

# GRAVITATIONAL LENSING

## 1 - DEFLECTION OF LIGHT

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*Massimo Meneghetti*  
AA 2017-2018

# CONTACTS

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**TEL: 051 6357 374**

**RICEVIMENTO: DA CONCORDARE VIA E-MAIL O TELEFONO**

**GOOGLE GROUP:**

**[HTTPS://GROUPS.GOOGLE.COM/D/FORUM/GRAVLENS\\_2018](https://groups.google.com/d/forum/gravlens_2018)**

# THE COURSE

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- Basics of Gravitational Lensing Theory
- Applications of Gravitational Lensing:
  - microlensing in the MW
  - lensing by galaxies and galaxy clusters
  - lensing by the LSS
- Python

# LEARNING RESOURCES

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- <https://github.com/maxmen/LensingLectures>
- available materials:
  - lecture notes
  - lecture slides
  - python notebooks

# FINAL EXAM

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- three questions: the first at your choice
- all the topics discussed during the course
- you are encouraged to complement the material distributed during the course with other papers, books, etc.
- for what regards the python examples: you are strongly encouraged to study and understand the codes to fully understand the algorithms
- programming will not be part of the exam, but the knowledge of the algorithms will be required

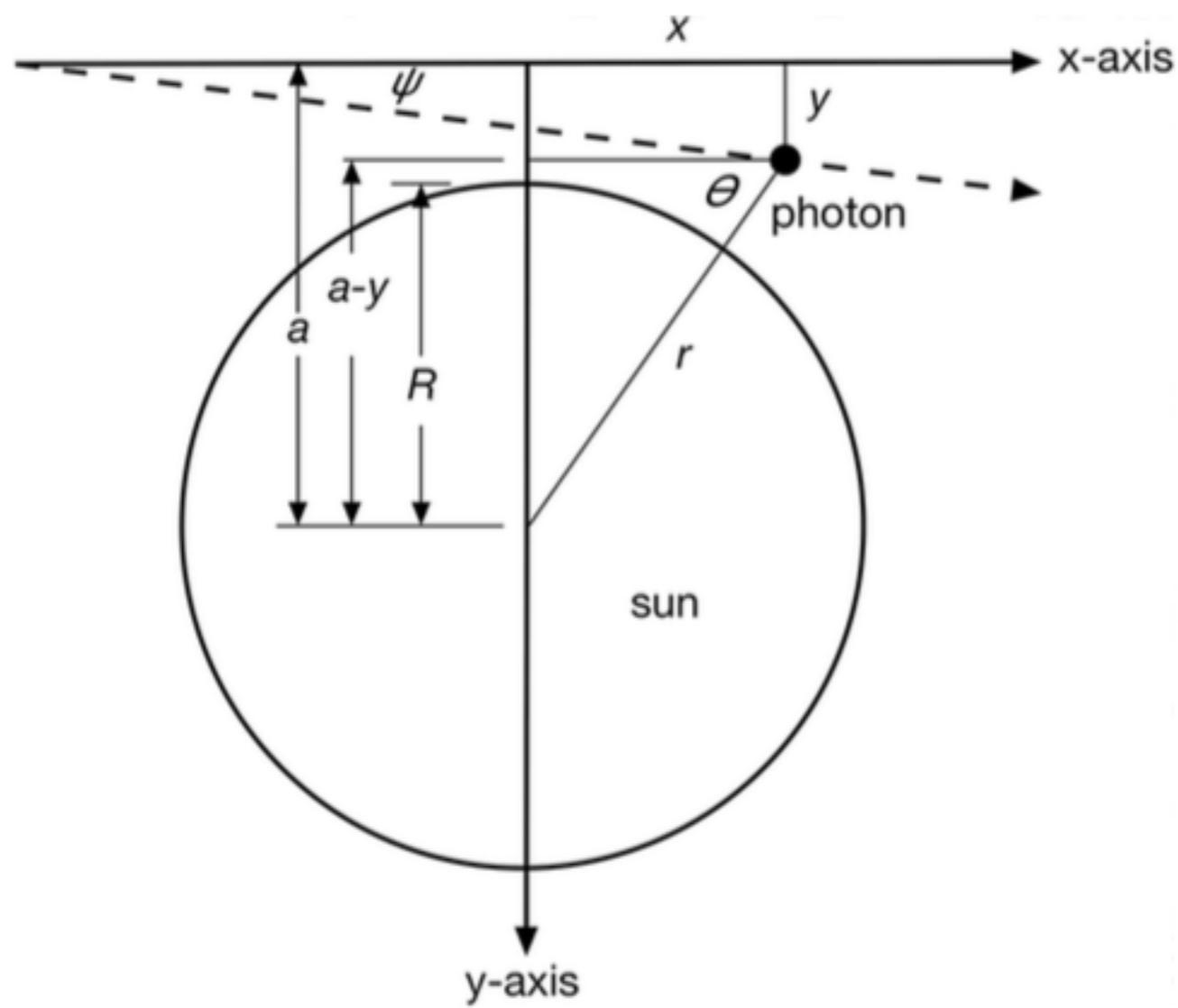
# CONTENTS OF TODAY'S LESSON

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- Deflection of light in the Newtonian limit
- Gravitational lensing in the context of general relativity
- The deflection angle

# DEFLECTION OF A LIGHT CORPUSCLE

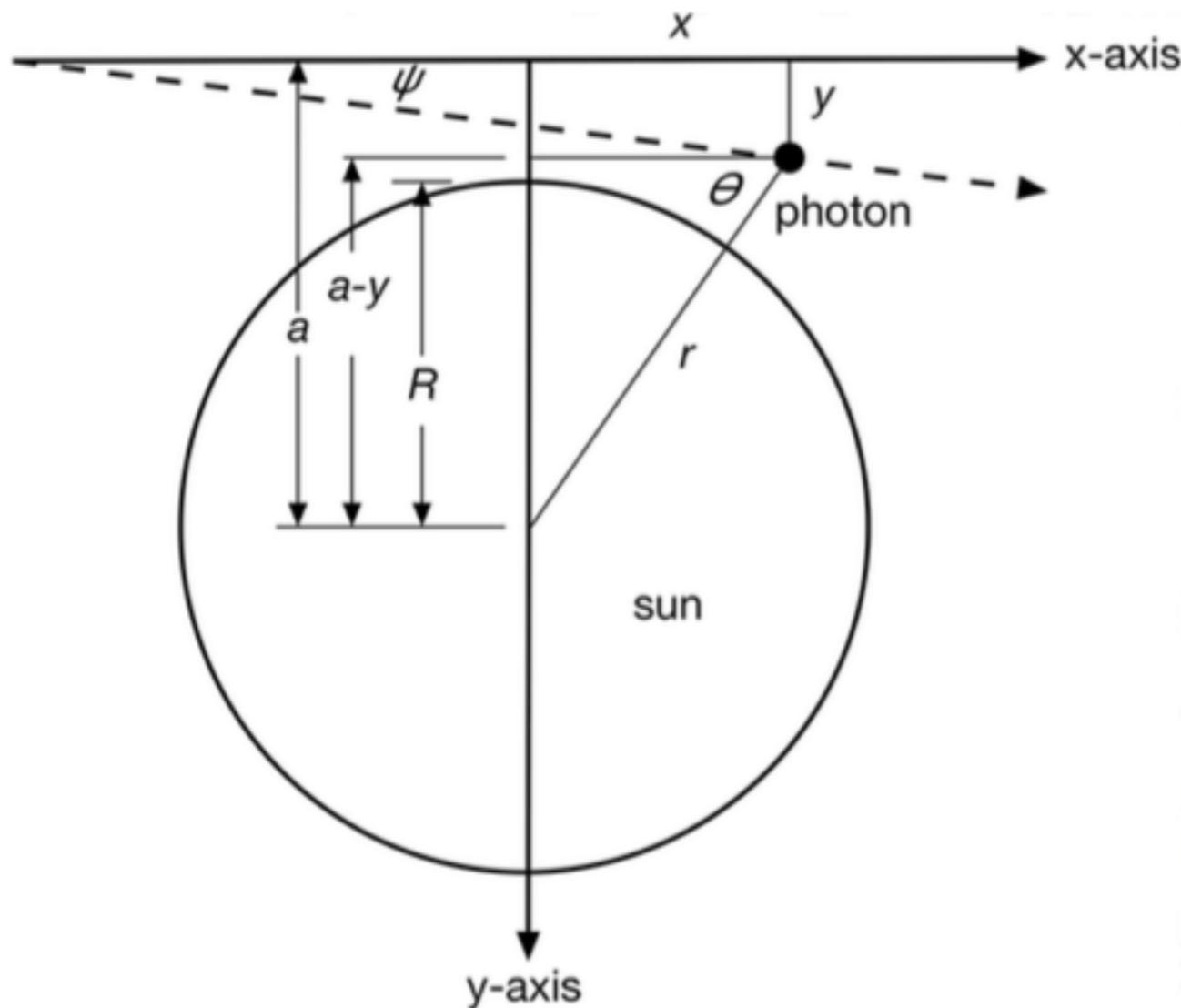
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- Assumptions:
- photons have an inertial gravitational mass
- photons propagate at speed of light
- Newton's law of gravity
- principle of equivalence

# DEFLECTION OF A LIGHT CORPUSCLE

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$$m = \frac{p}{c}$$

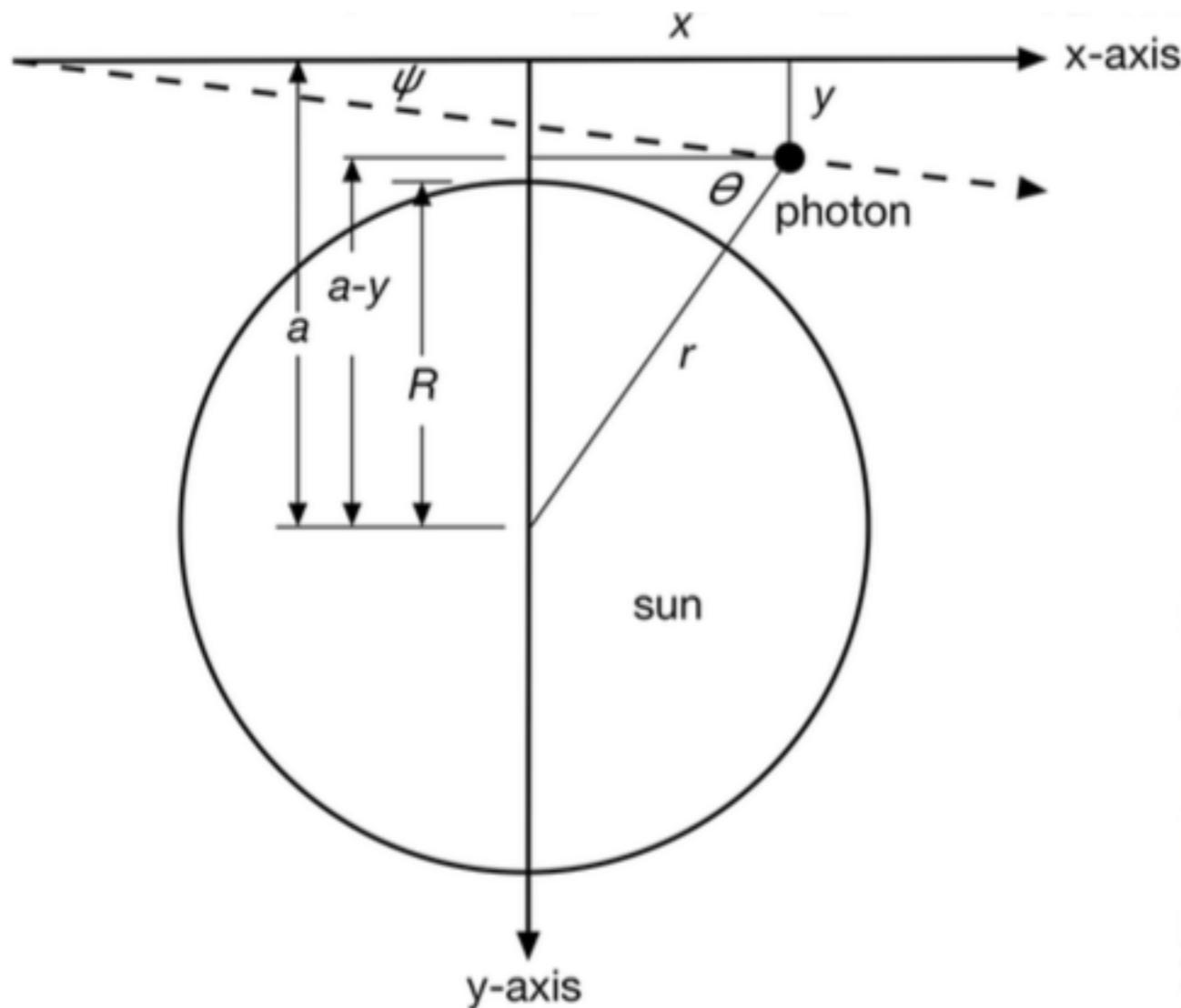
$$x = ct$$

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{F} &= \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} \\&= |F|(\cos \theta, \sin \theta) \\&= \frac{GMm}{r^2}(\cos \theta, \sin \theta)\end{aligned}$$

