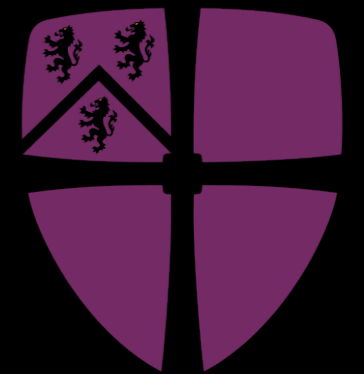


# Gravitational microlensing with (extended) dark matter structures

Djuna Lize Croon (IPPP Durham)

EREP 2024, July 2024

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# Dark matter substructure

*Two things we may agree upon...*

- All of our evidence for Dark Matter is gravitational
- Many dark matter models feature substructure

PBHs

Boson stars

Subhalos

Miniclusters

Mirror stars

# Dark matter substructure

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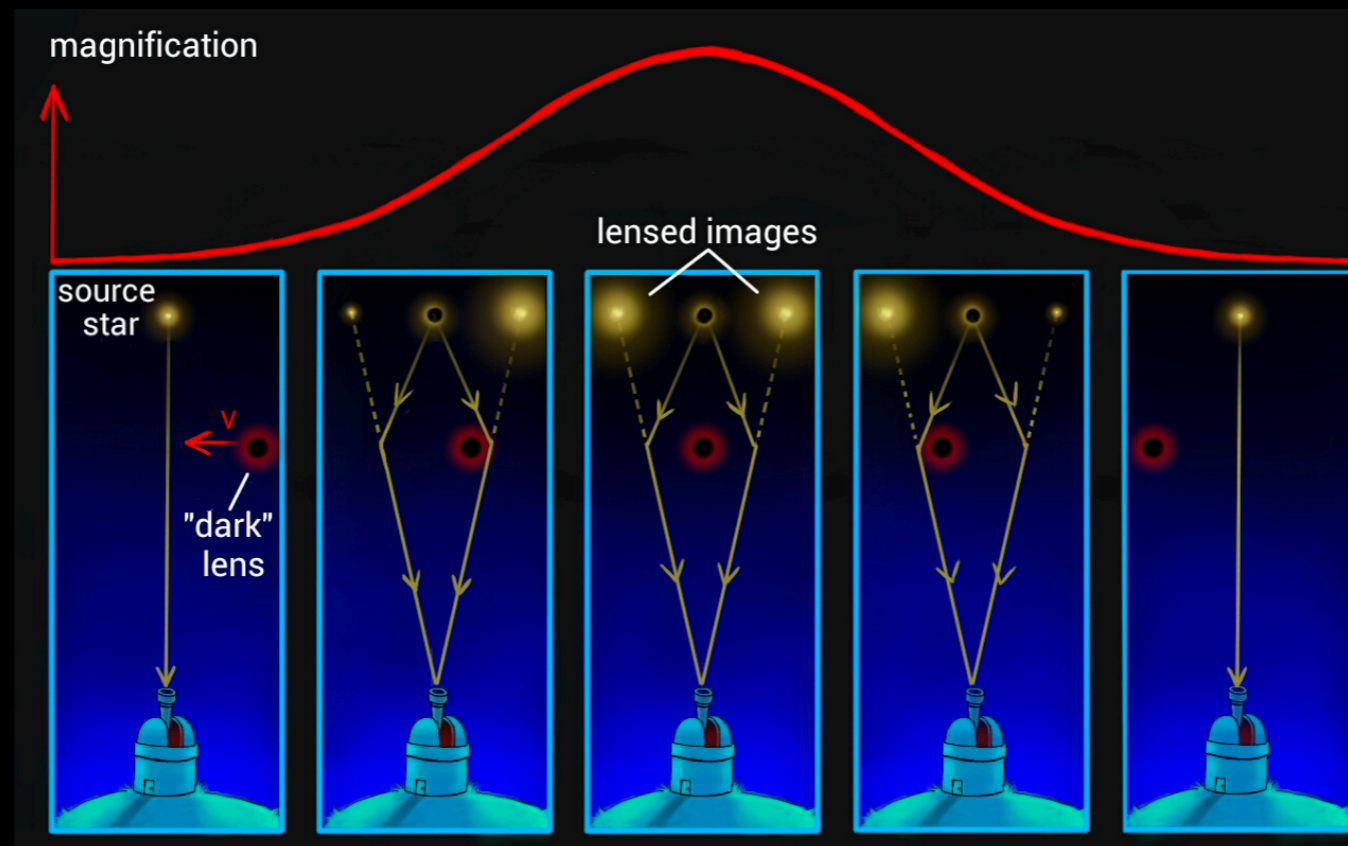
Boson stars

Subhalos

Miniclusters

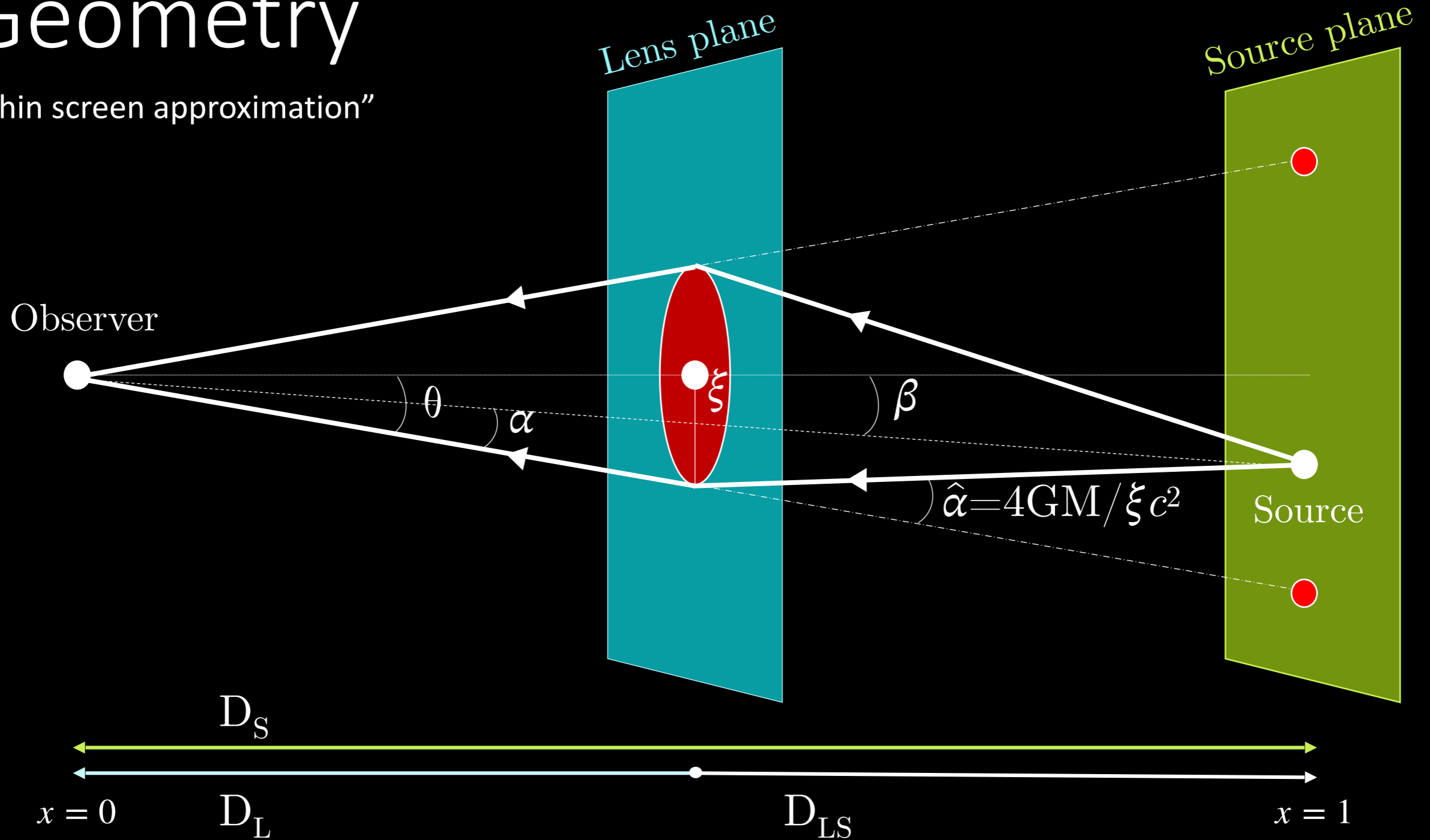
Mirror stars

- Microlensing can be used to probe such models



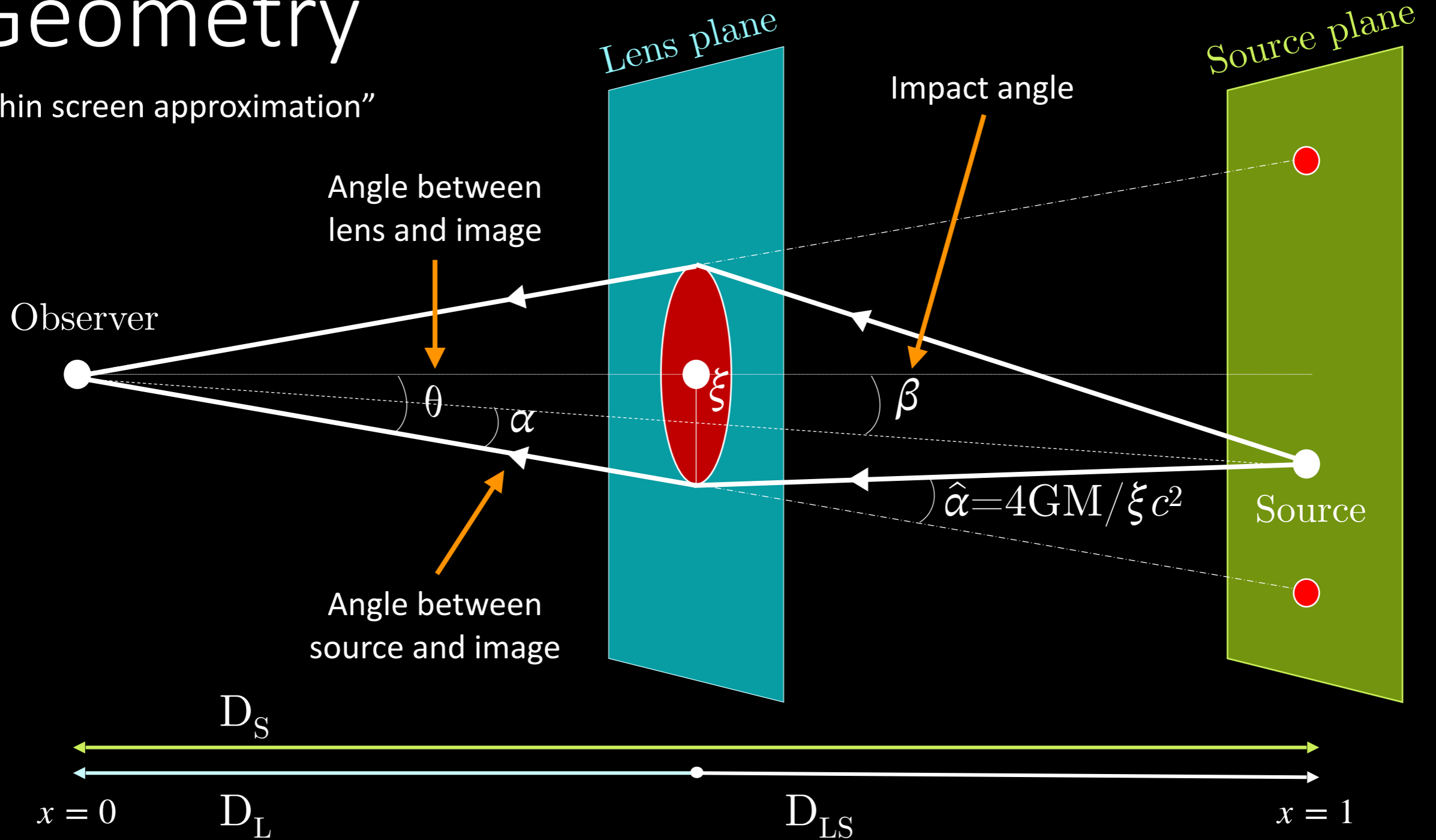
# Geometry

"Thin screen approximation"



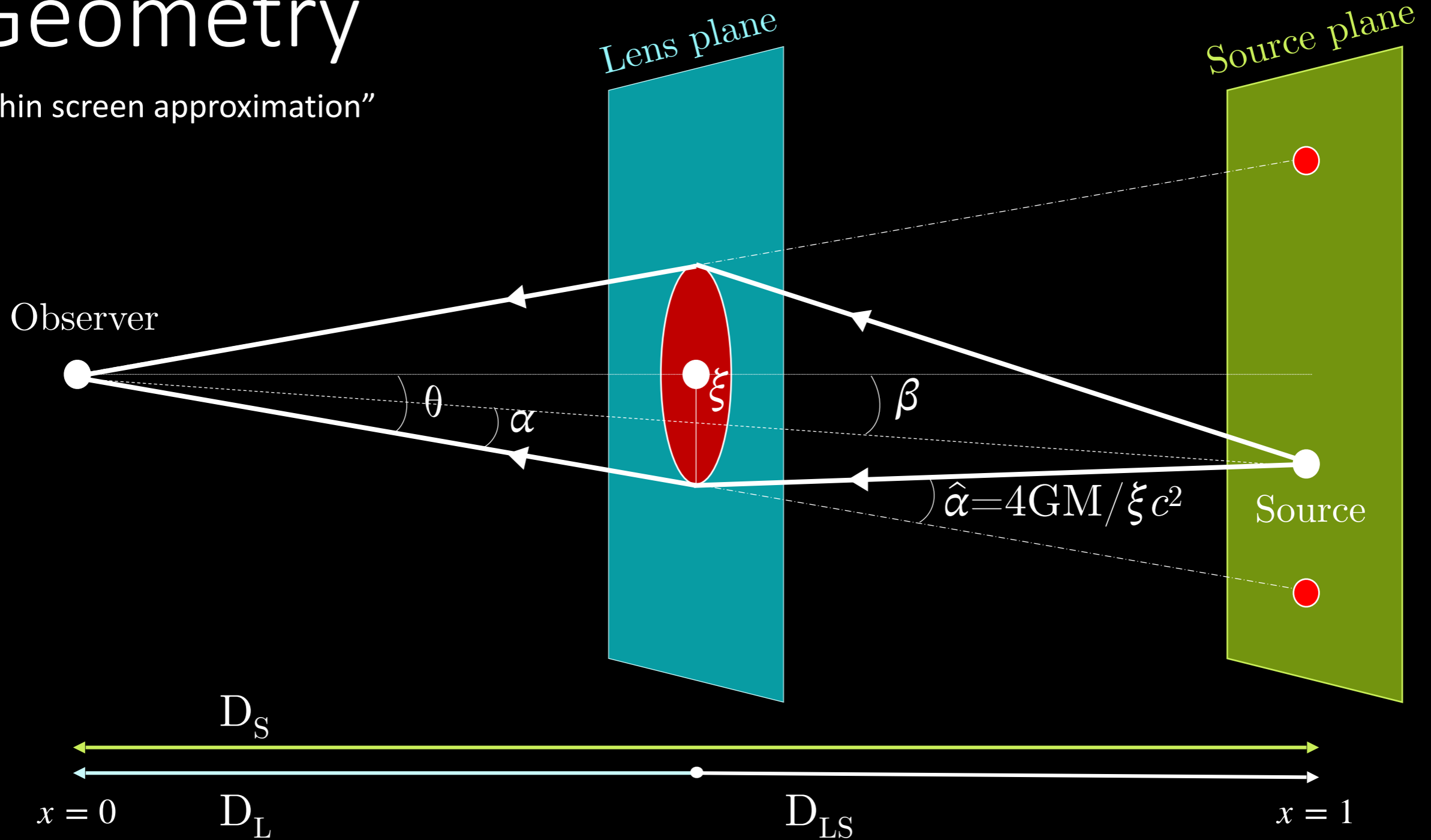
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# Geometry

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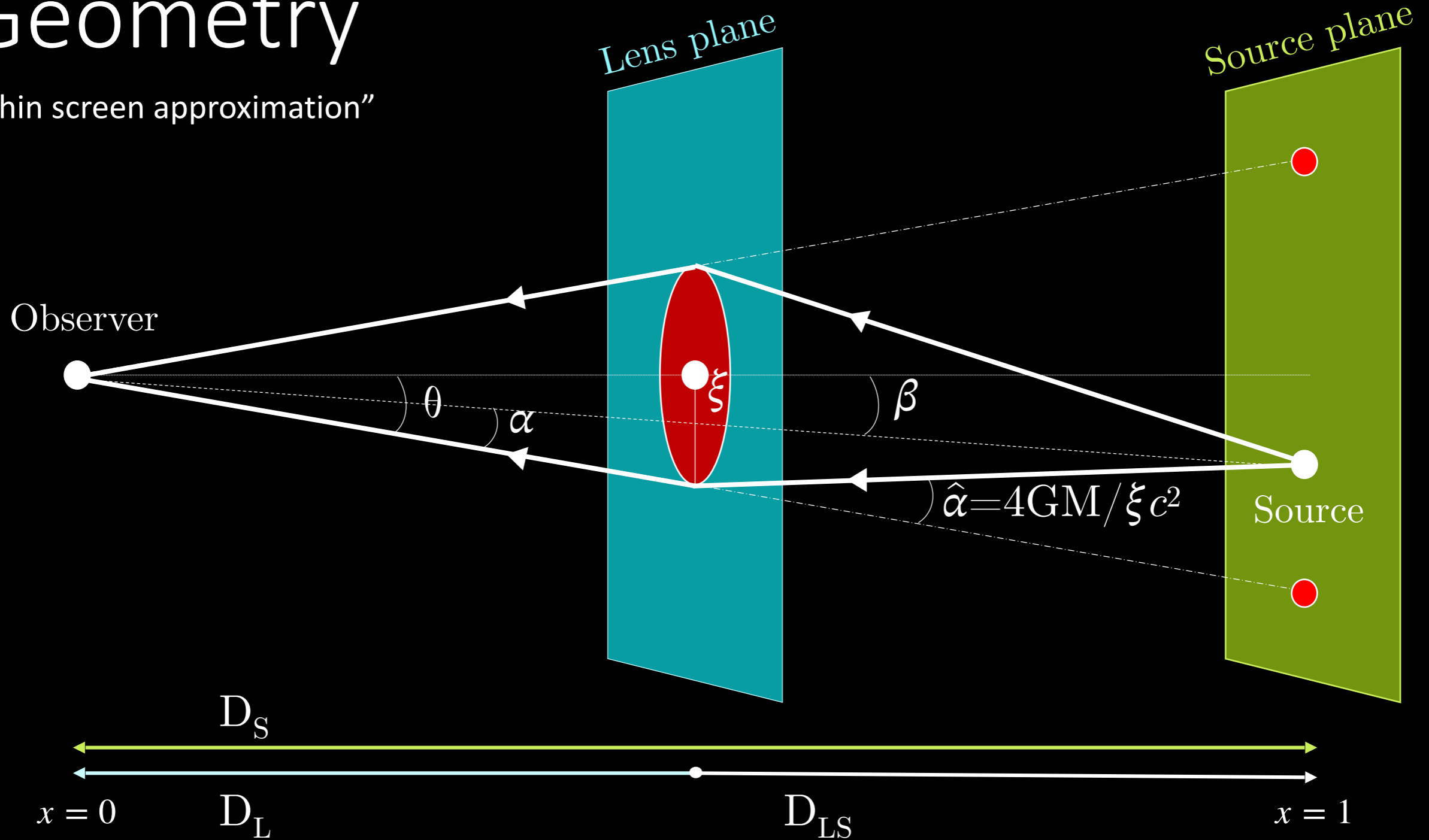


$$\theta D_S = \beta D_S - \hat{\alpha} D_{LS} \rightarrow \beta = \theta - \alpha = \theta - \hat{\alpha} \frac{D_{LS}}{D_S} = \theta - \frac{4GM(\theta)}{\theta c^2} \frac{D_{LS}}{D_S}$$

Lensing equation

# Geometry

"Thin screen approximation"



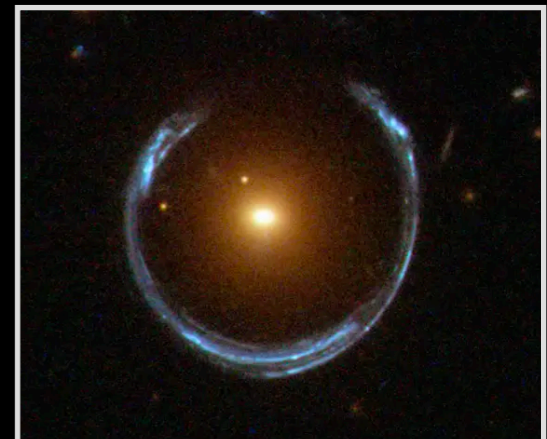
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$$\beta = 0 \rightarrow \theta \equiv \theta_E = \sqrt{\frac{4GM}{c^2} \frac{D_{LS}}{D_L D_S}}$$

Einstein radius

$$r_E = \theta_E D_L$$

Near perfect Einstein Ring with the HST



# The lensing tube

- Magnification:  $\mu = \frac{\theta}{\beta} \frac{d\theta}{d\beta} = \sum \mu_i$



# The lensing tube

• Magnification:  $\mu = \frac{\theta}{\beta} \frac{d\theta}{d\beta} = \sum \mu_i = \frac{u^2 + 2}{u\sqrt{u^2 + 4}} \rightarrow 1.34$

normalised impact parameter  $u \equiv \beta/\theta_E$

point-like lens

$u \rightarrow 1$

# The lensing tube

normalised impact parameter  $u \equiv \beta/\theta_E$

↓

• Magnification:  $\mu = \frac{\theta}{\beta} \frac{d\theta}{d\beta} = \sum \mu_i = \frac{u^2 + 2}{u\sqrt{u^2 + 4}} \rightarrow 1.34$

↑ point-like lens      ↑  $u \rightarrow 1$

•  $\theta_E$  defines a **lensing tube** with radius  $r_E = \theta_E D_L$

• Defining  $\tau \equiv \theta/\theta_E$ ,  $m(\tau) \equiv M(\theta_E \tau)/M$ ,

$$u = \tau - \frac{m(\tau)}{\tau} \quad \text{with} \quad \mu = \left| 1 - \frac{m(\tau)}{\tau^2} \right|^{-1} \left| 1 + \frac{m(\tau)}{\tau^2} - \frac{1}{\tau} \frac{dm(\tau)}{d\tau} \right|^{-1}$$

Lensing equation rewritten

Corresponding magnification

# The lensing tube

normalised impact parameter  $u \equiv \beta/\theta_E$

point-like lens

$u \rightarrow 1$

$$\bullet \text{ Magnification: } \mu = \frac{\theta}{\beta} \frac{d\theta}{d\beta} = \sum \mu_i = \frac{u^2 + 2}{u\sqrt{u^2 + 4}} \rightarrow 1.34$$

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Projected lens  
mass distribution

$$m(\tau) \equiv M(\theta_E \tau)/M = \frac{\int_0^\tau d\sigma \sigma \int_0^\infty d\lambda \rho(r_E \sqrt{\sigma^2 + \lambda^2})}{\int_0^\infty d\gamma \gamma^2 \rho(r_E \gamma)}$$

