



Analogue Spacetimes: What on Earth?

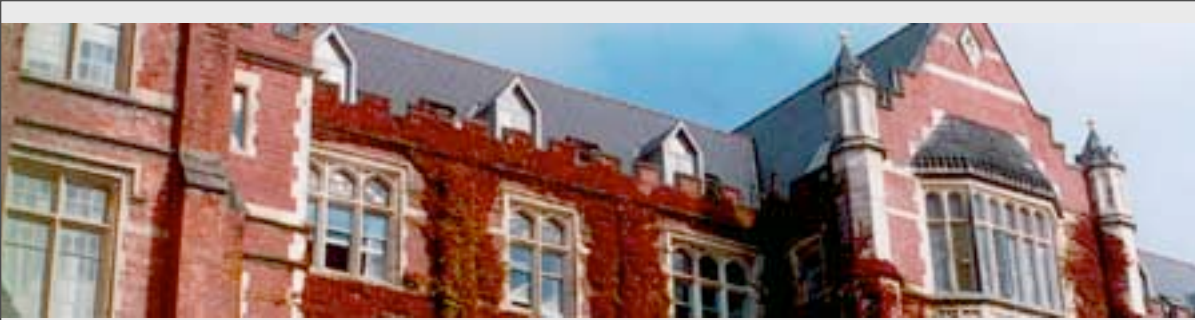
Matt Visser

Emergence in Marine Ecosystems

ICTP Trieste

Wednesday 27 October 2010





And I cherish more than anything else the Analogies,
my most trustworthy masters.
They know all the secrets of Nature,
and they ought least to be neglected in Geometry.

--- Johannes Kepler



The black hole at Monticello





2006.01.08



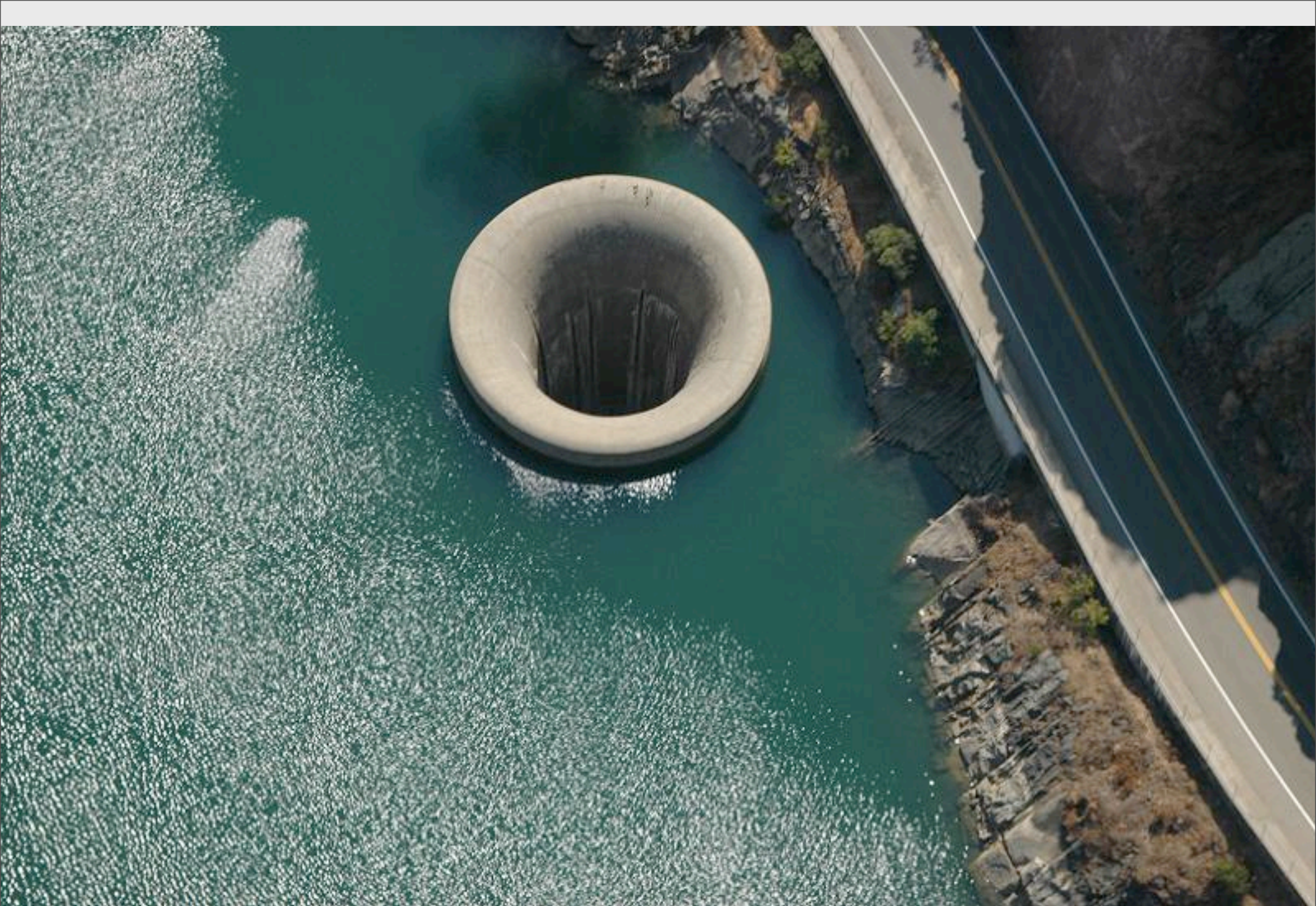
What on earth?

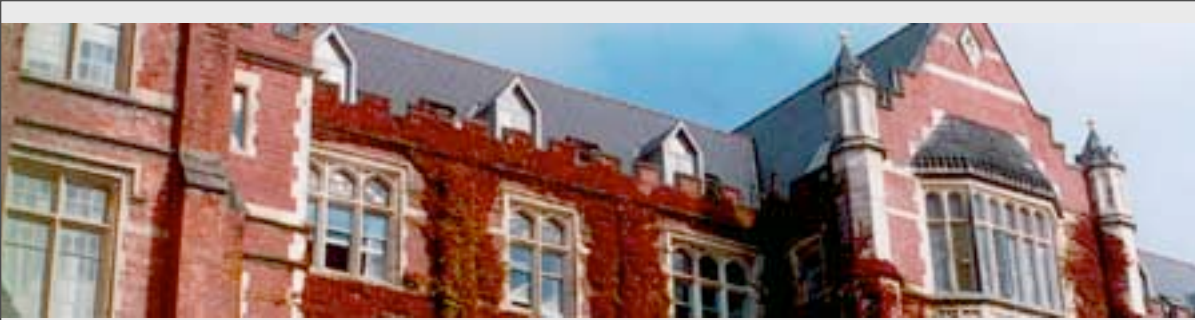
(Not a special effect; this is a real photograph.)





