

X-ray continuum—iron line time-lags in AGN

The case of MCG–6-30-15, Mrk 766 and NGC 4051

Anastasios Epitropakis

University of Crete

Collaborators: I. Papadakis, M. Dovciak

7th FERO meeting



Ευρωπαϊκή Ένωση
Ευρωπαϊκό Κοινωνικό Ταμείο



ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΠΑΙΔΕΙΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΘΡΗΣΚΕΥΜΑΤΩΝ
ΕΙΔΙΚΗ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ ΔΙΑΧΕΙΡΙΣΗΣ
Με τη συγχρηματοδότηση της Ελλάδας και της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης



Krakow, 28-30 August 2014

Overview

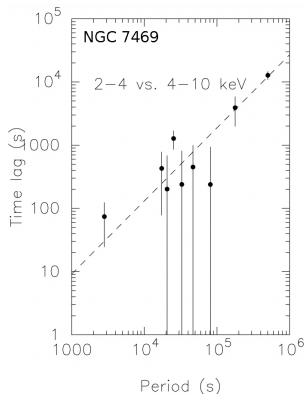
1 Time-lags in AGN X-ray light-curves

- “Hard lags”
- “Soft lags”
- “Fe $K\alpha$ lags”

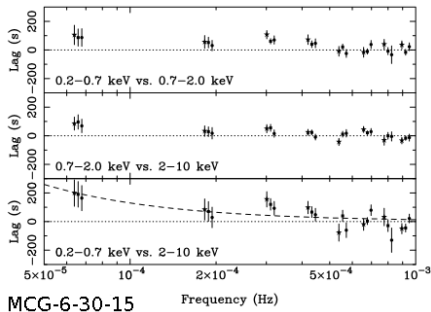
2 Our work

- Outline and methods
- Preliminary results
- Concluding remarks

Early studies: “Hard lags”



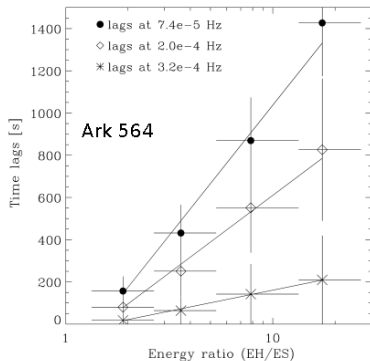
Papadakis *et al.* (2001)



Vaughan *et al.* (2003)

- High energy variations lag behind low energy variations
- Time-lags increase with increasing time-scale

Early studies: “Hard lags”



Arevalo *et al.* (2006)

- At a given time-scale, time-lags increase with increasing energy separation

The quest for reverberation lags

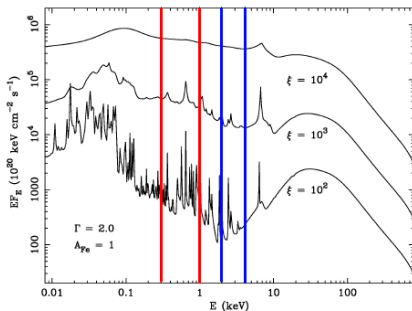
Primary source

+ surrounding material \rightarrow reflection

Choose energy bands representative of “continuum” and reflected emission

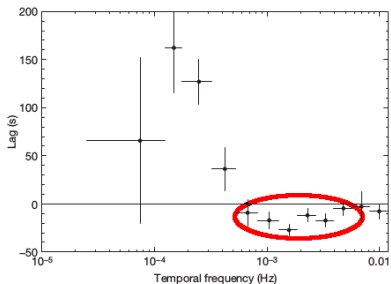
- “Continuum”: $\sim 2 - 4$ keV
- Reflected: $\sim 0.3 - 1$ keV

“Soft” band variations delayed w.r.t. the “continuum” (“soft lags”)

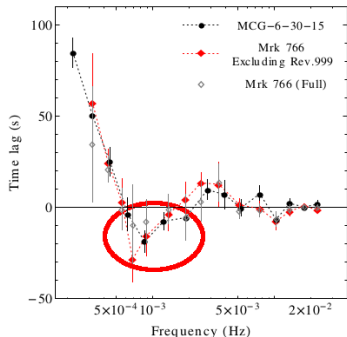


Ross & Fabian (2005)

Detection of “soft lags”



Fabian *et al.* (2009)



Emmanoulopoulos *et al.* (2011)

Detection of “soft lags”

“Soft lags” detected in several sources so far:

- 1H 0707-495 (Fabian *et al.* 2009; Zoghbi *et al.* 2010)
- Mrk 766 (Emmanoulopoulos *et al.* 2011)
- MCG–6-30-15 (Emmanoulopoulos *et al.* 2011)
- PG 1211+143 (De Marco *et al.* 2011)
- Mrk 1040 (Tripathi *et al.* 2011)
- RE J1034+396 (Zoghbi & Fabian 2011)
- NGC 3516 (Turner *et al.* 2011)
- IRAS 13224-3809 (Fabian *et al.* 2012)

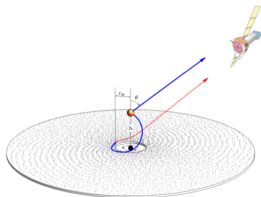
+7 sources: NGC 4395, NGC 4051, NGC 7469, Mrk 335, NGC 6860, NGC 5548, Mrk 841 (De Marco *et al.* 2013)

Detection of “soft lags”

Main results for maximum “soft lag” (De Marco *et al.* 2013):

- $\sim 10 - 600$ s at frequencies $\sim 0.07 - 4 \times 10^{-3}$ Hz
- Linear scaling with black hole mass
- Lag magnitudes indicate sizes $\sim 1 - 10 R_g$

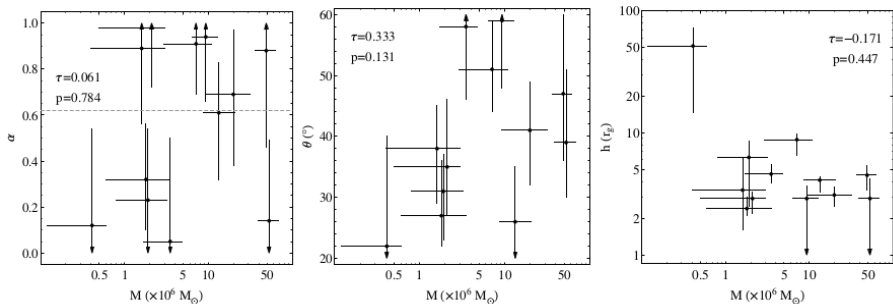
Modelling “soft lags” – the “lamp-post” model



Emmanoulopoulos et al. (2014): “Soft” (0.3 – 1 keV) vs “continuum” (1.5 – 4 keV) lags

- *XMM-Newton*, 12 “unobscured” AGN
- Fully relativistic disc response functions (Fe $K\alpha$; Dovciak *et al.* 2004)
- Free parameters: $\{h, i, a, M_{\text{BH}}\}$
- Assumptions: 1) No reflection in “continuum” band, 2) “soft” band response \sim Fe $K\alpha$ response

Modelling “soft lags” – the “lamp-post” model



Emmanoulopoulos *et al.* (2014)

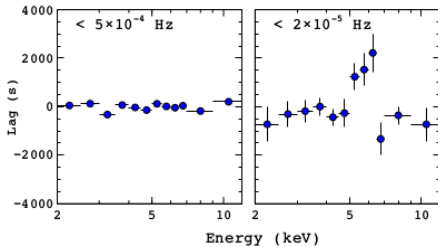
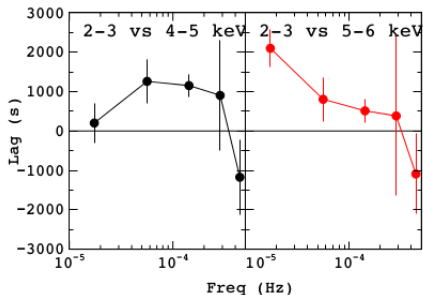
- $\langle a \rangle = 0.62$, $\langle i \rangle = 40^\circ$, $\langle h \rangle = 3.7 R_g$

“Continuum” – iron-line lags

Growing sample of sources with detected “continuum” – iron-line lags

- NGC 4151 (Zoghbi *et al.* 2012)
- Ark 564, Mrk 335 (Kara *et al.* 2013)
- PG 1244+026 (Kara *et al.* 2013)
- 1H 0707-495 (Kara *et al.* 2013)
- IRAS 13224-3809 (Kara *et al.* 2013)
- MCG–5-23-16, NGC 7314 (Zoghbi *et al.* 2013)
- SWIFT J2127.4+5654 (Marinucci *et al.* 2014)

“Continuum” – iron-line lags in NGC 4151



Zoghbi *et al.* (2012)

- “Lag-frequency” spectra show expected behaviour
- “Lag-energy” spectra mimic shape of broad iron-line

