

GENERAL QUALIFYING EXAM SOLUTIONS: APPENDIX

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1 Appendix

1.1 Acronyms

AGN: active galactic nuclei
AU: astronomical unit
BAOs: baryonic acoustic oscillations
BB: Big Bang or blackbody
BCD: blue compact dwarf
BBN: Big Bang nucleosynthesis
bf: bound-free
BH: black hole
CCD: charged couple device
CCD: colour-colour diagram
CIB: Cosmic Infrared Background
CMB: Cosmic Microwave Background
CMD: colour-magnitude diagram
CNB: Cosmic Neutrino Background
COBE: COsmic Background Explorer
CDM: cold dark matter
cE: compact elliptical
CIB: cosmic infrared background
CMB: cosmic microwave background
CR: cosmic ray
CRB: cosmic radio background
CGB: cosmic gamma-ray background
CUVOB: cosmic ultraviolet/optical background
CXB: cosmic x-ray background
DE: dark energy
dE: dwarf elliptical
DM: dark matter
DM: distance modulus
dSph: dwarf spheroidal
E: elliptical
EoR: epoch of reionization
ff: free-free
FIR: far infrared
GC: galactic center
gE: giant elliptical
GP: Gunn-Peterson
GUT: grand unified theory
HRD: Hertzsprung-Russel diagram
HST: Hubble Space Telescope
ICM: intracluster medium
IGM: intergalactic medium
IMF: initial mass function
IR: infrared
Irr: irregular
ISM: interstellar medium
LAE: Lyman-alpha emitter
LBG: Lyman break galaxy
LG: Local Group
LMC: Large Magellanic Cloud
LTE: local thermodynamic equilibrium

MW: Milky Way
MWG: Milky Way Galaxy
NLTE: non-local thermodynamic equilibrium
NS: neutron star
pc: parsec
PGM: pre-galactic medium
PL: period-luminosity
PSF point-spread function
QFT: quantum field theory
QSO: quasi-stellar object
RJ: Rayleigh-Jeans
RT: radiative transfer
RTE: radiative transfer equation
S: spiral
SB: barred spiral
SDSS: Sloan Digital Sky Survey
SED: spectral energy distribution
SF: star formation
SFR: star formation rate
SFRD: star formation rate density
SMC: Small Magellanic Cloud
SMBH: supermassive black hole
SMG: sub-millimeter galaxy
S/N: signal-to-noise
SNR: signal-to-noise ratio
TE: thermal equilibrium
TE: thermodynamic equilibrium
VLBI: Very Long Baseline Interferometry
WD: white dwarf
 Λ CDM: Λ cold dark matter
2dFGRS: 2 degree Field Galactic Redshift Survey

1.2 Variables

Absolute magnitude: M [mag]
Absorption coefficient: α_ν [cm^{-1}]
Angström: \AA [unit]
Angular diameter distance: d_A [pc]
Angular size: θ [rad]
Apparent magnitude: m [mag]
Baryon fraction: f_b [dimensionless]
Baryon temperature: T_b [K]
Binding energy of deuterium: E_D [MeV]
Binding energy of helium: E_{He} [MeV]
Binding energy of hydrogen: E_{He} [MeV]
Black hole mass: M_\bullet [M_\odot]
Black hole radius of influence: r_{BH} [pc]
Black hole radius of influence (angular): r_{BH} [arcsec]
Blackbody function: $B_\nu(T)$ [$\text{erg s}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-2} \text{Hz}^{-1} \text{sr}^{-1}$]
Boltzmann constant: k_B [$\text{m}^2 \text{kg s}^{-2} \text{K}^{-1}$]
Brightness temperature: T_b [K]
Brightness temperature of radio source: T_r [K]
Chandrasekhar mass: M_C [M_\odot]
CMB power spectrum amplitude: C_ℓ [units??]
CMB temperature: T_{CMB} [K]
CMB temperature fluctuations: $\Delta T/T$ [dimensionless]
CNB temperature: T_{CNB} [K]
Collisional coupling for species i : x_c^i [dimensionless]
Collisional excitation rate: C_{10} [s^{-1}]
Comoving sound horizon: $r_{\text{H,com}}$ [Mpc]
Correlation function: $C(\theta)$ [dimensionless]
Cosmological constant: Λ [m^{-2}]
Coupling coefficient of collisions: x_c [dimensionless]
Coupling coefficient of Ly α scattering: x_α [dimensionless]
Coupling coefficient (total): x_{tot} [dimensionless]
Critical density: ρ_c [g cm^{-3}]
Cross section: σ [m^2]
Crossing timescale: t_{cross} [yr]
Curvature term: $S_\kappa(r)$ [Mpc]
Dark energy density: ρ_Λ [g cm^{-3}]
Deceleration parameter: q_0 [dimensionless]
Degeneracy: *see statistical weight*
Density contrast: $\delta(\mathbf{x}, t)$ [dimensionless]
Density of baryons: ρ_b [m^{-3}]
Density of dark energy: ρ_Λ [kg m^{-3}]
Density of neutrons: ρ_b [m^{-3}]
Density of protons: ρ_b [m^{-3}]
Density of vacuum: ρ_{vac} [eV m^{-3}]
Density parameter: Ω [dimensionless]
Density parameter of baryonic matter: Ω_b [dimensionless]
Density parameter of dark energy: Ω_Λ [dimensionless]
Density parameter of dark matter: Ω_c [dimensionless]
Density parameter of matter: Ω_m [dimensionless]
Density parameter of radiation: Ω_r [dimensionless]
Density perturbation field: $\delta(\mathbf{x}, t)$ [dimensionless]
Deuterium: D [element]

