

## Small-scale clustering of Primordial Black Holes [arxiv:2402.00600] (PRD)

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**Pierre Auclair**, Baptiste Blachier

Théorie, Univers, Gravitation (TUG) LAPTh, November 6th 2024

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## Primordial black holes from metric preheating: mass fraction in the excursion-set approach

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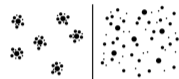
## Chiara Animali at TUG 2023

Are primordial black holes clustered at formation?

- Two-point correlation function of overdensities

$$1 + \xi(r) = \frac{P(\zeta(0) > \zeta_c, \zeta(r) > \zeta_c)}{P^2(\zeta(0) > \zeta_c)} = \frac{P_2}{P^2}$$

$$\xi(r) = \xi_{\text{MHD}}(r) = \xi_{\text{void}}(r) \quad \text{for} \quad r \gtrsim CR$$



clustered vs non-clustered spatial distribution

- If  $\zeta$  is a gaussian field: Poissonian distribution Y. Ali-Hamoud (2018), PRL 121,081304
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$$P_1 = \int_{\zeta_c} d\zeta P(\zeta) \quad P_2 = \int_{\zeta_c} d\zeta_1 d\zeta_2 P(\zeta_1, \zeta_2)$$

$\zeta_c, \Delta_c$ , V. Vennin  
In preparation

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Small-scale clustering of primordial black holes: Cloud-in-cloud and exclusion effects

Pierre Auclair and Baptiste Blachier  
Phys. Rev. D **109**, 123538 – Published 24 June 2024

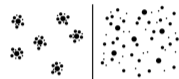
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In preparation

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## Journal of Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics

PAPER

### Clustering of primordial black holes from quantum diffusion during inflation

Chiara Animali<sup>1</sup> and Vincent Vennin<sup>1</sup>

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[Journal of Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics, Volume 2024, August 2024](#)

Citation Chiara Animali and Vincent Vennin JCAP08(2024)026

## Motivations for PBHs

- May constitute part of Dark Matter
- May seed the formation of SMBHs
- May lead to some of the mergers seen by LVK

## Constraints

- Microlensing
- Cosmic Microwave Background
- Limits to their merger rates (GW)

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Sizeable clustering may:

- change past and present merger rate of PBH binaries
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Evolution of PBH clustering involves **complicated non-linear dynamics**, the initial amount of clustering can produce drastic effects on the subsequent evolution.

## Different approaches to study spatial clustering

Most approaches used in the literature rely on large-scale structure formalism applied in the context of galaxy and halo formation. We are mostly interested in the **two-point correlation function**.

- Poisson model and bias theory
- Press-Schechter formalism
- Excursion-set formalism
- Peak theory



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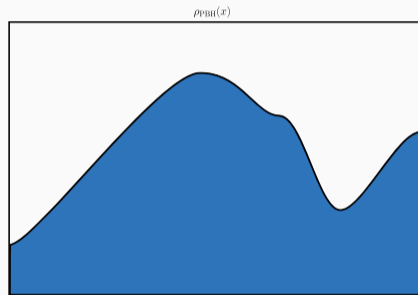
### **Purpose of the presentation:**

- Explicit some of the key differences between the different approaches above.
- Derive explicit expressions for the **initial** two-point statistics of PBHs...
- using the excursion-set formalism...
- in order to account for “cloud-in-cloud” ...
- and exclusion effects at short separation scales

## Poisson model and bias theory

One postulates the existence of a field  $\rho_{\text{PBH}}(\vec{x})$ :

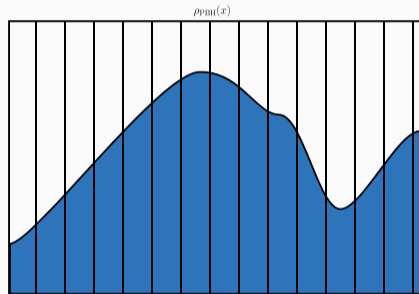
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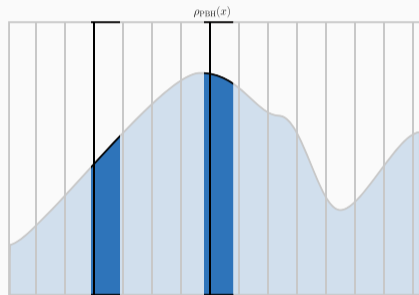


