

# GRAVITATIONAL LENSING

## LENS MODELLING I

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*R. Benton Metcalf*  
2022-2023

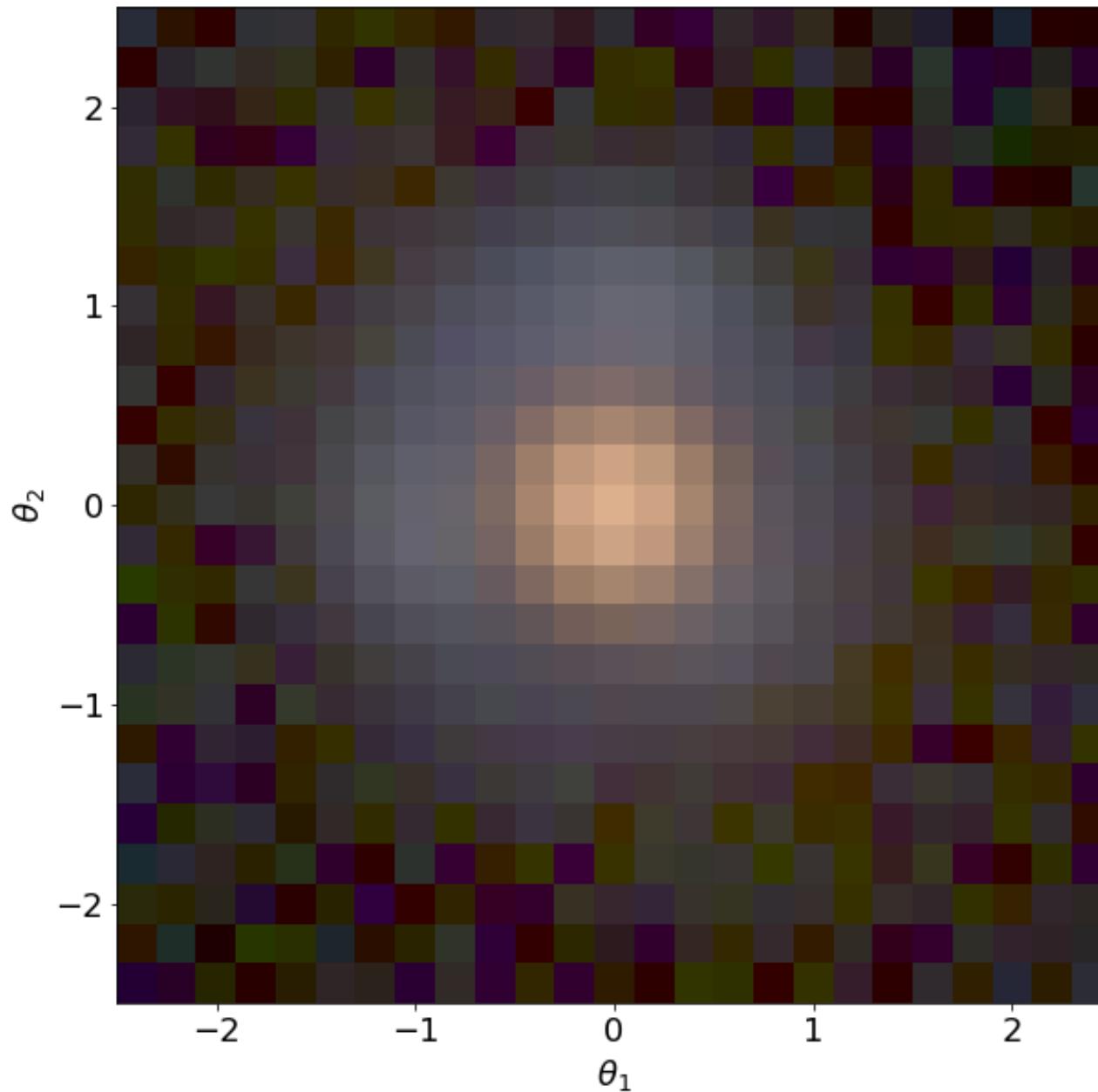
# MODELING A GALAXY USING STRONG LENSING

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- Once a lens has been found, we may want to use the strong lensing observables to investigate what is its content
- Possible observables are:
  - Image positions
  - Image fluxes/distortions
  - Image time-delays
- Note that these observables provide different constraints on the potential and on its derivatives
- Strategies: **parametric** or free-form

# PARAMETRIC RECONSTRUCTION OF A STRONG LENSING GALAXY

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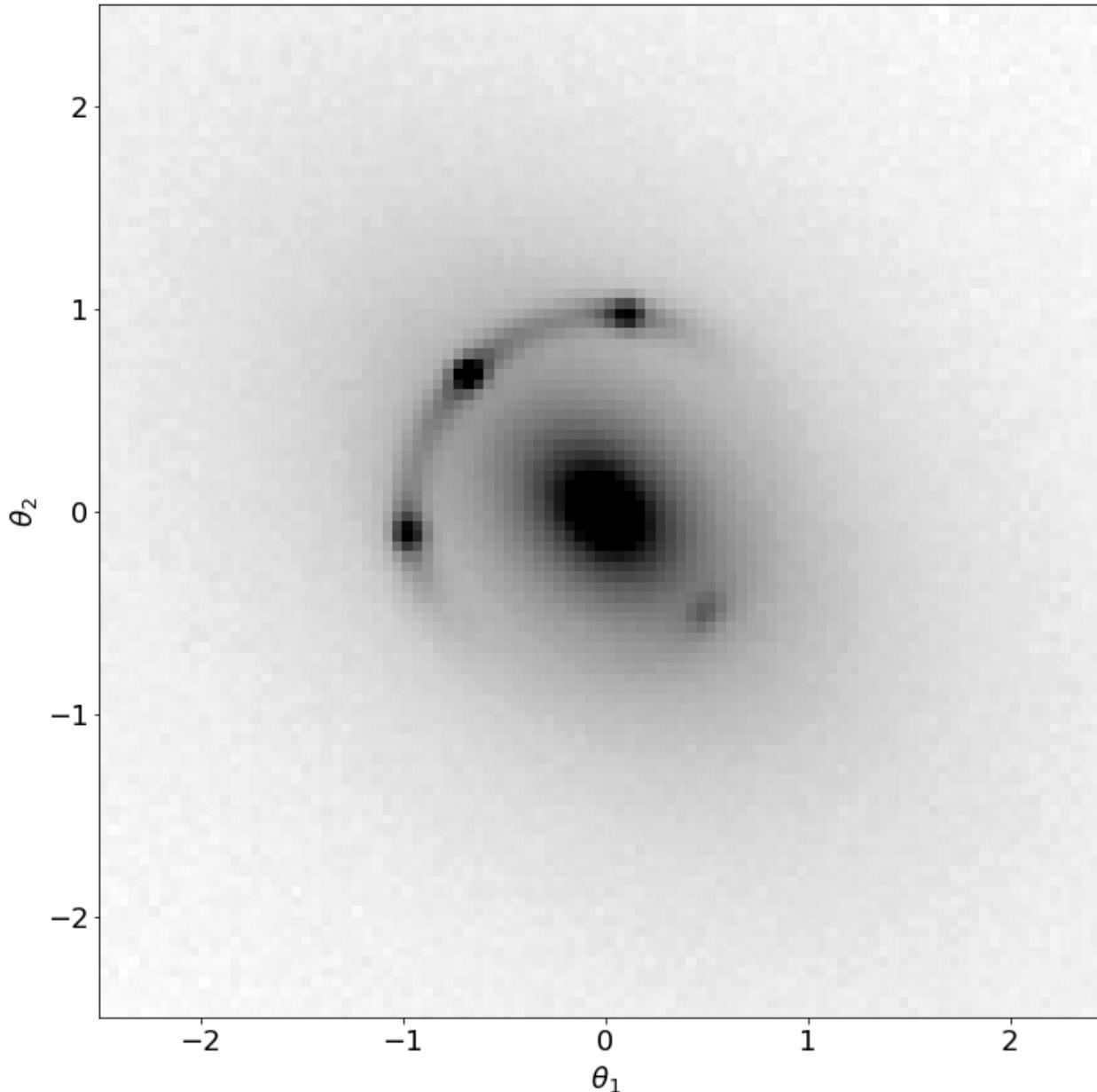


*Example: suppose we have discovered a lens candidate like the one in the Figure on the left.*

*We perform HST follow-up observations and we confirm the lensing nature of the object*

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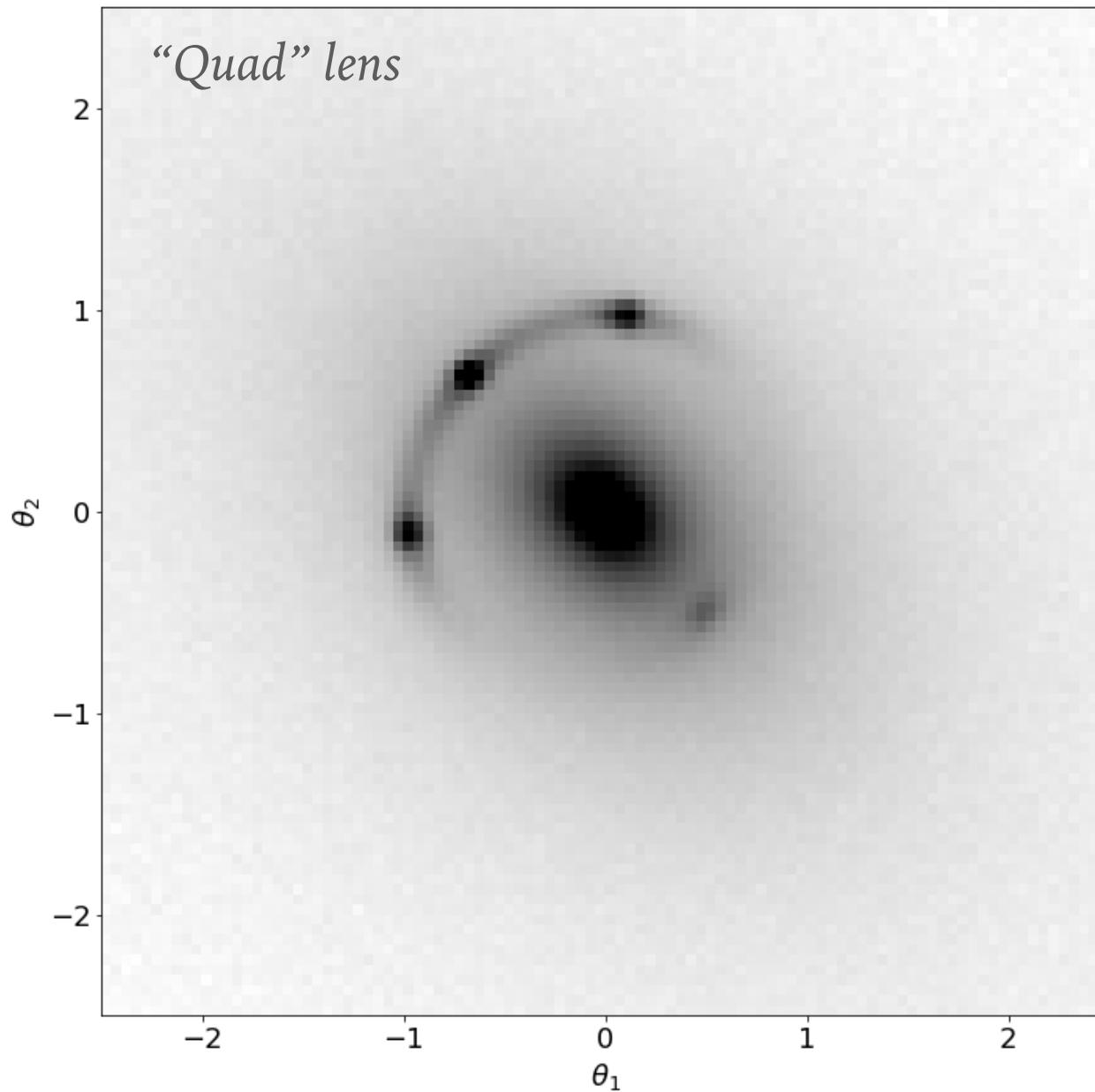


*Example: suppose we have discovered a lens candidate like the one in the Figure on the left.*