Disk scale length: h_R [Mpc]
Distance: d [m]
Distance modulus: $m - M$ [mag]
Effective radius: R_e [Mpc]
Einstein A coefficient (spontaneous emission): A_{10} [s^{-1}]
Einstein B coefficient (spontaneous absorption): B_{01} [s^{-1}]
Einstein B coefficient (stimulated emission): B_{10} [s^{-1}]
Electron: e^- [particle]
Electronvolt: eV [unit]
Electroweak age: t_{ew} [s]
Electroweak energy: E_{ew} [TeV]
Electroweak temperature: T_{ew} [K]
Electron radius (classical): $r_{e,0}$ [cm]
Elliptical D_n : D_n [pc]
Ellipticity: ϵ [dimensionless]
Emission coefficient: j_ν [cm^{-1}]
Energy: E [eV or J]
Energy density: *see density parameter*
Energy of CMB photons: E_{CMB} [eV]
Energy of photons: E_γ [eV]
Escape velocity: v_{esp} [$km\ s^{-1}$]
Excitation temperature: T_{ex} [K]
Extinction coefficient: A_ν [mag]
Extinction coefficient for the MWG: $A_{V,MWG}$ [mag]
Flux: F [$erg\ s^{-1}\ cm^{-2}$]
Flux (spectral): F_ν [$erg\ s^{-1}\ cm^{-2}\ Hz^{-1}$]
Frequency: ν [Hz]
Fourier transform: $P(k)$ [function]
Gas surface mass density: Σ_{gas} $M_\odot\ pc^{-2}$
Gas temperature: T_g [K]
GUT age: t_{GUT} [s]
GUT energy: E_{GUT} [TeV]
GUT temperature: T_{GUT} [K]
Gravitational constant: G [$m^3\ kg^{-1}\ s^{-2}$]
Growth factor: $D_+(t)$ [dimensionless]
Gunn-Peterson optical depth: τ_{GP} [dimensionless]
Gunn-Peterson oscillator strength: f_α [dimensionless]
Helium: He [element]
Helium mass fraction: Y [dimensionless]
Horizon angular size: θ_{hor} [rad]
Horizon angular size (at recombination): $\theta_{hor,rec}$ [rad]
Horizon distance: d_{hor} [Mpc]
Hubble constant: H_0 [$km\ s^{-1}\ Mpc$]
Hubble distance: d_H [Mpc]
Hubble time: t_H [Gyr]
Hydrogen (atomic): H [element]
Hydrogen (molecular): H_2 [element]
IMF: $\xi(m)$ [units??]
Inflationary period: $t_{inflate}$ [s]
Jeans mass: M_J [M_\odot]
Joule: J [unit]
Kinetic energy: E_{kin} [J]
Kinetic temperature: T_k [K]

Line profile: $\phi(\nu)$ [???]
Lithium: Li [element]
Luminosity: L [erg s⁻¹]
Luminosity (Faber-Jackson): L_{FJ} [erg s⁻¹]
Luminosity (Tully-Fisher): L_{TF} [erg s⁻¹]
Luminosity distance: d_L [Mpc]
Luminosity of the Sun: L_{\odot} [W]
Luminosity of type Ia SN (at peak): L_{1a} [L_{\odot}]
Luminosity distance: d_L [Mpc]
Lyman- α rest wavelength: λ_{α} [Å]
Lyman- α temperature: T_{α} [K]
Magnetic monopole density: n_M [m⁻³]
Magnetic monopole mass: m_M [kg]
Magnitude (absolute): M [mag]
Magnitude (apparent): m [mag]
Mass: m or M [kg]
Mass absorption coefficient: κ_{ν} [cm² g⁻¹]
Mass of the Sun: M_{\odot} [kg]
Mean free path: ℓ [m]
Mean molecular weight: μ [dimensionless]
Megaelectronvolt: MeV [unit]
Metallicity: Z [dimensionless]
Multipole moment: C_{ℓ} [units??]
Neutral fraction of hydrogen: x_{HI} [dimensionless]
Neutron: n [particle]
Neutrino: ν [particle]
Neutrino temperature: T_{ν} [K]
Neutrino velocity: v_{ν} [km s⁻¹]
Number density: n [m⁻³]
Number density of baryons: n_b [m⁻³]
Number density of electrons: n_e [m⁻³]
Number density of Lyman- α forest lines: $N_{\alpha}(z)$ [dimensionless]
Number density of neutrons: n_n [m⁻³]
Number density of protons: n_p [m⁻³]
Optical depth: τ [dimensionless]
Parallax: p [rad or °]
Parsec: pc [unit]
Peculiar velocity: v_{pec} [km s⁻¹]
Period: P [yr]
Photon: γ [particle]
Photon temperature: T_{γ} [K]
Photon scattering rate (ionized): Γ [s⁻¹]
Planck constant: h [m² kg s⁻¹]
Planck constant (reduced): \hbar [m² kg s⁻¹]
Planck energy: E_P [eV]
Planck function: $B_{\nu}(T)$ [erg s⁻¹ cm⁻² Hz⁻¹ sr⁻¹]
Planck length: ℓ_P [m]
Planck mass: m_P [kg]
Planck time: t_P [s]
Polarized angle: χ [rad]
Polarized intensity: P [Jy]
Positron: e^+ [particle]
Potential energy: E_{pot} [J]

Power spectrum: $P(k)$ [units??]
Proper distance: d_p [Mpc]
Proper motion: μ [″ year⁻¹]
Proton: p [particle]
Radius of curvature: R_0 [Mpc]
Radiative flux: F [W m⁻²]
Redshift: z [dimensionless]
Redshift (cosmological): z_{\cos} [dimensionless]
Redshift of last scattering: z_{ls} [dimensionless]
Redshift of matter- Λ equality: $z_{m\Lambda}$ [dimensionless]
Redshift of radiation-matter equality: z_{rm} [dimensionless]
Redshift of thermal coupling: z_t [dimensionless]
Reduced Hubble constant: h_0 [km s⁻¹ Mpc]
Reduced Planck constant: \hbar [m² kg s⁻¹]
Relaxation time: t_{relax} [yr]
Rest mass of electron: m_e [kg]
Rest mass of neutron: m_n [kg]
Rest mass of proton: m_p [kg]
Scale factor: a [dimensionless]
Scale height: h_z [pc]
Scattering rate between hydrogen atoms: k_{1-0}^{HH} [s⁻¹]
Scattering rate between hydrogen atoms and electrons: $k_{1-0}^{e\text{H}}$ [s⁻¹]
Scattering rate between hydrogen atoms and protons: $k_{1-0}^{p\text{H}}$ [s⁻¹]
Schwarzschild radius: r_S [pc]
Semi-major axis: a [Mpc]
Semi-minor axis: b [Mpc]
Sign of curvature: κ [dimensionless]
Silk mass: M_s [kg]
Solid angle: Ω [sr]
Sound speed: v_s [m s⁻¹]
Spherical harmonics: $Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi)$ [dimensionless]
Spin temperature: T_s [K]
Specific intensity: I_ν [erg s⁻¹ cm⁻² Hz⁻¹ sr⁻¹]
Speed of light: c [m s⁻¹]
Spin de-excitation rate via collisions for species i : k_{10}^i [cm³s⁻¹]
Spin temperature: T_s [K]
Star formation history: $\psi(z)$ [M_⊙ year⁻¹ Mpc⁻³]
Star formation rate per unit area: Σ_{SFR} [M_⊙ year⁻¹ pc⁻²]
Statistical weight: g [dimensionless]
Stefan-Boltzmann constant: σ [W m⁻² K⁻⁴]
Steradian: sr [unit]
Stokes Q: Q [Jy]
Stokes U: Q [Jy]
Stress energy tensor: $T_{\alpha\beta}$ [unit]
Surface brightness: μ [mag arcsec⁻²]
Surface brightness (central): μ_0 [mag arcsec⁻²]
Surface brightness at effective radius R_e : μ_e [mag arcsec⁻²]
Temperature: T [K]
Temperature of the CMB: T_{CMB} [K]
Temperature of recombination: T_{rec} [K]
Temperature of the Sun: T_{\odot} [K]
Thermal energy: E_{th} [J]
Thomson cross section: σ_T [m²]

