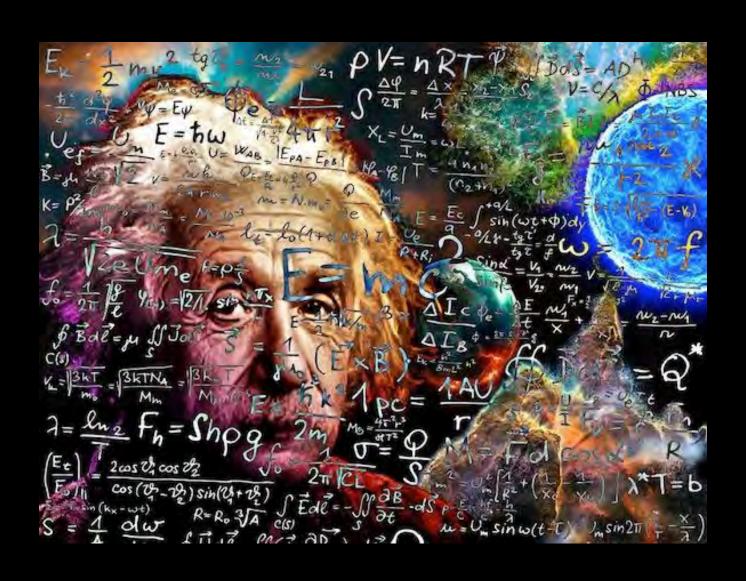
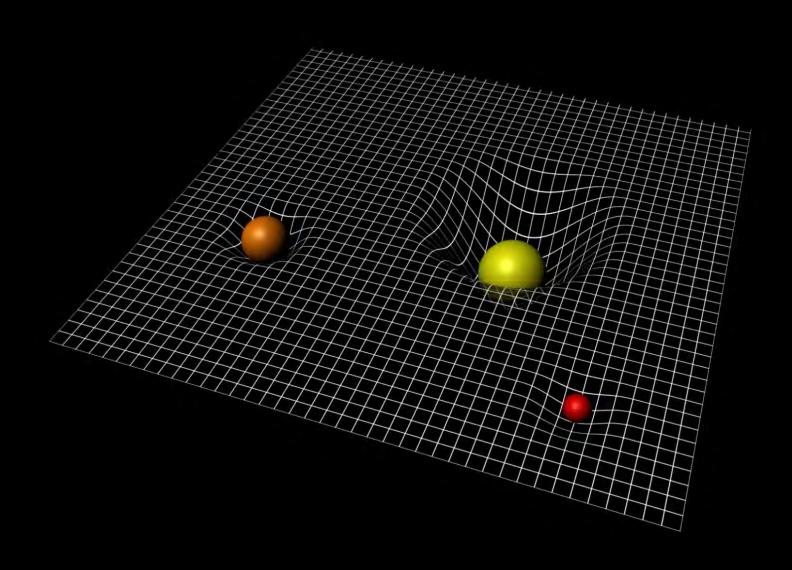


