

GRAVITATIONAL LENSING

R. Benton Metcalf
2022-2023

BRIEF COURSE OUTLINE

BASIC GRAVITATIONAL LENSING THEORY

APPLICATIONS:

MICROLENSING IN OUR GALAXY

DARK MATTER IN COMPACT OBJECTS

PLANETS & BINARY STARS

STRONG LENSING OF QUASARS AND GALAXIES BY GALAXIES

LENS MODELS

FITTING LENS MODELS

MICROLENSING

TIME-DELAYS AND COSMOLOGICAL PARAMETERS

LENSING BY GALAXY CLUSTERS

MASS DENSITY RECONSTRUCTION

WEAK LENSING : COSMIC SHEAR

CONSTRAINING COSMOLOGY & DARK MATTER

PYTHON EXAMPLES

COURSE MATERIALS

PRIMARY TEXT : “INTRODUCTION TO GRAVITATIONAL LENSING WITH PYTHON EXAMPLES”, by Massimo Meneghetti, Springer

AVAILABLE COURSE MATERIALS : <https://virtuale.unibo.it>

LECTURE SLIDES

PYTHON NOTEBOOKS from Meneghetti

OTHER SUGGESTED TEXTS :

“GRAVITATIONAL LENSING: STRONG, WEAK & MICRO”, Schneider, Kochanek & Wamsganss

“PRINCIPLES OF GRAVITATIONAL LENSING”, Congdon & Keeton

“GRAVITATIONAL LENSING”, Dodelson

GRAVITATIONAL LENSING

1 - Deflection of Light I

*R. Benton Metcalf
2022-2023*

LECTURES THIS WEEK

SOME HISTORY

DEFLECTION OF LIGHT IN THE NEWTONIAN LIMIT

DEFLECTION OF LIGHT IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

DEFLECTION OF LIGHT BY THE SUN

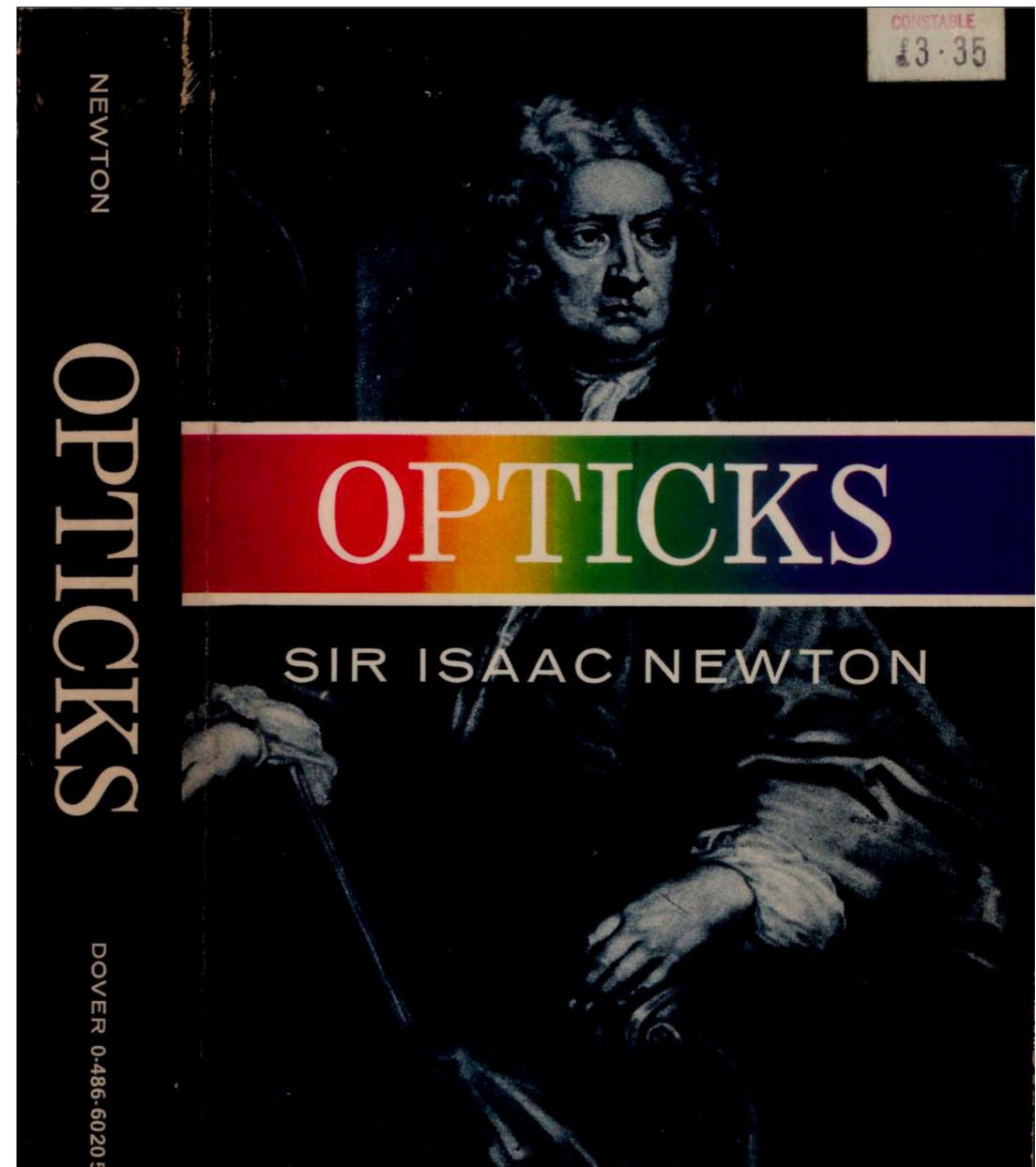
CORPUSCULAR THEORY OF LIGHT

- I. Newton, Opticks (1704-1730)
- Third volume ends with 31 queries:

Query 1. Do not Bodies act upon Light at a distance, and by their action bend its Rays; and is not this action (*cæteris paribus*) strongest at the least distance?

Qu. 29. Are not the Rays of Light very small Bodies emitted from shining Substances? For such Bodies will pass through uniform Mediums in right Lines without bending into the Shadow, which is the Nature of the Rays of Light. They will also be capable

- 1678: wave theory, Huygens



TIMELINE

- 1783: John Michell writes to Henry Cavendish. A light corpuscle might not be capable of escaping a massive star if

$$E \equiv \frac{1}{2}mv^2 - \frac{GmM}{R} \leq 0 \quad v = c \quad R < R_s \equiv \frac{2GM}{c^2} .$$

- 1784: Henry Cavendish calculates the deflection of a light corpuscle by a mass M. Unpublished until beginning of '900.
- 1801: Johan Soldner independently repeats the same calculation and publish it
- 1801: Thomas Young demonstrates the wave nature of light using diffraction

DEFLECTION OF A PHOTON GRAZING THE SURFACE OF THE SUN

$$G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11} N \text{ } m^{-2} \text{ } kg^{-2}$$

$$c = 299792 \text{ km } s^{-1}$$

“Newtonian”
approximation

$$R_{\odot} = 695700 \text{ km}$$

$$M_{\odot} = 1.989 \times 10^{30} \text{ kg}$$



$$\hat{\alpha}(R_{\odot}) = \frac{2GM_{\odot}}{c^2R_{\odot}} = 0.875''$$

GRAVITATIONAL LENSING

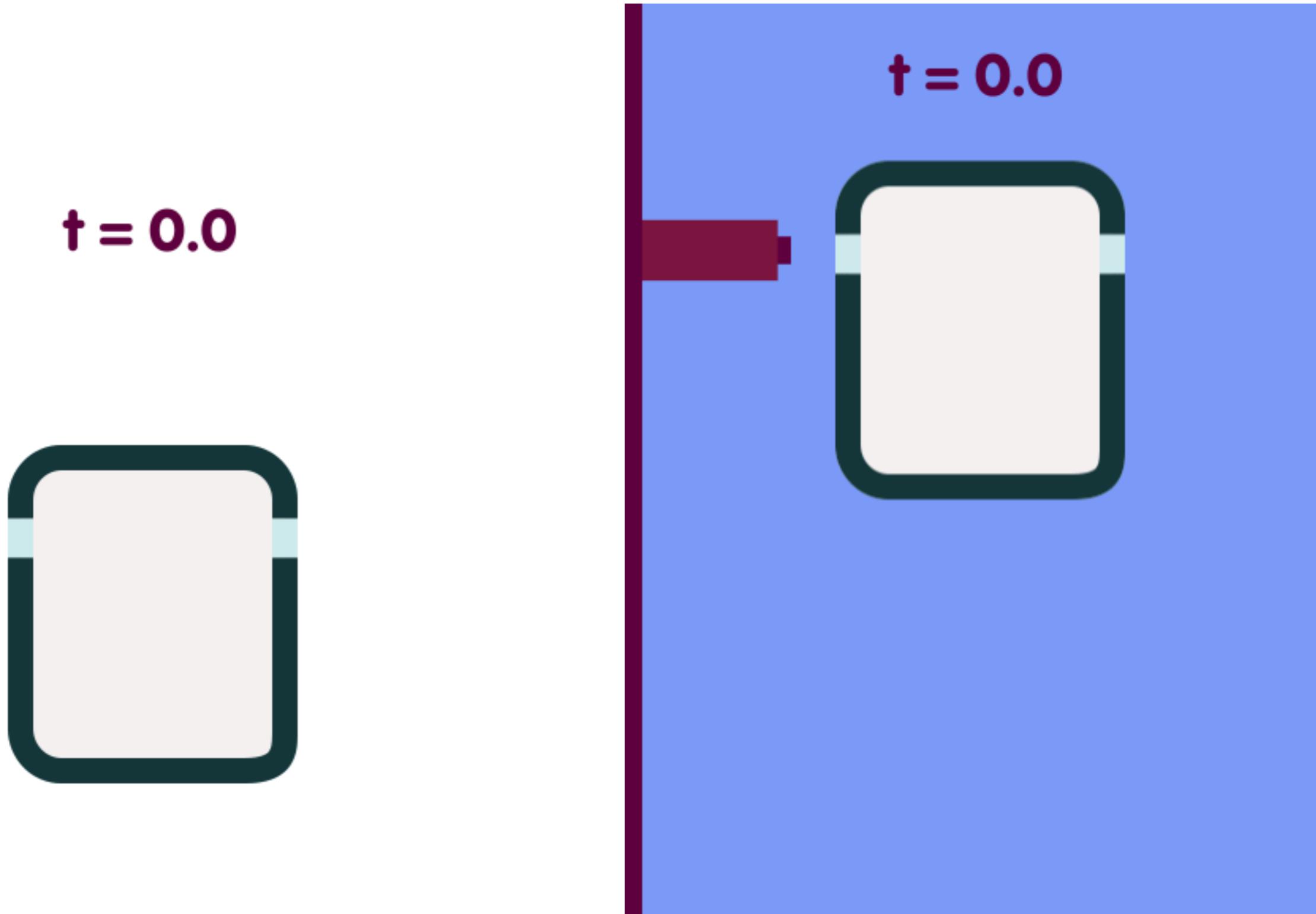
2 - Deflection of Light II

R. Benton Metcalf
2022-2023

TIMELINE

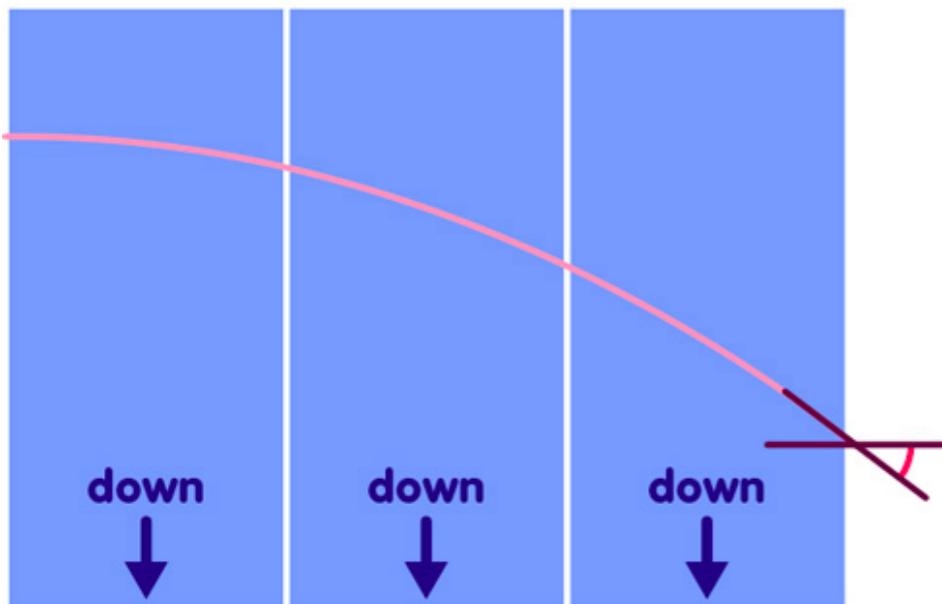
- 1907-1911: Einstein resumes the idea of light deflection using special relativity and equivalence principle: “*In an arbitrary gravitational field, at any given spacetime point, we can choose a locally inertial reference frame such that, in a sufficiently small region surrounding that point, all physical laws take the same form they would take in absence of gravity, namely the form prescribed by Special Relativity*”