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- Joint probability to form PBHs

$$\delta P = \rho_{\text{PBH}}(\vec{x}_1)\delta V_1\rho_{\text{PBH}}(\vec{x}_2)\delta V_2$$



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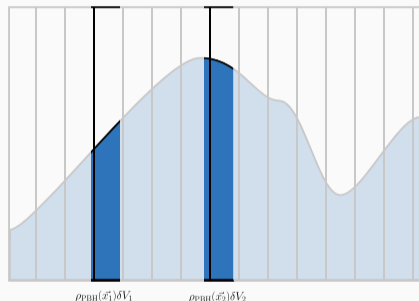
$$\delta P = \rho_{\text{PBH}}(\vec{x}_1)\delta V_1\rho_{\text{PBH}}(\vec{x}_2)\delta V_2$$

- Auto-correlation function

$$\xi_{\text{PBH}}(r) = \left\langle \frac{[\rho_{\text{PBH}}(\vec{x} + \vec{r}) - n][\rho_{\text{PBH}}(\vec{x}) - n]}{n^2} \right\rangle$$

- Average joint probability to form PBHs

$$\delta P(r) = n^2[1 + \xi_{\text{PBH}}(r)]\delta V_1\delta V_2$$



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### Technical challenges

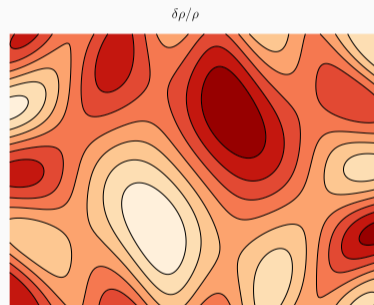
- A perturbation theory for the (over-)density fields  $\delta$  after inflation
- A **bias**  $b$  to relate  $\rho_{\text{PBH}}$  with  $\delta$

### Limitations

- “Cloud-in-cloud”
- Small-scale exclusion effects
- Estimating the bias is difficult

# “Press-Schechter”-inspired Ali-Haimoud 2018

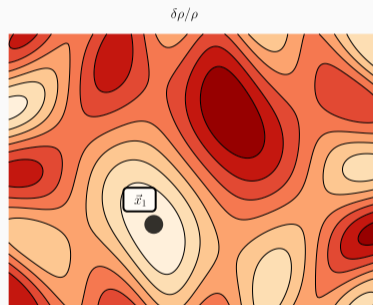
- Critical density threshold  $\delta_c$



## “Press-Schechter”-inspired Ali-Haimoud 2018

- Critical density threshold  $\delta_c$
- Probability to form a PBH around  $\vec{x}_1$ <sup>a</sup>

$$P_1 = \int_{\delta_c}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{\delta^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) d\delta = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{\delta_c}{\sqrt{2}\sigma}\right)$$



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<sup>a</sup> $\delta(\vec{x})$  Gaussian field



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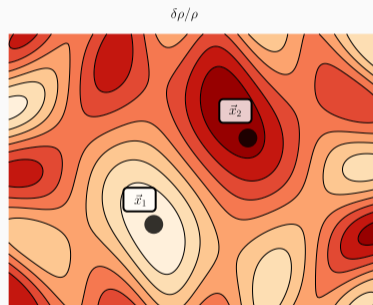
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$$P_2(r) = \iint_{\delta_c}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2\pi \det(\Sigma)} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \vec{\delta}^T \Sigma^{-1} \vec{\delta}\right) d^2\delta$$

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma^2 & S_r \\ S_r & \sigma^2 \end{pmatrix}$$



