

# Mass and Spin of Kerr black holes from observations.

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## Brief general motivation

- It exists dynamical evidence of the existence of a supermassive black hole in the center of the milky way (named SgrA\*).  
M. B. Begelman, Science **300**, 1898 (2003); Z. Q. Shen et al., Nature (London) **438**, 62 (2005); A. M. Ghez et al., Astrophys. J. **689**, 1044 (2008).
- In General Relativity theory, in four dimensions and vacuum, neutral black holes are described completely by the family of Kerr metrics and characterized by two physical parameters: **the mass  $M$  and the angular momentum parameter  $a = J/M$** , where  $J$  is the angular momentum of the rotating black hole.
- For SgrA\*,  $M \sim 3.6 \times 10^6 M_{\odot}$  .
- **Goal of this talk: To obtain the parameters of compact objects ( $M$  and  $a$  for the Kerr black hole) in terms of the blueshifts and redshifts of photons emitted by massive particles or gas moving in geodesic orbits around a Kerr black hole.**

## Metric and Killing vectorial fields

We choose the most general axisymmetric stationary metric with two orthogonal planes in 3+1 dimensions: (we choose spherical coordinates  $x^\mu(t, r, \theta, \varphi)$  and the gauge  $g_{r\theta} = 0$ )

$$ds^2 = g_{tt}dt^2 + 2g_{t\varphi}dtd\varphi + g_{\varphi\varphi}d\varphi^2 + g_{rr}dr^2 + g_{\theta\theta}d\theta^2 \quad (1)$$

With the following functional dependence,

$$g_{\mu\nu}(r, \theta) \quad \text{for} \quad \mu, \nu = t, r, \theta, \varphi \quad (2)$$

The metric (1) has two commuting Killing vectorial fields:  $[\xi, \psi] = 0$ :

$$\xi^\mu = (1, 0, 0, 0) \quad \text{Killing stationary timelike vectorial field} \quad (3)$$

$$\psi^\mu = (0, 0, 0, 1) \quad \text{Killing rotational vectorial field} \quad (4)$$

## Geodesics and their conserved quantities. Carter, Phys. Rev. 174, 1559 (1968)

The emitter of photons is a massive particle following a geodesic curve on the spacetime with metric (1) and velocity:

$$U_e^\mu = (U^t, U^r, U^\theta, U^\varphi)_e \quad (5)$$

Due to the existence of the Killing vector fields (3)-(4), it exist conserved quantities along of the geodesic of the massive particle: The total Energy  $E$  and the component of the total angular momentum  $L$  around the symmetry zeta axe (both per unit of mass):

$$E = \frac{\bar{E}}{m} = -g_{\mu\nu}\xi^\mu U^\nu = -g_{tt}U^t - g_{t\varphi}U^\varphi \quad (6)$$

$$L = \frac{\bar{L}}{m} = g_{\mu\nu}\psi^\mu U^\nu = g_{\varphi t}U^t + g_{\varphi\varphi}U^\varphi \quad (7)$$

## Geodesics and conserved quantities

From (7) y (8), we obtain  $U^t$  y  $U^\varphi$  in terms of  $E$  y  $L$ ,

$$U^t = \frac{(Eg_{\varphi\varphi} + Lg_{t\varphi})}{(g_{t\varphi}^2 - g_{tt}g_{\varphi\varphi})} \quad (8)$$

$$U^\varphi = -\frac{(Eg_{t\varphi} + Lg_{tt})}{(g_{t\varphi}^2 - g_{tt}g_{\varphi\varphi})} \quad (9)$$

The normalization of the velocity of the particle implies the equation:

$$-1 = U^\mu U_\mu = g_{tt}(U^t)^2 + 2g_{t\varphi}U^tU^\varphi + g_{\varphi\varphi}(U^\varphi)^2 + g_{rr}(U^r)^2 + g_{\theta\theta}(U^\theta)^2$$

Introducing the velocities  $U^t$  y  $U^\varphi$  in the previous equation:

$$g_{rr}(U^r)^2 + g_{\theta\theta}(U^\theta)^2 = \frac{E^2g_{\varphi\varphi} + 2E \cdot Lg_{t\varphi} + L^2g_{tt}}{(g_{t\varphi}^2 - g_{tt}g_{\varphi\varphi})} - 1 \quad (10)$$

