

*Graduated in Mathematics at the University of Napoli*

*PhD student supervised by Prof. Maurizio Falanga*

## APPROXIMATION OF RELEVANT ELLIPTIC INTEGRALS IN THE SCHWARZSCHILD METRIC AND SOME ASTROPHYSICAL APPLICATIONS

*Collaborators:*

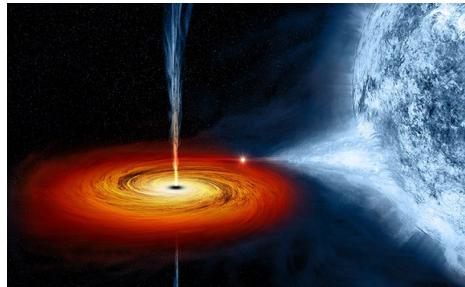
*Maurizio Falanga*

*Luigi Stella*

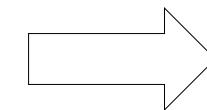


# ASTROPHYSICAL MOTIVATION

Discovery of X-ray emission coming from the accretion disks around the black holes



connect



Study how the matter around the black holes appears to an observer at infinity

Luminet 1979

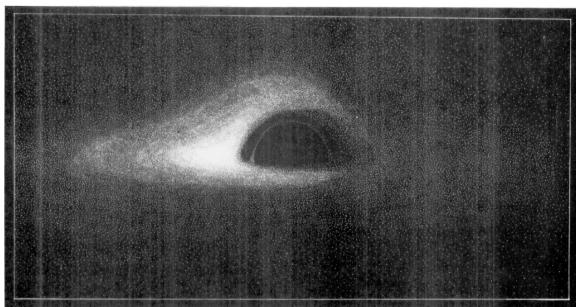
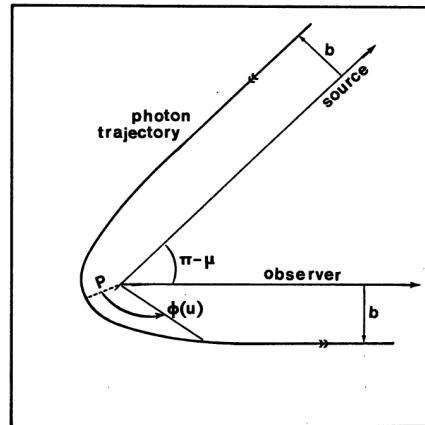
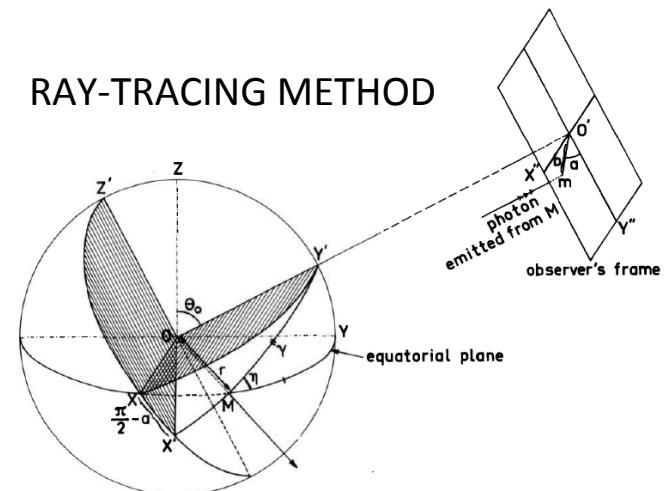


