



UNIVERSITY
OF AMSTERDAM

GRAPPA

GRavitation AstroParticle
Physics Amsterdam



Sequential simulation-based inference for strong gravitational lensing

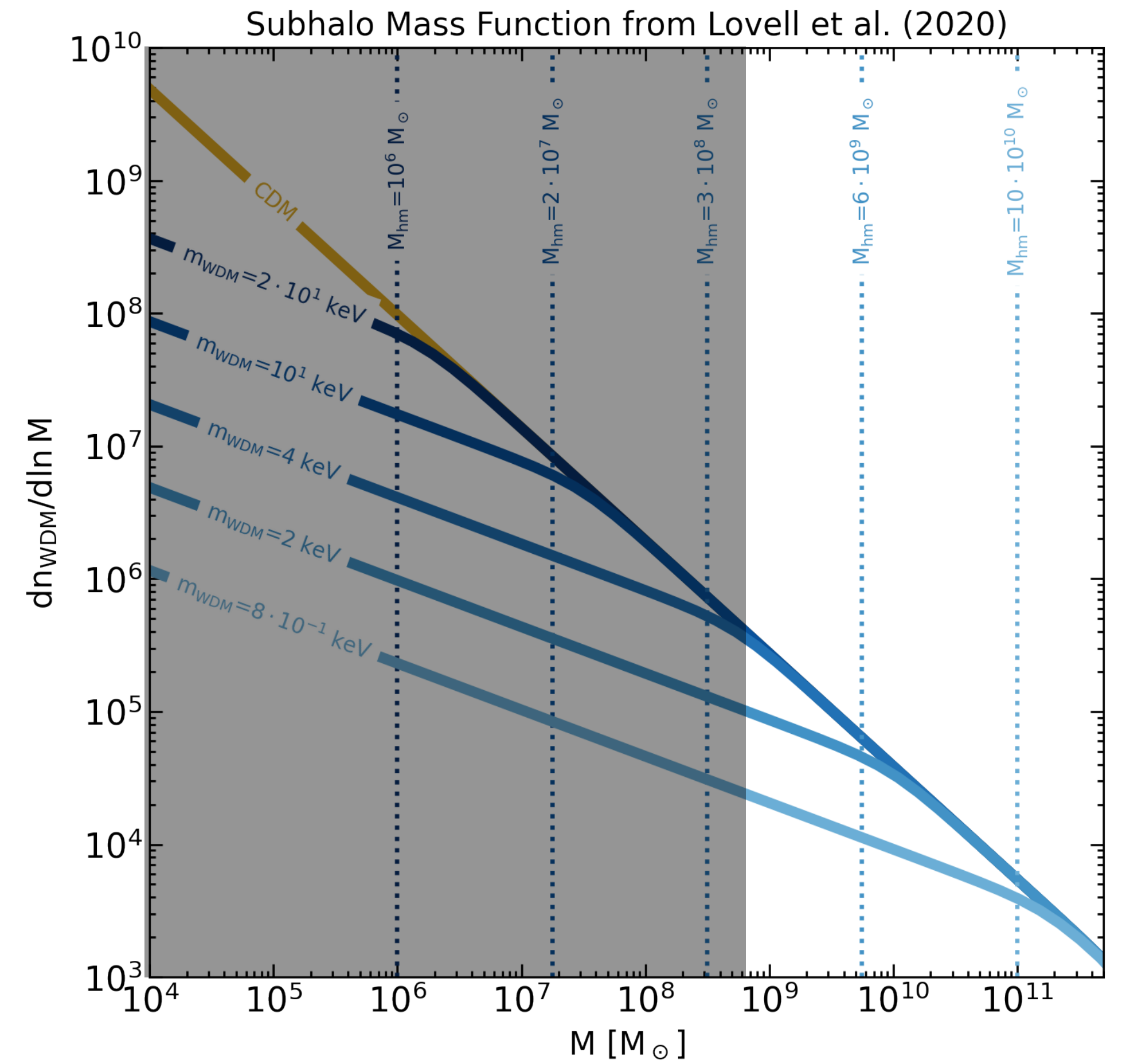
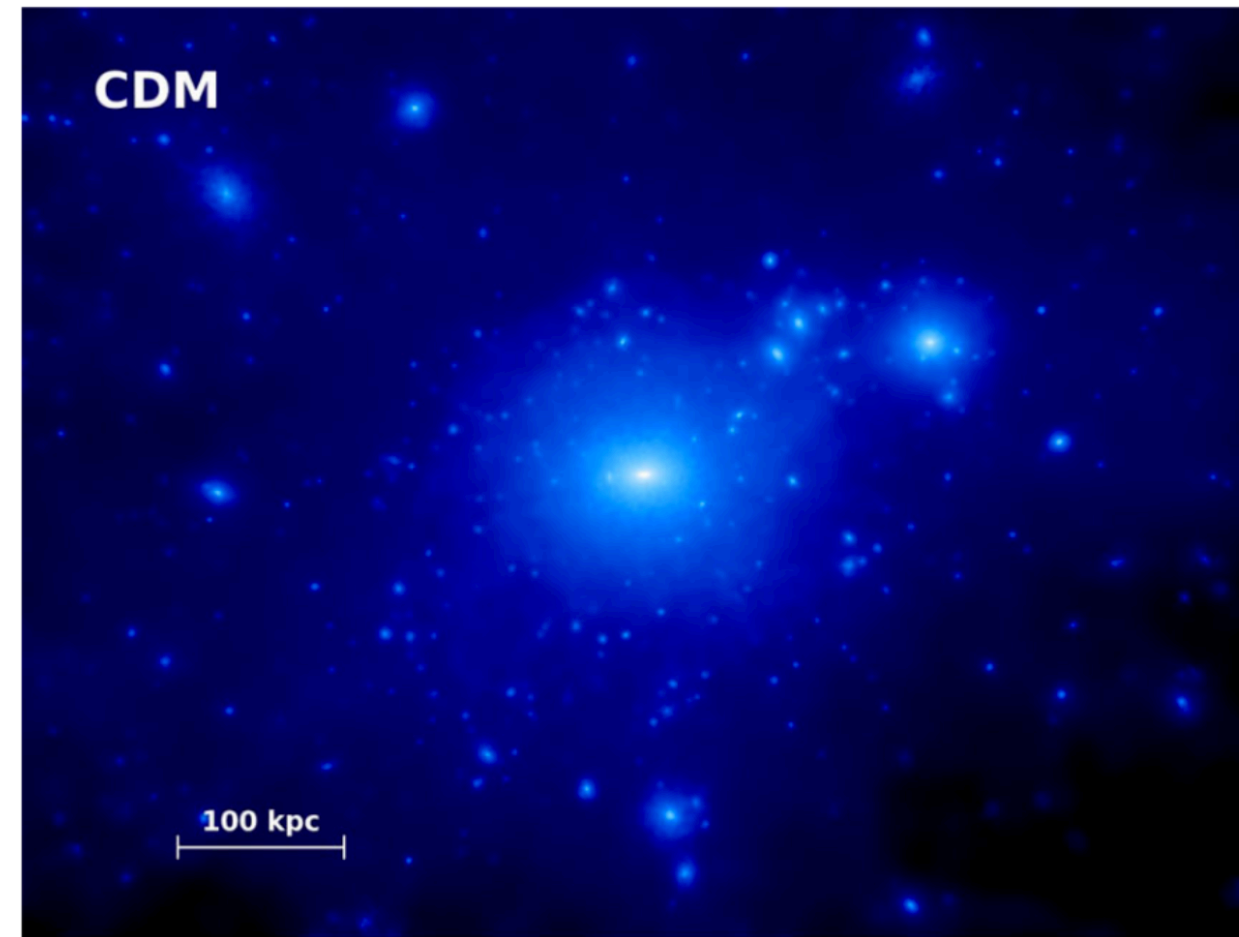
The importance of reducing data variance