# The lensing tube

normalised impact parameter  $u \equiv \beta/\theta_E$

• Magnification:  $\mu = \frac{\theta}{\beta} \frac{d\theta}{d\beta} = \sum \mu_i = \frac{u^2 + 2}{u\sqrt{u^2 + 4}} \rightarrow 1.34$

↓  $u^2 + 2$   
↑  $u\sqrt{u^2 + 4}$   
↑  $u \rightarrow 1$

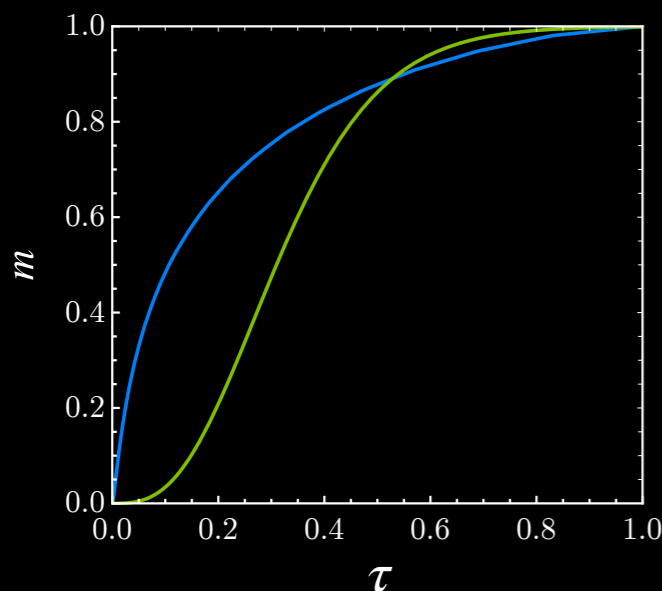
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NFW, Boson star

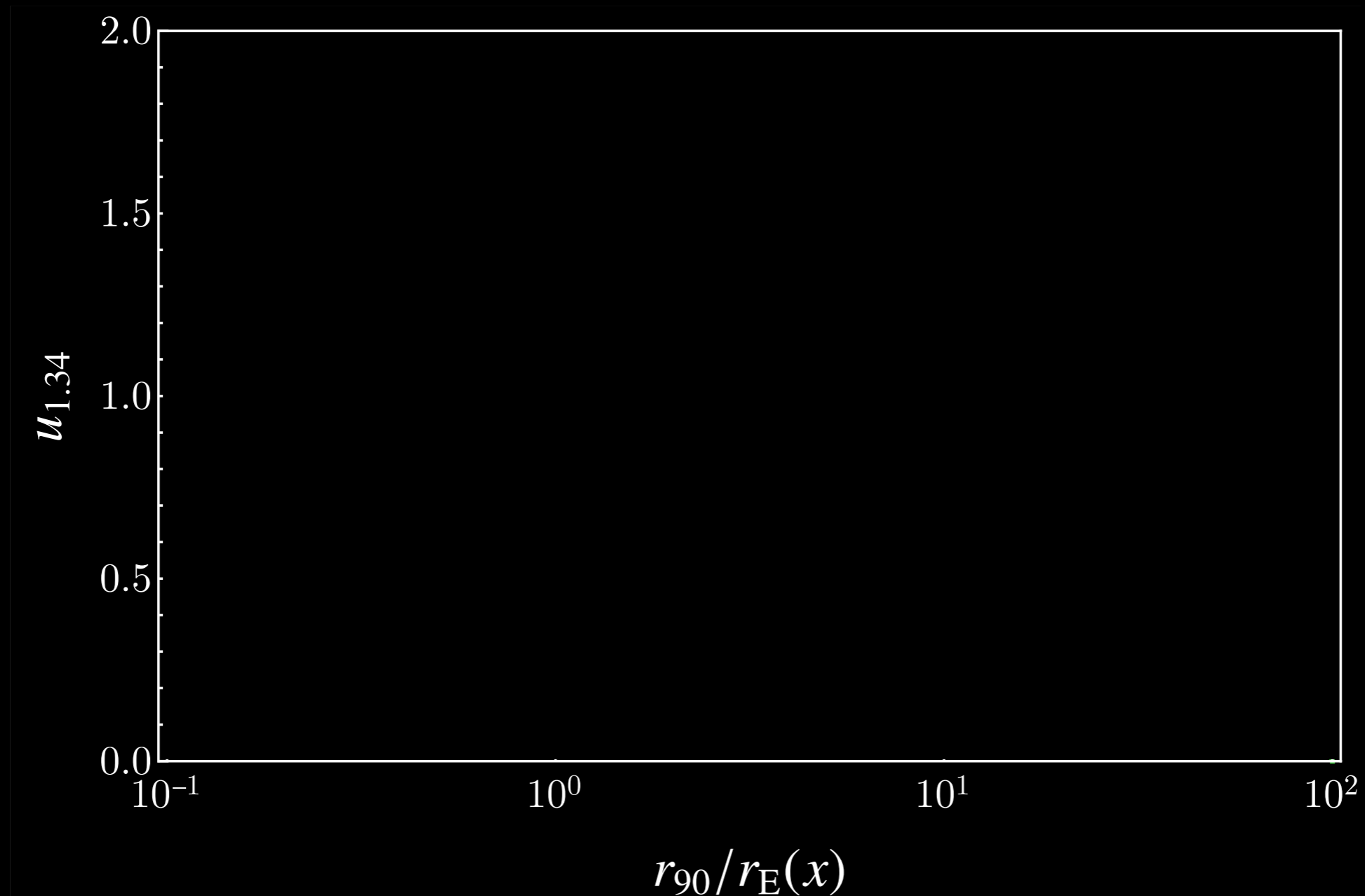


$$m(\tau) \equiv M(\theta_E \tau)/M = \frac{\int_0^\tau d\sigma \sigma \int_0^\infty d\lambda \rho(r_E \sqrt{\sigma^2 + \lambda^2})}{\int_0^\infty d\gamma \gamma^2 \rho(r_E \gamma)}$$

# Threshold impact parameter

Define  $u_{1.34}$  by  $\mu_{\text{tot}}(u \leq u_{1.34}) > 1.34$

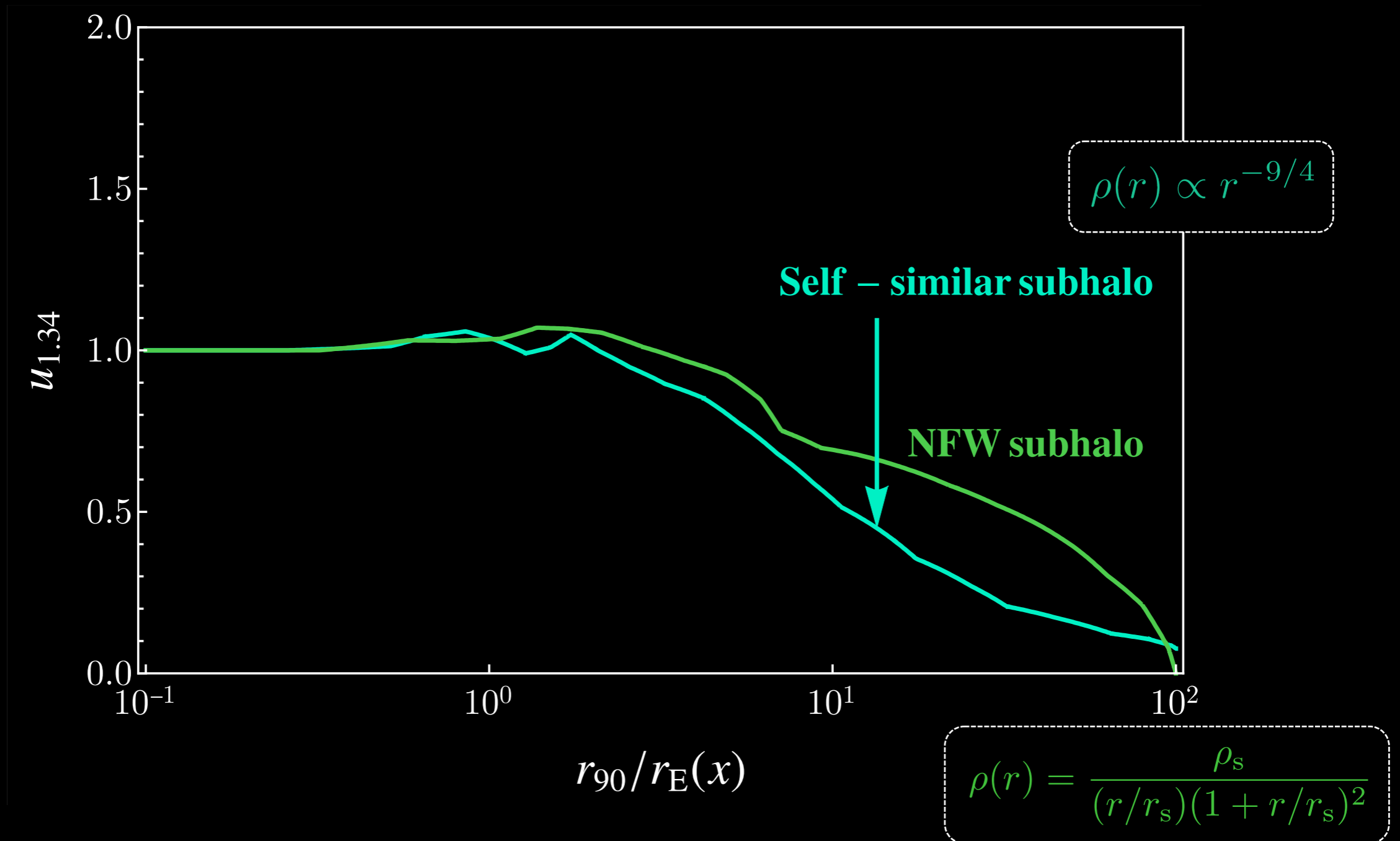
All smaller impact parameters produce a magnification above  $\mu > 1.34$



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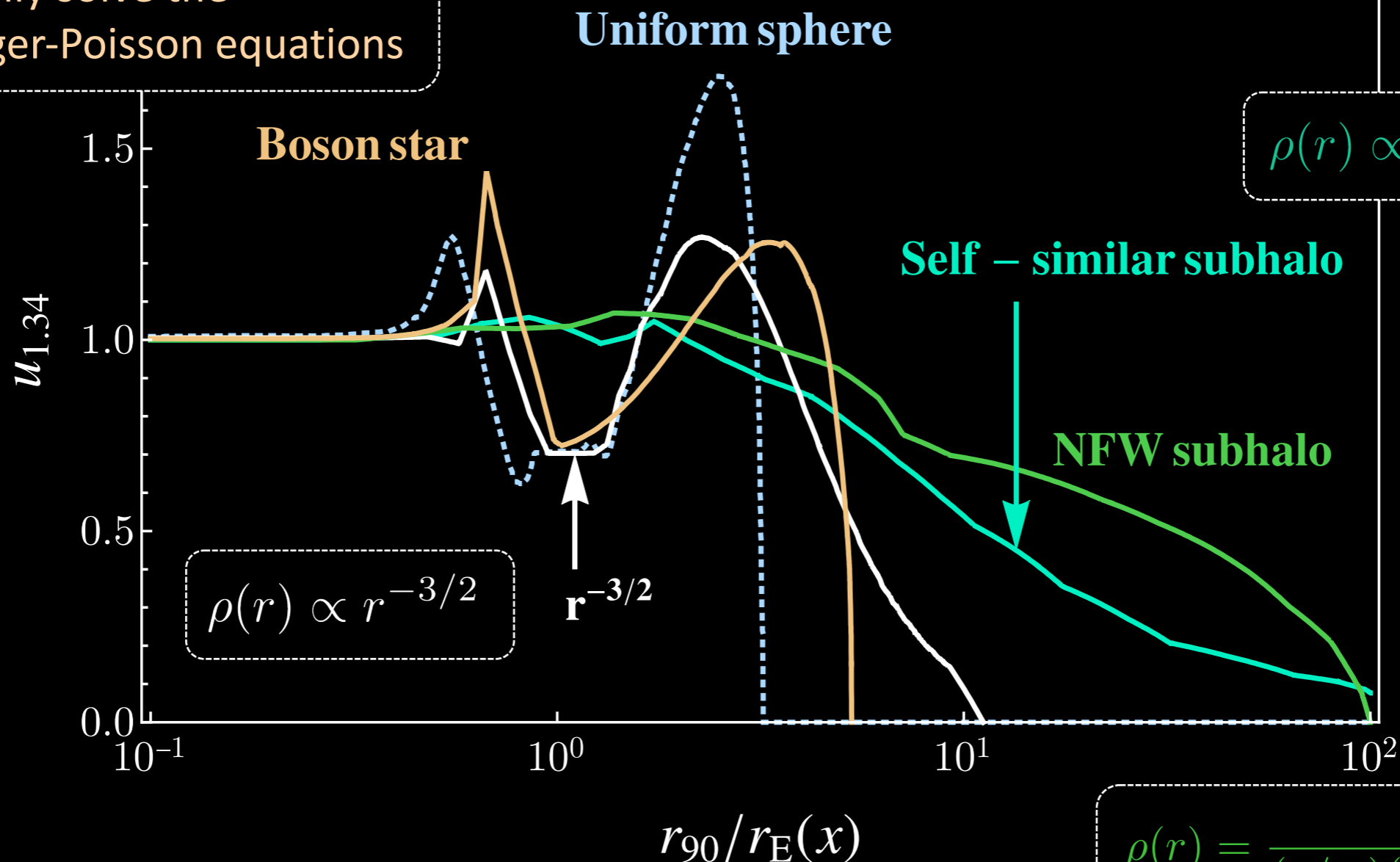


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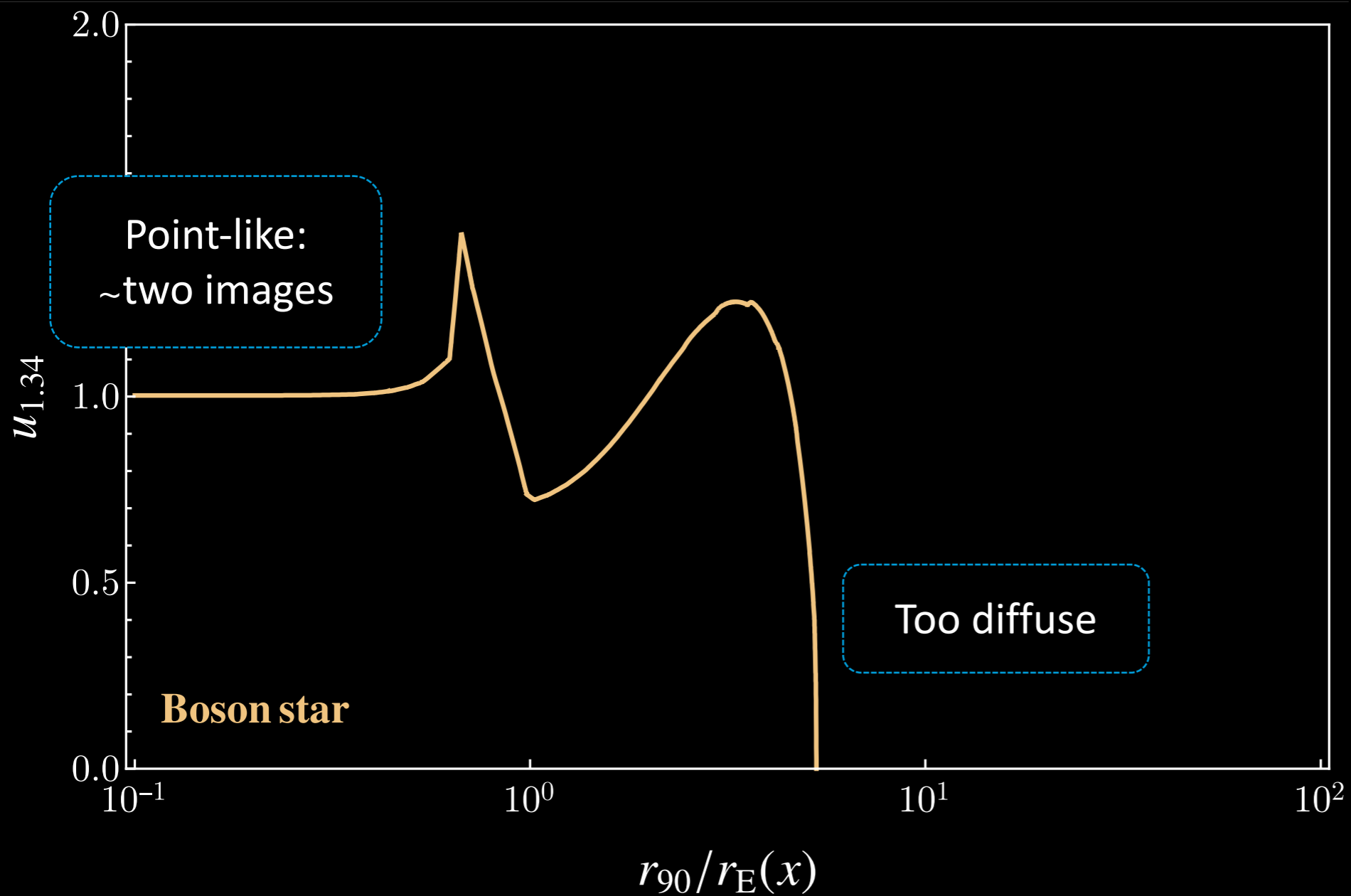
All smaller impact parameters produce a magnification above  $\mu > 1.34$

Numerically solve the Schrodinger-Poisson equations



# Caustics

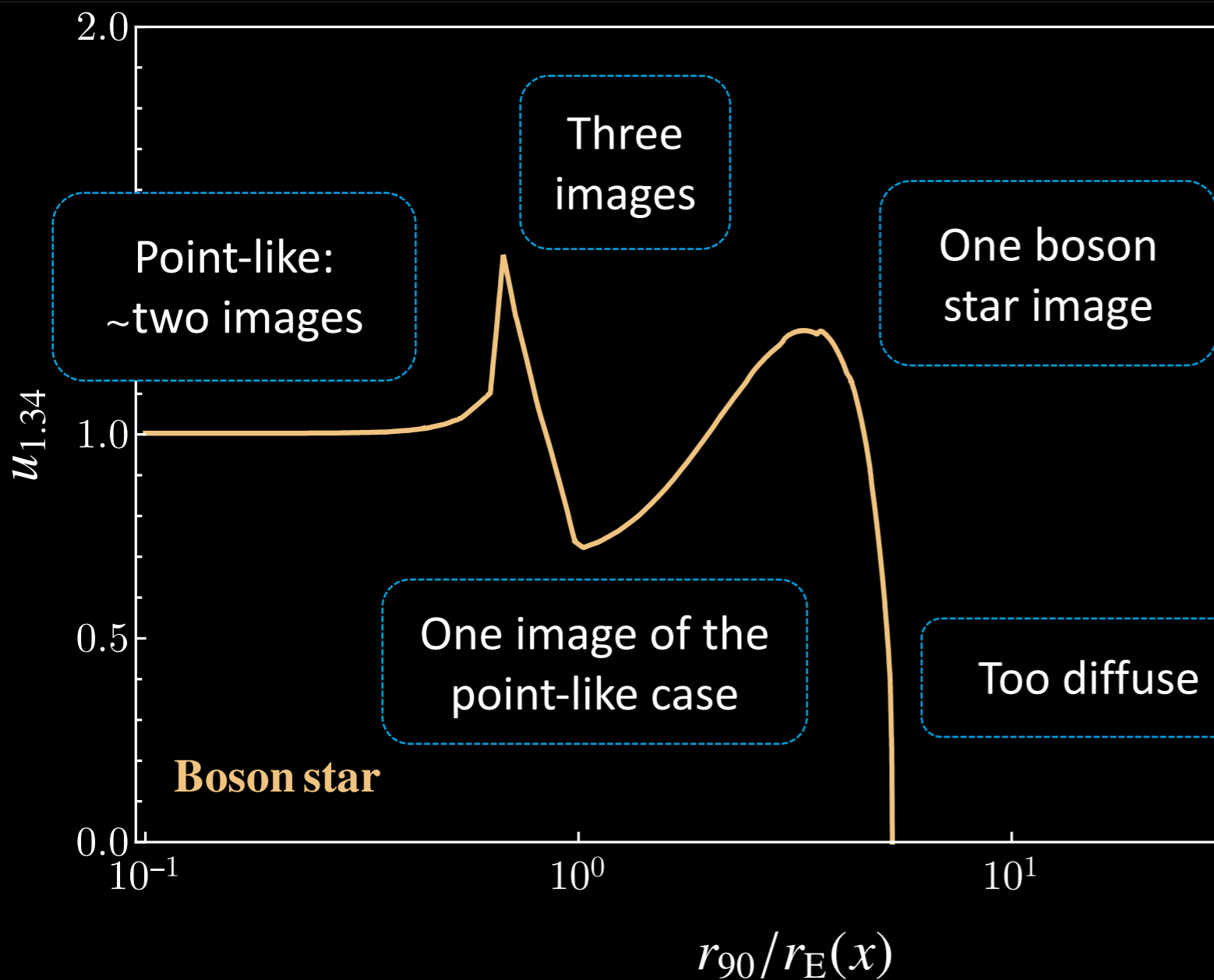
*What's going on here?*





# Caustics

*What's going on here?*



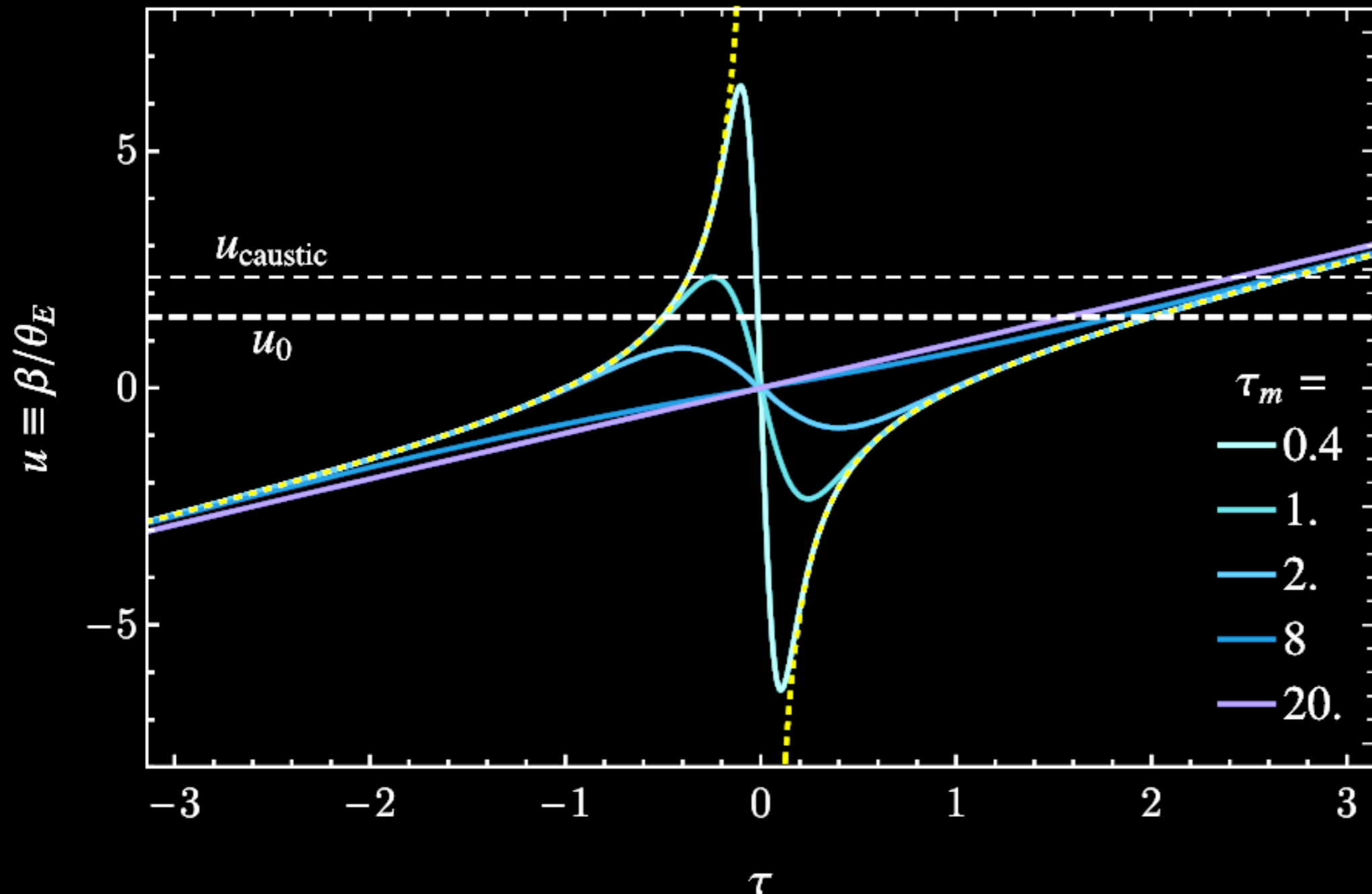
Sufficiently flat density profiles can give **more or fewer** lens images (solutions to the lens equation) compared to a point-like lens

