

*Gabriele Franciolini*

*Searching for primordial black holes  
at current and future GW detectors*



# Outline

- *Overview on Primordial Black Holes (PBHs)*
- *GW signatures of PBH mergers:*
  - *The predictions of PBH model*
  - *Individual events*
  - *Population analyses* } *current vs future  
GW detectors*

Based on [... , 2105.03349, 2112.10660] and refs. therein

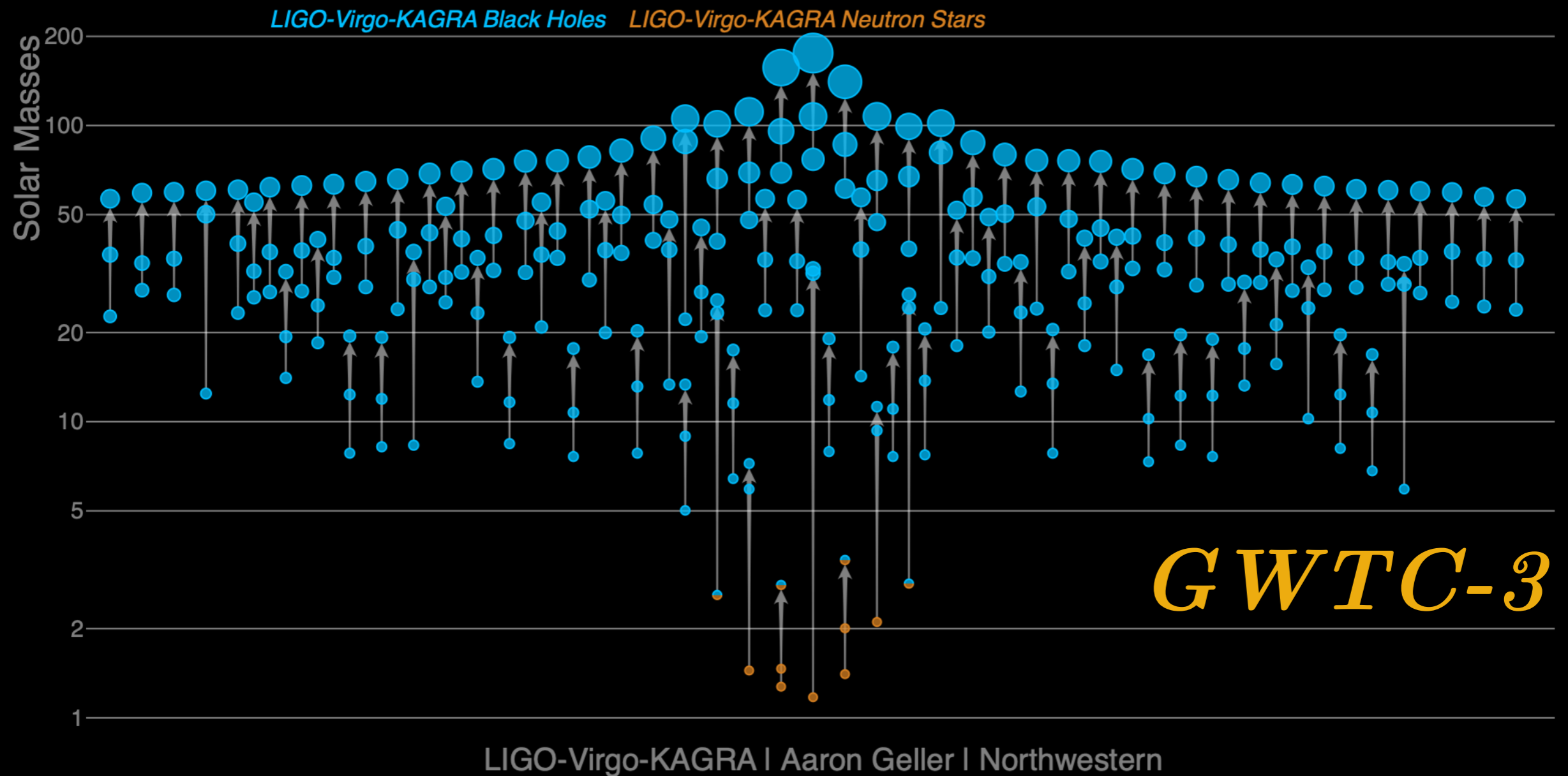
*In collaboration with:*

*V. Baibhav, E. Berti, R. Cotesta, V. De Luca, N. Loutrel,  
K. Ng, P. Pani, A. Riotto, S. Vitale, K. Wong*

# *Introduction*

# *Our universe is full of Black Holes*

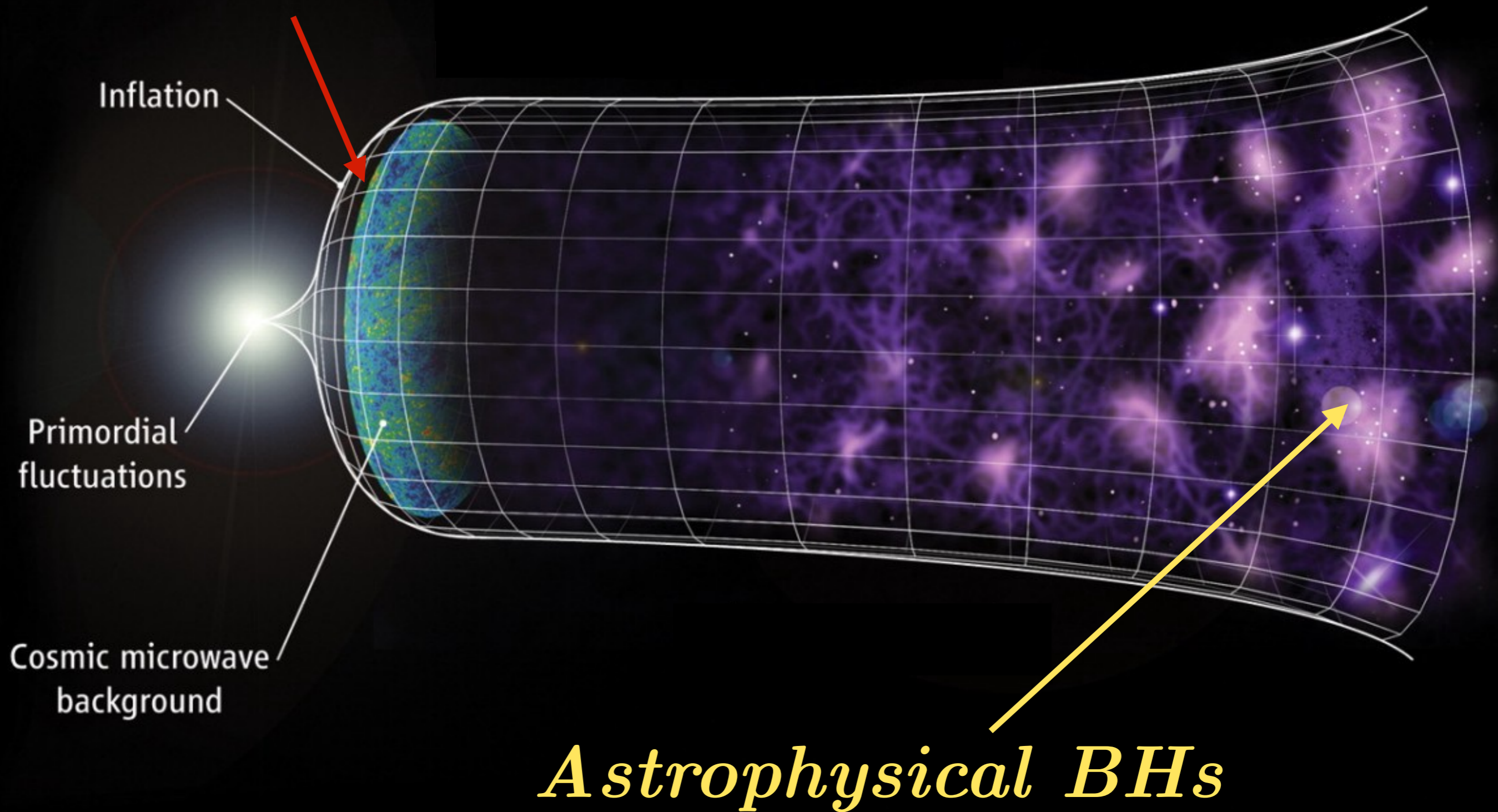
## Masses in the Stellar Graveyard



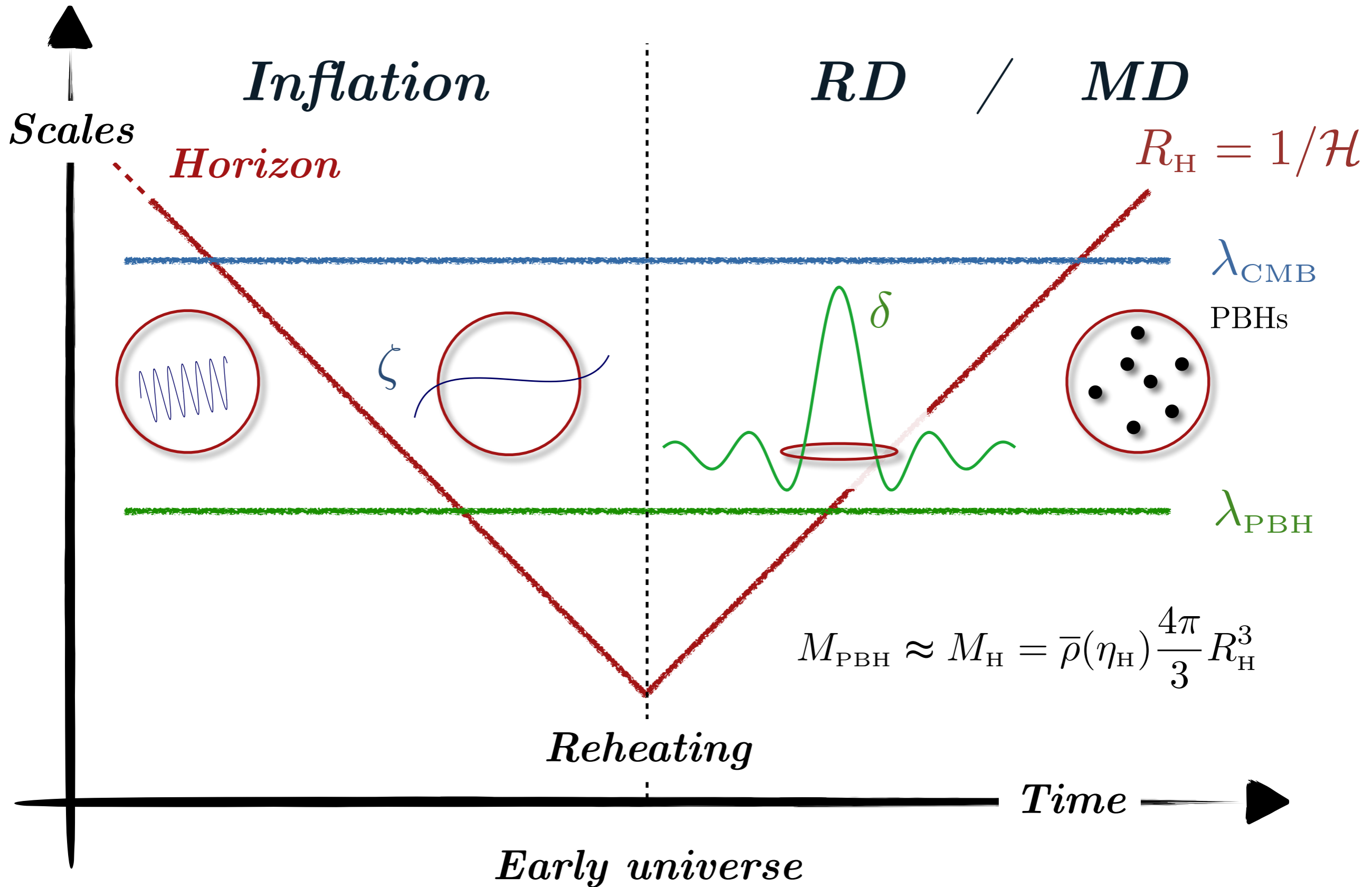
- *90 events (and counting),  $O(0.1-1)$  millions in the 3G era!*
- *How many formation channels? All of astrophysical origin?*

# *Where do they come from?*

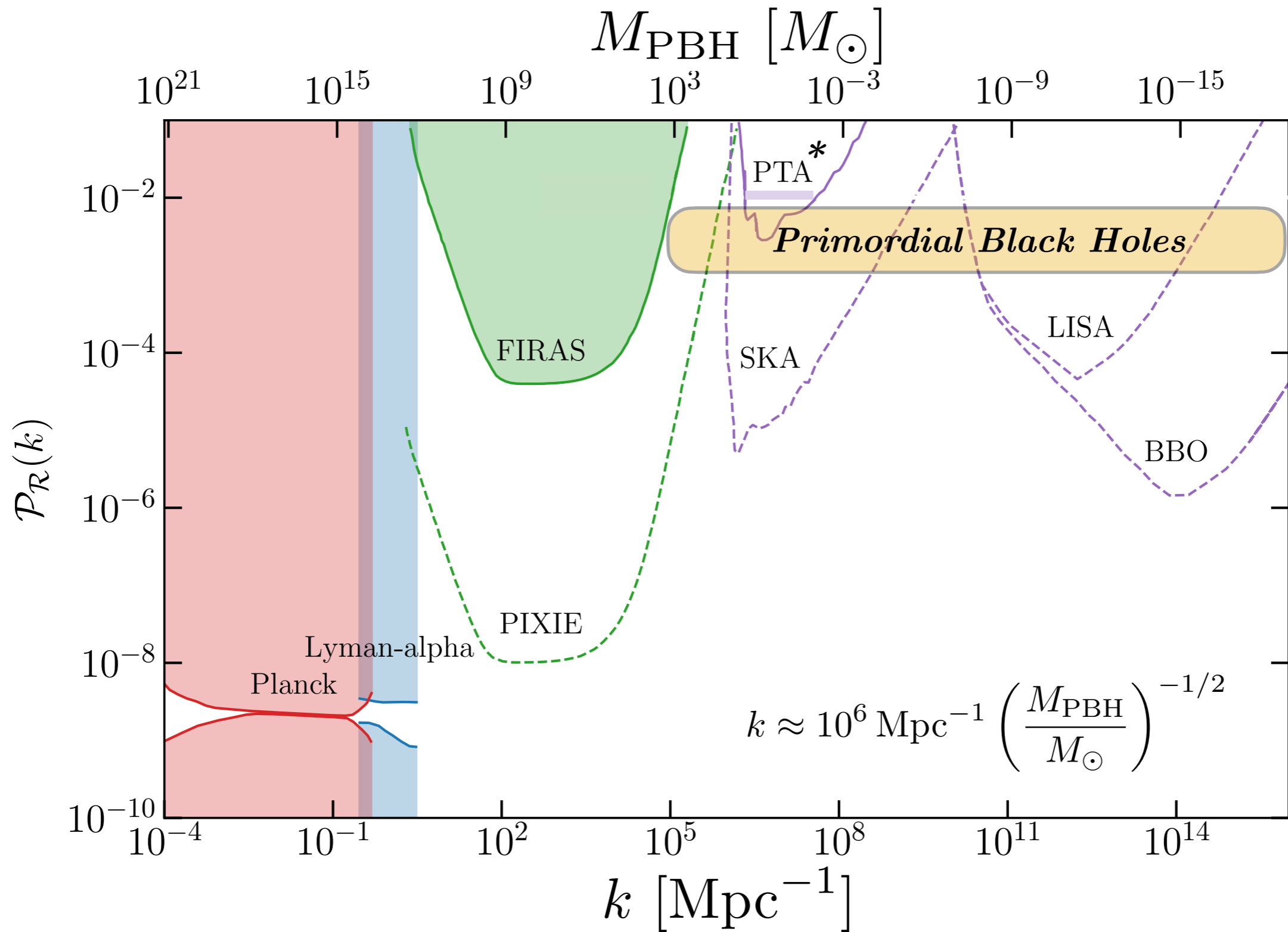
## *Primordial BHs*



# PBH formation timeline



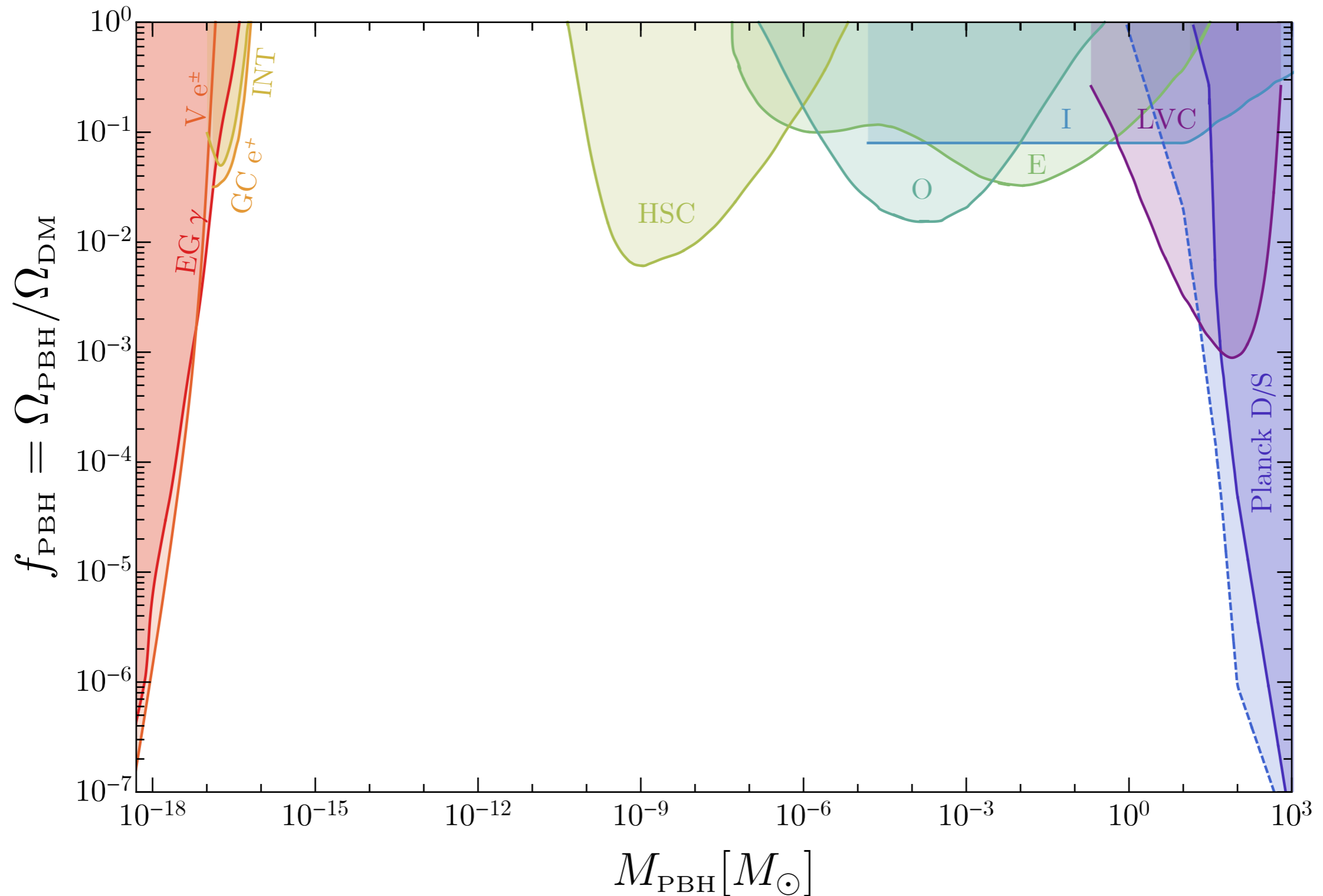
# Small scales - large amplitudes



Green-Kavanagh [2007.10722]

