

Prof. António da Silva  
February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022



# PBHs as Dark Matter Candidates

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Marta Botas, nº 52858

Primordial Universe

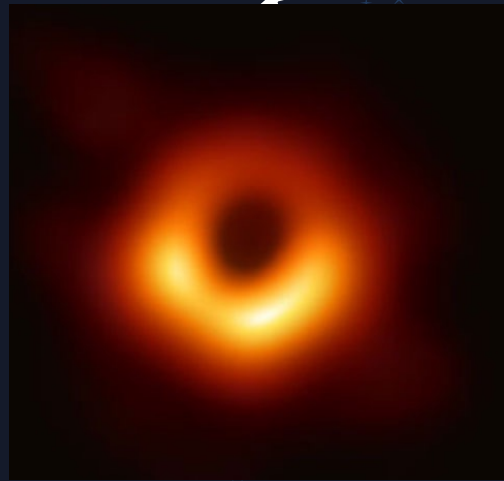


The background of the slide is a dark blue space filled with numerous small white and yellow stars. There are two prominent spiral galaxies, one in the top-left and one in the bottom-right, rendered in shades of blue and yellow. Several yellow streaks with tails, resembling meteors or comets, are scattered across the scene.

# Introduction

- Dark matter (DM) constitutes a large majority of all matter in the Universe.
- Most accepted DM model is the non-baryonic, cold dark matter (CDM).
- One interesting CDM candidate is **primordial black holes (PBHs)**.

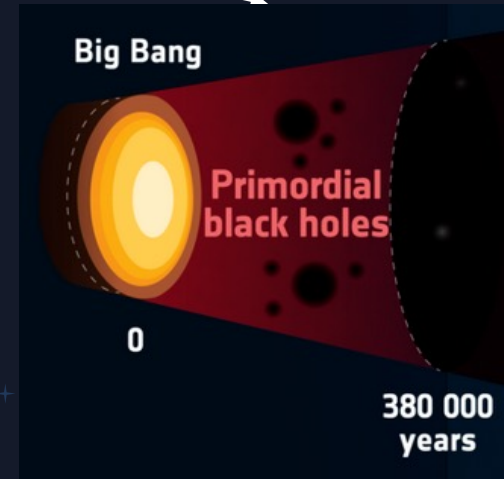
# Types of Black Holes



## Stellar Black Holes

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Formed by stellar gravitational collapse.  
Lower mass limit of  $\sim 3 M_{\odot}$ .



## Primordial Black Holes

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Formed by collapse of density fluctuations.  
Allows for a wide mass spectrum.





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PBH Formation

# PBH Formation

The primordial Universe would have been nearly uniform, apart from microscopic density fluctuations.

Density contrast

$$\delta = \frac{\delta\rho}{\rho_u}$$

$$\ddot{\delta} + 2H\dot{\delta} + \left(c_s^2 k^2 - \frac{3H^2}{2}\right)\delta = 0$$

Jeans length

$$L_J = \sqrt{\frac{3H^2}{2c_s^2}}$$

For lengths higher than  $L_J$ , the fluctuation can undergo gravitational collapse. In the radiation domination epoch,  $\delta_c \approx 1/3$ . Numerical results show that  $\delta_c \approx 0.45$ .

# PBH Formation

PBH Mass

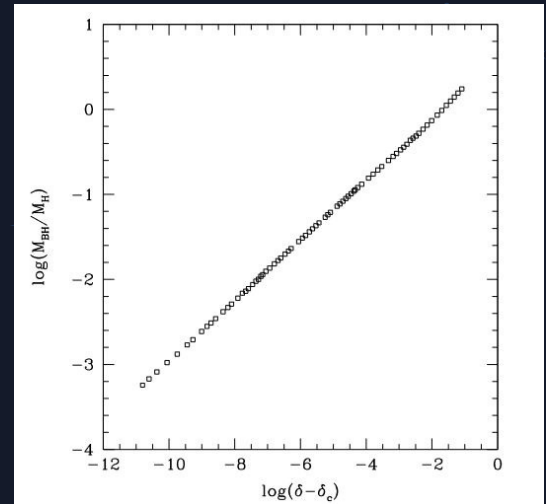
$$M_{PBH} \sim M_H(t) = \frac{4\pi\rho}{3H^2} \sim 10^{15} \left( \frac{t}{10^{-23} \text{s}} \right) g$$



