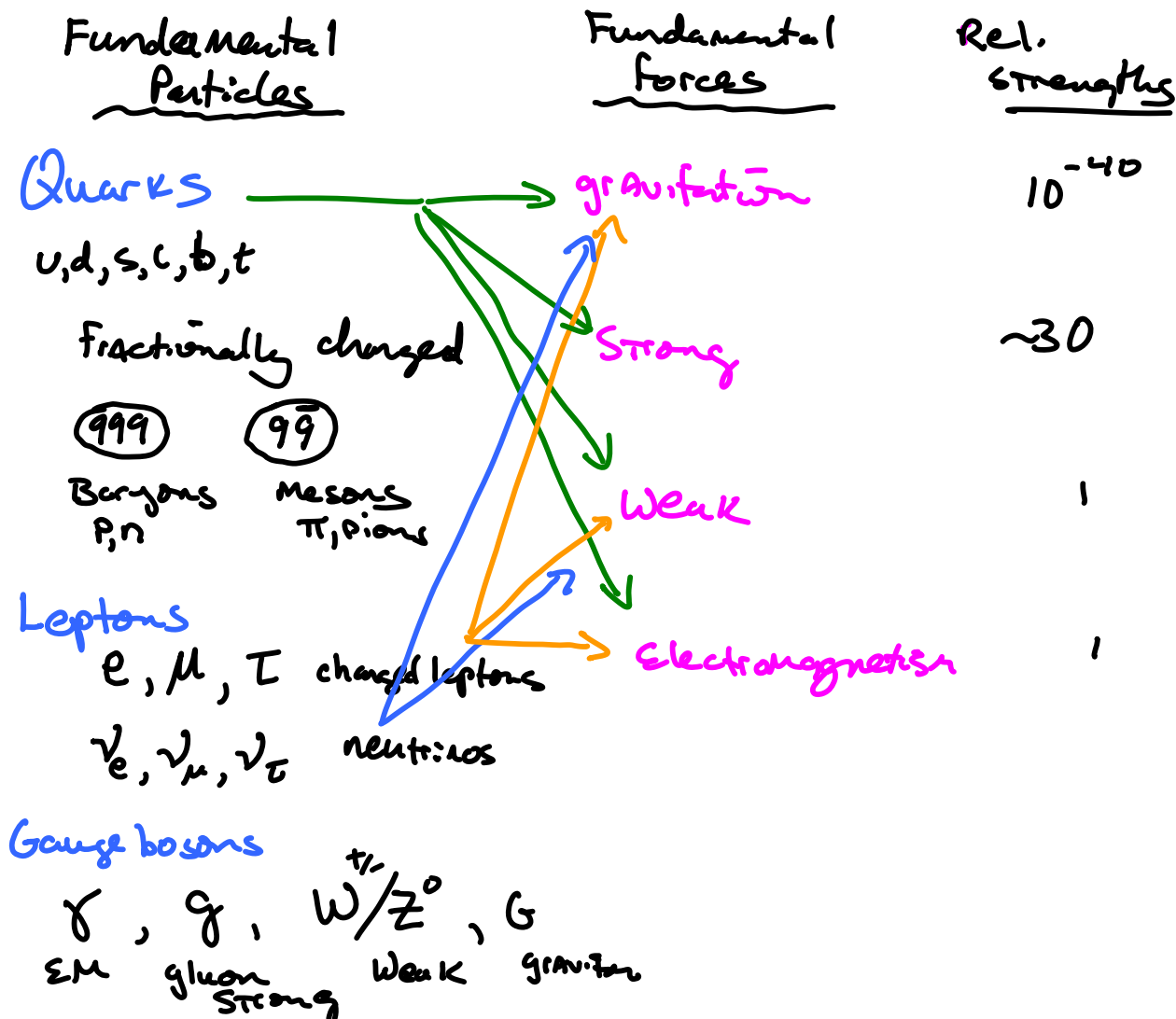


Physics 102 - March 28, 2011



Have pushed into inner space about as far as we can go.

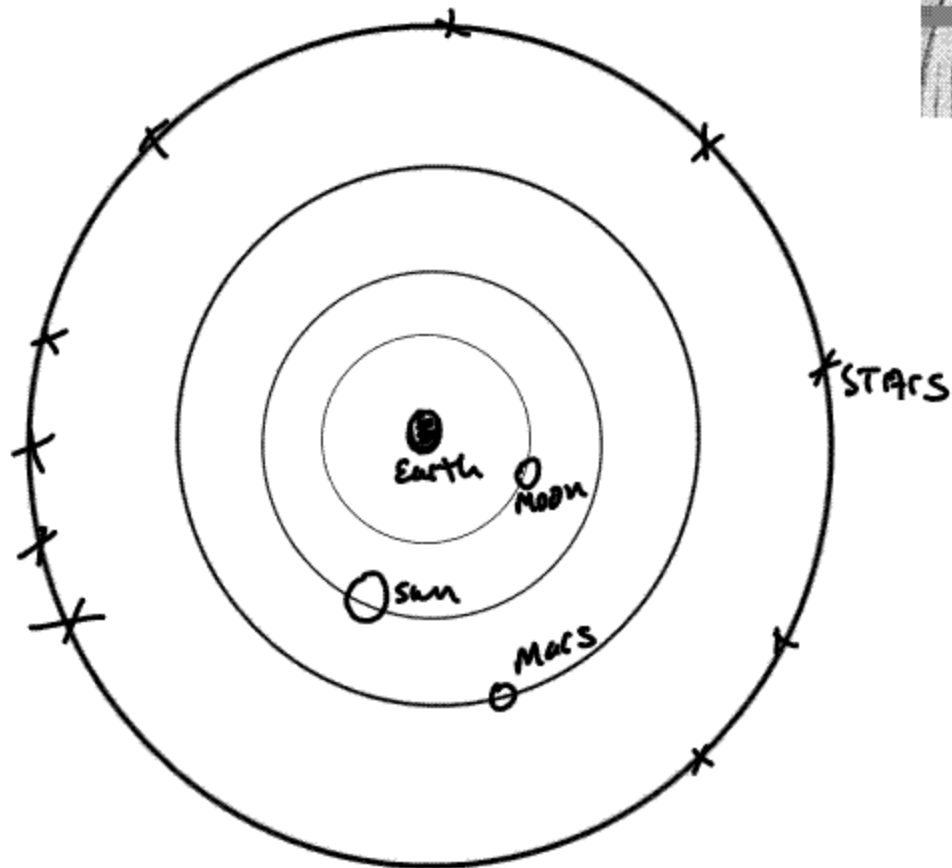
Now let's look at man's place in the cosmos and cosmology -

The origin and evolution of our universe.