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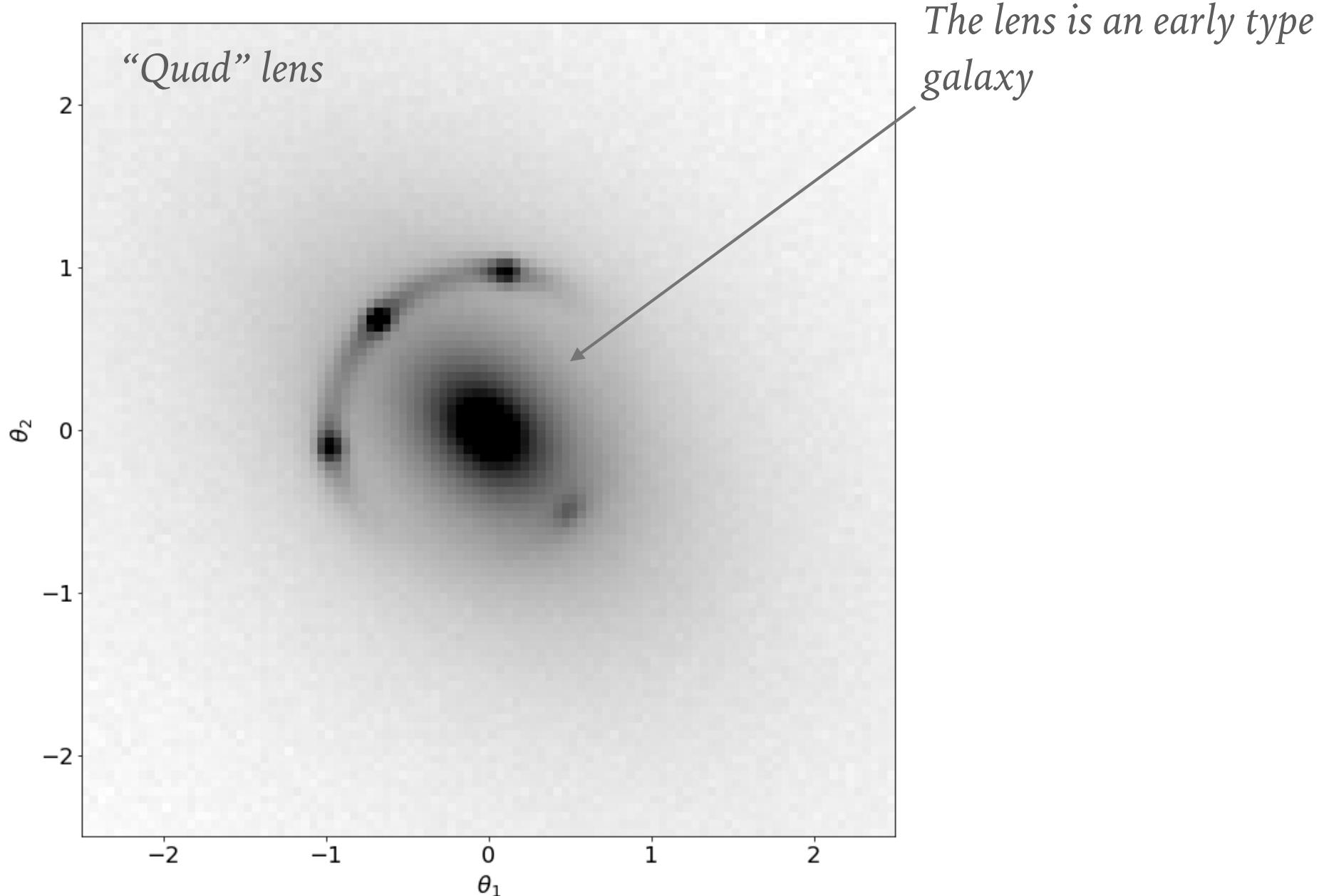
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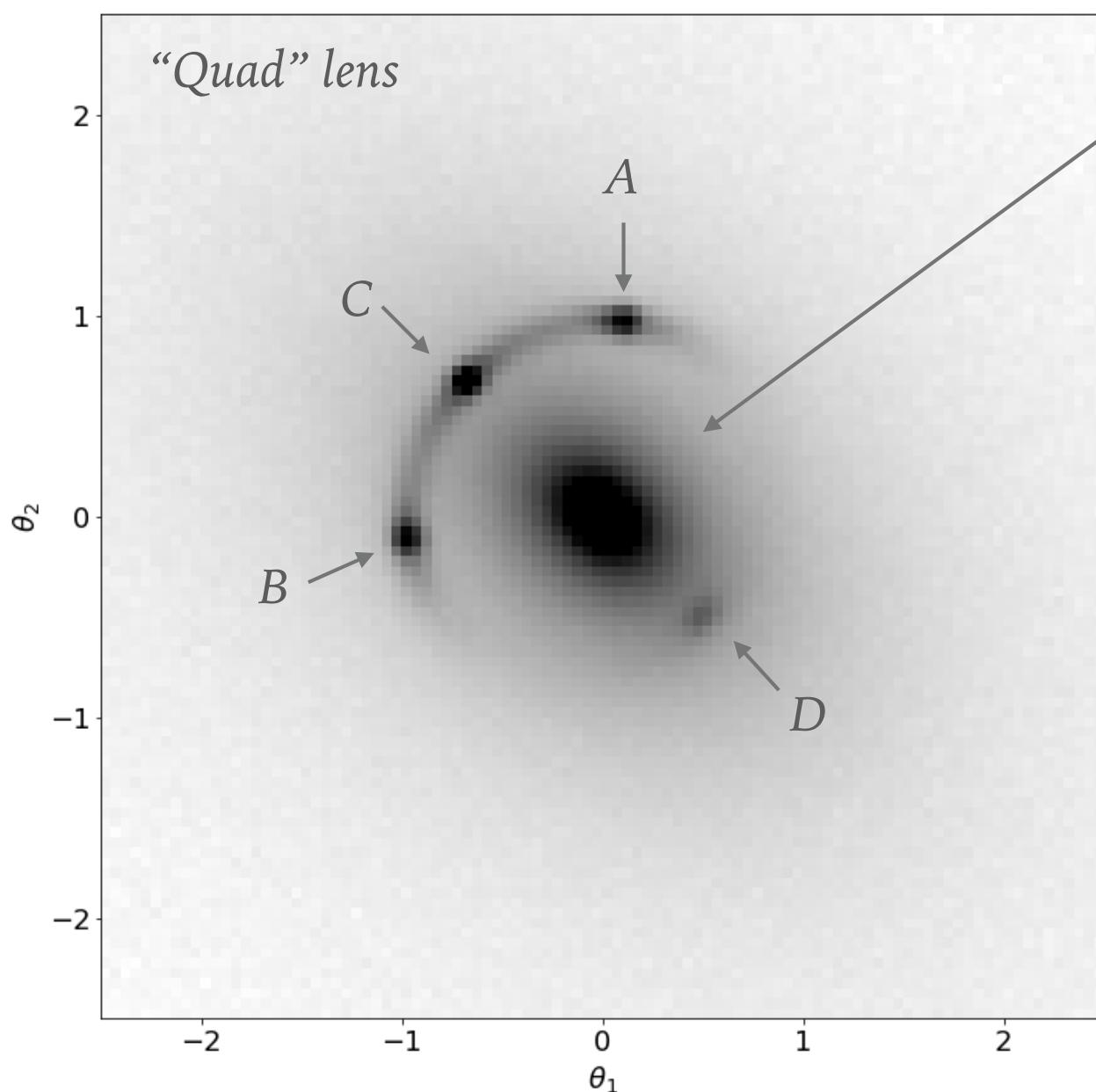
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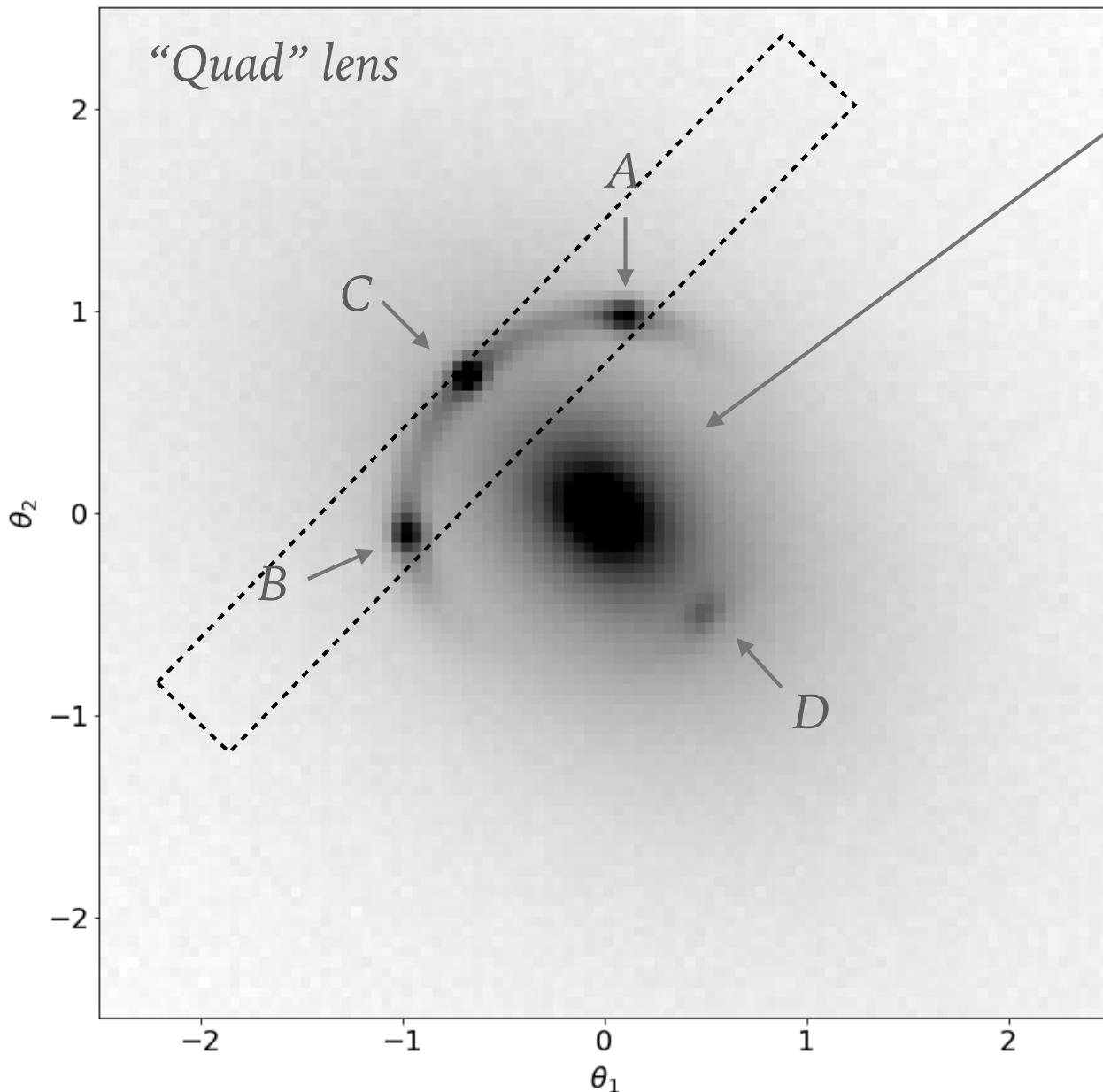
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*The lens is an early type galaxy*

