Name:

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Homework - 2

1. Assume our universe would be only filled with radiation with equation of state $w = \frac{1}{3}$. What would its age be? What about a universe that is dominated by curvature with K = -1?

Let us derive the Friedmann equations from classical mechanics and thermodynamics:

2. For a test particle of mass m at a radius a(t) from the origin, Newton's second law yields

$$F = m\ddot{a}(t) = -\frac{GMm}{a(t)^2}.$$
 (1)

Here M is the total mass of all matter contained inside the sphere of radius a(t). Multiply both side by $\dot{a}(t)$ and integrate. Calculate M, assuming a uniform mass distribution ρ inside the sphere. Choose the constant of integration such that you find the first Friedmann equation

$$\left(\frac{\dot{a}(t)}{a(t)}\right)^2 + \frac{K}{a(t)^2} = \frac{8\pi G}{3}\rho. \tag{2}$$

3. Derive the continuity equation from the first law of thermodynamics

$$dE = -pdV + TdS. (3)$$

If the particle interactions in a fluid are small, then we may neglect the heat transfer and set TdS = 0. Look at a volume $V = a(t)^3$ and derive the continuity equation.

4. Use your results from 2. and 3. to derive the second Friedmann equation

$$\frac{\ddot{a}(t)}{a(t)} = -\frac{4\pi G}{3}(\rho(t) + 3p(t)). \tag{4}$$