

**Title:** Kicking the tires on microlensing as a probe of primordial black hole dark matter

**Speakers:** Michael Fedderke

**Collection/Series:** Particle Physics

**Subject:** Particle Physics

**Date:** October 08, 2024 - 1:00 PM

**URL:** <https://pirsa.org/24100076>

**Abstract:**

Primordial black hole (PBH) dark matter can be probed by "microlensing". Widely spatially separated gamma-ray detectors near Earth would observe parallax of an intervening PBH lens with respect to a cosmologically distant gamma-ray burst (GRB). This parallax can be of order the Einstein angle of the lens, resulting in differential magnification of the source as viewed from the two detectors. Simultaneous brightness measurements of the same GRB made by two detectors is sensitive to this effect. Two recent studies in the literature have shown this approach could be a promising way to search for PBH dark matter in part of the "asteroid mass window", roughly  $(\text{few}) * 1e-15 < M_{\text{PBH}} / M_{\text{Sun}} < (\text{few}) * 1e-11$ . In this talk, I will discuss some ongoing work to explore the robustness of this signal to various uncertainties not previously carefully accounted for: e.g., uncertainties in the transverse extent of the GRB emission region, its intensity profile, detector background rates, sensitivity of the projection to outlier GRB events, etc. I'll show that, while the large GRB source size uncertainties do degrade previous projections somewhat, it is still possible to probe most of the PBH DM asteroid mass window with a mission that employs two Swift/BAT-class detectors separated by a distance on the order of an AU. Depending on the total number of GRBs that such a mission ultimately observes, it may even be possible to robustly probe new subcomponent dark-matter parameter space at PBH masses above the window, potentially as high as  $(\text{few}) * 1e-6 M_{\text{Sun}}$ .

# Kicking the tires on microlensing as a probe of primordial black hole DM

Particle Theory Seminar  
Perimeter Institute

Waterloo, ON, Canada

October 8, 2024

**Ongoing work** [241x.yyyzz]

M.A.F. and Sergey Sibiryakov

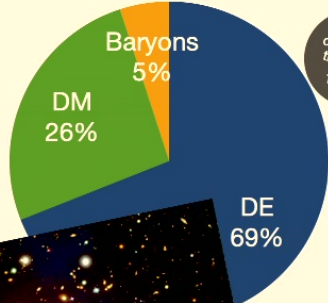
**Michael A. Fedderke**

[mfedderke@perimeterinstitute.ca](mailto:mfedderke@perimeterinstitute.ca)

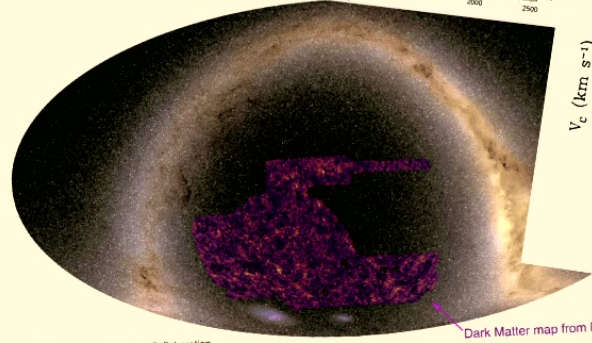
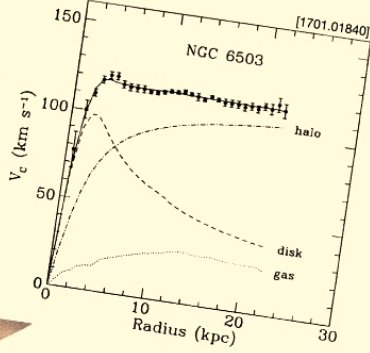
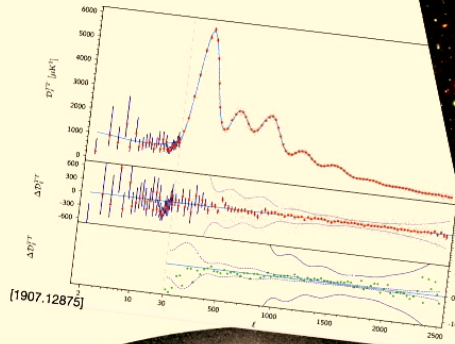
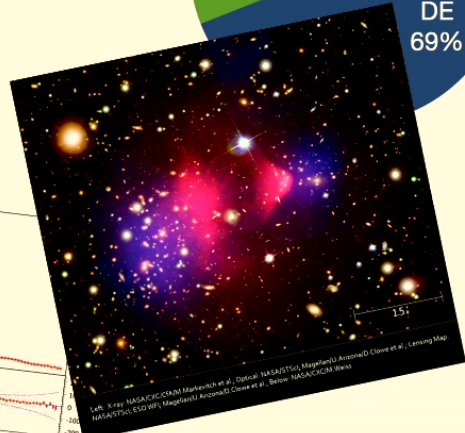


# Dark Matter

Unambiguous gravitational evidence

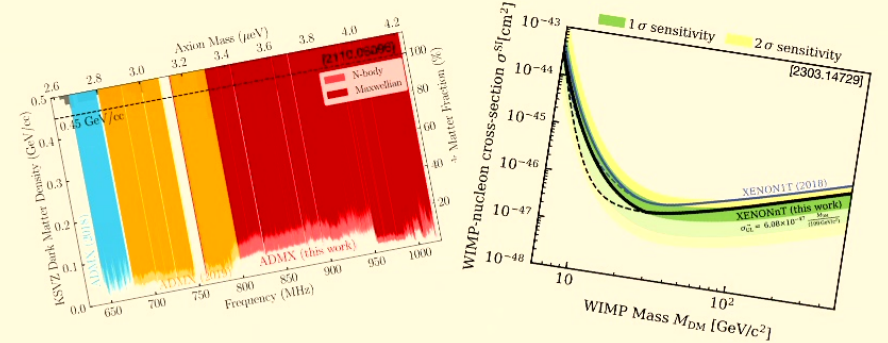


DM talks containing this slide 100%

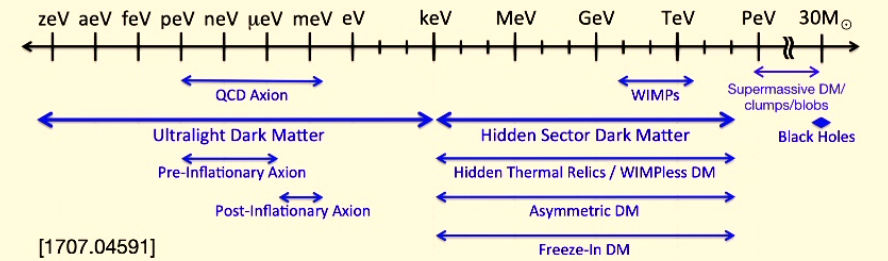


N. Jeffrey, Dark Energy Survey Collaboration

Dark Matter map from DES observations



No direct, non-gravitational evidence ... yet



[1707.04591]

Huge number of possibilities, over many orders of magnitude in mass

# Primordial black holes (PBH)

GRAVITATIONALLY COLLAPSED OBJECTS OF VERY  
LOW MASS

*Stephen Hawking*

For the purposes of this talk: sub-solar mass black holes  $M_{PBH} \ll M_{\odot}$

Production in the early universe via:

$$M \sim \frac{c^3 t}{G} \sim 10^{15} \left( \frac{t}{10^{-23} \text{ s}} \right) \text{ g.}$$

- ▶ Sharp features in the inflationary power spectrum. When these re-enter, direct collapse to BH ensues if density perturbation is large enough  $\beta \approx \text{Erfc} \left[ \frac{\delta_c}{\sqrt{2} \sigma} \right]$ .  
see also [2410.03451]
- ▶ Collisions of bubble walls from primordial first-order phase transitions
- ▶ ... many other variations on these themes

agnostic to the production mechanism

Annu. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. 2020, 70:355–94  
Bernard Carr<sup>1</sup> and Florian Kühnel<sup>2</sup>

Nucl. Phys. B 1003 (2024) 116494  
Anne M. Green

A. Escrivà, F. Kühnel and Y. Tada, *Primordial Black Holes*, [arXiv:2211.05767](https://arxiv.org/abs/2211.05767).

A. M. Green and B. J. Kavanagh, *Primordial Black Holes as a dark matter candidate*, *J. Phys. G* **48** (2021) 043001 [[arXiv:2007.10722](https://arxiv.org/abs/2007.10722)].

3

Michael A. Fedderke [Perimeter]

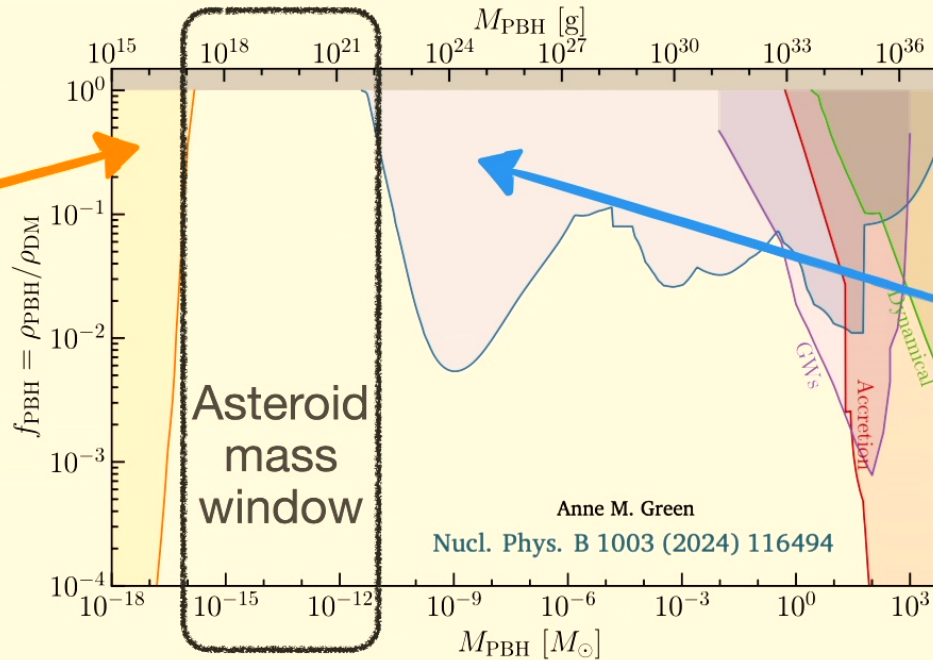


# PBH dark matter

These objects are dark, and are still allowed to be 100% of the DM in certain mass ranges

## Hawking Evaporation

- ▶ Lifetime [PRD 13 (1976) 198, ...]
- ▶  $\gamma/x$ -ray flux [ApJ 206 (1976) 1; 1906.10113; 2004.00627, ...]
- ▶ 511 keV [1906.07740, ...]
- ▶ etc.



## Microlensing

[ApJ 304 (1986) 1]

## Transient brightening of distant stars by single-lensing

[ApJ 499 (1988) L9, astro-ph/0011506, 1701.02151, 1901.07120, 2007.12697, ...]

