

Welcome to Exploring Quantum Science through the Arts

PHYS199 CHP



This Class and the next

- **About this Course**
- **Meet and Greet, Reflections**
- **Exploring the Universe**

In previous years...



PHYS 495  **SPRING 2024** 

Where the Arts Meet Physics

Instructor: Professor Smitha Vishveshwara
Limited to 24 students
Requires instructor approval *

3 credit hours
Meets Mondays 3:00-4:50 p.m. and
Wednesdays 3:00-3:50 p.m.

<https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/2024/spring/PHYS/495>

HEAR YE! HEAR YE! CALLING ON YE SCIENTISTS & ARTISTS!

From ancient monuments, such as Roman arches and Indian and Mayan astronomical observatories, to modern day productions, such as Oppenheimer, Silent Sky, and 2001 Space Odyssey, the confluence of the arts and physics has resulted in the most incredible of human creations. The creations have led to a deeper understanding of nature, to giving the arts a new dimension, to friendly and enchanting ways of perceiving science in action, to tremendous technological progress... and to pure fun!

In this course, students will gain exposure to the exciting ways in which science has joined hands with a broad range of the arts, inclusive of the visual arts, theater, music, literature, and more, and to the marvelous creations that have emerged from this synergy. Participants will then become creators themselves by using the knowledge gained in the course, forming teams having both arts and physics students, learning from one another, and working on group projects. This semester will focus on the Universe and the Quantum World—gearing up for the 2025 International Year of the Quantum,—and will culminate in a festive event.

* Contact smivish@illinois.edu, and be sure to describe how you find art-physics synergies meaningful, why you would like to take this course, and what relevant background you have, be it through courses or outside the classroom.



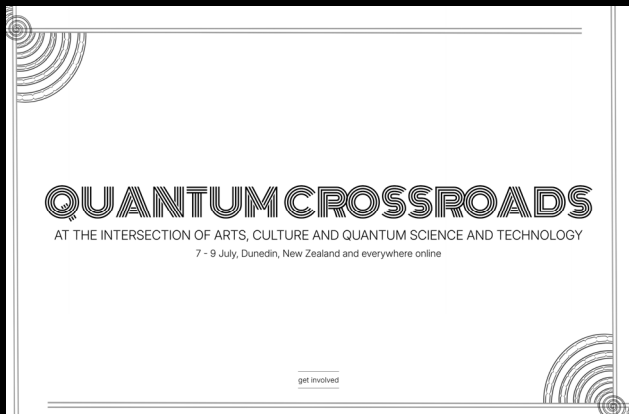
- **Team**
- **Format**
- **Projects**
- **Culminating Event 2017, 2024**

[Course Website — \(Under Construction\)](#)



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF Quantum Science and Technology

Global Events



What Is IQ?



Recognizing the importance of quantum science and the need for wider awareness of its past and future impact, dozens of national scientific societies gathered together to support marking 100 years of quantum mechanics with a U.N.-declared international year.

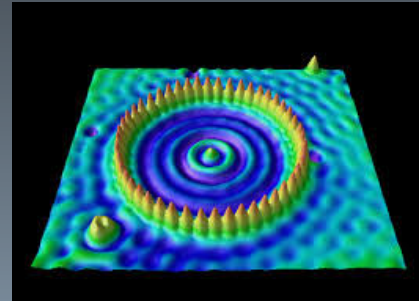
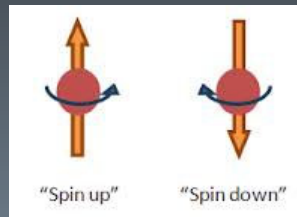
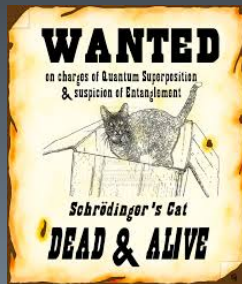
Quantum Voyages



QuantumFest, APS



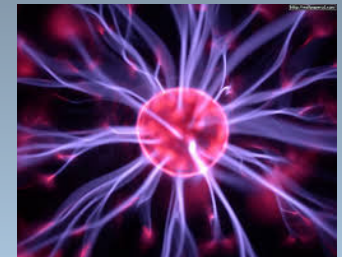
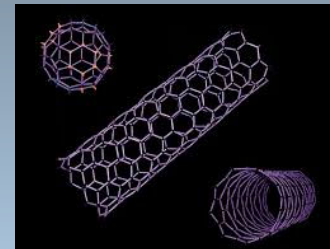
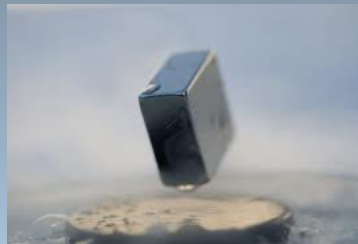
The Universe; The Quantum World; Condensed Matter; High Energy



