

# GRAVITATIONAL LENSING

## 2 – Deflection of Light II

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*R. Benton Metcalf*  
2022-2023

# TIMELINE

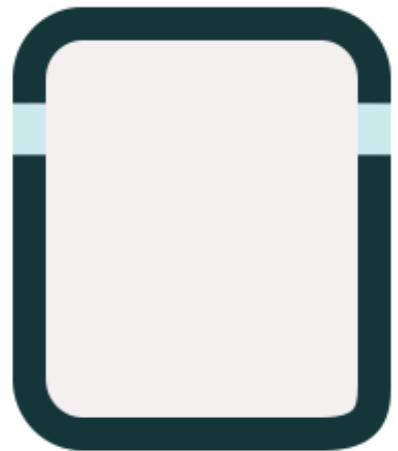
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- 1907-1911: Einstein resumes the idea of light deflection using special relativity and equivalence principle: “*In an arbitrary gravitational field, at any given spacetime point, we can choose a locally inertial reference frame such that, in a sufficiently 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*”

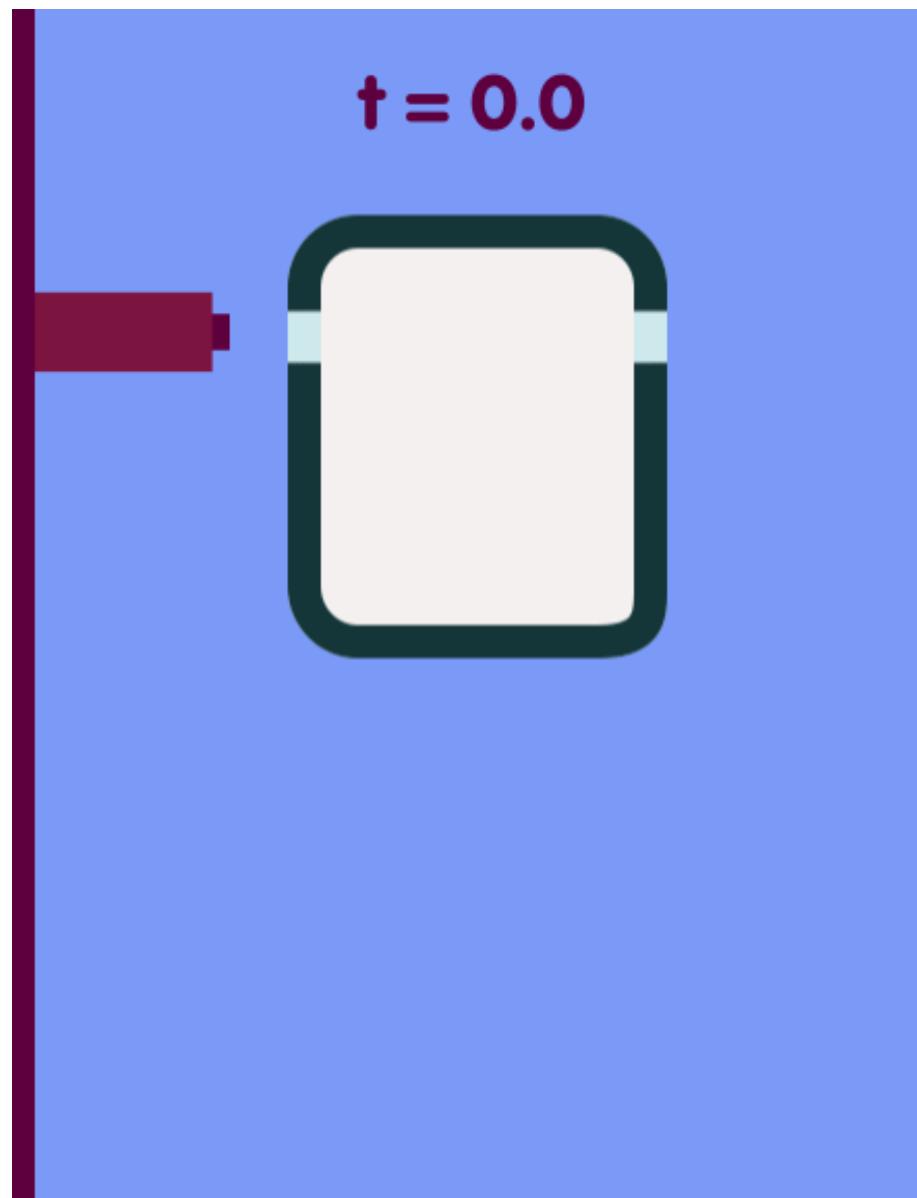
# EINSTEIN'S EQUIVALENCE PRINCIPLE

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$t = 0.0$

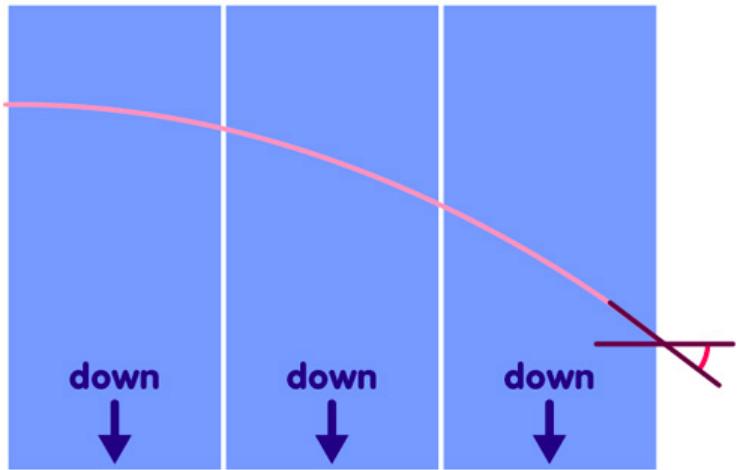


$t = 0.0$



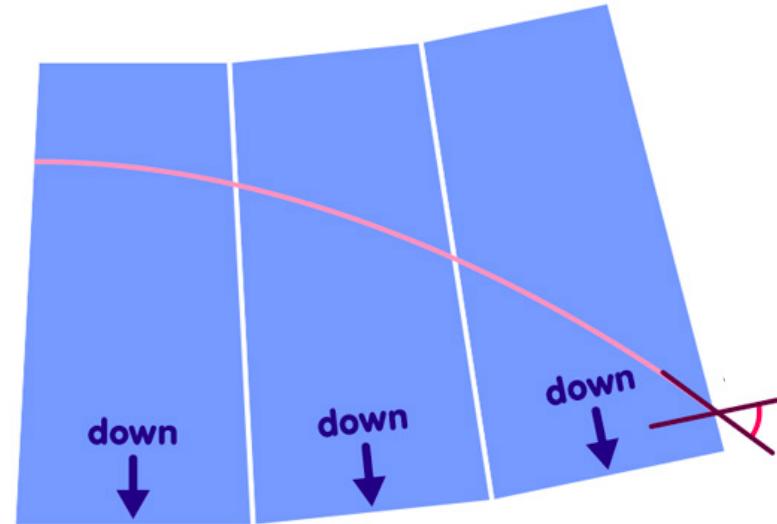
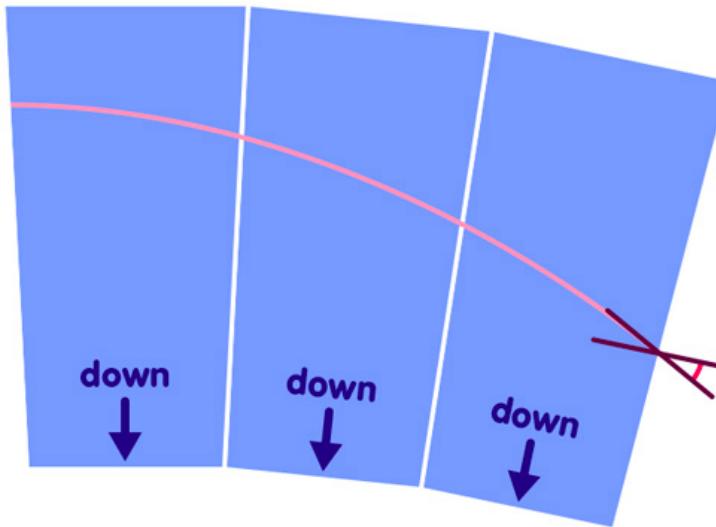
# CURVING SPACE-TIME AND LIGHT DEFLECTION