Femtolensing [1807.11495]

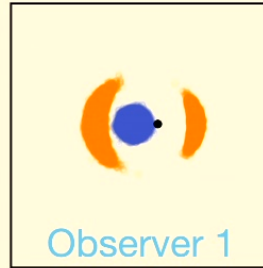
SN Ia ignition [1505.04444, 1505.07464, 1906.05950]

Solar system ephemeris [2312.17217]

$$M_{\otimes} \sim \frac{4\pi}{3} (2.5 \text{ g/cm}^3) (10 \text{ km})^3 \sim 10^{19} \text{ g} \sim 5 \times 10^{-15} M_{\odot}$$

# Picolensing

Observer 1



Observer 1

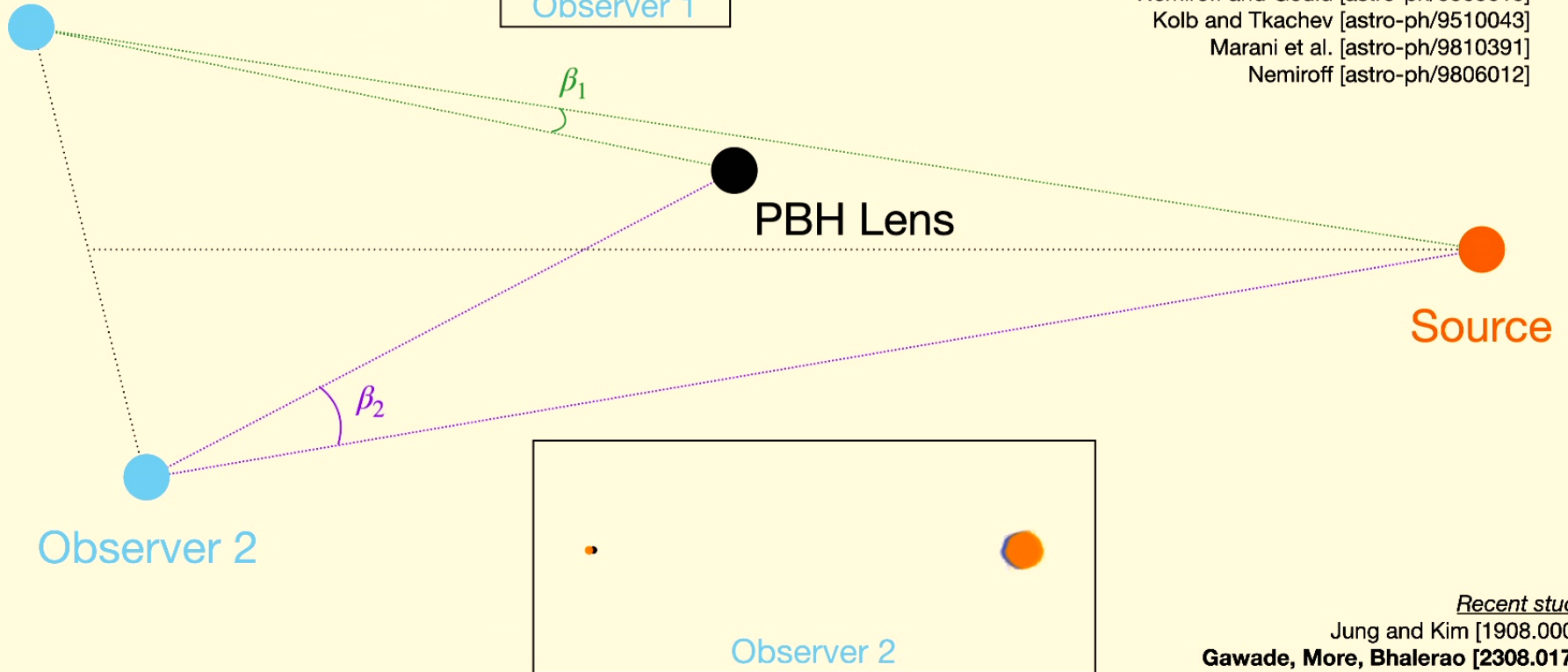
**Gravitational lensing parallax leads to differential observed brightness of a single source at spatially separated detectors**

Nemiroff and Gould [astro-ph/9505019]

Kolb and Tkachev [astro-ph/9510043]

Marani et al. [astro-ph/9810391]

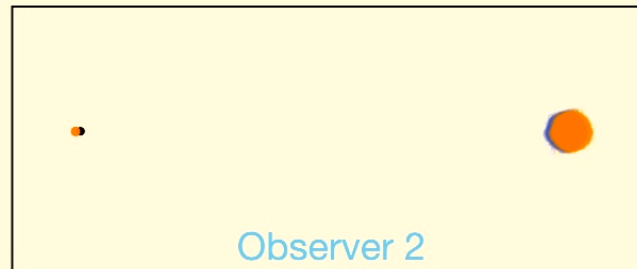
Nemiroff [astro-ph/9806012]



PBH Lens

Source

Observer 2



Observer 2

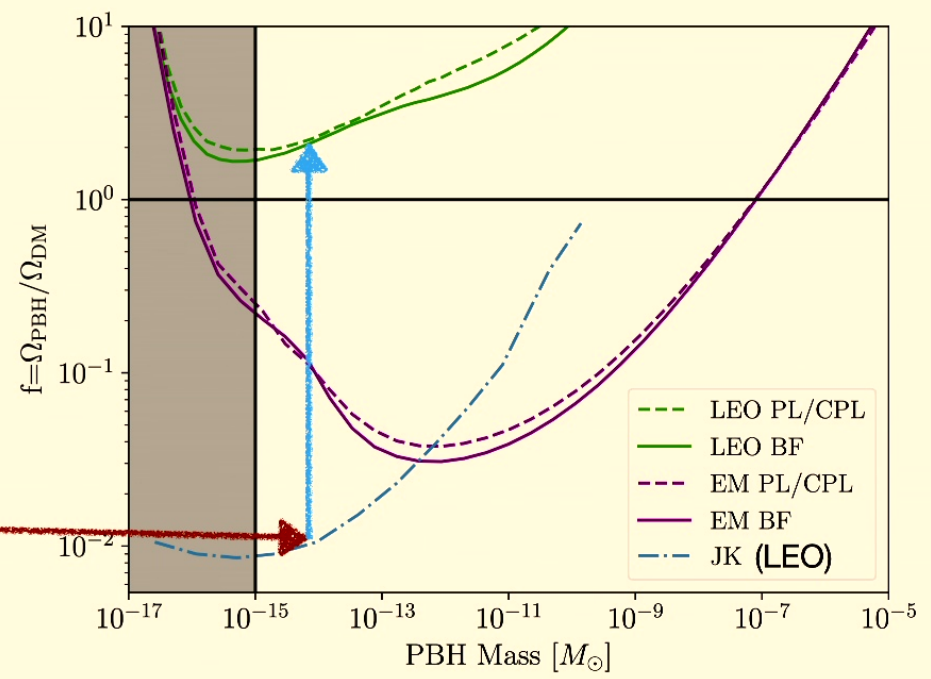
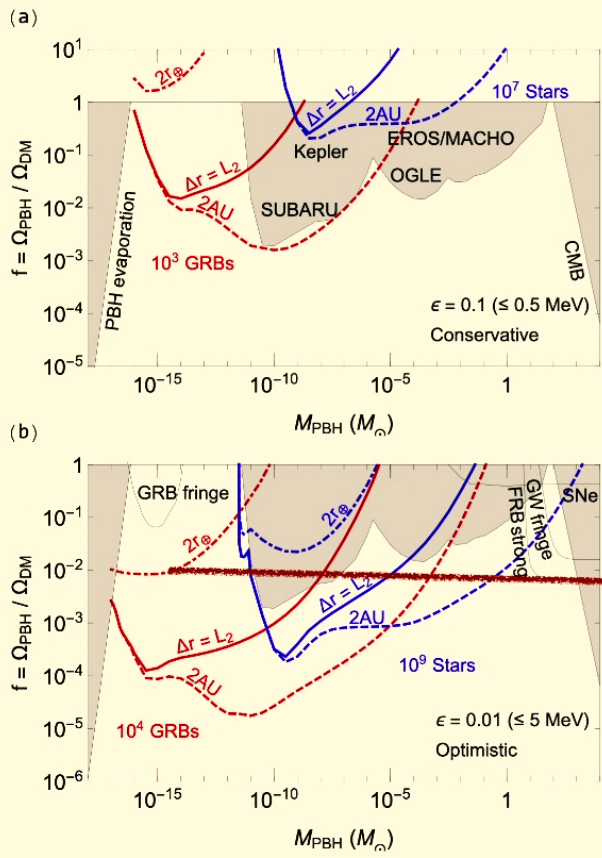
Recent studies  
Jung and Kim [1908.00078]  
Gawade, More, Bhalariao [2308.01775]

NOT TO SCALE (think: a basketball at the outer edge of the Oort cloud)

5

Michael A. Fedderke [Perimeter]

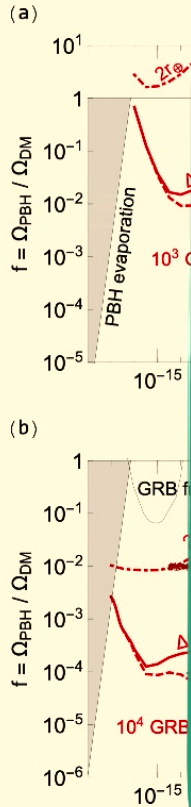
# Current state of the literature



Gawade, More, Bhalerao [2308.01775]

Jung and Kim [1908.00078]

# Current state of the literature



HOW ROBUST IS THIS SIGNAL?

SOURCE SIZE DISTRIBUTION UNCERTAINTIES

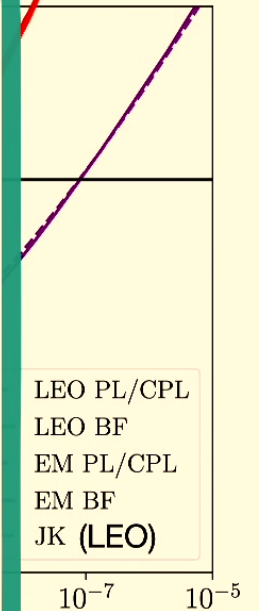
MINIMUM SOURCE SIZE

SOURCE PROFILE

BACKGROUND LEVEL

ALSO: LARGER DETECTOR SEPARATION DONE CAREFULLY?

of this paper



308.01775]

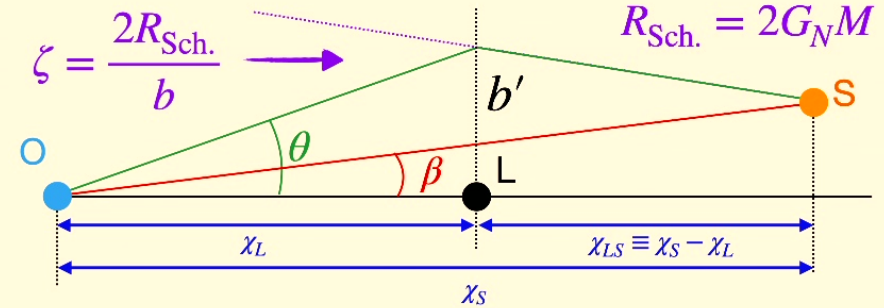
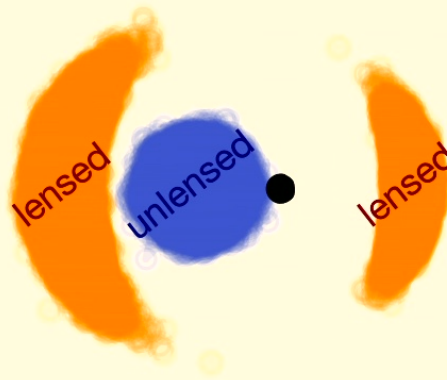
Jung and Kim [1908.00078]

# Gravitational Lensing 101

Lens Equation:  $\theta - \beta = \frac{\theta_E^2}{\theta}$

$$\theta_E \equiv \sqrt{\frac{4G_N M(1+z_L)\chi_{LS}}{\chi_S \chi_L}}$$

Einstein Angle



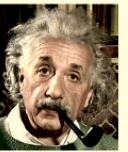
$$b' = \chi_L \theta = (1 + z_L) b$$

Annalen der Physik 49 (1916): 769-822.  
1. Die Grundlage der allgemeinen Relativitätstheorie, von A. Einstein.