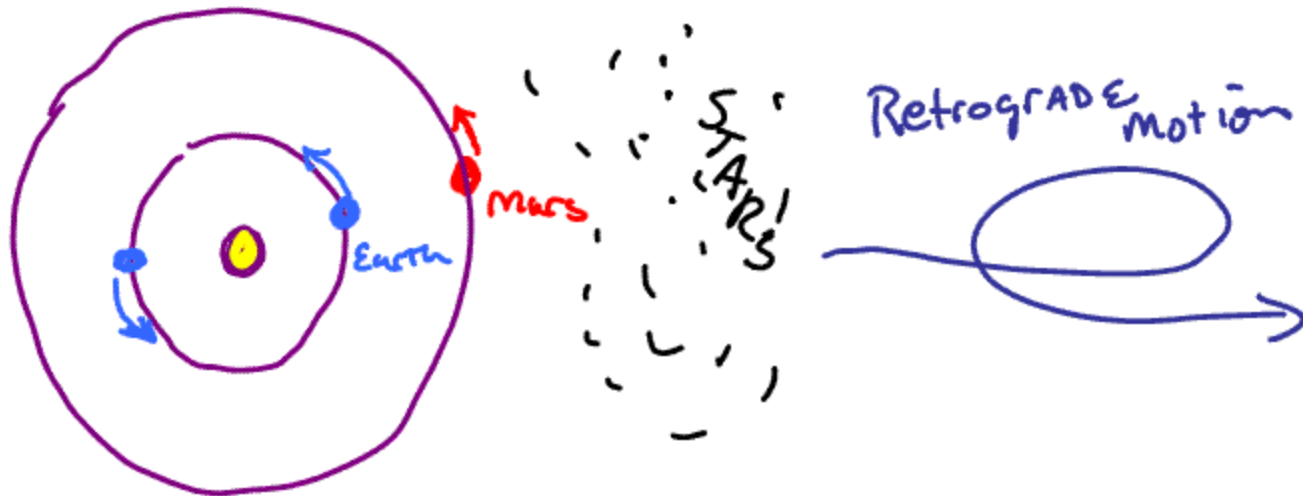
Move from inner space to outer space

Pythagorean theory

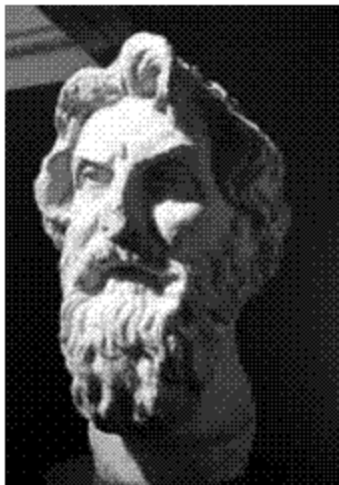
Early Greek view of the universe



Pythagoras
of
Samos
~ 500BC

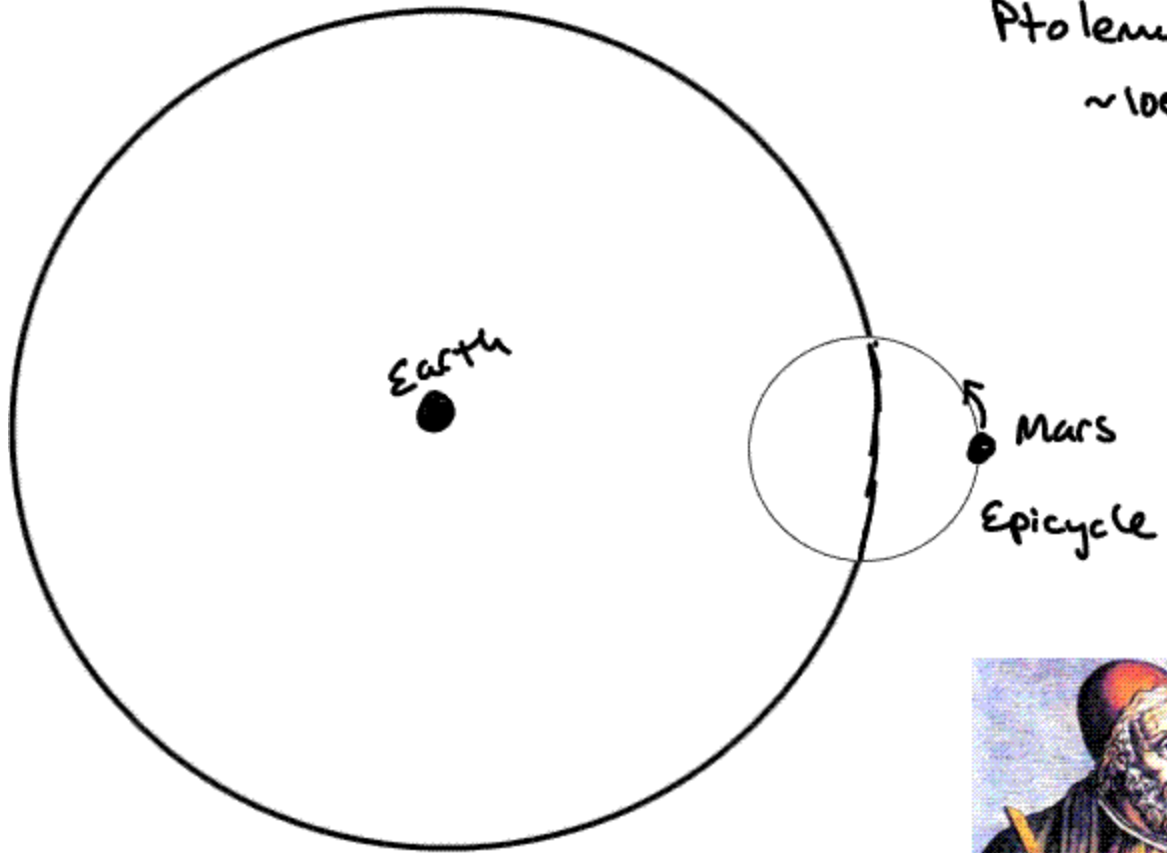


Plato ~ 400 BC ~ Multiple spheres



Aristarchus ~ 310 - 230 BC
(Greek)

