

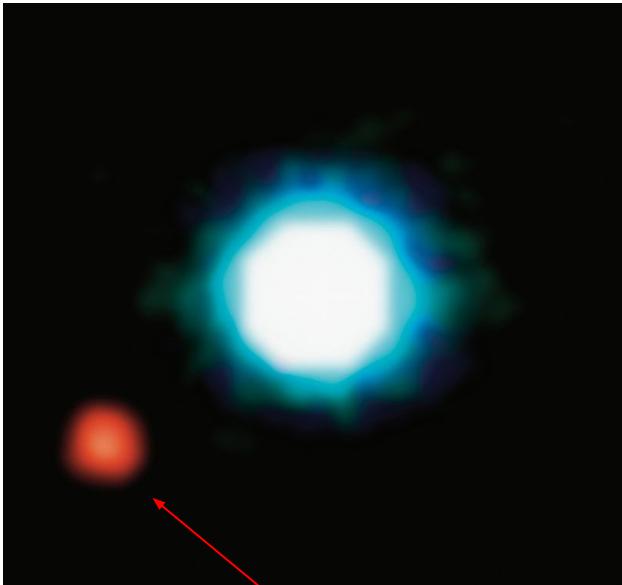
Simulation-based inference for exoplanet characterization

Malavika Vasist^a, Francois Rozet^b, Gilles Louppe^b, Olivier Absil^a



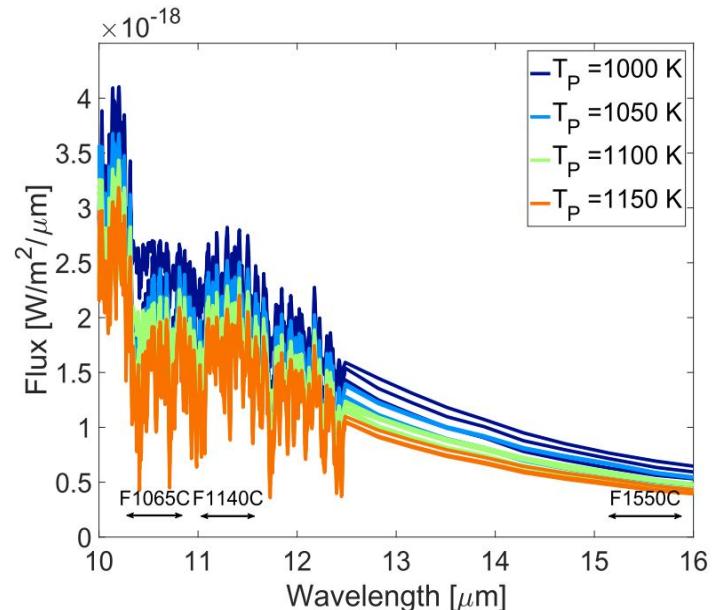
a - University of Liege, Star Institute
b - University of Liege, Montefiore Institute

What's in an exoplanet?



