

Asymmetric thin-shell wormholes in the Kalb-Ramond background: Observational characteristics and extra photon rings*

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Abstract: In this paper, we utilize the ray-tracing method to conduct an in-depth study of the observational images of asymmetric thin-shell wormholes in the Kalb-Ramond field. Initially, we calculate the null geodesics and effective potential energy of the asymmetric thin-shell wormhole and investigate the variations in the photon sphere radius and critical impact parameter under different values of charge Q and Lorentz-violation parameter l . Based on these calculations, we determine the photon deflection angles and trajectories within this space-time structure. Specifically, depending on the photon impact parameters, the photon trajectories can be categorized into three types. By using a thin accretion disk as the sole background light source and incorporating two classical observational radiation models, we find that under conditions of equal mass M , charge quantity Q , and Lorentz-violation parameter l , asymmetric thin-shell wormholes exhibit unique observational features, such as additional lensing rings and photon ring clusters. Furthermore, distinct from black holes, as the charge quantity Q and Lorentz-violation parameter l increase, the coverage area of the specific additional halo expands correspondingly.

Keywords: Kalb-Ramond, asymmetric thin-shell wormhole, observational characteristics, Lorentz-violation

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I. INTRODUCTION

In 2015, the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) made the first detection of gravitational waves, directly confirming the existence of binary stellar-mass black holes—a landmark achievement in astrophysics [1]. Subsequently, in 2019, the Event Horizon Telescope (EHT) released images of the supermassive black holes at the centers of the M87 galaxy and Sgr A [2], providing further evidence for the existence of such supermassive black holes. The black hole images display a central dark region surrounded by a bright ring; the dark area results from the black hole's intense gravity bending and capturing light, preventing it from reaching distant observers, thus forming what is known as the black hole shadow. Within the shadow, the bright ring contains a very thin, embedded ring—commonly referred to as the photon ring—which theoretically corresponds to the so-called "critical curve" [3].

The study of black hole shadows has always been a hot topic in the field of physics [4–12]. Synge was the first to calculate and determine the boundary of the black hole shadow, while Lunmet pioneered the study of the angular radius equation for the photon capture region in a

Schwarzschild black hole [13, 14]. Falcke demonstrated that the shadow of Sgr A* could be observed via very long-baseline interferometry at sub-millimeter wavelengths, under the assumption that the accretion flow is optically thin in this spectral region [15]. Additionally, extensive research has been conducted on the signature of modified theory of gravity on the photon sphere and shadow, and some meaningful progress has been achieved [16, 17]. Although the EHT's observations are largely consistent with the black hole shadow predictions of General Relativity, they do not rule out the existence of certain Ultra-Compact Objects (UCOs) [18–20]. In fact, objects such as wormholes and boson stars could potentially cast shadows very similar to those of black holes [21–26]. Consequently, finding methods to effectively distinguish UCOs from black holes has become a crucial research direction.

Interestingly, Visser proposed a novel construction known as the Thin-Shell Wormhole, which connects two distinct space-times via a throat, allowing for potential traversal [27, 28]. Building upon this theoretical framework, Wang investigated the optical appearance of an asymmetric thin-shell wormhole (ATSW) [29] and revealed that its shadow is consistently smaller than that

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produced by a black hole—a significant result that provides favorable support for the direct observation of wormholes. Subsequent research has primarily focused on the double shadow phenomenon generated by ATSWs. The presence of this double shadow may offer an alternative method for indirectly observing ATSWs [30, 31]. Observational results of these dual shadows could not only test predictions of General Relativity but they do enhance our understanding of gravitational effects and space-time curvature [32–36]. Furthermore, Peng et al. concentrated on the observational signatures of accretion disks and the additional photon rings around a Schwarzschild ATSW [37]. These features can likewise serve as a method to distinguish ATSWs from black holes. Beyond this, other researchers have studied the observational appearance of wormholes in Hayward space-time and the appearance of a freely falling star within an ATSW [38–41]. Inspired by these studies, this paper investigates the observational characteristics of an ATSW surrounded by an accretion disk within the context of Kalb-Ramond (KR) gravity.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. In Section II, an ATSW is constructed within the KR field. We investigate its geodesics and effective potential and subsequently calculate the deflection and trajectories of photons in this ATSW space-time. Section III examines the transfer functions and observational appearances of both a BH and ATSW, each surrounded by a thin accretion disk and under the same mass parameter, for two emission models. Finally, our conclusions are presented in Section IV.

II. NULL GEODESICS AND EFFECTIVE POTENTIAL OF AN ATSW IN THE KALB-RAMOND FIELD

In the 1970s, Kalb and Ramond introduced the concept of an antisymmetric tensor field [42]. The KR field is a second-rank antisymmetric tensor [43–48]. It plays a significant role in theoretical physics by not only extending the understanding of gauge fields in quantum field theory but also being applied to advanced research areas, such as string theory and dark matter. In recent years, substantial progress has been made in this field, with researchers having derived Schwarzschild-like and rotating black hole solutions within the KR field framework [49]. Our study begins from the action of the KR field to conduct further investigation:

$$S = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[R - 2\Lambda - \frac{1}{6} H^{\mu\nu\rho} H_{\mu\nu\rho} - V(B^{\mu\nu} B_{\mu\nu} \pm b^2) \right] + \xi_1 B^{\rho\mu} B_{\mu}^{\nu} R_{\rho\nu} + \xi_2 B^{\mu\nu} B_{\mu\nu} R + \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \mathcal{L}_N, \quad (1)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} B^{\mu\nu} B_{\mu\nu} &= \mp b^2, \\ \mathcal{L}_N &= -\frac{1}{2} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} - \eta B^{\alpha\beta} B^{\gamma\rho} F_{\alpha\beta} F_{\gamma\rho}, \\ F_{\mu\nu} &= \partial_{\mu} A_{\nu} - \partial_{\nu} A_{\mu}, \\ \tilde{H}^{\mu\nu\rho} \tilde{H}_{\mu\nu\rho} &= H^{\mu\nu\rho} H_{\mu\nu\rho} + 2H^{\mu\nu\rho} A_{[\mu} F_{\nu\rho]} + A^{[\mu} F^{\nu\rho]} A_{[\mu} F_{\nu\rho]}. \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

In the theoretical framework, R denotes the Ricci scalar, η and ξ_1, ξ_2 are coupling constants representing the non-minimal coupling terms between gravity and the KR field, while $\mathcal{L}_N$ refers to the Lagrangian of the electromagnetic field. In our previous work, we investigated the influence of the charge Q and Lorentz-violation parameter l on black hole shadows [50]. Specifically, that study focused on a KR black hole surrounded by a thin accretion disk. It was found that an increase in the charge Q and Lorentz-violation parameter l leads to a reduction in the size of the black hole shadow, as well as in the direct image, lensing ring, and photon ring. The present research shifts focus to the optical characteristics of an ATSW within the KR framework. This investigation is motivated by two key aspects: First, previous studies on Bardeen-type ATSWs have shown that the magnetic charge g significantly affects their optical appearance [39]. This intriguing result prompts us to examine whether the charge Q and Lorentz-violation parameter l similarly induce changes in the optical appearance of the KR field ATSW, analogous to the case of a KR black hole [51]. Second, we aim to determine whether shadow-related characteristics can provide a viable method for distinguishing an ATSW from a black hole.

The ATSW consists of two space-times with distinct mass parameters, M_1 and M_2 , connected by a thin shell (ie, the throat), with the entire ATSW manifold denoted by $M = M_1 \cup M_2$. Based on Eq. (1), with the cosmological constant Λ set to zero, we can derive the following equation [49]:

$$ds_i^2 = -F_i(r_i) dt_i^2 + \frac{1}{F_i(r_i)} dr_i^2 + r_i^2 (d\theta_i^2 + \sin^2 \theta_i d\phi_i^2). \quad (3)$$

The metric function can be expressed as

$$F_i(r_i) = \frac{1}{1-l} - \frac{2M_i}{r_i} + \frac{Q^2}{(1-l)^2 r_i^2}. \quad (4)$$

Here, M , Q , and l represent the black hole's mass, charge, and Lorentz-violation parameter, respectively. Expanding Eq. (4) as a Taylor series in small l yields

$$F_i(r_i) = \left(1 + \frac{Q^2}{r_i^2} - \frac{2M_i}{r_i}\right) + \left(1 + \frac{2Q^2}{r_i^2}\right)l + \left(1 + \frac{3Q^2}{r_i^2}\right)l^2, \quad (5)$$

$$r_i \geq R.$$

Here, $i = 1, 2$ denotes the two space-time region, and R represents the position of the thin shell and satisfies the condition $R > \max\{r_{h_1}, r_{h_2}\}$, where r_{h_1} and r_{h_2} represent the event horizon radii of black holes with mass parameters M_1 and M_2 , respectively. Considering that gravity is the sole interaction as photons traverse the throat, energy p_t and axial angular momentum p_ϕ are all conserved.