IN: Königlich Preussische Akademie der Wissenschaften (Berlin) Sitzungsberichte (1915): 831-839.

$$B = \frac{2\alpha}{d} = \frac{\kappa M}{4\pi d}$$

$$g_{44} = 1 - \frac{\alpha}{r}$$



$$\alpha = R_{Sch.}$$

Wir untersuchen die Krümmung, welche ein Lichtstrahl erleidet, der im Abstand  $d$  an einer Masse  $M$  vorbeigeht.

gesamte Biegung  $B$  des Lichtstrahles

<https://einsteinpapers.press.princeton.edu>

Hilariously, there's a factor-of-2 typo in the German version of the 1916 review article Einstein wrote...

ergibt, wobei  $K$  die gewöhnlich als Gravitationskonstante bezeichnete Konstante  $6.7 \cdot 10^{-8}$  bedeutet. Durch Vergleich

$$(K \equiv G_N) \quad \alpha = \frac{8\pi K}{c^2}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{\kappa M}{8\pi} \quad (\alpha = G_N M = R_{Sch.}/2)$$

BUT: **Biegung von 1,7''**, ✓

The English translation correctly gives

$$\alpha = \frac{\kappa M}{4\pi}$$

Michael A. Fedderke [Perimeter]



# Gravitational Lensing 101

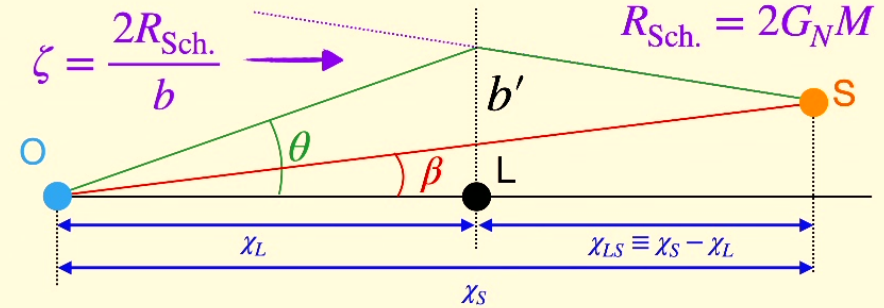
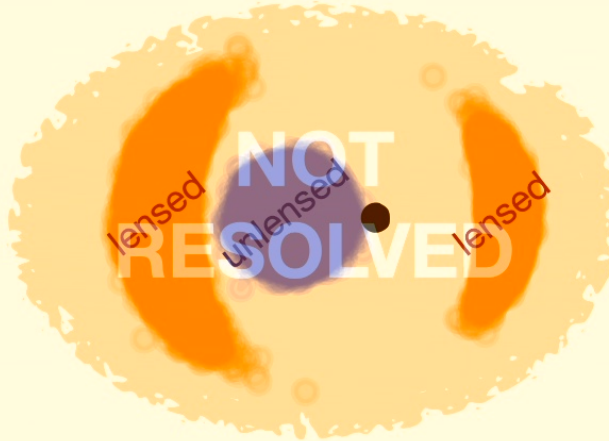
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$$\theta_E \equiv \sqrt{\frac{4G_N M (1+z_L) \chi_{LS}}{\chi_S \chi_L}}$$

Einstein Angle

$$\theta_E \sim 2 \text{ picoarcsec} \times \sqrt{\frac{M}{10^{-12} M_\odot}}$$

$$[z_S = 1, \chi_L/\chi_S = 0.5 (z_L = 0.43)]$$



$$b' = \chi_L \theta = (1+z_L)b$$

Annalen der Physik 49 (1916): 769–822.  
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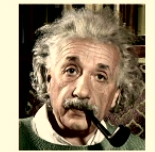
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# Finite Sources

But all sources have a finite extent!

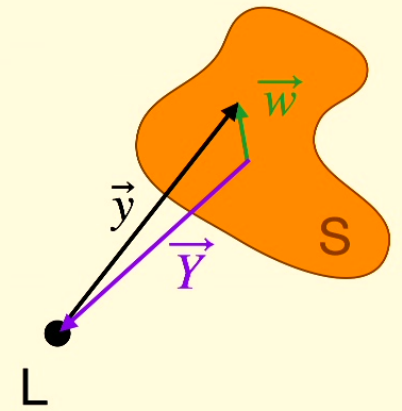
$$\mu(y) = \frac{y^2 + 2}{\sqrt{y^2(y^2 + 4)}}$$

Source-averaged magnification for lens at location  $\vec{Y}$  relative to source centroid

$$\bar{\mu}(\vec{Y}) = \iint d^2w \mathcal{J}(\vec{w}) \cdot \mu(y = |\vec{Y} - \vec{w}|)$$

Source brightness profile at location  $\vec{w}$  relative to the source centroid

small-angle/flat-sky approx



We'll consider both Gaussian and flat disk source profiles

Generally, sources sizes  $\theta_S \ll \theta_E$  behave as point-like...

...while those with  $\theta_S \gg \theta_E$  have suppressed magnifications

...but those with  $\theta_S \sim \theta_E$  can be more favourably lensed vs. point sources

# Picolensing signal

$f = \text{fluence} = \text{photons/area/time}$

$$\text{Signal photons: } \langle N_S^i \rangle = \bar{\mu}_i f_s^i A_s^i T^i \longrightarrow \langle N_S^i \rangle = \bar{\mu}_i f_s A_s T$$

$$\text{Background: } \langle N_B^i \rangle = f_b^i A_b^i T^i \longrightarrow \langle N_B \rangle = f_b A_b T$$

- other sources on the sky
- detector dark counts, etc.

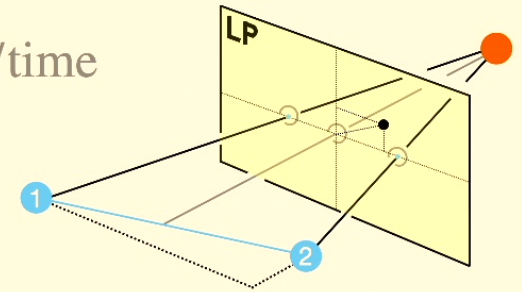
Per-detector observable is  $N_i = N_S^i + N_B^i$ .

$$\text{Expected value: } \langle N_i \rangle = \langle N_S^i \rangle + \langle N_B \rangle = \bar{\mu}_i f_s A_s T + f_b A_b T$$

$$\text{Uncertainty: } \sqrt{\langle N_i \rangle}$$

The picolensing signal is  $\Delta N = |N_2 - N_1|$ .

$$\langle \Delta N \rangle = |\langle N_S^1 \rangle - \langle N_S^2 \rangle|.$$



Assume identical detectors, except for magnification

Could generalise and talk instead about background-subtracted measured source apparent luminosity (factoring out effective area, integration time, background)

# Picolensing SNR

$$\Delta N = |N_2 - N_1|.$$

$$\rho = \frac{\langle \Delta N \rangle}{u[\Delta N]}$$

$$\langle \Delta N \rangle = |\langle N_S^2 \rangle - \langle N_S^1 \rangle|.$$

$$= \frac{|N_S^1 - N_S^2|}{\sqrt{2N_B + N_S^1 + N_S^2}}$$

$$N_i = N_S^i + N_B^i$$

$$= \frac{|\bar{\mu}_1 - \bar{\mu}_2| \sqrt{A_s f_s T}}{\sqrt{2(A_b/A_s)(f_b/f_s) + (\bar{\mu}_1 + \bar{\mu}_2)}} \propto |\Delta \bar{\mu}|$$

10

after: Gawade, More, Bhalerao [2308.01775]

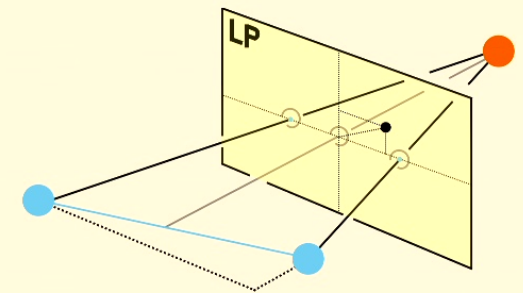
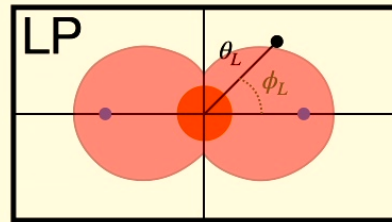
Michael A. Fedderke [Perimeter]

# Picolensing cross-section

$$\rho = \rho(\{\theta_L, \phi_L, z_L, M\}, \{z_S, \theta_S, f_S\}, \{R_O, \theta_O, A_b, A_s, f_b, T\})$$

Fix: lens distance, lens mass, source parameters, observer parameters.

$$\text{SNR } \rho = \rho(\theta_L, \phi_L).$$



Is any lens detectable at some threshold SNR  $\rho_*$ ?

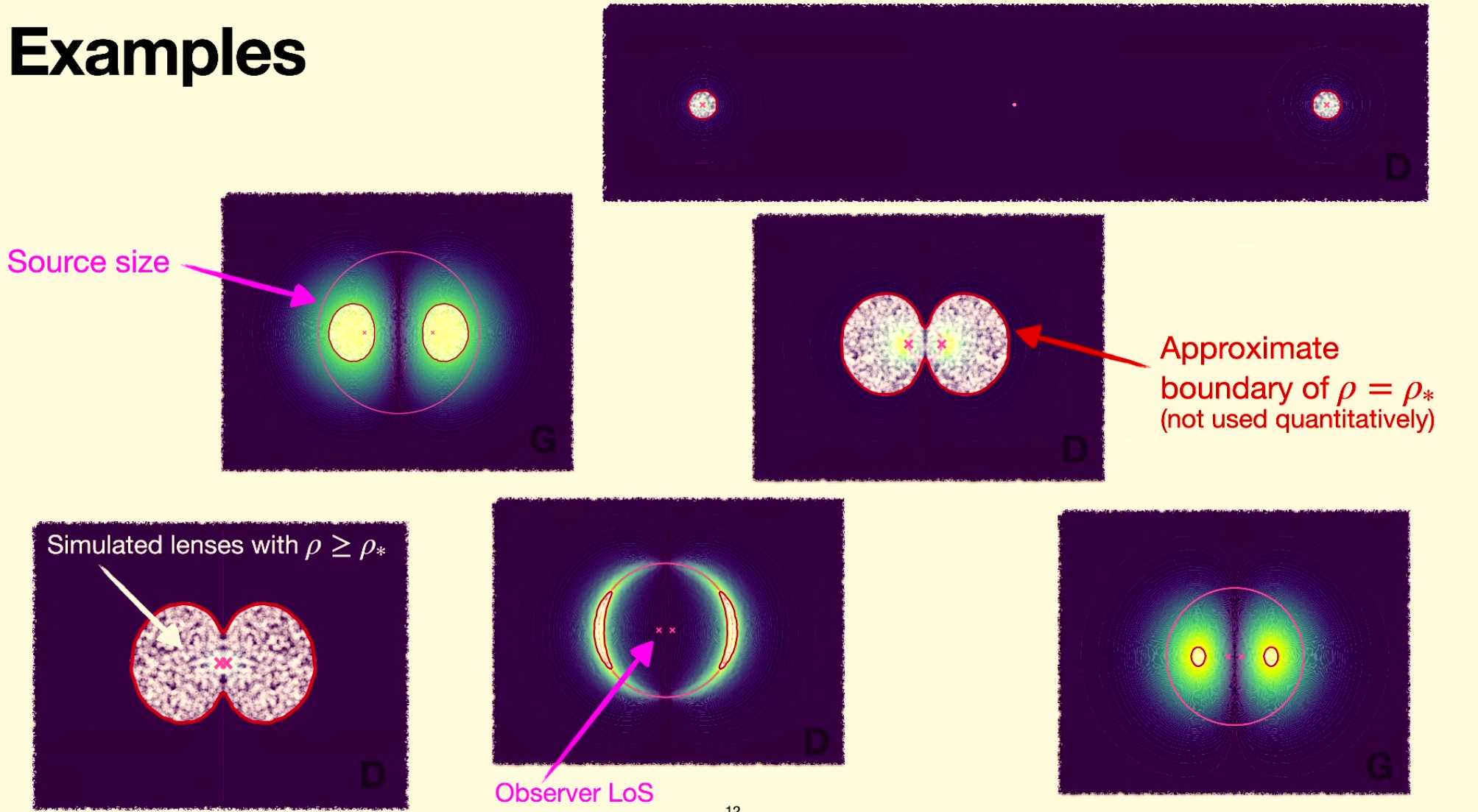
$\rho \geq \rho_*$  defines region in the lens plane where lensing is detectable. Can be multiple disjoint regions!