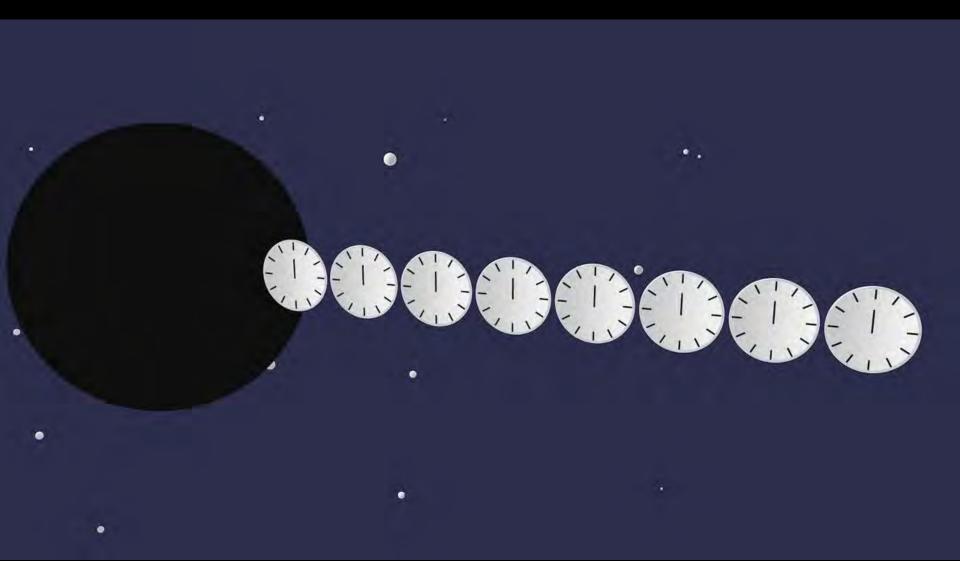
Welcome to Einstein's World



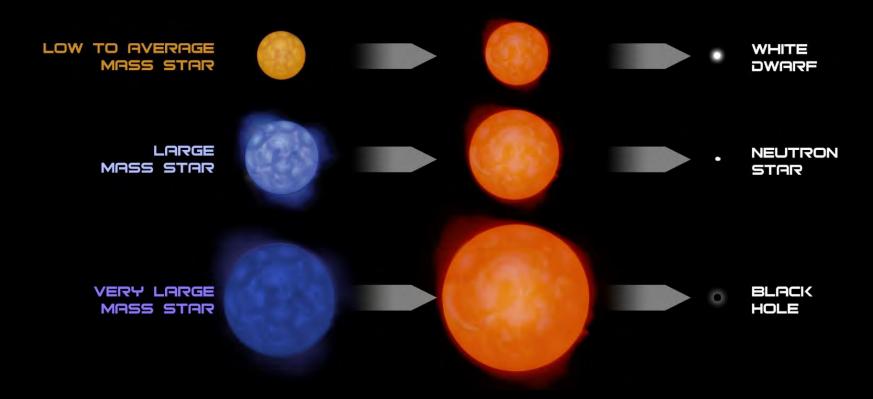
Mass-Energy Curves Space-Time



Gravity Slows Down Time

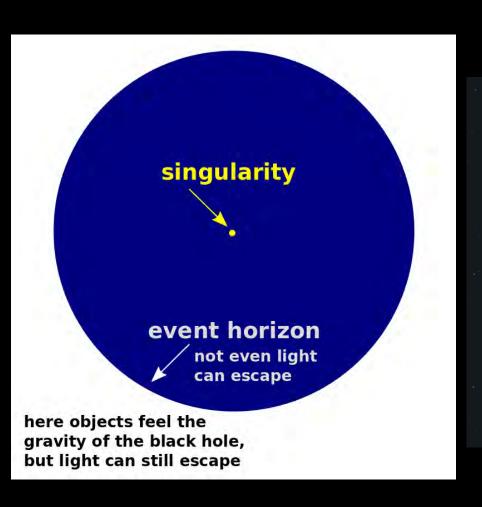


Black Holes and Star Death

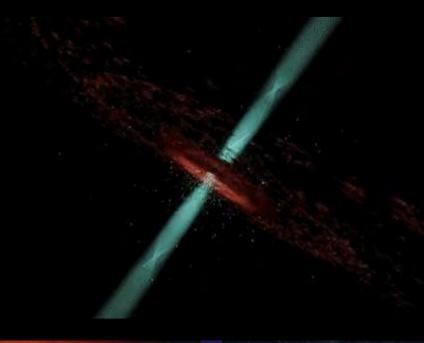


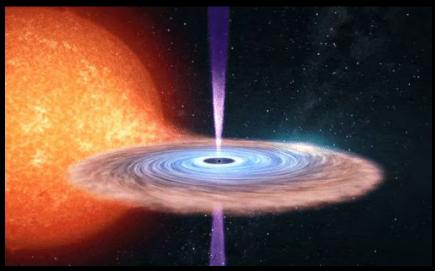
When a massive star exhausts its fuel, if the core is more than three times the Sun's mass no force can resist the contraction.