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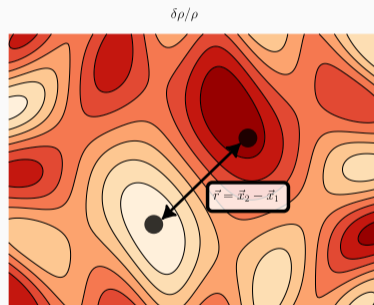
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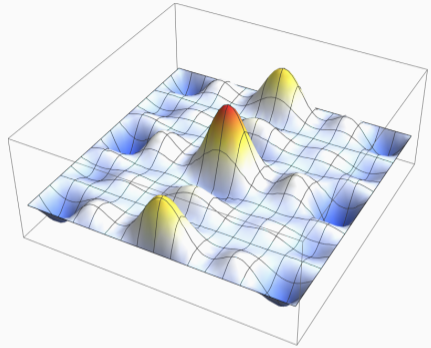
## Technical challenges

- A perturbation theory for the (over-)density fields  $\delta$  after inflation
- Estimation of the density threshold  $\delta_c$  based on numerical relativity

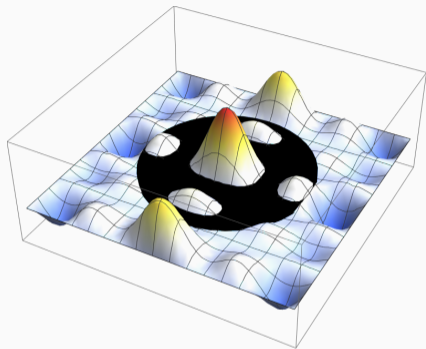
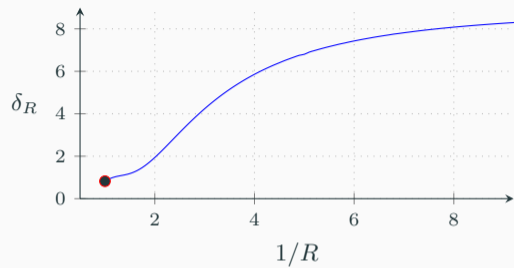
## Limitations

- “Cloud-in-cloud”
- Cannot account for small-scale exclusion effects

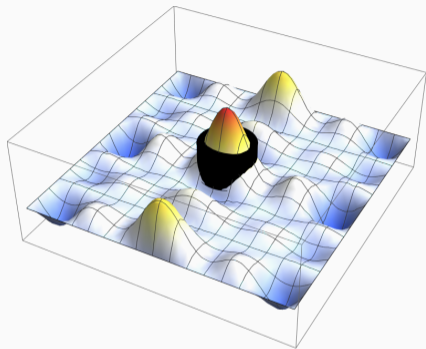
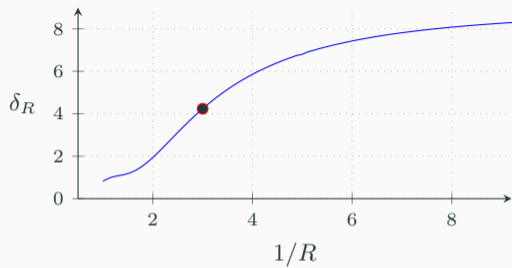
## Baseline to evaluate our work



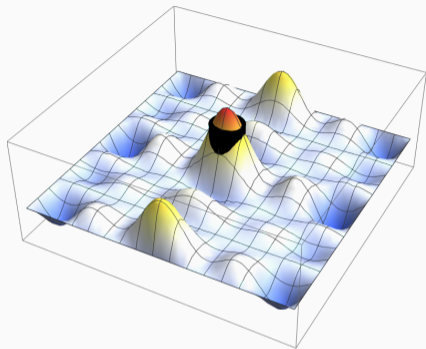
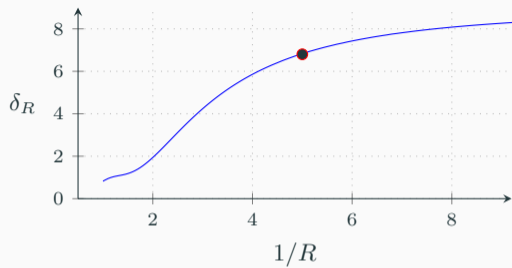
## Coarse-graining