Transfer function: $T(k)$ [??]
Tritium: T [element]
Two-point correlation function: $\xi(x)$ [dimensionless]
Velocity: v [m s^{-1}]
Velocity (circular): v_c [m s^{-1}]
Velocity (radial): v_r [m s^{-1}]
Velocity (rotational): v_{rot} [m s^{-1}]
Velocity (tangential): v_t [m s^{-1}]
Velocity dispersion: σ_v [m s^{-1}]
Virial temperature: T_{vir} [K]
Wavelength: λ [m]
Wavenumber (comoving): k [m^{-1}]

1.3 Useful Values

Age of the Earth: $t_{\oplus} = 4.5$ [Gyr]
Age of the Solar System: $t_{\text{SS}} = 4.6$ [Gyr]
Age of the Universe: $t_{\text{universe}} = 13.7$ [Gyr]
Angström: $\text{\AA} = 10^{-10}$ [m]
Astronomical Unit: $1 \text{ AU} = 1.5 \times 10^{11}$ [m]
Binding energy of deuterium: $E_{\text{D}} = 1.1$ [MeV]
Binding energy of helium: $E_{\text{He}} = 7$ [MeV]
Binding energy of hydrogen: $E_{\text{H}} = 13.7$ [MeV]
Chandrasekhar mass: $M_{\text{C}} = 1.4$ [M_{\odot}]
CMB peak photon wavelength: $\lambda_{\text{CMB}} = 2$ [mm]
CMB temperature: $T_{\text{CMB}} = 2.725$ [K]
CMB temperature fluctuations: $\Delta T/T \approx 10^{-5}$ [dimensionless]
CMB temperature: $T_{\text{CMB}} = 1.9$ [K]
Cosmological constant: $\Lambda = 1.11 \times 10^{-52}$ [m^{-2}]
Critical density (current): $\rho_{c,0} \approx 10^{-26}$ [kg m^{-3}]
Density of dark energy: $\rho_{\Lambda} = 10^{-27}$ [kg m^{-3}]
Density parameter of baryons: $\Omega_b \approx 0.044$ [dimensionless]
Density parameter of CMB: $\Omega_{\text{CMB}} \approx 5 \times 10^{-5}$ [dimensionless]
Density parameter of curvature: $\Omega_{\kappa} \approx 0.0$ [dimensionless]
Density parameter of cold dark matter: $\Omega_c \approx 0.23$ [dimensionless]
Density parameter of dark energy: $\Omega_{\Lambda} \approx 0.73$ [dimensionless]
Density parameter of matter: $\Omega_m \approx 0.27$ [dimensionless]
Density parameter of neutrinos: $\Omega_{\nu} < 0.0032$ [dimensionless]
Density parameter of radiation: $\Omega_r \approx 5 \times 10^{-5}$ [dimensionless]
Dipole: $\ell = 1$ [dimensionless]
Electronvolt in Joules: $1 \text{ eV} = 1.6 \times 10^{-19}$ J
Electron radius (classical): $r_{e,0} = 2.82 \times 10^{-13}$ [cm]
Electroweak age: $t_{\text{ew}} \sim 10^{-12}$ [s]
Electroweak energy: $E_{\text{ew}} \sim 1$ [TeV]
Electroweak temperature: $T_{\text{ew}} \sim 10^{16}$ [K]
Energy of CMB photons: $E_{\gamma, \text{CMB}} \sim 6 \times 10^{-4}$ [eV]
Energy of nuclei fission: $E_{\text{fission}} \sim 1$ [MeV]
Energy of nuclei ionization: $E_{\text{ion}} \sim 10$ [eV]
GUT age: $t_{\text{GUT}} \sim 10^{-36}$ [s]
GUT energy: $E_{\text{GUT}} \sim 10^{12} - 10^{13}$ [TeV]
GUT temperature: $T_{\text{GUT}} \sim 10^{28}$ [K]
Helium mass fraction: $Y = 0.25$ [dimensionless]
Hubble constant: $H_0 = 70$ [$\text{km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$]
Hubble constant (original): $H_0 \approx 500$ [$\text{km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$]
IMF normalization: $\int_{m_L}^{m_U} m \xi(m) dm = 1 M_{\odot}$
Inflationary period: $t_{\text{inflation}} \sim 10^{-34}$ [s]
Ionization energy of atomic hydrogen: $E_{\text{ion}}^{\text{H}} = 13.6$ [eV]
Ionization energy of atomic helium: $E_{\text{ion}}^{\text{He}} = 24.6$ [eV]
Ionization energy of molecular hydrogen: $E_{\text{ion}}^{\text{H}_2} = 11.26$ [eV]
Hubble distance: $d_H \sim 0.2$ [Mpc]
Hubble time: $t_H \sim 14$ [Gyr]
Inflationary period: $t_{\text{inflation}} = 10^{-35}$ [s]
Large cosmological scale: ~ 100 [Mpc]
Legendre Polynomials: P_l
Line profile normalization: $\int_0^{\infty} \phi(\nu) d\nu = 1$ [??]