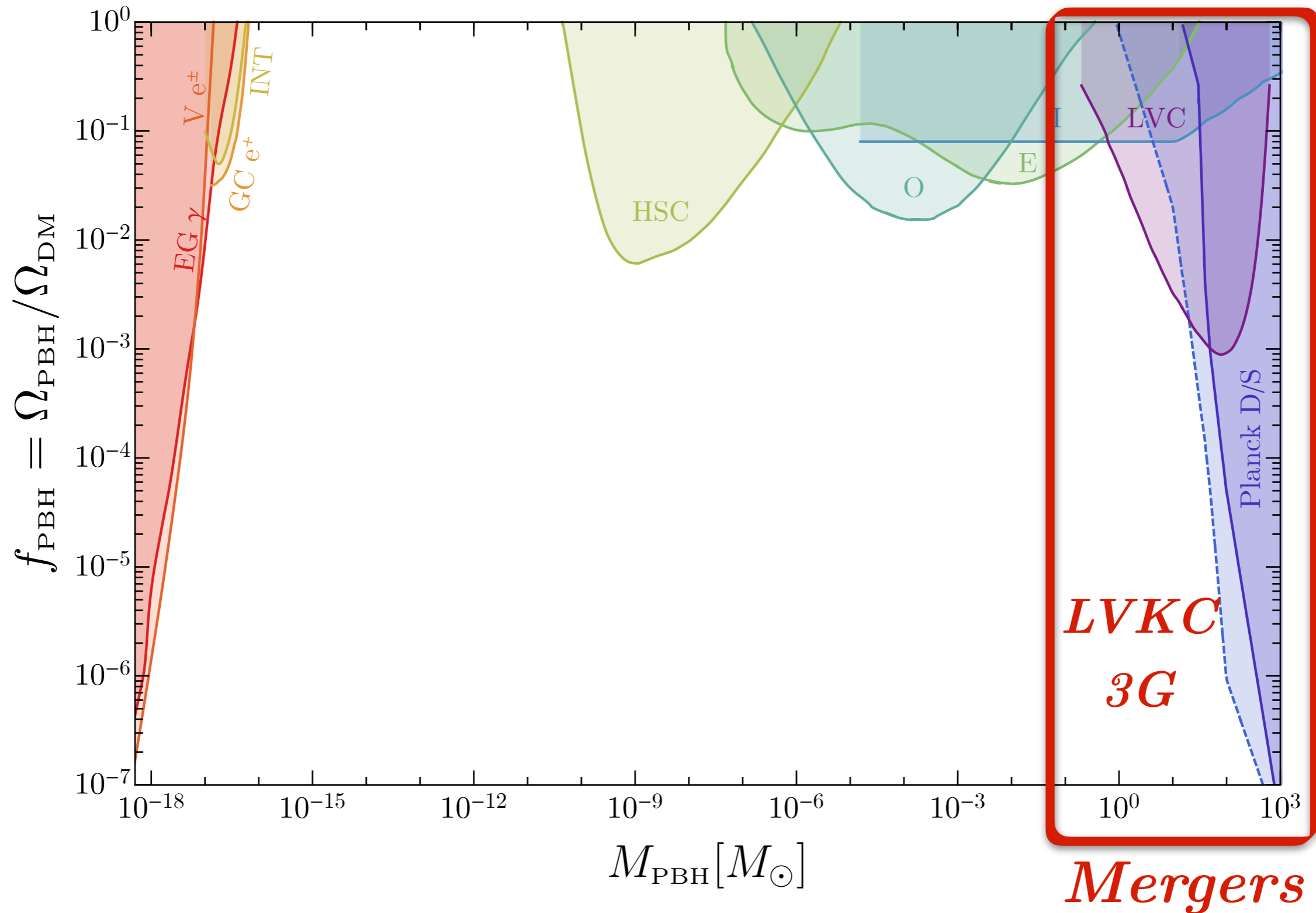
# Constraints on the PBH abundance

e.g. review: Carr et al [2002.12778]

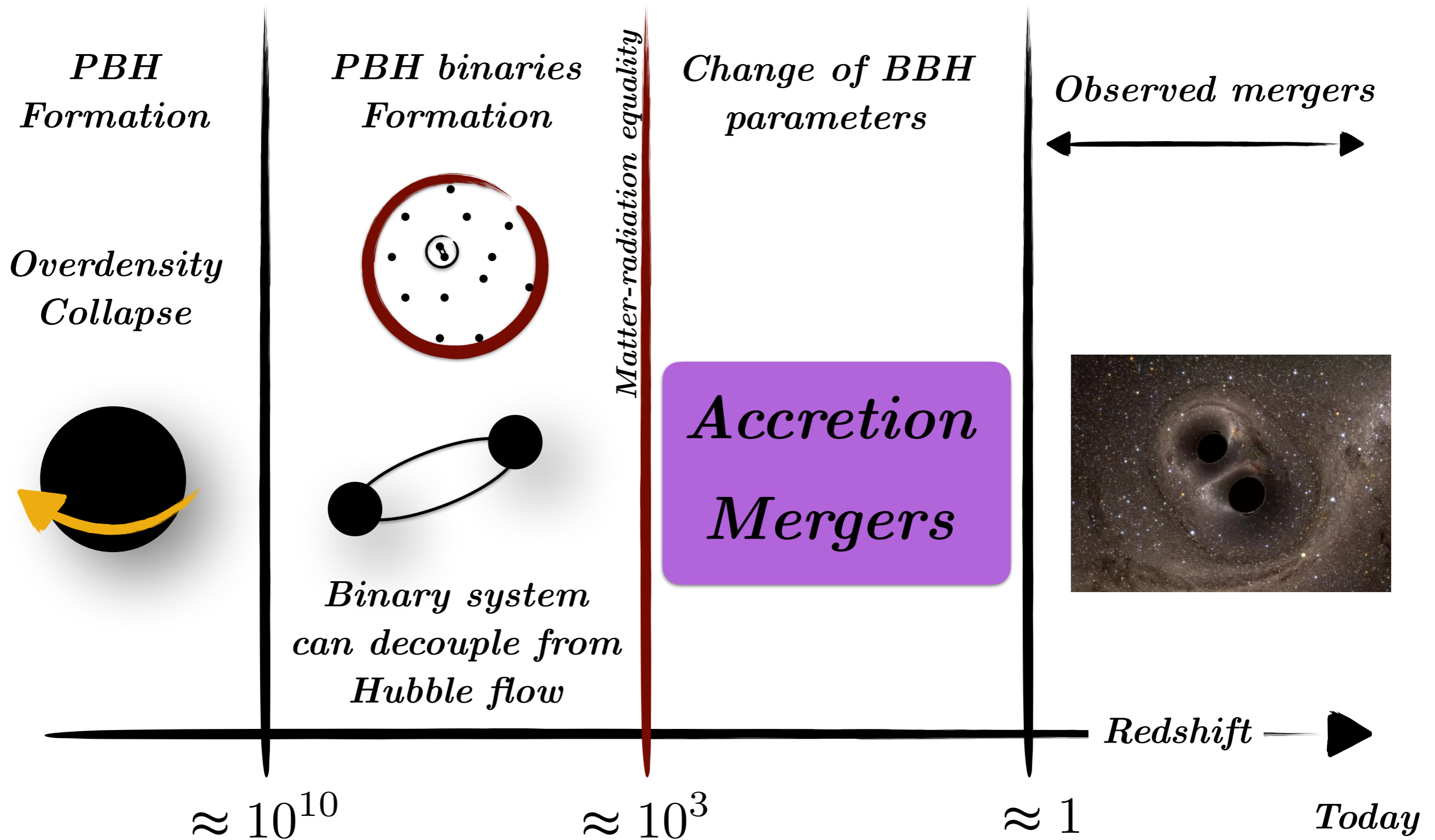




# Constraints on the PBH abundance

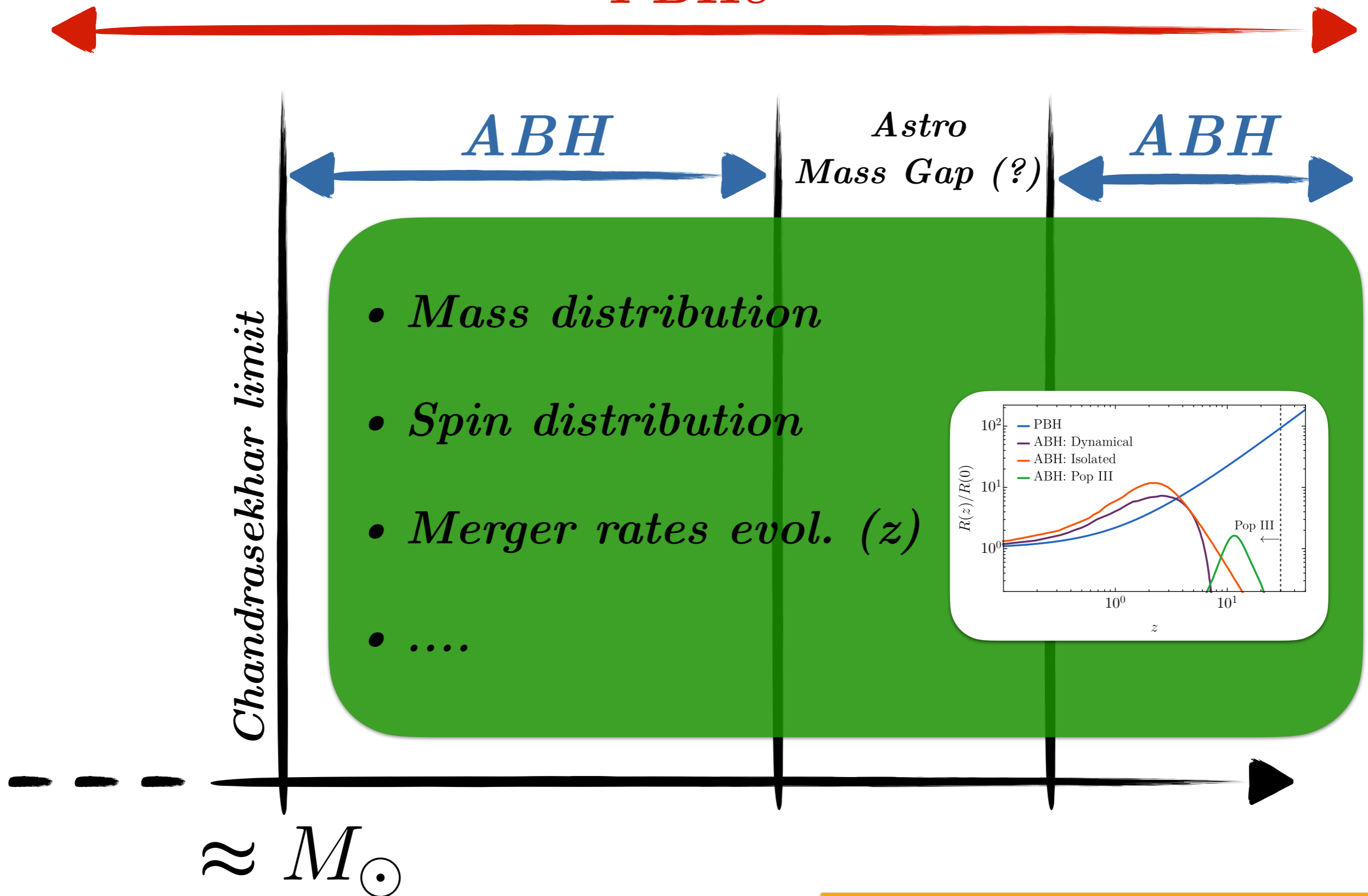


# The PBH timeline



# *Astro vs Primordial origin*

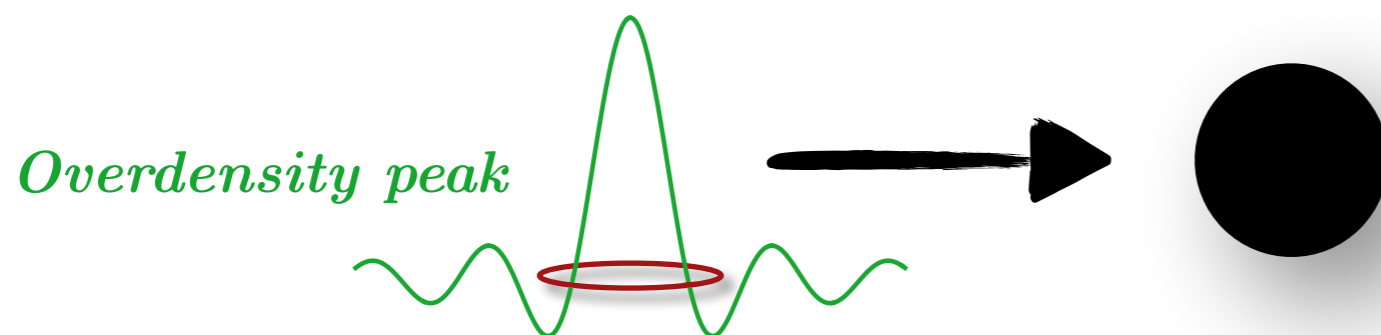
*PBHs*



# *Properties of PBH mergers*

# PBH Mass distribution

(review: Sasaki+[1801.05235])



- *Mass distribution depends spectrum and statistical properties of curvature perturbations:*
  - *No observational constraints*
  - *Theoretical expectations:*
    - No gaps in the mass distribution*
    - Minimum width due to critical collapse*
- *General parametrisation (recovering a large class of models):*

$$\psi(m) = \frac{1}{m\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left[-\frac{\log^2(m/M_c)}{2\sigma^2}\right]$$

$M_c$  : *central mass*  
 $\sigma$  : *width*

*(There may be interesting exceptions: QCD epoch reduces the threshold and boost formation of solar mass PBHs...)*

Jedamzik+ (1998), Byrnes (2018), ...

