

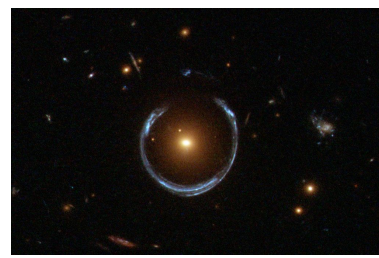
Gravitational lensing applied to gravitational waves

Martina Toscani,
PostDoc @ UniMib

Image credit: ESA/Hubble & NASA

June 17th - 21st, 2024

LISA CosWG meeting @ Universidade do Porto

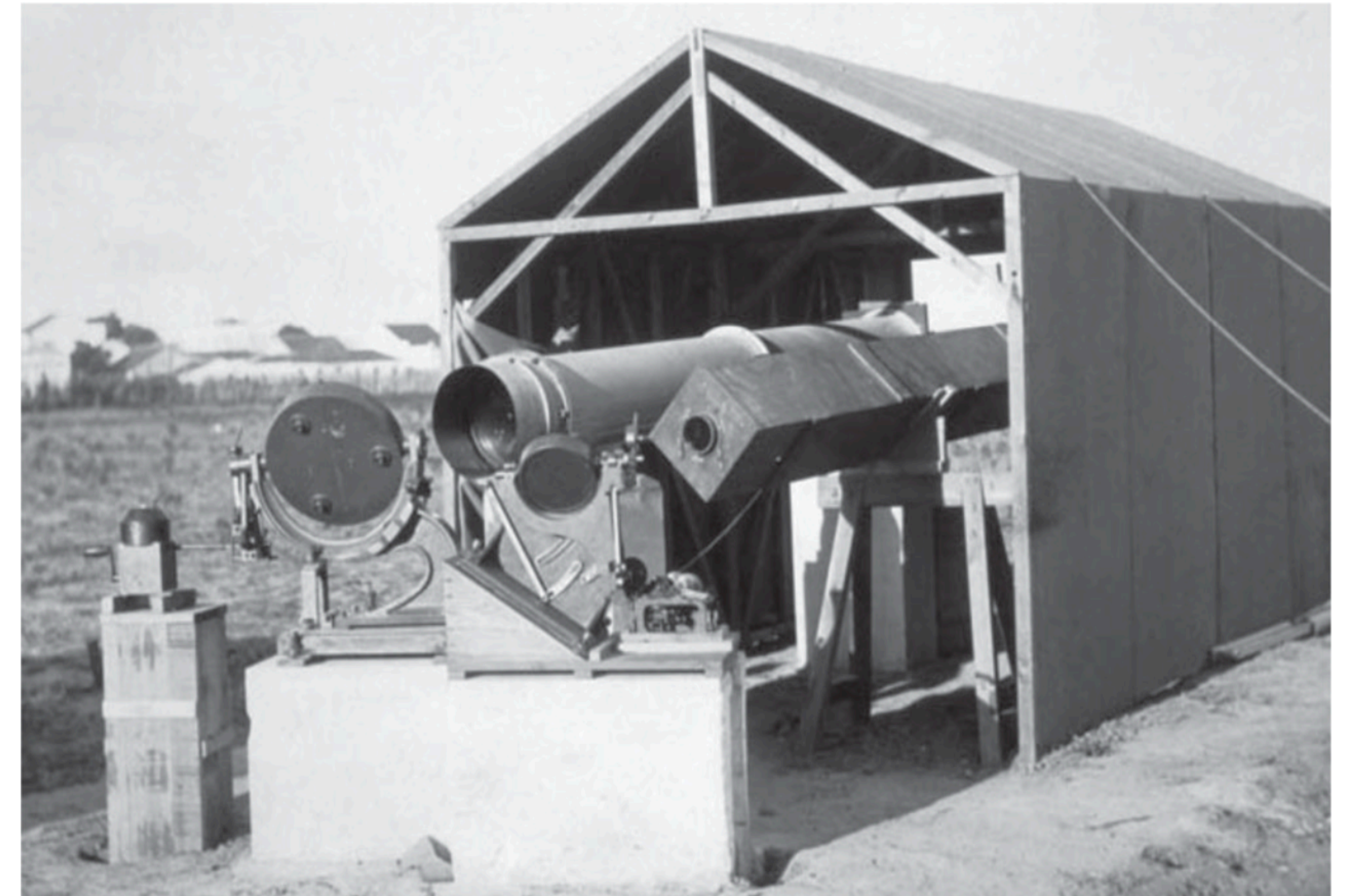


What is lensing?

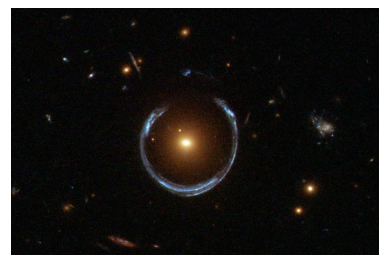
Gravitational field of a massive object (lens) bends the path of the signal from a distant source

GR predicts double displacement wrt Newtonian gravity

Observationally confirmed by Dyson, Eddington and Davidson during the Solar eclipse of 1919



Instruments used for the experiment, picture by Science Museum of London. Longhair 2015.



What is lensing?

Shear: image stretched or compressed without changing the area

Convergence: change in the image size

Magnification factor μ



> 1, brighter

< 1, dimmer

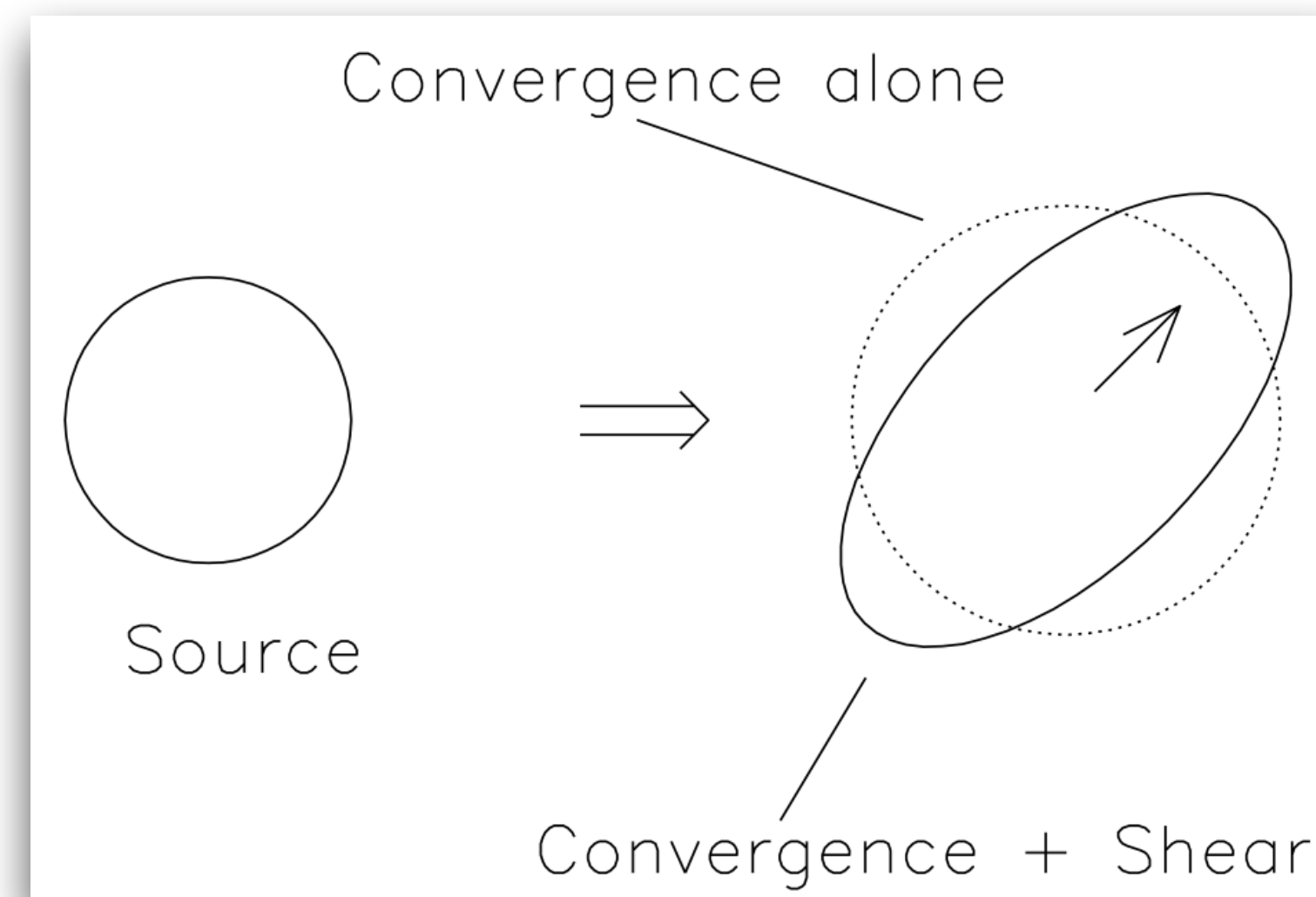
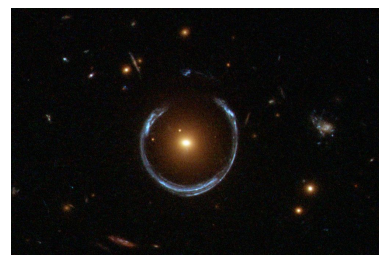