$$r^2 = x^2 + (a - y)^2$$

# DEFLECTION OF A LIGHT CORPUSCLE

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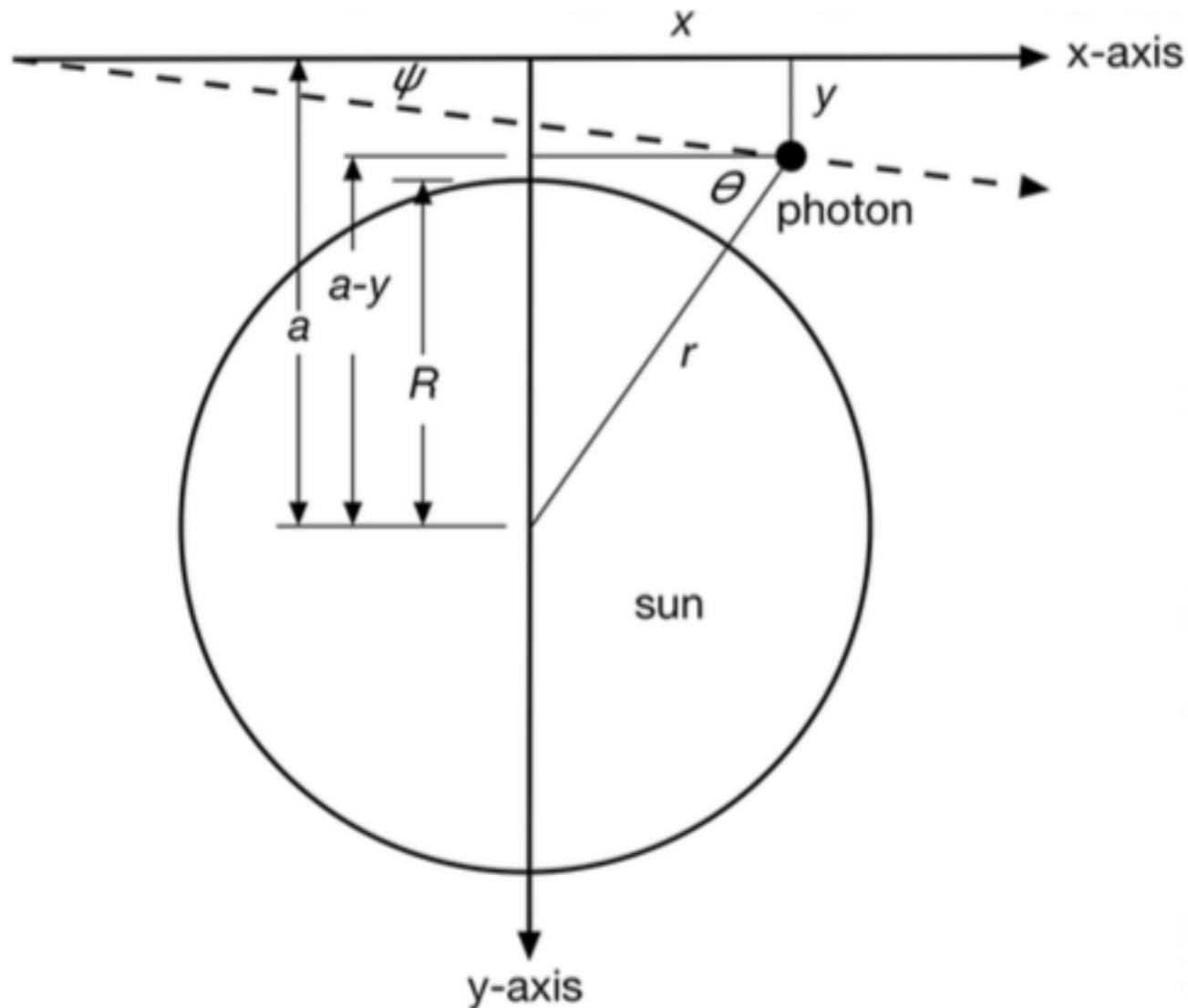
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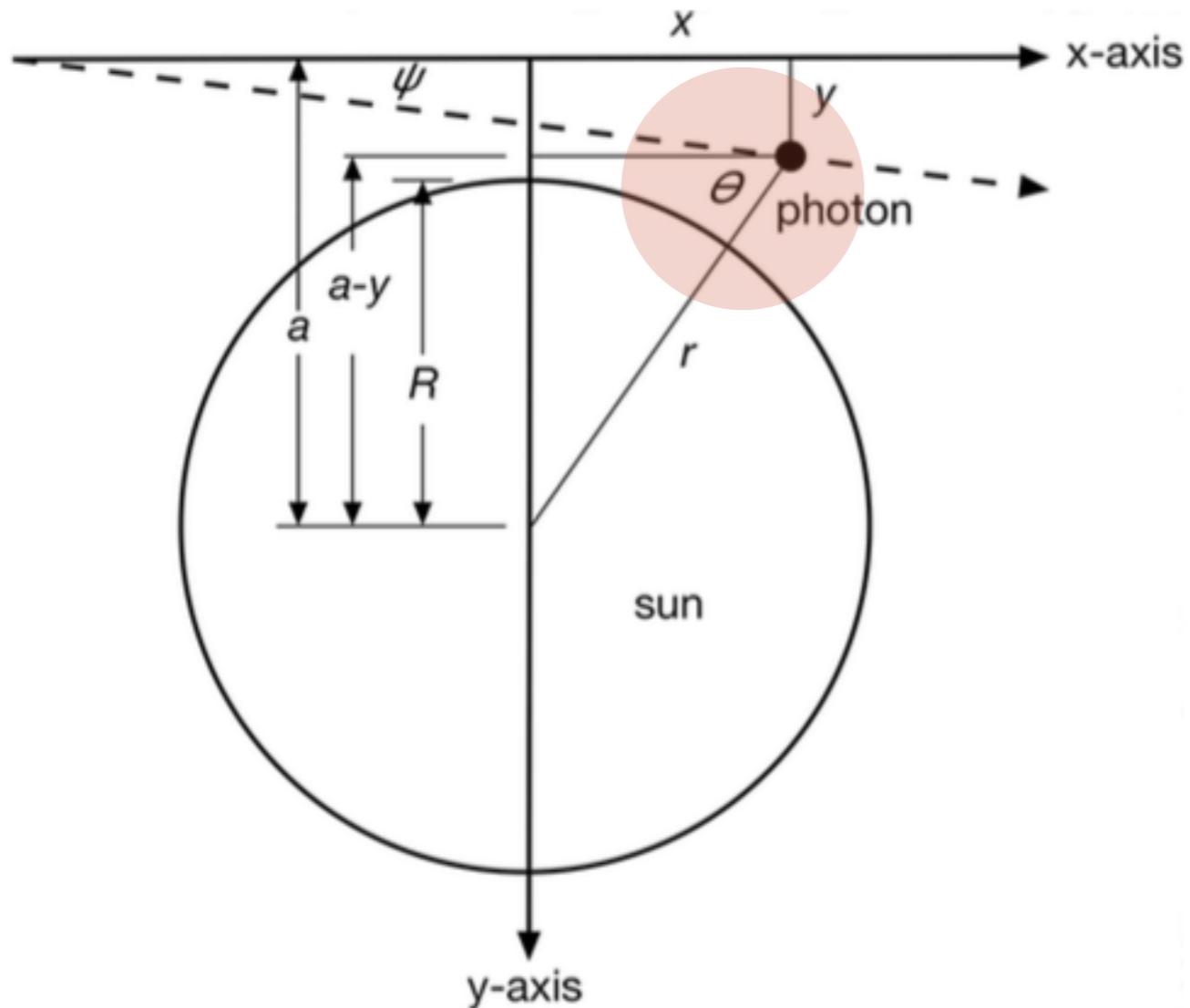
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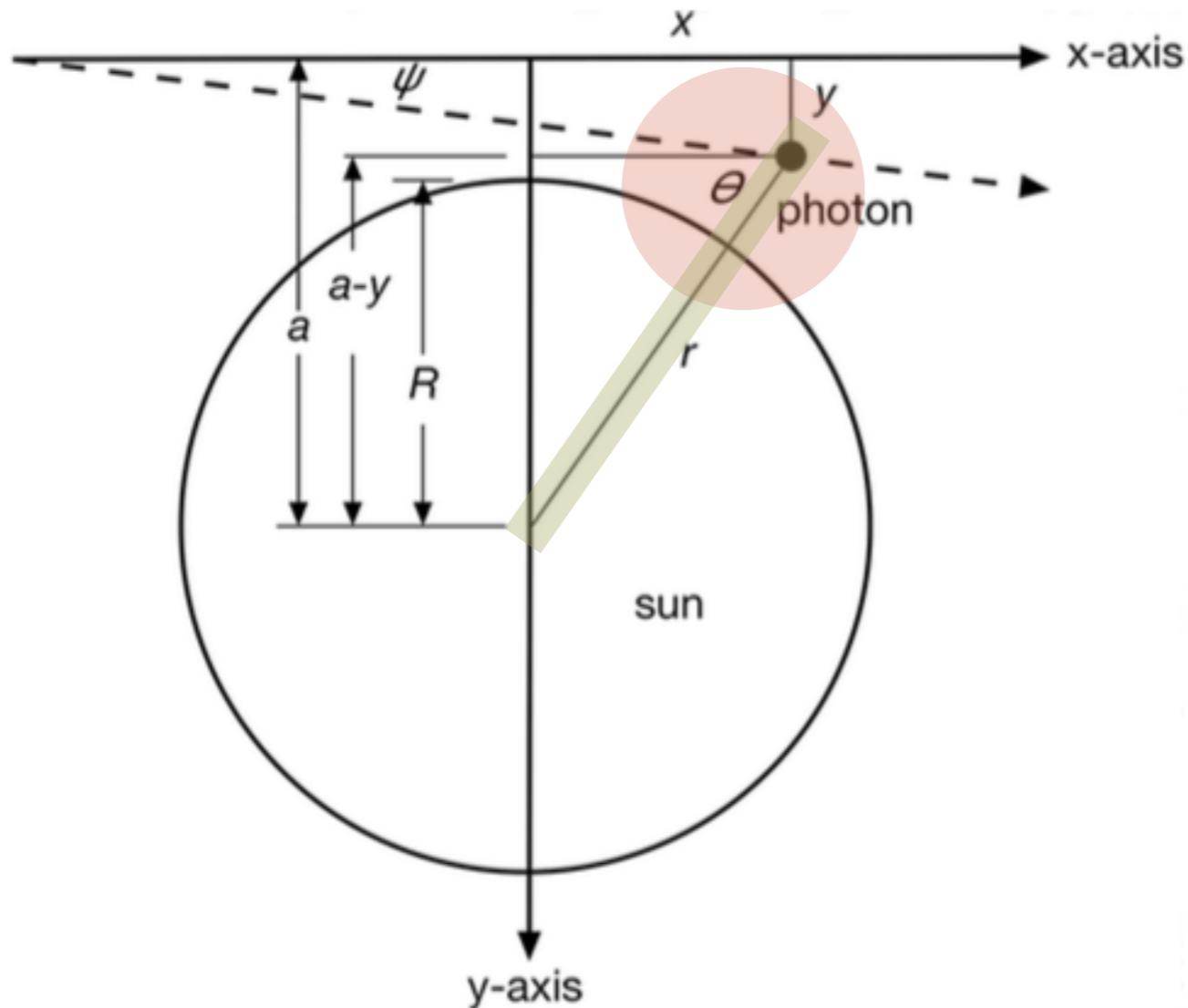
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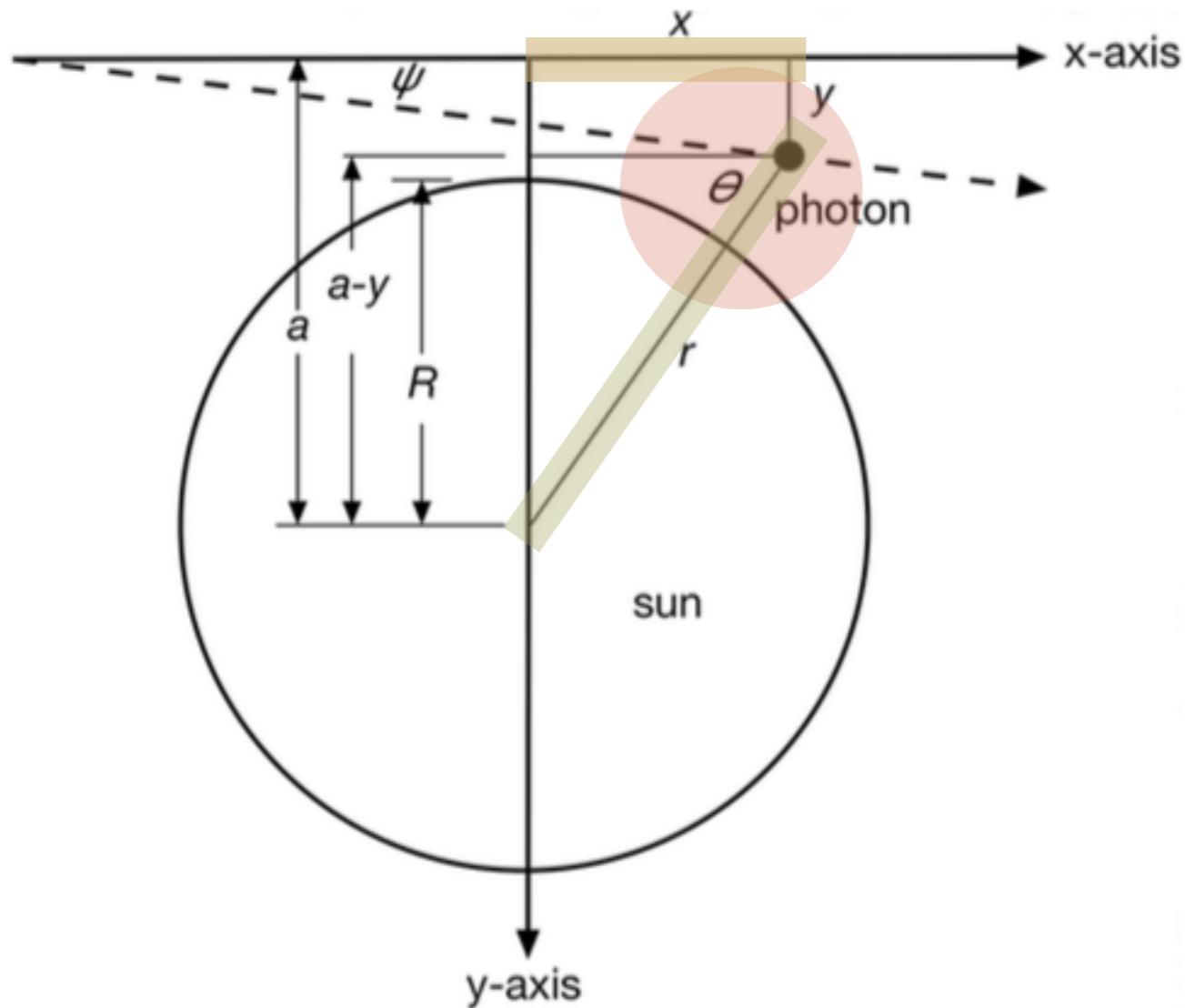
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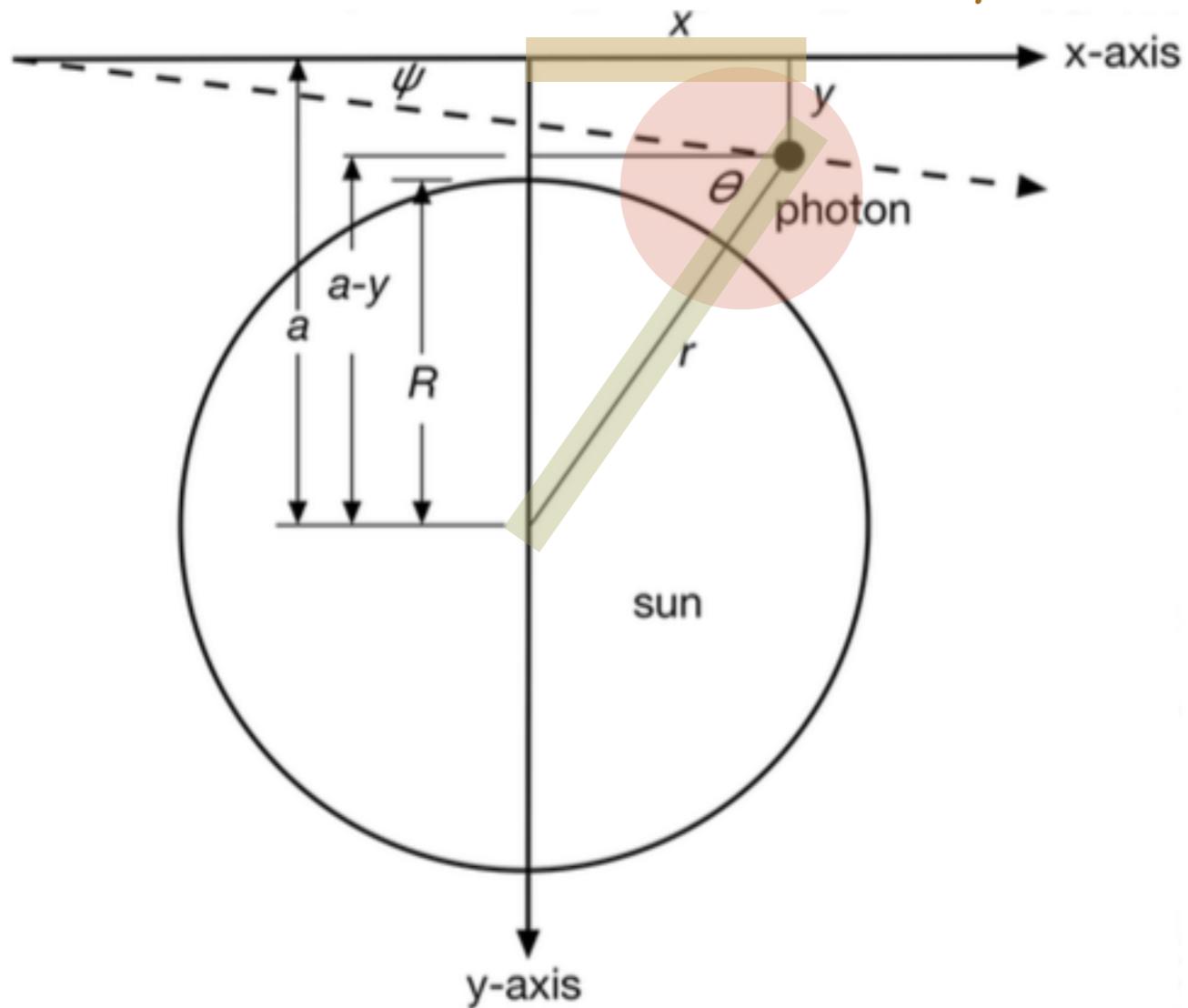
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# DEFLECTION OF A LIGHT CORPUSCLE

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$$\cos \theta = \frac{x}{r}$$

