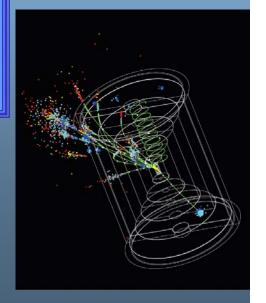


# The Mysterious Frontiers of Our Universe, BIG and small



- · How does it work?
- What is its geometry?
- How did it begin?





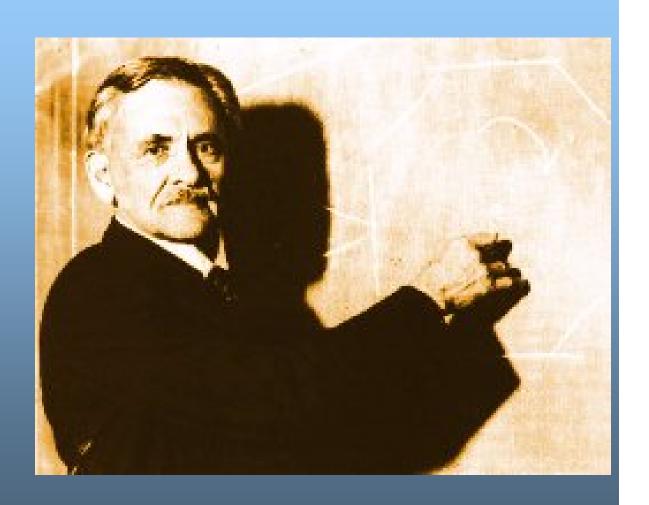
# The End of Physics

"The more important fundamental laws and facts of physical science have all been discovered,

and these are now so firmly established that the possibility of their ever being supplanted in consequence of <u>new discoveries is exceedingly remote</u>."

# The End of Physics

Albert A. Michelson, at the dedication of Ryerson Physics Lab, U. of Chicago, 1894

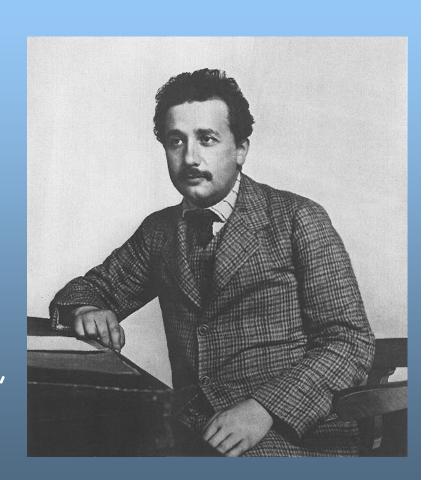


### The Miracle Year - 1905

Relativity
Quantum Physics
Atoms

1915 General Theory of Relativity,
the theory of gravity,

based on warped space

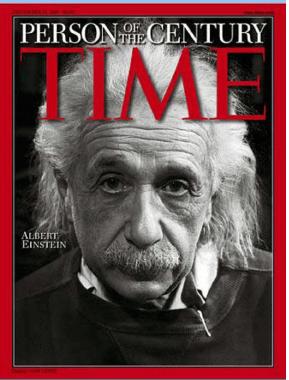


### Einstein's Theoretical Discoveries

- Light comes in small packets photons
- The speed of light is a constant
  - · Independent of observer's motion



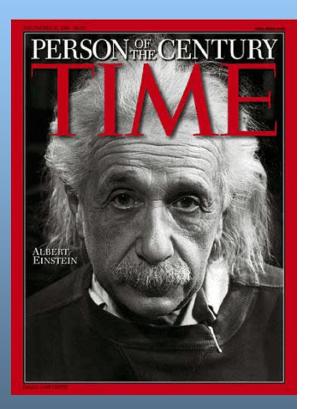






### Einstein's Theoretical Discoveries

- Light comes in small packets photons
- The speed of light is a constant
  - · Independent of observer's motion
- $E=mc^2$
- Space is warped by massive objects
- "Cosmological constant"
- Many other important discoveries

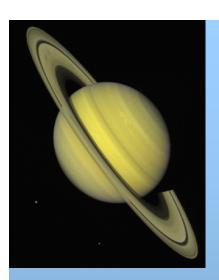


Remain central to our exploration of the universe

### Relativity

- When a man sits with a pretty girl for an hour, it seems like a minute.
- But let him sit on a hot stove for a minute and it's longer than any hour.
- That's relativity.