→ Objects such as boson stars may give **unique** microlensing signals

→ Constraints on the dark matter subfraction may be **stronger or weaker** than for point-like lenses

# Caustics

From the lensing equation  $u = \tau - \frac{m(\tau)}{\tau}$



point-like

3 solutions, one with negligible  $\mu_i$

3 solutions, all contributing  $\mu_i$

1 solution of the point-like case

1 solution, larger  $\mu_i$  than point-like

1 solution,  $\mu_i \rightarrow 0$

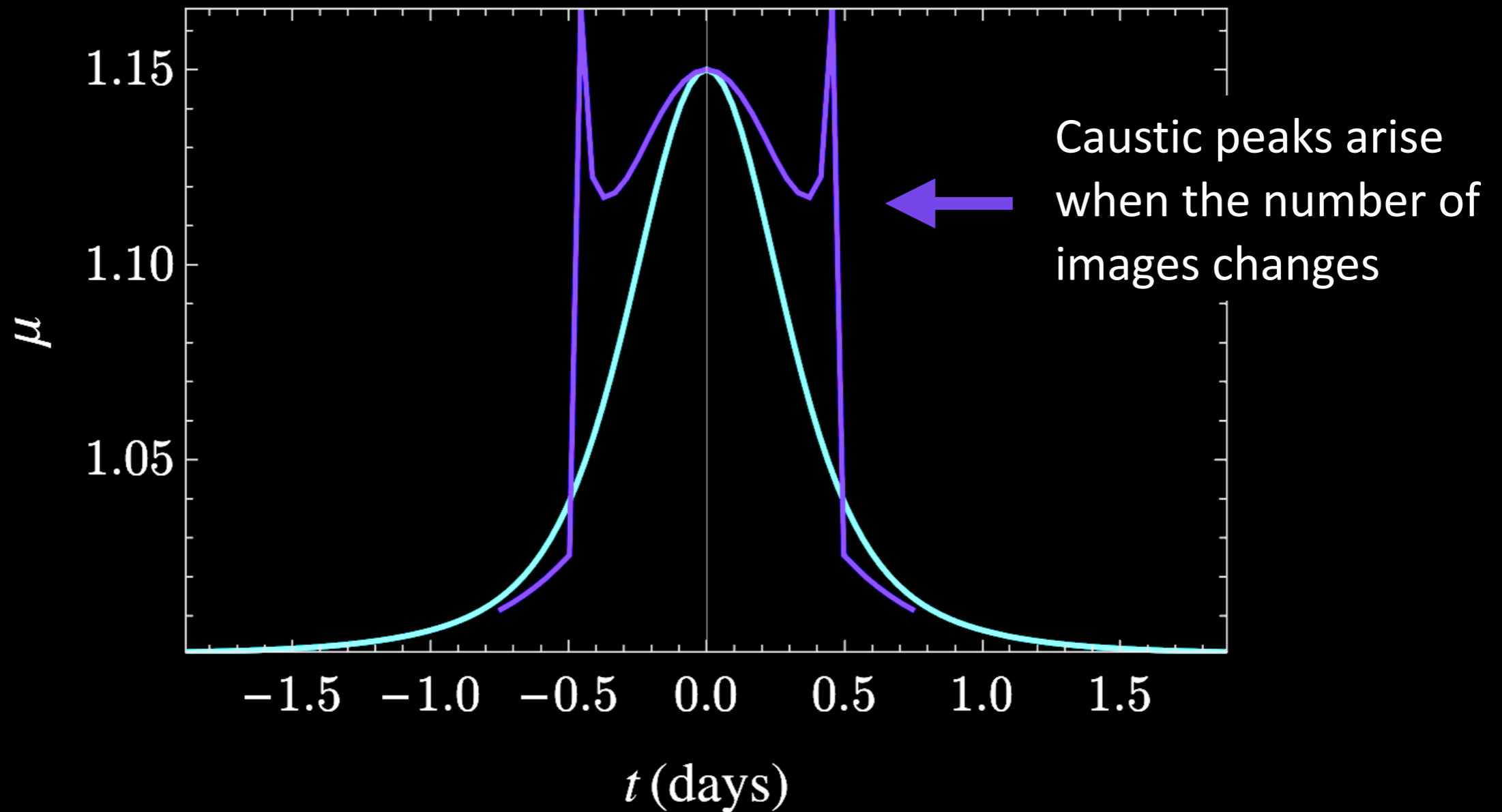
→ at  $u_{\text{caustic}}$ , number of solutions jumps from 1 to 3

# Caustics

*Example light curve*

Boson star with  $\tau_m = 1$

PBH (or  $\tau_m = 0$ )



$$\tau = \theta / \theta_E$$

$$\tau_m \equiv \theta_{\text{lens}} / \theta_E = r_{\text{lens}} / r_E$$

# Constraining extended objects

*The differential event rate contains all the essential physics*

$$x = \frac{D_L}{D_S}$$
$$\frac{d^2\Gamma}{dx dt_E} = \varepsilon(t_E) \frac{2D_S}{v_0^2 M} f_{\text{DM}} \rho_{\text{DM}}(x) v_E^4(x) e^{-v_E^2(x)/v_0^2}$$

# Constraining extended objects

*The differential event rate contains all the essential physics*

$$x = \frac{D_L}{D_S}$$
$$\frac{d^2\Gamma}{dx dt_E} = \underbrace{\varepsilon(t_E)}_{\text{Efficiency of the experiment}} \underbrace{\frac{2D_S}{v_0^2 M}}_{220 \text{ km/s}} \underbrace{f_{\text{DM}}}_{\text{Fraction of } \Omega_{\text{DM}}} \underbrace{\rho_{\text{DM}}(x)}_{\text{Halo profile: isothermal}} \underbrace{v_E^4(x)}_{\substack{v_E(x) \equiv 2u_{1.34}(x)r_E(x)/t_E \\ \text{Halo profile: isothermal}}} e^{-v_E^2(x)/v_0^2}$$

Efficiency of the experiment

220 km/s

Fraction of  $\Omega_{\text{DM}}$

Halo profile: isothermal

$v_E(x) \equiv 2u_{1.34}(x)r_E(x)/t_E$

# Constraining extended objects

*The total number of expected events depends on the experiment*

$$N_{\text{events}} = N_{\star} T_{\text{obs}} \int_0^1 dx \int_{t_{\text{E},\text{min}}}^{t_{\text{E},\text{max}}} dt_{\text{E}} \frac{d^2\Gamma}{dx dt_{\text{E}}}$$

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Number of  
observed stars

EROS-2 LMC:

$5.49 \times 10^6$

OGLE-IV:

$4.88 \times 10^7$

Observation time

EROS-2 LMC: 2500 days

OGLE-IV: 1826 days

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Maximum and minimum transit time

Number of observed stars

Observation time

EROS-2 LMC: 2500 days

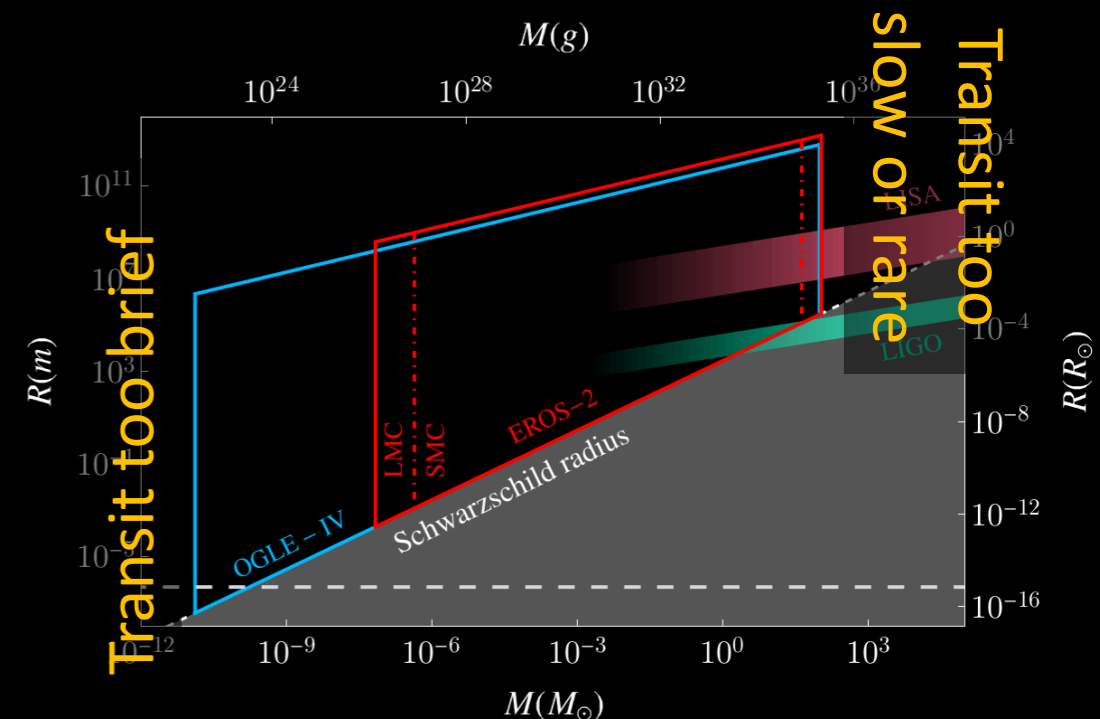
OGLE-IV: 1826 days

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$5.49 \times 10^6$

OGLE-IV:

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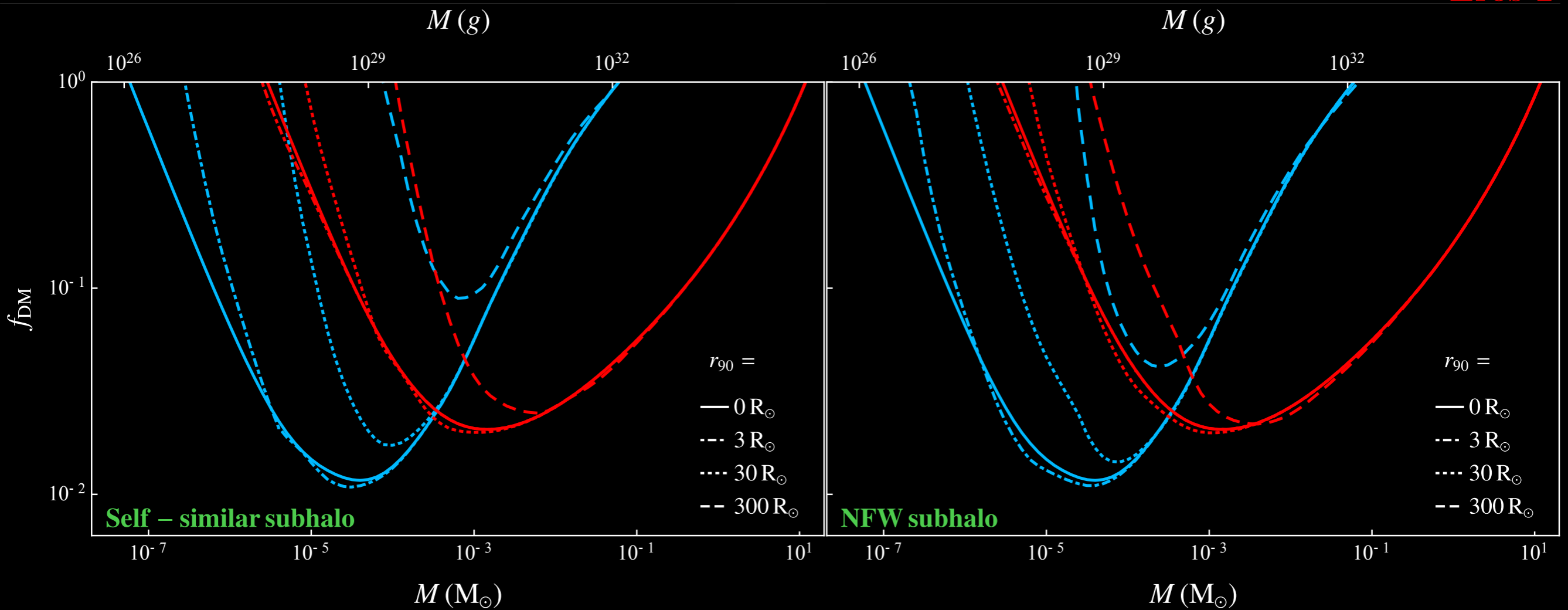


# Constraints on DM fraction

*Generally, constraints on extended objects are weaker...*

Ogle-IV

Eros-2

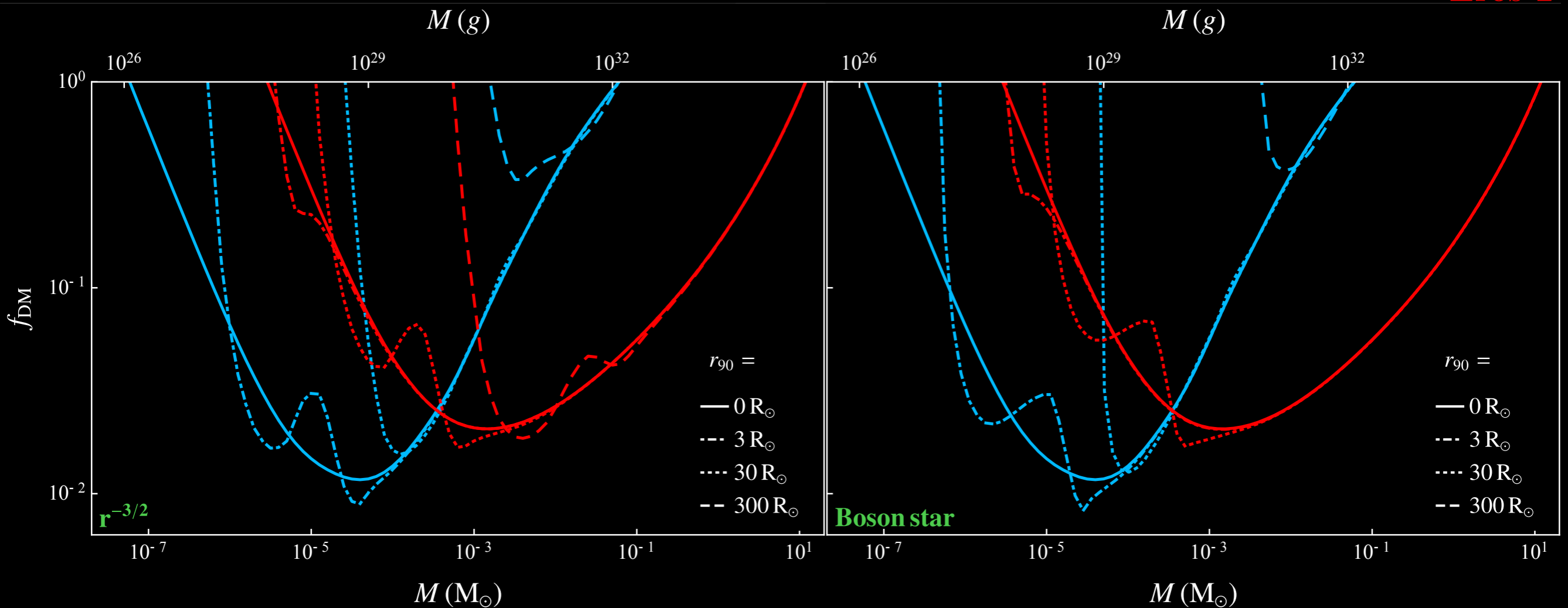


# Constraints on DM fraction

*But for sufficiently flat density profiles, caustics change the constraints*

Ogle-IV

Eros-2

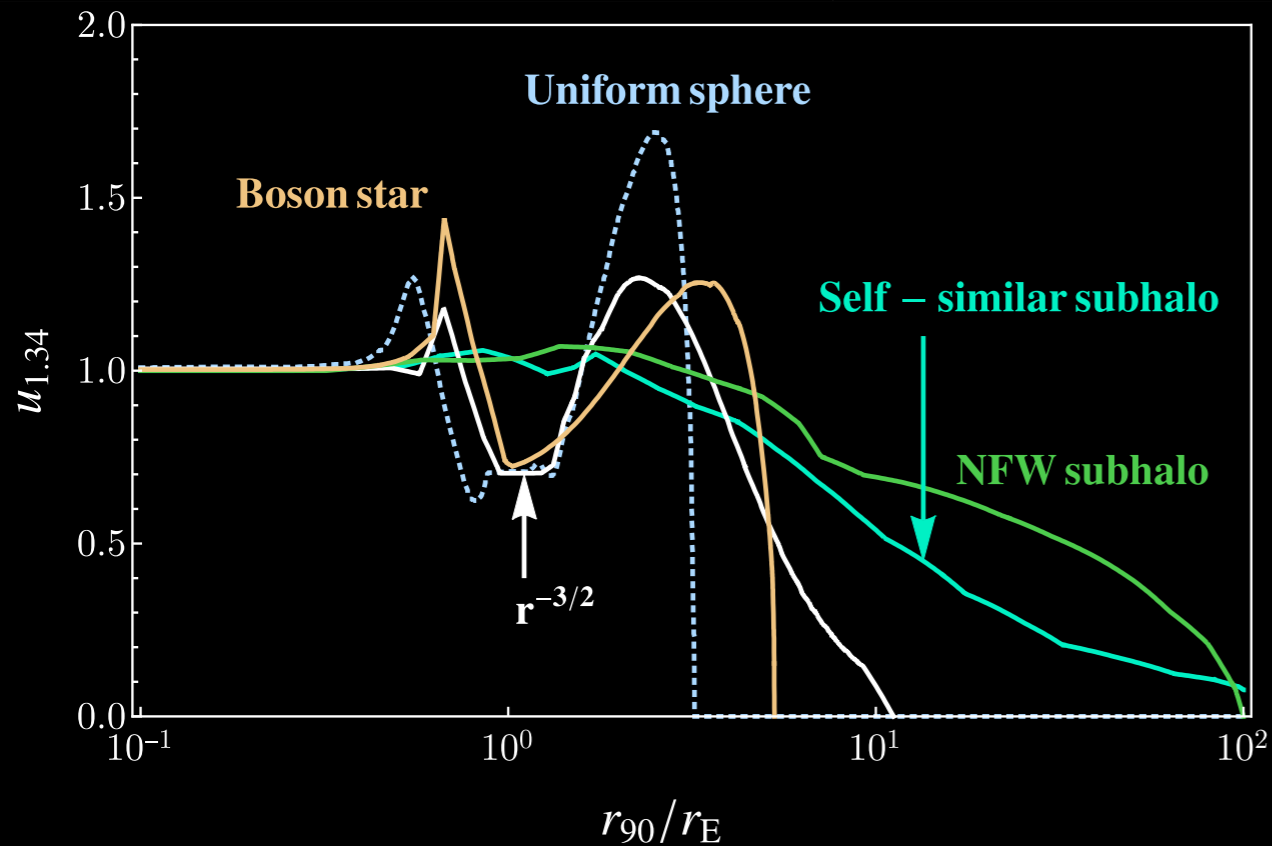


# Extended sources: $r_E = \theta_E D_L \sim r_S$

*Same procedure as before, but now  $u_{1.34}$  is a function of both  $r_{90}$  and  $r_S$*

DC, D. McKeen, N. Raj, Z. Wang, PRD, arXiv:2007.12697 [astro-ph.CO]

