

Why the Universe can't be Infinite and why it Expands

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Abstract

The maximum entropy a region of space can contain is proportional to the surface area

I. WHY THE UNIVERSE CAN'T BE INFINITE

The entropy of a black hole is

$$S = \frac{k_b c^3}{4G\hbar} A = \alpha V^{2/3} \quad (1)$$

where

$$\alpha = \frac{k_b c^3}{4G\hbar} \sqrt[3]{3} \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^{2/3} \quad (2)$$

and A and V is the surface of the black hole

Therefore the entropy per unit volume of a black hole is

$$s_b = \frac{S}{V} = \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt[3]{V}} \quad (3)$$

And it decreases as the volume of the black hole gets larger and larger.

The main property of black holes that we are going to keep in mind is that a black hole of volume V has the maximum entropy any spherical volume V can have. Suppose we have a universe enclosed in a volume of radius R and that on large scales we can say that it

has constant entropy density $s_u = dS/dV$.

The maximum volume of this universe V_{max} is

$$V_{max} = \left(\frac{\alpha}{s_u}\right)^3 \quad (4)$$

Therefore the universe can't be infinite if it is homogeneous on large scales and flat

II. WHY THE UNIVERSE EXPANDS

Suppose the volume of the Universe for some reason is exactly V_{max} it would last a blink of an eye before collapsing into a black hole. That is because the total entropy has to increase. If the universe has some kind of law that keeps its volume always equal to V_{max} we would have an expanding universe.

This could explain why our universe is expanding, and why the expansion of the universe isn't constant throughout the age of the universe.