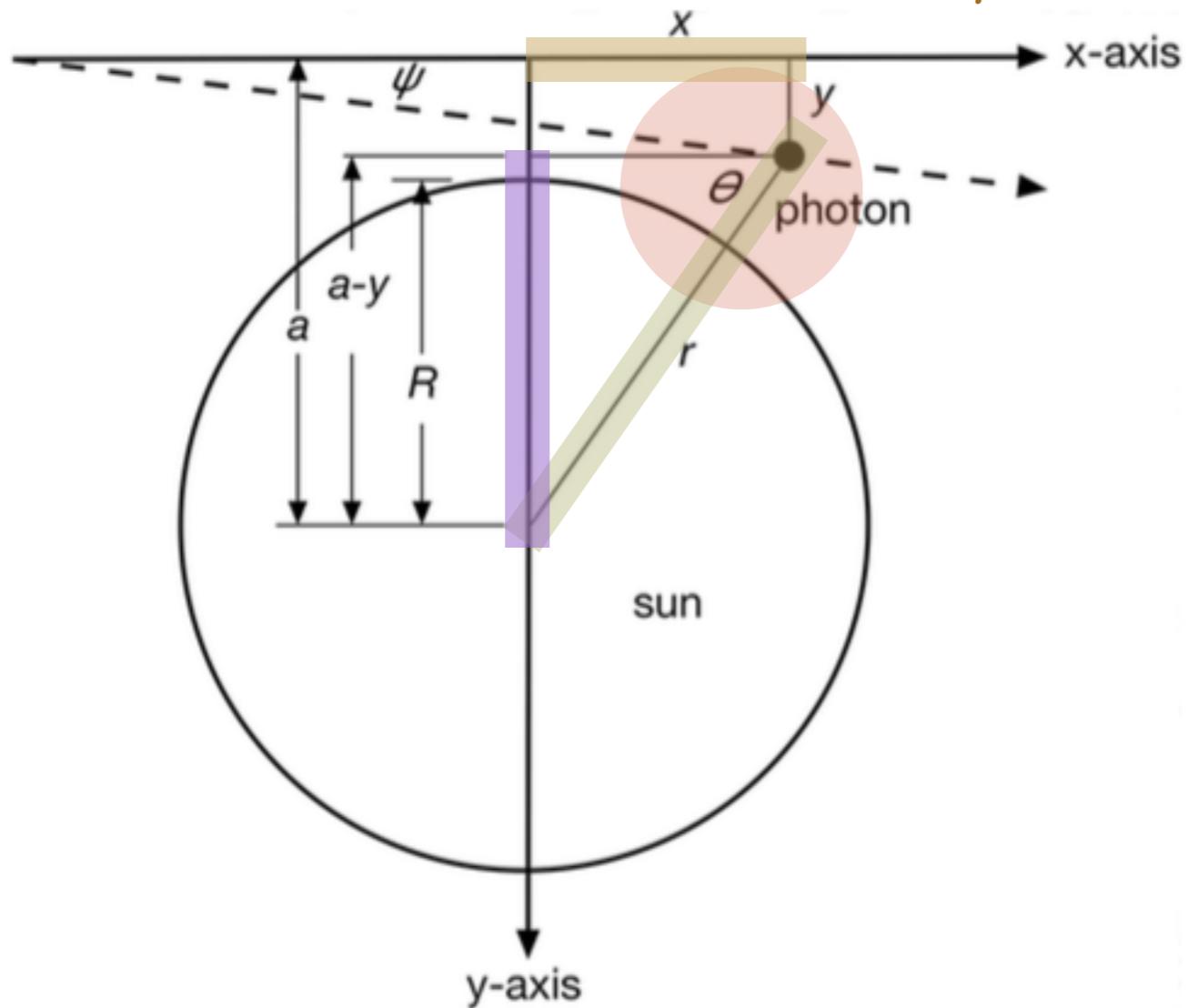
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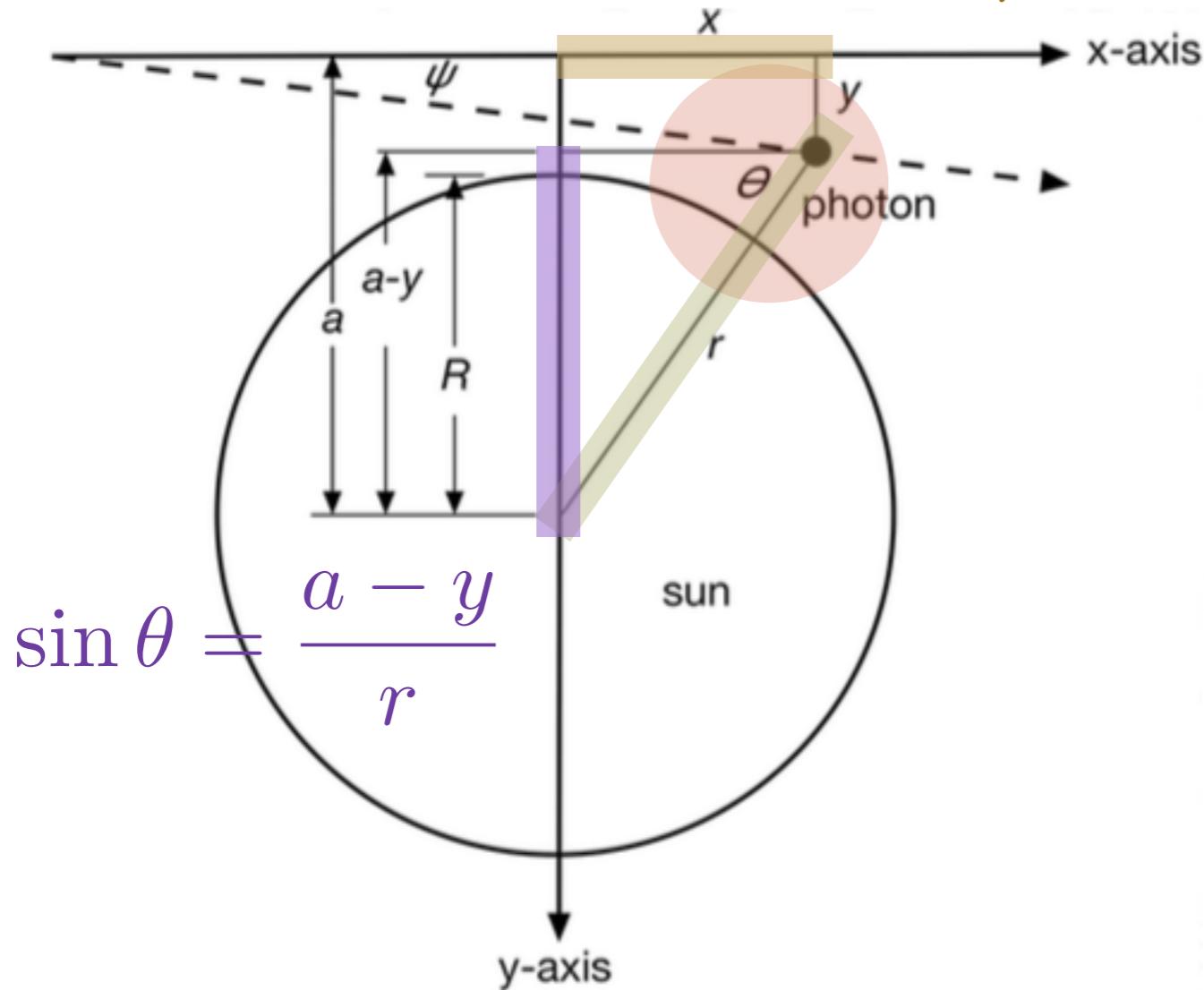
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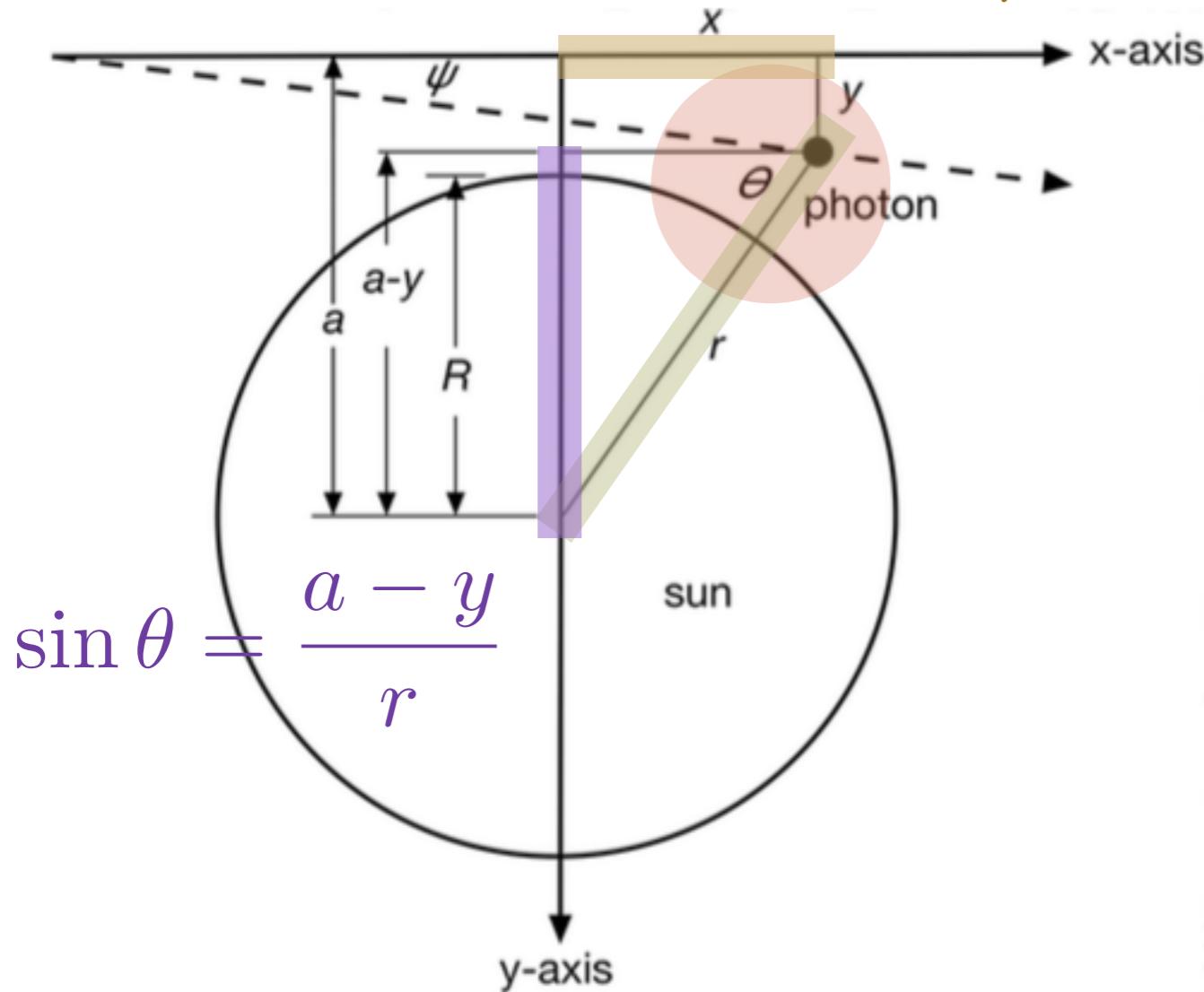
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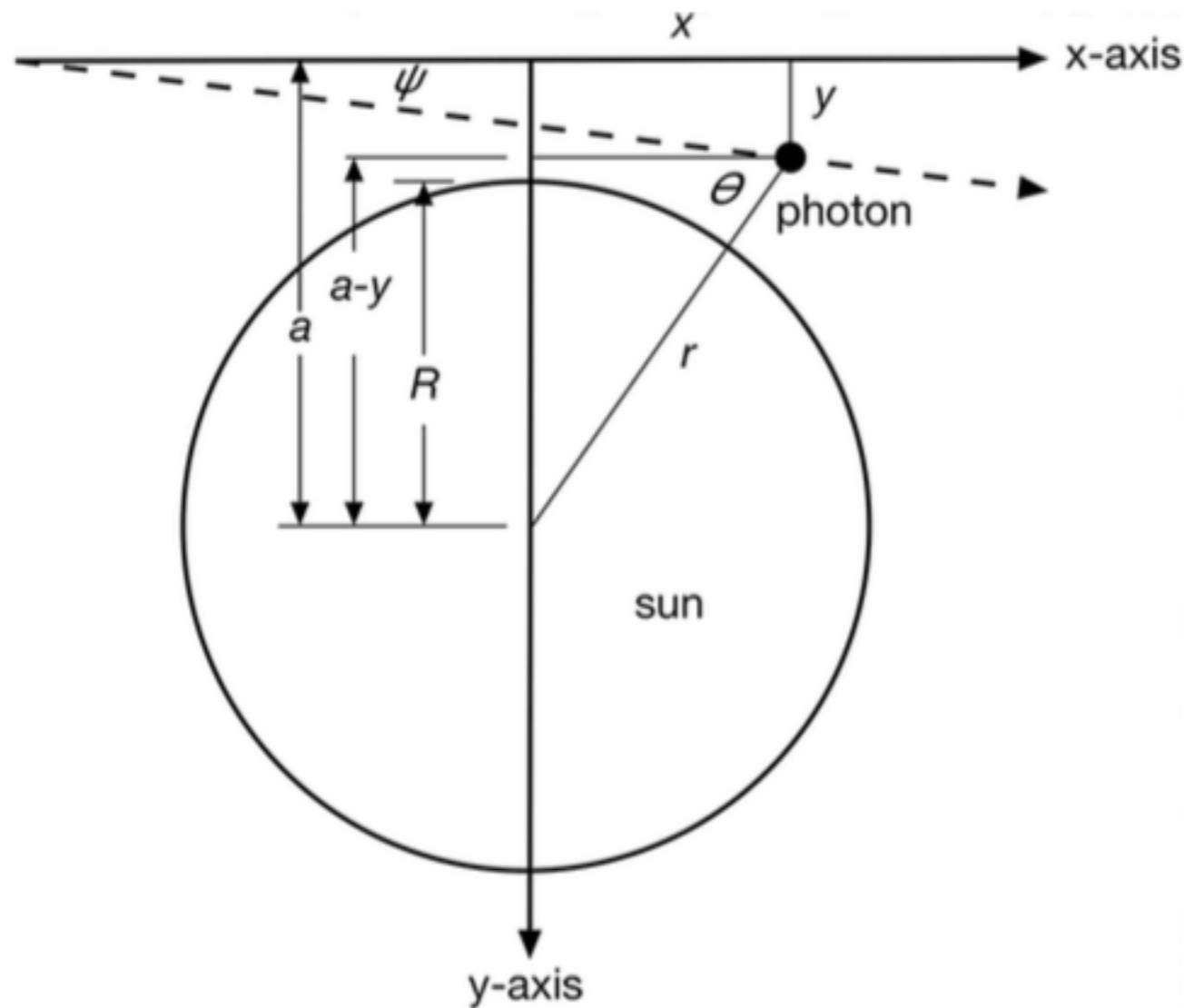
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$$F_x = \frac{dp_x}{dt} = \frac{GMp}{c} \frac{x}{(x^2 + (a - y)^2)^{3/2}}$$

$$F_y = \frac{dp_y}{dt} = \frac{GMp}{c} \frac{a - y}{(x^2 + (a - y)^2)^{3/2}}$$

# DEFLECTION OF A LIGHT CORPUSCLE

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$$x = ct$$

$$dx = cdt$$

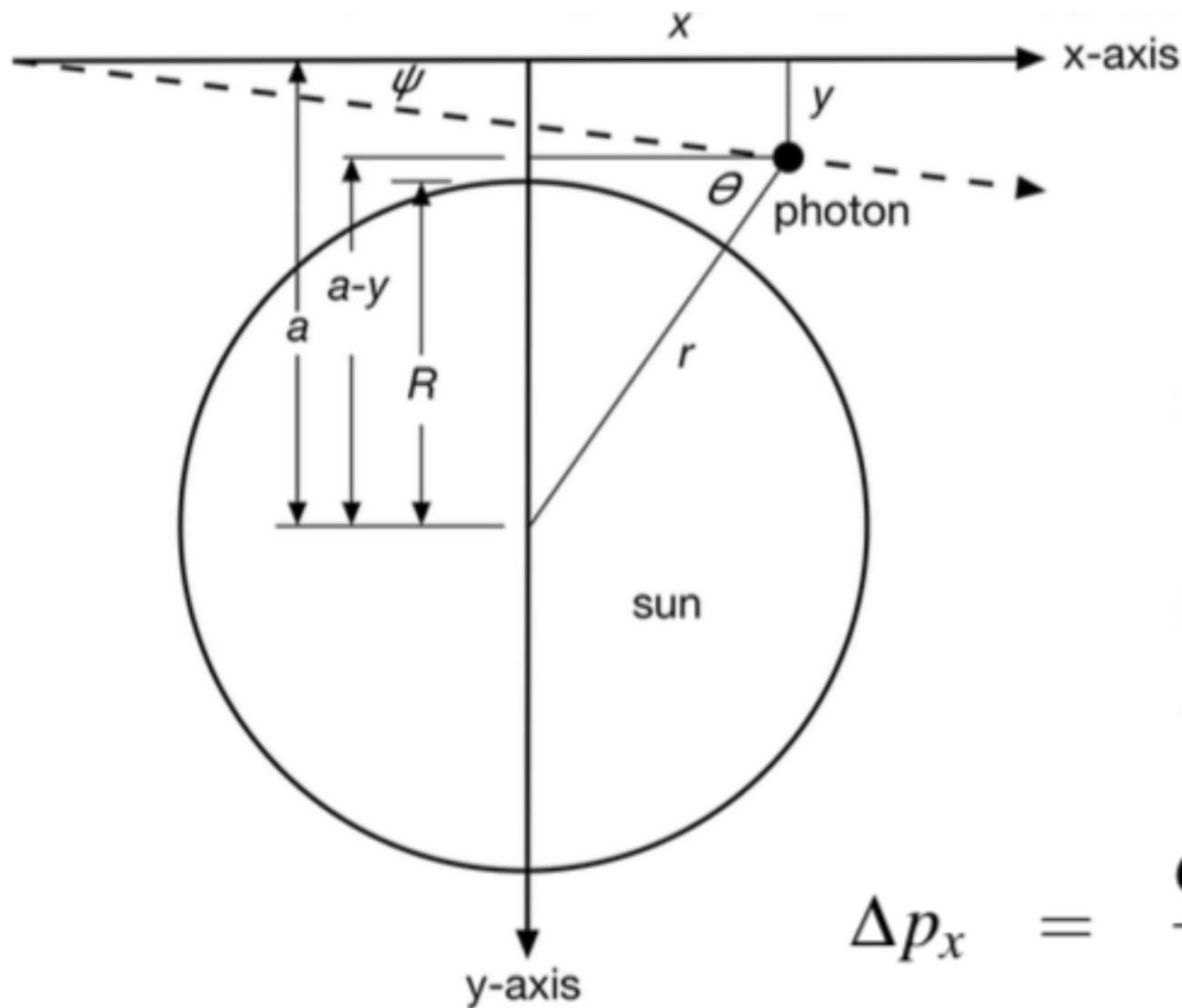
$$\frac{dp_i}{dt} = \frac{dp_i}{dx} \frac{dx}{dt} = c \frac{dp_i}{dx}$$

$$\frac{dp_x}{dx} = \frac{G M p}{c^2} \frac{x}{(x^2 + (a - y)^2)^{3/2}}$$

$$\frac{dp_y}{dx} = \frac{G M p}{c^2} \frac{a - y}{(x^2 + (a - y)^2)^{3/2}}$$

# DEFLECTION OF A LIGHT CORPUSCLE

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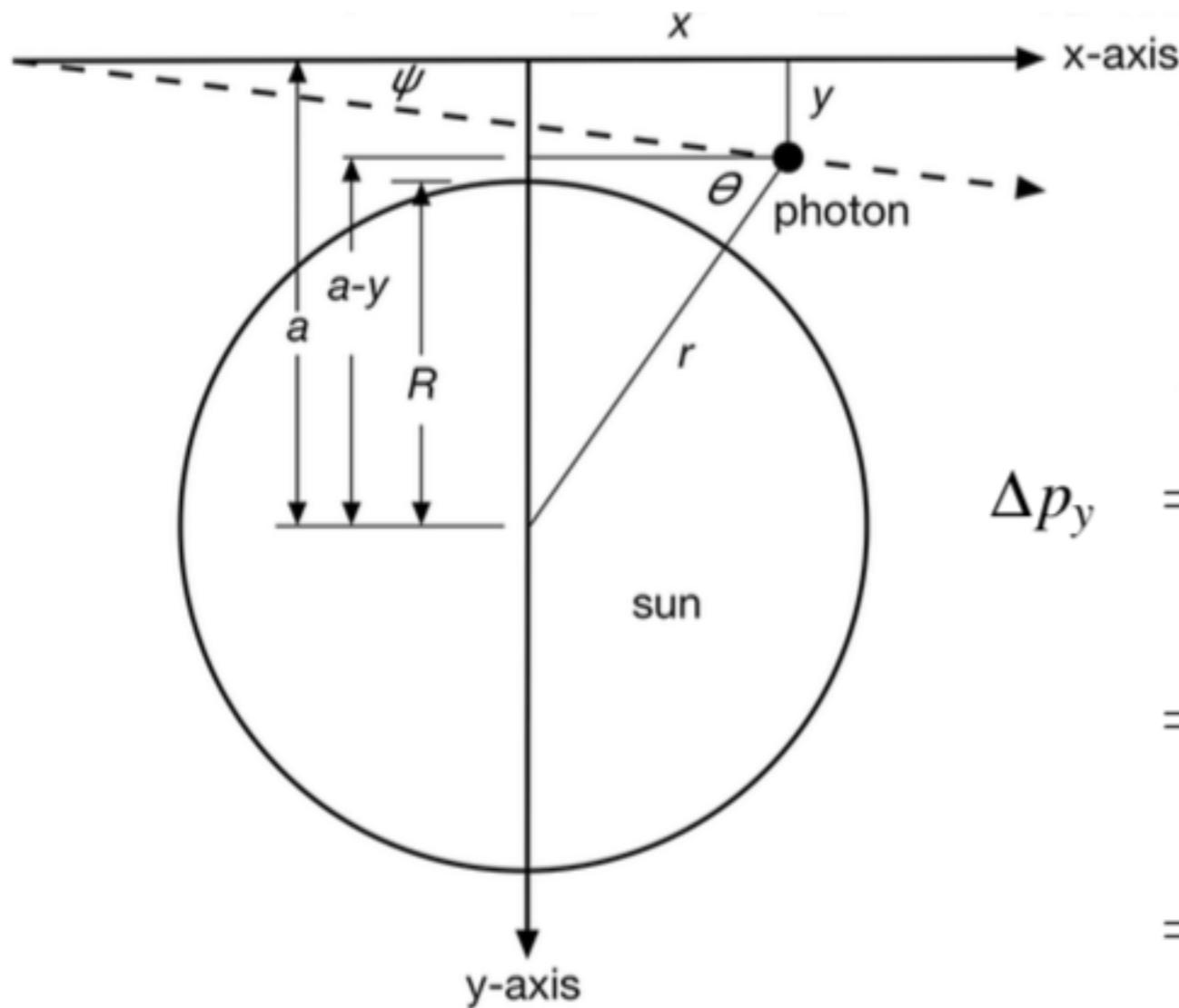


$$\frac{dp_x}{dx} = \frac{G M p}{c^2} \frac{x}{(x^2 + (a - y)^2)^{3/2}}$$

$$\Delta p_x = \frac{G M p}{c^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{x}{[x^2 + (a - y)^2]^{3/2}} dx = 0$$

