

# ML in Cosmology

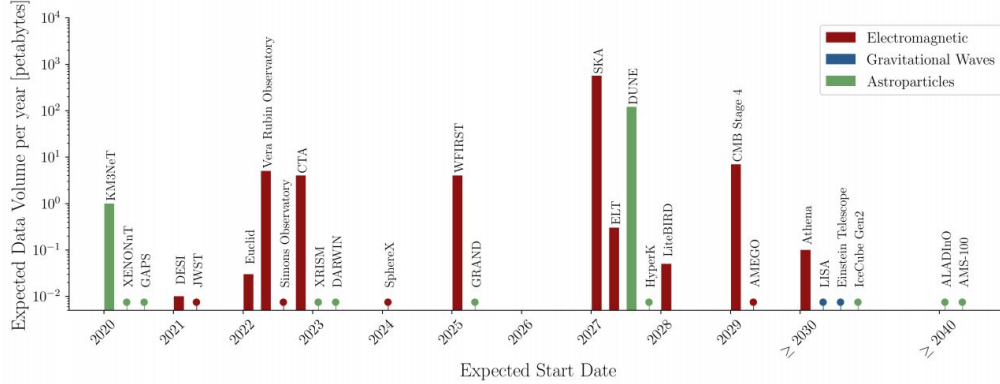
## Towards high-precision deep learning with TMNRE

**Christoph Weniger**

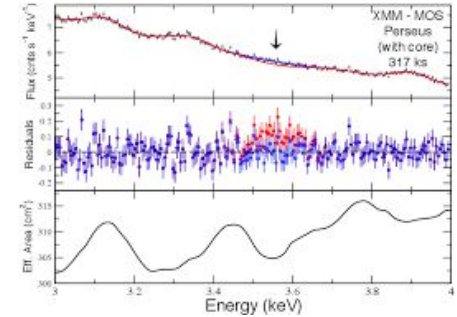
James Alvey (UvA), Uddipta Bhardwaj (UvA), **Alex Cole (UvA)**, Adam Coogan (U. Montreal), Androniki Dimitriou (U. Valencia), Elias Dubbeldam (UvA), Mathis Gerdes (UvA), Kosio Karchev (SISSA), **Ben Miller (UvA)**, Noemi Anau Montel (UvA), Roberto Trotta (SISSA)  
Gilles Louppe (U. Liège), Anchal Saxena (Groningen), Patrick Forré (UvA), Samaya Nissanke (UvA), Maxwell Cai, Meiert Grootes, Francesco Nattino (eScience)

# New-physics searches with astrophysical data

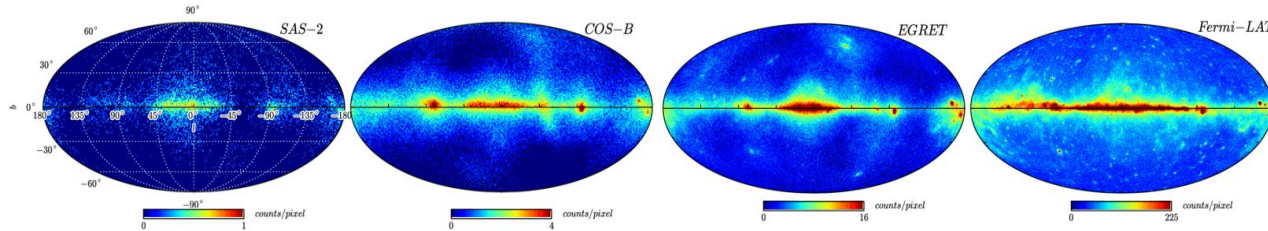
## Thousands of petabytes of upcoming data



Statistics → systematics  
limited searches

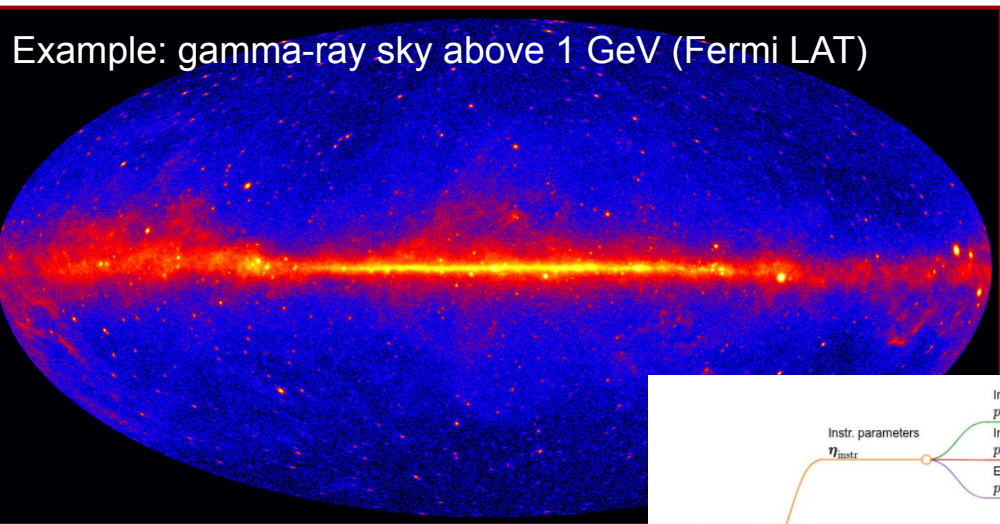


More data → more details



Increased need for  
high-fidelity  
astrophysical  
models & analyses

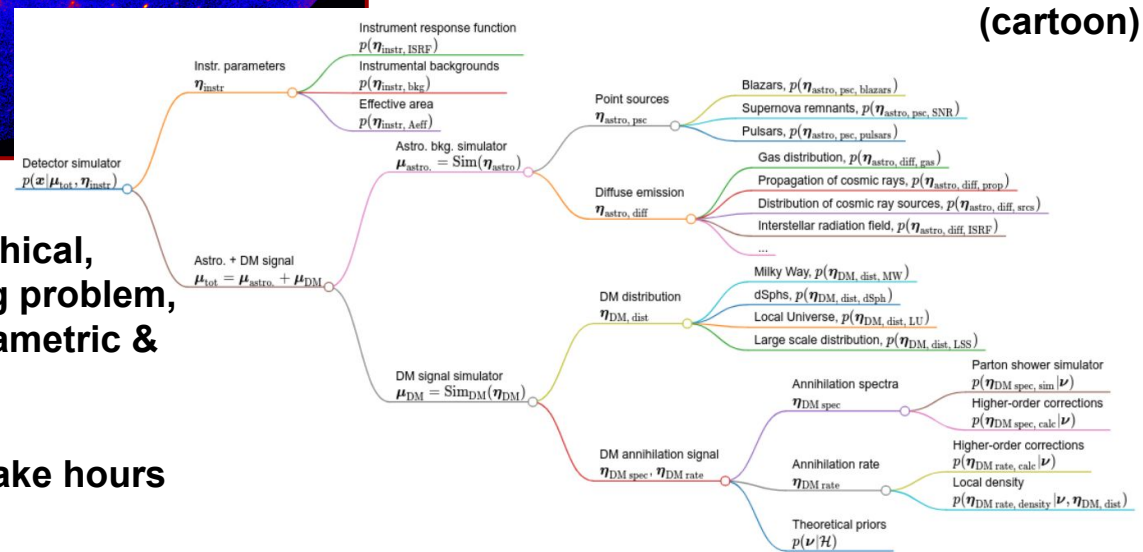
# Astrophysical models can be really, REALLY complex



→ Millions of parameters, hierarchical, trans-dimensional, label switching problem, parameter degeneracies, non-parametric & empirical model components, ...

Single forward simulation might take hours

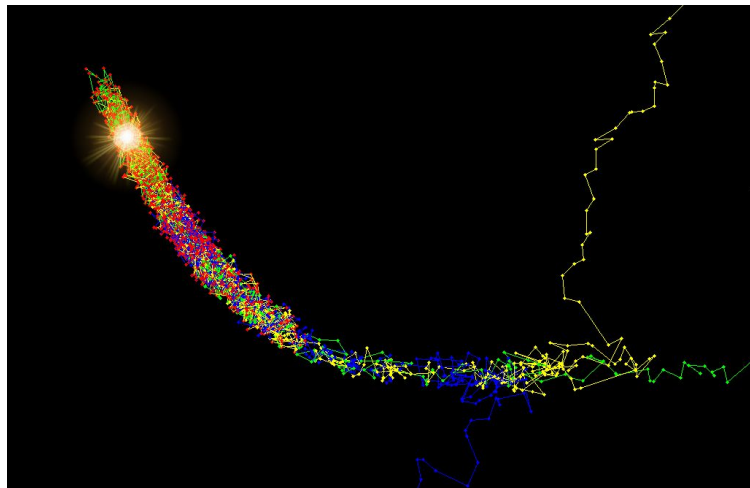
## Bayes Net for astrophysical model (cartoon)



# Industry standard: Markov Chain Monte Carlo

Bayes theorem

$$p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\overset{\text{Likelihood}}{p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})} \overset{\text{Prior}}{p(\boldsymbol{\theta})}}{\underset{\text{Posterior}}{p(\mathbf{x})} \underset{\text{Evidence}}{p(\mathbf{x})}}$$



Ex: Metropolis Hastings Algorithm

- Step 1: MC method samples from the **joined high-dimensional posterior for all parameters**

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} \sim p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{x}) \quad \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^D$$