Our work: Outline

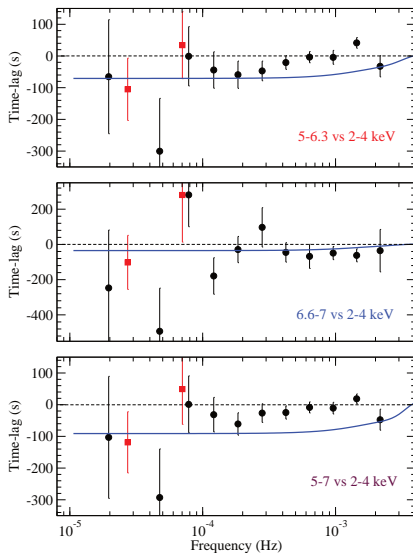
- **Goal:** Detailed study of “continuum” –iron-line lags
- **Plan:** Study a sample of “unobscured” AGN with all available archival *XMM-Newton*, *Suzaku* and *ASCA* data
- Sample selection criteria:
 - X-Ray bright and variable
 - ≥ 0.5 Ms of available archival data
 - $M_{\text{BH}} \leq 2 \times 10^7 M_{\odot}$ (orbital period at ISCO $\lesssim 2$ ks \rightarrow short *Suzaku* & *ASCA* segments)
- **The sample:** 13 sources

Our work: Methods

- Standard Fourier techniques
- Study sampling properties of time-lags (bias, analytic error prescriptions, **prob. distributions**) as a function of
 - Time-lag shape (constant delay, power-law, “top-hat” response)
 - Sampling properties of typical *XMM-Newton*, *Suzaku* and *ASCA* light-curves
 - Frequency binning
 - Light-curve signal-to-noise
- Focus on lags between “continuum” (2 – 4 keV) and three iron-line bands: 5 – 6.3, 6.6 – 7 and 5 – 7 keV
- Model lags using fully relativistic response functions in “lamp-post” geometry (as in Emmanoulopoulos *et al.* 2014), **including reflection in “continuum” band**

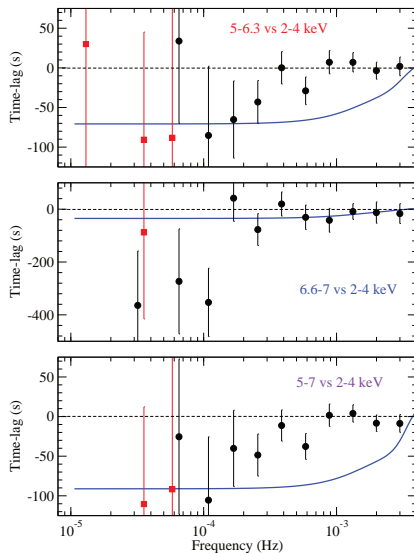
Preliminary results: MCG–6-30-15

- **Circles:** *XMM-Newton* data (100 s bins)
- **Squares:** *Suzaku* data (orbital period bins)
- **Cont. line:** Reverberation with $M_{\text{BH}} = 2 \times 10^6 M_{\odot}$, $a = 0.676$, $h = 3.6 R_g$ and $i = 40^\circ$



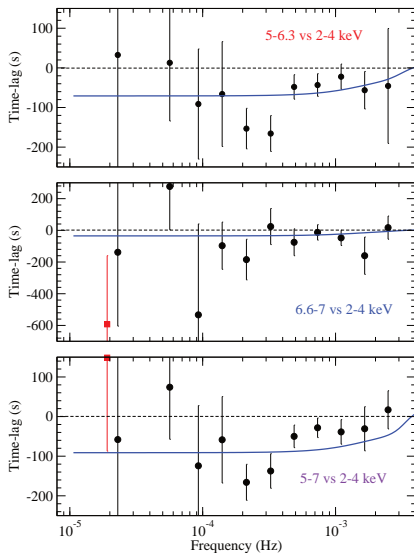
Preliminary results: NGC 4051

- **Circles:** *XMM-Newton* data (100 s bins)
- **Squares:** *Suzaku* data (orbital period bins)
- **Cont. line:** Reverberation with $M_{\text{BH}} = 2 \times 10^6 M_{\odot}$, $a = 0.676$, $h = 3.6 R_g$ and $i = 40^\circ$



Preliminary results: Mrk 766

- **Circles:** *XMM-Newton* data (100 s bins)
- **Squares:** *Suzaku* data (orbital period bins)
- **Cont. line:** Reverberation with $M_{\text{BH}} = 2 \times 10^6 M_{\odot}$, $a = 0.676$, $h = 3.6 R_g$ and $i = 40^\circ$



Concluding remarks: Status

- Data reduction complete
- Study of time-lag sampling properties using Fourier techniques almost complete
- Detailed model fitting of lags pending
- Future extensions: Detailed study of time-lag sampling properties using Maximum Likelihood method (e.g. Miller *et al.* 2010)
 - Crucial for high-frequency input from *Suzaku* and *ASCA* light-curves