



# ASTR/PHYS 3070: Foundations Astronomy

## Week 14 Tuesday

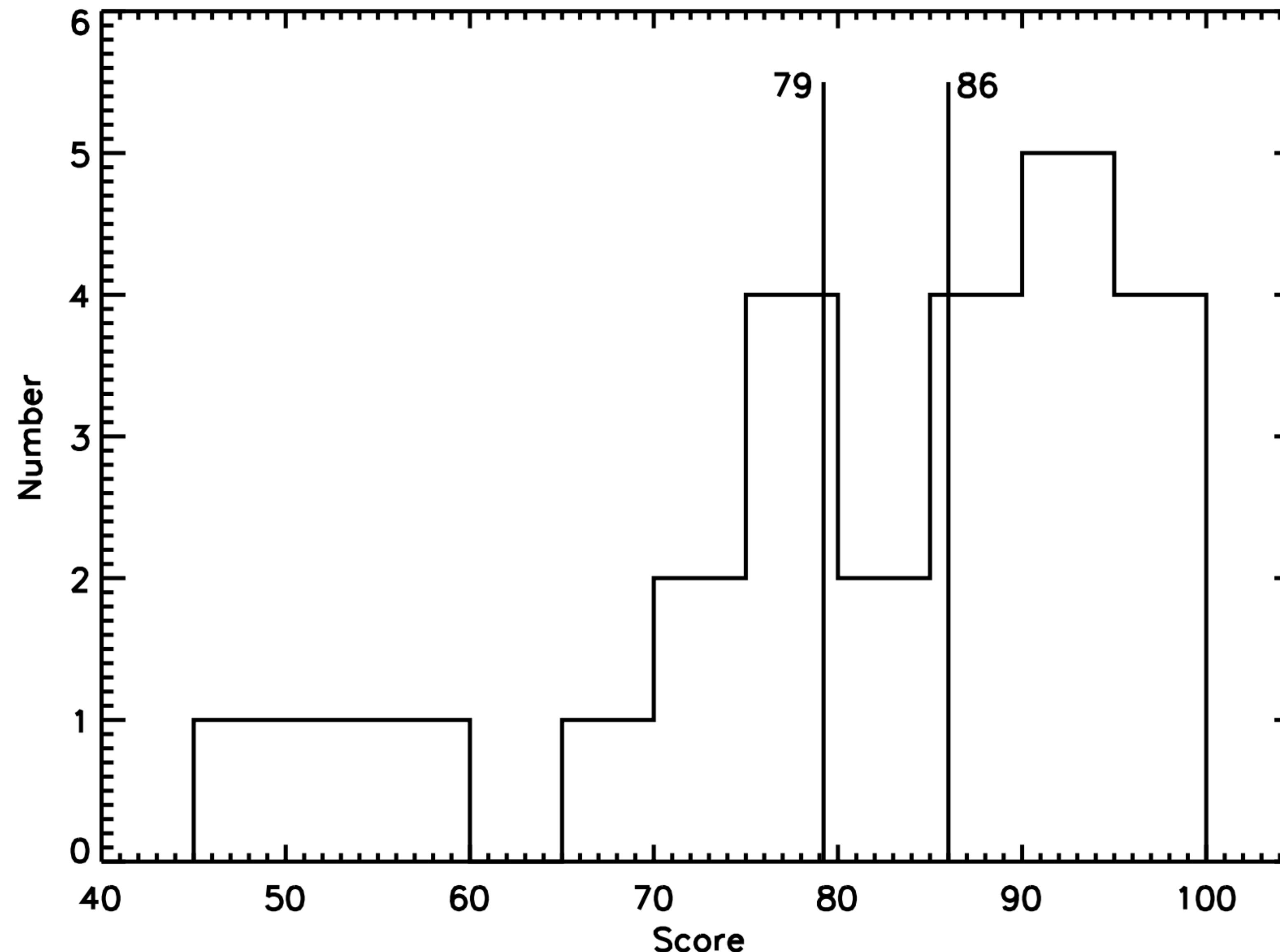
### Today's Agenda

- Midterm 2 returned
- Black Holes & XRBs
- Group Discussion
- Milky Way structure
- Evidence for dark matter
- Galaxy types

### Announcements / Reminders

- Read Chapter 20 (19 would be good too, but not required)
- No HW due this Friday!

# Midterm 2 Results



Mean similar to  
Midterm 1 (81)  
but the median  
is better than  
before (82)

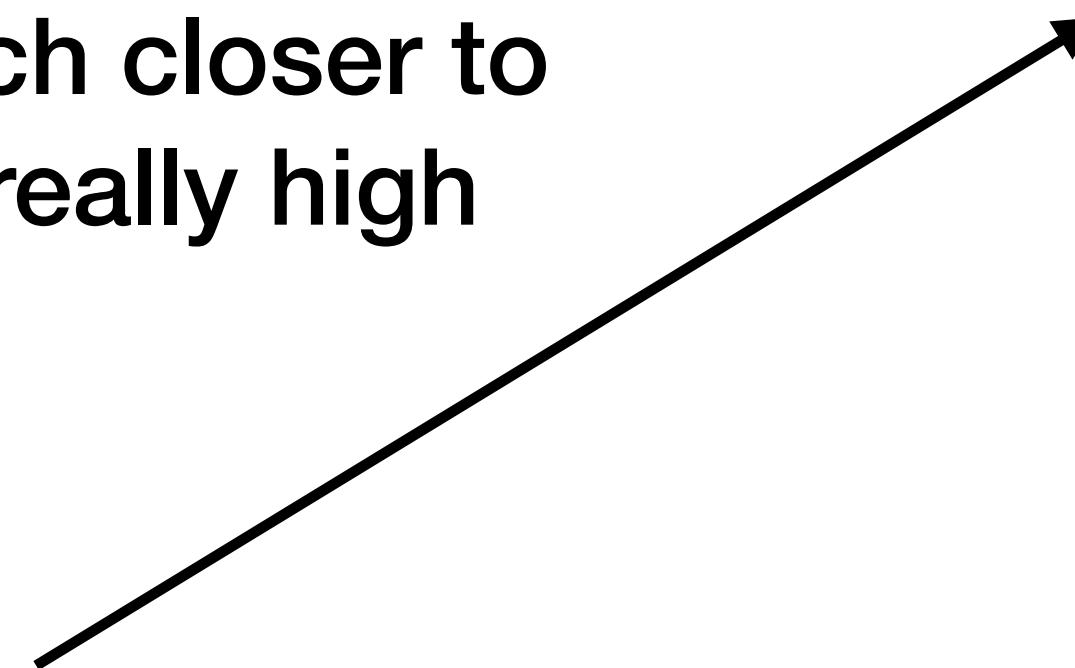
# Black Holes

If the Sun suddenly collapsed and formed a black hole, what would happen to the Earth?

For a spherically symmetric object, its gravitational force (outside the object) is identical to that of an object with the same mass all at  $r = 0 \rightarrow$  exactly the case of a black hole!

The escape speed for a BH is the same as usual then, but b/c we can get much closer to them, the escape speed can get really high

$$v_{\text{esc}} = \left( \frac{2GM}{r} \right)^{1/2}$$



Set  $v_{\text{esc}} = c$  (speed of light)

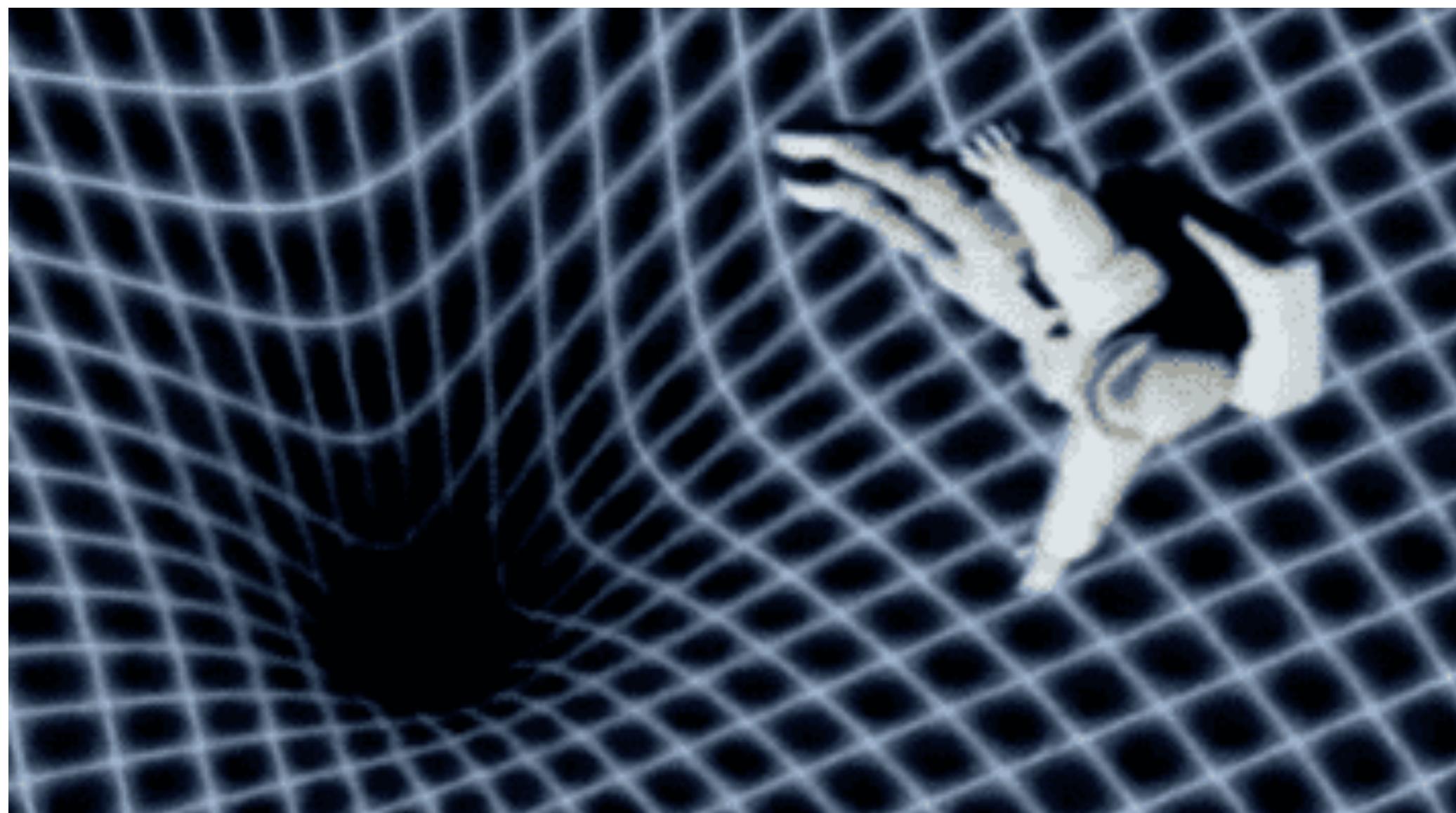
$$r_{\text{Sch}} = \frac{2GM}{c^2}$$

Schwarzschild radius

The spherical surface defined by this radius is called the event horizon

# Black Holes

Spaghettification



$F_g$  changes so quickly with radius that gravitational tidal forces (the difference in  $F_g$  between your head and your feet) become strong enough to rip you apart as you fall towards a BH's singularity