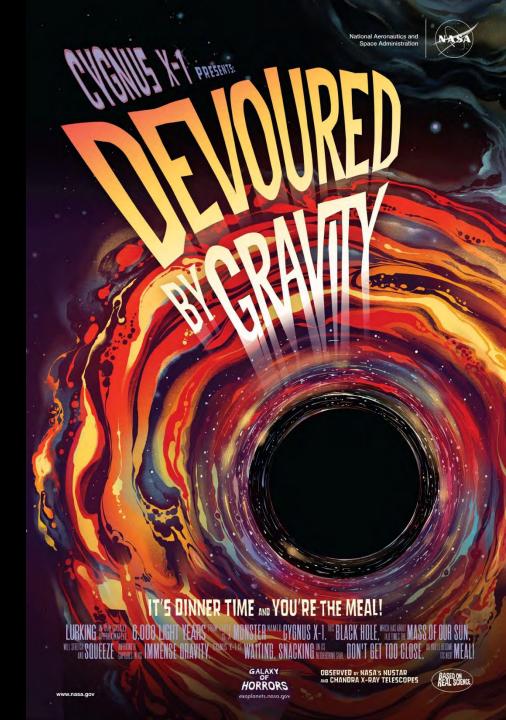
Black Hole Basics



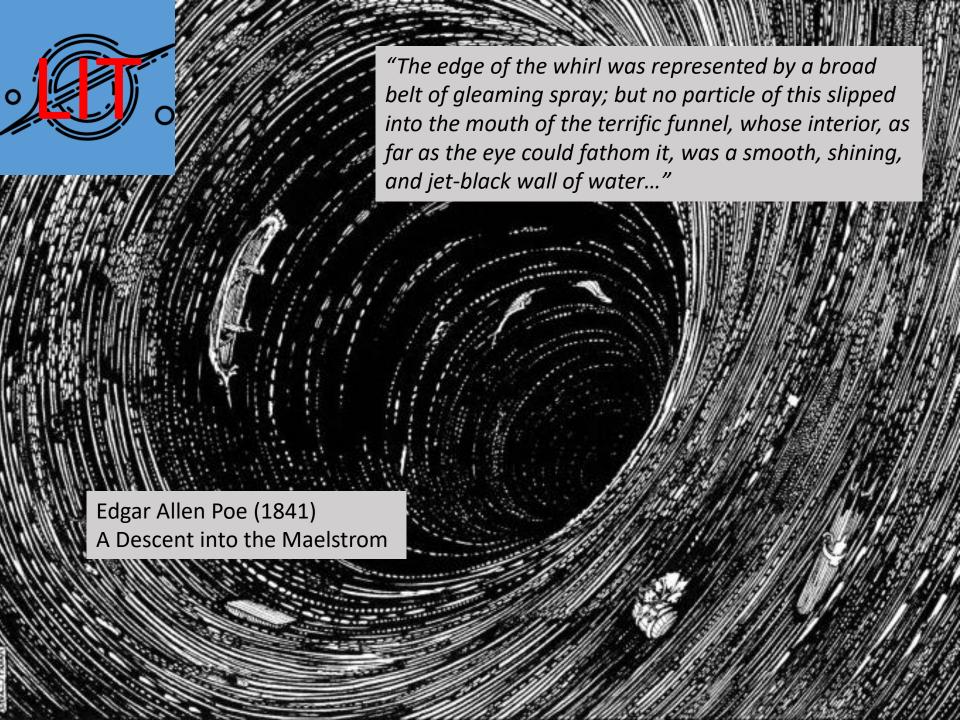
Cygnus X-1

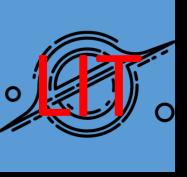








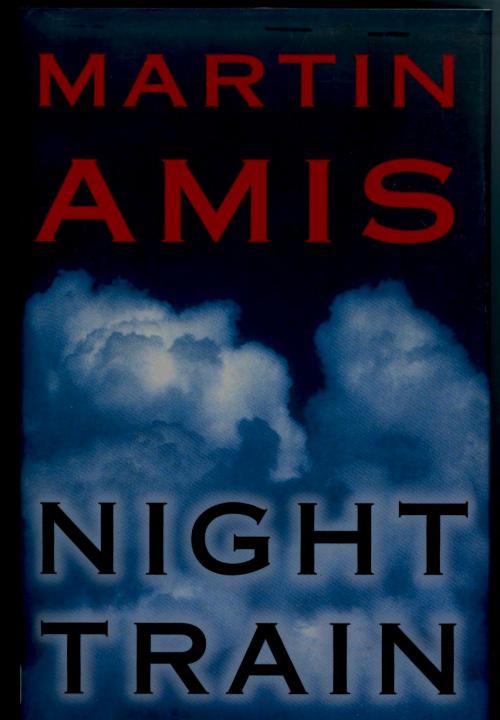




"Hawking understood black holes because he could stare at them. Black holes mean oblivion. Mean death. And Hawking has been staring at death his entire adult life."

> Martin Amis (1997) Night Train

"Suicide is the night train, Speeding your way to darkness."

