

[In preparation]

Strong lensing of dark sirens and galaxies as a probe of the Hubble constant

Kyungmin Kim (KASI)

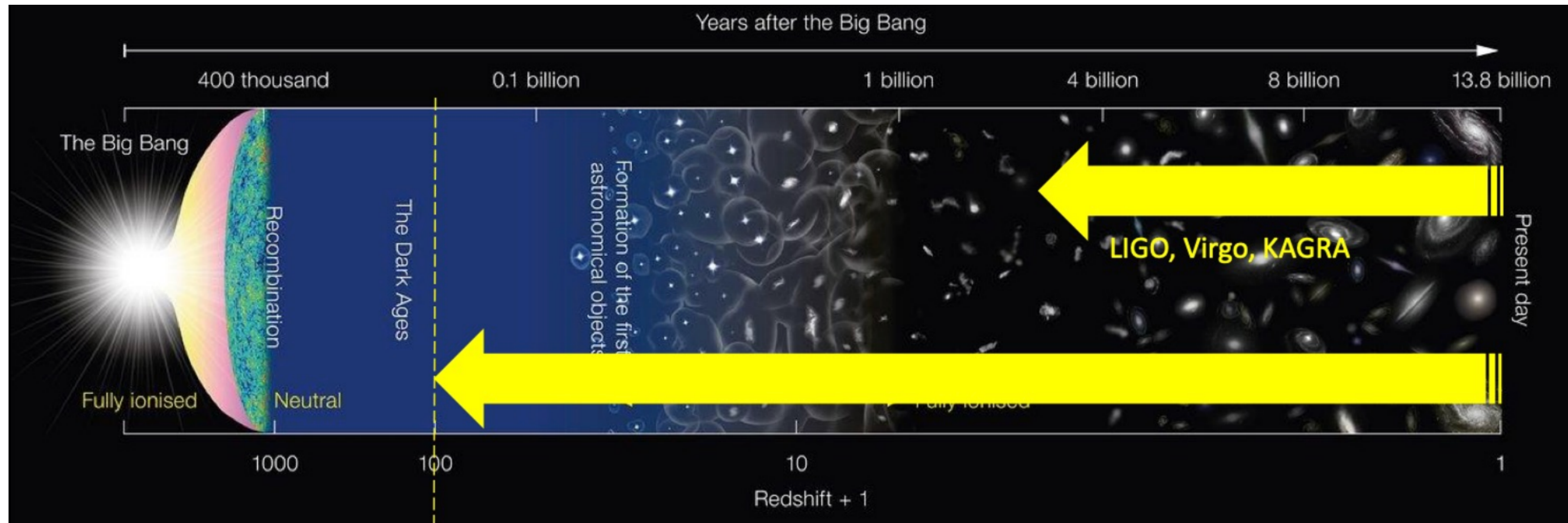
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2025 KSHEP Fall Meeting &
Joint Workshop of Nuclear, Particle, and Astrophysics

*In collaboration with
Eungwang Seo, Zhoutao Li, Rachel Gray, and Martin Hendry (Glasgow, UK)*

H_0 measurement using standard sirens

- We can utilize gravitational waves (GWs) as *cosmic probes*.



[credit: Bagnasco '22]

- GW observations enable us to measure the Hubble constant, H_0 . $\Rightarrow$ *standard sirens* [Schutz'86; Holz+'05]
 - w/ electromagnetic (EM) counterparts (e.g., GW170817 & GRB170817) $\Rightarrow$ *bright sirens* [Abbott+'17; Smith+'25]
 - w/o EM counterparts $\Rightarrow$ *dark sirens*

[Soares-Santos+'19; Abbott+'21; Gray+'23; Ballard+'23; Bom+'24]

Hubble tension

- Hubble tension in EM-based H_0 measurements

- early-Universe measurements (CMB)

[Aghanim+'20]

$$: H_0 = (67.4 \pm 0.5) \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$$

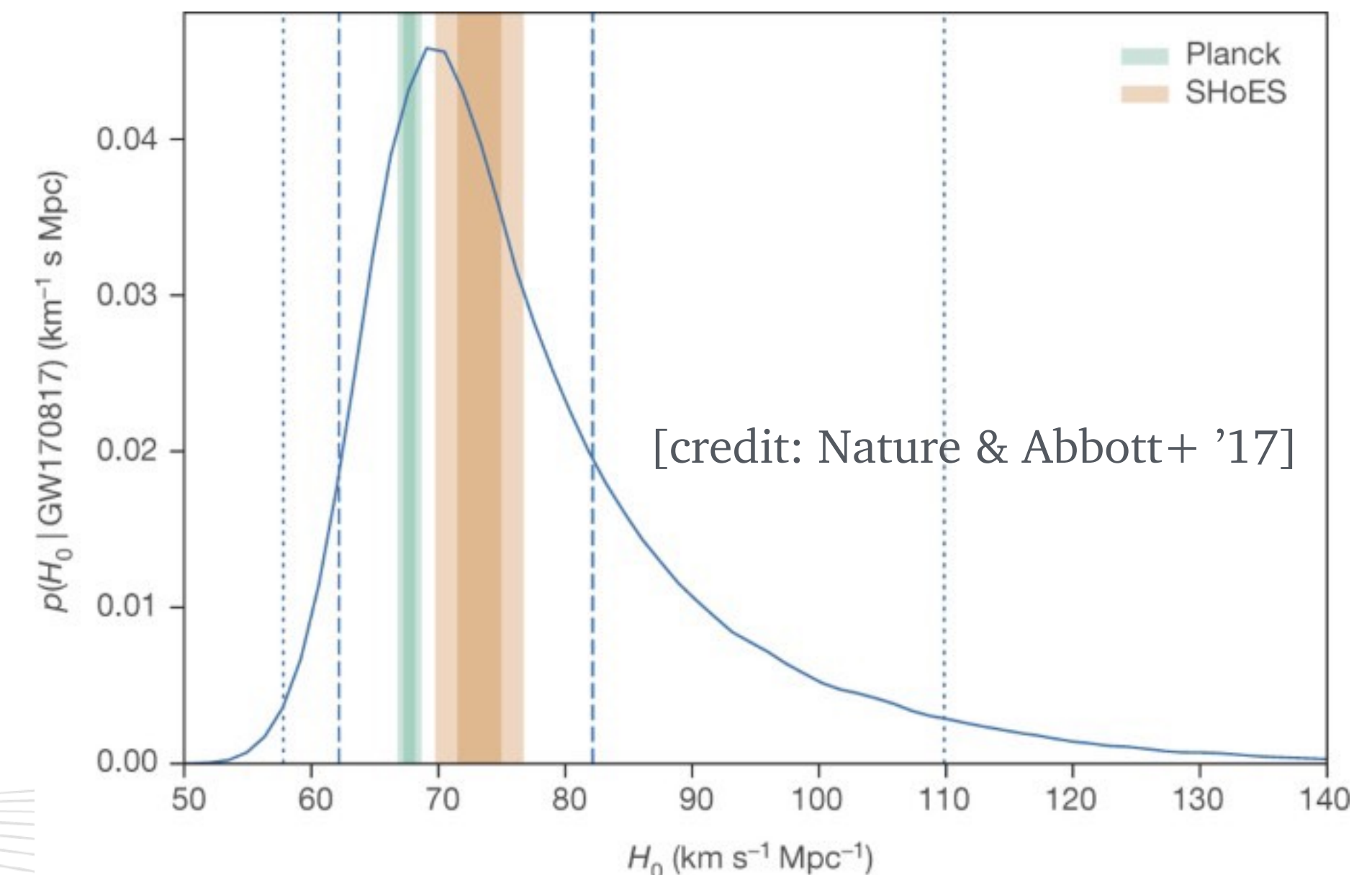
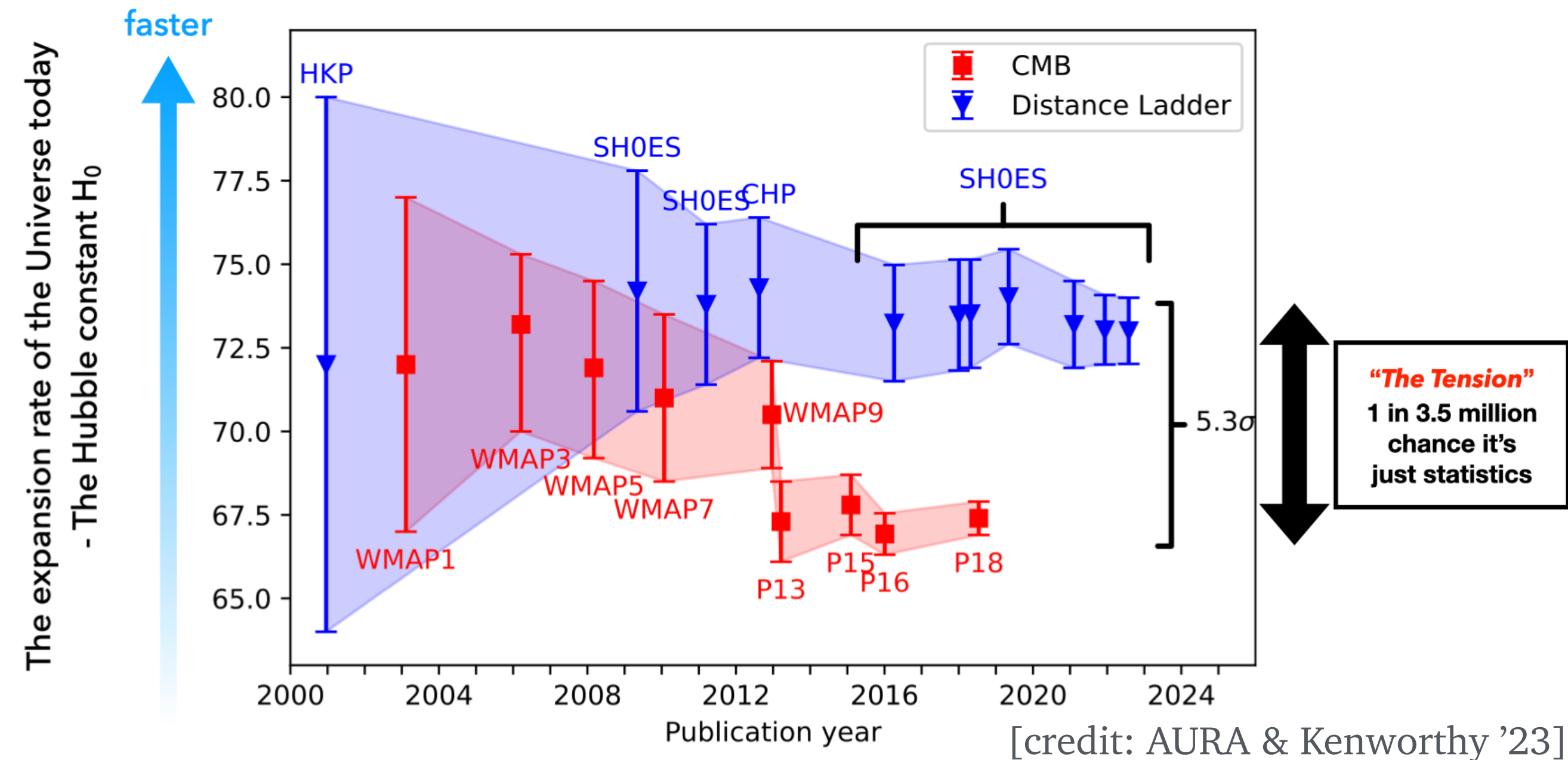
- late-Universe measurements (Cepheid variable stars)