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*Euclidean geometry*

*Bend away from light*



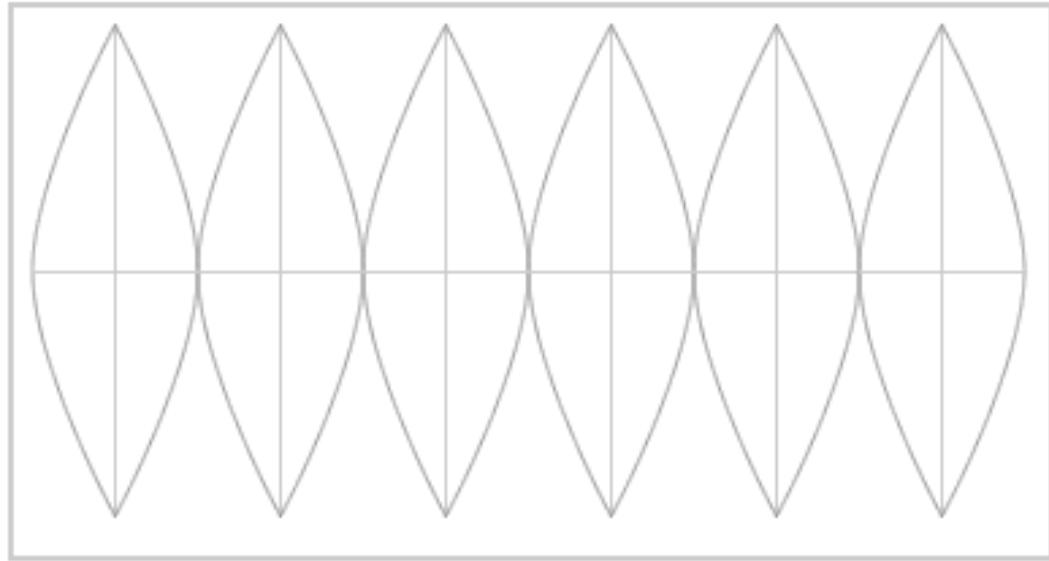
# CURVED SPACE

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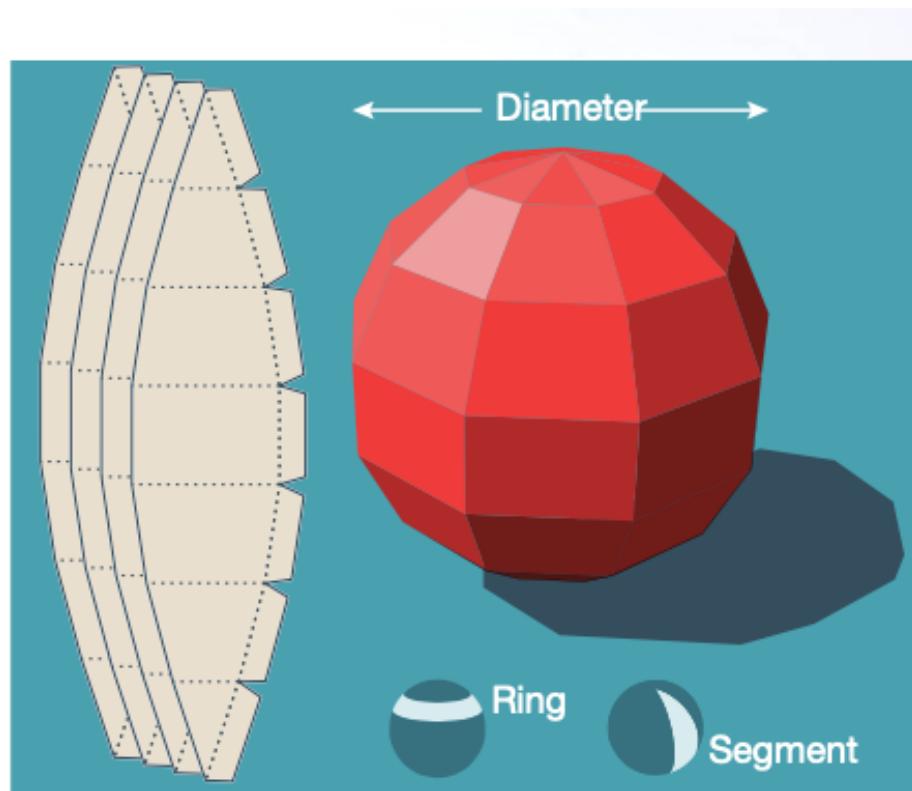
- If space is curved, there is no coordinate system that is Cartesian everywhere.
- However, at each point there is a coordinate system that is locally Cartesian.
- Straight lines can meet.
- Parallel transported vectors will not agree if they are transported around different paths.

# CURVED SPACE

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Covering of a sphere with paper.



# NULL GEODESICS

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$\xi^\mu$  - Minkowski (flat space-time) coordinates

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

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

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

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covariant derivative

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

tangent vector

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

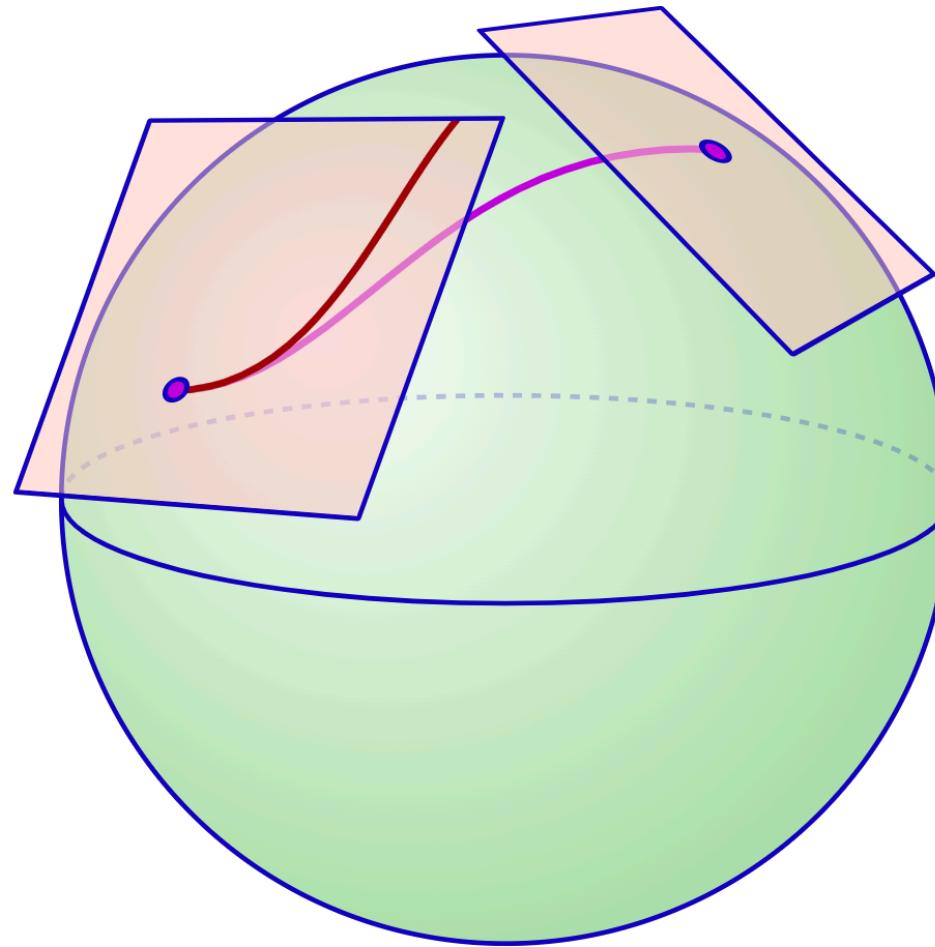
Parallel transport of tangent vector

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

geodesic equation

# CURVED SPACE

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# NULL GEODESICS

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Newtonian gauge

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

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

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

# NULL GEODESICS

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Newtonian gauge

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

# NULL GEODESICS

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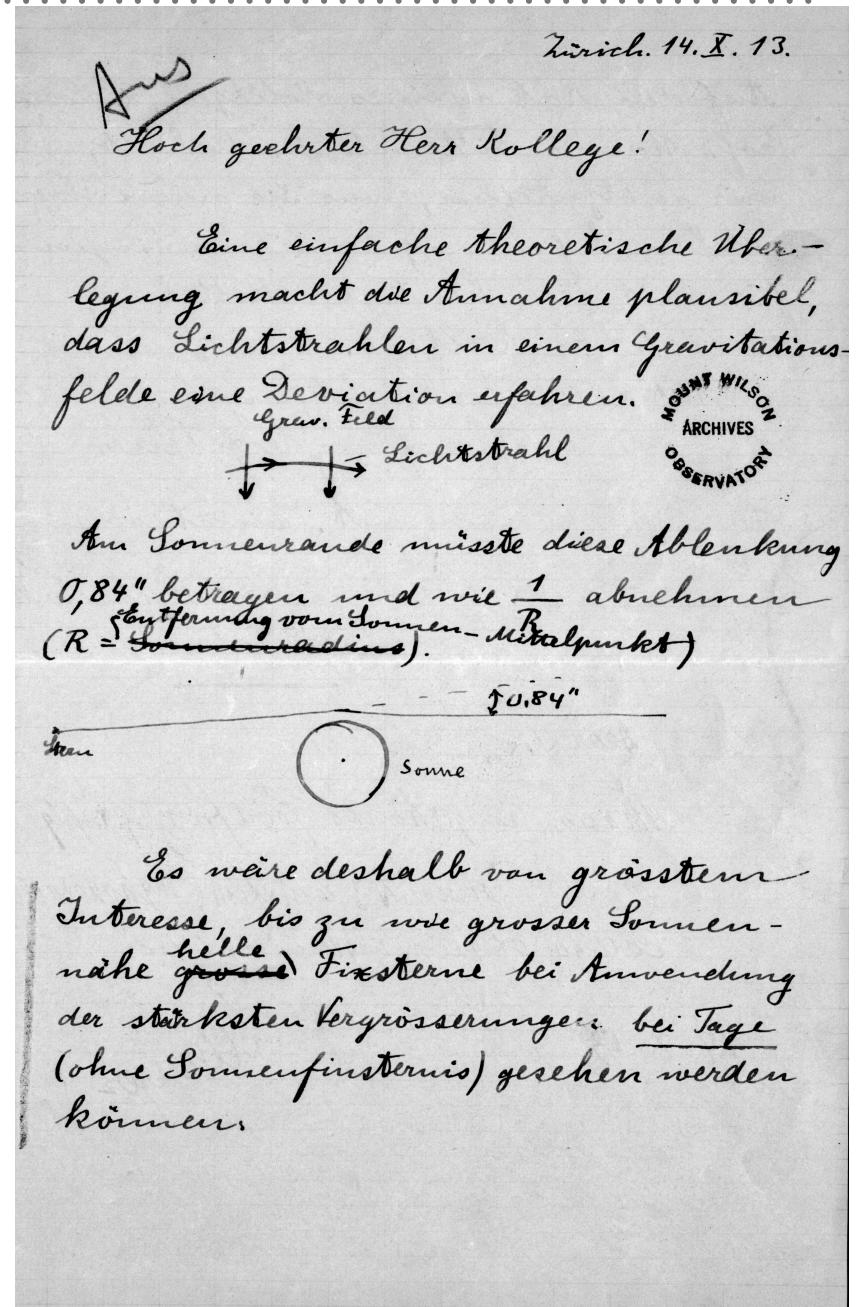
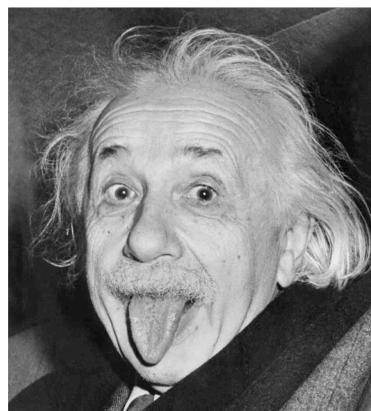
Newtonian gauge

