

Gravity under the microscope

Leonardo Castellani

Università del Piemonte Orientale



Belgrade, June 23-d, 2015



gravity

Accedi

Web Video Immagini Notizie Shopping Altro ▾ Strumenti di ricerca

Circa 193.000.000 risultati (0,53 secondi)

GRAVITY - Now playinggravitymovie.warnerbros.com/ ▾ Traduci questa pagina

From acclaimed filmmaker Alfonso Cuarón comes "Gravity", starring Sandra Bullock and George Clooney. View the trailer and explore the exclusive 3D ...

Gravity (film) - Wikipedia[https://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gravity_\(film\)](https://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gravity_(film)) ▾

Gravity è un film del 2013 diretto, co-scritto, co-montato e co-prodotto da Alfonso Cuarón, che ha per protagonisti Sandra Bullock e George Clooney. Il film ha ...
 Alfonso Cuarón - Plausibilità scientifica di Gravity - Sospensione dell'incredulità

Gravity - Trailer Ufficiale in Italiano | HD - YouTubewww.youtube.com/watch?v=aMUOOC5uNUM ▾

29 mag 2013 - Caricato da Warner Bros. Italia

Segui Gravity su: <https://www.facebook.com/GravityIT> Gravity è disponibile in digital download su ...

Gravity - MYmovieswww.mymovies.it ▾ film ▾ 2013 ▾

Valutazione: 3,5 - 189 recensioni

Acquista su Ibs.it Soundtrack Gravity Dvd Gravity Blu-Ray Gravity. Un film di Alfonso Cuarón. Con Sandra Bullock, George Clooney, Ed Harris, Orto Ignatiusen, ...

Gravity (2013) - IMDbwww.imdb.com/title/tt1454468/ ▾ Traduci questa pagina

Valutazione: 7,9/10 - 504.459 voti

Videos. Gravity -- Winner of 7 Academy Awards, including Best Director! Astronauts Ryan Stone - Gravity -- Clip: Detached ...

"Gravity", che bello far finta di crederci - La Stampawww.lastampa.it/2013/10/03/societa/gravity-che-bello.../pagina.html ▾

03 ott 2013 - La lunghissima sequenza di apertura di «Gravity» è fantastica. I critici che se ne intendono la paragonano al miglior Antonioni. Non so, per me ...

Nelle notizie**Passengers, Jennifer Lawrence e Chris Pratt protagonisti della versione romantica di Gravity**www.Mauxa.com - 1 ora fa

Jennifer Lawrence e Chris Pratt: lauto cachet per interpretare i protagonisti di Passengers, ...

Zero Gravity: musica elettronica fra vintage e elettro wave
mentelocale.it - 2 giorni fa

[Altre notizie su gravity](#)**Gravity - Film (2013) - Comingsoon.it**www.comingsoon.it ▾ film ▾ 2013 ▾

Valutazione: 3,8 - 758 voti

Gravity, scheda del film di Alfonso Cuarón con George Clooney e Sandra Bullock, leggi la trama e la recensione, guarda il trailer, trova la programmazione al ...

Gravity (2013) - Rotten Tomatoeswww.rottentomatoes.com/m/gravity_2013/ ▾ Traduci questa pagina

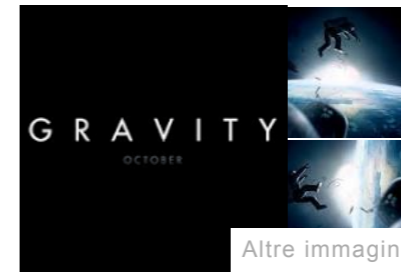
Valutazione: 97% - 306 voti

Critics Consensus: Alfonso Cuarón's Gravity is an eerie, tense sci-fi thriller that's masterfully directed and visually stunning.

Gravity Reviews - Metacriticwww.metacritic.com/movie/gravity ▾ Traduci questa pagina

Valutazione: 96% - 49 recensioni

Gravity is out of this world. Words can do little to convey the visual astonishment this



Altre immagini

Gravity

Film (2013)

3,5/5 · [MYmovies.it](#)7,9/10 · [IMDb](#)3,8/5 · [Comingsoon.it](#)97% · [Rotten Tomatoes](#)

Gravity è un film del 2013 diretto, co-scritto, co-montato e co-prodotto da Alfonso Cuarón, che ha per protagonisti Sandra Bullock e George Clooney.
[Wikipedia](#)

Data di uscita: 3 ottobre 2013 (Italia)**Regista:** Alfonso Cuarón**Durata:** 1h 31m**Premi:** Oscar al miglior regista, Oscar ai migliori effetti speciali, altri**Sceneggiatura:** Alfonso Cuarón, George Clooney, Jonás Cuarón**Cast**

Visualizza oltre 2 elementi



Sandra Bullock
 Dottoressa Ryan Stone



George Clooney
 Matt Kowalsky



Ed Harris

Ricerche correlate

Visualizza oltre 15 elementi



Interstellar
 2014



Apollo 18
 2011



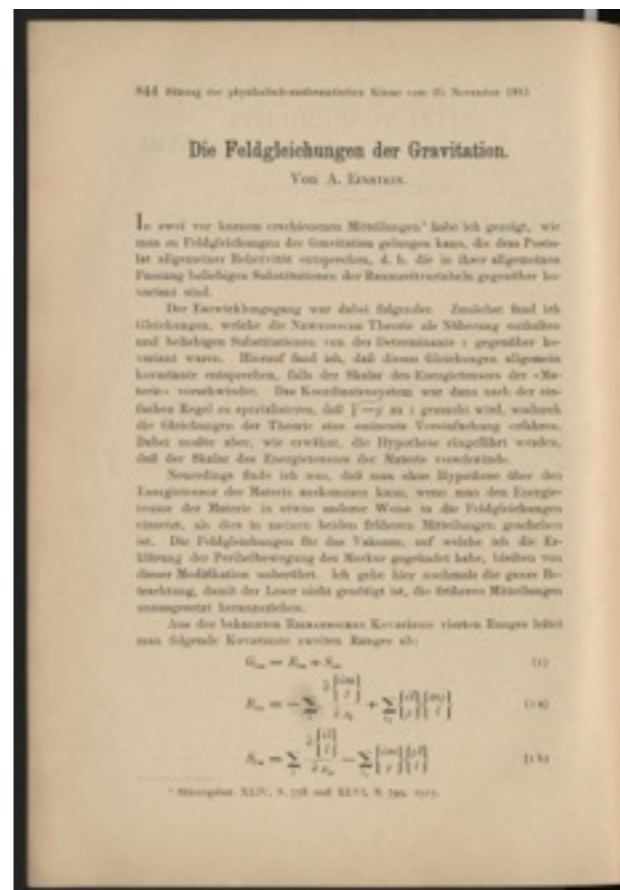
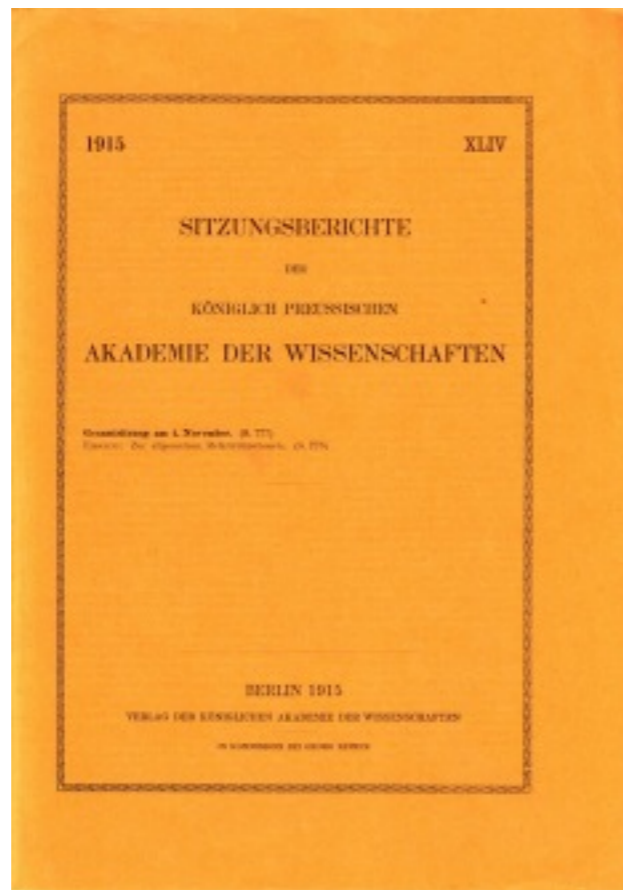
Abbandando... nello spa...
 1969

[Feedback](#)

2015

100-th anniversary of Einstein's equations

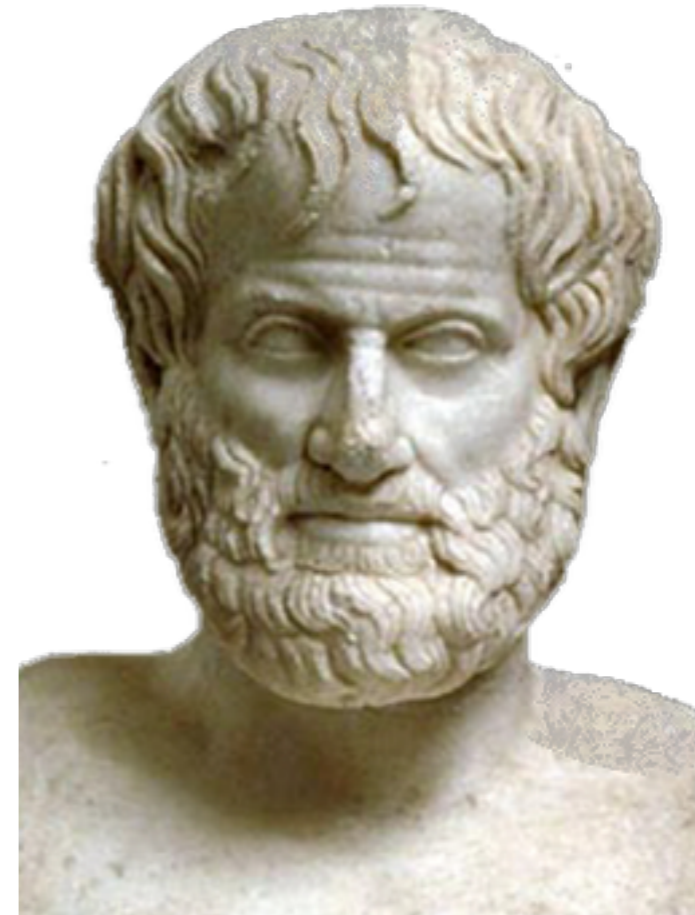
$$R_{ij} + \frac{1}{2}g_{ij}R = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4}T_{ij}$$



Aristotle (385-322 BC)



Aristotle. *Metaphysica*, *Physica*, and *De Meteoris*



- falling bodies: **velocity proportional to weight**

Note: not so wrong, since bodies are falling in a *medium*,
and terminal velocity depends on weight

- knows that velocity increases
- no quantitative law

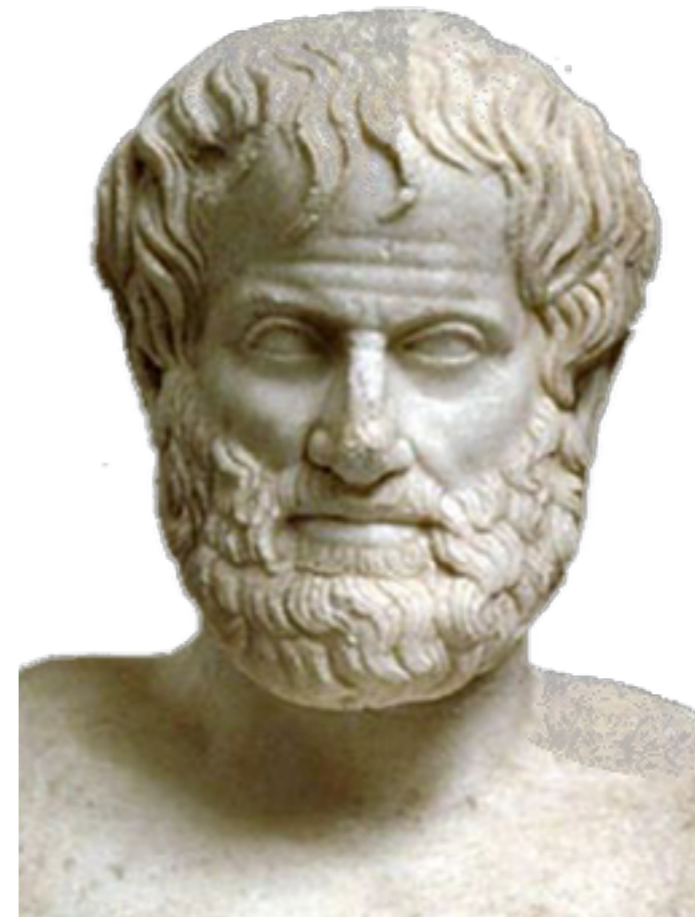
Aristotle (385-322 BC)



Aristotle. *Metaphysica*, *Physica*, and *De Meteoris*

The works of Aristotle that have survived from antiquity through medieval manuscript transmission are collected in the **Corpus Aristotelicum**.

Physics: a treatise which divides into two main parts, the first an inquiry into nature (books 1–4) and the second a treatment of motion (books 5–8)



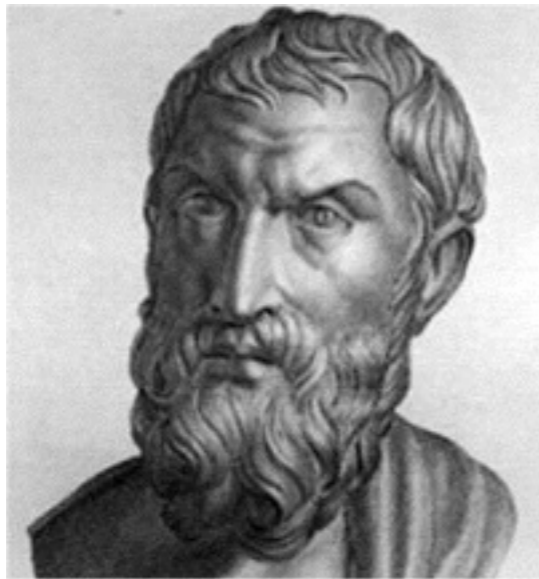
- falling bodies: **velocity proportional to weight**

Note: not so wrong, since bodies are falling in a *medium*, and terminal velocity depends on weight

- knows that velocity increases
- no quantitative law

Lucretius (c. 99 BC – c. 55 BC)

De rerum natura The poem consists of six books, in dactylic hexameters.