Because the space-time is symmetric, we choose the plane $\theta = \pi/2$ (passing through the coordinate origin) for analysis; photons then possess two conserved quantities: $E_i = -p_t$ (energy) and $L_i = p_\phi$ (angular momentum) when propagating along geodesics, and their motion satisfies the geodesic equations

$$\frac{(p_i^r)^2}{F_i(r_i)} + \frac{p_\phi^2}{r_i^2} = \frac{p_t^2}{F_i(r_i)}, \quad (6)$$

where $p_i^r = dx^r/d\lambda$ represents the four-momentum of the photon in the space-time, and λ represents the affine parameter. It is conventional to redefine the affine parameter using the conserved energy as $\lambda = \lambda/E$, which allows the impact parameter b — a dimensionless quantity characterizing the photon's trajectory — to be precisely defined as the ratio of the conserved angular momentum to the conserved energy: $b = |L|/E$ [38, 39]. Based on these relations, we derive the following expression:

$$p_i^r = \pm E_i \sqrt{1 - \frac{b_i^2}{r_i^2} F_i(r_i)}. \quad (7)$$

In Eq. (7), $+$ and $-$ represent the photon's outgoing and incoming directions, respectively. Consequently, we can derive the effective potential for an ATSW in the KR field as

$$V_{\text{eff}_i}(r_i) = \frac{F_i(r_i)}{r_i^2} = \frac{1}{r_i^2} \left(1 + \frac{Q^2}{r_i^2} - \frac{2M_i}{r_i}\right) + \frac{1}{r_i^2} \left(1 + \frac{2Q^2}{r_i^2}\right)l + \frac{1}{r_i^2} \left(1 + \frac{3Q^2}{r_i^2}\right)l^2. \quad (8)$$

For a photon to move on a circular orbit, the orbit must satisfy the conditions for an extremum of the effective potential

$$V_{\text{eff}_i}(r_{\text{ph}_i}) = \frac{1}{b_{c_i}^2}, \quad V'_{\text{eff}_i}(r_{\text{ph}_i}) = 0, \quad \left. \frac{d^2 V_{\text{eff}_i}(r_{\text{ph}_i})}{dr^2} \right|_{r=r_{\text{ph}_i}} < 0. \quad (9)$$

Here, b_{c_i} and r_{ph_i} denote the critical impact parameter and photon sphere radius, respectively. When the condition $b = b_c$ is satisfied — meaning the light ray's impact parameter is infinitely close to the radius of the photon sphere — the ray will orbit the black hole infinitely many times.

The stability of this orbit is determined by the sign of the second derivative. An unstable circular orbit, which defines the photon sphere, corresponds to a local maximum. By combining Eqs. (5) and (9), we obtain the following expressions for r_{ph_i} and b_{c_i} :

$$r_{\text{ph}_i} = \frac{3M_i + \sqrt{9M_i^2 - 4\mathcal{A}\mathcal{A}(2Q^2 + 4Q^2l + 6Q^2l^2)}}{2\mathcal{A}\mathcal{A}}, \quad (10)$$

$$b_{c_i} = \frac{\sqrt{-27M_i^4 + 36M_i^2Q^2\mathcal{B}\mathcal{B} - 8Q^4\mathcal{B}\mathcal{B}^2 - 9M_i^3\sqrt{9M_i^2 - 8Q^2\mathcal{B}\mathcal{B}} + 8M_iQ^2\mathcal{B}\mathcal{B}\sqrt{9M_i^2 - 8Q^2\mathcal{B}\mathcal{B}}}}{\sqrt{2}\sqrt{\mathcal{A}\mathcal{A}(-M_i^2 + Q^2\mathcal{B}\mathcal{B})}}, \quad (11)$$

where

$$\mathcal{A}\mathcal{A} = 1 + l + l^2, \quad \mathcal{B}\mathcal{B} = 1 + 3l + 6l^2 + 5l^3 + 3l^4. \quad (12)$$

This leads to the expression for the area S_{p_i} enclosed by the photon sphere radius in the two-dimensional plane

$$S_{p_i} = \pi r_{\text{ph}_i}^2. \quad (13)$$

The primary objective of this paper is to investigate a

method for distinguishing an ATSW from a black hole within the KR field, specifically under the condition where the event horizon is enclosed by the photon sphere. To this end, we assume an observer is situated in the space-time with mass parameter $M_1 = 1$, and the mass parameter of the other space-time M_2 is set to $M_2 = k$. Under this configuration, parameter k and throat radius R must satisfy the following conditions [29, 37]:

$$1 < k < \frac{R}{2} \leq \frac{r_{\text{ph}_1}}{2}. \quad (14)$$

In essence, within the valid range of parameter k , its specific value does not qualitatively affect the subsequent results and discussion. Therefore, we adopt the approach used in prior studies and set the value of $k = 1.2$ [30, 37]. The local tetrad frames in the neighborhood of the thin-shell wormhole in spacetime $M_{1,2}$ can be expressed as

$$\mathbf{e}_{t_i}^a \equiv F_i^{-\frac{1}{2}}(R) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t_i} \right)^a, \quad \mathbf{e}_{r_i}^a \equiv \sqrt{F_i}(R) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial r_i} \right)^a, \quad (15)$$

which are then related by the Lorentz transformation [52]

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{e}_{t_2}^a \\ \mathbf{e}_{r_2}^a \end{pmatrix} = \Lambda(\theta_1 - \theta_2) \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{e}_{t_1}^a \\ \mathbf{e}_{r_1}^a \end{pmatrix}. \quad (16)$$

We define $\Lambda(\theta_i)$ and θ_i within the range as follows:

$$\Lambda(\theta_i) = \begin{pmatrix} \cosh \theta_i & \sinh \theta_i \\ \sinh \theta_i & \cosh \theta_i \end{pmatrix}, \quad \theta_i = \sinh^{-1} \left(\frac{\epsilon_i \dot{R}}{\sqrt{F_i(R)}} \right). \quad (17)$$

Here, $\dot{R}$ denotes the velocity of the moving thin shell. By definition, the metric of spacetime M_i is continuous (*i.e.*, $\mathbf{g}_{ab}^{M_1}(R) = \mathbf{g}_{ab}^{M_2}(R)$) [29, 53]. Consequently, the two conserved quantities $E_i = -p_{t_i}$ and $L_i = p_{\phi_i}$ along the geodesic are expressed as

$$-\frac{E_2}{\sqrt{F_2(R)}} = -\frac{\cosh(\theta_1 - \theta_2)}{\sqrt{F_1(R)}} E_1 + \frac{\sinh(\theta_1 - \theta_2)}{\sqrt{F_1(R)}} p_R^{r_1}, \quad L_1 = L_2. \quad (18)$$

Here, $p_R^{r_1}$ denotes the value of p^{r_1} on the thin shell. By further combining Eqs. (7) and (18), the relationship between the impact parameters b_1 and b_2 for spacetimes M_1 and M_2 can be derived as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{b_1}{b_2} &= \sqrt{\frac{F_2(R)}{F_1(R)}} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{\left(1 + \frac{Q^2}{R^2} - \frac{2M_2}{R}\right) + \left(1 + \frac{2Q^2}{R^2}\right)l + \left(1 + \frac{3Q^2}{R^2}\right)l^2}{\left(1 + \frac{Q^2}{R^2} - \frac{2M_1}{R}\right) + \left(1 + \frac{2Q^2}{R^2}\right)l + \left(1 + \frac{3Q^2}{R^2}\right)l^2}} \\ &\equiv Z. \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

To study the effects of charge Q and Lorentz-violation parameter l on the photon sphere radius r_{ph_i} and critical collision parameter b_{c_i} , calculations were conducted us-

ing the formula for a photon sphere radius with $M_1 = 1$ and $M_2 = 1.2$. The results are shown in Tables 1 and 2. The variations of the photon sphere radius and its corresponding area with respect to the charge Q and Lorentz-violation parameter l are plotted in Figs. 1 and 2. Based on the relevant research, the charge Q is limited to the range of 0 to 0.5, and the Lorentz-violation parameter l is limited to the range of 0 to 0.1. It was observed that when $Q = 0$ and $l = 0$, the scenario corresponds to the Schwarzschild ATSW, and when $l = 0$, it corresponds to the Reissner-Nordström case. From Figs. 1 and 2 and Tables 1 and 2, it is observed that the impact parameter b_{c_i} , photon sphere radius r_{p_i} , and the corresponding enclosed area S_{p_i} decrease with increasing charge Q and Lorentz-violation parameter l .

The effective potential energies of BH and ATSW in the KR field are depicted in Figs. 3 and 4, respectively. By examining the effective potential energy of BH (with charge $Q = 0.3$) in Figs. 3 (a) and 4 (a), we discern three distinct photon trajectories, as illustrated in the diagram on the lower right side. For the scenario where $l = 0.01$ and $Q = 0.1$, as shown by the black line in Fig. 3, when $b_1 > b_{c_1} = 5.11841$, the gravitational influence results in the deflection of the photon trajectory. When $b_1 = b_{c_1}$, the photon will perpetually orbit around the BH in a circular path. When $b_1 < b_{c_1}$, due to the intense gravitational

Table 1. Variation of photon sphere radius r_{p_i} and critical impact parameter b_{c_i} with respect to charge Q , in KR spacetime with Lorentz violation parameter $l = 0.01$. The charge values are taken as $Q = 0, 0.1, 0.3, 0.5$. The discussion covers two spacetime configurations with mass parameters $M_1 = 1$ and $M_2 = 1.2$.