## Family of Kerr black holes in Boyer-Lindquist coordinates:

$$M^2 \geq a^2$$

$$ds^2 = g_{tt}dt^2 + 2g_{t\varphi}dtd\varphi + g_{\varphi\varphi}d\varphi^2 + g_{rr}dr^2 + g_{\theta\theta}d\theta^2$$

with the metric components,

$$g_{tt} = - \left[ 1 - \frac{2Mr}{\Sigma} \right], \quad g_{t\varphi} = - \left[ \frac{2Mar \sin^2 \theta}{\Sigma} \right], \quad g_{rr} = \frac{\Sigma}{\Delta},$$

$$g_{\varphi\varphi} = \left[ r^2 + a^2 + \frac{2Ma^2 r \sin^2 \theta}{\Sigma} \right] \sin^2 \theta, \quad g_{\theta\theta} = \Sigma.$$

where we have:

$$\Delta = r^2 + a^2 - 2Mr, \quad \Sigma = r^2 + a^2 \cos^2 \theta, \\ g_{t\varphi}^2 - g_{\varphi\varphi}g_{tt} = \Delta \sin^2 \theta, \quad M^2 \geq a^2.$$

## The Killing tensor in the metric Kerr and the Carter constant.

The Kerr metric has a Killing tensor field  $K_{\mu\nu}$ :

$$K_{\mu\nu} = 2\Sigma l_{(\mu} n_{\nu)} + r^2 g_{\mu\nu} \quad \text{satisfies} \quad \nabla_{(\alpha} K_{\mu\nu)} = 0,$$

where we have the null vectorial fields  $(l^\mu, n^\mu)$  satisfying  $l^\mu l_\mu = n^\mu n_\mu = 0$  and  $l^\mu n_\mu = -1$ ,

$$l^\mu = \frac{r^2 + a^2}{\Delta} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\right)^\mu + \frac{a}{\Delta} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi}\right)^\mu + \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial r}\right)^\mu,$$

$$n^\mu = \frac{r^2 + a^2}{2\Sigma} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\right)^\mu + \frac{a}{2\Sigma} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi}\right)^\mu - \frac{\Delta}{2\Sigma} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial r}\right)^\mu,$$

It is known the existence of a motion constant  $C$ :

$$\Rightarrow C = K_{\mu\nu} U^\mu U^\nu = 2\Sigma (l_\mu U^\mu)(n_\mu U^\mu) - r^2 = \text{Constant}$$

## Equations of geodesic motion of particles

The constant  $C$  is written in terms of the Carter constant  $Q$ :

$$C \equiv (L - aE)^2 + Q = \left( [(r^2 + a^2)E - aL]^2 - \Sigma^2 (U^r)^2 - \Delta r^2 \right) \left( \frac{1}{\Delta} \right) ,$$

from which we obtain the radial velocity component  $U^r$ :

$$\Sigma^2 (U^r)^2 = [(r^2 + a^2)E - aL]^2 - \Delta [r^2 + (L - aE)^2 + Q] \equiv V^2(r)$$

Using the previous equation in (10) we have for  $U^\theta$ :

$$\Sigma^2 (U^\theta)^2 = Q - \left[ a^2(1 - E^2) + \frac{L^2}{\sin^2 \theta} \right] \cos^2 \theta \equiv \Theta^2(\theta)$$

The physical interpretation of the constant Carter  $Q$  is obtained from the last equation:

## Equations of geodesic motion.

The Carter constant  $Q$  satisfies:

$$Q = \Sigma^2 (U^\theta)^2 + \left[ a^2 (1 - E^2) + \frac{L^2}{\sin^2 \theta} \right] \cos^2 \theta$$

For bound orbits (orbits not reaching  $r \rightarrow \infty$ ) have:

- $E < 1$  .
- $Q \geq 0$
- $Q = 0$  for  $\theta = \pi/2 \Leftrightarrow$  equatorial orbits

