#### **AY2** Announcements

• Quiz 3 will be Nov 14

#### Last option for stellar evolution

- Initial stellar mass 0.1M<sub>Sun</sub> 8M<sub>Sun</sub>: White Dwarf supported by e<sup>-</sup> degeneracy (WD mass ≤ 1.4M<sub>Sun</sub>)
- Initial stellar mass > 8M<sub>Sun</sub> : neutron star supported by neutron degeneracy



#### Is there a limit to neutron degeneracy?

- Yes! Gravity wins the final battle. The current best estimate for the maximum mass of a neutron-degenerate star is 3M<sub>Sun</sub>.
- If a neutron star exceeds this mass it will collapse into an infinitely small volume called a black hole.
- But, this story starts with Einstein's theories of special and general relativity.



## **Special Relativity**

- Various experiments starting in the late 1800s suggested that the speed of light was constant, independent of the motion of the observer.
- This is very counter-intuitive.





The spaceship traveling in the same direction of a photon measures the photon zooming away at the speed of light NO MATTER how fast the spaceship is traveling!

# Special Relativity

 Einstein (and others before him) decided to take the speed of light as an invariant and not make any assumptions about the two properties that go into determining speed:

Space and Time



#### **Time Dilation and Length Contraction**

The invariance of the measured speed of light independent of the motion of the observer can be understood if:

(1) Clocks run more slowly as speed increases(2) Metersticks shrink as speed increases

#### **Time Dilation**

As your speed with respect to another observer increases, your watch runs more slowly than the observer's watch. This is called `time dilation'



$$T = \frac{T_0}{\sqrt{1 - (v/c)^2}}$$
Note, when v<

#### **Time Dilation**



As  $v \Rightarrow c$ ,  $v/c \Rightarrow 1$  and the denominator goes to zero. Dividing by zero gives infinity.

As v approaches c, time grinds to a halt!

Q. Suppose you measure an event that lasts for 1 second by your watch. What will your friend in a spaceship moving at 0.98c measure as the duration of the event?

$$T = \frac{T_0}{\sqrt{1 - (0.98)^2}} = 5.02T_0$$

Time has been stretched by a factor of 5 for your friend.

#### Length Contraction

 In the same way, metersticks (space) contract in the direction of motion.

$$L = L_0 \sqrt{1 - (v/c)^2}$$



Mass grows with speed.

$$M = \frac{M_0}{\sqrt{1 - \left(v/c\right)^2}}$$

# **Constant Speed of Light**

 The shrinking rulers and slowing clocks conspire to let observers in any moving frame measure the same speed of light.

#### Travel beyond the Galaxy will be Difficult

- The slowing clocks and increasing mass conspire to make it impossible for objects with mass to ever reach the speed of light.
- The increasing mass requires an ever-larger force to accelerate to larger speed and the force needed would become infinite. (F=ma)
- Even if you could find the force, your clock would slow and slow and the last step would take an infinitely long time

#### Is this right?

- Yes! There are many tests of Special Relativity.
- In particle accelerators, mass increase and time dilation effects are routinely measured
- There have been tests flying very accurate clocks in high-speed jets that show time dilation directly.
- We might not be here if not for time dilation in the frame of cosmic rays called muons that get launched at 0.98c and have decay lifetimes stretched by a factor of 5 to allow them to reach the ground

#### GPS and relativity

- Commercial GPS requires timing good to ~20 nanosec ( $20 \times 10^{-9}$  seconds). The relative speed of GPS satellites to stationary receiver is ~14,000 mph and the time dilation is ~ 7 x 10<sup>-6</sup> seconds per day.
- Combined with a General Relativity effect, GPS would be off by ~ 10 km per day if these effects were not accounted for!