Q	0	0.1	0.3	0.5
b_{c_1}	2.97	2.96319	2.90474	2.78891
r_{p_1}	5.11841	5.1096	5.0378	4.8863
b_{c_2}	3.564	3.55833	3.51224	3.41614
r_{p_2}	6.1421	6.13476	6.07531	5.95206

Table 2. Variation of photon sphere radius r_{p_i} and critical impact parameter b_{c_i} with respect to Lorentz-violation parameter l , in KR spacetime with ATSW (charge $Q = 0.3$). The values of the Lorentz-violation parameter l are taken as $l = 0, 0.01, 0.05, 0.1$. The analysis was conducted for two distinct spacetime configurations with mass parameters $M_1 = 1$ and $M_2 = 1.2$.

l	0	0.01	0.05	0.1
b_{c_1}	2.93875	2.90747	2.78228	2.62677
r_{p_1}	5.11679	5.0378	4.72632	4.34993
b_{c_2}	3.54929	3.51224	3.36413	3.18053
r_{p_2}	6.16962	6.07531	5.70357	5.25473

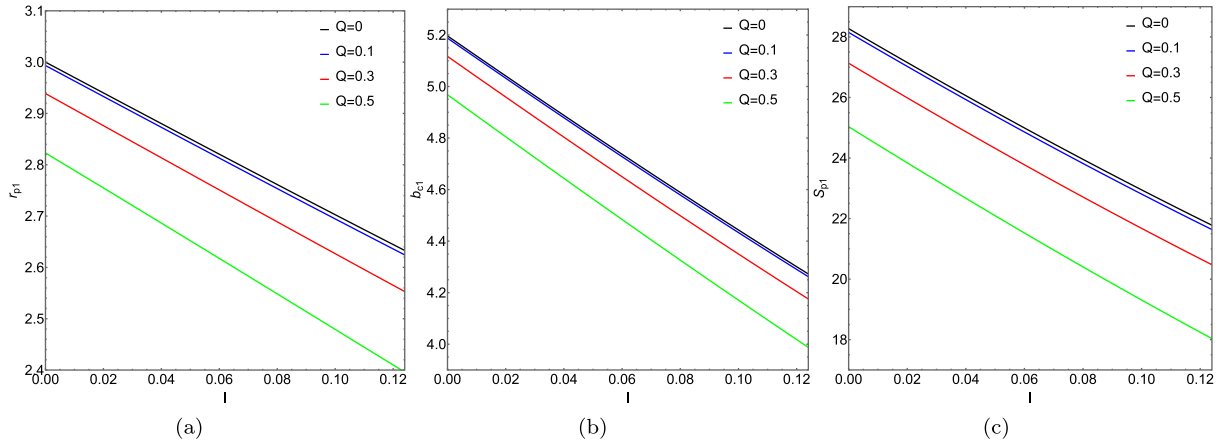


Fig. 1. (color online) In spacetime M_1 , panels (a), (b), and (c) respectively depict the variation of the photon sphere radius r_{p1} , impact parameter b_{c1} , and enclosed area S_{p1} of the photon sphere with the Lorentz-violation parameter l .

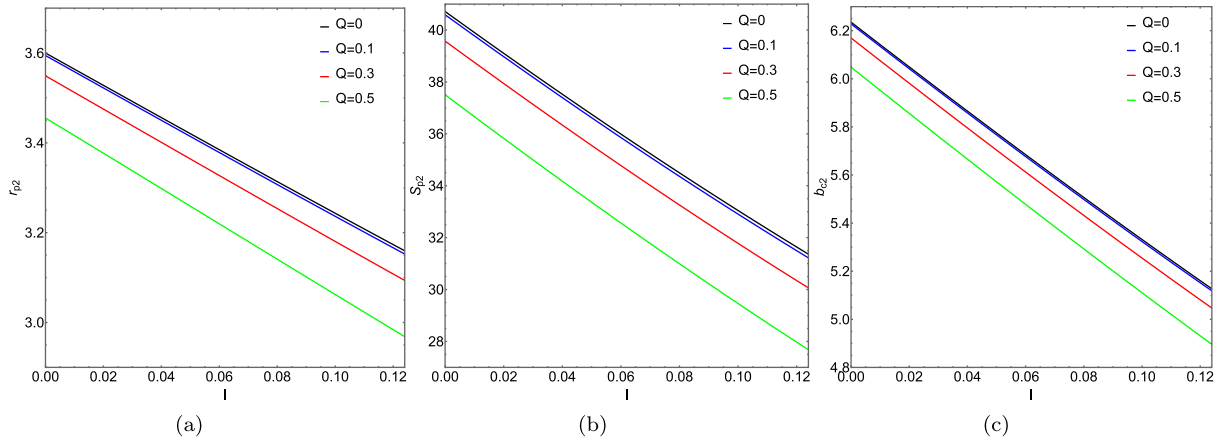


Fig. 2. (color online) In spacetime M_2 , panels (a), (b), and (c) respectively depict the variation of the photon sphere radius r_{p2} , impact parameter b_{c2} , and area S_{p2} enclosed by the photon sphere with Lorentz-violation parameter l .

force, the photon will directly plunge into the BH. Furthermore, it is noted that with increasing charge Q and Lorentz-violation parameter l , the effective potential energy of the BH also rises, and the position corresponding to the peak shifts inward.

In Figs. 3 (b) and 4 (b), we plot the effective potential of the ATSW as a function of the Lorentz-violation parameter l for a fixed charge $Q = 0.1$. The dashed line on the left corresponds to spacetime M_2 , while the solid line on the right corresponds to spacetime M_1 . The effective potential of spacetime M_2 is constrained by a factor of Z^2 . From the observations of Figs. 3 (b) and 4 (b), we note that, for a given charge Q or Lorentz-violation parameter l , photons exhibit three distinct trajectories [3]. For the case where $l = 0.1$ and $Q = 0.1$, as indicated by the black line in Fig. 3 (b): When $b_1 < Zb_{c1} = 3.708$, the photon falls from spacetime M_1 into spacetime M_2 and moves toward infinity. When $Zb_{c2} < b_1 < b_{c1} = 5.11841$, the photon enters the potential barrier in spacetime M_2 and then returns to spacetime M_1 . When $b_1 < Zb_{c2}$, the photon moves to the potential barrier in spacetime M_1

and then travels toward infinity in M_1 .

To better understand the optical characteristics of the ATSW in the KR field, we calculated the azimuthal change and trajectory of photons in spacetime M_i and derived the photon trajectory equation based on Eq. (6) as follows:

$$\frac{1}{b_i^2} - \frac{f_i(r_i)}{r_i^2} = \frac{1}{r_i^4} \left(\frac{dr_i}{d\phi} \right)^2. \quad (20)$$

To simplify the calculation process, we introduced the substitution $x = 1/r$ and derived a new photon trajectory equation

$$G_i(x_i) = \left(\frac{dx_i}{d\phi} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{b_i^2} - x_i^2 \left[(1 + Q^2 x_i^2 - 2M_i x_i) + (1 + 2Q^2 x_i^2)l + (1 + 3Q^2 x_i^2)l^2 \right]. \quad (21)$$

When $b_1 > b_{c1} = 5.11841$, the photon moves to the potential barrier in spacetime M_1 and subsequently remains

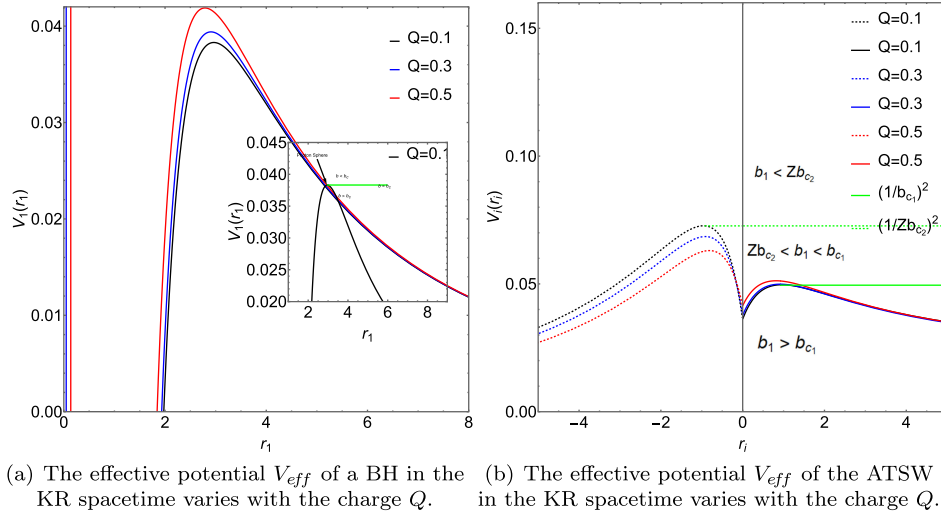


Fig. 3. (color online) With Lorentz-violation parameter $l = 0.01$, we analyze the effective potentials of the BH and ATSW in the KR field as functions of Q . The left plot shows the effective potential for BH, while the right plot displays that for ATSW. Various Q values are considered, specifically, $Q = 0, 0.1, 0.3, 0.5$. In the right plot, the solid and dashed lines correspond to the effective potentials for M_1 and M_2 , respectively, with parameters set as $M_1 = 1$, $M_2 = 1.2$, and $R = 2.6$.

