

Announcements

- Quiz 1: available on Canvas, due @ 11:59pm tonight (01/22)
 - 25 pts; 30 mins to complete from starting time
- Today begins “The Nature of Space and Time”
 - Chapter 2 of the textbook
 - Problem 1 is due 01/24 @ 11:59pm
 - 5 pts for on-time submission
 - 20 pts for correct solution

Reference Frames

Inertial

Constant speed and direction

→ no acceleration



$$a_{\text{gravity}} = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$$

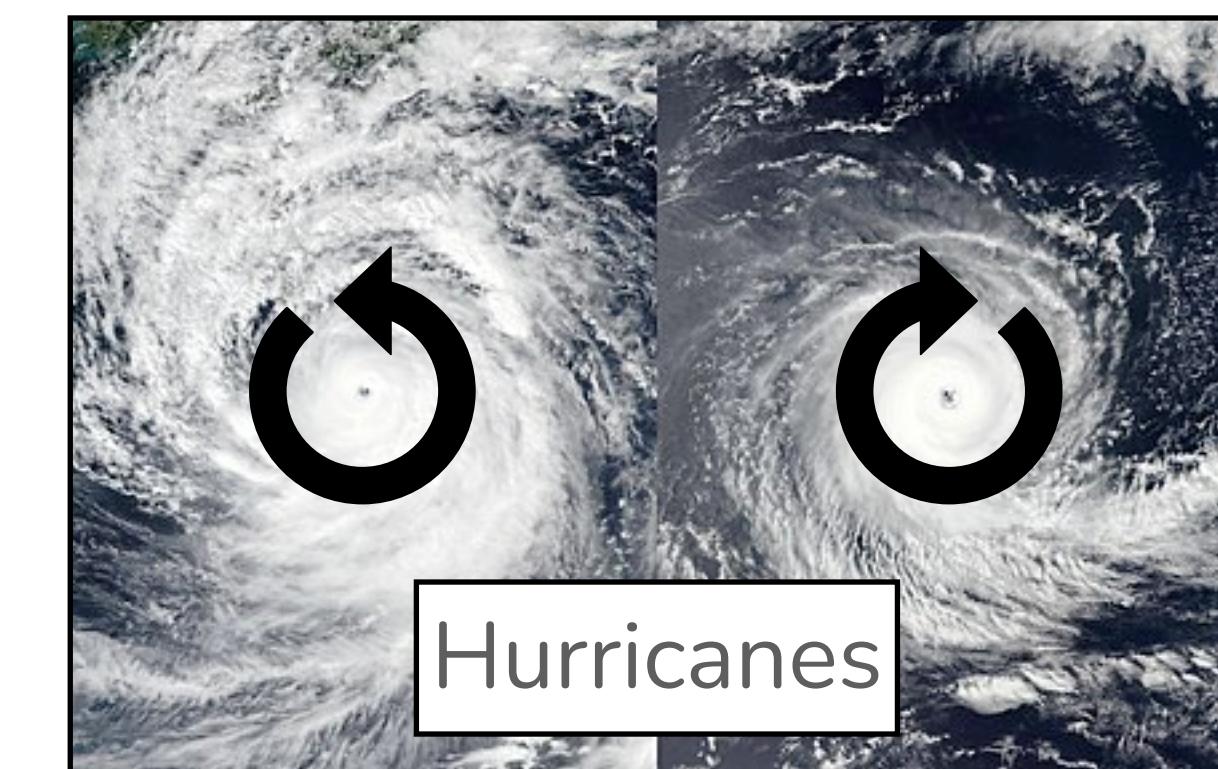
scale
matters

Non Inertial

Changing speed and/or direction

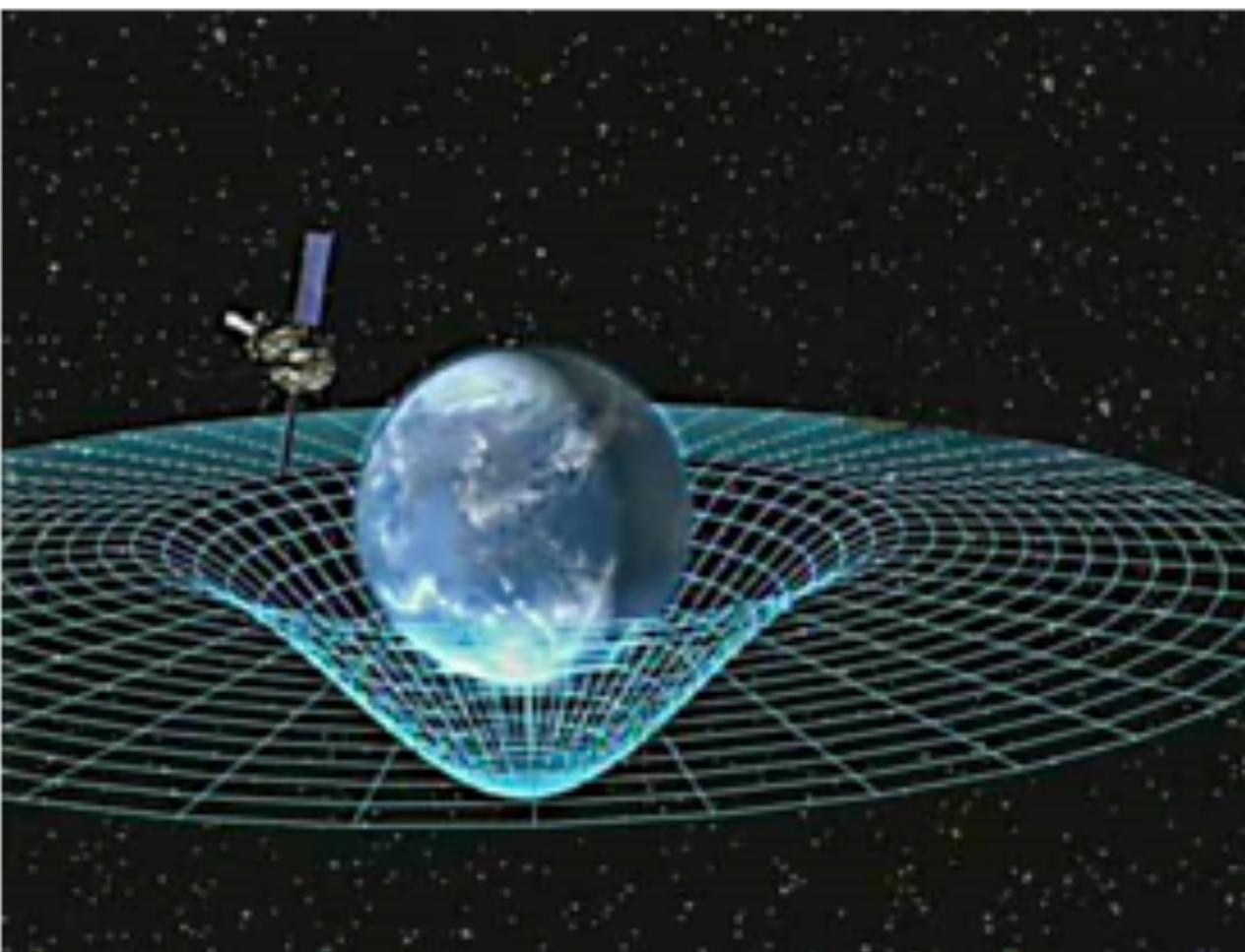
→ acceleration

Northern Southern
Anti-clockwise clockwise



$$a_{\text{coriolis}} = 0.03 \text{ m/s}^2$$

Chapter 2: 01/22 - 02/09



What is the nature of space and time?

Classical Physics

Modern Physics

Future Physics



Star Trek: The
Next Generation

“Descent Part 1”

Written:
Alexander Singer
Paramount
(1993)

