

**Development of Ideas in Physical Science
15:256:551 (section 1)
3 Credits**

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|---|---|
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| Phone Number 732 672 9432 | 10 Seminar Pl Rm 013 |
| Office Hours: by appointment | Prerequisites or other limitations: |
| Mode of Instruction: <input type="checkbox"/> Lecture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seminar <input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid <input type="checkbox"/> Online <input type="checkbox"/> Other | Permission required: <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes Directions about where to get permission numbers: from the instructor |

Learning goals

1. To understand how scientists devised the ideas and relations that constitute the content of a high school physics course.
2. To learn how to use a similar process in a classroom to help students construct physics concepts and relations.
3. To learn how student learning of physics/physical science relates to the scientists' learning.
4. To experience what it means to design and implement classroom instruction.

Course description¹

I believe that a passionate and knowledgeable teacher can lead her/his students on the path to discovery, curiosity and rational reasoning. I want you to be this kind of teacher. I will help you build the knowledge and share my passion but you will need to contribute your passion to your development. I believe that every student who comes to me to become a teacher wants to be the best teacher she/he can be, so I will operate under this assumption.

The course will help you learn a new approach to teaching and will help you start the personal shift from a student to a teacher. Your participation in class discussion, your persistence in the completion of assignments, your creativity and enthusiasm will ultimately determine what kind of teacher you will be two years later. To be the best teacher YOU can be, make sure that you treat your work on each assignment as a step towards this goal not busy class work.

In addition, another goal of the course is to help you understand the epistemology of physical science and its implications to science instruction. Epistemology is the study of the construction of knowledge. Basically in this course you will learn how scientists know what they know, how they approach problems and how they decide what to keep and what to discard. We will focus on the process that lead to the laws of physics and chemistry that we teach our students and how learning of our students sometimes resembles that of real scientists. You will learn how to use the knowledge of epistemology and history of science to design physics/chemistry lessons.

Class materials

Textbooks required: Gerald Holton & Stephen Brush, Physics, The Human Adventure, Rutgers University Press, 2001. ISBN 0-8135-2908;

¹ In this document PTS stands for Professional Teaching Standards, NSCS stands for National Science Content Standards (National Research Council), NJCCCS stands for New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards.

Not required but will be helpful: Morris Shamos, Great Experiments in Physics, Dover Publications, New York, 1987. ISBN 0-486-25346-5, available by request for one week at a time.

Grading and Activities Your course final grade will be based on how you meet the standards listed below. Each standard will be assessed 2 times according to the rubric – you must convince me and your classmates that you have met the standard. If at any point you fail to meet the standard, you will have an opportunity to be assessed again. **Each assignment can be improved.** I encourage you to try as many times as you need to make the assignment perfect.

Each assignment will be scored using the following rubric:

- 1 – does not meet expectations
- 2 – moving towards meeting expectations
- 3 – meets expectations
- 4 – exceeds expectations (I want to brag about you).

I believe that every student in this course will work to exceed my expectations.

Your course grade is based on meeting each of the standards. The grade breakdown is as follows:

- A - 97% of standards met
- B+ - 90% of standards met
- B - 85% of standards met
- C+ - 80% of standards met
- C - 75% of standards met
- D - 70% of standards met

List of standards to meet:

General standards:

GS1: is able to answer 90% of the items correct on both the Force Concept Inventory and the Conceptual Survey in Electricity and Magnetism

GS2: Is able to use hypothetical-deductive reasoning to test a hypothesis and to interpret original writings of physicists.

GS3: Is able to use ISLE philosophy to trace the history of how scientists devised the concept that is the goal of your project (see the description of class activities below), to design a realistic high school lesson for the part of this development, and to document the development of the concept in an original paper with proper citations.

GS4: Is able to place the name and the clock reading on the development of major concepts and to show the historical connections among the development of physics concepts.

GS5: Is able to analyze a non-expert understanding of those concepts through an interview.

GS6: Is able to analyze a popular science article using ISLE cycle.

GS7: Is able to tell an engaging memorable story about a scientist involved in the development of the project related idea.