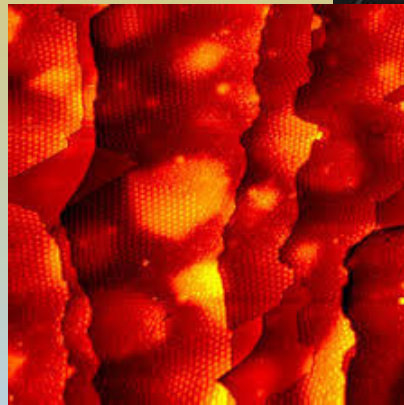
Matter Waves

Quantum superposition
Does God play Dice?

Bizarre States
of Matter



The Arts.....

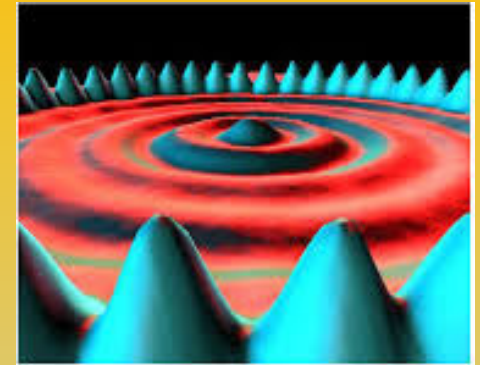


Quantum Voyages



Latrelle Bright

$$H\psi = E\psi$$



Synopsis: Guided by Sapienza, the spirit of knowledge, two voyagers enter the microscopic realm of everyday human experience. As in epic and fairy tales, the voyagers explore land after land, each tickling the viewer's imagination and, unlike fairy tales, offering glimpses of a world we believe actually resides around us. The trio confront terrifying prospects of being Dead and Alive at once, encounter electrons acting as waves, are pelleted by photons, glide through diaphanous orbitals of atoms, precess in Magnetic Resonant Imaging machines, levitate above superconducting surfaces, and navigate disordered quantum within us and the affirmation that things are never what they seem.

In the Beginning.....



Hymn of Creation, Rg Veda:

*Nor aught nor naught existed; yon bright sky
Was not, nor heaven's broad woof outstretched above.
What covered all? what sheltered? what concealed?
Was it the water's fathomless abyss?
There was not death - hence was there naught
immortal,
There was no confine betwixt day and night;
The only One breathed breathless in itself,
Other than it there nothing since has been.
Darkness there was, and all at first was veiled
In gloom profound, - an ocean without light. -
The germ that still lay covered in the husk
Burst forth, one nature, from the fervent heat.
Then first came Love upon it, the new spring
Of mind - yea, poets in their hearts discerned,
Pondering, this bond between created things
And uncreated. Comes this spark from earth,
Piercing and all-pervading, or from heaven?
Then seeds were sown, and mighty power arose -
Nature below, and Power and Will above.*

