

# Orbits in Space and Time

## the strange effects of General Relativity

Claus Lämmerzahl



Center for Applied Space Technology and Microgravity (ZARM)  
University of Bremen

Astronomical Institute  
Tashkent, 7. March 2011



# The Bremen drop tower

## Space Science

- Fundamental Physics
- Key Technologies
- Control systems
- Space technology
- Micro satellites

## Fluid mechanics

- Fluid dynamics
- Energy and propulsion
- Computational fluid dynamics
- Experimental fluid mechanics



# Fundamental Physics at ZARM: Scope

## Scope of Fundamental Physics at ZARM

- **Development of new technologies**
  - for microgravity experiments (drop tower, ISS, satellite)
  - for applications in space
- Accompanying **theoretical investigations**
  - motivation for experiments and missions
  - theory for experiments and applications
- **High precision modeling**
  - experimental devices
  - whole spacecraft
  - whole missions
  - quantum modeling

23 members

3 Professors, 3 post-docs, 14 PhD students, 1 diploma student, 2 technicians

# Fundamental Physics at ZARM

Center of Applied Space Technology and Microgravity

Research areas



Center of Applied **Space Technology** and Microgravity

Research areas

- **Satellite dynamics**
  - modeling
  - disturbance forces
  - thermal and stress analysis
  - HPS (High Performance satellite dynamics Simulator)

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  - atom interferometry (exp & theory)
  - quantum tests (equivalence principle, decoherence, linearity, ...)
  - development of corresponding space technology

## Center of Applied Space Technology and Microgravity

### Research areas

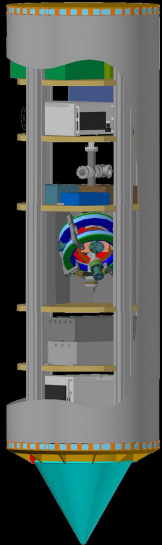
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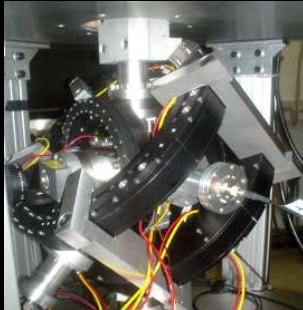
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- **Gravitational physics**
  - tests of Equivalence Principle
  - analytical and numerical solutions for orbits
  - application to space
  - quantum gravity phenomenology
  - theoretical description of experiments testing SR and GR

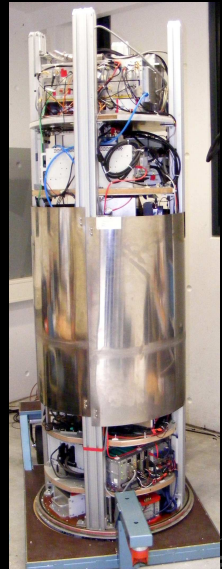
# BEC in microgravity



design of capsule



vacuum chamber



capsule

# First BEC in microgravity / extended free fall

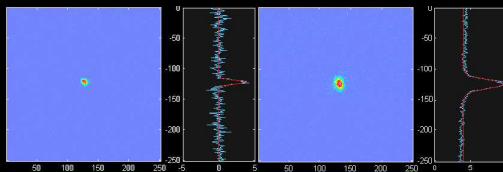


LU Hannover, ZARM, MPQ Munich, U Hamburg, HU Berlin, U Ulm



# BEC in microgravity – long free evolution

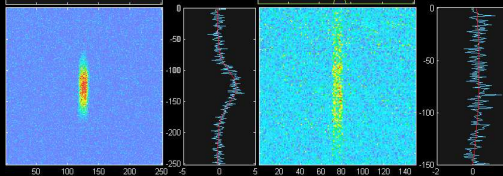
50 ms



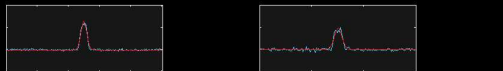
100 ms



500 ms



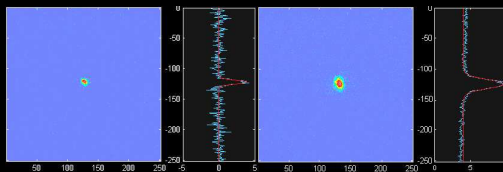
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$10^4$  atoms, 1 s free evolution time (not possible on ground)  
van Zoest et al, Science 2010

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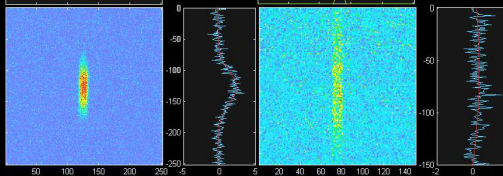
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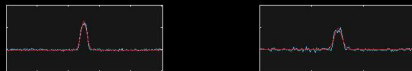
100 ms



500 ms



1000 ms



$10^4$  atoms, 1 s free evolution time (not possible on ground)  
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# BEC in free fall

- **Status**

- until now almost 200 drops
- BEC is created regularly
- extremely robust (survives  $\sim 50 g$ )

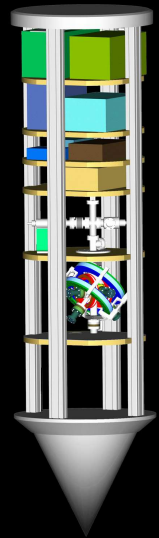
Worldwide **most advanced technology** towards space application and fundamental quantum physics in  $\mu g$

- **Ongoing work**

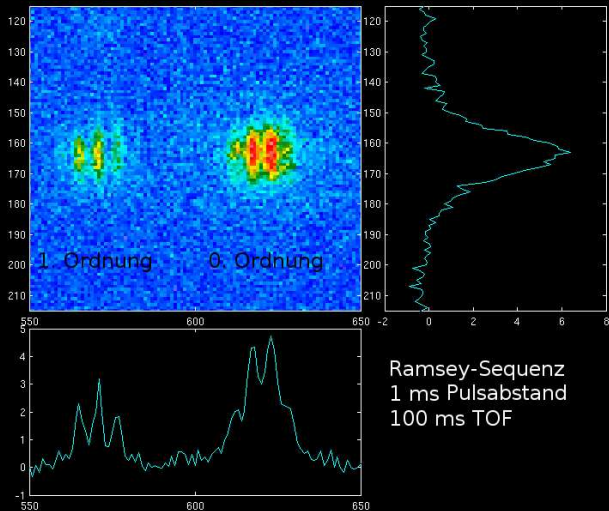
- PRIMUS (PRäzisions-Interferometrie mit Materiewellen Unter Schwerelosigkeit)
- FOKUS (FaserOptischer FrequenzKamm Unter Schwerelosigkeit)
- ATUS (Atom Interferometer Modeling)
- Fluctuations in Quantum Systems

- **In future**

- Fundamental Physics experiments
- Drop tower — Texus — ISS
- Inertial sensors
- High precision clocks



# Interference in free fall



## 1 Historical remarks

# Outline

- 1 Historical remarks
- 2 Newtonian orbits
  - The Kepler problem
  - The influence of the expanding universe
  - Geodesy
  - A mystery

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# Egypt



# Egypt





# Mexico



# Mexico





# Samarqand



# Samarqand



Ulugh Beg, 1394 — 1449

# Samarqand



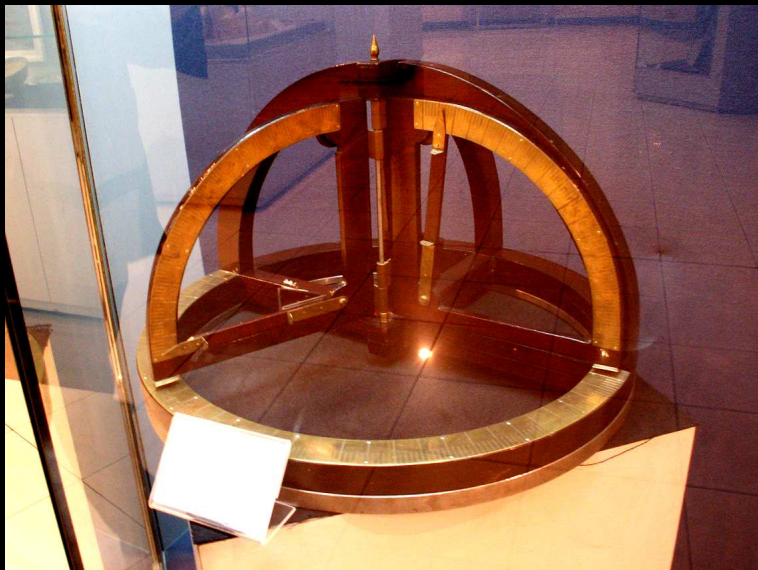
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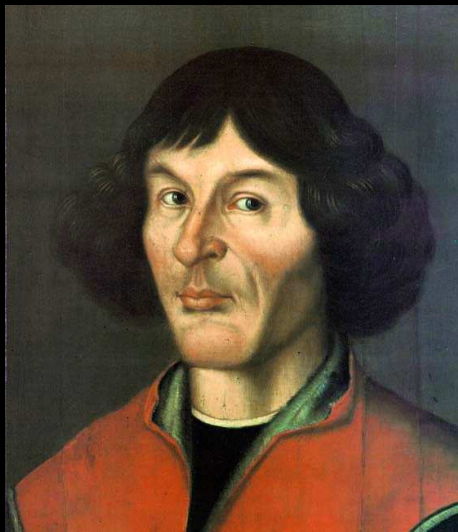
# Samarqand