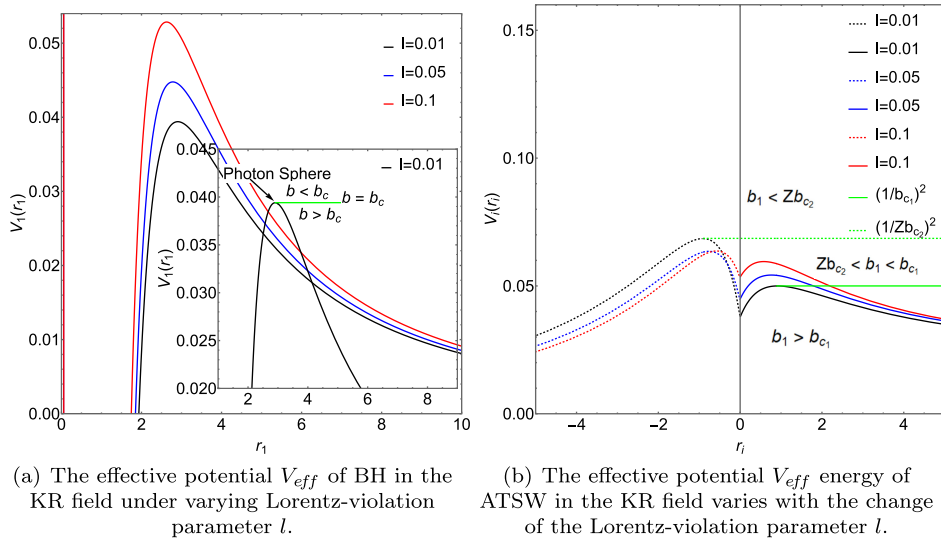


Fig. 4. (color online) Effective potential energy of BH (with charge $Q = 0.3$) and ATSW (with charge $Q = 0.3$) in the KR field varies with the value of l . The effective potential energy of BH is depicted on the left, while that of ATSW is shown on the right. We designed different Q values and set l to 0, 0.01, 0.05, and 0.1. In the right figure, the solid and dashed lines represent the effective potential energies of M_1 and M_2 , respectively. Specifically, we set M_1, M_2 , and R to 1, 1.2, and 2.6, respectively.

within M_1 . The position of this barrier is determined by the smallest positive root, $x_{1\min}$, of the equation $G_1(x_1) = 0$. The photon's azimuthal change is then calculated as

$$\varphi_1(b_1) = 2 \int_0^{x_{1\min}} \frac{dx_1}{\sqrt{G_1(x_1)}}, \quad b_1 > b_{c1}. \quad (22)$$

When $Zb_{c2} < b_1 < b_{c1} = 5.11841$, the photon travels from spacetime M_1 through the throat into spacetime M_2 . Upon reaching the potential barrier in M_2 -whose position

is defined by the largest positive root, $x_{2\min}$, of the equation $G_2(x_2) = 0$, it is reflected back, returning to spacetime M_1 . The total azimuthal change of the photon is then determined by summing its angular displacements in both spacetimes M_1 and M_2 :

$$\varphi_1^*(b_1) = \int_0^{1/R} \frac{dx_1}{\sqrt{G_1(x_1)}}, \quad b_1 < b_{c1}. \quad (23)$$

When $b_1 < Zb_{c2}$, the photon passes through the throat from spacetime M_1 into spacetime M_2 and propagates to

infinity. The azimuthal change of the photon is then solely determined by its trajectory within spacetime M_2 :

$$\varphi_2(b_2) = 2 \int_{x_2^{\max}}^{1/R} \frac{dx_2}{\sqrt{G_2(x_2)}}, \quad b_2 > b_{c_2}. \quad (24)$$

With Eqs. (19), (20), and (21), we can plot the photon trajectories for different values of charge Q and Lorentz-violation parameter l , as shown in Figs. 5 and 6. Taking $Q = 0.1$ and $l = 0.01$ as an example, Fig. 5 (a), (b), and (c)

illustrate three typical types of photon motion. For the case where $Zb_{c_2} < b_1 < b_{c_1}$, photons originating from infinity in spacetime M_1 exhibit an increasing number of trajectory loops in spacetime M_2 as the impact parameter b_i decreases. By comparing the corresponding columns in Figs. 5 and 6, we observe that b_{c_1} decreases with an increase in either Q or l , while Zb_{c_2} shows the opposite trend. Furthermore, it is evident that the photon trajectories are more significantly influenced by the Lorentz-violation parameter l .

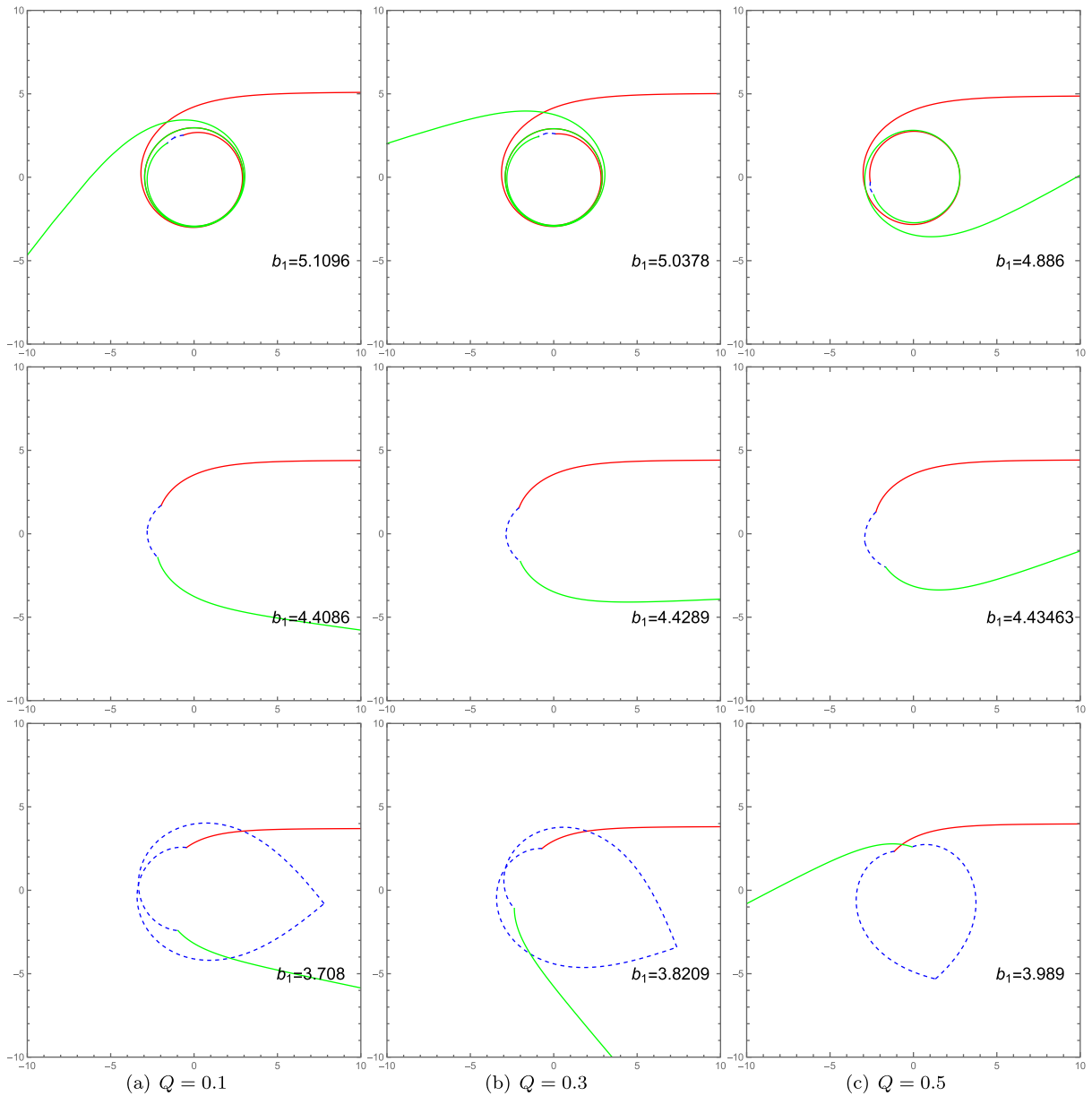


Fig. 5. (color online) Influence of charge Q on photon trajectories in polar coordinates (r_1, φ) , specifically for impact parameters in the range $Zb_{c_2} < b_1 < b_{c_1}$. The first, second, and third rows correspond to the cases of $Q = 0.1$, $Q = 0.3$, and $Q = 0.5$, respectively. The trajectories are denoted as follows: red lines represent incident photons in spacetime M_1 , green lines represent outgoing photons in spacetime M_1 , and blue dashed lines depict the photon trajectories within spacetime M_2 . The parameters are fixed at $l = 0.01$, $R = 2.6$, $M_2 = 1$, and $M_2 = 1.2$.

