Revaz Lordkipanidze

# Phases of Economic Growth and in Which Post-ancient World do We Live Now?

Tbilisi

Philanthropic Research Academy named after A. Gunia

for the Digital Library of the Georgian Parliament

2018



# Dedicated to the memory of George Bush Sr, as bridge of the American eras of freedom to computer ups in economics

The present work of Revaz Lordkipanidze is prepared for students and wider readers, also providing some help to interested professionals. The work is a continuation of the researches under blessing of the Archimandrite Saba (Ghvtiso Shalikashvili) from Saint Church Qashveti.

According to specialization priorities (Economics, World Economy, Intenational Ecoomic Relations), Doctor of Economics Revaz Lordkianidze has successfully completed the course of Harvard University about US government reforms and continues research by courses of the Georgian Technical University.

Edited and Reviewed in the Academy named after Economist A. Gunia

## ISBN 978-9941-8-0845-6 (PDF)

# Phases of Economic Growth and in Which Post-ancient World do We Live Now?

Economic cycles, in the broadest sense, began in primitive manual labor and reached the modern era of informatics and global competition, which was studied in various aspects by our researches [1-25].

For the reflection on economic cycles, naturally, it is necessary to consider the history of Mother Earth itself. As known, some scientists think, that "the age of the Earth is  $4.54 \pm 0.05$  billion years ( $4.54 \times 109$  years  $\pm 1\%$ ). This age may represent the age of the Earth's accretion, of core formation, or of the material from which the Earth formed. This dating is based on evidence from radiometric age-dating of meteorite material and is consistent with the radiometric ages of the oldest-known terrestrial and lunar samples" [26].

I do not think so. I believe that as according to the Bible, the age of the Earth is 7526 years and a man was created by the God, and not a monkey. Such opinions are supported by those physicists who are sure that with a bigger age, than 10000 years, the electromagnetic voltage of the earth would be unbearably large.

The concept of civilization is explored by many scientists, which can be summarized by characteristic periodization: "The notion of world history as a succession of "civilizations" is an entirely modern one. In the European Age of Discovery, emerging Modernity was put into stark contrast with the Neolithic and Mesolithic stage of the cultures of the New World, suggesting that the complex states had emerged at some time in prehistory. The term "civilization" as it is now most commonly understood, a complex state with centralisation, social stratification and specialization of labour, corresponds to early empires that arise in the Fertile Crescent in the Early Bronze Age, around roughly 3000 BC. Gordon Childe defined the emergence of civilization as the result of two successive revolutions: the Neolithic Revolution, triggering the development of settled communities, and the Urban Revolution" [27].

Before the discovery of America, the oldest world civilizations (from America to the Far East) developed without having an idea about each other.

Among the oldest civilizations, I want to especially mention the periods of Pyramid [28], Maya [29] and Indus Valley [30] Civilisations and European Ancient history [31], which foreshadowed the creation of bases for new world: "The broad term Ancient History is not to be confused with Classical Antiquity. The term classical antiquity is often used to refer to Western History in the Ancient Mediterranean from the beginning of recorded Greek history in 776 BC (First Olympiad). This roughly coincides with the traditional date of the founding of Rome in 753 BC, the beginning of the history of ancient Rome, and the beginning of the Archaic period in Ancient Greece... Although the ending date of ancient history is disputed, some Western scholars use the fall of the Western Roman Empire in 476 AD (the most used), the closure of the Platonic Academy in 529 AD, the death of the emperor Justinian I in 565 AD, the coming of Islam or the rise of Charlemagne as the end of ancient and Classical European history. Outside of Europe the 450-500 time frame for the end of ancient times has had difficulty as a transition date from Ancient to Post-Classical times" [ibid].

I think, that we should note a period of some slowdown in world development. It was in the history of Europe: "the Middle Ages (or Medieval period) lasted from the 5th to the 15th century. It began with the fall of the Western Roman Empire and merged into the Renaissance and the Age of Discovery. The Middle Ages is the middle period of the three traditional divisions of Western history: classical antiquity, the medieval period, and the modern period. The medieval period is itself subdivided into the Early, High, and Late Middle Ages" [32].

But on the other hand, it was in Europe that a new world was born and new economic growth began: "The term originated in the early 16th century after Europeans made landfall in what would later be called the Americas in the age of discovery, expanding the geographical horizon of classical geographers, The term originated in the early 16th century after Europeans made landfall in what would later be called the Americas in the age of discovery, expanding the geographical horizon of classical geographers, who had thought of the world as consisting of Africa, Europe, and Asia, collectively now referred to as the Old World (a.k.a. Afro-Eurasia), who had thought of the world as consisting of Africa, Europe, and Asia, collectively now referred to as the Old World (a.k.a. Afro-Eurasia)" [33].