[Riess+'22]

$$: H_0 = (72.3 \pm 1.4) \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$$

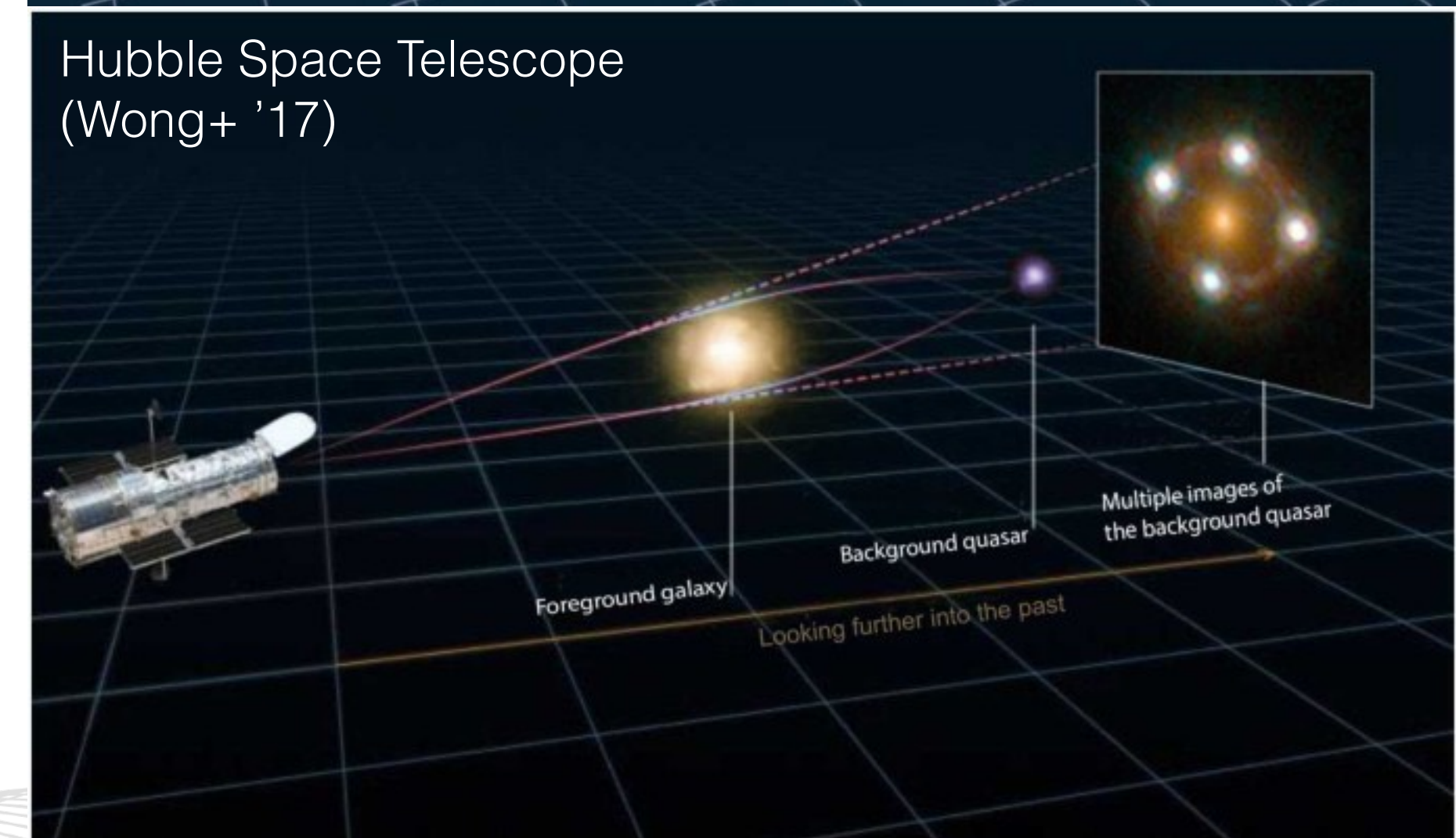
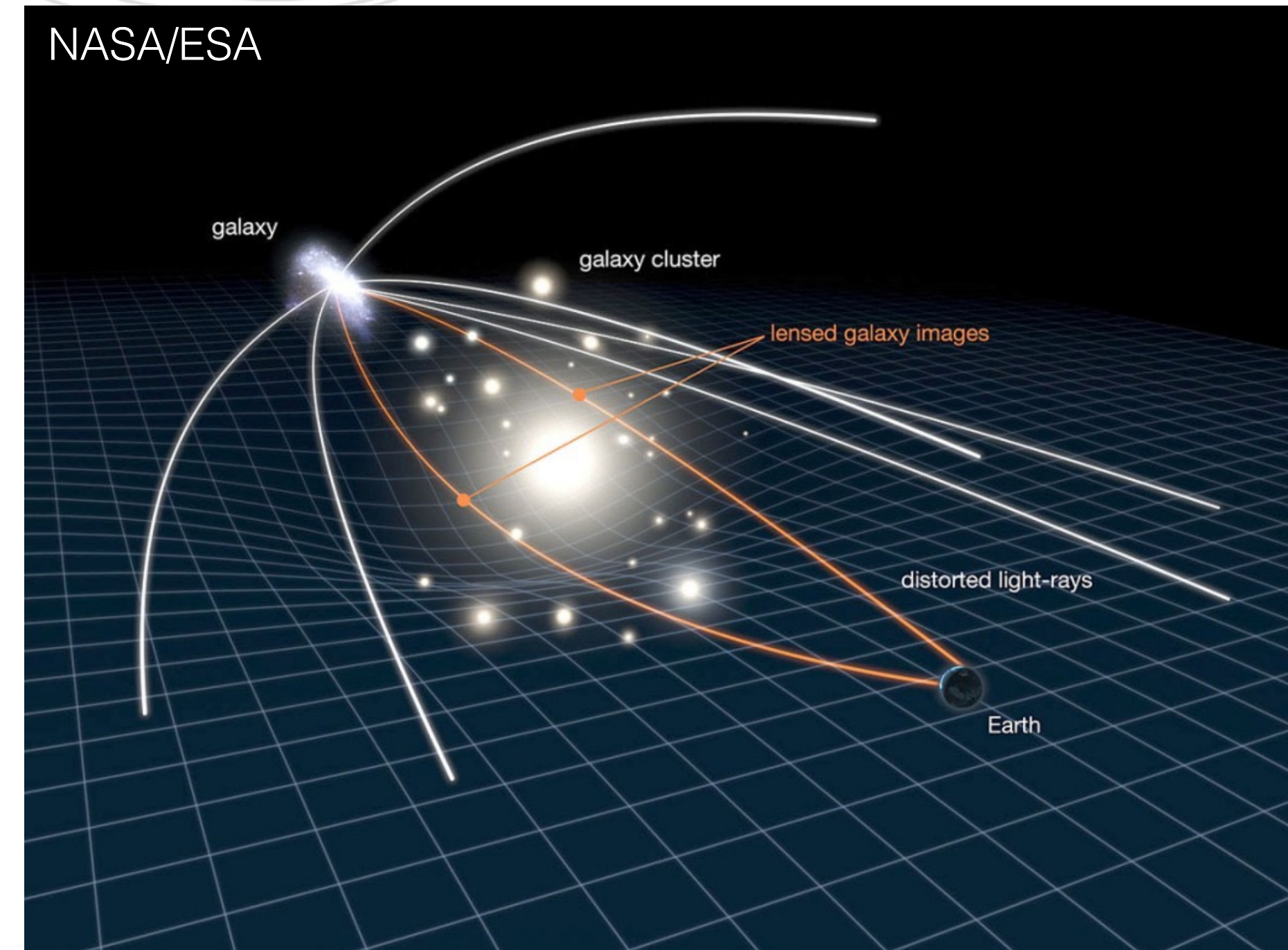
- The tension sparks independent measurement methods like using standard sirens.
- GW observations let us to infer the luminosity distance to GW sources directly w/o any cosmic distance ladders.