From before : Point source, extended lens

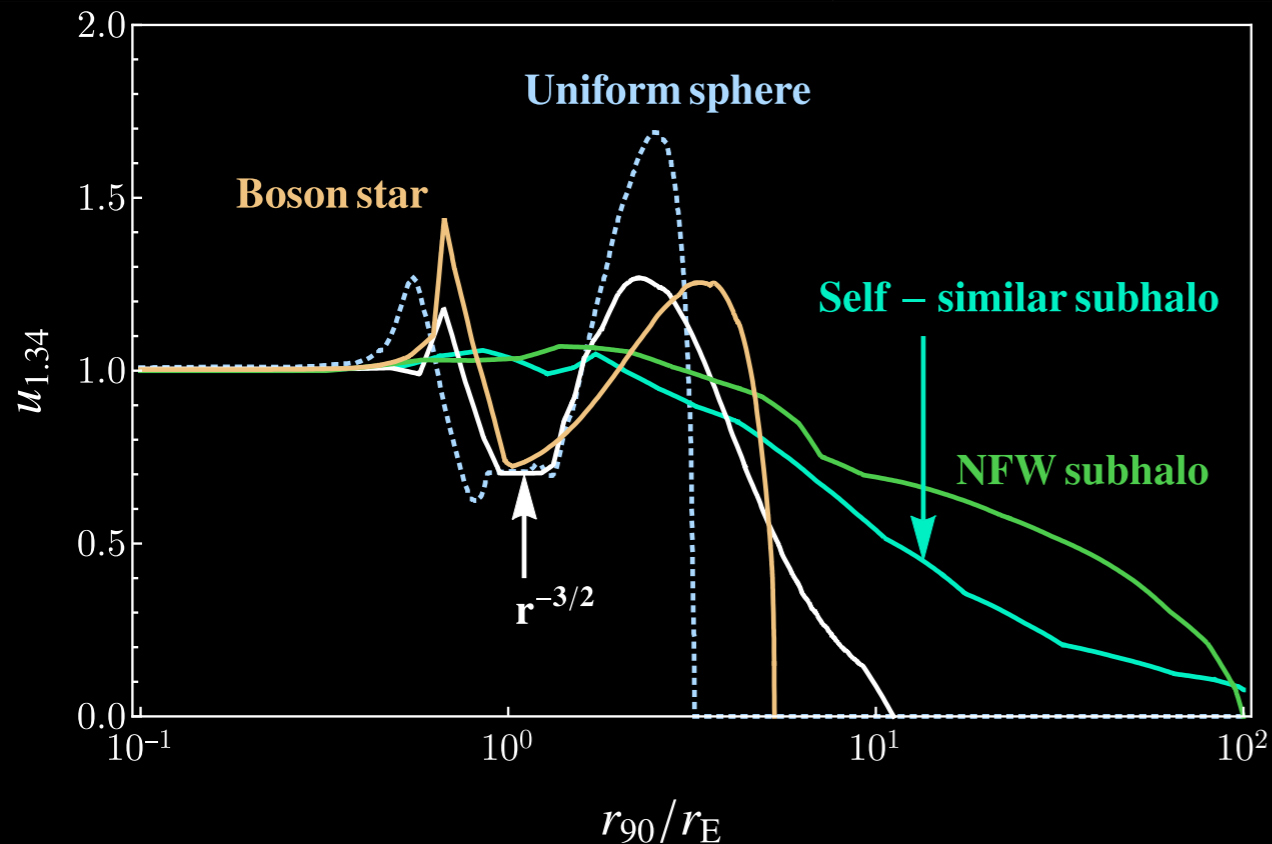


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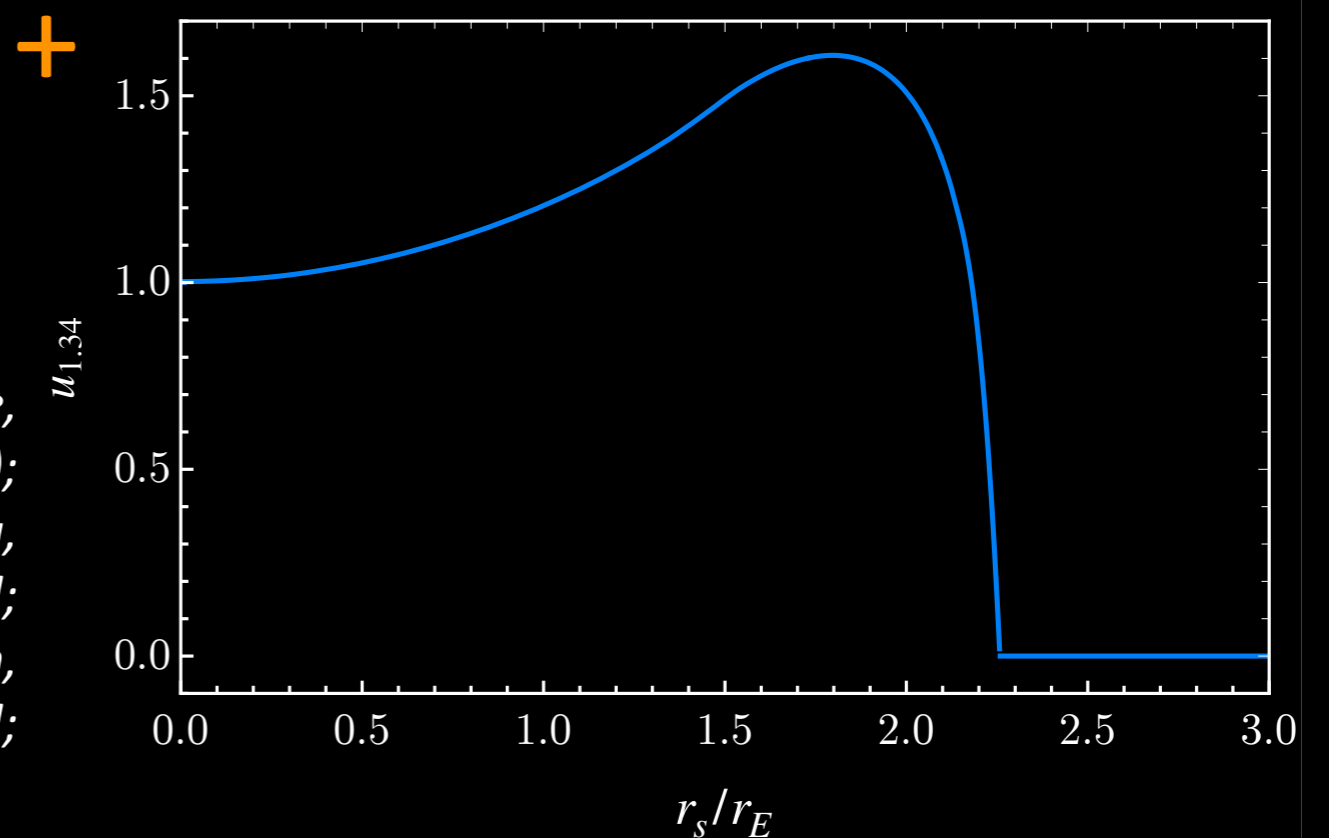
DC, D. McKen, N. Raj, Z. Wang, PRD, arXiv:2007.12697 [astro-ph.CO]

From before : Point source, extended lens



For point-like lenses, see for example,  
 Witt and Mao, *Astrophys. J* (1994);  
 Montero-Camacho, Fang, Vasquez, Silva, Hirata,  
 [JCAP, arXiv:1906.05950];  
 Smyth, Profumo, English, Jeltema, McKinnon,  
 Guhathakurta [PRD, arXiv:1910.01285];

Point-like lens, extended source

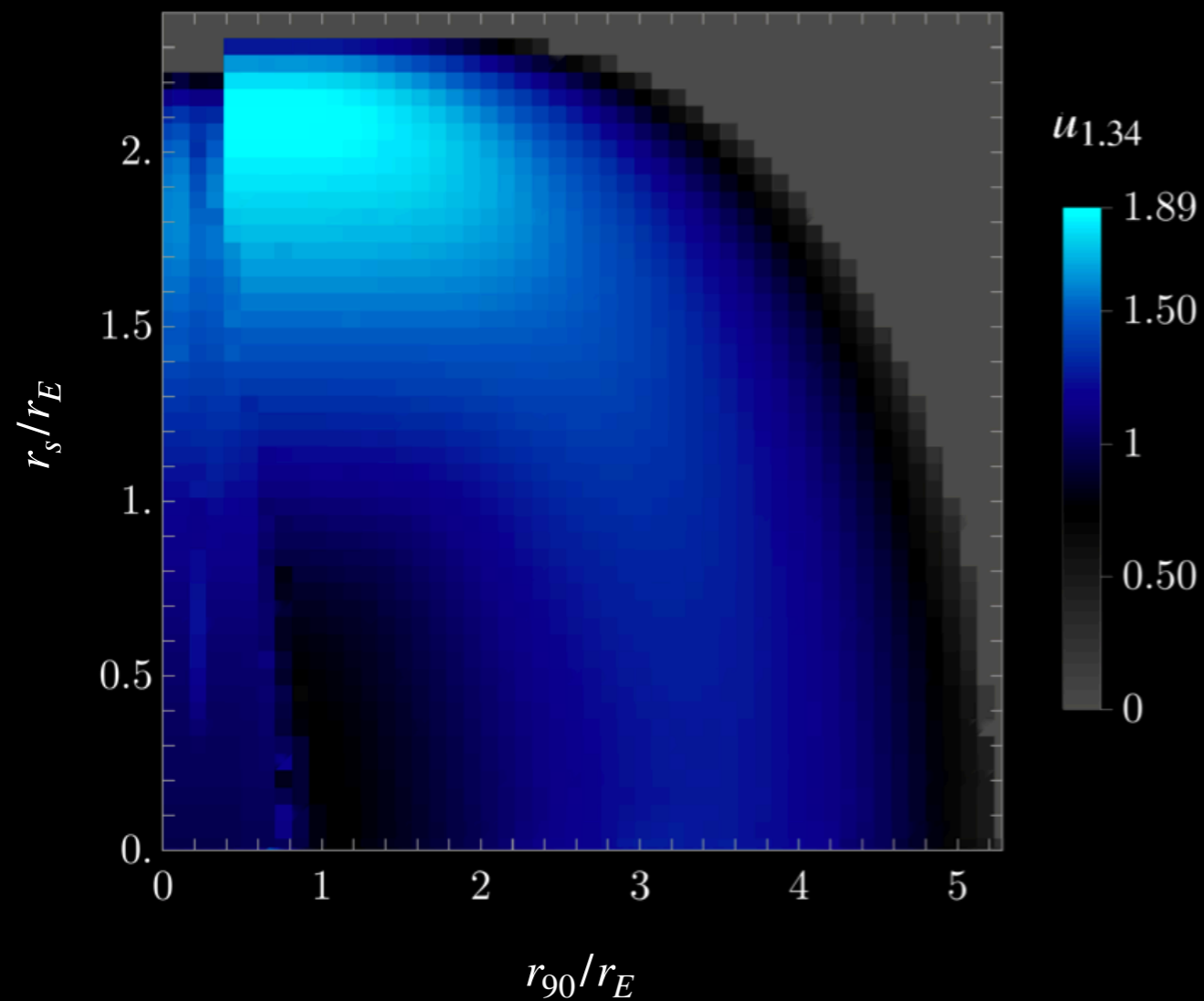


# Extended sources: $r_E = \theta_E D_L \sim r_S$

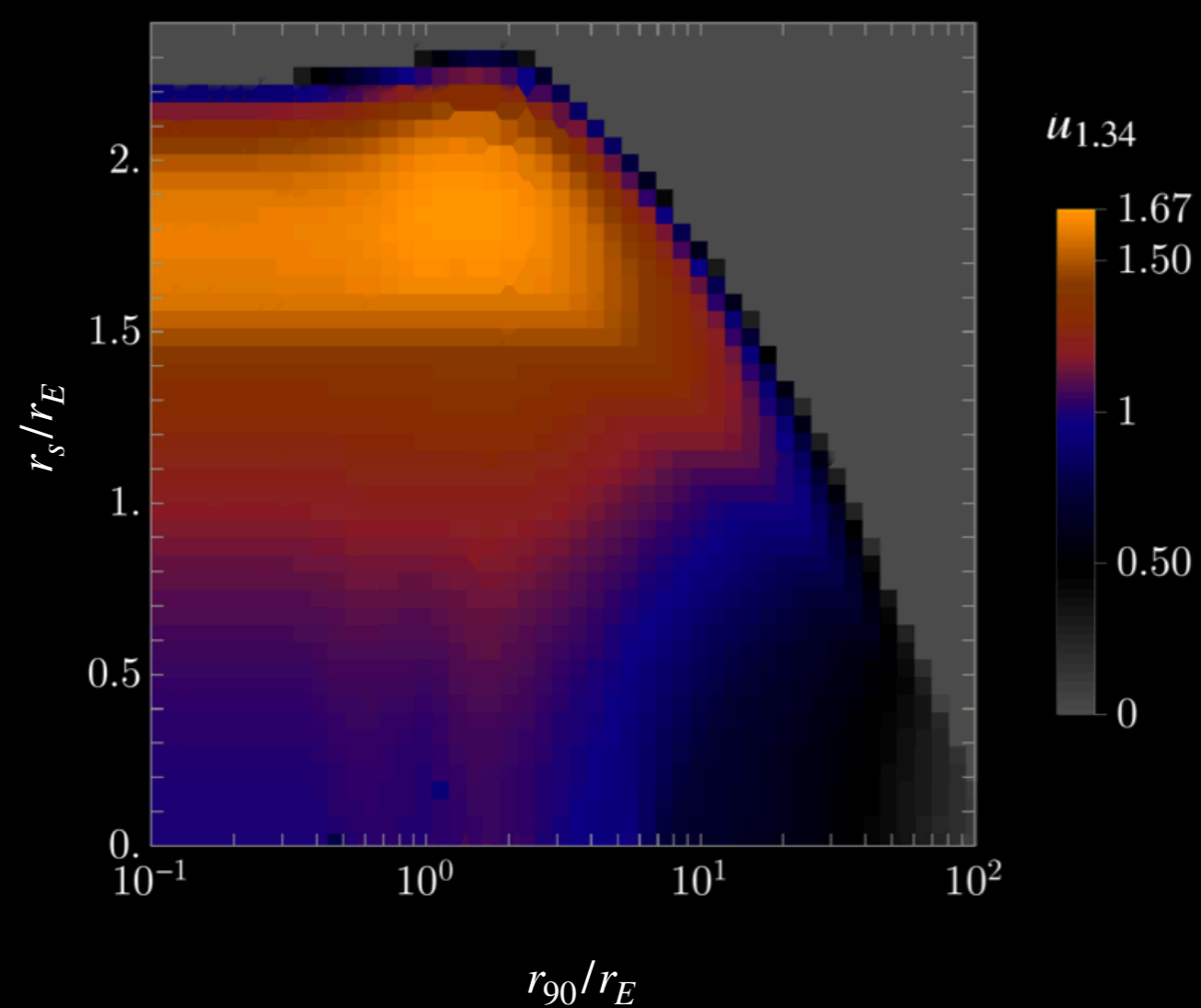
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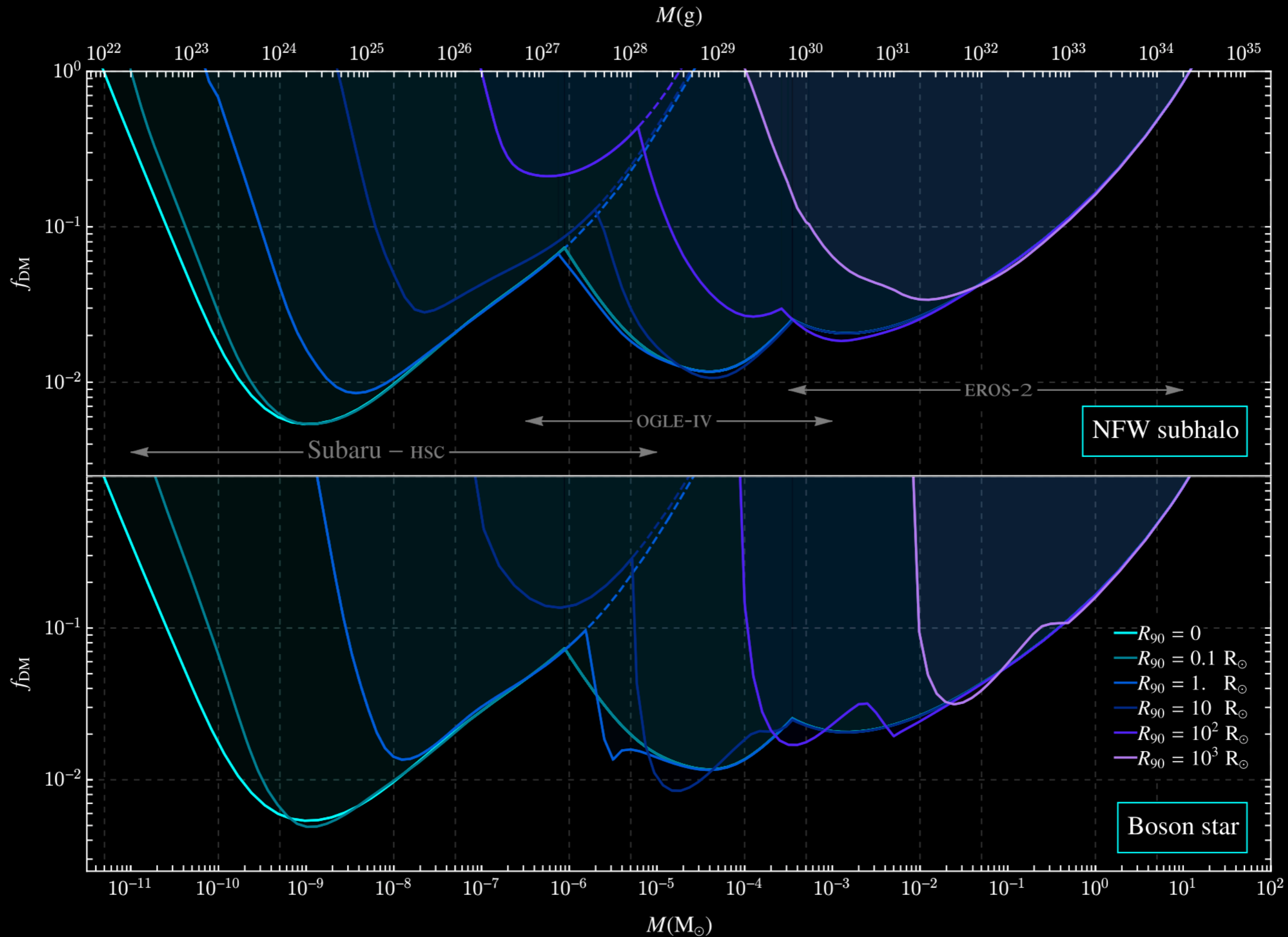
DC, D. McKeen, N. Raj, Z. Wang, PRD, arXiv:2007.12697 [astro-ph.CO]

