

PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

Understanding the Formation  
and Evolution of Galaxies

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Featuring Guest Speaker:  
Cameron Hummels

1  
00:00:07,430 --> 00:00:04,550  
welcome to the space telescope public

2  
00:00:09,270 --> 00:00:07,440  
lecture series tonight's talk

3  
00:00:12,629 --> 00:00:09,280  
understanding the formation and

4  
00:00:15,350 --> 00:00:12,639  
evolution of galaxies by cameron hummels

5  
00:00:18,230 --> 00:00:15,360  
of cal tech

6  
00:00:20,950 --> 00:00:18,240  
i'm dr frank summers your host and as

7  
00:00:25,509 --> 00:00:20,960  
always i want to thank our amazing tech

8  
00:00:27,750 --> 00:00:25,519  
team thomas marufu and grant justice

9  
00:00:30,630 --> 00:00:27,760  
our upcoming talks

10  
00:00:33,110 --> 00:00:30,640  
in july on july 5th

11  
00:00:35,030 --> 00:00:33,120  
we will have exoplanets orbital

12  
00:00:37,030 --> 00:00:35,040  
mechanics and

13  
00:00:39,430 --> 00:00:37,040

the death star

14

00:00:41,830 --> 00:00:39,440

by mia boval of texas christian

15

00:00:44,229 --> 00:00:41,840

university actually she might change her

16

00:00:46,630 --> 00:00:44,239

topic by then this is just one she gave

17

00:00:48,470 --> 00:00:46,640

me as a placeholder we'll see what she

18

00:00:50,630 --> 00:00:48,480

actually comes up with but if she does

19

00:00:51,830 --> 00:00:50,640

do that it'll be it'll it'll be really

20

00:00:54,709 --> 00:00:51,840

cool

21

00:00:56,790 --> 00:00:54,719

on august 2nd we have the talk you've

22

00:00:58,869 --> 00:00:56,800

all been waiting for

23

00:01:01,910 --> 00:00:58,879

webb's first look

24

00:01:04,469 --> 00:01:01,920

images and spectra from nasa's newest

25

00:01:06,070 --> 00:01:04,479

great observatory alex lockwood from

26

00:01:07,030 --> 00:01:06,080

here at the space telescope science

27

00:01:09,190 --> 00:01:07,040

institute

28

00:01:11,270 --> 00:01:09,200

yes the james webb space telescope will

29

00:01:13,429 --> 00:01:11,280

be producing its it is currently

30

00:01:15,749 --> 00:01:13,439

producing its first images taking its

31

00:01:18,710 --> 00:01:15,759

first spectra you'll hear all about them

32

00:01:21,830 --> 00:01:18,720

on august 2nd okay here in the public

33

00:01:23,030 --> 00:01:21,840

lecture series on september 6th we have

34

00:01:25,429 --> 00:01:23,040

first light

35

00:01:29,030 --> 00:01:25,439

unveiling the properties of galaxies at

36

00:01:31,270 --> 00:01:29,040

cosmic dawn from guido robert sporsani

37

00:01:32,950 --> 00:01:31,280

at the university of california los

38

00:01:35,030 --> 00:01:32,960

angeles

39

00:01:38,590 --> 00:01:35,040

want to know about these things go to

40

00:01:43,190 --> 00:01:41,030

www.stsci dot

41

00:01:45,670 --> 00:01:43,200

public hyphen lectures

42

00:01:47,990 --> 00:01:45,680

or just look for space telescope public

43

00:01:50,550 --> 00:01:48,000

documentaries in your favorite uh search

44

00:01:53,030 --> 00:01:50,560

engine and you will find this page

45

00:01:55,910 --> 00:01:53,040

on the left you can see we have the

46

00:01:58,789 --> 00:01:55,920

links to our webcast both on the space

47

00:01:59,830 --> 00:01:58,799

telescope webcasting site as well as on

48

00:02:02,550 --> 00:01:59,840

youtube

49

00:02:04,069 --> 00:02:02,560

and on right we have a handy dandy

50

00:02:06,870 --> 00:02:04,079

little box where you can enter your

51  
00:02:11,029 --> 00:02:06,880  
email address push the subscribe button

52  
00:02:13,110 --> 00:02:11,039  
and you'll get our monthly emails

53  
00:02:15,990 --> 00:02:13,120  
also on the website we have of course

54  
00:02:18,309 --> 00:02:16,000  
links to our upcoming lectures as well

55  
00:02:19,270 --> 00:02:18,319  
as you can also look at our previous

56  
00:02:20,630 --> 00:02:19,280  
lectures

57  
00:02:22,949 --> 00:02:20,640  
and when you click on one of these

58  
00:02:25,510 --> 00:02:22,959  
lectures you get the full details

59  
00:02:27,510 --> 00:02:25,520  
including the description and if it's in

60  
00:02:31,430 --> 00:02:27,520  
the past you get a link to the space

61  
00:02:33,670 --> 00:02:31,440  
telescope webcast as well as the youtube

62  
00:02:36,150 --> 00:02:33,680  
recording of it

63  
00:02:37,030 --> 00:02:36,160

for email the announcements as i said

64

00:02:40,150 --> 00:02:37,040

just

65

00:02:42,229 --> 00:02:40,160

uh sign up at our website uh you can

66

00:02:43,070 --> 00:02:42,239

also just subscribe to our youtube

67

00:02:46,070 --> 00:02:43,080

channel

68

00:02:47,830 --> 00:02:46,080

youtube.com slash hubble space telescope

69

00:02:50,070 --> 00:02:47,840

it's all one word

70

00:02:52,470 --> 00:02:50,080

um and when you subscribe you will get

71

00:02:54,390 --> 00:02:52,480

the notices of new videos and reminders

72

00:02:56,150 --> 00:02:54,400

of live events such as the one you're

73

00:02:57,830 --> 00:02:56,160

watching right now

74

00:02:59,910 --> 00:02:57,840

finally if you have comments or

75

00:03:04,120 --> 00:02:59,920

questions you can send them to the email

76

00:03:06,470 --> 00:03:04,130

address public lecture at stsci.edu

77

00:03:08,949 --> 00:03:06,480

[Music]

78

00:03:10,949 --> 00:03:08,959

for our social media we run the social

79

00:03:13,270 --> 00:03:10,959

media for the hubble space telescope for

80

00:03:15,750 --> 00:03:13,280

the web space telescope and another set

81

00:03:17,830 --> 00:03:15,760

of media for the space telescope science

82

00:03:20,390 --> 00:03:17,840

institute yes our social media team is a

83

00:03:22,790 --> 00:03:20,400

busy group uh they are on facebook

84

00:03:24,229 --> 00:03:22,800

they're on twitter on youtube and

85

00:03:26,869 --> 00:03:24,239

instagram

86

00:03:29,509 --> 00:03:26,879

in contrast i am not much of a social

87

00:03:31,750 --> 00:03:29,519

media person i'm not a busy busy person

88

00:03:34,229 --> 00:03:31,760

on this but if you want you can find me

89

00:03:36,789 --> 00:03:34,239

on facebook and twitter as dr frank

90

00:03:36,799 --> 00:03:42,470

our news from the universe for june 2022

91

00:03:49,030 --> 00:03:44,390

story tonight

92

00:03:49,750 --> 00:03:49,040

comet nuclei the largest of the small

93

00:03:51,830 --> 00:03:49,760

so

94

00:03:53,830 --> 00:03:51,840

when you think of a comet you should

95

00:03:56,229 --> 00:03:53,840

think of this

96

00:03:58,229 --> 00:03:56,239

however i know that i'm talking to the

97

00:04:00,630 --> 00:03:58,239

general public so when the general

98

00:04:03,270 --> 00:04:00,640

public thinks of a comet yeah they

99

00:04:04,869 --> 00:04:03,280

probably think of this

100

00:04:06,149 --> 00:04:04,879

it's going to crash it's going to hit

101

00:04:09,670 --> 00:04:06,159

the earth it's going to cause

102

00:04:10,869 --> 00:04:09,680

catastrophic planetary devastation

103

00:04:13,270 --> 00:04:10,879

um

104

00:04:15,589 --> 00:04:13,280

considering this has only happened once

105

00:04:17,509 --> 00:04:15,599

in the last 65 million years at least

106

00:04:18,550 --> 00:04:17,519

the planet to the planetary devastation

107

00:04:20,310 --> 00:04:18,560

phase

108

00:04:22,310 --> 00:04:20,320

it's probably not the first thing you

109

00:04:25,189 --> 00:04:22,320

should think of when you think of comets

110

00:04:27,030 --> 00:04:25,199

but hey it's what makes uh well it's

111

00:04:29,189 --> 00:04:27,040

what what hollywood likes because it's a

112

00:04:30,950 --> 00:04:29,199

it gives it a good plot line

113

00:04:34,629 --> 00:04:30,960

what you should be thinking of when you

114

00:04:36,469 --> 00:04:34,639

think of comets is this okay so this is

115

00:04:39,189 --> 00:04:36,479

comet hail bop

116

00:04:41,909 --> 00:04:39,199

um and you can see that it has a head to

117

00:04:44,390 --> 00:04:41,919

the comet and tails to the comet it

118

00:04:46,230 --> 00:04:44,400

actually has two different tails uh the

119

00:04:48,950 --> 00:04:46,240

dust tail which is pushed back by

120

00:04:51,350 --> 00:04:48,960

radiation pressure from the sun

121

00:04:54,070 --> 00:04:51,360

and the ion tail which is carried back

122

00:04:56,230 --> 00:04:54,080

by the magnetic fields in the

123

00:04:59,670 --> 00:04:56,240

solar wind so there are actually two

124

00:05:02,469 --> 00:04:59,680

tails to a comet um and the head you can

125

00:05:04,790 --> 00:05:02,479

see is pretty much fuzzy all right and

126

00:05:06,629 --> 00:05:04,800

that is what we call the coma

127

00:05:09,189 --> 00:05:06,639

and this is comet

128

00:05:12,550 --> 00:05:09,199

borisov observed by hubble and you can

129

00:05:14,390 --> 00:05:12,560

see by even with hubble's resolution

130

00:05:16,710 --> 00:05:14,400

you can still just see the fuzzy stuff

131

00:05:18,870 --> 00:05:16,720

okay this is way down deep inside that

132

00:05:20,950 --> 00:05:18,880

coma but it's still just fuzzy part of

133

00:05:23,749 --> 00:05:20,960

the coma all right

134

00:05:26,790 --> 00:05:23,759

in order to actually see what the comet

135

00:05:28,469 --> 00:05:26,800

really is the comet nucleus well you

136

00:05:30,710 --> 00:05:28,479

need to fly there

137

00:05:34,310 --> 00:05:30,720

this is from the giato mission

138

00:05:36,469 --> 00:05:34,320

in 1986 which flew past comet halley

139

00:05:38,550 --> 00:05:36,479

this is a wonderful picture of the

140

00:05:41,029 --> 00:05:38,560

nucleus of comet halley sometimes we

141

00:05:42,310 --> 00:05:41,039

call these giant snowballs

142

00:05:44,070 --> 00:05:42,320

and you can see that where the sun is

143

00:05:46,550 --> 00:05:44,080

hitting it on the left side

144

00:05:48,950 --> 00:05:46,560

uh the um

145

00:05:50,790 --> 00:05:48,960

the jets of material are evaporating

146

00:05:53,430 --> 00:05:50,800

away okay because the ices are

147

00:05:54,469 --> 00:05:53,440

sublimating and spraying away in these

148

00:05:57,270 --> 00:05:54,479

jets

149

00:05:59,909 --> 00:05:57,280

we have done this for several missions

150

00:06:01,189 --> 00:05:59,919

i have to say my favorite comet nucleus

151  
00:06:04,830 --> 00:06:01,199  
that we've seen

152  
00:06:07,670 --> 00:06:04,840  
uh is comet 67p cheerio mal

153  
00:06:09,749 --> 00:06:07,680  
gerasimenko which is only three miles

154  
00:06:13,590 --> 00:06:09,759  
across not very big

155  
00:06:16,550 --> 00:06:13,600  
but i like it because it's a contact

156  
00:06:19,189 --> 00:06:16,560  
binary all right you got two pieces and

157  
00:06:21,350 --> 00:06:19,199  
it earned it the nickname comet rubber

158  
00:06:22,390 --> 00:06:21,360  
ducky because it kind of looks like a

159  
00:06:25,270 --> 00:06:22,400  
rubber duck

160  
00:06:27,510 --> 00:06:25,280  
all right um so this montage was

161  
00:06:30,230 --> 00:06:27,520  
released a few years ago from somebody

162  
00:06:33,350 --> 00:06:30,240  
at nasa uh putting together all of the

163  
00:06:35,189 --> 00:06:33,360

various um comets that we visited

164

00:06:37,590 --> 00:06:35,199

and you can see at least in this montage

165

00:06:39,670 --> 00:06:37,600

the biggest one here in the center

166

00:06:41,749 --> 00:06:39,680

is comet halley and that's only like

167

00:06:44,790 --> 00:06:41,759

nine miles across

168

00:06:46,350 --> 00:06:44,800

so now enter

169

00:06:50,629 --> 00:06:46,360

comet c

170

00:06:53,510 --> 00:06:50,639

2014 un271

171

00:06:56,070 --> 00:06:53,520

okay that's just the catalog name okay

172

00:06:59,270 --> 00:06:56,080

comments um are given names of their of

173

00:07:01,909 --> 00:06:59,280

their discoverers but really to

174

00:07:04,150 --> 00:07:01,919

their their catalog names are much more

175

00:07:07,029 --> 00:07:04,160

relevant for astronomy

176  
00:07:09,909 --> 00:07:07,039  
and so this comment was discovered in

177  
00:07:11,749 --> 00:07:09,919  
archival in archival images from the

178  
00:07:14,150 --> 00:07:11,759  
dark energy survey

179  
00:07:16,390 --> 00:07:14,160  
and what's really intriguing it was

180  
00:07:17,749 --> 00:07:16,400  
discovered when it was about 3 billion

181  
00:07:19,670 --> 00:07:17,759  
miles away

182  
00:07:22,070 --> 00:07:19,680  
and that's about the same distance as

183  
00:07:23,990 --> 00:07:22,080  
neptune is from the sun

184  
00:07:26,790 --> 00:07:24,000  
usually we don't see comets until they

185  
00:07:28,870 --> 00:07:26,800  
get inside the orbit of jupiter so this

186  
00:07:32,070 --> 00:07:28,880  
is way out there

187  
00:07:34,870 --> 00:07:32,080  
therefore it must be really big in order

188  
00:07:36,629 --> 00:07:34,880

to be bright at such a large distance

189

00:07:38,790 --> 00:07:36,639

what we're looking at here are hubble

190

00:07:40,870 --> 00:07:38,800

observations and these came a little

191

00:07:43,270 --> 00:07:40,880

later when the comet had gotten to about

192

00:07:45,749 --> 00:07:43,280

2 billion miles away from the sun about

193

00:07:46,550 --> 00:07:45,759

the same distance as uranus is from the

194

00:07:48,950 --> 00:07:46,560

sun

195

00:07:50,150 --> 00:07:48,960

so this is you know this is a very

196

00:07:53,510 --> 00:07:50,160

bright comet

197

00:07:55,670 --> 00:07:53,520

but we also have improved our computer

198

00:07:56,869 --> 00:07:55,680

modeling all right so what they were

199

00:07:59,029 --> 00:07:56,879

able to do

200

00:08:02,710 --> 00:07:59,039

is take the hubble observation and from

201  
00:08:05,670 --> 00:08:02,720  
it create a model of the coma all that

202  
00:08:08,150 --> 00:08:05,680  
fuzzy gaseous stuff around the comet

203  
00:08:10,230 --> 00:08:08,160  
nucleus and then subtract that off from

204  
00:08:12,629 --> 00:08:10,240  
the observation to give us an

205  
00:08:14,309 --> 00:08:12,639  
approximation of what the emission from

206  
00:08:16,869 --> 00:08:14,319  
the nucleus looks like

207  
00:08:19,350 --> 00:08:16,879  
so this is an approximation due with

208  
00:08:21,670 --> 00:08:19,360  
computer modeling of the nucleus

209  
00:08:23,830 --> 00:08:21,680  
now is that big enough to be able to is

210  
00:08:26,790 --> 00:08:23,840  
that is that fine enough to be able to

211  
00:08:28,790 --> 00:08:26,800  
tell how big this nucleus is

212  
00:08:31,110 --> 00:08:28,800  
no actually not

213  
00:08:33,350 --> 00:08:31,120

but if you combine it with radio

214

00:08:35,750 --> 00:08:33,360

telescope observations i believe these

215

00:08:38,389 --> 00:08:35,760

are from alma the atacama large

216

00:08:39,829 --> 00:08:38,399

millimeter array combine those

217

00:08:41,190 --> 00:08:39,839

observations with the hubble

218

00:08:42,709 --> 00:08:41,200

observations

219

00:08:46,070 --> 00:08:42,719

then you can get an estimate for the

220

00:08:49,430 --> 00:08:46,080

size of the nucleus and this they find

221

00:08:50,949 --> 00:08:49,440

is about 85 miles across

222

00:08:56,150 --> 00:08:50,959

so

223

00:09:00,150 --> 00:08:56,160

nucleuses all right and on the right we

224

00:09:02,710 --> 00:09:00,160

have uh c 2014 un-271

225

00:09:05,910 --> 00:09:02,720

uh in the middle you can see how bop was

226

00:09:06,790 --> 00:09:05,920

it uh expect uh estimated like 46 miles

227

00:09:09,430 --> 00:09:06,800

across

228

00:09:11,509 --> 00:09:09,440

um and on the left you see comet halley

229

00:09:13,509 --> 00:09:11,519

which this diagram says seven miles but

230

00:09:17,030 --> 00:09:13,519

everything i found online said nine

231

00:09:20,550 --> 00:09:17,040

miles so uh there's a discrepancy here

232

00:09:22,630 --> 00:09:20,560

and you may say 85 miles that's

233

00:09:27,350 --> 00:09:22,640

not that big still

234

00:09:30,310 --> 00:09:27,360

all right well it's big um it's actually

235

00:09:32,790 --> 00:09:30,320

bigger than the state of rhode island

236

00:09:35,110 --> 00:09:32,800

yes yes to scale that's the state of

237

00:09:37,590 --> 00:09:35,120

rhode island if you didn't know rhode

238

00:09:39,509 --> 00:09:37,600

island is only about 50 miles from top

239

00:09:41,990 --> 00:09:39,519

to bottom okay

240

00:09:45,350 --> 00:09:42,000

so we got comets that are bigger than

241

00:09:47,829 --> 00:09:45,360

the entire state of rhode island

242

00:09:50,389 --> 00:09:47,839

another important thing to do is make it

243

00:09:53,110 --> 00:09:50,399

a comparison of what

244

00:09:54,949 --> 00:09:53,120

uh what size comet you need to create

245

00:09:58,070 --> 00:09:54,959

that planetary devastation we talked

246

00:10:04,150 --> 00:09:58,080

about before okay so it says something

247

00:10:05,750 --> 00:10:04,160

about the size of uh comet c 2014 un271

248

00:10:09,110 --> 00:10:05,760

and it also says something about the

249

00:10:12,230 --> 00:10:09,120

size of rhode island okay um so it's

250

00:10:15,110 --> 00:10:12,240

looking at in that planetary devastation

251  
00:10:17,110 --> 00:10:15,120  
phase um there here's a little sign that

252  
00:10:21,190 --> 00:10:17,120  
says you must be this tall to cause

253  
00:10:23,509 --> 00:10:21,200  
planetary devastation uh the comet

254  
00:10:27,110 --> 00:10:23,519  
that uh the asteroid that hit in

255  
00:10:29,190 --> 00:10:27,120  
chixolube uh that caused that led to the

256  
00:10:32,470 --> 00:10:29,200  
downfall of the dinosaur 65 million

257  
00:10:33,750 --> 00:10:32,480  
years ago was about 10 to 15 kilometers

258  
00:10:35,910 --> 00:10:33,760  
across

259  
00:10:38,630 --> 00:10:35,920  
now that was an asteroid and asteroids

260  
00:10:41,430 --> 00:10:38,640  
are denser um and can have more mass per

261  
00:10:43,829 --> 00:10:41,440  
unit volume um some comets as we talked

262  
00:10:46,949 --> 00:10:43,839  
about as cameron just mentioned just are

263  
00:10:48,150 --> 00:10:46,959

considered dirty snowballs and a little

264

00:10:51,110 --> 00:10:48,160

puffier

265

00:10:52,790 --> 00:10:51,120

less dense so we're not exactly sure how

266

00:10:55,190 --> 00:10:52,800

large of a comet you need to cause

267

00:10:57,509 --> 00:10:55,200

planetary devastation but

268

00:10:59,990 --> 00:10:57,519

here are it's this is the range of which

269

00:11:02,310 --> 00:11:00,000

they are and so these studies are

270

00:11:05,509 --> 00:11:02,320

important to understand just how big

271

00:11:07,030 --> 00:11:05,519

these comets can be um uh what was the

272

00:11:08,710 --> 00:11:07,040

initial

273

00:11:11,269 --> 00:11:08,720

distribution when the solar system

274

00:11:13,430 --> 00:11:11,279

formed four and a half billion years ago

275

00:11:15,509 --> 00:11:13,440

and it's a great collaboration using

276

00:11:17,750 --> 00:11:15,519

both the hubble space telescope and

277

00:11:20,389 --> 00:11:17,760

radio observatories on the ground to be

278

00:11:25,430 --> 00:11:20,399

able to measure these tiny tiny objects

279

00:11:31,750 --> 00:11:30,069

okay so our speaker tonight um i'm very

280

00:11:34,069 --> 00:11:31,760

happy to have him here

281

00:11:37,590 --> 00:11:34,079

you've already met him cameron hummels

282

00:11:41,590 --> 00:11:37,600

uh cameron uh got his phd at columbia

283

00:11:43,350 --> 00:11:41,600

university uh in new york city um and he

284

00:11:48,069 --> 00:11:43,360

has done post-docs at the university of

285

00:11:50,069 --> 00:11:48,079

arizona and is now at cal tech um as

286

00:11:53,030 --> 00:11:50,079

you'll see from him tonight he does

287

00:11:55,750 --> 00:11:53,040

galaxy formation simulations uh the kind

288

00:11:57,350 --> 00:11:55,760

of research i did 25 years ago

289

00:11:59,350 --> 00:11:57,360

when i was doing research before i

290

00:12:00,389 --> 00:11:59,360

turned my career to purely doing

291

00:12:02,790 --> 00:12:00,399

outreach

292

00:12:05,110 --> 00:12:02,800

but he also is working on not just the

293

00:12:06,550 --> 00:12:05,120

galaxy information but also the material

294

00:12:08,470 --> 00:12:06,560

around it what we call the circum

295

00:12:09,509 --> 00:12:08,480

galactic medium

296

00:12:11,750 --> 00:12:09,519

and it's one of the things that always

297

00:12:13,829 --> 00:12:11,760

intrigued me because i mean the visible

298

00:12:15,350 --> 00:12:13,839

galaxy is really kind of small and the

299

00:12:17,590 --> 00:12:15,360

material that's in falling because it

300

00:12:19,509 --> 00:12:17,600

never stops in falling is way out there

301

00:12:22,150 --> 00:12:19,519

and so he's doing really good uh

302

00:12:23,509 --> 00:12:22,160

simulations on that on visuals and

303

00:12:26,550 --> 00:12:23,519

understanding that

304

00:12:29,750 --> 00:12:26,560

he's also very much into doing outreach

305

00:12:31,910 --> 00:12:29,760

to the public uh while he was at uh

306

00:12:34,550 --> 00:12:31,920

columbia he served as the director of

307

00:12:36,470 --> 00:12:34,560

outreach um for columbia university and

308

00:12:38,069 --> 00:12:36,480

when he got to caltech he sort of

309

00:12:40,230 --> 00:12:38,079

created the position of director of

310

00:12:42,470 --> 00:12:40,240

outreach and put himself into it so i

311

00:12:46,230 --> 00:12:42,480

like people who appoint themselves uh

312

00:12:48,710 --> 00:12:46,240

head honcho on this uh he does a lot

313

00:12:51,030 --> 00:12:48,720

like we do public lecture series

314

00:12:53,269 --> 00:12:51,040

stuff he also does star gazing

315

00:12:55,910 --> 00:12:53,279

and he does astronomy on tap which will

316

00:12:58,060 --> 00:12:55,920

feature me as a payback for him doing my

317

00:13:00,870 --> 00:12:58,070

series i'm doing his series next week

318

00:13:02,790 --> 00:13:00,880

[Laughter]