*omnia quapropter debent per inane quietum
aeque ponderibus non aequis concita ferri.*

II, 238-239

(1)



T. LUCRETII CARI
DE
RERUM NATURA
Liber Primus.



ENEADUM genatrix, hominum di-
vumque voluptas,
Alma Venus, coeli subter labentia
signa
Quae mare navigerum, quae terras fru-
giferentis.

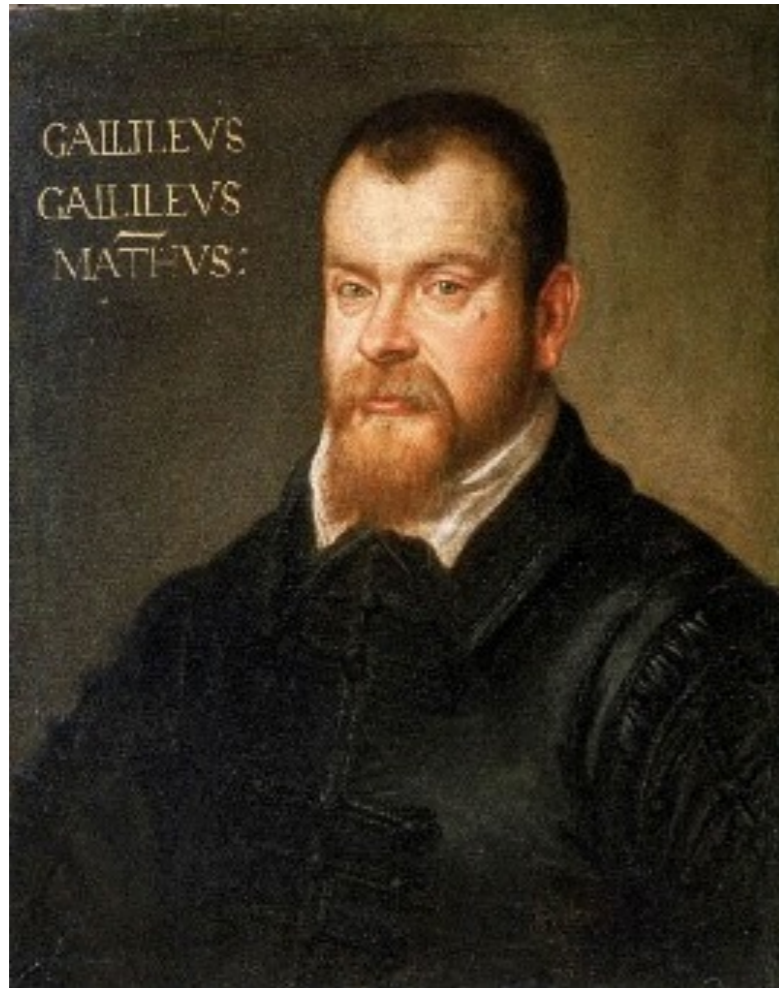
Cocelebras : per te quoniam genus omne animantium
Concipitur, visitque exortum lumina folis :
Te, Dea, te fugant venti, te nubila coeli,
Adventumque tuum : tibi succubis daedala tellus
Summittit flores, tibi ridet aequora ponti,
Placatumque nitet diffuso lumine coelum.
Nam simul ac species patefacta 'st verna diei,
Et referata viget genitabilis aura Favoni :
Aeris primum volucres te, diva, tuumque
Significant initum percussae corda tua vi.
Inde ferre pecudes perfructant pabula laeta,
Et rapidos tranant amneis : ita capta lepore,
Ulecebrisque tuis omnis natura animantium

B

Te

“...wherefore all things carry on through the calm void
moving at equal rate with unequal weights.”

Galileo (1564 – 1642)



DIALOGO DI GALILEO GALILEI LINCEO MATEMATICO SOPRAORDINARIO DELLO STUDIO DI PISA. *E Filosofo, e Matematico primario del* SERENISSIMO GR. DVCA DI TOSCANA.

Dooue ne i congressi di quattro giornate si discorre
sopra i due

MASSIMI SISTEMI DEL MONDO
TOLEMAICO, E COPERNICANO;

*Propoendo indeterminatamente le ragioni Filosofiche, e Naturali
tanto per l'una, quanto per l'altra parte.*

CON PRI



VILEGI.

IN FIRENZA, Per Gio:Batista Landini MDCXXXII.

CON LICENZA DE' SUPERIORI.

- all bodies on Earth fall with same acceleration **g**
(if air neglected)



two spheres
unequal densities



Apollo 15

Launched: 26 July 1971 UT 13:34:00 (09:34:00 a.m. EDT)

Landed on Moon: 30 July 1971 UT 22:16:29 (06:16:29 p.m. EDT)

Landing Site: Hadley Rille/Apennines (26.13 N, 3.63 E)

Returned to Earth: 7 August 1971 UT 20:45:53 (04:45:53 p.m. EDT)

David R. Scott, commander

Alfred M. Worden, command module pilot

James B. Irwin, lunar module pilot

“The feather and the hammer”



Let's try a little experiment
here on Earth...

- PRINCIPLE OF INERTIA

A body moving on a level surface will continue in the same direction at constant speed unless disturbed

- PRINCIPLE OF RELATIVITY

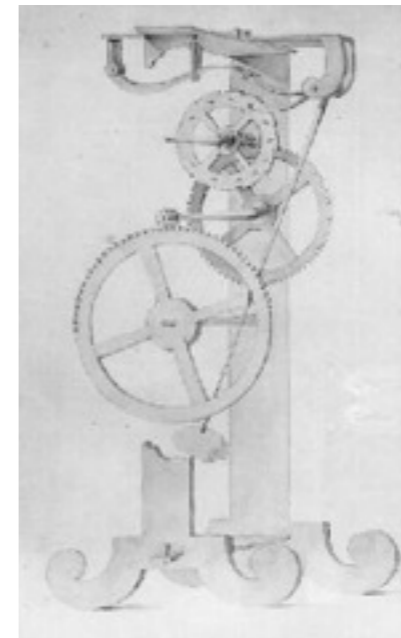
the laws of physics are the same in any system that is moving at a constant speed in a straight line



* Esperienza opposta alle prodotte contra al moto della terra.

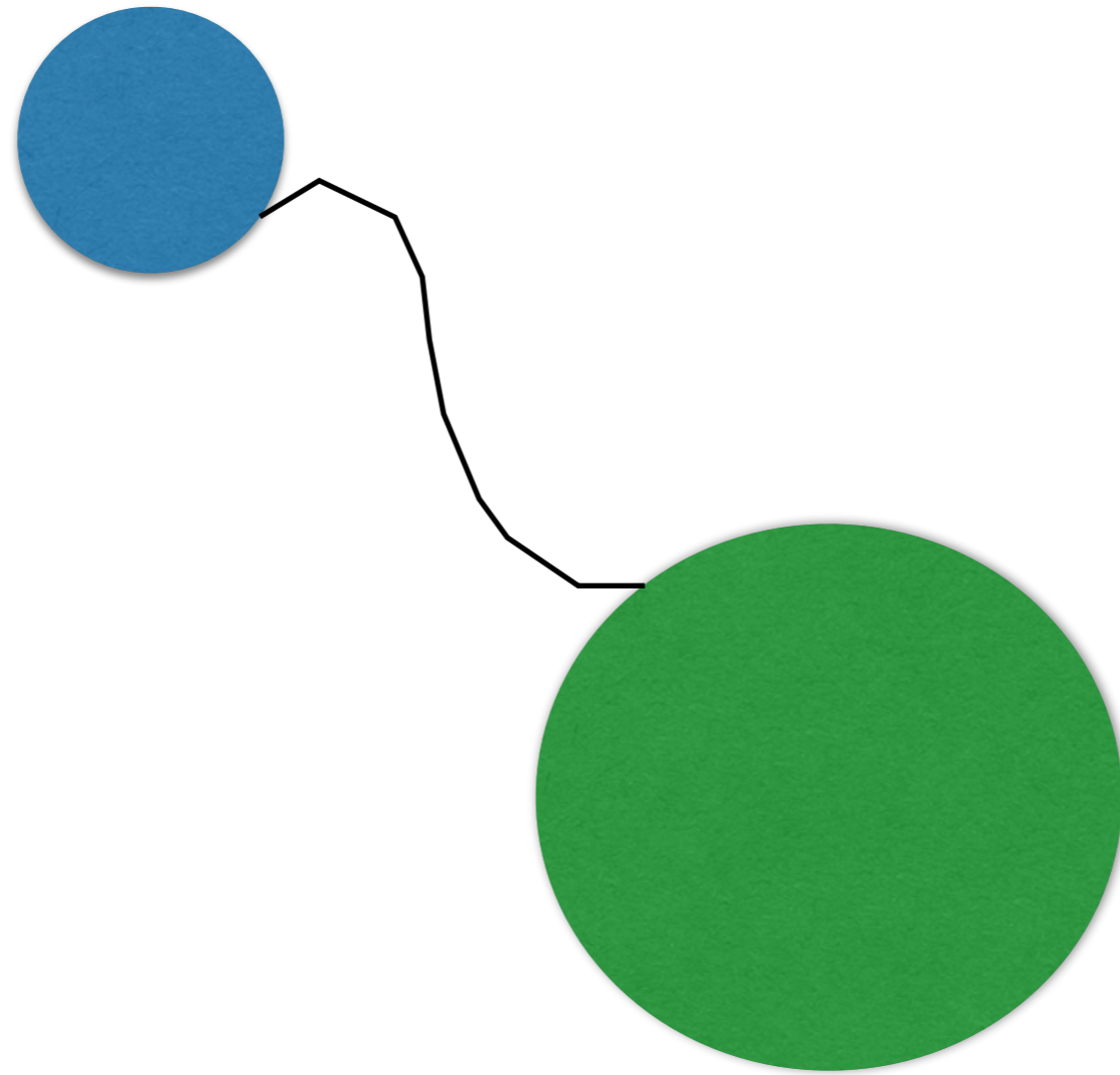
della nullità di tutte le esperienze addotte, mi par tempo, e luogo di mostrar' il modo di sperimentarle tutte facilissimamente. Riserratevi con qualche amico nella maggiore stanza, che sia sotto coverta di alcun gran navilio, e quivi fate d'aver mosche, farfalle, e simili animaletti volanti: siavi anco un gran vaso d'acqua, e dentrovi de' pescetti; sospendasi anco in alto qualche secchiello, che a goccia a goccia vadi versando dell'acqua in un'altro vaso di angusta bocca, che sia posto a basso; e stando ferma la nave, osservate diligentemente, come quelli animaletti volanti, con pari velocità, vanno verso tutte le parti della stanza; i pesci si vedranno andar notando indifferentemente per tutti i versi, le stille cadenti entreranno tutte nel vaso sottoposto; e voi gettando all'amico alcuna cosa, non più gagliardamente la dovrete gettare verso quella parte, che verso questa, quando le lontananze sieno eguali; e saltando voi, come si dice, a piè giunti, eguali spazii passerete verso tutte le parti. Osservate che averete diligentemente tutte queste cose; benchè niun dubbio ci sia, che mentre il vassello sta fermo non debbano succeder così; fate muover la nave con quanta si voglia velocità: che (pur che il moto sia uniforme, e non fluttuante in qua, e in là) voi non riconoscerete una minima mutazione in tutti li nominati effetti; nè da alcuno di quelli potrete comprender se la nave cammina, o pure sta ferma. Voi saltando passerete nel tavolato i medesimi spazii, che prima; nè perchè la nave si muove velocissimamente, farete maggior salti verso la poppa, che verso la prora, benchè nel tempo, che voi stete in aria, il tavolato sottopostovi scorra verso la parte contraria al vostro salto; e gettando alcuna cosa al compagno, non con più forza bisognerà tirarla per arrivarlo, se egli sarà verso la prora, e voi verso poppa, che se voi foste situati per l'opposito: le goccioline cadranno, come prima, nel vaso inferiore, senza caderne pur una verso poppa, benchè, mentre la gocciola è per aria, la nave scorra molti palmi; i pesci nella lor'acqua non con più fatica noteranno verso la precedente, che verso la susseguente parte del vaso; ma con pari agevolezza verranno al cibo posto su qualsivoglia luogo dell'orlo del vaso; e finalmente le farfalle, e le mosche continueranno i lor voli indifferentemente verso tutte le parti; nè mai acca-

- **quantitative** study of motion of falling bodies
- use of balls rolling on inclined planes
- use of water-clocks
- **real and mental experiments**

