

GIGA-Lens:

A Fast Differentiable Bayesian Lens Modeling Framework

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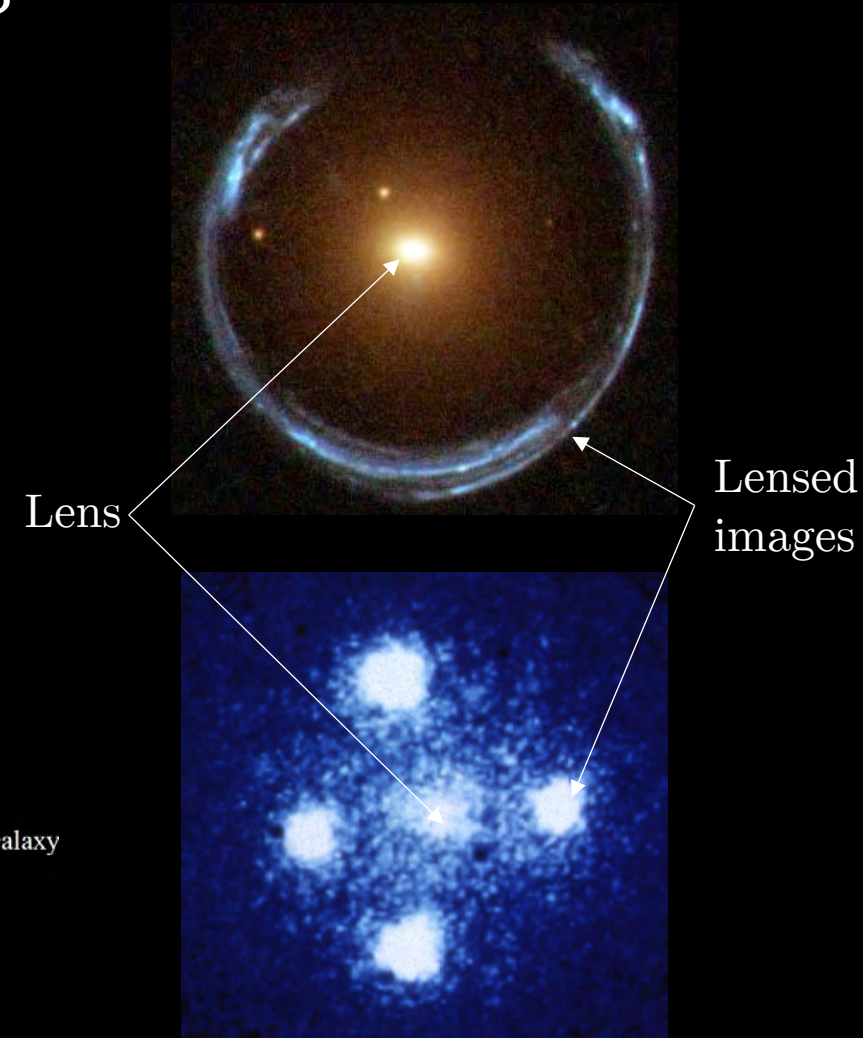
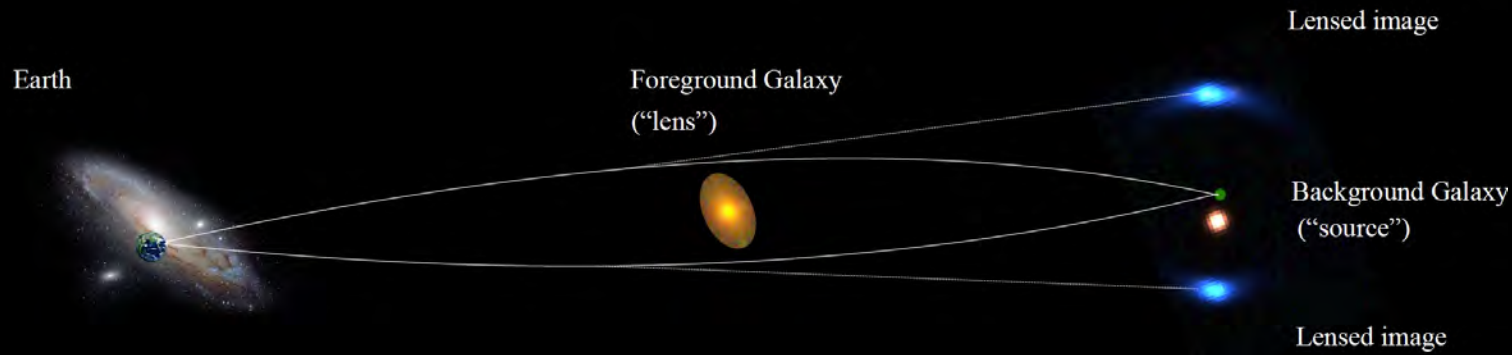
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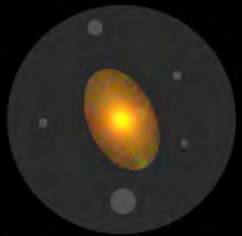
Strong Gravitational Lensing

- Chance alignment (1 in 10000)
- Warping of space-time by the mass of the foreground galaxy
- Large arcs & multiple images

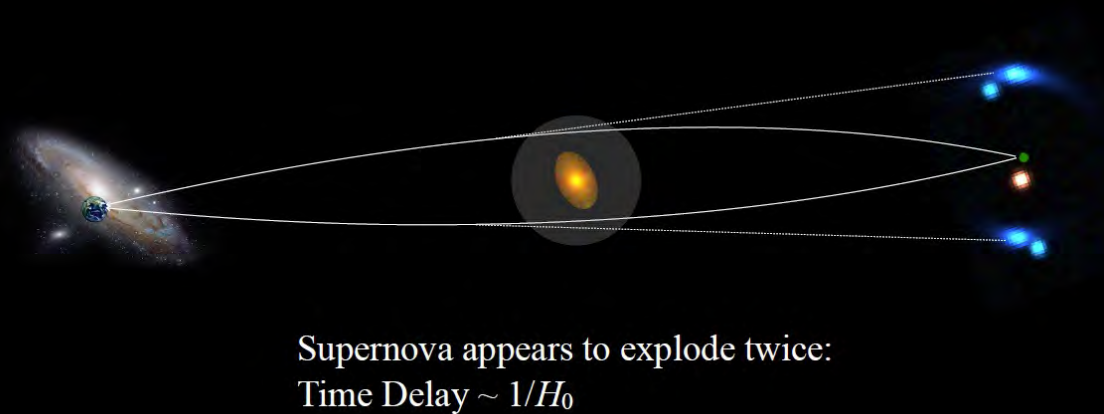


Cosmology with Strong Lenses

1. Test predictions of cold dark matter model (Nadler+ 2021)
2. Infer Hubble constant, H_0 (Wong+ 2019, Birrer 2021)
3. Dark energy (e.g., Sharma & Linder 2022)

