

April 14, 2010

Exam 4 This Friday. Remainder of Black Holes and Gamma-ray bursts

Review sheet posted.

Reading: Chapter 9, Sections 9.5.2, 9.6.1, 9.6.2, 9.7, 9.8, Chapter 10, Sections 10.1-10.4, 10.9, Chapter 11 (not 11.6)

Small reviews in Wheeler's office Wednesday, 5 PM, Thursday, 1 PM
Regular review Thursday, 5 PM place WEL 2.246.

Fourth sky watch report due this Friday.

Astronomy in the News? Neil Armstrong wrote a letter to President Obama objecting to Administration plans for humans in space

Pic of the Day - view from the International Space Station



Einstein's theory says that for a Universe that is the same, on average, everywhere, there are only three basic shapes it can have

The 3D analog of a spherical surface - *Closed Universe*

The 3D analog of a “saddle” or “Pringle” shape - *Open Universe*

The 3D analog of a flat plane - *Flat Universe*

The *2D embedding diagrams* of these 3D Universes are, respectively, *a sphere, an infinite saddle or Pringle, and an infinite flat plane.*

A closed universe is finite in space and time, the other two are infinite in space and time, but all must have started 13.7 billion years ago in the Big Bang.

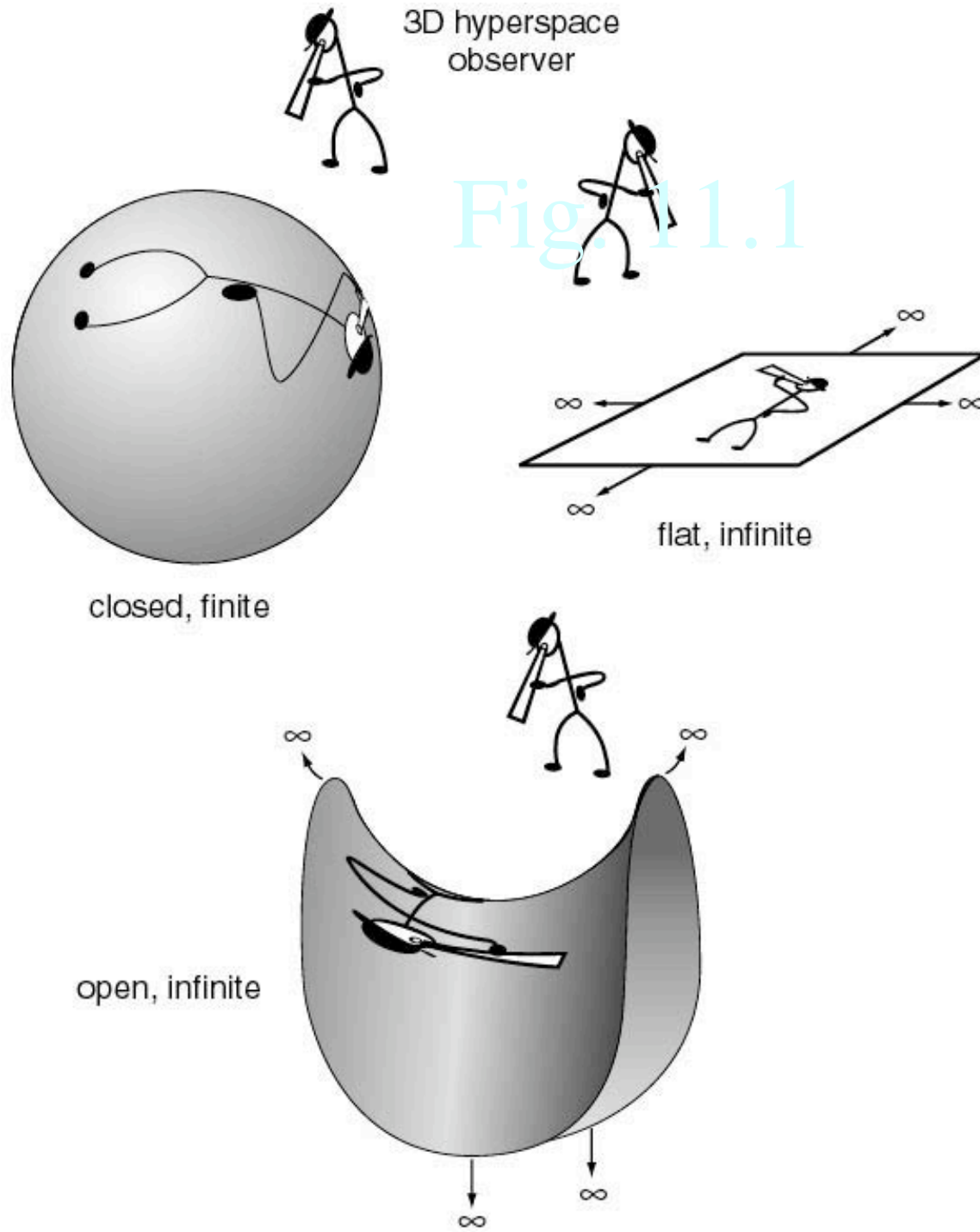


Fig. 11.1

2D
embedding
diagrams of
possible
shapes of our
3D Universe

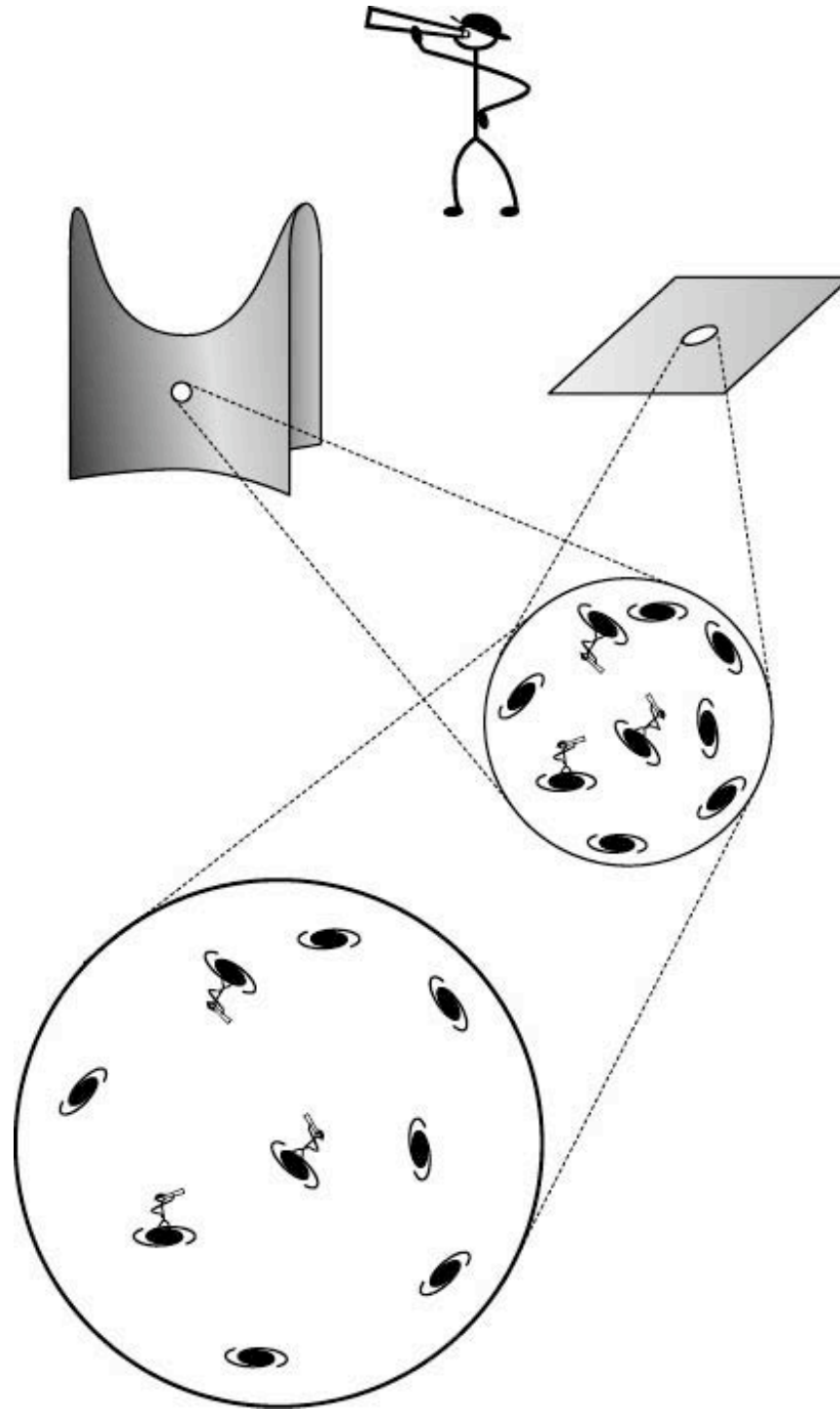


Fig 11.2

A patch of the space in a universe expands, drawing all galaxies away from all others, independent of the overall shape of the curvature of the universe.