Image from Narayan & Bartelmann 1995

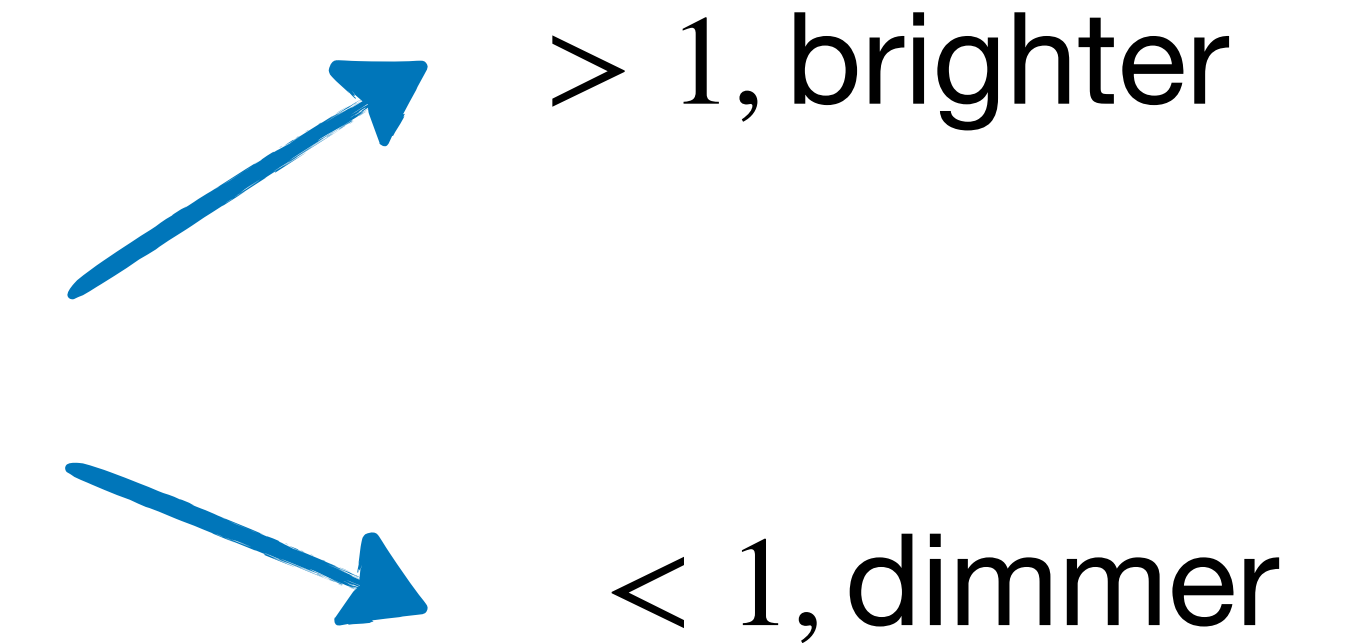


What is lensing?

Shear: image stretched or compressed without changing the area

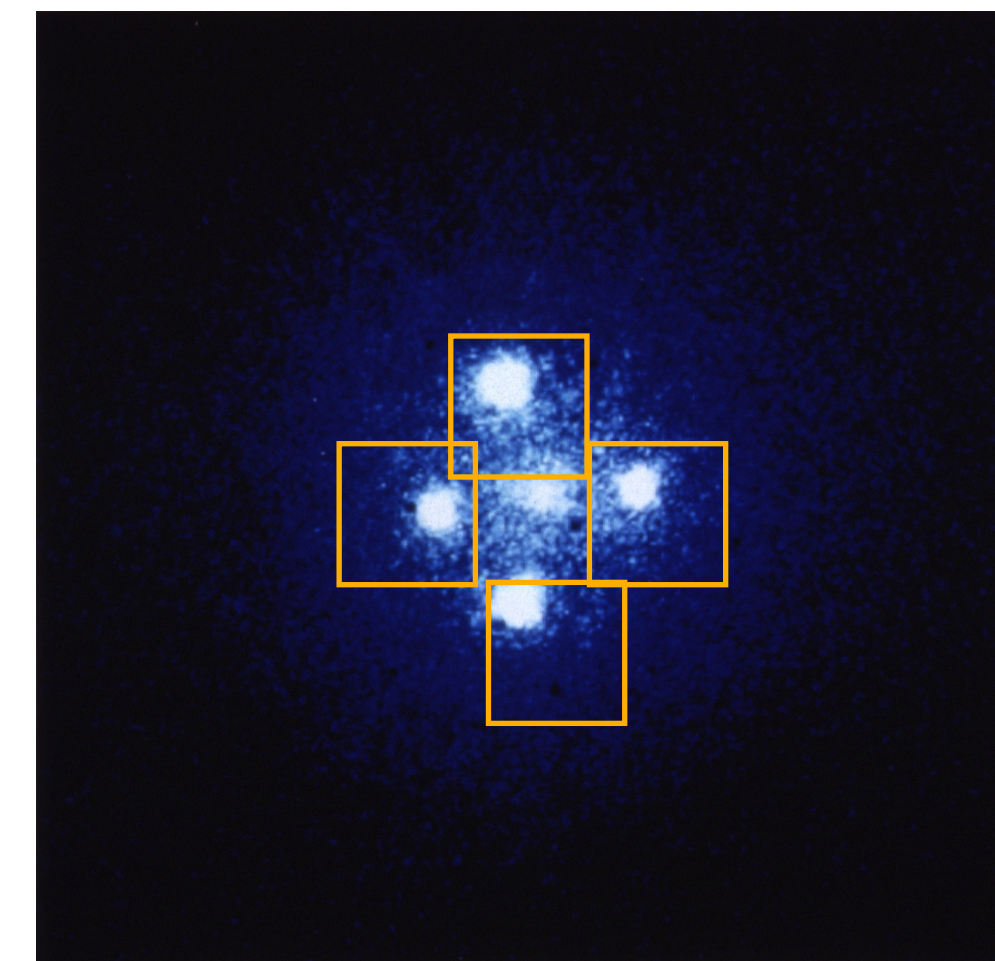
Convergence: change in the image size

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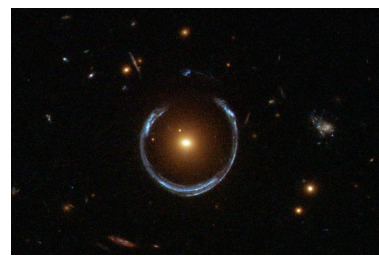
Multiple images: production of multiple images of the source

Positive or negative parity



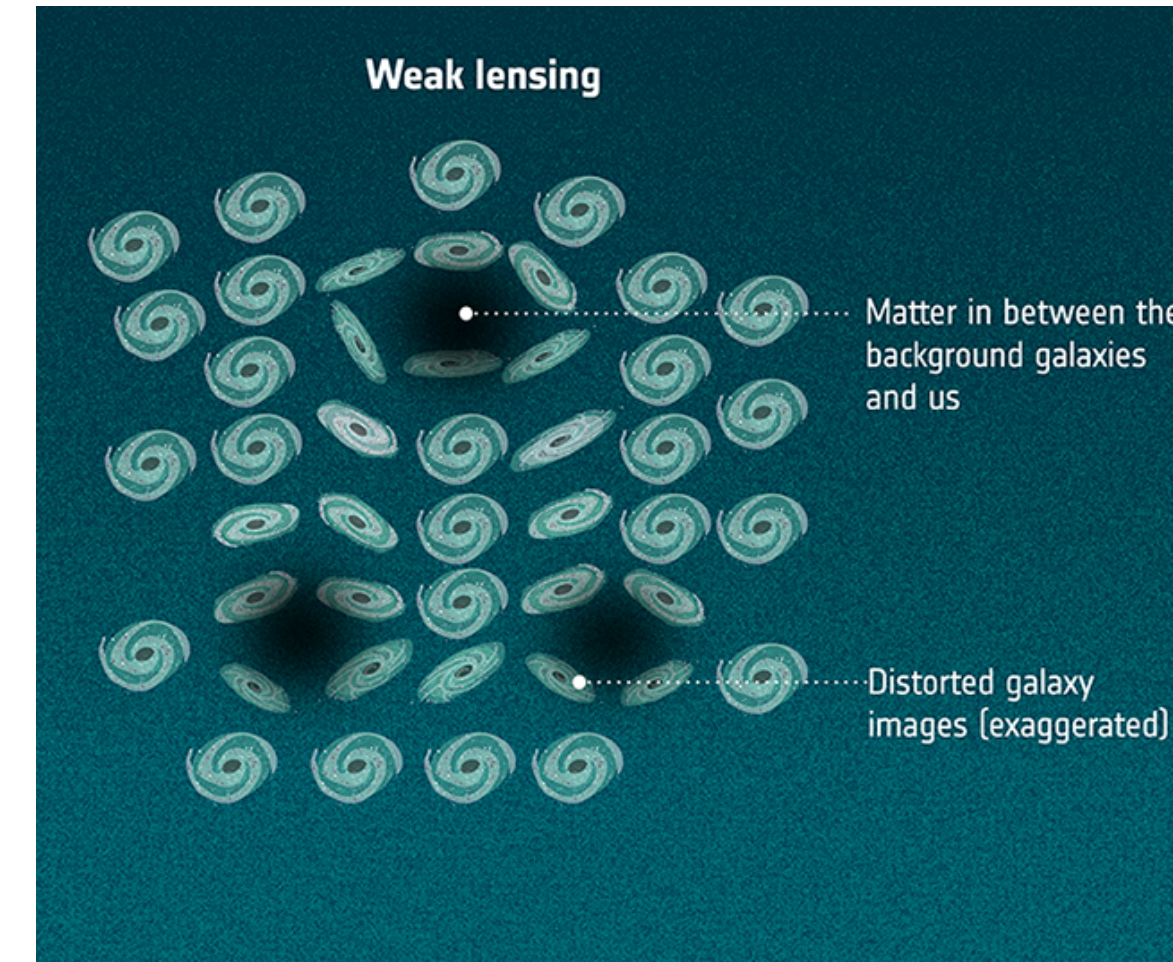
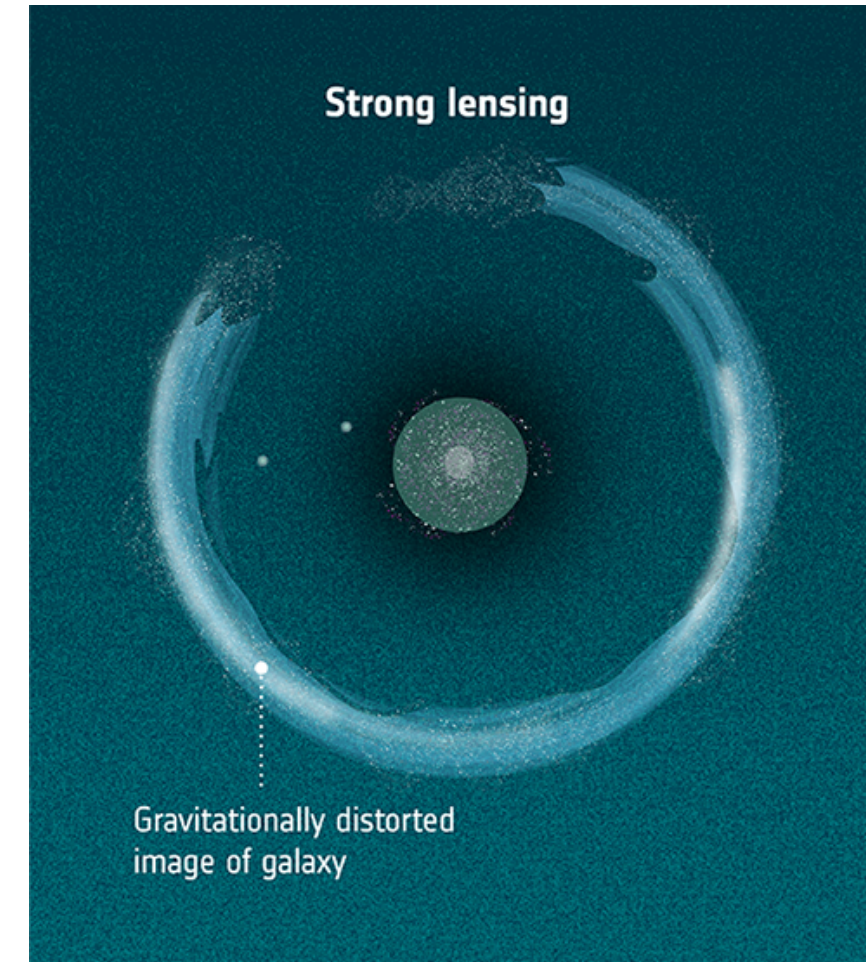
4 images same quasar