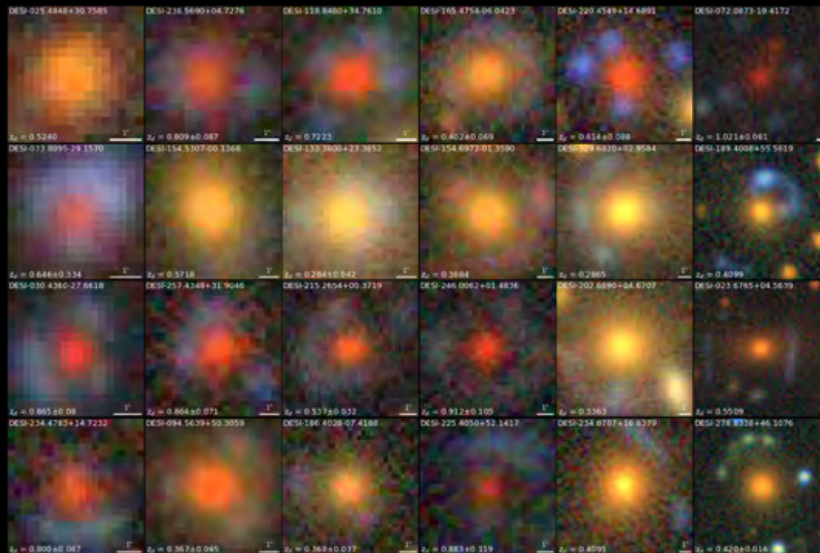


Sub-galactic dark
matter halo

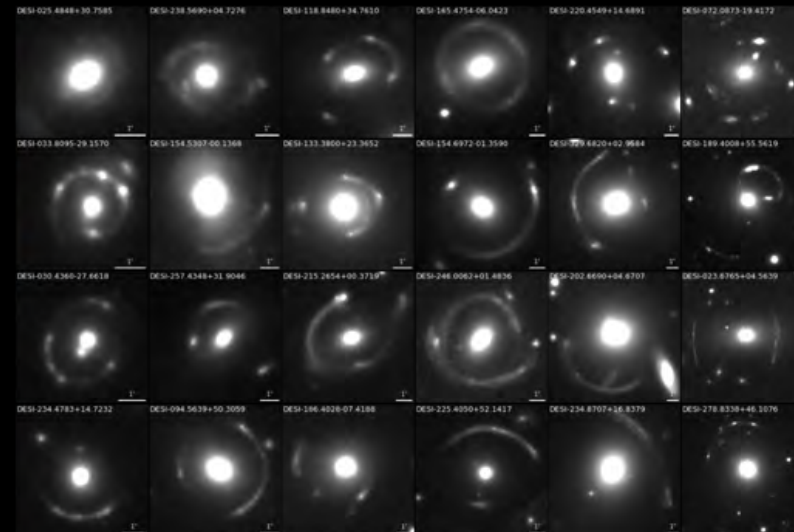


The Dark Energy Spectroscopic Instrument (DESI)

- DESI Legacy Imaging Surveys (Dey, Schlegel+ 2019) – 14,000 deg²
- 30 million elliptical galaxies
- We found >1500 strong lens candidates (Huang+ 2020, 2021) using ResNets
- 51 of our candidates have been observed by the HST – all confirmed to be actual lenses
- Many more systems confirmed by the ongoing DESI experiment



DESI Legacy Surveys



Hubble Space Telescope

Gravitational lensing

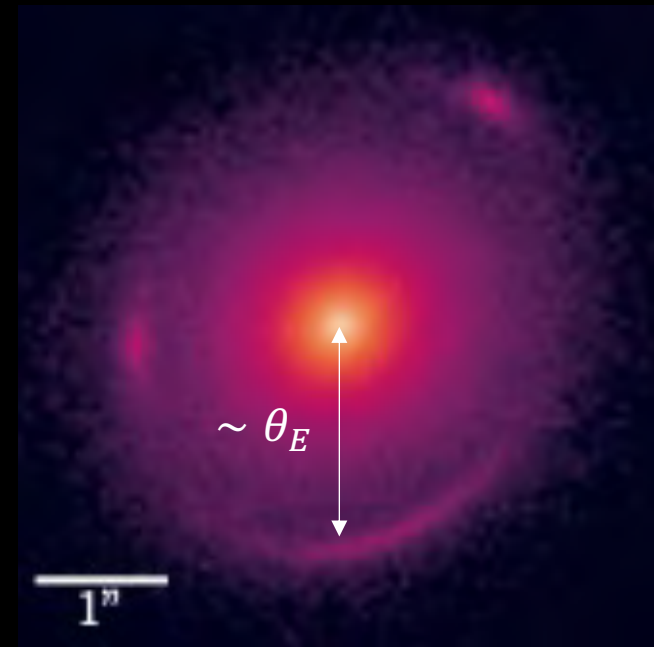
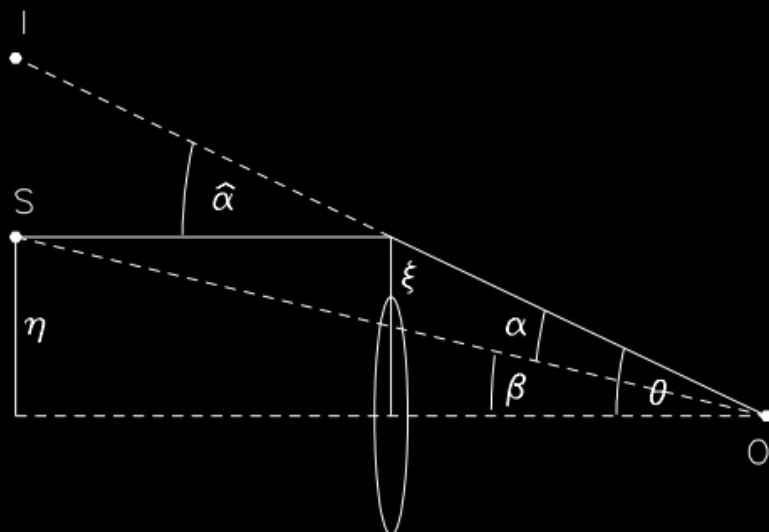
- Fundamental “lensing equation”:

$$\beta = \theta - \alpha(\theta)$$

$$\alpha(\theta) = \theta_E \text{ (singular isothermal sphere)}$$

- We know how to simulate: if we know the source and lens, we can compute the image. This is the forward problem.

Narayan &
Bartelmann
1996



Our Goal

- We have the inverse problem. What can we learn about:
 - Light profile of the source galaxy
 - Distribution of matter in the lensing galaxy
 - Sub-galactic dark matter halos near the lens (subhalos) or along the line of sight
- In the language of statistics, we have an *inference* problem

$$P(\Theta | X) = \frac{P(X | \Theta) \cdot P(\Theta)}{P(X)}$$

Strategy

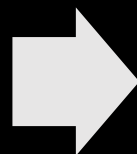
1. Write down a parameterized model for the:
 - Source light
 - Lens mass
 - Lens light (nuisance parameters)
2. Define a prior $p(\Theta)$ for the parameters Θ and a likelihood $p(X | \Theta)$
 - Simulate the expected outcome if Θ are the true parameters, and compare with observed image X

$$\log p(X | \Theta) = - \sum \frac{(X_{obs} - X_{sim}(\Theta))^2}{2\sigma^2} + C$$

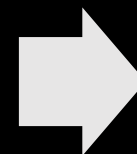
3. Sample from the posterior $p(\Theta | X)$

How do we sample?

