Gravitational Microlensing and Stellar Polarization

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Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar (1910 - 1995)

"Science Is A Place Where What You Find In Nature Pleases You."

Overview

- Gravitational Microlensing
 - The Increase In The Brightness Of A Background Star Due To Passing Through The Gravitational Field Of A Foreground Object.
- 2 Polarization
 - A Property Applying To Transverse Waves That Specifies The Geometrical Orientation Of The Oscillations.

Lens Structure

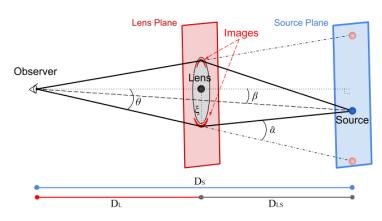


Figure 1: Representation Of Lensing Geometry

Lens Equation

From General Relativity We Know

$$\alpha = \frac{4GM}{c^2b} \,. \tag{1}$$

We Define

$$\theta_E = \sqrt{\frac{4GMD_{ls}}{c^2D_lD_s}} \,. \tag{2}$$

After Some Algebra

$$\theta^2 - \beta\theta = \theta_E^2 \,. \tag{3}$$

Magnification Equation

The Magnification Equation is

$$A = \frac{u^2 + 2}{u\sqrt{u^2 + 4}},\tag{4}$$

where

$$u = \frac{\beta}{\theta_F} \,. \tag{5}$$

Source Images

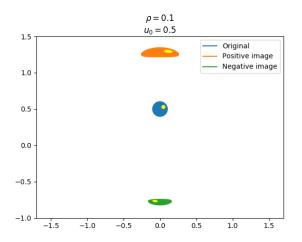


Figure 2: Schematic Of Source Star And It's Images Caused By Microlensing

Polarization

- Stars Atmosphere Create Polarization.
- Stokes Parameters.
- Due To Microlensing, Symmetry Breaks.
- The Degree Of Polarization

$$P = \frac{\sqrt{Q^2 + U^2}}{I} \,. \tag{6}$$

Stars Atmosphere Create Polarization

- Because The Received Light Is Incoherent, There Is No Circular Polarization.
- If There Is Spherical Symmetry, The Linear Polarization Signals Cancel Out.

Stokes Parameters

Stokes Parameters Denoted by I, Q, U, V Where

- I: The Total Intensity,
- Q: The Difference In Intensity Measured In Two Perpendicular Directions x And y,
- U: The Difference In Intensity Measured In Two Perpendicular Directions At 45° To The x- And y- Axes,
- V : Net Circular Polarization.

Conclusion

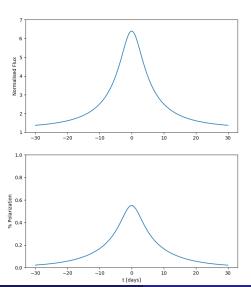


Figure 3: Flux and magnification profiles of a microlensing event with $\rho_{\star}=0.1,\ u_0=0.2,$ and $t_F=20 days$

References



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A Review Of Microlensing And It's Applications Master's Thesis, 2019



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Thanks For Your Attention :)