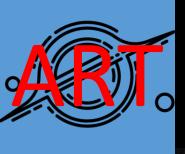




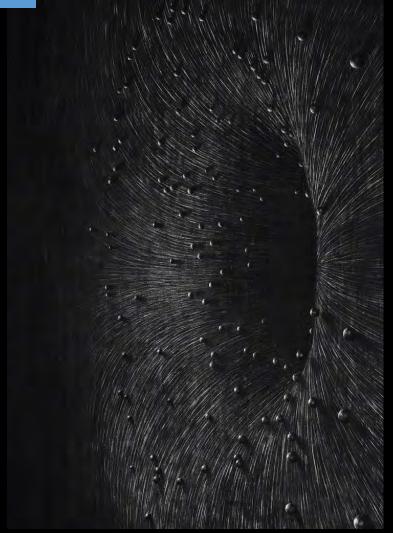


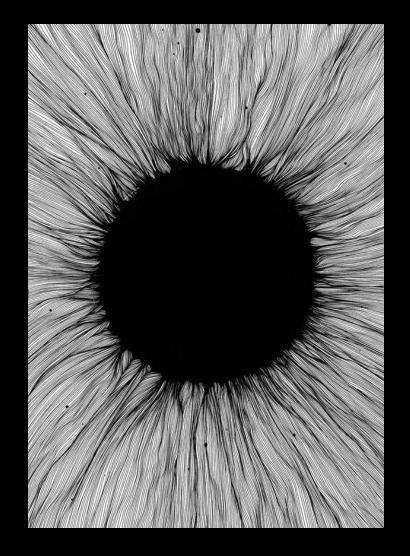
Vantablack Anish Kapoor

*Descent into Limbo*Anish Kapoor

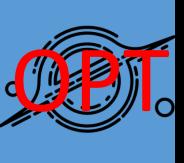


Hole Levi van Veluw

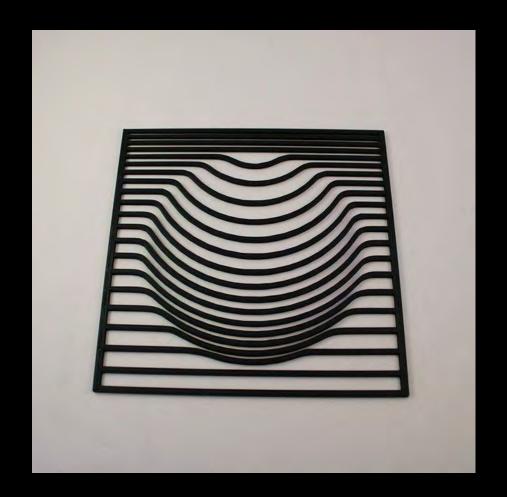


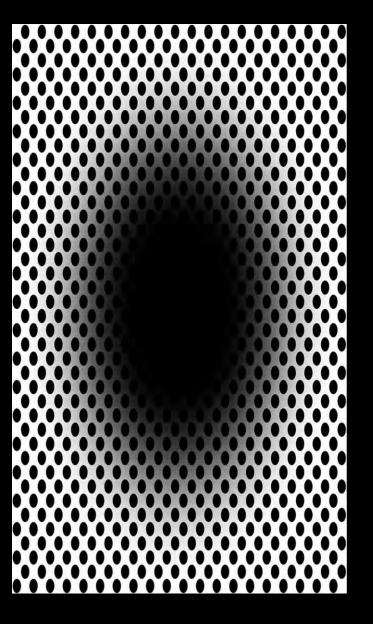