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heliocentric model

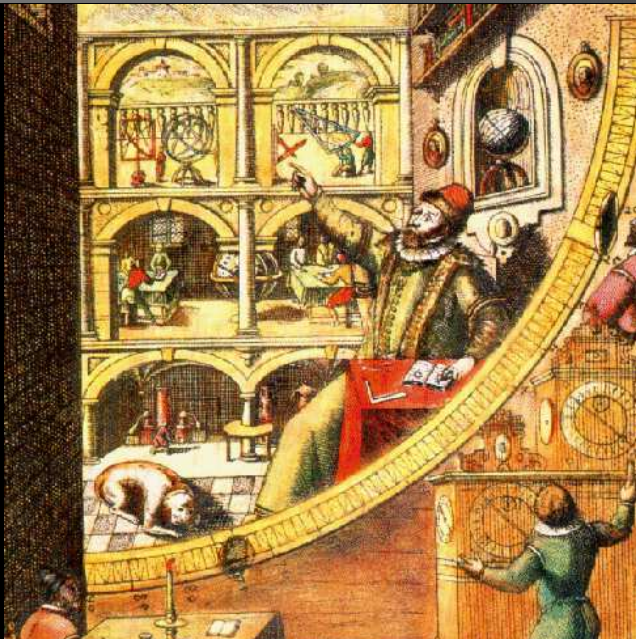
Nikolaus Kopernikus, 1473 — 1543



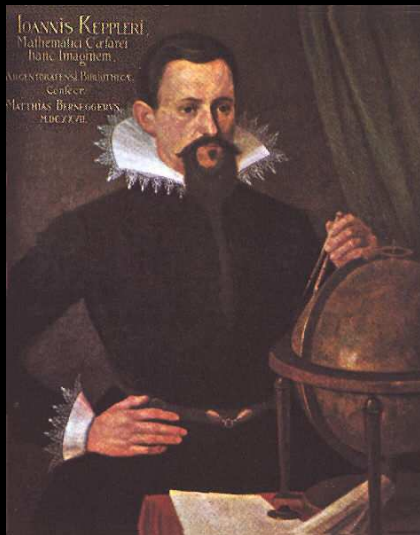
## Precise Observations

Tycho Brahe, 1546 — 1601

# Prague



# Prague



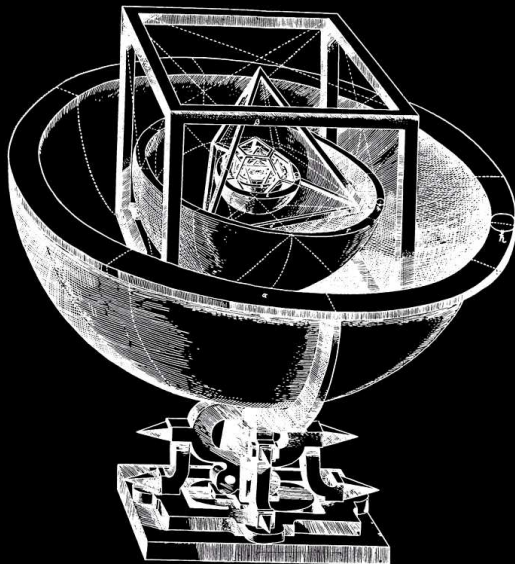
Johannes Kepler, 1571 — 1630

## Kepler's laws

- 1. law (1609): the planets move on ellipses
- 2. law (1609): the planetary orbit covers the same area in equal time spans
- 3. law (1619):

$$\left(\frac{T_1}{T_2}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{a_1}{a_2}\right)^3$$

# Prague



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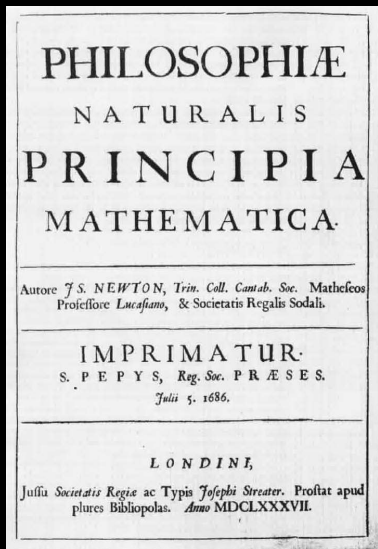
# Newton



Isaac Newton  
1758 — 1840



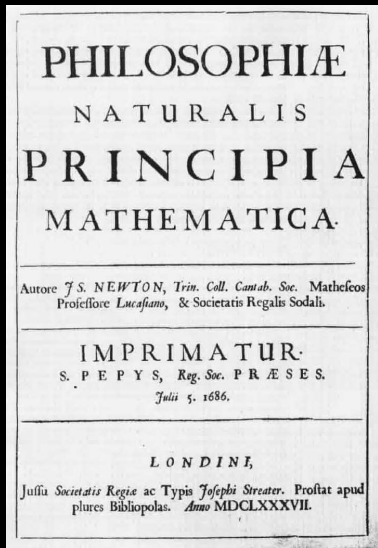
## Newton



## Newton axiom

$$m\ddot{\mathbf{r}} = \mathbf{F}$$

## Newton



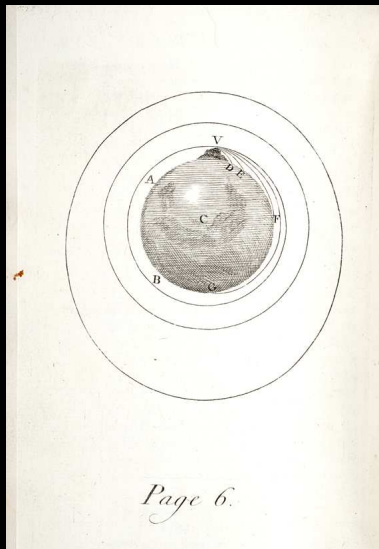
Newton axiom

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Newton's gravitational field (sphere)

$$\mathbf{F} = -m \frac{GM}{r^2}$$

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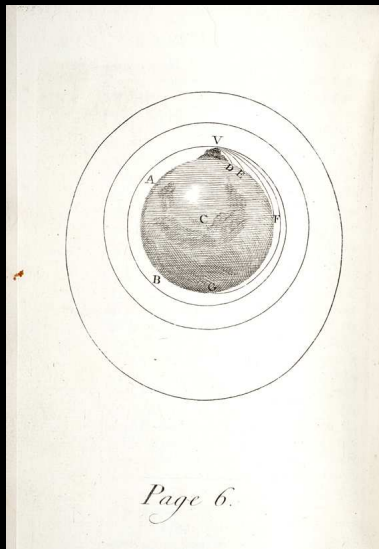
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equation of motion

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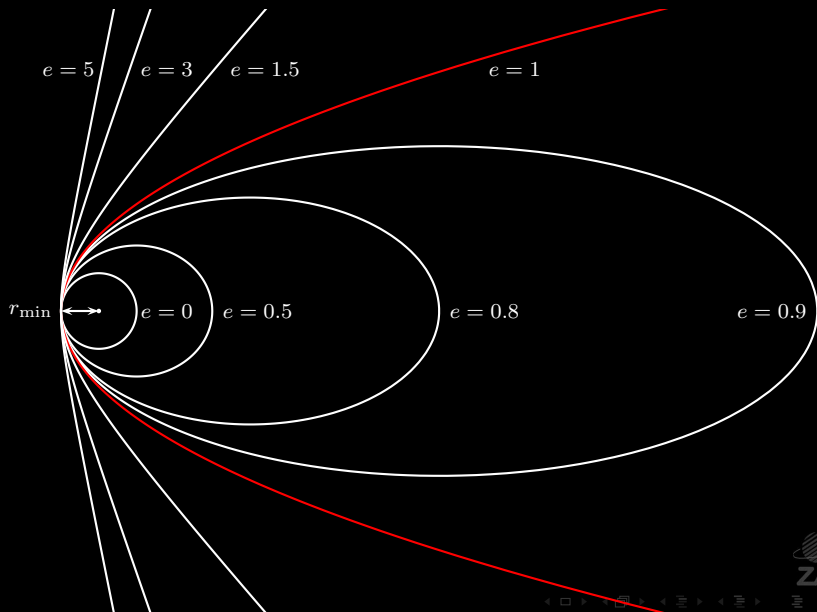
$$\ddot{\mathbf{r}} = -\frac{GM}{r^2}$$

solution

$$r(\varphi) = \frac{r_0}{1 - e \sin(\varphi - \varphi_0)}$$

$$t(\varphi) = \mathcal{M}(\varphi - \sin \varphi)$$

# Keplerian orbits



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# Orbits in the expanding universe

1826: The Olbers paradox

Assumption:

- infinite universe
- homogeneity and isotropy
- static universe

Frage:

Why is the sky at night black?

Olbers paradoxon – birth of modern cosmology

- The universe has a beginning
- The universe expands
- expanding wave length
- also: finite lifetime of stars



Heinrich Wilhelm Olbers  
1758 — 1840

# Newtonian gravity with cosmological constant

cosmological force

$$\mathbf{F}_{\text{cosm}} = \Lambda r$$

positive cosmological constant  $\Lambda$   
gives additional repulsive force

$$\ddot{r} = -\frac{GM}{r^2} + \frac{1}{3}\Lambda r$$

and slightly different orbits

- circles are slightly larger
- ellipses are slightly stretched
- hyperbolas are slightly deformed

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# Geodesy: The shape of the Earth

## Facts from Bessel's life

- worked as clerk in Bremen
- was interested in navigation and astronomy
- met Olbers who supported Bessel
- cooperation with Lilienthal astronomical observatory
- met Gauß

## Bessel's scientific work

- Calculation of orbits and their disturbances
- Geodesy
  - First correct determination of flattening of Earth
  - Definition of Bessel ellipsoid
- Test of the Equivalence Principle



Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel  
1784 — 1846

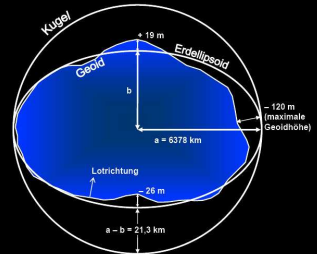
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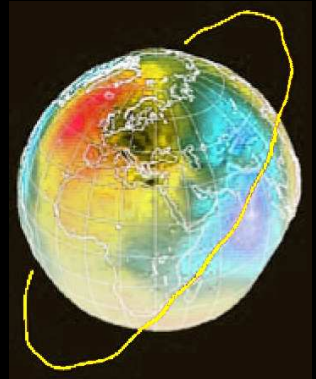
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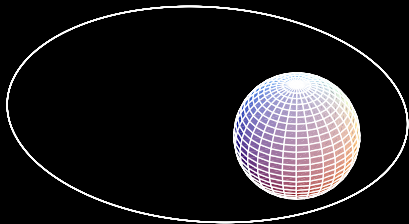
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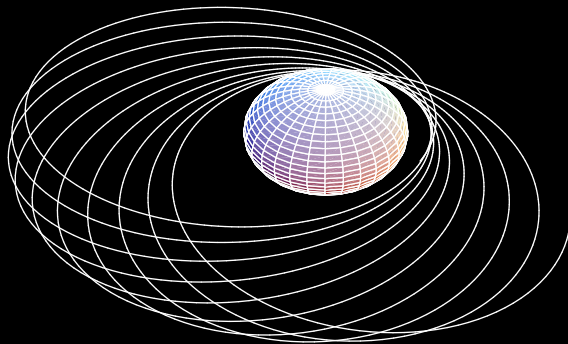


# Orbits for spherical Earth or Sun



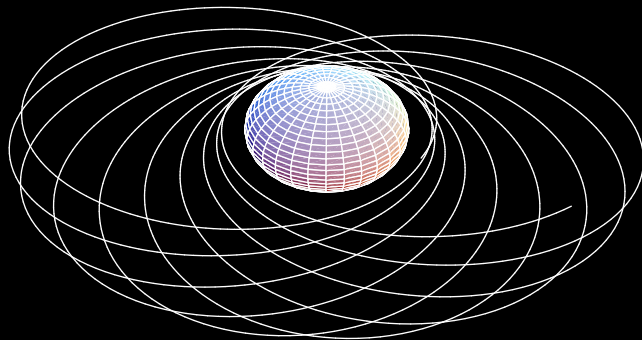
For Sphere: Ellipse or another Keplerian orbit

# Orbit for flattened Earth or Sun



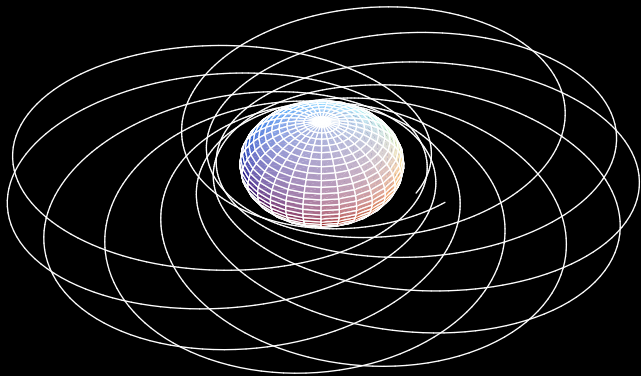
For flattened (oblate) Sun there is more mass near the equator and, thus, near Mercury → more deflection of orbit near the Sun

# Orbits in the Solar system



The other planets drag Mercury outwards → Mercury stays a bit longer in the aphel position

# Observed orbits



... and the really observed orbits show an even larger perihelion shift ...

