

The Structure and Interpretation of Cosmology

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to review, clarify, and critically analyse modern mathematical cosmology. The emphasis is upon the mathematical structures involved, rather than numerical computations. The opening section reviews and clarifies the Friedmann-Robertson-Walker models of General Relativistic Cosmology, while Section 2 deals with the spatially homogeneous models. Particular attention is paid to the topological and geometrical aspects of these models. Section 3 explains how the mathematical formalism can be linked with astronomical observation. Sections 4 and 5 provide a critical analysis of Inflationary Cosmology and Quantum Cosmology, with particular attention to the claims made that these theories can explain the creation of the universe.

Keywords: Cosmology Inflation Quantum Creation Geometry Topology Space Time Astronomy Colour

General Issues: Structure of Theories

Specific Sciences: Physics: Cosmology

Subjects: Specific Sciences: Mathematics

General Issues: Theory/Observation

Specific Sciences: Physics: Relativity Theory

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