319

00:13:04,829 --> 00:13:02,800

and i guess one last thing to say about

320

00:13:07,350 --> 00:13:04,839

him is he's heavily into

321

00:13:09,750 --> 00:13:07,360

outdoors um and

322

00:13:10,550 --> 00:13:09,760

in february which is what four months

323

00:13:12,629 --> 00:13:10,560

ago

324

00:13:14,550 --> 00:13:12,639

um he did

325

00:13:18,870 --> 00:13:14,560

170 miles

326

00:13:21,829 --> 00:13:18,880

across death valley in four days

327

00:13:23,910 --> 00:13:21,839

without any support he's not allowed to

328

00:13:26,069 --> 00:13:23,920

use roads he's not allowed to have food

329

00:13:27,990 --> 00:13:26,079

caches he's not allowed to have you know

330

00:13:31,110 --> 00:13:28,000

somebody come along and help him out and

331

00:13:33,590 --> 00:13:31,120

and do all stuff he had to do it solo as

332

00:13:37,670 --> 00:13:33,600

if he was the only person on earth and

333

00:13:39,189 --> 00:13:37,680

not only did he do it he set a record uh

334

00:13:41,750 --> 00:13:39,199

time so

335

00:13:43,990 --> 00:13:41,760

a man who has the endurance

336

00:13:45,910 --> 00:13:44,000

to get through anything even these

337

00:13:49,430 --> 00:13:45,920

technical glitches here

338

00:13:51,910 --> 00:13:49,440

ladies and gentlemen dr cameron hummels

339

00:13:54,710 --> 00:13:51,920

awesome thank you very much uh frank

340

00:13:57,750 --> 00:13:54,720

it's um it's my i'm really excited to be

341

00:13:59,910 --> 00:13:57,760

able to to talk to all of you about one

342

00:14:02,629 --> 00:13:59,920

of my passions which is uh galaxy

343

00:14:04,310 --> 00:14:02,639

evolution and hopefully i can convey

344

00:14:07,750 --> 00:14:04,320

some of what i find exciting to all of

345

00:14:10,150 --> 00:14:07,760

you in the next 45 minutes or so so uh

346

00:14:11,750 --> 00:14:10,160

thanks for this opportunity so as you're

347

00:14:13,509 --> 00:14:11,760

as you're seeing here this is a

348

00:14:15,350 --> 00:14:13,519

beautiful visualization of a

349

00:14:18,629 --> 00:14:15,360

supercomputing simulation done by my

350

00:14:22,790 --> 00:14:18,639

colleague dr nathan goldbaum at uc santa

351  
00:14:25,829 --> 00:14:22,800  
cruz um showcasing the evolution of a

352  
00:14:28,550 --> 00:14:25,839  
milky way like galaxy uh you can see a

353  
00:14:30,870 --> 00:14:28,560  
lot going on here it's for the most part

354  
00:14:33,350 --> 00:14:30,880  
all real scientific phenomena and

355  
00:14:36,069 --> 00:14:33,360  
realistic as to what one would see uh

356  
00:14:37,750 --> 00:14:36,079  
the one discrepancy is that time is

357  
00:14:39,430 --> 00:14:37,760  
passing really really quickly in this

358  
00:14:41,590 --> 00:14:39,440  
simulation relative to what it would be

359  
00:14:43,189 --> 00:14:41,600  
in reality about every second in the

360  
00:14:45,829 --> 00:14:43,199  
simulation is on the order of like 20

361  
00:14:48,550 --> 00:14:45,839  
million years passing so it's really

362  
00:14:50,550 --> 00:14:48,560  
evolving quite quickly but the white the

363  
00:14:53,110 --> 00:14:50,560

white points represent individual stars

364

00:14:55,829 --> 00:14:53,120

the pink regions represent h2 regions

365

00:14:59,590 --> 00:14:55,839

that are ionized gas clouds surrounding

366

00:15:02,069 --> 00:14:59,600

uh supernovae and and um star-forming

367

00:15:04,150 --> 00:15:02,079

regions and this is yeah this is really

368

00:15:06,710 --> 00:15:04,160

a good representative

369

00:15:09,829 --> 00:15:06,720

like of what our milky way might look

370

00:15:12,389 --> 00:15:09,839

like as it evolves over time

371

00:15:15,590 --> 00:15:12,399

but let's start at the beginning uh

372

00:15:16,870 --> 00:15:15,600

before we get into galaxies per se and

373

00:15:18,470 --> 00:15:16,880

start with a little bit of history

374

00:15:20,310 --> 00:15:18,480

relative to what we've learned in the

375

00:15:21,910 --> 00:15:20,320

last you know few hundred years about

376

00:15:24,230 --> 00:15:21,920

galaxies and why we think we know what

377

00:15:26,470 --> 00:15:24,240

we know so first off i'll just give this

378

00:15:27,990 --> 00:15:26,480

general question to all of you guys

379

00:15:29,509 --> 00:15:28,000

what do we see when we look up in the

380

00:15:32,230 --> 00:15:29,519

night sky now this is normally when i

381

00:15:34,230 --> 00:15:32,240

ask people to shout out the responses uh

382

00:15:35,430 --> 00:15:34,240

but since i can't hear all of you i mean

383

00:15:37,189 --> 00:15:35,440

i guess i can look at the youtube

384

00:15:38,870 --> 00:15:37,199

comments but since i can't hear you i'm

385

00:15:40,870 --> 00:15:38,880

going to guess that you're shouting out

386

00:15:43,350 --> 00:15:40,880

things like

387

00:15:44,870 --> 00:15:43,360

uh stars stars are pretty obviously the

388

00:15:47,350 --> 00:15:44,880

things you see when you look up in the

389

00:15:49,670 --> 00:15:47,360

night sky also people might shout

390

00:15:51,910 --> 00:15:49,680

planets we see planets of course most of

391

00:15:53,670 --> 00:15:51,920

the planets the visible planets are are

392

00:15:56,150 --> 00:15:53,680

up in the early morning which is far too

393

00:15:58,389 --> 00:15:56,160

early for me right now um

394

00:16:02,069 --> 00:15:58,399

but we also see the milky way and

395

00:16:04,629 --> 00:16:02,079

hopefully you know i realize a large

396

00:16:06,230 --> 00:16:04,639

uh portion of the general population

397

00:16:09,269 --> 00:16:06,240

especially in western countries doesn't

398

00:16:11,430 --> 00:16:09,279

have the opportunity to go outside of a

399

00:16:12,949 --> 00:16:11,440

city and perhaps see from a dark sky

400

00:16:14,790 --> 00:16:12,959

site if you have the opportunity i

401  
00:16:17,030 --> 00:16:14,800  
highly recommend it and one of the

402  
00:16:18,470 --> 00:16:17,040  
things that's really majestic when you

403  
00:16:20,470 --> 00:16:18,480  
get in a dark sky site is the

404  
00:16:23,189 --> 00:16:20,480  
opportunity to see the milky way here

405  
00:16:24,790 --> 00:16:23,199  
you can see it uh kind of a glowing band

406  
00:16:27,030 --> 00:16:24,800  
across the sky this is from joshua tree

407  
00:16:28,629 --> 00:16:27,040  
national park near los angeles here this

408  
00:16:32,230 --> 00:16:28,639  
is a more representative view more

409  
00:16:34,230 --> 00:16:32,240  
all-sky view of that um and you can see

410  
00:16:36,150 --> 00:16:34,240  
that there's a lot of structure here but

411  
00:16:38,949 --> 00:16:36,160  
for the most part the name seems apt

412  
00:16:40,790 --> 00:16:38,959  
right the milky way looks like a band of

413  
00:16:43,269 --> 00:16:40,800

milk across the sky

414

00:16:45,670 --> 00:16:43,279

um but make no mistake about it it's not

415

00:16:47,990 --> 00:16:45,680

milk it it's actually composed and this

416

00:16:50,629 --> 00:16:48,000

was understood reasonably early you know

417

00:16:52,629 --> 00:16:50,639

the last few hundred years that the band

418

00:16:55,670 --> 00:16:52,639

of light actually is composed of many

419

00:16:58,470 --> 00:16:55,680

many individual distant

420

00:17:01,269 --> 00:16:58,480

uh stars uh but because they're so far

421

00:17:02,550 --> 00:17:01,279

away and thus quite small on the sky and

422

00:17:05,590 --> 00:17:02,560

so numerous

423

00:17:07,270 --> 00:17:05,600

they they blend together into a band of

424

00:17:09,110 --> 00:17:07,280

light that looks like an extended light

425

00:17:10,069 --> 00:17:09,120

source like like milk

426  
00:17:11,909 --> 00:17:10,079  
and

427  
00:17:13,829 --> 00:17:11,919  
you can also see dark regions here these

428  
00:17:16,630 --> 00:17:13,839  
are dust lanes so it isn't that those

429  
00:17:18,470 --> 00:17:16,640  
regions are devoid of stars or starlight

430  
00:17:20,069 --> 00:17:18,480  
it's just that there's intervening dust

431  
00:17:22,710 --> 00:17:20,079  
that's absorbing the light between the

432  
00:17:25,750 --> 00:17:22,720  
background stars and us the viewer and

433  
00:17:27,669 --> 00:17:25,760  
gets absorbed along its way to us

434  
00:17:29,270 --> 00:17:27,679  
we also see this kind of behavior in

435  
00:17:30,390 --> 00:17:29,280  
other galaxies but i'm getting ahead of

436  
00:17:32,070 --> 00:17:30,400  
myself

437  
00:17:34,789 --> 00:17:32,080  
so this was an early representation

438  
00:17:36,070 --> 00:17:34,799

before photographs of uh drawing because

439

00:17:37,350 --> 00:17:36,080

if you can't take a picture you do the

440

00:17:39,590 --> 00:17:37,360

best thing you you look through your

441

00:17:42,789 --> 00:17:39,600

telescope and you draw things of what

442

00:17:45,750 --> 00:17:42,799

our mil of the milky way uh looks like

443

00:17:47,510 --> 00:17:45,760

but more modern uh images like seen here

444

00:17:49,590 --> 00:17:47,520

on left by the gaia mission which has

445

00:17:51,830 --> 00:17:49,600

been operating for the last 10 10 or so

446

00:17:53,990 --> 00:17:51,840

years uh we can really see a lot of the

447

00:17:55,750 --> 00:17:54,000

structure in this and on it was

448

00:17:58,950 --> 00:17:55,760

understood quite early it was actually

449

00:18:02,070 --> 00:17:58,960

proposed by the philosopher emanuel kant

450

00:18:03,669 --> 00:18:02,080

um that the three-dimensional structure

451  
00:18:05,510 --> 00:18:03,679  
of our milky way is something like what

452  
00:18:07,830 --> 00:18:05,520  
you see on the right side where there's

453  
00:18:10,470 --> 00:18:07,840  
like a disc of material

454  
00:18:12,789 --> 00:18:10,480  
um with a with a bulge of material in

455  
00:18:14,150 --> 00:18:12,799  
the center and that we ourselves the the

456  
00:18:16,470 --> 00:18:14,160  
earth and the sun and the rest of the

457  
00:18:18,789 --> 00:18:16,480  
solar system are about halfway out in

458  
00:18:20,070 --> 00:18:18,799  
that disc and thus because we're present

459  
00:18:22,789 --> 00:18:20,080  
in the disc

460  
00:18:24,630 --> 00:18:22,799  
we we can't look down you know face on

461  
00:18:26,950 --> 00:18:24,640  
on the galaxy in the same way that we

462  
00:18:30,789 --> 00:18:26,960  
can in other galaxies but what we see is

463  
00:18:32,710 --> 00:18:30,799

just this band of light across the sky

464

00:18:33,830 --> 00:18:32,720

and that three-dimensional structure has

465

00:18:36,230 --> 00:18:33,840

held up to

466

00:18:37,750 --> 00:18:36,240

to our observations of other galaxies

467

00:18:41,430 --> 00:18:37,760

and and seems

468

00:18:42,470 --> 00:18:41,440

seems like a reasonable representation

469

00:18:43,909 --> 00:18:42,480

okay so

470

00:18:45,350 --> 00:18:43,919

going back to the original question of

471

00:18:47,990 --> 00:18:45,360

what do we see when we look up in the

472

00:18:49,669 --> 00:18:48,000

night sky and tying in to what what uh

473

00:18:51,750 --> 00:18:49,679

frank was just discussing we see

474

00:18:53,510 --> 00:18:51,760

comments much like this comet that you

475

00:18:54,549 --> 00:18:53,520

can see here now

476

00:18:56,310 --> 00:18:54,559

um

477

00:18:57,830 --> 00:18:56,320

as you could tell from some of the

478

00:18:59,990 --> 00:18:57,840

naming schemes associated with the

479

00:19:02,630 --> 00:19:00,000

comets that frank was describing

480

00:19:04,630 --> 00:19:02,640

comets get named typically after the

481

00:19:06,870 --> 00:19:04,640

person who discovers them and so

482

00:19:09,590 --> 00:19:06,880

historically that was kind of a way that

483

00:19:11,590 --> 00:19:09,600

people could become famous by being the

484

00:19:13,510 --> 00:19:11,600

first to discover a comet and then

485

00:19:16,470 --> 00:19:13,520

having that comet named after themselves

486

00:19:18,390 --> 00:19:16,480

now in order to discover a comet like it

487

00:19:20,549 --> 00:19:18,400

has to be before other people have seen

488

00:19:23,110 --> 00:19:20,559

it by nature of you discovering it and

489

00:19:24,710 --> 00:19:23,120

and what that means is that it's not

490

00:19:26,070 --> 00:19:24,720

going to be big and bright because then

491

00:19:27,750 --> 00:19:26,080

it would be obvious and other people

492

00:19:29,590 --> 00:19:27,760

would have would have seen it probably

493

00:19:32,070 --> 00:19:29,600

before you so if you're going to be the

494

00:19:34,390 --> 00:19:32,080

first person to um

495

00:19:36,390 --> 00:19:34,400

identify a comet it's going to be very

496

00:19:37,990 --> 00:19:36,400

very faint in the outer solar system as

497

00:19:40,230 --> 00:19:38,000

it hasn't yet approached close enough to

498

00:19:42,789 --> 00:19:40,240

the sun to be bright um and it'll just

499

00:19:45,110 --> 00:19:42,799

be kind of a faint smudge that that

500

00:19:48,310 --> 00:19:45,120

isn't easily discernable by anyone but

501  
00:19:50,470 --> 00:19:48,320  
perhaps you now there was a comet hunter

502  
00:19:52,390 --> 00:19:50,480  
known as charles messier in the 18th

503  
00:19:55,669 --> 00:19:52,400  
century in france and he

504  
00:19:56,470 --> 00:19:55,679  
was determined to discover comets

505  
00:19:57,990 --> 00:19:56,480  
but

506  
00:19:59,990 --> 00:19:58,000  
it turns out that there are a lot of

507  
00:20:01,909 --> 00:20:00,000  
other things in the night sky that

508  
00:20:03,909 --> 00:20:01,919  
aren't uh

509  
00:20:06,390 --> 00:20:03,919  
comet like that aren't

510  
00:20:08,549 --> 00:20:06,400  
faint little blurry smudges on the sky

511  
00:20:10,630 --> 00:20:08,559  
that you can easily confuse with a comet

512  
00:20:12,470 --> 00:20:10,640  
the difference with a comet is uh it

513  
00:20:15,029 --> 00:20:12,480

hasn't been seen in that location before

514

00:20:16,630 --> 00:20:15,039

and it will eventually move across the

515

00:20:18,310 --> 00:20:16,640

the sky relative to the background

516

00:20:20,390 --> 00:20:18,320

objects but these other objects that

517

00:20:23,750 --> 00:20:20,400

might be confused with a comet tend to

518

00:20:25,830 --> 00:20:23,760

stay put um and so essentially what's

519

00:20:27,909 --> 00:20:25,840

kind of ironic is that charles messier

520

00:20:30,390 --> 00:20:27,919

is not known for discovering comets he's

521

00:20:32,630 --> 00:20:30,400

known for identifying these non-comet

522

00:20:34,630 --> 00:20:32,640

objects that would be easily confused

523

00:20:35,909 --> 00:20:34,640

with being a comet

524

00:20:37,750 --> 00:20:35,919

and

525

00:20:40,149 --> 00:20:37,760

these sorts of objects are known as the

526

00:20:42,070 --> 00:20:40,159

messier list or the messier catalog and

527

00:20:43,830 --> 00:20:42,080

they're amongst the most beautiful and

528

00:20:45,909 --> 00:20:43,840

bright objects that you can see when you

529

00:20:48,149 --> 00:20:45,919

look through a telescope these are

530

00:20:50,470 --> 00:20:48,159

obviously modern images that are taken

531

00:20:52,070 --> 00:20:50,480

with modern technology but they reveal

532

00:20:53,350 --> 00:20:52,080

just some of the beauty associated with

533

00:20:55,590 --> 00:20:53,360

them so these are things like you may

534

00:20:58,870 --> 00:20:55,600

have heard of the orion nebula or the

535

00:21:01,350 --> 00:20:58,880

pleiades cluster or the hercules cluster

536

00:21:03,270 --> 00:21:01,360

or the ring nebula and and

537

00:21:05,190 --> 00:21:03,280

again if you have the opportunity to get

538

00:21:06,950 --> 00:21:05,200

to a dark sky-ish site and look through

539

00:21:08,310 --> 00:21:06,960

a telescope you'll probably be looking

540

00:21:10,070 --> 00:21:08,320

at one of these objects because they're

541

00:21:11,430 --> 00:21:10,080

really spectacular

542

00:21:13,350 --> 00:21:11,440

um

543

00:21:14,630 --> 00:21:13,360

so you can

544

00:21:16,390 --> 00:21:14,640

you can see from this kind of

545

00:21:18,070 --> 00:21:16,400

representative list there are 110

546

00:21:19,430 --> 00:21:18,080

different objects and you can see from

547

00:21:22,149 --> 00:21:19,440

the list that there are a variety of

548

00:21:24,070 --> 00:21:22,159

different kinds of things you can see

549

00:21:26,070 --> 00:21:24,080

some things that are very obviously

550

00:21:27,909 --> 00:21:26,080

star-like so this is the pleiades

551  
00:21:30,149 --> 00:21:27,919  
cluster you might also know it

552  
00:21:32,230 --> 00:21:30,159  
from the subaru logo because that's the

553  
00:21:34,149 --> 00:21:32,240  
japanese word for this this star cluster

554  
00:21:35,270 --> 00:21:34,159  
is subaru um

555  
00:21:36,950 --> 00:21:35,280  
but it

556  
00:21:39,669 --> 00:21:36,960  
it's a it's a star cluster and very

557  
00:21:42,310 --> 00:21:39,679  
obviously composed of individual stars

558  
00:21:44,549 --> 00:21:42,320  
similarly uh the ring nebula nebula is

559  
00:21:45,669 --> 00:21:44,559  
just a famous like a fancy word for

560  
00:21:50,789 --> 00:21:45,679  
cloud

561  
00:21:52,630 --> 00:21:50,799  
again associated with a star we can see

562  
00:21:55,510 --> 00:21:52,640  
individual stars present like the white

563  
00:21:58,470 --> 00:21:55,520

dwarf in the center of this this nebula

564

00:21:59,830 --> 00:21:58,480

and and that cloud is glowing and it's

565

00:22:01,190 --> 00:21:59,840

associated with that but then there are

566

00:22:03,510 --> 00:22:01,200

these kind of

567

00:22:05,110 --> 00:22:03,520

at least 100 years ago or or a couple

568

00:22:07,510 --> 00:22:05,120

hundred years ago the there are these

569

00:22:10,230 --> 00:22:07,520

kind of cryptic objects called spiral

570

00:22:12,549 --> 00:22:10,240

nebulae and you can see that they it's a

571

00:22:14,070 --> 00:22:12,559

little bit harder to discern what these

572

00:22:16,070 --> 00:22:14,080

objects are they have some sort of

573

00:22:17,750 --> 00:22:16,080

spiral structure but you can definitely

574

00:22:19,909 --> 00:22:17,760

make out that they seem to be a little

575

00:22:21,750 --> 00:22:19,919

bit cloudy um

576

00:22:23,029 --> 00:22:21,760

and there you can see some stars that

577

00:22:24,950 --> 00:22:23,039

are present but it's unclear if those

578

00:22:28,149 --> 00:22:24,960

stars are associated with the object or

579

00:22:29,830 --> 00:22:28,159

their foreground stars or whatnot and so

580

00:22:32,710 --> 00:22:29,840

this is the great andromeda nebula

581

00:22:35,990 --> 00:22:32,720

messier object number 31 and what was

582

00:22:39,909 --> 00:22:36,000

unclear was are these objects

583

00:22:43,430 --> 00:22:39,919

uh nearby like stars in our own milky

584

00:22:44,149 --> 00:22:43,440

way galaxy or these distant objects that

585

00:22:46,310 --> 00:22:44,159

are

586

00:22:48,070 --> 00:22:46,320

they they call them potentially island

587

00:22:50,390 --> 00:22:48,080

universes which is to say

588

00:22:53,270 --> 00:22:50,400

uh objects much like our own milky way

589

00:22:55,029 --> 00:22:53,280

galaxy but much you know farther away

590

00:22:57,350 --> 00:22:55,039

and at the time we thought that for the

591

00:23:00,070 --> 00:22:57,360

most part the universe was like the

592

00:23:01,350 --> 00:23:00,080

milky way was the extent of the universe

593

00:23:03,669 --> 00:23:01,360

because that seems enormous i mean that

594

00:23:05,510 --> 00:23:03,679

is enormous right the the the extent of

595

00:23:09,110 --> 00:23:05,520

the milky way disc is

596

00:23:12,230 --> 00:23:09,120

is 30 000 light years away that's a huge

597

00:23:15,029 --> 00:23:12,240

distance right so um to think of things

598

00:23:19,110 --> 00:23:15,039

that were even beyond this at kind of

599

00:23:21,590 --> 00:23:19,120

unthinkable distance and themselves uh

600

00:23:23,110 --> 00:23:21,600

milky way-like structures was was almost

601  
00:23:23,990 --> 00:23:23,120  
unthinkable

602  
00:23:25,430 --> 00:23:24,000  
but

603  
00:23:27,990 --> 00:23:25,440  
this was uh

604  
00:23:29,830 --> 00:23:28,000  
this was essentially

605  
00:23:32,710 --> 00:23:29,840  
identified in this this thing called the

606  
00:23:34,789 --> 00:23:32,720  
great debate of 1920. so um you had an

607  
00:23:37,909 --> 00:23:34,799  
astronomer representing the idea that

608  
00:23:40,310 --> 00:23:37,919  
these are nearby objects within our own

609  
00:23:42,310 --> 00:23:40,320  
milky way and associated with individual

610  
00:23:44,310 --> 00:23:42,320  
clouds and quite small

611  
00:23:46,630 --> 00:23:44,320  
as in the size of like a solar system or

612  
00:23:49,029 --> 00:23:46,640  
maybe slightly larger than that or you

613  
00:23:51,350 --> 00:23:49,039

had another person representing that