$$\Delta F \approx \frac{GMm}{r^3} \ell$$

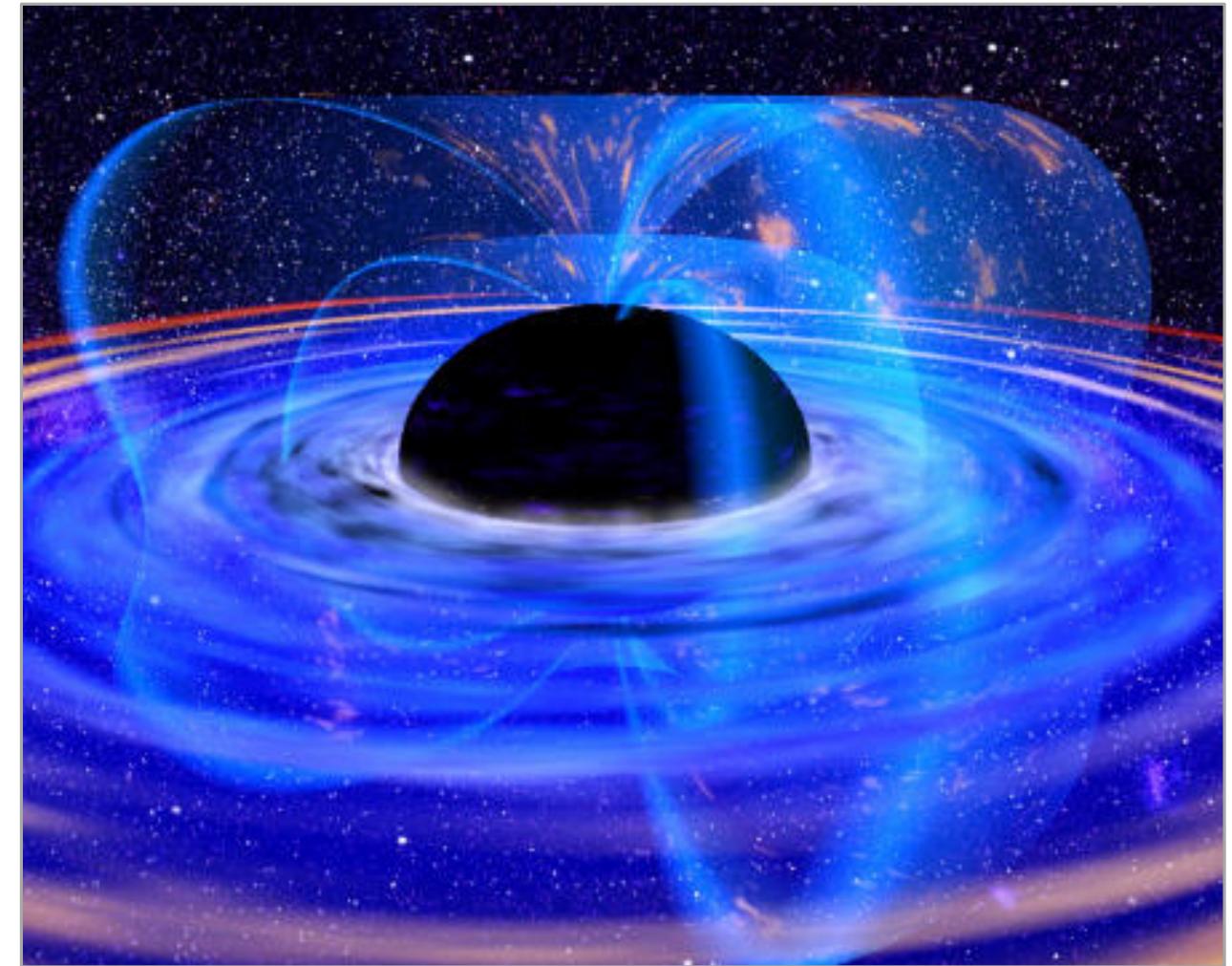
Your mass

Your height

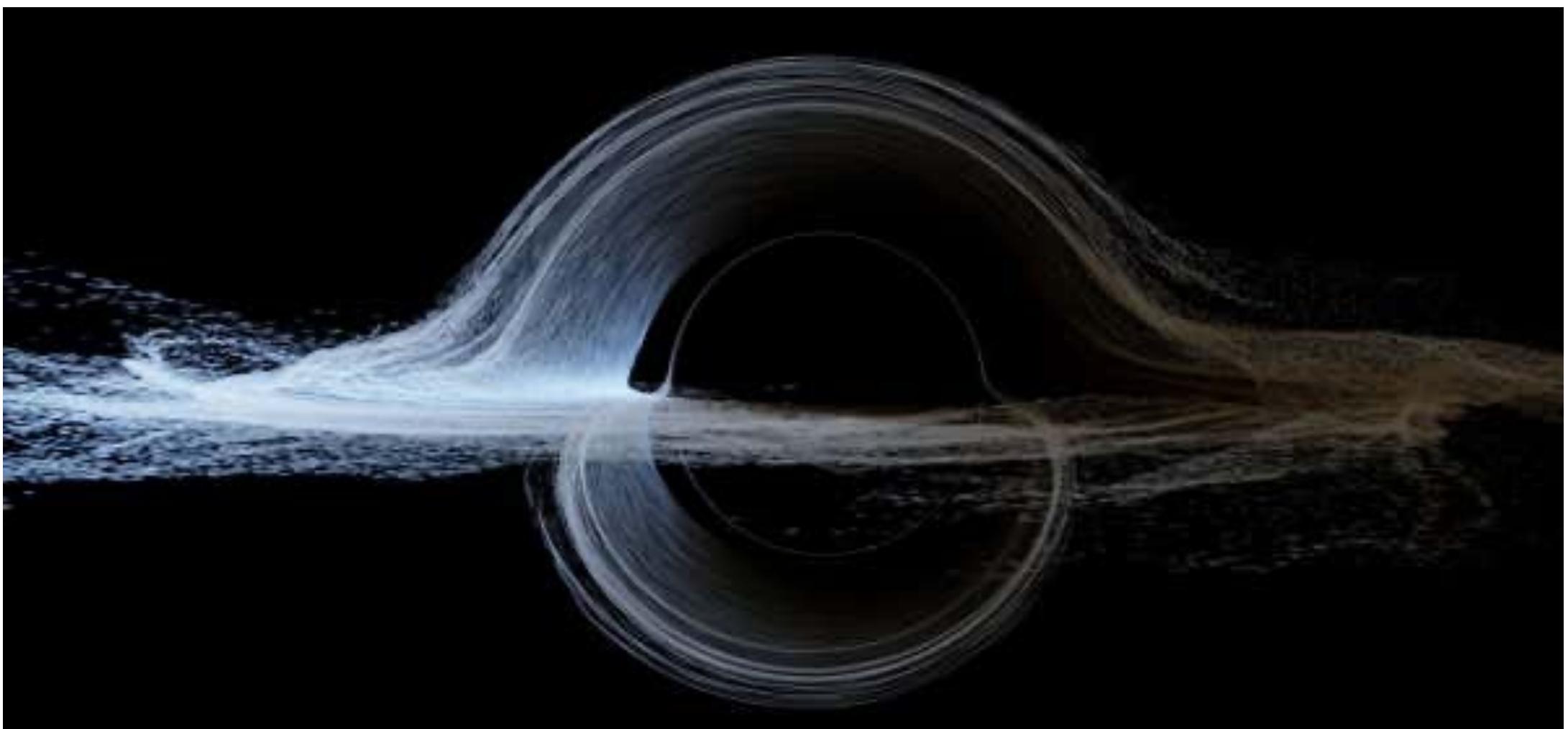
Diagram showing the formula for gravitational tidal force  $\Delta F \approx \frac{GMm}{r^3} \ell$ . Two arrows point from the variables  $m$  and  $\ell$  to the text "Your mass" and "Your height" respectively.

# Other effects (e.g., explaining *Interstellar*)

BH with  
accretion disk  
(no gravitational  
lensing)



What it would  
actually look like



## Gravitational Lensing

Light follows shortest path b/t 2 points, but  
space-time curved, so light rays are curved

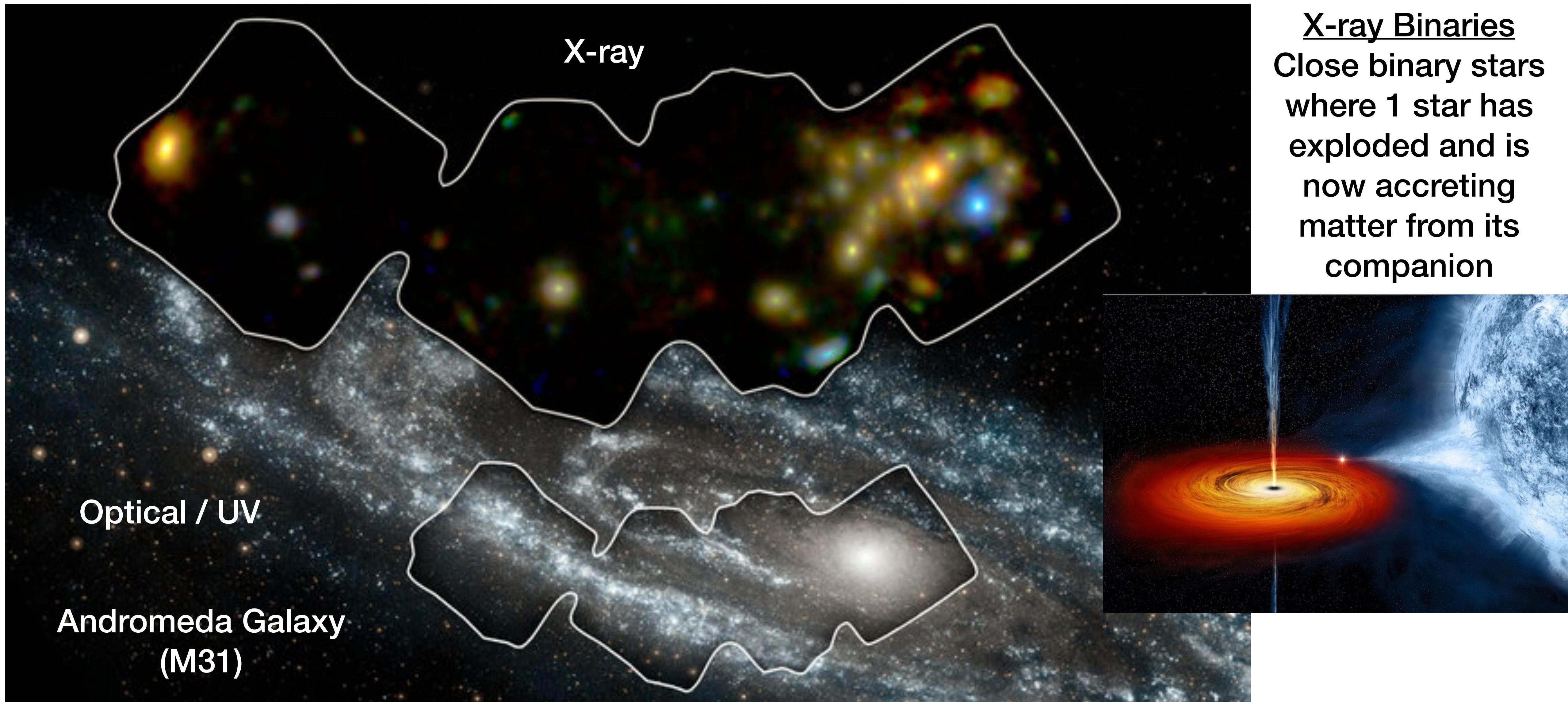
## Time Dilation

Time passes slower the closer you are to a  
massive object (GPS satellite clocks “have  
more ticks” than our clocks in a given  
interval of time)

## Gravitational Redshift

Light has to “climb out” of a gravitational  
potential well, losing energy — light with  
less energy has a longer wavelength  
(just outside the event horizon, light is nearly  
infinitely redshifted)

# Observing real NSs and BHs



# Group Discussion Problem

The radiation powering pulsars results from high energy processes due to the very strong magnetic field of the star.