*May be relevant for light events at LIGO/Virgo*

GF, Musco, Urbano, Pani, to appear

COSMO 2022 Gabriele Franciolini 12

# PBH spins and accretion

- *Small spins at formation*

De Luca, G.F., Desjaques, Malhotra, Riotto JCAP(2019)

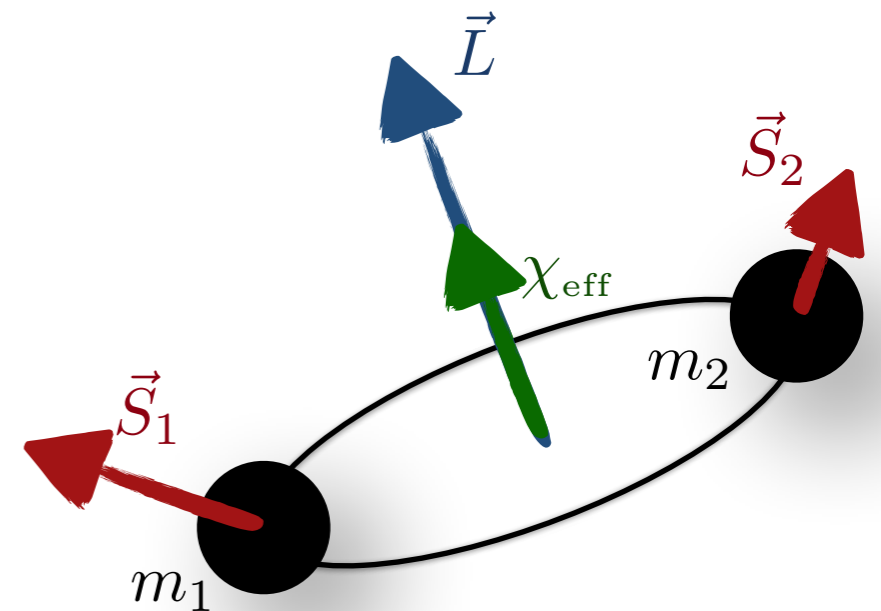
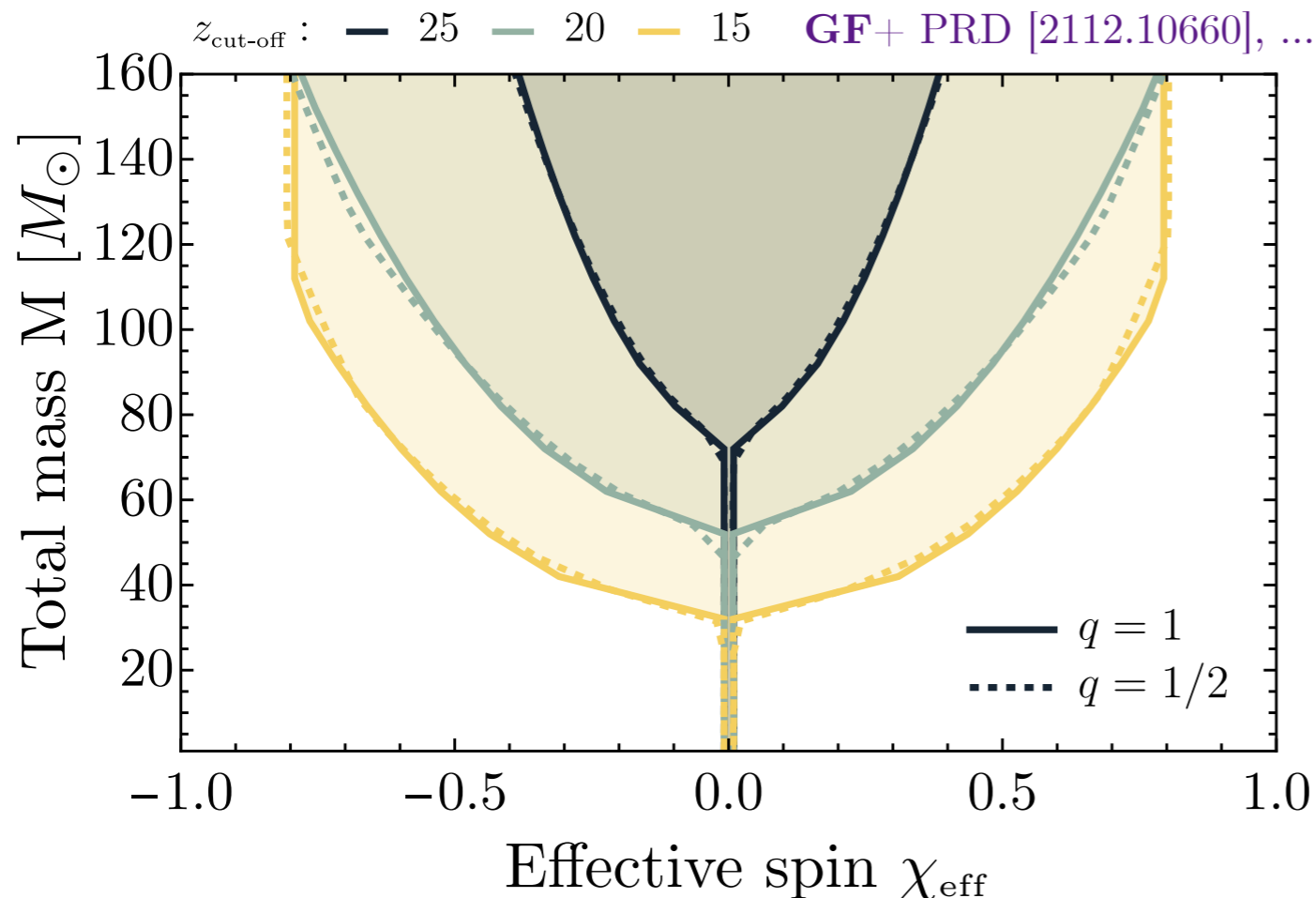
- *Baryonic disk accretion can spin-up PBHs*

(leading to uncorrelated spin orientations in binaries)

- *Large uncertainties over the efficiency and when it becomes negligible (around the reionization epoch)*

$$z_{\text{cut-off}} \approx 10 \div 30$$

$$\chi_{\text{eff}} = \frac{\vec{S}_1/m_1 + \vec{S}_2/m_2}{m_1 + m_2} \cdot \hat{L}$$



# *PBH abundance*

- *PBH abundance expressed in terms of the dark matter*

$$f_{\text{PBH}} \equiv \frac{\rho_{\text{PBH}}}{\rho_{\text{DM}}}$$

*(can be thought as a proxy for the average PBH number density)*

- *The abundance sets the merger rate:  $R \propto f_{\text{PBH}}^2$*  Raidal et al. JCAP (2019)

- *A PBH merger rate in the ballpark of LIGO/Virgo implies:*

$$f_{\text{PBH}} \approx 10^{-3}$$

Wong, G.F. et al. PRD (2021),  
Hutsi et al. JCAP(2021),

...

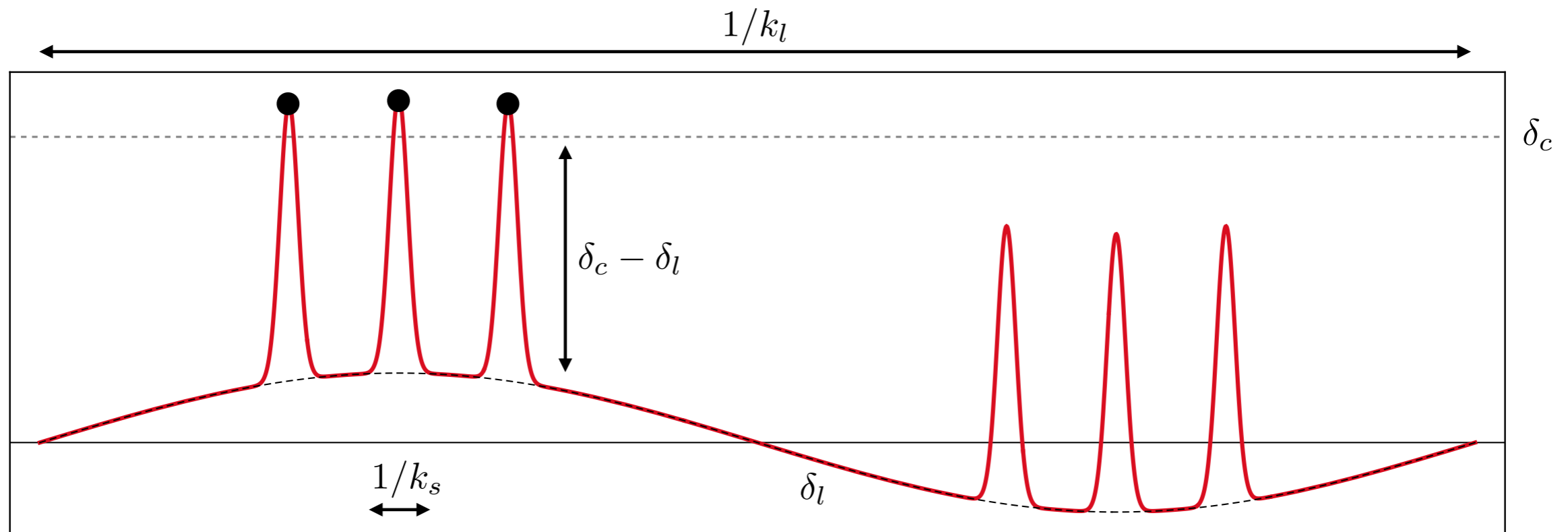
*$f_{\text{PBH}}$  : determines the PBH merger rate*

# PBH initial clustering

Tada-Yokoyama (2015), Young-Byrnes (2015), Desjacques-Riotto (2018), Ali-Haimoud (2018), ...

*In the standard scenario, PBHs are not clustered at formation*

$$\left\langle \frac{\delta\rho_{\text{PBH}}(\vec{x}, z)}{\bar{\rho}_{\text{DM}}} \frac{\delta\rho_{\text{PBH}}(0, z)}{\bar{\rho}_{\text{DM}}} \right\rangle = \frac{f_{\text{PBH}}^2}{n_{\text{PBH}}} \delta_{\text{D}}(\vec{x}) + \xi(\vec{x}, z)$$



*Bias induced by long modes suppressed for gaussian perturbations*

$$\delta_l \simeq \nu/\sigma (R_{\text{PBH}}/R_{\text{cl}})^2 \zeta(k_{\text{cl}}) \ll 1$$

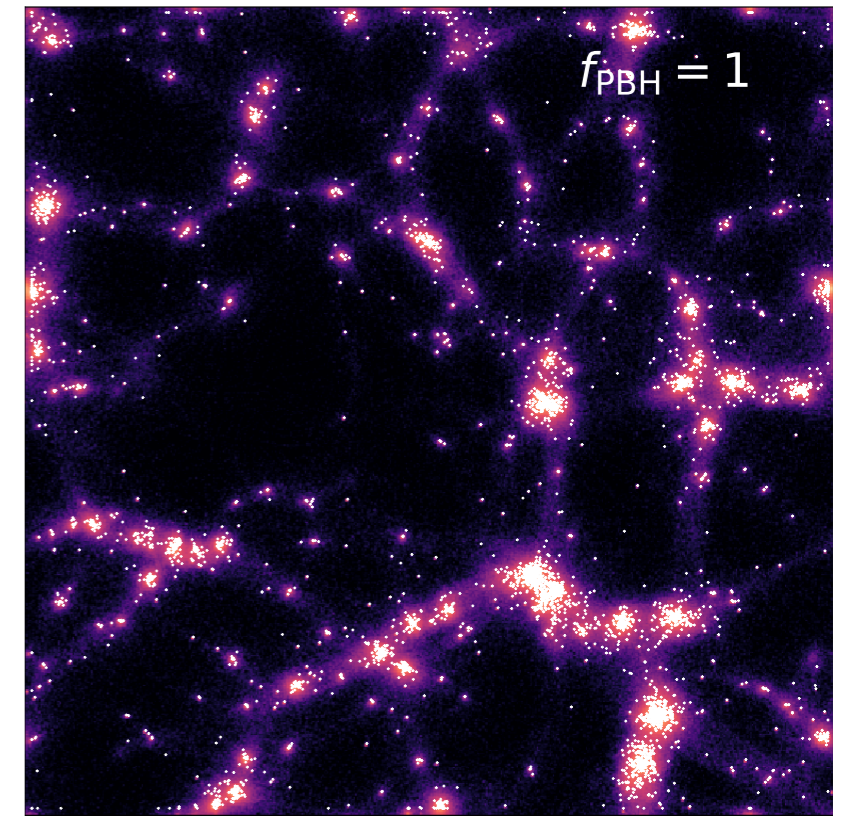
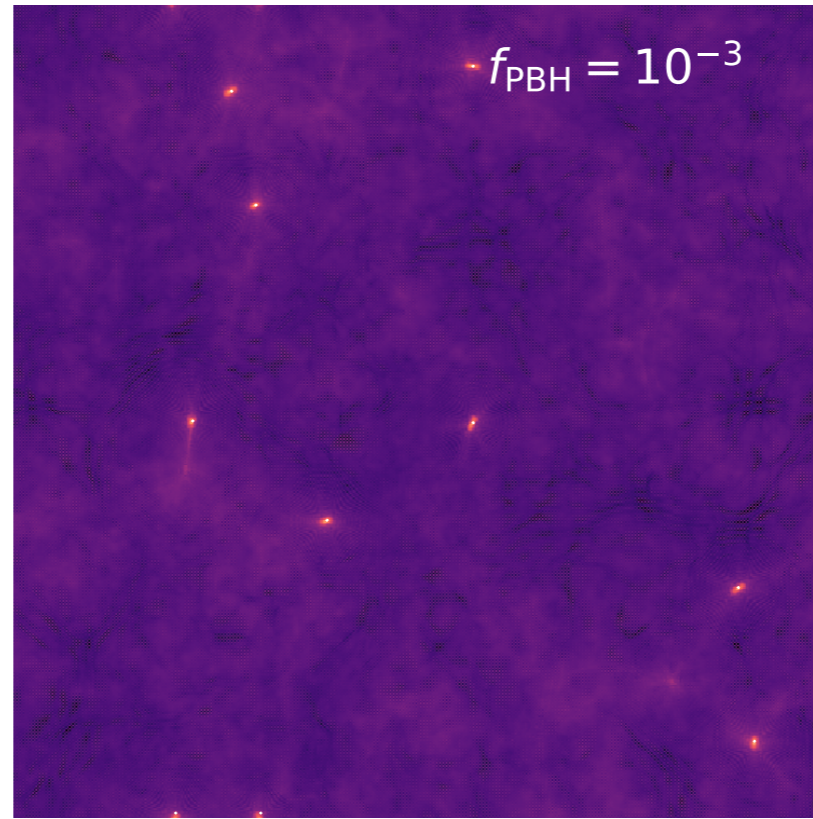
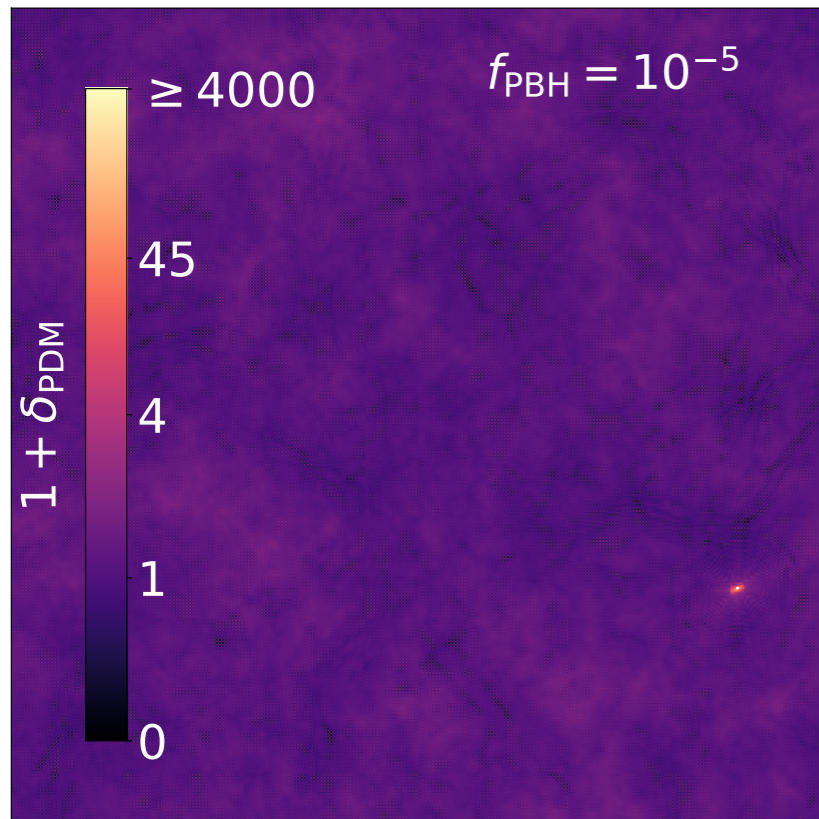


# *PBH Clustering evolution*

$z \approx 100$

*Cosmological N-body simulation*

Inman, Ali-Haïmoud PRD (2019)



- *Shot noise induce early small structures depending on  $f_{\text{PBH}}$*
- *PBHs isolated for:  $f_{\text{PBH}} \lesssim z \cdot 10^{-4}$*

*See (De Luca, Desjacques, GF, Riotto, JCAP [2009.04731]) for an analytic description*

# Merger rate

- *Initial spatial Poisson distribution*
- *Random decoupling of binary systems from the Hubble flow* Nakamura+ (1997), ...