EINSTEIN'S EQUIVALENCE PRINCIPLE

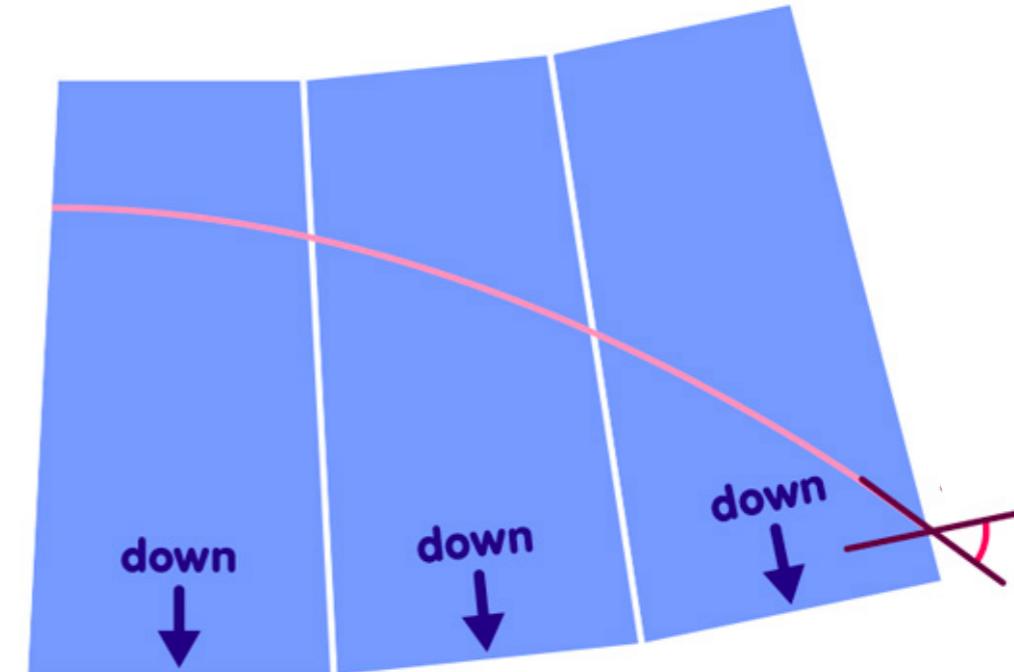
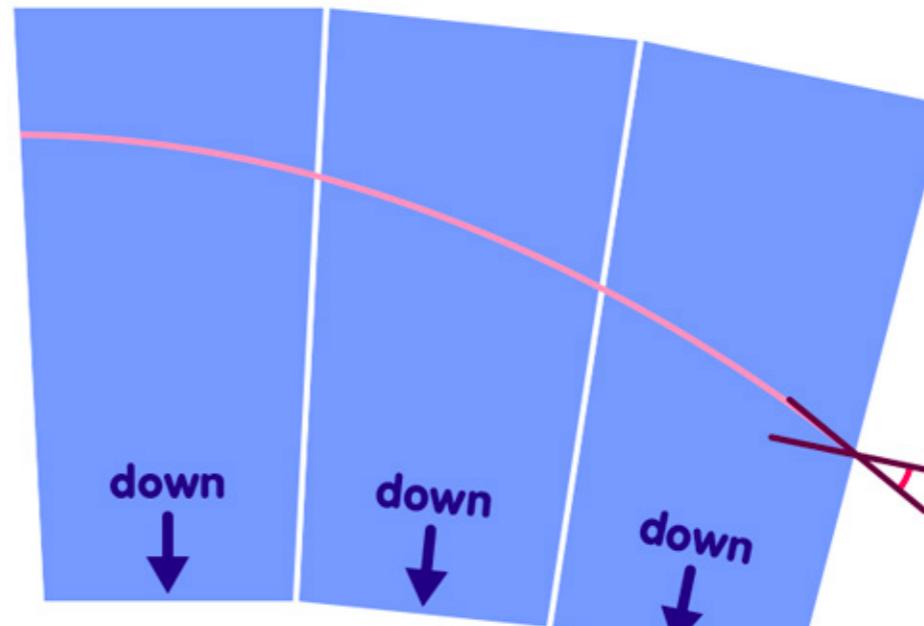


CURVING SPACE-TIME AND LIGHT DEFLECTION

Bend away from light



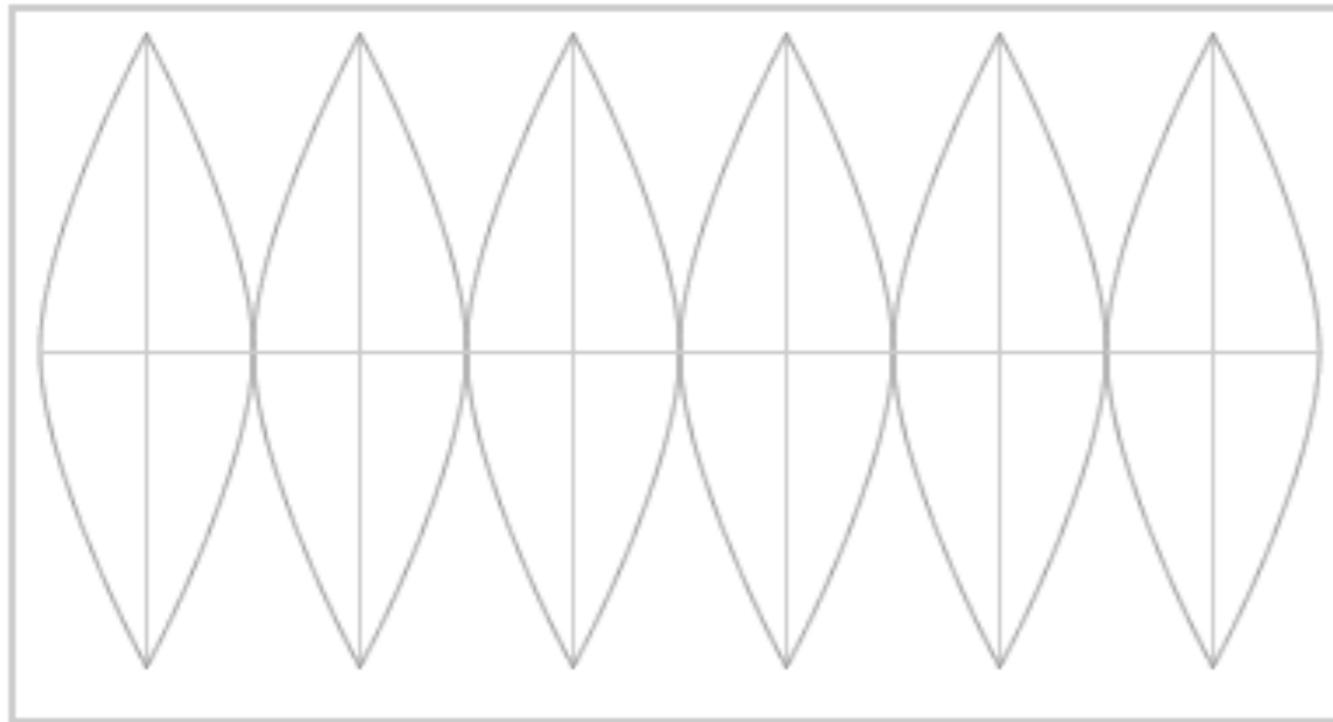
Euclidean geometry



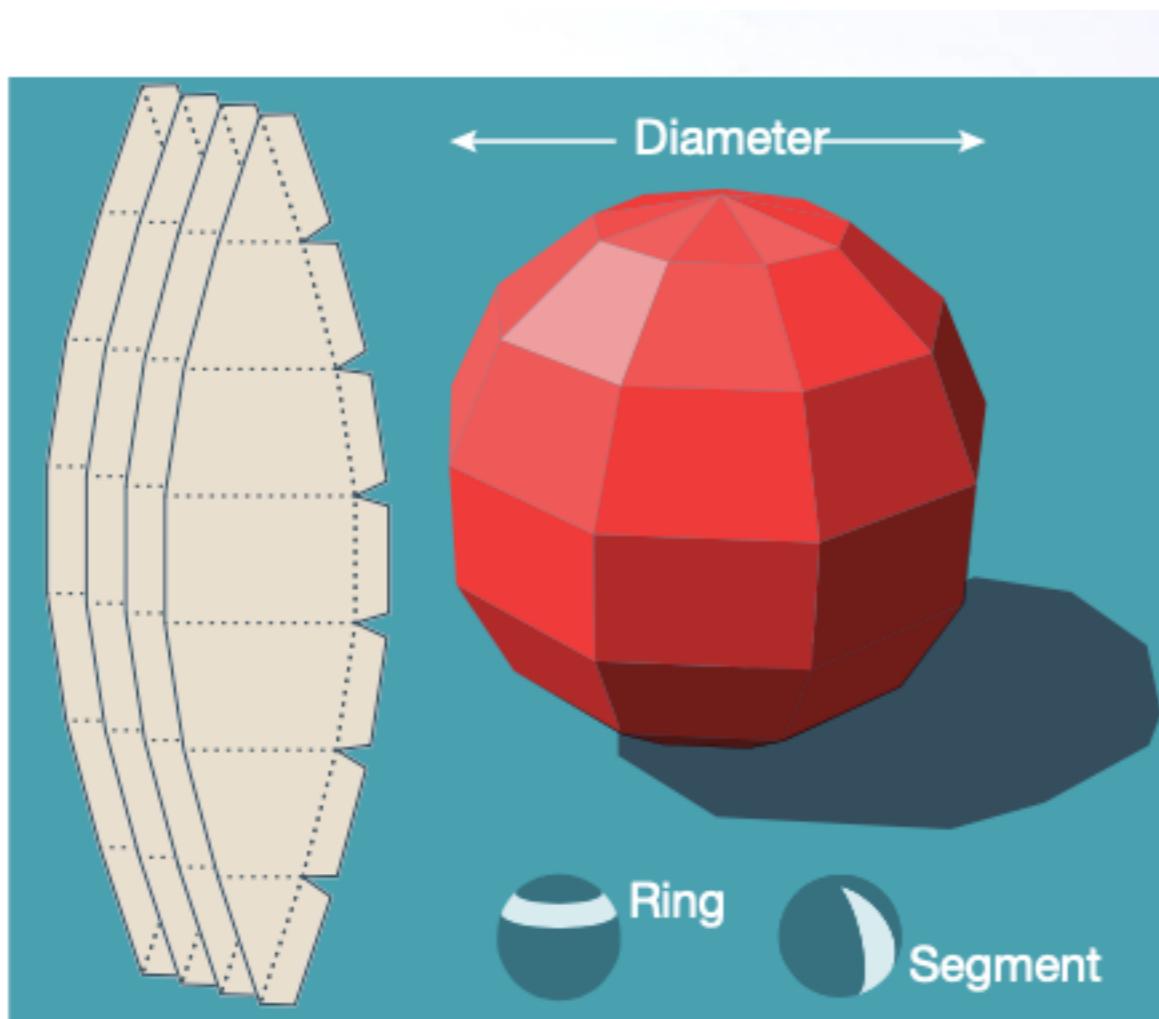
CURVED SPACE

- If space is curved, there is no coordinate system that is Cartesian everywhere.
- However, at each point there is a coordinate system that is locally Cartesian.
- Straight lines can meet.
- Parallel transported vectors will not agree if they are transported around different paths.

CURVED SPACE



Covering of a sphere with paper.



NULL GEODESICS

ξ^μ - Minkowski (flat space-time) coordinates

metric
$$g_{\mu\nu} = \frac{\partial\xi^\alpha}{\partial x^\mu} \frac{\partial\xi^\beta}{\partial x^\nu} \eta_{\alpha\beta}$$

tangent vector
$$v^\nu \equiv \frac{dx^\nu}{d\lambda}$$

geodesic equation

$$\frac{d^2x^\gamma}{d\lambda^2} = -\Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma \frac{dx^\alpha}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^\beta}{d\lambda}$$

Affine connection
Christoffel symbols
Levi-Civita connection

$$\frac{dv^\gamma}{d\lambda} = -\Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma v^\alpha v^\beta$$

$$\Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma = \frac{\partial^2 \xi^\mu}{\partial x^\alpha \partial x^\beta} \frac{\partial x^\gamma}{\partial \xi^\mu}$$

NULL GEODESICS

covariant derivative

tangent vector

$$\bar{\nabla}_\nu v^\mu = \frac{\partial v^\mu}{\partial x^\nu} + \Gamma_{\nu\gamma}^\mu v^\gamma$$

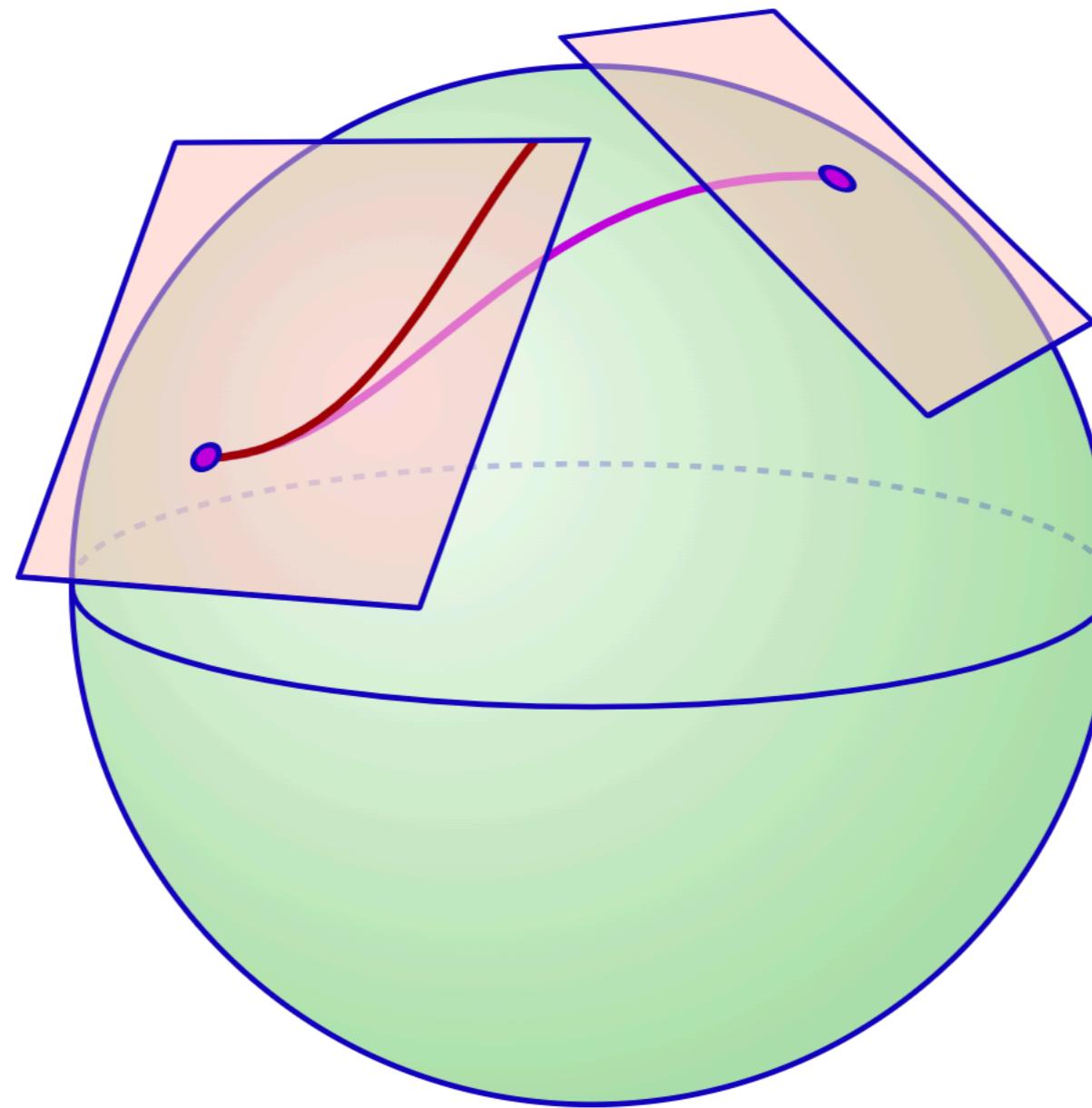
$$v^\nu \equiv \frac{dx^\nu}{d\lambda}$$