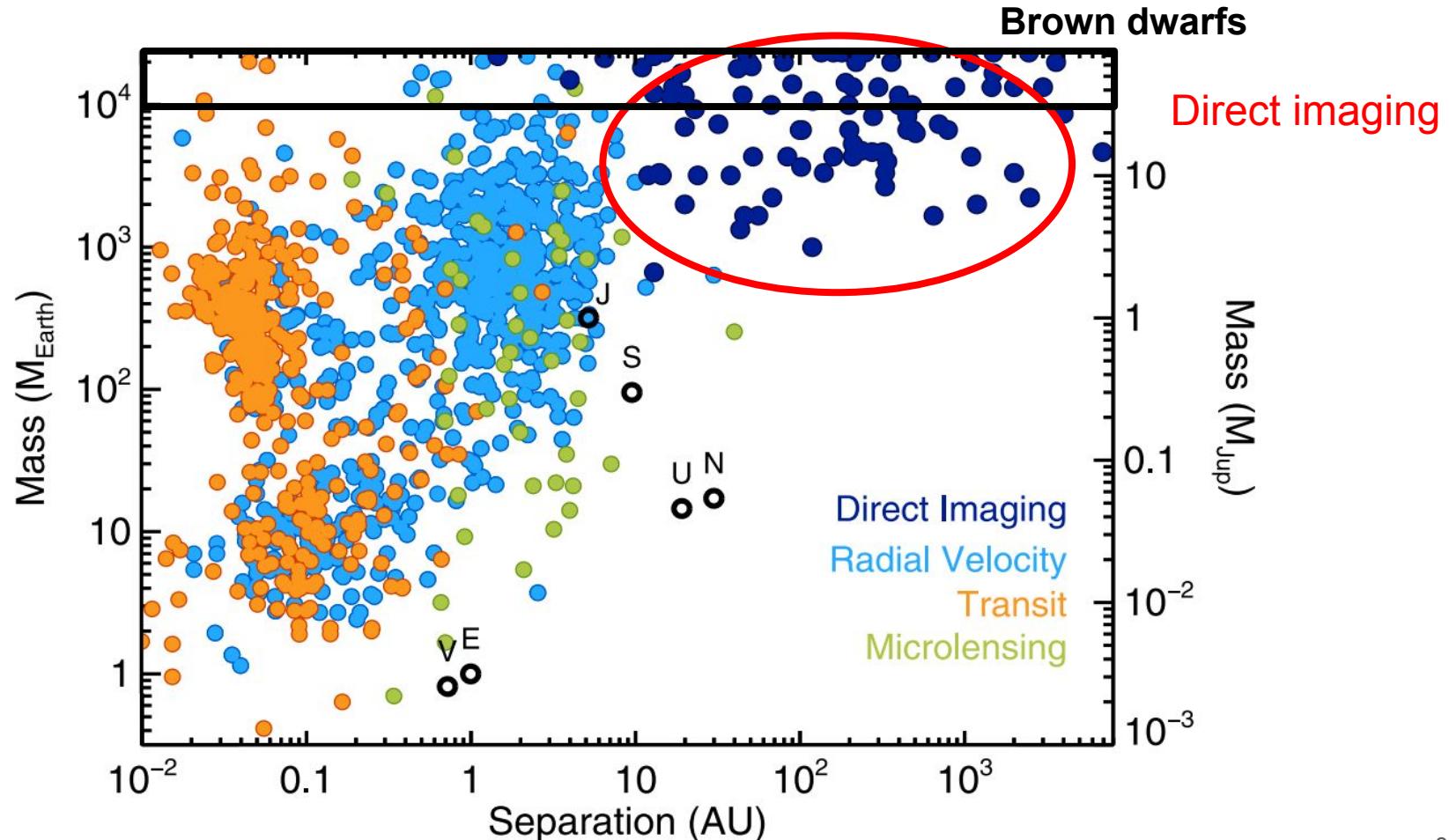
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