

Contents

1	FRW universe	7
1.1	Evidence for an expanding Universe	8
1.2	The FRW metric	10
1.2.1	Spatial metric	11
1.2.2	Hubble rate and conformal time	12
1.2.3	Redshift	13
1.2.4	Distances	15
2	Friedmann equations	19
2.1	Solving the Einstein equations for a FRW universe	19
2.1.1	Energy-momentum tensor	19
2.1.2	Friedmann equations	21
2.2	Cosmological models	24
2.2.1	Critical density and density parameters	24
2.2.2	Universes with matter, radiation, curvature	27
2.2.3	Curvature and the angular size of CMB fluctuations	28
2.2.4	Initial singularity and dark energy	29
3	Thermodynamics in an expanding universe	31
3.1	Equilibrium thermodynamics	32
3.1.1	Entropy and its conservation	33
3.1.2	Relativistic gases	34
3.1.3	Effective number of relativistic species	35
3.1.4	Photon and neutrino density	38
3.1.5	The non-relativistic limit	39
3.2	Beyond equilibrium	40
3.2.1	Particle freeze-out	41
3.2.2	Boltzmann equation	42
4	Radiation era	45
4.1	Baryons and baryogenesis	45
4.2	Dark matter freeze-out	46

4.2.1	Relic abundance	48
4.2.2	The WIMP miracle	49
4.3	Big-bang Nucleosynthesis (BBN)	50
4.3.1	Neutrino decoupling	51
4.3.2	Electron/positron chemical potential	52
4.3.3	Equilibrium abundances	52
4.3.4	Neutron freeze-out	54
4.3.5	The deuterium bottleneck	56
4.3.6	Fusion and light nuclei	57
5	Recombination	61
5.1	Equilibrium recombination theory	61
5.2	Non-equilibrium recombination	63
5.2.1	Atomic processes	63
5.2.2	Transition rates	64
5.2.3	Principle of detailed balance	67
5.2.4	Bound-bound transitions	68
5.2.5	Two-photon decays	69
5.3	Effective 3-level hydrogen atom	71
5.3.1	Boltzmann equations	72
5.3.2	Steady-state approximation	73
6	Inflation	75
6.1	The shortcomings of standard Big-Bang theory	75
6.1.1	Particle horizon and hubble radius	75
6.1.2	The flatness/entropy problem	76
6.1.3	The horizon problem	77
6.2	The inflationary paradigm	78
6.2.1	Conditions for inflation	78
6.2.2	Number of e-foldings	80
6.3	Scalar field inflation	81
6.3.1	Background	81
6.3.2	Perturbations during inflation	85
6.3.3	Primordial scalar perturbations and their power spectrum	90
7	Growth of inhomogeneities	93
7.1	Newtonian linear perturbation theory	93
7.1.1	Fluid approximation	94
7.1.2	Perturbation analysis	95
7.1.3	Vector and scalar perturbations	96
7.1.4	Adiabatic and entropy perturbations	97
7.2	The linearized growth equation	98

7.2.1	Adiabatic perturbations in matter and radiation era	99
7.2.2	The need for dark matter	101
7.3	Cosmic evolution of the Jeans mass	101
8	Cosmic Microwave background anisotropies	103
8.1	Perturbed metric	103
8.2	Boltzmann equations for photons and baryons	104
8.2.1	Propagation in a perturbed FRW universe	105
8.2.2	The collision term: Compton scattering	106
8.2.3	Boltzmann hierarchy for photons	108
8.2.4	Energy and momentum conservation for baryons	110
8.3	Baryon-photon fluid	111
8.3.1	Photon anisotropic stress	111
8.3.2	Tight-coupling approximation	113
8.3.3	Acoustic Oscillations	114
8.4	Integral solutions for CMB anisotropies	116