Noemi Anau Montel

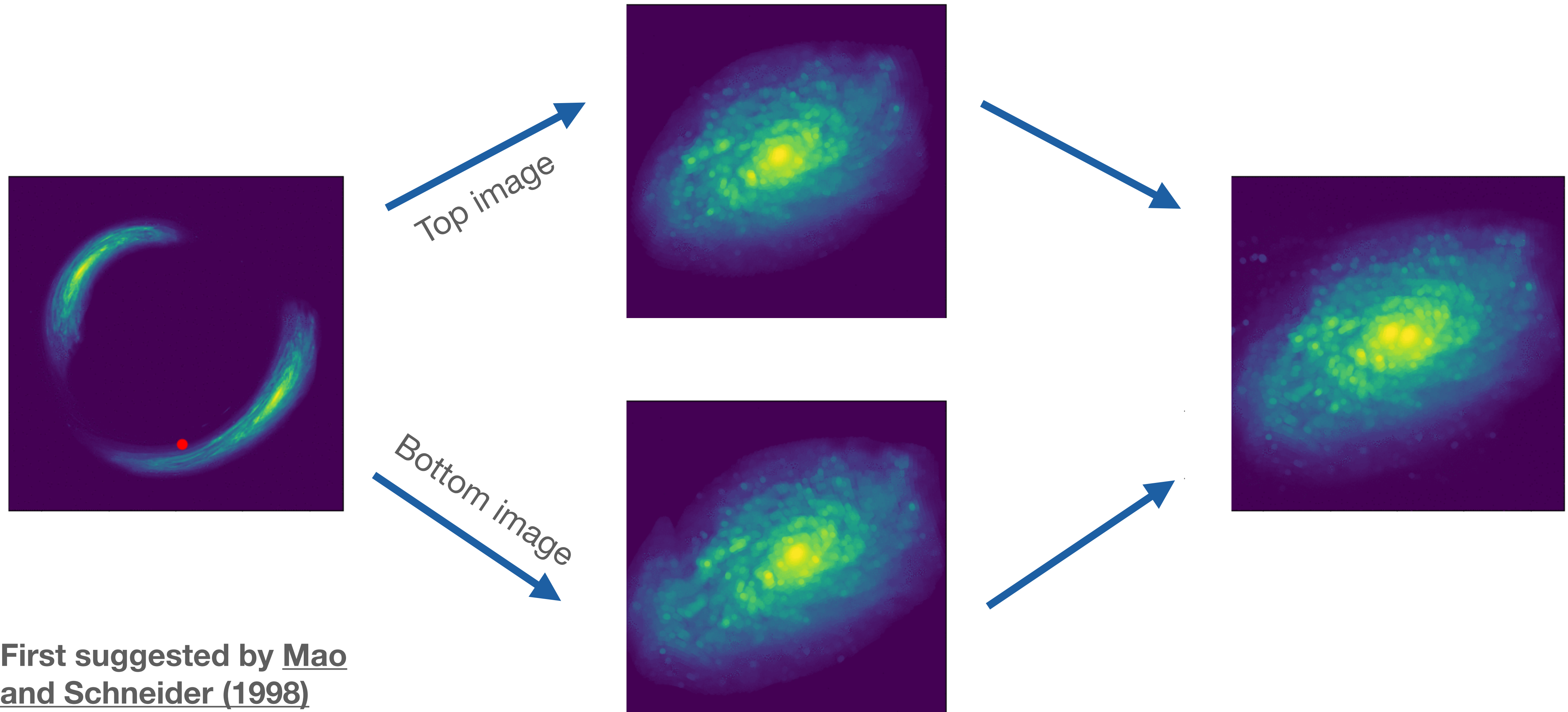
PhD student (advisor: Christoph Weniger)
University of Amsterdam, GRAPPA Institute
n.anaumontel@uva.nl

Third EuCAPT Annual Symposium | 31 May 2023

DM physics is encoded in the properties of DM halos

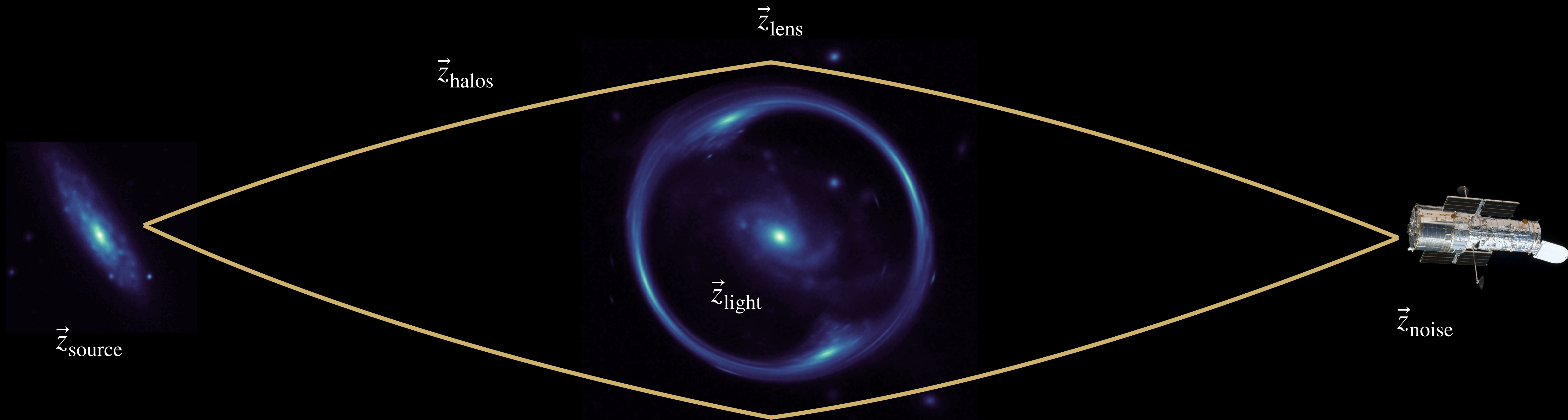


Why strong gravitational lensing



First suggested by Mao and Schneider (1998)

Strong gravitational lensing in reality



Searching for *tiny* signatures in *diverse* and *complex* observations, with *mountains* of *high-quality* data to come.

