





## The very first results from the use of the X-ray reverberation model KYNREFREV in XSPEC

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Artistic representation of the effects of Strong Gravity around an accreting black-hole

#### **Observational discovery**

- The analysis of continuous monitoring of the 1H0707-495 during 4 orbits of the XMM-Newton satellite in January 2008.
- The discovery of a relativistically smeared Fe L (~1 keV) line led to the discovery of X-ray reverberation in X-rays.
- Discovery paper:

"Broad line emission from iron K- and L-shell transitions in the active galaxy <u>1H0707-495</u>"

Fabian, Zoghbi, Ross, Uttley, Gallo, Brandt, Blustin, Boller, Caballero-Garcia,

et al.

(2009, Nature, 459, 540)

(240 citations so far)

## X-ray Soft/negative=reverberation lags



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#### Overview

- X-ray reverberation mapping of the inner parts of the accretion disc → clues to the geometry of the corona.
- Reverberation mapping in the lamp-post geometry of the compact corona → ionisation of the disc (Chainakun+16, Dovčiak+17).
- Goal: understanding the lags versus frequency/energy → model parameters: height of the corona, inclination of the observer, disc ionization profile and black hole spin.



The sketch of the lamp-post geometry. (Credits: Dovčiak+14)



In our work we refer as "transfer function" the *relative response* of the disc to the illumination:

$$\phi_{\Gamma}(E,t) = \frac{F_{\Gamma}}{F_{\rm p}}$$

where  $F_T(E, t)$  is the time dependent observed reflected flux from the disc as a response to a flare<sup>2</sup> that would be observed as  $F_p \delta(t)$ .

The Fourier transform of the transfer function is calculated as:

$$\hat{\phi}_{\Gamma}(E, f) = A_{\Gamma}(E, f) e^{i\phi_{\Gamma}(E, f)}$$

with amplitude  $A_{\Gamma}(E, f)$  and phase  $\phi_{\Gamma}(E, f)$  (which is sometimes referred to as transfer function in other works).

One can calculate the lag of the signal, computed from the total phase at energy bin E with respect to the total phase at some reference energy bin:

$$\tau(E,f) = \frac{\Delta\phi_{\rm tot}(E,f)}{2\pi f}$$

To determine the response function of the disc, we assume that the primary X-ray source isotropically emits a flare of duration equal to  $1 t_g$ . Upon being illuminated, each area element of the disc "responds" to this flare by isotropically and instantaneously emitting a "reflection spectrum" in its rest-frame. We assume

#### **Theoretical developments**

- Model based on the properties of the accretion disc in the <u>strong gravity</u> regime (Dovčiak, Karas & Yaqoob, 2004) → KYRLINE, KYCONV
- Model adapted for use in XSPEC under the lamp-post geometry (Dovčiak et al., 2014) → X-ray spectral studies
- Model adapted for studies of <u>reverberation mapping</u> in the lamp-post geometry of the compact corona illuminating the accretion disc in AGN (Dovčiak et al., 2014b) → X-ray spectral and timing studies
- Model adapted for use in XSPEC for simultaneous <u>spectral and</u> <u>reverberation mapping studies</u> of black holes <u>in the whole mass range</u> (Dovčiak, Caballero-Garcia+ 2017) → KYNREFREV
- <u>Analysis of X-ray reverberation data (i.e. X-ray time lags) in a sample of</u> <u>Seyfert galaxies using this model with XSPEC</u> (Caballero-Garcia, Dovčiak+, 2017)

#### The model components

- Black hole: Schwarzschild or maximally rotating Kerr, with mass M and dimensionless spin parameter a = 0 -1
- Accretion disc: co-rotating, Keplerian, geometrically thin, optically thick, ionised disc extending from the ISCO up to r<sub>out</sub> = 1000 GM/c<sup>2</sup>.
- <u>Corona</u>: **hot point-like plasma** on the rotation axis at height *h* and emitting power-law radiation,  $F_p \sim E^{-\Gamma}e^{-E/Ec}$ , with a sharp low energy cut-off at 0.1 keV and  $E_c = 300$  keV.
- > <u>Observer</u>: located at infinity, inclination angle  $\Theta_0$  with respect to the symmetry axis of the disc.

