

# Black holes from the Big Bang

Inflation and PBHs  
Christian Byrnes

US  
UNIVERSITY  
OF SUSSEX

GGI school - lecture 3 - 24 March 2021



# SR inflation: Select the true statement

Single-field inflation must create PBHs

100%

Primordial tensor perturbations have been detected

The primordial perturbations cannot be exactly scale invariant

The primordial perturbations are strongly scale dependent

None of the above



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When poll is active, respond at [pollev.com/byrnes](https://pollev.com/byrnes)

Text **BYRNES** to **07480 781235** once to join

## USR inflation: Which statement is true?

About 1 efold of USR inflation leads to PBH production

More than 2 efolds of USR inflation leads to eternal inflation

An order unity primordial power spectrum implies eternal inflation

You can evaluate the power spectrum at Hubble exit during USR inflation

None of the above

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# USR inflation: Which statement is true?

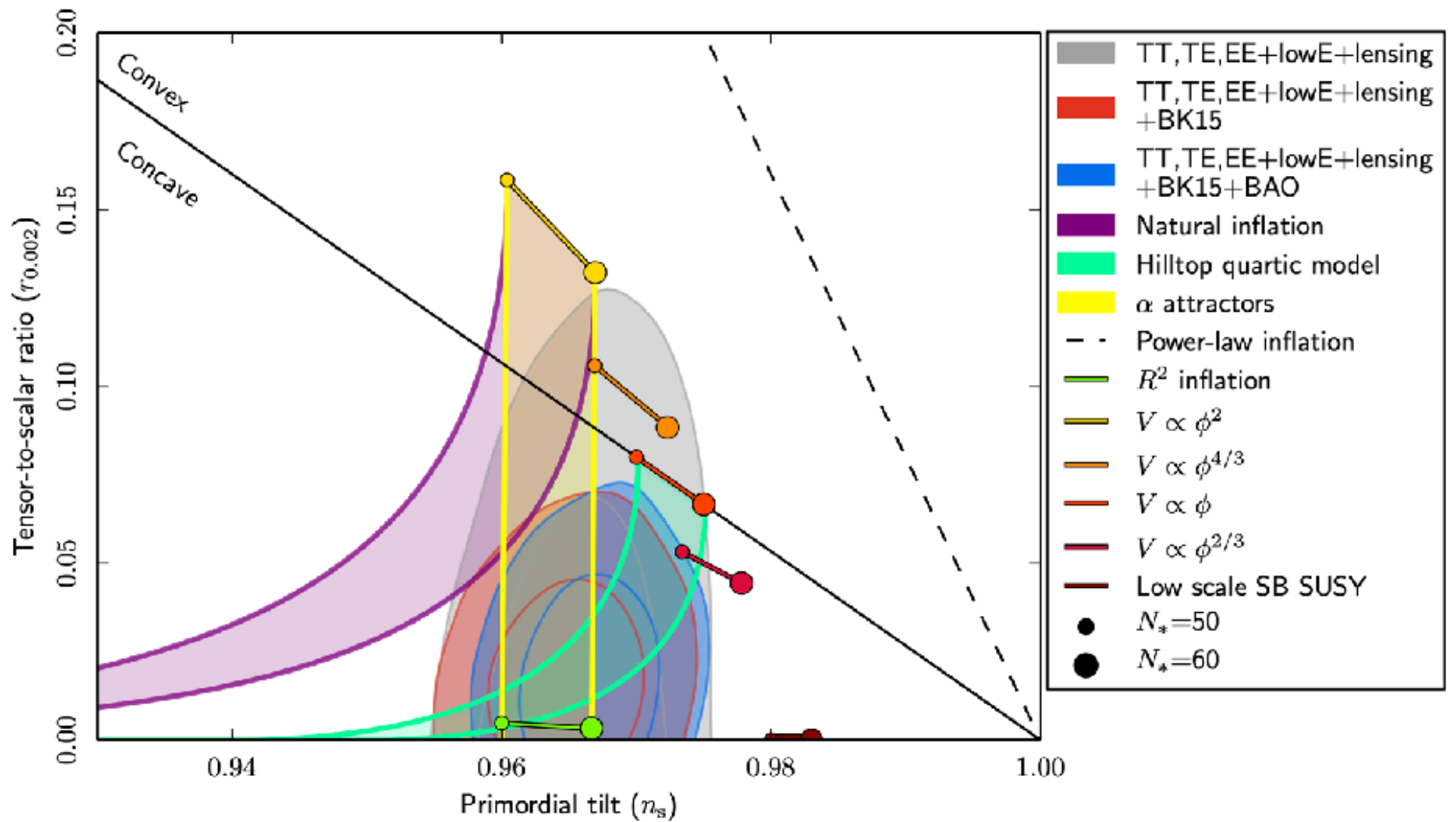
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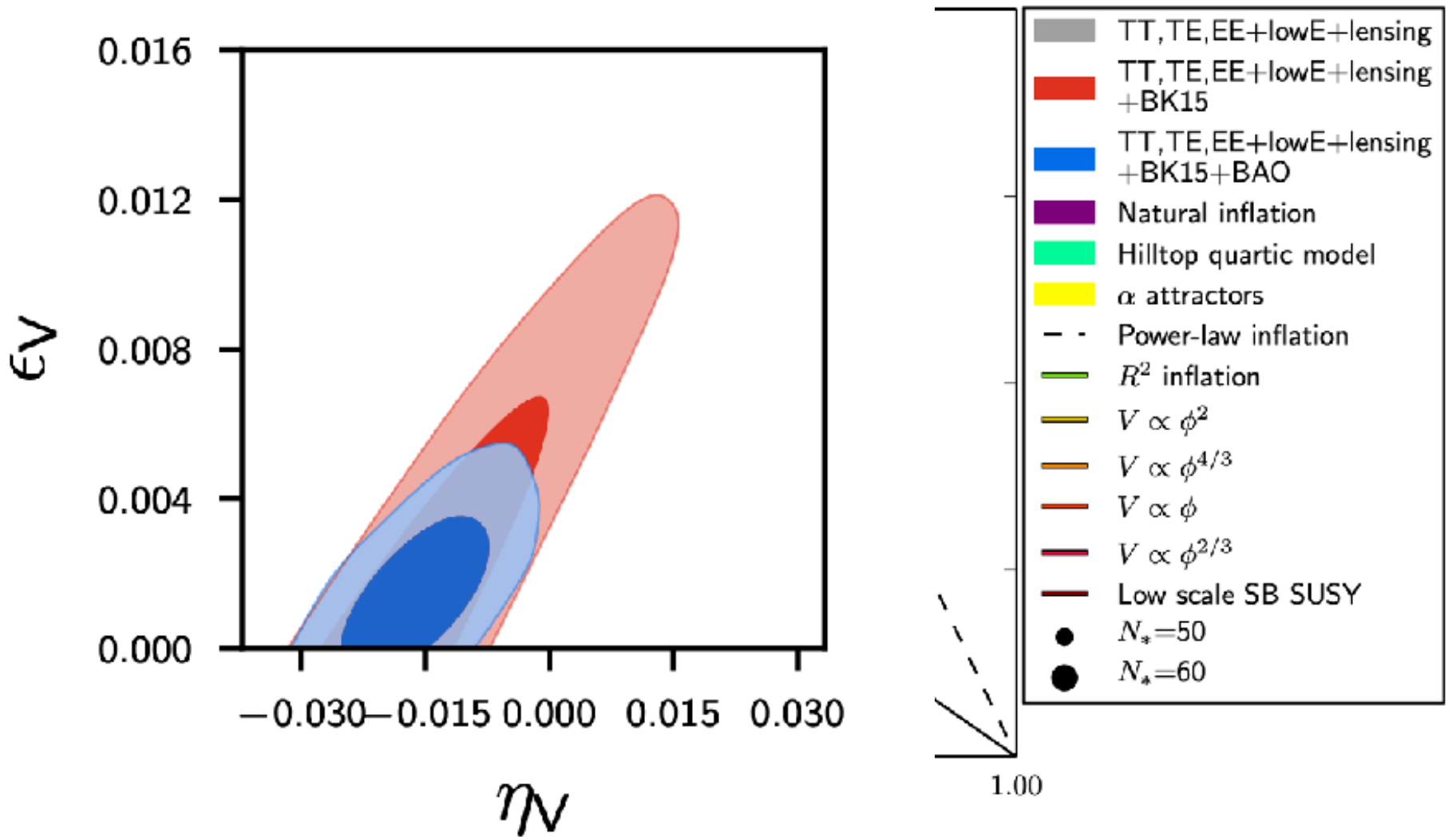
None of the above



**Fig. 8.** Marginalized joint 68 % and 95 % CL regions for  $n_s$  and  $r$  at  $k = 0.002 \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$  from *Planck* alone and in combination with BK15 or BK15+BAO data, compared to the theoretical predictions of selected inflationary models. Note that the marginalized joint 68 % and 95 % CL regions assume  $dn_s/d \ln k = 0$ .

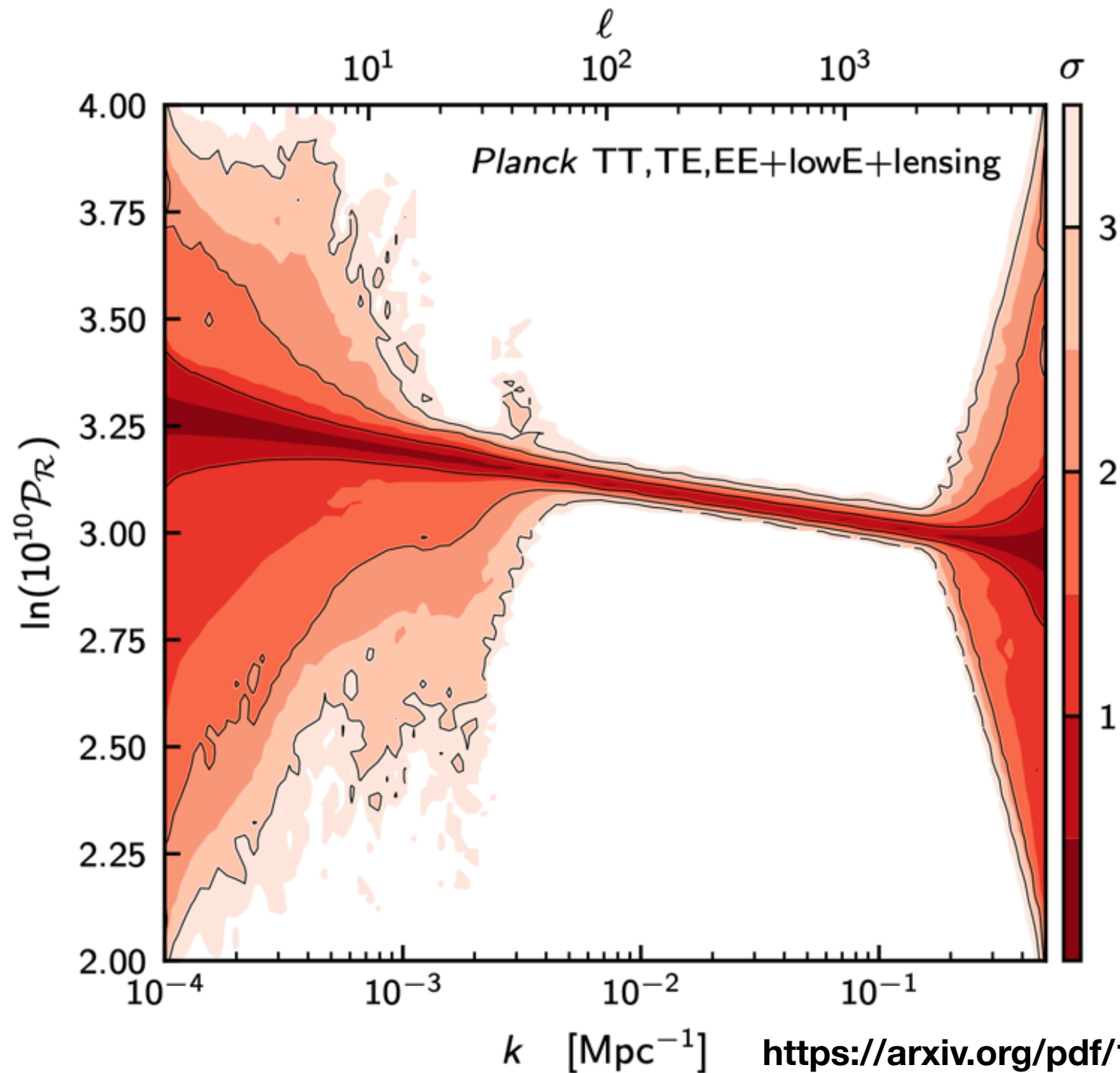
<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1807.06211.pdf>





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<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1807.06211.pdf>



# What is the Universe made of?

By eye, we see stars  
and a few planets



# Observations of which of the following are compatible with DM being made of astrophysical black holes?

Galaxy cluster velocities

Galaxy rotation curves

The bullet cluster

All of the above

None of the above

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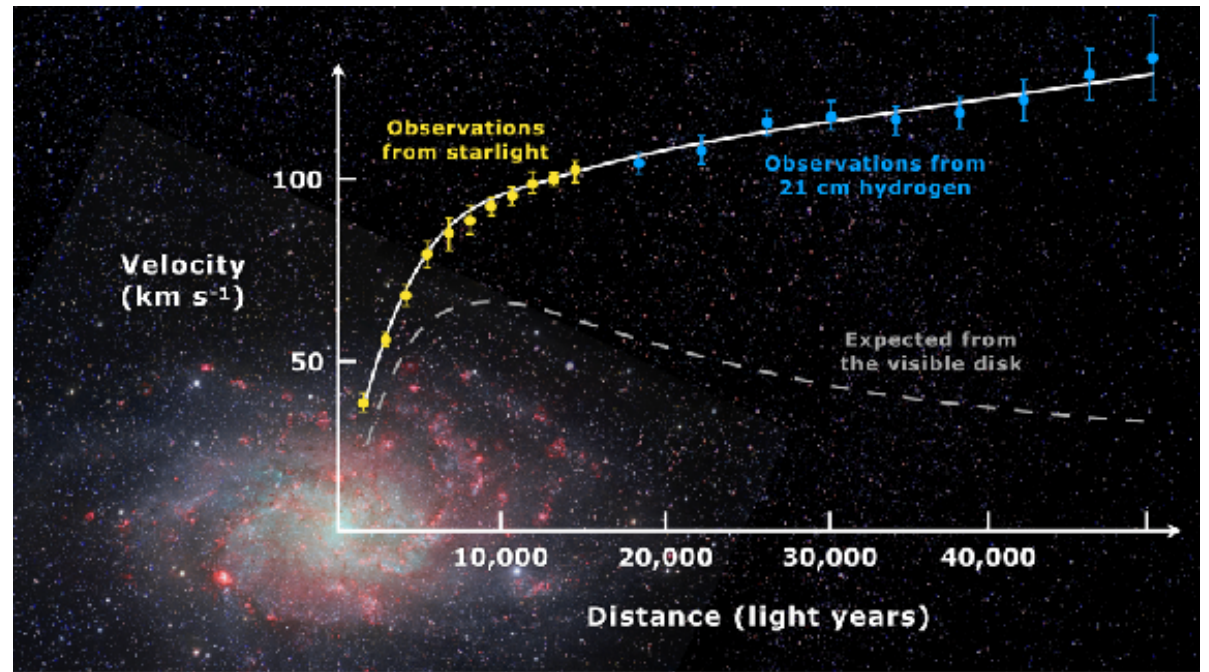
The bullet cluster

All of the above

None of the above



Coma galaxy cluster By NASA / JPL-Caltech



By Mario De Leo - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0,  
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=74398525>



Fritz Zwicky used galaxy clusters to postulate “dunkle materie” in 1933



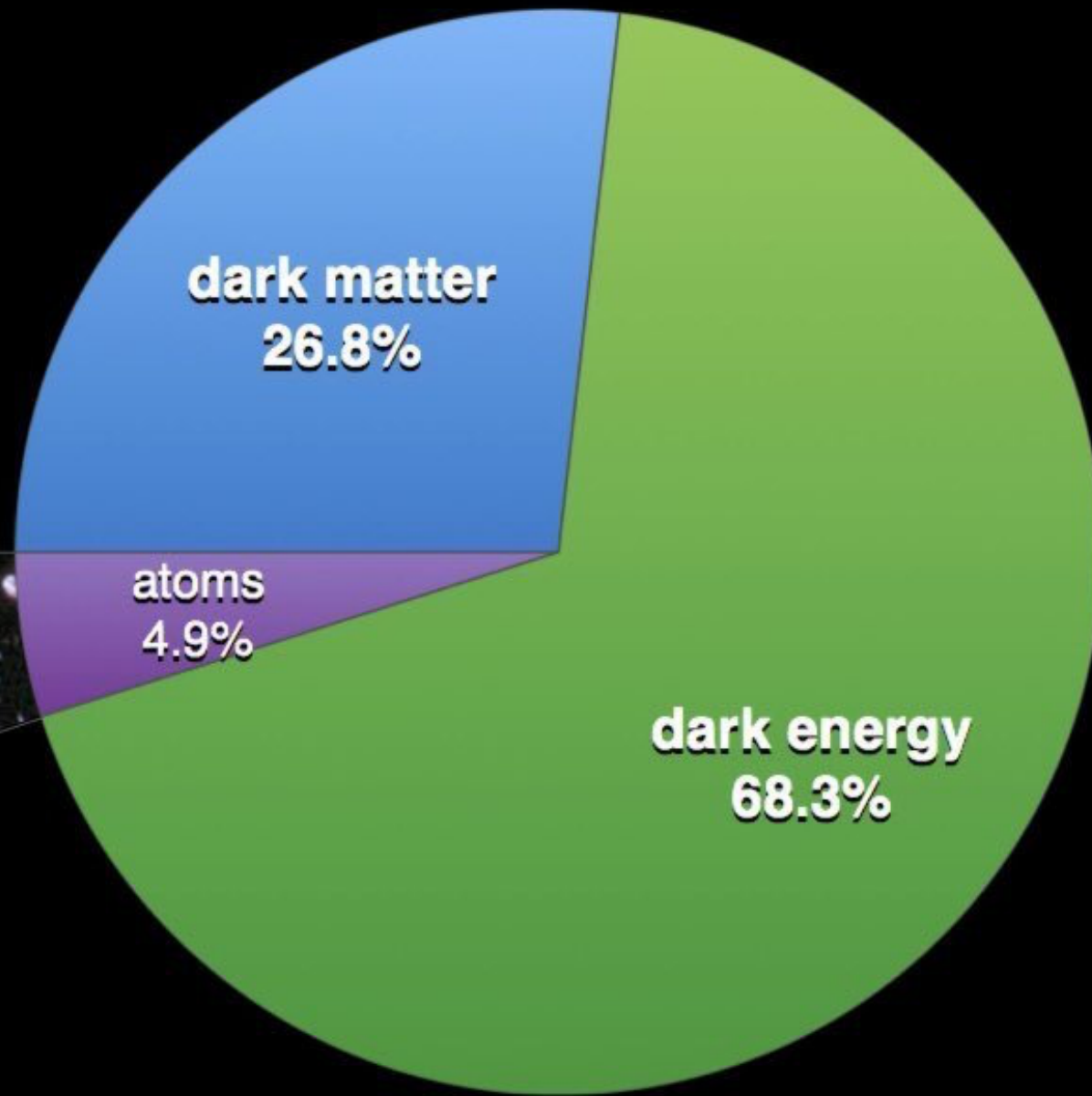
Vera Rubin measured galaxy rotation curves from the 1960s

# Cold dark matter

- The evidence includes galaxy rotation curves, galaxy cluster velocities and the bullet cluster
- Black holes are cold and dark
- However, the growth of structure from the CMB till today proves DM must have formed before the CMB. Does this rule out black holes as dark matter?
- Not if they are primordial!



By the 1980s nearly all cosmologists accepted the need for dark matter



ESO Video News Reel 46/08

Unprecedented 16-year long study tracks  
stars orbiting Milky Way black hole.

B-roll

European Southern Observatory

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# The Nobel Prize in Physics 2020



© Nobel Media. Ill. Niklas Elmehed.

**Roger Penrose**

Prize share: 1/2



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**Reinhard Genzel**

Prize share: 1/4



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**Andrea Ghez**

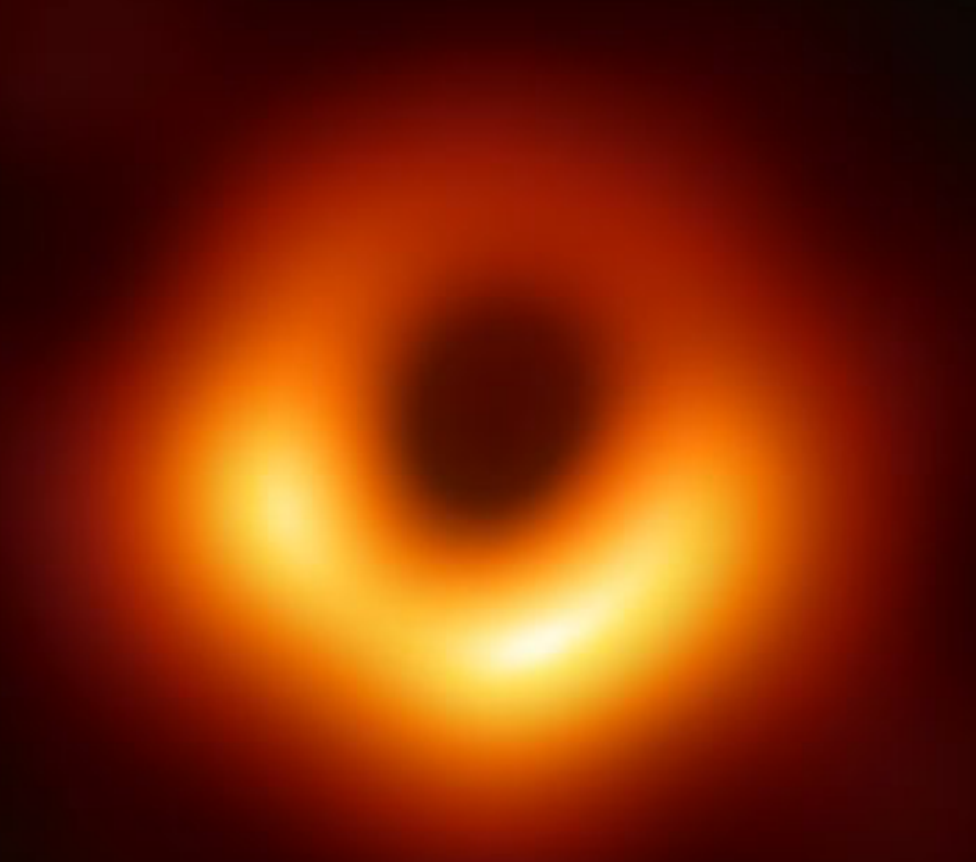
Prize share: 1/4

<https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/physics/2020/summary/>

The Nobel Prize in Physics 2020 was divided, one half awarded to Roger Penrose "for the discovery that black hole formation is a robust prediction of the general theory of relativity", the other half jointly to Reinhard Genzel and Andrea Ghez "for the discovery of a supermassive compact object at the centre of our galaxy."

# The event horizon telescope

A supermassive black hole in a nearby galaxy



# Dark matter might not be a new particle

- The unique alternative in GR are primordial black holes (PBHs)

*Zel'dovich and Novikov 1967; Hawking 1974; Carr and Hawking 1974*

- The existence of black holes which formed in the early universe requires special initial conditions but not new physics
- If detected, PBHs would teach us a lot about the early universe and inflation
- PBH reviews include: *Sasaki et al '18; Carr & Kuhnel '20; Green & Kavanagh '20*

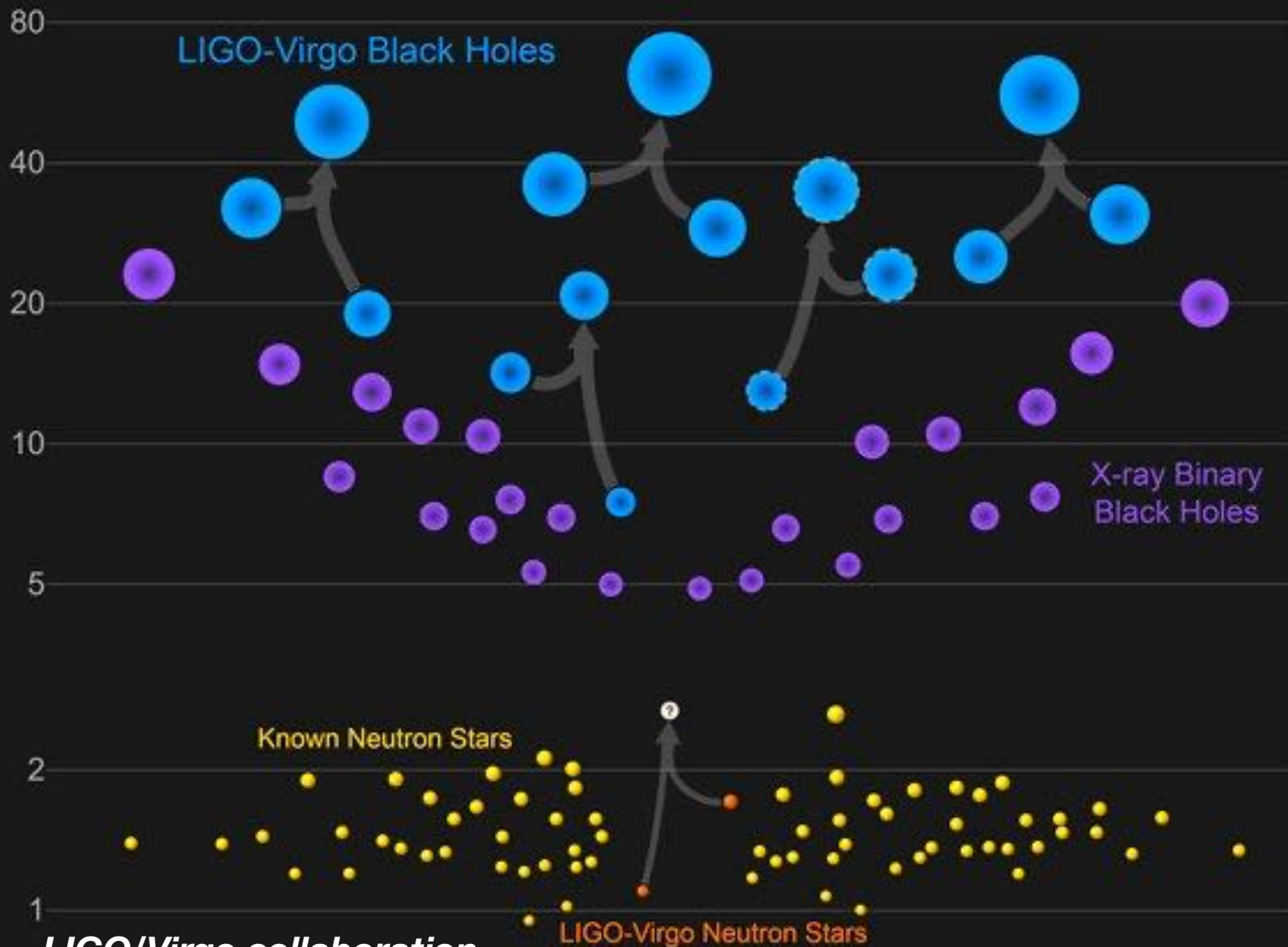
# Black holes

- Three populations have been observed
  1. “Light” BHs with 5-20  $M_{\odot}$  which formed via stellar collapse
  2. Supermassive BHs  $10^6$ - $10^{10} M_{\odot}$  in galactic centres - formation process uncertain
  3. Intermediate mass BHs up to 40  $M_{\odot}$  detected by LIGO
- BHs can form in the “late” Universe via stellar or gas cloud collapse within certain mass ranges.
- Primordial Black Holes (PBHs) could have also formed in the early Universe (during the first second) and may have any mass whatsoever
- PBHs below the Tolman-Oppenheimer-Volkoff neutron star mass limit are of special interest (about 2 times the Chandrasekhar mass), since they would be a smoking gun for a primordial origin. Those below the Chandrasekhar mass would be an even clearer signature.