Strong gravitational lensing in reality

An inference challenge

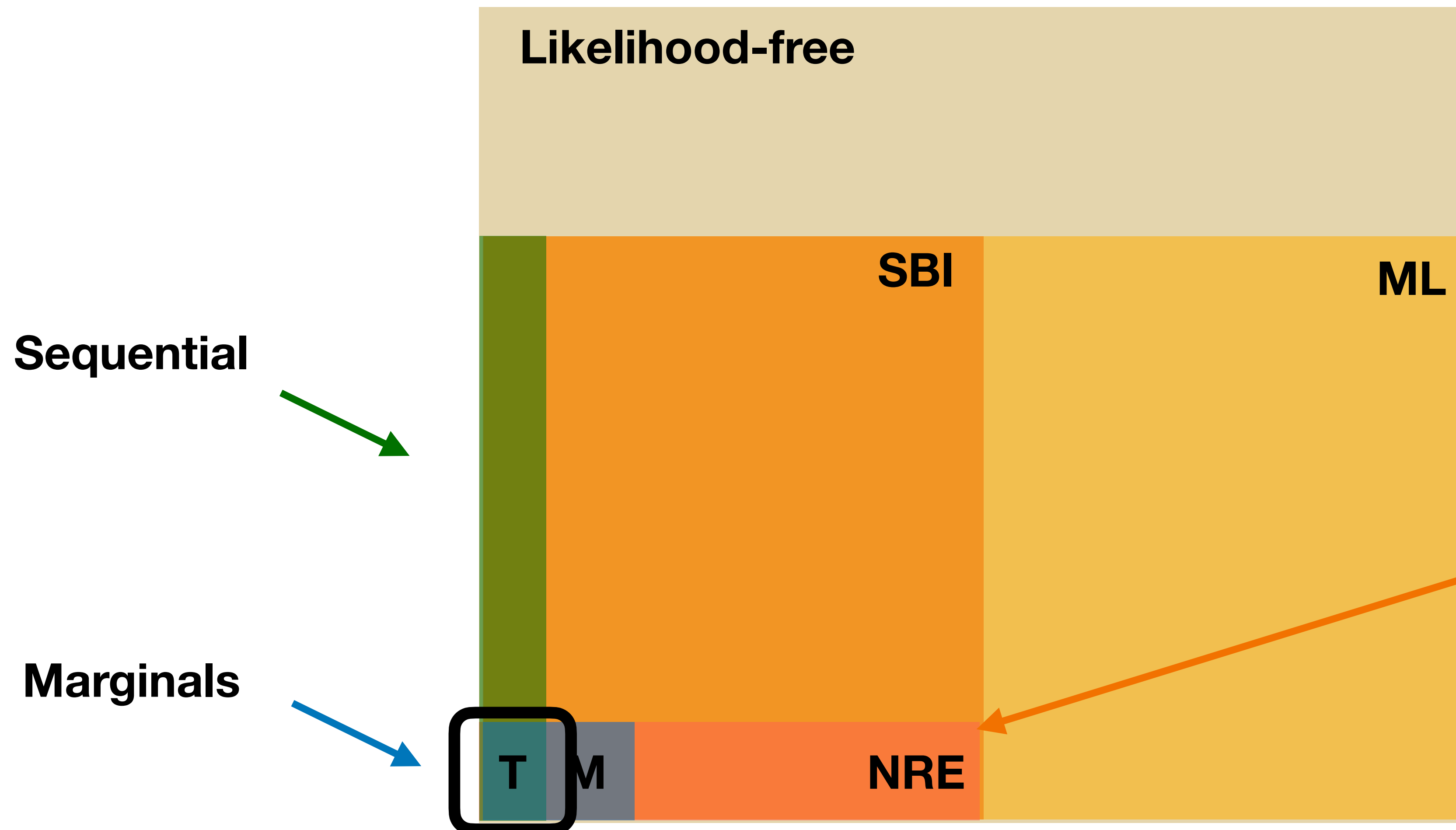
$$p(z | \text{image}) = \frac{p(\text{image} | z)}{p(\text{image})} p(z)$$

Searching for *tiny* signatures in *diverse* and *complex* observations,
with *mountains* of *high-quality* data to come.

Truncated Marginal Neural Ratio Estimation

A sequential simulation-based inference technique

- For more information:
- [Hermans et al. \(2019\)](#)
 - [Miller et al. \(2020\)](#)
 - [Miller et al. \(2021\)](#)
 - **swyft** package



Neural Ratio Estimation

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

TMNRE for strong gravitational lensing

Where it can help

SBI → Can handle complex forward models

Improve realism of the model without dealing with an **intractable likelihood**.

NRE → “Painless”

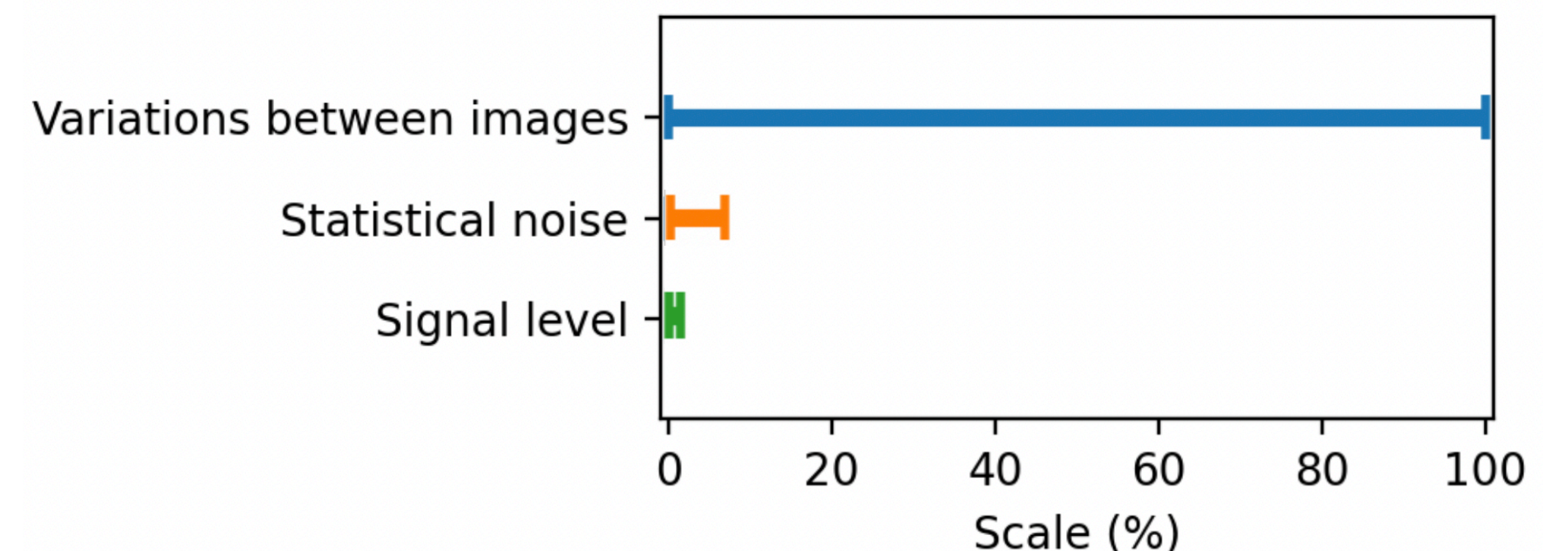
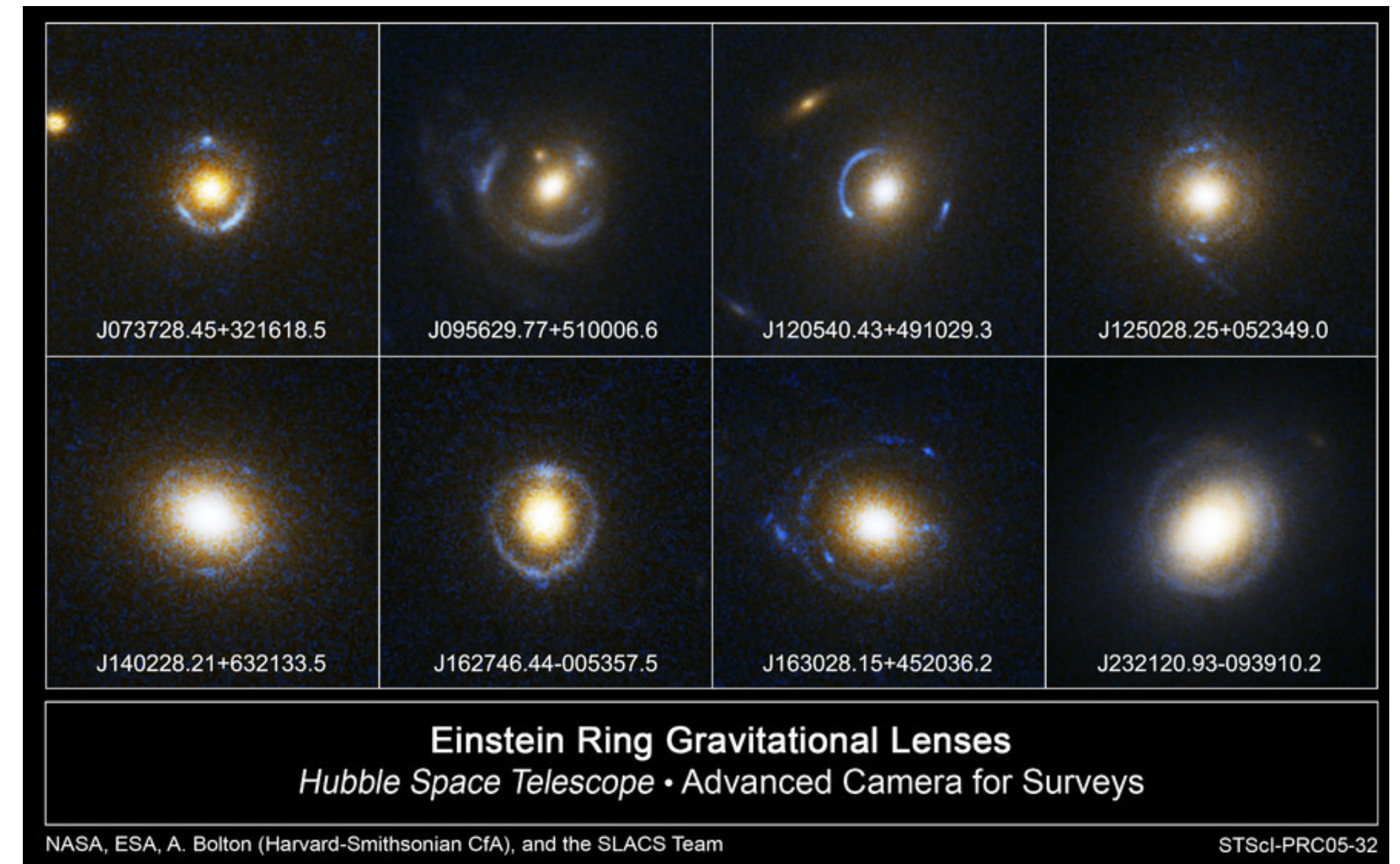
Rephrases parameter inference into a **binary classification problem**. It composes well with marginalisation and prior truncation.

