

A hot mini-Neptune in the radius gap orbiting solar analogue HD 110113

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ABSTRACT

We report the discovery of HD 110113 b (TOI-755.01), a transiting mini-Neptune exoplanet on a 2.5-day orbit around the solar-analogue HD 110113 ($T_{\text{eff}} = 5730\text{K}$). Using *TESS* photometry and HARPS radial velocities gathered by the *NCORES* program, we find HD 110113 b has a radius of $2.08 \pm 0.13 R_{\oplus}$ and a mass of $4.51 \pm 0.6 M_{\oplus}$. The resulting density of $2.77^{+0.69}_{-0.57} \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ is significantly lower than would be expected from a pure-rock world, therefore HD 110113 b must be a mini-Neptune with significant volatile atmosphere. The high incident flux places it within the so-called evaporation valley, however HD 110113 b was able to hold onto a substantial (0.1–1%) H-He atmosphere over its $\sim 4\text{Gyr}$ lifetime. Through a novel simultaneous GP fit to multiple activity indicators, we were also able to fit for the strong stellar rotation signal with period $20.7 \pm 1.3 \text{ d}$ from the RVs and confirm a non-transiting planet with a mass of $10.5 \pm 1.1 M_{\oplus}$ on a period of $6.744^{+0.008}_{-0.009} \text{ d}$.

Key words: planets and satellites: detection – stars: individual: HD110113

1 INTRODUCTION

Since its launch in 2018, NASA's *TESS* mission has attempted to detect small transiting planets around bright, nearby stars amenable to confirmation with radial velocity observations (Ricker et al. 2010). Beginning with its first detection, the hot super-Earth Pi Mensae c (Huang et al. 2018), and continuing with the first multi-planet system (TOI-125 Quinn et al. 2019; Nielsen et al. 2020), the HARPS spectrograph on the 3.6m telescope at La Silla, Chile (Mayor et al. 2003) has been deeply involved in this follow-up effort.

This unique combination of space-based photometry (which provides planetary radius) and precise radial velocities (which provide planetary mass) also allows for the determination of exoplanet densities, and therefore an insight into the internal structure of worlds outside our solar system. These analyses have revealed a diversity of planet structures in the regime between Earth and Neptune, from high-density evaporated giant planet cores like TOI-849b (5.2 g cm^{-3} Armstrong et al. 2020), to low-density mini-Neptunes such as TOI-421 c (Carleo et al. 2020), as well as planets which follow a more linear track from rocky super-earths to Neptunes

dominated by gaseous envelopes such as the two inner planets orbiting ν^2 Lupi (Kane et al. 2020) and TOI-735 Cloutier et al. (2020); Nowak et al. (2020).

The detection of exoplanets with well-constrained physical parameters can also lead to the discovery of statistical trends within the planet population which encode within them information on planetary formation and evolution. The "valley" seen around $1.8 R_{\oplus}$ in Kepler data (Fulton et al. 2017; Van Eylen et al. 2018) is one such feature. Planets that first formed as gassy planets within this valley have, due to heating from either their stars (e.g. evaporation Owen & Wu 2017) or from internal sources (e.g. core-powered mass loss Ginzburg et al. 2018), lost those initial gaseous envelopes, thereby evolving to significantly smaller radii, to become "evaporated cores". By observing the physical parameters of small, hot exoplanets, the exact mechanisms of this process can be revealed.

In this paper, we present the detection, confirmation and RV characterisation of the hot mini-Neptune HD 110113 b and the non-transiting HD 110113 c. The observations from which these planets were detected are described in section 2, while the analysis of that data is described in section 3. In section 4 we discuss the validity of the outer planet RV signal (4.1), the internal structure and evap-

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oration of planet b (4.3 & 4.4), and potential future observations of the system (4.5).

2 OBSERVATIONS

2.1 TESS photometry

HD 110113 was observed during *TESS* sector 10 with 2-minute cadence for 22.5 days, excluding a 2.5 day gap between *TESS* orbits to downlink data. The lightcurve was extracted using the SPOC (Science Processing Operations Centre Jenkins et al. 2016) SAP (simple aperture photometry) pipeline. It was then processed using the Pre-Search Data Conditioning (PDC, Stumpe et al. 2012) pipeline, producing precise detrended photometry with typical precision of 150ppm/hr for this star, and then searched for exoplanetary candidates with the Transiting Planet Search. This identified a strong candidate with a period of 2.54d, a depth of only 400ppm and a Signal to Noise Ratio (SNR) of 7.6. Automated and human vetting subsequently designated this candidate a planet candidate and it was assigned *TESS* Object of Interest (TOI) 755.01.

We inspected the *TESS* aperture using *tpfplotter* (plotted in Figure 1; Aller et al. 2020) to ensure no nearby contaminants could be causing the transit. We found five stars within the aperture with contrast less than 8, with the brightest with a Δmag of only 3.5. However, to cause the observed 400ppm transit, this star would need to host eclipses of at least 1%. Furthermore, being more 1.2pix, and therefore almost one PSF FWHM, away from the target star, we would expect to see a significant centroid shift, which is not observed¹. The other stars present are also > 1 pixel away, and are increasingly fainter (Δmag of 6.9-7.9), requiring eclipse depths of 25-75%. Causing the observed transit with such a blend scenario therefore becomes increasingly improbable given the flat-bottomed transit shape of TOI-755.01. We conclude that a blend scenario from a known contaminant is unlikely.

2.2 Ground-based Photometric Follow-up

We observed a full transit of TOI-755.01 continuously for 443 minutes in Pan-STARRS z -short band on UTC 2020 March 13 from the LCOGT (Brown et al. 2013) 1-m network node at Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory. The 4096 \times 4096 LCOGT SINISTRO cameras have an image scale of $0''.389$ per pixel, resulting in a $26' \times 26'$ field of view. The images were calibrated by the standard LCOGT BANZAI pipeline (McCully et al. 2018). Photometric data were extracted using *AstroImageJ* (Collins et al. 2017). The mean stellar point-spread-function (PSF) in the image sequence had a full-width-half-maximum (FWHM) of $2''.8$. Circular apertures with radius $3''.1$ were used to extract the differential photometry.

The TOI-755 SPOC pipeline transit depth of 397 ppm is generally too shallow to reliably detect with ground-based observations, so we instead checked for possible nearby eclipsing binaries (NEBs) that could be contaminating the irregularly shaped SPOC aperture that generally extends $\sim 1'$ from the target star. To account for possible contamination from the wings of neighboring star PSFs, we searched for NEBs out to $2.5'$ from the target star. If fully blended in the SPOC aperture, a neighboring star that is

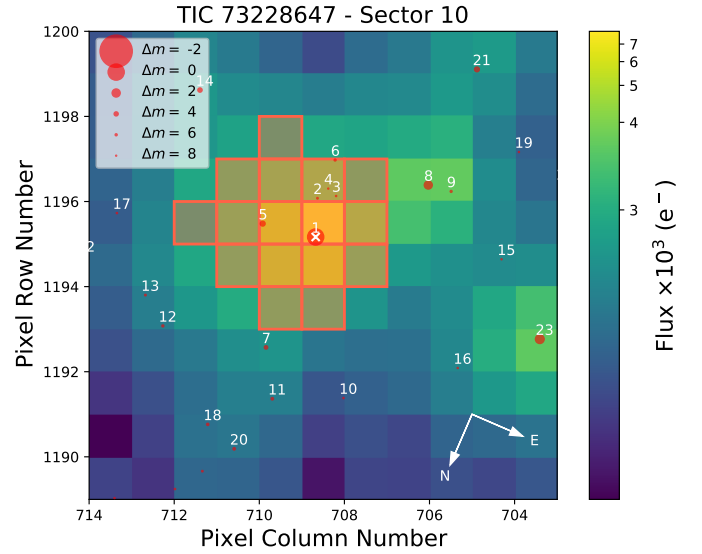


Figure 1. TESS photometric aperture plotted with *tpfplotter* (Aller et al. 2020). The default TESS aperture used by SAP is overplotted in red, and nearby stars down to $\Delta\text{mag} = 8$ from Gaia DR2 (Brown et al. 2018) are plotted as red circles. The target HD 110113 is marked with a white cross.

fainter than the target star by 8.54 magnitudes in TESS-band could produce the SPOC-reported flux deficit at mid-transit (assuming a 100% eclipse). To account for possible delta-magnitude differences between TESS-band and Pan-STARRS z -short band, we searched an extra 0.5 magnitudes fainter (down to *TESS*-band magnitude 18.5).

The brightness and distance limits resulted in a search for NEBs in 90 Gaia DR2 stars, which includes all stars marked in red in Figure 1 and a further 67 contaminants with $\Delta\text{mag} > 8$. We estimate the expected NEB depth in each neighboring star by taking into account both the difference in magnitude relative to TOI-755 and the distance to TOI-755 (to account for the estimated fraction of the star's flux that would be contaminating the TOI-755 SPOC aperture). If the RMS of the 10-minute binned light curve of a neighboring star is more than a factor of 3 smaller than the expected NEB depth, we consider an NEB to be tentatively ruled out in the star over the observing window. We then visually inspect each neighboring star's light curve to ensure no obvious eclipse-like signal. The LCOGT data rule out possible contaminating NEBs at the SPOC pipeline nominal ephemeris and over a -1.7σ to $+2.3\sigma$ ephemeris uncertainty window. By process of elimination, we conclude that the transit is indeed occurring in TOI-755, or a star so close to TOI-755 that it was not detected by Gaia DR2, or the event occurred outside our observing window.

2.3 Ground-based Archival Photometry

Although detecting the transits of HD 110113 b required precise space-based photometry, ground-based photometric surveys have observed HD 110113 and can provide constraints on stellar variability, and therefore an independent measure of the stellar rotation period.