Parallel transport of tangent vector

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{Dv^\mu}{D\lambda} &= v^\nu \bar{\nabla}_\nu v^\mu = v^\nu \frac{\partial v^\mu}{\partial x^\nu} + \Gamma_{\nu\gamma}^\mu v^\gamma v^\nu \\ &= \frac{dx^\nu}{d\lambda} \frac{\partial v^\mu}{\partial x^\nu} + \Gamma_{\nu\gamma}^\mu v^\gamma v^\nu \\ &= \frac{dv^\mu}{d\lambda} + \Gamma_{\nu\gamma}^\mu v^\gamma v^\nu \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

geodesic equation

CURVED SPACE



NULL GEODESICS

Newtonian gauge

$$d\tau^2 = \left(1 + \frac{2\phi_N}{c^2}\right) dt^2 - c^{-2} \left(1 - \frac{2\phi_N}{c^2}\right) dl^2$$
$$= 0 \quad \text{for light}$$

$$\frac{d\vec{x}}{d\lambda} = \left(\frac{dt}{d\lambda}, v^1, v^2, v^3 \right)$$
$$0 = g_{\mu\nu} \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\lambda} \simeq \left(\frac{dt}{d\lambda} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} |\vec{v}|^2$$

$$\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^i = \frac{-1}{c^2 \left(1 - \frac{2\phi}{c^2}\right)} \left[\delta_{i\nu} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x^\mu} + \delta_{i\mu} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x^\nu} - \delta_{\mu\nu} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x^i} (c^2 \delta_{\mu 0} + \delta_{\mu [1,2,3]}) \right]$$

NULL GEODESICS

Newtonian gauge

$$d\tau^2 = \left(1 + \frac{2\phi_N}{c^2}\right) dt^2 - c^{-2} \left(1 - \frac{2\phi_N}{c^2}\right) dl^2$$
$$= 0 \quad \text{for light}$$

$$\frac{d\vec{x}}{d\lambda} = \left(\frac{dt}{d\lambda}, v^1, v^2, v^3 \right)$$
$$0 = g_{\mu\nu} \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\lambda} \simeq \left(\frac{dt}{d\lambda} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} |\vec{v}|^2$$

$$\frac{d\vec{v}}{d\lambda} = -\frac{1}{c^2(1-2\phi_N)} \left[\vec{\nabla} \phi_N \left(\left(\frac{dt}{d\lambda} \right)^2 c^2 + |\vec{v}|^2 \right) - 2 \left(\vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \phi_N \right) \vec{v} \right]$$

NULL GEODESICS

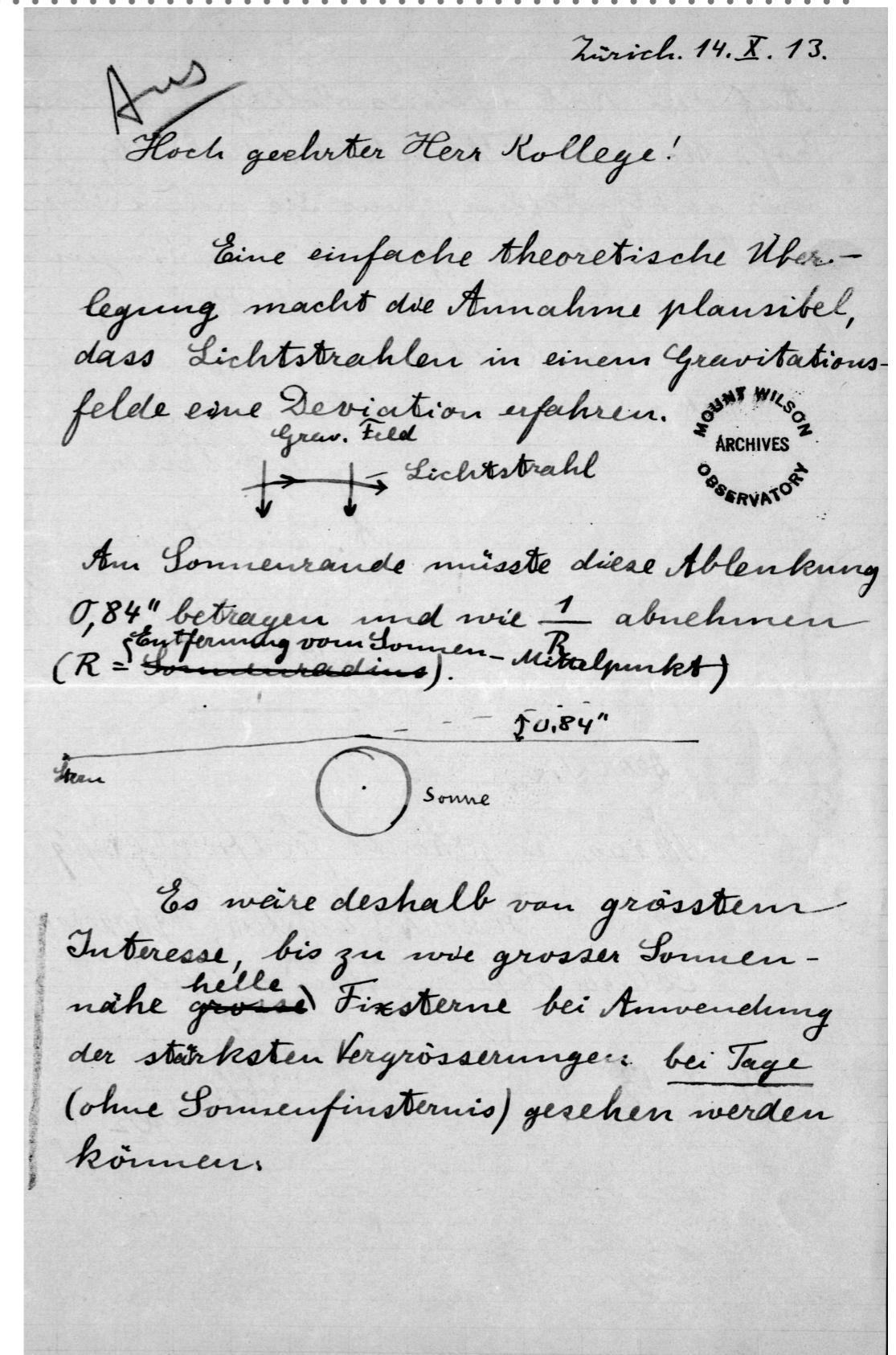
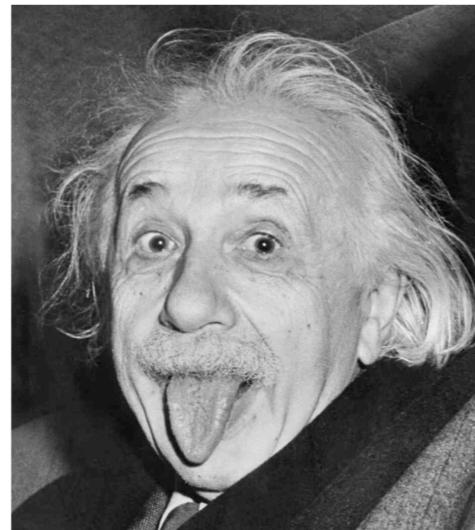
Newtonian gauge

$$d\tau^2 = \left(1 + \frac{2\phi_N}{c^2}\right) dt^2 - c^{-2} \left(1 - \frac{2\phi_N}{c^2}\right) dl^2$$
$$= 0 \quad \text{for light}$$

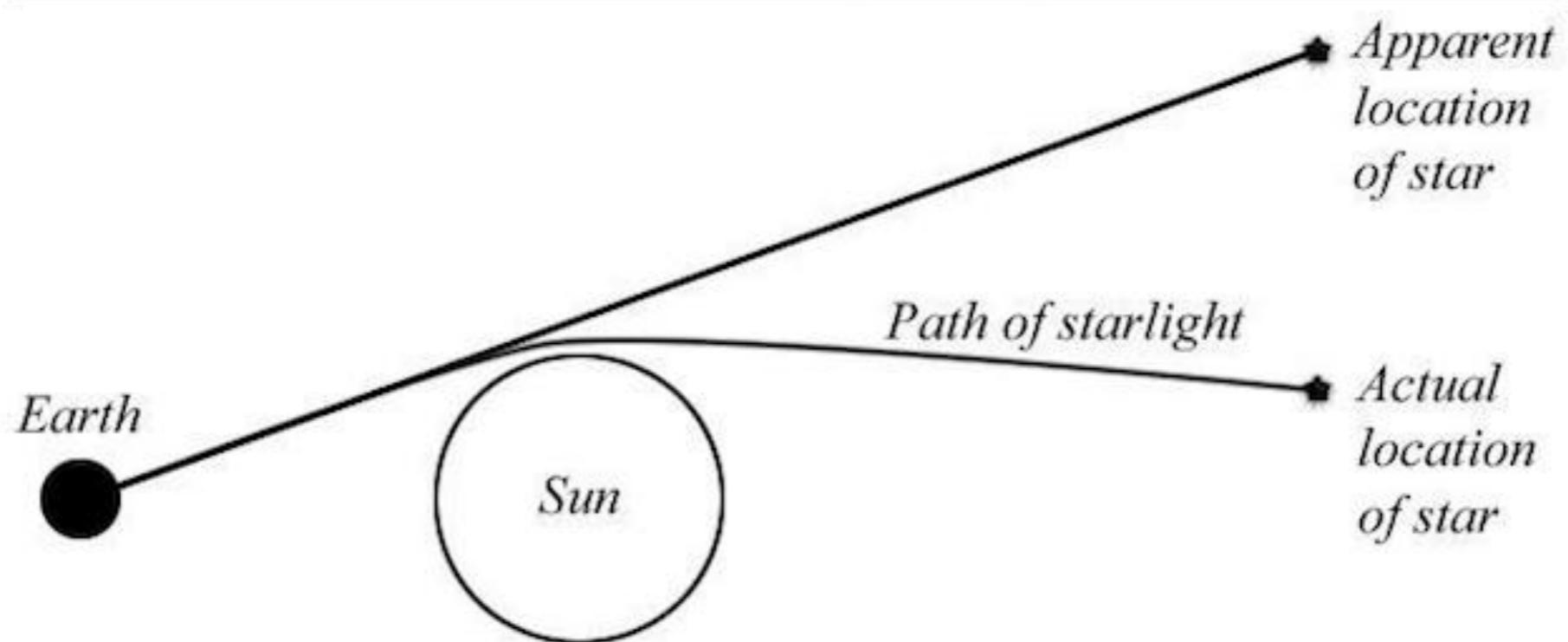
$$\frac{1}{|\vec{v}|} \frac{d\vec{v}}{d\lambda} = -\frac{2}{c^2(1-2\phi_N)} \left[\vec{\nabla} \phi_N - (\hat{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \phi_N) \hat{v} \right]$$
$$\simeq -\frac{2}{c^2} \left[\vec{\nabla} \phi_N - (\hat{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \phi_N) \hat{v} \right]$$
$$= -\frac{2}{c^2} \vec{\nabla}_\perp \phi_N$$

TIMELINE

- result of calculation of deflection is identical to that from Newtonian gravity
- 1913: A. Einstein writes to George Ellery Hale (Director of Mount Wilson Observatory), asking for advice on how to observe the position of stars in sun-light...



TESTING THE DEFLECTION OF LIGHT DURING A SOLAR ECLIPSE





TIMELINE

- 1914 (August): Total solar eclipse in Crimea:
 - Attempts by Erwin Finlay-Freundlich and William Wallace Campbell
 - Unfortunately, WWI began and Russia entered into the war on Aug. 1st
 - Erwin Finlay-Freundlich (German citizen) arrested
 - William Wallace Campbell had his instrumentation confiscated
- 1915: Einstein publishes the Theory of General Relativity...

