

# Caustic crossings as a new probe of dark matter

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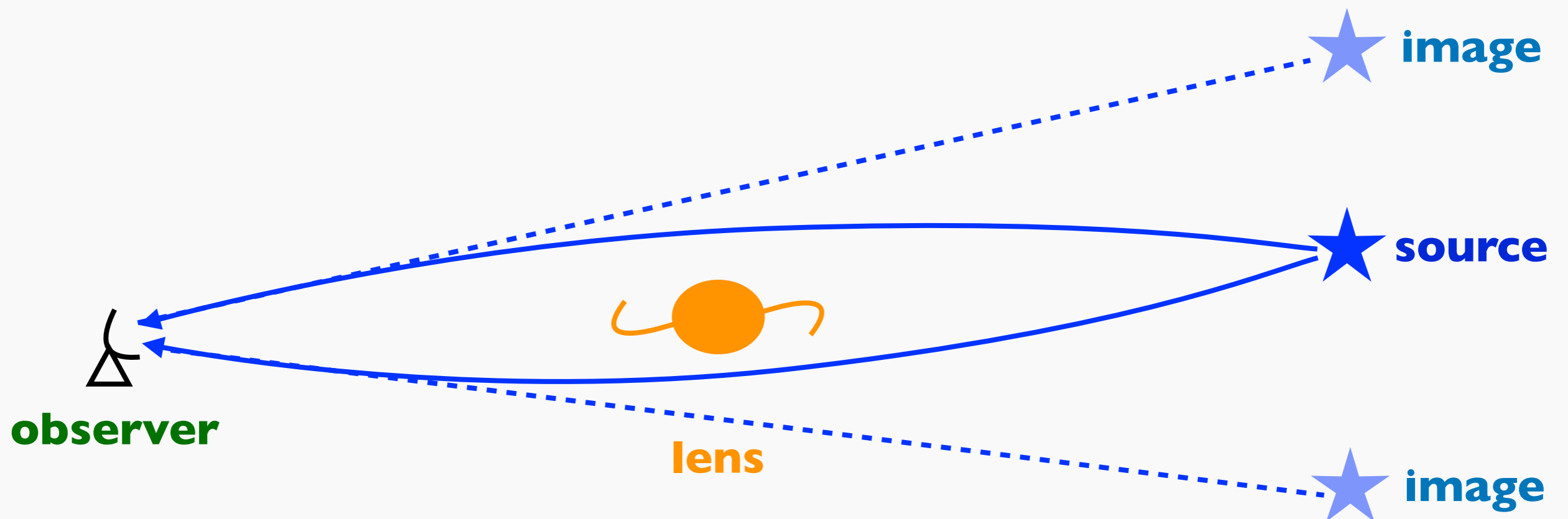
CHIBA  
UNIVERSITY



Center for  
Frontier  
Science

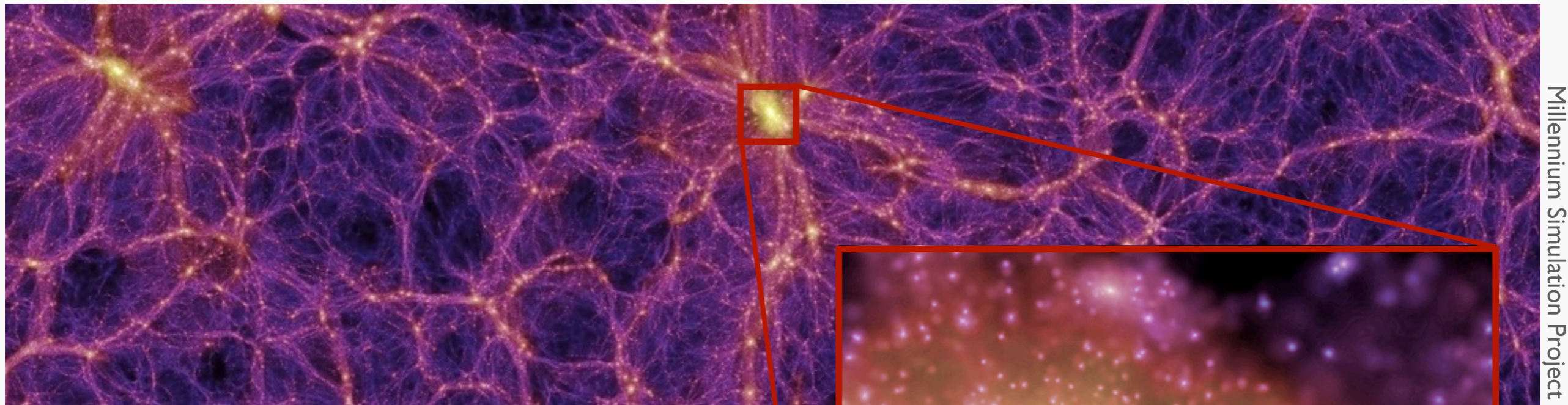
2024/10/15 Cosmic Indicators of Dark Matter@Tohoku

# Strong gravitational lensing



- multiple solution of **image position  $\vec{\theta}$**  for lens equation  $\vec{\beta} = \vec{\theta} - \vec{\alpha}(\vec{\theta})$   
→ **multiple images**

# Gravitational lensing by cluster

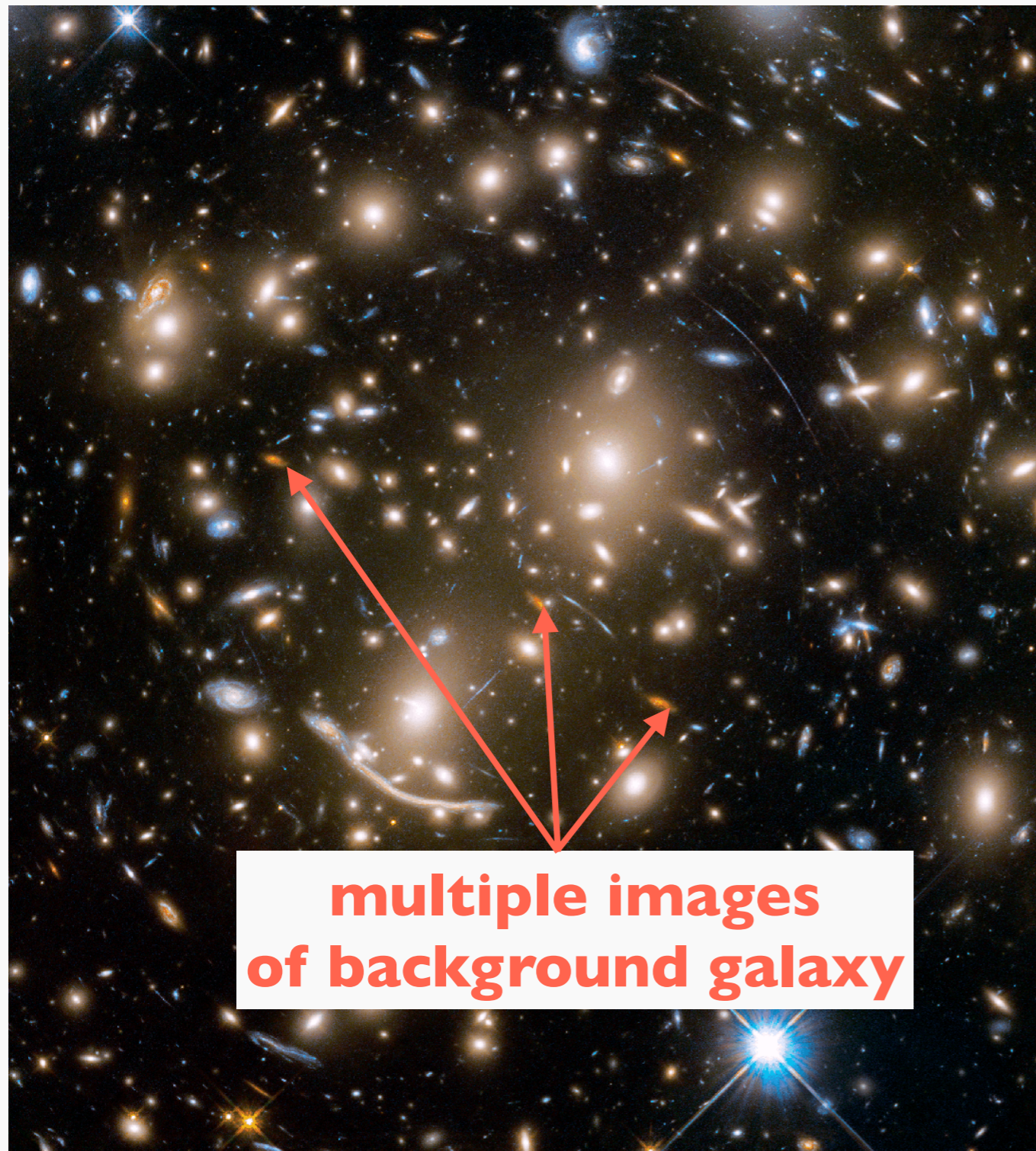


Millennium Simulation Project

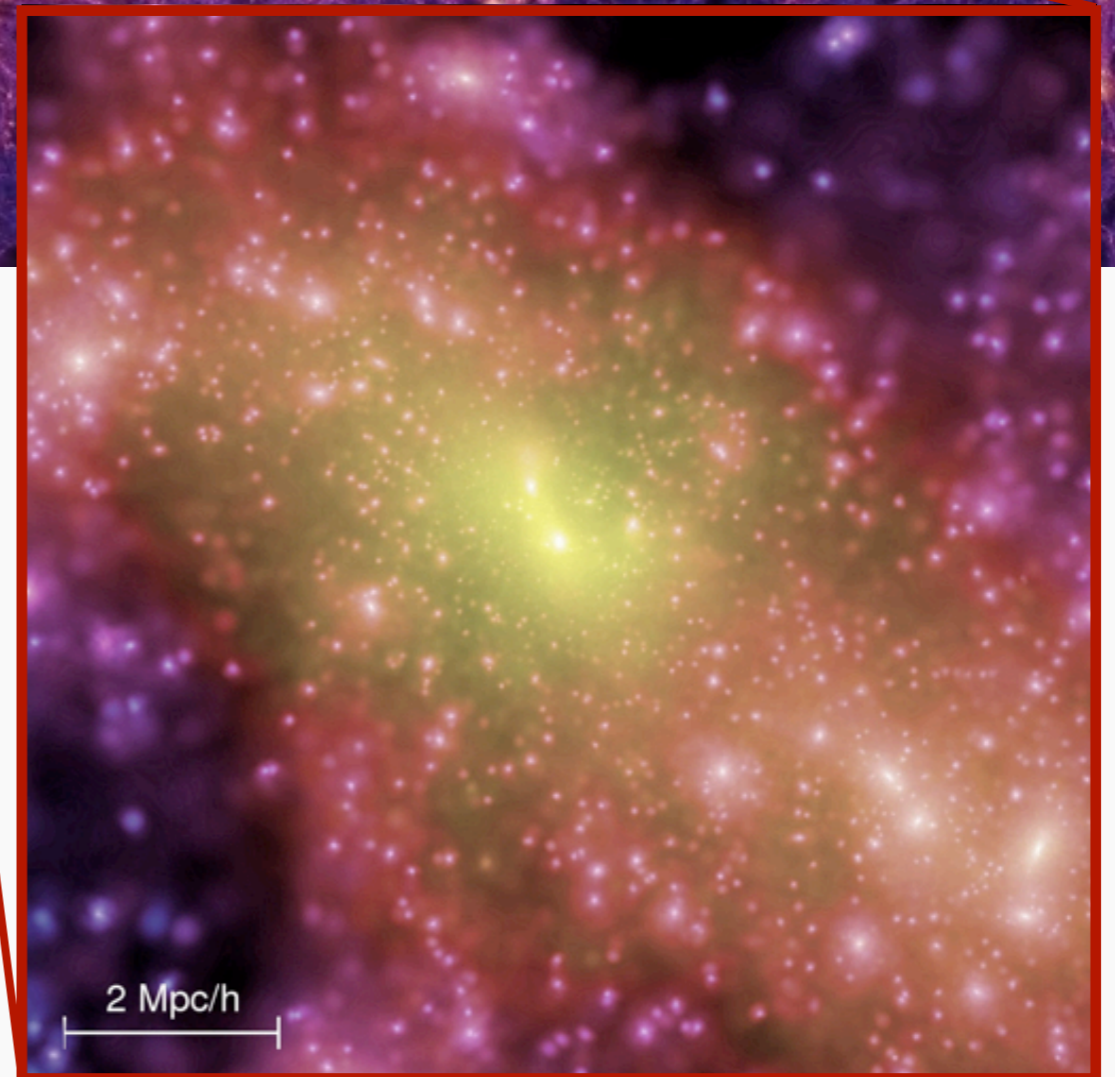
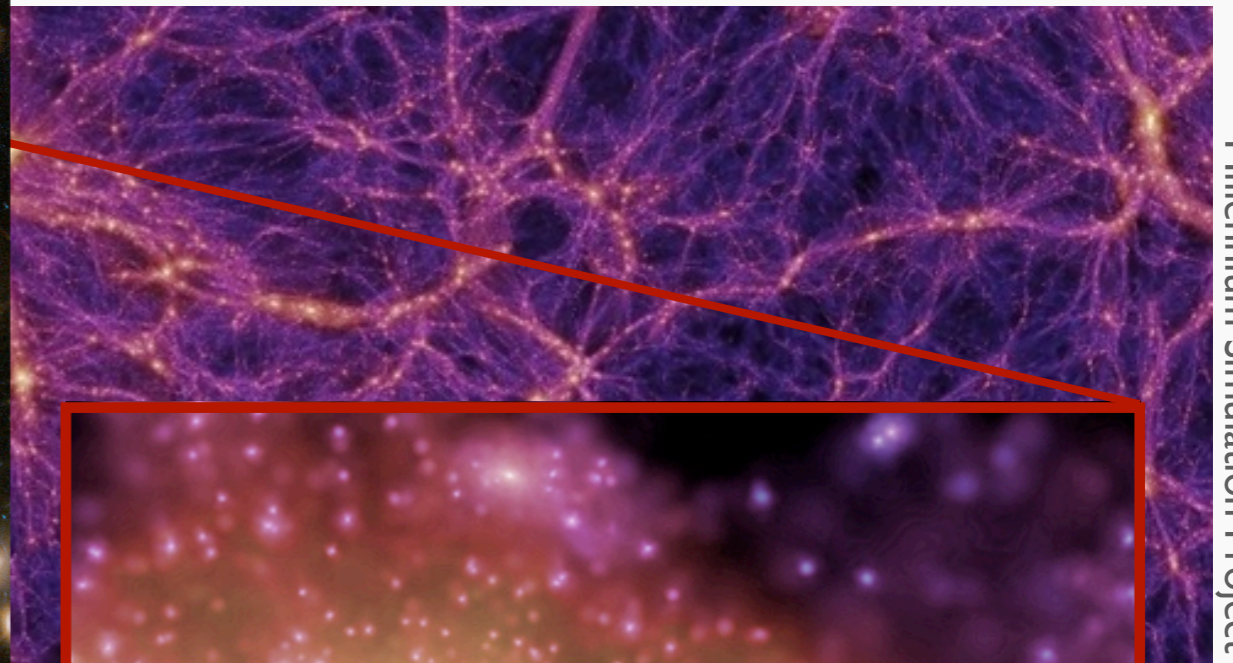
- massive concentration of dark matter
- useful site for studying dark matter