It's just the spillway at Monticello dam,
Napa Valley, California





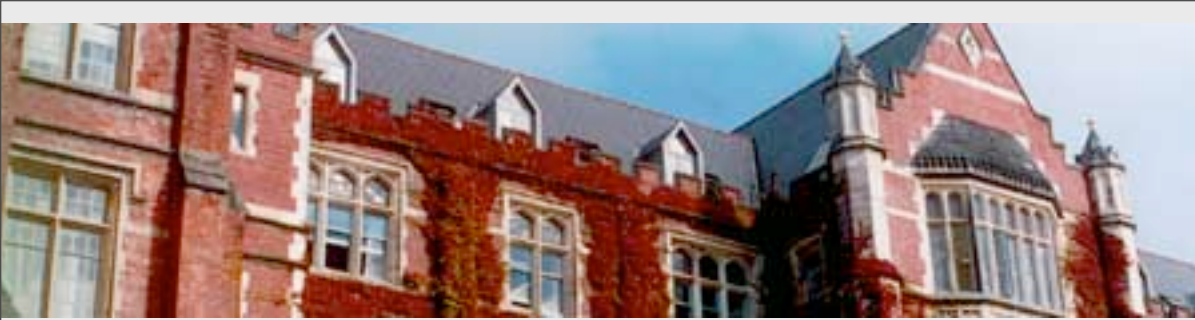
Why are
“analogue spacetimes”
interesting?



Analogue spacetimes provide you with solid physically well-defined and physically well-understood concrete models of some (not all) aspects of black hole physics.



Experiments with real
general relativity
black holes are
impossible.



Experiments with
“analogue black holes”
are do-able
(and interesting).



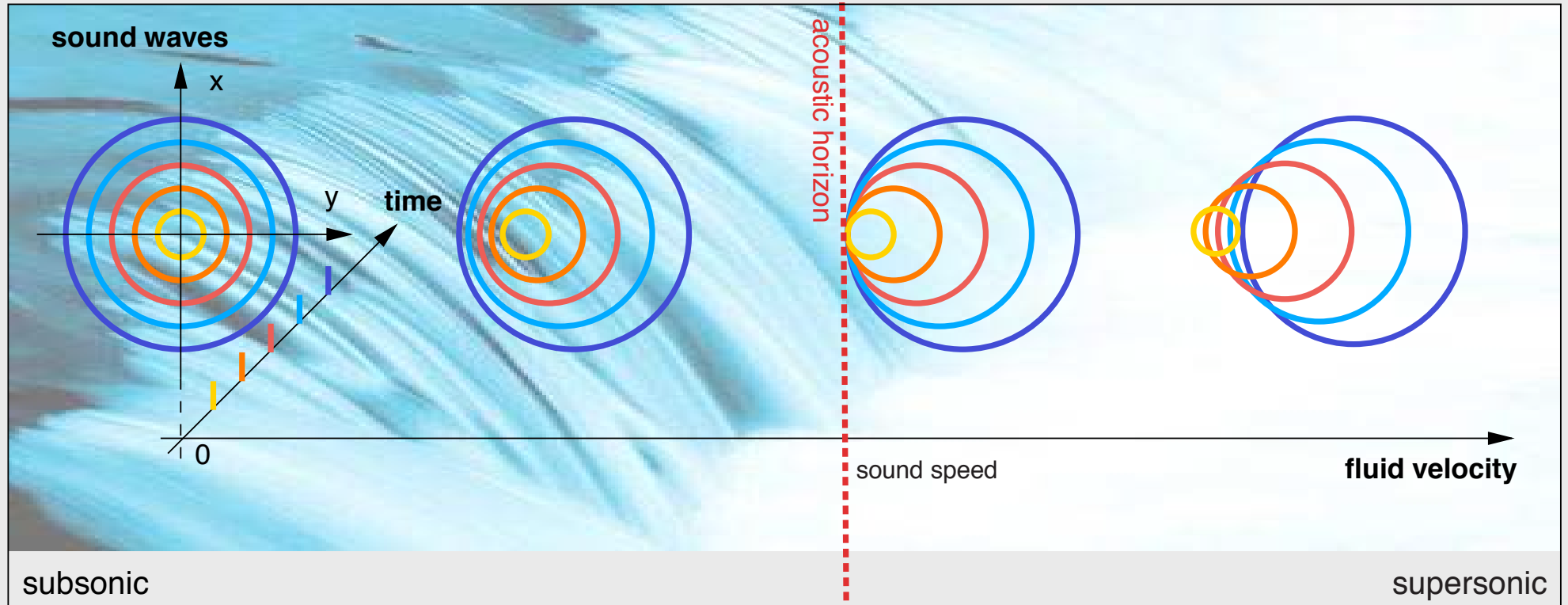
There are analogies based on:

- Surface waves.
- Acoustic waves.
- Fibre optics.
- Just about anything else we can lay our hands on.



Acoustic spacetime:

The simplest “analogue spacetimes” are the
“acoustic spacetimes”...



Consider sound waves in a moving fluid...

[Unruh]



Acoustic spacetime:

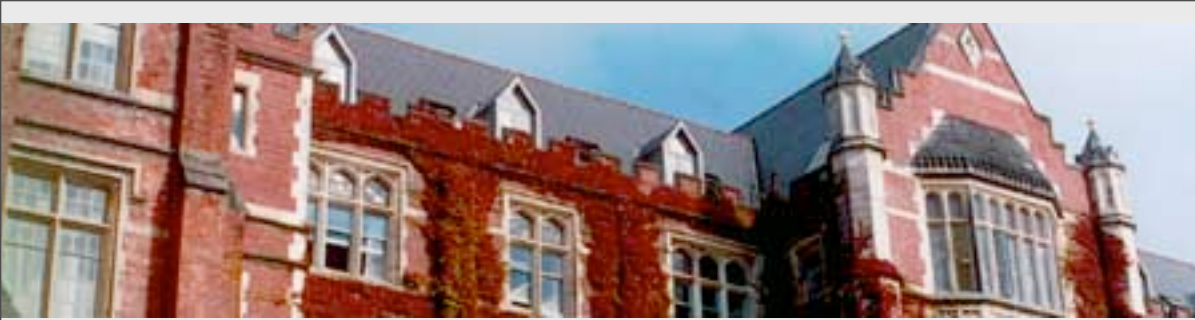
Theorem: Consider an irrotational, inviscid, barotropic perfect fluid, governed by the Euler equation, continuity equation, and an equation of state.

The dynamics of the linearized perturbations (sound, phonons) is governed by a D'Alembertian equation

$$\Delta_g \Phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{g}} \partial_a (\sqrt{g} g^{ab} \partial_b \Phi) = 0$$

involving an “acoustic metric”.

[Algebraic function of the background fields.]



Acoustic spacetime:

Theorem:

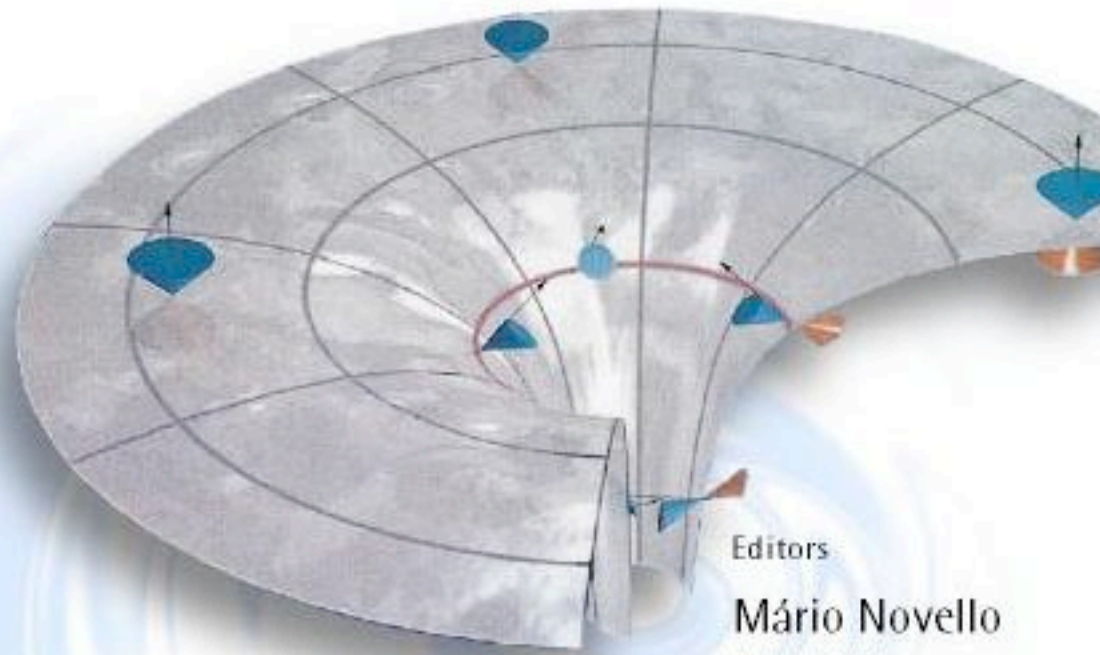
(3+1 dimensions)

$$g^{\mu\nu}(t, \vec{x}) \equiv \frac{1}{\rho_0 c} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & \vdots & -v_0^j \\ \dots & \cdot & \dots \\ -v_0^i & \vdots & (c^2 \delta^{ij} - v_0^i v_0^j) \end{bmatrix} .$$

$$g_{\mu\nu}(t, \vec{x}) \equiv \frac{\rho_0}{c} \begin{bmatrix} -(c^2 - v_0^2) & \vdots & -v_0^j \\ \dots & \cdot & \dots \\ -v_0^i & \vdots & \delta_{ij} \end{bmatrix} .$$

$$ds^2 \equiv g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu = \frac{\rho_0}{c} [-c^2 dt^2 + (dx^i - v_0^i dt) \delta_{ij} (dx^j - v_0^j dt)] .$$

ARTIFICIAL BLACK HOLES



Editors

Mário Novello

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Grigori Volovik

[2002]

World Scientific

Analogue Gravity

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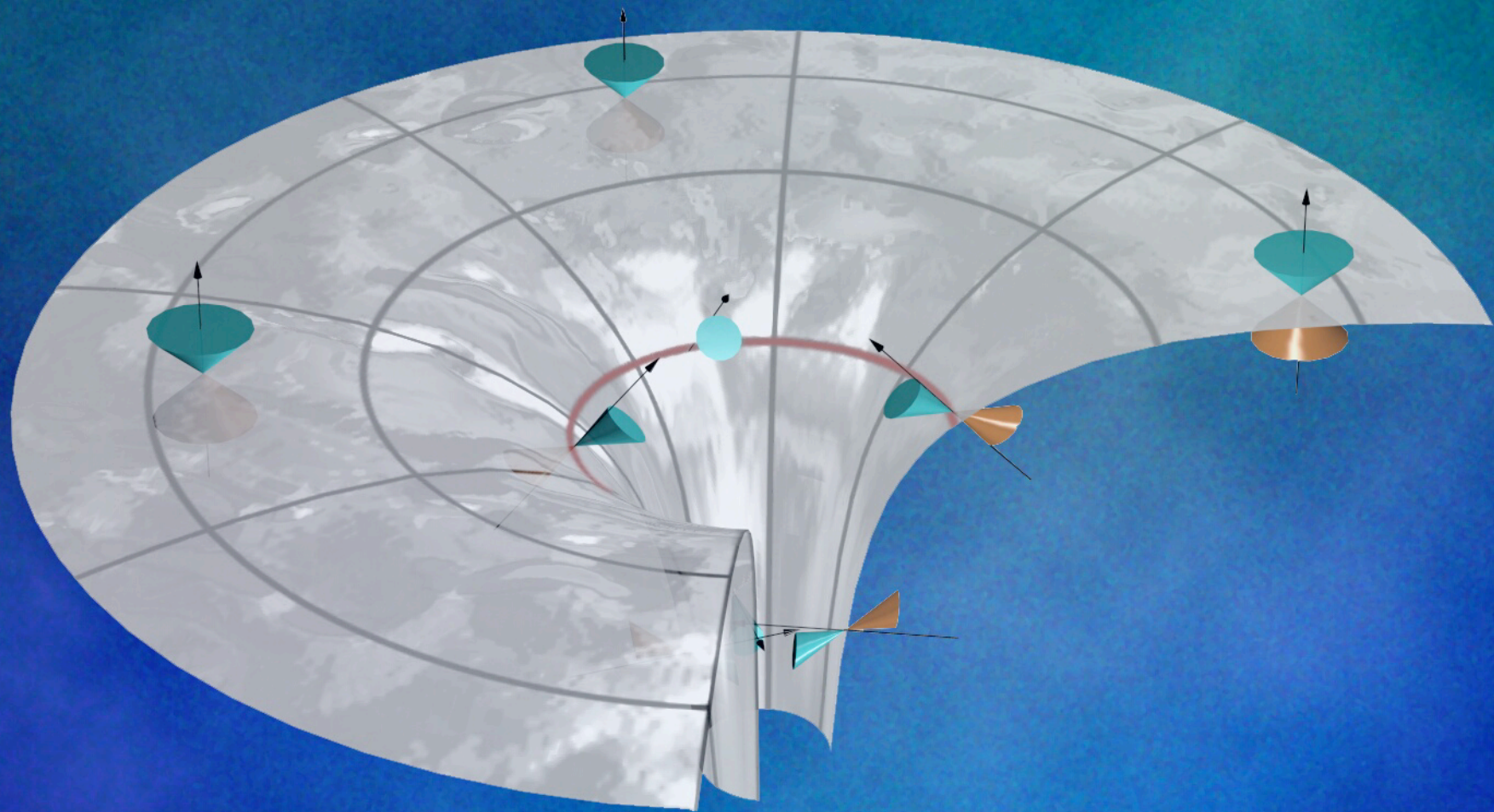
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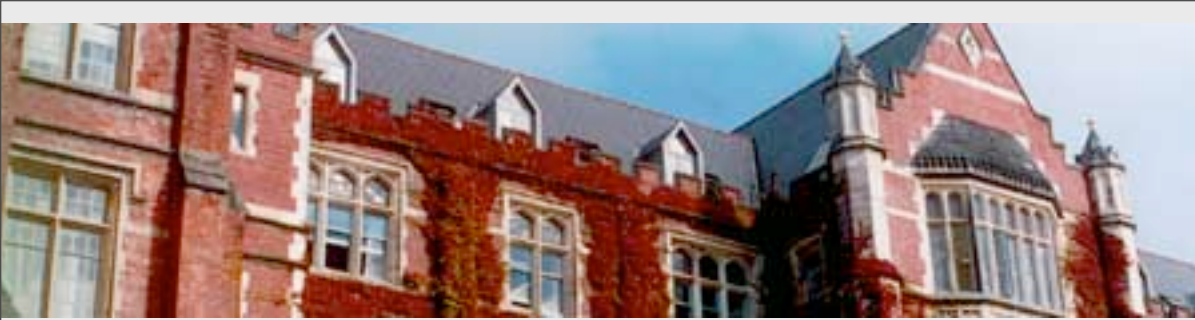
[2005]

[update]

[2010]



E Arilla



For various technical reasons we do not have as good a mathematical theorem for surface waves...