A LIGHT RAY GRAZING THE SURFACE OF THE SUN

General relativity:

$$\hat{\alpha} = \frac{4GM_{\odot}}{c^2R_{\odot}} = 1.75''$$

Newtonian gravity:

$$\hat{\alpha} = \frac{2GM_{\odot}}{c^2R_{\odot}} = 0.875''$$

GRAVITATIONAL LENSING AS TEST OF GR

A. Einstein presented his Theory at the Prussian Academy of Science in Berlin in November 1915.

Using GR, Einstein had already explained successfully the perihelion precession of Mercury's orbit, first recognised by Le Verrier in 1859.

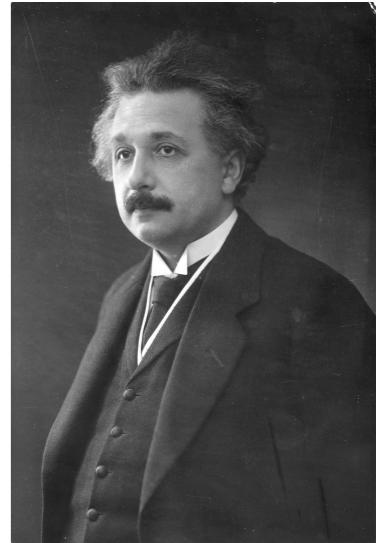
Measuring the correct value of the deflection of light by the gravitational field of the sun was not only important to proof that light could be bent by gravity, as expected from the equivalence principle, but also that the correct theory of gravity is General Relativity.

Despite the difficulties due to the ongoing WWI, Sir Arthur Eddington came in possession of Einstein's publications.

FIRST OBSERVATION OF GRAVITATIONAL LENSIN & CONFIRMATION OF GR

Einstein presented his theory of General Relativity to the Prussian Academy of Science in Berlin - November, 1915

World War I - July, 1914 to Nov. 1918



Einstein's theory already successfully explained the precession of the perihelion of Mercury, first observed by Le Verrier in 1859.

Arthur Eddington of Cambridge received Einstein's paper through neutral Netherlands because of wartime embargo.



EDDINGTON EXPEDITION

Next solar eclipse - May 29th 1919

Totality was observable from Africa to South America

An unusually long, 6 min duration and the location of the Hyades star cluster nearby making it specially advantageous.

Expeditions were sent to two locations:

Principe Island off Equatorial Guinea
Eddington & Cottingham
scattered clouds
with 2 stars measure $\sim 1.61 \text{ +/- } 0.31''$

Sobral in northern Brazil
Crommelin & Davidson
sun's heat deformed mirror of main 16-inch telescope
backup 4-inch telescope was able to measure the positions of 7-stars $1.98 \text{ +/- } 0.12''$



Hyades

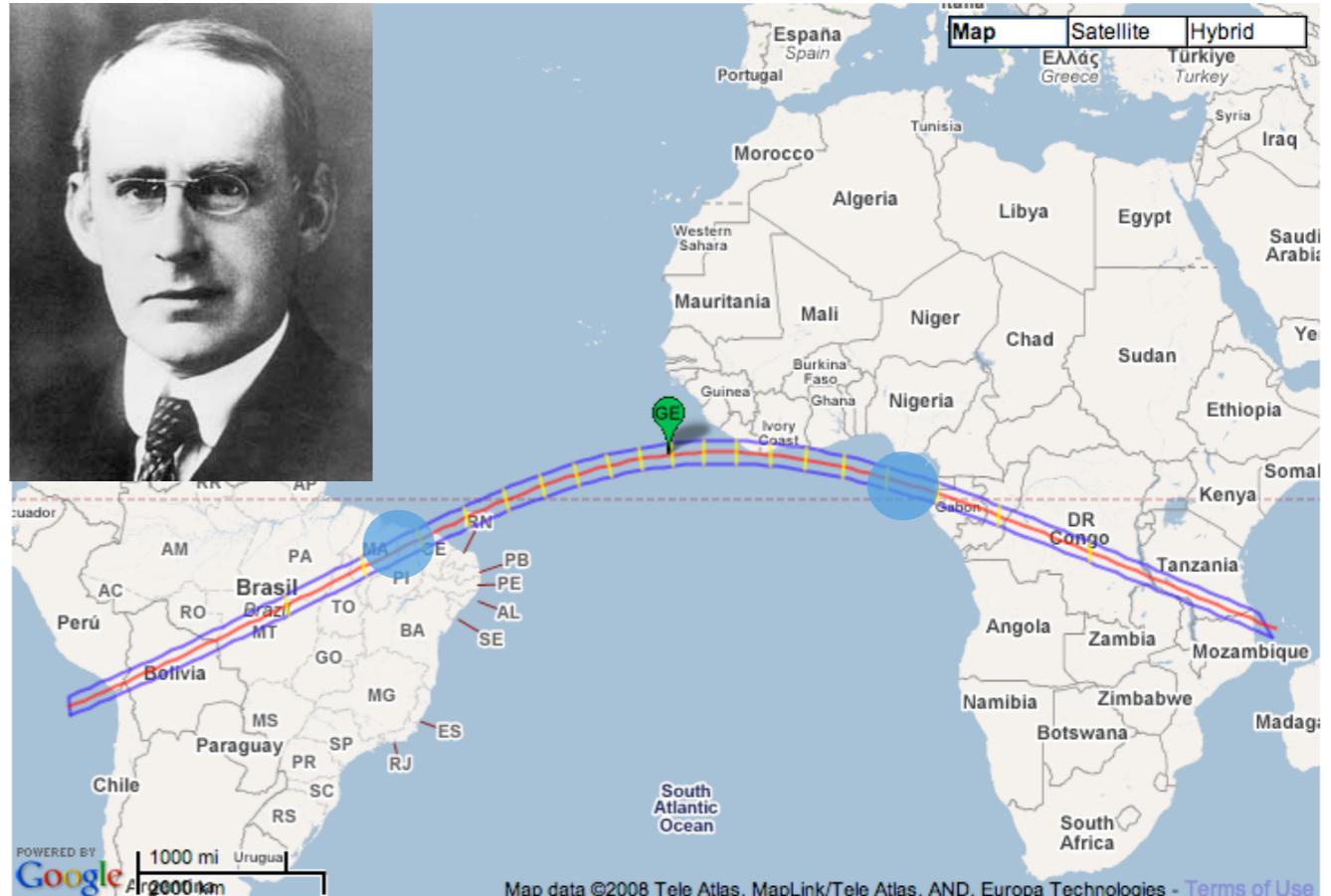
EDDINGTON EXPEDITION

Next solar eclipse - May 29th 1919

Totality was observable from Africa to South America

An unusually long, 6 min duration and the location of the Hyades star cluster nearby making it specially advantageous.

Expeditions were sent to two locations:



Principe Island off Equatorial Guinea
Eddington & Cottingham
scattered clouds
with 2 stars measure $\sim 1.61 \text{ +/- } 0.31''$

Sobral in northern Brazil
Crommelin & Davidson
sun's heat deformed mirror of main 16-inch telescope
backup 4-inch telescope was able to measure the positions of 7-stars $1.98 \text{ +/- } 0.12''$



This image is magnified 281 times, compared with plate.

EDDINGTON EXPEDITION

Next solar eclipse - May 29th 1919

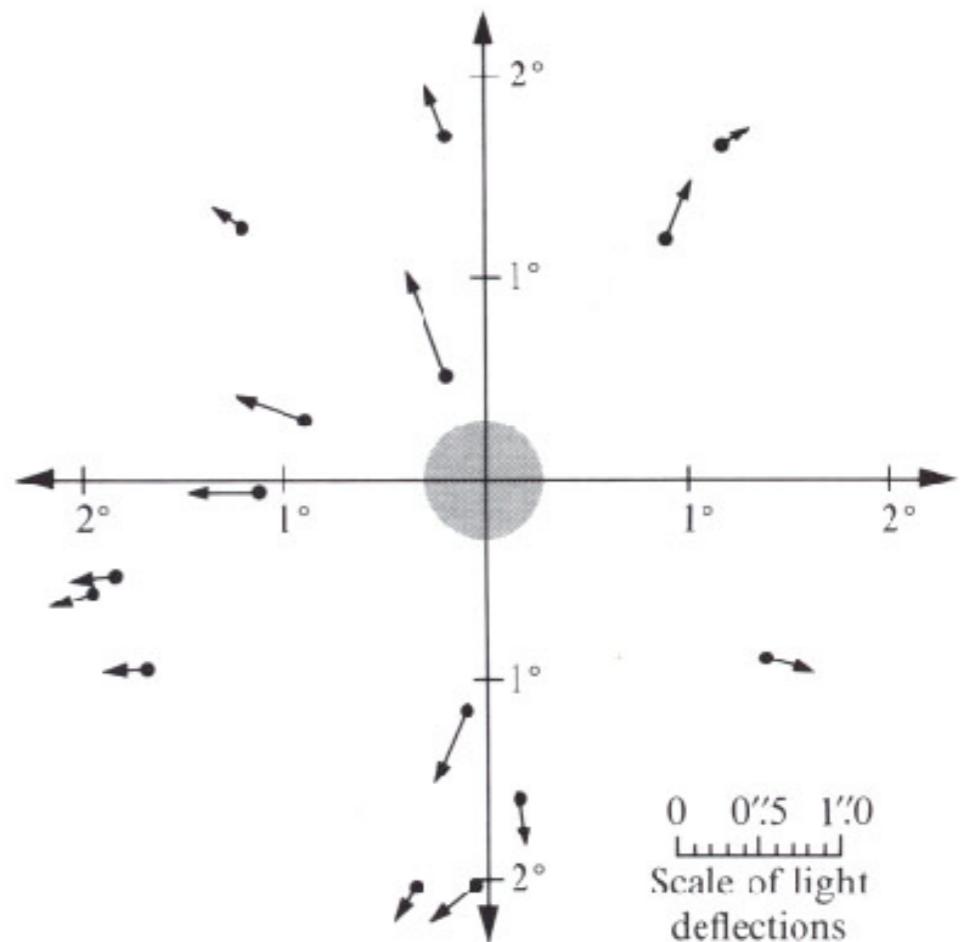
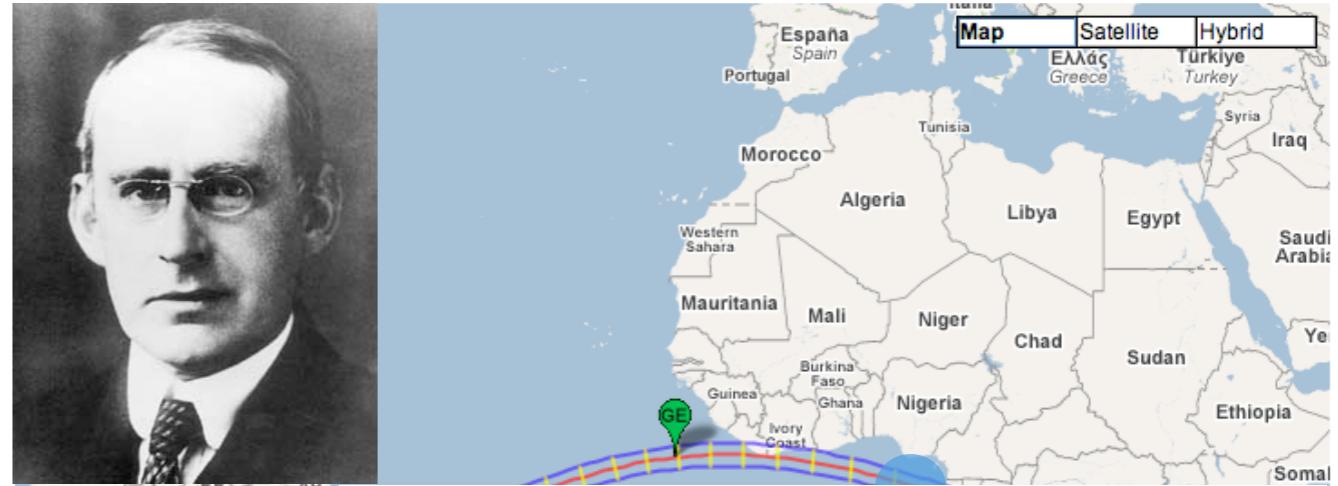
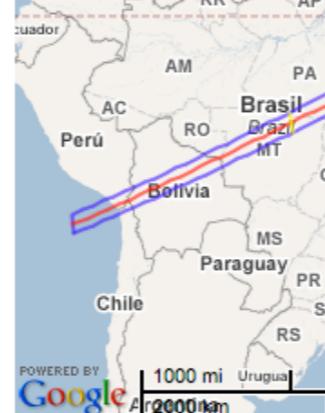
Totality was observable from Africa to South America

An unusually long, 6 min duration and the location of the Hyades star cluster nearby making it specially advantageous.