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# Die Größe der Periheldrehung

## Scientific merits:

- Calculation of orbits of Neptun from disturbances of other orbits
- Invention of weather maps

1859 observation of an anomalous perihelion shift of Mercury:

- Observational error?
- Dark matter: Planet X?
- Other multipole moments of Sun?
- Different influence of the other planets?
- Wrong theory of gravity?



Urbain Jean Joseph Le Verrier  
1711 — 1877

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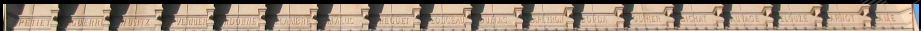
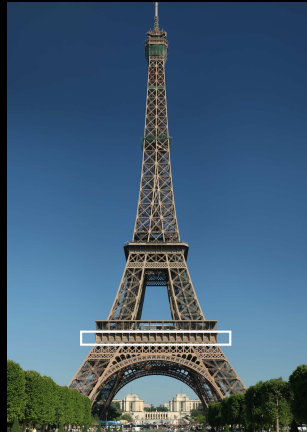
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# Perihelion shift



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## Einsteinsche Feldgleichungen



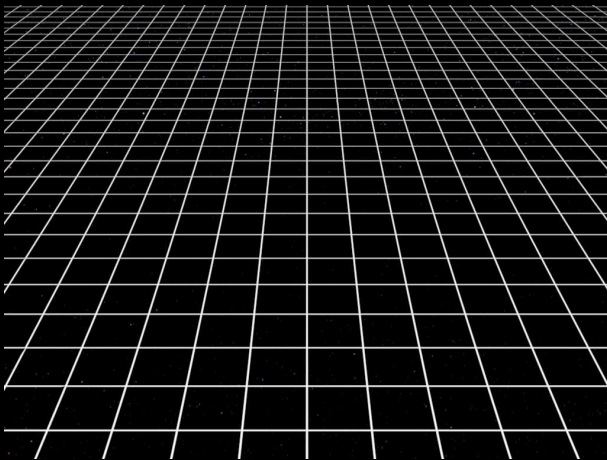
## Einstein's field equations



# Space-time without gravitation

The metric of flat Minkowski space-time

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2$$

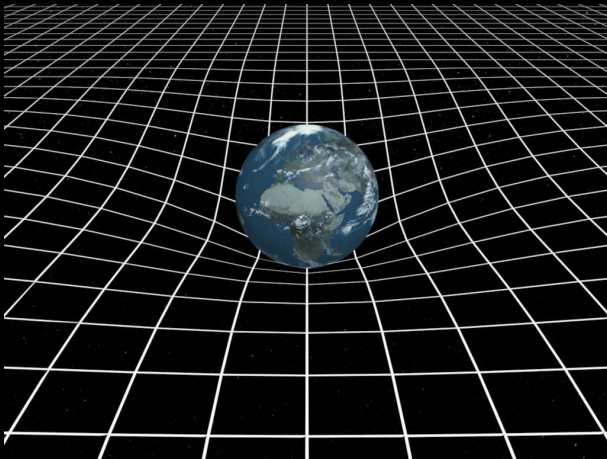


No matter in the universe: flat space-time

# Space-time with gravitation

Metric of curved space-time

$$ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu$$

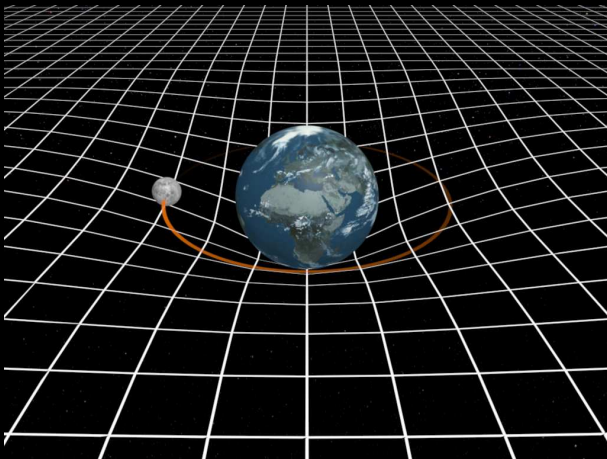


Matter determines the geometry of space and time

# Motion in curved space-time

Motion of particles in curved space-time

$$0 = \frac{d^2 x^\mu}{ds^2} + \left\{ \begin{matrix} \mu \\ \rho\sigma \end{matrix} \right\} \frac{dx^\rho}{ds} \frac{dx^\sigma}{ds}$$



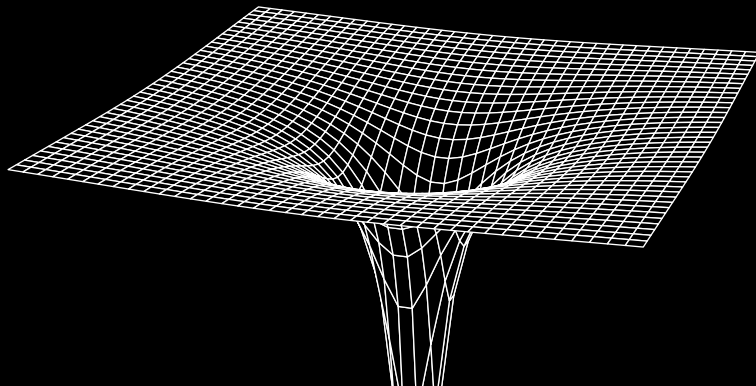
The geometry of space and time governs the motion of bodies

# Strongly curved space-time

Extrapolation: strongly curved space-time: The geometry of a black hole

- Metric of curved space-time

$$ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu$$

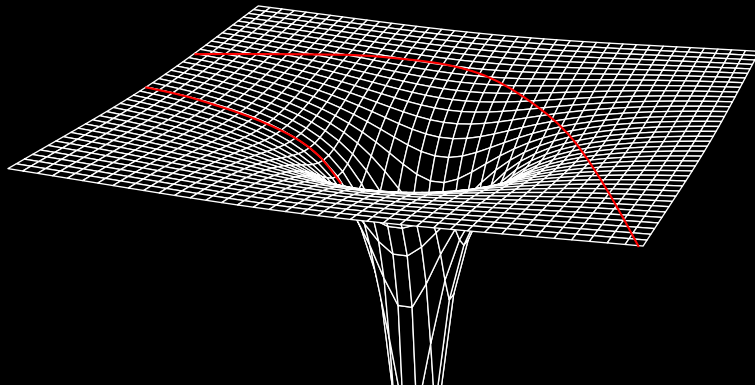


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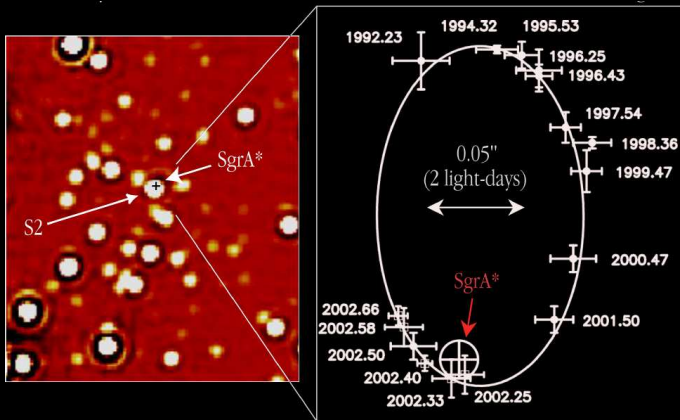
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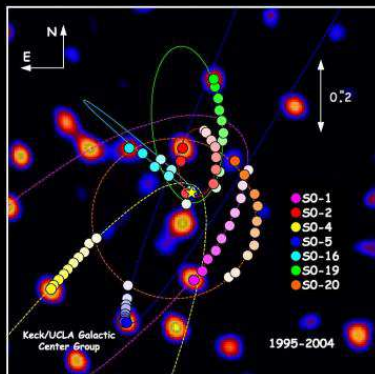
$$ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu$$



# The Black Hole in the center of our Milky Way



# The Black Hole in the center of our Milky Way



**Black Hole:** Mass  $4 \cdot 10^6 M_{\odot}$ , angular velocity  $\sim 1/17$  min

Only through the observation of **orbits** of stars one can investigate the Black Hole

# General Relativity

## Einstein's field equation

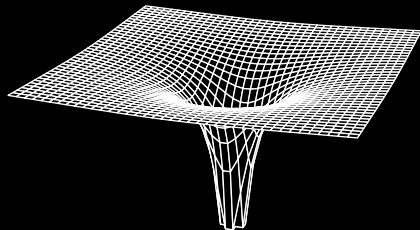
$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}Rg_{\mu\nu} = \kappa T_{\mu\nu}$$

- Nonlinear system of partial differential equation for  $g_{\mu\nu}$
- Known solutions:
  - Schwarzschild, Schwarzschild–de Sitter
  - Reissner–Nordström, Reissner–Nordström–de Sitter
  - Kerr
  - Kerr–Newman, Kerr–Newman–de Sitter
  - Taub–NUT
  - Plebański–Demiański
  - Staubscheibe
  - Solutions with strings

## Gravitation

= Deformation of space–time

≡ Deformation of elastic bodies



# General Relativity

## Einstein's field equation

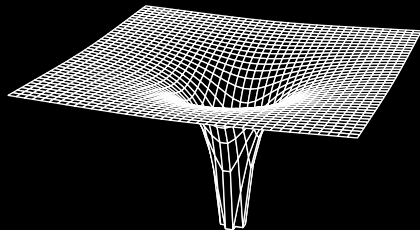
$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}Rg_{\mu\nu} + \Lambda g_{\mu\nu} = \kappa T_{\mu\nu}$$

- Nonlinear system of partial differential equation for  $g_{\mu\nu}$
- Known solutions:
  - Schwarzschild,
  - Schwarzschild–de Sitter
  - Reissner–Nordström,
  - Reissner–Nordström–de Sitter
  - Kerr
  - Kerr–Newman,
  - Kerr–Newman–de Sitter
  - Taub–NUT
  - Plebański–Demiański
  - Staubscheibe
  - Solutions with strings

## Gravitation

= Deformation of space–time

≡ Deformation of elastic bodies



# Not only esoteric theory: Applications

## Scientific applications

- High precision tests of General Relativity
  - Perihelion shift
  - Red shift
  - gravitational time delay
  - Light deflection, flybys of satellites
  - Gravitomagnetism, Lense–Thirring–effect (LAGEOS)
- Binary systems (astrophysics)
- Satellite dynamics (flyby–anomaly, Pioneer–anomaly)
- Gravitational waves

## Practical Applications

- Clocks in space (ACES, OPTIS, SPACETIME, EGE, SAGAS)
- Precise navigation and positioning (GPS, Galileo)
- Geophysics (measuring the gravitational field, tectonics, continental drift, climate research, ocean warming, ...)
- Definition of international atomic time TAI
- Definition of reference systems (for astrophysics, satellite dynamics, ...)



