

Detecting dark matter in strong gravitational lenses with deep learning Conor O'Riordan, Simona Vegetti, Giulia Despali

Conor O'Riordan, Simona Vegetti, Giulia Desp Al goes MAD | IFT UAM | 15.06.22







MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE FOR ASTROPHYSICS

Background: Strong gravitational lensing



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Background: Dark matter substructure

DM models warmer than CDM predict a suppression in the formation of structure below a certain mass called the half mode mass or $M_{\rm HM}$.

 $M_{\rm HM}$ parametrises the DM model via the subhalo mass function.

Measuring this mass function (counting subhaloes) in the universe constrains the dark matter model.





Background: Gravitational imaging

Find the best smooth model

Make corrections to the potential Yields detections of subhaloes









Background: Gravitational imaging



Despali+ (2021)



Very expensive to calculate

0.2

Replace/approximate with a machine learning method

Background: Upcoming surveys

Currently known strong lenses

~102

~105

Euclid, DES and Vera Rubin will increase this to



Method: Architecture and data

Network gives a simple binary probability of subhalo/no subhalo for each image

- Training data has:
- Hubble deep field sources (and redshifts)
- Elliptical power-law lens
- Euclid pixel size, noise, PSF
- Range of subhalo masses and concentrations
- Range of source and lens magnitudes
- External shear
- (Poisson-limited) Lens subtraction
- ▶ Either one or "some" (1-4) subhaloes, randomly placed





A sample of training data, ordered by S/N

	S/N		$M_{ m sub}/M_{\odot}$	
	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.
1	10^{2}	10 ³	10^{11}	_
2	10^{2}	10 ³	10 ⁹	10^{11}
3	20	10 ³	10 ⁹	10^{11}
4*	20	10 ³	10 ⁹	10^{11}
5*	20	10 ³	$10^{8.6}$	10^{11}

*Stages 4 and 5 add external shear. This can produce a very similar magnification effect to substructure

Method: Training procedure

We train in five stages, making the data more complex, and the classification problem harder at each stage.

Each stage has 2M images and starts from the weights of the previous stage, trained until convergence.

~1000 total epochs, ~200 GPU hours total

Method: Model performance

Is, at a glance, terrible...



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Method: Model performance

Is, at a glance, terrible...

But most of the data the network sees are simply not sensitive to the subhaloes shown.

The network learns to be incredibly cautious about making detections, but is able to do so accurately in the situations we expect.



Method: Estimating sensitivity

The network as trained can give us the sensitivity for an individual system

We create realisations of the same system with a sub-halo in each pixel, over a range of subhalo masses

Lens model, source, noise realisation etc stay the same



We run every realisation through the trained network and produce a map of the detection odds for each subhalo mass





negative values predict nothing positive values predict substructure

We obtain the odds R of detecting a subhalo as a function of mass in every pixel



We fit a rectified linear unit (ReLU) function:

$$\log R = \max \left[\log R_0, a \log \left(M_{\text{sub}} - M_0 \right) + \log R_0 \right]$$

and find the mass at which a given odds threshold is reached





Image plane





Sensitivity map at 3σ or $P_{sub} = 0.9978$



Method: Comparison of methods



Expected number of subhaloes detectable at 3σ in CDM





 $\mu_{\rm sub} = 42.5$

Results: Sensitivity in Euclid

Following LensPop (Collett, 2015) we simulate a sample of 20k Euclid strong lenses and find the sensitivity in detail.

Where a sensitivity map used to take weeks to compute, we can now run one in 30 mins on one GPU.



A sample of the most sensitive observations





A large number of sensitivity maps allows us to mine for correlations with the lensing parameters.



Results: Learning degeneracies

Once external shear is added to the model, the confidence of the network's predictions drops, no matter the specific shear strength.

The accuracy does not correlate with shear strength - implying the network is not confusing shear for substructure but has learnt to account for it.

Results: Detection statistics

The sensitivity in each pixel tells us the minimum mass subhalo we could detect. We can integrate the mass function,

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}n}{\mathrm{d}m} \propto m^{-\alpha_1} \left[1 + \alpha_2 \frac{M_{\mathrm{HM}}}{m} \right]^{\gamma} \text{Lovell (2020)}$$

to find the expected number, μ_{sub} , of detectable subhaloes per pixel (and by summing up, per system)

The mass function is normalised by $f_{\rm sub}$, the fraction of mass in substructure within $2\theta_{\rm E}$







The expected number of detectable haloes does not change with respect to CDM for $M_{\rm HM} \lesssim 10^8 M_{\odot}$

Other studies have already ruled out models warmer than this limit (various 95% CLs shown)



Half mode mass, $M_{\rm HM}$

Selecting by area or depth greatly improves the possible constraints on $f_{\rm sub}$ (fixed here to 10^{-2})

Either selection can (very) marginally improve the constraints on $M_{
m HM}$

But how do we a priori select for the most sensitive lenses?

Next steps: Predicting sensitivity directly

We can train new neural networks using the existing sensitivity maps to predict maps and statistics directly from the images.

A trained network could assess new lenses very cheaply, giving sensitivity predictions for found lens candidates for follow-up.





Next steps: Predicting sensitivity directly

Other work: Generating realistic galaxy images

Training Data



Generated Galaxies







We generated high resolution images of galaxies using a variety of generative models and input data.

Our best model was able to accurately reproduce all the tested physical properties of the input galaxy population

We also found that mixing the generated data with the original data in a separate de-noising problem significantly improved model robustness.

Other work: Interpreting CNN lens finders

Testing lens finding neural networks to see what (if any) physics they have learned.

When we adjust the brightness of images to create nonphysical flux ratios, the network quickly loses confidence that the object is a lens

This is very sensitive to how many "real" galaxies the network has seen in training



Herle+ (in prep.)



Conclusions

- We can estimate subhalo sensitivity orders of magnitude faster than before.
- For Euclid, we expect 1 detectable subhalo per ~10 lenses
- This improves with some pre-selection
- WDM cannot be distinguished from CDM below the point where WDM has already been ruled out.
- A small number of lenses could give strong constraints on f_{sub} .
- With enough data from the current method, a new neural network could predict sensitivities directly from images.

