Elevator Up, Please!

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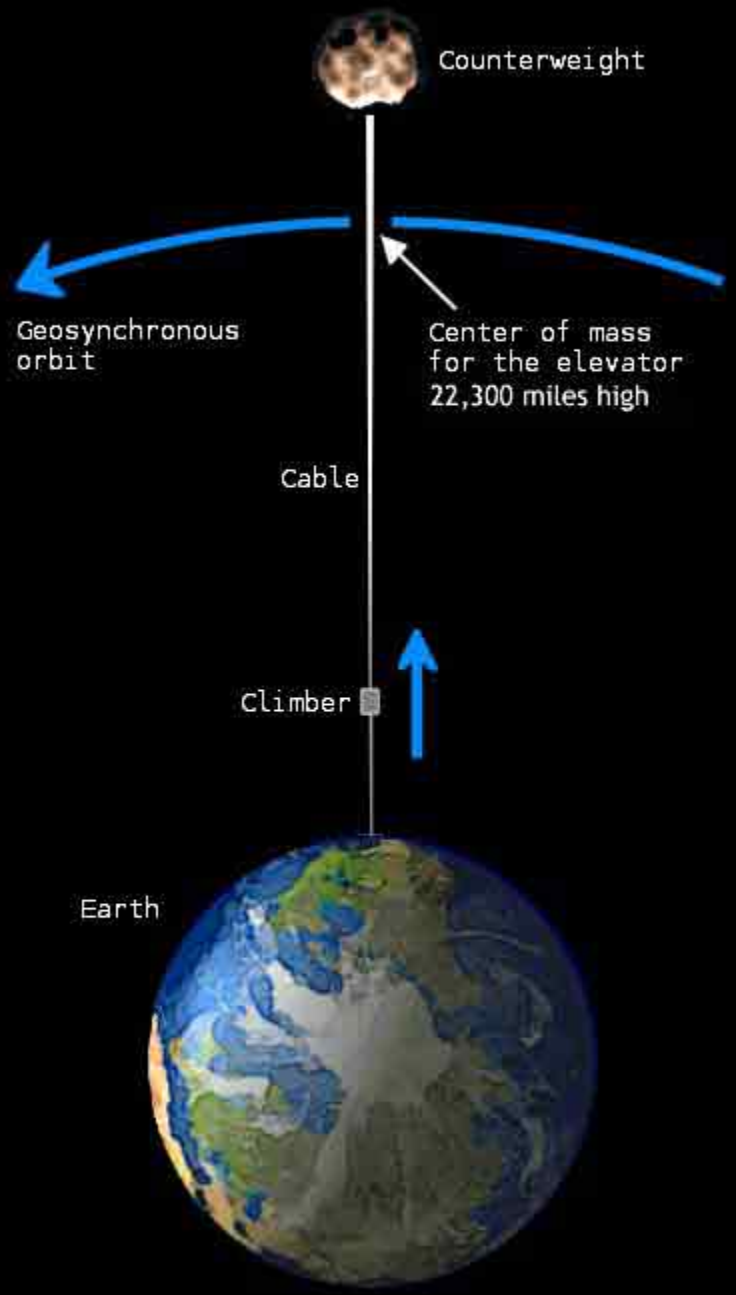
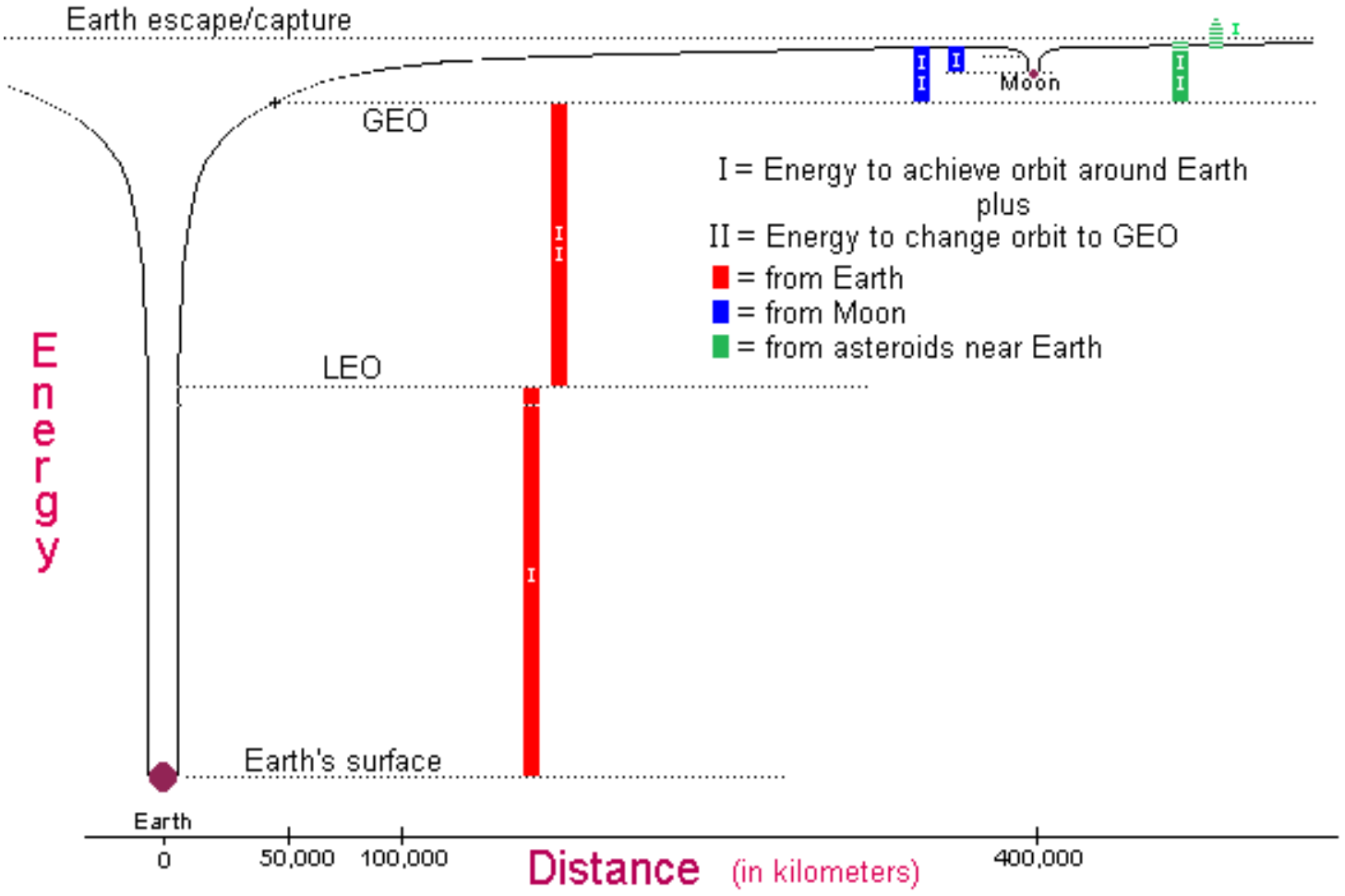
Space Travel Needs to…

