

#### PHY-765 SS19 Gravitational Lensing Week 6

# Time Delays

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#### Last week - what did

- Looked at multiple images for:
  - Point mass lens
  - Isothermal Sphere (IS)
  - Singular Isothermal Sphere (SIS)
  - Cored Isothermal Sphere (CIS)
- Introduced caustics (source plane) and critical curves (lens plane)
- Multiple images of SN refsdal and its host





 $\theta/\theta_0$ 

## The aim of today

- Explore the second consequence of the lens equation: **time delays**
- Express time delay between the two images of the point mass lens
- Present examples of the usefulness of time delays
  - Testing GR predictions
  - The SN Refsdal re-appearance
  - Determining H<sub>0</sub> (COSMOGRAIL & H0LiCOW)



#### Time Delays

• Time delay is a natural consequence of the appearance of multiple images



 $\Delta t = \Delta t_{\rm Geometry} + \Delta t_{\rm Shapiro}$ 

# Shapiro time delay

- "The delay of light as it passes through a gravitational potential well"
- In week 1 we were considering the GR line element for a photon

$$ds^2 = g_{00} \, dt^2 + g_{ij} \, dx^i \, dx^j = 0$$

• Aligning light rays along the *z*-direction and again using the metric

$$g_{00} = c^2 \left( 1 - \frac{2GM}{rc^2} \right) \qquad g_{ij} = -\delta_{ij} \left( 1 + \frac{2GM}{rc^2} \right)$$

• By Taylor expansion we find that

$$dz = c \, dt \left[ \frac{1 - 2GM_{\odot}/rc^2}{1 + 2GM_{\odot}/rc^2} \right]^{1/2} \simeq c \, dt \left[ 1 - \frac{2GM_{\odot}}{rc^2} \right]$$

- So in the absence of gravity dz/dt = c, but with gravity dz/dt < c
- Shapiro (1964) suggested to use light deflection off Venus to measure this



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 $\Delta t_{\mathrm{Shapiro}} = 200 \mu \mathrm{s}$ 

(Exercise 2)

dy

dx



#### Shapiro time delay

• Considering the 3D gravitational potential  $\phi(z) = -MG/r$  we have

$$\Delta t_{\text{Shapiro}} = \frac{-2}{c^3} \int dz \,\phi(z) = -\frac{\Phi(\theta)}{c^2} \times \frac{D_{\text{S}} D_{\text{L}}}{D_{\text{LS}} c}$$
Where the expression  $dz \simeq c \, dt \left[ 1 - \frac{2GM_{\odot}}{rc^2} \right]$ 
was divided by  $1 - 2MG/rc^2$ , Taylor expanded & integrated (see Exercise 2)

• And we introduced the *projected gravitational potential* 

$$\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \boldsymbol{\psi}(\boldsymbol{\theta})c^2 = \frac{4MGD_{\mathrm{LS}}}{D_{\mathrm{S}}D_{\mathrm{L}}} \ln |\boldsymbol{\theta}|$$

Depends on image position (light path)

Defined for the point mass in week 3

### Geometric time delay

• The Geometric time delay caused by different path lengths for images



- By geometry the undeflected light path is just  $D_u = D_S / \cos(\beta)$
- and the deflected light path is

 $D_{d} = D_{L} / \cos(\theta) + D_{LS} / \cos(\delta)$ 

#### Geometric time delay

• Combining these two expressions (and Taylor expanding cosines) we get

$$D_{\mathrm{d}} - D_{\mathrm{u}} = rac{D_{\mathrm{L}} D_{\mathrm{S}}}{D_{\mathrm{LS}}} rac{\left(oldsymbol{ heta} - oldsymbol{eta}
ight)^2}{2}$$

• Dividing by *c* turns this light path difference into a time difference

$$\Delta t_{ ext{Geometry}} = rac{D_{ ext{L}} D_{ ext{S}}}{c D_{ ext{LS}}} rac{\left(oldsymbol{ heta} - oldsymbol{eta}
ight)^2}{2}$$