# Outline

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# The horizon – Schwarzschild–radius

- Escape velocity from surface of Earth

kinetic energy = potential energy

$$\frac{1}{2}mv^2 = m\frac{GM}{r}$$

$r$  smaller  $\rightarrow v$  larger

- escape velocity

$$v_{\text{escape}} = \sqrt{\frac{2GM}{r}}$$

For Earth approx. 11,2 km/s.



# The horizon – Schwarzschild–radius

- Escape velocity from surface of Earth

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$r$  smaller  $\rightarrow v$  larger

- escape velocity

$$v_{\text{escape}} = \sqrt{\frac{2GM}{r}}$$

For Earth approx. 11,2 km/s.

For Hayabusa approx. 2 cm/s.



# The horizon – Schwarzschild–radius

- maximal velocity = velocity of light  $c \leftrightarrow$  smallest  $r$
- gilt bei

$$\frac{1}{2}mc^2 = m \frac{GM}{r_{\min}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad r_{\min} = r_S = \frac{2GM}{c^2}$$

- therefore there is a smallest distance for leaving the region of gravitational influence of a mass  $M$
- for smaller  $r$  there is no escape

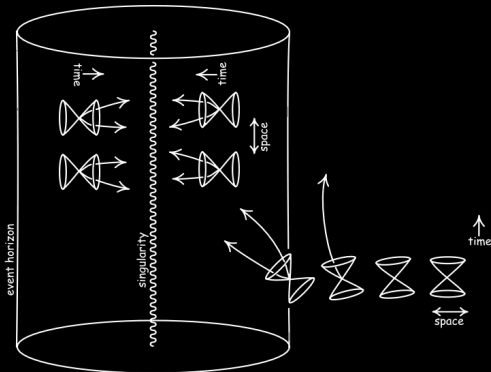
there is a horizon  $\leftrightarrow$  Black Hole

- it is possible to enter the hole but not to leave it: **semitransparent membrane**
- $M$  within a sphere of radius  $R_S$  gives minimal density  $\rho = \frac{3c^2}{8\pi G} \frac{1}{R_S^2}$   
the larger a Black Hole is, the smaller is its matter density

# Schwarzschild space-time

Metric (Schwarzschild 1916)

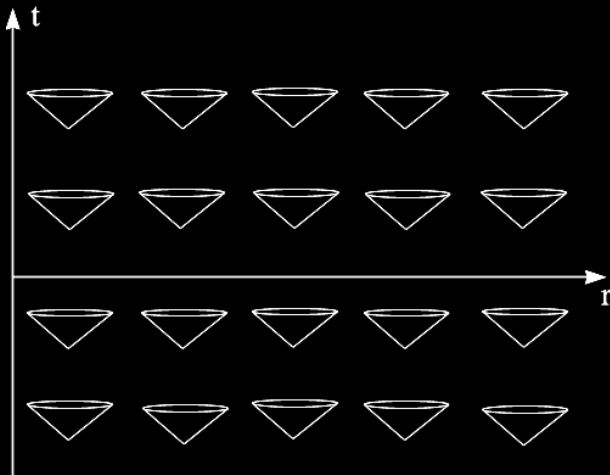
$$ds^2 = \left(1 - \frac{R_S}{r}\right) dt^2 - \frac{1}{1 - \frac{R_S}{r}} dr^2 - r^2 d\vartheta^2 - r^2 \sin^2 \vartheta d\varphi^2$$



Karl Schwarzschild  
1873 — 1916

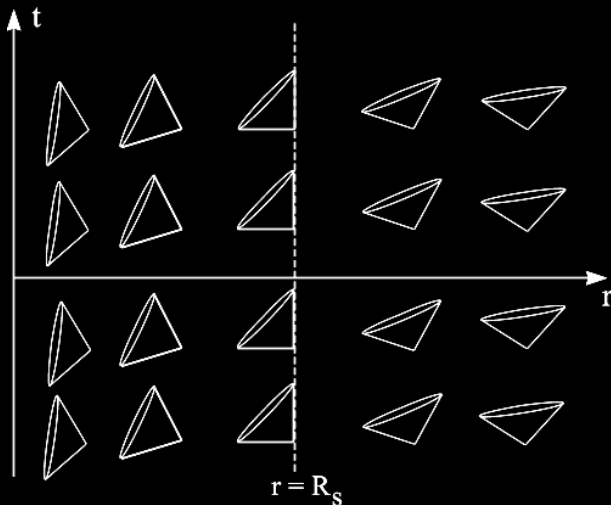


# Schwarzschild space-time: Light cones



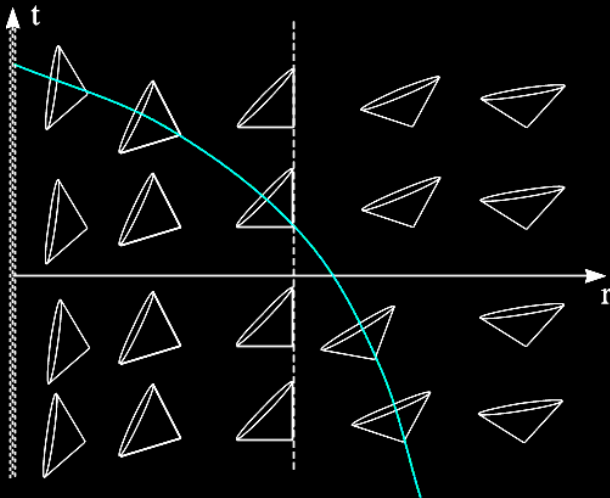
Light cones in Minkowski space-time

## Schwarzschild space-time: Light cones



Light cones in Schwarzschild space-time

## Schwarzschild space-time: Light cones



Orbit of massive particle in Schwarzschild space-time

# Orbits around a Schwarzschild Black Hole

Old equation of motion

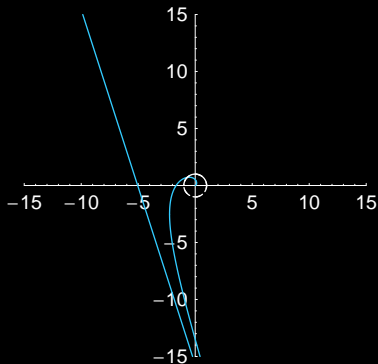
$$\ddot{r} = -\frac{M}{r^2} + \frac{L^2}{r^3}$$

New equation of motion

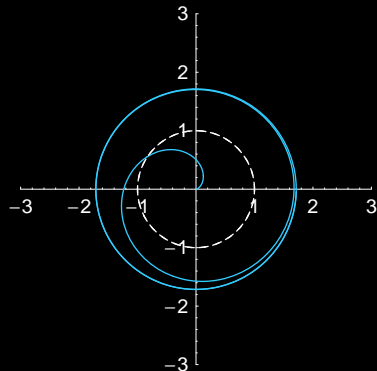
$$\ddot{r} = -\frac{M}{r^2} + \frac{L^2}{r^3} - 3\frac{ML^2}{r^4}$$

Gives 26 types of orbits (Newton: 4 types of orbits)