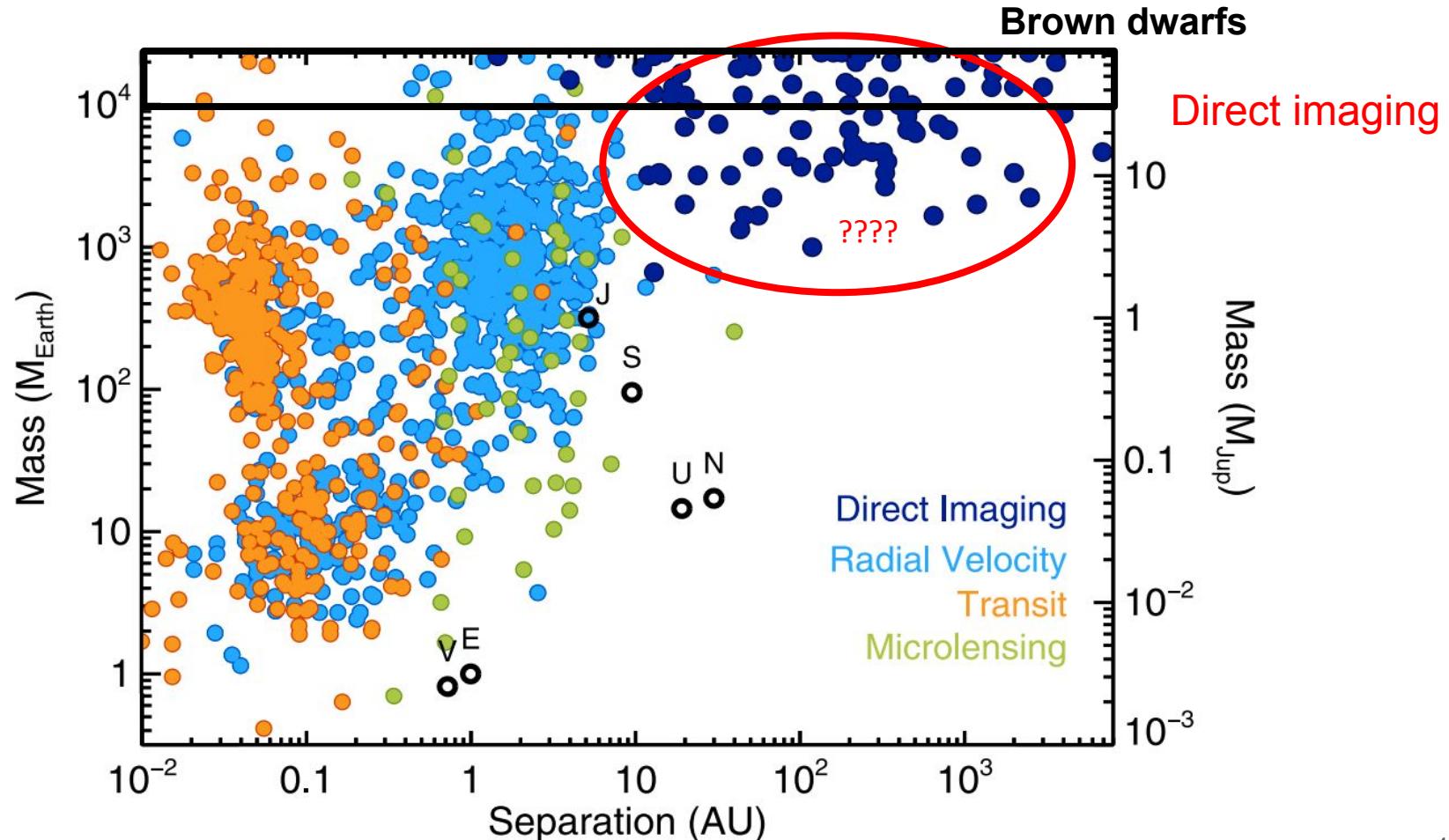
Direct imaging



