A new class of Super-Earths formed from high-temperature condensates: HD219134 b, 55 Cnc e, WASP-47 e

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ABSTRACT

We hypothesize that differences in the temperatures at which the rocky material condensed out of the nebula gas can lead to differences in the composition of key rocky species (e.g. Fe, Mg, Si, Ca, Al, Na) and thus planet bulk density. Such differences in the observed bulk density of planets may occur as a function of radial location and time of planet formation. In this work, we show that the predicted differences are on the cusp of being detectable with current instrumentation. In fact, for HD 219134, the 10 per cent lower bulk density of planet b compared to planet c could be explained by enhancements in Ca-, Al-rich minerals. However, we also show that the 11 per cent uncertainties on the individual bulk densities are not sufficiently accurate to exclude the absence of a density difference as well as differences in volatile layers. Besides HD 219134 b, we demonstrate that 55 Cnc e and WASP-47 e are similar candidates of a new Super-Earth class that have no core and are rich in Ca and Al minerals that are among the first solids that condense from a cooling proto-planetary disc. Planets of this class have densities 10–20 per cent lower than Earth-like compositions and may have very different interior dynamics, outgassing histories, and magnetic fields compared to the majority of Super-Earths.

Key words: planets and satellites: composition – planets and satellites: formation – planets and satellites: individual: HD219134 b and c, 55 Cnc e, WASP-47 e – planets and satellites: interiors – protoplanetary discs.

1 INTRODUCTION

Rocky planets form out of the solid bodies leftover when the proto-planetary gas disc (PPD) disperses. In the inner regions of PPDs, these solids condense out of the nebula gas as the disc cools. At temperatures higher than 1200 K, if the condensates form in chemical equilibrium, large compositional differences in terms of key refractory elements such as Fe, Mg, Si, Ca, Al, Ti, and Na can occur (e.g. Lodders 2003). Compositional differences can lead to differences in the bulk density of rocky planets. Here, we investigate the possible variability in planet bulk density that is due to the chemical variability as inherited from planetesimals formed at different temperatures.

In our Solar system, trends in the depletion of chondritic meteorites in moderately volatile species as a function of their estimated radial origin and compared to bulk Earth, highlight the importance of differences in condensation temperature of planet-building compounds. The importance of radial migration or mixing in the PPD, however, and how these influence compositional variability of planet-building blocks is not fully understood (Gail 2004).

Chemical and dynamical disc processes influence the distribution of observed exoplanets. For terrestrial planets, relative abundances of major rock-forming elements control their bulk composition. For example, Mg/Si governs the distribution of different silicates, while C/O controls the amount of carbides versus silicates. How elemental ratios within the PPD vary as a function of time and radial distance and how that affects structures and compositions of formed planets is a subject of ongoing research.

In general, planets that form within the same PPD can have very different volatile element budgets (e.g. Öberg & Bergin 2016) but have generally similar budgets in relative refractory elements (e.g. Sotin, Grasset & Mocquet 2007; Bond, Lauretta & O’Brien 2010; Elser, Meyer & Moore 2012; Thiabaud et al. 2014). The reason is that the disc region where condensation temperatures of different volatile compounds (<200 K) are reached is very extended (semimajor distances $a > 1$ au). For refractory compounds, this region is limited. Here, refractory elements are Al, Ca, Mg, Si, Fe, and Na that are rock-forming compounds, while volatile elements include S, C, O, N, He, and H. Only very close to the stars, the gas cools slowly such that not all refractory compounds can condense.
out before the gas disc disperses. Thus, except for this innermost region, the refractory element ratios of formed planetesimals are directly correlated to the PPD bulk composition, which in turn is commonly assumed to be represented by the host star composition. How refractory elemental ratios of a formed planet can deviate from its host star chemistry has been investigated for the Earth given the volatility trends of various elements in the solar nebula by Wang, Lineweaver & Ireland (2018) with applications to exoplanets (Wang et al. 2019). The majority of rocky planets from the same system follow the same mass–radius trend. For the Solar system, this is in fact the case for Mars, Venus, and the Earth. Although their atmospheres are very different in mass and chemistry, their atmospheres contribute little to planet radii.

Observed Super-Earths indicate an inherent scatter in bulk densities indicative of variable interior compositions and structures. Even if a Super-Earth would directly inherit the relative abundances of refractory elements from its star, deviations in bulk density are generally possible by various mechanisms. Deviations towards higher densities can be caused by giant impacts (Benz, Slattery & Cameron 1988) or tidal disruption (Rappaport et al. 2013). Deviations towards lower densities are usually due to different budgets in volatile-rich layers (gas or ice). Here, we also discuss the possibility of different rock composition as inherited from planetesimals formed at different temperatures. Likelihood and magnitude of the deviations are individual to each scenario. Here, we attempt to qualitatively and quantitatively discuss the probability of each scenario for the characterization of the interiors of HD219134 b and c, as well as 55 Cnc e and WASP-47 e.

The two rocky planets in the K-dwarf system HD219134 (Gillon et al. 2017) are curious in that they do not follow the same mass–radius trend, but show a 10 per cent density difference. Dorn & Heng (2018) have shown that their interiors can be explained using stellar abundance constraints on refractory elements. The lower bulk density of planet b was suggested to be due to a secondary atmosphere. Besides a possible difference in atmospheric thicknesses, we will discuss here the above-mentioned difference in rock composition. Alternatively, the observed difference in density may not be real, given uncertainties in radius and mass determinations.

For the highly irradiated Super-Earth 55 Cnc e, numerous interior characterization studies aim to explain its relatively low density and its variable nature (e.g. Demory et al. 2015, 2016a,b; Angelo & Hu 2017; Bourrier et al. 2018; Crida et al. 2018a), however, the nature of this planet remains inconclusive. WASP-47 e is similar to 55 Cnc e in that it is on an ultrashort orbit and has a density that is too low for a rocky Earth-like composition (Vanderburg et al. 2017). One possible explanation for the low densities is that these planets are remnant cores of hot Jupiters in the state of gas loss (Valsecchi, Rasio & Steffen 2014). However, this mechanism cannot explain the general population of planets on ultrashort orbits (USPs), plus an escape of hydrogen from 55 Cnc e was not detected (Ehrenreich et al. 2012). Vanderburg et al. (2017) highlight that both well-characterized planets WASP-47 e and 55 Cnc e are similar and not typical for USPs and may require a more exotic origin compared to other rocky USPs.