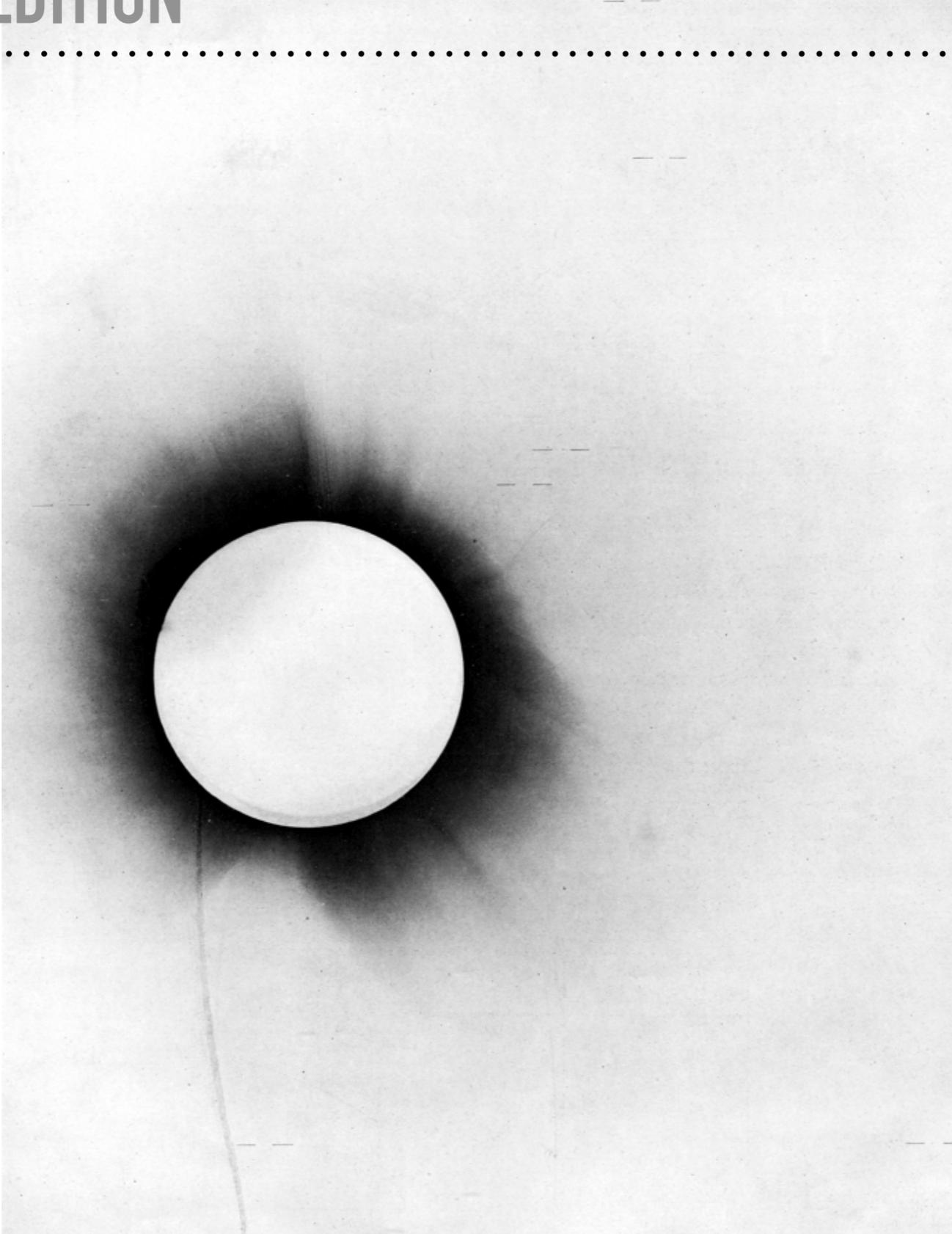
Expeditions were sent to two locations:

Principe Island off Equatorial Guinea
Eddington & Cottingham
scattered clouds
with 2 stars measure $\sim 1.61 \text{ +/- } 0.31''$

Sobral in northern Brazil
Crommelin & Davidson
sun's heat deformed mirror of main 16-inch telescope
backup 4-inch telescope was able to measure the positions of 7-stars $1.98 \text{ +/- } 0.12''$

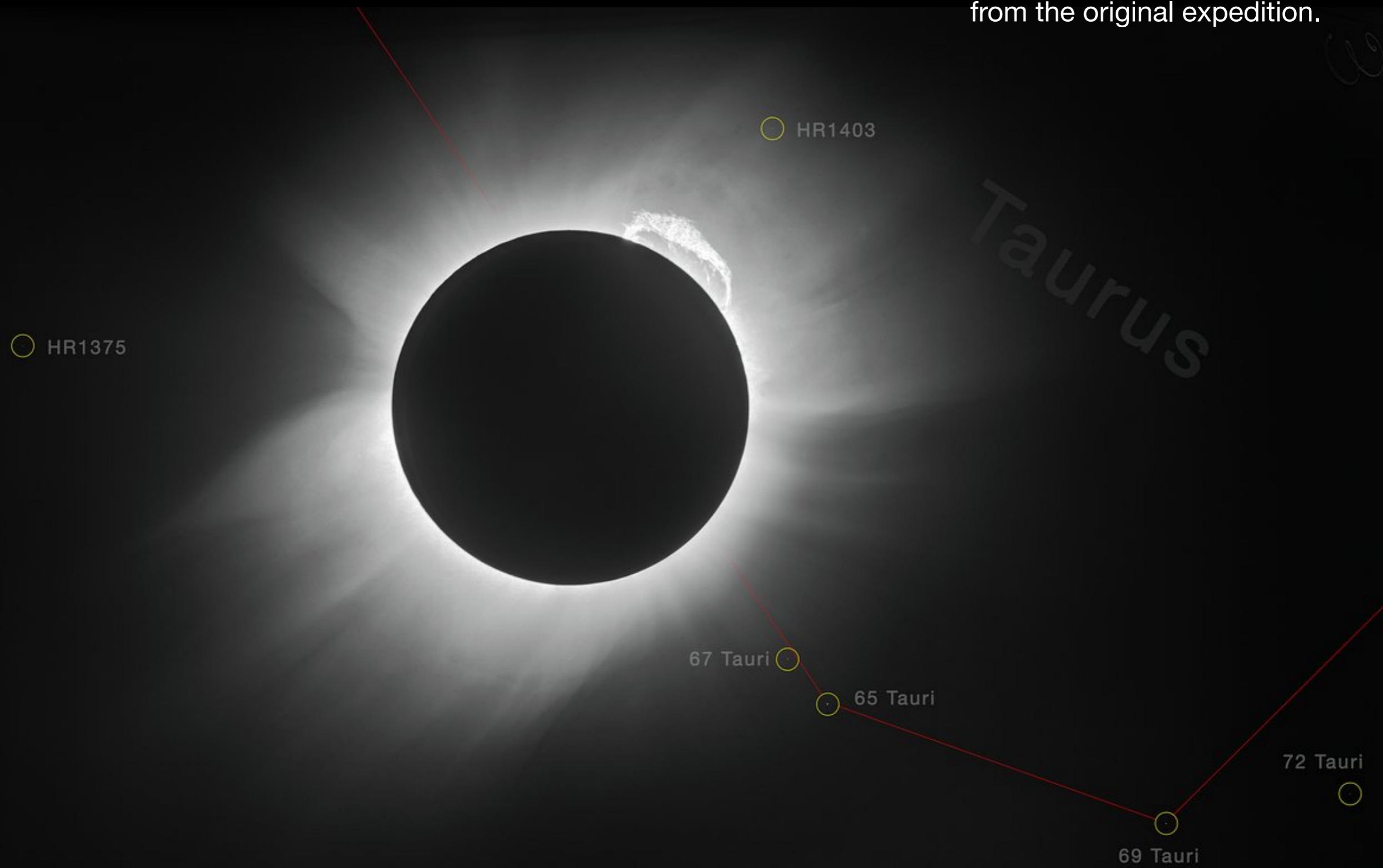


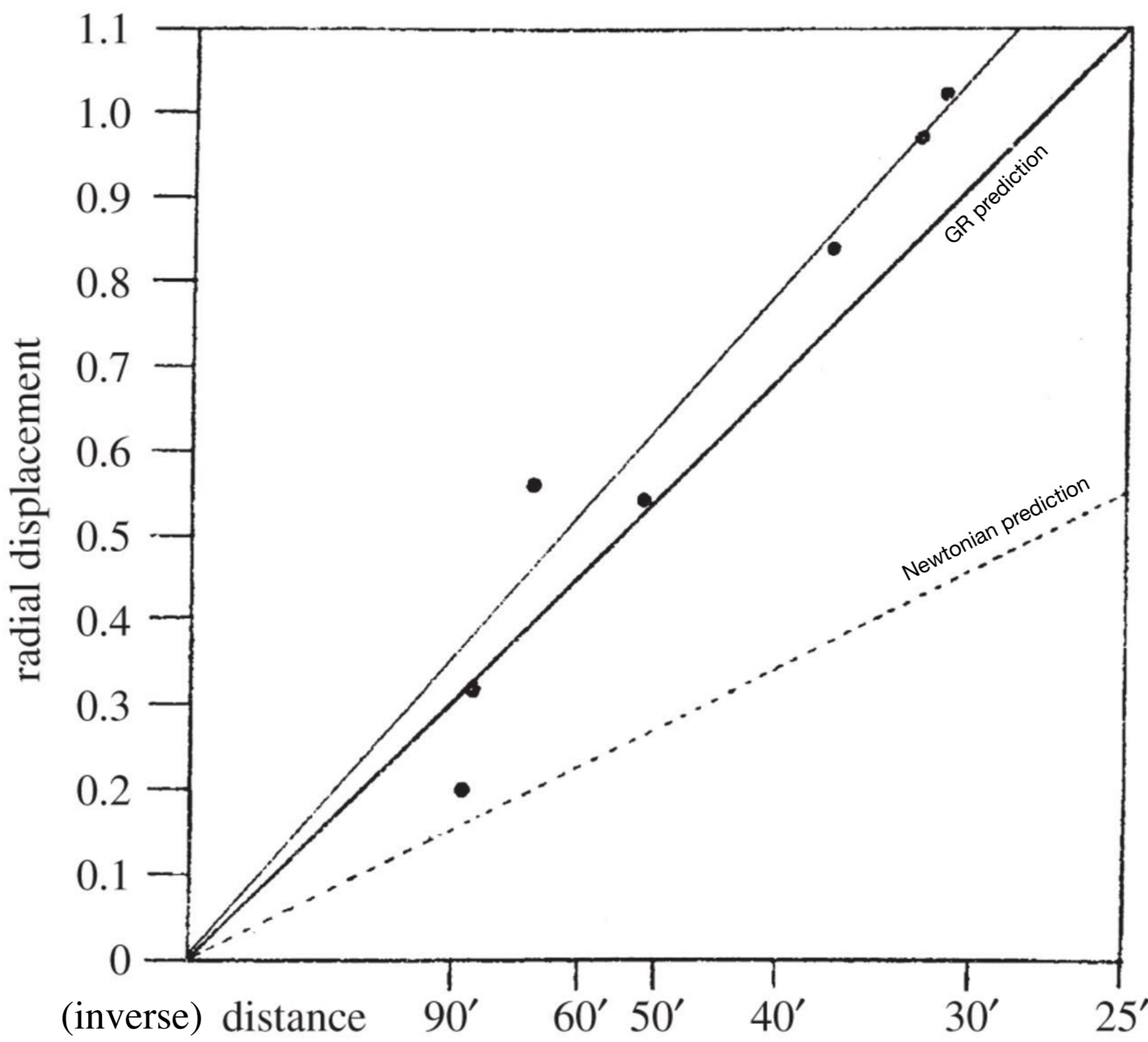
EDDINGTON EXPEDITION



EDDINGTON EXPEDITION

Digitized and enhanced image
from the original expedition.





Data from Sobral, meeting of the Royal Society and the Royal Astronomical Society in London on 6 November 1919

GRAVITY BENDS LIGHT! (7/11/1919)

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.