Image from NASA/ESA



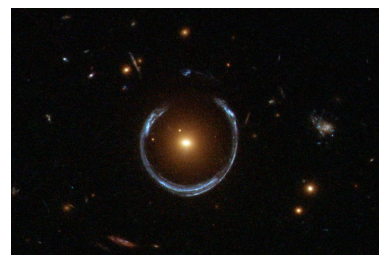
What is lensing?

Strong lensing:
massive lens, (near)
perfect alignment,
individual sources



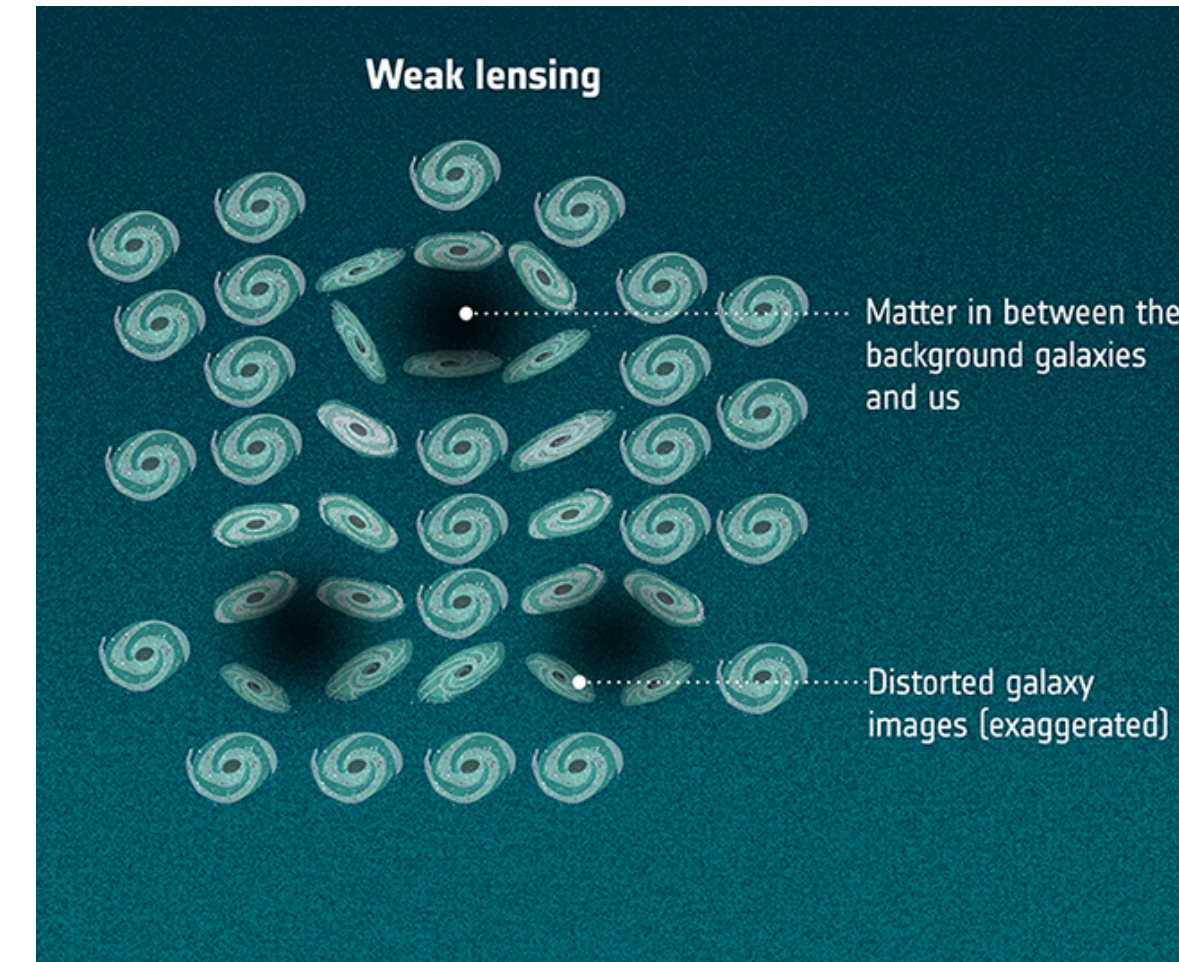
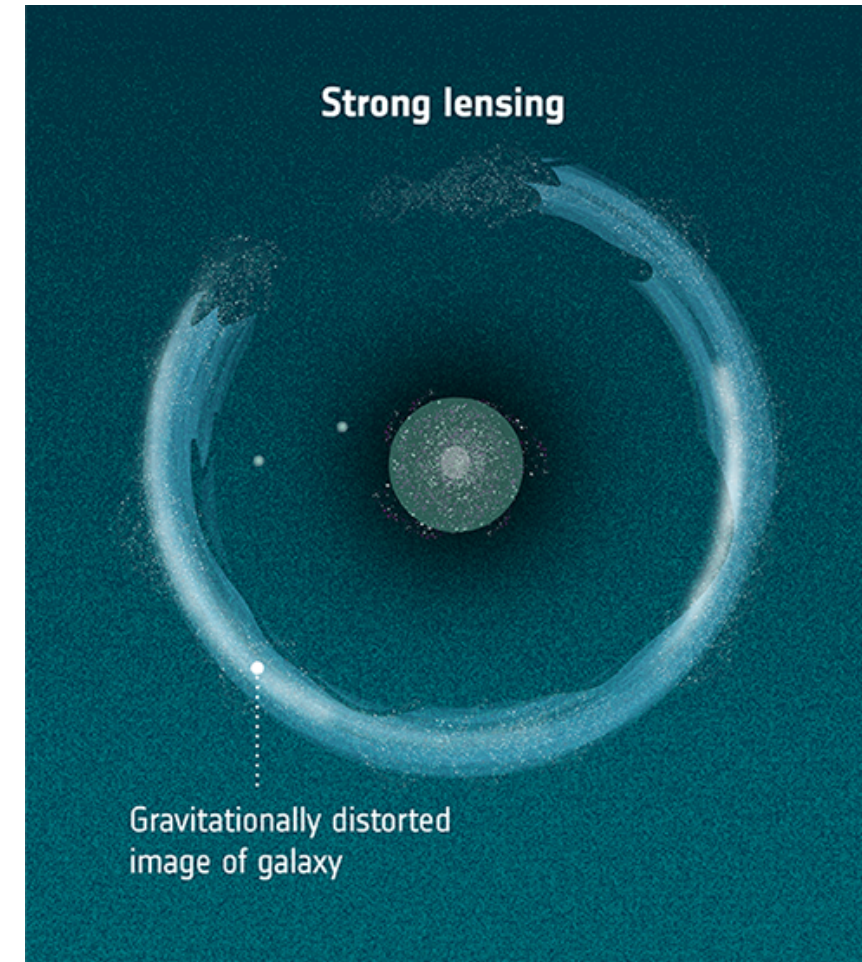
Weak lensing:
massive lens,
moderate/poor
alignment, statistical
studies

Image from ATG under contract with ESA



What is lensing?

