

hi

Lecture 17, 14.03.2017

Einstein's Theory of General Relativity

# housekeeping

Question about anything?

*I'll make a movie for you:*

Marie Curie movie anyone?

*duh. I've now got a complete set of dates:*

Book Review 1 is due Saturday.


FakeFacebook is due April Fools Day. tee hee

Blog read-reflect project will start soon.

See calendar cartoon:



PINNED POST

 **Chip Brock** created a poll. 18 mins

The Curie movie. This is stupid...sorry. I've now pinned down two rooms' availabilities through the week of March 27. This will be the last poll, I promise. Okay, I lied. There will be a pizza poll, but that's different, right? Sheesh.

- Thursday, March 15 at 7pm
- Monday, March 20 at 7pm
- Wednesday, March 22 at 6:30pm
- Thursday, March 23 at 6:30pm
- Monday, March 27 at 7pm

3 More Options...

1 Like      Seen by 16

Like   Comment   Share

# real electrons

HV transmission lines feed substations?

138,000 V is common (BWL for example)

Assume that arc is at 138,000V, so electrons have that energy

...which would be the Kinetic Energy



*an exercise in "electron volts"*

What's the rest energy?

What's the rest mass?

What's the speed of the electrons?

What's the momentum of one of the electrons?

What's the relativistic mass of one of the electrons?

What's the total energy of one of the electrons?



*This will be on video and figure into homework*

[https://qstbb.pa.msu.edu/storage/11\\_Special\\_Relativity/spark.mp4](https://qstbb.pa.msu.edu/storage/11_Special_Relativity/spark.mp4)

# next few weeks, v2

S M T W Th F Sa

						2/25 HW7 HW6 due
2/26	2/27	2/28	3/1	3/2	3/3	3/4 HW7 due
3/5		Spring Break				3/11 HW8
3/12	3/13	3/14	3/15	3/16	3/17	3/18 HW8 due

# Honors Project

has begun. First milestone was last Friday.

Read the Second of two sets of instructions:

`MinervaInstructions2_2017.pdf` in

[www.pa.msu.edu/~brock/file\\_sharing/QSandBB/2017homework/honors\\_project\\_2017/](http://www.pa.msu.edu/~brock/file_sharing/QSandBB/2017homework/honors_project_2017/)

# MasteringAstronomy

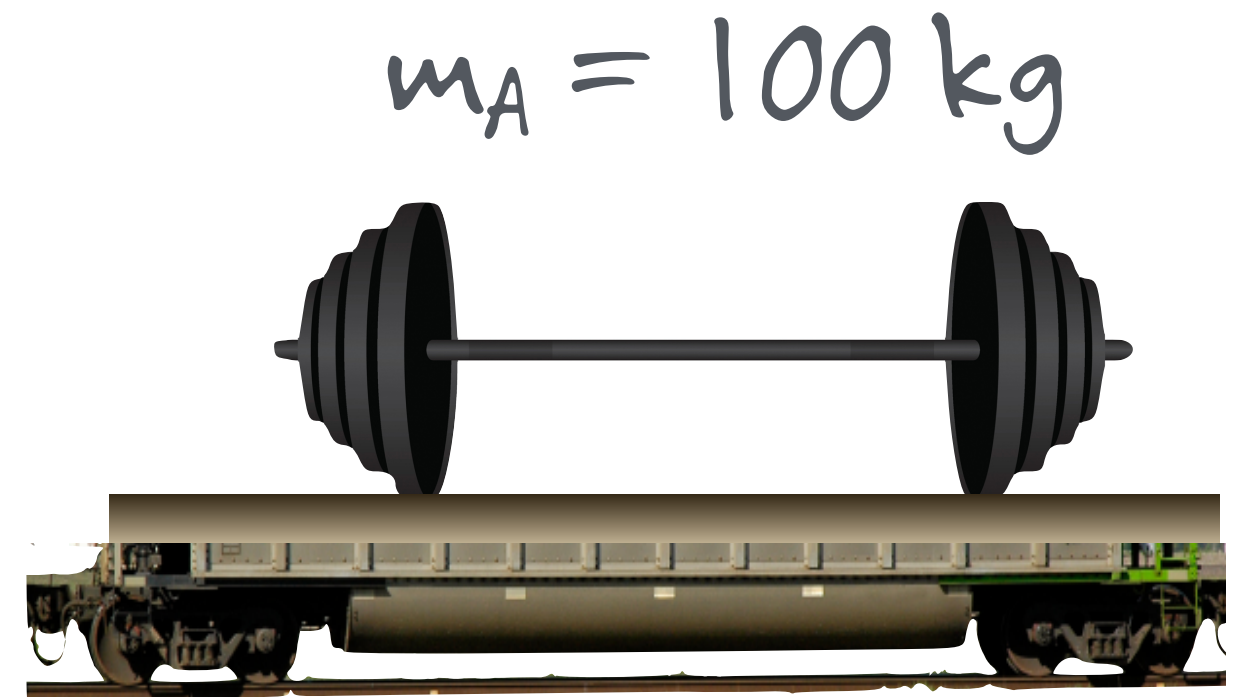
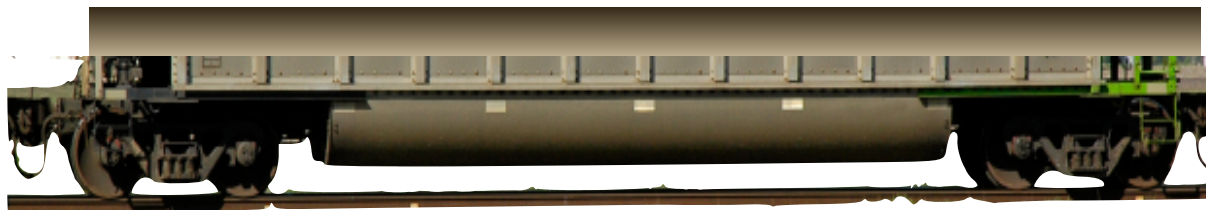
free and use of the textbook:

The Essential Cosmic Perspective, Bennett, Megan  
Donahue, Schneider, Mark Voit

[http://www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com/  
northamerica/masteringastronomy/](http://www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com/northamerica/masteringastronomy/)

Course ID is ISP220SP17

"code" is WSSPCT-SNELL-NAMEN-WEIGH-METIS-  
NJORD



$$m_H = 100 \text{ kg} \times \gamma$$



# Energy/momentum relations:

“rest mass”...  $m$

the mass of an object in its own frame

“relativistic mass”...  $m_R = m\gamma$

the mass of a moving object

“Energy”...  $E_T = m\gamma c^2$

the total Energy of a moving object

“rest Energy”...  $E_m = mc^2$

Kinetic Energy...  $K = mc^2(\gamma - 1)$

the energy due to motion

the mass-energy of an object in its own frame

Relativistic momentum...  $p = m\gamma u$

momentum for each component of space

Energy-momentum relation...  $E_T^2 = (mc^2)^2 + (pc)^2$

an alternative, useful expression



looky  
here...

two things to  
worry about



$$E_T^2 = (mc^2)^2 + (pc)^2$$



Energy and momentum are related for  
massless objects...

$$E = pc$$



What about the negative solution?

$$E_T = \pm \sqrt{(mc^2)^2 + (pc)^2}$$

three things are always,  
always constant

$c$

$s$

$$s^2 = (ct)^2 - x^2$$

$mc^2$

$$m^2 c^4 = E_T^2 - p^2 c^2$$

Einstein preferred "Invariant Theory" to "Relativity"

# General Relativity

‘‘principle of equivalence’’

# what's worse

How do you deal with  
Newton's Universal  
Gravitational formula?

Masses appearing different  
from different frames?



$$F_{1,2} = G \frac{M_1 M_2}{R^2}$$



Start length-contracting the  
distance?

Worrying about Gravity led Einstein to

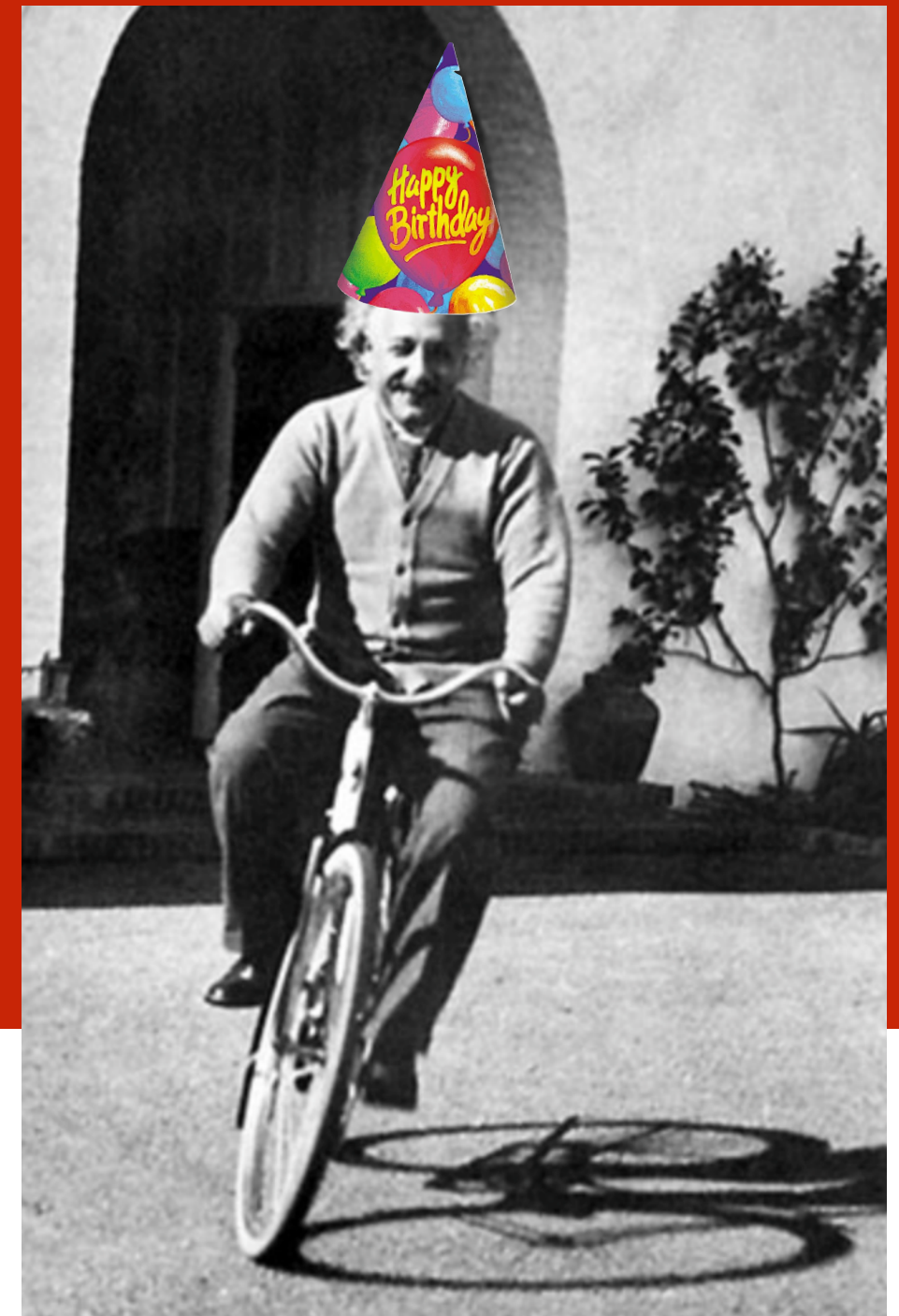
think hard about

SPACE and TIME

~~moving~~ coordinate systems

accelerating

BTW, his birthday is today: Pi-day



# the general theory of relativity

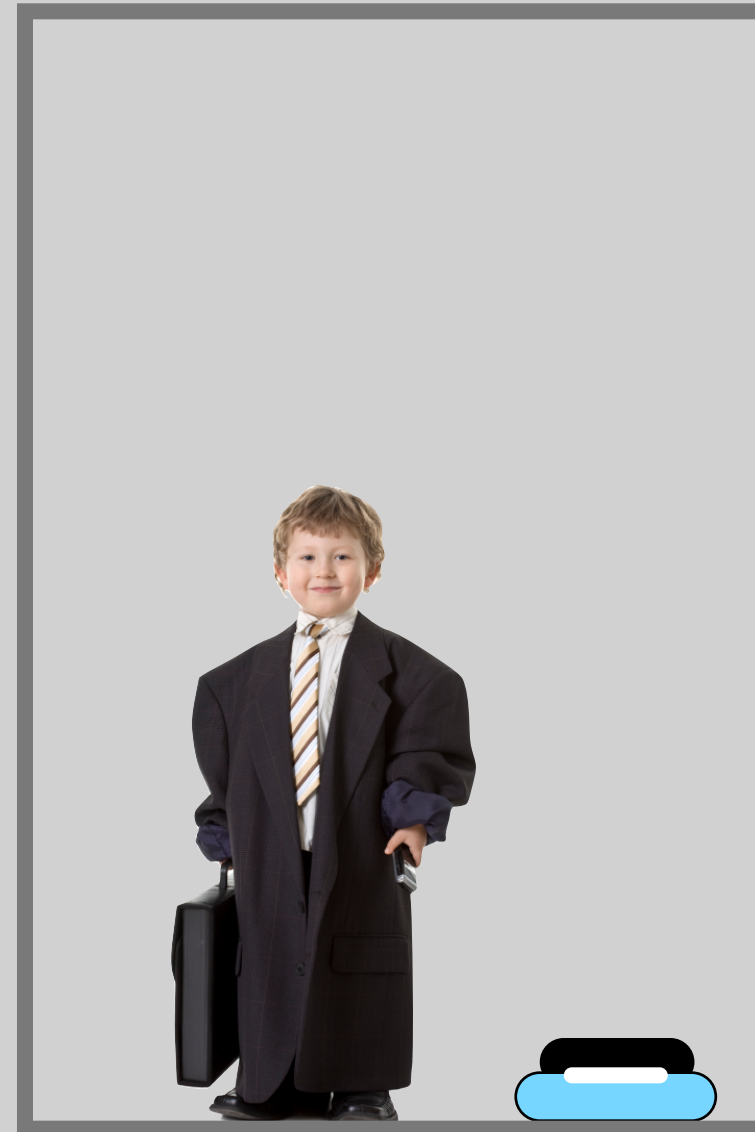
What's the "special" in "special" relativity?

the physics of inertial frames

What about the most obvious accelerating condition?