As the pulsar radiates, the star must lose energy assuming energy conservation. What is the effect of that lost energy on the star?

If the pulsar was formed with a mass very close to its Chandrasekhar mass, will it eventually become a black hole (assuming it remains isolated, accreting a trivial amount of matter over that time)?

What happens to you (at that moment) when you cross the event horizon of a black hole (defined by the Schwarzschild radius)?

From the terrible Netflix TV show *Another Life*, when they're knocked out of FTL by a flare from a MAGNETAR, which they must be awfully close to...



Star's life  
determined  
mostly by its  
initial mass

White Dwarf:

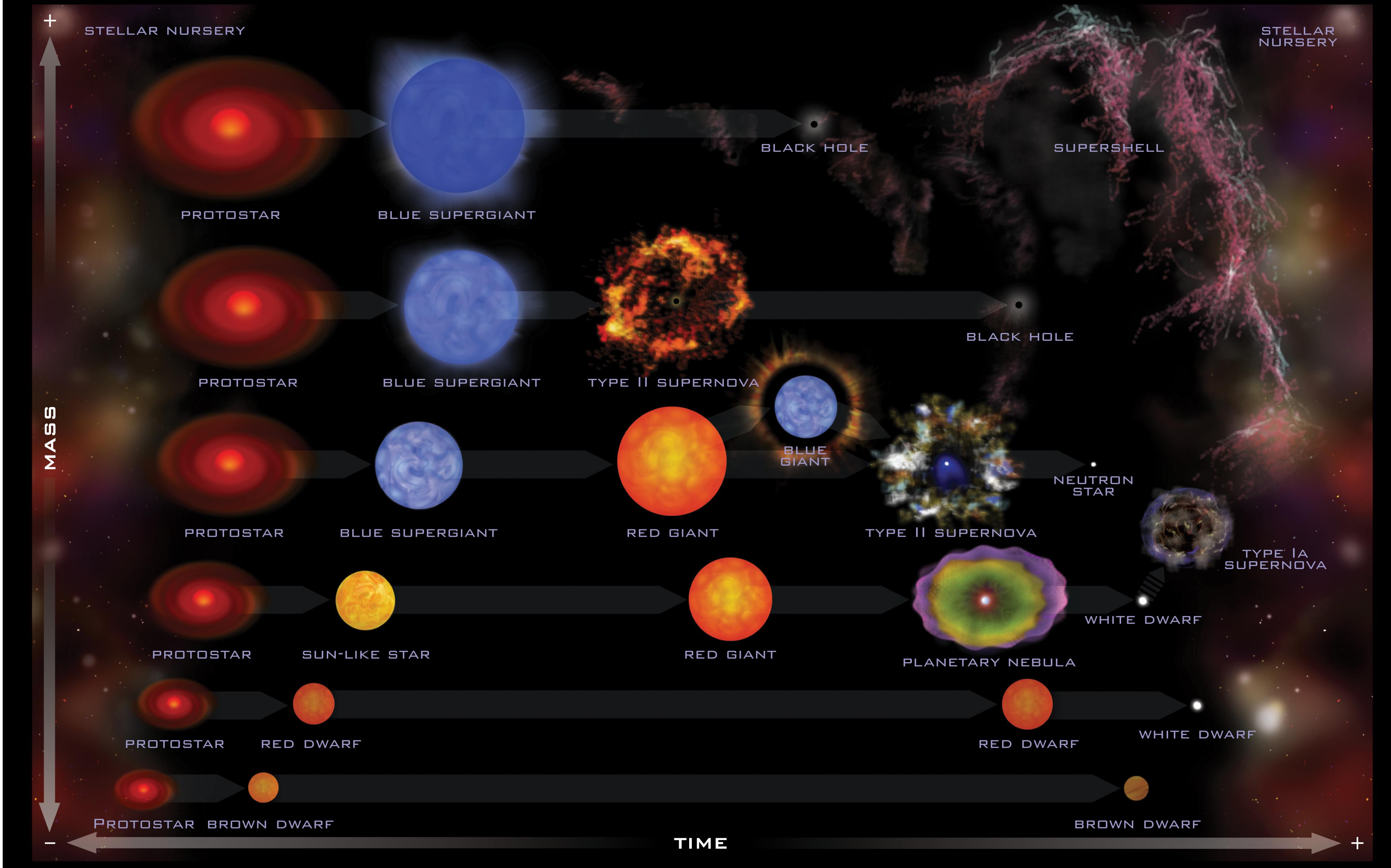
$$M < 7M_{\odot}$$

Neutron Star:

$$7M_{\odot} < M < 18M_{\odot}$$

Black Hole:

$$M > 18M_{\odot}$$

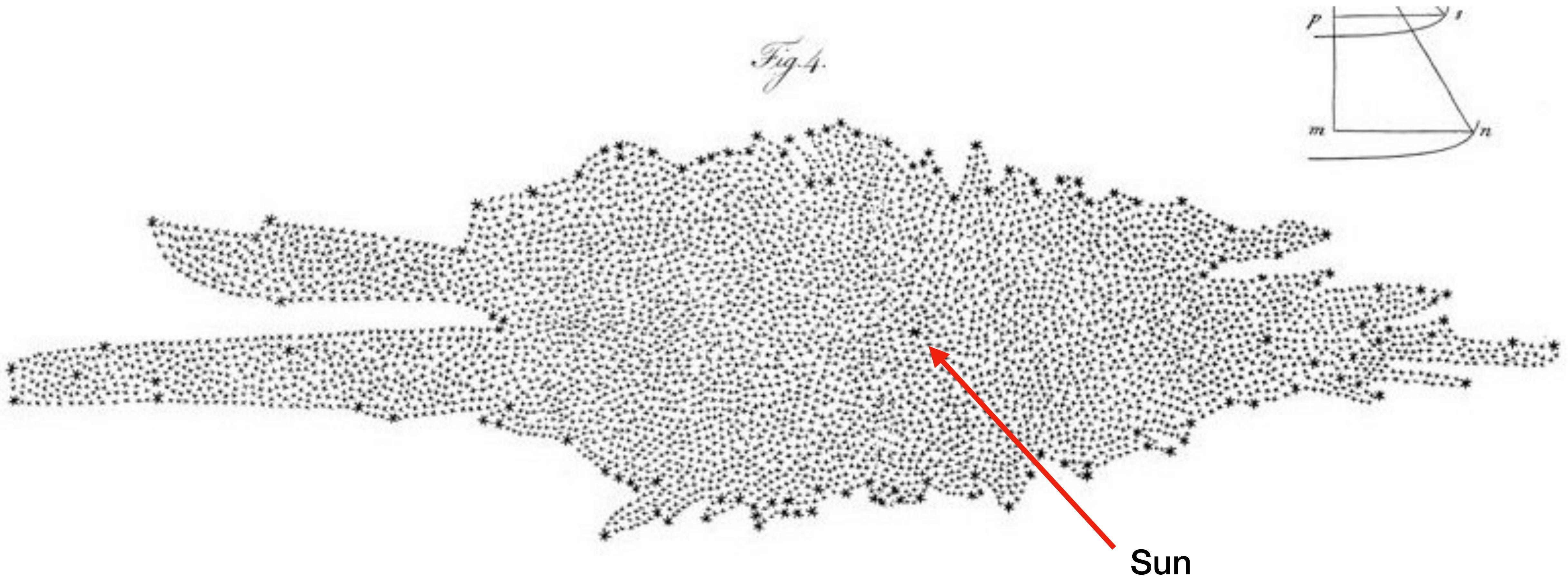


# Galaxies

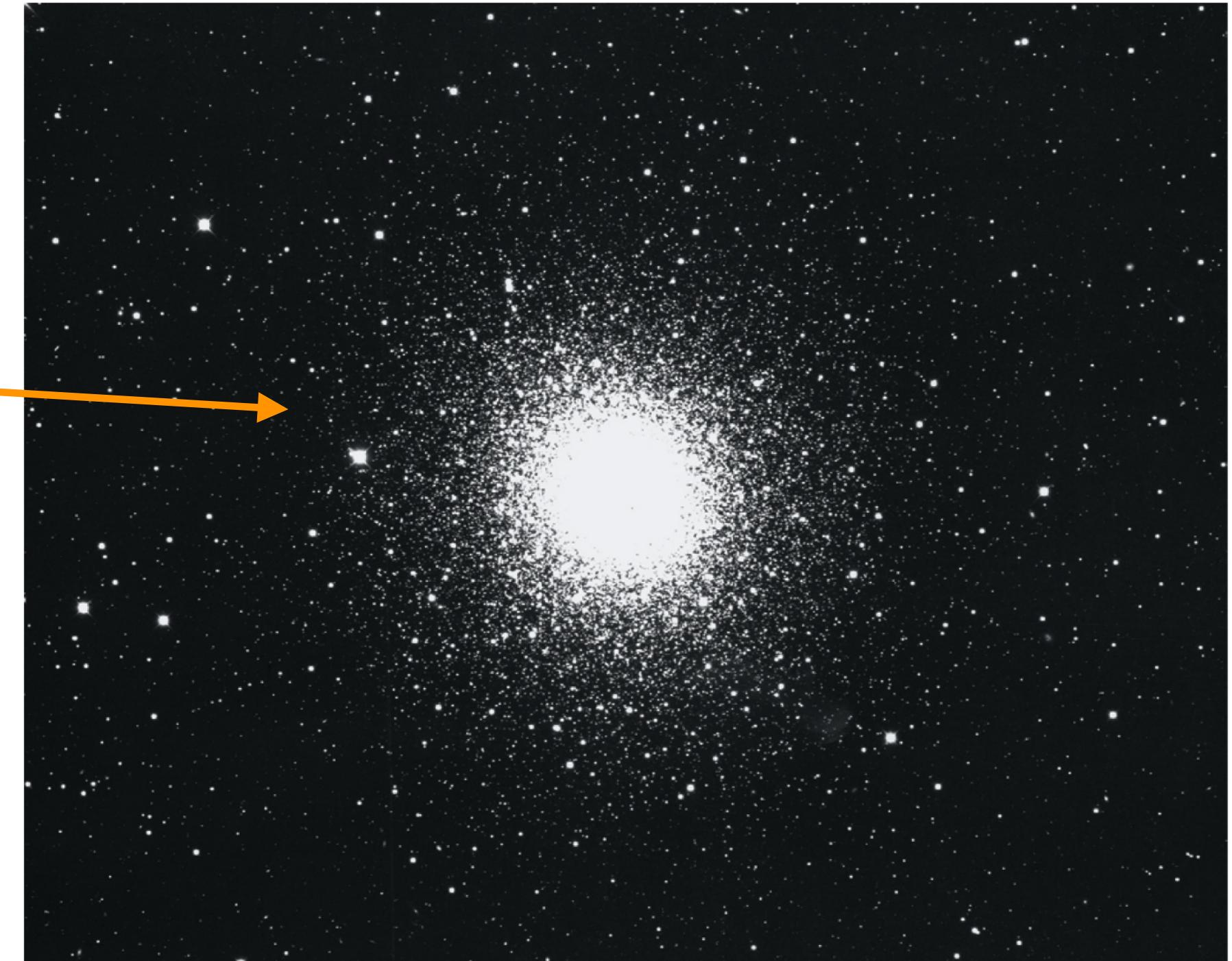
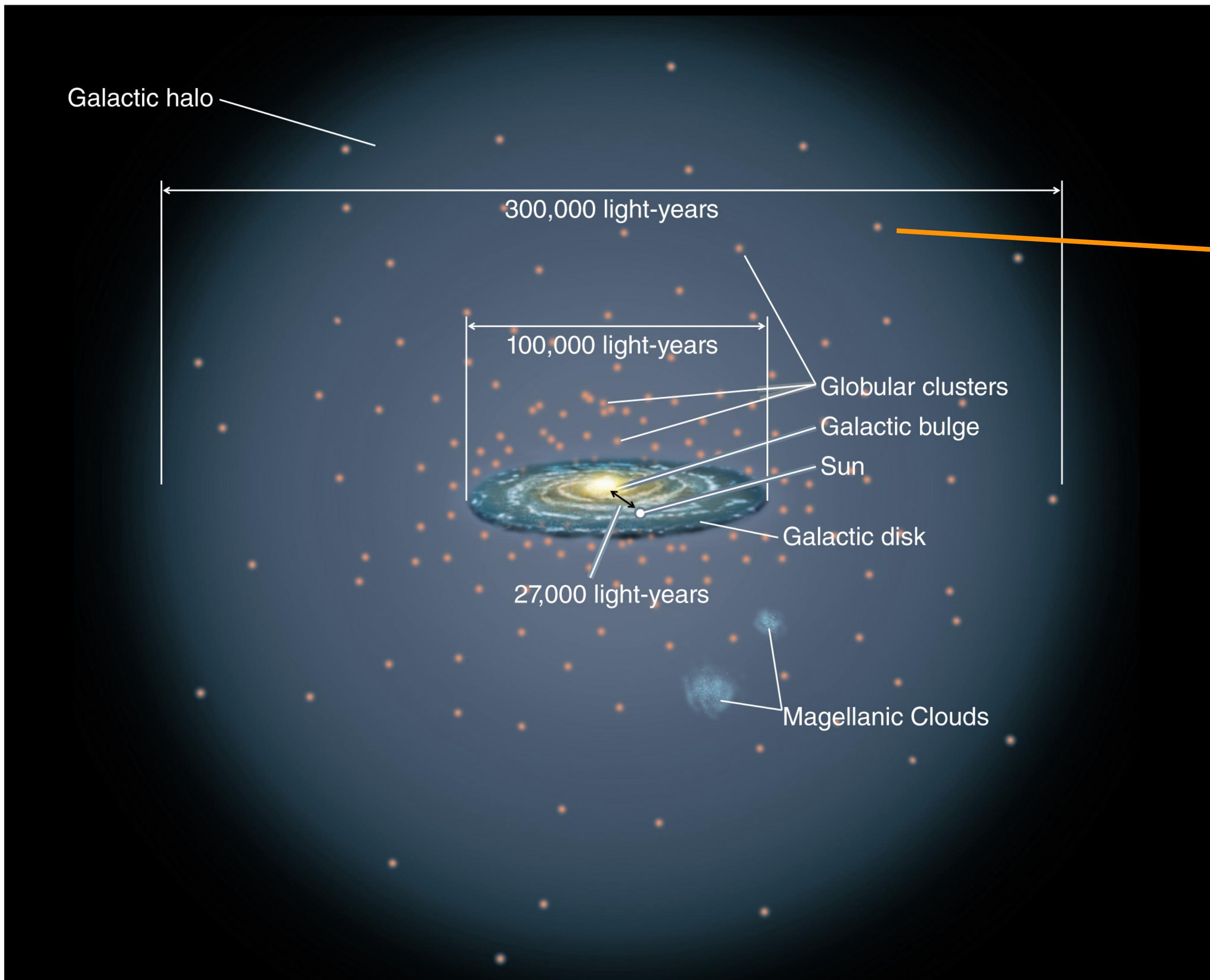
# Our Galaxy, the Milky Way