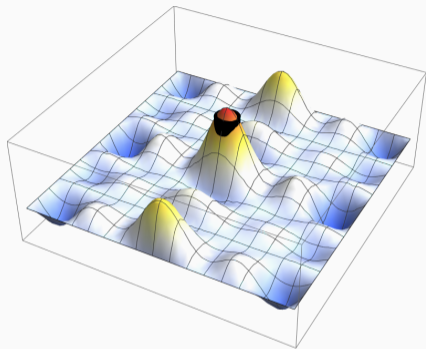
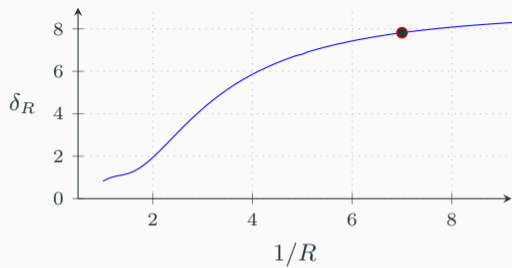
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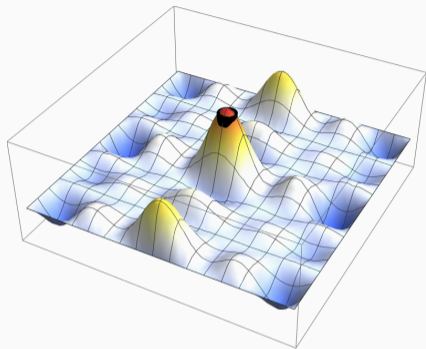
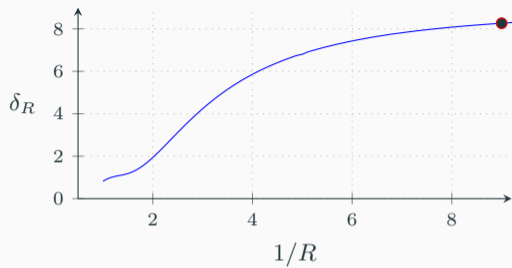


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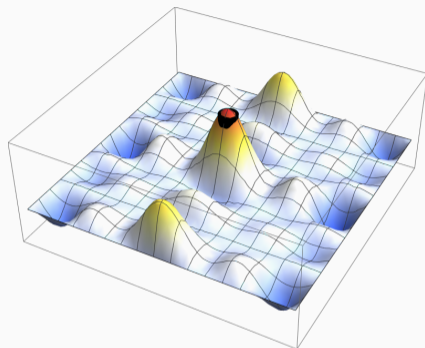
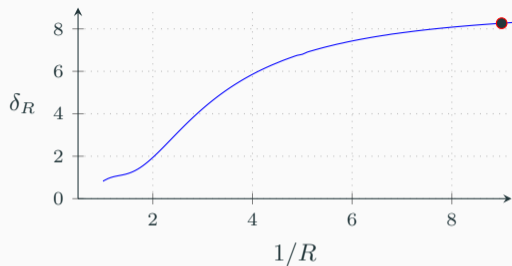




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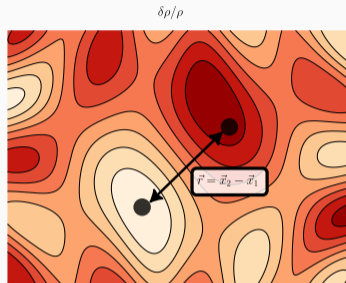
### Excursion-set formalism Bond et al. 1991

- Multi-scale analysis  $\Leftrightarrow$  Langevin trajectories  $\delta_R$
- Gravitationally bound  $\Leftrightarrow$  Barrier crossing  $\delta_c(R)$
- PBHs  $\Leftrightarrow$  first passage time problem  $P_{\text{FPT}}$