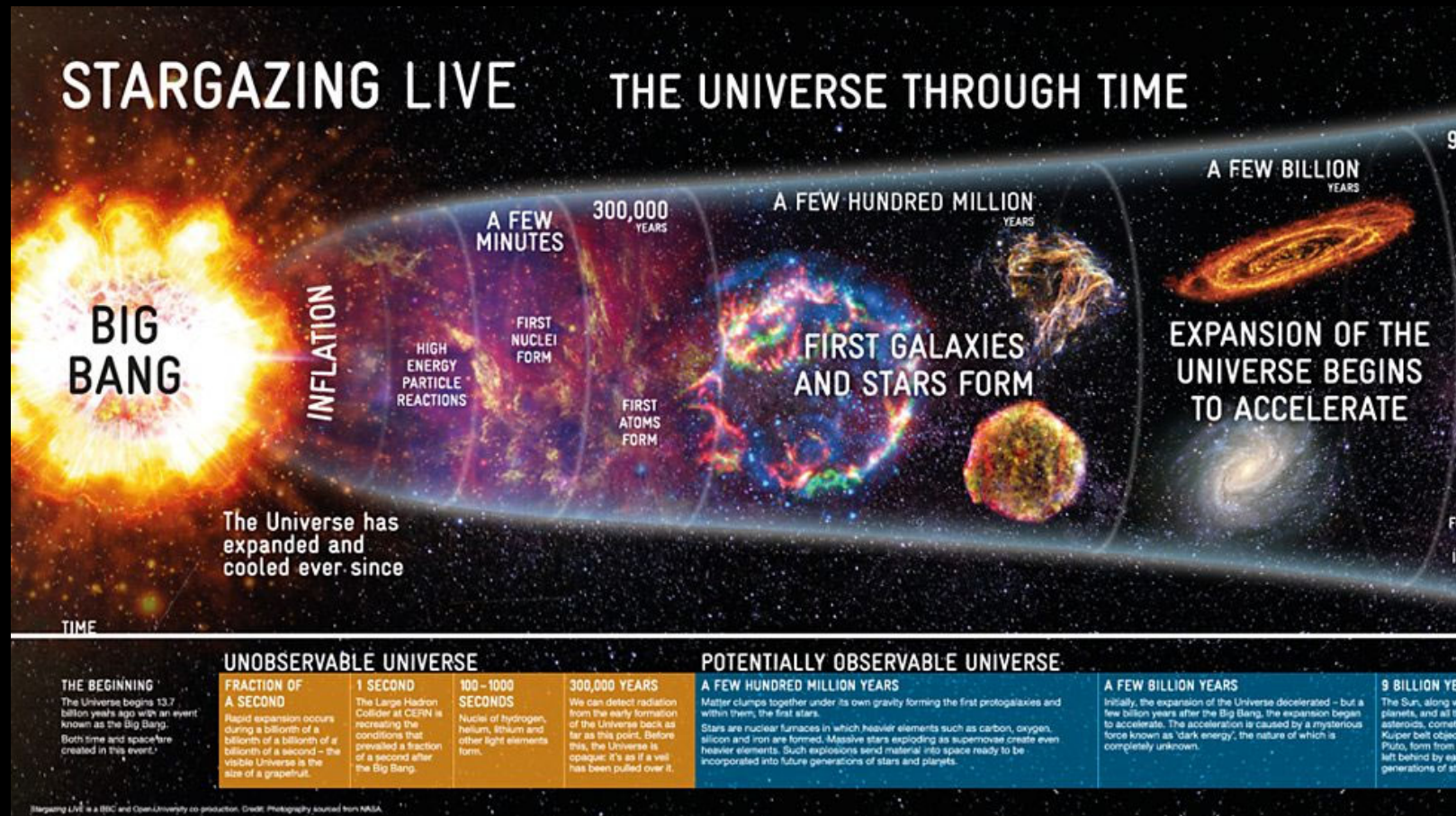
*Who knows the secret? who proclaimed it here,
Whence, whence this manifold creation sprang? -
The gods themselves came later into being. -
Who knows from whence this great creation sprang? -
He from whom all this great creation came.
Whether his will created or was mute,
The Most High seer that is in highest heaven,
He knows it, - or perchance e'en He knows not.*

Translation – Max Muller

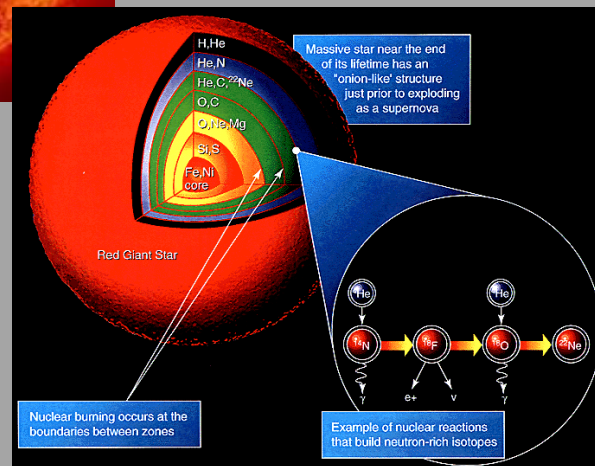
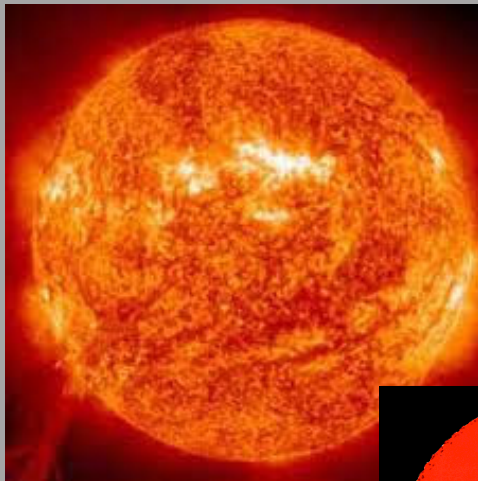
Poetry, Visual Arts, Photography