# Star counts: William and Caroline Herschel (1785)



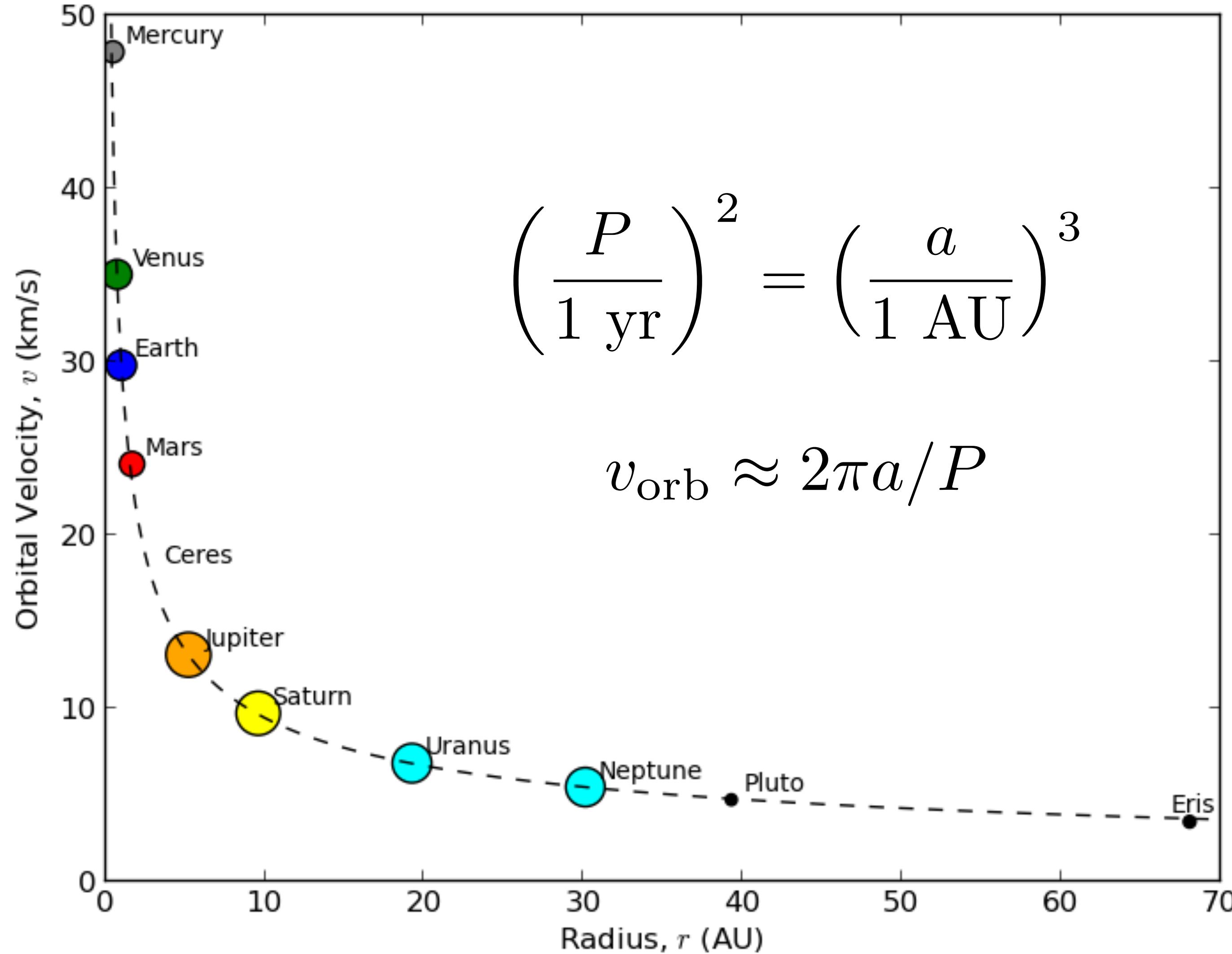
# Globular clusters revealed the scale of the MW



GWUR

Variable stars like Cepheids (called RR Lyrae stars) were used to estimate the distance to globular clusters, which were assumed to be distributed uniformly around the center of the MW