Strong lensing: massive lens, (near) perfect alignment, individual sources



Weak lensing: massive lens, moderate/poor alignment, statistical studies

Image from ATG under contract with ESA

Microlensing: compact lens, small scale alignment, temporary effect

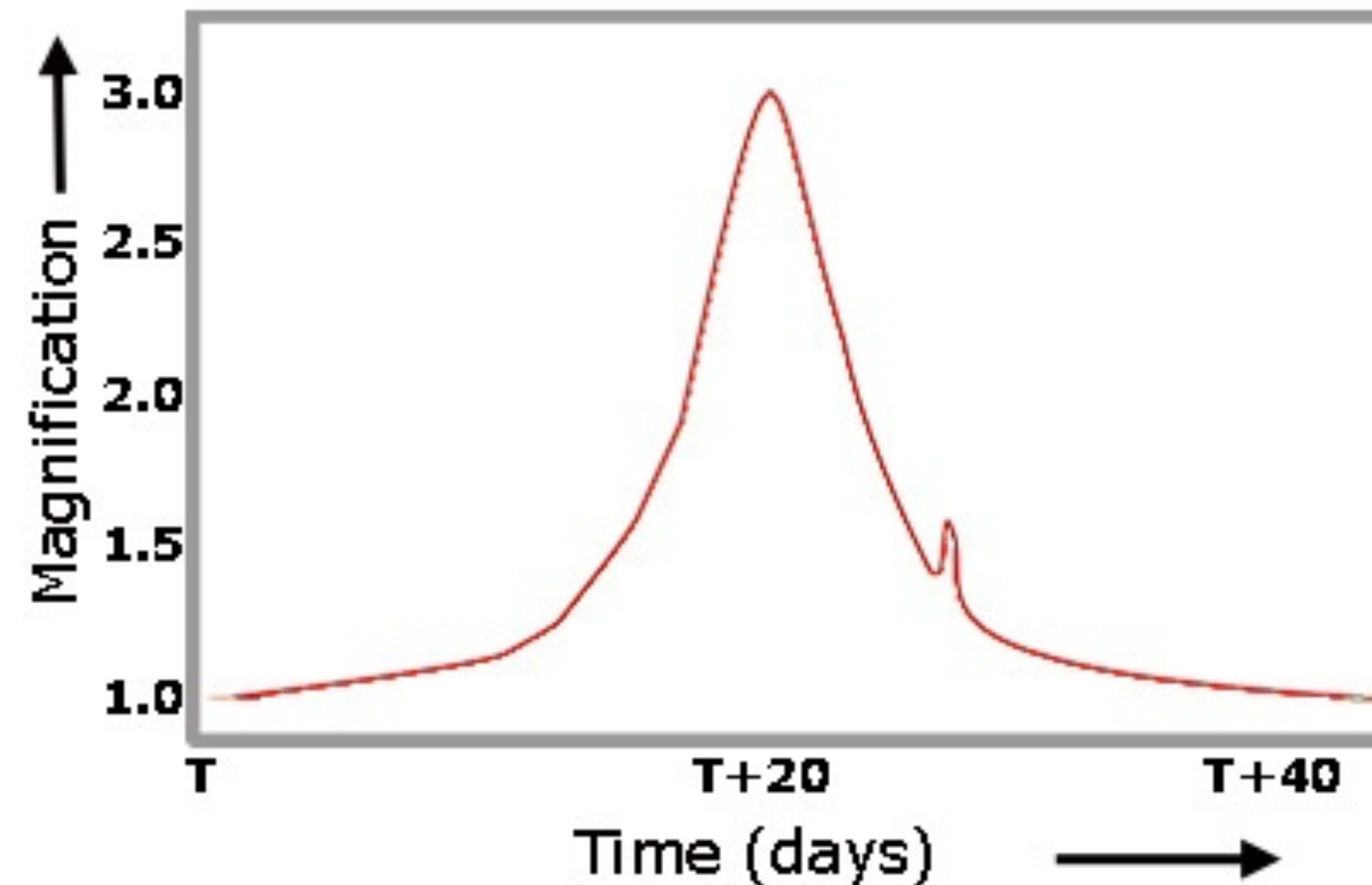
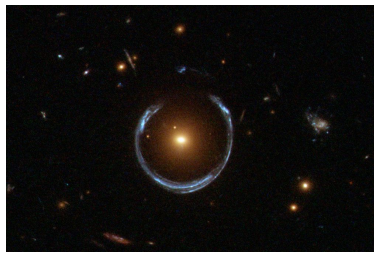
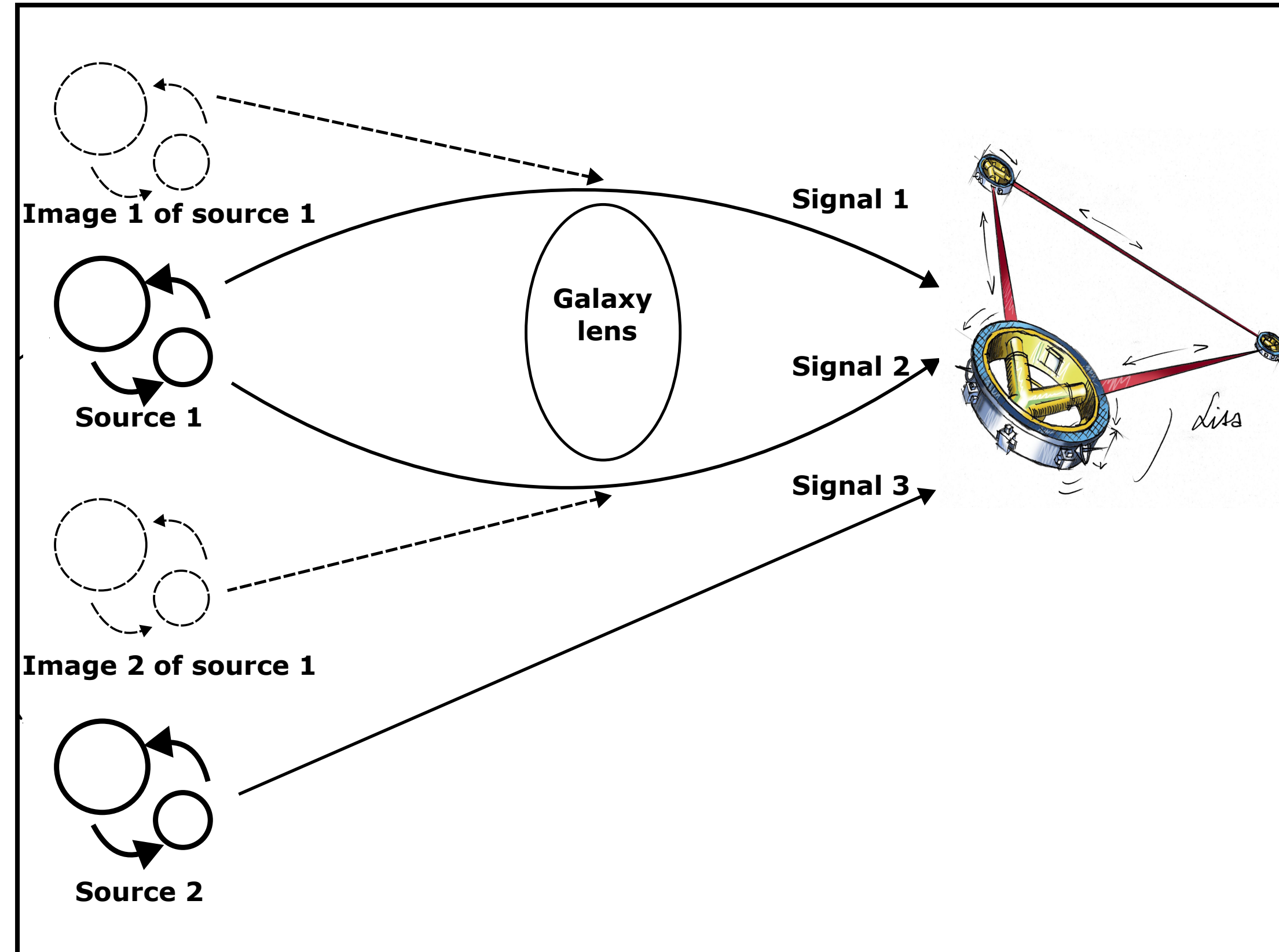


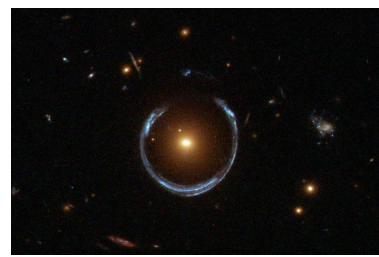
Image from ESA



Why studying lensing?

Image from Cheung et al, preprint

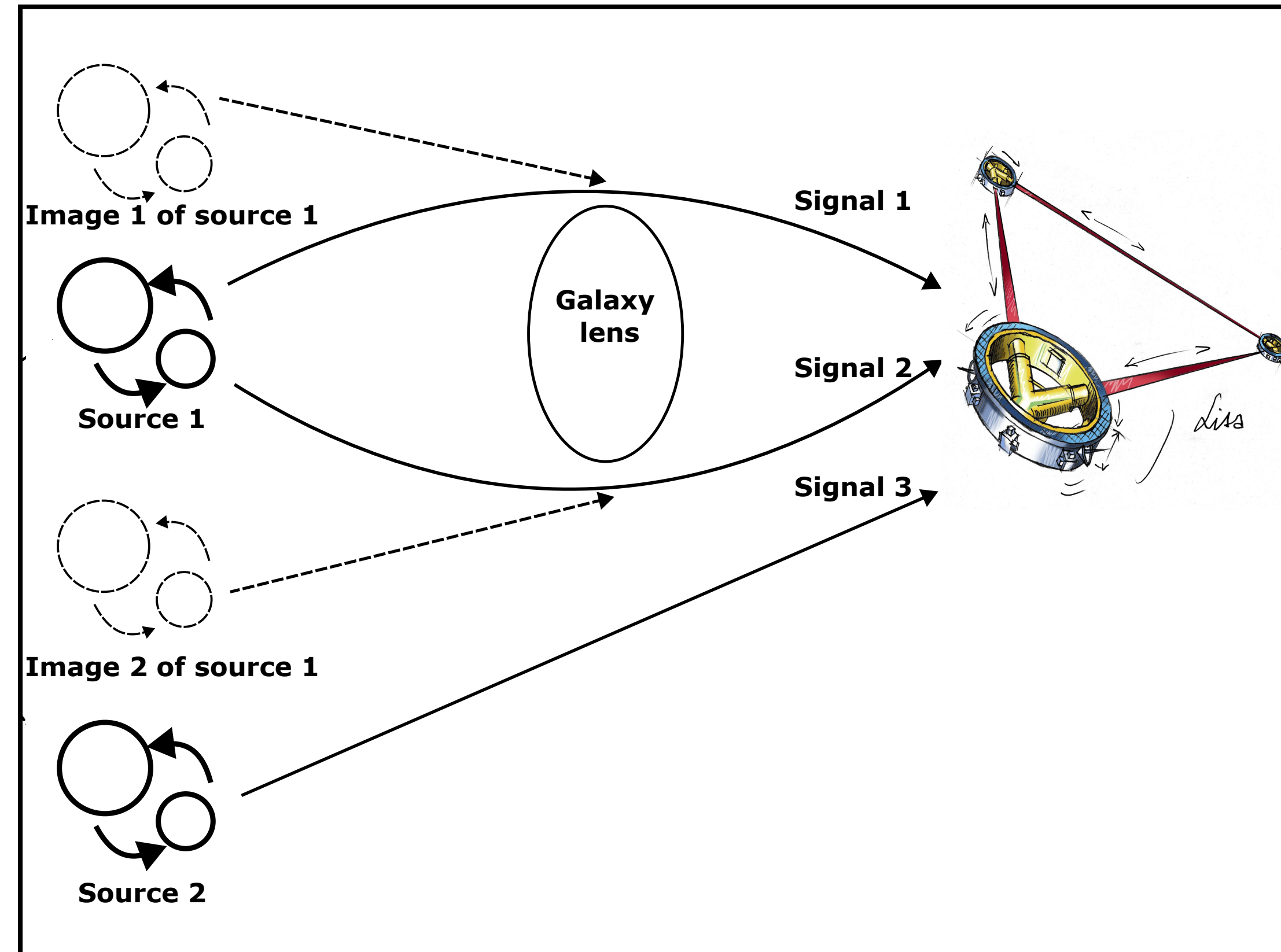
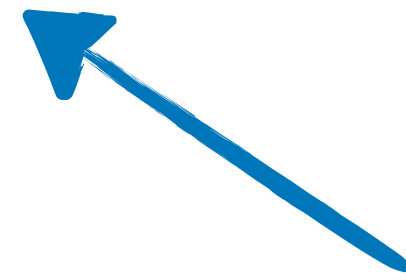