**Bambi review 2017**

# Masses in the Stellar Graveyard

*in Solar Masses*



*LIGO/Virgo collaboration*

[Submitted on 1 Mar 2016 (v1), last revised 30 May 2016 (this version, v2)]

## **Did LIGO detect dark matter?**

Simeon Bird, Ilias Cholis, Julian B. Muñoz, Yacine Ali-Haïmoud, Marc Kamionkowski, Ely D. Kovetz, Alvise Raccanelli, Adam G. Riess

We consider the possibility that the black-hole (BH) binary detected by LIGO may be a signature of dark matter. Interestingly enough, there remains a window for masses  $20 M_{\odot} \lesssim M_{\text{bh}} \lesssim 100 M_{\odot}$  where primordial black holes (PBHs) may constitute the dark matter. If two BHs in a galactic halo pass sufficiently close, they radiate enough energy in gravitational waves to become gravitationally bound. The bound BHs will rapidly spiral inward due to emission of gravitational radiation and ultimately merge. Uncertainties in the rate for such events arise from our imprecise knowledge of the phase-space structure of galactic halos on the smallest scales. Still, reasonable estimates span a range that overlaps the  $2 - 53 \text{ Gpc}^{-3} \text{ yr}^{-1}$  rate estimated from GW150914, thus raising the possibility that LIGO has detected PBH dark matter. PBH mergers are likely to be distributed spatially more like dark matter than luminous matter and have no optical nor neutrino counterparts. They may be distinguished from mergers of BHs from more traditional astrophysical sources through the observed mass spectrum, their high ellipticities, or their stochastic gravitational wave background. Next generation experiments will be invaluable in performing these tests.

Comments: 5 pages, 2 figures, updated to match version published in PRL

Subjects: **Cosmology and Nongalactic Astrophysics (astro-ph.CO)**; High Energy Physics – Phenomenology (hep-ph)

Journal reference: Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 201301 (2016)

DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevLett.116.201301](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.116.201301)

Cite as: [arXiv:1603.00464](https://arxiv.org/abs/1603.00464) [astro-ph.CO]



# The LIGO events

- It appears unlikely that more than 1% of the dark matter can be made out of LIGO mass PBHs
- But all of the LIGO BHs could be primordial
- Black holes have no hair, so how can we know?  
Total mass  
Mass ratio  
(Spin, redshift distribution and location)

# LIGO/Virgo - gravitational wave hunters

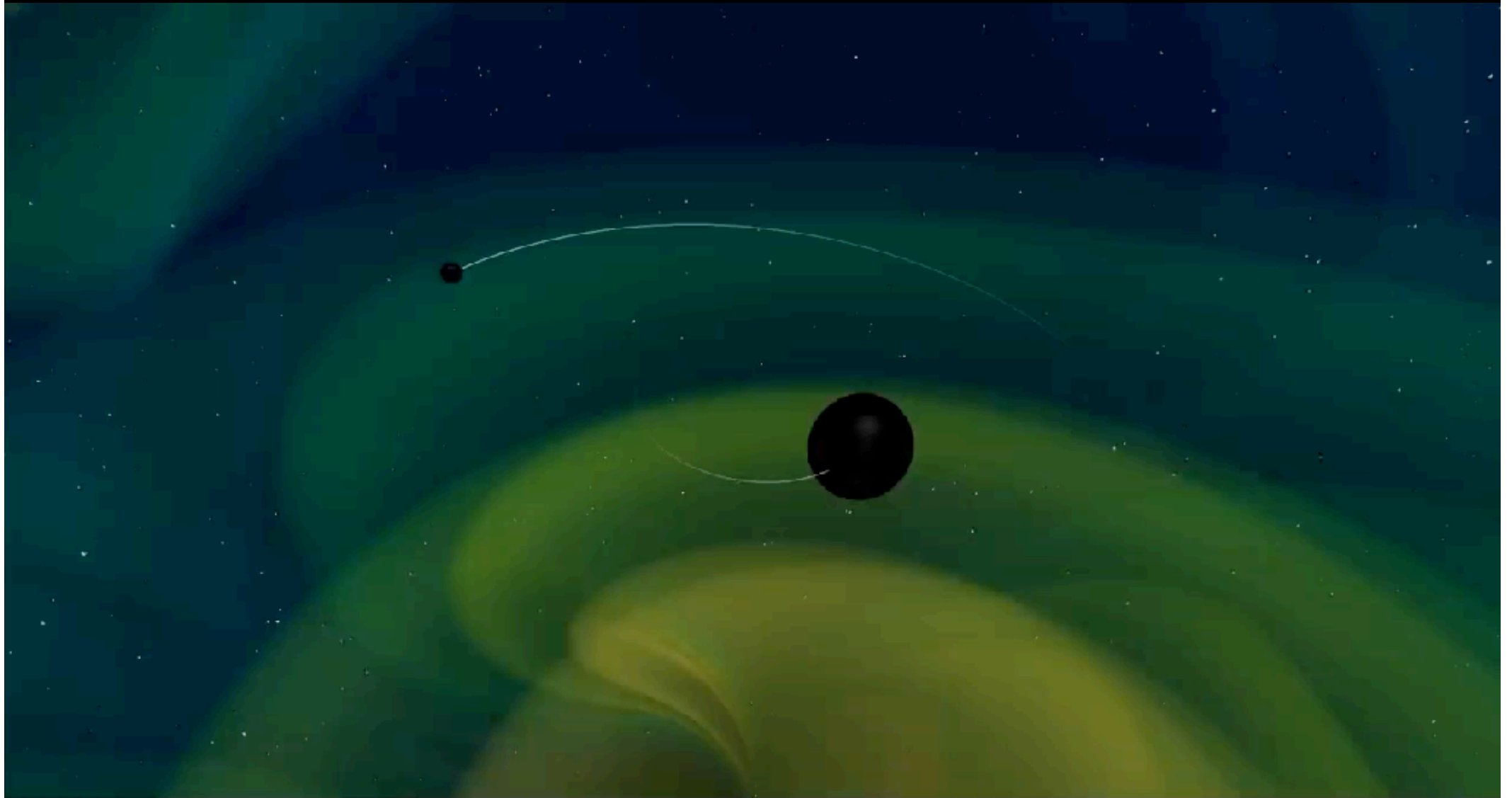


<https://www.ligo.org/public.php>

# Gravitational waves - 2017 Nobel prize

$$E = mc^2$$

What happens in a black hole...  
stays in a black hole.

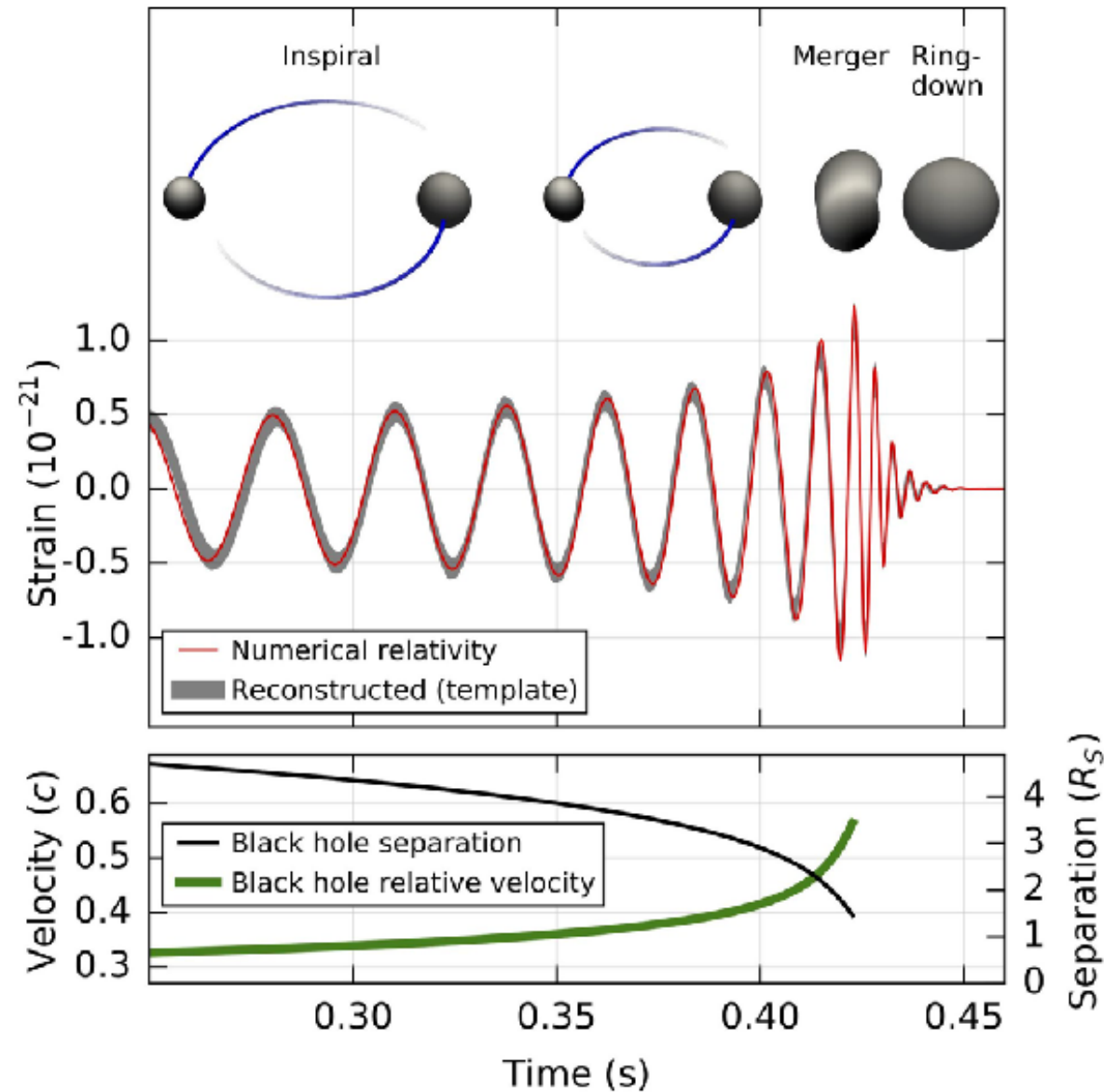


-29.5ms

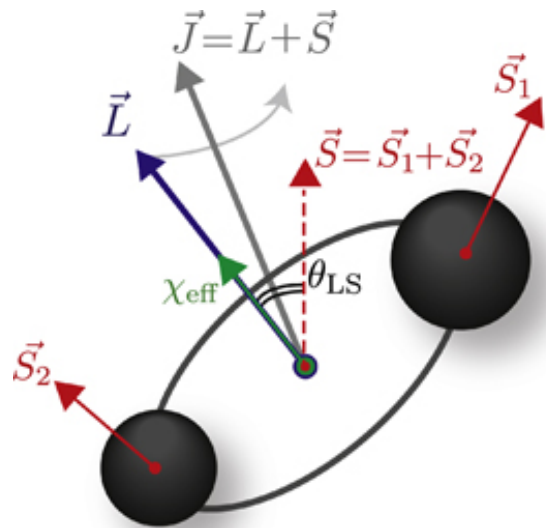
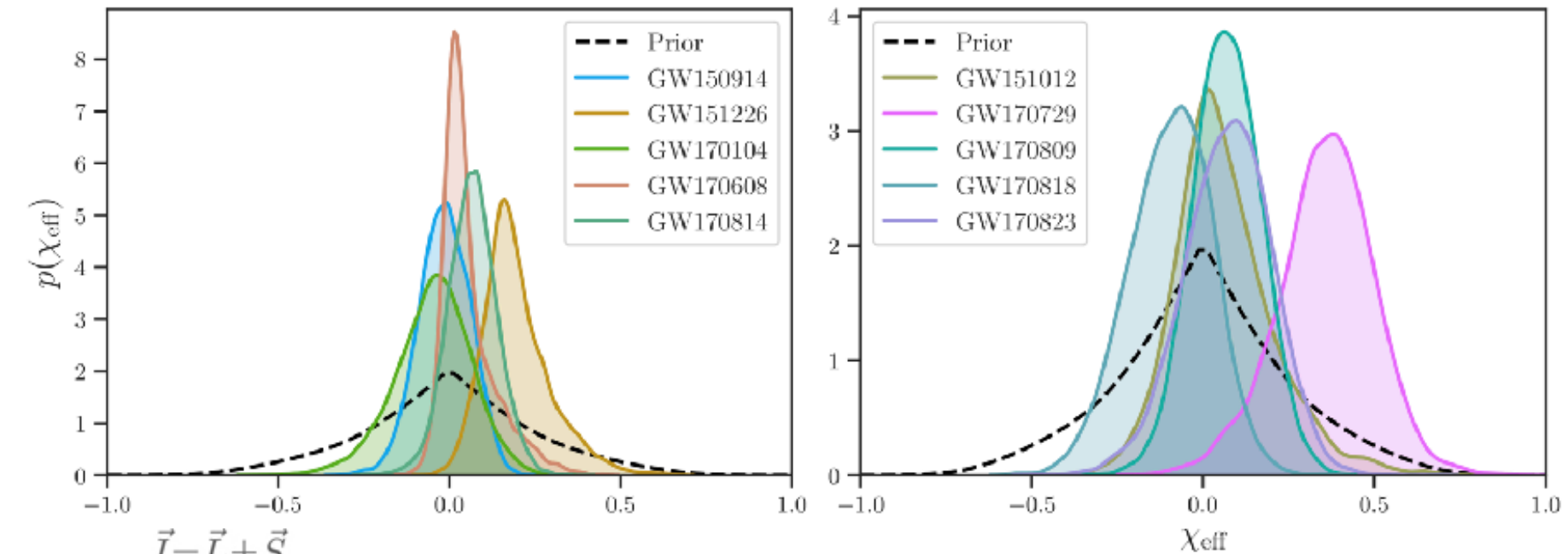


**A new way to “see” the universe  
Black holes and neutron stars have been seen merging**

# The three merger phases



# Black hole spin - in isolation favours PBHs



$$\chi_{\text{eff}} = \frac{c}{G(m_1 + m_2)} \left( \frac{\vec{S}_1}{m_1} + \frac{\vec{S}_2}{m_2} \right) \cdot \vec{L} \quad a_* = \frac{c |\vec{S}|}{Gm^2} \leq 1$$

Model comparison based on spins

*Fernandez & Profumo '19, Garcia-Bellido et al '20,*

*Wong et al 2020 (uses O3a data)*

However, we find that by far the strongest

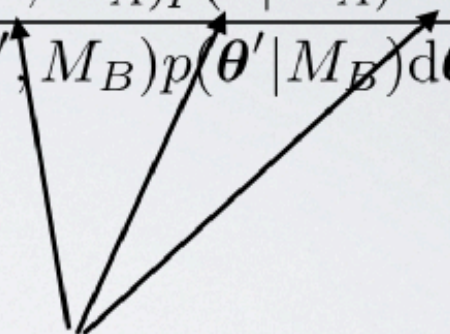
constraining power comes from the masses

PBHs do not undergo much collapse before formation, small spin expected

*Belczynski et al. '17; Mirbabi et al '19; De Luca et al '19, Harada et al '20 + many more*

# Has LIGO detected DM PBHs?

## The Bayesian evidence ratio

$$\frac{Z_A}{Z_B} \equiv \frac{p(M_A|\mathbf{d})}{p(M_B|\mathbf{d})} = \frac{p(M_A)}{p(M_B)} \frac{\int p(\mathbf{d}|\boldsymbol{\theta}, M_A)p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|M_A)d\boldsymbol{\theta}}{\int p(\mathbf{d}|\boldsymbol{\theta}', M_B)p(\boldsymbol{\theta}'|M_B)d\boldsymbol{\theta}'}$$


Population parameters, i.e. mass function parameters, PBH abundance etc.

*Hall, Gow, CB, 2020: Bayesian comparison*

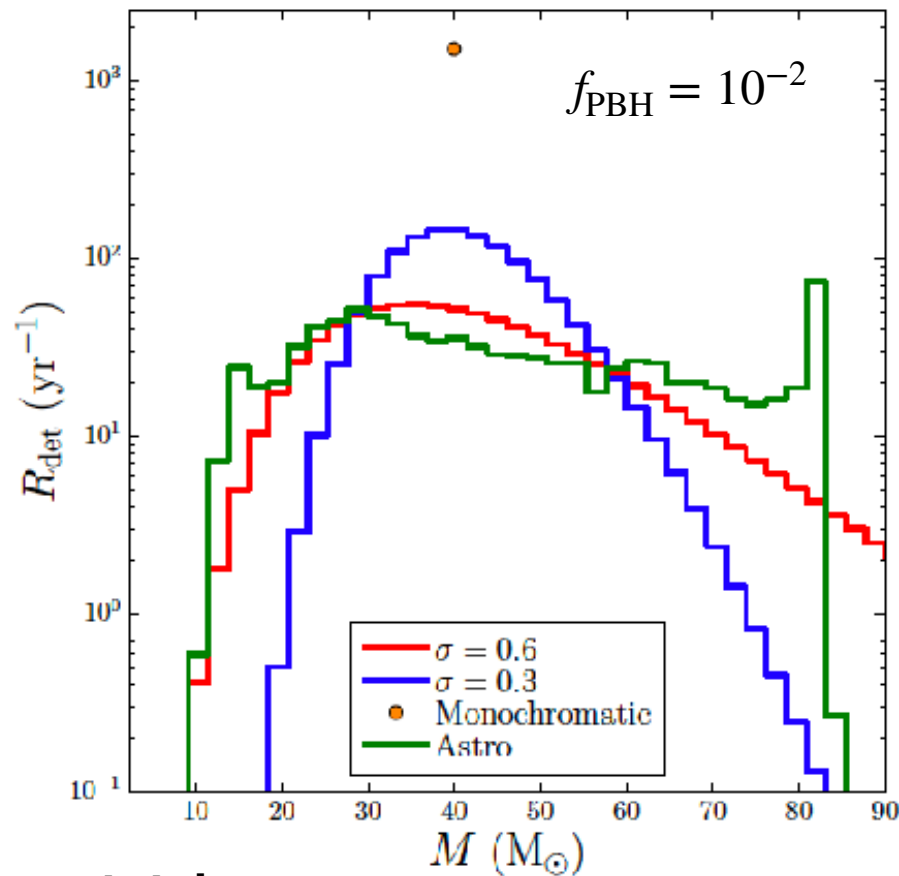
# Key ingredients

- We perform a Bayesian model comparison, where the two models are either all black holes are astrophysical or all are primordial
- We marginalise over the PBH merger rate, by assuming a functional form of the PBH mass function and then fit the free parameters to the data
- This typically means fitting a peak mass, a width, and an amplitude ( $f_{\text{PBH}}$ )
- We take broad priors on all parameters
- For the astrophysical model we take the empirical models A and B from LIGO-Virgo 02 results, which captures some key physics such as the lower and upper mass cut offs and power law dependence on the upper mass and the mass ratio

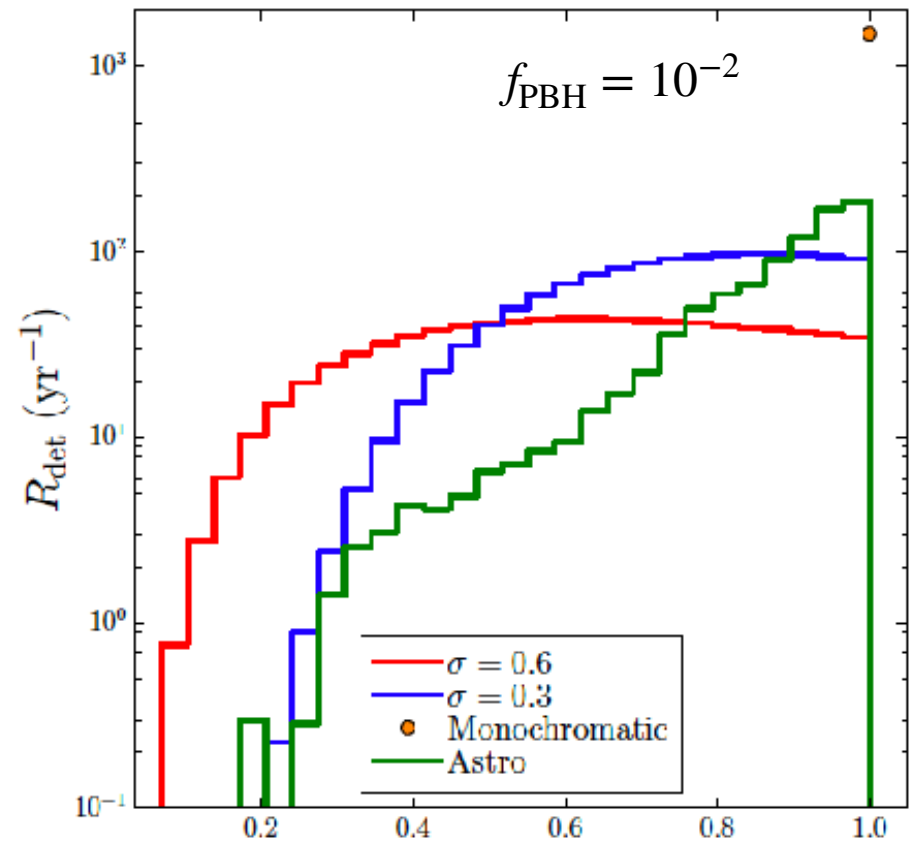


# Varying the PBH mass function width (sigma)

Wide enough to fit the masses, yet not so wide to stop  $q \sim 1$



**total mass**



**mass ratio**

The “astro” distribution covers a broader range of total masses than  $\sigma=0.3$ , but it still prefers the mass ratio  $q \sim 1$ . A monochromatic mass function is ruled out.