Luminosity of the Sun: $L_{\odot} = 3.8 \times 10^6$ [W]
Luminosity of type Ia SN (at peak): $L_{1a} = 4 \times 10^9$ [L_{\odot}]
Lyman-alpha rest wavelength: $\lambda_{\alpha} = 1216$ [Å]
Magnitude (absolute) of the Sun: $M = 26.8$ [dimensionless]
Magnitude (apparent) of the Sun: $m = 4.74$ [dimensionless]
Mass of an electron: $m_e = 9.109 \times 10^{-31}$ [kg]
Mass of a neutron: $m_n = 1.67 \times 10^{-27}$ [kg]
Mass of a proton: $m_p = 1.67 \times 10^{-27}$ [kg]
Megaelectronvolt: $\text{MeV} = 10^{10.065}$ [K]
Metallicity of the Sun: $Z \approx 0.02$ [dimensionless]
Milky Way luminosity: $L_{\text{MWG}} = 3.6 \times 10^{10}$ [L_{\odot}]
Monopole: $\ell = 0$ [dimensionless]
Neutron half life: $t_n \sim 890$ [sec] or ~ 15 [min]
Neutron-proton freezeout: $\frac{n_n}{n_p} \simeq \frac{1}{7}$ [MeV]
Neutron-proton rest mass-energy difference: $m_n - m_p = 1.3$ [MeV]
Number density of baryons: $n_{b,0} = 0.22$ [m^{-3}]
Number density of CMB photons: $n_{\gamma} = 4.11 \times 10^8$ [m^{-3}]
Number density ratio of baryons to CMB photons: $\eta \equiv \frac{n_{b,0}}{n_{\gamma}} = 5 \times 10^{-10}$ [dimensionless]
Parsec: $1 \text{ pc} = 206265 \text{ AU} = 3.1 \times 10^{16} \text{ m}$
Photoionization energy of hydrogen: $E_{\text{ion}}^{\text{H}} = 13.6$ [eV]
Planck energy: $E_P = 10^{16}$ [TeV]
Planck length: $\ell_P = 1.6 \times 10^{-35}$ [m]
Planck mass: $M_P = 2.2 \times 10^{-8}$ [kg]
Planck temperature: $T_P = 1.4 \times 10^{32}$ [K]
Planck time: $t_P = 5.4 \times 10^{-44}$ [s]
Proper surface area: $A_p(t_0)$ [Mpc^2]
Recombination age of Universe: $t_{\text{rec}} \sim 380,000$ [yr]
Recombination redshift: $z_{\text{rec}} \sim 1,100$ [dimensionless]
Reduced Hubble constant: $\frac{H_0}{100} = 0.70$ [$\text{km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$]
Redshift of radiation-matter equality: $z_{rm} \approx 5399$ [dimensionless]
Redshift of matter- Λ equality: $z_{m\Lambda} \approx 0.39$ [dimensionless]
Rest energy of an electron: $m_e c^2 = 0.511$ [MeV]
Rest energy of a neutron: $m_n c^2 = 939.6$ [MeV]
Rest energy of a proton: $m_p c^2 = 938.3$ [MeV]
Scale factor (current): $a_0 = a(t_0) \equiv 1$ [dimensionless]
Scalefactor of radiation-matter equality: $a_{rm} \approx 2.8 \times 10^{-4}$ [dimensionless]
Scalefactor of matter- Λ equality: $a_{m\Lambda} \approx 0.75$ [dimensionless]
Seconds in a year: $1 \text{ yr} = 3.2 \times 10^7$ [s]
Seconds in a gigayear: $1 \text{ Gyr} = 3.2 \times 10^{16}$ [s]
Sign of curvature (closed Universe): $\kappa > 0$ [dimensionless]
Sign of curvature (flat Universe): $\kappa = 0$ [dimensionless]
Sign of curvature (open Universe): $\kappa < 0$ [dimensionless]
Solar absolute magnitude: $M_{\odot} = 4.74$ [mag]
Solar apparent magnitude: $m_{\odot} = 26.8$ [mag]
Solar flux: $F_{\odot} = 1367$ [W m^{-2}]
Solar luminosity: $L_{\odot} = 3.8 \times 10^{26}$ [W]
Solar mass: $M_{\odot} = 2.0 \times 10^{30}$ [kg]
Solar mean photon energy: $\langle E_{\odot} \rangle = 1.3$ [eV]
Solar temperature: $T_{\odot} = 5800$ [K]
Speed of light: $c = 2.998 \times 10^8$ [m s^{-1}]
Stefan-Boltzmann constant: $\sigma = 5.67 \times 10^{-8}$ [$\text{W m}^{-2} \text{ K}^{-4}$]
Supernova peak luminosity: $L_{\text{SN,max}} = 4 \times 10^9 L_{\odot}$ [W]
Temperature at CMB decoupling: $k_B T_{\text{CMB,dec}} = 1/4$ [eV]

Thomson cross section: $\sigma_T = 0.665 \times 10^{-24} \text{ [cm}^2\text{]}$

Time of radiation-matter equality: $t_{rm} \approx 4.7 \times 10^4 \text{ [yr]}$

Time of matter- Λ equality: $t_{m\Lambda} \approx 9.8 \text{ [Gyr]}$

Vacuum energy density: $\rho_{\text{vac}} = 10^{133} \text{ [eV cm}^{-3}\text{]}$

21 cm energy: $E_{21 \text{ cm}} = 5.9 \times 10^{-6} \text{ [eV]}$

21 cm rest frequency: $\nu_{21 \text{ cm}} = 1420 \text{ [MHz]}$

1.4 Equations

Absolute magnitude:

$$M \equiv -2.5 \log \left(\frac{L}{L_0} \right) \text{ [mag]}$$

$$M \equiv -2.5 \log \left(\frac{L}{78.7 L_\odot} \right) \text{ [mag]}$$

Absorption coefficient: α_ν [cm^{-1}]

$$\alpha_\nu = n\sigma_\nu = \rho\kappa_\nu \text{ [cm}^{-1}\text{]}$$

Angular diameter distance:

$$D_A = D(1+z)^{-1} \text{ [pc]}$$

Apparent magnitude:

$$m \equiv -2.5 \log \left(\frac{F}{F_0} \right) \text{ [mag]}$$

$$m \equiv -2.5 \log \left(\frac{F}{2.53 \times 10^{-8} \text{ W m}^{-2}} \right) \text{ [mag]}$$

Apparent-absolute magnitude relation:

$$M = m - 5 \log_{10} \left(\frac{d_L}{10 \text{ pc}} \right) \text{ [mag]}$$

$$= m - 5 \log_{10} \left(\frac{d_L}{1 \text{ Mpc}} \right) - 25 \text{ [mag]}$$

Baryon fraction:

$$f_b \equiv \frac{\Omega_b}{\Omega_m} \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

Black hole mass-luminosity relation:

$$M_\bullet = 1.7 \times 10^9 \left(\frac{L_V}{10^{11} L_{V_\odot}} \right)^{1.11} \text{ [M}_\odot\text{]}$$

Black hole mass-bulge relation:

$$M_\bullet = 2.9 \times 10^8 \left(\frac{M_{\text{bulge}}}{10^{11} \text{ M}_\odot} \right)^{1.05} \text{ [M}_\odot\text{]}$$

$$M_\bullet \approx 3 \times 10^{-3} M_{\text{bulge}}$$

Black hole mass-velocity dispersion relation:

$$M_\bullet = 2.1 \times 10^8 \left(\frac{\sigma_v}{200 \text{ km s}^{-1}} \right)^{5.64} \text{ [M}_\odot\text{]}$$

Black hole radius of influence:

$$r_{\text{BH}} = \frac{GM_\bullet}{\sigma_v^2} \sim 0.4 \left(\frac{M_\bullet}{10^6 \text{ M}_\odot} \right) \left(\frac{\sigma_v}{100 \text{ km s}^{-1}} \right)^{-2} \text{ [pc]}$$

Black hole radius of influence (angular):

$$\theta_{\text{BH}} = \frac{r_{\text{BH}}}{d} \sim 0.1 \left(\frac{M_\bullet}{10^6 \text{ M}_\odot} \right) \left(\frac{\sigma_v}{100 \text{ km s}^{-1}} \right)^{-2} \left(\frac{d}{1 \text{ Mpc}} \right)^{-1} \text{ [arcsec]}$$

Blackbody function:

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2h\nu^2}{c^2} \frac{1}{\exp(h\nu/k_B T) - 1} \text{ [erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ Hz}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}]$$