WASP-South was a wide-field array of 8 cameras forming the Southern station of the WASP transit-search survey (Pollacco et al. 2006). The field of HD 110113 was observed over 150-night spans in each of 2007 and 2008, and then again over 2011 and 2012, acquiring a total of 30 000 photometric data points. WASP-South was then equipped with 200-mm, f/1.8 lenses, observing with a 400–

¹ as shown by the SPOC DV report accessed at https://mast.stsci.edu/api/v0.1/Download/file/?uri=mast:TESS/product/tess2019085221934-s0010-s0010-0000000073228647-00212_dvr.pdf

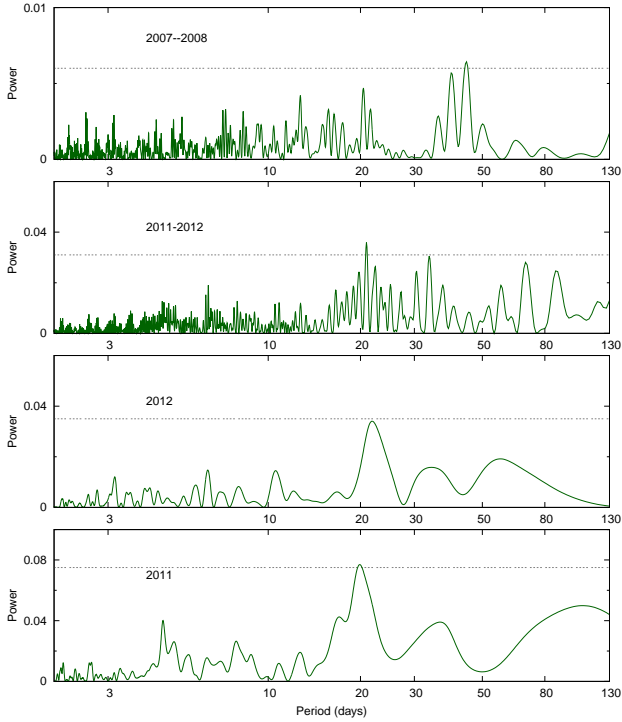


Figure 2. Periodograms of the WASP-South data for TOI-755. The top panel shows data from 2007 & 2008 combined, with a significant 42-d periodicity. The lower panels show data from 2011 & 2012, separately and combined, which show more strongly a periodicity of 21-d. The dotted horizontal lines are the estimated 1%-likelihood false-alarm levels.

700 nm passband, and with a photometric extraction aperture of 48 arcsecs. There are other stars in the aperture around HD 110113, but the brightest is 3 magnitudes fainter with the others are more than 5 magnitudes fainter. We searched the data for rotational modulations using the methods from Maxted et al. (2011).

The data from 2011 and 2012 show a modulation at a period of 21 ± 2 d. This is significant at the 1% false-alarm level in each year separately, with an amplitude of 2 mmag, and when the data from the two years is combined. The data from 2007 and 2008 combined show a significant modulation at twice this period of $\sim 42 \pm 4$ d. There is also power near 21 d in the 2007/2008 periodogram, but it is not significant in its own right.

On its own, the WASP data cannot interpret between these two possible periods, although it would seem more likely from this data alone that the rotational period of HD 110113 is 42 ± 4 days, with the 21 d period coming from the first harmonic. However, this would seem to go against the independent evidence from the raw *TESS* light curve, which has an ACF peak around 23 d, the spectroscopic indicator timeseries, which show a clear ~ 21 d periodicity across both observing seasons, and the measured $v \sin i$ which produces $P_{\max} = 28$ d.

2.4 High-resolution imaging

High angular resolution imaging is needed to search for nearby sources that can contaminate the *TESS* photometry, resulting in an underestimated planetary radius, or that can be the source of astrophysical false positives such as background eclipsing binaries. Through TFOP, follow-up, three such images were obtained across two telescopes, with the results shown in Figure 3.

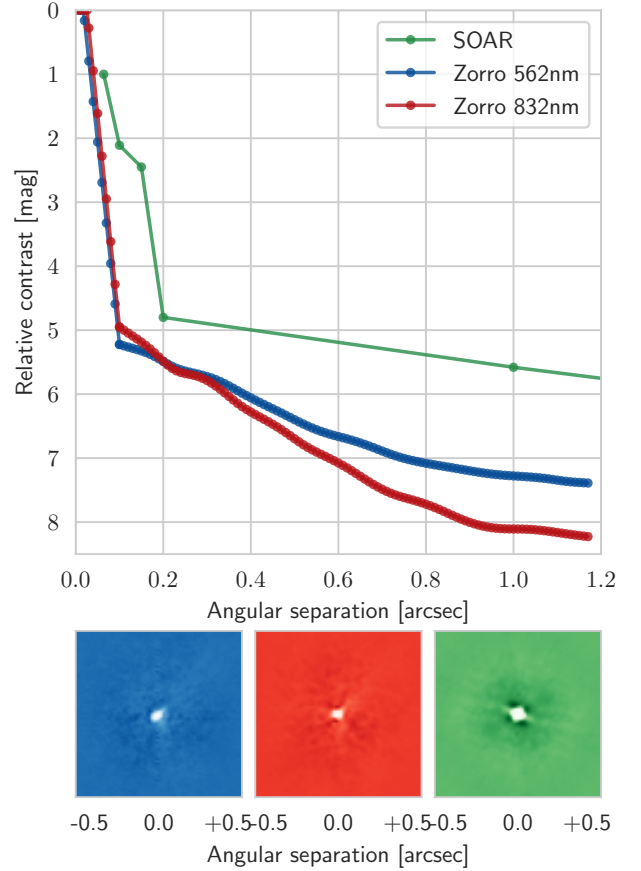


Figure 3. Contrast curves and images from Gemini/Zorro (blue & red for 562 and 832nm respectively), and SOAR (green).

2.4.1 SOAR

We searched for stellar companions to TOI-755 with speckle imaging on the 4.1-m Southern Astrophysical Research (SOAR) telescope (Tokovinin 2018) on 14 July 2019 UT, observing in Cousins I-band, a similar visible bandpass as *TESS*. More details of the observation are available in Ziegler et al. (2020). The 5σ detection sensitivity and speckle auto-correlation functions from the observations are shown in Figure 3. No nearby stars were detected within $3''$ of HD 110113 in the SOAR observations.

2.4.2 Gemini/Zorro

High-resolution speckle interferometric images of HD 110113 were obtained on 14 January 2020 UT using the Zorro instrument mounted on the 8-meter Gemini South telescope located on the summit of Cerro Pachon in Chile. Zorro simultaneously observes in two bands, (832/40 nm and 562/54 nm), obtaining diffraction limited images with inner working angles 0.017 and 0.028 arcsec, respectively. The observation consisted of 3 minutes sets of 1000×0.06 second images. All the images were combined and subjected to Fourier analysis leading to the production of final data products including speckle reconstructed imagery (see Howell et al. 2011). Figure 3 shows the 5σ contrast curves in both filters for the Zorro observation and includes an inset showing the 832 nm reconstructed image. The resulting contrast limits reveal that HD 110113 is a single star to contrast limits of 5 to 8 magnitudes, ruling out

most main sequence companions to the star within the spatial limits of ~ 11 to 320 au (for $d = 106.3$ pc).

2.5 HARPS High Resolution Spectroscopy

Over the course of two observing seasons in 2018 and 2019, a total of 114 high-resolution spectra were taken with the High Accuracy Radial velocity Planet Searcher (HARPS, [Pepe et al. 2002](#); [Mayor et al. 2003](#)) on the ESO 3.4m telescope at La Silla, Chile. These spectra were taken as part of the *NCORES* program (PI:Armstrong, 1102.C-0249) designed to specifically study the internal structure of hot worlds.

We used the high-accuracy mode of HARPS with a $1''$ science fibre on the star and a second on-sky fibre monitoring the background flux during exposure. The nominal exposure time was 1800 seconds, with a few exceptions of slightly longer or shorter integration depending on observing conditions and schedule.

Spectra and RV information were extracted using the offline HARPS data reduction pipeline hosted at Geneva Observatory. We use a flux template matching a G1 star to correct the continuum-slope in each echelle order. The spectra were cross correlated with a binary G2 mask to derive the cross correlation function (CCF) ([Baranne et al. 1996](#)), on which we fit a Gaussian function to obtain RVs, FWHM and contrast. Additionally, we compute the bisector-span ([Queloz et al. 2001](#)) of the CCF and spectral indices tracing chromospheric activity ([Gomes da Silva et al. 2011](#); [Boisse et al. 2009](#)).

We reach a typical SNR per pixel of 75 (order 60, 631nm) in individual spectra, corresponding to an RV error of 1.41 m s^{-1} . The HARPS spectra and derived RVs were accessed and downloaded through the DACE portal hosted at the University of Geneva ([Buchschacher et al. 2015](#)) under the target name HD 110113².

3 ANALYSIS

3.1 Stellar Parameters

3.1.1 Global Stellar Parameters

Stellar parameters T_{eff} , $\log g$ and $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}]$ were derived using a recent version of the MOOG code ([Sneden 1973b](#)) and a set of plane-parallel ATLAS9 model atmospheres ([Kurucz 1993](#)). The analysis was done in LTE. The methodology used is described in detail in [Sousa et al. \(2011\)](#) and [Santos et al. \(2013a\)](#). The full spectroscopic analysis is based on the Equivalent Widths (EWs) of 233 Fe I and 34 Fe II weak lines by imposing ionization and excitation equilibrium. The line-list used was taken from [Sousa et al. \(2008\)](#). We obtained resulting parameters of $T_{\text{eff}} = 6732 \pm 16 \text{ K}$, $\log g = 4.46 \pm 0.05$ and $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] = 0.14 \pm 0.02$. To account for potential systematic uncertainties, we increased the error bars to 50K and 0.05dex for T_{eff} and $\log g$ respectively.

To constrain the physical stellar parameters of HD 110113 given the observed information, we applied three techniques.

The first technique was to use the main-sequence calibrations of [Torres et al. \(2010\)](#) which derive R_s and M_s using polynomial functions of T_{eff} , $\log g$ and $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}]$, which are built using the observed properties of calibration stars. Uncertainties were propagated using 10000 Monte Carlo draws and the mass was corrected using

Parameter	Value	Parameter	Value
TOI ID	TOI-755	R.A. [$^{\circ}$]	190.0365636
TIC ID	73228647	R.A. [hms]	12:40:08.78
HD	HD 110113	Dec. [$^{\circ}$]	-44.3120777
HIP	HIP 61820	Dec. [dms]	-44:18:43.48
Gaia ID	6133384959942131968	δRA [mas yr $^{-1}$]	-3.72 ± 0.1
Parallax [mas]	9.38 ± 0.036	δDEC [mas yr $^{-1}$]	-13.68 ± 0.12
d [pc]	106.3 ± 0.72	R_s [R_{\odot}]	0.968 ± 0.018
B	10.71 ± 0.032	M_s [M_{\odot}]	0.997 ± 0.06
V	10.063 ± 0.027	$\log g$	4.46 ± 0.05
Gaia G	9.91 ± 0.0004	T_{eff} [K]	5732 ± 50
TESS mag	9.4628 ± 0.006	$[\text{Fe}/\text{H}]$	0.14 ± 0.02
J	8.903 ± 0.037	$v \sin i$ [km s $^{-1}$]	1.74 ± 0.15
H	8.594 ± 0.063	P_{rot} [d]	20.7 ± 1.3
K	8.502 ± 0.024	Age [Gyr]	4.0 ± 0.5 Gyr

Table 1. Stellar parameters. From Gaia DR2 ([Brown et al. 2018](#)). From the TESS Input Catalogue v8 ([Stassun et al. 2019](#)). Johnson magnitudes from APASS ([Henden et al. 2015](#)). From 2MASS ([Skrutskie et al. 2006](#)). Derived from HARPS spectra.

the calibration of [Santos et al. \(2013b\)](#). This produced a mass and radius of $0.989 \pm 0.01 M_{\odot}$ and $0.998 \pm 0.025 R_{\odot}$ respectively, although [Torres et al. \(2010\)](#) suggest minimum uncertainties of $0.03 R_{\odot}$ and $0.06 M_{\odot}$ respectively.