$$h_{\text{GW}} \sim \frac{1}{d_L} \frac{(m_1 m_2)^{3/5}}{(m_1 + m_2)^{1/5}}$$



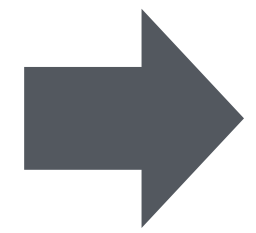
Gravitational lensing of light

- Gravitational lensing of light
 - allows us to observe far distant objects beyond observable horizon.
 - produces multiple images experiencing relative time delay in the arrival to an observer due to
 - the path difference and
 - the different gravitational potentials
 - apparent magnitude of k-th lensed image:
$$m'_k = m - 2.5 \log_{10}(\mu_k),$$
where μ_k is the magnification factor of k-th image
- Time-delay cosmography
 - utilizes the relative time delay of multiple images to measure H_0 .



Gravitational lensing of GWs

- Similar to light, gravitational lensing of gravitational waves (GW lensing, hereafter) can occur.



Good candidate of multi-messenger astronomy using GW and EM observations!

- Lensed GWs in frequency domain: $h_L(f) = F(f)h_U(f)$ [thin lens approximation]
 - $h_U(f)$ and $h_L(f)$: unlensed and lensed GWs in frequency domain, respectively.
 - $F(f)$: amplification factor

[Takahashi & Nakamura (ApJ,2003) with $c = G = 1$]

$$F(f) = \frac{D_S \xi_0^2 (1 + z_L)}{D_L D_{LS}} \frac{f}{i} \int d^2 \mathbf{x} \exp[2\pi i f t_d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})]$$