For unbound orbits (orbits reaching  $r \rightarrow \infty$ ) have:

$$E \geq 1$$

Geodesics equations for  $U^\mu$  with given parameters  $(E, L, Q, x_o^\mu)$

$$U^t = \frac{1}{\Delta \Sigma} \{ [(r^2 + a^2)^2 - \Delta a^2 \sin^2 \theta] E - (2Mar) L \}$$

$$U^\varphi = \frac{1}{\Delta \Sigma \sin^2 \theta} [(2Mar \sin^2 \theta) E + (\Delta - a^2 \sin^2 \theta) L]$$

$$\Sigma^2 (U^r)^2 = [(r^2 + a^2)E - aL]^2 - \Delta [r^2 + (L - aE)^2 + Q] \equiv V^2(r)$$

$$\Sigma^2 (U^\theta)^2 = Q - \left[ a^2(1 - E^2) + \frac{L^2}{\sin^2 \theta} \right] \cos^2 \theta \equiv \Theta^2(\theta)$$

# Detection and emission of photons with momentum $k^\mu$ .

A Photon with momentum  $k^\mu$  is given by:

$$k^\mu = (k^t, k^r, k^\theta, k^\varphi) \quad ,$$

The photon is moving on a null geodesic outside of the event horizon of the Kerr black hole,

$$0 = k^\mu k_\mu = g_{tt}(k^t)^2 + 2g_{t\varphi}(k^t k^\varphi) + g_{\varphi\varphi}(k^\varphi)^2 + g_{rr}(k^r)^2 + g_{\theta\theta}(k^\theta)^2 \quad ,$$

and it has the motion constants ( $Q_\gamma$  is the corresponding Carter constant):

$$E_\gamma = -g_{\mu\nu}\xi^\mu k^\nu = -g_{tt}k^t - g_{t\varphi}k^\varphi \quad ,$$

$$L_\gamma = g_{\mu\nu}\psi^\mu k^\nu = g_{\varphi t}k^t + g_{\varphi\varphi}k^\varphi \quad ,$$

$$C_\gamma \equiv (L_\gamma - aE_\gamma)^2 + Q_\gamma = K_{\mu\nu}k^\mu k^\nu = 2\Sigma(l_\mu k^\mu)(n_\mu k^\mu)$$

Geodesic equation for  $k^\mu$  with given parameters  $(E_\gamma, L_\gamma, Q_\gamma, y_o^\mu)$

$$k^t = \frac{1}{\Delta\Sigma} \{ [(r^2 + a^2)^2 - \Delta a^2 \sin^2 \theta] E_\gamma - (2Mar) L_\gamma \}$$

$$k^\varphi = \frac{1}{\Delta\Sigma \sin^2 \theta} [(2Mar \sin^2 \theta) E_\gamma + (\Delta - a^2 \sin^2 \theta) L_\gamma]$$

$$\Sigma^2 (k^r)^2 = [(r^2 + a^2) E_\gamma - a L_\gamma]^2 - \Delta [(L_\gamma - a E_\gamma)^2 + Q_\gamma]$$

$$\Sigma^2 (k^\theta)^2 = Q_\gamma - \left[ -a^2 E_\gamma^2 + \frac{L_\gamma^2}{\sin^2 \theta} \right] \cos^2 \theta$$

# Redshifts and blueshifts of photons emitted by massive particles.

The frequency of a photon measured by a particle with velocity  $U^\mu$ :

$$\omega_e = -(k_\mu U^\mu)|_e$$

The detected frequency by an observer far away at infinity ( $r \rightarrow \infty$ ) with velocity  $U^\mu|_d$  is:

$$\omega_d = -(k_\mu U^\mu)|_d$$

where the velocities of the emitter ( $e$ ) and the detector ( $d$ ) are:

$$U_e^\mu = (U^t, U^r, U^\theta, U^\varphi)|_e$$

$$U_d^\mu = (U^t, 0, 0, U^\varphi)|_d$$

## Redshifts and blueshifts emitted by photons.

The observed shifts (red and blue) are defined by:

$$1 + z = \frac{\omega_e}{\omega_d} = \frac{(E_\gamma U^t - L_\gamma U^\varphi - g_{rr} U^r k^r - g_{\theta\theta} U^\theta k^\theta) |_e}{(E_\gamma U^t - L_\gamma U^\varphi) |_d}$$