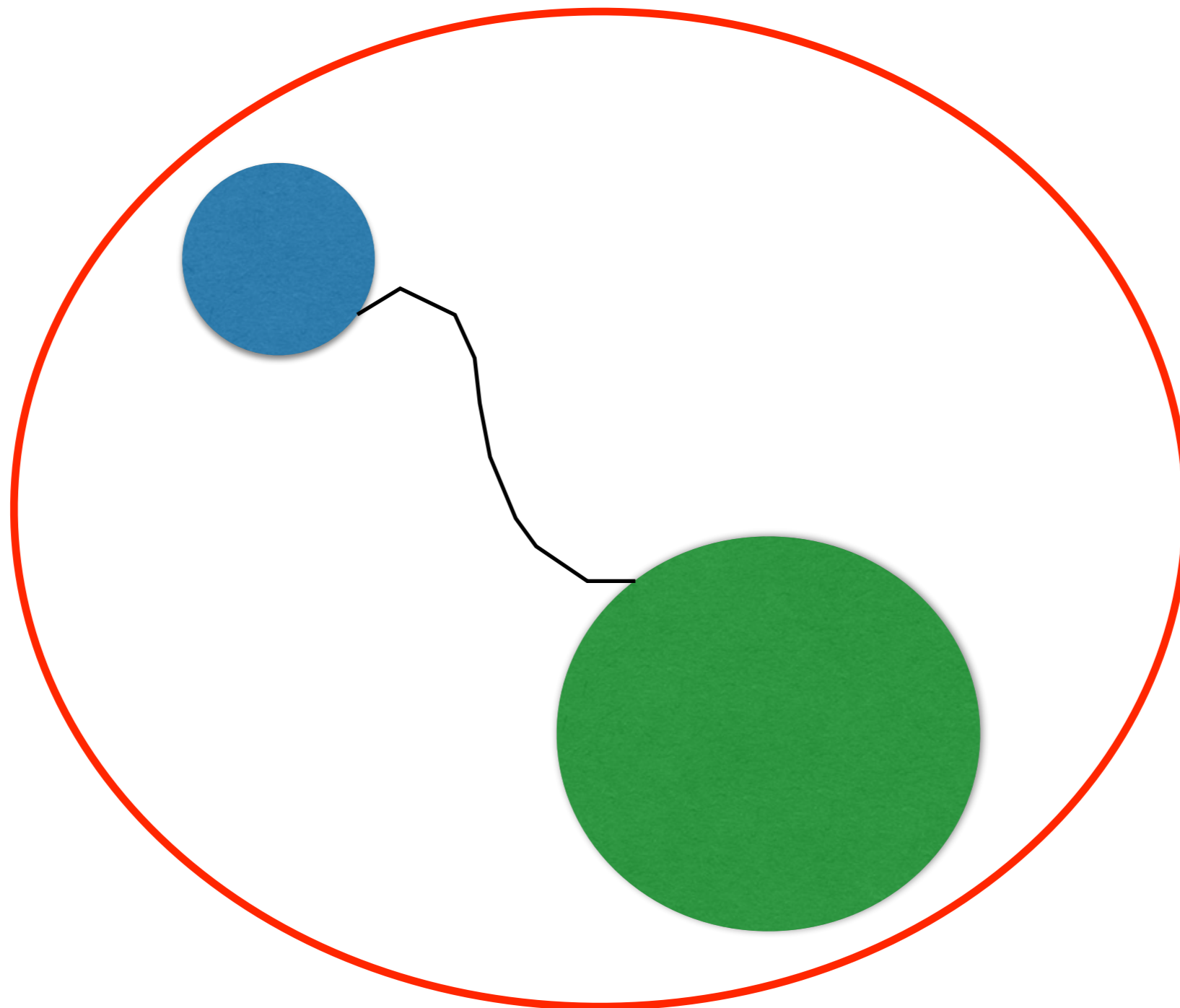


Mental experiment

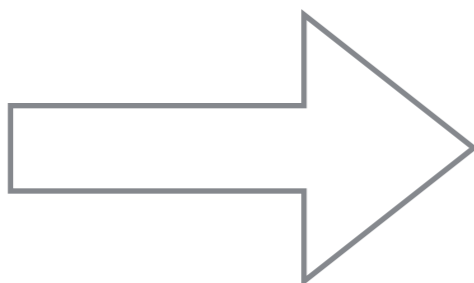
ASSUME that heavier bodies fall faster



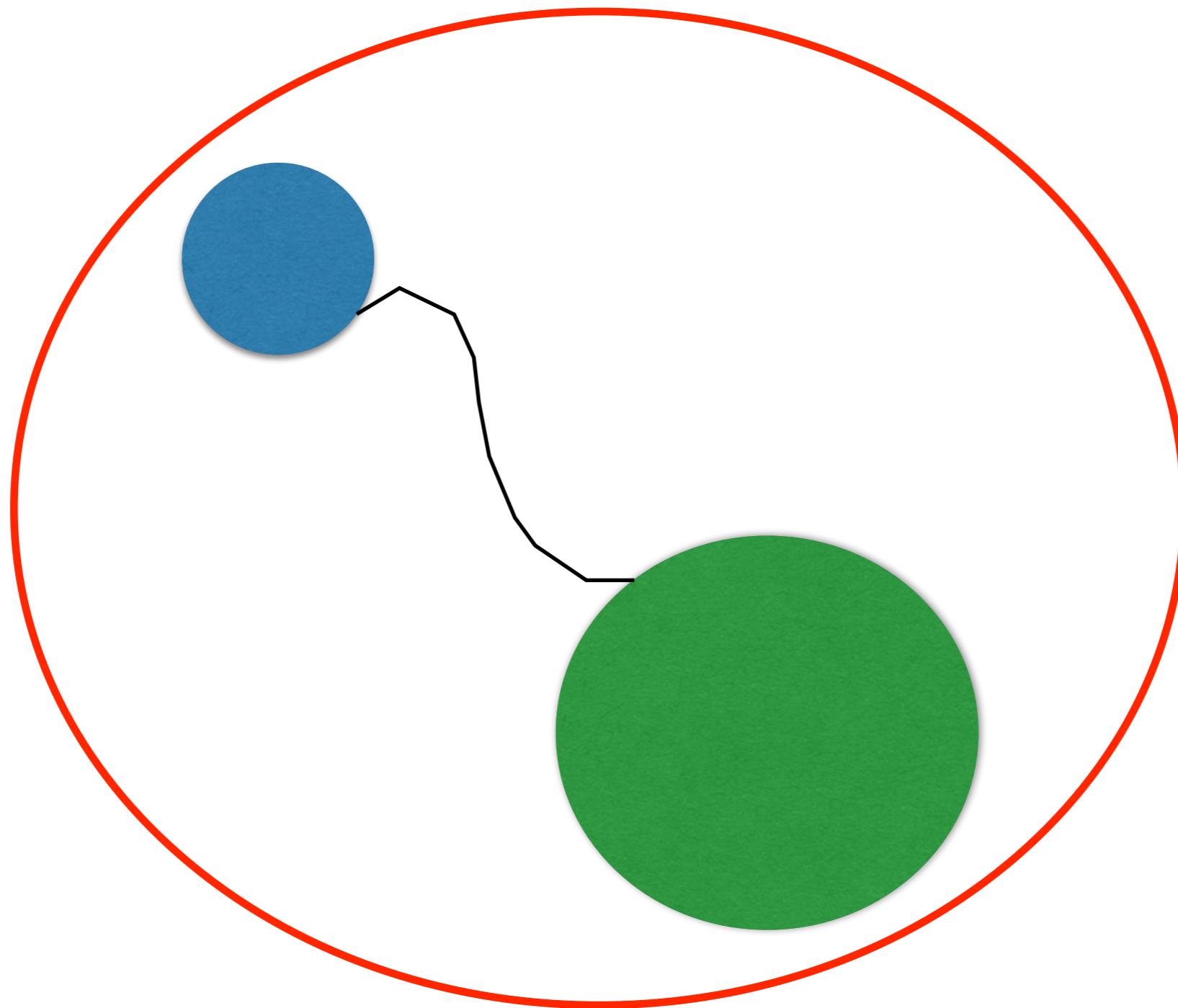
Then the **lighter object** retards the fall of the **heavier object**.



Then the **lighter object** retards the fall of the **heavier object**.



Whole system falls SLOWER



But whole system is **heavier** than the **heavy object**.

Then according to the assumption it should fall FASTER

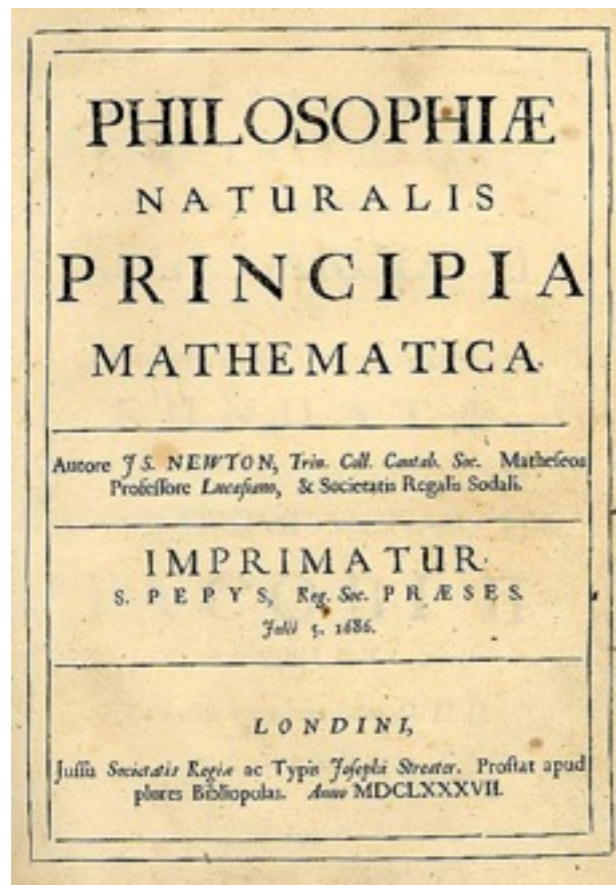
CONTRADICTION:

then assumption that heavier bodies fall faster must be FALSE

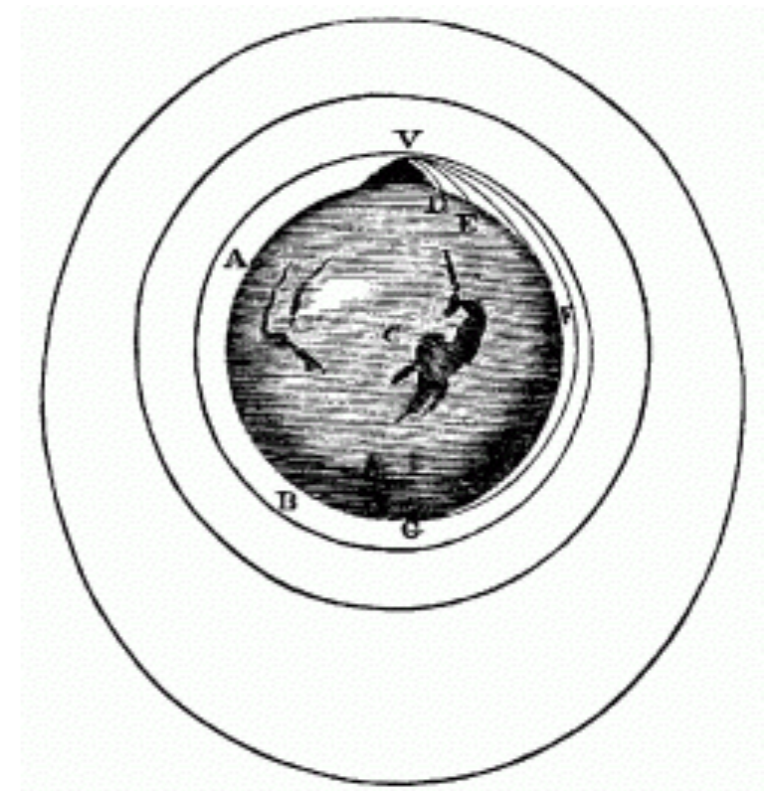
Newton (1643 – 1727)



1687 Principia



mental
experiment:



$$\vec{F} = m_{inertial} \vec{a}$$

II-nd law of dynamics

$$F_{grav} = G \frac{m_{grav} M_{grav}}{r^2}$$

Law of gravitation

$$\vec{F} = m_{inertial} \vec{a}$$

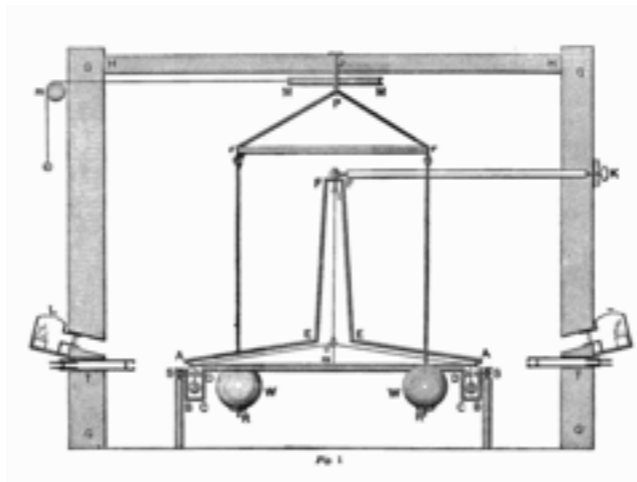
II-nd law of dynamics

$$F_{grav} = G \frac{m_{grav} M_{grav}}{r^2}$$

Law of gravitation

Newton's constant
measured by H. Cavendish in 1798:

$$G \approx 6.674 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N (m/kg)}^2.$$



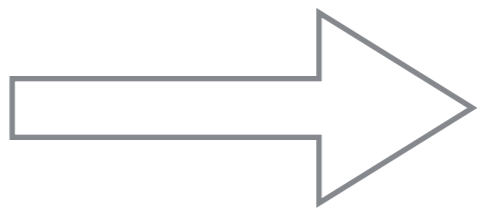
$$\vec{F} = m_{inertial} \vec{a}$$

II-nd law of dynamics

$$F_{grav} = G \frac{m_{grav} M_{grav}}{r^2}$$

Law of gravitation

same **g** for all falling bodies

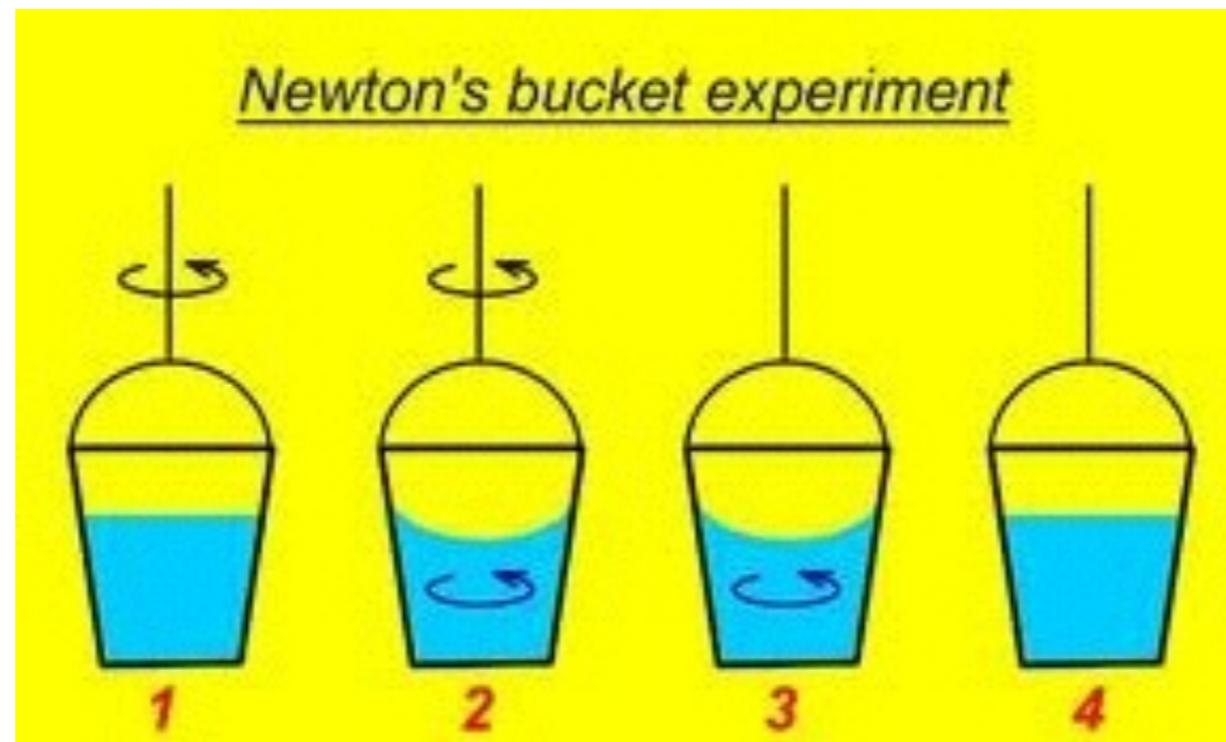


$$m_{grav} \sim m_{inertial}$$

This is why we can measure mass by weighing it

Newton's space and time

- absolute inertial reference frame (fixed stars)
- absolute universal time



Mach's criticism: reference frame of rotating bucket can be considered INERTIAL as well, but with **centrifugal force** produced by rotation of the earth and other celestial bodies.

