilon \simeq \kappa mn$ $g^{00} \simeq 1 + 2\phi \Rightarrow \kappa = 8\pi G$
- Einstein's field equation: $G^{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G T^{\mu\nu}$
- Alternative form: $R^{\mu\nu}=8\pi G(T^{\mu\nu}-\frac{1}{2}g^{\mu\nu}T)$ $(T=T^{\mu}_{\ \mu})$



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$G^{\mu u}=8\pi G\,T^{\mu u}$

- The field equation determines "everything".
 - Space-time geometry $G^{\mu\nu}$ as function of sources $T^{\mu\nu}$
 - Dynamics of sources in the curved space-time determined by $T^{\mu\nu}_{\;\;;\nu}=$ 0 and equation-of-state
- $G^{\mu\nu}_{;\nu}=0$ automatically satisfied \Leftrightarrow freedom of choice of coordinate system.
- In vacuum $R^{\mu\nu}=0$ ($T^{\mu\nu}$ does not include grav. field)
- Cosmological constant Lambda (vacuum energy)

$$R^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g^{\mu\nu}R - g^{\mu\nu}\Lambda = 8\pi G T^{\mu\nu}$$

$$T_{
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Einstein's field equation II

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Cosmology

Cosmology deals with the evolution of the universe on the largest scales of space and time. Cosmology is one of the most important applications of GTR.

Basic observational facts

- The Universe consist of visible matter (stars in galaxies radiation, dark matter and dark energy (vacuum energy)
- The Universe is expanding
- On large scales the Universe is isotropic and homogeneous (Cosmological principle)

Notation

• all massless particles = radiation

200

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- Most visible matter is in galaxies.
- Average density of visible matter $(\rho \equiv \varepsilon)$

$$ho_{visible}(t_0) \sim 10^{-31} g \, cm^{-3} \sim 1 proton/m^3$$

Cosmic Microwave Background (T_{CMB}(t₀) = 2.726K)

$$ho_{CMB}(t_0) \sim 10^{-34} g \ cm^{-3}$$

CMB one of the strongest pieces of evidence for Big Bang

Approximate fractions

Dark energy .7

Matter .3 (visible matter .04)

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The universe expands

- The spectra from distant stars are redshifted
- If interpreted in terms of Dopplershift

$$\frac{v}{c} = \frac{\Delta \lambda}{\lambda} = Z \quad (\frac{v}{c} << 1)$$

• Empirically $v = H_0 d$ (Hubble's law) Hubble constant $H_0 = 72 \pm 7 \frac{km}{s} \frac{1}{Mpc}$

Hubble

parsec

Hubble's law ⇒ homologous expansion (no distortions)













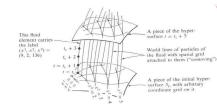


Friedman-Robertson-Walker metric (FRW)

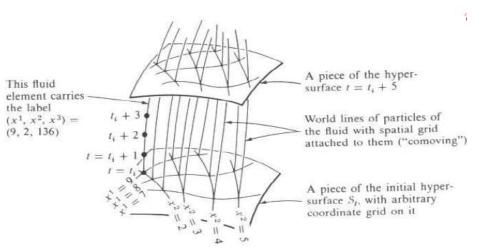
Simplest homogeneous, isotropic metric (flat space)

$$d\tau^2 = dt^2 - a(t)^2(dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2)$$

- a(t) scale factor, x, y, z comoving, synchronous coordinates
- At fixed time $ds^2 = a(t)^2(dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2)$ physical distances given by $X = \int a(t)dx = a(t)x$ etc.
- $g_{\mu\nu} = \text{diag}(1, -a^2, -a^2, -a^2)$



Friedman-Robertson-Walker metric (FRW)

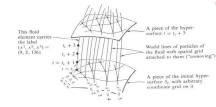


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FRW II

More general coordinates

$$d\tau^2 = dt^2 - a(t)^2 (\frac{dr^2}{1 - kr^2} + r^2 d\Omega^2)$$
 $d\Omega^2 = d\theta^2 + \sin^2\theta d\phi^2$

- k = 1 closed, k = 0 flat, k = -1 open universe
- Since our universe almost flat, consider only k = 0
- Consider volume ΔV
- Universe homogeneous ⇒ no heat flow

$$d(\Delta E) = -p d(\Delta V)$$
 (energy conservation)

•
$$\Delta E = \rho \Delta V$$
 $\Delta V_{coord} = \Delta x \Delta y \Delta z$
 $\Delta V = a(t)^3 \Delta V_{coord}$



FRW II

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Energy conservation

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\rho a(t)^3) = -\rho \frac{d}{dt}(a(t)^3)$$

• Matter dominated universe $\frac{d}{dt}(\rho a^3) = 0$

$$ho(t) =
ho(t_0) \left(rac{a(t_0)}{a(t)}
ight)^3$$
 isoergic expansion

• Radiation dominated universe $p = \frac{1}{3}\rho$

$$ho(t) =
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 isentropic expansion

