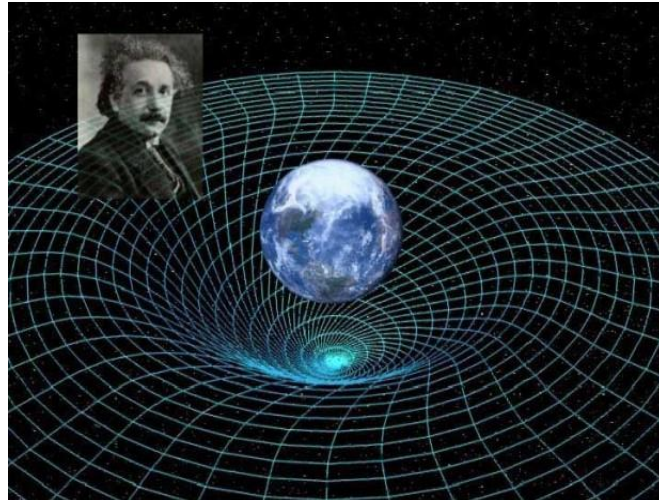


WIT Maths-Physics Seminar Series

**The Einstein World: “My Greatest Blunder”**

Cormac O’Raifeartaigh FRAS



In February 1917, Einstein applied the general theory of relativity - his new theory of gravity, space and time - to the universe as a whole. The resulting model of the cosmos, known as Einstein’s Static Universe or the Einstein World, marked a key milestone in modern cosmology. This seminar will present a brief overview of the Einstein World, with an emphasis on the insights offered into Einstein’s thoughts on relativity, astronomy and cosmology. Particular attention is paid to little-known aspects of the model such as Einstein’s failure to test his model against observation and his failure to consider the stability of his model. We will discuss Einstein’s reaction to the discovery of the expanding universe and consider whether the Einstein World truly represented his “greatest blunder”.

**Room : F04**

**Date : Wednesday 22nd March**

**Time : 4.15**