

# A Quick Look At The History of Dark Matter

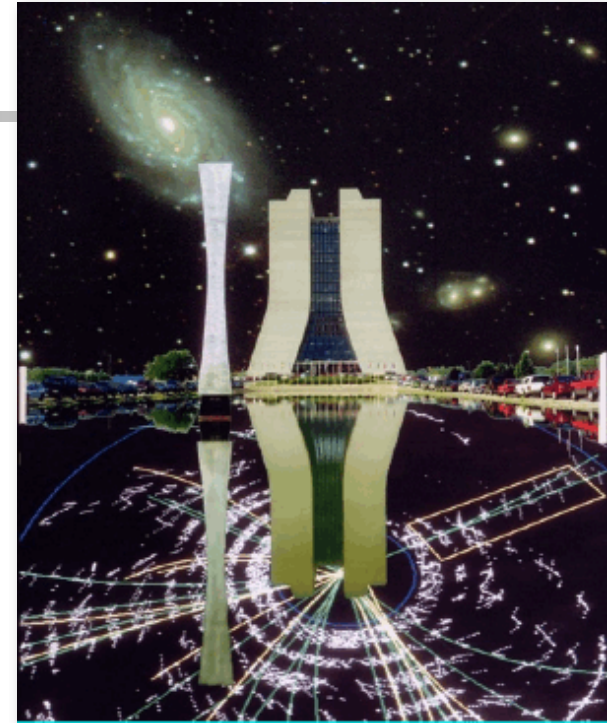


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**Dan Hooper**

**Fermilab/University of Chicago**

**Cosmology Short Course For Museum  
and Planetarium Staff  
September 2010**





Democritus philosoph⁹



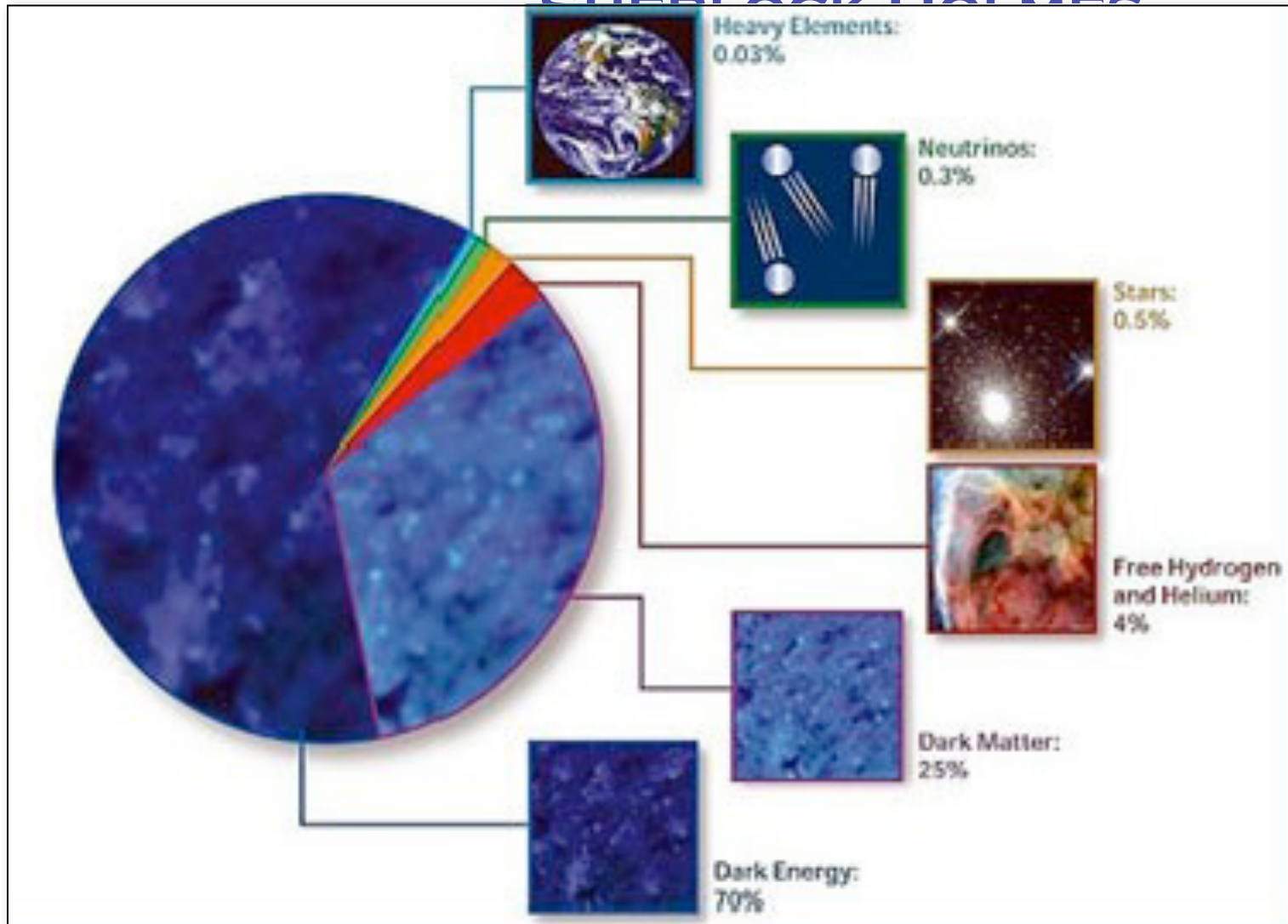


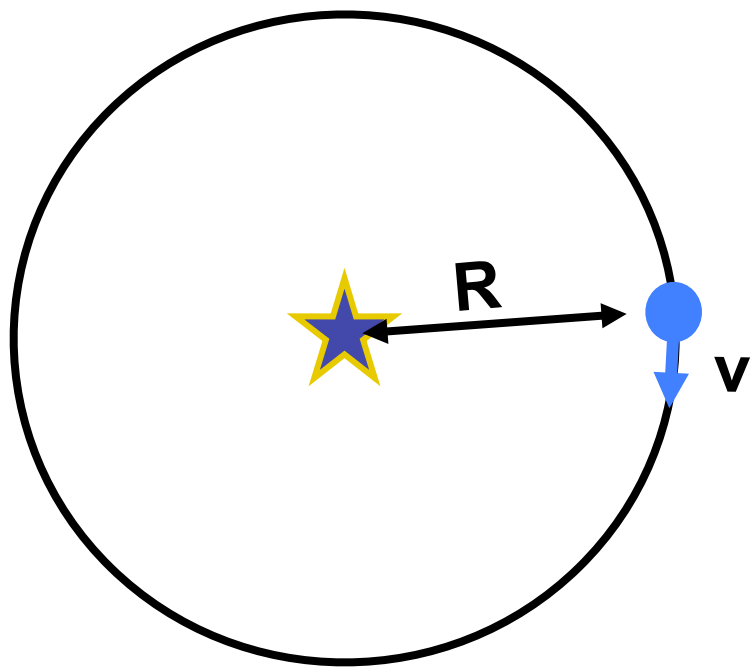
# Periodic Table of the Elements

<div><div><div>1 IA New Original</div><div><div>Alkali metals</div><div>Alkaline earth metals</div><div>Transition metals</div><div>Lanthanide series</div></div><div><div>Actinide series</div><div>Poor metals</div><div>Nonmetals</div><div>Noble gases</div></div><div><div>C Solid</div><div>Br Liquid</div><div>H Gas</div><div>Tc Synthetic</div></div></div></div>																		18 VIIIA																																
1 H Hydrogen 1.00794	2 He Helium 4.002602																	3 B Boron 10.811	4 C Carbon 12.0107	5 N Nitrogen 14.00674	6 O Oxygen 15.9994	7 F Fluorine 18.9984032	8 Ne Neon 20.1797																											
3 Li Lithium 6.941	4 Be Beryllium 9.012182	5 Na Sodium 22.989770	6 Mg Magnesium 24.3050	7 Al Aluminum 26.981538	8 Si Silicon 28.0855	9 P Phosphorus 30.973761	10 S Sulfur 32.066	11 Cl Chlorine 35.453	12 Ar Argon 39.948									13 Ga Gallium 69.723	14 Ge Germanium 72.64	15 As Arsenic 74.92160	16 Se Selenium 78.96	17 Br Bromine 79.904	18 Kr Krypton 83.798																											
19 K Potassium 39.0983	20 Ca Calcium 40.078	21 Sc Scandium 44.955910	22 Ti Titanium 47.867	23 V Vanadium 50.9415	24 Cr Chromium 51.9961	25 Mn Manganese 54.938049	26 Fe Iron 55.8457	27 Co Cobalt 58.933200	28 Ni Nickel 58.6934	29 Cu Copper 63.546	30 Zn Zinc 65.409	31 Ga Gallium 69.723	32 Ge Germanium 72.64	33 As Arsenic 74.92160	34 Se Selenium 78.96	35 Br Bromine 79.904	36 Kr Krypton 83.798	37 Rb Rubidium 85.4678	38 Sr Strontium 87.62	39 Y Yttrium 88.90585	40 Zr Zirconium 91.224	41 Nb Niobium 92.90638	42 Mo Molybdenum 95.94	43 Tc Technetium (98)	44 Ru Ruthenium 101.07	45 Rh Rhodium 102.90550	46 Pd Palladium 106.42	47 Ag Silver 107.8682	48 Cd Cadmium 112.411	49 In Indium 114.818	50 Sn Tin 118.710	51 Sb Antimony 121.760	52 Te Tellurium 127.60	53 I Iodine 126.90447	54 Xe Xenon 131.293															
55 Cs Cesium 132.90545	56 Ba Barium 137.327	57 to 71		72 Hf Hafnium 178.49	73 Ta Tantalum 180.9479	74 W Tungsten 183.84	75 Re Rhenium 186.207	76 Os Osmium 190.23	77 Ir Iridium 192.217	78 Pt Platinum 195.078	79 Au Gold 196.96655	80 Hg Mercury 200.59	81 Tl Thallium 204.3833	82 Pb Lead 207.2	83 Bi Bismuth 208.98038	84 Po Polonium (209)	85 At Astatine (210)	86 Rn Radon (222)	87 Fr Francium (223)	88 Ra Radium (226)	89 to 103		104 Rf Rutherfordium (261)	105 Db Dubnium (262)	106 Sg Seaborgium (266)	107 Bh Bohrium (264)	108 Hs Hassium (269)	109 Mt Meitnerium (268)	110 Ds Darmstadtium (271)	111 Rg Roentgenium (272)	112 Uub Ununbium (285)	113 Uut Ununtrium (284)	114 Uuq Ununquadium (289)	115 Uup Ununpentium (288)	116 Uuh Ununhexium (292)	117 Uus Ununseptium	118 Uuo Ununoctium													
Atomic masses in parentheses are those of the most stable or common isotope.																																																		