Line Abstract Vasilj Godzh

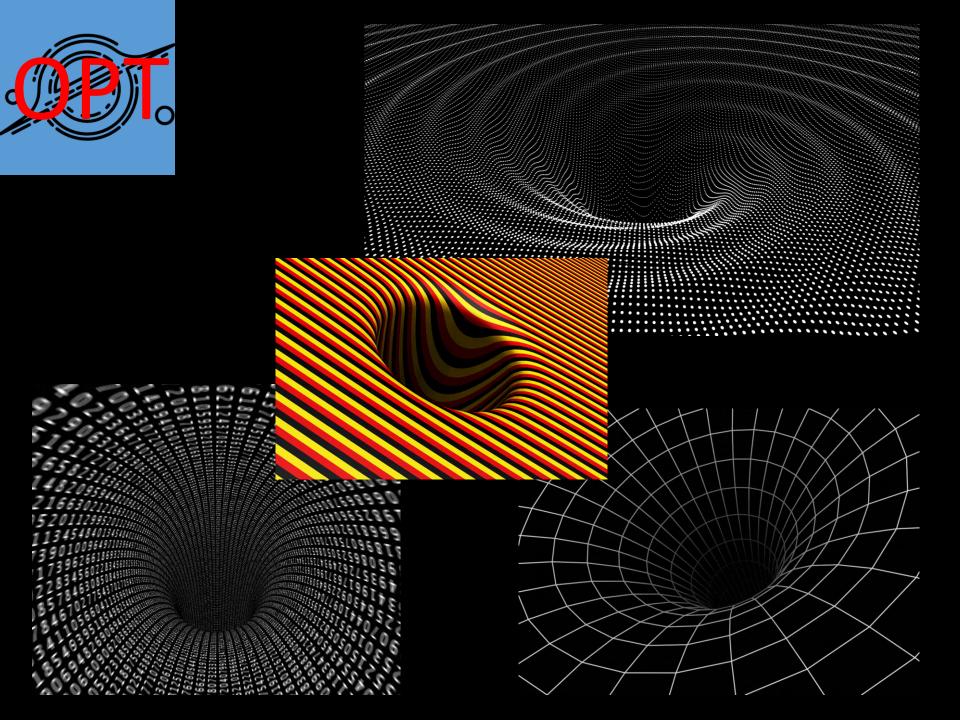


Physical Illusion





Optical Illusion









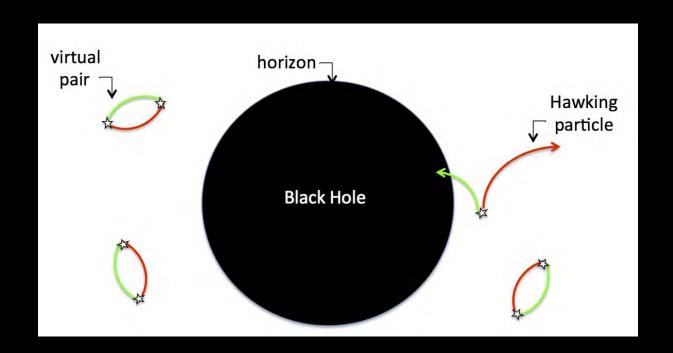
3D Vortex

Black Hole Illusion

Welcome to Hawking's World



Black Holes Are Not Black



Virtual particle and antiparticle pairs are always being created from radiation, then turning into radiation.