Lesson Specific (note that the standards in the columns are not necessarily related to each other):

| <i>Epistemological standards (E) – history based</i> | <i>Understanding and doing physics standards (U)</i> |
|---|--|
| E1a – Is able to use ISLE philosophy to describe how people constructed the ideas of shape and size of Earth and reflect on the changes of your own understanding of this concept. | U1a – Is able to use vectors fluently (including vector and scalar components). |

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|---|---|
| <p>E2a – Is able to use ISLE philosophy to describe how Galileo arrived to the concept motion at constant velocity and to reflect on the changes of your own understanding of this concept.</p> <p>E2b - Is able to use ISLE philosophy to describe how Galileo came up with the concept of acceleration and that freely falling object moves at constant acceleration and to reflect on the changes of your own understanding of this concept.</p> | <p>U2a – Is able to analyze any reasonable kinematics situation (level of HS physics) conceptually, graphically and quantitatively (Level of Process Physics Textbook).</p> |
| <p>E3a - Is able to use ISLE philosophy to describe how Newton came up with the second and third laws and to reflect on the changes of your own understanding of those laws.</p> | <p>U3a - Is able to analyze any reasonable dynamics situation.</p> |
| <p>E4a - Is able to use ISLE philosophy to describe Newton came up with the law of universal gravitation and to reflect on the changes of your own understanding of this concept.</p> | <p>U4a - Is able to analyze any reasonable situation involving circular motion.</p> |
| <p>E5a - Is able to use ISLE philosophy to describe how people came up with the concept of momentum and reflect.</p> <p>E5b – Is able to use ISLE philosophy to describe how Lavoisier rejected the concept of phlogiston and reflect.</p> | <p>U5a - Is able to analyze any reasonable situation involving impulse-momentum.</p> |
| <p>E6a – Is able to use ISLE philosophy to describe who and how invented the concept of pressure and atmospheric pressure and to reflect.</p> <p>E7a - Is able to use ISLE philosophy to describe how Joseph Black came up with the concept of specific heat and to reflect.</p> <p>E7b – Is able to use ISLE philosophy to describe how people invented (Lavoisier) and rejected (Rumford) the concept of caloric and to reflect.</p> | <p>U6a Is able to analyze any reasonable situation involving fluid pressure.</p> |
| <p>E8a - Is able to use ISLE philosophy to describe how people came up with the concept of energy conservation (Mayer, Joule, Helmholtz) and to reflect.</p> | <p>U8a – Is able to analyze any reasonable situation that involves energy conversion.</p> <p>U8b - Is able to analyze any reasonable situation that involves 1st Law of thermodynamics.</p> |
| <p>E9a - Is able to use ISLE philosophy to describe who and how came up with the concept of electric charge and the concept of conductors and dielectrics and to reflect.</p> | <p>U10a – Is able to build a circuit, measure potential difference across and current through a resistor build a circuit to deduce the relationship between the two for a constantan wire. Is able to build a parallel and a series circuit and a combination circuit.</p> |
| <p>E10a - Is able to use ISLE philosophy to describe how Galvani and Volta figured out how to make a battery, how it works battery and to reflect.</p> | |

EU11a - Is able to use ISLE philosophy to describe who and how people invented a concept of a field and realized that electric current has magnetic properties (Oersted and Ampere). Is able to show how to help students invent two right hand rules and to reflect.

EU11a - Is able to use ISLE philosophy to describe how Faraday, J.J. Thomson and many others in between invented the concept of an electron.

EU12a - Is able to use ISLE philosophy to describe how Young and Fresnel devised the wave model of light and to reflect.

EU12b – Is able to use ISLE philosophy to describe who and how devised the photon model of light and to reflect.

EU13a – Is able to describe who and how solved the problem of the structure of the nucleus, and to reflect.

EU14a – Is able to describe who and how figured out the mechanism of fission and to reflect.

Ways to achieve the standards: The activities below provide you with the opportunities to show that you achieved the standards. General standards do not have a deadline. The class-related standards must be achieved at a level above level 2 according to the grading rubric during the relevant week. For the E standards you can submit a written homework as a doc file (for the timing see guidelines below) or scan your work and submit a screencast with narration; for the U standards you need to solve a problem in class, or show that you can choose a good problem for this standard (high level of difficulty) and submit the screencast with narration about this problem, or do this work in person during office hours.

Description of activities

Participation in class discussions: Class work will be primarily group work. You will explore contemporary versions of classical experiments, read and interpret original papers of scientists, explore how scientists chose one theory over another, and discuss how to adapt some of the historical materials for high school physics instruction. At the same time you will learn how students construct similar concepts. We will also discuss the readings that you will do at home. Each week you will read several of the chapters of the text and additional articles. We will discuss these chapters in class and in these discussions you have an opportunity to show that you meet specific standards.

