# Imaging Sgr A\* to constrain its properties

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Frédéric Vincent Imaging Sgr A\* to constrain its properties



Credit : Stellarium, Bob King



S-stars cluster (Gillessen+09): size = 1"  $\approx$  0.05 pc

## Sgr A\*: big mass in small region, SMBH

- Astrometric measurements of close stars  $\rightarrow$  central mass
- Sgr A\* mass is 4.3  $10^6 M_{\odot}$ , S2 at perimelanophrear at 100 AU from Sgr A\*,  $\theta_{\rm app,Sch} \approx 50 \,\mu as$





### Sgr A\* quiescent spectrum: not so clear

- Radiatively inefficient accretion flow (RIAF)
- Jet
- Torus-like accretion flow [ $\rightarrow$  this talk!]



# Sgr A\* flares: really unclear

- Sphere of gas orbiting around Sgr A\*
- Jet / blob
- MHD instability

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#### Question marks at Sgr A\*

- Quiescent model of Sgr A\* is not so clear (geometry?)
- Flare model is really not clear

#### New instruments

- At a scale of ≈ 10 µas!
- Quiescent state: → detailed "picture"
  - $\rightarrow$  Event Horizon Telescope
- Flaring state:  $\rightarrow$  quick (few min) dynamical monitoring
  - $\rightarrow$  *GRAVITY* (next talk)

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#### Event Horizon Telescope (2008-2020)

#### Quiescent state imaging

EHT: 15 μas resolution (mm; 10<sup>11</sup> Hz)

 $\rightarrow$  Doeleman+08, Nature, 455, 78; Doeleman+09, Astro2010 White Paper



## My goal

- Analytic accretion model: torus model for Sgr A\*
- Interest: close-future EHT data, 100%-controled model
- Why analytic? Very quick computation: first-order idea
- Higher order: GRMHD

 $\rightarrow$  Vincent+15, A&A, 574, A48

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Torus cross-section (Abramowicz+78)

#### The recipe

- ullet ightarrow stationary, axisymmetric
- ullet  $\to$  perfect fluid, constant  $\ell$ , circular, polytropic
- $abla_{\mu}T^{\mu}_{
  u}=\mathbf{0}
  ightarrow oldsymbol{p},
  ho$  analytic expressions [Abramowicz+ 78]
- Magnetic field [Komissarov 06] + synchrotron [Wardziński & Zdziarski 00]
- $\rightarrow$  torus model ( $a, i, \ell, n_c, T_c, \beta = 0.1, k = 5/3$ )

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# Density distribution

- Torus much more compact
- No far-distance contribution

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## Millimeter spectral fitting

- Any (a, i) pair fits
- Probably constraints from mm-IR fits

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(a,i)	$\lambda$	$r_{ m out}\left(r_{g} ight)$	$n_c (\mathrm{cm}^{-3})$	$T_c$ (K)	$\chi^2_{ m red}$
$(0,5^{\circ})$	0.35	15	$7.7 \times 10^{6}$	$8.7 \times 10^{11}$	0.37
$(0,45^{\circ})$	0.33	15	$8.4  imes 10^6$	$7.5  imes 10^{11}$	0.37
$(0,85^{\circ})$	0.33	15	$5.6  imes 10^6$	$2.3 \times 10^{11}$	0.25
$(0.95,5^{\circ})$	0.75	11	$1 \times 10^7$	$4.2 \times 10^{11}$	0.21
$(0.95, 45^{\circ})$	0.79	13	$7  imes 10^6$	$3.1  imes 10^{11}$	0.21
$(0.95, 85^{\circ})$	0.85	20	$3.5  imes 10^6$	$3.1 \times 10^{11}$	0.21

#### Millimeter spectral fitting

- Size of torus well constrained
- Very good fits for all parameters

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#### Millimeter image constraints

- Kill some accretion flow models
- Constrain inclination
- Constrain spin
- Non-Kerr-BH compact objects?

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### Is Sgr A\* a BH?

- Alternative: boson star (no event horizon, no singularity)
- Comparing images with Kerr
- BS: no projected photon ring ; shadow less clear
- Preliminary!

#### Conclusion

- Big motivation: EHT data coming this year
- Interest of analytic models: quick computation, rather simple
- Goal: (1) constrain accretion flow;
   (2) test the Kerr hypothesis??
- Future of torus model:
  - (1) add a jet; (2) image analysis tools;
  - (3) full spectrum (Comptonization)

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# Thanks for your attention!

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