Blackbody mean photon energy:

$$\langle E_{\text{bb}} \rangle = 2.7 k_B T \text{ [eV]}$$

Blackbody peak photon energy:

$$E_{\text{bb,peak}} = 2.82 k_B T \text{ [eV]}$$

Boltzmann factor:

$$\frac{n_i}{n_j} = e^{-\Delta mc^2/k_B T} \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

CMB temperature fluctuations:

$$\frac{\delta T}{T}(\theta, \phi) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-1}^{\ell} a_{\ell m} Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi) \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

Comoving sound horizon:

$$r_{\text{H,com}}(z) = \int_0^t \frac{cdt}{a(t)} \text{ [Mpc]} = \int_0^{(1+z)^{-1}} \frac{cda}{a^2 H(a)} \text{ [Mpc]}$$

Cosmological constant:

$$\Lambda = \frac{3H_0^2}{c^2} \Omega_\Lambda \text{ [m}^{-2}]$$

Correlation function of CMB temperature anisotropies:

$$C(\theta) = \left\langle \frac{\delta T}{T}(\hat{n}) \frac{\delta T}{T}(\hat{n}') \right\rangle_{\hat{n} \cdot \hat{n}' = \cos \theta}$$
$$C(\theta) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} (2\ell + 1) (C_\ell) P_\ell(\cos \theta),$$

Collisional coupling coefficient:

$$x_c = x_c^{\text{HH}} + x_c^{\text{eH}} + x_c^{\text{pH}}$$
$$= \frac{T_*}{A_{10} T_\gamma} \left[k_{1-0}^{\text{HH}}(T_k) n_{\text{H}} + k_{1-0}^{\text{eH}}(T_k) n_{\text{e}} + k_{1-0}^{\text{pH}}(T_k) n_{\text{p}} \right] \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

Coupling coefficient (total):

$$x_{\text{tot}} \equiv x_c + x_\alpha \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

Critical density:

$$\rho_c \equiv \frac{3H_0^2}{8\pi G} \text{ [g cm}^{-3}]$$

Crossing timescale:

$$t_{\text{cross}} = \frac{R}{v} \text{ [yr]}$$

Curvature term:

$$S_{\kappa}(r) = \begin{cases} R \sin(r/R), & (\kappa = +1) \\ r, & (\kappa = 0) \\ R \sinh(r/R), & (\kappa = -1) \end{cases}$$

Dark energy density:

$$\rho_{\Lambda} \equiv \frac{\Lambda}{8\pi G} \text{ [g cm}^{-3}\text{]}$$

Deceleration parameter:

$$q_0 = \Omega_{r,0} + \frac{1}{2}\Omega_{m,0} - \Omega_{\Lambda} \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

Density contrast:

$$\delta(\mathbf{x}, t) \equiv \frac{\rho(\mathbf{x}, t) - \langle \rho(t) \rangle}{\langle \rho(t) \rangle} \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

Density parameter of dark energy:

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_{\Lambda} &\equiv \frac{\rho_{\Lambda}}{\rho_c} \\ &= \left(\frac{\Lambda}{8\pi G} \right) \left(\frac{8\pi G}{3H_0^2} \right) \\ &= \frac{\Lambda}{3H_0^2} \text{ [dimensionless] (???)} \end{aligned}$$

Density parameter of matter:

$$\Omega_m(a) \equiv \frac{\rho_m}{\rho_c} a(t)^{-3} \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

Density parameter of radiation:

$$\Omega_r(a) \equiv \frac{\rho_r}{\rho_c} a(t)^{-4} \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

Density-redshift-scalefactor relation:

$$\bar{\rho}(z) = \bar{\rho}_0(1+z)^3 = \frac{\bar{\rho}_0}{a^3} \text{ [g cm}^{-3}\text{]}$$

Distance (moving cluster):

$$d = \frac{v_r \tan \theta}{\mu} \text{ [pc]}$$

Distance (parallax):

$$d = \left(\frac{p}{1''} \right)^{-1} \text{ [pc]}$$

Distance (photometric):

$$m - M = 5 \log \left(\frac{d}{1 \text{ pc}} \right) - 5 + A \text{ [mag]}$$

Distance (spectroscopic):

$$m_V - A_V - M_V = 5 \log \left(\frac{d}{1 \text{ pc}} \right) - 5 \text{ [mag]}$$

Distance modulus:

$$m - M \approx 43.17 - 5 \log_{10} \left(\frac{H_0}{70 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}} \right) + 5 \log_{10} z + 1.086(1 - q_0)z \text{ [mag]}$$

Distance relation (low redshift):

$$d_p(t_0) \approx d_L \approx \frac{c}{H_0} z \text{ [Mpc]}$$

Distance-redshift relation (flat Universe):

$$d_L(\kappa = 0) = r(1 + z) = d_p(t_0)(1 + z) \text{ [Mpc]}$$

Doppler law:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{v}{c} &= \frac{\Delta\lambda}{\lambda} = \frac{\lambda_{\text{obs}} - \lambda_{\text{em}}}{\lambda_{\text{obs}}} \text{ [dimensionless]} \\ \frac{v}{c} &= \frac{-\Delta\nu}{\nu} = \frac{\nu_{\text{em}} - \nu_{\text{obs}}}{\nu_{\text{em}}} \text{ [dimensionless]} \end{aligned}$$

Einstein relations:

$$\begin{aligned} g_1 B_{12} &= g_2 B_{21} \text{ [s}^{-1}\text{]} \\ A_{21} &= \frac{2h\nu^3}{c^2} B_{21} \text{ [s}^{-1}\text{]} \end{aligned}$$

Electron radius (classical):

$$r_{e,0} = \frac{e^2}{m_e c^2} \text{ [cm]}$$

Elliptical $D_n - \sigma$ relation:

$$\begin{aligned} I_n \left(\frac{D_n}{2} \right)^2 \pi &= 2\pi I_e R_e^2 \int_0^{D_n/(2R_e)} [\text{erg s}^{-1} \text{ m}^{-2}] \\ D_n &= 2.05 \times \left(\frac{\sigma_v}{100 \text{ km s}^{-1}} \right) \text{ [kpc]} \end{aligned}$$

Energy density:

$$\Omega \equiv \frac{\rho}{\rho_c} = nE \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

Energy-redshift relation:

$$E_0 = E(1 + z)^{-1} \text{ [eV]}$$

Escape velocity:

$$v_{\text{esc}} = \sqrt{\frac{2GM}{r}} \text{ [km s}^{-1}\text{]}$$

Extinction coefficient:

$$\begin{aligned} A_\nu &\equiv m - m_0 = -2.5 \log(I_\nu / I_{\nu,0}) \text{ [mag]} \\ &= 2.5 \log(e) \tau_\nu \text{ [mag]} \\ &= 1.086 \tau_\nu \text{ [mag]} \end{aligned}$$

Extinction coefficient for the MWG:

$$A_{V,\text{MWG}} = (3.1 \pm 0.1)E(B - V) \text{ [mag]}$$

Flux:

$$F = \frac{L}{4\pi S_\kappa(r)^2} (1+z)^{-2} \text{ [erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{]}$$

