

MODELS OF THE UNIVERSE

1. From Static to Expanding Universes

- 1917: Einstein and a finite static model
de Sitter and an empty expanding model
- 1922: Friedmann and a dynamic universe
- 1929: Hubble and the Expansion
- 1931: Lemaître and the Primeval Atom

2. The Big Bang Model

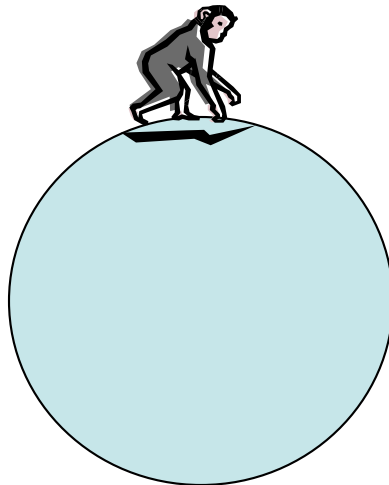
- 1948: Steady-State universe
- 1948: The BB model
- 1965: Confirmation of BB model
- Limitations of the BB model

1917: Einstein applies GR to universe as a whole

GEOMETRY = MATTER/ENERGY

cosmological principle: universe same anywhere

Tries static model: unstable, so added “cosmological constant”



Closed geometry:

Universe is finite without
a boundary

$$\rho = \frac{\text{mass}}{\text{volume}} = \frac{\text{energy}}{\text{volume}} = \text{constant}$$

Universe is “same” everywhere: static and homogeneous

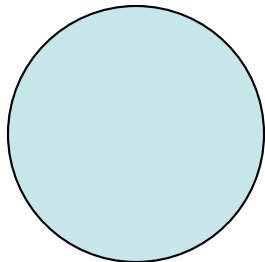
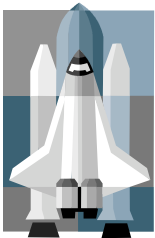
1917: de Sitter proposes model only with Λ (cosm. const.)
rapid expansion, but empty cosmos...
a fair approximation
("truth" somewhere in between)

1922: Friedmann -- Universe is dynamic ➡ $\rho(t)$

Universe can change in time (no Λ required)

What is its geometry? Open or closed? And its fate?

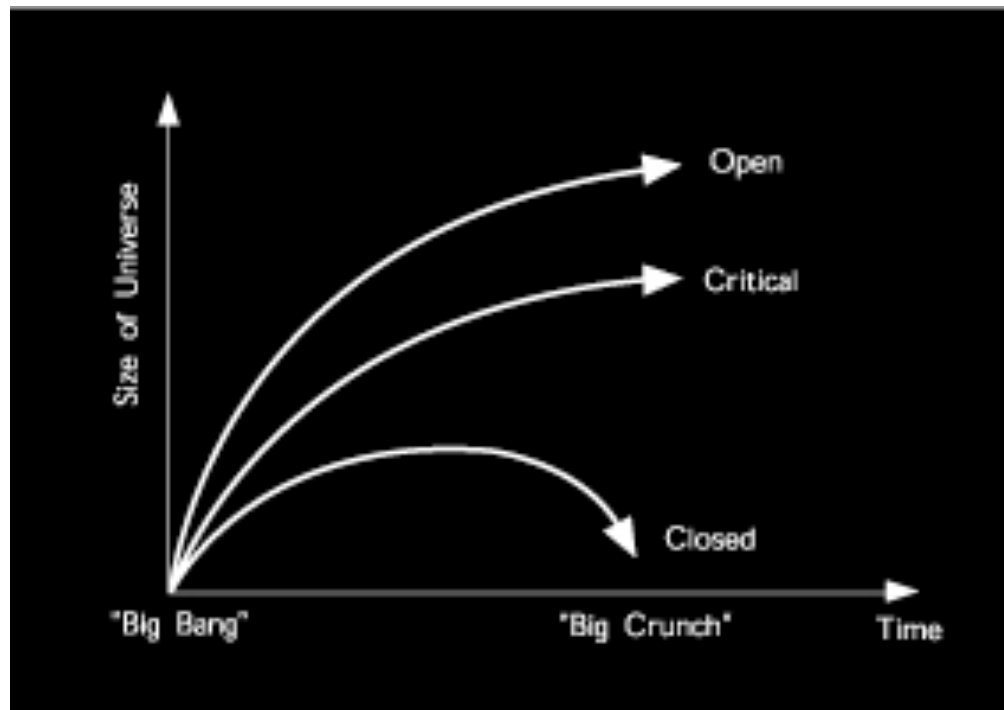
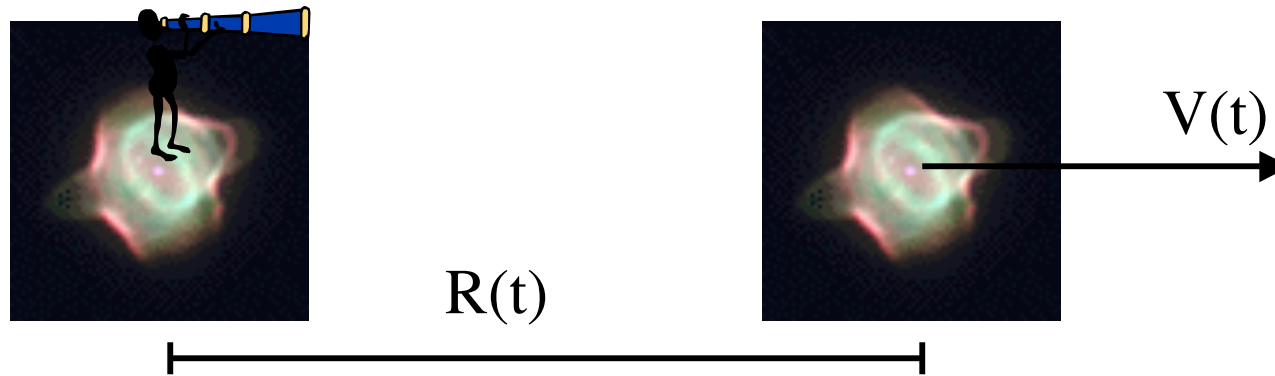
➡ it depends on its energy density ρ



Expansion fights gravitational attraction!!

Geometry and "destiny"

It all depends on “critical density”, $\rho_{\text{critical}}=10^{-29}\text{g/cm}^3$
(about 1 atom of H per cube of 0.5 meter side)



Open: $\rho < \rho_{\text{critical}}$

Critical: $\rho = \rho_{\text{critical}}$

Closed: $\rho > \rho_{\text{critical}}$

Which desktop universe
Corresponds to real one?