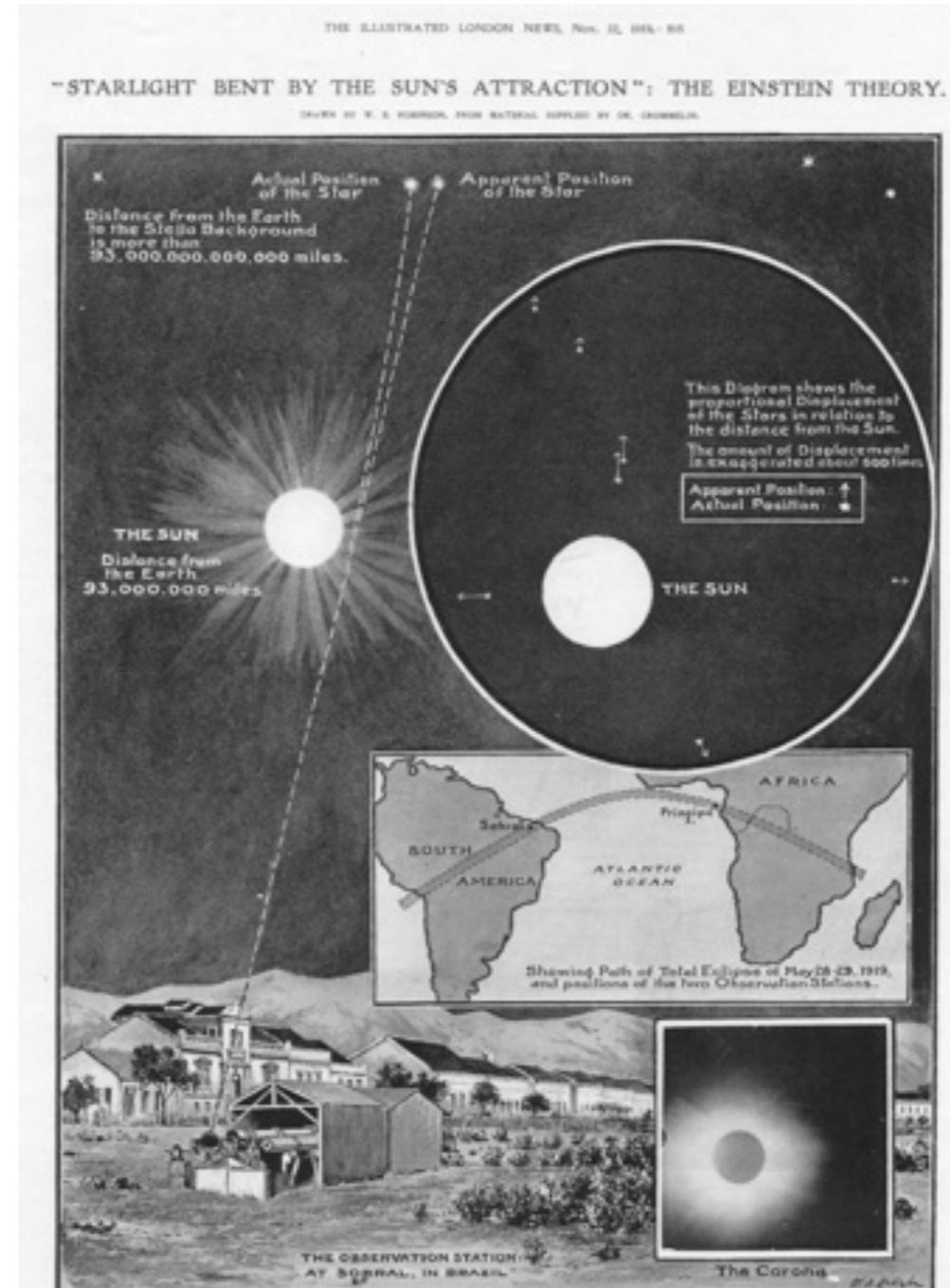
A BOOK FOR 12 WISE MEN

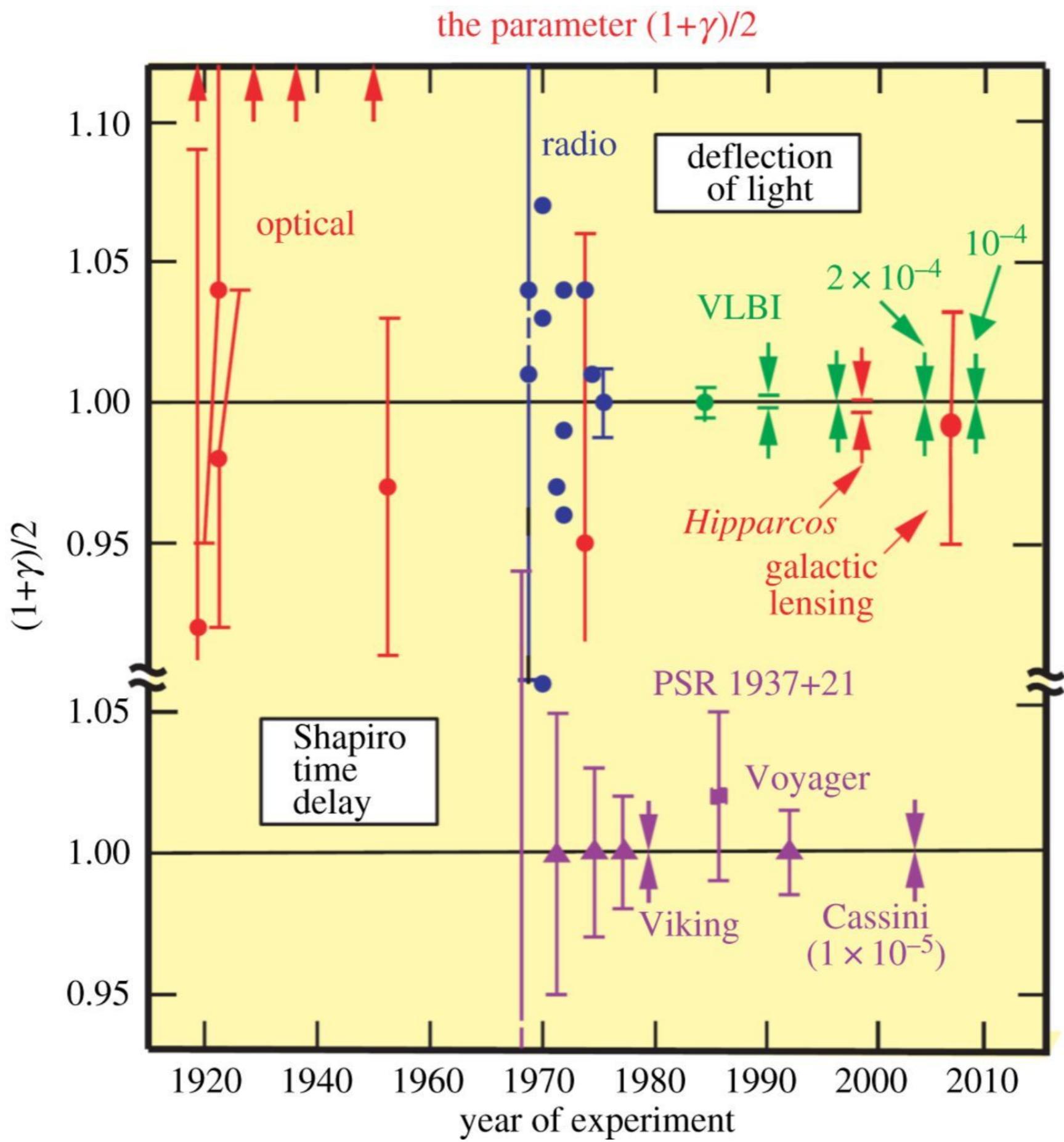
No More in All the World Could
Comprehend It, Said Einstein When
His Daring Publishers Accepted It.

NEW THEORY OF THE UNIVERSE.

NEWTONIAN IDEAS OVERTHROWN.

Yesterday afternoon in the rooms of the Royal Society, at a joint session of the Royal and Astronomical Societies, the results ob-





Will, et al, 2014

STRONG FIELD GRAVITATIONAL LENSING

General static isotropic metric :

$$d\tau^2 = B(r)dt^2 - A(r)dr^2 - r^2(d\theta^2 + \sin^2(\theta)d\phi^2)$$

Schwarzschild's
black hole
solution

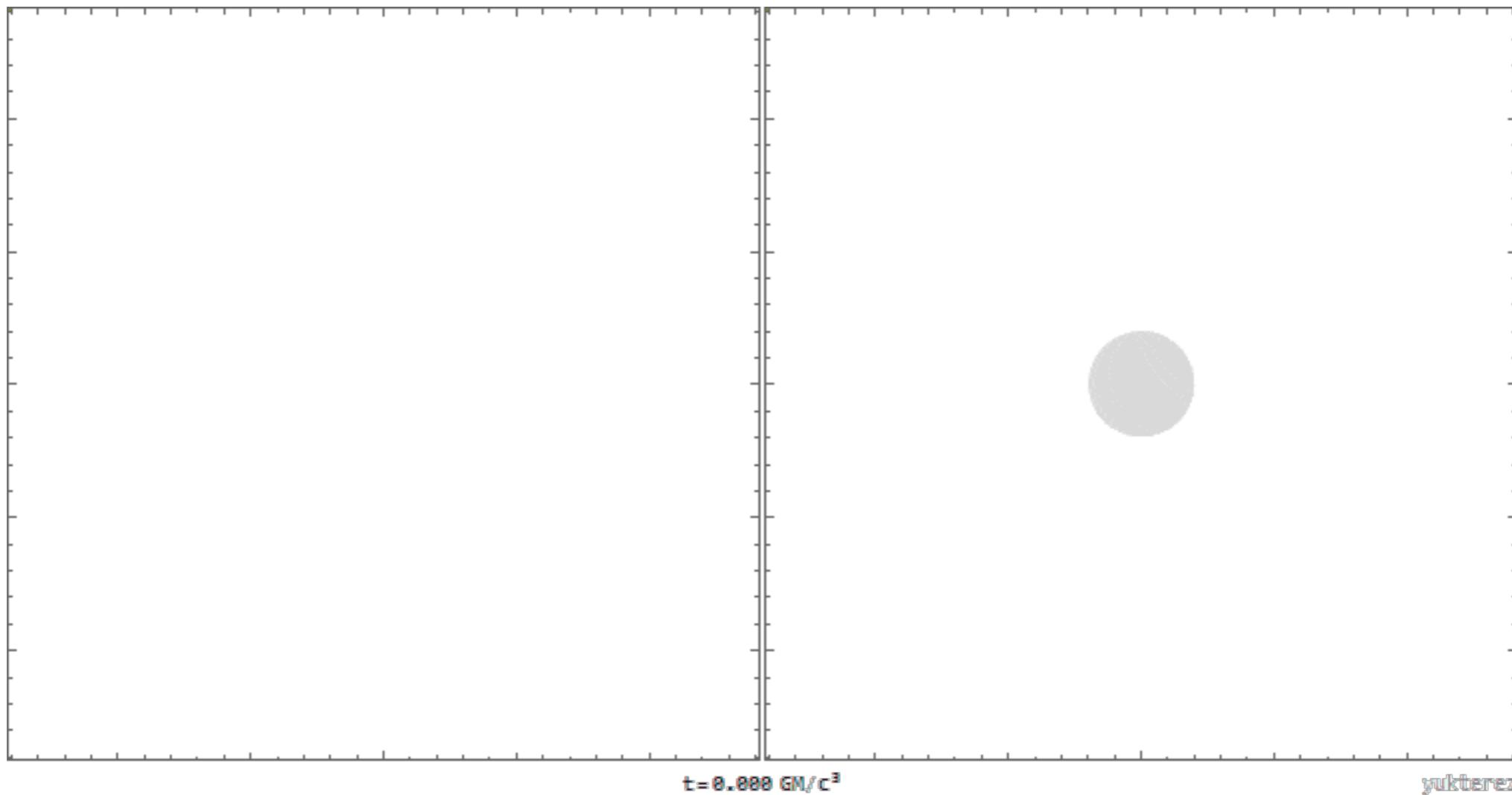
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} B(r) = \left(1 - \frac{R_{Sch}}{r}\right) \\ A(r) = \left(1 - \frac{R_{Sch}}{r}\right)^{-1} \end{array} \right.$$

Constants of motion

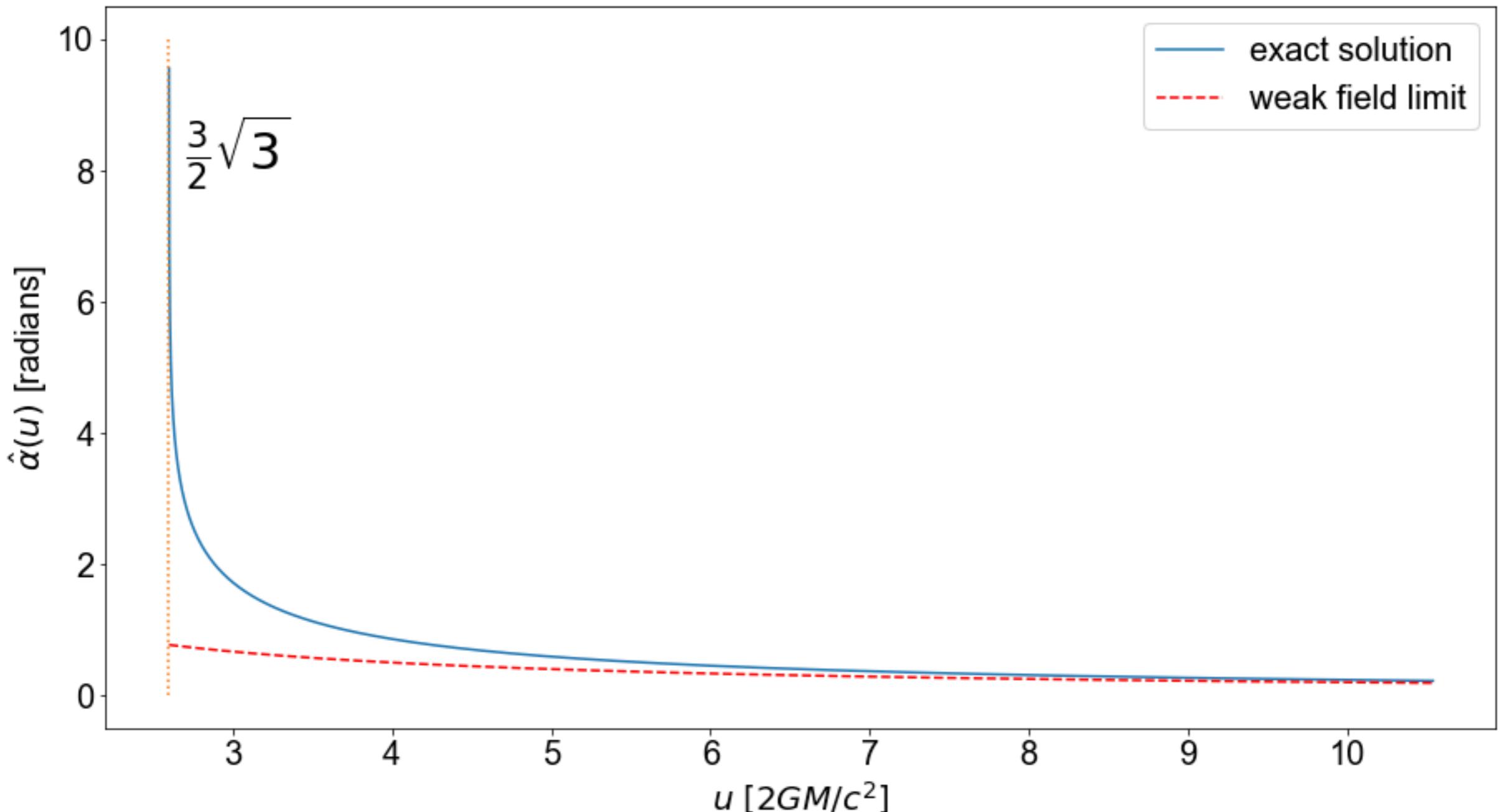
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} J = r^2 \frac{d\phi}{d\lambda} \\ -E = A(r) \left(\frac{dr}{d\lambda}\right)^2 + \frac{J^2}{r^2} - \frac{1}{B(r)} \end{array} \right.$$

$$\begin{array}{lll} E > 0 & \text{massive particles} & \frac{1-E}{2} \simeq \text{Newtonian energy} \\ E = 0 & \text{photons} & \end{array}$$