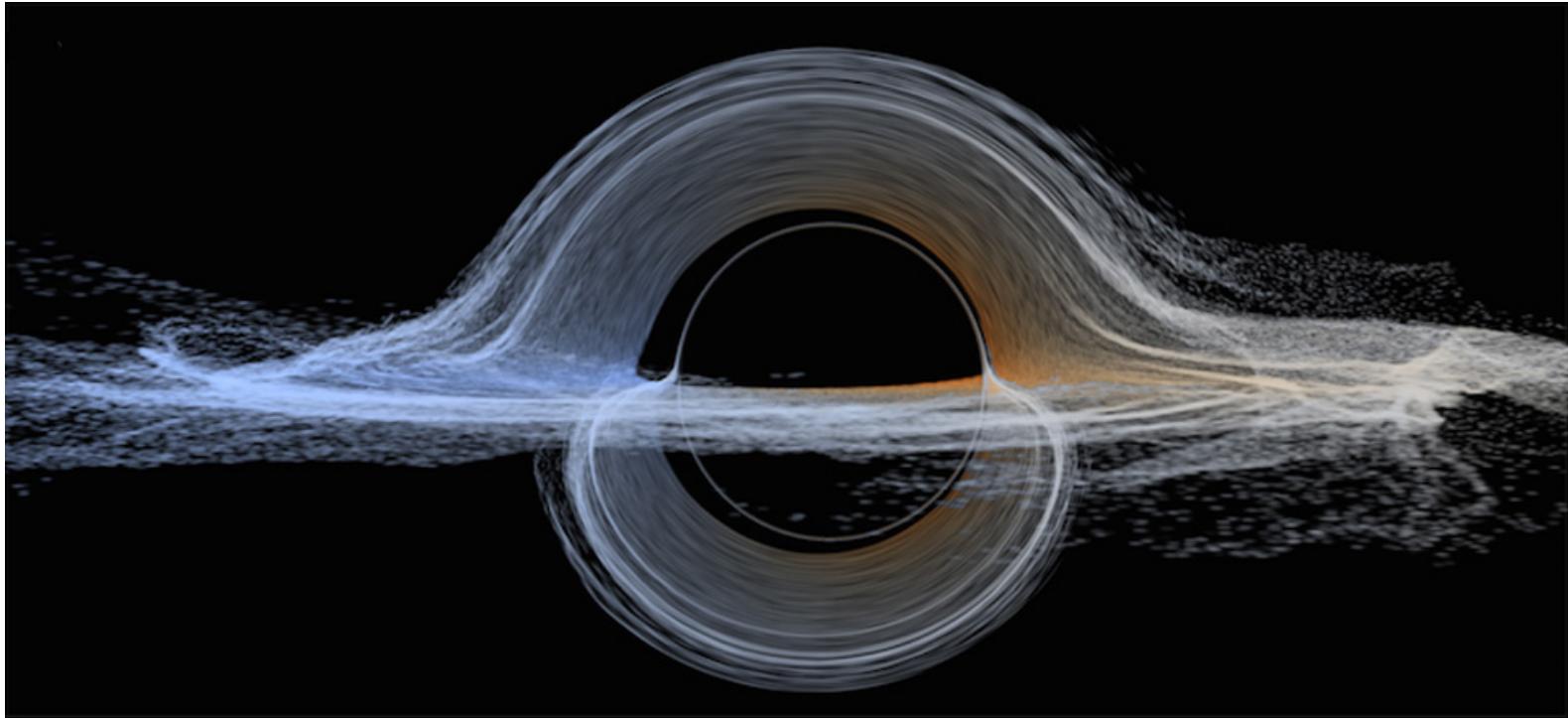
Image of a black hole



## RAY-TRACING METHOD

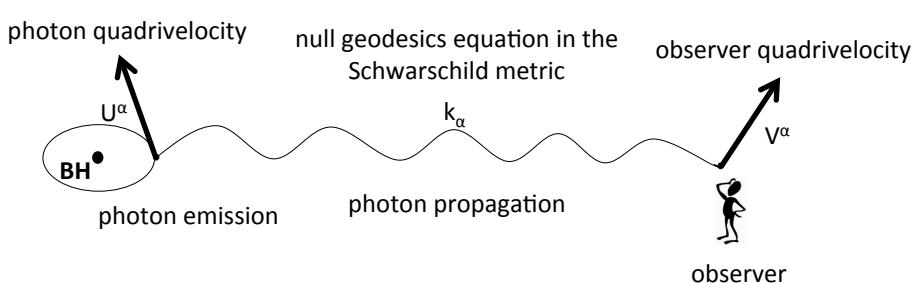
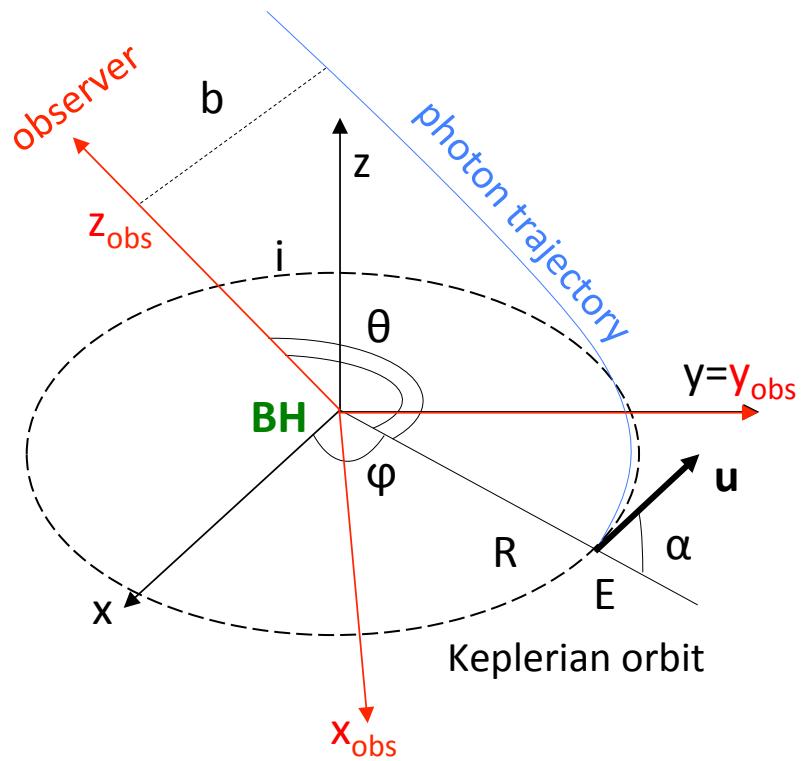


# INTRODUCTION



*Numerical simulation of an accretion disk placed around a black hole*

## 1.1 Geometrical structure



### TARGETS

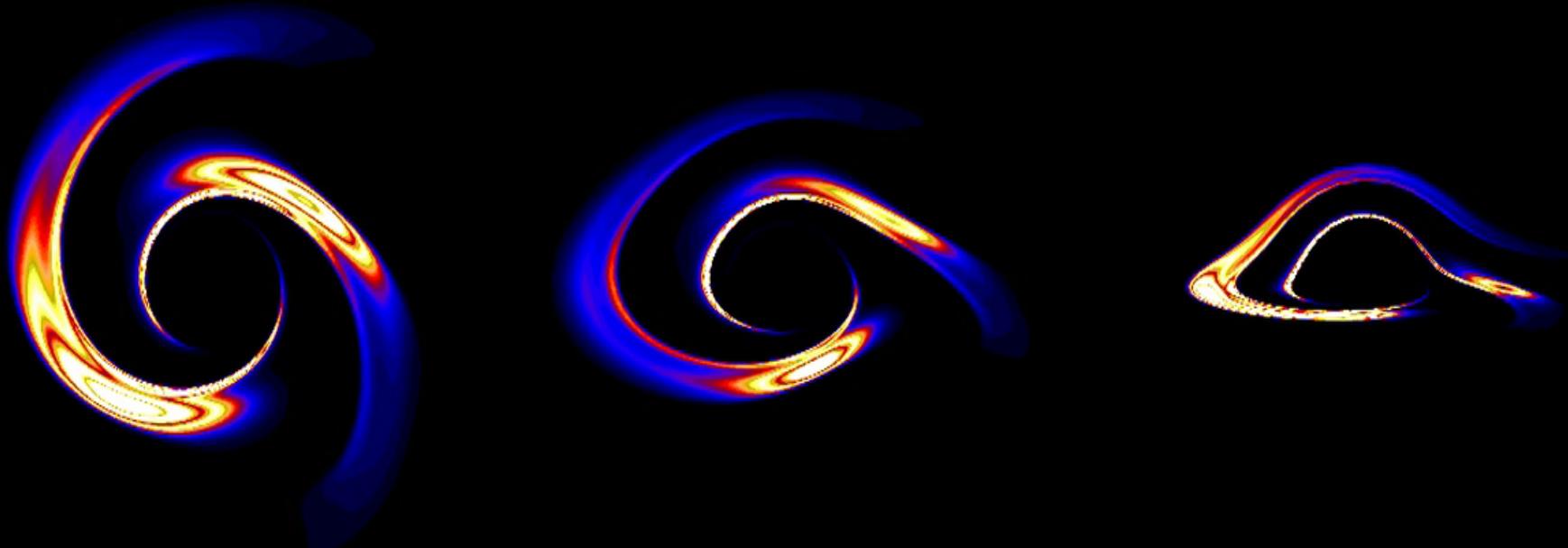
- *LIGHT BENDING (elliptic integral)*
- *TRAVEL TIME (elliptic integral)*
- *GRAVITATIONAL LENSING (elliptic integral)*
- *GRAVITATIONAL REDSHIFT (exact)*
- *FLUX (derived)*

$$g = (1 + z) = \frac{E_{obs}}{E_{em}} = \frac{(V^\alpha k_\alpha)_{obs}}{(U^\alpha k_\alpha)_{em}}$$

$$F = \int_{\nu_o} \int_R \int_\varphi I_{\nu_o} d\nu_o d\Omega$$

## 1.2 Simulations of the gravitational effects

Numerical simulations showing the gravitational effects mentioned before:



$i=30^\circ$

$i=60^\circ$

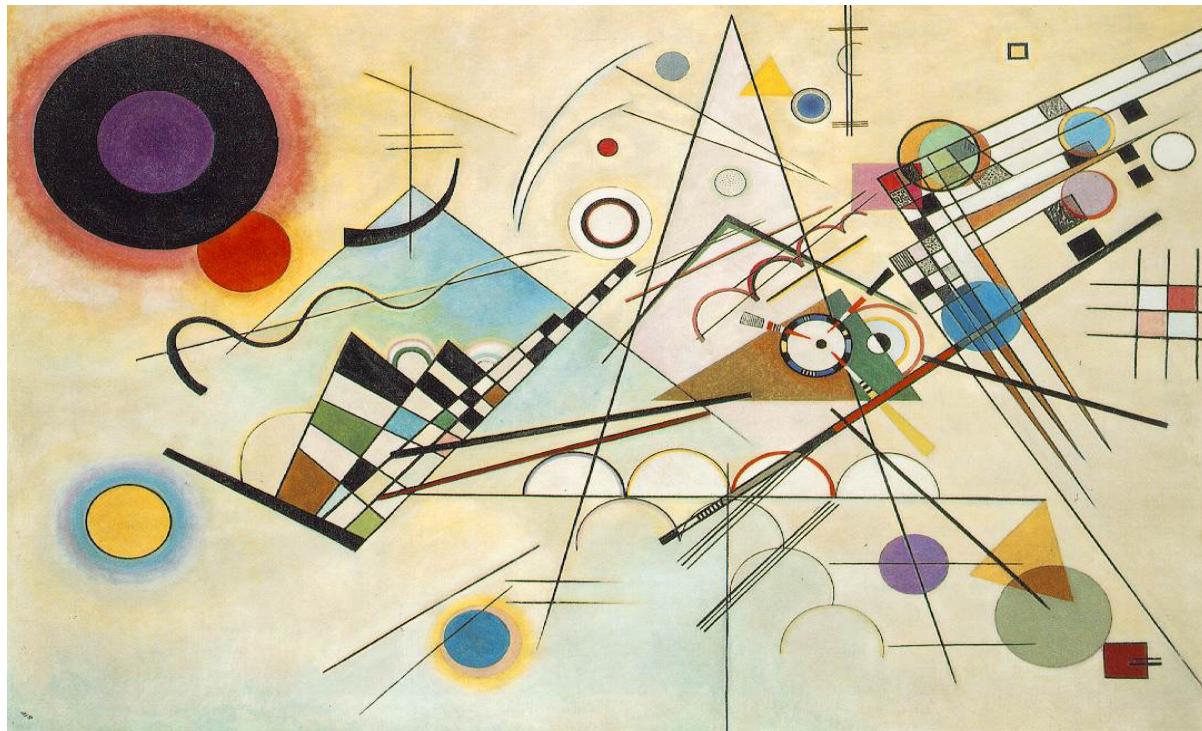
$i=89^\circ$

The relativistic effects become stronger and stronger

# 2

# CHAPTER

## ELLIPTIC INTEGRALS



*Kandinsky - Composition VIII (1923)*

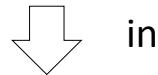
## 2.1 Light bending

(\*) Misner, Thorne & Wheeler - Gravitation

$$\theta = \int_R^\infty \frac{b}{r^2} \left[ 1 - \frac{b^2}{r^2} \left( 1 - \frac{2M}{r} \right) \right]^{-\frac{1}{2}} dr$$

*Substitution ad hoc*

$$z = 1 - \cos \alpha$$



in

$$b = \frac{r \sin \alpha}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{2M}{r}}} \quad (*)$$

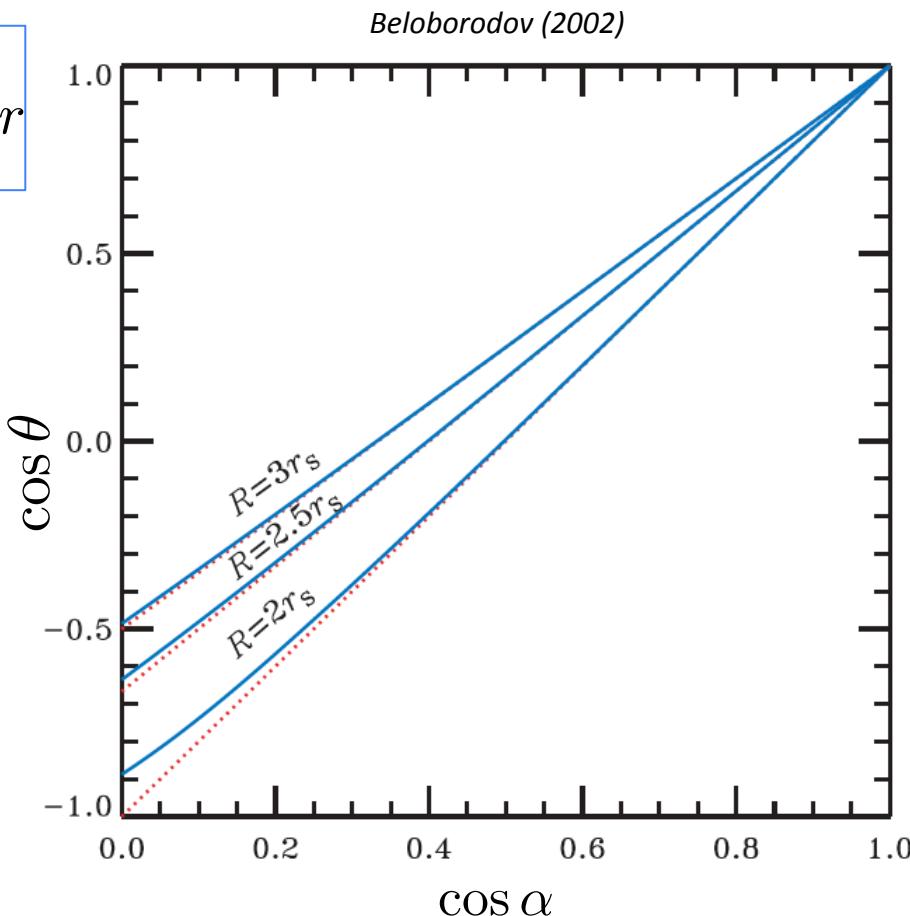


considering  $\alpha$  small

*Mathematical algebra*

Beloborodov (2002)

$$(1 - \cos \theta)(1 - u) = 1 - \cos \alpha \quad \text{where } u = \frac{r_s}{r}$$



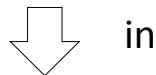
## 2.2 Time delay

(\*) Misner, Thorne & Wheeler - Gravitation

$$\Delta t = \int_R^\infty \frac{dr}{\left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right)} \left\{ \left[ 1 - \frac{b^2}{r^2} \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right) \right]^{-\frac{1}{2}} - 1 \right\}$$

*Substitution ad hoc*

$$z = 1 - \cos \alpha$$



in

$$b = \frac{r \sin \alpha}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{2M}{r}}} \quad (*)$$



