## Gravitational waves A crash course









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#### **Ripples in the fabric of spacetime**



Frequency (Hz)

Buildings Butterflies Needle Point Protozoans Humans Molecules Atoms Atomic Nucle 1015 1012 1016 1020 1018 104

10-12

688 Sitzung der physikalisch-mathematischen Klasse vom 22. Juni 1916

#### Näherungsweise Integration der Feldgleichungen der Gravitation.

Von A. Einstein.

Bei der Behandlung der meisten speziellen (nicht prinzipiellen) Probleme auf dem Gebiete der Gravitationstheorie kann man sich damit begnügen, die  $g_{\mu\nu}$  in erster Näherung zu berechnen. Dabei bedient man sich mit Vorteil der imaginären Zeitvariable  $x_4 = it$  aus denselben Gründen wie in der speziellen Relativitätstheorie. Unter "erster Näherung" ist dabei verstanden, daß die durch die Gleichung

 $g_{\mu\nu} = -\delta_{\mu\nu} + \gamma_{\mu\nu}$ 

(1)

154 Gesamtsitzung vom 14. Februar 1918. - Mitteilung vom 31. Januar

#### Über Gravitationswellen.

Von A. EINSTEIN.

(Vorgelegt am 31. Januar 1918 [s. oben S. 79].)

Die wichtige Frage, folgt, ist schon vor a mir behandelt worden standes nicht genüget dauerlichen Rechenfeh die Angelegenheit zu Wie damals bet das betrachtete zeiträ nur sehr wenig unte



Major contributions to radiation theory [from E.T.Newmann]

- 1. J. Goldberg, PR 99, 1873-83 (1955)
- F. Pirani, (1956), Bull. Acad. Polo. Sci, III, 5, p. 143 (Introduced Petrov Classification of Algebra of the Weyl tensor.)
- R. Sachs, P.G. Bergmann; 1958, Phys. Rev. 112, p. 674 (linear theory, definition of multipoles)
- 4. A. Trautman, King's College Notes; Lectures on General Relativity, 1958, eventually revised and published in "Lectures on General Relativity" Vol.1, Prentice Hall, 1965 (Sommerfeld radiation conditions applied to GR, very influential set of notes.) and recently republished as a "golden oldie" in the GRG Journal.
- R. Penrose, Ann. Phys., 1960, 10, p. 171. (Major exposition of Spinor Calculus and GR)
- R. Sachs, Proc. Roy. Soc., 1961, 264, p. 309 (Introduced optical parameters, shear, divergence, twist, asymptotic structure of curvature tensor)
- F. Pirani, 1961, King's College Notes; published in "Lectures on General Relativity", Vol.1, Prentice Hall, 1965 (Introduce the Petrov Classification of Weyl tensors)
- J. Goldberg, R. Sachs, (1962), Acta Physica Polonica, Vol. XII, p12 (The Goldberg–Sachs Theorem; Princ. Null Vectors of Algebraically Special Metrics)
- H. Bondi, M. van der Burg, A. Metzner, 1962, Proc. Roy. Soc. 269, p.21, (Introduction of null coordinates, asymptotic solutions of Einstein equations, mass loss Theorem, BMS group)
- R. Sachs, Proc. Roy. Soc., 1962, 270, p. 103 (Generalized Bondi work, elucidated the BMS group)
- E. Newman, R. Penrose, JMP, 1962, 3, p.566 (systematic use of tetrad calculus and spinor analysis, Goldberg–Sachs Theorem, Peeling)
- E. Newman and T. Unti, 1962, JMP, 3, p. 892 (Asymptotic Integration of the Einstein Eqs, the BMS group)
- I. Robinson and A. Trautman, 1962, Proc. Roy. Soc. 265 p.463, (Integrated most of the Einstein Eqs. for twist-free algebraically special metrics)
- R. Penrose, 1963, Phys.Rev. Lttrs, 10, p. 66, (Introduced Null Infinity and Conformal Compactification of Space-Time)

#### Sticky bead argument (Bondi/Feynmann - Chapel Hill)





#### **PROPERTIES**

- Transverse
- Speed of light
- Carry energy
- "plus" & "cross" polarization
- Quadrupole sources

Quadrupole formula :

$$\bar{h}_{ij}(t,r) = \frac{2G}{c^4r}\ddot{I}_{ij}(t-r)$$





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### Potential of charge distributions, dipoles, ...

**23.23** Cross sections of equipotential surfaces (blue lines) and electric field lines (red lines) for assemblies of point charges. There are equal potential differences between adjacent surfaces. Compare these diagrams to those in Fig. 21.28, which showed only the electric field lines.



#### ... and the quadrupole!



#### **Multipole expansion**

$$\Delta \phi = \rho \quad \Rightarrow \quad \phi(\vec{r}) = \int \frac{\rho(\vec{x}) \, \mathrm{d}^3 x}{|\vec{r} - \vec{x}|}$$



Multiple moments of the mass/charge distribution

Intuition:  $Q_{ij}$  ~ deviation from spherical distribution along the axes

#### **Quiz: Which one is a GW source?**











### Gravitational waves: An experimental challenge

$$h \lesssim \frac{GM}{c^2 D} \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{R}{D}\right) \left(\frac{GM}{c^2 R}\right) \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2$$

GW strain

- Car collision (D ~ m): h ~  $10^{-43}$
- Supernova explosion (D ~ 10 kpc): h ~ 10<sup>-17</sup>
- Black hole collision (D ~ 100 Mpc): h ~ 10<sup>-21</sup>