Angular diameter distances

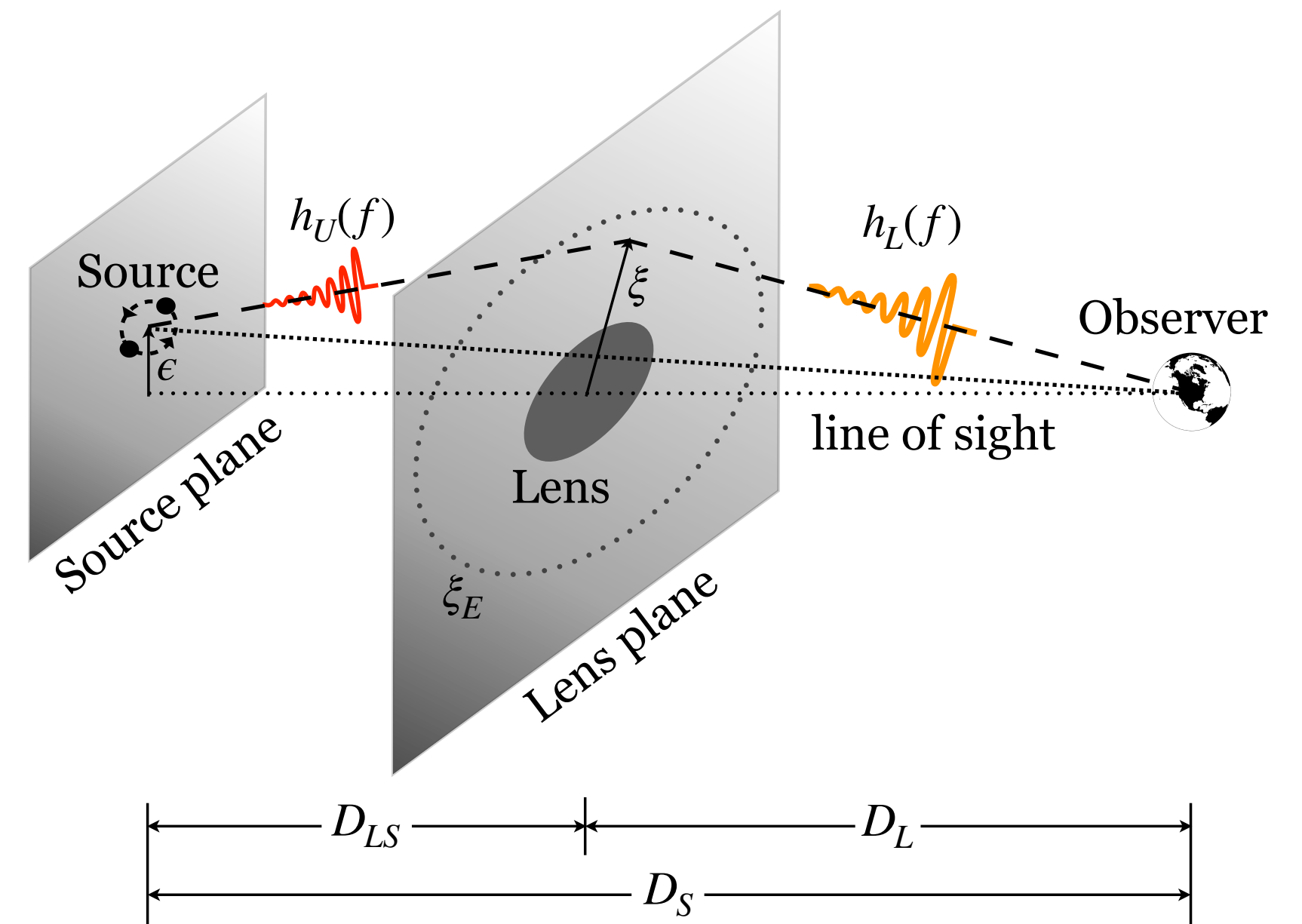
Lens redshift

$\mathbf{x} = \xi / \xi_0$
 $\mathbf{y} = (\epsilon D_L) / (\xi_0 D_S)$

Lensing time delay

$$t_d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \frac{D_S \xi_0^2}{D_L D_{LS}} (1 + z_L) \left[\frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2 - \psi(\mathbf{x}) + \phi_m(\mathbf{y}) \right]$$

Lens potential



Why is GW lensing exciting now?

- Forecasts predict strong lensing at a reasonable rate

*Ng et al. (2017), Li et al. (2018), Oguri (2018),
Wierda et al. (2021), Xu et al. (2021)*

- Can probe new studies of astrophysics, cosmology, and fundamental physics

- **Study the origin of black holes**

Hannuksela, et al. (2020)

- **Tests of fundamental physics**

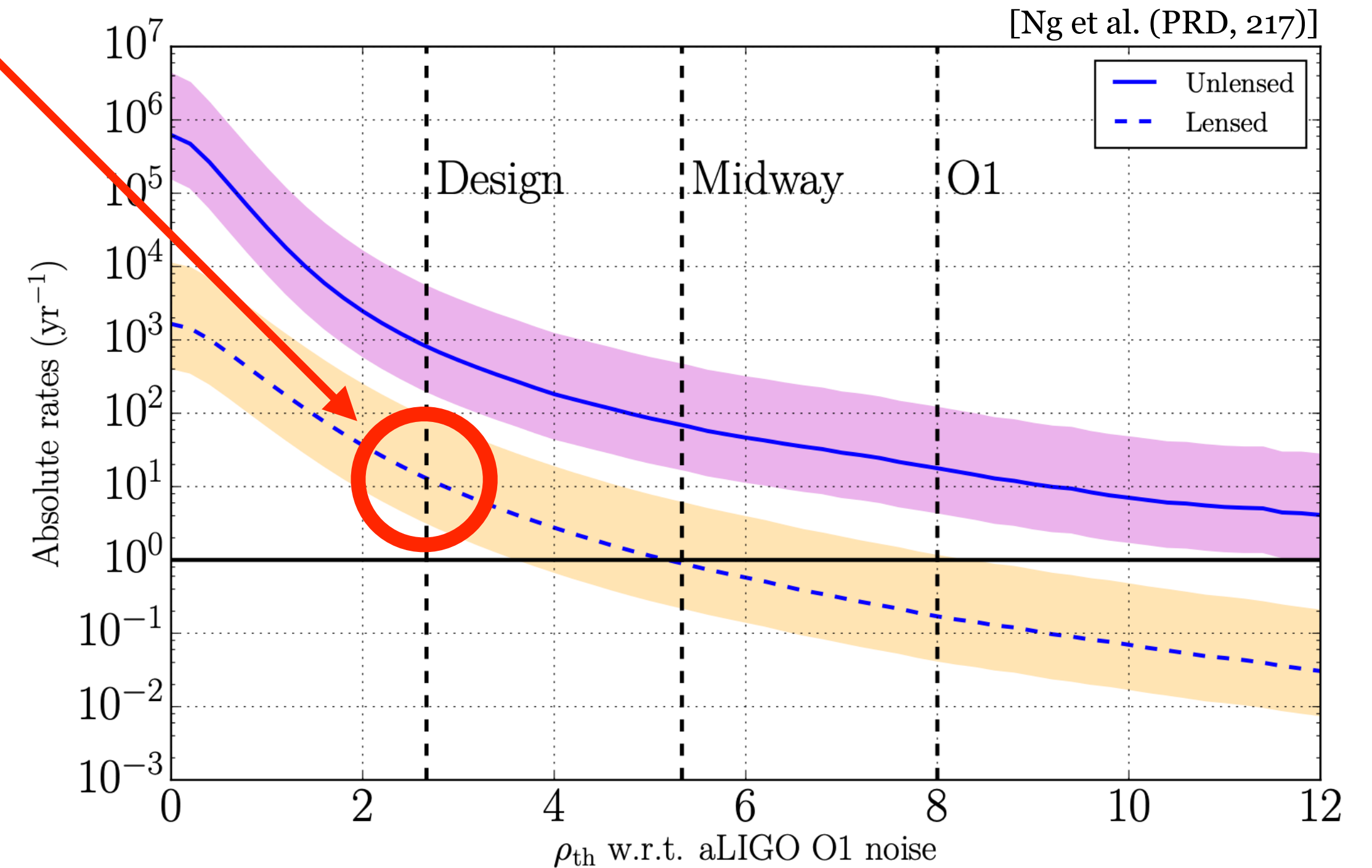
*Collet & Bacon (2017; speed of GWs),
Liu & KK (2024; millilensed GWs vs precessing GWs)*

- **Study the expansion of the Universe**

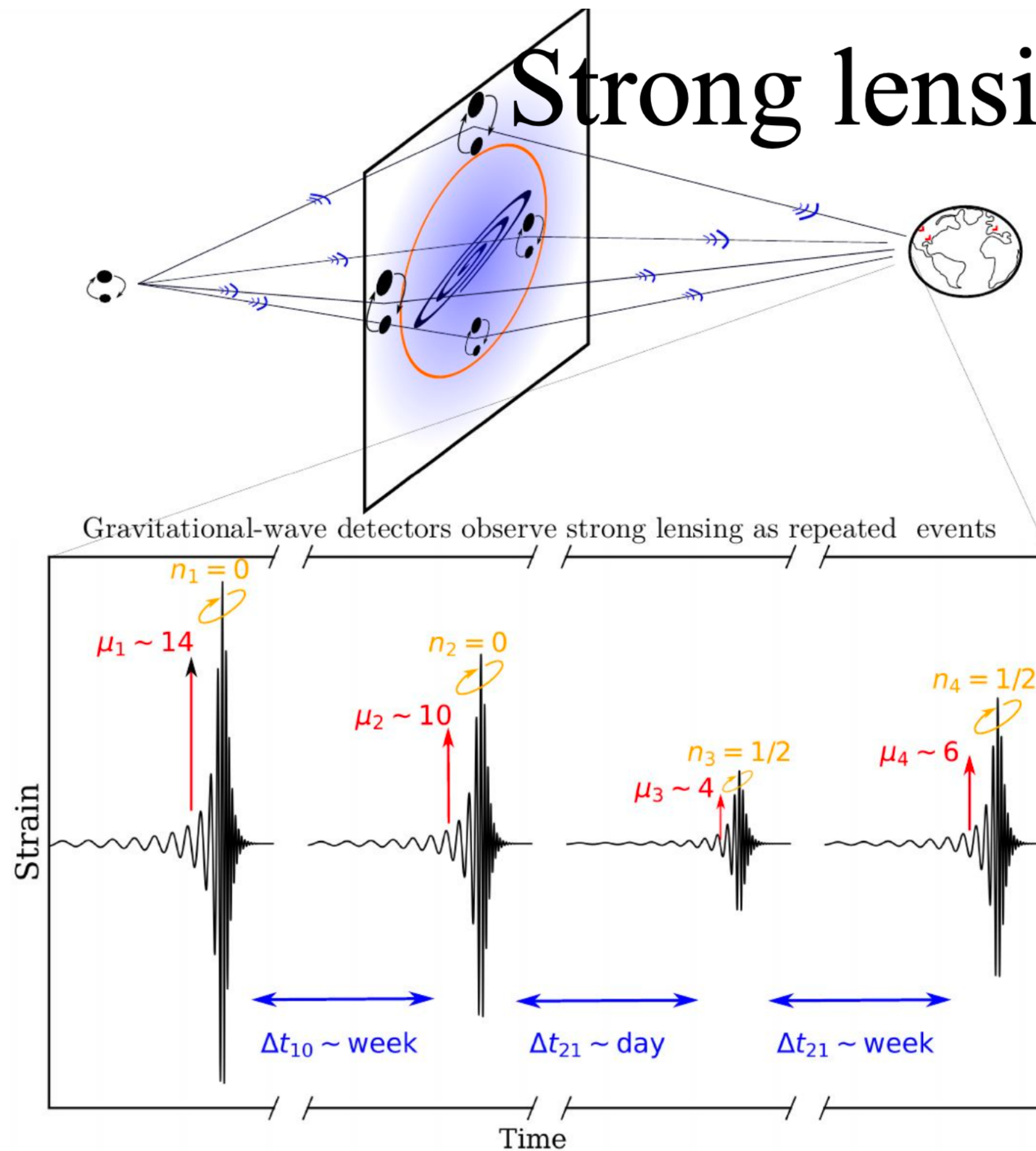
Baker & Trodden (2017), Liao, et al. (2017), Hannuksela, et al. (2020), Seo & KK, et al. (in prep.)