# DEFLECTION OF A LIGHT CORPUSCLE

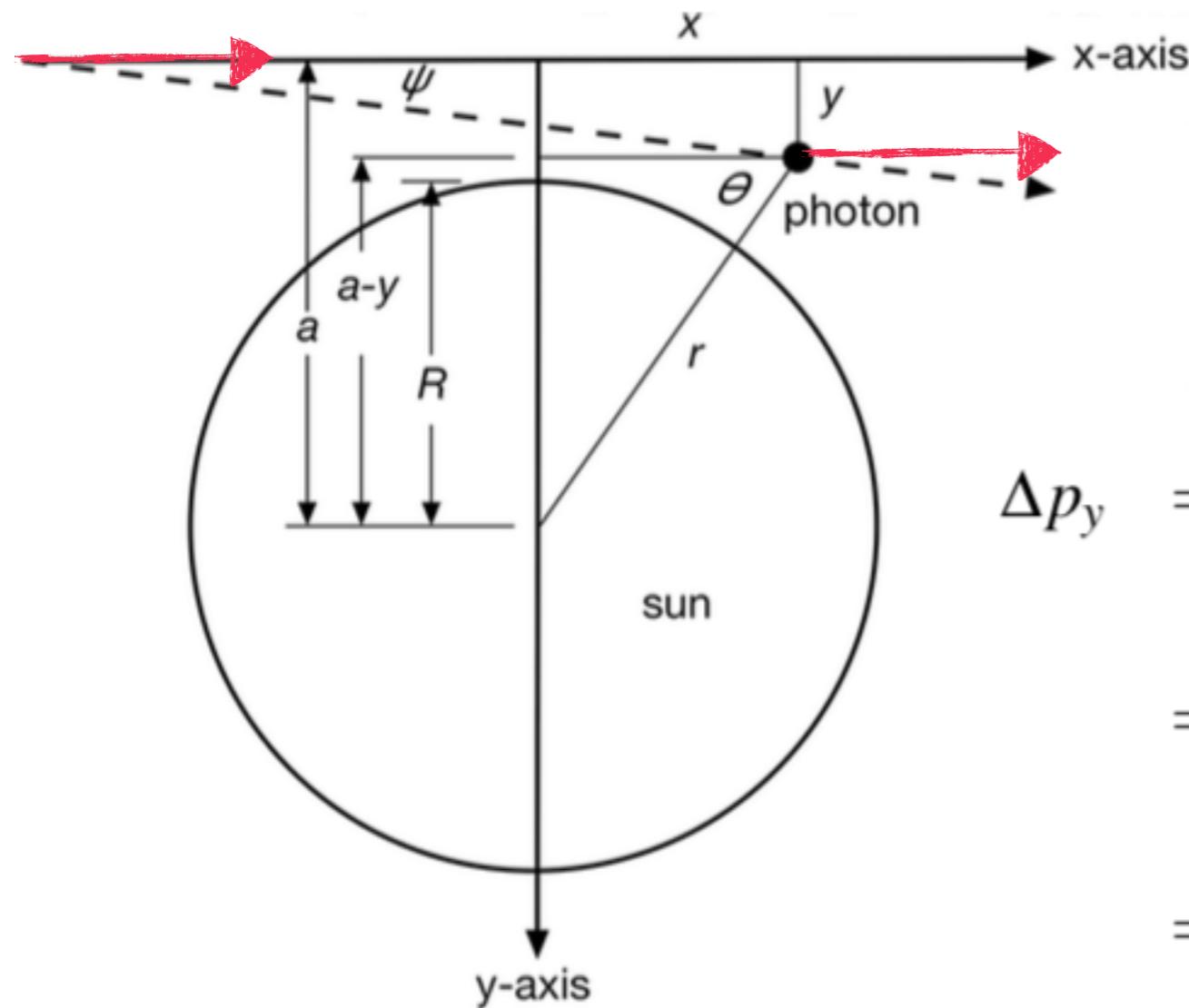
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$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dp_y}{dx} &= \frac{G M p}{c^2} \frac{a - y}{(x^2 + (a - y)^2)^{3/2}} \\ \Delta p_y &= \frac{G M p}{c^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{a - y}{[x^2 + (a - y)^2]^{3/2}} dx \\ &= \frac{G M p}{c^2} \left[ \frac{x}{(a - y) \sqrt{x^2 + (a - y)^2}} \right]_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \\ &= \frac{2 G M p}{c^2} \frac{1}{a - y}, \end{aligned}$$

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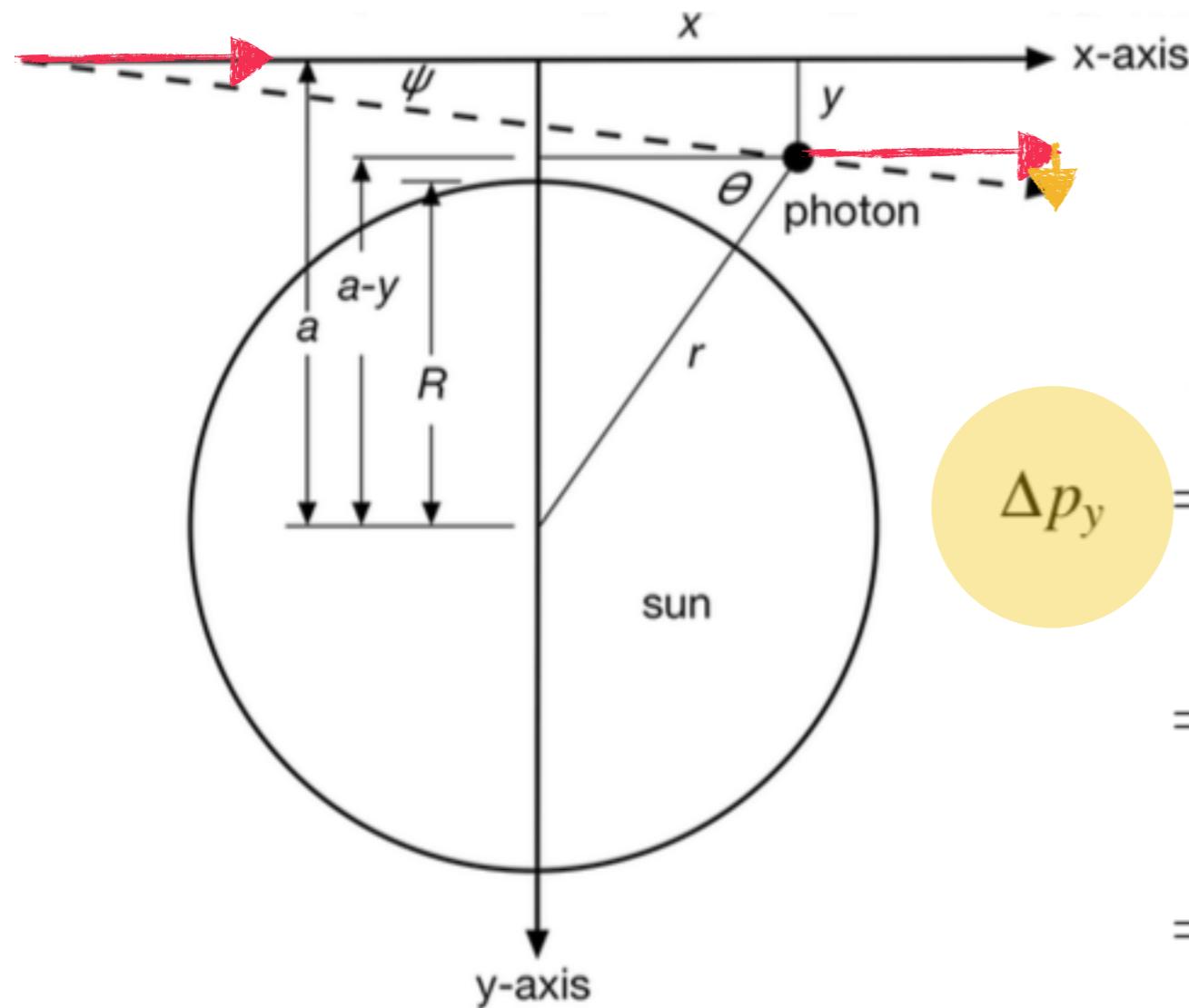
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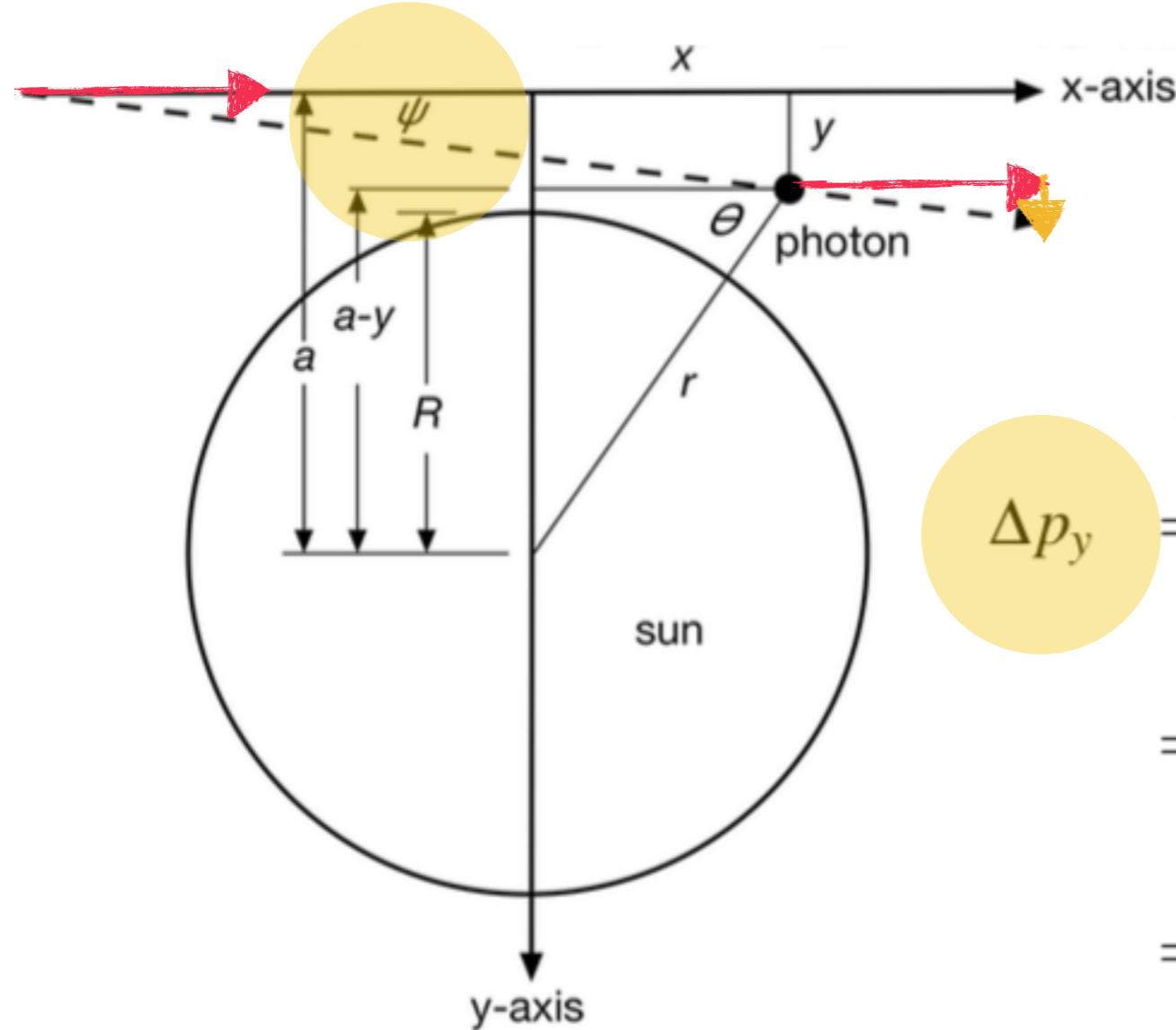


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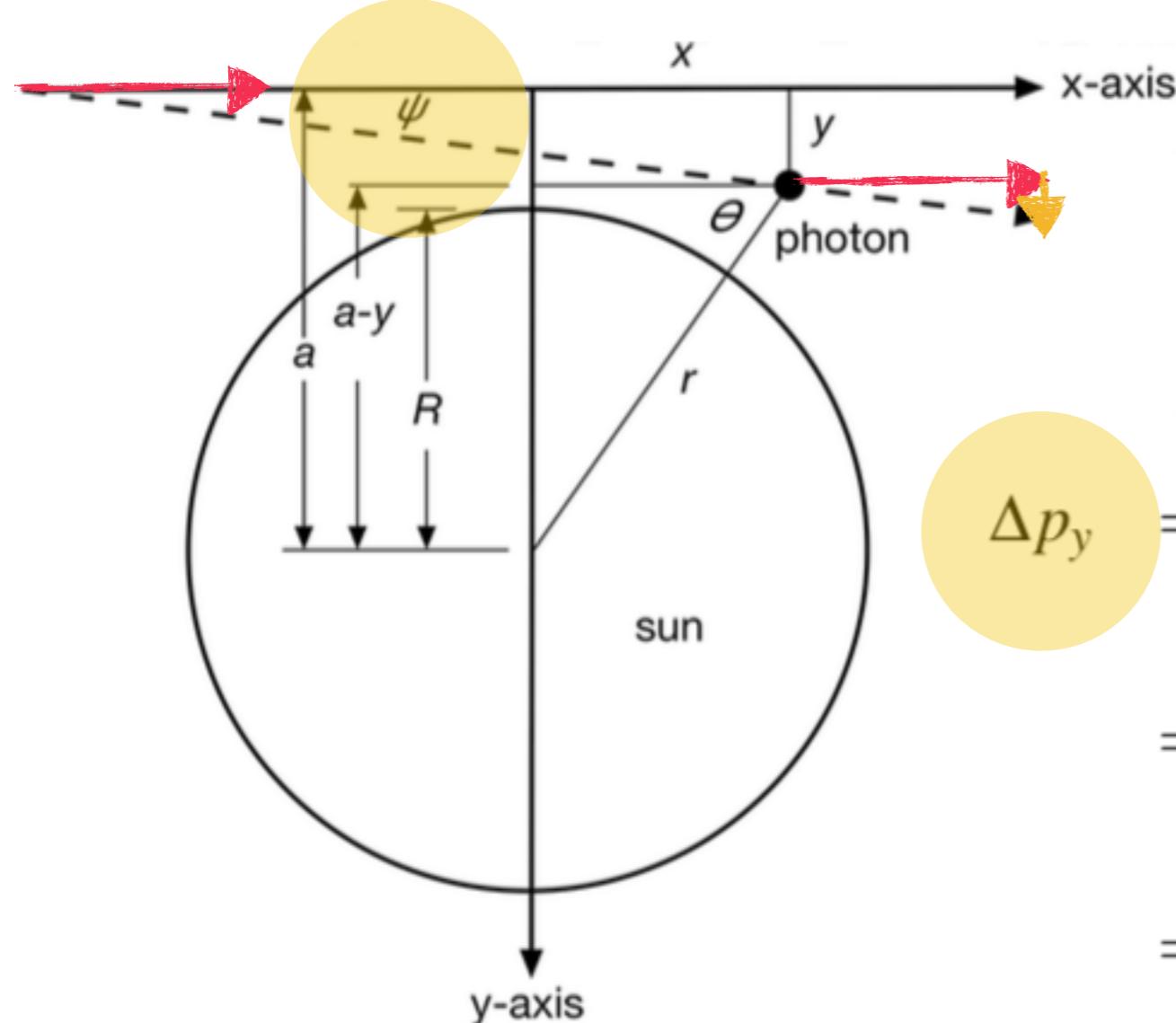
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# DEFLECTION OF A LIGHT CORPUSCLE



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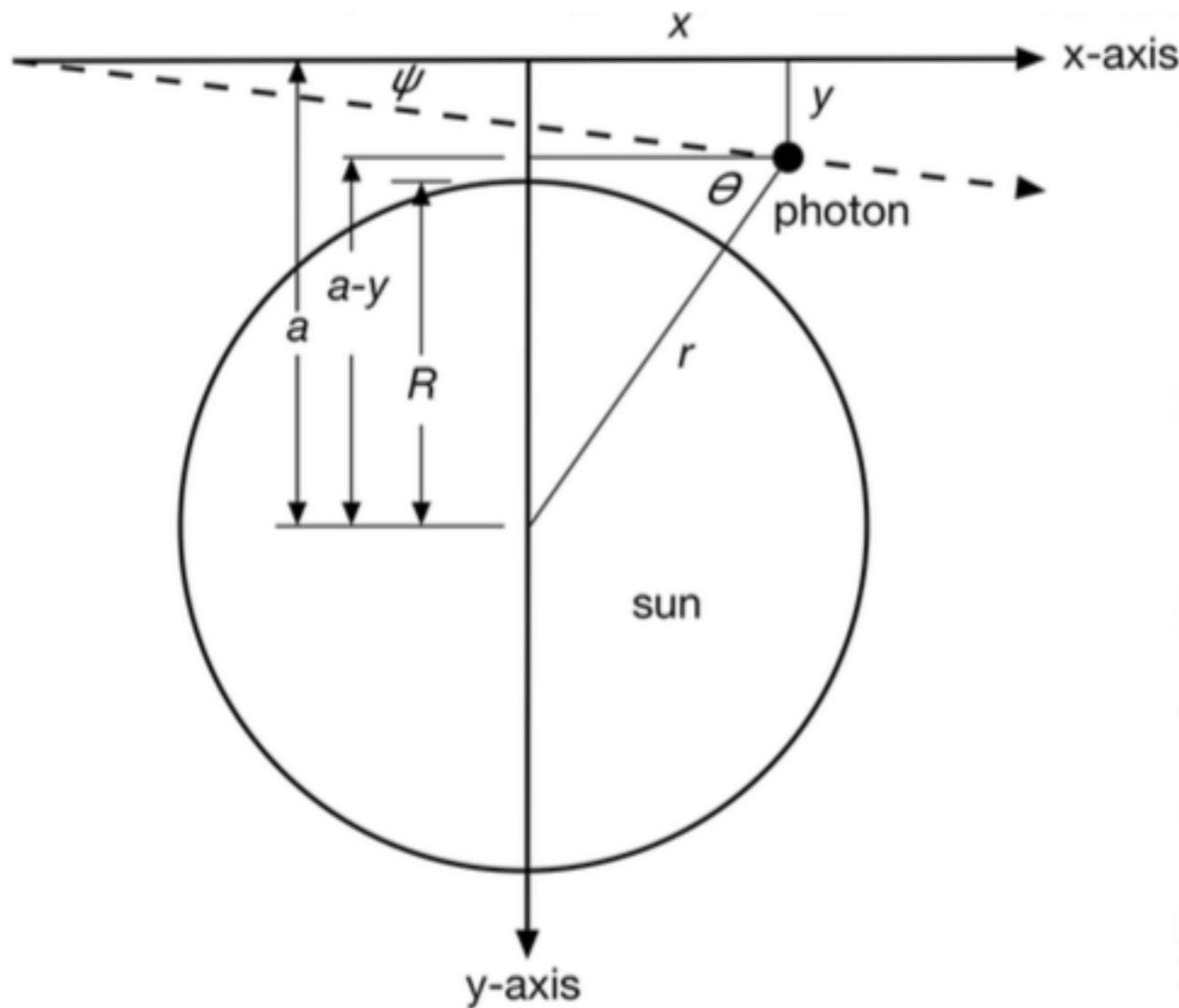
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$$\psi = \frac{\Delta p_y}{p} = \frac{2GM}{c^2} \frac{1}{a-y}$$