stupid  
elevator  
trick, #1

gravitational  
attraction



gravitational  
force



stupid  
elevator  
trick, #2

gravitational  
attraction



force up to  
create an  
acceleration  
of  $1g$



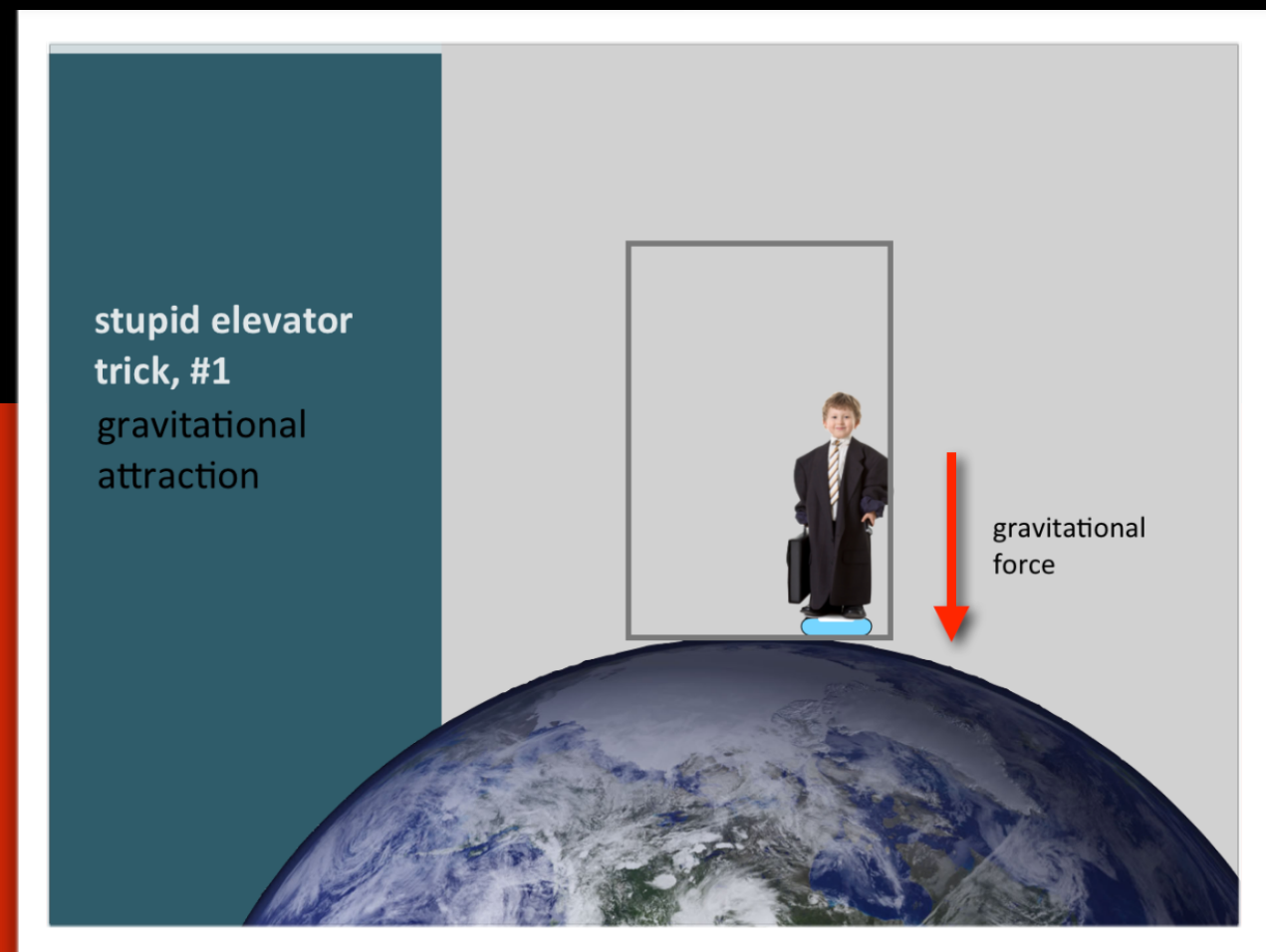
Here comes a Relativity-like statement:

There is no mechanical or electromagnetic experiment he can perform that would tell him that he was

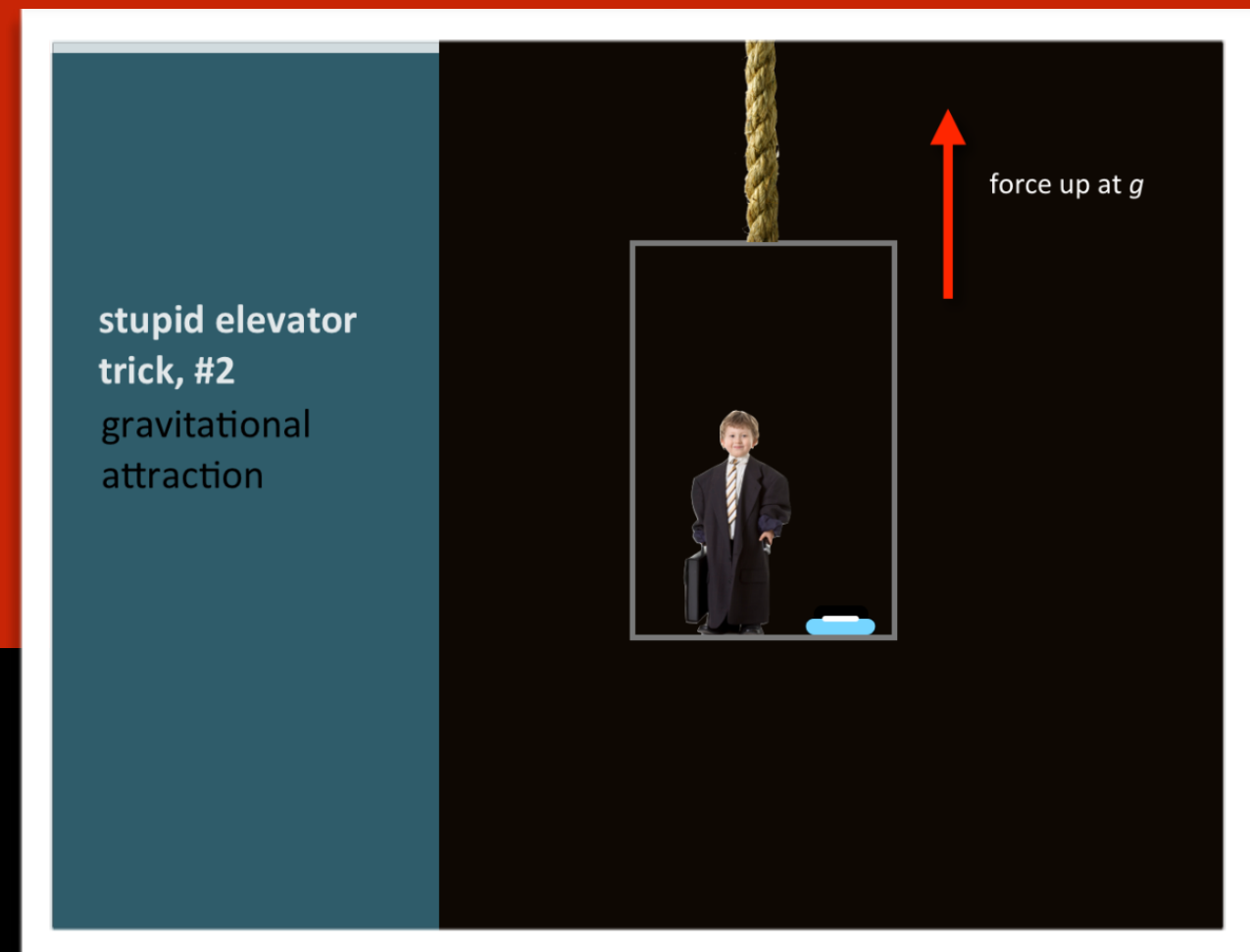
1. being attracted by the Earth **due to gravity** or
2. being pulled **and accelerated**  $g$  with no gravitational field anywhere

this is called the

"Equivalence Principle"



identical



# some subtly to the Equivalence Principle

force down at  $g$



gravitational force

$$F = G \frac{Mm(\text{grav})}{R^2}$$

EP says that if these are the same



the laws of physics will be identical

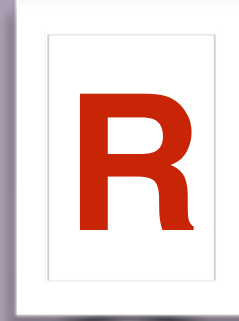
So, anything that happens in L happens in R and visa versa

$$m(\text{grav}) \equiv m(\text{inertial})$$

outer space



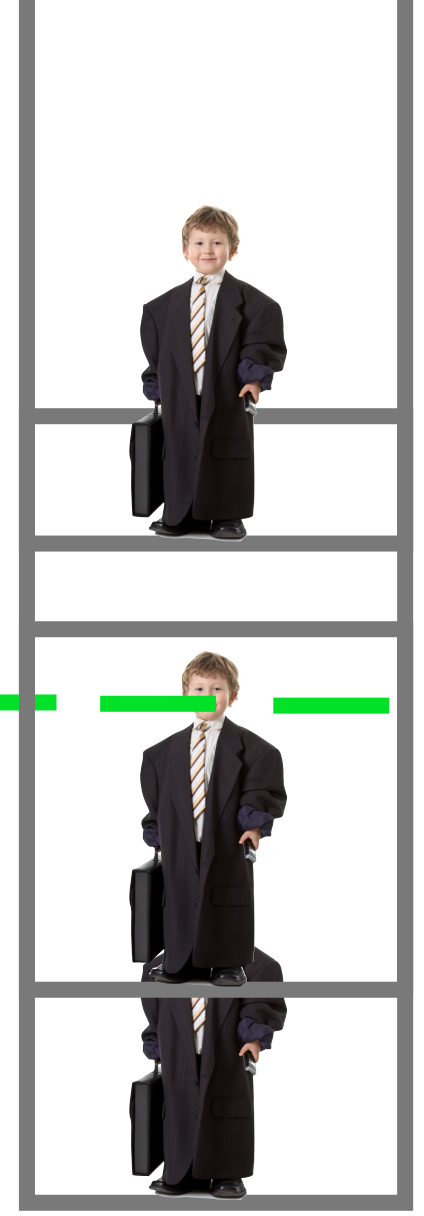
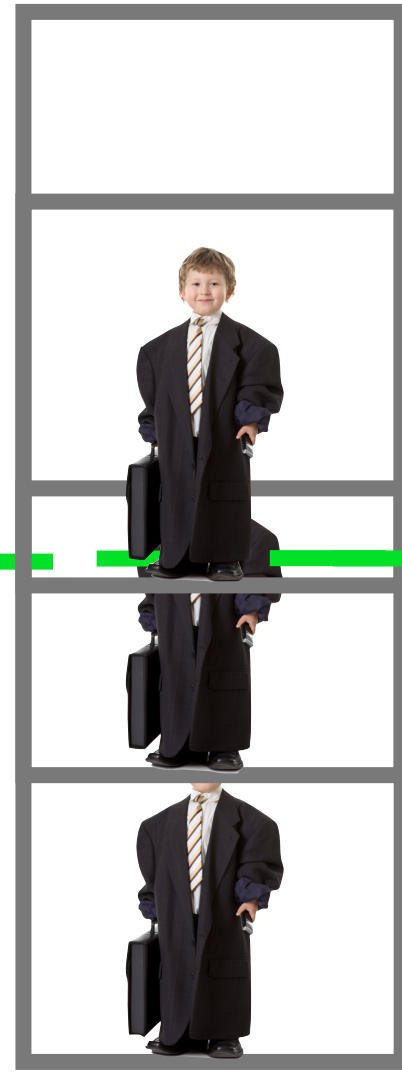
force up at  $g$



inertial force

$$F = m(\text{inertial})a$$

# 3 light tricks



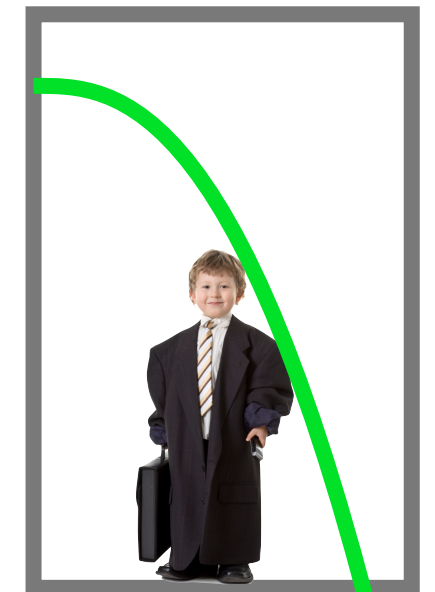
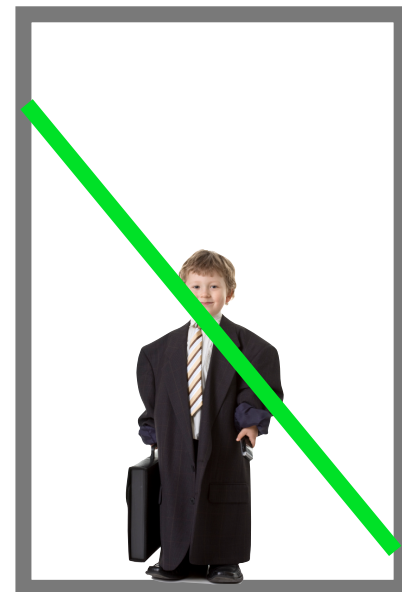
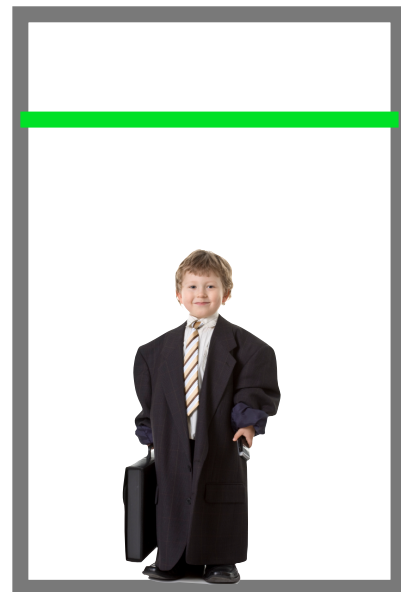
force up at  $g$

relative to couch people:

at rest

constant speed up

accelerated, up



boy observes light beam: **horizontal**

**straight, slanted**

**curved**

CP observe light beam: **horizontal**

**horizontal**

**horizontal**

# what's "straight"?

*around a gravitating mass, the curve path is still:*

"shortest distance between two points"

in practice: the path that a beam of light would take

**BUT:** light travels differently shaped paths between  
relatively accelerated frames

Then the Equivalence Principle requires:

light should also curve in the presence of gravity

# light paths

map the shape of space

not just  
light

acceleration  
messes with  
geometry

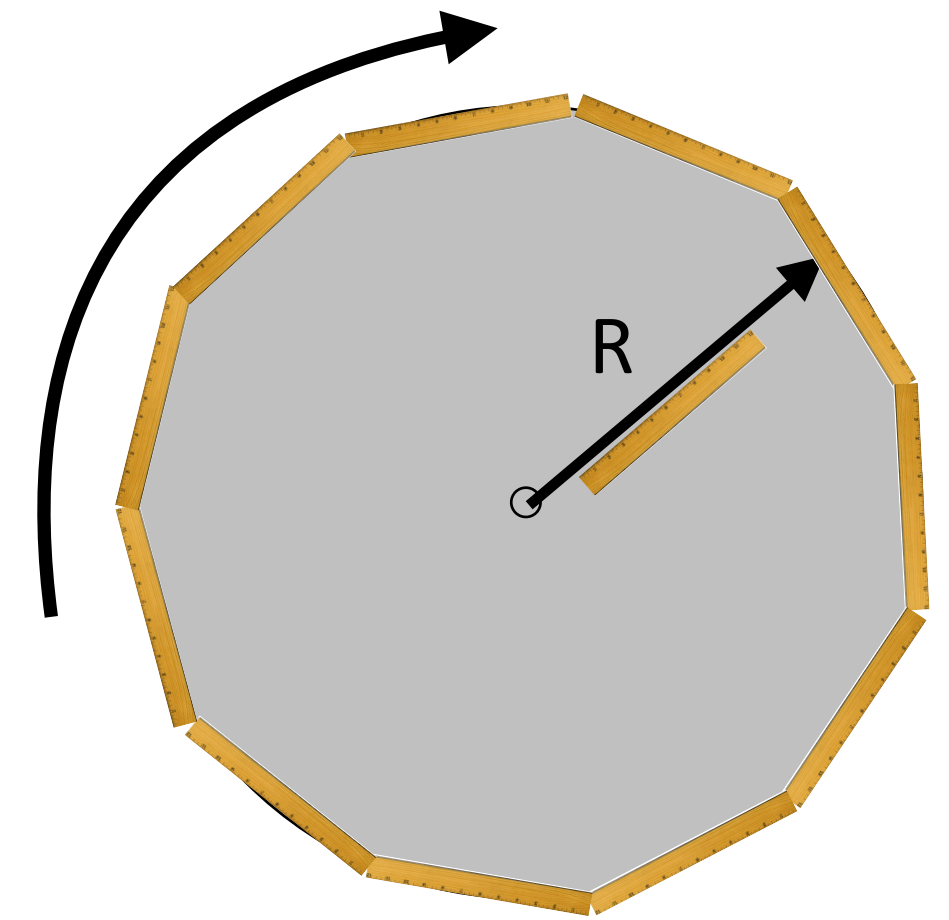
straight is not  
straight

and Einstein knew  
that this was  
problematic

$$C = 2\pi R$$

experimentally:  
you could show that

Now, start it rotating.



fast...so special relativistic effects are apparent.