Hubble Images – Window into Cosmos, Time; James Webb

History of the Universe

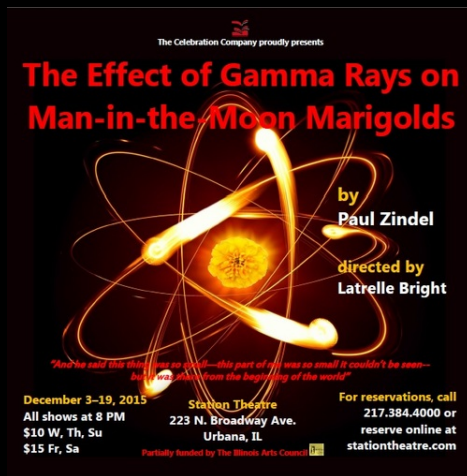


Fusion, Nuclear Power, Elements



[They Might be Giants](#)
[Here Comes Science](#)
[Meet the Elements](#)

[Elements](#) – Tom Lehrer



Tillie's atom monologue.

He told me to look at my hand, for a part of it came from a star that exploded too long ago to imagine. This part of me was formed from a tongue of fire that screamed through the heavens until there was our sun. and this part of me—this tiny part of me — was on the Sun when it itself exploded and whirled in a great storm until the planets came to be.

[Lights start up.]

And this small part of me was then a whisper of the earth. When there was life, perhaps this part of me got lost in a fern that was crushed and covered until it was coal. And then it was a diamond millions of years later — it must have been a diamond as beautiful as the star from which it had first come.

Or perhaps this part of me became lost in a terrible beast, or became part of a huge bird that flew above the primeval swamps.

And he said this thing was so small — this part of me was so small it couldn't be seen—but it was there from the beginning of the world.

And he called this bit of me an atom. And when he wrote the word, I fell in love with it.

Atom.

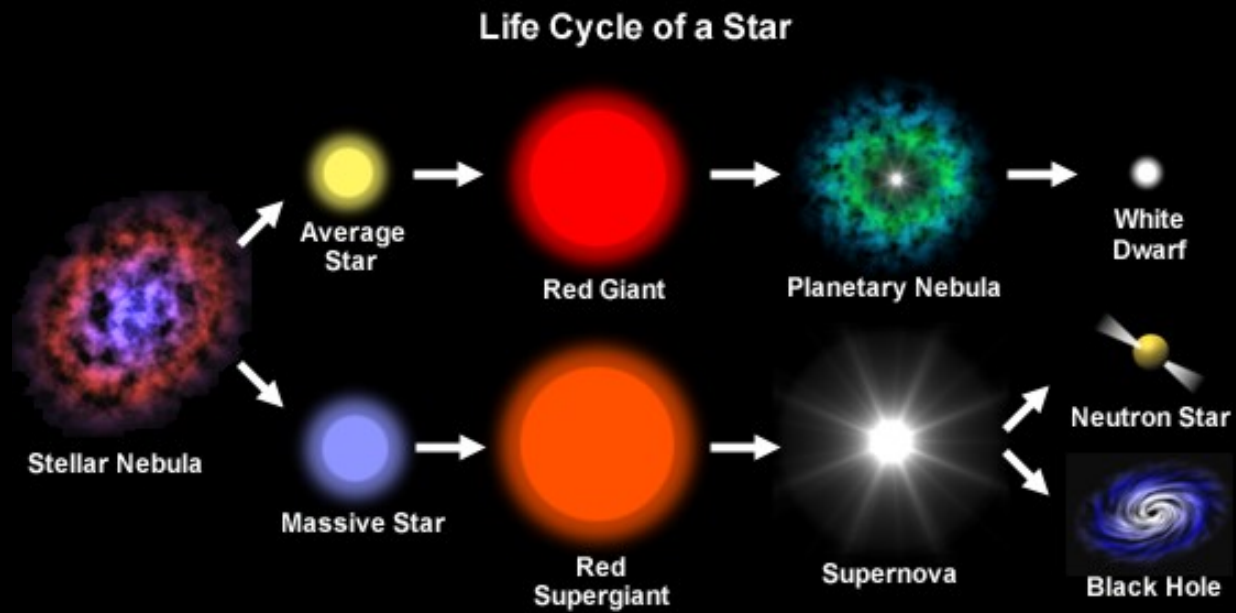
Atom.