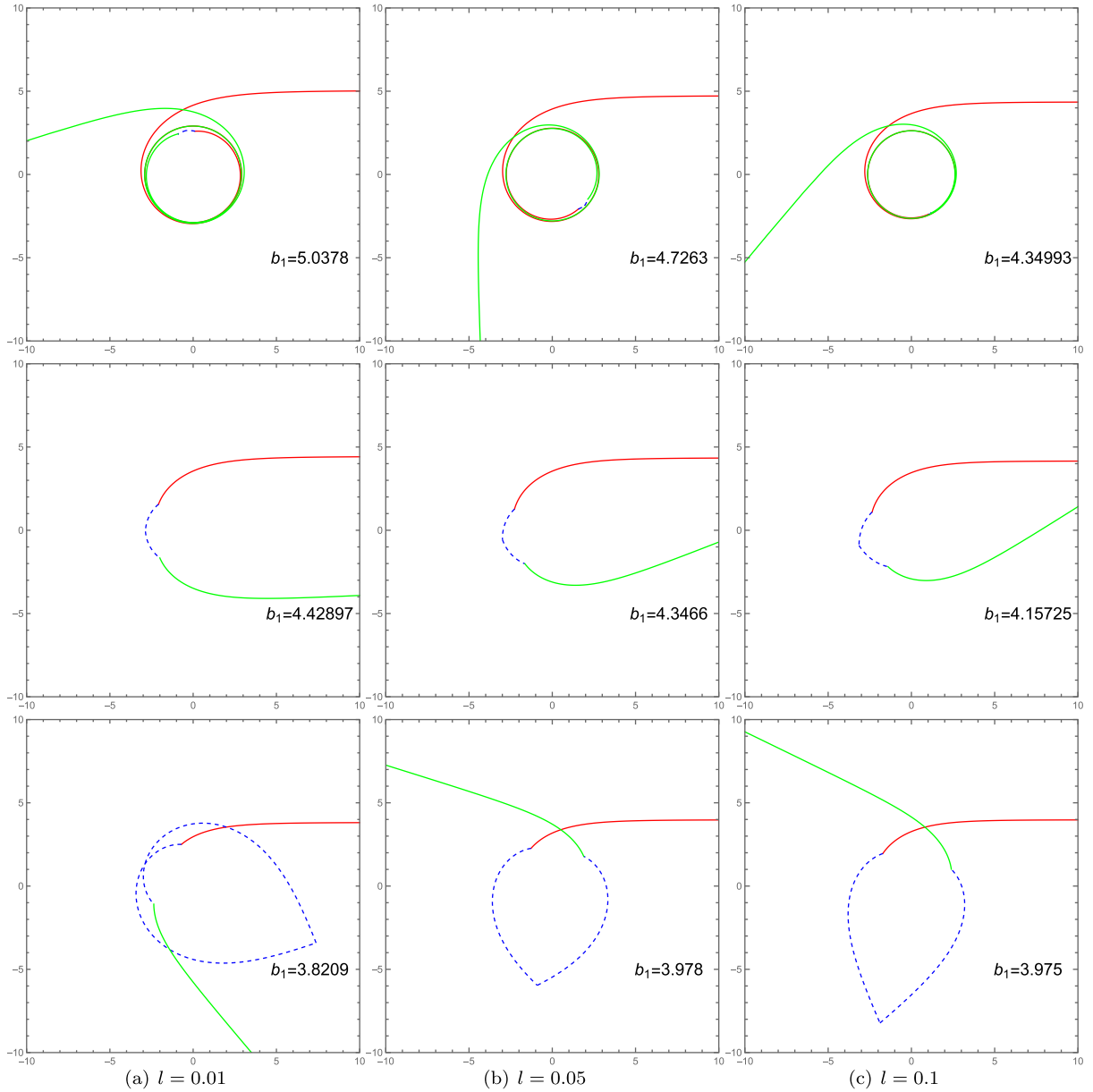


Fig. 6. (color online) Plotted in polar coordinates (r_1, φ) , this figure illustrates the dependence of photon trajectories in spacetime M_i on the Lorentz-violation parameter l for impact parameters in the range $Zb_{c2} < b_1 < b_{c1}$. The first, second, and third rows correspond to $l=0.01$, $l=0.05$, and $l=0.1$, respectively. Red curves represent incident photons in spacetime M_1 , green curves represent outgoing photons in spacetime M_1 , and blue dashed curves depict trajectories within spacetime M_2 . The parameters are fixed at $Q=0.3$, $R=2.6$, $M_1=1$, and $M_2=1.2$.

III. OPTICAL APPEARANCE OF AN ATSW

The photon reflection mechanism in an ATSW differs from that in a BH. To investigate the differences in observable appearances between the ATSW in the KR field and a BH, we consider incident photons with specific impact parameters. In this section, we study the ATSW in the KR field surrounded by an optically and geometrically thin accretion disk. By employing two radiation models, we compare the observational signatures of the ATSW and BH.

A. Trajectory of a photon

First, in a stationary coordinate system with the BH fixed in the equatorial plane, consider a static observer at infinite distance in the direction of the North Pole. We assume that the light source surrounding the black hole is a geometrically and optically thin accretion disk situated on the equatorial plane. Based on the backward ray-tracing approach, if the light rays emitted by the observer intersect the accretion disk, the light emanating from the corresponding position on the disk can be detected by the

observer. The total number of orbits, as a function of b , can be expressed as

$$n = \varphi/2\pi. \quad (25)$$

From the perspective of an observer at infinity, photon trajectories around a black hole are classified into three distinct types according to their orbit number n :

a. Direct Emission is defined as trajectories with $n < 0.75$, characterized by a single intersection with the equatorial plane.

b. Lensing Ring refers to trajectories where $0.75 < n < 1.25$, which intersect the equatorial plane exactly twice.

c. Photon Ring comprises trajectories with $n > 1.25$, which cross the equatorial plane a minimum of three times.

The trajectory for an ATSW is defined as follows; photons originating from spacetime M_1 with an impact parameter $Zb_{c_2} < b_1 < b_{c_1}$ first enter the throat and then pass into spacetime M_2 :

$$n_1(b_1) = \frac{\varphi_1(b_1)}{2\pi}, \quad (26)$$

$$n_2(b_2) = \frac{\varphi_1^*(b_1) + \varphi_2(b_1/Z)}{2\pi}, \quad (27)$$

$$n_3(b_1) = \frac{2\varphi_1^*(b_1) + \varphi_2(b_1/Z)}{2\pi}. \quad (28)$$

Here, n_2 and n_3 serve as additional orbit functions for the

ATSW, corresponding to additional photons. This situation is analogous to that of a BH. To better illustrate the relationship between the number of photon trajectories and impact parameter, we plot Figs. 7 and 8 using Eqs. (26), (27), and (28).

Figs. 7 and 8 illustrate the relationship between the number of photon trajectories and impact parameter b_1 around an ATSW, under the influence of charge Q and Lorentz-violation parameter l . In Figs. 7 (a) and 8 (a), it is observed that the photon trajectories for n_1 are similar to those of a black hole, indicating that these photons will continue to propagate in spacetime M_1 . In contrast, trajectories corresponding to n_2 and n_3 appear only in the ATSW. When a photon enters the throat from spacetime M_1 , passes through the potential barrier in spacetime M_2 , and returns to spacetime M_1 , the outgoing photons intersect with the back side of the thin accretion disk if the conditions in Figs. 7 (b) and 8 (b) are met—specifically, when $n_2 < 0.75$ (solid line) and $0.75 < n_3$ (dashed line). Conversely, when $n_2 < 1.25$ and $1.25 < n_3$, the outgoing photons intersect with the front side of the thin accretion disk. Furthermore, analysis of Figs. 7 (b) and 8 (b) indicates that the range of the impact parameter b_1 decreases as both the charge Q and Lorentz-violation parameter l increase. This result suggests that additional photon rings contract toward the inner region of the ATSW shadow with increasing values of Q and l . Additionally, it is noted that n_1 , n_2 , and n_3 are more significantly influenced by the Lorentz-violation parameter l than by charge Q .

B. Observed intensity and transfer function

To better understand the observable appearance of the ATSW, we model the radiation source as an optically and

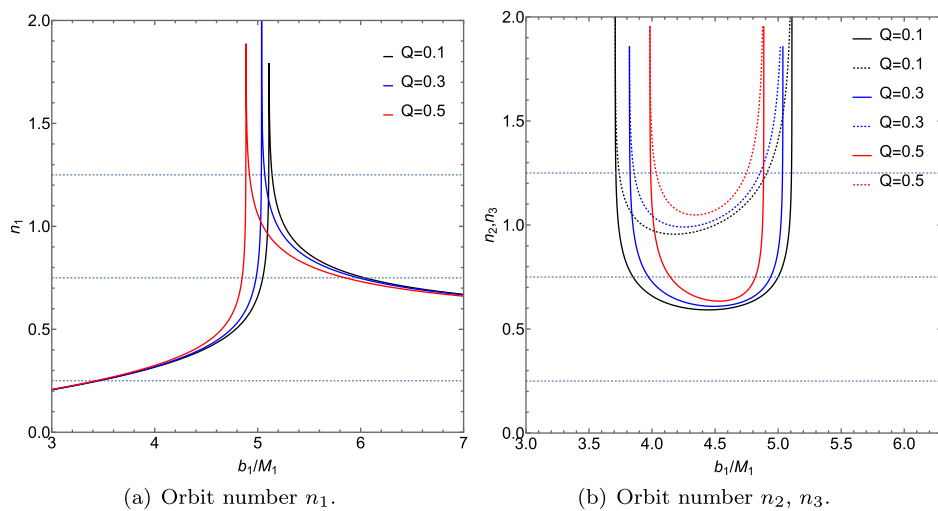


Fig. 7. (color online) Diagram illustrating the relationship between the number of photon trajectories n and impact parameter b_1 around an ATSW (with $l = 0.01$) in a KR field. The left panel displays the trajectory count n_1 , while the right panel shows the counts for n_2 (solid lines) and n_3 (dashed lines). The results for different charge values are compared: $Q = 0.1$ (black lines), $Q = 0.3$ (blue lines), and $Q = 0.5$ (red lines). The parameters are fixed at $R = 2.6$, $M_1 = 1$, and $M_2 = 1.2$.

