

CLASS STARTER



WHAT IS THE HORIZON PROBLEM?

with Dr Malcolm Fairbairn, Department of Physics.

Watch the video at www.kcl.ac.uk/3MinT

LINKED SUBJECTS:

Physics, Mathematics

DISCUSSION POINTS FOR... **Physics**

1. Why can't you see through a fire? What is the wavelength of the cosmic microwave background (CMB) when the universe becomes transparent and what is its wavelength today? How does this correspond to the expansion factor of the universe? Do we get more photons per cubic centimeter from the sun or from the CMB?



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DISCUSSION POINTS FOR... **Mathematics**

1. If there are two objects which are indefinitely far apart today, how far apart were they at the big bang (we assume for this that there was an actual big bang!) What is the Universe expanding into?



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