STRONG FIELD GRAVITATIONAL LENSING



STRONG FIELD GRAVITATIONAL LENSING

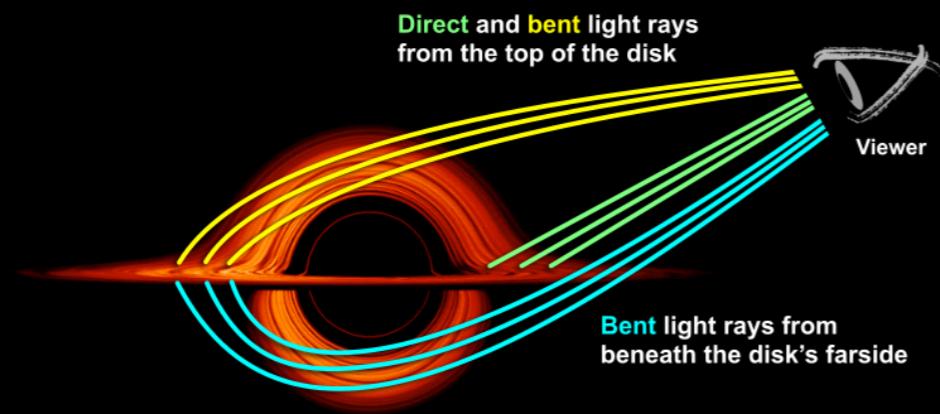


$$u = \frac{b}{R_{\text{Sch}}} \quad \text{impact parameter}$$

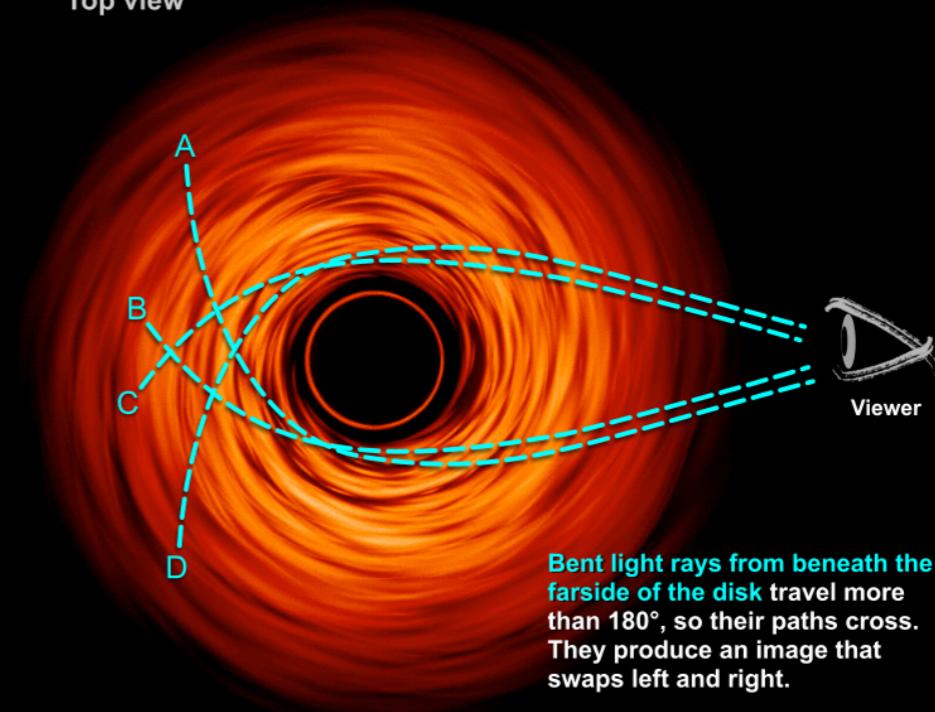
STRONG FIELD GRAVITATIONAL LENSING

A Warped Look at Black Hole Optics

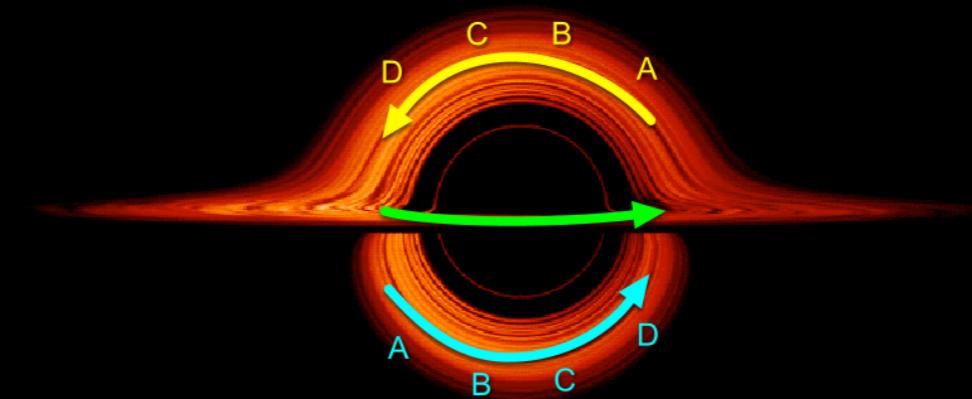
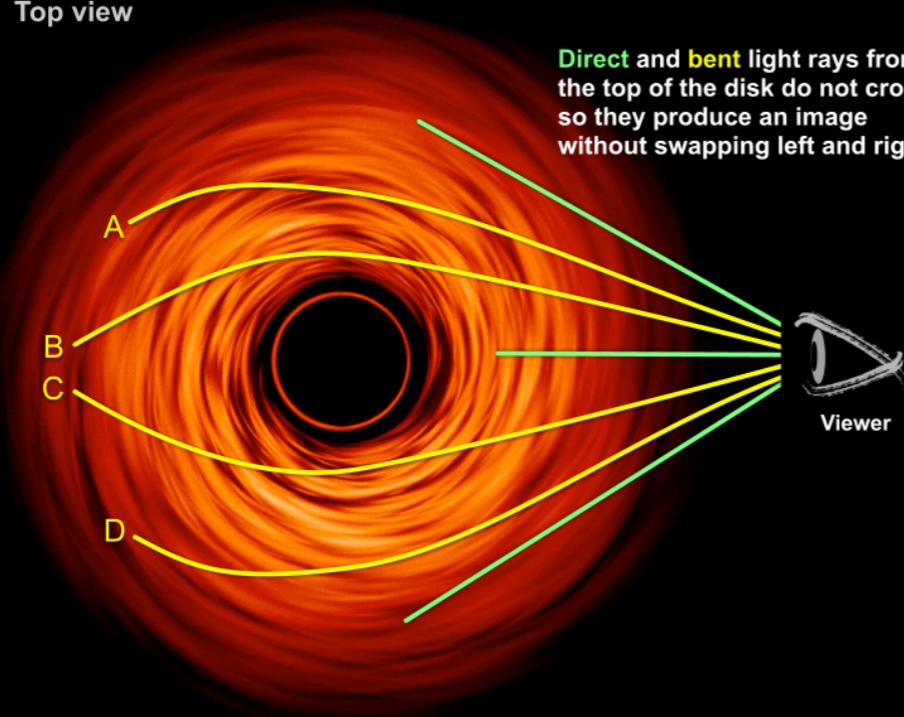
Side view