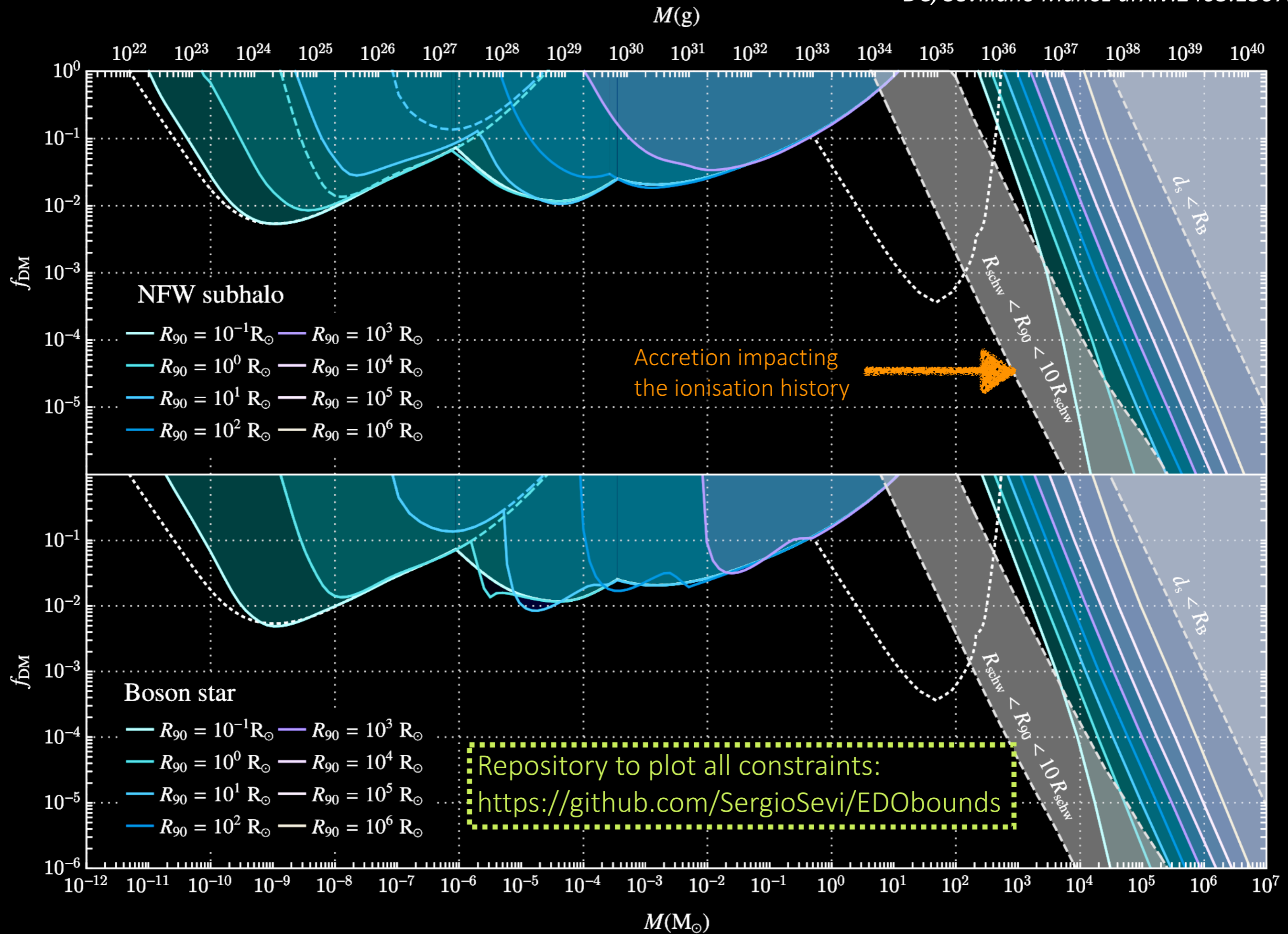
Boson star



NFW subhalo



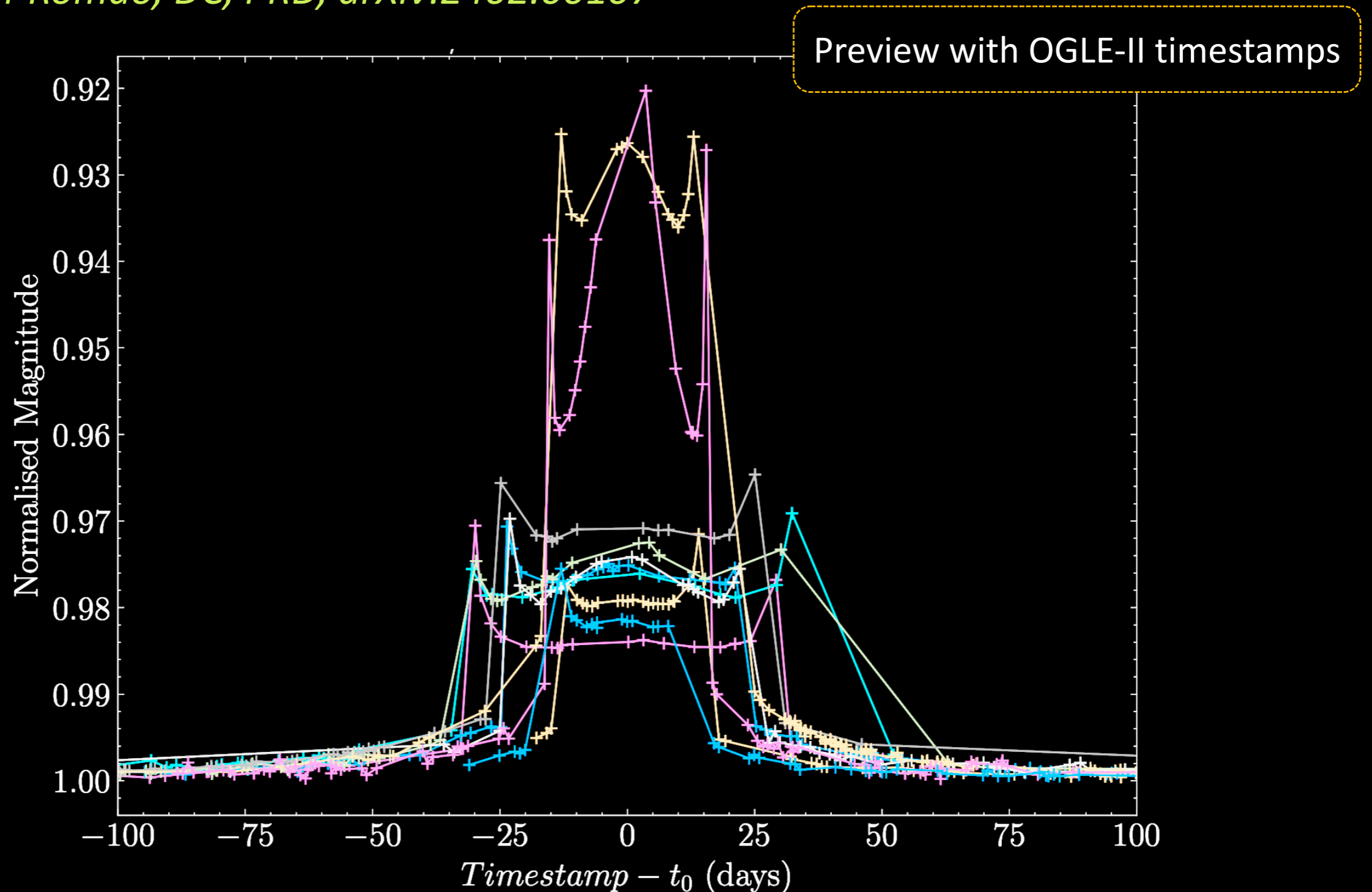




# Different shape light curves

*Can we look for these explicitly?*

*M. Crispim-Romao, DC, PRD, arXiv:2402.00107*

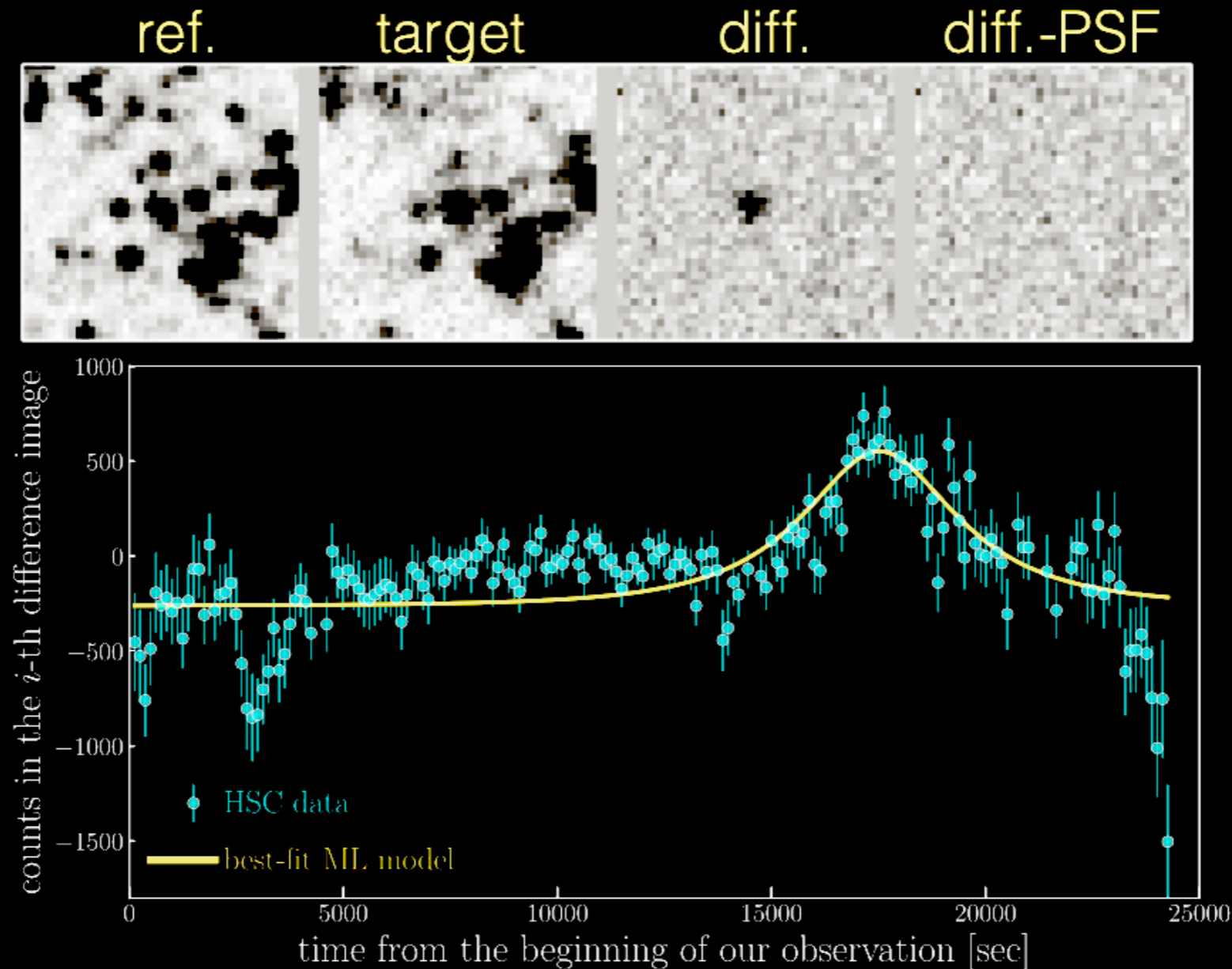




# ML + ML

## *Microlensing + Machine Learning*

- Microlensing data is time series data
- Challenge: low-cadence data, lower signal-to-noise ratios



*From the Subaru collaboration, arXiv:1701.02151*

# ML + ML

## *Microlensing + Machine Learning*

- Microlensing data is time series data
- Challenge: low-cadence data, lower signal-to-noise ratios
- MicroLIA: use a Random Forest (RF) algorithm to find microlensing event (and distinguish from other events)

*Godines et al, arXiv:2004.14347*

# ML + ML

## *Microlensing + Machine Learning*

- Microlensing data is time series data
- Challenge: low-cadence data, lower signal-to-noise ratios
- MicroLIA: use a Random Forest (RF) algorithm to find microlensing event (and distinguish from other events)

### Our adaptations:

- Implement **boson star** and **NFW** light curves with  $0.5 < \tau_m < 5$
- Instead of an RF, we use a histogram-based gradient boosted classifier (HBGC) to improve speed
- Add criterium  $\mu \geq 1.34$   
(... and a few fixes)

# Complete datasets not available

**Table 1**  
Selection Criteria for High-quality Microlensing Events in OGLE GVS Fields

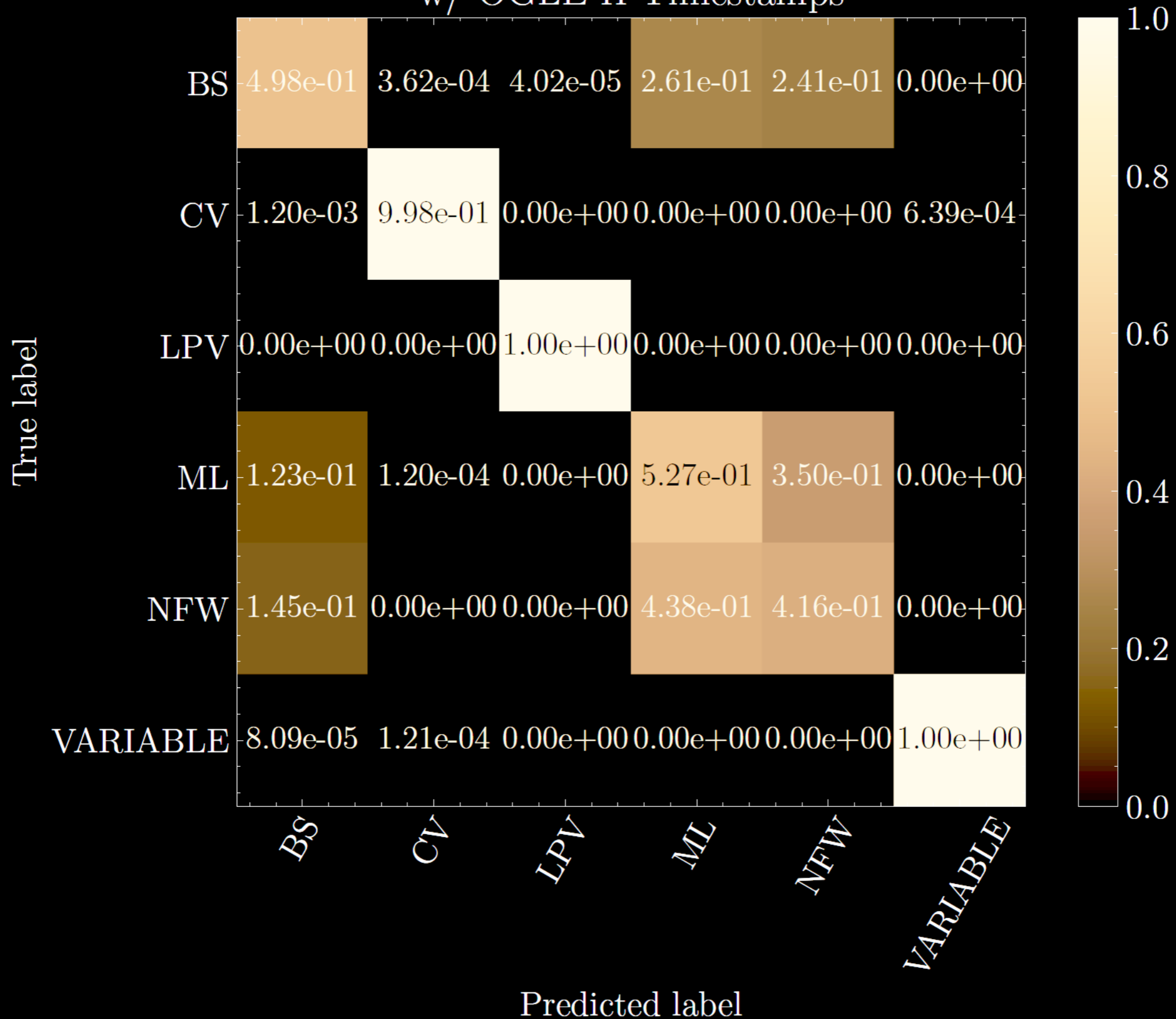
Criteria	Remarks	Number
All stars in databases		1,856,529,265
$\chi_{\text{out}}^2/\text{dof} \leq 2.0$ $n_{\text{DIA}} \geq 3$ $\chi_{3+} = \sum_i (F_i - F_{\text{base}})/\sigma_i \geq 32$	No variability outside a window centered on the event (duration of the window depends on the field) Centroid of the additional flux coincides with the source star centroid Significance of the bump	23,618
$A \geq 0.1$ mag $n_{\text{bump}} = 1$	Rejecting low-amplitude variables Rejecting objects with multiple bumps	18,397
$\chi_{\text{fit}}^2/\text{dof} \leq 2.0$ $\chi_{\text{fit},t_E}^2/\text{dof} \leq 2.0$ $\sigma(t_E)/t_E < 0.5$ $t_{\text{min}} \leq t_0 \leq t_{\text{max}}$ $u_0 \leq 1$ $t_E \leq 500$ d $A \geq 0.4$ mag if $t_E \geq 100$ days $I_s \leq 21.0$ $F_b > -F_{\text{min}}$	Fit quality: $\chi^2$ for all data $\chi^2$ for $ t - t_0  < t_E$ Einstein timescale is well measured Event peaked between $t_{\text{min}}$ and $t_{\text{max}}$ , which are moments of the first and last observation of a given field Maximum impact parameter Maximum timescale Long-timescale events should have high amplitudes Maximum $I$ -band source magnitude Maximum negative blend flux, corresponding to $I = 20.5$ mag star	460

← Reject events with multiple bumps

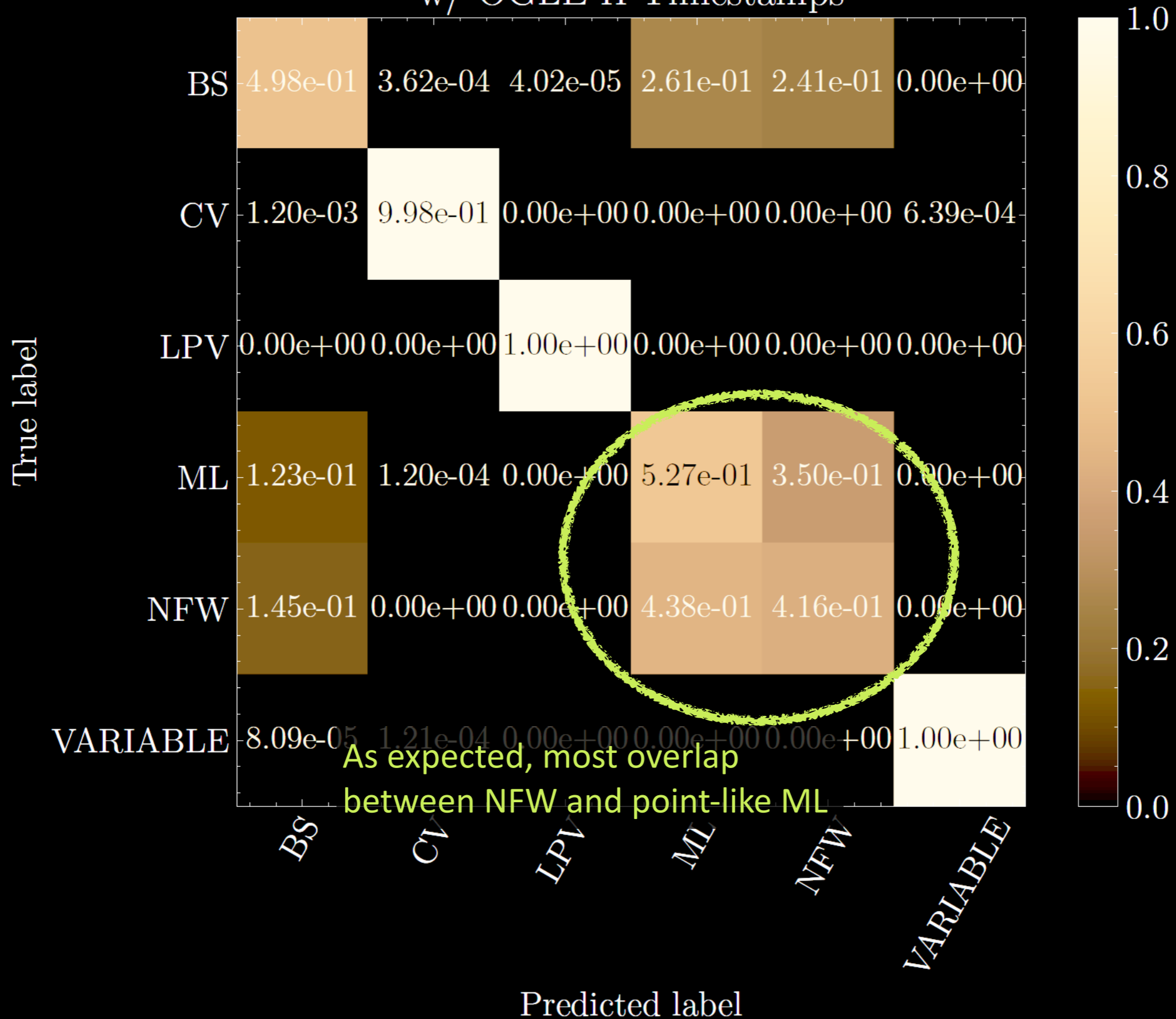
*So for now... generating and injecting events*



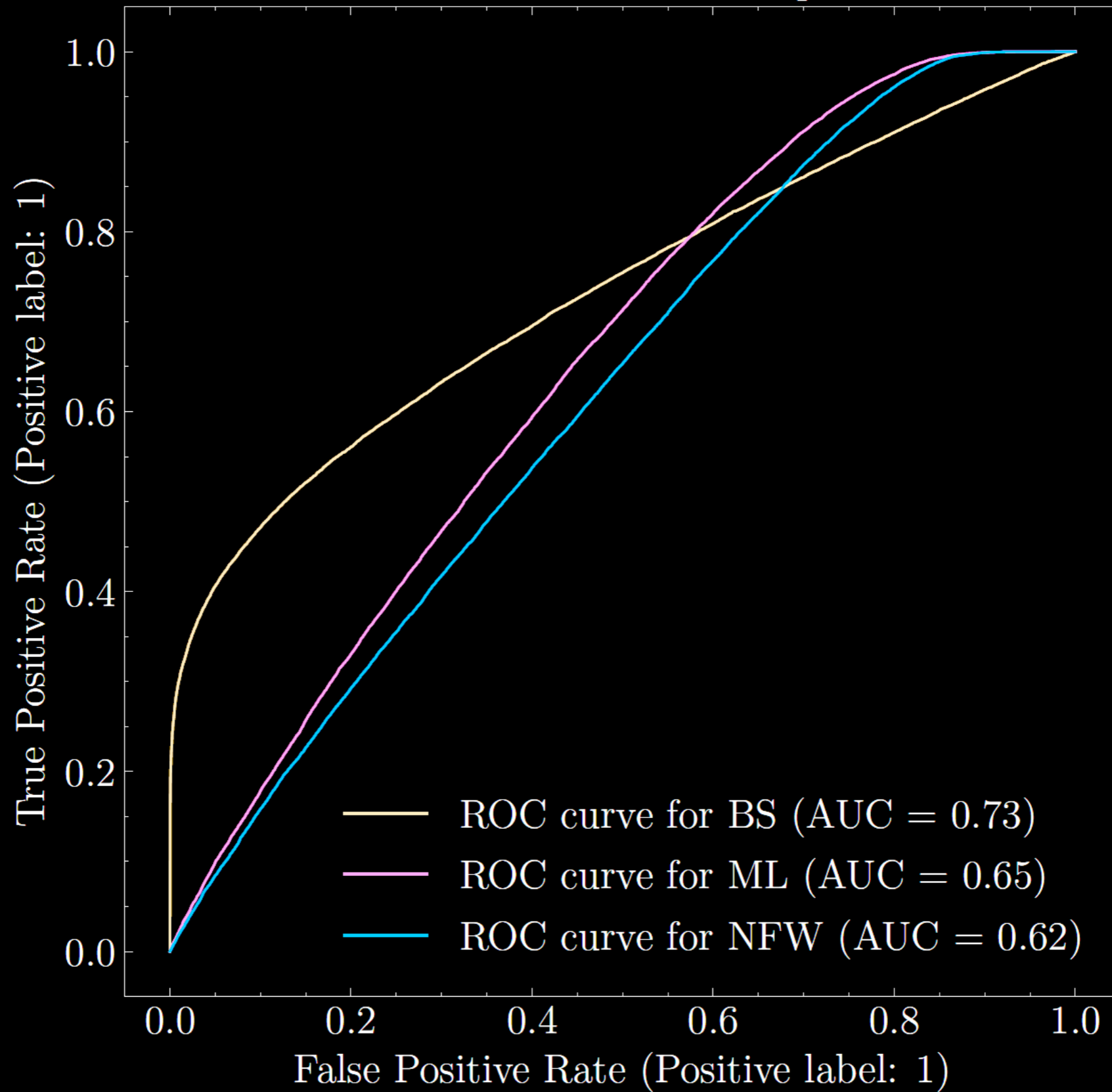
Confusion Matrix All vs All  
w/ OGLE-II Timestamps



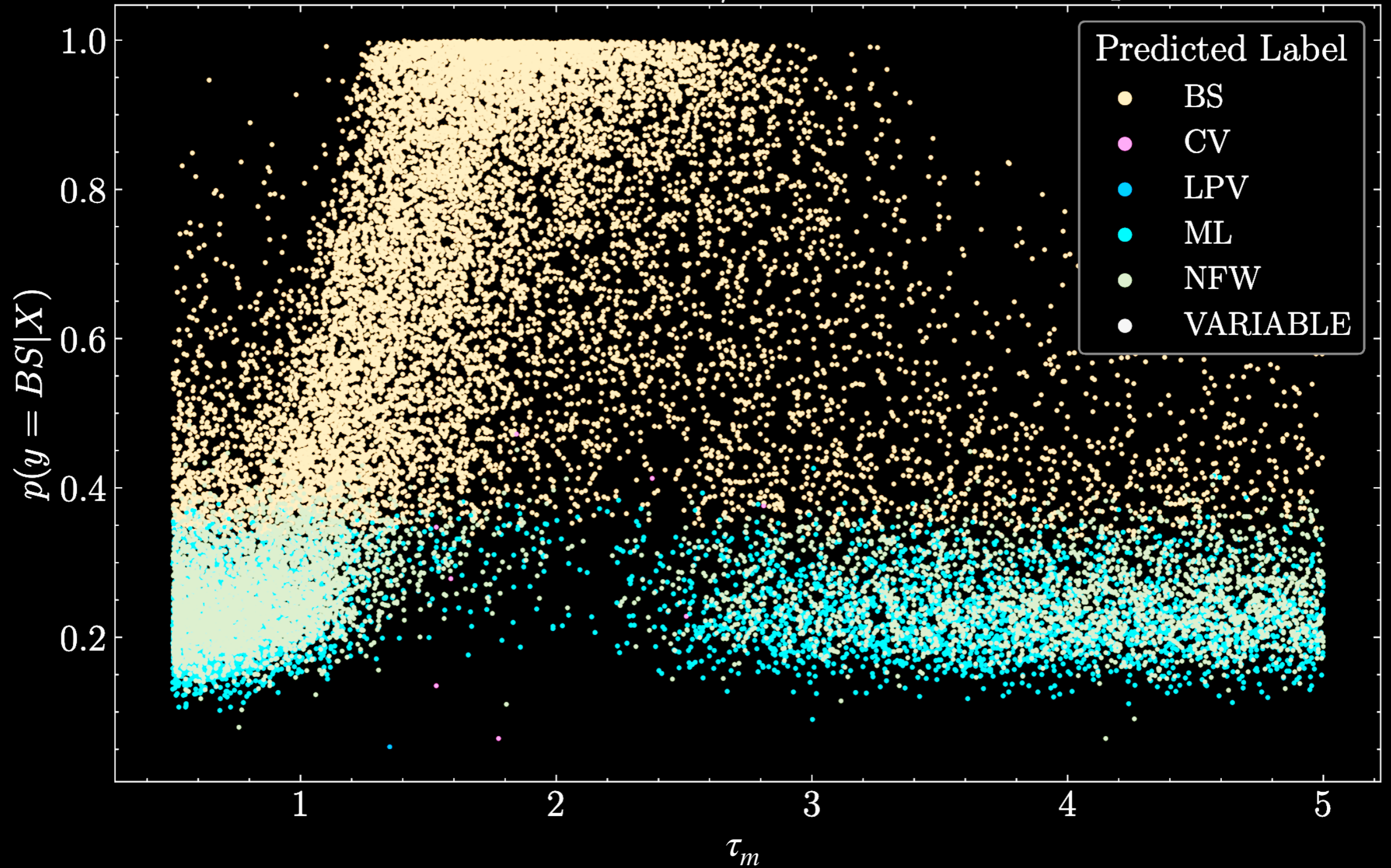
# Confusion Matrix All vs All w/ OGLE-II Timestamps