Design Copyright © 1997 Michael Dayah (michael@dayah.com), <a href="http://www.dayah.com/periodic/">http://www.dayah.com/periodic/</a>																																																		
Note: The subgroup numbers 1-18 were adopted in 1984 by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry. The names of elements 112-118 are the Latin equivalents of those numbers.		57 La Lanthanum 138.9055	58 Ce Cerium 140.116	59 Pr Praseodymium 140.90765	60 Nd Neodymium 144.24	61 Pm Promethium (145)	62 Sm Samarium 150.36	63 Eu Europium 151.964	64 Gd Gadolinium 157.25	65 Tb Terbium 158.92534	66 Dy Dysprosium 162.500	67 Ho Holmium 164.93032	68 Er Erbium 167.259	69 Tm Thulium 168.93421	70 Yb Ytterbium 173.04	71 Lu Lutetium 174.967	72 Hf Hafnium 178.49	73 Ta Tantalum 180.9479	74 W Tungsten 183.84	75 Re Rhenium 186.207	76 Os Osmium 190.23	77 Ir Iridium 192.217	78 Pt Platinum 195.078	79 Au Gold 196.96655	80 Hg Mercury 200.59	81 Tl Thallium 204.3833	82 Pb Lead 207.2	83 Bi Bismuth 208.98038	84 Po Polonium (209)	85 At Astatine (210)	86 Rn Radon (222)	87 Fr Francium (223)	88 Ra Radium (226)	89 Ac Actinium (227)	90 Th Thorium 232.0381	91 Pa Protactinium 231.03688	92 U Uranium 238.02891	93 Np Neptunium (237)	94 Pu Plutonium (244)	95 Am Americium (243)	96 Cm Curium (247)	97 Bk Berkelium (247)	98 Cf Californium (251)	99 Es Einsteinium (252)	100 Fm Fermium (257)	101 Md Mendelevium (258)	102 No Nobelium (259)	103 Lr Lawrencium (262)		

**“THE WORLD IS FULL OF THINGS WHICH  
NOBODY BY ANY CHANCE EVER  
OBSERVES.”**

**SHERLOCK HOLMES**





$$m_{\text{pl}} \frac{v^2}{R} = \frac{G M_{\text{Sun}} m_{\text{pl}}}{R^2}$$

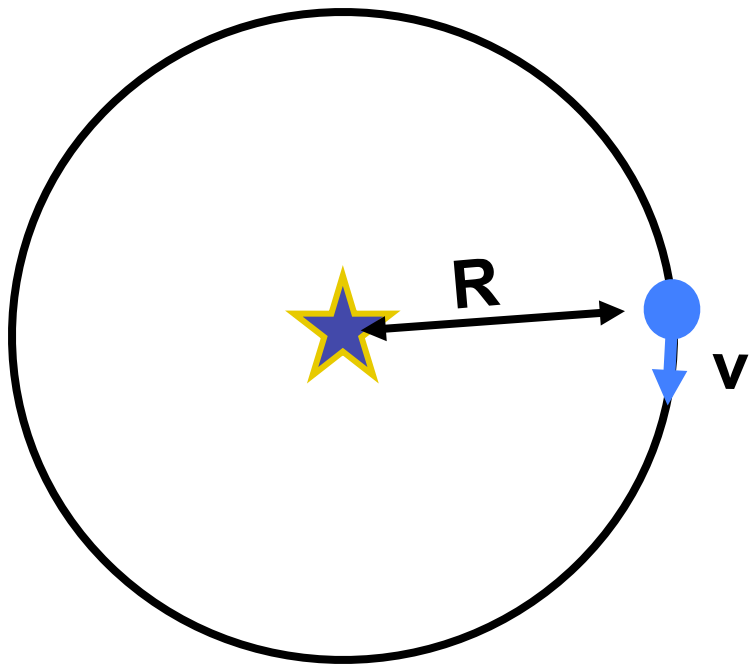
Centrifugal Force                      Gravitational Force

Measure the speed  
at which planets orbit  
around the Sun  $\longrightarrow$  The Sun's Mass





ANDROMEDA  
GALAXY



$$\frac{v^2}{R} = \frac{G M_{\text{Sun}}}{R^2}$$



$$\frac{v^2}{R} = \frac{G M_{\text{GALAXY}}}{R^2}$$

Measure the speeds of stars  $\Rightarrow$  Determine the mass of their galaxy



**FRITZ ZWICKY**

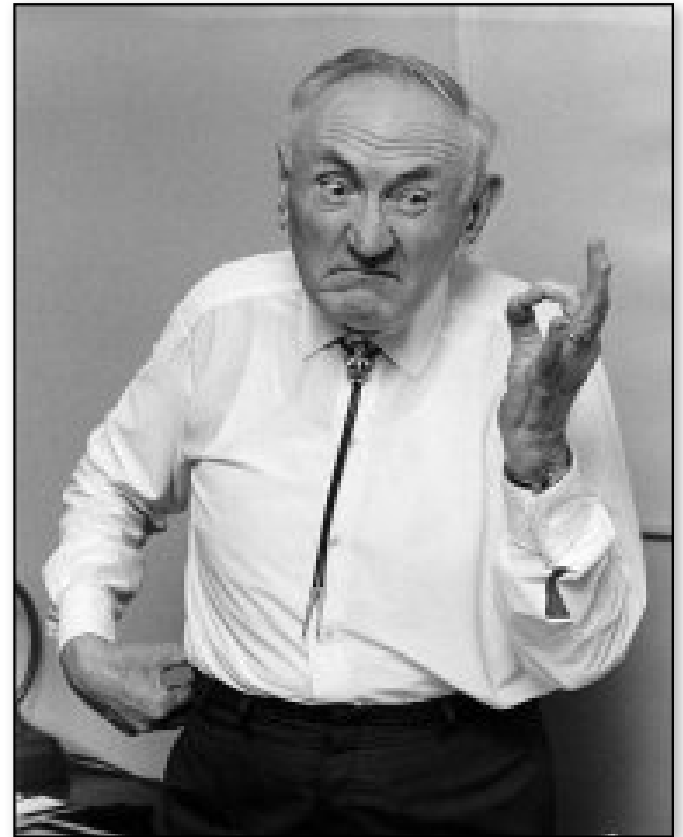


**VERA RUBIN**



# FRITZ ZWICKY

- Swiss astronomer (emigrated to the US in 1925)
- Major accomplishments include:
  - First to realize that supernovae were the result of a star transitioning into a neutron star (coined the term supernova in 1934)
  - Proposed using supernovae as standard candles to measure cosmological distances
  - Proposed the use of galaxy clusters as gravitational lenses
  - Identified the presence of missing matter (dark matter) in the Coma cluster



# THE COMA CLUSTER

- Cluster of at least  $\sim 1000$  galaxies
- About 100 Mpc (325,000,000 light years) distant
- In 1933, Zwicky studied the motions of these galaxies (using the virial theorem) to determine the average mass of the galaxies within the cluster



# THE COMA CLUSTER

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$$\overline{M} > 9 \times 10^{43} \text{ gr} = 4.5 \times 10^{10} M_{\odot}.$$

which, he pointed out, was...

somewhat unexpected, in view of the fact that the luminosity of an average nebula is equal to that of about  $8.5 \times 10^7$  suns. According

⇒ Mass-to-light ratio of ~500

(per mass, 1/500th as luminous as the sun)





# THE COMA CLUSTER

- How might this be explained?