## Orbits around a Schwarzschild Black Hole

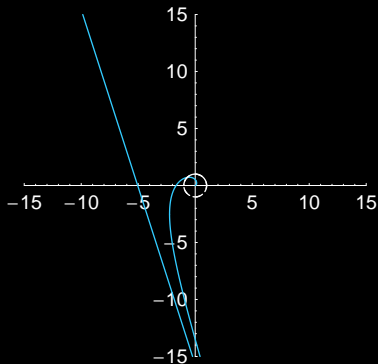


terminating orbit

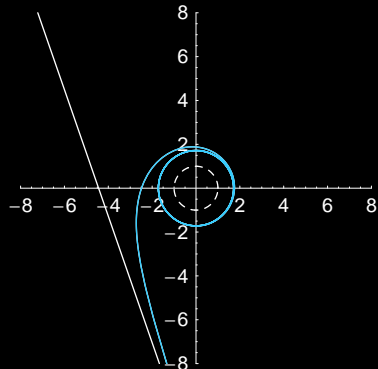


hyperbolic spirals

# Orbits around a Schwarzschild Black Hole

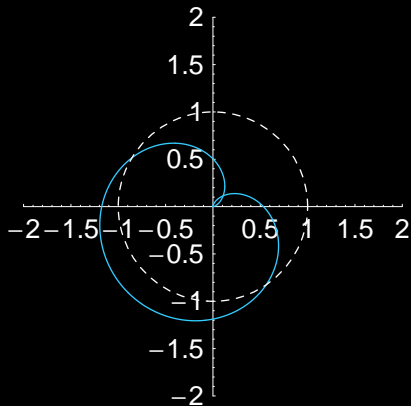


terminating orbit

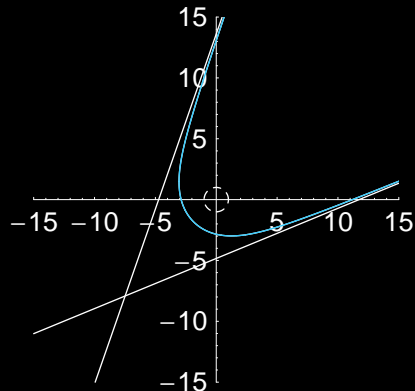


hyperbolic spirals

## Orbits around a Schwarzschild Black Hole

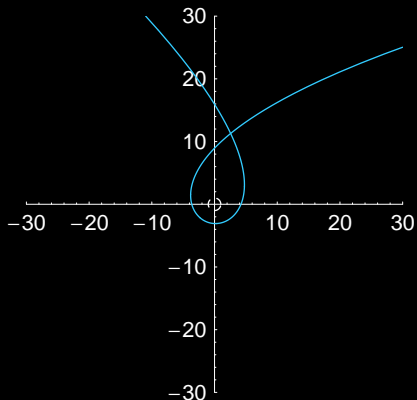


pseudo-hyperbolic

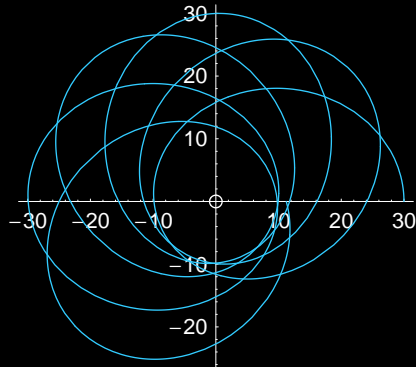


quasi hyperbolic

# Orbits around a Schwarzschild Black Hole

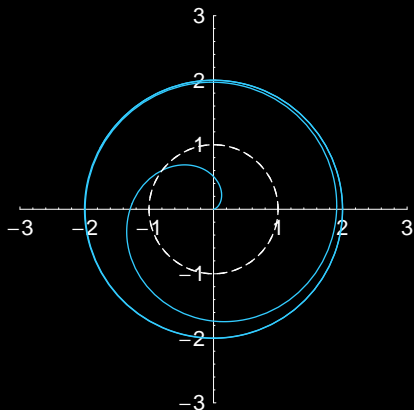


quasi parabolic

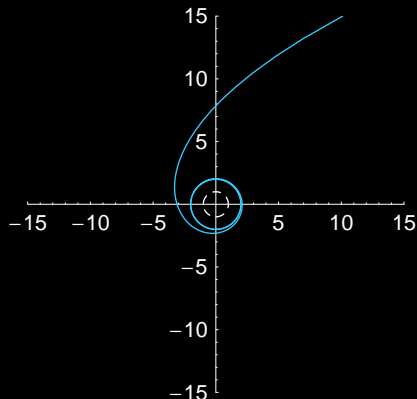


quasi-elliptic: Perihelion shift

# Orbits around a Schwarzschild Black Hole

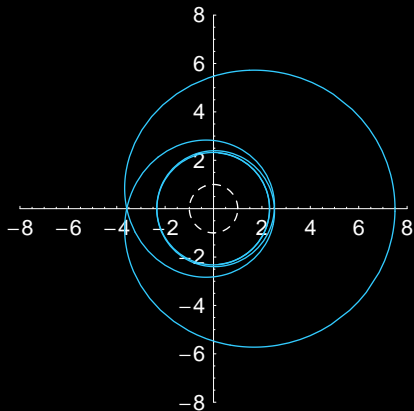


finite parabolic spiral

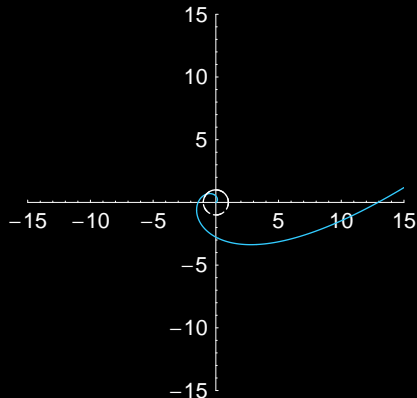


infinite parabolic spiral

## Orbits around a Schwarzschild Black Hole

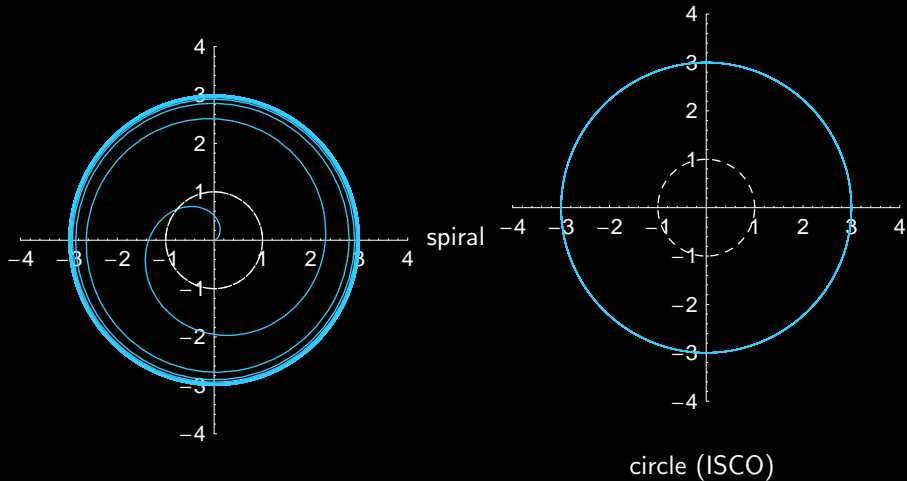


double spiral (Poincaré)

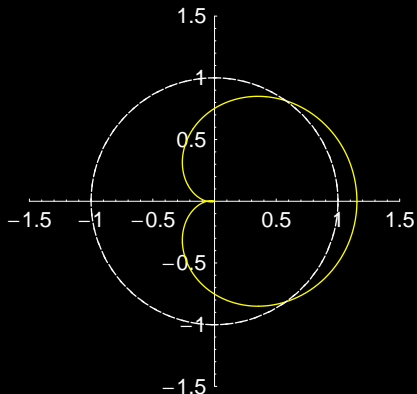


pseudo-parabolic

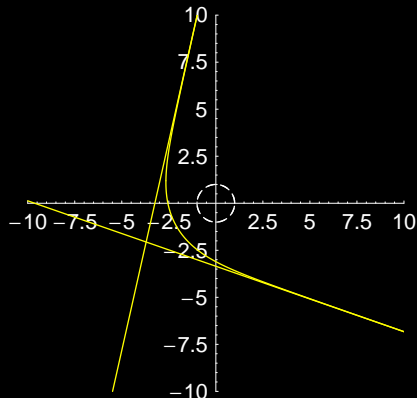
## Orbits around a Schwarzschild Black Hole



# Orbits of light around a Schwarzschild Black Hole

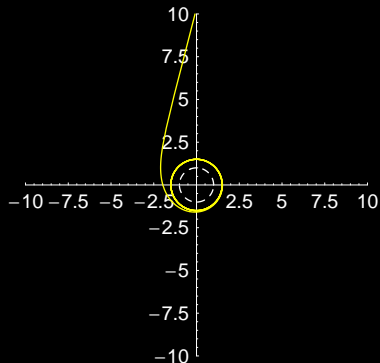
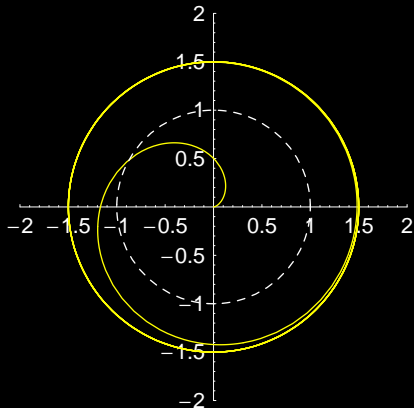