In the 20th century, Economists proposed a typology of business cycles "according to their periodicity, so that a number of particular cycles were named after their discoverers or proposers: the Kitchin inventory cycle of 3 to 5 years (after Joseph Kitchin); the Juglar fixed-investment cycle of 7 to 11 years (often identified as "the" business cycle); the Kuznets infrastructural investment cycle of 15 to 25 years (after Simon Kuznets – also called "building cycle"); the Kondratiev wave or long technological cycle of 45 to 60 years (after the Soviet economist Nikolai Kondratiev)" [34]:

Cycle/wave name	Period (years)
Kitchin cycle (inventory, e.g. pork cycle)	3–5
Juglar cycle (fixed investment)	7–11
Kuznets swing (infrastructural investment)	15–25
Kondratiev wave (technological basis)	45–60

I think, that the most needful connection (union, correlation) of cycles is found in the development of technology, like by Product based theory of economic cycles: "This theory explains the nature and causes of economic cycles from the viewpoint of life-cycle of marketable goods. The theory originates from the work of **Raymond Vernon**, who described the development of international trade in terms of product life-cycle – a period of time during which the product circulates in the market. Vernon stated that some countries specialize in the production and export of technologically new products, while others specialize in the production of already known products. The most developed countries are

able to invest large amounts of money in the technological innovations and produce new products, thus obtaining a dynamic comparative advantage over developing countries" [ibid]:



How do You think, is it justly, that some weak economists gain popularity with populist criticism of the government? Sometimes we need to criticize, but with the love of our opponents, and not with malice.

I recall the era of George H. W. Bush with respect and I consider as the populist expressions of some economists, who criticized His Administration with the financially complex era of the computer basics and with it won popularity.

After my many researches, I think, that the longest waves of economic cycles are accelerating and now we have begun a new stage of world development - the Era of the Internet, which will last about 250 years before the Era of Human ups and Mass use of cellular energies. Prior to this, humanity passed the waves:

1) The origins of local markets (4 000 years);

2) The rapid rates of economic development of local markets (2 000 years);

- 3) The slowdown in the economic growth of local markets (1 000 years);
- 4) Creations of the World Economy (500 years);

Since the 3rd millennium, the 5th wave began - the era of the Internet. Successes to You in the New Era more transparent and accordingly just relations.

# About Author



Revaz Lordkipanidze was born in 1965. He graduated Tbilisi State University with Honored Diploma (1986), Institute of Economy and Law (Georgian Academy of Sciences, 1990), St. Petersburg State University with diploma of doctor (1998–1999), was member (first from post USSR countries) of The Academy of Political Science (NY, United States) with certificates (1998–2010), with successfully certify of Harvard University (Courses "U.S. Public Policy: Social, Economic and Foreign Policies", "Justice", 2018), EU TACIS Project (Cleaner production, 2003) and University of Minnesota (The United States, Training program, 2011), elected academician of Georgian Academy of Economic Sciences (2013). Revaz Lordkipanidze was the acting minister of Economy in Adjara region (1993-1998).

Now he is Professor of University Geomedi. As young doctor of sciences (1999) he granted with the first quality scholarship of President of Georgia (2001), he is gold medalist of Georgian Ministry of Education and he is written in Georgian Economic encyclopedia. Revaz Lordkipanidze is the author of 250 works, including 12 monographs. Hobby -Christian chants, mathematics, basketball, swimming, etc.

# References

1. Archil Prangishvili and others, Development of Distributed Complex Network for Representation of Knowledge Base.

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/321634773 Development of Distributed Comple x Network for Representation of Knowledge Base

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Archil Prangishvili

2. Archil Prangishvili and others, On network maintenance problem. Mixed-type semi-Markov queuing system with bifurcation of arrivals. - January 2018, Bulletin of the Georgian National Academy of Sciences 12(2): 36-40.

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/328294765 On network maintenance problem Mixed-type semi-Markov queuing system with bifurcation of arrivals

3. Revaz Lordkipanidze, Wise World Union in Internet Era Can Become Needful Economic Robotics for Peace Processes. - Tbilisi, As E-Book, Philanthropic Research Academy for Georgian Parliament Digital Library, 2018: 14. http://dspace.nplg.gov.ge/handle/1234/287114

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/329403368 Wise World Union in Internet Era Can Become Needful Economic Robotics for Peace Processes - Tbilisi As E-Book Philanthropic Research Academy for Georgian Parliament Digital Library 2018 1 4 httpdspacen

4. Revaz Lordkipanidze, Objective Equilibrium Realism in Economy for Perfect Competition. - Tbilisi, As E-Book, Philanthropic Research Academy for Georgian Parliament Digital Library, 2018: 10. http://dspace.nplg.gov.ge/handle/1234/287109

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/329281105 Objective Equilibrium Realism in E conomy for Perfect Competition - Tbilisi As E-