Strongest sources:

- Big Bang
- Mergers of black holes and neutron stars)
- Supernovae



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 $h \sim \frac{\delta L}{L}$ 

#### First observational evidence: PSR B1913+16



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#### Neutron star, pulsars, binary systems



Double pulsar PSR J0737-3039

Single Pulsar

#### Two-body problem in general relativity



### Two-body problem in general relativity





#### Two-body problem in general relativity



### Waveform ID: Adiabatic inspiral



F.Dyson 1963 (Landau-Lifshitz 1951)  $\rightarrow$  intense GW flash from coalescing binaries made of compact objects

Wave frequency is twice the orbit's frequency

Chirp mass:

$$M_c := \mu^{3/5} M^{2/5} = \left(\frac{\mu}{M}\right)^{3/5} M = \nu^{3/5} M$$

Trivial mass scale:

$$h(t) \sim \frac{1}{r} M_c^{5/3} f_{\rm gw}^{2/3}(t) = \nu \frac{1}{r} M^{5/3} f_{\rm gw}^{2/3} = \nu \frac{1}{(r/M)} (M f_{\rm gw}(t))^{2/3}$$
  

$$\phi_{\rm gw}(t) \sim 2\phi_{\rm orb}(t) = 2M_c^{-5/8} t^{5/8} = 2\nu^{-3/8} \left(\frac{t}{M}\right)^{5/8}$$

### Waveform ID: The ringdown



"It was a natural question then to ask: how does one see a black hole? So, using a computer, I scattered packets of gravitational waves from a black hole and the quasinormal modes emerged carrying the signatures of the black hole... this was theoretical. I had never dreamed that this would take on an aspect of reality some day,"

Prof. Vishveshwara (6 March 1938 – 16 January 2017) [www.thehindu.com]



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#### Stability of a Schwarzschild Singularity

TULLIO REGGE, Istituto di Fisica della Università di Torino, Torino, Italy

AND

JOHN A. WHEELER, Palmer Physical Laboratory, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey (Received July 15, 1957)

It is shown that a Schwarzschild singularity, spherically symmetrical and endowed with mass, will undergo small vibrations about the spherical form and will therefore remain stable if subjected to a small nonspherical perturbation.





## Virgo

European Gravitational Observatory (EGO), Cascina, Pisa (Italy)







AUGUST POTS





WAVELET (UNMODELED)



EINSTEIN'S THEORY

S. GHONGE, K. JANI | GEORGIA TECH



# Masses in the Stellar Graveyard



LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA | Aaron Geller | Northwestern

LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA Black Holes LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA Neutron Stars EM Black Holes EM Neutron Stars



# Masses in the Stellar Graveyard

Solar Masses 20-10 5 ? 0 ••••••••••••••• 2 ......

LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA | Aaron Geller | Northwestern



### **GW170814: A three detectors observation**









#### Gravitational wave source localisation.

Yellow : Localisation obtained using two LIGO detectors only.

Green : Localisation obtained using all three detectors LIGO and Virgo, from real-time fast analysis.

Mauve: Localisation obtained after more powerful postanalysis

(c) collaboration LIGO-Virgo



### GW170817: binary neutron star inspiral









### GW170817: binary neutron star inspiral



### **GW170817: multi-messenger observations**





#### **GRB170817: Gamma-ray burst**



### Kilonova (AT2017gfo)





#### Mass ejecta, r-process and ... shine !



#### Unbound mass (baryons) m~0.01M



NS-BH and NS-NS collisions → decompression of cold neutron star matter (1974) D. Schramm, J. Lattimer … … D. Eichler, T. Piran, F. Thielemann, S.Rosswog and many others

e<sup>-</sup> Thermalization & Black body radiation

- Radioactive heating in expanding plasma (β decay, α decay, fission)
- r-process element opacity (10<sup>6</sup> absorption lines)
- Detailed atomic and ionization abundances (composition)

 $\rightarrow$  challenges for nuclear and atomic physics

#### The Origin of the Solar System Elements



ESA/NASA/AASNova

Graphic created by Jennifer Johnson

#### Cosmography

Velocity-Distance Relation among Extra-Galactic Nebulae.









Type Ia Supernovae (ShoES) H0 =  $73.24 \pm 1.74$  km s-1 Mpc-1 Reiss+ arxiv:1604.01424

> CMB (WMAP, Planck) H0 =  $69.3 \pm 0.7$  km s-1 Mpc-1



#### **Standard sirens**

[B.Schutz Nature 1986]



## GW190521



PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 125, 101102 (2020)

## GW190521



- Pair instability mass gap
- Links to galaxy formation
- Eccentricity

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 125, 101102 (2020)

## Neutron star - black hole binary



## GW spectrum



## Space-based Interferometers



- Stellar mass compact binaries
- Supermassive black hole mergers

## $10^{-4}$ Frequency [Hz]

### Ground-based Interferometers



 Neutron star mergers Black hole mergers

 $10^2$ 

## Einstein Telescope





## LISA

## Fundamental physics

- Is the graviton massive?
- (Best bound available comes from GW)
- **Do GW travel at the speed of light? Do they disperse?** Are they only tensorial?
  - Are these objects actually black holes?
- Can we use these signals to understand dark matter?
- Is General Relativity a correct description of gravity,
- in the dynamical and large curvature regime of these mergers?
  - **Big bang / early universe**

## Take a walk on the dark side