What a beautiful word.

Also Spring of last year

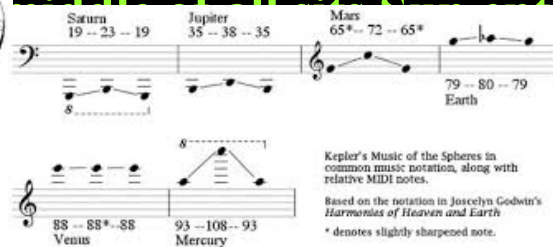
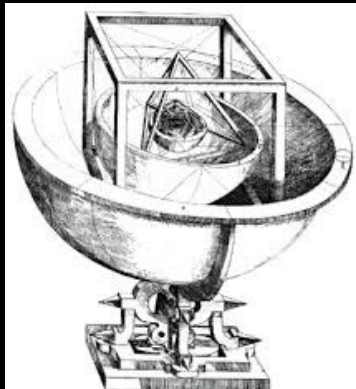


Stellar Life Cycle



Planets

Planetary Music



throne. In this most beautiful temple
any better position from which he can
the Sun sits as upon a royal throne
which circle round him.

-Copernicus

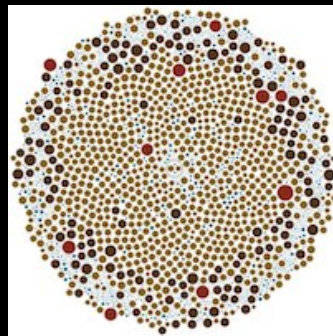
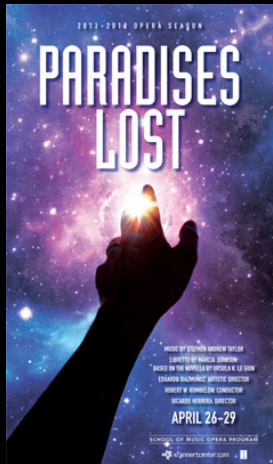
Total Solar Eclipse



From ancient myths to tests of general relativity to today.....

Last year--APRIL 8, 2024!!

Stephen Taylor—Music and Science



Exoplanets



*Sunset in all directions
Celebrating the 2017 eclipse*

Collaborations

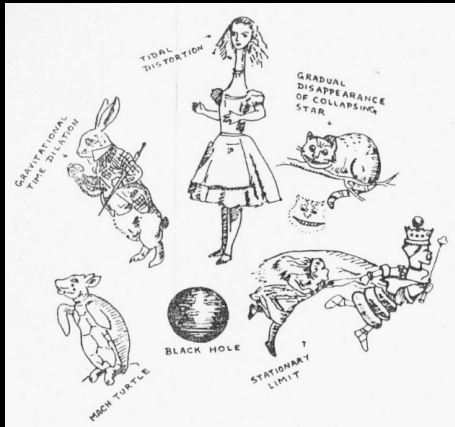
- [Solaria](#)
- *Joy of Regathering*

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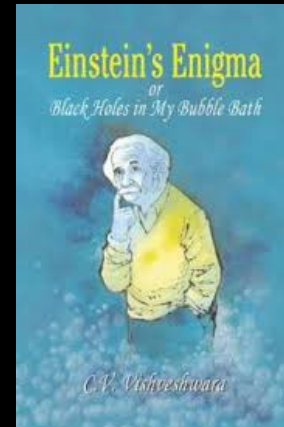
[Website](#)

C. V. Vishveshwara

General Relativist, Black hole physicist, JNP Founder Director, Writer, Father....