# How do stars move in the Galaxy?



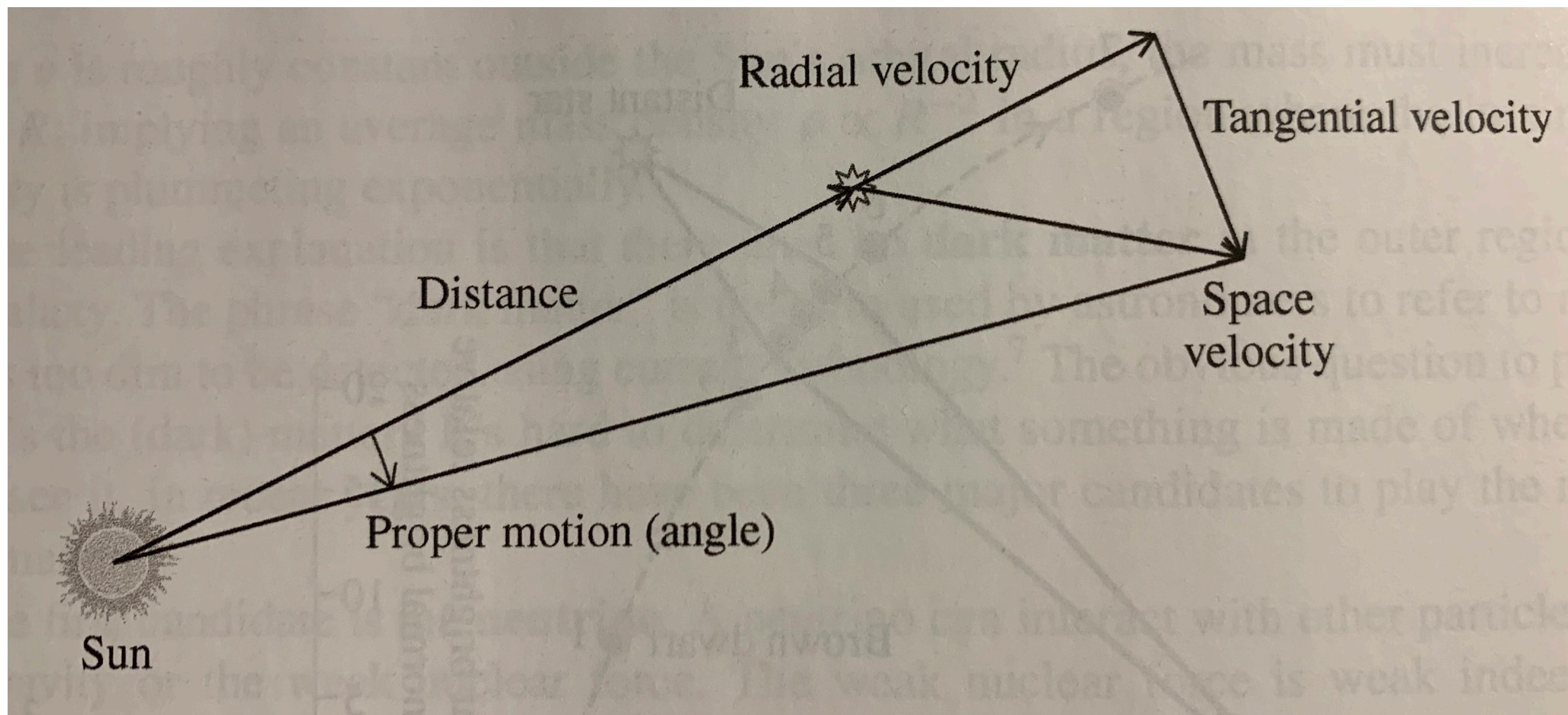
Kepler's 3rd Law in the Galaxy

$$M_{\odot} + M_G(< r) = \frac{(a/1 \text{ AU})^3}{(P/1 \text{ yr})^2}$$

Mass  
inside  
Sun's orbit

# How do we get 3D star velocities?

Radial Velocity:  $v_r = \frac{\Delta\lambda}{\lambda} c$

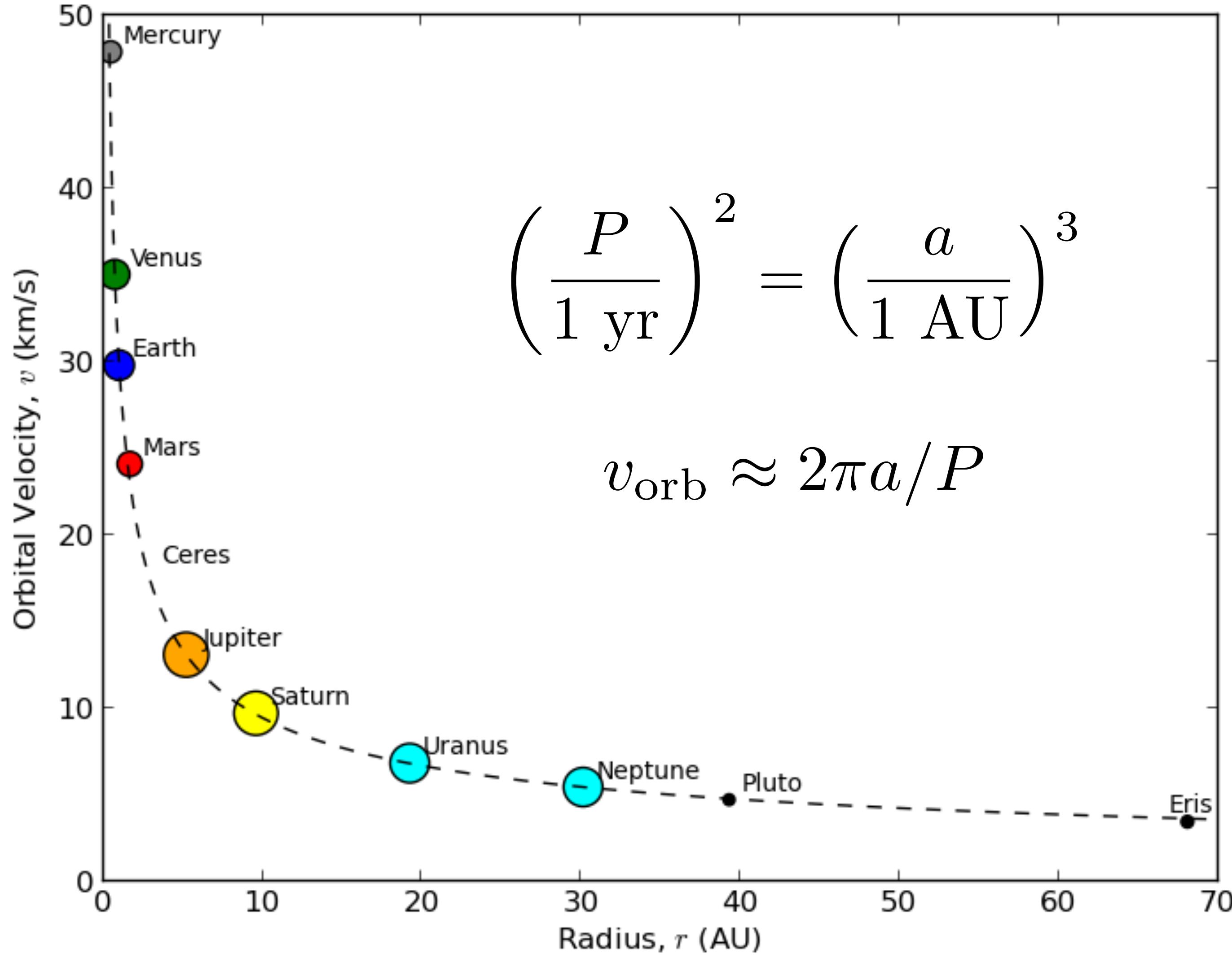


Proper Motion:

$$\mu = \frac{v_t}{d}$$

$$v = \sqrt{v_r^2 + v_t^2}$$

# How do stars move in the Galaxy?



**Kepler's 3rd Law in the Galaxy**

$$M_{\odot} + M_G(< r) = \frac{(a/1 \text{ AU})^3}{(P/1 \text{ yr})^2}$$

**Mass  
inside  
Sun's orbit**

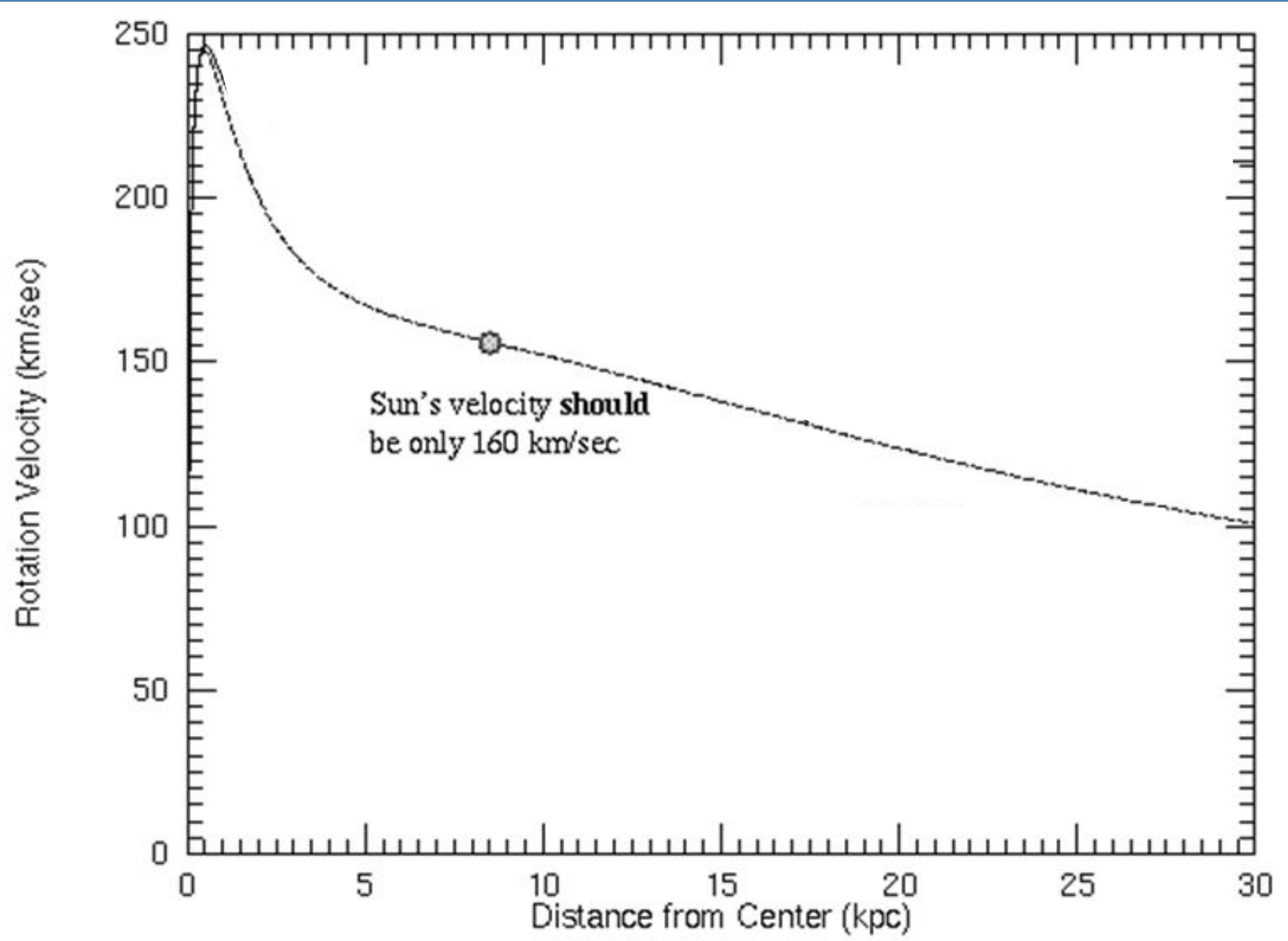
$$a \approx 8 \text{ kpc}$$

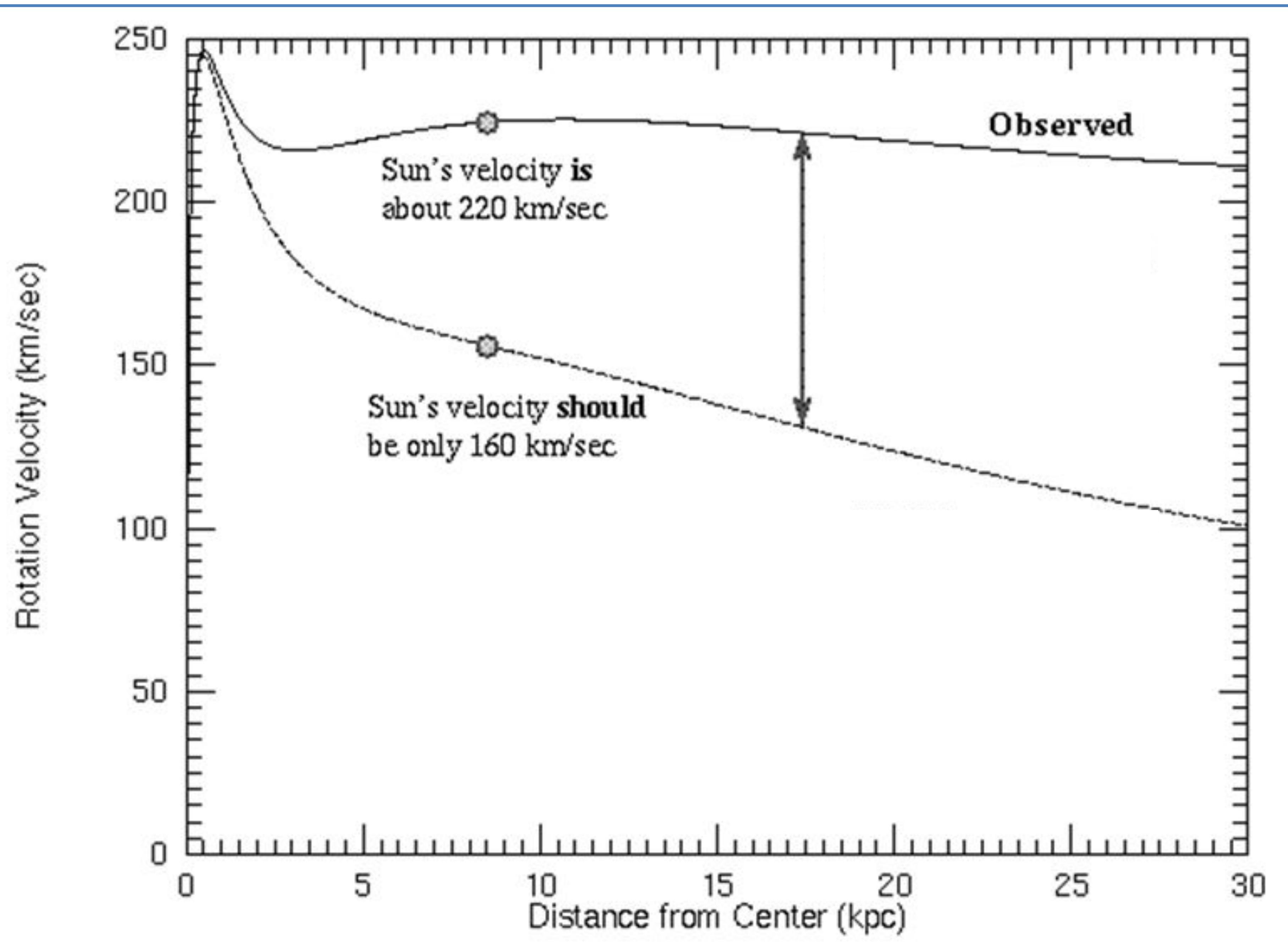
$$P \approx 220 \text{ Myr}$$

$$M_G(< r) \approx 9.3 \times 10^{10} M_{\odot}$$

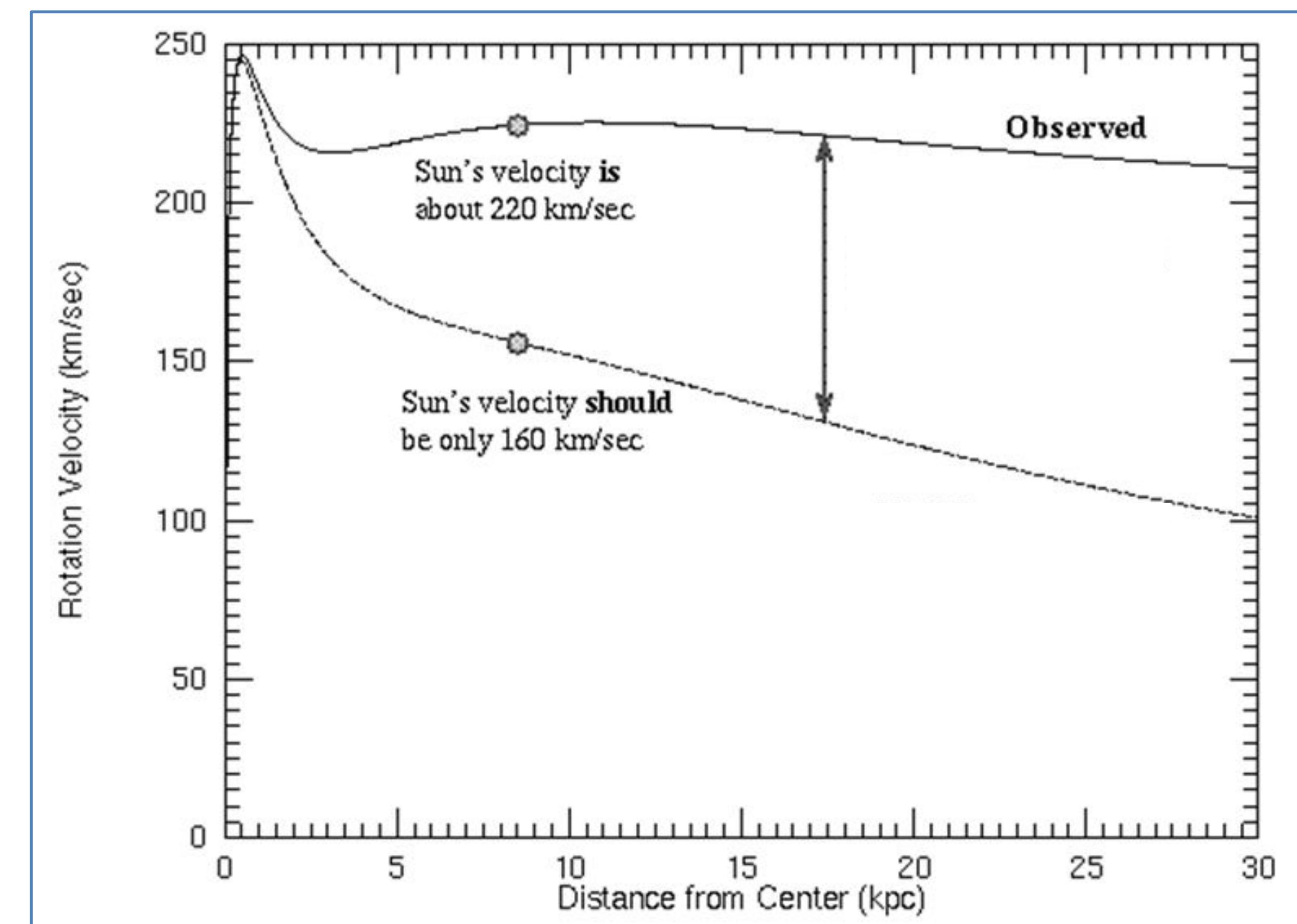
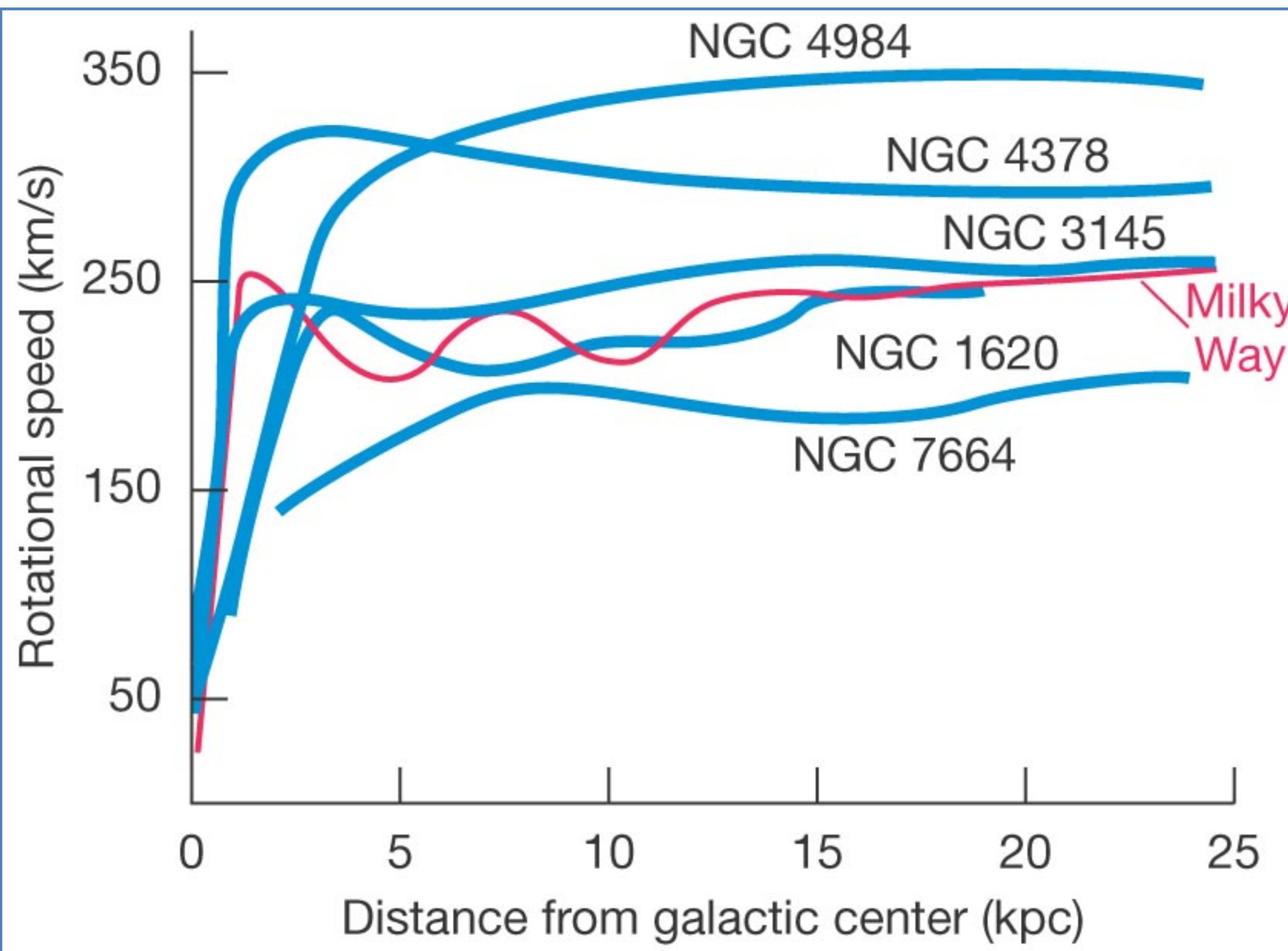
$$\frac{v(R)^2}{R} = \frac{GM_G(< R)}{R^2}$$

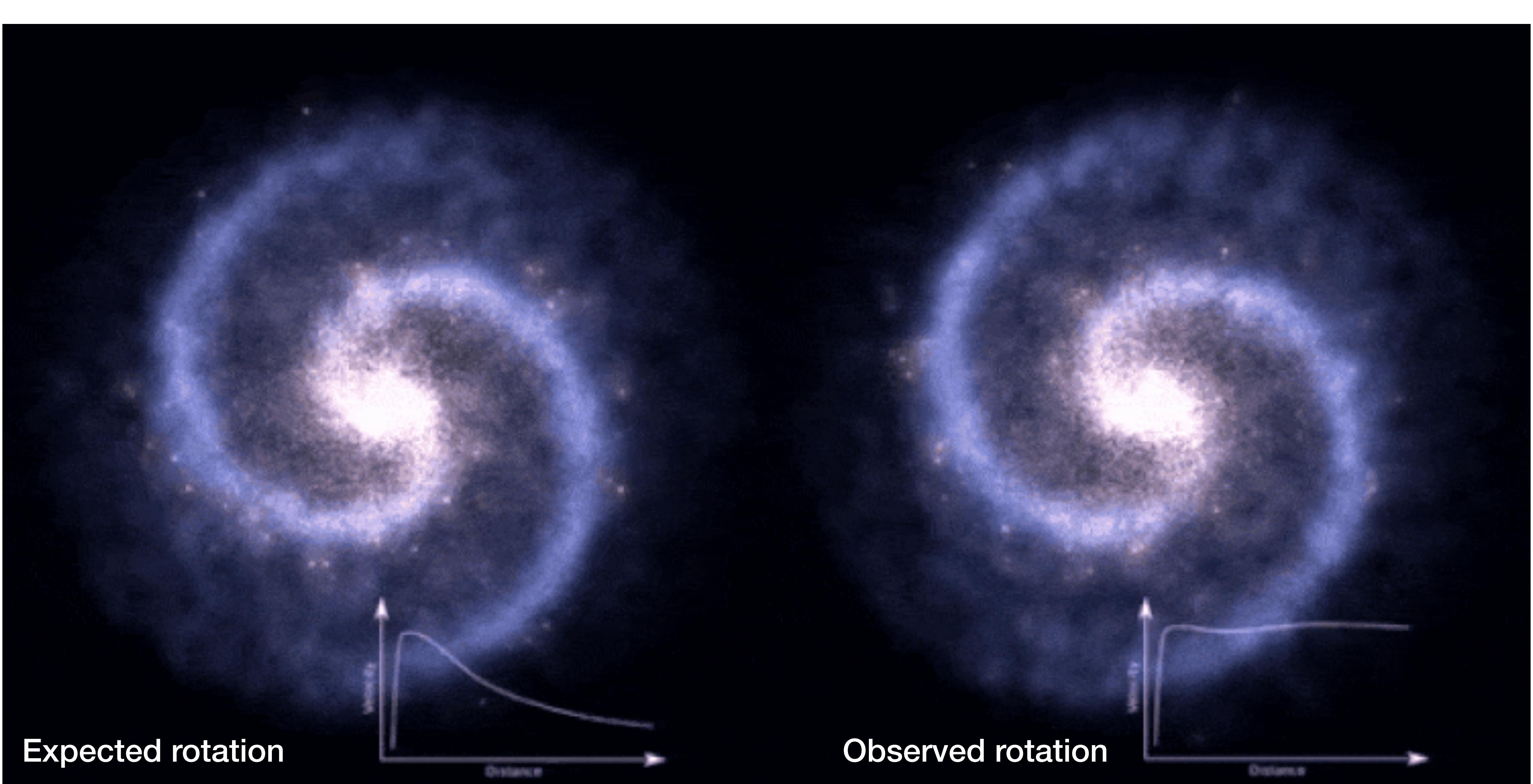
$$v(r) \propto \left( \frac{M_G(< R)}{R} \right)^{1/2} \propto R^{-1/2}$$