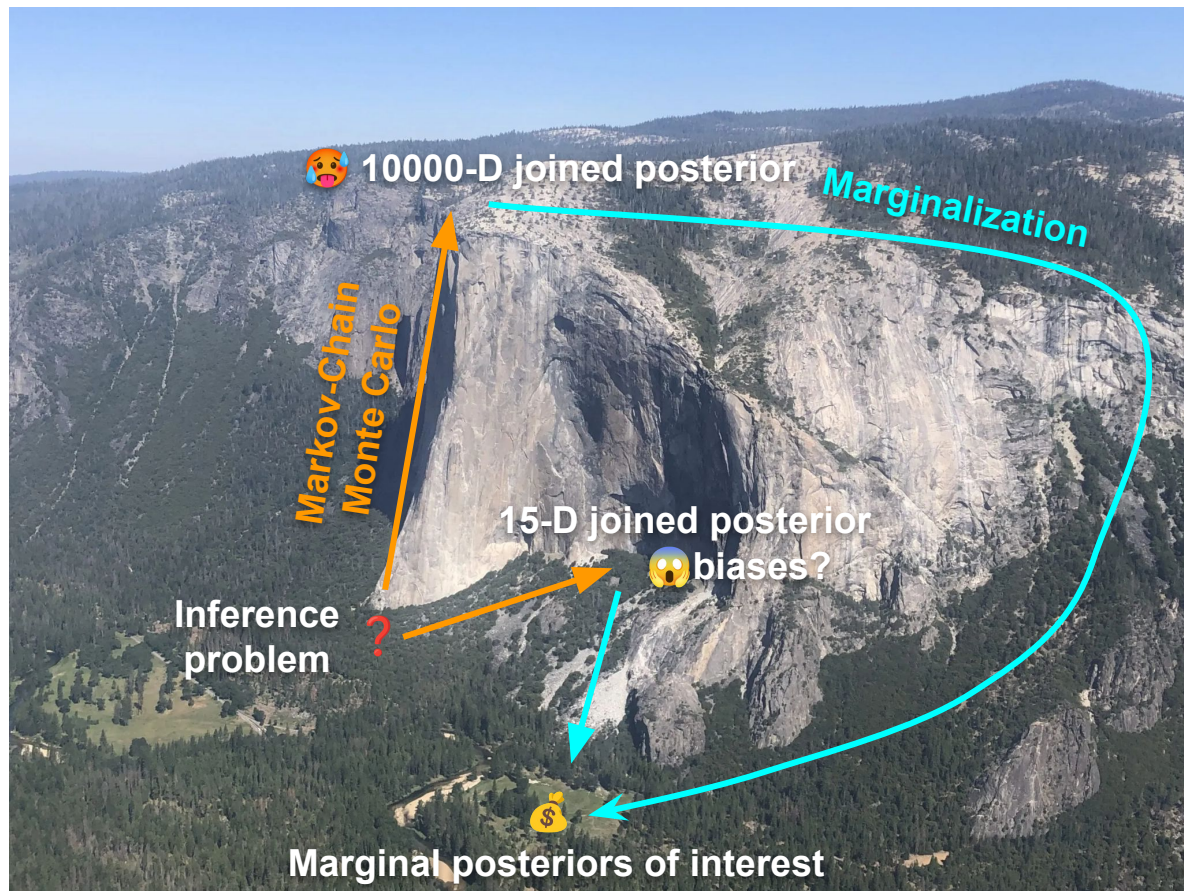
$D$ : Number of parameters

- Step 2: **projection onto parameters of interest**

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} \equiv (\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_D)^T \rightarrow (\theta_i, \theta_j)^T \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

💰 **Science result**

# Mount joined posterior estimation

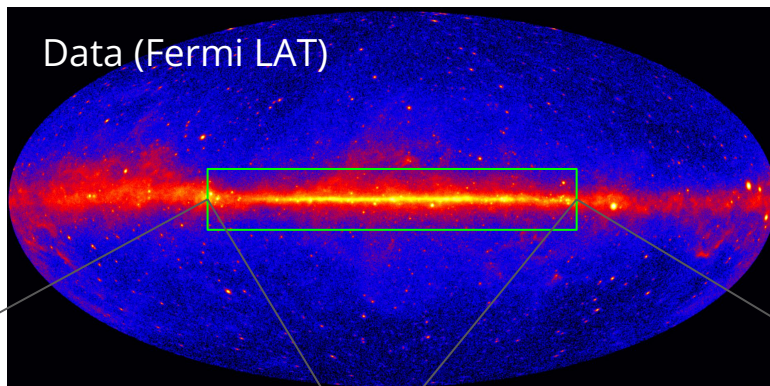


# The price of model simplification

Almost all existing analysis of Fermi LAT data have these kind of residuals.

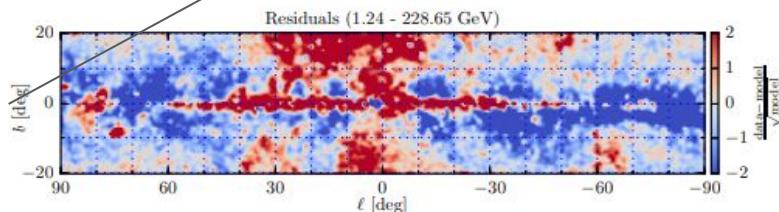
**There is no shortage in anomalies in astrophysical data...**

**Consequences: Large modeling errors** because of **simplistic low-dim models**

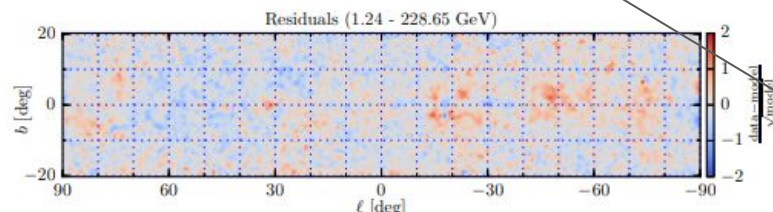


We pulled this off with **gradient-based optimization**. **Very hard to use** in practice, only a handful of examples in the literature.

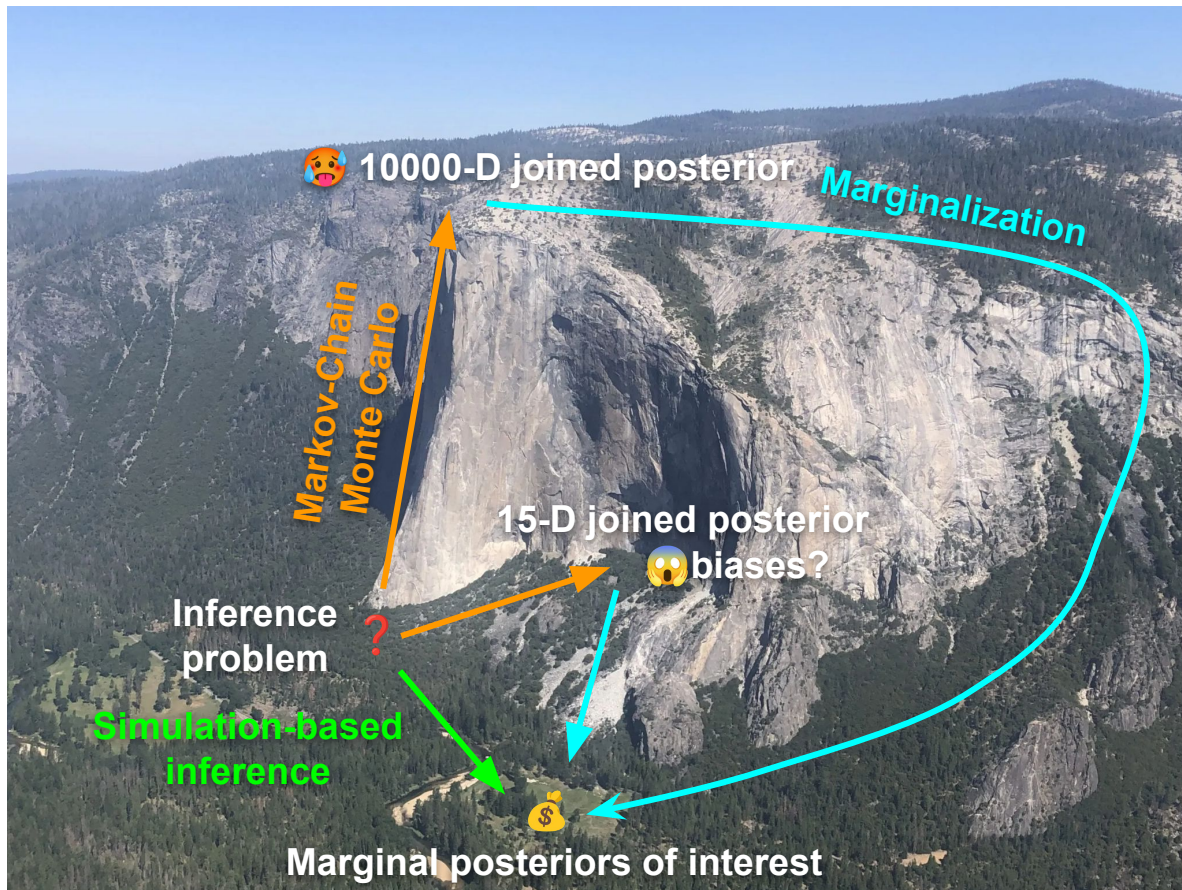
Residuals  
**Low-dim model (10 dims)**



Residuals  
**High-dim model (10,000 dims)**



# Mount joined posterior estimation - avoiding the detour



# A simulation-based inference thought experiment

“Simulated images”



Observed data



1, 3, 2, **1**, 5, 4, 3, 1, 6, 7, 9, ...

6, 2, 5, **8**, 6, 8, 4, 3, 2 1, 3, 4, ...

2, 3, 4, **3**, 1, 7, 8, 9, 5, 3, 2, ...

4, 2, 1, **4**, 6, 8, 6, 4, 3, 2, 4, ...

1, 3, 2, **9**, 5, 4, 3, 1, 6, 7, 9, ...

6, 2, 5, **8**, 6, 8, 4, 3, 2 1, 3, 4, ...

2, 3, 4, **1**, 1, 7, 8, 9, 5, 3, 2, ...

4, 2, 1, **2**, 6, 8, 6, 4, 3, 2, 4, ...

1, 3, 2, **4**, 5, 4, 3, 1, 6, 7, 9, ...

6, 2, 5, **4**, 6, 8, 4, 3, 2 1, 3, 4, ...

?, ?, ?, **8**, ?, ?, ?, ?, ?, ?, ?, ?, ...

Red:  
**Parameter of interest**

Black:  
**Nuisance parameters**  
(parametrizing *all* possible background images)





MCMC



After a  
Hubble time\*



Neural  
network



~8  
After less than  
a second

# Neural simulation-based inference (SBI)

## Very active young research field

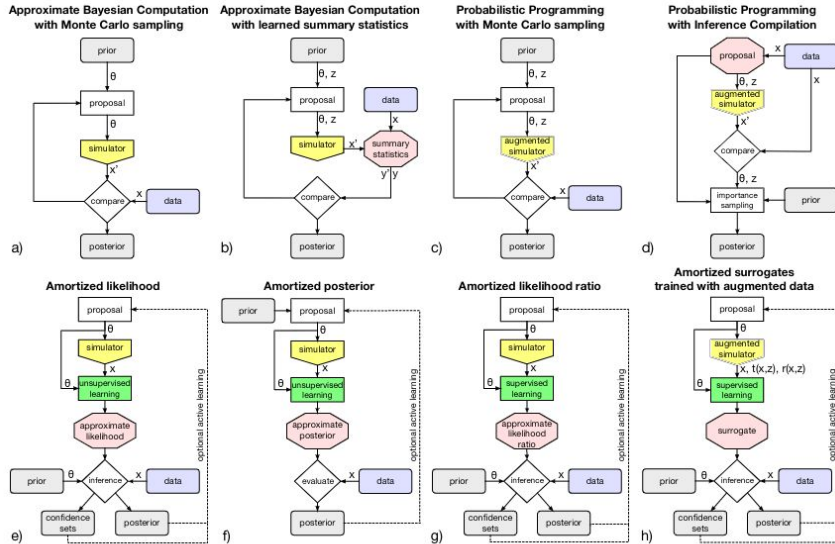


Fig. 3. Overview of different approaches to simulation-based inference.