- 1) Stars are different (less luminous) in the Coma cluster than in our galaxy
- 2) Coma cluster is not in equilibrium (galaxies are in the process of flying apart)
- 3) The laws of physics are different in the Coma cluster than in our galaxy
- 4) The vast majority of the Coma cluster's mass is in non-luminous material (dark matter)

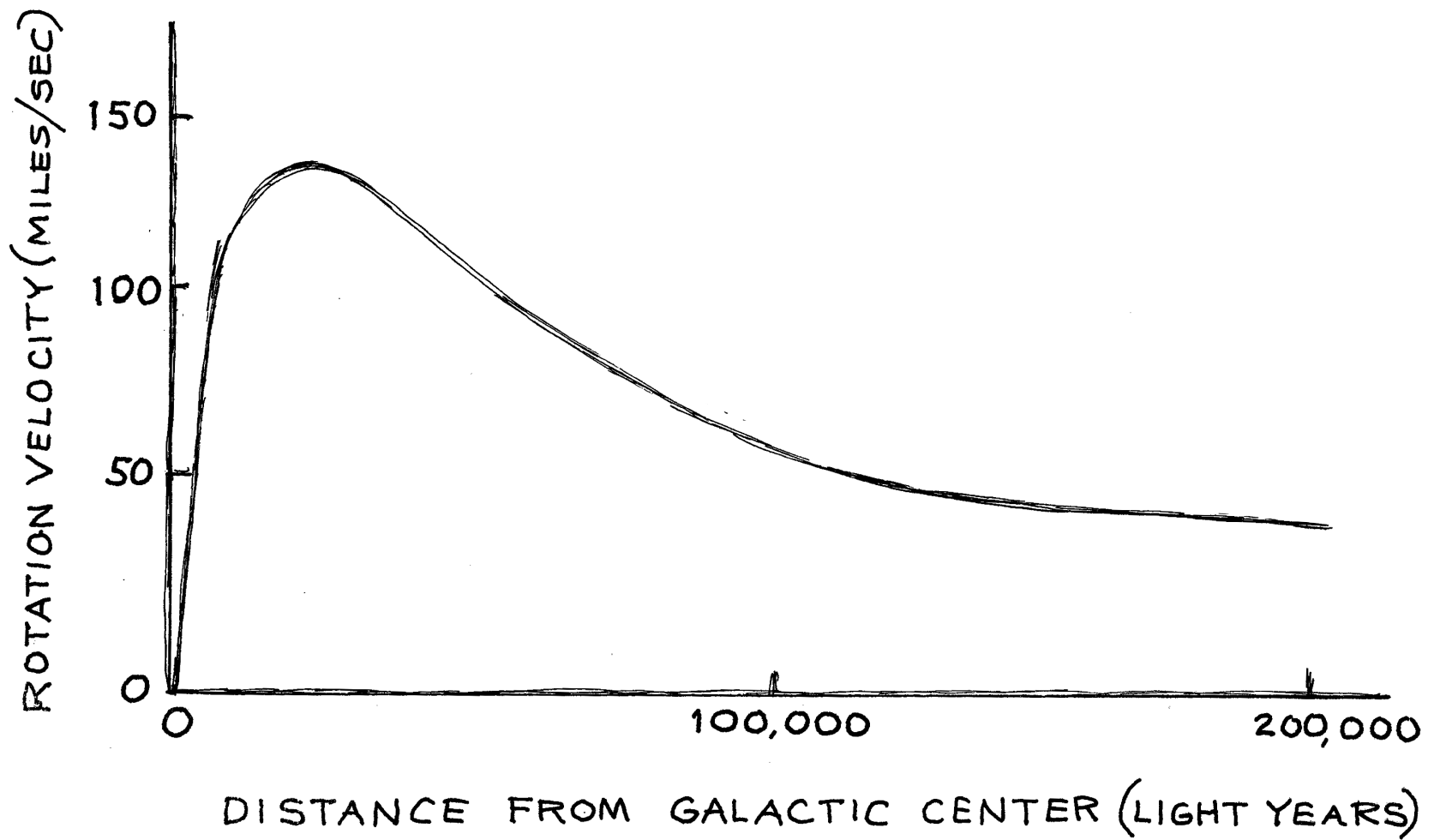


- To discriminate between these various possibilities, it would be necessary to study other clusters and see if they too had large mass-to-light ratios (Sinclair Smith, in 1936, found similar results for the Virgo cluster)
- Over time, options 1, 2 and 3 would become increasingly untenable

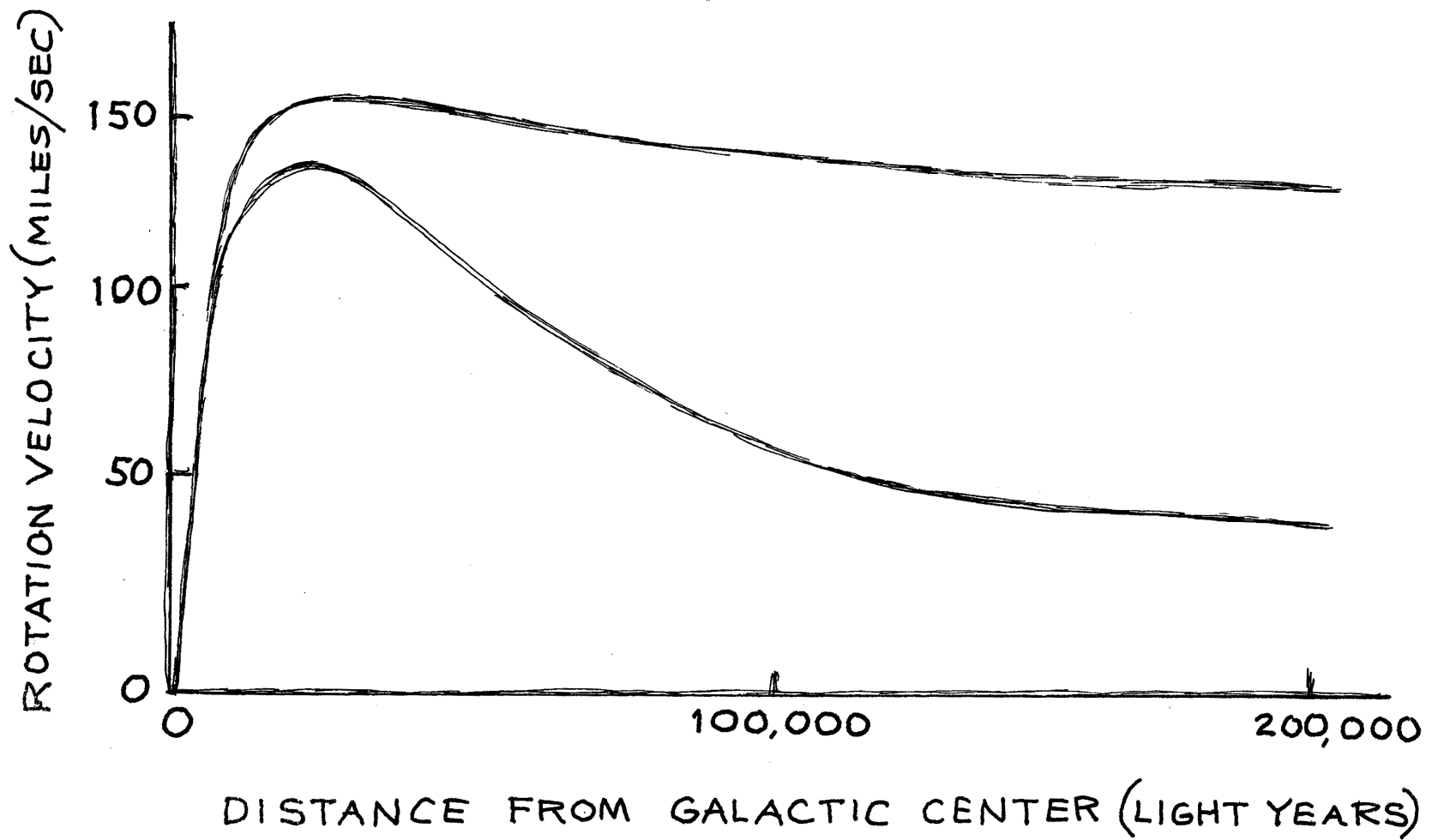
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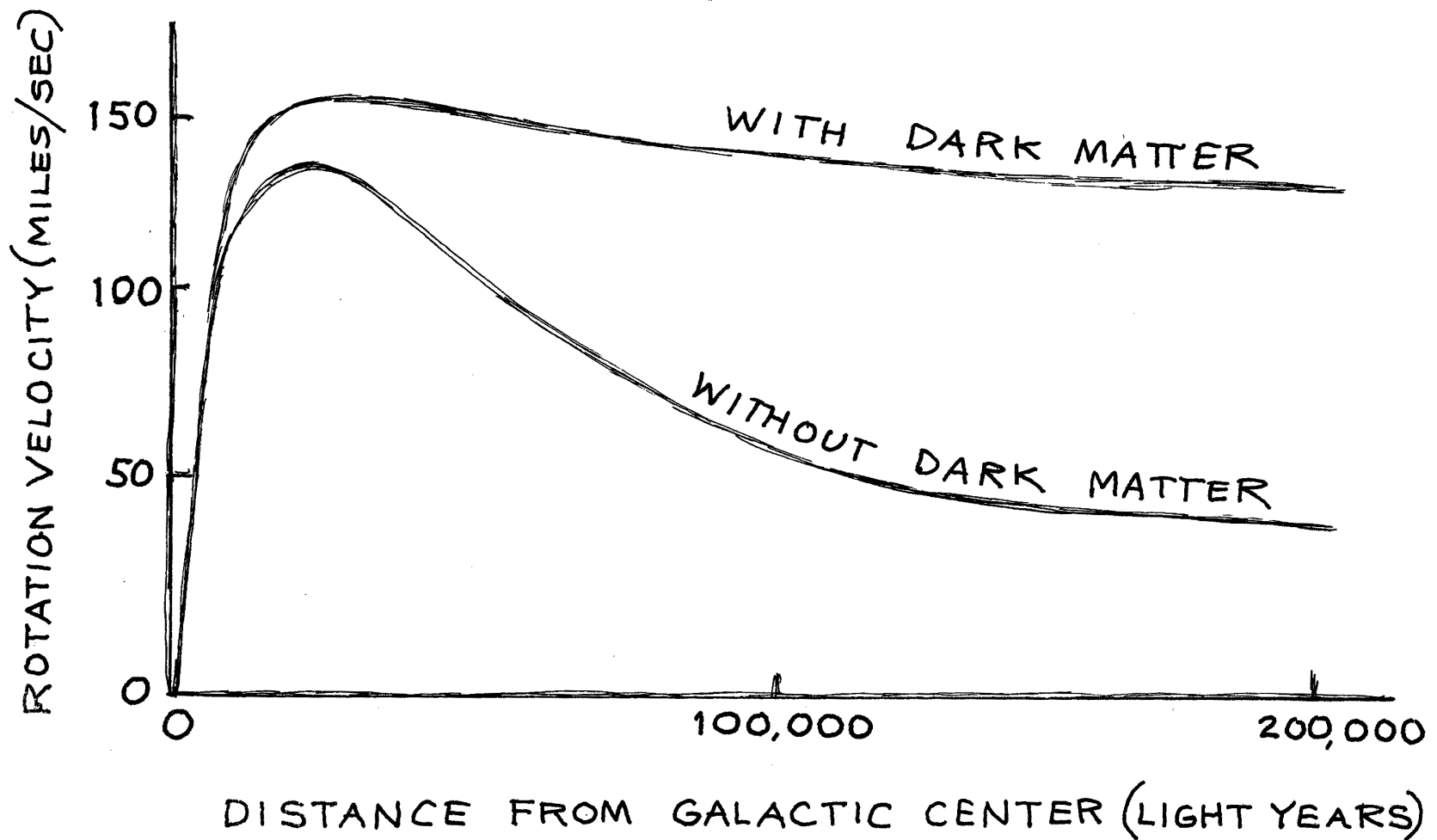
- American astronomer
- Between roughly 1950 and 1980, carried out many of the most detailed and influential studies of the dynamics of galaxies
- In particular, she published a key paper in 1970 (with W.K. Ford) on the motions of stars in the Andromeda galaxy, revealing a large mass-to-light ratio
- By 1980 or so, the conclusion that galaxies and clusters of galaxies were much more massive than their luminosities would suggest had become broadly accepted among astronomers