Letter of Einstein to Mach (1913)

Zürich, 25. VI. 13.

Hoch geehrter Herr Kollege!

Dieser Tage haben Sie wohl meine neue Arbeit über Relativität und Gravitation erhalten, die nach unendlicher Mühe und quälendem Zweifel nun endlich fertig geworden ist. Nächstes Jahr bei der Sommerferien soll sich zeigen, ob die Lichtstrahlen an der Sonne gekrümmt werden, ob m. a. W. die zugrunde gelegte fundamentale Annahme von der Äquivalenz von Beschleunigung des Bezugssystems einerseits und Schwerfeld andererseits wirklich zutrifft.

Wenn ja, so erfahren Ihre genialen Untersuchungen über die Grundlagen der Mechanik-Planck's ungerechtfertigter Kritik zum Trotz - eine

glänzende Bestätigung. Denn es ergibt sich mit Bestimmtheit, dass die Trägheit in einer Art Wechselwirkung der Körper ihren Ursprung hat, ganz im Sinne Ihrer Überlegungen zum Newton'schen Zitter-Körper.

Ihre neue Konzeption in diesem Sinne finden Sie oben auf Seite 6 der Arbeit. Es hat mich freuen folgendes ergeben:

1) Beschleunigt man eine hohle Kugelschale S, so erfährt man die Theorie von von ihr eingeschlossener Körper eine Beschleunigungskraft

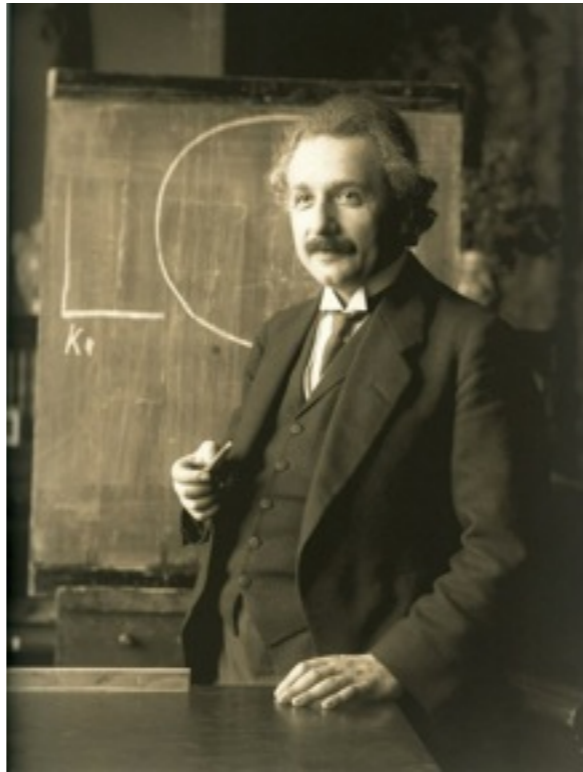
2) Befindet die Schale S sich durch ihren Mittelpunkt gebundene Achse (relativ zum System der Fixsterne/Restsystem), so entsteht ein Zentrum der Inertie zum Coriolis-Feld.

blauen Gesichtslosigkeit) - abgesehen
 Es ist mir eine grosse Freude Ihnen dies unmittelbar zu schreiben, zumal jene Kritik Planck's mir schon immer höchst unangenehm fortgesetzt erschienen war.
 Mit grösster Hochachtung grüsst Sie herzlich
 Ihr ergebener A. Einstein

Ich danke Ihnen herzlich für die Abwendung Ihres Besuchs.

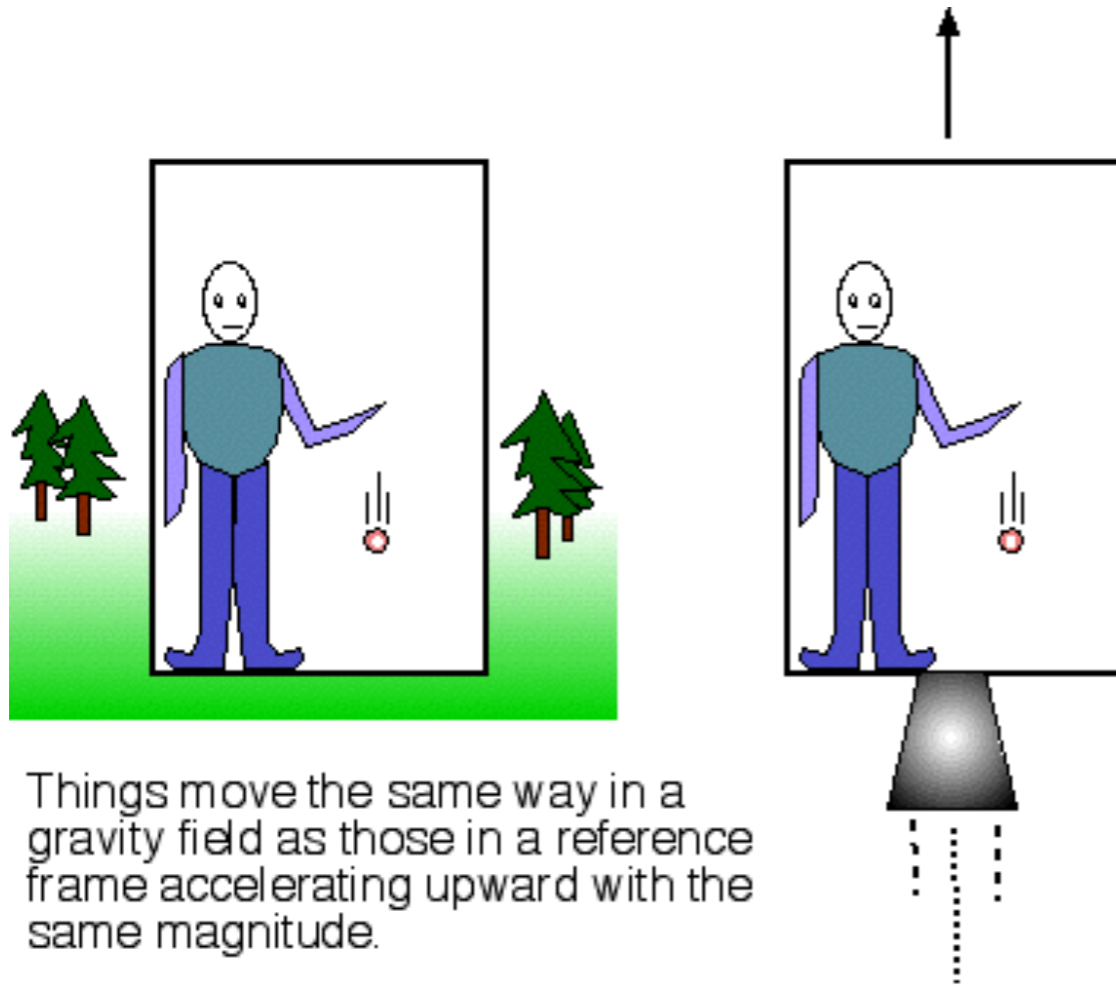


Einstein (1879 – 1955)

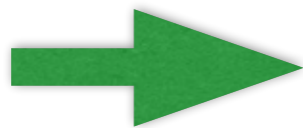


“The happiest thought of my life”

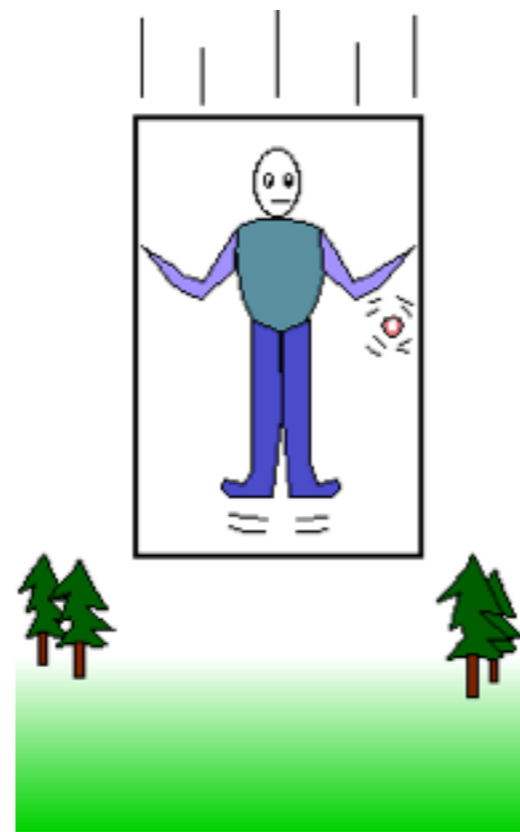
realizes that an observer in free fall experiences
no gravitational field



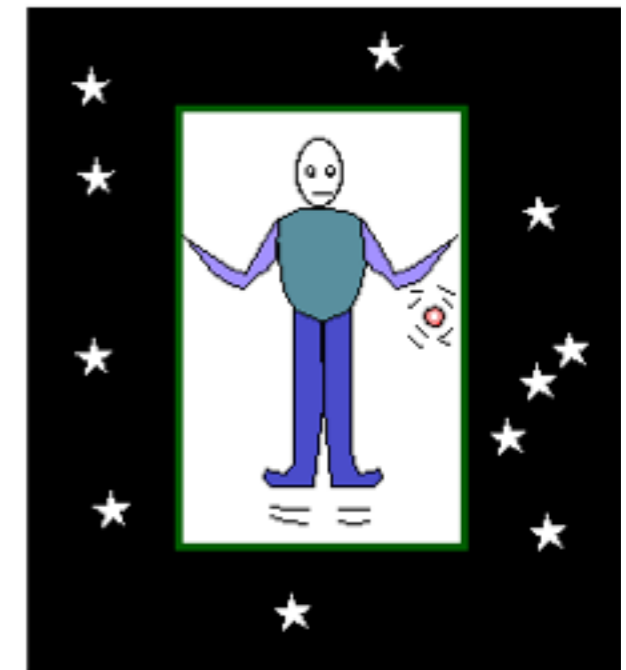
because all objects fall with same acceleration



**gravity field \cong
accelerated frame**



Things falling freely in a gravity field all accelerate by the same amount, so they move the same way as if they were in a region of zero gravity — “weightlessness”!



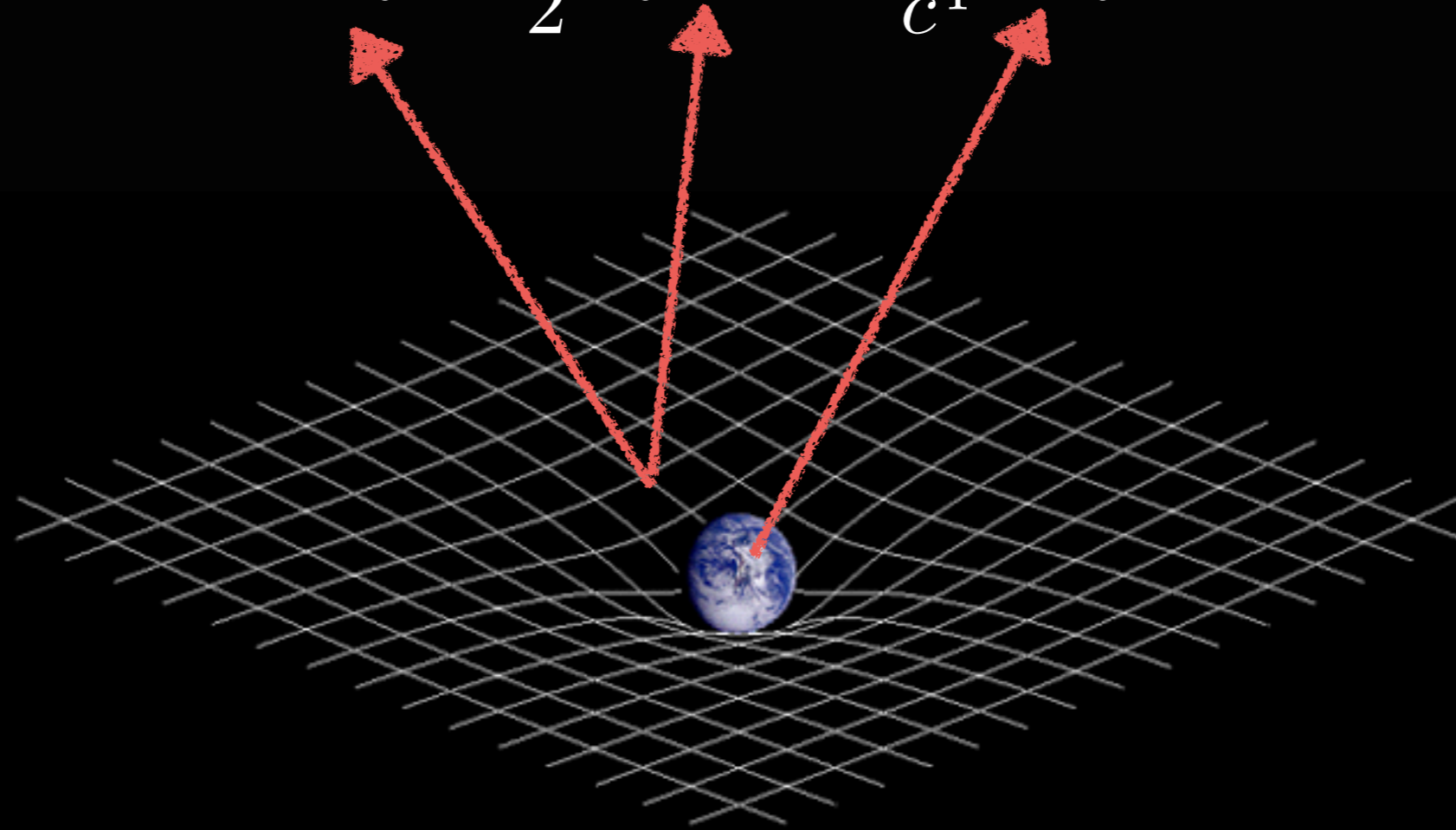


Gravity is a **geometric** effect

curvature

mass ~ energy

$$R_{ij} + \frac{1}{2}g_{ij}R = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4}T_{ij}$$



$$R_{ij} + \frac{1}{2}g_{ij}R = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4}T_{ij}$$