### Einstein's Dream

To understand the underlying simplicity behind the vast complexities of Nature



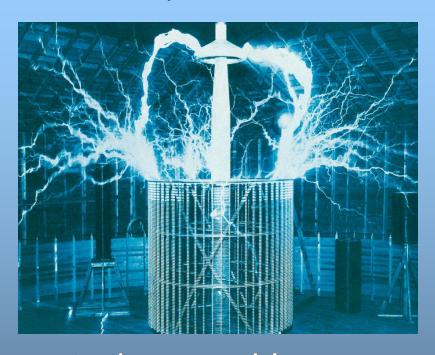
### Suspected gravity was a key





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### Unification - Einstein's Dream





Understand how nature's forces are related electromagnetism and gravity

strong nuclear force weak nuclear force

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# Einstein's Dream Today

- · Today, STRING THEORY
  - Unifies all forces
  - Overcomes inconsistencies between gravity and quantum mechanics
- <u>Ultimate Explanation</u>?
  - from the tiniest quanta to the cosmos
- · The Dream Lives On
- Needs experimental verification

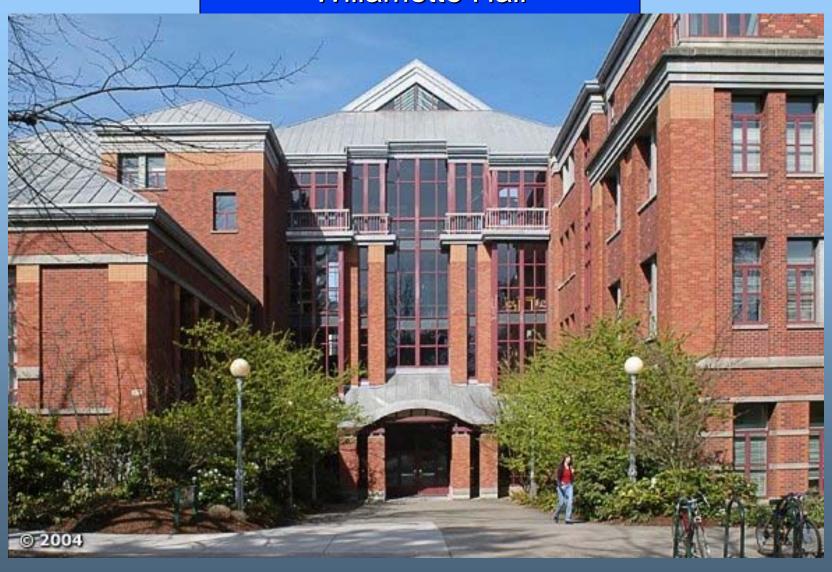


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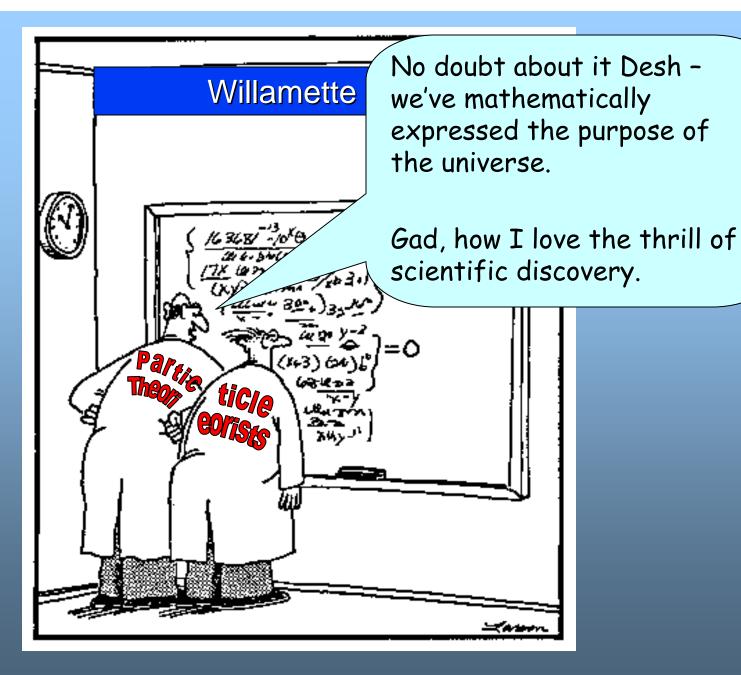
· There are encouraging signs that success is near

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#### Willamette Hall



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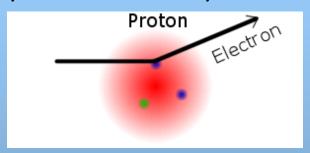
### Modern scientific instruments