#### Review from last time

#### Mass Transfer Binary Systems

Close binary stars can undergo mass exchange through the L1



#### Novae/Supernovae I

Mass transfer onto a White Dwarf can explain Novae and Supernovae I



#### Novae/Supernovae 1

- <u>Nova</u> results from surface detonation of accumulated hydrogen on the surface of the white dwarf
- <u>Supernova 1</u> results when the accreted material pushes the white dwarf over the Chandrasekar limit for supporting by electron degeneracy against gravity
  - The subsequent collapse and rapid heating cause the entire white dwarf to undergo explosive fusion reactions
  - Predict uniform and very large luminosity
  - Predict the prediction of fusion products up to radioactive Nickel and Cobalt



•21



Atomic number



# **Special Relativity**

In any "inertial reference frame" the speed of light is always measured to be the same: this is because space and time are different for observers moving at different speeds:

"time dilation"

$$T = \frac{T_0}{\sqrt{1 - (v/c)^2}}$$



"length contraction"

$$L = L_0 \sqrt{1 - (v/c)^2}$$

#### Start of New Material

#### Einstein II: General Relativity

- Einstein's theory of General Relativity is a theory of gravity
- The basic idea is to drop Newton's idea of a mysterious force between masses and replace it with the 4-dimensional **SpaceTime** continuum that is warped by the presence of mass



Think about what needs to happen to have an event in the Universe and you can understand the need to specify 4-dimensions

#### Newtonian Gravity

 Newton proposed a theory of gravity to explain why things fell to Earth and the orbits of planets





 $\underline{G \times M_1 \times M_2}$ *Force*<sub>gravity</sub>



# General Relativity

• In GR, mass (or energy) warps the spacetime fabric of space.





 Orbits of planets around stars are not due to a central force, but rather the planets are traveling in straight lines through curved space Imagine tossing a shotput onto your bed and rolling marbles at different speeds and distances from the shotput. (also imagine that you have a frictionless blanket on the bed).



The marbles that are moving slowly or close will fall down toward the shotput. If you look from above, it will appear as if the marbles were attracted to the shotput.



#### Fabric of Space



- This is a RADICALLY different view of the Universe and gravity
- In regions where space is not strongly curved, GR reduces to Newton's law of gravity
- Einstein pointed out his new theory would explain the Precession of the Perihelion of Mercury

# The Deflection of Starlight

 There were several other predictions of GR, one important one was that light rays would also follow straight lines through curved space.



#### Tests of GR

 GR also predicted that <u>time would slow</u> in strongly curved space. This was verified experimentally in 1958.

Pound-Rebka experiment essentially measured the rate of time at the top and bottom of a tall building through the effects of gravitational redshift



#### The Great Test GR

 In 1919, during a total eclipse of the Sun, the deflection of starlight for stars near to the limb of the Sun was measured by Eddington with observations from West Africa and Brazil



- It was announced that Einstein's prediction was correct and it was front-page news worldwide
- However, it was fairly quickly established that the observational errors were too large and the test was inconclusive



LIGHTS ALL ASKEW

\* \* \*

Men of Science More or Less Agog Over Results of Eclipse Observations.

#### **EINSTEIN THEORY TRIUMPHS**

Stars Not Where They Seemed or Were Calculated to be, but Nobody Need Worry.

A BOOK FOR 12 WISE MEN

No More in All the World Could Comprehend It, Said Einstein When His Daring Publishers Accepted It.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK TIMES. LONDON, Nov. 9.—Efforts made to put in words intelligible to the nonocientific public the Einstein theory of light proved by the celipse expedition so far have not been very successful. The new theory was discussed at a recent meeting of the Royal Society and Royal Astronomical Society, Sir Joseph Thomson. President of the Royal Society, declares it is not possible to put Einstein's 35 theory into really intelligible words, yet at the same time Thomson adds:

#### Lick Observatory and GR

The data from the famous eclipse expedition of 1919 weren't good enough to prove or disprove Einstein's theory. Lick Observatory Director WW Campbell made it the goal of the Observatory to carry out the observations that eventually supported GR.