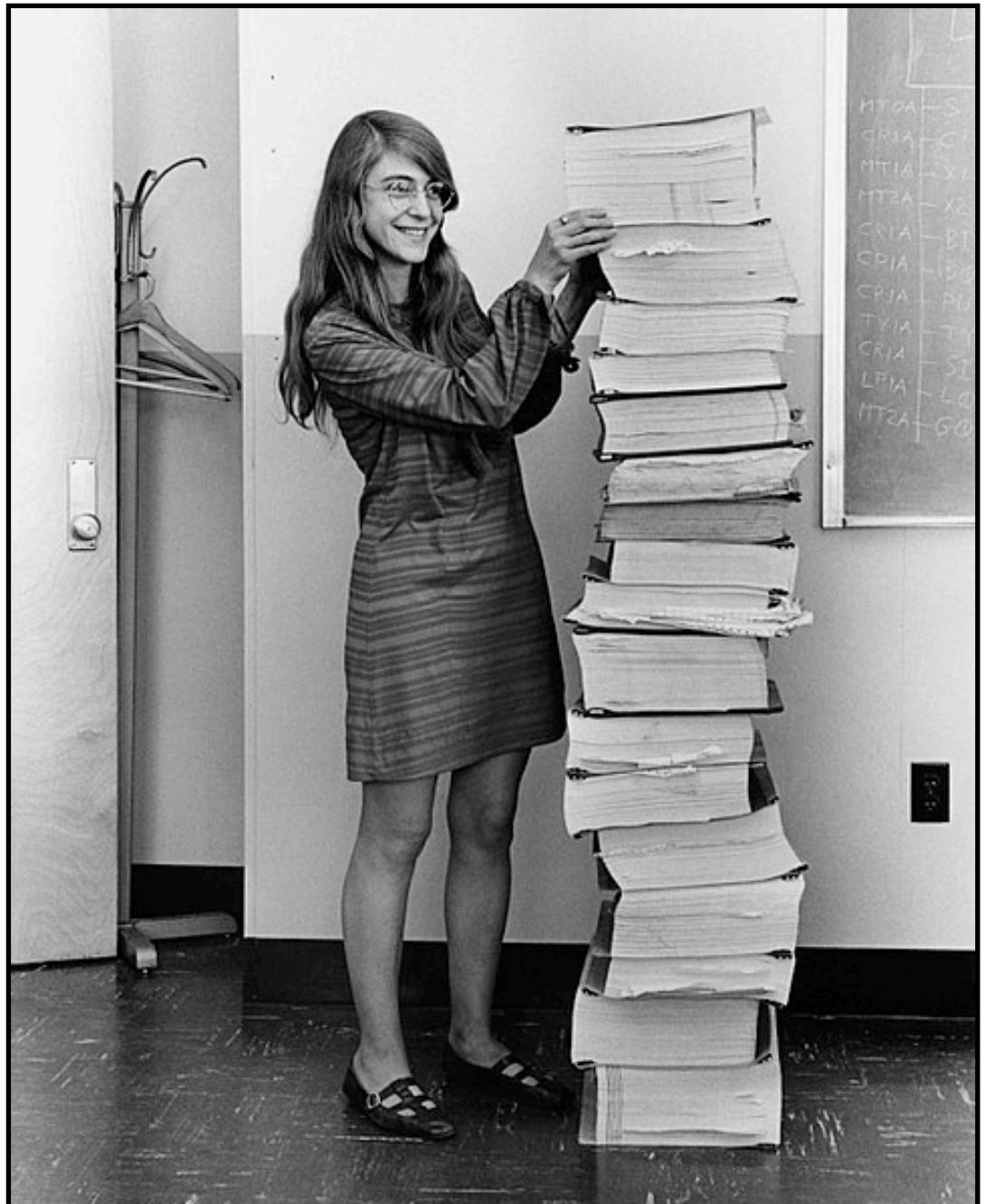


Star Trek: The
Next Generation

“Descent Part 1”
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Alexander Singer
Paramount
(1993)

Classical Physics

Newton's Laws



Accurate
enough
to get to
the
Moon!

Margaret Hamilton

Classical Physics

Newton's Laws



Margaret Hamilton

Not fast
Accurate

enough
Not tiny
to get to

the
Not
Moon!

