Outline for Day 1

- Attendance
- Introductions
- Syllabus and other logistics
- · Lecture on EM waves
- Clicker questions on EM waves

Office hours today: 2 - 4

What is Modern Physics?

Before 1900, physicists find rules

- 1. that govern motion of macroscopic objects (baseballs, cannon balls) and
- 2. rules of electricity, magnetism and radiation.

~1900, physicists declare they understand everything there is to understand.

About 1905, physicists discover their "classical" rules don't apply to very small, very fast, or very massive things...whoops!





What is Modern Physics?



Study of motion & interaction of very small things (atoms,molecules &photons) = quantum mechanics

Study of motion & interaction of very fast objects (close to the speed of light) = special relativity

Study of motion & interaction of very massive objects (star sized) = general relativity





All started around 1900 and continue today = "modern physics"

What is Quantum Mechanics?

Pre quantum-understood why stuff falls (gravity), a little about properties of electric and magnetic fields, gases.

Quantum- understand underlying behavior of everything you are likely to see or experience in your lifetime!

- properties of all basic materials
- properties of light and other EM radiation
- how light interacts with matter
- basis for all modern technology

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