# DEFLECTION OF A LIGHT CORPUSCLE BY THE SUN

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$$a - y = R_{\odot}$$



$$M = M_{\odot} = 1.989 \times 10^{30} kg$$

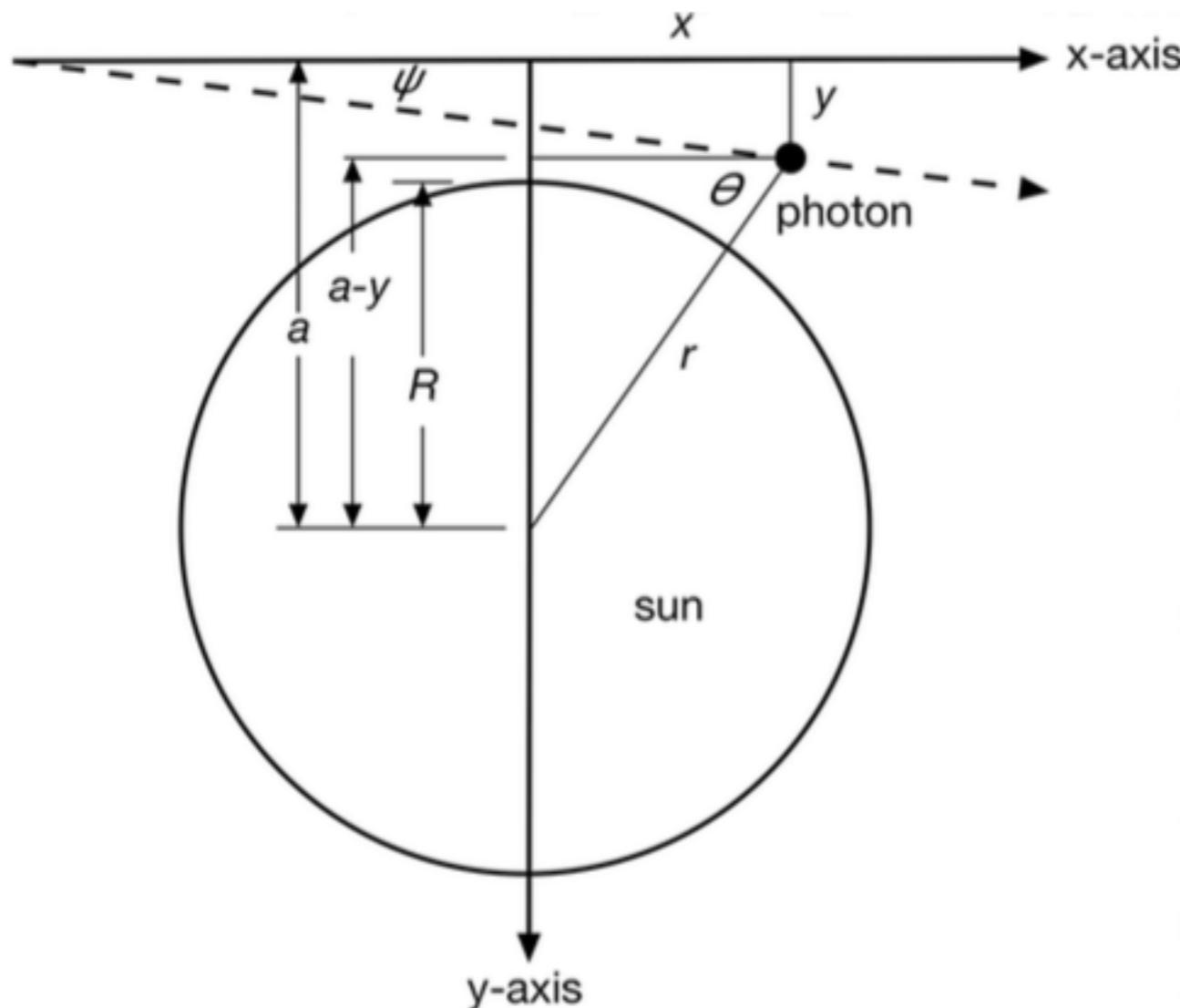
$$a - y = R_{\odot} = 6.96 \times 10^8 m$$

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# DEFLECTION OF A LIGHT CORPUSCLE BY THE SUN

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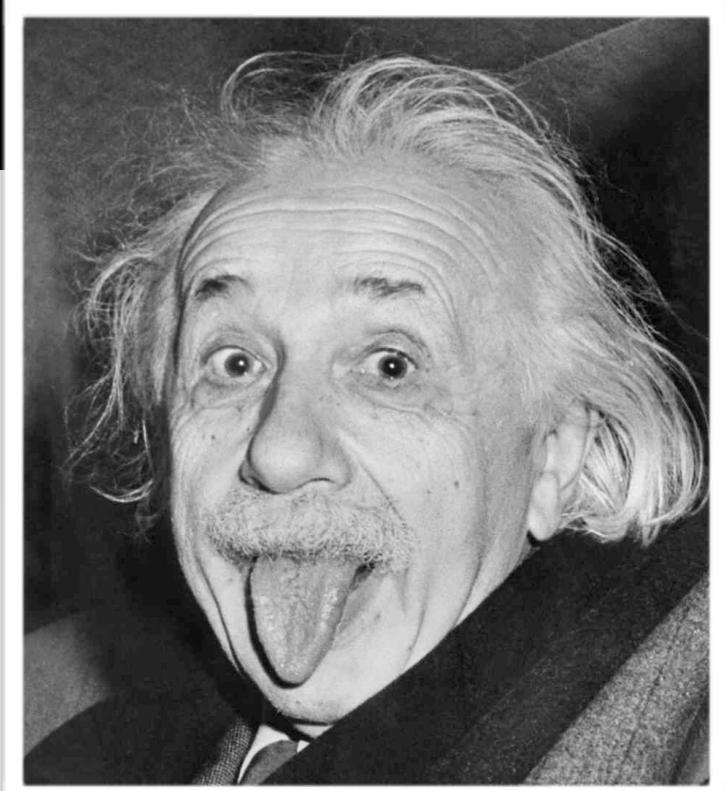
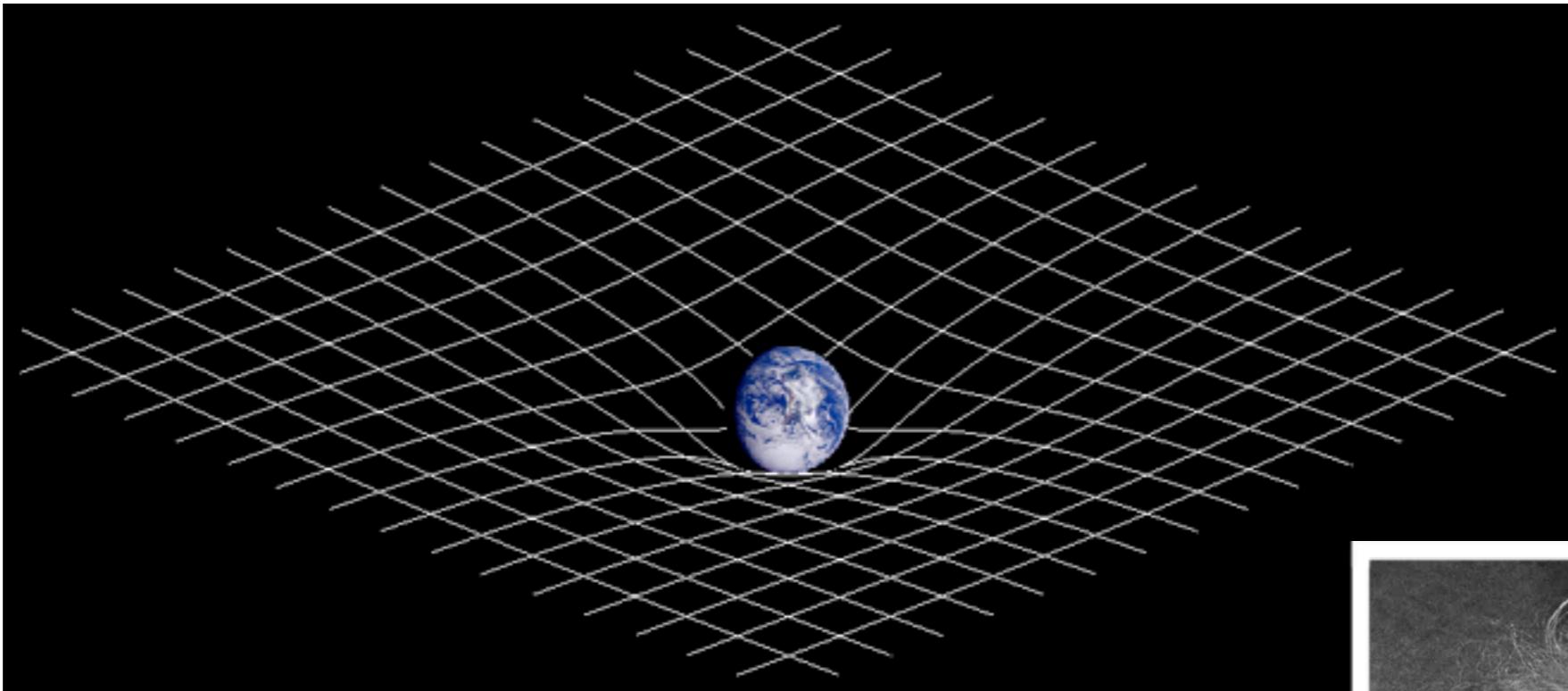
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# DEFLECTION OF LIGHT IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

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# DEFLECTION OF LIGHT IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

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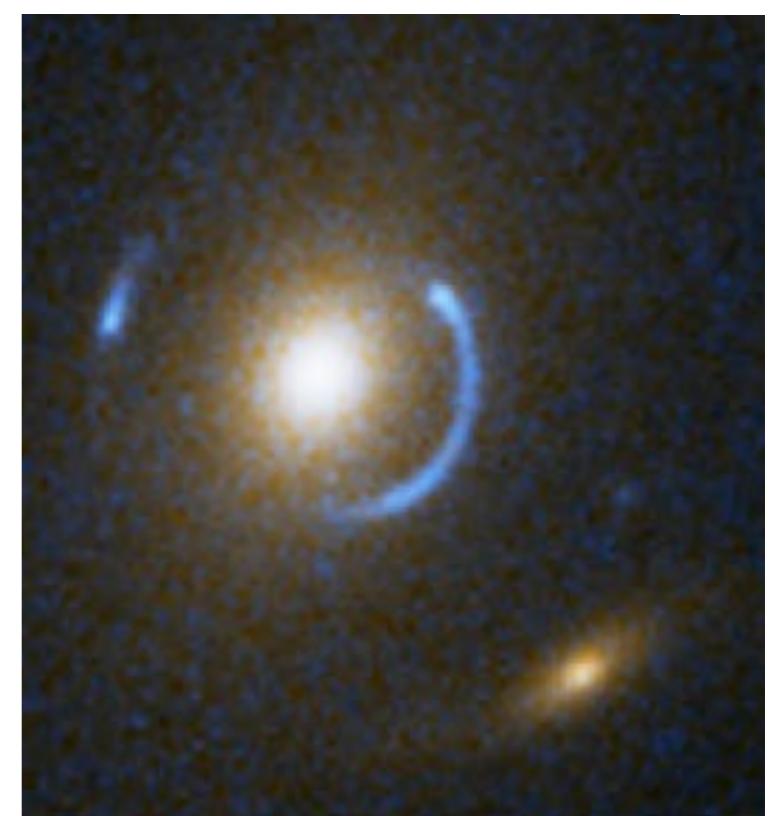
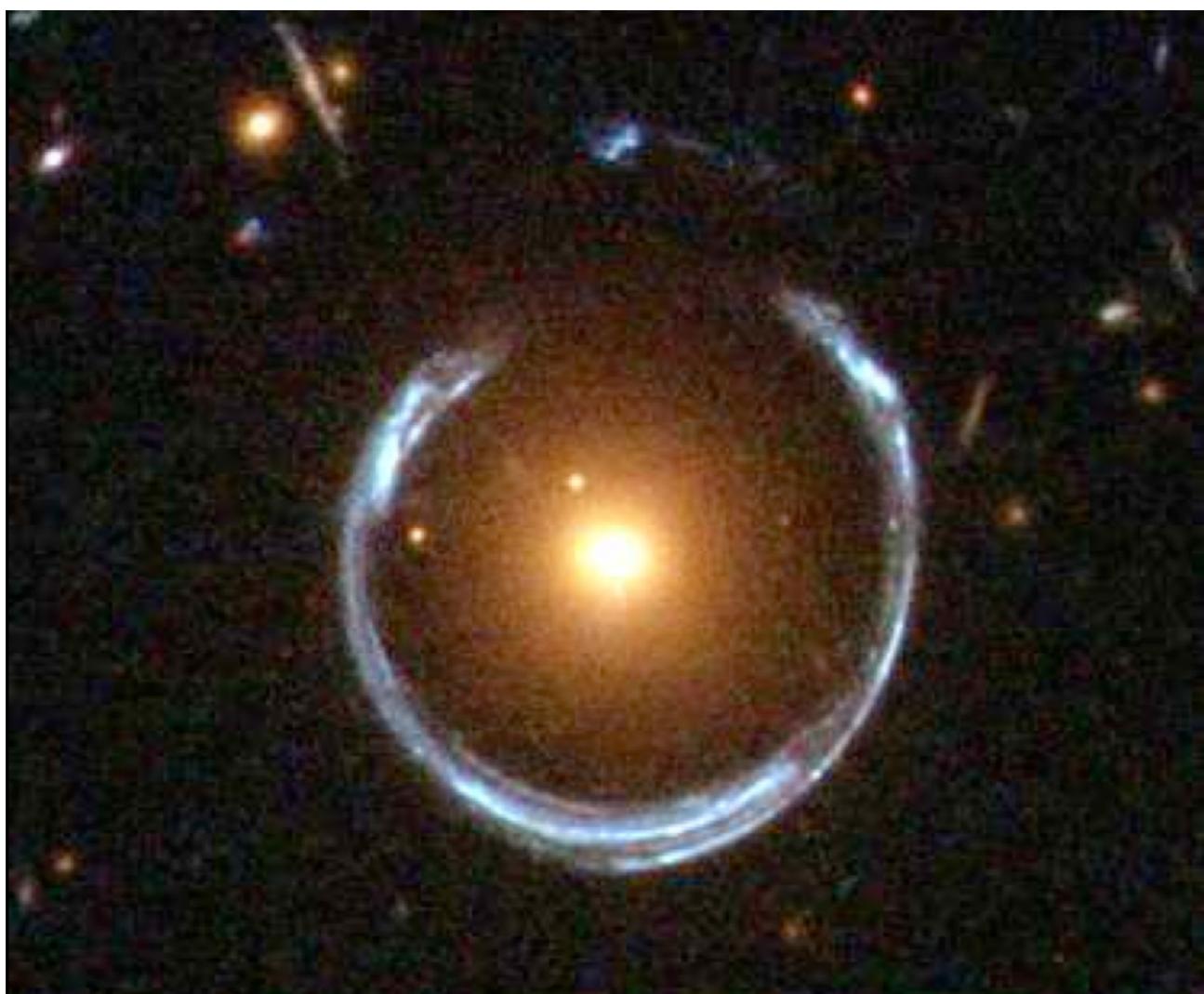
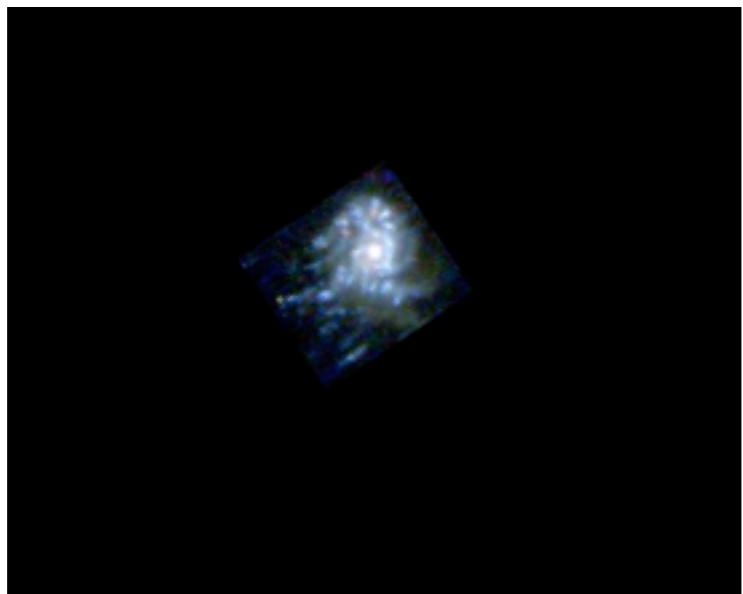
[www.spacetelescope.org](http://www.spacetelescope.org)