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

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

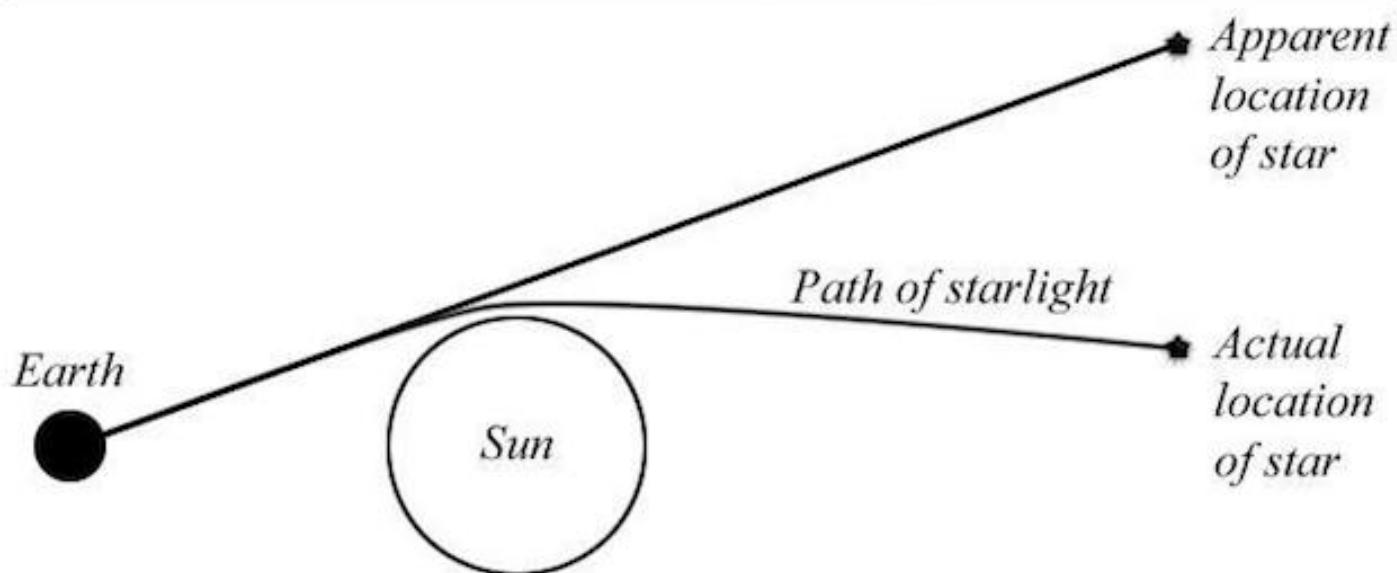
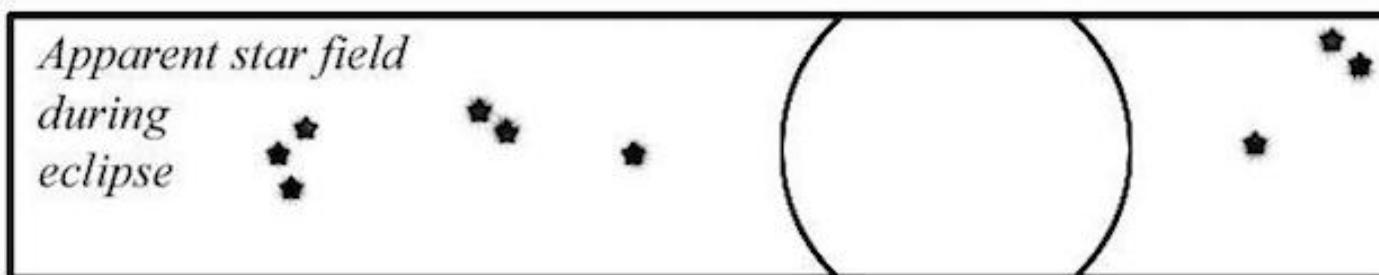
# TIMELINE

- 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

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# TIMELINE

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- 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

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*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

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*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

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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  $1.98 \text{ +/- } 0.12''$