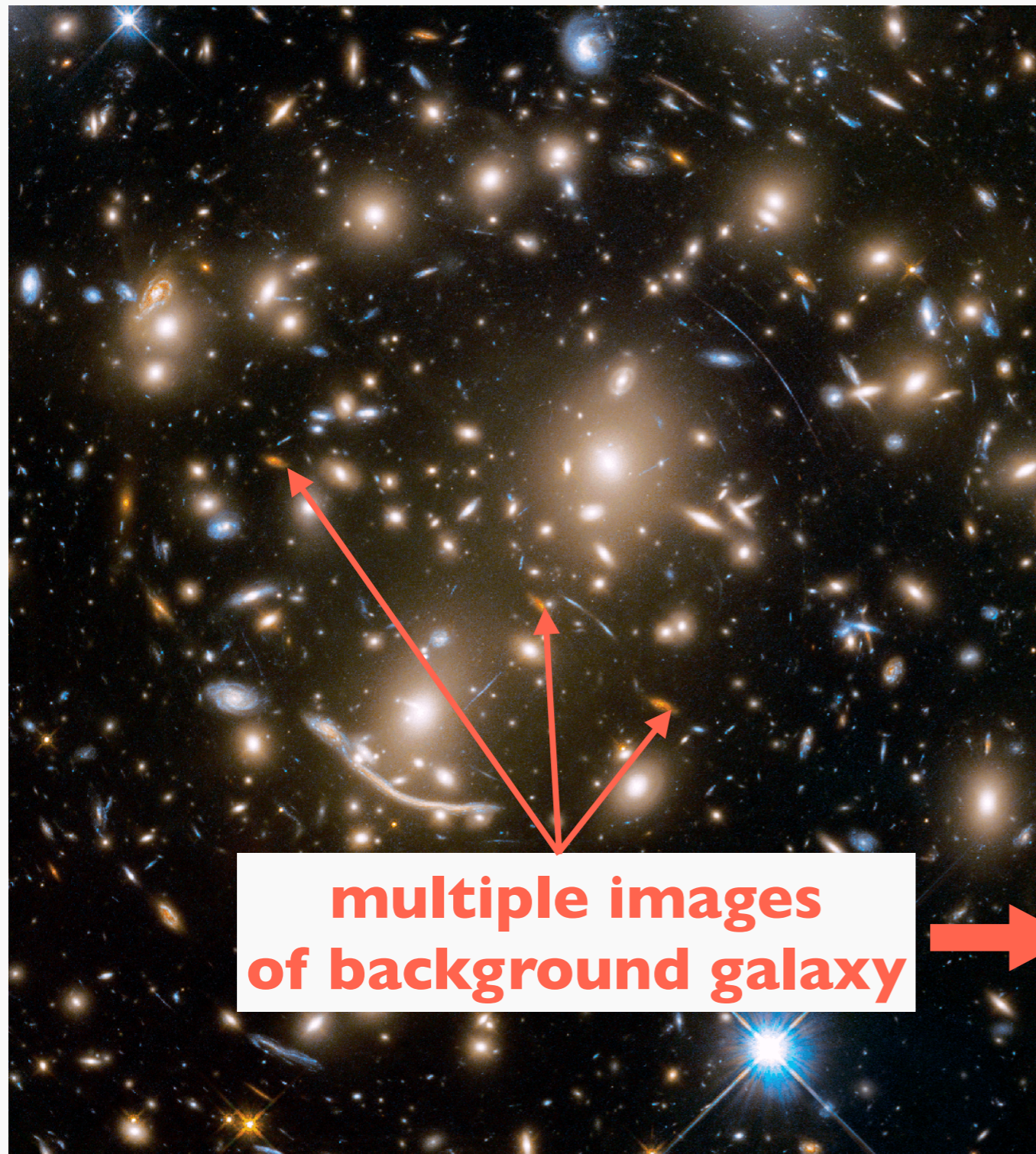
# Gravitational lensing by cluster



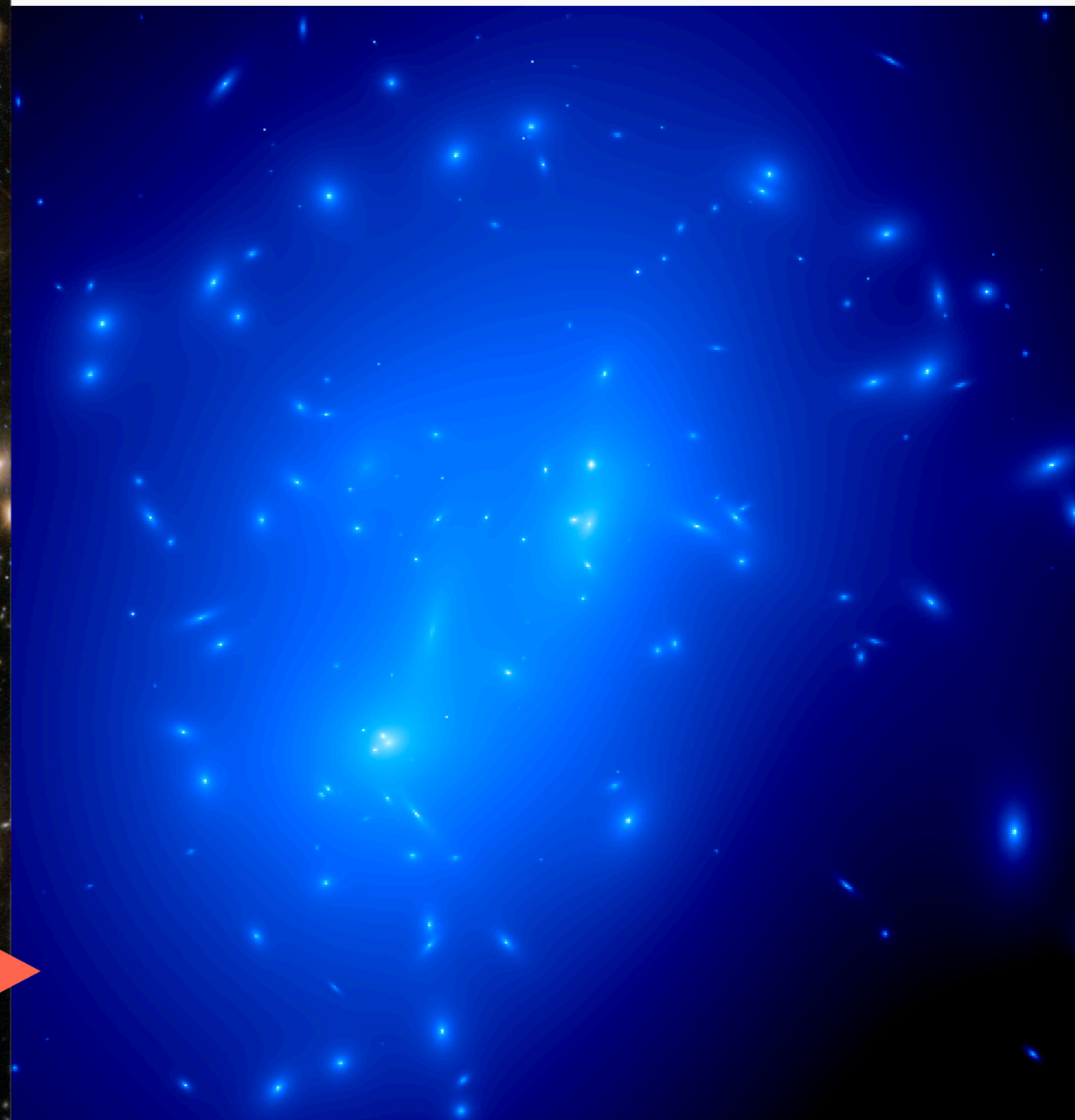
Abell 370, NASA/STScI



# Gravitational lensing by cluster



**multiple images  
of background galaxy**

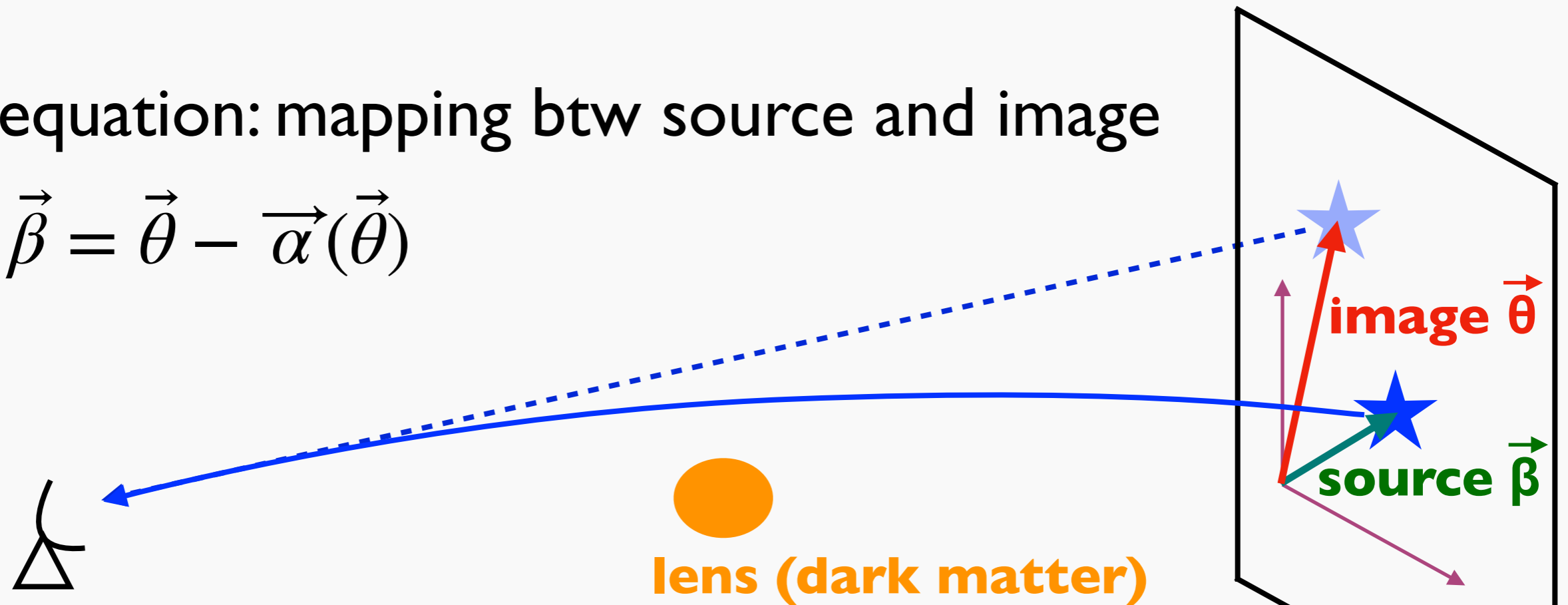


**reconstructed matter distribution**

# Critical curve and caustic

lens equation: mapping btw source and image

$$\vec{\beta} = \vec{\theta} - \vec{\alpha}(\vec{\theta})$$



magnification  $\mu$

$$\mu = \left[ \det \left( \frac{\partial \vec{\beta}}{\partial \vec{\theta}} \right) \right]^{-1}$$

critical curve  $\theta_c$

$$\det \left( \frac{\partial \vec{\beta}}{\partial \vec{\theta}} \right) \Big|_{\vec{\theta}=\vec{\theta}_c} = 0$$

caustic  $\beta_c$

$$\vec{\beta}_c = \vec{\beta}(\vec{\theta}_c)$$

**near critical curve/caustic  $\rightarrow$  high magnification 6**

# Caustic

- concentration of reflected or refracted light
- in gravitational lensing, it is where
  - magnification of a point source formally diverges
  - a pair of multiple images appear/disappear



# Caustic crossing

critical curve  
(image plane)

caustic  
(source plane)

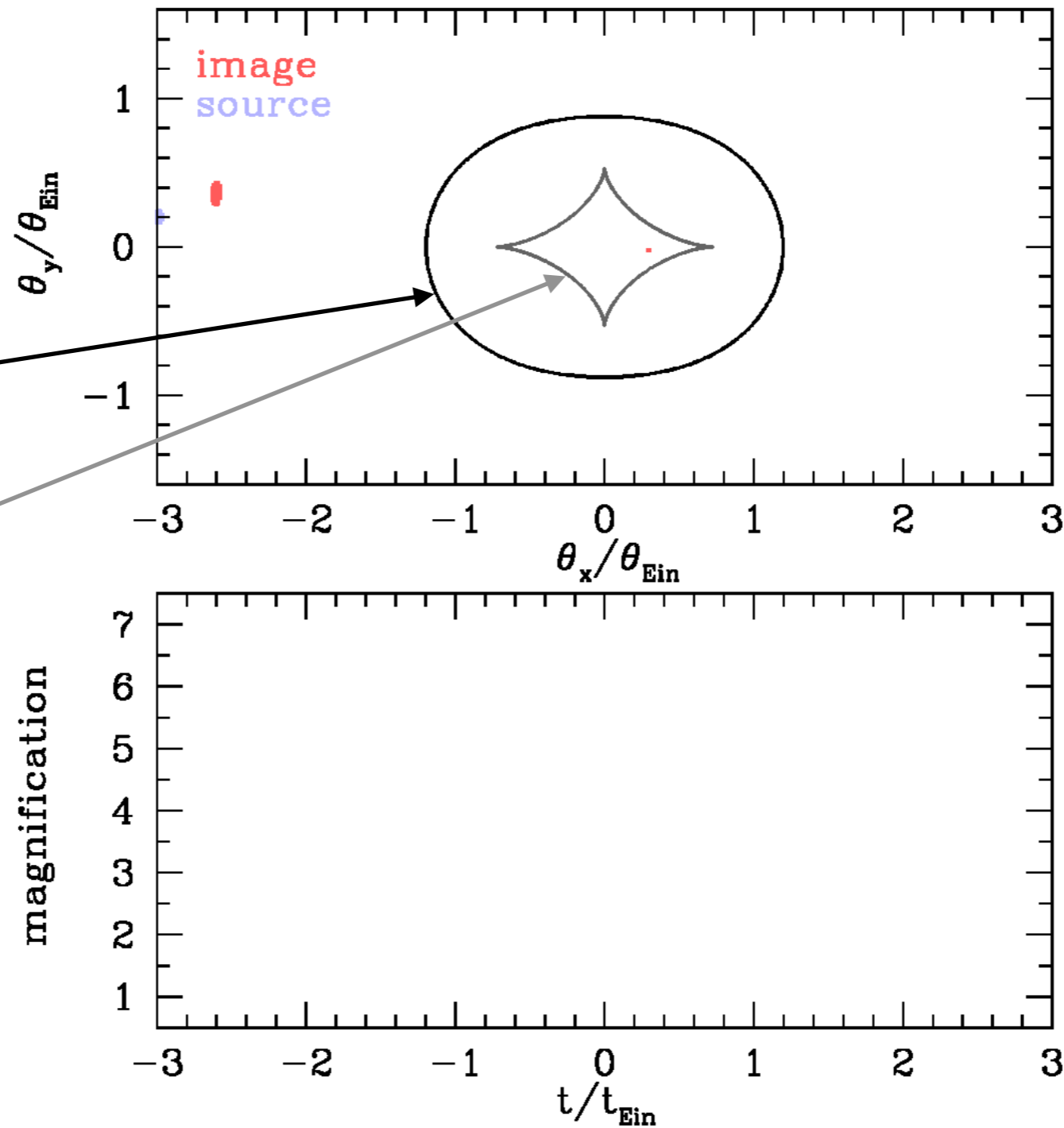
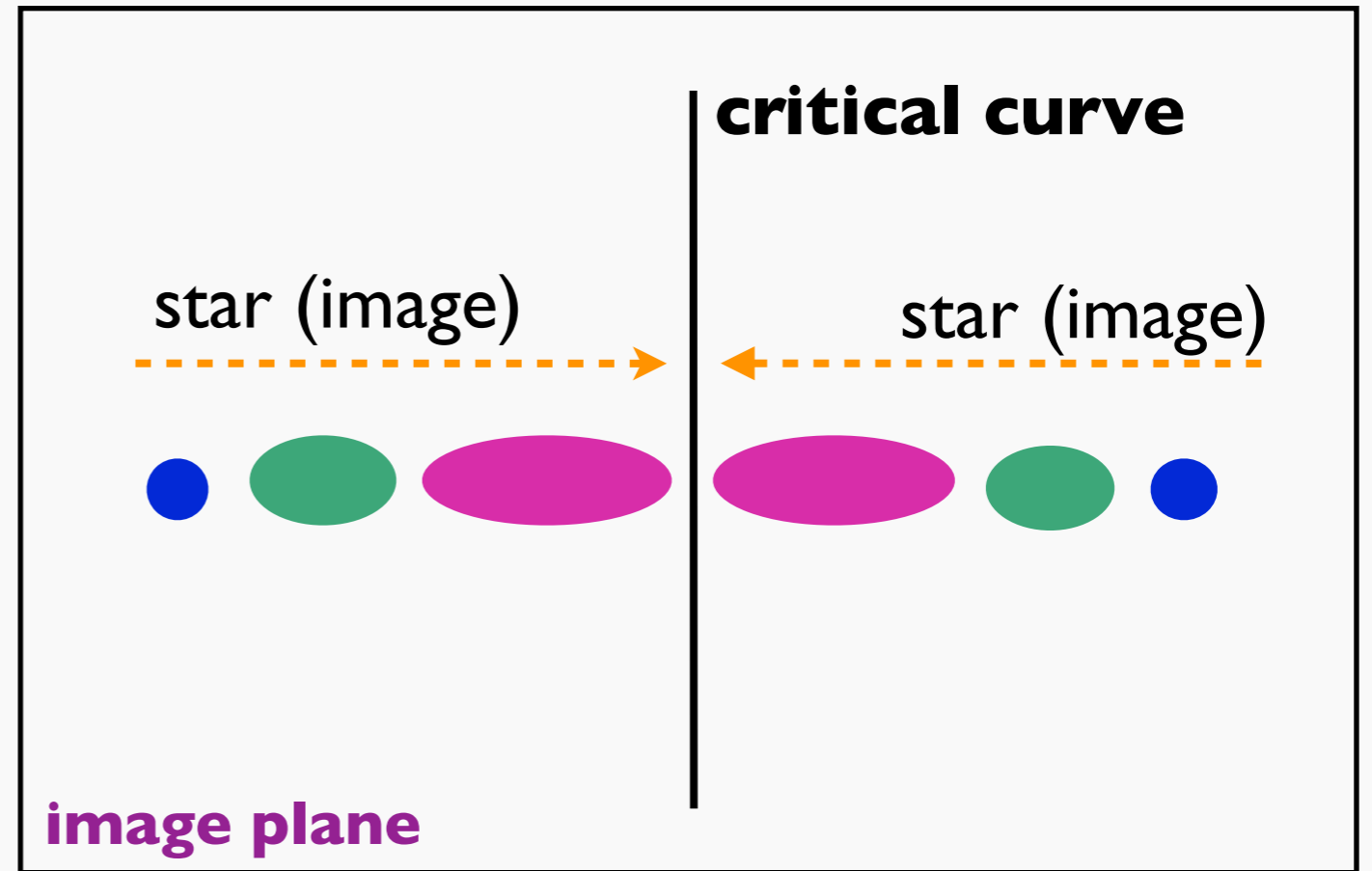
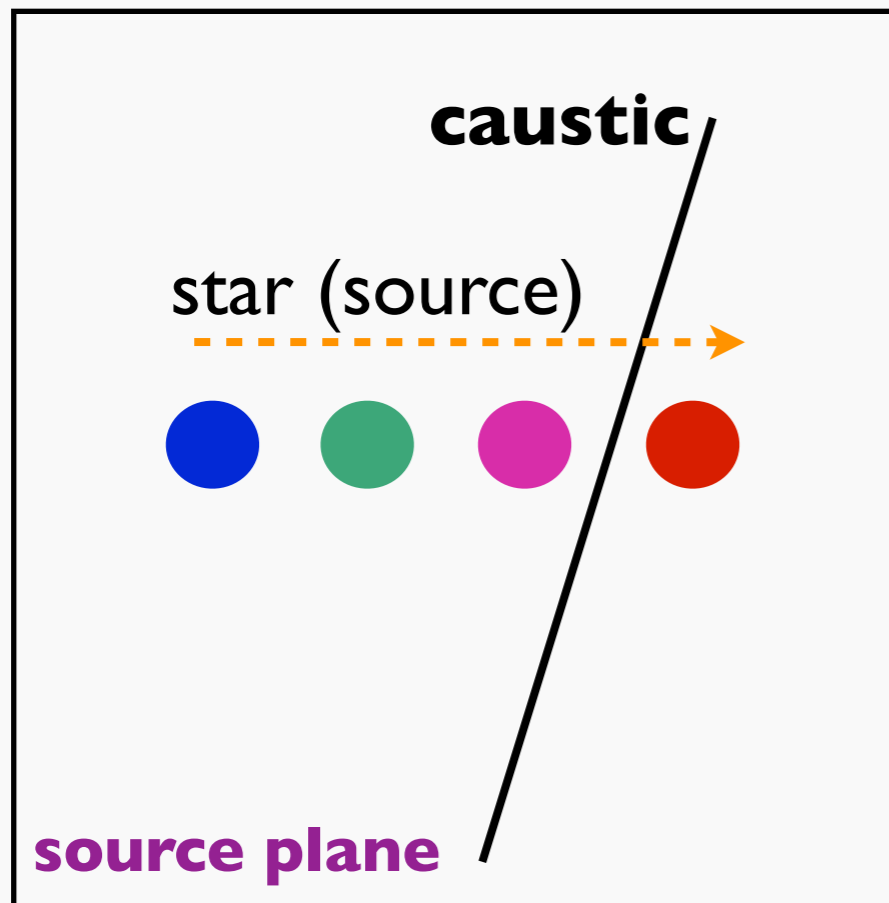


image  
(observed)