# Joint probability to form pairs of PBHs

## Setup

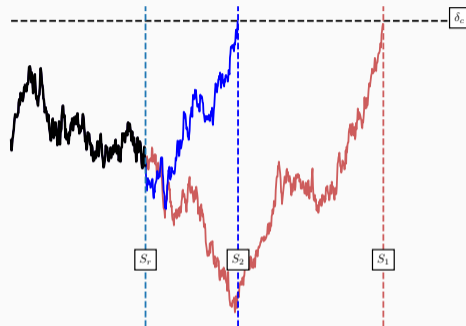
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- On scales  $\gg r$ , they see  $\approx$  same perturbations
- On scales  $\ll r$ , they see independent perturbations



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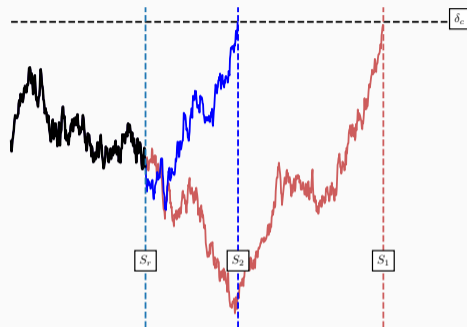
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Joint probability to form a pair of PBHs with masses  $S_1, S_2$

$$P_2(S_1, S_2; r) = \int_{-\infty}^{\delta_c(S_r)} d\delta_r P(\delta_r, S_r) P_{\text{FPT}}(S_1|\delta_r, S_r) P_{\text{FPT}}(S_2|\delta_r, S_r)$$

## Auto-correlation function (scale-invariant threshold $\delta_c$ )

- Probability to form one PBH

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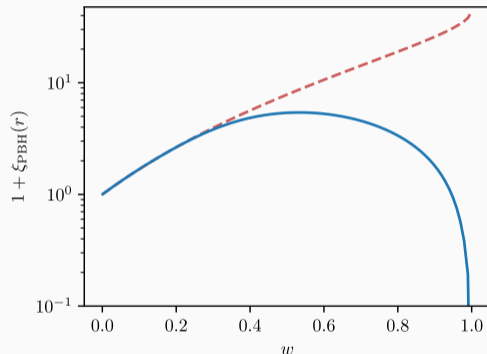
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$$1 + \xi_{\text{PBH}}(r) = \frac{P_2(r)}{P_1^2}$$

- $\omega$  measures separations

$$\omega \equiv \frac{S_r}{\sigma^2} \approx \begin{cases} 0 & r \rightarrow \infty \\ 1 & r \rightarrow 0 \end{cases}$$

Two-point correlation function for  $\delta_c = 2\sigma$





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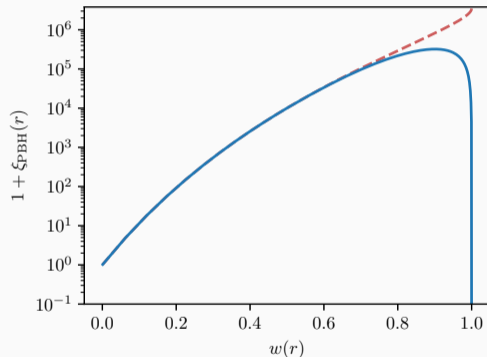
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Two-point correlation function for  $\delta_c = 5\sigma$



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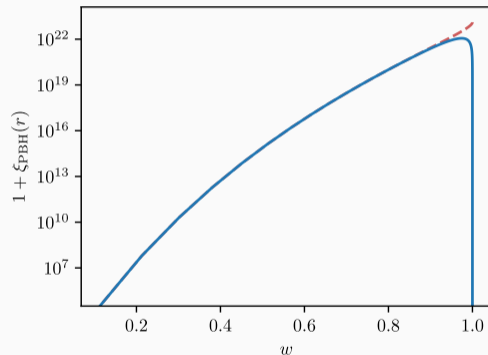
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Two-point correlation function for  $\delta_c = 10\sigma$