*We see four images of a QSO and a lensed galaxy host*

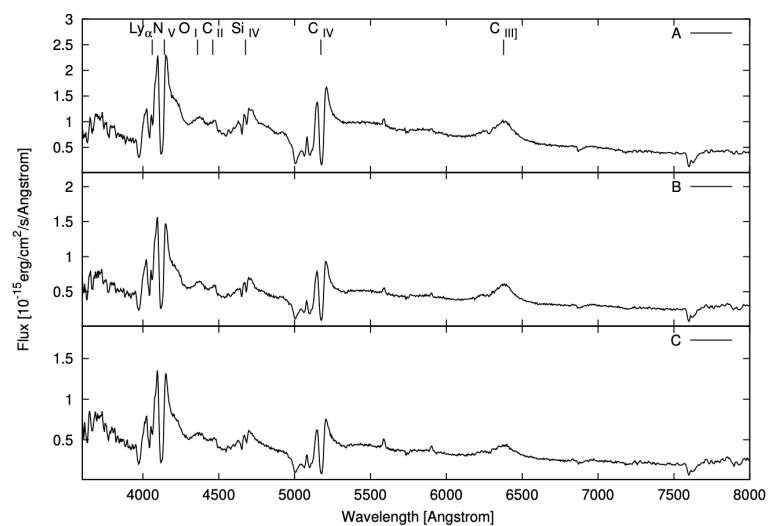
# PARAMETRIC RECONSTRUCTION OF A STRONG LENSING GALAXY



The lens is an early type galaxy

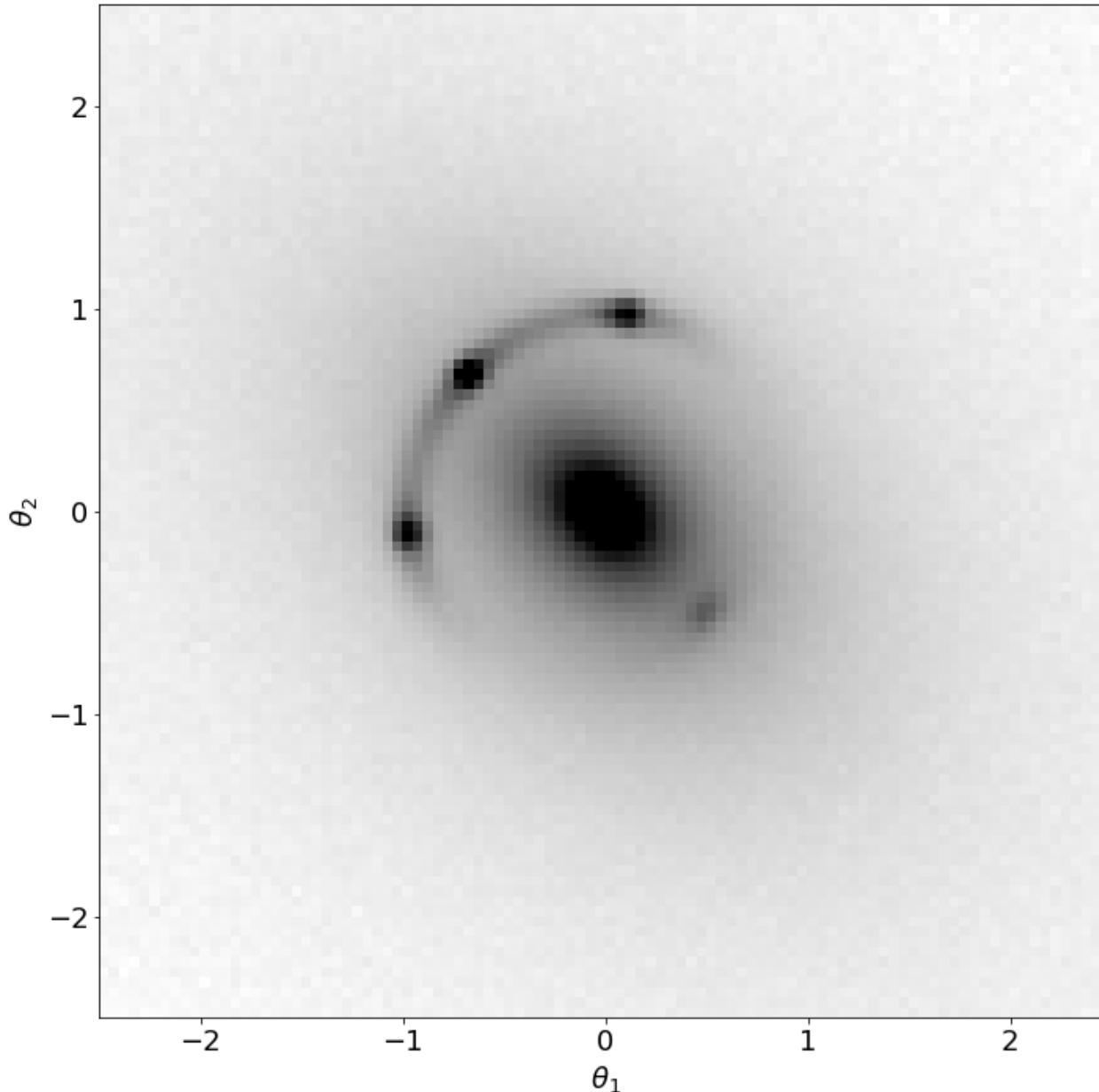
We see four images of a QSO and a lensed galaxy host

Spectroscopic confirmation and redshifts:  $z_L = 0.3$ ,  $z_S = 2$

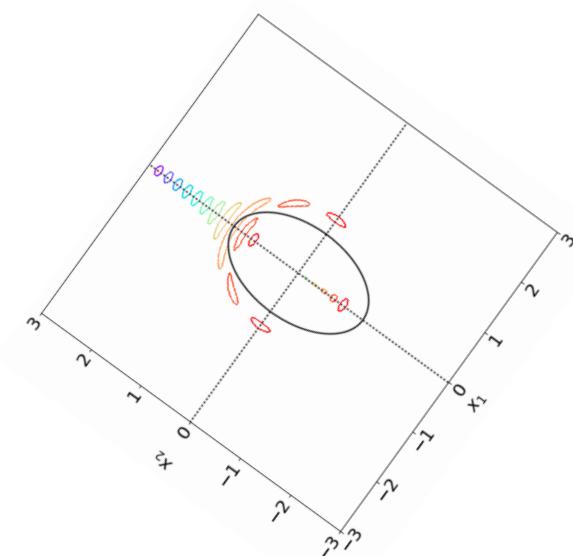


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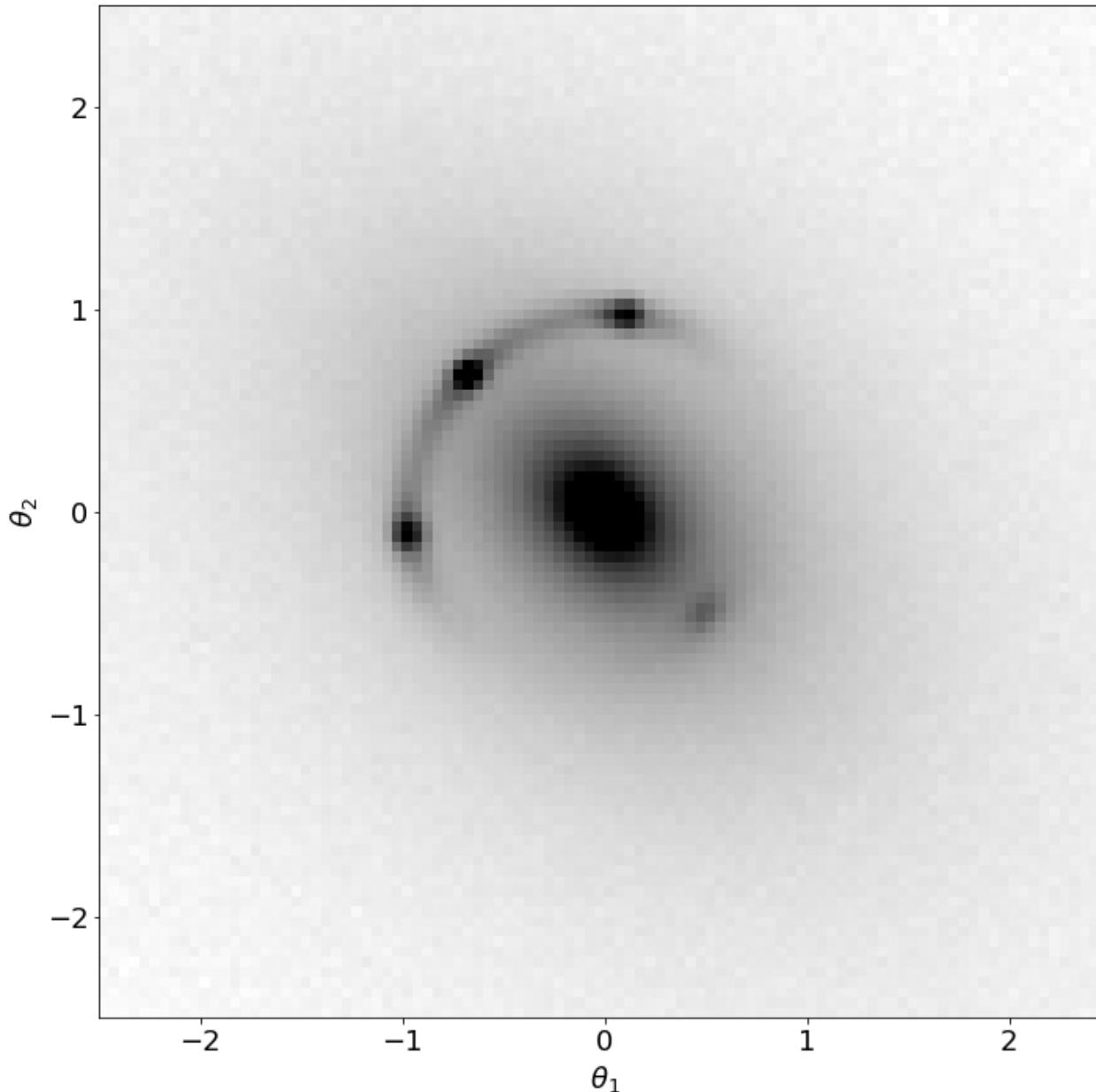
*Looking at the lens, we realise that the image configuration is very similar to what we could reproduce with an elliptical lens model.*



*We decide to model the lens with a SIE*

# PARAMETRIC RECONSTRUCTION OF A STRONG LENSING GALAXY

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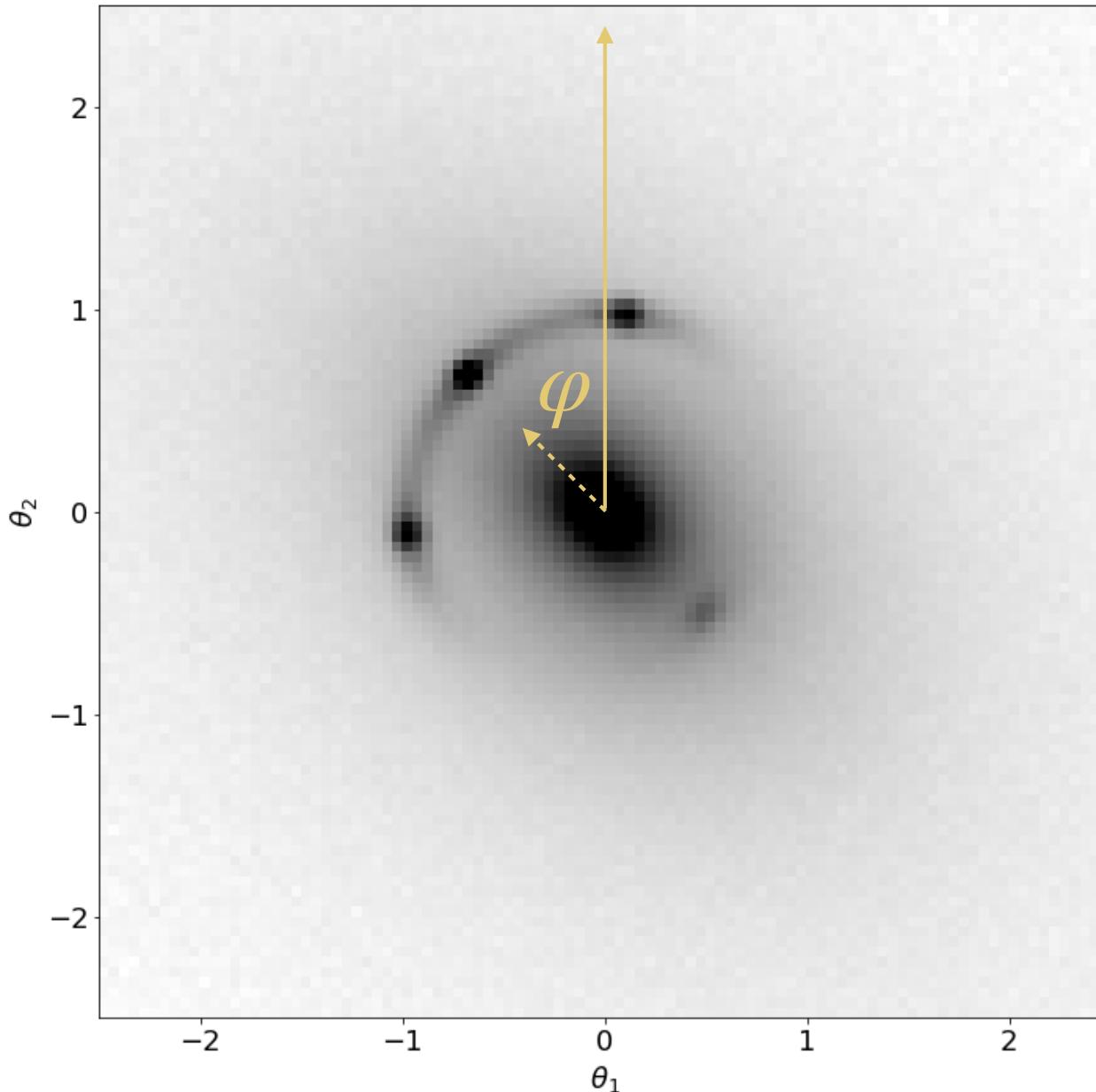
We decide to model the lens with a SIE

$$\Sigma(\vec{\xi}) = \frac{\sigma_v^2}{2G} \frac{\sqrt{f}}{\sqrt{\xi_1^2 + f^2 \xi_2^2}}$$

