

RESEARCH OVERVIEW -- BLACK HOLES

Mini-workshop of NCTS-TCA SSP 2021

Hsiang-Yi Karen Yang, NTHU, 7/5/2021



Illustrations: Niklas Elmehed

THE NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSICS 2020



Roger Penrose

“for the discovery that black hole formation is a robust prediction of the general theory of relativity”

**Reinhard
Genzel**

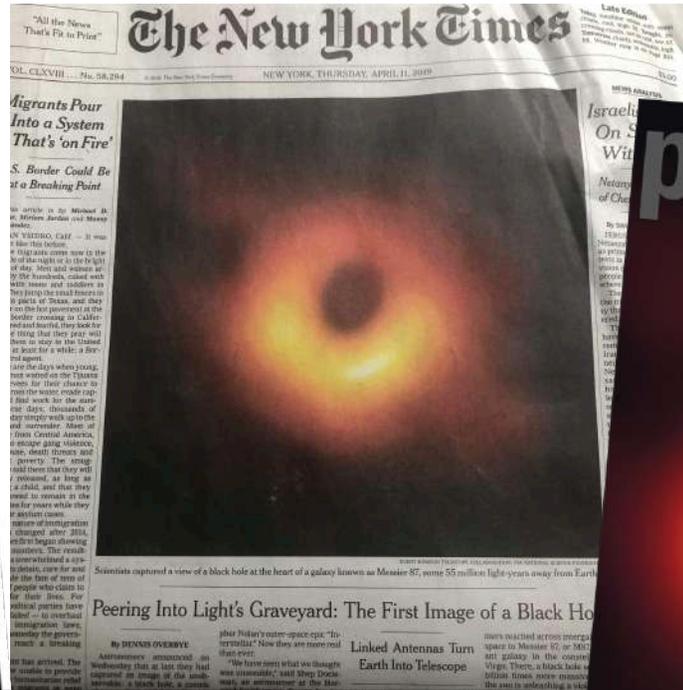
“for the discovery of a supermassive compact object at the centre of our galaxy”

**Andrea
Ghez**

THE ROYAL SWEDISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES



April 10, 2019



Event horizon
Astronomers
capture the
first image of
a black hole

May defies critics with
on and see Brexit deal t

THE FIRST EVER
PICTURE OF A
BLACK HOLE



The New York Times

Late Edition

Today, some sunshine giving way to times of clouds, cold, high 28. Tonight, a flurry or heavier sleet late, low 15. Tomorrow, windy, frigid, high 21. Weather map, Page A8.

© 2016 The New York Times NEW YORK, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2016

\$2.50



WITH FAINT CHIRP, SCIENTISTS HEARD EINSTEIN CORRECT

A RIPPLE IN SPACE

An Echo of Black Holes Colliding a Billion Light-Years Away

By DENNIS OVERBYE

A team of scientists announced on Thursday that they had heard and recorded the sound of two black holes colliding a billion

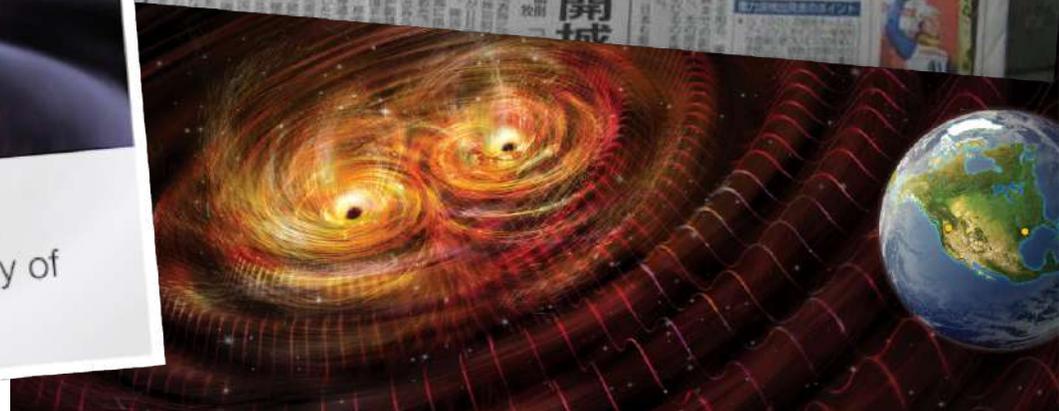
Feb 11, 2016



Gravitational waves are real

Astounding discovery was predicted by Einstein's theory of relativity

Einstein's theory: It's relative to YOU | His dark mistake foretells the end of the universe



2017 NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSICS

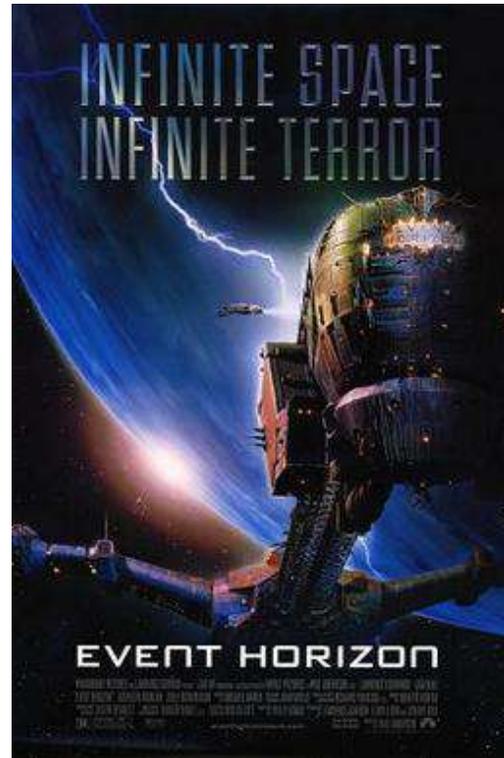
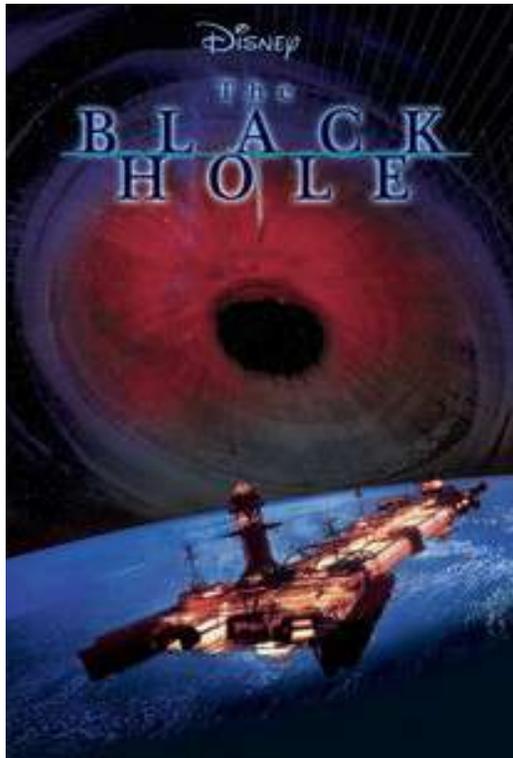


Rainer Weiss
Barry C. Barish
Kip S. Thorne

"for decisive contributions to the LIGO detector and the observation of gravitational waves"



The Black Hole (1979) Event Horizon (1997) Interstellar (2014)



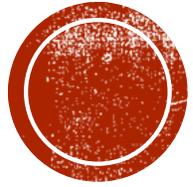
EVERYBODY LOVES BLACK HOLES!!!



OUTLINE

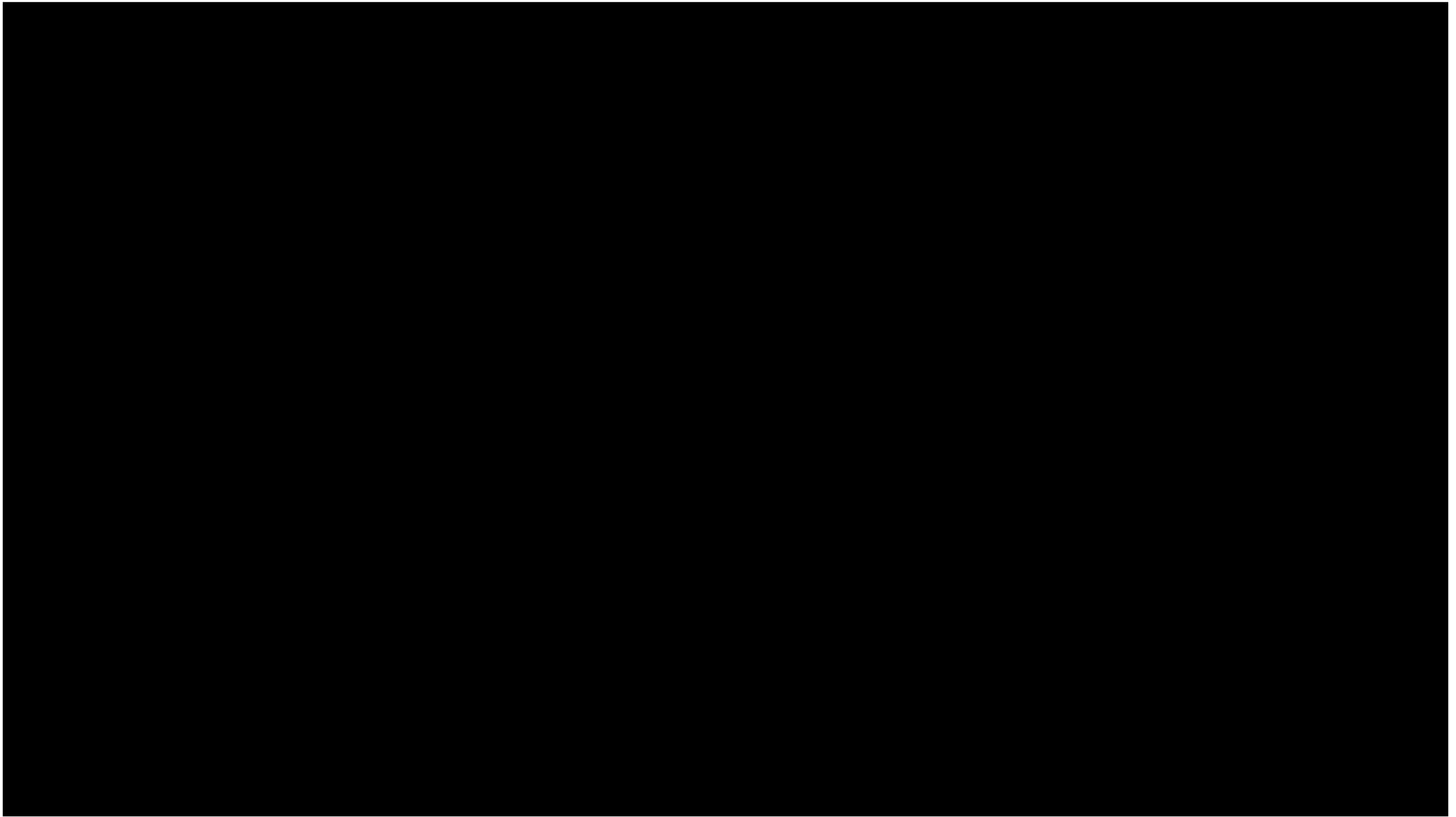
- Black hole 101
 - What is a black hole?
 - Do black holes exist?
 - What are active galactic nuclei (AGN)?
- Big questions in black hole astrophysics
 - How do supermassive black holes form?
 - How do AGNs affect the formation and evolution of galaxies?
 - What can we learn from gravitational waves (GWs) and the first black hole image?





WHAT IS A BLACK HOLE?





Dictionary

Search for a word



black hole

noun

ASTRONOMY

a region of space having a gravitational field so intense that no matter or radiation can escape.





Light : $m = 0$

??

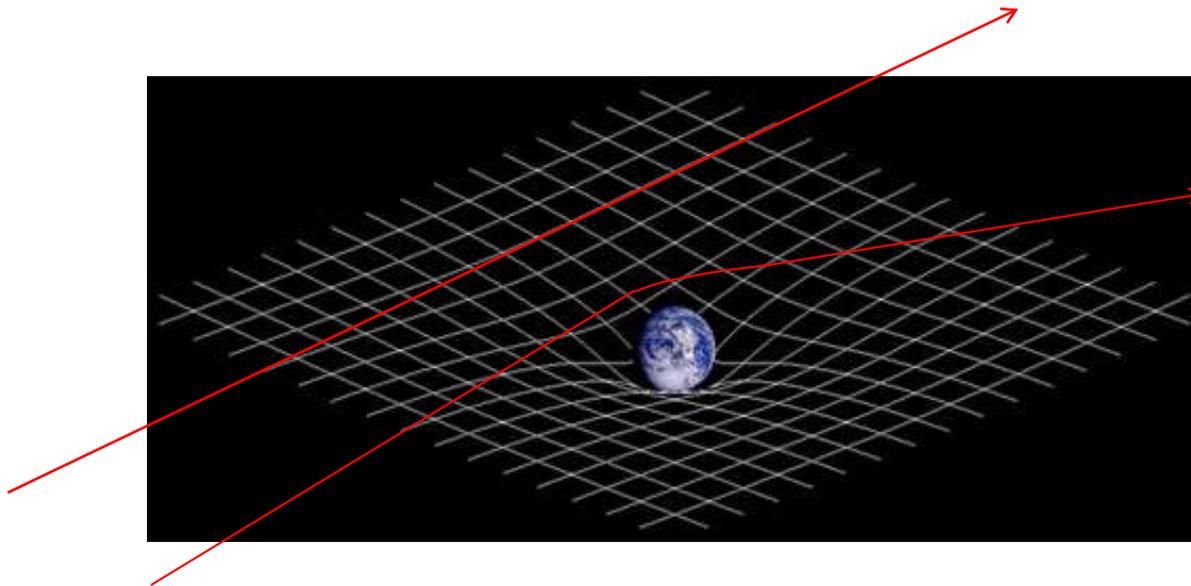
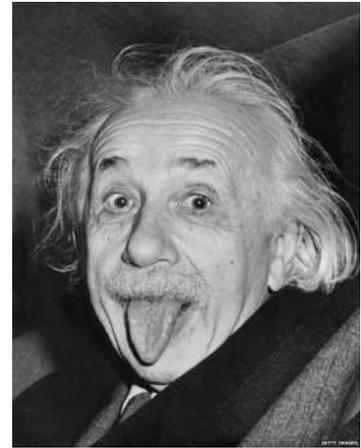
Newton's law of gravitation:

$$F = \frac{GMm}{r^2}$$

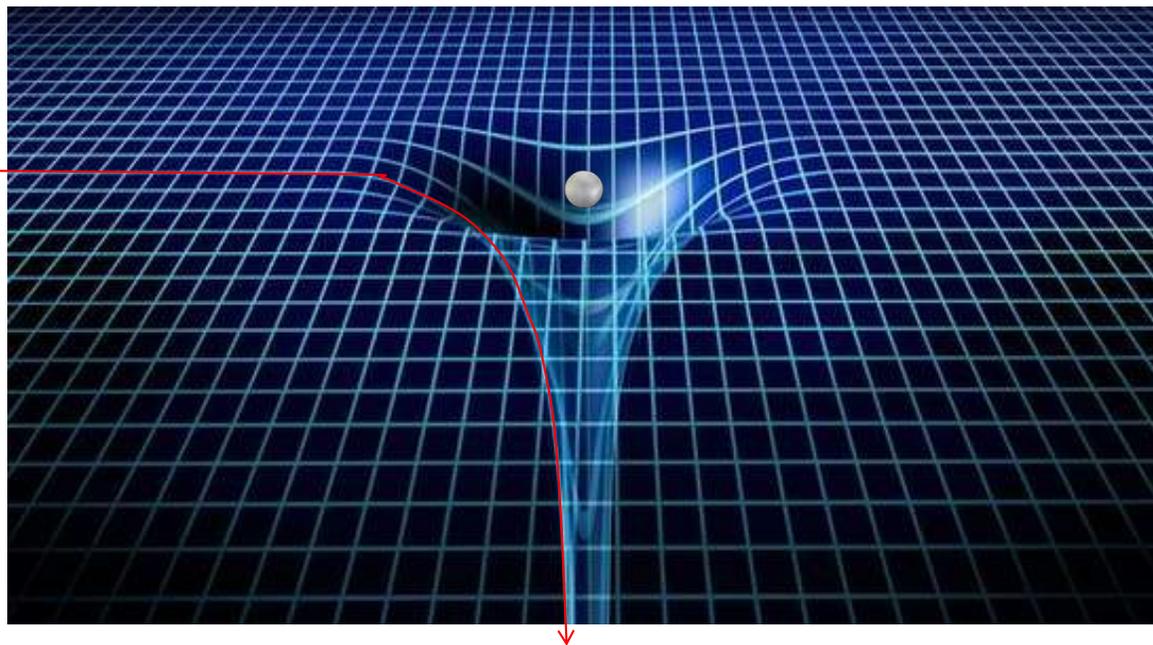
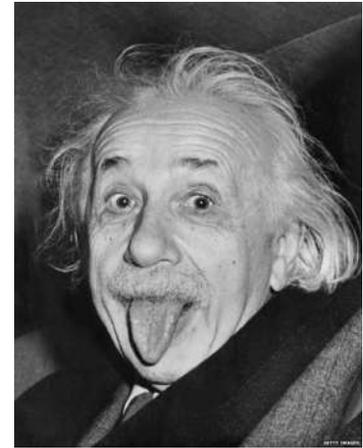
M



EINSTEIN'S GENERAL THEORY OF RELATIVITY(1915) :
***“MATTER TELLS SPACETIME HOW TO CURVE;
SPACETIME TELLS MATTER HOW TO MOVE”***



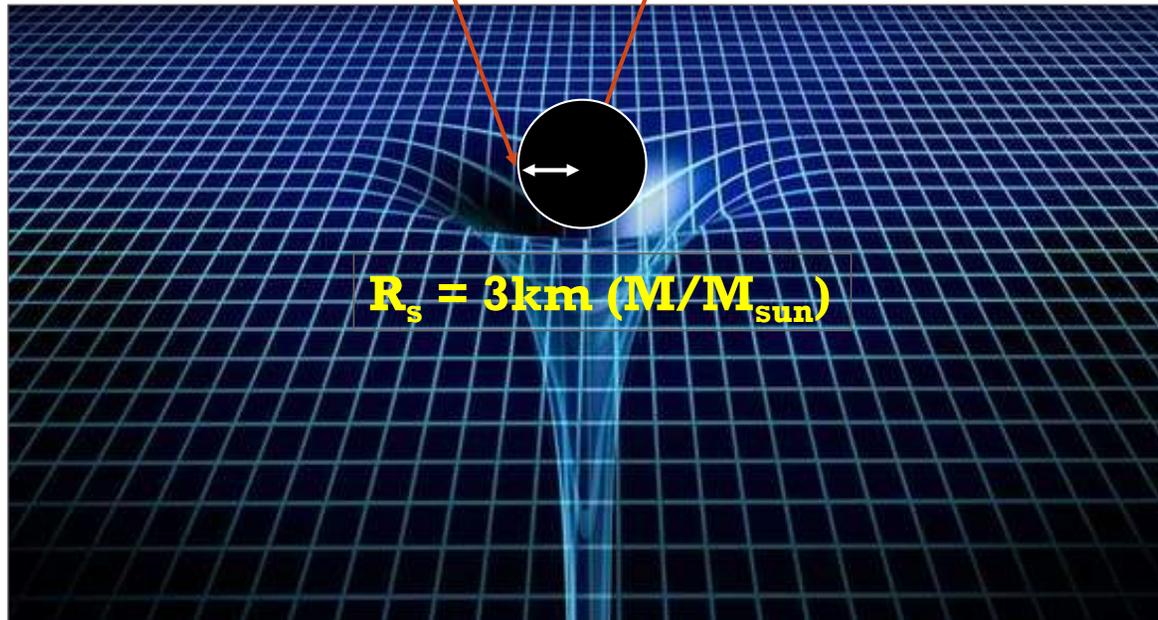
EINSTEIN'S GENERAL THEORY OF RELATIVITY(1915) :
***“MATTER TELLS SPACETIME HOW TO CURVE;
SPACETIME TELLS MATTER HOW TO MOVE”***