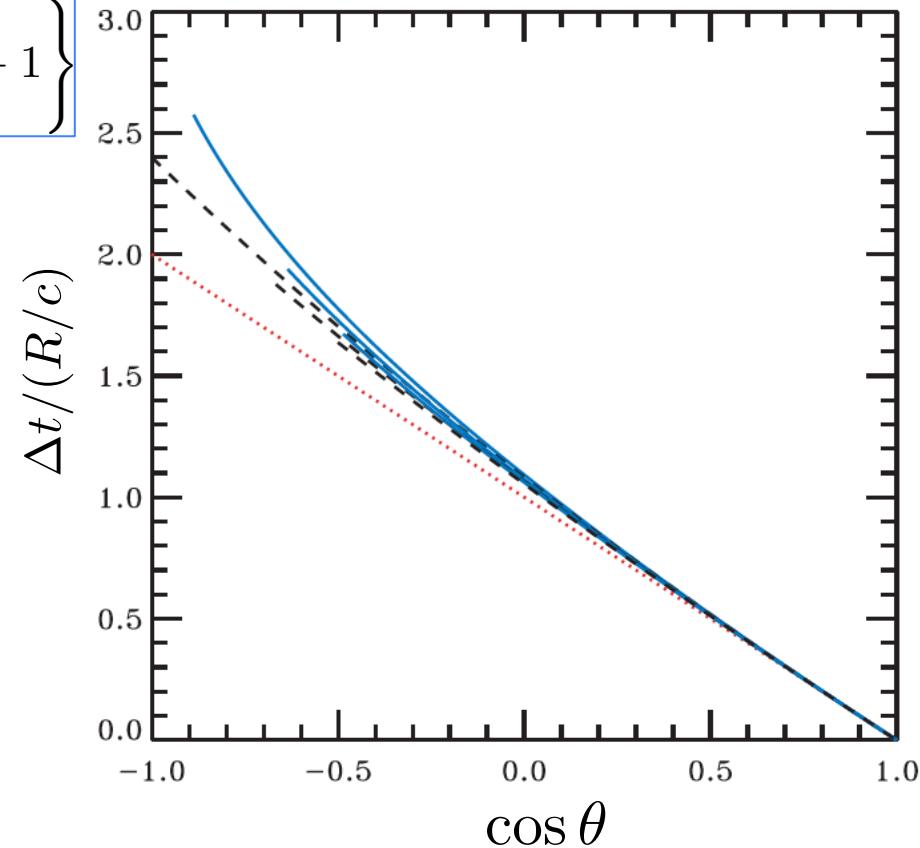
considering  $\alpha$  small

*Mathematical algebra*

Poutanen & Beloborodov (2006)

$$\frac{\Delta t}{R} = y \left[ 1 + \frac{uy}{8} + \frac{uy^2}{24} - \frac{u^2y^2}{112} \right] \text{ where } u = \frac{r_s}{r} \quad y = \frac{(1 - \cos \alpha)}{(1 - u)}$$

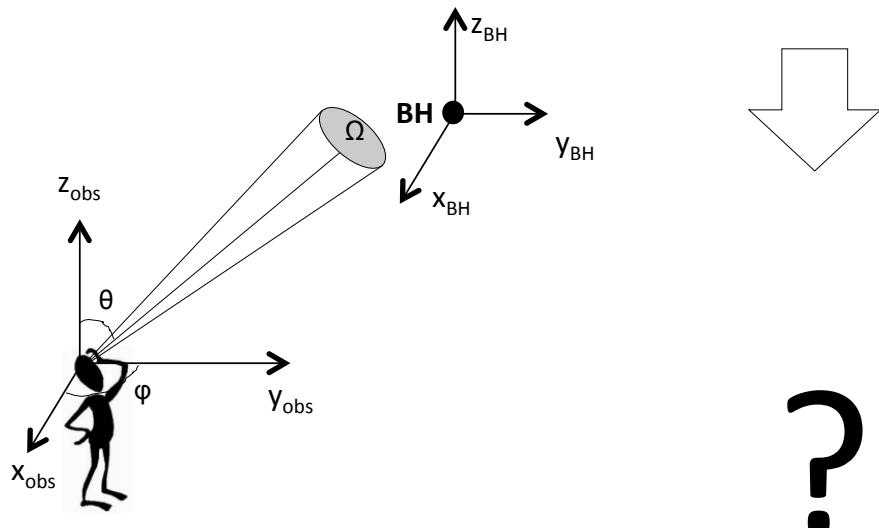
Poutanen & Beloborodov (2006)



## 2.3 Solid angle

(\*) Misner, Thorne & Wheeler - Gravitation

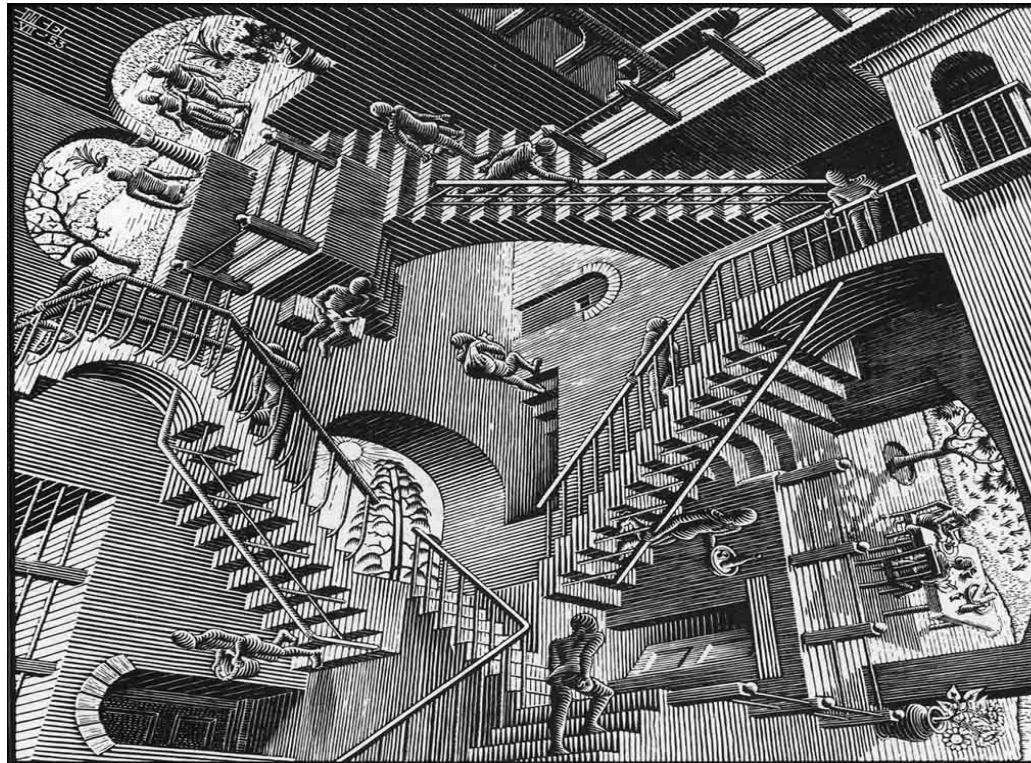
$$d\Omega = \frac{\cos i}{D^2 \sin^2 \theta \left(1 - \frac{2M}{R}\right)} \frac{\sin^2 \alpha}{\cos \alpha} \left\{ \int_R^\infty \frac{dr}{r^2} \left[1 - \frac{b^2}{r^2} \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right)\right]^{-\frac{3}{2}} \right\}^{-1}$$