- **…be safe**
- **…be cheap**
- **…be easily repeatable**

Space Elevator

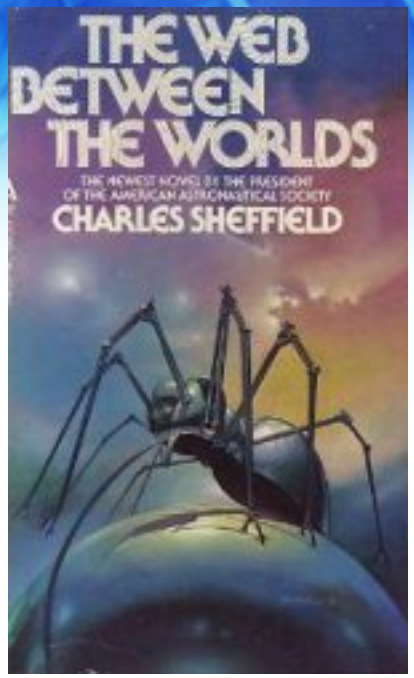


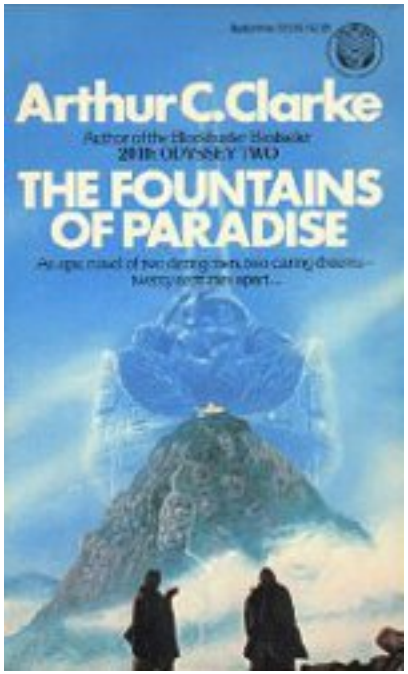
Escaping the Gravity Well

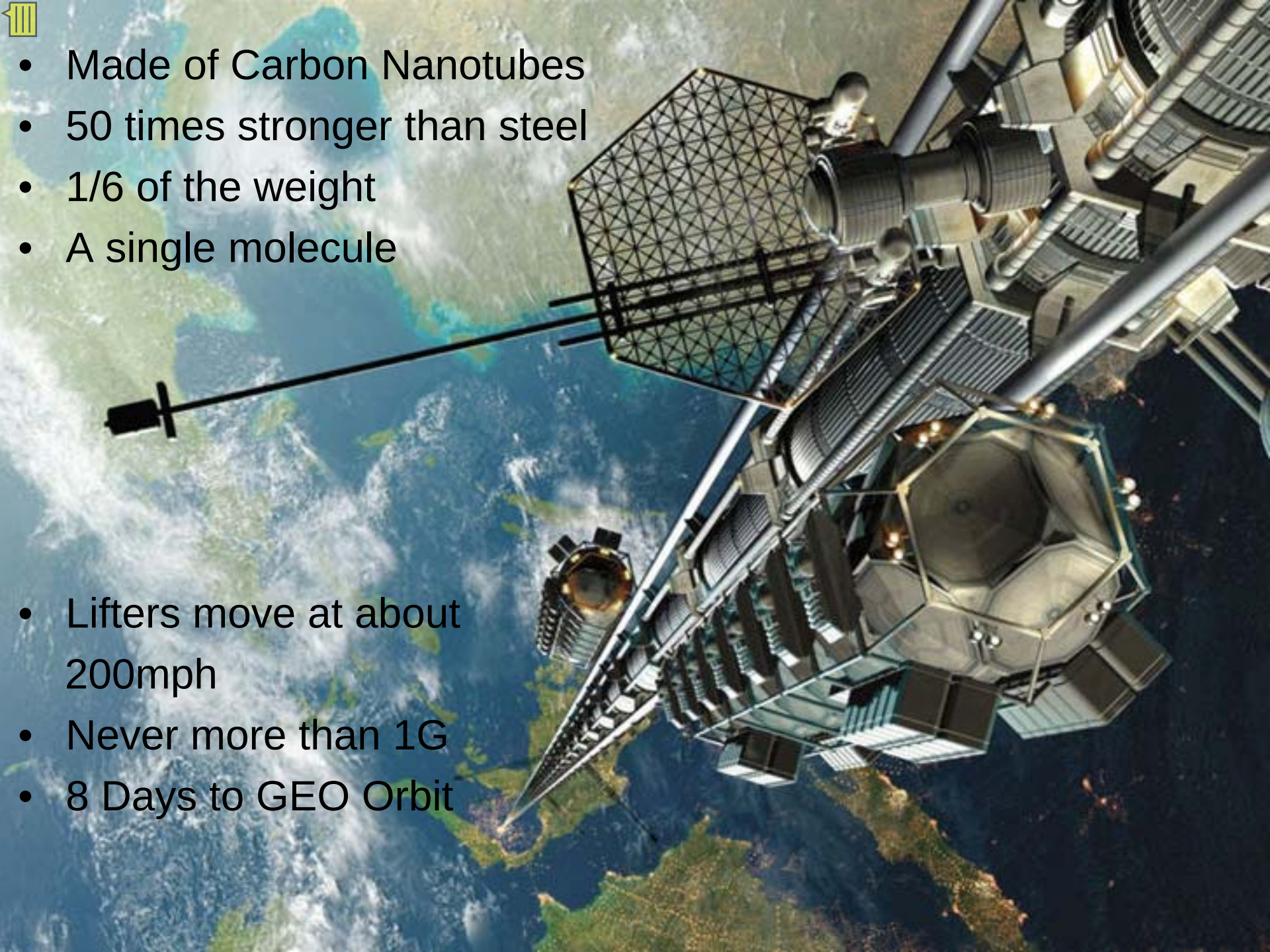


Some Background

- First concept by Konstantin Tsiolkovsky in 1895
- In science journals for years
- More serious work from about 1966 onwards
- Popularized for a mainstream audience in 1979







- Made of Carbon Nanotubes
- 50 times stronger than steel
- 1/6 of the weight
- A single molecule

- Lifters move at about 200mph
- Never more than 1G
- 8 Days to GEO Orbit

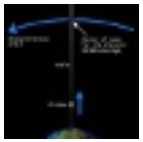
More Details…

- Near the equator to avoid coriolis forces
- Can get counter-weight from near-Earth asteroids
- Cheap, repeatable space travel

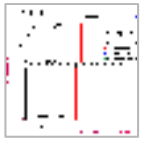
Credits

NASA shuttle launch photo

ET promotional photo



http://infinitybound.com/index.php/2009/09/08/space-elevator-materials-are-the-key

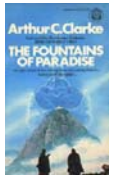


http://www.permanent.com/t-theory.htm (Mark Prado)

http://io9.com/5757489/how-to-build-a-space-elevator-and-become-an-interplanetary-civilization

http://spaceelevatorwiki.com/wiki/index.php/Main_Page

http://www.eocommunity.com/showthread.php?tid=23798



The Fountains of Paradise
By Arthur C. Clarke
Published 1979

The Web Between the Worlds
By Charles Sheffield
Published 1979