M → Higher flexibility and simulation efficiency

We can **cherry-pick** the parameters we are interested in, marginalizing over the rest (e.g. numerous source, lens and halos’ parameter).

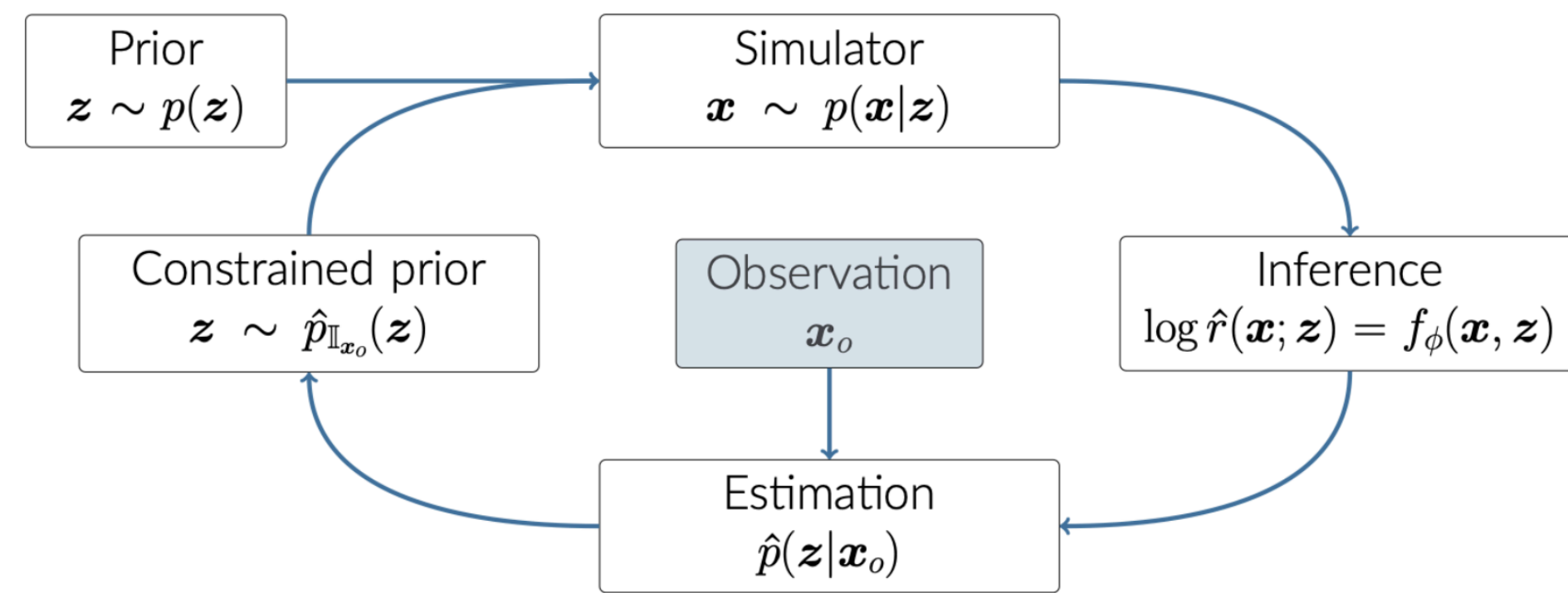
T → Learning with high-precision

Targeting the inference enables being sensitive to an extremely **small signal** compared to noise and variations between image.

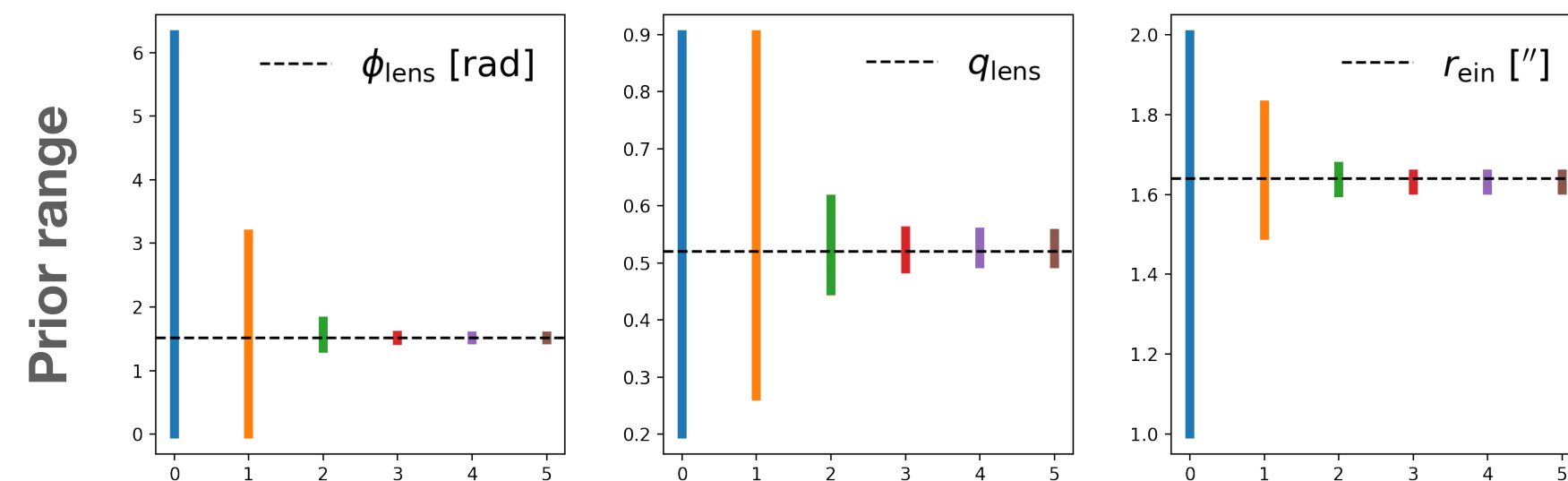
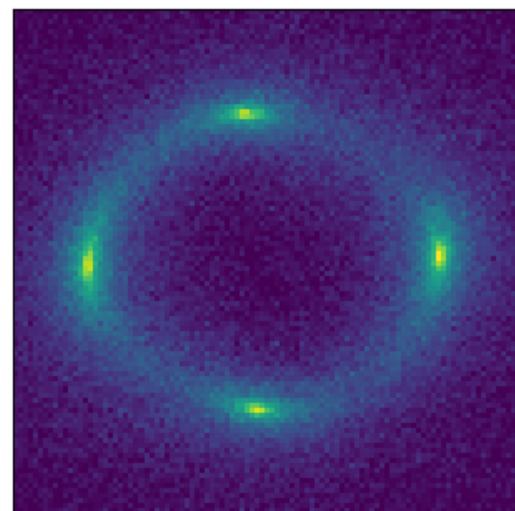