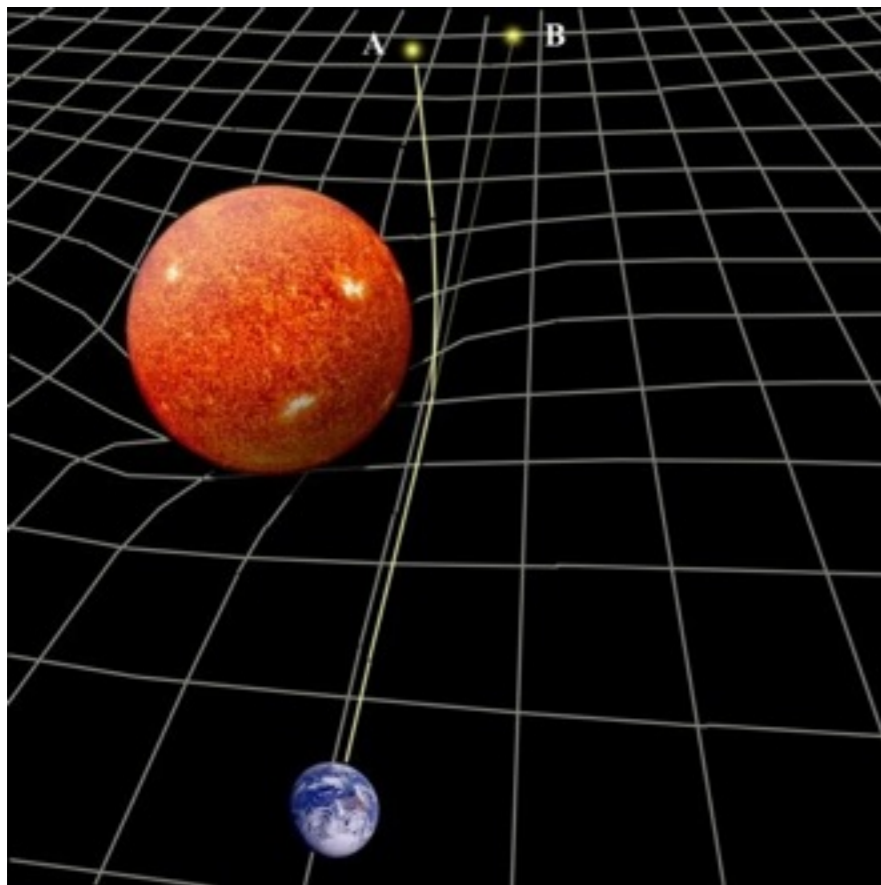
10 nonlinear diff. eq.s

Solutions:

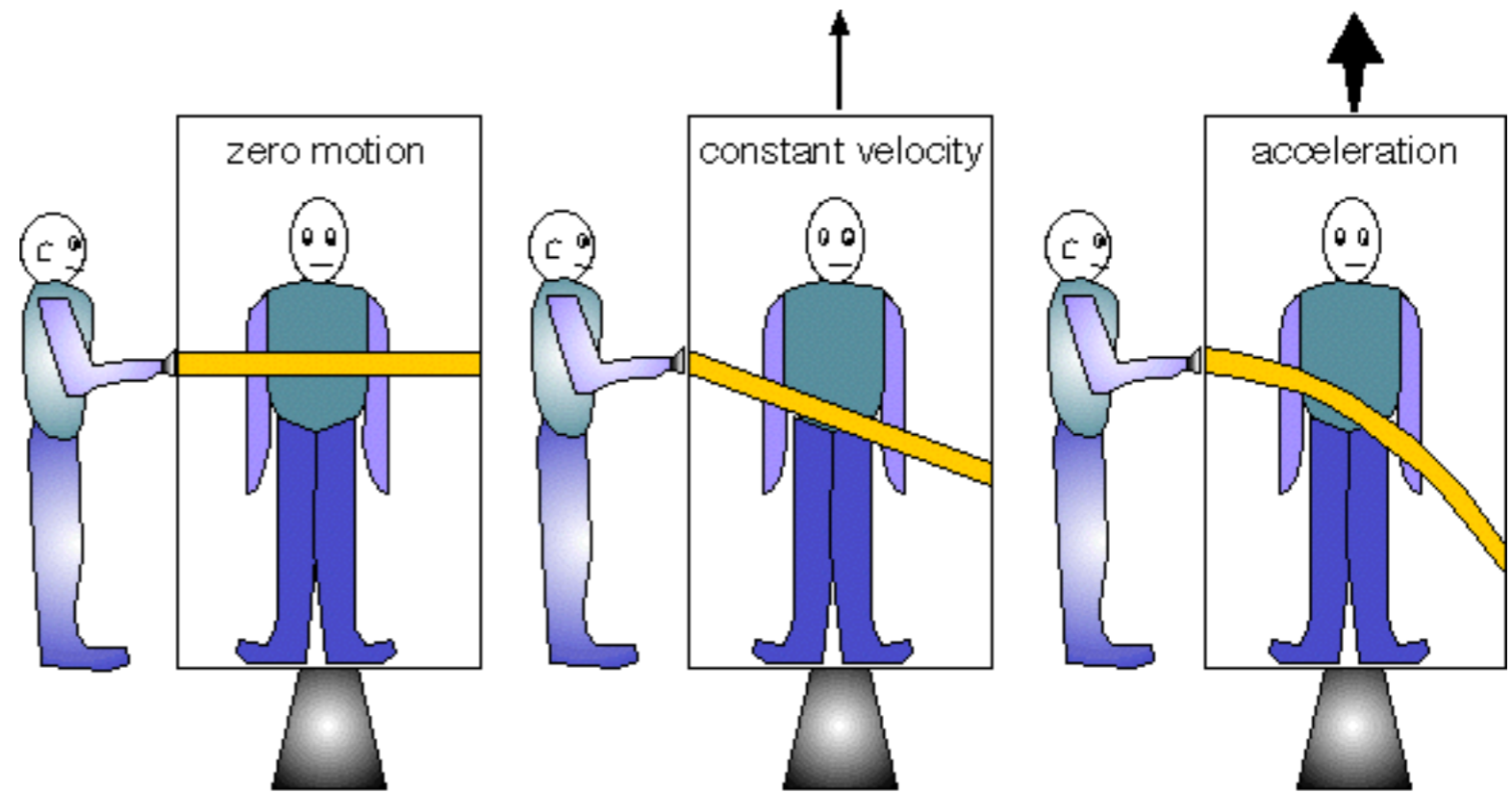
- **Schwarzschild** : spherically symmetric, non rotating, uncharged massive object. If density is high enough \rightarrow **Black hole** with central singularity
- **Reissner-Nordström**: charged
- **Kerr**: rotating
- **Friedmann-Lemaître-Robertson-Walker**: cosmological, describes expansion of universe \rightarrow standard cosmological model

Predictions

- anomalous perihelion precession of Mercury
- time runs slower at lower gravitational potential (used in GPS)
- deflection of light, first confirmed by Eddington in 1919. Gravitational lensing
- gravitational radiation, indirectly confirmed by study of binary pulsars
- expansion of universe, observed by Hubble in 1929



Deflection of light



The path of a light beam in three different types of reference frames moving with respect to the person *outside* the elevator. The light path shown is what the person *inside* the elevator sees. Under large acceleration, the beam of light will curve downward. It should also do that in a region of strong gravity.



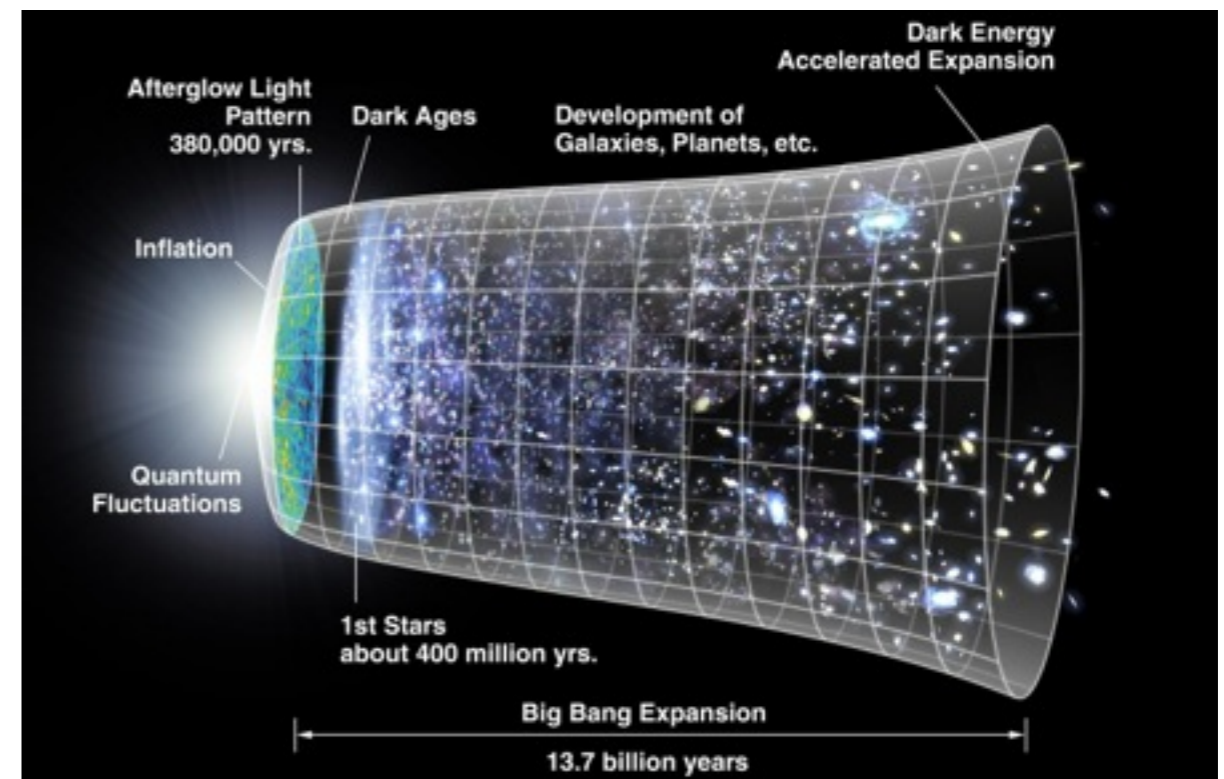
gravitational lensing

This image is courtesy of Nick Strobel at www.astronomynotes.com



Virgo

history of the universe



Gravity is by far the weakest of the four fundamental forces in nature. On molecular or atomic scale it is negligible with respect to nuclear or e.m. forces

However, **on macroscopic scales gravity becomes dominant**, determining our weight, the shape and structure of the Solar system, of the galaxies, and of the universe

from cosmic scales **down to 0.1 mm gravitational phenomena are very well described by GR**, which reduces to classical Newton's theory for velocities $\ll c$

- GR is a **field theory**, as electromagnetism.
- **Quantum electrodynamics**, developed in the last century, marries quantum mechanics to Maxwell's theory, and describes with extreme precision the interactions of quantum matter (for ex. electrons) with quantum light (photons).
- Its generalization, that includes nuclear and weak forces, is the **Standard Model of particle physics**, precision-tested at LHC and other laboratories.