The second was using theoretical isochrones (MIST, [Choi et al. 2016](#)) as well as observed properties (e.g. colours) to constrain stellar parameters, which we performed using *isoclassify* ([Huber 2017](#); [Berger et al. 2020](#)). Inputs included the derived spectral properties T_{eff} , $\log g$ and $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}]$, as well as archival data for HD 110113 including APASS B & V magnitudes ([Henden et al. 2015](#)), Gaia parallax, Gp, Rp, Bp and luminosity ([Brown et al. 2018](#)), *SkyMapper* ugriz observations ([Onken et al. 2020](#)) and 2MASS JHK observations ([Skrutskie et al. 2006](#)). This resulted in a mass & radius of $1.004^{+0.042}_{-0.047} M_{\odot}$ and $1.002 \pm 0.028 R_{\odot}$ respectively. The well-constrained nature of the input measurements mean that we are limited by the gridsize of the theoretical isochrones, which despite an initial array of more than 3 million points, resulted in only 112 samples within all available constraints.

As a final independent determination of the basic stellar parameters for HD 110113, we performed an analysis of the broadband spectral energy distribution (SED) of the star together with the Gaia DR2 parallaxes (adjusted by +0.08 mas to account for the systematic offset reported by [Stassun & Torres 2018](#)), in order to determine an empirical measurement of the stellar radius, following the procedures described in [Stassun & Torres \(2016\)](#); [Stassun et al. \(2017, 2018\)](#). We pulled the $B_T V_T$ magnitudes from *Tycho-2*, the $B_V gri$ magnitudes from APASS, the JHK_S magnitudes from 2MASS, the W1–W4 magnitudes from WISE, the $GG_{BP}GRP$ magnitudes from Gaia, and the NUV magnitude from GALEX. Together, the available photometry spans the full stellar SED over the wavelength range 0.2–22 μm (see Figure 4).

We performed a fit using Kurucz stellar atmosphere models, with the effective temperature (T_{eff}), metallicity ($[\text{Fe}/\text{H}]$), and surface gravity ($\log g$) adopted from the spectroscopic analysis. The only additional free parameter is the extinction (A_V), which we restricted to the maximum line-of-sight value from the dust maps of [Schlegel et al. \(1998\)](#). The resulting fit is very good (Figure 4) with a reduced χ^2 of 1.4 and best-fit $A_V = 0.03 \pm 0.03$. Integrating the (unreddened) model SED gives the bolometric flux at Earth, $F_{\text{bol}} = 2.597 \pm 0.091 \times 10^{-9} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$. Taking the F_{bol} and

² <https://dace.unige.ch/radialVelocities/?pattern=HD110113>

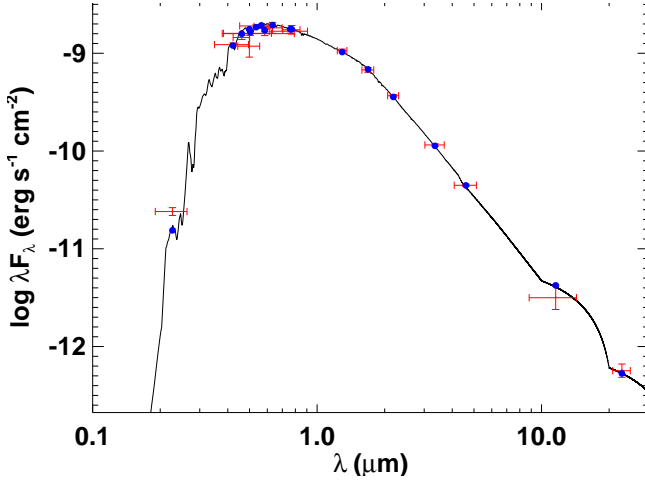


Figure 4. Spectral energy distribution of HD 110113. Red symbols represent the observed photometric measurements, where the horizontal bars represent the effective width of the passband. Blue symbols are the model fluxes from the best-fit Kurucz atmosphere model (black).

T_{eff} together with the *Gaia* DR2 parallax, gives the stellar radius, $R_{\star} = 0.968 \pm 0.018 R_{\odot}$. In addition, we can use the R_{\star} together with the spectroscopic $\log g$ to obtain an empirical mass estimate of $M_{\star} = 0.99 \pm 0.08 M_{\odot}$.

Taken together, all the stellar parameters as derived above are roughly self-consistent, and all suggest that HD 110113 is a solar analogue with mass and radius very close to the Sun. As the SED radius measurement is least affected by sample size or systematic uncertainty, we assume this as a final radius. Similarly, the Mass obtained from the $\log g$ and the SED-derived R_{\star} ($0.99 \pm 0.08 M_{\odot}$) is nearly identical to that from the MR relationship ($0.989 \pm 0.01 M_{\odot}$), suggesting they converge on the same value. We therefore use the mass as defined from the offset-corrected Torres et al. (2010) calibrations, with the uncertainty inflated to reflect the typical systematic error ($0.06 M_{\odot}$).

To compute the $v \sin i$ from the FWHM, we used the relations of Dos Santos et al. (2016) who studied the HARPS spectra of a large number of solar twins. We used this to first estimate the v_{macro} from the T_{eff} and $\log g$ derived in section 3.1.1 ($3.64 \pm 0.1 \text{ km s}^{-1}$), and then combined this with the measured FWHM to estimate a $v \sin i$ of $1.74 \pm 0.15 \text{ km s}^{-1}$. Using the calculated R_{\star} , this corresponds to a maximum rotation period (P_{max}) of $28 \pm 3 \text{ d}$, assuming an aligned system.

3.1.2 Chemical abundances

In an independent analysis, stellar atmospheric parameters (T_{eff} , $\log g$, microturbulence and $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}]$) and respective error bars were derived using the methodology described in Sousa (2014); Santos et al. (2013b). In brief, we make use of the equivalent widths (EW) of 224 FeI and 35 FeII lines, as measured in the combined HARPS spectrum of TOI-755 using the ARES v2 code³ (Sousa et al. 2015), and we assume ionization and excitation equilibrium. The process makes use of a grid of Kurucz model atmospheres (Kurucz 1993) and the radiative transfer code MOOG (Snedden 1973a).

Stellar abundances of the elements were also derived using the same tools and models as for stellar parameter determination as well as using the classical curve-of-growth analysis method assuming local thermodynamic equilibrium. Although the EWs of the spectral lines were automatically measured with ARES, for the elements with only two to three lines available we performed careful visual inspection of the EWs measurements. For the derivation of chemical abundances of refractory elements we closely followed the methods described in (e.g. Adibekyan et al. 2012, 2015; Delgado Mena et al. 2014, 2017). Abundances of the volatile elements, O and C, were derived following the method of Delgado Mena et al. (2010); Bertran de Lis et al. (2015a). Since the two spectral lines of oxygen are usually weak and the 6300.3 Å line is blended with Ni and CN lines, the EWs of these lines were manually measured with the task *sp1ot* in IRAF. Lithium and sulfur abundances were derived by performing spectral synthesis with MOOG following the works by Delgado Mena et al. (2014) and Costa Silva et al. (2020) respectively. All the $[\text{X}/\text{H}]$ ratios are obtained by doing a differential analysis with respect to a high S/N solar (Vesta) spectrum from HARPS. The stellar parameters and abundances of the elements are presented in Table 2.

We find that the $[\text{X}/\text{Fe}]$ ratios of most elements are close to solar as expected for a star with this metallicity whereas $[\text{O}/\text{Fe}]$ and $[\text{C}/\text{Fe}]$ are slightly subsolar, since these ratios tend to slightly decrease above solar metallicity (e.g. Bertran de Lis et al. 2015b; Franchini et al. 2020). Moreover, we used the chemical abundances of some elements to derive ages through the so-called chemical clocks (i.e. certain chemical abundance ratios which have a strong correlation with age). We applied the 3D formulas described in Delgado Mena et al. (2019), which also consider the variation in age produced by the effective temperature and iron abundance. The chemical clocks $[\text{Y}/\text{Mg}]$, $[\text{Y}/\text{Zn}]$, $[\text{Y}/\text{Ti}]$, $[\text{Y}/\text{Si}]$, and $[\text{Y}/\text{Al}]$ were used from which we used the $[\text{Y}/\text{Al}]$ age, $4.0 \pm 0.5 \text{ Gyr}$, which is consistent with all others and has the smallest uncertainties.

3.2 Combined modelling of RV & Photometry

3.2.1 Treatment of Radial Velocities

All RV indicator statistics showed clear signs of stellar variability, likely due to the presence of starspots. To remove this stellar activity we first turned to linear decorrelation of the RV signal using RV indicators. The FWHM and S-index showed the clearest rotational signals, so we selected these and used the decorrelation technique provided with the DACE spectroscopy python package (Buchschacher et al. 2015)⁴. Despite the activity indicators removing much of the stellar variability signal, the peak at $\sim 22 \text{ d}$ remained strong in the radial velocity time series (see Figure 5). After removing the rotation signal with the highest peak at $23.68 \pm 0.08 \text{ d}$ by fitting a Keplerian, the next strongest signals were at $6.73 \pm 0.03 \text{ d}$ and $2.541 \pm 0.0008 \text{ d}$ with amplitudes of $3.88 \pm 0.31 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ and $2.55 \pm 0.31 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ respectively. This was followed by signals on longer periods which are most likely spurious due to rotational and observational aliases.