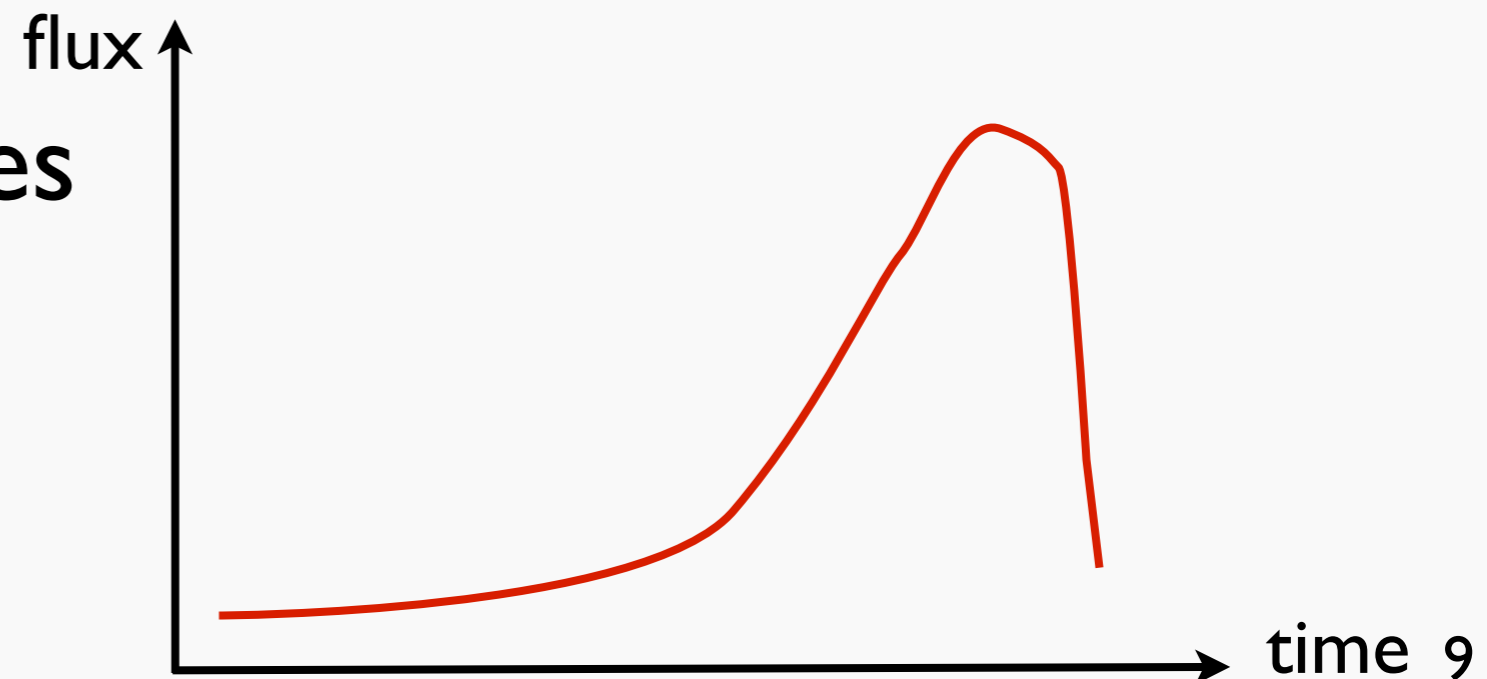
source  
(not observed)



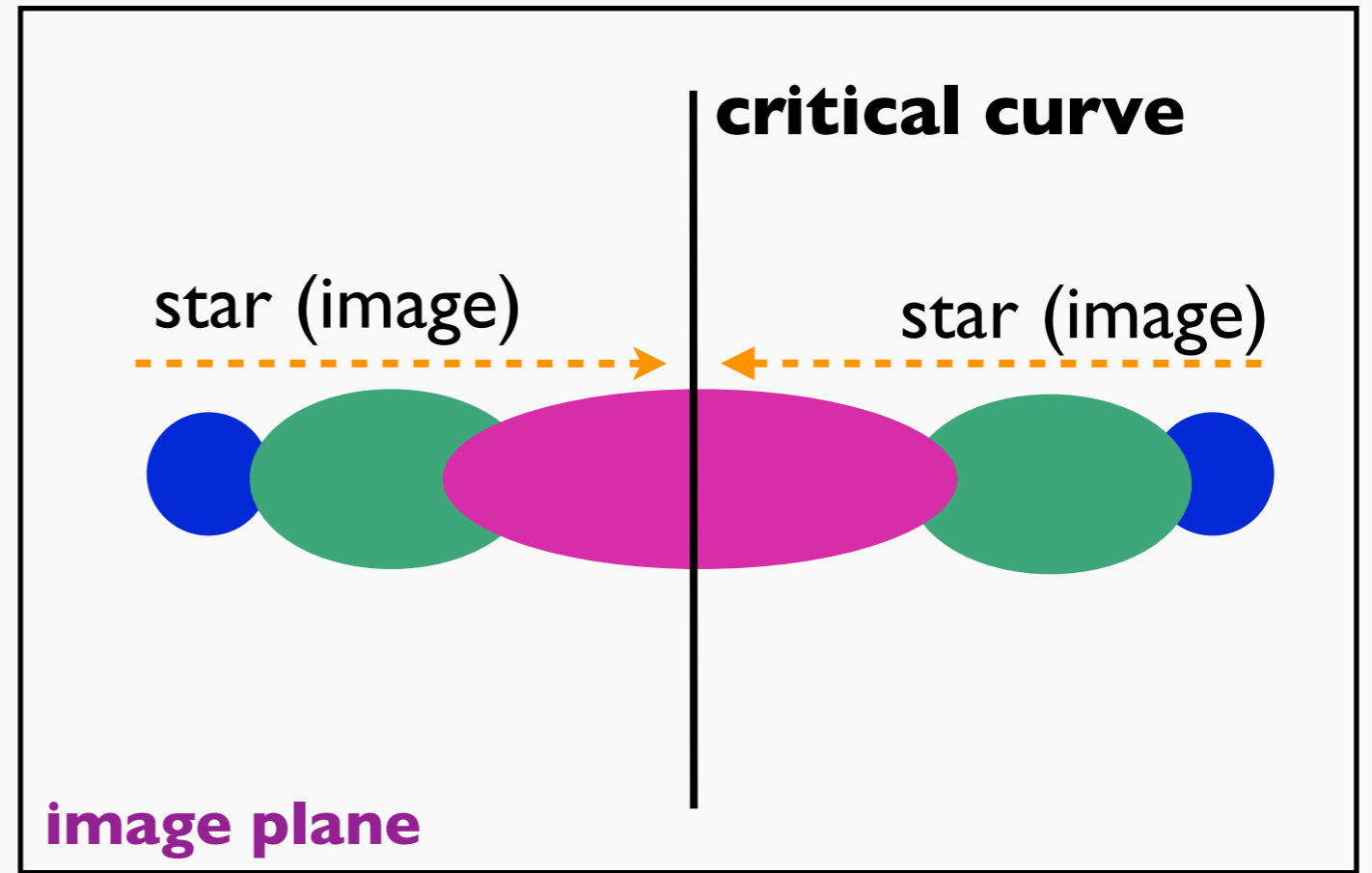
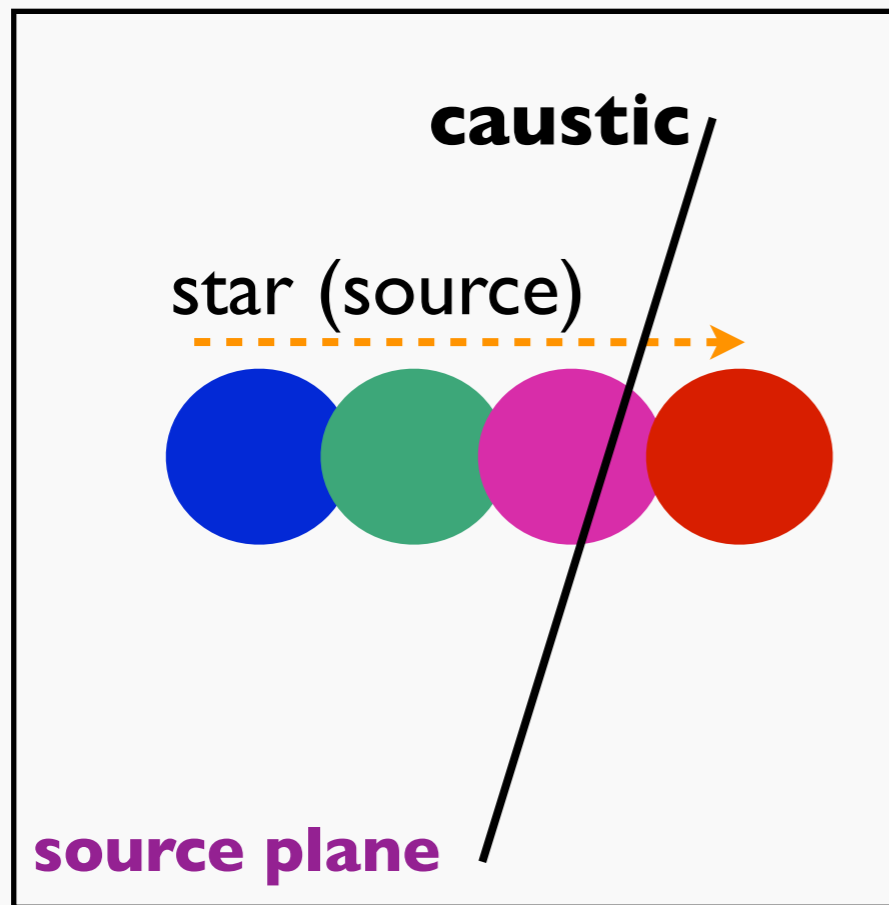
# Caustic crossing



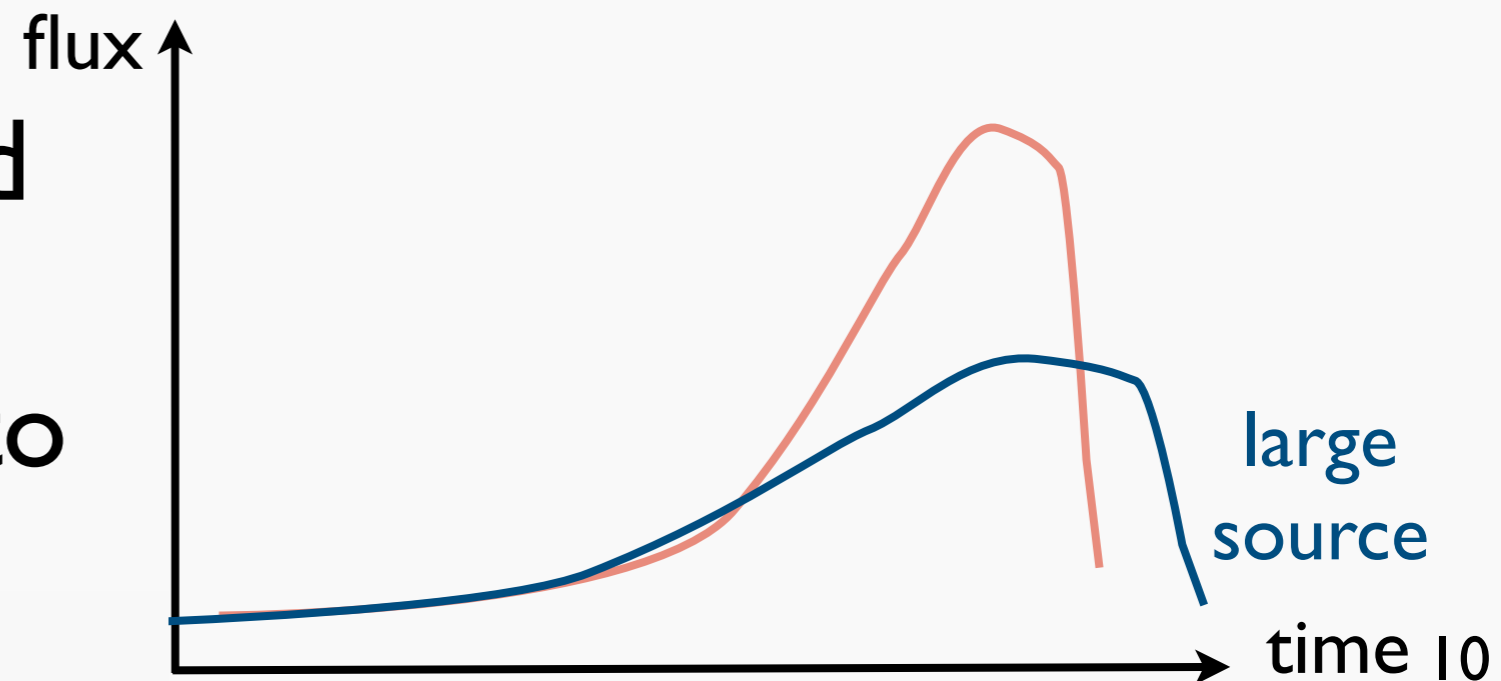
- two multiple images disappear
- **asymmetric light curve**



# Caustic crossing

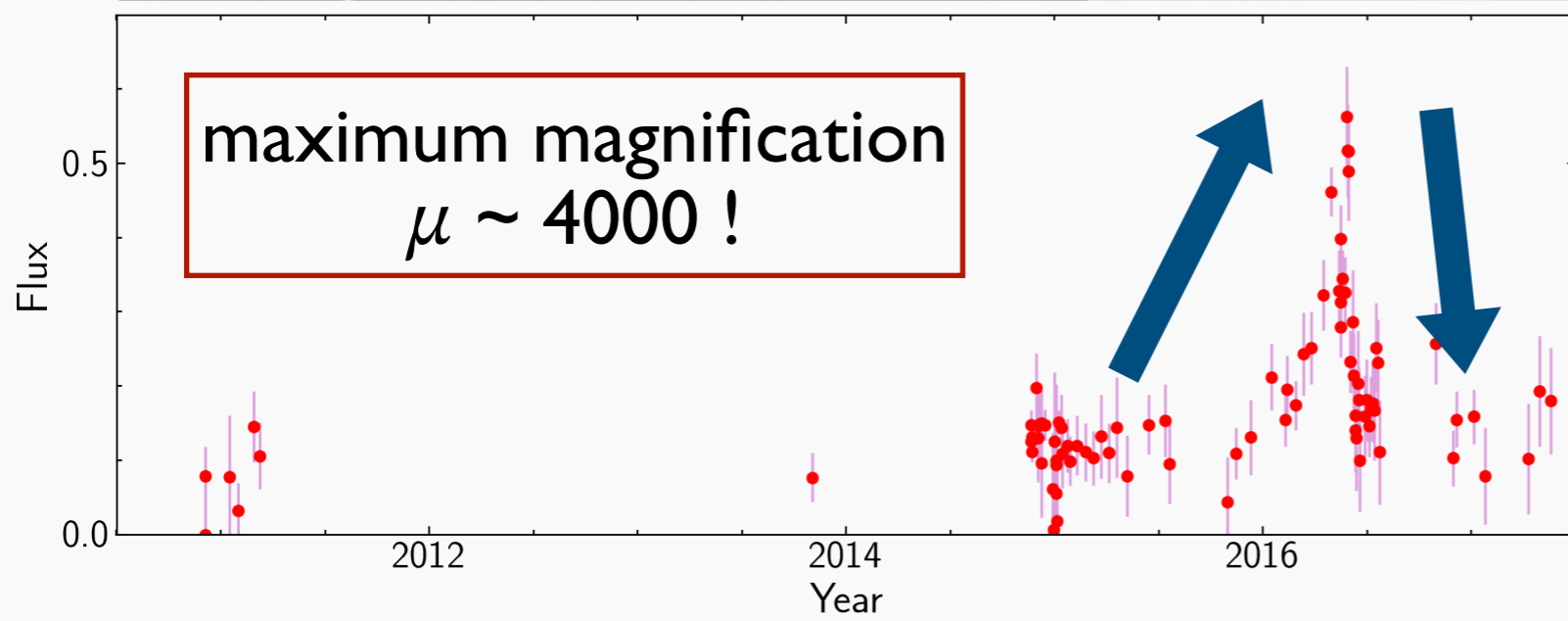
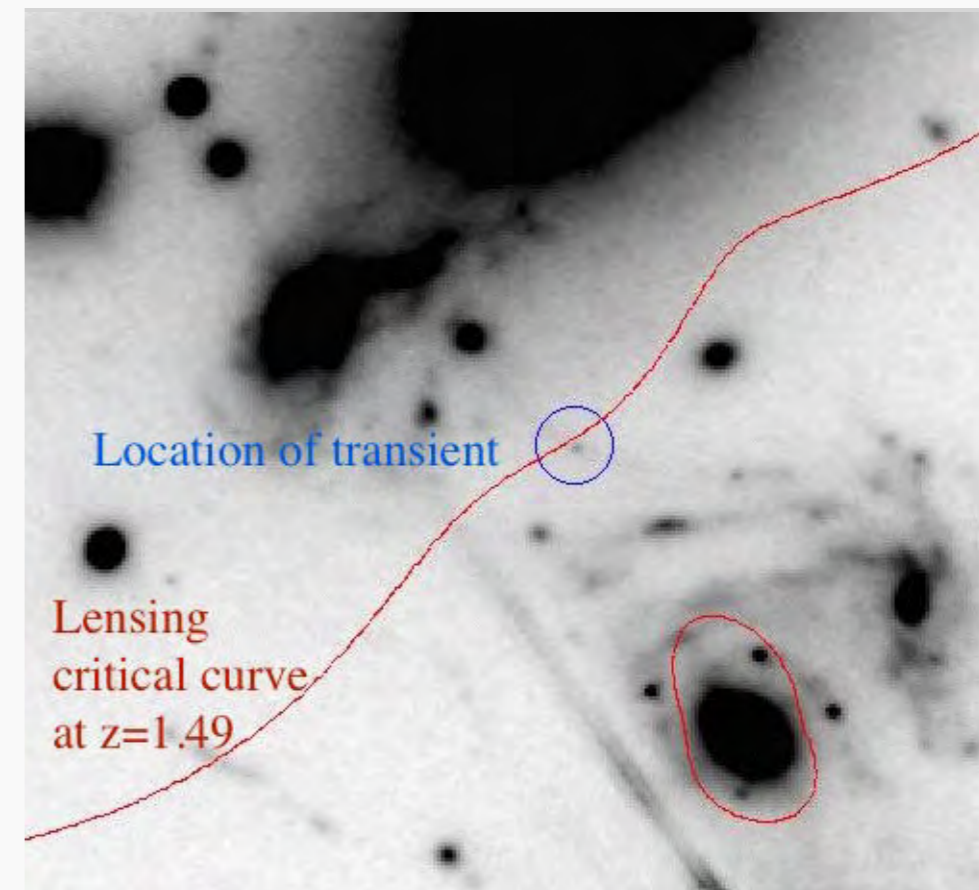
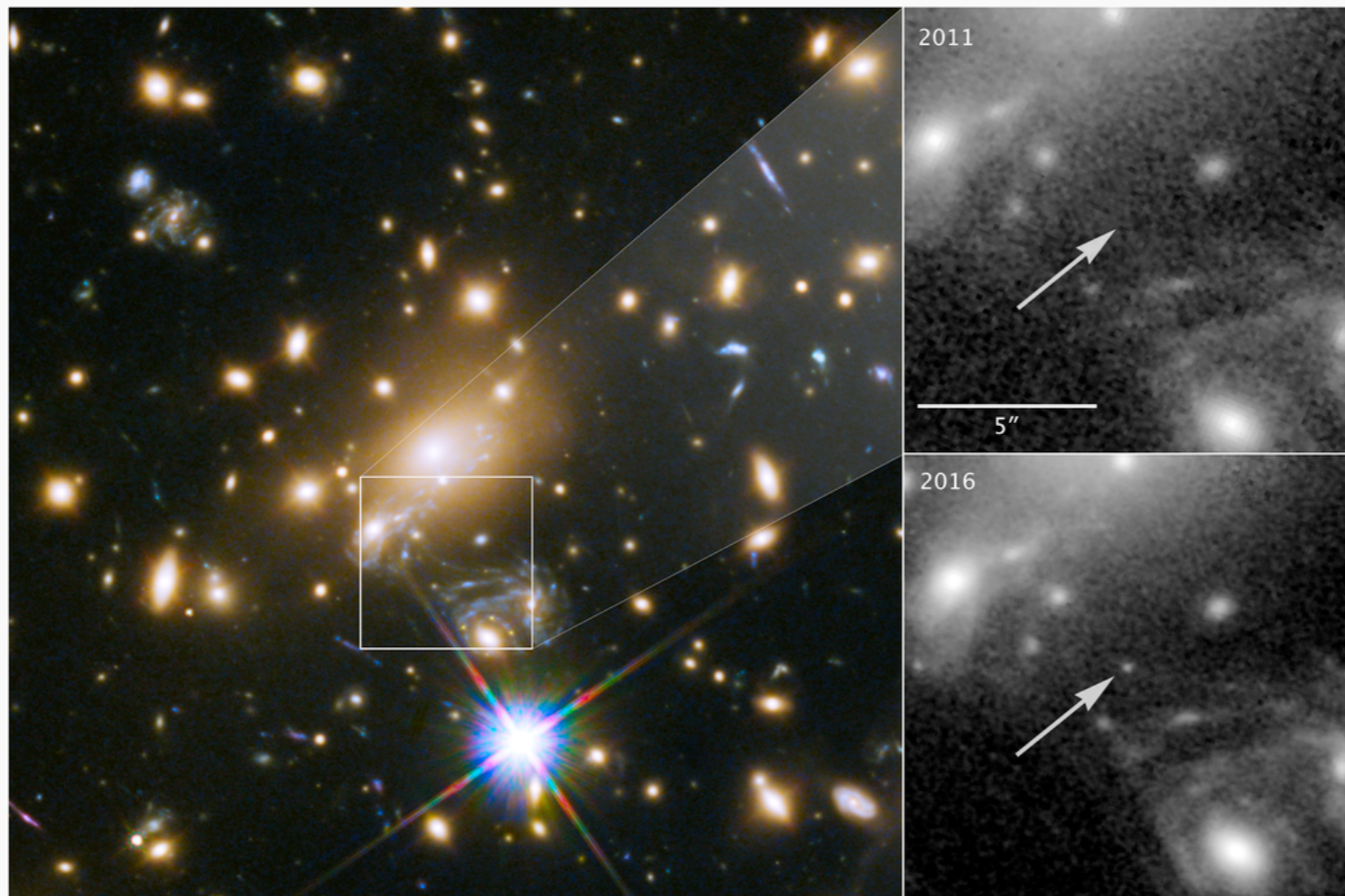