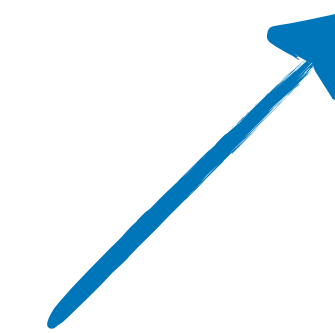
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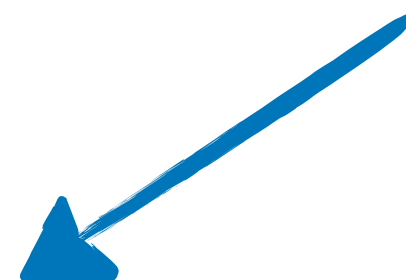
Proof of General Relativity



Understanding GWs propagation in strong gravity



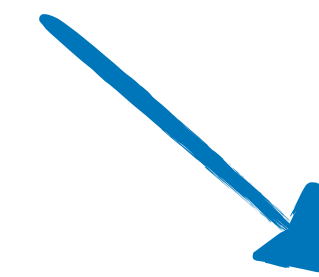
Understanding the nature of the lens

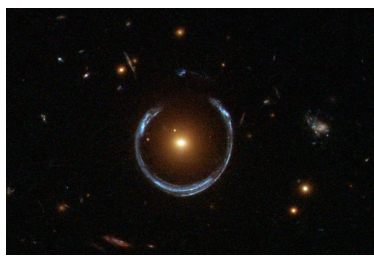


Constrains cosmological parameters



Observing faint sources





Lensing in the context of LISA

$$10^{-4}\text{Hz} \lesssim f \lesssim 10^{-1}\text{Hz}$$

Diffraction becomes relevant for

$$\lambda \gtrsim R_{s,c} \rightarrow M_L \lesssim 10^8 M_\odot \left(\frac{f}{\text{mHz}} \right)$$

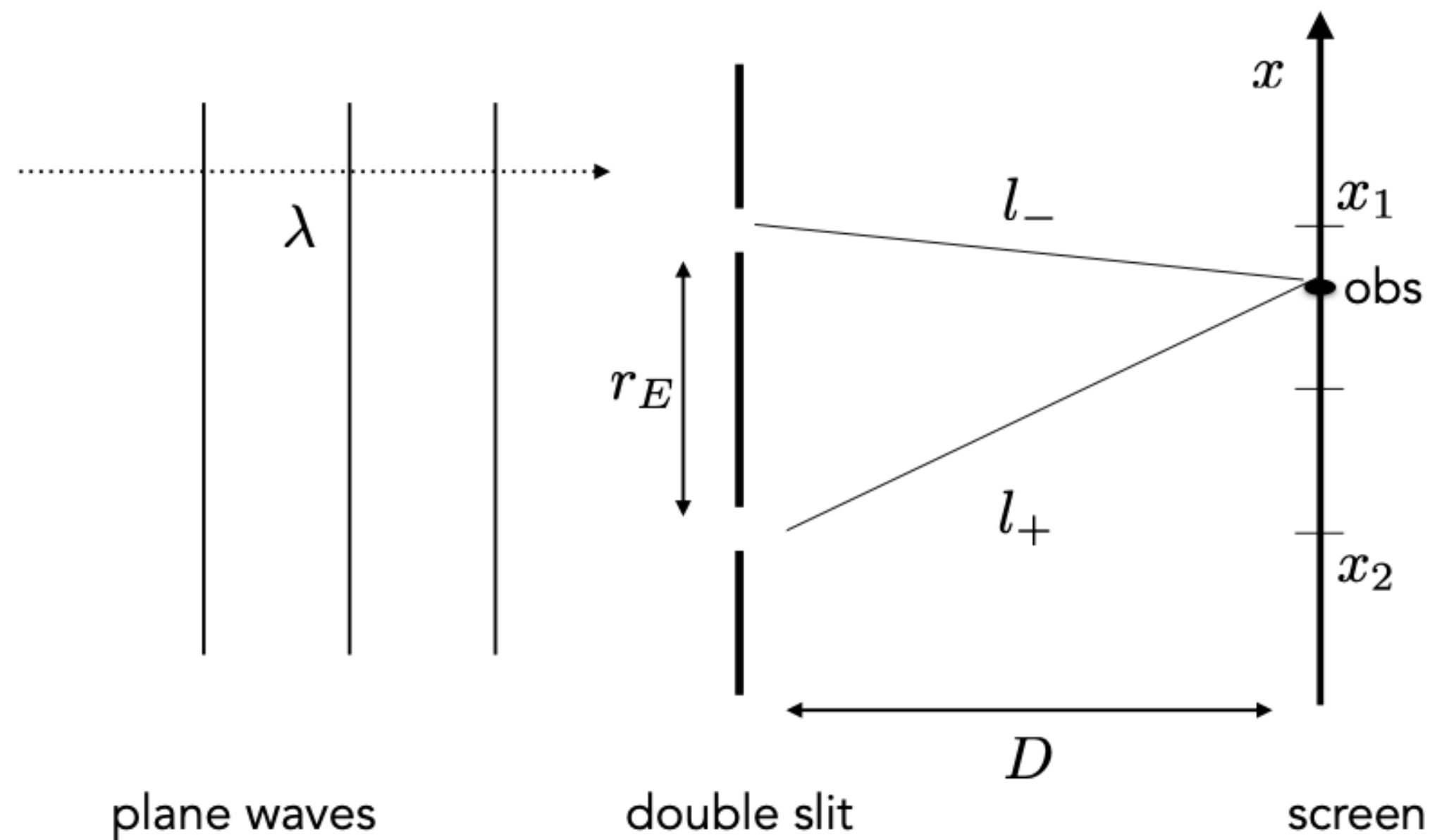


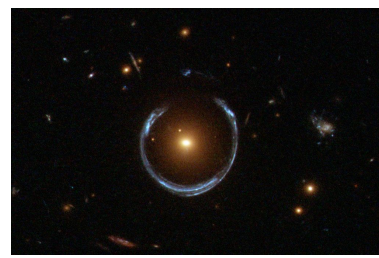
Image from Cusin & Lagos 2020

Geometrical optics

Lensing by galaxy
and galaxy clusters

Wave optics

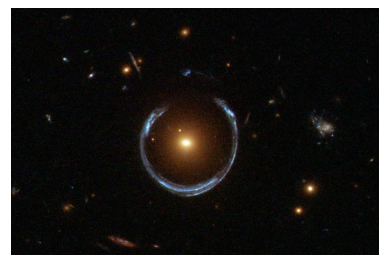
Lensing by black
holes



Strongly lensed MBHBs

Dai 2007, Sereno et al. 2010, Sereno et al. 2011, Ezquiaga et al. 2020, Goyal et al. 2020, Hannuksela et al. 2020, Cusin and Tamanini 2021, Wang 2021, Vijaykumar 2022, Wempe et al. 2022, Toscani et al. 2023, Toscani et al. 2024...

- Loudest sources
- Cosmological distances



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- Loudest sources
- Cosmological distances

Up to a few in LISA (Sereno et al 2010)

Multiple near-identical images

Difference only in

- amplitude
- overall phase
- arrival time

Same sky location

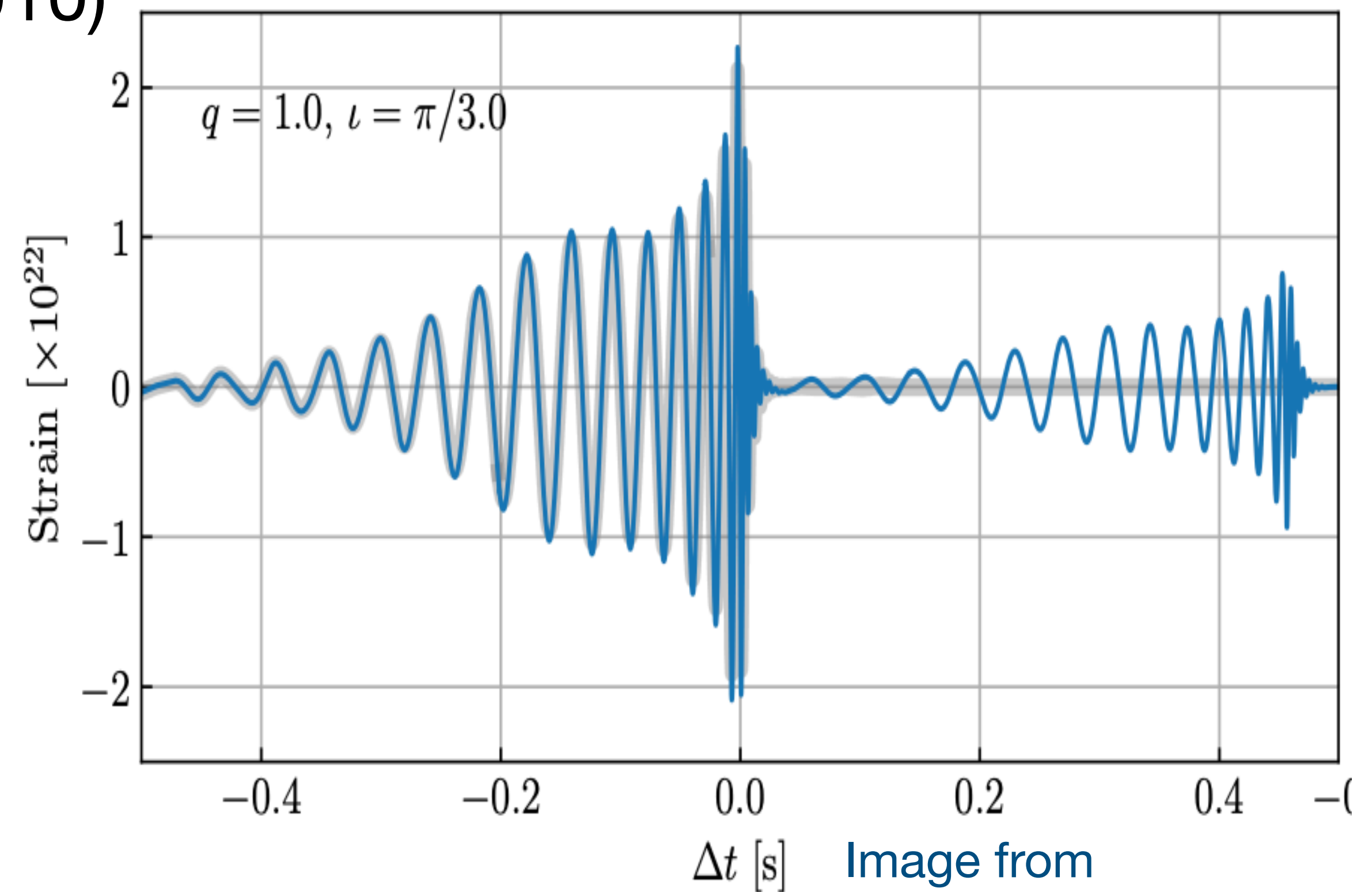
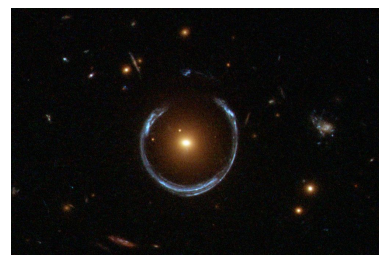


