Lectures on Quantum Phenomena

How science is <u>really</u> done A tantalising tale of duels, harems, heroines, and ... a cold case of murder

Prof. Jaymie Matthews UBC Physics & Astronomy FROM THE DIRECTOR OF "TITANIC"

# Now at a theatre near you



AVATAR



# **Coming soon**



 $N_A = 6.023 \times 10^{23}$ 

#### AVOGADRO

# Good to the last molecule



# Good to the last molecule



# Great for an astro party



Yum!



















#### My story begins with this man

#### Sir Isaac Newton (1643 – 1727)





#### Newton's Laws of motion

#### ✓ First Law

Every body continues at rest or in motion in a straight line unless acted upon by an outside force

#### ✓ <u>Second Law</u>

The acceleration of a body is proportional to the force acting on it (in the direction that the force is acting)

#### ✓ Third Law

For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction





#### Universal law of gravitation



It's the popular notion that Newton "discovered" gravity and the story is that he did so when struck on the head by an apple while sleeping under a tree

#### Universal law of gravitation



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> This is a direct descendant of the apple tree that was below Newton's room at Cambridge University

#### Scientific history in our backyard



In 1968, to commemorate the opening of the TRIUMF lab, cuttings from Newton's apple tree were planted on the south campus of UBC



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This is a direct descendant of the apple tree that was below Newton's room at Cambridge University

Those six trees bear fruit every year. If you nap under one, you may discover the next big thing in science

#### Cambridge England



#### Universal law of gravitation



Between every two objects there is an attractive force which is directly proportional to the masses of the objects and inversely proportional to the square of the distance between the centres of the objects

#### Universal law of gravitation



$$F_g = G \frac{M_1 M_2}{d^2}$$

gravitational constant  $G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N m}^2 / \text{kg}^2$ 

# Principia

#### The rule book for that law



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#### My story began with this man ...

#### Sir Isaac Newton (1643 – 1727)







He's known people by most for this

#### Sir Edmond Halley (1656 – 1743)

Halley's Comet (as seen in 1986)



 but not for the right reason
Sir Edmond Halley (1656 – 1743)
Halley didn't discover this comet but he proposed that comets that had been seen every 76 years in history were the same comet
He predicted that comet's return.

> Halley's Comet (as seen in 1986)



A legacy of cleverness in the sky

#### Sir Edmond Halley (1656 – 1743)

Halley didn't discover this comet but he proposed that comets that had been seen every 76 years in history were the same comet He predicted that comet's return After it was seen in the sky when and where he predicted (but after his death).

the comet was named after him.



#### Getting underneath the surface of a problem

#### Sir Edmond Halley (1656 – 1743)



For J. Hinton at the King's Arms in Newgate Street.

also designed, built and tested in 1690 the forerunner of the modern *diving bell* 



He and five friends used it to stay for 90 minutes beneath the River Thames at a depth of 60 feet

#### Wandering around the globe

Sir Edmond Halley (1656 – 1743) also commanded the sailing ship <u>Paramour</u> to chart the wander of the Earth's north magnetic pole





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Pirate Captain Jack Sparrow's family crest

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Physics Captain <u>Isaac Newton</u>'s family crest

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#### Wandering around the globe





#### When Halley wasn't wandering, he was .


#### <u>"Hooke"d on a problem</u>

#### Halley, architect Christopher Wren and physicist Robert Hooke

debated in January 1684 and Hooke claimed to have derived Kepler's Laws of planetary motion





# Kepler's Three Laws

#### Principles of planetary motion



His *three laws of planetary motion* are still used today



## Kepler's First Law

<u>Planets' orbits are ellipses</u> with the Sun at one focus



## Kepler's Second Law

<u>A line joining the planet and the Sun</u> sweeps out equal areas in equal times



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# Kepler's Third Law

#### <u>The (orbital period)<sup>2</sup> is proportional</u> to (semi-major axis)<sup>3</sup>

The planets Kepler knew

|         | semi-major         | period P | a <sup>3</sup> | P <sup>2</sup> |  |
|---------|--------------------|----------|----------------|----------------|--|
|         | axis <i>a</i> (AU) | (years)  |                |                |  |
| Mercury | 0.39               | 0.24     | 0.0593         | 0.0576         |  |
| Venus   | 0.72               | 0.62     | 0.3732         | 0.3844         |  |
| Earth   | 1.00               | 1.00     | 1.000          | 1.000          |  |
| Mars    | 1.52               | 1.88     | 3.5118         | 3.5344         |  |

| Jupiter | 5.20 | 11.86 | 140.61 | 140.66 |
|---------|------|-------|--------|--------|
| Saturn  | 9.54 | 29.4  | 868.25 | 867.89 |

# Kepler's Third Law

#### <u>The (orbital period)<sup>2</sup> is proportional</u> to (semi-major axis)<sup>3</sup>

The planets we now know

|       |               | semi-major         | period P | a <sup>3</sup> | P <sup>2</sup> |
|-------|---------------|--------------------|----------|----------------|----------------|
|       |               | axis <i>a</i> (AU) | (years)  |                |                |
|       | Mercury       | 0.39               | 0.24     | 0.0593         | 0.0576         |
|       | Venus         | 0.72               | 0.62     | 0.3732         | 0.3844         |
|       | Earth         | 1.00               | 1.00     | 1.000          | 1.000          |
|       | Mars          | 1.52               | 1.88     | 3.5118         | 3.5344         |
| NOT a | Asteroid belt | 2.77               | 4.60     | 21.254         | 21.160         |
|       | Jupiter       | 5.20               | 11.86    | 140.61         | 140.66         |
|       | Saturn        | 9.54               | 29.4     | 868.25         | 867.89         |
|       | Uranus        | 19.19              | 84.07    | 7,066          | 7,068          |
|       | Neptune       | 30.06              | 164.80   | 27,162         | 27,159         |
| Not a | Pluto         | 39.60              | 248.60   | 62,099         | 61,802         |