# EDDINGTON EXPEDITION

Next solar eclipse - May 29th 1919

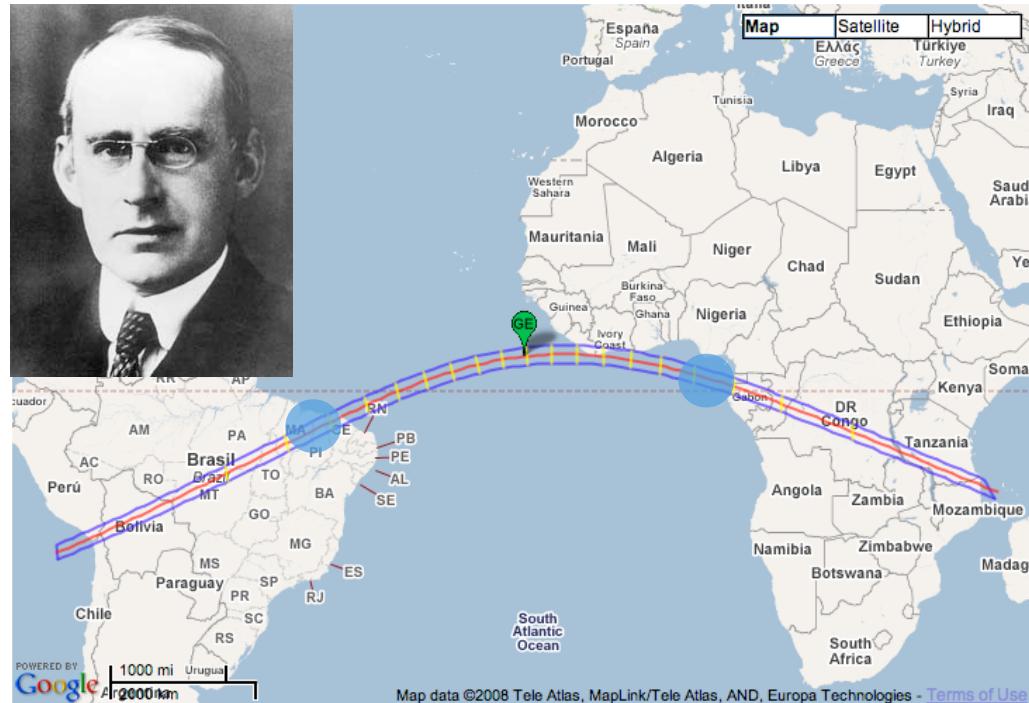
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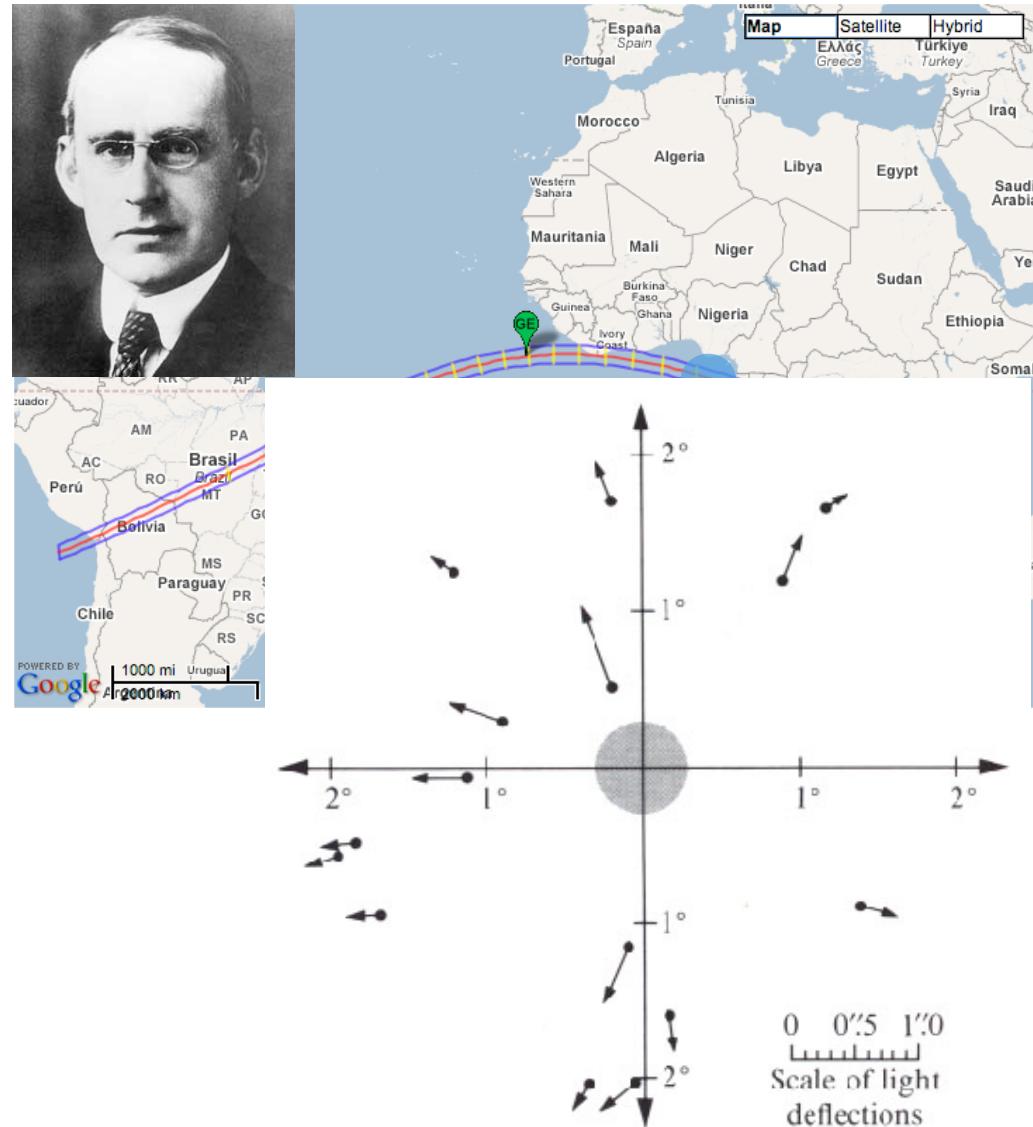
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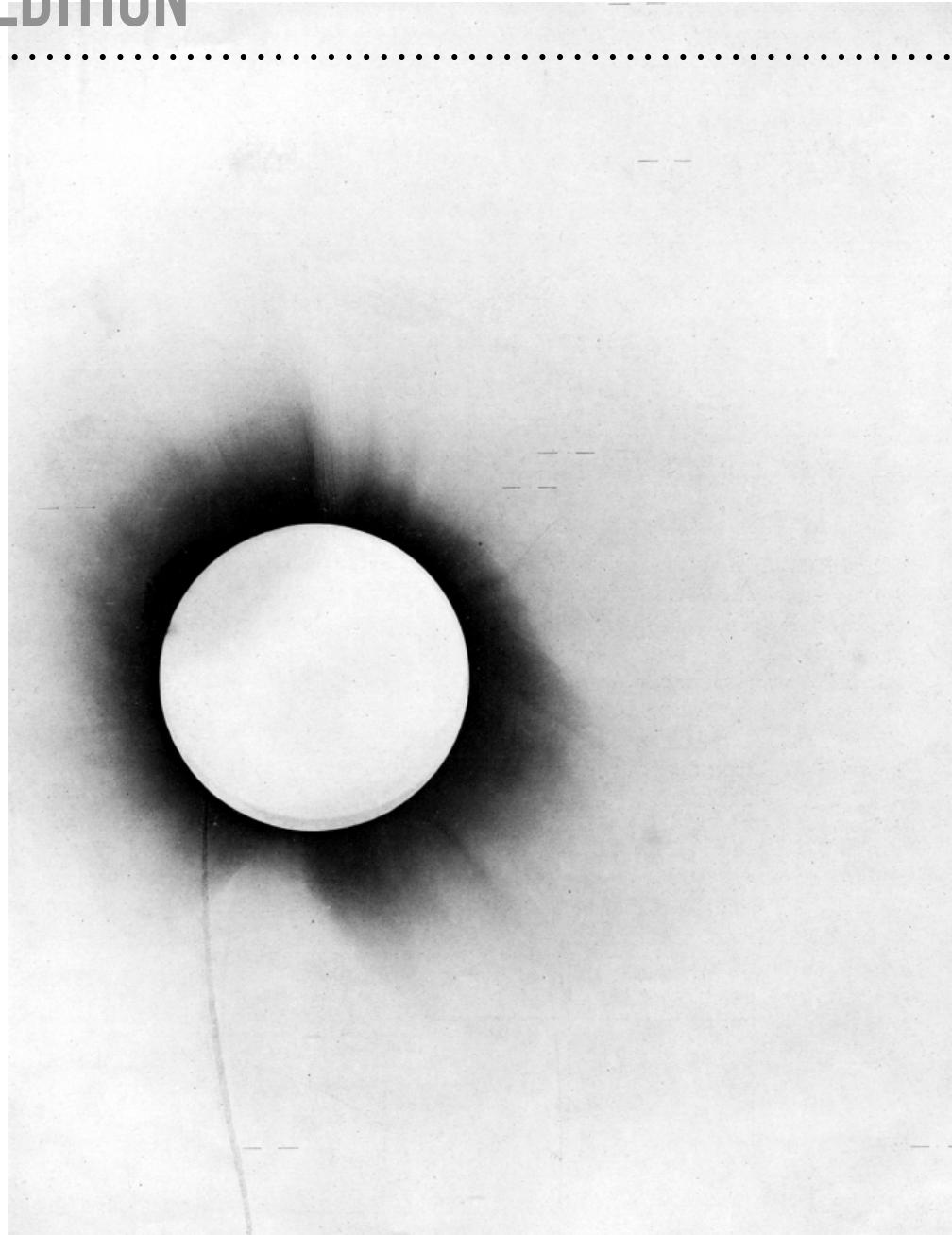
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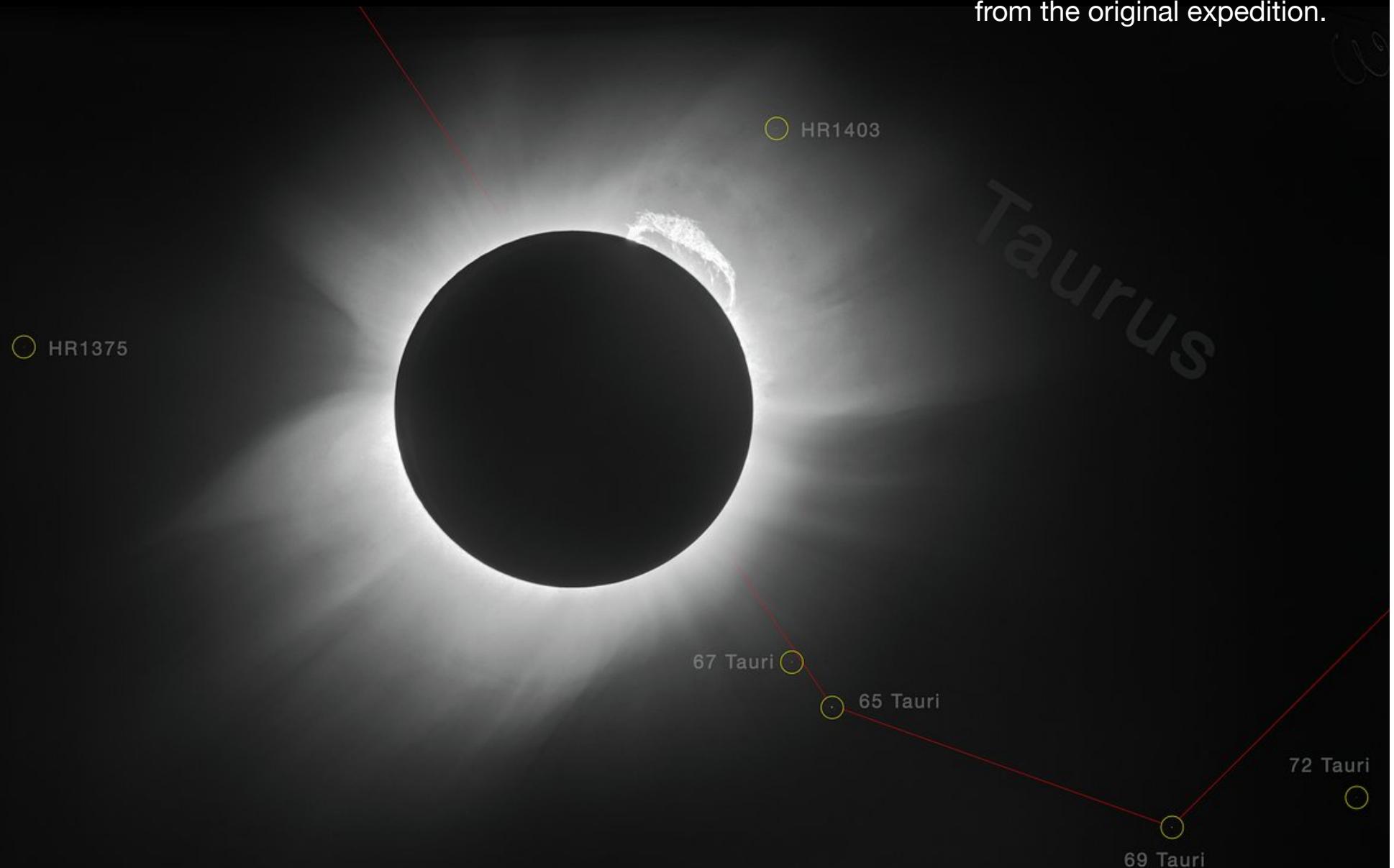
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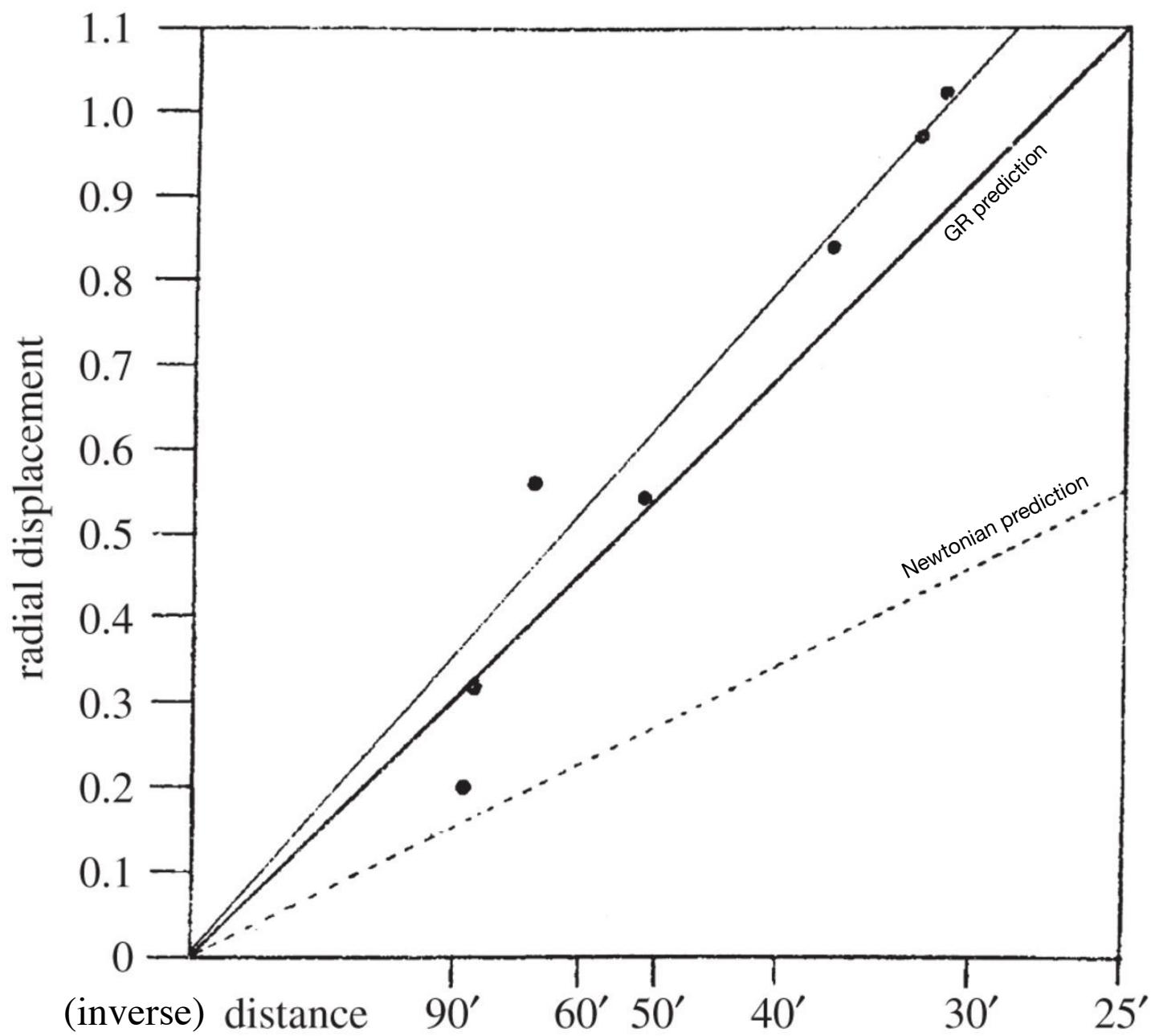


# EDDINGTON EXPEDITION

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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.