Top view

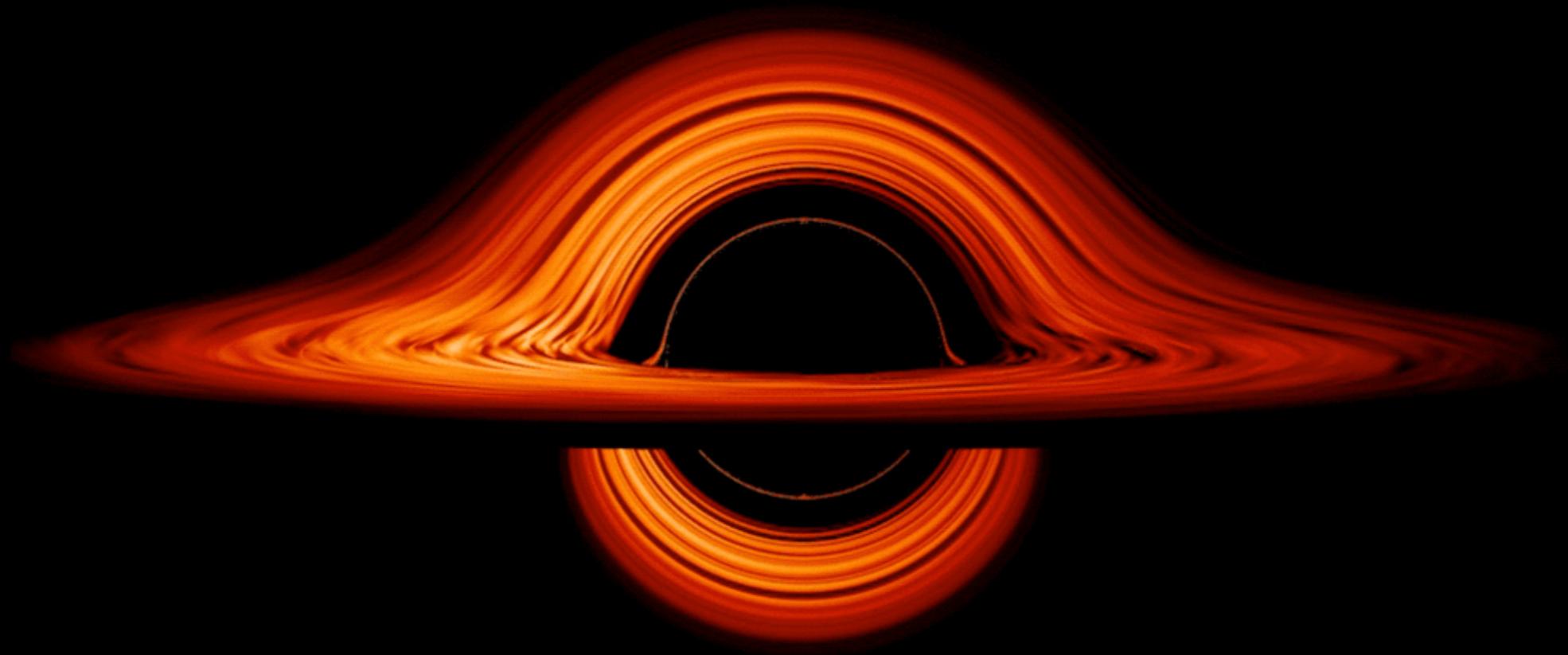


Top view

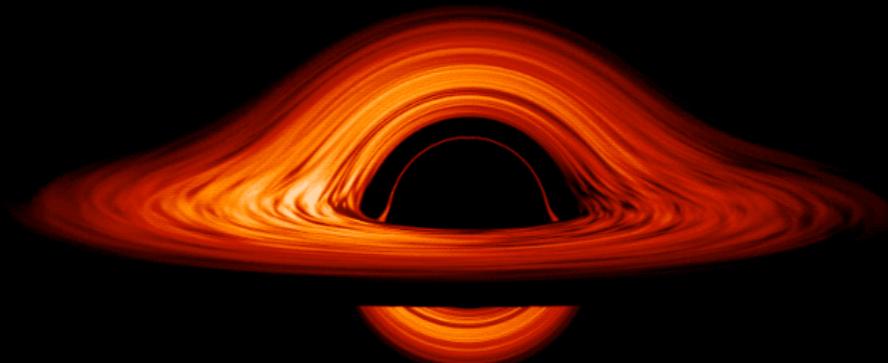


Apparent image and disk motion

STRONG FIELD GRAVITATIONAL LENSING



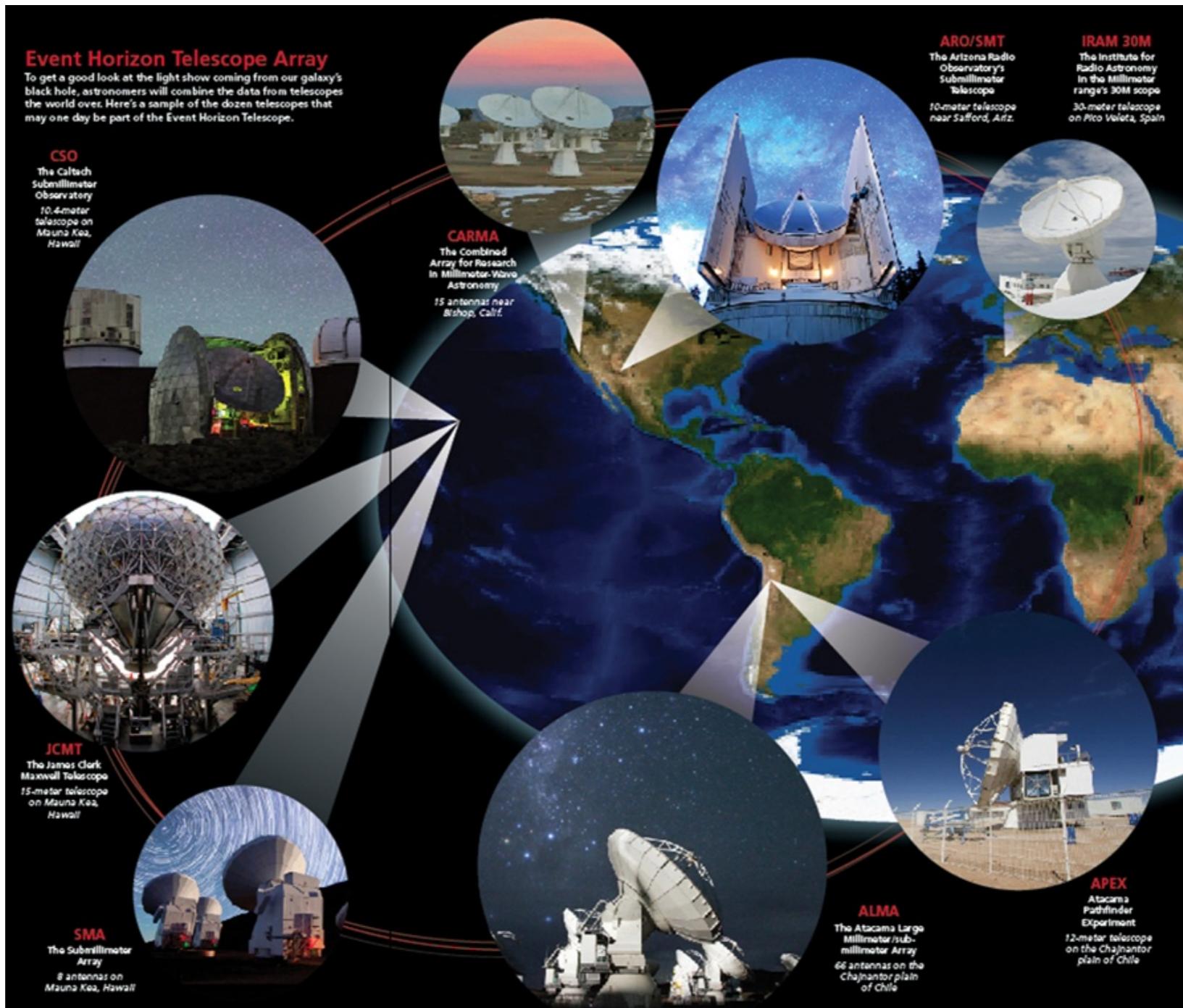
STRONG FIELD GRAVITATIONAL LENSING



STRONG FIELD GRAVITATIONAL LENSING

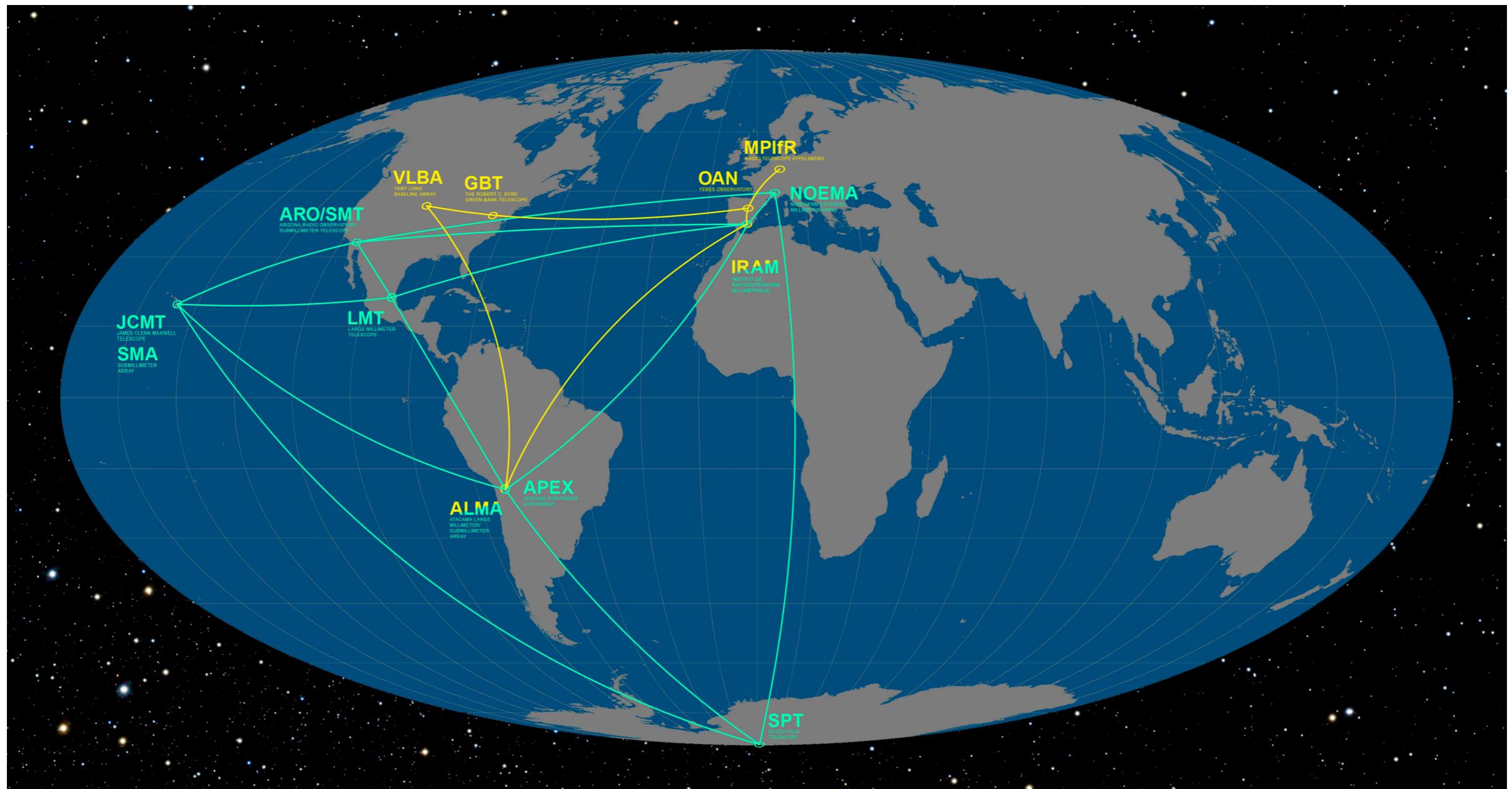
Event Horizon Telescope (EHT)

Collaboration between many observatories to make a **global radio interferometer array**.



STRONG FIELD GRAVITATIONAL LENSING

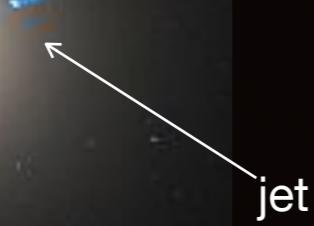
Event Horizon Telescope (EHT)



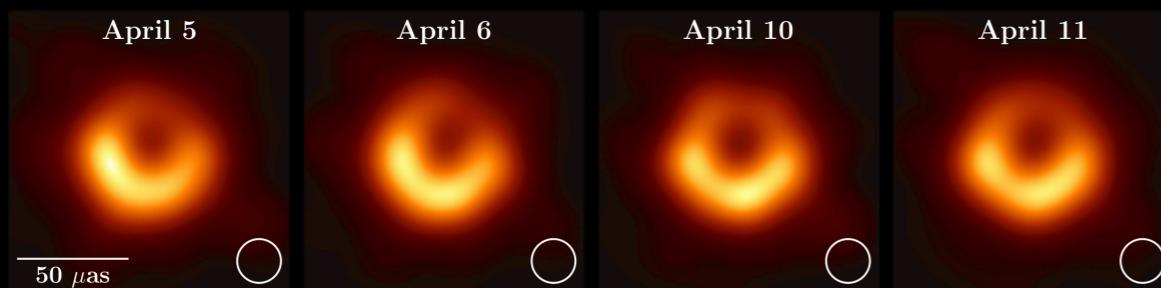
Event Horizon Telescope

M87

$$M_{BH} \simeq 6.5 \times 10^9 M_\odot$$

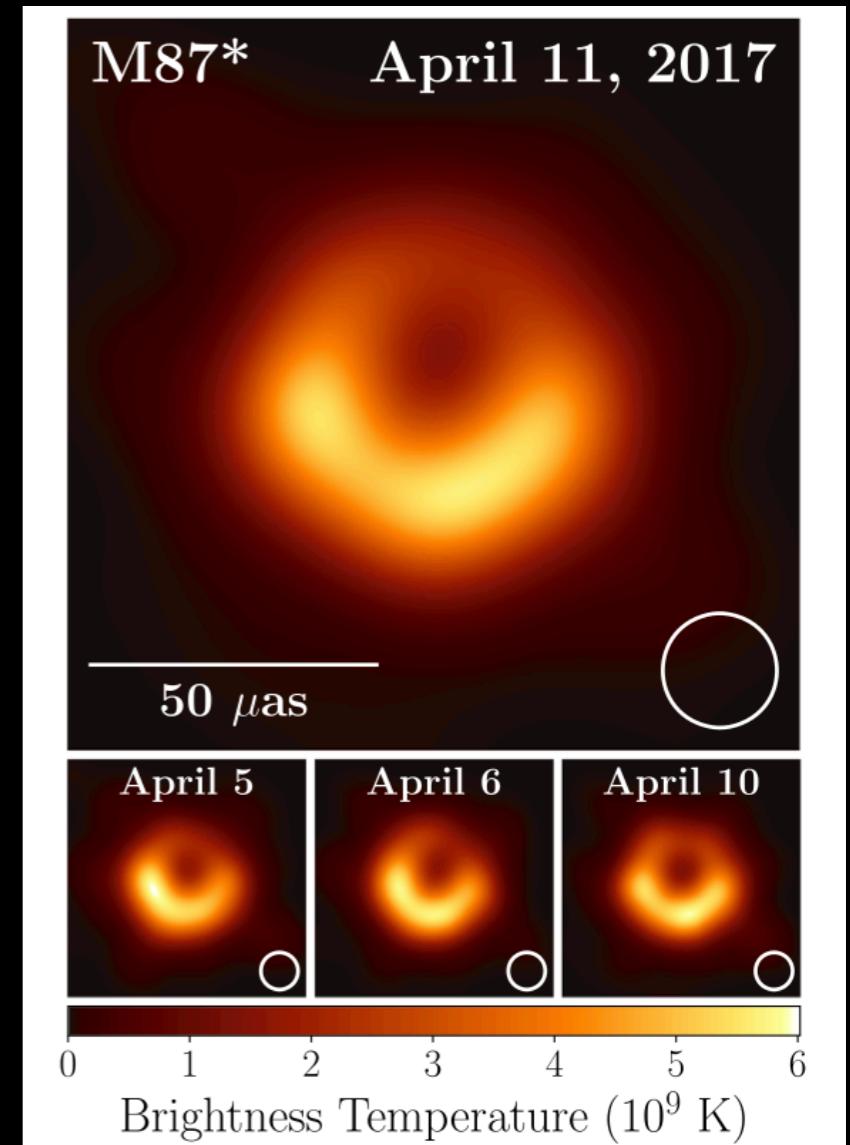
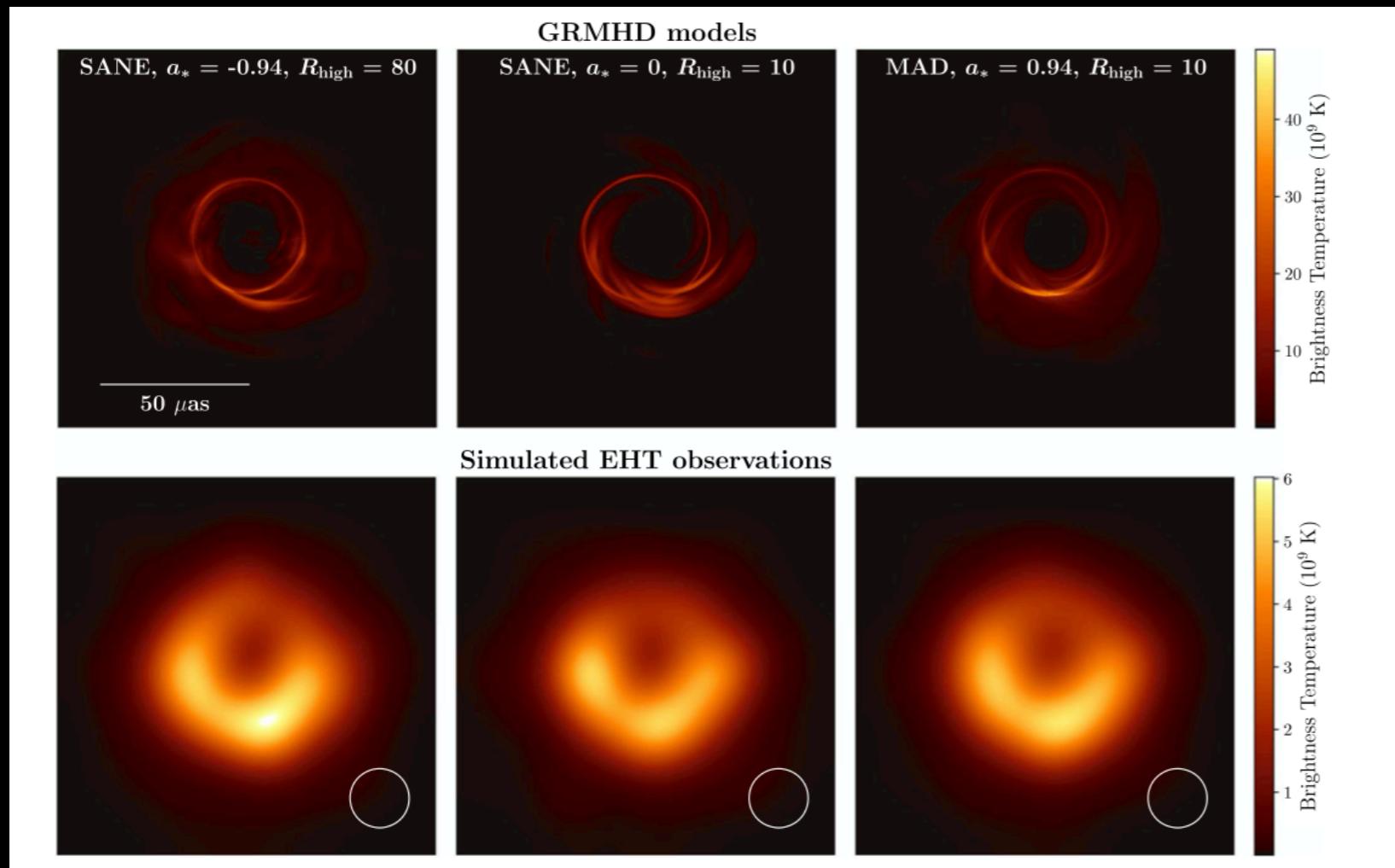


Black hole in the centre of M87



Event Horizon Telescope

Black hole in the centre of M87



FERMAT'S PRINCIPLE IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

- Assumptions:
 - the deflection occurs in small region of the universe and over time-scales where the expansion of the universe is not relevant
 - the weak-field limit can be safely applied: $|\Phi|/c^2 \ll 1$
 - perturbed region can be described in terms of an effective refractive index
 - Fermat principle