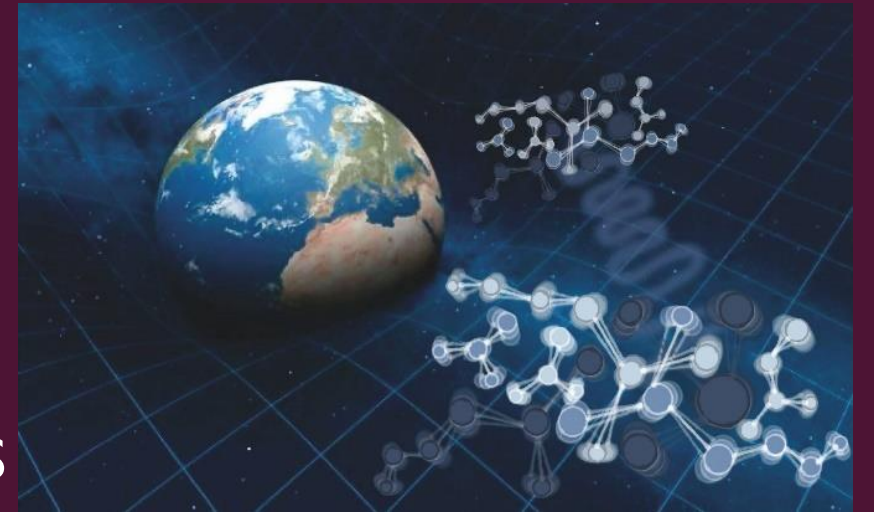


GRAVITATIONAL COUPLING TO COMPOSITE SYSTEMS AND THEIR QUANTUM INTERFERENCE

IGOR PIKOVSKI,

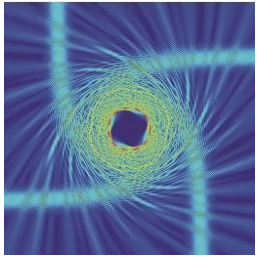
STOCKHOLM UNIVERSITY
& STEVENS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

ONLINE MEETING ON NON-LORENTZIAN GEOMETRIES
AND THEIR APPLICATIONS TO THEORETICAL PHYSICS
JUNE 10, 2021



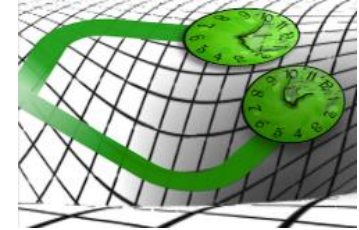
INTERPLAY BETWEEN QUANTUM SYSTEMS AND GRAVITY

Simulators and analogue systems

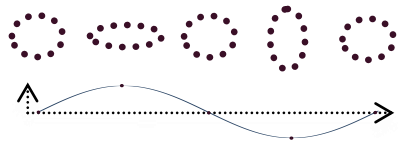
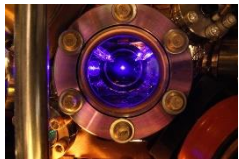


Low energy quantum mechanics

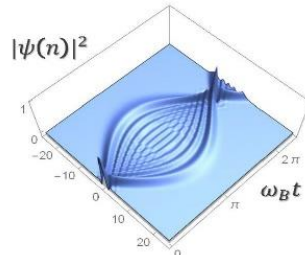
Quantum dynamics on gravity background



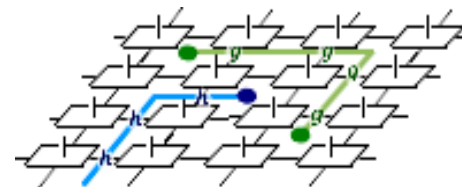
High precision probes of classical gravity



quantum phenomena in cosmology



Entanglement and space-time geometry



Quantum gravity phenomenology



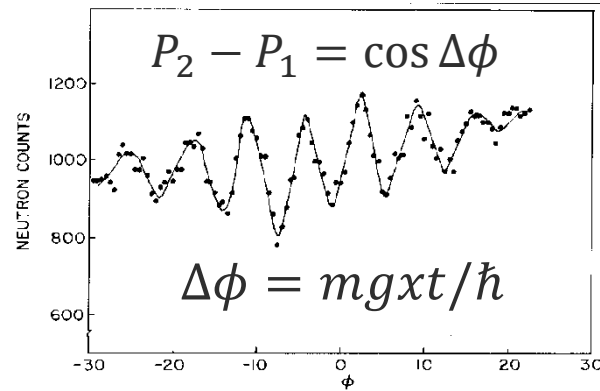
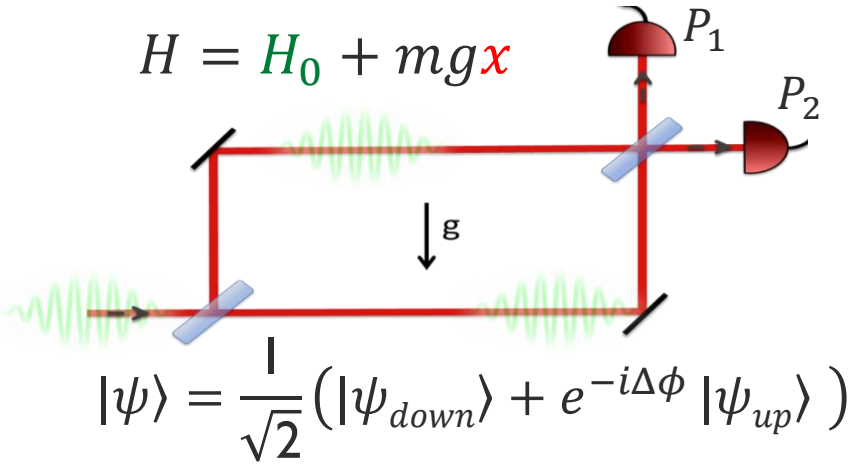
e.g. Kopp, Fragkos, IP [arXiv:2105.1345]

OVERVIEW

- Time dilation in interferometry: the “quantum twin paradox”
- Time dilation induced entanglement in composite quantum systems
- Decoherence due to time dilation
- Coupling of composite systems to gravity revisited
- Seeming violation of equivalence principle in passive gravitational mass
- Resolution: correct passive gravitational mass from first principles

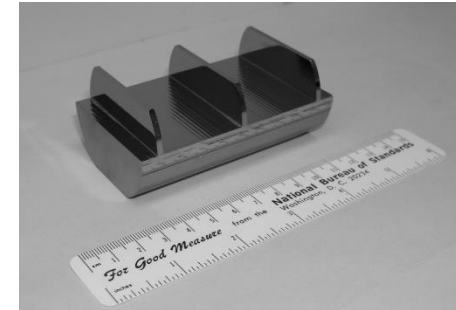
INFLUENCE OF NEWTONIAN GRAVITY IN QM

Newtonian gravitational potential in matter waves:

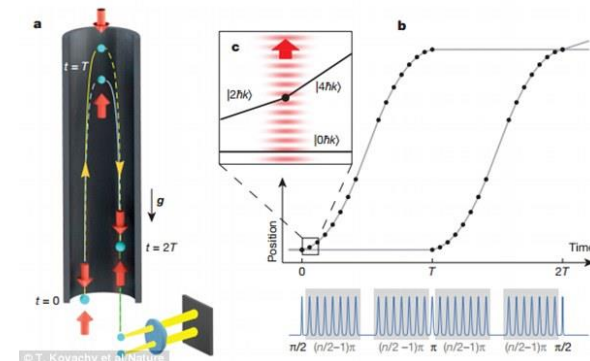


- Neutron interferometry

e.g. *R. Colella, A.W. Overhauser, S.A. Werner, PRL 34, 1472-1474 (1975)*



- Atomic fountains



e.g. *T. Kovachy et. al. Nature 528, 530–533 (2015)*

What do we learn:

- Gravitational potential affects quantum wave function
- Coherent phase induced by Newtonian gravity

What don't we learn:

- Beyond Newtonian limit: gravity is metric theory!
- Quantization of gravitational degrees of freedom: quantum gravity

BEYOND NEWTON: GRAVITATIONAL TIME DILATION



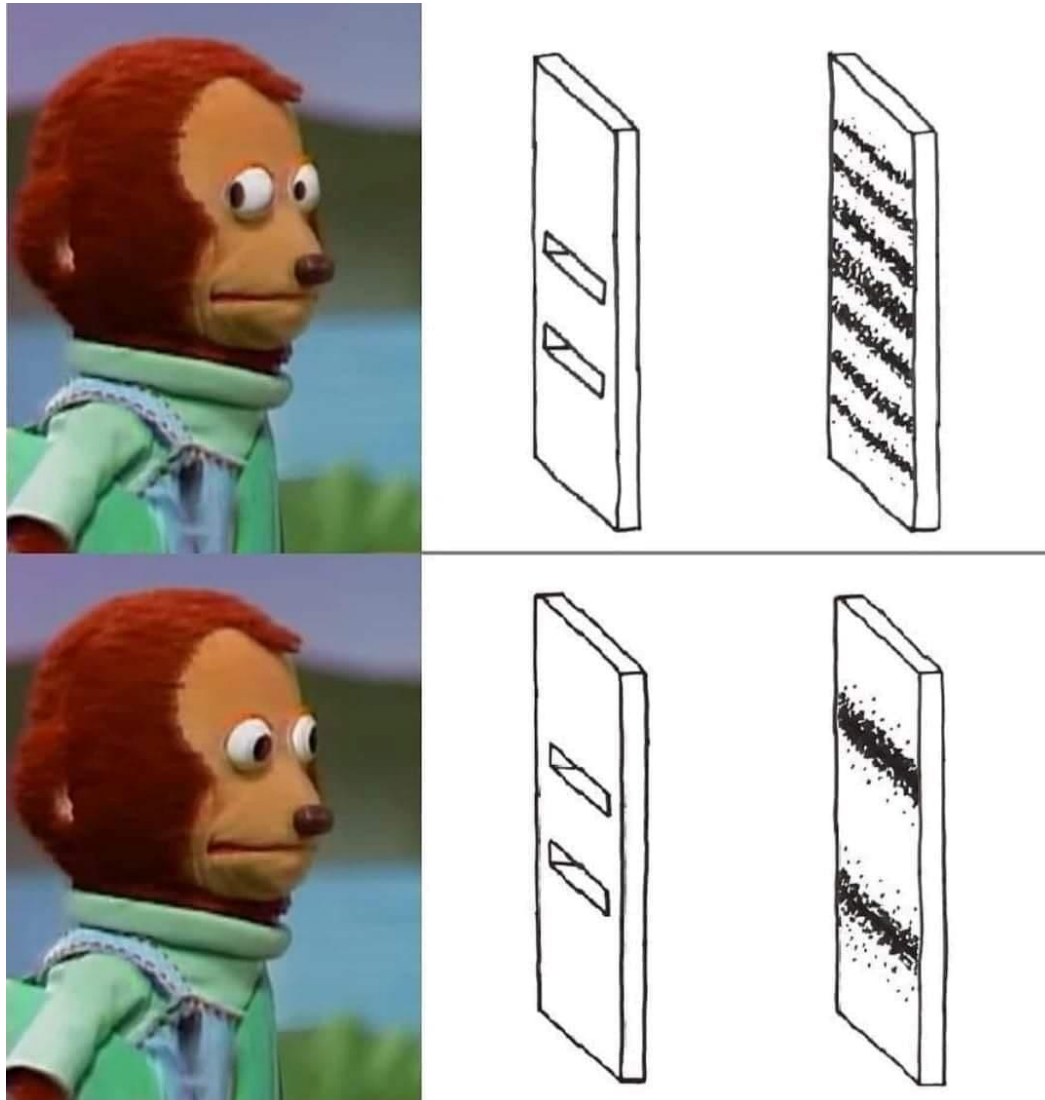
Two initially synchronized clocks placed at different gravitational potentials.

Clock closer to a massive body ticks slower than the clock further away from the mass.



Gravitational potential causes time dilation

QUANTUM COMPLEMENTARITY

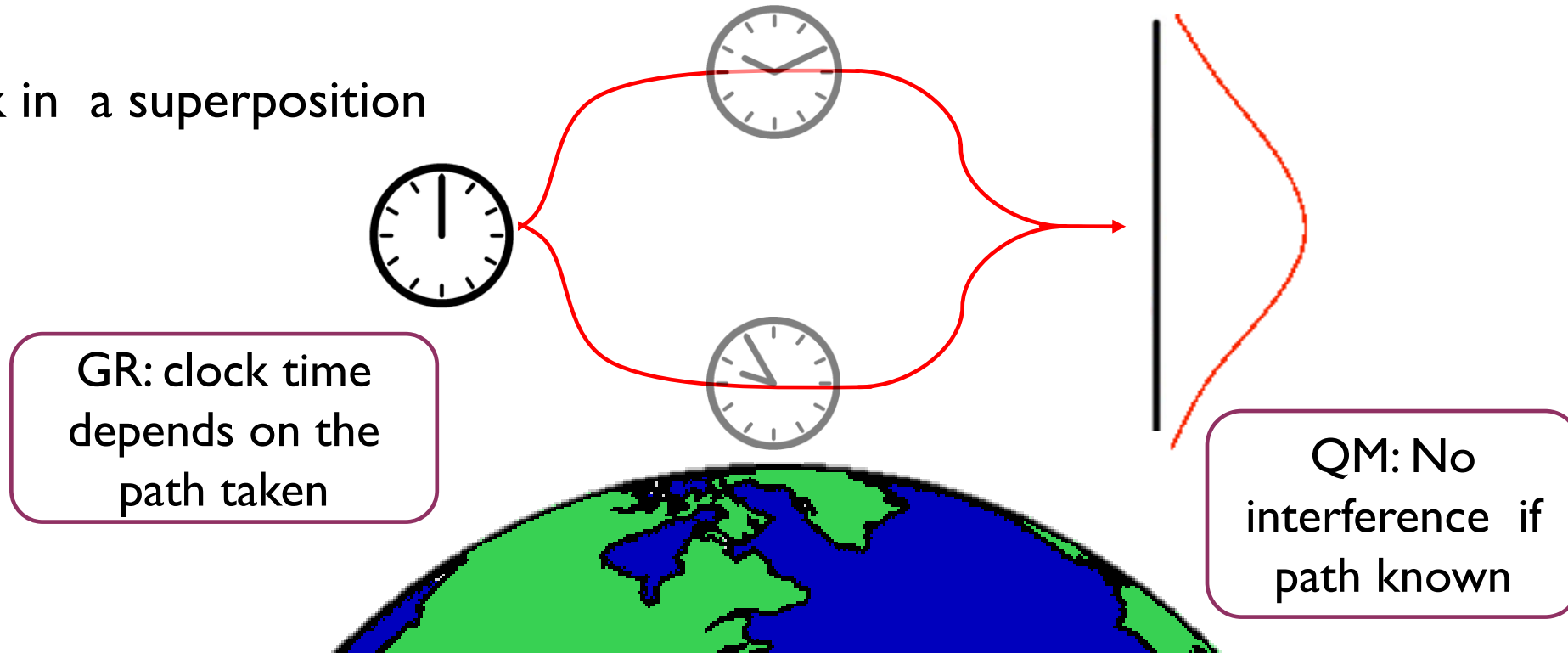


Cannot
simultaneously
distinguish the path of
a particle and observe
its quantum
interference

$$V^2 + D^2 \leq 1$$

OVERLAP OF QM AND GR: “QUANTUM TWIN” SITUATION

clock in a superposition



“Interference of clocks”: clock in superposition of two different heights (superposition of “young” & “old”)
⇒ no path coherence