Book\_Philanthropic\_Research\_Academy\_for\_Georgian\_Parliament\_Digital\_Library\_2018\_1 0\_httpdspacenplggovgehandle1234287109 5. Revaz Lordkipanidze, Influence of Scientific-technical Level on Living Standard. - Tbilisi, As E-Book, Philanthropic Research Academy for Georgian Parliament Digital Library, 2018: 11. http://dspace.nplg.gov.ge/handle/1234/287111

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/329252508 Influence of Scientifictechnical Level on Living Standard - Tbilisi As E-Book Philanthropic Research Academy for Georgian Parliament Digital Library 2018 11 httpds pacenplggovgehandle1234287111

6. Revaz Lordkipanidze, Wonderful Price Paradoxes even in Developed Conditions of almost Competitive Equilibrium. - Philanthropic Research Academy for the Digital Library of the Georgian Parliament, As E-Book, 2018. http://dspace.nplg.gov.ge/handle/1234/286335

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/329076070 Wonderful Price Paradoxes even in Developed Conditions of almost Competitive Equilibrium -

<u>Philanthropic Research Academy for the Digital Library of the Georgian Parliament</u> <u>As E-Book 2018 httpdspacenp</u>

7. Revaz Lordkipanidze, Optimistic Growth of the World Economy toward 2019 and What We Should Do for Optimal Competition. - Philanthropic Research Academy for the Digital Library of the Georgian Parliament, As E-Book, 2018.

<u>As\_E-Book\_2018</u>

8. Revaz Lordkipanidze, Economic Competition: Urgent Need in Rethinking and Unprecedented Perspectives by Internet. - As E-novation, Charity Research Academy to Georgian Parliament Digital Library, 2018: 107. ISBN 978-9941-8-0722-0 (PDF). http://dspace.nplg.gov.ge/handle/1234/284911

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/328772439\_Economic\_Competition\_Urgent\_Need in Rethinking and Unprecedented Perspectives by Internet - As Enovation\_Charity\_Research\_Academy\_to\_Georgian\_Parliament\_Digital\_Library\_2018\_107\_ ISBN\_978-9941-8-07229. Revaz Lordkipanidze, Competition is not Joke and in the Era of Electronics It Must Be Protected Especially. - As E-novation, 2018, <u>http://dspace.nplg.gov.ge/handle/1234/283298</u>

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/328542291 Competition is not Joke and in the Era of Electronics It Must Be Protected Especially - As Enovation 2018 httpdspacenplggovgehandle1234283298

10. Revaz Lordkipanidze, For Improve of Economic Thinking. - Tbilisi, 2018: 160.

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/328726251 For Improve of Economic Thinking - Tbilisi 2018 160

11. Revaz Lordkipanidze, My Wonderful Harvard Course "U.S. Public Policy: Social, Economic and Foreign Policies". - Tbilisi, E-book: Philanthropic Research Academy for the Georgian Parliament Digital Library, 2018.

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/326984863 My Wonderful Harvard Course US Public Policy Social Economic and Foreign Policies - Tbilisi Ebook Philanthropic Research Academy for the Georgian Parliament Digital Library 2018

12. Revaz Lordkipanidze, The Strongest Key to Global Hospitality. - Tbilisi, Philanthropic Research Academy for the Georgian Parliament Digital Library, E-book: 2018.

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/327019745 The Strongest Key to Global Hospitality -<u>Tbilisi Philanthropic Research Academy for the Georgian Parliament Digital Library E-</u> <u>book 2018</u>

13. Revaz Lordkipanidze, Engineer-economist - Needful Doctor for Future Competitive Market (Textbook Principles to Economics, International Competition, Management). - Philanthropic Academy for Digital Library of Georgian Parliament, 2018: 100. Dedicated to a spark of hope by the rarest bright start of US-Russian relations (2018, July) and 20th anniversary of my pioneer membership (1998, August 1) from post-Soviet countries at the New York Academy of Political Sciences. http://dspace.nplg.gov.ge/handle/1234/275374

<u>https://www.researchgate.net/publication/326723649\_Engineer-economist\_-</u> <u>Needful Doctor for Future Competitive Market Textbook Principles to Economics Int</u> <u>ernational Competition Management\_-</u> <u>Philanthropic Academy for Digital Library of Georgian Parliame</u> 14. Revaz Lordkipanidze, Efficiency of Manager's Characteristic Features. - Tbilisi, Philanthropic Research Academy for Digital Library of the Georgian Parliament, 2nd Edition as E-Book, 2018. http://dspace.nplg.gov.ge/handle/1234/274647

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/326589394 Efficiency of Manager's Characteristi c\_Features\_-

<u>Tbilisi</u> Philanthropic Research Academy for Digital Library of the Georgian Parliame nt 2nd Edition as E-Book 2018 httpdspacenplggovgehandle1234274647