The paper is structured as follows. First, we provide a detailed analysis of the interiors of HD219134 b and c. We discuss the probability of the bulk densities being caused by a difference in bulk rock composition (Section 2.2), a difference in volatile layers (Section 2.3) or due to observational biases (Section 2.4). We then discuss the interiors of 55 Cnc e (Section 3) and WASP-47 e (Section 4) and propose how to find further candidates (Section 5). We finish with conclusions in Section 6.

2 HD219134 B AND C

2.1 Previous studies on HD219134 b and c

Given the bulk densities of HD219134 b and c (Table 1), Gillon et al. (2017) suggested purely rocky interiors and relate the density difference to different core mass fractions (planet b: 0.09\(^{+0.16}_{-0.09}\) and planet c: 0.26 $\pm$ 0.17). Their different core mass fractions imply different bulk rock compositions, which is difficult to explain other than by compositional variability of building blocks from the disc, which we provide here.

Gillon et al. (2017) also consider the possibility of a thick H-dominated atmosphere and/or water layers to explain planet b’s lower density. Considering evaporative loss, Dorn & Heng (2018) conclude that the possible atmospheres are unlikely to be dominated by H but gas of heavier mean molecular weight, i.e. outgassed from the interior.

The interior characterization by Dorn & Heng (2018) used constraints on the relative refractory element ratios of the bulk planet as measured in the stellar photosphere (Dorn et al. 2015), assuming a direct correlation in between. In fact, mass and radius of planet c can be well explained by a rocky interior that fit the stellar abundance constraint as illustrated in Fig. 1. Purely rocky interiors that fit the median stellar abundances follow the red curves, while the red area illustrates the associated uncertainty.

The abundances for the nearby star HD 219134 were measured by a total of nine groups within the literature (e.g. Thévenin & Idiart 1999; Prieto et al. 2004; Luck & Heiter 2005; Valenti & Fischer 2005; Mishenina et al. 2013; Ramírez, Prieto & Lambert 2013; Da Silva, Milone & Rocha-Pinto 2015; Maldonado et al. 2015). Table 2 lists the median stellar refractory abundances from the Hypatia catalog (Hinkel et al. 2014) after outliers were removed. Outliers are those that lie beyond the range of possible abundances in stars with metallicities similar to HD219134 based on Brewer & Fischer (2016). The C/O ratio of HD 219134 is assumed to be 0.62, as this is the value found when the outliers are removed from the Hypatia catalog (Hinkel et al. 2014). If the actual C/O ratio of HD 219134 was outside the range of 0.25–0.75, our calculated disc chemistry could significantly differ. However, a recent statistical analysis from Brewer & Fischer (2016) showed that FGK stars cluster around slightly sub-solar C/O ratios of 0.47 and no super-solar C/O ratios of 0.7 were detected among the 849 sample stars.

2.2 Different refractory element budgets as a cause for lower bulk density of planet b

In this section, we investigate whether the density difference between planet HD 219134b and planet HD 219134c can be explained by different rock composition as inherited from the chemical heterogeneity of planetesimals formed at different temperatures.

2.2.1 Planetesimal composition model

In order to model the bulk composition of the rocky planets HD 219134b and HD 219134c, we employ a simple model that has been shown to recreate, to first order, the bulk composition of the rocky bodies in the Solar system (Moriarty, Madhusudhan & Fischer 2014; Harrison, Bonsor & Madhusudhan 2018). The model assumes that rocky planets form via the aggregation of rocky planetesimals that have condensed out of a PPD in chemical equilibrium. The composition of the PPD is assumed to be identical to the stellar nebula, whilst the compositions of the planetesimals are determined.
Table 1. Data of the inner four planets of HD219134, for which the planets b, c, d, g, and h are known.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Planet b</th>
<th>Planet c</th>
<th>Planet f</th>
<th>Planet d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M [M⊕]</td>
<td>4.74 ± 0.19</td>
<td>4.36 ± 0.22</td>
<td>&gt;7.30 ± 0.40</td>
<td>&gt;16.17 ± 0.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R [R⊕]</td>
<td>1.602 ± 0.055</td>
<td>1.511 ± 0.047</td>
<td>&gt;1.31 ± 0.02</td>
<td>&gt;1.61 ± 0.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ρ [ρ⊕]</td>
<td>1.15 ± 0.13</td>
<td>1.26 ± 0.14</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a [AU]</td>
<td>0.03876 ± 0.00047</td>
<td>0.06530 ± 0.00080</td>
<td>0.1463 ± 0.0018</td>
<td>0.237 ± 0.003</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 1. Mass–radius plot showing HD219134 b and c compared to scaled idealized interiors. We assume a 1:1 compositional relationship (i.e. ratios of refractory elements) between the host star HD219134 and the PPD. The variability of purely rocky planets forming at different times and locations within the disc is highlighted by the blue area. Purely rocky interiors that are built from temperate condensates (T_{cond} < 1200 K) lie within the red area, which respects the uncertainty in measured stellar abundances. Interiors that fit the median stellar abundance follow the red curves. The difference between the dashed and dotted red curves is due to the degeneracy between iron-free mantles with pure iron cores and core-free interiors with all iron in the mantle, respectively. The light red area accounts for uncertainty in abundance estimates.

