

8.286 Lecture 16
November 5, 2013

BLACK-BODY RADIATION AND THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSE, PART 2

Summary of Lecture 15: Relativistic Energy

$$E = mc^2$$

The conversion of 1 kg/hour would supply 1.5 times the world power production (for 2011).

A 15-gallon tank of gasoline could power the world for 2 1/2 days.

But: when U-235 undergoes fission, only about 0.09% of mass is converted to energy.

Summary of Lecture 15: Relativistic Four-Momentum

$$p^0 = \frac{E}{c}, \quad p^\mu = \left(\frac{E}{c}, \vec{p} \right).$$

p^μ transforms from one inertial frame to another in the same way as $x^\mu = (ct, \vec{x})$.

$$\vec{p} = \gamma m_0 \vec{v}, \quad E = \gamma m_0 c^2 = \sqrt{(m_0 c^2)^2 + |\vec{p}|^2 c^2},$$

where

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}.$$

Lorentz-invariant square of p^μ :

$$p^2 \equiv |\vec{p}|^2 - (p^0)^2 = |\vec{p}|^2 - \frac{E^2}{c^2} = -(m_0 c)^2.$$

The Hydrogen Atom:

$$m_H = m_p + m_e - \Delta E/c^2,$$

where m_H , m_p , and m_e are the masses of the hydrogen atom, the proton, and the electron, and $\Delta E = 13.6$ eV is the binding energy.

Summary of Lecture 15: The Mass of Radiation

$$\rho = u/c^2 ,$$

where ρ = mass density, u = energy density.

The photon has zero rest mass:

$$|\vec{p}|^2 - \frac{E^2}{c^2} = 0 , \quad \text{or} \quad E = c|\vec{p}| .$$

Summary of Lecture 15: Radiation in an Expanding Universe

Redshift:

$$n_\gamma \propto \frac{1}{a^3(t)} , \quad E_\gamma \propto \frac{1}{a(t)} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \rho_\gamma = \frac{u_\gamma}{c^2} \propto \frac{1}{a^4(t)} .$$

Radiation-Dominated Era:

$$u_r = 7.01 \times 10^{-14} \text{ J/m}^3 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\rho_{r,0}}{\rho_{m,0}} \approx 3.1 \times 10^{-4} .$$

$$\frac{\rho_r(t)}{\rho_m(t)} = \frac{a(t_0)}{a(t)} \times 3.1 \times 10^{-4} ,$$

$$\frac{\rho_r(t_{\text{eq}})}{\rho_m(t_{\text{eq}})} \equiv 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{a(t_0)}{a(t_{\text{eq}})} = \frac{1}{3.1 \times 10^{-4}} \approx 3200 .$$

Assuming that $a(t) \propto t^{2/3}$ from t_{eq} until t_0 (crude approximation), find $t_{\text{eq}} = (3.1 \times 10^{-4})^{3/2} t_0 \approx 75,000 \text{ yr}$, for $t_0 = 13.8 \text{ Gyr}$.

Summary of Lecture 15: Modification of the Friedmann Equations

$$\rho \propto \frac{1}{a^3} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \dot{\rho} = -3\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\rho , \quad \rho(t) \propto \frac{1}{a^4(t)} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \dot{\rho} = -4\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\rho .$$

$\dot{\rho}$ and pressure p :

$$dU = -p dV \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{d}{dt} (a^3 \rho c^2) = -p \frac{d}{dt} (a^3) \\ \Rightarrow \quad \dot{\rho} = -3\frac{\dot{a}}{a} \left(\rho + \frac{p}{c^2} \right) .$$

Friedmann equations:

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\right)^2 &= \frac{8\pi}{3}G\rho - \frac{kc^2}{a^2} && \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{matter-dominated} \\ \text{universe} \end{array}\right) \\ \ddot{a} &= -\frac{4\pi}{3}G\rho a, \\ \dot{\rho} &= -3\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\rho \end{aligned}$$

Becomes inconsistent if

$$\dot{\rho} = -3\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\left(\rho + \frac{p}{c^2}\right).$$

Solution:

$$\ddot{a} = -\frac{4\pi}{3}G\left(\rho + \frac{3p}{c^2}\right)a.$$

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