**General goal:** obtain neural network approximator for one of the following:

- Posterior\*  $p(\theta|x)$
- Likelihood\*  $p(x|\theta)$

- Ratios of posteriors and priors = ratios of likelihood and evidence

$$r(x, \theta) = \frac{p(x|\theta)}{p(x)} = \frac{p(x, \theta)}{p(x)p(\theta)} = \frac{p(\theta|x)}{p(\theta)}$$

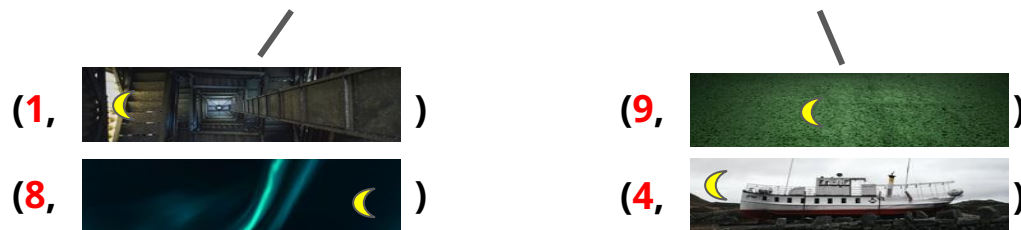
- Various variations of the above quantities...

[Cranmer, Brehmer, Louppe 1911.01429]

\* typically based on density estimation with flow-based architectures

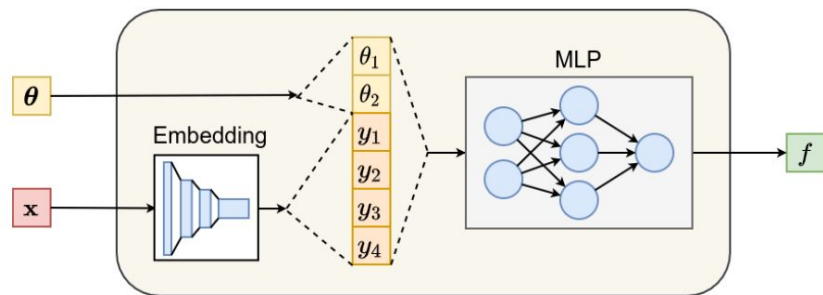
# Neural ratio estimation (NRE) in a nutshell

Strategy: Learning to distinguish between matching (parameter, data) pairs and random pairs.



Loss function: Binary cross entropy

$$\ell[f_\phi]_{\text{NRE}} = - \int d\mathbf{x} d\boldsymbol{\theta} [p(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \ln \sigma(f_\phi(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})) + p(\mathbf{x})p(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \ln (1 - \sigma(f_\phi(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})))]$$

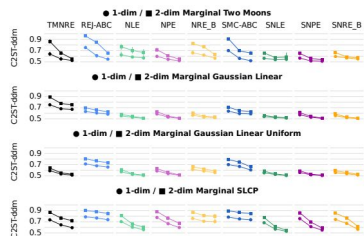


Minimizing network approximates posteriors

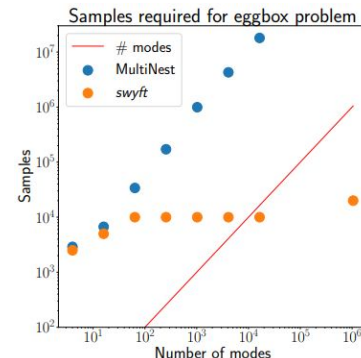
$$f_\phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{x}) \approx \ln \frac{p(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{p(\mathbf{x})p(\boldsymbol{\theta})} = \ln \frac{p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{x})}{p(\boldsymbol{\theta})}$$

# Truncated Marginal Neural Ratio Estimation (TMNRE)

Competitive performance on standard tasks



Scalable to high-dim models



## Key features

1. Focus on Marginals
2. Truncation
3. Neural Ratio Estimation

Combination of various properties of existing algorithms

Property / Method	Likelihood-based	ABC	NRE	NPE	SNRE	SNPE	TMNRE
Targeted inference	✓	•	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Simulator efficient <i>direct</i> marginals	✗	✓	•	•	✗	✗	✓
(Local) amortization	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓

# 1) Marginal posterior rather than joint posteriors

- A “universal” approach must scale to millions of parameters, and outrageously complex posteriors (transdimensional models, label switching, strong correlations, ...)

$$p(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{1000000} | \mathbf{x})$$

Joined: In general intractable  
(any approach)

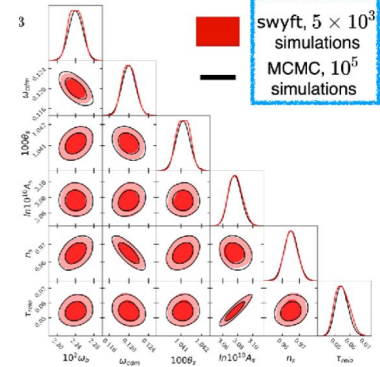
$$p(z_1 | \mathbf{x}), p(z_2, z_3 | \mathbf{x}), p(\max(\mathbf{z}) | \mathbf{x}), \dots$$

Marginals: Often tractable  
(NRE, forward-KL based approaches, ...)

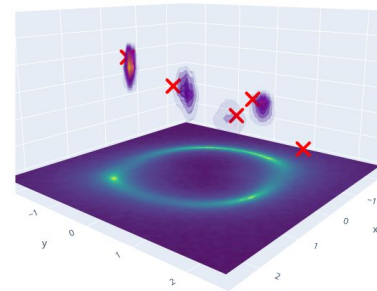
- Scientifically, we are usually only interested in marginal posteriors anyway
  - Parameter regression: 1-dim marginals
  - Parameter correlations: 2-dim marginals
  - Bayesian model comparison: ratios of marginals
  - Object identification: density functions
  - ...

[for discussions see e.g. Alsing+ 1903.01473, Jeffrey+ 2011.05991, Miller+ 2011.13951]

- Caveats: Goodness-of-fit tests, posterior predictive distribution, requires upfront intuition about what matters



1-dim and 2-dim marginals for corner plots



Density functions for object detection

## 2) Truncation rather than sequential

- Sequential techniques are based on targeted training data

$$\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z} \sim p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})\tilde{p}(\mathbf{z})$$

[Durkan+ 2002.03712 for a discussion]

$$\tilde{p}(\mathbf{z}) \approx p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}_o)$$

- This is fine if the goal is to locally train, e.g., the likelihood (which is prior independent)

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})$$

[Alsing+ 1903.00007 as example (pydelfi)]

- But:** *Marginal* likelihoods/posteriors will be affected by the proposal distribution

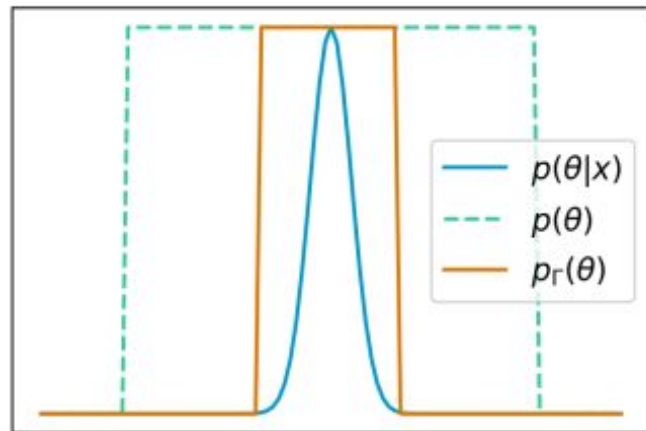
$$p(\mathbf{x}|z_1) = \int dz_2 \dots dz_N p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})\tilde{p}(z_2, \dots, z_N)$$

[see e.g. Alsing+ 1903.01473 for a possible summary-statistics related solution]

- To alleviate this we proposed to use a *truncation scheme*

$$\tilde{p}(\mathbf{z}) = \mathbb{I}(\mathbf{z} \in \Gamma)p(\mathbf{z})$$

[Miller+ 2011.13951, 2107.01214 - swyft & TMNRE]



### 3) Likelihood-to-evidence ratios rather than densities

- Ratio estimation = Binary classification = Simplicity

$$f_\phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{x}) \approx \ln \frac{p(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{p(\mathbf{x})p(\boldsymbol{\theta})} = \ln \frac{p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{x})}{p(\boldsymbol{\theta})}$$

[Hermans+ 1903.04057]

[see Cranmer+ 1911.01429 for discussion of many alternatives]

- Usually remains conservative (works well in a truncation scheme)

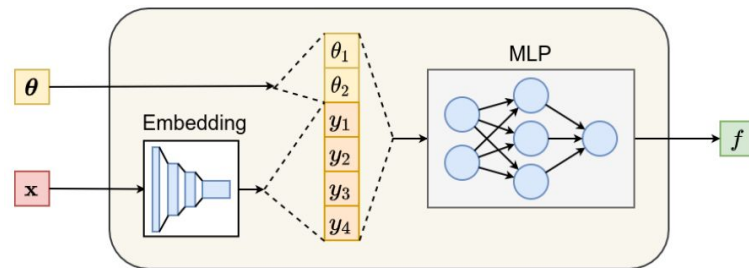
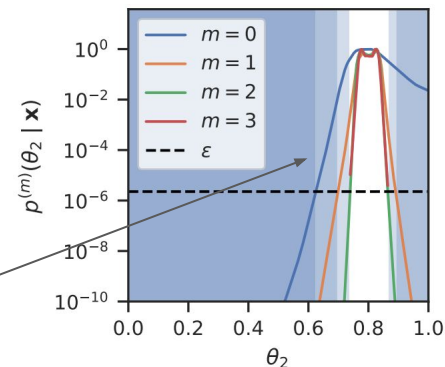
[but see Hermans+ 2110.06581]

- Ratio estimation automatically generates information maximizing data compression

$$\ell[\hat{\rho}_\phi] = -2\mathbb{E}_{p(\mathbf{x})} [\text{JSD}(p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{x}))||p(\boldsymbol{\theta}))]$$

[see Alsing+ 1903.00007 for related discussions in context of likelihood estimation]

- When focusing on low-dim marginals, sampling is simple (no MCMC or flow-based models required).



# What TMNRE is not

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- TMNRE is **not based on flow-based architectures**, and does not perform density estimation
- TMNRE does **not require pre-optimized summary statistics**, but produces them on-the-fly
- TMNRE **does not require differentiable simulators\***
- TMNRE **does not rely on approximations on the form of posteriors**

**Talk about TMNRE by Ben Miller tomorrow, Wednesday, 3:00 pm**

\*Initially, we spend A LOT of time trying to exploit gradient-based optimization and differentiable simulators for our applications (strong lensing - we wrote a fully differentiable simulator). However, this turned out to be not fruitful (and quite painful) in numerous ways. Your mileage may vary. Currently we stay away from gradients, but they might come back at some point. Ask me if you are interested in a detailed discussion.