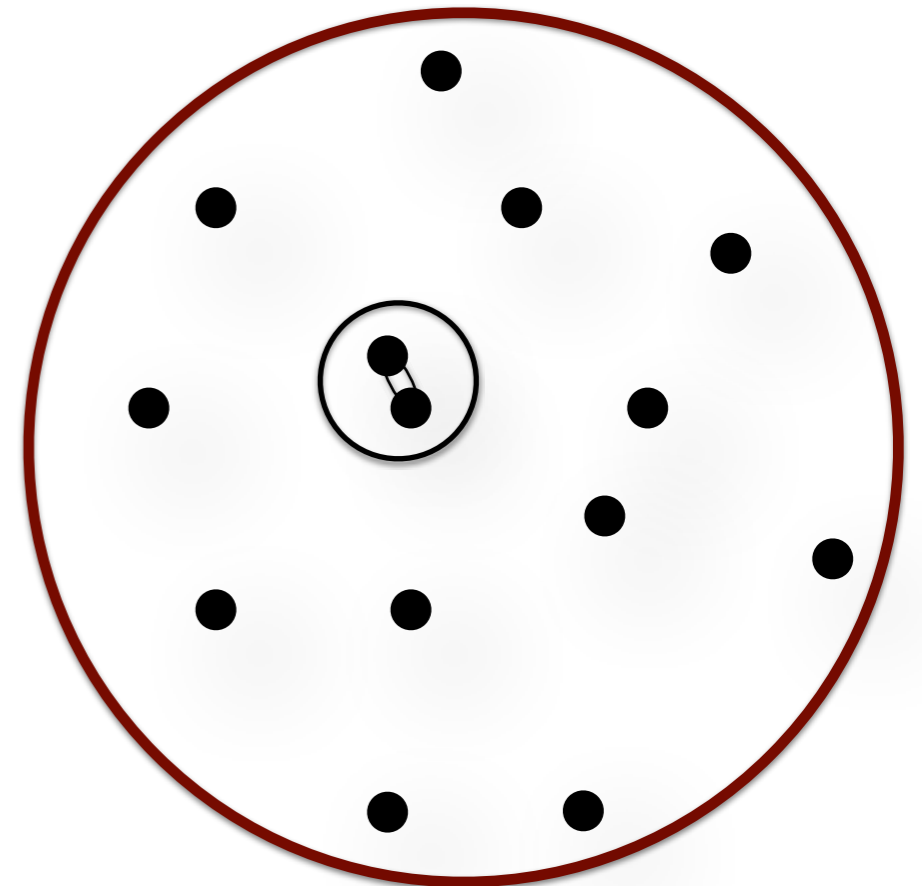
- *Binary formation happening before matter-radiation equality*
- *The distribution of initial semi-major axis and eccentricity determines the merger rate*

*(Peters' time-scale  $t_{\text{GW}} \propto a^4(1 - e^2)^{7/2}$ )*



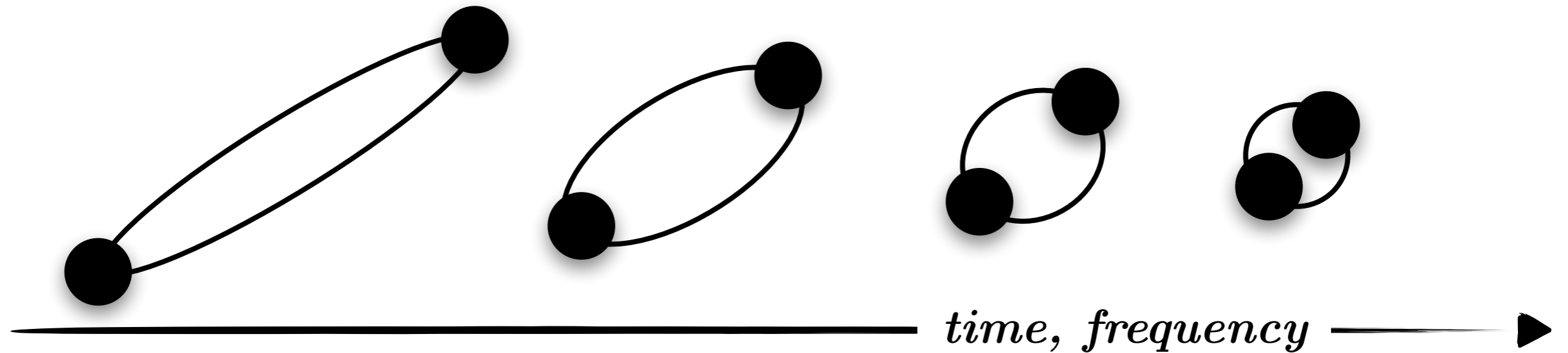
$$\frac{dR}{dm_1 dm_2} = \frac{1.6 \times 10^6}{\text{Gpc}^3 \text{ yr}} f_{\text{PBH}}^{\frac{53}{37}} \eta^{-\frac{34}{37}} \left( \frac{t}{t_0} \right)^{-\frac{34}{37}} \left( \frac{M_{\text{tot}}}{M_{\odot}} \right)^{-\frac{32}{37}} S(M_{\text{tot}}, f_{\text{PBH}}) \mathcal{A}_{\text{acc}}(m_j) \psi(m_1) \psi(m_2)$$

Ali-Haïmoud+(2017), Raidal+ (2018), De Luca, GF+ (2020), ...



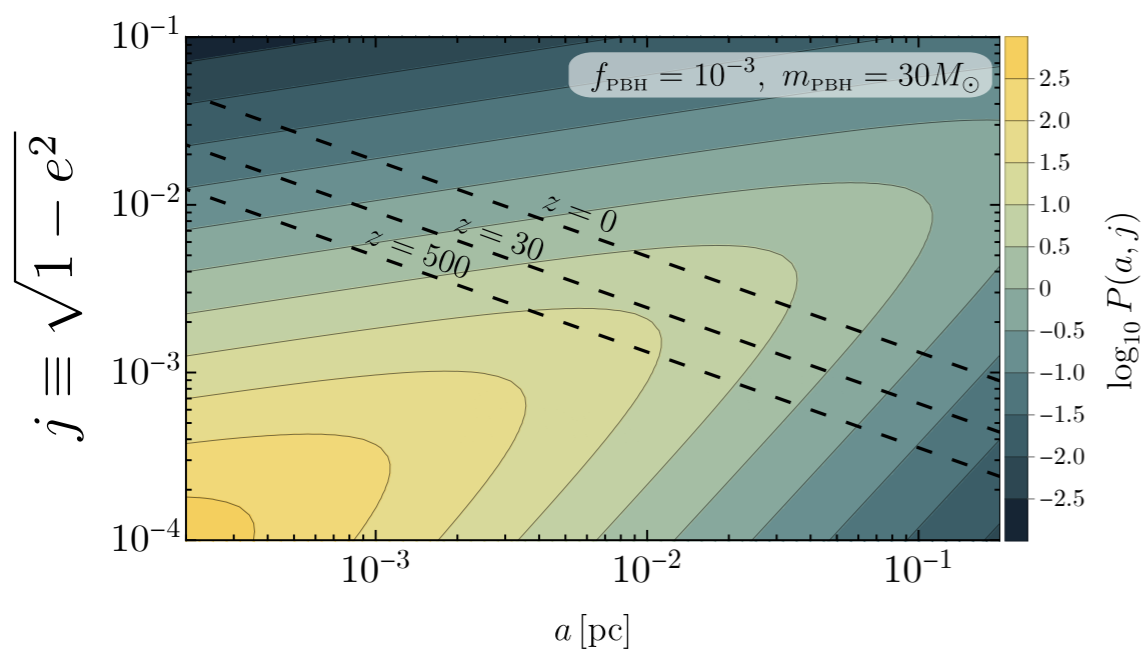
# PBH binary properties

*GW emission circularises the orbit*

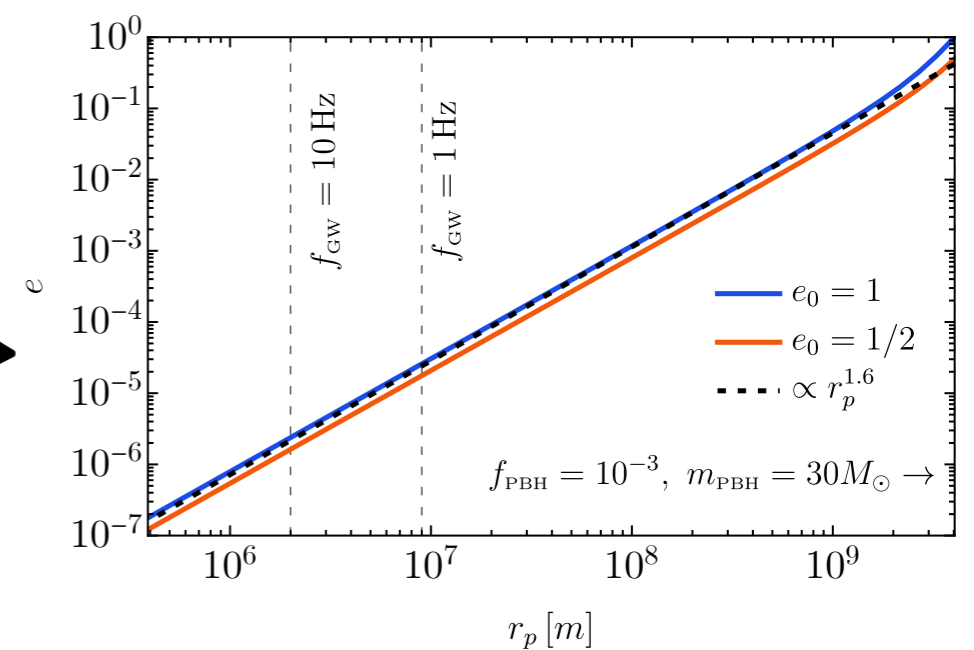


*Initial large eccentricity...*

*...lost before entering LVK band*



$$e \propto f_{\text{GW}}^{-19/18}$$

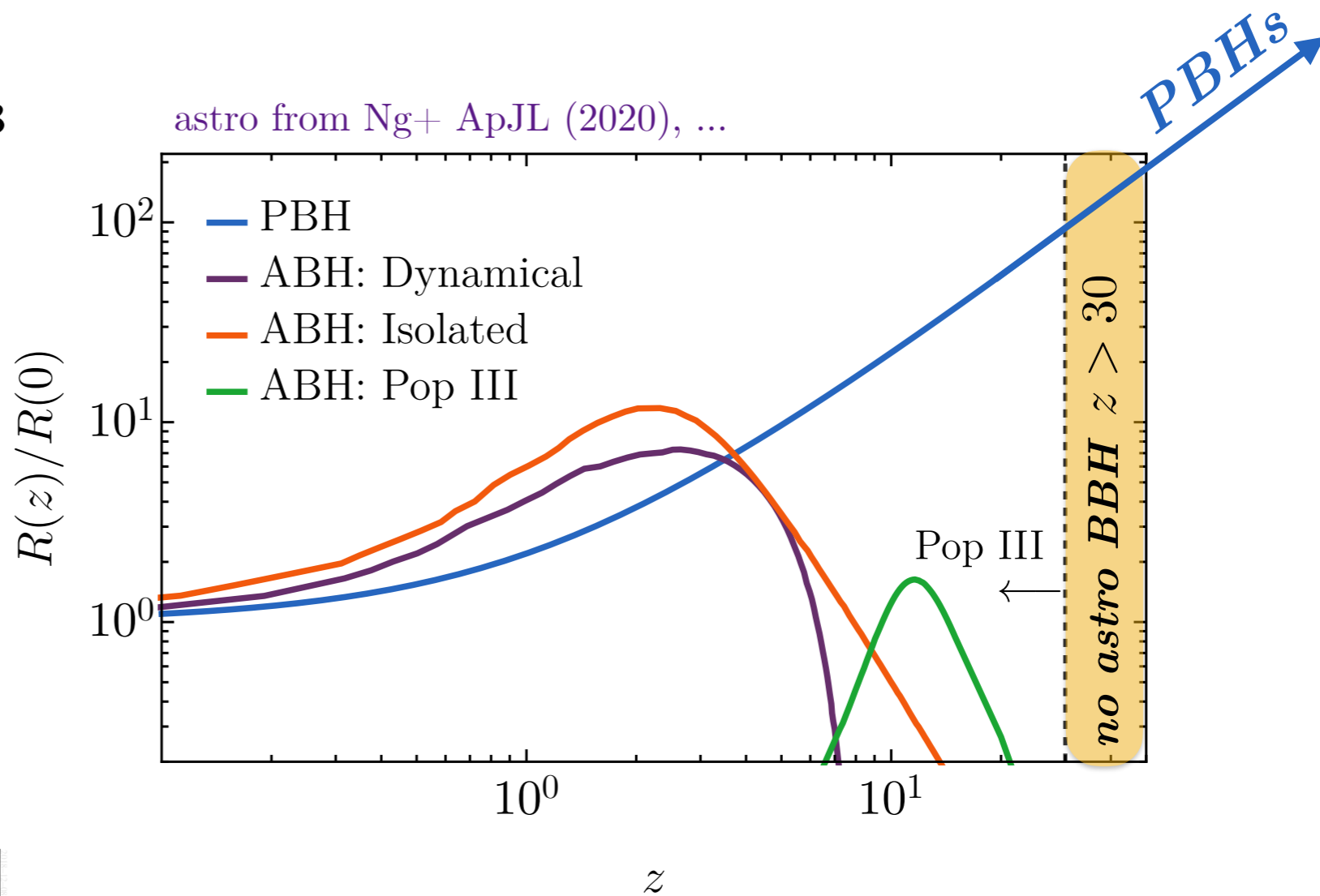


# Merger rate evolution

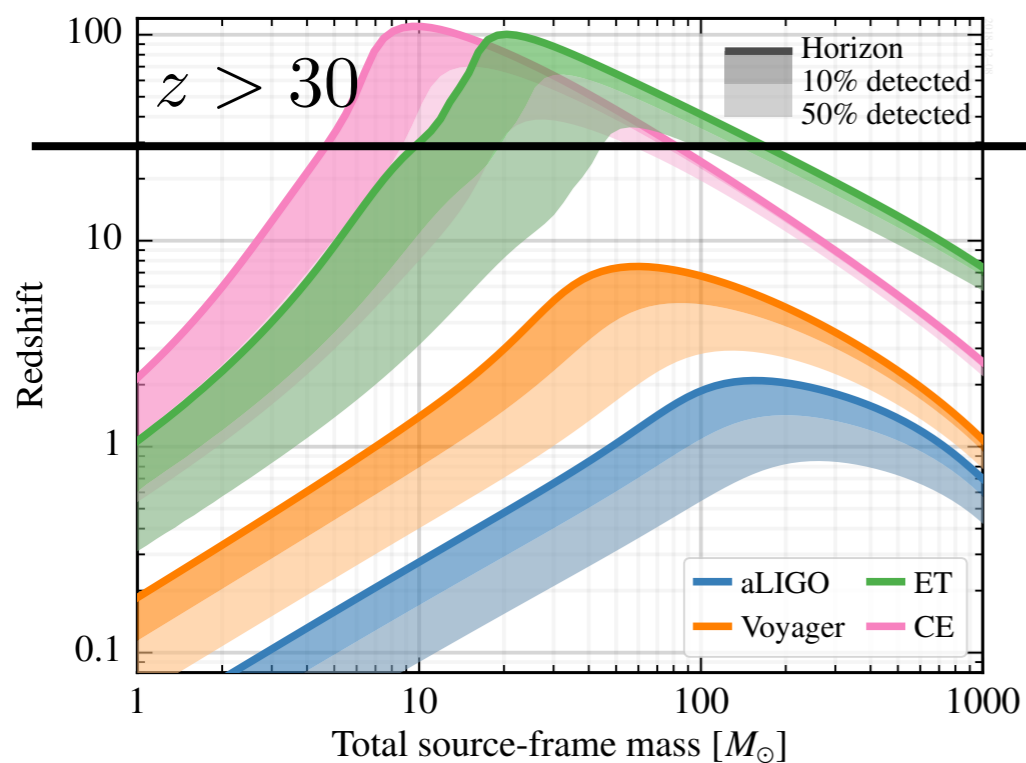
Monotonic growth up to  $z \gtrsim 10^3$

$$R \approx t^{-34/37}$$

astro from Ng+ ApJL (2020), ...