Two model parameters:  $\sigma_v, f$  + orientation  $\phi$

# PARAMETRIC RECONSTRUCTION OF A STRONG LENSING GALAXY

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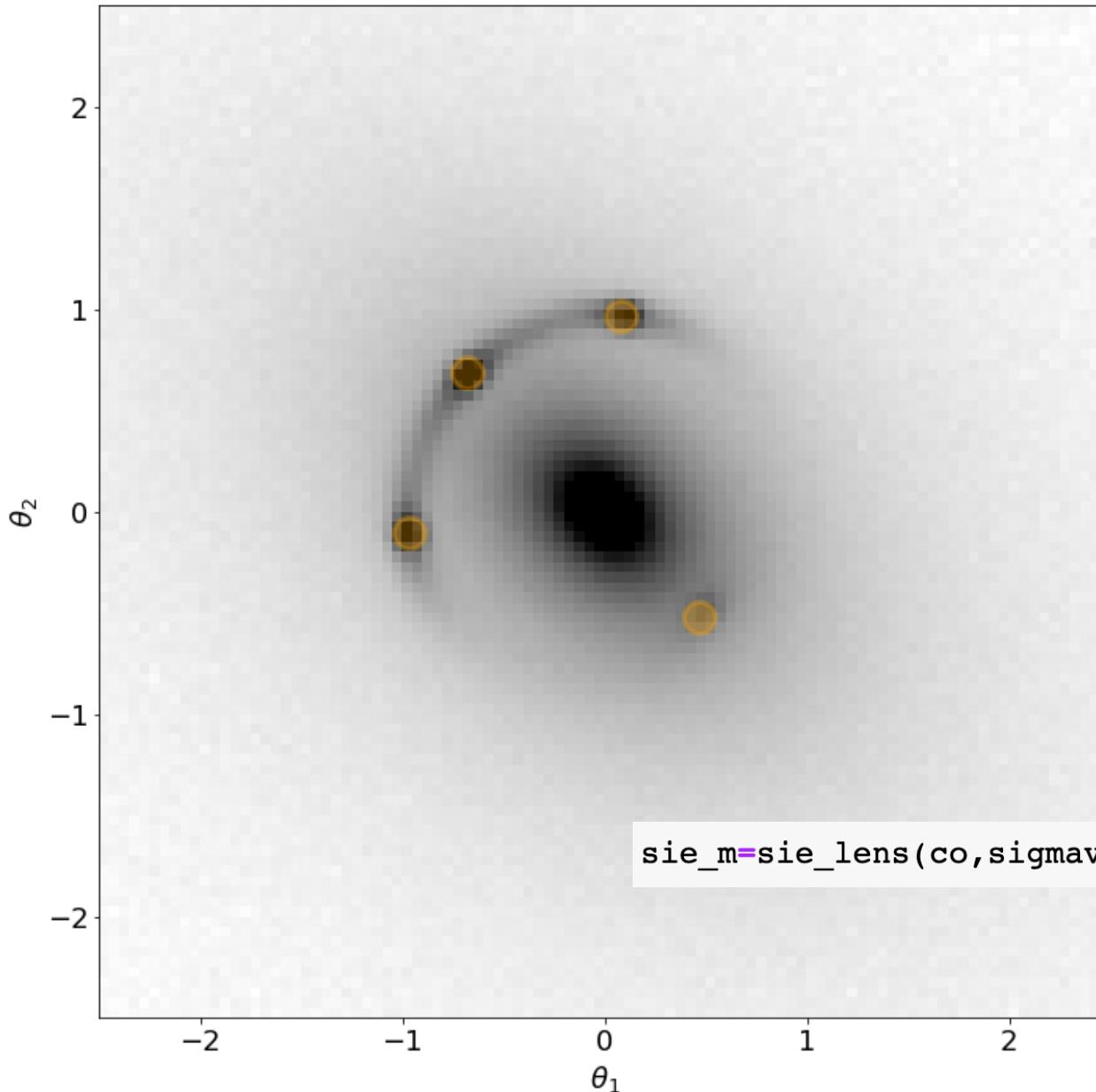
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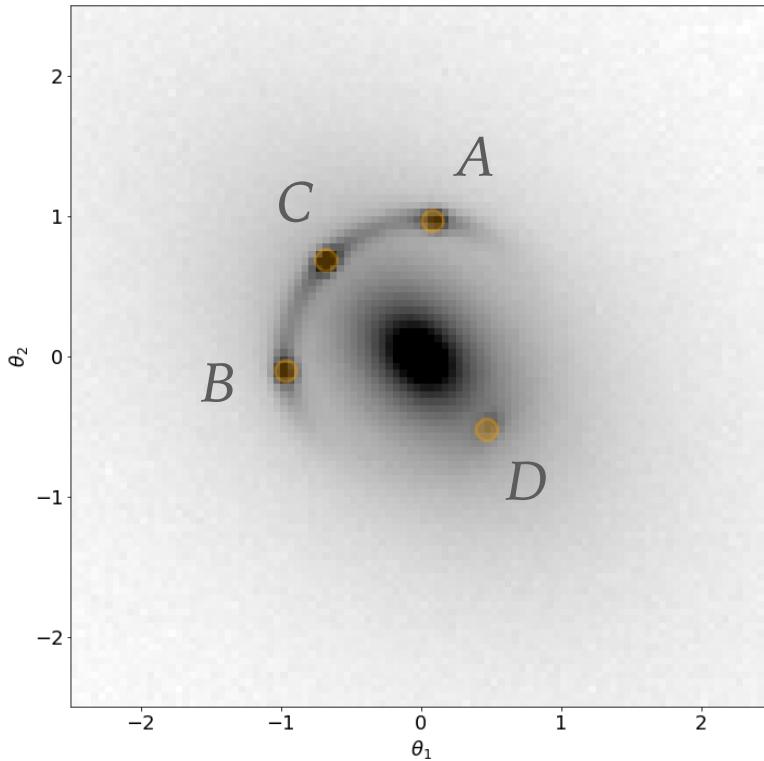


We start by using the image positions:

```
[ 0.07890278  0.96488912]
[-0.67984394  0.68741001]
[-0.96560759 -0.10242888]
[ 0.46841478 -0.51791398]
```

And we make a guess about the lens parameters:

# PARAMETRIC RECONSTRUCTION OF A STRONG LENSING GALAXY



Images end up in different  
“source” positions...

Let’s take the average  
source position

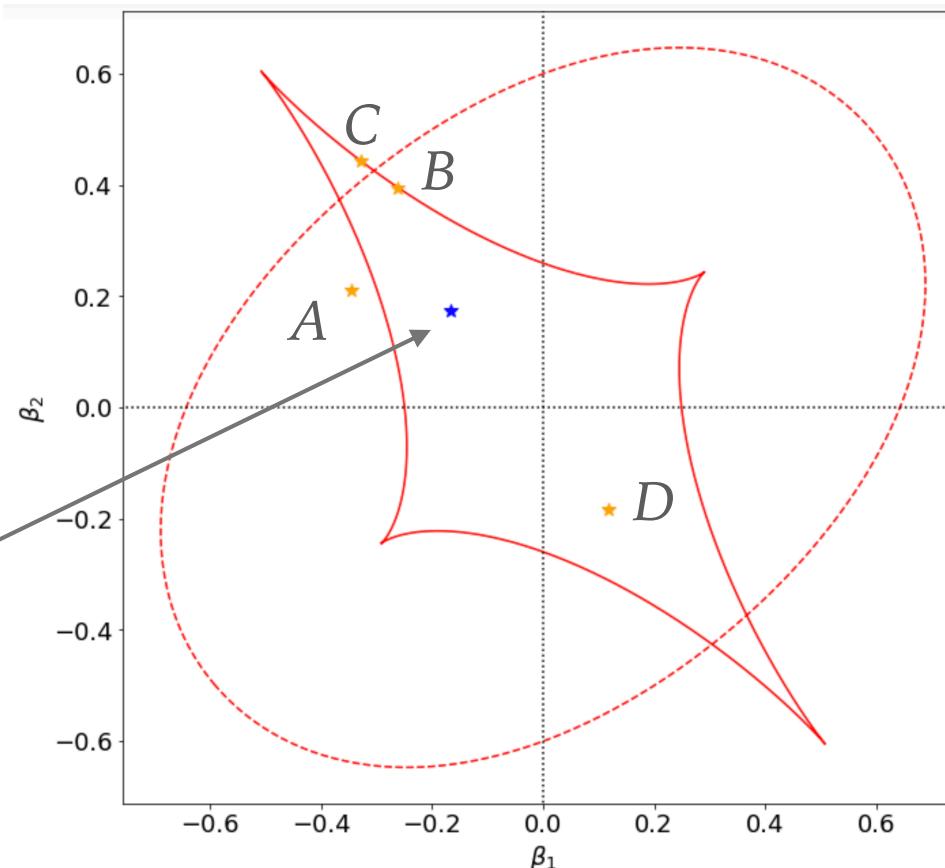
Use the model to de-lens the images:

```
sie_m=sie_lens(co,sigmav=180.0,zl=0.3,zs=2.0,f=0.3,pa=40.0)
```

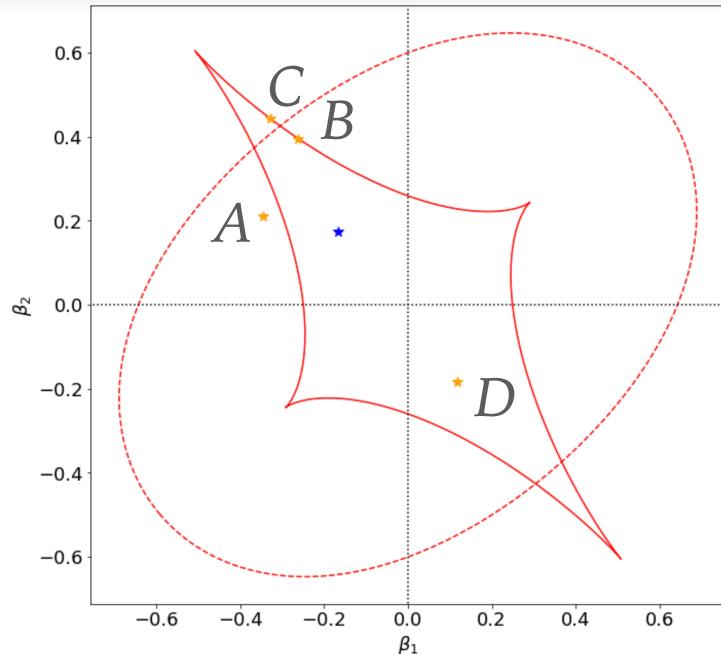
$$\alpha_1(\vec{x}) = \frac{\sqrt{f}}{f'} \operatorname{arcsinh} \left( \frac{f'}{f} \cos \varphi \right)$$

$$\alpha_2(\vec{x}) = \frac{\sqrt{f}}{f'} \operatorname{arcsin} (f' \sin \varphi)$$

$$\vec{y} = \vec{x} - \vec{\alpha}(\vec{x})$$



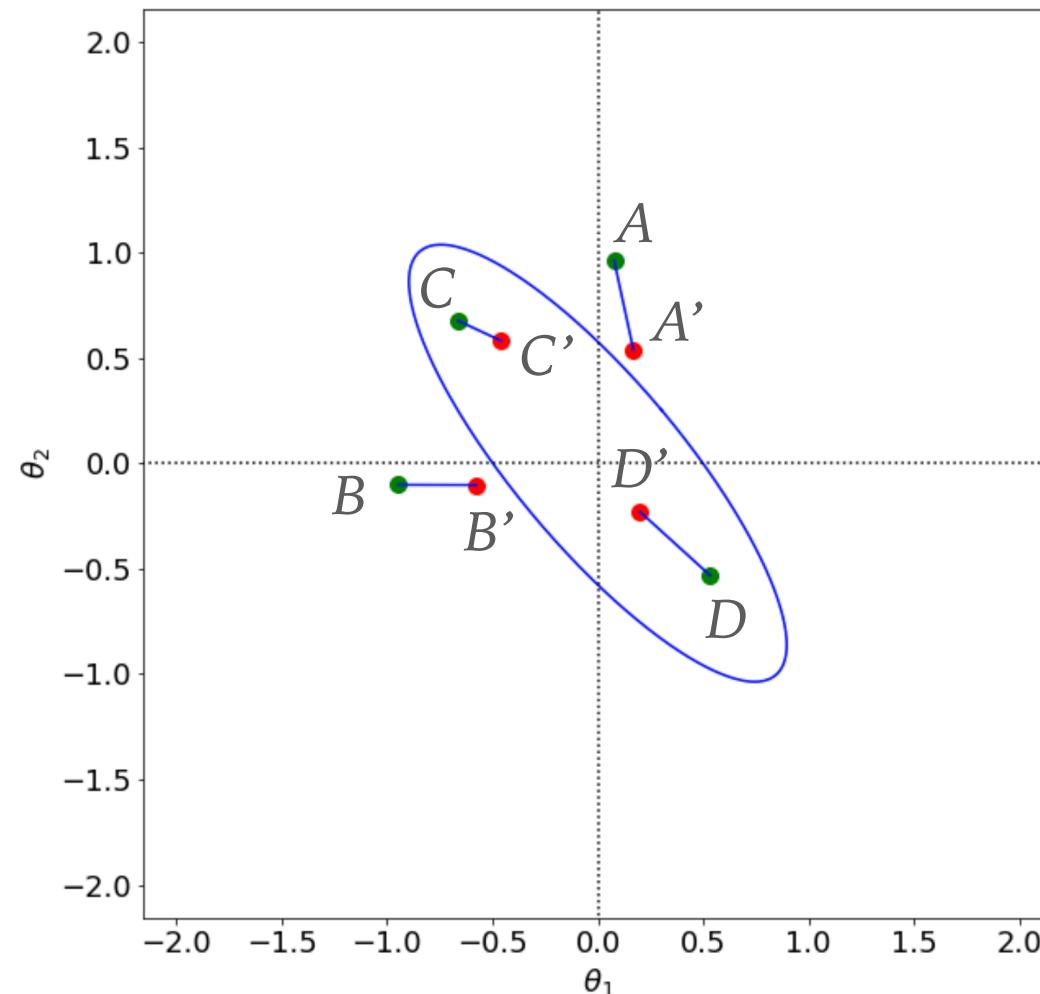
# PARAMETRIC RECONSTRUCTION OF A STRONG LENSING GALAXY



Predicted images (red) are different from the observed images (green)!