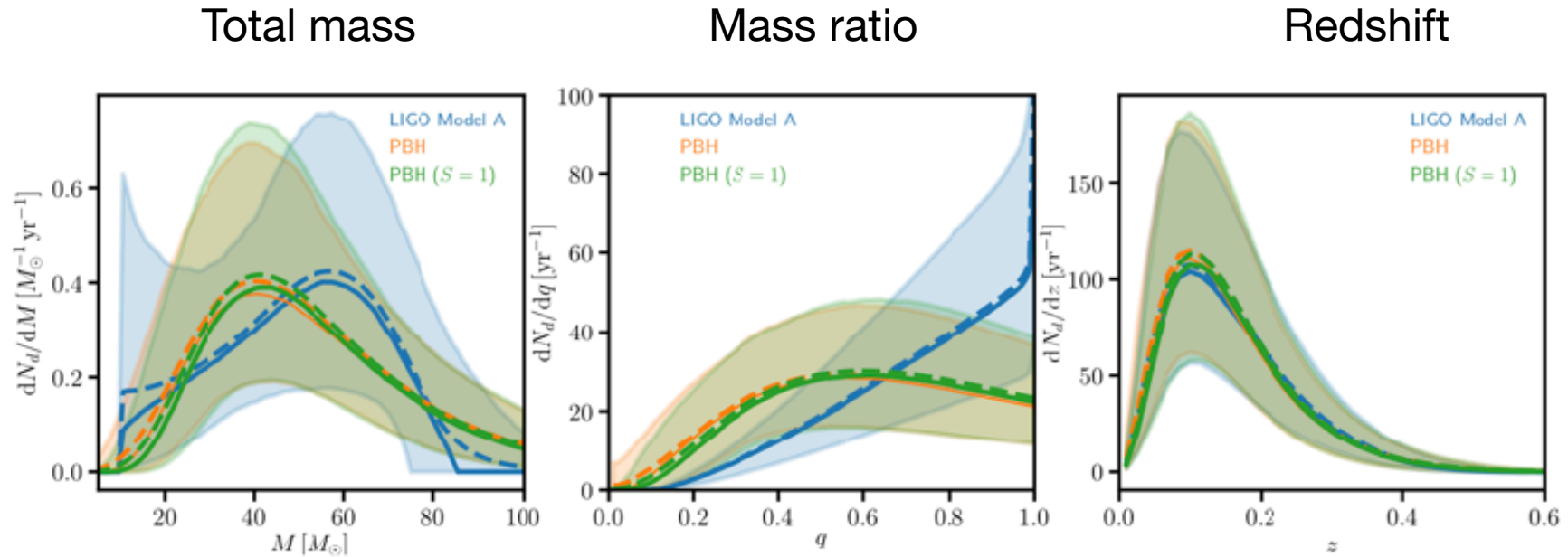


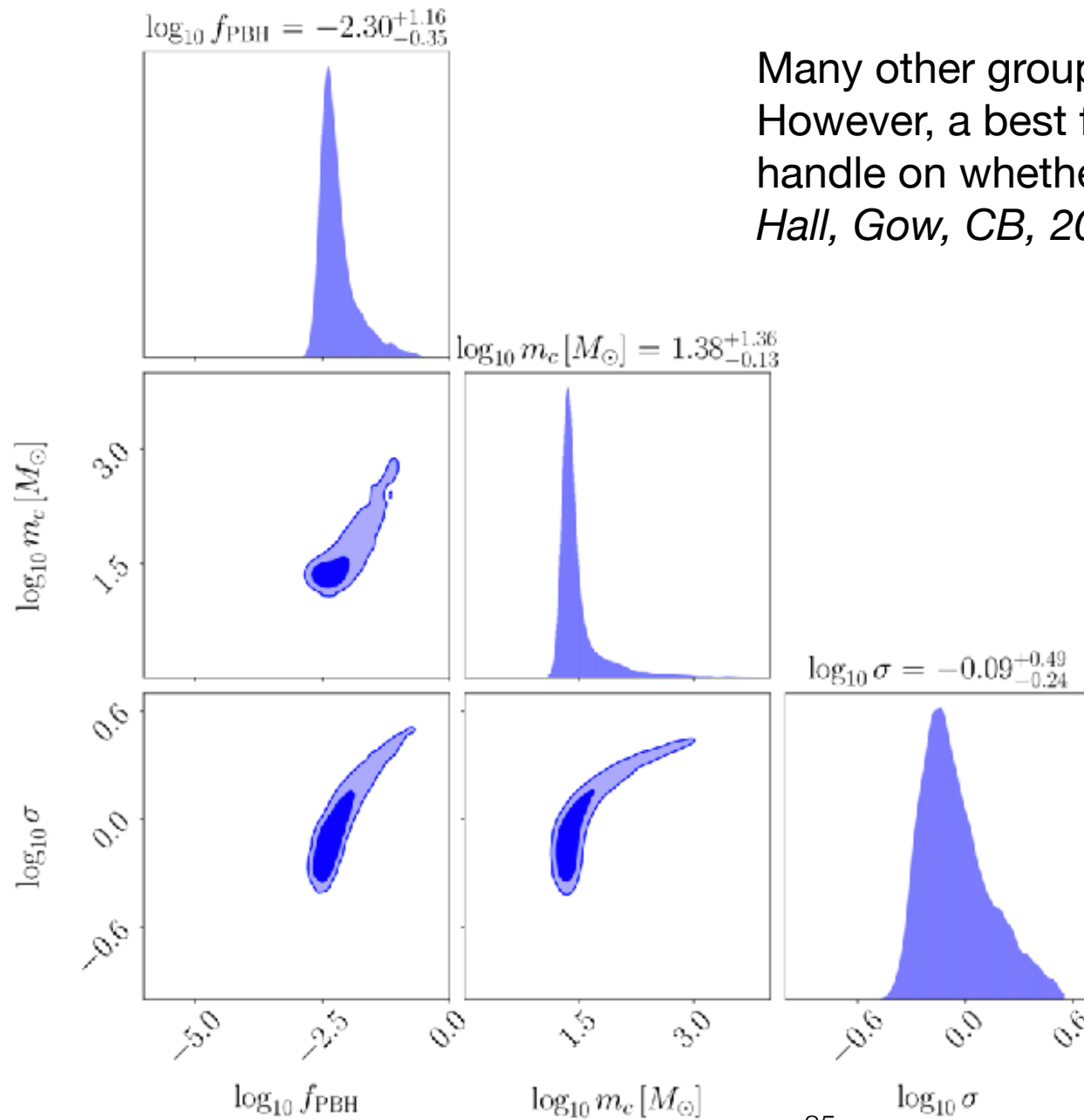
FIG. 11: Differential detector-frame merger rates with respect to total mass (left panel), mass ratio (middle panel) and redshift (right panel) for LIGO Model A (blue), the lognormal PBH model (orange) and the lognormal PBH model with suppression factor set to unity (green). In each case we plot the median and 90% quantiles over the posterior samples for each model given the GWTC-1 data (solid lines and shaded bands), and the (weighted) mean over the samples (dashed lines).

*Hall, Gow, CB, 2020: Bayesian comparison*

PBHs are better at explaining events with a small mass ratio, but don't naturally explain the upper and lower mass gaps predicted by stellar models  
 PBHs are more flexible at explaining individual events

# Fitting a lognormal mass function

Many other groups have made similar fits  
However, a best fit analysis does not give any  
handle on whether the best fit is also a good fit  
*Hall, Gow, CB, 2020*

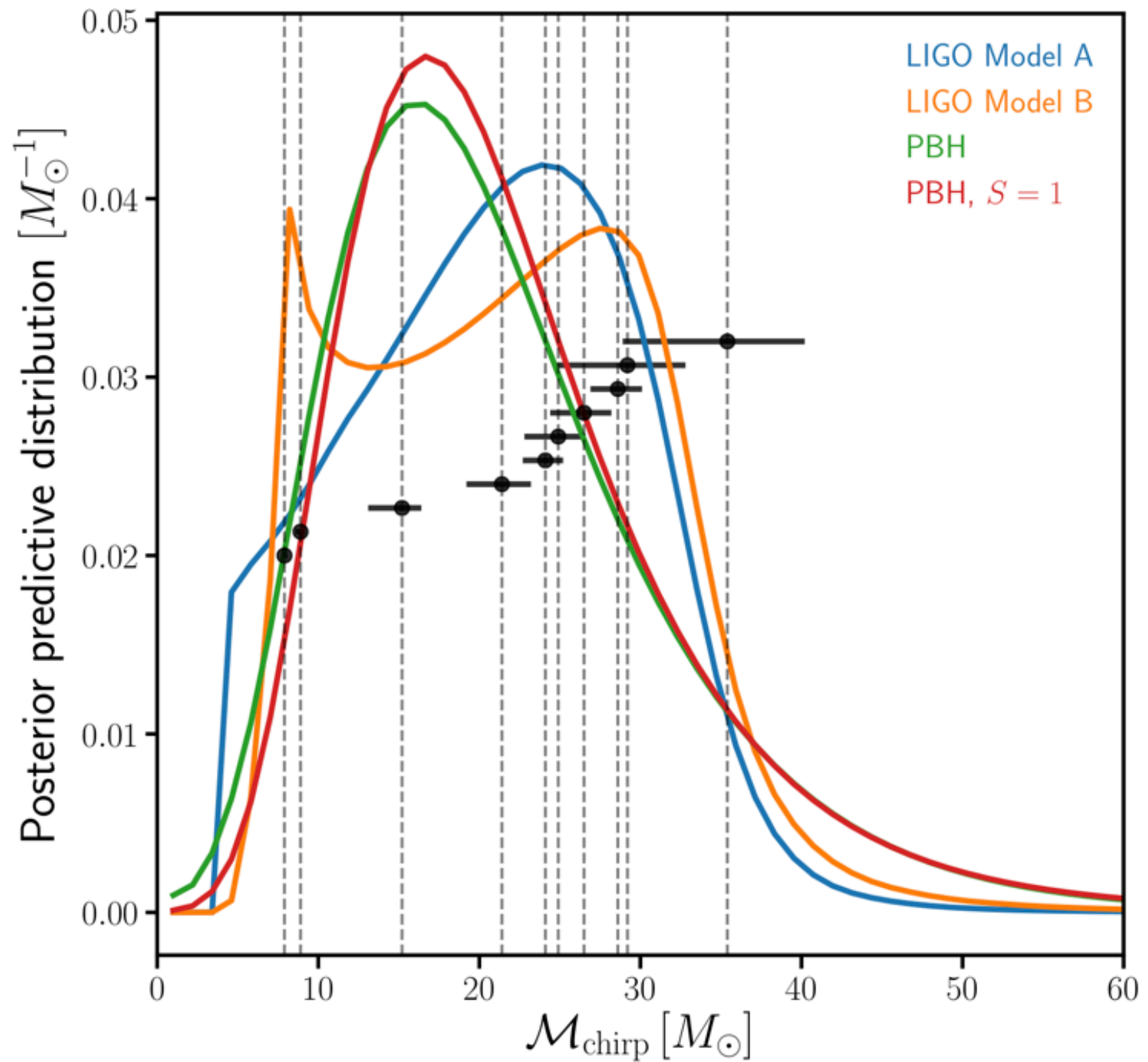


# Bayesian results

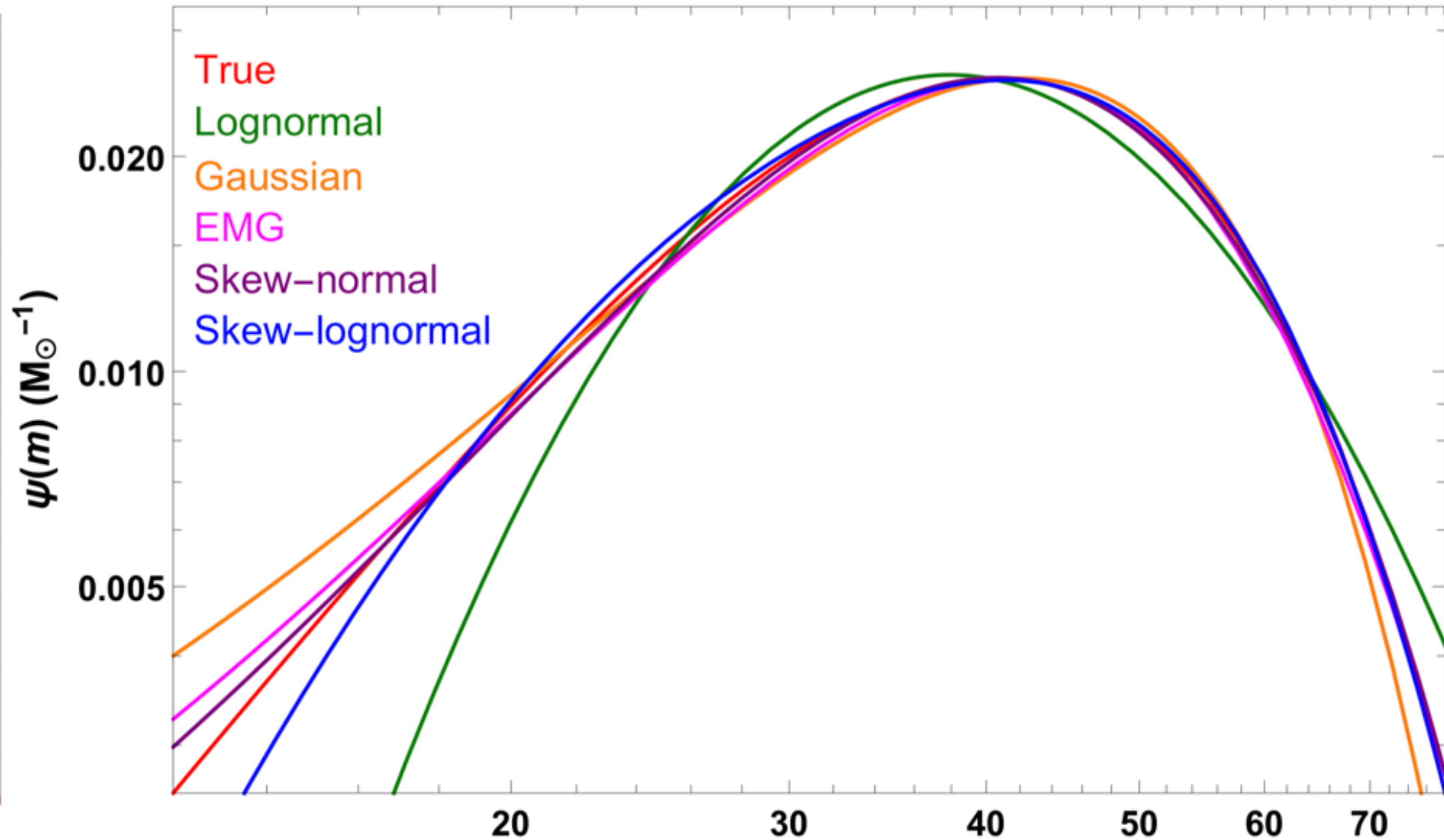
- Our models are: All mergers are due to PBHs vs all due to stellar BHs
- We use 01/02 data only and carefully use the LIGO sensitivity curve.
- The Bayesian evidence can be approximated as the likelihood of the best fit model \* the Occam factor
- Both are important but the Occam factor is prior dependent and more controversial
- PBHs are disfavoured by both terms - assuming the “normal” lognormal mass function

**PBH models are disfavoured decisively**

$$\ln Z_{\text{PBH}}/Z_{\text{stellar}} = -7.35 \pm 0.23$$



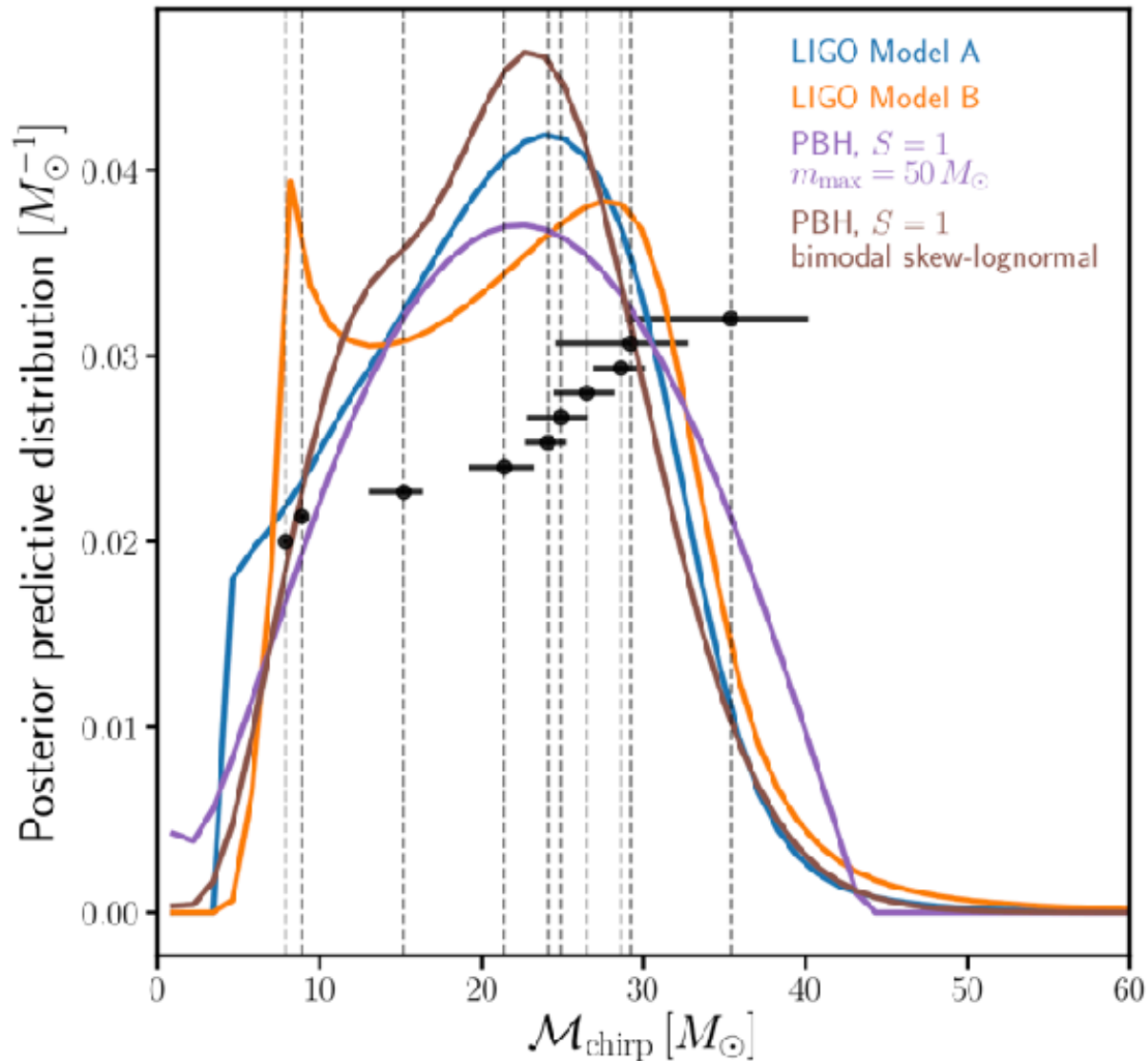
# Is the lognormal mass function correct?



For a Dirac-delta function power spectrum  $m (M_{\odot})$

*Gow, CB, Hall 2020*

# Trying hard to fit the data - cutoff or bimodal mass function



Hall, Gow, CB, 2020

These alternatives are a better fit, but still not a good fit compared to the stellar models  
The late time PBH capture and merger is also a bad fit

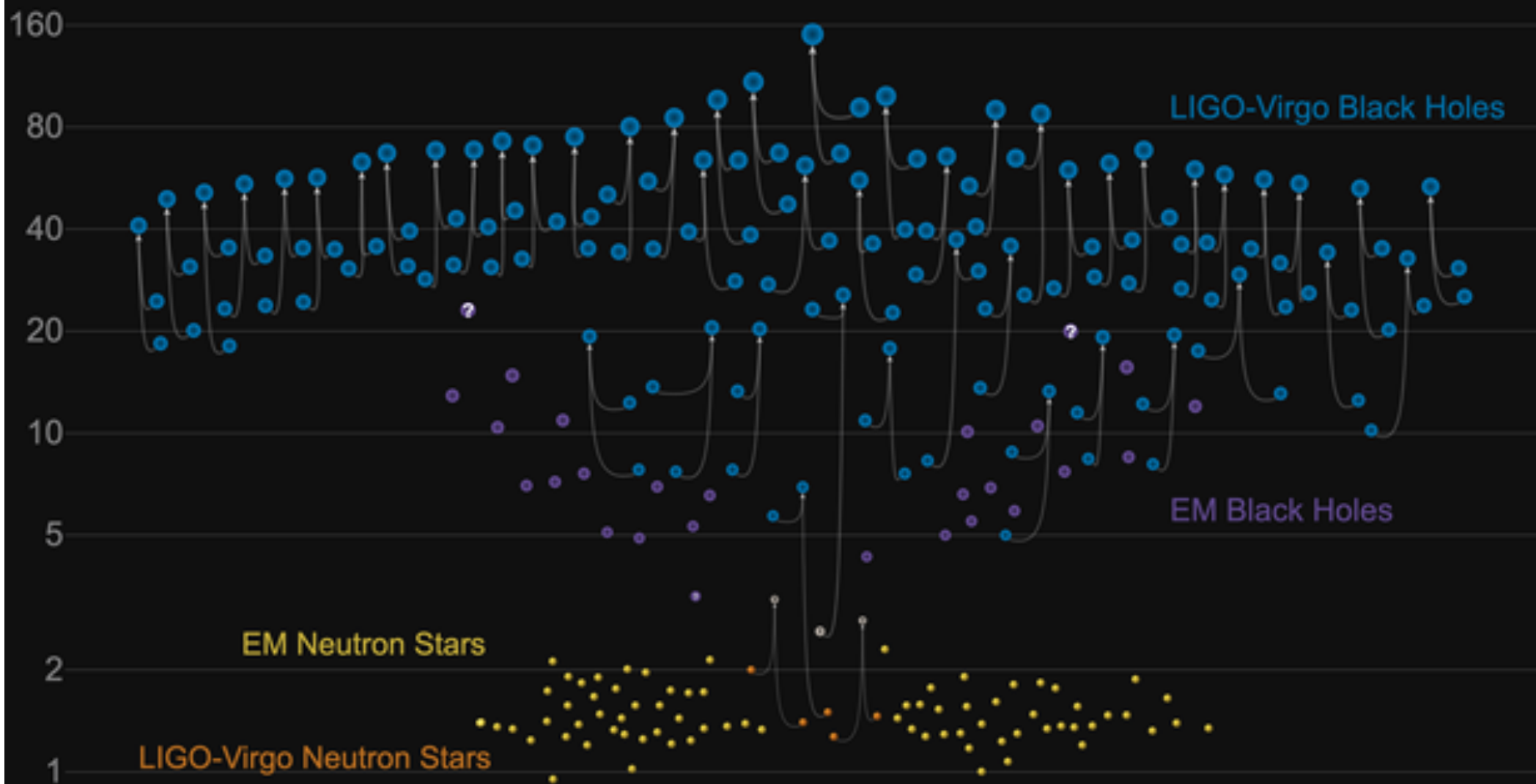
**Accretion** broadens the mass function at large masses (*de Luca et al '20*): => worse fit

# LIGO-Virgo conclusion

- Now a consensus that LIGO-Virgo is exclusively or primarily seeing astrophysical black holes: Mixed astrophysical + PBH models also studied - *Bhagwat et al 2020, Hütsi et al 2020*
- The BH properties are somewhat unexpected but modelling stellar collapse is hard
- Mixed astrophysical + PBH models remain possible
- A sub Chandrasekhar mass compact object would be the best evidence and could be seen with the current experiments



*In Solar Masses*

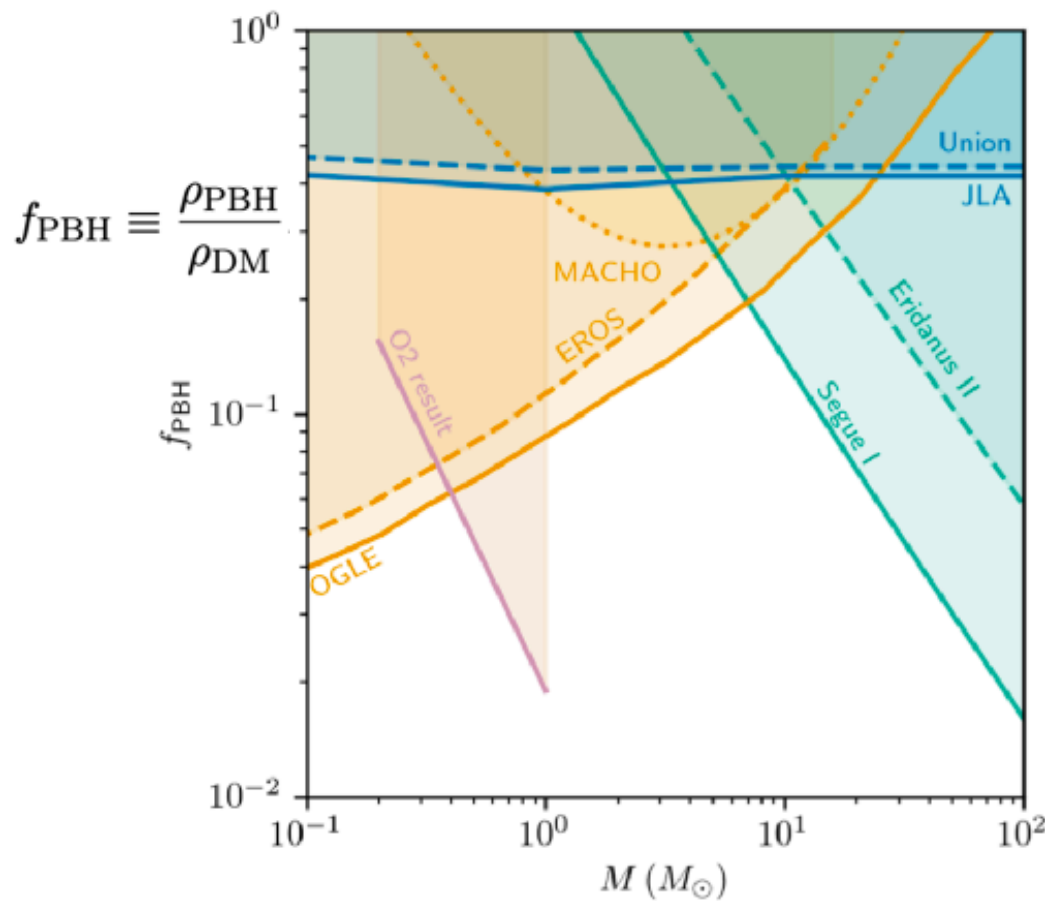


***LIGO & Virgo collaboration***

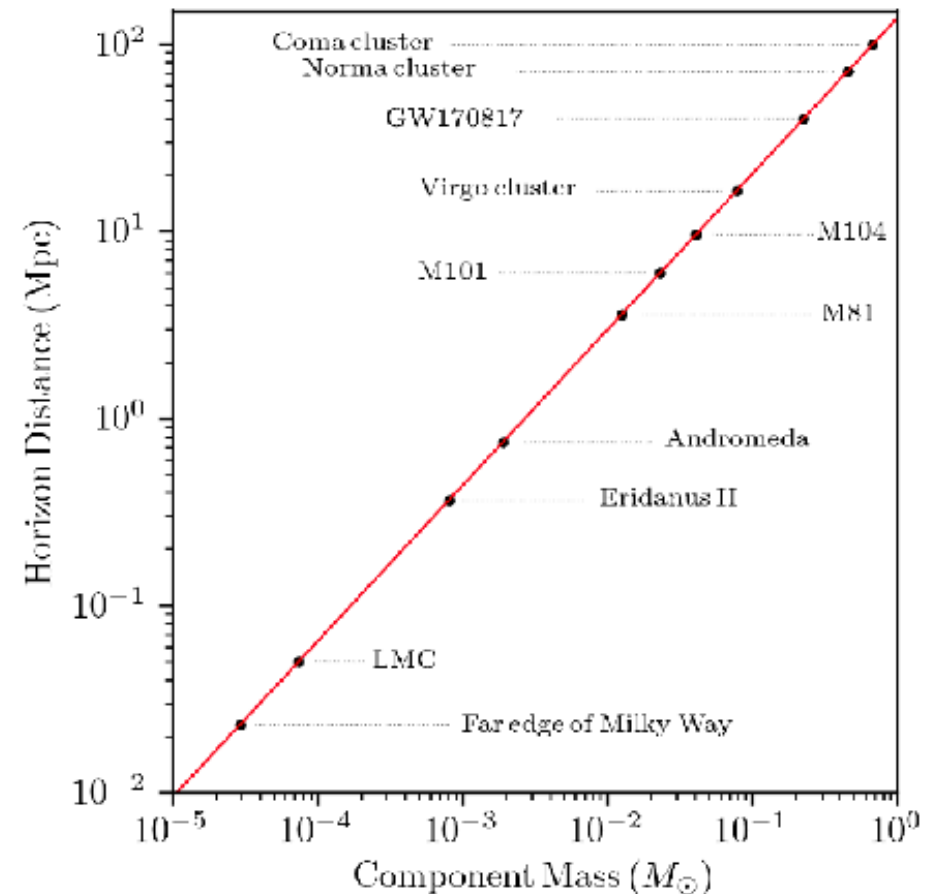
# Sub-solar mass GW searches

GW searches have been made, with no detections so far.