15. Revaz Lordkipanidze, American Studies on Economic Wonderworks and Goodness: My Half-Century Sincere Love and Scientific Interests. - Tbilisi, 2018, Philanthropic Research Academy for the Digital Library of the Georgian Parliament. http://dspace.nplg.gov.ge/handle/1234/274652

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/326328169\_American\_Studies\_on\_Economic\_Wo nderworks\_and\_Goodness\_My\_Half-Century\_Sincere\_Love\_and\_Scientific\_Interests\_-\_\_\_\_\_Tbilisi\_2018\_Philanthropic\_Research\_Academy\_for\_the\_Digital\_Library\_of\_the\_Georgian \_\_\_\_\_Parlia

16. Revaz Lordkipanidze, Competitive International Business and Effective State Neuroeconomic Mechanisms (Textbook: Fundamental Principles from Monographic Researches for Students and Specialists of Economics, Public Administration and Marketing). Dedicated to the Bright Successful for Peace Negotiations of the United States and North Korea in the Most Dangerous Era of Nuclear Competition. - Tbilisi. Philanthropic Research Academy for the Digital Library of the Georgian Parliament. 2018: 106.

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/326092780 Competitive International Business a nd Effective State Neuroeconomic Mechanisms Textbook Fundamental Principles from Monographic Researches for Students and Specialists of Economics Public Administrat http://dspace.nplg.gov.ge/handle/1234/273606

17. Revaz Lordkipanidze, Polar Difference in Economic Regulation of Developed and Developing Countries. - http://dspace.nplg.gov.ge/handle/1234/273604 , Tbilisi, Philanthropic Research Academy for the Digital Library of Georgian Parliament, 2018.

https://www.researchgate.net/search.Search.html?type=publication&query=Polar%20differe nce%20in%20economic%20regulation%20of%20developed%20and%20developing

18. Revaz Lordkipanidze, Dialectics to Understanding of International Competition: For Fundamentals and Practice of Business and Public Law. 2018. Tbilisi, Philanthropic Research

Academy named after Economist A. Gunia for the Digital Library of the Parliament Georgia. ISBN 978-9941-8-0217-1 (PDF)

19. Revaz Lordkipanidze, Managerial Costs in Nowaday Healthcare (Handbook for Students of University Geomedi Bachelor's Program). - Tbilisi, 2018: 104. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/328466517 Managerial Costs in Nowaday Healt hcare Handbook for Students of University Geomedi Bachelor's Program - <u>Tbilisi 2018\_104</u>

20. Revaz Lordkipanidze, Business Govern in Health Care. - Tbilisi, 2018:14. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/328466389\_Business\_Govern\_in\_Health\_Care\_-\_\_Tbilisi\_201814

21. Revaz Lordkipanidze, Business Govern for Reduce Managerial Costs in Health Care (Handbook). - Tbilisi, Academy of Charity Research for Digital Library of Georgian Parliament, 2018. http://dspace.nplg.gov.ge/handle/1234/282350

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/328052483 Business Govern for Reduce Manage rial Costs in Health Care Handbook -

Tbilisi Academy of Charity Research for Digital Library of Georgian Parliament 2018 httpdspacenplggovgehandle1234282350

22. Revaz Lordkipanidze, Thanks for Genius Justice Traditions of My Harvard University. -Tbilisi, Philanthropic Research Academy for the Georgian Parliament Digital Library, Ebook: 2018. http://dspace.nplg.gov.ge/handle/1234/278884

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/327582415 Thanks for Genius Justice Traditions of My Harvard University -

<u>Tbilisi Philanthropic Research Academy for the Georgian Parliament Digital Library</u> <u>E-book 2018 httpdspacenplggovgehandle1234278884</u>

23. Revaz Lordkipanidze, Competition theory's "sensational" defects and recommendations for improvement of competitiveness audit. - Modern Issues of Medicine and Management. 2017. N 4 (12): 68-73 (ISSN 1512-4169 Quarterly, International, Refereed, Peer-reviewed Collected Scientific Works).

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/328416195 Competition theory's sensational def ects and recommendations for improvement of competitiveness audit -Modern Issues of Medicine and Management 2017 N 4 12 68-73 ISSN 1512-4169 Quarterly Internationa 24. Specificity of Health Policy for Developed and Developing Countries. - Modern Issues of Medicine and Management. 2018. N 2 (14): 37-41 (ISSN 1512-4169 Quarterly, International, Refereed, Peer-reviewed Collected Scientific Works).

http://dspace.nplg.gov.ge/bitstream/1234/276655/1/Medicinis\_Da\_Menejmentis\_Tanamedrov e\_Problemebi\_2018\_N2.pdf

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/328432542\_Specificity\_of\_Health\_Policy\_for\_Dev eloped\_and\_Developing\_Countries\_-