What kind of images would the average source produce?

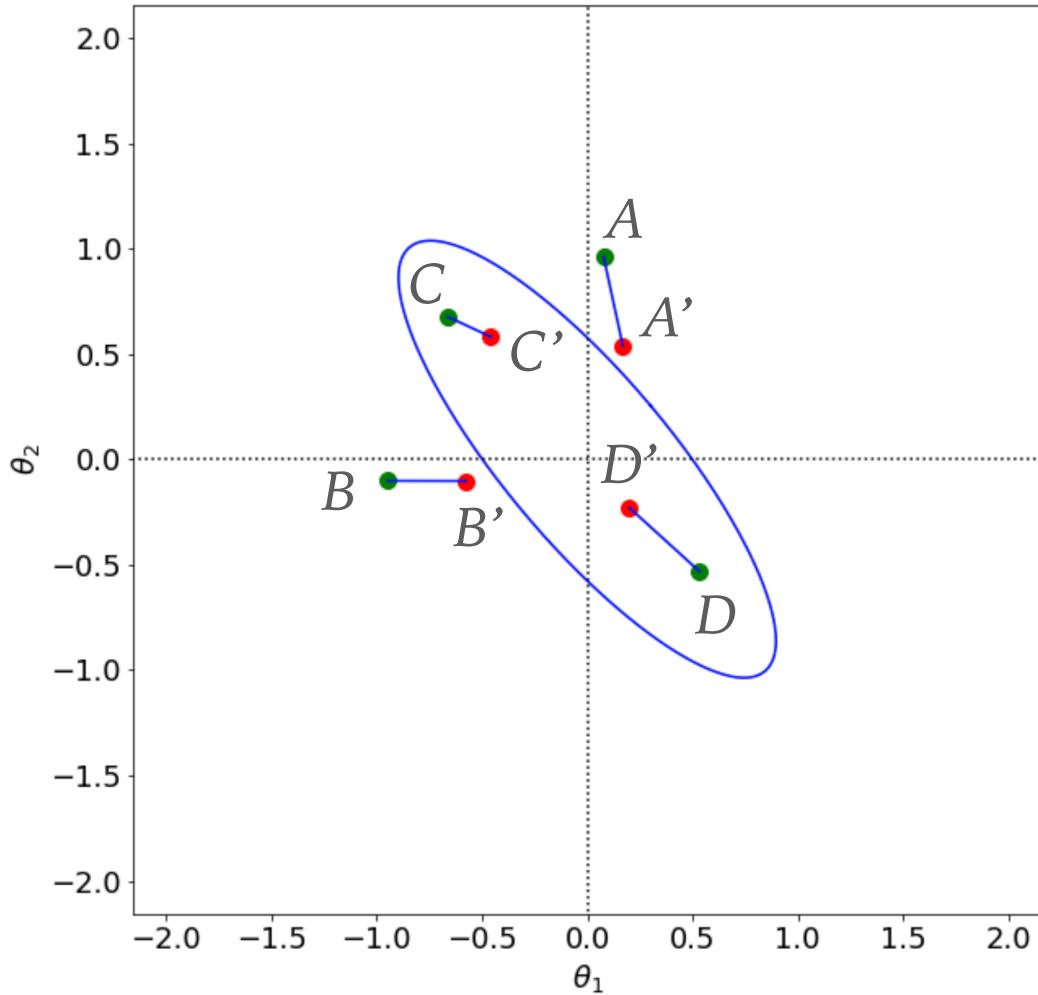
Let's solve the lens equation... (see notebook 19)



# PARAMETRIC RECONSTRUCTION OF A STRONG LENSING GALAXY

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*Likelihood of the model:*



$$\Pr(D | \vec{p}) = \frac{1}{\prod_{j=1}^n \sigma_j \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp -\frac{\chi^2}{2}$$

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{[\vec{\theta}_j - \vec{\theta}'_j(\vec{p})]^2}{\sigma_j^2}$$

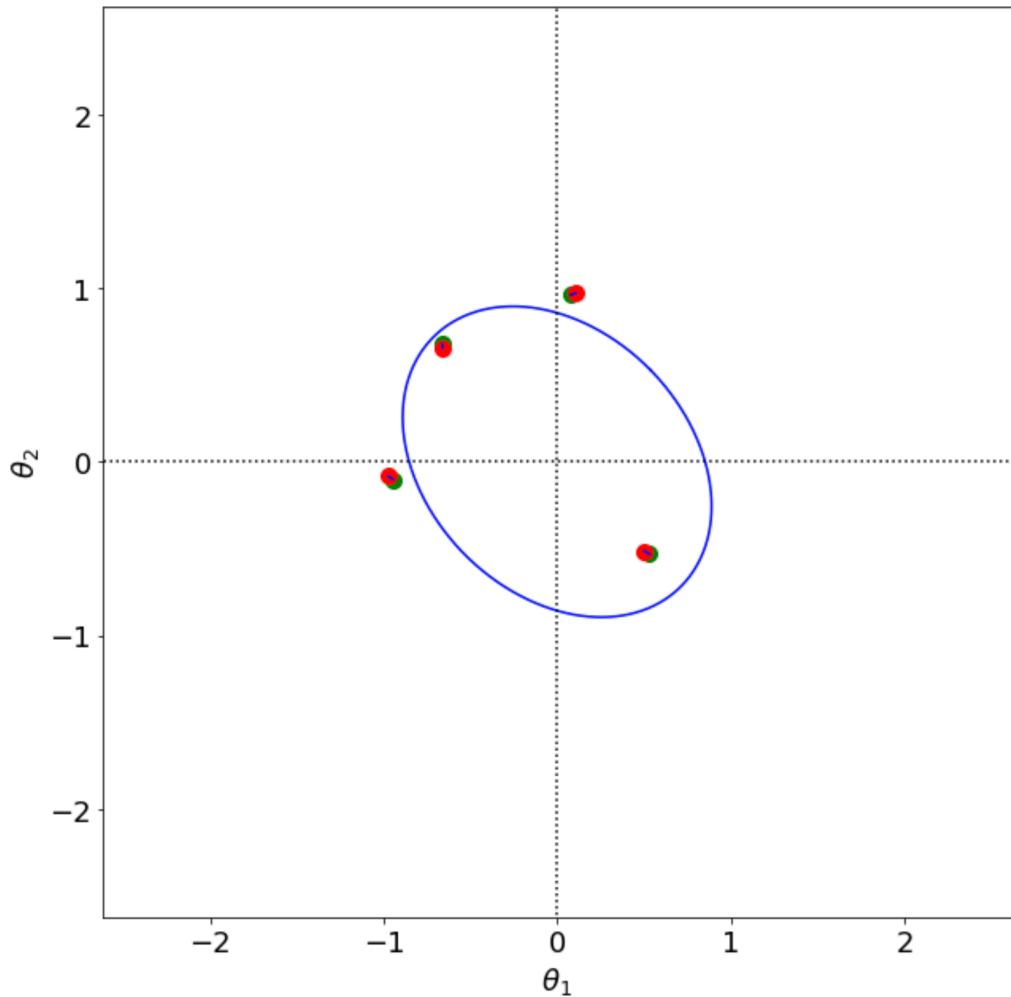
$$\vec{p} = \{\sigma_v, f, \varphi\}$$

*We need to find the best combination of parameters  $\vec{p}$  such to minimise the lengths of the blue sticks, or, in other words, the  $\chi^2$ . This also maximises the likelihood of the model!*

# PARAMETRIC RECONSTRUCTION OF A STRONG LENSING GALAXY

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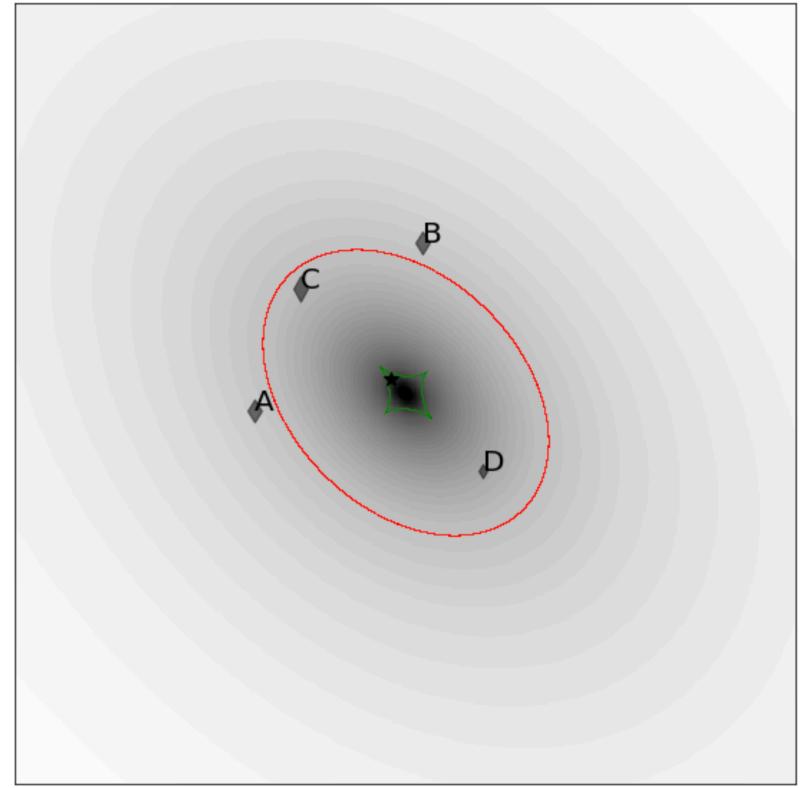
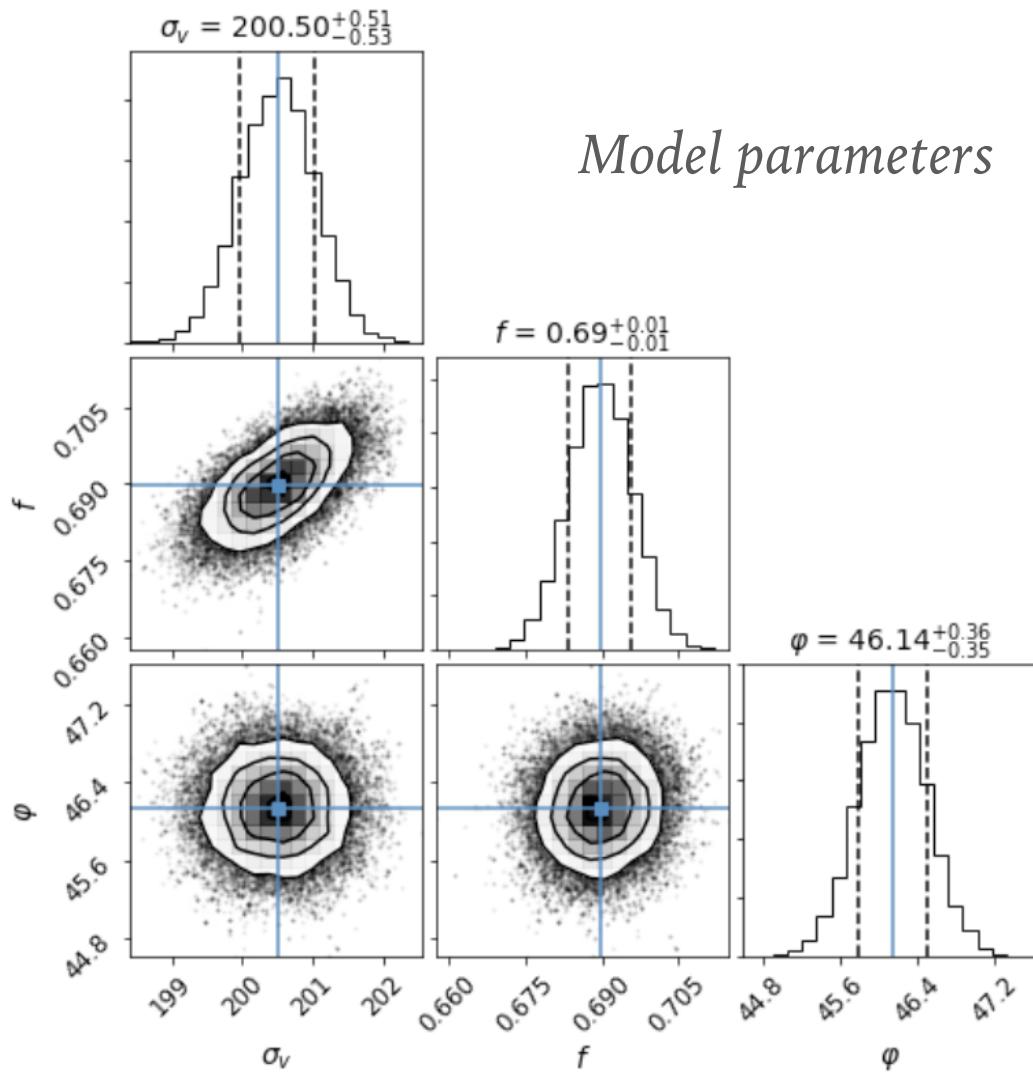
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# FIT RESULTS