# Coordinated effort to develop and exploit TMNRE

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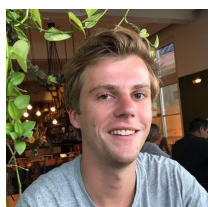
Noemi Anau  
Montel (UvA),  
Strong lensing



Adam Coogan  
(Mila, U.  
Montreal),  
Strong lensing



Alex Cole (UvA),  
CMB, 21cm



Elias Dubbeldam  
(UvA),  
Strong lensing



Ben Miller (UvA),  
Algorithm &  
software



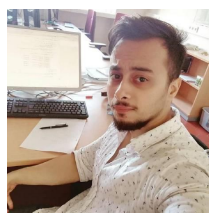
Kosio Karchev  
(SISSA)  
SN cosmology,  
strong lensing



Mathis Gerdes  
(UvA),  
Stellar streams,  
QFT



Androniki Dimitriou  
(Valencia),  
Large scale  
structures



Uddipta  
Bhardwaj (UvA)  
Gravitational  
waves



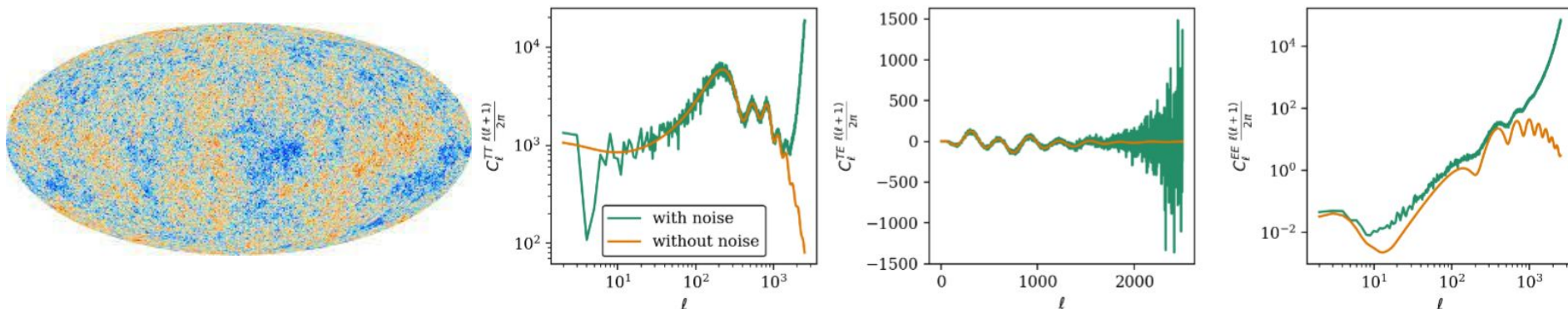
James Alvey  
(UvA),  
Stellar streams,  
GWs

+

Gilles Louppe (U. Liège)  
Anchal Saxena (Groningen)  
Patrick Forré (UvA)  
Samaya Nissanke (UvA)  
Maxwell Cai, Meiert Grootes,  
Francesco Nattino (eScience)

# Example 1: Cosmic microwave background

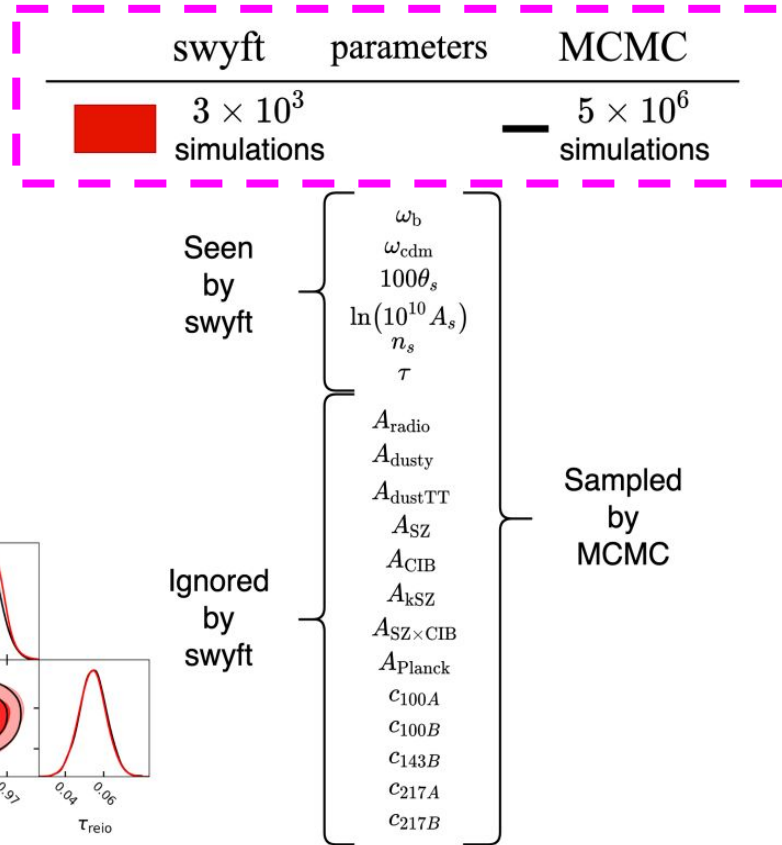
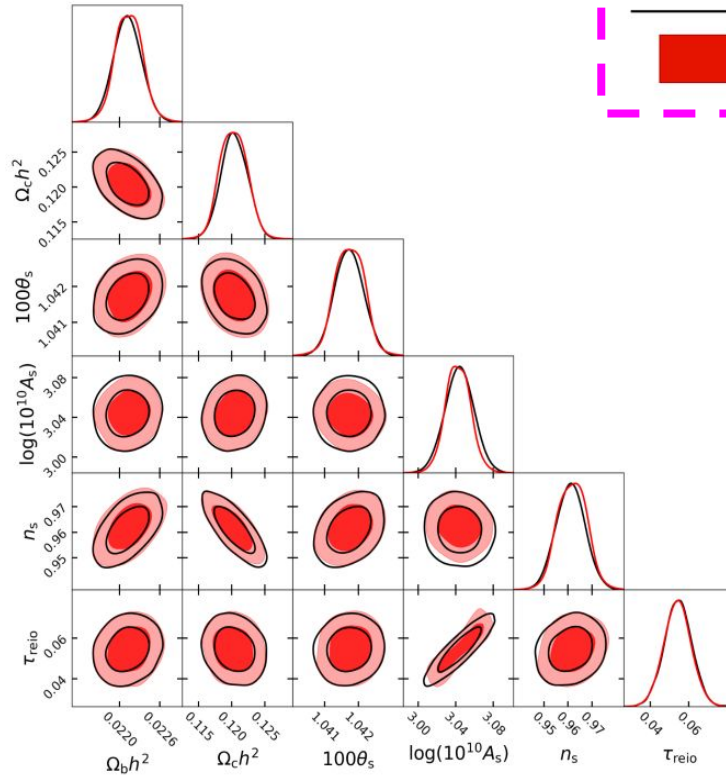
# CMB forecasting



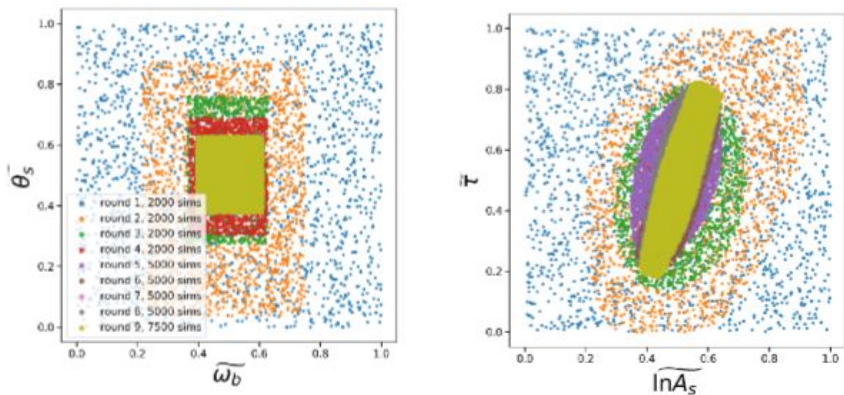
Noise = instrument contribution + cosmic variance

- TT, TE, EE angular power spectrum of CMB with Planck-like noise (Di Valentino+ 2016)
- 6 cosmology parameter to infer, using tight priors (+- 5 sigma Fisher estimate)
- HiLLiPoP likelihood: Planck likelihood, 13 varying nuisance parameters [Couchot et al. '16]
- Comparison with MCMC is feasible and straightforward
- We use a linear embedding network to go from 7500  $\rightarrow$  10 features

# Realistic CMB



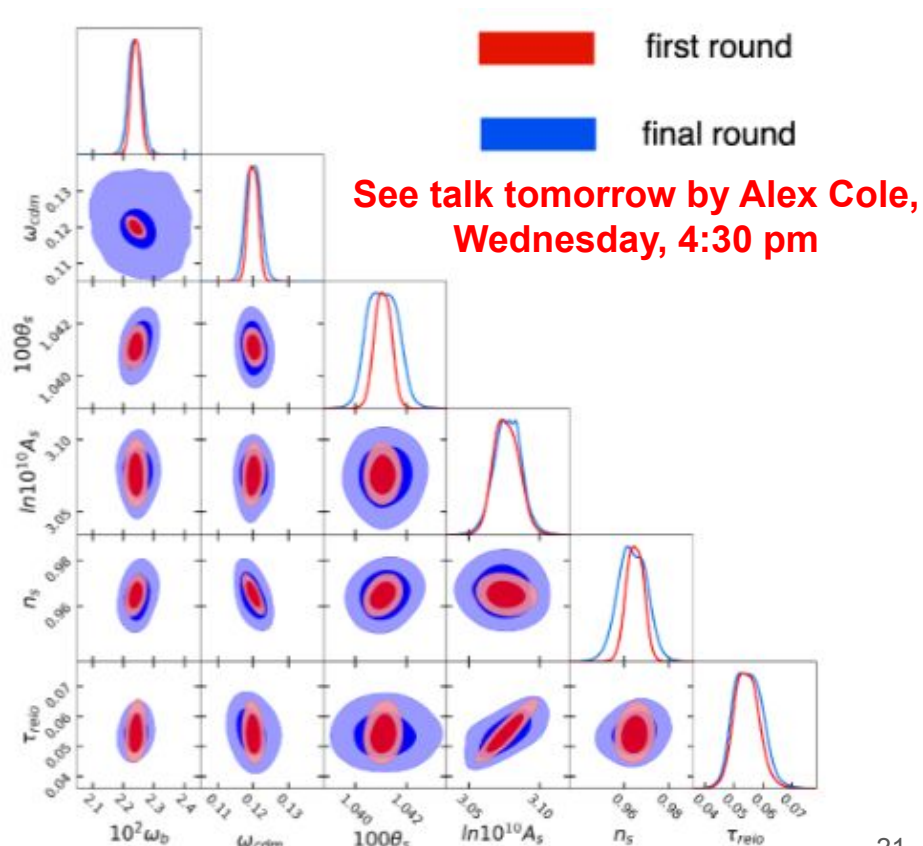
# Importance of truncation



- Demonstration of prior that is “too big” by a factor of 5 for the cosmological parameters
- Truncation effectively identifies region with 20000 extra sims.