Hall, Evans (2019)

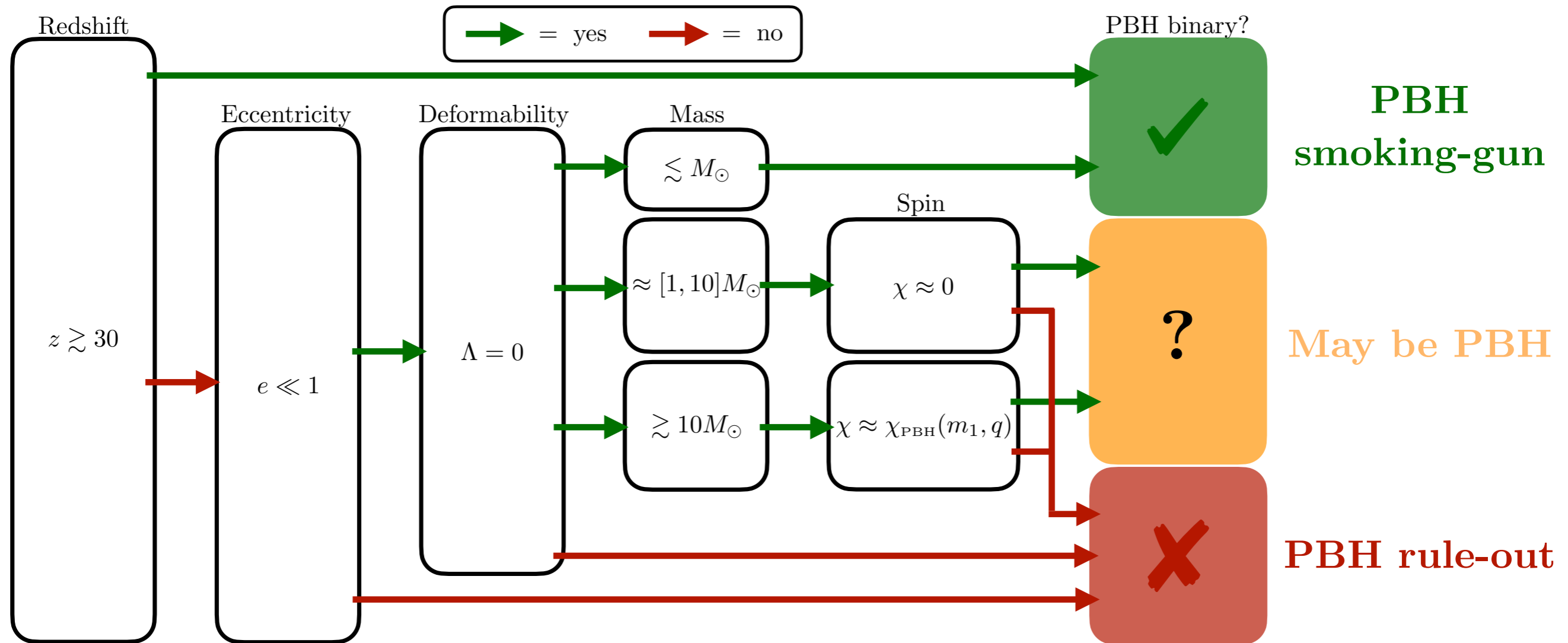


- *No astro contamination above redshift  $z \approx 30$*   
Nakamura et al (2016), Koushiappas, Loeb (2017), ...
- *3G detectors could observe these sources!*

# *PBHs vs individual events*

# Individual BH binary assessment

GF+, PRD [2112.10660]



~~unobserved~~

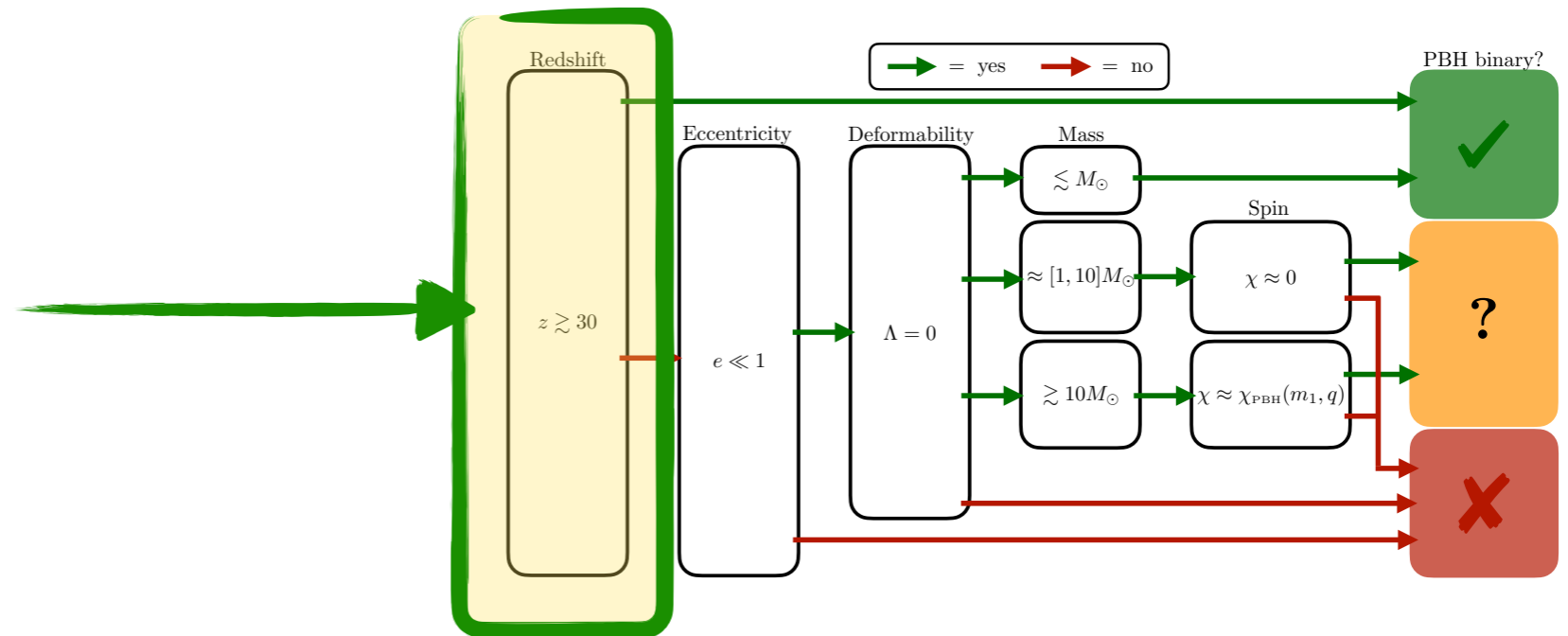
Poorly measured

GWTC-3  
 $\approx$  inconclusive

*Large precision improvements with 3G detectors!*

# High- $z$ smoking gun at 3G detectors

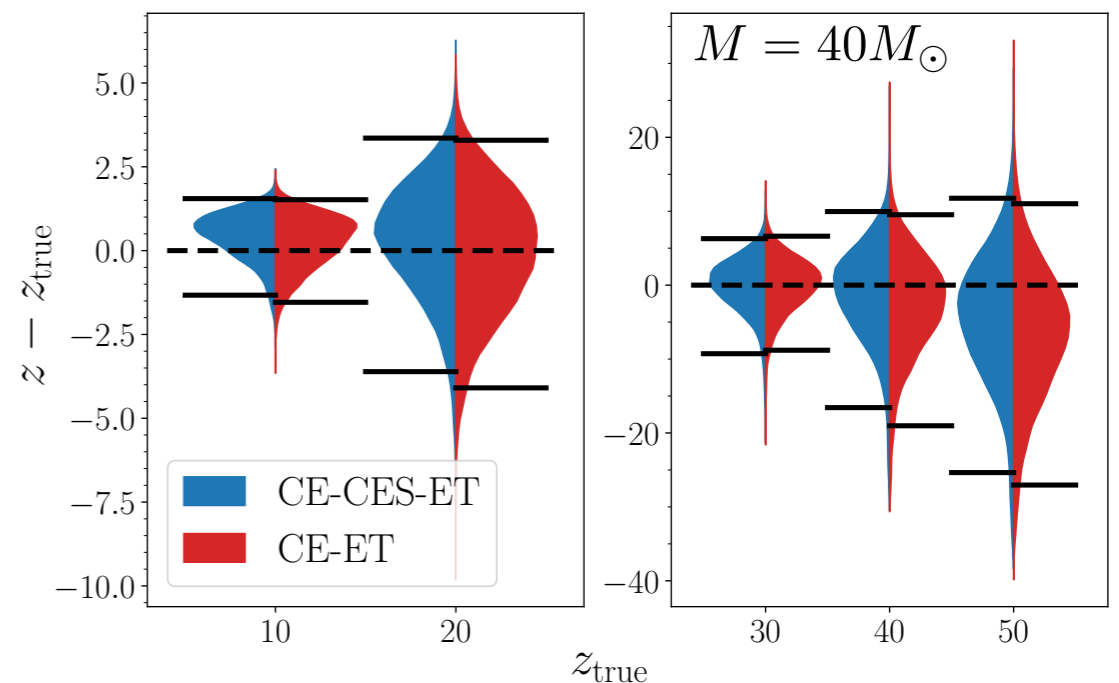
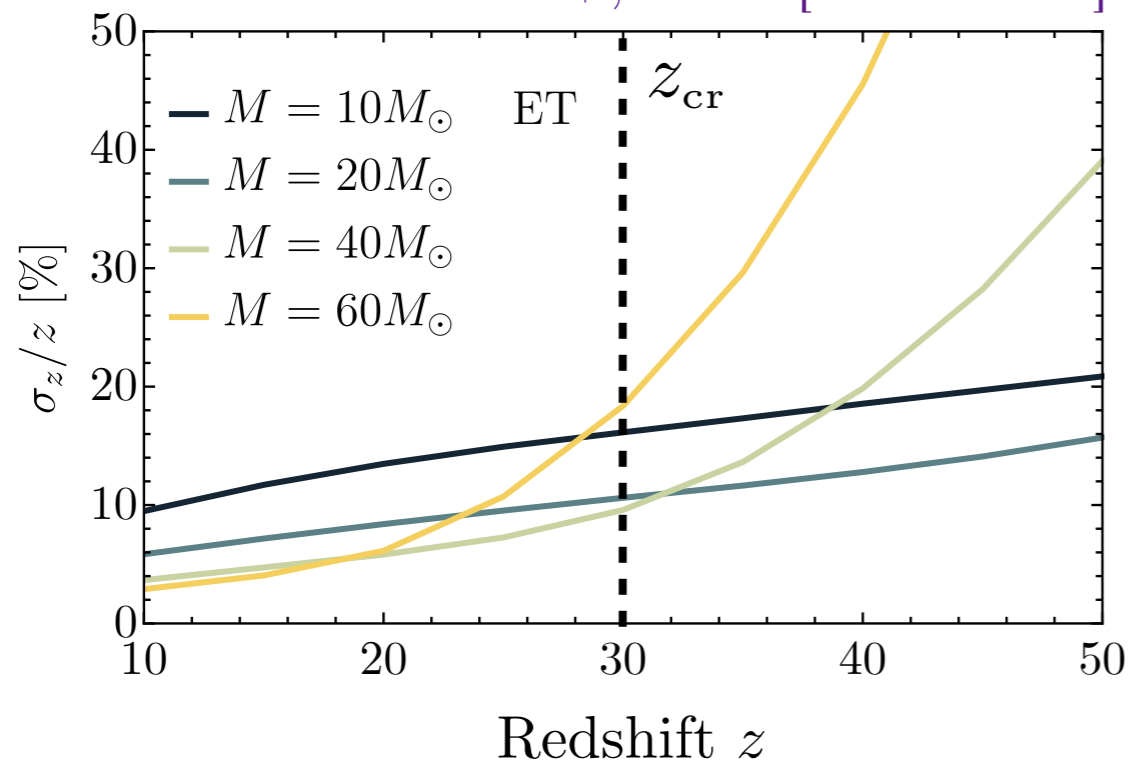
High redshift  
PBH smoking gun



- High redshift uncertainties and systematics

GF+, PRD [2112.10660]

Ng+, ApJL [2108.07276]

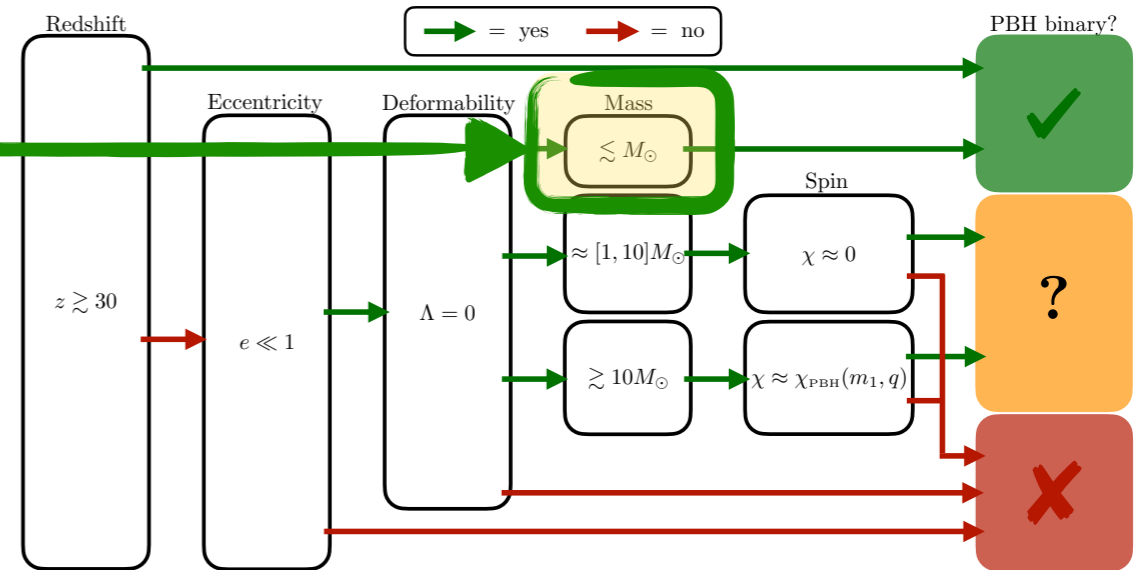


# Subsolar smoking gun at 3G detectors

## Subsolar mass PBH smoking gun

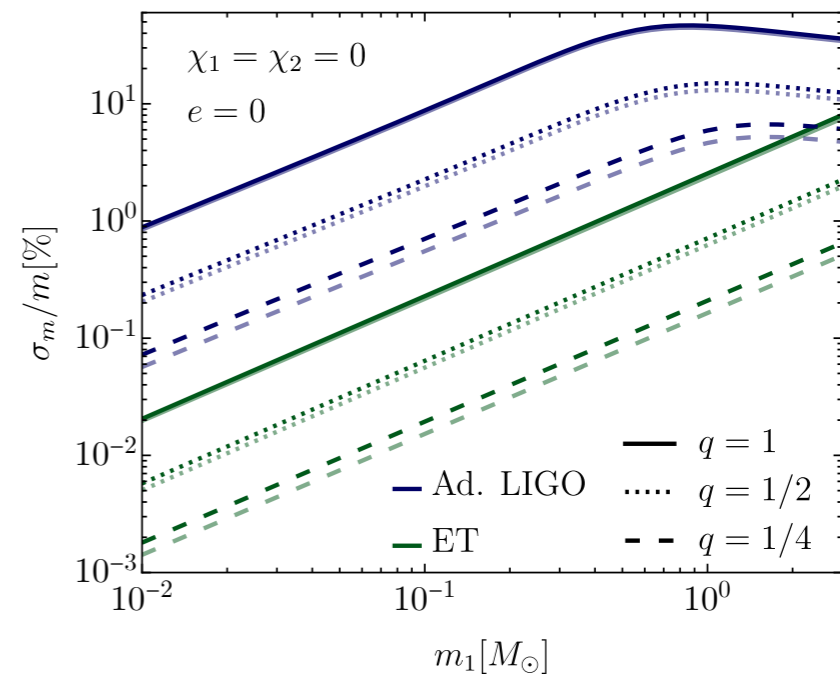
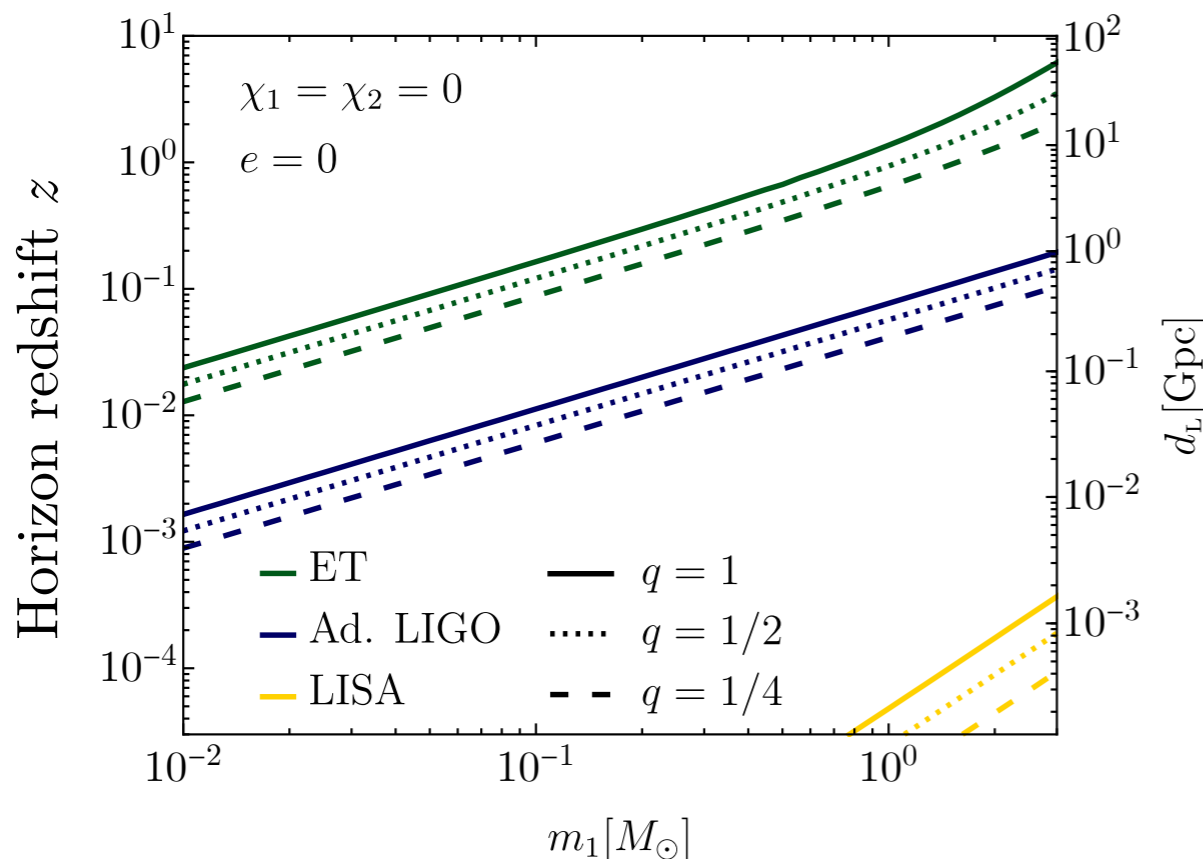
- Current searches limited by LVKC horizon

LVKC 2021, Nitz-Wang ApJ 2021



- 3G: up to redshift  $z \approx 1$  and sub-percent precision on mass

GF+, PRD [2112.10660]