# Milky Way is not alone – there is extra, non-luminous matter in galaxies: “dark matter”



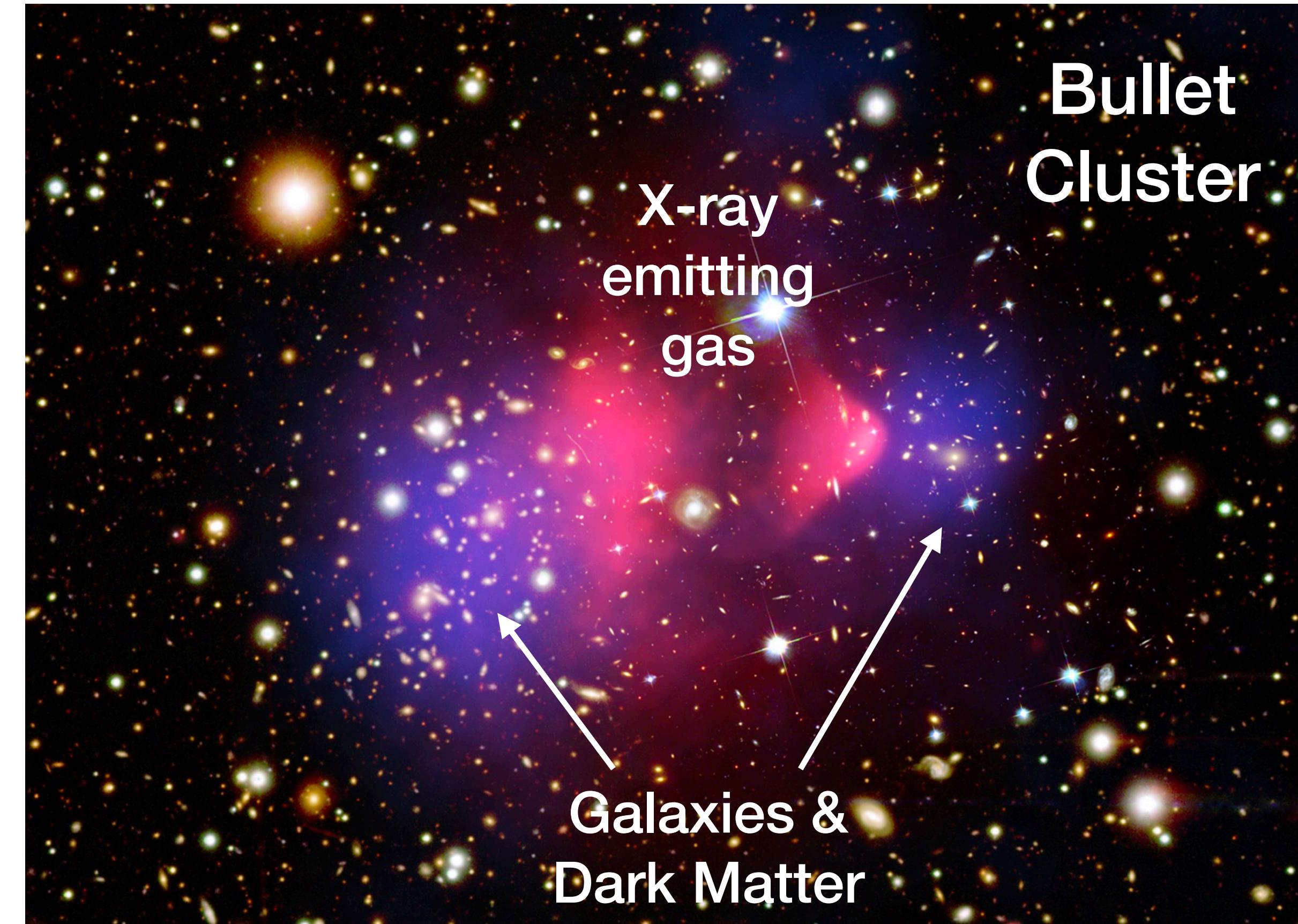


Expected rotation

Observed rotation

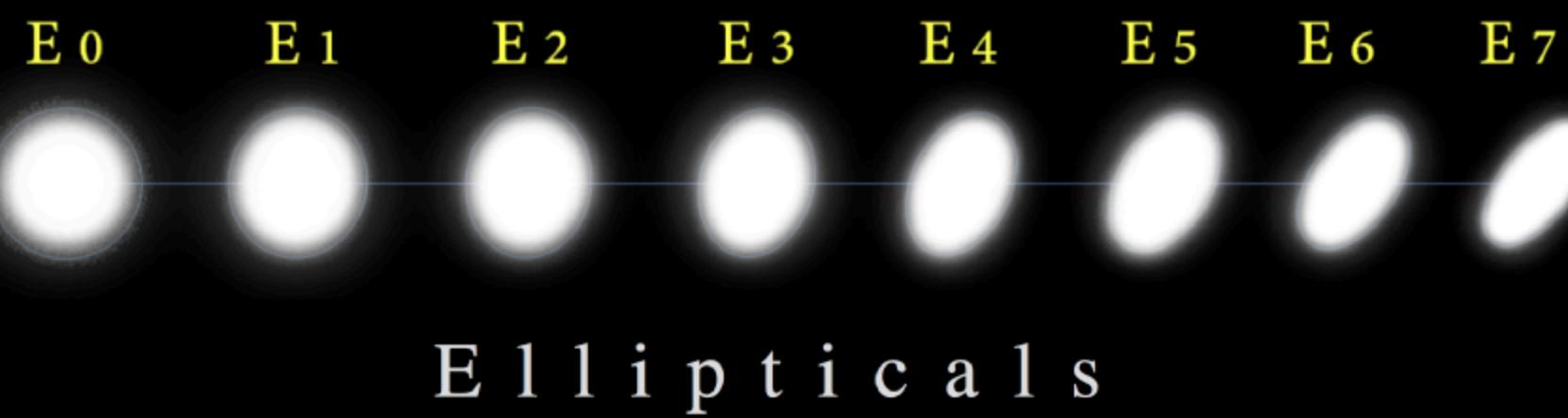
# Dark Matter: what is it?

- Neutrinos (like those produced in fusion)
  - Have mass, but not enough
  - New kind? Sterile Neutrino
- WIMP (Weakly Interacting Massive Particle)
  - Direct detection searches have failed
  - “WIMP miracle” not miraculous
- MACHO (MAssive Compact Halo Object)
  - WDs, NSs, BHs roaming around
  - Can detect via gravitational lensing - ruled out
- Theorists are clever - can invent other options!
- Modified Gravity (explains galaxy rotation, but...)



# HUBBLE-DE VAUCOULEURS DIAGRAM

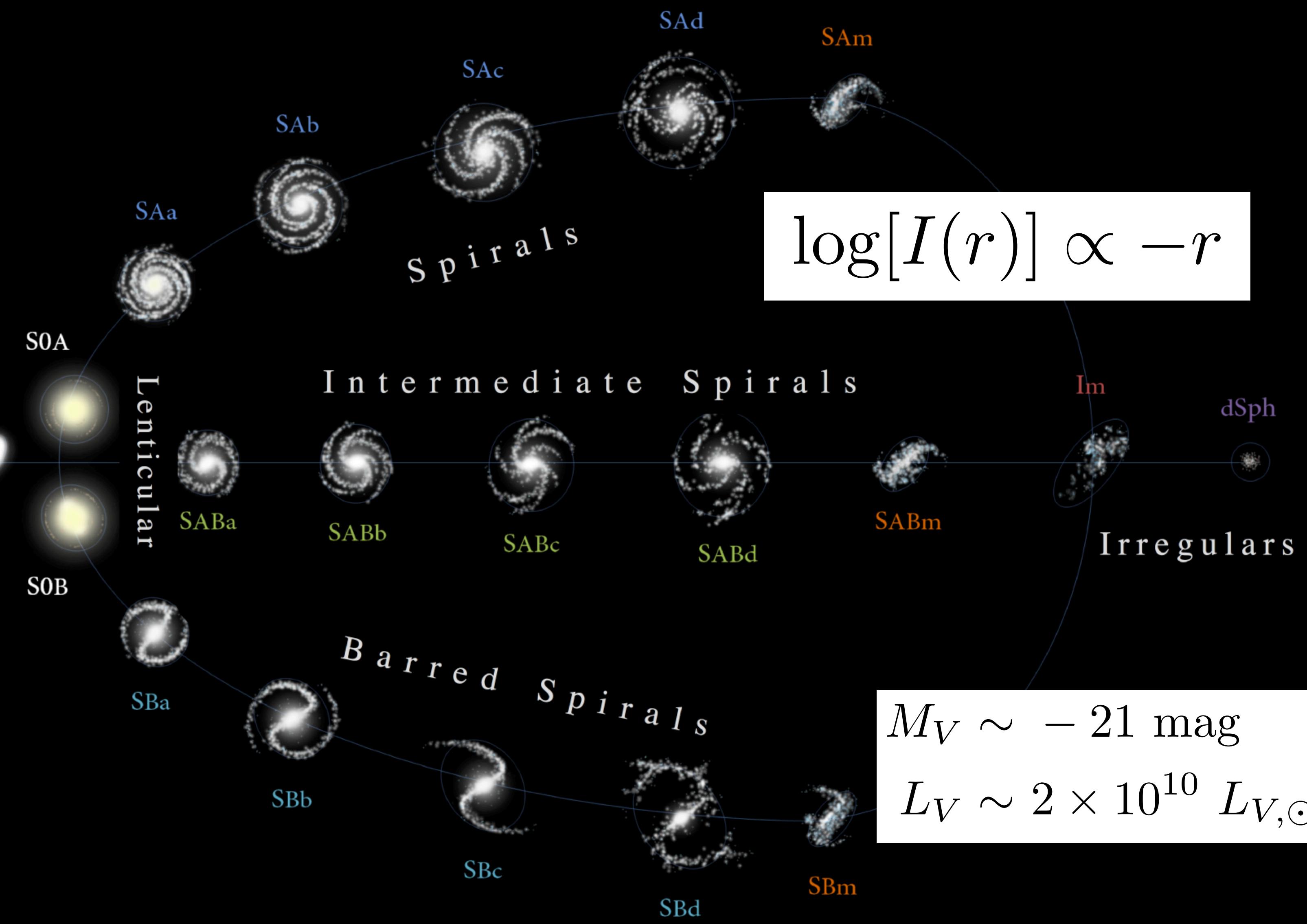
**Surface Brightness**  
 $I(r) \rightarrow \text{W/m}^2/\text{arcsec}^2$