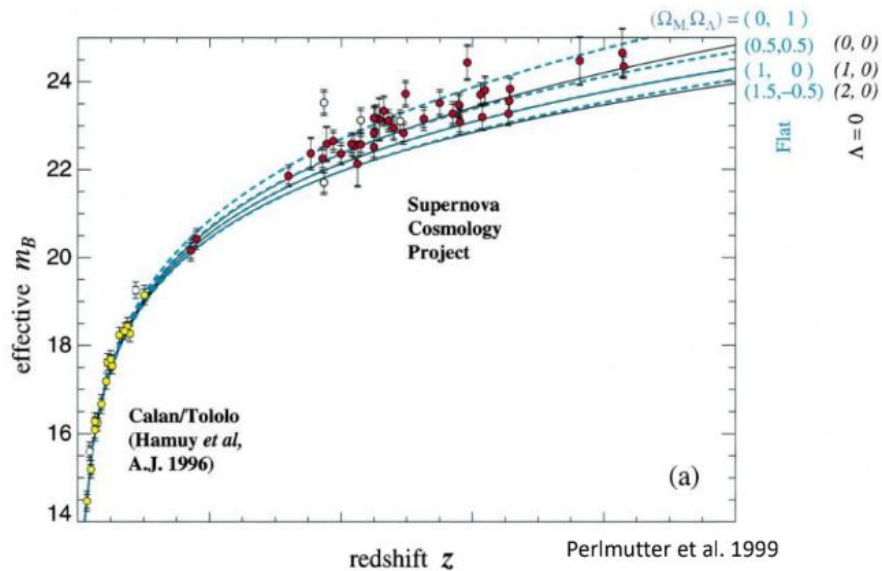
## Structure of ratio estimator

- Input: Vector (7500)
- Embedding: Linear (7500  $\rightarrow$  10)
- Marginals: MLP (19 1-dim, 15 2-dim)

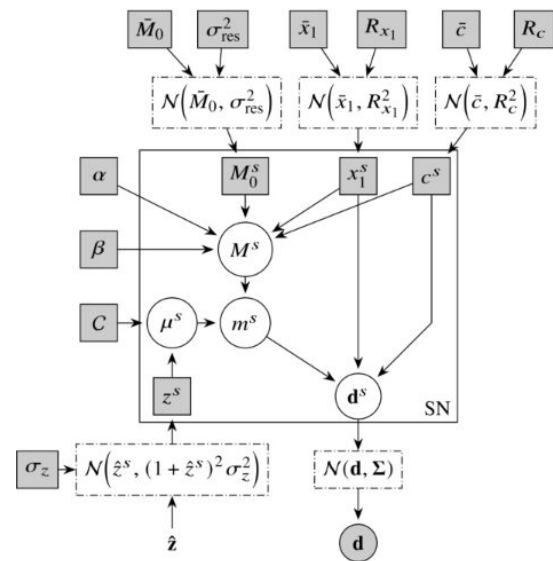


# Example 2: Supernova cosmology

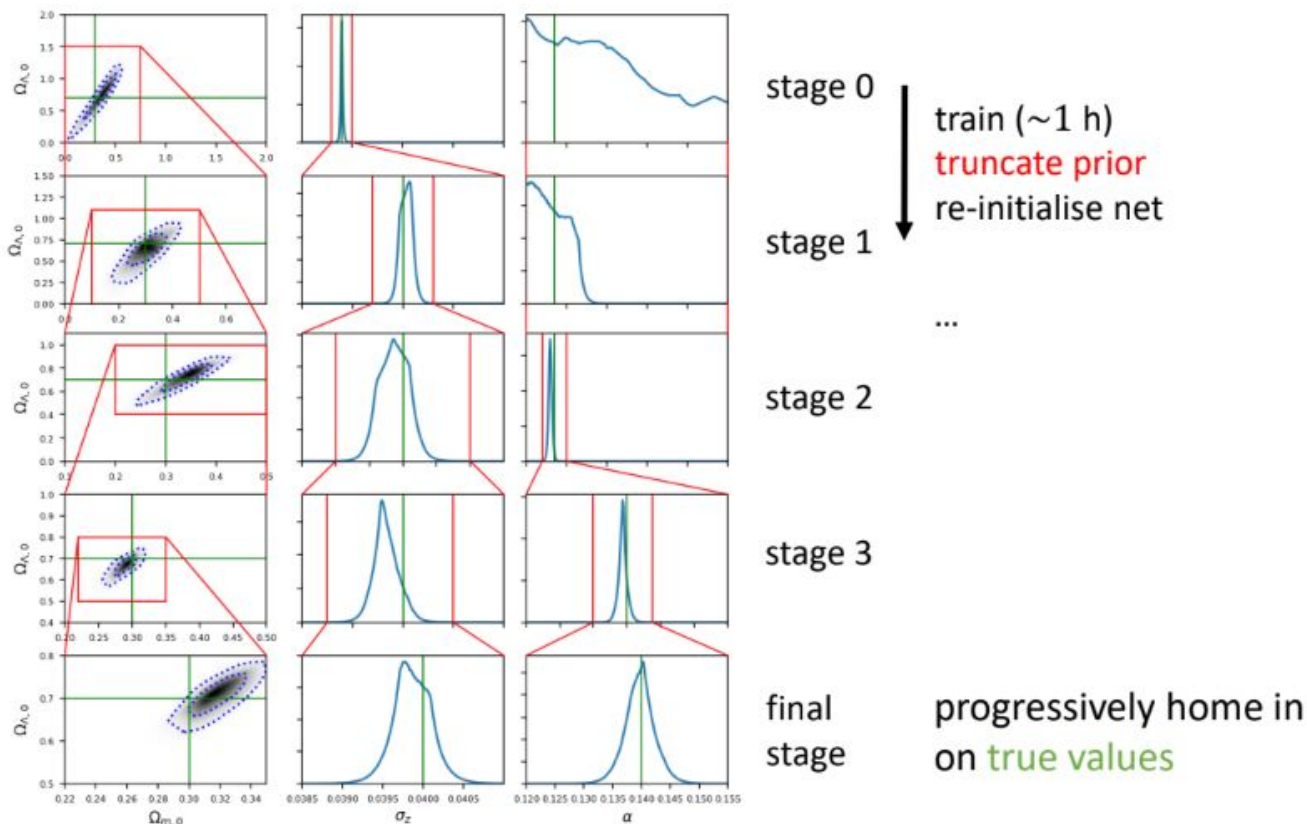
# Supernova cosmology



$$m = M + \mu(z, \mathcal{C}) + \text{"noise"}$$



# Truncated marginal NRE

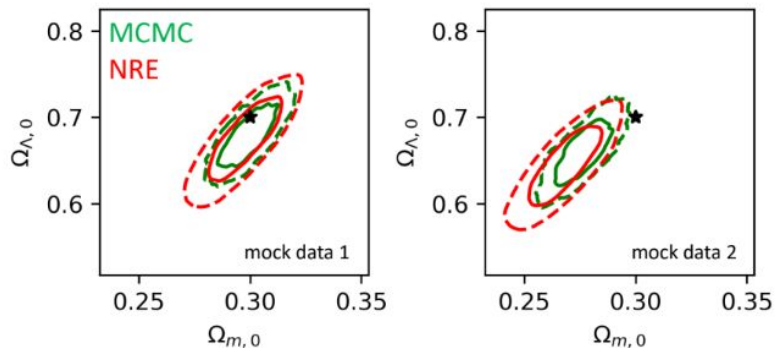


Ongoing work with Kosio Karchev and Roberto Trotta



# Marginal posteriors

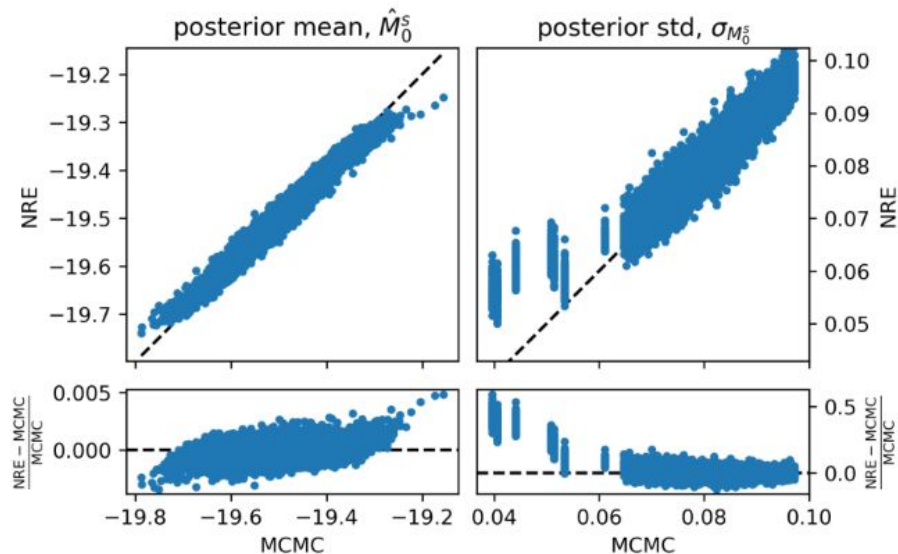
## 100 000 supernovae



- “MCMC” results were obtained using pre-marginalized likelihoods (only possible under specific assumptions).
- Instead, NRE marginalizes automatically, and assumption-free.