Hawking realized that one of a pair could pass into the event horizon, so black holes radiate, and will eventually evaporate.



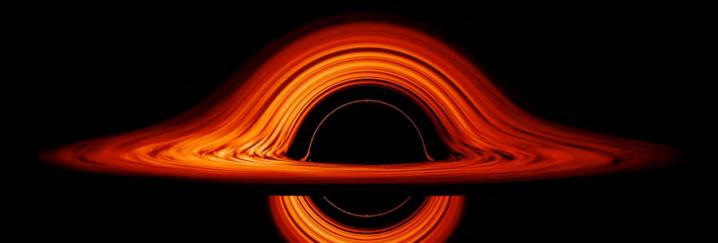


Image of the disk's far side
The black hole's gravitational field alters the
path of light from the far side of the disk,
producing this part of the image.

Doppler beaming
Light from glowing gas in the accretion disk is brighter on the side where material is moving toward us, fainter on the side where it's moving away from us.

Photon ring

A ring of light composed of multiple distorted images of the disk. The light making up these images has orbited the black hole two, three or even more times before escaping to us. They become thinner and fainter closer to the black hole.

Black hole shadow

This is an area roughly twice the size of the event horizon — the black hole's point of no return — that is formed by its gravitational lensing and capture of light rays.

Accretion disk

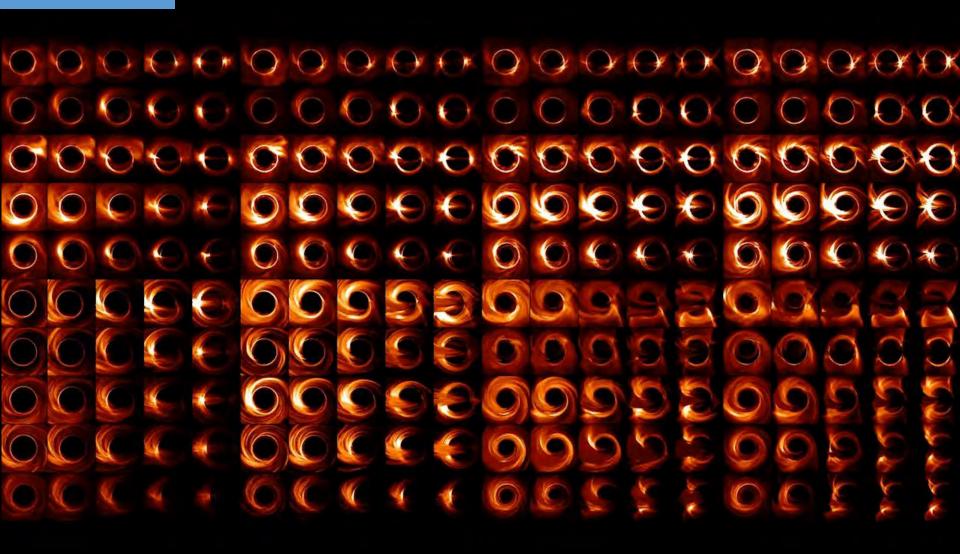
The hot, thin, rotating disk formed by matter slowly spiraling toward the black hole.

Image of the disk's underside

Light rays from beneath the far side of the disk are gravitationally "lensed" to produce this part of the image.