**Lensing cross-section**  $\sigma$  is the area of that region (comoving):  $\sigma = \sigma(\rho_*)$

Compute this using Monte Carlo methods (sample LP area with lenses randomly)



# Examples



12

after: Gawade, More, Bhalerao [2308.01775]

Michael A. Fedderke [Perimeter]

# Picolensing volume & optical depth

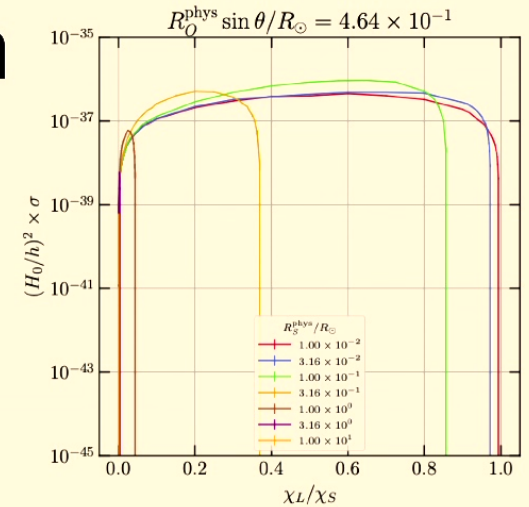
$\sigma = \sigma(\chi_L; \rho_*, \dots)$  is a function of  $\chi_L$ , the distance to the lens!

At zeroth order, don't care *where* the lens is.

We only want to know whether (any) picolensing has  $\rho \geq \rho_*$ .

Define a co-moving picolensing volume:  $\mathcal{V} = \int_0^{\chi_S} \sigma(\chi_L) d\chi_L$

Requires large number of  $\sigma$  evaluations on  $S \sim 50 - 100$  slices of  $\chi_L$ ; dynamically chosen



**PBHs: can\*\* assume a uniform co-moving lens number density  $n_0$**

**Optical depth** to source  $j$  is  $\tau_j = n_0 \mathcal{V}_j$

Number of expected observable lenses between observers and the source. Need  $\tau \ll 1$  for validity.

Average optical depth to all  $\mathfrak{N}$  sources:  $\bar{\tau} = \frac{1}{\mathfrak{N}} \sum_{j=1}^{\mathfrak{N}} n_0 \mathcal{V}_j \equiv n_0 \bar{\mathcal{V}}$

\*\*Jung and Kim [1908.00078] looked at clustering; impact not significant for  $\bar{\tau} \ll 1$ ,  $\tau_{\text{halo}} \ll 1$

13

after: Gawade, More, Bhalariao [2308.01775]

Michael A. Fedderke [Perimeter]

# Lensing Probability

$$\omega_{\text{DM}}^0 \equiv \Omega_{\text{DM}}^0 h^2 \sim 0.12$$

No detectable lenses at  $\rho \geq \rho_*$  for single source  $j$ :

$$\Pr[\text{no lensing}, j] = e^{-\tau_j}$$

Poisson statistics; also only works for  $\tau_j \ll 1$ , otherwise the signal SNR we computed is wrong!

Jung and Kim [1908.00078]

No lenses for  $\mathfrak{N}$  sources:

$$\Pr[\text{no lensing}; \mathfrak{N}] = \prod_{j=1}^{\mathfrak{N}} e^{-\tau_j} = \exp \left[ - \sum_{j=1}^{\mathfrak{N}} \tau_j \right] = \exp \left[ -\mathfrak{N} \bar{\mathcal{V}} n_0 \right].$$

Exclusion on  $n_0$  at confidence level  $\alpha$ :  $\Pr[\text{no lensing}; \mathfrak{N}] = (1 - \alpha) \Rightarrow n_0^\alpha = - \frac{\ln(1 - \alpha)}{\mathfrak{N} \bar{\mathcal{V}}}$ .

$$f_{\text{DM}}^\alpha = - \frac{\ln(1 - \alpha)}{\omega_{\text{DM}}^0 \mathfrak{N}} \frac{4\pi(H_0/h)^{-2}(2G_N M)}{3\bar{\mathcal{V}}}$$

$$H_0^{-1} \sim 4.5 \text{ Gpc}$$

$$R_S(M = 10^{-12} M_\odot) = 3 \text{ nm}$$

14

after: Gawade, More, Bhalariao [2308.01775]

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**OR**  
**DISCOVERY SPACE!**

$$H_0^{-1} \sim 4.5 \text{ Gpc}$$

$$R_S(M = 10^{-12} M_\odot) = 3 \text{ nm}$$

14

after: Gawade, More, Bhalariao [2308.01775]

Michael A. Fedderke [Perimeter]



# Sources?

$$H_0^{-1} \sim 4.5 \text{ Gpc}$$

$$R_S(M = 10^{-12} M_\odot) = 3 \text{ nm}$$

Must be cosmologically distant, else  $H_0^{-2} G_N M \gg \bar{V}$

But also still visible, else  $\rho \propto \sqrt{f_s} \ll 1$

## Gamma-ray bursts!

Most violent explosions in the universe

Transient. Two classes: long (>2s) and short (<2s)

Extremely distant:  $\bar{z}_S \sim 2$  (long) ...  $\chi_S \sim 5 \text{ Gpc}$ ;  $\mathcal{D}_S \sim 2 \text{ Gpc}$ ;  $\mathcal{D}_S^{\text{lumi}} \sim 16 \text{ Gpc}$

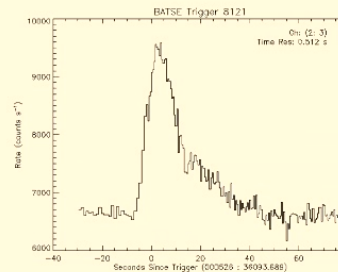
Isotropic *equivalent* energy release as large as (long)  $E_{\text{iso}} \sim 10^{55} \text{ erg} \sim 6 M_\odot$

Highly beamed!  $\Gamma \sim 10^2$ . Actual energy release  $E_{\text{beam}} \sim \Gamma^{-2} E_{\text{iso}} \lesssim 3 \times 10^{51} \text{ erg}$   
 $\sim (2 - 3) \times E_{\text{SNIa}}$

Some uncertainty as to *what* these are

**Long:** associated with supermassive stellar supernovae

**Short:** NS mergers, ...?



Observable at short wavelengths  
(geometrical optics)



# Observations

x-rays /  $\gamma$ -rays: must be observed from space. Vela (1967).

Many thousands have now been seen (INTEGRAL, BATSE, etc.)

**Swift/BAT:**  $\sim$  few  $\times m^2$  CdZnTe detector plane. 15-150 keV.  
 $\sim$  12% instantaneous sky coverage.  
Catalogue of  $\sim$  1600 GRBs [2004-present].



**Fermi/GBM:** NaI ( $\sim$ few keV - MeV) / BGO (1 - 30 MeV).  
 $\sim$ 70% sky coverage (all non-Earth-occulted). Smaller effective area.  
Catalogue of  $\gtrsim$  2400 GRBs [2008-2018 (-present)].

2308.01775 looked at a possible future ISRO project Daksha ( $2 \times \sim$  Swift/BAT-class detectors in space, but each with Fermi/GBM sky coverage)

**We will assume similar parameters to  $2 \times \sim$  Swift/BAT  $\sim$  Daksha**

# Source characteristics I

# Source characteristics I

Need to know: duration ( $T$ ), distance ( $z_S$ ), source fluence ( $f_S$ ), source size ( $\theta_S$ )

# Swift/BAT catalogue and how we use it

> 1600 GRBs in catalog

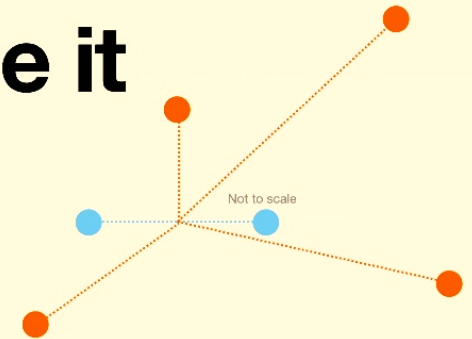
409 GRBs have all necessary characteristics known

We use these real GRBs to make projections [following 2308.01775]

For each GRB, we assume 4 observation angles  $\theta_0$  to average over spacecraft orientations / orbital phase wrt ~isotropic GRB distribution.

$\mathfrak{N} = 4 \times 409 = 1636$  effective GRB parameter sets to simulate.

Use these to compute  $\bar{\mathcal{V}}$



# Source characteristics II

Need to know: duration ( $T$ ), distance ( $z_S$ ), source fluence ( $f_s$ ), source size ( $\theta_S$ )

Duration:  $T_{90}$ , 90% of measured intensity

Distance:  $z_S$ , known for ~400 GRBs

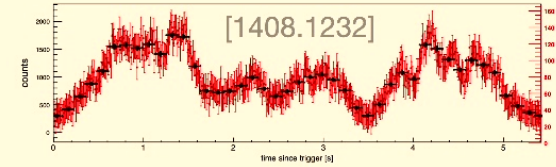
Source fluence: Band function in source frame. In detector frame, fit as a power law (PL) or cut-off power law (CPL)

$$f_{\text{PL}}(E) \equiv K_{50}^{\text{PL}} \left( \frac{E}{50 \text{ keV}} \right)^{\alpha_{\text{PL}}} \quad f_{\text{CPL}}(E) \equiv K_{50}^{\text{CPL}} \left( \frac{E}{50 \text{ keV}} \right)^{\alpha_{\text{CPL}}} \exp \left[ -\frac{E(2 + \alpha_{\text{CPL}})}{E_{\text{CPL}}^{\text{peak}}} \right]$$

$$f_s = \int_{E_{\text{min}}}^{E_{\text{max}}} f_{(\text{C})\text{PL}}(E) dE$$



# GRB sizes: general considerations



Indirectly inferred from “minimum variability timescale”  $\Delta t_{\text{var}}$

$$D' \sim \frac{\Gamma^2 \times \Delta t_{\text{var}}}{1 + z_S}$$

$$D_{\text{obs}} \sim \frac{D'}{\Gamma} \sim \frac{\Gamma \times \Delta t_{\text{var}}}{1 + z_S}$$

Physical size of emission region

Observed size (beaming)

**THIS IS ALL VERY APPROXIMATE**

**EMPIRICALLY:**  $T_{90} \sim \Gamma \Delta t_{\text{var}}$

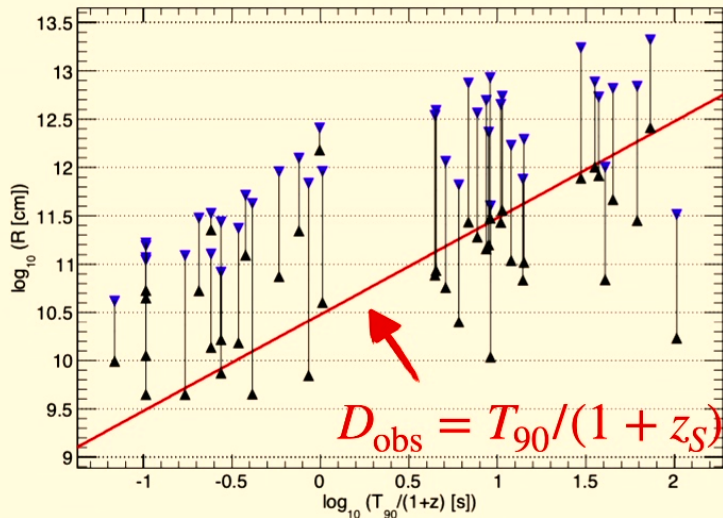
Commonly used size estimate:  $D_{\text{obs}} \sim \frac{T_{90}}{1 + z_S} \Rightarrow \theta_S = \frac{D_{\text{obs}}}{\mathcal{D}_S} = \frac{T_{90}}{\chi_S}$