MEASUREMENT OF GRAVITATIONAL TIME DILATION

Proper time in the presence of gravity:

$$\tau_2 \approx \tau_1 \left(1 + \frac{\Phi(x_2)}{c^2} + \dots \right) \text{ Gravitational time dilation}$$

Demonstrated with Cs-clocks (classic test of general relativity):

J. Hafele, R. Keating,
Science 177, 166–168 (1972)

Two clocks:



$$|c(\tau_2)\rangle_2 = e^{-iH_0\tau_2/\hbar} |c(0)\rangle_2$$

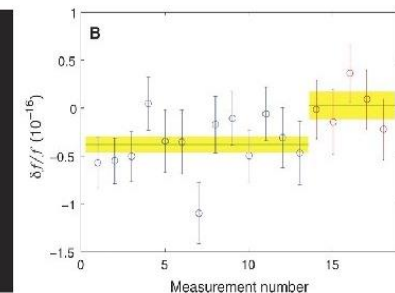
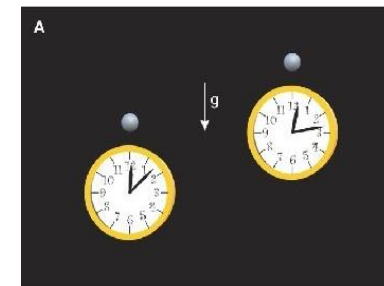
Clock *mechanism* is quantum mechanical, but the position remains classical.



$$|c(\tau_1)\rangle_1 = e^{-iH_0\tau_1/\hbar} |c(0)\rangle_1$$

Trapped ion clocks (30cm height difference):

C. Chou, D. Hume, T. Rosenband, D. Wineland
Science 329, 1630–1633 (2010)



POST-NEWTONIAN HAMILTONIAN

Probe particle on a background metric:

$$S = mc^2 \int d\tau$$

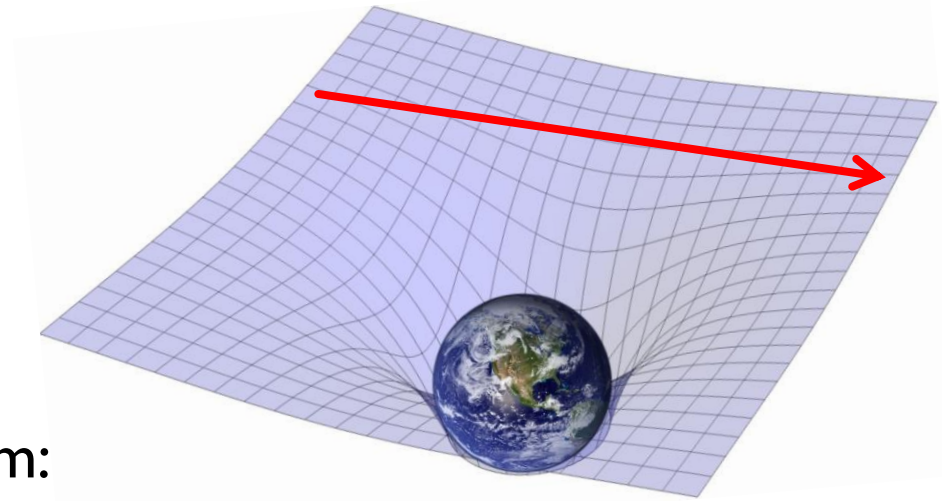
$$L = -mc^2 \frac{d\tau}{dt}$$

The Schwarzschild metric

$$ds^2 = -c^2 d\tau^2 = g_{\mu\nu} x^\mu x^\nu$$

$$g_{00} \simeq -\left(1 + 2\frac{\phi(x)}{c^2} + 2\frac{\phi(x)^2}{c^4}\right), \quad g_{ij} \simeq \frac{1}{c^2} \delta_{ij} \left(1 - 2\frac{\phi(x)}{c^2}\right)$$

$$\dot{\tau} \simeq \sqrt{1 + 2\frac{\phi(x)}{c^2} + 2\frac{\phi(x)^2}{c^4} - \left(\frac{\dot{x}}{c}\right)^2 \left(1 - 2\frac{\phi(x)}{c^2}\right)}$$



Legendre transform:

$$H = mc^2 + \frac{p^2}{2m} + m\Phi(x) + \frac{m\Phi^2(x)}{2c^2} - \frac{p^4}{8m^3c^2} + \frac{3p\Phi(x)p}{2mc^2}$$

$$p = mv + \frac{mv^3}{2c^2} - \frac{3mv\Phi(x)}{c^2}$$

Can also be obtained starting from the KG equation:

C. Lämmerzahl. "A Hamilton operator for quantum optics in gravitational fields." Physics Letters A 203, 12-17 (1995)

POST-NEWTONIAN HAMILTONIAN: INTERFEROMETRY

$$H = mc^2 + \frac{p^2}{2m} + m\Phi(x) + \frac{m\Phi^2(x)}{2c^2} - \frac{p^4}{8m^3c^2} + \frac{3p\Phi(x)p}{2mc^2}$$

Can do quantum optics in Hamiltonian formulation

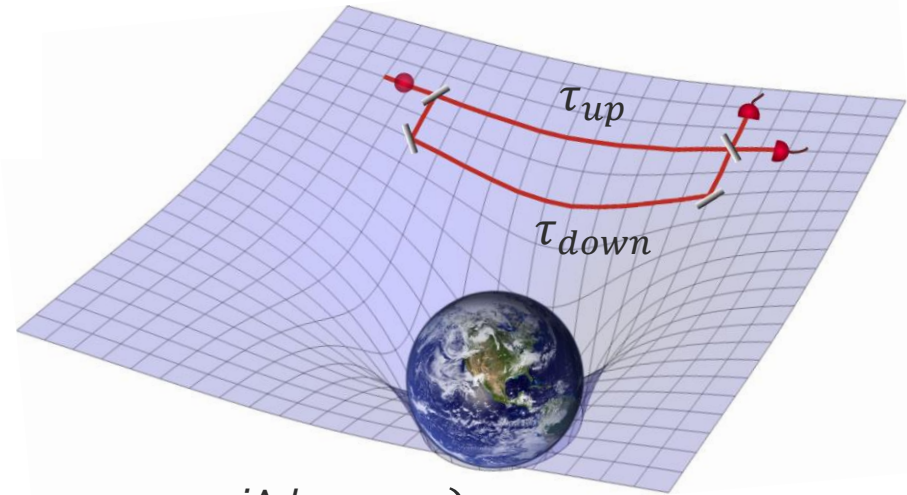
Simpler approach:

Quantum phases depend on world-line:

$$\phi_j = -\frac{S_j}{\hbar} = mc^2 \int d\tau_j$$

$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\psi_{down}\rangle + e^{-i\Delta\phi} |\psi_{up}\rangle)$$

$$\Delta\phi = \frac{S_{up} - S_{down}}{\hbar} = \Delta\phi_{Newton} + \frac{1}{c^2} \Delta\phi_{corrections}$$



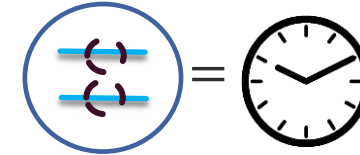
S. Dimopoulos, P.W. Graham, J. M. Hogan, M.A. Kasevich. "General relativistic effects in atom interferometry." Physical Review D 78, 042003 (2008).

Phases depend on proper time. Can they be seen as „clocks“? No! Global phase unobservable

Proper time difference \neq measurement of time

HAMILTONIAN FOR TIME DILATION

Add degrees of freedom that **measure time** (clocks)



Total Hamiltonian?