Modern Issues of Medicine and Management 2018 N 2 14 37-41 ISSN 1512-4169 Quarterly International Refereed Peer-reviewed Collected

25. Revaz Lordkipanidze, For Reforming of Georgian Economy (Handbook). - Tbilisi, Charity Research Academy for Georgian Parliament Digital Library, 2018. http://dspace.nplg.gov.ge/handle/1234/282371

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/328107601\_For\_Reforming\_of\_Georgian\_Econom y\_Handbook\_-

<u>Tbilisi</u> Charity Research Academy for Georgian Parliament Digital Library 2018 httpd spacenplggovgehandle1234282371

- 26. <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Age\_of\_the\_Earth</u>
- 27. <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civilization</u>
- 28. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pyramid
- 29. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maya\_civilization
- 30. <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indus\_Valley\_Civilisation</u>
- 31. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ancient\_history
- 32. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Middle\_Ages
- 33. <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New\_World</u>
- 34. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Business\_cycle

Public lecture by Revaz Lordkipanidze on Global Economic Cycles and International Competition will be held on January 16, 2019 at Tbilisi, St. L. Gudiashvili 7.



индиналарсти инстрафоры донародст добестнализани андистра 519338 <u>ассполбодовов</u> добество <u>сулавностой до 2060 в</u> адинантова <u>сулавностой до 2007217</u> 3.6. 61001000953

#### განცხადება

derzderine zu akerzenan, 2019 Brend 16 auszesele (15.00 pr 17:00- den) aszzenaria beferazogu el serigered jerez Jerzen bezeren bezeren beferazogu el serieszen bezerezen bezeren anderezen bezerezen bezerezen bezere anderezen bezerezen bezerezen bezere anderezen bezerezen bezerezen bezere anderezen bezerezen bezerezen bezere anderezen bezerezen beze

> bylinessent promass have year years and zogranala, Shorgalonha In138 Contarfassend - SAS M 11.12.2018

> > 16



### About the age of Erth by https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Age\_of\_the\_Earth

"The age of the Earth is  $4.54 \pm 0.05$  <u>billion</u> years  $(4.54 \times 10^9 \text{ years } \pm 1\%)$ . This age may represent the age of the Earth's <u>accretion</u>, of core formation, or of the material from which the Earth formed. This dating is based on evidence from <u>radiometric age-dating</u> of <u>meteorite</u> material and is consistent with the radiometric ages of the oldest-known terrestrial and <u>lunar samples</u>.

Following the development of radiometric age-dating in the early 20th century, measurements of lead in uranium-rich minerals showed that some were in excess of a billion years old. The oldest such minerals analyzed to date—small crystals of <u>zircon</u> from the <u>Jack Hills</u>of <u>Western Australia</u>—are at least 4.404 billion years old. <u>Calcium–aluminium–rich inclusions</u>—the oldest known solid constituents within meteorites that are formed within the <u>Solar System</u>—are 4.567 billion years old, giving a lower limit for the <u>age of the solar system</u>.

It is hypothesised that the accretion of Earth began soon after the formation of the calcium-aluminium-rich inclusions and the meteorites. Because the exact amount of time this accretion process took is not yet known, and the predictions from different accretion models range from a few million up to about 100 million years, the exact age of Earth is difficult to determine. It is also difficult to determine the exact age of the <u>oldest rocks</u> on Earth, exposed at the surface, as they are <u>aggregates</u> of minerals of possibly different ages.

Studies of <u>strata</u>, the layering of rocks and earth, gave <u>naturalists</u> an appreciation that Earth may have been through many changes during its existence. These layers often contained <u>fossilized remains</u> of unknown creatures, leading some to interpret a progression of organisms from layer to layer.

<u>Nicolas Steno</u> in the 17th century was one of the first naturalists to appreciate the connection between fossil remains and strata. His observations led him to formulate important <u>stratigraphic</u> concepts (i.e., the "<u>law of superposition</u>" and the "<u>principle of original</u> <u>horizontality</u>").<sup>[15]</sup> In the 1790s, <u>William Smith</u> hypothesized that if two layers of rock at widely differing locations contained similar fossils, then it was very plausible that the layers

were the same age.<sup>[16]</sup> William Smith's nephew and student, <u>John Phillips</u>, later calculated by such means that Earth was about 96 million years old.

In the mid-18th century, the naturalist <u>Mikhail Lomonosov</u> suggested that Earth had been created separately from, and several hundred thousand years before, the rest of the universe. Lomonosov's ideas were mostly speculative. In 1779 the <u>Comte du Buffon</u> tried to obtain a value for the age of Earth using an experiment: He created a small globe that resembled Earth in composition and then measured its rate of cooling. This led him to estimate that Earth was about 75,000 years old.