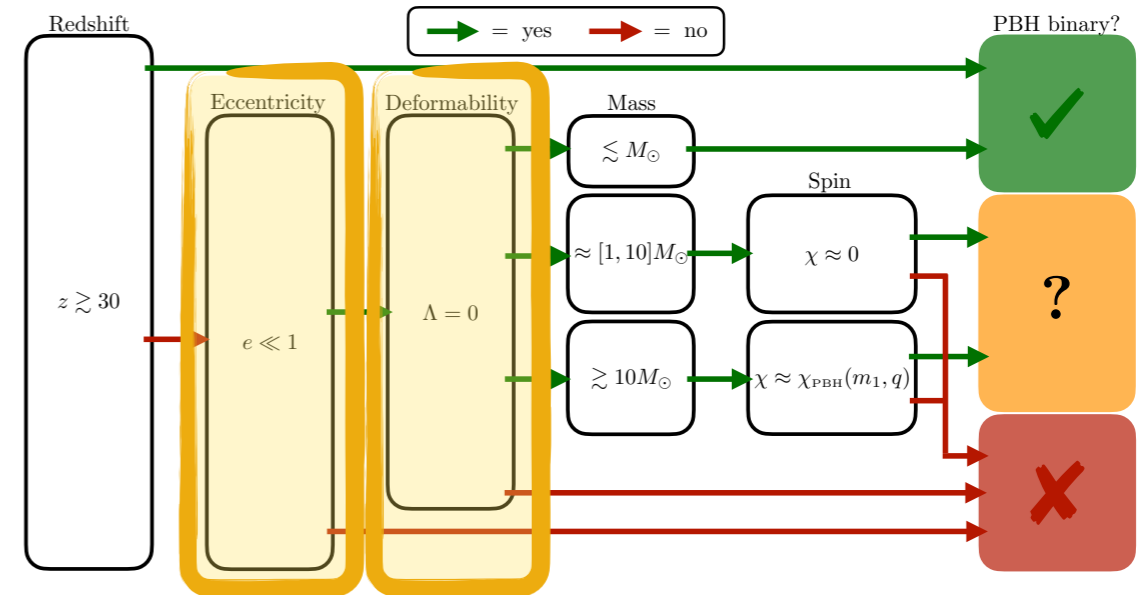




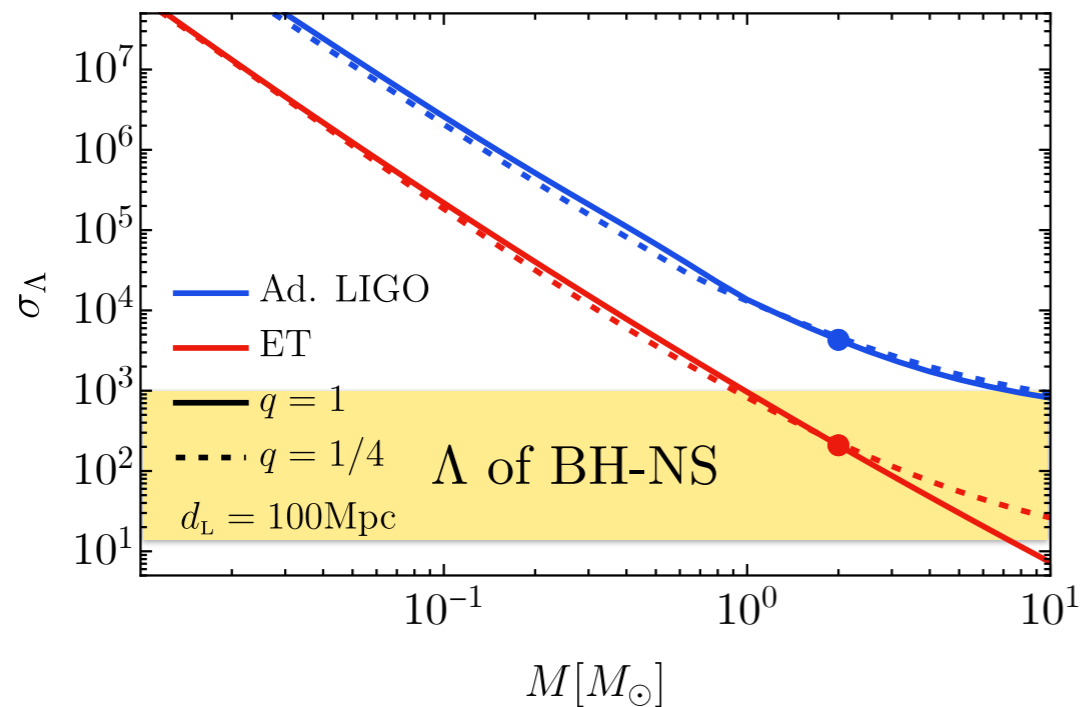
# Individual BH binary assessment

GF+, PRD [2112.10660]

*Large precision improvements  
with 3G detectors!*

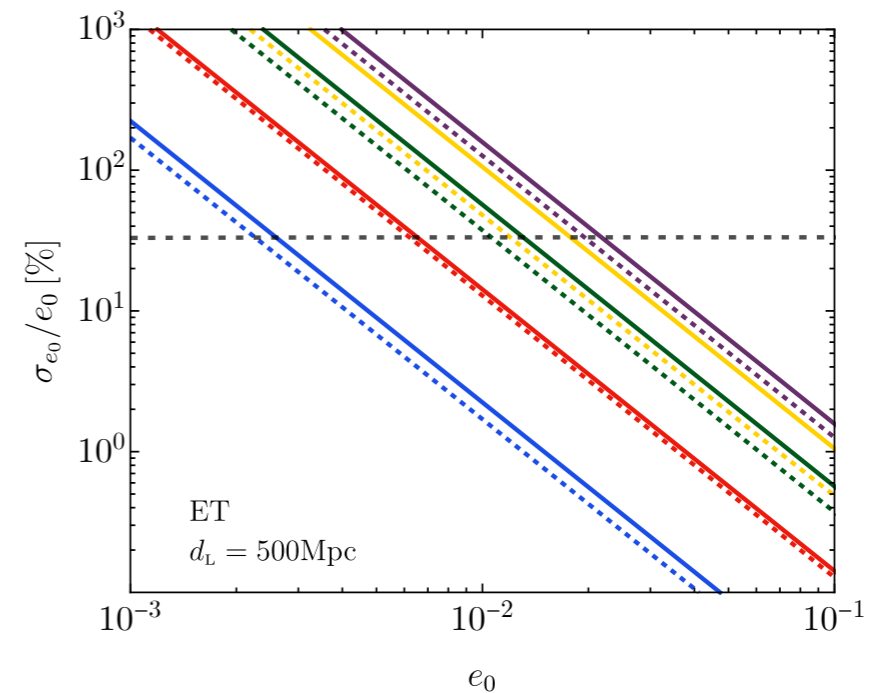


## Tidal deformability



*(help disentangle PBHs from NS)*

## Eccentricity



*(help disentangle PBHs from ABHs dynamical)*

*(+ mass-spin relation ...)*

# *Population analyses*

# Searching for mass-spin correlations

GF&Pani, PRD [2201.13098]

- *Robust feature of various channels: spin distribution*

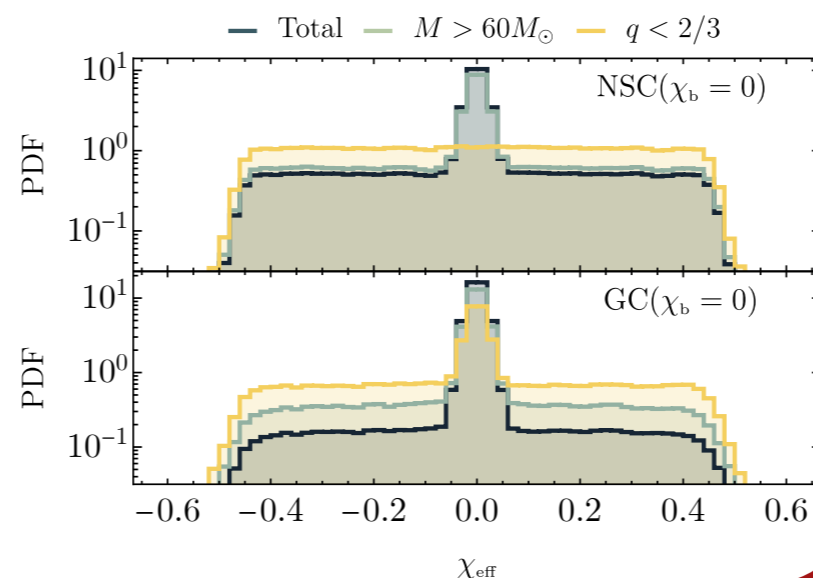
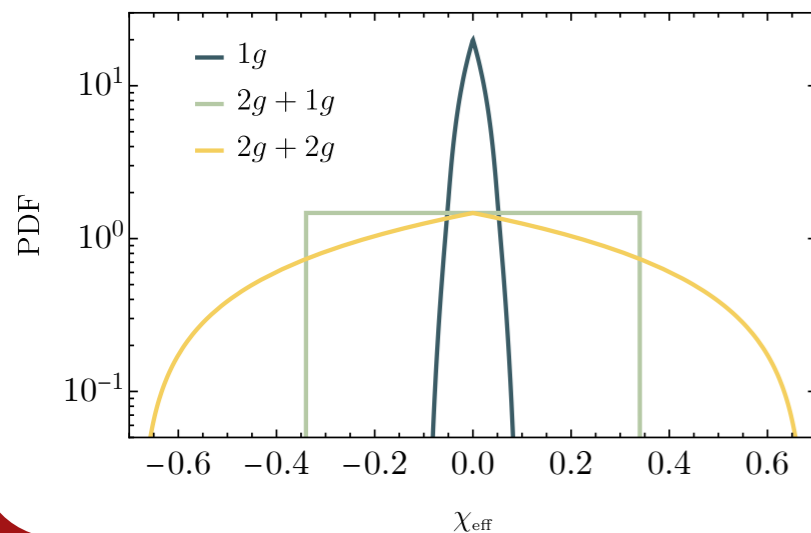
$$\chi_{\text{eff}} = \frac{\chi_1^z + q\chi_2^z}{1 + q}$$

- *Isolated channel:*  $\chi_{\text{eff}} \geq 0$

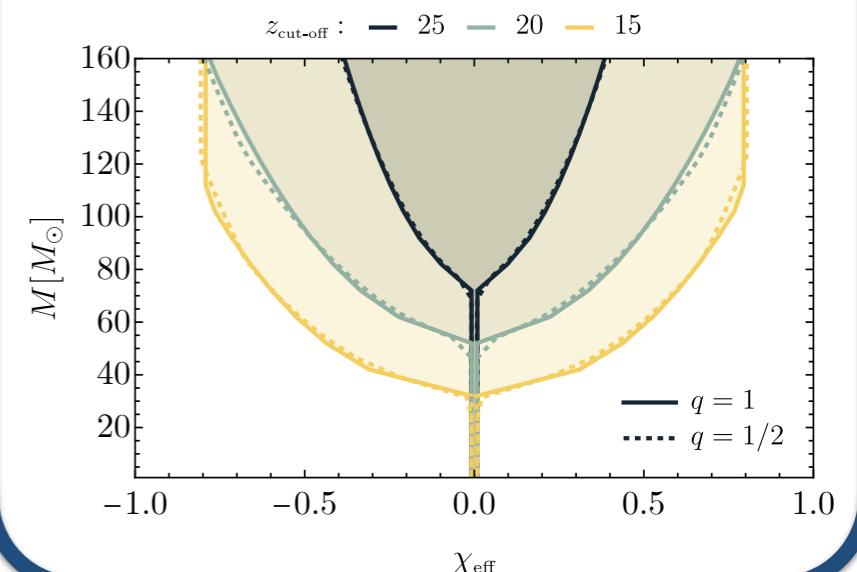
- *Dynamical channel:* symmetric  $\chi_{\text{eff}}(M, q)$

- *Primordial (PBH) channel:* symmetric  $\chi_{\text{eff}}(M)$

## Dynamical channel



## PBHs



# Searching for mass-spin correlations

GF&Pani, PRD [2201.13098]

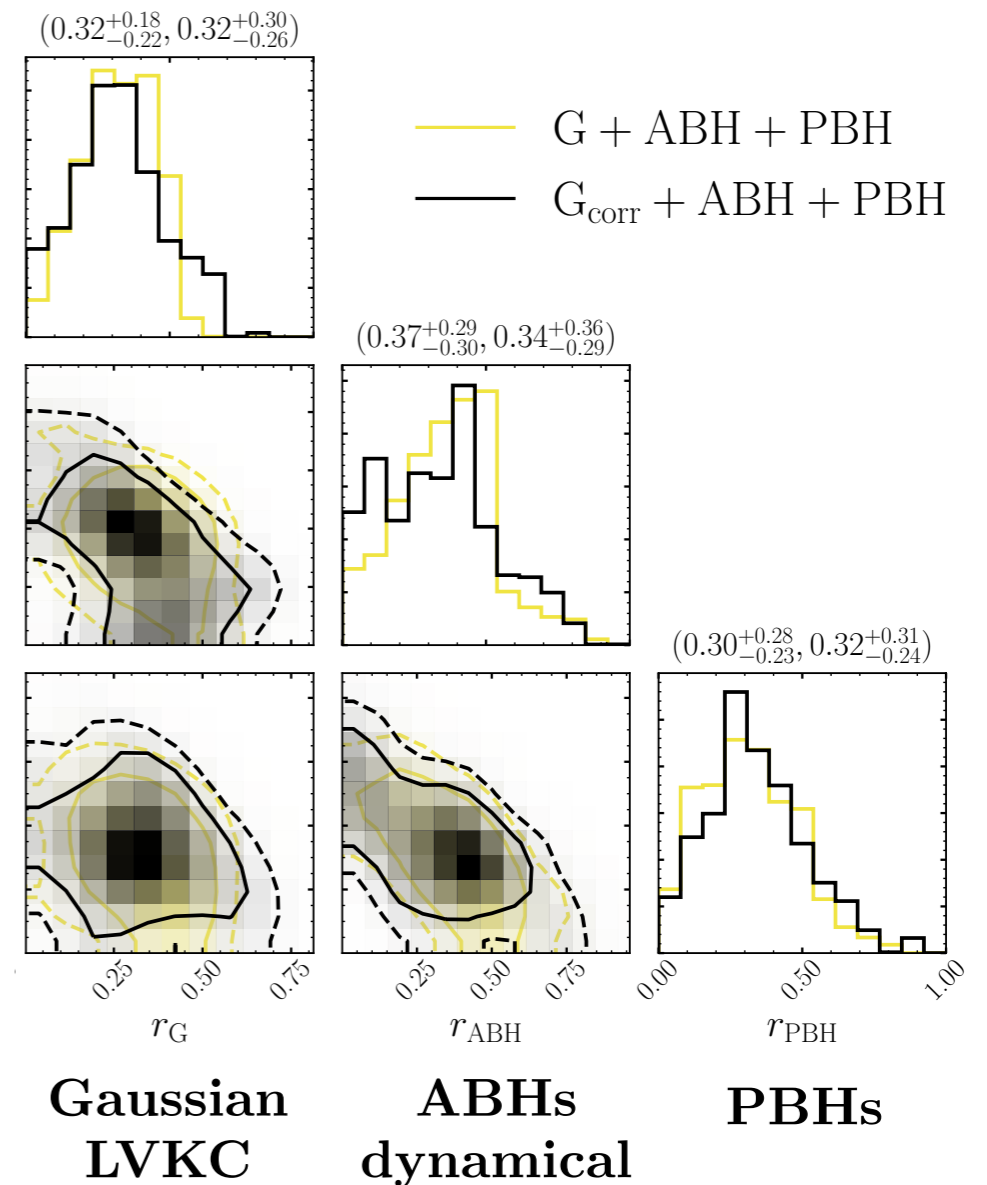
$$p_{\text{pop}}(\chi_{\text{eff}}) = r_G p_{\text{pop}}^G + r_{\text{ABH}} p_{\text{pop}}^{\text{ABH}} + r_{\text{PBH}} p_{\text{pop}}^{\text{PBH}}$$

- *Bayes factors mildly favour inclusion of mass-spin correlations compared to LVKC gaussian model*

$$\log_{10} \mathcal{B}_G^{\text{G+ABH+PBH}} \approx 1.4$$

- *Degeneracy between ABH-PBH*
- *Need larger statistics and smaller errors*

## GWTC-3



# Multi pop. analysis: using the full information

## Major caveat: having to deal with theory uncertainties

both for PBH and the ASTRO population models

We took the astrophysical models from Zevin+ ApJ (2021)

### • *Isolated formation channels:*

COSMIC Breivik et al. (2019)  
MESA Paxton et al. (2019)  
POSYDON Bavera et al. (2020)  
Fragos et al. (2021) in prep.