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*Mass map, mass profile, etc.*

# LENS PLANE OPTIMIZATION

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1. Using the observed images , thing their source positions.

$$\mathbf{y}_i = \mathbf{x}_i - \alpha(x_i; \mathbf{p})$$

2. Using the average source position find the image positions.

$$\bar{\mathbf{y}} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i^n \mathbf{y}_i \quad \bar{\mathbf{y}} \rightarrow \{\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots\}$$

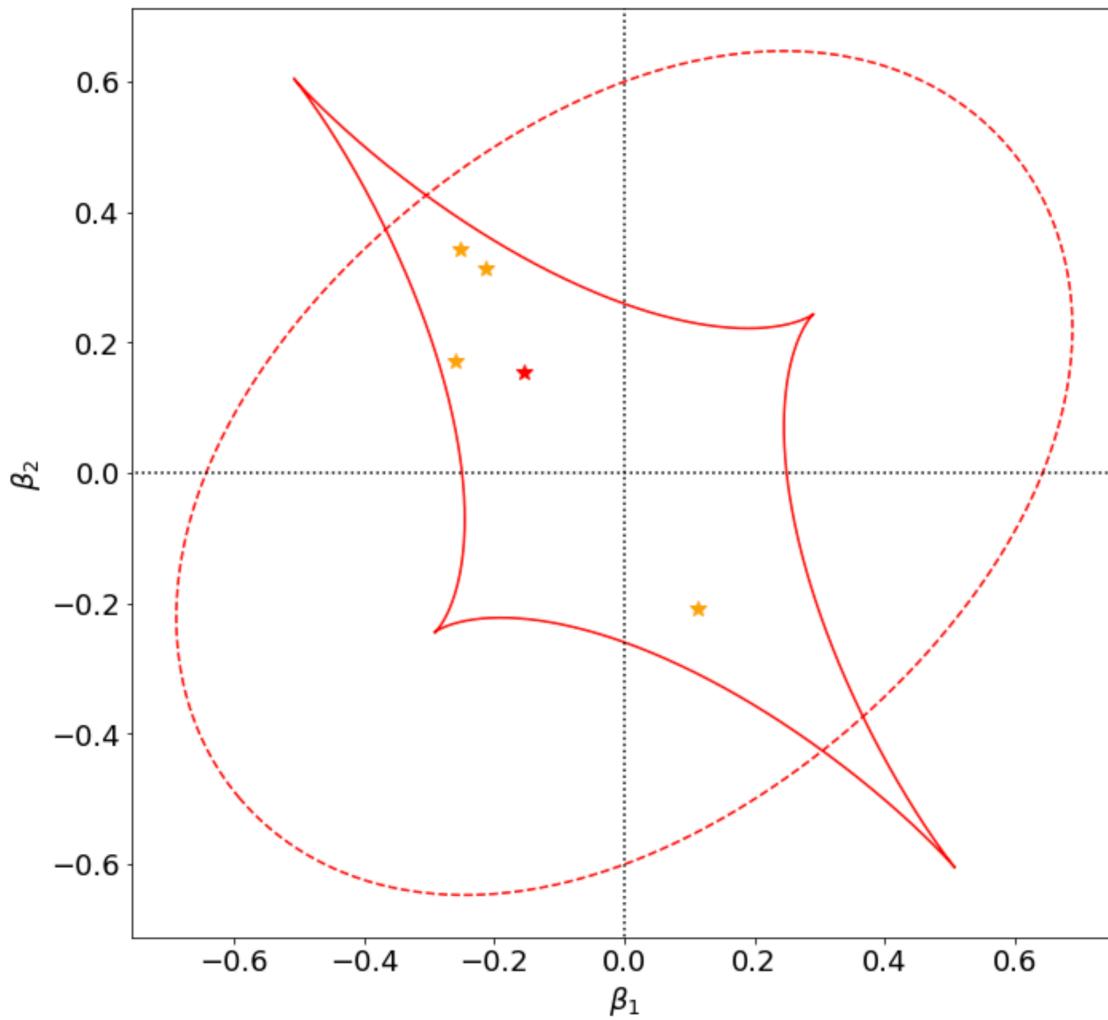
3. Calculate  $\chi^2(\mathbf{p})$  for the images.

$$\chi^2(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_i^n \frac{|\mathbf{x}_i^{ob} - \mathbf{x}_i(\bar{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{p})|^2}{\sigma_i^2}$$

4. numerically minimize  $\chi^2(\mathbf{p})$  with respect to the lens parameters

# ALTERNATIVE STRATEGY: OPTIMISATION IN THE SOURCE PLANE

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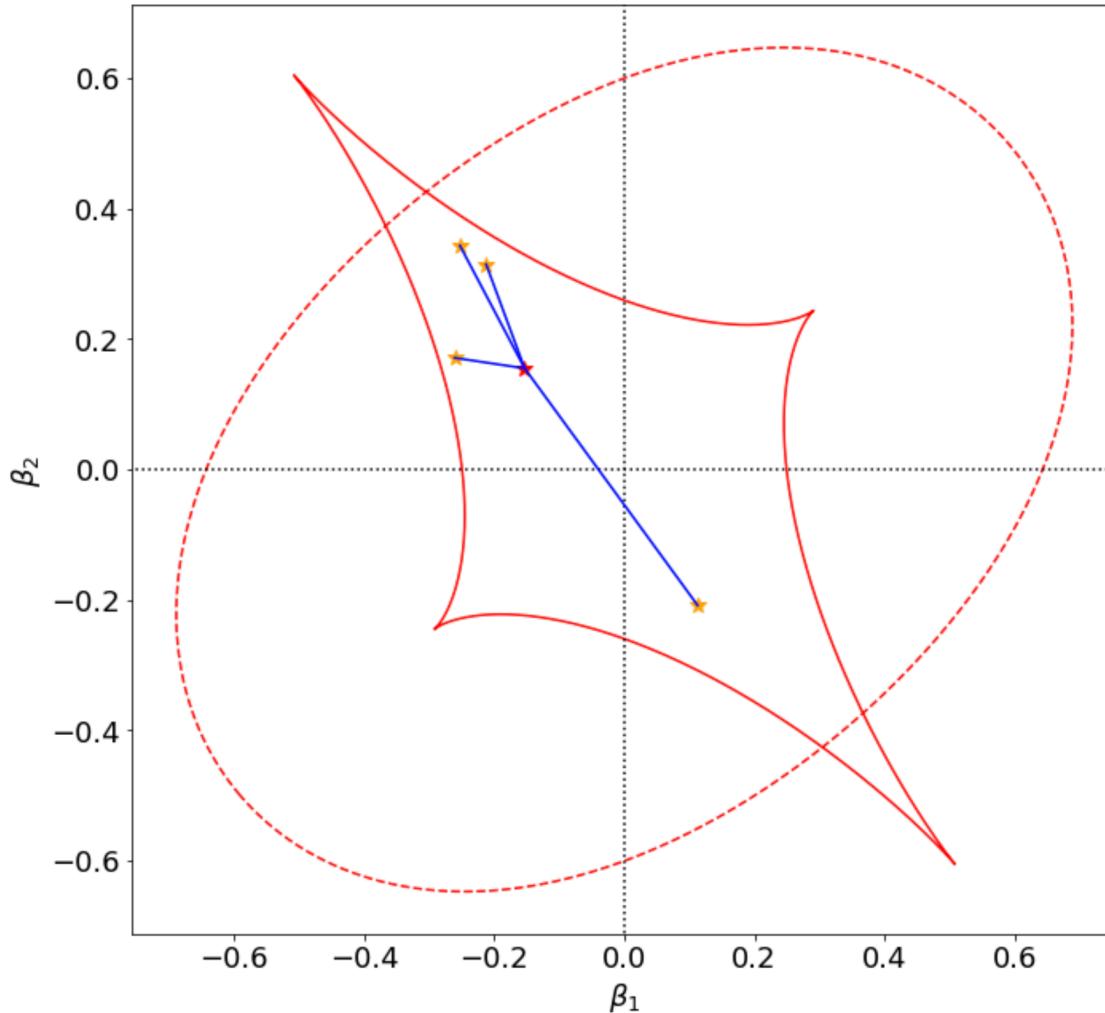


*Instead of minimising the distance between observed and predicted image position, one could try to find the parameters that bring all the images onto the same source position.*

$$\chi^2(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_i^n \frac{\mu_i^2 |\mathbf{y}_i - \bar{\mathbf{y}}|^2}{\sigma_i^2}$$

- *No need to solve the lens equation: much faster!*
- *But prone to introduce biases: higher ellipticity, shallower slope*

# ALTERNATIVE STRATEGY: OPTIMISATION IN THE SOURCE PLANE



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- *But prone to introduce biases: higher ellipticity, shallower slope*

# SOURCE PLANE OPTIMIZATION

---

1. Using the observed images, thing their source positions.

$$\mathbf{y}_i = \mathbf{x}_i - \alpha(x_i; \mathbf{p})$$

2. Calculate a  $\chi^2(\mathbf{p})$  that forces the source positions to be the same

$$\bar{\mathbf{y}} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i^n \mathbf{y}_i \quad \chi^2(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_i^n \frac{\mu_i^2 |\mathbf{y}_i - \bar{\mathbf{y}}|^2}{\sigma_i^2}$$