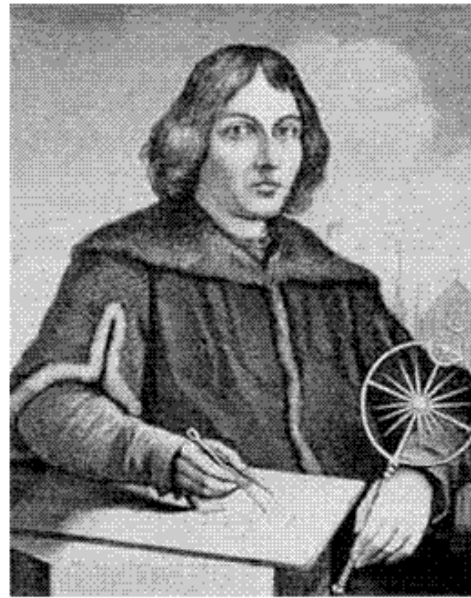
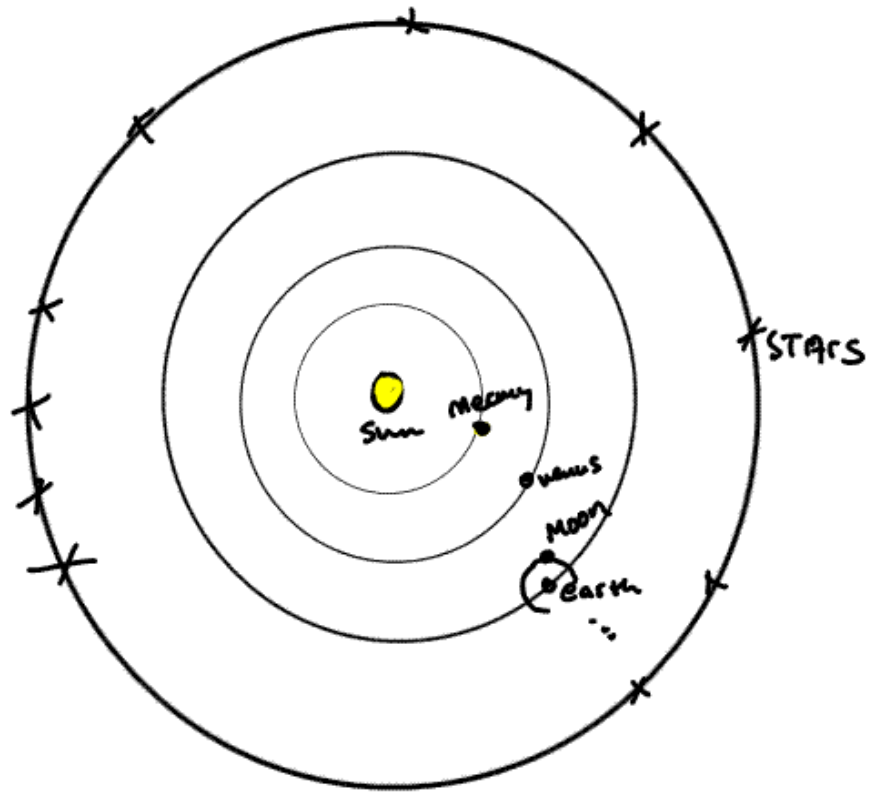
Proposed sun-centered universe
→ rejected



Ptolemy
~100 AD



Sun centered universe



Nicolaus Copernicus

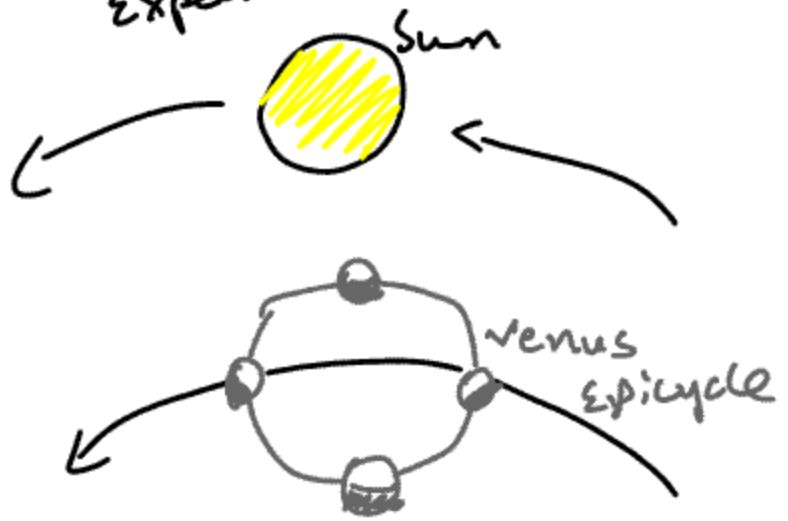
1473-1543

(Poland)