Table 2. Median stellar abundances of HD 219134 from Hypatia catalog after the outliers and duplicate studies were removed. The unit is dex. The range of estimates from all the different studies is stated in brackets.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>HD 219134</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[Fe/H]</td>
<td>0.09 (0.04–0.16)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[Mg/H]</td>
<td>0.105 (0.09–0.16)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[Si/H]</td>
<td>0.055 (~0.03–0.12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[Na/H]</td>
<td>0.19 (0.17–0.22)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[Al/H]</td>
<td>0.28 (0.24–0.29)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[Ca/H]</td>
<td>0.13 (0.09–0.18)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The compositions of the solid species found when minimizing the Gibbs free energy at the pressures and temperatures present in the mid-plane of the PPD. In order to compare these compositions to that of the planets, we consider that the planets would form out of material that condensed out of the nebula within a small feeding zone around the planets orbital radii. Thus, the bulk compositions found are functions of the size of the feeding zone from which the planet accreted planetesimals (∆α), the time when the planetesimals condensed out of the disc (t_{disc}), and the distance from the star at which the planet formed (a) (see Fig. 5). The compositions predicted by the model also depend on the mass and the composition of the host star (M*, and [X/H]*).

Viscous irradiated PPD model: The Gibbs free energy of the system, and thus the composition of the solids formed depends on the pressure and temperature at which condensation occurs. In order to consider reasonable pressures and temperatures for the inner regions of the PPD, and in order to convert these temperatures and pressures into radial locations within the disc and formation times for the solid condensates, we consider the simplest possible PPD model. We use the theoretical model derived in Chambers (2009), which models the viscous accretion of gas heated by the star. This model has been previously used for the modelling of planetesimal formation in PPDs (Moriarty et al. 2014; Harrison et al. 2018) and super-Earths (Alessi, Pudritz & Cridland 2017). This model ignores any vertical or radial mixing, and as will be discussed further later, any radial drift. All of these processes may be of critical importance in a realistic PPD. The Chambers model is a disc model with an alpha parameterization that divides the disc into three sections; an inner viscous evaporating region, an intermediate viscous region, and an outer irradiated region. For the calculations in this work, we have assumed disc parameters of r_0 = 33 au, κ_0 = 0.3 m^2 kg^{-1}, α = 0.01,
$\gamma = 1.7$, $\mu = 2.4$, and $M_\star = 0.78\, M_\odot$ following Chambers (2009) and Motalebi et al. (2015). We also assume that the mass of the PPD is directly proportional to the mass of the host star according to $M_\text{dis} = 0.1M_\star$ (Chambers 2009; Andrews et al. 2013). The temperature and radius of the star in the PPD phase are assumed to be functions of the stellar mass in the form derived in Siess, Dufour & Forestini (2000). The relations used in this work to calculate the PPD mass, the initial stellar radius, and the initial stellar temperature as a function of stellar mass are consistent with the values given in Stepinski (1998) and Chambers (2009) for a solar mass star. The analytical expressions for the pressure and temperature of the mid-plane of the PPD as a function of radial location ($a$) and time ($t_{\text{dis}}$) are presented in Appendix C. The temperature–radius equation for the model disc around a star similar to HD 219134 are plotted presented in Appendix C. The temperature–radial location curves ($t = 0 \text{Myr}$) are displayed in the Appendix in Fig. C1. The pressure–temperature space for the model disc of a solar mass star shows negligible differences compared to the HD 219134 case.

Equilibrium chemistry condensation model We use the commercial Gibbs free energy minimization package in HSC Chemistry version 8 to model the compositions of the solid species at the pressures and temperatures expected to be present in the PPD (2.2.1.1). As the pressures and temperatures in the disc are a function of the formation time and the radial location ($t_{\text{dis}}$, $a$), so are the planetesimal compositions. HSC chemistry version 8 was set-up in the same way as Bond et al. (2010), Moriarty et al. (2014), and Harrison et al. (2018), which all used the software to model planetesimal compositions. The gaseous elements inputted, the list of gaseous species included in the model, the list of solid species included in the model, and the initial inputted gaseous abundances for the case of the HD 219134 system are displayed in Table 3, Table 4, Table 5, and Table 6, respectively.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 4. The list of possible gaseous species that could form in the equilibrium chemistry code, HSC chemistry v. 8.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gaseous species included</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CrS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N₂</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO₂</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NiS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 5. The list of possible solid species that could form in the equilibrium chemistry code, HSC chemistry v. 8.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Solid species included</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al₂O₃</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SiC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ca₃(PO₄)₂</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MgSiO₃</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fe₂P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MgAl₂O₄</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TiC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NaAlSi₃O₈</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Table 6. The inputted gaseous elemental abundances, the values are in kmol and are representative of the initial stellar nebula of HD219134 (Table 2, Hinkel et al. 2014).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Element</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td>Na</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Si</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ti</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A caveat to the model is that the Gibbs free energy minimization is only performed on the limited list of species outlined in Table 3, Table 4, and Table 5, however, as these elements and species are the most abundant in the rocky debris in the Solar system this is not thought to be a major limitation. The only major species missing from the list, which are expected to possibly alter the results, are the complex carbon macromolecules that are found in many asteroids and meteorites (Pizzarello, Cooper & Flynn 2006) and whose formation mechanism is not yet understood. However, unless the carbon abundance in the disc is sufficiently super solar with respect to the overall metal abundances, these molecules will
times and the radial drift of planetesimals could play an important role in the condensates a body aggregates. In order to account for these effects, we consider a model in which the material that forms the planets originates from a range of formation locations described by a Gaussian distribution centred at distance $a$ and with a width of $\Delta a$. Thus, we have three free parameters, the formation location, $a$, that is equivalent to the mean of the normal distribution, the feeding zone parameter, $\Delta a$, that is equivalent to the standard deviation of the normal distribution, and the formation time of the planetesimals that comprises the planet. $t_{\text{disc}}$. At a given formation time, $\Delta a$ corresponds to a temperature range $\Delta T_{\text{cond}}$.

Fig. 5 is a schematic diagram highlighting this set-up for a given formation time.