Redshift due to p dV work

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$$\rho \sim T^4 \Rightarrow T(t) = T(t_0) \frac{a(t_0)}{a(t)}$$
 Redshift due to $\rho \, dV$ work

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Vacuum energy dominated universe

$$\mathcal{T}^{\mu
u}=
ho_{ extsf{vac}}\,oldsymbol{g}^{\mu
u}\,\,\,\,\,\,\,oldsymbol{p}_{ extsf{vac}}=-
ho_{ extsf{vac}}$$

•
$$\frac{d}{dt}(\rho_{vac}a(t)^3) = \rho_{vac}\frac{d}{dt}(a(t)^3) = -p_{vac}\frac{d}{dt}(a(t)^3)$$

- Energy grows proportional to volume p dV work negative, energy conserved
- What drives expansion?

Vacuum energy dominated universe

$$T^{\mu
u} =
ho_{ extsf{vac}} \, g^{\mu
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- What drives expansion?

Dynamics of FRW

- $G_{\mu\nu}=8\pi G T_{\mu\nu}$
- Compute $G_{\mu\nu}$ for

$$d\tau^2 = dt^2 - a(t)^2 \left(\frac{dr^2}{1 - kr^2} + r^2 d\Omega^2 \right)$$

• Use orthonormal basis, where $T_{\mu\nu} = \text{diag}(\rho, p, p, p)$

FRW field equations:

$$\frac{3}{a^2}(k+\dot{a}^2)=8\pi\ G\,\rho$$

$$-\frac{1}{a^2}(k+\dot{a}^2+2\,a\,\ddot{a})=8\pi\,G\,p$$

Combining eqn's:

$$(\dot{a})^2 = -k + \frac{8 \pi G}{3} \rho a^2$$

$$\frac{\ddot{a}}{a} = -\frac{8\pi G}{6}(\rho + 3p)$$

Critical density

- Start with k = 0 $\left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\right)^2 = \frac{8 \pi G}{3} \rho$
- $H_0^2 = \frac{8 \pi G}{3} \rho_0$
- Present energy density in flat universe = critical density

$$ho_{crit} = rac{3 \, H_0^2}{8 \, \pi \, G} = 1.88 imes 10^{-29} h^2 \, g \, cm^{-3} \ h = H_0/100 rac{km}{s} rac{1}{Mpc}$$

•
$$\Omega_m = \frac{\rho_m(t_0)}{\rho_{crit}}$$
, $\Omega_r = \frac{\rho_r(t_0)}{\rho_{crit}}$, $\Omega_v = \frac{\rho_v(t_0)}{\rho_{crit}}$
 $\Omega = \Omega_m + \Omega_r + \Omega_v = \frac{\rho(t_0)}{\rho_{crit}}$

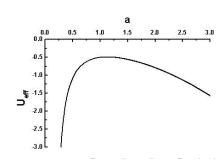
Energy density

- In a flat universe $\Omega=1$ Our universe: $\Omega_m \simeq 0.3$, $\Omega_r \simeq 5 \times 10^{-5}$, $\Omega_v \simeq 0.7$
- Choose $a(t_0) = 1$, then

$$\rho(a) = \rho_{crit}(\Omega_{v} + \Omega_{m}/a^{3} + \Omega_{r}/a^{4})$$

Dynamical equation:

$$rac{1}{2H_0^2}\dot{a}^2+U_{eff}(a)=0$$
 $U_{eff}(a)=-rac{1}{2}\left(\Omega_Va^2+rac{\Omega_m}{a}+rac{\Omega_r}{a^2}
ight)$



Simple flat universes

Matter dominated universe

- $\Omega_m = 1$, $\Omega_r = \Omega_v = 0$
- $\frac{da}{dt} = H_0 \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} \Rightarrow a(t) = (\frac{3}{2}H_0 t)^{2/3} \sim t^{2/3}$
- $a(t_0) = 1 \Rightarrow t_0 = \frac{2}{3 H_0} \simeq 9 \times 10^9 years$

Radiation dominated universe

•
$$\Omega_r = 1$$
, $\Omega_m = \Omega_V = 0$

•
$$\frac{da}{dt} = H_0 \frac{1}{a} \Rightarrow a(t) = (2H_0 t)^{1/2} \sim t^{1/2}$$

•
$$a(t_0) = 1 \Rightarrow t_0 = \frac{1}{2H_0} \simeq 7 \times 10^9 years$$



Simple flat universes

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Simple flat universes II

Vacuum dominated universe

- $\Omega_v = 1$, $\Omega_m = \Omega_r = 0$
- $\frac{da}{dt} = H_0 \ a \Rightarrow a(t) = a(t_0) \ e^{H_0(t-t_0)} \sim e^{H_0 \ t}$
- Cosmological constant $\Lambda = 8 \pi G \rho_V$
- Positive vacuum energy ⇒ repulsive gravitation ⇒ exponential growth of the universe!

$$\frac{\ddot{a}}{a} = -\frac{8\pi G}{6}(\rho + 3p) > 0$$

 First solutions with an expanding universe by Friedman (1922) and by Lemaitre (1927). Lemaitre suggested that the universe evolved from a singularity. The name big bang coined by Fred Hoyle.