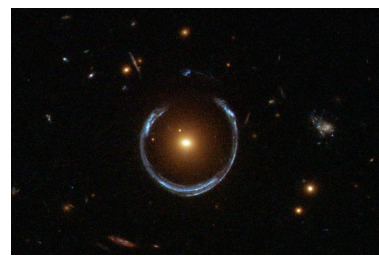
Image from Ezquiaga et al. 2020



Strongly lensed MBHBs

$$h \propto \frac{\sqrt{\mu}}{d_L}$$

Dai 2007, Sereno et al. 2010, Sereno et al. 2011, Ezquiaga et al. 2020, Goyal et al. 2020, Hannuksela et al. 2020, Cusin and Tamanini 2021, Wang 2021, Vijaykumar 2022, Wempe et al. 2022, Toscani et al. 2023, Toscani et al. 2024...



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Selection effects shift mean magnification and introduce distance bias

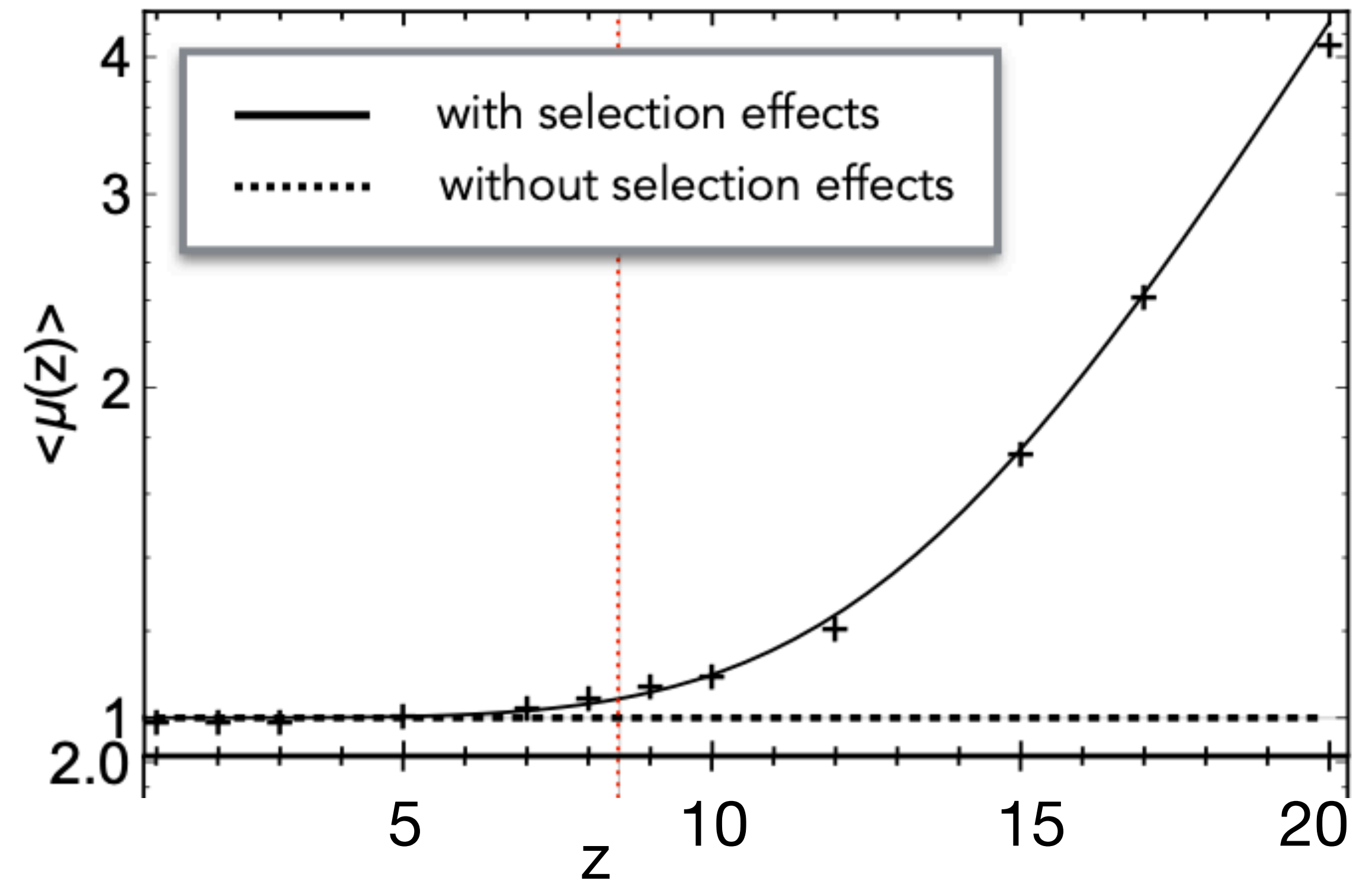
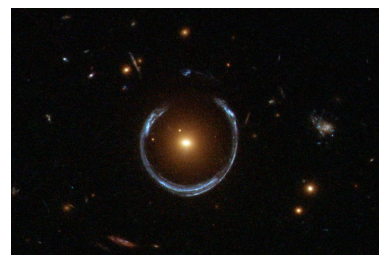


Image from Cusin & Tamanini 2021



Strongly lensed MBHBs

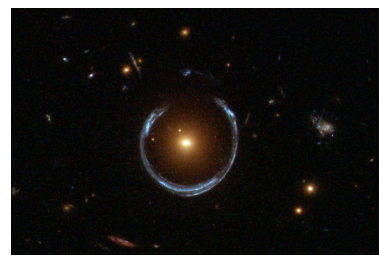
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Cosmological probes: time delay analysis, strong lensing statistics

- time delay analysis → Hubble constant

- strong lensing statistics → Dark matter distribution

No need for EM counterparts



Strongly lensed MBHBs

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Host galaxy will be lensed



Follow up EM observations

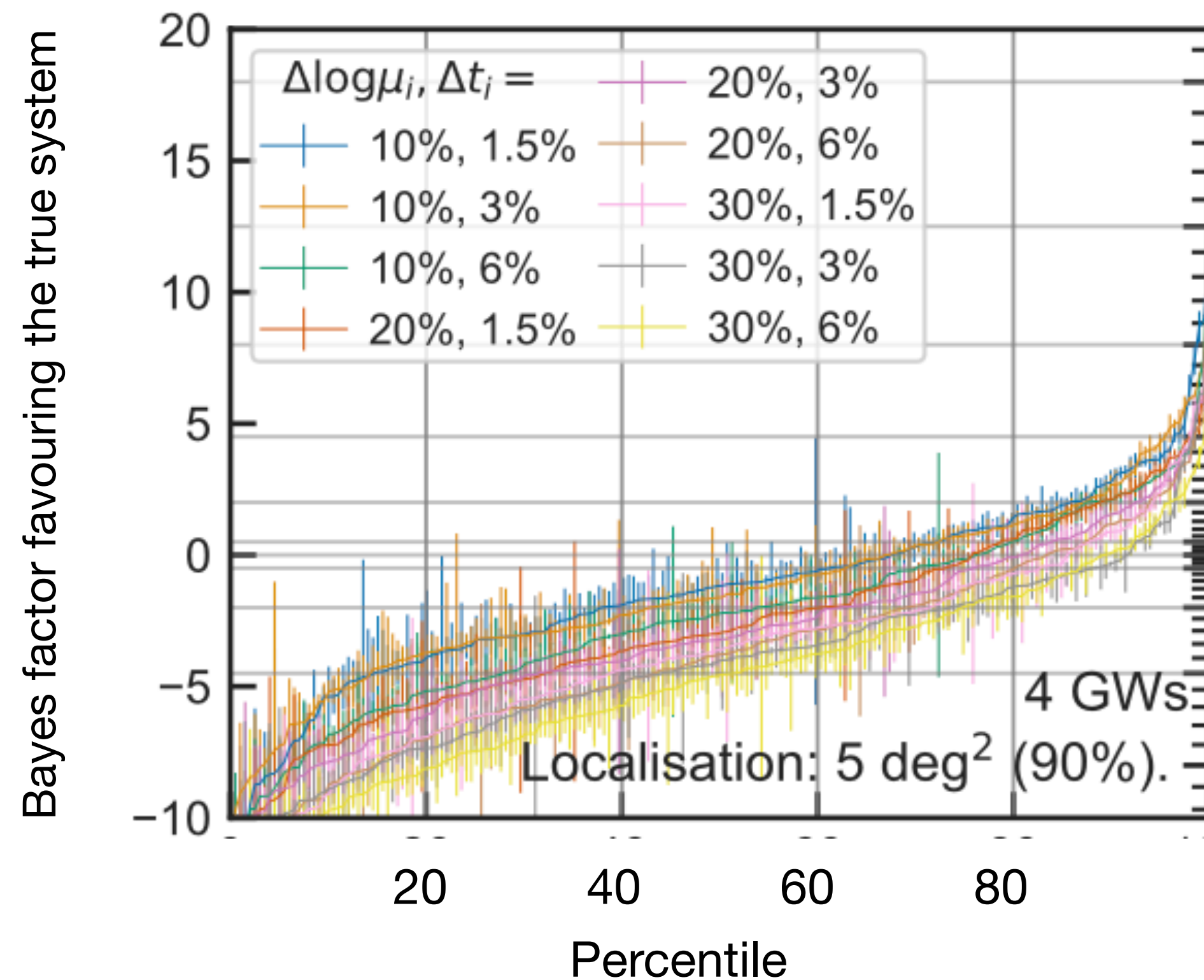
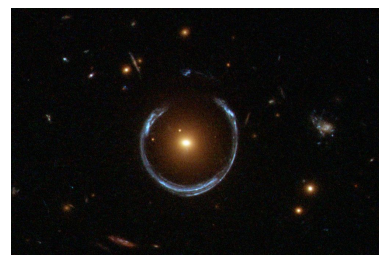