SCHWARZSCHILD BLACK HOLE

Event horizon (事件視界)

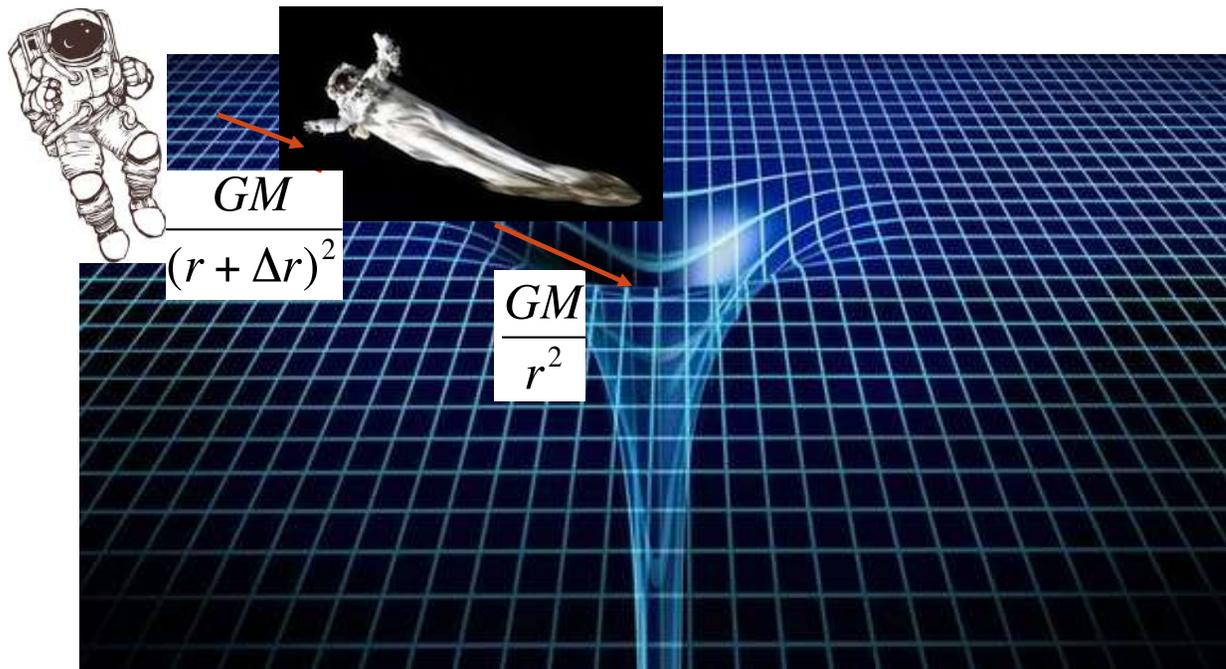
Singularity (奇異點)



Karl Schwarzschild
(1873-1916)



SPAGHETTIFICATION



- We would never make it to the center intact because the tidal force ($F_{\text{tidal}} \sim M/r^3$) would tear us apart

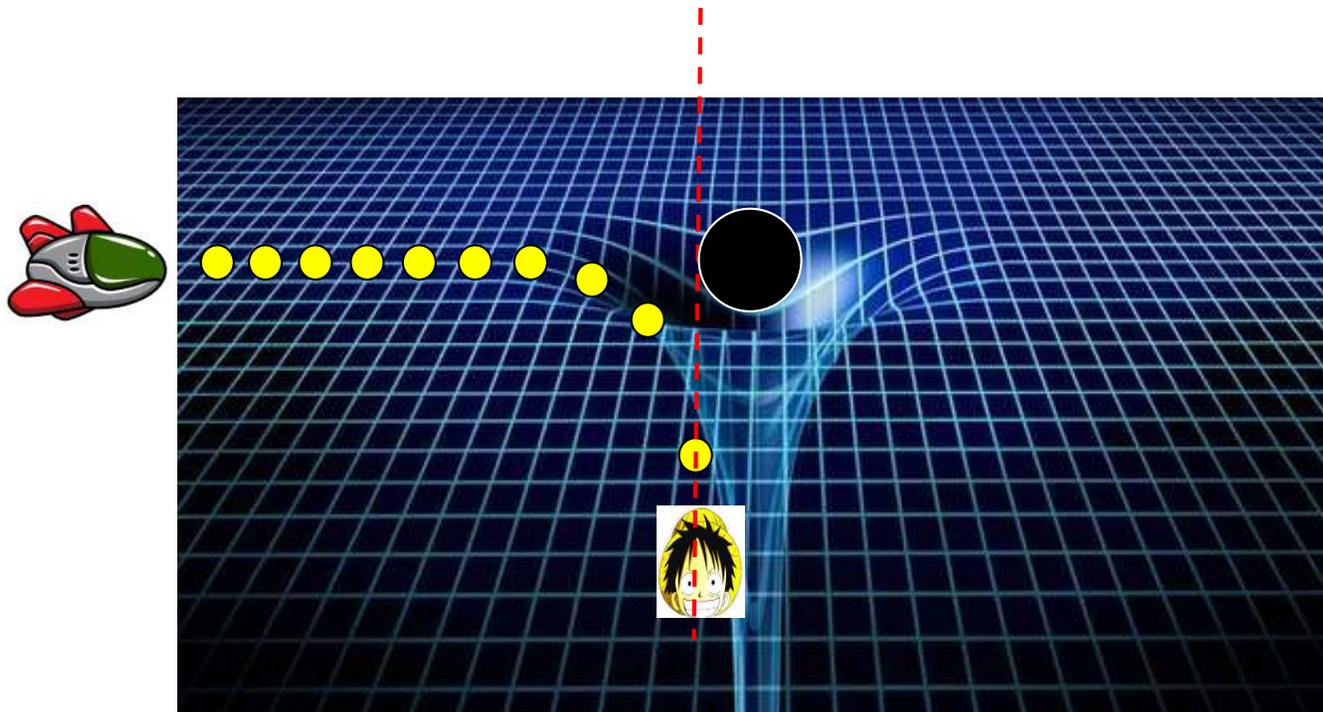


**WHAT WOULD WE SEE IF LUFFY FALLS INTO THE
BLACK HOLE.....?**



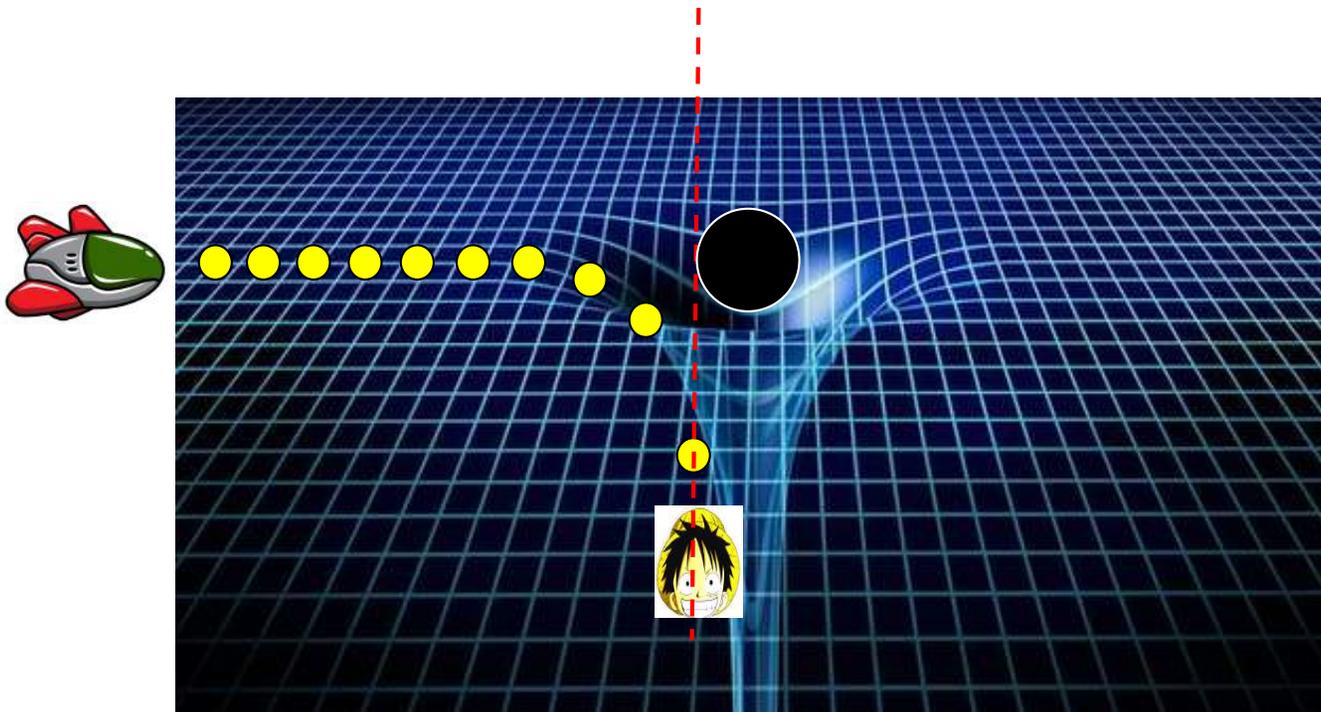
WHAT WOULD WE SEE IF LUFFY FALLS INTO THE BLACK HOLE.....?

Event horizon



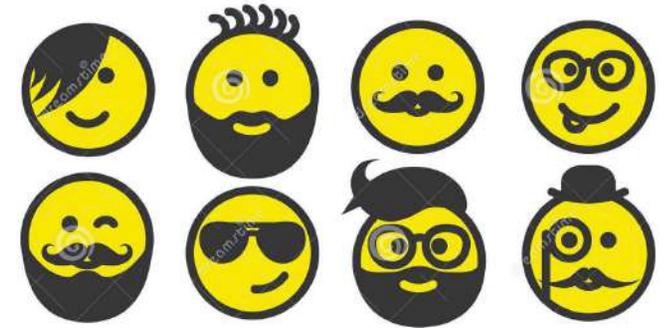
- **Gravitational time dilation** – time measured by a distant observer would increase as the emitting object moves closer to the event horizon
- **Gravitational redshift** – light emitted near the event horizon would appear redder and dimmer as viewed by a distant observer

Event horizon



NO HAIR THEOREM

- It says that **“Stationary BHs after formation can be uniquely described given mass (M), angular momentum (J), and charge (Q).”**
- Once (M, J, Q) are given, the spacetime is determined
- It means that BHs are in fact very simple objects!
- In the universe, EM force \gg gravity, so it is easy for the black hole to attract an opposite charge $\rightarrow Q = 0$
- Important properties of a black hole: M and J



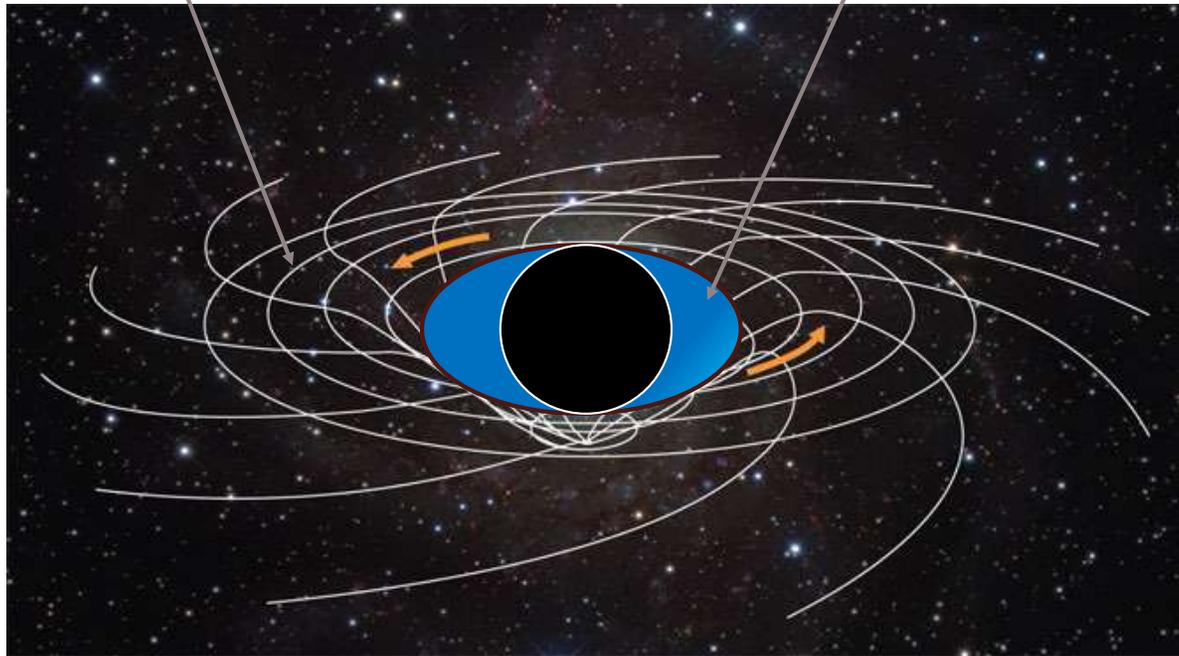
Maximum set of parameters:

$\{M, J, Q\}$

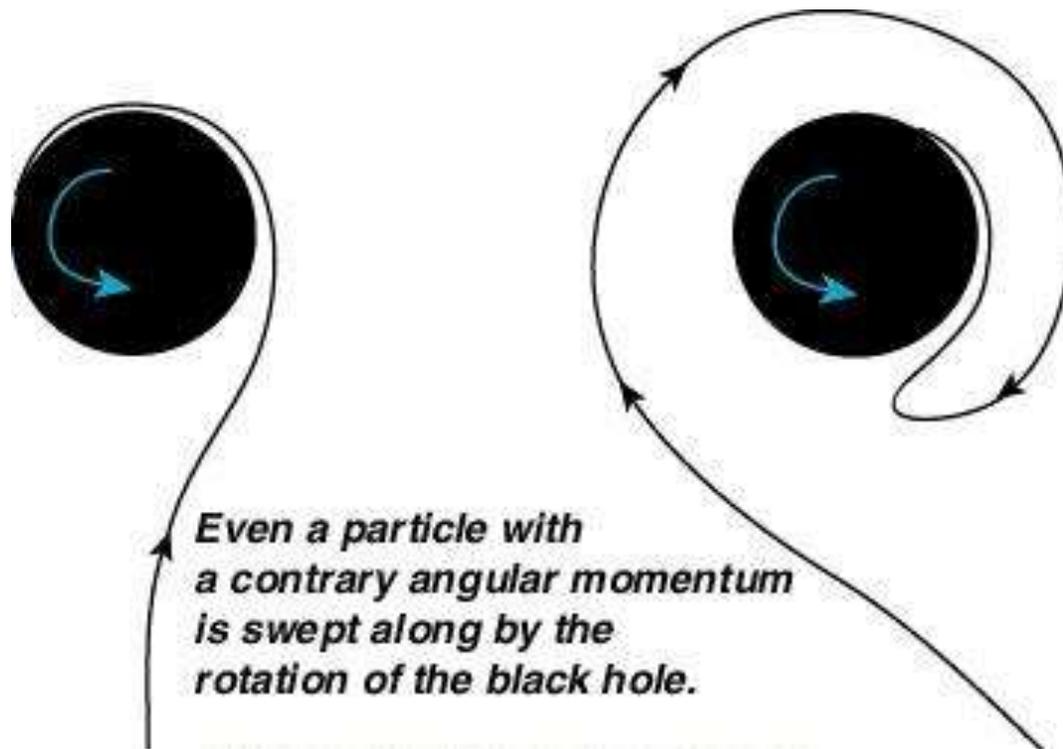
SPINNING BLACK HOLES

參考系拖曳
(Frame dragging)

動圈
(ergosphere)

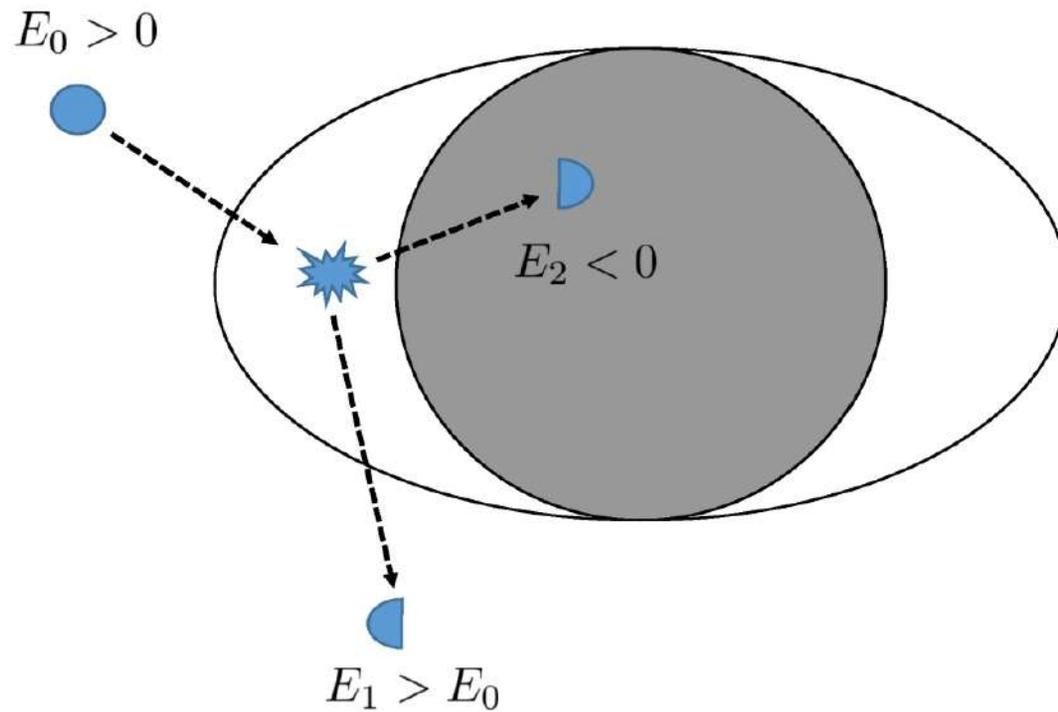


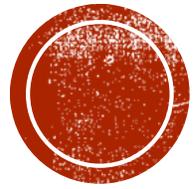
SPINNING BLACK HOLES



PENROSE PROCESS (1971)

It's possible to extract the rotational energy of a black hole this way!!