Although this linear decorrelation and Keplerian-fitted rotation period was able to reveal the planetary RV signals, stellar variability cannot in general be modelled as a Keplerian. Instead we turned to a Gaussian process (GP) to model the impact of rotation on the RVs. GPs have frequently been used in the analysis of radial velocities

³ The last version of ARES code (ARES v2) can be downloaded at <http://www.astro.up.pt/~sousasag/ares>

⁴ <https://dace.unige.ch/tutorials/?tutorialId=34>

Parameter	Value	Error
<i>Abundances</i>		
A(Li)	1.09	0.08
[Fe/H]	0.14	0.02
[S/H]	0.03	0.04
[Na/H]	0.141	0.038
[Mg/H]	0.129	0.021
[Al/H]	0.105	0.014
[Si/H]	0.097	0.022
[Ca/H]	0.092	0.062
[Ti/H]	0.140	0.030
[Cr/H]	0.156	0.032
[Ni/H]	0.130	0.024
[O/H]	-0.012	0.083
[C/H]	0.032	0.012
[Cu/H]	0.116	0.016
[Zn/H]	0.050	0.012
[Sr/H]	0.170	0.073
[Y/H]	0.170	0.039
[Zr/H]	0.152	0.045
[Ba/H]	0.123	0.047
[Ce/H]	0.120	0.051
[Nd/H]	0.135	0.056
<i>Derived Abundance Ratios</i>		
Mg/Si	1.32	0.09
Fe/Si	1.08	0.07
Mg/Fe	1.23	0.08
<i>Ages</i>		
Y/Mg Age [Gyr]	4.09	0.75
Y/Ti Age [Gyr]	4.09	0.95
Y/Zn Age [Gyr]	3.29	0.77
Y/Si Age [Gyr]	3.95	0.86
Y/Al Age [Gyr]	4.00	0.54

Table 2. Derived stellar abundances. Y/Mg age from [Delgado Mena et al. \(2019\)](#). 3D formula from Table 10 (age & $a + b \times T_{\text{eff}} + c \times [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] + d \times [\text{Y}/\text{Mg}]$).

affected by activity (e.g. [Haywood et al. 2014](#); [Dumusque et al. 2019](#)). One GP kernel well-suited to stellar rotation is to use a mix of simple harmonic oscillator (SHO) terms corresponding to P_{rot} and $P_{\text{rot}}/2$, which we built using *exoplanet* and *celerite*⁵ ([Foreman-Mackey et al. 2017](#)).

In order to limit the impact of the GP on the planetary RV signal, we fitted activity indicators and RV time series simultaneously with the same GP kernel, as these should follow the same underlying variations with the exception of planetary reflex motion. A similar approach was previously used by [Grunblatt et al. \(2015\)](#) to model stellar variability in the Kepler-78b system. By explicitly linking the variation found across activity indicators and RVs, this method has the same effect as “training” a GP on an activity indicator (e.g. [Dumusque et al. 2019](#)). However, it avoids having to run multiple models consecutively and transfer the output PDF of a training sample into a second model - a process which loses information intrinsic to the likely non-gaussian distributions of the GP hyper-parameters as well as information about the correlations between parameters. This technique also enables the use of multiple time-series. In this case, we chose S-index and FWHM to co-fit with RV, as these showed the clearest rotation signal.

⁵ We used the `exoplanet.gp.terms.RotationTerm` implementation

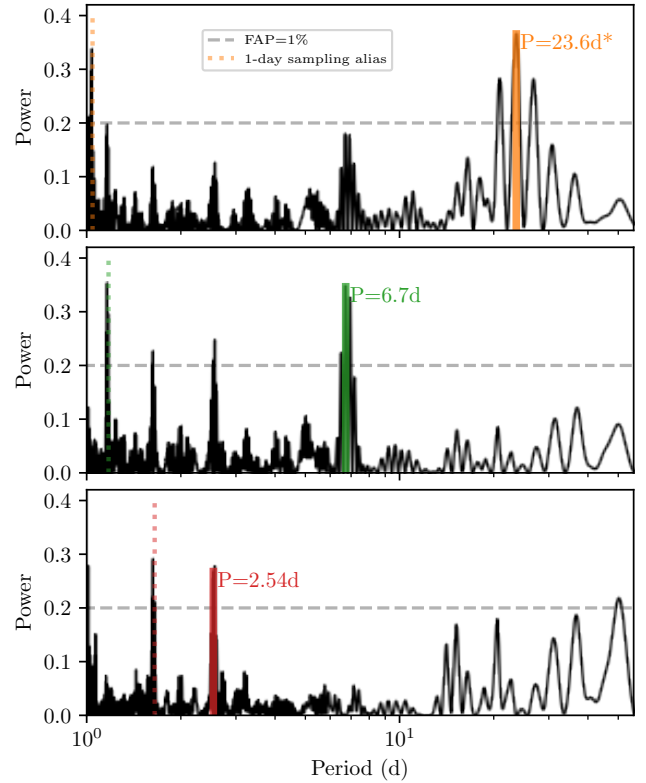


Figure 5. Periodograms of RVs after linear decorrelation with S-index and FWHM. The upper panel shows the raw periodogram, while subsequent panels show the periodogram after the removal of the previously marked peak. The 2.54 d peak is accompanied by a significant peak at the 1-day sampling alias (1.65 d), but the knowledge of a 2.54 d planet in the *TESS* photometry breaks this degeneracy. The remaining peaks in the final periodogram are likely due to sampling aliases associated with the ~ 60 d span of observations.

To achieve this, the hyper-parameters for rotation period, mix factor, signal quality (Q), and the difference in signal quality between modes (δQ) were kept constant between S-index, FWHM & RV time-series, while the signal amplitude & mean, which are not shared across parameters, were set as separate parameters. For each time-series we also used a jitter term to model noise not included by measurement errors and to prevent GP over-fitting. All hyper-parameters were given broad priors, although the rotation period was constrained to the value obtained from a Lomb-Scargle periodogram with a standard deviation of 20%. All priors to parameters are listed in Table B1.

We also noted that the FWHM errors produced by the HARPS pipeline appeared over-estimated - more than twice the estimated error derived from the median absolute difference between measurements. Therefore the FWHM errors were re-normalised such that the median error matched the median absolute difference.

A 2-parameter (i.e. linear) trend term was included to model potential long-term drift in the RVs, although the resulting gradient was not significant ($-0.14 \pm 0.73 \text{ m s}^{-1} \text{ d}^{-1}$). Single parameter mean values were included to model the offset of S-index and FWHM from zero.

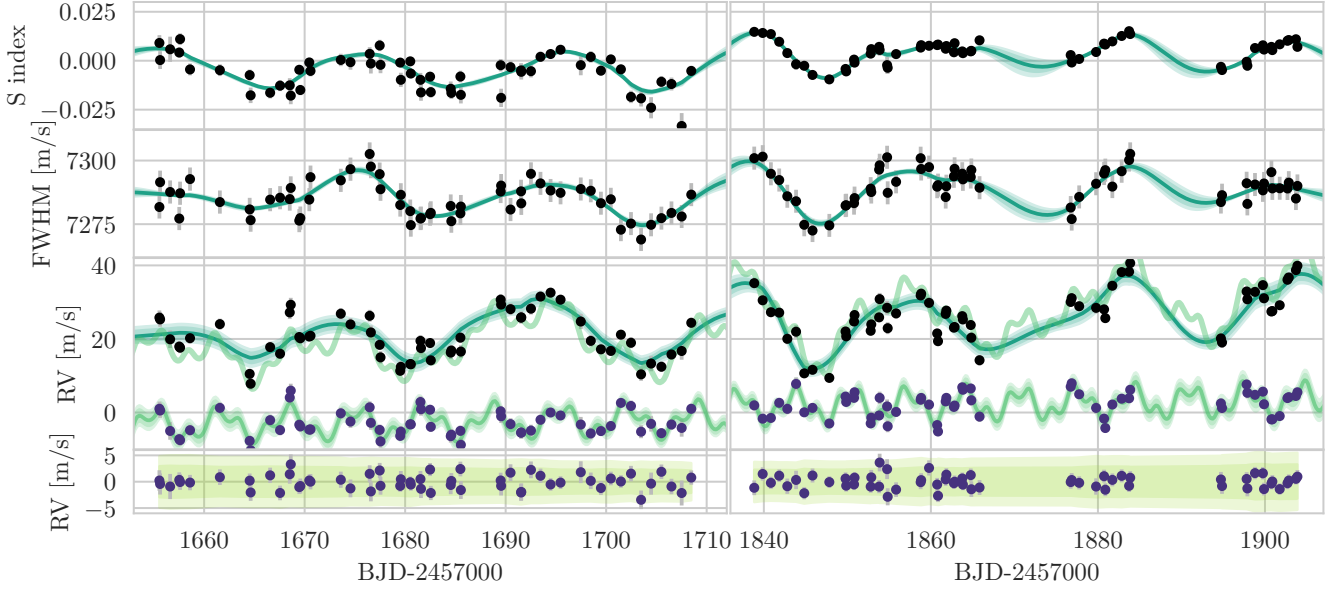


Figure 6. S-index, FWHM and RV timeseries of HD110113 for two seasons of HARPS monitoring, with GP models and 2-sigma uncertainty regions overplotted in green. Below the raw RV timeseries is the GP-removed timeseries (purple points), plus the modelled planets and background trend. At the very bottom the full model residuals are shown, with an RMS of only 1.31 m s^{-1} - extremely close to the median HARPS measurement uncertainty (1.36 m s^{-1}).

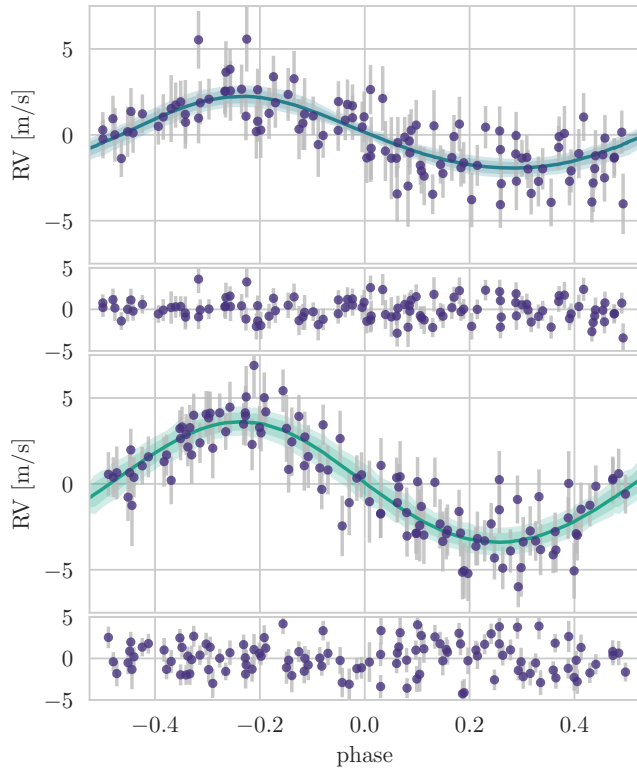


Figure 7. Phase-folded RVs (with both the best-fit GP model and linear trend removed) for HD 110113 b (top) and HD 110113 c (bottom), with model-subtracted residuals.

3.2.2 Treatment of Photometry

We downloaded the PDC_SAP lightcurve from MAST. As high-resolution imaging revealed no close stellar neighbours missed by e.g. the *TESS* input catalogue (Stassun et al. 2019), we made the assumption that the PDC-extracted and dilution-corrected lightcurve for this target was accurate.

We then normalised the PDC_SAP timeseries by its median and masked anomalous flux points from the timeseries by cutting data more than 4.2σ different from both preceding and succeeding neighbours.