The right hand figure shows the distance to which an equal mass merger could be detected.



*LIGO & Virgo collaboration 2019*



*Magee et al 2018*

# LIGO-Virgo PBH connection?

**A**dvocates of the primordial black hole hypothesis still have a lot of convincing to do. Most physicists still believe that dark matter is made of some kind of elementary particle, one that's devilishly hard to detect. Moreover, the LIGO black holes aren't too different from what we would expect if they came from ordinary stars. "It sort of fills a hole in the theory that isn't actually there," said Carl Rodriguez, an astrophysicist at Carnegie Mellon University. "There are things that are weird about some of the LIGO sources, but we can explain everything that we've seen so far through normal stellar evolutionary process."

**<https://www.quantamagazine.org/black-holes-from-the-big-bang-could-be-the-dark-matter-20200923/?fbclid=IwAR2GgveIVyYAEkvZTfitIVjAEgwnvTwpgp6TNHfNrtS1SHin6hX6Gy7L5BY>**

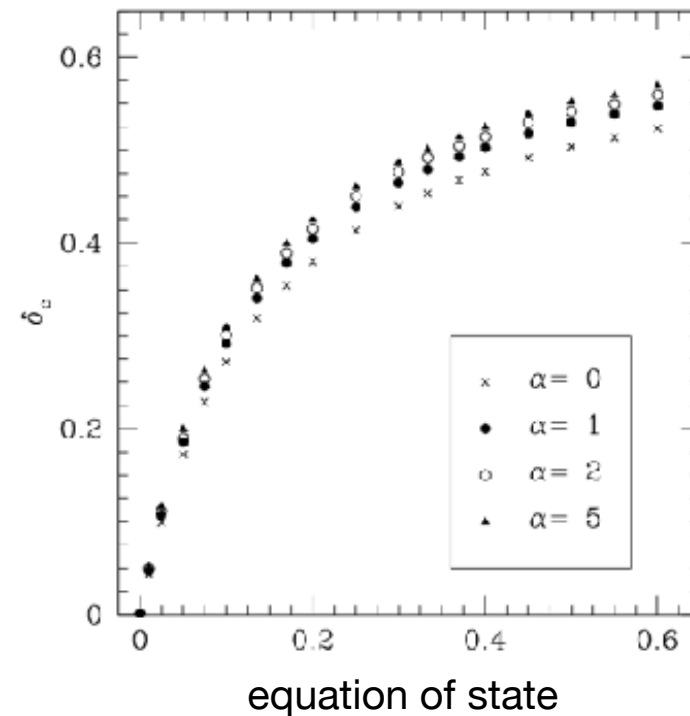
# PBH formation and QCD transition

# PBH formation

1. They could form from large amplitude density perturbations shortly after horizon entry
2. Causality prevents collapse before horizon entry
3. Approximate 1-to-1 relation between horizon entry time, horizon length and PBH mass

Collapse threshold

$$\delta \equiv \frac{\delta\rho}{\rho}|_{k=aH} > \delta_c$$



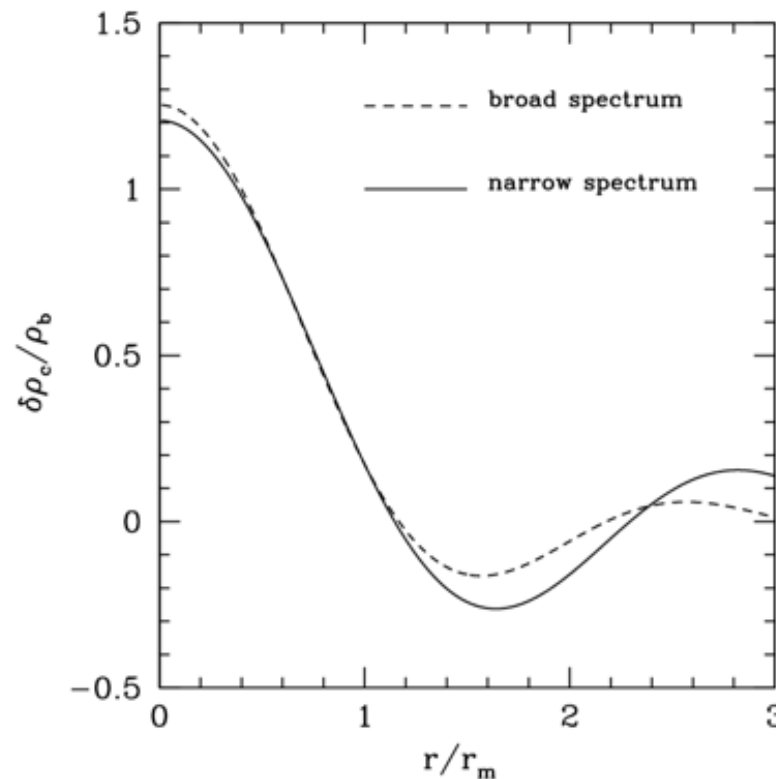
*Musco and Miller 2013*

## The density profiles are related to the power spectrum shape

The 2-point correlation function of the density “predicts” the density near peaks and shows that spherical symmetry is a good approximation

(*BBKS 1986* classic paper, non-spherical effects *Kühnel & Sandstad 2016*)

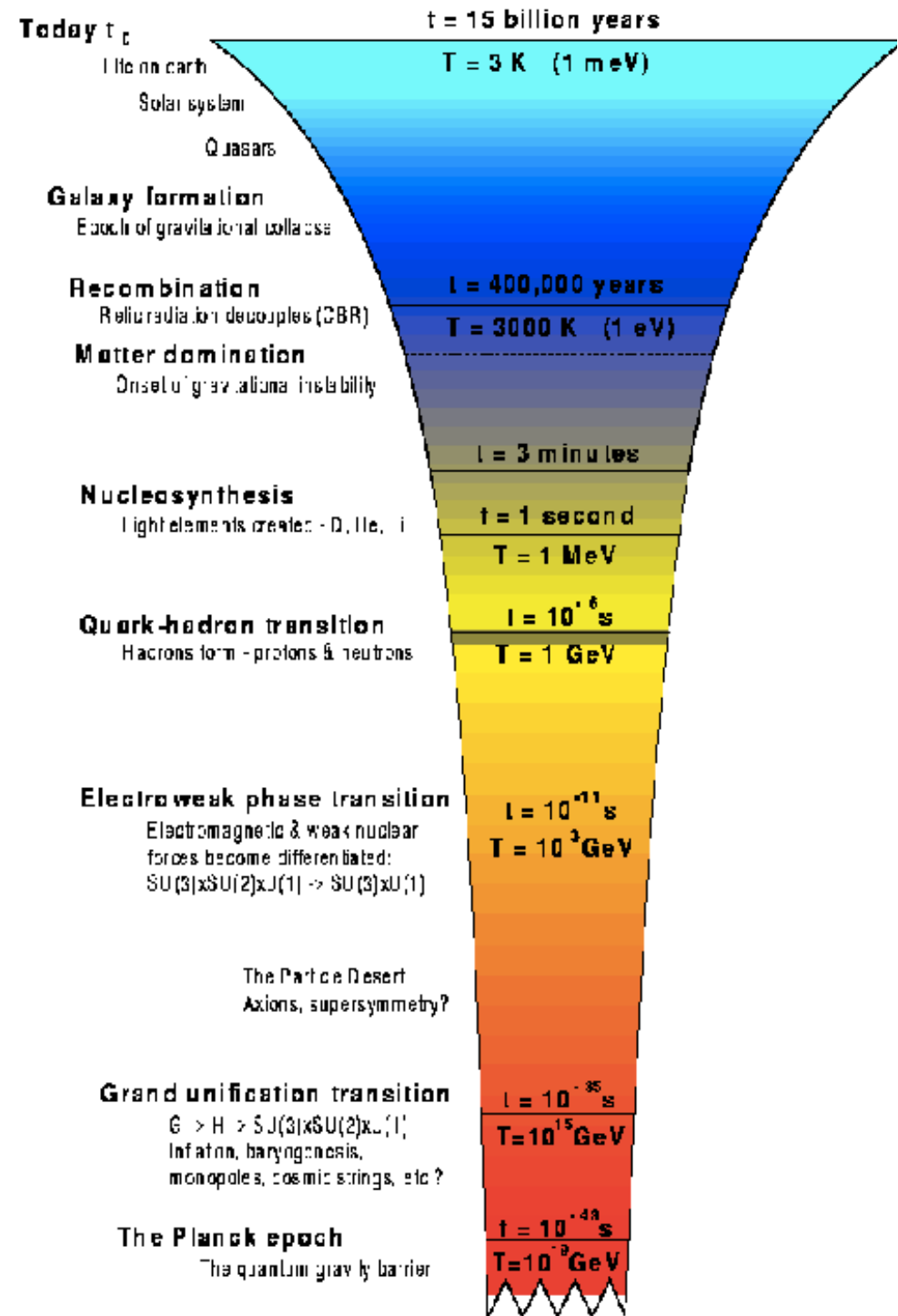
The density profile does not change strongly assuming a smooth peak in the primordial power spectrum, independently of the width



*Germani & Musco 2018*

# A cosmological coincidence

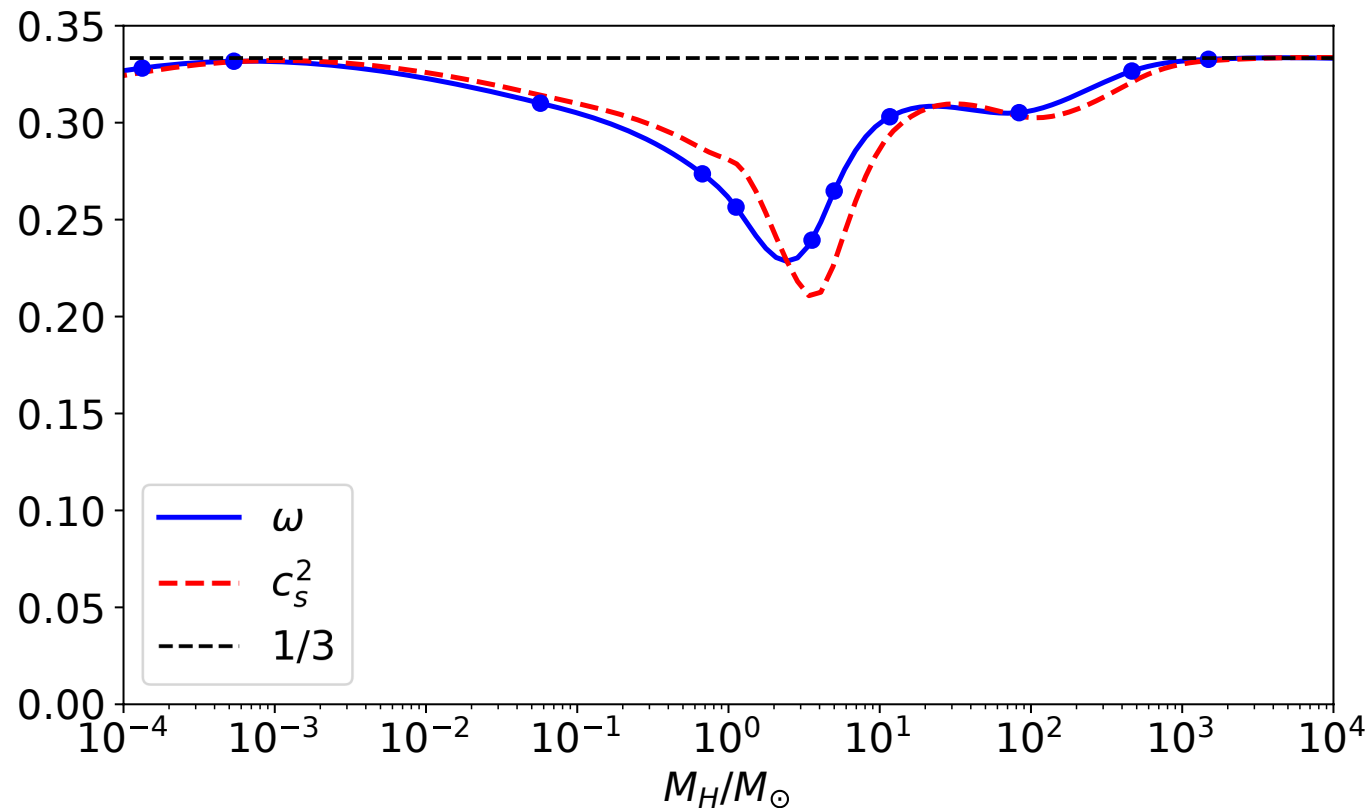
- PBHs form quickly due to gravitational collapse as soon as the relevant scale enters the horizon (becomes causal)
- For every given mass, there is a corresponding scale and temperature during the early Universe. QCD transition:  $t \sim 10^{-6} \text{ s}$ ,  $T \sim 200 \text{ MeV}$ ,  $M \sim 1 M_{\odot}$ ,  $k \sim 10^7 \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$
- The horizon mass has grown by about 50 orders of magnitude since the end of inflation. **The QCD phase transition occurs during the time when LIGO mass PBHs formed.**



# The QCD transition

Strong interactions confine quarks into hadrons and the equation-of-state parameter  $w$  decreases. *Crawford & Schramm '82, Jedamzik '98*

QCD transition:  $t \sim 10^{-6}$  s,  $T \sim 200$  MeV,  $M \sim 1 M_{\odot}$ ,  $k \sim 10^7$  Mpc $^{-1}$

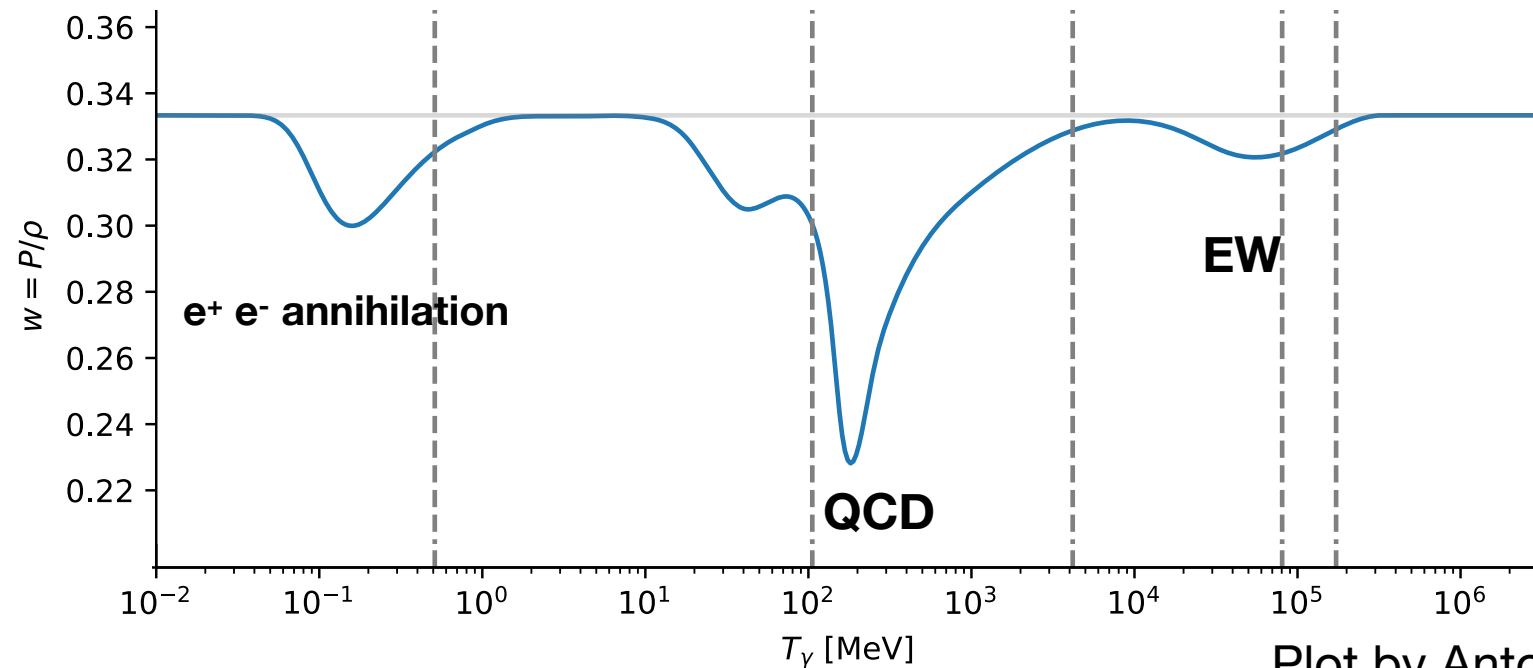


*CB, Hindmarsh, Young & Hawkins 2018 using Borsanyi et al 2016*



# Thermal history

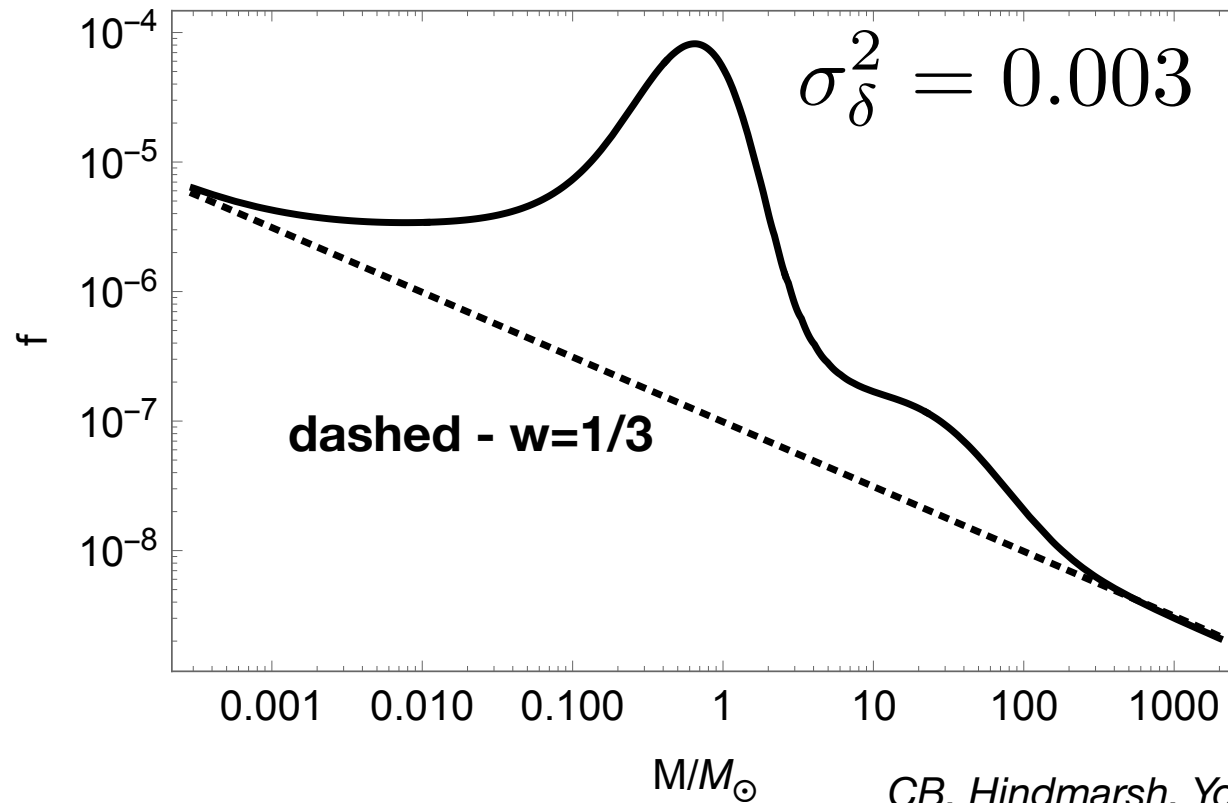
In terms of PBH production, the QCD transition is the most important in standard model physics



Plot by Antony Lewis

# The resultant PBH-QCD mass function

$$f(M) \propto M^{-1/2} e^{-\frac{\delta_c^2}{2\sigma_\delta^2}}$$



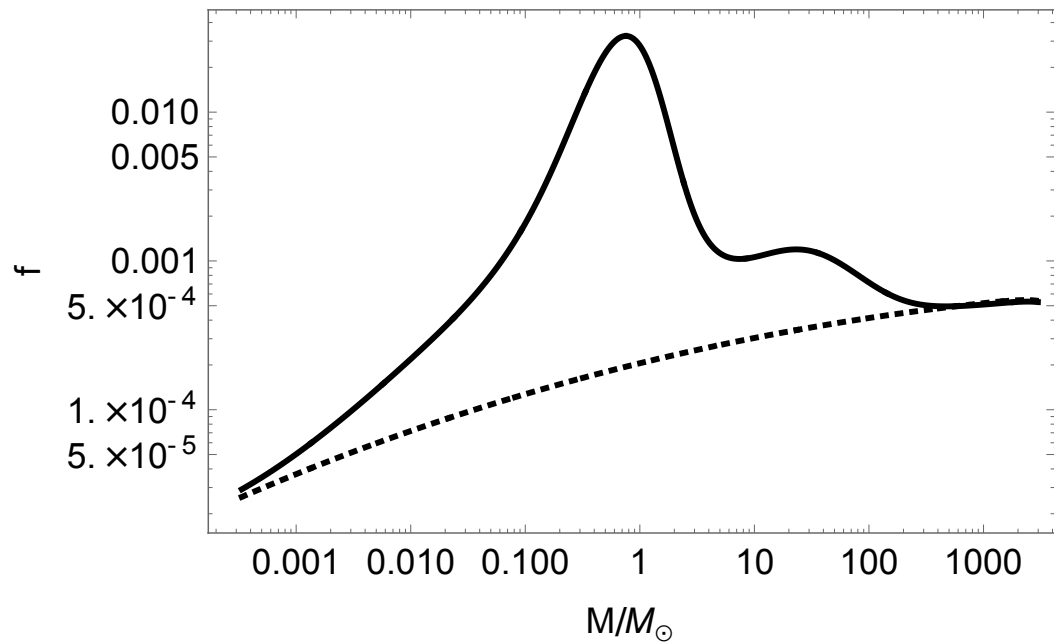
CB, Hindmarsh, Young & Hawkins 2018

The QCD phase transition took place during the time when LIGO mass PBHs would have formed. **It boosts the formation rate of solar mass PBHs by 2 orders of magnitude**  
**These are below the Chandrasekhar mass - potential proof of PBHs**  
No detection: *LIGO & Virgo collaboration 2019, Magee et al 2019*