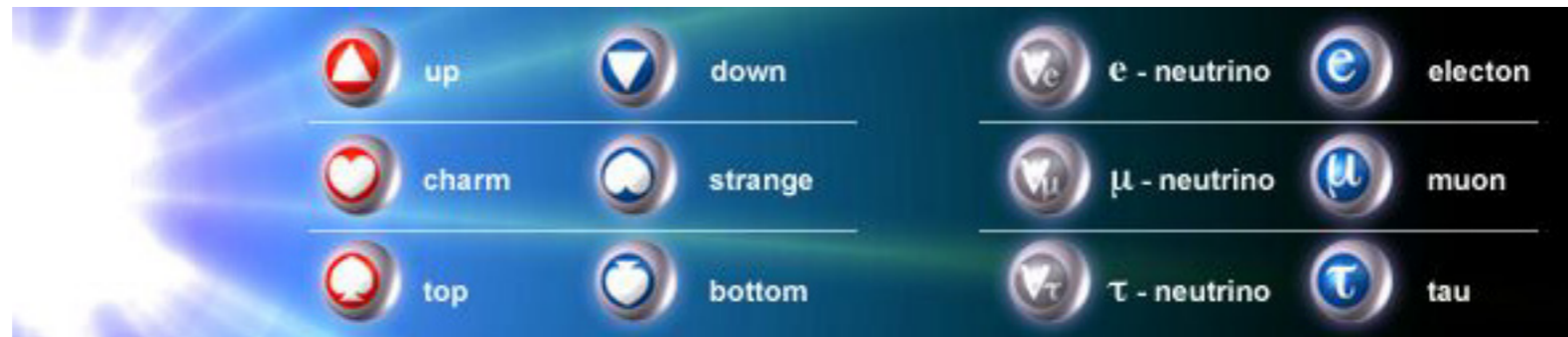


STANDARD MODEL

MATTER

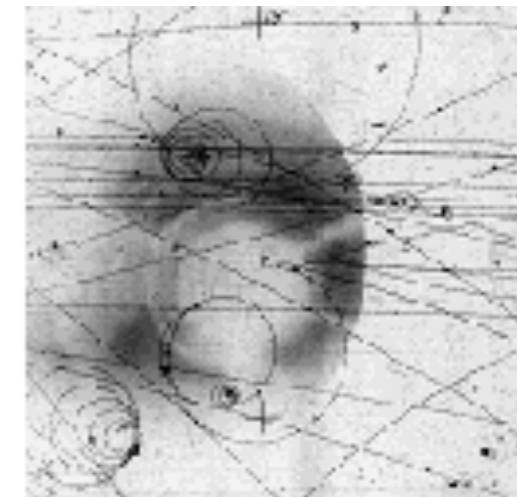
quarks

leptons

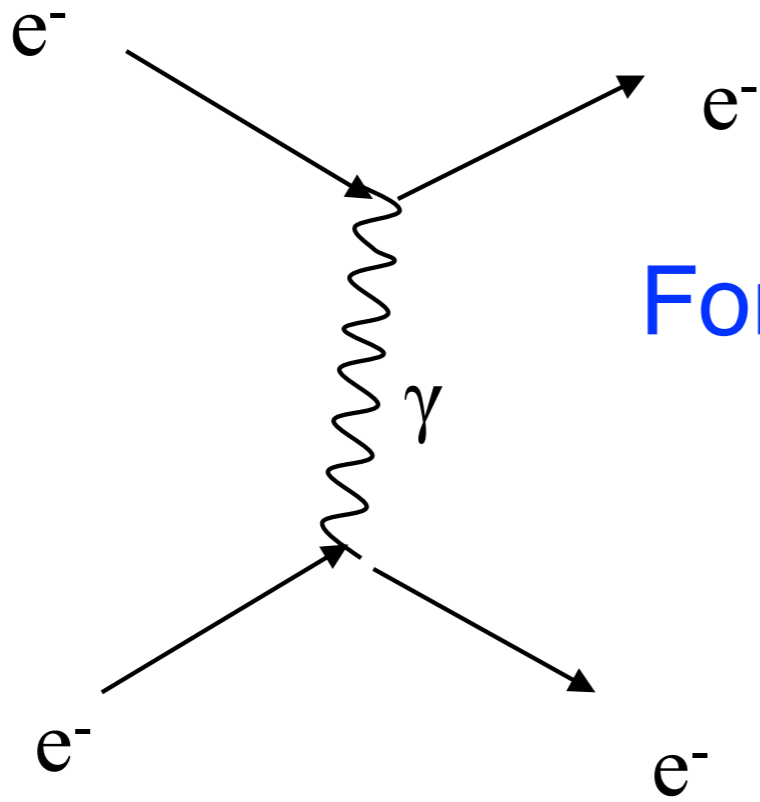


INTERACTIONS

- Electromagnetic: *photons γ*
- Strong : *gluons*
- Weak: *Z^0 , W^+ , W^-*



+ Higgs



For ex: electromagnetic interaction
is mediated by photons

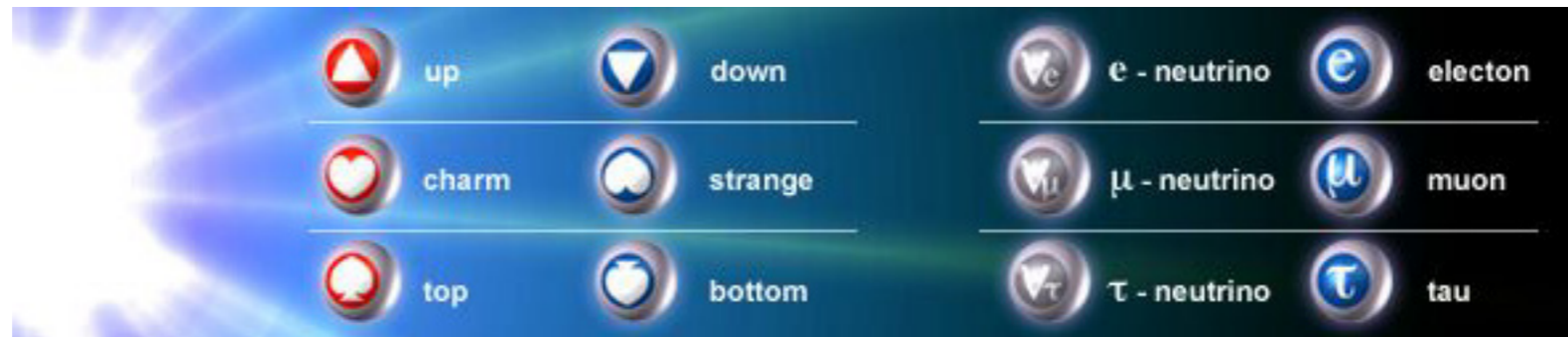
Interaction regions are **point-like**

STANDARD MODEL

MATTER

quarks

leptons



INTERACTIONS

- Electromagnetic: *photons γ*
- Strong : *gluons*
- Weak: *Z^0 , W^+ , W^-*



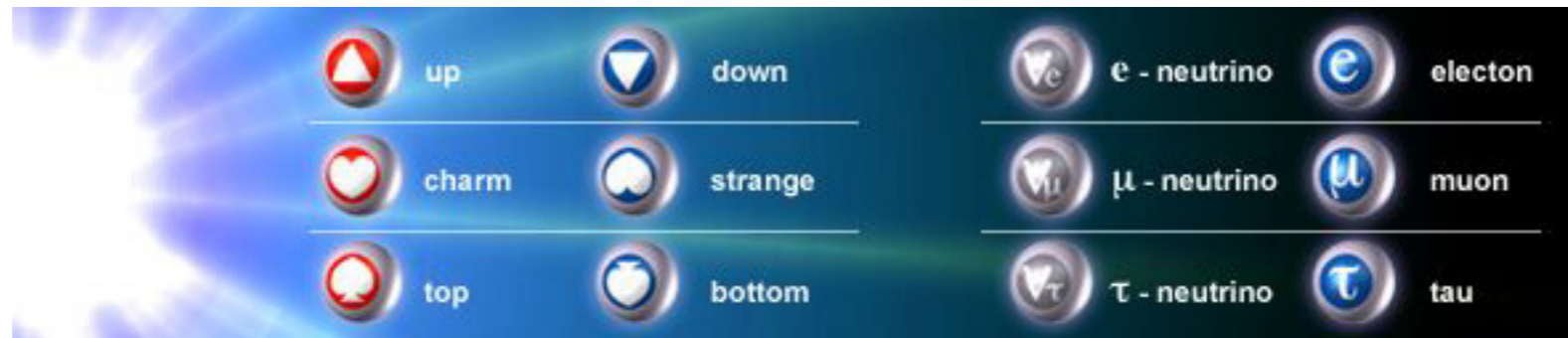
+ Higgs

STANDARD MODEL

MATTER

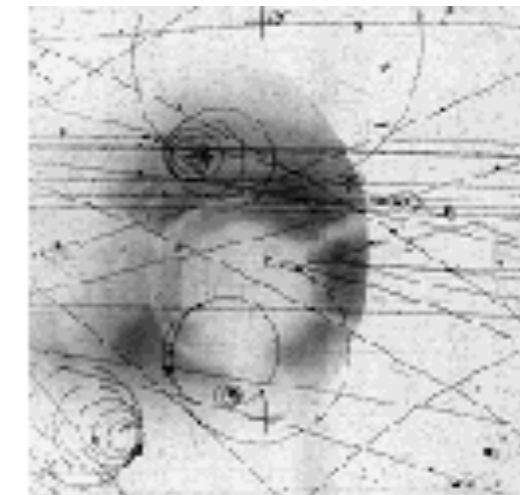
quarks

leptons



INTERACTIONS

- Electromagnetic: *photons γ*
- Strong : *gluons*
- Weak: *Z^0 , W^+ , W^-*
- Gravitational: *gravitons*

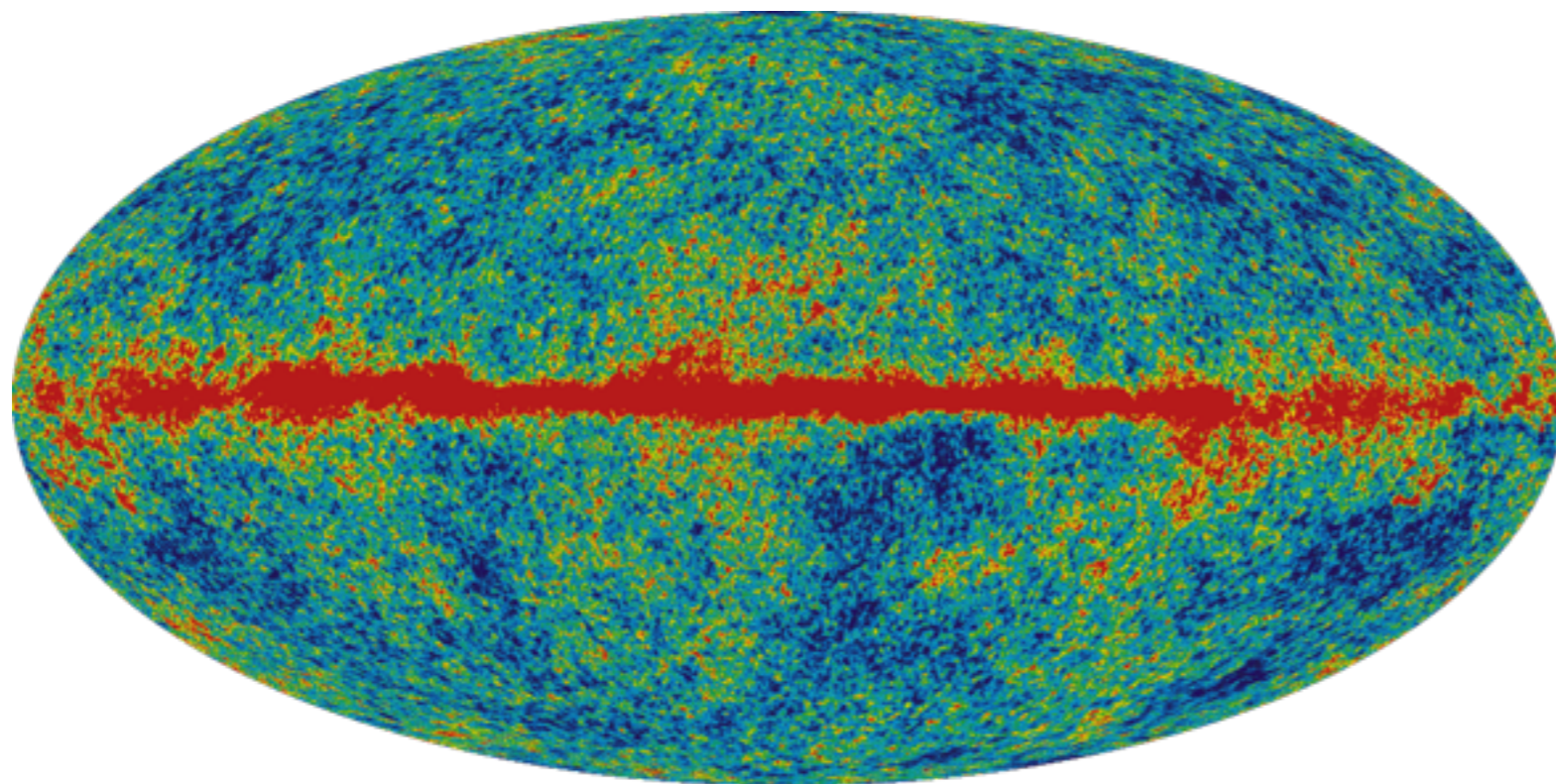


+ Higgs

What is the status of **quantum general relativity** ?
And why should we need it ?

From GR solutions :

- > Universe is **microscopic** immediately after the Big Bang , c.a 13.5 billions of years ago. Then quantum gravity must affect **early evolution**. Amplification (via inflation) of **quantum fluctuations** visible in the anisotropies of the Cosmic Background Radiation (2.725 K)



WMAP

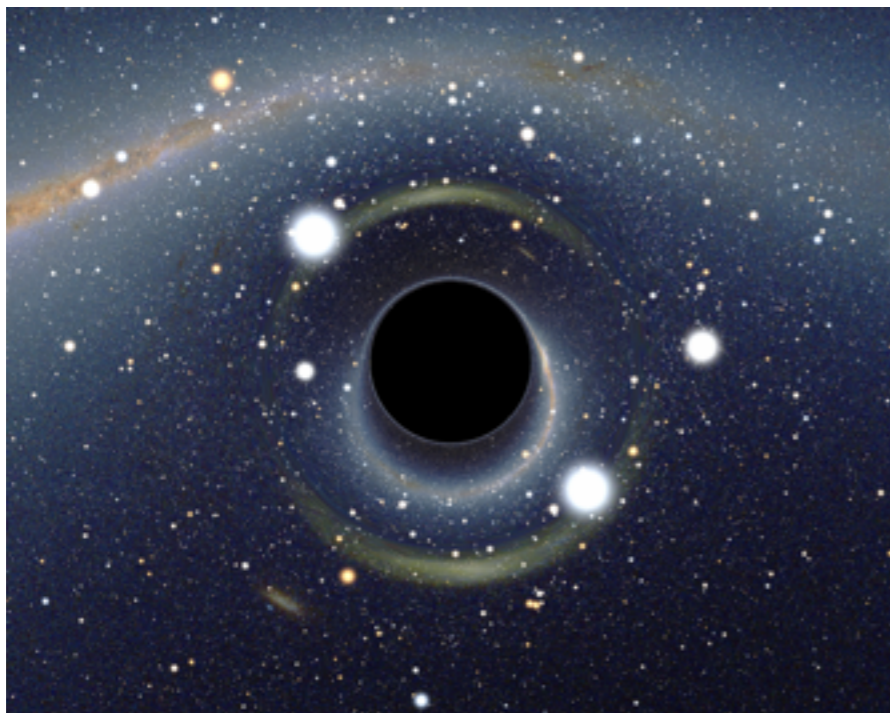
From GR solutions :

Inside **black holes**: strong gravitational fields on **arbitrarily short distance scales**.