Homework (individual assignment): a) each week **on Tuesday** you will read a chapter/chapters from the textbook describing the development of a particular idea that was discussed in class (see tentative list of topics). Then you will combine the material from class, from the book, and from any other convenient sources (I encourage you to use the Shamos' book and resources on the Web) to write a report reconstructing the inductive, analogical and hypothetico-deductive reasoning and experimental evidence used by scientists to construct a particular idea. In your report try to make a clear distinction between initial observational experiments, reasoning (hypotheses), predictions of the outcomes of new experiments, based on the hypotheses, and experiments conducted to test hypotheses. Try not to confuse experimental evidence with hypotheses/explanations. Also, do not confuse hypotheses/explanations with predictions. The glossary of terms is at the end of the syllabus.

At the end of the report you need to reflect on how your personal understanding of the concept changed because of the learning of the history.

You will e-mail the report to Rob at robert.zisk@gse.rutgers.edu as a word attachment. Use your first name and the number of the week "Steven3.doc". Due to the large number of assignments submitted for this course, submissions with incorrect file names will not be read.

Deadline: by **Thursday before 8 am** you will send the report to Rob. Make sure this is the best you can do. On **Thursday morning/afternoon** you will receive feedback, and revise the report if necessary by

Monday morning. At the beginning of the semester BE READY to do 3-4 revisions per homework. Plan your week accordingly so you can spend Tuesdays and Wednesdays working on the homework.

Problem Solving: Each week, for the first 9 weeks of the course you will choose 5 questions from the end of an assigned chapter of the textbook “College Physics.” These questions should be “non-traditional,” and challenging. For each of the questions, you will solve them and also describe how the problems are different from traditional physics problems. The problems will be due at the beginning of each class. I will review them and return them to you by the following week.

Those of you teaching in physics 193 will have access to the textbook. For those of you not teaching in 193, I will provide you with the chapters.

Quizzes: At the beginning of each class, you will take a short quiz. Each quiz will address one or more standards. You will receive the your scored quiz by email by Wednesday. It is your responsibility to make any corrections to the quiz and resubmit it by the next class. If you have any questions regarding your quiz, we can talk about it during office hours.

An example of a question for standard E is E8a - Describe Joule’s experiments of gas expansion into a vacuum and explain whether those were observational or testing experiments. How do you know?

An example of a question for standard U is U3A -A horse is pulling a cart. The horse exerts a force on the cart and the cart exerts a force on the horse that is equal in magnitude and opposite in direction. As the sum of these forces is zero, the cart should never start moving. But it does. How can this be?

Interview (individual): As one of the major skills of a teacher is to be able to hear a student, you need to practice listening and hearing. To do this, you will choose one concept whose historical development we will trace in the course and interview two people – an expert in the field of physics and a person who is not familiar with physics (this can be a student in physics 193 or if you are teaching, a student in your class). The goal of the interview is to find out what the person understands about the concept and how she/he can apply it. You need to (1) design the interview questions, (2) submit them to Rob a week prior to the interview, (3) conduct the interview, record it and (4) write a report. In the report you need to show that you can connect what you heard during the interview to the history of the development of the concept. The report is due **November 1st**. Make sure you have enough time for steps 1 though 4.

The New York Times Analysis (individual) Every Tuesday *The New York Times* features *Science Times*. Choose any article from *Science Times* related to physics or chemistry (available on line) to analyze it using your knowledge of scientific epistemology and structural elements of scientific knowledge (observational experiments, patterns, explanatory mechanisms/hypotheses, models, physical quantities and experimental uncertainties, relationships between physical quantities, predictions, additional assumptions, and testing experiments. You will need to type up the article with the annotations on the right side of the page across each statement in the article (see the example attached). When choosing an article try to find one that has a good representation of the elements of the knowledge. You must include the title of the article, its author and her/his affiliation, page number(s), and the date of the article. I reserve the right to give you an additional article that I chose to annotate any time during the semester.

History project (group assignment): You and your teammate) will choose one fundamental idea in physical science (from the list in the table below) and trace its historical development following the *ISLE* cycle. Together you will write a paper describing the development of the idea and prepare a lesson to teach in class in which parts of the historical cycle will be recreated. You will e-mail materials for feedback to Rob, meet with him at least 2 weeks before the lesson, revise and then teach a lesson in class.