Generated by internal Hamiltonian H_0

Simple derivation to lowest order in $1/c^2$: GR time dilation as a result of mass-energy equivalence

Total mass of a system:

Interaction with gravitational potential $\Phi(x)$:

$$m_{tot} = m + \frac{H_0}{c^2}$$

↙ remaining static part
↘ internal dynamics

$$H_{int} = m_{tot} \Phi(x) = m\Phi(x) + H_0 \frac{\Phi(x)}{c^2}$$

e.g: $H_0 = \hbar\omega \rightarrow$ redshifted to $\hbar\omega \left(1 + \frac{\Phi(x)}{c^2}\right)$

↘ Gravitational redshift

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} |\psi\rangle = \left(H_0 + mc^2 + \frac{p^2}{2m} + m\Phi(x) + \frac{m\Phi^2(x)}{2c^2} - \frac{p^4}{8m^3c^2} + \frac{3p\Phi(x)p}{2mc^2} + \underbrace{\left[\frac{\Phi(x)}{c^2} - \frac{p^2}{2m^2c^2} \right]}_{\text{Coupling}} H_0 + \dots \right) |\psi\rangle$$

Gravitational part of interaction with $\Phi(x) = gx$:

$$H_{int} = \frac{gx}{c^2} H_0$$

Coupling between *internal* and *external* d.o.f.

(revisit mass-energy equivalence later in talk)

CLOCKS IN SUPERPOSITION & TIME DILATION

Classically:

$$H \approx H_0 + mgx + \frac{gx}{c^2} H_0$$



Gravitational redshift

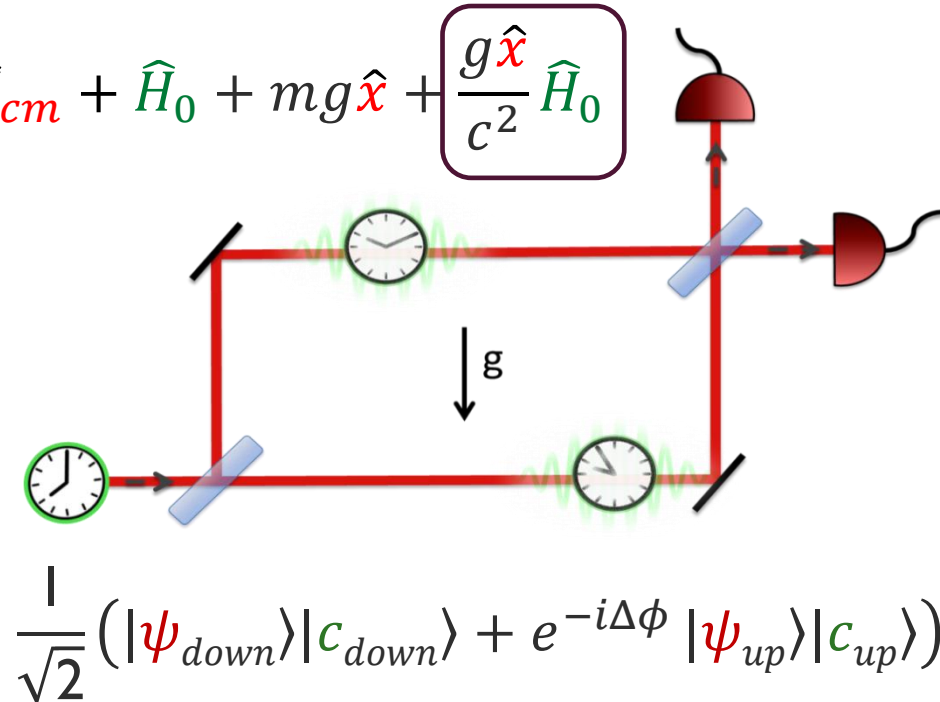


Quantum mechanically:

$$\hat{H} \approx \hat{H}_{cm} + \hat{H}_0 + mg\hat{x} + \frac{g\hat{x}}{c^2} \hat{H}_0$$

General relativity *entangles* any **clock** to the **path** due to time dilation.

Takes place only if both GR and QM present.



Due to entanglement:

$$V = |\langle c_{down} | c_{up} \rangle| < 1$$

Change in Visibility

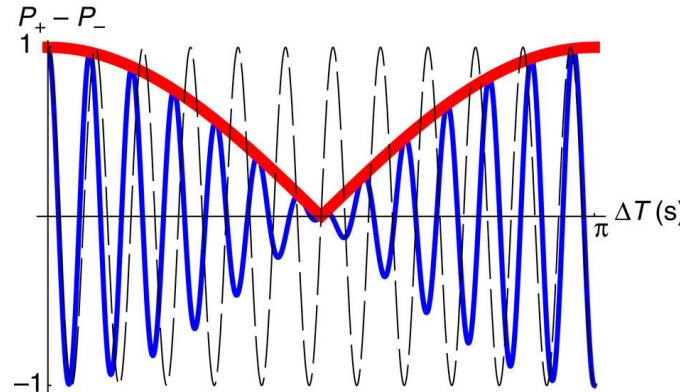
Test with matter-wave interferometry with additional internal clock-states $|c\rangle$ (e.g. $|c\rangle \propto |g\rangle + |e\rangle$)

PHASE SHIFT VS. ENTANGLEMENT

$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\gamma_1\rangle |c_1\rangle + e^{-i(\varphi + \Delta\phi)} |\gamma_2\rangle |c_2\rangle)$$

Phase Shift

$$\Delta\phi$$



Drop in Interference contrast

$$V = \langle c_2 | c_1 \rangle < 1$$

Explainable by:

- Newtonian potential with absolute time
 - analogues to a charged particle in EM
- Flat space-time: no notion of redshift necessary, even in post-Newton

Experimentally observed
in Newtonian limit

Requires:

- proper time τ flows at different rates – time dilation
- space-time geometry entangles clock to the path
- iff a particle is an operationally well defined „clock“ – dynamical evolution of a degree-of-freedom

Experiment challenging

UNIVERSALITY OF TIME DILATION: EFFECT PRESENT IN ALL SYSTEMS

Matter wave interference:



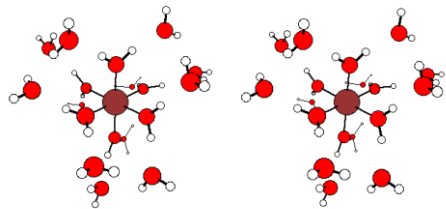
Periodic clock

Internal degree of freedom

$$V = \left| \cos \left(\frac{\Delta\tau \pi}{t_{\perp} 2} \right) \right| \text{Time dilation}$$

Orthogonalization time of clock

M. Zych, F. Costa, I. Pikovski, C. Brukner.
Nat. Commun. 2, 505 (2011)



Mixture of periodic clocks

$$V = \prod_{\text{all "clocks"}} \left| \sum_k p_k e^{iE_k \frac{\Delta\tau}{\hbar}} \right|$$

I. Pikovski, M. Zych, F. Costa, C. Brukner.
Nature Phys. 11, 668-672 (2015)

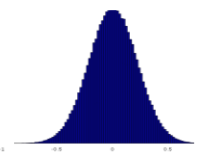
I. Pikovski, M. Zych, F. Costa, C. Brukner.
New J. Phys. 19, 025011 (2017)

Photons:

Do not feel time dilation
 $ds^2 = -c^2 d\tau^2 = 0$

Non-periodic

$$V = F \left(\frac{\Delta\tau}{t_{\perp}} \right)$$



External degree of freedom

M. Zych, F. Costa, I. Pikovski, T. C. Ralph, C. Brukner.
Class. Quantum Grav. 29, 224010 (2012)

UNIVERSAL DECOHERENCE DUE TO GRAVITATIONAL TIME DILATION

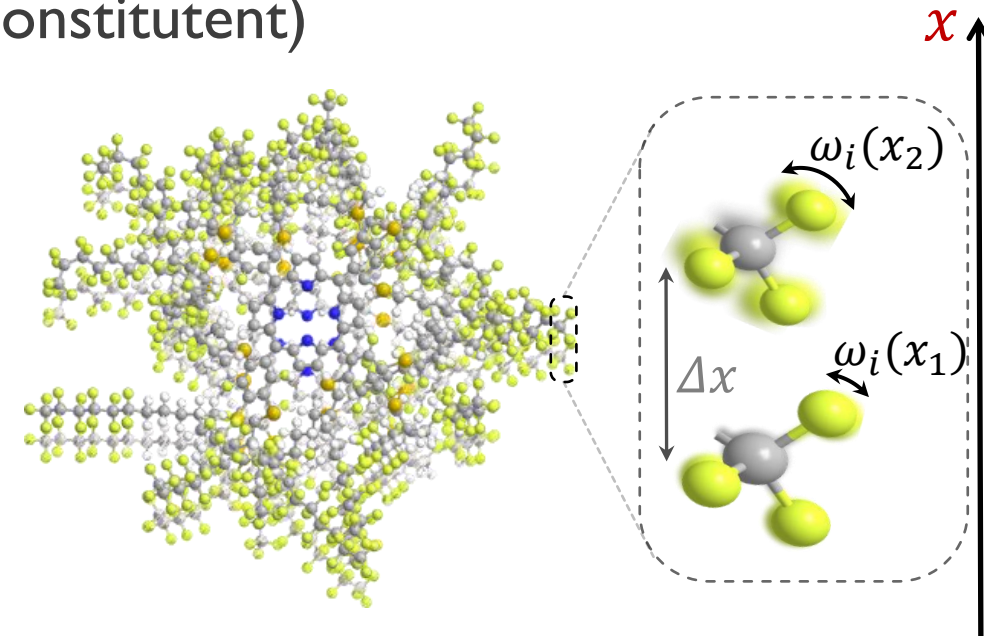
Universality: *any* system affected equally by time dilation (fundamental in general relativity)

- Large System ($N \gg 1$ internal degrees of freedom)
- No control of internal states
- No internal coherence (e.g. thermal state of each constituent)

Internal states serve as “bath“ for the center-of-mass

Gravitational degrees of freedom not the bath, time dilation mediates coupling between CoM + other modes

$$H_{int} = \left(\underbrace{\Phi(\hat{x})}_{\substack{\text{GR time} \\ \text{dilation}}} - \underbrace{\frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m^2}}_{\substack{\text{SR time} \\ \text{dilation}}} \right) \hat{H}_0$$

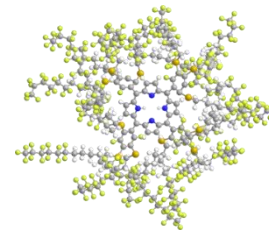


UNIVERSAL DECOHERENCE DUE TO GRAVITATIONAL TIME DILATION

Any system affected by time dilation.

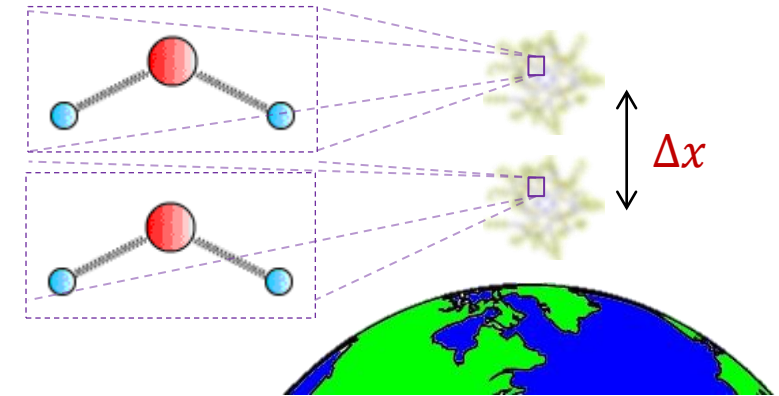
Simple model as an example: Composite system has N internal harmonic oscillators:

$$\hat{H}_0 = \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{n}_i \hbar \omega_i$$



Each constituent in equilibrium at temperature T , center-of-mass in superposition:

$$|\psi_{cm}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|x_1\rangle + |x_2\rangle)$$



Quantum coherence of center-of-mass reduces due to time-dilation:

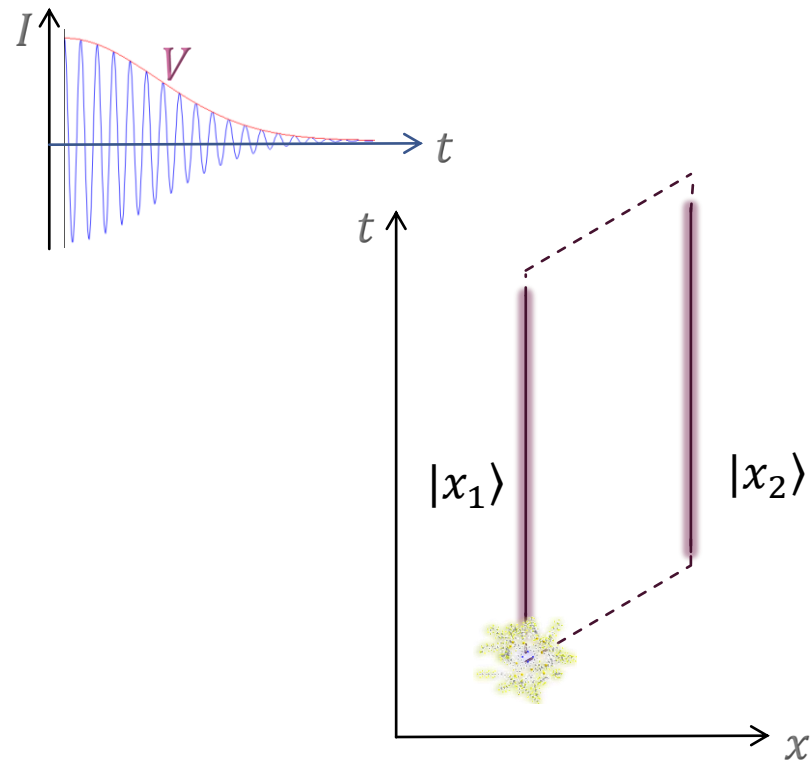
$$V(t) \approx \left(1 + \left(\frac{k_B T g \Delta x t}{\hbar c^2} \right) \right)^{-N/2} \approx e^{-\left(\frac{t}{\tau_{dec}} \right)^2}$$

$$\tau_{dec} = \sqrt{2/N} \frac{\hbar c^2}{k_B T g \Delta x}$$

- Universal for all composite systems
- Relativistic, thermodynamic and quantum mechanical effect
- Gaussian decay of quantum coherence in position
- Regular quantum theory and general relativity, no new assumptions
- Decoherence mediated by time dilation, depends on internal composition