Gawade, More, Bhalerao [2308.01775] used this

# GRB sizes: what do the data say?

$$D_{\text{obs}} \sim \frac{D'}{\Gamma} \sim \frac{\Gamma \times \Delta t_{\text{var}}}{1 + z_S}$$

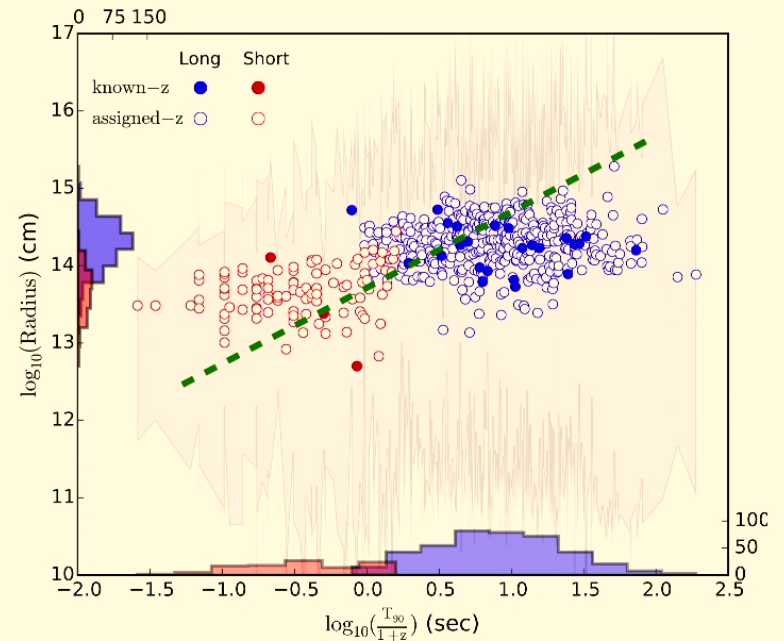
$$D' \sim \frac{\Gamma^2 \times \Delta t_{\text{var}}}{1 + z_S}$$



Note that this line is not attempting to fit the constraints from the data

Barnacka, Loeb [1409.1232]

← y-axes differ by  $\Gamma \sim 10^2$  →

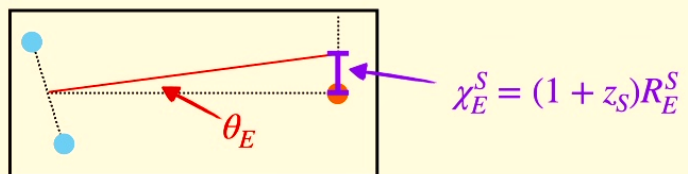


Golkhou et al [1501.05948]

# GRB sizes: can this matter?

$$M_{\text{PBH}} = 10^{-12} M_{\odot} \qquad z_S = 1$$

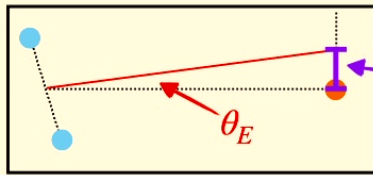
$\chi_L/\chi_S$	$z_L$	$\theta_E$ [arcsec]	Plane	$R_E^{\text{proj.}}/R_{\odot}$
0.25	0.20	$2.9 \times 10^{-12}$	Source	1.1
			Lens	0.45
			Observer	0.72
0.50	0.43	$1.9 \times 10^{-12}$	Source	0.68
			Lens	0.47
			Observer	1.4
0.75	0.69	$1.1 \times 10^{-12}$	Source	0.42
			Lens	0.38
			Observer	2.5



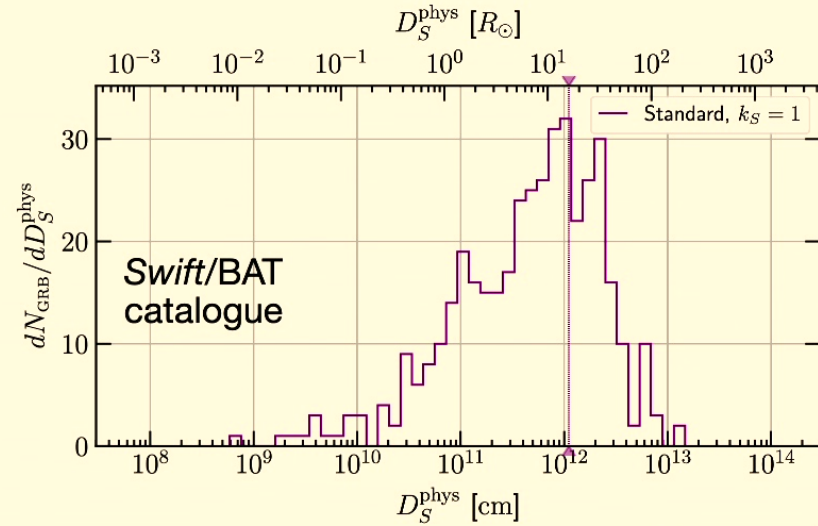
# GRB sizes: can this matter? **YES!**

$M_{\text{PBH}} = 10^{-12} M_{\odot}$        $z_S = 1$

$\chi_L/\chi_S$	$z_L$	$\theta_E$ [arcsec]	Plane	$R_E^{\text{proj.}}/R_{\odot}$
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$$\chi_E^S = (1 + z_S) R_E^S$$



$$D_{\text{obs}} \equiv \frac{k_S T_{90}}{1 + z_S}$$

Source sizes can be significant compared to the Einstein radius!

**Could make the lensing signal very sensitive to source size uncertainties!**

Given enormous uncertainties, we bracket:  $k_S = 0.1, 1, 10, 10^{\mathcal{U}[-1,1]}$

# RESULTS

$$\rho_* = 5$$

$$\alpha = 0.95$$

95% confidence exclusions of any 5-sigma lensing events



# Comparison to 2308.01775

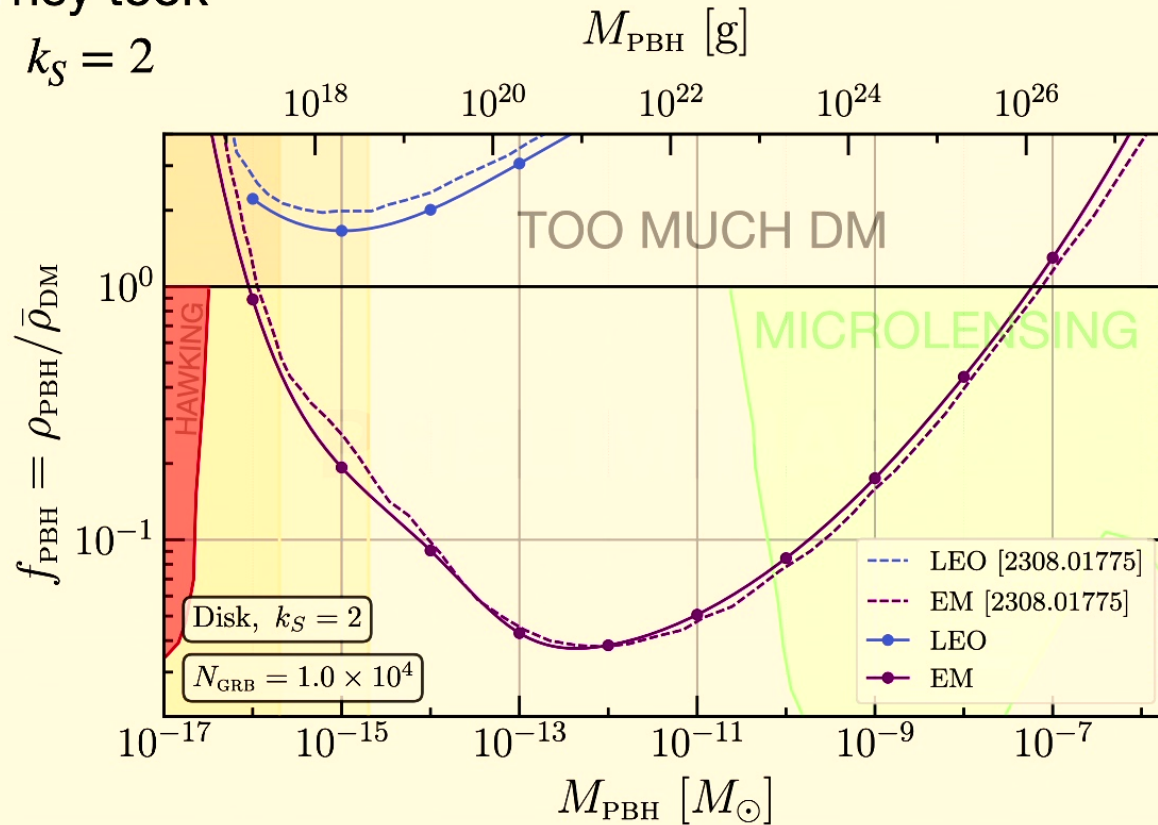
They took

$$k_S = 2$$

$$A_b = 2400 \text{ cm}^2 \quad A_s = 1300 \text{ cm}^2$$

$$f_b = 10 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

~Swift/BAT



Scenario	Abbrev.	Baseline $R_O$	$R_O/R_{\odot}$
Low Earth Orbit	LEO	$1.40 \times 10^4 \text{ km}$	0.020
Earth-Moon	EM	$3.84 \times 10^5 \text{ km}$	0.55

Minor difference in assumed energy range (15-150keV [us] vs. 20-200 keV [them]); makes little difference

24

\*markers are computed; lines are log-log cubic spline interpolants

Michael A. Fedderke [Perimeter]

# Comparison to 2308.01775

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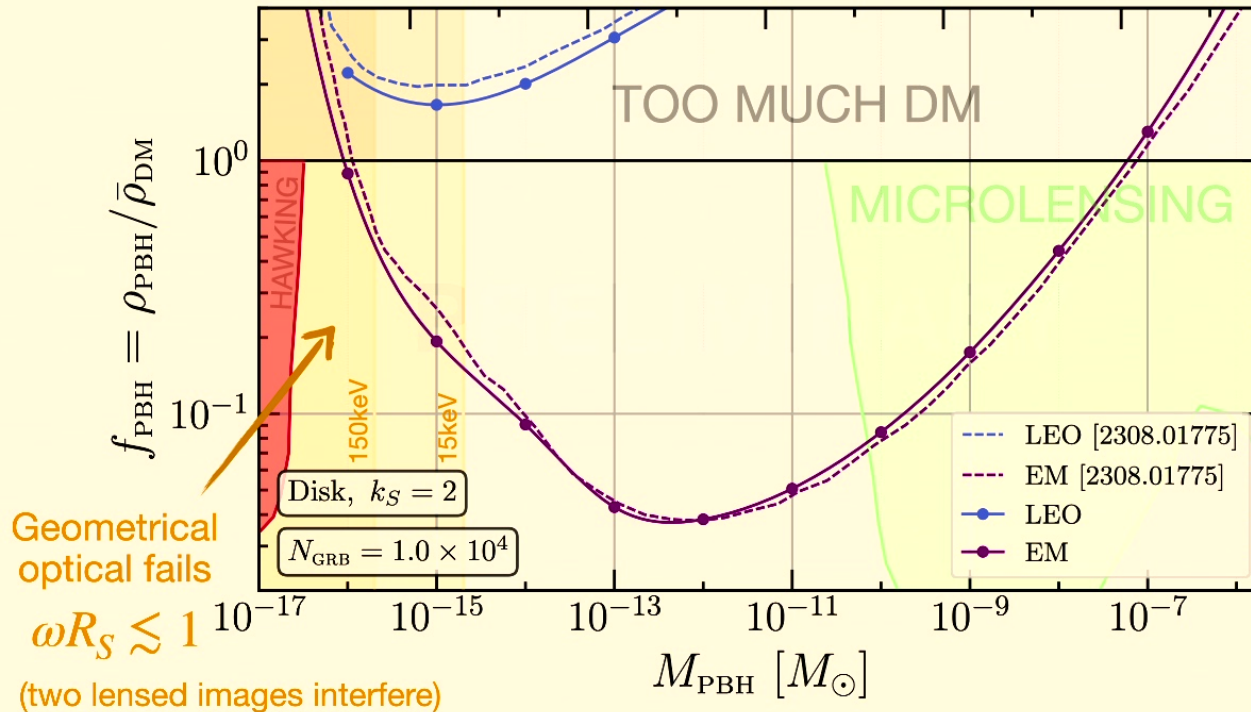
$$k_S = 2$$

$$M_{\text{PBH}} [\text{g}]$$

$$A_b = 2400 \text{ cm}^2 \quad A_s = 1300 \text{ cm}^2$$

$$f_b = 10 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

~Swift/BAT



Geometrical optical fails

$$\omega R_S \lesssim 1$$

(two lensed images interfere)