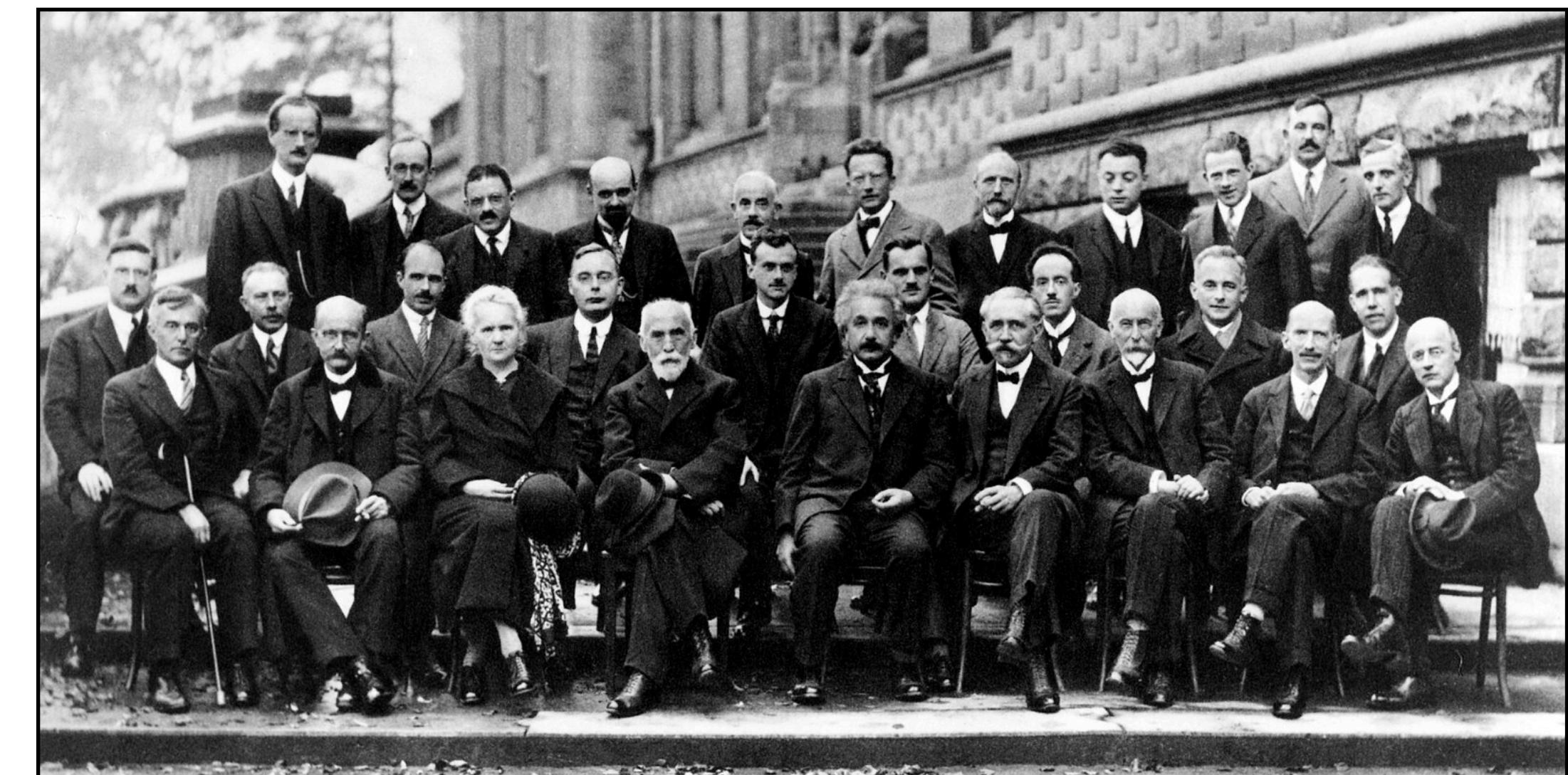
energetic

Modern Physics

Special Relativity: fast

Quantum Mechanics: tiny

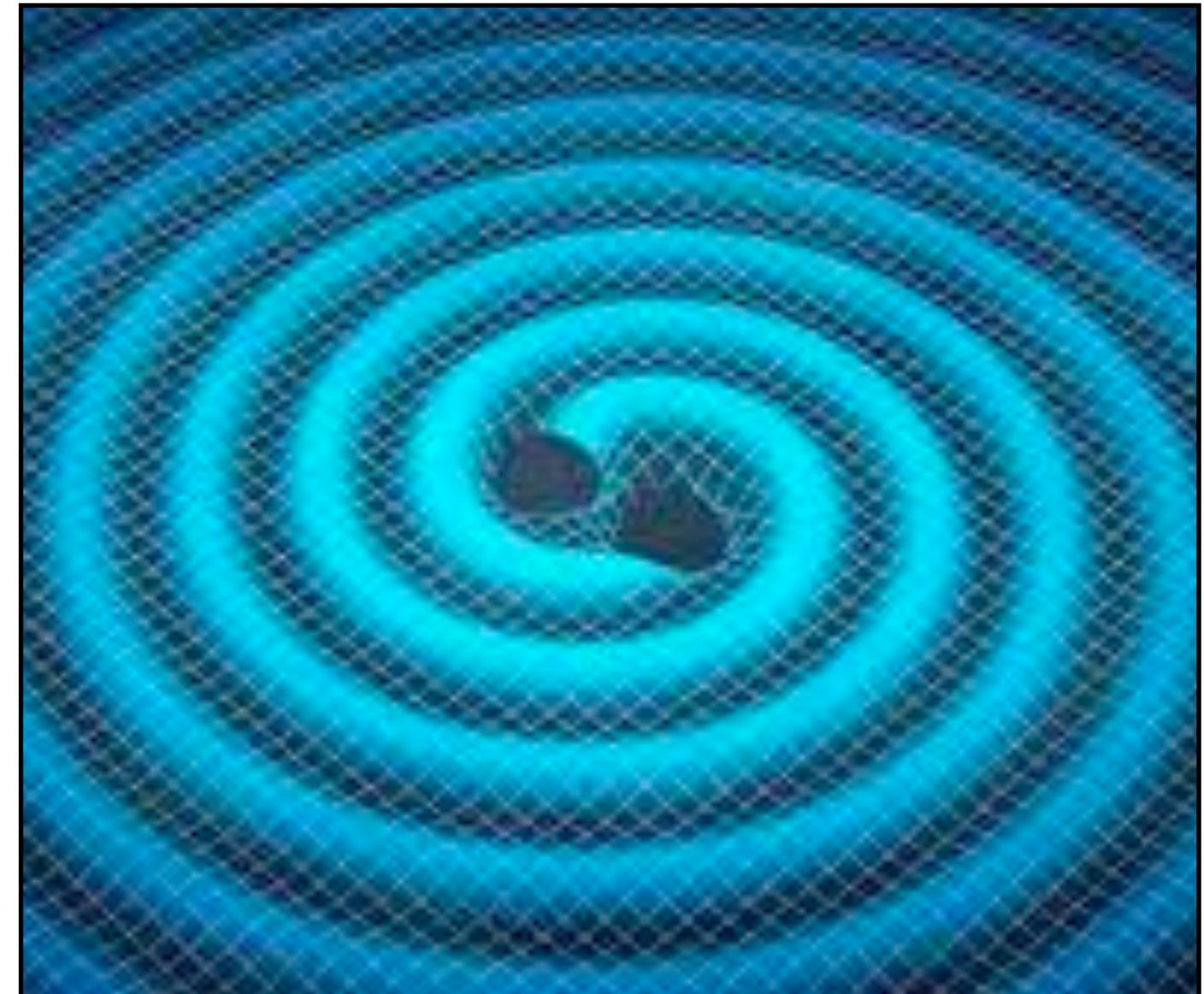
General Relativity: energetic