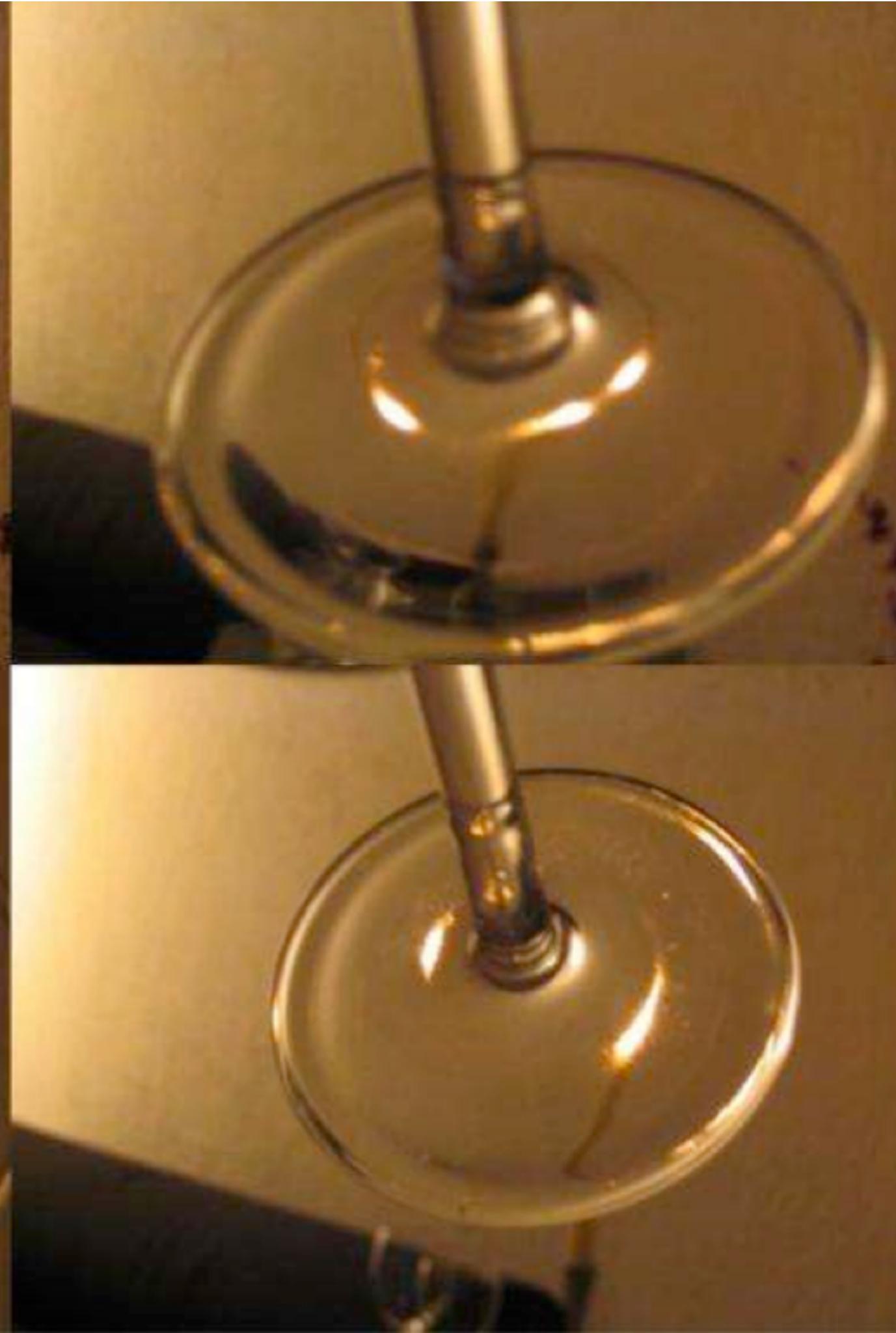
# DEFLECTION OF LIGHT IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

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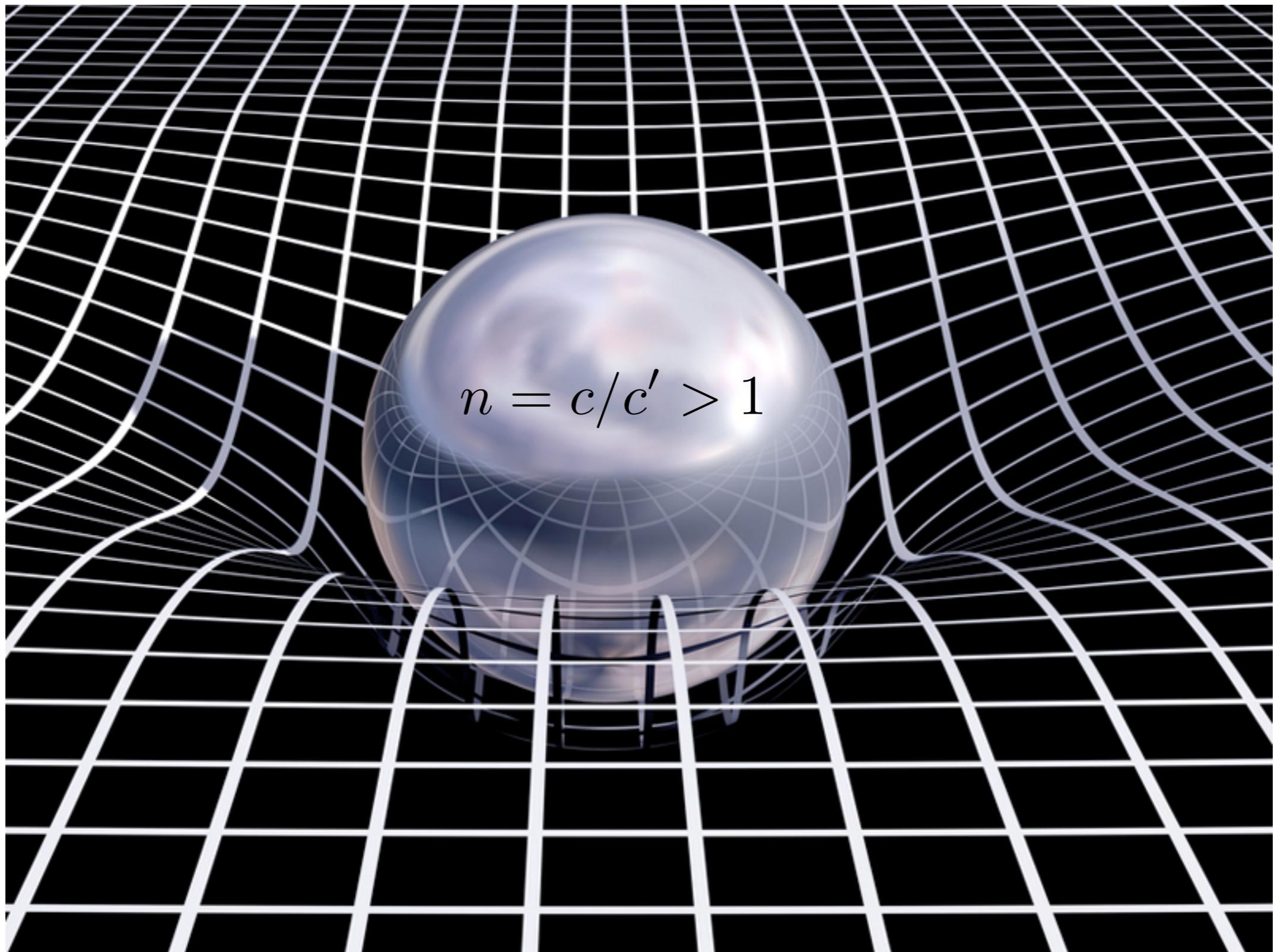
# DEFLECTION OF LIGHT IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

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- We will now repeat the calculation of the deflection angle in the context of a locally curved space-time
- Assumptions:
  - the deflection occurs in small region of the universe and over time-scales where the expansion of the universe is not relevant
  - the weak-field limit can be safely applied:  $|\Phi|/c^2 \ll 1$
  - perturbed region can be described in terms of an effective diffraction index
  - Fermat principle

# DEFLECTION OF LIGHT IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

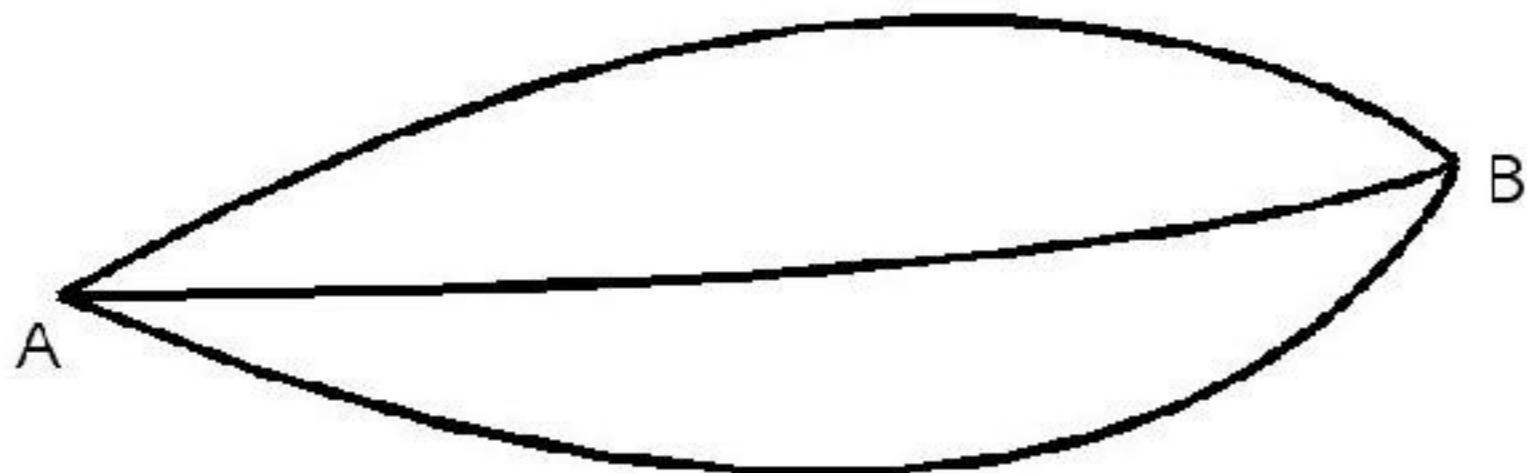
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# DEFLECTION OF LIGHT IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

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$$\text{Travel time} = \int \frac{n}{c} dl$$



$$\text{Fermat principle: } \delta \int_A^B n dl = 0$$

# DEFLECTION OF LIGHT IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

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*How to define the effective diffraction index?*

*absence of lens = unperturbed space-time  
described by the Minkowski metric*

$$\eta_{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$ds^2 = \eta_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu = (dx^0)^2 - (d\vec{x})^2 = c^2 dt^2 - (d\vec{x})^2$$

*effective diffraction index > 1 =  
perturbed space-time, described by  
the perturbed metric*

$$\eta_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow g_{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + \frac{2\Phi}{c^2} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -(1 - \frac{2\Phi}{c^2}) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -(1 - \frac{2\Phi}{c^2}) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -(1 - \frac{2\Phi}{c^2}) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu = \left(1 + \frac{2\Phi}{c^2}\right) c^2 dt^2 - \left(1 - \frac{2\Phi}{c^2}\right) (d\vec{x})^2$$

# SCHWARZSCHILD METRIC (STATIC AND SPHERICALLY SYMMETRIC)

---

$$ds^2 = \left(1 - \frac{2GM}{Rc^2}\right) c^2 dt^2 - \left(1 - \frac{2GM}{Rc^2}\right)^{-1} dR^2 - R^2(\sin^2 \theta d\phi^2 + d\theta^2)$$

$$R = \sqrt{1 + \frac{2GM}{rc^2}} r$$

$$x = r \sin \theta \cos \phi$$

$$y = r \sin \theta \sin \phi$$

$$z = r \cos \phi$$

$$dl^2 = [dr^2 + r^2(\sin^2 \theta d\phi^2 + d\theta^2)]$$

$$ds^2 = \left(\frac{1 - GM/2rc^2}{1 + GM/2rc^2}\right)^2 c^2 dt^2 - \left(1 + \frac{GM}{2rc^2}\right)^4 (dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2)$$

# SCHWARZSCHILD METRIC IN THE WEAK FIELD LIMIT

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$$\Phi/c^2 = -GM/rc^2 \ll 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \frac{1 - GM/2rc^2}{1 + GM/2rc^2} \right)^2 &\approx \left( 1 - \frac{GM}{2rc^2} \right)^4 & \left( 1 + \frac{GM}{2rc^2} \right)^4 &\approx \left( 1 + 2\frac{GM}{rc^2} \right) \\ &\approx \left( 1 - \frac{2GM}{rc^2} \right) & &= \left( 1 - \frac{2\Phi}{c^2} \right). \end{aligned}$$

$$ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu = \left( 1 + \frac{2\Phi}{c^2} \right) c^2 dt^2 - \left( 1 - \frac{2\Phi}{c^2} \right) (d\vec{x})^2$$

# DEFLECTION OF LIGHT IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

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*How to define the effective diffraction index?*

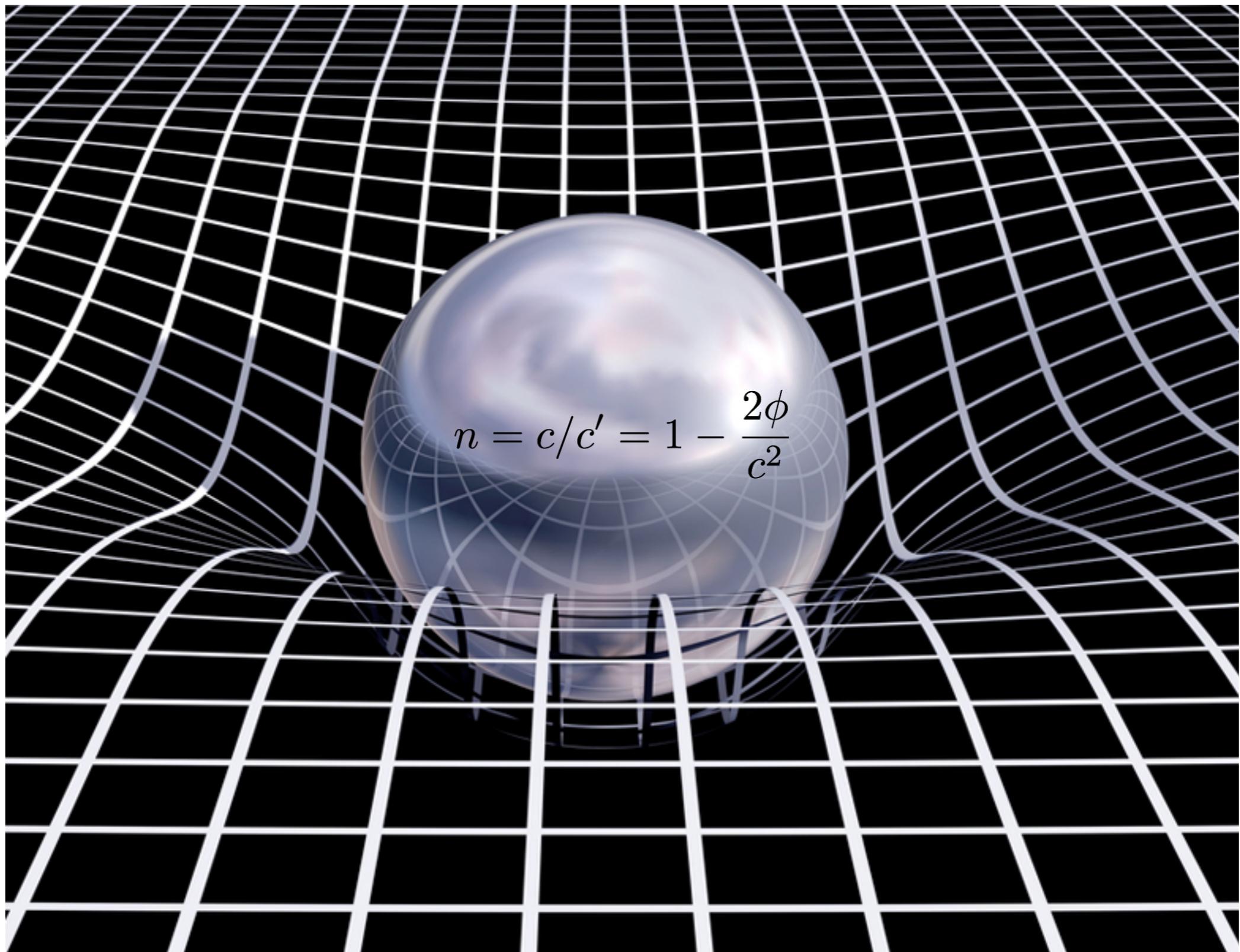
$$ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu}dx^\mu dx^\nu = \left(1 + \frac{2\Phi}{c^2}\right) c^2 dt^2 - \left(1 - \frac{2\Phi}{c^2}\right) (d\vec{x})^2$$

$$\left(1 + \frac{2\Phi}{c^2}\right) c^2 dt^2 = \left(1 - \frac{2\Phi}{c^2}\right) (d\vec{x})^2$$

$$c' = \frac{|d\vec{x}|}{dt} = c \sqrt{\frac{1 + \frac{2\Phi}{c^2}}{1 - \frac{2\Phi}{c^2}}} \approx c \left(1 + \frac{2\Phi}{c^2}\right)$$

# DEFLECTION OF LIGHT IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

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# DEFLECTION OF LIGHT IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

---

*Let's use the Fermat principle*

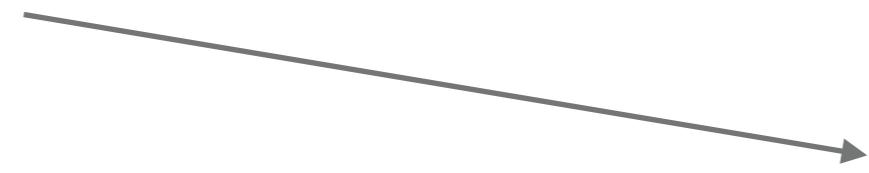
$$\delta \int_A^B n[\vec{x}(l)] dl = 0$$

# DEFLECTION OF LIGHT IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

---

*Let's use the Fermat principle*

$$\delta \int_A^B n[\vec{x}(l)] dl = 0$$



$$dl = \left| \frac{d\vec{x}}{d\lambda} \right| d\lambda$$

# DEFLECTION OF LIGHT IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

---

*Let's use the Fermat principle*

$$\delta \int_A^B n[\vec{x}(l)] dl = 0$$

$$dl = \left| \frac{d\vec{x}}{d\lambda} \right| d\lambda$$

$$\delta \int_{\lambda_A}^{\lambda_B} d\lambda n[\vec{x}(\lambda)] \left| \frac{d\vec{x}}{d\lambda} \right| = 0$$

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*generalized coordinate*

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generalized velocity

$$\dot{\vec{x}} \equiv \frac{d\vec{x}}{d\lambda}$$

generalized coordinate

# DEFLECTION OF LIGHT IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

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Langrangian!