(ongoing research to tidy things up...)

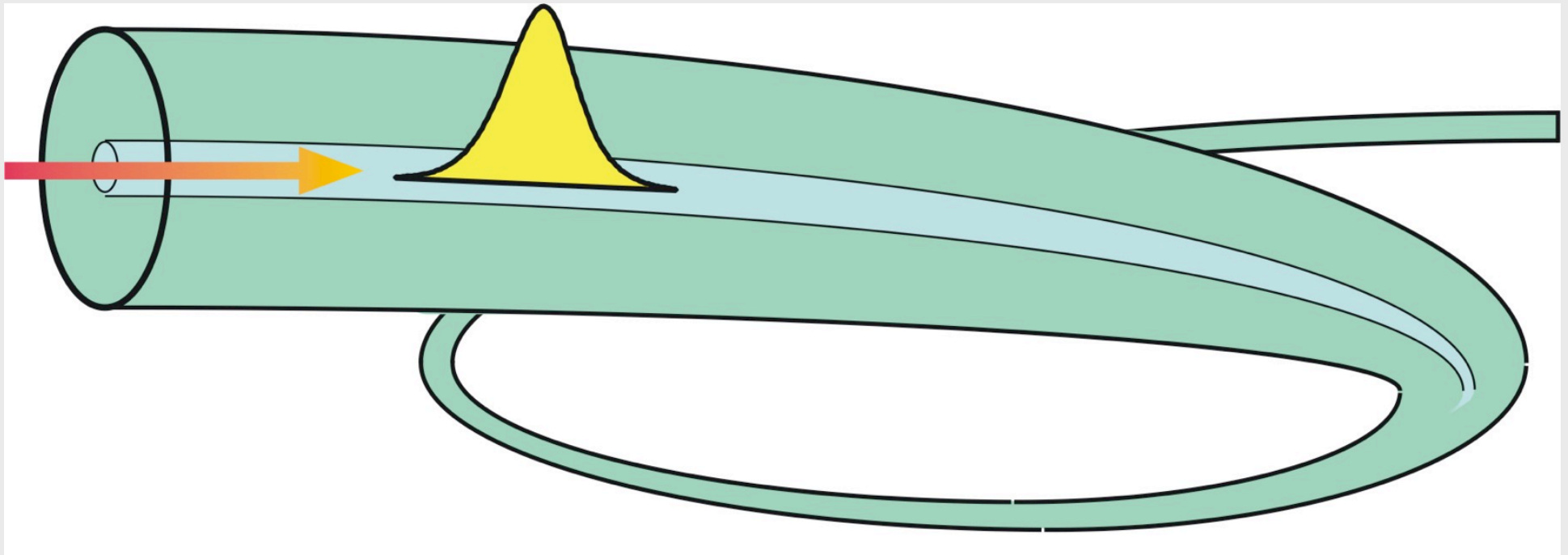
There is however no doubt that the effect is there...

And we have some lovely experiments...

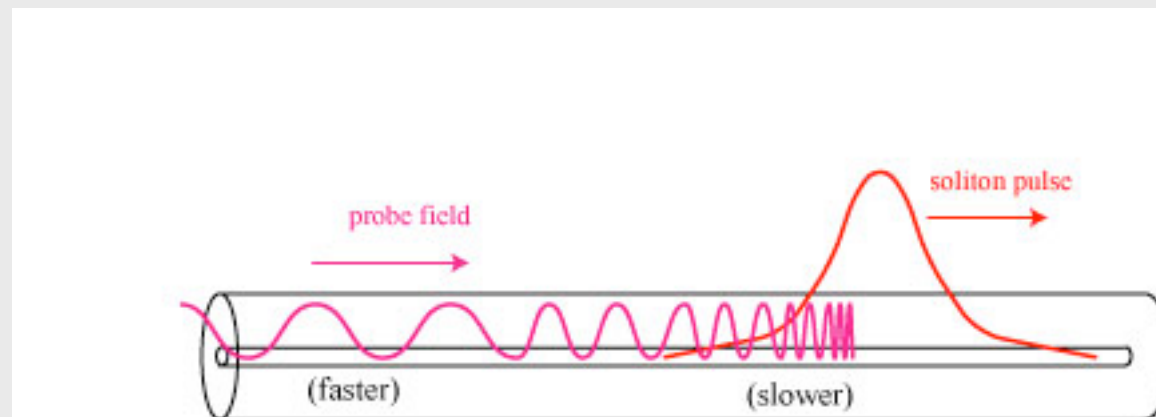
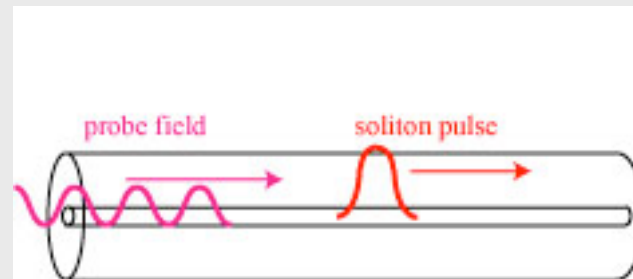
See Dr Weinfurtner's talk.



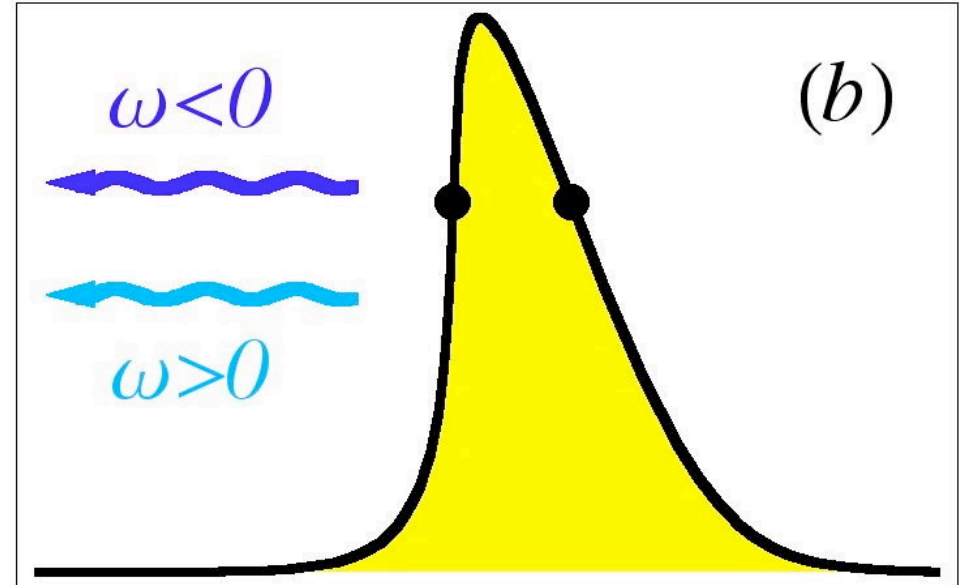
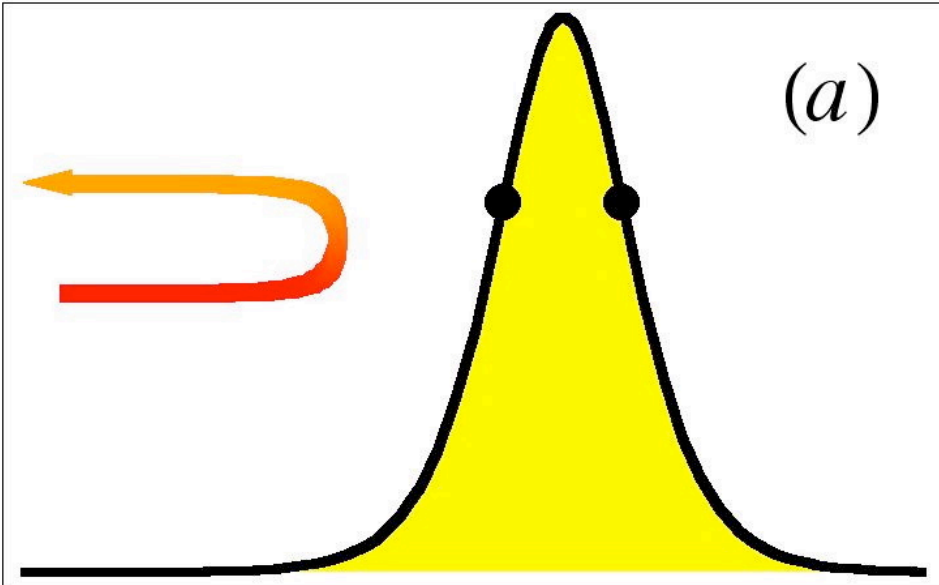
Fibre optics:

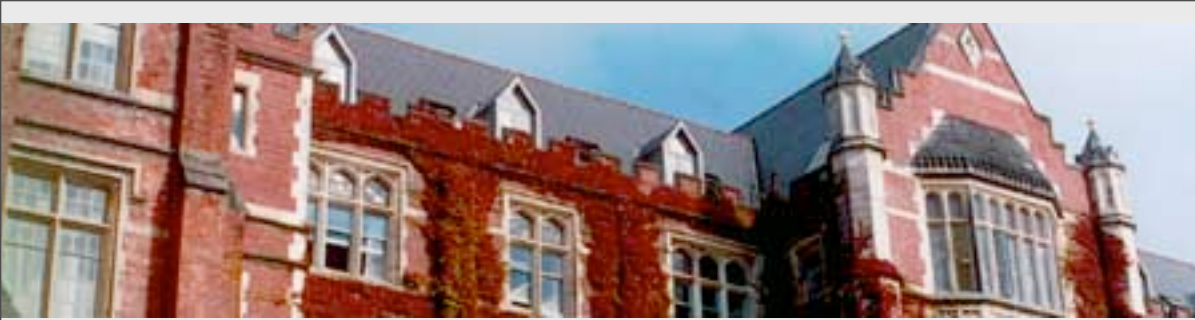


Pulse of light changes the refractive index
and slows down other light...



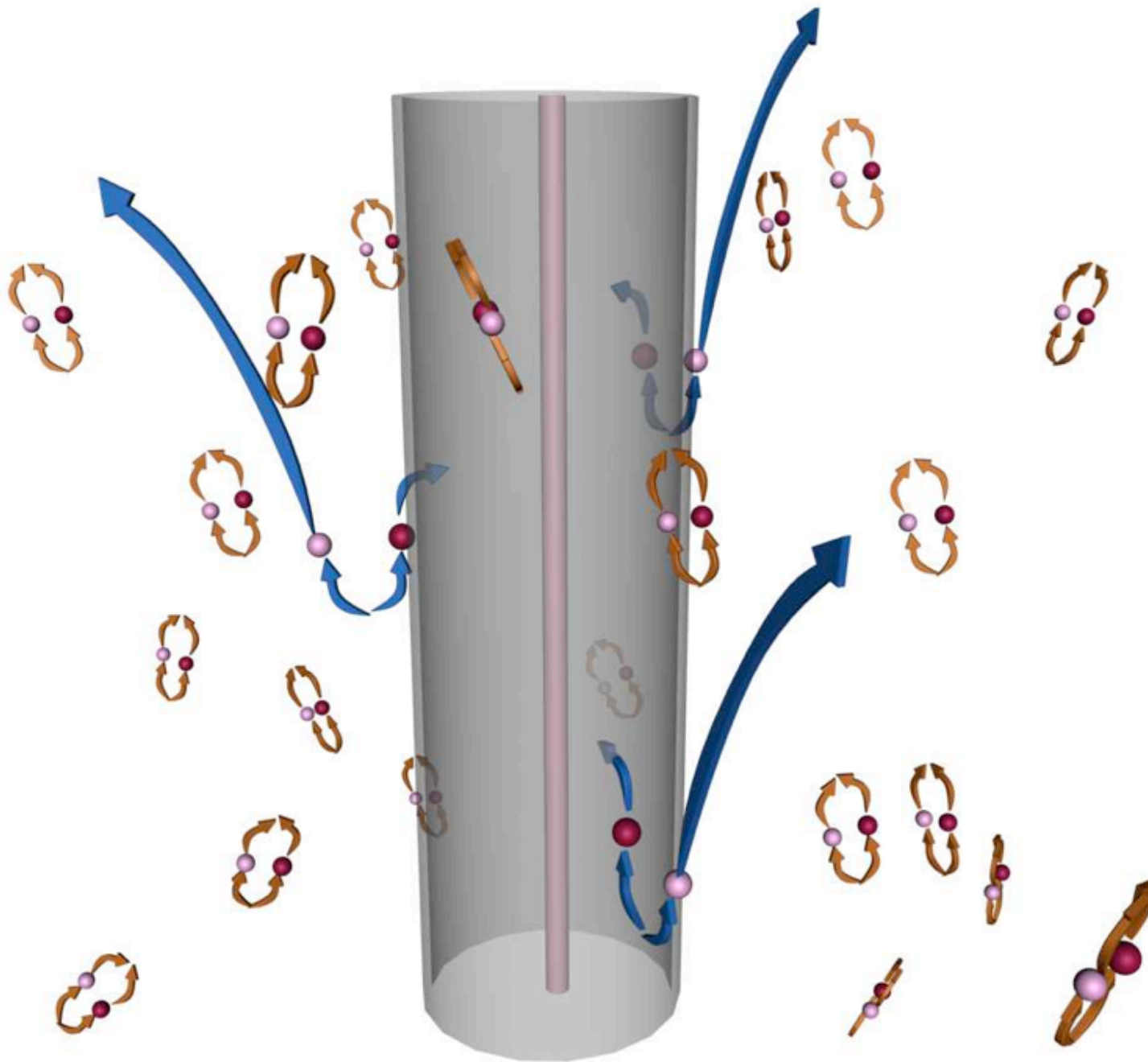
Pulse of light changes the refractive index
and slows down other light...





For all these systems:

- Surface waves.
- Acoustic waves.
- Fibre optics.
- Whatever...

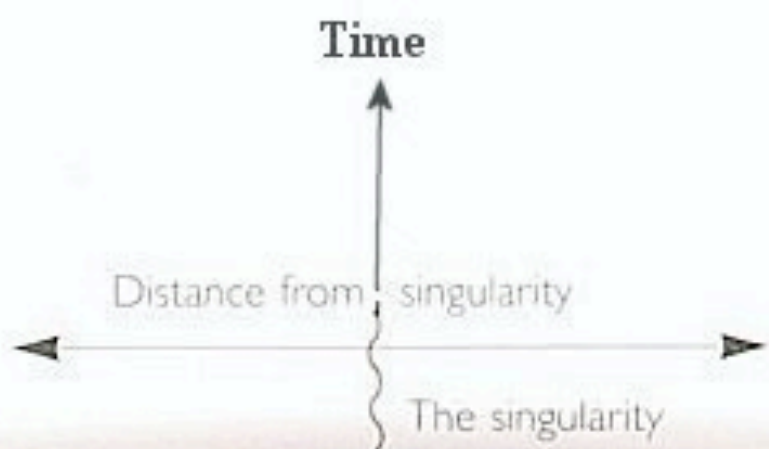


Hope:
Probe
Hawking
radiation.