Ongoing work with Kosio Karchev and Roberto Trotta

## MALFOI: marginal likelihood-free object-by-object inference

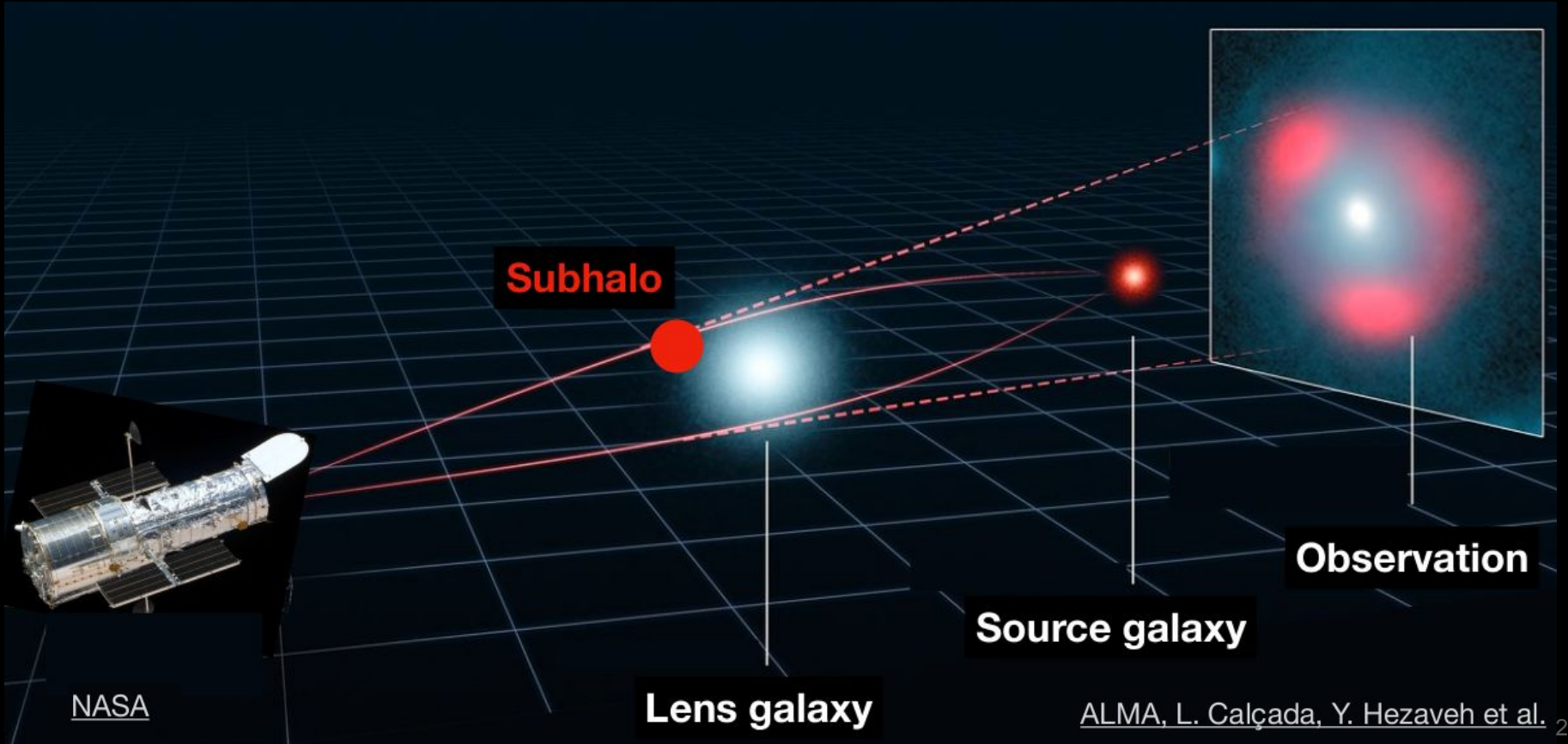


### Structure of ratio estimator

- Input: 100.000 Spectra (100000, 3)
- Embedding: Linear (300000  $\rightarrow$  256)
- Marginals: MLP (100009 1-dim, 1 2-dim)

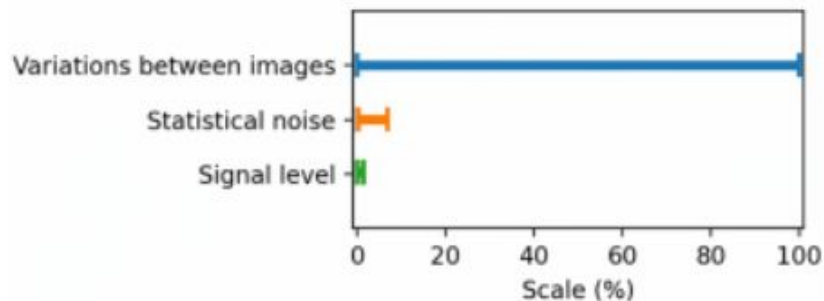
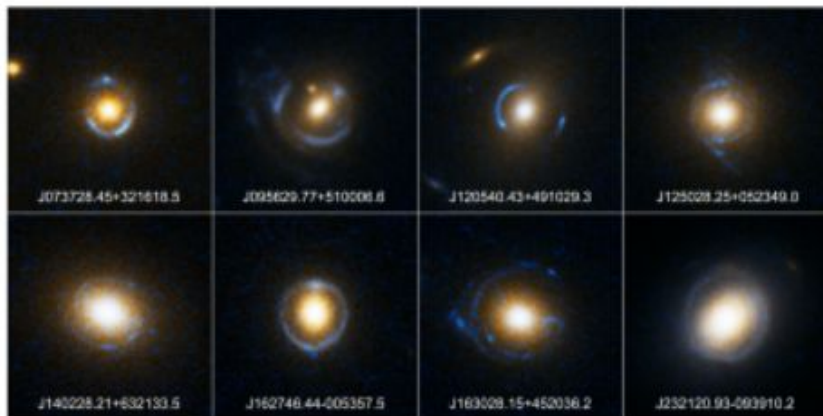
# Example 3: Strong lensing

# Strong galaxy-galaxy lensing

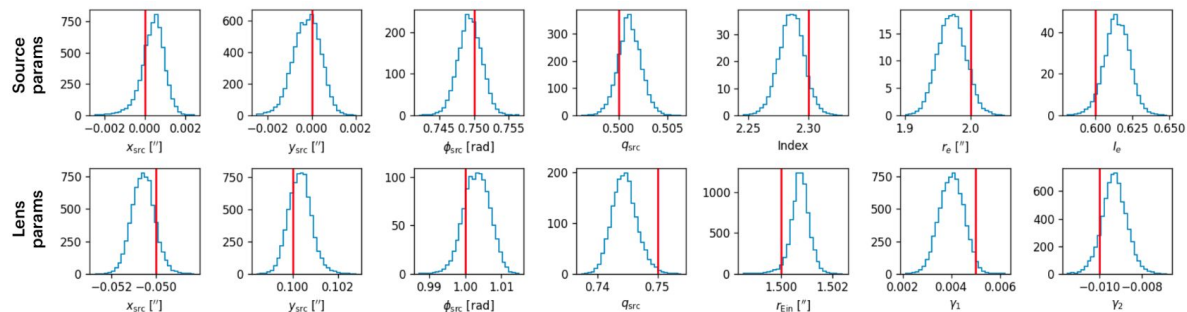
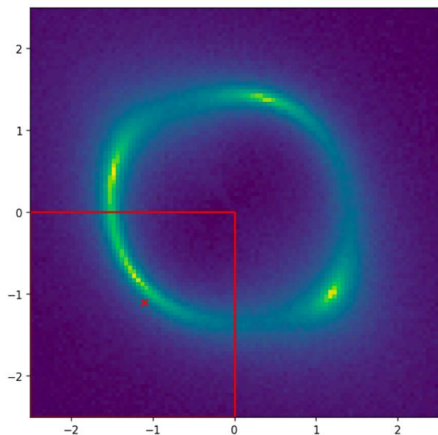


# Inference challenges

- **Signal is small** compared to noise and variations between images
- **Marginalization** over numerous source, lens and halo parameters
- Joint posterior has  $\sim N_{\text{sub}}!$  **modes**; likelihood can be **intractable**



# Single subhalo, simple source model

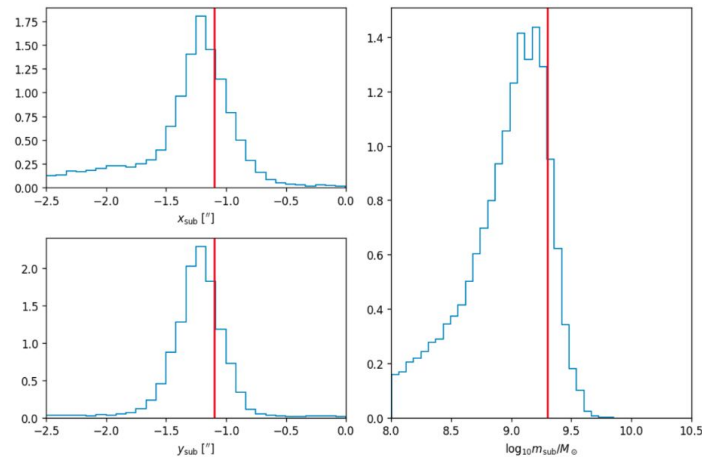


## Structure of ratio estimator

- Input: Images (typically 200x200)
- Embedding: CNN
- Marginals: MLP (17 1-dim)