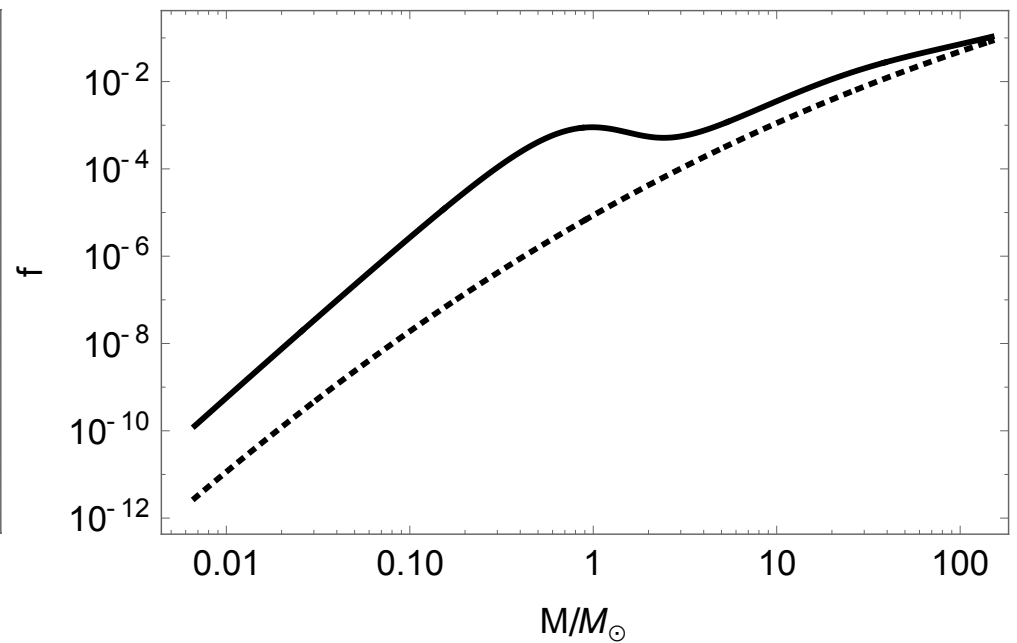
# Varying the primordial perturbations

If the primordial power spectrum is not scale invariant on the relevant scales then the mass function changes, but a peak remains

$$n_s - 1 = -0.05$$



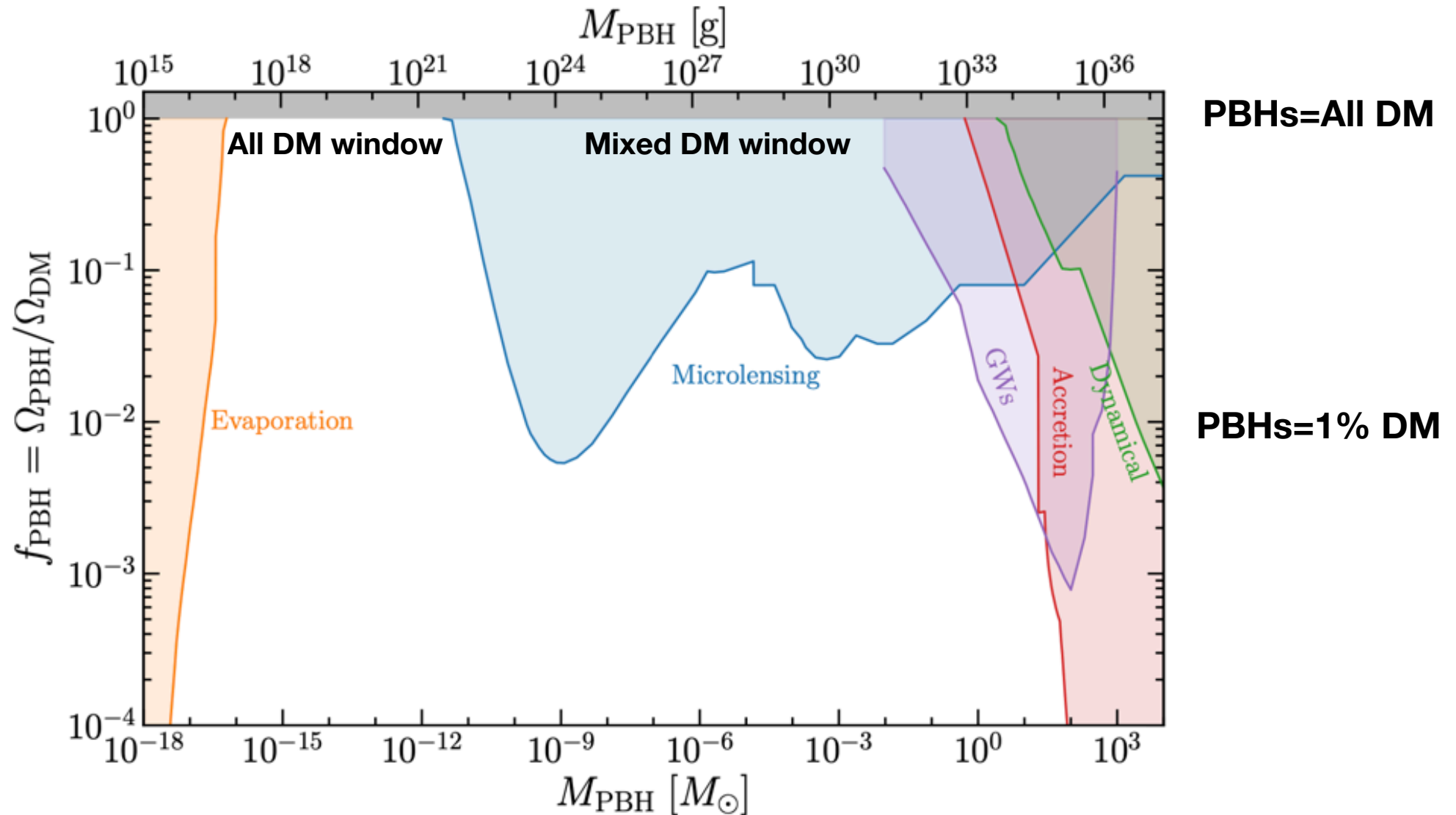
$$n_s - 1 = -0.2$$



**Observational constraints**

**To be discussed on Friday**

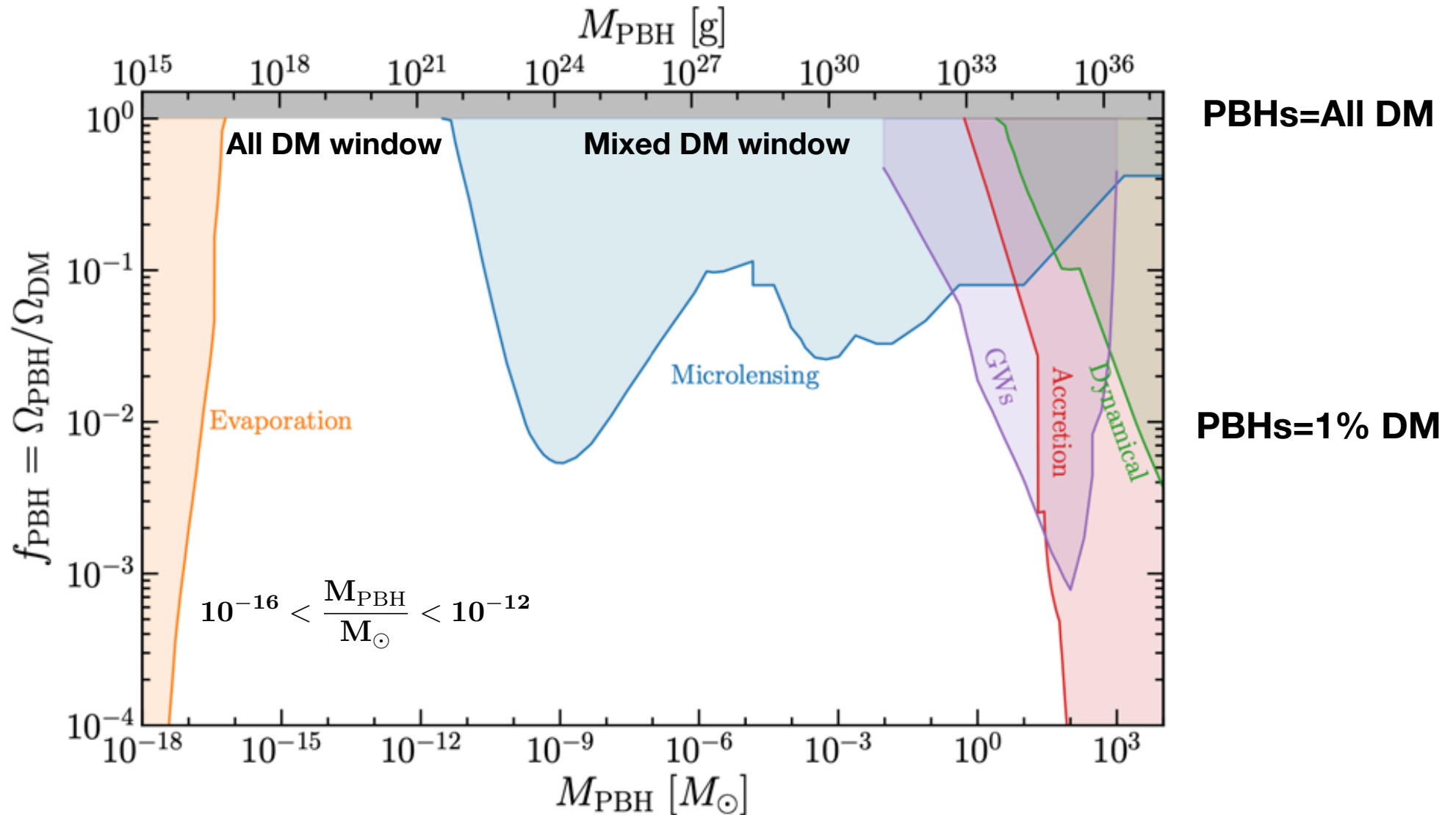
# Observational constraints



Green and Kavanagh <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2007.10722.pdf>

# The uncontroversial PBH=DM window

## “Asteroid” or “LISA” mass range



Green and Kavanagh <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2007.10722.pdf>

# Redshift dependent constraints

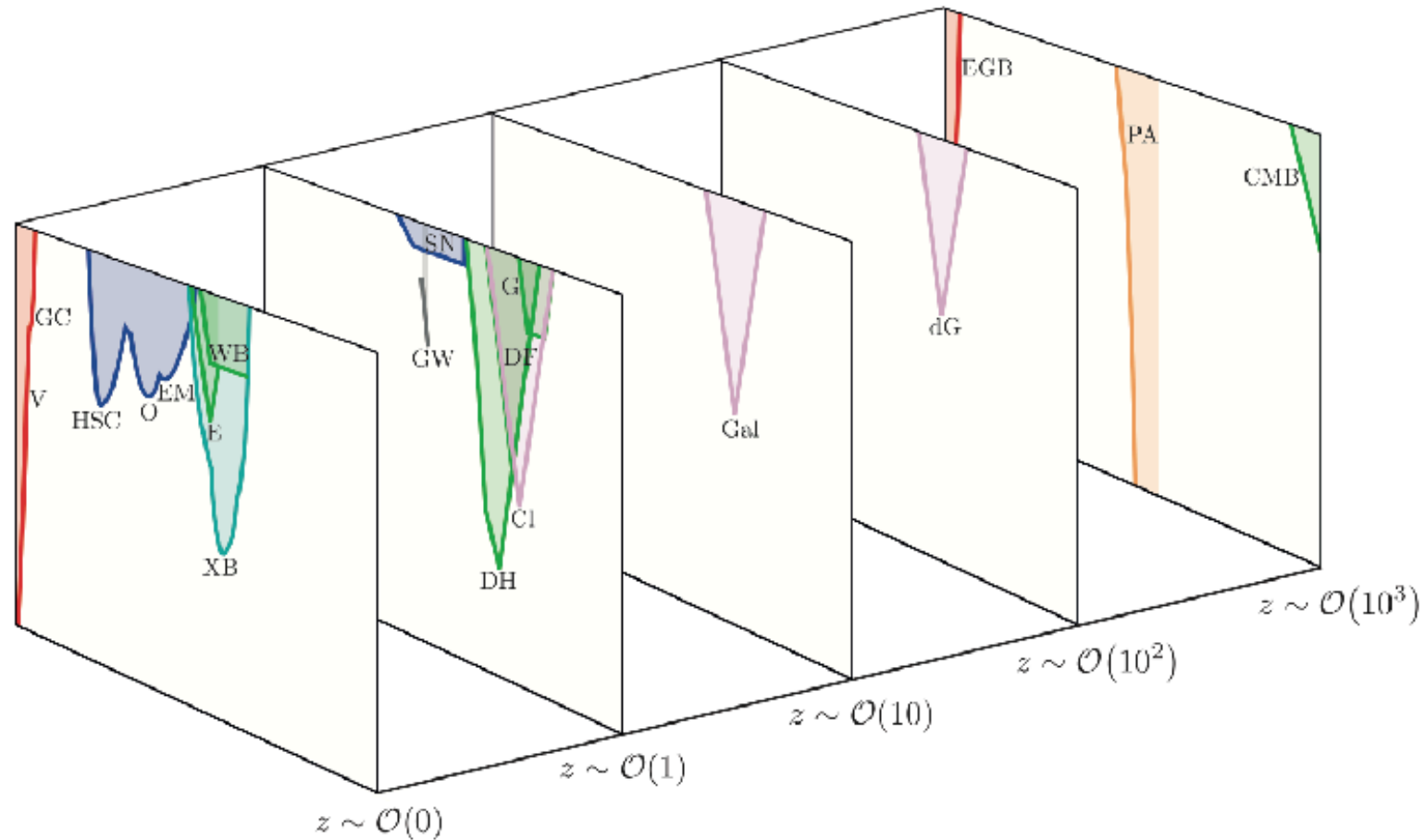
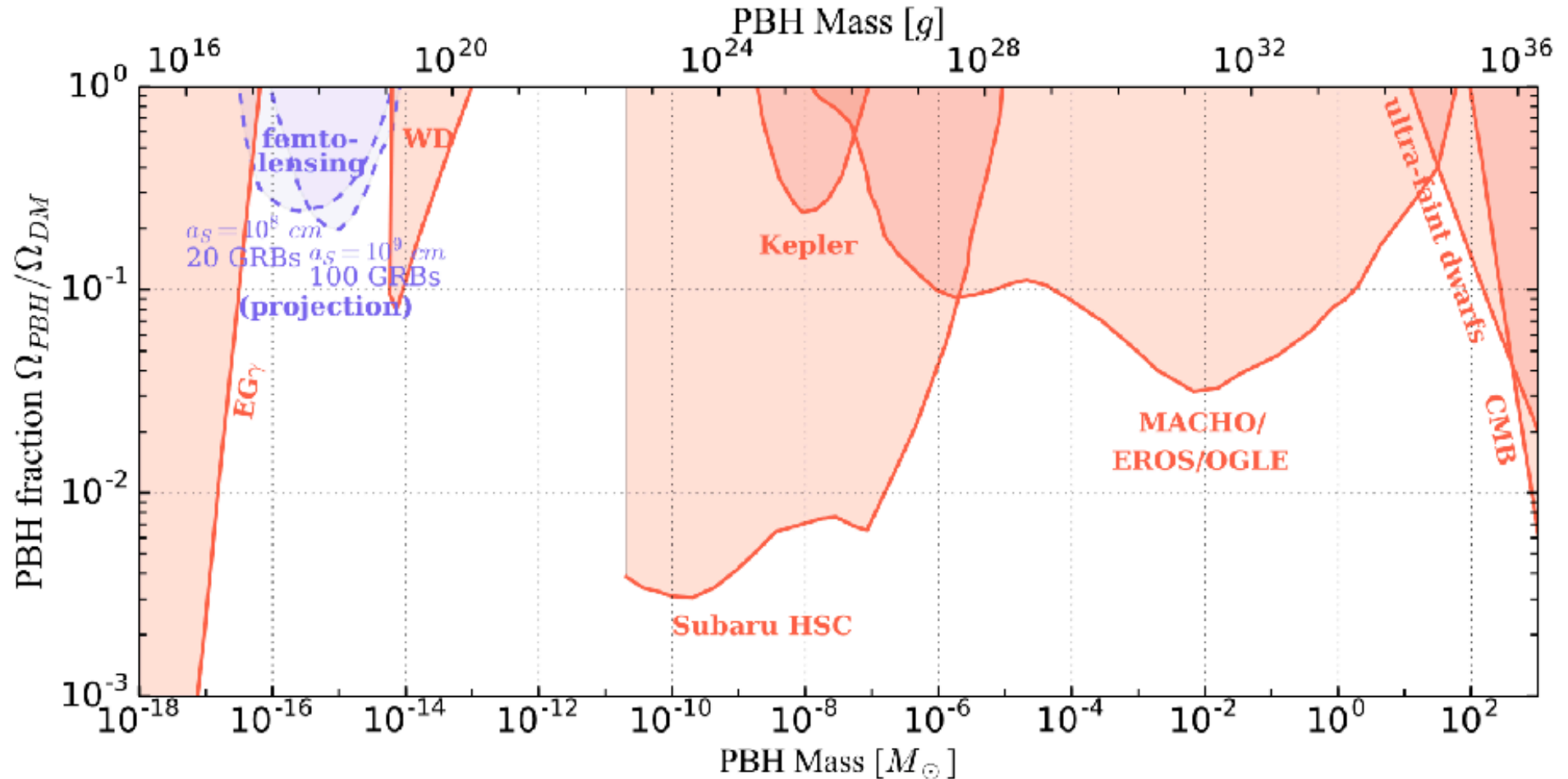


FIG. 2. Sketch of the limits shown in Figure 1 for different redshifts. Here, we break down the large-scale structure limit into its individual components from clusters (CI), Milky Way galaxies (Gal) and dwarf galaxies (dG), as these originate from different redshifts (cf. Reference [145]). Further abbreviations are defined in the caption of Figure 1.

# “Time dependent” constraints



*Katz et al 2018 “Femtolensing revisited”; see also Sasaki et al 2017 Review*

The constraints have shifted and some have disappeared over time *Niikura et al '18*  
 Potential NS destruction constraints via PBH capture was discussed already



# This bound was eliminated in 6 days

*[Submitted on 8 Mar 2021 (v1), last revised 14 Mar 2021 (this version, v2)]*

## **Eliminating the Remaining Window for Primordial Black Holes as Dark Matter from the Dynamics of the Cold Kuiper Belt**

[Amir Siraj](#), [Abraham Loeb](#)

The nature of dark matter (DM) is unknown. One compelling possibility is DM being composed of primordial black holes (PBHs), given the tight limits on some types of elementary particles as DM. There is only one remaining window of masses available for PBHs to constitute the entire DM density,  $10^{17} - 10^{23}$  g. Here, we show that the kernel population in the cold Kuiper belt rules out this window, arguing in favor of a particle nature for DM.

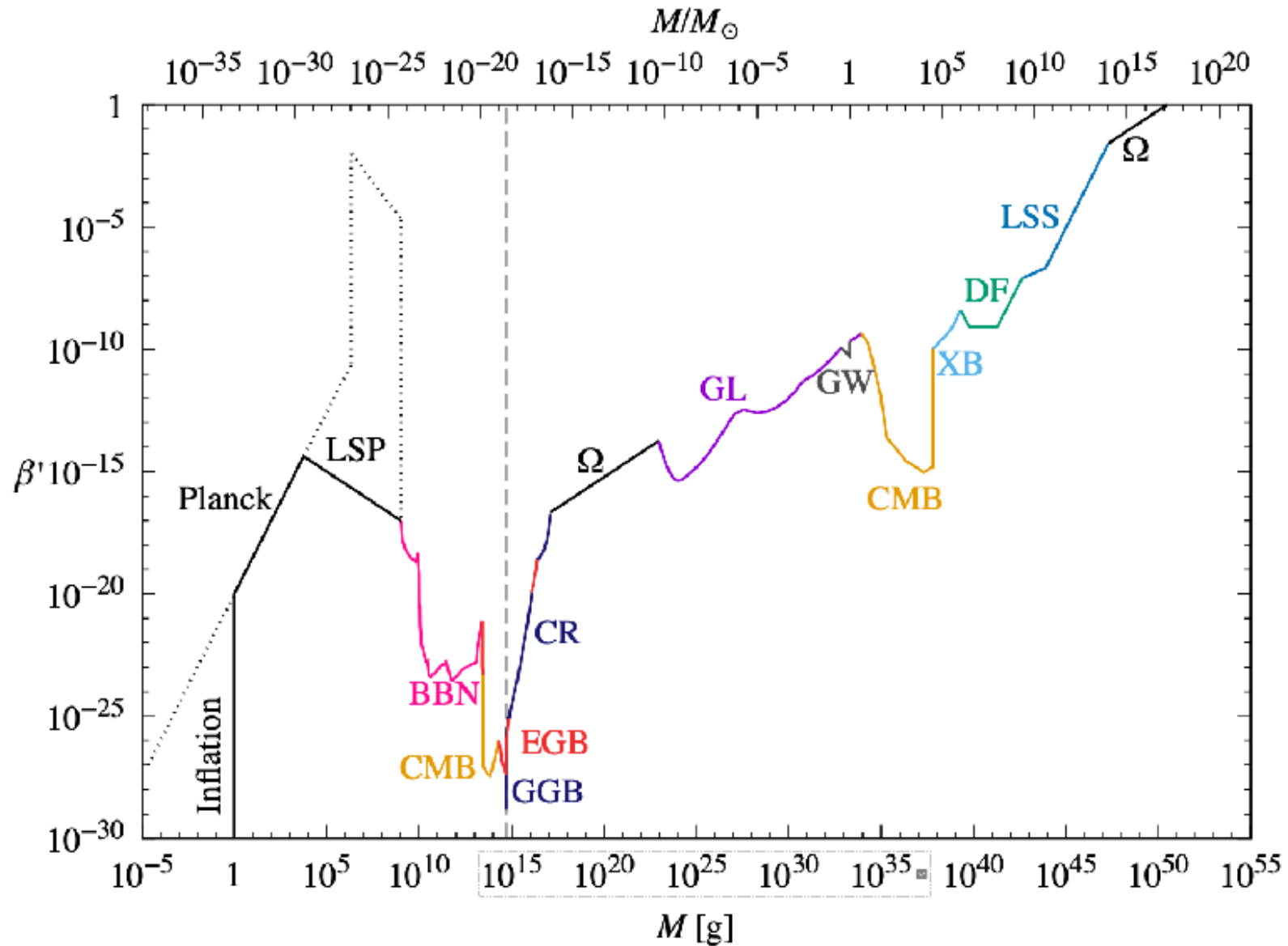
Comments: KBO limit had to be modified to the diffusion regime which weakened significantly the constraints

Subjects: **Cosmology and Nongalactic Astrophysics (astro-ph.CO)**

Cite as: [arXiv:2103.04995](#) [astro-ph.CO]

(or [arXiv:2103.04995v2](#) [astro-ph.CO] for this version)

# Constraints on the initial PBH mass fraction



$$f_{\text{PBH}} = \frac{\rho_{\text{PBH}}}{\rho_{\text{DM}}}\Big|_0 \simeq \frac{\rho_{\text{PBH}}}{\rho_{\text{tot}}}\Big|_{\text{eq}} \simeq \frac{a_{\text{eq}}}{a_{\text{form}}} \beta.$$

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2002.12778.pdf>

# The initial conditions of the universe

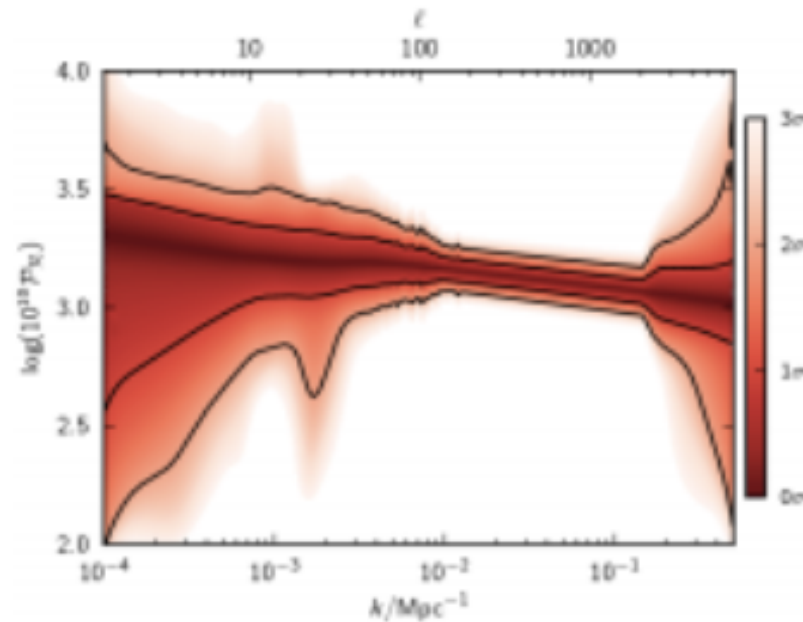
# From very large to very small scales

- We have the “precision era” measurements on CMB and LSS scales
- These span approximately the largest 5-10 efoldings which are inside the Hubble scale today
- Lyman alpha, 21cm and spectral mu distortions in the CMB may add a similar range of scales in the (farish) future
- But inflation is believed to have lasted at least 50-60 efoldings
- So we only observe a small fraction of all scales
- Limits our ability to constrain the early universe

# Why can't we observe small scales?

- We do accurately observe small scales, such as our solar system
- However, radiation pressure/chaotic solutions of gravitational collapse mean that the memory of initial conditions on small scales is erased
- We can measure the primordial perturbations only on scales which remain linear today ( $> 1$  Mpc)

# Current power spectrum constraints



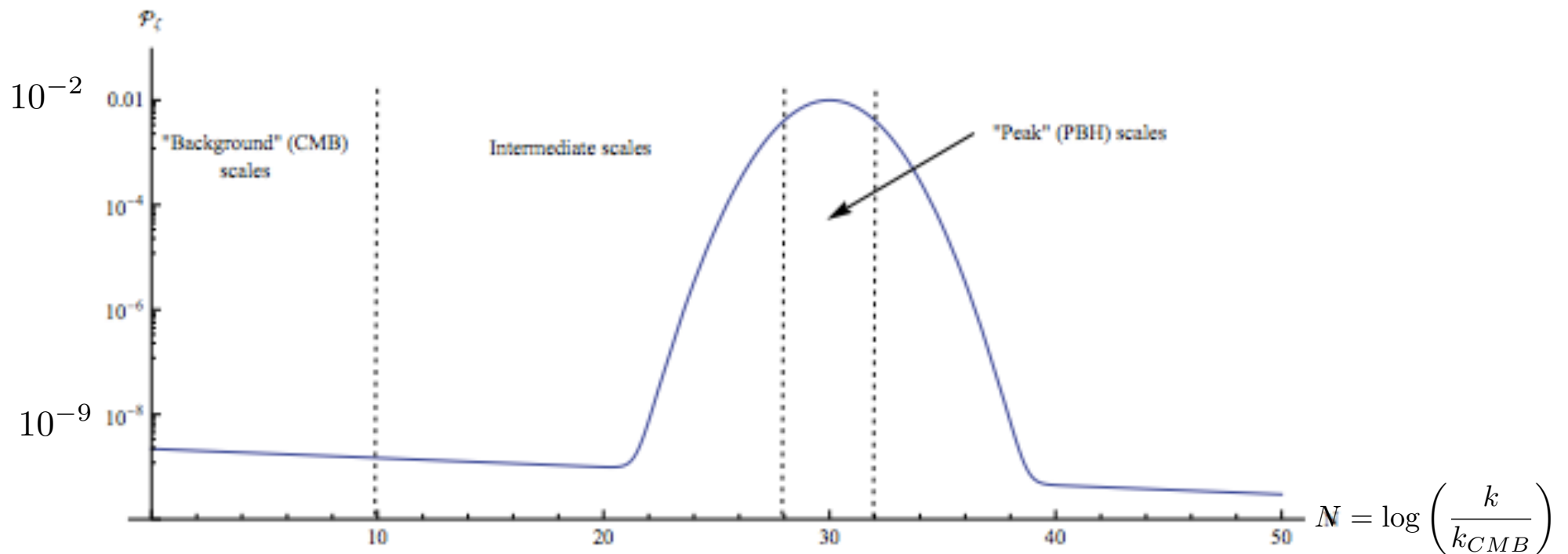
Planck 2015  
constraints on inflation

**Fig. 26.** Bayesian reconstruction of the primordial power spectrum averaged over different values of  $N_{\text{int}}$  (as shown in Fig. 24), weighted according to the Bayesian evidence. The region  $30 < \ell < 2300$  is highly constrained, but the resolution is lacking to say anything precise about higher  $\ell$ . At lower  $\ell$ , cosmic variance reduces our knowledge of  $\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{R}}(k)$ . The weights assigned to the lower  $N_{\text{int}}$  models outweigh those of the higher models, so no oscillatory features are visible here.