We do not run N-body simulations that would allow us to predict the amount of mass available to form a planet. Given our disc model, the available mass in solids between 0.8 and 1.2 au at 0 Myr is 0.5 $M_\oplus$. At 2 Myr, the available mass in solids is even less ($\approx 0.002$ M$_\oplus$). In order to form a planet on the order of 5 M$_\oplus$, the disc properties would have to be adjusted, e.g. by making the disc more massive ($M_0 = 0.5 M_\odot$ instead of $M_0 = 0.1 M_\odot$) or the surface density gradient steeper ($\Sigma(a, t_{\text{disc}}) \propto (a/s_0)^{-3}$ instead of $\Sigma(a, t_{\text{disc}}) \propto (a/s_0)^{-2}$). Besides some margin for the disc properties, the possible influence of the presence of the outer more massive planets and radial drift of planetesimals from outer disc regions on the available mass in planetesimals in the innermost disc region may be non-negligible. To give an anticipatory example, if planet b were inheriting 1 M$_\oplus$ of material from the innermost and 3.5 M$_\oplus$ from the outer disc, the decrease in bulk density would be limited to 2.4 per cent. Here, we assume that sufficient mass is available to form planets of 5 M$_\oplus$.

The modelled exoplanetary compositions are used as inputs in the exoplanet interior model outlined in Dorn et al. (2017a) and the variation in the mass radius curves produced as a function of formation time ($t_{\text{disc}}$), formation radius ($a$), and feeding zone size ($\Delta a$) was investigated for the HD219134 system.

**Fig. 3.** The ratio of solid species to gaseous species of each element as a function of radial location in the PPD at $t_{\text{disc}} = 0$ Myr and $t_{\text{disc}} = 2$ Myr for an HD 219134-like composition and disc model.

**Fig. 4.** The ratio of solid species to gaseous species of each element as a function of temperature in the mid-plane of the PPD at $t_{\text{disc}} = 0$ Myr and $t_{\text{disc}} = 2$ Myr for an HD 219134-like composition and disc model.

be trace species and therefore their contribution to the overall composition will be negligible.

Fig. 3 shows how the ratio of each element in solid state relative to gaseous state changes with increasing radial separation ($a$) from the host star at the two extremes of formation time ($t_{\text{disc}} = 0$ Myr and $t_{\text{disc}} = 2$ Myr) for an HD 219134 input chemistry and disc model. Fig. 4 is a modified version of Fig. 3 where we now plot the condensation fraction against temperature rather than radial separation for the two extremes of formation time. Differences for a solar-type input chemistry and disc model are negligible for our purposes (and are therefore not shown).

Figs 3 and 4 illustrate how the model can reproduce the expected condensation series found in Lodders (2003) and Lodders (2010). The figures also emphasize how the order of condensation of the elements analysed is invariant overtime.

**Planetary aggregation mode** The planetesimal compositions found using the equilibrium chemistry model and the PPD model are a function of formation time and formation location ($t_{\text{disc}}, a$). In reality, a body the size of a planet will incorporate material from a range of formation locations and possibly a range of formation

**Exoplanet interiors** The calculated compositions from the condensation model are used as bulk constraints for the rocky interiors of the planets. The employed interior model uses self-consistent thermodynamics and is described in detail by Dorn et al. (2015).

We assume purely rocky planet interiors that are composed of pure iron cores with silicate mantles. The mantles comprise the oxides Na$_2$O–CaO–FeO–MgO–Al$_2$O$_3$–SiO$_2$ (model chemical system NCFMAS). Mantle mineralogy is assumed to be dictated by thermodynamic equilibrium and computed by free-energy minimization (Connolly 2005) as a function of composition, interior pressure, and temperature. The Gibbs free-energy minimization procedure yields the amounts, mineralogy, and density of the stable minerals. For the core density profile, we use the equation of state fit of solid state iron in the hexagonal close-packed structure provided by Bouchet et al. (2013) on ab initio molecular dynamics simulations. We assume an adiabatic temperature profile for both mantle and core.

Given the calculated compositions on Fe, Si, Mg, Al, Ca, and Na (Section 2.2.1), we compute the mineralogy and the corresponding bulk density for the given planet masses $M_e = 4.36$ M$_\oplus$ and $M_e = 4.74$ M$_\oplus$. The compositions vary with the condensation temperatures in the PPD, $T_{\text{cond}} = \pm \Delta T_{\text{cond}}$. Fig. 6 plots the bulk density of planets as a function of condensation temperatures of the corresponding planetesimals. Lowest temperatures are not modelled since changes in bulk densities are expected to be negligible. At high
Figure 5. Schematic illustrating the growth of planets by accretion of condensates formed at different temperatures. The material that a planet at semimajor axis $a$ accretes from a feeding zone of width $\Delta a$ are condensates formed within the temperature range of $T_{\text{cond}} \pm \frac{1}{2} \Delta T_{\text{cond}}$.

Figure 6. Bulk density of rocky planets built from condensates as a function of the temperature at which the condensates form. In colour, (a) planet density $\rho_p$ and (b) ratio between the maximum bulk density $\rho_{\text{max}}$ and planet density $\rho_p$. The maximum bulk density $1.3 \rho_\oplus$ is the maximum value of $\rho_p$ that is realized at low condensation temperatures ($<1200$ K). For comparison, densities of planet b and c are $\rho_b = 1.15 \pm 0.13 \rho_\oplus$ and $\rho_c = 1.26 \pm 0.14 \rho_\oplus$.

temperatures ($>1200$ K), planets become very rich in Ca and Al and depleted in Fe. For example, at $T_{\text{cond}} = 1300$K, the rock composition is made of CaO (16 wt per cent), FeO ($\ll 0.1$ wt per cent), MgO (14 wt per cent), Al$_2$O$_3$ (43 wt per cent), SiO$_2$ (27 wt per cent), and Na$_2$O ($\ll 0.1$ wt per cent). A planet of this composition is core-free with a stable mineralogy as plotted in Fig. A1 (see Appendix A). For rock compositions where the sum of calcium and aluminium oxides exceed $\sim 80$ wt per cent, no stable solutions for the mineralogy can be found.

Fig. 6(a) demonstrates that compositions dominated by Mg, Si, and Fe corresponding to $T_{\text{cond}} < 1200$K explain bulk densities that fit planet c’s bulk density $\rho_c = 1.26 \pm 0.14 \rho_\oplus$. The low density of planet b ($\rho_b = 1.15 \pm 0.13 \rho_\oplus$) could be explained with condensates formed at high temperatures, being rich in Ca and Al and depleted in Fe. In that case, planet b has no core. The density ratio $\rho_{\text{max}}/\rho_p$ is plotted in Fig. 6(b) and covers the observed value $\rho_b/\rho_c = 1.1 \pm 0.16$. Thus, the density difference can be related to a difference in rock composition, due to a difference in formation temperature, of the solids out of which planets b and c are built, and hence a difference in their formation location at given times.