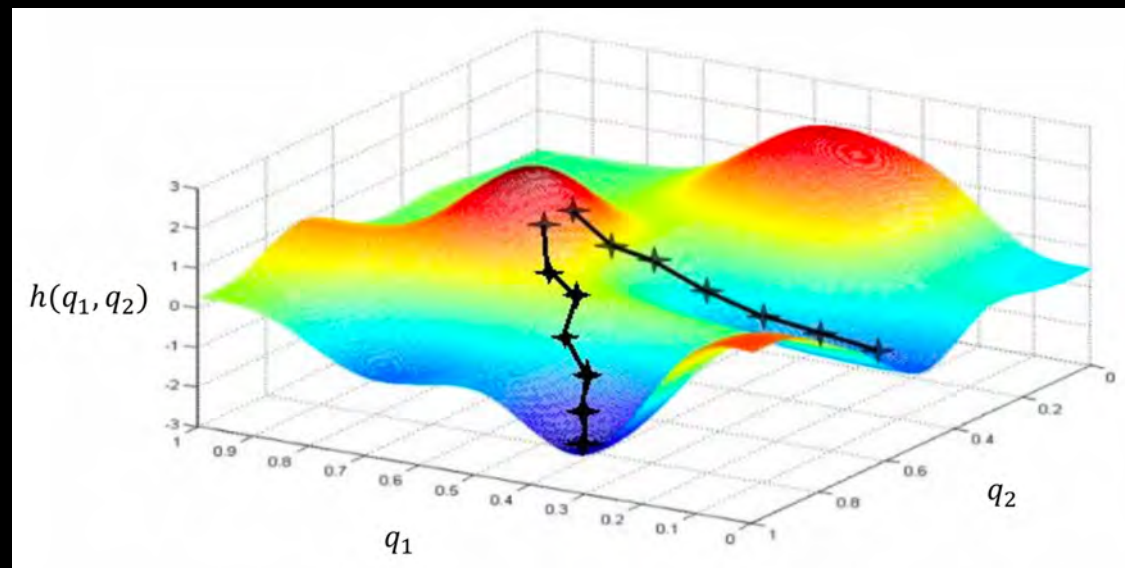
Most regions of the
parameter space have
vanishing likelihood:
sampling is hard



Look for the global
maximum of the
posterior density first



The parameter space is
highly non-convex:
search is expensive



Desideratum	Solution
Fast simulation	Lens models are linear algebraic: use GPUs
A guide through high dimensional parameter spaces	Lens models are differentiable: use the gradient (with autodiff)
Robust	Use many candidate solutions: use parallel computation



Enter: GIGA-Lens

- We developed a gradient-informed, GPU-accelerated lens (GIGA-Lens) modeling framework
- Written in TensorFlow and JAX
 - Fully vectorized
 - Fully differentiable via autodiff
 - Distributed compute (multi-GPU)

Modelling Procedure

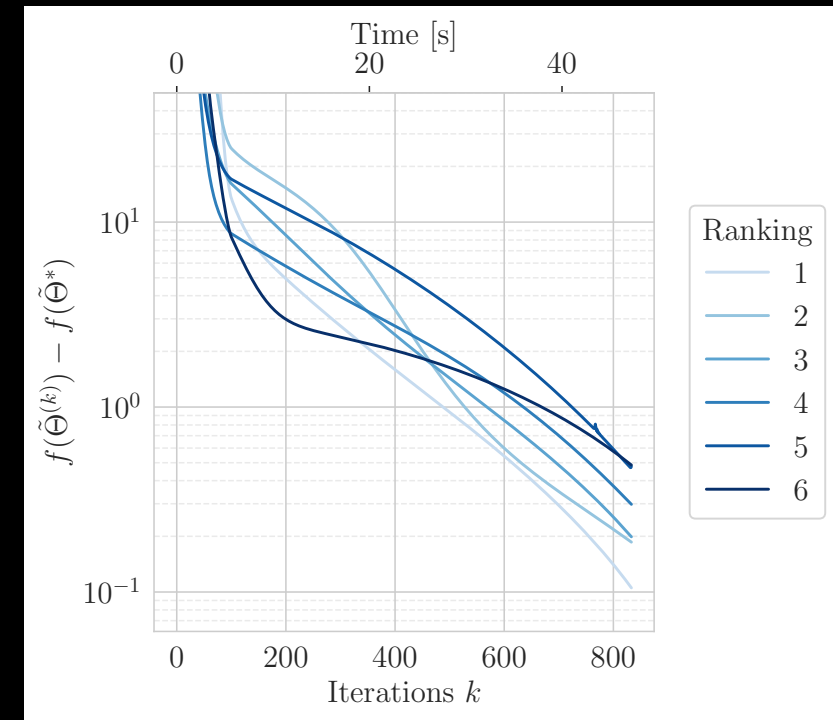
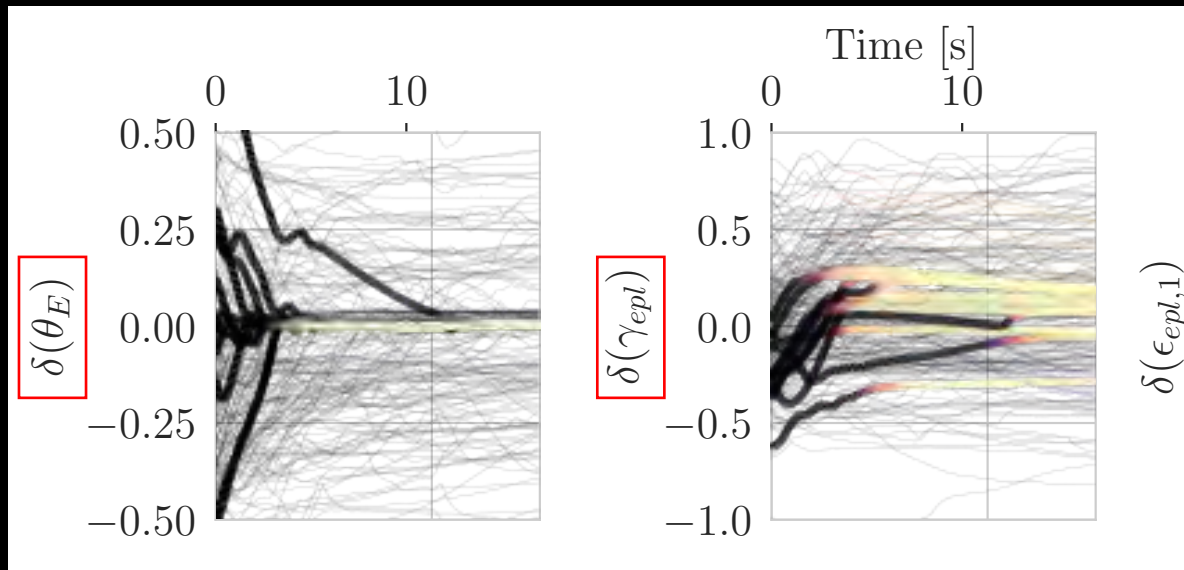
I. Multi-Starts Gradient Descent

Goal: identify global maximum of posterior density

1. Initialize many candidate solutions by sampling from the prior
2. Use a bijector to unconstrain parameters $\theta_E \rightarrow \log \theta_E$, or $\gamma \rightarrow S^{-1}(\gamma)$
3. Locally optimize with gradient descent the posterior density of each solution
4. Select the maximum a posteriori (MAP) estimate