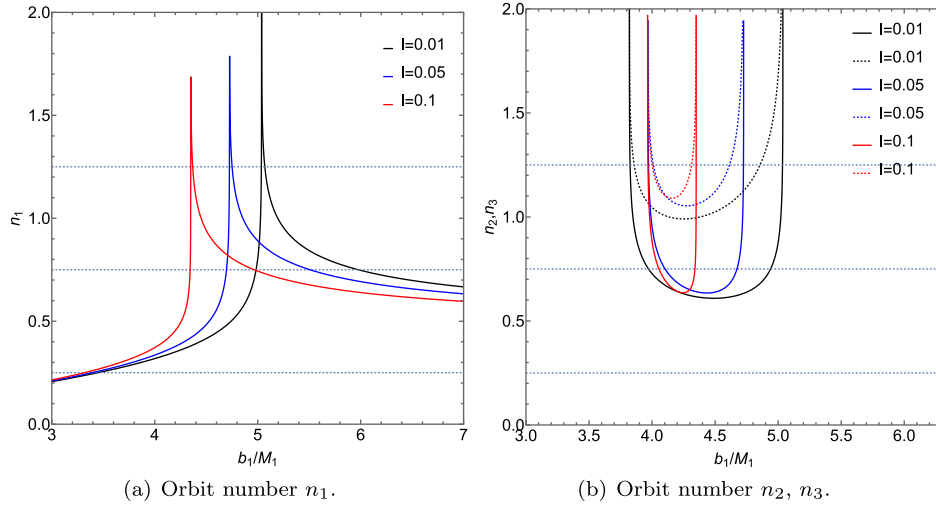


Fig. 8. (color online) In the KR field, we present the relationship between the number of photon trajectories n with different l -values and the collision parameter b_1 around the ATSW (with $Q = 0.3$). The left figure shows the trajectory count for n_1 , while the right figure illustrates the trajectory counts for n_2 (solid lines) and n_3 (dashed lines). We analyze the trajectory counts for photons under different Lorentz-violation parameters $l = 0.01$ (black lines), $l = 0.05$ (blue lines), and $l = 0.1$ (red lines). The parameters are set as $R = 2.6$, $M_1 = 1$, and $M_2 = 1.2$.

geometrically thin accretion disk located in spacetime M_1 of the ATSW. As previously stated, a static observer is positioned at infinity along the northern polar direction. Here, we maintain the assumption that the static observer in spacetime M_1 is located in the same polar orientation, while the thin accretion disk resides in the equatorial plane. Owing to the symmetry of spacetime and the isotropic emission from the accretion disk, the radiation intensity depends solely on the radial coordinate and is denoted as $I_\nu^{\text{em}}(r)$, where ν represents the emission frequency in the static frame. Thus, we obtain

$$\frac{I_{\nu'}^{\text{obs}}}{I_\nu^{\text{em}}} = \frac{\nu'^3}{\nu^3}. \quad (29)$$

Here, ν' refers to the redshifted frequency. Under the assumption of a static emitter, this is denoted as $\nu' = \sqrt{f}\nu$, which consequently yields the observed intensity

$$\frac{I_{\nu'}^{\text{obs}}}{I_\nu^{\text{em}}(r)} = f^{3/2}(r). \quad (30)$$

The frequency shift factor thus accounts solely for gravitational redshift in this context. Based on Eq. (30), we integrated the observed intensity to obtain the total observed intensity at the intersection points

$$I^{\text{obs}} = \int I_{\nu'}^{\text{obs}} d\nu' = \int f^2 I_\nu^{\text{em}} d\nu = f^2(r) I^{\text{em}}(r). \quad (31)$$

Here, $I^{\text{em}}(r) = \int I_\nu^{\text{em}} d\nu$ represents the total intensity radiated from the accretion disk. Consequently, we obtain the

total observed intensity from all intersection points as a function of the impact parameter b_1 :

$$I_{\text{obs}}(b_1) = \sum_m I^{\text{em}}(r) f^2(r) \Big|_{r=r_m(b_1)}. \quad (32)$$

$r_m(b_1)$ represents the transfer function, and b_1 denotes the impact parameter. The radial coordinate of the intersection point between the thin accretion disk and photon trajectory is determined by the transfer function $r_m(b_1)$. When $m = 1$, $m = 2$, and $m = 3$, they correspond to the direct emission, lensing ring, and photon ring of the thin accretion disk, respectively. The relationship between the transfer function and impact parameter is illustrated in Figs. 9 and 10, where we have considered the effects of varying charge and Lorentz-violation parameters.

Figs. 9 and 10 show the relationship between the transfer function and impact parameter b_1 under the influence of charge Q and Lorentz-violation parameter l . The selected values for Q are 0.1, 0.3, and 0.5, while those for l are 0.01, 0.05, and 0.1. From Figs. 9 and 10, it can be observed that the first transfer function ($m = 1$), represented by the black solid line, corresponds to the direct image of the accretion disk. Due to its relatively small slope—where $dr(b_1)/db_1$ is defined as the demagnification factor, the small demagnification leads to the observed intensity being dominated by the direct image. The second transfer function ($m = 2$), shown by the blue solid line, exhibits a larger demagnification factor, forming a demagnified lensing ring from the back side of the thin accretion disk and contributing only marginally to the observed intensity. The third transfer function ($m = 3$), rep-

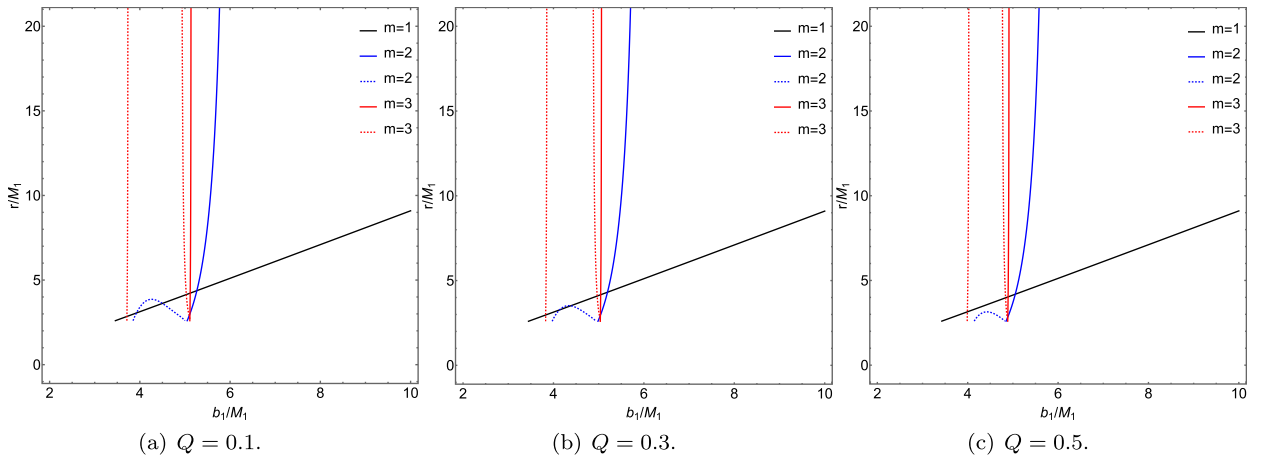


Fig. 9. (color online) Transfer functions of the ATSW in KR field ($l = 0.01$) for different values of Q . The black, blue, and red curves in the figure represent the first, second, and third transfer functions, respectively. The parameters are set as $R = 2.6$, $M_1 = 1$, and $M_2 = 1.2$.

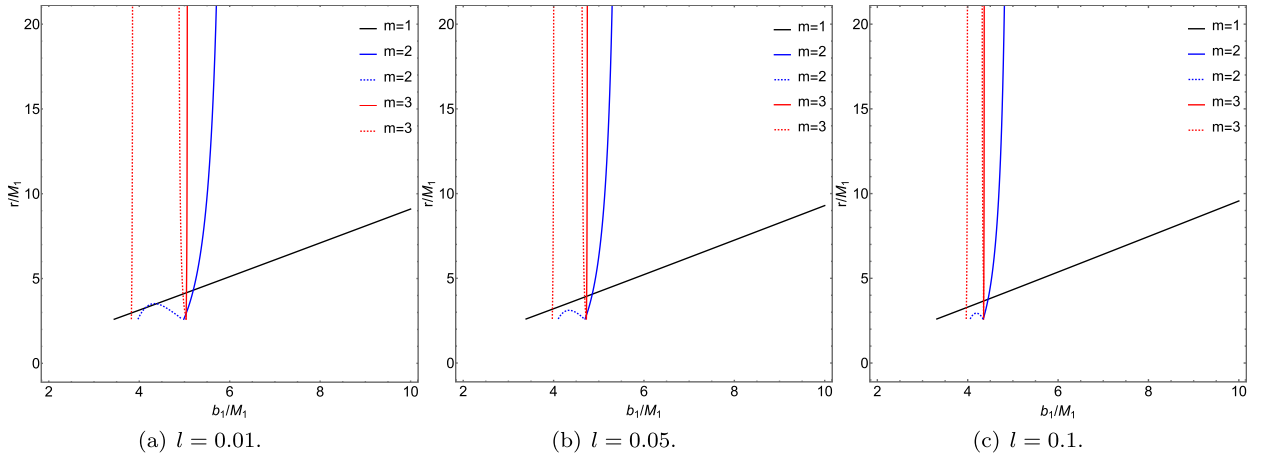


Fig. 10. (color online) Transfer functions of the ATSW in KR field ($Q = 0.3$) for different values of l . The black, blue, and red curves in the figure represent the first, second, and third transfer functions, respectively. The parameters are set as $R = 2.6$, $M_1 = 1$, and $M_2 = 1.2$.

represented by the red solid line, displays the largest demagnification factor, producing a significantly demagnified photon ring from the front side of the thin accretion disk.

As shown in Figs. 9 and 10, a comparison of the transfer functions between the BH and ATSW reveals that the ATSW exhibits two additional transfer functions near the critical curves Zb_{c_2} and b_{c_1} , represented by the blue and red dashed lines in the figures, respectively. The slopes of the new second and third transfer functions are approximately the same as those of the conventional second and third transfer functions, respectively. In summary, the additional transfer functions in the ATSW produce extra light rings, a feature that distinguishes it from the BH. Furthermore, we observe that as the charge Q and Lorentz-violation parameter l increase, the positions of all transfer functions shift inward, with the second and third transfer functions undergoing more significant

changes. It is also noted that the Lorentz-violation parameter l has a more pronounced influence on the transfer functions than the charge Q .

C. Optical appearance of thin accretion disks under two emission models in an asymmetric thin-shell wormhole

To better understand the optical appearance of the ATSW in a KR field, this section investigates its observable features through two distinct emission models of a thin accretion disk. The optical appearance of the black hole observed by a static observer at infinity is also determined by the emission model of the thin accretion disk [54].