**Pretty good agreement (5-10%)**

**Validates our implementation**

**Confirms previous literature under their assumptions**

Scenario	Abbrev.	Baseline $R_O$	$R_O/R_\odot$
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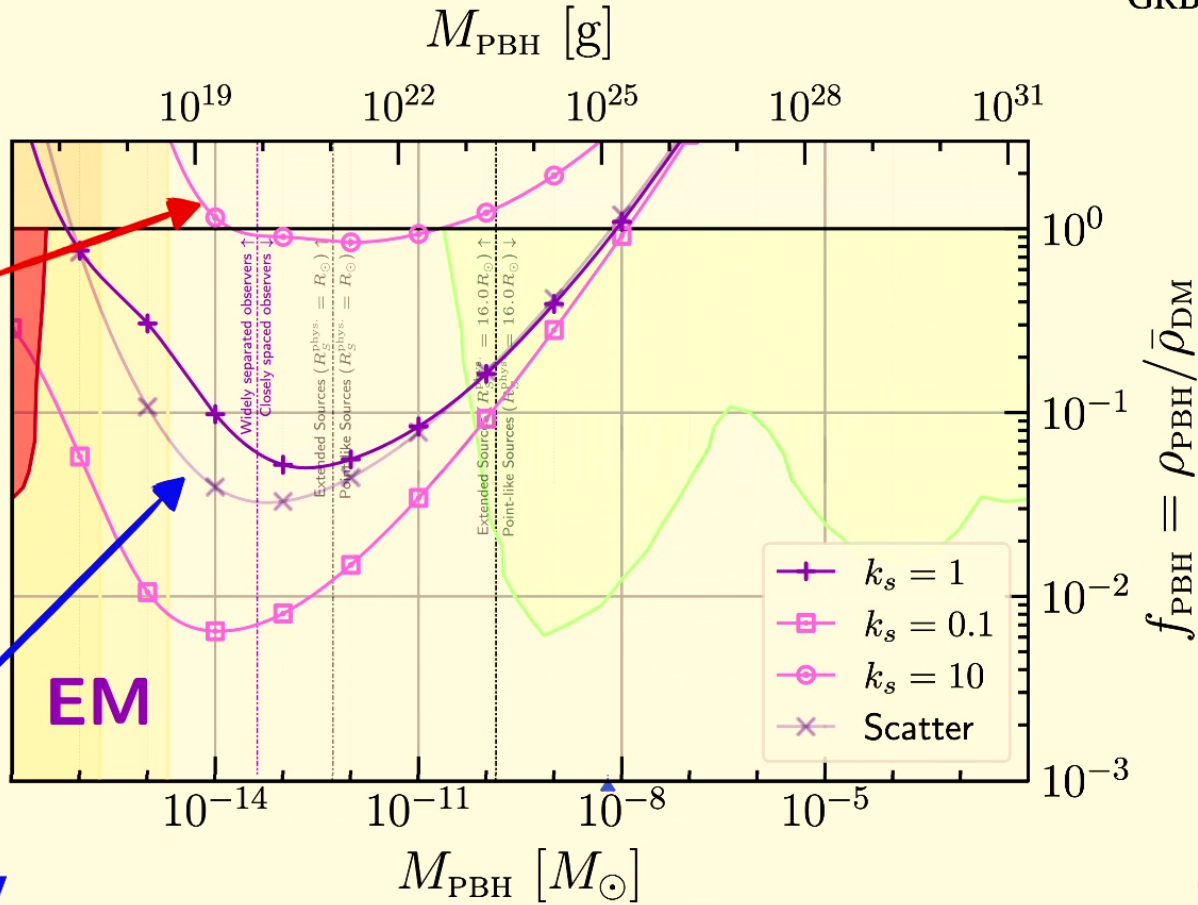
\*markers are computed; lines are log-log cubic spline interpolants

Michael A. Fedderke [Perimeter]

# Vary the source sizes

$$N_{\text{GRB}} = 3 \times 10^3$$

**Questionable whether you can robustly rule out  $f_{\text{DM}} = 1$  with this baseline if GRB sources are systematically off**



**But the scatter may not be an issue**

$$D_{\text{obs}} \equiv \frac{k_s T_{90}}{1 + z_s}$$

26

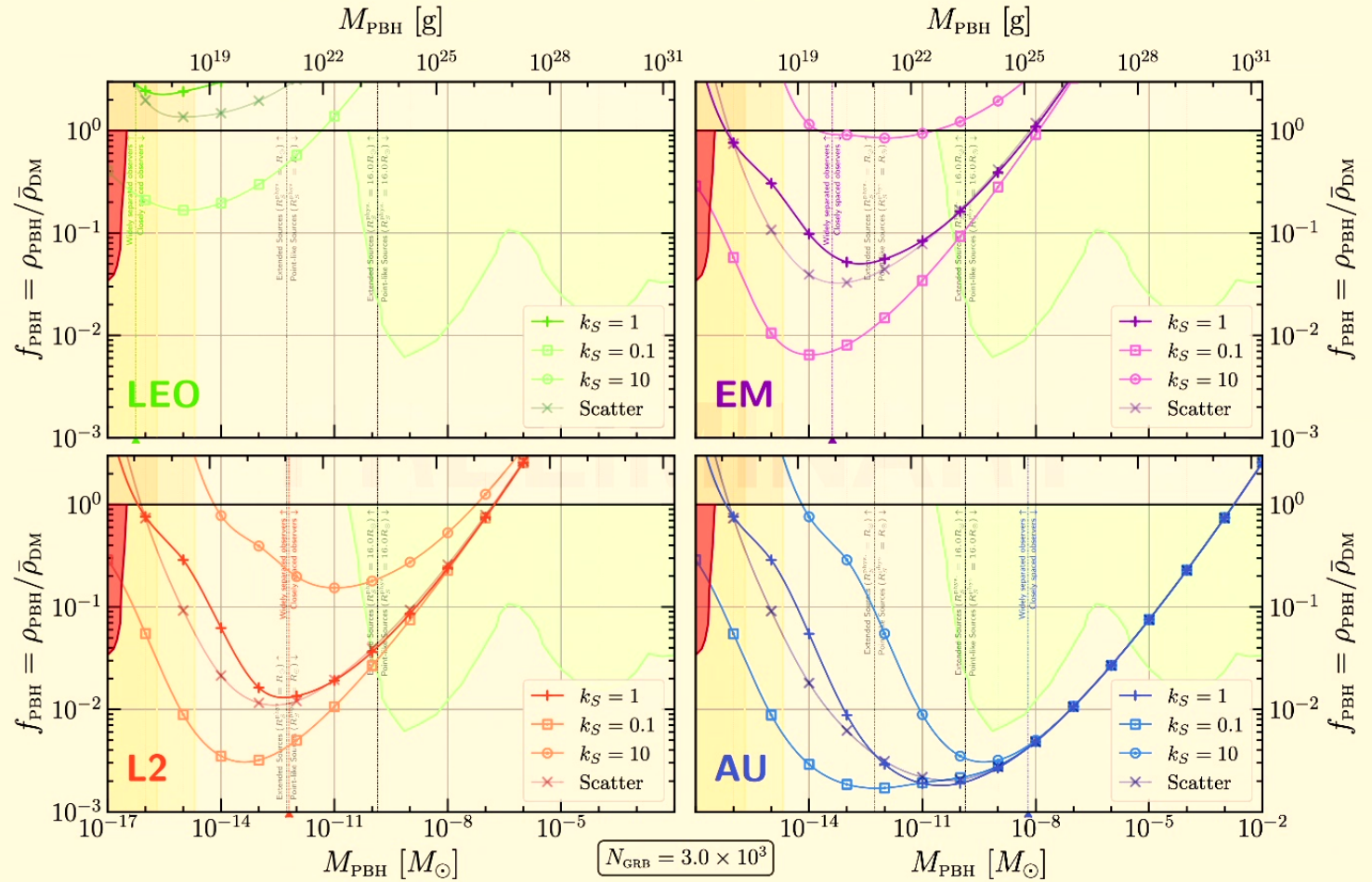
\*markers are computed; lines are log-log cubic spline interpolants

Michael A. Fedderke [Perimeter]

# Vary the source sizes for other baselines

**ROBUST  
EXCLUSIONS  
FOR L2, AU**

**LARGE-MASS  
REACH AT AU  
INDEPENDENT  
OF SOURCE  
UNCERTAINTIES!**



Scenario	Abbrev.	Baseline $R_O$	$R_O/R_{\odot}$
Low Earth Orbit	LEO	$1.40 \times 10^4$ km	0.020
Earth-Moon	EM	$3.84 \times 10^5$ km	0.55
Lagrange Point 2	L2	$1.50 \times 10^6$ km	2.15
Astronomical Unit	AU	$1.50 \times 10^8$ km	215

27

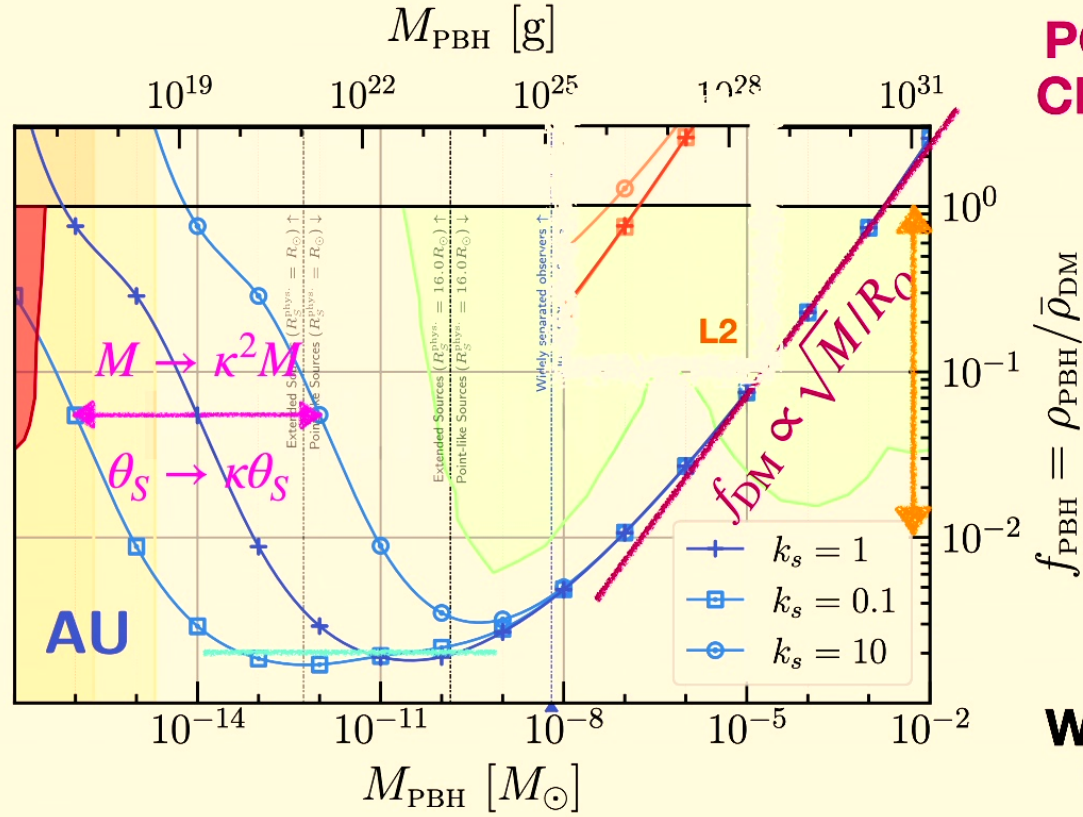
\*markers are computed; lines are log-log cubic spline interpolants

Michael A. Fedderke [Perimeter]



# Scalings

EXTENDED SOURCE, WIDELY SEPARATED OBSERVERS



POINT SOURCES, CLOSELY SPACED OBSERVERS

$$R_{L2} \sim 10^{-2} \text{ AU}$$

POINT SOURCES, WIDELY SEPARATED OBSERVERS

We understand all these features analytically (ask me after!)