*The ruler on the radius?*

*The rulers on the circumference?*

$$C \neq 2\pi R$$

The rules of Euclid's geometry – flat geometry – don't hold for an accelerating object.

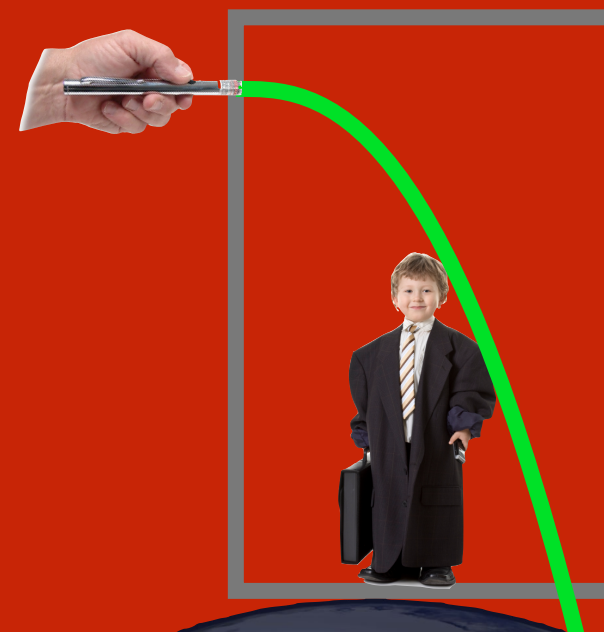
Hold this thought: accelerated motion seems to change regular Geometry.



**acceleration  
warps space**

from the Equivalence  
Principle

**gravity  
should  
warp space**



# light beam

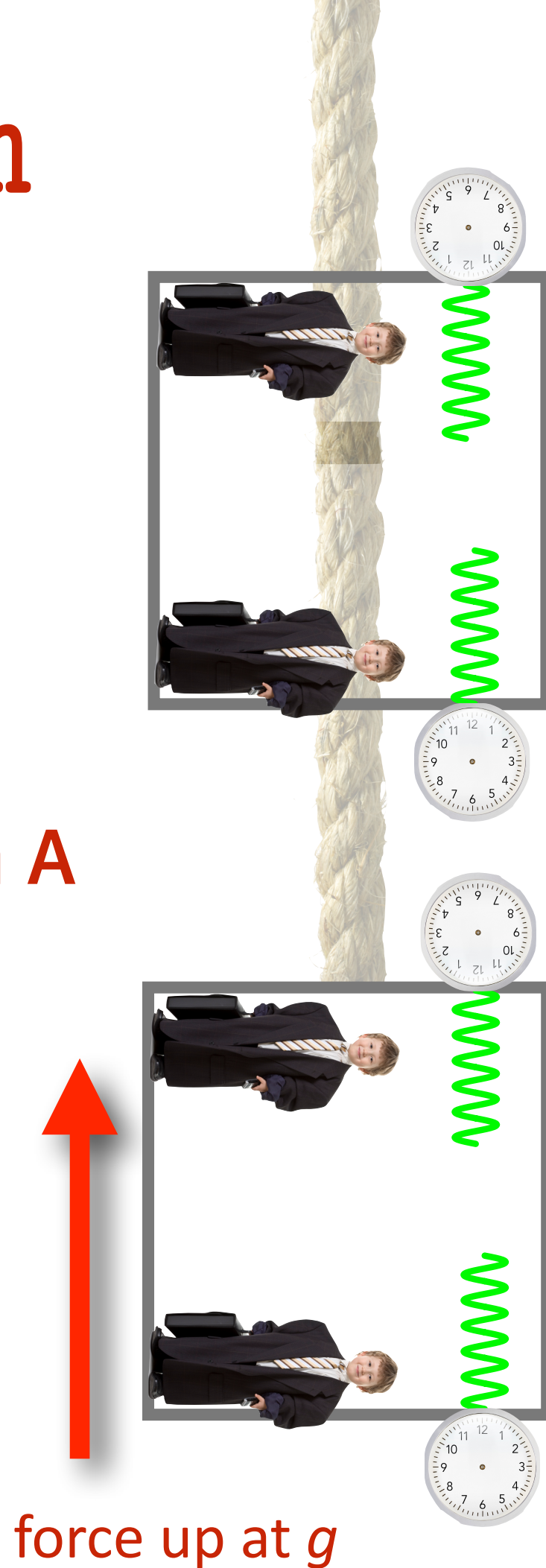
what about time?

use a clock

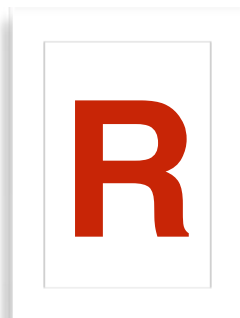
accelerating....

so **B** moving away from **A**

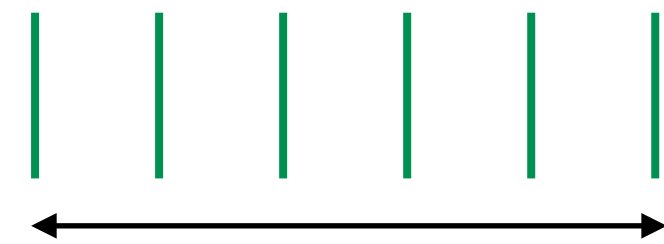
A and B are different inertial frames at each time



force up at  $g$



**B** receives at say 5 ticks per second

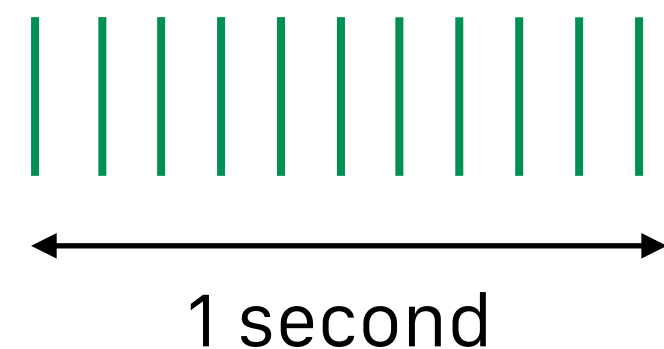


**A** 1 second

**B** would say that **A's** clock has longer between ticks:

**Runs Slower**

**A** sends at say 10 ticks per second



# light beam

same idea as last time, slight different take

Equivalence Principle would require that:

B would say that A's clock has longer between ticks:

**Runs Slower**

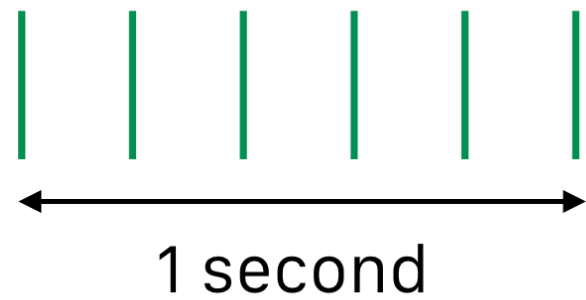


# “red shift”

longer between ticks?

like the wavelength of the light is longer at B than A

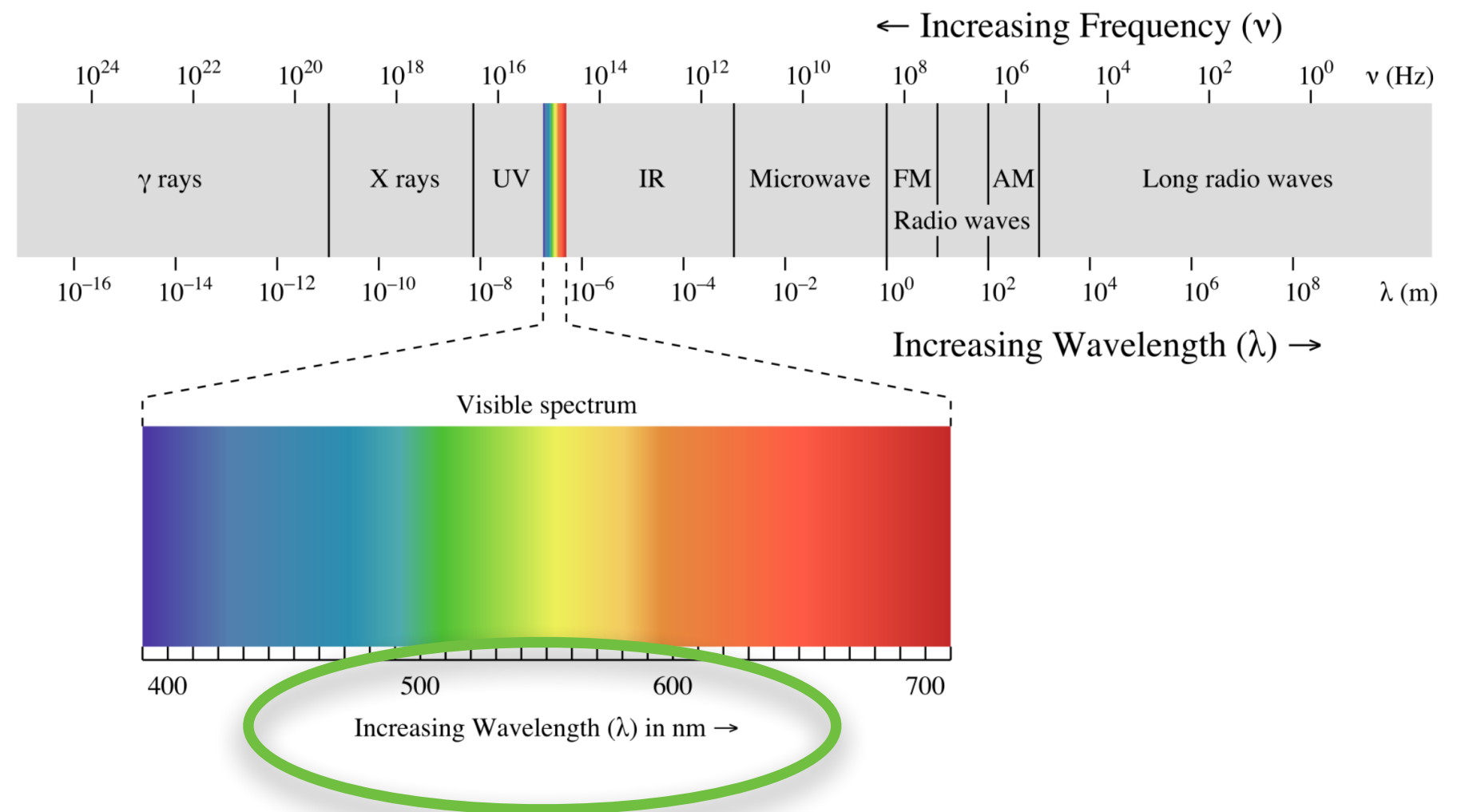
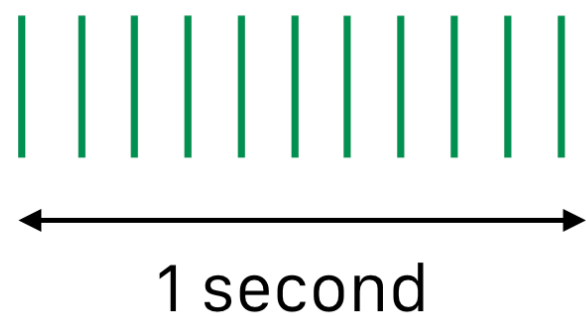
receives at say 5 ticks per second



B would say that A's clock has longer between ticks:

**Runs Slower**

sends at say 10 ticks per second



an apparent shift to

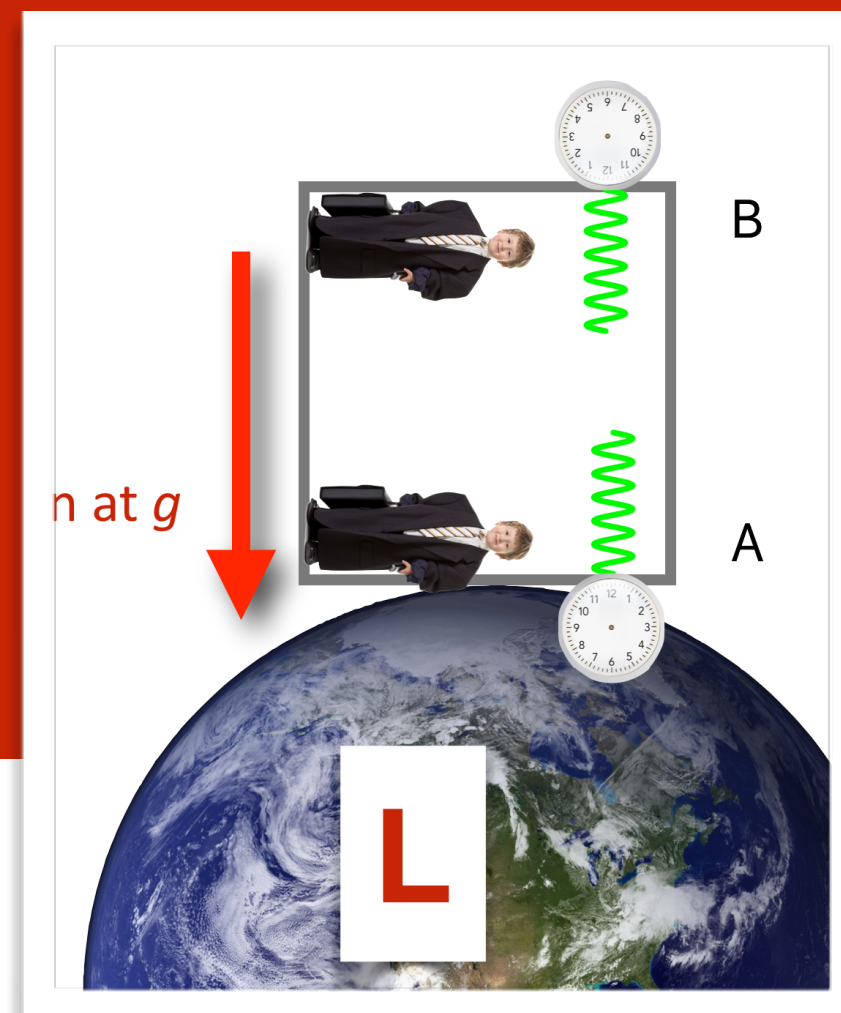
• a longer wavelength... “red shift”

• and a slower clock

acceleration  
warps time

from the Equivalence  
Principle

gravity  
should  
warp time



“

I was sitting in a chair in the patent office at Bern when all of a sudden a thought occurred to me. If a person falls freely, he will not feel his own weight.