614

00:23:52,789 --> 00:23:51,360

these objects were island universes much

615

00:23:54,630 --> 00:23:52,799

like our own milky way and they were

616

00:23:57,510 --> 00:23:54,640

very far away and they were very very

617

00:23:59,990 --> 00:23:57,520

large and much like most debates whether

618

00:24:02,549 --> 00:24:00,000

they're philosophical or political or

619

00:24:04,789 --> 00:24:02,559

sometimes scientific there wasn't really

620

00:24:07,750 --> 00:24:04,799

a winner to this debate and it was

621

00:24:10,310 --> 00:24:07,760

unclear uh what what is the nature of

622

00:24:12,549 --> 00:24:10,320

these spiral nebulae

623

00:24:14,950 --> 00:24:12,559

and so time went on and people people

624

00:24:17,510 --> 00:24:14,960

were trying to identify how to

625

00:24:20,230 --> 00:24:17,520

how to resolve this this debate

626

00:24:22,390 --> 00:24:20,240

um and really the way to resolve it is

627

00:24:23,909 --> 00:24:22,400

to determine the distance to the spiral

628

00:24:26,070 --> 00:24:23,919

nebulae because if they're close by then

629

00:24:28,390 --> 00:24:26,080

they're small and if they're a long ways

630

00:24:29,830 --> 00:24:28,400

away then they're large

631

00:24:31,909 --> 00:24:29,840

but it turns out that determining

632

00:24:33,669 --> 00:24:31,919

distance to objects in space is actually

633

00:24:35,830 --> 00:24:33,679

really challenging i mean we get kind of

634

00:24:36,789 --> 00:24:35,840

spoiled right like when i walk along the

635

00:24:39,269 --> 00:24:36,799

street

636

00:24:41,269 --> 00:24:39,279

i can tell that something you know a

637

00:24:42,870 --> 00:24:41,279

sign post is 20 feet in front of me or

638

00:24:46,070 --> 00:24:42,880

if it's like a couple miles in front of

639

00:24:47,909 --> 00:24:46,080

me because how do we how do we have

640

00:24:49,830 --> 00:24:47,919

depth perception we have depth

641

00:24:51,669 --> 00:24:49,840

perception because we have two separate

642

00:24:53,350 --> 00:24:51,679

eyes

643

00:24:55,190 --> 00:24:53,360

we use something called the parallax

644

00:24:57,269 --> 00:24:55,200

method although nobody most people

645

00:24:59,110 --> 00:24:57,279

aren't familiar with this term but it's

646

00:25:01,029 --> 00:24:59,120

it's um it's the fact that we have two

647

00:25:03,590 --> 00:25:01,039

eyes from slightly different positions

648

00:25:05,590 --> 00:25:03,600

that that are both cameras that are

649

00:25:07,190 --> 00:25:05,600

looking at some distant object and we

650

00:25:09,029 --> 00:25:07,200

can kind of interpolate its distance

651  
00:25:11,029 --> 00:25:09,039  
from geometric means although it's all

652  
00:25:13,190 --> 00:25:11,039  
done internal to our head but i'm going

653  
00:25:14,630 --> 00:25:13,200  
to ask everyone it's kind of a goofy

654  
00:25:16,630 --> 00:25:14,640  
experiment but i think it's really

655  
00:25:18,070 --> 00:25:16,640  
illustrative uh so if you can follow

656  
00:25:20,710 --> 00:25:18,080  
along at home and do this i think it'll

657  
00:25:23,190 --> 00:25:20,720  
be helpful i want everyone to hold up a

658  
00:25:25,750 --> 00:25:23,200  
thumb in front of their head as goofy as

659  
00:25:28,310 --> 00:25:25,760  
it seems and then i want you to close

660  
00:25:29,510 --> 00:25:28,320  
one eye so like wink at it and look at

661  
00:25:32,549 --> 00:25:29,520  
your thumb

662  
00:25:34,390 --> 00:25:32,559  
and then uh switch so you're opening

663  
00:25:36,470 --> 00:25:34,400

that eye and closing the other eye and

664

00:25:38,710 --> 00:25:36,480

just kind of go back and forth and what

665

00:25:40,470 --> 00:25:38,720

you'll notice is your thumb appears to

666

00:25:42,470 --> 00:25:40,480

change position relative to the

667

00:25:44,470 --> 00:25:42,480

background objects behind it

668

00:25:46,070 --> 00:25:44,480

that is essentially the parallax method

669

00:25:48,230 --> 00:25:46,080

for determining distance if you move

670

00:25:50,870 --> 00:25:48,240

your thumb closer and do this again your

671

00:25:53,029 --> 00:25:50,880

thumb will appear to move more relative

672

00:25:54,710 --> 00:25:53,039

to the background objects and

673

00:25:56,549 --> 00:25:54,720

essentially what we do to determine

674

00:25:57,990 --> 00:25:56,559

distances to objects in space rather

675

00:26:00,549 --> 00:25:58,000

than just your thumb in front of your

676  
00:26:03,669 --> 00:26:00,559  
head is to do the same thing with

677  
00:26:05,830 --> 00:26:03,679  
observations of nearby stars so on the

678  
00:26:08,310 --> 00:26:05,840  
bottom of this cartoon we have the earth

679  
00:26:10,070 --> 00:26:08,320  
in its orbit around the sun

680  
00:26:11,830 --> 00:26:10,080  
and on the right side we see where the

681  
00:26:13,990 --> 00:26:11,840  
earth is in january and then on the left

682  
00:26:16,230 --> 00:26:14,000  
side in six months later it's where we

683  
00:26:18,070 --> 00:26:16,240  
are in july now we're trying to observe

684  
00:26:19,269 --> 00:26:18,080  
this nearby star kind of in the middle

685  
00:26:21,590 --> 00:26:19,279  
of the screen

686  
00:26:24,549 --> 00:26:21,600  
and when we look up at it in january we

687  
00:26:26,230 --> 00:26:24,559  
see that the nearby star relative to the

688  
00:26:28,549 --> 00:26:26,240

background stars here at the top of the

689

00:26:30,789 --> 00:26:28,559

screen puts it on the left side of those

690

00:26:33,269 --> 00:26:30,799

as we can see here on this left kind of

691

00:26:34,950 --> 00:26:33,279

inset panel here's our nearby star and

692

00:26:36,070 --> 00:26:34,960

it's on the left side but if we wait six

693

00:26:38,390 --> 00:26:36,080

months and then

694

00:26:40,710 --> 00:26:38,400

observe that same nearby star relative

695

00:26:42,310 --> 00:26:40,720

to those background stars we see now

696

00:26:44,230 --> 00:26:42,320

that it's on the right side of those

697

00:26:46,549 --> 00:26:44,240

stars simply due to

698

00:26:49,430 --> 00:26:46,559

our change in position over those six

699

00:26:51,909 --> 00:26:49,440

months as we orbit around the the sun

700

00:26:53,830 --> 00:26:51,919

and so you can you can see this exact

701  
00:26:56,149 --> 00:26:53,840  
same thing that we just did with our

702  
00:26:58,230 --> 00:26:56,159  
winking at our thumb to see its change

703  
00:27:00,549 --> 00:26:58,240  
in position this is how we determine the

704  
00:27:02,950 --> 00:27:00,559  
distance to stars um

705  
00:27:05,110 --> 00:27:02,960  
but it only works for stars that are

706  
00:27:08,070 --> 00:27:05,120  
reasonably close to us hundreds of

707  
00:27:09,830 --> 00:27:08,080  
parsecs although now with um with more

708  
00:27:12,230 --> 00:27:09,840  
sensitive missions like the gaia mission

709  
00:27:14,230 --> 00:27:12,240  
we can do this out to a few thousand

710  
00:27:15,909 --> 00:27:14,240  
light years away which has really opened

711  
00:27:17,510 --> 00:27:15,919  
up uh the precision with which we can

712  
00:27:19,830 --> 00:27:17,520  
measure distances but it's really the

713  
00:27:22,070 --> 00:27:19,840

basis with which we we determine the

714

00:27:23,190 --> 00:27:22,080

distance to objects but it's it's far

715

00:27:25,590 --> 00:27:23,200

too it

716

00:27:26,710 --> 00:27:25,600

stars need to be much much closer to us

717

00:27:29,430 --> 00:27:26,720

um

718

00:27:30,950 --> 00:27:29,440

than was possible at the time when when

719

00:27:33,269 --> 00:27:30,960

uh when people wanted to do this a

720

00:27:36,070 --> 00:27:33,279

hundred years ago so determining

721

00:27:39,190 --> 00:27:36,080

distance to more distant objects in

722

00:27:41,430 --> 00:27:39,200

space uh was really helped a great deal

723

00:27:43,909 --> 00:27:41,440

by this scientist henrietta levitt this

724

00:27:46,789 --> 00:27:43,919

uh prominent astronomer at the harvard

725

00:27:48,789 --> 00:27:46,799

observatory in the uh in the early 20th

726

00:27:50,389 --> 00:27:48,799

century and she identified this

727

00:27:53,269 --> 00:27:50,399

ingenious method for determining

728

00:27:55,350 --> 00:27:53,279

distance she identified a special kind

729

00:27:57,430 --> 00:27:55,360

of star called a variable star not all

730

00:27:59,029 --> 00:27:57,440

stars are this it's some small subset of

731

00:28:00,630 --> 00:27:59,039

stars but there's there's a decent

732

00:28:02,789 --> 00:28:00,640

number of them in the sky

733

00:28:06,549 --> 00:28:02,799

and what happens is

734

00:28:08,870 --> 00:28:06,559

they change they pulsate in in in size

735

00:28:10,470 --> 00:28:08,880

and they change their brightness and so

736

00:28:12,230 --> 00:28:10,480

they'll go from being bright to being a

737

00:28:13,750 --> 00:28:12,240

little bit fainter to being bright to

738

00:28:16,789 --> 00:28:13,760

being a little bit fainter and there's a

739

00:28:19,029 --> 00:28:16,799

very set period over which this this

740

00:28:20,630 --> 00:28:19,039

oscillation takes place on the order of

741

00:28:22,149 --> 00:28:20,640

a few days it'll be bright and then a

742

00:28:23,590 --> 00:28:22,159

couple days later it gets faint and then

743

00:28:25,510 --> 00:28:23,600

a few days later it gets bright and so

744

00:28:27,190 --> 00:28:25,520

on and so forth and

745

00:28:28,470 --> 00:28:27,200

that in itself is kind of interesting

746

00:28:31,190 --> 00:28:28,480

but the thing that makes it a really

747

00:28:33,350 --> 00:28:31,200

useful technique is that

748

00:28:36,950 --> 00:28:33,360

the period over which that oscillation

749

00:28:39,110 --> 00:28:36,960

occurs is directly tied to the intrinsic

750

00:28:41,269 --> 00:28:39,120

brightness of the star

751

00:28:43,269 --> 00:28:41,279

um it's like it's like it prints out

752

00:28:45,510 --> 00:28:43,279

that it's a 100 watt light bulb or a

753

00:28:48,149 --> 00:28:45,520

1000 watt light bulb because essentially

754

00:28:49,350 --> 00:28:48,159

the problem all boils down to this if if

755

00:28:51,750 --> 00:28:49,360

i walk out

756

00:28:54,230 --> 00:28:51,760

uh out of my house at night time and i

757

00:28:55,430 --> 00:28:54,240

look across the street and i see a light

758

00:28:57,990 --> 00:28:55,440

there

759

00:28:59,830 --> 00:28:58,000

i can't easily tell if it's a firefly

760

00:29:01,510 --> 00:28:59,840

that's five feet in front of my face or

761

00:29:03,990 --> 00:29:01,520

if it's a spotlight that's two miles

762

00:29:06,950 --> 00:29:04,000

down the road that's pointed at me but

763

00:29:09,669 --> 00:29:06,960

with this method this this variable star

764

00:29:12,310 --> 00:29:09,679

if i can observe that that star pulsing

765

00:29:13,350 --> 00:29:12,320

then i know it's intrinsic brightness

766

00:29:15,510 --> 00:29:13,360

and by

767

00:29:17,750 --> 00:29:15,520

uh looking at its apparent brightness i

768

00:29:19,750 --> 00:29:17,760

can i can put those two things together

769

00:29:21,590 --> 00:29:19,760

and i can back out the distance to that

770

00:29:24,710 --> 00:29:21,600

actual object

771

00:29:26,149 --> 00:29:24,720

which is incredibly useful and so um a

772

00:29:28,870 --> 00:29:26,159

person with whom you're probably

773

00:29:30,310 --> 00:29:28,880

familiar uh dr edwin hubble who the

774

00:29:31,590 --> 00:29:30,320

hubble space telescope of course is

775

00:29:33,590 --> 00:29:31,600

named after

776

00:29:36,230 --> 00:29:33,600

employed this technique that henrietta

777

00:29:38,950 --> 00:29:36,240

leavitt had identified um with the mount

778

00:29:41,430 --> 00:29:38,960

wilson 100 inch telescope right here in

779

00:29:43,750 --> 00:29:41,440

our backyard outside of pasadena

780

00:29:45,350 --> 00:29:43,760

and uh at the time it was for about 40

781

00:29:48,389 --> 00:29:45,360

years it was the largest telescope in

782

00:29:51,590 --> 00:29:48,399

the world and he pointed this telescope

783

00:29:53,990 --> 00:29:51,600

at uh at the great spiral nebula in

784

00:29:56,870 --> 00:29:54,000

andromeda and he identified some stars

785

00:29:58,549 --> 00:29:56,880

associated with that nebula and he's

786

00:30:00,789 --> 00:29:58,559

found some of the stars were variable

787

00:30:03,430 --> 00:30:00,799

stars and thus he was able to determine

788

00:30:04,070 --> 00:30:03,440

the distance to the great spiral nebula

789

00:30:06,149 --> 00:30:04,080

in

790

00:30:07,510 --> 00:30:06,159

uh andromeda and he identified that it

791

00:30:09,269 --> 00:30:07,520

was two and a half million light years

792

00:30:11,269 --> 00:30:09,279

away which was an enormous distance i

793

00:30:13,269 --> 00:30:11,279

mean it is an enormous distance

794

00:30:15,430 --> 00:30:13,279

and what that told us is that really

795

00:30:18,310 --> 00:30:15,440

settled the great debate and it said

796

00:30:20,950 --> 00:30:18,320

these objects are large and distant in

797

00:30:22,630 --> 00:30:20,960

fact much much farther away than we ever

798

00:30:24,389 --> 00:30:22,640

really like i said it's kind of

799

00:30:26,470 --> 00:30:24,399

unthinkable at the time that these

800

00:30:29,110 --> 00:30:26,480

things are as far away as they are and

801  
00:30:31,269 --> 00:30:29,120  
that each of these indeed is much like

802  
00:30:33,029 --> 00:30:31,279  
our own milky way galaxy

803  
00:30:35,750 --> 00:30:33,039  
and so these were redubbed instead of

804  
00:30:37,190 --> 00:30:35,760  
spiral nebulae they were called galaxies

805  
00:30:39,269 --> 00:30:37,200  
and that was really kind of the birth of

806  
00:30:41,510 --> 00:30:39,279  
our understanding of galaxies about a

807  
00:30:42,549 --> 00:30:41,520  
hundred years ago so thank you edwin

808  
00:30:44,710 --> 00:30:42,559  
hubble

809  
00:30:46,389 --> 00:30:44,720  
for that wonderful contribution

810  
00:30:48,549 --> 00:30:46,399  
um

811  
00:30:50,789 --> 00:30:48,559  
and and just to continue a little bit on

812  
00:30:52,789 --> 00:30:50,799  
edwin hubble that wasn't the only thing

813  
00:30:55,190 --> 00:30:52,799

that he's known for of course he's also

814

00:30:57,830 --> 00:30:55,200

known for identifying that those distant

815

00:31:00,230 --> 00:30:57,840

galaxies are actually traveling away

816

00:31:01,110 --> 00:31:00,240

from us this is a cartoon showing that

817

00:31:03,269 --> 00:31:01,120

um

818

00:31:04,389 --> 00:31:03,279

again this is us in the milky way kind

819

00:31:06,149 --> 00:31:04,399

of in the center

820

00:31:08,710 --> 00:31:06,159

of this plot although not necessarily

821

00:31:11,029 --> 00:31:08,720

the center of the universe and and he

822

00:31:12,950 --> 00:31:11,039

identified that each of these galaxies

823

00:31:14,789 --> 00:31:12,960

is traveling away from us

824

00:31:16,789 --> 00:31:14,799

um and the ones that are farther away

825

00:31:18,389 --> 00:31:16,799

from us are traveling faster away from

826

00:31:20,710 --> 00:31:18,399

us which is kind of

827

00:31:22,710 --> 00:31:20,720

weird like why is everybody running away

828

00:31:24,630 --> 00:31:22,720

but it turns out that there's a a pretty

829

00:31:25,830 --> 00:31:24,640

reasonable explanation for this and it's

830

00:31:28,789 --> 00:31:25,840

not that we're the center of the

831

00:31:32,470 --> 00:31:28,799

universe it's simply that the universe

832

00:31:33,590 --> 00:31:32,480

itself like space itself is expanding

833

00:31:35,590 --> 00:31:33,600

and so

834

00:31:37,110 --> 00:31:35,600

um it isn't that we're special here in

835

00:31:39,430 --> 00:31:37,120

the u in the center of the universe if

836

00:31:41,590 --> 00:31:39,440

you were at the in a gal in any of these

837

00:31:43,830 --> 00:31:41,600

galaxies you would observe all those

838

00:31:45,830 --> 00:31:43,840

other galaxies traveling away from you

839

00:31:48,310 --> 00:31:45,840

as well because it's the space that's

840

00:31:50,310 --> 00:31:48,320

expanding not that everything's like

841

00:31:51,430 --> 00:31:50,320

just moving within that space away from

842

00:31:53,190 --> 00:31:51,440

us

843

00:31:55,909 --> 00:31:53,200

and the example that oftentimes gets

844

00:31:58,470 --> 00:31:55,919

used for this is imagine you have uh

845

00:32:00,310 --> 00:31:58,480

you're you're baking a blueberry muffin

846

00:32:02,710 --> 00:32:00,320

in the oven now of course you have your

847

00:32:04,710 --> 00:32:02,720

dough and it's it's all runny and and

848

00:32:07,430 --> 00:32:04,720

doughy and it has little blueberries in

849

00:32:09,190 --> 00:32:07,440

it and when you put it in to the oven

850

00:32:11,590 --> 00:32:09,200

you turn up the heat the yeast that's

851  
00:32:13,590 --> 00:32:11,600  
present in that dough starts to expand

852  
00:32:16,070 --> 00:32:13,600  
causing the dough to expand much like

853  
00:32:19,269 --> 00:32:16,080  
here space is expanding so from the

854  
00:32:23,430 --> 00:32:19,279  
perspective of any blueberry in that

855  
00:32:25,350 --> 00:32:23,440  
that leavening blueberry muffin the uh

856  
00:32:27,110 --> 00:32:25,360  
the other blueberries are moving away

857  
00:32:29,029 --> 00:32:27,120  
from it not because they're they're

858  
00:32:31,029 --> 00:32:29,039  
actually moving away but because the the

859  
00:32:33,509 --> 00:32:31,039  
dough itself is expanding between them

860  
00:32:36,230 --> 00:32:33,519  
and the other blueberries so that's i

861  
00:32:37,750 --> 00:32:36,240  
think that's a pretty apt uh

862  
00:32:39,509 --> 00:32:37,760  
analogy that's that's good for

863  
00:32:41,669 --> 00:32:39,519

visualizing what the heck is happening

864

00:32:43,190 --> 00:32:41,679

and that's not the only

865

00:32:45,190 --> 00:32:43,200

piece of evidence that we have for the

866

00:32:46,870 --> 00:32:45,200

big bang there are a number of different

867

00:32:48,789 --> 00:32:46,880

pieces but that was kind of the the

868

00:32:51,830 --> 00:32:48,799

first and

869

00:32:53,990 --> 00:32:51,840

and um and a very strong you know

870

00:32:55,590 --> 00:32:54,000

suggestion of what's going on and why

871

00:32:57,750 --> 00:32:55,600

why the universe behaves the way it

872

00:32:59,750 --> 00:32:57,760

seems to be behaving

873

00:33:01,590 --> 00:32:59,760

this is just a plot that was

874

00:33:04,149 --> 00:33:01,600

from edwin hubble's paper because it's

875

00:33:06,630 --> 00:33:04,159

nice to show actual scientific results

876

00:33:09,430 --> 00:33:06,640

on the x-axis this bottom line is the

877

00:33:11,430 --> 00:33:09,440

distance away that a galaxy is from us

878

00:33:13,190 --> 00:33:11,440

and on the y-axis it's the speed at

879

00:33:15,350 --> 00:33:13,200

which it's traveling away from us and

880

00:33:17,909 --> 00:33:15,360

all the individual dots are galaxies and

881

00:33:20,470 --> 00:33:17,919

you can see that as you go farther away

882

00:33:22,230 --> 00:33:20,480

from us the dra the the dots are higher

883

00:33:24,310 --> 00:33:22,240

up meaning that they're traveling faster

884

00:33:25,590 --> 00:33:24,320

away from us and this is kind of this is

885

00:33:27,110 --> 00:33:25,600

constraining

886

00:33:28,950 --> 00:33:27,120

the rate at which the universe is

887

00:33:30,549 --> 00:33:28,960

expanding called the the hubble

888

00:33:31,750 --> 00:33:30,559

expansion or the hubble constant

889

00:33:33,909 --> 00:33:31,760

everything gets named after hubble

890

00:33:36,549 --> 00:33:33,919

because he did so many contributions but

891

00:33:41,190 --> 00:33:36,559

it really is kind of worthwhile um and

892

00:33:43,350 --> 00:33:41,200

really transformed our idea of of space

893

00:33:45,590 --> 00:33:43,360

so that's that's how i mean i'm a big

894

00:33:48,230 --> 00:33:45,600

fan of edwin and that's how you get a

895

00:33:51,190 --> 00:33:48,240

space telescope named after you so um so

896

00:33:53,750 --> 00:33:51,200

good job good job edwin hubble okay

897

00:33:55,669 --> 00:33:53,760

so yeah here here we are the the hubble

898

00:33:57,669 --> 00:33:55,679

space telescope and the in the flesh

899

00:33:59,269 --> 00:33:57,679

hopefully long live the hubble space

900

00:34:01,750 --> 00:33:59,279

telescope i use it a lot for my research

901  
00:34:04,070 --> 00:34:01,760  
so um hopefully it will continue to

902  
00:34:06,070 --> 00:34:04,080  
operate for a long period in the future

903  
00:34:07,830 --> 00:34:06,080  
so a quick summary so far of the history

904  
00:34:10,230 --> 00:34:07,840  
of what this all is uh you know there's

905  
00:34:11,750 --> 00:34:10,240  
a lot of stuff in the sky including

906  
00:34:13,990 --> 00:34:11,760  
