The Rossiter-McLaughlin effect and exoplanet transits: a delicate association at medium and low spectral resolution.



Yann Carteret

(yann.carteret@unige.ch) Vincent Bourrier, William Dethier



Context

The Rossiter-McLaughlin (RM) effect (Rossiter1924, McLaughlin1924) is known to bias high resolution spectroscopic absorption signatures (e.g. Dethier&Bourrier2023) by introducing line distortions during exoplanet transits. Due to the stellar rotation,

Modelisation

- 4 stellar type spectra generated with Turbospectrum (Alvarez&Plez1998).
- Planetary parameters of HD209458b with recomputed semi-major axis and orbital inclination for each star.



Wavelength in μm

the stellar surface is not homogeneous. It results that the disk-integrated stellar spectrum is not a good proxy for the local spectra occulted by the planet along the transit. These distortions are often disregarded in low resolution studies. However the question remains open on whether there exist some cases in which the RM effect cannot simply be ignored and introduces a contamination at the level of the uncertainties even at low resolution.

HD209458b puzzling case

- First claimed detection of exoplanetary atmosphere (Charbonneau+2002).
- Casasayas-Barris+2021 showed that the RM fully reproduces the high resolution signal in the sodium doublet.
- Build a realistic stellar grid and simulate a transit of HD209458b.
- Compute the absorption time-series as seen with HST, $\mathscr{R} = 5440$.

 Absorption time-series spectra simulated without atmosphere (only fully opaque layers) with EVE (Bourrier+2013).



RM bias at low resolution

- Build stellar grids using typical rotational velocities.
- Simulate time-series of in-transit fluxes.
- Convolve and resample to JWST/NIRSPEC in prism mode, $30 < \Re < 65$.
- Compute the absorption time-series as seen with JWST.
- Subtract the equivalent from a non-rotating star.



- Process the simulated data in the way Charbonneau+2002 did.
- Compare the level of absorption generated by the RM effect alone and the observed signal.



Wavelength in μm

Bias well under uncertainties level

Atmospheric escape

- K type star used (Oklopčić2019).
- Compute the absorption time-series as seen with JWST/ NIRSPEC in G140H-f70 mode, $\mathscr{R} = 2050$.
- Evaluate errors associated to the transit with Pandexo

Absorption in the wings of the Na doublet ?



Département d'astronomie



Swiss National Science Foundation

Alvarez&Plez 1998, A&A, 330, p. 1109-1119 Batalha+2017, PASP, 129, 064501 Bourrier+2013, A&A, 557, A124 Casasayas-Barris+2021, A&A, 647, A26 Charbonneau+2002, ApJ, 568, 377 Dethier&Bourrier2023, A&A, 674, A86 McLaughlin1924, ApJ, 60, 22 Oklopčić2019, ApJ, 881, 133 Rossiter1924, ApJ, 60, 15

 Planet

 National Centre of Competence in Research

 Competence in Research

 (NCCR) are a research

 instrument of the Swiss

 National Science Foundation



(Batalha+2017)



Level of RM effect comparable to uncertainties