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#### What's All the Fuss About? Day 1: Exploring the 2019 Nobel Prize Contributions in Chemistry, Physics, and Literature

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The 2019 Nobel Prizes in Chemistry, Physics and Literature

Dr. Denise Femia, Dr. Sean McClory, and Dr. Vincent Kling

## 2019 Nobel Prize in Chemistry

"for the development of lithium-ion batteries"

#### Nobel Prize in Chemistry



- John B. Goodenough, The University of Texas at Austin, USA
- M. Stanley Whittingham, Binghamton University, State University of New York, USA
- Akira Yoshino, Asahi Kasei Corporation, Tokyo, Japan Meijo University, Nagoya, Japan



#### **Development of Lithium Ion Batteries**

• Whittingham's lithium ion battery



Popular Science Background. NobelPrize.org. Nobel Media AB 2019. Tue. 15 Oct 2019. https://www.nobelprize.org/uploads/2019/10/popular-chemistryprize2019.pdf

#### **Development of Lithium Ion Batteries**



Popular Science Background. NobelPrize.org. Nobel Media AB 2019. Tue. 15 Oct 2019. https://www.nobelprize.org/uploads/2019/10/popular-chemistryprize2019.pdf

#### **Development of Lithium Ion Batteries**

 Yoshino's battery



Popular Science Background. NobelPrize.org. Nobel Media AB 2019. Tue. 15 Oct 2019. https://www.nobelprize.org/uploads/2019/10/popular-chemistryprize2019.pdf

#### The Future of Lithium Ion Batteries?



# 2019 Nobel Prize in Physics

*"for contributions to our understanding of the evolution of the universe and Earth's place in the cosmos"* 

### 2019 Prize in Physics

- Half: two Swiss astronomers who discovered the first planet orbiting a solar-type star – exoplanet
  - How can exoplanets be detected?
  - How many exoplanets are there?
  - Is there another Earth?
- Half: one US physicist for theories of how the universe came to be
  - How did the universe begin?
  - What evidence exists about the beginning of the universe?
  - What does mean for the future of the universe?

## What is the Doppler Effect?

#### The Doppler Effect

C 2009 Christian Wolf.

- A wave's **frequency** is higher as the source of the wave moves toward an observer.
- Sound and light are both waves.

#### **Doppler Blue/Redshift of light**





# *"for the discovery of an exoplanet orbiting a solar-type star"*



Dieder Queloz, University of Cambridge, UK

Michel Mayor, University of Geneva, Switzerland

#### Stars and planets orbit a center of mass



Orbits of objects similar in mass



Orbits of objects with different mass

#### **Radial Velocity Method**

The star and planet orbit their common center of mass.

Spectral lines move Spectral lines move towards the blue as the towards the red as the star star travels towards us. travels away from us. As the star moves away from us, light waves leaving the star are "stretched" and move towards the As the star moves towards us, red end of the spectrum. light waves leaving the star are "compressed" and move towards the blue end of the spectrum. Planet Center of Mass Star Not to scale

# 51 Pegasi B – the first planet discovered orbiting a sun-like star



# There are now over 4000 confirmed exoplanets



#### Is there another Earth out there?



#### "for theoretical discoveries in physical cosmology"



James Peebles, Princeton University, USA

#### Artist Rendering



#### Peebles theories predict incredible things

- The Big Bang left a Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB) radiation that could be detected
- The CMB would show that...
  - Only 5% of the universe is regular matter
  - 26% of the universe is "dark matter"
  - 69% of the universe is something else "dark energy"
- Scientists still don't know what dark matter or dark energy is. Are they real? Can we know something exists that we don't understand?



The cosmic microwave background Radiation's "surface of last scatter" is analogous to the light coming through the clouds to our eye on a cloudy day.

We can only see the surface of the cloud where light was last scattered

TEMP.

-

#### Detecting the CMB



Penzias and Wilson first detected the CMB using this radio telescope 1978 Nobel Prize in Physics

This is what the CMB looks like

#### Peebles predictions match new observations



Measurements from the Plank satellite, 2009-2014

Peebles and Yu, 1970

# **Redshifted galaxies** – Peebles' theories accurately describe what we now observe in the universe

![](_page_26_Figure_1.jpeg)

### 2019 Prize in Physics

- Discovery of the first exoplanet around a sun-like star
  - Distant planets can be detected by the light from the stars they orbit –
    Doppler redshift and blueshift
  - We've only begun to detect planets in our galaxy
  - How long till we find the next Earth?
- Theory of how the universe developed
  - Cosmic Microwave Background radiation shows universe began with Big Bang
  - We don't understand Dark Matter and Dark Energy, but we can see the effects they have on the universe

### 2018 and 2019 Nobel Prizes in Literature

A "Political" Award