Flux (spectral):

$$F_\lambda(t) = \int_0^t \text{SFR}(t-t') S_{\lambda, Z(t-t')}(t') dt' \text{ [erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ Hz}^{-1}\text{]}$$

Friedmann equation:

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{\dot{a}(t)}{a(t)} \right)^2 &= \left(\frac{H}{H_0} \right)^2 = \frac{8\pi G}{3} \rho - \frac{\kappa c^2}{R_0^2 a(t)^2} + \frac{\Lambda}{3} \\ \left(\frac{H}{H_0} \right)^2 &= \frac{\Omega_{r,0}}{a^4} + \frac{\Omega_{m,0}}{a^3} + \Omega_{\Lambda,0} + \frac{1 - \Omega_0}{a^2} \end{aligned}$$

Gravitational potential energy:

$$E = -\frac{GMm}{R} \text{ [J]}$$

Growth factor:

$$D_+(t) \propto \frac{H(a)}{H_0} \int_0^a \frac{da'}{[\Omega_m/a' + \Omega_\Lambda a'^2 - (\Omega_m + \Omega_\Lambda - 1)]^{3/2}} \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

Gunn-Peterson optical depth:

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_{\text{GP}} &= \frac{\pi e^2}{m_e c^2} f_\alpha \lambda_\alpha H^{-1}(z) n_{\text{HI}} \text{ [dimensionless]} \\ \tau_{\text{GP}}(z) &= 4.9 \times 10^5 \left(\frac{\Omega_m h^2}{0.13} \right)^{-1/2} \left(\frac{\Omega_b h^2}{0.02} \right) \left(\frac{1+z}{7} \right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{n_{\text{HI}}}{n_{\text{H}}} \right) \text{ [dimensionless]} \end{aligned}$$

Helium mass fraction:

$$Y = \frac{4 \times n_n/2}{n_n + n_p} = \frac{2}{1 + n_n/n_p} \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

Horizon angular size at recombination:

$$\theta_{H,\text{rec}} \approx \sqrt{\frac{\Omega_m}{z_{\text{rec}}}} \sim \frac{\sqrt{\Omega_m}}{30} \sim \sqrt{\Omega_m} 2 \text{ [}^\circ\text{]}$$

Hubble constant:

$$H_0(t) \equiv \frac{\dot{a}_0(t)}{a_0(t)} = \dot{a}_0(t) \text{ [km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc]}$$

Hubble distance:

$$d_H \equiv \frac{c}{H(t)} \text{ [Mpc]}$$

Hubble time:

$$t_H \equiv ct_H = \frac{1}{H_0(t)} \text{ [Gyr]}$$

Hubble's law:

$$v = H_0 d \text{ [km s}^{-1}\text{]}$$

IMF (Salpeter):

$$\xi(m) \propto m^{-2.35} \text{ [units??]}$$

Jeans mass:

$$M_J \equiv \frac{\pi^{5/2}}{6} \left(\frac{c_s^2}{G} \right)^{3/2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho}} \text{ [M}_\odot\text{]}$$

Kepler's third law:

$$P = \sqrt{\frac{4\pi^2}{G(m_1 + m_2)}} a^3 \text{ [yr]}$$

Legendre Polynomials:

$$P_0(x) = 1 \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

$$P_1(x) = x \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

$$P_2(x) = \frac{1}{2}(3x^2 - 1) \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

Luminosity (Faber-Jackson):

$$L_{\text{FJ}} \propto \sigma_v^\alpha \text{ [erg s}^{-1}\text{]}$$

Luminosity (Tully-Fisher):

$$\begin{aligned} L_{\text{TF}} &\propto v_{\text{max}}^\alpha \text{ [erg s}^{-1}\text{]} \\ &= \left(\frac{M}{L} \right)^{-2} \left(\frac{1}{G^2 \langle I \rangle} \right) v_{\text{max}}^4 \text{ [erg s}^{-1}\text{]} \end{aligned}$$

Luminosity distance:

$$\begin{aligned} d_L &\equiv \sqrt{\frac{L}{4\pi F}} \text{ [Mpc]} \\ d_L(z \ll 1) &\approx \frac{c}{H_0} z \left(1 + \frac{q_0}{2} z \right) \text{ [Mpc]} \\ d_L(\kappa = 0) &\approx \frac{c}{H_0} z \left(1 + \frac{1 - q_0}{2} z \right) \text{ [Mpc]} \end{aligned}$$

Luminosity distance-redshift relation:

$$d_L = d(1 + z) \text{ [Mpc]}$$

Magnetic monopole density:

$$n_M(t_{\text{GUT}}) \sim \frac{1}{(2ct_{\text{GUT}})^3} \sim 10^{82} \text{ [m}^{-3}\text{]}$$

Magnitude (absolute):

$$M \equiv -2.5 \log_{10} \left(\frac{L}{L_0} \right) \text{ [mag]}$$

Magnitude (apparent):

$$m \equiv -2.5 \log_{10} \left(\frac{F}{F_0} \right) \text{ [mag]}$$

Matter density-scale factor relation:

$$\rho_m = \rho_{m,0} a^{-3} \text{ [g cm}^{-3}\text{]}$$

Maxwell-Boltzmann equation:

$$\begin{aligned} n &= g \left(\frac{mk_B T}{2\pi\hbar^2} \right)^{3/2} \exp \left(-\frac{E}{k_B T} \right) \text{ [m}^{-3}\text{]} \\ &= g \left(\frac{mk_B T}{2\pi\hbar^2} \right)^{3/2} \exp \left(-\frac{h\nu}{k_B T} \right) \text{ [m}^{-3}\text{]} \end{aligned}$$

Mean free path:

$$\ell_{\text{mfp}} = \frac{1}{n\sigma} \text{ [pc]}$$

Mean molecular weight:

$$\mu \equiv \frac{\rho}{nm} \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

Metallicity index:

$$[\text{X}/\text{H}] \equiv \log \left(\frac{n(\text{X})}{n(\text{H})} \right)_* - \log \left(\frac{n(\text{X})}{n(\text{H})} \right)_\odot \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

Neutrino velocity:

$$v_\nu \sim 150(1+z) \left(\frac{m_\nu}{1 \text{ eV}} \right)^{-1} \text{ [km s}^{-1}\text{]}$$

Number density of Lyman- α forest lines:

$$N_\alpha(z) \propto (1+z)$$

Optical depth:

$$\tau = \int_0^s \alpha_\nu ds \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

Peculiar velocity:

$$v_{\text{pec}} = c \left(\frac{z - z_{\text{cos}}}{1+z} \right) \text{ [km s}^{-1}\text{]}$$