In emission model A , the radiation profile is defined by the following expression:

$$I_A^{\text{em}}(r) = \begin{cases} 0 & r < r_{\text{isco}}, \\ \left(\frac{1}{r - (r_{\text{isco}} - 1)} \right)^2 & r \geq r_{\text{isco}}. \end{cases} \quad (33)$$

Here, r_{isco} denotes the innermost stable circular orbit (ISCO) of massive particles, defined as

$$r_{\text{isco}} = \frac{3f(r_{\text{isco}})f'(r_{\text{isco}})}{2f''(r_{\text{isco}}) - f(r_{\text{isco}})f''(r_{\text{isco}})}. \quad (34)$$

The radiation flux peaks at $r = r_{\text{isco}}$ and then decreases with radius, asymptotically approaching zero. For an observer at infinity, the effective radiation originating from within the photon unstable orbit is negligible, as any emission from this region is either highly redshifted or captured by the central object. We plot the radiation function in Fig. 11 (a). Additionally, we show the optical appearance of black holes with the same mass parameter and radiation model *A* in the first row of Fig. 12. For better comparison, we computed the observed intensity and constructed the corresponding intensity distribution and local intensity maps for the ATSW using Model *A* through our ray-tracing method. The results are shown in the second row of Fig. 12. By comparing Figs. 12 (a) and 12 (b), it is evident that the BH and ATSW exhibit significant differences in their optical structures, with distinct spatial separations between the direct radiation, lens, and photon rings. Observing Fig. 12 (a), we find that the observational intensity of ATSW appears at the critical curve $b_1 \approx 6.8289M_1$, with an intensity of 0.4529, which subsequently decreases to zero. The lens ring is located within a narrow region between the critical curves $b_1 \approx 5.3774M_1$ and $b_1 \approx 5.8891M_1$. The photon rings appear near the critical curves at $b_1 \approx 3.7221M_1$, $b_1 \approx 4.9676M_1$, and $b_1 \approx 5.1213M_1$. Compared to BH, intriguingly, two new photon rings emerge in the shadow of the ATSW, located near the critical curves at $b_1 \approx 3.7221M_1$ and $b_1 \approx 4.9676M_1$, as shown in Figs. 12 (a) and 12 (d). By examining Figs. 12 (b) and 12 (c), we observe that the direct emission ring is near the edge of the black disk, while the lens ring is positioned inside the

black disk. Furthermore, Figs. 12 (e) and 12 (f) reveal that the additional photon rings of the ATSW are closer to the black disk.

In emission model *B*, the radiation profile is defined by the following expression:

$$I_2^{\text{em}}(r) = \begin{cases} 0 & r < r_h, \\ \frac{\pi}{2} - \tan^{-1}(r - (r_{\text{isco}} - 1)) & r \geq r_h. \end{cases} \quad (35)$$

Here, r_h represents the event horizon radius. The radiation peak is achieved at $r = r_h$ and then decreases as r increases, approaching zero. An image of radiation model *B* is shown in Fig. 11 (b), where the decline in radiation value with increasing r is more gradual compared to that in radiation model *A*. Additionally, we plot the optical appearance of black holes with the same mass parameter and radiation model *B* in the first row of Fig. 13. For better comparison, we adopted a numerical method to calculate the observational intensity, intensity distribution, and local intensity distribution of an ATSW using model *B*, as shown in the second row of Fig. 10. It can be observed that there is partial overlap in the regions of the direct radiation, lens, and photon rings in the ATSW. The direct ring in the ATSW starts radiating at $b_1 \approx 2.7449M_1$. Interestingly, the lens ring encompasses the photon ring, collectively forming a multi-layered bright ring feature, as illustrated in Figs. 13 (e) and 13 (f).

The difference between radiation models *A* and *B* lies in the fact that model *A* exhibits two additional photon rings near the critical curves at $b_1 \approx 3.7221M_1$ and $b_1 \approx 4.9676M_1$, whereas model *B* presents an additional lens ring between the critical curves at $b_1 \approx 3.7164M_1$ and $b_1 \approx 5.1139M_1$. Consequently, the observational intensity of the ATSW is enhanced.

We have plotted the observational intensity, density maps, and local density maps for the ATSW in the KR field under two sets of parameters: $Q = 0.3$, $l = 0.01$ and $Q = 0.3$, $l = 0.05$ for two radiation models, as shown in Fig. 14. Observing Figs. 12, 13, and 14, we find that in

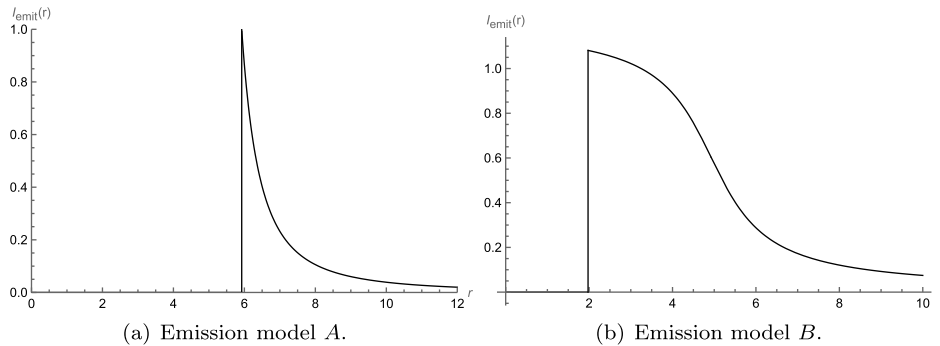


Fig. 11. Function plots for the two emission models *A* and *B* of a thin accretion disk.

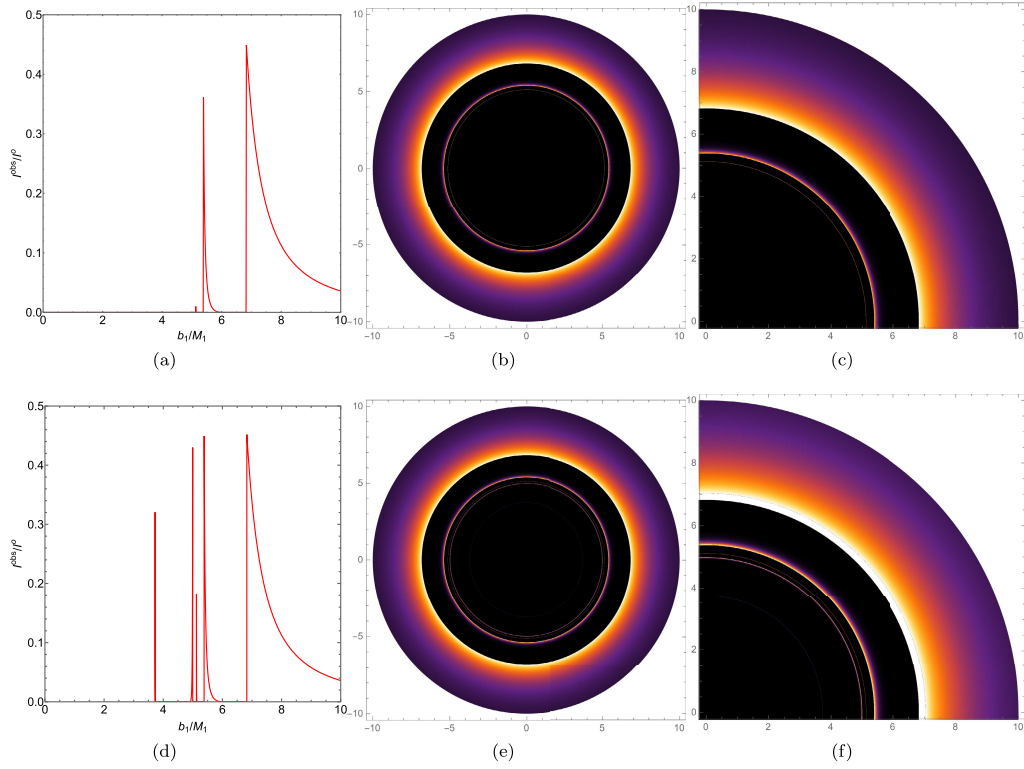


Fig. 12. (color online) In Model *A*, the observed intensity, density map, and partial density map for a BH with KR structure (top row) and an ATSW (bottom row) are presented. The first, second, and third columns correspond to the observed intensity, density map, and partial density map, respectively. The parameters are set as $Q = 0.1$, $l = 0.01$, $R = 2.6$, $M_1 = 1$, and $M_2 = 1.2$.