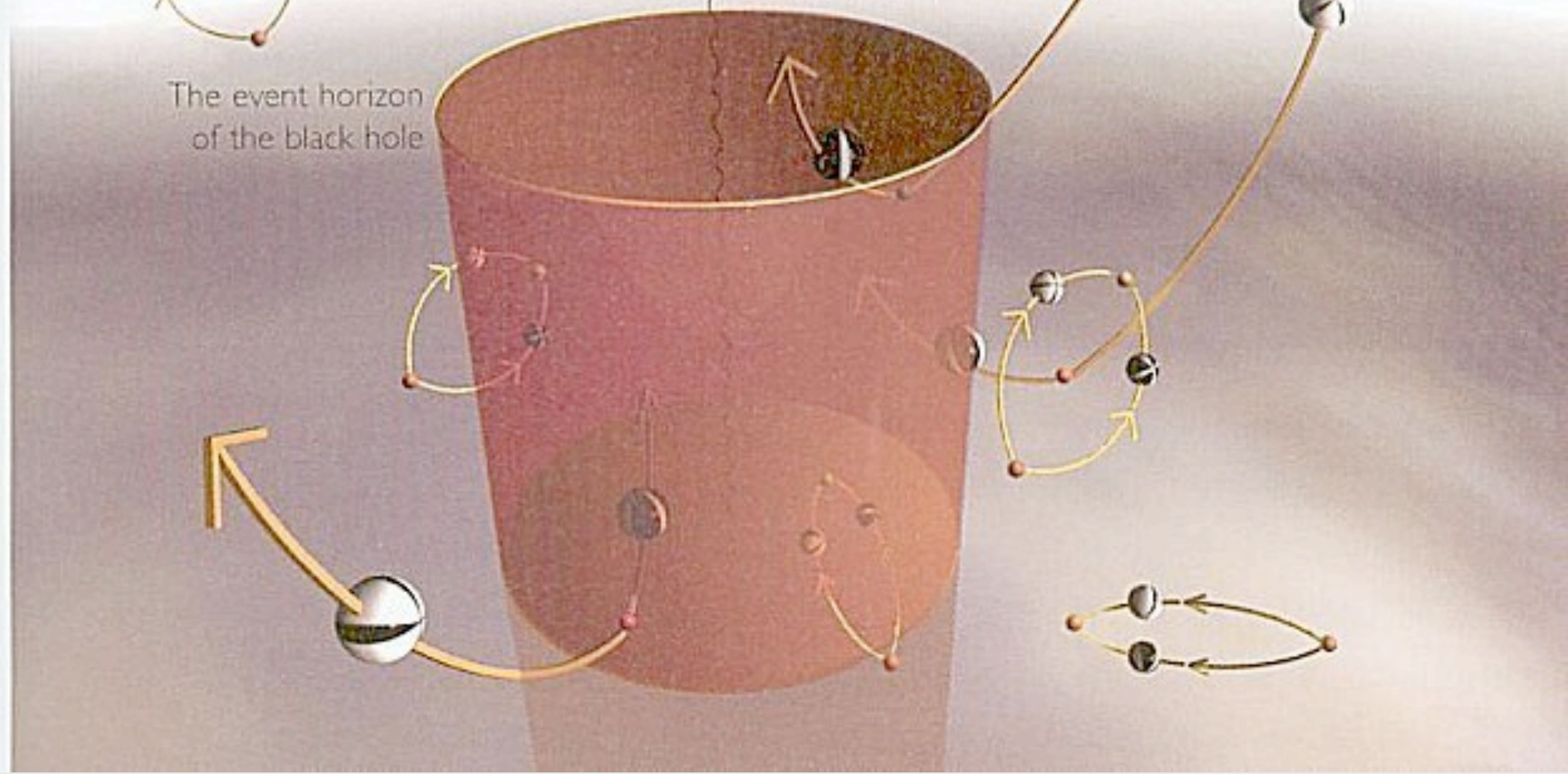
Particle/antiparticle pair annihilating each other