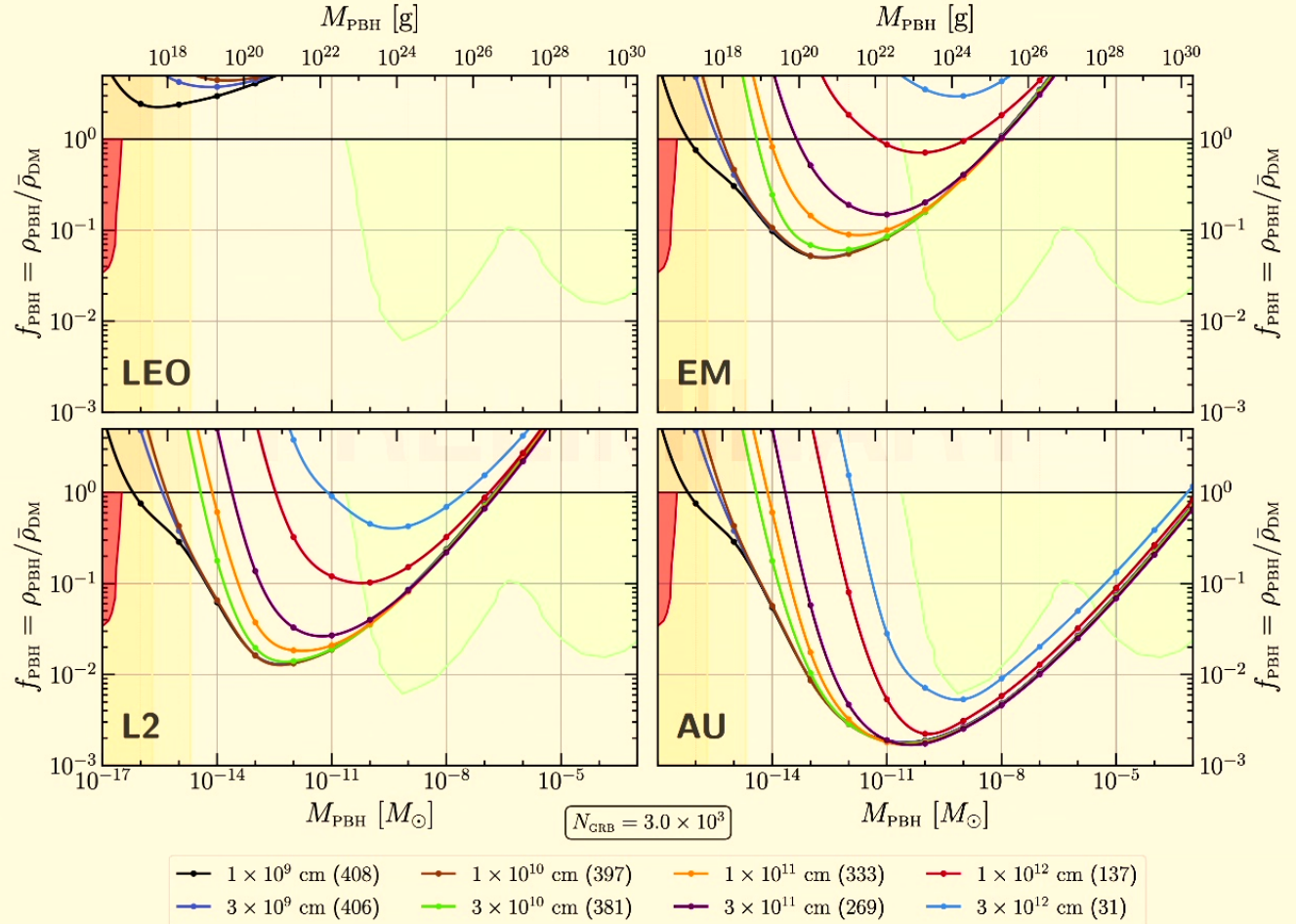
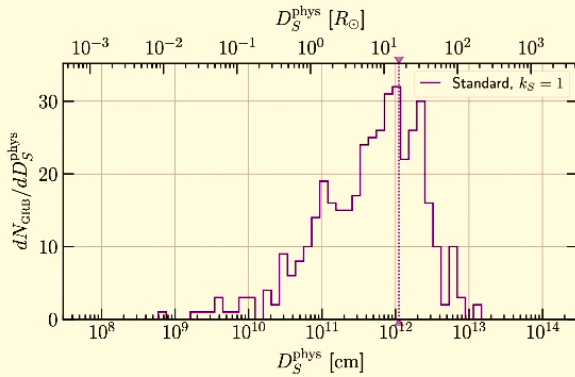
# Vary the minimum source size

$$k_S = 1 \quad D_{\text{obs}} \equiv \frac{k_S T_{90}}{1 + z_S}$$

Recall:

$$R_{\odot} \sim 7 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm}$$

Quite robust to  
excluding  
 $\lesssim R_{\odot}$  sources



29

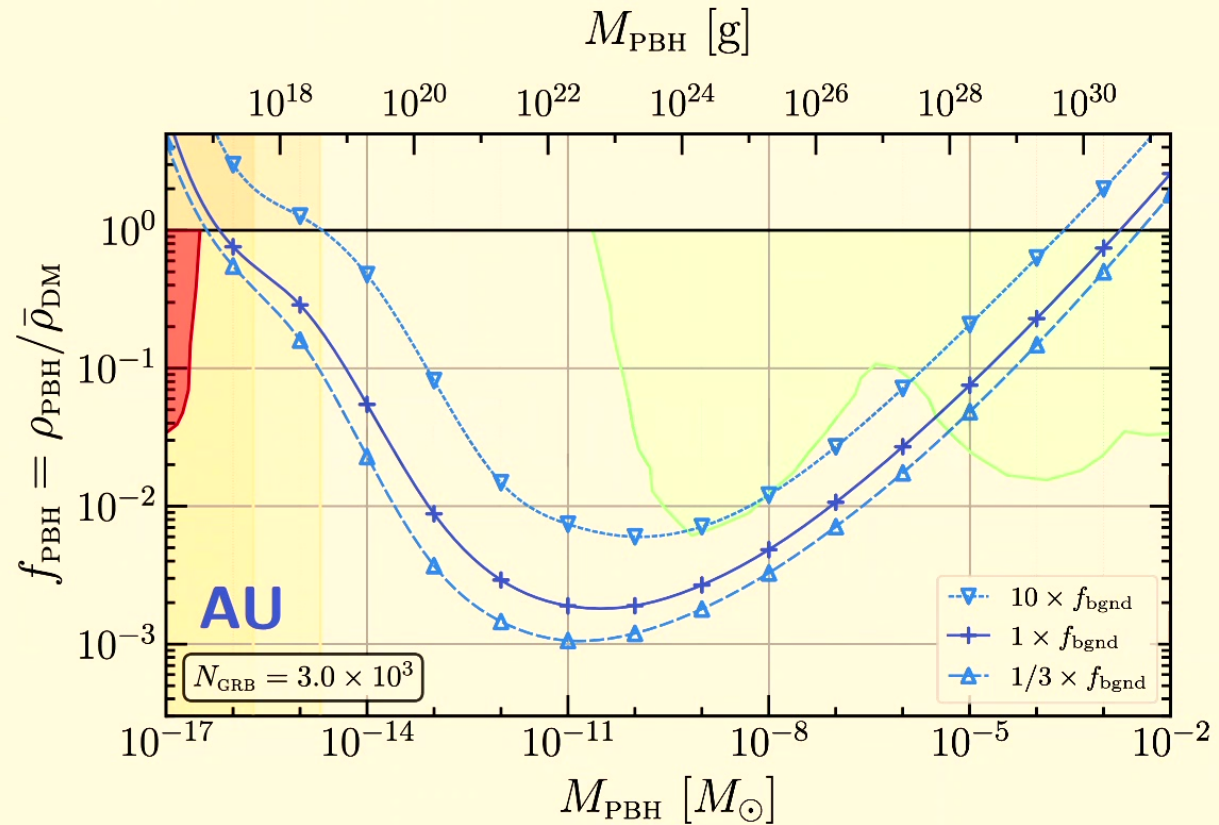
\*markers are computed; lines are log-log cubic spline interpolants

Michael A. Fedderke [Perimeter]

# Vary the background level

Higher backgrounds once out of LEO?

Some x-ray detection backgrounds from HE particles hitting detector / spacecraft



30

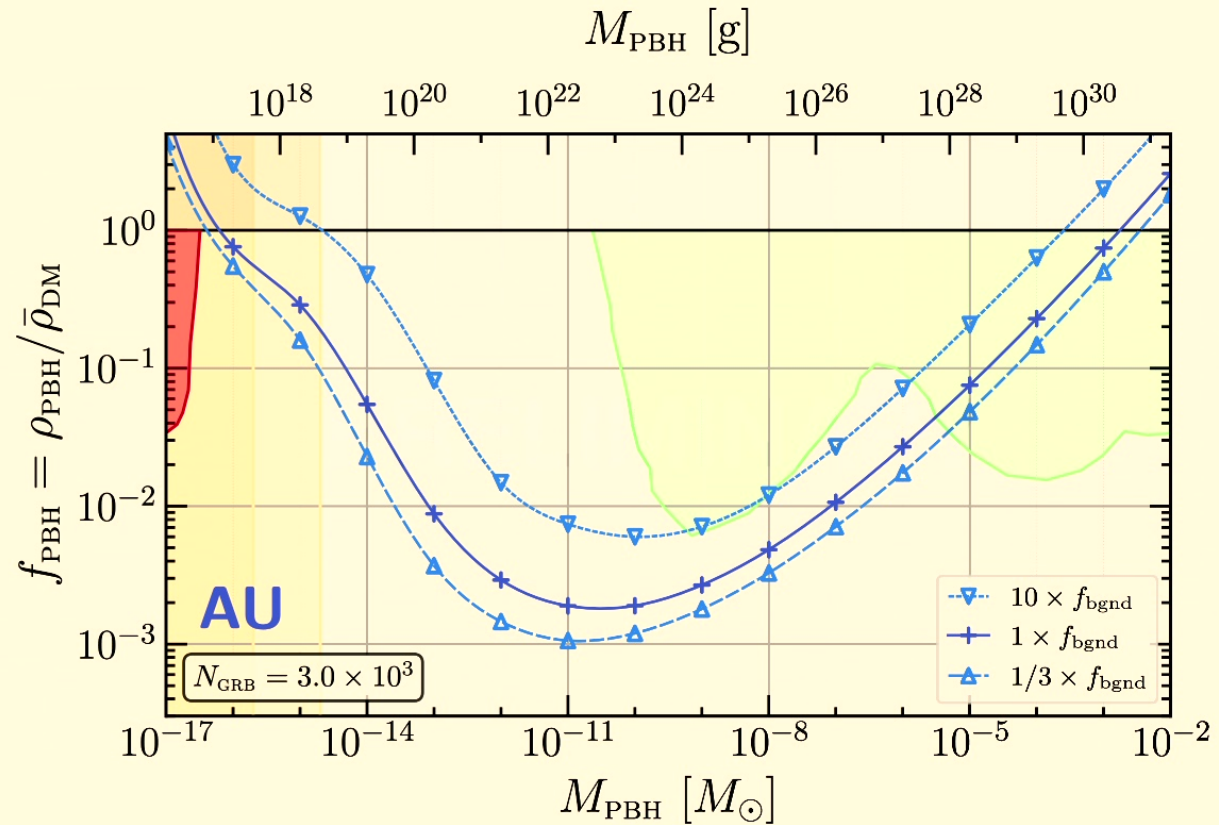
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Michael A. Fedderke [Perimeter]