Accretion Disk Simulations



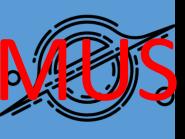












Black Hole Sun



Supermassive Black Hole

Arranged by Amelia Rowe



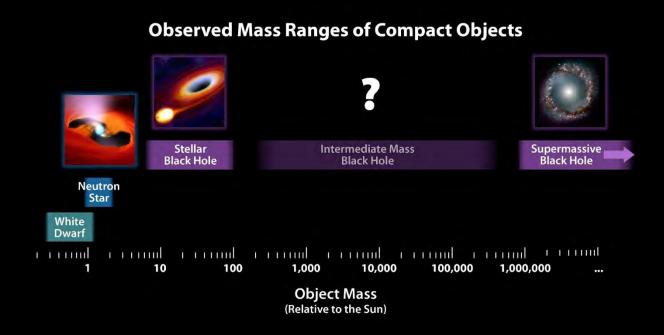








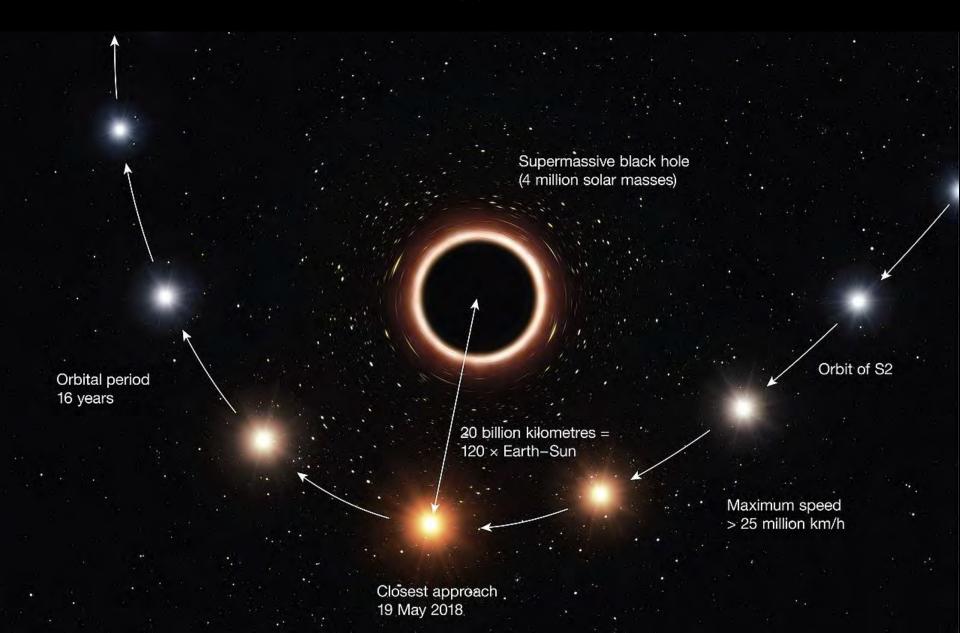
Massive Black Holes



Fifty black holes have measured masses in binary systems. They're nearest among 10 million in the entire galaxy.

Intermediate mass black holes exist in globular clusters. There is a 4 million solar mass black hole in the center of our galaxy.