We plot the bulk densities of planets as a function of $a \pm \frac{1}{2} \Delta a$ for $t_{\text{disc}} = 0$ Myr and $t_{\text{disc}} = 2$ Myr in Fig. 7. The feeding zone $\Delta a$ is generally mass dependent in oligarchic growth and is usually set to a maximum of 10 Hill radii (Ida & Lin 2004). For planet b at 1 au ($t_{\text{disc}} = 0$ Myr), this maximum equals 0.18 au, while at 0.1 au ($t_{\text{disc}} = 2$ Myr) it is 0.018 au (Fig. 7). Larger effective feeding zones may be realized as a result of scattering of planetesimals by neighbouring planets.

In Fig. 7, we show two different times during the disc evolution, 0 and 2 Myr. Two million years is a general time span for which gas in the PPD can be present. However, from recent disc surveys it seems that the majority of planetesimal formation occurs very early for the discs investigated here and maybe limited to $<1$ Myr (Tychoniec et al. 2018). During this time, planets can exchange angular momentum with the disc gas and migrate. When the gas has dissipated, migration of planets ceases. Given our model assumptions, the orbital evolution of the planets can be informed by their bulk densities. With respect to Fig. 7, planet c could have started forming at $a \geq 0.9$ au, migrating within 2 Myr to its current position $a_{\text{obs},c} = 0.0653$ au. Planet b could have started its formation at $0.5 < a \leq 0.9$ au and migrated to its current position within 2 Myr.

In summary, the density differences of both Super-Earths can be inherited from the chemical variability of rocky planetesimals due to...
temperature differences in the PPD. Hence, the density differences of the planets constrain the temperatures of accreted building blocks and thus relate to formation locations and migration histories. In the following, we consider whether the inferred formation locations and present observed locations are compatible with a model in which the two planets undergo simultaneous, disc-driven migration.

### 2.2.2 Migration pathways

Given the close proximity of the planetary system – particularly planet b – to the host star, it seems likely that some amount of migration was necessary to assemble the final system. The rate of type I migration is linearly proportional to the mass of the planet (see e.g. Baruteau et al. 2014), meaning that one would naively expect planet b to migrate around 9 per cent faster than planet c, given its marginally higher mass. This raises the possibility that planet c originally formed interior to planet b, but was caught and eventually overtaken by its more massive sibling during migration. In order for this to occur, planet b would have to migrate significantly faster than planet c, such that the two planets would not trap in a first-order mean-motion resonance that would keep them well separated and stop them from switching positions. Given the 9 per cent mass difference, such a sizeable difference in migration time-scale seems unlikely. To investigate this possibility, we followed the method used in Hands, Alexander & Dehnen (2014), using N-body models of planets b and c with additional parametrized forces to represent the interaction between the two planets and the disc. These parametrized forces enforce migration as follows:

\[ \frac{da}{dt} = \frac{a}{\tau(M_p)}, \]

where \( a \) is semimajor axis, \( \tau(M_p) = \tau_0 M_p^{1/3} \), \( M_p \) is the mass of the planet and \( \tau_0 \) is the mass of a given planet undergoing migration. There is also a dimensionless eccentricity damping parameter \( K \) that defines the speed of eccentricity damping relative to the migration time-scale (larger \( K \) results in faster damping). We started each simulation with planet c at 1 au and planet b at 1.5 au, putting the two planets exterior to the 3:2 mean-motion resonance, and stopping each simulation when either planet reached the observed location of planet b. We tried \( \tau_0 = 100, 1000, 10,000, \) and 100 000 yr, with no eccentricity damping and \( K = 100 \). No combination of these parameters allowed planet b to catch and overtake planet c. Indeed, the two planets trapped in every case in either the 3:2 or 4:3 mean-motion resonance. We experimented with adding stochastic forcing to represent the force of a turbulent disc on the two planets (Rein & Papaloizou 2009), but were only able to exchange the positions of the two planets with extremely high levels of stochastic forcing.

Due to the apparent difficulty in switching the positions of these two planets, we suggest that they most likely formed in their present order and then migrated together into the inner disc. Assuming planet b formed at 1 au and migrated at a rate 9 per cent faster than planet c, one can show using equation (1) that planet c would need to have formed at 1.3 au to explain the relative locations of the planets today. This difference in formation location is in agreement with the argument presented in Section 2.2 that planet b may be formed from high temperature condensates, while planet c is built from condensates below 1200 K. We confirmed using the same parametrized N-body method that the two planets do not trap in resonance if subjected to divergent migration in this manner.

There are of course additional complications to this picture. The other inner planets f and d, exterior to b and c, are significantly more massive than b and c based on the lower limits of their masses. If planet f and d also migrated in the type I regime, they would certainly migrate faster than and catch the inner two planets, trapping them in resonance. However, the much larger masses of the outer planets could cause them to open a gap in some regions of the disc, leading to slower migration in the type II regime. We calculate a gap-opening criterion \( P \) (see equation 9, Baruteau et al. 2014) and assume a moderately flaring disc with scale height \( H = 0.033 R_p^{3/4} \) and a Shakura & Sunyaev (1973) viscosity parameter \( \alpha = 1 \times 10^{-2} \) to understand if this fate might befall the planets. Indeed, with this disc model and using the lower limits on the masses of planets f and d, all four inner planets would be marginally gap opening at their present locations, with \( P \) between 4 and 7. Crida & Morbidelli (2007) show that planets with these values of \( P \) open gaps of between 50 and 70 per cent, and that for such partial gaps, material left in the partial gap can exert a positive torque on the planets. This extra torque can cause migration to proceed more slowly than standard type II, or even drive outward migration.

