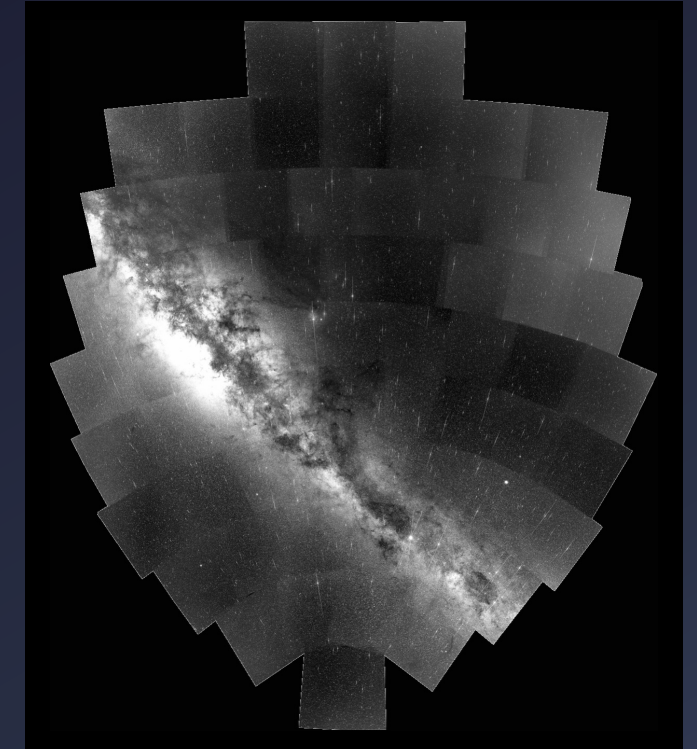
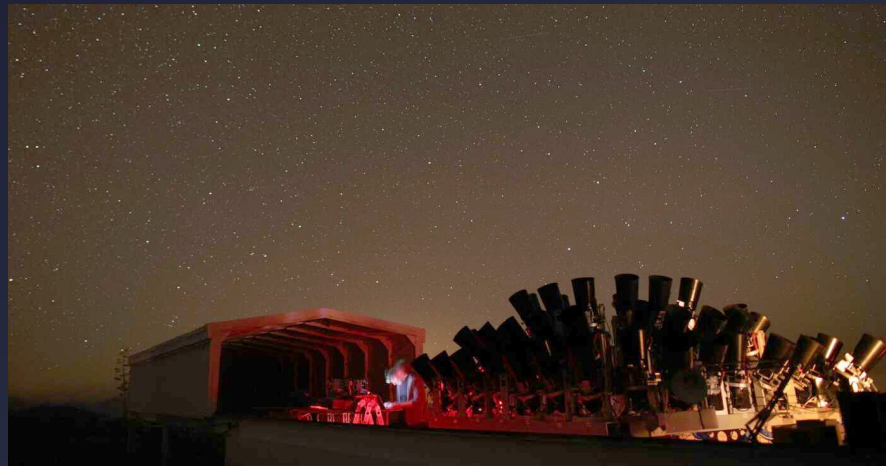
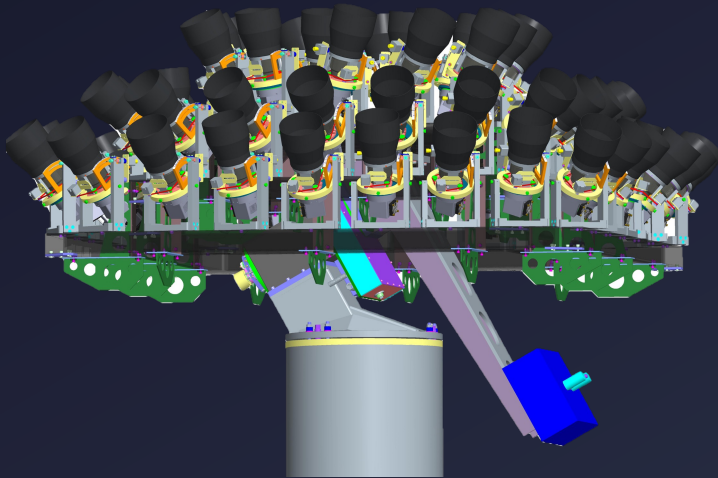


Satellite Trails in the HATPI Survey: mitigation and analysis

Sarah Thiele
Princeton University
UN/SKAO Workshop 2025
sarah.thiele@princeton.edu

The HATPI Instrument

- Hungarian-made Automated Telescope, PI for π steradian coverage
- Optical telescope at Las Campanas Observatory, Chile
- Ultra-wide field, high-cadence time domain survey - observes the entire night sky above 35° at $20''/\text{pix}$ every 45 sec, with 5σ detection threshold of *Gaia* $G = 16$ mag