*Recently:
Our Solar System (revived)
Gravity*

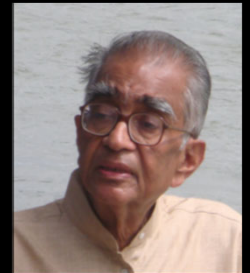
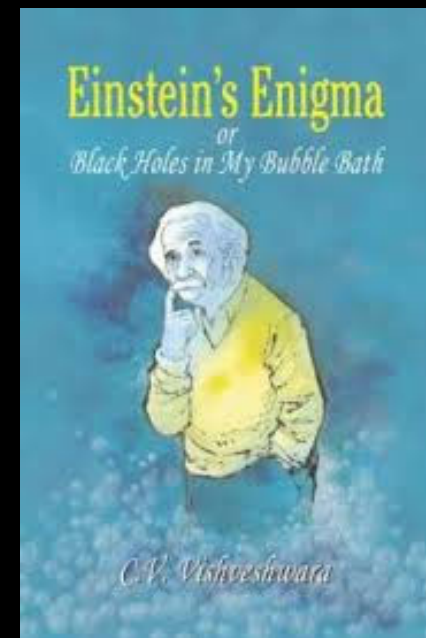
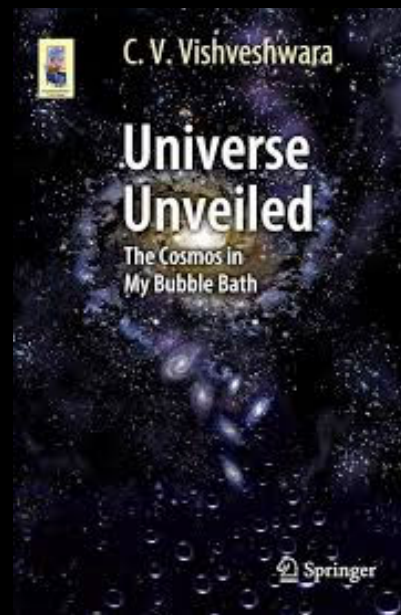
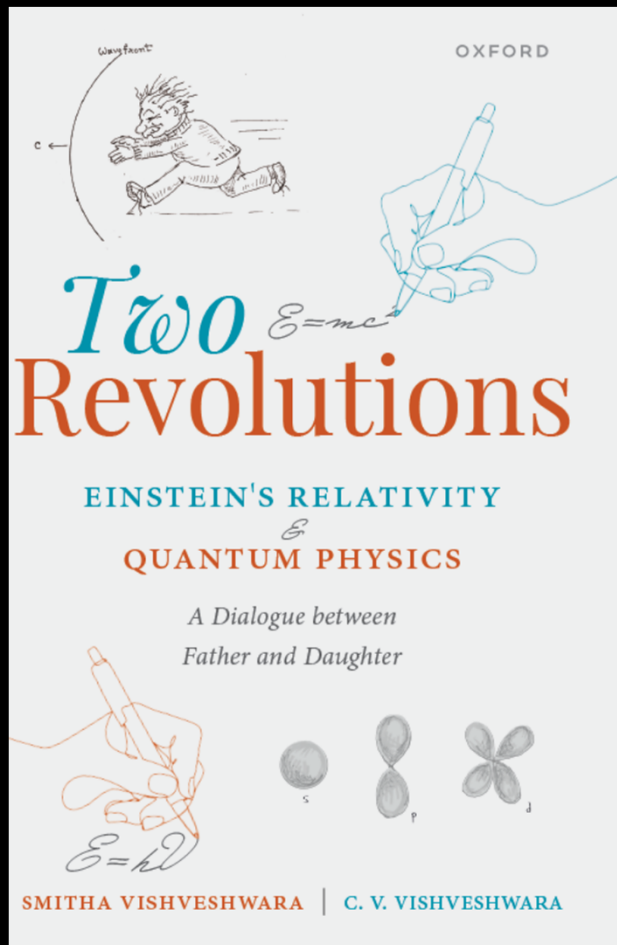


Vishveshwara Lectures

A PUBLIC LECTURE
SERIES IN HONOUR OF
BLACK HOLE PHYSICIST
C. V. VISHVESHWARA



 **ICTS**
INTERNATIONAL
CENTRE for
THEORETICAL
SCIENCES



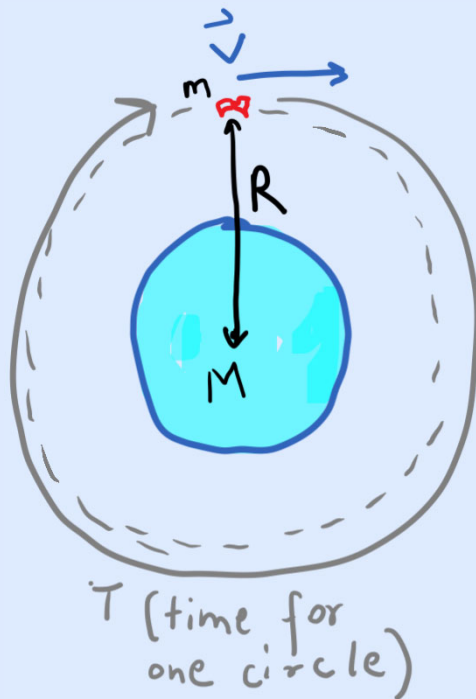
Book launch events:

UIUC April 2025: <https://physics.illinois.edu/news/two-revolutions-debut>
 India July 2025: <https://www.icts.res.in/outreach/other-events/cosmic-2025>

Space Travel



Orbit distance, rotation rate, speed



*The larger the orbit radius,
the slower the rotation speed and
the longer it takes to complete a circle*

Details

$$\downarrow F = m a$$
$$\frac{GmM}{R^2} = m \left(\frac{v^2}{R} \right)$$

$$\frac{GM}{R} = v^2, \quad v = \frac{2\pi R}{T}$$

Satellites: Low/Medium Earth Orbit, Geosynchronous

A medium Earth orbit (MEO) satellite travels at about 6500 miles/hour (1.8 miles/sec). A satellite in low Earth orbit (LEO) travels at about

- A. 700 miles/hour**
- B. 5 miles/sec**
- C. It depends a lot on its altitude**

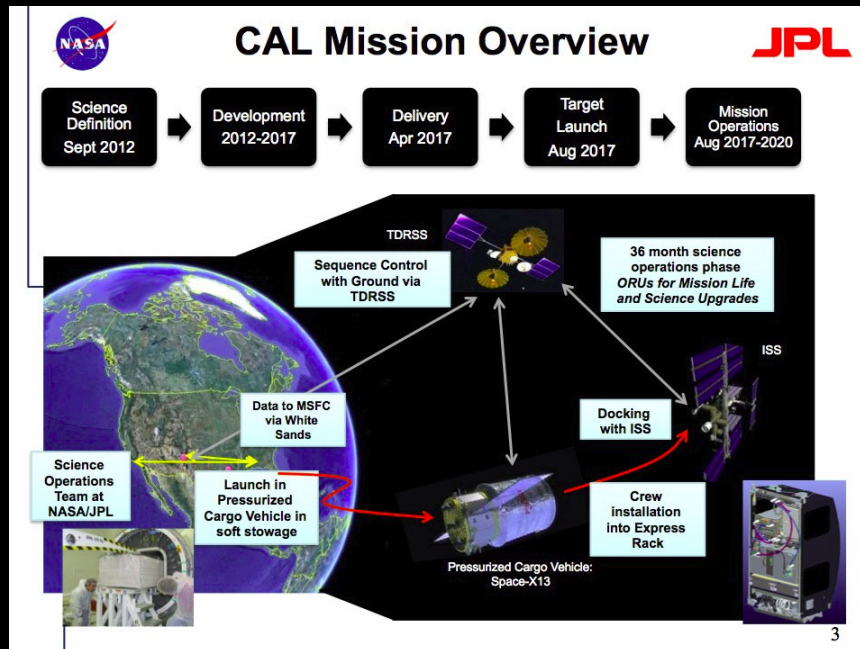
A satellite in low Earth orbit (LEO) is travelling at about

A. 700 miles/hour

B. 5 miles/sec

C. It depends a lot on its altitude

- **5 miles/sec at an altitude around 100 miles**
- **Escape velocity: 7 miles/sec**
- **Earth radius is 4000 miles**
- **Spy satellites can only view a given area for about a minute**



Cosmos and Film



International Space Station



[Mike Hopkins talks to children from space](#)



"Space Oddity"

Ground Control to Major Tom
Ground Control to Major Tom
Take your protein pills
and put your helmet on

Ground Control to Major Tom
Commencing countdown,
engines on
Check ignition
and may God's love be with you

[spoken]

Ten, Nine, Eight, Seven, Six, Five,
Four, Three, Two, One, Liftoff

This is Ground Control
to Major Tom
You've really made the grade
And the papers want to know whose
shirts you wear
Now it's time to leave the capsule
if you dare

This is Major Tom to Ground Control
I'm stepping through the door
And I'm floating
in a most peculiar way
And the stars look very different today

For here
Am I sitting in a tin can
Far above the world
Planet Earth is blue
And there's nothing I can do

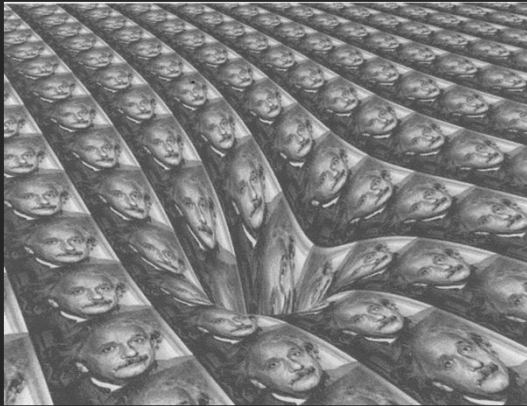
Though I'm past
one hundred thousand miles
I'm feeling very still
And I think my spaceship knows which way to go
Tell my wife I love her very much
she knows

Ground Control to Major Tom
Your circuit's dead,
there's something wrong
Can you hear me, Major Tom?
Can you hear me, Major Tom?
Can you hear me, Major Tom?
Can you....