TMNRE for strong gravitational lensing

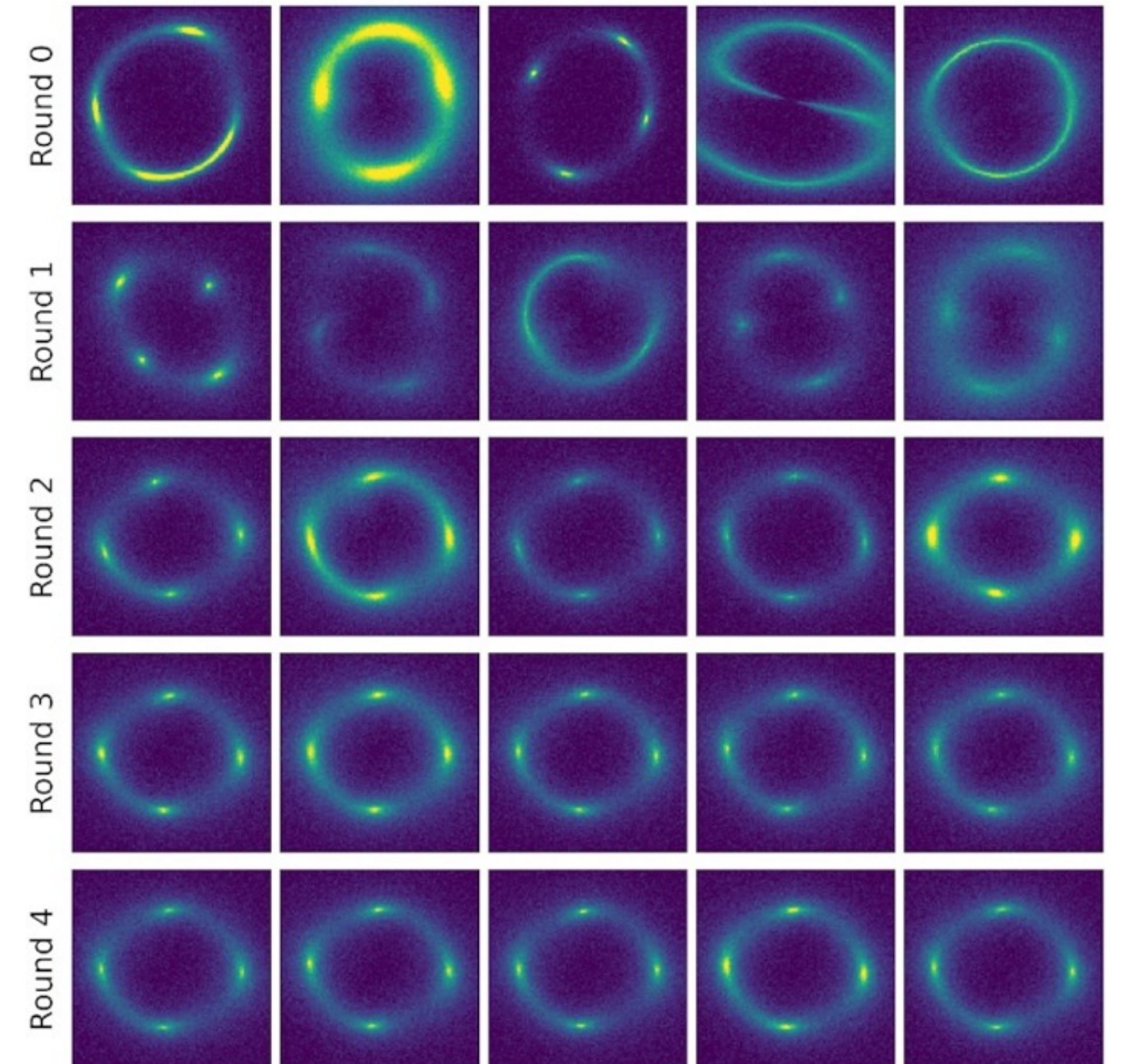
Reducing data variance



Target mock observation

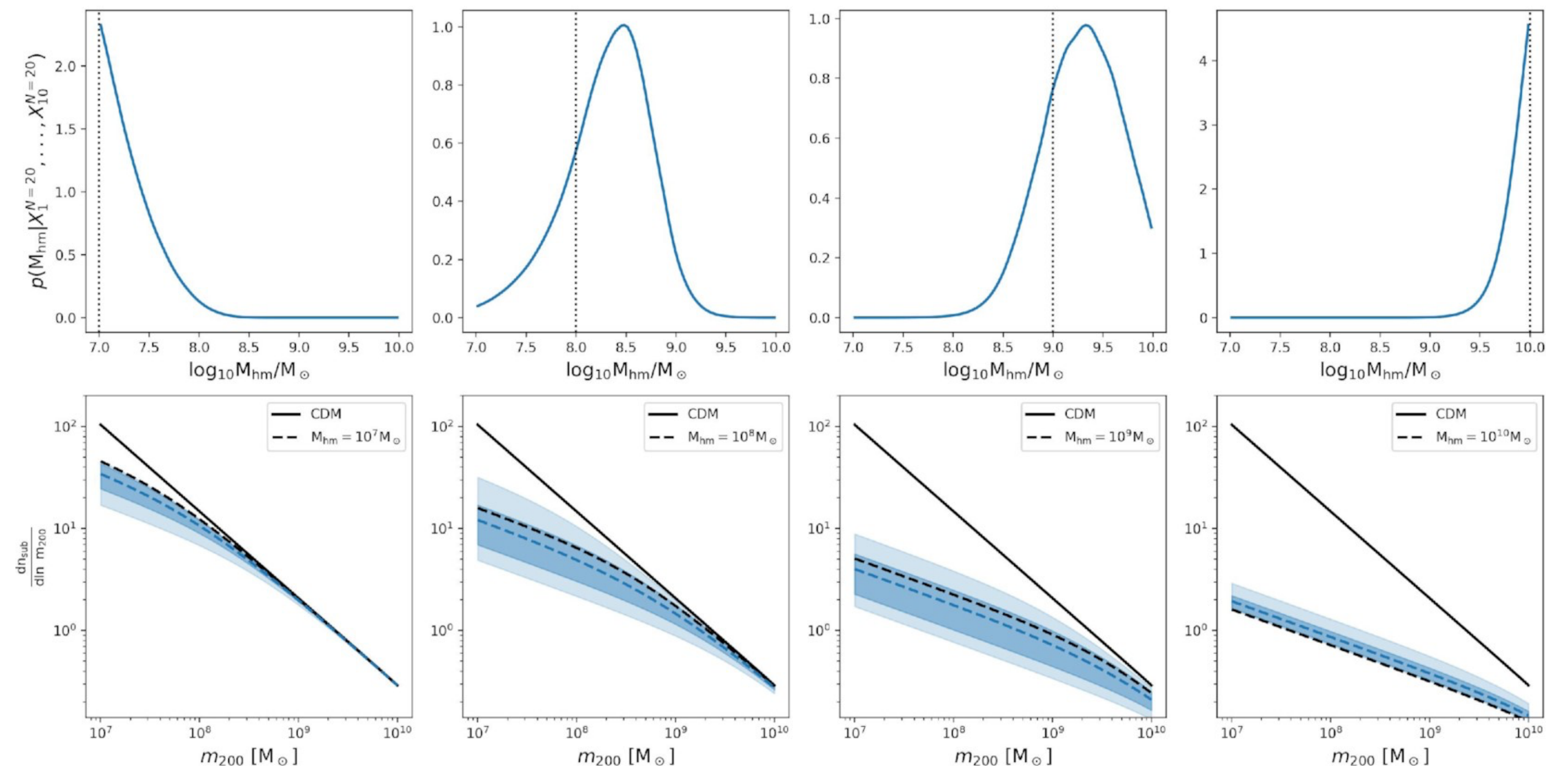
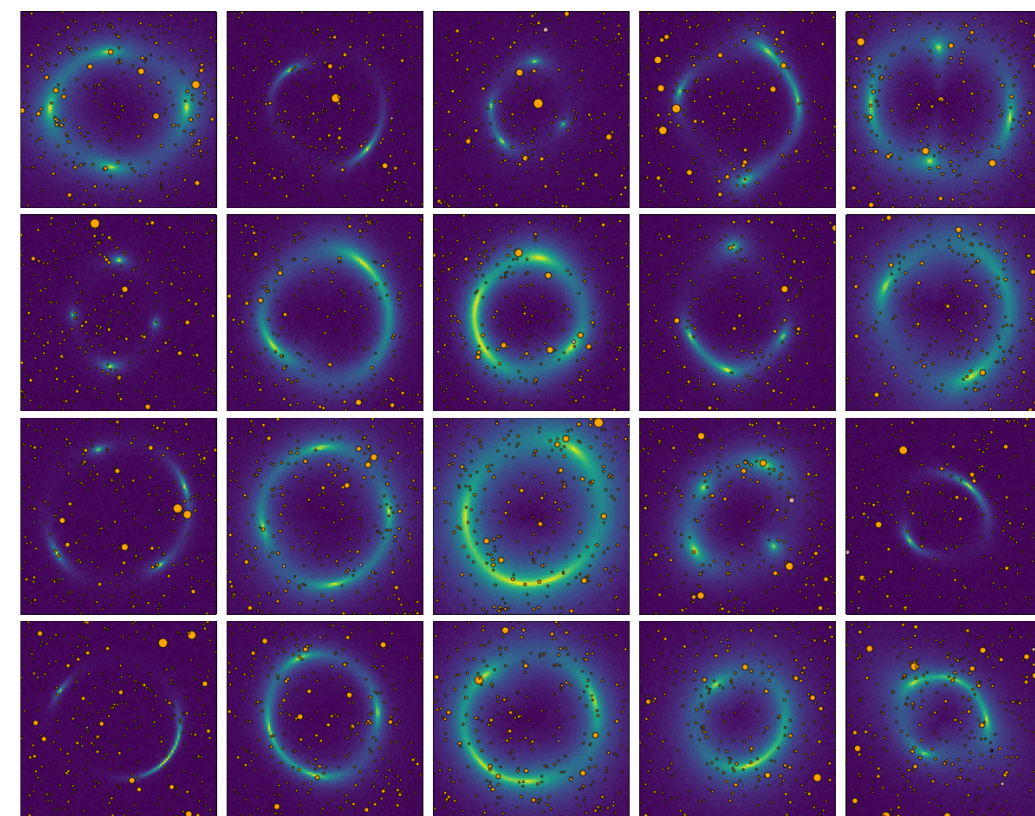


Targeted training data



From images to dark matter