Emission spectra

Danielski et al 2018





Motivation

Spectral retrieval, a best fit solution to the measured spectrum

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

Posterior Likelihood Prior
Evidence

Bayesian inference

Motivation

Spectral retrieval, a best fit solution to the measured spectrum

Current forward models: **explicit and tractable** likelihood.
(e.g, Gaussian distance measure/correlation coefficient)

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

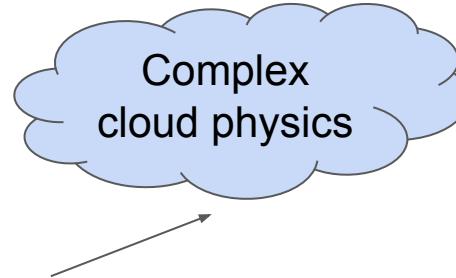
↑
Likelihood Prior
Posterior Evidence

Bayesian inference

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Atmospheric models clear/cloudy simple



= realistic model

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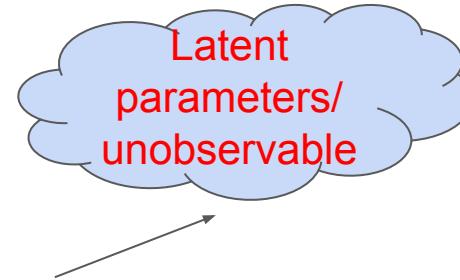
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= realistic model

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

Posterior ~~Likelihood~~ Prior
 Evidence

We suggest **simulation-based inference** to estimate the **posterior** without explicitly calculating a likelihood.

Proof of concept setup

(simple case without latent parameters for comparison)



Simulator: *petitRADTRANS*^a for radiative transfer,

- line and collision opacities
- rayleigh scattering
- 2 clouds Fe and MgSiO₃
- 16 parameters- 3 cloud parameters,