- Featureless power law over 1 decade in scales (or  $\log(2300/30)=4.3$  e-folds)

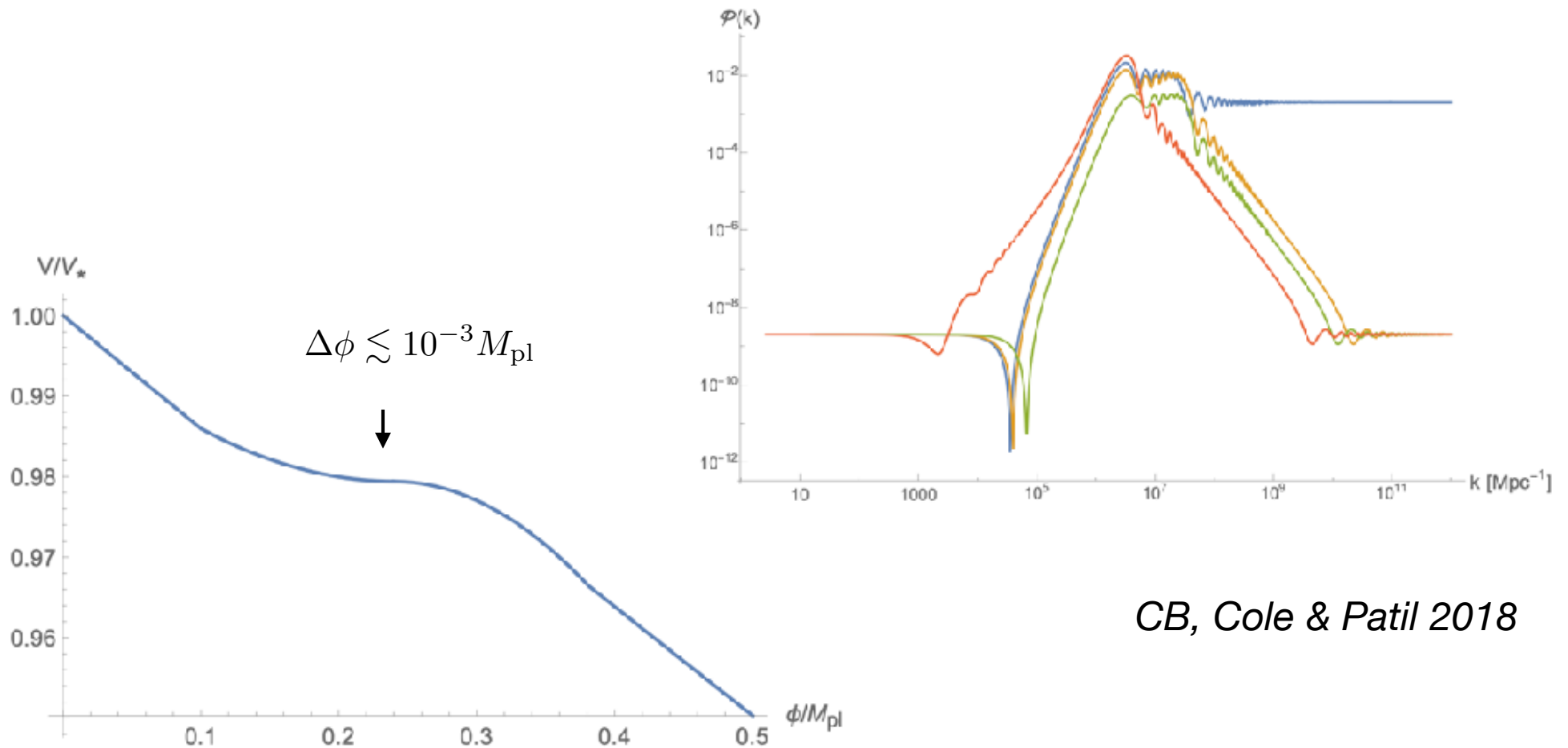
# A boosted power spectrum

In order for such compact objects to form, the primordial power spectrum needs to be boosted by 5 - 7 orders of magnitude above the value observed on large scales. Exactly how much depends on the equation of state and whether the perturbations are Gaussian



Young and CB 2015

# Ultra-slow-roll inflation (inflection point)



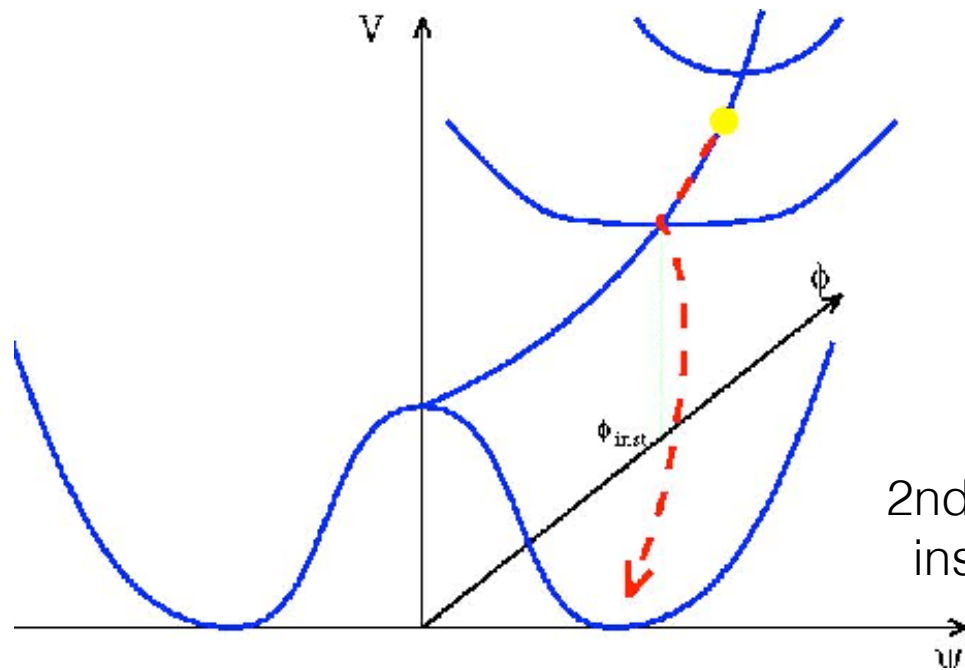
*CB, Cole & Patil 2018*

Canonical single-field slow-roll inflation cannot produce any PBHs  
Lots of activity on calculating PBH production from ultra-slow-roll inflation  
All such models require two fine tunings: The duration of the inflection point and the exponential dependence of  $f_{\text{PBH}}$  on the resulting amplitude



# Hybrid inflation

- Hybrid inflation: popular model in which a second stage generates much larger small scale perturbations (also highly non-Gaussian)

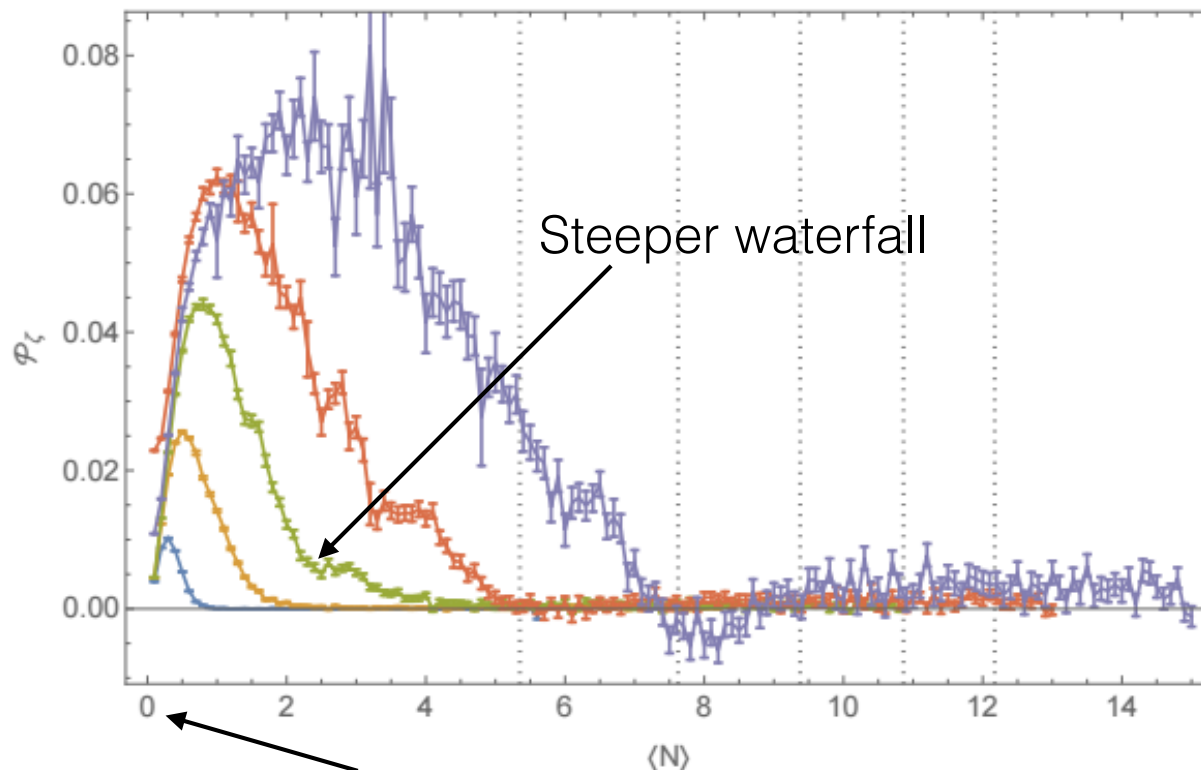


1st stage from inflaton field,  
Gaussian perturbations

2nd stage from waterfall field - tachyonic  
instability, non-Gaussian perturbations

# Growth of perturbations

- Sensitive to steepness of waterfall phase
- The steeper it is, the quicker inflation ends
- PBHs constrain the waterfall phase to last less than  $\sim 5$  e-folds of the 50 required

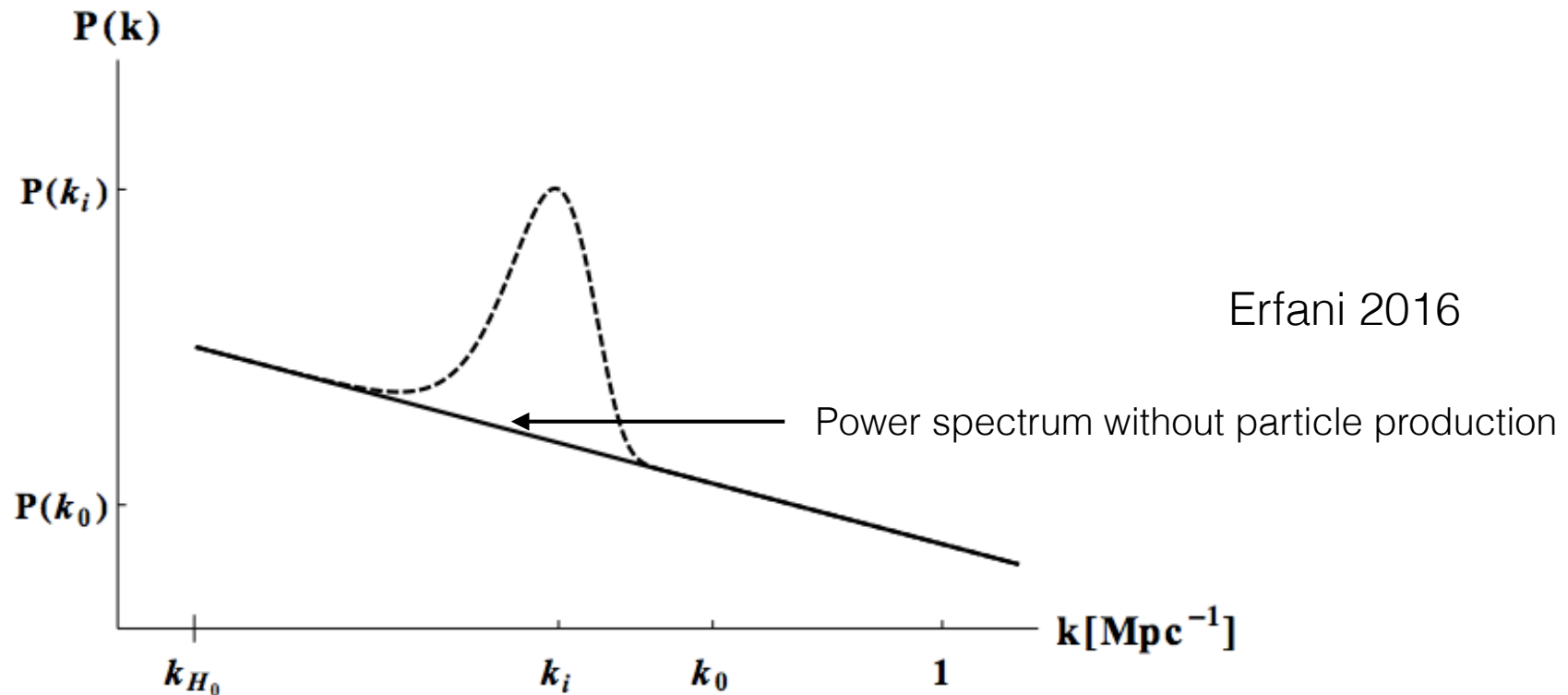


Kawasaki and Tada 2015

End of inflation and the smallest scales

Observable scales

# Particle production during inflation



This can produce a spike instead, and be tuned to occur at any mass/scale range

# Generic model building thoughts

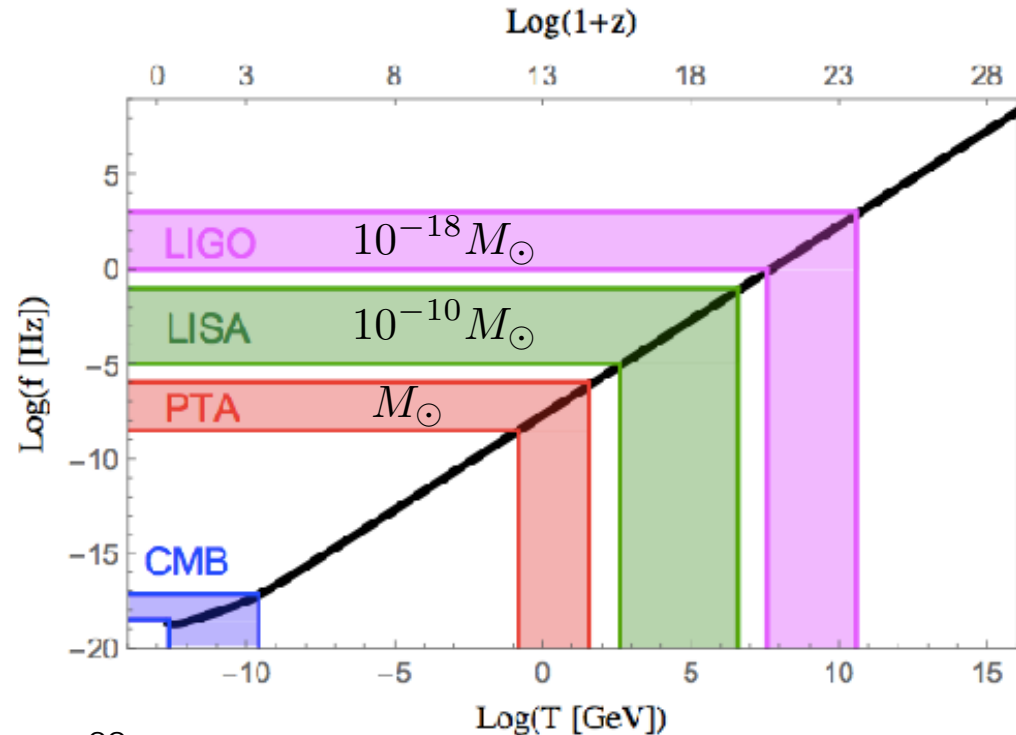
- To produce any PBHs, we need to power spectrum to grow by  $\sim 7$  orders of magnitude
- If that happens, we should not use the usual spectral index (+ running etc) parametrisations of power spectrum
- If the spectrum turns blue, we expect the smallest scales to form the most PBHs
- To have a DM candidate other than relics, we instead need a localised peak, e.g. transition between two phases of inflation, an inflection point, particle production or a phase transition

# Gravitational wave constraints

- GWs are a potential relic
- At linear order in perturbation theory; scalar, vector and tensor modes decouple
- Second-order tensor perturbations are sourced by scalar perturbations squared
- A large scalar power spectrum will induce GWs

$$f = \frac{c_s k}{2\pi} \quad \Omega_{GW}(k) \simeq 30 \Omega_{\text{rad}} \mathcal{P}_\zeta(k)^2$$

$$M_{\text{PBH}} \simeq 0.1 \left( \frac{\text{GeV}}{T} \right)^2 M_\odot$$

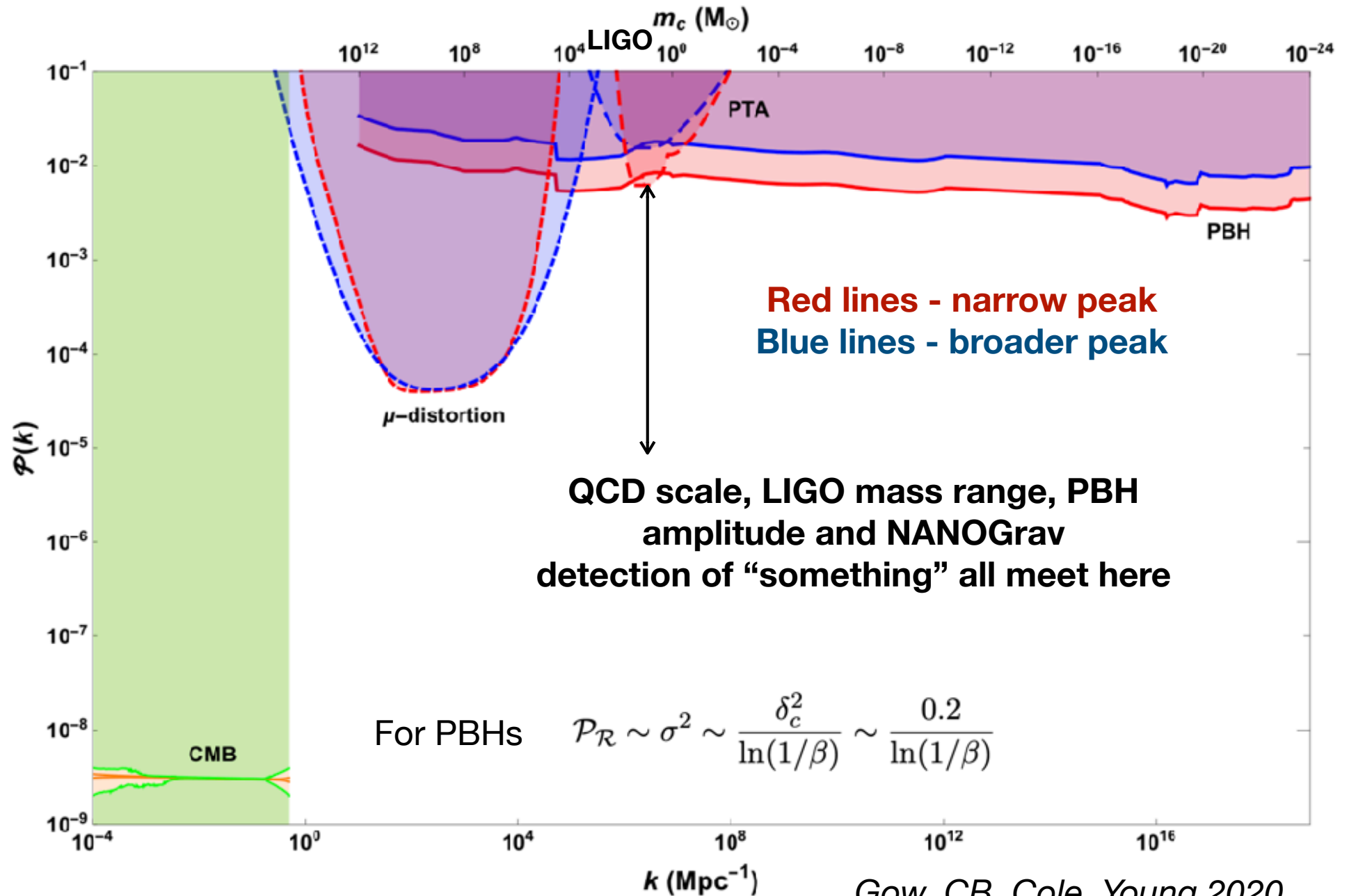


Review: Caprini and Figueroa 2018

# CMB spectral distortions

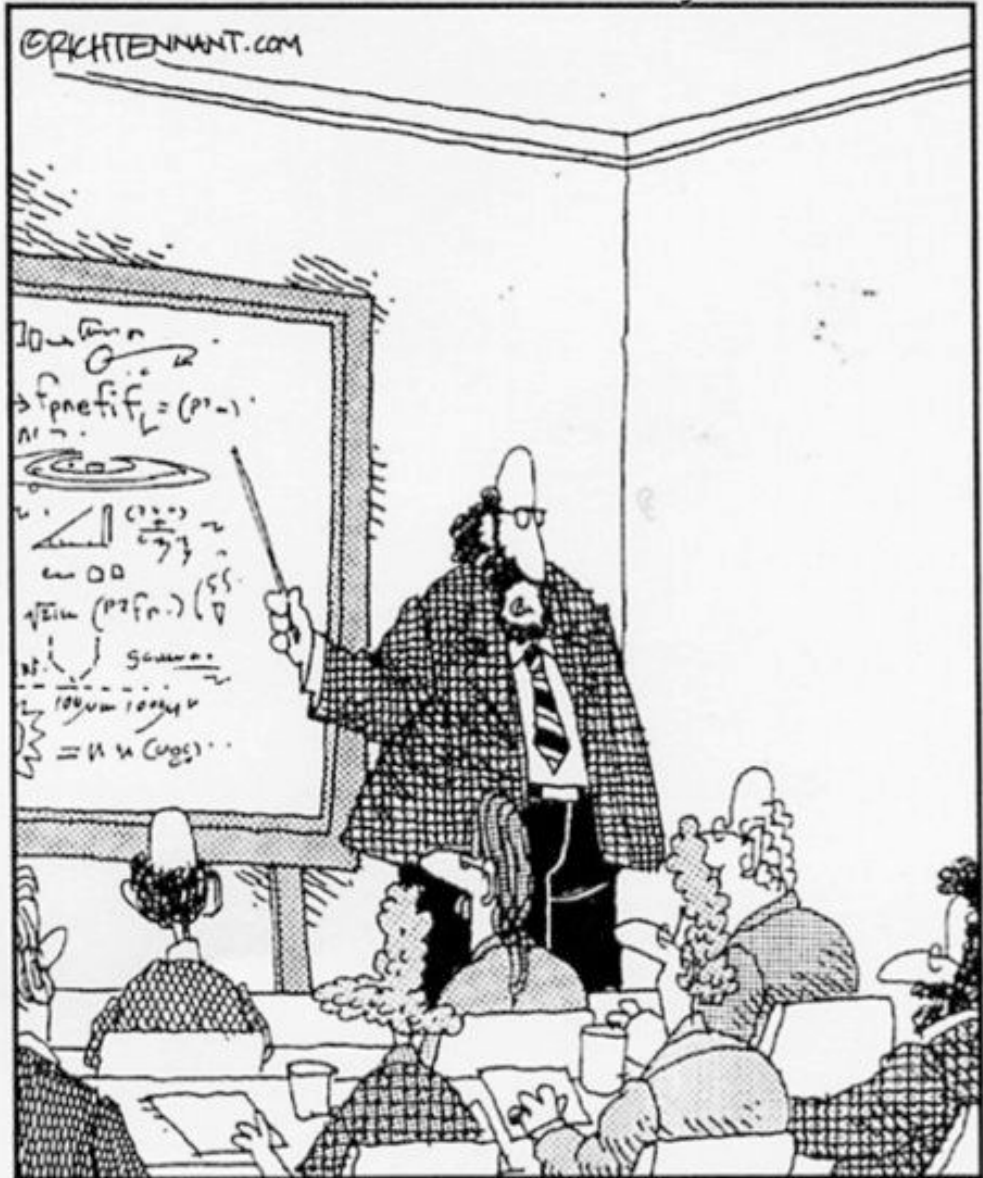
- COBE (FIRAS) showed that the CMB is extremely close to being a black body with no chemical potential
- But it can't be exactly so, must be some deviations on smaller scales, eg from energy release into plasma (matter-photon interactions)
- Latter is silk damping, effective at small scales
- Pixie (NASA) or Prism (L class, ESA) are proposed missions to measure these distortions
- Could open up another 7 e-folds of inflation to be visible, though with nothing like the current CMB precision

# The initial conditions of the universe



# The 5th Wave

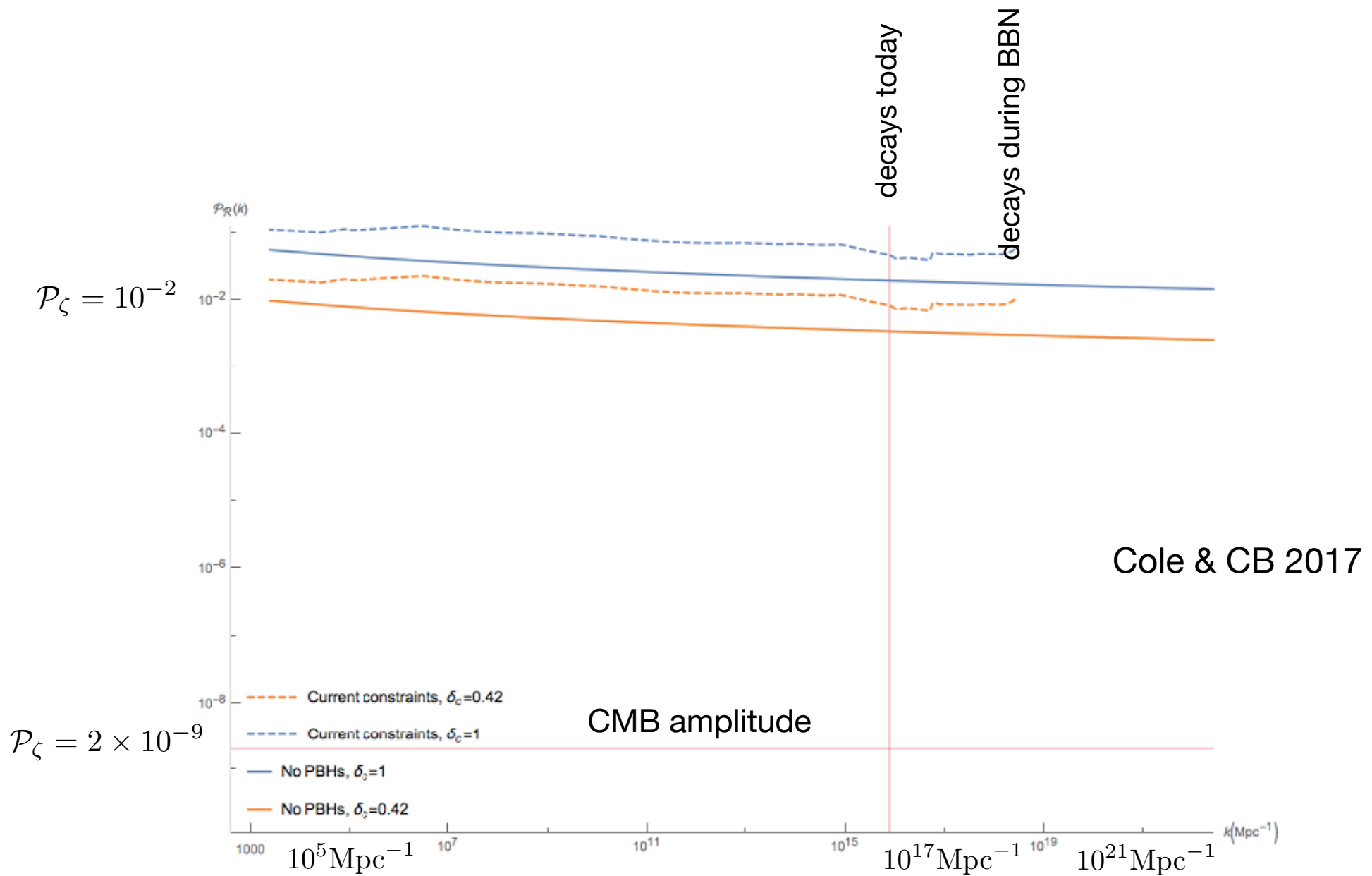
By Rich Tennant



Even things which might  
not exist can matter!