- maximum mag. and width of the light curve is sensitive to source size





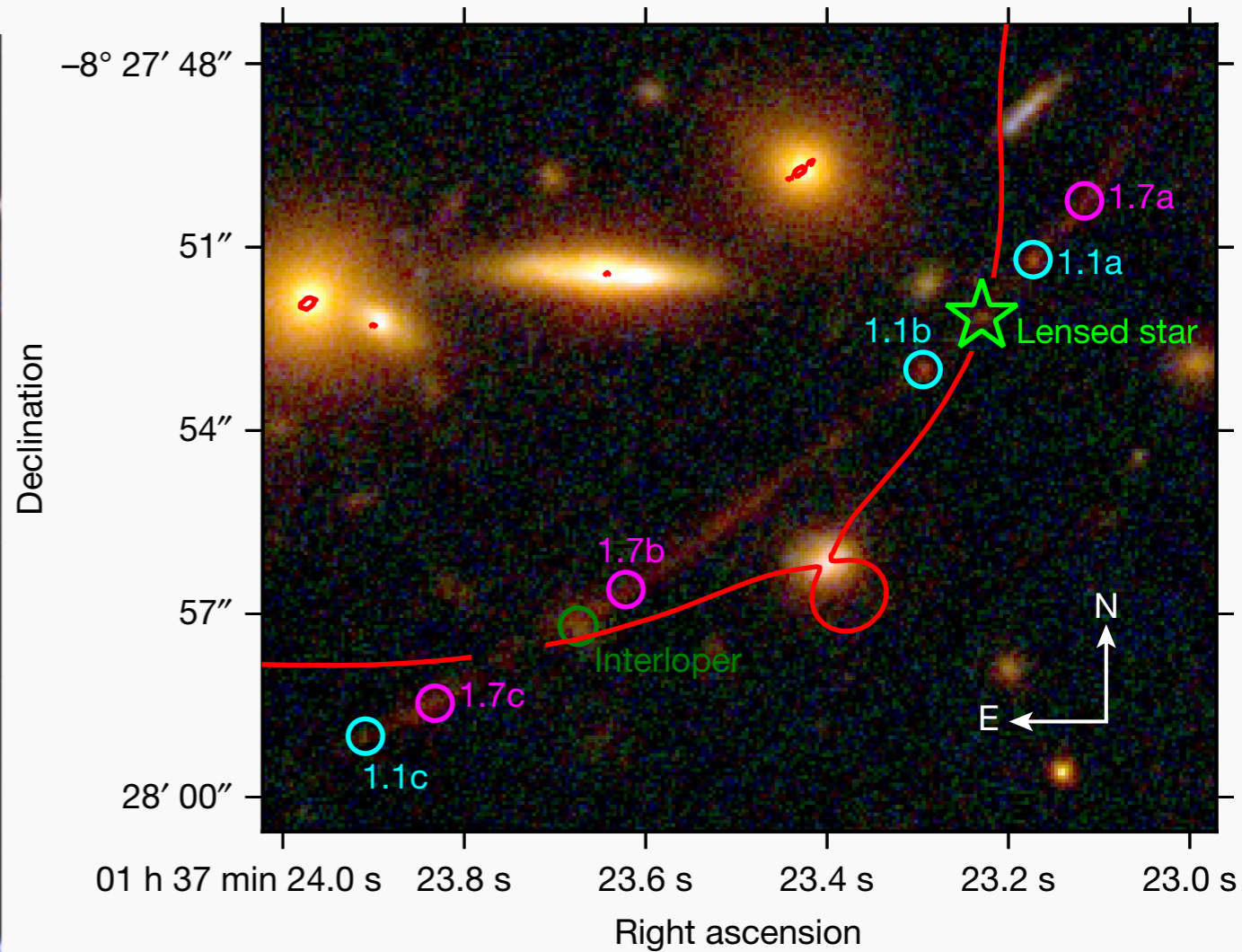
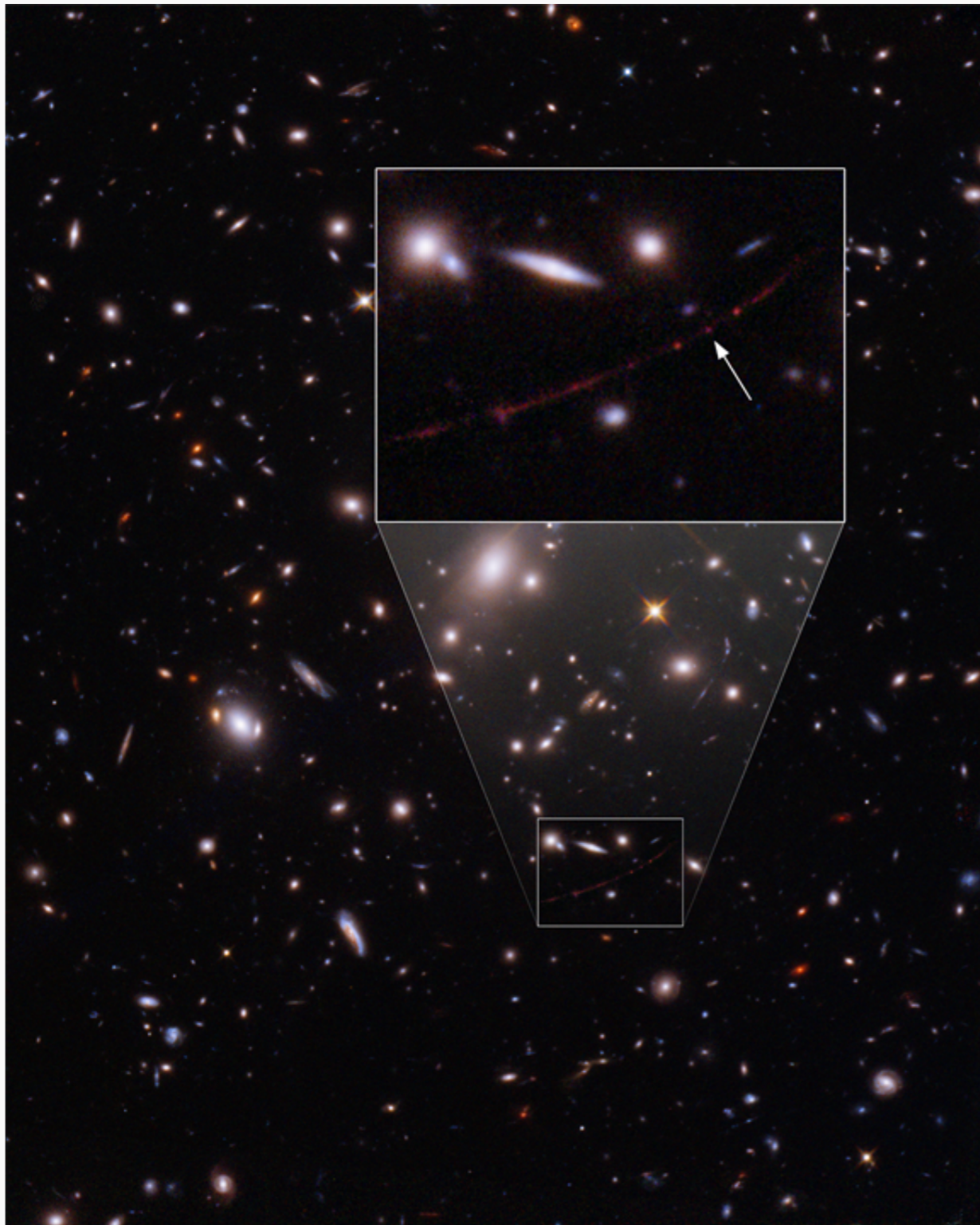
# Discovery of Icarus



- single star (blue supergiant) at  $z=1.5$



# Discovery of Earendel



- single star at  $z=6.2$
- magnification  $\mu \sim 10000$  (?)

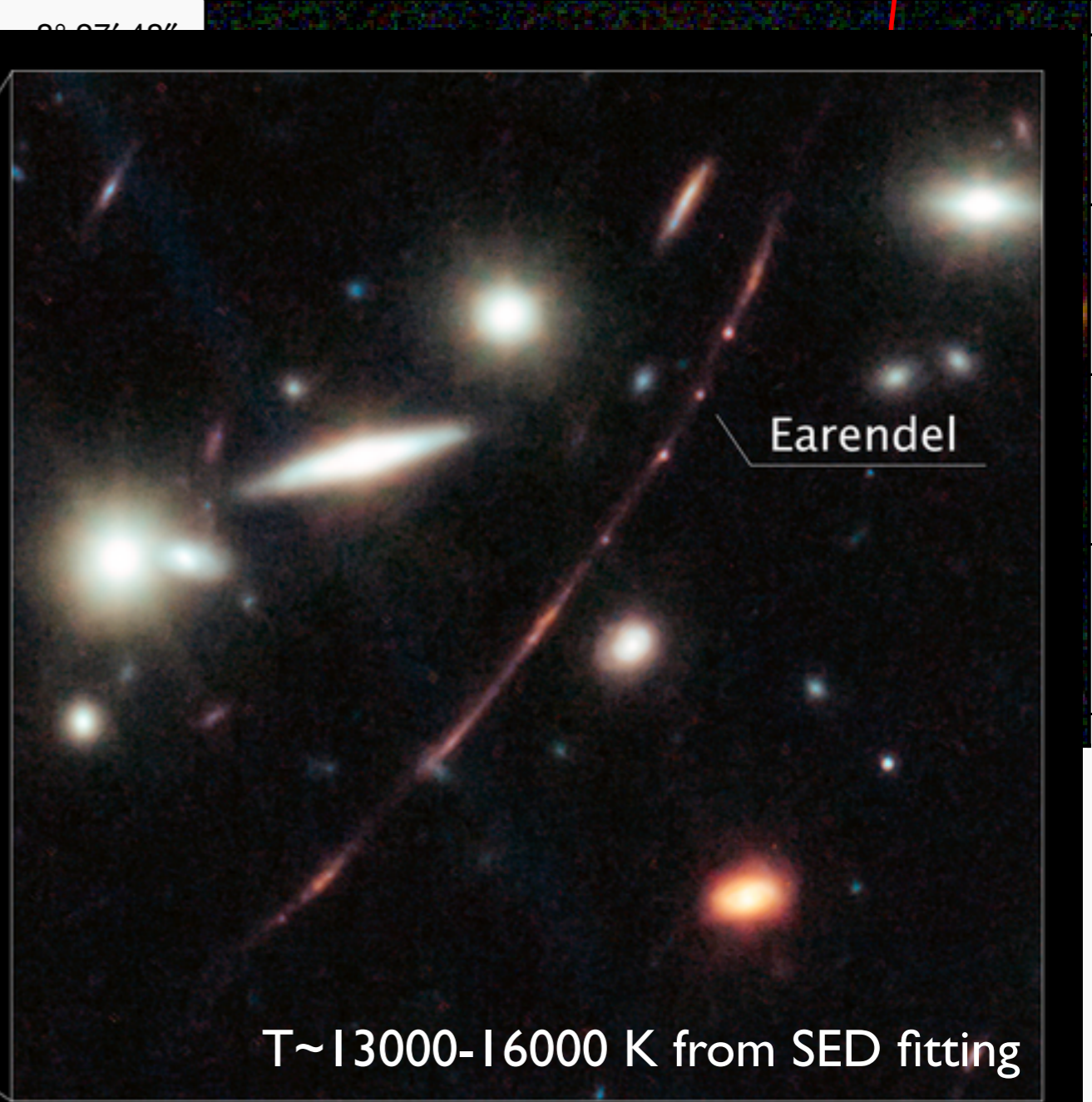
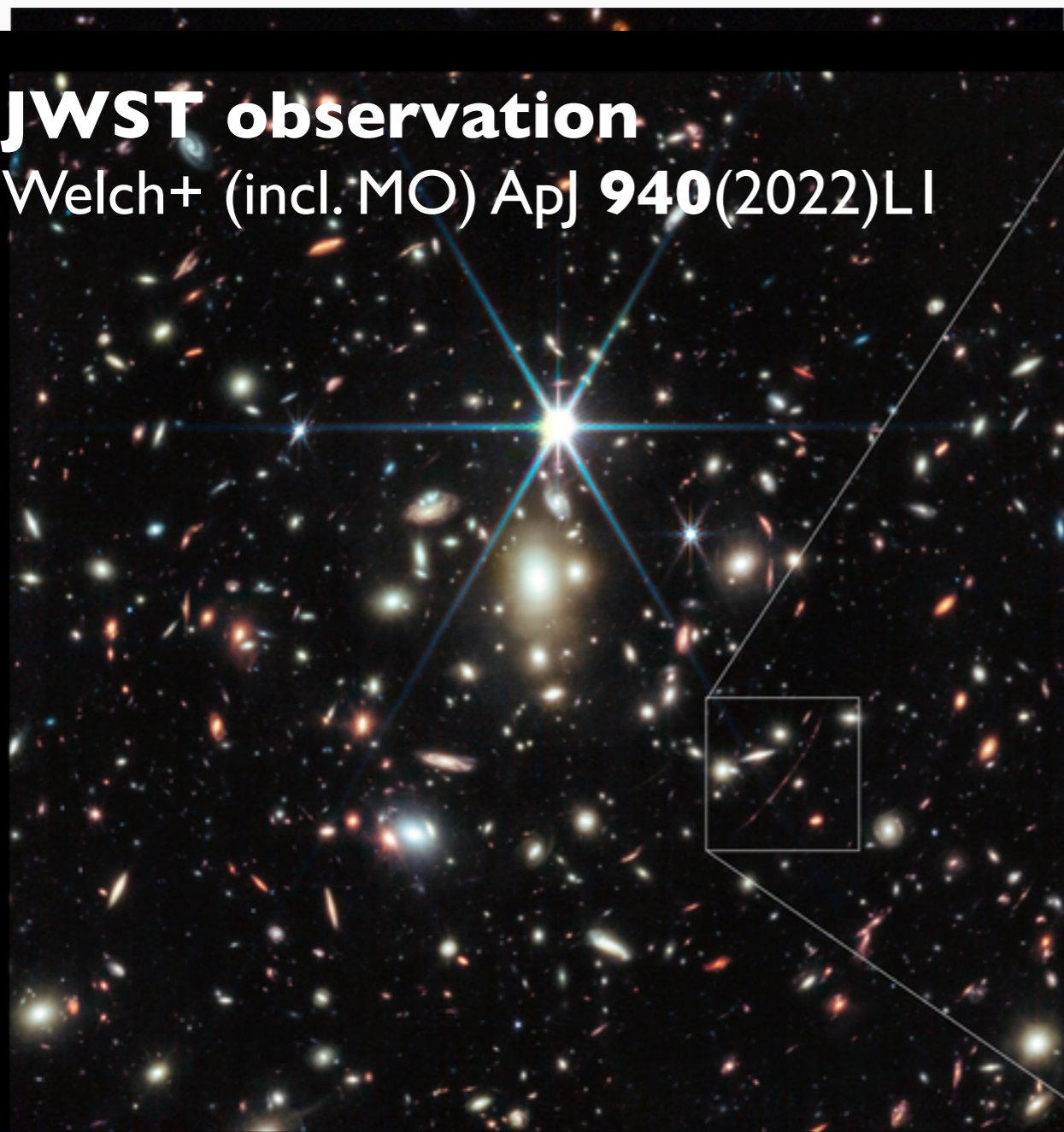
NASA/ESA/CSA/D. Coe et al.  
NASA/ESA/B. Welch



# Discovery of Earendel

**JWST observation**

Welch+ (incl. MO) ApJ **940**(2022)L1



Earendel

$T \sim 13000 - 16000$  K from SED fitting

$\mu \sim 10000$  (?)