We initially tried to use the same *celerite* GP kernel to predict both RV and photometric time series deviations. This proved to not be possible, likely because the effect of stellar variability on photometry is not necessarily at the same timescale as for RVs (Aigrain et al. 2012). Similarly, although a Lomb-Scargle periodogram of the raw *TESS* lightcurve does show a peak with a period around 25d, the processed PDC_SAP lightcurve is flat, likely as variability on the order of a *TESS* orbit ($\sim 14 \text{ d}$) are removed during processing. Instead we used a separate, single-SHO *celerite* kernel with quality $Q = 1/\sqrt{2}$ to model the photometric stellar variability. To produce the initial hyperparameters and priors for the combined analysis and reduce the possibility of the GPs attempting to model out the transits themselves, we first fitted this GP to the photometry with planetary transits cut. The interpolated posterior distributions from this analysis then provided the priors for the combined analysis. A jitter term was also included to model the effect of high-frequency noise not fully encapsulated by the photon noise (e.g. stellar & spacecraft jitter).

We modelled the limb darkening using two approaches - one where limb darkening is a free parameter reparameterised using the approach of Kipping (2013b) and fitted to the transit without priors, and another where the expected theoretical limb darkening parameters for the star as generated by Claret (2017) are used as priors for

Table 3. Derived planet properties.

Parameter	HD 110113 b	HD 110113 c
Epoch, t_0 [BJD-2457000]	1570.1006 ± 0.0044	1798.18 ± 0.18
Orbital Period, P [d]	2.5408 ± 0.00049	$6.744^{+0.0084}_{-0.0085}$
Semi-major Axis, a [AU]	0.03755 ± 0.00093	0.06979 ± 0.00023
Orbital Eccentricity, e	$0.102^{+0.088}_{-0.068}$	$0.05^{+0.076}_{-0.037}$
Argument of periastron, Ω	$-0.35^{+0.99}_{-0.8}$	0.8 ± 1.1
Radius ratio $[R_p/R_s]$	0.0196 ± 0.0013	—
Radius, R_p [R_\oplus]	2.08 ± 0.13	—
Impact Parameter, b	$0.46^{+0.17}_{-0.25}$	—
Transit duration, t_D [d]	$0.0992^{+0.0055}_{-0.0067}$	—
RV semi-amplitude, K [m s^{-1}]	2.14 ± 0.28	3.57 ± 0.39
Planet Mass, M_p [M_\oplus]	4.51 ± 0.6	10.5 ± 1.1
Planet Density, ρ_p [g cm^{-3}]	$2.77^{+0.69}_{-0.57}$	—
Insolation, S [W m^{-2}]	1001000^{+7900}_{-7300}	290000 ± 15000
Surface Temperature, T_p [K]	$1370.8^{+2.7}_{-2.5}$	1006.0 ± 13.0

the analysis. We found the resulting distributions to be consistent, and chose to use the constrained approach in the final modelling. The radius ratio R_p/R_s was treated using the log amplitude to avoid negative values, and b was reparameterised with R_p/R_s following the `exoplanet` implementation of [Espinoza \(2018\)](#).

As ground-based photometry was not precise enough to observe a transit, we restrict this analysis to only the *TESS* photometry and HARPS spectroscopy.

3.2.3 Combined Model

We modelled full Keplerian orbits for the two planets, with eccentricity priors according to the [Kipping \(2013a\)](#) beta distribution.

Monte Carlo sampling, while able to explore the parameter space around a best-fit solution, does not deal well with exploring unconstrained parameters with multiple local minima. Therefore, in order to allow our model to explore a single solution, we included normal priors on period and t_0 using the values and uncertainties from the TOI catalogue in the case of the 2.54d planet, and from the RV periodogram in the case of the 6.7d planet. In all cases, we artificially inflated these uncertainties to make sure the parameters were not over-constrained by their parameters, which is confirmed by noting that the posterior distributions are, in all cases, narrower than the priors.

The combined model, built using the `exoplanet` ([Foreman-Mackey et al. 2020](#)) package, was sampled using the No-U Turn Sampler (NUTS) in the Hamiltonian Monte Carlo PyMC back-end ([Salvatier et al. 2016](#)) using 5 independent chains and 500 steps burn-in for each. This produced 10000 independent samples. Model priors and posteriors are displayed in table 3.

The results from the combined model are shown in tables 3 and B1, with the HARPS RV timeseries and best-fit models shown in figure 6, phase-folded RVs and model shown in figure 7, and *TESS* photometry and best-fit light curves shown in figure 8.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Evidence for HD 110113 c

The periodogram of the activity-corrected radial velocity timeseries showed a clear signal at 6.75 d, even stronger than that of the planet at 2.54 d (Figure 5). Using the epoch and period defined from a fit to

this decorrelated RV timeseries, we searched the *TESS* lightcurve to see whether a transiting planet on this period may have been missed.

However, a search using the transit least squares algorithm ([Hippke & Heller 2019](#)) on the model-subtracted lightcurve found no signal around 6.7 d, and a visual inspection of the lightcurve around the likely epochs of transit reveals no candidate dips associated with an outer candidate. Indeed, when running a combined model of two transiting planets, with constraints on orbits from the RVs, the posteriors for the radius of the outer planet were $0.05^{+0.59}_{-0.04} R_\oplus$ which, given the $10.5 \pm 1.1 M_\oplus$ mass of HD 110113 c, would be physically impossible even with an iron-core. Therefore, we come to the conclusion that HD 110113 c is non-transiting.

In order to assess whether the RV signal alone warrants calling HD 110113 c a confirmed planet or merely a candidate, we ran two combined models with identical priors, and with one model including a non-transiting planet around 6.7d. We then burned in each model for 500 samples and ran the `find_MAP` function in PyMC3 to find the maximum likelihood for each model, allowing us to compare the difference in Bayesian Information Criterion (ΔBIC) between the models. The resulting value of $\Delta\text{BIC} = 16.32$ clearly favours a two-planet model over a single planet model, with $\Delta\text{BIC} > 10$ suggesting "Very Strong" evidence over the null hypothesis.

It should be noted that the period of HD 110113 c, at $6.744^{+0.008}_{-0.009}$ d, is close to the $P_{\text{rot}}/3$ harmonic. However, there appears little evidence of a signal in the RV periodogram at $P_{\text{rot}}/2$, so a large coherent signal at $P_{\text{rot}}/3$ would be unexpected. However, it is possible that with certain inclinations and spot locations such harmonics may be boosted ([Vanderburg et al. 2016](#); [Boisse et al. 2011](#)). Interestingly the periodogram of the S-index data does show a strong peak at $P_{\text{rot}}/2$ and a weaker peak at $P_{\text{rot}}/3$, but this occurs at 7.25 d - significantly separated from the RV peak at $6.744^{+0.008}_{-0.009}$. Even if a real candidate, as our $\Delta\text{BIC} > 10$ suggests, the amplitude of the signal may be impacted by the presence of a signal at $P_{\text{rot}}/3$, therefore the mass of HD 110113 c should be treated as uncertain.

However, multiple lines of evidence point to the candidate signal of HD 110113 c being planetary in origin. Future RV measurements should help further disentangle stellar rotation and the signal amplitude, and may even reveal new candidates in this system.

The majority of short-period multi-planet systems have low mutual inclinations ([Lissauer et al. 2011](#)), and in such a case the non-transiting nature of HD 110113 c is not unexpected. Using the derived impact parameter of planet b and the semi-major axis of c, the expected impact parameter of planet c is 0.8 ± 0.4 , producing a non-transiting planet in 32% of scenarios. It is also worth noting that planets b & c have an orbital period ratio near 8/3, although harmonics beyond 2 : 1 are highly unlikely to create measurable TTVs ([Deck & Agol 2015](#)).

4.2 A solar twin?

It is remarkable to note just how sun-like HD 110113 is, with a radius, T_{eff} and $\log g$ all within errors of solar values, with the exception of its slightly higher metallicity ($[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] = 0.14 \pm 0.02$), and correspondingly lower C & O (see Table 2) (e.g. [Franchini et al. 2020](#); [Bertran de Lis et al. 2015a](#)) This higher metallicity may explain why HD 110113 was able to form close-in super-Earths which do not exist in our solar system ([Mulders et al. 2016](#); [Bitsch & Battistini 2020](#)).

HD 110113 is also nearly the same age as the Sun, as can be seen in both the Yttrium ages (Table 2), and from the rotation rate ~ 22 d from archival photometry, the spectroscopy timeseries, & < 30 d from $v \sin i$). Indeed, this rotation rate is marginally faster than

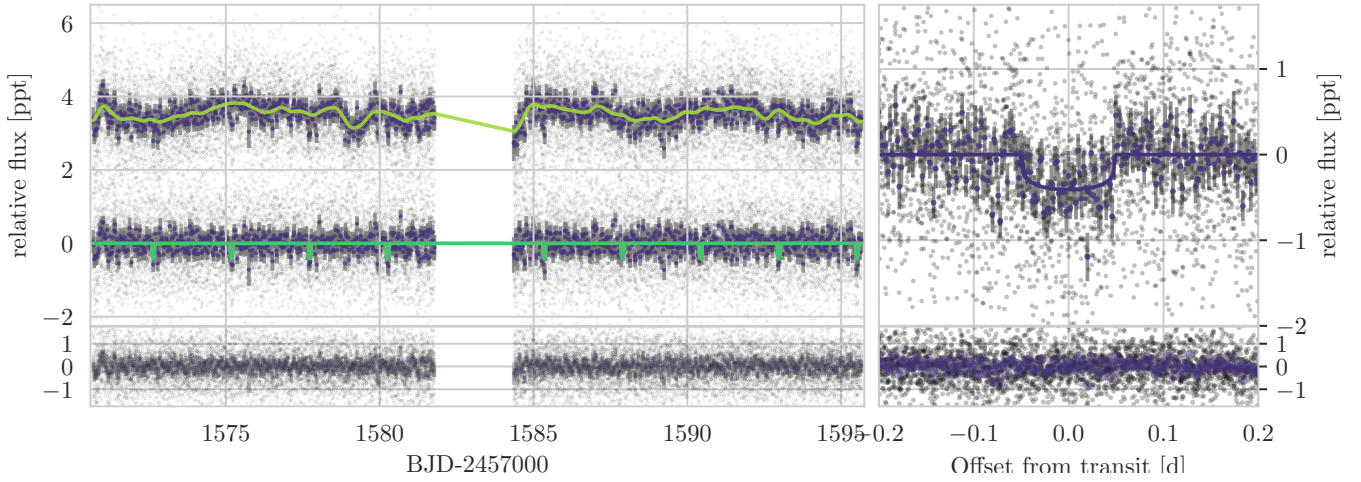


Figure 8. *TESS* photometry, where black dots represent individual 2-minute cadence data and dark circles (with errorbars) represent 30-minute bins. Upper left: *TESS* PDC_SAP time series with best-fit GP model (both offset by 3.5ppt), and GP-subtracted lightcurve with the best-fit transit model over-plotted (no offset). Lower left: residuals, with both GP model and transit models subtracted from the lightcurve. Upper right: phase-folded lightcurve of HD 110113 b zoomed to the transit. Lower right: phase-folded residuals.

the Sun (25-26.5d when measured with HARPS-N and converted to sidereal period, [Milbourne et al. 2019](#)). This could be explained by the fact that HD 110113 is slightly younger, or alternatively by the fact that the Sun rotates slower than average ([Robles et al. 2008](#)), or the presence of short-period planets has tidally inhibited the slow-down of the star, although the effect for such small planets is likely to be small ([Bolmont et al. 2012](#)).