"After the discovery of 'antimatter' and 'dark matter', we have just confirmed the existence of 'doesn't matter', which does not have any influence on the Universe whatsoever."





The dashed lines show the current constraints, the solid lines show the “ideal” constraint of zero PBHs inside the observable universe

# Relics: a nightmare scenario?

- PBHs decaying today would emit Hawking radiation, those decaying before BBN are invisible
- Without a theory of quantum gravity we don't know if they evaporate to nothing or leave a Planck mass relic (solves information paradox?)
- Arguably this is the most likely PBH DM scenario, since it's "easier" to make the smallest scales amplitude larger and these form the lightest PBHs - *MacGibbon 1987*
- May be detectable if charged - *Lehmann et al 2019*

# Hawking-Radiation Recoil of Microscopic Black Holes

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## Abstract

The Hawking radiation would make microscopic black holes evaporate rapidly which excludes them from many astrophysical considerations. However, it has been argued that the quantum nature of space would alter this behaviour: the temperature of a Planck-size black hole vanishes and what is left behind is a Planck-mass remnant with a cross-section on the order of  $10^{-70}m^2$  which makes direct detection nearly impossible. Such black hole remnants have been identified as possible dark matter candidates. Here we argue that the final stage of the evaporation has a recoil effect which would give the microscopic black hole velocity on the order of  $10^{-1}c$  which is in disagreement with the cold dark matter cosmological model.

## 1 Introduction

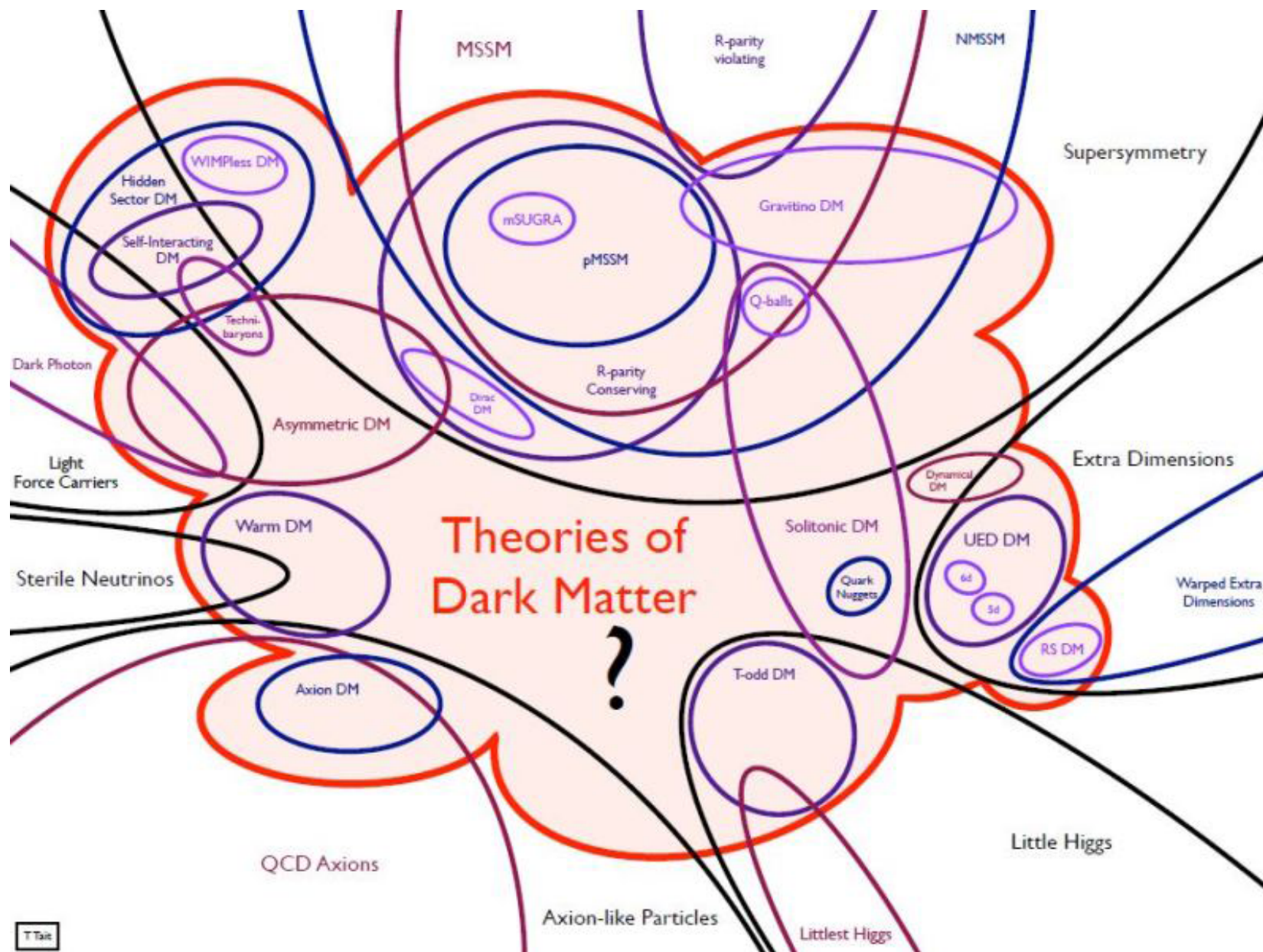
Quantum theory of gravity is not known at the moment, yet we can assume some of its properties. One of them is that space has a structure that becomes evident at the Planck scale. This idea is not new and has been explored from various angles [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7].

A general feature of theories of quantum space is the impossibility of distinguishing points with sen-

as a mathematical tool or as an approximation. Yet there is one prominent example where it is taken to describe physical reality: the matter distribution of a black hole is zero everywhere but at one point. Theories of quantum space often lack the notion of exact point localisation and any matter distribution is rendered nonsingular; regular black holes have been studied before, for example in [8]. This affects behaviour of black holes size of which is comparable to the fundamental length scale. One of the striking difference compared to the ordinary black hole theory is that the Hawking temperature [9] defined to be proportional to the surface gravity at the horizon does not grow indefinitely but instead drops to zero at small but positive mass, resulting in a microscopic black hole remnant.

Black holes remnants have been considered as possible dark matter constituents [10]. In the ordinary space, small black holes evaporate rapidly. In quantum space, they can be eternal and are very difficult to detect due to their miniscule cross-section. If they contributed significantly to the overall dark matter density, proving it would be difficult as direct detection seems to be impossible.

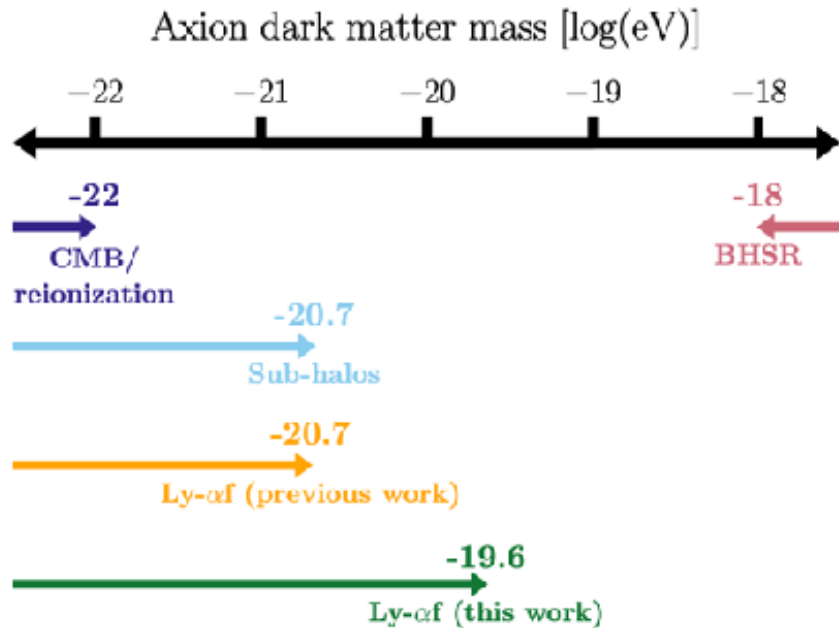
Gravitational collapse leading to black hole formation or merger of two black holes can produce gravitational waves carrying a significant momentum in a single direction, recoiling the resulting



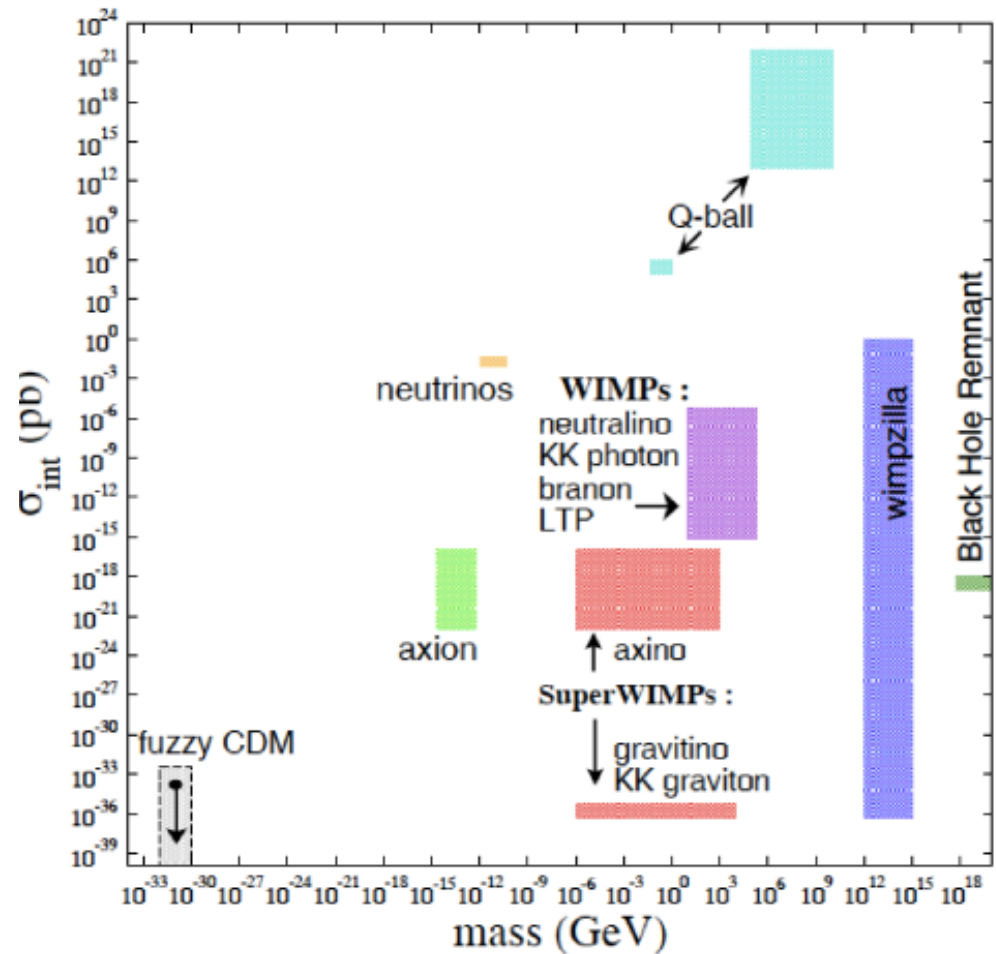
<https://physics.aps.org/articles/v11/48>

# We search under the spotlight

## - no reason to ever expect a DM detection?



Rogers & Peiris 2020



<https://www.groundai.com/project/dark-matter-studies-entrain-nuclear-physics/1>

PBHs are a unique candidate in several ways, so worth detecting/excluding  
We can at least improve the DM upper mass bound

# What if Planet 9 is a Primordial Black Hole?

Jakub Scholtz<sup>1</sup> and James Unwin<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Institute for Particle Physics Phenomenology, Durham University, Durham, DH1 3LE, United Kingdom.*

<sup>2</sup>*Department of Physics, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL 60607, USA;*

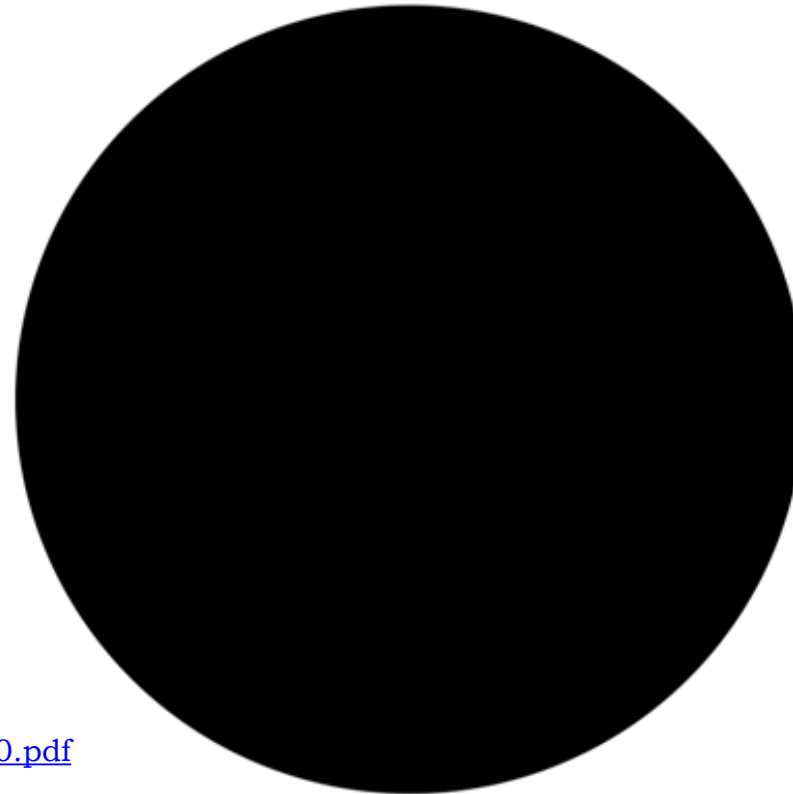
*& Department of Physics, University of California, Berkeley & Theoretical Physics Group, LBNL & Mathematics Sciences Research Institute, Berkeley, CA 94720, USA*

We highlight that the anomalous orbits of Trans-Neptunian Objects (TNOs) and an excess in microlensing events in the 5-year OGLE dataset can be simultaneously explained by a new population of astrophysical bodies with mass several times that of Earth ( $M_{\oplus}$ ). We take these objects to be primordial black holes (PBHs) and point out the orbits of TNOs would be altered if one of these PBHs was captured by the Solar System, inline with the Planet 9 hypothesis. Capture of a free floating planet is a leading explanation for the origin of Planet 9 and we show that the probability of capturing a PBH instead is comparable. The observational constraints on a PBH in the outer Solar System significantly differ from the case of a new ninth planet. This scenario could be confirmed through annihilation signals from the dark matter halo around the PBH.

sep 2019

**1. Introduction.** As of this year, two gravitational anomalies of similar mass but very different origins remain to be explained. First, there is a *crossing body*

**2. Two Anomalies.** While the structure of the Solar System to semi-major axis  $a \sim 100$  AU is well explained, for  $a > 250$  AU there are TNO populations whose orbits



<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1909.11090.pdf>

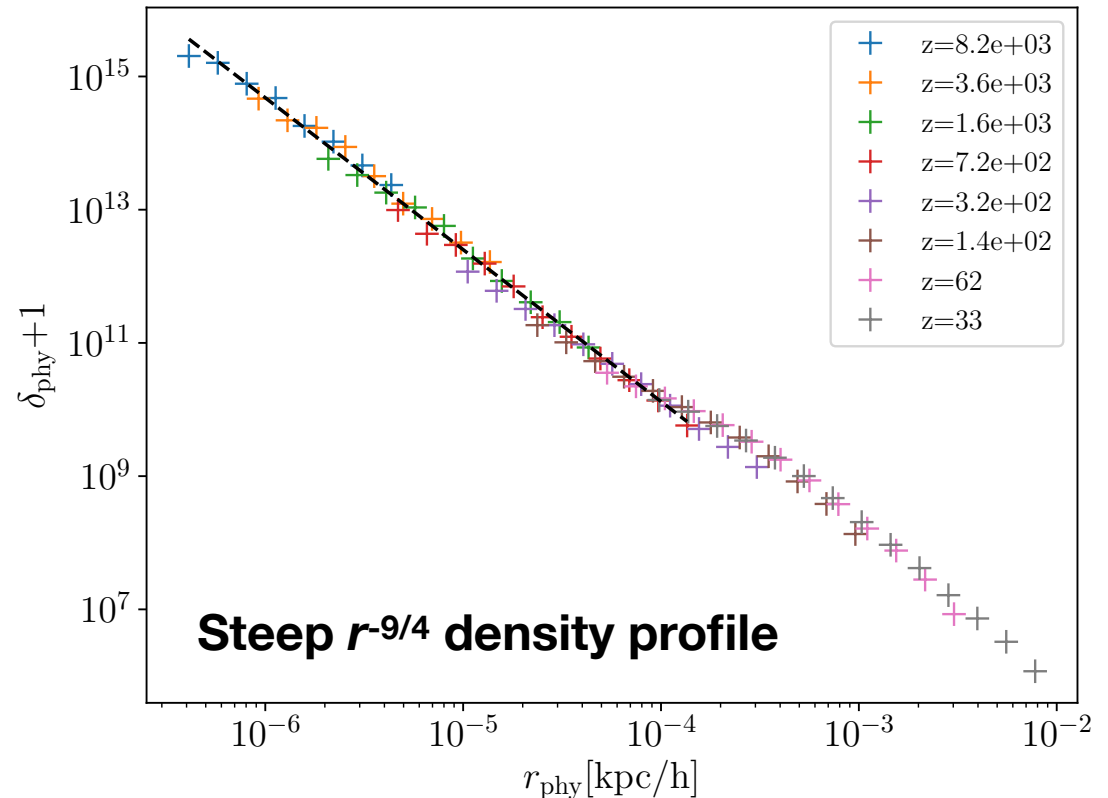
FIG. 1. Exact scale (1:1) illustration of a  $5M_{\oplus}$  PBH. Note that a  $10M_{\oplus}$  PBH is roughly the size of a ten pin bowling ball.

# What if one PBH was detected?

- We would know what some of the DM was (and what it is not - next slide)
- It would be the oldest relic detected, predating the primordial element abundance generated by BBN
- Other potential relics include: gravitational waves, topological defects such as cosmic strings, CMB spectral distortions, ultracompact minihalos
- Requires non-trivial inflationary dynamics, perhaps with an early-matter-dominated phase and/or topological defects.  
*PBH review article: Green 2015*

# WIMPs and PBHs are incompatible

- Assuming WIMPs have the standard, velocity independent cross section which gets the right abundance, and  $M_{\text{PBH}} > 10^{-6} M_{\text{sun}}$ .
- If  $f_{\text{PBH}} < 1$ , then another DM component is inevitable
- Steep and high density profiles form around PBHs (density  $\sim r^{-9/4}$ ). WIMPs would rapidly annihilate to gamma rays.
- In contrast to ultracompact minihalos without a PBH seed.  
*Gosenca et al '17, Delos et al '17*
- A detection of WIMPs or PBHs may effectively rule out the existence of the other



*Adamek, CB, Gosenca & Hotchkiss 2019;*

*Lacki & Beacom 2010; Eroshenko 2016;  
Boucenna, Kühnel, Ohlsson & Visinelli 2017*

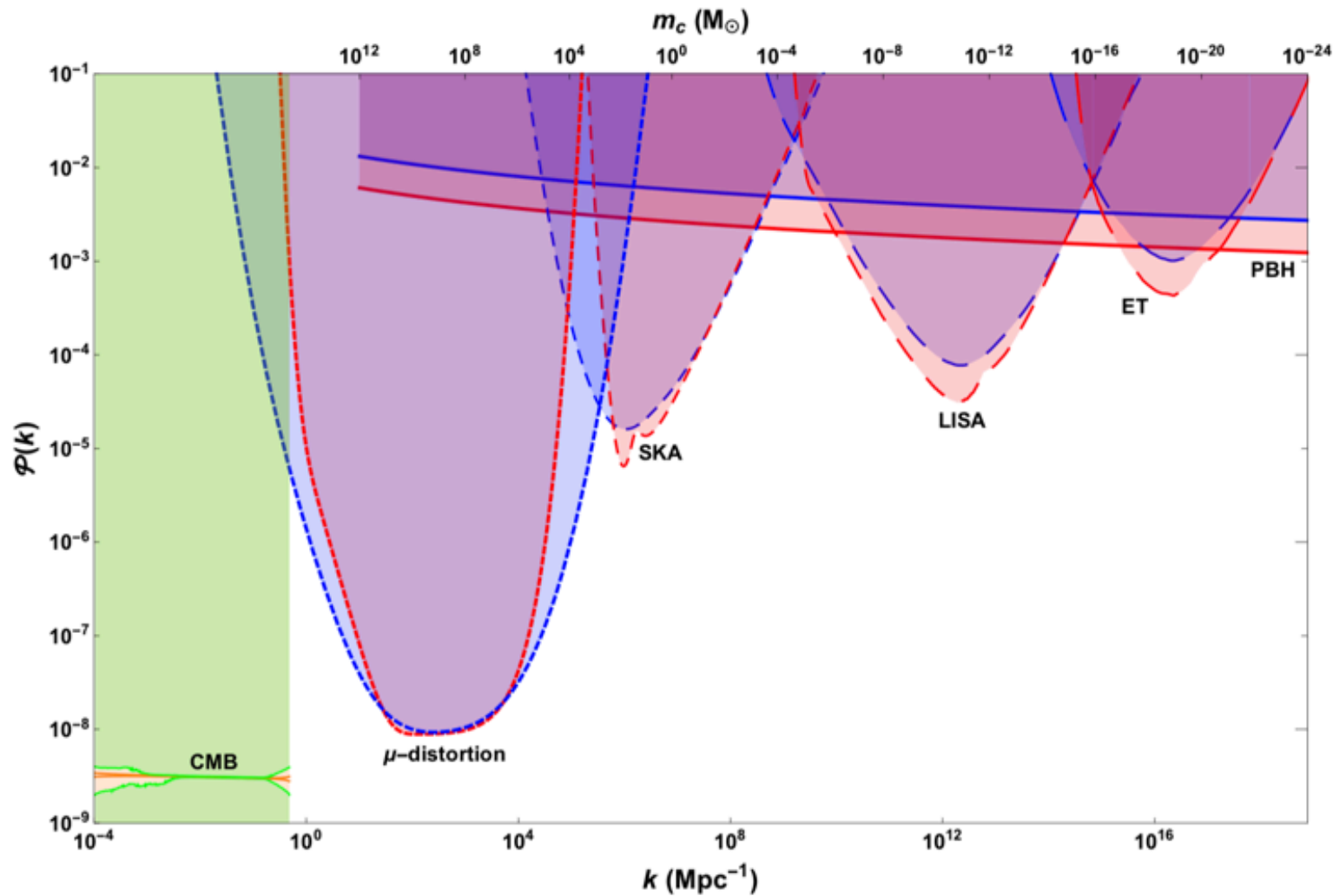
The 3 papers above all find different profiles.  
We made the first simulations of this scenario



# Looking forwards

- LIGO/Virgo have many more events to come
- The pulsar timing array (PTA) collaborations will firm up the “detection” or reach a sensitivity which rules out PBH generation from large amplitude scalar perturbations on LIGO related mass scales
- LISA and future ground based detectors will be sensitive to very high redshift mergers + better probe of the spins, mass ratio, etc
- Theoretical and numerical work, especially on the merger rate and accretion, is required
- The detection of a sub Chandrasekhar mass object is what I hope for