In your lesson you should use at least one experiment that is analogous to a historical experiment important for the development of the idea (or present data from a historical experiment). This project should include a significant amount of research (more than 3 sources should be used, and most likely more)

The final submission of the Microteaching project should include:

- 1) Paper describing the historical development of the ideas you are going to teach
- 2) Your lesson plan with listed resources and any handouts (modified after microteaching if necessary)
- 3) Story telling (1 story for each group member)
- 4) Reflection on teaching (1 for each group member)

Story telling (individual assignment, part of the history project above): You will choose a physicist or a chemist who contributed to the development of your history project idea (see the history project assignment) and research personal information about her/him and her/his scientific achievements (you need to find a book dedicated to this person; Internet materials are not sufficient). You will write a story about her/him that you will tell in class or record with a screen cast and narration. In the story your character should become alive.

Instructional materials (group assignment): The story telling project and the lesson curriculum materials **after final revisions** will be copied for all class participants.

Deadlines (All assignments must be submitted via email):

Homework: Every Thursday before 8 a.m.

NYT article annotations: November 1

Interview report: November 1

History project & story telling:

- Scientist/Topic Chosen: Second week of class
- Draft: three weeks before microteaching
- Meeting: two weeks before microteaching
- Final Draft: 1 week before micro teaching
- Final to be posted on course website: 1 week after microteaching

Academic integrity: Make sure that you provide proper citations for all materials that you use in your reports.

Website: Materials for class will be posted on the course website; after you get the e-mail about the posting; you are responsible for printing them and bringing a copy to class.

Tentative list of topics for discussions and homework assignments (by week, chapters are from Holton and Brush)

| Week | Topic | Assignment (Ch) | PTS | NGSS | NJCCCS |
|------|--|------------------|-----|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | Epistemology of physics. Size of Earth | 1, 3, 12, 13, 14 | | HS-PS1-3 HS-PS2-6 MS-PS1-1 | 5.1 (A, B); 5.2 (A, B) |
| 2 | The study of motion | 6, 7, 8 | | MS-PS2-2 | 5.1 (A, B); 5.2 (A, B); |

| | | | | | |
|------------|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|
| | | | | | 5,7 (A) |
| 3 | Newtonian World | 9, 10, 11 NY times article | I: iii (1). | HS-PS2-1 HS-PS2-4 MS-PS2-1 MS-PS2-2 | 5.1 (A, B); 5.2 (A, B); 5.3 (All), 5.4 (A, C); 5,7 (A) |
| 4, 5, 6 | The Laws of Conservation, caloric theory | 15, 16, 17, 18 | I: iii (1) | HS-PS2-2 HS-PS2-3 HS-PS3-2 | 5.1 (A, B); 5.2 (A, B); 5.6 (A); 5.7 (B) |
| 7, 8, 9 | Atomic Theory | 19, 20, 21, 22 | | HS-PS3-4 | 5.3 (D); 5.6 (B) |
| 10, 11, 12 | Electromagnetism | 24, 25 | VIII: iii (1). | HS-PS2-5 | 5.1 (A, B); 5.2 (A, B); 5.4 (all) |
| 13,14,15 | Light, atom, and nucleus | 23, 26 | VI: iii(1,2), X: ii (3) | HS-PS4-3 | |

Possible Ideas and Scientists for projects (groups of two)

| Ideas | Scientists |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Static electricity, electric charge, conductors and insulators | Franklin, Coulomb, DuFay, Gray |
| Battery, Ohm's law | Galvani, volta, Ohm |
| Magnetism | Oersted, Ampere, Faraday |
| Electron | J. J. Thomson; Millikan, |
| Wave model of light | Young |
| Quantum model of light | Einstein, Lennard |
| Radioactivity | Mari Curie |
| Fission | Liz Meitner |

The discovery of pulsars

Prepared by Maria Ruibal-Villasenor, Eugenia Etkina, and David Brookes. The text that is commented below has been adapted from "Little Green Men, White Dwarfs or Pulsars?" by S. Jocelyn Bell Burnell.

The discovery of pulsars - rotating neutron stars that generate regular pulses of radiation at their spin rate - was fortuitous. A group of astrophysicists from Cambridge University led by Anthony Hewish was looking for quasars (those are extremely bright, compact and remote objects that emit up to a thousand times as much light as our entire galaxy). For that purpose, the research group designed a radio telescope that was built on the flat fields surrounding Cambridge in central England. This telescope did not look like the visible light refractors, also known as dioptrics, which the average person identifies with the word "telescope", long and thin tubes where light passes in a straight line from the front objective lens directly to the eyepiece. By contrast, this radio telescope covered an area of 4 1/2 acres - an area that would accommodate 57 tennis courts. The radio-telescope consisted of over a thousand posts strung with more than 2000 dipoles between them, and more than 120 miles of wire needed to connect the whole. With the help of university students the researchers built the apparatus themselves, and it took them two years to finish the work.