Thanks to their similarities, HD 110113 and its planets could prove a useful comparison to the Sun and the solar system in the future.

4.3 Composition

To explore the interior structure of HD 110113 b we performed modelling using as inputs the mass and radius determined by our joint modelling of *TESS* photometry and HARPS RVs. This was performed following the method of [Otegi et al. \(2020\)](#) which assumes a pure iron core, a silicate mantle, a non-gaseous water layer, and a H-He atmosphere. In order to quantify the degeneracy between the different interior parameters and produce posterior probability distributions, we use a generalized Bayesian inference analysis with a Nested Sampling scheme (e.g. [Buchner et al. 2014](#)). The interior parameters that are inferred include the masses of the pure-iron core, silicate mantle, water layer and H-He atmosphere. The ratios of Fe/Si and Mg/Si found in stars is expected to be mirrored in the protoplanetary material, and therefore in the internal structures of exoplanets ([Thiabaud et al. 2015](#)). Hence, we use the values found by our stellar abundance analysis as a proxy for the core to mantle ratio. Given the observed molar ratio of Fe/Si (1.08 ± 0.07 , Table 2) is higher than that of the Sun (0.86, [Thiabaud et al. 2015](#)), we would expect planetary material around HD 110113 to be more iron-rich than Earth.

Table 4 lists the inferred mass fractions of the core, mantle, water-layer and H-He atmosphere from the interior models. Due to the nature of the measurements, interior models cannot distinguish between water and H-He as the source of low-density material.

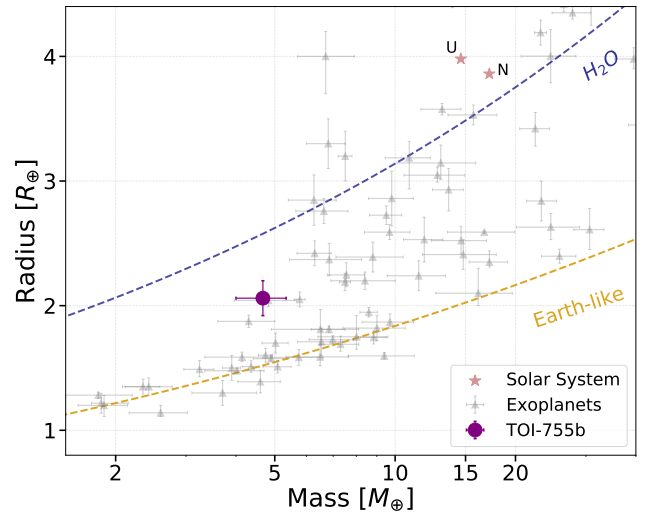


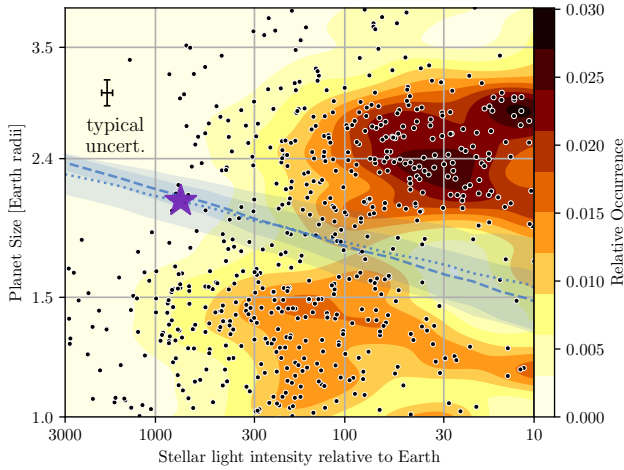
Figure 9. Mass-radius diagram of exoplanets with accurate mass and radius determination ([Otegi et al. 2019](#)). Also shown are the composition lines of iron, Earth-like planet, rocky and pure water.

Therefore, we ran both a 4-layer model and two 3-layer models which leave out the H₂O and H-He envelopes respectively. In the case of a H-He envelope, we find that the planet is only $\sim 1\%$ H-He by mass, with an iron-rich rocky interior making up 99% of the planet. Any water present would likely decrease the core, mantle & gaseous envelope fractions. However, a gas-free model would require $73^{+10}_{-13}\%$ water - a fraction that is likely impossible to form - therefore HD 110113 b almost certainly has a significant gaseous envelope. Stars with super-solar metallicities are also less likely to host water-rich planets due to a lower C/O ratio ([Bitsch & Battistini 2020](#)), making a water-rich composition even less likely.

Figure 10 shows the mass radius relation (M-R relation) for Earth-like and pure water compositions (where the pure water line

Table 4. Inferred interior structure properties of TOI-755b.

Constituent	With H-He [%]	With H ₂ O [%]	4-layer [%]
$M_{\text{core}}/M_{\text{total}}$	47^{+26}_{-24}	8^{+7}_{-6}	25^{+28}_{-18}
$M_{\text{mantle}}/M_{\text{total}}$	53^{+23}_{-24}	17^{+11}_{-9}	36^{+31}_{-19}
$M_{\text{water}}/M_{\text{total}}$	—	73^{+10}_{-13}	38^{+31}_{-24}
$M_{\text{H-He}}/M_{\text{total}}$	$1^{+0.3}_{-0.5}$	—	$0.102^{+0.04}_{-0.03}$

**Figure 10.** The distribution of Kepler planets by both insolation & planetary radius plot, with underlying occurrence distributions adapted from (Martinez et al. 2019). HD 110113 b is included as a purple star. The best-fit positions of radius valleys from both Martinez et al. (2019) (dashed) and Van Eylen et al. (2018) (dotted) are plotted in blue, with conversion from period to insolation performed using the average stellar parameters in the Kepler samples.

corresponds to a surface pressure of 1 bar, and without a water-vapor atmosphere). Also shown are exoplanets with accurate mass and radius determinations from Otegi et al. (2020). The position of HD 110113 b makes it one of the lowest-density worlds found with $M_p < 5 M_\oplus$, and among a small class of low-density low-mass planets which includes π Men c (Huang et al. 2018) and GJ 9827 b (Niraula et al. 2017).

4.4 Evaporation

With an insolation of $1001000^{+7900}_{-7300} \text{ W m}^{-2}$ ($\sim 736 S_\oplus$), it is extremely likely that HD 110113 b has been moulded by strong stellar radiation in some way. This is further suggested by placing HD 110113 b on the insolation-radius plots of Fulton et al. (2017) and Martinez et al. (2019), which clearly show the "evaporation valley". As this valley is chiefly influenced by insolation, it is negatively sloped with insolation, and HD 110113 b is positioned exactly within it.

Using both rotation and age, we predict a current X-ray luminosity (L_x/L_{bol}) of between 8.5×10^{-7} (with Prot; Wright et al. 2018) and 2.74×10^{-6} (with age; Jackson et al. 2012). This implies total x-ray luminosities on the order of 3.3×10^{27} to 2.7×10^{28} erg and mass-loss rates (assuming an energy-limited regime) of between 5×10^9 and $9 \times 10^9 \text{ g s}^{-1}$ ($0.026 - 0.05 M_\oplus \text{ Gyr}^{-1}$). This is comparable to both GJ 436 b and Pi Men c under similar assumptions (King et al. 2019). Therefore, while it is currently highly irradiated, HD 110113 b is unlikely to currently be losing large quantities of its H-He atmosphere to space.

However, the integrated sum of mass-loss since the planet's formation is substantial, as young stars are typically far more active and far more X-ray luminous. We calculate that, assuming the current mass & radius, as much as 10% of the planet's mass may have been lost through evaporation. The models of Zeng et al. (2019) suggest that a 1000 K planet with $> 5\%$ hydrogen and a $5.25 M_\oplus$ core would have been $> 8.5 R_\oplus$ in radius, suggesting that HD 110113 b potentially started as an extremely low-density Jupiter-radius world which was quickly stripped. However, how such a low-mass world came to possess such a large gaseous atmosphere opens more questions.

In any case, it is almost certain that HD 110113 b started with a thicker atmosphere of H-He, which, due to both evaporative and core-powered mass-loss, it lost much of over time. However, this is typically a runaway process - planets which lose the majority of their gas (i.e. those in the radius gap) typically lose it all (Owen & Wu 2017). Therefore the main unanswered question is: how did HD 110113 b escape becoming a naked core devoid of volatile envelope? Here we propose two solutions to this:

1) HD 110113 b started with a large envelope of H-He, perhaps as much as 10%, which was gradually lost to evaporation and core-powered heating over time. But it had just enough gas to walk the tight-rope between keeping hold of a thick atmosphere and being completely stripped such that, at the point that evaporative forcing stopped, HD 110113 b still had $\sim 1\%$ of H-He by mass. The models of Rogers & Owen (2020, Figure 5.) suggest such a scenario is possible and may occur for planets that start gas-rich with around 4% H-He.

2) HD 110113 b did lose almost all of its H-He to evaporation and core-powered mass-loss. The current density is therefore explained by the planet having a large water content (e.g. an icy core), with potential out-gassing of a secondary atmosphere contributing to the extended radius. Indeed, our composition calculations include water in only solid & liquid states, therefore a thick steam (or supercritical Mousis et al. 2020) atmosphere, could reduce the density without requiring $> 50\%$ H₂O.

These predictions are testable with future transmission spectroscopy observations, e.g. with JWST (??).

4.5 Re-observation

The low-density nature of this hot mini-Neptune, combined with its bright host star, may enable transmission spectroscopy. To test this, we computed the emission and transmission spectroscopy metrics from Kempton et al. (2018). We find that, amongst small planets with $R_p < 4 R_\oplus$ (Akesson et al. 2013)⁶, HD 110113 b ranks in the top 3% most amenable for emission and the top 5% for transmission spectroscopy with JWST. Such observations would be able to test the hypotheses noted above, and search for a primary atmosphere dominated by H-He, or a secondary atmosphere dominated by water vapour (Bean et al. 2020).

HD 110113 b will be also re-observed by TESS during Sector 37⁷, and could also be observed by ESA's CHEOPS telescope (Benz et al. 2020), both of which would improve the current radius error

⁶ https://exoplanetarchive.ipac.caltech.edu/cgi-bin/nstEDAPI/nph-nstEDAPI?table=exoplanets&select=*&format=csv, accessed 2020-Oct-18

⁷ <https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/tess/webtess/wtv.py?Entry=73228647>

below the currently measured value of 7%, thereby improving our knowledge of the internal structure of HD 110113 b.