Of course, these results are dependent upon the disc model – thicker and more viscous discs would prevent all four inner planets
from opening any gap, while a higher flaring index would allow them to open gaps further out in the disc. In any case though, if the scale height of the disc does flare with radius, the more massive outer two planets f and d would open gaps further out in the disc than their lower mass counterparts and therefore their migration would slow first. The depth of the gaps and their formation radius depends upon the exact masses of the planets f and d, and thus if they are indeed more massive than the lower limits, then they could potentially have opened gaps even further out in the disc. We suggest then that all four inner planets formed in their present order, and that planets f and d initially migrated in the type I regime and moved closer to planets b and c until they reached a region of the disc where they could open partial gaps. At this point, they entered the modified type II regime – where coorbital material reduces the type II migration rate – and planets b and c were able to continue their migration unhindered. We note, however, that the migration of four planets in unison is a complicated and non-linear problem that is highly dependent on disc parameters, and further work – including hydrodynamical simulations – is required to understand the most likely evolution pathways of these inner four planets in their host disc. For instance, in the partial gap-opening regime there is a potential for migration to runaway, leading to very fast inward migration (see e.g. Baruteau et al. 2014). Given their enormous orbital separation relative to the rest of the system, ee do not expect the outermost planets g and h (Motalebi et al. 2015) to influence this picture. We further note that recent work (e.g. Goldreich & Schlichting 2014; Hands & Alexander 2018) suggests that mean-motion resonances created during migration might also be broken by the disc, and therefore the lack of resonances in the present-day system does not necessarily mean that the system was always free of them.

2.3 Different volatile budgets as a cause for lower bulk density of planet b

In this Section, we discuss and investigate whether the density difference between planet b and c can be explained solely by different volatile layers while neglecting any differences in rock composition as discussed before (Section 2.2). In general, possible volatile layers include (1) primordial atmospheres, (2) outgassed atmospheres, and (3) water-rich layers. We discuss each of the three possibilities and attempt to quantify their probabilities.

2.3.1 Primordial atmosphere

Hydrogen-dominated primordial atmospheres for both planets have been excluded by Dorn & Heng (2018). They suggest a theoretical minimum threshold thickness for a primordial atmosphere below which evaporative loss efficiently erodes an atmosphere on short time-scales (tens of Myr). The minimum threshold thickness for H-dominated atmospheres on planet b and c are significantly larger than the inferred atmospheric thicknesses implying that the atmospheres must be of higher mean molecular weight and/or is outgassed from the rocky interior.

While Dorn & Heng (2018) focused on H-dominated atmospheres, we expand their methodology to also calculate the minimum threshold thicknesses for atmospheres dominated by He, H$_2$O, and CO$_2$. Fig. 8 shows the comparison of the different threshold thicknesses with the inferred atmospheric thicknesses as taken from Dorn & Heng (2018). The probability distribution on atmospheric thickness was calculated using a Bayesian inference analysis using the data of planetary mass and radius, and relative refractory element abundances based on the host star proxy. Their interior model allowed for variability in core size, mantle thickness and composition, water mass fraction, atmosphere composition and extent, and thermal state. We employ the same model for the rocky interior.

The minimum threshold thicknesses $\Delta R$ are calculated following the methodology of Dorn & Heng (2018) but with one adaption: The minimum threshold thicknesses correspond to a minimum mass of gas. While Dorn & Heng (2018) estimate this gas mass by the amount of gas that is lost during the age of the star, we use the amount of gas that is lost over 100 Myr. Using stellar age is suitable for primary or primordial atmospheres only. Differences between our results and Dorn & Heng (2018) are small. Details on the calculation of the minimum threshold thicknesses $\Delta R$ and mass-loss rates $m_{\text{gas}}$ are discussed in Appendix B.

Among all thresholds for H$_2$, He, H$_2$O, and CO$_2$ dominated atmosphere, only the threshold $\Delta R$ for H$_2$ (and to some extent He) is larger than inferred gas layer thicknesses (Fig. 8). Thus, as found by Dorn & Heng (2018), a primordial H atmosphere can be excluded and a helium atmosphere is little likely for planet b.

2.3.2 Outgassed atmospheres

Generally, outgassed atmospheres of higher mean molecular weight (e.g. H$_2$O, CO$_2$, CO, CH$_4$) can originate from early outgassing during the magma ocean stage (primary atmosphere) or during solid-state evolution of a planet (secondary atmosphere). Could these also explain the lower density of planet b?

Secondary atmospheres outgassed during the solid-state evolution of planets continuously replenish the atmosphere over geological time-scale. The rate of outgassing depends on numerous aspects of which planet mass, planet age, thermal state, and convection...
mode (e.g. stagnant-lid, mobile-lid) dominate. The latter two are largely unconstrained (e.g. Valencia, O’Connell & Sasselov 2007; Van Heck & Tackley 2011; Tackley et al. 2013; Noack & Breuer 2014; O’Neill et al. 2014). However, planets much older and 4–5 times larger than the Earth are expected to experience less outgassing than Earth-like planets. Given estimates of planet mass and age (12.9 Gyr as estimated by Takeda et al. 2007), an upper limit on the outgassing rate can be stated. In Fig. 9, we show an upper outgassing rate as extracted from Kite, Manga & Gaidos (2009) for planet masses of 4–5 M⊕ and ages 8–13 Gyr. This maximum outgassing rate neglects chemical processes and is thus independent of μ; it includes the uncertainty on the convection mode and is comparable to other studies (Tosi et al. 2017; Dorn, Noack & Rozel 2018).

The upper outgassing rate is a factor of few lower than our estimates of evaporative loss rates (equation B2). Although uncertainties on both loss and outgassing rates may be significant (e.g. Noack, Breuer & Spohn 2012; Erkaev et al. 2013; Tackley et al. 2013; Lopez 2017; Tosi et al. 2017), volcanic replenishment of the planet b’s atmosphere seems limited given its continuous erosion by stellar irradiation.