### Particle Accelerators and Colliders

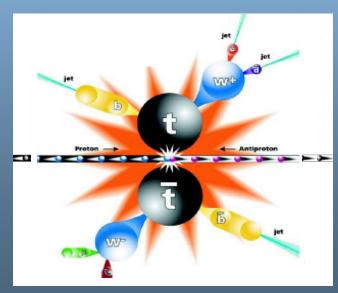


1. Super-microscope



2. Creation of massive matter  $(E=mc^2)$ 

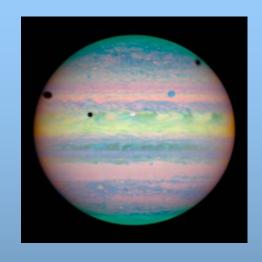




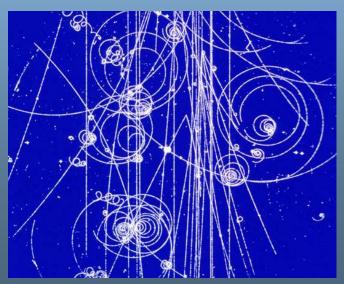
### What is matter?











### What is matter?

### · Quarks

combine to make protons and neutrons

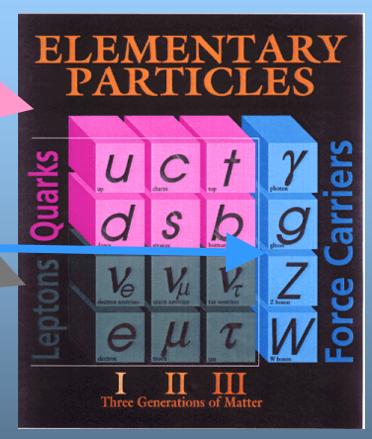
### · Leptons

- eg. electron, neutrino

#### · Force Carriers

- defines behavior of matter

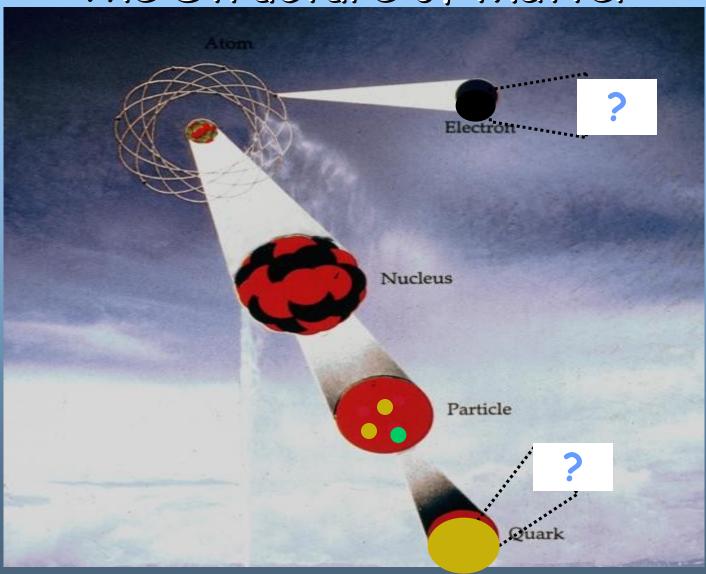




We have a precise understanding of matter and its behavior

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### The Structure of Matter



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# Symmetries of particles

- · 1928, Paul A.M. Dirac
  - Theory of the electron
  - Combining relativity and quantum mechanics



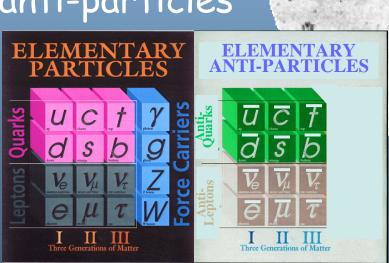
- He needed to assume there were partner particles for every known particle
  - · ANTI-MATTER
  - · DOUBLED THE NUMBER OF PARTICLES