5 CONCLUSION

We have presented the detection and confirmation of HD 110113 b, which was initially spotted as TOI-755.01 in *TESS* with an SNR of only 7.6σ and transit depth of 430 ppm. This marks one of the lowest-SNR single signals yet to be confirmed from *TESS*, and is testament to the unique ability of *TESS* to find planet candidates around bright stars which can be redetected and characterised through independent RV campaigns.

High-resolution imaging and ground-based photometry rules out the presence of nearby companions and potential nearby eclipsing binaries, thereby limiting the number of false-positives and giving us confidence to follow such a low-SNR signal. Our subsequent HARPS campaign obtained more than 100 HARPS spectra in order to characterise both HD 110113 b and its bright ($G = 9.9$ mag) star.

Analysis of these spectra revealed HD 110113 to be a sun-like G-type star with slightly super-solar metallicity, but solar T_{eff} , $\log g$ and $[Y/Mg]$ age. The RV timeseries also revealed strong activity on HD 110113 with a rotation period of 20.7 ± 1.3 - a timescale corroborated by archival WASP photometry.

Removing this rotation period using both linear decorrelation and a co-fitted GP using S-index and FWHM activity indicators revealed the presence of two Keplerian signals - at $2.541^{+0.001}_{-0.001}$ d and $6.744^{+0.008}_{-0.009}$ d. The inner signal, from a planet with mass $4.51 \pm 0.6 M_{\oplus}$, corresponded to the detected *TESS* candidate with a radius, as modelled from the *TESS* photometry, of $2.08 \pm 0.13 R_{\oplus}$. The outer signal, from a planet with $M_p \sin i$ of $10.5 \pm 1.1 M_{\oplus}$ did not correspond to any transit events in the *TESS* lightcurve, and therefore is likely non-transiting. We were able to confirm it as a planet through Bayesian model comparison which showed $\Delta\text{BIC} = 16.32$ in favour of a 2-planet model.

The estimated density of HD 110113 b is $2.77^{+0.69}_{-0.57} \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ - far lower than would be expected from a rocky core. By modelling four potential constituents - an iron core, silicate mantle, water ocean and H-He atmosphere, we were able to rule out a gasless composition for HD 110113 b, suggesting that it has between 0.07 and 1.5% H-He by mass. This is surprising given HD 110113 b's position in the "radius gap" between gaseous mini-Neptunes and rocky super-Earths, and we suggest two possibilities for this unexpectedly low density - either HD 110113 b has a water-rich core and secondary atmosphere, or it began with a thick H-He envelope and managed to retain a small fraction of it despite significant evaporation and/or heating. Follow-up spectroscopy observations with the next generation of telescopes may reveal the answer, as well as far more about this interesting system.

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This research made use of exoplanet (Foreman-Mackey et al. 2020) and its dependencies (Agol et al. 2019; Astropy Collaboration et al. 2013, 2018; Foreman-Mackey et al. 2020; Foreman-Mackey et al. 2017; Foreman-Mackey 2018; Luger et al. 2019; Salvatier et al. 2016; Theano Development Team 2016).

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APPENDIX A: AUTHOR AFFILIATIONS

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APPENDIX B: EXTRA TABLES

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Table B1. List of free parameters used in the *exoplanet* combined analysis of the *TESS* light curve and HARPS radial velocities with their associated prior and posterior distributions.

Parameter	Prior	Posterior
<i>Stellar parameters</i>		
Stellar surface temperature, T_{eff} [K]	$\mathcal{N}(5732.0, 16.0)$	$5734.1^{+5.7}_{-3.9}$
Stellar Mass, M_s [M_\odot]	$\mathcal{N}(0.9968, 0.0095)$	$0.997^{+0.0098}_{-0.0094}$
Stellar Radius, R_s [R_\odot]	$\mathcal{N}(1.0348, 0.0256)$	1.032 ± 0.025
<i>Orbital parameters</i>		
Transit Epoch, t_0 [BJD-2457000] b	$\mathcal{N}(1570.10189, 0.1)$	1570.1006 ± 0.0044
Transit Epoch, t_0 [BJD-2457000] c	$\mathcal{N}(1798.1334, 1.0)$	1798.18 ± 0.18
Orbital Period, P [d] b	$\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{U}}(2.540455, 0.002124, 2.35, 2.6)$	2.5408 ± 0.00049
Orbital Period, P [d] c	$\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{U}}(6.7285, 0.05951, 6.65, 6.8)$	$6.744^{+0.0084}_{-0.0085}$
Orbital Eccentricity, e b	$\beta(0.867; 3.03)$	$0.102^{+0.088}_{-0.068}$
Orbital Eccentricity, e c	$\beta(0.867; 3.03)$	$0.05^{+0.076}_{-0.037}$
Argument of periastron, Ω b	$\mathcal{U}(-\pi, \pi)$	$-0.35^{+0.99}_{-0.8}$
Argument of periastron, Ω c	$\mathcal{U}(-\pi, \pi)$	0.8 ± 1.1
<i>Photometric parameters</i>		
log radius ratio [$\log R_p/R_s$] b	$\mathcal{U}(-11.513, -2.3023)$	-3.932 ± 0.067
Transit Impact Parameter b	$\mathcal{U}(0, 1 + R_p/R_s)$	$0.46^{+0.17}_{-0.25}$
Quadratic Limb Darkening a_{LD}	$\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{U}}(0.367, 0.1, 0.0, 1.0)$	0.38 ± 0.1
Quadratic Limb Darkening b_{LD}	$\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{U}}(0.21, 0.1, 0.0, 1.0)$	0.208 ± 0.097
Photometric jitter [log ppt]	$\mathcal{N}(0.7294, 5.0)$	$-7.7^{+1.4}_{-2.1}$
Photometric GP power	$\mathcal{I}(0.014, 0.006)$	$0.0116^{+0.0033}_{-0.0025}$
Photometric GP frequency [d^{-1}]	$\mathcal{I}(3.525, 0.651)$	$3.79^{+0.46}_{-0.43}$
Photometric GP mean [ppt]	$\mathcal{I}(0.008, 0.036)$	$0.012^{+0.035}_{-0.036}$
<i>HARPS parameters</i>		
log RV semi-amplitude, $\log K$ b	$\mathcal{N}(0.3, 5.0)$	0.76 ± 0.13
log RV semi-amplitude, $\log K$ c	$\mathcal{N}(0.3, 5.0)$	1.27 ± 0.11
RV trend - intercept at BJD=2458779.717 [m s^{-1}]	$\mathcal{N}(0.0, 0.1)$	0.027 ± 0.01
RV trend - gradient [$\text{m s}^{-1} d^{-1}$]	$\mathcal{N}(0.0, 1.0)$	-0.14 ± 0.73
HARPS log jitter RV [m s^{-1}]	$\mathcal{N}(1.992, 5.0)$	$-0.9^{+1.0}_{-3.9}$
HARPS log jitter S index	$\mathcal{N}(6.527e - 06, 5.0)$	-13.0 ± 0.8
HARPS log jitter FWHM [m s^{-1}]	$\mathcal{N}(20.525, 5.0)$	-0.2 ± 1.2
HARPS mean S-index	$\mathcal{N}(0.0, 0.00941)$	-0.0002 ± 0.0014
HARPS mean FWHM [m s^{-1}]	$\mathcal{N}(7287.75, 7.5)$	7287.0 ± 1.2
HARPS GP log amplitude RV	$\mathcal{N}(2.984, 8.0)$	3.69 ± 0.33
HARPS GP log amplitude S-index	$\mathcal{N}(-9.332, 8.0)$	-9.63 ± 0.33
HARPS GP log amplitude FWHM	$\mathcal{N}(4.03, 8.0)$	$3.76^{+0.37}_{-0.35}$
HARPS GP log rotation period, $\log P_{\text{rot}}/\log d$	$\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{U}}(3.024, 0.2, 1.099, 4.382)$	3.028 ± 0.06
HARPS GP log quality, \mathcal{Q}	$\mathcal{N}(0.0, 10.0)$	$-3.2^{+3.4}_{-4.0}$
HARPS GP log quality differential, $\delta\mathcal{Q}$	$\mathcal{N}(0.0, 5.0)$	0.6 ± 0.9
HARPS GP $P_{\text{rot}} - P_{\text{rot}}/2$ mix factor	$\mathcal{U}(0, 1)$	$0.033^{+0.053}_{-0.022}$

$\mathcal{N}(\mu; \sigma^2)$ is a normal distribution with mean μ and width σ^2 , $\mathcal{U}(a; b)$ is a uniform distribution between a and b , $\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{U}}(\mu; \sigma^2, a, b)$ is a normal distribution with mean μ and width σ^2 multiplied with a uniform distribution between a and b , $\beta(a; b)$ is a Beta distribution with parameters a and b , and $\mathcal{I}(\mu; \sigma^2)$ is a distribution directly interpolated from the output of a pre-trained distribution with mean μ and standard deviation σ^2 (although the distribution may not follow a normal distribution). Posterior values and uncertainties represent the median and 1σ error boundaries. All other values (e.g. presented in Table 3) are directly determined from these fitted quantities. Described in Kipping (2013a). Reparameterised in *exoplanet* to avoid discontinuities at $\pm\pi$. *exoplanet* reparameterization of Espinoza (2018). PyMC3 Interpolation function of pre-trained GP.