- ❖ A wide range of  $M_{PBH}$  can be formed.
- ❖ PBH with  $M_{PBH} = 1M_{\odot}$  would have originated in the QCD phase transition.
- ❖ Near critical gravitational collapse (for  $\delta \rightarrow \delta_c$ )...

$$M_{PBH} = \kappa M_H (\delta - \delta_c)^\gamma$$

$$\approx 0.35 - 0.36$$



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## PBH Abundance



# PBH Abundance



For calculations of the PBH abundance, it is assumed that  $M_{PBH} = \alpha M_H$ .

$$\beta(M_{PBH}) = \alpha \int_{\delta_c}^1 P(\delta) d\delta \quad \Longrightarrow \quad = \alpha \int_{\delta_c}^1 \frac{d\delta}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma(M_{PBH})} \exp\left[\frac{-\delta^2}{2\sigma(M_{PBH})}\right]$$

Perturbations have gaussian distribution and are spherically symmetric.

For a scale-invariant power spectrum,  $\sigma(M_{PBH}) \sim 10^{-5}$  at the CMB scale, leading to a low PBH abundance.

The beta parameter may also be expressed as a direct function of the PBH mass.

$$\beta(M_{PBH}) = \frac{\rho_{PBH}(t_i)}{\rho(t_i)} \approx 7.99 \times 10^{-29} \alpha^{-1/2} \left(\frac{g_{*i}}{106.75}\right)^{1/4} \left(\frac{M}{M_\odot}\right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{n_{PBH}(t_i)}{1 \text{ Gpc}^{-3}}\right)$$



# PBH Abundance

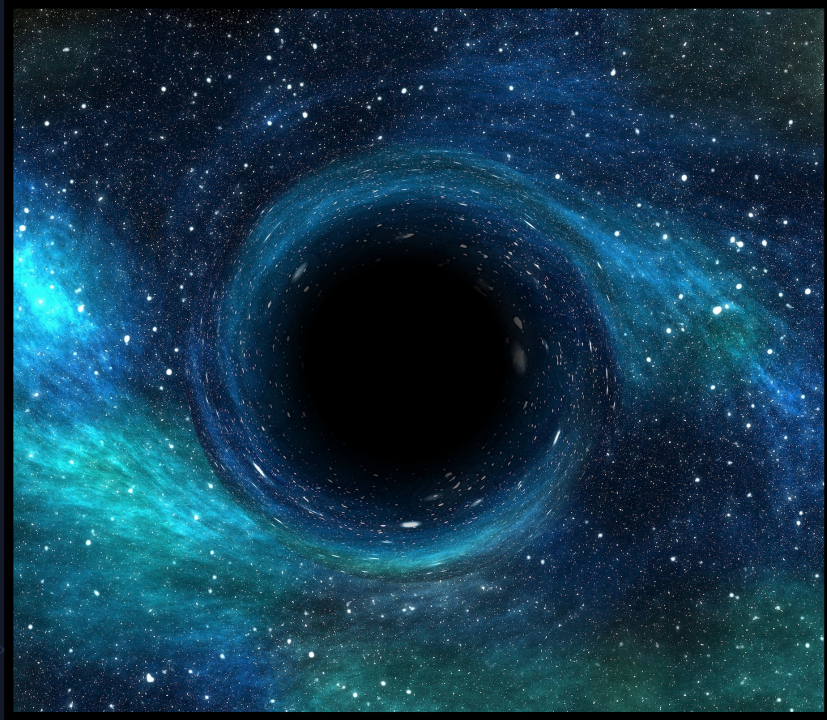
PBH Density Parameter

$$\Omega_{PBH} = \beta \Omega_R (1 + z)$$

$$\approx 10^{18} \beta \left( \frac{M_{PBH}}{10^{15} g} \right)^{-1/2}$$

(radiation dominated epoch)

- ❖ The PBH density parameter will remain constant in the matter-dominated era.
- ❖  $\Omega_{PBH} < 1$  means that  $M_{PBH}^{min} = 10^{15} g$ .



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PBHs as Dark Matter



## Cold

CDM particles are non-relativistic.