Albert Einstein

remembrance from 1907 -

later he called this the "happiest thought of my life"

# free-fall.

is a strange state of motion

you don't notice your own weight



## Burrito Making In Space!

louielouie1224

Subscribe

16 videos



training in the Vomit Comet KC 135



# Gravity is relative

another Equivalence Principle

Neither situation "sees" gravity

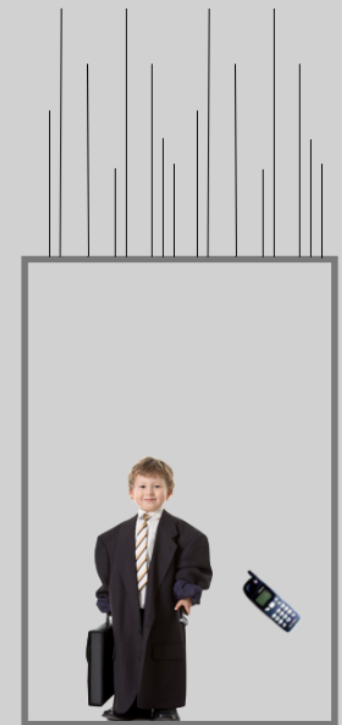
*all Einstein*

sidewalk boy in

**Free Fall**

feels no forces

*everything has same relative velocity*



inertial frame

identical

go far away from  
**any gravitational sources**

exactly the same situation as free fall near a gravitating body

*John Wheeler calls it Free Float*

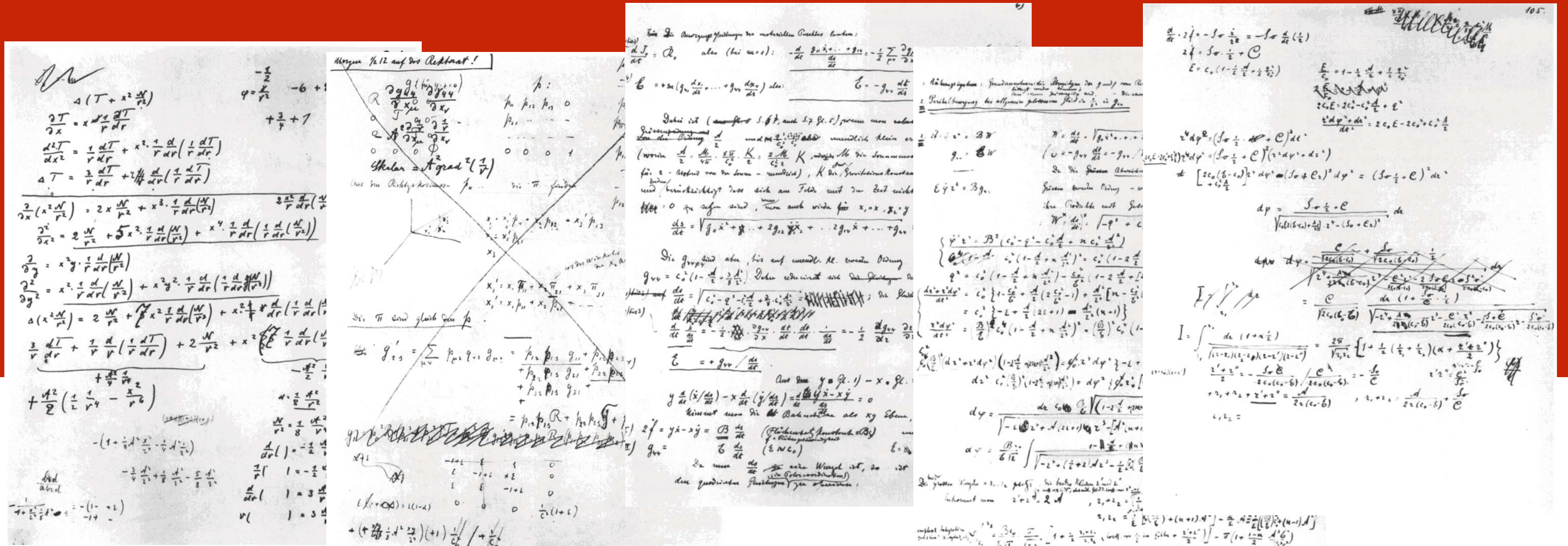


inertial frame



# modeling all of this was

# arguably one of the most technically challenging piece of physics ever



the question is

Could gravity be an illusion?

A circumstance relative only to your state of motion?

Could gravity be "transformed away"

by the change of a reference frame?

**Maybe gravity is not a force at all?**

there should be observable consequences

and Einstein knew it

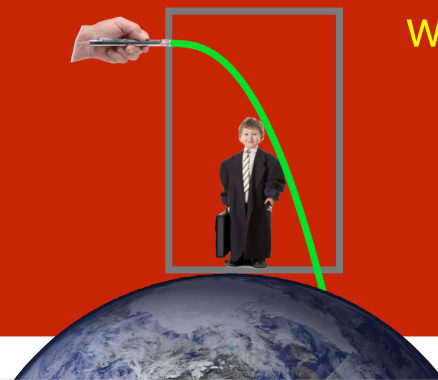
and calculated them - half a decade of Newton-like concentration

# what we've found:

**acceleration**  
warps space

from the Equivalence  
Principle

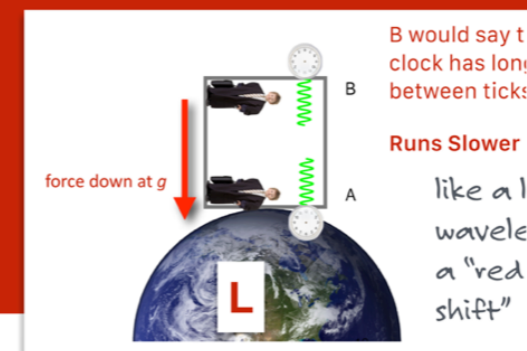
**gravity**  
should  
warp space



**acceleration**  
warps time

from the Equivalence  
Principle

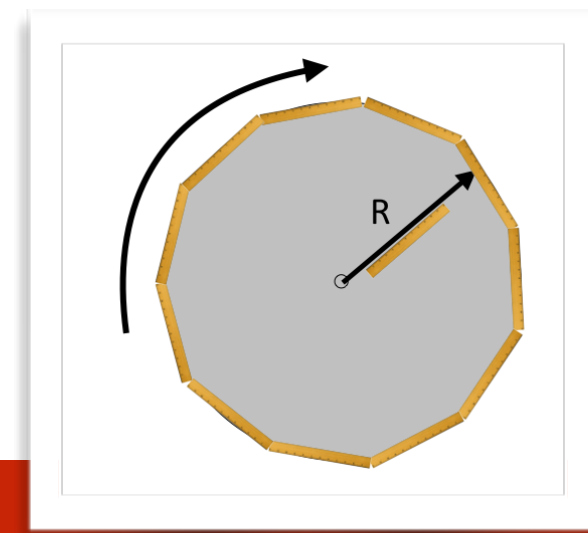
**gravity**  
should  
warp time



gravitating bodies..masses:

warp both space and time.

They warp: **spacetime**



Einstein had to learn that geometry & energy-mass

interact & that space and time respond

That took him 5 years after his happy thought to figure out



he had to go back to school...privately with his buddy Marcel Grossman

# tests of general relativity

There are a handful of  
“classic tests”

of these ideas:

that space and time are warped by  
gravitation

Pound Rebka Gravitational Red Shift

The perihelion of Mercury's Orbit

Light bending around the Sun

“Gravitational Lensing”

“The Hafele-Keating experiment”

“Binary Pulsar period”

Black Holes



# light beam

what about time?

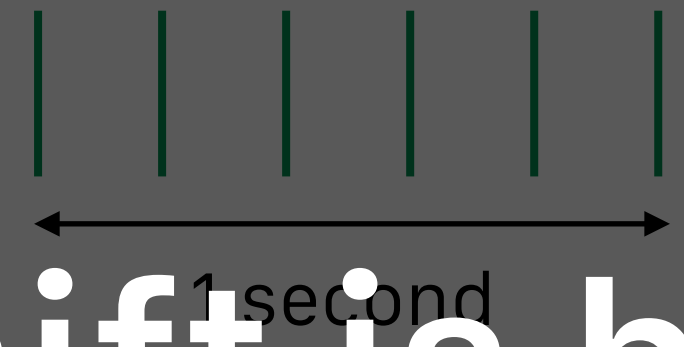
use a clock

# Gravitational Red Shift is built into your phone's GPS

accelerating...  
so B moving away from A  
A and B are different inertial frames at each time  
if you get where you want to go, you just confirmed General Relativity



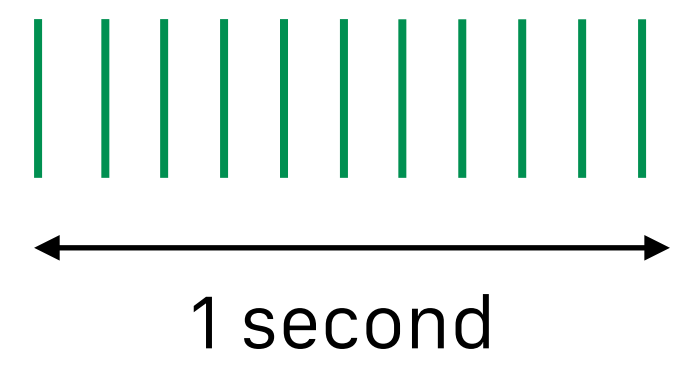
B receives at say 5 ticks per second



B would say that A's clock is longer between ticks:

Runs Slower

A sends at say 10 ticks per second



force up at  $g$



# “Advance of the Perihelion of the Orbit of Mercury”

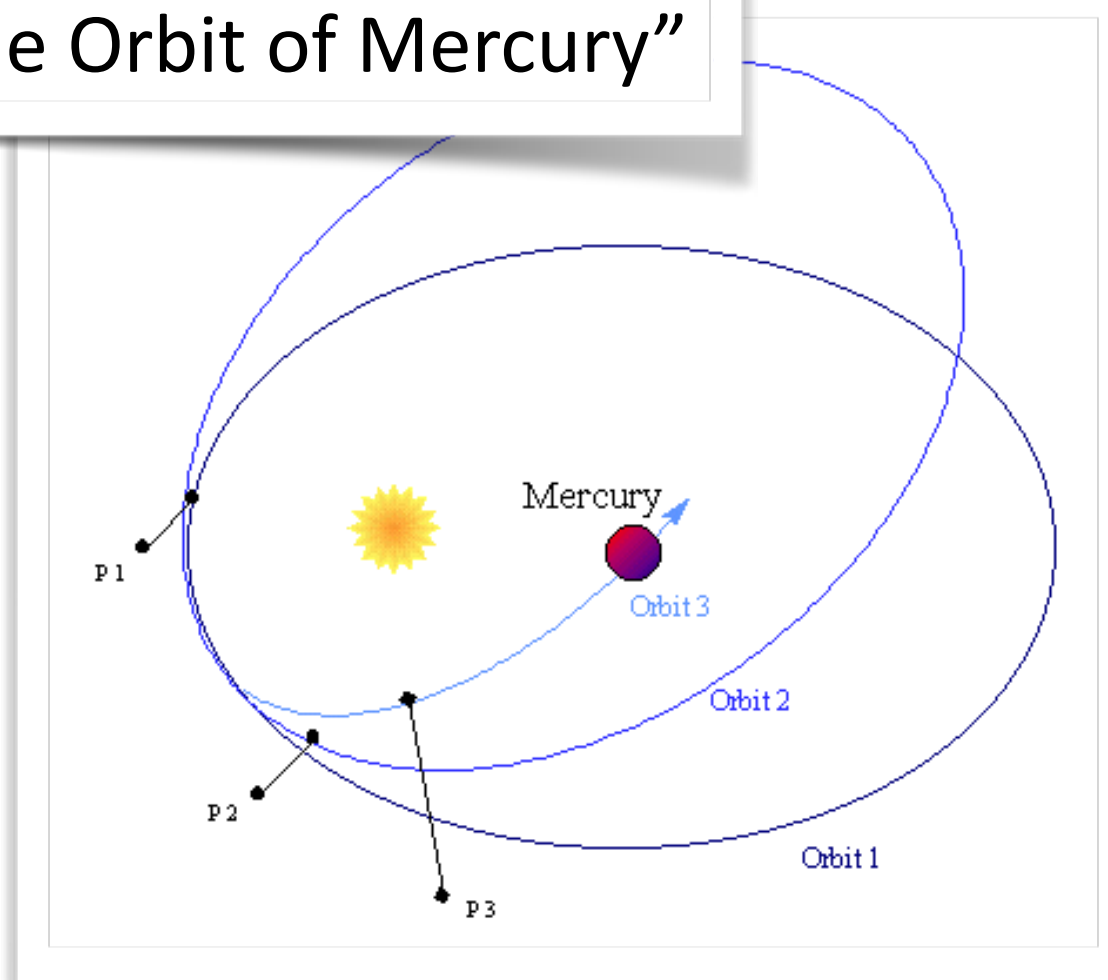
## Vulcan?

Mercury

misbehaves

“advance of the perihelion”

Einstein  
calculated it  
including the  
sun’s warping of  
space



point of closest approach of  
the orbit advances by 43  
seconds of arc per century



1916: Got precisely the right amount.

Had heart palpitations when the result  
appeared on his paper...

# the mother of all experiments

the "solar eclipse" experiment

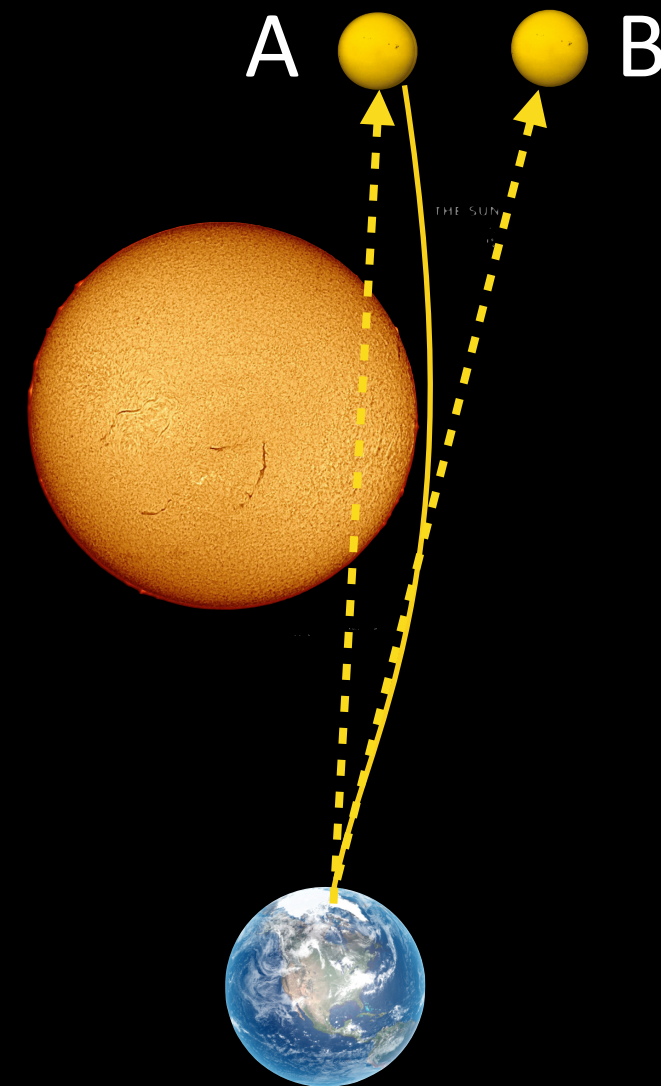
The image shows a screenshot of a Google search results page for the query "solar eclipse" experiment. The search bar at the top contains the text "solar eclipse" experiment. Below the search bar, there are navigation tabs for "All", "Videos", "Images", "News", "Shopping", and "More". The search results are displayed below, starting with "About 387,000 results (0.70 seconds)". The first result is "May 29, 1919: A Major Eclipse, Relatively Speaking | WIRED" with a URL starting with "https://www.wired.com/2009/05/dayintech\_0529/". The second result is "Tests of general relativity - Wikipedia" with a URL starting with "https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tests\_of\_general\_relativity". The third result is "Creating eclipses in the classroom | www.scienceinschool.org" with a URL starting with "www.scienceinschool.org/2012/issue23/eclipses". The fourth result is "NASA's Science During March 2016 Solar Eclipse | NASA" with a URL starting with "https://www.nasa.gov/feature/goddard/2016/a-moment-in-the-suns-atmosphere". Below the text results, there is an "Images for 'solar eclipse' experiment" section with a row of six small image thumbnails. Below the images, there is a link "More images for 'solar eclipse' experiment" and a "Report images" link. The fifth result is "Citizen Science for the Great American Solar Eclipse - Sky & Telescope" with a URL starting with "www.skyandtelescope.com/get.../pro.../citizen-science-great-american-solar-eclipse/". The sixth result is "solar eclipse experiment: Topics by Science.gov" with a URL starting with "https://www.science.gov/topicpages/s/solar+eclipse+experiment.html". The seventh result is "Make Your Own Solar Eclipse-A Hands-on Astronomy Experiment ..." with a URL starting with "https://www.teachervision.com/activity/make-your-own-solar-eclipse". The eighth result is "Solar Eclipse Model Experiment | Education.com" with a URL starting with "www.education.com > Science Fair > First Grade > Astronomy".