**Most of the mass is invisible!**

# THREE POSSIBILITIES

1) Galaxies are mostly made up of very non-luminous objects (black holes, neutron stars, white dwarf stars, large planets, etc.)

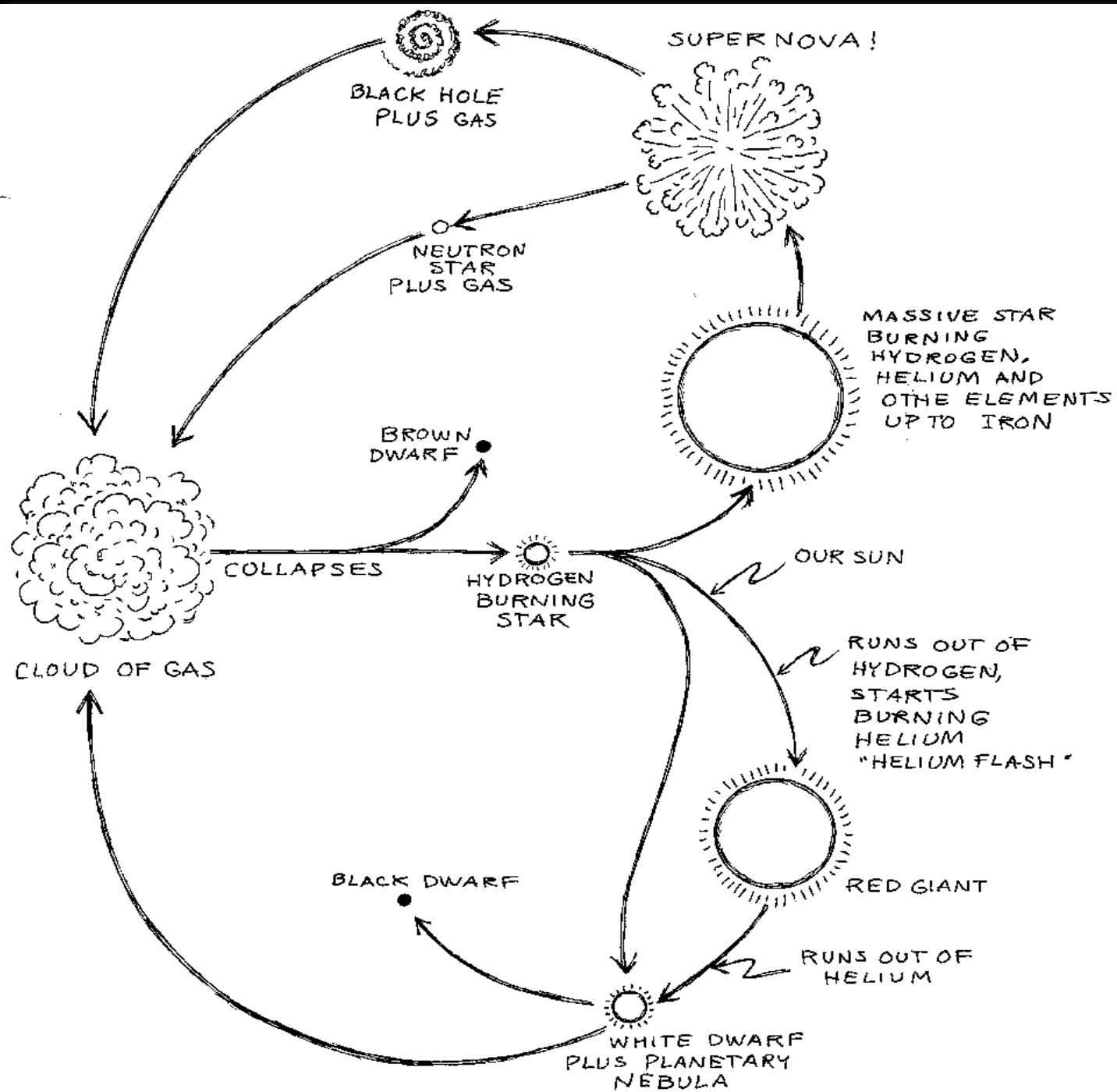


# THREE POSSIBILITIES

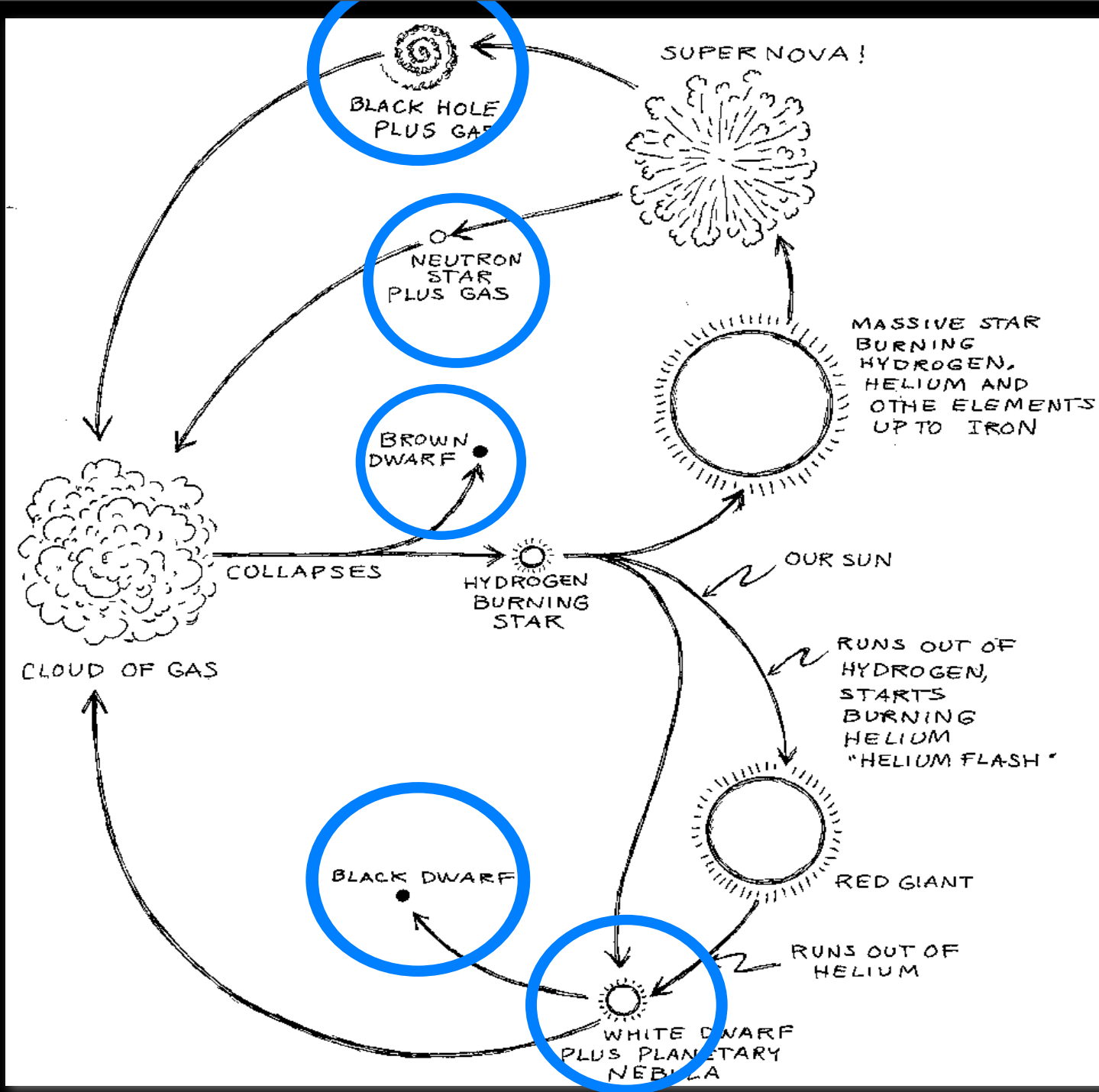
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- 3) The missing mass consists of some other form of matter