I. Multi-Starts Gradient Descent



II. Covariance Estimation

- Use variational inference (Hoffman 2013), with a surrogate $Q(\Theta; \mu, \Sigma) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)$



$$\min_{\{\mu, \Sigma\}} KL(Q(\Theta; \mu, \Sigma) \parallel p(\Theta \mid X))$$

II. Covariance Estimation

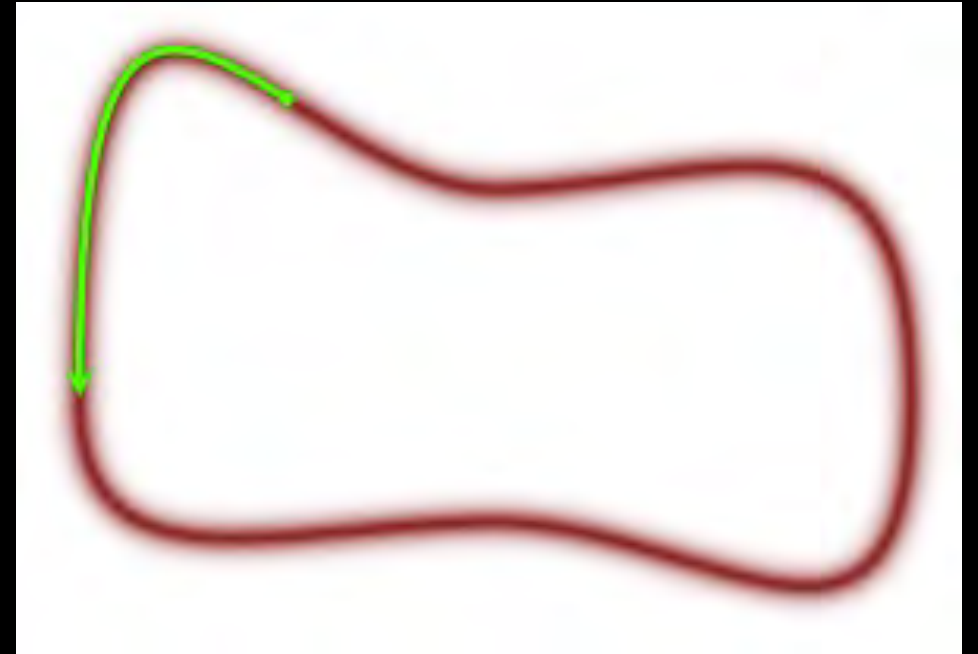
The KL can be written as an expectation known as evidence lower bound (‘ELBO’)

$$ELBO(\mu, \Sigma) = E_{\Theta \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)} [\log Q(\Theta; \mu, \Sigma) - \log p(\Theta | X)]$$
$$\nabla ELBO = E_{\Theta} [(\log Q(\Theta; \mu, \Sigma) - \log p(\Theta | X)) \nabla (\log Q(\Theta; \mu, \Sigma))]$$

1. Initialize μ at the MAP and set a small (10^{-6}) diagonal covariance.
2. Minimize the ELBO with stochastic gradient descent.
3. The optimized Σ is an estimate for the true covariance

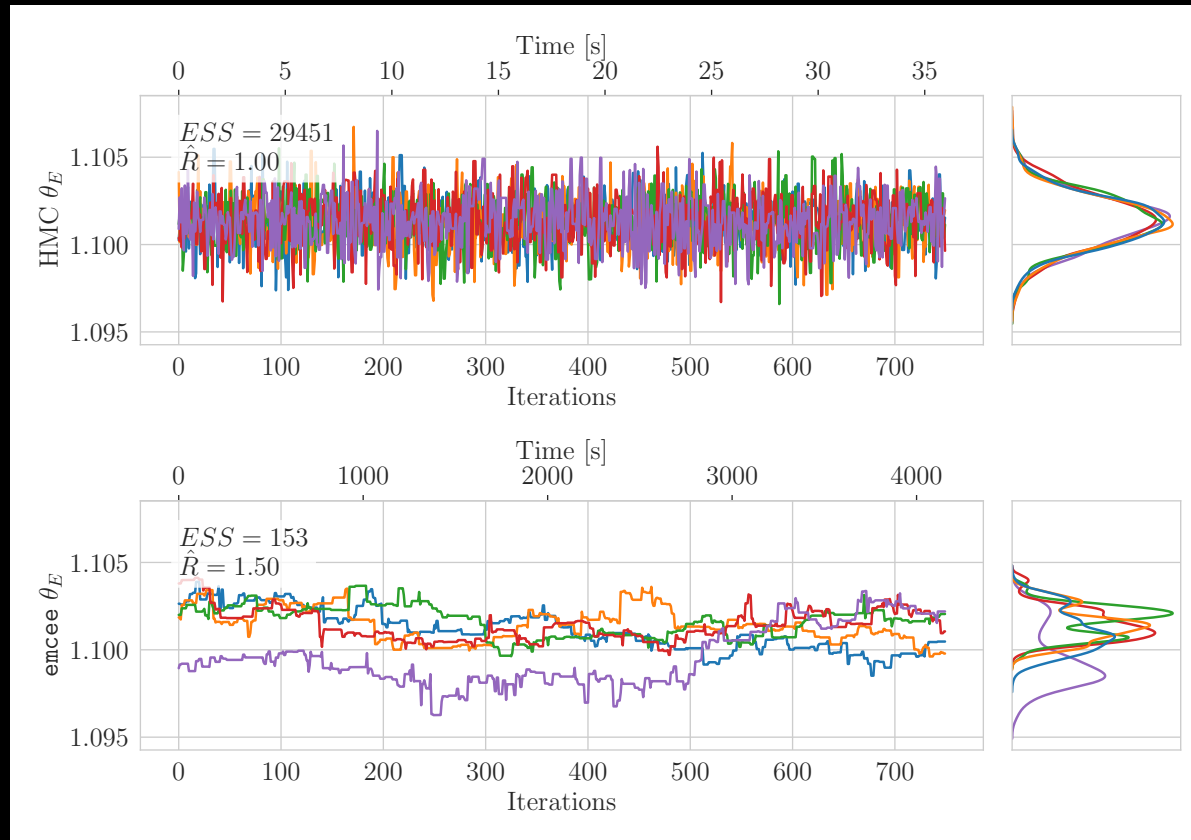
III. Hamiltonian Monte Carlo

- We take advantage of gradient information for Hamiltonian Monte Carlo (Betancourt 2021)
- We initialize HMC with samples drawn from the VI posterior, and the mass matrix $M = \Sigma^{-1}$
- Other parameters (step size ϵ , length L) adaptively tuned