- **Study microlens populations** *Lai et al. (2018), Jung et al. (2019)*

- **Study wave optics** *Cheung et al. (2020)*



Search for strong lensing of gravitational waves



Strong lensing:

- Identify “repeated events” in the data
- Targets: Galaxies, galaxy clusters

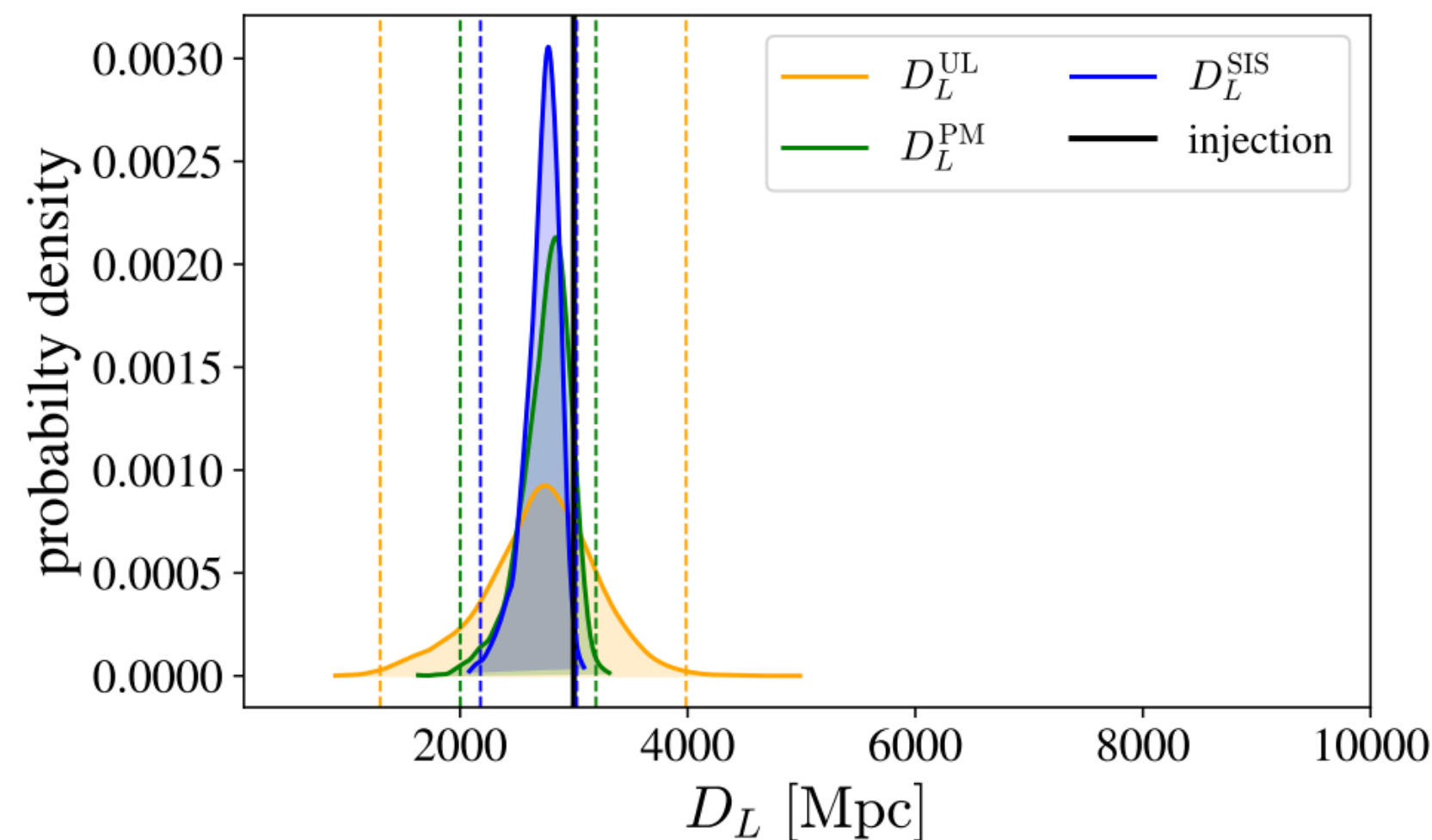
Precise measurement of gravitational-wave image properties

[credit: Otto Hannuksela]

