NEHOP'25 - New Horizons in Primordial Black Hole Physics



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Primordial black hole formation in a slow-reheating scenario

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In scalar field dark matter models, virialized halos form condensed central cores known as solitons. We extend this idea to the reheating phase of the early universe, a critical period that sets the stage for the emergence of structure after inflation. We study the formation of primordial black holes (PBHs) from the gravitational collapse of virialized configurations arising during this era. Focusing on free (pure massive) scalar fields, we derive threshold conditions for collapse—either of the full structure or its central core—in terms of the primordial density contrast. Our results highlight how the dynamics of reheating can influence PBH production and contribute to their overall abundance.

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