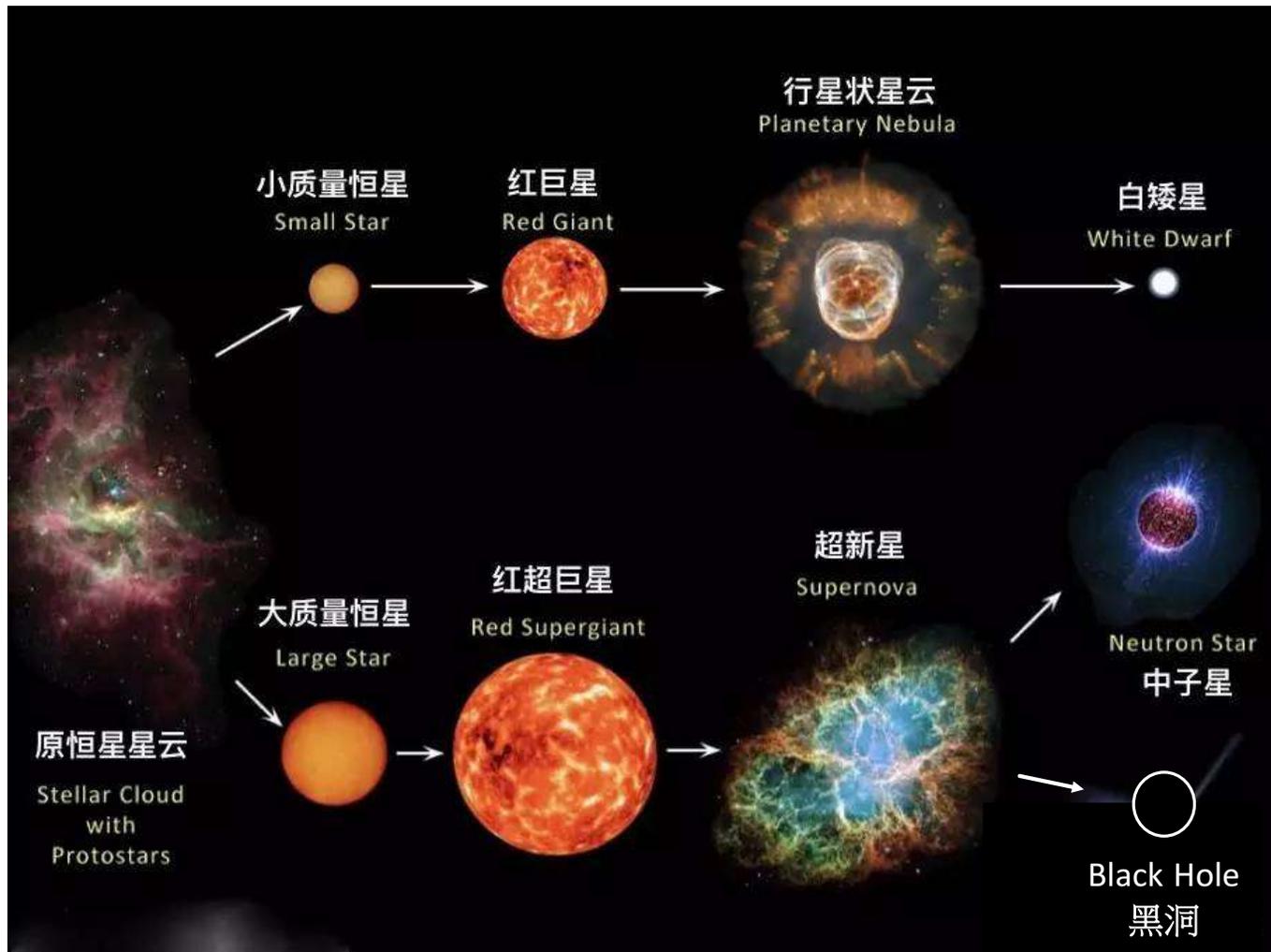




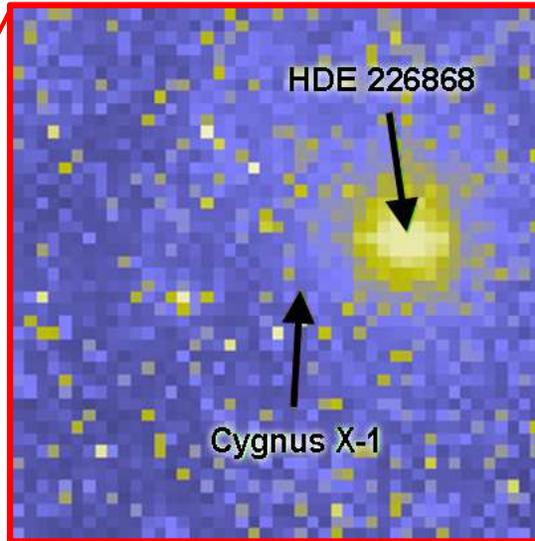
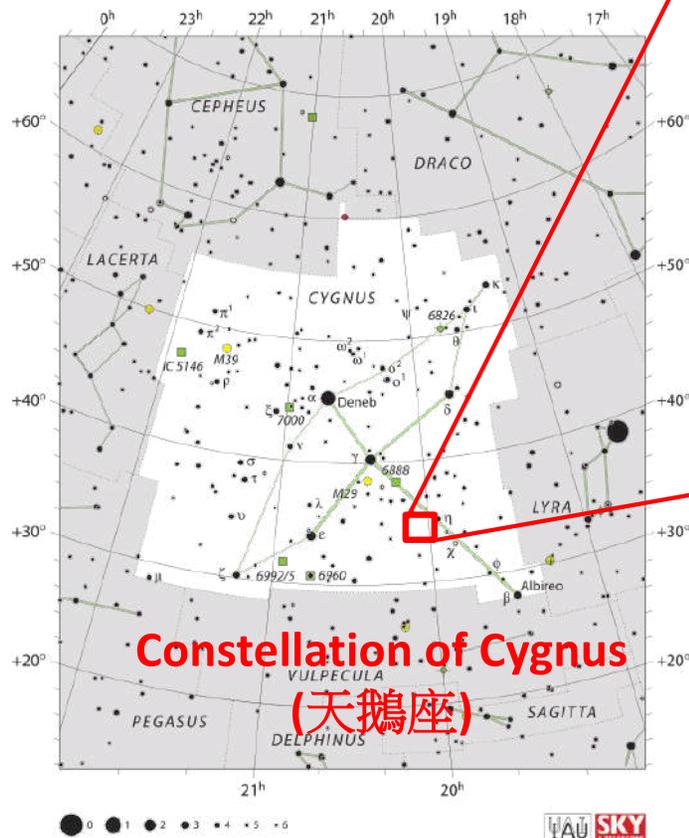
DO BLACK HOLES EXIST?



EVOLUTION OF STARS

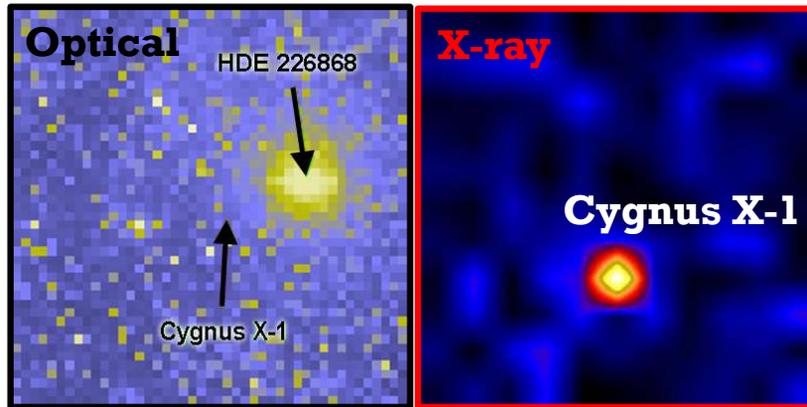


AN INVISIBLE STAR??

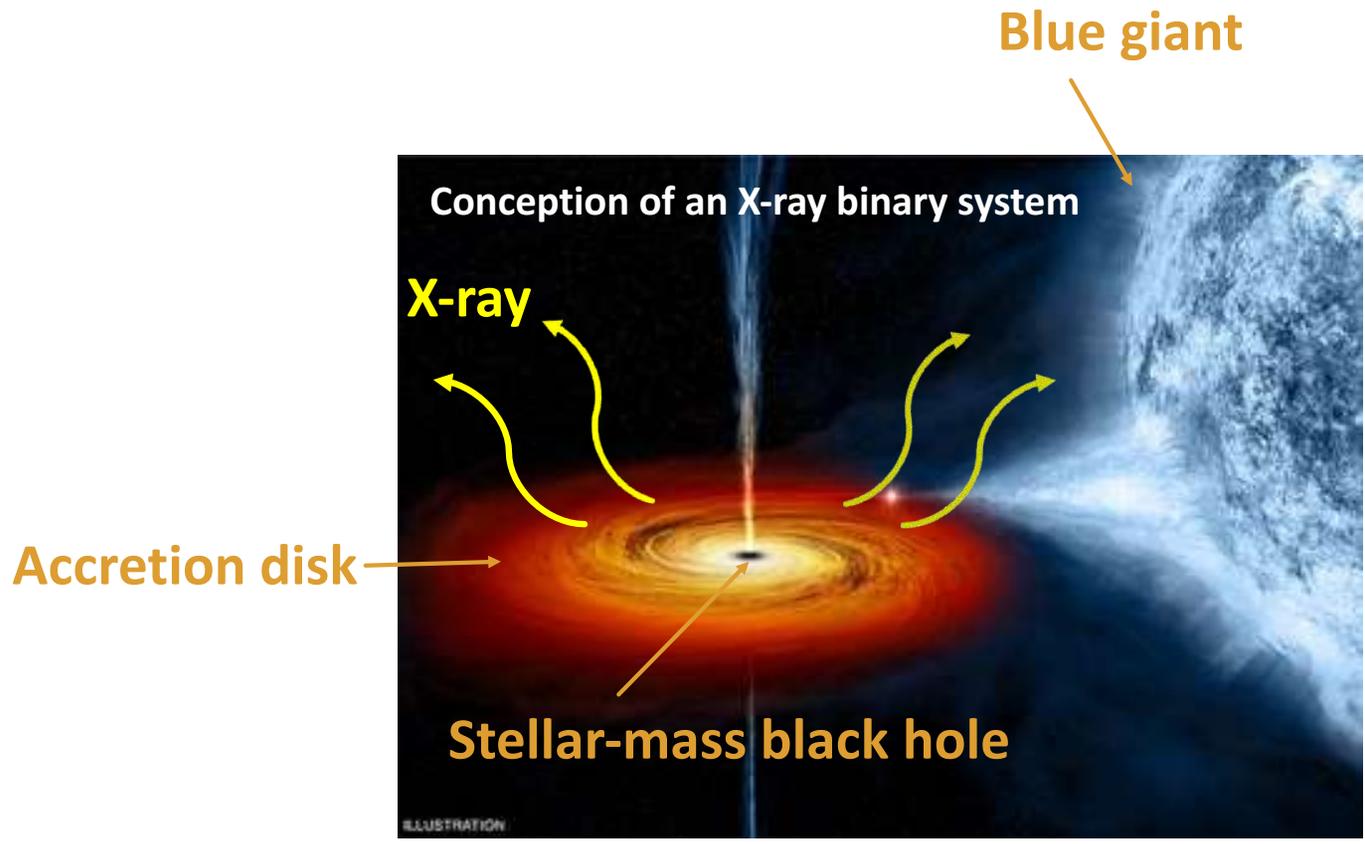


Period : 5.6 days
Radius : $\sim 1/5$ AU
Inferred mass : $14.8 M_{\text{sun}}!!$

WAIT...DO BLACK HOLES SHINE??

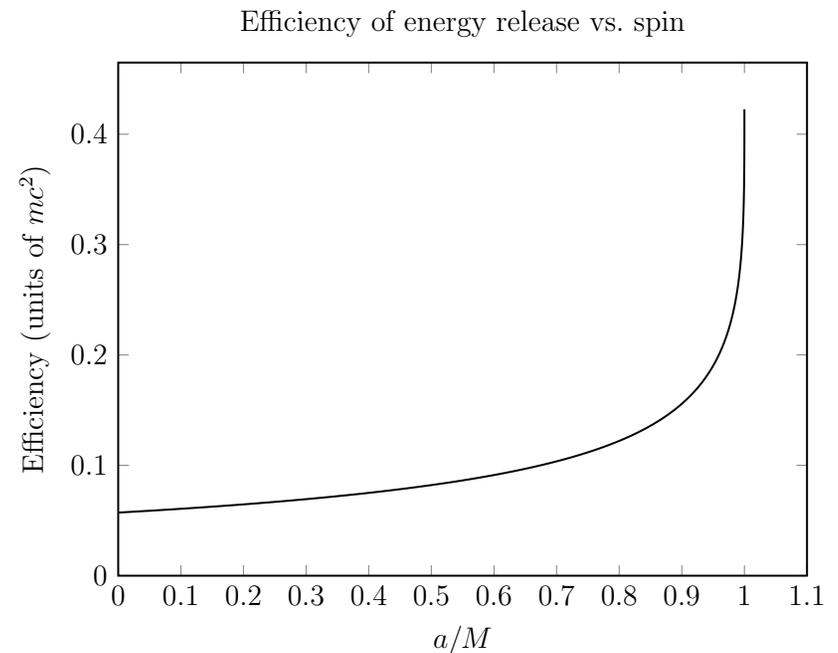


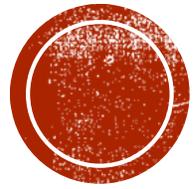
BLACK HOLES SHINE BY ACCRETING MATTER



ACCRETING BLACK HOLES ARE THE MOST EFFICIENT POWER FACTORIES!

- BH accretion disks can efficiently convert gravitational energy into radiation
- Radiative efficiency depends on BH spin parameter “a”
 - $a = 0$: Schwarzschild BHs
 - $a \neq 0$: spinning BHs
- **Radiative efficiency $\varepsilon \sim 10\%$** for most BHs
- This is much greater than $\varepsilon \sim 0.7\%$ for nuclear fusion!





ALL MYSTERIES SOLVED?



類星體 (QSO/QUASAR)

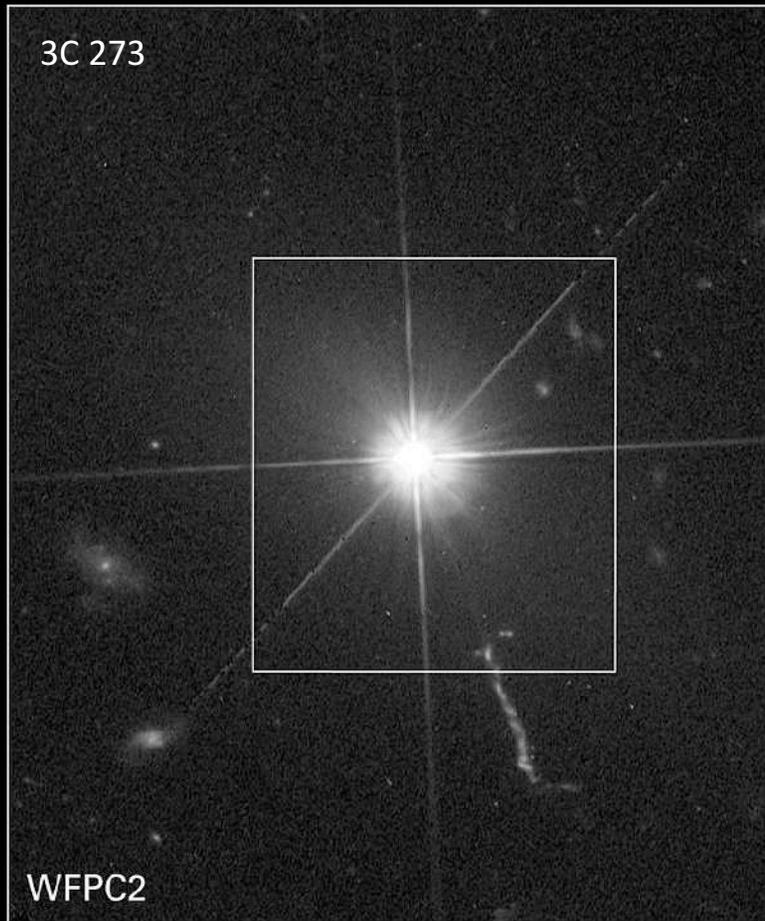
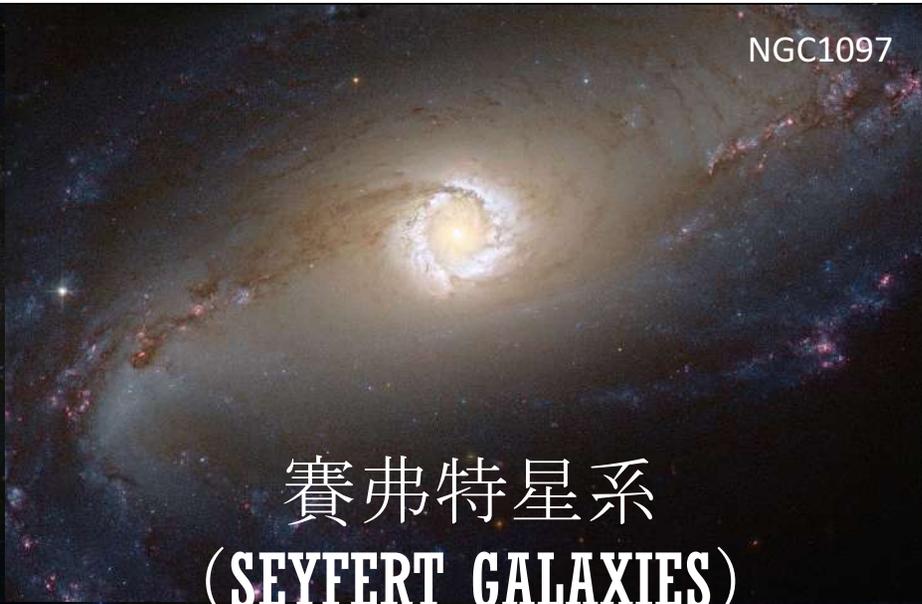


Image credit: NASA, J. Bahcall, A. Martel, H. Ford, M. Clampin, G. Hartig, G. Illingworth, the ACS Science Team and ESA

NGC6814



NGC1097



賽弗特星系
(SEYFERT GALAXIES)