HATPI Team:

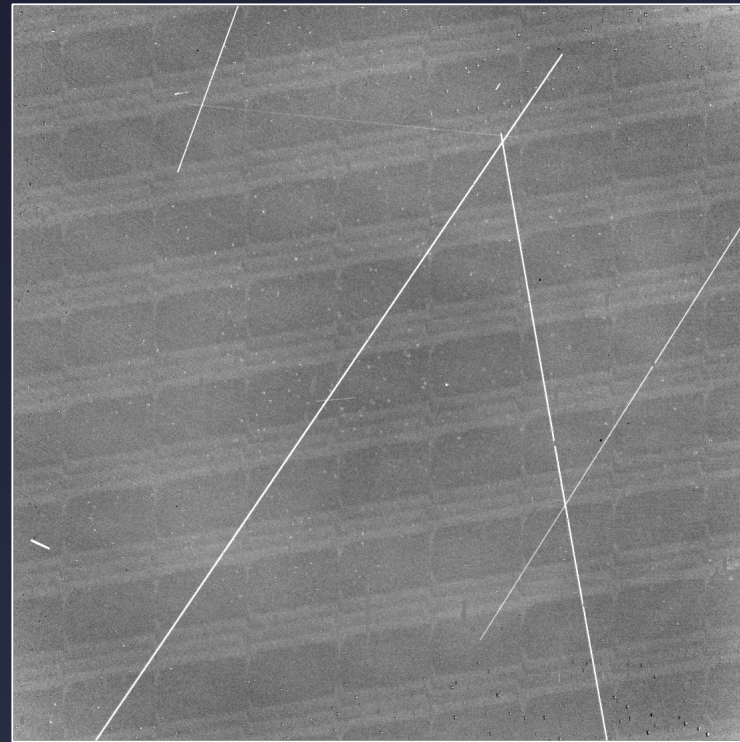
Gáspár Bakos (PI), Andrés Jordán (co-PI), **Joel Hartman**, Zoltán Csurby, Attila Bódi, Geert Jan Talens, Anthony Keys; extended team Ferenc Rózsa, Antoine Thibault, **István Domsa**, **Sándor Pigai**, **Adriana Gaitan**; and more!

Satellite trails in HATPI

Reduced Image



Subtracted Image



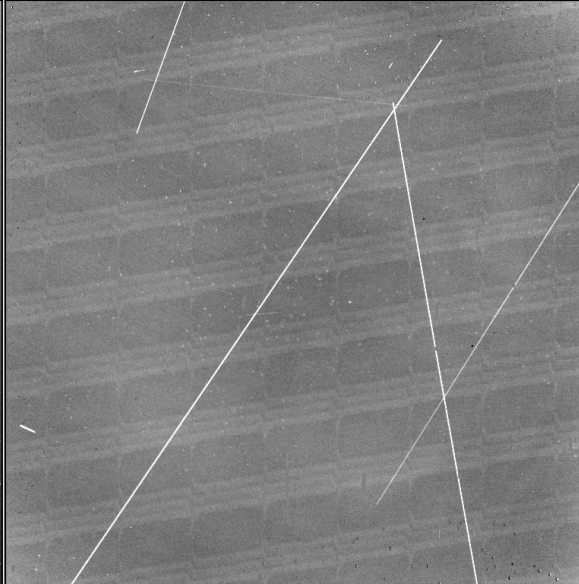
We expect $O(100,000)$ trails for $O(10,000)$ unique objects every HATPI new moon night.

Trail detection pipeline

Reduced image



Subtracted image



Goals

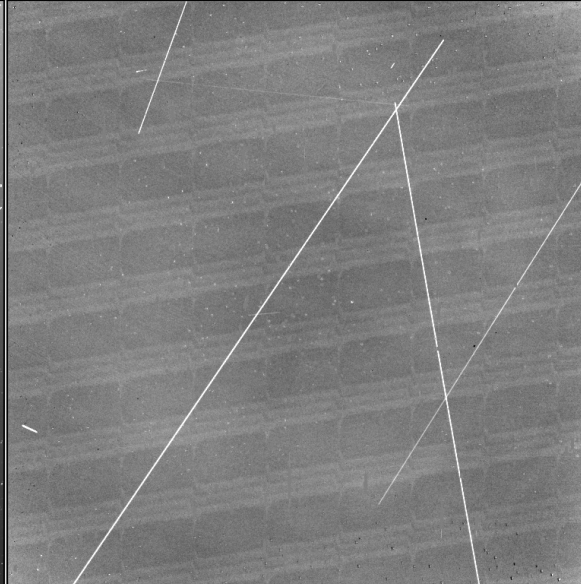
1. Mask out satellite trails in data
2. Conduct statistical analyses: the **most comprehensive to date**
3. Differentiate man-made objects from nearby Solar System objects