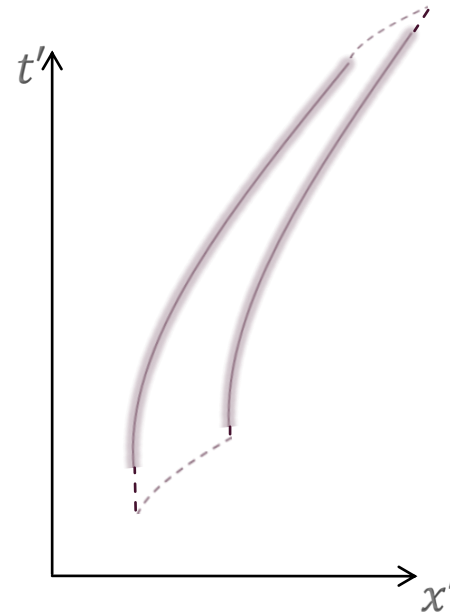
DECOHERENCE FOR ARBITRARY WORLDLINES

Experiment on Earth:



$$d\tau^2 = (1 + 2\phi(x))dt^2 - dx^2$$

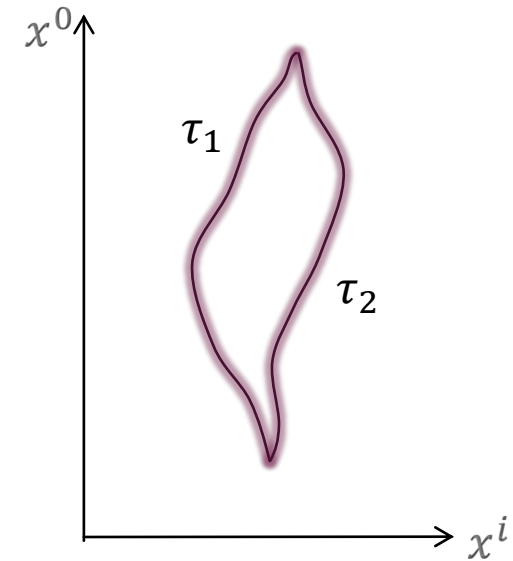
Same effect for accelerating world lines:



$$d\tau^2 = dt'^2 - dx'^2$$

Visibility for arbitrary world lines:

$$V = \left| \langle e^{-iH_0(\tau_2 - \tau_1)/\hbar} \rangle \right|$$

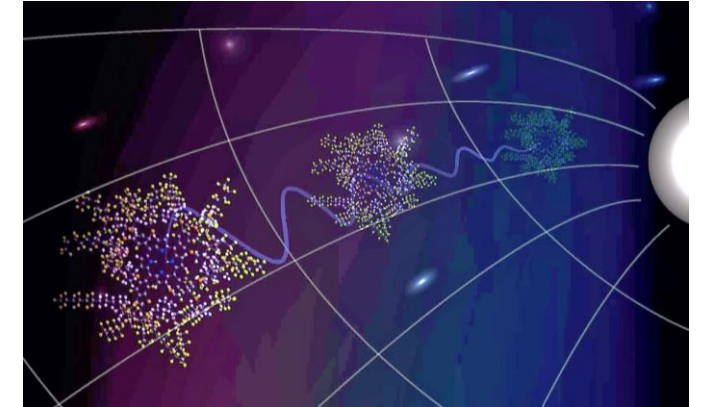


$$d\tau^2 = -g_{\mu\nu}dx^\mu dx^\nu$$

STRENGTH OF DECOHERENCE

$$\tau_{dec} = \frac{\sqrt{2}\hbar c^2}{\Delta H_0 g \Delta x} \approx \sqrt{\frac{2}{N} \frac{\hbar c^2}{k_B T g \Delta x}}$$

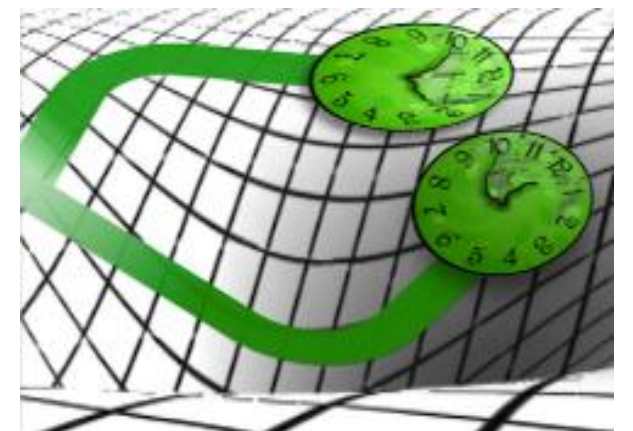
μm -scale object on Earth at room temperature, $\Delta x \sim \mu\text{m}$: $\tau_{dec} \sim \text{ms}$



2-lvl clock at frequency ω , held for time T at superposition of size Δh : $V = \left| \cos\left(\frac{H_0 \Delta \tau}{2}\right) \right| = \left| \cos\left(\frac{\omega T \Delta h}{2c^2}\right) \right|$

Experimental requirements to see time dilation in quantum interference:

system	clock	ω [Hz]	Δh [ms] achieved	Δh [ms] required
atoms	Optical states	10^{15}	10^{-1}	10
electrons	spin precession	10^{13}	10^{-6}	10^3
molecules	vibrational modes	10^{12}	10^{-8}	10^4
neutrons	spin precession	10^{10}	10^{-7}	10^6
Photon	„Shapiro Delay“	Interferometer with ca. 10km arm length		



Analogue BEC experiment: Y. Margalit et al., Science 349, 1205-1208 (2015)

RELEVANT EXPERIMENTS

Effect simulated with magnetic fields (2015):



A self-interfering clock as a “which path” witness

Yair Margalit, Zhifan Zhou, Shimon Machluf,* Daniel Rohrlich, Yonathan Japha, Ron Folman†

Department of Physics, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beer-Sheva 84105, Israel.

*Present address: Van der Waals-Zeeman Institute, University of Amsterdam, Science Park 904, 1090 GL Amsterdam, Netherlands.

†Corresponding author. E-mail: folman@bgu.ac.il

In Einstein's general theory of relativity, time depends locally on gravity; in standard quantum theory, time is global—all clocks “tick” uniformly. We demonstrate a new tool for investigating time in the overlap of these two theories: a self-interfering clock, comprising two atomic spin states. We prepare the clock in a spatial superposition of quantum wave packets,

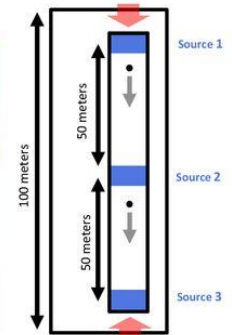
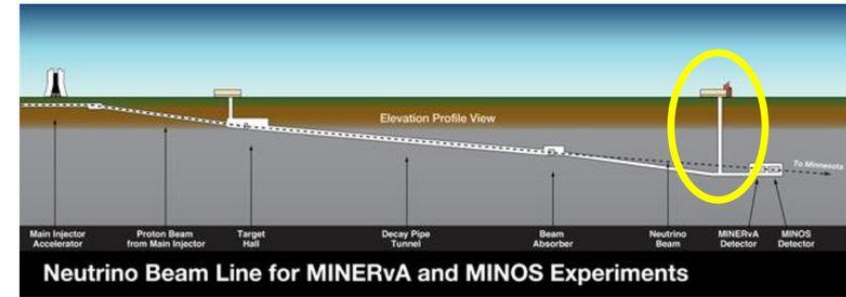
Also proposed space-based and ground-based photon experiments

Pallister et al., EPJ Quantum Technology 4 (2017)

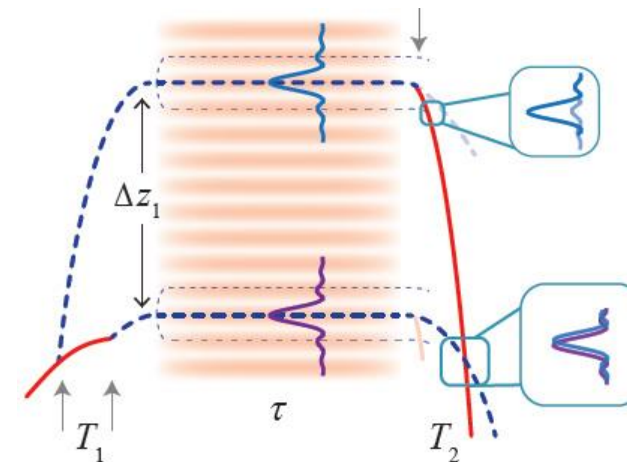
Hilweg et al., NJP 19, 033028 (2017)