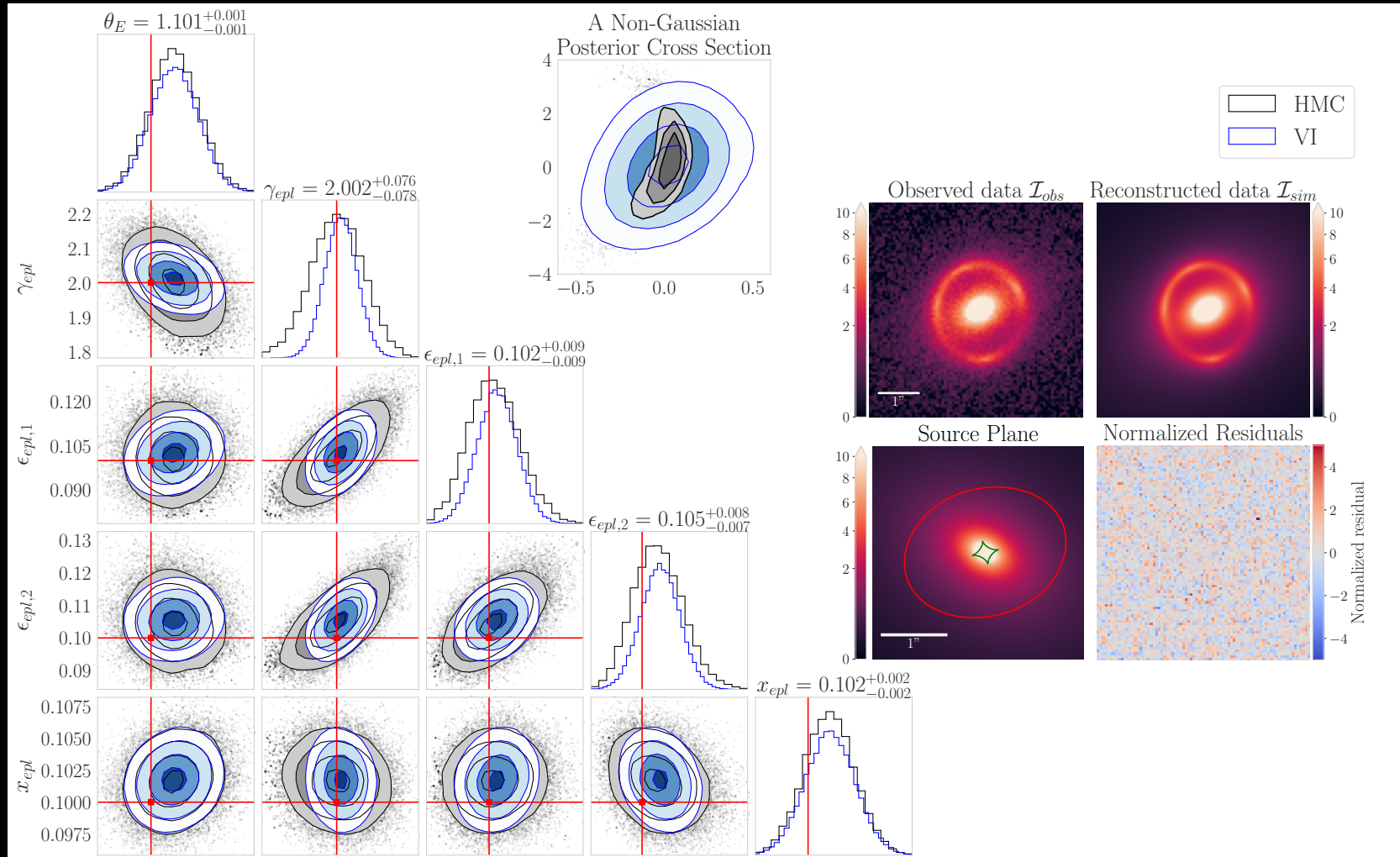


Betancourt 2021

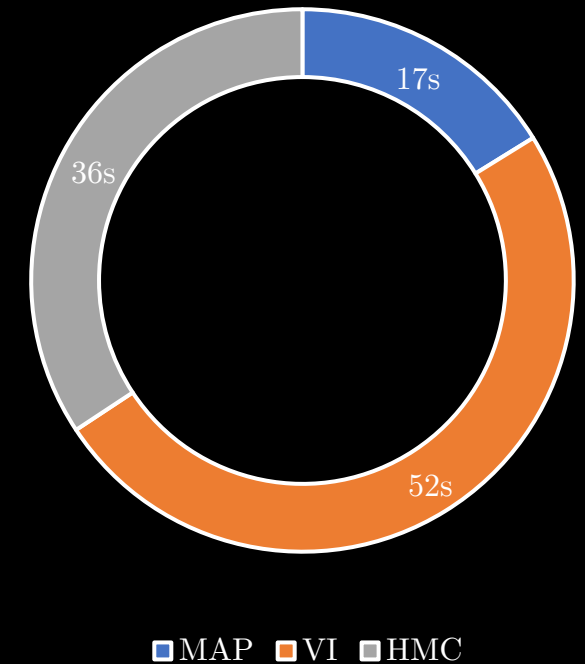
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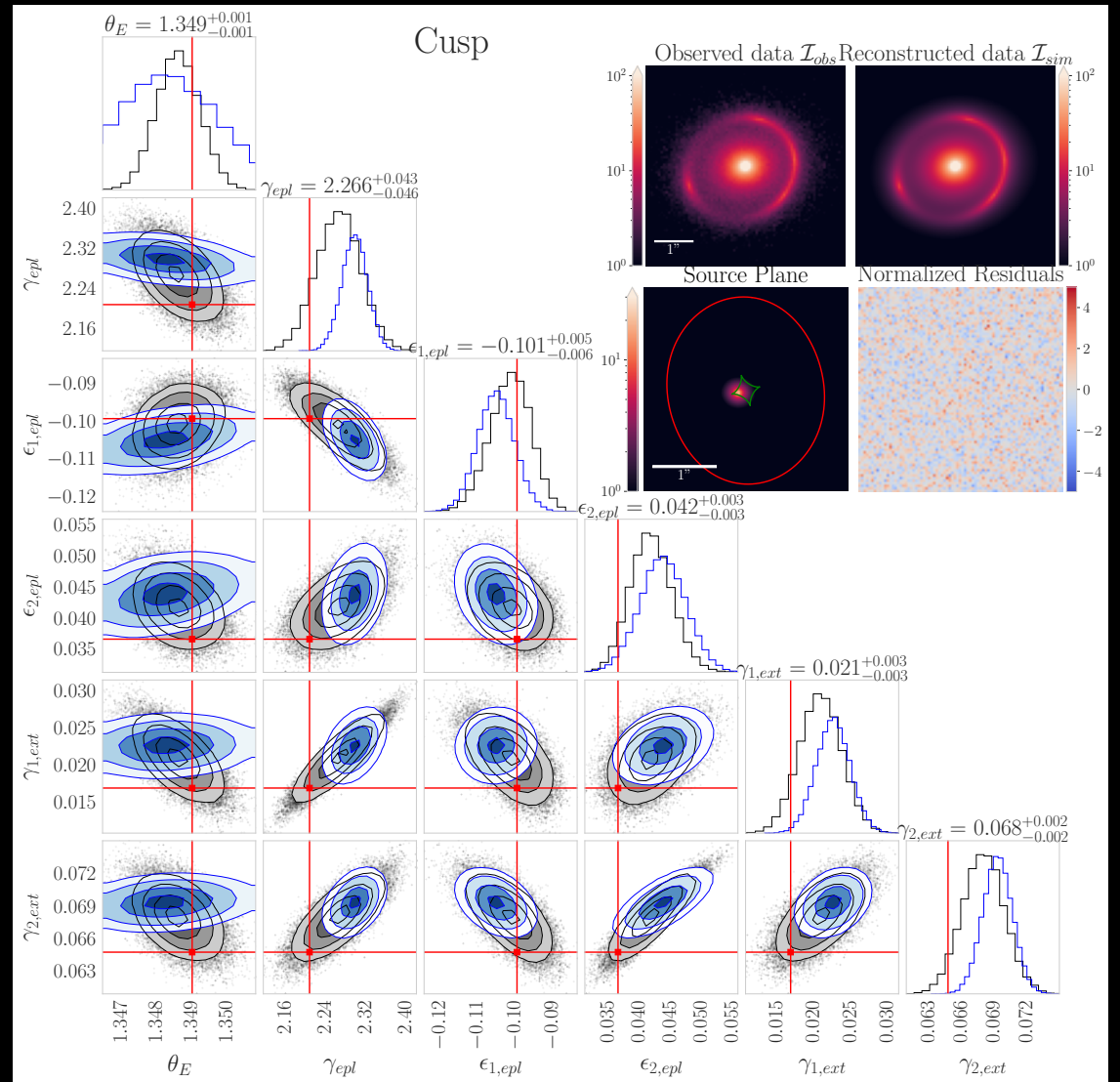
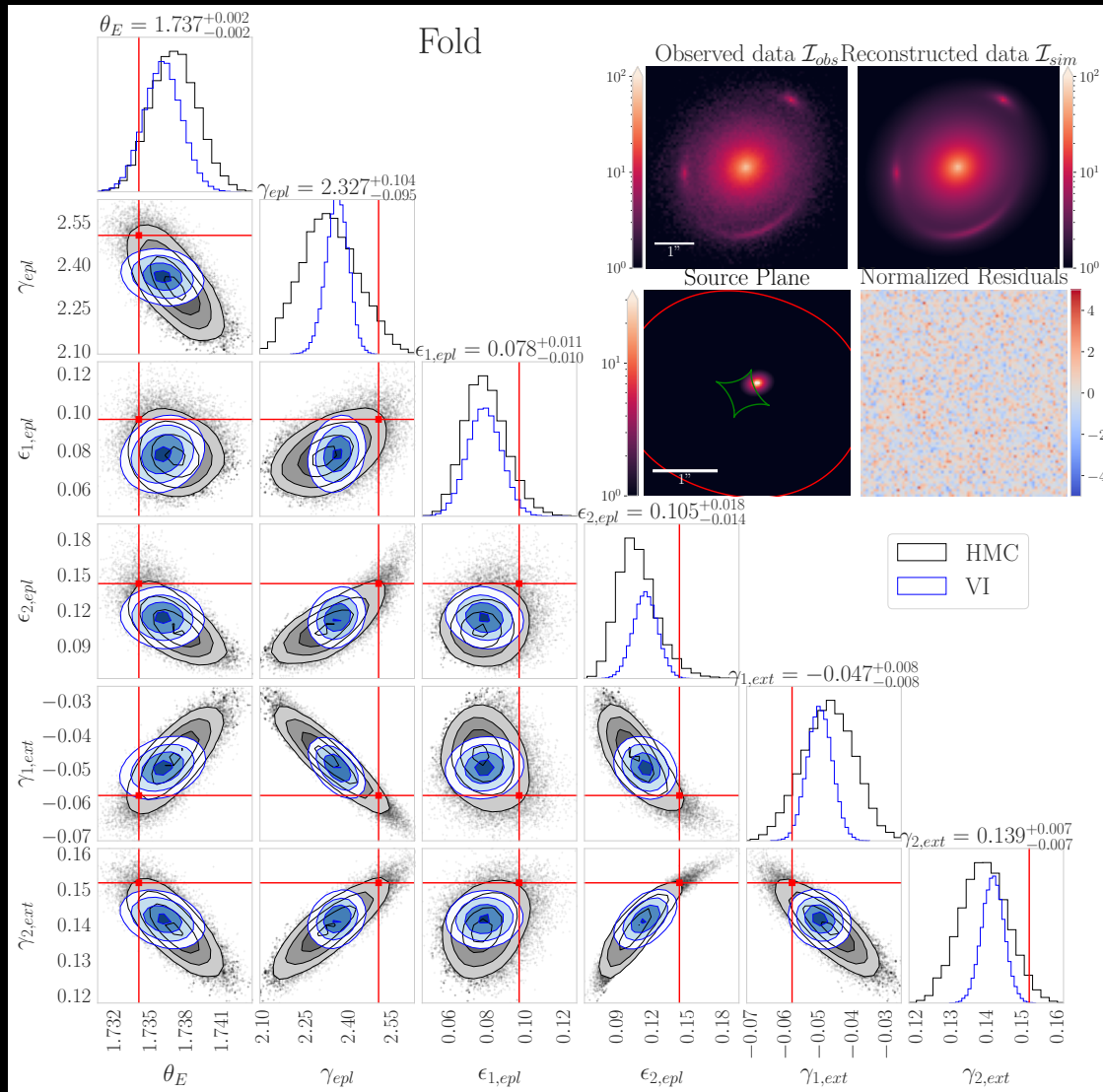