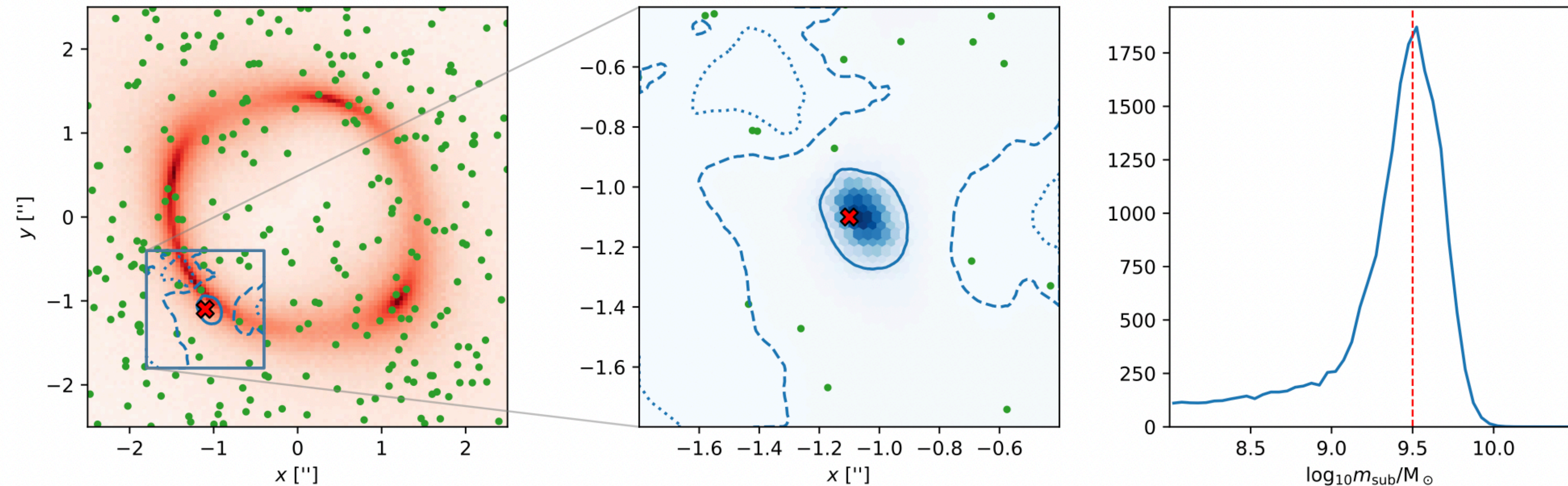
Constraining DM with an *ensemble* of lenses



Results for subhalo mass function cutoff mass obtained by fully marginalising over main lens, source, and realistic population of subhalos and line-of-sight halos.