t. Minstein W. W. Campbell W.S. adams



36

#### More tests of GR

- There is now a long list of predictions made by GR and in every case to date, observations have they have been consistent with the theory.
- Binary pulsar spin down
- Gravitational Waves



# The Bending of Light II

- The bending of light in GR leads to some very useful and interesting phenomenon.
- One is the effect called a gravitational lens.
- The light from a distant galaxy is bent by a large mass along the line of sight to to Earth. If everything is lined up perfectly, you get an "Einstein Ring". Very useful for identifying and measuring "Dark Matter"











Background lensed quasar

It is rare to have a close-to-perfect alignment. The more common case is to have a set of discrete images.

#### On to Black Holes

• The second very interesting aspect of light bending in General Relativity is the idea of Black Holes. It starts with the concept of escape velocity.



## **Escape Velocity**

- Imagine feebly tossing a rocketship up in the air. It falls back to Earth because its <u>kinetic</u> <u>energy</u> was less than its <u>gravitational</u> <u>potential energy</u>.
- However, toss it with a larger and larger velocity and it will go higher and higher before falling back to Earth.
- There is a velocity above which it will not return to Earth -- this is the escape velocity.

#### **Escape Speed**

 To determine the escape speed from Earth you set the gravitational potential energy equal to kinetic energy and solve for speed



# Escape Speed II

- Note that the escape speed doesn't depend on the mass of the escaping body.
- For the Earth, put in the mass and radius of the Earth (for escape from the surface of the Earth) and you get:

$$V_{esc}$$
= 11 km/sec = 25,000 miles/hr

#### **Escape Speed III**

Suppose you increase the mass of the Earth by a factor of 4 without changing its radius. What happens to  $V_{esc}$  from the surface of the higher-mass Sun? (iClicker quiz)

- A. Escape speed will be higher
- B. Escape speed will be lower



# Escape Speed III

Suppose you shrink the Earth to 1/100 of its current radius (at constant mass). What happens to  $V_{esc}$  from the surface of the smaller Earth? (iClicker quiz)

- A. Escape speed is 1/100 of the original
- B. Escape speed is 1/10 of the original
- C. Escape speed is 100 times the original
- D. Escape speed is 10 times the original



#### **Escape Speed**

Reduce the radius of the Earth to 1cm and

 In this new theory of Gravity, where photons are affected by gravity, if the escape velocity equals or exceeds the speed of light, that object can no longer be observed. This is a Black Hole

- The critical radius for which an object of a particular mass has an escape velocity of equal to the speed of light is called the <u>Schwarzschild Radius</u>.
- The surface at his radius is called the "Event Horizon".



#### Schwarzschild Radius

- You can easily calculate the Schwarzschild radius for any mass by setting V $_{esc}=c$ 

$$V_{esc} = c = \sqrt{\frac{2MG}{R_s}}$$
$$c^2 = \frac{2MG}{R_s} \Longrightarrow R_s = \frac{2MG}{c^2}$$

 Every object has a radius at which it becomes a Black Hole

- But, it is VERY, VERY difficult to compress an object to its Schwarzschild radius.
- For the Sun, you would have to somehow overcome:
  - thermal pressure
  - e- degeneracy
  - neutron degeneracy

We know of no `cosmic vice' that can do that.

- But, go back to a neutron star and we are building a pretty big vice. Thermal pressure has already been overcome as has e- degeneracy pressure.
- And, there is a limit to the pressure that can be generated by neutron degeneracy. Its hard to calculate, but is probably between  $2M_{\circ}$  and  $3M_{\circ}$

 Think about the 1.4M<sub>☉</sub> n-star core of a SNII explosion. If say 1.6M<sub>☉</sub> of material falls back, the core will exceed the neutron degeneracy limit and undergo collapse to zero volume (what?).