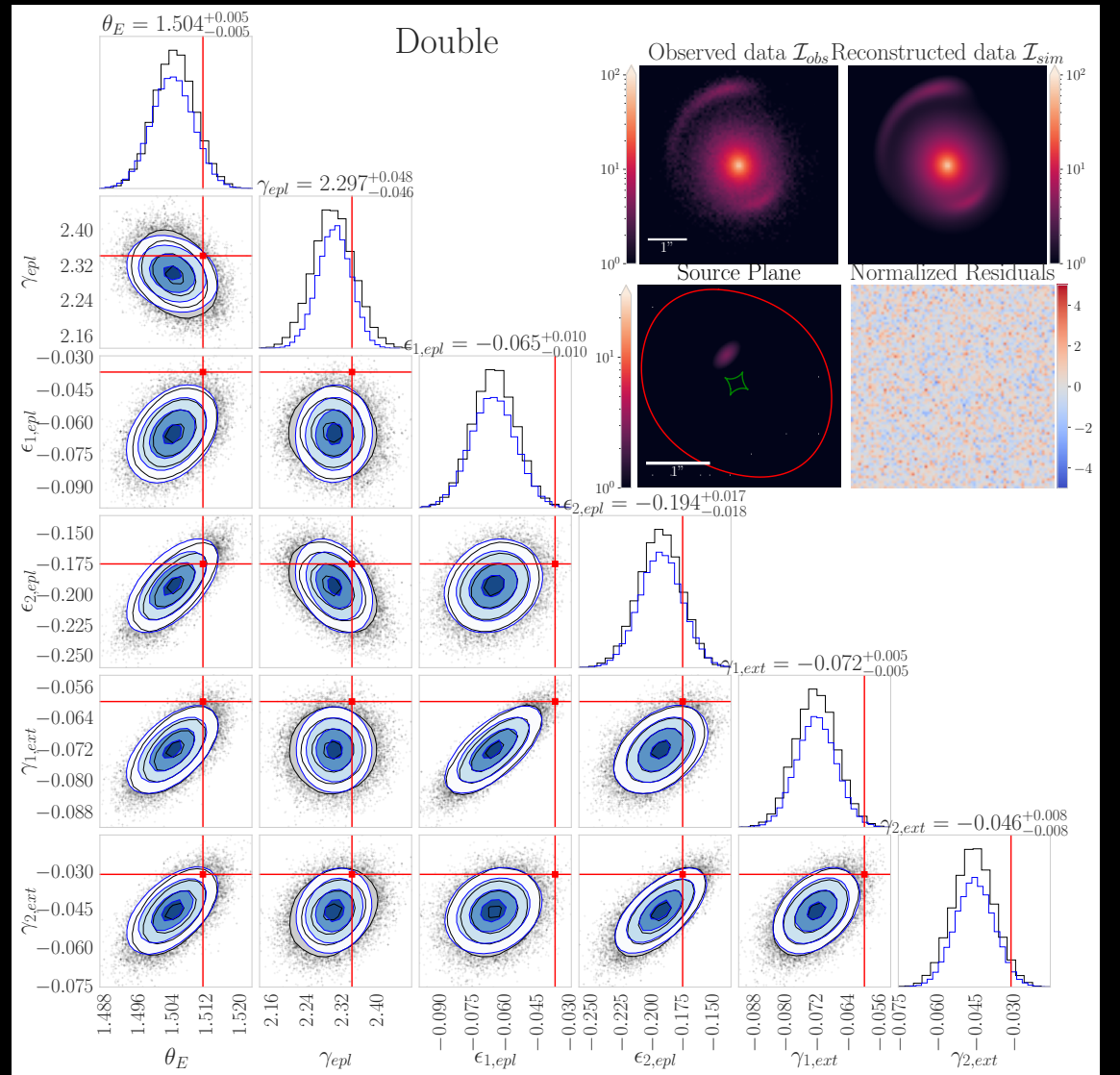
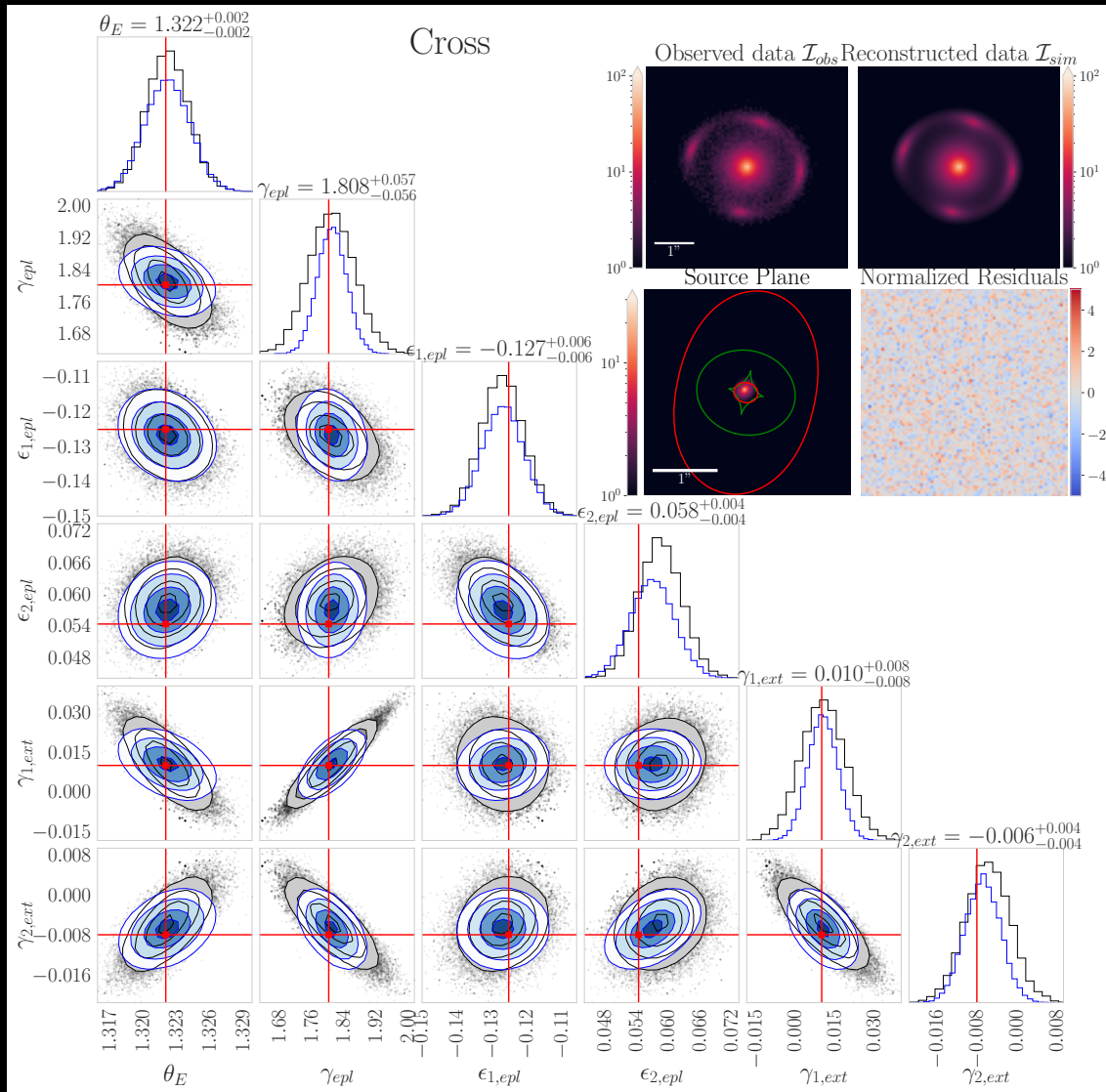
Modeling Results on a Simulated System