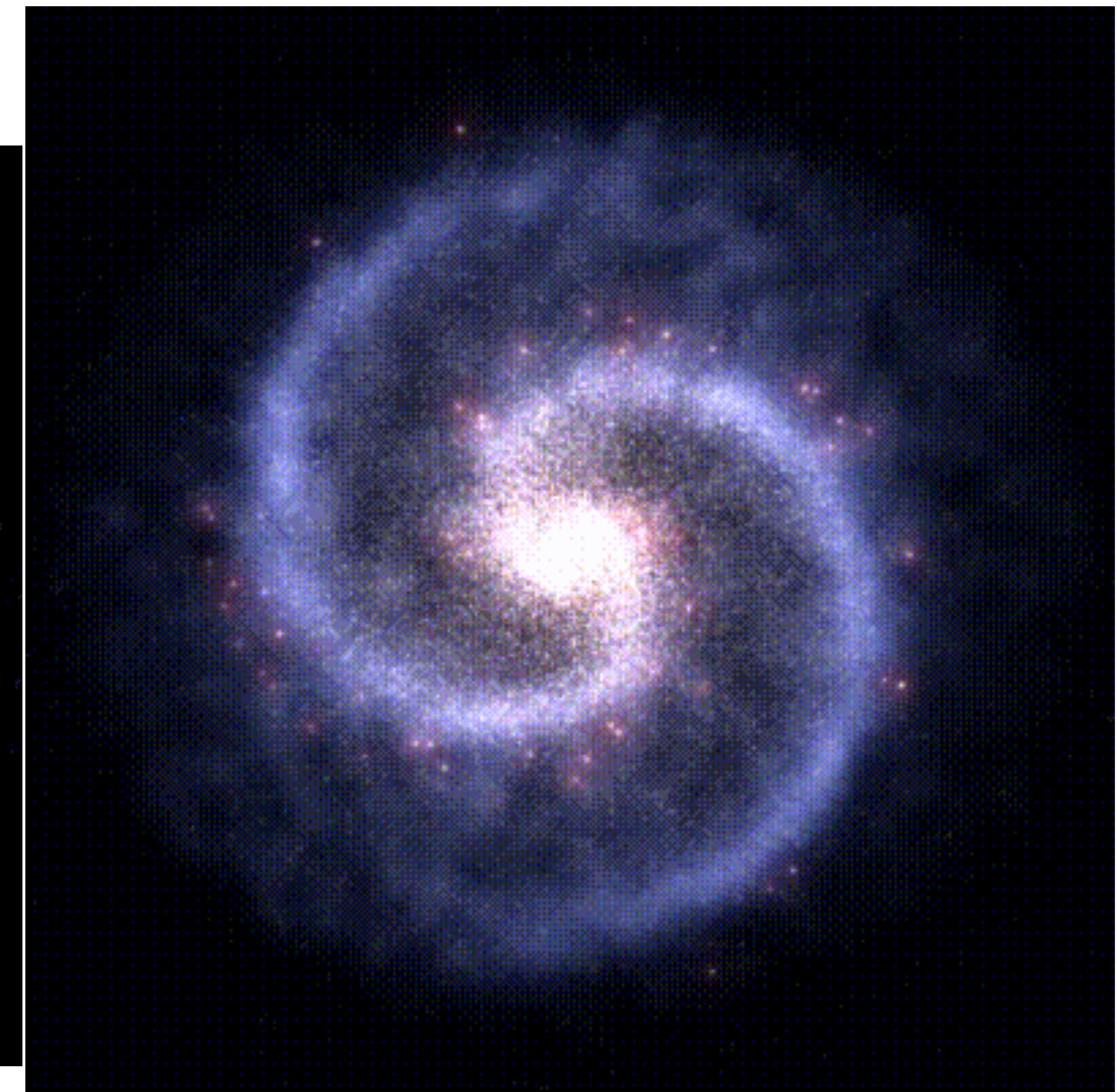
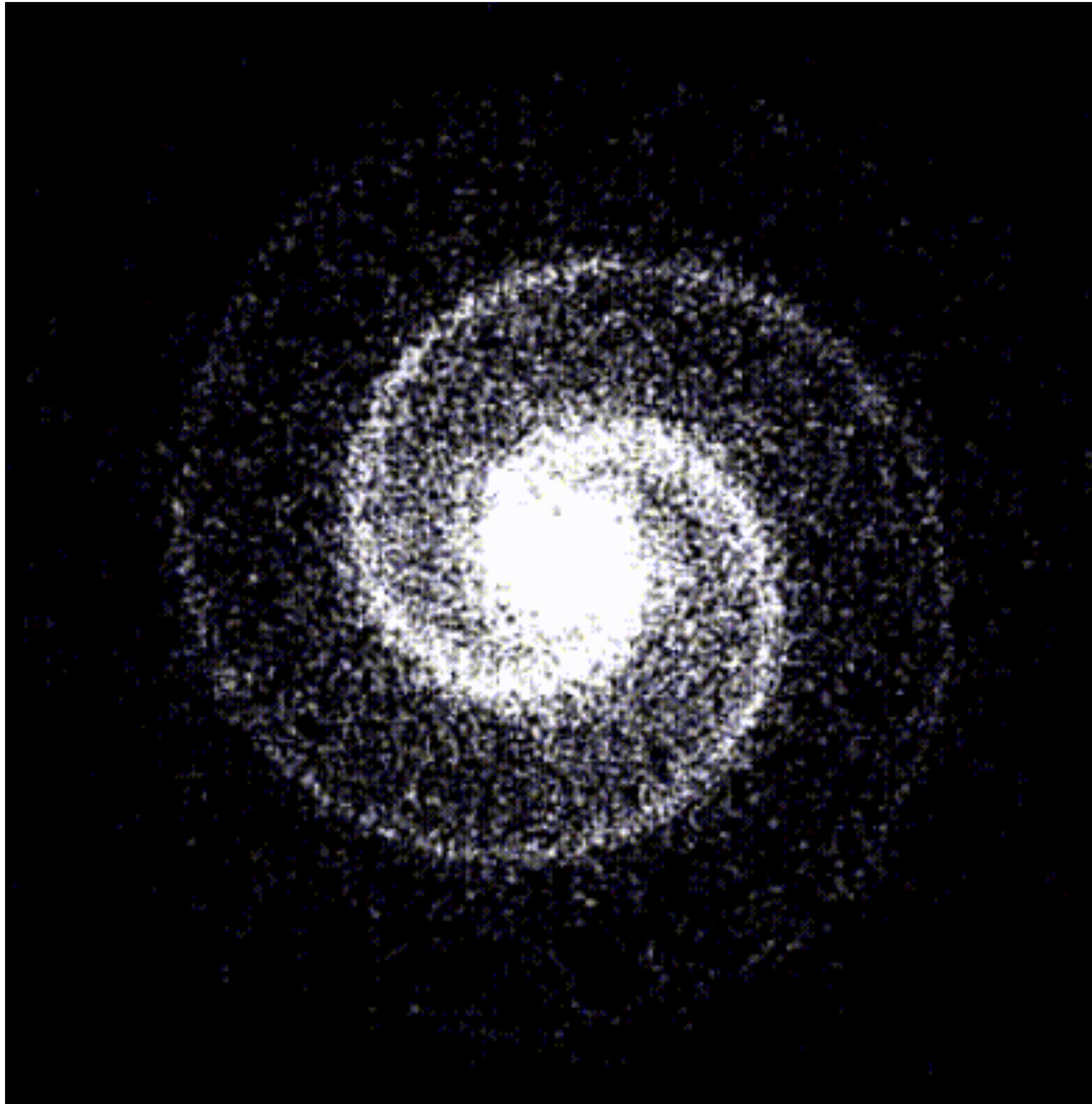
$$\log[I(r)] \propto -r^{1/4}$$

$$M_V \sim -23 \text{ mag}$$

$$L_V \sim 10^{11} L_{V,\odot}$$



# Spiral Arms



# Galaxies are not isolated





and R frames. After sky subtraction, the coadded frames were then normalized to their respective exposure times, resulting in pixel values in ADUs/second.

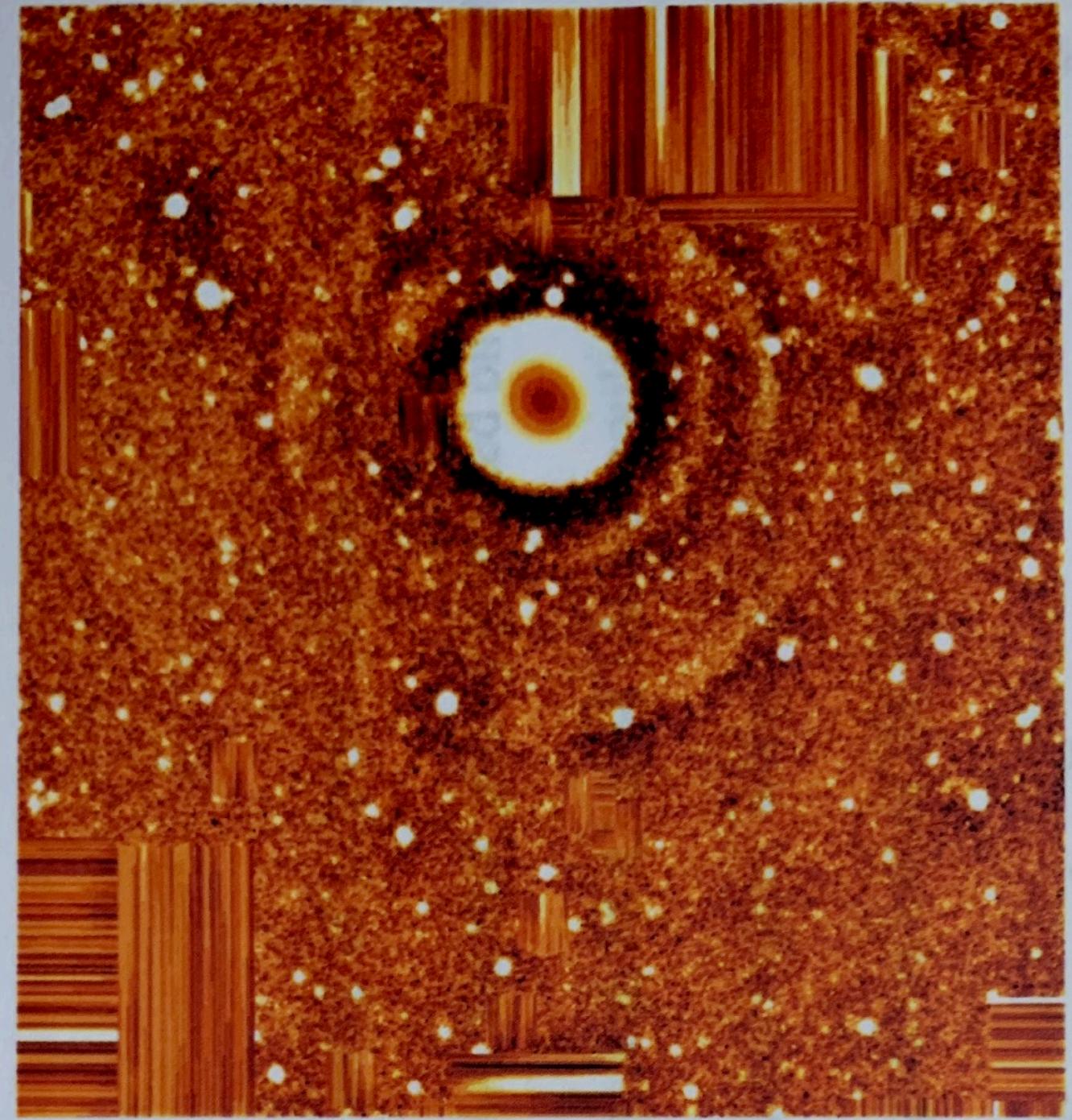


Figure 1.1 of about 100x100 square pixels

Figure 1.2