Trail detection pipeline

Reduced image



Subtracted image



sattrails mask

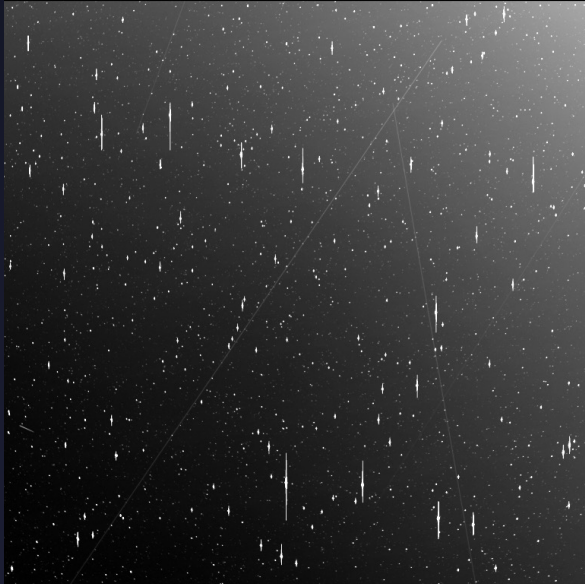


sattrails: a neural network for trail detection

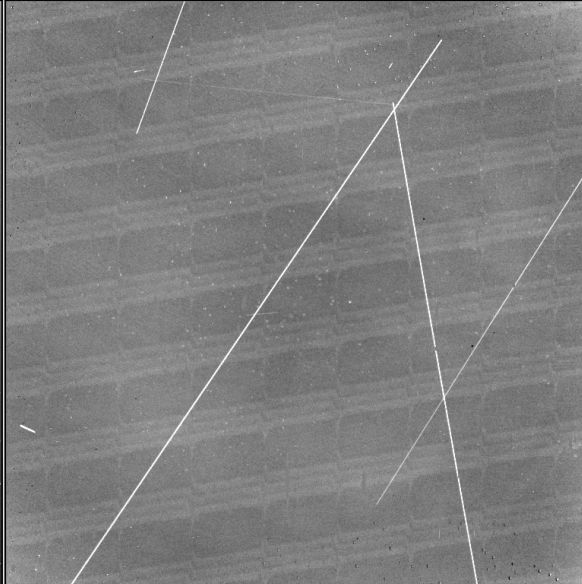
Uses an attention u-net architecture to detect linear features in both reduced and subtracted images.