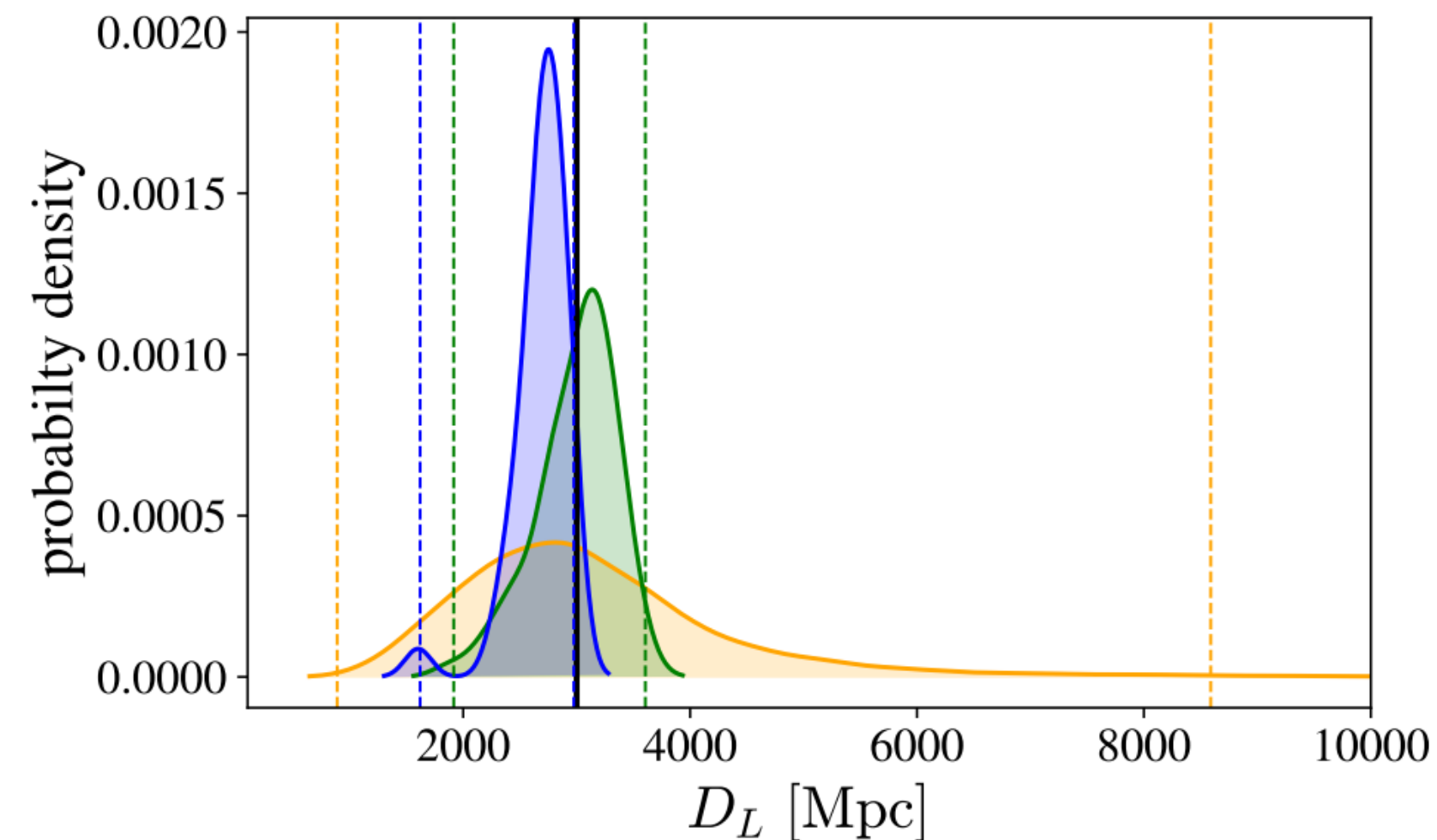
Luminosity distance estimation for Binary black holes with strongly lensed GWs

[KK, E. Seo, C. Kim (PRD, 2024)]

- Luminosity distance d_L : a direct observable of GW observations
- Time delay of strongly lensed GWs: days—months depending on lens mass and alignment
 - likely to identify multiple lensed GW events as multiple independent events.
- Demonstrate estimating d_L to BBHs with strongly lensed GW signals.
 - Combine results from parameter estimations on two individual lensed GWs.
- Conclude about *a factor of a few better precision* compared to that can be expected without lensing.



(a) HLV design PSDs with zero noise



(b) HLV O3a PSDs with a Gaussian noise realization

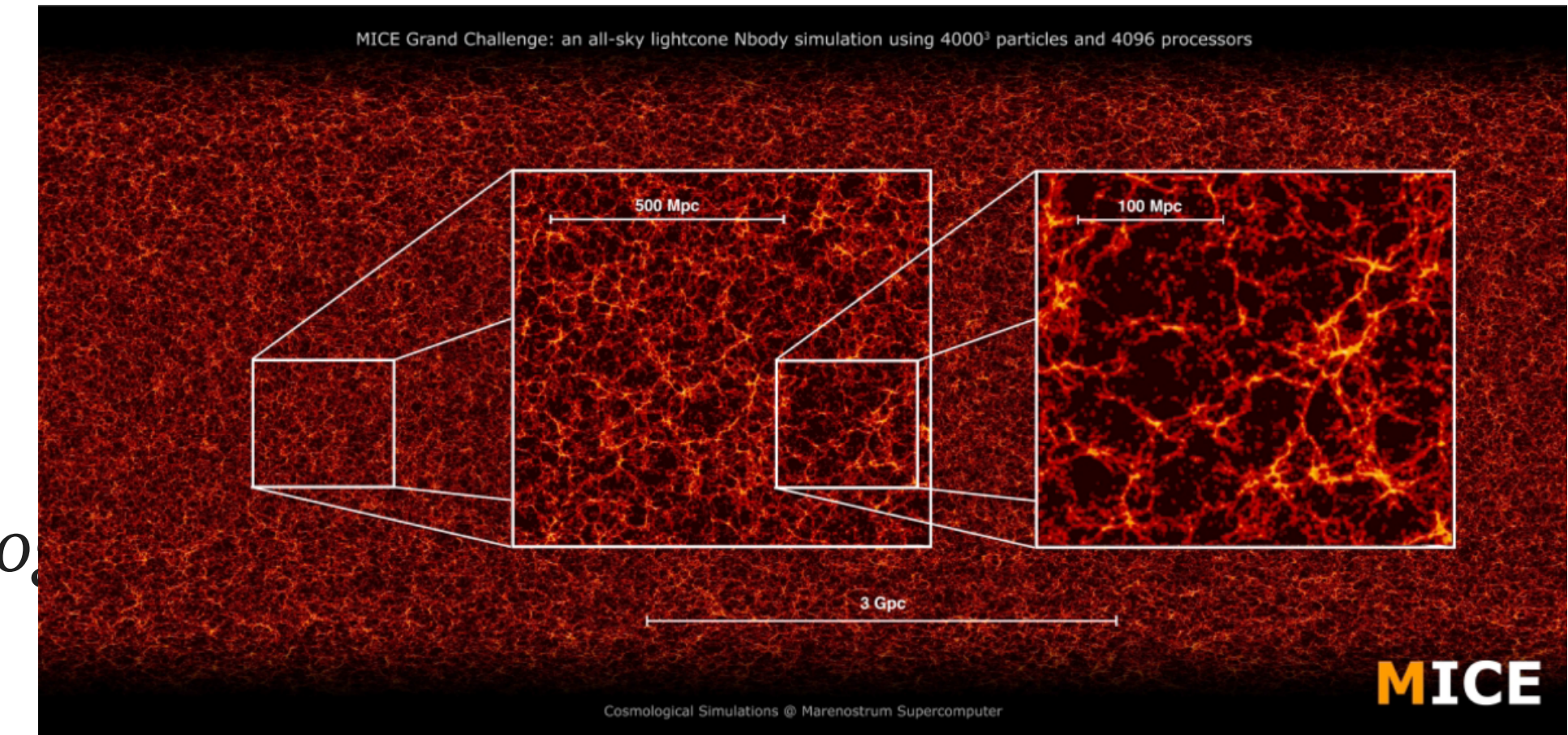
Case A: HLV design PSDs with zero-noise				
Signal	$\mathcal{W}_{99}$ [Mpc]	$\mathcal{R}_{99}$	$\mathcal{W}_{67}$ [Mpc]	$\mathcal{R}_{67}$
Unlensed	2,688	1.00	923	1.00
Lensed (PM)	1,193	2.25	405	2.28
Lensed (SIS)	845	3.18	286	3.23

Case B: HLV O3a PSDs with a Gaussian noise				
Signal	$\mathcal{W}_{99}$ [Mpc]	$\mathcal{R}_{99}$	$\mathcal{W}_{67}$ [Mpc]	$\mathcal{R}_{67}$
Unlensed	7,700	1.00	2,074	1.00
Lensed (PM)	1,689	4.56	637	3.26
Lensed (SIS)	1,354	5.69	348	5.95

- *We extend this study to the measurement of H_0 using strongly lensed dark sirens.*

Data: Galaxy catalog

- MICE-Grand Challenge light-cone halo and galaxy catalog (MICECATv2)
 - a simulated galaxy catalog covers $5,000 \text{ deg}^2$ of the sky ($\text{R.A.}=[0^\circ, 90^\circ]$, $\text{Dec.}=[0^\circ, 90^\circ]$) and redshift (z) range $0.07 < z < 1.42$.
 - contains ~ 500 million galaxies
 $\rightarrow$ *randomly select 64 million galaxies to mimic real galaxy catalog*
 - provides luminosities and apparent magnitudes of galaxies, as well as true and observer-frame redshifts.
- Simulation of galaxy lensing
 - Singular-Isothermal-Ellipsoid (SIE) lens model $\rightarrow$ double and quadruple images
- Completeness of catalog
 - take into account the discrepancy between real distribution and observable distribution of galaxies:
 - complete unlensed/lensed catalog (UGC0/LGC0) vs. incomplete unlensed/lensed catalog (UGC1/LGC1)