Subhalo's parameters inference

Effect of the perturber population on subhalo measurements

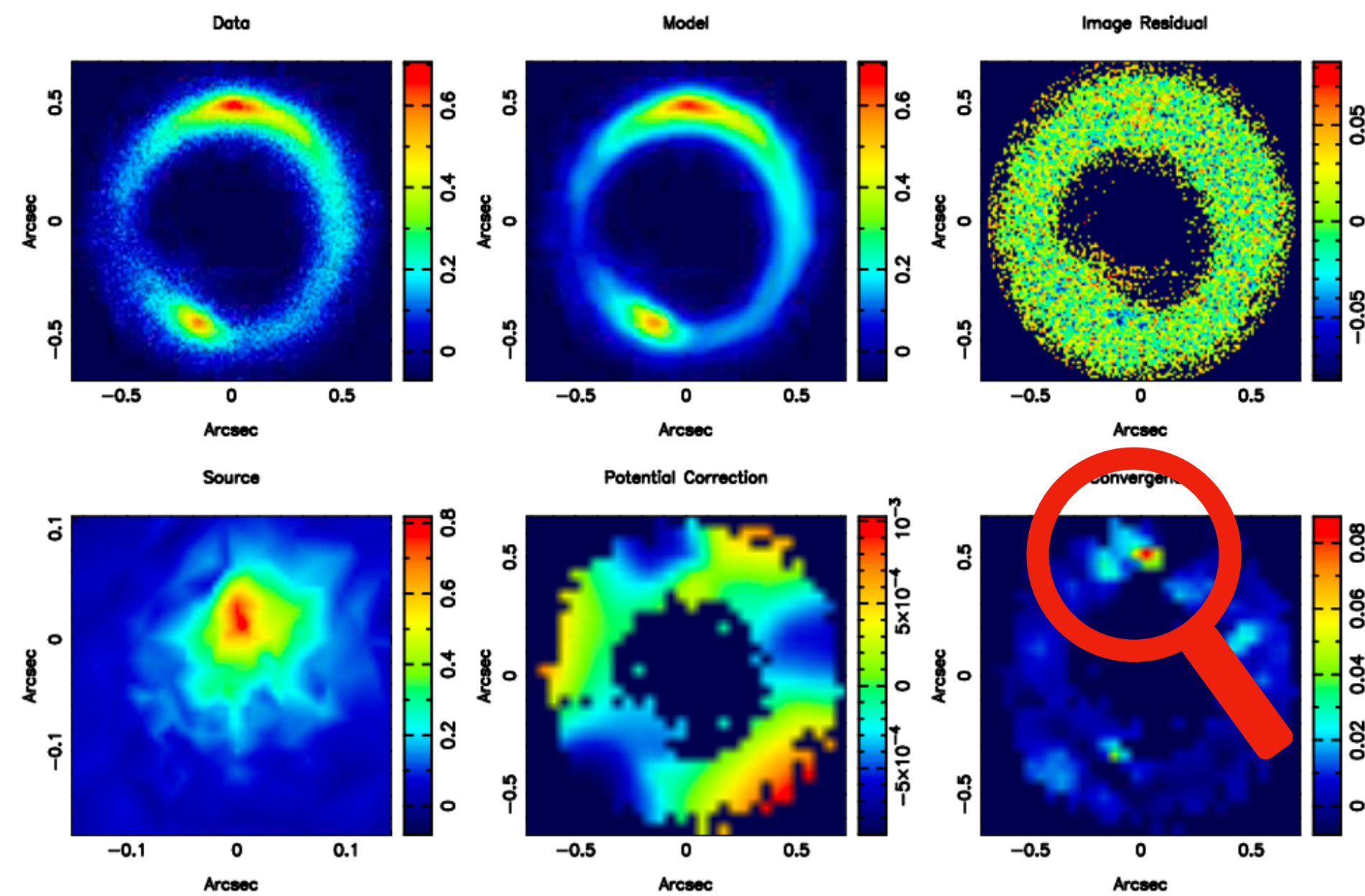


Results for position and mass of individual heavy small-scale halo obtained by fully marginalising over main lens, source, and realistic population of subhalos and line-of-sight halos.