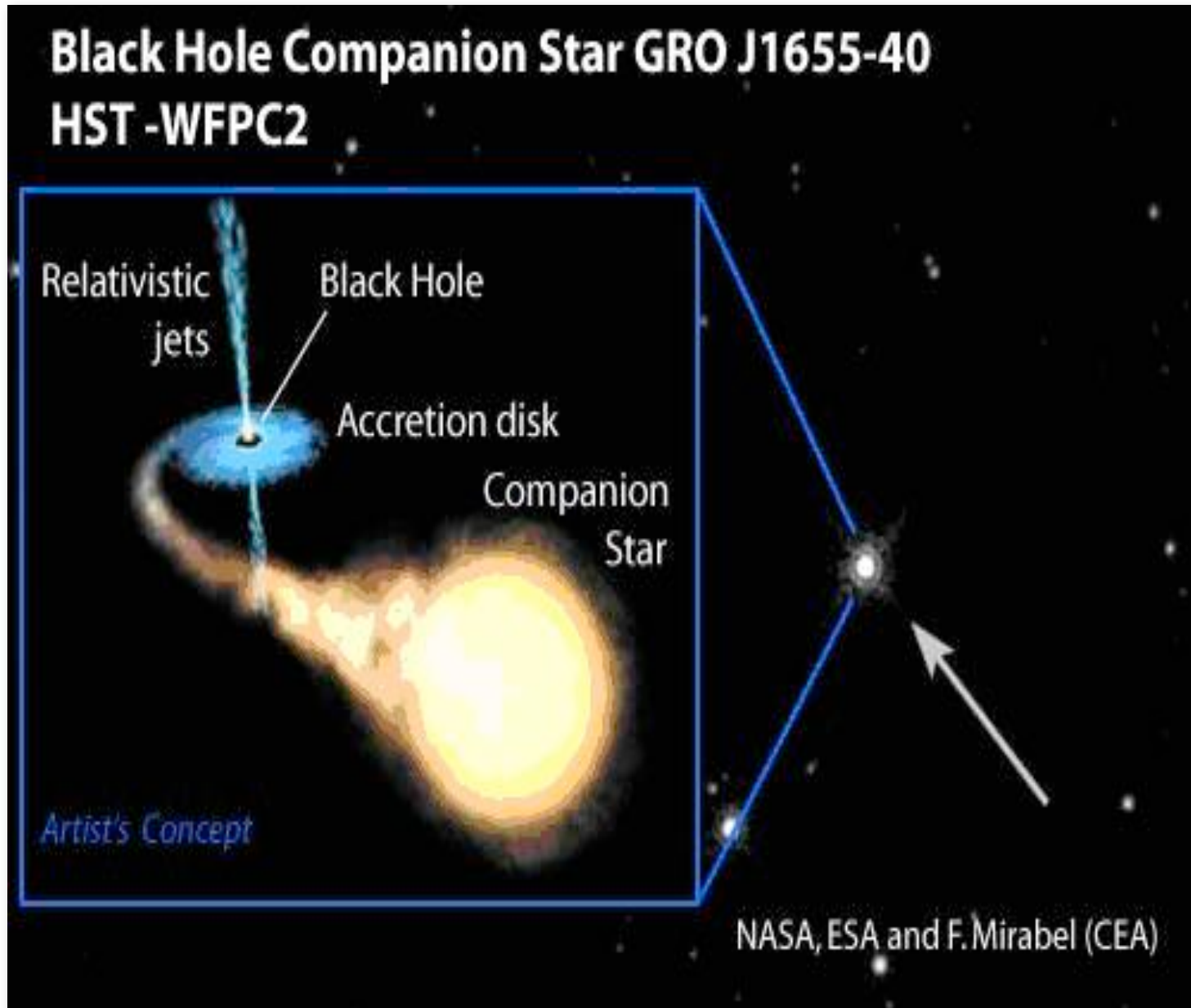


# FAINT STARS

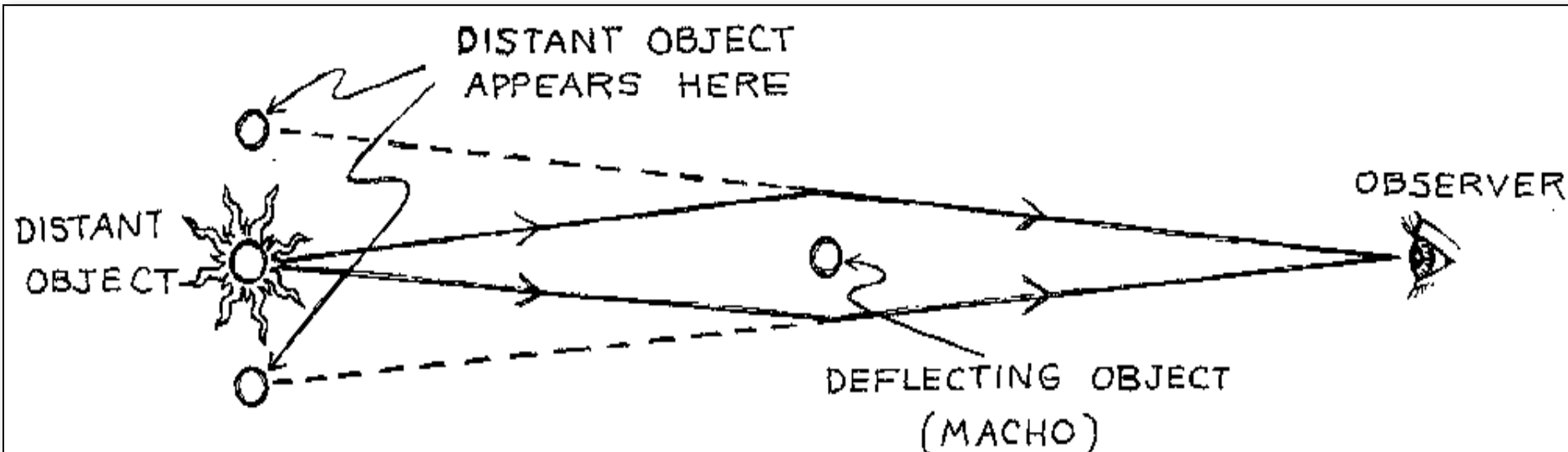
- When most (~97%, including the Sun) stars run out of nuclear fuel, they compress into objects about the size of the Earth - white dwarfs
- White dwarfs become fainter as they age; most are 20% to 0.03% as luminous as the Sun
- When massive stars (~3%) run out of fuel, they explode as supernovae, leaving behind either a neutron star or a black hole
- Neutron stars are objects made up almost entirely of neutrons (few protons, electrons); they consist of a solar mass worth of material within a radius of a few kilometers
- Black holes are remnants of stars so massive that they collapse to a single point of space, with infinite density; nothing (including light) can escape their gravitational pull