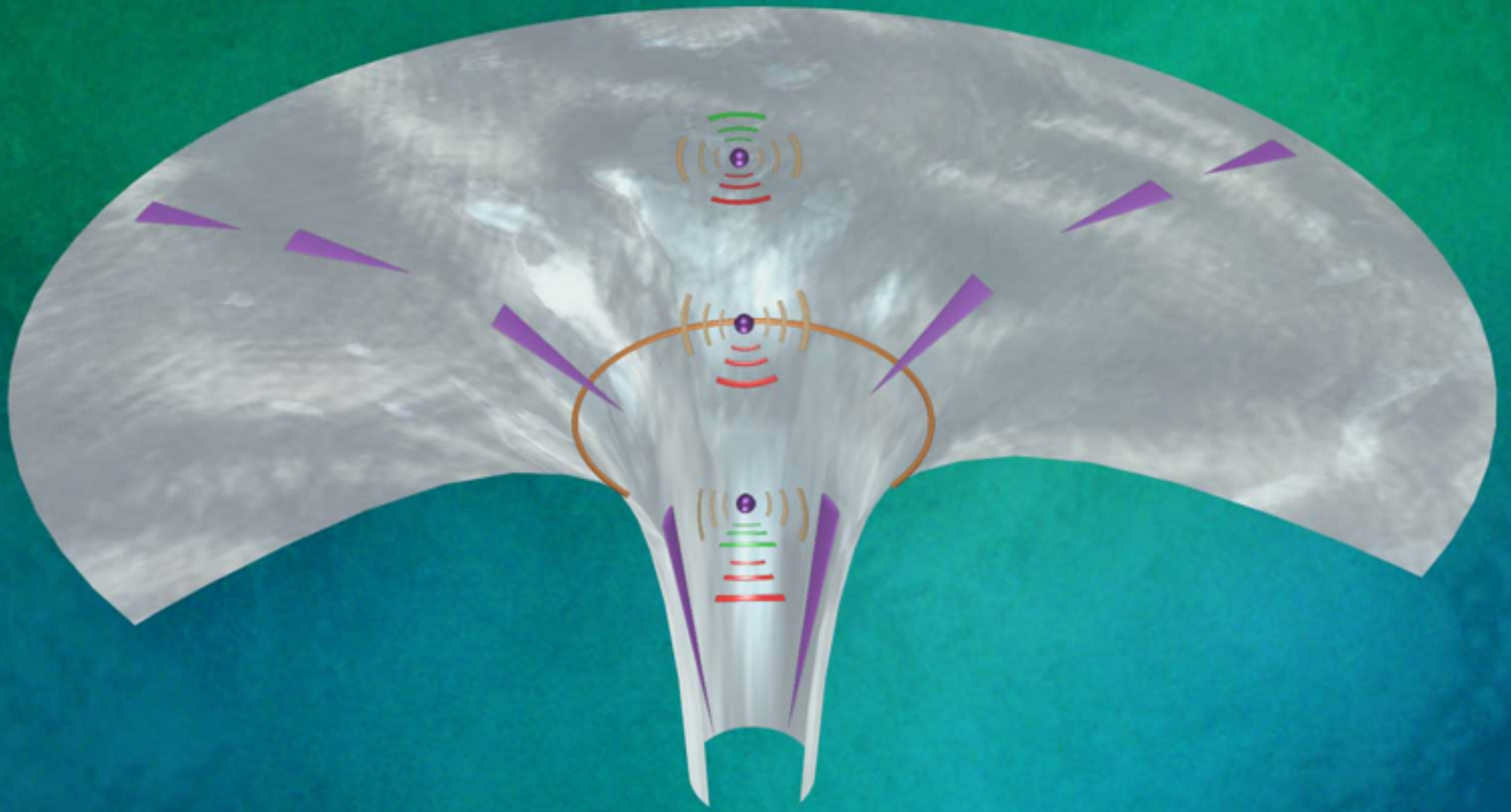


The event horizon of the black hole

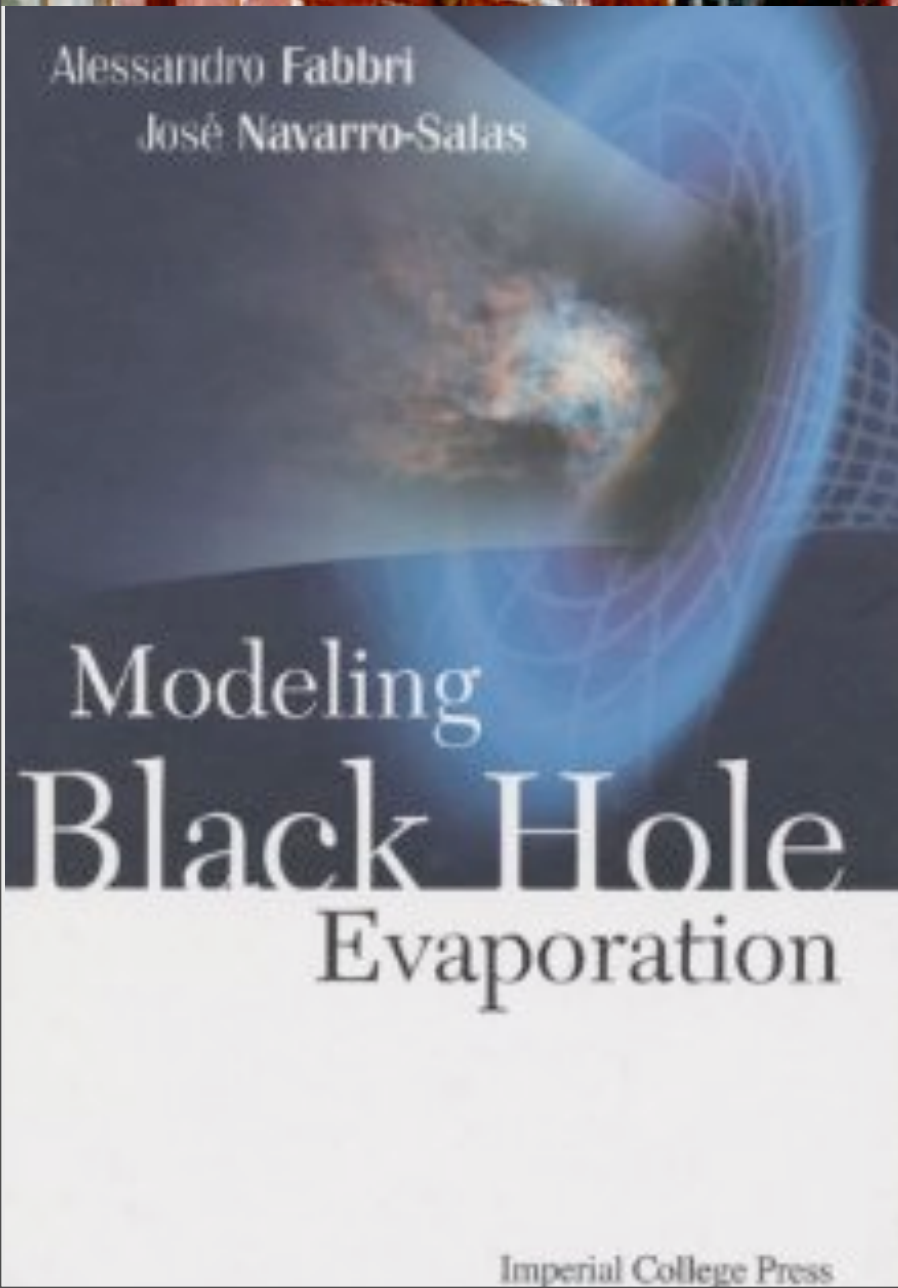


One member of the particle/antiparticle pair falls into the black hole while the other escapes to infinity