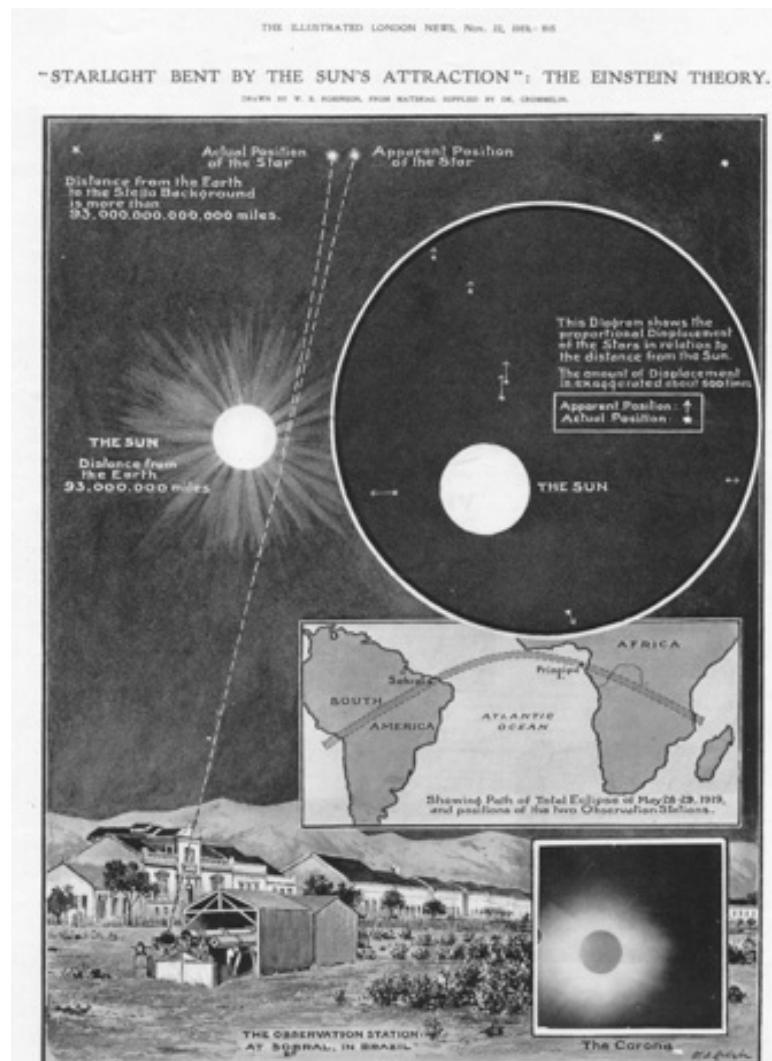
### A BOOK FOR 12 WISE MEN

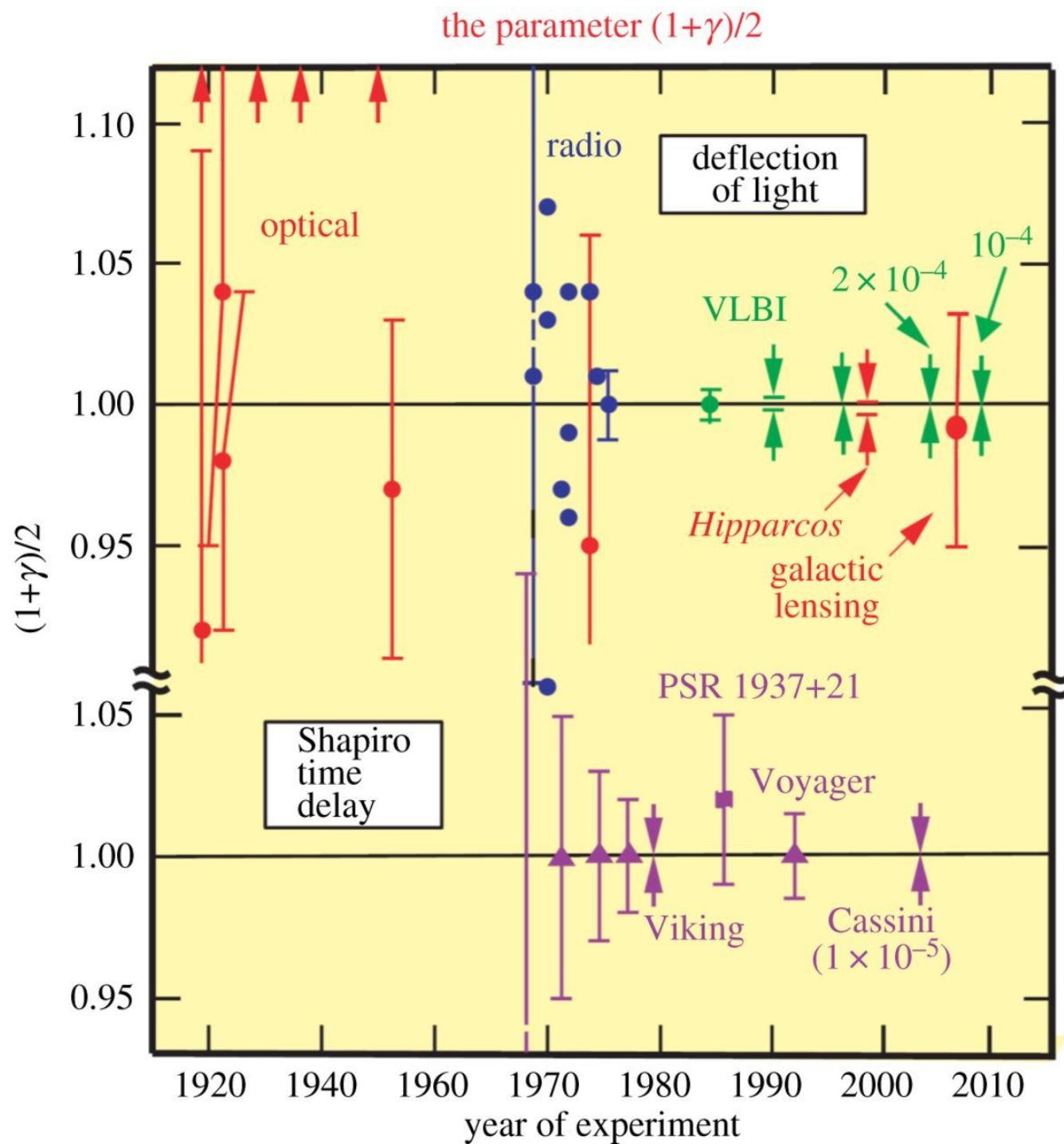
No More in All the World Could  
Comprehend It, Said Einstein When  
His Daring Publishers Accepted It.

# 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

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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