—> Need quantum gravity to describe collapsing matter.

Singularity: breakdown of classical theory.

—> Quantum theory to “cure” it ?



Simulated view of a black hole in front of the Large Magellanic Cloud.



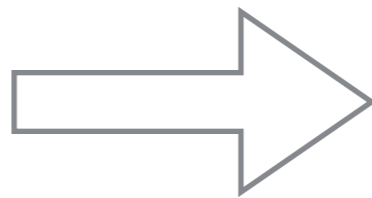
S. Hawking experiencing absence of gravity

But: applying to gravity the same procedure (“**quantization**”) used in electrodynamics leads to **inconsistencies**, due to the **point-like interaction** between the elementary particles.

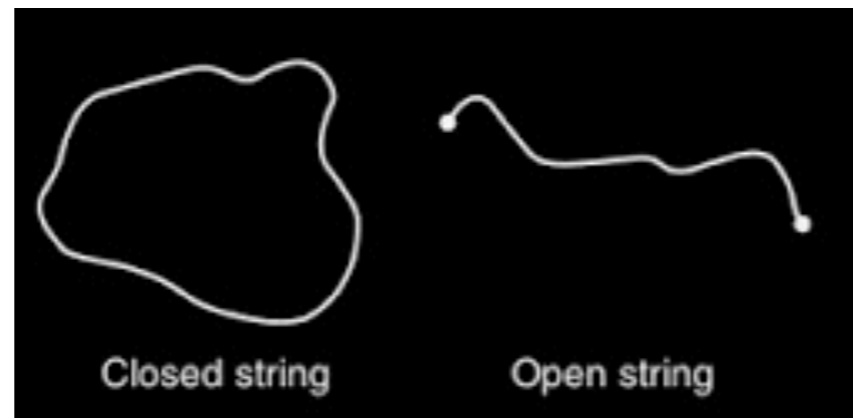
The problem can be cured in the standard model (“**renormalization**”), but not for gravity.

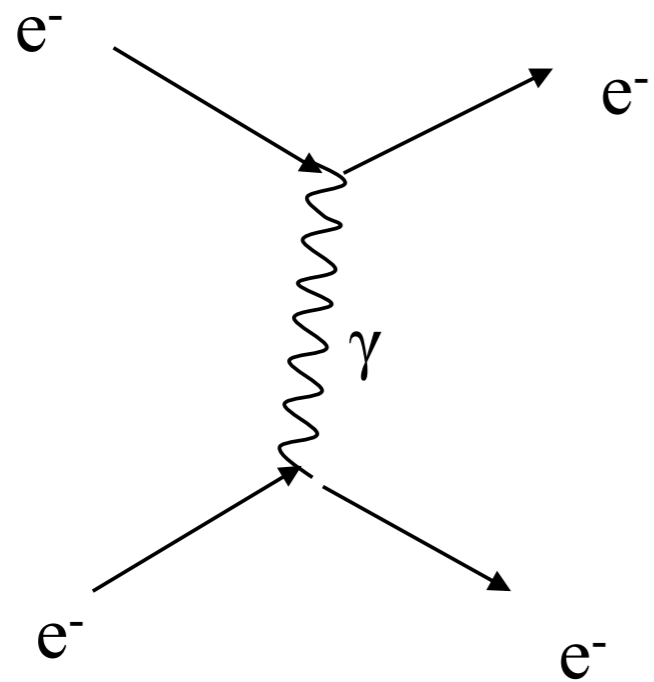
But: applying to gravity the same procedure (“**quantization**”) used in electrodynamics leads to **inconsistencies**, due to the **point-like interaction** between the elementary particles.

The problem can be cured in the standard model (“**renormalization**”), but not for gravity.

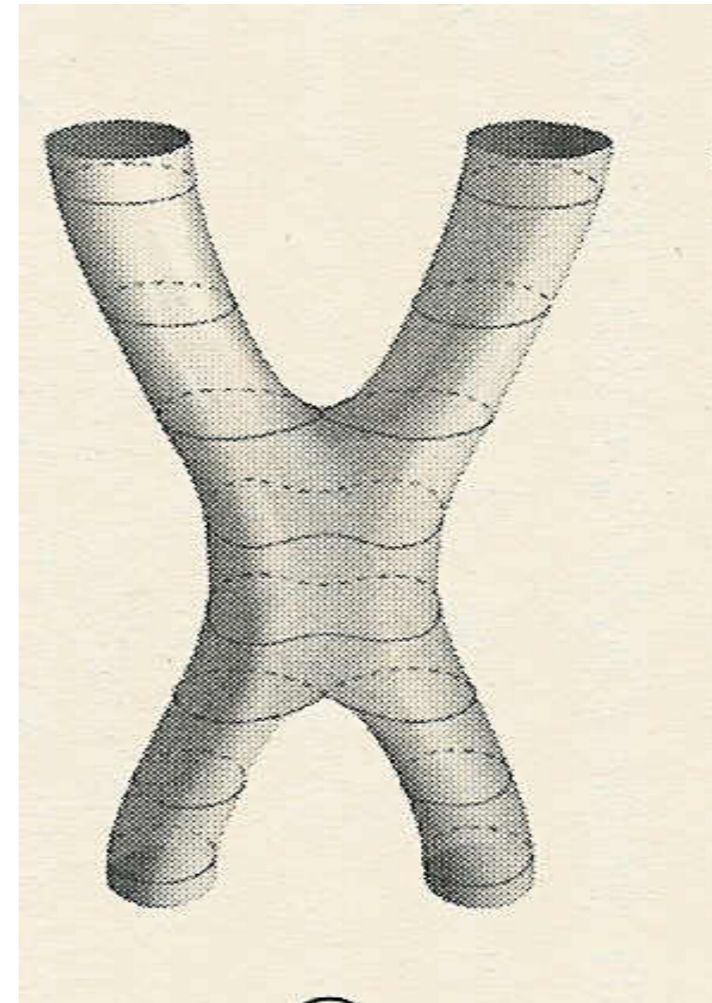
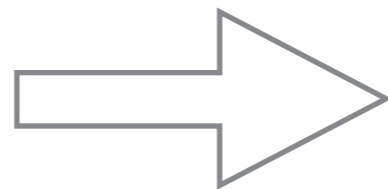


String theory: a **relativistic quantum theory** where the fundamental objects are not point-like, but string-like (and even membrane-like)





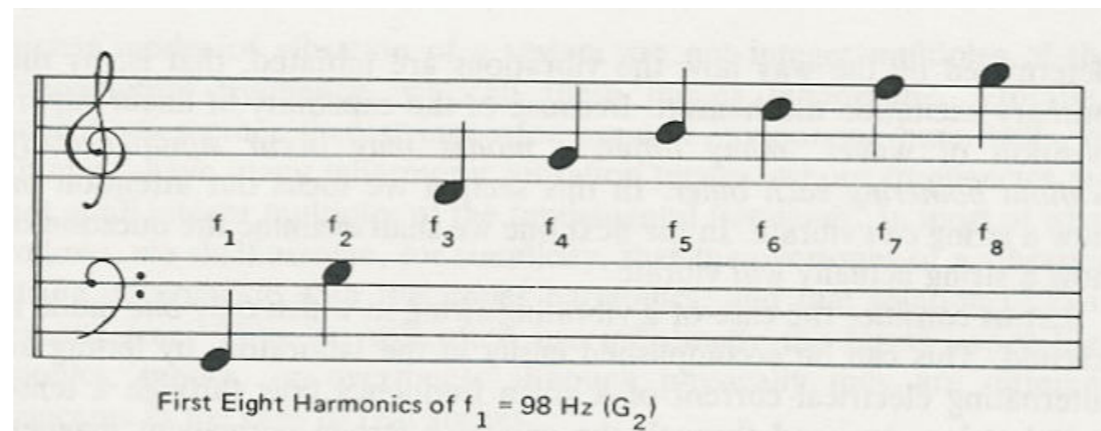
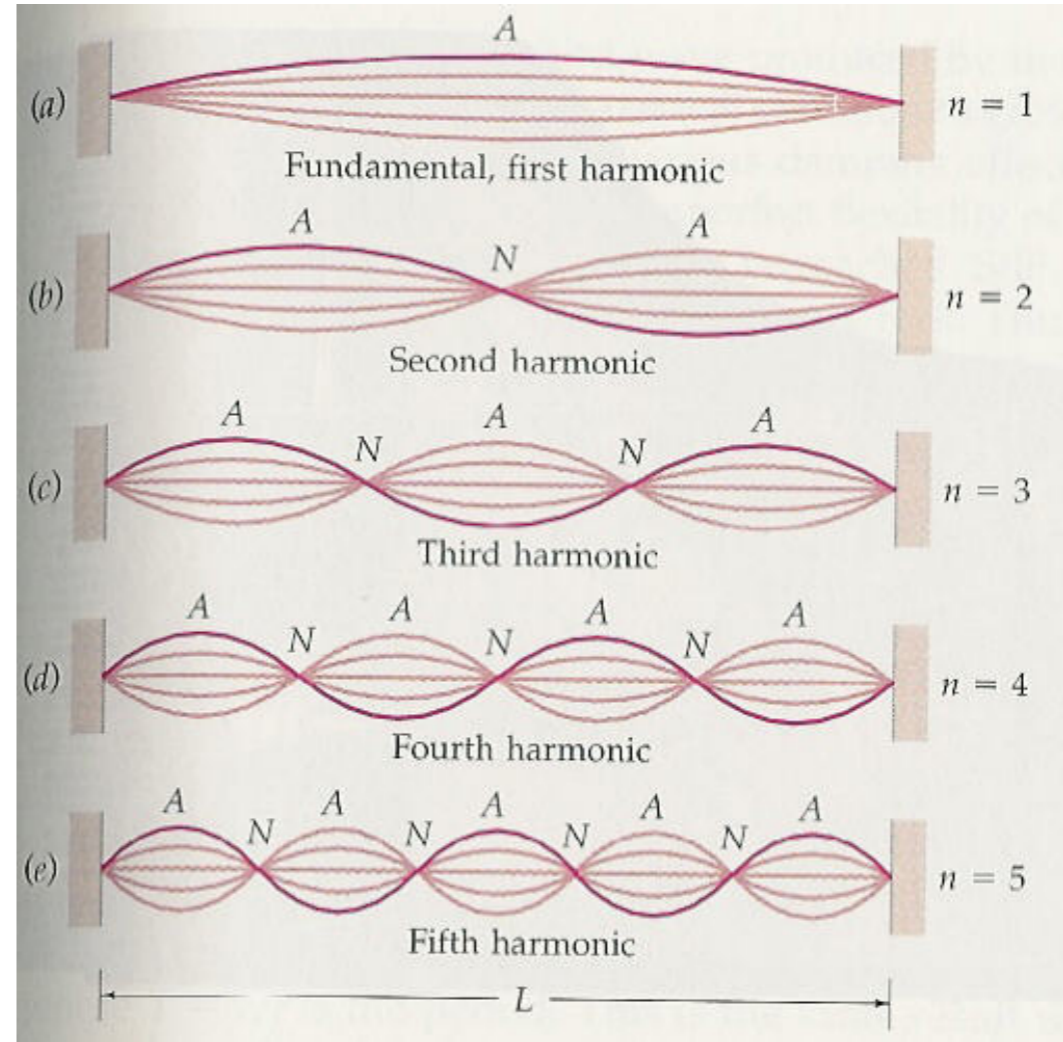
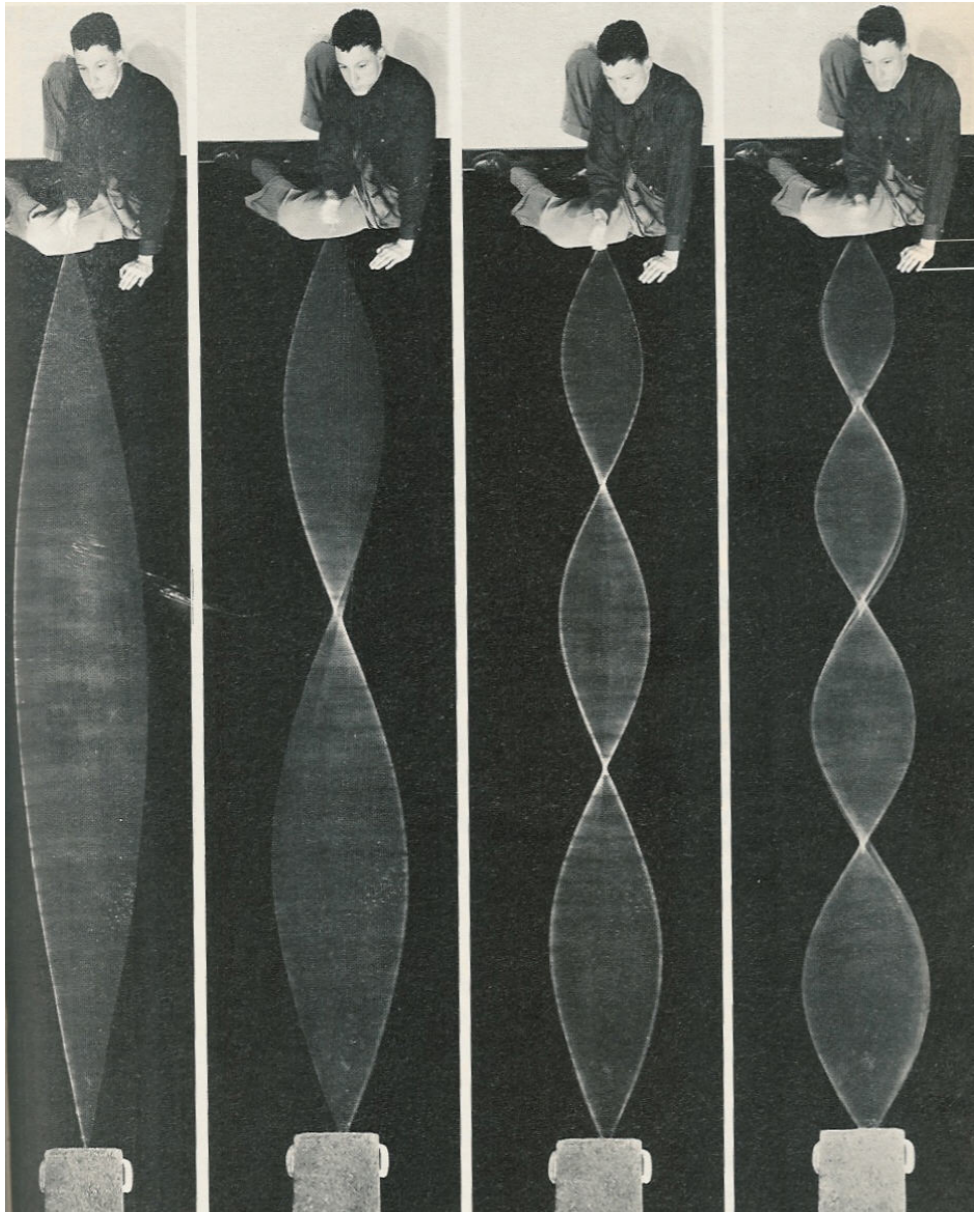
STRINGS



Interaction regions are **extended**



strings can **vibrate**, as the strings of a violin.