Atoms across 10m in superposition: Planned MAGIS-100 detector at Fermilab

Matter wave Atomic Gradiometer Interferometric Sensor



Holding atoms for 20s in superposition:



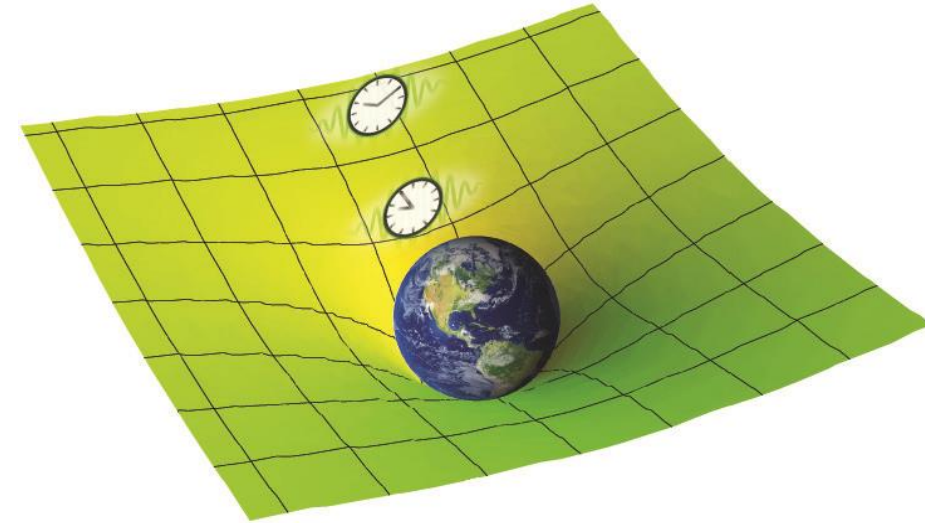
Xu et al., Science 366, 745-749 (2019)

REVISTING THE GRAVITATIONAL COUPLING

$$H = \sqrt{-g_{00}(x)} H_0 \approx \left(1 + \frac{\phi(x)}{c^2}\right) H_0$$

Universal coupling to energy:

- Dictated by the equivalence principle
- Valid for any form of energy, i.e. arbitrary local Hamiltonian H_0
- Manifestation of time dilation
- Leads to entanglement between internal and external degrees of freedom
- Can lead to decoherence of COM of composite systems



CONSIDERING SPECIFIC COMPOSITE SYSTEMS

Problem: all concrete N-particle calculations in GR seem to show different result! E.g.:

A. Eddington, G. Clark, *Proc. R. Soc. Lond.* A166, 465 (1938)

K. Nordtvedt, *Int. J. Theor. Phys.* 3, 133-139 (1970)

E. Fishbach et al., *Phys. Rev. D.* 23, 2157-2180 (1981)

S. Carlip, *Am. J. Phys.* 66, 409-413 (1998)

A. G. Lebed, *Cent. Eur. J. Phys.* 11, 969–976 (2013)

$$H_{sys} = \sum_{i=1}^N \left(m_i c^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_i v_i^2 + k \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{q_i q_j}{2r_{ij}} \right) = R + T + U$$

the retardation terms must be removed from (4.1). The mass is then

$$M = \sum_i m_i + \frac{3}{2} \sum_i m_i v_i^2 - \sum_i \sum_j \frac{m_i m_j}{\Delta_{ij}}, \quad (4.5)$$

and the formal difficulty, caused by the divergence of (4.3) as $r \rightarrow \infty$, is avoided.

Let T , V be the kinetic and potential energies of the system. We have

$$T = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i m_i v_i^2, \quad V = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_i \sum_j \frac{m_i m_j}{\Delta_{ij}}.$$

Hence (4.5) becomes $M = \sum m_i + 3T + 2V.$ (4.6)

A. Eddington, G. Clark, *Proc. R. Soc. Lond.* A166, 465 (1938)

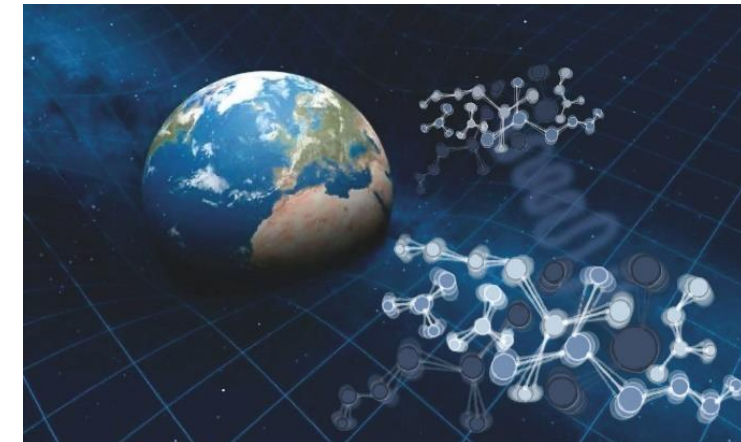
On post-Newtonian metric, Results in gravitational coupling to:

$$m_G = \frac{1}{c^2} (R + 3T + 2U),$$

$$H = H_{sys} + \frac{\phi}{c^2} (H_{sys} + 2T + U)$$

Problems:

- Coupling to energy not universal: different for T and U, different systems will fall differently
- $m_G \neq \frac{E}{c^2}$
- Need correct Hamiltonian to do quantum physics



DIFFERENT GRAVITATIONAL COUPLING

$$H = H_{sys} + \frac{\phi}{c^2} (H_{sys} + 2T + U)$$

Specific model systems

Vs.

$$H = \left(1 + \frac{\phi}{c^2}\right) H_0$$

General considerations

“Miraculous” resolution: Virial theorem

Classically: $2\langle T \rangle_t = -\langle U \rangle_t$

QM: $2\langle T \rangle_{ensemble} = -\langle U \rangle_{ensemble}$

$$H = \left(1 + \frac{\phi}{c^2}\right) \langle H_{sys} \rangle$$

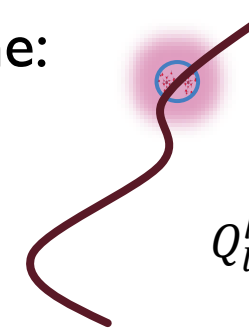
- No violation for current experimental tests
- Equivalence principle holds on timescales longer than internal dynamics

- Inconsistent with **exact** universality of GR
- Deviations from equivalence principle in QM for composite systems beyond the mean

RESOLUTION: DERIVATION OF MASS-ENERGY EQUIVALENCE

Generic action of N-particle system on a single world-line:

$$S = - \sum_{i=1}^N \left(m_i c^2 \int d\tau_i + q_i \int A_\mu(x_i) dx_i^\mu \right)$$



$Q^\mu(t)$ world-line

Co-moving coordinates:

$$Q_{local}^\mu = \frac{\partial x_{local}^\mu}{\partial x^\nu} Q^\nu(t) \quad Q_{local}^0 = \tau$$

$$\frac{dQ_{local}^i}{dt} = 0$$

Can be re-written as:

Gives rise to:

$$S = - \int L_{local} \frac{d\tau}{dt} dt$$

$$H = \sqrt{-g_{00}(c^2 p_k p^k + H_{local}^2)}$$

(if $g_{\mu\nu}$ same \forall particles)