Solvay Conference 1927

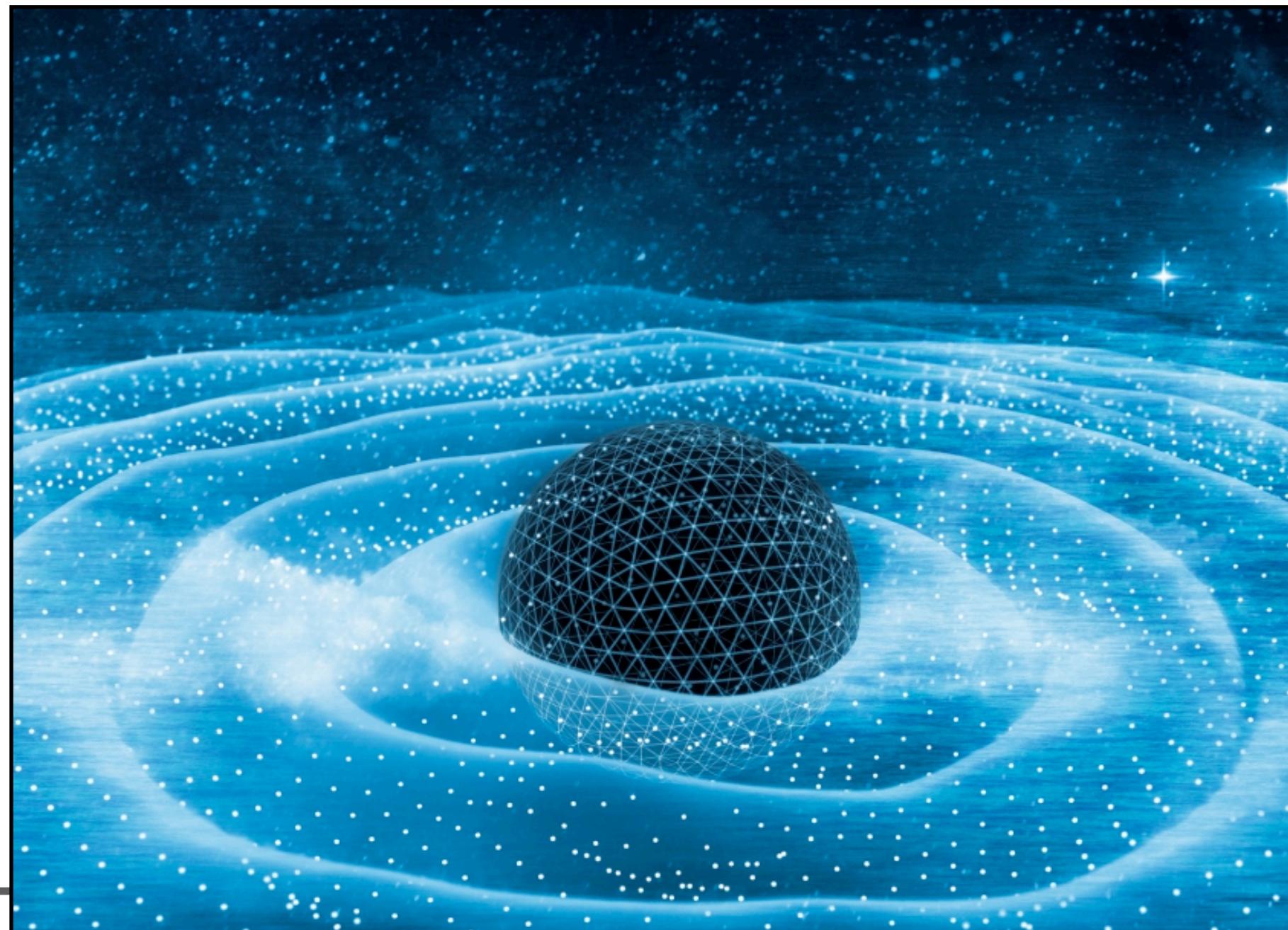
Modern Physics

- ▶ Time dilation & distortions of space/time
- ▶ Black holes
- ▶ Gravitational waves
- ▶ Warp drive — “faster than light” travel



Future Physics

- ▶ Quantum Gravity / Quantum foam
- ▶ Time travel
- ▶ The multiverse hypothesis



Newton's Laws of Motion (in an inertial reference frame)