On the Revolutions of the
Heavenly Spheres

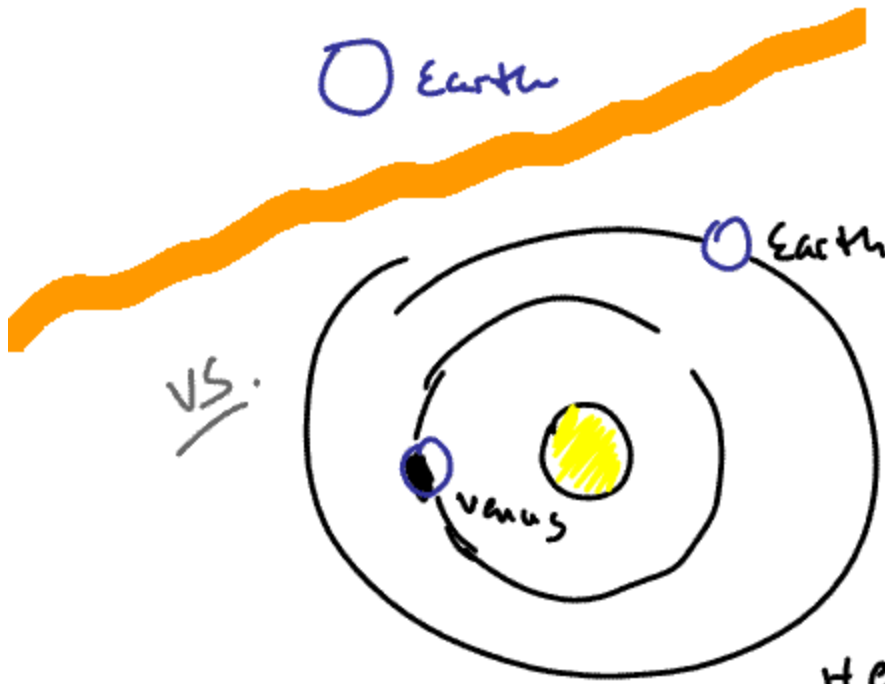
Please read "The Copernican Myths"
in Reserve reading on Blackboard

Ptolemy
Expectation



Galileo Galilei
(1564 - 1642)

Earth



vs.

Heliocentric expectation

Observed phases
of Venus



Tycho Brahe
1546-1601
(Dane)
careful observations
of positions
of sun, moon, planets

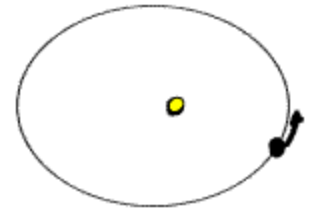


Determined 3 laws
that mathematically
describe orbits seen -
relate periods, areas, axes

Brahe's data did NOT fit perfectly
with Copernicus' theory



Johannes Kepler
1571-1630
(German)



⇒ Elliptical orbits
fits the data!



Sir Isaac Newton
1643-1727
(England)

universal law of gravitation

$$F = G \frac{M_1 M_2}{r^2}$$

+

Laws of Motion

⇒ derived Kepler's

3 laws of planetary motion

Copernican Principle:

Earth is not in a central, favored position in the universe.

Humans do not occupy a privileged position in the universe

Mediocrity Principle:

There is nothing special about humans/Earth

If you observe a phenomenon (or an exceptional event), it should be assumed the event occurs other times/places under the correct circumstances

Anthropic Principle

Brandon Carter - Australian astrophysicist

1973 "Although our situation is not necessarily central, it is inevitably privileged to some extent."

Weak anthropic Principle (Carter): Our location (space and time) in the universe is necessarily privileged to the extent of being compatible with our existence as observers.

Strong anthropic Principle: ^(Carter) The universe must be such as to admit the creation of observers within it at some stage

John Barrow, Frank Tipler (1986)

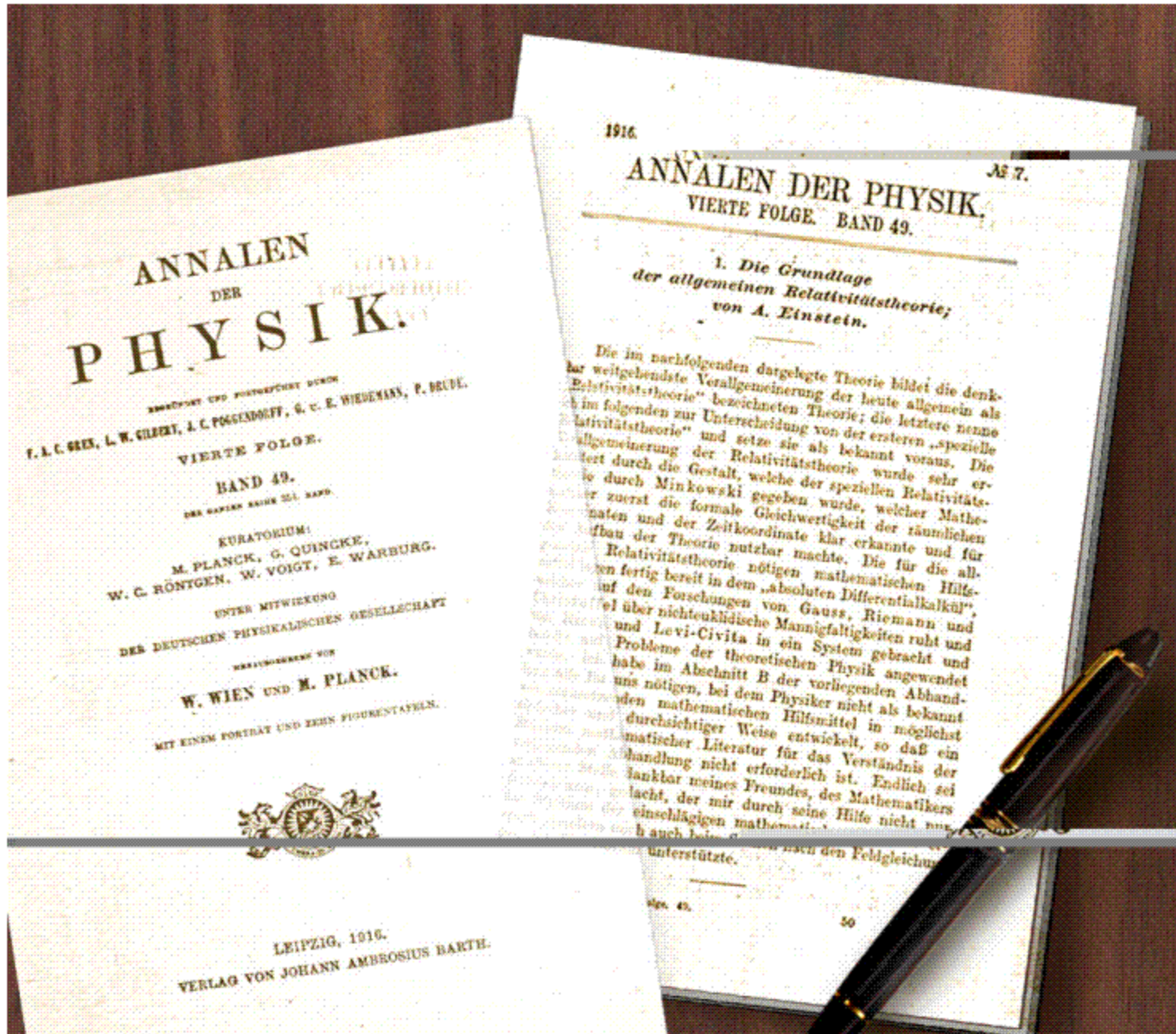
Weak anthropic Principle (Barrow + Tipler):

