

# Cosmology Final Review

## 1. Compact Objects

- a. Stars, Supernovae, white dwarfs, brown dwarfs, black holes, neutron stars
- b. HR Diagram and classifications,
- c. Dark matter, rotation curves, detection
- d. Gravitational Lensing, halos, Einstein rings,  $\alpha = \frac{4GM}{c^2 b}$
- e. MACHOs, WIMPs, axions, neutrinos (and flavors)
- f. Radio astronomy, pulsars, quasars, First radio sources, ...
- g. Black holes – Wheeler, Bekenstein, Hawking, no hair theorem, Hawking radiation

## 2. Cosmic Background Radiation, CMB $2.7255 \pm 0.006$ K

- a. History – Timeline, People
- b. Kelvin, Poincare, Slipher, Leavitt, Einstein, Schwarzschild, Friedmann, Lemaitre, Hubble, Robertson, Walker, Lundmark, van Oort, Zwicky, Rubin, Ford, ...
- c. Gamov, Alpher, Dicke, Peebles, Roll, Wilkinson, Hoyle, Bondi, Gold, Fowler, Burbidge
- d. Bell Labs, Jansky, Ryle, Baade, Penzias, Wilson,
- e. Steady state theory
- f. Experiments – High Altitude balloons, Boomerang, COBE, WMAP, Planck
- g. Results
  - i. Blackbody spectrum
  - ii. Dipole distortion (motion of COBE, Earth, Sun, Galaxy, Local group motions)
  - iii. Temperature fluctuations
  - iv. Multipoles and spherical harmonics
  - v. Mollweide projection
- h. Baryon to photon ratio  $\eta = 6 \times 10^{-5}$
- i. (Radiative) Recombination epoch ( $z = 1380, T = 3760K, t = 250,000yr$ )
 
$$p + e^- \leftrightarrow H + \gamma$$
- j. Photon decoupling ( $z = 1090, T = 2970K, t = 371,000yr$ )
 
$$\lambda + e^- \leftrightarrow \gamma + e^-$$
- k. Last scattering surface
- l. Fractional ionization,  $X$
- m. Saha Equation  $\frac{1-X}{X^2} = S = 3.84\eta \left( \frac{kT}{m_e c^2} \right)^{3/2} e^{Q/kT}$  for recombination  $S = 0.5$

## 3. Big Bang Nucleosynthesis

- a. Know timeline.
- b. Binding energy per nucleon
- c. Binding energies  $p + e^- \leftrightarrow H + 13.6eV$   $p + n \leftrightarrow D + 2.22MeV$
- d.  $T_{nuc} = 7.6 \times 10^8 K, t_{nuc} = 200s$
- e. He fraction,  $Y_{max} = \frac{2f}{1+f}, f = \frac{n_n}{n_p}, Y$  – primordial 24%, max 1/3
- f. Beta decay  $n \rightarrow p + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e$  ( $\tau_n = 880s$ )

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- g. Binding energy – compute from difference in rest energies
  - h. Beyond Deuterium – what about other elements?
  - i. Baryon-antibaryon asymmetry
4. Inflation
- a. What is inflation? Know key problems at the time – Flatness, Horizon, Monopole
  - b. Standard Model of Particle Physics – Glashow, Weinberg, Salam, Gell-Mann, Higgs  
Quarks, Baryons, Mesons, Bosons (photons, gluons, W, Z), Leptons
  - c. Symmetry breaking, Higgs mechanism (gives mass) Mexican Hat
  - d. Phase transitions (loss of symmetry) and unification of forces. See Figure 11 and  
blackboard rendition online – including energy, temperature and time scales,  
electroweak, GUT and TOE, QED, QCD
  - e. Topological defects

f. General model of inflation – simple case  $a(t) = \begin{cases} a_i (t/t_i)^{1/2} & t < t_i \\ a_i e^{H_i(t-t_i)} & t_i < t < t_f \\ a_i (t/t_f)^{1/2} e^{H_i(t_f-t_i)} & t > t_f \end{cases}$

- g. Number of e-foldings,  $N = H_i(t_f - t_i)$ .
  - h. Alan Guth, 1979, Inflaton field, false vacuum
5. Miscellaneous

a. Planck scales,  $\ell_p, M_p, t_p, E_p, T_p$ .

b. Hubble Law  $v = H_0 r$ ,  $z \approx \frac{v}{c}$ , Hubble parameter  $H(t) = \frac{\dot{a}(t)}{a(t)}$

c. Hubble constant  $H_0 = 68 \pm 2 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$ ,

d. Hubble time  $H_0^{-1} = 14.38 \pm 0.42 \text{ Gyr}$ , Hubble length  $\frac{c}{H_0} = 4380 \pm 130 \text{ Mpc}$

e. Horizon distance  $d_p(t) = c \int_0^{t_0} \frac{dt}{a(t)}$

f. Red shift  $1 + z = \frac{1}{a(t_e)}$ ,  $a(t_0) = 1$ .

i. Friedmann Equation:  $\left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\right)^2 = \frac{8\pi G}{3c^2} \epsilon - \frac{\kappa c^2}{R_0^2 a^2}$  and  $H_0^2 = \frac{8\pi G}{3c^2} \epsilon_0 - \frac{\kappa c^2}{R_0^2}$ ,

g. Density parameters

i.  $\Omega_{CMB} = 5.35 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $\Omega_v = 0.681 \Omega_{CMB}$ ,  $\Omega_r = 9.0 \times 10^{-5}$

ii.  $\Omega_m = 0.31$ ,  $\Omega_\Lambda = 0.69$  (Benchmark)

h. Units – AU, pc, Mpc, Planck units, light year, flux, luminosity, Size of Milky Way

i. Blackbody radiation -  $\epsilon_\gamma = \alpha T^4$ ,  $n_\gamma = \beta T^3$ , Stefan-Boltzmann Law

j. Doppler Effect,  $\frac{\Delta\lambda}{\lambda} = \frac{v_r}{c}$