## Pairwise correlation functions

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### Setup

- Take two PBHs with masses  $M_1, M_2$
- Excess probability to find them at distance  $r$

$$1 + \xi_{S_1, S_2}(r) = \frac{P_2(S_1, S_2; r)}{P_1(S_1)P_1(S_2)}$$

- $w_i = S_i/S_r$

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Joint probability to form a pair of PBHs with masses  $S_1, S_2$

$$P_2(S_1, S_2; r) = \int_{-\infty}^{\delta_c(S_r)} d\delta_r P(\delta_r, S_r) P_{\text{FPT}}(S_1|\delta_r, S_r) P_{\text{FPT}}(S_2|\delta_r, S_r)$$

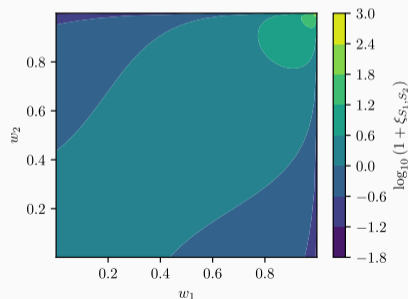
$$\delta_c/\sqrt{2S_r} = 1$$

### Setup

- Take two PBHs with masses  $M_1, M_2$
- Excess probability to find them at distance  $r$

$$1 + \xi_{S_1, S_2}(r) = \frac{P_2(S_1, S_2; r)}{P_1(S_1)P_1(S_2)}$$

- $w_i = S_i/S_r$



## Pairwise correlation functions

Joint probability to form a pair of PBHs with masses  $S_1, S_2$

$$P_2(S_1, S_2; r) = \int_{-\infty}^{\delta_c(S_r)} d\delta_r P(\delta_r, S_r) P_{\text{FPT}}(S_1|\delta_r, S_r) P_{\text{FPT}}(S_2|\delta_r, S_r)$$

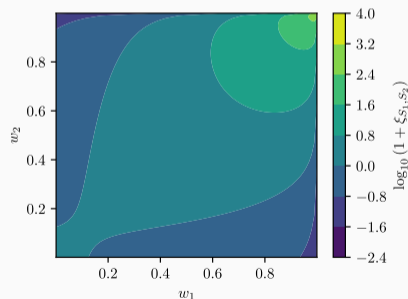
$$\delta_c/\sqrt{2S_r} = 2$$

### Setup

- Take two PBHs with masses  $M_1, M_2$
- Excess probability to find them at distance  $r$

$$1 + \xi_{S_1, S_2}(r) = \frac{P_2(S_1, S_2; r)}{P_1(S_1)P_1(S_2)}$$

- $w_i = S_i/S_r$



## Pairwise correlation functions

Joint probability to form a pair of PBHs with masses  $S_1, S_2$

$$P_2(S_1, S_2; r) = \int_{-\infty}^{\delta_c(S_r)} d\delta_r P(\delta_r, S_r) P_{\text{FPT}}(S_1|\delta_r, S_r) P_{\text{FPT}}(S_2|\delta_r, S_r)$$

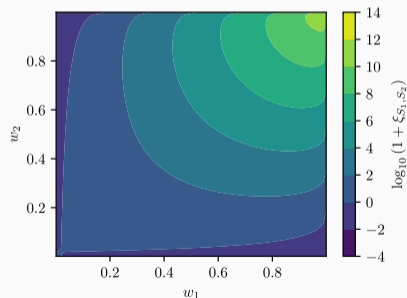
$$\delta_c/\sqrt{2S_r} = 5$$

### Setup

- Take two PBHs with masses  $M_1, M_2$
- Excess probability to find them at distance  $r$

$$1 + \xi_{S_1, S_2}(r) = \frac{P_2(S_1, S_2; r)}{P_1(S_1)P_1(S_2)}$$

- $w_i = S_i/S_r$



## Pairwise correlation functions

Joint probability to form a pair of PBHs with masses  $S_1, S_2$

$$P_2(S_1, S_2; r) = \int_{-\infty}^{\delta_c(S_r)} d\delta_r P(\delta_r, S_r) P_{\text{FPT}}(S_1|\delta_r, S_r) P_{\text{FPT}}(S_2|\delta_r, S_r)$$

