Some thoughts on where we are

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MIT

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- It is almost like one of those jokes: what do a bootstrapper, a geometer, and an entangler all have in common?
  One answer is that they all come to the strings conference!

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All of these developments came at least in part out of attempts to understand quantum gravity and black holes in AdS!

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Personally, I think that cosmology gives us the best hope: it is only there that we can look for a dynamical explanation of the low-energy effective field theory we see around us, and most of my work is ultimately aimed in this direction.

To put this in historical context, I want to close by quoting from one of my favorite papers, "On the stability of the motion of Saturn's rings", Maxwell, 1859.

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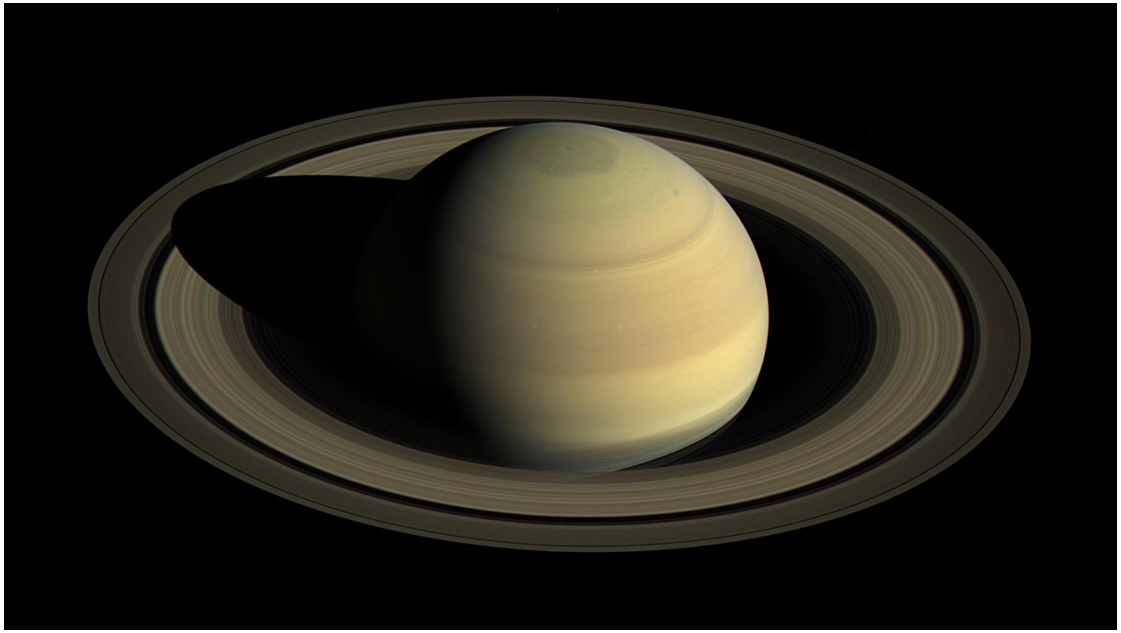

In this paper, Maxwell used theoretical consistency to argue that the rings of Saturn must be made out of small individually-orbiting objects, a prediction which was not decisively confirmed until the size distribution of the ring consituents was measured by the Voyager 1 mission in 1980.

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ありがとうございました