“Solar Eclipse Experiment”

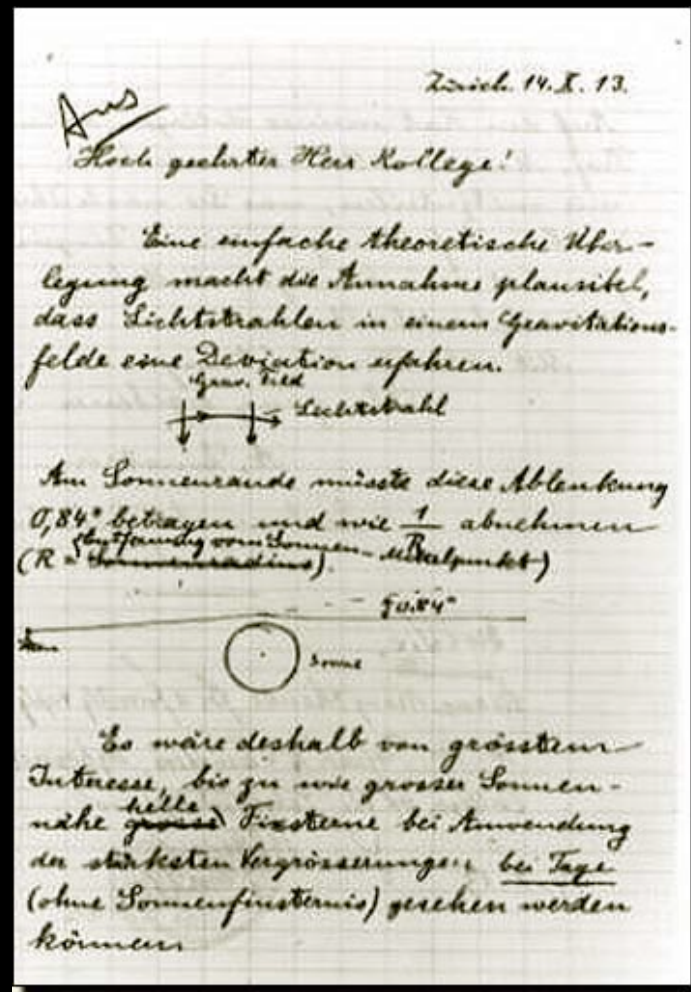
Not totally surprising...light has energy...behaves like mass - it should bend

The deflection should be about 1/4 milli-degree

The star is actually at A



But it would appear to be at B



1911 calculation – initially wrong, only the E=mc<sup>2</sup> component...

In 1915 he changed his 1911 calculation to include the warping of space...worth x2

# light

obeys the strong Equivalence Principle

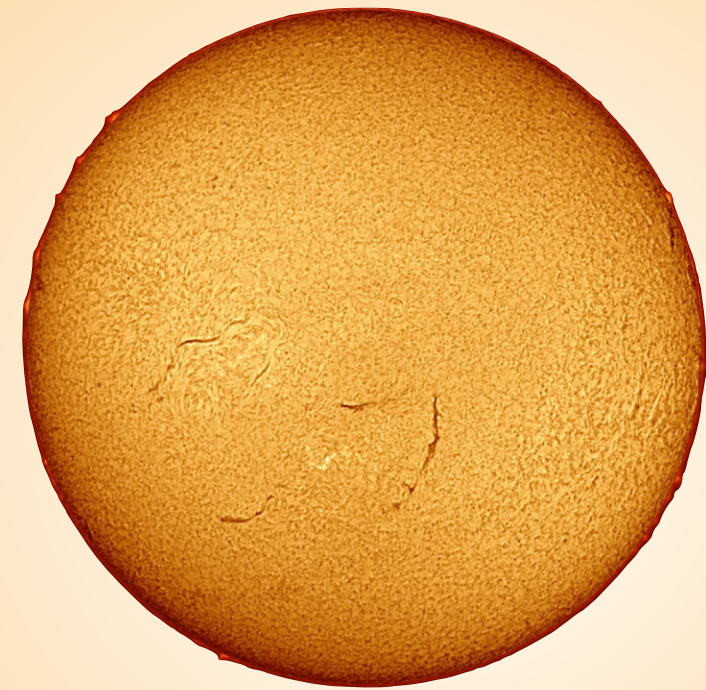
the laser pointer...for real

# eclipse experiment May 29, 1919

Sir Arthur  
Eddington led 2  
teams:

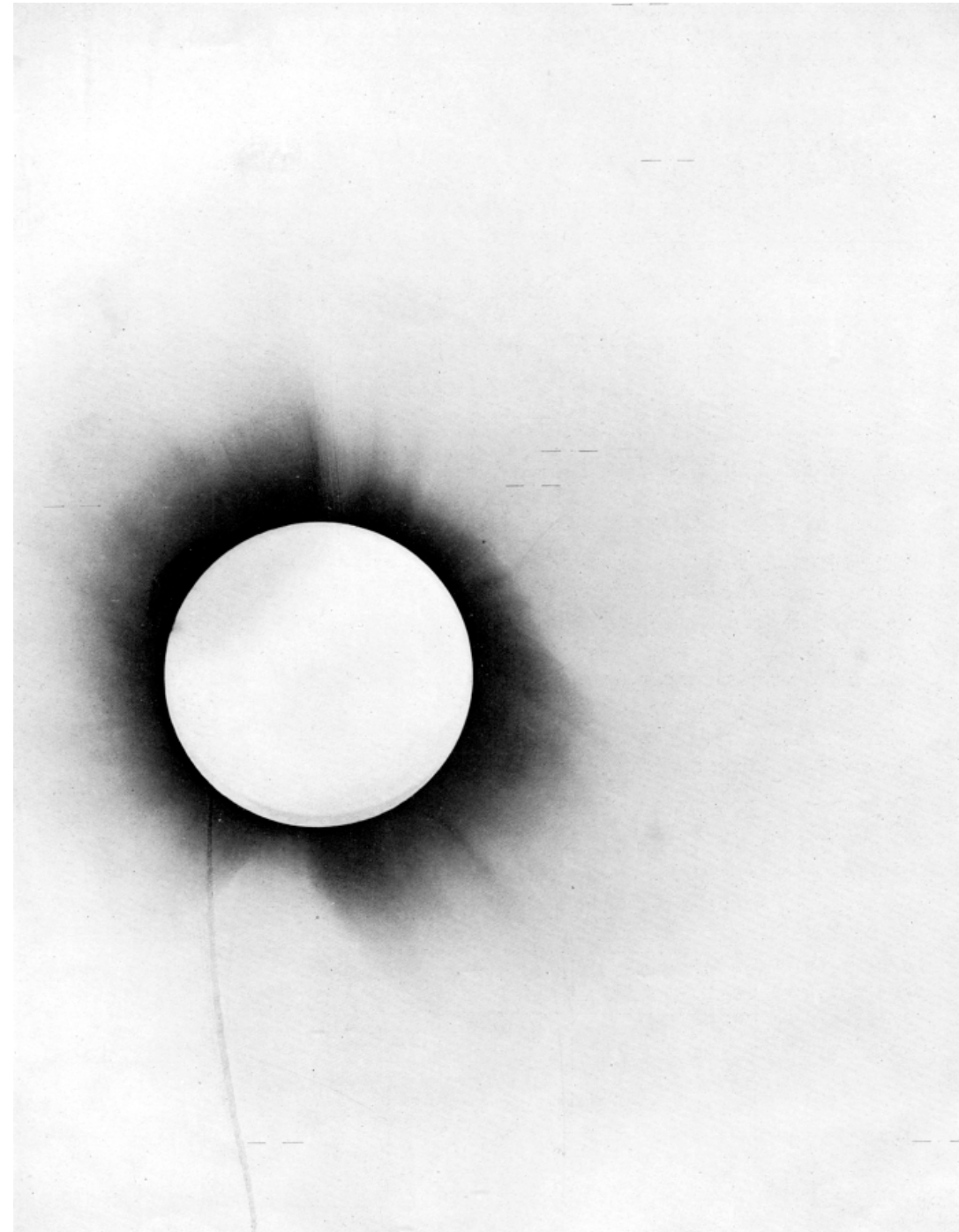
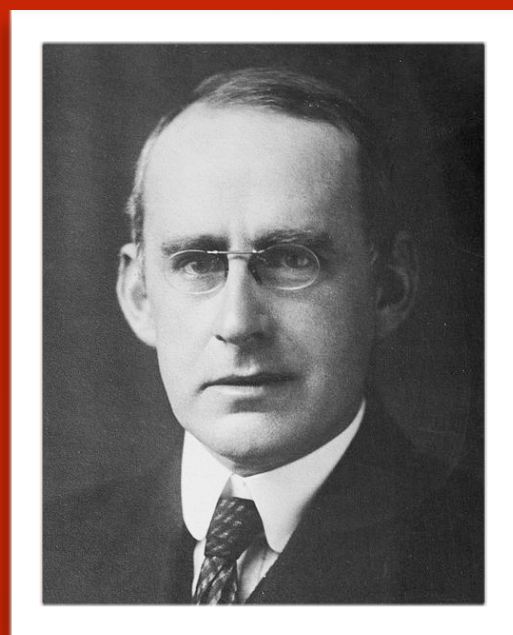
Gulf of Guinea

& Brazil



there was  
some  
cloudiness!

Eddington had 10  
seconds to get a  
photograph



1/16 plates had usable data

Eddington announced the result

November 6, 1919 at the Royal Astronomical Society meeting

*Einstein woke up in Berlin the next morning and was famous.*

eclipse announcement at scientific meeting, 11/06/19:

instant celebrity, 11/07/19

the Times golf editor

New York Times,  
November 10, 1919

cover of December 14, 1919 issue of  
*Berliner Illustrierte*

## LIGHTS ALL ASKEW IN THE HEAVENS

Men of Science More or Less  
Agog Over Results of Eclipse  
Observations.

### EINSTEIN THEORY TRIUMPHS

Stars Not Where They Seemed  
or Were Calculated to be,  
but Nobody Need Worry.

### A BOOK FOR 12 WISE MEN

No More in All the World Could  
Comprehend It, Said Einstein When  
His Daring Publishers Accepted It.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

LONDON, Nov. 9.—Efforts made to put in words intelligible to the non-scientific public the Einstein theory of light proved by the eclipse expedition so far have not been very successful. The new theory was discussed at a recent meeting of the Royal Society and Royal Astronomical Society. Sir Joseph Thomson, President of the Royal Society, declares it is not possible to put Einstein's theory into really intelligible words, yet at the same time Thomson adds:

"The results of the eclipse expedition demonstrating that the rays of light from the stars are bent or deflected from their normal course by other aerial bodies acting upon them and consequently the inference that light has weight form a most important contribution to the laws of gravity given us since Newton laid down his principles."

Thompson states that the difference between theories of Newton and those of Einstein are infinitesimal in a popular sense, and as they are purely mathematical and can only be expressed in strictly scientific terms it is useless to endeavor to detail them for the man in the street.



One of the speakers at the Royal Society's meeting suggested that Euclid was knocked out. Schoolboys should not rejoice prematurely, for it is pointed out that Euclid laid down the axiom that parallel straight lines, if produced ever so far, would not meet. He said nothing about light lines.

Some cynics suggest that the Einstein theory is only a scientific version of the well-known phenomenon that a coin in a basin of water is not on the spot where it seems to be and ask what is new in the refraction of light.

Albert Einstein is a Swiss citizen, about 50 years of age. After occupying a position as Professor of Mathematical Physics at the Zurich Polytechnic School and afterward at Prague University, he was elected a member of Emperor William's Scientific Academy in Berlin at the outbreak of the war. Dr. Einstein protested against the German professors' manifesto approving of Germany's participation in the war, and at its conclusion he welcomed the revolution. He has been living in Berlin for about six years.

When he offered his last important work to the publishers he warned them there were not more than twelve persons in the whole world who would understand it, but the publishers took the risk.

caption: "A new great figure in world history: Albert Einstein, whose investigations signify a complete revision of our concepts of Nature, and are on a par with the insights of a Copernicus, a Kepler, and a Newton."



# New York Times, December 3, 1919

## EINSTEIN EXPOUNDS HIS NEW THEORY

It Discards Absolute Time and Space, Recognizing Them Only as Related to Moving Systems.

IMPROVES ON NEWTON

Whose Approximations Hold for Most Motions, but Not Those of the Highest Velocity.

INSPIRED AS NEWTON WAS

But by the Fall of a Man from a Roof Instead of the Fall of an Apple.

Copyright, 1919, by The New York Times Company  
Special Cable to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BERLIN, Dec. 2.—Now that the Royal Society, at its meeting in London on Nov. 6, has put the stamp of its official authority on Dr. Albert Einstein's much-debated new "theory of relativity," man's conception of the universe seems likely to undergo radical changes. Indeed, there are German savants who believe that since the promulgation of Newton's theory of gravitation no discovery of such importance has been made in the world of science.

When THE NEW YORK TIMES correspondent called at his home to gather from his own lips an interpretation of what to laymen must appear the book with the seven seals, Dr. Einstein him-



now recovered from exhaustion and photogenic: 1920

# Gravitational Lensing - an off-hand prediction of Einstein



[www.spacetelescope.org](http://www.spacetelescope.org)

Foreground objects can distort, and magnify distant background galaxies.