### OGLE-II Timestamps

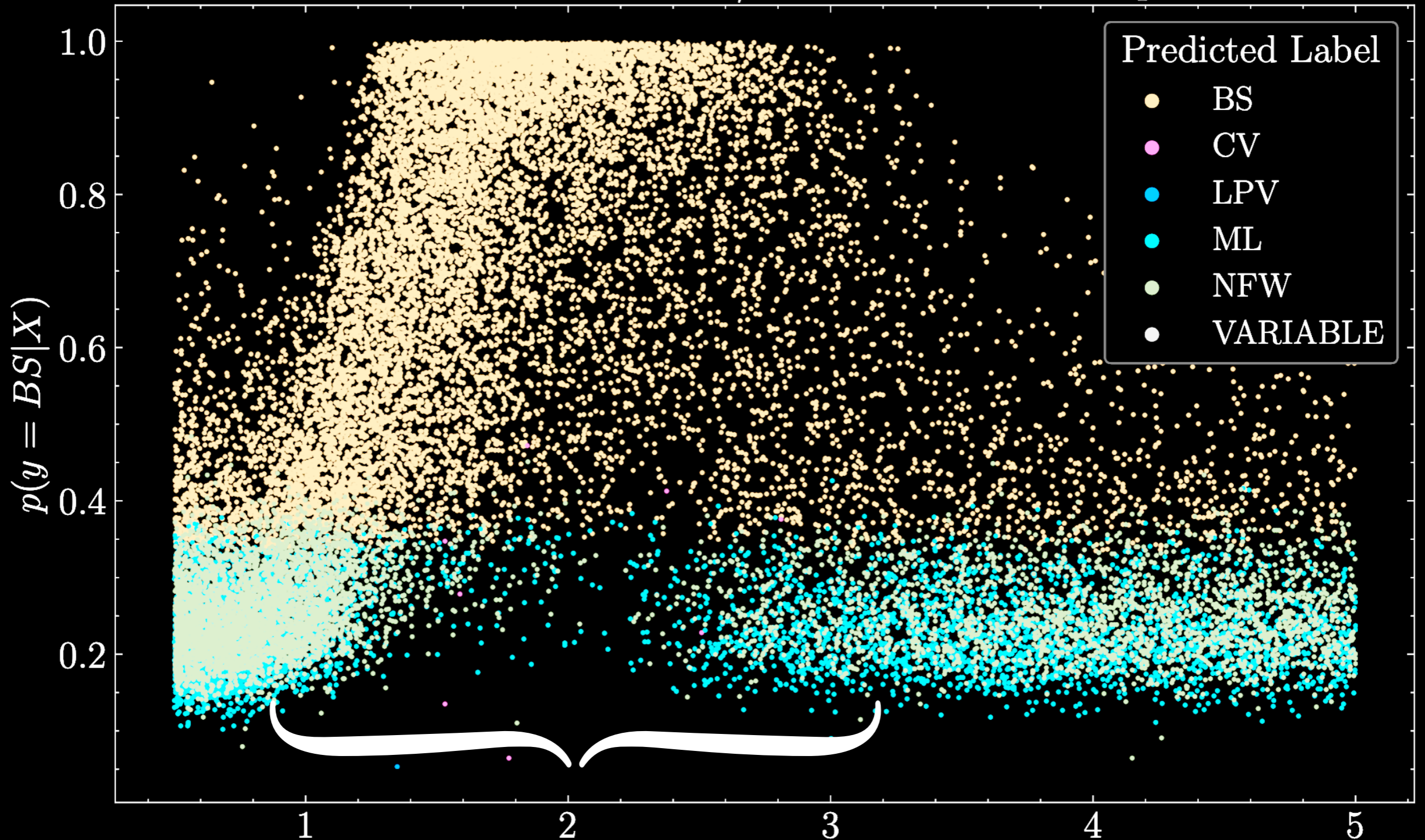


## Boson Star Events w/ OGLE-II Timestamps





## Boson Star Events w/ OGLE-II Timestamps

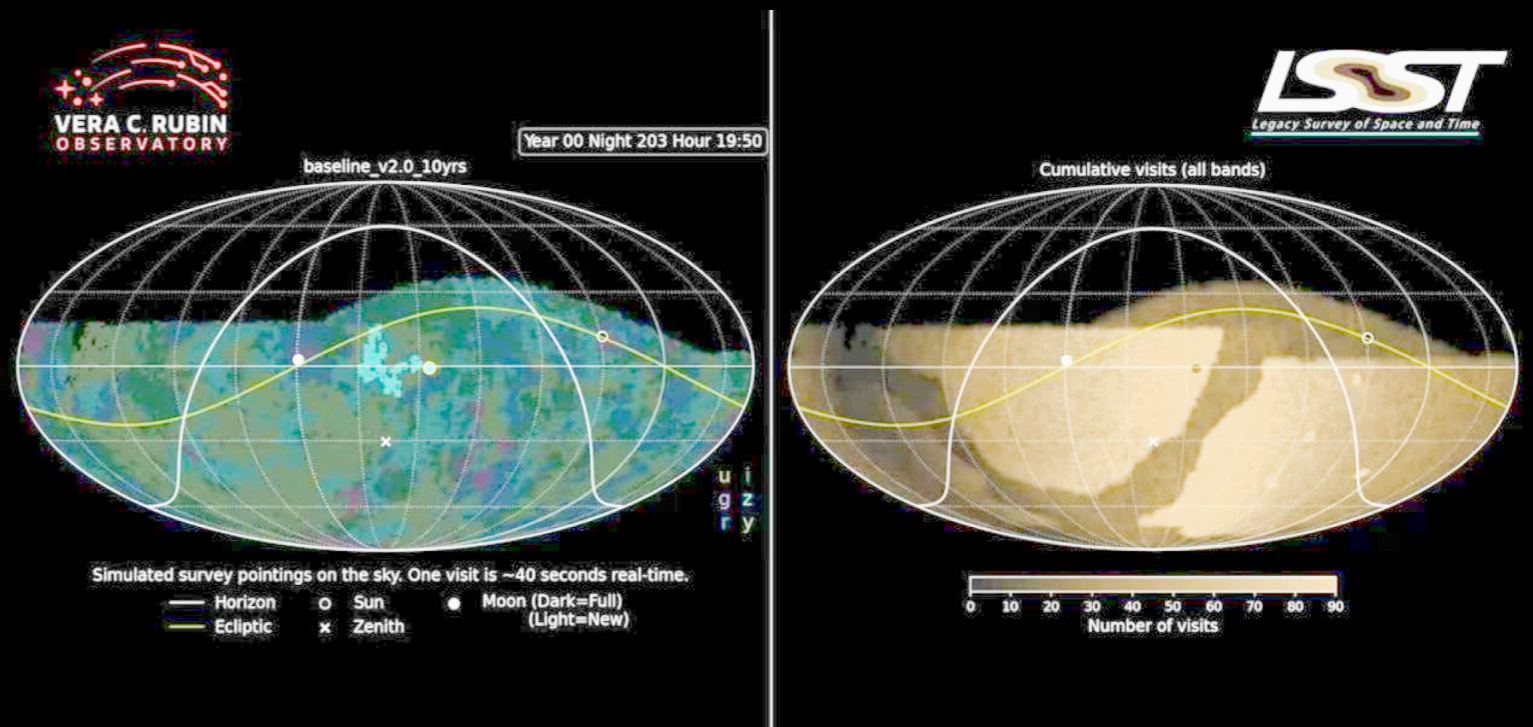


Indeed, the most probable  
detections are for  $0.8 < \tau_m < 3$

# Current work: LSST by Rubin

*Teamed up with MicroLIA's main author Daniel Godines (and Miguel)*

- 10-year survey by the Vera C. Rubin Observatory
- Large field of view and rapid survey speed
- Relatively high cadence observations, allowing frequent monitoring of millions of stars

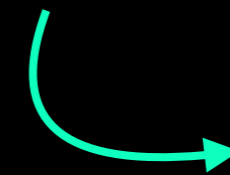


- Sensitivity to DM? Estimate using event rate...

# Current work: LSST by Rubin

*Teamed up with MicroLIA's main author Daniel Godines (and Miguel)*

$$\text{Event rate } \frac{d\Gamma}{d\hat{t}} = \frac{32D_L u_T^4}{\hat{t}^4 v_c^2 M} \int_0^1 dx \rho(x) R_E^4(x) e^{-\frac{4R_E^2(x)u_T^2}{\hat{t}^2 v_c^2}}$$



$$N = N_{\text{stars}} \epsilon t_{\text{obs}} \int_{t_{\text{min}}} d\hat{t} \frac{d\Gamma}{d\hat{t}}$$

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- For **small** mass  $\frac{d\Gamma}{d\hat{t}} \simeq \frac{512 G^2 M u_T^4 \rho_0 r_c^2 D_L}{3 \hat{t}^4 v_c^2}$

$$N = N_{\text{stars}} \epsilon t_{\text{obs}} \int_{t_{\text{min}}} d\hat{t} \frac{d\Gamma}{d\hat{t}}$$

- Minimum lens mass that gives at least one event:

$$\frac{M_{\text{min}}}{M_{\odot}} = \frac{9 t_{\text{min}}^3 v_c^2}{512 G^2 u_T^4 \rho_0 r_c^2 D_L N_{\text{stars}} \epsilon t_{\text{obs}}}$$

$$= 3.8 \times 10^{-4} \left( \frac{t_{\text{min}}}{10 \text{days}} \right)^3 \left( \frac{v_c}{220 \text{km/s}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{1}{u_T} \right)^4 \left( \frac{10^8 M_{\odot}}{\rho_0 D_L r_c^2} \right)$$

$$\left( \frac{2 \times 10^{10}}{N_{\text{stars}}} \right) \left( \frac{0.1}{\epsilon} \right) \left( \frac{10 \text{year}}{t_{\text{obs}}} \right)$$

# Current work: LSST by Rubin

*Teamed up with MicroLIA's main author Daniel Godines (and Miguel)*

Event rate  $\frac{d\Gamma}{d\hat{t}} = \frac{32D_L u_T^4}{\hat{t}^4 v_c^2 M} \int_0^1 dx \rho(x) R_E^4(x) e^{-\frac{4R_E^2(x)u_T^2}{\hat{t}^2 v_c^2}}$

- For **large** mass  $\frac{d\Gamma}{d\hat{t}} \simeq \frac{\hat{t}^2 v_c^4 \rho_0}{4GM^2 u_T^2}$ , such that

- $\frac{M_{\max}}{M_\odot} = \sqrt{\frac{t_{\max}^3 v_c^4 \rho_0 N_{\text{stars}} \epsilon t_{\text{obs}}}{12 G u_T^2}}$

$$= 4.2 \times 10^2 \left( \frac{t_{\max}}{100 \text{days}} \right)^{3/2} \left( \frac{v_c}{220 \text{km/s}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\rho_0}{10^8 M_\odot / \text{kpc}^3} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{N_{\text{stars}}}{2 \times 10^{10}} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$\times \left( \frac{\epsilon}{0.1} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{t_{\text{obs}}}{10 \text{years}} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{u_T}{1} \right)^{-2}$$

$$N = N_{\text{stars}} \epsilon t_{\text{obs}} \int_{t_{\min}} d\hat{t} \frac{d\Gamma}{d\hat{t}}$$

# Current work: preliminary results

*Teamed up with MicroLIA's main author Daniel Godines (and Miguel)*

Simulated, using rubinsim, 7 classes of observations:

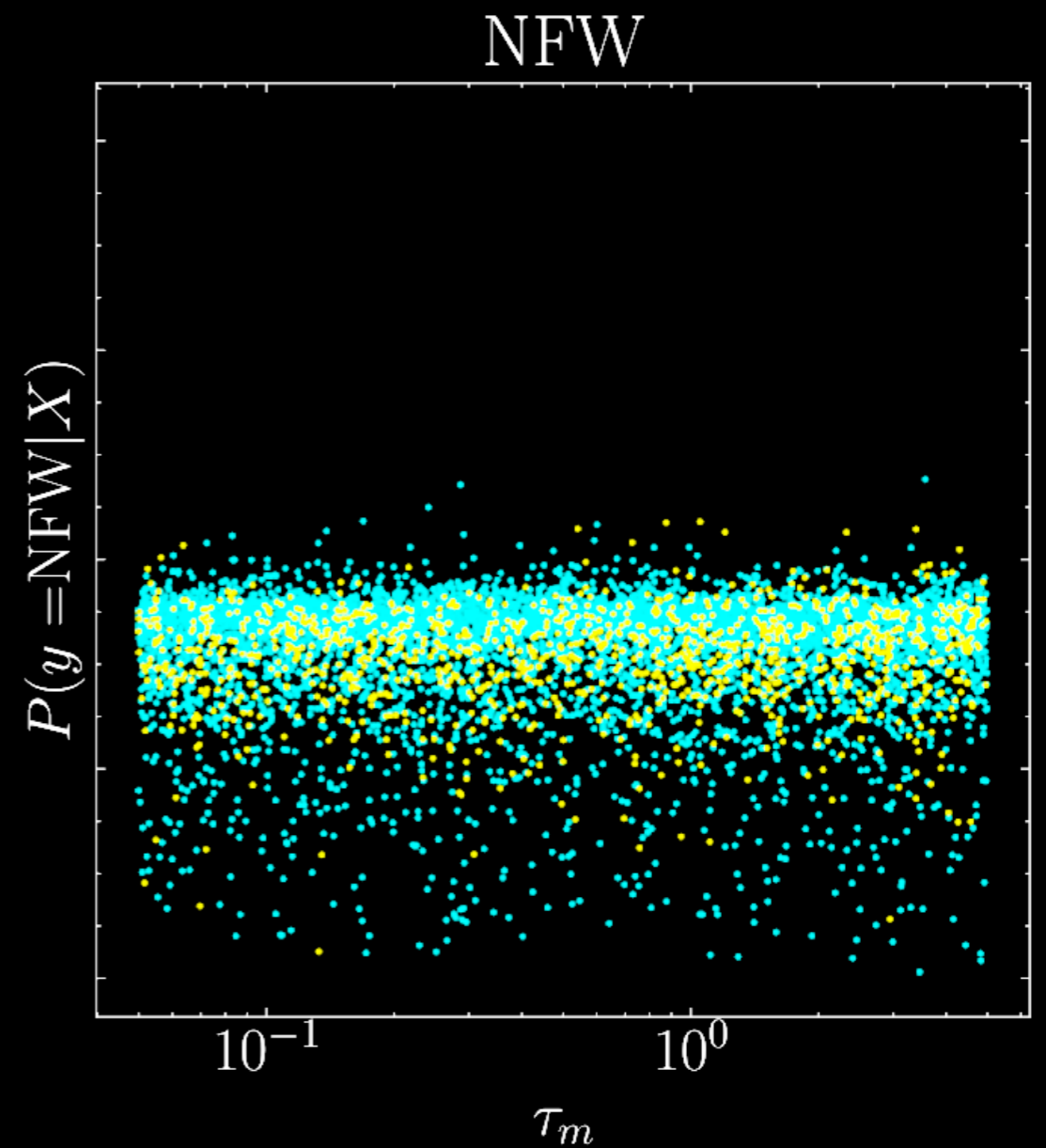
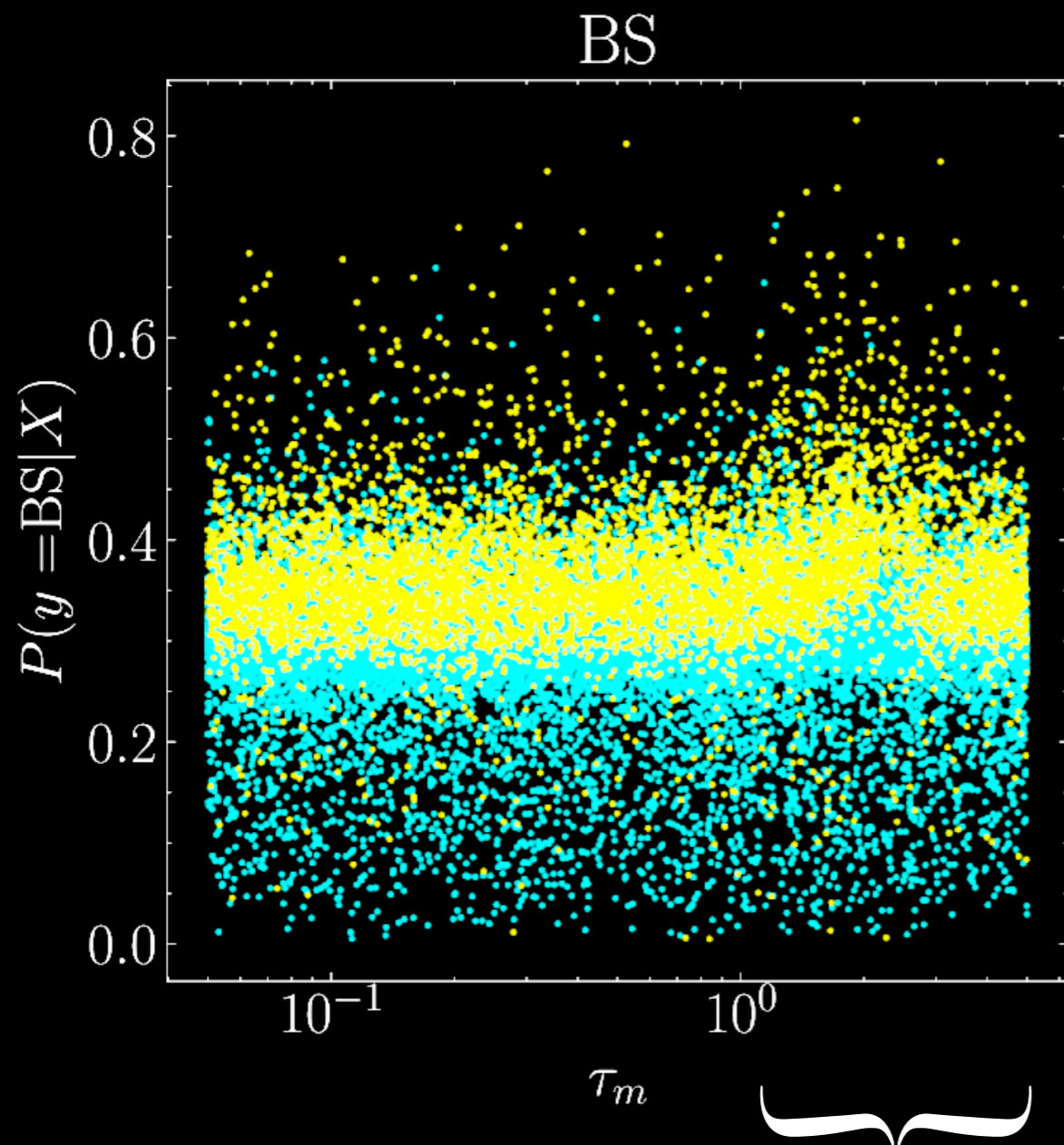
- Constant
- Mira long-period variables (LPV)
- RR Lyrae and Cepheid Variables (RRLyrae)
- point-like microlensing (ML)
- binary microlensing
- microlensing by NFW-subhalos
- microlensing by boson stars (BS)

parameter	min	max	spacing
$t_E$ (days)	0	100	linear
$u_0$	0	3	linear
$\tau_m$	0.05	5	logarithmic

# Current work: preliminary results

*Teamed up with MicroLIA's main author Daniel Godines (and Miguel)*

LSST Cadence (baseline\_v2.0\_10yrs)