The astrophysicists were searching for scintillation sources of electromagnetic radiation in the radio range. Scintillation is the apparent fluctuation in intensity of electromagnetic emissions, that is, the apparent 'twinkling' of electromagnetic sources. Most of the sources of radio emissions of the universe are large, such as galaxies or extended regions of gases and dust where new stars are forming. They knew that twinkling of small compact sources is much stronger than scintillation of extended sources. Hence quasars being smaller than galaxies should scintillate more. Radio sources that scintillated a lot were very good candidates for quasars.

Jocelyn Bell, a physics graduate student working on her Ph. D., was responsible for operating the radio telescope and for analyzing the data, which consisted of nearly 30 meters of chart-generated daily, all of which had to be analyzed by hand. It was better to inspect the data visually to become familiar with the behavior of the telescope and its receivers before designing a computer program. In addition the researchers took into account that people can easily recognize signals of different character whereas it is difficult to program a computer to do so.

Originally the researchers were looking for quasars (quasi stellar objects).

The researchers designed and constructed an apparatus - a radio telescope - to detect quasars.

The appearance of the telescope is described. There is little explanation of its functioning or how it worked.

The researchers were planning to conduct an **application** experiment: they wanted to **use** their knowledge about scintillating radio sources in order to **find quasars**.

Observational experiment - Brief description about what the raw data looked like.

A superficial account of the method used for **data analysis**, together with the reason for choosing that method.

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Annals of the New York Academy of Science, vol. 302, pages 685-689, Dec., 1977, and from Cavendish Laboratory Educational Outreach website: www-outreach.phy.cam.ac.uk.

Two months after the beginning of the experiment, Bell found something strange on the records, a signal that did not resemble other scintillating sources.

After more careful analysis of the observations, Bell could determine that the unusual source emitted short pulses with a perfect period of $1\frac{1}{3}$ seconds. Such period is too brief for something as big as a star.

Hewish believed the pulses to be man-made interference, as with a gap so regular they seemed too precise to be natural.

The researchers considered a variety of possible explanations for the curious phenomenon, such as: it was a signal reflected from the Moon or emitted by an artificial satellite in an unusual orbit, but they ruled out potential sources of man-made interference one-by-one. It could be that the mysterious signal was created by the telescope itself, however another group of researchers working with a different telescope managed to pick up the same signals, removing instrument malfunction as the possible source of the surprising emission.

The enigma deepened, Pilkington measured the dispersion of the signal and found that the source was outside the solar system but inside our galaxy.

It could be that the rapid signal originated from an extraterrestrial intelligence. If the signal was coming from an inhabited planet, and since planets orbit around a star then a Doppler shift effect had to be observable in the radio pulses: the frequency of the radio emission would be higher when the planet was moving towards us and lower when it was moving away. However the researchers only measured changes on the radio frequency were only due to the motion of our own planet around our Sun. The signal continued being a puzzle.

Bell collected **unexpected data** that did not fit her schema. The **application** experiment became an **observational** experiment.

Account of the surprising data: A **pattern** of emission from a source was found. Provides a reason why the **explanation** that the signal originated from star seemed implausible.

Hewish's first **explanation** for the odd pulses.

A diverse set of plausible **explanations** of the data are generated.

Testing experiments were designed and conducted to systematically rule out all the explanations. They are not described - probably because the experiments are fairly obvious (e.g., call up NASA and ask them if any satellites are broadcasting on that frequency.)

Another **explanation**: the telescope itself created the signal. **Prediction**: If that were true, then other telescopes would not detect the signal. The testing experiment was conducted and the outcome **disproved** the explanation of a malfunctioning telescope.

Pilkington conducted a new **observation** experiment and found that the source of the signal was outside the solar system.

New possible **explanation** that incorporates Pilkington's observation. Reasoning a way to **test** the explanation: measure the Doppler shift. **Assumption**: ET is emitting the signal from a planet, not from some interstellar probe. **Prediction**: If signal is emitted from an extraterrestrial planet, a specific pattern of Doppler shift should be seen.

The outcome **ruled out** the explanation.

Note that the assumption is left implicit in the description.

Additional new **observations**.

Bell continued with the analysis of the data produced by the telescope and found three other similar pulsating radio sources at very distant points in the sky.

These findings excluded the explanation of alien civilizations because it is very unlikely that different groups of intelligent extraterrestrial creatures, extremely far apart from each other, were choosing a similar frequency to send a signal to the same planet, the Earth.