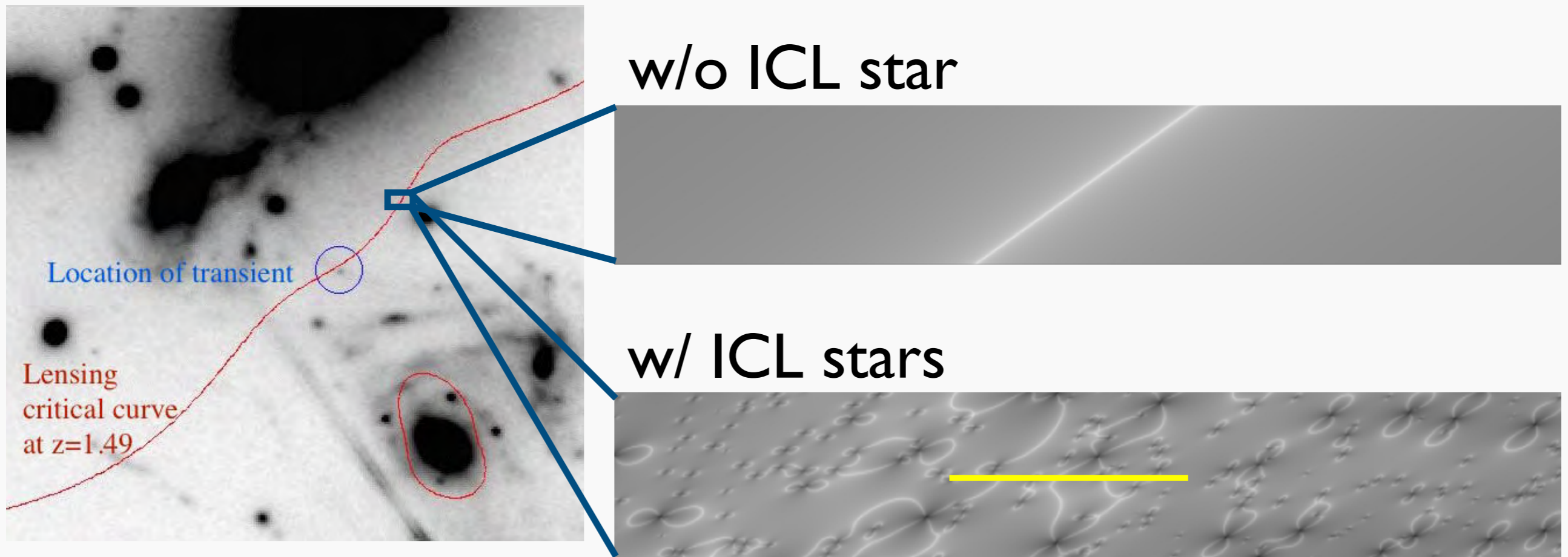
# Interpretation of caustic crossings

- caustic crossings look very simple, yet in fact they are not that simple because the mass distribution is not completely smooth
- non-smoothness due to stars responsible for **intra-cluster star (ICL)**
- tidal stripping of cluster member galaxies explains ICL





# 'Destruction' of critical curve

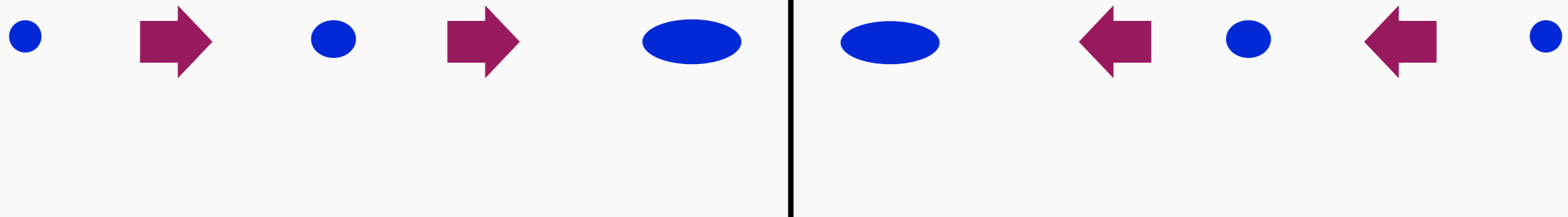


- destruction of critical curve due to overlapping Einstein radii of ICL stars

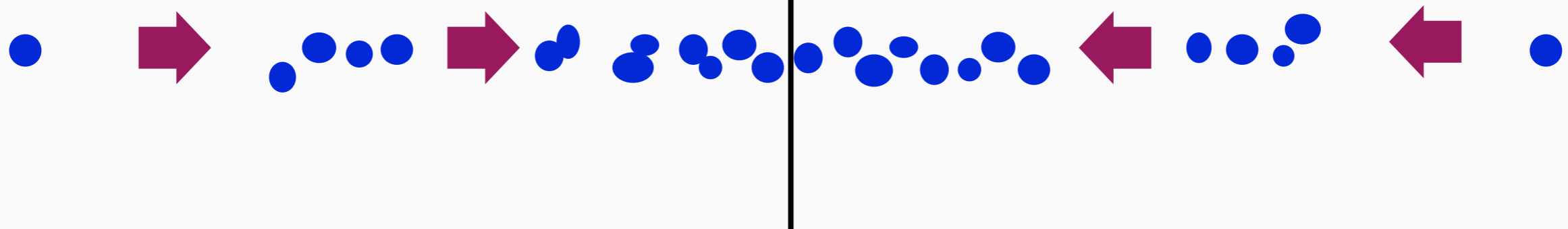
$$\tau = \frac{\Sigma}{M} \pi (\sqrt{\mu_t} \theta_E D_{ol})^2 \quad \tau \gtrsim 1 \rightarrow \text{saturation}$$

# Caustic crossing w/ ICL

w/o ICL star



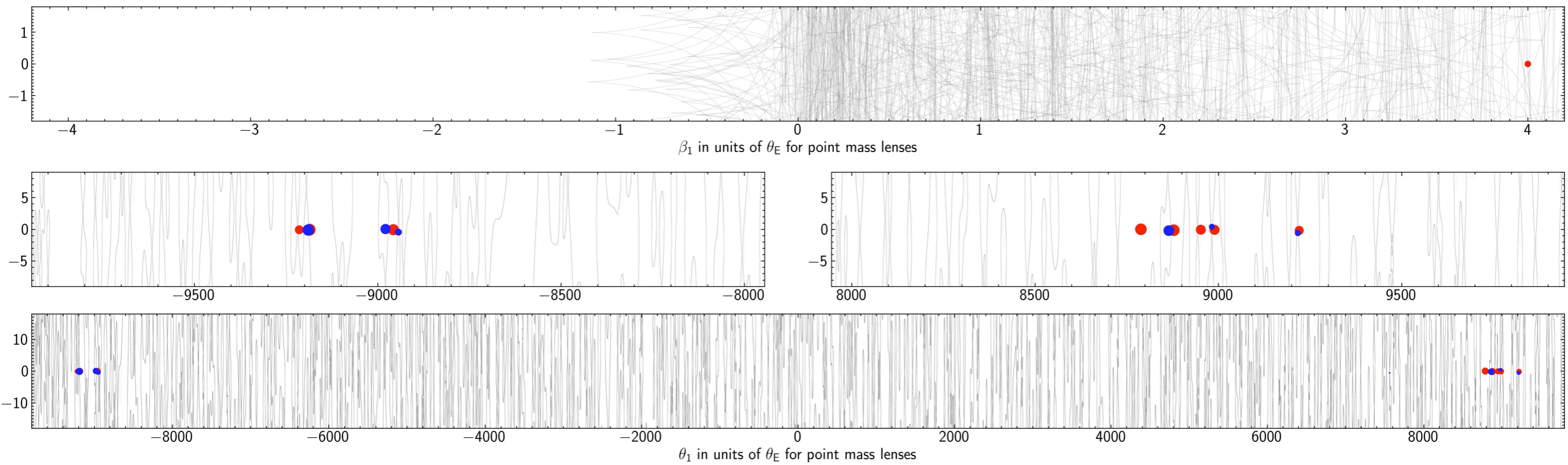
w/ ICL stars



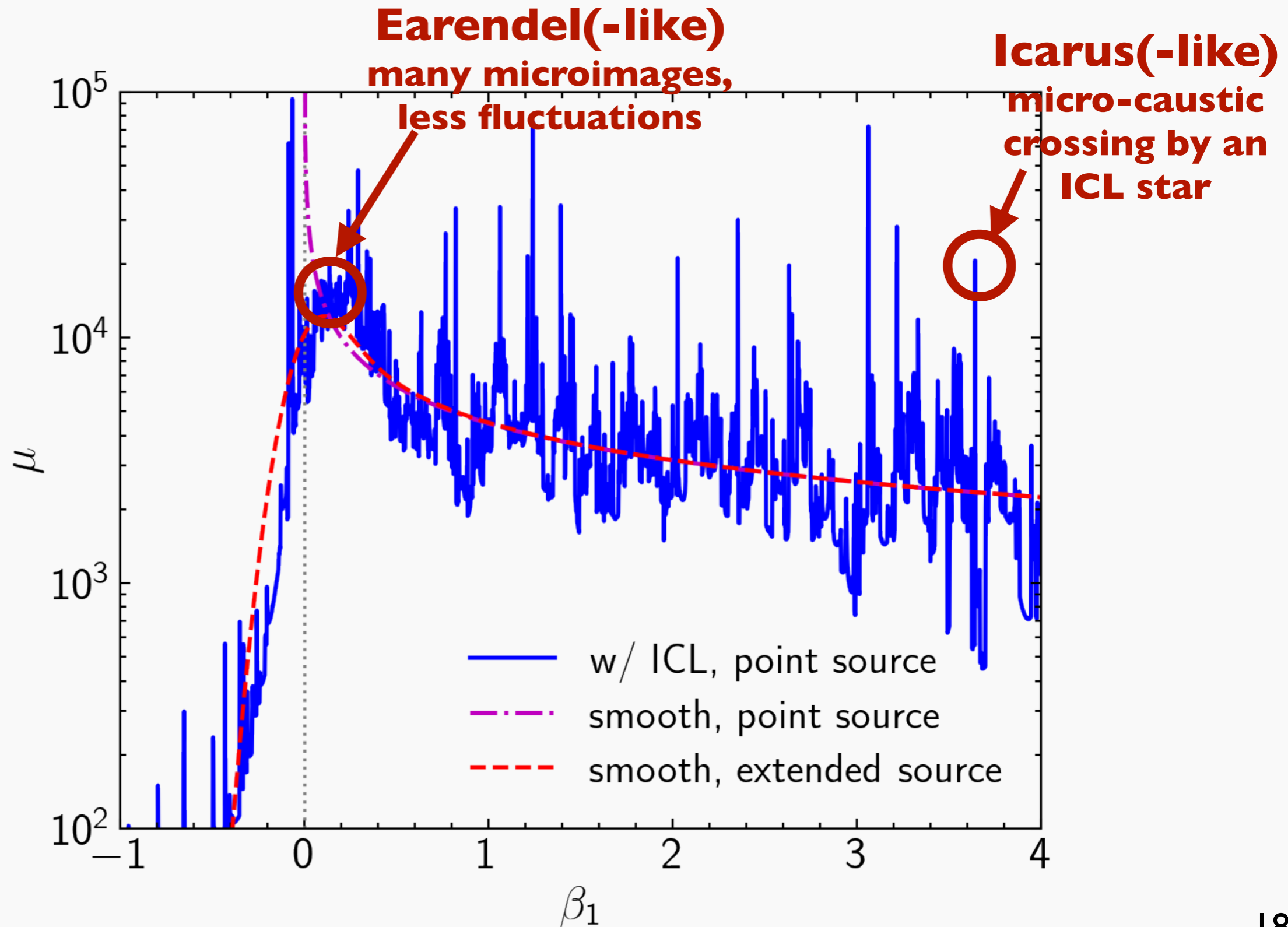


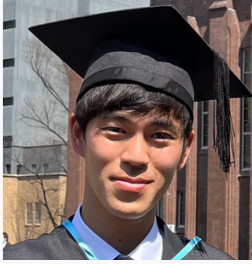


# Simulation



# Caustic crossing lightcurves



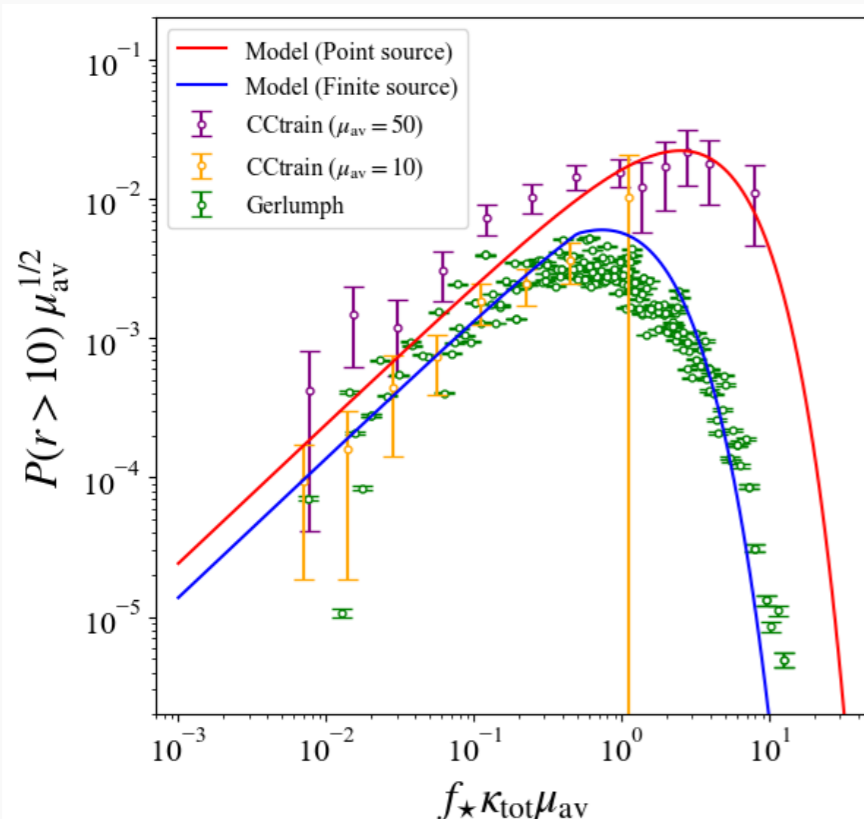


# Analytic model

- Assumption: caustic crossing probability is proportional to number of independent micro-critical curves  $N_{\star}^{\text{indep}} \leftarrow$  **Rayleigh dist.**

$$\frac{dP}{d \log_{10} r} \propto N_{\star}^{\text{indep}} \sqrt{\mu_{\text{av}}} r^{-2} S(r; r_{\text{max}})$$

$$\propto f_{\star} \kappa_{\text{tot}} \exp(-f_{\star} \kappa_{\text{tot}} \mu_{\text{av}}) \sqrt{\mu_{\text{av}}} r^{-2} S(r; r_{\text{max}})$$



parameter dependence  
in ray-tracing sim is  
well reproduced!

$\mu_{\text{av}}$  : mean magnif.