Can a primary atmosphere that is outgassed from the early magma ocean stage be present on planet b and explain its low density? Let us assume a maximum volatile content in silicates of 3 per cent that is the maximum water content measured in achondritic meteorites (Jarosewich 1990) that are discussed as proxies for silicate parts of differentiated planetesimals (Elkins-Tanton & Seager 2008). Multiplying 3 per cent with the planet’s mantle mass, this translates into a maximum volatile content of 4 × 10²³ kg (assuming an Earth-like 50 per cent core mass fraction). During the age of the planet (12.9 Gyr), about 1 × 10²³ kg of volatiles are lost (for low evaporation efficiencies of η = 0.01 and assuming Sun-like evolution the X-ray flux as described by Ribas et al. 2005). Thus the maximum amount of gas that can be outgassed during the magma ocean stage is of similar order than the minimum amounts that are lost by stellar irradiation. This simple back-of-the-envelope calculation shows that the amount of primary atmosphere on planet b must be limited. However, most importantly, there is no reason to believe that planet b could have a primary atmosphere, while planet c could not since both planets are similar in mass. Also, the closer distance to the star of planet b implies that planet b would lose three times more gas mass than planet c. Thus, a massive primary atmosphere on planet b is unlikely to explain a density difference between the planets of 10 per cent.

In summary, it is unlikely that a massive primary or secondary atmosphere is present on planet b but not on planet c. Our above argumentation is rather qualitative, a quantitative description would involve many unconstrained interior parameters and lies outside the scope of our paper. However, we quantitatively investigate the hypothetical scenario of planet b hosting a terrestrial-type atmosphere, while planet c is a bare rocky planet. This extreme scenario maximizes the modelled density difference between both planets. Fig. 10 plots the bulk density ratio of planet c to planet b (ρc/ρb). The observed value is 1.1 with large uncertainties (grey area). If planet c were purely rocky and planet b were simply a scaled version thereof but also including a terrestrial-like atmosphere, the density ratio can reach values as high as 1.035 (for Earth- or Venus-like atmospheres). Larger density ratios can be reached

1The X-ray flux evolution of the Sun is F_X ∝ t_{Sun}^{−1.33} for t_{star} > 0.1 Gyr, and F_X at 0.1 Gyr is the maximum value of F_X for t < 0.1 Gyr (Ribas et al. 2005).
with atmospheres of larger scale height that are dominated by gas of lighter mean molecular weights (e.g. H₂O, CH₄). A 100 bar methane atmosphere on planet b can indeed explain \( \rho_b/\rho_c = 1.1 \). Allowing for differently thick (\( \lesssim 100 \) bars) terrestrial-like atmospheres (N₂, CO₂) on planet b, 35 per cent of the observed density data can be explained, while lighter mean molecular weight atmospheres (H₂O, CH₄) can explain 50 per cent of the observed densities. The probabilities (35 per cent and 50 per cent) are simply derived by integrating the normal distribution of \( \rho_b/\rho_c = 1.1 \pm 0.16 \) from 0 to 1.035 (obtaining 35 per cent) or 1.1 (obtaining 50 per cent), respectively.

### 2.3.3 Water-rich layers

The low density of planet b can in principle be explained by water layers of few per cents in mass fraction. This scenario is only possible, if planet b formed outside planet c, and both planets exchanged their positions after their formation. In Section 2.2.2, we have shown that the repositioning of the planets during migration is unlikely.

### 2.4 Observational biases

Observational biases on planetary data are generally difficult to quantify. They can originate from limited amount of observations and inaccurate model assumptions. Two main sources are inaccuracies on stellar and orbital parameters. A difference in stellar parameters would equally affect data of both planets b and c, and thus the *relative* difference in their bulk densities – which is the focus of this study – would be largely unaffected. Also, this nearby star HD219134 is very well characterized. Its density was derived using stellar models and was further validated by Gillon et al. (2017) using a global analysis of the transit photometry. Unresolved orbital parameters can influence the determined planet mass. For example, a circular orbit was assumed for planet b given its estimated short circulation time-scale of 80 Myr (Gillon et al. 2017). Assuming the hypothetical case that planet b could have an eccentricity similar to planet c, the resulting mass and bulk density of planet b would be even slightly smaller (by 0.002 per cent), which would support an existing difference in bulk densities between the planets.

Further sources of bias are instrumental systematics. For the transit photometry, the employed 4.5 μm detector of Spitzer/IRAC (Gillon et al. 2017) has an accuracy on the scale of photon noise and thus possible bias is within one standard deviation (Ingalls et al. 2016). Accuracy on the HARPS-N RV data set is high because of an extremely stable and strictly controlled instrument and a tailored data reduction software. A total instrumental error of \( \sim 0.5 \) m s\(^{-1}\) is expected (Cosentino et al. 2014) that is large compared to the measured RV signal error of 0.075 m s\(^{-1}\). Dominating instrumental errors stem from spectral drifts due to temperature and air pressure variations at the HARPS-N site. Since the RV measurements for both planets were taken from the same time period (2012 August–2015 September), we expect the relative masses (\( M_b-M_c \)) to be more accurate than the individual masses (\( M_b, M_c \)). However, it lies outside the scope of this study to quantify the possible accuracy on the relative masses.

For the nominal data uncertainties (Table 1), there is a 20 per cent chance that both planets have a similar bulk density (within 5 per cent, such as Venus and the Earth). If we add the instrumental error of 0.5 m s\(^{-1}\) to the nominal RV signal, the uncertainties on the bulk densities become large (b: 24 per cent, c: 34 per cent). In that case, the chance that both planets have similar bulk densities are lower (8 per cent), which is simply because larger data uncertainties imply a larger range of possible densities for each planet.

### 2.5 Discussion

Here, we have argued that the density difference between planet b and c is likely due to a difference in rock composition instead of a difference in volatile layer thickness. While planet c can be explained by silicates and iron (dominantly Mg, Si, Fe, O), planet b can be dominated by a Ca and Al-rich interior with no iron core. This drastic difference in rock composition has implications on their possible interior dynamics, magnetic fields, and atmospheric properties.

The star is bright and small enough to allow the characterization of the planetary atmosphere in terms of composition and extent. Follow-up transit transmission spectroscopy with the *Hubble Space Telescope* (HST) and occultation emission spectroscopy with *James Webb Space Telescope* (JWST) were suggested by Gillon et al. (2017). On one hand, the addition of constraints on atmospheric composition and extent may provide valuable information to further judge whether planet b’s low density is indeed not due to a thick atmosphere but due to a Ca- and Al-rich interior. On the other hand, if possible atmospheres on both planets interact with their rocky interiors, we naively expect that possible terrestrial-type atmospheres on both planets may be chemically very different, e.g. due to different oxidizing conditions (Palme & Fegley 1990). However, both planets b and c can have no significant atmosphere.