[credit: Fosalba+'15]

Data: Dark siren

- Simulate unlensed/lensed GWs from binary black holes (BBHs)
 - unlensed GWs: use IMRPhenomXPHM waveform model with adopting the prior ranges of parameters and hyperparameters of BBHs inferred from the LIGO-Virgo O3 population analysis [Abbott+ '23].
 - lensed GWs: regarding SIE lens model, adopt the Salpeter model for the velocity dispersion (σ_v) and the Rayleigh model for the axis ratio (q) $\rightarrow$ compute the amplification factor $F(f)$ using the formalism described in Seo+'24 (ApJ)
 - noise realization: O4a design sensitivities of LIGO-Livingston, LIGO-Hanford, and Virgo
- Signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) threshold: network $\text{SNR} > 8$
- Each simulated BBH is assigned to a galaxy randomly selected from the UGC0

Estimation of H_0 from single lensed dark siren

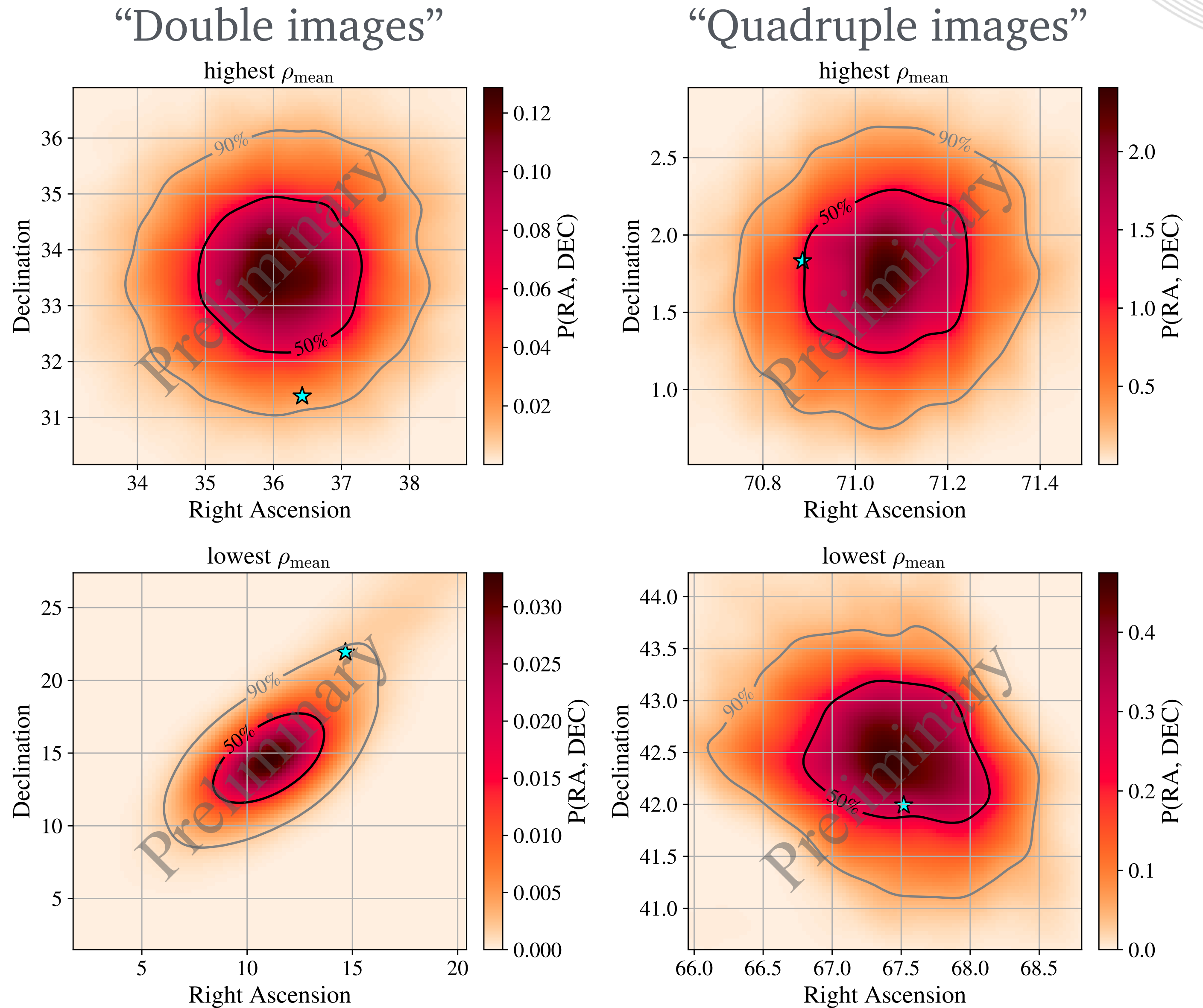
- Hubble-Lemaître law, $H_0 = v_r/D$, where
 - $v_r \approx cz_s$: the recessional velocity of the source galaxy at z_s
 - D : proper distance to the source galaxy
 - In a flat- Λ CDM universe w/ $a_0 = 1$, D is equivalent to the comoving distance D_C and can be related to the luminosity distance d_L and z_s , i.e., $D \equiv D_C = d_L/(1 + z_s)$.
- Assume that if a source-lens system is uniquely specified, we can take z_s from the UGC0.
 - Uncertainties in the redshift of source galaxy, σ_z
 - photometric: $\sigma_z = 0.033(1 + z_s)$; spectroscopic: $\sigma_z = 0.001(1 + z_s)$
- Delensing
 - recovering the true d_L from the effective luminosity distances of j-th image $d_{L,j}^{\text{eff}} = d_L/\mu_j$, where μ_j is the magnification factor of j-th image signal [Janquart+'21&'23; Kim+'24; Seo+'24]

Estimation of H_0 from single lensed dark siren

- Sky localization between double and quadruple images
- using quadruple images is better than using double images
→ beneficial in specifying source-lens galaxy system!

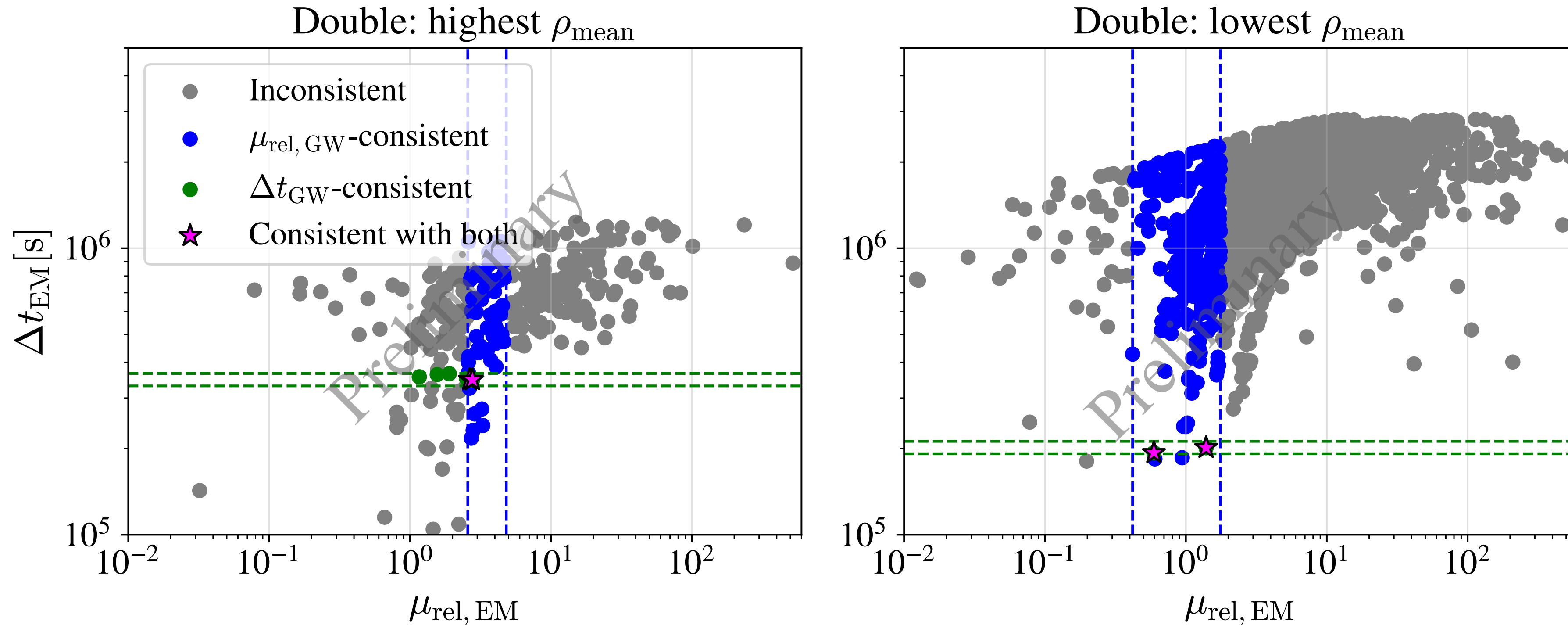
System	mean SNR (ρ_{mean})	$\Delta\Omega_{90\%}$ [deg ²]	N_{LG}	N_{LG}^{LGW}
Double 1	22.0	17.5	306	2
Double 2	8.1	178.8	1971	2
Quadruple 1	30.0	0.97	1	1
Quadruple 2	9.0	4.35	13	1