Trail detection pipeline

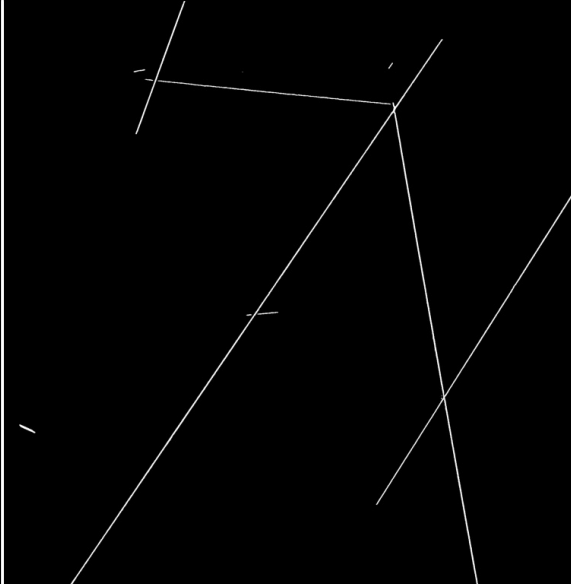
Reduced image



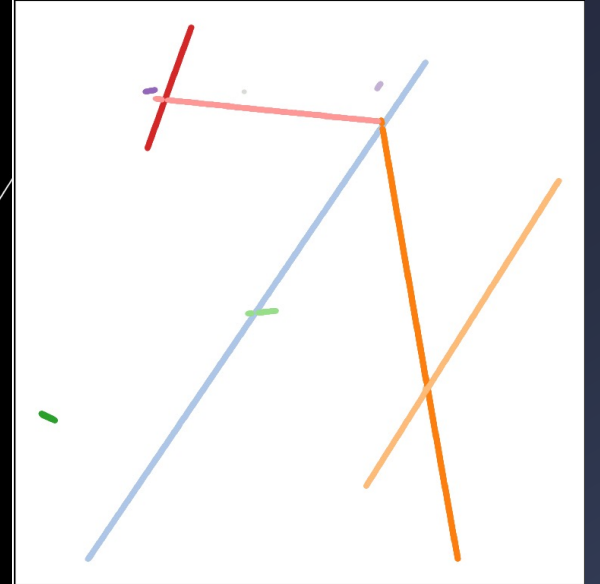
Subtracted image



sattrails mask



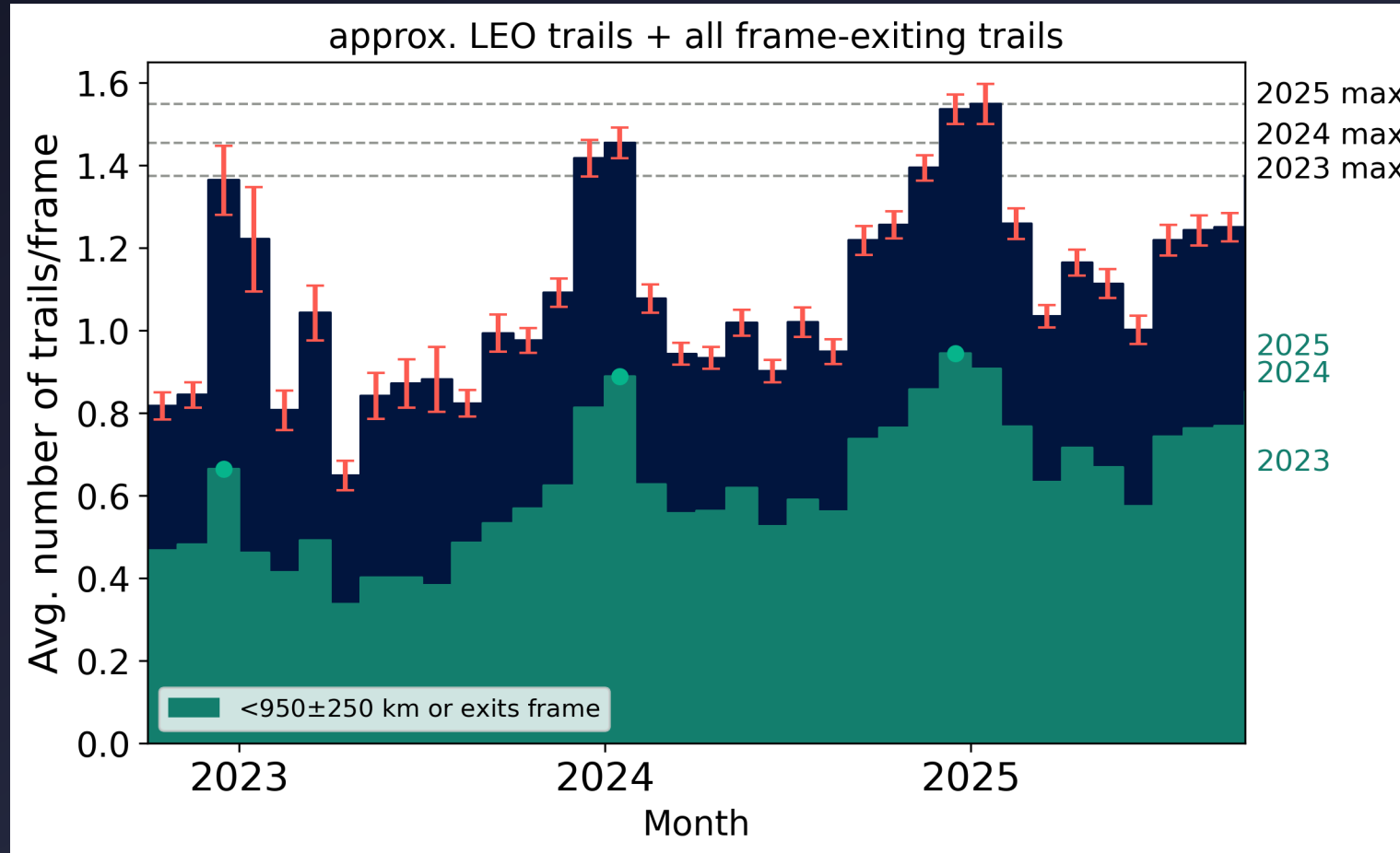
Postproc: 9 trails



Postprocessing: trail identification & analysis

Differentiate individual trails, then identify object, get
brightness/orbital information

Preliminary results of sattrail statistics



LEO = Low Earth Orbit
(< 2000 km altitude)