#### **Approximations**

- Light rays: Fully relativistic ray-tracing code in vacuum for photon paths from the corona to the disc and to the observer & from the disc to the observer.
- Reflection: REFLIONX (Ross & Fabian, 2005), tables for constant density slab illuminated by the power-law incident radiation used to compute the re-processing in the ionised accretion disc.
- The ionisation of the disc, ξ → amount of the incident primary flux (dependent on the luminosity of the primary source, height of the corona and mass of the black hole) → density of the accretion disc (different <u>density radial profiles</u> are used).
- Several limb brightening/darkening prescriptions for directionality of the reprocessed emission.

Light curves ("observed") reflection



Soft (0.3-0.8 keV versus 1-3 keV) light curves.

#### Soft lags vs. frequency



Soft (0.3-0.8 keV versus 1-3 keV) lag frequency "spectra". Notice the "phase wrapping" (left panel).

#### Fits with XSPEC

- We have produced time-lags from 1H0707-495 from 20 ks segments in different energy bands taking the 2-4 keV reference energy band.
- We fitted the 0.3-1 keV time-lags versus frequency global spectrum with the KYNREFREV model. → <u>Novel in XSPEC (and very efficient) method</u> !
- > We obtain a very good fit  $(\chi^2_{_{U}} \sim 1)$  with a run-time of the order of seconds (i.e. alike normal X-ray energy-spectral fitting).
- > The values for the parameters obtained are well-constrained and in agreement with Emmanoulopoulos+14 (with exception of the parameters **h** and  $\Theta_{o}$  since the ionization of the disc is now included !).

Fitting the data (using XSPEC)



The soft lag-frequency fitted global spectrum of 1H0707-495 (0.3-0.8 keV versus 1-3 keV) as obtained using XSPEC.

#### Results

- ➤ a/M= 0.25 (± 0.12) GM/c
- ⊳ ⊝<sub>o</sub>= 54 (± 9) deg.
- M/M<sub>8</sub> = 0.026 (± 0.002) M<sub>8</sub>
- ▶ h= 5.0 (± 0.7) R<sub>a</sub>

XSPEC12	?>erro 1. 1		
1	0.129378	0.377104	(-0.135715,0.112011)
2	45.2714	62.4317	(-9.96668,7.19363)
8	0.0243153	0.02822	(-0.0023808,0.00152394)
9	4.30455	5.77545	(-0.852618,0.618287)
13	7.38253	28.8112	(-8.42029,13.0084)
33	3.67934e-06	4.69613e-06	(-5.0839e-07,5.0839e-07)
34	2.15282	2.18612	(-0.0178511,0.0154438)

Parameters: 1) a/M; 2) Theta\_o; 8) M/M8; 9) **height**; 13) density; 33) and 34) amplitude and photon index low-frequency hard lags.

# On the need of an extended corona (?!)

**Discussion** (comparison with recent work)



The average arrival times of photons as a function of energy where the accretion disc is illuminated by a vertically collimated corona extending between 1.5 and 10 r <sub>g</sub> above the singularity. The overall arrival time including both continuum and reflected photons is shown for fluctuations propagating at varying speed. (from Wilkins+16)

## Our model



Lag (in seconds) diluted by primary radiation versus energy (keV) with respect to the (0.1-10 keV) energy band at the frequency of  $10^{-4}$  Hz. Different radial power-law density profiles of -2 (black), -1 (red) and 0 (green) have been considered. The mass of the BH is  $M=10^7$  M<sub>N2</sub> and the adimensional spin, inclination of the observer and height of the primary source are a = 1,  $\theta = 30^\circ$  and h = 3 R<sub>a</sub>, respectively.

#### Conclusions

- First lamp-post reverberation model taking into account all known physical aspects is <u>ready for use into XSPEC</u> (Dovčiak, Caballero-Garcia, Epitropakis, Papadakis +, to be submitted in ApJS).
- Comparison with the recent reverberation model based on extended coronae (Wilkins+16) does not support the emergency for the use of vertically extended coronae still.
- Nevertheless, more work is needed in the future in order to address possible (other) extended coronae geometries (taking into account all the possible physical effects we observe from the data).
- To address this goal, collaborative efforts (like FP7-Strong Gravity project) are absolutely mandatory.

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