I: Inertia - an object in motion stays in motion under no external forces

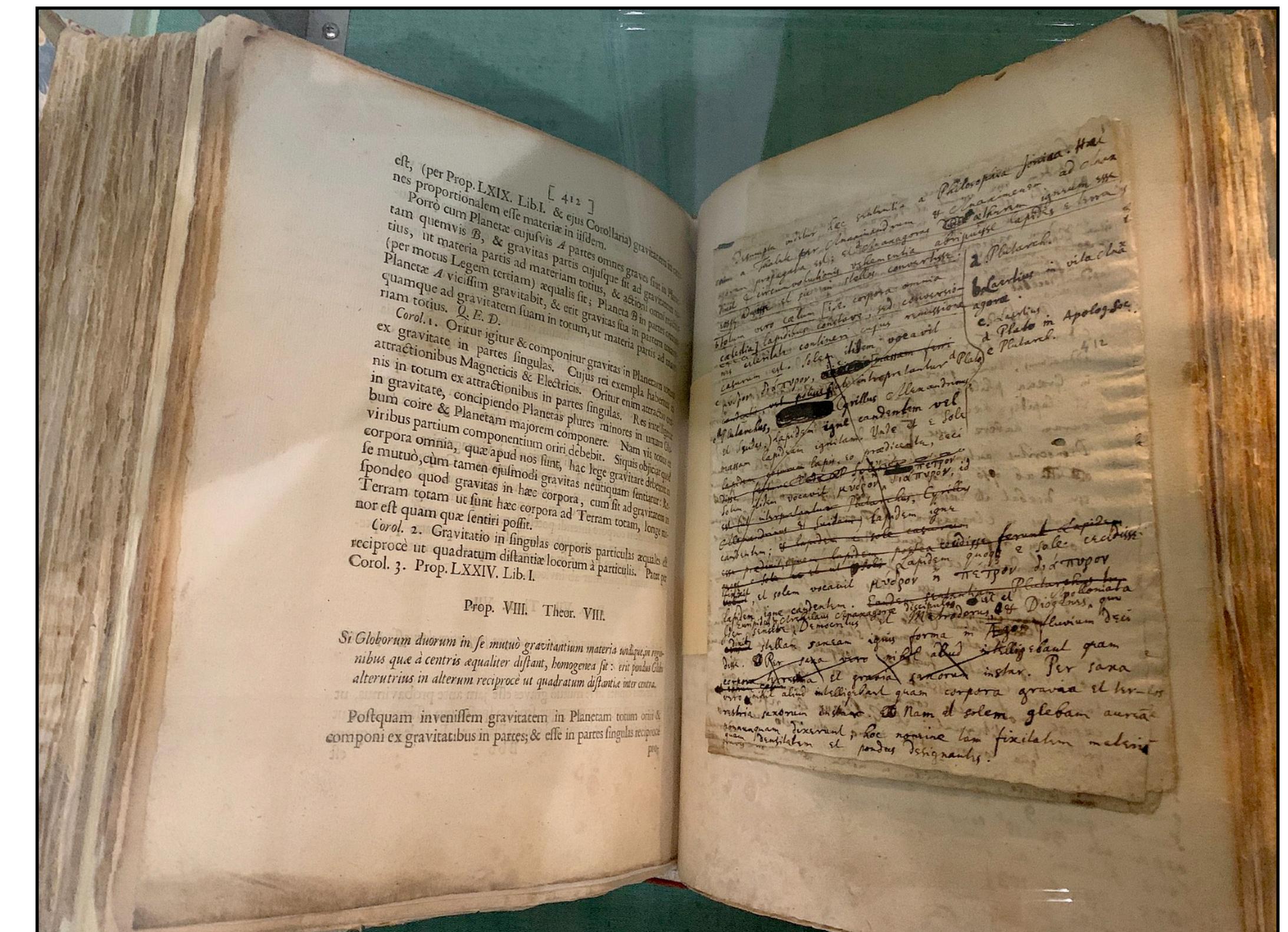
II: Force - the force on an object is equal to its change in its momentum with time

III: Action & Reaction - A force exerted by an object on another object is met with an equal and opposite force

I: Inertia -

“Every body continues in its state of rest, or of uniform motion in a right line, unless it is compelled to change that state by forces impressed upon it.”

- Isaac Newton;
Principia Mathematica (1687)



Cambridge University Library

I: Inertia -

“Every body continues in its state of rest, or of uniform motion in a right line, unless it is compelled to change that state by forces impressed upon it.”

- Isaac Newton;
Principia Mathematica (1687)

An object will continue in its state of uniform motion or rest, unless acted upon by an external force.

- ▶ uniform motion
- ▶ external force

Watch for
examples of
Newton I
in action:

- ▶ uniform motion
- ▶ external forces



X-Men III: The Last Stand
Director: Brett Ratner
20th Century Fox (2006)

Is it realistic?





~~Is it realistic?~~

Is it
consistent
with
Newton I?

Magneto exerts an *external force* to move the cars out of the path



~~Is it realistic?~~

Is it
consistent
with
Newton I?



~~Is it realistic?~~

Is it
consistent
with
Newton I?