Image from Wempe et al. 2022

2 detected GWs: correct identification for 10ish% events

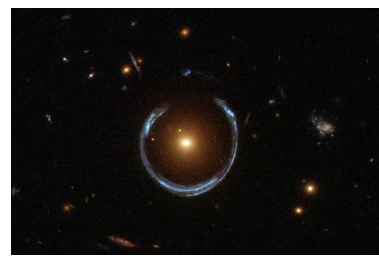
4 detected GWs: correct identification for 30ish% events



Strongly lensed EMRIs

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- Excellent probes for strong field gravity
- Uncertain detection rates



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- Excellent probes for strong field gravity

Up to 40 in LISA (Toscani et al. 2024)

Many observational cycles

Signal lasts longer than typical lensing time delay

Multiple images superimpose

- Uncertain detection rates

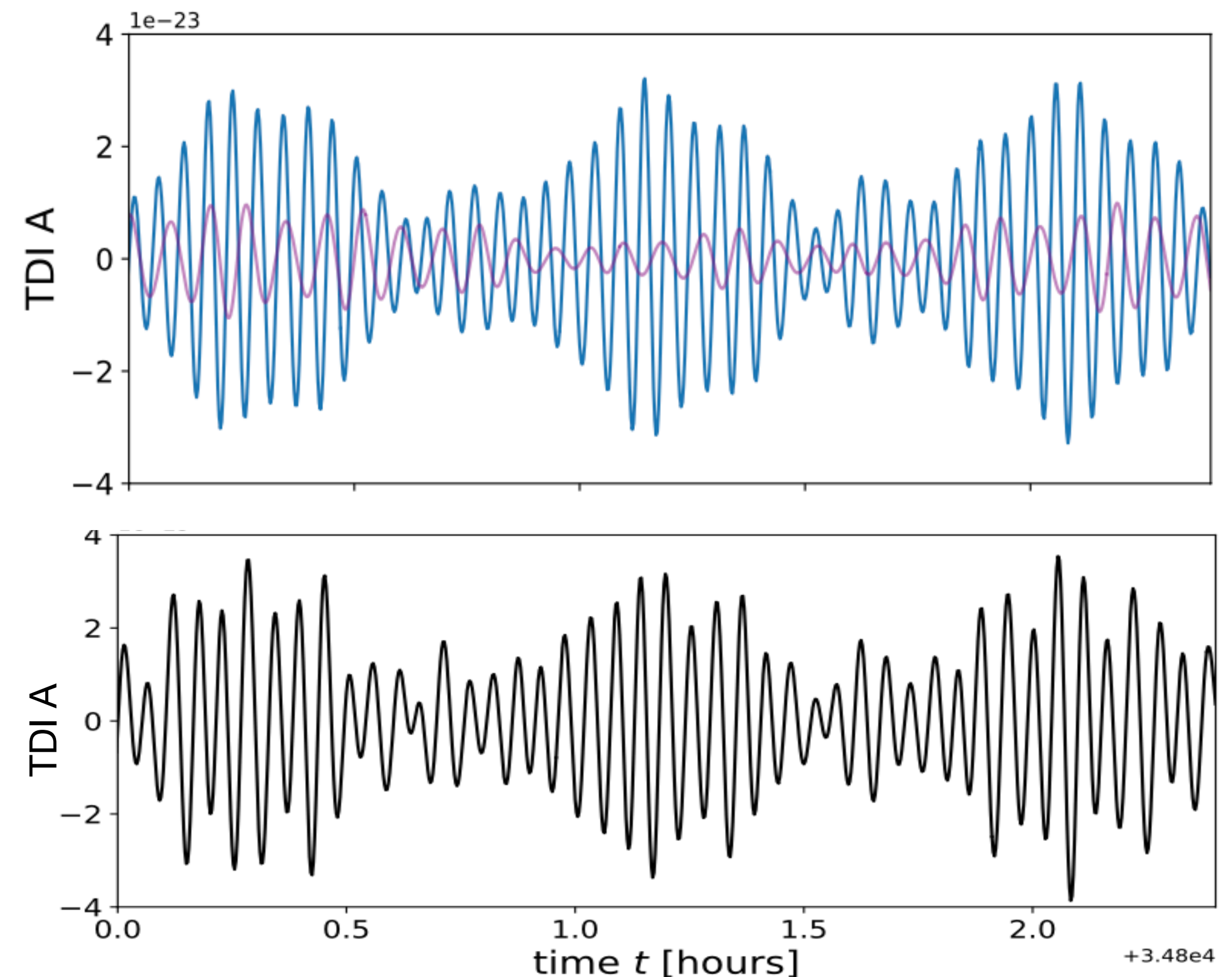
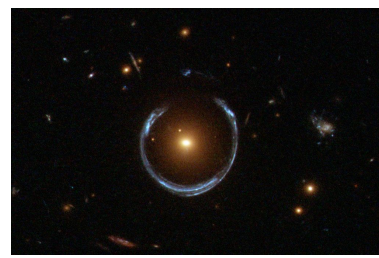


Image from Toscani et al. 2024



Strongly lensed EMRIs

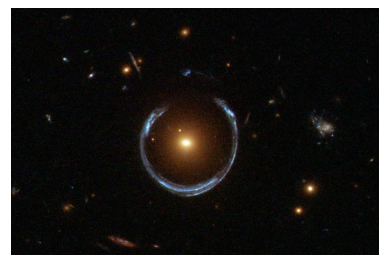
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Inject an unlensed EMRI waveform in the LISA data stream

Time shift operation

Maximise noise-weighted inner product

Inject a lensed EMRI waveform



Strongly lensed EMRIs

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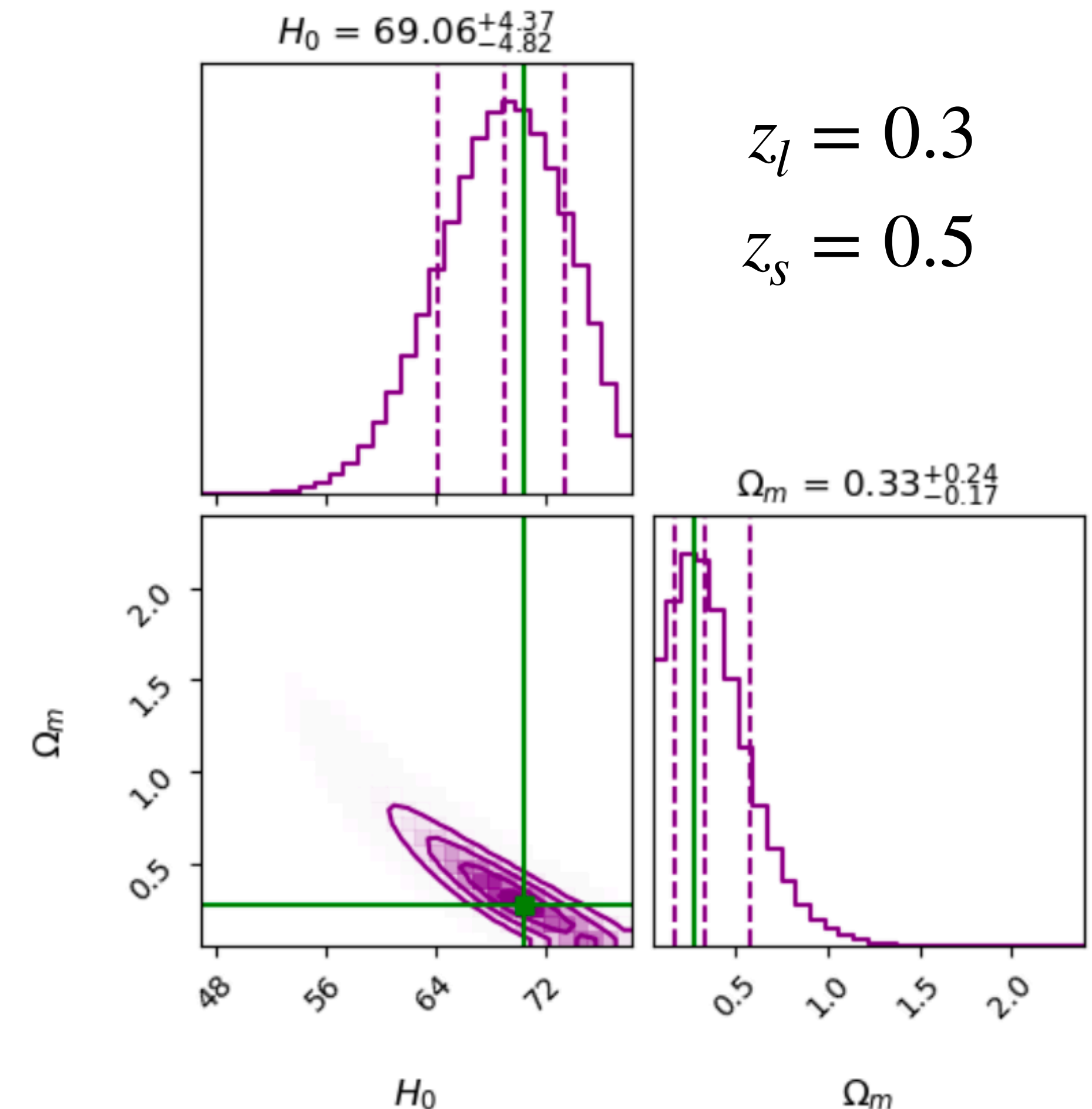
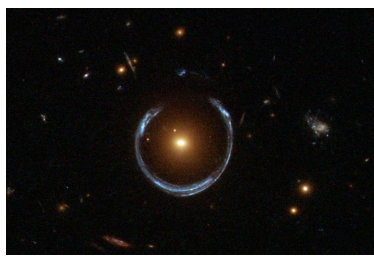