## Non-baryonic

Did not contribute to formation of elements in early Universe, not made of baryons.



## MACHOs

Massive compact halo objects. Can be found by lensing effects.



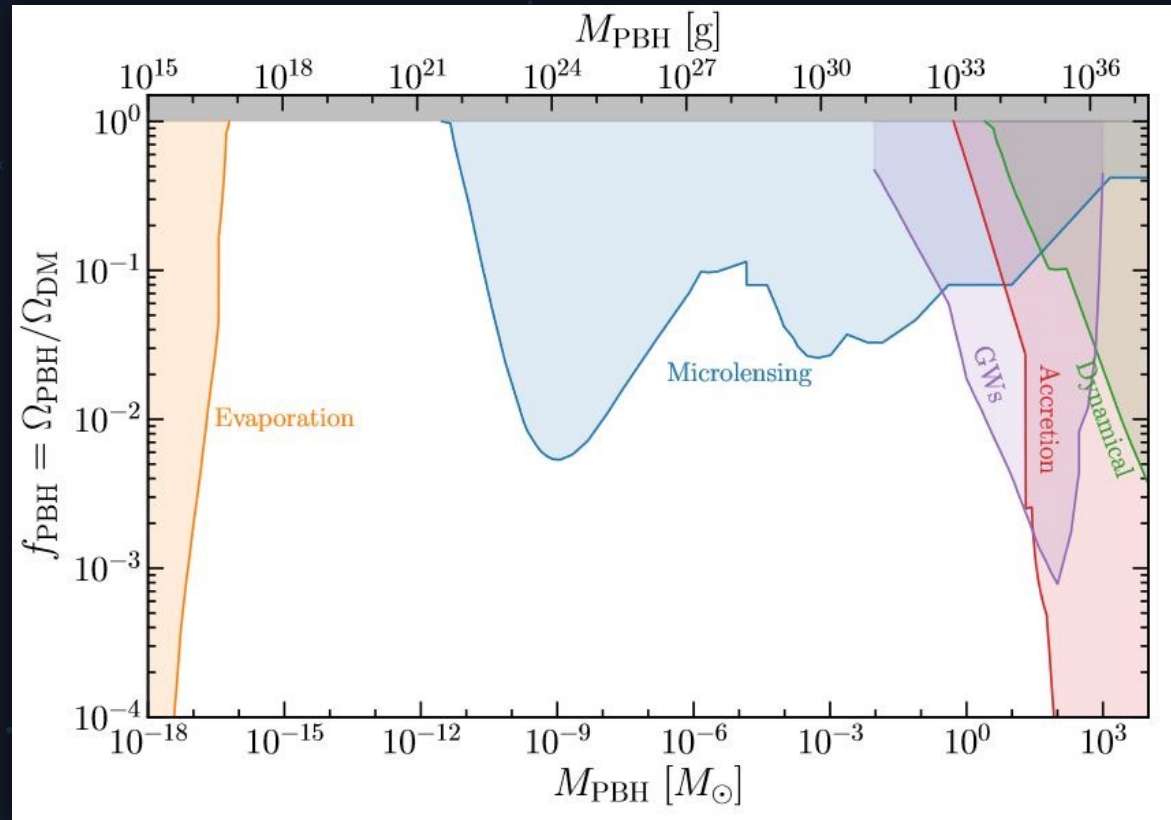
Fraction of PBHs in Halo

$$f(M_{PBH}) = \frac{\Omega_{PBH}}{\Omega_{CDM}} \approx 3.8 \Omega_{PBH} = 3.8 \times 10^8 \beta \left( \frac{M_{PBH}}{M_{\odot}} \right)^{-1/2}$$

- ❖ Necessary to determine PBH abundance constraints.



# Observational Constraints





# Evaporation

- ❖ PBHs emit Hawking radiation and lose mass in the process.