?

no approximated  
equation found so far

## MATHEMATICAL METHOD



*M. C. Escher - Relativity (1953)*

### 3.1 Method

- Approximate the elliptic integrals with polynomial equations

$$\int f(x)dx \longrightarrow P(x)$$

*elliptic function*                                    *polynomial*

- Get rid of the square root present in the integral

$$\sin \alpha = g(z) \longrightarrow z = z(\alpha)$$

*general function*

- We assume that  $\alpha$  is small, so we have:

$$g(z) = \sin \alpha \approx \alpha \approx 0 \longrightarrow \text{expand in } Taylor \text{ series the integrand } f(x)$$

## 3.2 Light bending

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Psi &= \int_R^\infty \frac{dz}{z^2} \left[ \frac{1}{b^2} - \frac{1}{z^2} \left( 1 - \frac{rg}{2} \right) \right]^{-\frac{1}{2}} = b \int_R^\infty \frac{dz}{z^2} \left[ 1 - \frac{b^2}{z^2} \left( 1 - \frac{uR}{2} \right) \right]^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \\
 &= b \int_R^\infty \frac{dz}{z^2} \left[ 1 - \frac{R^2 g^2(z)}{z^2(1-u)} \left( 1 - \frac{uR}{2} \right) \right]^{-\frac{1}{2}} \approx \begin{array}{c} (1-y)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \approx 1 + \frac{y}{2} + \frac{3}{8} y^2 + \frac{5}{16} y^3 \\ \text{LINEARE} \quad \text{QUADRATICO} \quad \text{CUBICO} \end{array} \\
 &\approx b \int_R^\infty \frac{dz}{z^2} \left[ 1 + \frac{R^2 g^2(z)}{z^2(1-u)} \left( 1 - \frac{uR}{2} \right) + \frac{3}{8} \left[ \frac{R^2 g^2(z)}{z^2(1-u)} \left( 1 - \frac{uR}{2} \right) \right]^2 + \frac{5}{16} \left[ \frac{R^2 g^2(z)}{z^2(1-u)} \left( 1 - \frac{uR}{2} \right) \right]^3 \right] = \\
 &= b \int_R^\infty dz \left[ \frac{1}{z^2} + \frac{R^2 g^2(z)}{z^4(1-u)} - \frac{R^3 g^2(z) u}{z^5(1-u)} + \frac{3}{8} \left[ \frac{R^4}{z^6} \frac{g^4(z)}{(1-u)^2} \left( 1 + \frac{u^2 R^2}{z^2} - \frac{2uR}{2} \right) + \frac{5}{16} \left[ \frac{R^6}{z^8} \frac{g^6(z)}{(1-u)^3} \left( 1 - \frac{u^3 R^3}{z^3} + \frac{3uR + 3u^2 R^2}{z^2} \right) \right] \right] = \\
 &= b \int_R^\infty \left[ \frac{1}{z^2} + \frac{R^2 g^2(z)}{z^4(1-u)} - \frac{R^3 g^2(z) u}{z^5(1-u)} + \frac{3}{8} \frac{R^4}{z^6} \frac{g^4(z)}{(1-u)^2} + \frac{3}{8} \frac{R^6}{z^8} \frac{g^6(z) u^2}{(1-u)^2} - \frac{3}{4} \frac{R^5}{z^7} \frac{g^4(z)}{(1-u)^2} u + \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{5}{16} \frac{R^6}{z^8} \frac{g^6(z)}{(1-u)^3} - \frac{5}{16} \frac{R^9}{z^{11}} \frac{g^6(z) u^3}{(1-u)^3} - \frac{15}{16} \frac{R^7}{z^9} \frac{g^6(z)}{(1-u)^3} u + \frac{15}{16} \frac{R^8}{z^{10}} \frac{g^6(z) u^2}{(1-u)^3} \right] dz = \\
 &= \frac{b}{R} \left[ 1 + \frac{g^2(z)}{6(1-u)} - \frac{g^2(z) u}{8(1-u)} + \frac{3}{40} \frac{g^4(z)}{(1-u)^2} + \frac{3}{56} \frac{g^4(z) u^2}{(1-u)^2} - \frac{1}{8} \frac{g^4(z)}{(1-u)^2} u + \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{5}{112} \frac{g^6(z)}{(1-u)^3} - \frac{1}{32} \frac{g^6(z) u^3}{(1-u)^3} - \frac{15}{128} \frac{g^6(z) u}{(1-u)^3} + \frac{5}{48} \frac{g^6(z) u^2}{(1-u)^3} \right] =
 \end{aligned}$$

$b = \frac{R \sin \vartheta}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{rg}{2}}} , u = \frac{rg}{R} , \sin \vartheta = g(z)$   
 $\downarrow$   
 $b = \frac{R g(z)}{\sqrt{1-u}}$

- Having even powers of  $g(z)$  and researching a complete polynomial function, we choose:

$$g(z) = \sqrt{Az^2 + Bz}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sqrt{\frac{Az^2 + Bz}{1-u}} \left[ 1 + \frac{Az^2 + Bz}{6(1-u)} - \frac{(Az^2 + Bz)u}{B(1-u)} + \frac{3}{40} \frac{(Az^2 + Bz)^2}{(1-u)^2} + \frac{3}{56} \frac{(Az^2 + Bz)^2 u^2}{(1-u)^2} - \frac{1}{8} \frac{(Az^2 + Bz)^2 u}{(1-u)^2} + \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{5}{112} \frac{(Az^2 + Bz)^3}{(1-u)^3} - \frac{1}{32} \frac{(Az^2 + Bz)^3}{(1-u)^3} u^3 - \frac{15}{128} \frac{(Az^2 + Bz)^3}{(1-u)^3} u + \frac{5}{48} \frac{(Az^2 + Bz)^3}{(1-u)^3} u^2 \right] \approx \text{TERZO ORDINE IN } z \\
&\approx \sqrt{\frac{Az^2 + Bz}{1-u}} \left[ 1 + \frac{Az^2 + Bz}{6(1-u)} - \frac{(Az^2 + Bz)u}{B(1-u)} + \frac{3}{40} \frac{(B^2 z^2 + 2ABz^3)}{(1-u)^2} + \frac{3}{56} \frac{(B^2 z^2 + 2ABz^3)u^2}{(1-u)^2} - \right. \\
&\quad \left. - \frac{1}{8} \frac{(B^2 z^2 + 2ABz^3)u}{(1-u)^2} + \frac{5}{112} \frac{B^3 z^3}{(1-u)^3} - \frac{1}{32} \frac{B^3 z^3 u^3}{(1-u)^3} - \frac{15}{128} \frac{B^3 z^3 u}{(1-u)^3} + \frac{5}{48} \frac{B^3 z^3 u^2}{(1-u)^3} \right] = \\
&= \sqrt{\frac{Az^2 + Bz}{1-u}} \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{B}{6(1-u)} - \frac{Bu}{8(1-u)} \right) z + \left( \frac{A}{6(1-u)} - \frac{Au}{8(1-u)} + \frac{3B^2}{40(1-u)^2} + \frac{3B^2 u^2}{56(1-u)^2} - \frac{1}{8} \frac{B^2 u}{(1-u)^2} \right) z^2 + \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \left( \dots \right) z^3 \right]
\end{aligned}$$