#### Time delay

$$\Delta t = \Delta t_{\rm Geometry} + \Delta t_{\rm Shapiro}$$

• Inserting the expressions we have the combined time delay

Only depends on distances; no lens details

$$\Delta t = rac{D_{
m L} D_{
m S}}{c D_{
m LS}} \left[ rac{\left(oldsymbol{ heta} - oldsymbol{eta}
ight)^2}{2} - rac{\Phi(oldsymbol{ heta})}{c^2} 
ight]$$

Only depends on lens mass distribution

- Where the distances are given in co-moving distances
  - Add (1+*z*<sub>L</sub>) factor in front to have angular diameter distances
- GL time delay analogy:
  - $\theta$ - $\beta$  is "route"
  - $\Phi(\mathbf{\theta})$  is "traffic"



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#### side note Time delay reveals Lens Equation

- If we insist on minimizing the time traveled by light rays
  - Light travels on null-geodesics
- Or in other words we invoke *Fermat's Principle*:

If S is the source and O the observer in a space time defined by a metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$  and mass M, then a smooth null curve  $\gamma$  from S to O is a light ray (null geodesic) if, and only if, its arrival time  $\tau$  at O is stationary under first-order variations of  $\gamma$  within the set of null curves from S to O, i.e.,  $\delta \tau = 0$ 

• So differentiating  $\Delta t$  with respect to the angle we have:

$$\frac{d}{d\theta^{i}} \left[ \frac{\left( \boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\beta} \right)^{2}}{2} - \frac{\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{c^{2}} \right] = 0$$

• And since  $\boldsymbol{\alpha} = \nabla \psi$  we have the lens equation  $0 = \boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\beta} - \boldsymbol{\alpha}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ 

• Hence, the lens equation is a 'manifestation' of Fermat's principle.

#### Time delay for the point mass lens

• For images 1 and 2 of a background source being lensed we have

$$t_1 - t_2 = (1 + z_{\rm L}) \frac{D_{\rm L} D_{\rm S}}{c D_{\rm LS}} \left( \left[ \frac{\left(\boldsymbol{\theta}_1 - \boldsymbol{\beta}\right)^2}{2} - \frac{\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}_1)}{c^2} \right] - \left[ \frac{\left(\boldsymbol{\theta}_2 - \boldsymbol{\beta}\right)^2}{2} - \frac{\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}_2)}{c^2} \right] \right)$$

• If the lens is a point mass and  $\beta$  much smaller than the Einstein radius

$$\theta_{\pm} \simeq \pm \theta_{\rm E} + \frac{\beta}{2}$$
 ( $\beta \ll \theta_{\rm E}$ ) (cf. last week)

- And the geometrical time delay is insignificant (deflections ~identical)
  - I.e.,  $(\theta_+ \beta)^2 \sim (\theta_- \beta)^2$
- The main contribution to the time delay comes from the potential  $\Phi(\theta)$
- Using the point mass lens expression for the gravitational potential

$$\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \boldsymbol{\psi}(\boldsymbol{\theta})c^2 = \frac{4MGD_{\mathrm{LS}}}{D_{\mathrm{S}}D_{\mathrm{L}}}\ln|\boldsymbol{\theta}| = c^2\theta_E^2\ln|\boldsymbol{\theta}|$$

#### Time delay for the point mass lens

• We find that in the limit of small  $\beta$  (Taylor expanding ln)

$$\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{+}) - \Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{-}) = c^{2}\theta_{E}^{2}\ln\left|\frac{\theta_{+}}{\theta_{-}}\right| \simeq 2c^{2}\theta_{E}\beta$$

• Therefore, for a point mass lens the time difference between two images (when the geometric time delay is insignificant) is

$$t_+ - t_- \simeq -(1 + z_{\rm L}) \frac{D_{\rm L} D_{\rm S}}{c D_{\rm LS}} 2\theta_E \beta$$

- Light passing closest to the lens  $(t_{-})$  is delayed the most
- Thus, light from image  $\theta_+$  arrive first
- Characteristic light delays between the two images are of the order months to years for cosmological lens geometries (Exercise 3)

Kelly+2015



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- The SN Refsdal data can be used to strengthen/improve cluster lens models
- Treu+2016 coordinated a "blind" modeling of the MACS1149 cluster
  - Models from Zitrin+, Diego+, Oguri+, Sharon+, Grillo+
- Prediction of re-appearance of SN Refsdal and time-delay estimates



• When MACS1149 Became re-observable ~Oct. 30 2015 (after Treu+2016 came out!) the hunt for the predicted re-appearance began.