Simple flat universes II

Vacuum dominated universe

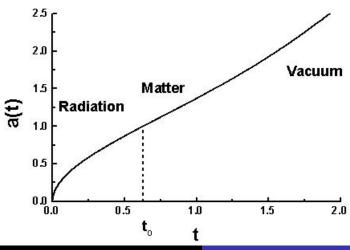
- $\Omega_V = 1$, $\Omega_m = \Omega_r = 0$
- $\frac{da}{dt} = H_0 \ a \Rightarrow a(t) = a(t_0) \ e^{H_0(t-t_0)} \sim e^{H_0 \ t}$
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Solution for $\Omega_r = \Omega_m = \Omega_v = \frac{1}{3}$



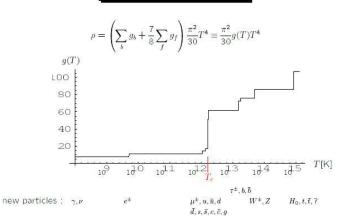
Schematic model

- Abundance of a particle species depends only on m_i/T .
- Schematic model:

$$ho_i=0$$
 for $m_i/T>1$ $ho_i=g_i\,rac{\pi^2}{30}\,S_i\,T^4$ for $m_i/T<1$ $S_i=1$ for bosons, $S_i=rac{7}{8}$ for fermions

Particle content of the early universe

Content of the early universe



Photon decoupling

- At $T > 10^3 10^4$ K, $t_{dec} \simeq 10^5$ years atoms are ionized \Rightarrow the universe is opaque to photons
- At smaller T, e, p, n form neutral atoms
 ⇒ the universe is transparent to photons
- From t_{dec} the photons propagate freely, except for gravitation
- Expansion of the universe, or equivalently, the interaction with the gravitational field
 - \Rightarrow Cosmological redshift $\lambda_0 = \lambda_{dec} rac{a(t0)}{a(t_{dec})} \simeq 1000 \lambda_{dec}$
- $T_{CMB} = 2.75 \text{ K } T_{dec} \simeq 1000 T_{CMB} \simeq 3000 \text{ K}$



Phase transitions

Timeline of the very early universe

- The Planck epoch $t \simeq 10^{-43} \text{ sec}$ before this time need quantum gravity - not yet understood!
- Grand unification $t \simeq 10^{-33} \, {\rm sec}$ electromagnetism, weak and strong interaction of the same strength
- Cosmic inflation and reheating
 The temperature at which inflation occurs is not known
- Baryogenesis
 Supposed to explain why there are slightly more baryons than anti-baryons in the universe - not yet fully understood

Phase transitions II

Timeline of the very early universe cont'd

- The electroweak epoch $t \simeq 10^{-12} \, {\rm sec}$ Electromagnetic and weak interactions separate
- Confinement transition $t \simeq 10^{-5}$ sec Quarks and gluons are confined into hadrons
- Nucleosynthesis t ≃ 1 sec
 Light nuclei are formed



Why do we need inflation?

Horizon problem

- CMB uniform to one part in 10⁵
- wmap
- Difficult to understand, unless all parts of the visible universe were in thermal contact at the time of decoupling
- The horizon at decoupling (causally connected)
 ⇔ an angle of 2 degrees today

Monopole problem

- Particle physics theories predict a variety of relics:
 - Magnetic monopoles
 - Domain walls
 - Supersymmetric particles . . .
- Not seen. Needs to be diluted!

Why do we need inflation? II

Flatness problem

Einstein's Equation

$$\left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\right)^2 = \frac{8\pi G}{3}\rho - \frac{k}{a^2}$$

$$|\Omega - 1| = \frac{|k|}{(\dot{a})^2}$$

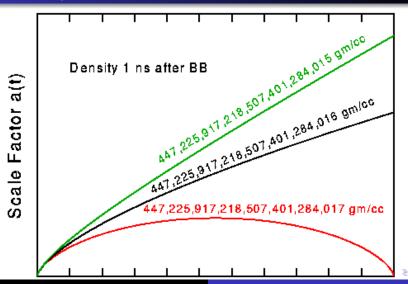
• Standard expansion $a(t) \sim t^{\alpha}$ $\alpha = 1/2, 2/3$

$$|\Omega - 1| \sim t^{2(1-\alpha)} \to \infty$$

• $\Omega = 1$ unstable.