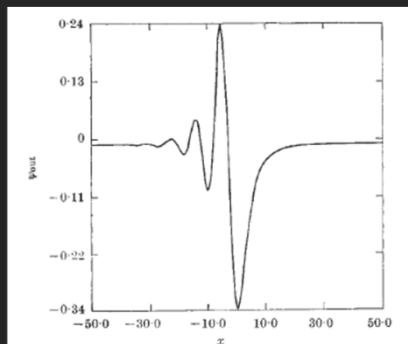
Here am I floating
round my tin can
Far above the Moon
Planet Earth is blue
And there's nothing I can do.

Homage to David Bowie
Chris Hadfield

Discovery of Gravitational Waves!!!!

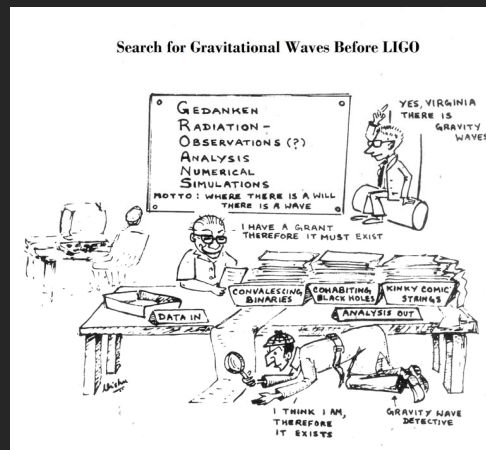


Space-time curvature



CVV - QNM '70; Cartoon

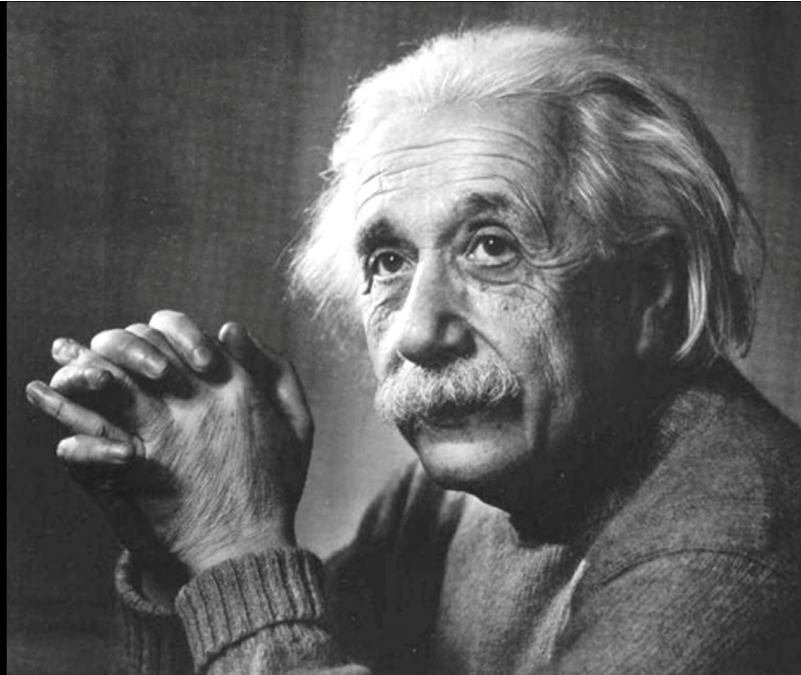
Feb 2016:
LIGO announces
detection from
two blackholes
merging



Universe in Motion



Kirstie Simson, Dance, CoLab



“Out yonder there is an immense cosmos that stands before us like a great eternal riddle, at least partially accessible to our inspection and thinking. The contemplation of this cosmos beckons like a liberation”

- Albert Einstein

Welcome to Where the Arts meet Physics



*Cosmic Tumble, Quantum Leaps
APS March Meeting 2023*

Forthcoming: 2025 International Year of the Quantum
Quantum Voyages, Quantum Rhapsodies, and more....