Defined only wrt internal, local quantities World-line in external coordinates

- Completely general for arbitrary internal Hamiltonian (when tidal forces negligible)
- Reproduces mass-energy equivalence
- Energy expressed in terms of local physical quantities

$$L_{local} = L_{local}(x_i^{local}, p_i^{local}, \tau)$$

RESOLUTION: CORRECT GRAVITATIONAL MASS

Locally (sitting on the particle COM): $H_{local} = T_{local} + U_{local} + \sum m_i c^2$

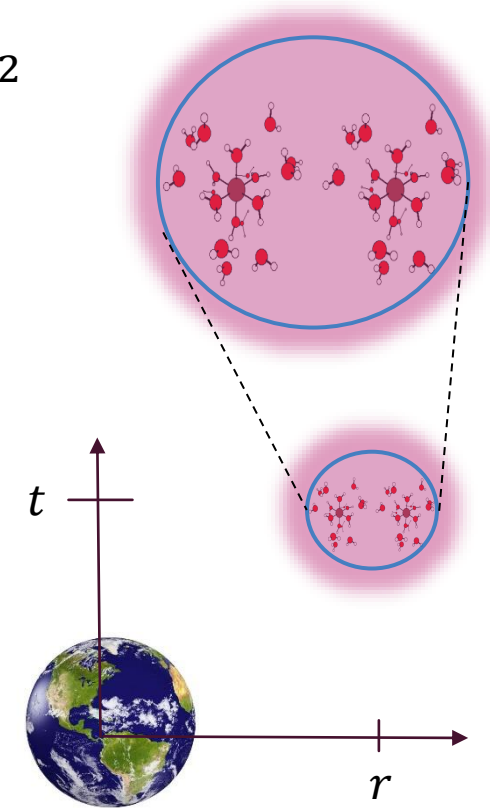
From outside (observer sitting far away):

$$x_i = \left(1 + \frac{\phi(r)}{c^2}\right) x_i^{local} \quad t = \left(1 - \frac{\phi(r)}{c^2}\right) \tau$$

$$U_{local} = \sum_{i,j=1}^N \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}^{local}} = \sum_{i,j=1}^N \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}} \left(1 + \frac{\phi(r)}{c^2}\right) = U \left(1 + \frac{\phi(r)}{c^2}\right)$$

$$p_i^{local} = m_i \frac{dx_i^{local}}{d\tau} = m_i \frac{dx_i}{dt} \frac{1 - \frac{\phi(r)}{c^2}}{1 + \frac{\phi(r)}{c^2}} \approx m_i v_i \left(1 - 2 \frac{\phi(r)}{c^2}\right) = p_i \left(1 + \frac{\phi(r)}{c^2}\right)$$

$$T_{local} = \sum_i \frac{1}{2} m_i v_i^{local 2} = \sum_i \frac{p_i^2}{2m_i} \left(1 + 2 \frac{\phi(r)}{c^2}\right) = T \left(1 + 2 \frac{\phi(r)}{c^2}\right)$$



RESOLUTION: CORRECT GRAVITATIONAL MASS

Locally (sitting on the particle COM): $H_{local} = T_{local} + U_{local} + \sum m_i c^2$

From outside (observer sitting far away):

$$U_{local} = U \left(1 + \frac{\phi(r)}{c^2} \right) \quad T_{local} = T \left(1 + 2 \frac{\phi(r)}{c^2} \right)$$

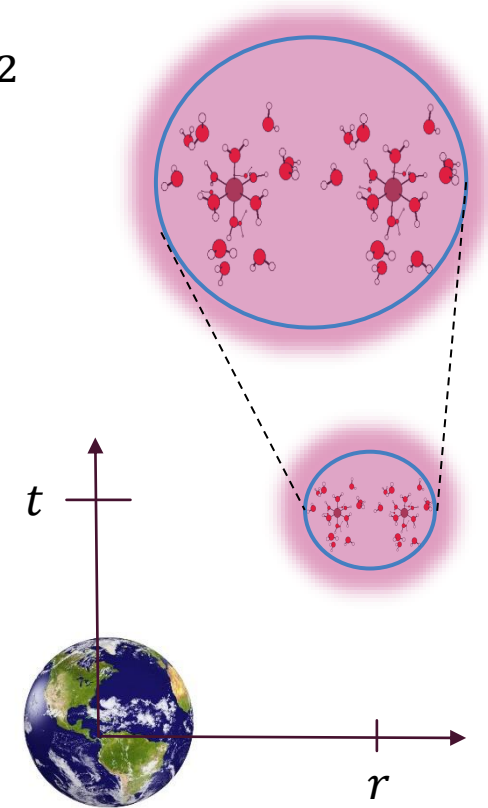
$$H = H_{sys} + \frac{\phi}{c^2} (H_{sys} + 2T + U) = \left(1 + \frac{\phi}{c^2} \right) H_{local}$$

$$m_G = \frac{H_{local}}{c^2} = \sum_{i=1}^N m_i + \frac{1}{c^2} (T_{local} + U_{local})$$

Total passive mass is *total, local energy*

$$H_{local} = H_0 \neq H_{sys}$$

No anomalous terms.



LOCAL PHYSICAL QUANTITIES COUPLING TO GRAVITY

$$U_{local} = U \left(1 + \frac{\phi(r)}{c^2} \right) \quad T_{local} = T \left(1 + 2 \frac{\phi(r)}{c^2} \right)$$

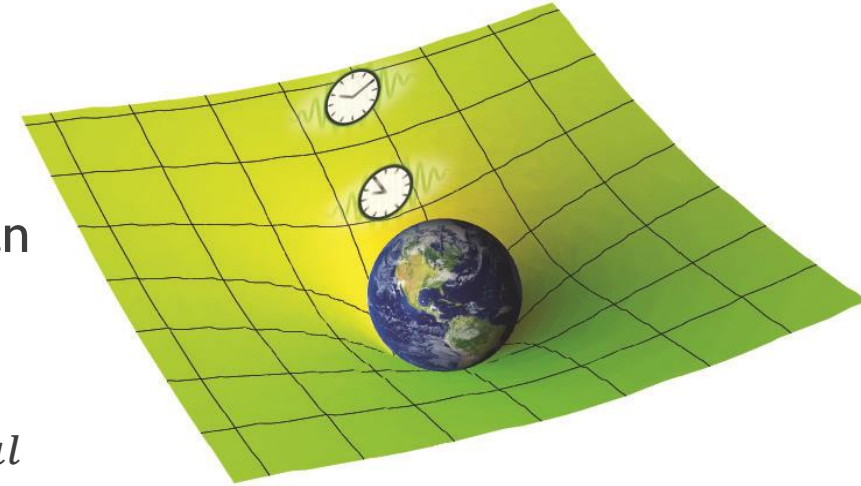
$$H = H_{sys} + \frac{\phi}{c^2} (H_{sys} + 2T + U) = \left(1 + \frac{\phi}{c^2} \right) H_{local}$$

$$m_G = \sum_{i=1}^N m_i + \frac{1}{c^2} (T_{local} + U_{local})$$

- Same expression in different coordinates
- T and U include the *redshifted* quantities, are not the physical kinetic and potential energies of the particles inside the system
- Becomes apparent when using 2 sets of coordinates: (r, t) for describing gravity and COM, and (r_{loc}, τ) for describing the internal DOF

SUMMARY

- “Quantum twin paradox”: a single clock in superpositions with different proper times
- Leads to time dilation induced entanglement & decoherence, can be probed experimentally
- Due to composite systems coupling to gravity: $\sqrt{-g_{00}(x)} H_{local}$
- Apparent discrepancy with 80-year-long results in general relativity: $m_G = 3T + 2U?$
- Resolution: Passive gravitational mass is exactly $m_G = R+T+U$ when defined in rest frame
- Derivation of GR mass-energy equivalence from first principles: $H = \sqrt{-g_{00}(c^2 p_k p^k + H_{local}^2)}$



COLLABORATORS & FUNDING



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Thank you for your attention