M88



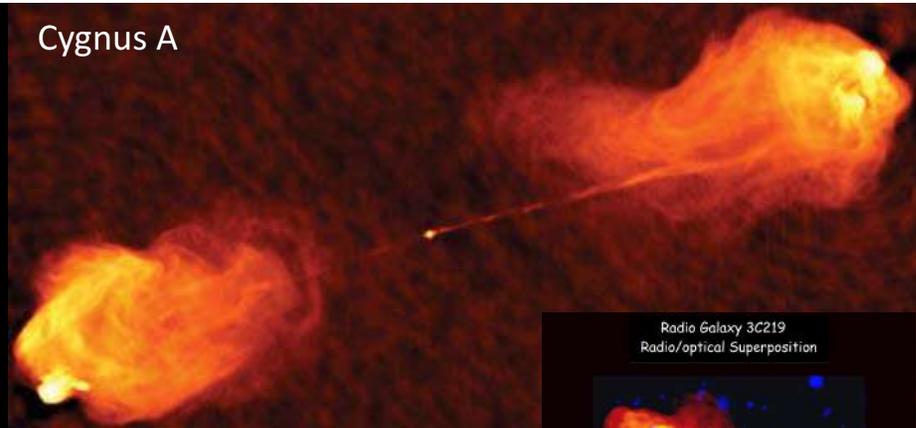
NGC3081



Radio Galaxy 3C31
NGC 383

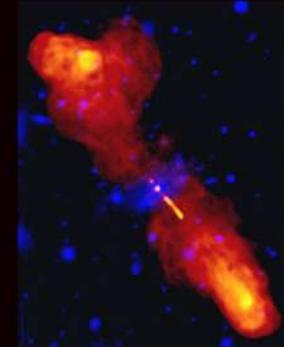


Cygnus A



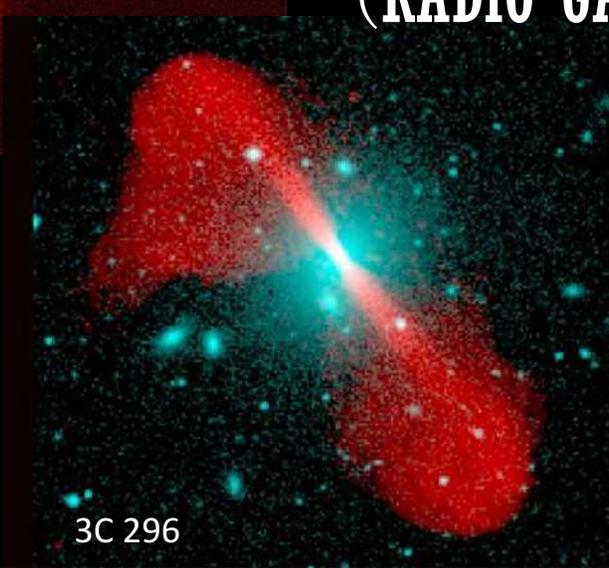
無線電星系 (RADIO GALAXIES)

Radio Galaxy 3C219
Radio/optical Superposition

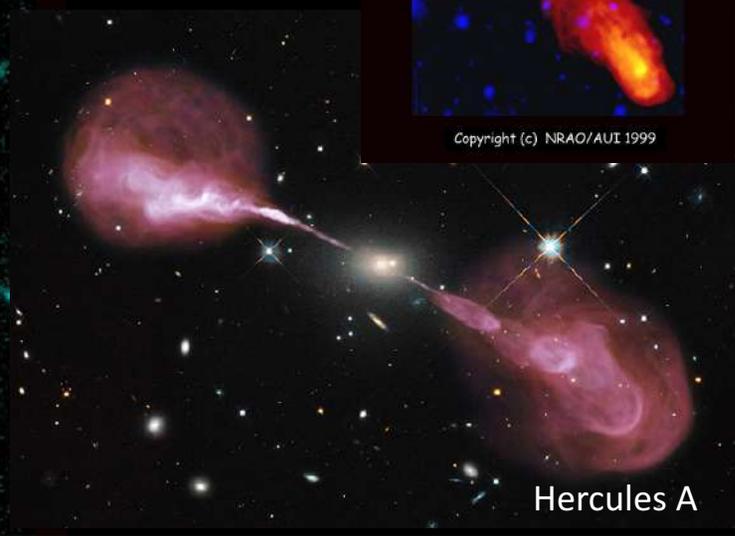


Copyright (c) NRAO/AUI 1999

3C 296



Hercules A

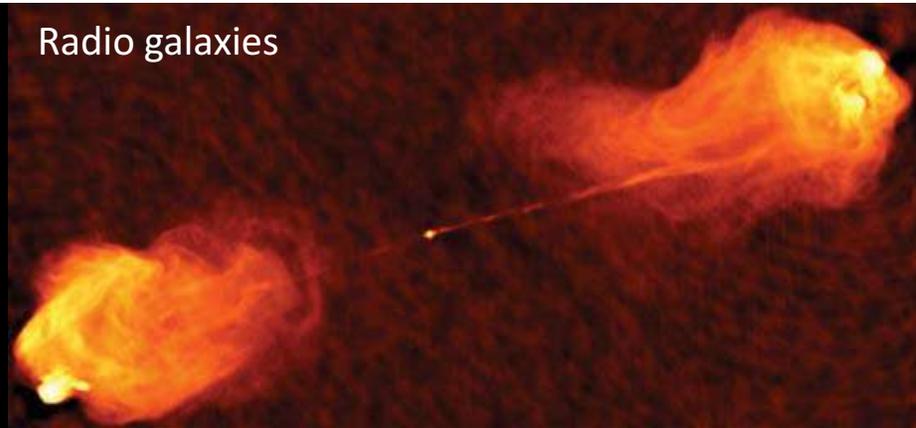


QSO/Quasar



WFPC2

Radio galaxies



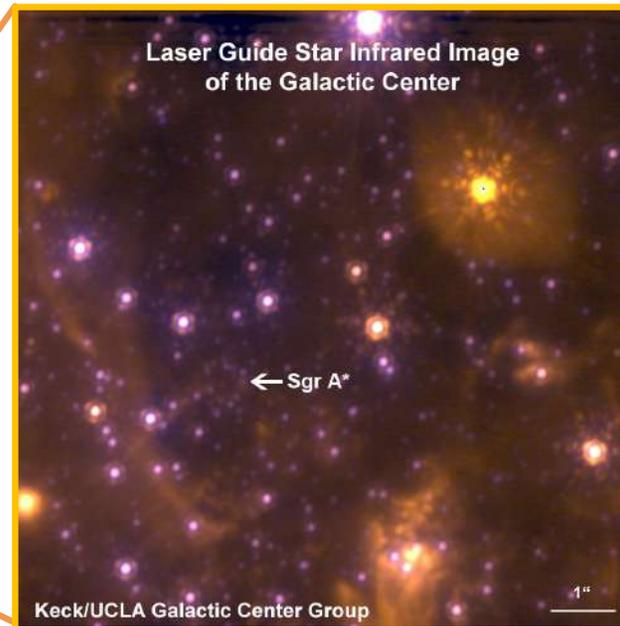
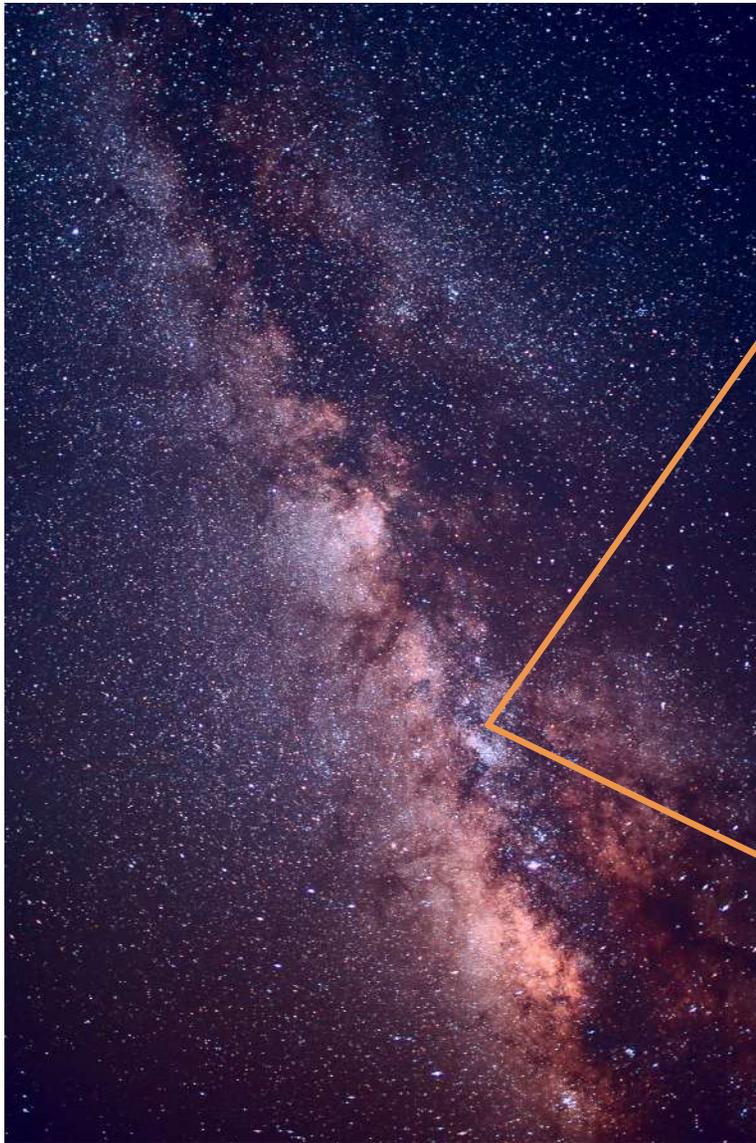
活躍星系核 (ACTIVE GALACTIC NUCLEI)

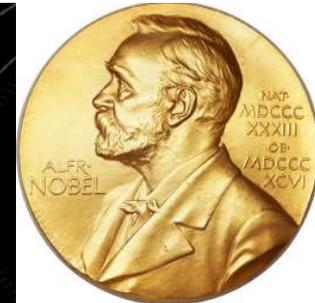
Seyfert galaxies



MILKY WAY GALAXY

Infrared image of the Galactic center





S0-8
1995.5

S0-16

S0-2

GCBH: 4 million solar masses!!!

S0-40

S0-38

S0-19

S0-26

S0-4

S0-49

S0-17

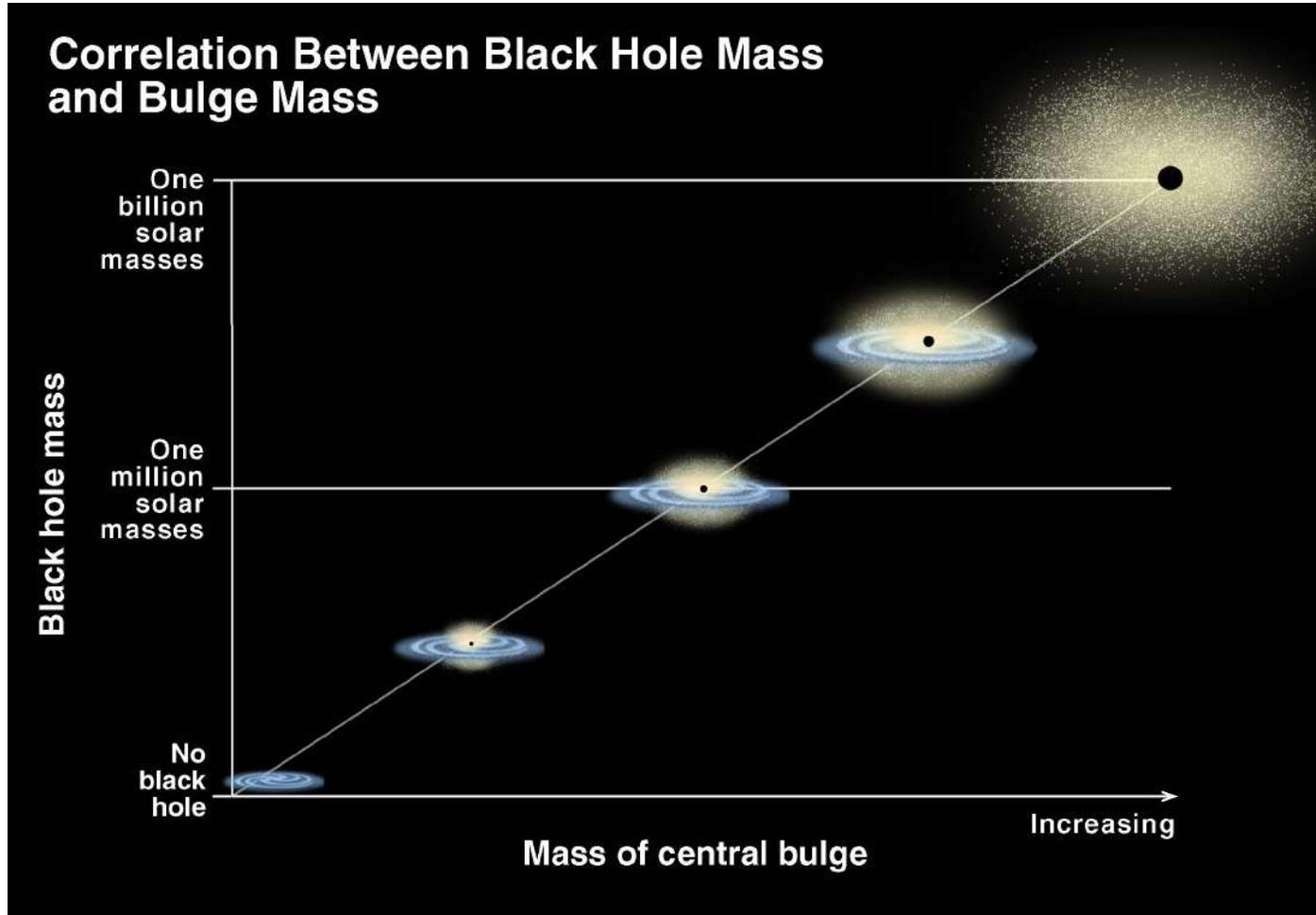
S0-20

S0-5

S0-30

**Keck/UCLA Galactic
Center Group**

EVERY GALAXY HOSTS A SMBH AT THE CENTER!!



ACTIVE GALACTIC NUCLEI (AGN) = ACTIVELY ACCRETING SUPERMASSIVE BLACK HOLES

Radio/Gamma-ray

Conception of Active Galactic Nuclei

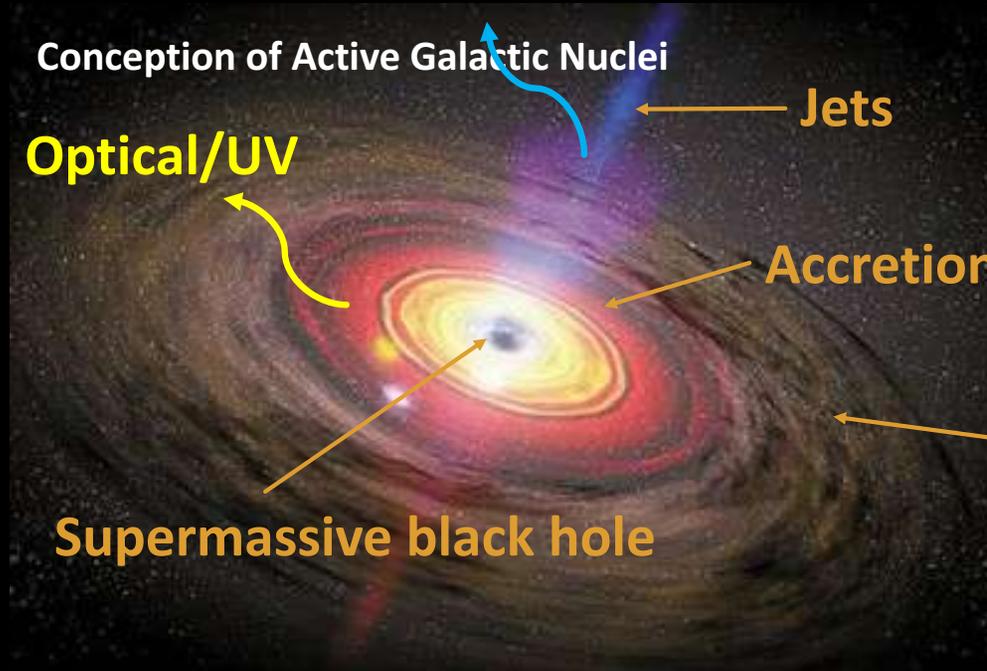
Optical/UV

Jets

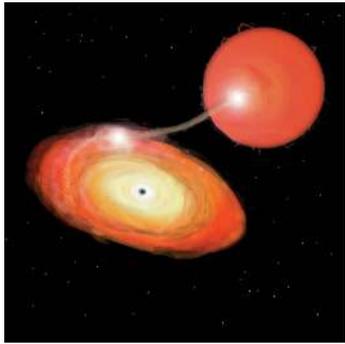
Accretion disk

Galactic disk

Supermassive black hole

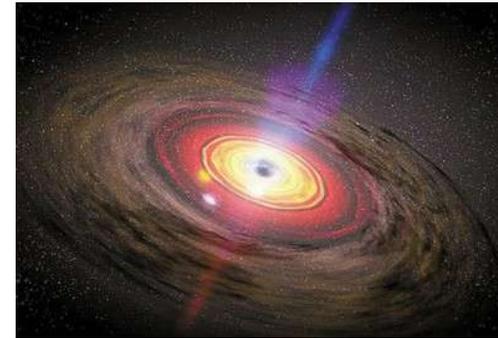


BLACK HOLES COME IN TWO FLAVORS



Stellar-mass BHs

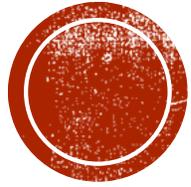
- Masses: $\sim 3-100 M_{\text{sun}}$
- Originated from collapses of massive stars
- Distributed within galaxies
- Shine in X-ray when accreting from a companion star – X-ray binary



SMBHs

- Masses: $\sim 10^6-10^{10} M_{\text{sun}}$
- Origin???
- Located at the center of galaxies
- Shine in optical/UV when accreting materials near the galactic centers -- AGN





HOW DO SUPERMASSIVE BLACK HOLES FORM?