Table B2. HARPS spectroscopy from first season (June - August 2019)

Time	RV [m s ⁻¹]	S _{MW}	FWHM [m s ⁻¹]
1655.5493	1.8 ± 1.95	0.0091 ± 0.004	7281.8 ± 10.3
1655.6181	1.32 ± 2.0	0.0003 ± 0.0045	7291.5 ± 10.4
1656.6167	-4.08 ± 2.39	0.0059 ± 0.0064	7287.6 ± 10.4
1657.5254	-6.07 ± 1.44	0.0042 ± 0.0025	7277.2 ± 10.4
1657.606	-6.37 ± 1.49	0.011 ± 0.0029	7287.2 ± 10.4
1658.5953	-3.78 ± 1.46	-0.0045 ± 0.0031	7292.7 ± 10.4
1661.5662	0.04 ± 1.48	-0.0048 ± 0.003	7283.7 ± 10.4
1664.5324	-13.5 ± 1.36	-0.0074 ± 0.0028	7280.8 ± 10.4
1664.6282	-16.17 ± 1.6	-0.0177 ± 0.004	7276.6 ± 10.4
1666.5674	-6.22 ± 1.45	-0.0164 ± 0.0029	7284.6 ± 10.4
1667.5542	-8.01 ± 1.39	-0.0127 ± 0.0028	7285.4 ± 10.4
1668.5189	3.21 ± 1.8	-0.0126 ± 0.0036	7284.8 ± 10.3
1668.6197	5.3 ± 1.88	-0.0178 ± 0.0044	7289.2 ± 10.4
1669.466	-3.47 ± 1.32	-0.0046 ± 0.0021	7276.4 ± 10.3
1669.5709	-3.81 ± 1.42	-0.015 ± 0.0026	7277.4 ± 10.4
1670.4637	-3.35 ± 1.13	-0.0009 ± 0.0015	7284.6 ± 10.4
1670.5832	-3.13 ± 1.46	-0.0052 ± 0.0028	7293.5 ± 10.4
1673.5985	2.86 ± 1.53	0.0004 ± 0.0032	7292.2 ± 10.4
1674.5613	-0.04 ± 1.69	-0.0008 ± 0.0038	7296.6 ± 10.4
1676.4716	2.3 ± 1.62	0.0035 ± 0.0034	7302.6 ± 10.4
1676.5886	-2.22 ± 1.88	-0.0014 ± 0.0051	7297.6 ± 10.4
1677.4681	-5.59 ± 1.43	0.0078 ± 0.0029	7294.7 ± 10.4
1677.5491	-9.0 ± 1.68	-0.0021 ± 0.0043	7287.7 ± 10.4
1679.5086	-12.66 ± 1.12	-0.001 ± 0.0019	7282.5 ± 10.4
1679.571	-11.58 ± 1.56	-0.0098 ± 0.0036	7286.5 ± 10.4
1680.5087	-10.82 ± 1.09	-0.0003 ± 0.0017	7280.1 ± 10.4
1680.5634	-10.88 ± 1.16	-0.0066 ± 0.0021	7274.6 ± 10.4
1681.5245	-4.52 ± 1.54	-0.0098 ± 0.0035	7277.2 ± 10.4
1681.5771	-6.48 ± 1.75	-0.0162 ± 0.0043	7277.4 ± 10.4
1682.4813	-5.11 ± 1.23	-0.0081 ± 0.002	7278.9 ± 10.4
1682.5533	-9.81 ± 1.35	-0.016 ± 0.0028	7279.4 ± 10.4
1684.5367	-7.71 ± 1.75	-0.0143 ± 0.0037	7282.2 ± 10.4
1684.5971	-7.15 ± 1.49	-0.0165 ± 0.0031	7276.2 ± 10.4
1685.4972	-3.64 ± 1.39	-0.0081 ± 0.003	7279.2 ± 10.4
1685.5436	-7.43 ± 1.69	-0.0174 ± 0.0044	7281.9 ± 10.4
1689.5056	6.68 ± 1.47	-0.0023 ± 0.0032	7287.8 ± 10.4
1689.5493	5.35 ± 1.83	-0.019 ± 0.0047	7290.2 ± 10.4
1690.4858	4.11 ± 1.6	-0.0033 ± 0.0032	7280.8 ± 10.3
1691.5335	1.79 ± 1.58	-0.005 ± 0.0037	7287.9 ± 10.4
1691.5549	1.87 ± 1.62	-0.0057 ± 0.0039	7283.2 ± 10.4
1692.5178	4.23 ± 1.59	-0.0053 ± 0.0032	7294.8 ± 10.3
1693.4664	7.52 ± 1.36	0.002 ± 0.0026	7291.0 ± 10.3
1694.4709	8.59 ± 1.19	0.0034 ± 0.002	7288.2 ± 10.3
1695.462	6.68 ± 1.21	0.0056 ± 0.0018	7287.3 ± 10.3
1697.4761	0.74 ± 2.07	-0.0023 ± 0.0052	7288.8 ± 10.3
1698.4702	-4.52 ± 1.57	0.0019 ± 0.0029	7288.1 ± 10.3
1699.4797	-6.82 ± 1.3	-0.0051 ± 0.0024	7283.2 ± 10.3
1700.4668	-7.25 ± 1.29	0.0007 ± 0.0023	7284.8 ± 10.3
1701.4669	-2.83 ± 1.19	-0.0044 ± 0.0021	7272.8 ± 10.3
1702.4715	-5.04 ± 1.47	-0.0185 ± 0.0032	7275.2 ± 10.3
1703.4744	-13.62 ± 1.76	-0.0192 ± 0.0042	7269.0 ± 10.3
1704.4713	-10.69 ± 2.09	-0.024 ± 0.0054	7274.8 ± 10.3
1705.4964	-11.55 ± 1.38	-0.0108 ± 0.0029	7277.4 ± 10.3
1706.4982	-8.22 ± 1.47	-0.0119 ± 0.0033	7279.4 ± 10.3
1707.5135	-7.27 ± 2.37	-0.0333 ± 0.0066	7278.0 ± 10.3
1708.4678	0.39 ± 1.35	-0.0052 ± 0.0026	7286.6 ± 10.3

Table B3. HARPS spectroscopy from second season (Dec 2019 - Feb 2020).

Time	RV [m s ⁻¹]	S _{MW}	FWHM [m s ⁻¹]
1838.8494	11.17 ± 1.4	0.0147 ± 0.0022	7301.0 ± 10.3
1839.8578	6.52 ± 1.26	0.0142 ± 0.0017	7301.5 ± 10.3
1840.8432	3.27 ± 1.15	0.0136 ± 0.0014	7294.8 ± 10.3
1841.8384	3.16 ± 1.19	0.0097 ± 0.0015	7292.3 ± 10.3
1842.8077	-3.96 ± 1.45	0.0039 ± 0.0022	7286.0 ± 10.3
1843.8559	-2.03 ± 1.74	-0.0018 ± 0.0029	7284.0 ± 10.3
1844.8362	-13.35 ± 1.16	-0.0026 ± 0.0014	7274.8 ± 10.3
1845.8271	-12.38 ± 1.33	-0.0073 ± 0.002	7272.5 ± 10.3
1847.8389	-14.59 ± 1.11	-0.0095 ± 0.0012	7274.5 ± 10.3
1849.7822	-1.97 ± 1.18	-0.0042 ± 0.0015	7282.3 ± 10.3
1849.8576	-3.28 ± 1.13	-0.0055 ± 0.0013	7282.4 ± 10.3
1850.7988	0.75 ± 1.08	0.0006 ± 0.0013	7283.3 ± 10.3
1850.8597	2.51 ± 1.04	-0.001 ± 0.0011	7285.2 ± 10.3
1852.7908	-1.78 ± 1.17	0.0036 ± 0.0015	7289.0 ± 10.3
1852.8609	-0.05 ± 1.42	0.0059 ± 0.0021	7287.6 ± 10.3
1853.8015	1.87 ± 1.25	0.0071 ± 0.0017	7296.4 ± 10.3
1853.8644	6.84 ± 1.68	0.0055 ± 0.003	7298.1 ± 10.3
1854.757	4.48 ± 1.88	-0.0022 ± 0.0043	7301.3 ± 10.3
1854.8269	-1.07 ± 1.62	-0.0036 ± 0.0031	7287.3 ± 10.3
1855.8321	2.95 ± 1.38	0.0034 ± 0.0022	7291.6 ± 10.3
1858.775	7.83 ± 1.33	0.0067 ± 0.002	7300.9 ± 10.3
1858.8351	8.32 ± 1.31	0.0079 ± 0.0018	7296.7 ± 10.3
1859.7796	5.81 ± 1.44	0.0076 ± 0.0024	7297.4 ± 10.3
1860.7517	-2.5 ± 1.26	0.008 ± 0.0018	7289.7 ± 10.3
1860.8525	-4.61 ± 1.19	0.0083 ± 0.0015	7290.3 ± 10.3
1861.7734	2.82 ± 1.22	0.0061 ± 0.0016	7285.7 ± 10.3
1861.85	3.7 ± 1.22	0.0075 ± 0.0015	7289.9 ± 10.3
1862.7588	-0.94 ± 1.1	0.0043 ± 0.0012	7293.8 ± 10.3
1862.8378	-0.75 ± 1.19	0.0089 ± 0.0014	7296.8 ± 10.3
1863.7554	2.21 ± 1.13	0.0048 ± 0.0014	7294.8 ± 10.3
1863.8328	1.3 ± 1.06	0.0039 ± 0.0011	7292.6 ± 10.3
1864.7737	-0.21 ± 1.25	0.0048 ± 0.0017	7293.5 ± 10.3
1864.8432	-3.66 ± 1.46	0.005 ± 0.0022	7296.3 ± 10.3
1865.8255	-9.78 ± 1.41	0.0104 ± 0.002	7289.3 ± 10.3
1876.7398	6.07 ± 1.26	0.0029 ± 0.0018	7281.5 ± 10.3
1876.8589	7.09 ± 1.32	-0.0009 ± 0.0018	7277.0 ± 10.3
1877.7559	4.9 ± 1.25	0.0009 ± 0.0017	7285.7 ± 10.3
1879.7785	4.46 ± 1.56	0.0045 ± 0.0025	7290.9 ± 10.3
1880.7355	4.05 ± 1.22	0.0087 ± 0.0016	7294.9 ± 10.3
1880.8847	1.67 ± 1.22	0.0083 ± 0.0017	7296.2 ± 10.3
1881.7267	10.47 ± 1.23	0.0099 ± 0.0016	7289.8 ± 10.3
1882.8435	14.18 ± 1.23	0.0126 ± 0.0015	7295.8 ± 10.3
1883.7334	14.27 ± 1.17	0.0151 ± 0.0015	7300.2 ± 10.3
1883.8645	16.62 ± 1.26	0.0136 ± 0.0017	7302.6 ± 10.3
1894.7258	-3.86 ± 1.43	-0.0031 ± 0.0021	7283.7 ± 10.3
1894.859	-4.95 ± 1.49	-0.0048 ± 0.0022	7286.4 ± 10.3
1897.8044	8.9 ± 1.29	-0.0005 ± 0.0017	7291.1 ± 10.3
1897.8921	6.79 ± 1.5	-0.0025 ± 0.0026	7283.0 ± 10.3
1898.8055	8.8 ± 1.18	0.0065 ± 0.0014	7290.6 ± 10.3
1899.7514	10.63 ± 1.17	0.0079 ± 0.0015	7288.3 ± 10.3
1899.8854	7.06 ± 1.2	0.0057 ± 0.0019	7291.0 ± 10.3
1900.7715	3.46 ± 1.11	0.0071 ± 0.0013	7295.4 ± 10.3
1900.8838	3.59 ± 1.21	0.0054 ± 0.002	7289.1 ± 10.3
1901.7655	5.17 ± 1.07	0.0084 ± 0.0012	7289.1 ± 10.3
1902.6953	12.1 ± 1.13	0.0102 ± 0.0014	7289.0 ± 10.3
1902.8507	12.72 ± 1.16	0.0106 ± 0.0017	7291.3 ± 10.3
1903.7072	14.72 ± 1.07	0.011 ± 0.0012	7285.1 ± 10.3
1903.885	15.9 ± 1.26	0.0071 ± 0.0022	7290.0 ± 10.3