# Discovery of Anti-Matter

- · 1932 Carl Anderson
  - The anti-electron, or positron

All known particles have anti-particles







#### Dark Matter Halo



Hubble Data analyzed by Yale astrophysicists

\*Astrophysical Journal 617: L13-L16

# How did we first learn that galaxies are surrounded by dark halo?





Vera Rubin 1950s

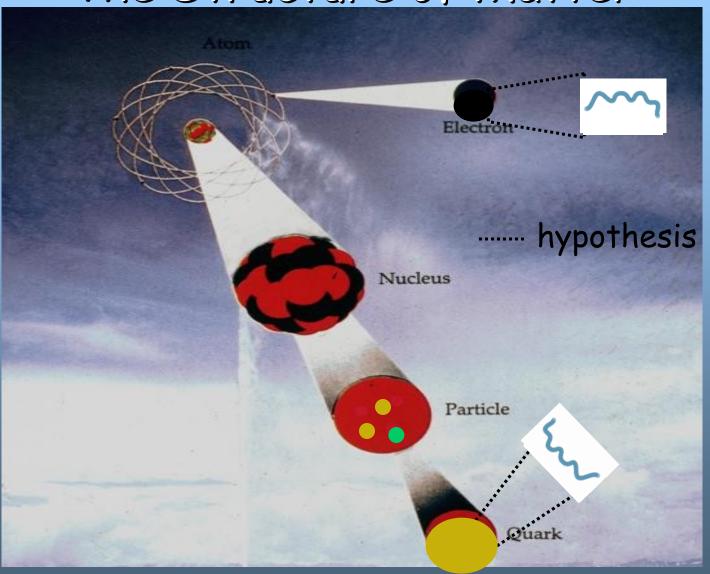
# SuperString Theory

- · Unifies <u>all</u> particles and <u>all</u> forces
  - gravity with quantum mechanics
- Fundamental particles are represented as vibrations on string



- Atom is 10,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 x bigger
- Space is ten-dimensional (not 3D!)
- A matching set of particles appear
  - · the <u>super-partners</u> of ordinary particles

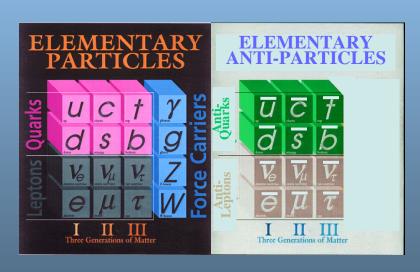
### The Structure of Matter

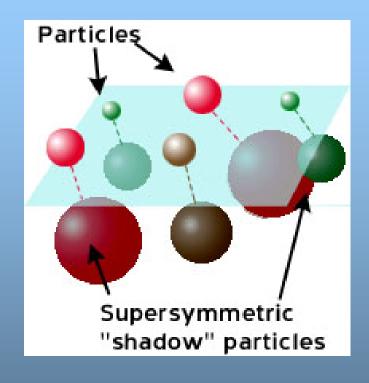


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# Supersymmetry and Strings

- History repeats?
- · Just as for anti-matter,
  - New particles are required to make successful theory



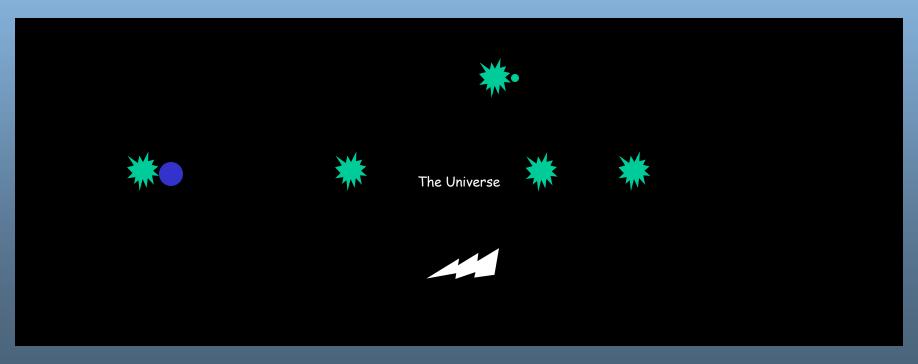


 The supersymmetric particles have just the properties expected of <u>Dark Matter</u>

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# Another puzzle What gives matter mass?