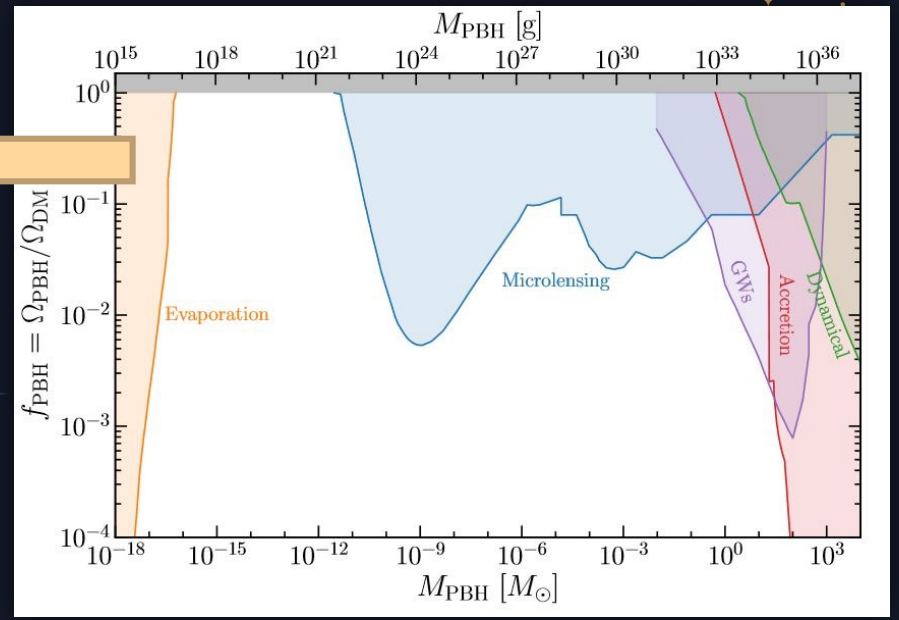
Timescale for evaporating BHs

$$\tau(M_{PBH}) \approx 10^{64} \left( \frac{M_{PBH}}{M_{\odot}} \right)^3 \text{ yr}$$

→ PBHs with  $M_{PBH} \leq 10^{15} \text{ g}$  would have evaporated by today.

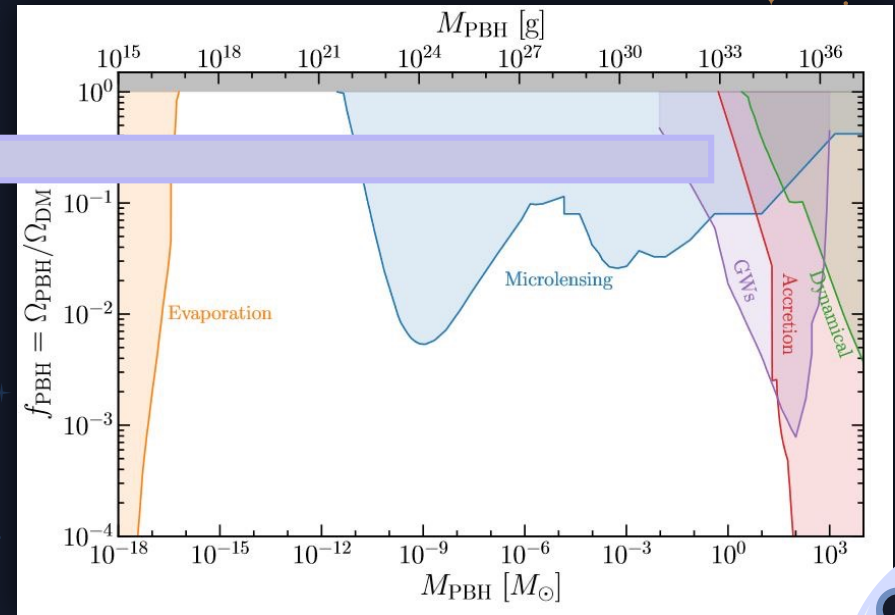
- ❖ PBHs evaporating are thought to emit observable backgrounds.
- ❖ Lack of background detection indicates  $M_{PBH} \geq 10^{17} \text{ g}$ .

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{❖ PBHs evaporating are thought to emit observable backgrounds.} \\ \text{❖ Lack of background detection indicates } M_{PBH} \geq 10^{17} \text{ g.} \end{array} \right\} f(M_{PBH}) < 0.001 \text{ for } M_{PBH} < 10^{16} \text{ g}$$



# Gravitational Waves

- ❖ LIGO has observed merging of black holes at  $\sim 30 M_{\odot}$ .
- ❖ PBHs in binary systems could generate this gravitational waves background.