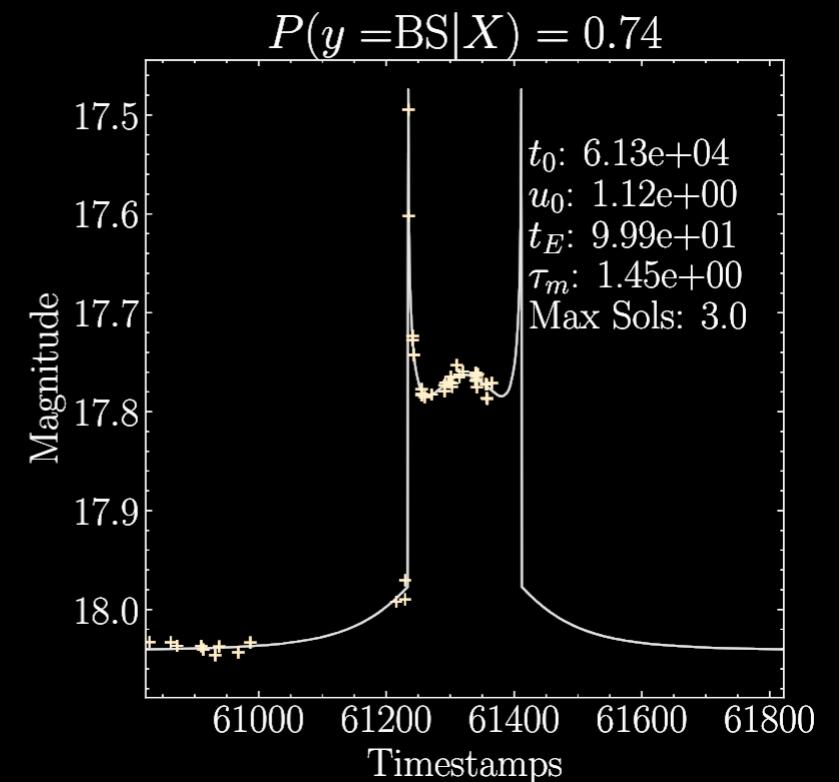
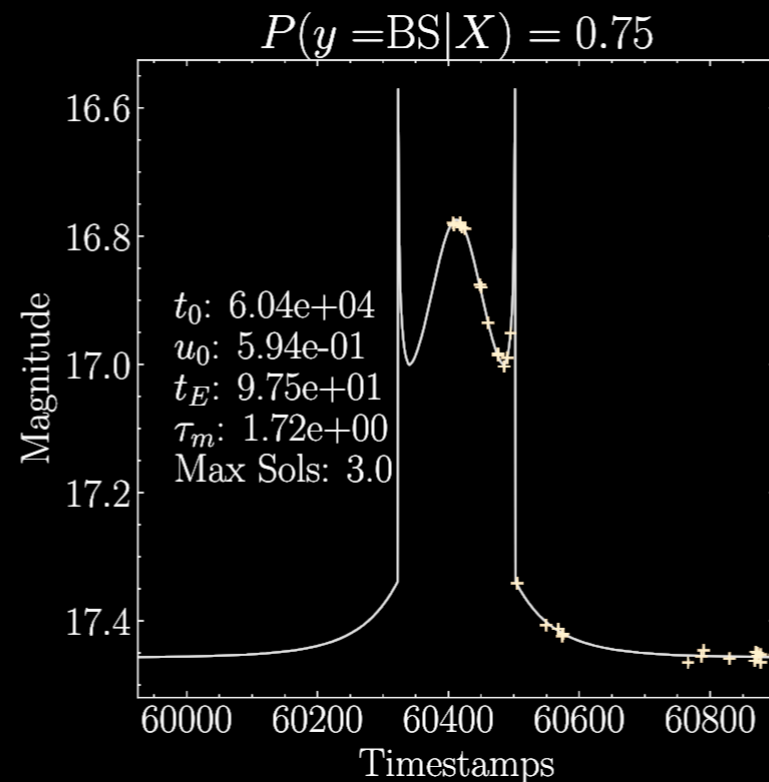
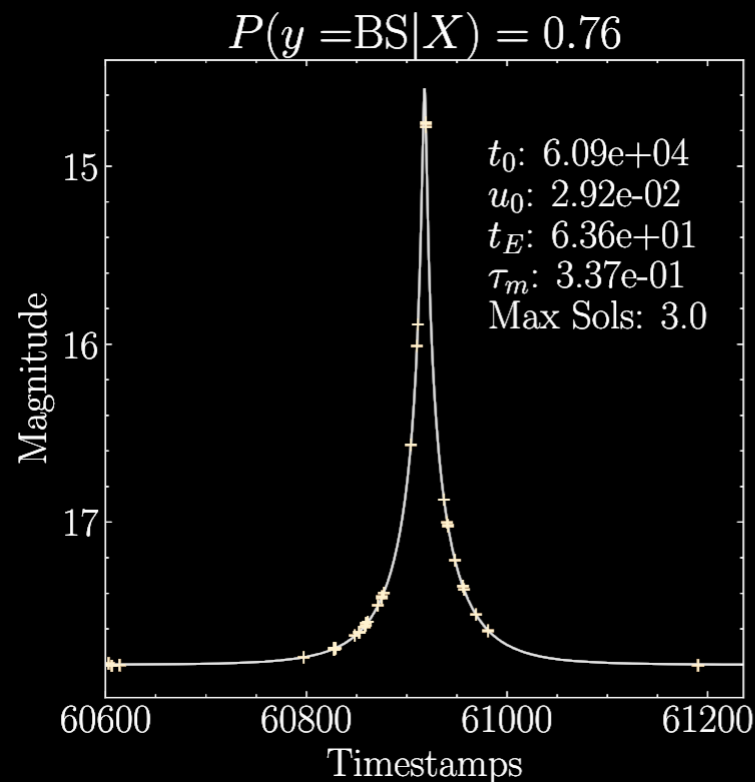
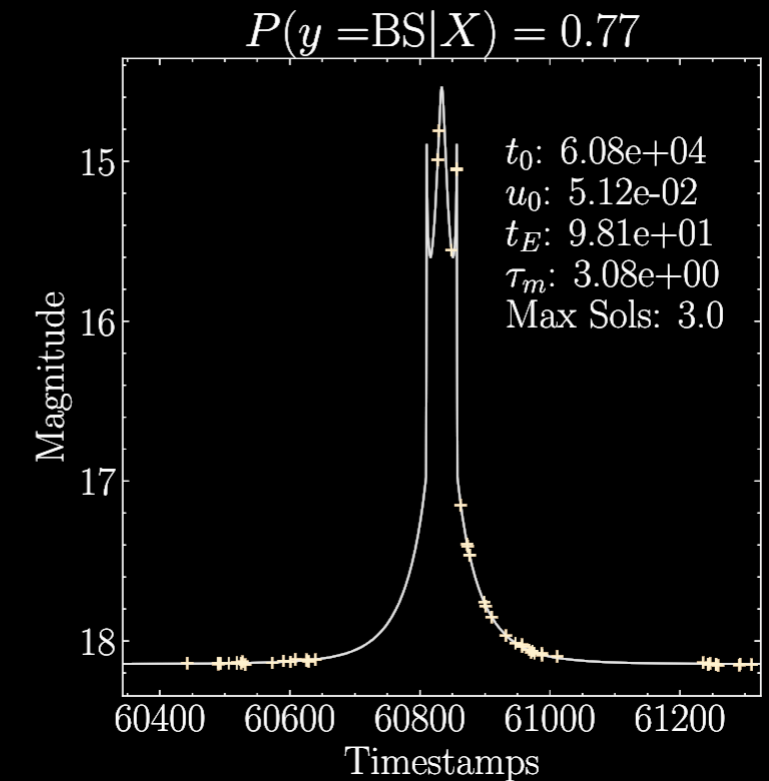
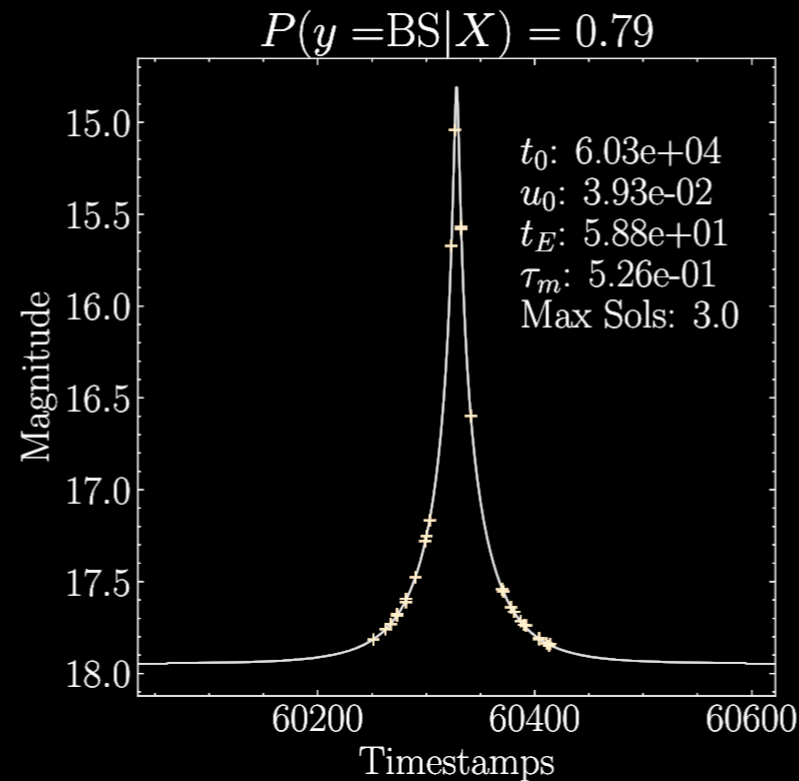
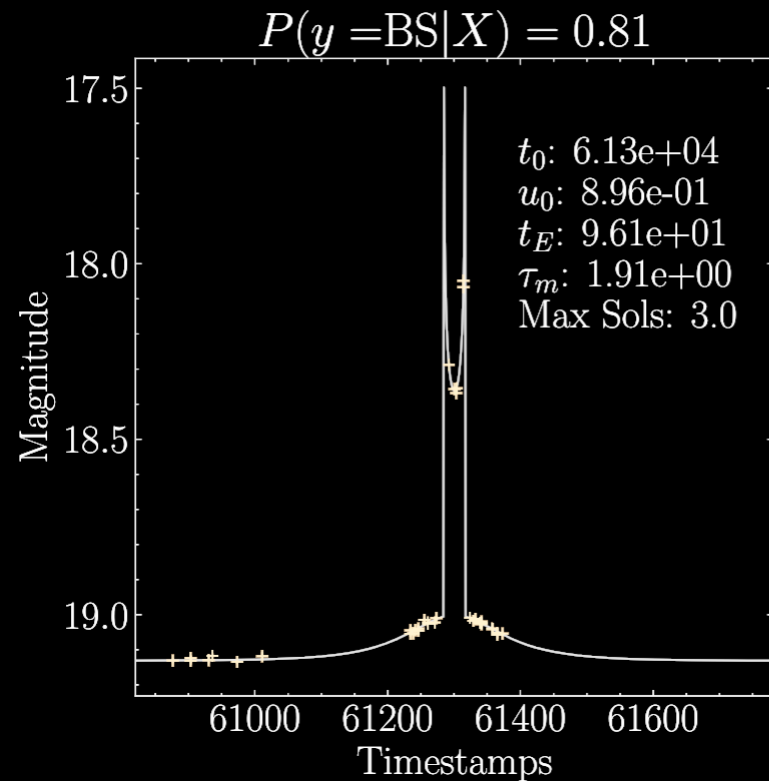


As expected, caustics can again be used to identify flatter lens profiles

# Current work: preliminary results

*Teamed up with MicroLIA's main author Daniel Godines (and Miguel)*

BS Light Curves – LSST Cadence (baseline\_v2.0\_10yrs)

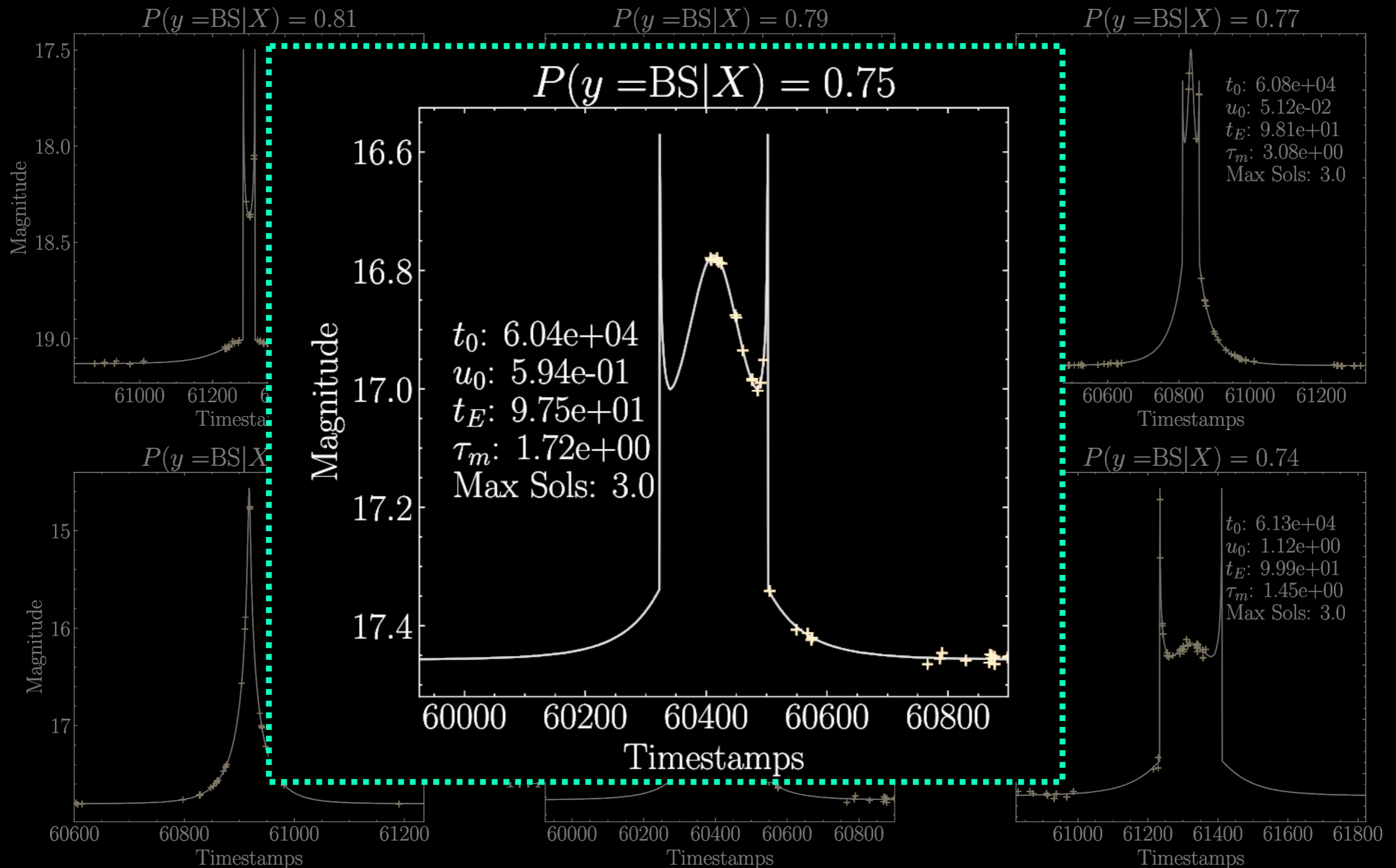




# Current work: preliminary results

Teamed up with MicroLIA's main author Daniel Godines (and Miguel)

BS Light Curves – LSST Cadence (baseline\_v2.0\_10yrs)



# To conclude,

- All of our current evidence for Dark Matter is gravitational; many dark matter models feature substructure
- Microlensing provides a way to look for dark matter substructure of a large range of sizes and masses
  - Extended objects may give **unique microlensing signatures**
  - Non-observation can be used to derive constraints
- Microlensing signatures of extended objects can be distinguished using machine learning
- Future work: LSST microlensing analyses, image data, deep learning on the light curves, ...

# Thank you!

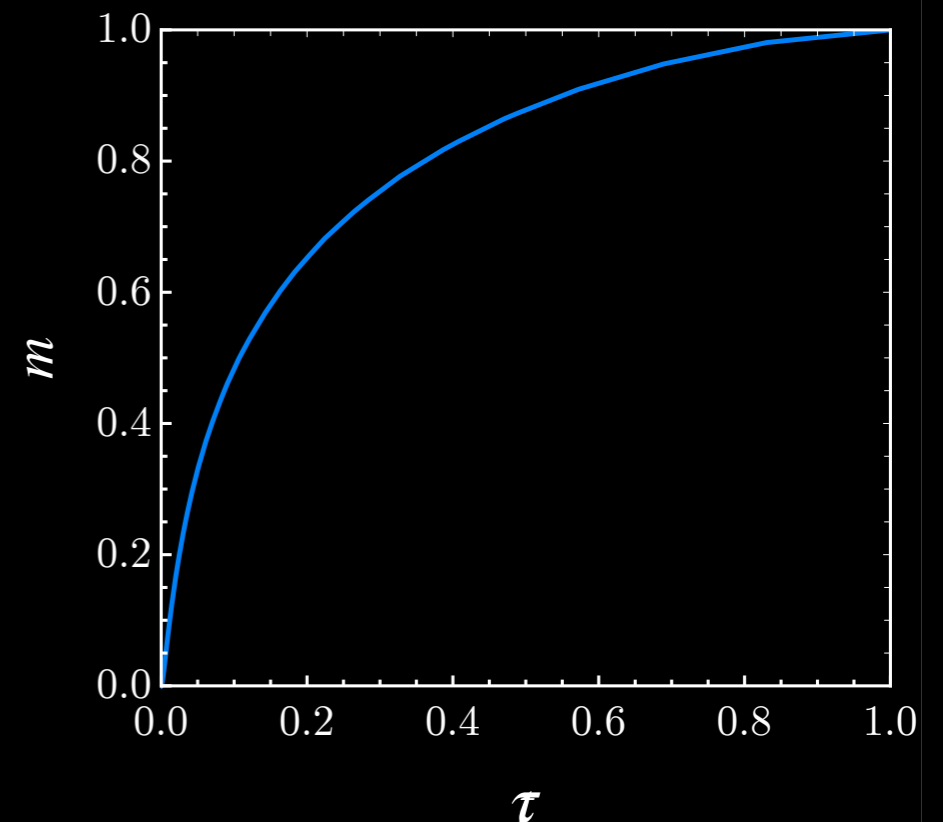
...ask me anything you like!

[djuna.l.croon@durham.ac.uk](mailto:djuna.l.croon@durham.ac.uk) | [djunacroon.com](http://djunacroon.com)

Back up slides

# Case study 1: NFW-halo mass profile

- Well-known halo profile:  $\rho(r) = \frac{\rho_s}{(r/r_s)(1 + r/r_s)^2}$
- As the mass enclosed formally diverges, we cut it off at  $R_{\text{cut}} = 100 R_{\text{sc}}$
- Enclosed mass  $\propto \log(\kappa + 1) - (\kappa/(\kappa + 1))$  where  $\kappa = R_{\text{cut}}/R_{\text{sc}}$
- Computing  $m(\tau)$  is then a trivial exercise:



# Case study 2: Boson star mass profile

- The Schrodinger-Poisson equation,

$$\mu\Psi = -\frac{1}{2m_\phi} \left( \Psi'' + \frac{2}{r}\Psi' \right) + m_\phi\Phi\Psi$$

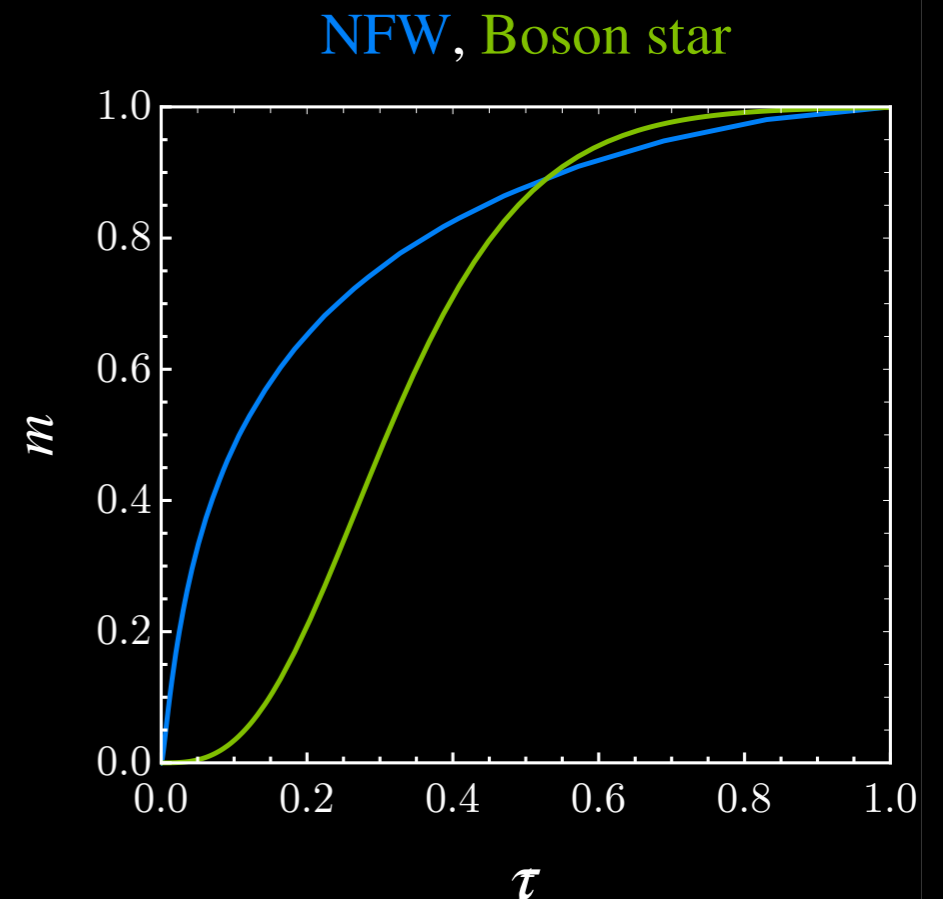
Describes the radial distribution

describes a *spherically symmetric ground state of a free scalar field in the non-relativistic limit*

- The mass enclosed is given by

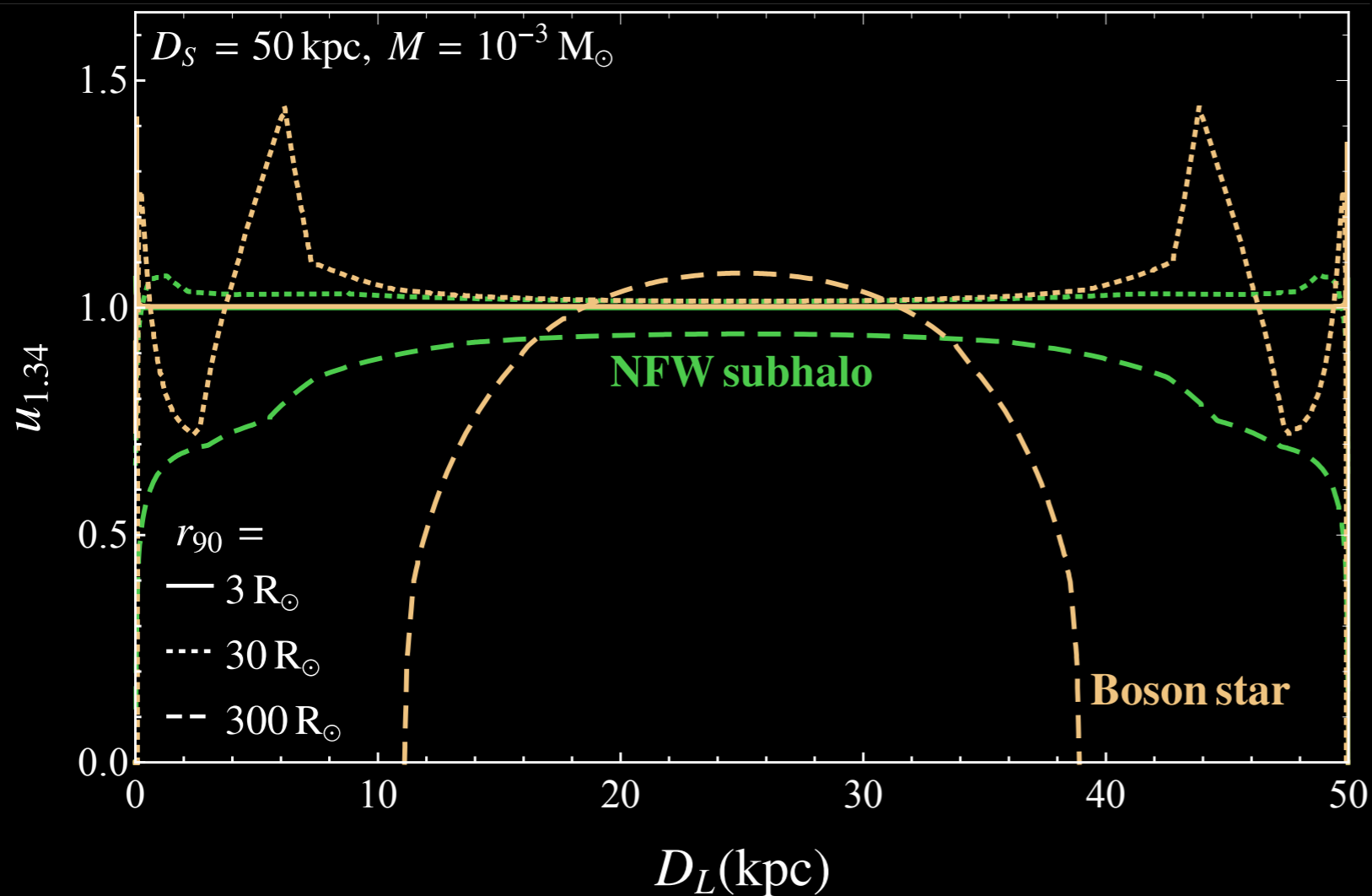
$$M_{\text{BS}}(r) = \frac{1}{m_\phi G} \int_0^{m_\phi r} dy y^2 \Psi^2(y)$$

from which  $m(\tau)$  may be computed



# Caustics

*Consequence: the Einstein tube is not a tube; not ellipsoidal*



→ Depending on the source, experiments may be more or less sensitive to extended objects compared to point sources in different locations

# Obtaining constraints

*To obtain limits, we have to account for the observed events*

- EROS-2: 3.9 events at 90% CL
- OGLE-IV:  $\mathcal{O}(1000)$  astrophysical events, Poissonian 90% CL:  
 $\kappa = 4.61$