$S$  : finite source  
size effect

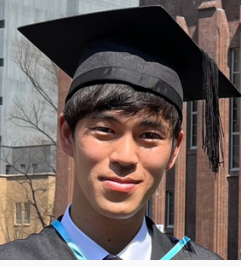
$f_{\star}$  : ICL fraction

$\kappa_{\text{tot}}$  : convergence

$r = \mu / \mu_{\text{av}}$

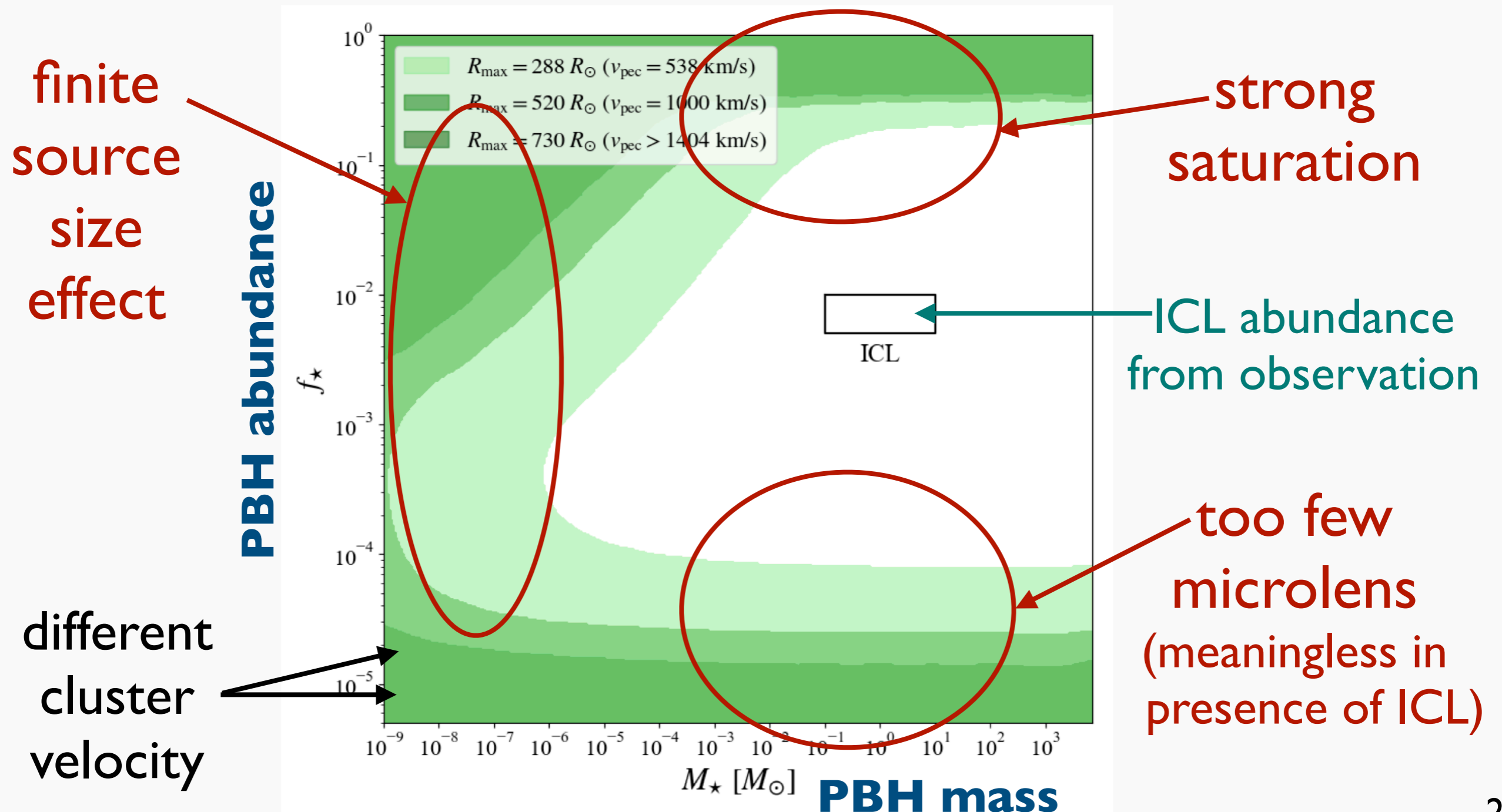
# Probing DM with caustic crossings

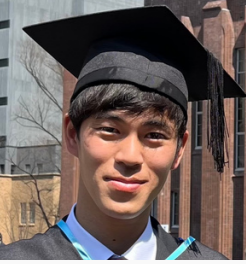
- caustic crossing probability is sensitive to mass fraction  $f_{\star}$  of compact objects
  - **primordial black holes** (PBH)
- caustic crossings appear near critical curves of clusters, which are sensitive to small-scale dark matter distribution
  - **warm dark matter** (WDM)
  - **fuzzy dark matter** (FDM)



# Constraint on PBH

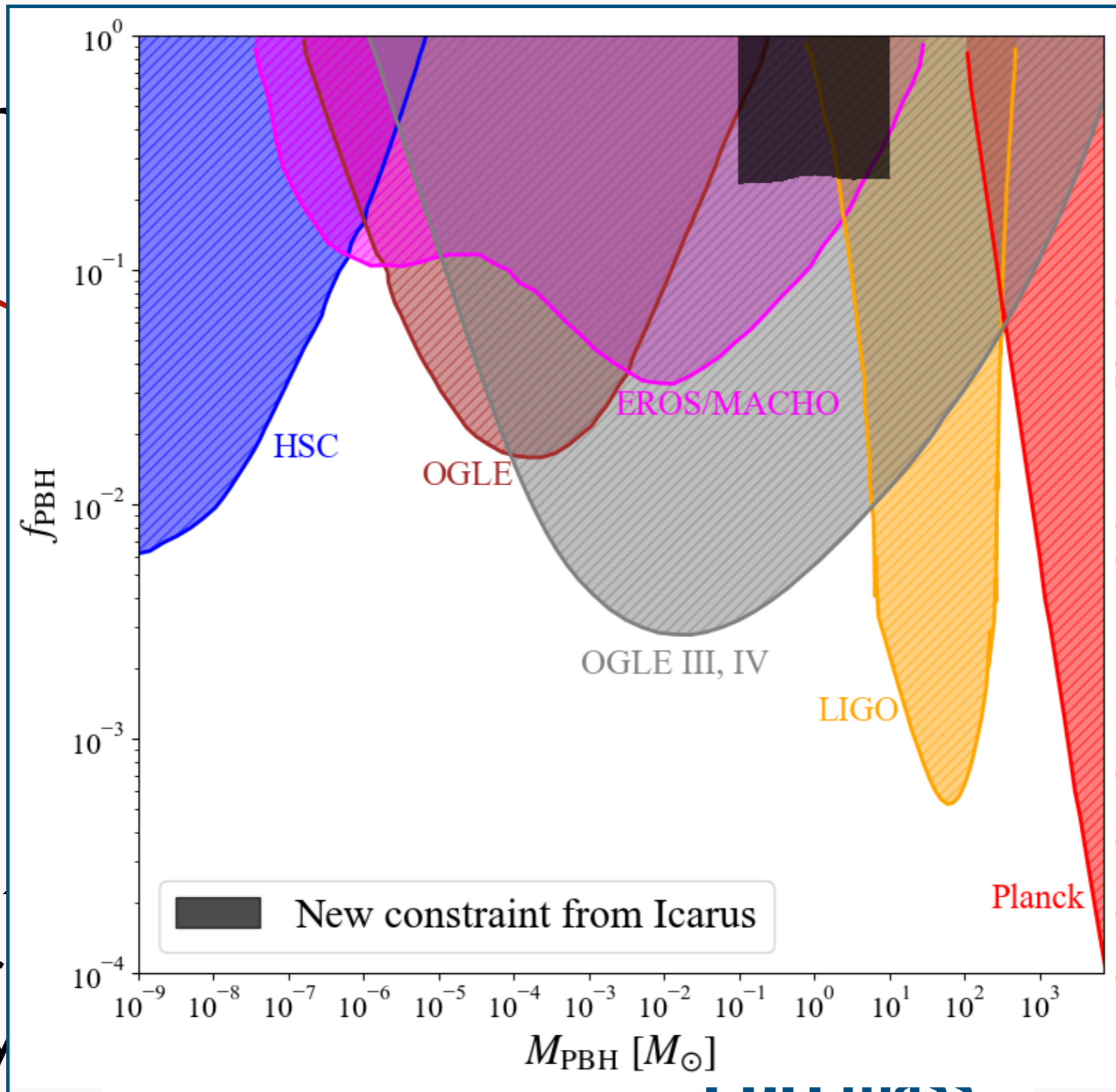
- constraints from event rate (w/o ICL)





# Constraint on PBH

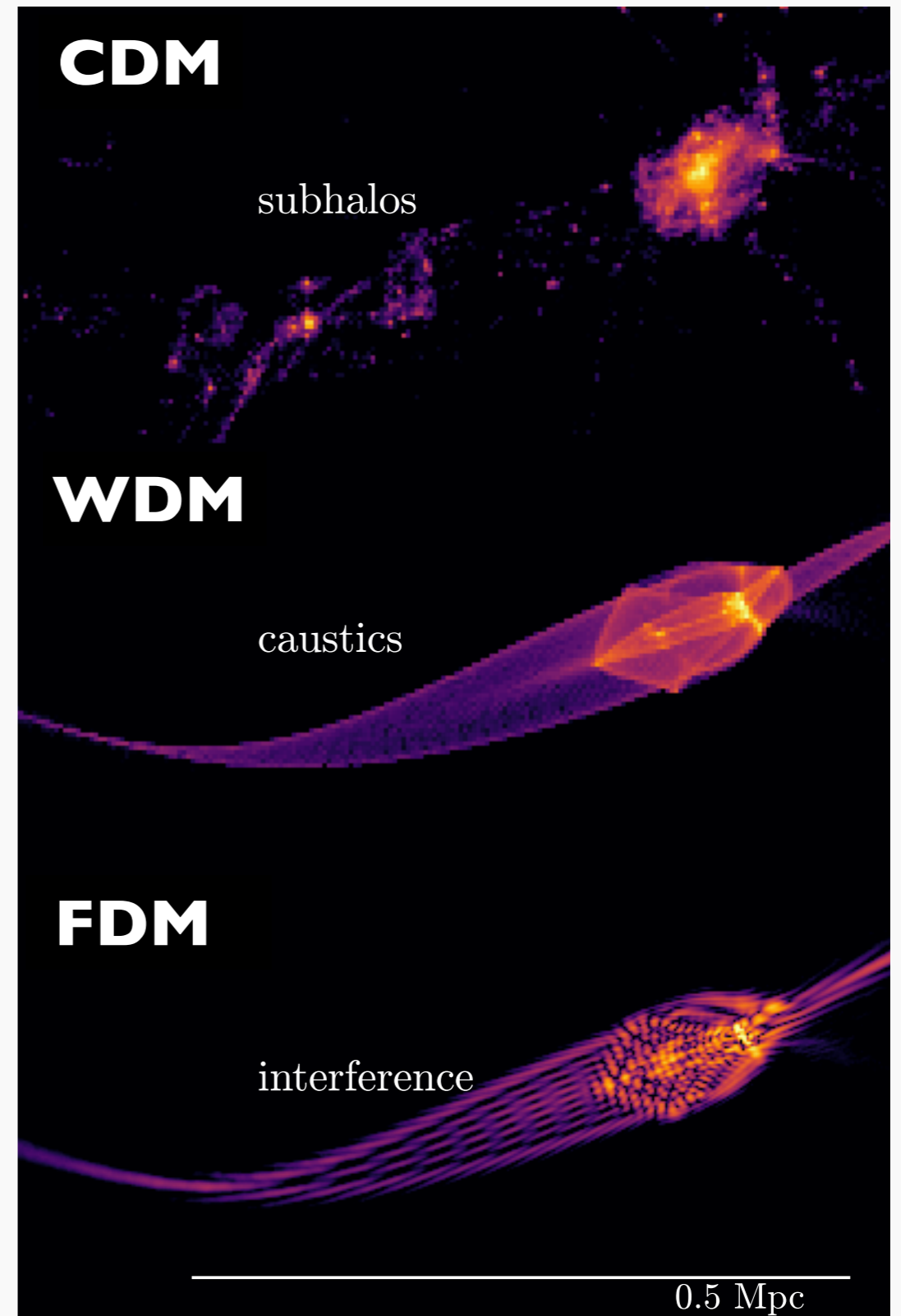
- con
- finite source size effect
- different cluster velocity



- strong saturation
- ICL abundance in observation
- too few microlens (meaningless in presence of ICL)

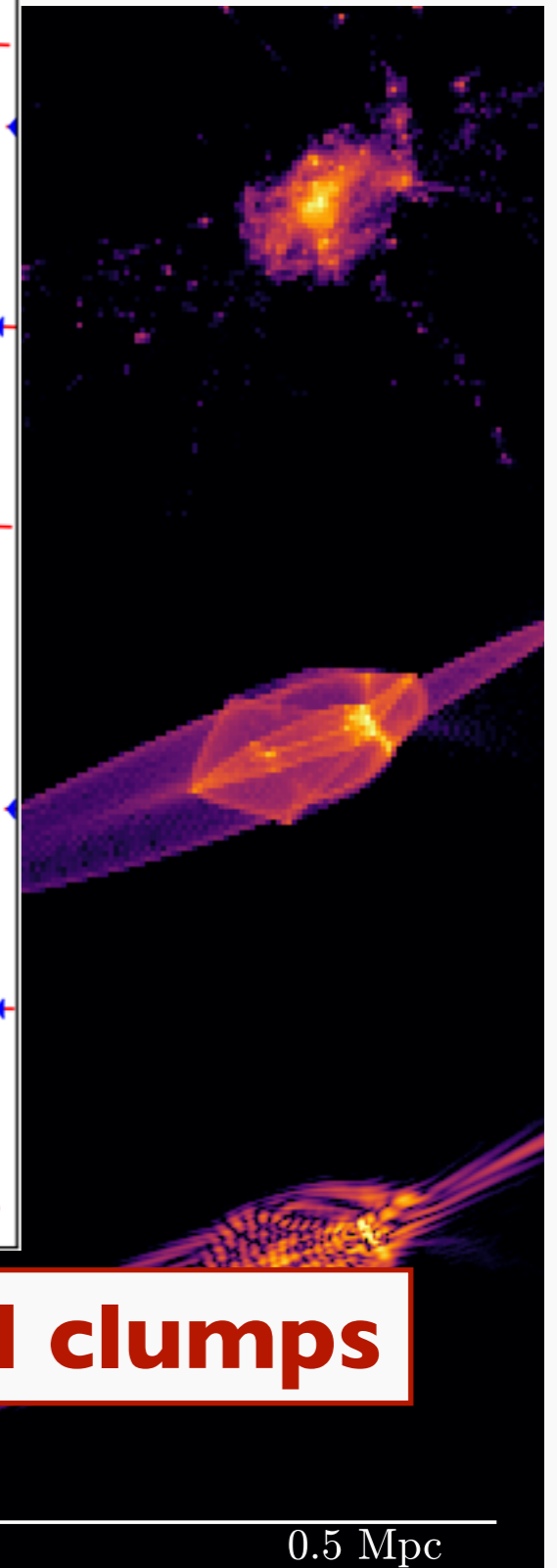
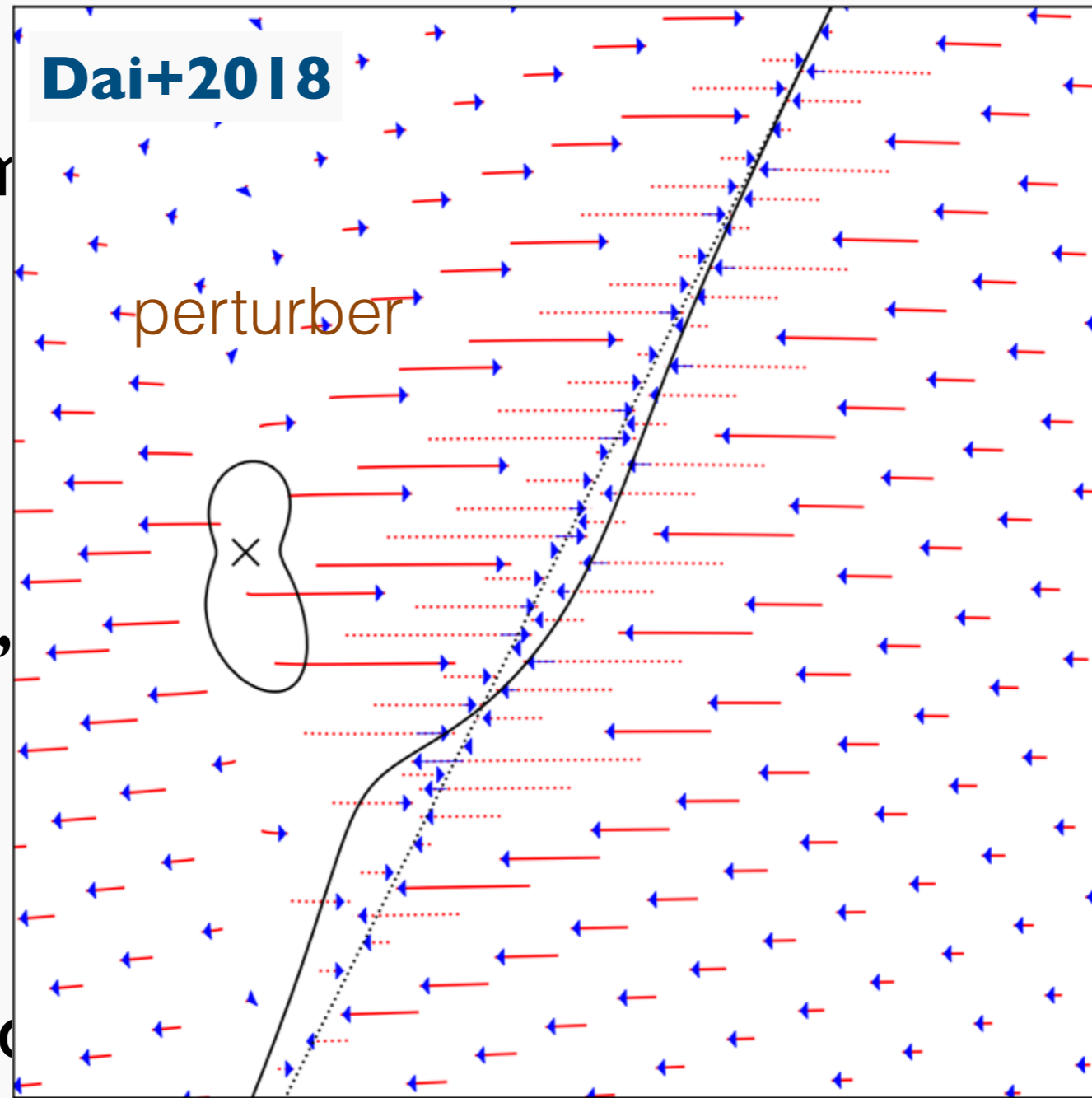
# Critical curve and dark matter