The observed values of all physical and cosmological quantities are not equally probable but they must take on values restricted by the requirement that there exist sites where carbon-based life can evolve and by the requirements that the universe be old enough for it to have already done so.

Strong anthropic Principle (Barrow + Tipler):

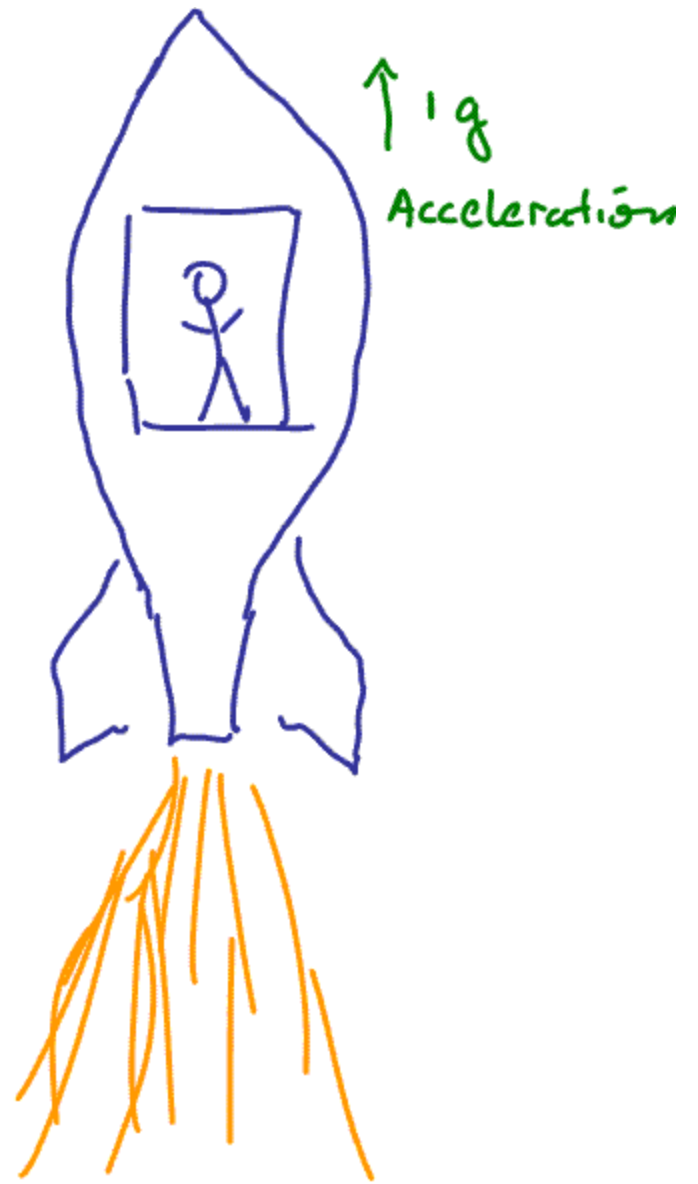
The Universe must have those properties which allow life to develop within it at some stage in its history.