# “SEEING” BLACK HOLES

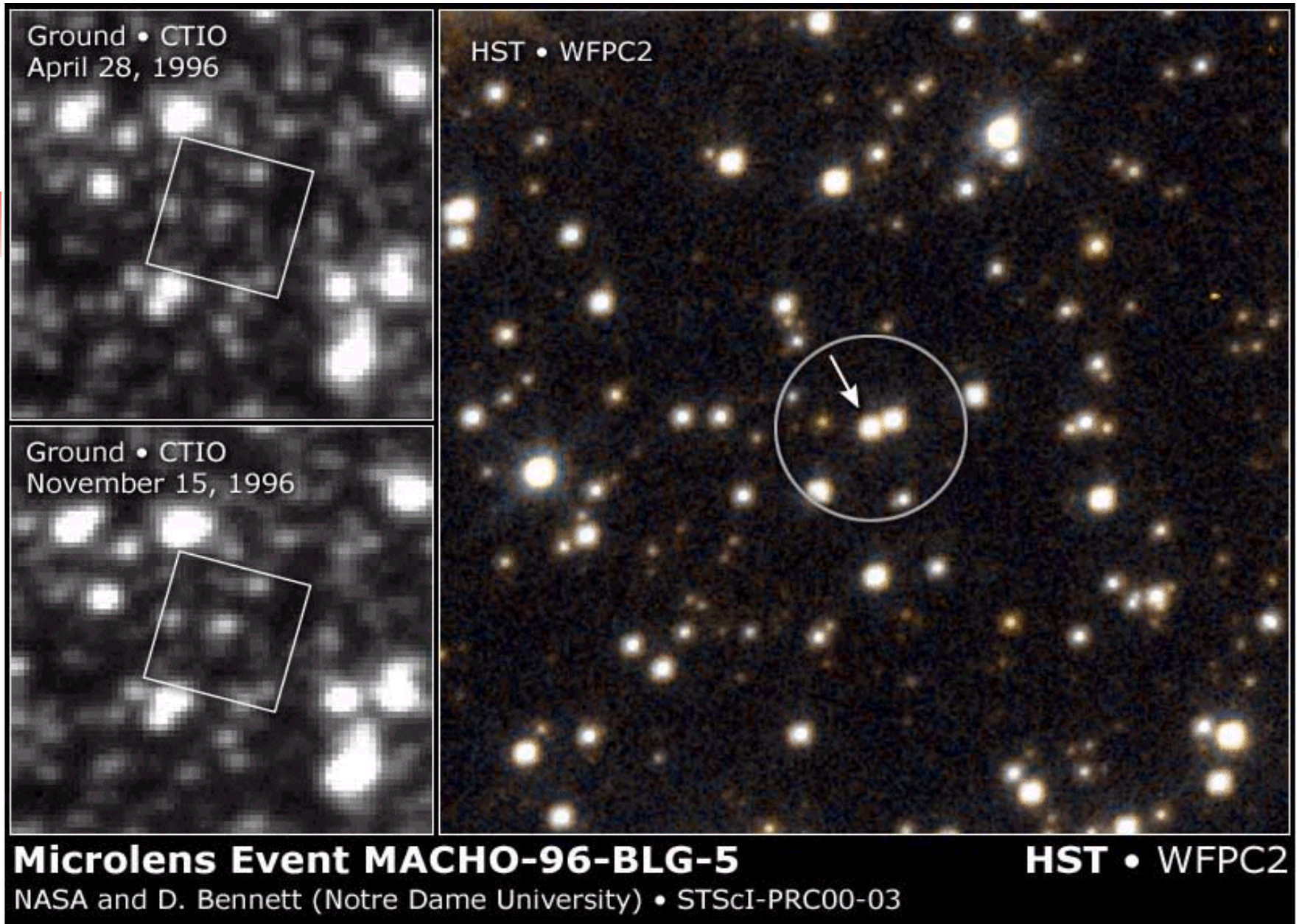


# “SEEING” BLACK HOLES



Massive objects can be detected as gravitational lenses, even if they are themselves non-luminous

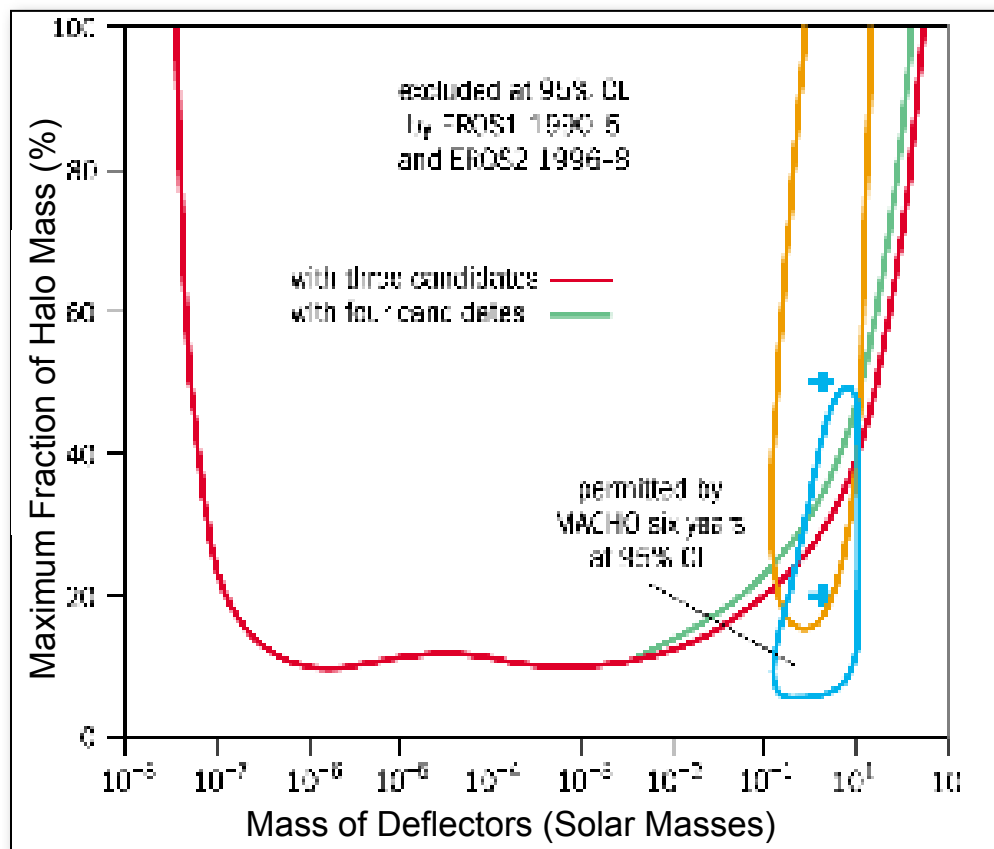




Caused by a black hole six times more massive than the Sun

# SEARCHES FOR DARK MATTER WITH GRAVITATIONAL MICROLENSING

- Although microlensing searches have found some faint and compact objects, they seem to be far too rare to make up much of the missing matter
- Whatever the dark matter is, does not consist of objects masses between about  $10^{-8}$  and 100 solar masses



# SEARCHES FOR DARK MATTER WITH GRAVITATIONAL MICROLENSING

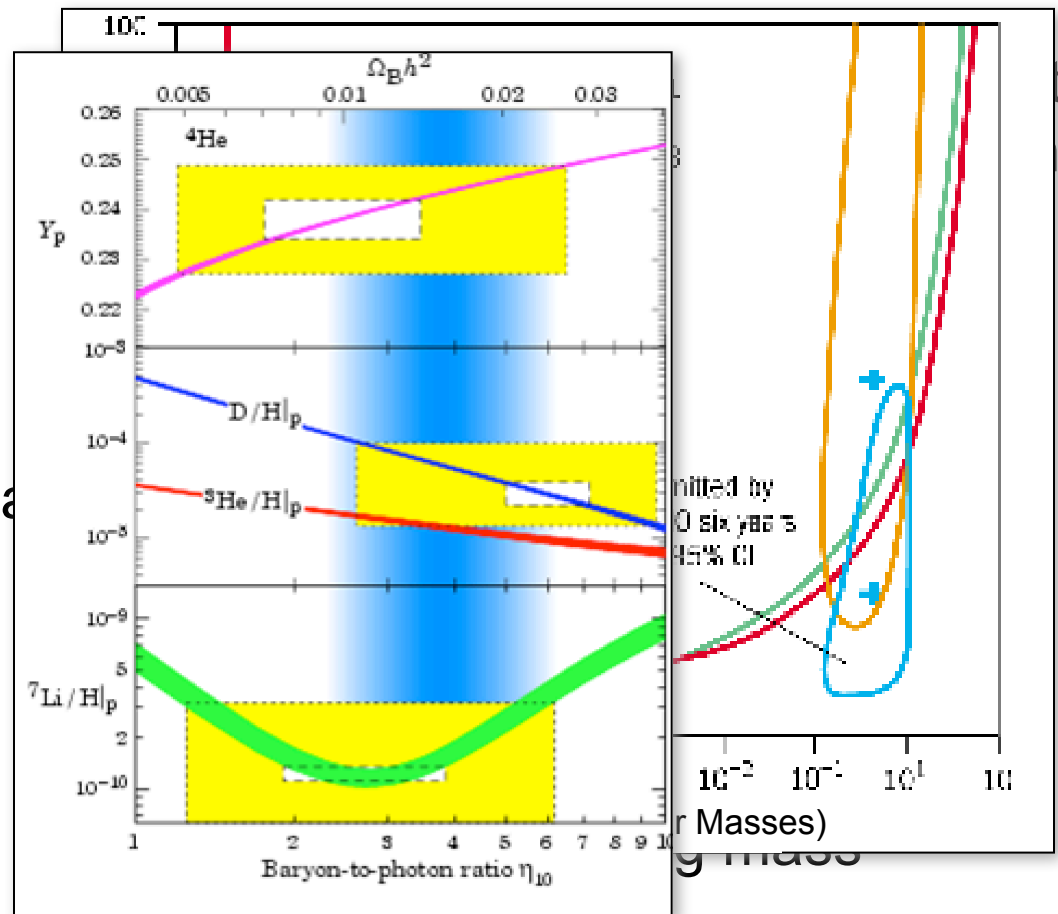
- Although microlensing searches have found some faint and compact objects, they seem to be far too rare to make up much of the missing matter

- Whatever the dark matter is, does not consist of objects masses between about  $10^{-8}$  and 100 solar masses

- Furthermore, our current understanding of the early universe

far  
would

of



# THREE POSSIBILITIES

- ~~1) Galaxies are mostly made up of very non-luminous objects (black holes, neutron stars, white dwarf stars, large planets, etc.)~~
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# Modified Newtonian Dynamics (MOND)