Other naturalists used these hypotheses to construct a <u>history of Earth</u>, though their timelines were inexact as they did not know how long it took to lay down stratigraphic layers. In 1830, geologist <u>Charles Lyell</u>, developing ideas found in <u>James Hutton</u>'s works, popularized the concept that the features of Earth were in perpetual change, eroding and reforming continuously, and the rate of this change was roughly constant. This was a challenge to the traditional view, which saw the history of Earth as static, with changes brought about by intermittent <u>catastrophes</u>. Many naturalists were influenced by Lyell to become "uniformitarians" who believed that changes were constant and uniform.

In 1862, the physicist William Thomson, 1st Baron Kelvin published calculations that fixed the age of Earth at between 20 million and 400 million years. He assumed that Earth had formed as a completely molten object, and determined the amount of time it would take for the near-surface to cool to its present temperature. His calculations did not account for heat produced via radioactive decay (a process then unknown to science) or, more significantly, convection inside the Earth, which allows more heat to escape from the interior to warm rocks near the surface. Even more constraining were Kelvin's estimates of the age of the Sun, which were based on estimates of its thermal output and a theory that the Sun obtains its energy from gravitational collapse; Kelvin estimated that the Sun is about 20 million years old.

Geologists such as Charles Lyell had trouble accepting such a short age for Earth. For biologists, even 100 million years seemed much too short to be plausible. In Darwin's theory of evolution, the process of random heritable variation with cumulative selection requires great durations of time. (According to modern biology, the total evolutionary history from the beginning of life to today has taken place since 3.5 to 3.8 billion years ago, the amount of time which passed since the last universal ancestor of all living organisms as shown by geological dating).

In a lecture in 1869, Darwin's great advocate, Thomas H. Huxley, attacked Thomson's calculations, suggesting they appeared precise in themselves but were based on faulty assumptions. The physicist Hermann von Helmholtz (in 1856) and astronomer Simon Newcomb (in 1892) contributed their own calculations of 22 and 18 million years respectively to the debate: they independently calculated the amount of time it would take for the Sun to condense down to its current diameter and brightness from the nebula of gas and dust from which it was born. Their values were consistent with Thomson's calculations. However, they assumed that the Sun was only glowing from the heat of its gravitational contraction. The process of solar nuclear fusion was not yet known to science.

In 1895 John Perry challenged Kelvin's figure on the basis of his assumptions on conductivity, and Oliver Heaviside entered the dialogue, considering it "a vehicle to display the ability of his operator method to solve problems of astonishing complexity."

Other scientists backed up Thomson's figures. Charles Darwin's son, the astronomer George H. Darwin, proposed that Earth and Moon had broken apart in their early days when they were both molten. He calculated the amount of time it would have taken for tidal friction to give Earth its current 24-hour day. His value of 56 million years added additional evidence that Thomson was on the right track.

The last estimate Thomson gave, in 1897, was: "that it was more than 20 and less than 40 million year old, and probably much nearer 20 than 40". In 1899 and 1900, John Jolycalculated the rate at which the oceans should have accumulated salt from erosion processes, and determined that the oceans were about 80 to 100 million years old.

By their chemical nature, <u>rock minerals</u> contain certain <u>elements</u> and not others; but in rocks containing radioactive isotopes, the process of <u>radioactive decay</u> generates exotic elements over time. By measuring the <u>concentration</u> of the stable end product of the decay,

20

coupled with knowledge of the <u>half life</u> and initial concentration of the decaying element, the age of the rock can be calculated. Typical radioactive end products are <u>argon</u> from decay of <u>potassium</u>-40, and <u>lead</u> from decay of <u>uranium</u> and <u>thorium</u>. If the rock becomes molten, as happens in Earth's <u>mantle</u>, such nonradioactive end products typically escape or are redistributed. Thus the age of the oldest terrestrial rock gives a minimum for the age of Earth, assuming that no rock has been intact for longer than the Earth itself.

In 1892, Thomson had been made <u>Lord Kelvin</u> in appreciation of his many scientific accomplishments. Kelvin calculated the age of the Earth by using <u>thermal gradients</u>, and he arrived at an estimate of about 100 million years. He did not realize that the Earth <u>mantle</u> was convecting, and this invalidated his estimate. In 1895, <u>John Perry</u> produced an age-of-Earth estimate of 2 to 3 billion years using a model of a convective mantle and thin crust. Kelvin stuck by his estimate of 100 million years, and later reduced it to about 20 million years.

The discovery of radioactivity introduced another factor in the calculation. After Henri Becquerel's initial discovery in 1896, Marie and Pierre Curie discovered the radioactive elements polonium and radium in 1898; and in 1903, Pierre Curie and Albert Laborde announced that radium produces enough heat to melt its own weight in ice in less than an hour. Geologists quickly realized that this upset the assumptions underlying most calculations of the age of Earth. These had assumed that the original heat of the Earth and Sun had dissipated steadily into space, but radioactive decay meant that this heat had been continually replenished. George Darwin and John Joly were the first to point this out, in 1903.

