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Understanding astronomical catalogues: Gaia and its selection function

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Gaia has provided the largest star map in history, but it has only detected the brightest 2% of our Galaxy's stars. Failing to account for this limitation can lead to inaccurate conclusions about the processes that have shaped our Galaxy. In this talk, I will discuss statistical methods to estimate Gaia's completeness and how these can influence the scientific conclusions about the Milky Way.

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