## Kepler's Third Law

#### <u>The (orbital period)<sup>2</sup> is proportional</u> <u>to (semi-major axis)</u><sup>3</sup>



If you know the orbital period of a planet in the Solar System you can use Kepler's 3<sup>rd</sup> Law to determine its distance from the Sun relative to Earth's distance (1 AU)

#### <u>"Hooke"d on a problem</u>

#### Halley, architect Christopher Wren and physicist Robert Hooke

talked in January 1684 and Hooke claimed to have derived Kepler's Laws of planetary motion





#### "Hooke"d on a problem

*Hooke* could not produce his general derivation and *Halley* was suspicious of the claim

This spurred him to raise the problem in August 1684 with his friend *Newton* who was inspired by Halley's interest and enthusiasm

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Hooke could not produce his general derivation and Halley was suspicious of the claim

> This spurred him to raise the problem in August 1684 with his friend *Newton* who was inspired by

> > Halley's interest and enthusiasm

In November 1684, *Newton* presented *Halley* with a 9-page manuscript "*De moto corporum in gyrum*" ("Of the motions of a body in orbit") – Kepler's laws derived with an inverse-square force

#### <u>"Hooke"d on a problem</u>

Halley was impressed and pleaded with Newton to present more such work to the Royal Society

Newton was consumed by this and spent the next two years writing what would become <u>Philosophiæ Naturalis</u> <u>Principia Mathematica</u>



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> But this is NOT the end of the story



# A scientist's nightmare

#### <u>Hooked on a fish</u>



This is a red gurnard as depicted in *Francis Willughby's* <u>De Historia Piscium</u> ("The History of Fishes")

# A scientist's nightmare

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The Royal Society consumed almost their entire budget in 1686 to publish "The History of Fishes" which was a commercial disaster

They had no money left to publish Principia

## A scientist's saviour

#### Off the hook



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They had no money left to publish *Principia* 

Halley stepped in and underwrote the publication of the first edition

5 July 1687

## What about my original question?

## What's the connection between gravity and life insurance?



insurance salesman



# The Halley connection

#### Halley was a very clever scientist !!!

#### Sir Edmond Halley was the 'inventor' of life insurance



insurance salesman





# The Halley connection

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*The first actuarial table* 

# The Halley connection

#### Halley was a very clever scientist !!!

#### Sir Edmond Halley was the 'inventor' of *life insurance*

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| I | 7             | 692   | 14            | 634   | 21            | 592   | 28           | 546   | 35            | 490  | $\tilde{42}$  | 427           | 49   | 2709     |
| I | Age.          | Per-  | Ago.          | Por-  | Age           | Per-  | A            | 12    |               |      |               |               | 56   | 2194     |
|   | Curt.         | sons. | Curt.         | sons. | Curt.         | sons. | Curt.        | sons. | Curt.         | For- | Age.<br>Curt. | Per-<br>sons. | 63   | 1694     |
|   | 43            | 417   | 50            | 346   | 57            | 272   | 6.4          | 202   | 71            | 101  |               |               | 70   | 1204     |

From "An estimate of the degrees of the mortality of mankind, drawn from curious tables of the births and funerals at the city of Breslaw; with an attempt to ascertain the price of annuities upon lives" (1693)

The first actuarial table



# A Physics Trivial Pursuit question?

- Q. What's the connection between <u>gravity</u> and <u>life insurance</u>?
- A. Halley, friend and funder of Newton, and a clever scientist in his own right

## Back to our regular programming



- Swiss astronomers discovered three planets around a dim red dwarf
  - one of these planets may be in the <u>habitable zone</u>



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one of these planets may be in the <u>habitable zone</u>

 Canada's MOST space telescope put this planetary system under a stakeout for eight weeks



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✓ The results were boring



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"Boring" is good for life
The red dwarf star is old and stable –
conditions favourable for complex life



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#### Habitable exoplanets? The question of life out there: A fairy tale?



### Habitable exoplanets?





### Habitable exoplanets?

#### Gliese 581c



### Gliese 581a: A boring red dwarf



Iight from star steady over 2 months < 0.5%</li>
our Sun is stable at this level



### Gliese 581a: A boring red dwarf



Iight from star steady over 2 months < 0.5%</li>
our Sun is stable at this level

✓ no violent flares

## Gliese 581a: A boring red dwarf



Iight from star steady over 2 months < 0.5%</li>
our Sun is stable at this level

✓ no violent flares

 old star, age > 3 billion years
enough time for complex life to evolve



### Exoplanets and climate change

*Gliese 581c* 

*climate change models* 

von Bloh et al. 2007 Potsdam Institute for Climate Change Research



Fig. 1. Earth system box model. The arrows indicate the different forcing and feedback mechanisms. The bold arrows indicate the negative feedback stabilising the planetary climate.

## Travelling on the MOST transit system






## Gliese 581c

#### EARTH



#### GLIESE 581 C



# Gliese 581c



### superEarth models

Earth-like

#### **Ocean Planet**





#### Planet Transit Depths

superEarth model: 455 ppm
20% ocean planet: 540 ppm
40% ocean planet: 600 ppm
superMercury model: 380 ppm



MOST will be able to tell the difference!

✓ Geneva team (Major, Queloz, Lovis, Udry et al.)
 → HARPS spectrograph radial velocity survey





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~ 40 superEarth systems discovered (6 < V < 9)</li>
 MOST monitoring those in its CVZ





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HARPS New Earth Facility William Herschel Telescope

Harvard CfA with Obs. Geneve