- To find the approximation we compare the approximation with the original form in a particular computing convenience case. We choose  $u=0$  and  $R=1$ , so we have:

$$\Psi = b \int_R^\infty \frac{dz}{z^2} \left[ 1 - \frac{R^2 \sin^2 \theta}{z^2(1-u)} \left( 1 - \frac{uR}{z} \right) \right]^{-\frac{1}{2}} = b \int_1^\infty \frac{dz}{z^2} \left[ 1 - \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{z^2} \right]^{-\frac{1}{2}} = b \int_1^\infty \frac{z dz}{z^2 \sqrt{z^2 - \sin^2 \theta}} =$$

$$= b \int_{\cot \theta}^\infty \frac{x dx}{x(x^2 + \sin^2 \theta)} = \frac{b}{\sin \theta} \int_{\cot \theta}^\infty \frac{dx}{\tan^2 \left[ \frac{x^2}{\sin^2 \theta} + 1 \right]} = \left[ \operatorname{artg} \frac{x}{\sin \theta} \right]_{\cot \theta}^\infty = \frac{\pi}{2} - \operatorname{artg} \operatorname{ctg} \theta = \alpha$$

$$\operatorname{artg} \left( \frac{1}{\lambda} \right) + \operatorname{artg} x = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

- We have to get rid of the square root with an even trigonometric function, so we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{Bz}{2(1-u)} + \left[ \frac{BC}{(1-u)} + \frac{A}{2(1-u)} - \frac{B^2}{24(1-u)^2} \right] z^2 + O(x^3) = \\
 &= \frac{Bz}{2(1-u)} + \left[ \frac{B^2}{6(1-u)^2} - \frac{B^2 u}{8(1-u)} + \frac{A}{2(1-u)} - \frac{B^2}{24(1-u)^2} \right] z^2 + O(x^3) = \\
 &= \frac{Bz}{2(1-u)} + O(x^3) \quad \text{where } A = -\left(\frac{B}{2}\right)^2
 \end{aligned}$$

- Testing in the particular case ( $u=0$  and  $R=1$ ) we have:  $1 - \cos \alpha = \frac{Bz}{2}$
- Therefore choosing  $B = 2$  and  $A = -1$ , it implies that  $z = 1 - \cos \alpha$ . The final approximation is:

$$(1 - \cos \theta)(1 - u) = 1 - \cos \alpha$$

### 3.3 Time delay

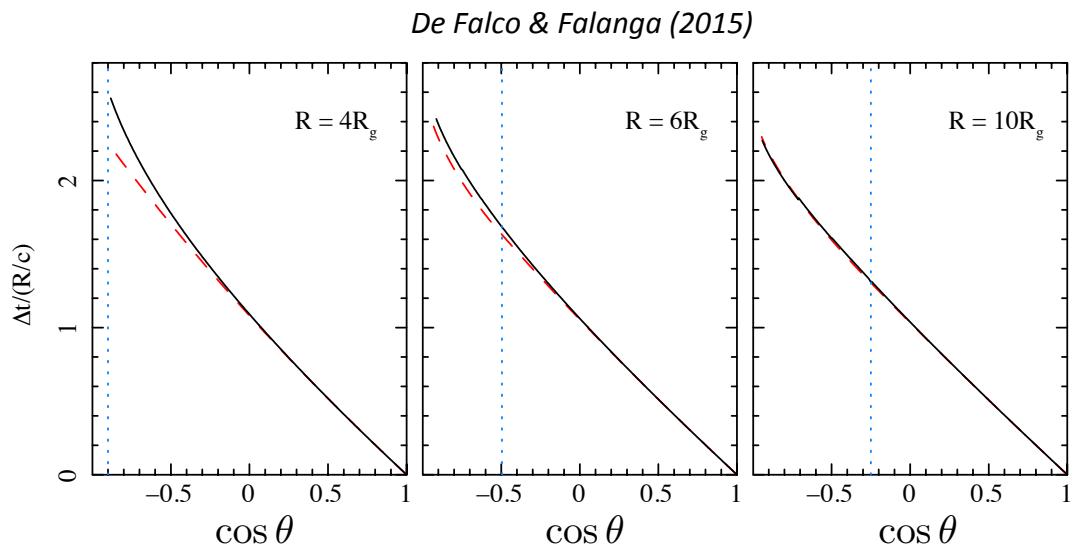
$$\Delta t = \int_R^\infty \frac{dr}{\left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right)} \left\{ \left[ 1 - \frac{b^2}{r^2} \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right) \right]^{-\frac{1}{2}} - 1 \right\}$$

*Substitution obtained rigorously  
with the mathematical method*

$$z = 1 - \cos \alpha$$



Performing the same  
calculations made in the  
case of the light bending



$$\boxed{\frac{\Delta t}{R} = y \left[ 1 + \frac{uy}{8} + \frac{uy^2}{24} - \frac{u^2y^2}{112} \right]} \quad \text{where} \quad u = \frac{r_s}{r} \quad y = \frac{(1 - \cos \alpha)}{(1 - u)}$$