- Begin by modifying Newtonian dynamics as follows:

$$F = ma \longrightarrow F = ma \times \mu(a)$$

where  $\mu \approx 1$ , except at small accelerations, at  $\mu = a/a_0$

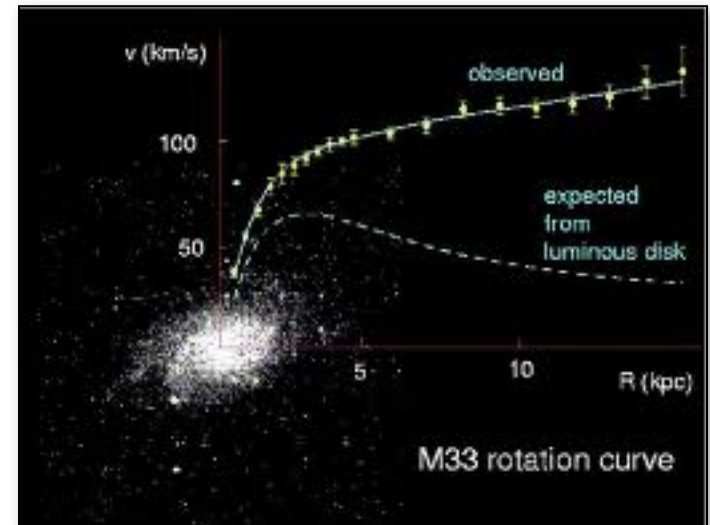
- For a circular orbit,

$$F = \frac{GMm}{r^2} = ma\mu$$

Which in the low-acceleration limit yields:

$$a = \frac{\sqrt{GMa_0}}{r} = \frac{v^2}{r} \implies v = (GMa_0)^{1/4}$$

**Rotational velocity independent of galactic radius (flat rotation curve)**



# Modified Newtonian Dynamics (MOND)

- MOND has been quite successful in explaining galactic dynamics of galaxies, and provides an explanation for the Tully-Fisher relationship
- Galaxy clusters have been less well described by MOND



# THREE POSSIBILITIES

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# PROPERTIES OF DARK MATTER

- 1) Not made of baryons (protons, neutrons)
- 2) Comes in “small” pieces (relative to stars, planets)
- 3) Does not significantly emit, reflect, or absorb light (electrically neutral)
- 4) Stable
- 5) Massive



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Massive Astrophysical Halo Objects  
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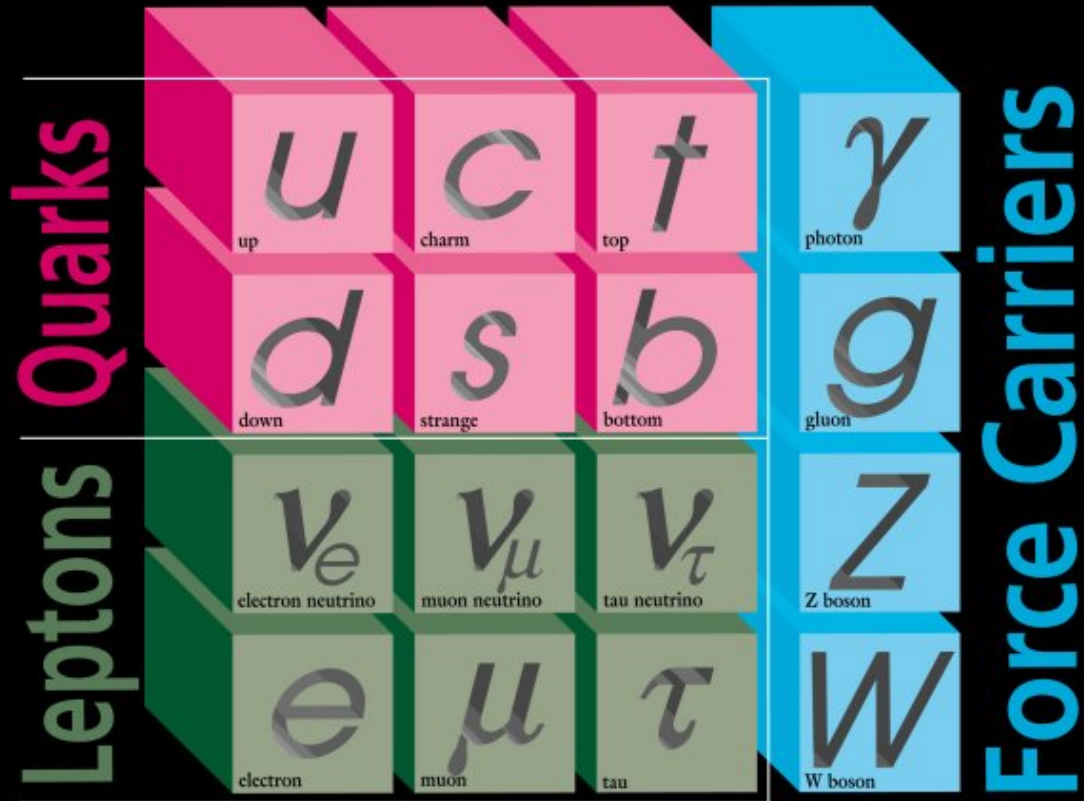
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**Instead of faint stars, re-imagine the dark matter  
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Weakly Interacting Massive Particles  
(WIMPs)

***But what are the WIMPs?***

# ELEMENTARY PARTICLES



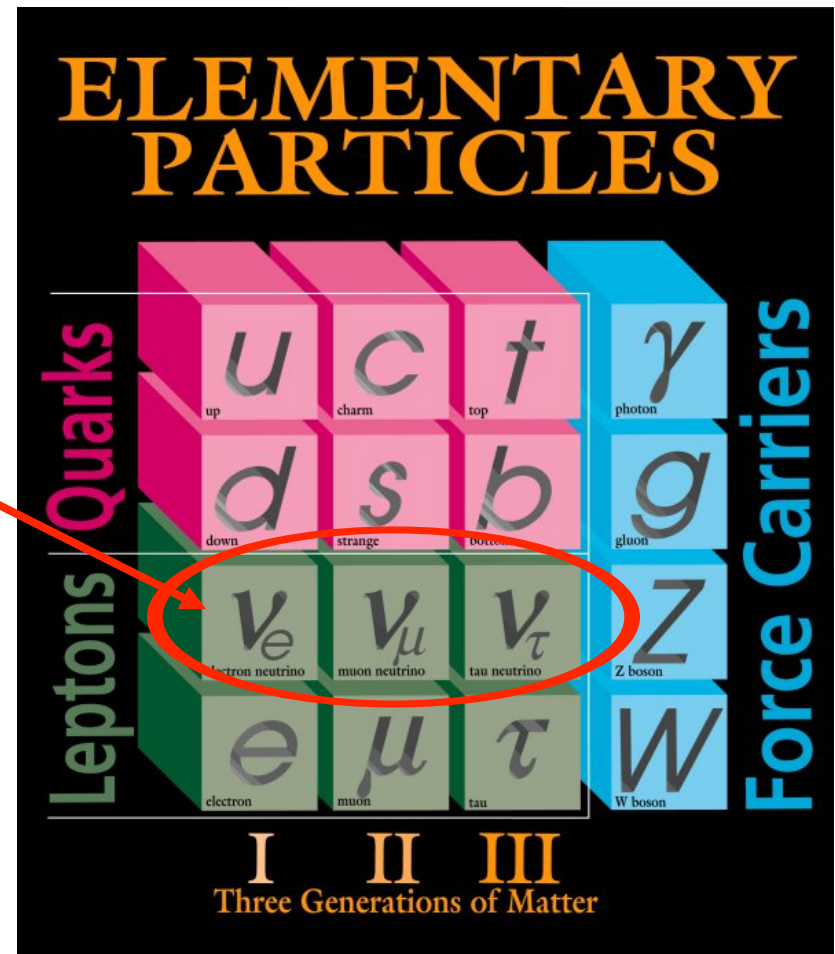
I II III  
Three Generations of Matter



# WIMPs

## Weakly Interacting Massive Particles

- There are known particles with most of the properties required of WIMPs, called neutrinos
- But neutrinos are too light and quick moving to make up the dark matter