The Theory of General Relativity - Einstein 1916





vs



accelerated reference frames

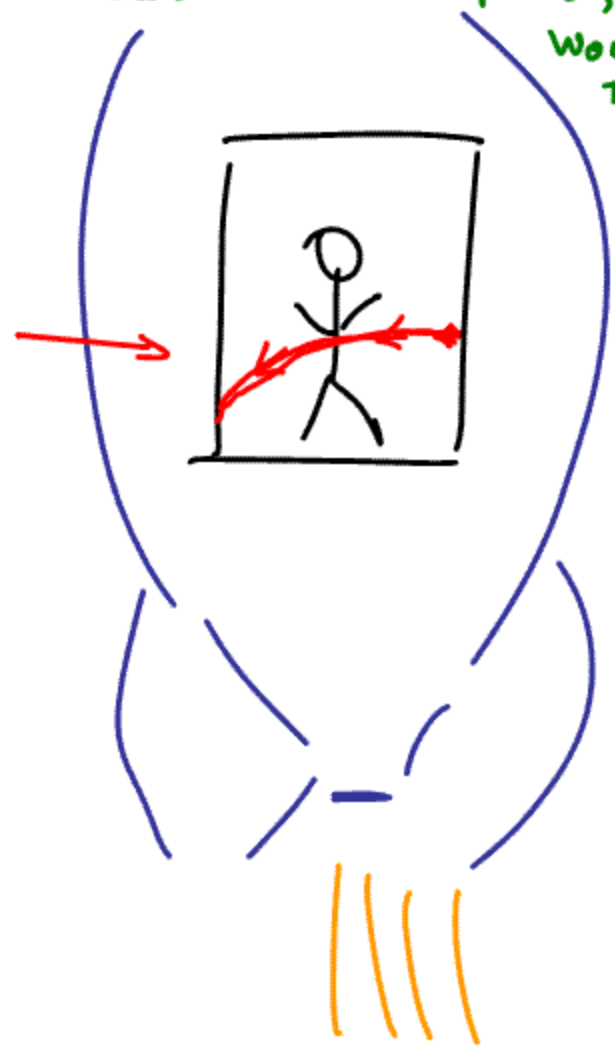
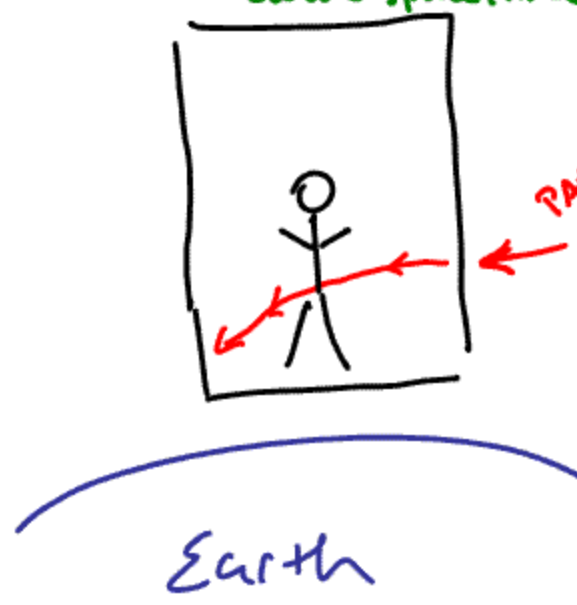
|||

gravitational field

If you are in a closed box —
you can't tell if you are at rest on earth's surface or
accelerating in a rocket at $1g$.

Equivalence of gravity \Leftarrow
Means grav. field must curve spacetime

In accelerated rocket ship case, light would seem to travel on curved path

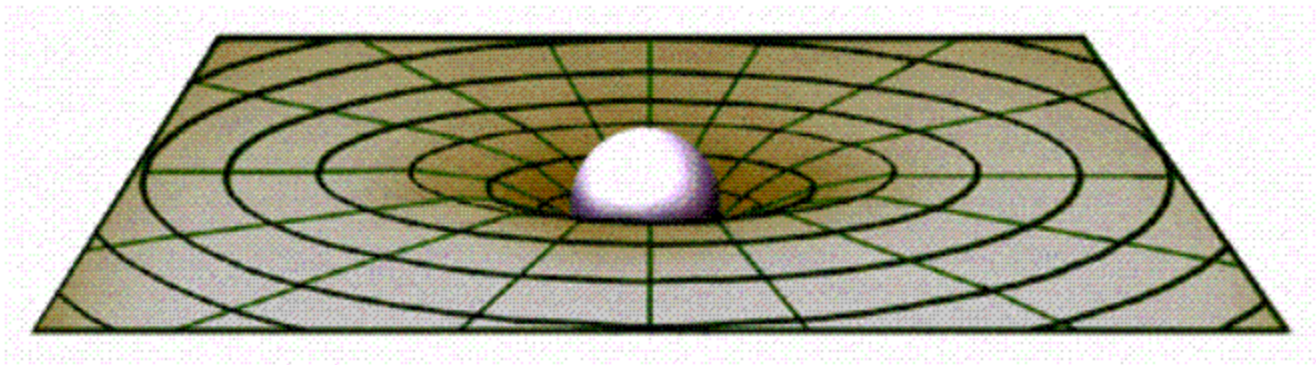
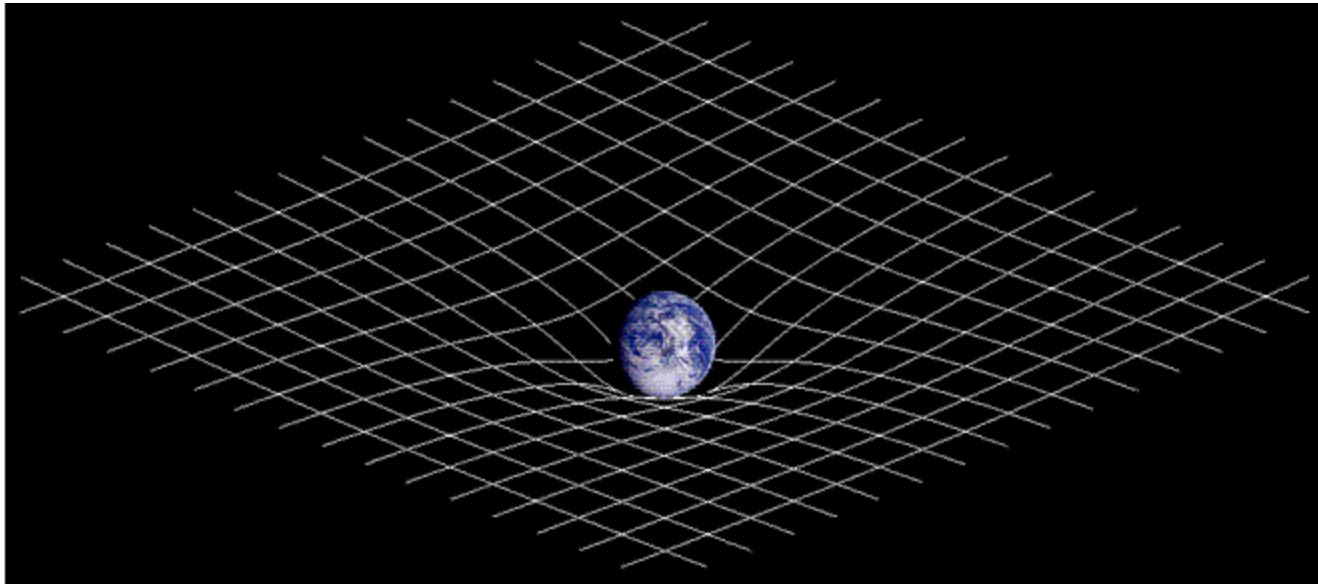


GRAV \equiv Accel. frame

light moves on a geodesic \uparrow

Shortest dist. between two points

So, Einstein interprets gravitation as a curvature of spacetime



Imagine that MASS causes curvature / depression in the fabric of spacetime ... is it true??