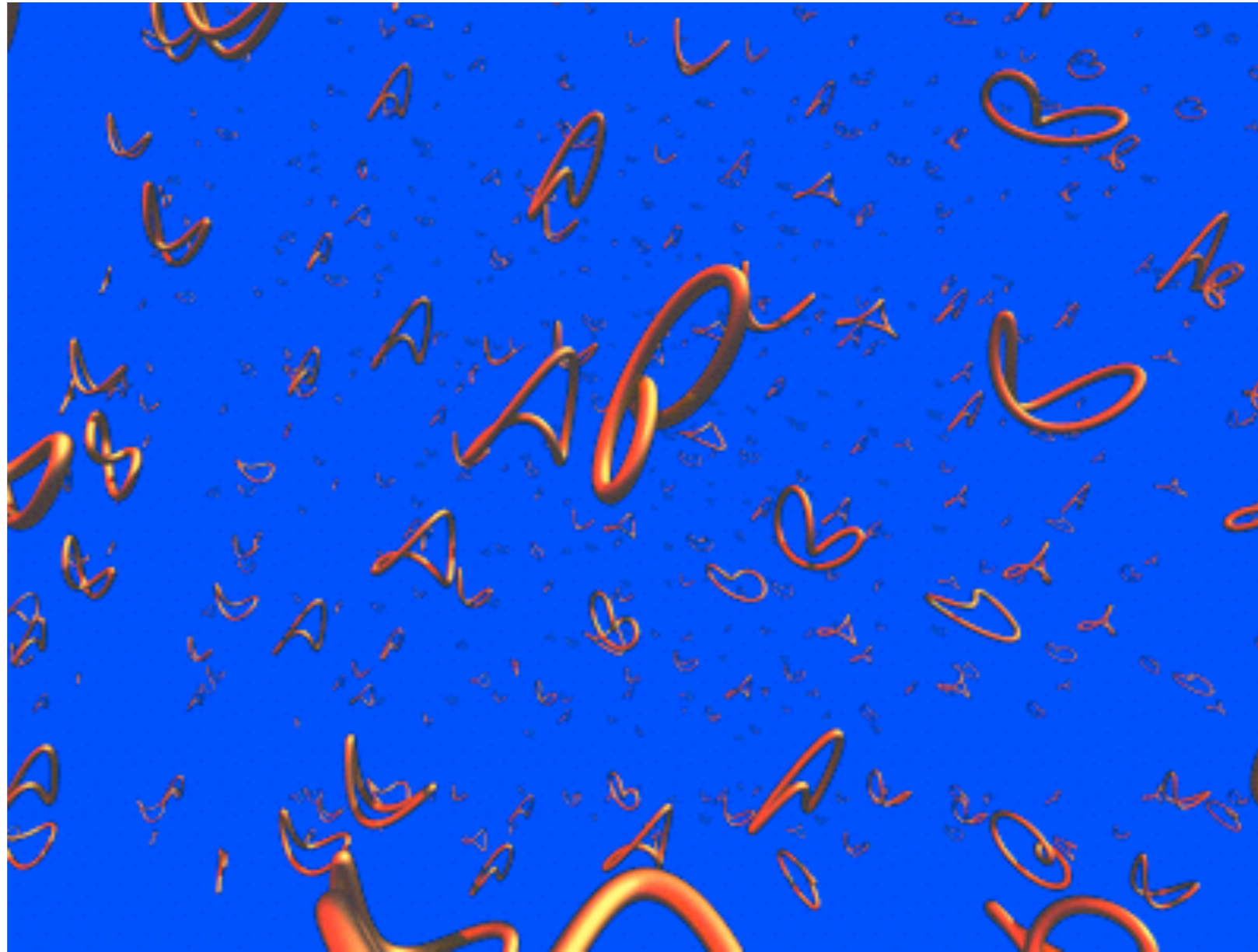


Every **note** corresponds to a **type of elementary particle**:
electron, neutrino, photon, quark...

...and **GRAVITON**.

—> **unification of gravitation with the other fundamental interactions in a quantum theory**

One fundamental object, many vibration modes



R. Dijkgraaf

strings have a **very small extension**: $\sim 10^{-33}$ cm

—> **appear point-like** even to the most powerful microscopes
(particle accelerators)

At the scales available at LHC, does string theory reproduce the particle content and the interactions of the standard model ?

Equations of the theory difficult to solve, and this is a problem also in the SM: approximation methods (perturbation theory) yield many approximate solutions, some of them containing particles and interactions close to SM.

But no reason is known at present why string theory should “prefer” these solutions.

Nonetheless, some predictions are there: features common to all solutions

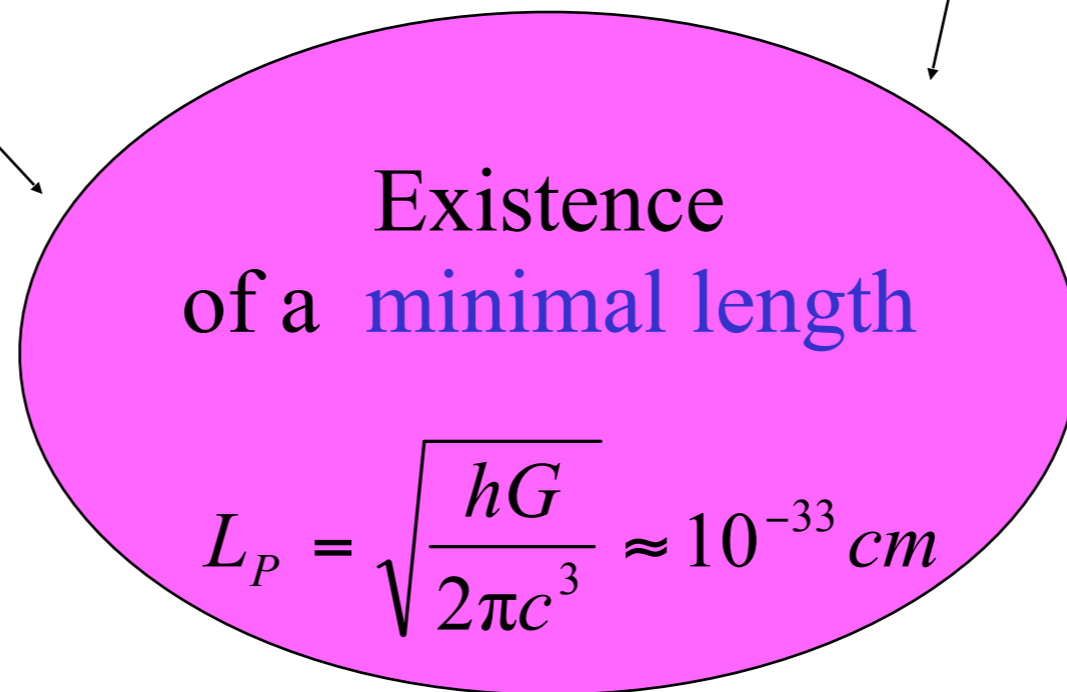
- **Supersymmetry.** Strings are consistent only if “supersymmetric” : each **bosonic** particle has a **fermionic** partner —> **superstrings**
Supersymmetry may be broken in particular solutions
- **Hidden dimensions:** quantum theory of superstrings is consistent in **10 space-time dimensions** —> 6 hidden extra compact dimensions, observable only at very high energies
- **Modifications to Newton’s law**, if our space-time is a 4-dim membrane fluctuating in a 10-dim space, and in the 6 extra dimensions only gravity can propagate. Numerous experiments on deviations in the submillimeter regime

- **Noncommutative spacetime:**
 - At very small distances not necessarily $x y = y x$
 - Spacetime is then described by
NON COMMUTATIVE GEOMETRY
 - x, y, \dots become **OPERATORS**

- Why noncommutative geometry at small scales ?
- Euristically:

General relativity

Quantum mechanics



L_P : Planck scale

- To “measure” geodesics in a gravitational field: use freely falling particles.
- How precisely can we measure geometry?
- Need particles with very short wavelength $\lambda \longrightarrow$ very high energy
- To decrease λ , increase energy \rightarrow then also the curvature of spacetime increases until ...

$$\text{curvature radius} \approx \lambda$$

This happens when $\lambda \approx L_P$



It is therefore impossible to observe phenomena (or spacetime structure) under the Planck scale L_P

- This indetermination emerges automatically if the coordinates are **noncommutative**.
 - > Field theories (gravity, gauge) directly formulated on **noncommutative spacetime**.

Emergent gravity

- Gravity induced by quantum effects ([Sakharov, 1967](#))

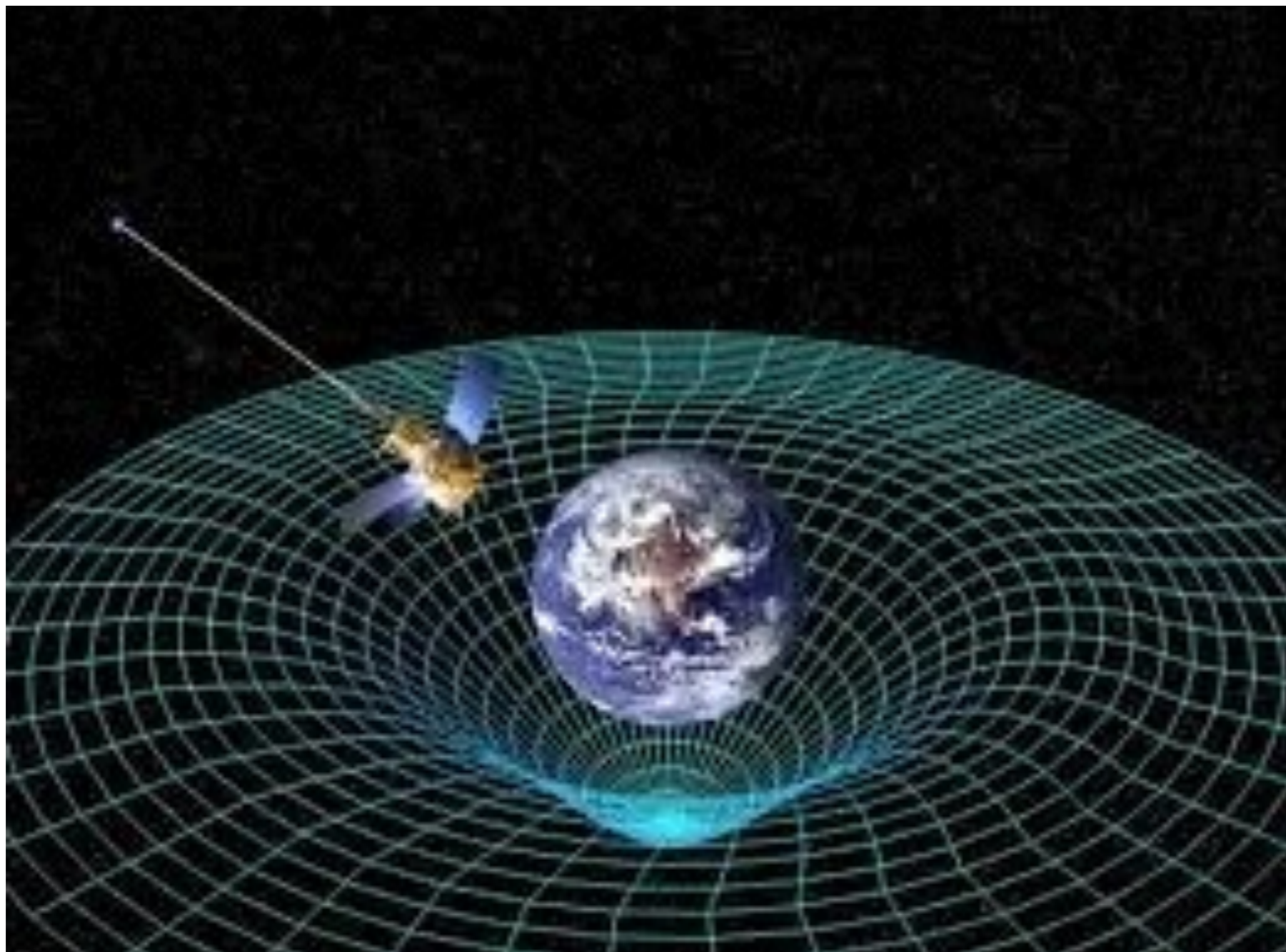
Introduce quantum fields in arbitrary background Riemannian manifold. Effective action at one-loop contains Einstein-Hilbert term.

- AdS/CFT, and more generally gauge/gravity correspondence ([Maldacena 1997](#))

Gravity theory in the interior of AdS space-time dual to gauge theory on its boundary. Realization of holographic principle.

- Entropic gravity ([Verlinde 2009](#))

Gravity as entropic force, not a fundamental interaction. Probabilistic consequence of entropy increase. Inspired by black hole thermodynamics.



Thank you !