these smudges that were originally

907  
00:34:15,829 --> 00:34:14,000  
called spiral nebulae which we now

908  
00:34:18,950 --> 00:34:15,839  
understand are actually galaxies like

909  
00:34:21,349 --> 00:34:18,960  
our own milky way galaxy um the universe

910  
00:34:23,109 --> 00:34:21,359  
isn't is enormous you know we see these

911  
00:34:24,869 --> 00:34:23,119  
galaxies

912  
00:34:26,790 --> 00:34:24,879  
a long ways away from us and we see on

913  
00:34:28,230 --> 00:34:26,800

the order of like 200 billion well we

914

00:34:30,310 --> 00:34:28,240

see on the order of 100 billion but we

915

00:34:32,310 --> 00:34:30,320

think that there's probably 200 plus

916

00:34:33,669 --> 00:34:32,320

billion of these objects in the sky and

917

00:34:35,109 --> 00:34:33,679

that the universe is expanding and

918

00:34:37,270 --> 00:34:35,119

getting even bigger with time and then

919

00:34:38,710 --> 00:34:37,280

yeah edwin hubble's pretty pretty cool

920

00:34:39,510 --> 00:34:38,720

dude

921

00:34:40,869 --> 00:34:39,520

okay

922

00:34:42,790 --> 00:34:40,879

so we've talked a lot about what

923

00:34:45,430 --> 00:34:42,800

galaxies you know

924

00:34:46,629 --> 00:34:45,440

what they aren't but what are they uh

925

00:34:48,470 --> 00:34:46,639

this is an image that you may be

926  
00:34:50,629 --> 00:34:48,480  
familiar with every

927  
00:34:53,030 --> 00:34:50,639  
apple macintosh computer had this as its

928  
00:34:55,349 --> 00:34:53,040  
background for a period in the past and

929  
00:34:58,150 --> 00:34:55,359  
it's kind of a an edited version of the

930  
00:35:00,069 --> 00:34:58,160  
andromeda galaxy they they took some

931  
00:35:02,710 --> 00:35:00,079  
artistic liberties in making this image

932  
00:35:04,150 --> 00:35:02,720  
but but nonetheless this is a galaxy and

933  
00:35:05,990 --> 00:35:04,160  
this is actually a proposed image of

934  
00:35:08,470 --> 00:35:06,000  
what our own milky way galaxy looks like

935  
00:35:10,630 --> 00:35:08,480  
if we were looking down on it you can

936  
00:35:12,790 --> 00:35:10,640  
probably make out this little label here

937  
00:35:15,430 --> 00:35:12,800  
for earth the earth and the sun and the

938  
00:35:17,349 --> 00:35:15,440

solar system we uh we believe is about

939

00:35:19,510 --> 00:35:17,359

halfway out in the disc and it's in one

940

00:35:21,829 --> 00:35:19,520

of these spiral arms

941

00:35:24,630 --> 00:35:21,839

um we can talk more about why we believe

942

00:35:26,790 --> 00:35:24,640

that uh later on

943

00:35:29,910 --> 00:35:26,800

but what is a galaxy really it's just a

944

00:35:31,349 --> 00:35:29,920

collection of stars and gas so the the

945

00:35:33,910 --> 00:35:31,359

light that we see is coming from

946

00:35:35,589 --> 00:35:33,920

individual stars uh that as i said

947

00:35:37,430 --> 00:35:35,599

oftentimes blends together into that

948

00:35:40,870 --> 00:35:37,440

milky way band across the sky there's

949

00:35:42,310 --> 00:35:40,880

also dust that's present um

950

00:35:44,230 --> 00:35:42,320

and it's quite large you know there's

951  
00:35:46,550 --> 00:35:44,240  
there's like a hundred billion stars or

952  
00:35:49,910 --> 00:35:46,560  
so and it's around 100 000 light years

953  
00:35:51,910 --> 00:35:49,920  
across in terms of the disc itself

954  
00:35:53,589 --> 00:35:51,920  
but um

955  
00:35:55,829 --> 00:35:53,599  
you can obviously tell that there's some

956  
00:35:57,589 --> 00:35:55,839  
rotation and spin associated with this

957  
00:35:59,510 --> 00:35:57,599  
object just based on the spiral and that

958  
00:36:01,270 --> 00:35:59,520  
is true we we can measure the spin

959  
00:36:03,270 --> 00:36:01,280  
associated with our own galaxy as well

960  
00:36:05,829 --> 00:36:03,280  
as other distant galaxies

961  
00:36:07,829 --> 00:36:05,839  
and much like any rotating object there

962  
00:36:09,829 --> 00:36:07,839  
has to be a force that's holding it

963  
00:36:11,670 --> 00:36:09,839

together if you get on a

964

00:36:14,150 --> 00:36:11,680

carousel or a merry-go-round and it

965

00:36:16,310 --> 00:36:14,160

starts going too fast you're gonna fly

966

00:36:18,230 --> 00:36:16,320

right off the side right so there has to

967

00:36:20,470 --> 00:36:18,240

be a force that's holding this together

968

00:36:23,030 --> 00:36:20,480

or else it'll just fling itself apart

969

00:36:25,270 --> 00:36:23,040

and that force is gravity

970

00:36:27,670 --> 00:36:25,280

so let's really quickly just talk about

971

00:36:29,430 --> 00:36:27,680

gravity since it's so important um

972

00:36:30,950 --> 00:36:29,440

gravity everyone has an idea of what

973

00:36:32,470 --> 00:36:30,960

gravity is it's the force that holds us

974

00:36:34,310 --> 00:36:32,480

to the earth but it holds us to the

975

00:36:35,829 --> 00:36:34,320

earth from regardless

976

00:36:38,470 --> 00:36:35,839

of where we're standing on the earth

977

00:36:40,790 --> 00:36:38,480

because it's an attractive force

978

00:36:42,470 --> 00:36:40,800

not only are we being pulled down to the

979

00:36:43,990 --> 00:36:42,480

earth but we're pulling back the earth

980

00:36:46,069 --> 00:36:44,000

is getting pulled back to each and every

981

00:36:49,030 --> 00:36:46,079

one of you although it's not a very high

982

00:36:51,030 --> 00:36:49,040

magnitude force because we ourselves

983

00:36:53,750 --> 00:36:51,040

don't have a lot of mass relative to the

984

00:36:55,430 --> 00:36:53,760

earth um but really gravity is just an

985

00:36:57,670 --> 00:36:55,440

attractive force that pulls any two

986

00:36:59,589 --> 00:36:57,680

objects that have mass towards each

987

00:37:01,750 --> 00:36:59,599

other and that mass increases as they

988

00:37:03,349 --> 00:37:01,760

get closer together and as those masses

989

00:37:05,670 --> 00:37:03,359

increase and that was identified by

990

00:37:07,750 --> 00:37:05,680

isaac newton around 400 years ago one of

991

00:37:09,670 --> 00:37:07,760

his major contributions to to the world

992

00:37:11,910 --> 00:37:09,680

of astronomy and physics

993

00:37:13,510 --> 00:37:11,920

so that's how gravity works so gravity

994

00:37:18,710 --> 00:37:13,520

is really the force that's holding

995

00:37:21,910 --> 00:37:19,990

so it's a gravitationally bound

996

00:37:24,390 --> 00:37:21,920

collection of stars and gas but it turns

997

00:37:26,390 --> 00:37:24,400

out if you count up all the stars and

998

00:37:28,790 --> 00:37:26,400

gas in a galaxy

999

00:37:31,430 --> 00:37:28,800

and figure out how uh quickly it's

1000

00:37:33,030 --> 00:37:31,440

rotating and how much gravity like mass

1001  
00:37:35,430 --> 00:37:33,040  
needs to be there to hold the galaxy

1002  
00:37:37,510 --> 00:37:35,440  
together it's not enough it's not enough

1003  
00:37:39,430 --> 00:37:37,520  
by a long shot it's like

1004  
00:37:41,510 --> 00:37:39,440  
some galaxies it's too low by a factor

1005  
00:37:44,630 --> 00:37:41,520  
of 10 some galaxies it's too low by a

1006  
00:37:46,870 --> 00:37:44,640  
factor of a thousand there's some unseen

1007  
00:37:49,430 --> 00:37:46,880  
mass that needs to be present to hold

1008  
00:37:50,870 --> 00:37:49,440  
the galaxy together at the rate at which

1009  
00:37:52,310 --> 00:37:50,880  
it's spinning or else it would fling

1010  
00:37:55,750 --> 00:37:52,320  
itself apart

1011  
00:37:58,069 --> 00:37:55,760  
and that unseen mass is referred to as

1012  
00:38:00,390 --> 00:37:58,079  
dark matter and that uh that discovery

1013  
00:38:02,069 --> 00:38:00,400

was made uh largely by vera rubin

1014

00:38:03,990 --> 00:38:02,079

there's a new telescope coming out named

1015

00:38:07,750 --> 00:38:04,000

after vera rubin the vera rumen uh

1016

00:38:09,670 --> 00:38:07,760

telescope in chile and um

1017

00:38:11,990 --> 00:38:09,680

we see this in basically all the

1018

00:38:13,990 --> 00:38:12,000

galaxies out there that there's uh

1019

00:38:17,270 --> 00:38:14,000

there's not enough mass that's present

1020

00:38:19,910 --> 00:38:17,280

in in their visible components

1021

00:38:22,310 --> 00:38:19,920

to to hold them together which is why we

1022

00:38:23,510 --> 00:38:22,320

have to invoke this unseen mysterious

1023

00:38:29,589 --> 00:38:23,520

dark matter

1024

00:38:31,750 --> 00:38:29,599

now the kind of

1025

00:38:34,390 --> 00:38:31,760

paradigm is that dark matter is some

1026

00:38:36,790 --> 00:38:34,400

sort of subatomic particle like an

1027

00:38:38,870 --> 00:38:36,800

electron or a proton that happens to

1028

00:38:41,030 --> 00:38:38,880

weigh quite a bit but doesn't interact

1029

00:38:43,030 --> 00:38:41,040

through electromagnetic or nuclear

1030

00:38:45,109 --> 00:38:43,040

forces it only interacts gravitationally

1031

00:38:46,950 --> 00:38:45,119

but this hasn't yet been like confirmed

1032

00:38:48,470 --> 00:38:46,960

but it's super super hard to detect

1033

00:38:49,910 --> 00:38:48,480

these things because they only interact

1034

00:38:51,430 --> 00:38:49,920

gravitationally so

1035

00:38:52,950 --> 00:38:51,440

stay tuned hopefully that's a problem

1036

00:38:54,470 --> 00:38:52,960

that will be solved

1037

00:38:57,670 --> 00:38:54,480

in my lifetime

1038

00:38:58,790 --> 00:38:57,680

but it's it's definitely a hard problem

1039

00:39:01,430 --> 00:38:58,800

okay

1040

00:39:04,470 --> 00:39:01,440

so what do we know about galaxies from

1041

00:39:06,230 --> 00:39:04,480

observations here's a famous image that

1042

00:39:08,470 --> 00:39:06,240

people are probably familiar with called

1043

00:39:10,470 --> 00:39:08,480

the hubble ultra deep field um it was an

1044

00:39:13,190 --> 00:39:10,480

image taken of a

1045

00:39:16,230 --> 00:39:13,200

a very long exposure image taken of the

1046

00:39:18,470 --> 00:39:16,240

sky a small region of the sky and every

1047

00:39:21,589 --> 00:39:18,480

image in this particular i'm sorry every

1048

00:39:24,069 --> 00:39:21,599

object in this image is a galaxy and you

1049

00:39:26,470 --> 00:39:24,079

can see a huge diversity in the types of

1050

00:39:28,710 --> 00:39:26,480

galaxies that are present you see uh you

1051  
00:39:30,790 --> 00:39:28,720  
know this kind of whitish spiral galaxy

1052  
00:39:33,270 --> 00:39:30,800  
you see very blue objects you see very

1053  
00:39:34,230 --> 00:39:33,280  
red objects you see um

1054  
00:39:35,990 --> 00:39:34,240  
kind of

1055  
00:39:37,670 --> 00:39:36,000  
ellipses

1056  
00:39:39,510 --> 00:39:37,680  
kind of weird looking things this looks

1057  
00:39:42,230 --> 00:39:39,520  
a bit like tadpoles i mean there's

1058  
00:39:45,109 --> 00:39:42,240  
there's all kinds of stuff going on here

1059  
00:39:47,349 --> 00:39:45,119  
and so astronomers have come up with a

1060  
00:39:49,349 --> 00:39:47,359  
taxonomy to kind of break this down and

1061  
00:39:51,829 --> 00:39:49,359  
classify these into

1062  
00:39:54,470 --> 00:39:51,839  
into different types

1063  
00:39:57,349 --> 00:39:54,480

so the main types there are two main

1064

00:39:59,190 --> 00:39:57,359

types that people really break it down

1065

00:40:01,109 --> 00:39:59,200

into and that is

1066

00:40:04,470 --> 00:40:01,119

red ellipticals you can see there's like

1067

00:40:06,470 --> 00:40:04,480

a reddish tinge to these these systems

1068

00:40:08,150 --> 00:40:06,480

and it's a it's an elliptical because it

1069

00:40:10,470 --> 00:40:08,160

looks like an ellipse now i tend to

1070

00:40:11,990 --> 00:40:10,480

think of things in food analogies

1071

00:40:14,309 --> 00:40:12,000

because i like food

1072

00:40:16,150 --> 00:40:14,319

so i think of these in terms of eggs it

1073

00:40:18,630 --> 00:40:16,160

looks kind of like a hard-boiled egg

1074

00:40:20,230 --> 00:40:18,640

it's just a single component

1075

00:40:22,069 --> 00:40:20,240

and keep in mind the glowing light that

1076

00:40:23,829 --> 00:40:22,079

we're seeing is starlight all that light

1077

00:40:25,829 --> 00:40:23,839

is stars that are very distant and

1078

00:40:27,990 --> 00:40:25,839

numerous and kind of blend together but

1079

00:40:30,470 --> 00:40:28,000

they make up this kind of elliptical

1080

00:40:33,030 --> 00:40:30,480

looking structure

1081

00:40:35,190 --> 00:40:33,040

similarly the other major type are blue

1082

00:40:38,470 --> 00:40:35,200

spirals much like the andromeda galaxy

1083

00:40:40,150 --> 00:40:38,480

is or the milky way is it has a bit more

1084

00:40:42,150 --> 00:40:40,160

structure to it there's the disc

1085

00:40:44,069 --> 00:40:42,160

component with the spiral structure and

1086

00:40:46,150 --> 00:40:44,079

then there's the bulge in the center

1087

00:40:48,069 --> 00:40:46,160

which is kind of like well again going

1088

00:40:49,990 --> 00:40:48,079

back to the egg analogy it's kind of

1089

00:40:51,670 --> 00:40:50,000

like the yolk in the center of a fried

1090

00:40:53,430 --> 00:40:51,680

egg so you've got your flat disk

1091

00:40:55,589 --> 00:40:53,440

component and then you've got your yoke

1092

00:40:58,870 --> 00:40:55,599

as the bulge in the center and again

1093

00:41:00,550 --> 00:40:58,880

that's all starlight um it's just stars

1094

00:41:03,510 --> 00:41:00,560

on different orbits that make up these

1095

00:41:06,630 --> 00:41:03,520

two like yoke and disk component or

1096

00:41:08,950 --> 00:41:06,640

bulge and disk component

1097

00:41:11,109 --> 00:41:08,960

and then there's kind of a catch-all

1098

00:41:12,710 --> 00:41:11,119

category that catches the things that

1099

00:41:15,030 --> 00:41:12,720

aren't red ellipticals and aren't blue

1100

00:41:17,030 --> 00:41:15,040

spirals and that is the irregular

1101  
00:41:19,670 --> 00:41:17,040  
galaxies and these are just all sorts of

1102  
00:41:22,470 --> 00:41:19,680  
morphological types all manner of weird

1103  
00:41:24,230 --> 00:41:22,480  
shapes they tend to be very blue and i

1104  
00:41:26,069 --> 00:41:24,240  
just refer to those as scrambled eggs

1105  
00:41:27,670 --> 00:41:26,079  
because they're just they're just a mess

1106  
00:41:30,710 --> 00:41:27,680  
and they just don't easily fit into

1107  
00:41:33,270 --> 00:41:30,720  
those two other categories

1108  
00:41:34,870 --> 00:41:33,280  
so you can see examples of this in the

1109  
00:41:36,950 --> 00:41:34,880  
hubble ultra deep field but we

1110  
00:41:38,950 --> 00:41:36,960  
definitely see this um these three

1111  
00:41:41,349 --> 00:41:38,960  
different types when we look up in the

1112  
00:41:43,990 --> 00:41:41,359  
sky at the like i said 100 billion or so

1113  
00:41:45,589 --> 00:41:44,000

galaxies that have been identified

1114

00:41:47,750 --> 00:41:45,599

but what else do we know about galaxies

1115

00:41:49,589 --> 00:41:47,760

from observations we know you know you

1116

00:41:51,750 --> 00:41:49,599

might naively just think that galaxies

1117

00:41:53,510 --> 00:41:51,760

are randomly distributed distributed

1118

00:41:55,349 --> 00:41:53,520

through the sky but it turns out that

1119

00:41:57,349 --> 00:41:55,359

there's not there's actually structure

1120

00:41:59,030 --> 00:41:57,359

there and this is a nice movie that was

1121

00:42:00,710 --> 00:41:59,040

put together by the sloan digital sky

1122

00:42:02,470 --> 00:42:00,720

survey um

1123

00:42:05,190 --> 00:42:02,480

uh visualization team

1124

00:42:07,190 --> 00:42:05,200

showing the distribution of galaxies in

1125

00:42:09,190 --> 00:42:07,200

the sky now obviously we aren't able to

1126

00:42:11,750 --> 00:42:09,200

fly through galaxies at this speed this

1127

00:42:14,550 --> 00:42:11,760

is super luminal speed but you can see

1128

00:42:17,349 --> 00:42:14,560

but this is real data from from this

1129

00:42:19,510 --> 00:42:17,359

star survey uh and galactic survey and

1130

00:42:21,510 --> 00:42:19,520

you can see that galaxies are not

1131

00:42:23,109 --> 00:42:21,520

randomly distributed there's clumps like

1132

00:42:25,190 --> 00:42:23,119

this clump here

1133

00:42:27,430 --> 00:42:25,200

and then there's like kind of like

1134

00:42:30,069 --> 00:42:27,440

rope-like structures here's like a rope

1135

00:42:32,309 --> 00:42:30,079

of these things right across here and

1136

00:42:34,309 --> 00:42:32,319

where the ropes coincide then you get

1137

00:42:35,670 --> 00:42:34,319

nodes where there's a clump of material

1138

00:42:38,390 --> 00:42:35,680

and then there's voids kind of

1139

00:42:40,870 --> 00:42:38,400

separating these filaments and this is

1140

00:42:42,710 --> 00:42:40,880

what's known as the cosmic web because

1141

00:42:44,710 --> 00:42:42,720

it looks kind of like a spider web like

1142

00:42:47,589 --> 00:42:44,720

a 3d weird

1143

00:42:48,790 --> 00:42:47,599

you know drunk spider made this kind of

1144

00:42:51,430 --> 00:42:48,800

spiderweb

1145

00:42:53,829 --> 00:42:51,440

and it really describes the distribution

1146

00:42:56,309 --> 00:42:53,839

of galaxies and thus the distribution of

1147

00:42:58,630 --> 00:42:56,319

matter throughout the universe on very

1148

00:43:00,230 --> 00:42:58,640

large scales

1149

00:43:02,710 --> 00:43:00,240

yeah this visualization is really great

1150

00:43:04,550 --> 00:43:02,720

i love this um

1151

00:43:06,710 --> 00:43:04,560

so this is kind of a 2d flattening of

1152

00:43:08,630 --> 00:43:06,720

the results of that so each point is a

1153

00:43:10,630 --> 00:43:08,640

galaxy in the center is the earth and

1154

00:43:13,030 --> 00:43:10,640

the sun and we're looking out into the

1155

00:43:15,190 --> 00:43:13,040

universe and you can see that it has

1156

00:43:17,349 --> 00:43:15,200

this kind of web-like structure you see

1157

00:43:19,670 --> 00:43:17,359

filaments you see uh kind of some

1158

00:43:21,270 --> 00:43:19,680

two-dimensional flat sheets and then you

1159

00:43:23,349 --> 00:43:21,280

see where those filaments cross you see

1160

00:43:26,230 --> 00:43:23,359

clusters and that's really describing

1161

00:43:28,069 --> 00:43:26,240

the large-scale distribution of matter

1162

00:43:28,870 --> 00:43:28,079

throughout the universe

1163

00:43:31,829 --> 00:43:28,880

but

1164

00:43:33,750 --> 00:43:31,839

that's kind of weird right so um so what

1165

00:43:35,430 --> 00:43:33,760

do we know from galaxy about galaxies

1166

00:43:37,109 --> 00:43:35,440

from observations alone well we know

1167

00:43:38,630 --> 00:43:37,119

that these are groups of stars and gas

1168

00:43:39,750 --> 00:43:38,640

and dark matter they're gravitationally

1169

00:43:41,030 --> 00:43:39,760

bound

1170

00:43:42,470 --> 00:43:41,040

there's a bunch of these objects

1171

00:43:45,190 --> 00:43:42,480

throughout the universe there's this

1172

00:43:46,870 --> 00:43:45,200

huge population that's very diverse but

1173

00:43:48,950 --> 00:43:46,880

we can broadly break it down into

1174

00:43:50,870 --> 00:43:48,960

ellipticals and spirals and then finally

1175

00:43:53,670 --> 00:43:50,880

that has this weird web-like

1176

00:43:55,510 --> 00:43:53,680

distribution in space but of course the

1177

00:43:56,390 --> 00:43:55,520

the question that arises from this is

1178

00:43:57,990 --> 00:43:56,400

like

1179

00:44:01,109 --> 00:43:58,000

why right

1180

00:44:05,589 --> 00:44:01,119

and observations alone it's very hard to

1181

00:44:07,589 --> 00:44:05,599

answer why this is the way it is because

1182

00:44:10,470 --> 00:44:07,599

the time scales over which galaxies

1183

00:44:12,309 --> 00:44:10,480

change are very very slow

1184

00:44:13,910 --> 00:44:12,319

if you think about the earth and its

1185

00:44:15,589 --> 00:44:13,920

orbit around the sun

1186

00:44:16,870 --> 00:44:15,599

it takes a year for the earth to go

1187

00:44:18,950 --> 00:44:16,880

around the sun i mean that's how we

1188

00:44:19,829 --> 00:44:18,960

define a year right

1189

00:44:21,510 --> 00:44:19,839

um

1190

00:44:23,829 --> 00:44:21,520

but like the earth orbiting around the

1191

00:44:25,829 --> 00:44:23,839

sun our entire solar system composed of

1192

00:44:27,510 --> 00:44:25,839

the sun and the planets and the earth

1193

00:44:29,510 --> 00:44:27,520

and so on and so forth is orbiting

1194

00:44:30,950 --> 00:44:29,520

around the center of the milky way

1195

00:44:33,109 --> 00:44:30,960

galaxy

1196

00:44:36,550 --> 00:44:33,119

but instead of it taking a year to make

1197

00:44:38,790 --> 00:44:36,560

one full orbit it takes like roughly 250

1198

00:44:40,950 --> 00:44:38,800

million years it takes a very very long

1199

00:44:43,670 --> 00:44:40,960

period to make a full orbit and that