- What is left behind?
  - The gravitational force (i.e. a warp in spacetime) including a "singularity" at the center of the warp
  - An Event Horizon with radius given by P = -8.9 km (for 3) A = black b

R<sub>Sch</sub>=8.9km (for 3M<sub>Sun</sub> black hole)



#### Black Hole FAQs

- What would happen if the Sun collapsed into a Black Hole, would the Earth be dragged in?
   No, the gravitational force at the distance of the Earth would not change
- Is the Event Horizon a physical boundary?
   No, it is the distance from the center where the escape velocity of `c'.
- What happens if a Black Hole absorbs some mass? As M increases, the Schwarzschild radius also increases.

 Is there any reason to believe that Black Holes exist? Yes!

#### This would be great. But not too likely...



#### **Black Hole Evidence**

 The best stellar-mass cases are binary x-ray sources.
 Cygnus X-1 is a good example.



#### **Black Hole Evidence**

- Cyg X-1 is a bright x-ray source. Look there in the visual part of the spectrum, we see a 30M<sub>sun</sub> blue main-sequence star which is a spectroscopic binary with a period of 5.6 days.
- The companion has a mass of between 5 and 10M<sub>Sun</sub>. What is it?



Cygnus X-1

- There is no sign of the companion at any wavelength (but, remember the x-rays) so what is it?
  - 1) A red giant would be easily seen

2) A main-sequence star would be seen with a little effort

- 3) Can't be a WD because  $M>1.4M_{\odot}$
- 4) Can't be a n-star because  $M>3M_{o}$

## Cygnus X-1



- By elimination, we are left with a black hole
- The x-rays back this up.
   In an accreting WD we see UV radiation, in a neutron-star we see
   `soft' x-rays, in Cyg X-1 we see `hard' x-rays
   because the accreting material falls into a deeper potential well.

#### Stellar-mass Black Holes

- We now have a few dozen excellent stellarmass black hole candidates and few people doubt that such objects exist.
- There are also various claims that x-ray transients are black holes accreting little bits of stuff.

#### LIGO

 Rainer Weiss and Joe Weber started working on an idea from two Soviet physicsts to measure gravitational waves in the 1960s. Kip Thorne and Ron Drever at Caltech started working on the experiment and nature of the expected signals.





Look up Gabriela Gonzales TED talk for more information on GW

 Shotgun marriage at NSF launched LIGO and searched unsuccessfully for Gravitational Waves from 2002 - 2010

#### LIGO



Idea is to fire lasers along two 4-km-long arms to produce an interferogram and measure the distances between two mirrors at each end of each arm to about 10<sup>-4</sup> the diameter of a proton (!!??)

Controlling all sources of vibration to this level is an extremely daunting job

Two independent experiments were built separated by 1900 miles

#### LIGO success



- 14 Sept 2015, just two days after a major upgrade, the LIGO consortium announced the first detection of gravitational waves
- The signal matched predictions for merging black holes and the "ring down" of the resulting single black hole with amazing accuracy
- The black hole masses of 29 and 36 solar masses each was surprising, but now seems common

#### LIGO Black Holes



During the first two LIGO observing runs, 10 black hole mergers were discovered

During O3, now underway, the number has doubled

There is a population of 15 – 60 solar mass black holes that had previously eluded detection!



When I was looking up background information on the LIGO discoveries, I started getting targeted ads...



#### iclicker

Elements heavier than iron (Fe) are primarily produced by what mechanism?

- A. The fusion of lighter elements to iron
- B. The fission of very heavy elements (i.e. Uranium) into two or more lighter nuclei
- C. The addition of neutrons to existing nuclei followed by "beta" decay
- D. Helium fusion during the red giant phase of stellar evolution

#### iclicker

Which is the only true statement about the "event horizon" of a black hole?

- A. Time slows to a stop when you reach the event horizon
- B. The event horizon is where the gravitational influence of the black holes stops
- C. Only black holes with masses greater than 3M<sub>Sun</sub> have an event horizon
- D. The escape velocity from a black hole is equal to the speed of light at the event horizon