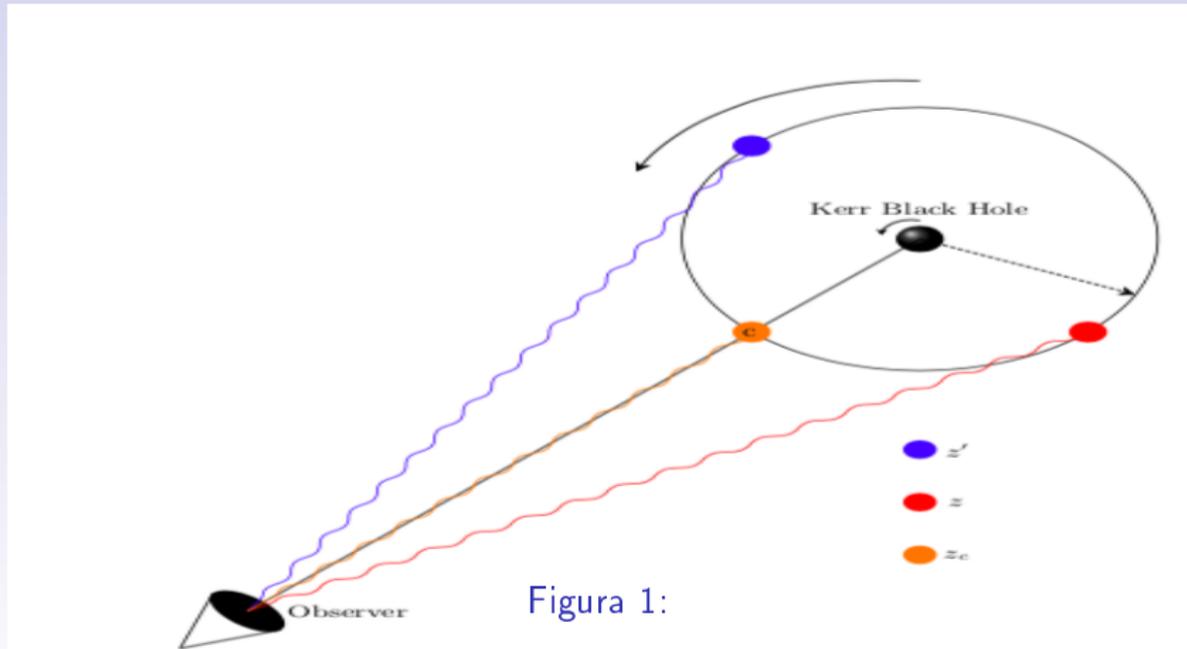
In general, we have a function  $F$ :

$$1 + z = \frac{\omega_e}{\omega_d} = F(r, \theta, b, B, q, s)$$

where the parameters  $(b, B, q, s)$  are defined by:

$$b \equiv \frac{L_\gamma}{E_\gamma} \quad , \quad B \equiv \frac{L}{E} \quad , \quad q \equiv \frac{Q_\gamma}{E_\gamma} \quad , \quad s \equiv \frac{Q}{E}$$

# Shifts for photons emitted by particles in circular orbits.



## Toy model: equatorial circular orbits ( $\theta = \pi/2$ ).

For equatorial circular orbits we have  $U^r = U^\theta = 0$  (remember that  $b = L_\gamma/E_\gamma$ ) and therefore:

$$1 + z = \frac{(E_\gamma U^t - L_\gamma U^\varphi)|_e}{(E_\gamma U^t - L_\gamma U^\varphi)|_d} = \frac{(U^t - b U^\varphi)|_e}{(U^t - b U^\varphi)|_d}$$

Where the detector is sufficiently far away ( $r \rightarrow \infty$ ), we have:

$$U_d^\mu = (U^t, 0, 0, U^\varphi)|_d \rightarrow (1, 0, 0, 0)$$

This is the limit that we study in this talk.

$$1 + z = (U^t - b U^\varphi)|_e$$

## $E$ y $L$ for equatorial circular orbits.

$U^\varphi$ ,  $U^t$ ,  $E$  y  $L$  for equatorial circular orbits are:

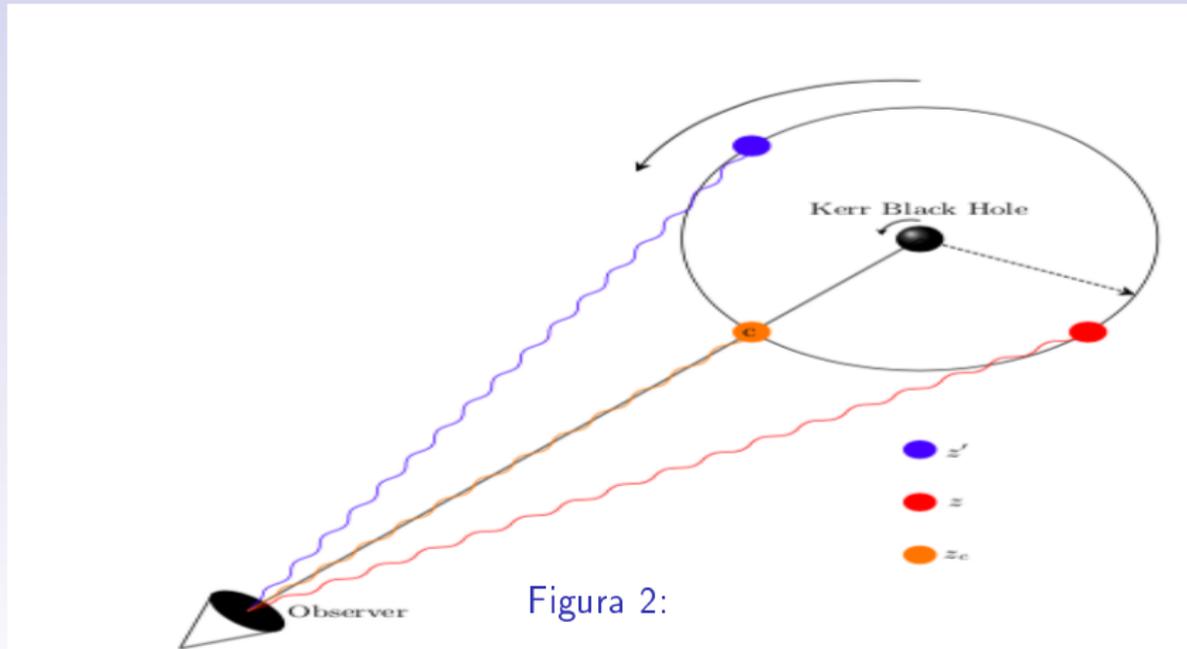
$$U^\varphi(r, \pi/2) = \frac{(2Ma)E + (r - 2M)L}{r(r^2 + a^2 - 2Mr)}$$

$$U^t(r, \pi/2) = \frac{(r^3 + a^2r + 2Ma^2)E - (2Ma)L}{r(r^2 + a^2 - 2Mr)}$$

$$E = \frac{r^{3/2} - 2Mr^{1/2} \pm aM^{1/2}}{r^{3/4} (r^{3/2} - 3Mr^{1/2} \pm 2aM^{1/2})^{1/2}}$$

$$L = (\pm) \frac{M^{1/2} (r^2 \mp 2aM^{1/2} r^{1/2} + a^2)}{r^{3/4} (r^{3/2} - 3Mr^{1/2} \pm 2aM^{1/2})^{1/2}}$$

# Shifts for photons emitted by particles in circular orbits.



The parameter  $b$  for photons emitted in both arms of the circular orbit.

We choose the value of the impact parameter  $b = L_\gamma/E_\gamma$  as the value for which  $k_e^r = 0$ , corresponding to the points on the horizontal axis perpendicular to the null geodesic in the emission point of the photon. Using the null property of photons  $k^\mu k_\mu|_e = 0$ , we find:

$$b_\pm = \frac{-g_{t\varphi} \pm \sqrt{g_{t\varphi}^2 - g_{tt}g_{\varphi\varphi}}}{g_{tt}}$$

Using the Kerr metric, we find ( $k_e^r = 0$ ):

$$b_\pm = \frac{(2Ma) \mp r\sqrt{r^2 + a^2} - 2Mr}{r - 2M}$$

## The parameter $b$ for photons emitted in front of signal line.

In this case the value of the impact parameter  $b_c = L_\gamma/E_\gamma$  is the value for which  $k_e^\varphi = 0$ , corresponding to the points on the axe parallel to the null geodesic in the emission point of the photon. We find:

$$b_c = \frac{-g_{t\varphi}}{g_{tt}}$$

Using the Kerr metric, we find ( $k_e^\varphi = 0$ ):

$$b_c = \frac{(2Ma)}{r - 2M}$$

## Structure of the shifts of the Schwarzschild black hole

$$\begin{aligned} Z &= Z_c + Z_{kin}, \\ Z_c &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - 3\left(\frac{M}{r}\right)}} - 1 \\ Z_{kin} &= (\pm) \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - 3\left(\frac{M}{r}\right)}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{2M}{r}}} \left(\frac{M}{r}\right)^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

Signs between curve parenthesis mean kinematic red and blue shifts.