### 3.4 Solid angle

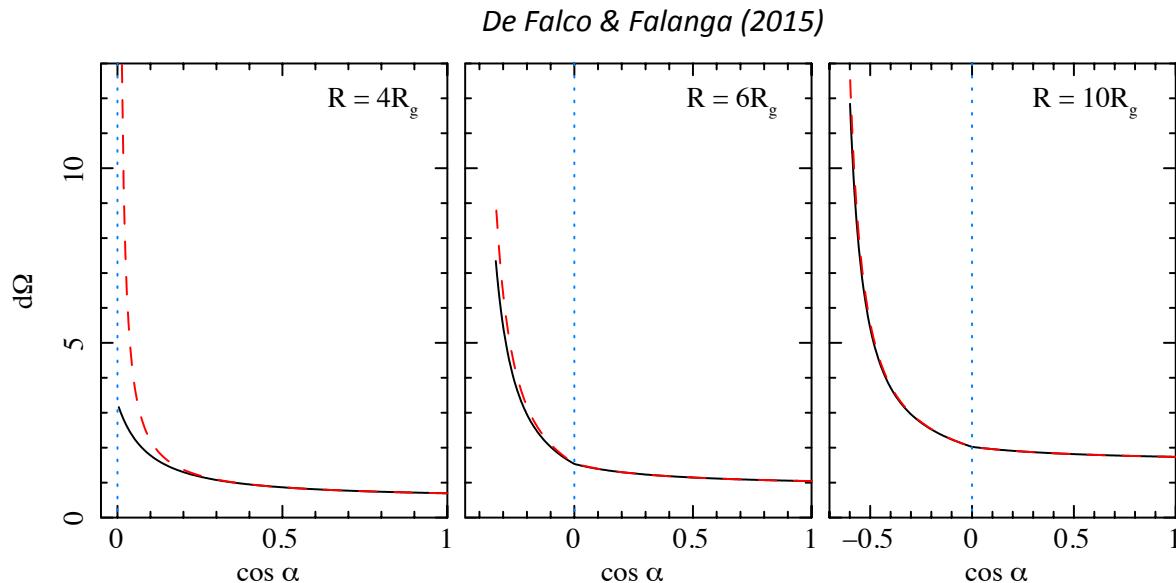
$$d\Omega = \frac{\cos i}{D^2 \sin^2 \theta \left(1 - \frac{2M}{R}\right)} \frac{\sin^2 \alpha}{\cos \alpha} \left\{ \int_R^\infty \frac{dr}{r^2} \left[ 1 - \frac{b^2}{r^2} \left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right) \right]^{-\frac{3}{2}} \right\}^{-1}$$

*Substitution obtained rigorously  
with the mathematical method*

$$z = 1 - \cos \alpha$$



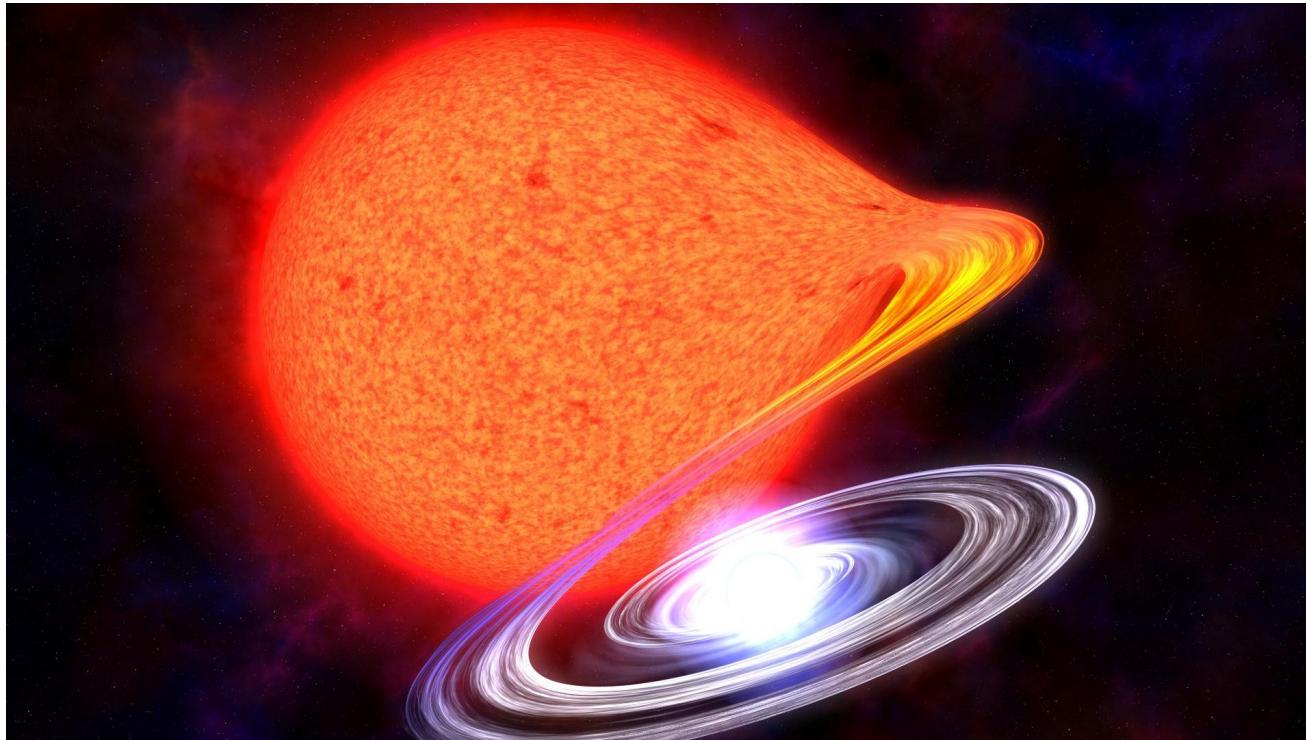
Performing the same  
calculations made in the  
case of the light bending



$$d\Omega = \text{const} \cdot R \cdot [2z + (1 - 2C)z^2 + (1 - C + 2C^2 - 2D)z^3]$$

where  $C = \frac{4 - 3u}{1 - u}$        $D = \frac{39u^2 - 91u + 56}{56(1 - u)^2}$