Arilla



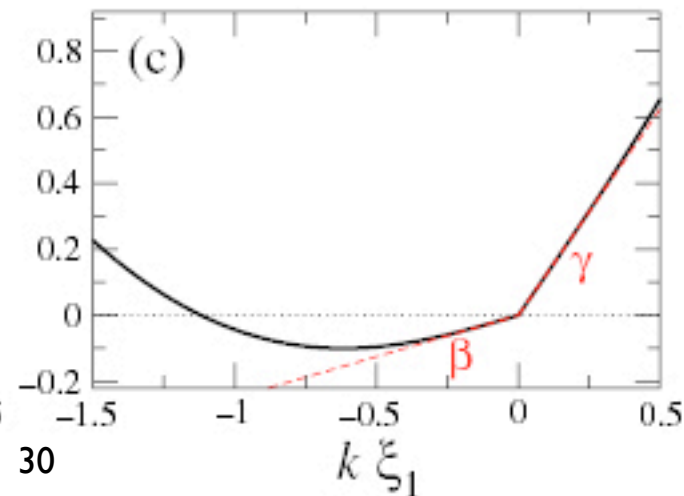
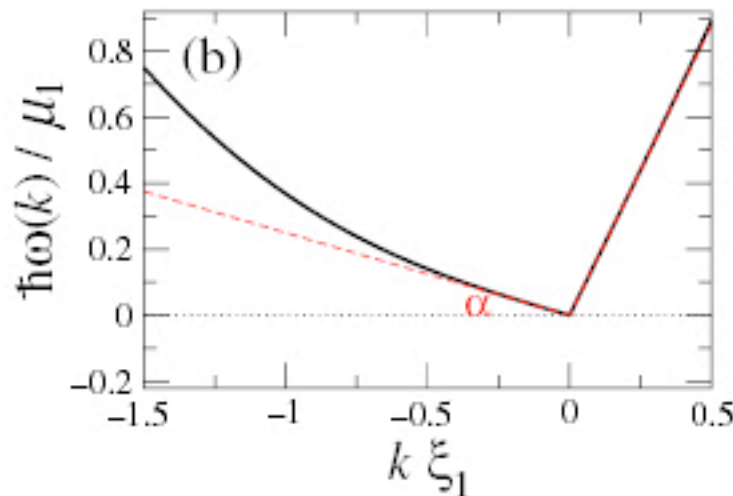
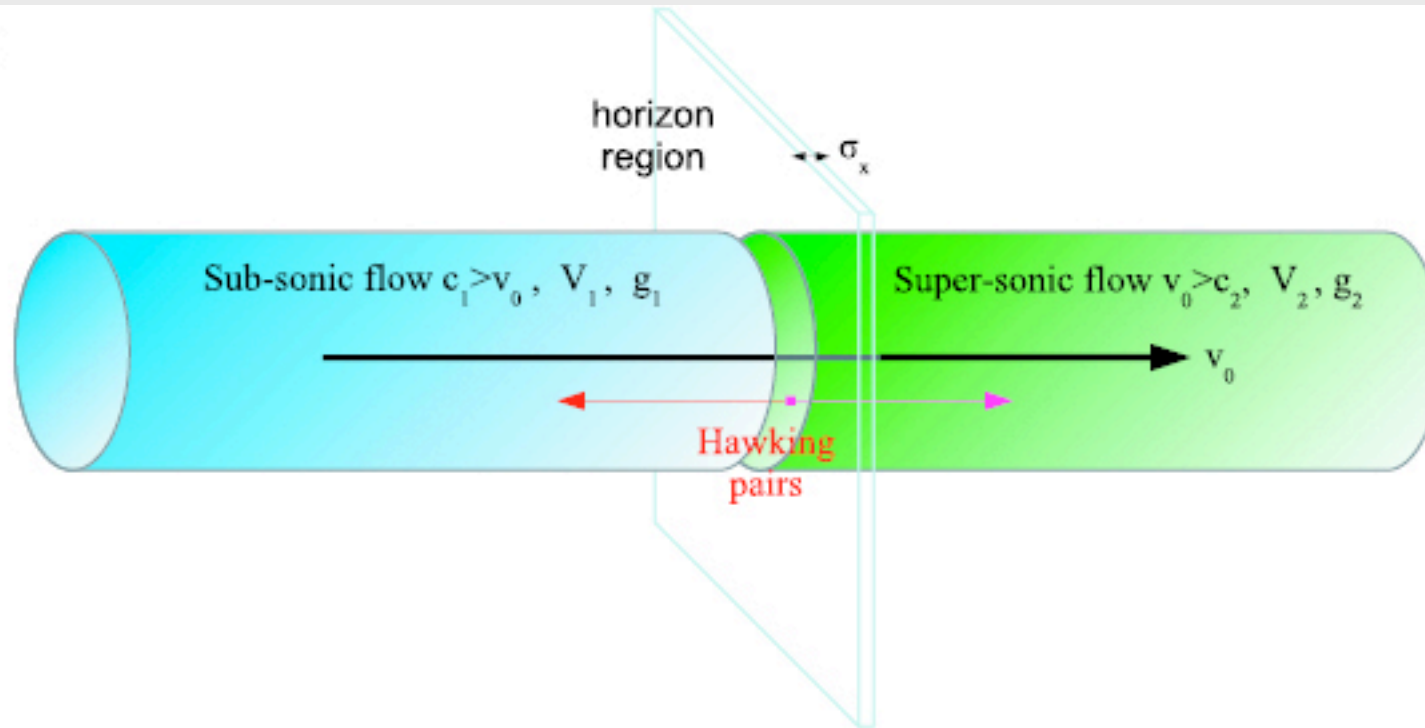
Theoretical calculation:

Hawking radiation will still occur
for these “analogue spacetimes”.



Theoretical calculation:

(a)





Three experiments in the last 3 months:

Measurement of stimulated Hawking emission in an analogue system.

[Silke Weinfurter](#), [Edmund W. Tedford](#), [Matthew C.J. Penrice](#), [William G. Unruh](#), [Gregory A. Lawrence](#)
([British Columbia U.](#)).

Aug 2010. 7 pp.

e-Print: [arXiv:1008.1911](#) [gr-qc]

Hawking radiation from ultrashort laser pulse filaments.

[F. Belgiorno](#), [S.L. Cacciatori](#), [M. Clerici](#), [V. Gorini](#), [G. Ortenzi](#), [L. Rizzi](#), [E. Rubino](#), [V.G. Sala](#), [D. Faccio](#).

Sep 2010. 4 pp.

e-Print: [arXiv:1009.4634](#) [gr-qc]

The circular jump is a white hole.

[G. Jannes](#), [R. Piquet](#), [P. Maissa](#), [C. Mathis](#), [G. Rousseaux](#).

Oct 2010. 4 pp.

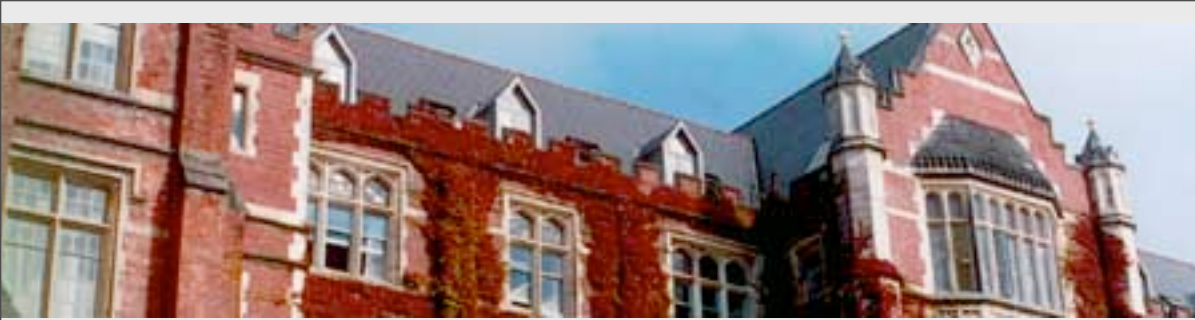
e-Print: [arXiv:1010.1701](#) [physics.flu-dyn]



Conclusion:

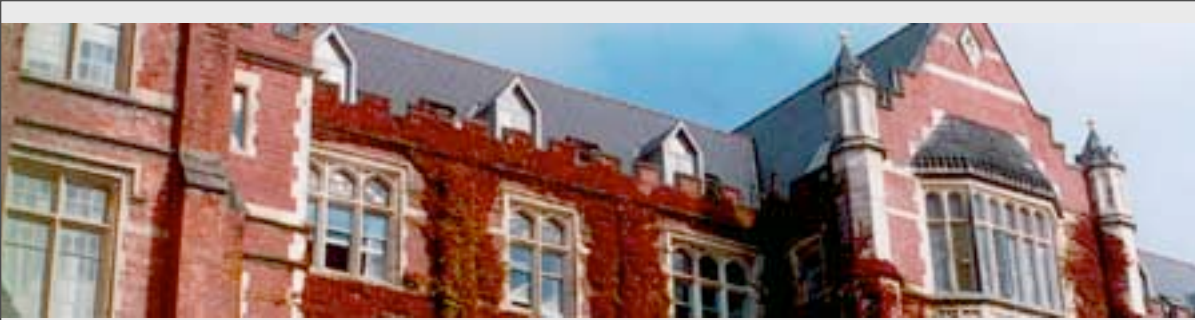
Many interesting extensions and modifications of the general relativity notion of spacetime have concrete and well controlled models within the “analogue spacetime” framework.

This tells us which rocks to start looking under...



“It is important to keep an open mind; just not so open that your brains fall out”

--- **Albert Einstein**



Emergence:

The word “emergence” is being tossed around
an awful lot lately.....

But what does it really mean?

- “More is different”?
 - The sum is greater than its parts?
 - Universality?
 - Mean field?
- * Short-distance physics is often **radically** different
from long-distance physics...