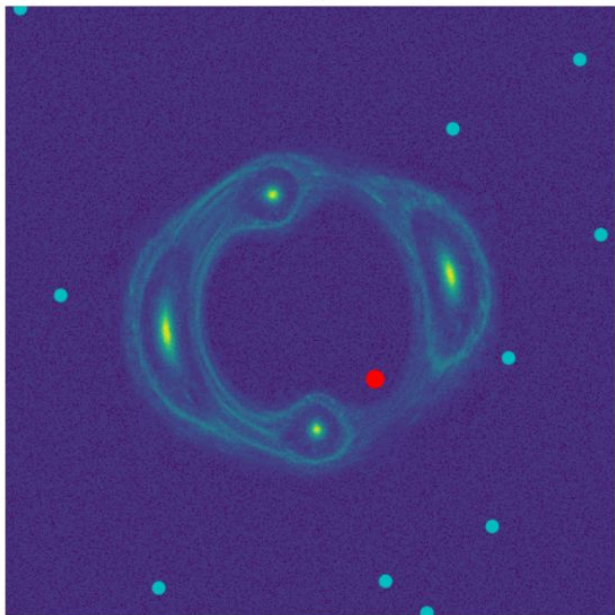
Ongoing work led by Adam Coogan

Slide credit: Noemi Anau Montel



# Multiple subhalos, complex source model

Training data

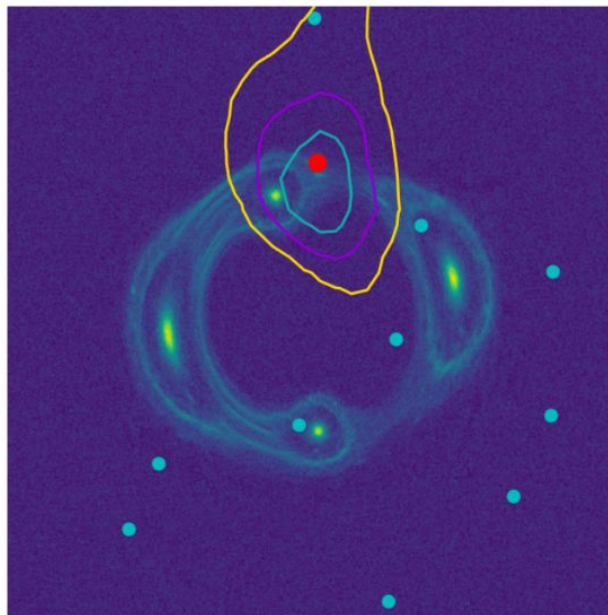


• =  $5 \times 10^9 M_{\odot}$ , • =  $10^8 - 10^9 M_{\odot}$

Marginalized over source, lens and halo population

Ongoing work led by Adam Coogan

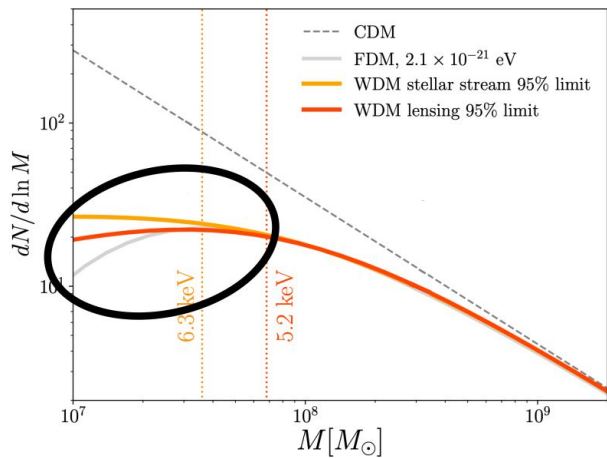
Inference



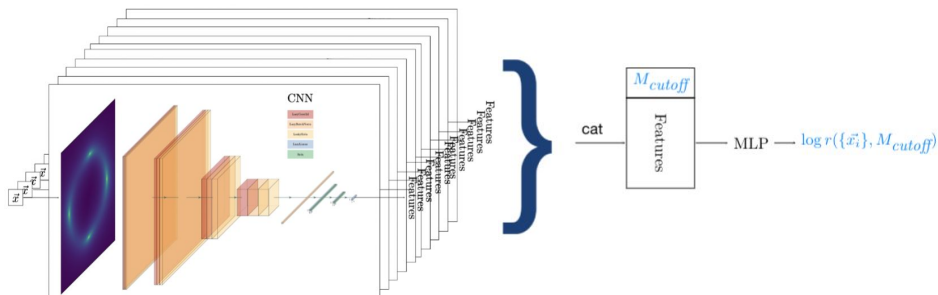
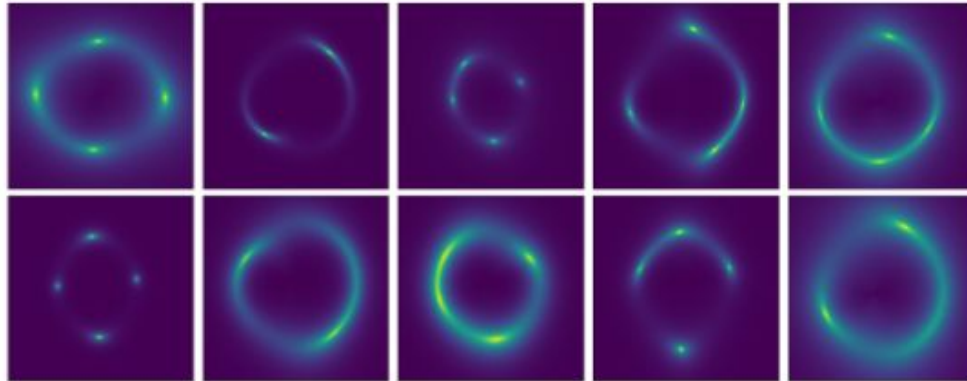
## Structure of ratio estimator

- Input: Images (typically 200x200)
- Embedding: CNN
- Marginals: MLP (2-dim)

# Infer subhalo mass function cutoff $p(M_{\text{cutoff}} | \{\vec{x}_i\}_{i=1,\dots,10})$



Combining observations to reduce subhalo shot noise



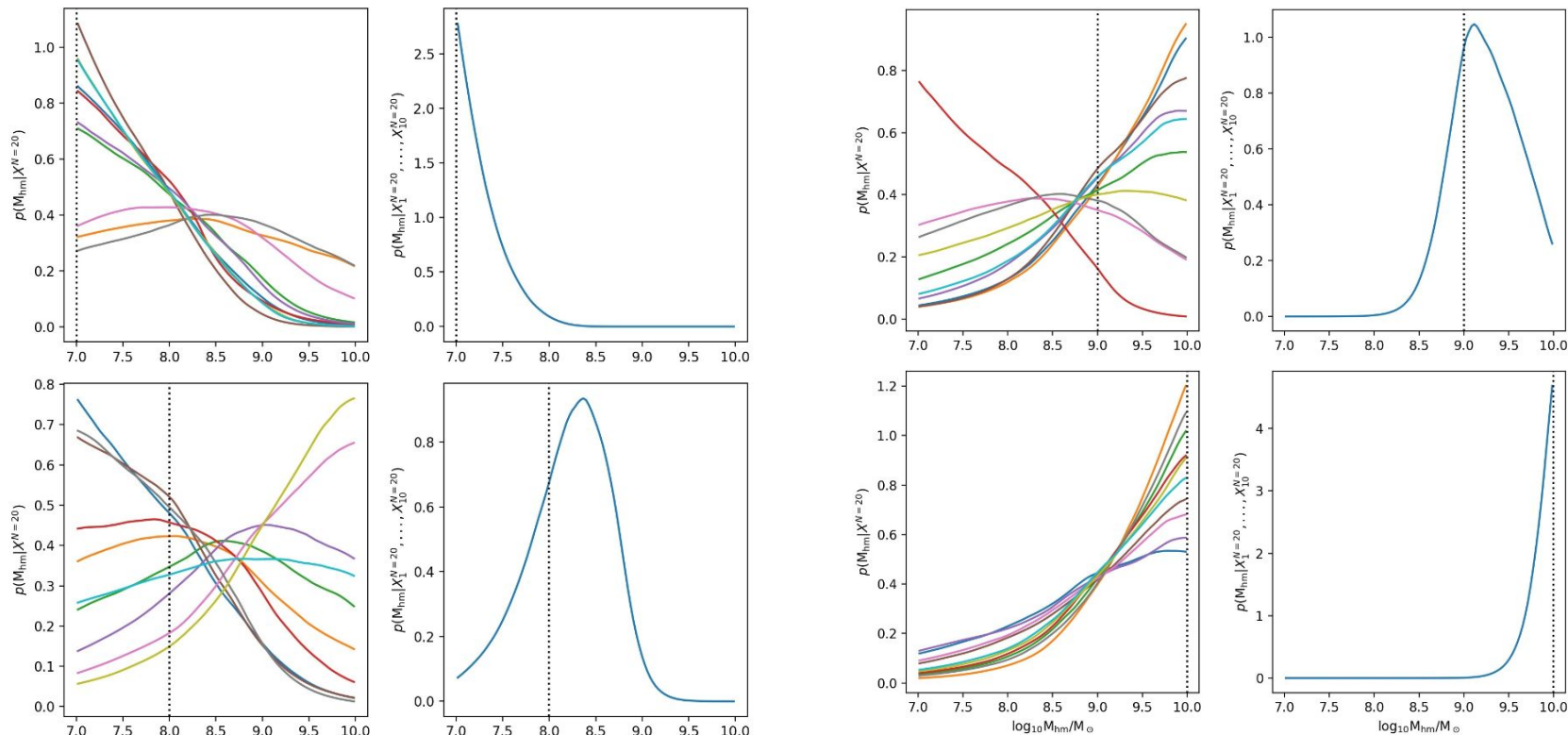
## Structure of ratio estimator

- Input: 10 Images (10x100x100)
- Embedding: Stack of CNNs
- Marginals: MLP (1-dim)

# Infer subhalo mass function cutoff $p(M_{\text{cutoff}} | \{\bar{x}_i\}_{i=1,\dots,10})$

Ongoing work led by Noemi Anau Montel

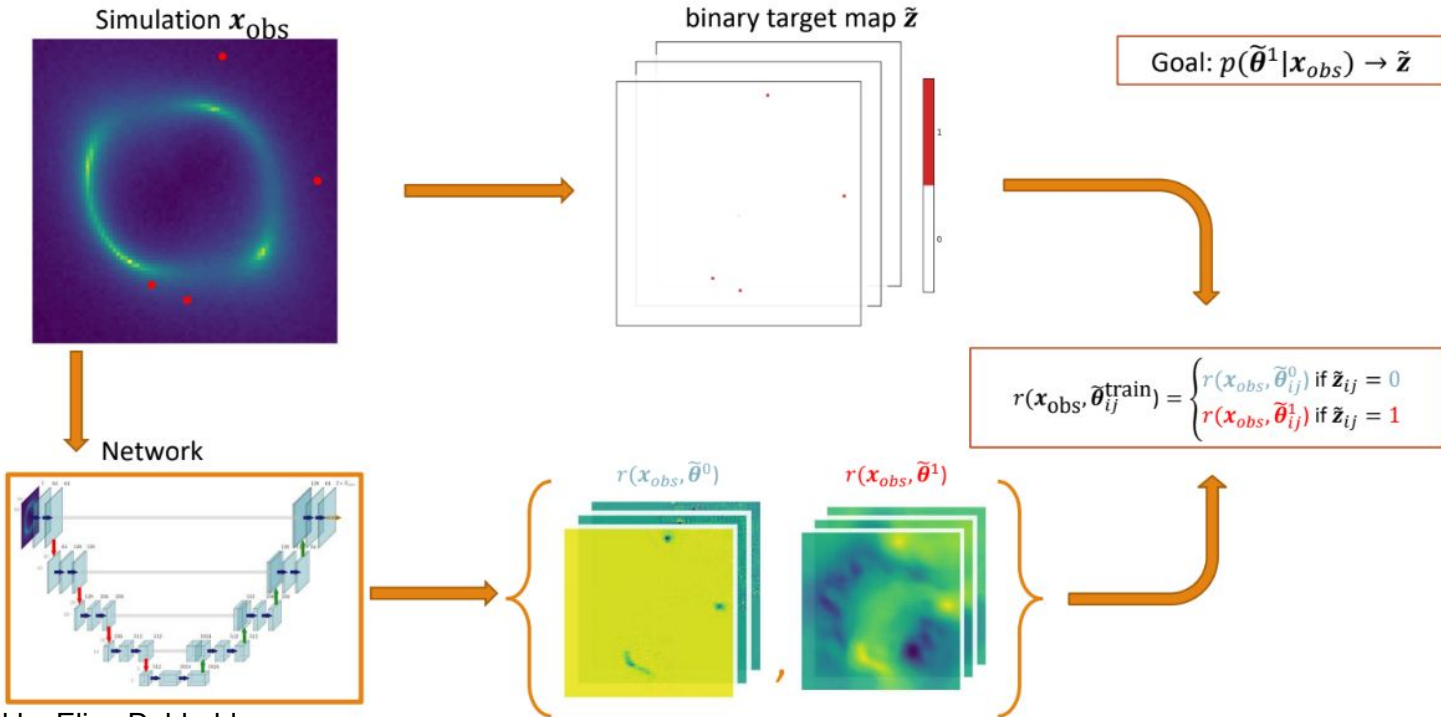
Combining 100 images (10x10x100x100 images) should lead to tight posteriors.