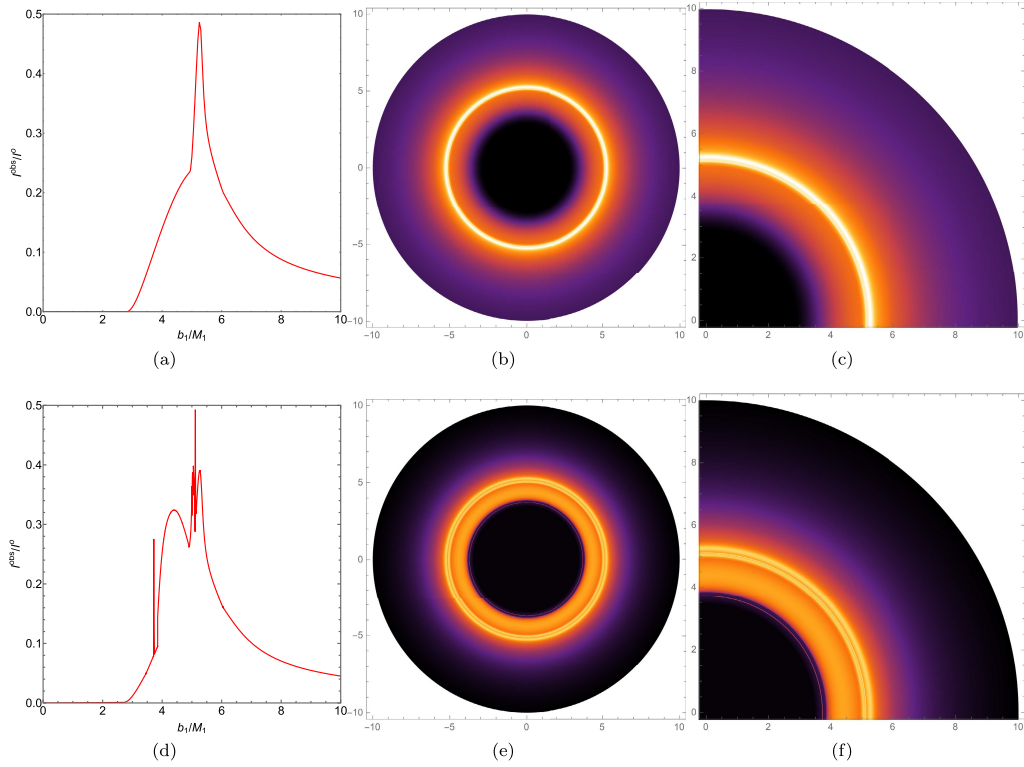


Fig. 13. (color online) In Model *B*, the observed intensity, density map, and partial density map for a BH with KR structure (top row) and an ATSW (bottom row) are presented. The first, second, and third columns correspond to the observed intensity, density map, and partial density map, respectively. The parameters are set as $Q = 0.1$, $l = 0.01$, $R = 2.6$, $M_1 = 1$, and $M_2 = 1.2$.

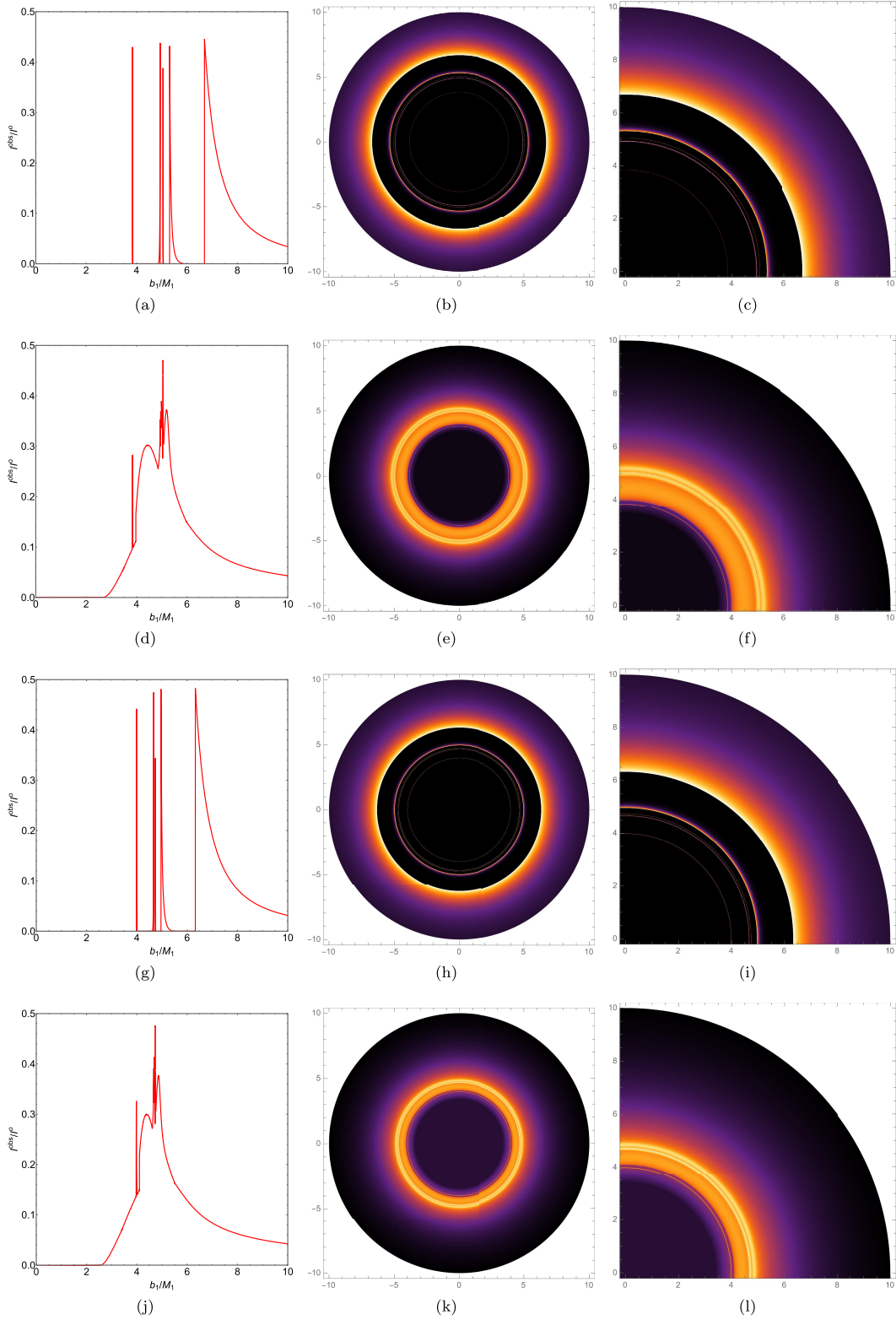


Fig. 14. (color online) In the ATSW, for the two parameter sets $Q = 0.3$, $l = 0.01$ and $Q = 0.3$, $l = 0.05$, we plot the observational intensity (first column), density maps (second column), and local density maps (third column) for two radiation models. The first and second rows of the figure display the observational intensity, density maps, and local density maps for radiation models *A* and *B*, respectively, at $Q = 0.3$, $l = 0.01$. The third and fourth rows show the same for $Q = 0.3$, $l = 0.05$. We set $R = 2.6$, $M_1 = 1$, and $M_2 = 1.2$.

radiation model A , for the case of $Q = 0.3$, $l = 0.01$, the two additional photon rings are located at $b_1 \simeq 3.8425M_1$ and $b_1 \simeq 4.0561M_1$, respectively; for $Q = 0.3$, $l = 0.05$, the two additional photon rings are located at $b_1 \simeq .9942M_1$ and $b_1 \simeq 4.7456M_1$, respectively. In radiation model B , for $Q = 0.3$, $l = 0.01$, the additional lensing ring is located between $b_1 \simeq 3.8221M_1$ and $b_1 \simeq 5.056M_1$; for $Q = 0.3$, $l = 0.05$, the additional lensing ring is located between $b_1 \simeq 3.9686M_1$ and $b_1 \simeq 5.0764M_1$. The results indicate that as the charge Q and Lorentz-violation parameter l increase, the range of light bands outside the shadow decreases, but the range of specific additional rings increases. Therefore, the trend of change in the external shadow region is the same as that of the KR field BH, while the trend of change in specific additional rings is opposite.

IV. CONCLUSION AND DISCUSSION

This study primarily investigates the observational characteristics of the ATSW and BH under the same mass parameter M , charge Q , and Lorentz-violation parameter l in the KR field. Unlike a BH, the ATSW connects two spacetimes with mass parameters M_1 and M_2 through a throat, assuming that the observer at infinity is located in the spacetime with mass parameter M_1 . Initially, we calculate the variations in the photon sphere radius and critical impact parameter b_c in the ATSW spacetime under different values of charge Q and Lorentz-violation parameter l , as shown in Tables 1 and 2. The results indicate that as the charge Q and Lorentz-violation parameter l increase, the photon sphere radius r_p and critical impact parameter b_c decrease accordingly. Next, we plot the relationship between the effective potential energy of the ATSW and BH and the variations in charge Q and

Lorentz-violation parameter l , as illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4. The photon trajectories can be categorized into three scenarios: when $b_1 < Zb_{c_2}$, photons fall from the M_1 spacetime into the M_2 spacetime and move to infinity; when $Zb_{c_2} < b_1 < b_{c_1}$, photons enter the potential barrier of the M_2 spacetime from the M_1 spacetime and then return to the M_1 spacetime; when $b_1 > b_{c_1}$, photons reach the potential barrier of the M_1 spacetime and then move toward infinity in the M_1 spacetime.

To better understand the photon trajectories and deflection angles, we plotted the photon trajectories and deflection angles under different values of charge Q and Lorentz-violation parameter l , as shown in Figs. 5 and 6. The results indicate that b_{c_1} decreases with increasing Q and l , whereas Zb_{c_2} exhibits the opposite trend. It is also observed that the photon trajectories are significantly influenced by the Lorentz-violation parameter l . Additionally, we calculated the transfer functions of the ATSW and found that, unlike a BH, the ATSW possesses new second and third transfer functions, which correspond to the lens and photon ring groups, respectively. The unique significance of the new transfer functions in the ATSW spacetime is that when $Zb_{c_2} < b_1 < b_{c_1}$, the spacetime M_2 can return photons to the spacetime M_1 .

Finally, we investigated the observational characteristics of the ATSW and BH under two radiation models of a thin accretion disk. In radiation model A , unlike the BH, the ATSW exhibits two additional photon rings near the critical curves at $b_1 \simeq 3.7221M_1$ and $b_1 \simeq 4.9676M_1$. In radiation model B , unlike the BH, the ATSW presents an additional lens ring between the critical curves at $b_1 \simeq 3.7164M_1$ and $b_1 \simeq 5.1139M_1$. Therefore, these distinct observational features may provide an important basis for distinguishing ATSW from BH in observations.

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