Photon energy:

$$E_\gamma = h\nu \text{ [eV]}$$

Photon scattering rate (ionized):

$$\Gamma = \frac{c}{\ell_{\text{mfp}}} = n_e \sigma_e c = n_b \sigma_e c = \left(\frac{n_{b,0}}{a^3} \right) \sigma_e c = \frac{4.4 \times 10^{-21} a^3}{\text{s}^{-1}} [\text{s}^{-1}]$$

Planck function:

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2h\nu^2}{c^2} \frac{1}{\exp(h\nu/k_B T) - 1} [\text{erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ Hz}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}]$$

Polarized angle:

$$\chi = \frac{1}{2} \arctan \left(\frac{U}{Q} \right) [\text{rad}]$$

Polarized intensity:

$$P = \sqrt{Q^2 + U^2} = pI [\text{Jy}]$$

Proper distance:

$$d_p(t_0) = c \int_t^{t_0} \frac{dt}{a(t)} [\text{Mpc}]$$
$$d_p(t_0, z \ll 1) \approx \frac{c}{H_0} z \left(1 - \frac{1+q_0}{2} z \right) [\text{Mpc}]$$

Proper surface area:

$$A_p(t_0) = 4\pi S_\kappa(r)^2 [\text{Mpc}^2]$$

Radiation density-scale factor relation:

$$\rho_r = \rho_{r,0} a^{-4} [\text{g cm}^{-3}]$$

Radiative transfer equation:

$$\frac{dI_\nu}{ds} = j_\nu - \alpha_\nu I_\nu [\text{erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ Hz}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1} \text{ pc}^{-1}]$$

Random walk:

$$d = \sqrt{N} \ell [\text{m}]$$

Rayleigh-Jeans limit:

$$I_\nu = \frac{2k_B T \nu^2}{c^2} [\text{erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ Hz}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}]$$

Redshift of thermal coupling:

$$z_t \approx 140 \left(\frac{\Omega_b h^2}{0.022} \right)^{2/5} [\text{dimensionless}]$$

Redshift-wavelength-scalefactor relation:

$$\frac{1}{1+z} = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda_0} = \frac{1}{a} [\text{dimensionless}]$$

Relaxation time:

$$t_{\text{relax}} \approx \frac{R}{6v} \frac{N}{\ln(N/2)} \text{ [yr]}$$
$$t_{\text{relax}} = \frac{t_{\text{cross}}}{6} \frac{N}{\ln(N/2)} \text{ [yr]}$$

Robertson-Walker metric:

$$ds^2 = cdt^2 - a(t)^2 \left(\frac{dx^2}{1 - \kappa x^2/R^2} + x^2 \Omega^2 \right)$$

Saha equation:

$$\frac{n_{i+1}}{n_i} = T^{3/2} e^{(-1/T)} \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

Scale factor evolution (radiation-dominated):

$$a_m(t) \propto t^{1/2} \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

Scale factor evolution (matter-dominated):

$$a_m(t) \propto t^{2/3} \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

Scale factor evolution (Λ -dominated):

$$a_\Lambda(t) \propto e^{Ht} \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

Scale factor-redshift relation:

$$a = \frac{1}{1+z} \text{ [dimensionless]}$$

Schmidt-Kennicutt law:

$$\frac{\Sigma_{\text{SFR}}}{\text{M}_\odot \text{ year}^{-1} \text{ kpc}^{-2}} = (2.5 \pm 0.7) \times 10^{-4} \left(\frac{\Sigma_{\text{gas}}}{\text{M}_\odot \text{ pc}^{-2}} \right)^{1.4 \pm 0.15}$$

Schwarzschild radius:

$$r_S \equiv \frac{2GM}{c^2} = 2.95 \left(\frac{M}{\text{M}_\odot} \right) \text{ [km]}$$

Solid angle:

$$\Omega = \frac{A}{r^2} \text{ [sr]}$$

Sound speed:

$$c_s = \sqrt{\frac{\partial P}{\partial \rho}} \text{ [m s}^{-1}\text{]}$$
$$c_s \sim \sqrt{\frac{k_B T}{\mu m}} \text{ [m s}^{-1}\text{]}$$

Spin temperature:

$$T_s^{-1} = \frac{T_\gamma^{-1} + x_\alpha T_\alpha^{-1} + x_c T_K^{-1}}{1 + x_\alpha + x_c} \text{ [K}^{-1}\text{]}$$

Spin temperature of 21 cm:

$$\frac{n_1}{n_2} = \frac{g_1}{g_2} \exp\left(-\frac{0.068 \text{ K}}{T_s}\right) \text{ [dimensionless]},$$

Star formation history:

$$\psi(z) = 0.015 \frac{(1+z)^{2.7}}{1 + [1+z/2.9]^{5.6}} \text{ [M}_\odot \text{ year}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-3}\text{]}.$$

Star formation rate:

$$\text{SFR} = -\frac{dM_{\text{gas}}}{dt} \text{ [M}_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1}\text{]}$$

Star formation rate per unit area:

$$\Sigma_{\text{SFR}} \propto \Sigma_{\text{gas}}^{1.4} \text{ [M}_\odot \text{ year}^{-1} \text{ pc}^{-2}\text{]}$$

Stefan-Boltzmann constant:

$$\sigma = \frac{2\pi^5 k^4}{15c^2 h^3} \text{ [W m}^{-2} \text{ K}^{-4}\text{]}$$

Stefan-Boltzmann Law:

$$F = \sigma T^4 \text{ [W m}^{-2}\text{]}$$

Surface brightness (bulge):

$$\mu_{\text{bulge}} = \mu_e + 8.3268 \left[\left(\frac{R}{R_e} \right)^{1/4} - 1 \right] \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$$

Surface brightness (disk):

$$\mu_{\text{disk}} = \mu_0 + 1.09 \left(\frac{R}{h_R} \right) \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}.$$

Temperature-redshift-scalefactor relation:

$$T = (1+z)T_0 = \frac{T_0}{a} \text{ [K]}$$

Temperature-scale factor relation:

$$T = aT_0 \text{ [K]}$$

Thomson cross section:

$$\sigma_T = \frac{8\pi}{3} r_{e,0}^2 \text{ [m}^2\text{]}$$

Tired Light Hypothesis energy scaling:

$$E = E_0 e^{(-r/R_0)} \text{ [eV]}$$

Uncertainty Principle:

$$\sigma_x \sigma_p \geq \frac{\hbar}{2} \text{ [J s]}$$
$$\Delta E \Delta t \geq \frac{\hbar}{2} \text{ [J s]}$$

Velocity (circular):

$$v_c = \sqrt{\frac{GM}{r}} \text{ [m s}^{-1}\text{]}$$

Velocity (radial):

$$v_r = \left(\frac{\Delta\lambda}{\lambda_0} \right) c \text{ [m s}^{-1}\text{]}$$

Velocity (tangential):

$$v_t = d\mu = 4.74 \left(\frac{d}{1 \text{ pc}} \right) \left(\frac{\mu}{1'' \text{ year}^{-1}} \right) \text{ [m s}^{-1}\text{]}$$