* $\rho_{\text{mean}} = \langle \rho_j \rangle$



Estimation of H_0 from single lensed dark siren

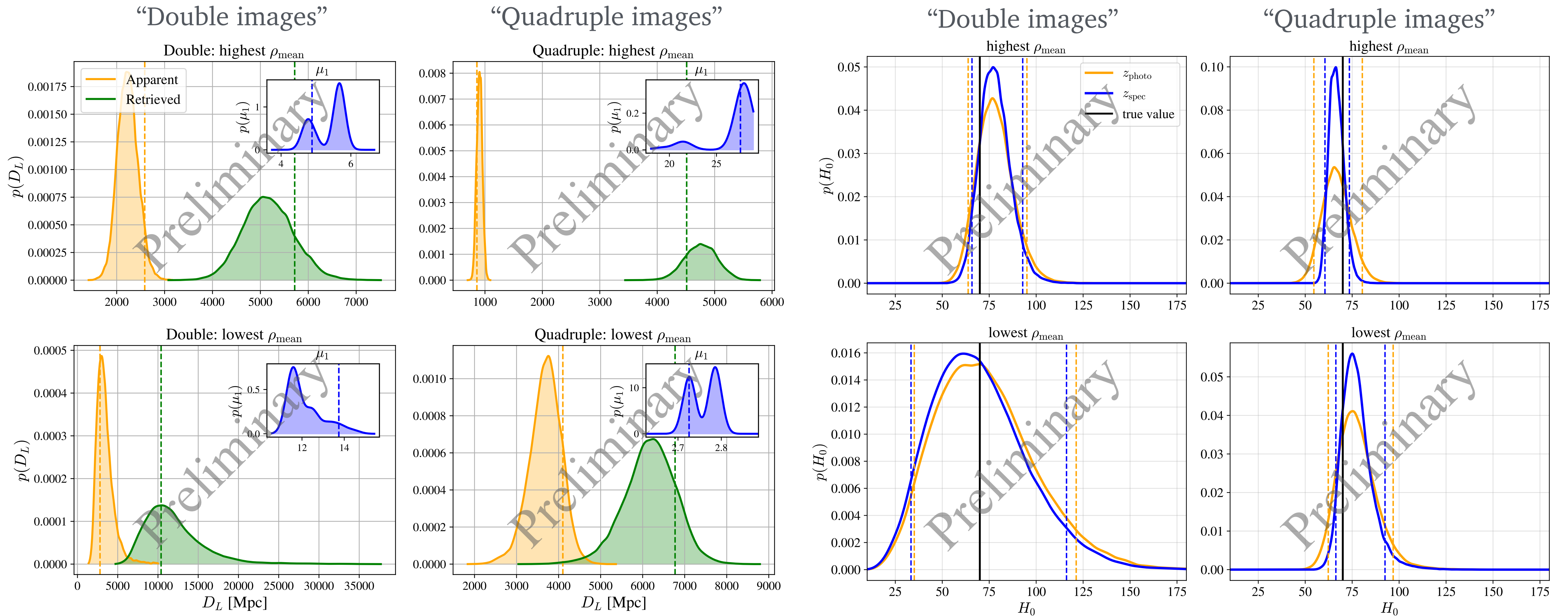
- Consistency test between source-lens galaxy systems in EM and GW observations
 - Ex. Double 1 and Double 2 cases resulting in $N_{LG}^{LGW} = 2$



- blue and green dashed lines: constrained boundaries of μ_{rel} and Δt inferred from lensed GW
- blue and green dots: consistent systems of μ_{rel} and Δt between EM and GW
- magenta dots: consistent with both constraints on μ_{rel} and Δt
- gray dots: inconsistent systems between EM and GW

Estimation of H_0 from single lensed dark siren

- *Quadruple* images are beneficial in *better delensing* than double images.



- Thus, H_0 estimation is more precise and less biased when using quadruple images of higher ρ_{mean} GWs w/ spectroscopic z of galaxies.

Estimation of H_0 from multiple lensed dark sirens

- If *multiple* lensed dark sirens originating from *different* lensing systems are detected...
 - We need to construct a joint likelihood, multiplied by the H_0 prior, to obtain a combined H_0 posterior distribution.
- To do that, we should consider
 - ***Line-of-Sight (LoS) redshift priors***
: for the redshift information of source galaxies cross-matching the sky localizations of detected dark sirens
 - ***Selection effects***
: for the avoidance of Malmquist bias caused by missing fainter galaxies or weaker dark sirens

Formula for the posterior of H_0

- The posterior of H_0 for the set of BBHs resulting in lensed dark sirens ($\{x_{\text{LGW}}\}$) and the set of the distance to the source of lensed dark sirens ($\{D_{\text{LGW}}\}$):

“prior terms”

$$p(H_0|\{x_{\text{LGW}}\}, \{D_{\text{LGW}}\}) \propto p(H_0)p(N_{\text{det,lens}}|H_0)$$

“joint likelihood”

$$\times \left[\int \int \int \int p(D_{\text{LGW}}|z_s, \theta', \theta_l, z_l, H_0) p(\theta_l|\Omega_j, H_0) p(\theta'|H_0) \sum_j^{N_{\text{pix}}} p_{\text{Lgal}}(z_s, z_l|\Omega_j, H_0) d\theta_l d\theta' dz_l dz_s \right]^{-N_{\text{det,lens}}}$$

$$\times \prod_i^{N_{\text{det,lens}}} \left[\int \int \int \int \sum_j^{N_{\text{pix}}} p(\{x_{\text{LGW},i}\}|\Omega_j, z_s, \theta_l, \theta', z_l, H_0) p(\theta_l|\Omega_j, H_0) p(\theta'|H_0) p_{\text{Lgal}}(z_s, z_l|\Omega_j, H_0) d\theta_l d\theta' dz_l dz_s \right]$$

“LoS redshift prior”

- Estimation of H_0 using the above equation is on-going...

Discussions

- Biases in a galaxy-catalog-based measurement of H_0
 - systematic biases in lens reconstruction due to incorrect lens model
 - statistical biases due to
 - small number of observations of lensed dark sirens
 - selection effect (a.k.a. Malmquist bias) in both GW and EM observations
- Possible future works
 - using real galaxy/galaxy cluster catalog
 - considering next generation terrestrial/space GW detectors like Einstein Telescope or LISA
 - incorporating time-delay cosmography

Thank you
for
your attention!