Bin events in  $t_E$

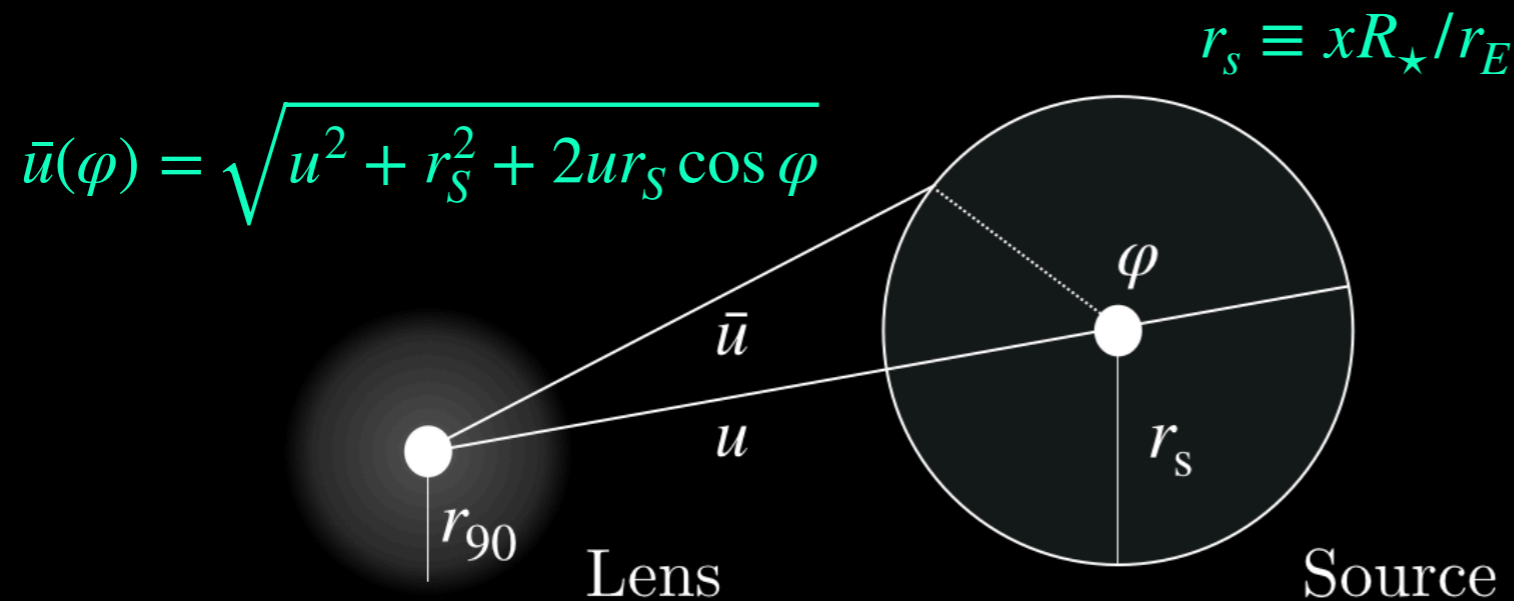
$$\kappa = 2 \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{bins}}} \left[ N_i^{\text{FG}} - N_i^{\text{SIG}} + N_i^{\text{SIG}} \ln \frac{N_i^{\text{SIG}}}{N_i^{\text{FG}}} \right]$$

$N_i^{\text{SIG}} \equiv N_i^{\text{FG}} + N_i^{\text{DM}}$



# Lensing geometry

- Up to this point, we have assumed that the sources are point-like light sources (a good approximation for EROS/OGLE)
- This approximation breaks down when  $r_E = \theta_E D_L \sim r_S$
- Geometry in the lens plane:



Lensing equation:

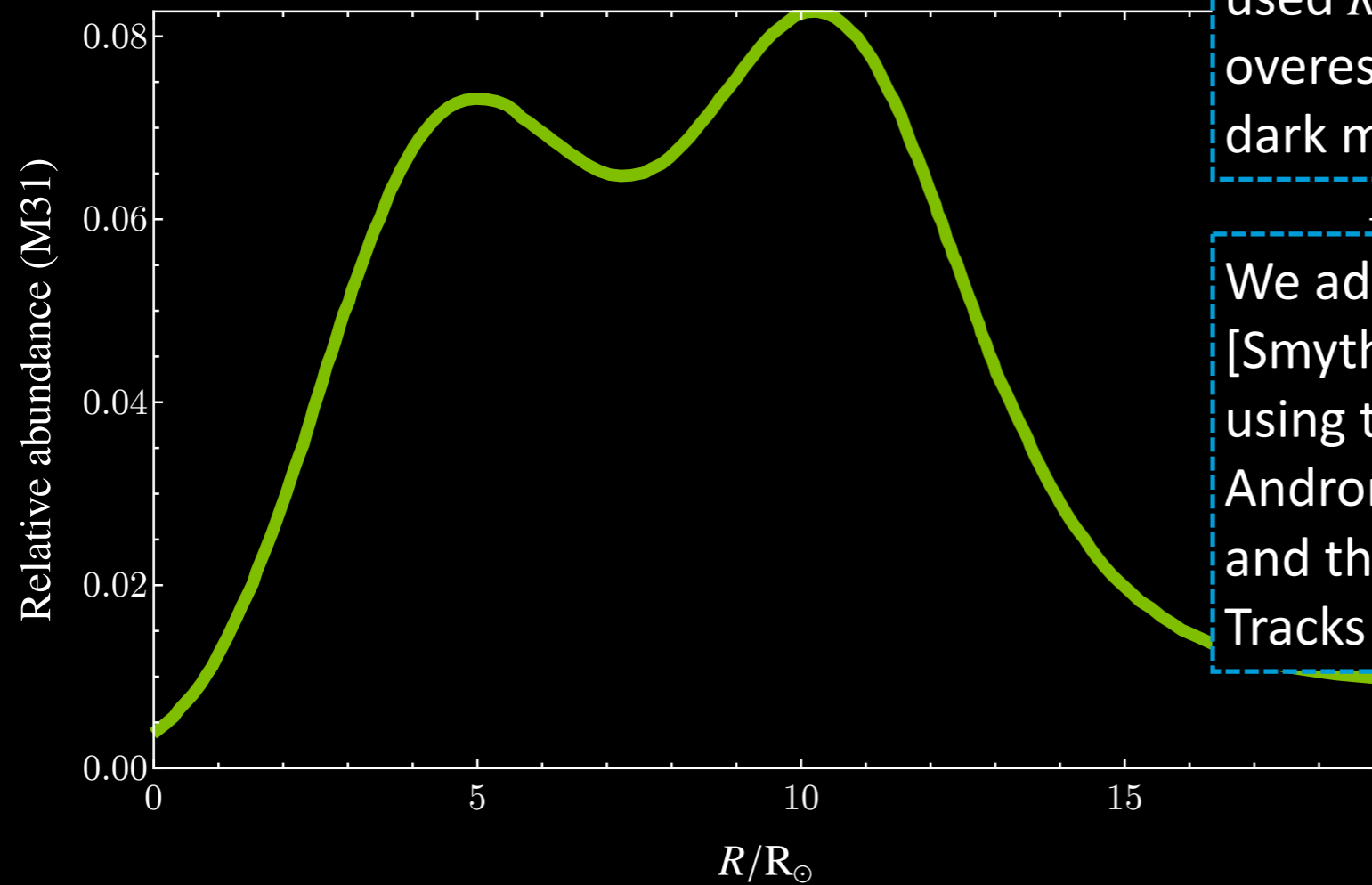
$$\bar{u}(\varphi) = \tau(\varphi) - \frac{m(\tau(\varphi))}{\tau(\varphi)}$$

Image

Image

$$\mu_i = \eta \frac{1}{\pi r_s^2} \int_0^{2\pi} d\varphi \frac{1}{2} \tau_i^2(\varphi)$$

# Star sizes in M31



Initially, the Subaru-HSC collaboration used  $R = R_{\odot}$  for all stars, but this overestimates the constraints on the dark matter fraction

We adopt the distribution derived in [Smyth et al., PRD, arXiv:1910.01285] using the Panchromatic Hubble Andromeda Treasury star catalogue and the MESA Isochrones and Stellar Tracks stellar evolution package

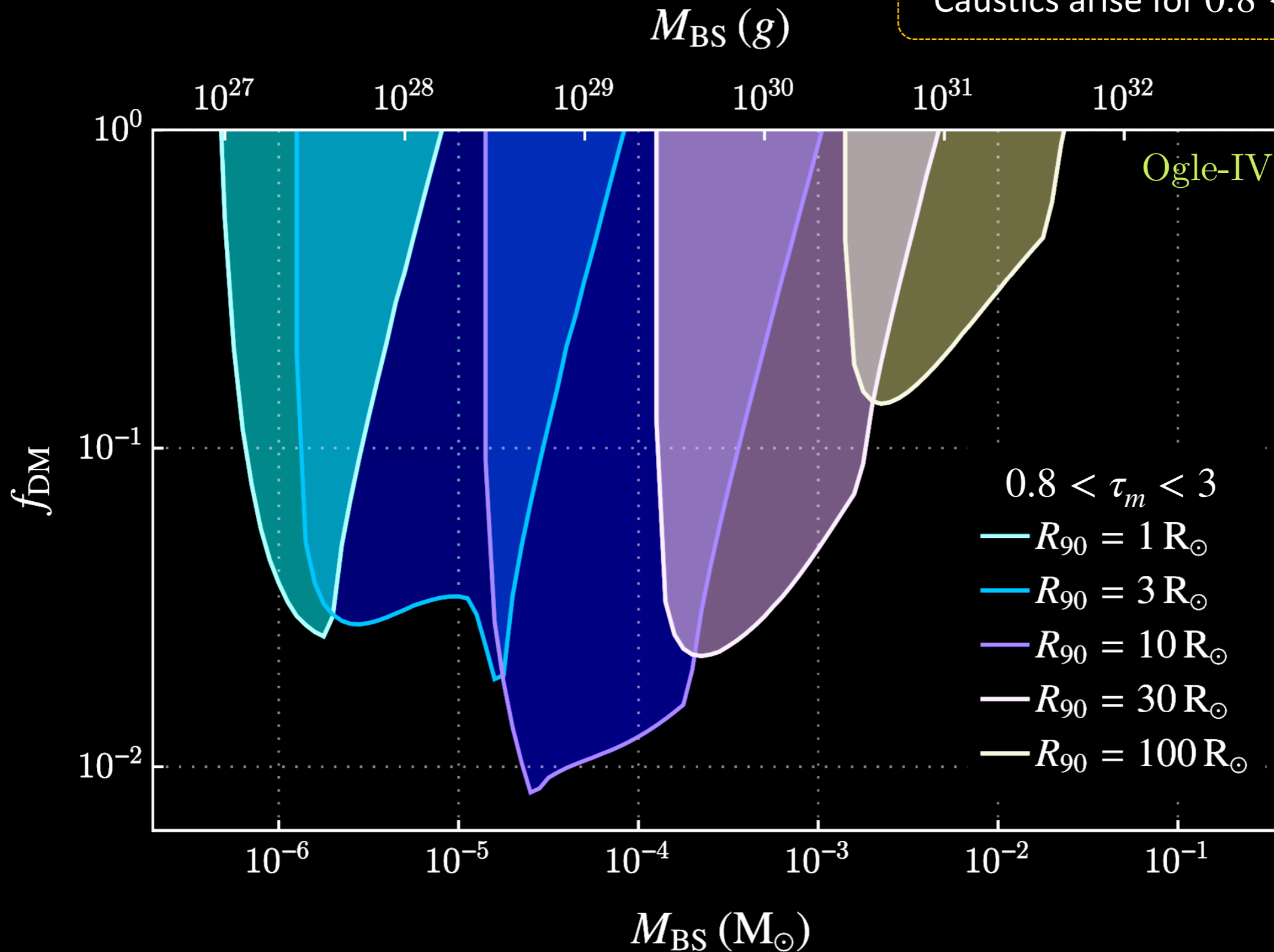


$$N_{\text{events}} = N_{\star} T_{\text{obs}} \int dt_{\text{E}} \int dR_{\star} \int_0^1 dx \frac{d^2\Gamma}{dx dt_{\text{E}}} \frac{dn}{dR_{\star}}$$

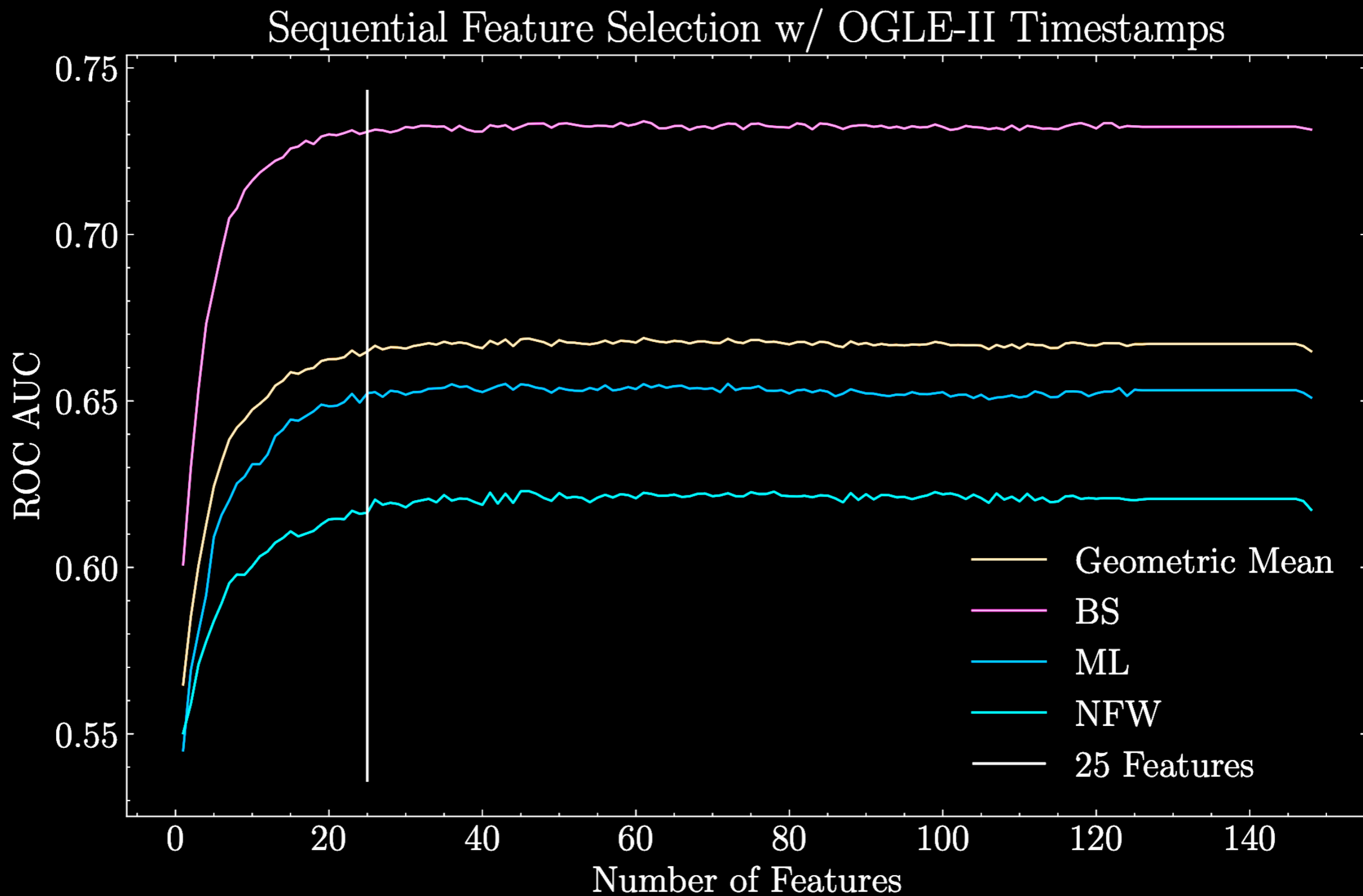
# Opportunities for positive detection

*M. Crispim-Romao, DC, PRD, arXiv:2402.00107*

Caustics arise for  $0.8 < \tau_m < 3$



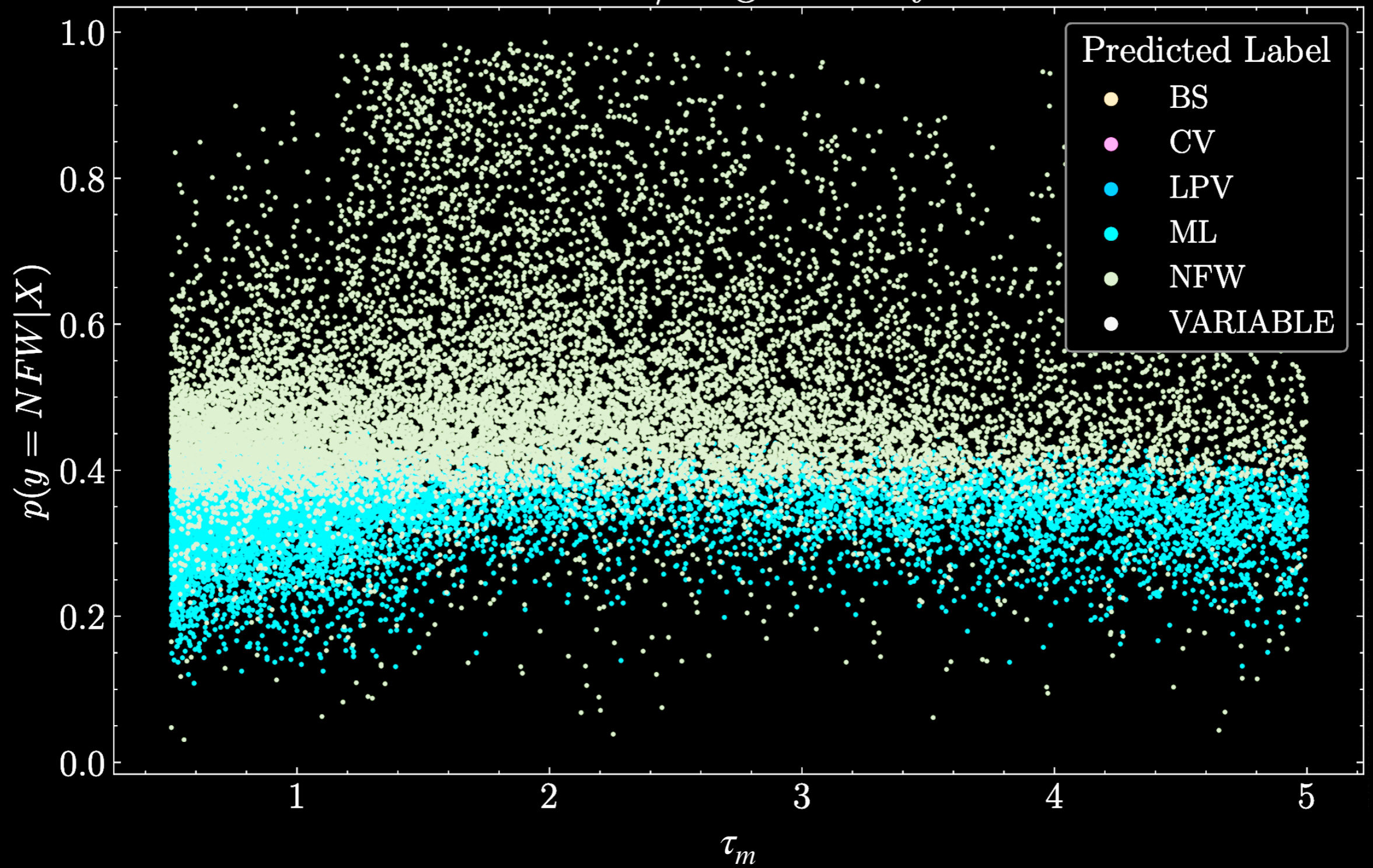
# Feature importance

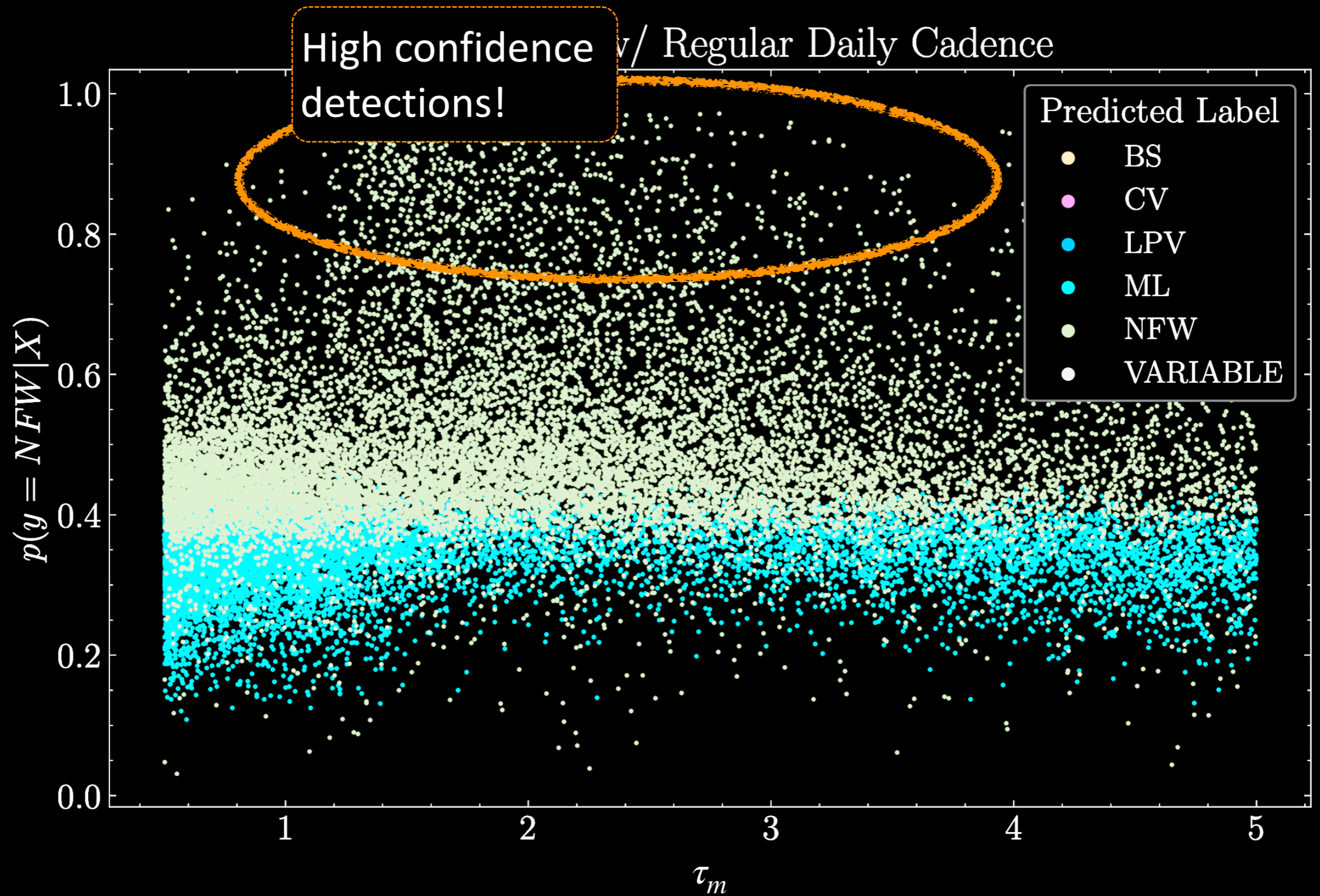


# Let's dream...

- The OGLE time steps are quite irregular
- Many different factors play a role...
  - Observational Constraints (weather, moon phase, ...)
  - Resource Allocation
  - Target Prioritization
  - Technical Maintenance and Downtime
- But it is interesting what the effect of cadence (ir)regularity is on the observational prospects
- So, let us imagine for a moment that we could achieve perfect daily cadence

# NFW Events w/ Regular Daily Cadence





... only observed if regular cadence is achieved

# Current work: LSST by Rubin

*Teamed up with MicroLIA's main author Daniel Godines (and Miguel)*

## ELAsTiCC dataset (Extended LSST Astronomical Time Series Classification Challenge)

- Multiple sources, galactic and extragalactic
- Science purposed

*ELAsTiCC presents the first simulation of LSST alerts, with millions of synthetic transient light curves and host galaxies. The data is being used to test broker alert systems and classifiers, and develop the infrastructure for LSST's Dark Energy Science Collaboration Time-Domain needs.*