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

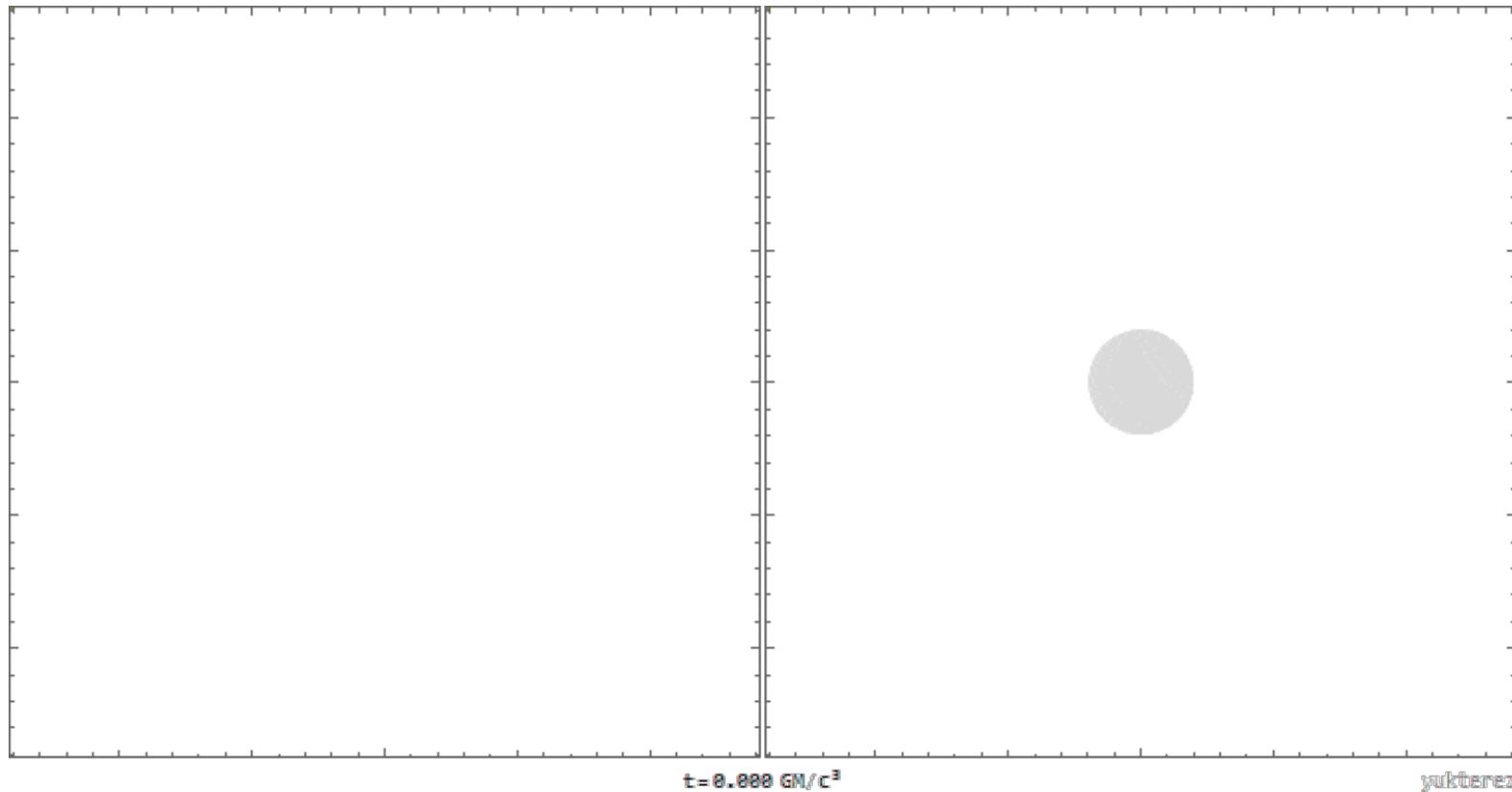
Constants of motion

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

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

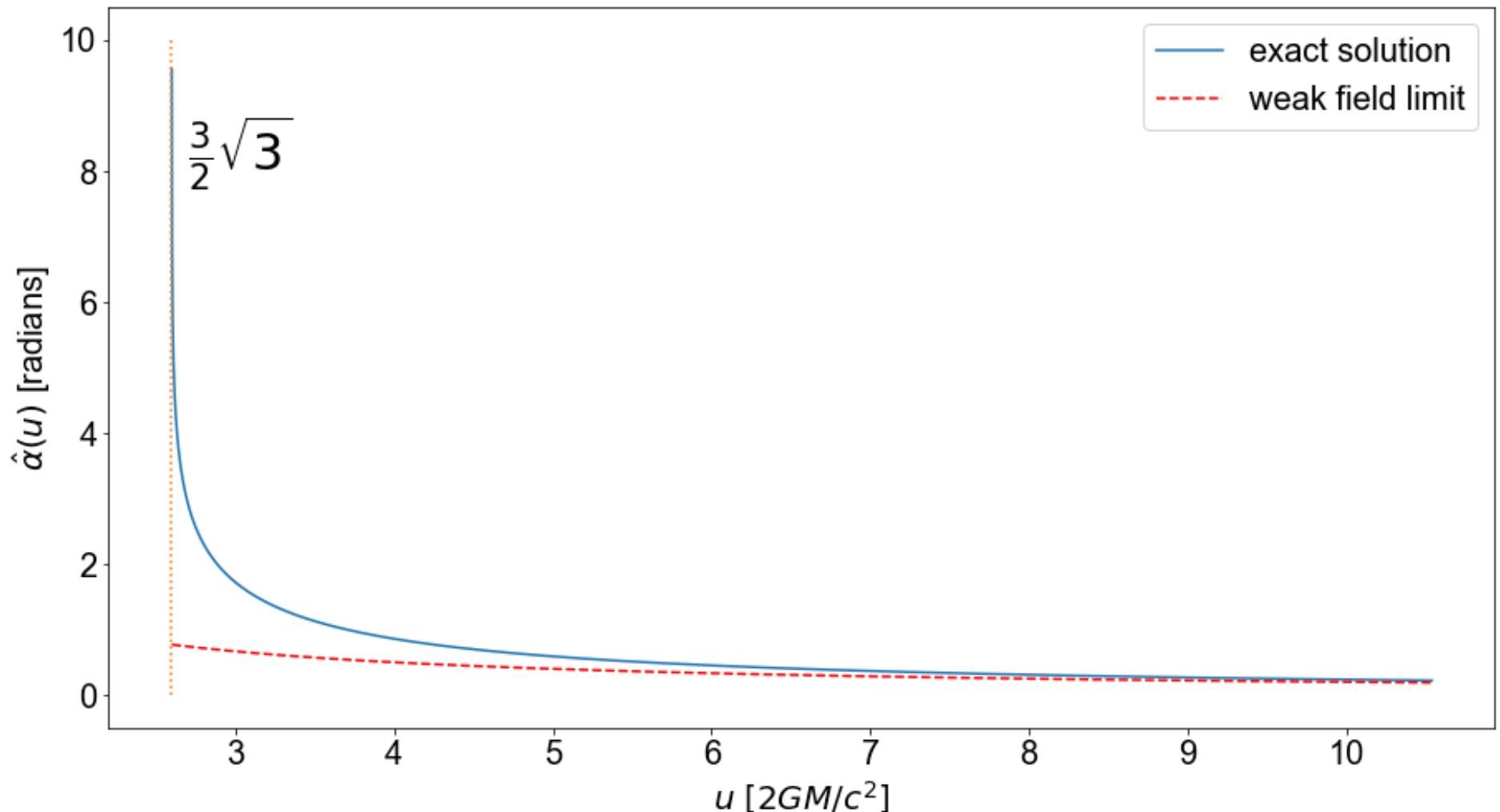
# STRONG FIELD GRAVITATIONAL LENSING

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# STRONG FIELD GRAVITATIONAL LENSING

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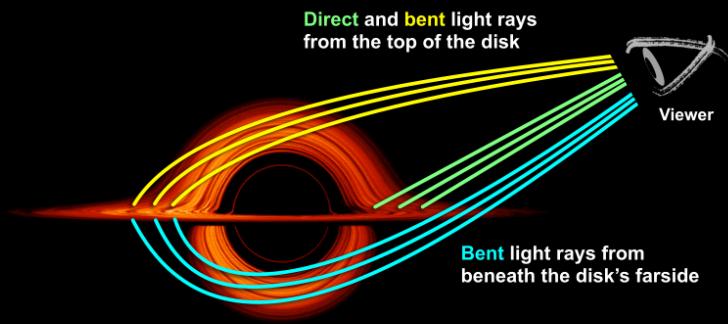


$$u = \frac{b}{R_{\text{Sch}}} \quad \text{impact parameter}$$

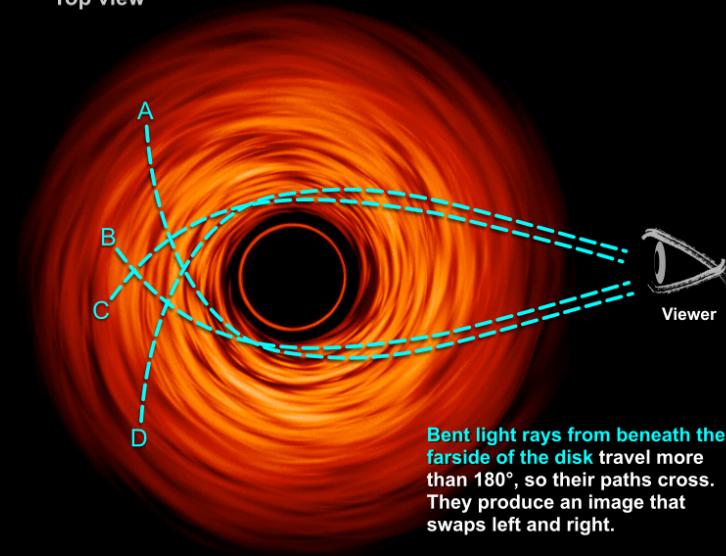
# STRONG FIELD GRAVITATIONAL LENSING

## A Warped Look at Black Hole Optics

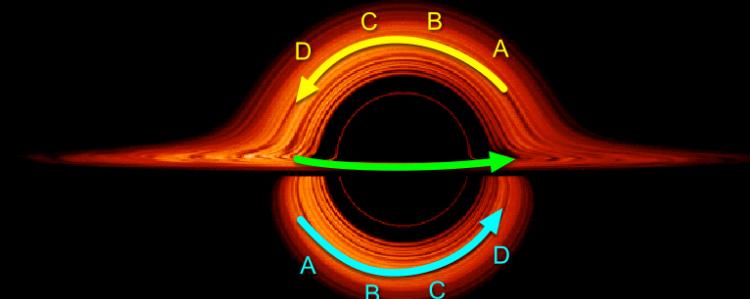
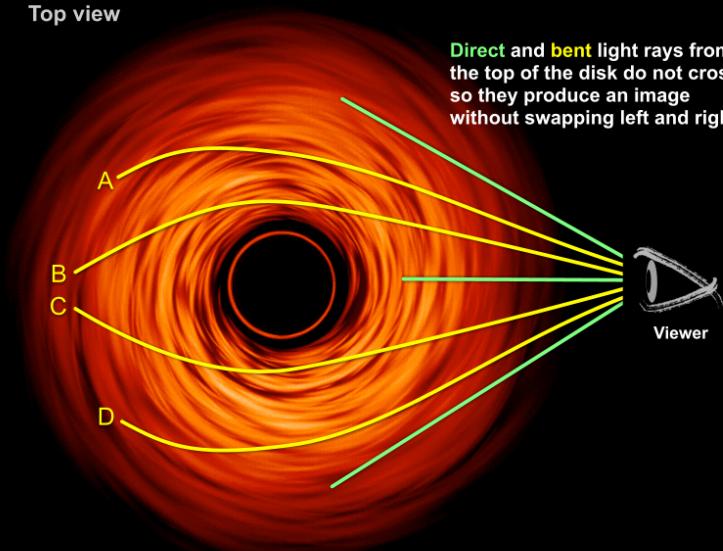
Side view



