



*The black hole epitomizes the revolution wrought by general relativity. It pushes to an extreme---and therefore tests to the limit---the features of general relativity (the dynamics of curved spacetime) that set it apart from special relativity (the physics of static "flat" spacetime) and the earlier mechanics of Newton. Spacetime curvature. Geometry as part of Physics. Gravitational radiation. All of these things become, with black holes, not tiny corrections to older physics, but the essence of newer physics.*

---John Archibald Wheeler