1200

00:44:45,270 --> 00:44:43,680

time scale is pretty representative of

1201

00:44:46,790 --> 00:44:45,280

the time scales associated with these

1202

00:44:49,270 --> 00:44:46,800

distant galaxies just because they're so

1203

00:44:50,710 --> 00:44:49,280

big and they're only moving so quickly

1204

00:44:53,670 --> 00:44:50,720

so you know

1205

00:44:55,750 --> 00:44:53,680

i can't see a galaxy

1206

00:44:58,230 --> 00:44:55,760

and and follow its evolution in real

1207

00:44:59,990 --> 00:44:58,240

time because i'm only going to live well

1208

00:45:01,349 --> 00:45:00,000

i i don't know i'm not going to live too

1209

00:45:03,670 --> 00:45:01,359

long if i spend that much time in the

1210

00:45:05,109 --> 00:45:03,680

desert but um i'm only going to live you

1211

00:45:07,670 --> 00:45:05,119

know humans only live on the order of

1212

00:45:09,430 --> 00:45:07,680

100 years if they're lucky right and

1213

00:45:11,349 --> 00:45:09,440

these things are changing over millions

1214

00:45:13,349 --> 00:45:11,359

or hundreds of million year time scale

1215

00:45:14,309 --> 00:45:13,359

so we just don't even have

1216

00:45:21,190 --> 00:45:14,319

the

1217

00:45:22,870 --> 00:45:21,200

very long time scales from just

1218

00:45:24,309 --> 00:45:22,880

observations alone so i don't know if

1219

00:45:26,950 --> 00:45:24,319

that galaxy is going to turn into that

1220

00:45:28,390 --> 00:45:26,960

galaxy at some other point in time just

1221

00:45:29,990 --> 00:45:28,400

because we don't have enough time to

1222

00:45:33,510 --> 00:45:30,000

watch it

1223

00:45:35,510 --> 00:45:33,520

enter in theory and simulations to to

1224

00:45:37,190 --> 00:45:35,520

better understand how

1225

00:45:40,390 --> 00:45:37,200

one galaxy might change to another

1226

00:45:44,230 --> 00:45:42,230

um so this is the stuff that i do in

1227

00:45:47,109 --> 00:45:44,240

terms of my research and many of my

1228

00:45:49,270 --> 00:45:47,119

colleagues uh do

1229

00:45:52,230 --> 00:45:49,280

and and and frank was involved in doing

1230

00:45:54,950 --> 00:45:52,240

as well um so how do we simulate

1231

00:45:56,630 --> 00:45:54,960

physical systems in general um i'm going

1232

00:45:57,990 --> 00:45:56,640

to apply this to astrophysics and

1233

00:45:59,430 --> 00:45:58,000

galaxies but

1234

00:46:01,829 --> 00:45:59,440

in general it's kind of like the

1235

00:46:03,589 --> 00:46:01,839

scientific method we write a computer

1236

00:46:05,750 --> 00:46:03,599

program that represents some sort of

1237

00:46:08,150 --> 00:46:05,760

virtual space inside of our computer

1238

00:46:10,309 --> 00:46:08,160

where we can like a sandbox where we can

1239

00:46:11,910 --> 00:46:10,319

monkey around inside the confines of

1240

00:46:13,589 --> 00:46:11,920

this virtual space

1241

00:46:17,190 --> 00:46:13,599

we include we'd like to include all

1242

00:46:18,550 --> 00:46:17,200

physics that we can uh but unfortunately

1243

00:46:20,230 --> 00:46:18,560

it would be computationally too

1244

00:46:22,069 --> 00:46:20,240

expensive and we wouldn't be able to

1245

00:46:23,829 --> 00:46:22,079

make much progress even running on the

1246

00:46:25,990 --> 00:46:23,839

fastest supercomputers that we have

1247

00:46:28,150 --> 00:46:26,000

access to so we only can include the

1248

00:46:29,990 --> 00:46:28,160

dominant physics that operates on these

1249

00:46:32,470 --> 00:46:30,000

sorts of scales now for these large

1250

00:46:34,230 --> 00:46:32,480

scales and astrophysics the main physics

1251

00:46:36,069 --> 00:46:34,240

that we want to include are our good

1252

00:46:37,750 --> 00:46:36,079

and gravity that we already talked

1253

00:46:40,309 --> 00:46:37,760

about before because that really

1254

00:46:43,589 --> 00:46:40,319

dominates on large scales and fluid

1255

00:46:45,430 --> 00:46:43,599

dynamics fluids like how uh the seas you

1256

00:46:48,069 --> 00:46:45,440

know the currents in our oceans operate

1257

00:46:49,990 --> 00:46:48,079

but also how our atmosphere like gases

1258

00:46:52,950 --> 00:46:50,000

largely behave as fluids at high enough

1259

00:46:55,510 --> 00:46:52,960

density um so the planets have fluid

1260

00:46:57,829 --> 00:46:55,520

dynamics and the trifold nebula you know

1261

00:47:00,309 --> 00:46:57,839

other gas clouds throughout the universe

1262

00:47:02,150 --> 00:47:00,319

much of the universe can be approximated

1263

00:47:04,470 --> 00:47:02,160

by the fluid equations in the same

1264

00:47:07,670 --> 00:47:04,480

equations that approximate how water

1265

00:47:11,270 --> 00:47:09,670

then we create some sort of starting

1266

00:47:13,910 --> 00:47:11,280

point for our simulation some initial

1267

00:47:15,589 --> 00:47:13,920

condition initial distribution of matter

1268

00:47:17,589 --> 00:47:15,599

we run the simulation forward

1269

00:47:19,589 --> 00:47:17,599

accelerating time so it's faster than

1270

00:47:21,589 --> 00:47:19,599

real time so we can have like

1271

00:47:23,990 --> 00:47:21,599

you know instead of a second only a

1272

00:47:27,190 --> 00:47:24,000

second goes by a second p can be 100

1273

00:47:28,790 --> 00:47:27,200

years or a million years go by

1274

00:47:30,549 --> 00:47:28,800

and then we um

1275

00:47:32,230 --> 00:47:30,559

we do science with that we analyze the

1276  
00:47:34,630 --> 00:47:32,240  
results we compare with observations we

1277  
00:47:36,069 --> 00:47:34,640  
see how well we did and somehow that

1278  
00:47:38,870 --> 00:47:36,079  
yields some sort of scientific

1279  
00:47:41,270 --> 00:47:38,880  
understanding uh that might be better

1280  
00:47:42,309 --> 00:47:41,280  
than we had previous to the to this

1281  
00:47:44,230 --> 00:47:42,319  
happening

1282  
00:47:45,109 --> 00:47:44,240  
oops

1283  
00:47:46,870 --> 00:47:45,119  
so

1284  
00:47:49,910 --> 00:47:46,880  
let's uh let's

1285  
00:47:53,270 --> 00:47:49,920  
let's simulate galaxies using an initial

1286  
00:47:55,750 --> 00:47:53,280  
condition of just a really sim simple

1287  
00:47:57,829 --> 00:47:55,760  
distribution of material um we already

1288  
00:48:00,230 --> 00:47:57,839

talked about this kind of schematic of a

1289

00:48:02,549 --> 00:48:00,240

milky way or a disc galaxy having a disc

1290

00:48:04,230 --> 00:48:02,559

component like a like a fried egg and

1291

00:48:06,309 --> 00:48:04,240

then having a bulge component like the

1292

00:48:08,950 --> 00:48:06,319

yolk part of a fried egg in the center

1293

00:48:11,510 --> 00:48:08,960

and and it all be stars let's just take

1294

00:48:13,990 --> 00:48:11,520

two galaxies and fling them into each

1295

00:48:16,309 --> 00:48:14,000

other that sounds fun just you know

1296

00:48:19,349 --> 00:48:16,319

cause mayhem and and see what see what

1297

00:48:21,430 --> 00:48:19,359

results now i'll just mention that the

1298

00:48:24,069 --> 00:48:21,440

visualization that i'm about to show was

1299

00:48:25,910 --> 00:48:24,079

done by our very own frank summers the

1300

00:48:28,230 --> 00:48:25,920

of course the host uh that that's

1301  
00:48:30,069 --> 00:48:28,240  
hosting me tonight and and it's one of

1302  
00:48:31,670 --> 00:48:30,079  
my favorite visualizations

1303  
00:48:33,750 --> 00:48:31,680  
so

1304  
00:48:35,349 --> 00:48:33,760  
we're we're taking these two simulations

1305  
00:48:39,990 --> 00:48:35,359  
we're flinging them together and then

1306  
00:48:42,230 --> 00:48:40,000  
periodically like now we're going to um

1307  
00:48:44,390 --> 00:48:42,240  
fade to an actual image taken with the

1308  
00:48:45,670 --> 00:48:44,400  
hubble space telescope of an irregular

1309  
00:48:47,349 --> 00:48:45,680  
galaxy

1310  
00:48:49,430 --> 00:48:47,359  
and you can see

1311  
00:48:51,109 --> 00:48:49,440  
that even though this is a reasonably

1312  
00:48:53,430 --> 00:48:51,119  
simple simulation we're going to rotate

1313  
00:48:54,950 --> 00:48:53,440

the simulation around and then fade to

1314

00:48:57,030 --> 00:48:54,960

actual data taken with the hubble space

1315

00:48:59,670 --> 00:48:57,040

telescope and you can see obvious

1316

00:49:02,630 --> 00:48:59,680

similarities between the behavior in

1317

00:49:05,270 --> 00:49:02,640

this very simplistic simulation and

1318

00:49:08,230 --> 00:49:05,280

actual images of very complicated

1319

00:49:09,589 --> 00:49:08,240

galactic structures um

1320

00:49:11,430 --> 00:49:09,599

and it's really eye-opening because

1321

00:49:12,790 --> 00:49:11,440

before that you know you see these

1322

00:49:14,710 --> 00:49:12,800

irregular systems and you're like what

1323

00:49:16,309 --> 00:49:14,720

the heck are these weird shapes why they

1324

00:49:19,510 --> 00:49:16,319

have weird shapes why are they blue in

1325

00:49:22,790 --> 00:49:19,520

color um and yet these are reasonably

1326  
00:49:24,790 --> 00:49:22,800  
easily modeled by a very simple um two

1327  
00:49:26,470 --> 00:49:24,800  
galaxies slamming together that that

1328  
00:49:28,950 --> 00:49:26,480  
provides us a really good explanation of

1329  
00:49:30,549 --> 00:49:28,960  
how to form these these are just

1330  
00:49:32,230 --> 00:49:30,559  
galaxies that got too close to each

1331  
00:49:34,069 --> 00:49:32,240  
other they slammed into each other they

1332  
00:49:35,910 --> 00:49:34,079  
interacted when they interacted they

1333  
00:49:37,270 --> 00:49:35,920  
caused a new burst of star formation

1334  
00:49:39,910 --> 00:49:37,280  
that new burst of star formation

1335  
00:49:41,510 --> 00:49:39,920  
resulted in the kind of bluish color new

1336  
00:49:43,349 --> 00:49:41,520  
new stars tend to be dominated by the

1337  
00:49:44,870 --> 00:49:43,359  
most massive blue stars that are present

1338  
00:49:46,710 --> 00:49:44,880

in those populations

1339

00:49:48,390 --> 00:49:46,720

and you end up with

1340

00:49:50,870 --> 00:49:48,400

with these an ex a really good

1341

00:49:53,510 --> 00:49:50,880

explanation for these blue irregular

1342

00:49:55,510 --> 00:49:53,520

galaxies that are that are so obvious

1343

00:49:58,230 --> 00:49:55,520

throughout the sky

1344

00:50:00,150 --> 00:49:58,240

so i i really love that for having this

1345

00:50:03,670 --> 00:50:00,160

beautiful direct comparison between

1346

00:50:05,829 --> 00:50:03,680

these uh a simple simulation and and

1347

00:50:07,270 --> 00:50:05,839

actual data that everyone is familiar

1348

00:50:08,069 --> 00:50:07,280

with

1349

00:50:10,309 --> 00:50:08,079

okay

1350

00:50:11,670 --> 00:50:10,319

so that was that was cool but let's move

1351  
00:50:13,430 --> 00:50:11,680  
to something a little bit more

1352  
00:50:16,309 --> 00:50:13,440  
complicated you know it'd be nice rather

1353  
00:50:18,150 --> 00:50:16,319  
than starting out with uh two

1354  
00:50:19,990 --> 00:50:18,160  
simulated galaxies where we've already

1355  
00:50:22,309 --> 00:50:20,000  
formed them well what about let's start

1356  
00:50:23,910 --> 00:50:22,319  
with nothing let's start with the the

1357  
00:50:26,150 --> 00:50:23,920  
beginning just after the big bang and

1358  
00:50:27,510 --> 00:50:26,160  
see if we can actually form galaxies

1359  
00:50:28,309 --> 00:50:27,520  
organically

1360  
00:50:30,069 --> 00:50:28,319  
um

1361  
00:50:31,190 --> 00:50:30,079  
so in order to do this we need to start

1362  
00:50:33,510 --> 00:50:31,200  
with initial conditions for our

1363  
00:50:35,270 --> 00:50:33,520

simulation that were like the early

1364

00:50:37,510 --> 00:50:35,280

universe so what does the early universe

1365

00:50:40,150 --> 00:50:37,520

what did it look like well we have an

1366

00:50:42,390 --> 00:50:40,160

idea of this remember remember our idea

1367

00:50:44,069 --> 00:50:42,400

our cartoon version of what the universe

1368

00:50:45,829 --> 00:50:44,079

looks like with the milky way here and

1369

00:50:47,990 --> 00:50:45,839

all these galaxies traveling outward

1370

00:50:50,230 --> 00:50:48,000

away from us well if we go

1371

00:50:51,670 --> 00:50:50,240

back in time a little bit um you can

1372

00:50:53,910 --> 00:50:51,680

imagine the galaxies that are traveling

1373

00:50:55,270 --> 00:50:53,920

away from us are a little bit closer

1374

00:50:57,109 --> 00:50:55,280

because they've been traveling away from

1375

00:50:59,430 --> 00:50:57,119

us right and if you go back farther

1376  
00:51:01,349 --> 00:50:59,440  
they're going to be closer still and you

1377  
00:51:03,430 --> 00:51:01,359  
can keep going back until all the

1378  
00:51:05,349 --> 00:51:03,440  
galaxies are kind of piled on top of

1379  
00:51:06,950 --> 00:51:05,359  
each other and that's that's the big

1380  
00:51:08,630 --> 00:51:06,960  
bang for the most part i mean that's a

1381  
00:51:11,270 --> 00:51:08,640  
oversimplification but that's roughly

1382  
00:51:14,230 --> 00:51:11,280  
the idea to why we know that there was

1383  
00:51:16,710 --> 00:51:14,240  
some sort of origin time at which the

1384  
00:51:18,549 --> 00:51:16,720  
universe kind of began

1385  
00:51:21,190 --> 00:51:18,559  
this big bang moment

1386  
00:51:23,030 --> 00:51:21,200  
and it turns out we do have

1387  
00:51:23,910 --> 00:51:23,040  
some images

1388  
00:51:26,309 --> 00:51:23,920

of

1389

00:51:28,630 --> 00:51:26,319

what's known as the light echo

1390

00:51:30,150 --> 00:51:28,640

of the big bang now these are not at the

1391

00:51:32,230 --> 00:51:30,160

moment of the big bang these are a few

1392

00:51:34,309 --> 00:51:32,240

hundred thousand years after but that's

1393

00:51:36,470 --> 00:51:34,319

a very short time scale relative to the

1394

00:51:38,230 --> 00:51:36,480

amount of time that's taken place since

1395

00:51:40,390 --> 00:51:38,240

the big bang which is a few billion

1396

00:51:42,069 --> 00:51:40,400

years um this is called the cosmic

1397

00:51:43,990 --> 00:51:42,079

microwave background you're probably

1398

00:51:45,589 --> 00:51:44,000

familiar with it if you've

1399

00:51:49,670 --> 00:51:45,599

read anything about astronomy or

1400

00:51:50,549 --> 00:51:49,680

cosmology in the last 50 years and

1401

00:51:55,270 --> 00:51:50,559

this

1402

00:51:57,589 --> 00:51:55,280

radiation and thus the distribution of

1403

00:52:00,390 --> 00:51:57,599

matter um very shortly after the big

1404

00:52:01,829 --> 00:52:00,400

bang took place and so in this um i

1405

00:52:03,670 --> 00:52:01,839

don't want to get too bogged down in the

1406

00:52:06,309 --> 00:52:03,680

details of this but in this the the red

1407

00:52:08,630 --> 00:52:06,319

regions are very high uh over densities

1408

00:52:10,630 --> 00:52:08,640

relative to the to the background level

1409

00:52:12,150 --> 00:52:10,640

of material and then the dark blue

1410

00:52:14,230 --> 00:52:12,160

regions are under densities where

1411

00:52:16,150 --> 00:52:14,240

there's less material relative to the

1412

00:52:18,309 --> 00:52:16,160

background

1413

00:52:20,870 --> 00:52:18,319

and if we plug this in this matter

1414

00:52:23,190 --> 00:52:20,880

distribution into our simulations as our

1415

00:52:25,030 --> 00:52:23,200

starting point for the simulations

1416

00:52:27,430 --> 00:52:25,040

um and run it forward we get something

1417

00:52:30,150 --> 00:52:27,440

like this this is a simulation that that

1418

00:52:32,870 --> 00:52:30,160

i ran a few years ago um

1419

00:52:34,150 --> 00:52:32,880

and it shows the distribution of

1420

00:52:36,069 --> 00:52:34,160

material

1421

00:52:37,750 --> 00:52:36,079

over the course of the of the of the

1422

00:52:40,069 --> 00:52:37,760

universe from just after the big bang to

1423

00:52:42,309 --> 00:52:40,079

present now you can see that this this

1424

00:52:44,950 --> 00:52:42,319

cube is very white because everything is

1425

00:52:46,950 --> 00:52:44,960

very uniform roughly uniform in the

1426  
00:52:48,630 --> 00:52:46,960  
early universe just perturbed by these

1427  
00:52:51,030 --> 00:52:48,640  
slight over densities and slight under

1428  
00:52:53,270 --> 00:52:51,040  
densities and then as we move forward in

1429  
00:52:55,510 --> 00:52:53,280  
time the over densities and under

1430  
00:52:57,589 --> 00:52:55,520  
densities start to be accentuated by

1431  
00:52:59,910 --> 00:52:57,599  
gravity remember

1432  
00:53:01,829 --> 00:52:59,920  
gravity uh gravity is an attractive

1433  
00:53:03,589 --> 00:53:01,839  
force so if you have a bunch of mass if

1434  
00:53:06,790 --> 00:53:03,599  
i have a bunch of mass i'm going to be

1435  
00:53:08,630 --> 00:53:06,800  
effective at pulling more mass into me

1436  
00:53:10,309 --> 00:53:08,640  
and it's kind of a rich gets richer kind

1437  
00:53:11,829 --> 00:53:10,319  
of game right because if i pull more

1438  
00:53:14,630 --> 00:53:11,839

mass into me well then i'm more

1439

00:53:16,230 --> 00:53:14,640

effective at being able to having more

1440

00:53:18,470 --> 00:53:16,240

gravitational attraction and pulling

1441

00:53:19,910 --> 00:53:18,480

more mass into me so it's it's like a

1442

00:53:22,630 --> 00:53:19,920

snowball effect

1443

00:53:25,589 --> 00:53:22,640

and what ends up happening is you very

1444

00:53:27,510 --> 00:53:25,599

naturally create this

1445

00:53:30,549 --> 00:53:27,520

this distribution of matter that we saw

1446

00:53:33,750 --> 00:53:30,559

earlier this cosmic web of stuff where

1447

00:53:36,390 --> 00:53:33,760

those over densities seed gravitational

1448

00:53:37,430 --> 00:53:36,400

info of the surrounding material and you

1449

00:53:40,309 --> 00:53:37,440

form

1450

00:53:42,630 --> 00:53:40,319

clusters and sheets and filaments

1451  
00:53:44,950 --> 00:53:42,640  
describing the distribution of matter on

1452  
00:53:46,309 --> 00:53:44,960  
very large scales

1453  
00:53:47,190 --> 00:53:46,319  
um

1454  
00:53:49,030 --> 00:53:47,200  
and

1455  
00:53:50,790 --> 00:53:49,040  
you know that's awesome this this

1456  
00:53:53,270 --> 00:53:50,800  
doesn't even require fluid dynamics this

1457  
00:53:54,790 --> 00:53:53,280  
is just gravity and we can reproduce the

1458  
00:53:56,950 --> 00:53:54,800  
distribution of the cosmic web that

1459  
00:53:59,030 --> 00:53:56,960  
we're able to see in observations uh

1460  
00:54:01,270 --> 00:53:59,040  
like the ones that we we saw earlier

1461  
00:54:02,470 --> 00:54:01,280  
from the sloan digital sky survey

1462  
00:54:04,150 --> 00:54:02,480  
that we see the same sort of

1463  
00:54:06,470 --> 00:54:04,160

distribution and it's a it's like a

1464

00:54:08,150 --> 00:54:06,480

wonderful explanation that could only be

1465

00:54:11,270 --> 00:54:08,160

revealed through

1466

00:54:13,270 --> 00:54:11,280

through simulations and theory uh

1467

00:54:14,549 --> 00:54:13,280

like the ones that i i showed now

1468

00:54:15,829 --> 00:54:14,559

there's additional

1469

00:54:18,710 --> 00:54:15,839

um

1470

00:54:20,630 --> 00:54:18,720

movies like this wonderful uh

1471

00:54:21,829 --> 00:54:20,640

visualization done by the illustrious

1472

00:54:23,829 --> 00:54:21,839

team

1473

00:54:25,190 --> 00:54:23,839

and collab uh mark vogelsberger and

1474

00:54:26,390 --> 00:54:25,200

collaborators

1475

00:54:29,030 --> 00:54:26,400

at um

1476  
00:54:31,510 --> 00:54:29,040  
at harvard and mit and and max planck

1477  
00:54:32,630 --> 00:54:31,520  
and a variety of other institutions um

1478  
00:54:34,309 --> 00:54:32,640  
showing

1479  
00:54:36,950 --> 00:54:34,319  
again you can see in dark purple this

1480  
00:54:38,870 --> 00:54:36,960  
kind of filamentary structure connecting

1481  
00:54:41,589 --> 00:54:38,880  
individu like connecting galaxies all

1482  
00:54:43,829 --> 00:54:41,599  
these little points are galaxies

1483  
00:54:46,390 --> 00:54:43,839  
these little yellow points are over

1484  
00:54:48,789 --> 00:54:46,400  
densities in the in the material in the

1485  
00:54:50,789 --> 00:54:48,799  
matter along these filaments and where

1486  
00:54:51,589 --> 00:54:50,799  
those filaments cross that's where you

1487  
00:54:53,829 --> 00:54:51,599  
have

1488  
00:54:55,990 --> 00:54:53,839

galaxies and clusters of galaxies that

1489

00:54:57,990 --> 00:54:56,000

start to build up with time and i this

1490

00:54:59,349 --> 00:54:58,000

visualization is just incredible it's

1491

00:55:00,789 --> 00:54:59,359

like cinematic

1492

00:55:02,390 --> 00:55:00,799

um

1493

00:55:04,789 --> 00:55:02,400

in fact i wouldn't be surprised if frank

1494

00:55:07,910 --> 00:55:04,799

summers were involved with this so um

1495

00:55:09,829 --> 00:55:07,920