a. <https://petitradtrans.readthedocs.io/>

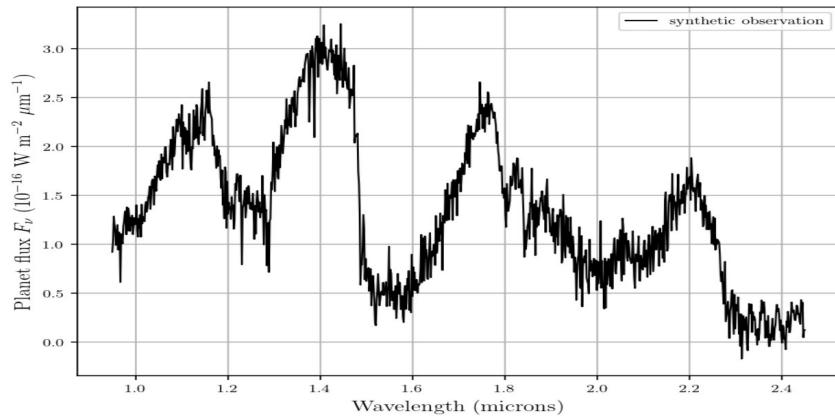
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Synthetic **observation** spectra + $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$
Mollière et al. (2020)

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Proof of concept setup

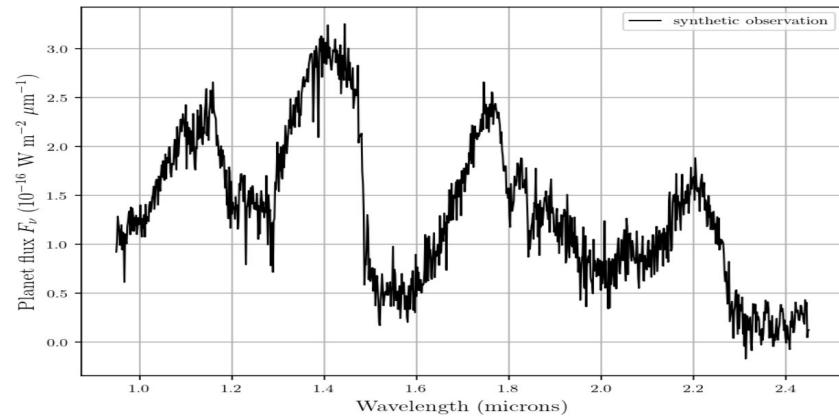
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Simulator: *petitRADTRANS*^a for radiative transfer,

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SBI package: *Lampe*^b



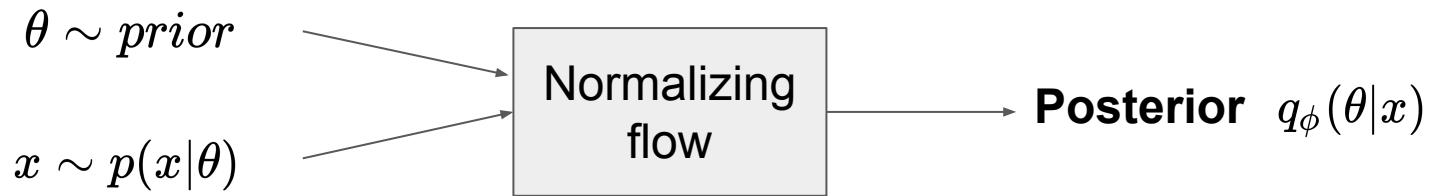
Synthetic **observation** spectra + $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$
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- a. <https://petitradtrans.readthedocs.io/>
- b. <https://github.com/francois-rozet/lampe>

Neural posterior estimation (NPE)

Embedding network : Res-MLP

NF: Masked autoregressive flow (MAF)

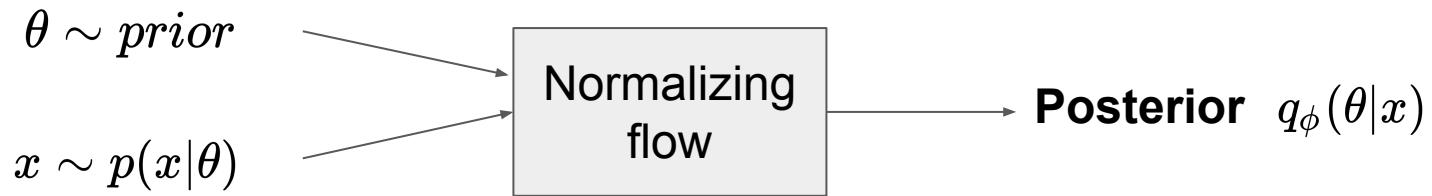


$$\phi^* = \operatorname{argmax}_\phi \mathbb{E}_{p(\theta,x)} [\log q_\phi(\theta|x)]$$

Neural posterior estimation (NPE)

