

Summary Information

Module Code	7014ASTPHY
Formal Module Title	Cosmology
Owning School	Astrophysics Research Institute
Career	Postgraduate Taught
Credits	30
Academic level	FHEQ Level 7
Grading Schema	50

Module Contacts

Module Leader

Contact Name	Applies to all offerings	Offerings
Ivan Baldry	Yes	N/A

Module Team Member

Contact Name	Applies to all offerings	Offerings
Jaime Salcido Negrete	Yes	N/A
Stacey Habergham-Mawson	Yes	N/A
Andreea Font	Yes	N/A
Matthew Darnley	Yes	N/A

Partner Module Team

Contact Name	Applies to all offerings	Offerings
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Teaching Responsibility

LJMU Schools involved in Delivery

Astrophysics Research Institute

Learning Methods

Learning Method Type	Hours
Online	45

Module Offering(s)

Offering Code	Location	Start Month	Duration
JAN-CTY	CTY	January	12 Weeks

Aims and Outcomes

Aims	To describe the theoretical background required to understand various cosmological models including the favoured CDM model. To provide students with a full and rounded understanding of modern observational cosmology. To enable the students to make detailed cosmological measurements from galaxy or cluster survey data.
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Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

Code	Description
MLO1	Demonstrate systematic knowledge and understanding of the concept of curved space time and metrics.
MLO2	Develop a broad and up-to-date knowledge of the fundamental ideas, most important discoveries, modelling techniques and outstanding problems in cosmology.
MLO3	Apply an in-depth knowledge of the techniques to calculate physical parameters and make predictions for a range of cosmological models and observational data.

Module Content

Outline Syllabus

Introduction to Cosmology The origin and fate of the Universe. From Pythagoras to Herschel. Assumptions underlying the modern cosmology. Isotropy and Homogeneity. Galaxies, clusters and superclusters. Geometry of the Universe Euclidean and curved spaces. The Robertson-Walker (RW) metric. Expansion and the Hubble law. Redshift as a consequence of RW metric. Cosmological angular diameter-distance and luminosity-distance relations. Dynamical evolution The dynamical equations. The Friedmann models, open, closed, Einstein-de Sitter cases. Critical density and values. The age of the Universe. Proper luminosity and angular distances in terms of H_0 and z . Minimal angular diameter. Horizon size. Observations The distance scale. Standard candles. DL versus z diagram. Evidence for dark matter and dark energy or cosmological constant. Determinations of cosmological parameters. The Hot Big Bang. Matter and radiation dominated eras. Cosmic Background Radiation, aka. Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB). Brief history of the Universe from the Planck time to the present day. The New Cosmology Variations on the Standard Model. Inflation. Grand Unified Theories. Cosmic strings and monopoles. The Cosmological Constant. The Anthropic Principle. The History of Structure Density fluctuations at early times and in the CMB. Hot and cold dark matter. Results of numerical simulations. Matter on large scales. Dark matter problems. Clustering seen in various surveys. Gravitational lensing. Galaxy and cluster surveys. Flux and redshift measurements of galaxies. Correlation functions. Luminosity functions. Evolution in luminosity and number density. X-ray cluster surveys. Sunyaev-Zeldovich effect. Halo mass measurements. Cluster mass functions. Latest understanding of galaxy evolution.

Module Overview

This module provides the theoretical background required to understand various cosmological models including the favoured Λ CDM model. It:

gives an understanding of modern observational cosmology

enables you to make detailed cosmological measurements from galaxy or cluster survey data

Additional Information

This module will teach students the fundamentals of and recent developments in cosmology. There will be particular emphasis on developing independent learning skills and IT capability to access and extract relevant scientific information via Canvas and databases available from LJMU. Module delivered by distance learning

Assessments

Assignment Category	Assessment Name	Weight	Exam/Test Length (hours)	Learning Outcome Mapping
Essay	Essay on Cosmological Topic	35	0	MLO3, MLO2
Test	End of module Test	65	3	MLO1, MLO3, MLO2