- ❖ Studies show agreement between PBH merger rates and LIGO analysis.
- ❖ PBH mass range determined by GWs background could be in conflict with other phenomena.

$$f(M_{\text{PBH}}) < 0.01 \text{ for } 10 < M_{\text{PBH}} < 300 M_{\odot}$$

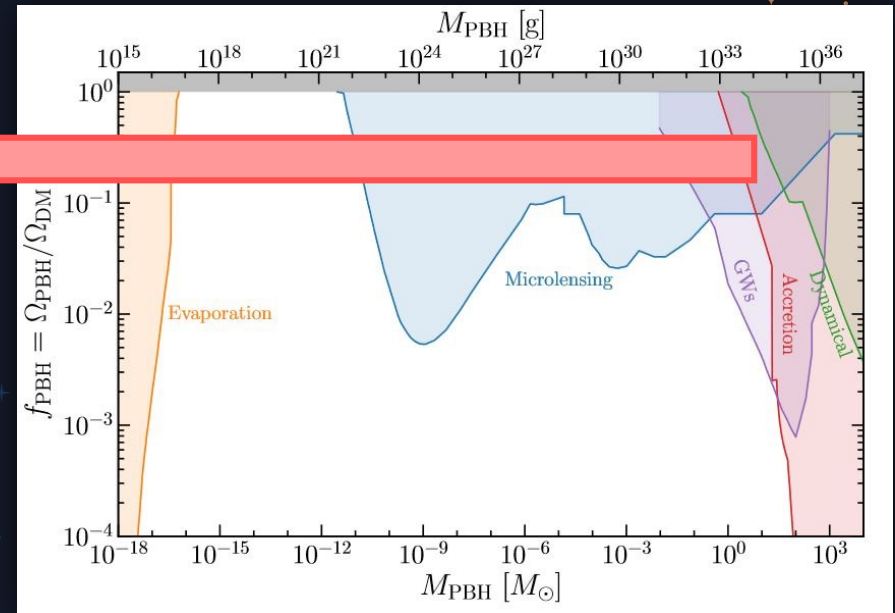


# Accretion

- ❖ Particles emit measurable radiation before being engulfed by BHs, affecting the Universe thermal history.

Rate of accretion

$$\dot{M}_{PBH} \approx 10^{11} \left( \frac{M}{M_{\odot}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{n}{cm^{-2}} \right) \left( \frac{T}{10^4 K} \right)^{-3/2} g s^{-1}$$



- ❖ The spherical limit may not apply.
- ❖ Results from WMAP and FIRAS collaboration are dependent on chosen model.



$$f(M_{PBH}) < 0.001 \text{ for } 10 < M_{PBH} < 300 M_{\odot}$$

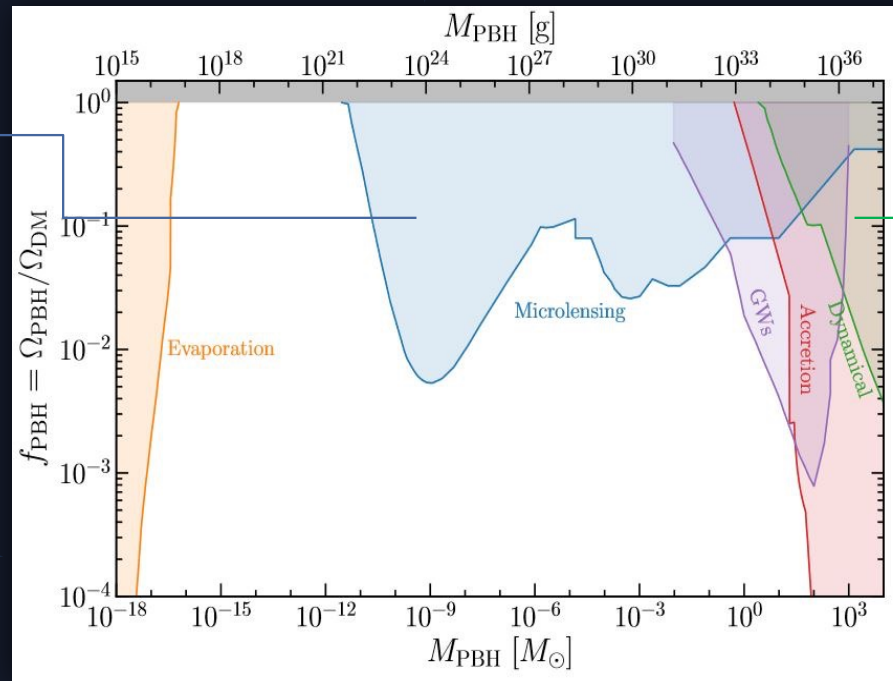


# Additional Constraints

## Lensing

The lensing effect can be used to detect the present of PBHs.