SUPERMASSIVE BLACK HOLES GROW BY MERGERS AND ACCRETION

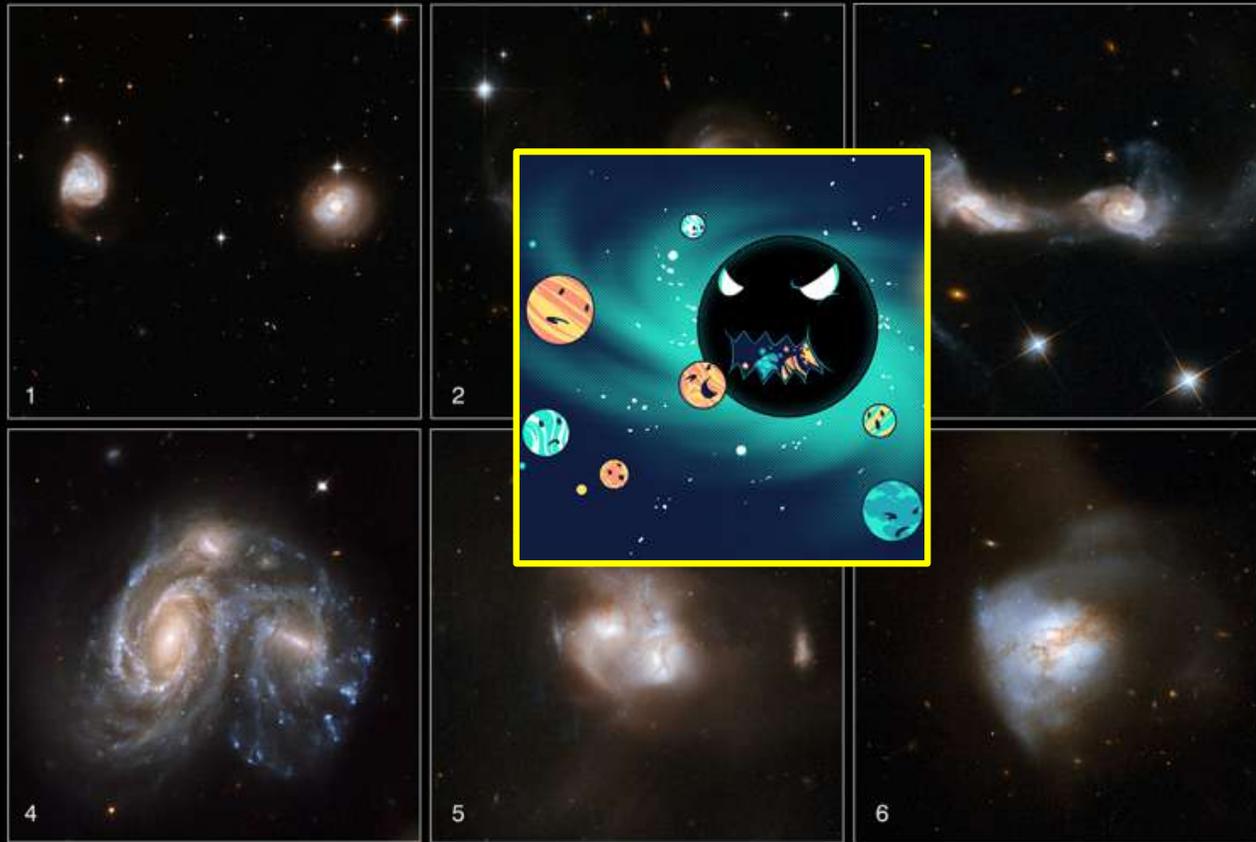
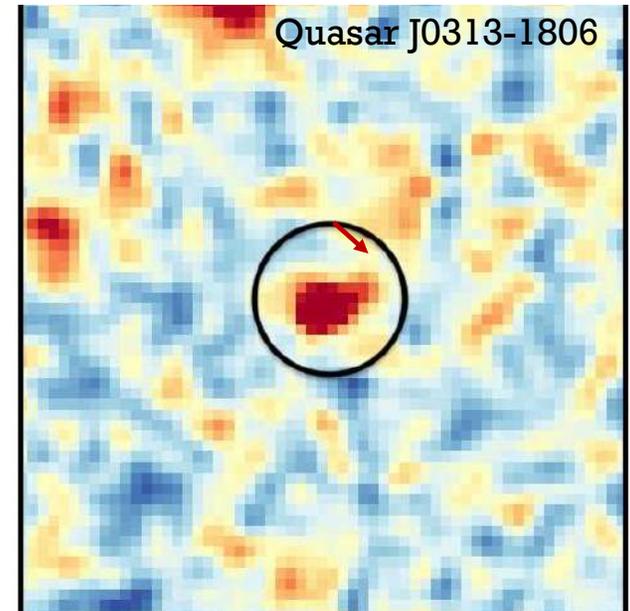


Image credit: NASA, ESA, the Hubble Heritage Team (STScI/AURA)-ESA/Hubble Collaboration

THE POWERFUL QUASARS IN THE EARLY UNIVERSE

- Quasars with billions of M_{sun} at $z > 7$ were discovered
- Current record holder: J0313-1806 found in 2021
 - Redshift $z = 7.642$ (**690 Myr** after Big Bang)
 - **$M \sim 1.6 \times 10^9 M_{\text{sun}}$**
- These objects are relatively rare; most quasars are found at $z \sim 2-3$
- But their existence is surprising!!

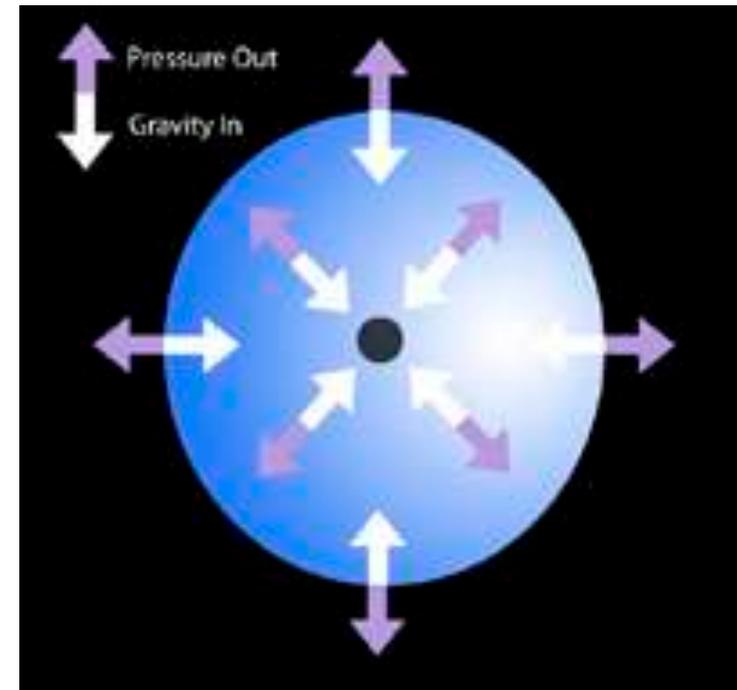


THE GROWTH OF SMBHS

- Accretion of black holes are limited by the Eddington accretion rate
 - The **Eddington limit** refers to the balance between **gravity** and **radiation pressure force**
 - This is the maximum rate black holes can accrete
- The Eddington accretion rate is proportional to black hole mass, i.e.,

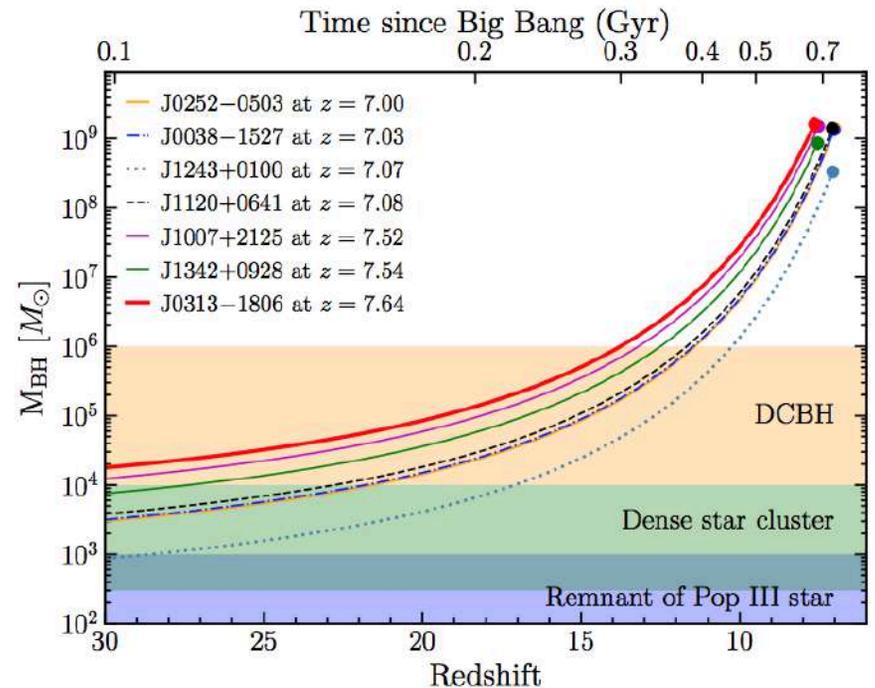
$$\dot{M}_{BH} = \frac{dM_{BH}}{dt} = AM_{BH}$$

- Therefore, for BHs accreting at the Eddington rate, their masses grow **exponentially**



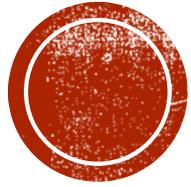
CAN EARLY QUASARS GROW FROM STELLAR-MASS BLACK HOLES?

- No – there is not enough time!
- To explain the existence of massive SMBHs in the early universe, they must form from black hole “*seeds*” of $\sim 10^2 - 10^5 M_{\text{sun}}$
- Three proposed BH seed formation mechanisms:
 - **Pop III stars:** $M_{\text{BH}} \sim 10^2 \sim 10^3 M_{\text{sun}}$ (light seeds)
 - **Collapse of star clusters:** $M_{\text{BH}} \sim 10^2 \sim 10^4 M_{\text{sun}}$ (intermediate seeds)
 - **Direct collapse of gas clouds:** $M_{\text{BH}} \sim 10^4 \sim 10^6 M_{\text{sun}}$ (heavy seeds)



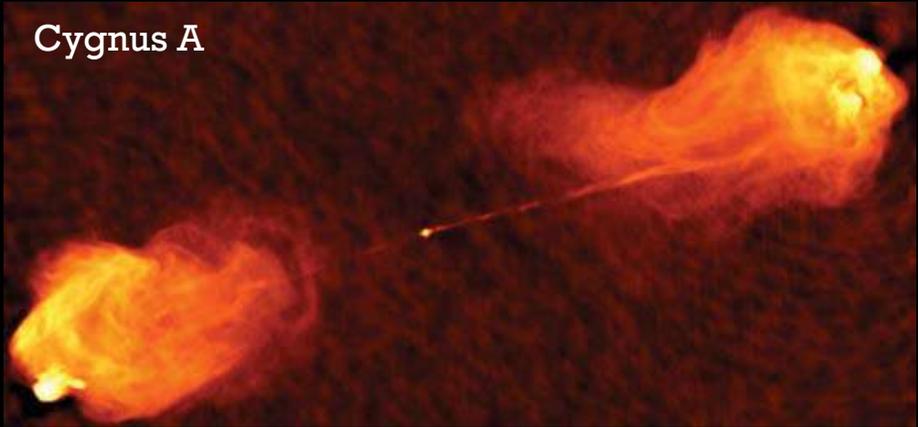
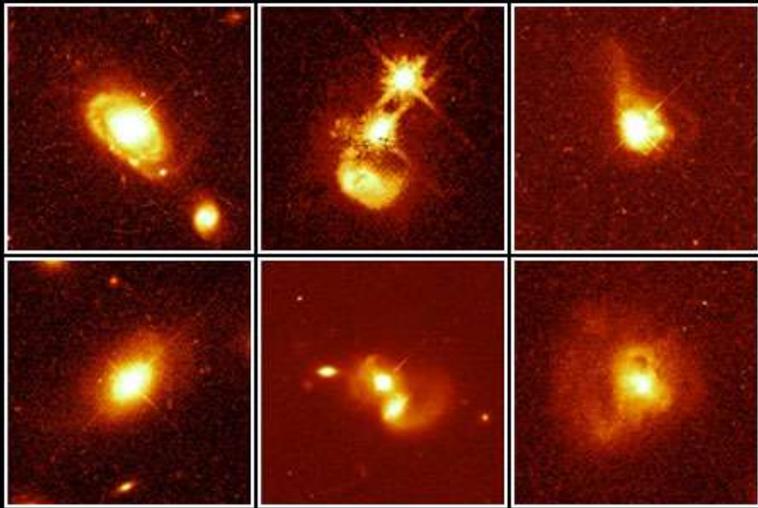
Wang et al. (2021)





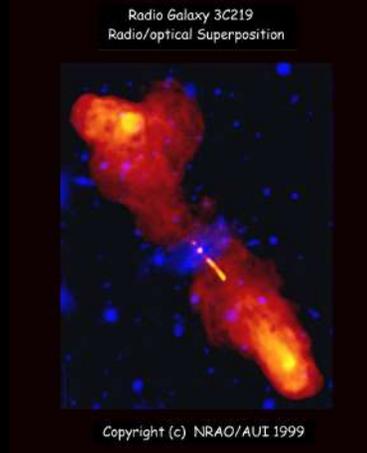
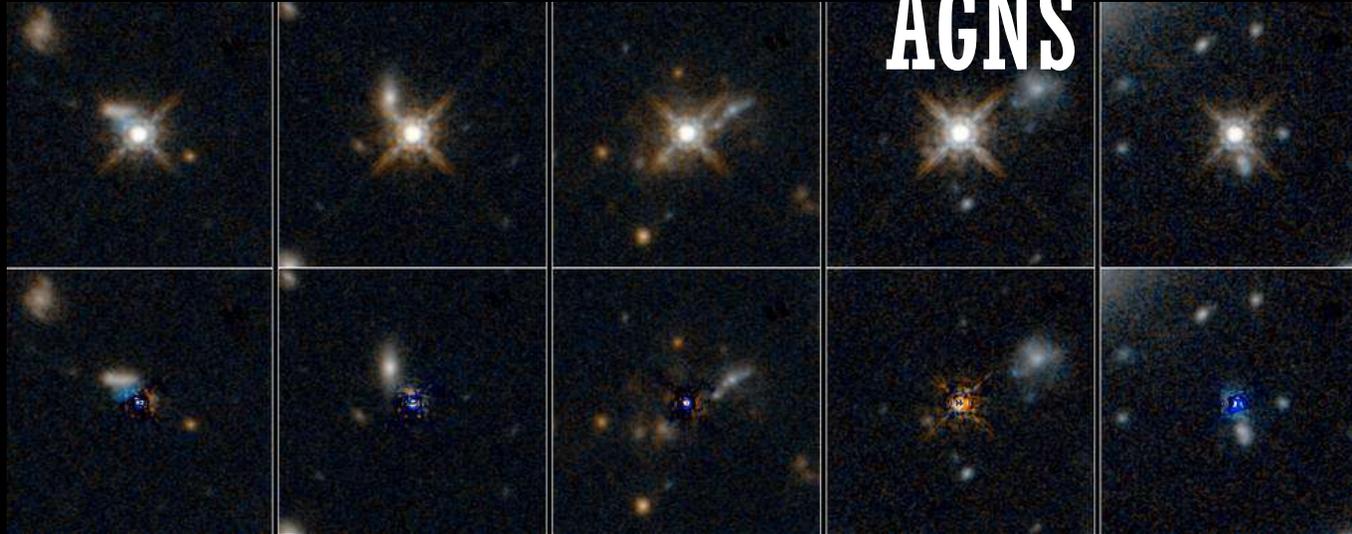
HOW DO AGNS AFFECT GALAXY EVOLUTION?



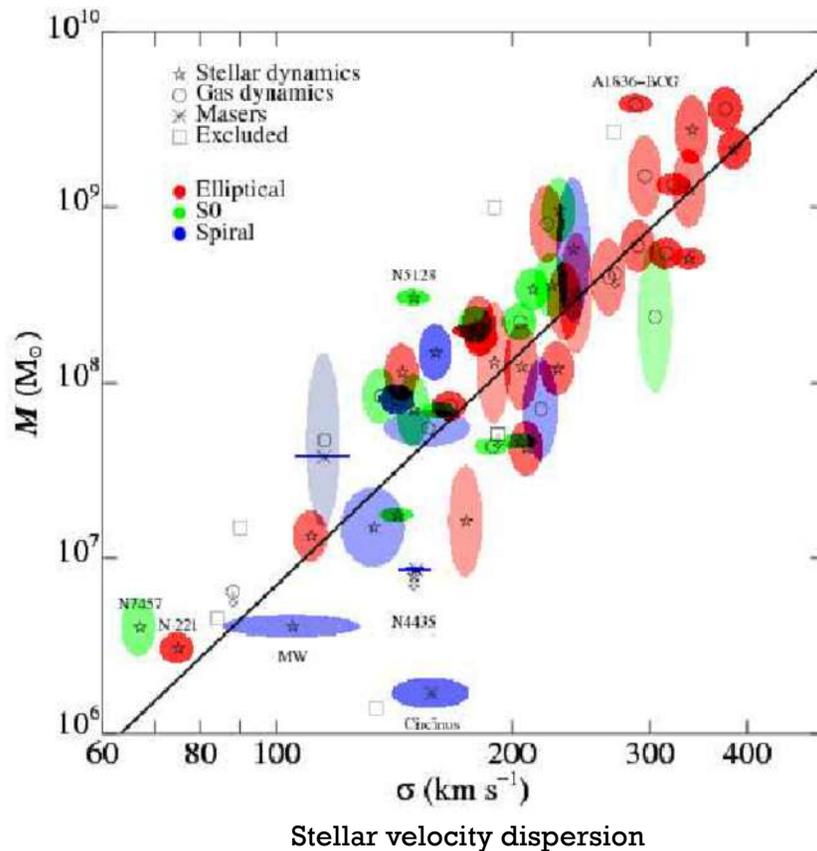


Cygnus A

POWERFUL AGNS



ORIGIN OF THE M-SIGMA RELATION?