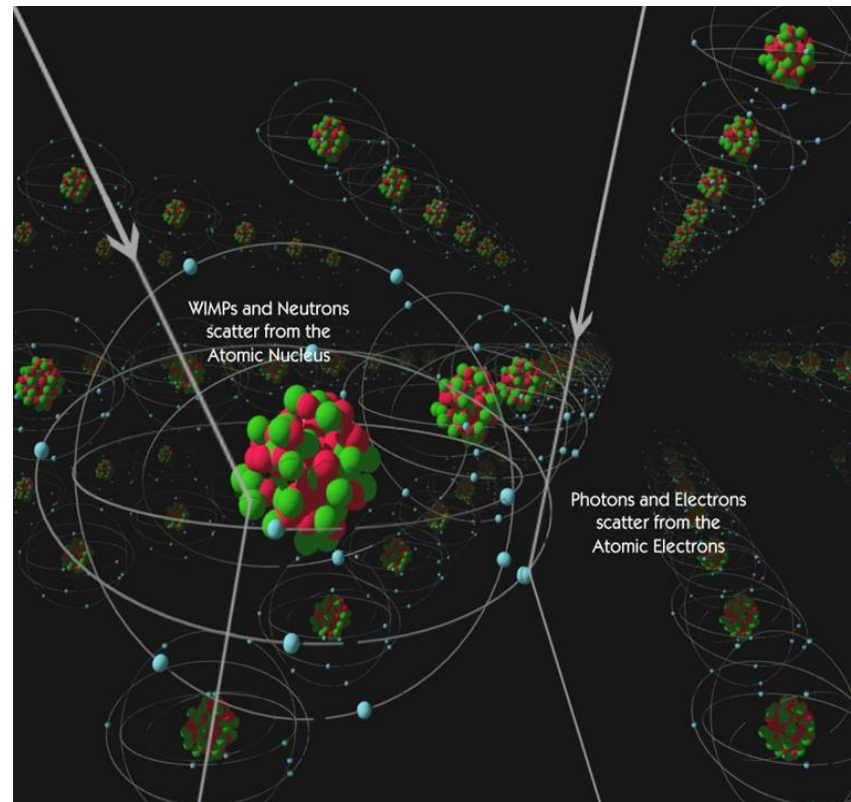


# How to search for WIMPs?

1) Go deep underground and wait for WIMPs to hit your detector

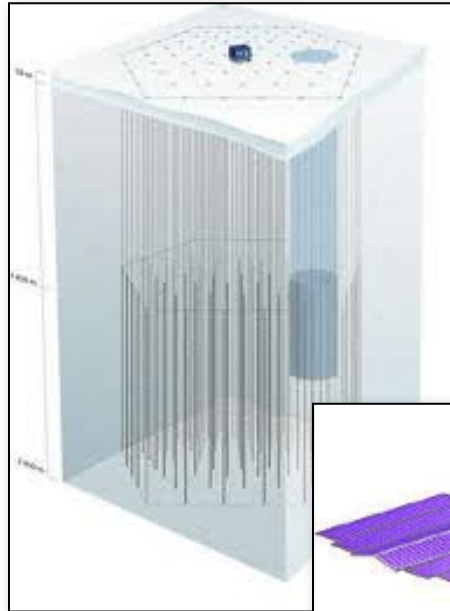


The Soudan Mine



# How to search for WIMPs?

2) Use “telescopes” to look for energetic particles that are produced when dark matter particles annihilate



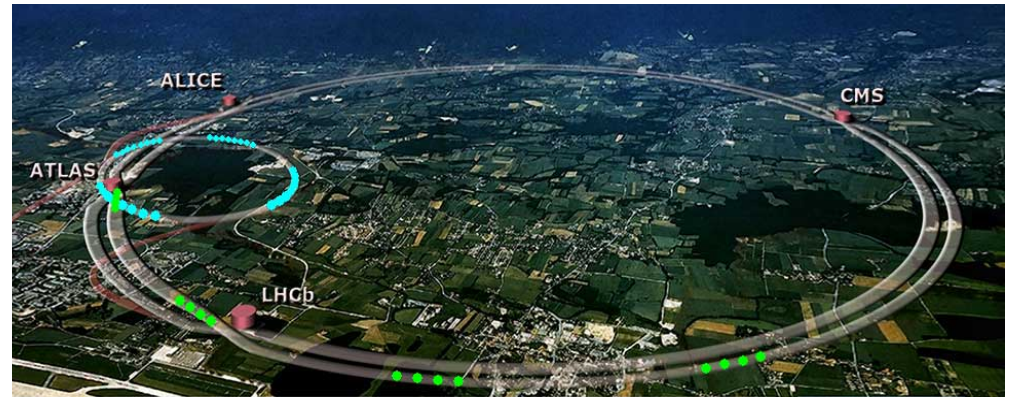


# How to search for WIMPs?

3) Create it using a particle accelerator



The Fermilab Tevatron



The Large Hadron Collider (LHC)

# **DARK MATTER IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY**

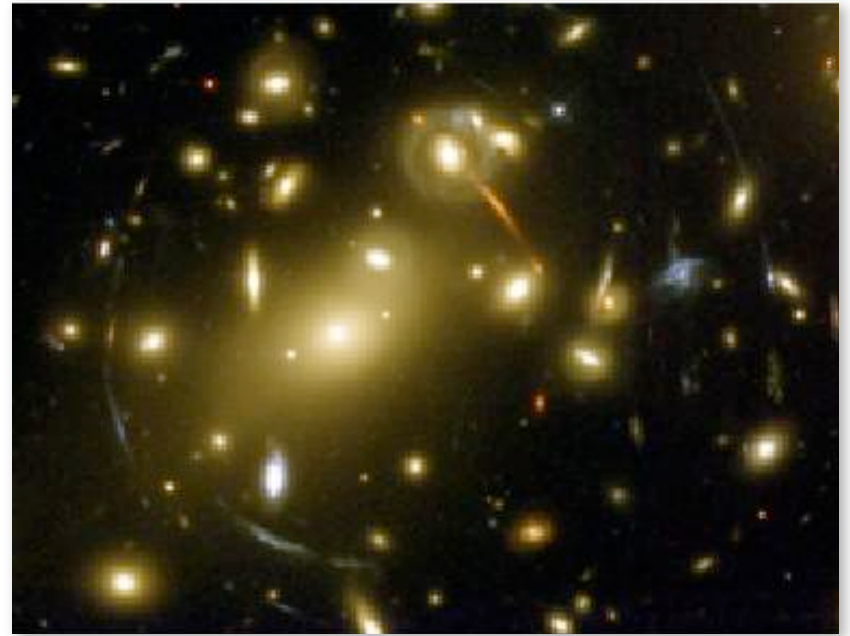
# DARK MATTER IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

- Dark matter's nature remains a mystery



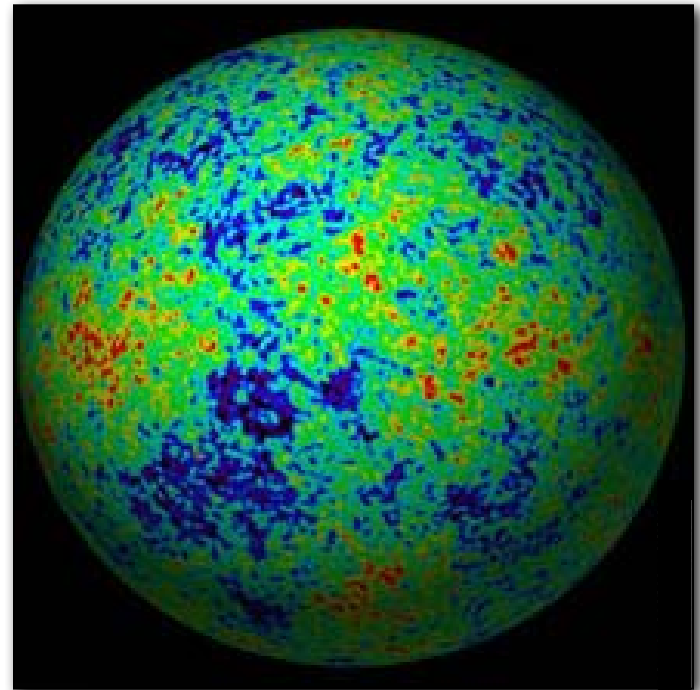
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- Dark matter's nature remains a mystery
- Astrophysicists see its imprint in many different ways:
  - Gravitation lensing of clusters



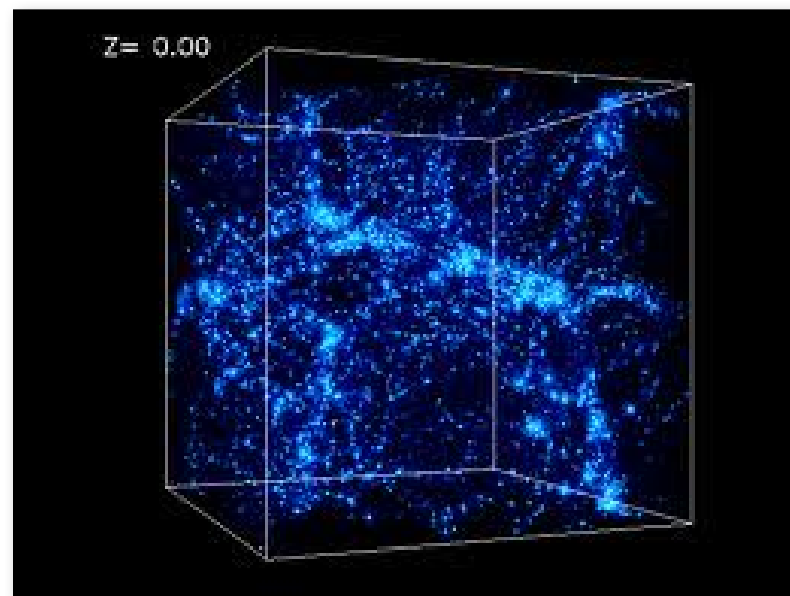
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# DARK MATTER IN THE 21ST CENTURY

- Dark matter's nature remains a mystery
- Astrophysicists see its imprint in many different ways:
  - Gravitation lensing of clusters
  - The cosmic microwave background radiation
  - The large scale structure of our universe



# DARK MATTER IN THE 21ST CENTURY

- Dark matter's nature remains a mystery
- Astrophysicists see its imprint in many different ways
- The WIMP-paradigm for dark matter has held up to much scrutiny, but what WIMPs actually are remains to be discovered