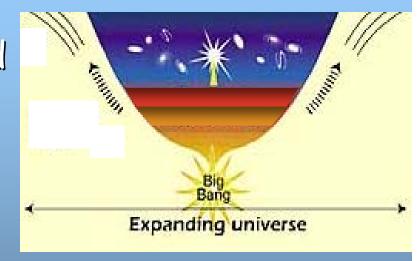
· An ocean of Higgs Bosons - "Higgs Field"



# The Big Bang

 Fundamental Physics needed to understand Big Bang





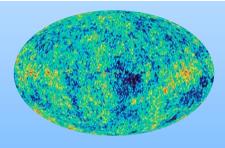
### The Cosmic Fireball



- Visible remnant of the Big Bang
  - microwaves in the sky
  - traveling through space for 14 billion years



# Probing the Big Bang



· The stars are a very small fraction

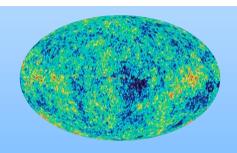
Energy of Our Universe

· Additional ordinary matter, Still a small fraction

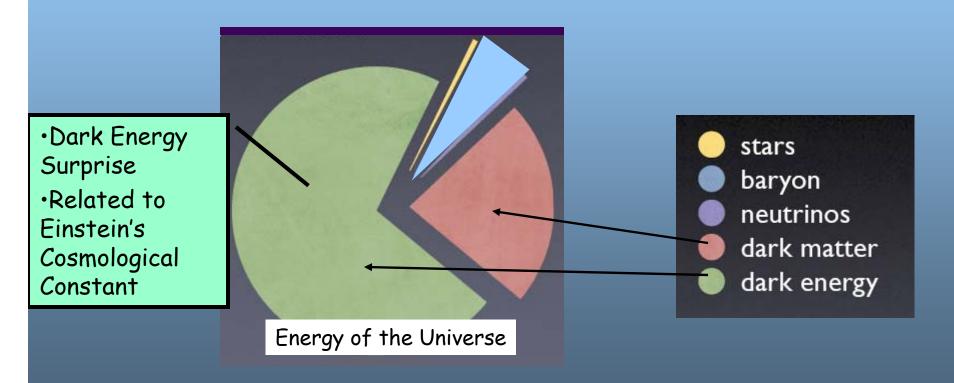
· Anti- matter miniscule

·What is the rest?

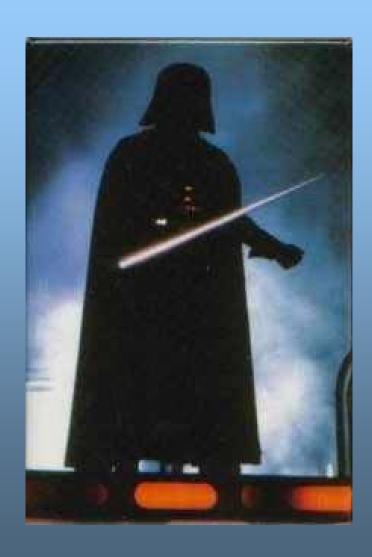
# Probing the Big Bang



The dominant "weight" of the universe is dark matter and dark energy

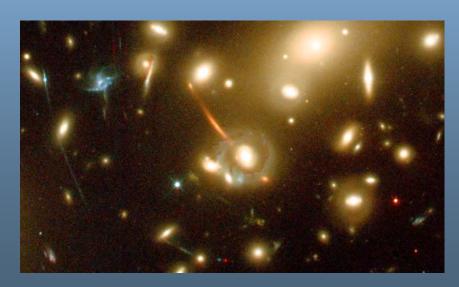


#### The Dark Side Controls the Universe



Dark Matter
HOLDS IT TOGETHER

Dark Energy
DETERMINES ITS DESTINY



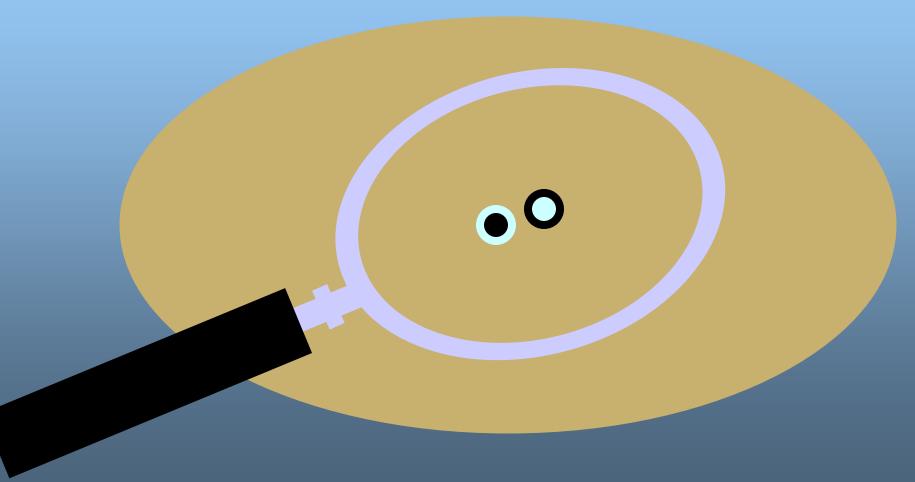


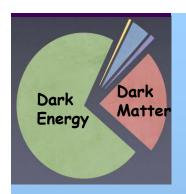
# The Dark Energy Something from Nothing