# Future constraints



The PBH lines correspond to zero PBHs  
Cole & CB '17

Gow, CB, Cole, Young 2020

# Summary

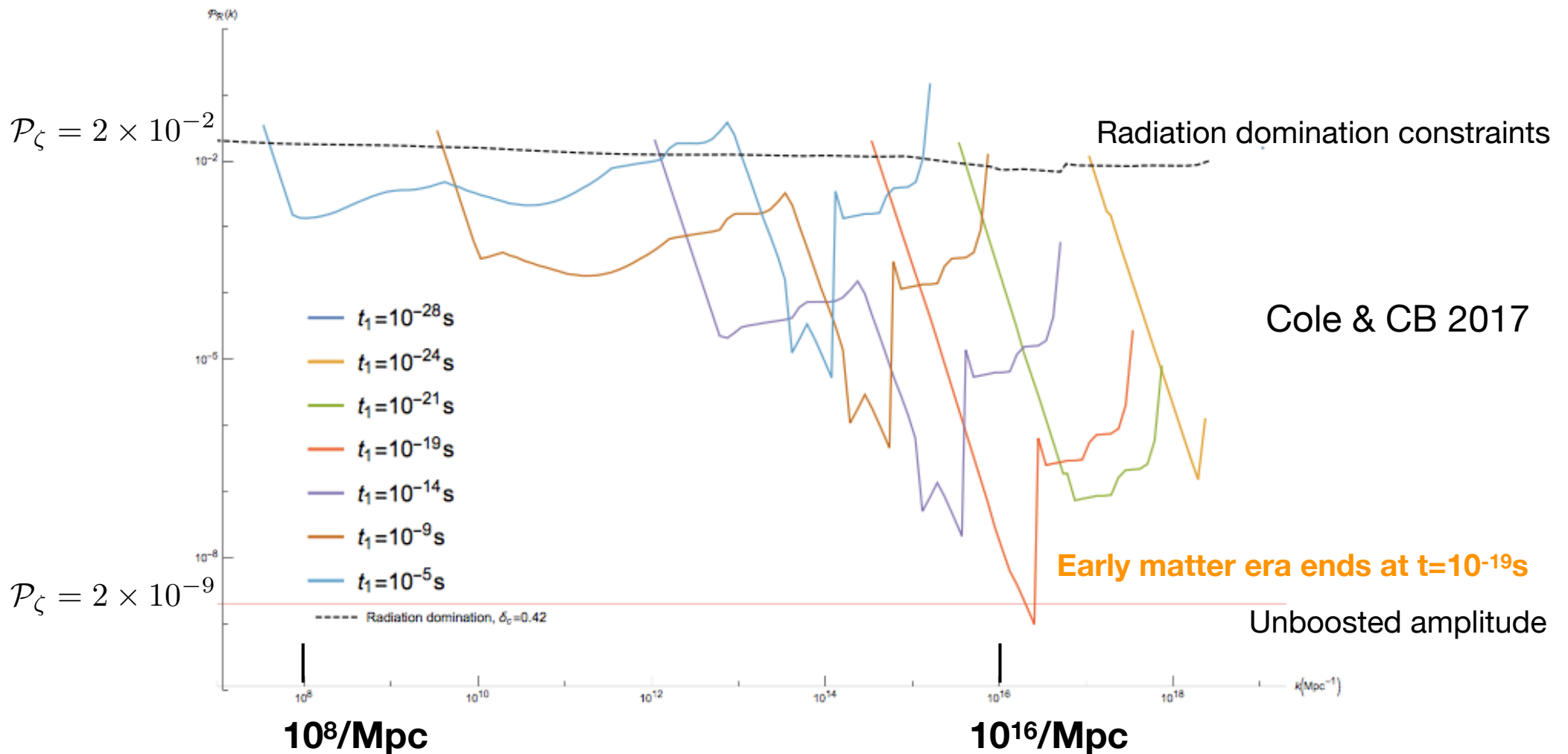
- PBHs could still form all of the DM, at least in the asteroid mass range
- Mixed DM models are also interesting. Some combinations are ruled out.
- It remains possible that some - but not all - of the LIGO Virgo black holes were primordial
- Whether or not PBHs exist, the search has taught us about the early universe and inflation

Finding just one black hole of sub-solar mass — which should be common, according to the primordial black hole scenario, and which can't form from stars — would transform this entire debate. And with

*Quanta magazine*

# Backup slides

# PBHs without boosting the power spectrum



Without boosting the power spectrum amplitude (or other new physics) the formation of a detectable fraction of PBHs decaying during CMB formation may be possible if there was an extended **early matter dominated era**, but typically not more massive PBHs

See also Harada et al 2016, Georg & Watson 2017, Carr, Tenkanen & Vaskonen 2017 ++

Parameter	Model					
	PBH	PBH, $S = 1$	Model A	Model B	PBH, $S=1$ , $m_{\max} = 50 M_{\odot}$	PBH, $S=1$ , skew- bimodal
$\log_{10} f_{\text{PBH}}$	$-2.30^{+1.16}_{-0.35}$	$-2.76^{+0.25}_{-0.24}$	–	–	$-2.72^{+0.25}_{-0.25}$	$-2.74^{+0.23}_{-0.23}$
$\log_{10} m_c [M_{\odot}]$	$1.38^{+1.36}_{-0.13}$	$1.26^{+0.12}_{-0.22}$	–	–	$1.91^{+1.91}_{-0.76}$	–
$\log_{10} \sigma$	$-0.09^{+0.49}_{-0.24}$	$-0.21^{+0.24}_{-0.16}$	–	–	$0.27^{+0.23}_{-0.47}$	–
$m_c [M_{\odot}]$	$24.23^{+528.52}_{-6.31}$	$18.06^{+5.72}_{-7.10}$	–	–	$81.28^{+6525.7}_{-67.15}$	–
$\sigma$	$0.82^{+1.71}_{-0.35}$	$0.61^{+0.45}_{-0.19}$	–	–	$1.86^{+1.30}_{-1.23}$	–
$\log_{10} R_0$	–	–	$1.63^{+0.50}_{-0.45}$	$1.55^{+0.41}_{-0.43}$	–	–
$m_{\max} [M_{\odot}]$	–	–	$42.65^{+18.96}_{-5.99}$	$42.73^{+35.11}_{-6.31}$	50.0	–
$m_{\min} [M_{\odot}]$	–	–	5.00	$7.88^{+1.30}_{-2.64}$	–	–
$\alpha$	–	–	$0.94^{+1.59}_{-2.38}$	$1.93^{+1.70}_{-1.96}$	–	–
$\beta_q$	–	–	0.00	$6.62^{+5.04}_{-6.62}$	–	–
$\lambda$	–	–	–	–	–	$0.35^{+0.14}_{-0.27}$
$\log_{10} m_{c,1} [M_{\odot}]$	–	–	–	–	–	$1.08^{+0.57}_{-0.38}$
$\log_{10} m_{c,2} [M_{\odot}]$	–	–	–	–	–	$1.57^{+0.08}_{-0.62}$
$m_{c,1} [M_{\odot}]$	–	–	–	–	–	$12.02^{+32.65}_{-10.82}$
$m_{c,2} [M_{\odot}]$	–	–	–	–	–	$37.15^{+7.52}_{-28.24}$
$\ln L^*/L_B^*$	–6.99	–7.14	–2.51	0.00	–5.44	–3.53
$\ln \text{Occam}$	–6.13	–8.21	–5.71	–6.74	–5.46	–7.73
$\ln Z_{\text{Lap}}/Z_{\text{NS}}$	$1.60^{+0.16}_{-0.16}$	$0.26^{+0.17}_{-0.17}$	$0.77^{+0.15}_{-0.15}$	$0.63^{+0.16}_{-0.16}$	$0.54^{+0.13}_{-0.13}$	$1.92^{+0.18}_{-0.18}$
$\ln Z_{\text{NS}}/Z_{\text{NS,B}}$	$-7.35^{+0.23}_{-0.23}$	$-8.25^{+0.23}_{-0.23}$	$-1.62^{+0.22}_{-0.22}$	0.00	$-4.01^{+0.21}_{-0.21}$	$-5.79^{+0.24}_{-0.24}$

TABLE II: Median and 95% credible intervals for the parameters of each model considered. The bottom four rows display difference in best-fit log-likelihood between each model and LIGO Model B, the log of the Occam factor defined in the text, the difference in log-evidence between the DYNESTY nested sampling estimate and the Laplace approximation defined in the text, and the Bayesian evidence ratios computed from nested sampling along with uncertainties.

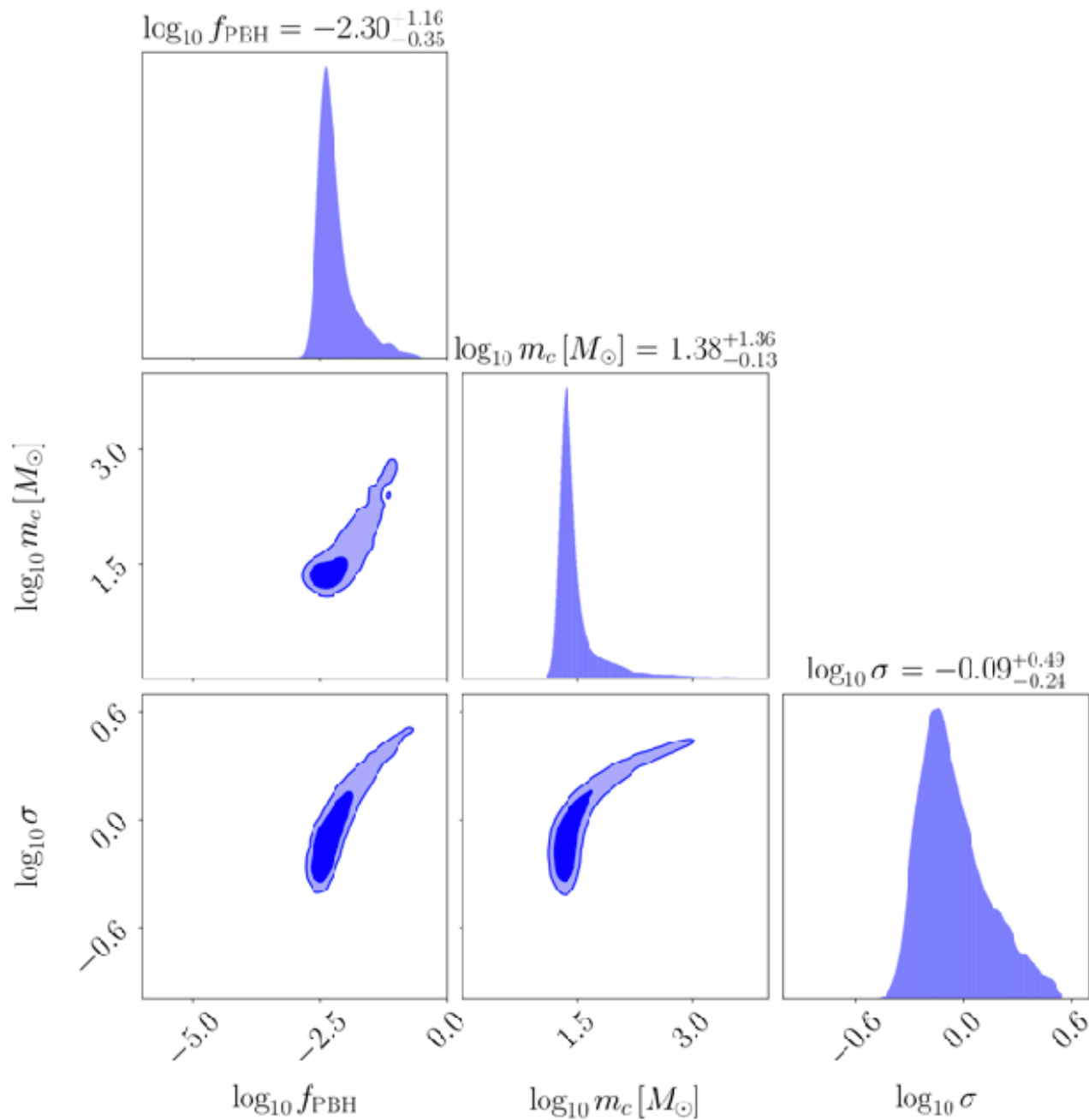


FIG. 8: *Off-diagonal panels*: Two-dimensional 68% and 95% marginal posterior quantiles for the parameters of the lognormal PBH model including the 3-body suppression factor, given the GWTC-1 data. The plot boundaries correspond to the extent of the (uniform) priors on the parameters shown. *Diagonal panels*: One-dimensional marginal posterior densities for the parameters. Above each panel are the marginalised posterior median and 95% posterior quantiles for each parameter.

# The merger rate

The merger time of a binary  $\tau = \frac{3}{85} \frac{r_a^4}{\eta M^3} j^7$

$e = \sqrt{1 - j^2}$      $\eta \equiv \mu/M$      $M \equiv m_1 + m_2$  and  $\mu \equiv m_1 m_2 / M$

The differential merger rate

$$dR = S \times dR_0$$

**S** is a suppression factor

$$\begin{aligned} dR_0 &= \frac{0.65}{\tau} \left( \frac{\tau \eta M^{14}}{f_{\text{PBH}}^7 c_j^7 c_a^4 \rho_M^{11}} \right)^{\frac{3}{37}} dn(m_1) dn(m_2) \\ &\approx \frac{1.6 \times 10^6}{\text{Gpc}^3 \text{yr}} f_{\text{PBH}}^{\frac{53}{37}} \eta^{-\frac{34}{37}} \left( \frac{M}{M_\odot} \right)^{-\frac{32}{37}} \left( \frac{\tau}{t_0} \right)^{-\frac{34}{37}} \psi(m_1) \psi(m_2) dm_1 dm_2 \end{aligned}$$

Raidal et al <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1812.01930.pdf>



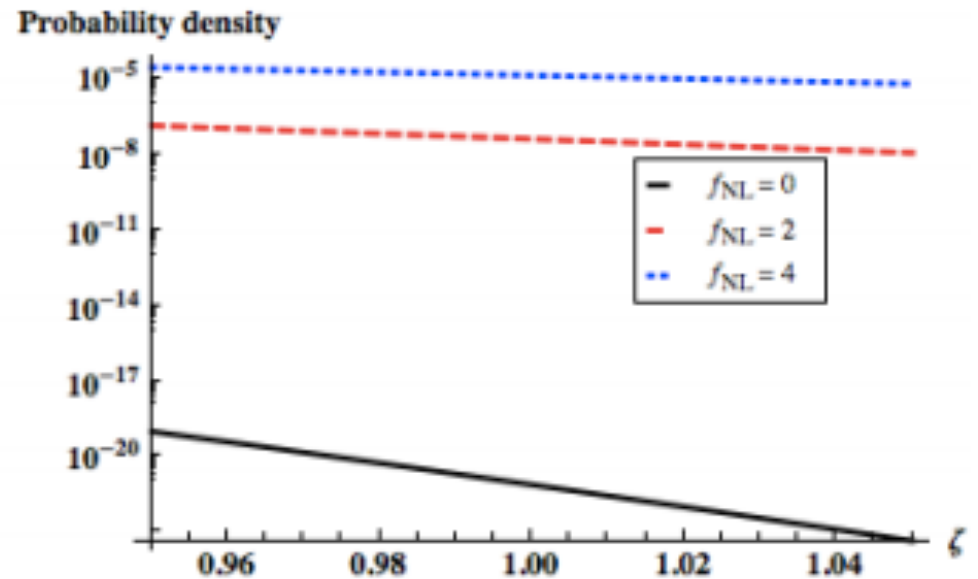
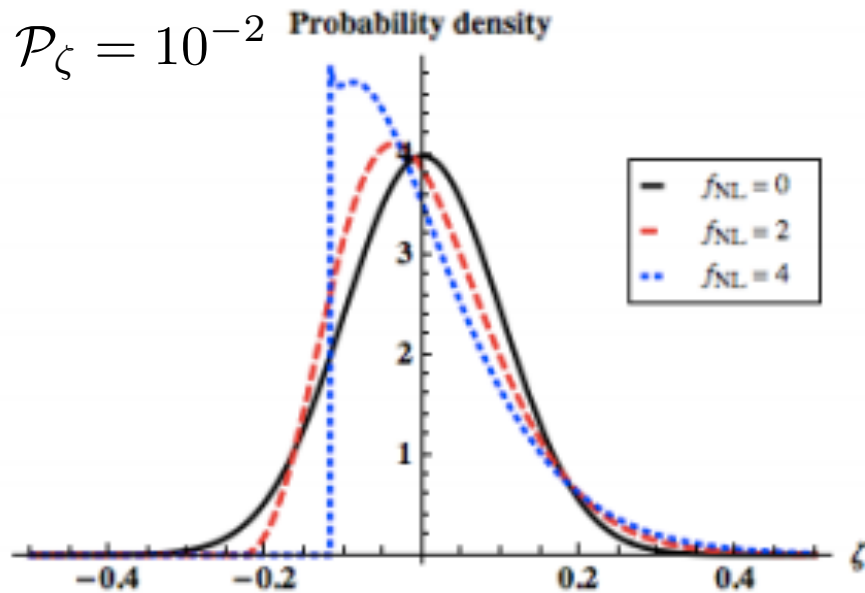
# PBH formation comments

- The formation rate is exponentially sensitive to the amplitude of the power spectrum, and the collapse threshold
- Inflationary models posit an inflection point (ultra-slow-roll inflation) or other feature
- The power spectrum can't grow faster than about  $k^4$  (in canonical single-field inflation), impacts the constraints. *Byrnes, Cole & Patil '18; Carrilho, Malik & Mulryne '19*
- PBHs are very rare - very sensitive to non-Gaussianity
- The formation criteria depends on the density profile. Many spherically symmetric simulations exist, e.g. *Niemeyer & Jedamjik, Musco & Miller, Harada ++, Nakama ++...*
- Extensive recent analytic work has been done to relate the power spectrum to PBH formation rate at, but (at least) an order unity uncertainty remains (= tens of orders of magnitude in terms of the formation rate). *Germani & Musco '17, Yoo et al '17, Kawasaki & Nakatsuka '19, de Luca et al '19, Young et al '19, Young '19, Kalaja et al '19*

# PBH abundance is exponentially sensitive to non-Gaussianity

Local non-Gaussianity

$$\zeta = \zeta_g + \frac{3}{5} f_{NL} (\zeta_g^2 - \sigma^2)$$



Young & CB 2013

Following *Raidal et al 2019* we consider a log-normal mass function with “central mass”  $m_c=20 M_\odot$  and  $\sigma=0.6$

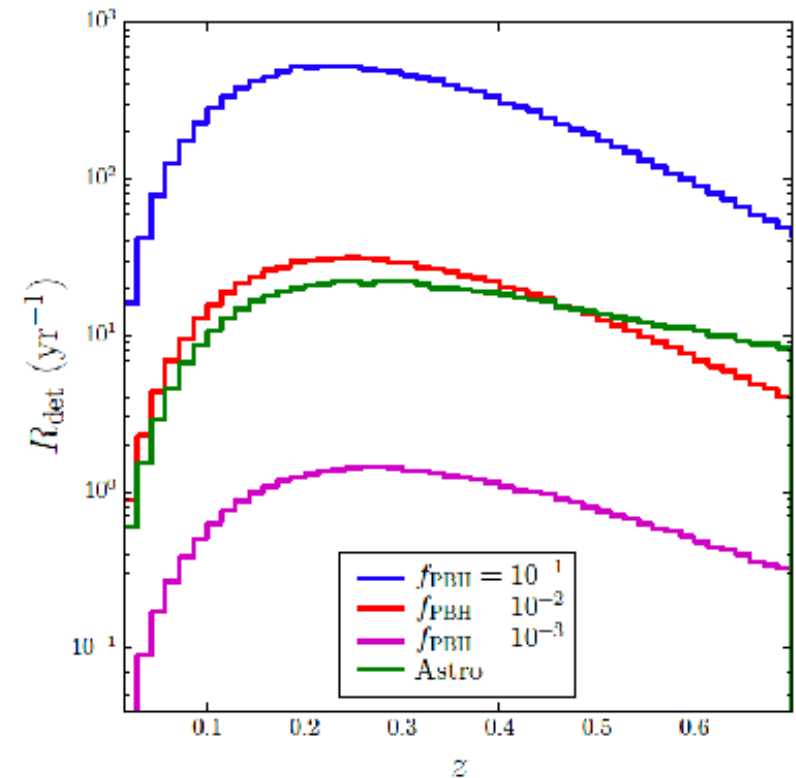
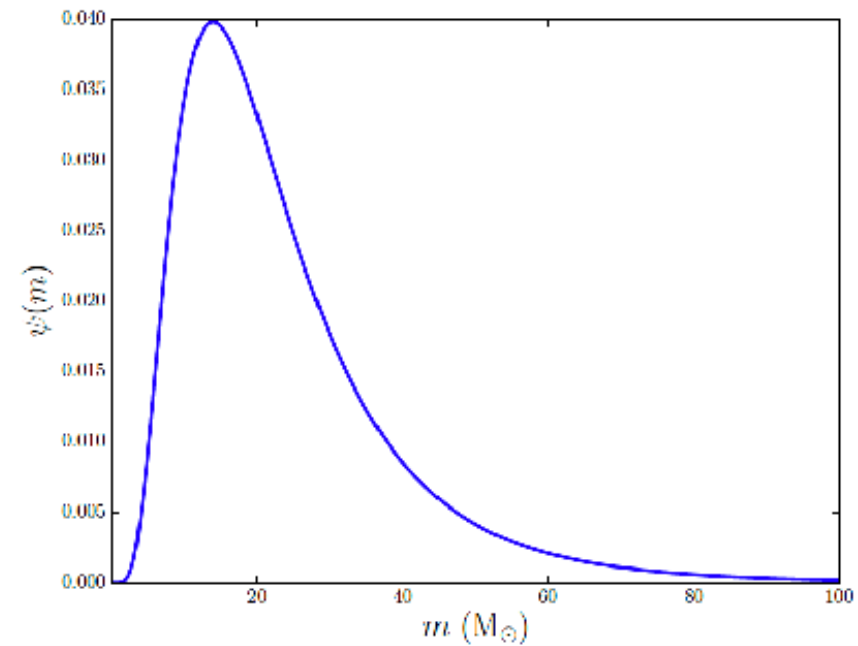
$$\psi(m) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma m} \exp\left(-\frac{\ln^2(m/m_c)}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

We match the expected astrophysical merger rate when about 1% of DM is in PBHs

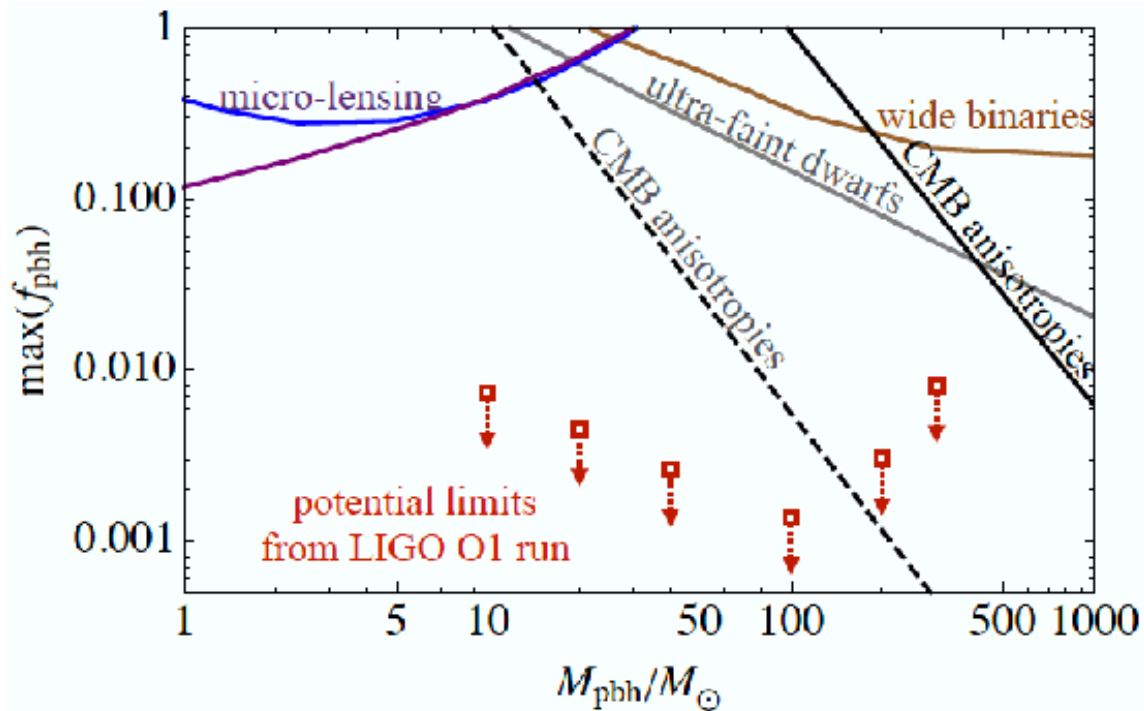
The intrinsic BH merger rate estimated by LIGO assumes a mass function. We calculate the observed merger rate in order to avoid this assumption

Despite knowing the number density of binary stars, the “astro” prediction is very uncertain

The astrophysical line in the plots is always based on *Gerosa et al 2019*



# The PBH merger rate places the tightest constraint



Haimoud et al 2017

- Caveats:

1. Assumes a monochromatic mass spectrum. Extended by *Chen & Huang '18, Raidal et al '18 ++*
2. Assumes PBHs are randomly placed initially, true if Gaussian initial conditions. Clustering does not help *Bringmann et al '18, Young & CB '19*
3. Assumes BH binaries are not disrupted. Recently tested to  $z \sim 1000$  by simulations (*Raidal et al '18*) and even disrupted PBHs can merge *Vaskonen & Veermäe '19*
4. Neglects DM halo formation around the BHs. Not a big effect overall *Kavanagh, Gaggero & Bertone '18*