

# Microlensing

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One way to study the abundance of compact objects such as black holes is to make use of gravitational lensing magnifications of background stars by such compact objects, which is called microlensing. Although the probability of observing such magnifications for individual stars is tiny, this microlensing effect can be observed by monitoring the brightness of millions of stars. In particular, recent discoveries of gravitational waves from black hole mergers have stimulated theoretical studies to explain dark matter with black holes as well as observational studies to constrain the abundance and mass of black holes using microlensing observations.