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# SOURCE PLANE OPTIMIZATION

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*Advantage:*

*No need to solve the lens equation! faster*

*Disadvantages:*

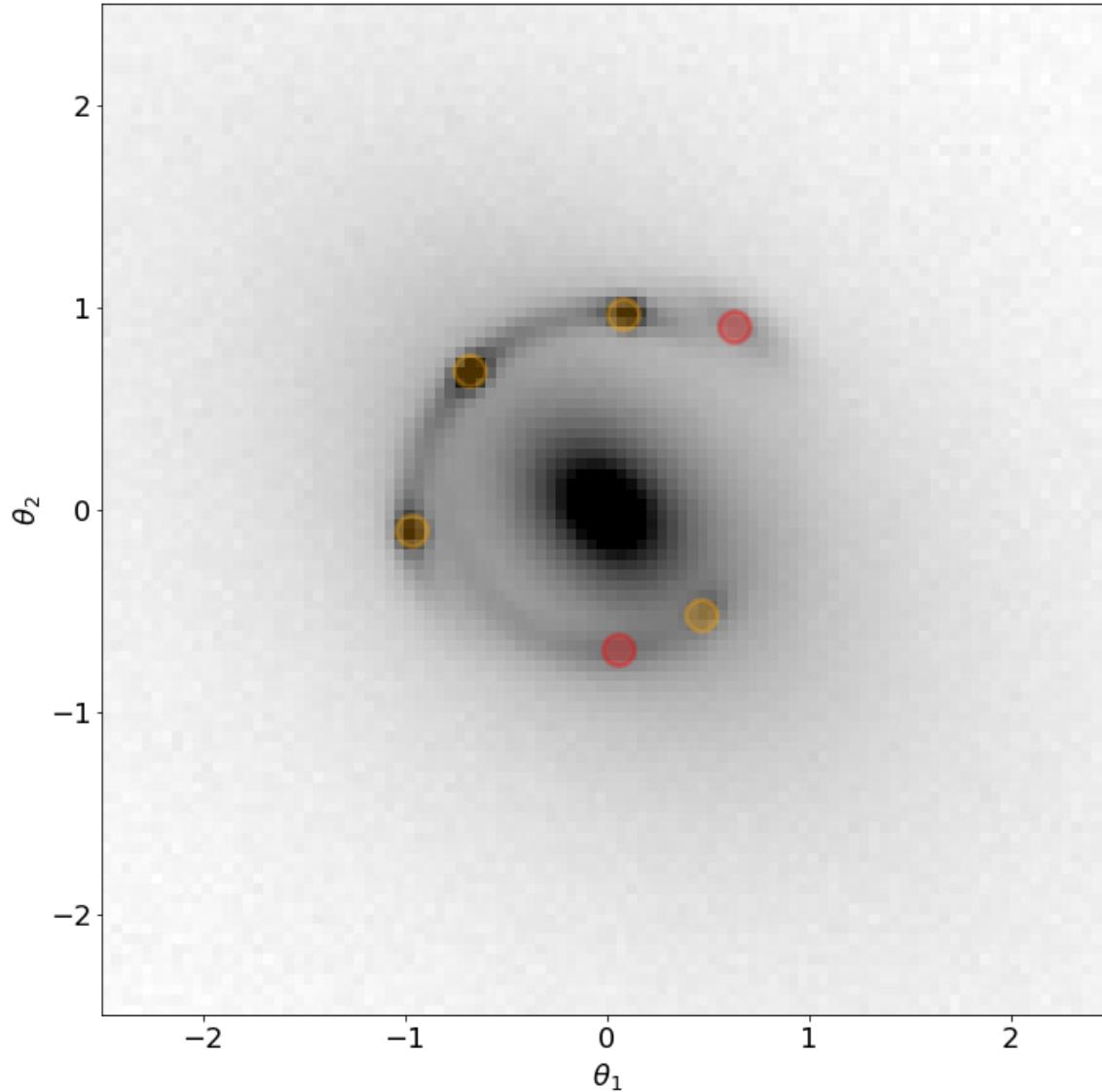
*Prone to introduce biases.*

*Chi-squared is not well motivated from a statistical point of view.*

*Can find a model that has images that are not observed.*

# ADDING OTHER CONSTRAINTS: MULTIPLE SOURCES

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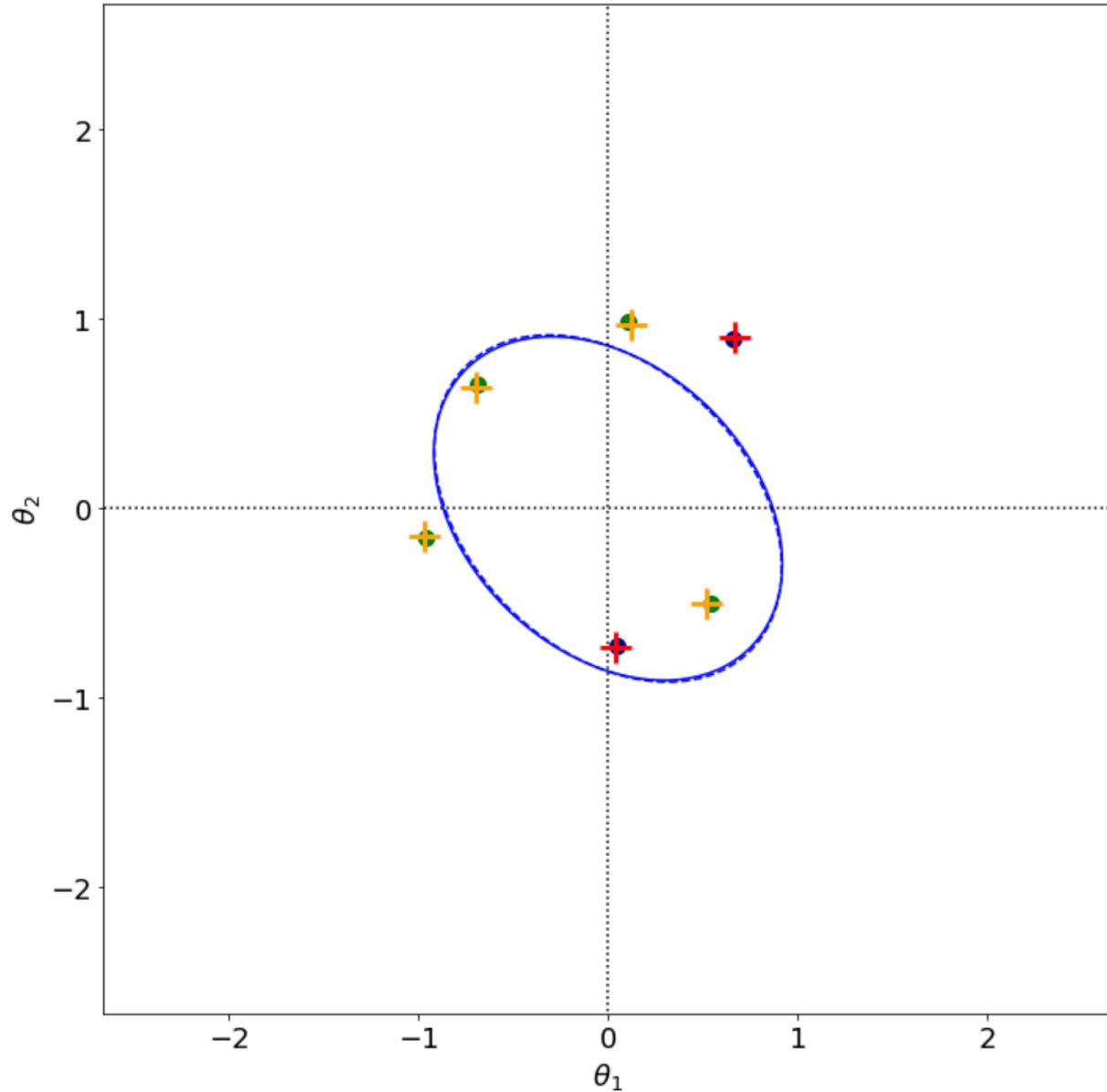


*If there are more families of multiple images (**compound lenses**), they can be fitted jointly:*

$$\chi^2_{tot} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{fam}} \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{[\vec{\theta}_{ij} - \vec{\theta}'_{ij}(\vec{p})]^2}{\sigma_{ij}^2}$$

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# ADDING OTHER CONSTRAINTS: FLUX RATIOS AND/OR TIME DELAYS

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To add other constraints into the model, we just have to rewrite the likelihood function:

$$\chi_{tot}^2 = \chi_{pos}^2 + \chi_{flux}^2 + \chi_{\Delta t}^2$$

Where the  $\chi^2$  terms are:

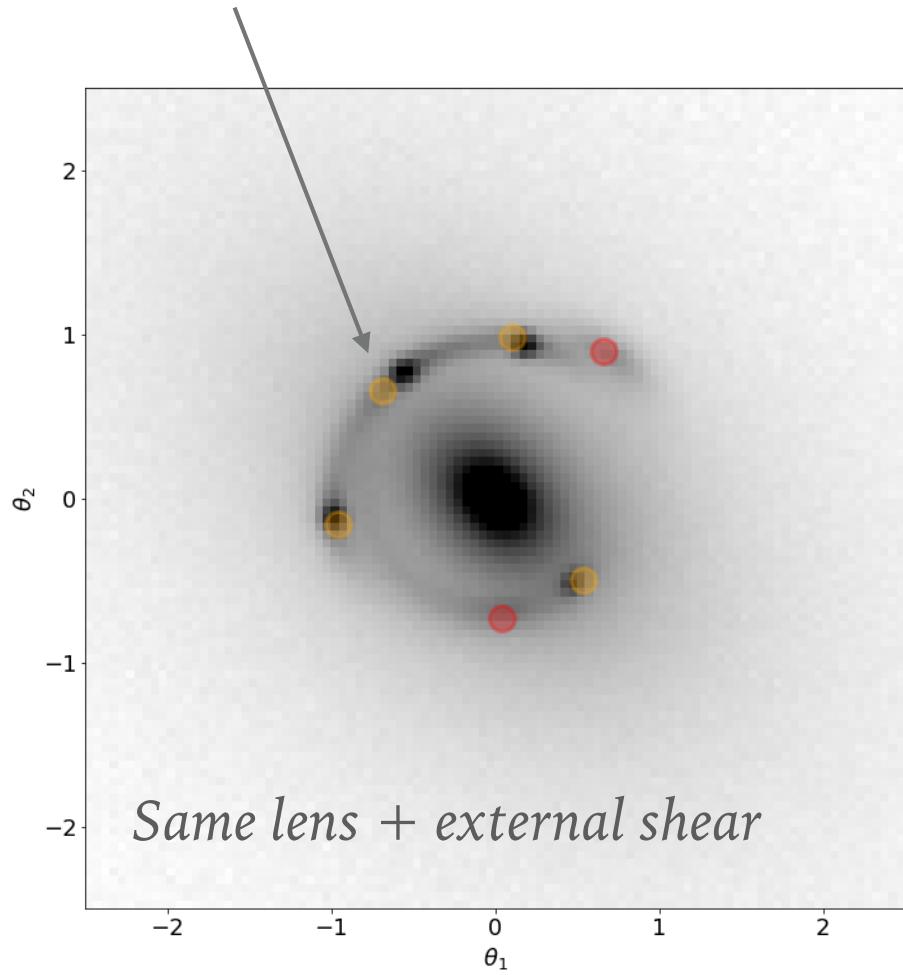
$$\chi_{flux}^2 = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{[F_j - F'_j(\vec{p})]^2}{\sigma_{F,j}^2} \quad \text{Flux-ratios}$$

$$\chi_{\Delta t}^2 = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{[\Delta t_j - \Delta t'_j(\vec{p})]^2}{\sigma_{\Delta t,j}^2} \quad \text{Time delays}$$

