

# Moving black holes: energy extraction, absorption cross-section and the ring of fire

Vitor Cardoso<sup>1,2</sup> and Rodrigo Vicente<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Centro de Astrofísica e Gravitação - CENTRA, Departamento de Física,  
Instituto Superior Técnico - IST, Universidade de Lisboa - UL,  
Avenida Rovisco Pais 1, 1049-001 Lisboa, Portugal*

<sup>2</sup>*Theoretical Physics Department, CERN 1 Esplanade des Particules, Geneva 23, CH-1211, Switzerland*

We consider the interaction between a plane wave and a (counter-moving) black hole. We show that energy is transferred from the black hole to the wave, giving rise to a *negative* absorption cross-section. Moving black holes absorb radiation *and* deposit energy in external radiation. Due to this effect, a black hole of mass  $M$  moving at relativistic speeds in a cold medium will appear to be surrounded by a bright “ring” of diameter  $3\sqrt{3}GM/c^2$  and thickness  $\sim GM/c^2$ .

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