- many small clumps
- smooth, no clumps
- clumps due to quantum interference



# Critical curve and dark matter

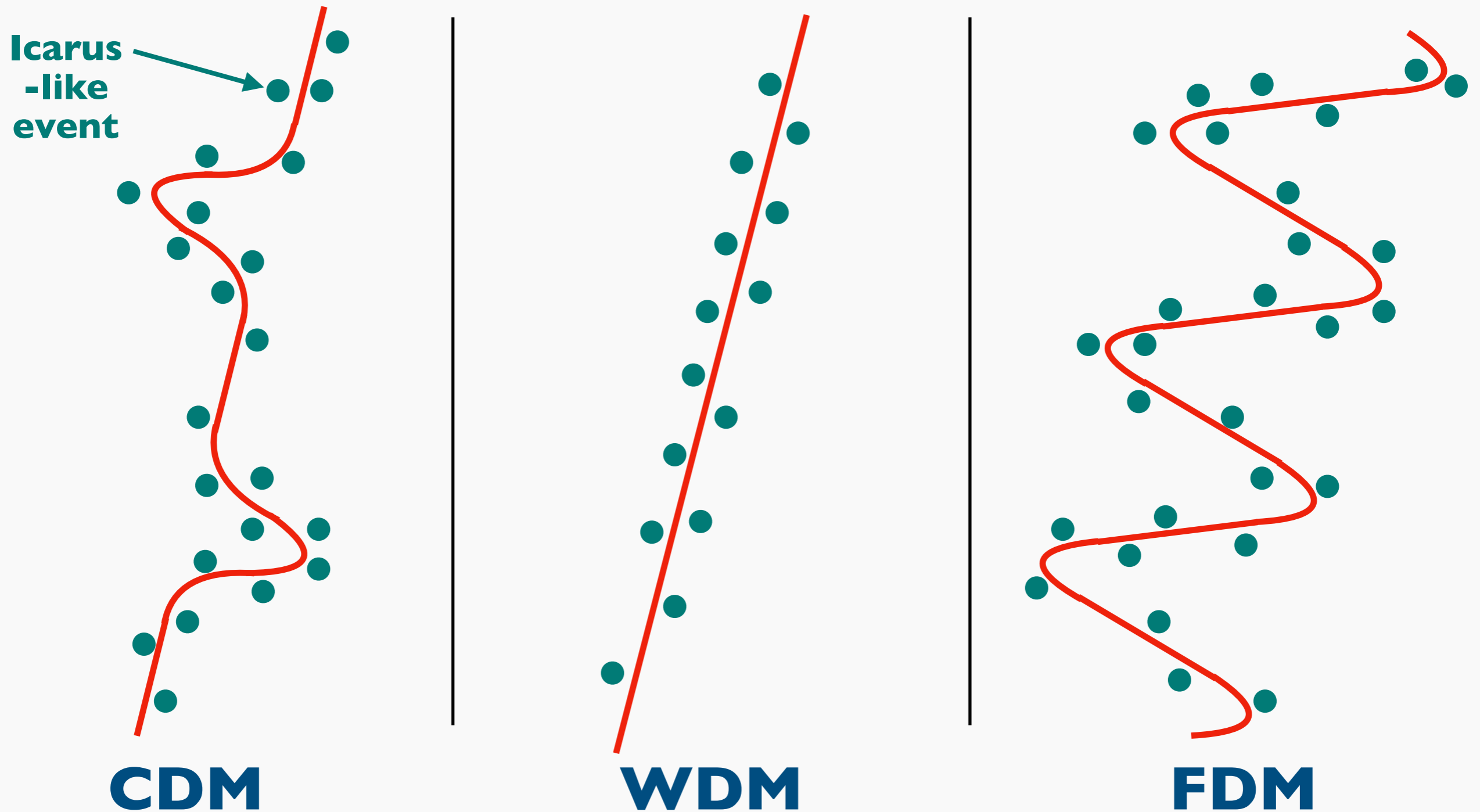
- many small clumps
- smooth, curved critical curve
- clumps of dark matter



**distortion of critical curve by small clumps**



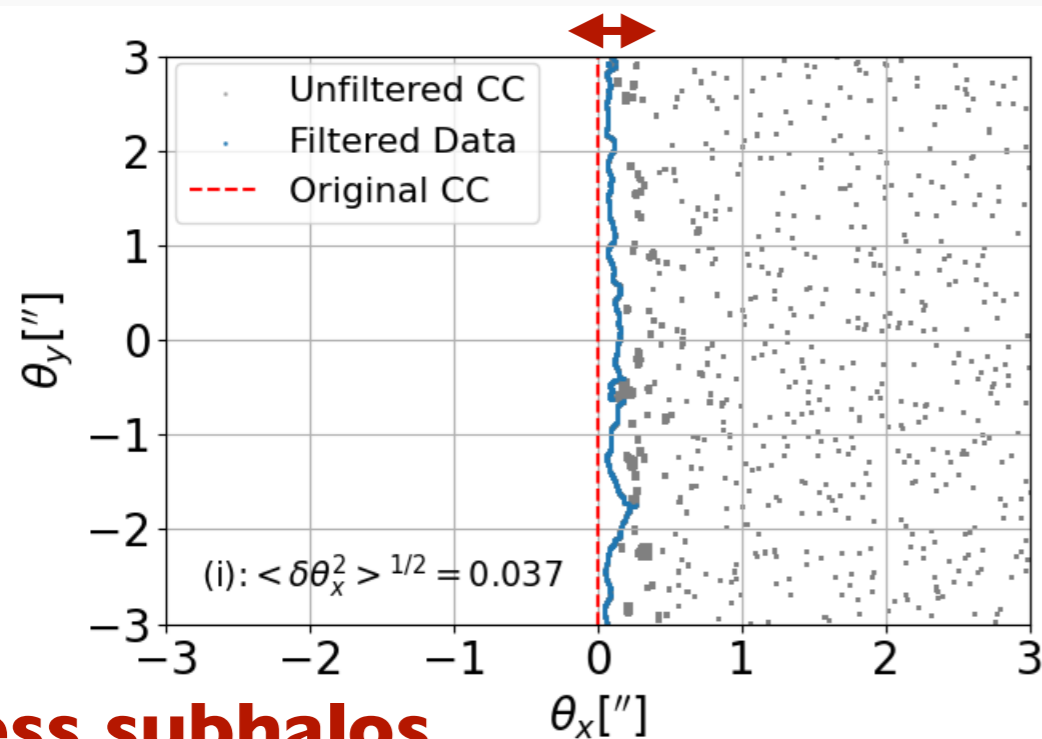
# Critical curve and caustic crossings



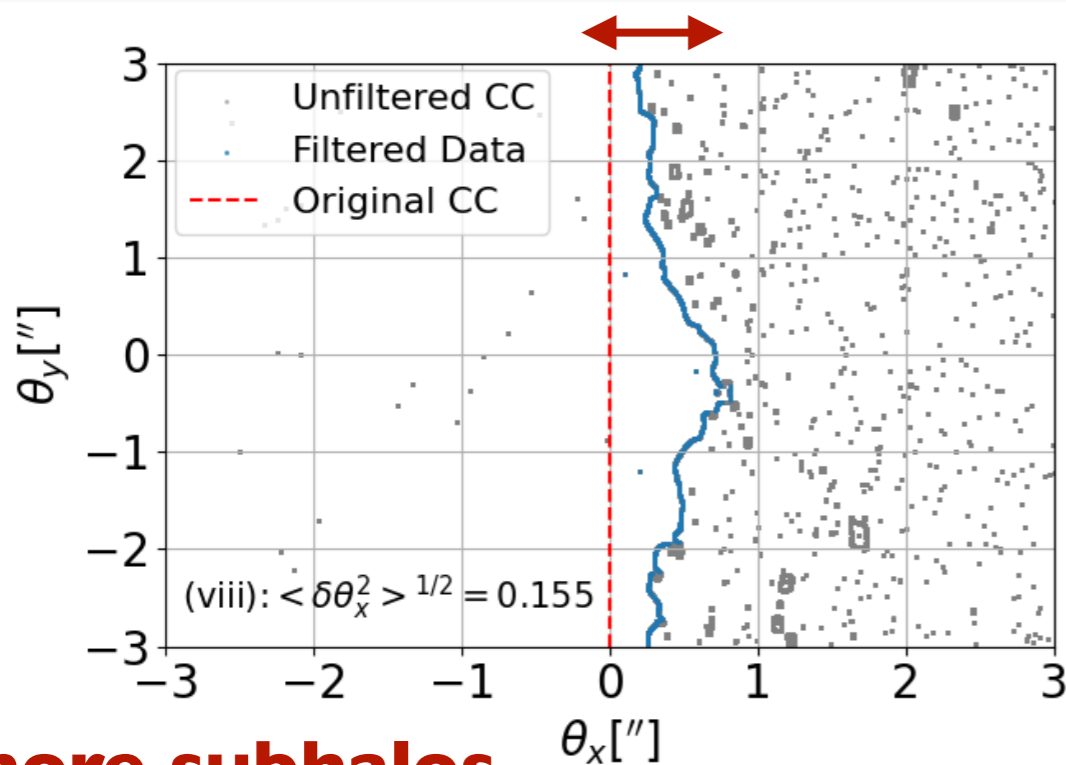
- can measure critical curve shape with many caustic crossing



# Critical curve fluctuations



**less subhalos**



**more subhalos**

- derive **an analytic formula** that connects  $P(k)$  of critical curve fluctuations with  $P(k)$  of DM small-scale density fluctuations!

**critical curve fluctuations**

$$P_{\delta\theta_x} = \frac{3}{2\epsilon^2} P_{\delta\kappa} \quad \epsilon \sim 1/\theta_{\text{Ein}}$$

**DM small-scale density fluctuations**

- formula validated with simple simulations

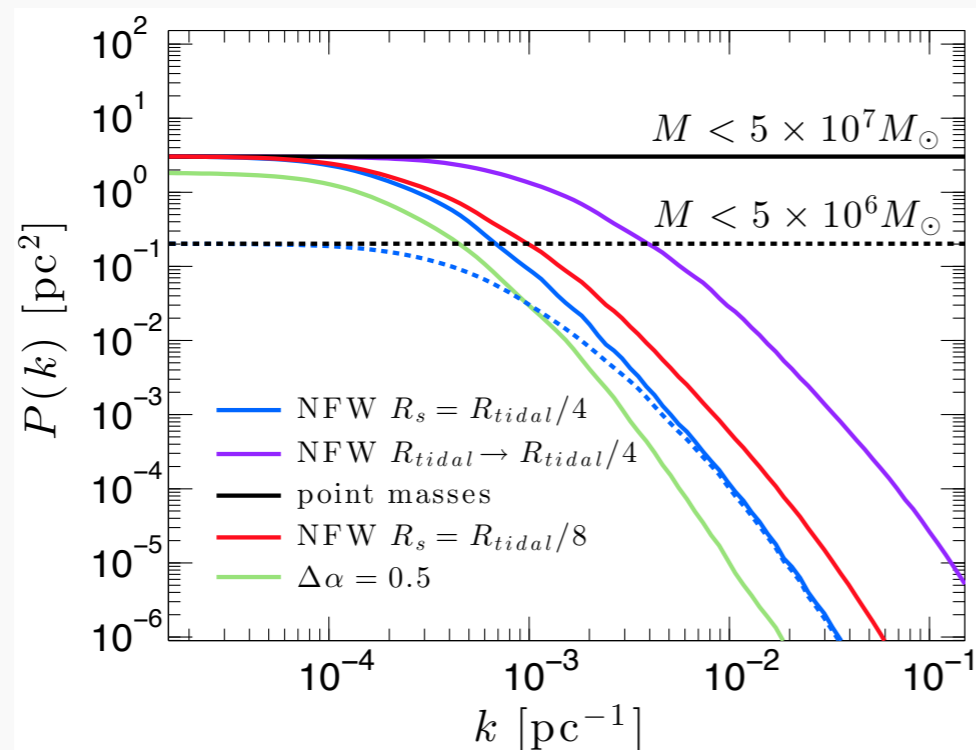
# P(k) of CDM and WDM

- can be calculated with halo-model approach (e.g, Hezaveh+2016)

$$P(k) = \int dM \frac{dn}{dM} \left| \tilde{u}(k) \right|^2$$

**subhalo mass function**

**Fourier transform of NFW profile**



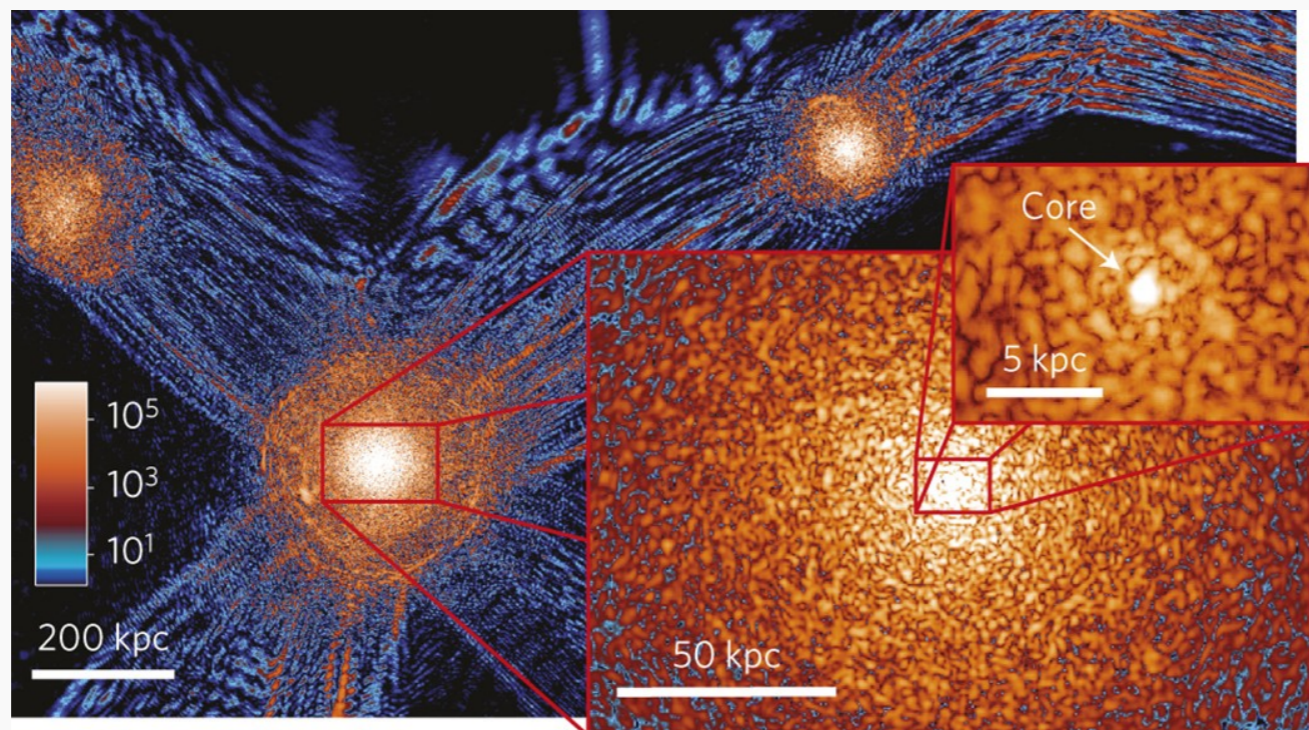
Hezaveh+2016

# P(k) of FDM?

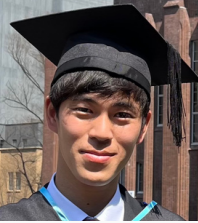
- wave effect below de Broglie wavelength

$$\lambda_{\text{dB}} = \frac{h}{mv} = 180 \text{ pc} \left( \frac{m}{10^{-22} \text{ eV}} \right)^{-1} \left( \frac{v}{1000 \text{ km/s}} \right)^{-1}$$

- dark matter halo consists of quantum clumps with their size  $\sim \lambda_{\text{dB}}$

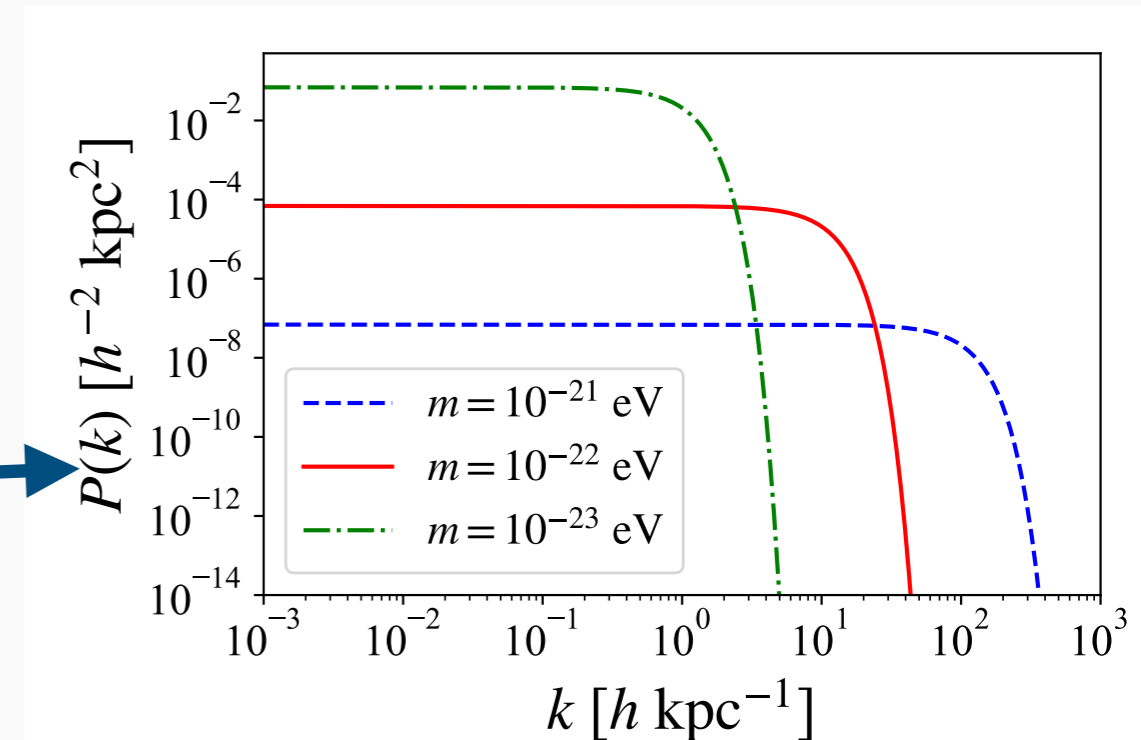
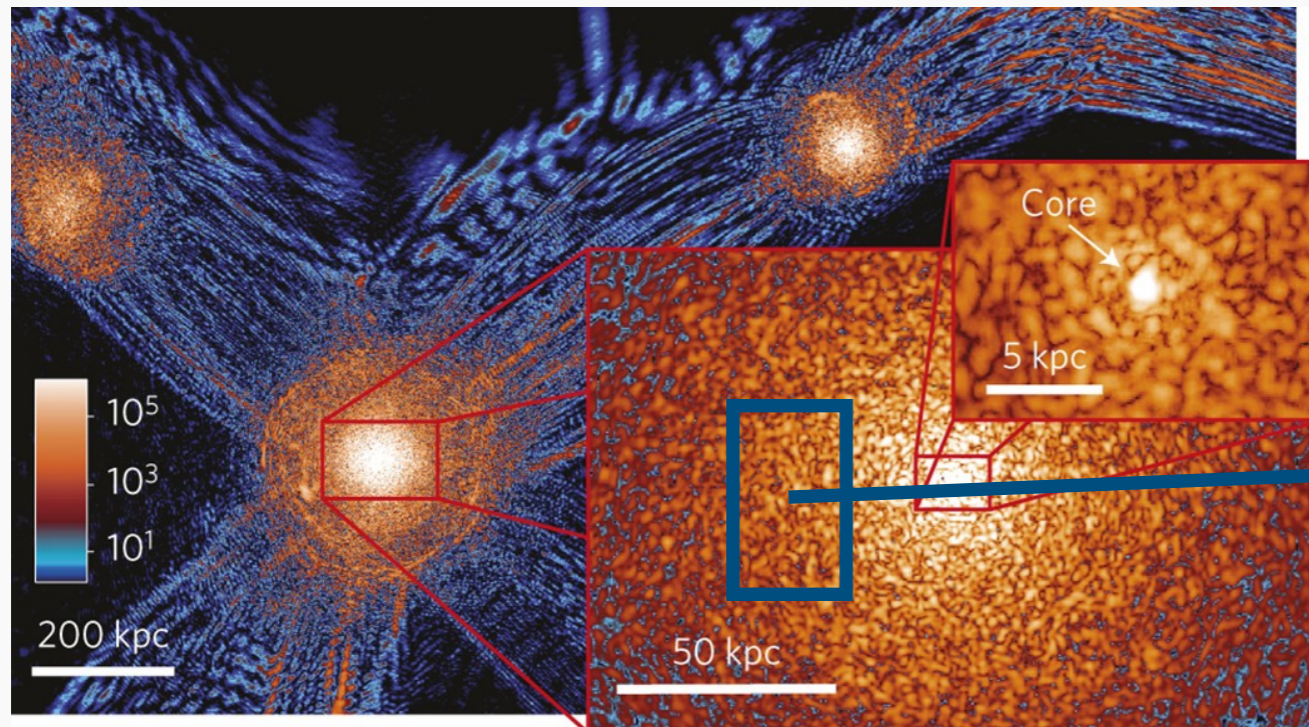


simulation (Schive+2014)