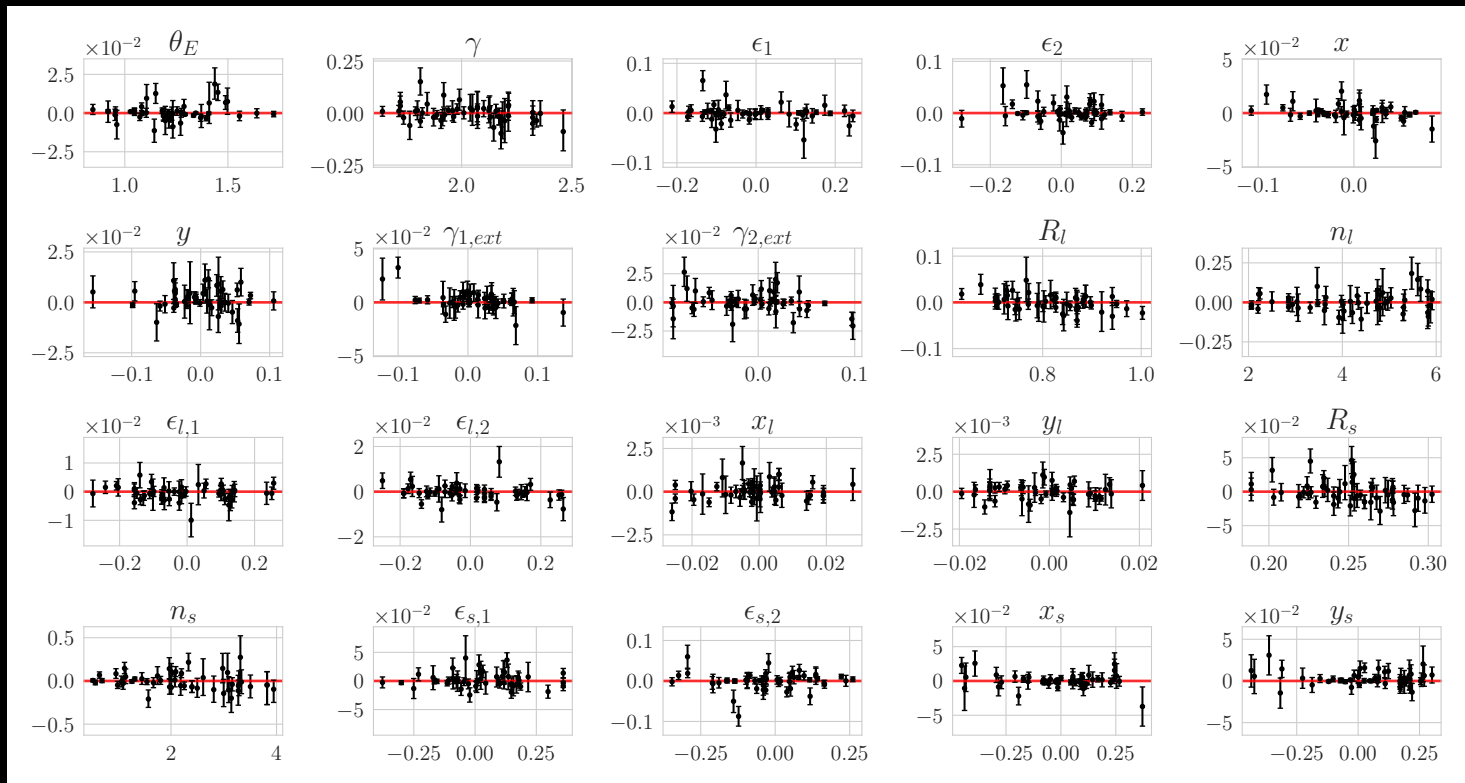
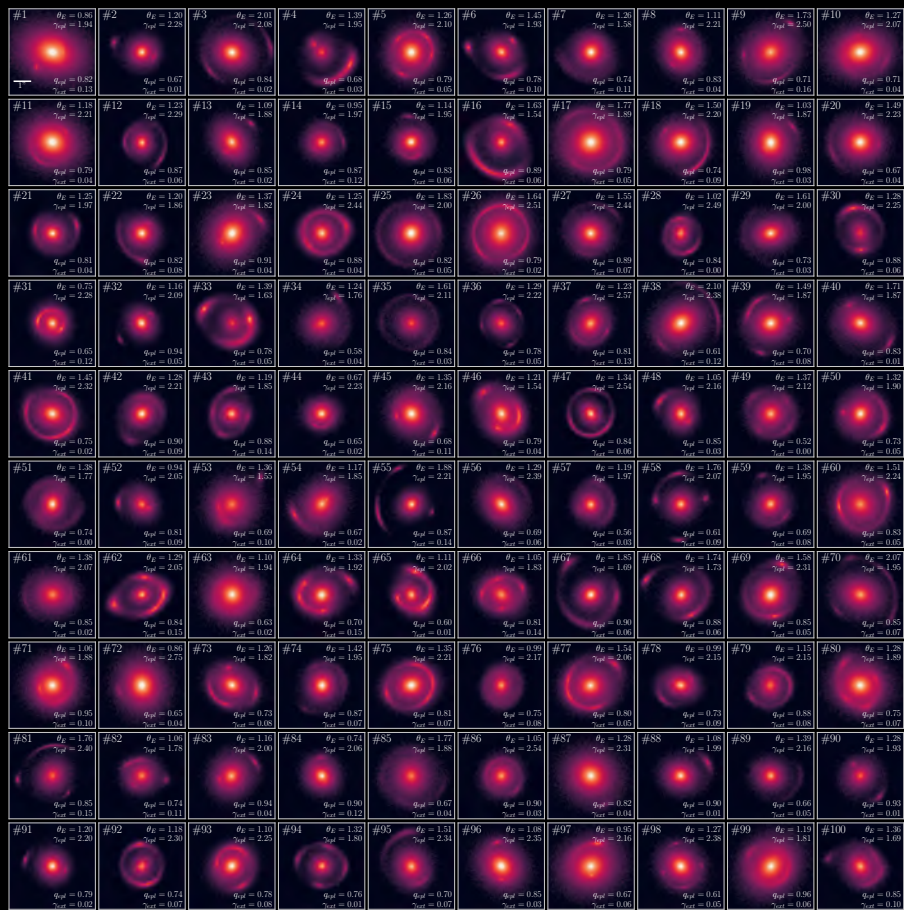
Execution time on 4 A100s
(Perlmutter early access)