The fecund multiverse - cosmological natural selection



Fruitful in offspring

Lee Smolin
"The Life of the Cosmos"
Oxford Univ. Press 1997

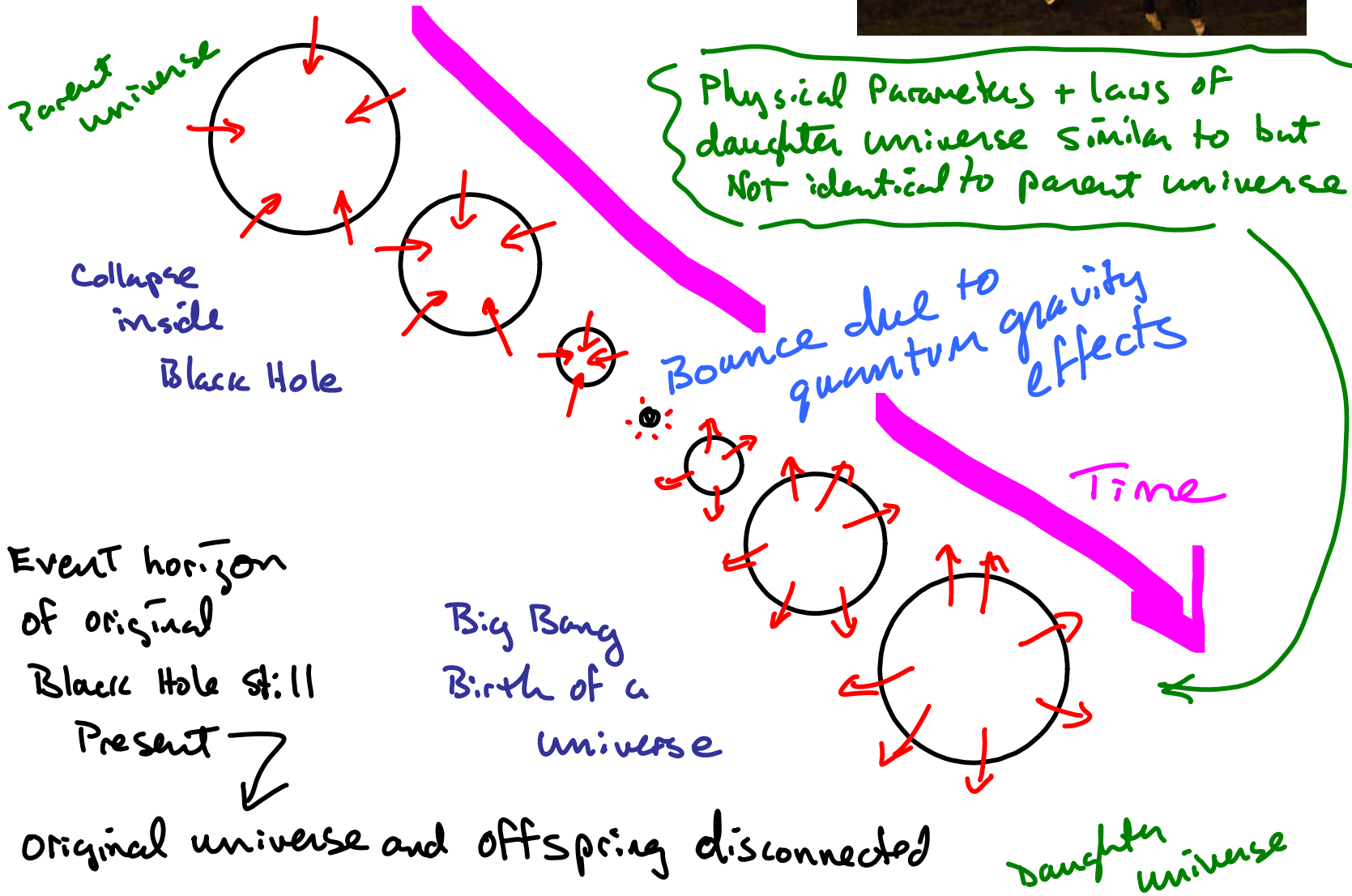
What happens inside a Black hole?



Beasts Dwell here
→ Singularity

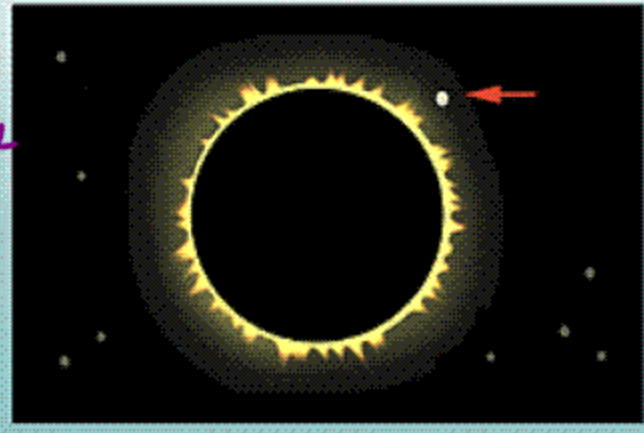
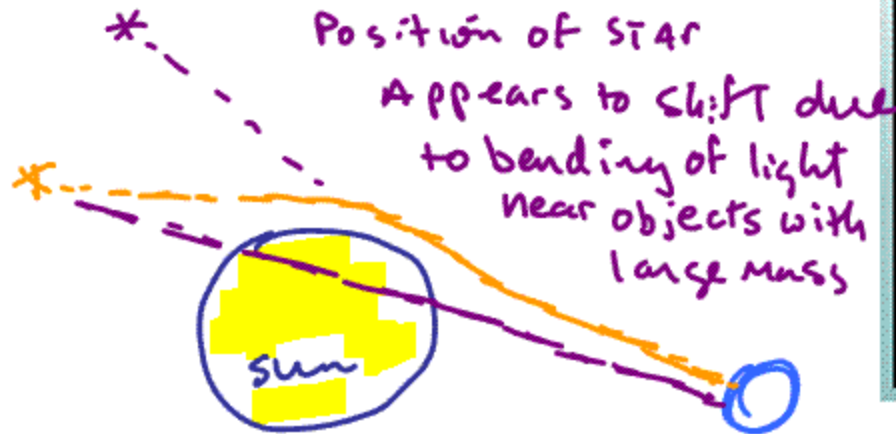
classical general relativity:
curvature of spacetime is ∞
Physics as we know it ends

Quantum gravity to the rescue?