Term in red color is the shift due to **NEWTONIAN CIRCULAR VELOCITY**.

Term in blue color is the **GRAVITATIONAL RED SHIFT**.

## Structure of the shifts of the Kerr black hole

$$\begin{aligned}
 Z &= Z_c \pm Z_{kin}, \\
 1 + Z_c &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - 3 \left(\frac{M}{r}\right) \pm 2 \left(\frac{a}{r}\right) \left(\frac{M}{r}\right)^{1/2}}} \left[ 1 \pm \left(\frac{a}{r}\right) \left(\frac{M}{r}\right)^{1/2} \pm 2 \left(\frac{a}{r}\right) \frac{\left(\frac{M}{r}\right)^{3/2}}{\left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right)} \right] \\
 Z_{kin} &= (\pm) \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - 3 \left(\frac{M}{r}\right) \pm 2 \left(\frac{a}{r}\right) \left(\frac{M}{r}\right)^{1/2}}} \left(\frac{M}{r}\right)^{1/2} \left[ \frac{\sqrt{1 - \frac{2M}{r} + \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^2}}{\left(1 - \frac{2M}{r}\right)} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

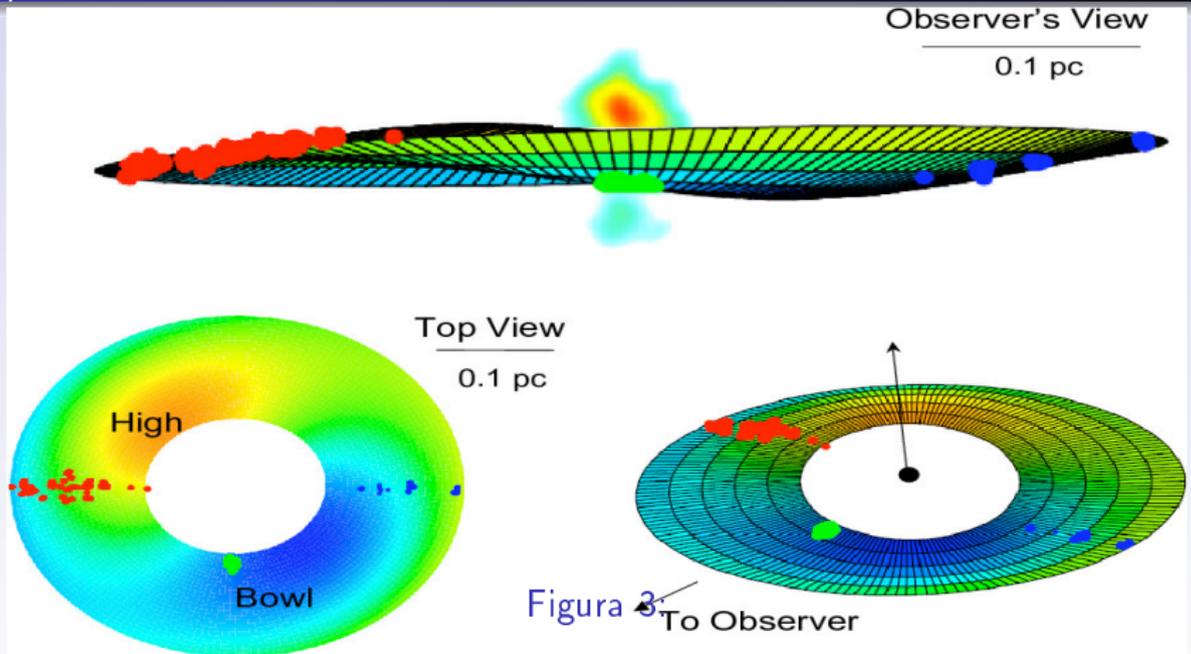
Superior signs corresponding to co-rotating orbits with the rotation of the black hole  
 Inferior signs to counter-rotating orbits with the rotation of the black hole.