MACHO and EROS surveys have set  $f(M_{PBH}) < 0.01 - 0.1$ .



## Dynamical

If PBHs exist, they could lead to changes in binaries spatial distribution, for example.

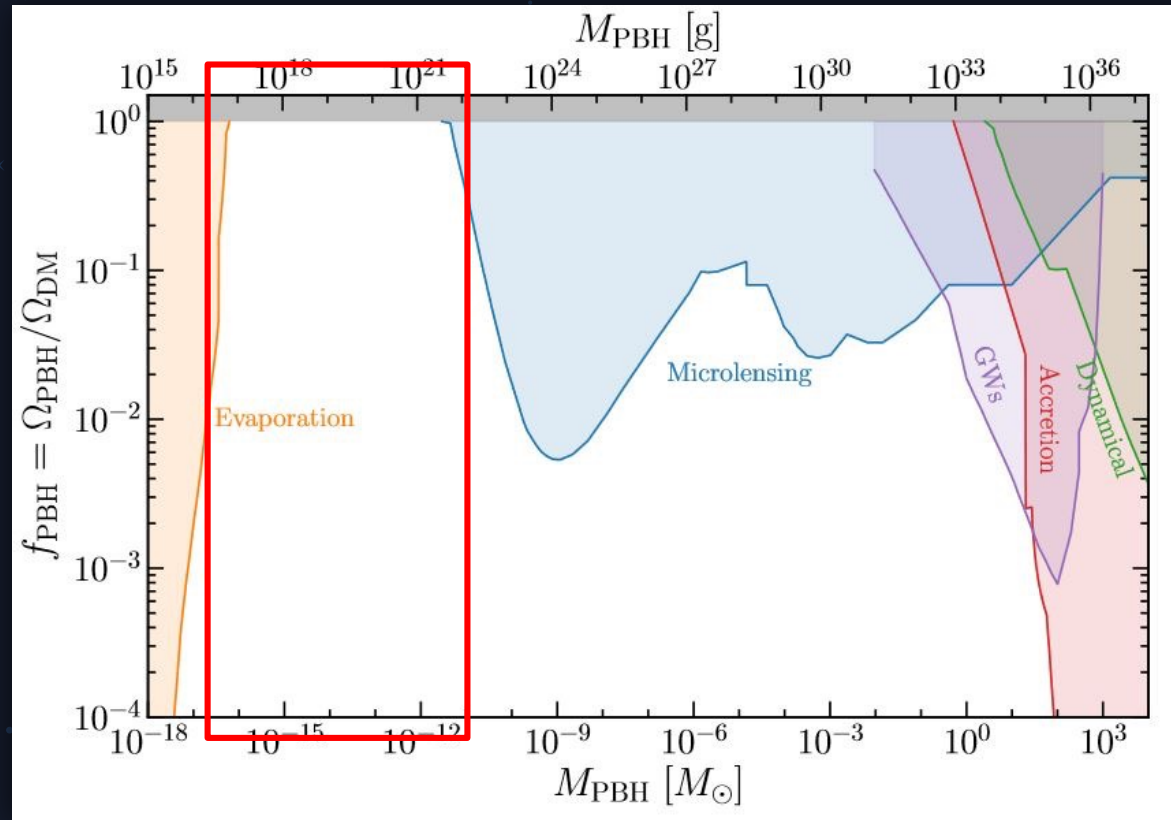
$$f(M_{PBH}) \leq 1 \text{ for } M_{PBH} = 3 M_{\odot}$$

$$f(M_{PBH}) \leq 0.1 \text{ for } M_{PBH} > 70 M_{\odot}$$





# Observational Constraints



# End.

Do you have any questions?



**Ciências**  
ULisboa

Prof. António da Silva  
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Marta Botas, nº 52858

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