- The closest realization of "nothing" is the vacuum "empty space"
- · Quantum physics -> no truly empty space
- · "Empty space" filled with "temporary" particles



# The Dark Energy Something from Nothing





# The Dark Energy Something from Nothing

Quantum Fluctuations Create a "Dark Energy" - Cosmological constant

# Something from Nothing

- We can calculate the effect of these virtual particles on <u>Dark Energy</u>
  - This theoretical result is too big

$$E_o = \frac{1}{4\pi}\hbar\omega$$

num energy is the sum of all the simple harr

$$E_o = \sum_{j} \frac{1}{4\pi} h \omega_j$$

 $\lambda$ ) for the scalar field. This sum may be eva , go to infinity. The periodic boundary condieger values of n. There are then  $Ldk/2\pi$  disc es an integral:

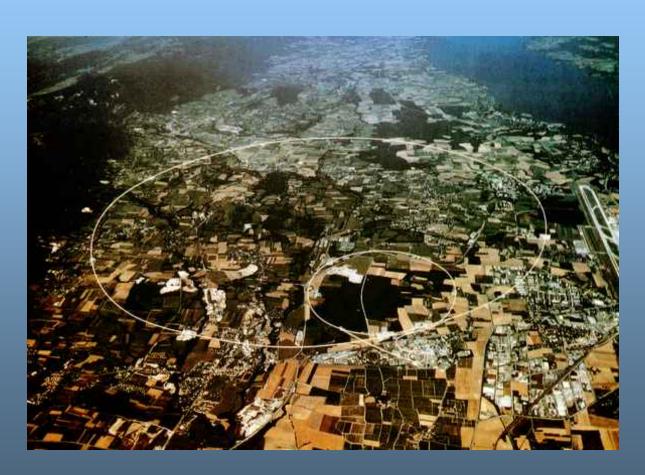
$$E_o = \frac{1}{4\pi} h L^3 \int \frac{\omega}{(2\pi)^3} d^3k$$

ipose a cutoff at a maximum wavevector  $k_{ma}$ 

$$\rho_{vac} = \lim_{L \to \infty} \frac{E_o}{L^3} = \frac{h k_{max}^4}{32\pi^3}$$

- This is a BIG-time mystery
  - we know how the universe might make Dark Energy, but we don't know how to make so little

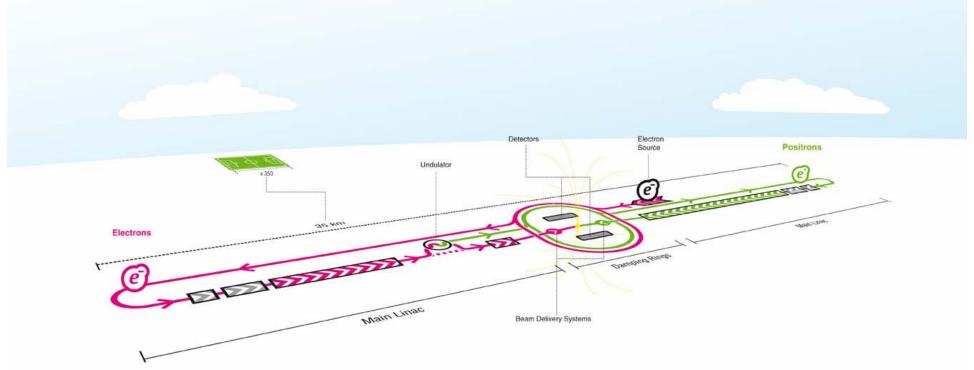
### Large Hadron Collider (LHC) Geneva, Switzerland



Nearing Completion

Begins operation later this year

### International Linear Collider (ILC)



Under development

Planned to begin operation last half of next decade

# Our Mysterious Universe

- · We are on the eve of a revolution in physics
  - Many mysteries
  - Solutions appear near
  - Deeper understanding of the universe itself
- <u>Dark Matter</u> particles may appear soon in <u>particle collider</u> experiments
- · Also
  - Gravity waves
  - Higgs Boson
  - Dark Energy
  - Other AMAZING Things

Stay Tuned!



# Acknowledgements

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Philip H. Knight