It seemed highly improbable that the signals were generated by intelligent beings; however nobody in the Cavendish Laboratory at Cambridge University had any other explanation.

Hewish and Bell wrote a paper describing the first pulsating source and submitted it to the journal Nature, where it was published on February 1968.

A few months later, after the publication of the findings, Thomas Gold a professor at Cornell University, come out with a good explanation for the pulsed signals. Gold suggested that the radio signals originated from very compact, exceedingly fast spinning neutron stars. The neutrons stars continuously emit radiation from to poles that usually are not aligned with their rotation axis. When the emitting zones of the neutron stars point toward the Earth, we see the pulse and we do not receive any radio waves until one of the two emitting regions is pointing toward us again.

Neutron stars are the remains of supernovas. Stars like our Sun give off energy because they are formed mainly of hydrogen undergoing nuclear fusion. This process radiates a lot of energy, which is why stars are hot and bright. This radiation also opposes the gravitational attraction of the hydrogen in the star, so prevents the star from collapsing onto itself.

During the nuclear fusion process two hydrogen nuclei unite producing one nucleus of helium that is a more massive element and collects together at the core of a star. When it is compressed the helium warms up, and eventually is hot enough to start its own fusion process, producing carbon and oxygen. In heavy stars with masses at least eight times the mass of the Sun, the carbon and oxygen will fuse to produce neon, sodium and magnesium, and later, silicon and sulfur. All of these fusion processes emit energy to keep the star burning. But the silicon and sulfur in the core produce iron when they fuse together. Iron is the most stable form of nuclear matter, and the fusion of iron does not emit energy. In fact, iron requires energy for fusion to take place. The result is that fusion stops at the very centre of the star.

With no radiation from the core, the outer layers of the star begin to collapse in towards the centre, drawn by a gravitational attraction. The iron core is pushed together so tightly that nuclei of iron begin to touch, before emitting an immense shockwave.

More **observational** evidence that was incompatible with the explanation of an alien civilization.

The Cavendish group was not able to explain the observations.

Gold provided a new **explanation**: neutron stars that were very small, compact stars that spin really fast and emit radio waves in two opposite directions.

What are neutron stars?
How are they generated?

Relation of the **explanation** of neutron stars with other fields of physics.

This shockwave of very high-energy particles spreads outwards through the star and holds enough energy to fuse elements together into isotopes of every imaginable element, including very heavy substances like uranium. The shockwave also spreads inwards through the core with enough energy to convert the protons and electrons of the iron into neutrons. The explosion is so powerful that the supernova will outshine the rest of the galaxy for a month.

After the explosion the neutron core remains, while all the other supernova remnants are carried away by the shockwave. If the original star had a mass of more than 25 times the mass of our Sun then the neutron core will collapse to a black hole. But if the original star was between 8 and 25 times the mass of our Sun, the neutron core would remain as a neutron star, with a mass up to three times the mass of our Sun. Neutron stars have a diameter of around 30 km and are incredibly dense at 10^{18} kg/m^3 . A teaspoonful of neutron star material would weigh as much as a mountain.

These neutron stars are spinning incredibly fast. The gigantic stars from which they formed would have had rotational periods similar to that of our Sun, which rotates about once every 27 days. But these stars have now collapsed into an incredibly dense object only 30 kilometers across. When a rotating mass is moved closer to its centre of rotation, the speed of rotation has to speed up to maintain the angular momentum. A star that rotated once a month can end up rotating once per second after its collapse into a neutron star.

The neutron stars have incredibly high magnetic fields, which produce strong radio signals from the star in two opposite directions. As the star rotates these radio signals are swept around the sky in a circle. This was the 'lighthouse' explanation of the pulsars, which Gold had proposed.

Anthony Hewish was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1974 for the discovery of pulsars, along with Martin Ryle (the head of the Cavendish laboratory) for his work with radio telescopes. Sadly Jocelyn Bell, despite her instrumental role in the discovery of pulsars, did not share the prize.

Explanation of the small size and high density of neutron stars. It is not mentioned how this information was gained but it probably will take a lot of space.

Explanation of the high spinning speed of the neutron stars follows Model of conservation of angular momentum **applied**.

Prediction (based on conservation of angular momentum)

Explanation, without details, of the radio emissions of pulsars, and how we observe the pulses.

Nice **analogy** to a lighthouse, helps to visualize what is happening

Recognition of worth of the work of women has been difficult to attain.