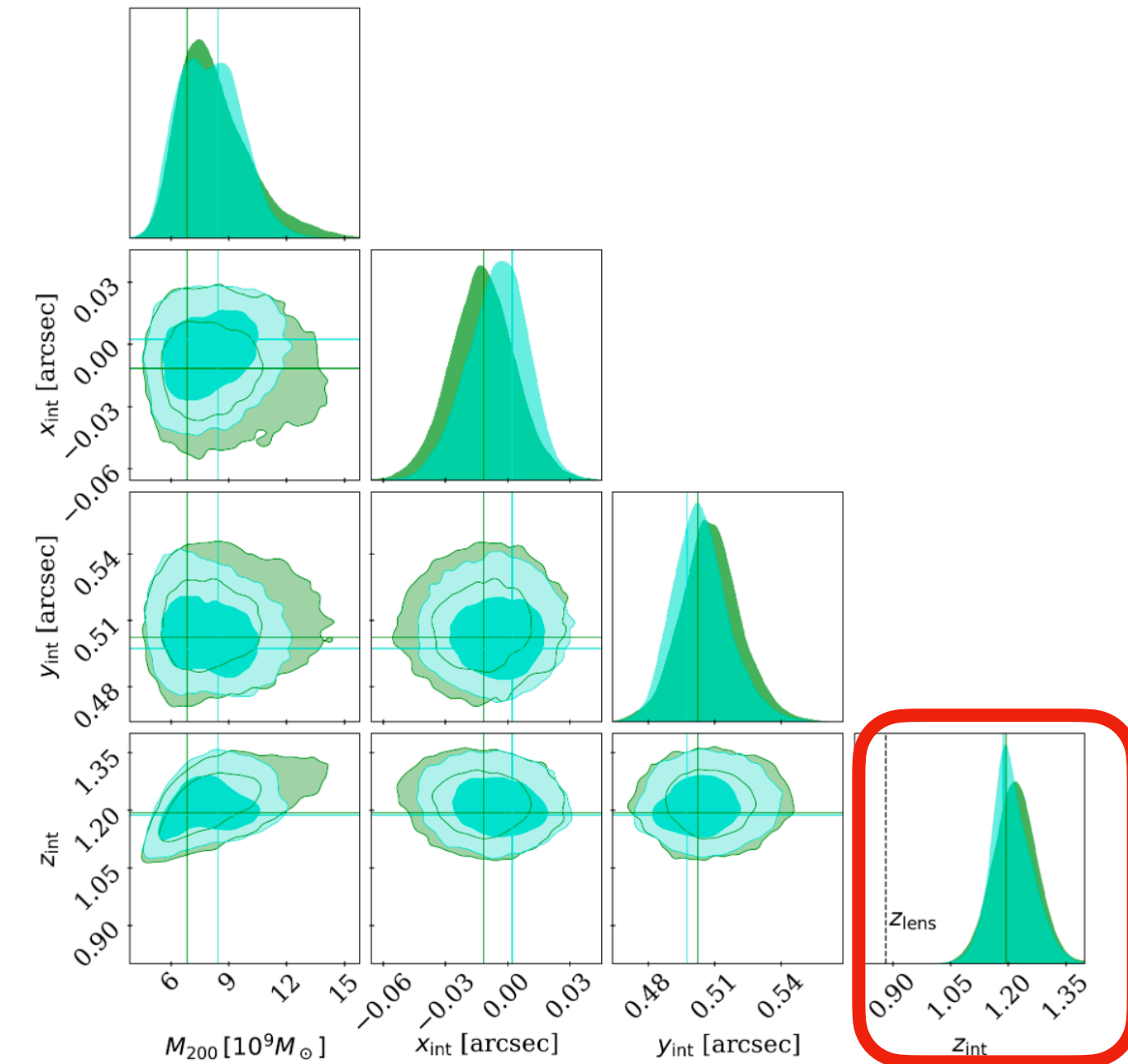
Towards analysing lensing data with ML

JVAS B1938+666: a case study

Vegetti et al. (2012) → detection



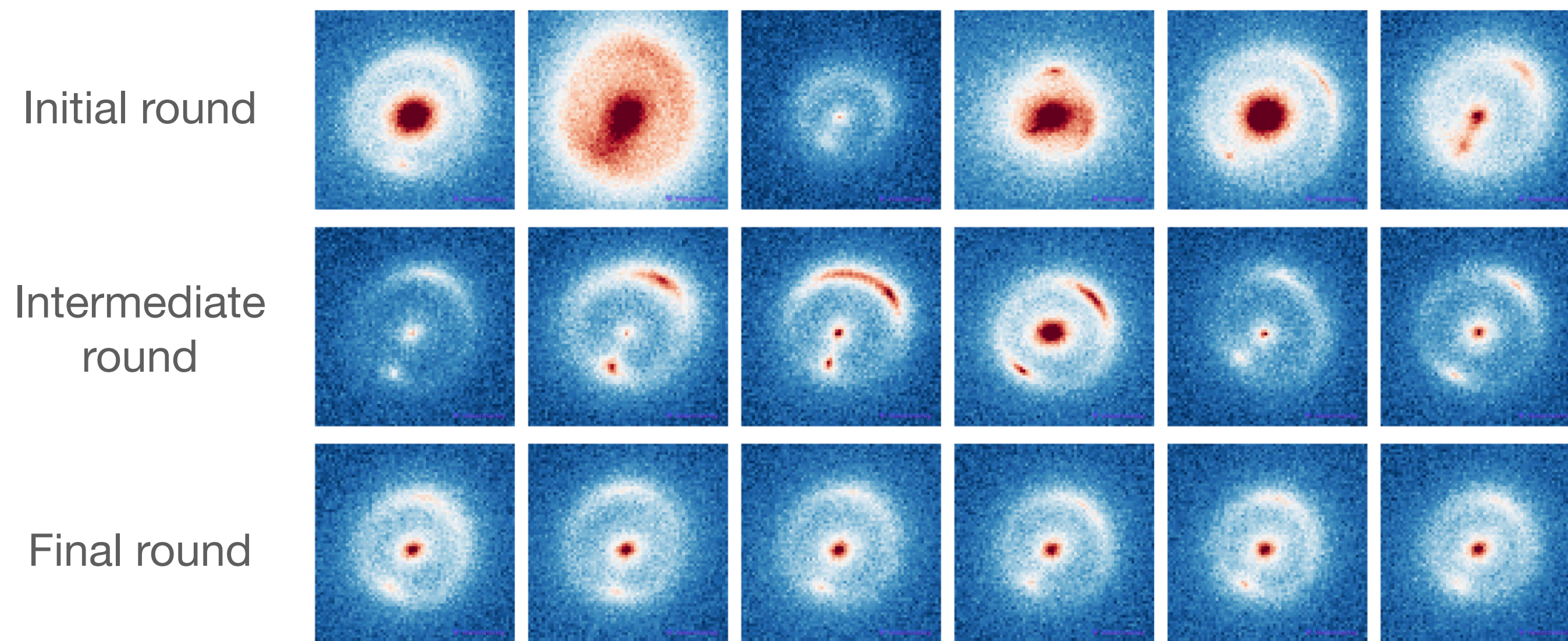
Şengül et al. (2021) → interloper



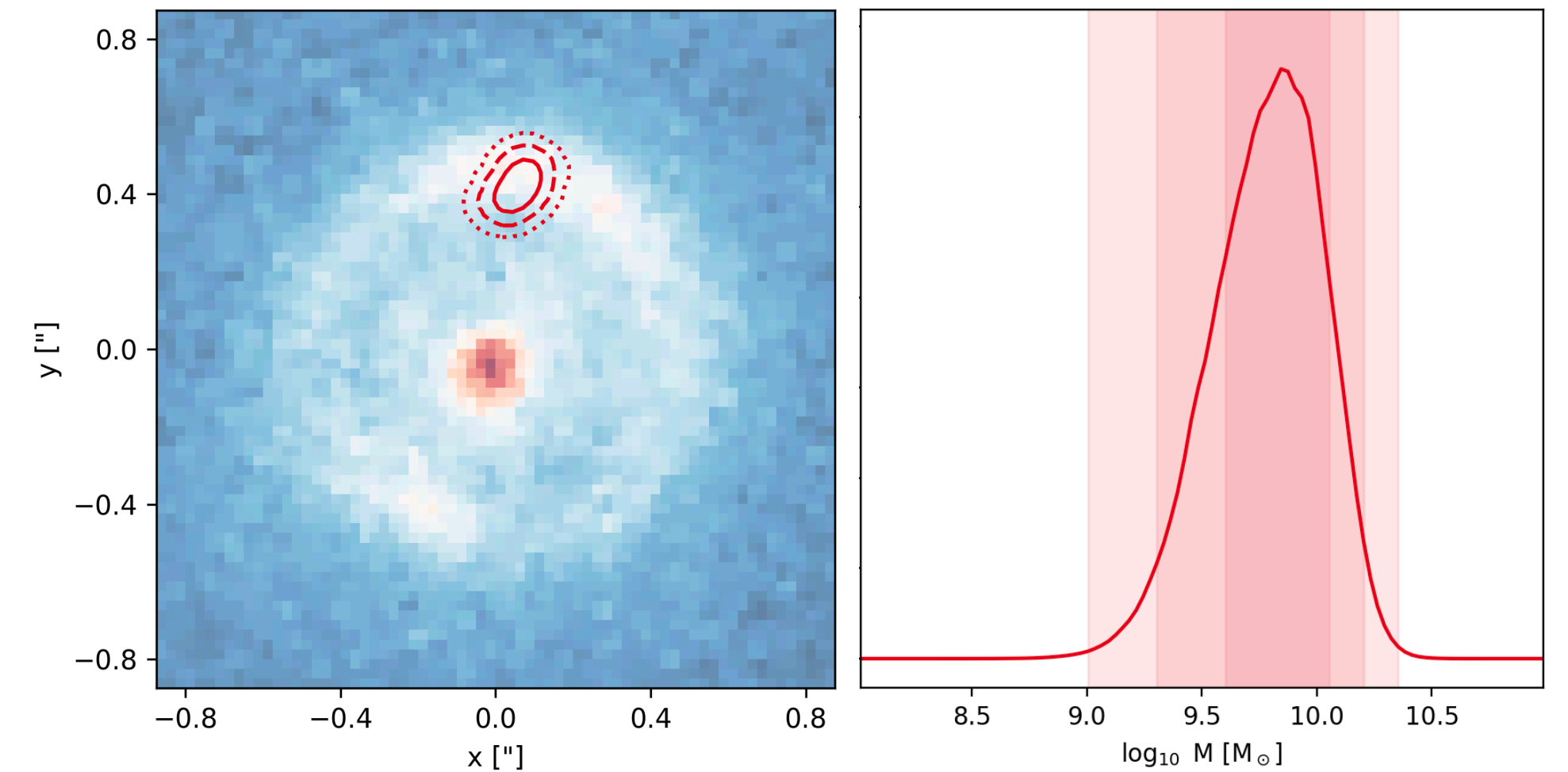
JVAS B1938+666: a case study

Including lens light variations

Targeted training data



Results



We are able to locate and infer the mass of the substructure. Promising results, but still a long road!

Summary

Motivation: DM lensing analyses challenge

Searching for *tiny* signatures in *diverse* and *complex* observations, with *mountains* of *high-quality* data to come.

Technique: TMNRE

- implicit likelihood → improve realism of the model
- marginals → high-efficiency
- truncation → high-precision

→ results with **full marginalisation** over light, lens, source and small-scale halos population

Applications:

- **collective** substructure **properties**
- **individual** heavy subhalo **parameter inference**
- **JVAS B1938+666**