Dancing with Death





Black Hole Orbits Gallery Pamela Davis Kivelson





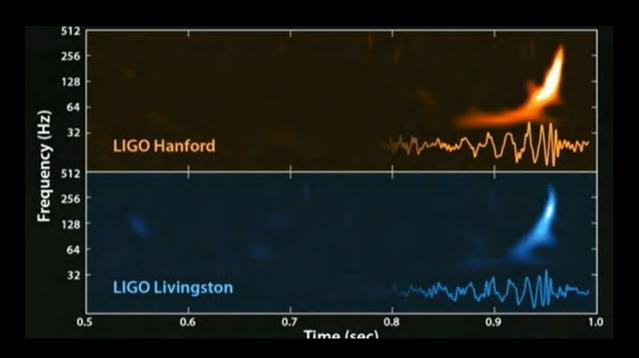
Black Hole Charles Burns





Film of the Graphic Novel
Screenplay: Neil Gaiman
Director: David Fincher

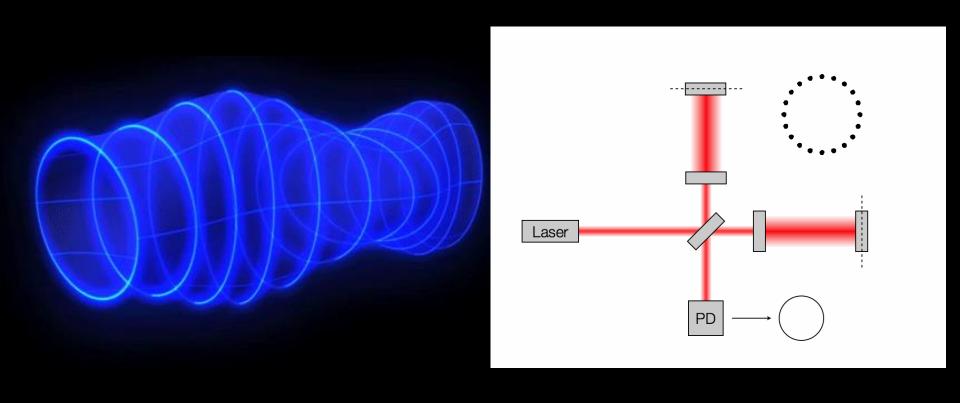
Gravitational Waves



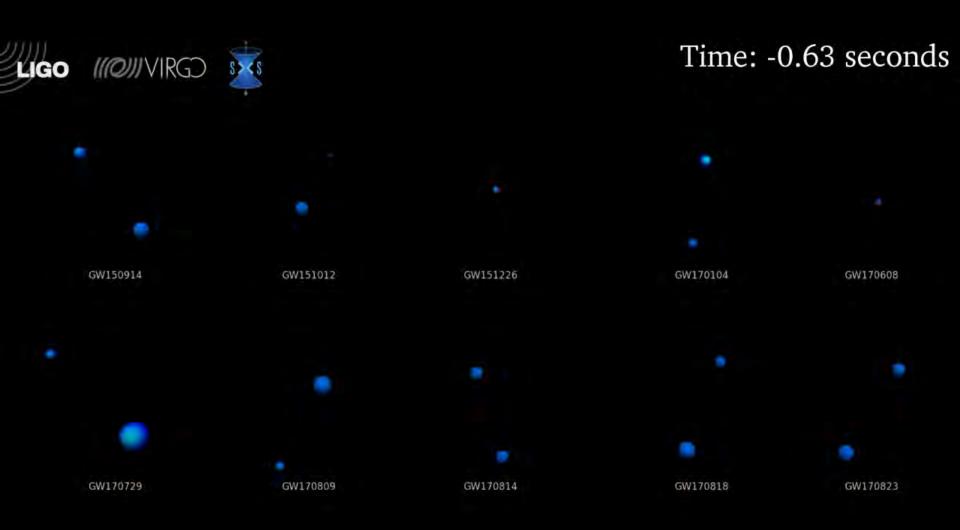
The detection of space-time ripples from a merger of two black holes a billion light years away has opened up a new window onto the universe.

LIGO, the Laser Interferometer Gravitational Observatory, will soon be detecting roughly one black hole merger every week.

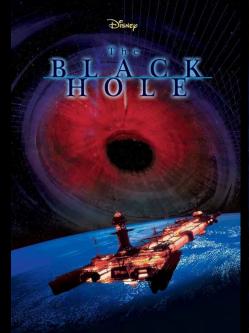
Detecting Space-Time Ripples



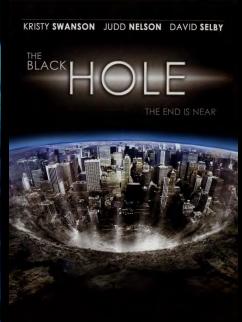
The LIGO Orrery





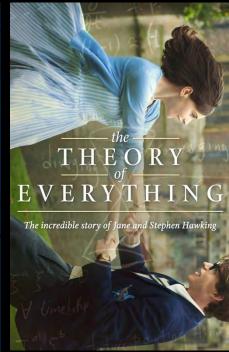














Death by Black Hole



Falling into a black hole resulting from massive star's would be a nasty fate: "spaghettification" at the level of muscles, bones, and tissues. The tidal forces are extreme.

But passage into a black hole over 1000 solar masses would be survivable. As seen from afar, time would slow asymptotically. In spinning black holes, the singularity is a ring, a time-like curve where you could meet previous and future versions of yourself.