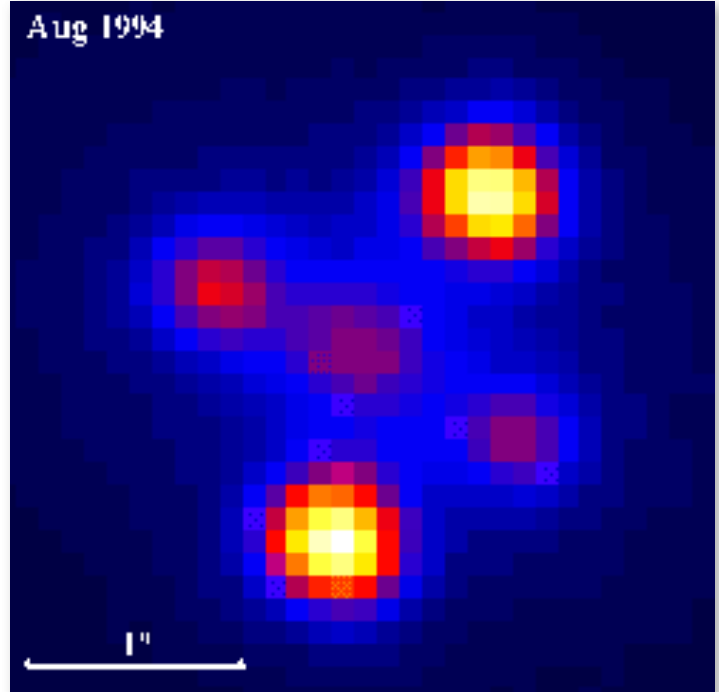
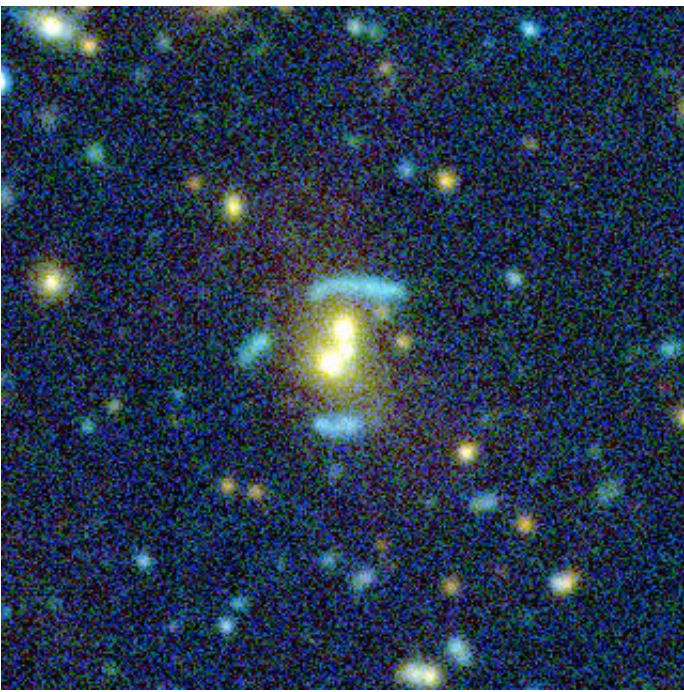
# Today, the dramatic effects of light bending are observed in the form of gravitational lensing

tool for studying dark matter: looking for Massive Astrophysical Compact Halo Objects

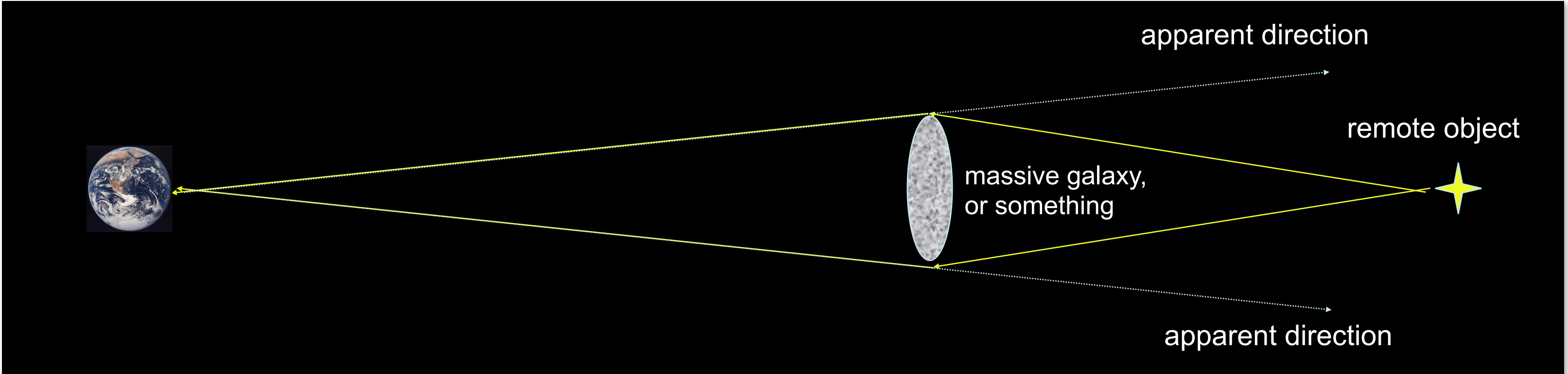
this is the bending of light around a very massive object, like a large galaxy

“Gravitational Lensing”

“Einstein Cross” - 4 images of a quasar



**MACHOS**  
 Credit: Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope Corporation 2006.



# Second view of this:

“The Hafele-Keating experiment”

an atomic clock was carefully carried around the world in 1972 and carefully calibrated and compared with ground-based clocks

*There are a number of corrections: accelerations, decelerations, the rotation of the orbit, the fact that the earth is not inertial - but relativity was absolutely correct*

Predicted Effect	Flying East	Flying West
GTR (Gravitation)	+ 144 ± 14 ns	+ 179 ± 18 ns
STR (Velocity)	- 184 ± 18 ns	+ 96 ± 18 ns
Total	- 40 ± 23 ns	+ 275 ± 21 ns
measured:	- 59 ± 10 ns	+273 ± 7 ns



J. Hafele and R. Keating

about half of their effect was due to the gravitational difference between Earth and the flight's altitude

*redone twice more in airplanes and rockets/satellites*

# spacetime in general relativity

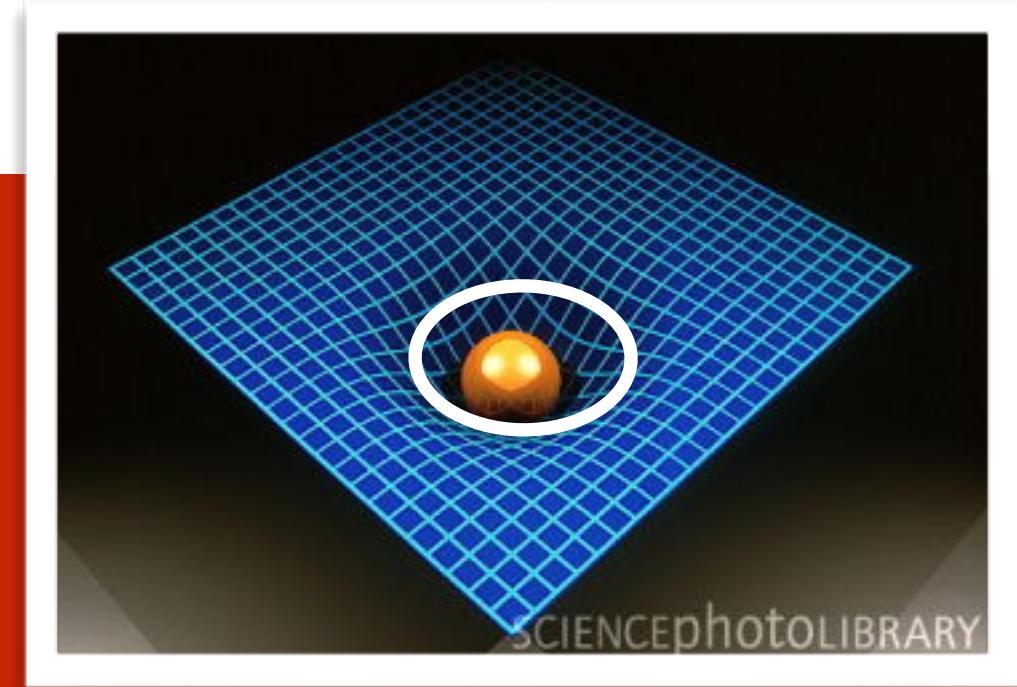
Earth's orbit is then just us following the shortest distance around the sun...not a gravitational force

Einstein got rid of gravitational forces in GR

Masses warp spacetime...

Since the shortest distance between two spacetime points is a light-path, this "maps" the shape

In GR gravity is not a force, but a "topography" of spacetime that forces objects to take the shortest curved path in spacetime



okay .

Spacetime might  
be curvy, bumpy,  
... "warped"

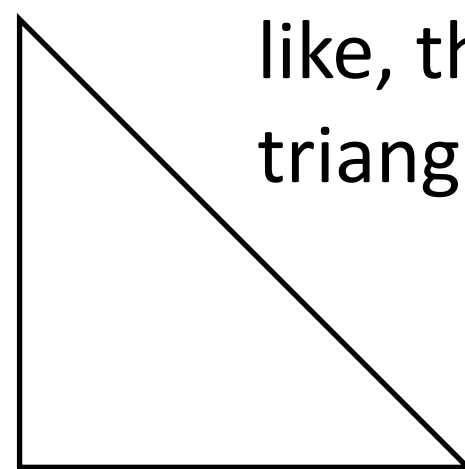
a "non-Euclidean  
geometry"?

Euclid's Geometry starts with 4 terms and 4+1 postulates:

Point, Line, Plane, Space

1. A straight line can be drawn between any two points
2. A finite line can be extended infinitely in both directions
3. A circle can be drawn with any center and any radius
4. All right angles are equal to each other
5. Given a line and a point not on the line, only one line can be drawn through the point parallel to the line

a System of a series of proofs, each building on the previous, to a whole system of mathematics



like, the sum of the interior angles of any triangle is  $180^\circ$

like, Pythagoras' Theorem

like, actually... a lot of algebra problems before algebra was invented



# Einstein's mathematics of GR

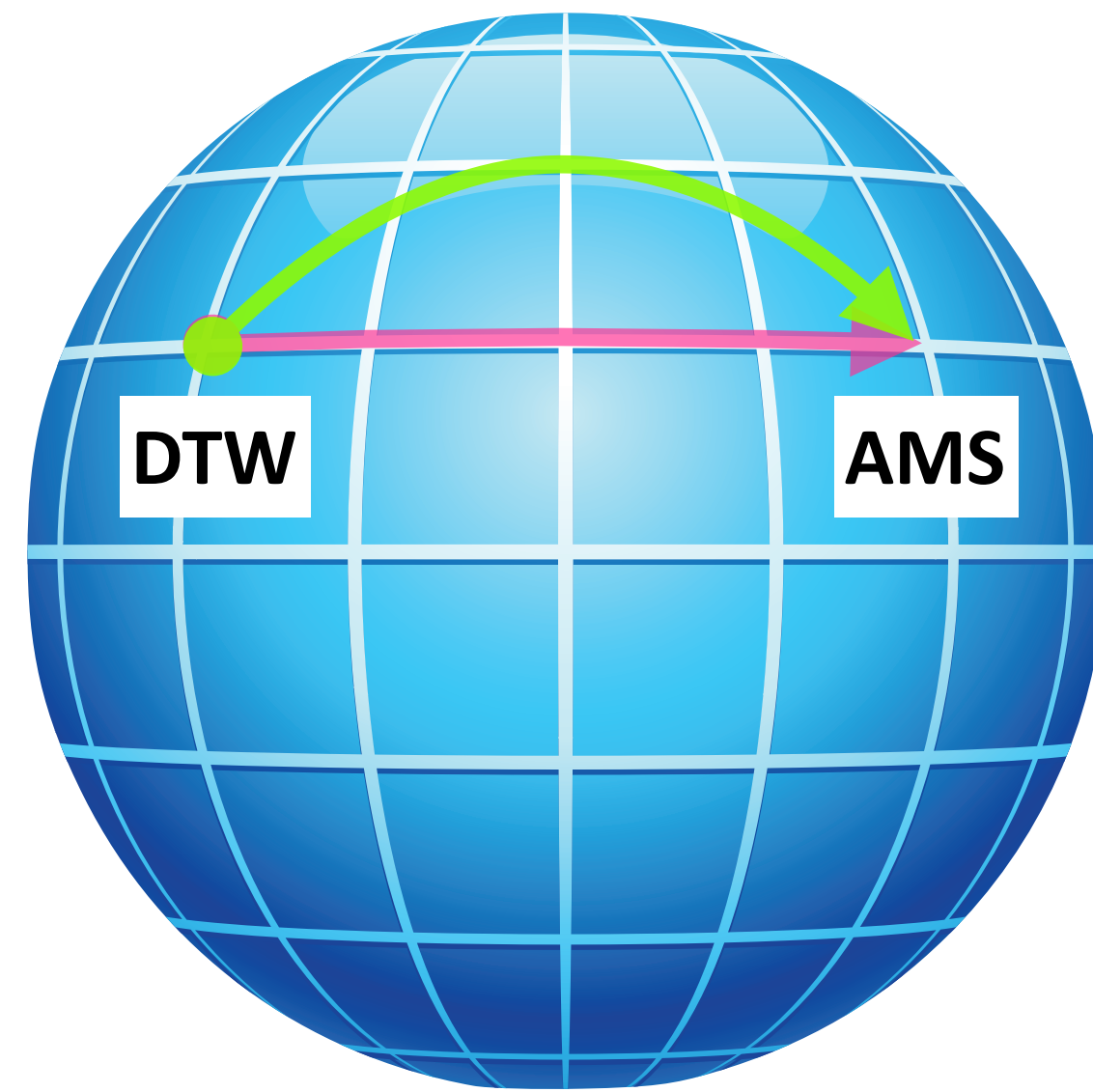
led him to have to consider non-Euclidean Geometries  
which were still timidly being studied by mathematicians

not so far-fetched

we live in such a geometry

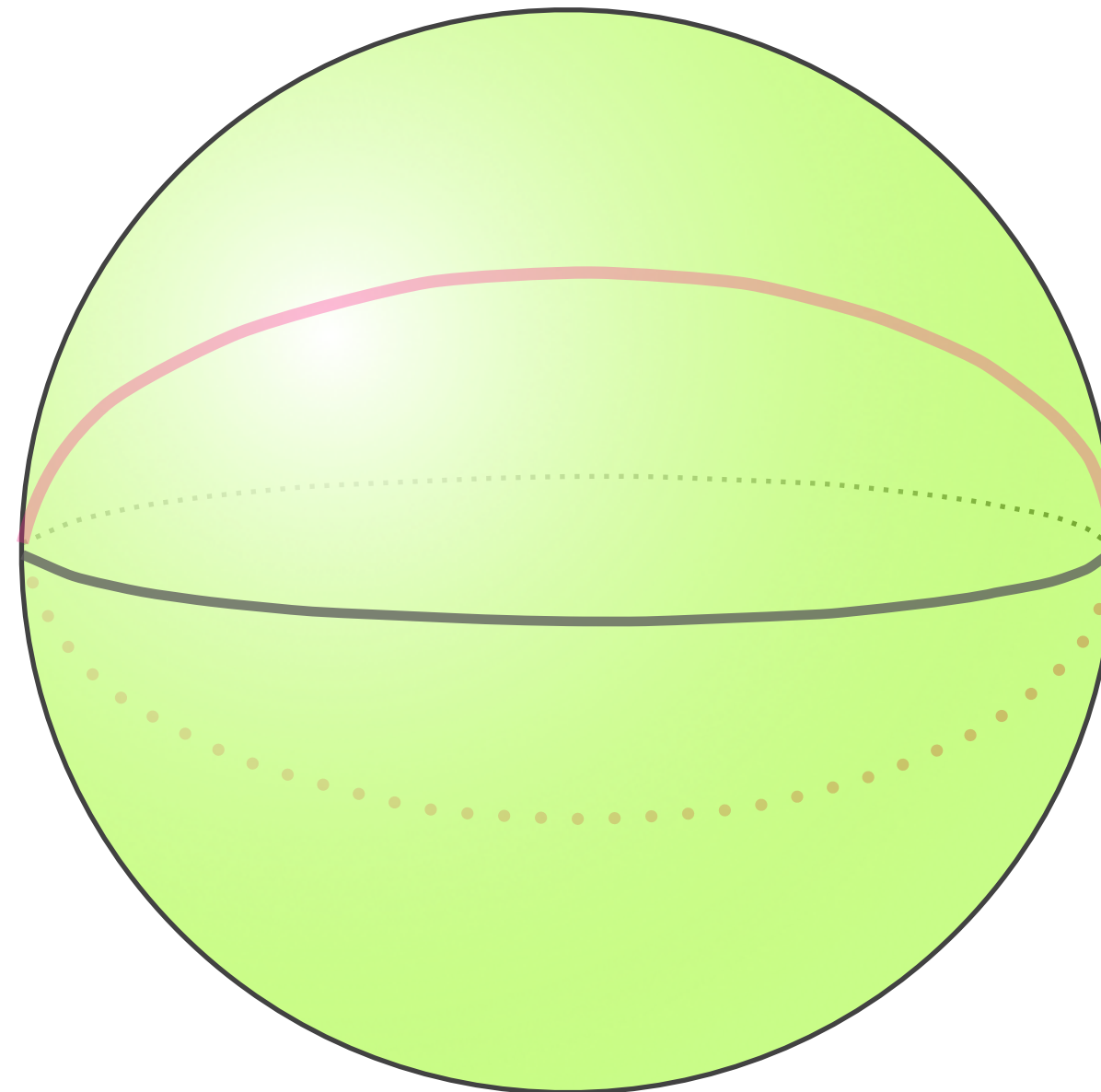


what's a  
"straight  
line"



on a sphere?