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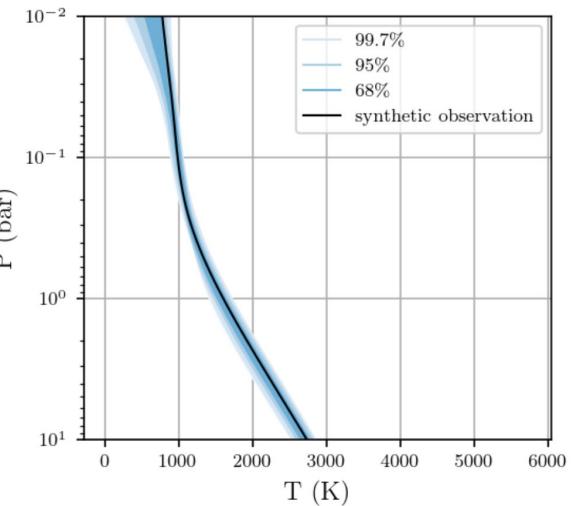
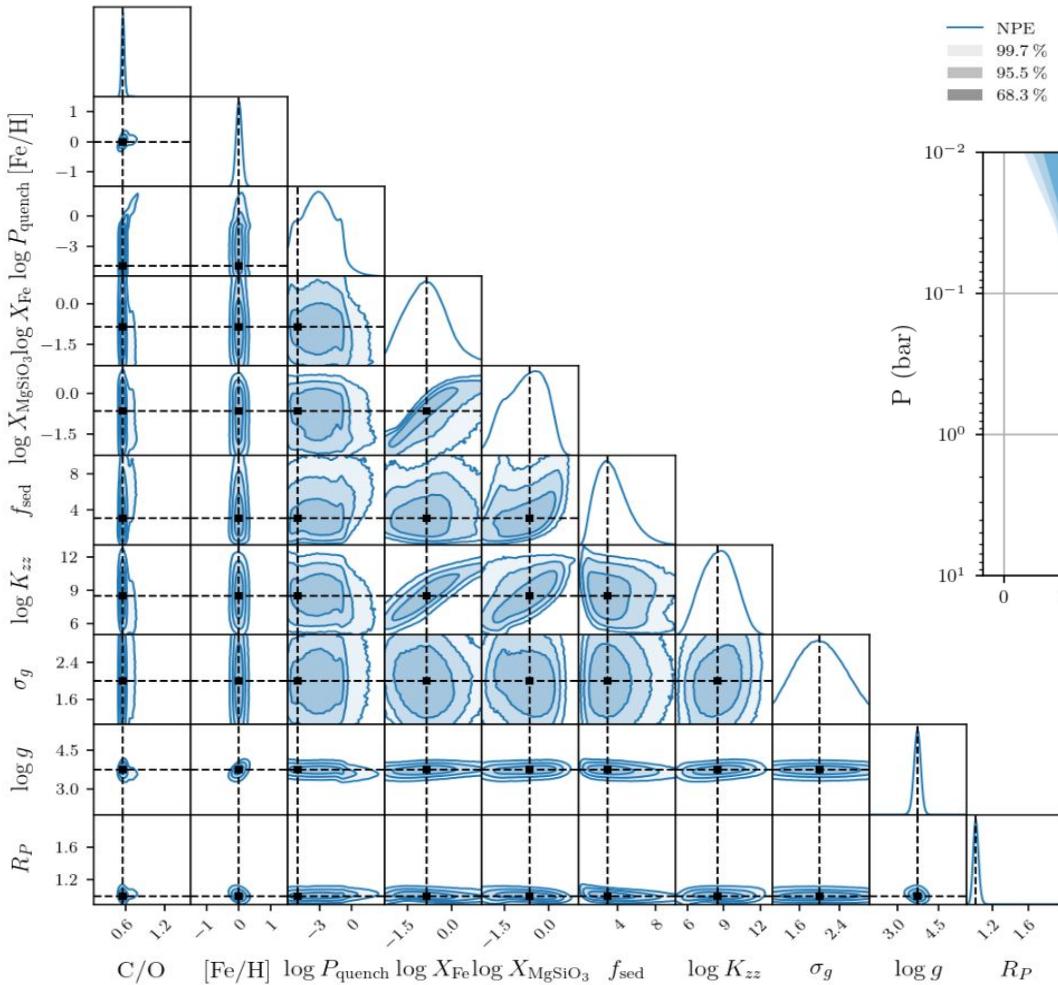
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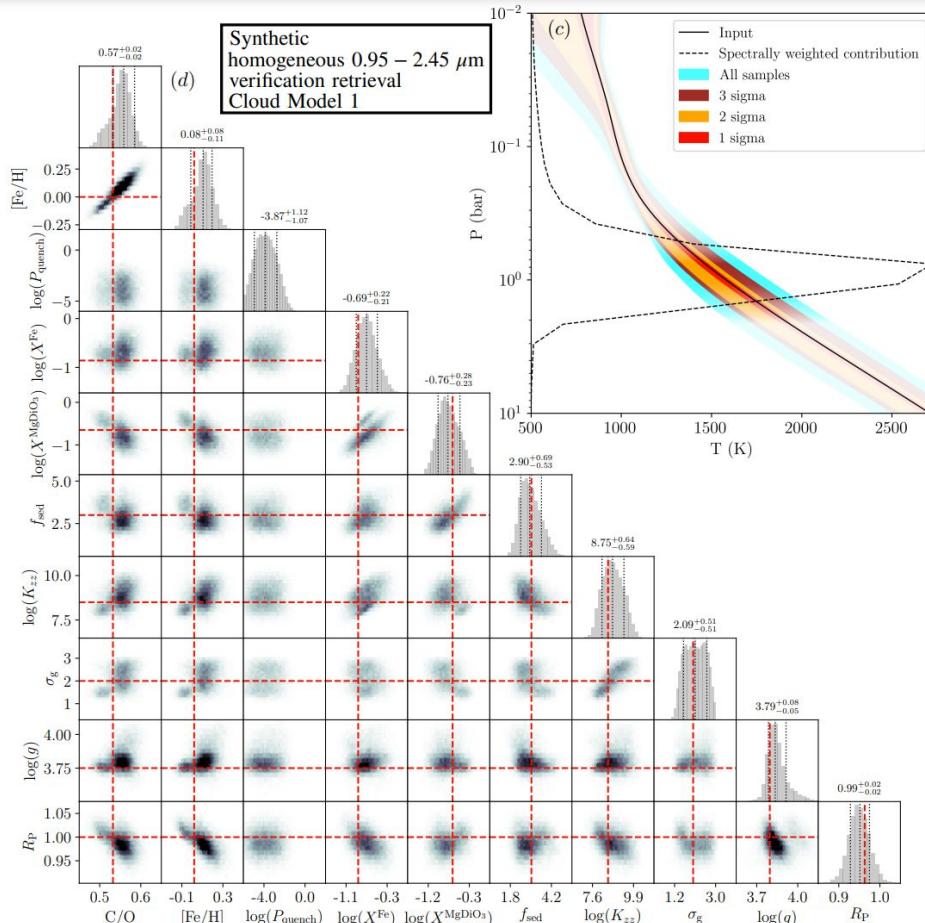
$$\phi^* = \operatorname{argmax}_\phi \mathbb{E}_{p(\theta,x)} [\log q_\phi(\theta|x)]$$