pseudo-hyperbolic



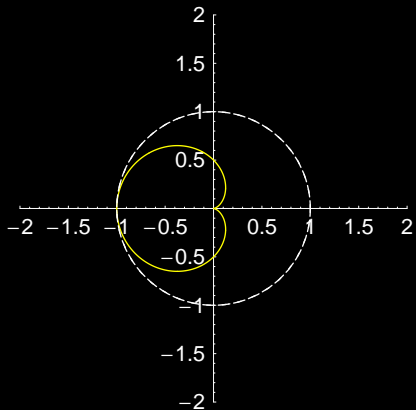
quasi-hyperbolic

# Orbits of light around a Schwarzschild Black Hole

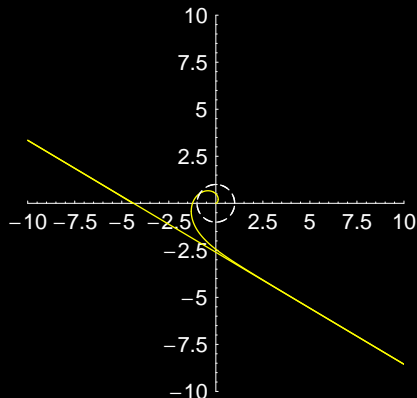


finite pseudo-hyperbolic spiral — infinite quasi-hyperbolic spiral — ISCO

## Orbits of light around a Schwarzschild Black Hole

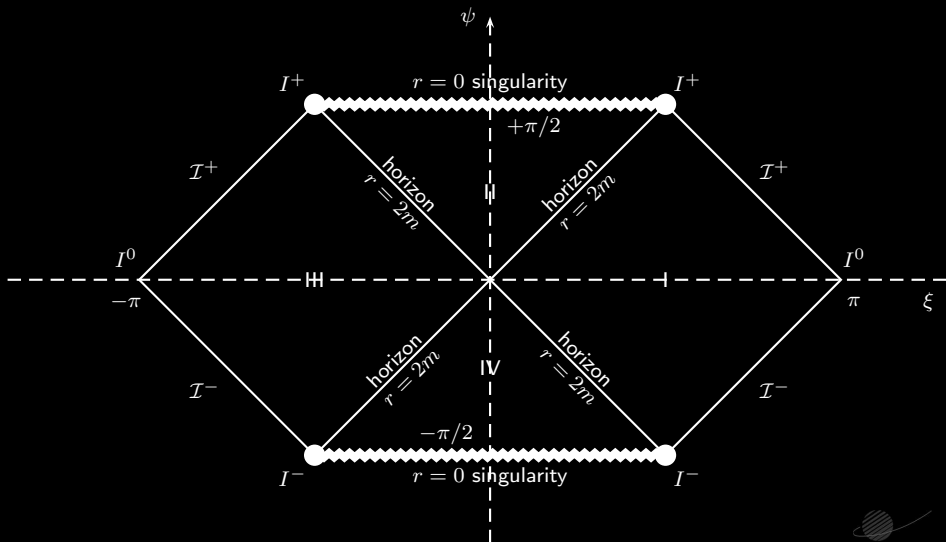


spiral



pseudo-hyperbolic

## Schwarzschild space-time

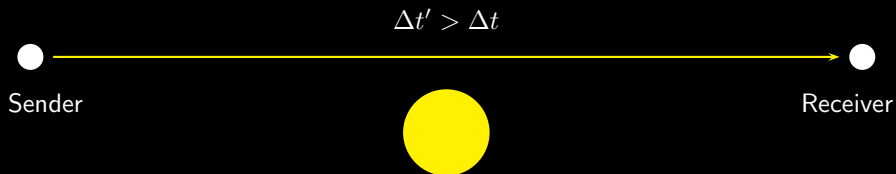


Schwarzschild space-time in Carter-Penrose diagram

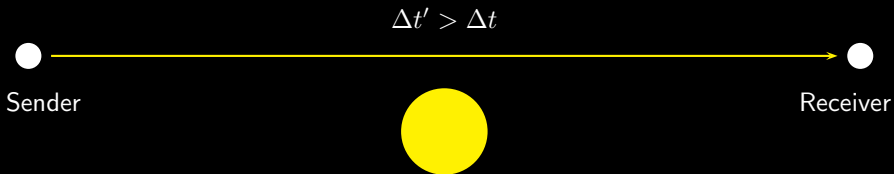
# Gravitational time delay



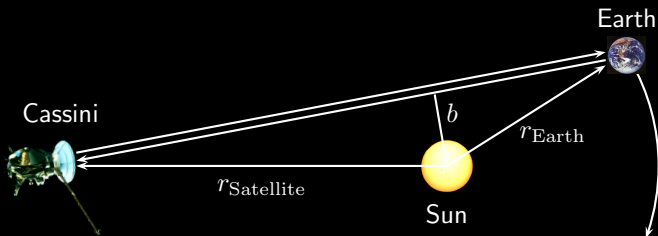
# Gravitational time delay



# Gravitational time delay



## Cassini-Experiment



# Gravitational redshift



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# Orbits around charged Black Holes

Reissner–Nordström space–time

$$ds^2 = \left(1 - \frac{M}{r} + \frac{q^2}{r^2}\right) dt^2 - \frac{1}{1 - \frac{M}{r} + \frac{q^2}{r^2}} dr^2 - r^2 d\vartheta - r^2 \sin^2 \vartheta d\varphi^2$$

Old equation of motion

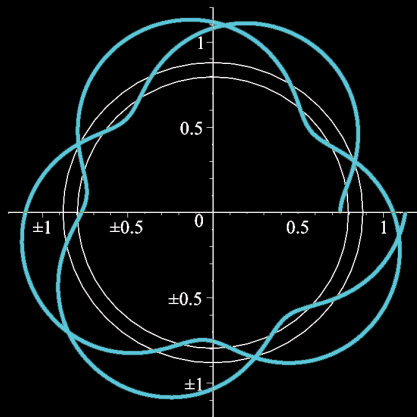
$$\ddot{r} = -\frac{M}{r^2} + \frac{L^2}{r^3}$$

$$\ddot{r} = -\frac{M}{r^2} + \frac{L^2}{r^3} - 3\frac{ML^2}{r^4}$$

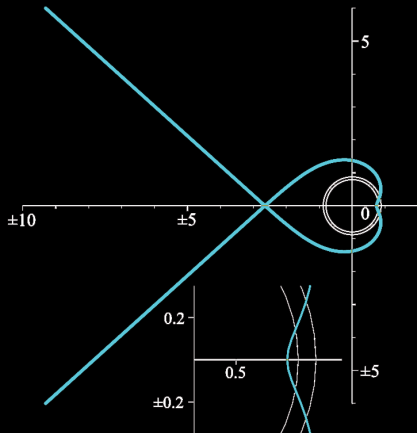
New equation of motion

$$\ddot{r} = -\frac{M}{r^2} + \frac{L^2}{r^3} - 3\frac{ML^2}{r^4} + \frac{q^2}{r^3} + 2\frac{q^2 L^2}{r^5}$$

# Orbits around charged Black Holes

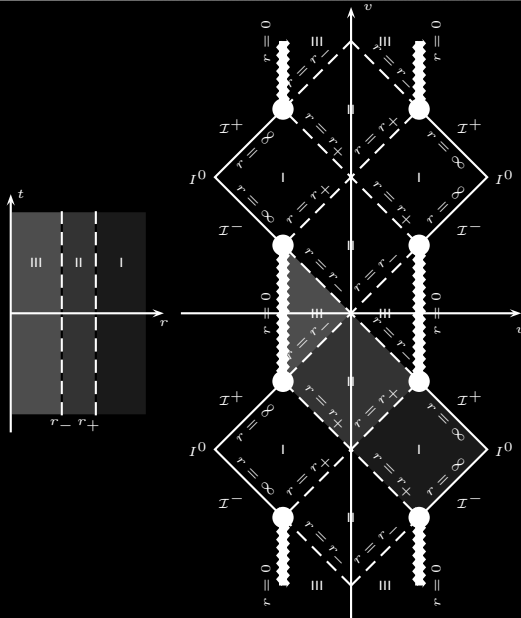


Periodic transition into an infinite series of new universes



Escape orbit: Escape into a different universe

## Reissner-Nordström space-time



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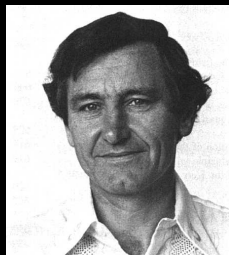
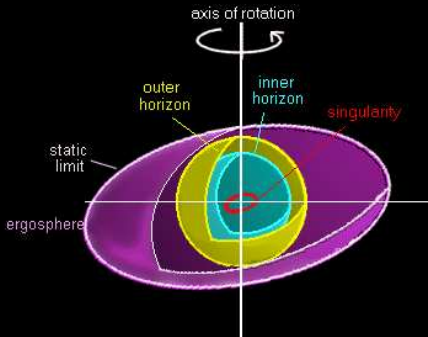
# Rotating Black Holes

## Kerr space-time

$$ds^2 = -\frac{\Delta}{\rho^2} (dt - a \sin^2 \theta d\phi)^2 + \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\rho^2} (adt - \rho_0^2 d\phi)^2 + \frac{\rho^2}{\Delta} dr^2 + \rho^2 d\theta^2$$

mit  $\rho^2 = r^2 + a^2 \cos^2 \theta$ ,  $\Delta = r^2 - 2Mr + a^2$

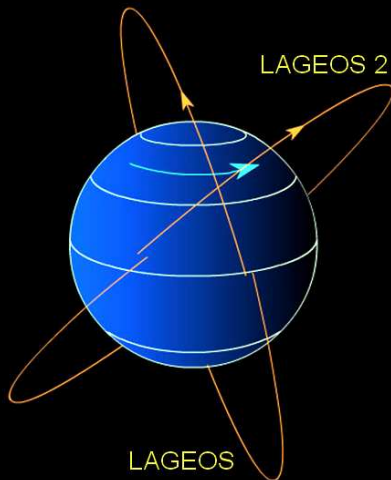
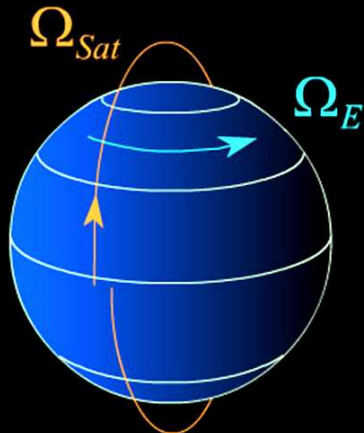
$a$  angular momentum of Black Hole



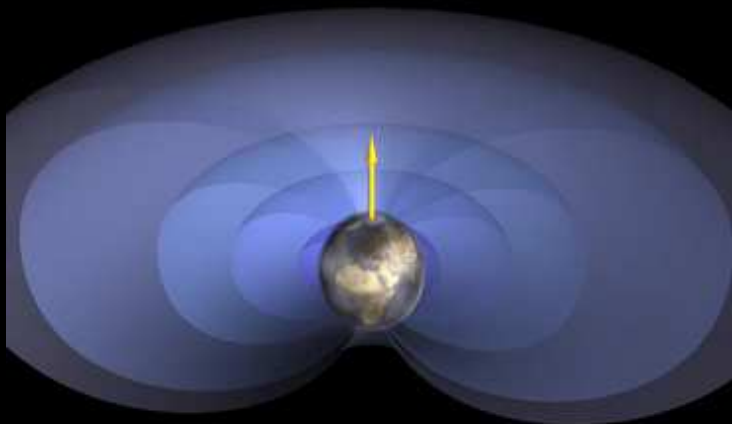
Roy Kerr \*1934

# Gravitomagnetism

Orbits leave the initial orbital plane



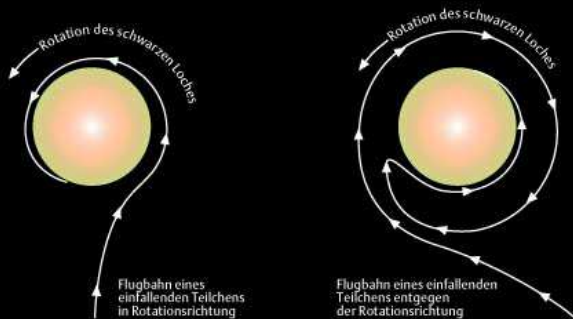
# Gravitomagnetism



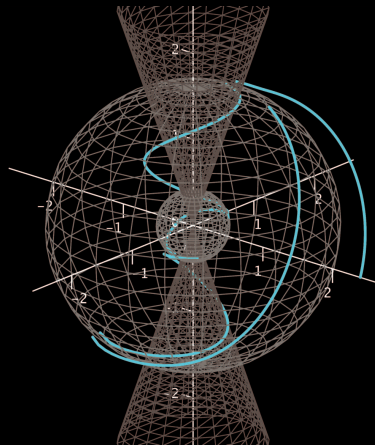
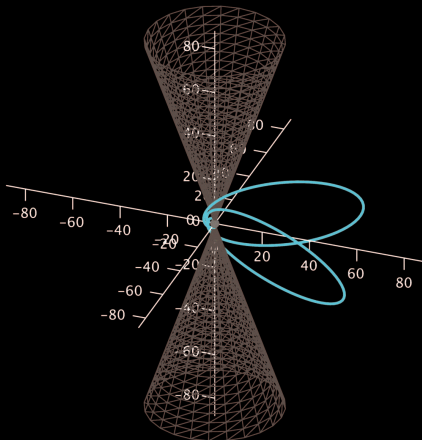
# Lense–Thirring–effect