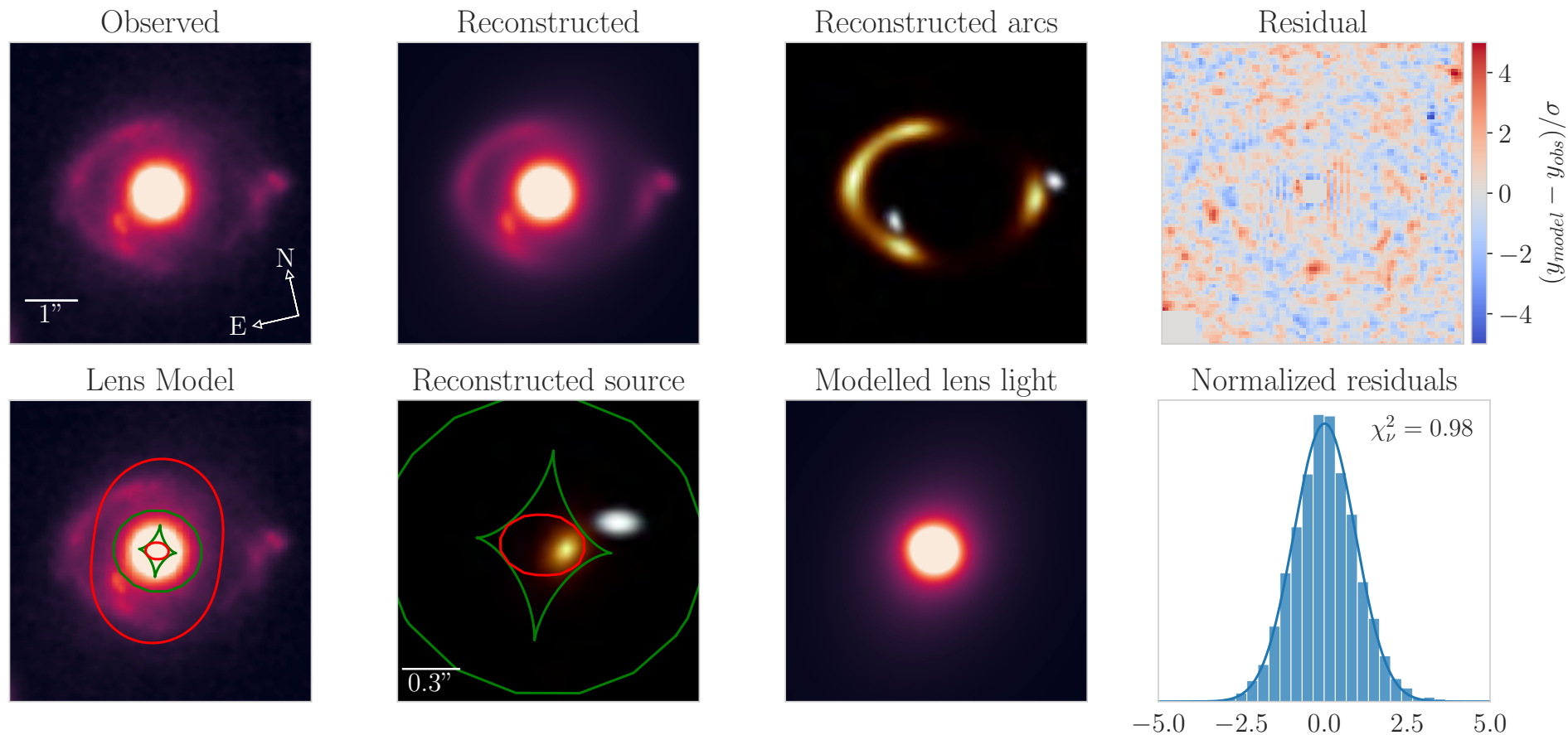




Testing Results



DESI-238.5690+04.7276 – Two Sources



Next Steps

Our paper reporting this work (arXiv: 2202.07663) and has been accepted for publication in The Astrophysical Journal. What next?

1. Develop a suite of comprehensive, automated tests + improve documentation
2. Public code release soon
3. Improved speed with 2 GPU nodes (8 GPUs: configurable on Perlmutter)
 - Can we eliminate the VI step using mass matrix adaptation for HMC?
4. Apply our code to observed systems from our Hubble Space Telescope program (ID: 15867)
 - Sub-galactic dark matter halo detection
 - Using ground-based data, can model systems spectroscopically confirmed by DESI