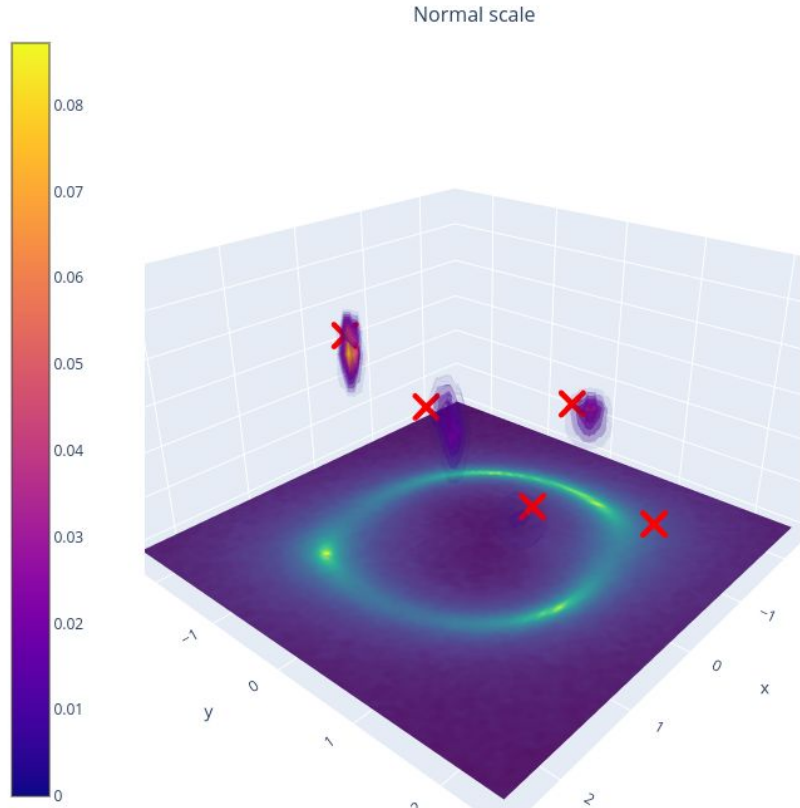
# Probabilistic image segmentation

In the presence of multiple subhalos, we can also estimate the subhalo density function (which can be understood as marginal of the more complex joined subhalo distribution).



# Probabilistic image segmentation

Subhalo posteriors. Transparency decreases with posterior value.



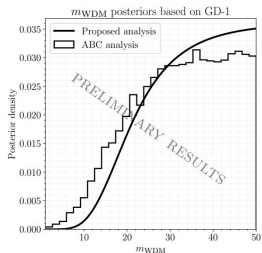
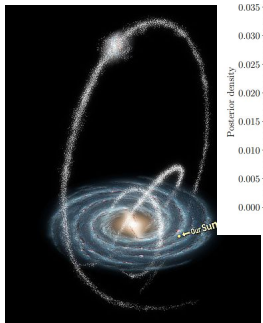
## Structure of ratio estimator

- Input: Image (typically 100x100)
- Embedding: U-Net
- Marginals: Binary marginals 100x100x10 (ten mass bins)

<https://dm-lensing-paris1fi.github.io/>

# TMNRE/SWYFT appear to be broadly applicable

Stellar streams

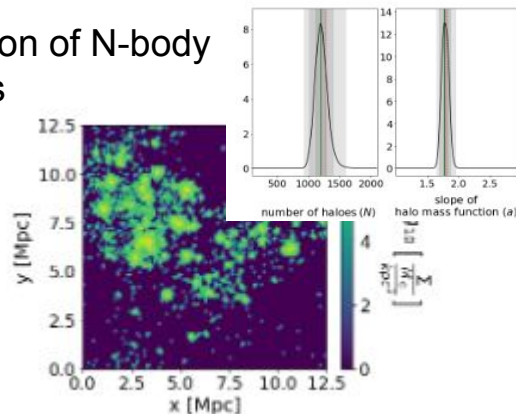


Hermans et al., 2020  
James Alvey, Mathis Gerdes, in progress

21 cm cosmology  
LHC pheno fits  
...

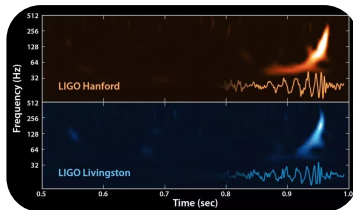
**TMNRE/SWYFT**

Interpretation of N-body simulations



Androniki Dimitriou+, soon

Gravitational waves



Delaunoy+ 2020  
Uddipta Bhardwaj+, in progress

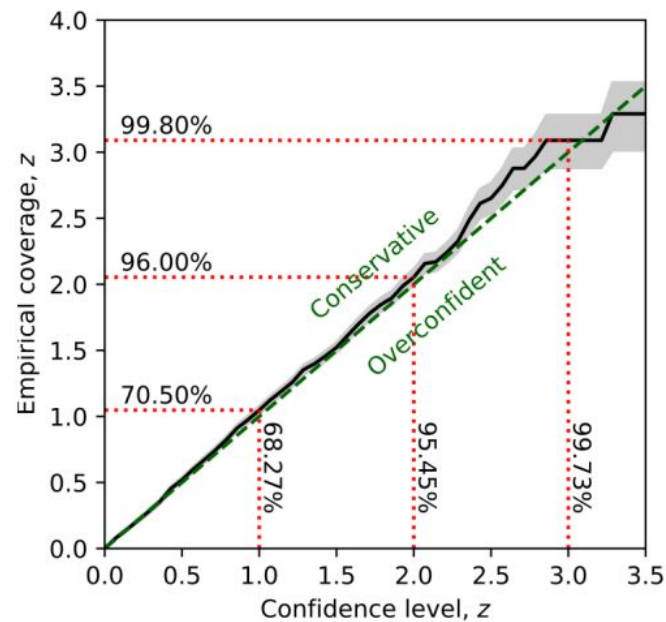
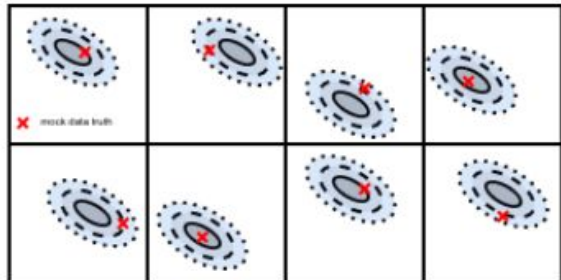
How can one trust results?

# Credibility of inference results can be tested

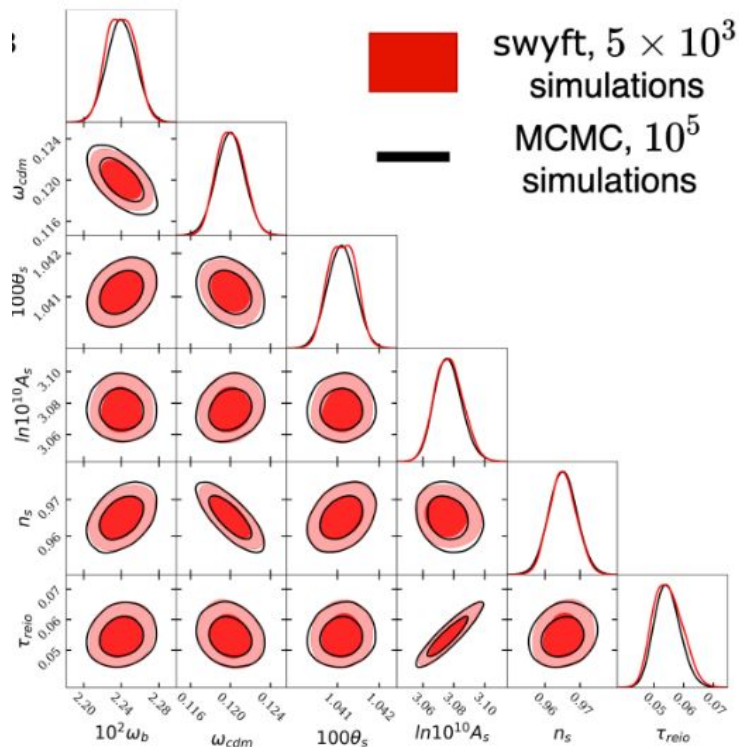
Let  $\Theta_{p(\vartheta|\mathbf{x})}(1 - \alpha)$  denote the  $1 - \alpha$  highest posterior density region

Expected coverage of the 68% and 95%

$$1 - \hat{\alpha} = \mathbb{E}_{p(\vartheta, \mathbf{x})} [\mathbb{1} [\vartheta \in \Theta_{\hat{p}(\vartheta|\mathbf{x})}(1 - \alpha)]]$$

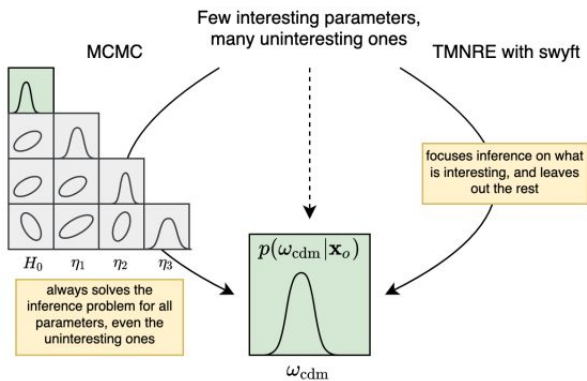


# Coverage tests!

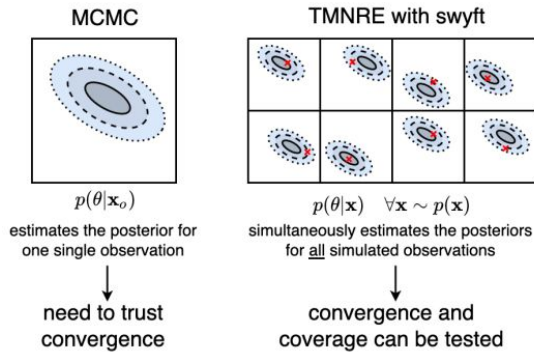


# Open source package SWYFT

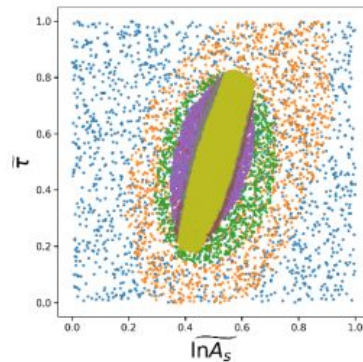
Estimating marginals of interest



Coverage tests



Truncation schemes



Check it out on: <https://github.com/undark-lab/swyft>  
(under heavy development)

# Conclusions



# Conclusions

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- Simulation-based inference (SBI) has the potential to deal with **ultra-high dimensional inference problems**.
- I discussed a few components that we found very useful in practice, and which are part of **TMNRE**
  - **Neural ratio estimation** offers flexibility and simplicity
  - Focus on **marginal posteriors** rather than the joint
  - **Prior truncation**
- I demonstrated that this framework is promising in tackling a wide range of astrophysical / cosmological data analysis problems. Domain knowledge enters the analysis in terms of network architectures.
  - **CMB Cosmology**
  - **SN Cosmology**
  - **Strong lensing image analysis**
- We provide a **software implementation for TMNRE (“swyft”)**, which we currently use for a much wider range of dark-matter-related analysis problems.

**Thank you!**

# Backup

# Example for truncation scheme