Magneto exerts an *external* force to pull the bridge off the land



~~Is it realistic?~~

Is it
consistent
with
Newton I?

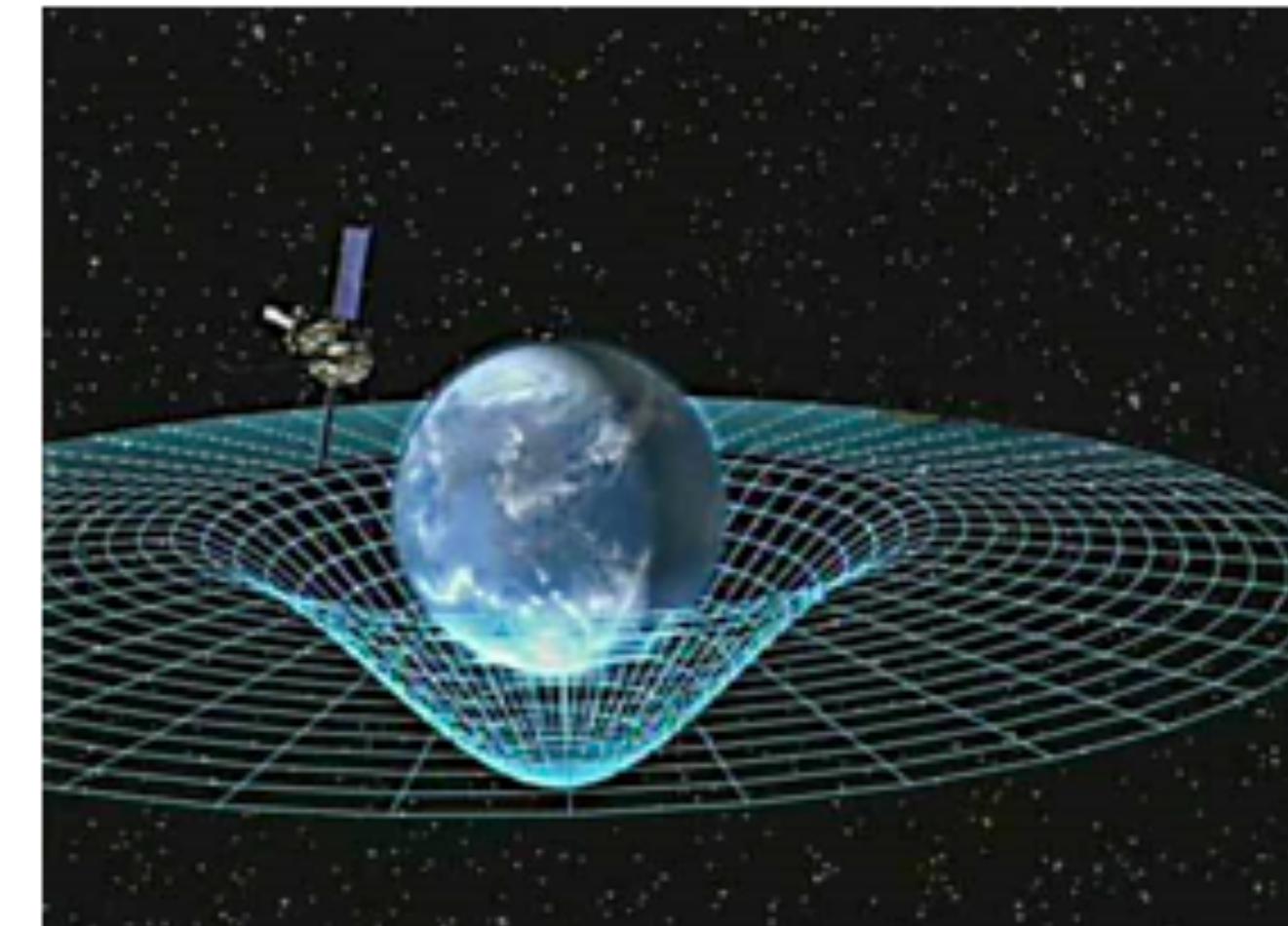
Magneto can only exert his external magnetic force against Earth's magnetic field

Next time:

- ▶ Newton II, III
- ▶ Begin special relativity

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What is the nature of space and time?