Signs between curve parenthesis mean kinematic red and blue shifts.

Term in red color is the shift due to **NEWTONIAN CIRCULAR VELOCITY**.

Term in blue color is the **GRAVITATIONAL RED SHIFT**.

# Shifts of photons emitted by masers in NGC 4258. Moran et al.



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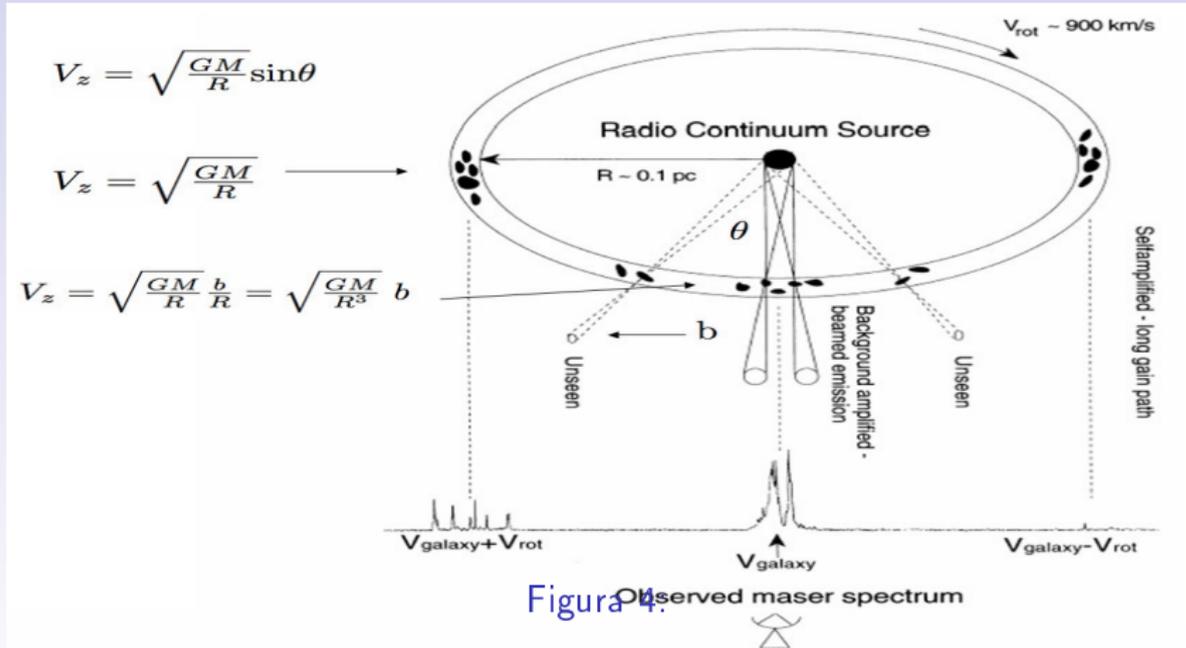


Figure 4.

## The accretion disk of NGC 4258.

Accretion disk material emits  $H_2O$  maser photons emission at 22.235 GHz with high velocities Doppler components:

- $V \approx V_{sys} \pm 1000 \text{ Km/sec.}$
- Systematic Velocity:  $V_{sys} = 472 \pm 0.4 \text{ Km/sec}$
- Distance form Milky Way:  $7.2 \pm 0.3 \text{ (random)} \pm 0.4 \text{ (systematic) Mpc}$
- Bayesian Estimation for the Mass:  $M = 3.73 \pm 0.0014 \times 10^7 M_{\odot}$
- There is not sensibility for the rotation parameter:

$$0 \leq \frac{a}{M} \leq 1$$

## Conclusions

- Simple Method to determine the parameters  $M$  y  $a$  of a Kerr black hole in terms of the cinemactical red and blue shifts of photons emitted by massive particle moving in geodesics on the Kerr black hole (*Rotation Curves of the Kerr black holes*).
- Future work: To compute the shifts for general orbits: non equatorial circular, equatorial elliptic orbits, elliptic no equatorial orbits, etc.
- To use simulated data samples in order to estimate the parameters  $(M, a)$  doing a Bayesian estimation of parameters. This analysis will permit to estimate the precision of the shifts to be measured.

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