just really nice visualization of how

1496

00:55:11,910 --> 00:55:09,839

how the distribution of matter changes

1497

00:55:14,069 --> 00:55:11,920

over time and how you have these this

1498

00:55:17,910 --> 00:55:14,079

very cosmic web build up of material

1499

00:55:19,190 --> 00:55:17,920

simply by the presence of of gravity

1500

00:55:20,870 --> 00:55:19,200

much like we see here with the sloan

1501

00:55:24,390 --> 00:55:20,880

digital skieser

1502

00:55:27,270 --> 00:55:24,400

so um if we zoom in on

1503

00:55:28,870 --> 00:55:27,280

individual systems uh within those

1504

00:55:30,870 --> 00:55:28,880

filamentary structures this is another

1505

00:55:32,789 --> 00:55:30,880

simulation that i was involved with uh

1506

00:55:34,390 --> 00:55:32,799

the fire simulations that are pied by

1507

00:55:36,789 --> 00:55:34,400

phil hopkins here at caltech one of my

1508

00:55:38,470 --> 00:55:36,799

collaborators and

1509

00:55:39,829 --> 00:55:38,480

the left side is going to show you can

1510

00:55:42,230 --> 00:55:39,839

see that filamentary structure we're

1511

00:55:44,710 --> 00:55:42,240

going to zoom in on one galaxy in that

1512

00:55:46,710 --> 00:55:44,720

and watch its growth over time

1513

00:55:48,549 --> 00:55:46,720

and this white expanding circle

1514

00:55:50,870 --> 00:55:48,559

represents kind of the the sphere of

1515

00:55:53,270 --> 00:55:50,880

influence the kind of the gravitational

1516

00:55:55,030 --> 00:55:53,280

region over which that galaxy dominates

1517

00:55:56,309 --> 00:55:55,040

and you can see that it's growing over

1518

00:55:58,230 --> 00:55:56,319

time again

1519

00:56:00,150 --> 00:55:58,240

we're doing the entire evolution of the

1520

00:56:02,630 --> 00:56:00,160

universe here in like 30 seconds so this

1521

00:56:04,870 --> 00:56:02,640

is a very sped up version of the growth

1522

00:56:07,270 --> 00:56:04,880

of this galaxy but this is thought to be

1523

00:56:09,670 --> 00:56:07,280

a galaxy much like our own milky way

1524

00:56:10,789 --> 00:56:09,680

galaxy i'll play this again but you can

1525

00:56:12,870 --> 00:56:10,799

see this

1526

00:56:14,789 --> 00:56:12,880

this filament you can see lots of the

1527

00:56:17,670 --> 00:56:14,799

individual galaxies and essentially

1528

00:56:20,150 --> 00:56:17,680

they're falling into this galaxy over

1529

00:56:22,230 --> 00:56:20,160

time and this brings up what often

1530

00:56:23,829 --> 00:56:22,240

people refer to as this kind of morbid

1531

00:56:26,390 --> 00:56:23,839

analogy that

1532

00:56:27,670 --> 00:56:26,400

galaxies are cannibals they grow by

1533

00:56:30,630 --> 00:56:27,680

eating

1534

00:56:31,510 --> 00:56:30,640

neighboring galaxies that fall into

1535

00:56:33,109 --> 00:56:31,520

their

1536

00:56:35,589 --> 00:56:33,119

gravitational field and then they just

1537

00:56:38,390 --> 00:56:35,599

kind of consume them

1538

00:56:40,789 --> 00:56:38,400

and it's it's that's that's how it works

1539

00:56:43,270 --> 00:56:40,799

it's a it's the higher people refer to

1540

00:56:45,589 --> 00:56:43,280

it as a hierarchical construction of

1541

00:56:47,430 --> 00:56:45,599

galaxies you you have two small galaxies

1542

00:56:49,510 --> 00:56:47,440

they they fall together they grow into a

1543

00:56:51,990 --> 00:56:49,520

larger structure then those structures

1544

00:56:54,230 --> 00:56:52,000

fall into larger structures and and into

1545

00:56:57,589 --> 00:56:54,240

larger structures still and that's how

1546

00:56:59,430 --> 00:56:57,599

we see the remnants of galaxies in our

1547

00:57:00,390 --> 00:56:59,440

galaxy that have been slowly shredded

1548

00:57:07,589 --> 00:57:00,400

and

1549

00:57:09,670 --> 00:57:07,599

see this in in other galaxies

1550

00:57:11,430 --> 00:57:09,680

now if we take that same simulation from

1551  
00:57:13,190 --> 00:57:11,440  
the fire simulations

1552  
00:57:16,549 --> 00:57:13,200  
and we process it to make a

1553  
00:57:18,470 --> 00:57:16,559  
visualization that's more um

1554  
00:57:20,470 --> 00:57:18,480  
more

1555  
00:57:23,750 --> 00:57:20,480  
representative of what you'd see from

1556  
00:57:26,309 --> 00:57:23,760  
starlight and dust and gas this is what

1557  
00:57:28,789 --> 00:57:26,319  
it looks like as it evolves over time so

1558  
00:57:31,190 --> 00:57:28,799  
again this is a milky way like galaxy

1559  
00:57:33,910 --> 00:57:31,200  
that we've simulated in our computer

1560  
00:57:36,390 --> 00:57:33,920  
and you can see that it looks reasonably

1561  
00:57:37,910 --> 00:57:36,400  
realistic relative to a lot of the

1562  
00:57:40,069 --> 00:57:37,920  
observed galaxies that we see right now

1563  
00:57:41,829 --> 00:57:40,079

we're flying through the disc plane of

1564

00:57:43,349 --> 00:57:41,839

the galaxy you can see there's a lot of

1565

00:57:46,150 --> 00:57:43,359

blue star light but then there's these

1566

00:57:48,710 --> 00:57:46,160

red patches those red patches are from

1567

00:57:50,549 --> 00:57:48,720

dust that's absorbing the the light

1568

00:57:53,109 --> 00:57:50,559

that's passing through it so

1569

00:57:54,630 --> 00:57:53,119

you you uh you see them kind of as a

1570

00:57:57,109 --> 00:57:54,640

void this can be a little bit

1571

00:57:59,270 --> 00:57:57,119

disorienting here as we're backing away

1572

00:58:00,230 --> 00:57:59,280

from this spiraling

1573

00:58:02,789 --> 00:58:00,240

um

1574

00:58:04,470 --> 00:58:02,799

kind of pulsing galaxy

1575

00:58:06,230 --> 00:58:04,480

but this is

1576

00:58:08,150 --> 00:58:06,240

this is kind of state of the art with

1577

00:58:10,470 --> 00:58:08,160

representative to how we're modeling

1578

00:58:11,910 --> 00:58:10,480

these systems and and how well we're

1579

00:58:13,910 --> 00:58:11,920

doing

1580

00:58:15,510 --> 00:58:13,920

in comparison to

1581

00:58:17,109 --> 00:58:15,520

to the systems that we see when we look

1582

00:58:19,190 --> 00:58:17,119

up with telescopes like the hubble space

1583

00:58:21,430 --> 00:58:19,200

telescope

1584

00:58:23,510 --> 00:58:21,440

um these are some stills from the fire

1585

00:58:25,670 --> 00:58:23,520

simulations and you can see these look

1586

00:58:27,190 --> 00:58:25,680

reasonably realistic

1587

00:58:29,589 --> 00:58:27,200

uh compared to

1588

00:58:32,470 --> 00:58:29,599

you know actual observations of actual

1589

00:58:34,150 --> 00:58:32,480

galaxies that we see in the sky now of

1590

00:58:35,990 --> 00:58:34,160

course that's not what we're doing we're

1591

00:58:37,910 --> 00:58:36,000

not just trying to reproduce and make

1592

00:58:40,150 --> 00:58:37,920

them look similar this isn't like movie

1593

00:58:41,430 --> 00:58:40,160

making here we're we're building these

1594

00:58:43,750 --> 00:58:41,440

galaxies

1595

00:58:45,430 --> 00:58:43,760

from first principles from computer

1596

00:58:46,710 --> 00:58:45,440

simulations where you code in all the

1597

00:58:49,510 --> 00:58:46,720

physics that you think is there we're

1598

00:58:51,030 --> 00:58:49,520

starting from these cosmic microwave

1599

00:58:53,109 --> 00:58:51,040

background initial conditions and

1600

00:58:55,030 --> 00:58:53,119

running them forward and

1601  
00:58:56,710 --> 00:58:55,040  
iterating by adding additional physics

1602  
00:58:58,789 --> 00:58:56,720  
here and additional physics there to

1603  
00:59:01,190 --> 00:58:58,799  
better understand how

1604  
00:59:02,870 --> 00:59:01,200  
how these galaxies are

1605  
00:59:05,589 --> 00:59:02,880  
matching what we see in the sky not just

1606  
00:59:07,910 --> 00:59:05,599  
by appearance not just by size and

1607  
00:59:11,270 --> 00:59:07,920  
structure and color but also by their

1608  
00:59:12,069 --> 00:59:11,280  
composition by their magnetic fields by

1609  
00:59:14,630 --> 00:59:12,079  
uh

1610  
00:59:15,510 --> 00:59:14,640  
the distribution by their temperatures

1611  
00:59:17,270 --> 00:59:15,520  
by

1612  
00:59:18,950 --> 00:59:17,280  
the types of stars that reside within

1613  
00:59:21,190 --> 00:59:18,960

them all of these things to better

1614

00:59:22,950 --> 00:59:21,200

understand not just can we reproduce the

1615

00:59:24,950 --> 00:59:22,960

ones that we see in the sky but we

1616

00:59:27,190 --> 00:59:24,960

control all the knobs on these so we

1617

00:59:28,789 --> 00:59:27,200

know if i can re reproduce one that

1618

00:59:31,030 --> 00:59:28,799

looks like one in the sky then i can

1619

00:59:35,030 --> 00:59:31,040

look oh okay so the magnetic field

1620

00:59:36,789 --> 00:59:35,040

strength is this or um the distribution

1621

00:59:38,630 --> 00:59:36,799

of material or the metallicity that's

1622

00:59:41,190 --> 00:59:38,640

present in that galaxy is this when that

1623

00:59:43,190 --> 00:59:41,200

might not be so readily observable by

1624

00:59:44,950 --> 00:59:43,200

those galaxies just because they're

1625

00:59:47,349 --> 00:59:44,960

hundreds of thousands or hundreds of

1626  
00:59:50,789 --> 00:59:47,359  
millions of light years away from us and

1627  
00:59:53,190 --> 00:59:50,799  
not not easily um identified in that

1628  
00:59:53,990 --> 00:59:53,200  
that capacity

1629  
00:59:56,230 --> 00:59:54,000  
so

1630  
00:59:58,309 --> 00:59:56,240  
um and then lastly the last simulation

1631  
01:00:00,390 --> 00:59:58,319  
that i'd like to show is is close to

1632  
01:00:02,230 --> 01:00:00,400  
home because it's our own milky way

1633  
01:00:04,549 --> 01:00:02,240  
galaxy and what's going to happen to our

1634  
01:00:05,510 --> 01:00:04,559  
milky way galaxy in the next few billion

1635  
01:00:06,309 --> 01:00:05,520  
years

1636  
01:00:07,910 --> 01:00:06,319  
now

1637  
01:00:10,789 --> 01:00:07,920  
um

1638  
01:00:13,829 --> 01:00:10,799

earlier i i kind of fibbed because this

1639

01:00:15,589 --> 01:00:13,839

simulation i said i said all galaxies

1640

01:00:17,589 --> 01:00:15,599

are traveling away from us but i kind of

1641

01:00:19,510 --> 01:00:17,599

lied there's one galaxy that is not

1642

01:00:21,829 --> 01:00:19,520

traveling away from us and it's our old

1643

01:00:23,829 --> 01:00:21,839

favorite the andromeda galaxy so we've

1644

01:00:25,829 --> 01:00:23,839

got the milky way up here and down here

1645

01:00:27,270 --> 01:00:25,839

we've got the andromeda galaxy

1646

01:00:29,109 --> 01:00:27,280

don't we don't worry so much about the

1647

01:00:30,950 --> 01:00:29,119

triangulum galaxy for the purposes of

1648

01:00:32,950 --> 01:00:30,960

this but the andromeda galaxy is

1649

01:00:35,510 --> 01:00:32,960

actually traveling towards us

1650

01:00:37,190 --> 01:00:35,520

and in a few billion years we're going

1651  
01:00:39,750 --> 01:00:37,200  
to merge with it the milky way will

1652  
01:00:43,430 --> 01:00:39,760  
merge with the andromeda galaxy and form

1653  
01:00:45,589 --> 01:00:43,440  
kind of a synthesize a new galaxy

1654  
01:00:47,670 --> 01:00:45,599  
and what's kind of ironic about this is

1655  
01:00:49,109 --> 01:00:47,680  
that the individual stars

1656  
01:00:50,870 --> 01:00:49,119  
in the galaxies

1657  
01:00:52,390 --> 01:00:50,880  
the problem there's very little

1658  
01:00:54,390 --> 01:00:52,400  
probability that they'll actually

1659  
01:00:56,870 --> 01:00:54,400  
collide it's just that these

1660  
01:00:59,349 --> 01:00:56,880  
the because most galaxies are mostly

1661  
01:01:01,030 --> 01:00:59,359  
empty space between the concentrations

1662  
01:01:03,829 --> 01:01:01,040  
of of matter that we call stars or

1663  
01:01:06,150 --> 01:01:03,839

planets but um over time these things

1664

01:01:07,829 --> 01:01:06,160

will coalesce into a single structure

1665

01:01:10,870 --> 01:01:07,839

and because astronomers have a good

1666

01:01:12,309 --> 01:01:10,880

sense of humor the the resulting galaxy

1667

01:01:14,470 --> 01:01:12,319

that will happen in you know the next

1668

01:01:15,750 --> 01:01:14,480

five to eight billion years

1669

01:01:17,910 --> 01:01:15,760

because it's the combination of the

1670

01:01:21,109 --> 01:01:17,920

milky way and the andromeda galaxy we

1671

01:01:23,270 --> 01:01:21,119

refer to it as milk omada which i really

1672

01:01:27,190 --> 01:01:23,280

i really dig that should get that as my

1673

01:01:28,069 --> 01:01:27,200

license plate or something um anyway

1674

01:01:29,829 --> 01:01:28,079

so

1675

01:01:31,270 --> 01:01:29,839

kind of in summary based on this this

1676

01:01:33,829 --> 01:01:31,280

last section what do we know about

1677

01:01:35,750 --> 01:01:33,839

galaxies just from simulations alone

1678

01:01:37,430 --> 01:01:35,760

simulations can reproduce many of the

1679

01:01:39,829 --> 01:01:37,440

properties of galaxies i mean it's not

1680

01:01:42,870 --> 01:01:39,839

perfect we still have jobs we still have

1681

01:01:45,349 --> 01:01:42,880

a lot to understand about galaxies um

1682

01:01:47,510 --> 01:01:45,359

but they form from small over densities

1683

01:01:49,589 --> 01:01:47,520

in the early universe and gravity

1684

01:01:51,270 --> 01:01:49,599

accentuates these over densities and

1685

01:01:53,829 --> 01:01:51,280

causes them to be the seeds for these

1686

01:01:55,190 --> 01:01:53,839

these these galaxies that exist and then

1687

01:01:57,349 --> 01:01:55,200

slowly those galaxies kind of

1688

01:02:00,230 --> 01:01:57,359

cannibalize their neighbors and grow to

1689

01:02:02,470 --> 01:02:00,240

larger and larger structures by merging

1690

01:02:04,390 --> 01:02:02,480

um you can have spiral galaxies that

1691

01:02:06,230 --> 01:02:04,400

merge to make elliptical galaxies much

1692

01:02:08,470 --> 01:02:06,240

like the two spiral galaxies of the

1693

01:02:10,470 --> 01:02:08,480

milky way and andromeda merged to form

1694

01:02:12,230 --> 01:02:10,480

kind of an elliptical system the milk

1695

01:02:13,670 --> 01:02:12,240

armada system

1696

01:02:15,109 --> 01:02:13,680

and that will happen in the next you

1697

01:02:17,190 --> 01:02:15,119

know five to eight billion years so

1698

01:02:19,430 --> 01:02:17,200

don't don't sell your real estate this

1699

01:02:21,029 --> 01:02:19,440

isn't as dire as things like climate

1700

01:02:23,190 --> 01:02:21,039

change or

1701

01:02:25,510 --> 01:02:23,200

oh heck the the covid pandemic i don't

1702

01:02:27,829 --> 01:02:25,520

know but but uh this will happen we are

1703

01:02:29,750 --> 01:02:27,839

reas you know we are sure

1704

01:02:31,109 --> 01:02:29,760

we are traveling at each other the

1705

01:02:32,950 --> 01:02:31,119

gravitational fields from each other

1706

01:02:36,309 --> 01:02:32,960

will interact and we will merge but it

1707

01:02:37,589 --> 01:02:36,319

will be many billions of years from now

1708

01:02:39,109 --> 01:02:37,599

um

1709

01:02:40,470 --> 01:02:39,119

and then just the last thing that i want

1710

01:02:42,150 --> 01:02:40,480

to talk about is on what sort of

1711

01:02:44,390 --> 01:02:42,160

computers do we run our simulations it

1712

01:02:48,309 --> 01:02:44,400

is not in fact as you may have guessed

1713

01:02:50,150 --> 01:02:48,319

uh an old 8088 from uh decades past

1714

01:02:52,150 --> 01:02:50,160

these are super computers that we're

1715

01:02:53,910 --> 01:02:52,160

using um so

1716

01:02:56,309 --> 01:02:53,920

for those of you who have seen the

1717

01:02:57,750 --> 01:02:56,319

martian which is an excellent film young

1718

01:03:00,230 --> 01:02:57,760

donald glover

1719

01:03:02,789 --> 01:03:00,240

plays an astro dynamicist who works at

1720

01:03:05,589 --> 01:03:02,799

nasa the nasa jet propulsion laboratory

1721

01:03:08,069 --> 01:03:05,599

and he does a particular calculation on

1722

01:03:09,750 --> 01:03:08,079

a supercomputer called the nasa pleiades

1723

01:03:12,150 --> 01:03:09,760

supercomputer which i was on earlier

1724

01:03:14,470 --> 01:03:12,160

today this is a real supercomputer um it

1725

01:03:17,589 --> 01:03:14,480

exists in the in i think it's at ames up

1726

01:03:20,630 --> 01:03:17,599

in the bay area and

1727

01:03:22,549 --> 01:03:20,640

it it this they filmed on location it's

1728

01:03:25,430 --> 01:03:22,559

composed of i forget how many something

1729

01:03:28,390 --> 01:03:25,440

on the order of 50 000 cpus that are in

1730

01:03:30,549 --> 01:03:28,400

these big racks cooled very cool allow

1731

01:03:32,630 --> 01:03:30,559

them to process

1732

01:03:34,309 --> 01:03:32,640

so this is all accurate there are two

1733

01:03:36,309 --> 01:03:34,319

things that are not accurate about that

1734

01:03:39,349 --> 01:03:36,319

scene

1735

01:03:41,109 --> 01:03:39,359

one is you don't actually need to go to

1736

01:03:42,390 --> 01:03:41,119

the place to plug into the computer to

1737

01:03:44,230 --> 01:03:42,400

use it we have something called the

1738

01:03:46,630 --> 01:03:44,240

internet that allows you to connect to

1739

01:03:48,630 --> 01:03:46,640

remote computers from the from pretty

1740

01:03:50,549 --> 01:03:48,640

much any other computer connected to the

1741

01:03:52,470 --> 01:03:50,559

internet and so you can connect to this

1742

01:03:55,109 --> 01:03:52,480

the super computer from you know like i

1743

01:03:56,829 --> 01:03:55,119

said i was on it on my home computer

1744

01:03:59,349 --> 01:03:56,839

here earlier today doing some

1745

01:04:02,789 --> 01:03:59,359

computational uh work

1746

01:04:04,470 --> 01:04:02,799

um it's it's it's available if you if

1747

01:04:06,549 --> 01:04:04,480

you have a nasa grant or work for nasa

1748

01:04:08,230 --> 01:04:06,559

you can apply for time on this super

1749

01:04:10,150 --> 01:04:08,240

computer to do the calculations you need

1750

01:04:11,510 --> 01:04:10,160

to uh there are other computers that are

1751

01:04:13,029 --> 01:04:11,520

provided by the national science

1752

01:04:15,349 --> 01:04:13,039

foundation and so on and so forth and

1753

01:04:18,390 --> 01:04:15,359

you can apply for time to use them to do

1754

01:04:20,390 --> 01:04:18,400

your your bidding uh on whatever project

1755

01:04:22,309 --> 01:04:20,400

you need to work on

1756

01:04:24,150 --> 01:04:22,319

and the other thing that isn't entirely

1757

01:04:26,069 --> 01:04:24,160

accurate is it doesn't tell you at the

1758

01:04:28,710 --> 01:04:26,079

end that your calculations are correct

1759

01:04:30,789 --> 01:04:28,720

you have to kind of know yourself that

1760

01:04:33,349 --> 01:04:30,799

uh the results of your simulations are

1761

01:04:34,789 --> 01:04:33,359

correct or not they just it just it just

1762

01:04:36,870 --> 01:04:34,799

does the equations you have to figure

1763

01:04:38,870 --> 01:04:36,880

out if it's correct but other than that

1764

01:04:41,109 --> 01:04:38,880

uh the scene was was reasonably accurate

1765

01:04:42,390 --> 01:04:41,119

so good job 20th century fox and the

1766

01:04:44,470 --> 01:04:42,400

martian

1767

01:04:46,789 --> 01:04:44,480

um so anyway that kind of takes me to

1768

01:04:48,309 --> 01:04:46,799

the end of my presentation in summary

1769

01:04:49,750 --> 01:04:48,319

you know i covered a lot of stuff here

1770

01:04:51,430 --> 01:04:49,760

from the history

1771

01:04:53,190 --> 01:04:51,440

of galaxies to the observation of

1772

01:04:55,270 --> 01:04:53,200

galaxies to the simulations of galaxies

1773

01:04:58,150 --> 01:04:55,280

but kind of my bullet point uh

1774

01:04:59,750 --> 01:04:58,160

highlights are here and um there's a

1775

01:05:02,390 --> 01:04:59,760

bunch of visualizations you can see on

1776

01:05:04,390 --> 01:05:02,400

my website again i'm dr cameron hummels

1777

01:05:07,670 --> 01:05:04,400

i'm a researcher at caltech in the

1778

01:05:09,750 --> 01:05:07,680

astronomy department and um

1779

01:05:13,349 --> 01:05:09,760

and i'm happy to take questions but one

1780

01:05:15,349 --> 01:05:13,359

last plug as as frank mentioned i uh i

1781

01:05:18,069 --> 01:05:15,359

run the public education work in at

1782

01:05:20,390 --> 01:05:18,079

caltech astronomy and if you're ever in

1783

01:05:22,150 --> 01:05:20,400

the los angeles area or you live here uh

1784

01:05:25,430 --> 01:05:22,160

we have in-person events we had our

1785

01:05:26,789 --> 01:05:25,440

first in-person event last month um

1786

01:05:29,910 --> 01:05:26,799

and

1787

01:05:32,069 --> 01:05:29,920

month you can come to them it's open to

1788

01:05:33,990 --> 01:05:32,079

the public they're all suited for public

1789

01:05:35,750 --> 01:05:34,000

much like these this lecture series is

1790

01:05:38,150 --> 01:05:35,760

here we also have astronomy on tap that