Radioactivity, which had overthrown the old calculations, yielded a bonus by providing a basis for new calculations, in the form of radiometric dating.

Ernest Rutherford and Frederick Soddy jointly had continued their work on radioactive materials and concluded that radioactivity was due to a spontaneous transmutation of atomic elements. In radioactive decay, an element breaks down into another, lighter element, releasing alpha, beta, or gamma radiation in the process. They also determined that a particular isotope of a radioactive element decays into another element at a distinctive rate.

21

This rate is given in terms of a "half-life", or the amount of time it takes half of a mass of that radioactive material to break down into its "decay product".

Some radioactive materials have short half-lives: some have long halflives. Uranium and thorium have long half-lives, and so persist in Earth's crust, but radioactive elements with short half-lives have generally disappeared. This suggested that it might be possible to measure the age of Earth by determining the relative proportions of radioactive materials in geological samples. In reality, radioactive elements do not always decay into nonradioactive ("stable") elements directly, instead, decaying into other radioactive elements that have their own half-lives and so on, until they reach a stable element. These "decay chains", such as the uranium-radium and thorium series, were known within a few years of the discovery of radioactivity and provided a basis for constructing techniques of radiometric dating.

The pioneers of radioactivity were chemist Bertram B. Boltwood and the energetic Rutherford. Boltwood had conducted studies of radioactive materials as a consultant, and when Rutherford lectured at Yale in 1904, Boltwood was inspired to describe the relationships between elements in various decay series. Late in 1904, Rutherford took the first step toward radiometric dating by suggesting that the alpha particlesreleased by radioactive decay could be trapped in a rocky material as helium atoms. At the time, Rutherford was only guessing at the relationship between alpha particles and helium atoms, but he would prove the connection four years later.

Soddy and Sir William Ramsay had just determined the rate at which radium produces alpha particles, and Rutherford proposed that he could determine the age of a rock sample by measuring its concentration of helium. He dated a rock in his possession to an age of 40 million years by this technique. Rutherford wrote, I came into the room, which was half dark, and presently spotted Lord Kelvin in the audience and realized that I was in trouble at the last part of my speech dealing with the age of the Earth, where my views conflicted with his. To my relief, Kelvin fell fast asleep, but as I came to the important point, I saw the old bird sit up, open an eye, and cock a baleful glance at me! Then a sudden inspiration came, and I said, "Lord Kelvin had limited the age of the Earth, provided no new source was discovered. That prophetic utterance refers to what we are now considering tonight, radium!" Behold! the old boy beamed upon me.

Rutherford assumed that the rate of decay of radium as determined by Ramsay and Soddy was accurate, and that helium did not escape from the sample over time. Rutherford's scheme was inaccurate, but it was a useful first step.

Boltwood focused on the end products of decay series. In 1905, he suggested that lead was the final stable product of the decay of radium. It was already known that radium was an intermediate product of the decay of uranium. Rutherford joined in, outlining a decay process in which radium emitted five alpha particles through various intermediate products to end up with lead, and speculated that the radium-lead decay chain could be used to date rock samples. Boltwood did the legwork, and by the end of 1905 had provided dates for 26 separate rock samples, ranging from 92 to 570 million years. He did not publish these results, which was fortunate because they were flawed by measurement errors and poor estimates of the half-life of radium. Boltwood refined his work and finally published the results in 1907.

Boltwood's paper pointed out that samples taken from comparable layers of strata had similar lead-to-uranium ratios, and that samples from older layers had a higher proportion of lead, except where there was evidence that lead had leached out of the sample. His studies were flawed by the fact that the decay series of thorium was not understood, which led to incorrect results for samples that contained both uranium and thorium. However, his calculations were far more accurate than any that had been performed to that time. Refinements in the technique would later give ages for Boltwood's 26 samples of 410 million to 2.2 billion years.

Although Boltwood published his paper in a prominent geological journal, the geological community had little interest in radioactivity. Boltwood gave up work on radiometric dating and went on to investigate other decay series. Rutherford remained mildly curious about the issue of the age of Earth but did little work on it.

<u>Robert Strutt</u> tinkered with Rutherford's helium method until 1910 and then ceased. However, Strutt's student <u>Arthur Holmes</u> became interested in radiometric dating and

23

continued to work on it after everyone else had given up. Holmes focused on lead dating, because he regarded the helium method as unpromising. He performed measurements on rock samples and concluded in 1911 that the oldest (a sample from Ceylon) was about 1.6 billion years old. These calculations were not particularly trustworthy. For example, he assumed that the samples had contained only uranium and no lead when they were formed.