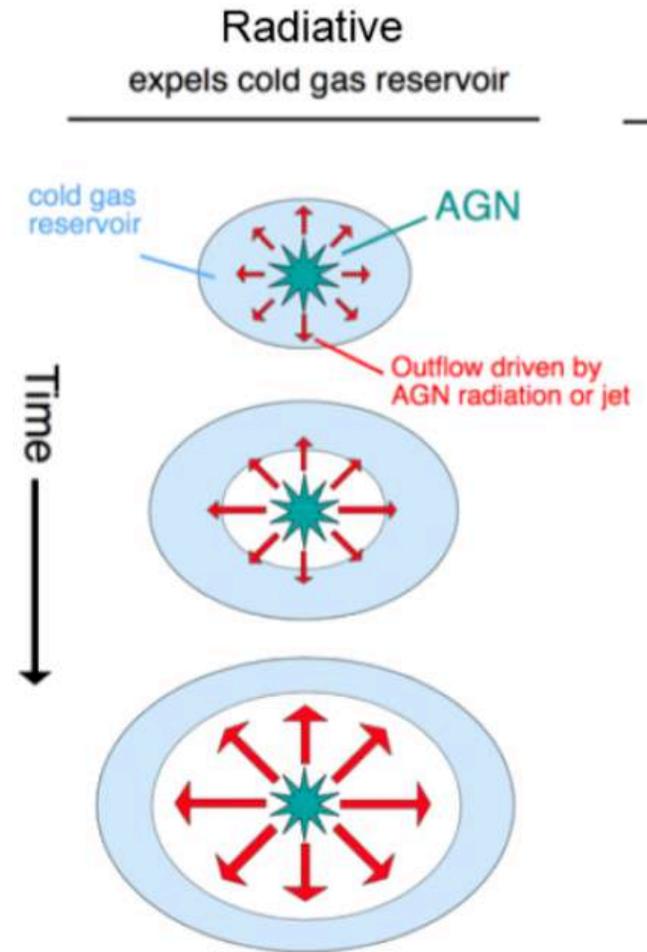


- Most discussed hypothesis: **AGN feedback**
- BHs and galaxies **co-evolve**: both grow from accretion of gas
- Eventually the BH is so big and powerful that it blasts the gas from the galaxy and stops them from growing



THE “QUASAR-MODE” FEEDBACK

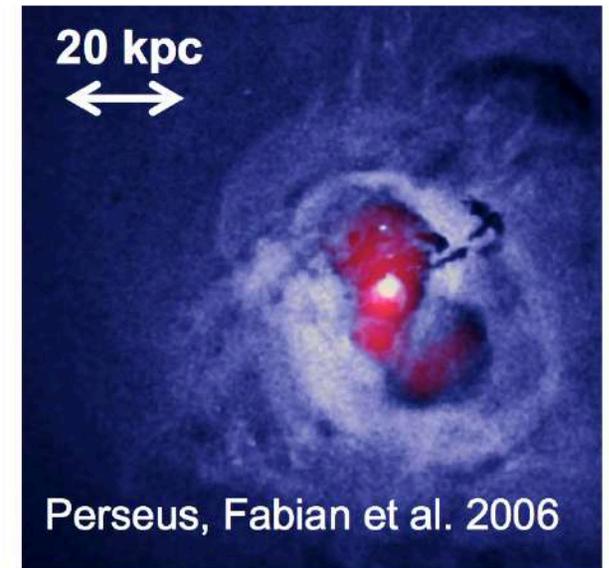
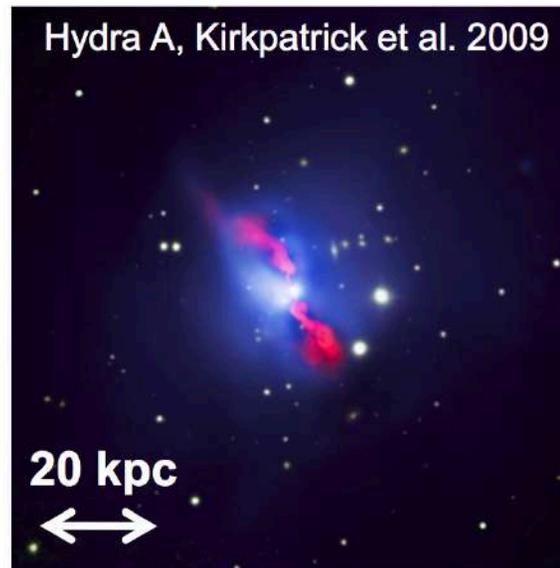
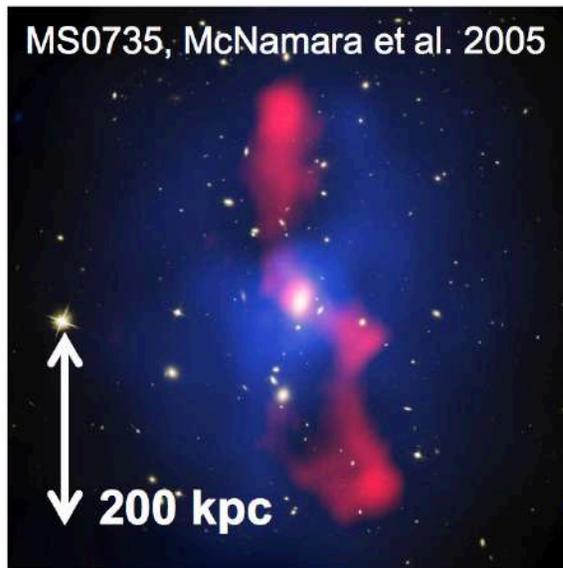
- *Quasar/radiative mode feedback*
- More important at *higher redshifts*
- Operates mainly by *expelling gas*
- A plausible mechanism for the M-sigma relation
- Could quench star formation and regulate SMBH growth



THE “JET-MODE” FEEDBACK

Blue: X-ray gas
Red: radio jets

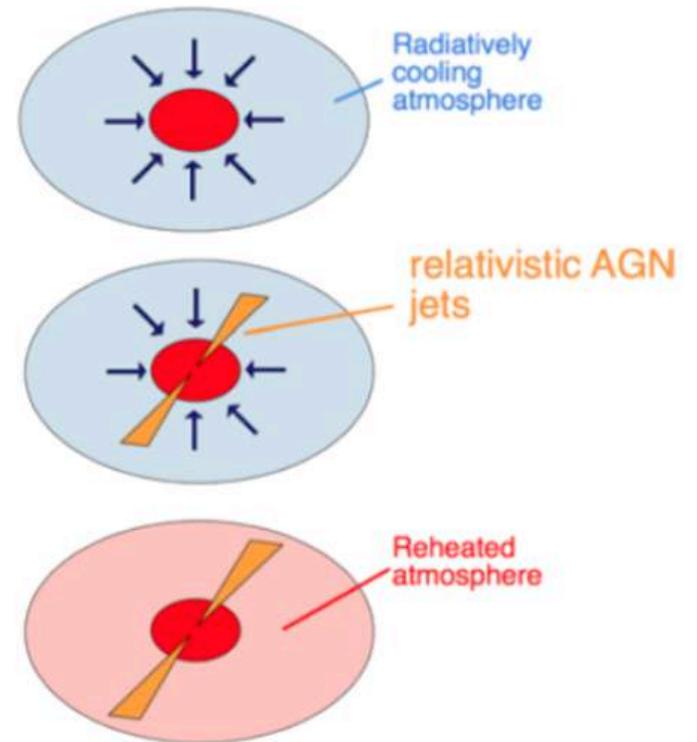
- In massive *galaxy clusters*, the cluster gas is hot ($T \sim 10^7 \text{K}$) and emits in X-ray
- This allows us to clearly see interactions between the jets and the gas
- The jets can provide lots of energy to heat the gas, otherwise the galaxy at cluster centers would produce too many stars and be too massive



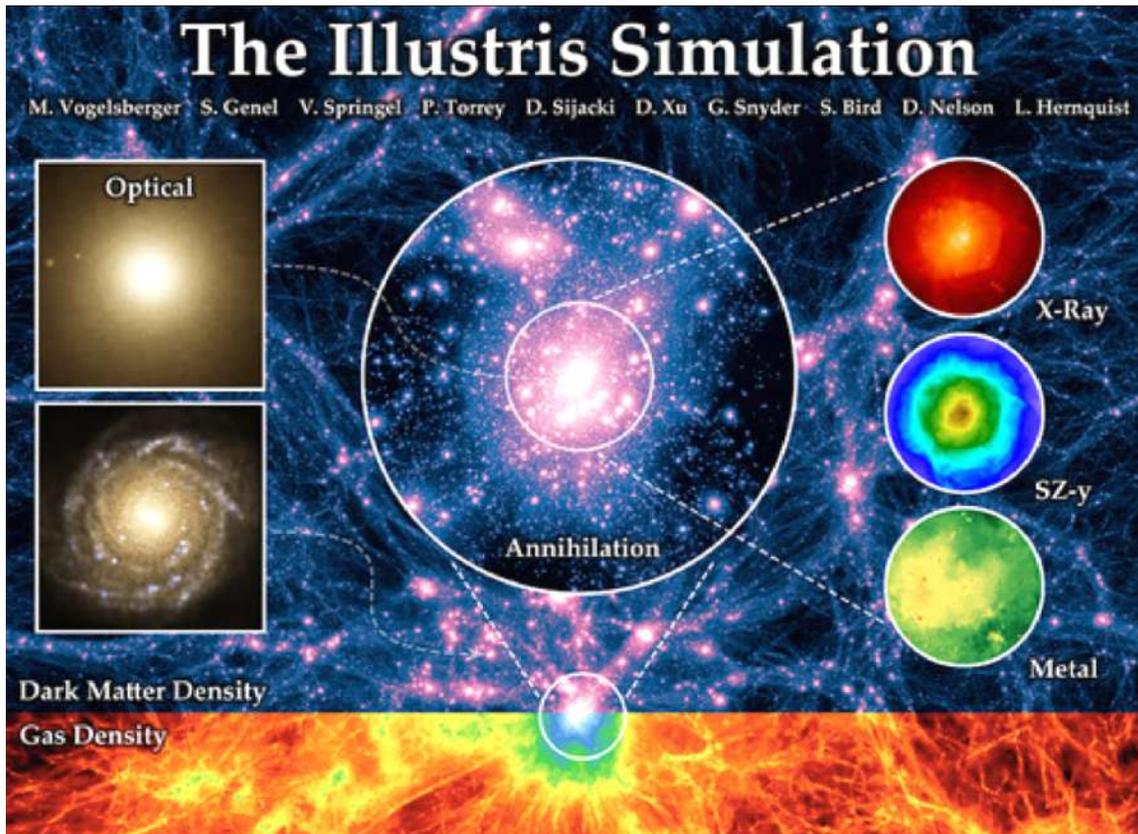
THE JET-MODE FEEDBACK

- **Jet/kinetic mode feedback**
- More important at **lower redshifts**
- Operates mainly by **heating gas** via jets
- Can reduce star formation at cluster centers and limit the growth of massive galaxies

Kinetic
reheats cooling atmosphere



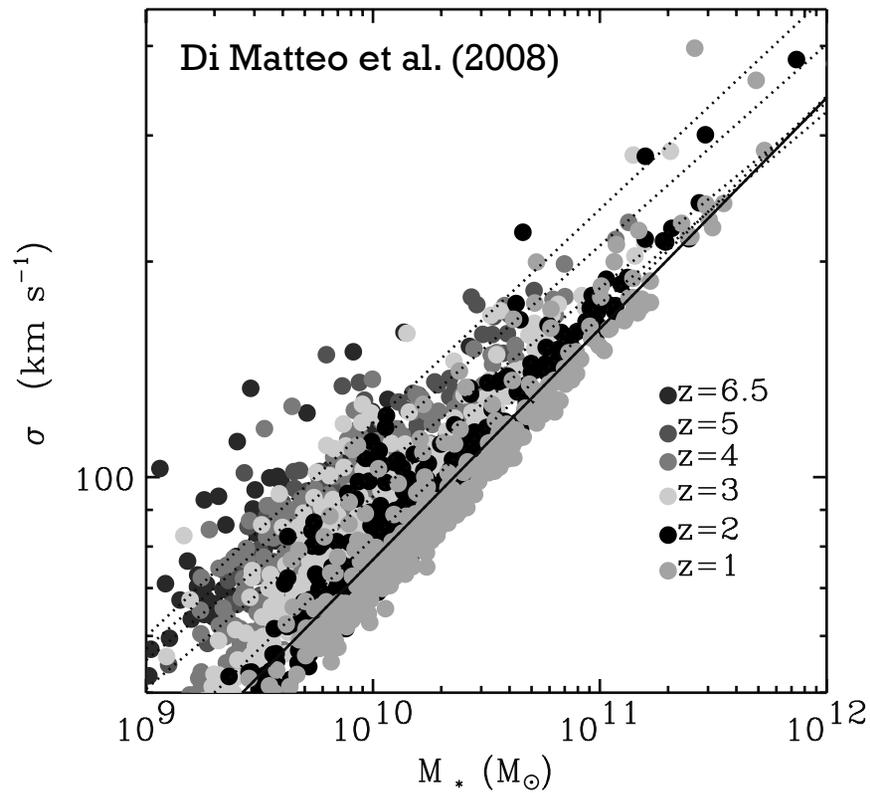
SUCCESSSES OF COSMOLOGICAL SIMULATIONS



- **Cosmological simulations** of galaxy formation
- Ingredients:
 - Baryons, dark matter, dark energy
 - Gravity
 - Gas dynamics
 - Star formation and supernova feedback
 - SMBH seeds and growth
 - Quasar- and jet-mode AGN feedback



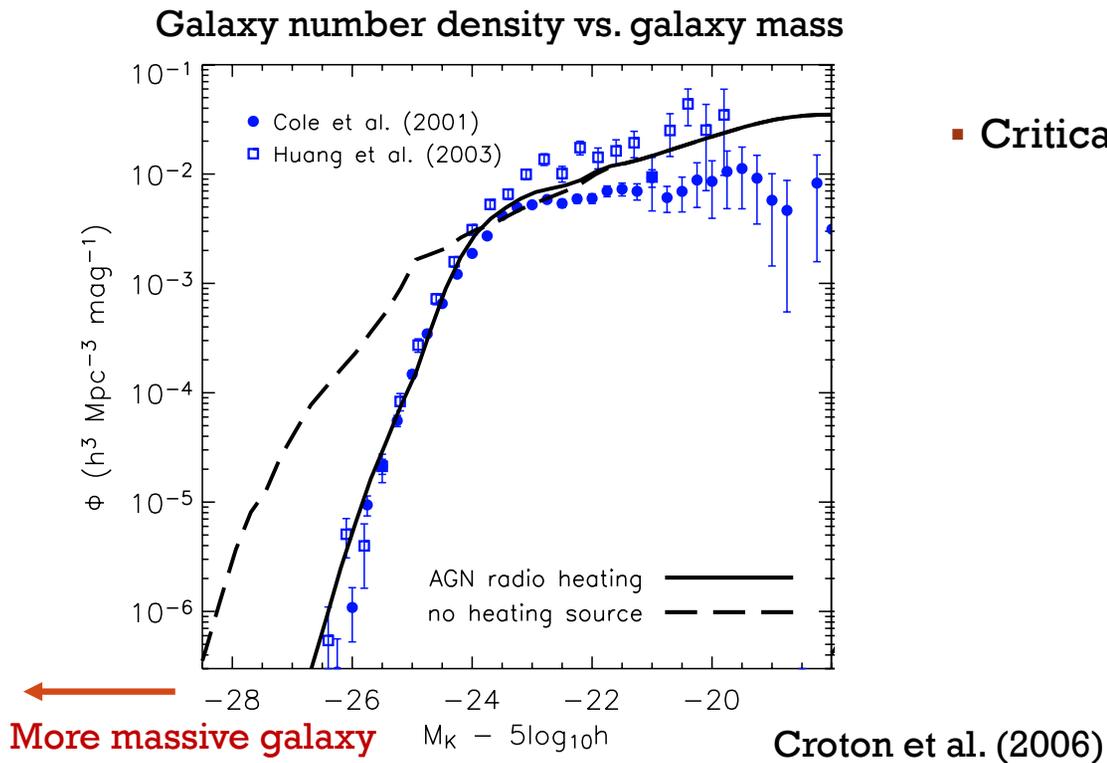
M-SIGMA RELATION REPRODUCED



- Critical ingredient -- “*quasar-mode*” feedback



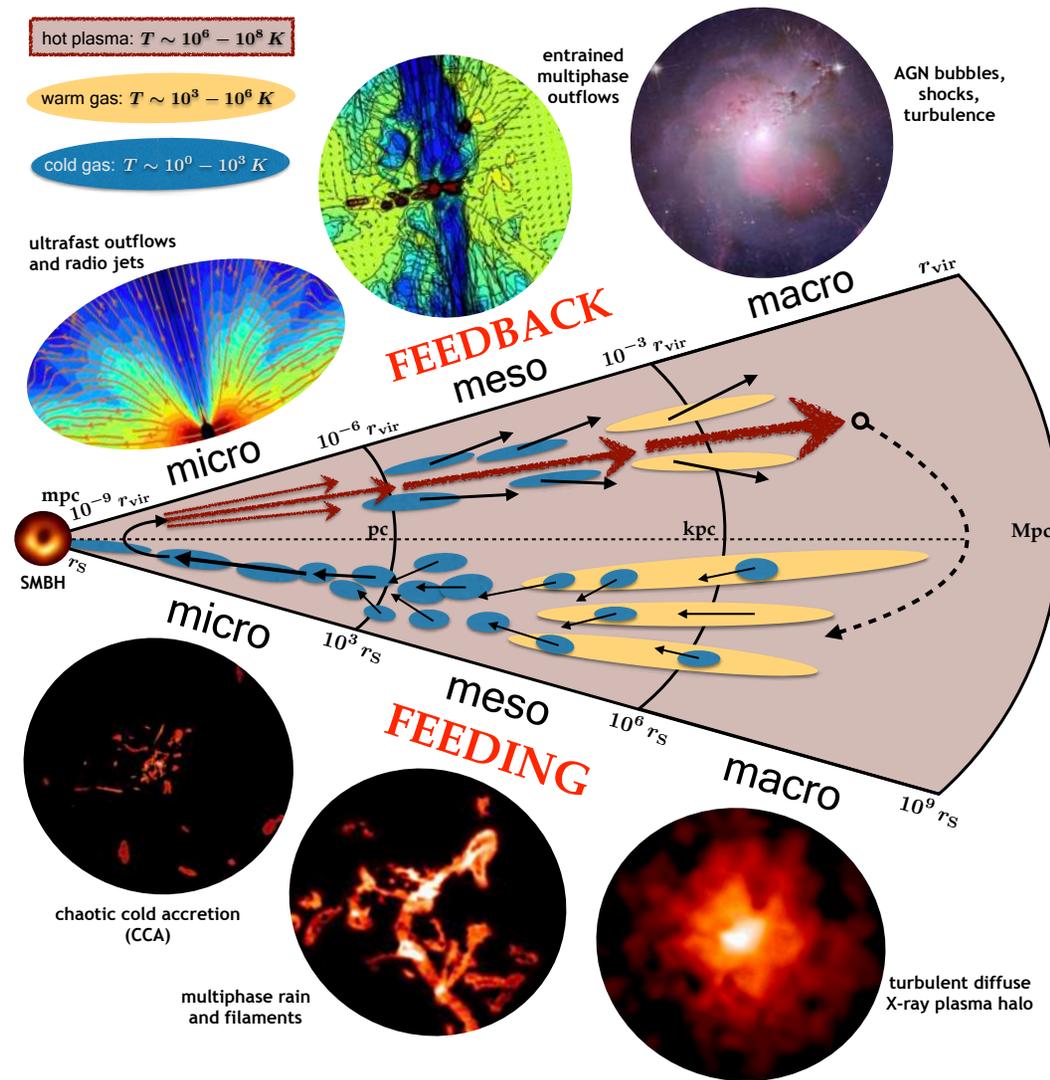
DISTRIBUTION OF GALAXIES REPRODUCED



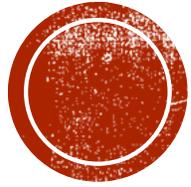
- Critical ingredient: “*jet-mode*” feedback



Devils lie in the details!



Gaspari (2020)



WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM GRAVITATIONAL WAVES?



The New York Times

Late Edition

Today, some sunshine giving way to times of clouds, cold, high 28. Tonight, a flurry or heavier sleet late, low 15. Tomorrow, windy, frigid, high 21. Weather map, Page A8.