Top view



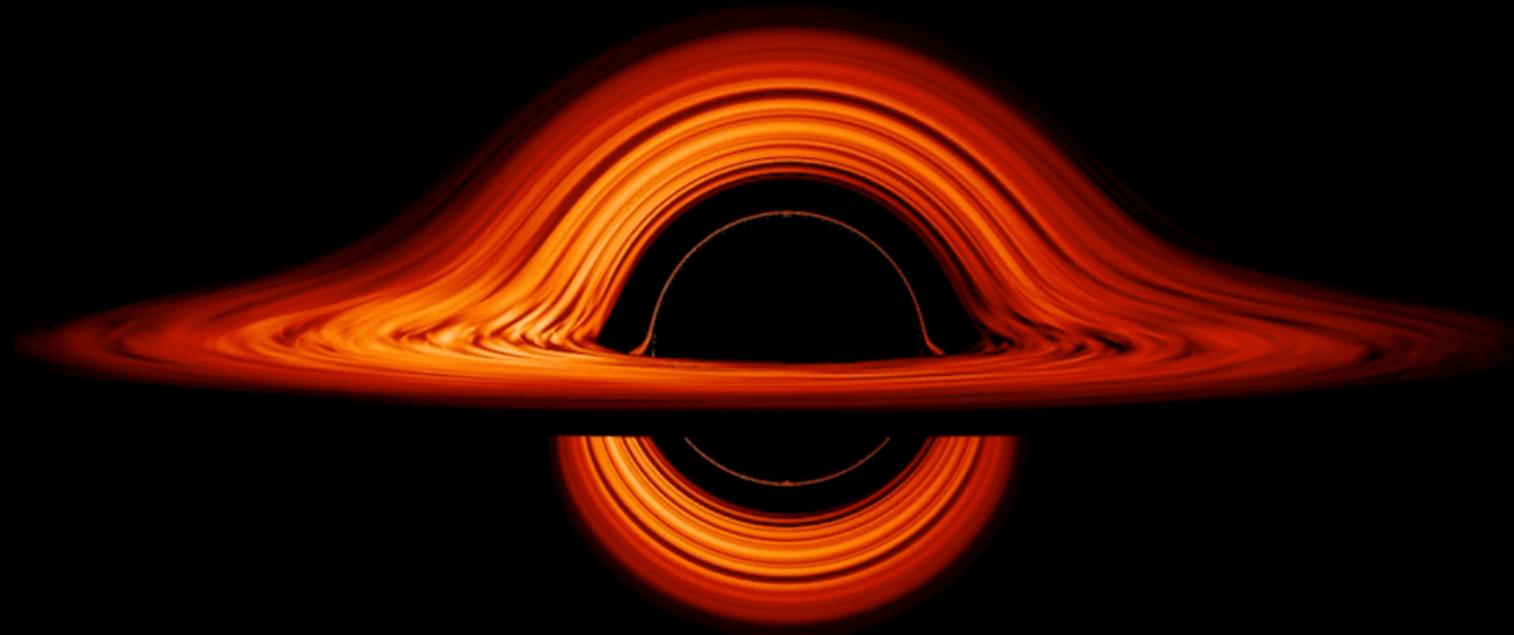
Top view



Apparent image and disk motion

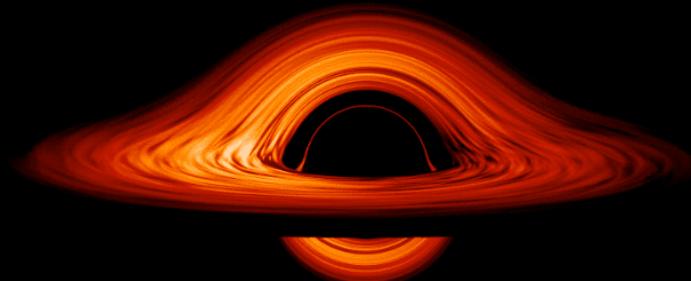
# STRONG FIELD GRAVITATIONAL LENSING

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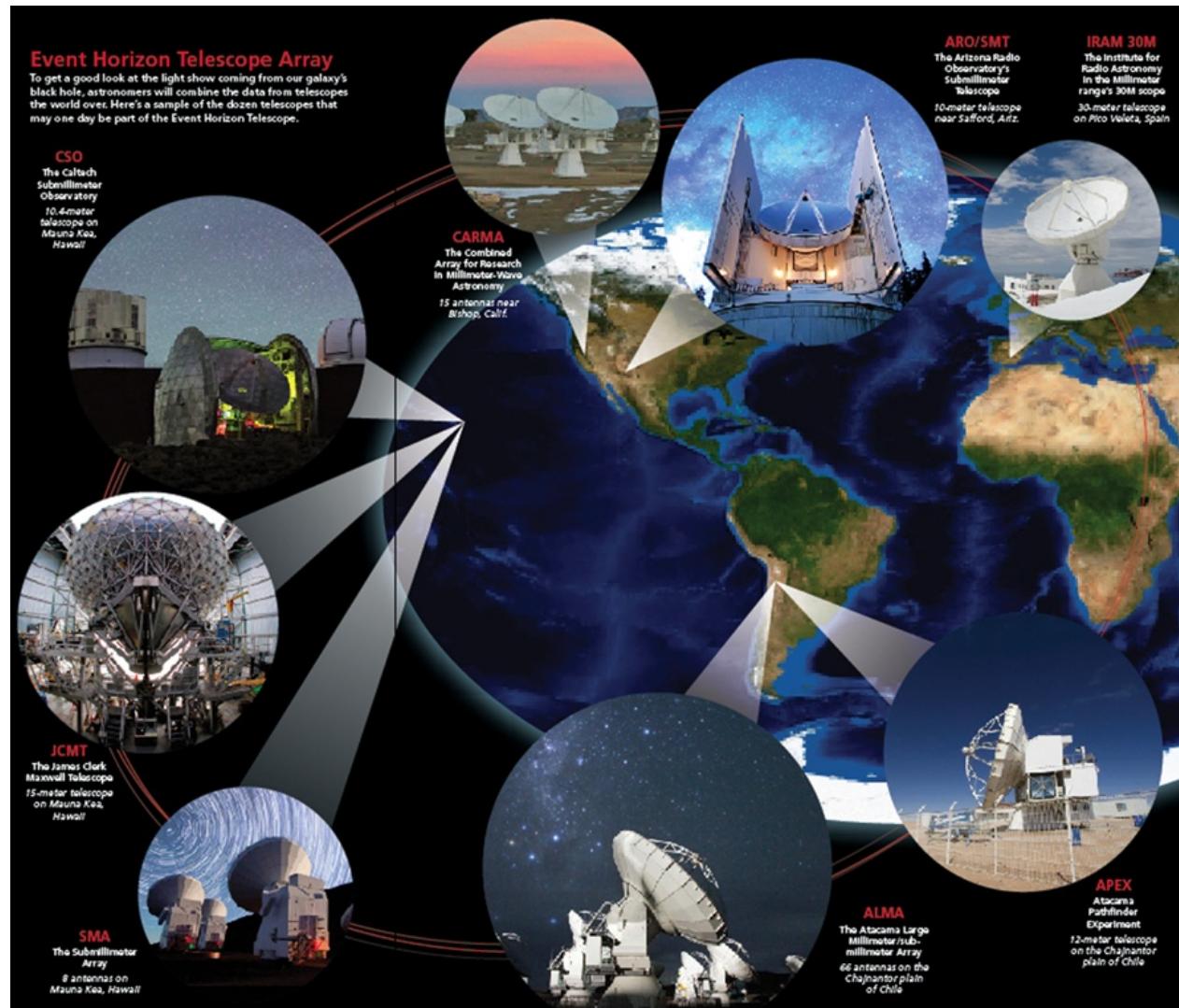


# STRONG FIELD GRAVITATIONAL LENSING

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## Event Horizon Telescope (EHT)

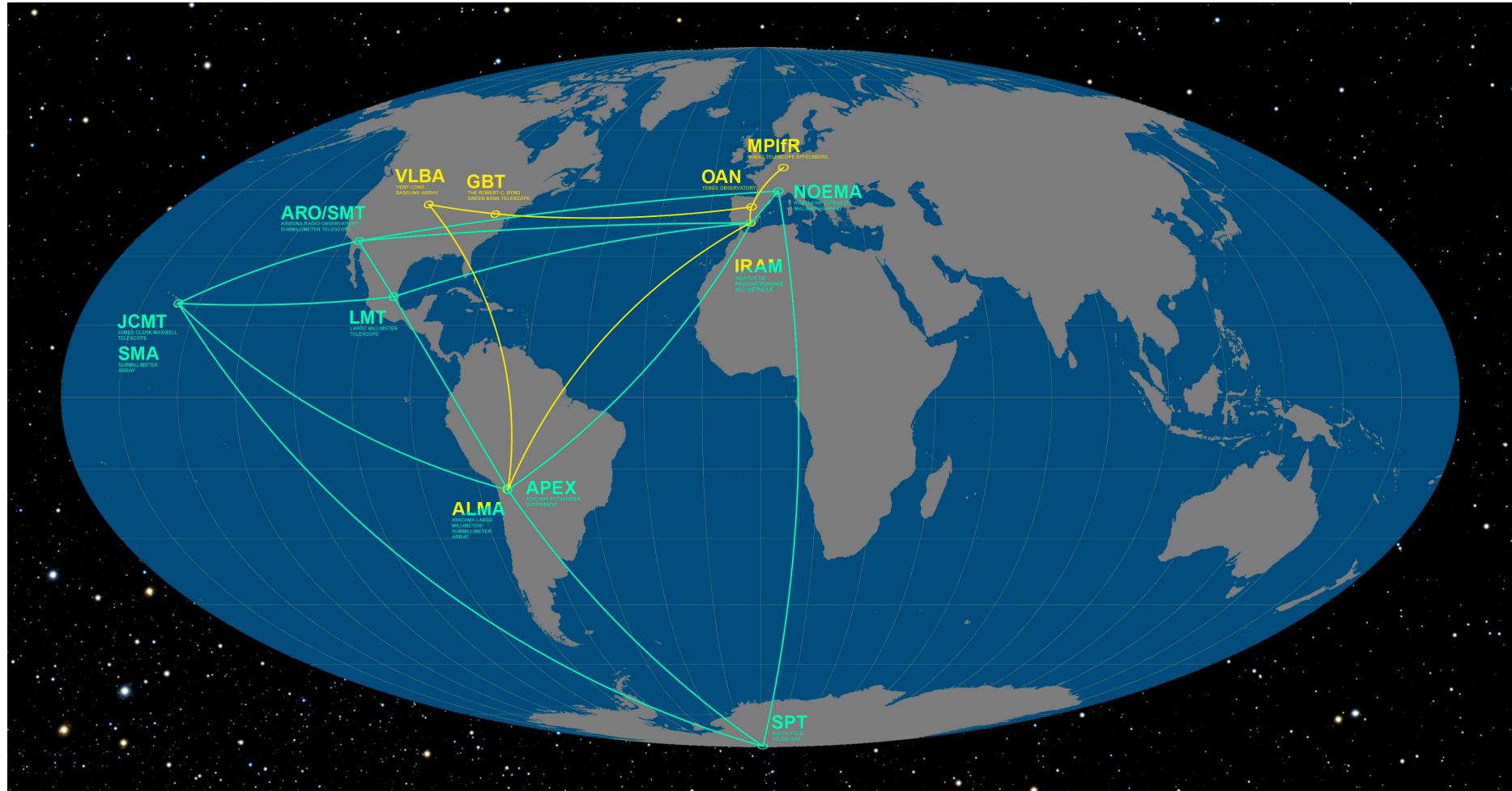
Collaboration between many observatories to make a **global radio interferometer array**.