# Analytic model of $P(k)$ in FDM

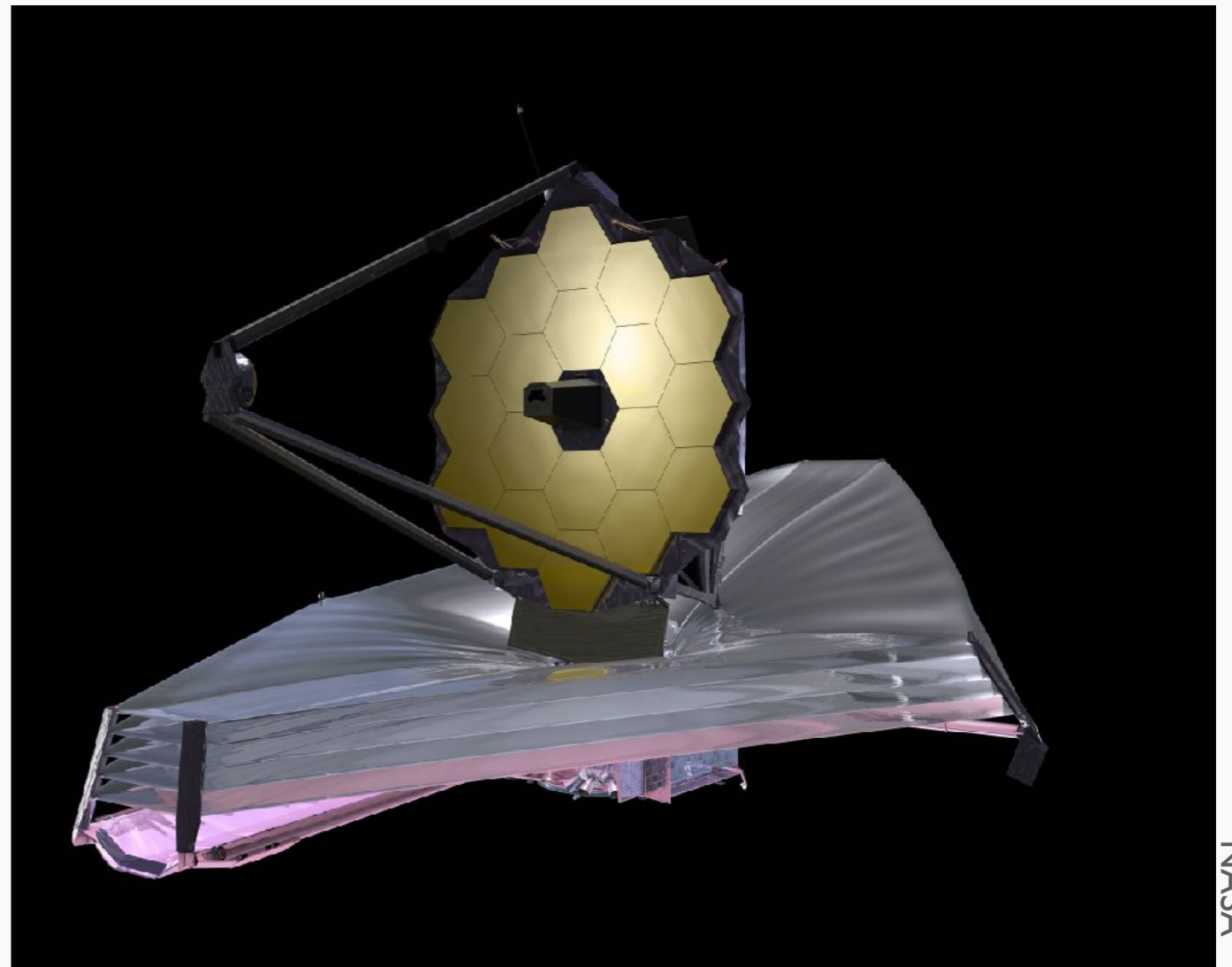
simulation (Schive+2014)



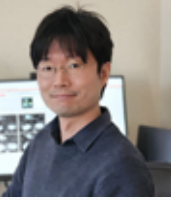
- derive  $P(k)$  assuming superposition of Gaussian clumps
 
$$P(k) = \left( \frac{\Sigma_h(x)}{\Sigma_h(x) + \Sigma_b(x)} \right)^2 \frac{4\pi\lambda_c^3}{3r_h(x)} \exp\left(-\frac{\lambda_c^2 k^2}{4}\right)$$

$$r_h(x) = \frac{\Sigma_h^2(x)}{\int_Z dz \rho_h^2(r)} = \frac{\left(\int_Z dz \rho_h(r)\right)^2}{\int_Z dz \rho_h^2(r)}$$

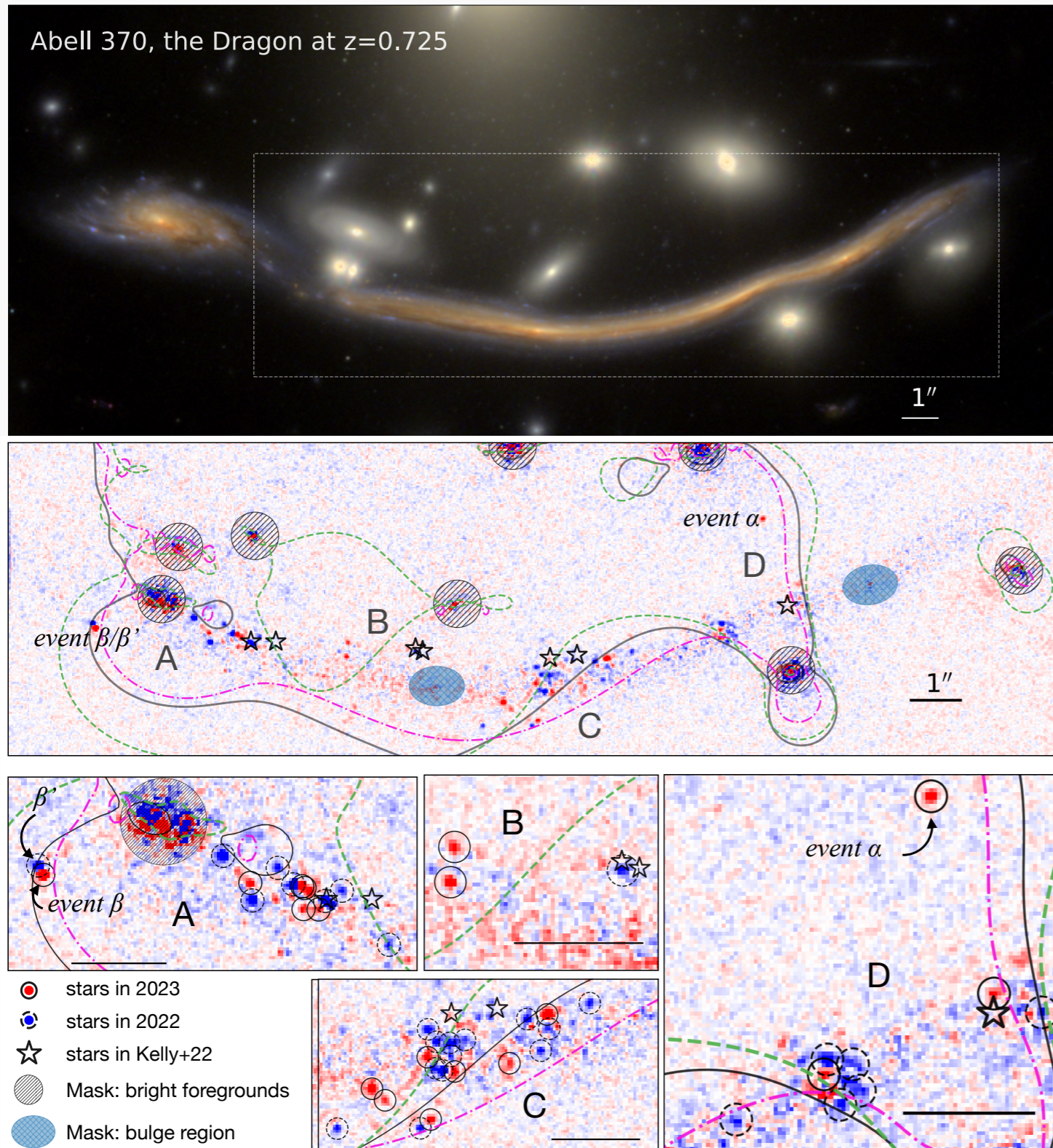
# Progress with JWST



- more caustic crossings needed to study DM
- **JWST** is the solution!



# >40 lensed stars in “Dragon”

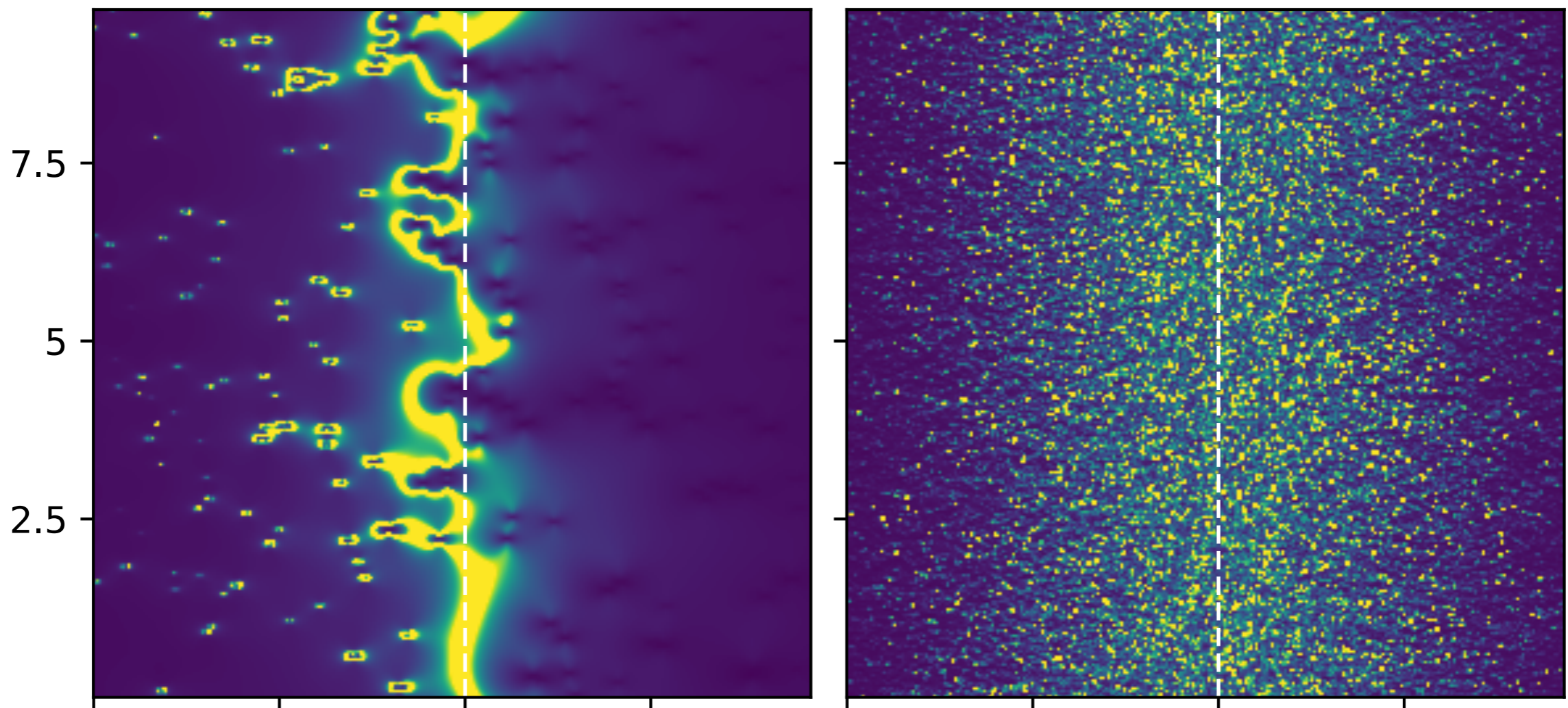


- Dragon Arc at  $z=0.725$  behind Abell 370
- **>40 lensed stars** discovered from 2 epoch JWST obs. of Dragon!
- DM can be constrained in several ways



# Constraint from skewness

**positive parity**      **negative parity**      **positive parity**      **negative parity**  
 ←                      →                      ←                      →  
 CDM with Subhaloes                       $\Psi$ DM,  $\lambda_{dB} = 15\text{pc}$



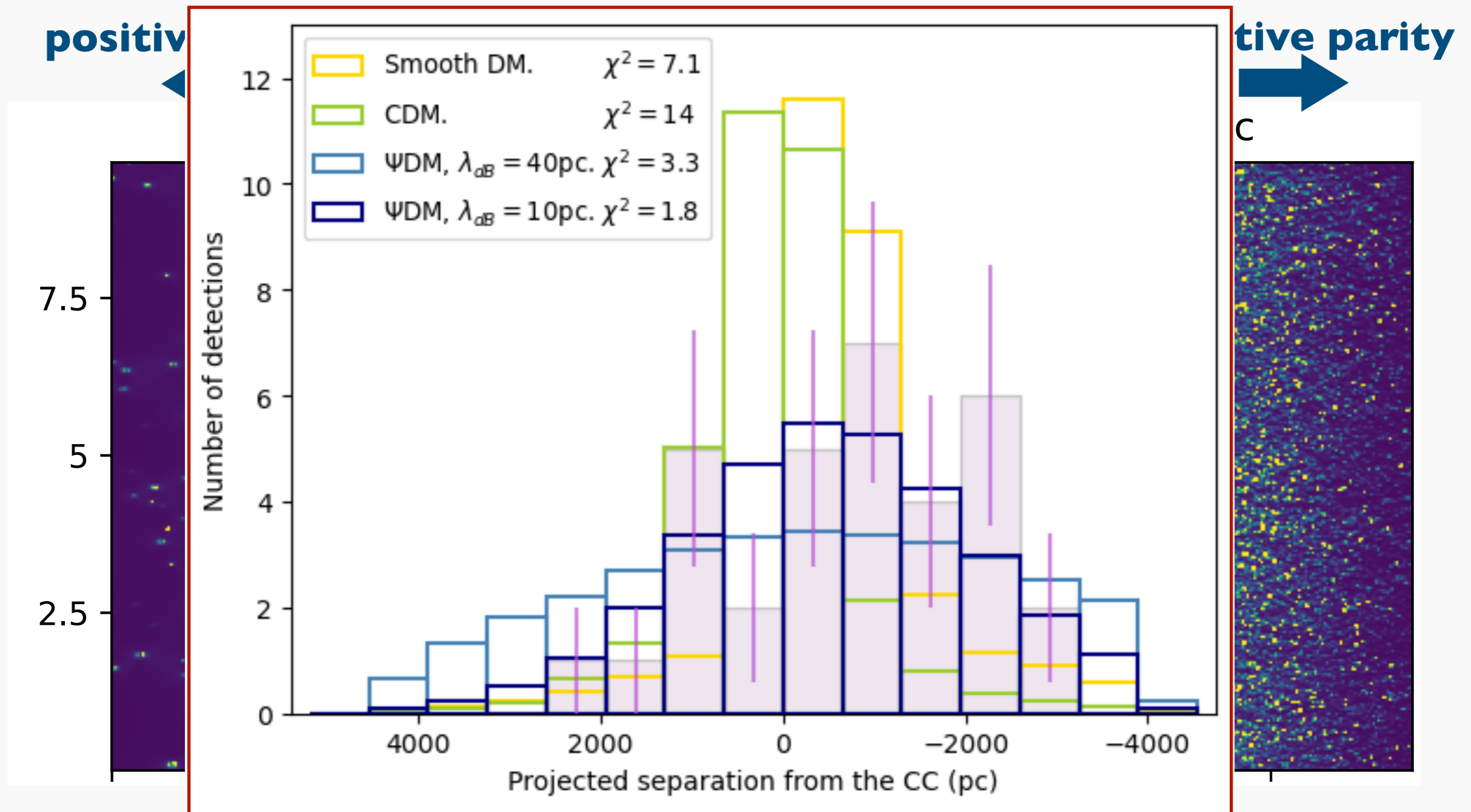
effect of clumps is  
asymmetric

effect of clumps is  
symmetric





# Constraint from skewness



Dragon Arc observation favors FDM (?)<sup>s</sup>

asymmetric

symmetric

# Summary

- caustic crossings are new phenomena reported for the first time in 2018
- highly magnified ( $\sim$ thousands) individual stars
- interpretation rather complicated, but their basic properties now understood thanks to the progress of theoretical studies
- they offer a new route to probe the nature of dark matter
  - sensitive to the PBH abundance
  - probe DM small scale density fluctuations