shortest distance  
between 2 points



# Euclid's 5th Postulate

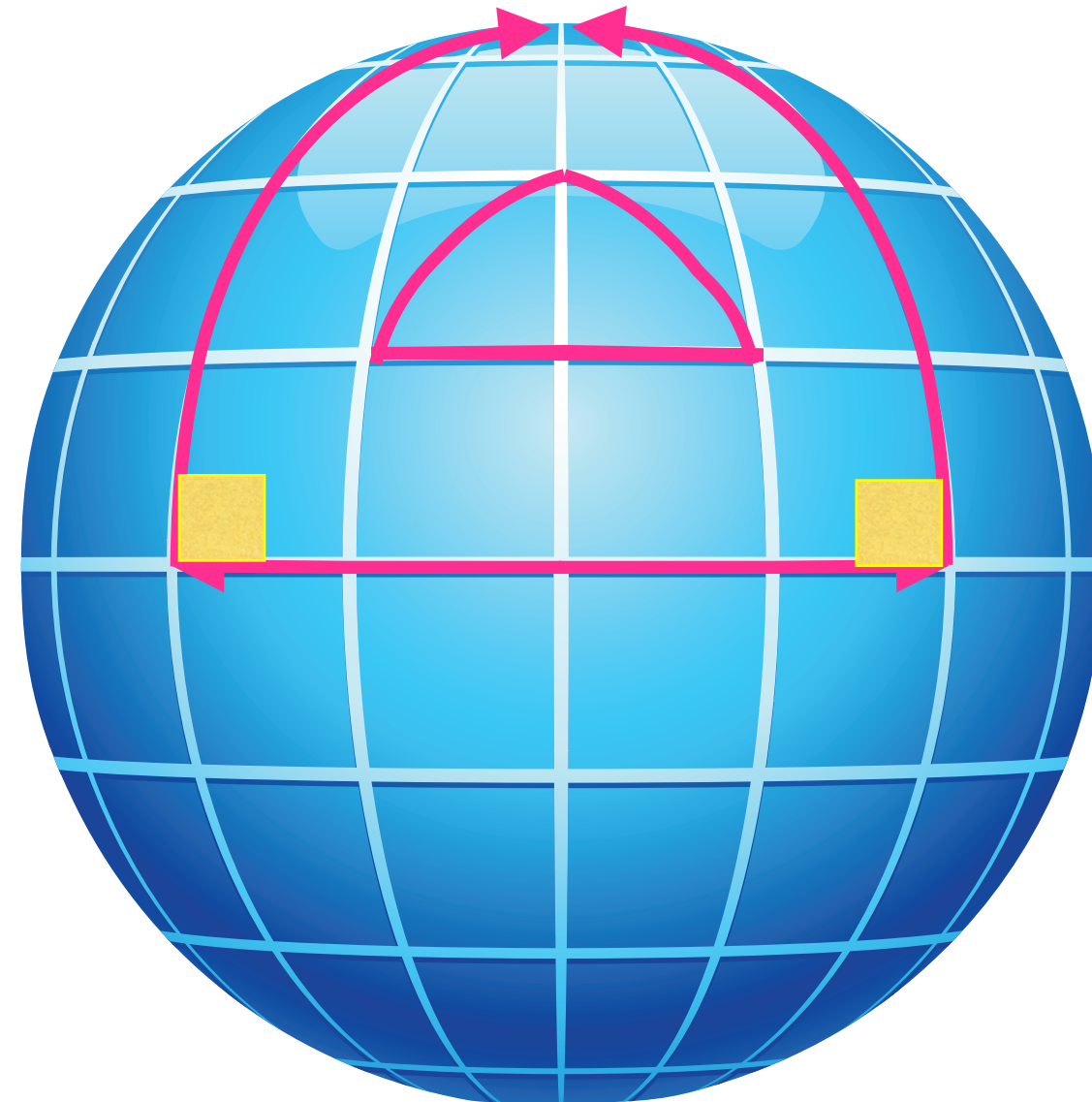
parallel lines  
never meeting?

only in a flat space

sum of interior  
angles in a triangle  
 $= 180^\circ$ ?

*only in flat space*

*on sphere  $> 180^\circ$*



‘warping’

means that geometry

spacetime geometry

mixes with mass, energy, and pressure

# General Relativity

Einstein's GR  
equation

complicated  
mathematics

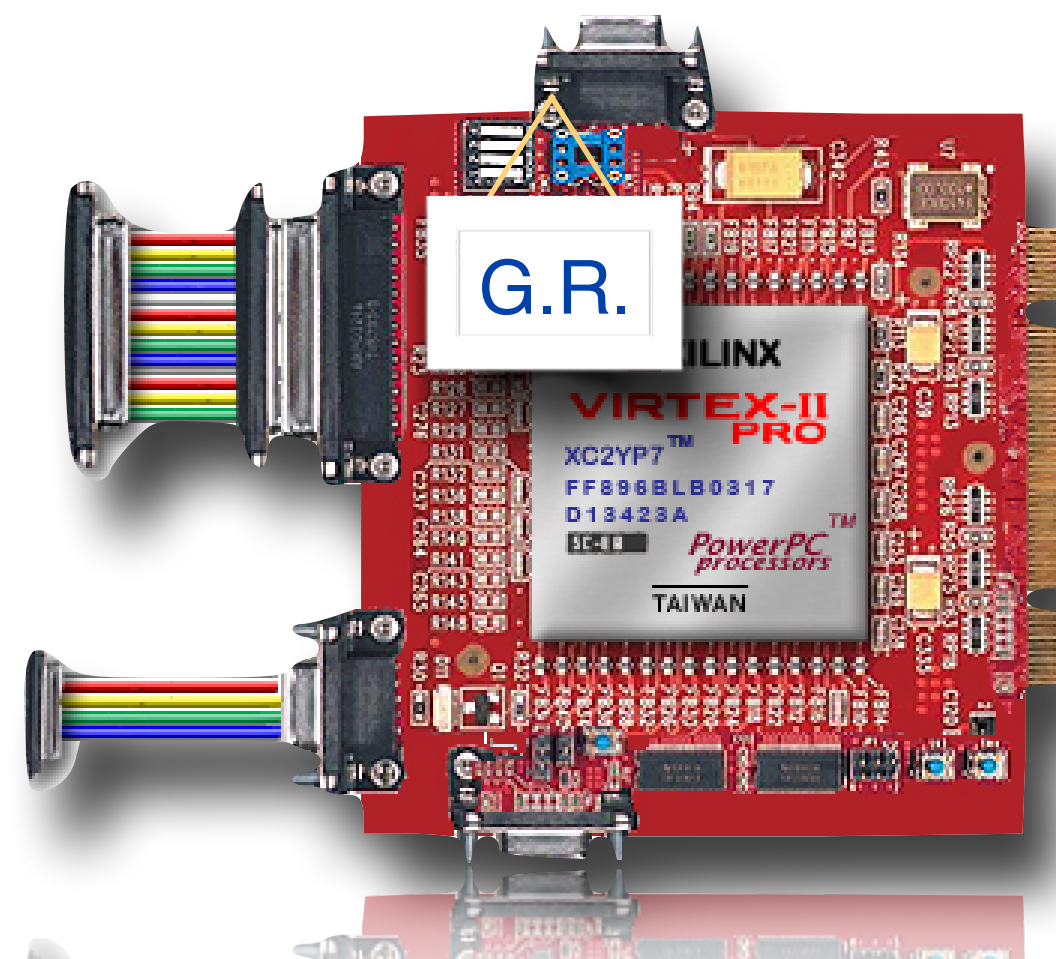
geometry of  
spacetime



mass-energy,  
pressure,  
&  
momentum

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}Rg_{\mu\nu} = \frac{8\pi}{c^4}T_{\mu\nu}$$

we'll call it: "G = T"



Einstein grossly  
underestimated

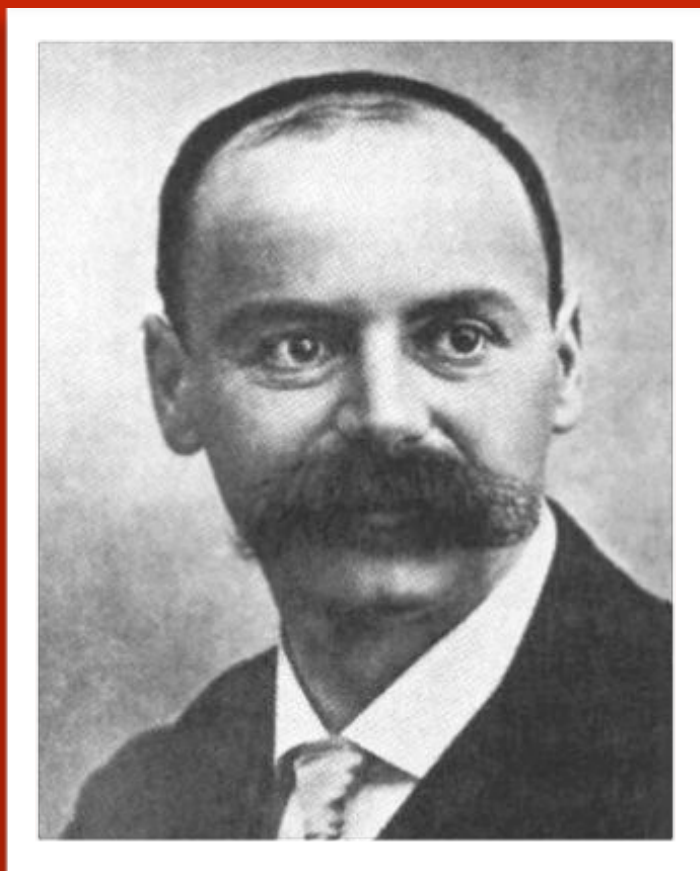
the richness of his theory

he knew he'd exhausted the possible solutions to  
the GR equations

He was wrong...and irritable about it

wrong.  
Almost  
immediately:

from the  
foxhole, 1915



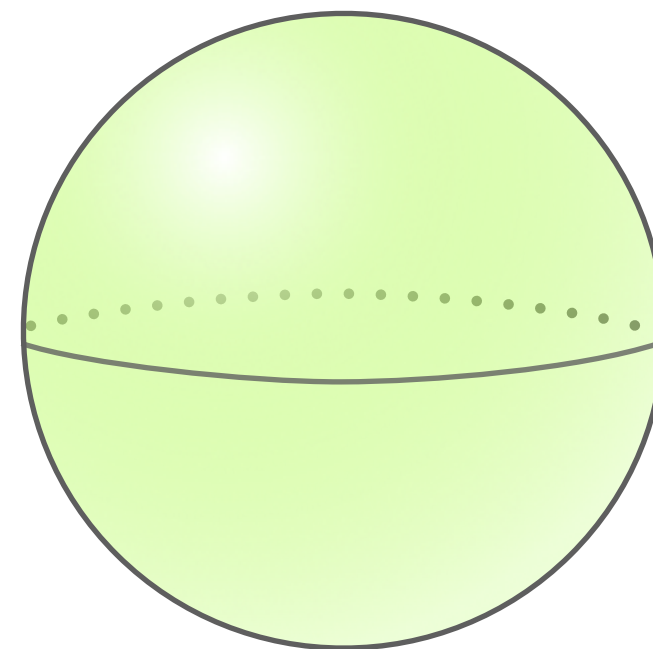
Karl Schwarzschild, 1873-1916

Yes. I mean *from* a foxhole.

The **first exact solution** to GR...Einstein had used some approximations for light-bending, etc.

The equations of spacetime outside of a spherical mass.

a big mass.

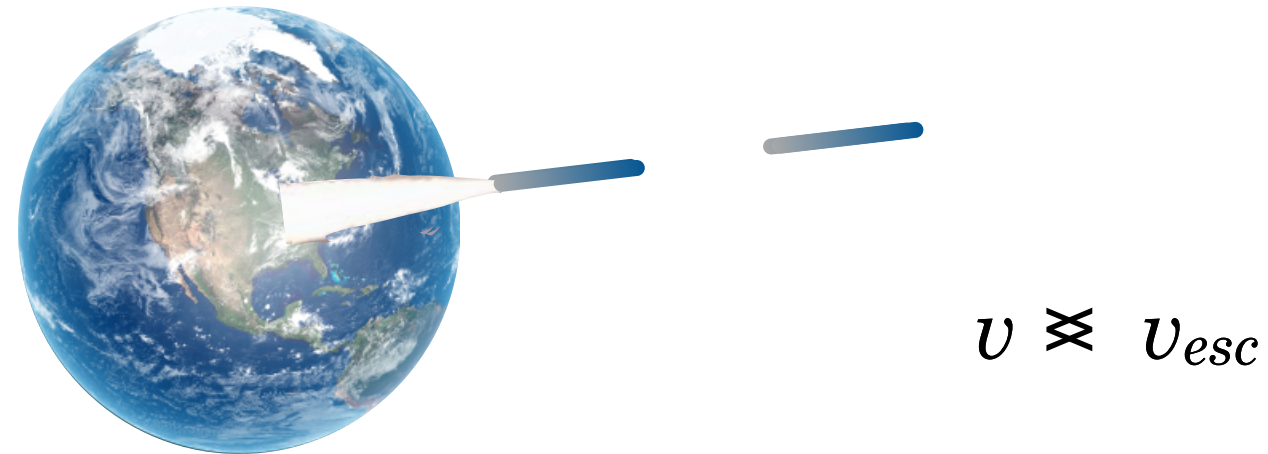




# escape

Suppose a rocket is shot straight up... when it goes “ballistic” (no propulsion)...what happens?

It depends.



More initial velocity, the more likelihood that the rocket will escape the pull of the Earth’s gravity.

This happens when the kinetic energy = potential energy

$$v_{esc} = \sqrt{\frac{2GM_E}{R_E}}$$

From Earth: 11.2 kilometers per second...~25,000 mph

# what about light?

suppose the  
question is not:

“What’s the escape  
velocity from a  
sphere of mass  $M$ ?”