## APPLICATIONS

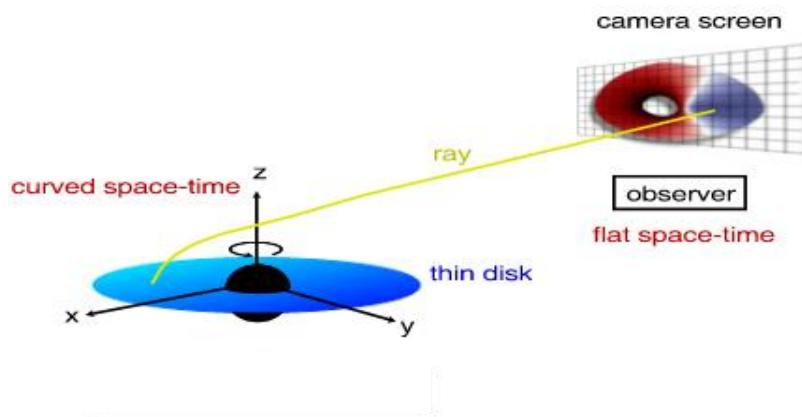


*Image of an accretion disk's formation in a binary system*

## 4.1 Iron line profile

- Flux formula

$$F = \int_R \int_\varphi g^4 d\Omega$$

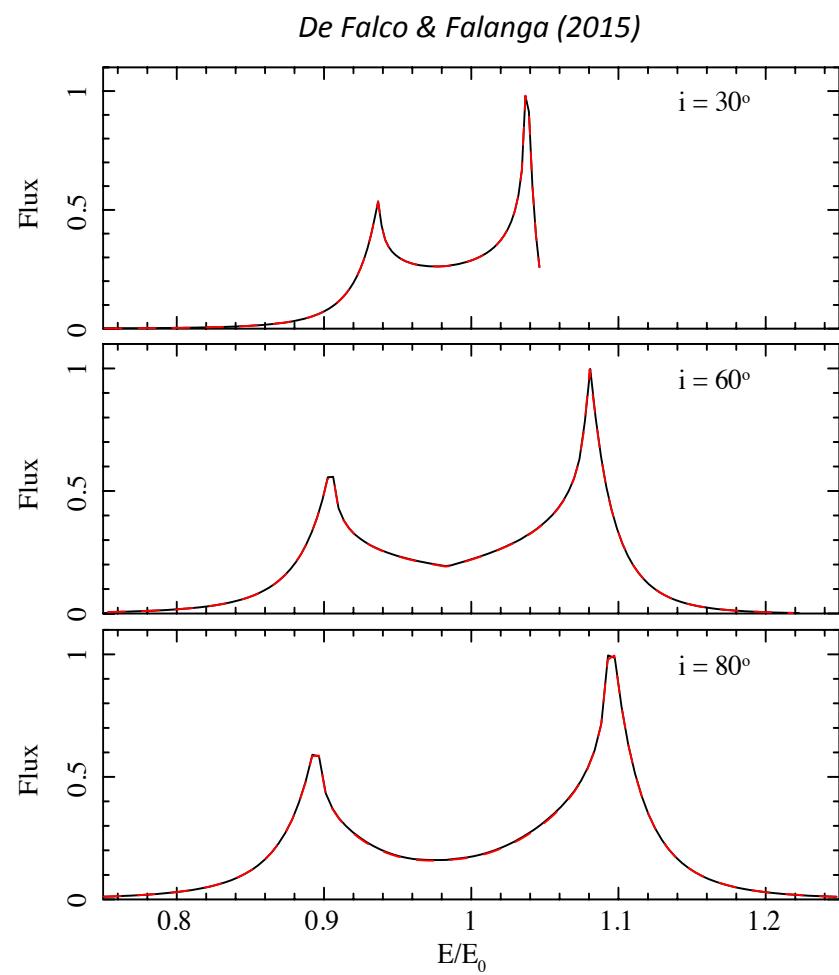


- Numerical code

*40 millions of points*

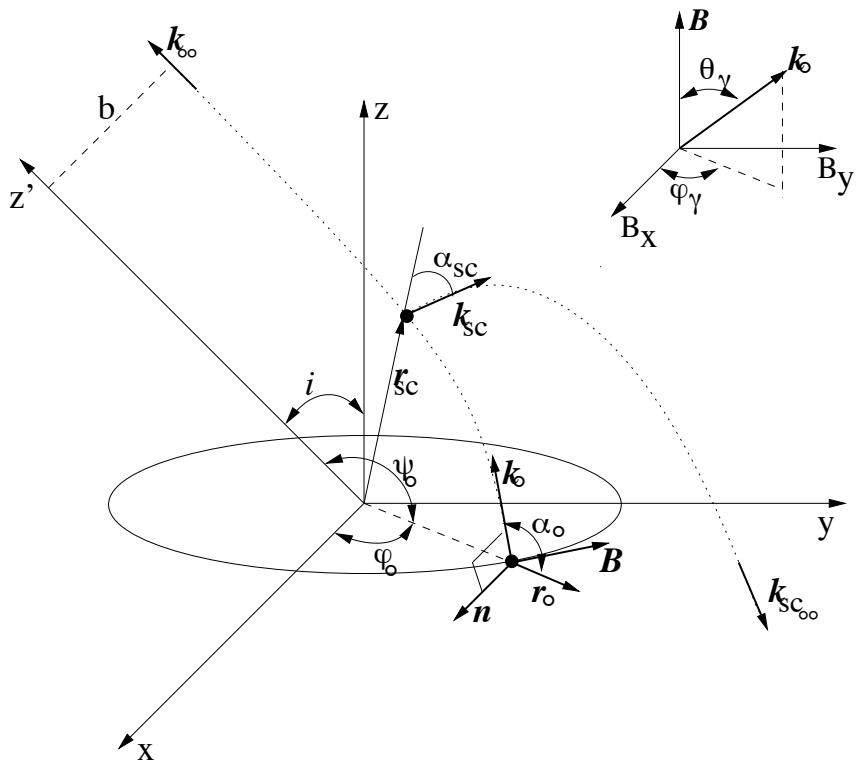
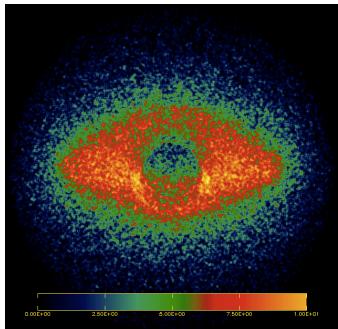
Original: more  
than 60 min

Approximate: less  
than 1 min

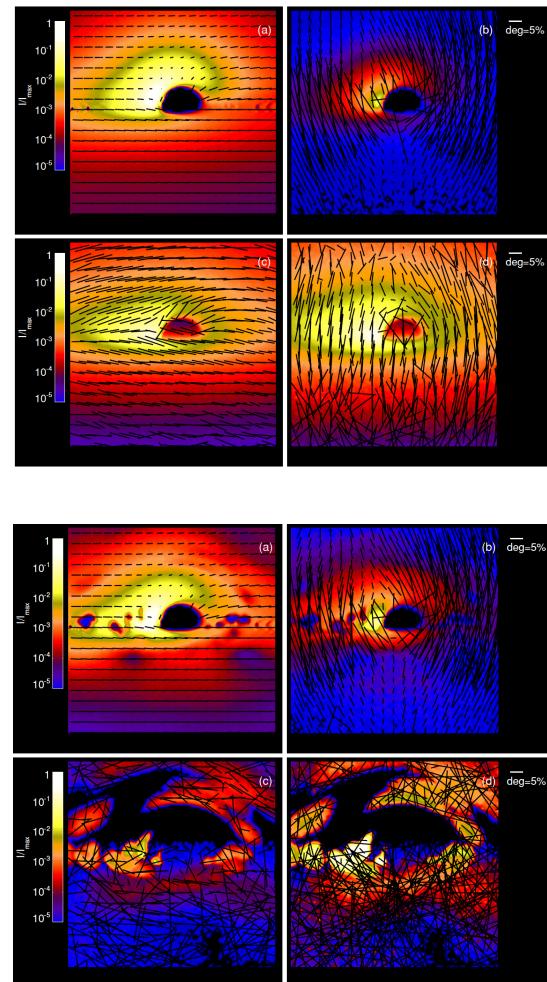


## 4.2 Polarization

Melia, Falanga & Goldwurm 2011



Schnittman & Krolik 2010



# CONCLUSIONS

✓ PRESENT WORKS

PUBLISH THIS WORK

OPTIMIZE CODES TO CALCULATE THE FLUX AND THE POLARIZATION

✗ FUTURE PROJECTS

EXTENSION TO THE KERR METRIC

DEVELOP FAST NUMERICAL CODES IN THE KERR METRIC

**THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR ATTENTION!**