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\$2.50



WITH FAINT CHIRP, SCIENTISTS PROVE EINSTEIN CORRECT

A RIPPLE IN SPACE

An Echo of Black Holes Colliding a Billion Light-Years Away

By DENNIS OVERBYE

A team of scientists announced on Thursday that they had heard and recorded the sound of two black holes colliding a billion

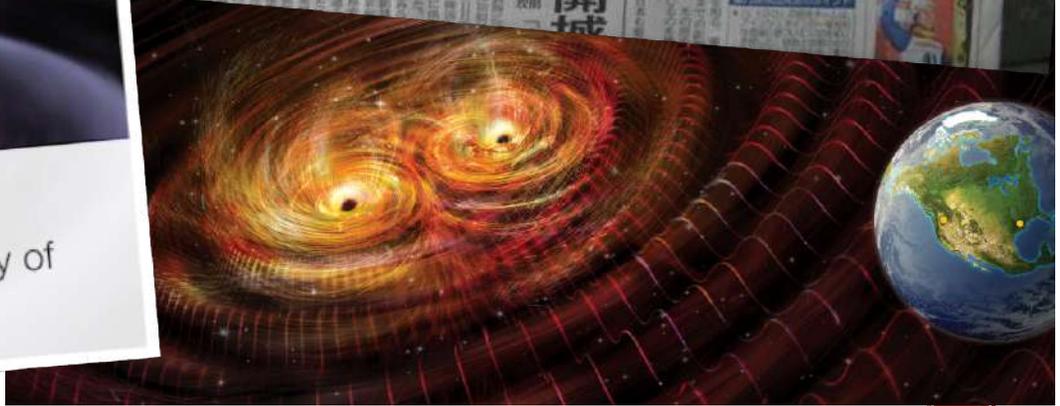
Feb 11, 2016



Gravitational waves are real

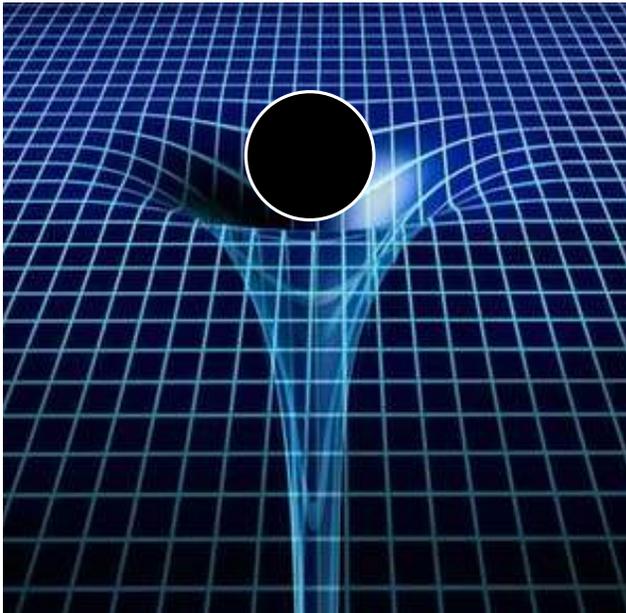
Astounding discovery was predicted by Einstein's theory of relativity

Einstein's theory: It's relative to YOU | His dark mistake foretells the end of the universe

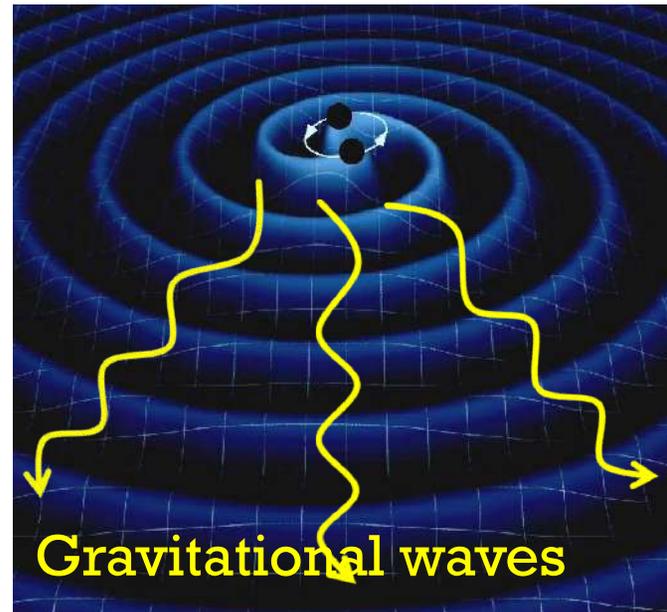


GENERAL RELATIVITY PREDICTS CURVED SPACETIME AROUND MASSES

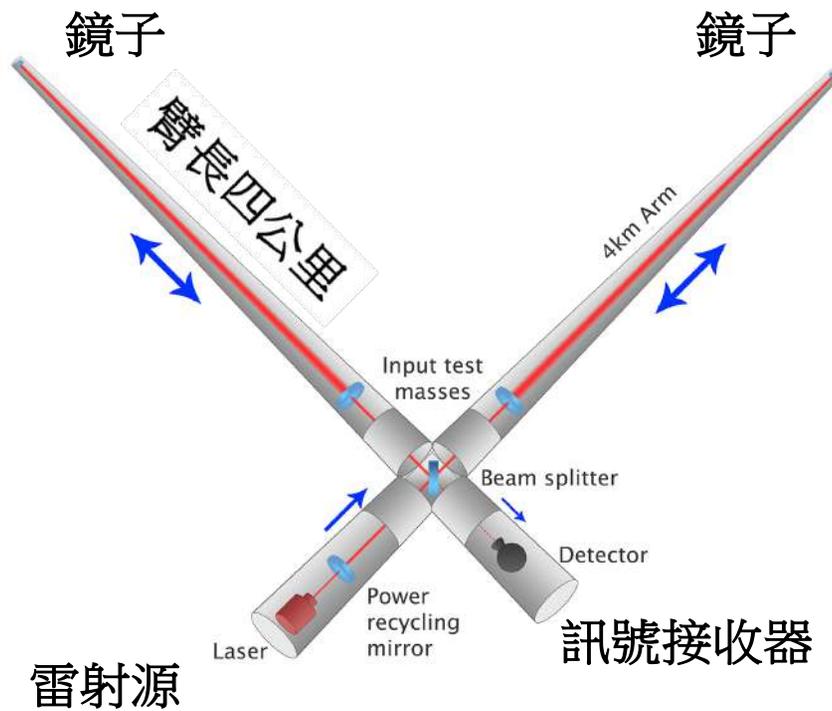
A static black hole



Two orbiting black holes



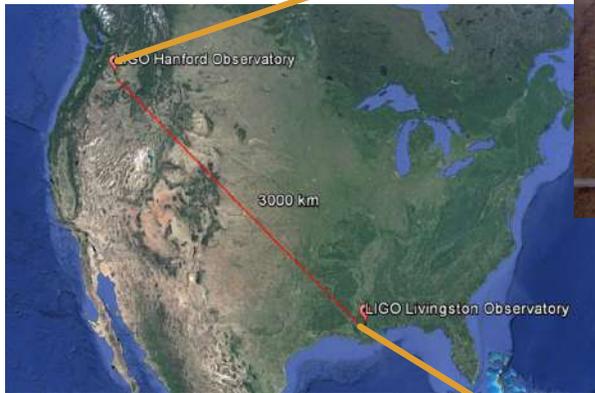
LIGO (雷射干涉重力波天文台)



Changes of the arm length are $\sim 1/10$ of the atomic nuclei!!!

LIGO

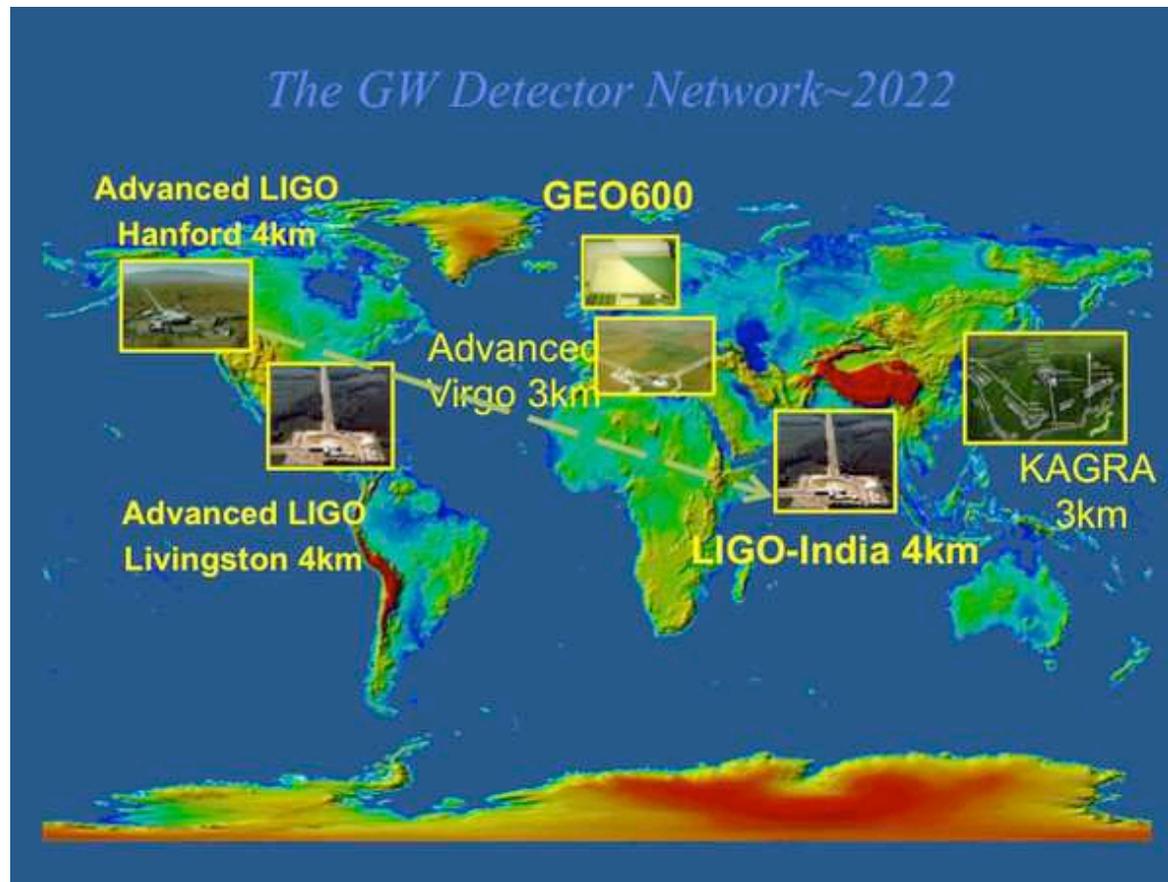
華盛頓州 Hanford, USA



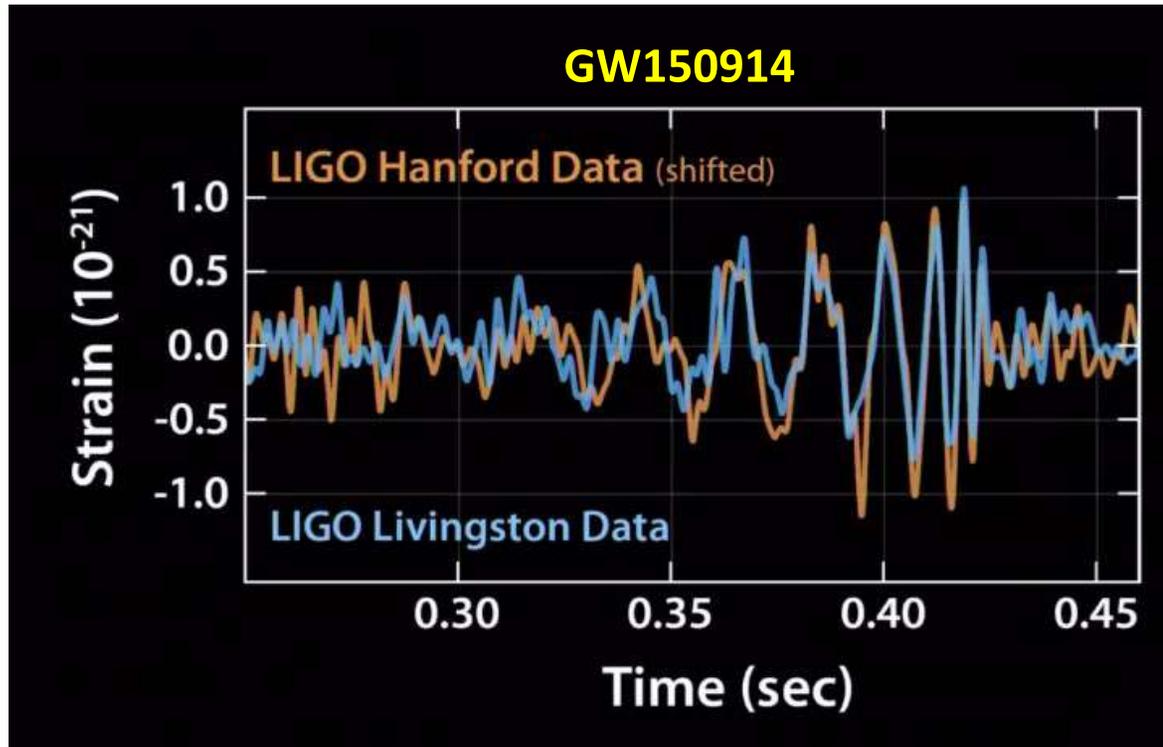
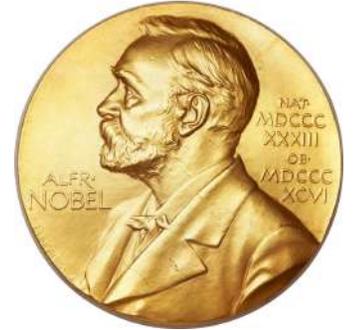
路易斯安那州 Livingston, USA



GRAVITATIONAL WAVE NETWORK



FIRST DETECTION OF GW IN HISTORY!!!

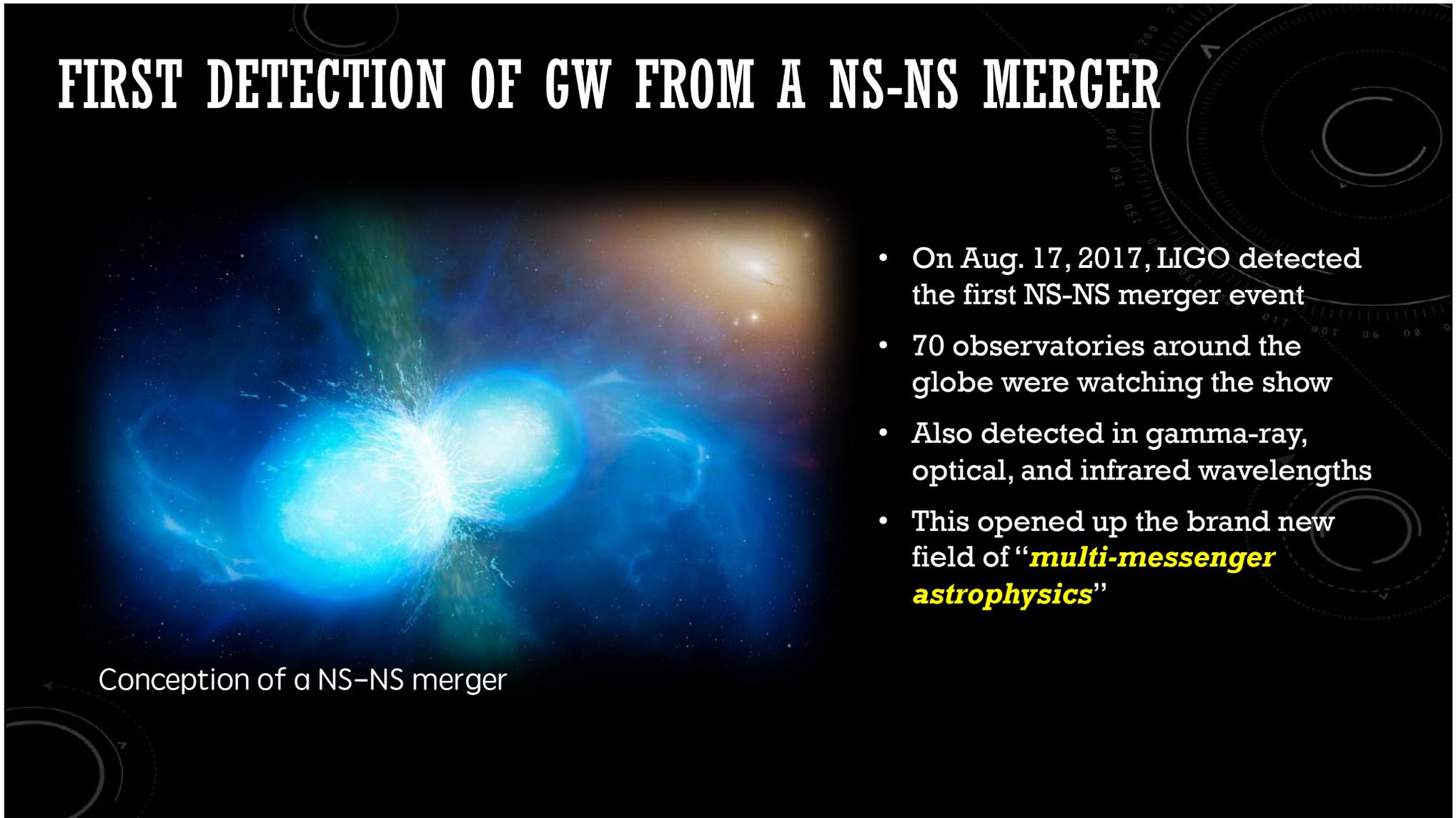


- On Sep. 14th, 2015, human detected GWs for the first time
- GWs resulted from merger of two stellar-mass black holes

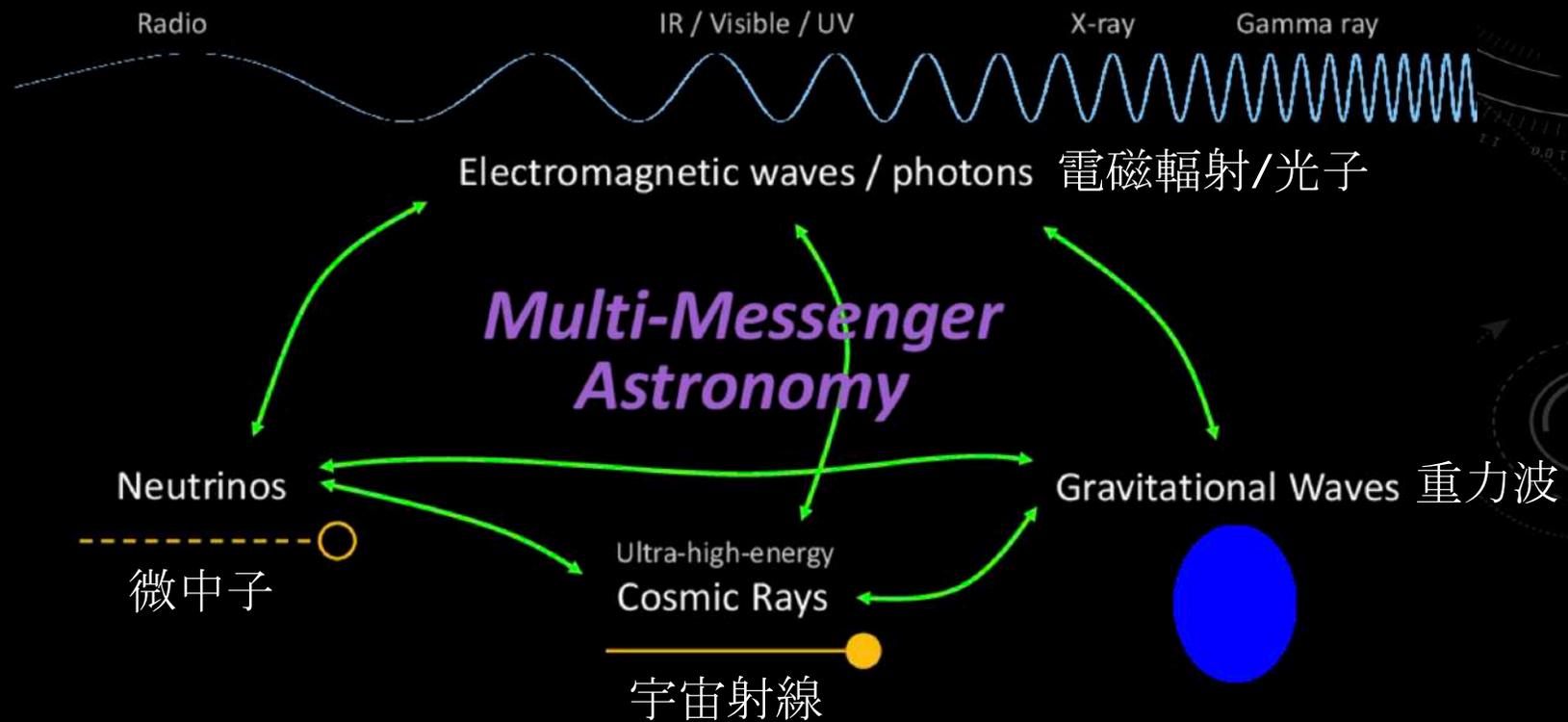
FIRST DETECTION OF GW FROM A NS-NS MERGER

- On Aug. 17, 2017, LIGO detected the first NS-NS merger event
- 70 observatories around the globe were watching the show
- Also detected in gamma-ray, optical, and infrared wavelengths
- This opened up the brand new field of “**multi-messenger astrophysics**”