**BUT**

“What’s the radius of a mass  $M$  for which the escape velocity  
is  $= c$ ?”

$$v_{\text{esc}} = \sqrt{\frac{2GM_E}{R_E}} \longrightarrow c = \sqrt{\frac{2GM}{R_S}}$$

$R_S$  called the Schwarzschild Radius

$$R_S = \frac{2GM}{c^2}$$

It seemed to be a magic radius...

the  
Schwarzschild  
Radius falls  
out of his  
solution to  
G.R.

it's not likely

RS is incredibly small

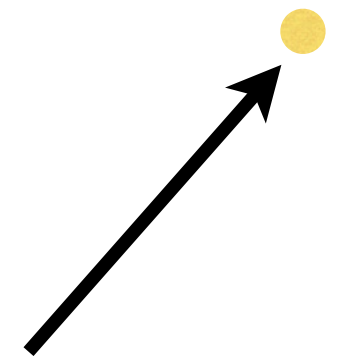
*and density,  
incredibly high*

All of the mass of:



1.6 B meters

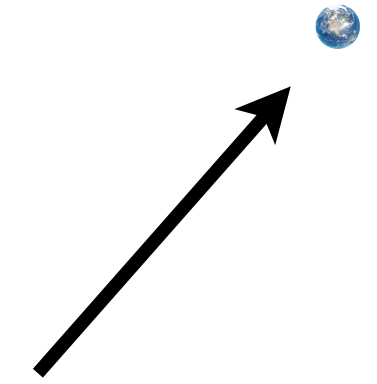
inside of  $R_S$ :



$R_S = 3000$  m



12 M meters



$R_S = 1$  cm

Impossible, right?. But, since Nature doesn't do infinity...thought to be a disaster for the theory.

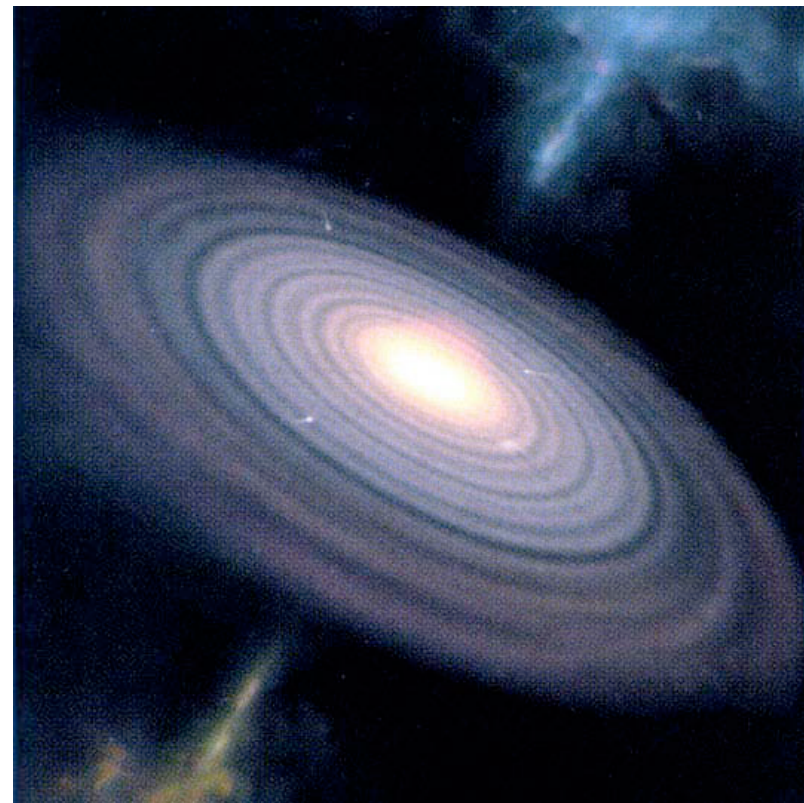
## Black Holes

everyone  
fretted over  
this for  
more than a  
decade

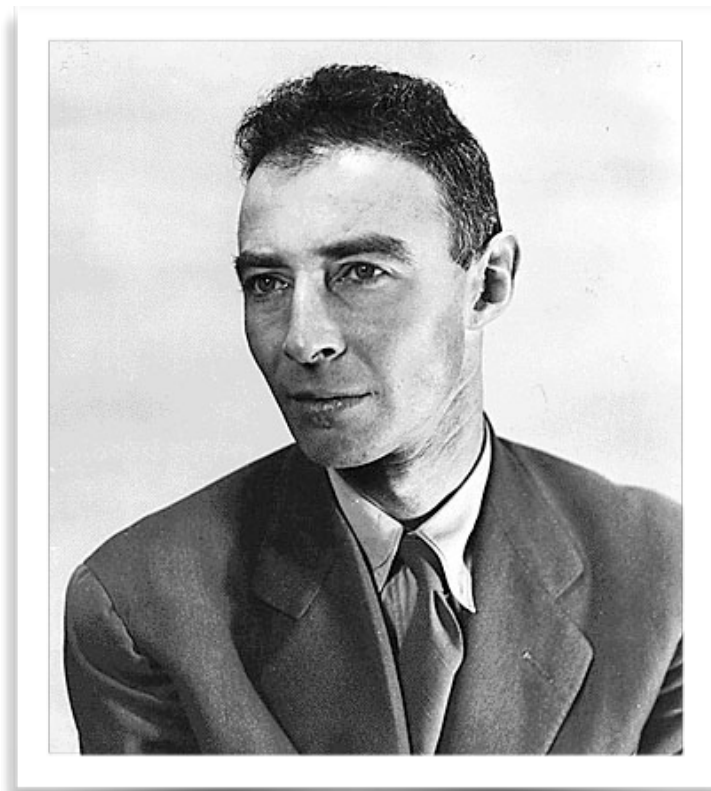
1932, Georges  
Lemaître found  
that a slight  
change of  
coordinate axes

changed the problem  
completely

The Schwarzschild Radius was not a flaw in the theory  
simply an insult from Nature!



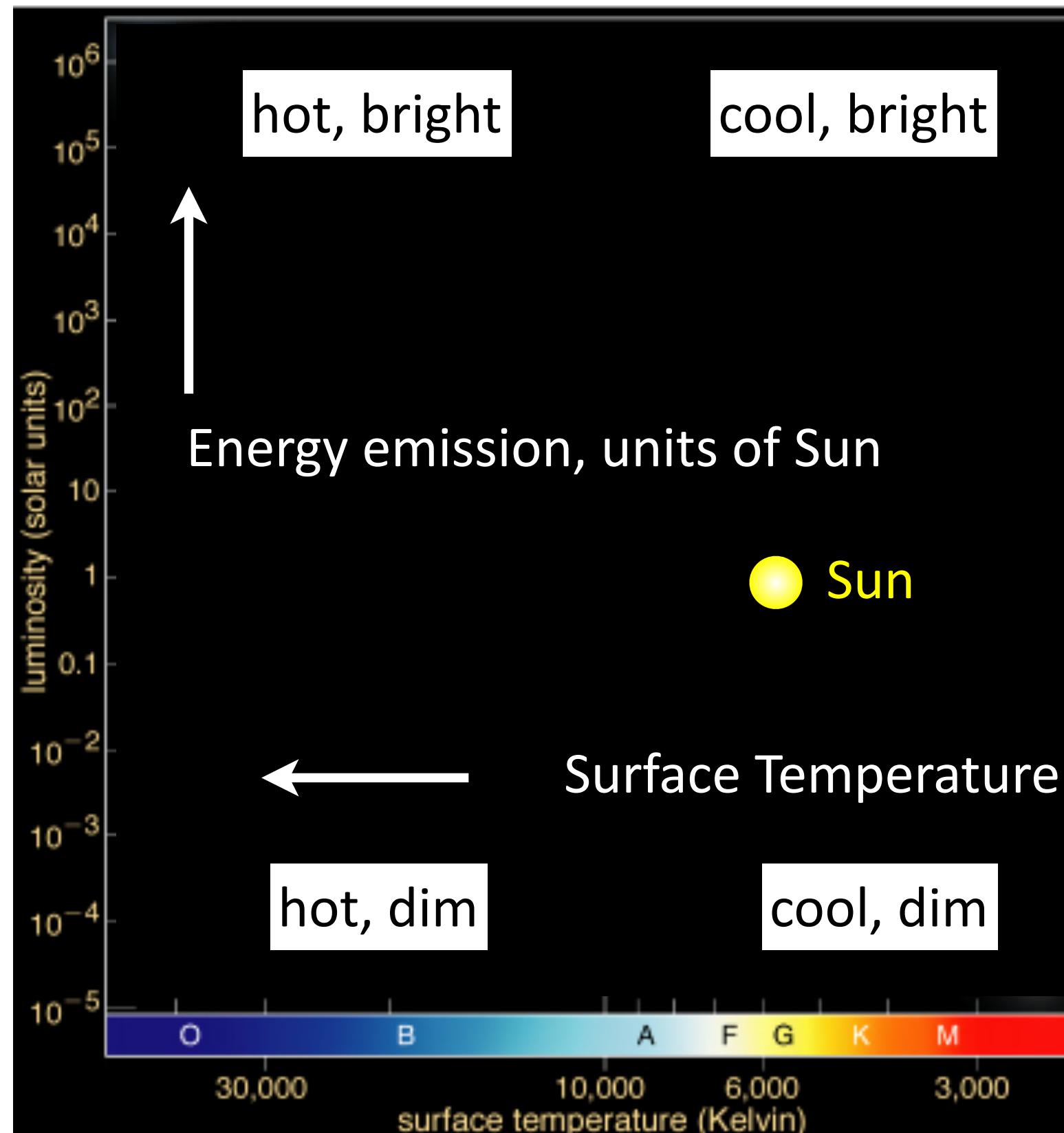
Einstein calculated that the  
normal formation of a star of  
gravitational accretion could never  
form in so small a volume...and  
stars get bigger not smaller, right?



1939: Robert Oppenheimer &  
Hartland Snyder showed how.

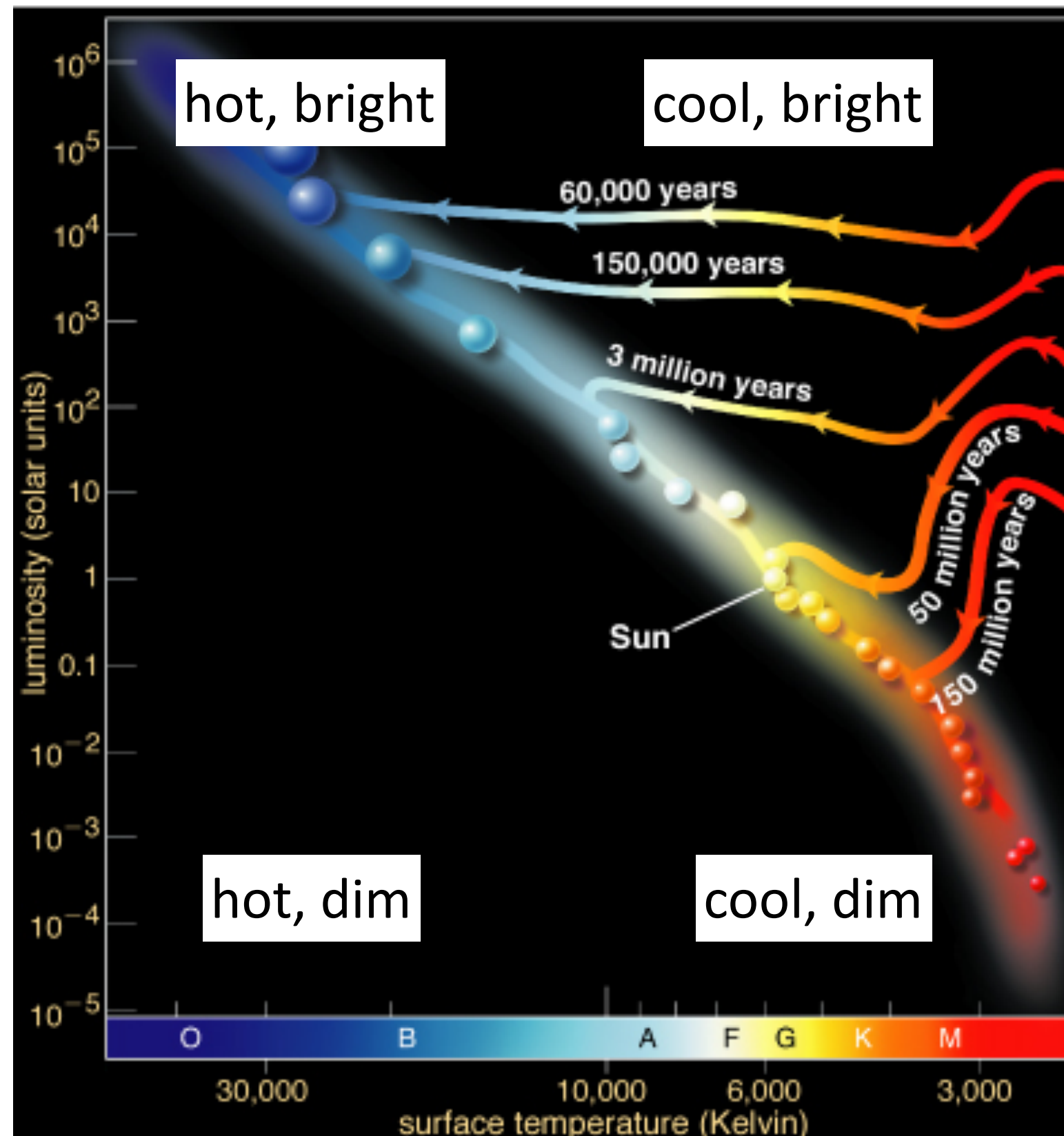
5¢ worth  
of  
stellar  
physics  
no charge

## Hertzsprung-Russell Diagram...aka H-R Diagram



5¢ worth  
of  
stellar  
physics  
no charge

## Hertzsprung-Russell Diagram...aka H-R Diagram



balls of  
Hydrogen  
brought  
together by  
gravity

The "main"  
sequence

stars radiate energy – that's their job!

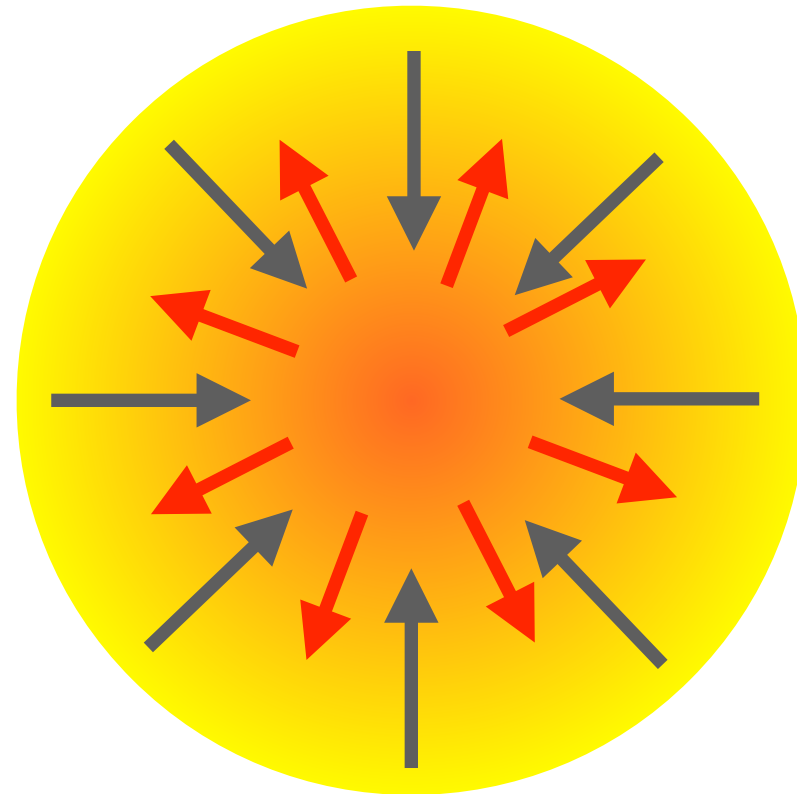
being stable is their challenge...

# a balancing act

inward pressure  
from gravity

vs

outward pressure  
from radiation



gravity pulls core/atmosphere: **in**

Radiation pressure from nuclear  
fusion in core: **out**

H begins to “burn” to He

A star’s fate is determined by how massive it is.