1791

01:05:39,750 --> 01:05:38,160

takes place at a bar um we're doing one

1792

01:05:42,309 --> 01:05:39,760

this coming monday

1793

01:05:44,069 --> 01:05:42,319

and uh and as frank mentioned he's going

1794

01:05:45,990 --> 01:05:44,079

to be speaking at it

1795

01:05:47,990 --> 01:05:46,000

and so you can come drink a drink of

1796

01:05:49,510 --> 01:05:48,000

beer or whatever floats your boat and

1797

01:05:51,910 --> 01:05:49,520

hear about science and then there's

1798

01:05:54,069 --> 01:05:51,920

astronomy theme pub trivia and uh all of

1799

01:05:55,910 --> 01:05:54,079

our stuff is recorded and live streamed

1800

01:05:56,870 --> 01:05:55,920

on on youtube so you can check that out

1801  
01:05:58,390 --> 01:05:56,880  
too so

1802  
01:06:01,349 --> 01:05:58,400  
i'm happy to take questions thank you

1803  
01:06:04,309 --> 01:06:01,359  
much for your time and uh yeah galaxies

1804  
01:06:07,510 --> 01:06:04,319  
are awesome uh hubble's awesome and

1805  
01:06:10,069 --> 01:06:07,520  
stick with science it's great

1806  
01:06:12,549 --> 01:06:10,079  
i couldn't agree more cameron

1807  
01:06:15,029 --> 01:06:12,559  
uh science has been a fantastic career

1808  
01:06:17,829 --> 01:06:15,039  
for me i really enjoyed it and it looks

1809  
01:06:20,470 --> 01:06:17,839  
like you really enjoy yourself as well i

1810  
01:06:22,309 --> 01:06:20,480  
do i do it's true

1811  
01:06:24,069 --> 01:06:22,319  
all right so that was a great uh

1812  
01:06:25,829 --> 01:06:24,079  
overview of the

1813  
01:06:28,230 --> 01:06:25,839

first the initial of getting out to the

1814

01:06:30,950 --> 01:06:28,240

scale of galaxies and then lots and lots

1815

01:06:33,670 --> 01:06:30,960

of information on uh how we understand

1816

01:06:35,270 --> 01:06:33,680

galaxies are the way they are i mean

1817

01:06:37,670 --> 01:06:35,280

that's kind of what we do in science we

1818

01:06:41,109 --> 01:06:37,680

go hey take a look at that

1819

01:06:43,270 --> 01:06:42,470

exactly

1820

01:06:45,750 --> 01:06:43,280

and

1821

01:06:49,349 --> 01:06:45,760

i just like to mention that um

1822

01:06:51,510 --> 01:06:49,359

you know simulations are sort of a third

1823

01:06:52,950 --> 01:06:51,520

branch of astronomy right uh we have

1824

01:06:54,470 --> 01:06:52,960

think of the theorists who are doing

1825

01:06:55,910 --> 01:06:54,480

equations and doing all that stuff we

1826

01:06:58,309 --> 01:06:55,920

think of the observers who are going out

1827

01:07:00,870 --> 01:06:58,319

to telescopes and and

1828

01:07:01,829 --> 01:07:00,880

observing but the connection between

1829

01:07:04,950 --> 01:07:01,839

theory

1830

01:07:07,829 --> 01:07:04,960

and observation is often the simulations

1831

01:07:09,910 --> 01:07:07,839

right um and i just wondering um your

1832

01:07:12,710 --> 01:07:09,920

perspective on that as somebody because

1833

01:07:14,549 --> 01:07:12,720

you got your phd about 20 years after i

1834

01:07:17,029 --> 01:07:14,559

got my phd so

1835

01:07:18,789 --> 01:07:17,039

how has that evolved in the in

1836

01:07:20,069 --> 01:07:18,799

over the course that's the thing so

1837

01:07:22,069 --> 01:07:20,079

that's a wonderful question and it's

1838

01:07:23,589 --> 01:07:22,079

really grown so i was actually i did my

1839

01:07:24,870 --> 01:07:23,599

undergraduate studies in computer

1840

01:07:27,510 --> 01:07:24,880

science i didn't actually study

1841

01:07:30,789 --> 01:07:27,520

astronomy until uh graduate school

1842

01:07:32,950 --> 01:07:30,799

explicitly and i think that really

1843

01:07:34,789 --> 01:07:32,960

in some ways prepared me for this uh a

1844

01:07:36,870 --> 01:07:34,799

bit more than people who who just

1845

01:07:37,829 --> 01:07:36,880

studied astronomy or physics but really

1846

01:07:39,109 --> 01:07:37,839

um

1847

01:07:40,549 --> 01:07:39,119

yeah i think you're absolutely right

1848

01:07:43,029 --> 01:07:40,559

that there's essentially three fields

1849

01:07:45,029 --> 01:07:43,039

now uh maybe even four if you count the

1850

01:07:47,029 --> 01:07:45,039

people who build instruments like the

1851  
01:07:48,630 --> 01:07:47,039  
people who build the cameras aboard the

1852  
01:07:51,990 --> 01:07:48,640  
hubble space telescope or the james webb

1853  
01:07:53,829 --> 01:07:52,000  
space telescope and and so you've got

1854  
01:07:55,750 --> 01:07:53,839  
yeah there has to be an interconnect

1855  
01:07:57,349 --> 01:07:55,760  
because there's only so much many of

1856  
01:08:00,150 --> 01:07:57,359  
these physical systems are so

1857  
01:08:02,150 --> 01:08:00,160  
complicated that it's very difficult to

1858  
01:08:03,589 --> 01:08:02,160  
turn to pencil and paper and go to first

1859  
01:08:05,349 --> 01:08:03,599  
principles and be able to make a lot of

1860  
01:08:07,510 --> 01:08:05,359  
progress in trying to reproduce a real

1861  
01:08:09,990 --> 01:08:07,520  
galaxy when you need millions or

1862  
01:08:12,549 --> 01:08:10,000  
billions of computations in order to to

1863  
01:08:14,710 --> 01:08:12,559

follow its evolution so computers are

1864

01:08:15,990 --> 01:08:14,720

good for that but we can't rely entirely

1865

01:08:17,590 --> 01:08:16,000

on them we need to we need the pencil

1866

01:08:20,390 --> 01:08:17,600

and paper to boil it down to analytic

1867

01:08:22,149 --> 01:08:20,400

principles too so right i mean computers

1868

01:08:24,550 --> 01:08:22,159

can give you insights that you can then

1869

01:08:26,709 --> 01:08:24,560

further explore with the theory

1870

01:08:28,709 --> 01:08:26,719

and all this stuff it's just um it's

1871

01:08:30,709 --> 01:08:28,719

it's just wonderful to see how how it

1872

01:08:32,309 --> 01:08:30,719

has grown over the years

1873

01:08:34,870 --> 01:08:32,319

all right so let's bring in grant

1874

01:08:38,149 --> 01:08:34,880

justice we've had a good number of

1875

01:08:42,390 --> 01:08:38,159

people on our chat tonight uh grant you

1876

01:08:46,550 --> 01:08:45,189

absolutely cool shirt all right yeah

1877

01:08:48,550 --> 01:08:46,560

thanks

1878

01:08:50,709 --> 01:08:48,560

twinsies

1879

01:08:52,870 --> 01:08:50,719

we love the worm logo

1880

01:08:56,229 --> 01:08:52,880

i'm so very glad that nasa brought it

1881

01:08:58,070 --> 01:08:56,239

back all right so grant uh we've had uh

1882

01:09:00,309 --> 01:08:58,080

some some good conversation what

1883

01:09:03,349 --> 01:09:00,319

questions would you like to bring up for

1884

01:09:04,789 --> 01:09:03,359

him sure um first off and i actually

1885

01:09:06,390 --> 01:09:04,799

like this one because i'm interested to

1886

01:09:07,430 --> 01:09:06,400

hear what you have to say about this as

1887

01:09:10,470 --> 01:09:07,440

well

1888

01:09:12,470 --> 01:09:10,480

what is the bar in bar galaxies what

1889

01:09:14,229 --> 01:09:12,480

does it affect and why don't all

1890

01:09:15,590 --> 01:09:14,239

galaxies have them

1891

01:09:19,349 --> 01:09:15,600

oh that's great

1892

01:09:22,070 --> 01:09:19,359

i'll do my best to answer this question

1893

01:09:24,789 --> 01:09:22,080

the bar essentially okay so just to make

1894

01:09:26,870 --> 01:09:24,799

sure everyone understands what the

1895

01:09:29,990 --> 01:09:26,880

question is referring to we talked about

1896

01:09:31,829 --> 01:09:30,000

a taxonomy of galaxies being um spiral

1897

01:09:33,590 --> 01:09:31,839

galaxies and elliptical galaxies and

1898

01:09:36,309 --> 01:09:33,600

then the catch-all that was irregular

1899

01:09:39,030 --> 01:09:36,319

galaxies now spiral galaxies can be

1900

01:09:42,470 --> 01:09:39,040

further differentiated into barred

1901

01:09:44,950 --> 01:09:42,480

galaxies or non-barred galaxies and

1902

01:09:47,269 --> 01:09:44,960

essentially what that means the bar is a

1903

01:09:49,189 --> 01:09:47,279

dynamical component that's an extension

1904

01:09:51,110 --> 01:09:49,199

of the bulge in the center remember we

1905

01:09:51,829 --> 01:09:51,120

were talking about i made the the kind

1906

01:09:52,789 --> 01:09:51,839

of

1907

01:09:55,350 --> 01:09:52,799

callus

1908

01:09:57,189 --> 01:09:55,360

analog to a fried egg it would be as

1909

01:09:58,790 --> 01:09:57,199

though the yolk of the fried egg the

1910

01:10:01,430 --> 01:09:58,800

bulge of the fried egg were kind of

1911

01:10:03,350 --> 01:10:01,440

rectangular in shape it were extended

1912

01:10:06,790 --> 01:10:03,360

out into the disc and kind of

1913

01:10:09,910 --> 01:10:06,800

rectangular in it in a in a bar um that

1914

01:10:12,790 --> 01:10:09,920

is a dynamical effect that is caused

1915

01:10:15,510 --> 01:10:12,800

it's um it's definitely a an area of

1916

01:10:18,310 --> 01:10:15,520

research but it's caused by

1917

01:10:20,790 --> 01:10:18,320

stars being in a particular orbit um

1918

01:10:23,030 --> 01:10:20,800

that that that holds that bar over time

1919

01:10:24,630 --> 01:10:23,040

because remember all of these dynamic

1920

01:10:26,229 --> 01:10:24,640

all these components like the disk of

1921

01:10:28,790 --> 01:10:26,239

the the galaxy or the bulge of the

1922

01:10:30,630 --> 01:10:28,800

galaxy it's stars it's all individual

1923

01:10:32,630 --> 01:10:30,640

stars that that

1924

01:10:34,870 --> 01:10:32,640

are just

1925

01:10:37,350 --> 01:10:34,880

kind of decomposed into those

1926

01:10:39,430 --> 01:10:37,360

compositional structures morphological

1927

01:10:41,910 --> 01:10:39,440

structures and the bar is no different

1928

01:10:43,830 --> 01:10:41,920

so it's stars that that orbit in a

1929

01:10:45,110 --> 01:10:43,840

particular way to make those and i'm

1930

01:10:49,510 --> 01:10:45,120

trying to remember the thing that

1931

01:10:51,990 --> 01:10:49,520

actually causes the bar and i think

1932

01:10:54,950 --> 01:10:52,000

so is it is it the instabilities and and

1933

01:10:56,470 --> 01:10:54,960

the um oh what are those resonances

1934

01:10:58,149 --> 01:10:56,480

um

1935

01:11:01,270 --> 01:10:58,159

the lindblad residence the internet or

1936

01:11:02,870 --> 01:11:01,280

lindblad residences right yes so i mean

1937

01:11:04,790 --> 01:11:02,880

i remember that one of the first

1938

01:11:06,870 --> 01:11:04,800

computer simulations that just tried to

1939

01:11:08,470 --> 01:11:06,880

simulate a spiral galaxy

1940

01:11:10,149 --> 01:11:08,480

almost immediately developed a bar

1941

01:11:13,430 --> 01:11:10,159

instability right

1942

01:11:16,630 --> 01:11:13,440

so um it's it's a natural gravitational

1943

01:11:19,590 --> 01:11:16,640

formation that occurs in certain uh

1944

01:11:21,030 --> 01:11:19,600

setups but i'm trying to recall why

1945

01:11:23,110 --> 01:11:21,040

what causes the linblad because

1946

01:11:25,750 --> 01:11:23,120

obviously there are galaxies all right

1947

01:11:27,990 --> 01:11:25,760

quick call frank's

1948

01:11:30,630 --> 01:11:28,000

like the andromeda galaxy don't appear

1949

01:11:32,550 --> 01:11:30,640

to have a substantial bar i mean we see

1950

01:11:34,229 --> 01:11:32,560

systems like this the um

1951

01:11:36,310 --> 01:11:34,239

the pinwheel galaxy there's a bunch of

1952

01:11:38,630 --> 01:11:36,320

galaxies that you can see that it's more

1953

01:11:41,030 --> 01:11:38,640

like a sphere in the bulge in the center

1954

01:11:43,110 --> 01:11:41,040

as opposed to a bar and i forget

1955

01:11:44,870 --> 01:11:43,120

i forget because i don't do a lot of uh

1956

01:11:46,790 --> 01:11:44,880

galactic structure i do more hydro

1957

01:11:48,790 --> 01:11:46,800

modeling of why that's true but yeah

1958

01:11:50,709 --> 01:11:48,800

you're you're exactly right um

1959

01:11:52,709 --> 01:11:50,719

it's okay this is the caveat i give

1960

01:11:57,189 --> 01:11:52,719

people that's right i'm 30 years out of

1961

01:12:02,630 --> 01:11:59,830

there's such specificity to

1962

01:12:05,080 --> 01:12:02,640

what we study in astronomy that it's

1963

01:12:08,229 --> 01:12:05,090

difficult sometimes to ask

1964

01:12:08,229 --> 01:12:08,239

[Music]

1965

01:12:11,990 --> 01:12:10,229

okay all right and this is one again we

1966

01:12:13,910 --> 01:12:12,000

actually have a public lecture that we

1967

01:12:15,590 --> 01:12:13,920

did on this with brandon lawton and he

1968

01:12:17,510 --> 01:12:15,600

would go over the moon for this but i'm

1969

01:12:19,750 --> 01:12:17,520

asking you anyway

1970

01:12:21,669 --> 01:12:19,760

how empty are the empty regions in

1971

01:12:25,910 --> 01:12:21,679

between the filaments

1972

01:12:28,630 --> 01:12:25,920

and what's the average-ish size of them

1973

01:12:29,590 --> 01:12:28,640

ah that is that is that is excellent let

1974

01:12:32,390 --> 01:12:29,600

me see

1975

01:12:35,750 --> 01:12:34,070

obviously there's some diversity you

1976

01:12:38,630 --> 01:12:35,760

know there isn't just a set inter

1977

01:12:41,590 --> 01:12:38,640

interfilamentary uh distance between

1978

01:12:43,430 --> 01:12:41,600

objects or between these filaments um

1979

01:12:45,430 --> 01:12:43,440

but the voids people refer to them as

1980

01:12:48,630 --> 01:12:45,440

voids they tend to be quite empty

1981

01:12:50,630 --> 01:12:48,640

they're occasionally uh there is a field

1982

01:12:53,030 --> 01:12:50,640

a subfield of astronomy and galactic

1983

01:12:54,630 --> 01:12:53,040

astronomy that focuses on void galaxies

1984

01:12:56,390 --> 01:12:54,640

that is to say galaxies that find

1985

01:12:58,790 --> 01:12:56,400

themselves in these kind of

1986

01:13:00,870 --> 01:12:58,800

without any neighbors around to to

1987

01:13:02,790 --> 01:13:00,880

influence them either gravitationally or

1988

01:13:06,070 --> 01:13:02,800

radiationally

1989

01:13:07,590 --> 01:13:06,080

so some they definitely are there's a

1990

01:13:09,270 --> 01:13:07,600

significant deficit in the number of

1991

01:13:12,709 --> 01:13:09,280

galaxies in the amount of matter that's

1992

01:13:14,630 --> 01:13:12,719

in these void regions um

1993

01:13:16,149 --> 01:13:14,640

sometimes they're

1994

01:13:18,550 --> 01:13:16,159

you know it's a handful of galaxies

1995

01:13:21,669 --> 01:13:18,560

sometimes it's it's even less than that

1996

01:13:23,750 --> 01:13:21,679

but uh the size of the voids it's going

1997

01:13:25,590 --> 01:13:23,760

to vary but it's going to be on the on

1998

01:13:27,350 --> 01:13:25,600

the order of

1999

01:13:31,350 --> 01:13:27,360

i'd say like

2000

01:13:33,830 --> 01:13:31,360

20 to 100 megaparsecs which is

2001

01:13:36,390 --> 01:13:33,840

jargony

2002

01:13:42,470 --> 01:13:39,750

60 million to 300 million light years

2003

01:13:44,470 --> 01:13:42,480

across very very large regions in

2004

01:13:46,630 --> 01:13:44,480

between in between the clusters of

2005

01:13:48,310 --> 01:13:46,640

galaxies and clusters and

2006

01:13:50,790 --> 01:13:48,320

one of the things that i always liked

2007

01:13:53,270 --> 01:13:50,800

about watching the computer simulations

2008

01:13:54,790 --> 01:13:53,280

of these galaxy things everyone watches

2009

01:13:56,550 --> 01:13:54,800

the structure formation and your

2010

01:13:58,070 --> 01:13:56,560

formation of the filaments

2011

01:13:59,750 --> 01:13:58,080

i found that when i looked at them and i

2012

01:14:02,070 --> 01:13:59,760

just watched the voids the voids just

2013

01:14:04,229 --> 01:14:02,080

sort of expand over time and then

2014

01:14:06,550 --> 01:14:04,239

there's if you look at the empty regions

2015

01:14:09,189 --> 01:14:06,560

and not the the dense regions you really

2016

01:14:11,669 --> 01:14:09,199

get a a a similar perspective it's a

2017

01:14:14,790 --> 01:14:11,679

counter perspective that um has has a

2018

01:14:16,950 --> 01:14:14,800

lot of scientific insight in it

2019

01:14:18,630 --> 01:14:16,960

absolutely because that stuff is getting

2020

01:14:20,310 --> 01:14:18,640

flushed of its material as it's getting

2021

01:14:21,990 --> 01:14:20,320

evacuated and going into the dense

2022

01:14:23,750 --> 01:14:22,000

regions and yeah you see a similar

2023

01:14:25,110 --> 01:14:23,760

growth of those as well

2024

01:14:29,189 --> 01:14:25,120

excellent point

2025

01:14:32,470 --> 01:14:29,199

awesome cool next question all right uh

2026

01:14:34,950 --> 01:14:32,480

what makes a galaxy similar to our own

2027

01:14:37,590 --> 01:14:34,960

like what kind of observable differences

2028

01:14:40,950 --> 01:14:37,600

do you look for to identify it and say

2029

01:14:42,790 --> 01:14:40,960

oh that's like this one or that one

2030

01:14:44,550 --> 01:14:42,800

broadly speaking a lot of what i was

2031

01:14:48,870 --> 01:14:44,560

talking about when i was saying this

2032

01:14:51,030 --> 01:14:48,880

simulation is a milky way like galaxy um

2033

01:14:54,070 --> 01:14:51,040

is that it's a spiral

2034

01:14:57,189 --> 01:14:54,080

or a disc galaxy that's relatively well

2035

01:14:59,990 --> 01:14:57,199

evolved um that there isn't that there's

2036

01:15:02,390 --> 01:15:00,000

active star formation going off in it in

2037

01:15:05,750 --> 01:15:02,400

in the spiral arms much like we see in

2038

01:15:08,390 --> 01:15:05,760

our galaxy or the andromeda galaxy and

2039

01:15:10,950 --> 01:15:08,400

um that it tends to be at a certain mass

2040

01:15:13,430 --> 01:15:10,960

range as you can imagine uh there's a

2041

01:15:16,390 --> 01:15:13,440

huge range continuum in the masses of

2042

01:15:18,790 --> 01:15:16,400

galaxies that you see some are are very

2043

01:15:20,470 --> 01:15:18,800

small we call them dwarf galaxies dwarf

2044

01:15:22,550 --> 01:15:20,480

galaxies can be

2045

01:15:24,550 --> 01:15:22,560

on the order of a hundredth of the mass

2046

01:15:27,910 --> 01:15:24,560

of our milky way to

2047

01:15:31,189 --> 01:15:27,920

10 like 10 000 of the that mass then we

2048

01:15:32,790 --> 01:15:31,199

talk about ultra ultra light dwarfs or

2049

01:15:34,630 --> 01:15:32,800

ultra dwarfs that are even lower mass

2050

01:15:37,350 --> 01:15:34,640

than that um

2051  
01:15:39,830 --> 01:15:37,360  
so the milky way isn't the most massive

2052  
01:15:42,070 --> 01:15:39,840  
galaxy out there but it's it's on the

2053  
01:15:44,390 --> 01:15:42,080  
higher end it's it's considered a

2054  
01:15:46,070 --> 01:15:44,400  
giant-ish or i mean we refer to them as

2055  
01:15:50,070 --> 01:15:46,080  
normal because it's our galaxy so of

2056  
01:15:51,910 --> 01:15:50,080  
course it's normal of course but uh

2057  
01:15:54,470 --> 01:15:51,920  
something that's like a milky way galaxy

2058  
01:15:58,229 --> 01:15:54,480  
or milky way like i would refer to as a

2059  
01:16:00,950 --> 01:15:58,239  
a spiral galaxy or a disc galaxy that um

2060  
01:16:03,189 --> 01:16:00,960  
isn't actively engaged in a collision

2061  
01:16:05,110 --> 01:16:03,199  
with another one andromeda is a ways off

2062  
01:16:07,270 --> 01:16:05,120  
so we aren't yet engaged in it or else

2063  
01:16:09,350 --> 01:16:07,280

it would look a lot like those irregular

2064

01:16:11,030 --> 01:16:09,360

those pesky irregulars that we showed

2065

01:16:13,270 --> 01:16:11,040

earlier um

2066

01:16:16,070 --> 01:16:13,280

and it it has on the order of

2067

01:16:18,390 --> 01:16:16,080

uh a trillion solar masses of material

2068

01:16:20,950 --> 01:16:18,400

plus or minus you know something on that

2069

01:16:22,790 --> 01:16:20,960

order so that's including its dark

2070

01:16:25,669 --> 01:16:22,800

matter as well as

2071

01:16:27,590 --> 01:16:25,679

as as the the visible matter the the gas

2072

01:16:29,270 --> 01:16:27,600

and the stars that are present in it

2073

01:16:32,070 --> 01:16:29,280

it's always so easy to talk about this

2074

01:16:33,990 --> 01:16:32,080

and just forget the scale of everything

2075

01:16:36,070 --> 01:16:34,000

there's a trillion you just throw around

2076

01:16:38,229 --> 01:16:36,080

yeah drop in the bucket it's fine

2077

01:16:40,550 --> 01:16:38,239

well yeah 10 to the 12th solar masses of

2078

01:16:42,709 --> 01:16:40,560

material is how we refer to it

2079

01:16:44,470 --> 01:16:42,719

or we'll just call it an all-star galaxy

2080

01:16:46,149 --> 01:16:44,480

right or an I-star game that's what

2081

01:16:48,790 --> 01:16:46,159

that's really getting into the jargon

2082

01:16:50,550 --> 01:16:48,800

yeah i'm not going to get into no no no

2083

01:16:51,530 --> 01:16:50,560

don't go there don't go there grant next

2084

01:16:53,669 --> 01:16:51,540

question come on quick

2085

01:16:58,550 --> 01:16:53,679

[Laughter]