Image from Toscani et al. 2024



Weak lensing by LSS

Cutler 2009, Shang 2010, Mpetha 2022,
Balaudo et al. 2022

Large scale structures will induce small perturbations in the path of the propagating wave

Weak lensing will introduce some scatter in the measure of the luminosity distance

Combining bright and dark sirens with weak lensing gives better constraints

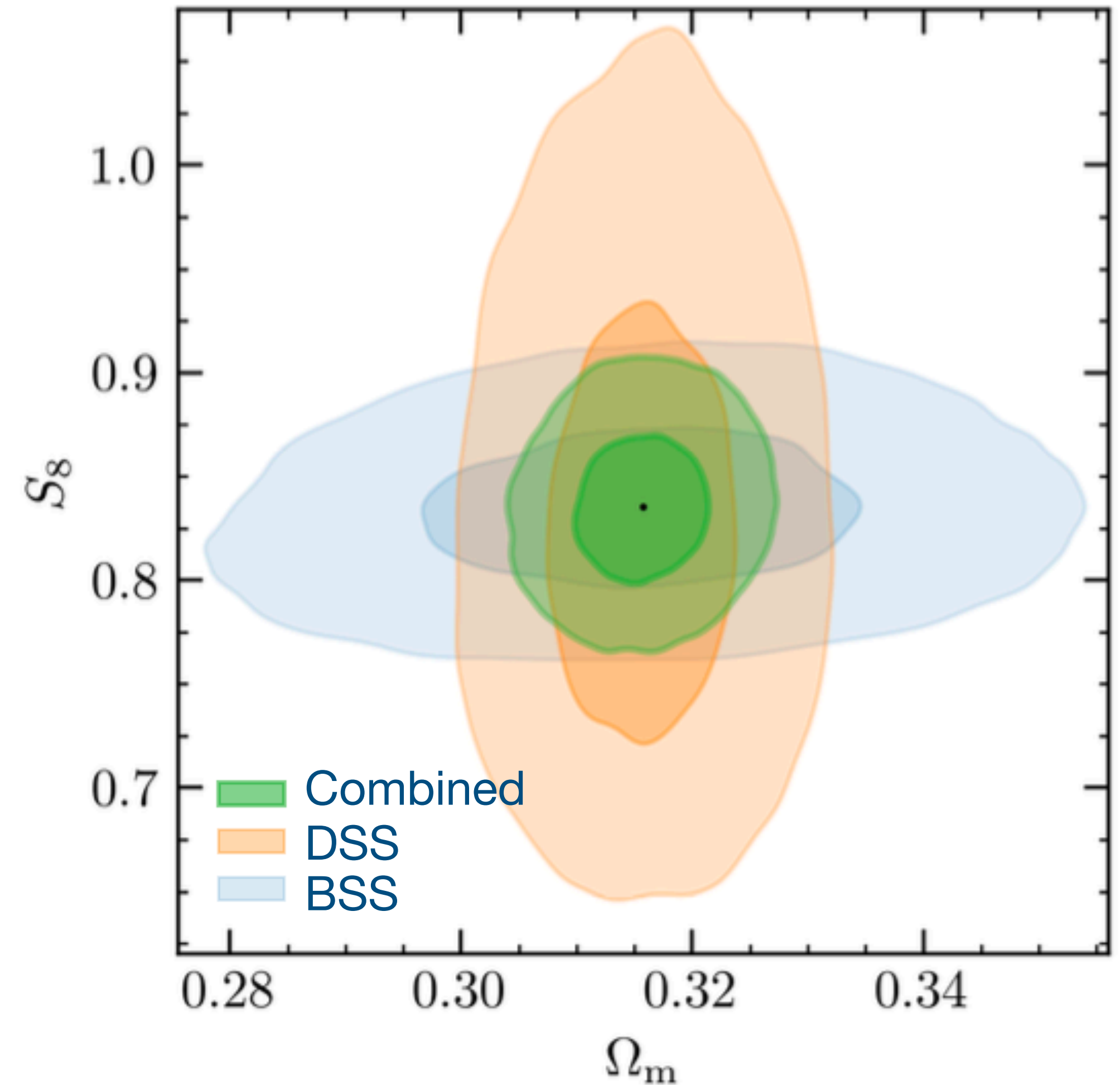
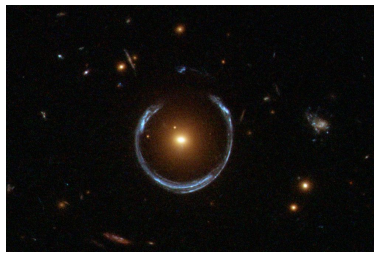


Image from Mpetha et al. 2022



Wave effects

Takahashi & Nakamura 2003, Gao et al. 2022, Caliskan et al. 2022, Garoffolo 2023

$$M_L \lesssim 10^8 M_\odot \left(\frac{f}{\text{mHz}} \right)$$

Lenses like BHs, stars..

Oscillatory behaviour due to interference of multiple images

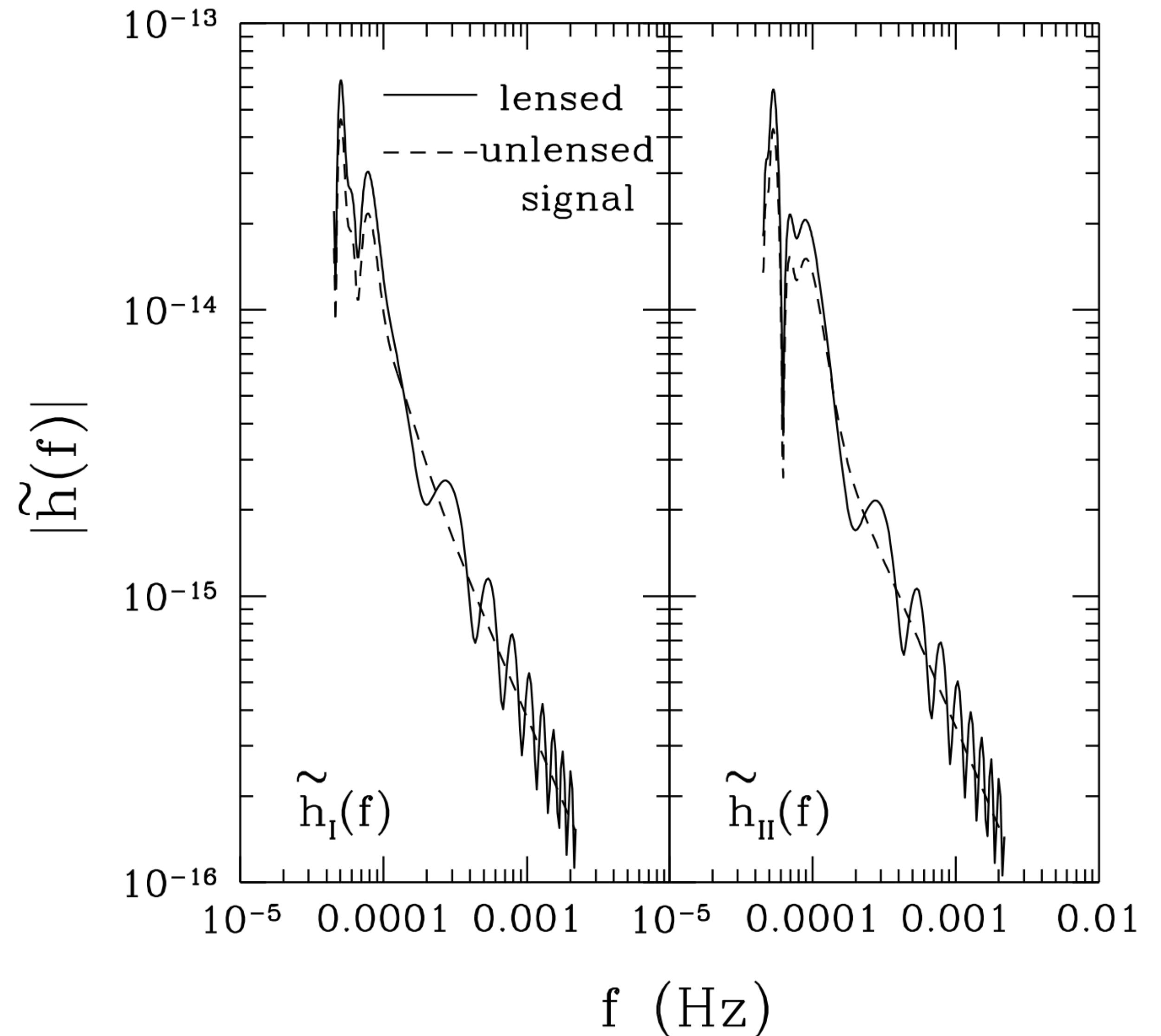
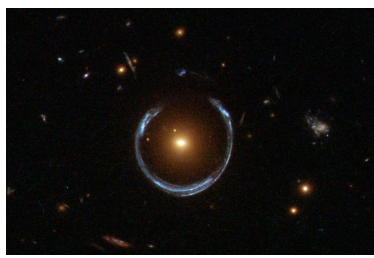


Image from Takahashi & Nakamura 2003



Conclusions

In the upcoming years we will see lensed GWs :-)!!

Important to recognise lensing effect to properly reconstruct astrophysical properties of the source population

Useful to constrain cosmological parameters

The End

Any questions ... ?