Isaac Newton (1686|1714, Principia):

$$F_g = G\,Mm/r^2$$

Rationem vero harum gravitatis proprietatum ex phænomenis nondum potui *deduc*ere & hypotheſes non fingo.

But the reason for these properties of gravitation have I not yet been able to *deduce* from phenomena & I do not fabricate assumptions.

He says: I don't know *HOW* & *WHY* masses exert a force on each other.

Johann & Daniel Bernoulli (1712|38|47) **& Joseph-Louis Lagrange** (1779|82):

$$F_g = m\nabla V\ ,\ V = -GM/r$$

Gravitational field in form of a gravitational potential everywhere in space around a mass and the force per mass equals its gradient.

But *HOW* & *WHY* does a mass produce this field?

Albert Einstein (1915):

$$G_{\mu\nu} = \kappa T_{\mu\nu}\ ,\ \kappa = 8\pi G/c^4$$

Gravitation is curvature of spacetime.

But *HOW* & *WHY* does a mass curve spacetime?

NONE of the above *EXPLAINS* gravitation, they merely *describe* it.