2086

01:17:00,310 --> 01:16:58,560

um how do spiral galaxies stay spiral do

2087

01:17:02,470 --> 01:17:00,320

the filaments have like an angular

2088

01:17:03,510 --> 01:17:02,480

momentum that they have to maintain in

2089

01:17:06,550 --> 01:17:03,520

order to

2090

01:17:08,550 --> 01:17:06,560

maintain to keep cohesion

2091

01:17:10,070 --> 01:17:08,560

great these are well these are all great

2092

01:17:11,590 --> 01:17:10,080

questions so our online audience is

2093

01:17:13,750 --> 01:17:11,600

awesome yeah

2094

01:17:15,350 --> 01:17:13,760

people are on it so um

2095

01:17:17,350 --> 01:17:15,360

well for one

2096

01:17:19,990 --> 01:17:17,360

angular momentum tends to perpetuate

2097

01:17:22,229 --> 01:17:20,000

itself in the same way that uh if you

2098

01:17:23,830 --> 01:17:22,239

have a merry ground that's spinning and

2099

01:17:25,830 --> 01:17:23,840

without friction present if it's a

2100

01:17:27,990 --> 01:17:25,840

well-oiled merry-go-round it's gonna

2101  
01:17:30,390 --> 01:17:28,000  
keep spinning for a long period of time

2102  
01:17:32,470 --> 01:17:30,400  
the same thing goes for galaxies they're

2103  
01:17:34,390 --> 01:17:32,480  
rotating there are dissipative effects

2104  
01:17:38,229 --> 01:17:34,400  
but for the most part it wants to keep

2105  
01:17:40,390 --> 01:17:38,239  
going but as you say there's a torque um

2106  
01:17:42,709 --> 01:17:40,400  
for the most part galaxies as you could

2107  
01:17:44,550 --> 01:17:42,719  
see in the simulation where i showed it

2108  
01:17:46,470 --> 01:17:44,560  
kind of zooming in on the galaxy and

2109  
01:17:48,550 --> 01:17:46,480  
showing the galaxies the other galaxies

2110  
01:17:51,430 --> 01:17:48,560  
falling into it and it building up over

2111  
01:17:54,229 --> 01:17:51,440  
time each of those in-falling galaxies

2112  
01:17:56,709 --> 01:17:54,239  
is transferring torque to the to the

2113  
01:17:59,030 --> 01:17:56,719

galaxy itself the one at the center and

2114

01:18:01,830 --> 01:17:59,040

so galaxies over time at least we think

2115

01:18:03,590 --> 01:18:01,840

from the computer simulations may change

2116

01:18:06,070 --> 01:18:03,600

the direction of their rotation

2117

01:18:07,669 --> 01:18:06,080

essentially the the axis of rotation so

2118

01:18:09,350 --> 01:18:07,679

it's kind of like you have a

2119

01:18:11,270 --> 01:18:09,360

merry-go-round that might be spinning

2120

01:18:12,790 --> 01:18:11,280

like this and then all of a sudden

2121

01:18:14,470 --> 01:18:12,800

another galaxy falls in from this

2122

01:18:16,950 --> 01:18:14,480

direction and all of a sudden it torques

2123

01:18:18,470 --> 01:18:16,960

everything and now you're now you're uh

2124

01:18:19,350 --> 01:18:18,480

now your merry ground is spinning like

2125

01:18:22,550 --> 01:18:19,360

this

2126

01:18:24,950 --> 01:18:22,560

and so over time um due to the info of

2127

01:18:26,950 --> 01:18:24,960

other other systems and other mass

2128

01:18:29,590 --> 01:18:26,960

sources into this it applies these

2129

01:18:31,990 --> 01:18:29,600

torques and kind of spins up the galaxy

2130

01:18:33,750 --> 01:18:32,000

to continue its rotation but yeah uh

2131

01:18:35,590 --> 01:18:33,760

torques from other objects falling in

2132

01:18:37,430 --> 01:18:35,600

along the filament seem to be the

2133

01:18:39,350 --> 01:18:37,440

perpetuation of angular momentum and

2134

01:18:40,790 --> 01:18:39,360

rotation in these systems and i'd like

2135

01:18:43,590 --> 01:18:40,800

to mention one thing here that people

2136

01:18:45,590 --> 01:18:43,600

don't often recognize is that the uh

2137

01:18:47,910 --> 01:18:45,600

spiral pattern as it

2138

01:18:49,750 --> 01:18:47,920

orbits around the milky way is moving at

2139

01:18:51,510 --> 01:18:49,760

a different speed than the stars within

2140

01:18:54,390 --> 01:18:51,520

it okay one of the important things to

2141

01:18:56,310 --> 01:18:54,400

note is that like our sun was probably

2142

01:18:57,990 --> 01:18:56,320

was born in a spiral arm but it moved

2143

01:19:00,229 --> 01:18:58,000

out and then moved into other spiral

2144

01:19:02,870 --> 01:19:00,239

arms and around so the spire the the

2145

01:19:04,870 --> 01:19:02,880

stars orbiting the in the milky way are

2146

01:19:06,470 --> 01:19:04,880

moving into the spiral arms and moving

2147

01:19:08,630 --> 01:19:06,480

out of those spiral arms and the spiral

2148

01:19:11,270 --> 01:19:08,640

arms have this pattern speed

2149

01:19:13,030 --> 01:19:11,280

that is different from the orbital speed

2150

01:19:14,470 --> 01:19:13,040

of the stars within it

2151  
01:19:16,950 --> 01:19:14,480  
and that's one thing that's always been

2152  
01:19:19,669 --> 01:19:16,960  
fascinating it's important to recognize

2153  
01:19:21,350 --> 01:19:19,679  
um because like our our

2154  
01:19:22,390 --> 01:19:21,360  
our star is four and a half billion

2155  
01:19:25,270 --> 01:19:22,400  
years old

2156  
01:19:27,990 --> 01:19:25,280  
and it's made about 18 rotations around

2157  
01:19:31,270 --> 01:19:28,000  
the milk center the milky way so it's

2158  
01:19:33,430 --> 01:19:31,280  
orbited 18 times and so there's a lot of

2159  
01:19:36,630 --> 01:19:33,440  
interactions that it does as it goes

2160  
01:19:38,790 --> 01:19:36,640  
into and out of these spiral arm regions

2161  
01:19:41,350 --> 01:19:38,800  
the the analogy that i like to use for

2162  
01:19:43,830 --> 01:19:41,360  
that is like when you say something out

2163  
01:19:45,830 --> 01:19:43,840

of your mouth you're causing vibrations

2164

01:19:47,590 --> 01:19:45,840

with your vocal cords vocal cords that

2165

01:19:49,270 --> 01:19:47,600

are vibrating they're causing acoustic

2166

01:19:52,310 --> 01:19:49,280

waves but those are vibrations of the

2167

01:19:54,709 --> 01:19:52,320

atoms in the air around your around your

2168

01:19:56,630 --> 01:19:54,719

mouth and when someone else is standing

2169

01:19:58,790 --> 01:19:56,640

across the room and they feel those

2170

01:20:01,750 --> 01:19:58,800

vibrations in their eardrum it isn't

2171

01:20:03,350 --> 01:20:01,760

that the actual atoms that your vibrate

2172

01:20:04,950 --> 01:20:03,360

that you vibrated with your vocal cords

2173

01:20:07,270 --> 01:20:04,960

have traveled across the room and are

2174

01:20:10,550 --> 01:20:07,280

running into the person's eardrum it's

2175

01:20:13,350 --> 01:20:10,560

perpetuating that that that longitudinal

2176

01:20:15,030 --> 01:20:13,360

wave of basically a pressure wave

2177

01:20:16,310 --> 01:20:15,040

through the intervening medium and it's

2178

01:20:18,470 --> 01:20:16,320

the exact same thing that frank was

2179

01:20:20,550 --> 01:20:18,480

talking about uh there's this pressure

2180

01:20:22,709 --> 01:20:20,560

this spiral density pressure wave of

2181

01:20:24,950 --> 01:20:22,719

material in the disk and and we flow

2182

01:20:26,470 --> 01:20:24,960

through it the stars flow through it but

2183

01:20:27,430 --> 01:20:26,480

yeah

2184

01:20:29,110 --> 01:20:27,440

awesome

2185

01:20:29,910 --> 01:20:29,120

so that leads me directly into the next

2186

01:20:30,790 --> 01:20:29,920

one

2187

01:20:34,149 --> 01:20:30,800

um

2188

01:20:37,910 --> 01:20:34,159

when milk andromeda happens yes

2189

01:20:40,870 --> 01:20:37,920

by the way i do not like milk almond

2190

01:20:42,550 --> 01:20:40,880

oh i love it i'm not i'm i i i'm a

2191

01:20:43,590 --> 01:20:42,560

thumbs down on that term but anyways go

2192

01:20:45,990 --> 01:20:43,600

ahead

2193

01:20:47,910 --> 01:20:46,000

when the milky way and andromeda

2194

01:20:50,629 --> 01:20:47,920

eventually meet

2195

01:20:53,910 --> 01:20:50,639

uh is gravity really the only force that

2196

01:20:56,390 --> 01:20:53,920

is going to be affecting the

2197

01:20:59,990 --> 01:20:56,400

momentum of the galaxies like what other

2198

01:21:03,110 --> 01:21:00,000

forces can be exerted on those spiral

2199

01:21:06,310 --> 01:21:03,120

arms and those filaments

2200

01:21:07,830 --> 01:21:06,320

gravity will be the dominant one um

2201  
01:21:10,870 --> 01:21:07,840  
because

2202  
01:21:13,350 --> 01:21:10,880  
so for the most part the the forces that

2203  
01:21:16,070 --> 01:21:13,360  
dominate on these very very large scales

2204  
01:21:17,510 --> 01:21:16,080  
the galactic scale or larger than galaxy

2205  
01:21:19,270 --> 01:21:17,520  
scales

2206  
01:21:23,590 --> 01:21:19,280  
or gravity because it doesn't really

2207  
01:21:26,390 --> 01:21:23,600  
cancel out uh cancel out very well

2208  
01:21:28,550 --> 01:21:26,400  
you could imagine let's say a galaxy is

2209  
01:21:31,189 --> 01:21:28,560  
charged it has a net charge

2210  
01:21:34,390 --> 01:21:31,199  
um such that it repels other things of

2211  
01:21:38,550 --> 01:21:36,629  
the the problem with that is macroscopic

2212  
01:21:40,790 --> 01:21:38,560  
objects don't tend to remain charged

2213  
01:21:43,110 --> 01:21:40,800

with a net charge for very long because

2214

01:21:44,790 --> 01:21:43,120

they effectively attract the things of

2215

01:21:47,430 --> 01:21:44,800

the opposite charge and it cancels it

2216

01:21:49,590 --> 01:21:47,440

out and so this this is true of of

2217

01:21:51,510 --> 01:21:49,600

macroscopic objects in space as well and

2218

01:21:53,910 --> 01:21:51,520

so you can't imagine that there will be

2219

01:21:55,830 --> 01:21:53,920

a i mean there may be some

2220

01:21:58,870 --> 01:21:55,840

some we we think that there are magnetic

2221

01:22:00,390 --> 01:21:58,880

fields we observe magnetic fields within

2222

01:22:01,990 --> 01:22:00,400

galaxies but the strength of those

2223

01:22:04,790 --> 01:22:02,000

magnetic fields are hundreds of

2224

01:22:07,189 --> 01:22:04,800

thousands of times less intense than our

2225

01:22:09,110 --> 01:22:07,199

sun or the earth so they're very very

2226

01:22:11,669 --> 01:22:09,120

weak they still do play a role in the

2227

01:22:12,709 --> 01:22:11,679

evolution on a sub like from subtle

2228

01:22:14,629 --> 01:22:12,719

effects

2229

01:22:17,189 --> 01:22:14,639

but they're not

2230

01:22:19,510 --> 01:22:17,199

they're not dramatic and they're not um

2231

01:22:22,629 --> 01:22:19,520

i mean they may alter the path and the

2232

01:22:25,110 --> 01:22:22,639

trajectory of gas of ionized gas plasma

2233

01:22:27,510 --> 01:22:25,120

that's charged um as it falls through

2234

01:22:29,590 --> 01:22:27,520

the galaxy but uh i guess that would

2235

01:22:31,590 --> 01:22:29,600

probably be the next thing that would be

2236

01:22:33,830 --> 01:22:31,600

an influencing thing i would say the the

2237

01:22:36,830 --> 01:22:33,840

main things that would influence kind of

2238

01:22:39,910 --> 01:22:36,840

the evolution of of the milky way

2239

01:22:41,750 --> 01:22:39,920

andromeda combined system would be

2240

01:22:44,229 --> 01:22:41,760

gravity

2241

01:22:45,830 --> 01:22:44,239

and then um the stars for the most part

2242

01:22:47,669 --> 01:22:45,840

are just going to be falling along their

2243

01:22:50,629 --> 01:22:47,679

gravitational trajectories based on the

2244

01:22:54,149 --> 01:22:50,639

distribution of mass and then the the

2245

01:22:56,629 --> 01:22:54,159

gas and the ionized plasma will follow

2246

01:22:59,270 --> 01:22:56,639

a modified direction because of a few

2247

01:23:00,950 --> 01:22:59,280

things magnetic fields um as well as

2248

01:23:03,350 --> 01:23:00,960

radiation if there's an intense

2249

01:23:05,270 --> 01:23:03,360

radiation field caused by a bunch of

2250

01:23:08,310 --> 01:23:05,280

stars that get formed and are pumping

2251

01:23:10,390 --> 01:23:08,320

out all kinds of light uh visible or uv

2252

01:23:12,470 --> 01:23:10,400

or x-ray that can also alter the

2253

01:23:14,229 --> 01:23:12,480

distribution of of mass in the form of

2254

01:23:15,669 --> 01:23:14,239

gas but for the most part those stars

2255

01:23:17,669 --> 01:23:15,679

the individual stars that have already

2256

01:23:19,030 --> 01:23:17,679

formed they're like little bbs little

2257

01:23:21,030 --> 01:23:19,040

bullets they're just going to fly

2258

01:23:23,189 --> 01:23:21,040

through and do their own thing according

2259

01:23:25,350 --> 01:23:23,199

to the gravitational potential that's

2260

01:23:28,629 --> 01:23:25,360

there that's reasonably well described

2261

01:23:29,669 --> 01:23:28,639

by newtonian newtonian dynamics

2262

01:23:30,709 --> 01:23:29,679

right

2263

01:23:32,950 --> 01:23:30,719

um and

2264

01:23:34,709 --> 01:23:32,960

and just to to clarify that the the

2265

01:23:36,790 --> 01:23:34,719

hydrodynamics of the gas clouds

2266

01:23:38,550 --> 01:23:36,800

colliding right because the stars will

2267

01:23:40,870 --> 01:23:38,560

pass straight through each other the gas

2268

01:23:43,590 --> 01:23:40,880

clouds will collide they'll shock heat

2269

01:23:45,669 --> 01:23:43,600

um we'll often create star formation

2270

01:23:47,270 --> 01:23:45,679

because that's what we see in starburst

2271

01:23:49,910 --> 01:23:47,280

galaxies as they're the results of

2272

01:23:52,629 --> 01:23:49,920

collisions so about on the largest

2273

01:23:56,070 --> 01:23:52,639

scales really gravity is just about it

2274

01:23:57,830 --> 01:23:56,080

yeah and and and to to to take off on a

2275

01:24:00,390 --> 01:23:57,840

little thing that that uh that frank

2276

01:24:01,750 --> 01:24:00,400

mentions there so oftentimes i say like

2277

01:24:04,149 --> 01:24:01,760

don't worry about it we've got bigger

2278

01:24:05,830 --> 01:24:04,159

problems which is definitely true

2279

01:24:07,669 --> 01:24:05,840

and and stars we don't have to worry

2280

01:24:10,149 --> 01:24:07,679

about like the earth slamming into a

2281

01:24:12,390 --> 01:24:10,159

star or slamming into a planet

2282

01:24:14,790 --> 01:24:12,400

um but something that we do need to

2283

01:24:17,030 --> 01:24:14,800

worry about is when the gas clouds that

2284

01:24:19,910 --> 01:24:17,040

are present in those galaxies slam into

2285

01:24:21,910 --> 01:24:19,920

each other as as frank suggests they're

2286

01:24:24,310 --> 01:24:21,920

going to shock heat and they're probably

2287

01:24:26,470 --> 01:24:24,320

going to induce a bunch of new stars to

2288

01:24:28,229 --> 01:24:26,480

be formed amongst those new stars there

2289

01:24:30,310 --> 01:24:28,239

will be massive enough stars that create

2290

01:24:33,030 --> 01:24:30,320

supernova and the supernova when they

2291

01:24:36,550 --> 01:24:33,040

explode will not be great for us here on

2292

01:24:39,030 --> 01:24:36,560

earth um so it won't be a really good

2293

01:24:41,590 --> 01:24:39,040

place to hang around in when that occurs

2294

01:24:43,430 --> 01:24:41,600

in five to eight billion years because

2295

01:24:45,350 --> 01:24:43,440

of the radiation field that's caused by

2296

01:24:47,590 --> 01:24:45,360

these exploding supernovae but on the

2297

01:24:50,790 --> 01:24:47,600

other hand like we've got other problems

2298

01:24:53,110 --> 01:24:50,800

to solve like our sun dying in that time

2299

01:24:55,030 --> 01:24:53,120

scale as well and and consuming the

2300

01:24:56,629 --> 01:24:55,040

earth so

2301  
01:24:57,910 --> 01:24:56,639  
a lot of the simulations have earth

2302  
01:25:01,270 --> 01:24:57,920  
being flung out to the edge of the

2303  
01:25:04,229 --> 01:25:01,280  
galaxy and being all out all alone way

2304  
01:25:06,390 --> 01:25:04,239  
away from everything you know hey

2305  
01:25:08,629 --> 01:25:06,400  
we could be either in

2306  
01:25:11,750 --> 01:25:08,639  
in the intense of star from ring region

2307  
01:25:14,149 --> 01:25:11,760  
and have supernovae or be out all alone

2308  
01:25:16,550 --> 01:25:14,159  
uh really really cold out at the end out

2309  
01:25:19,430 --> 01:25:16,560  
of the edge of the combined milky way

2310  
01:25:21,910 --> 01:25:19,440  
andromeda different flavors of bad news

2311  
01:25:24,149 --> 01:25:21,920  
yes okay yeah um we're getting time for

2312  
01:25:25,510 --> 01:25:24,159  
a couple more we got let's let's just do

2313  
01:25:27,430 --> 01:25:25,520

one more i know we had a little bit of

2314

01:25:29,669 --> 01:25:27,440

technical problems so we're running a

2315

01:25:31,830 --> 01:25:29,679

little long but it's already 9 30 so

2316

01:25:35,510 --> 01:25:31,840

let's move let's get that

2317

01:25:37,270 --> 01:25:35,520

one killer question to really hit him

2318

01:25:39,030 --> 01:25:37,280

all right so

2319

01:25:40,550 --> 01:25:39,040

i like this one a lot and i usually try

2320

01:25:42,390 --> 01:25:40,560

to save this sort of a question for the

2321

01:25:45,910 --> 01:25:42,400

end of the program but

2322

01:25:48,149 --> 01:25:45,920

what was your moment that got you

2323

01:25:50,149 --> 01:25:48,159

involved not necessarily like it's your

2324

01:25:51,910 --> 01:25:50,159

job or what have you but what was your

2325

01:25:56,070 --> 01:25:51,920

defining moment

2326

01:26:00,310 --> 01:25:58,229

uh

2327

01:26:01,990 --> 01:26:00,320

i mean there have been a series i i

2328

01:26:04,229 --> 01:26:02,000

guess the the one

2329

01:26:06,709 --> 01:26:04,239

the one that most easily fits into this

2330

01:26:09,030 --> 01:26:06,719

into this argument is it's probably not

2331

01:26:11,910 --> 01:26:09,040

unlike many people's trajectory towards

2332

01:26:14,629 --> 01:26:11,920

getting into astronomy and space science

2333

01:26:17,030 --> 01:26:14,639

um i had the opportunity to look through

2334

01:26:19,110 --> 01:26:17,040

a telescope when i was like 11 through

2335

01:26:20,950 --> 01:26:19,120

uh at a there was an amateur group in a

2336

01:26:22,629 --> 01:26:20,960

parking lot in an elementary school that

2337

01:26:25,030 --> 01:26:22,639

was near my house and i got to see

2338

01:26:27,189 --> 01:26:25,040

saturn and it was super cool so that

2339

01:26:28,790 --> 01:26:27,199

that was definitely like pointing me in

2340

01:26:30,390 --> 01:26:28,800

that direction but as i said i studied

2341

01:26:32,070 --> 01:26:30,400

computer science as an undergrad and

2342

01:26:35,110 --> 01:26:32,080

only later switched towards

2343

01:26:36,470 --> 01:26:35,120

doing astronomy and astrophysics and

2344

01:26:38,149 --> 01:26:36,480

i don't know i mean

2345

01:26:40,070 --> 01:26:38,159

i just always knew that i wanted to do

2346

01:26:41,990 --> 01:26:40,080

science because i think it's it's one of

2347

01:26:44,149 --> 01:26:42,000

the most like interesting and and kind

2348

01:26:46,310 --> 01:26:44,159

of noble pursuits i'm getting some light

2349

01:26:48,550 --> 01:26:46,320

on me here noble pursuits that we can

2350

01:26:50,709 --> 01:26:48,560

have is to better understand the natural

2351

01:26:51,910 --> 01:26:50,719

world and our place in it and you know a

2352

01:26:53,590 --> 01:26:51,920

lot of people give me a hard time and

2353

01:26:55,030 --> 01:26:53,600

they say like well what are the

2354

01:26:56,470 --> 01:26:55,040

applications of this you know how can

2355

01:26:57,830 --> 01:26:56,480

you make money on this and it's like

2356

01:26:58,550 --> 01:26:57,840

well

2357

01:27:01,830 --> 01:26:58,560

the

2358

01:27:04,310 --> 01:27:01,840

you know

2359

01:27:06,310 --> 01:27:04,320

pure research going in lots of different

2360

01:27:08,149 --> 01:27:06,320

directions even without the direct

2361

01:27:09,669 --> 01:27:08,159

application towards you know this is

2362

01:27:11,030 --> 01:27:09,679

going to solve this problem or this is

2363

01:27:13,110 --> 01:27:11,040

going to solve this problem better

2364

01:27:14,950 --> 01:27:13,120

understanding the world around us is

2365

01:27:16,149 --> 01:27:14,960

incredibly important and takes us in

2366

01:27:18,629 --> 01:27:16,159

directions that we could never have

2367

01:27:20,709 --> 01:27:18,639

foreseen in the 19th century everyone

2368

01:27:22,629 --> 01:27:20,719

thought that the dominant technology was

2369

01:27:25,030 --> 01:27:22,639

going to be steam power and if you were

2370

01:27:27,350 --> 01:27:25,040

really worth your your gumption you'd go

2371

01:27:30,149 --> 01:27:27,360

out and do research in steam power but

2372

01:27:32,149 --> 01:27:30,159

it was it was a kind of a a nutty dude

2373

01:27:35,270 --> 01:27:32,159

named james clerk maxwell playing around

2374

01:27:37,669 --> 01:27:35,280

with magnets and prisms that figured out

2375

01:27:39,669 --> 01:27:37,679

the the the the theory of

2376

01:27:42,229 --> 01:27:39,679

electromagnetic uh

2377

01:27:44,390 --> 01:27:42,239

like interactions that's basically you

2378

01:27:46,149 --> 01:27:44,400

know if you'd asked people at that time

2379

01:27:47,750 --> 01:27:46,159

if he was doing something worthwhile a

2380

01:27:50,070 --> 01:27:47,760

lot of people would have said no he's

2381

01:27:52,870 --> 01:27:50,080

just wasting his time and yet

2382

01:27:54,950 --> 01:27:52,880

his work is the basis of all of 20th

2383

01:27:57,189 --> 01:27:54,960

century and 21st century technology in

2384

01:28:00,310 --> 01:27:57,199

terms of how currents run through

2385

01:28:03,350 --> 01:28:00,320

circuits how fiber optic cables work the

2386

01:28:05,110 --> 01:28:03,360

internet silicon uh you know uh

2387

01:28:06,790 --> 01:28:05,120

semiconductors all of this is based on

2388

01:28:09,030 --> 01:28:06,800

that work and it's just it's incredible

2389

01:28:11,430 --> 01:28:09,040

so i think i think i'm a huge proponent

2390

01:28:13,189 --> 01:28:11,440

in doing scientific research for the

2391

01:28:15,189 --> 01:28:13,199

point of better understanding the

2392

01:28:17,830 --> 01:28:15,199

natural world and the spin-offs will

2393

01:28:19,510 --> 01:28:17,840

come from it and and and it's impossible

2394

01:28:21,030 --> 01:28:19,520

to predict where that's going to be how

2395

01:28:22,550 --> 01:28:21,040

do you put a press on the government of

2396

01:28:24,470 --> 01:28:22,560

your species

2397

01:28:26,149 --> 01:28:24,480

what's that yeah

2398

01:28:28,709 --> 01:28:26,159

how do you put a price on the betterment

2399

01:28:30,870 --> 01:28:28,719

of your species exactly exactly and i

2400

01:28:33,350 --> 01:28:30,880

will i'll just i will just note that all

2401

01:28:35,030 --> 01:28:33,360

of computer technology is based upon the

2402

01:28:36,470 --> 01:28:35,040

josephson junction which we wouldn't

2403

01:28:38,070 --> 01:28:36,480

know about unless we did quantum

2404

01:28:40,709 --> 01:28:38,080

mechanics and when they were doing

2405

01:28:43,110 --> 01:28:40,719

quantum mechanics in the 40s

2406

01:28:45,350 --> 01:28:43,120

you never would have expected any

2407

01:28:47,510 --> 01:28:45,360

anything to come out of it okay it was

2408

01:28:50,149 --> 01:28:47,520

you know it's the kind of stuff so yes

2409

01:28:52,229 --> 01:28:50,159

basic research leads to

2410

01:28:55,590 --> 01:28:52,239

amazing results

2411

01:28:58,310 --> 01:28:55,600

not next year not next month not not 10

2412

01:29:01,110 --> 01:28:58,320

years from now but decades down the line

2413

01:29:03,270 --> 01:29:01,120

um and you know that's why basic

2414

01:29:04,229 --> 01:29:03,280

research we have to we have to continue

2415

01:29:06,470 --> 01:29:04,239

doing it

2416

01:29:08,629 --> 01:29:06,480

all right cameron that was fantastic i'm

2417

01:29:11,669 --> 01:29:08,639

sorry we didn't have time to do even

2418

01:29:13,430 --> 01:29:11,679

more questions um you can look through

2419

01:29:15,189 --> 01:29:13,440

the chat on youtube and see if there are

2420

01:29:16,550 --> 01:29:15,199

other ones that you'd like to answer

2421

01:29:17,830 --> 01:29:16,560

yeah um

2422

01:29:19,510 --> 01:29:17,840

next month

2423

01:29:22,629 --> 01:29:19,520

on july 5th

2424

01:29:25,510 --> 01:29:22,639

a mia bobo uh current title for her talk

2425

01:29:27,510 --> 01:29:25,520

exoplanets orbital mechanics and the

2426

01:29:29,110 --> 01:29:27,520

death star if you want to know what that

2427

01:29:31,750 --> 01:29:29,120

is all about