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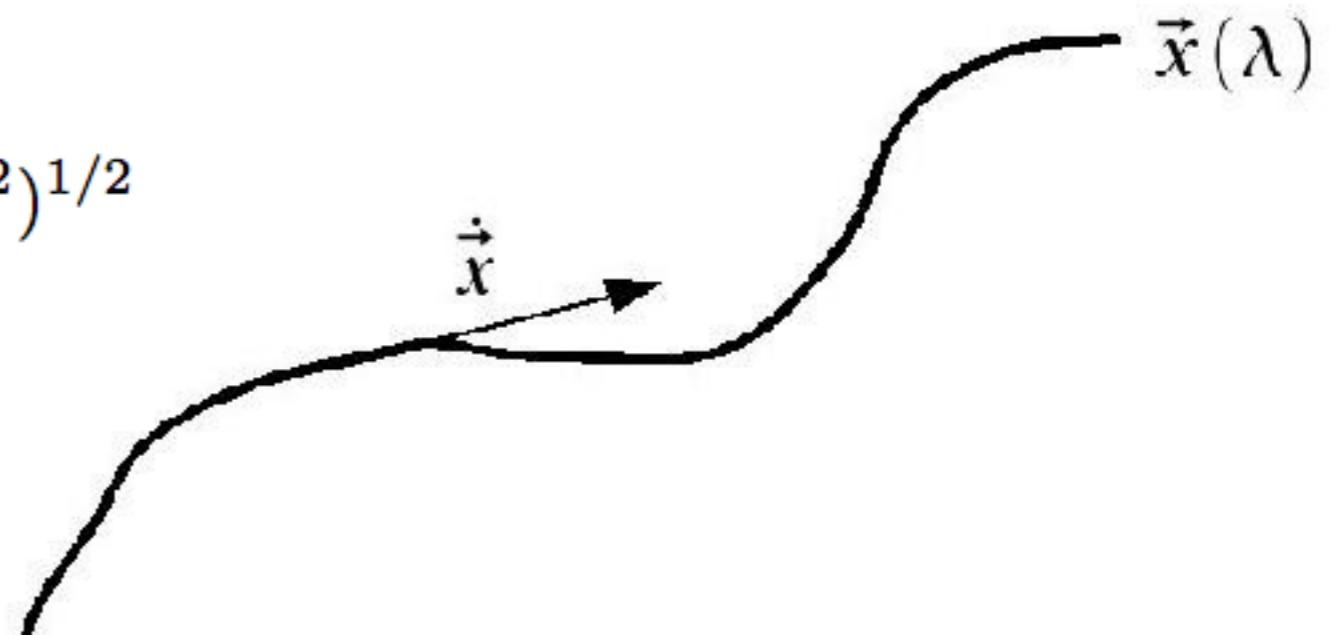
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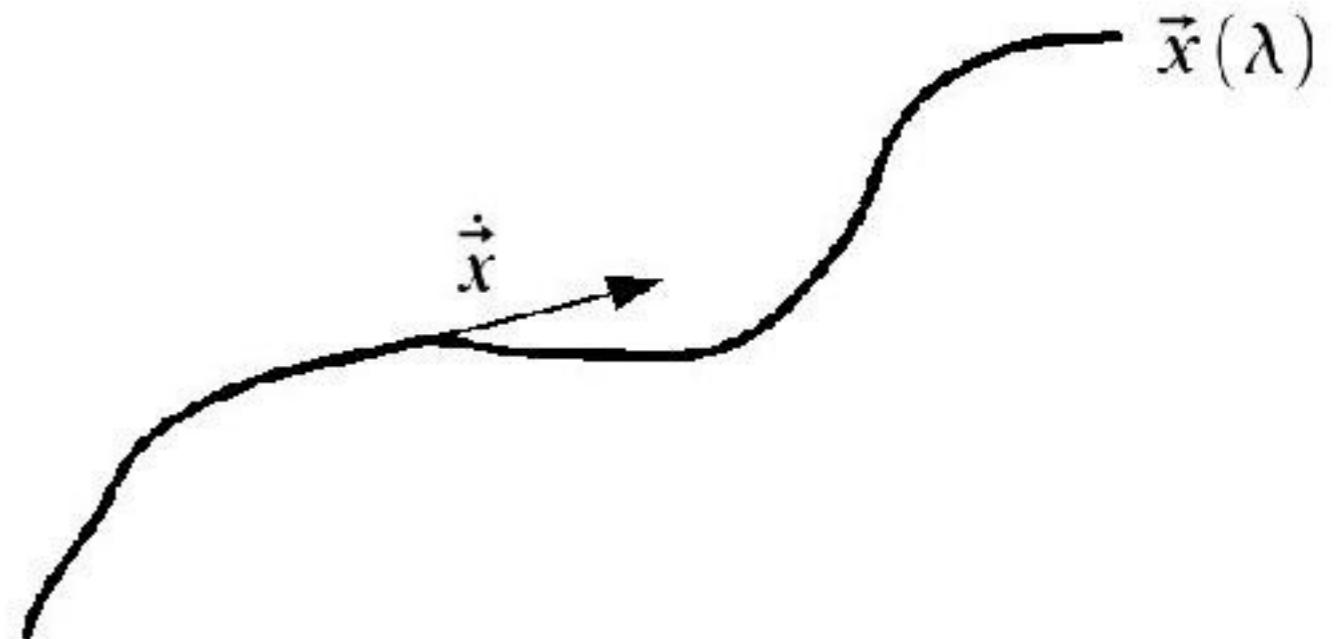
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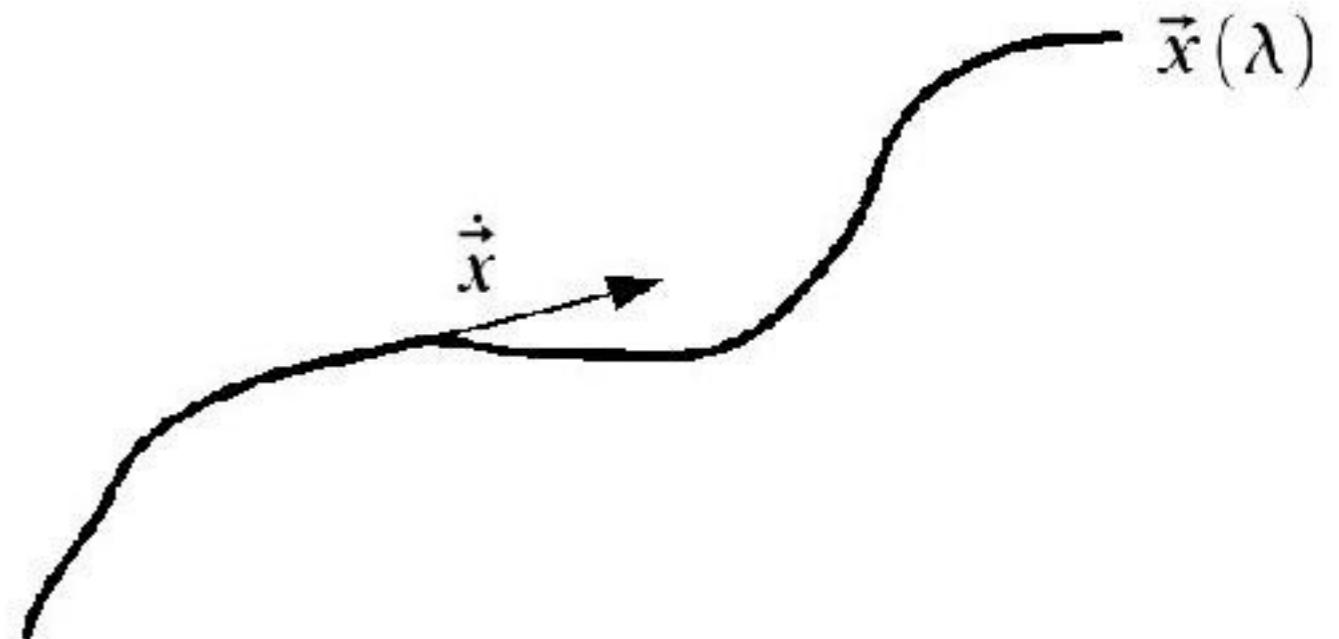
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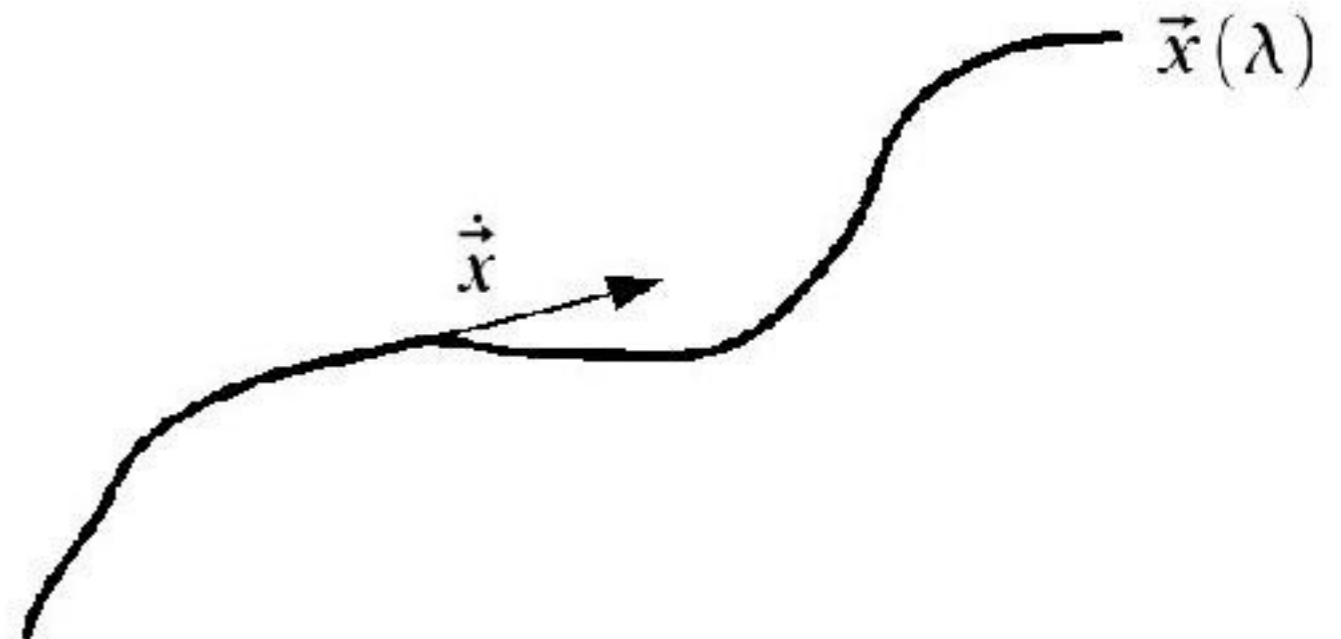
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$$\Rightarrow n \dot{\vec{e}} = \vec{\nabla} n - \vec{e} (\vec{\nabla} n \cdot \vec{e})$$



# DEFLECTION OF LIGHT IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

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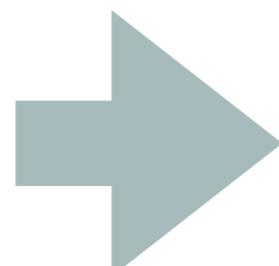
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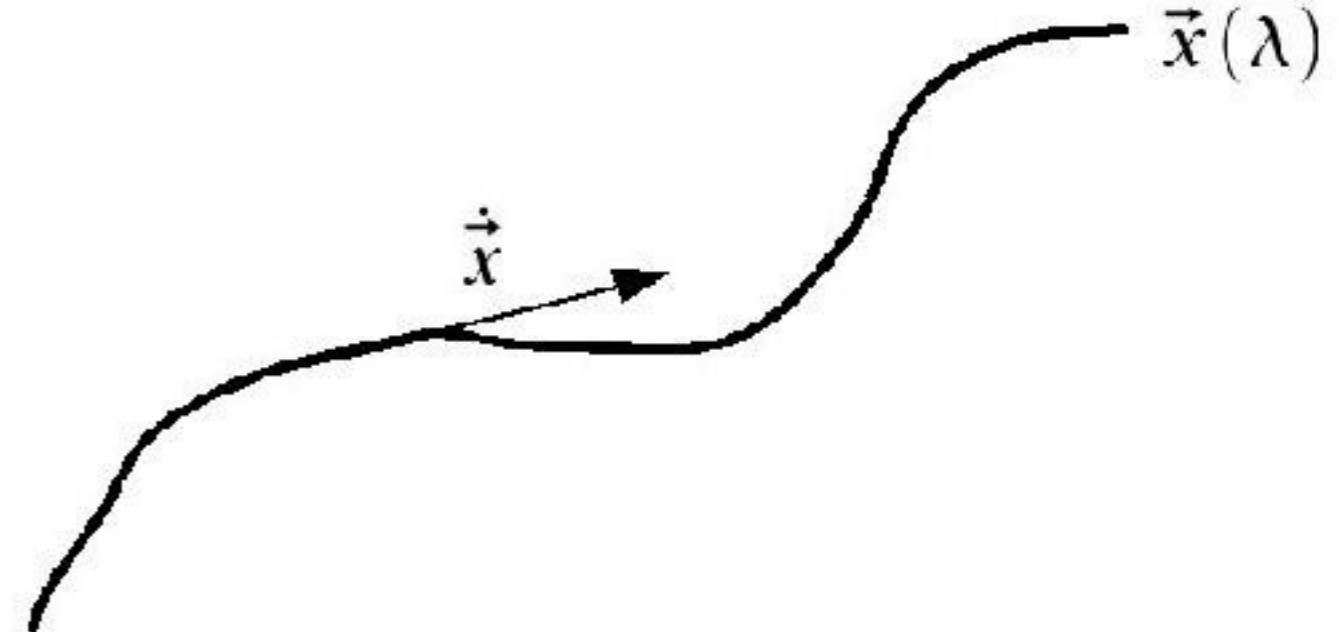
$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\vec{x}}} = n \frac{\dot{\vec{x}}}{|\dot{\vec{x}}|} = n \vec{e}$$

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$$\dot{\vec{e}} = \frac{1}{n} \vec{\nabla}_\perp n = \vec{\nabla}_\perp \ln n$$



# DEFLECTION OF LIGHT IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

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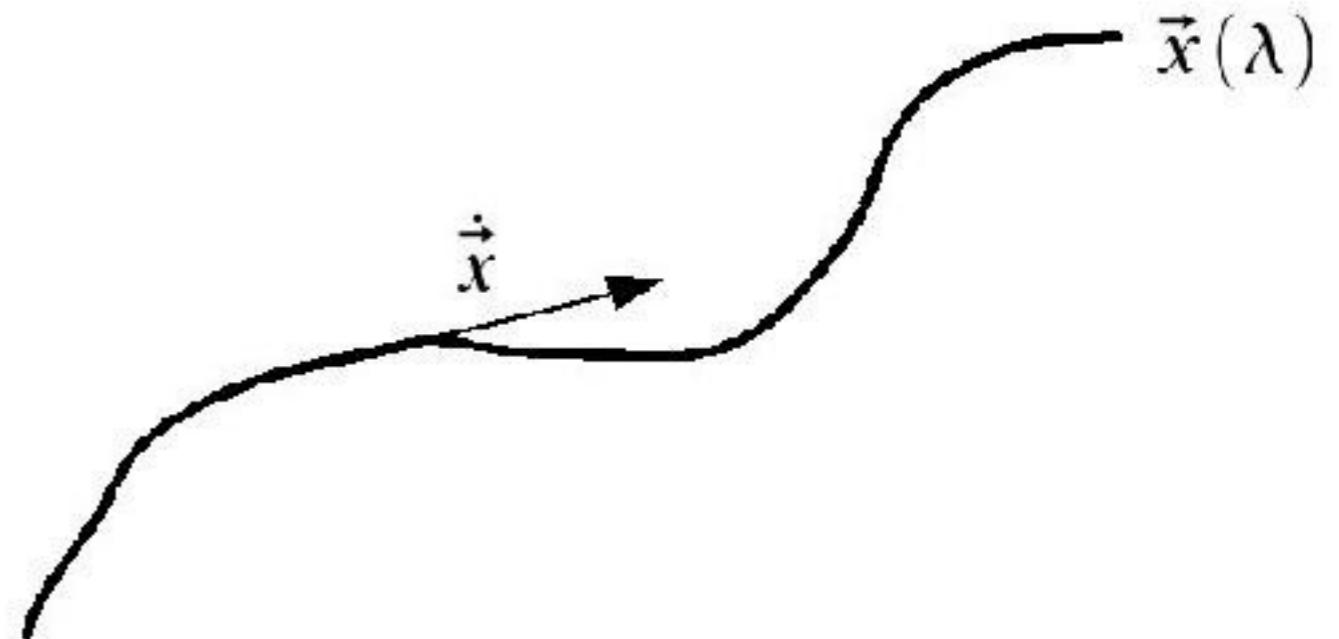
$$\dot{\vec{e}} = \frac{1}{n} \vec{\nabla}_{\perp} n = \vec{\nabla}_{\perp} \ln n$$

$$n = c/c' = 1 - \frac{2\phi}{c^2} \quad \frac{\phi}{c^2} \ll 1$$



$$\ln n \approx -2 \frac{\phi}{c^2}$$

$$\dot{\vec{e}} \approx -\frac{2}{c^2} \vec{\nabla}_{\perp} \Phi$$



$$\hat{\vec{\alpha}} = \frac{2}{c^2} \int_{\lambda_A}^{\lambda_B} \vec{\nabla}_{\perp} \Phi d\lambda$$