# Orbits in Kerr space-time

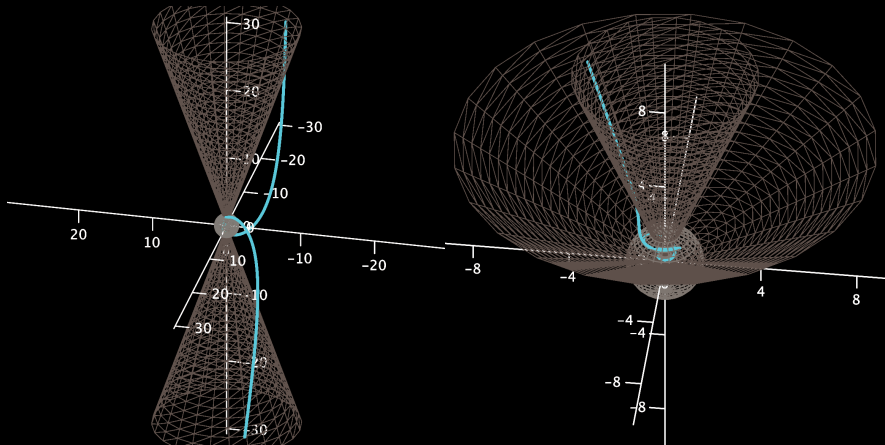


# Orbits in Kerr space-time



bound orbits

# Orbits in Kerr space-time



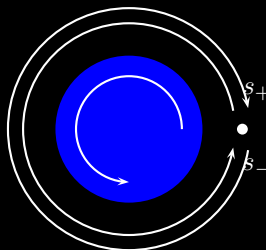
escape orbits

# Gravitomagnetic clock effect

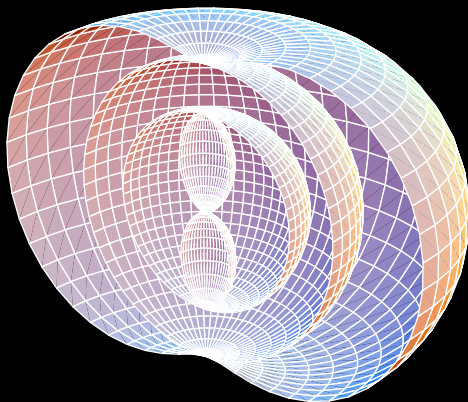
Time difference between two counter-rotating clocks

$$s_+ - s_- = 4\pi \frac{J}{M} \sim 10^{-7} \text{ s}$$

is topological effect



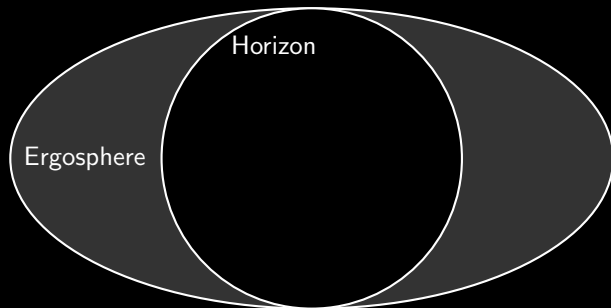
# Ergosphere



## Horizon and ergosphere in Kerr space-time

# Ergosphere

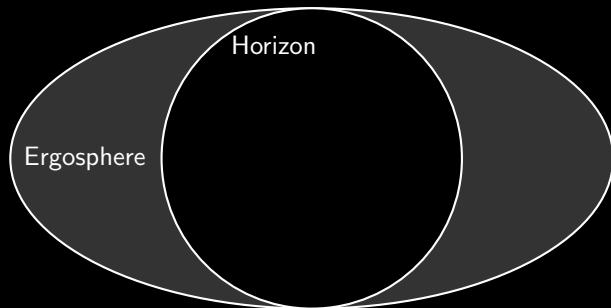
Light propagation in the vicinity of a rotating Black Hole



Horizon and ergosphere in Kerr space-time

# Ergosphere

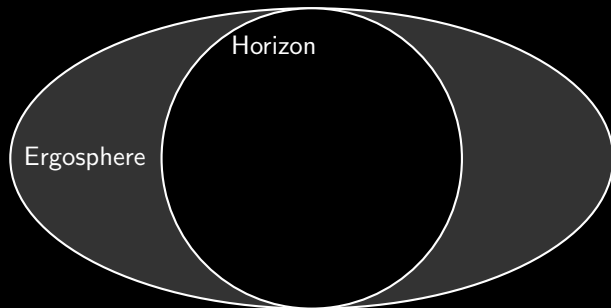
Light propagation in the vicinity of a rotating Black Hole



Horizon and ergosphere in Kerr space-time

# Ergosphere

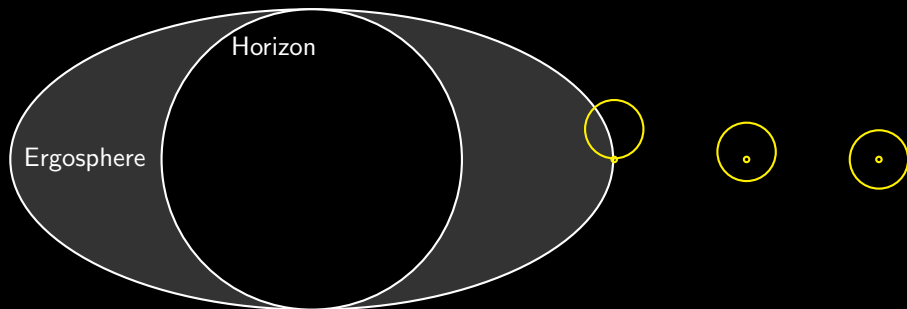
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Horizon and ergosphere in Kerr space-time

# Ergosphere

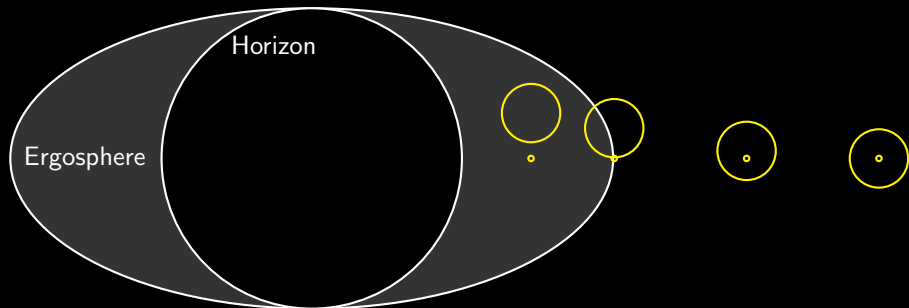
Light propagation in the vicinity of a rotating Black Hole



Horizon and ergosphere in Kerr space-time

# Ergosphere

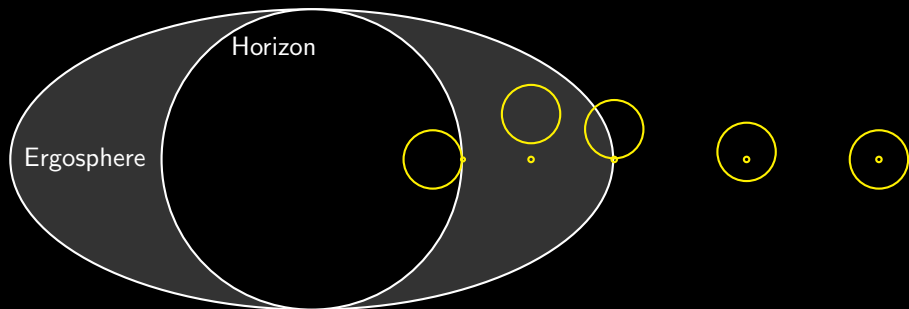
Light propagation in the vicinity of a rotating Black Hole



Horizon and ergosphere in Kerr space-time

# Ergosphere

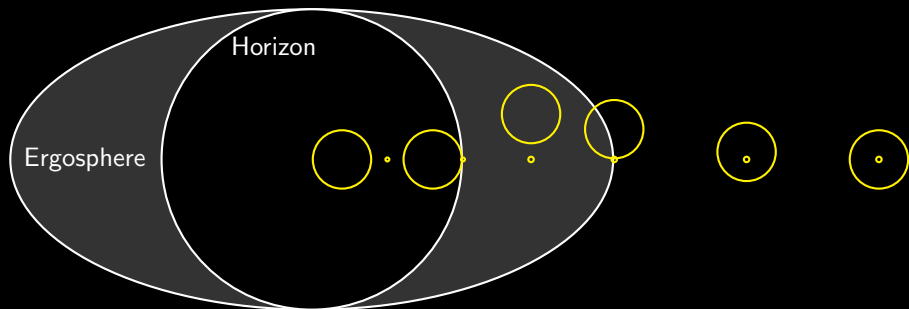
Light propagation in the vicinity of a rotating Black Hole



Horizon and ergosphere in Kerr space-time

# Ergosphere

Light propagation in the vicinity of a rotating Black Hole



Horizon and ergosphere in Kerr space-time

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# Taub-NUT space-times

Metric

$$ds^2 = \frac{\Delta}{\rho^2} (dt - 2n \cos \vartheta d\varphi)^2 - \frac{\rho^2}{\Delta} dr^2 - \rho^2 (d\vartheta^2 + \sin^2 \vartheta d\varphi^2)$$

with

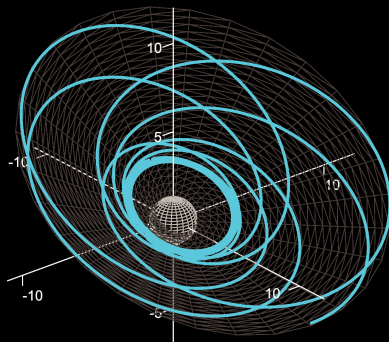
$$\rho^2 = r^2 + n^2, \quad \Delta = r^2 - 2Mr - n^2$$

$n =$  magnetic masses

- There are two horizons: one for positive  $r$ , the other at negative  $r$
- Orbits in equatorial plane: For smaller radius the circumference remains finite