- **Common envelope (CE)**

- **Stable Mass transfer (SMT)**

### • *Dynamical formation channels:*

- **Globular Clusters (GC)**

Rodriguez et al. (2019)

- **Nuclear Star Clusters (NSC)**

Antonini et al. (2019)

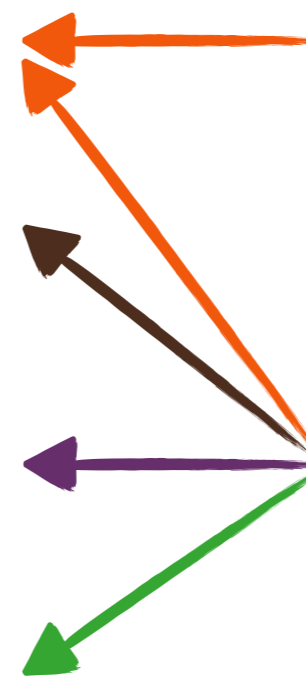
### *Hyperparameters:*

CE efficiency

$\alpha_{\text{CE}} \in [0.2, 0.5, 1, 2, 5]$

Natal spin

$\chi_b \in [0, 0.1, 0.2, 0.5]$

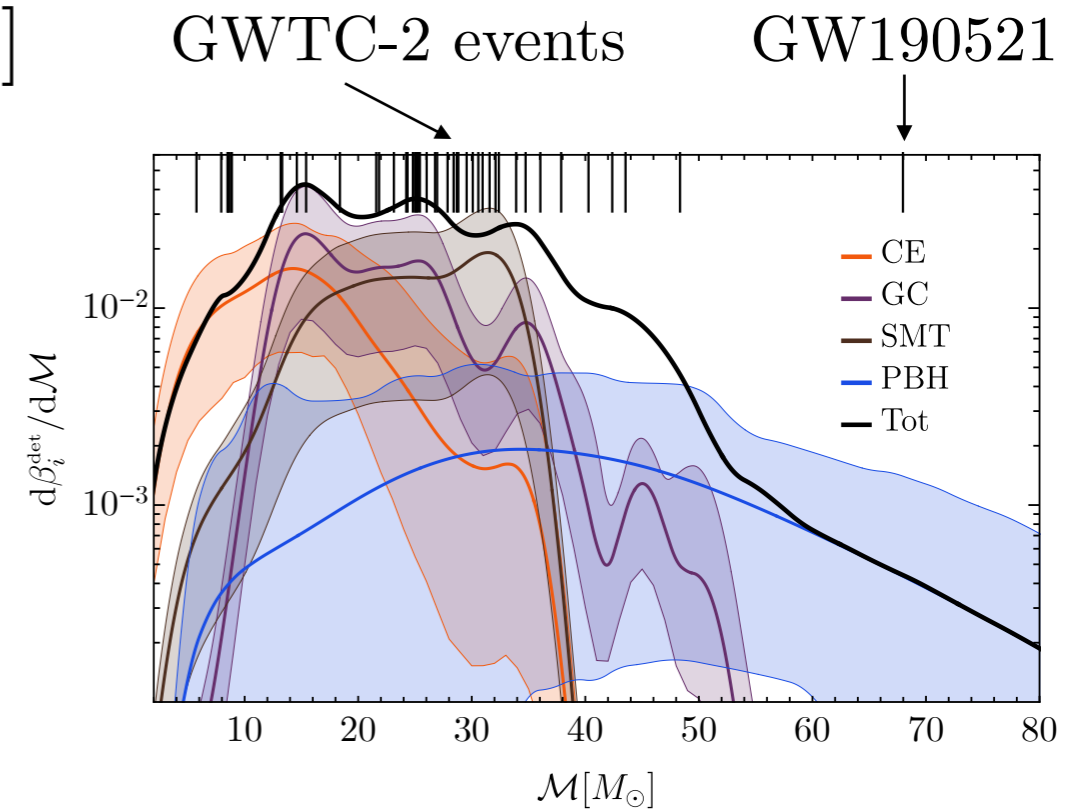
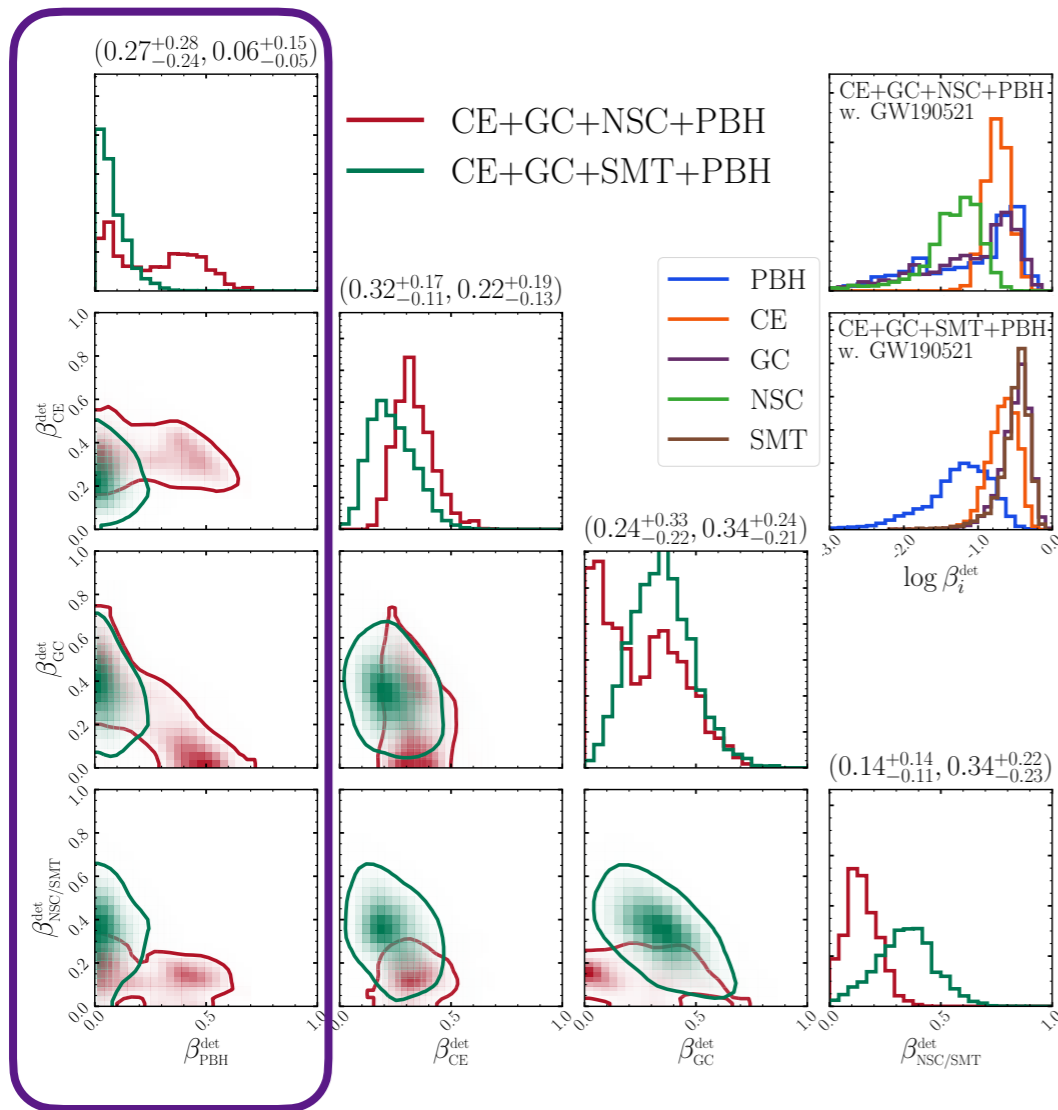


We tested various combinations of the astrophysical channels...

# Multi-channel population inference with PBHs

GF+, PRD [2105.03349]

Detectable fractions  $[\beta_i^{\text{det}} = N_i^{\text{det}} / \sum_j N_j^{\text{det}}]$



PBH population

$$M_c \simeq 35 M_\odot \quad \sigma \simeq 0.4$$

$$f_{\text{PBH}} \simeq 10^{-3.5} \quad z_{\text{cut-off}} \simeq 23$$

- Bayes factors favour the inclusion of PBHs (mostly from GW190521)
- Need to extend the analysis with additional astro channels, more extensive treatment of astro/PBH uncertainties, more data...

## *Most conservative reading:*

*The astrophysical models we tested are not able to explain all the features observed in the data (need to be extended)*

## *Less conservative reading:*

*It is possible we have already observed the peak of the iceberg of a PBH subpopulation.*

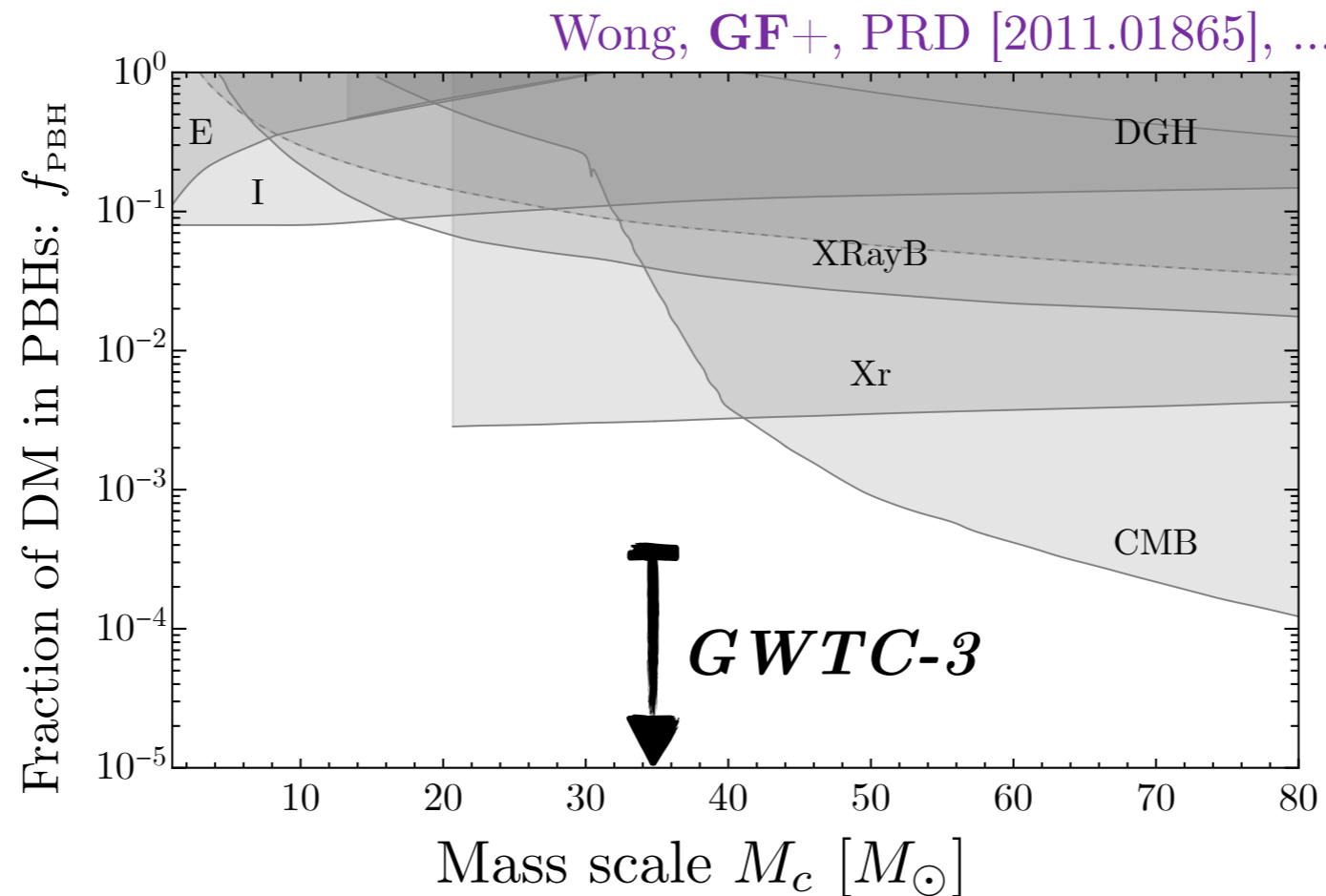
*We need to devise robust tests to confirm!*

*Take home message and outlook for 3Gs*



# *PBH constraints*

*No tension with the constraints on the PBH abundance*



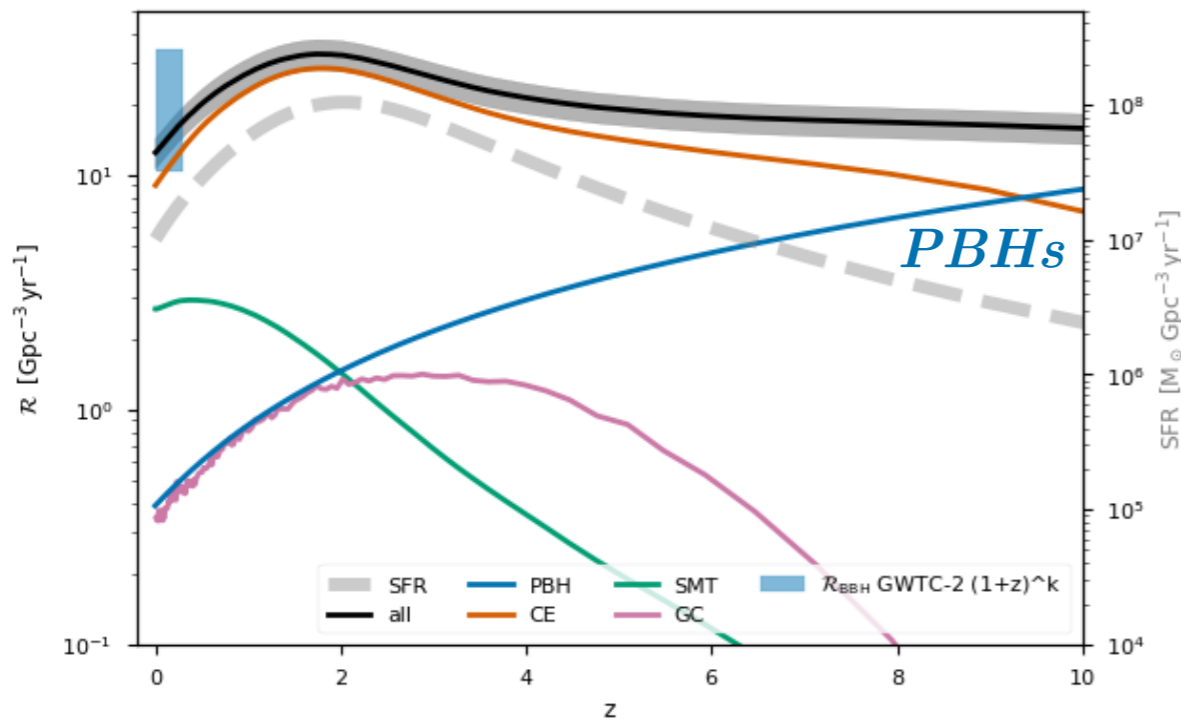
- Also when QCD boosting formation of light LVK events      GF, Musco, Urbano, Pani, in preparation

- PBH are not all the dark matter in this mass range

*(stringent bounds even if allowing for more exotic (clustered) initial conditions...)*

De Luca, GF, Riotto, Veermae [2208.01683]