The estimator is amortized with respect to observations

Results

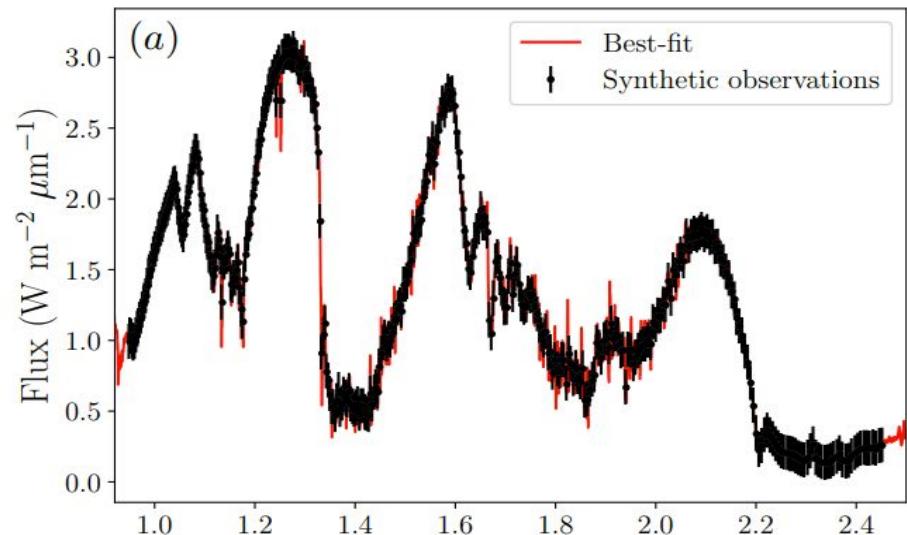
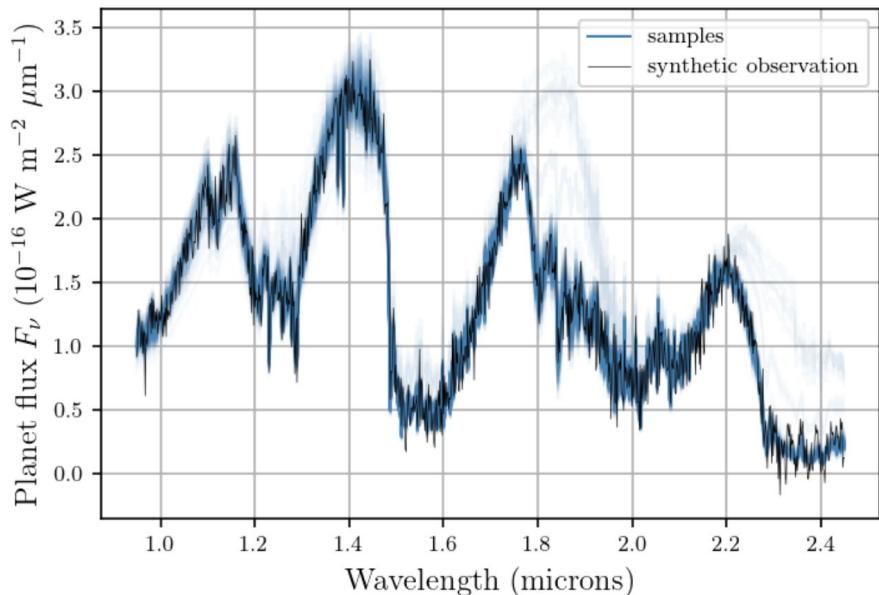


Results from Mollière et al 2020



Bayesian residuals

$$p(x'|x) = \int p(x'|\theta)q_\phi(\theta|x)d\theta$$

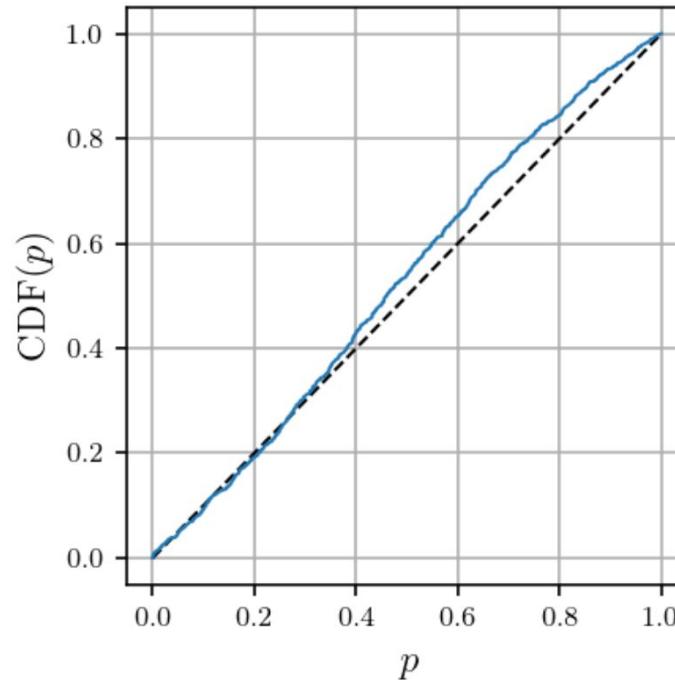


Consistent with synthetic observation

Coverage plot

Here we compare the **average of our estimated posterior** with the prior.

$$p(\theta) \approx \mathbb{E}_{p(x)} q_\phi(\theta|x)$$



Consistent with the prior

Conclusions

- The obtained results are **consistent with Nested Sampling** in Molliere et al 2020.
- SBI allows us to **characterize** exoplanet spectra **without** needing to explicitly **compute a likelihood**.
- It is **amortized** with respect to observations, hence faster and computationally less expensive.
- With this established proof of concept, this approach can be further used for **detailed atmospheric models** with complex cloud physics.

Thank You