# Orbits in Taub–NUT space-times

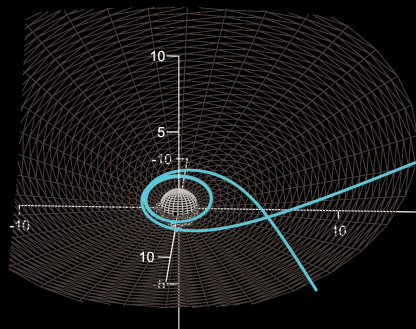
- Orbits lie on a cone
- Orbits may reach negative  $r$
- Perihelion shift
- No Lense–Thirring effect



bound (planetary) orbit

# Orbits in Taub–NUT space–times

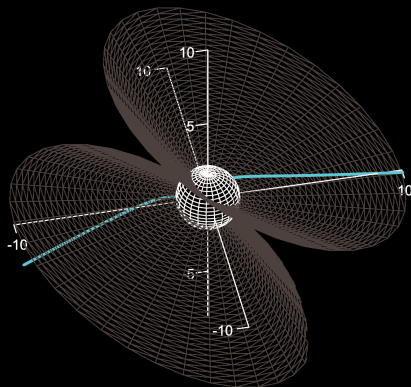
- Orbits lie on a cone
- Orbits may reach negative  $r$
- Perihelion shift
- No Lense–Thirring effect



escape orbit

# Orbits in Taub–NUT space–times

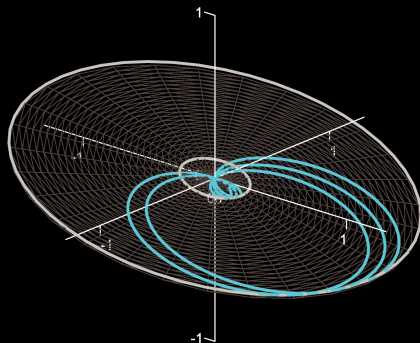
- Orbits lie on a cone
- Orbits may reach negative  $r$
- Perihelion shift
- No Lense–Thirring effect



crossover transit-orbit

# Orbits in Taub–NUT space–times

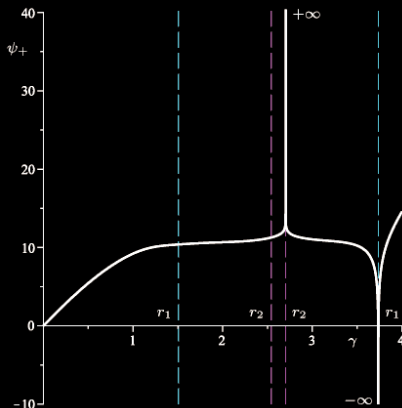
- Orbits lie on a cone
- Orbits may reach negative  $r$
- Perihelion shift
- No Lense–Thirring effect



crossover orbit (turning points are on the horizon)

# Taub–NUT space-times: incompleteness

- In Taub–NUT space-time there is no curvature singularity
  - However, is geodetic incomplete ...
- At second transit through horizon the proper time remains finite while one moves through the whole future of the universe (increasing fast motion effect)



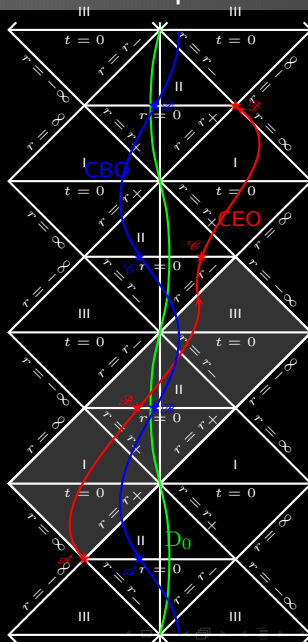
# Orbits in Taub–NUT space-times

geodesic Incompleteness



# Taub–NUT space–times: geodetic incompleteness

Taub–NUT with and without analytic continuation



# Outline

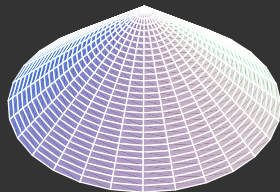
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# Schwarzschild with string

## Metric

conical Schwarzschild space-time

$$ds^2 = \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right) dt^2 - \frac{dr^2}{1 - \frac{2M}{r}} - r^2 (d\vartheta^2 + \beta^2 \sin^2 \vartheta d\varphi^2)$$

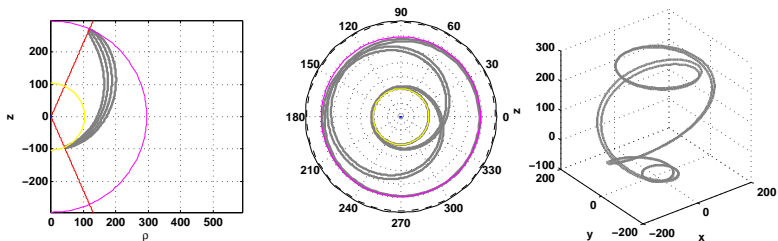


additional material string along  $z$ -axis

- geodesic equation looks similar to Schwarzschild
- $\varphi$ -motion modified by  $\beta$
- leads to additional perihelion shift, light deflection (implications for possible observations)

# Schwarzschild with string

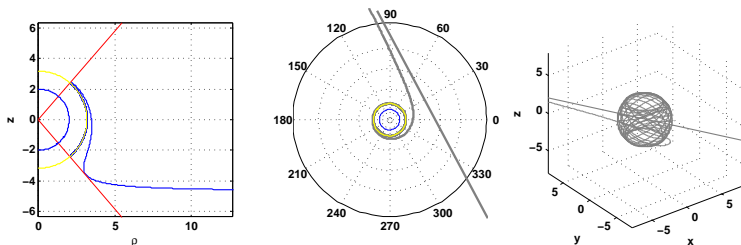
- Motion does not remain in equatorial plane



bound orbit – Poincaré's double circle

# Schwarzschild with string

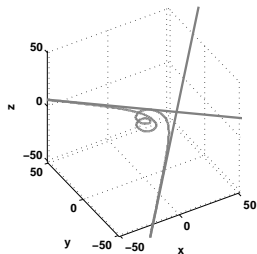
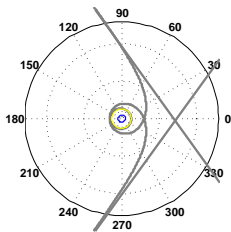
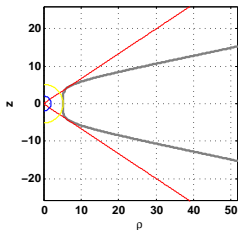
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spiral escape orbit — tries to cover whole sphere

# Schwarzschild with string

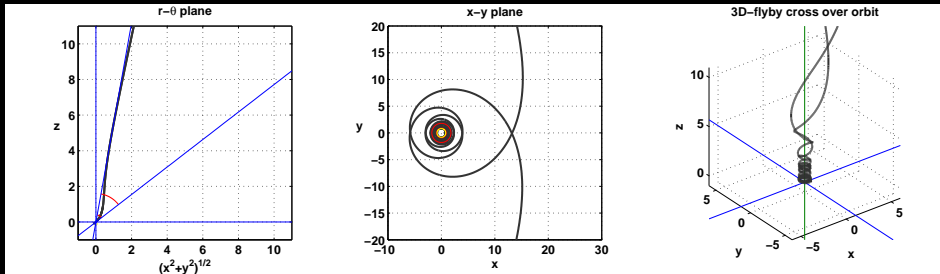
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escape orbit

# Kerr with string

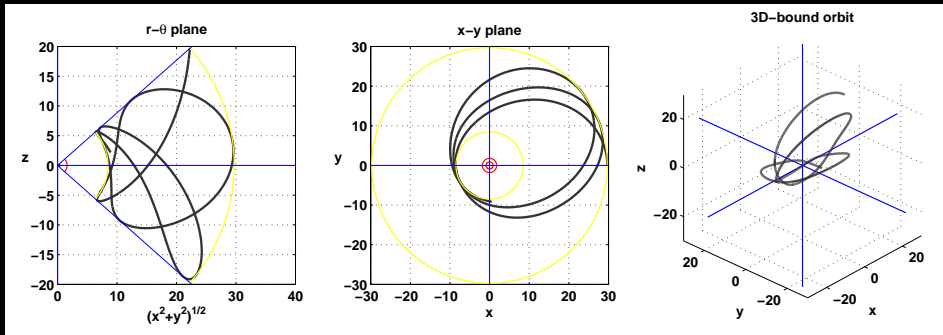
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bound orbit – Poincaré's double circle

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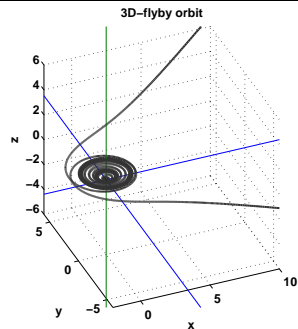
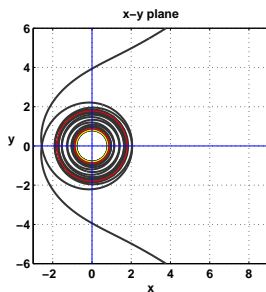
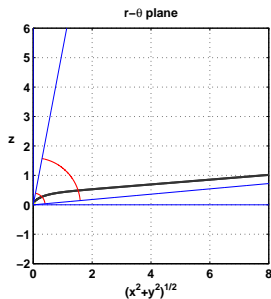
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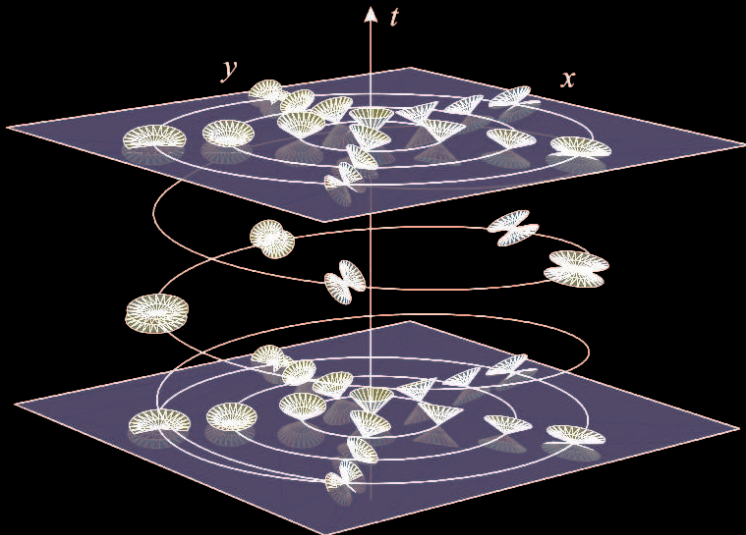


escape orbit

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## Gödel cosmos



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# Summary – Outlook

## Summary

- Orbits have to be treated within the frame of General Relativity
- Within General Relativity there are much more orbits than in Newtonian gravity
- There appear strange effects
- There are singularities ( $\leftrightarrow$  is a serious problem — may be solved within quantum gravity)

## Not covered

- Wormholes
- warp drive
- Particles with spin
- Motion of quantum particles

# Problems with gravitaty?

Bisher unerklärte Beobachtungen

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Gravitation bei großen Abständen? Schwache Gravitationsfelder?

# Acknowledgement

## Thanks for scientific collaboration

- Eva Hackmann
- Betti Hartmann
- Valeria Kagramanova
- Jutta Kunz
- Parinya Sirimachan

## Thanks for financial support

- German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft) DFG
- Cluster of Excellence QUEST
- German Aerospace Center (Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt) DLR

## Dank für movies

- Martin Siemer (Perihelion shift, Lense–Thirring effect, drop tower – clocks)
- Hanns Selig (train station)

und

- ZARM
- University Bremen



# Thank you for your attention!



<http://www.zarm.uni-bremen.de>

- space science
- fundamental physics

