

CHAPTER OVERVIEW

13: The Expansion of the Universe

Chapter 13 presents the observational evidence for the expansion and age of the Universe and the basis of the Big Bang theory. The chapter begins by presenting some historical background that sets the context for understanding Edwin Hubble's observation that the Universe is expanding. You will determine the expansion rate, and then, using Hubble's Law, learn how to estimate the age of the Universe. The last section of the chapter introduces Big Bang theory; exploring properties of the expansion, including changes in density and temperature.

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