

1) 95(4): Checking Units in Carroll's Chapter 8.

Correcting Carroll for a missing c , the RW metric is:

$$ds^2 = -c^2 dt^2 + a^2(t) \left(\frac{dr^2}{1-kr^2} + r^2 (d\theta + \sin^2\theta d\phi^2) \right) \quad (1)$$

Therefore a must be unitless and $1-kr^2$ must be unitless because eq. (1) must reduce to the Minkowski metric:

$$ds^2 = -c^2 dt^2 + dr^2 + r^2 (d\theta + \sin^2\theta d\phi^2) \quad (2)$$

The Friedmann equations used by Carroll are:

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

$$\left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\right)^2 = \frac{8\pi G}{3} \rho - \frac{k}{a^2} \quad (4)$$

SI: $G = \text{m kg}^{-1} \text{s}^{-2}$, $\rho = \text{kg m}^{-3}$, $p = \text{kg m}^{-1} \text{s}^{-2}$ $\quad (5)$

so \ddot{a} is in m^{-2} from eq. (3), because

a is unitless. From eq. (4), \dot{a} is in m^{-1} and k is in m^{-2} . This is consistent with the fact that r^2 is m^2 , so $1-kr^2$ is unitless. $\quad (6)$

Carroll also defines:

$$H = \frac{\dot{a}}{a} \quad \text{and} \quad \Omega = \frac{8\pi G}{3H^2} \rho = f$$

So H is in m^{-1} , and Ω is unitless. The

Friedmann eqn is then: $\Omega - 1 = \frac{k}{H^2 a^2}$ ✓

2) Up to this point the units are correct. However, Carroll starts to use $k = 0, \pm 1$. This is the source of the confusion. The SI units of k are m^{-2} .

Carroll also defines:

$$C := \frac{8\pi G}{3} \rho a^3 = \text{constant} \quad (6)$$

It is unclear how this can be a constant when $a(t)$ is a function of time. The units of C should be m^{-2} (inverse metres).

However, Carroll later uses: -(7)

$$a = \frac{c}{2} (1 - \cos \phi), \quad t = \frac{c}{2} (\phi - \sin \phi),$$

$$a = \frac{c}{2} (\cosh \phi - 1), \quad t = \frac{c}{2} (\sinh \phi - \phi), \quad (8)$$

$$a = \left(\frac{9c}{4} \right)^{1/3} t^{2/3}. \quad (9)$$

This is not self-consistent. In eq. (7a), a is m^{-2} , not unitless; in eq. (7b), c is sec not unitless. Similarly in eq. (8). In eq. (9), a is $m^{-2/3} t^{2/3}$.

In addition, Big Bang theory is incorrect as shown by Crotter.

My remedy to this confusion is to leave the results of page 95 as:

3)

$$\rho_e = 4\pi f \cdot \phi \epsilon_p \quad \checkmark \checkmark \quad C \quad m^{-3} \quad - (10)$$

$$J_r(\text{flat universe}) = \frac{A^{(0)}}{\mu_0} \left(\frac{4\pi \epsilon_p}{a^2} \right) \quad \checkmark \checkmark \quad (s^{-1} m^{-2}) \quad - (11)$$

$$J_r(\text{closed universe}) = \frac{A^{(0)}}{\mu_0} \left(4\pi \epsilon_p \left(1 - \frac{k r^2}{a^2} \right) \right) \quad - (12)$$

$$\boxed{k = 1.0 \text{ m}^{-2}} \quad - (13)$$

$$r^2 J_\theta = r^2 \sin^2 \theta J_\phi = \frac{A^{(0)}}{\mu_0} \left(\frac{4\pi \epsilon_p}{a^2} \right) \quad - (14)$$

$$J_r(\text{open universe}) = \frac{A^{(0)}}{\mu_0} \left(4\pi \epsilon_p \left(1 - \frac{k r^2}{a^2} \right) \right) \quad - (15)$$

$$\boxed{k = -1.0 \text{ m}^{-2}} \quad - (16)$$

$$r^2 J_\theta = r^2 \sin^2 \theta J_\phi = \frac{A^{(0)}}{\mu_0} \left(\frac{4\pi \epsilon_p}{a^2} \right) \quad - (17)$$

Value of a^2

My suggested remedy for plotting is to use
in eq. (11): $a \propto t^{2/3}$ $- (18)$

In eqs (12) and (14): $a \propto \left(\frac{1 - \cos \phi}{\phi - \sin \phi} \right) t$ $- (19)$

In eqs. (15) and (17): $a \propto \left(\frac{\cos^2 \phi - 1}{\sin^2 \phi - \phi} \right) t$ $- (20)$