Virial theorem:

$$E_{\text{pot}} = -2E_{\text{kin}}$$
$$E_{\text{tot}} = \frac{1}{2}E_{\text{pot}}$$

Wavelength-redshift relation:

$$\lambda_0 = \frac{1}{a(t)}\lambda = (1+z)\lambda \text{ [m]}$$

Wien's Law:

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2h\nu^3}{c^2} \frac{1}{\exp(h\nu/k_B T) - 1} \text{ [erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ Hz}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}\text{]}$$
$$B_\nu(T) \approx \frac{2h\nu^3}{c^2} \frac{1}{\exp(h\nu/k_B T)} \text{ [erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ Hz}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}\text{]}$$
$$B_\nu(T) \approx \frac{2h\nu^3}{c^2} \exp\left(\frac{-h\nu}{k_B T}\right) \text{ [erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ Hz}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}\text{]}$$

1.5 General Notes

- $k_B(300\text{ K}) \sim \frac{1}{40}\text{ eV}$
- $k_B(11,000\text{ K}) \sim 1\text{ eV}$
- $k_B(10^7\text{ K}) \sim 1\text{ keV}$
- Systems in thermal equilibrium satisfy normal populations of $(n_1/g_1) > (n_2/g_2)$; inverted populations satisfy $(n_1/g_1) < (n_2/g_2)$ (e.g., masers).
- If a particle scatters with a rate greater than the expansion rate of the Universe, that particle remains in equilibrium.
- Multipole moment $\ell = 1$ and $\ell = 2$ are the dipole and quadrupole moment, respectively.
- The greatest baryon contribution to the density comes not from stars in galaxies, but rather from gas in groups of galaxies; in these groups, $\Omega \sim 0.02$.
- The ratio of the neutrino temperature T_ν to the CMB temperature T_{CMB} is $\frac{T_\nu}{T_{\text{CMB}}} = \left(\frac{4}{11}\right)^{1/3}$.
- We expect photons to decouple from matter when the Universe is already well into the matter-dominated era (i.e., not in the radiation-dominated era).
- When the Universe was only one second old, the mean-free-path of a photon was about the size of an atom.
- Nuclear binding energies are typically in the MeV range, which explains why Big Bang nucleosynthesis occurs at temperatures a bit less than 1 MeV even though nuclear masses are in the GeV range.
- The electron-positron energy threshold is $\sim 10^{10}\text{ K}$, above which there exist thermal populations of both electrons and neutrinos to make the reaction $p + e^- \leftrightarrow n + \nu$ go equally well in either direction.
- Thermodynamically, nucleons with greater binding energies are more energetically favourable.
- Simplest way to form helium is via deuterium fusion rather than the improbable coincidence of 2 protons and 2 neutrons all arriving at the same place simultaneously to make ${}^4\text{He}$ in one go.
- Nucleosynthesis starts at about 10^{10} K when the Universe was about 1 s old, and effectively ends when it has cooled by a factor of 10, and is about 100 times older.
- Primordial elemental abundances: 75% H, 25% He, trace Li.
- A normal population of states in LTE satisfies $(n_1/g_1)/(n_2/g_2) > 1$ via the Maxwell-Boltzmann equation; inverted populations such as masers satisfy $(n_1/g_1)/(n_2/g_2) < 1$.
- The solid angle subtended by a complete sphere is $4\pi\text{ sr}$.
- Just as the period of a Cepheid tells you its luminosity, the rise and fall time of a type Ia SN tells you its peak luminosity.
- The average Type Ia has a peak luminosity of $L = 4 \times 10^9 L_\odot$ which is 100,000 times brighter than even the brightest Cepheid variable.

- The Hubble distance d_H is the distance between the Earth and any astrophysical object receding away from us at the speed of light.
- At $z = 10^9$, the Jeans mass is $M_J \sim M_\odot$; at $z = 10^6$, the Jeans mass is $M_J \sim M_{\text{gal}}$.
- Apparent magnitudes $0 < m < 6$ are typically visible to the naked eye.
- The absolute magnitude of a light source M is defined as the apparent magnitude m that it would have if it were at a luminosity distance of $d_L = 10 \text{ pc}$.
- The apparent magnitude is really nothing more than a logarithmic measure of the flux, and the absolute magnitude is a logarithmic measure of the luminosity.
- When space is positively curved, the proper surface area is $A_p(t_0) < 4\pi r^2$, and the photons from distance r are spread over a smaller area than they would be in flat space. When space is negatively curved, $A_p(t_0) > 4\pi r^2$, and photons are spread over a larger area than they would be in flat space.
- The Benchmark Model has a deceleration parameter of $q_0 \approx 0.55$.
- The angular distribution of the CMB temperature reflects the matter inhomogeneities at the redshift of decoupling of radiation and matter.
- The CMB is linearly polarized at the 10% level.
- CMB polarization probes the epoch of last scattering directly as opposed to the temperature fluctuations which may evolve between last scattering and the present. Moreover, different sources of temperature anisotropies (scalar, vector, and tensor) give different patterns in the polarization: both in its intrinsic structure and in its correlation with the temperature fluctuations themselves.
- The sound speed in the photon-dominated fluid of the early Universe is given by $c_s \approx c/\sqrt{3}$. Thus, the sound horizon is about a factor of $\sqrt{3}$ smaller than the event horizon at this time.
- At recombination, the free electrons recombined with the hydrogen and helium nuclei, after which there are essentially no more free electrons which couple to the photon field. Hence, after recombination the baryon fluid lacks the pressure support of the photons, and the sound speed drops to zero – the sound waves do no longer propagate, but get frozen in.
- Due to the steep slope of the IMF, most of the stellar mass is contained in low-mass stars; however, since the luminosity of main-sequence stars depends strongly on mass, approximately as $L \propto M^3$, most of the luminosity comes from high-mass stars.
- Cooling by the primordial gas is efficient only above $T \gtrsim 2 \times 10^4 \text{ K}$ since metal lines cannot contribute to the cooling.
- Whereas in enriched gas molecular hydrogen is formed on dust particles, the primordial gas had no dust so H_2 must form in the gas phase itself, rendering its abundance very small.
- Even a tiny neutral fraction, $X_{\text{HI}} \sim 10^{-4}$, gives rise to complete GP absorption due to the large absorption cross section of $\text{Ly}\alpha$.
- The key to the detectability of the 21 cm signal hinges on the spin temperature T_s . Only if this temperature deviates from the background temperature, will a signal be observable.
- The spin temperature becomes strongly coupled to the gas temperature when $x_{\text{tot}} \equiv x_c + x_\alpha \gtrsim 1$ and relaxes to T_γ when $x_{\text{tot}} \ll 1$.

- The ratio of black hole mass and bulge mass is approximately $1/300$. In other words, 0.3% of the baryon mass that was used to make the stellar population in the bulge of these galaxies was transformed into a central black hole.