Finetuning problem to achieve $|\Omega - 1| < 1$ today.

Flatness problem



Solution: Inflation

- Need an epoch where $|\Omega 1| = |k|/(\dot{a})^2 \to 0$, i.e., where the finetuning is automatic
- Inflation $\Leftrightarrow \ddot{a} > 0$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{d}{dt} \frac{1}{(\dot{a})^2} < 0$$
, i.e. $\Omega \to 1$
 $\Leftrightarrow \rho + 3p < 0$

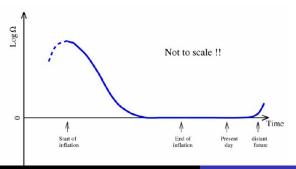
Standard inflation

- $p = -\rho$, $a(t) \sim e^{Ht}$
- During inflation the horizon remains
 ≃ constant in comoving coordinates
- Typically one needs $H \Delta t > 70$ $\Rightarrow a(t)$ grows by factor $> 10^{30}$ during inflation!



Inflation II

- Inflation solves horizon problem by blowing up the causally connected region by $\sim 10^{30}$
- Monopole problem solved by dilution
- Solves the flatness problem by $\Omega \to 1, \ |\Omega 1| \sim 10^{-60}$



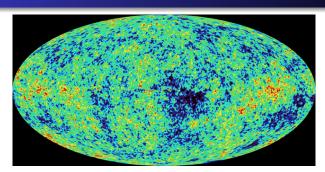


Inflation III

- Inflation solves many problems, but cause of inflation is not understood! Present models: inflation caused by some unspecified scalar field.
- Not very satisfactory, but inflation is also consistent with fluctuations in CMB temperature:
 - Prior to inflation, quantum fluctuations in scalar field on microscopic scale.
 - During inflation scale of fluctuations grow ($\sim 10^{30}$) and freeze out (no causal connection)
 - Fluctuations in ρ ⇒ fluctuations in grav. field, which in turn attract matter.
 - Lumps of matter act as seeds for galaxy formation.
 - Fluctuations in temperature arise because photons from deeper grav. potential are red shifted.



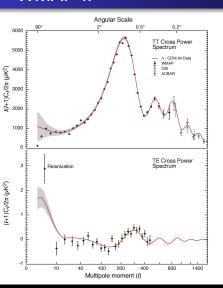
WMAP



Correlation function

$$egin{aligned} C(heta) &= \langle T(ec{n}_1) T(ec{n}_2)
angle & ec{n}_1 \cdot ec{n}_2 = \cos(heta) \ C(heta) &= rac{1}{4 \, \pi} \sum_{\ell} (2\ell+1) C_\ell P_\ell(\cos(heta)) \end{aligned}$$

WMAP II



 Cosmological parameters (Λ-CDM):

$$\Omega = 1.02 \pm 0.02$$
 $\Omega_{v} = 0.73 \pm 0.04$
 $\Omega_{b} = 0.044 \pm 0.004$
 $\Omega_{m} = 0.27 \pm 0.04$
 $Z_{dec} = 1089 \pm 1$
 $D_{m} = 0.71 \pm 0.04$

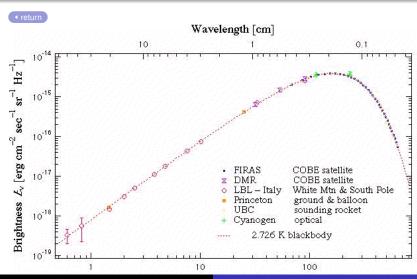
 $t_0 = 13.7 \pm 0.2) \times 10^9$ years

Summary

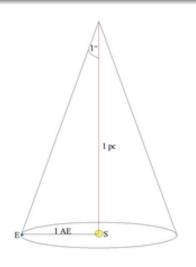
- Cosmology is an important application of GTR
- The universe expands, vacuum energy, dark matter play an important role
- Strong phenomenological support for inflation, but cause not understood
- Several phase transitions in early universe
- Explore matter at $T \sim 10^2$ MeV ($\Leftrightarrow 10^{-5}$ sec) in ultra-relativistic heavy-ion collisions



CMB spectrum



parsec



1 arcsecond

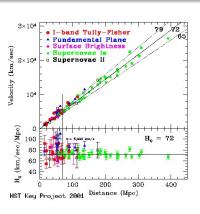
$$1pc = 3.09 \times 10^{13} \text{km}$$

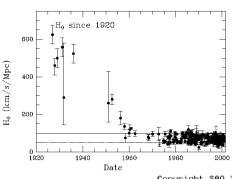
= 3.26 light years
Alpha Centauri $\sim 1.2pc$
Galactic center $\sim 1kpc$
Virgo (nearest large cluster) $\sim 20Mpc$





Hubble constant





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CMB temperature (WMAP)