# Conclusions

Validated that picolensing is a useful way to probe asteroid-mass PBH DM

Source size uncertainties can have a significant impact on picolensing:  
**offset** more important than scatter

Previous studies slightly too optimistic with shorter baselines (e.g., EM)

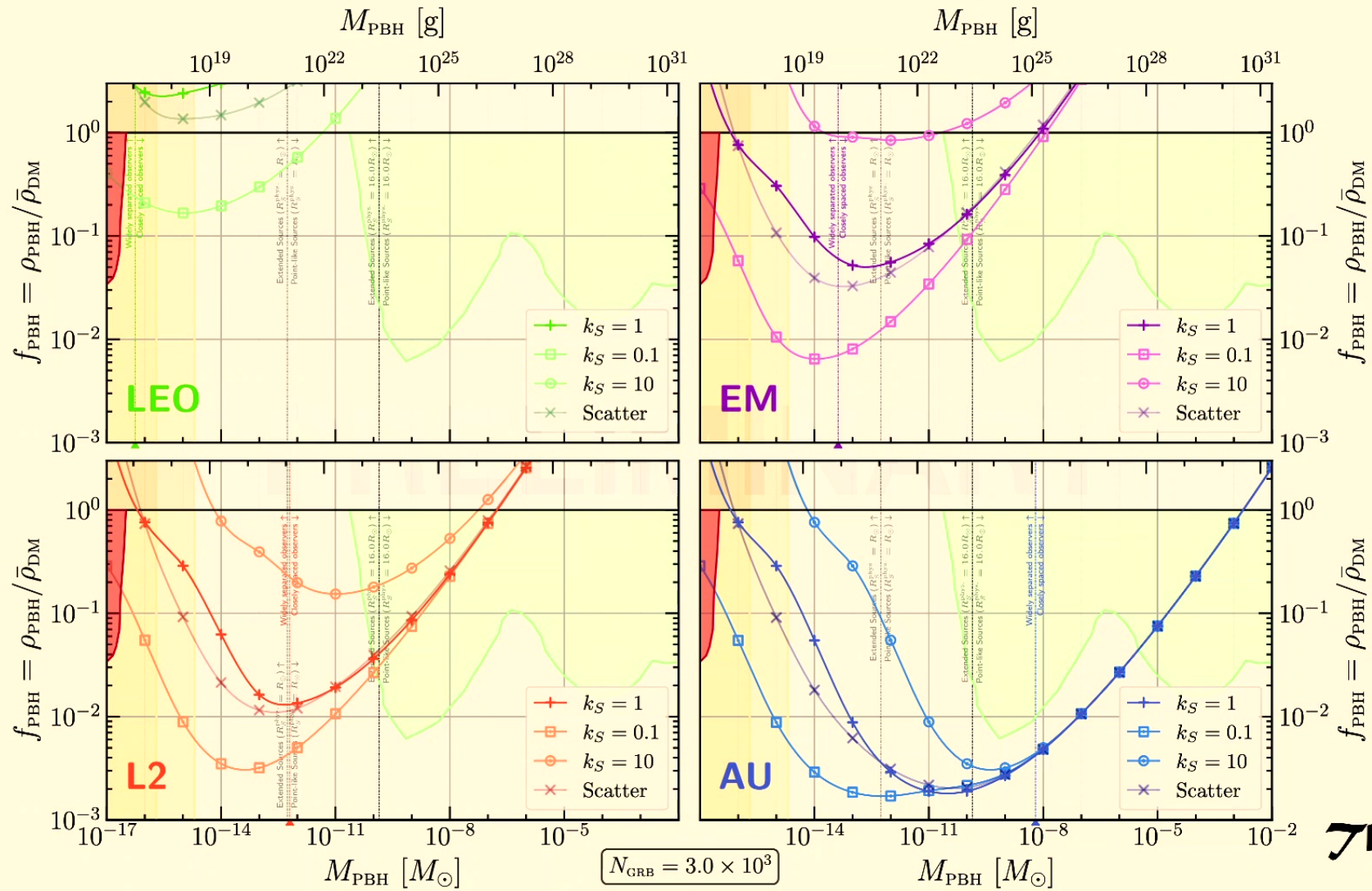
Mapped out that larger baselines (L2, AU) can overcome systematics issues with source sizes / minimum source sizes

Varying background levels not really a concern; ditto Gaussian vs Disk

Understood some qualitative scalings of results

Motivates work to understand GRB sources sizes in more detail





Thanks!

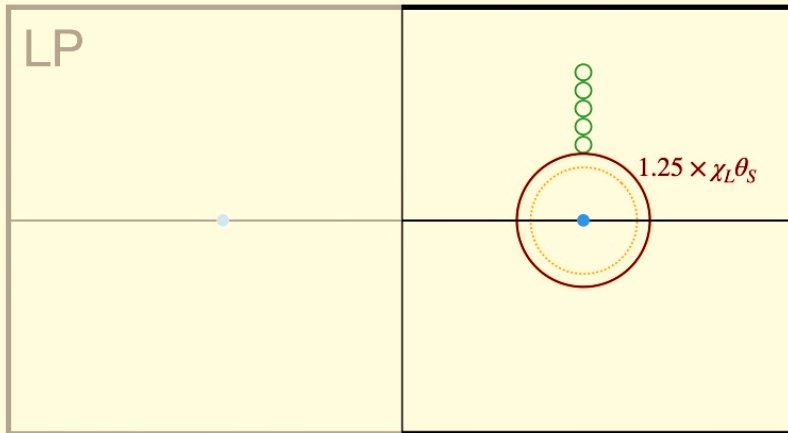
Michael A. Fedderke [Perimeter]



# Computing $\sigma$

Monte Carlo methods

Pick an appropriate sample area in the positive half-plane of the lens plane



38

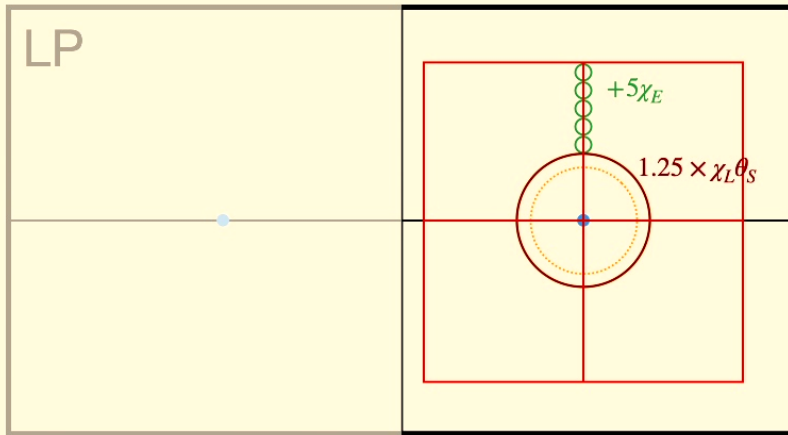
after: Gawade, More, Bhalerao [2308.01775]

Michael A. Fedderke [Perimeter]

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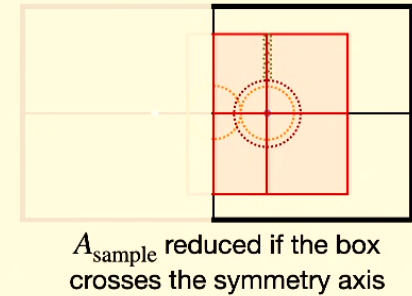
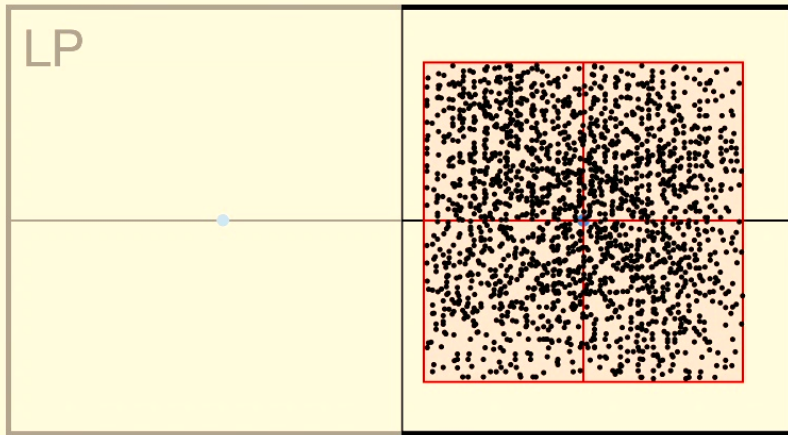
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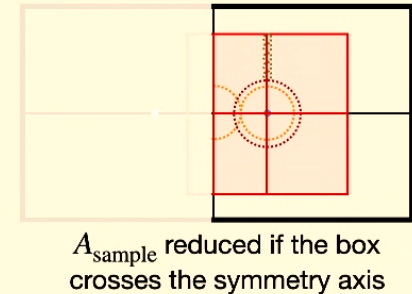
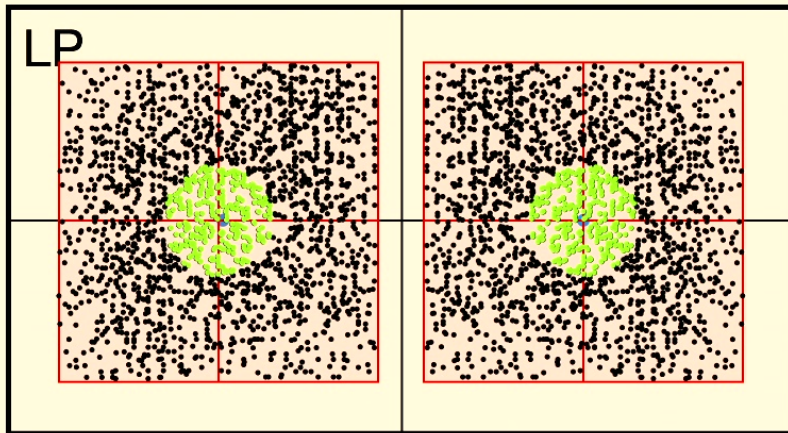


Populate with  $N_{\text{lens}}$  lenses randomly sampled in 2D;  $N_{\text{lens}} = 20000$  (100000 if needed)

# Computing $\sigma$

Monte Carlo methods

Pick an appropriate sample area in the positive half-plane of the lens plane



Populate with  $N_{\text{lens}}$  lenses randomly sampled in 2D;  $N_{\text{lens}} = 20000$  (100000 if needed)

Compute  $\bar{\mu}_i^k$  for  $i = 1, 2$  and  $\rho^k$  for  $k = 1, \dots, N_{\text{lens}}$ . Count the fraction  $f_\rho$  with  $\rho^k \geq \rho_*$

Cross-section is  $\sigma = 2A_{\text{sample}} \times f_\rho$  (the 2 accounts for the reflection symmetry)

We also test that no  $\rho^k \geq \rho_*$  are too close to sample box edges

38  
after: Gawade, More, Bhalerao [2308.01775]

Michael A. Fedderke [Perimeter]