Age and Fate of the Universe

All distances between distant galaxies are proportional to the time elapsed. Distance divided by the Velocity from the Doppler red shift \Rightarrow Age of Universe ~ 13.7 billion years

Fate of the Universe is intimately tied to the shape (we thought!)

Simplest choices: finite age, re-collapse (closed, “sphere,” **high density**,
high gravity)

expand forever, $v > 0$ (open, “Pringle,” **low density**,
low gravity)

Special Case: expand forever, $v \rightarrow 0$ as reach
infinity (flat, **very special density** and gravity)

In principle, we can figure out the shape and fate of our Universe by doing 3-D geometry in our 3-D Universe, in practice we often try to measure the density of the matter.

One Minute Exam

Einstein says that more distant galaxies move away from us more rapidly because:



The Earth is in the center of the Universe.



The Universe blew up in the Big Bang like a bomb blowing up in three-dimensional space.



Our 3D Universe expands into a 4D hyperspace.



Space expands, carrying all distant galaxies further apart from one another.

Dark Matter

Previously known surprising result:

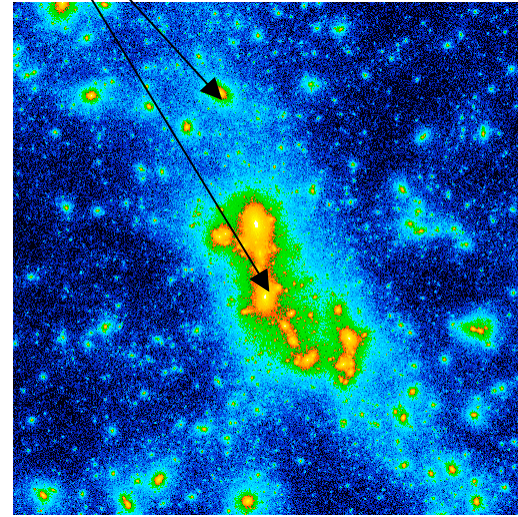
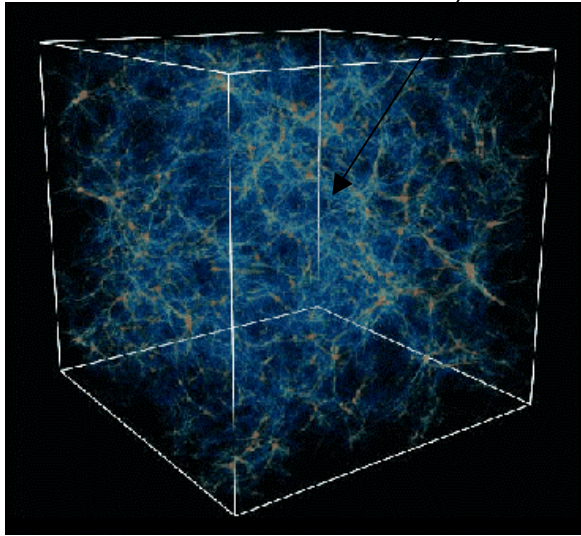
Most *gravitating* matter in the Universe is mysterious
Dark Matter

Not composed of p, n, e - the stuff of stars, galaxies, planets, and people

Dark Matter was *never* composed of that stuff (or would upset observed mix of hydrogen and helium from the Big Bang), so also not black holes once made from ordinary star stuff.

Some yet undiscovered particles that only interact by gravity and by the weak nuclear force, no electrical force, no strong nuclear force: *10 × more total mass than “normal” stuff stars, gas, etc.*

Dark Matter



Computer simulations show that from the tiniest wrinkles of quantum uncertainty in the Big Bang, the Dark Matter agglomerates to form all the *Large Scale Structure*, galaxies, clusters of galaxies of the Universe.

Ordinary matter, protons, electrons, settles to center of Dark Matter lumps to form galaxies and clusters of galaxies.

Density of Dark Matter is not enough to close the Universe
⇒ Universe is “open?” (3D Pringle).