

Gravitational Wave Lensing

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Crash Course in Lensing (1)





Typical Lensing Setup

Abell 370

Crash Course in Lensing (2)



Basic Observables



Galaxy Clusters are not (for the most part) Spheres



MACS 0416 (Credit: JWST PEARLS (PI: Windhorst)

Including Basic Structure



Including Basic Structure



Towards More Realistic Models



Impact on Observables

- The distribution of time delays is heavily impacted by the presence of substructure
- Increasing the length of caustics significantly changes the number of highly magnified sources
- However, due to the low number of publicly available cluster lens models, putting constraints on rates is very challenging

Future Work

- Would love to hear suggestions on how we can use GW lensing to learn more about dark matter (aside from how it forms in larger structures)
- Do we stand a chance at lensing signals from the early universe?
- Lensing in the strong field regime (i.e. EMRI or IMRI systems)