# ADDITIONAL REMARKS

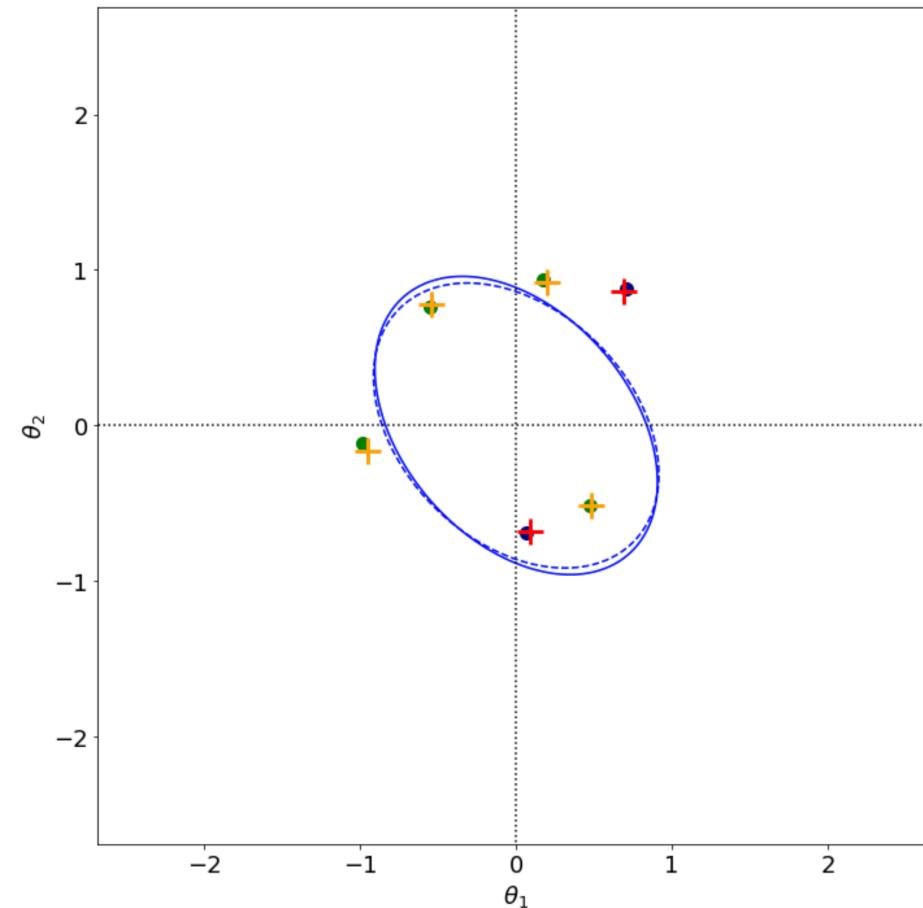
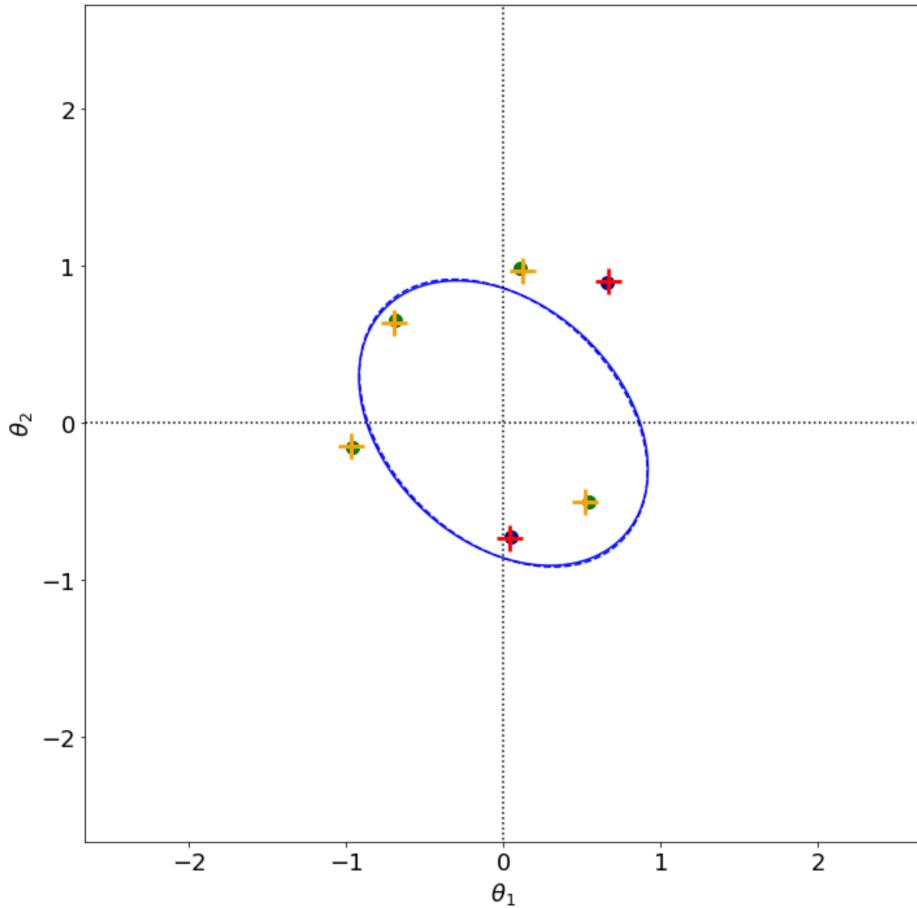
- The choice of the lens model is arbitrary: we chose to use a SIE because of the simplicity of the lens and of the number of multiple images (no 5th image!)
- However, additional mass components may be necessary!  
Example: external shear
- Or other profiles might work better!  
Example: power-law, softened profiles
- Caveat: the complexity of the model is limited by the number of constraints available

*Note the shifts in the image positions!*



# EXAMPLE: NEGLECTING INGREDIENTS

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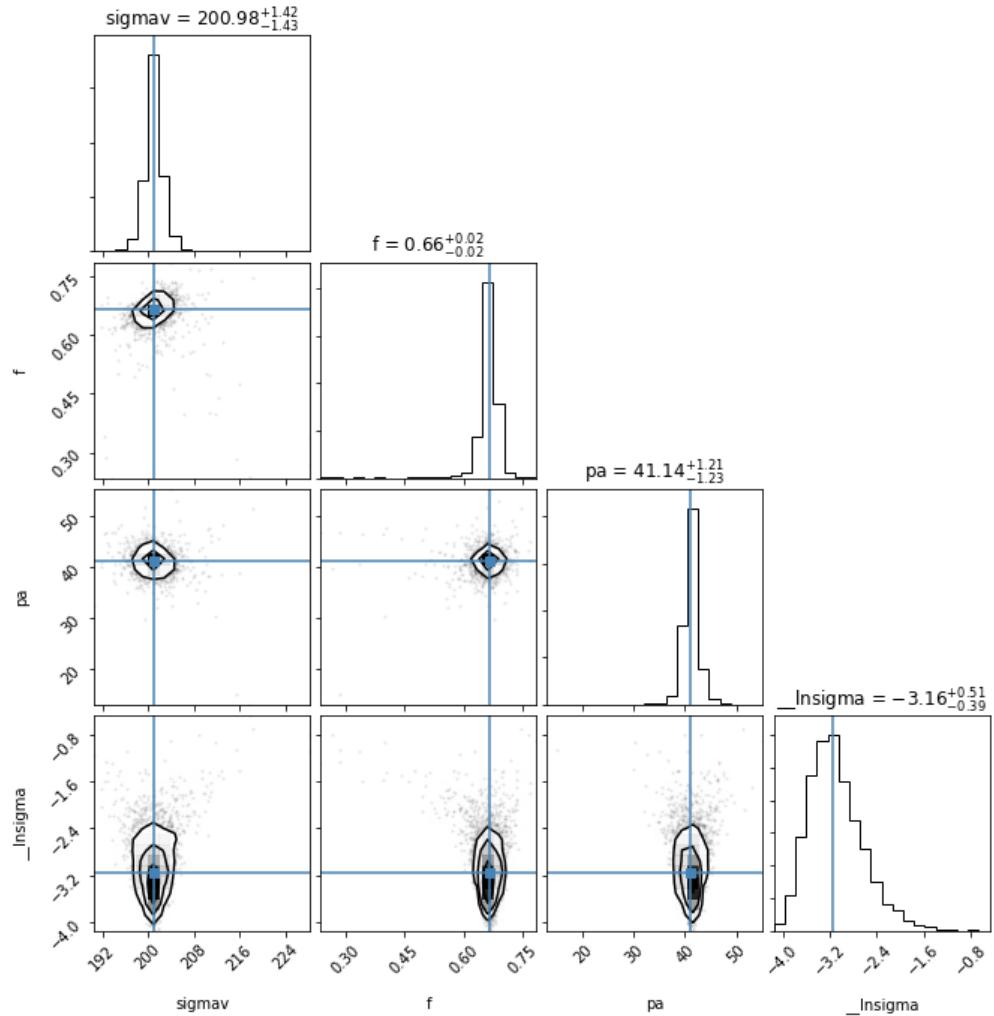
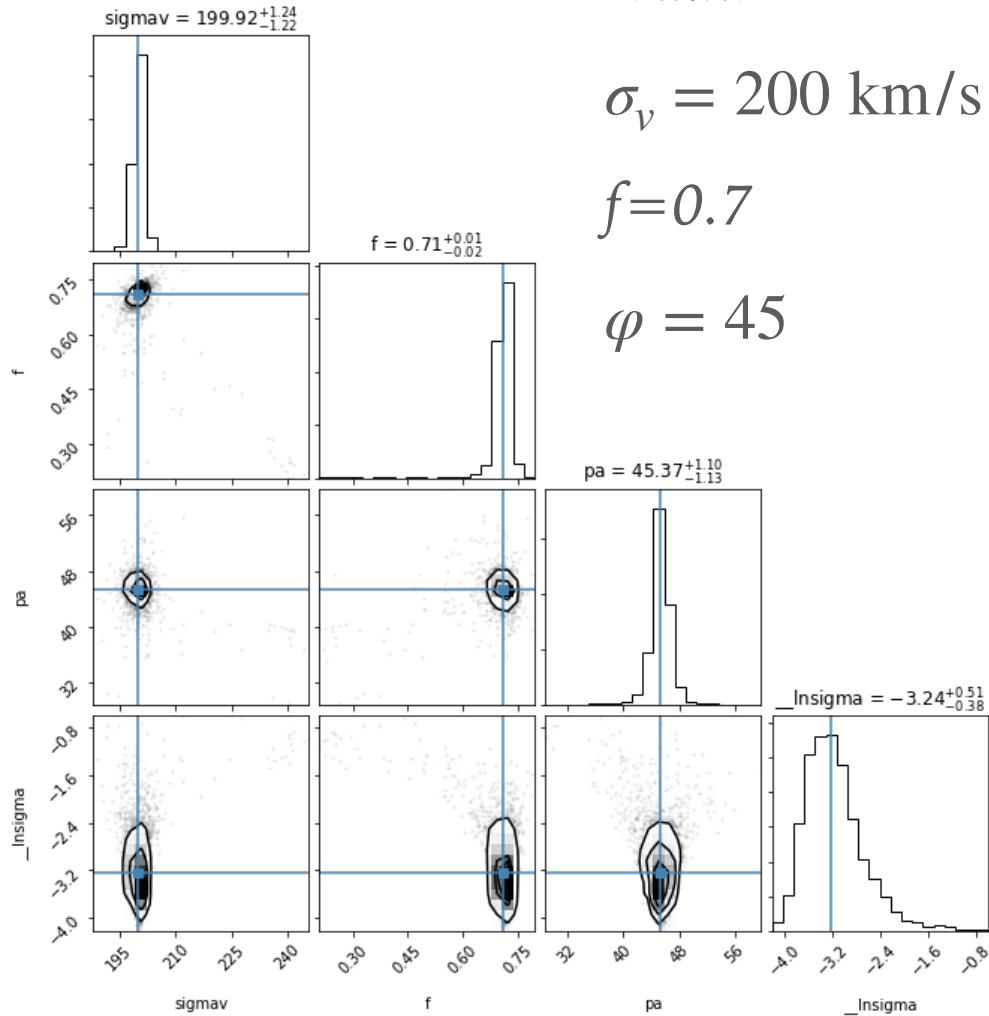
.....

*Truth:*

$$\sigma_v = 200 \text{ km/s}$$

$$f = 0.7$$

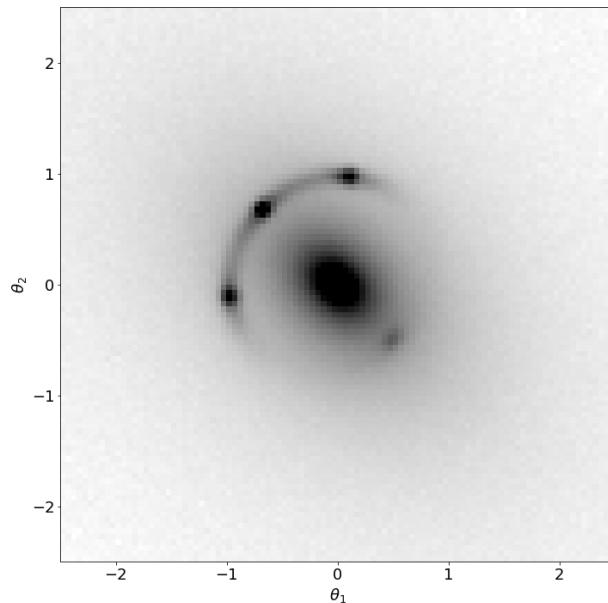
$$\varphi = 45$$



# VERY IMPORTANT

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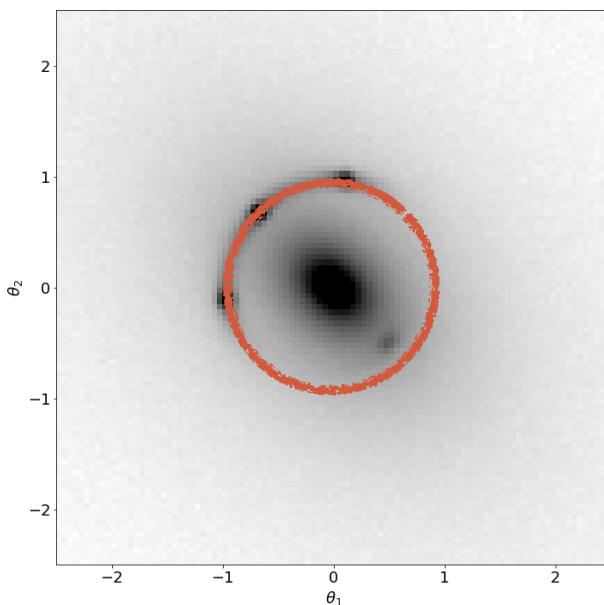
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- Without knowing the distances, we cannot measure physical quantities!
- To measure the distances, we must measure redshifts and assume a cosmological model



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- To measure the distances, we must measure redshifts and assume a cosmological model



$$\text{Einstein radius: } \theta_{E,SIS} = \frac{4\pi\sigma_v^2}{c^2} \frac{D_{LS}}{D_S}$$

$$\text{convergence: } \bar{\kappa}(<\theta_E) = \frac{\bar{\Sigma}(\theta)}{\Sigma_{cr}} = 1$$

$$\text{mass: } M(<\theta_E) = \pi\theta_E^2 D_L^2 \Sigma_{cr} = \pi\theta_E^2 D_L^2 \frac{c^2}{4\pi G} \frac{D_S}{D_L D_{LS}}$$