Conception of a NS-NS merger

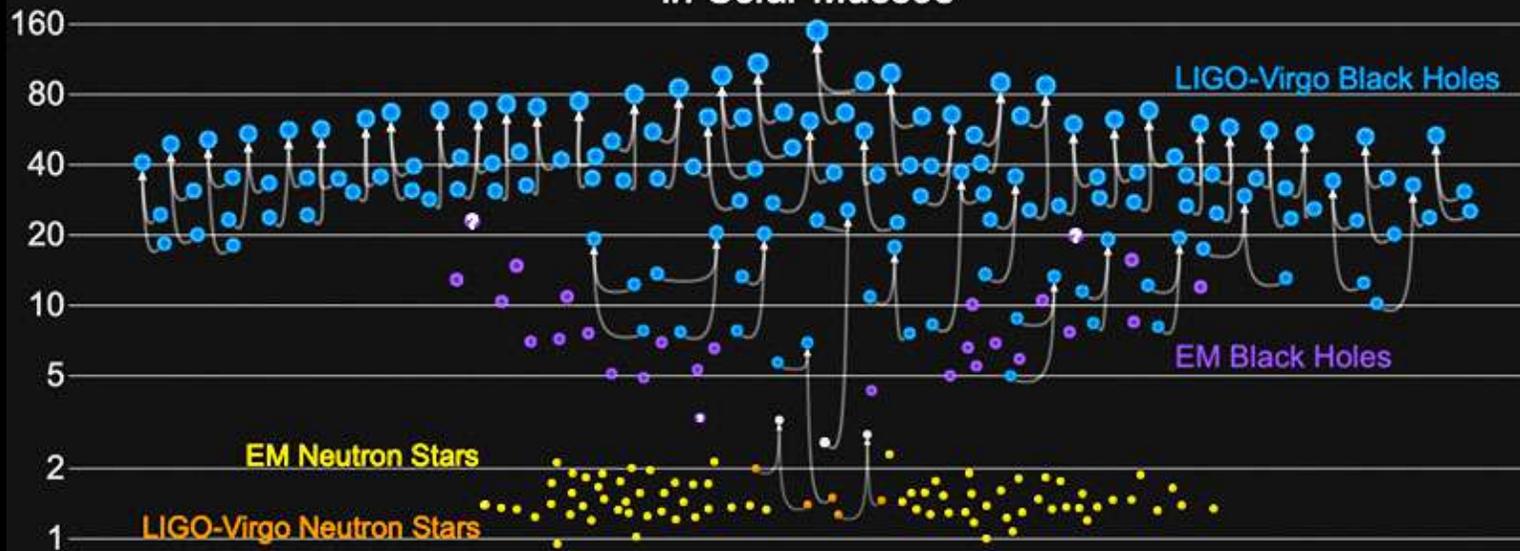


MULTI-MESSENGER ASTRONOMY 多信使天文領域



LIGO DETECTIONS TO DATE: 50 EVENTS

Masses in the Stellar Graveyard *in Solar Masses*



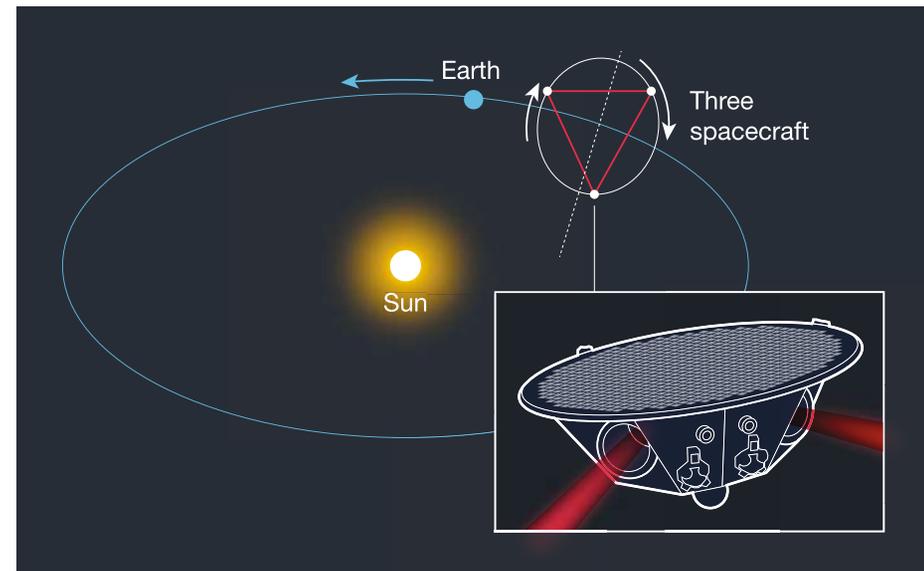
GWTC-2 plot v1.0

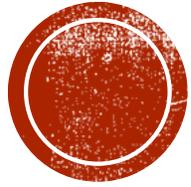
LIGO-Virgo | Frank Elavsky, Aaron Geller | Northwestern

FUTURE PROSPECTS

- **LISA** (Laser Interferometer Space Antenna)
 - Three test masses forming a triangle with 5 million km arms in space!
 - Frequency range **$\sim 0.001-0.1$ Hz**
 - Can detect mergers of SMBHs with $10^4 - 10^7 M_{\text{sun}}$
- Will probe the poorly understood distribution of intermediate black holes (IMBHs) with masses of $10^2 - 10^6 M_{\text{sun}}$!
 - Crucial for understanding SMBH formation

Design of LISA gravitational wave detector

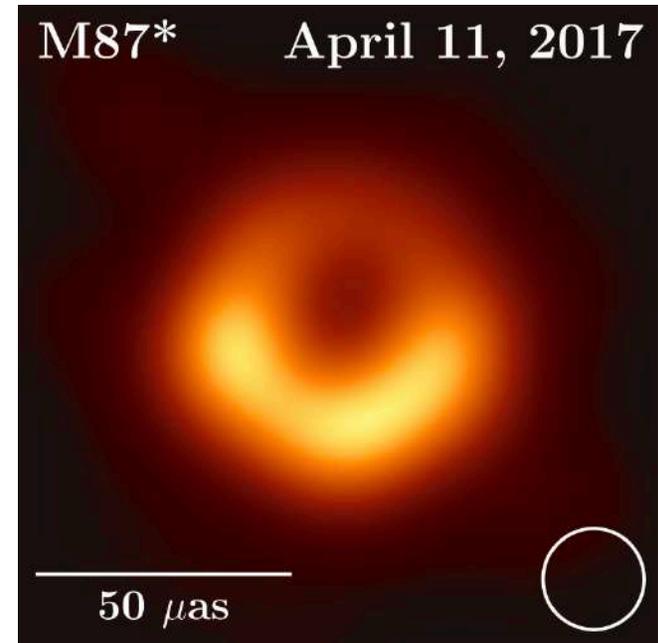
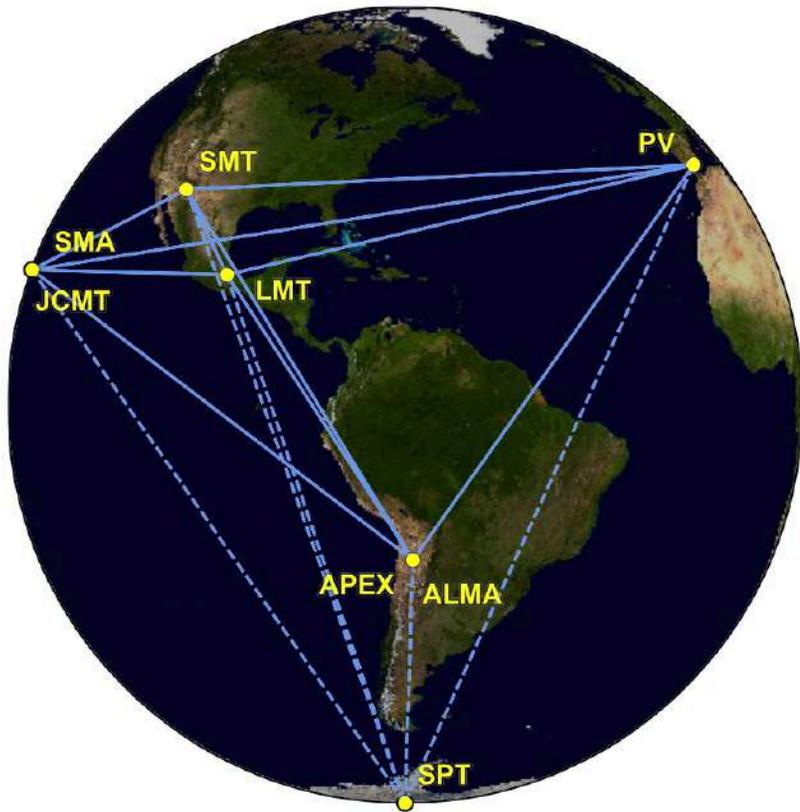




THE FIRST IMAGE OF BLACK HOLE

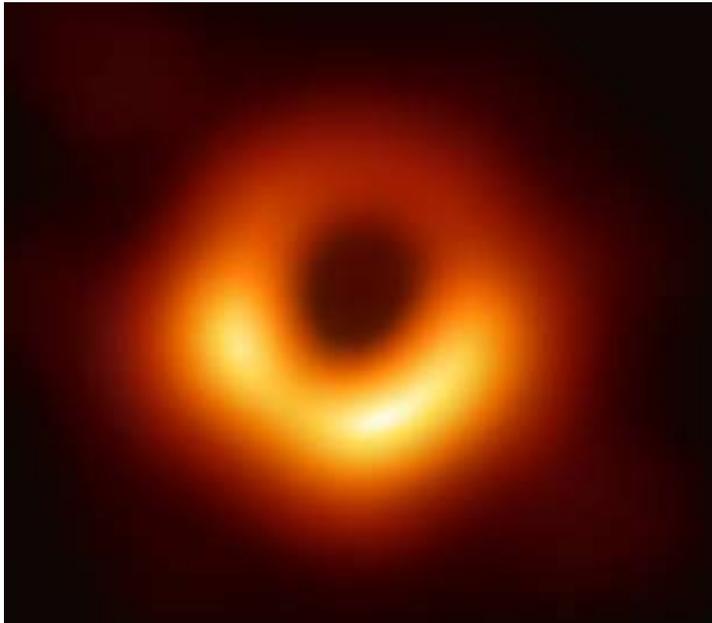


FIRST IMAGE OF BLACK HOLES – M87

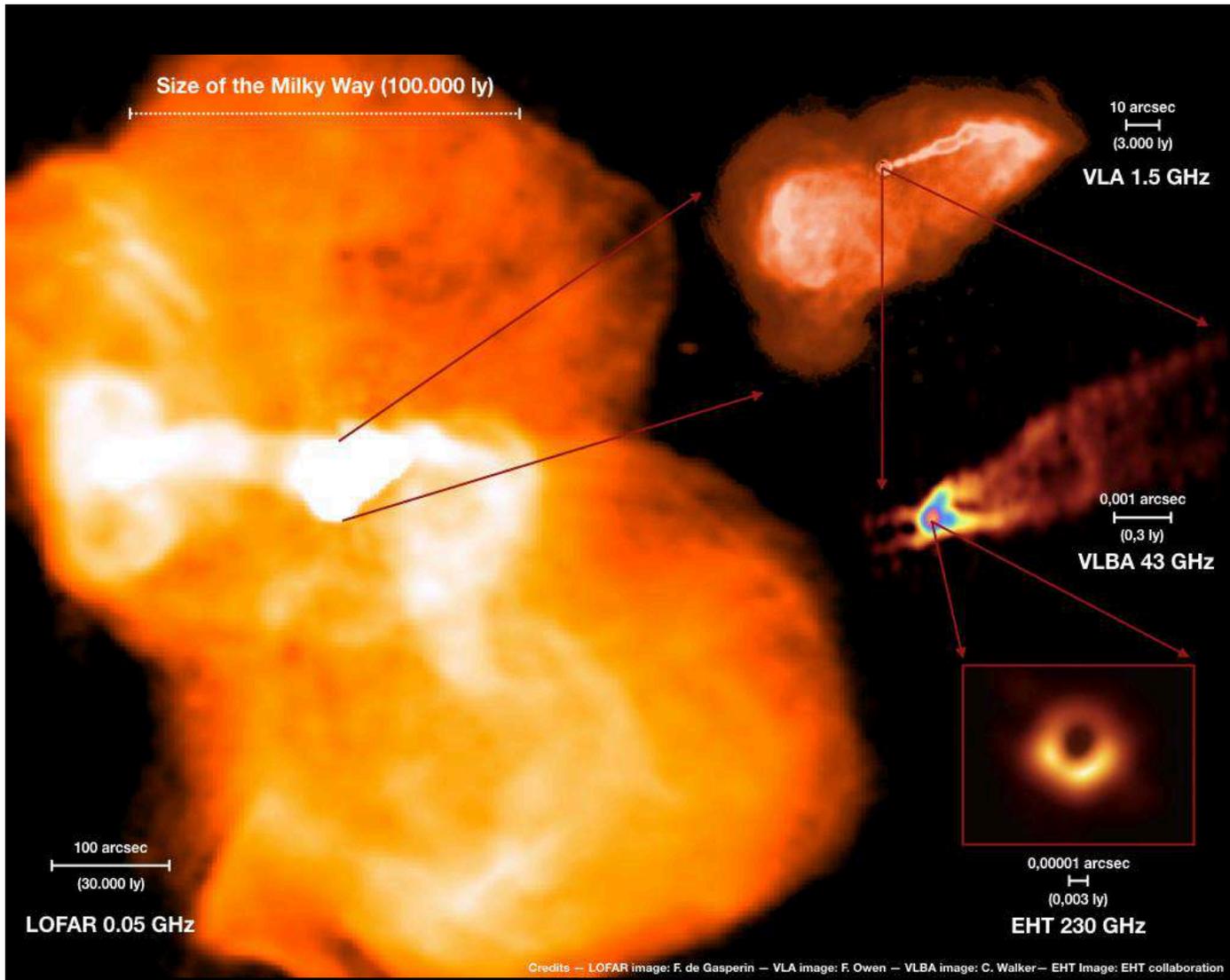


- Taken by the ***Event Horizon Telescope (EHT)***, which is a network of 8 radio telescopes across 4 continents in the world
 - Angular resolution: $\theta \propto \lambda/D$
 - Extraordinary resolution ~ 25 microarcsec!

WHAT ARE WE SEEING IN THIS IMAGE?



- The first ***DIRECT*** evidence for black holes!!
- Black holes are black, consistent with GR predictions
- Dark region is called “***BH shadow***”
- The bright ring comes from emission of materials near the BH (e.g., accretion flow/jets)



THE M87 SMBH

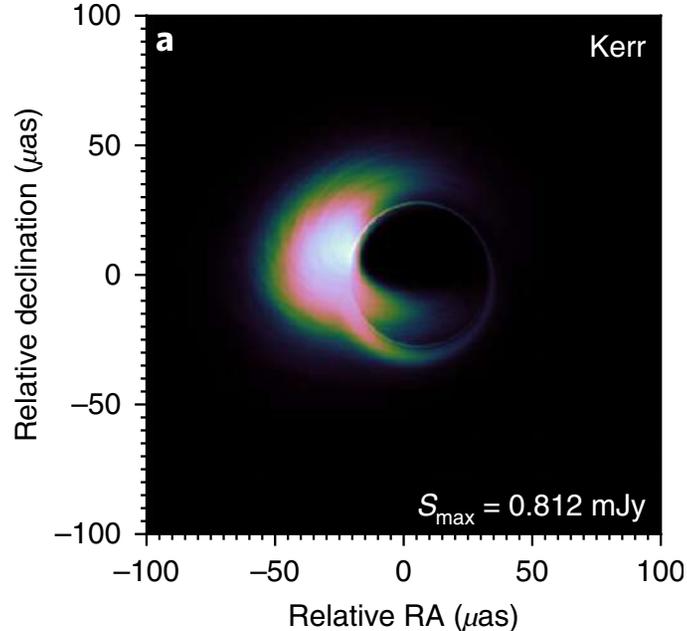
- $M_{\text{BH}} \sim 6.5 \times 10^9 M_{\text{sun}}$ within M87 galaxy in Virgo cluster
- Relativistic jets and lobes extending to 10^5 light years
- Crucial to monitor changes to understand jet formation mechanisms

Credits — LOFAR image: F. de Gasperin — VLA image: F. Owen — VLBA image: C. Walker — EHT Image: EHT collaboration



COMING SOON — IMAGE OF THE GCBH

Simulated image of Sgr A*



- The Sgr A* is $\sim 1500x$ smaller than M87, but also closer, so shadow sizes are comparable
- Given the current resolution of EHT, these are the **ONLY** two BHs in the universe that we could resolve!!
- Things around Sgr A* vary on shorter timescales (\sim hours) so more difficult to analyze



SUMMARY

- Black holes are predicted by Einstein's theory of general relativity, and are confirmed to exist in the real universe
- There are two types of black holes
 - Stellar-mass black holes (smbhs): $\sim 3-100 M_{\text{sun}}$
 - Supermassive black holes (SMBHs): $\sim 10^6 - 10^{10} M_{\text{sun}}$
- Black holes are important in astrophysics because
 - They allow us to probe extreme conditions and fundamental physics
 - Energetic feedback from AGNs are influential for formation and evolution of galaxies
- Now is a golden age for studying black holes
 - First image of black holes is a direct evidence and allows us to probe physics near the event horizon
 - Detection of gravitational waves open up a brand new way for studying the universe – multi-messenger astronomy