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http://hubblesite.org/newscenter/archive/releases/2015/08/video/

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## Estimating H<sub>0</sub> from time delays

- Time delay lenses can also be used for estimating  $H_0$
- The  $\Delta t_{Geometry}$  is proportional to path lengths, i.e., scales with  $1/H_0$
- The  $\Delta t_{Shapiro}$  is also proportional to the path lengths, i.e., scales with  $1/H_0$
- Hence, for any gravitational lens  $H_0(t_1-t_2)$  depends only on geometry

$$t_{1} - t_{2} = (1 + z_{\rm L}) \frac{D_{\rm L} D_{\rm S}}{c D_{\rm LS}} \left( \left[ \frac{(\theta_{1} - \beta)^{2}}{2} - \frac{\Phi(\theta_{1})}{c^{2}} \right] - \left[ \frac{(\theta_{2} - \beta)^{2}}{2} - \frac{\Phi(\theta_{2})}{c^{2}} \right] \right)$$

- Lens models provide  $\beta$ ,  $\theta$  and  $\Phi$  (mass of lens) and predict H<sub>0</sub>(t<sub>1</sub>-t<sub>2</sub>)
- This is compared to measurements of  $(t_1-t_2)$  from light curve monitoring

### COSMOGRAIL & HOLiCOW

- COSmological MOnitoring of GRAvItational Lenses (www.cosmograil.org)
  - Imaging campaign to sample lensed QSO light curves
  - Time delay measurements [e.g., WFI J2033-4723 (Vuissoz+08), RXJ1132 (Suyu+13)]
- H<sub>0</sub> Lenses in COSMOGRAIL's Wellspring (www.h0licow.org)
  - Extending work from COSMOGRAIL with focus on estimating  $H_0$
- H0LiCOW is focusing on 5 lensed QSOs
- First set of papers from 2017 focused on HE0435-1223
  - Bonvin+17, Wang+17, Rusu+17, Sluse+17



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# Light Cruve for HE0435-1223 images



#### https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qoVQ8f5nVOw

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#### Matching Fluxes and Obtain $\Delta t$



#### https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qoVQ8f5nVOw

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## A good lens model is key

• The obtainable constraint on  $H_0$  from comparing model-predicted  $H_0(t_1-t_2)$  to observed  $(t_1-t_2)$  is set by model precision/accuracy



Suyu+2018

### H<sub>0</sub> From HE0435-1223

• Then, comparing  $\Delta t$ (observed) with H<sub>0</sub> $\Delta t$ (model) H<sub>0</sub> can be estimated



#### So in summary...

• Time delays are a natural consequence of appearance of multiple images

$$\Delta t = \Delta t_{\rm Geometry} + \Delta t_{\rm Shapiro}$$

• The Shapiro time delay is caused by gravitational potential ("traffic")  $\Phi(\theta) = D_{\rm S} D_{\rm L}$ 

$$\Delta t_{\text{Shapiro}} = \frac{1}{c^2} \wedge \frac{D_{\text{LS}} c}{D_{\text{LS}} c}$$
The Geometric time delay is caused by differences in path lengths ("route")
$$\Delta t_{\text{Geometry}} = \frac{D_{\text{L}} D_{\text{S}}}{c D_{\text{LS}}} \frac{(\theta - \beta)^2}{2}$$

• For the point mass lens, the time delay between the two images is

$$t_+ - t_- \simeq -(1 + z_{\rm L}) \frac{D_{\rm L} D_{\rm S}}{c D_{\rm LS}} 2\theta_E \beta$$

- Time delays are useful for:
  - Confirming GR (Shapiro time delay & SN Refsdal)
  - Improving lens models (SN Refsdal)
  - Determining cosmological parameters, in particular  $H_0$  (H0LiCOW)