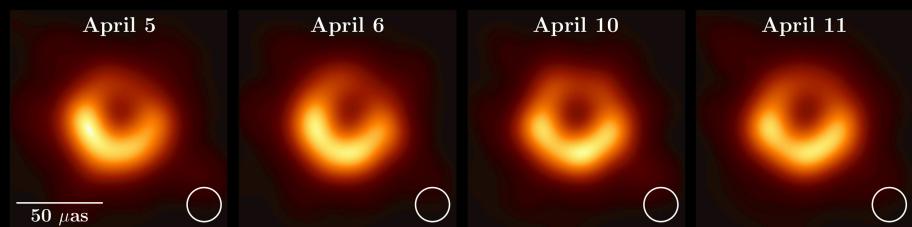
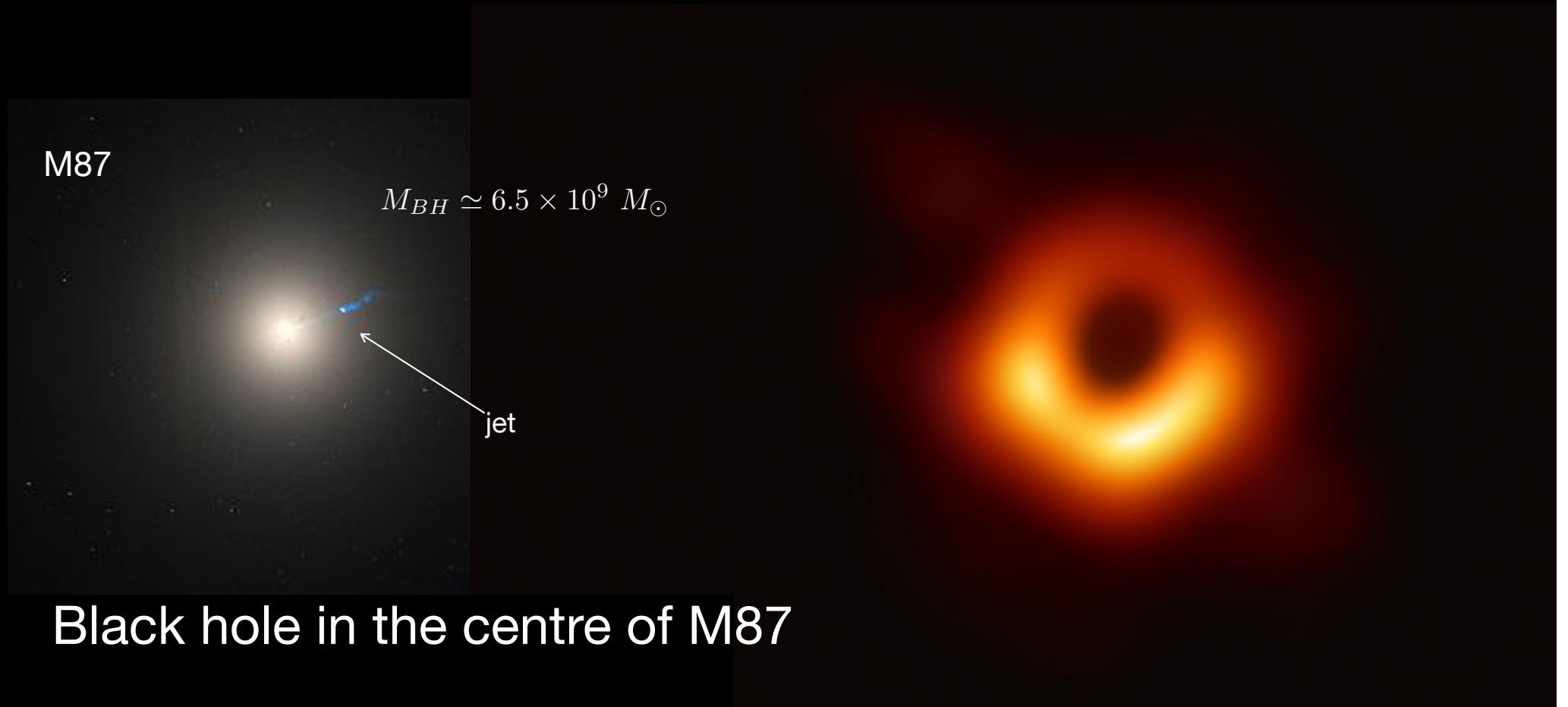
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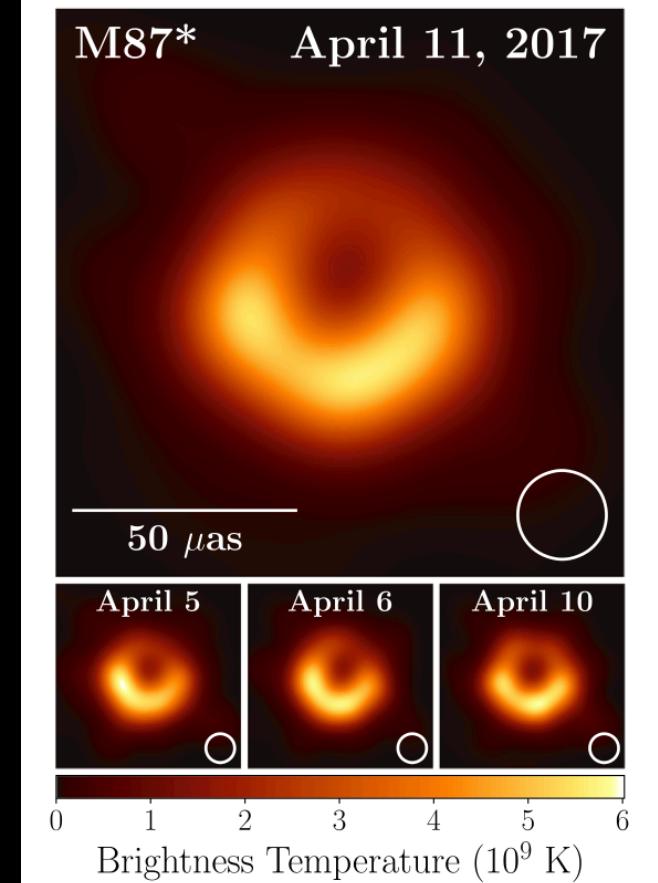
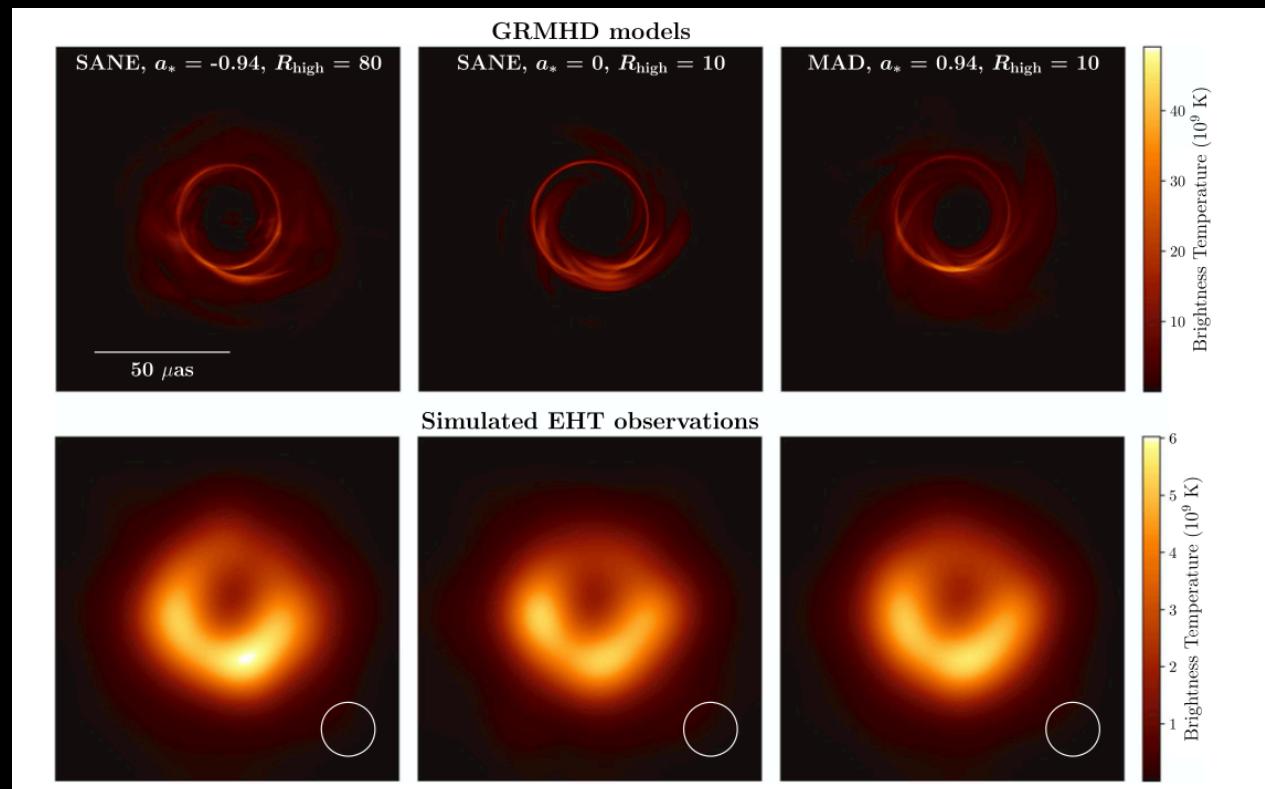


# Event Horizon Telescope



# Event Horizon Telescope

Black hole in the centre of M87



# FERMAT'S PRINCIPLE IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

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- 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