*Deflection angle*

# HOW BIG ARE THESE DEFLECTIONS?

---

$$\hat{\vec{a}} = \frac{2}{c^2} \int_{\lambda_A}^{\lambda_B} \vec{\nabla}_\perp \Phi d\lambda$$

*The potential has the dimension of a squared velocity. We can see it as the characteristic velocity of a particle orbiting that potential. Therefore*

- galaxy:  $\sim 200$  km/s
- galaxy cluster:  $\sim 1000$  km/s

*This means that deflections that are astrophysical relevant are very small*

# DEFLECTION OF LIGHT IN GENERAL RELATIVITY

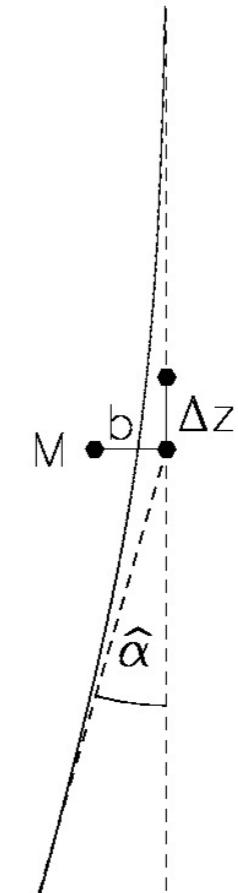
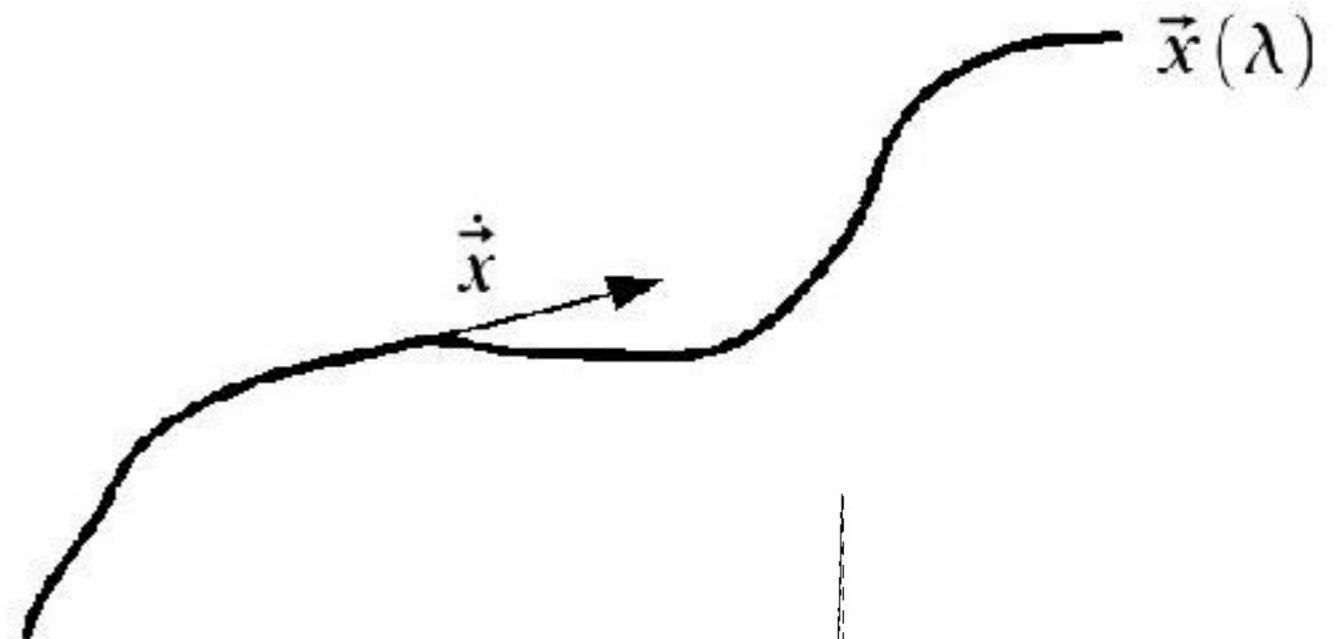
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$$\hat{\vec{\alpha}} = \frac{2}{c^2} \int_{\lambda_A}^{\lambda_B} \vec{\nabla}_{\perp} \Phi d\lambda$$

Good news!

The integral above should be carried out over the actual light path, but it can be approximated by integrating over the straight, undeflected light path (like in Born's approximation of scattering theory).

$$\hat{\vec{\alpha}}(b) = \frac{2}{c^2} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \vec{\nabla}_{\perp} \phi dz$$



# A PARTICULAR CASE: THE POINT MASS

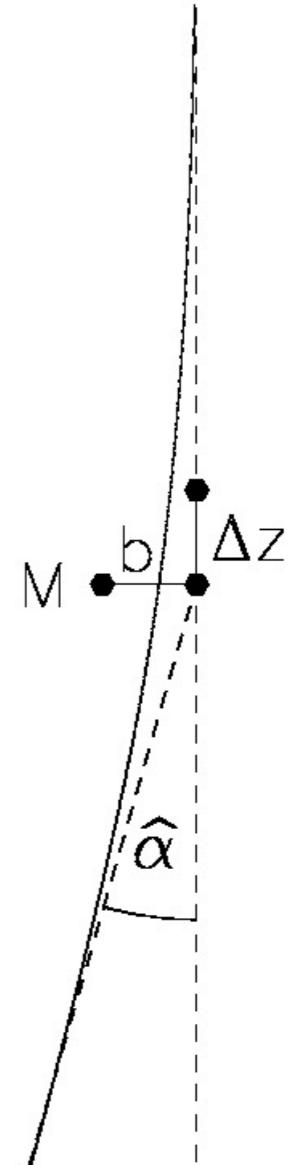
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$$\phi = -\frac{GM}{r}$$

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} = \sqrt{b^2 + z^2}$$

$$\vec{\nabla}_{\perp} \phi = \begin{pmatrix} \partial_x \phi \\ \partial_y \phi \end{pmatrix} = \frac{GM}{r^3} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\vec{\alpha}}(b) &= \frac{2GM}{c^2} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{dz}{(b^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \\ &= \frac{4GM}{c^2} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \left[ \frac{z}{b^2(b^2 + z^2)^{1/2}} \right]_0^\infty = \frac{4GM}{c^2 b} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \phi \\ \sin \phi \end{pmatrix}\end{aligned}$$



# A LIGHT RAY GRAZING THE SURFACE OF THE SUN

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*General relativity:*

$$\hat{\alpha} = \frac{4GM_{\odot}}{c^2R_{\odot}} = 1.75''$$

*Newtonian gravity  
and corpuscular light:*

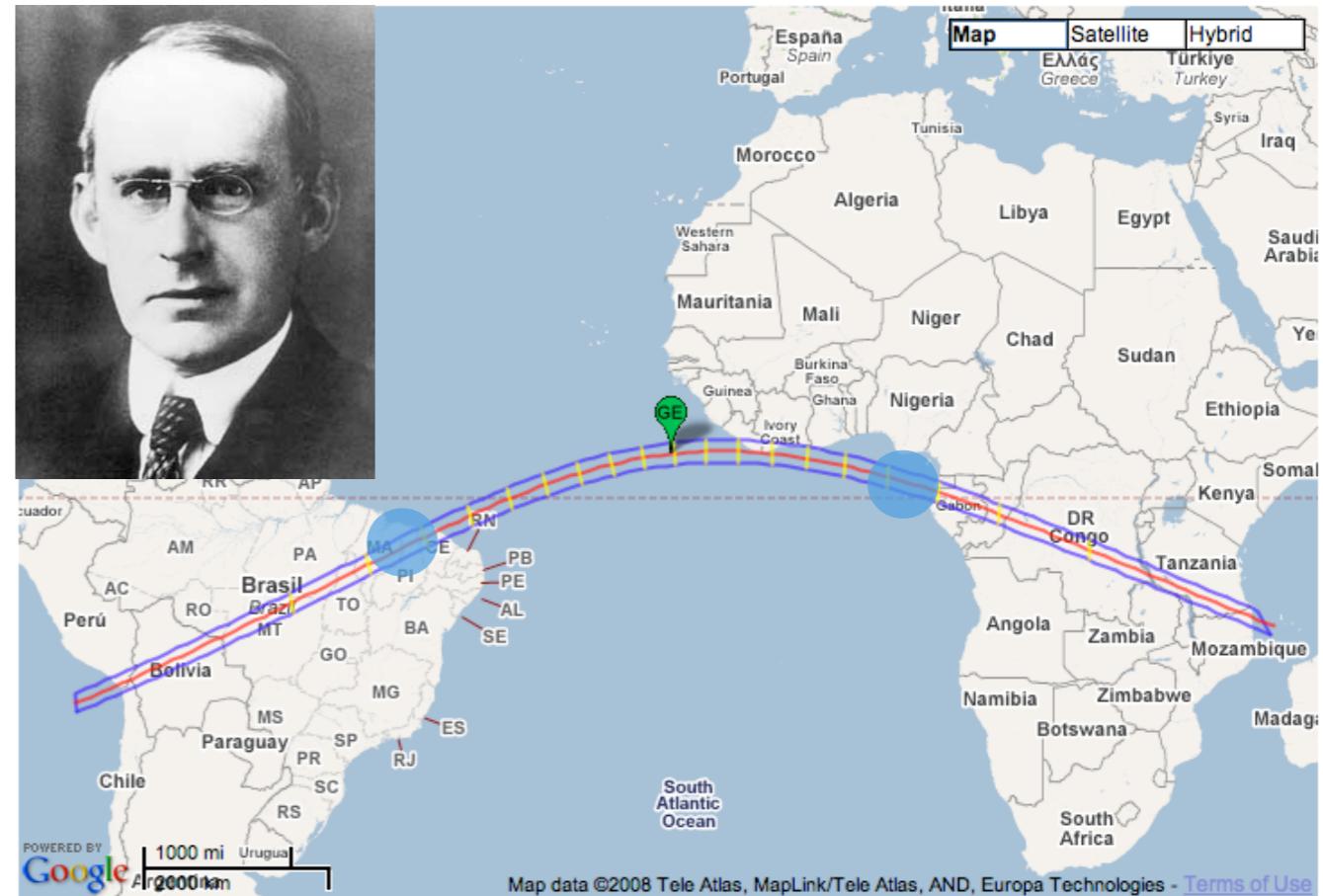
$$\hat{\alpha} = \frac{2GM_{\odot}}{c^2R_{\odot}} = 0.875''$$

*The reason for the factor of 2 difference is that both the space and time coordinates are bent in the vicinity of massive objects — it is four-dimensional space-time which is bent by the Sun.*

# EDDINGTON EXPEDITIONS

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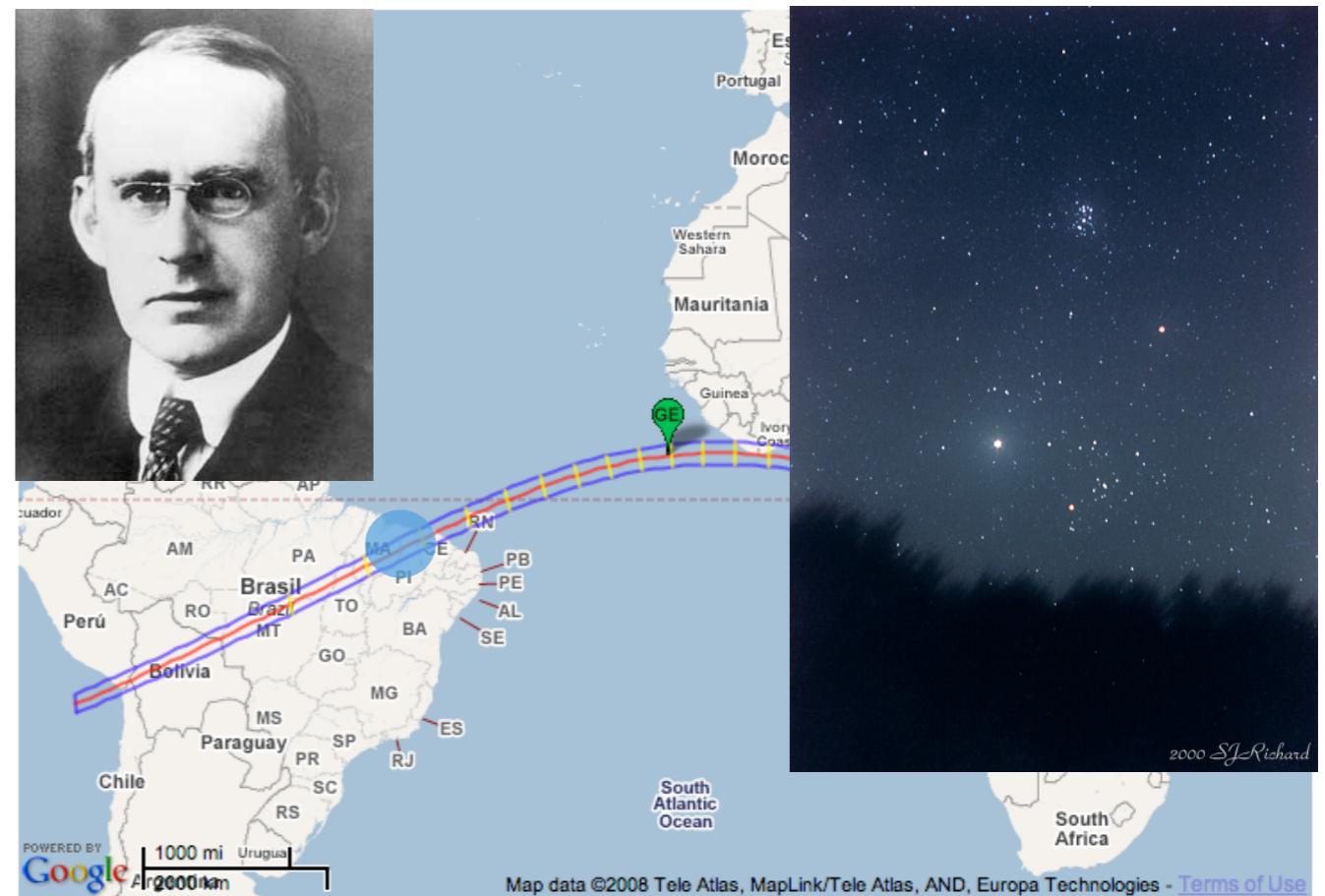
- In 1919 Eddington organized two expeditions to observe a total solar eclipse (Principe Island and Sobral)
- The goal was to measure the lensing effect of the sun on background stars
- Very conveniently, the sun was well aligned with the Iades open cluster
- During the eclipse the expedition from Principe registered a shift in the apparent position of stars with respect to their night-time positions, which resulted to be consistent with the GR predictions
- The Sobral expedition measured a smaller deflection but this was interpreted as the result of a technical problem.



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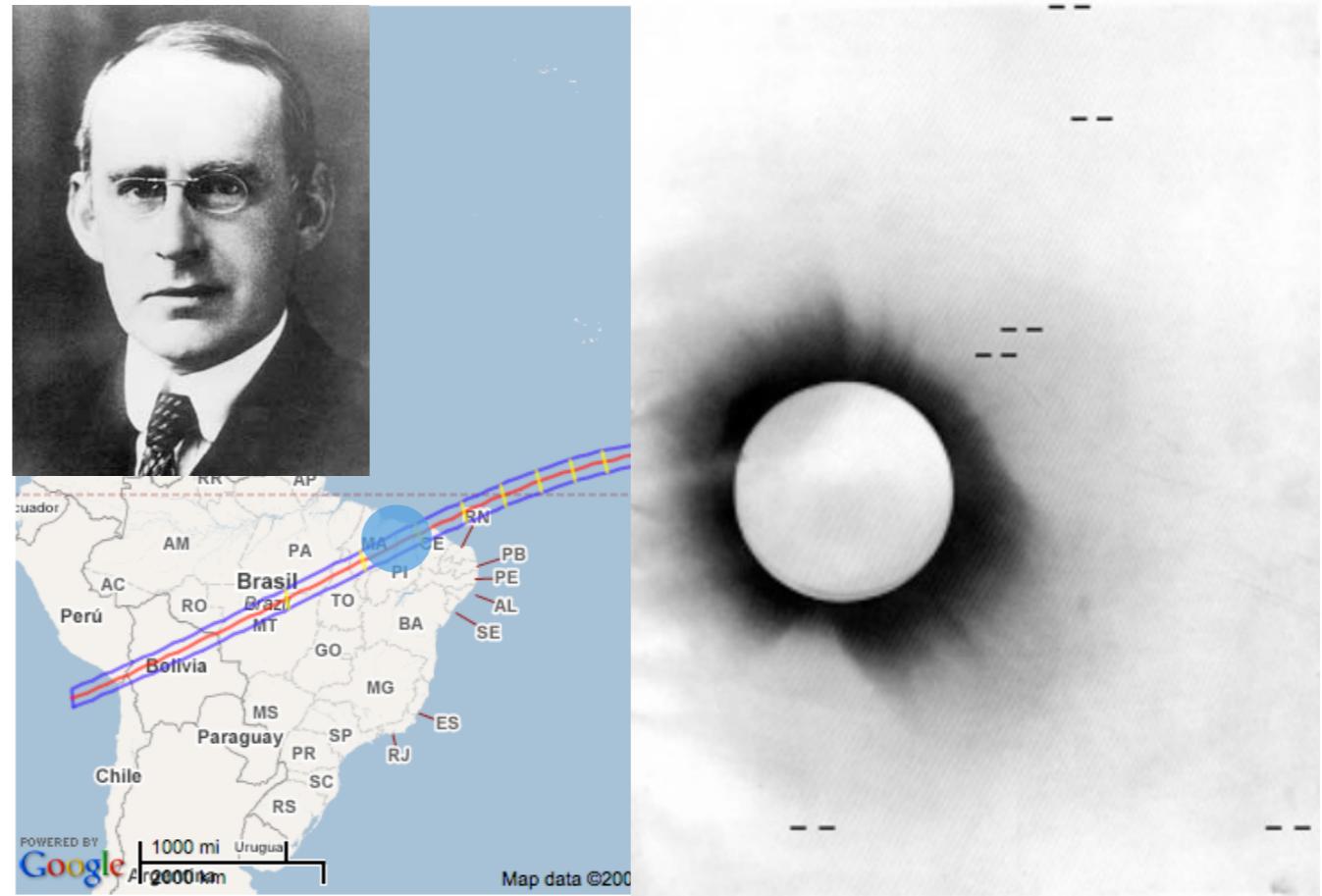
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