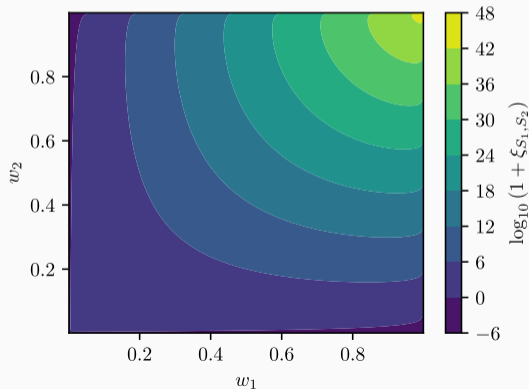
$$\delta_c/\sqrt{2S_r} = 10$$

### Setup

- Take two PBHs with masses  $M_1, M_2$
- Excess probability to find them at distance  $r$

$$1 + \xi_{S_1, S_2}(r) = \frac{P_2(S_1, S_2; r)}{P_1(S_1)P_1(S_2)}$$

- $w_i = S_i/S_r$



## Summary

- PBH collapse  $\implies$  first-passage time of a Langevin trajectory
- Clustering  $\implies$  joint first-passage times of two trajectories with common past
- Effective exclusion effects on small scales  $\xi_{\text{PBH}} \rightarrow -1$ , and cloud-in-cloud
- Access to the probability distribution of the **mass-ratio**

## Ongoing and future works

- From “abstract”  $\rightarrow$  actual physical scenarii
- From “initial clustering”  $\rightarrow$  merger rate *with B. Blachier*
- Beyond Gaussian initial conditions (Stochastic inflation) *with C. Animalì, B. Blachier, V. Vennin*



## Two-point correlation function (fixed $\delta_c$ )

Mean number density

$$n = P_1 \equiv \int_0^{\sigma^2} P_{\text{FPT}}(s) ds = \text{erfc} \left( \frac{\nu}{\sqrt{2}} \right), \quad \nu \equiv \frac{\delta_c}{\sigma}$$

For a fixed threshold  $\delta_c$ , the two integrals over  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  in  $P_2$  can be computed analytically.

$$P_2 = \frac{\sqrt{2} e^{-\frac{\nu^2}{2w}}}{\sqrt{\pi w}} \int_0^\infty \sinh \left( \frac{\nu}{w} x \right) \text{erfc}^2 \left[ \frac{x}{\sqrt{2(1-w)}} \right] e^{-\frac{x^2}{2w}} dx.$$

## Pairwise correlation function (fixed $\delta_c$ )

Using

$$\int_0^{\infty} dx x^2 e^{-\beta x^2} \sinh(\gamma x) = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}(2\beta + \gamma^2)}{8\beta^2\sqrt{\beta}} e^{\frac{\gamma^2}{4\beta}} \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{\gamma}{2\sqrt{\beta}}\right) + \frac{\gamma}{4\beta^2},$$

the cross-correlation writes

$$1 + \xi_{S_1, S_2}(r) = \frac{e^{\lambda^2(w_1+w_2-1)}}{\sqrt{\pi}\lambda} \frac{\sqrt{(1-w_1)(1-w_2)}}{(1-w_1w_2)^2} \left\{ 1 + \sqrt{\pi}\lambda \sqrt{\frac{(1-w_1)(1-w_2)}{1-w_1w_2}} \right. \\ \left. \times \left[ \frac{1}{2\lambda^2} \frac{1-w_1w_2}{(1-w_1)(1-w_2)} + 1 \right] e^{\lambda^2 \frac{(1-w_1)(1-w_2)}{1-w_1w_2}} \operatorname{erf} \left[ \lambda \sqrt{\frac{(1-w_1)(1-w_2)}{1-w_1w_2}} \right] \right\}.$$