More important research was published in 1913. It showed that elements generally exist in multiple variants with different masses, or "<u>isotopes</u>". In the 1930s, isotopes would be shown to have nuclei with differing numbers of the neutral particles known as "<u>neutrons</u>". In that same year, other research was published establishing the rules for radioactive decay, allowing more precise identification of decay series.

Many geologists felt these new discoveries made radiometric dating so complicated as to be worthless. Holmes felt that they gave him tools to improve his techniques, and he plodded ahead with his research, publishing before and after the First World War. His work was generally ignored until the 1920s, though in 1917 <u>Joseph Barrell</u>, a professor of geology at Yale, redrew geological history as it was understood at the time to conform to Holmes's findings in radiometric dating. Barrell's research determined that the layers of strata had not all been laid down at the same rate, and so current rates of geological change could not be used to provide accurate timelines of the history of Earth.

Holmes' persistence finally began to pay off in 1921, when the speakers at the yearly meeting of the <u>British Association for the Advancement of Science</u> came to a rough consensus that Earth was a few billion years old, and that radiometric dating was credible. Holmes published *The Age of the Earth, an Introduction to Geological Ideas* in 1927 in which he presented a range of 1.6 to 3.0 billion years. No great push to embrace radiometric dating followed, however, and the die-hards in the geological community stubbornly resisted. They had never cared for attempts by physicists to intrude in their domain, and had successfully ignored them so far. The growing weight of evidence finally tilted the balance in 1931, when the <u>National Research Council</u> of the US <u>National Academy of Sciences</u> decided to resolve the question of the age of Earth by appointing a committee to investigate. Holmes, being one of the few people on Earth who was trained in radiometric dating techniques, was a committee member, and in fact wrote most of the final report.

Thus, Arthur Holmes' report concluded that radioactive dating was the only reliable means of pinning down geological time scales. Questions of bias were deflected by the great and exacting detail of the report. It described the methods used, the care with which measurements were made, and their error bars and limitations.

<u>Radiometric dating</u> continues to be the predominant way scientists date geologic timescales. Techniques for radioactive dating have been tested and fine-tuned on an ongoing basis since the 1960s. Forty or so different dating techniques have been utilized to date, working on a wide variety of materials. Dates for the same sample using these different techniques are in very close agreement on the age of the material.

Possible <u>contamination</u> problems do exist, but they have been studied and dealt with by careful investigation, leading to sample preparation procedures being minimized to limit the chance of contamination.

An age of  $4.55 \pm 0.07$  billion years, very close to today's accepted age, was determined by Clair Cameron Patterson using uranium-lead isotope dating (specifically lead-lead dating) on several meteorites including the Canyon Diablo meteorite and published in 1956.

Lead isotope isochron diagram showing data used by Patterson to determine the age of the Earth in 1956.

The quoted age of Earth is derived, in part, from the Canyon Diablo meteorite for several important reasons and is built upon a modern understanding of cosmochemistry built up over decades of research.

Most geological samples from Earth are unable to give a direct date of the formation of Earth from the solar nebula because Earth has undergone differentiation into the core, mantle, and crust, and this has then undergone a long history of mixing and unmixing of these sample reservoirs by plate tectonics, weathering and hydrothermal circulation.

All of these processes may adversely affect isotopic dating mechanisms because the sample cannot always be assumed to have remained as a closed system, by which it is meant that either the parent or daughter nuclide (a species of atom characterised by the number of neutrons and protons an atom contains) or an intermediate daughter nuclide may have been

partially removed from the sample, which will skew the resulting isotopic date. To mitigate this effect it is usual to date several minerals in the same sample, to provide an isochron. Alternatively, more than one dating system may be used on a sample to check the date.

Some meteorites are furthermore considered to represent the primitive material from which the accreting solar disk was formed. Some have behaved as closed systems (for some isotopic systems) soon after the solar disk and the planets formed. To date, these assumptions are supported by much scientific observation and repeated isotopic dates, and it is certainly a more robust hypothesis than that which assumes a terrestrial rock has retained its original composition.

Nevertheless, ancient Archaean lead ores of galena have been used to date the formation of Earth as these represent the earliest formed lead-only minerals on the planet and record the earliest homogeneous lead-lead isotope systems on the planet. These have returned age dates of 4.54 billion years with a precision of as little as 1% margin for error."

## Reducing the Longest Global Economic Cycles by Revaz Lordkipanidze

## (Approximate Generalizing Periodization)

- 1) The origins of local markets (4 000 years);
- 2) The rapid rates of economic development of local markets (2 000 years);
- 3) The slowdown in the economic growth of local markets (1 000 years);
- 4) Creations of the World Economy (500 years);
- 5) The Era of the Internet, which will last about 250 years;
- 6) The Era of Human ups and Mass use of cellular energies about 100-125 years.

7) Future technological excellence and use of the most powerful energies of molecules and quarks, an accordent improvement in the living conditions of a person...