# Larger SGWB from PBHs

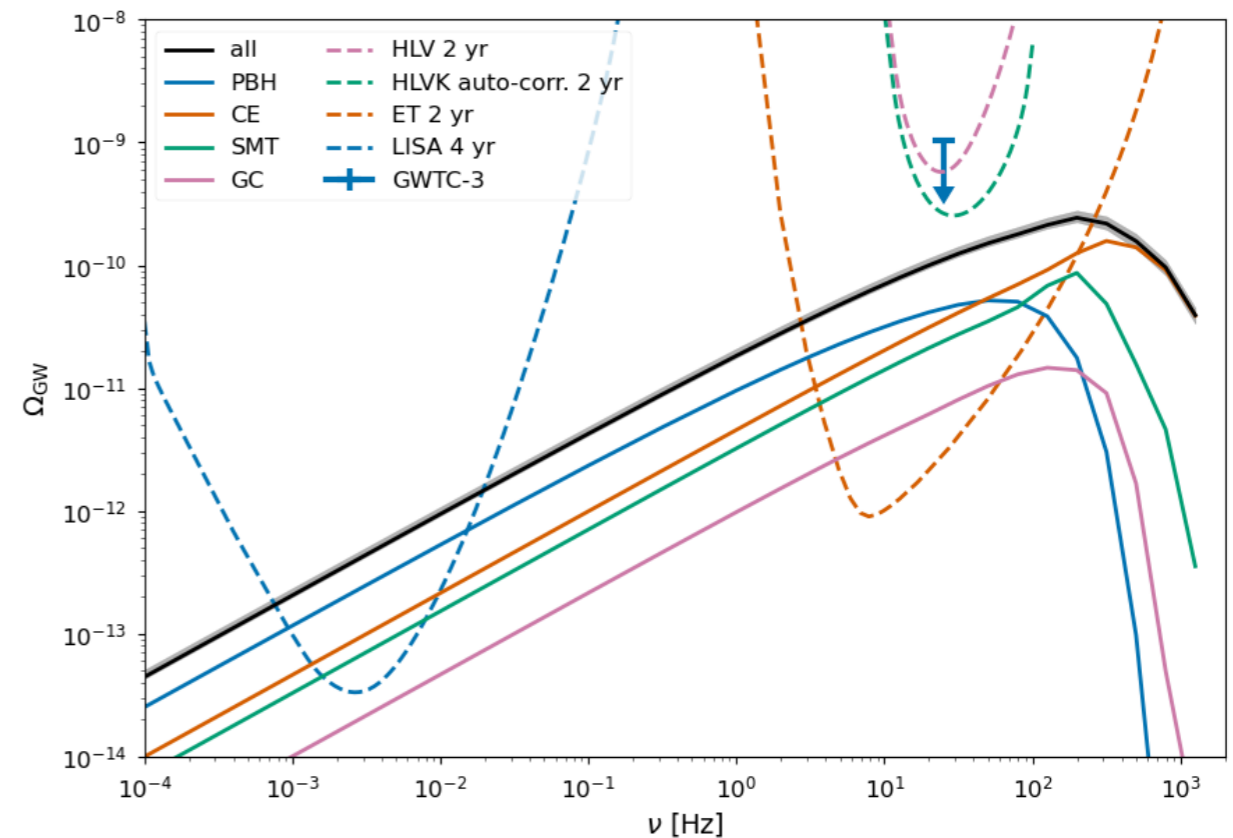


*Different merger rate evolution leads to different SGWB amplitude*

*Additional constraint on Pop inference*

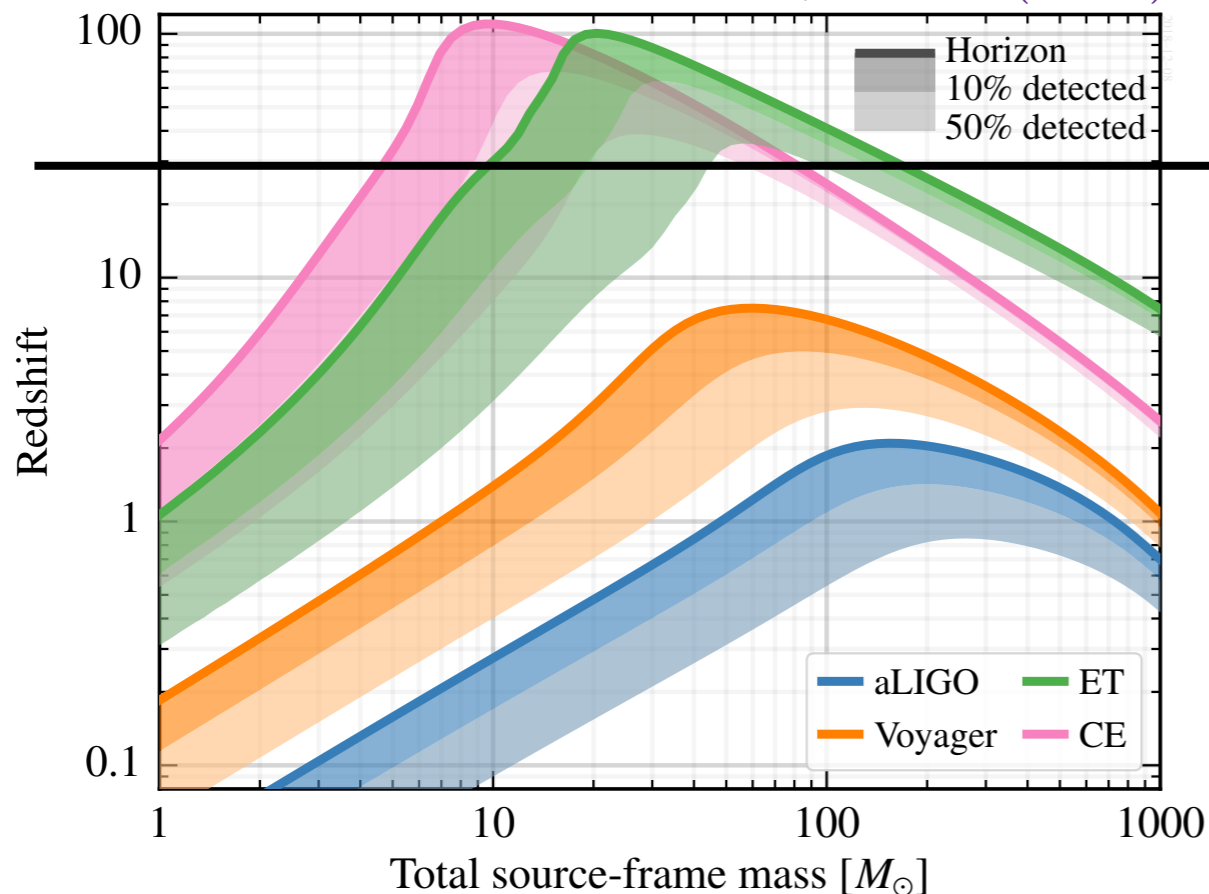
*Could be probed at 3G and LISA*

Bavera, GF+, A&A [2109.05836]



# High redshift sources at 3G detectors

Hall, Evans (2019)

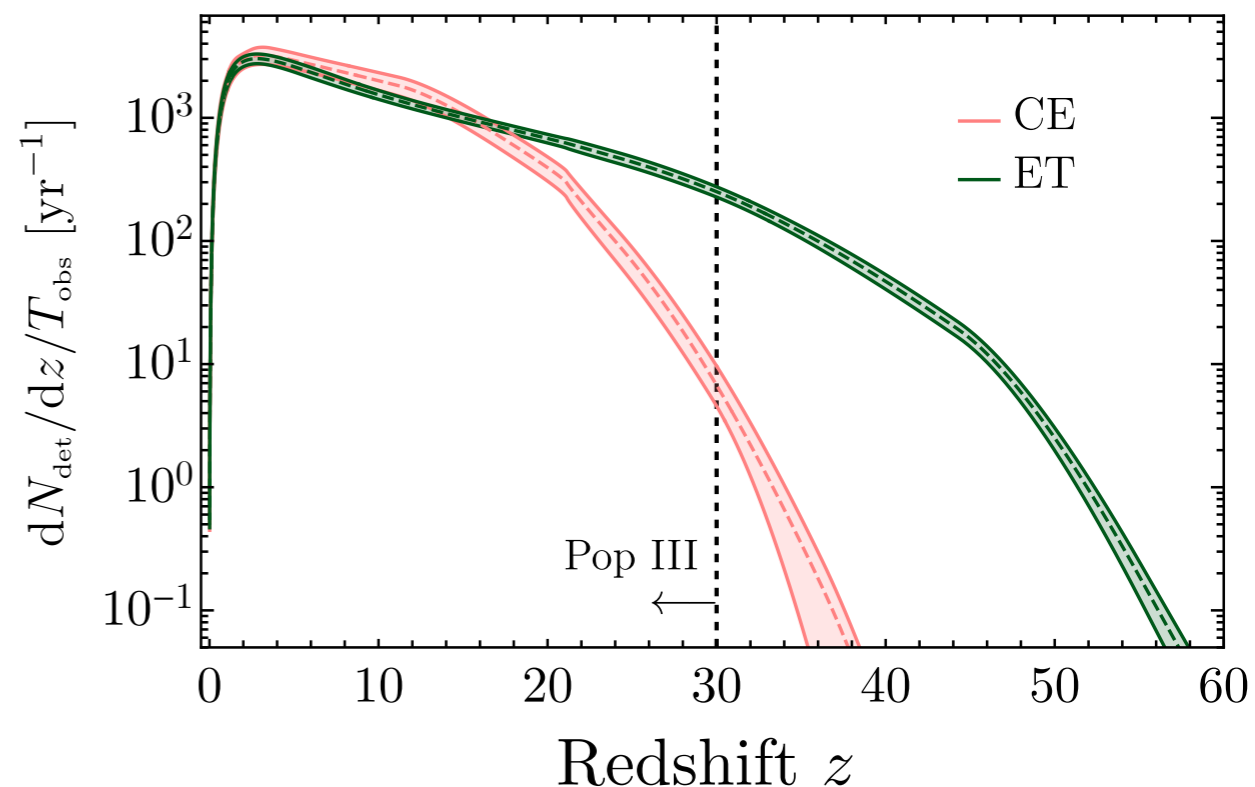


- *No astrophysical contamination above redshift*

Koushiappas, Loeb PRL (2017)

- *3G detectors can reach much larger redshift*

De Luca, G.F., Pani, Riotto JCAP (2021)

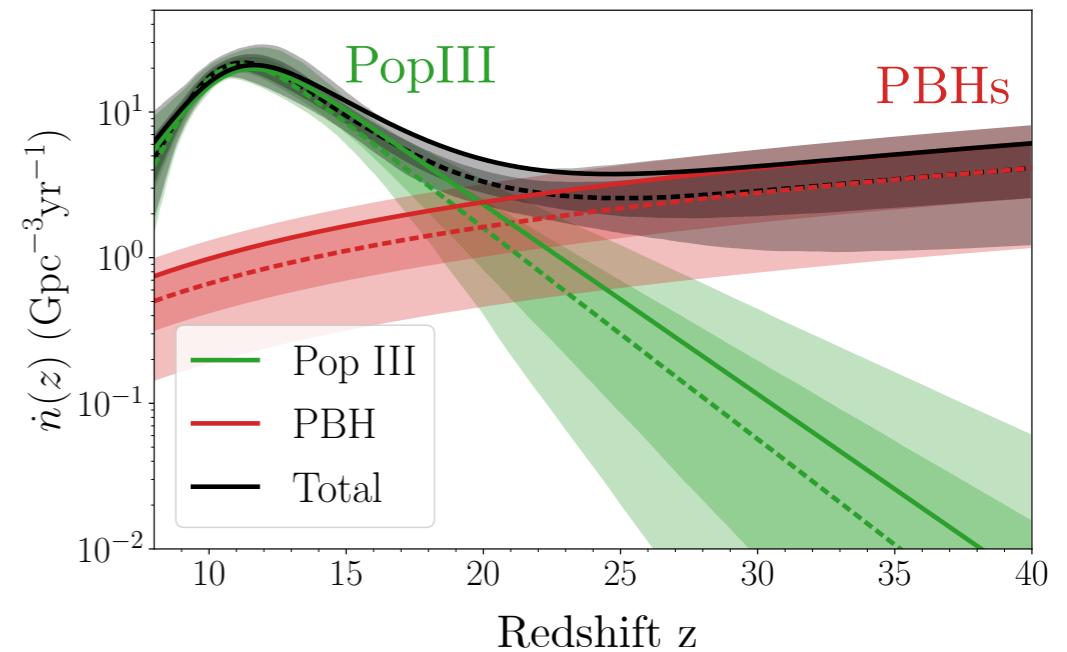


*PBH sub-population compatible with GWTC-3 would give:*

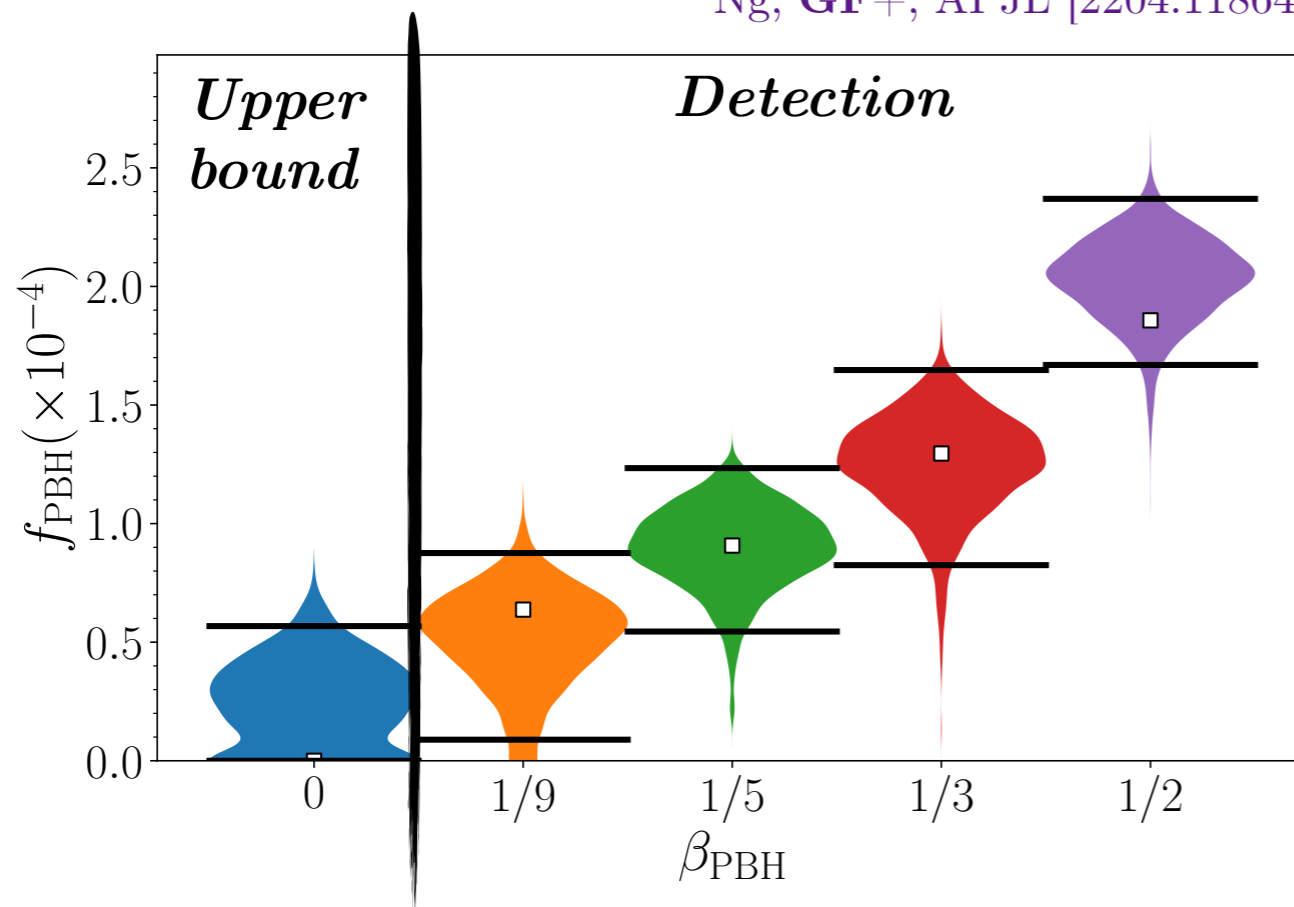
$$N_{\text{det}}^{\text{ET}}(z > 30) \simeq 10^3 / \text{yr}$$

# High- $z$ population study

- *Reconstructing the merger rate  $z \gtrsim 10$*
- *Conservative assumptions on PopIII rate*  
PopIII Belczynski+ [1612.01524]
- *simulated 4 months of data at CE-ET*



Ng, GF+, APJL [2204.11864]



*Within the mass range*  
 $M_{\text{PBH}} \approx [10, 50] M_{\odot}$

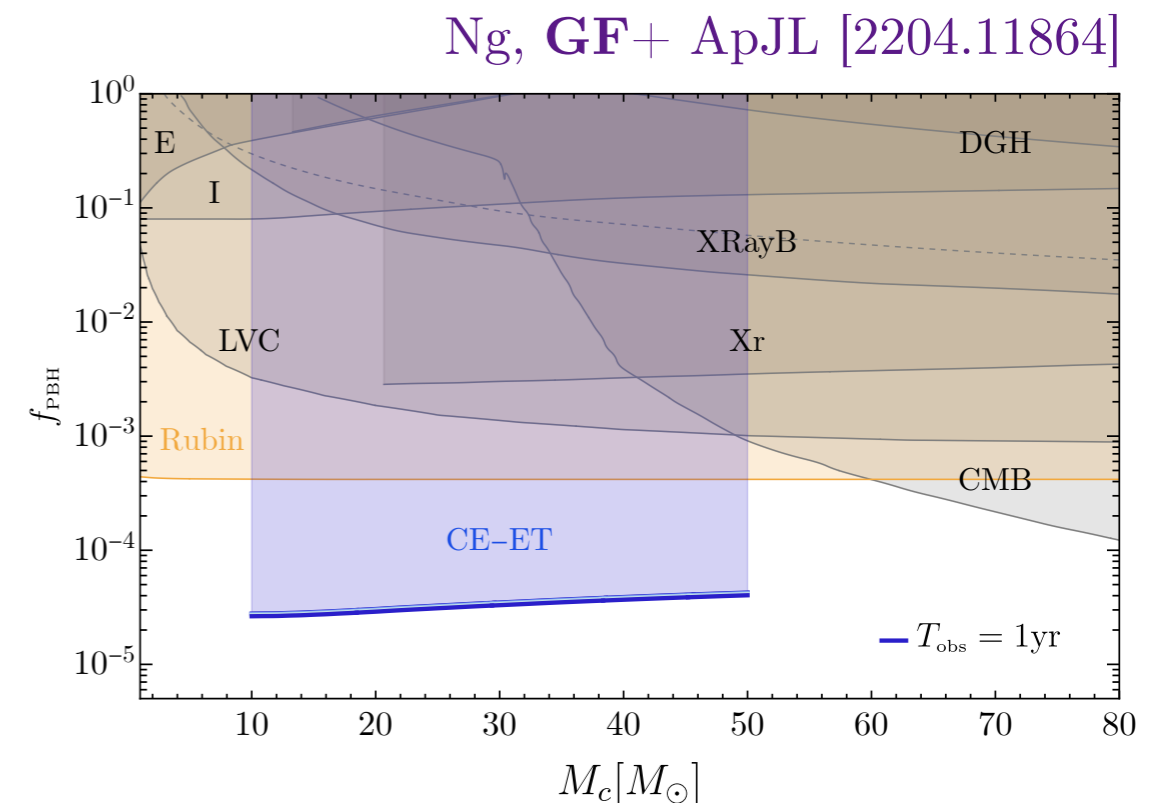
# Conclusions

- *Searching for PBHs in GW data is a difficult task*
- *Robust criteria to distinguish from ABHs are needed*
- *LVKC data and constraints allow for a PBH contribution*
- *3G detectors needed to fully exploit smoking guns!*

*3G detectors have the potential  
to discover a PBH population*

*or*

*set the most stringent  
constraint on the PBH dark  
matter with this mass*



*Gabriele Franciolini*

*Thanks!*