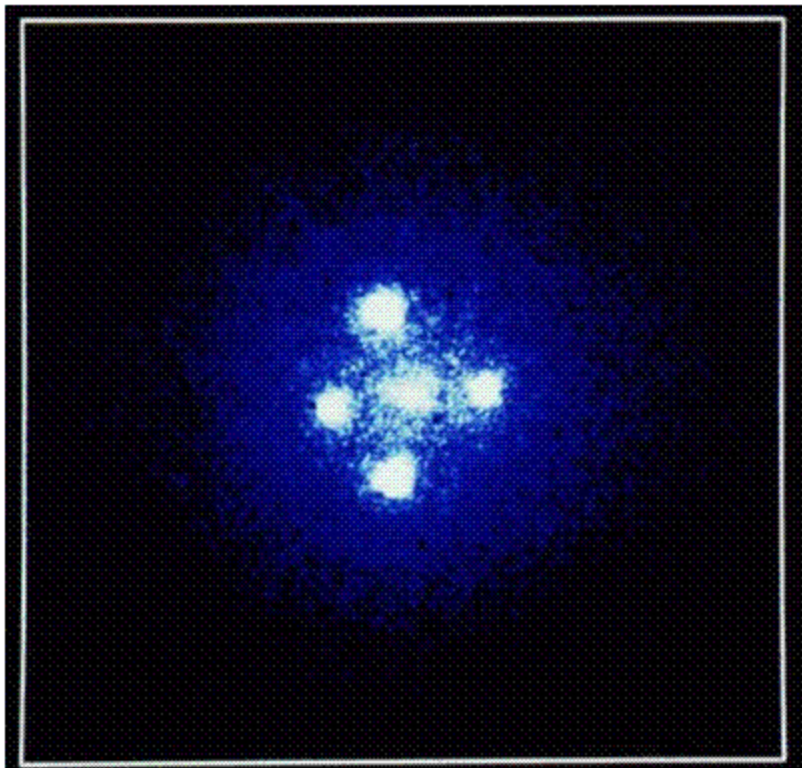
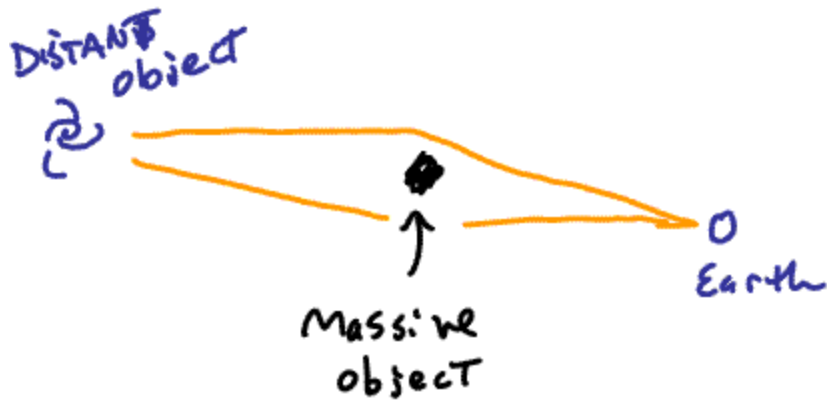


Experimental evidence supporting General Relativity

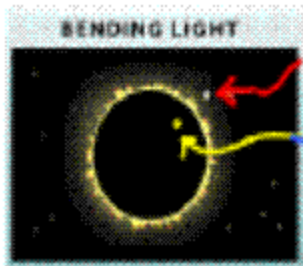
BENDING LIGHT



Gravitational Lensing



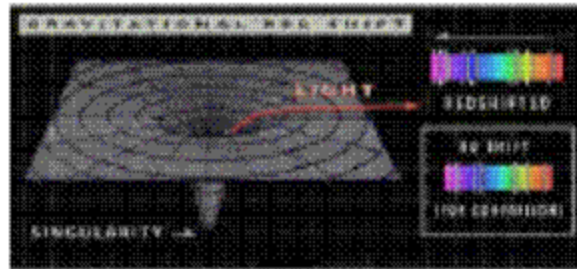
Gravitational Lens G2237+0305



■ Bending of light by gravitational field ✓

Actual position

■ Gravitational redshift of light ✓



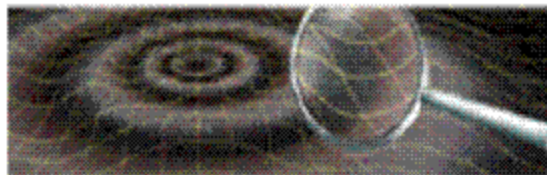
■ Perihelion advance of Mercury ✓



■ Gravitational Waves ?

Amplitude $\sim 10^{-16}$ m

LIGO



Cosmology

Scientific Study of the large scale structure of the universe — Attempt to understand to origin, evolution and fate of the universe

http://wmap.gsfc.nasa.gov/m_uni.html

good online reference
for this class

Cosmetology

The business of being a beautician — The treatment of skins, hair and nails

<http://careerplanning.about.com/cs/occupations/p/cosmetology.htm>

Not quite the same thing

While we're at it ...

Astronomy



Astrology