Furthermore, the Ca- and Al-rich interior of planet b implies the absence of an iron core. Thus, a magnetic field as generated by core dynamics such as on the Earth cannot exist for planet b. If interactions between the magnetic fields of star and planet become detectable (Saur et al. 2013), this system could be an interesting target to investigate if signatures for planet b and c differ significantly.

Further observations will also allow us to improve the precision on planet radii and masses as discussed by Gillon et al. (2017). With at least 50 observed transits for both planets and at least 2000 new RV measurements, the precision on planet radii can be less than 1 per cent and 3 per cent on planet mass. This would lead to a precision of 4 per cent on bulk density and thus 6 per cent on the density ratio \( \rho_b/\rho_c \). Within \( 1\sigma \), this improved uncertainty could rule out whether both planets are scaled-up analogues with no considerable difference in their bulk densities.

### 2.6 Summary on HD219134 b and c

For HD219134, the innermost planet b is 10 per cent lower in bulk density compared to planet c. We investigated how the interiors could differ from each other in order to reproduce the observed densities. The probabilities for a difference in volatile layers is 35–50 per cent, while both planets can also be similar (such as the Earth and Venus) with a probability of 20 per cent. The most likely scenario (80 per cent) is a difference in rock composition, i.e. planet b can be explained by a Ca- and Al-rich composition that is inherited from the first solids to condense out of the disc (above 1200 K), while planet c’s interior is best fit with a composition rich in Mg, Si, and Fe as we know it from the Earth. With a relatively simple migration model, we show that corresponding formation histories of both planets are plausible. Assuming planet b started its formation at 1 au, planet c would need to form at 1.3 au such that both planets reach their observed positions during the gas disc life.
3 Previous studies on 55 Cnc e interior

3.1 Previous studies on 55 Cnc e interior

There are plenty of studies discussing the possible nature of the highly irradiated 55 Cnc e (e.g. Gillon et al. 2012; Demory et al. 2016c; Bourrier et al. 2018). Dorn, Hinkel & Venturini (2017b) have first used the stellar abundances as proxies for its rocky interior. Its latest mass–radius estimates (8.59 M⊕, 1.95 R⊕; Crida et al. 2018b) imply non-negligibly thick layers of volatiles under the assumption that the lowest rock density is the one of MgSiO3. Different possible volatile layers were proposed. Water envelopes to those shown in Fig. 11. A good fit to interiors built from high-temperature condensates (Fig. 12). We use the stellar proxy stated in Dorn et al. (2017b) and take such chemical variability within the disc into account. In this case, the observed bulk density of 55 Cnc e (with uncertainty of 0.062) can be matched, suggesting the formation of W ASP-47 e in more detail to understand the possible exosphere species in case of a Ca- and Al-rich interior.

Later studies favour a rocky planet with a thin mineral-rich atmosphere (Demory et al. 2015; Bourrier et al. 2018; Crida et al. 2018a). However, within the data mass–radius uncertainty, interiors with plausible ranges of mineral-rich atmospheres (≤0.1 bar surface pressures) can only explain high-density interiors but fail to explain the low-density interiors of the mass–radius distribution (Bourrier et al. 2018).

3.2 A possible Ca-Al-rich interior

Can we explain the low density of 55 Cnc e with a formation from high temperature condensates? In order to investigate this, we use the above discussed interior model (Section 2.2). First, we compute the range of purely rocky interiors that fit the stellar abundance proxy while neglecting compositional variability that can occur in the PPD (Fig. 12). We use the stellar proxy stated in Dorn et al. (2017b) and assume a solar C/O ratio. In this case, bulk densities of 1.75–1.3 ρ⊙ can be reached within the measured 1σ uncertainty of the host star abundance (the red area in Fig. 12), which is significantly denser than 55 Cnc e (with ρSSC/M⊙ = 1.164 ± 0.062ρ⊙). The range 1.75–1.3 ρ⊙ constitutes our stated ρmax in Fig. 13. The ratio of ρSSC/M⊙ is then compared to the variability in bulk density as inherited from chemically different planetesimals within the PPD of Sun-like stars in Fig. 13. The red and blue curves are identical to those shown in Fig. 11. A good fit to ρSSC/M⊙ is achieved by interiors built from high-temperature condensates (>1200 K) that are rich in Ca and Al.

For 55 Cnc e’s mass of 8.59 M⊙, possible radii range from 1.7 to 1.88 R⊙ according to the measured uncertainty in the host star abundance. By allowing variation in rock composition as inherited from chemically different planetesimals, radii can reach 1.92 R⊙.
Figure 12. Mass–radius plot showing 55 Cnc e compared to scaled idealized interiors. We assume a 1:1 compositional relationship (i.e. ratios of refractory elements) between the host star 55 Cnc and the PPD in which 55 Cnc e formed. The variability of purely rocky planets forming at different times and locations within the disc is highlighted by the blue area. Purely rocky interiors that are built from temperate condensates ($T_{\text{cond}} < 1200$ K) follow the red area, which respects the uncertainty in measured stellar abundances. Interiors that fit the median stellar abundance follow the red curves. The solid coloured curves assume the lowest density of a Ca- and Al-rich composition plus a 0.1 bar mineral atmospheres.

Figure 13. Possible variability in bulk density for a rocky planet plotted as the ratio $\rho_{\text{max}}/\rho_p$ as a function of temperature $T_{\text{cond}}$ and semimajor axis $a$ (at $t_{\text{disc}} = 0$ Myr). The red and blue curves are adapted from cases of the Sun and HD219134, which show negligible differences due to their specific abundances. 55 Cnc e can be built from condensates that formed at temperatures $T_{\text{cond}}$ because its density $\rho_{\text{55Cnc e}}$ deviates from $\rho_{\text{max}}$. $\rho_{\text{max}}$ is the density that is realized for the majority of purely rocky planets, which form at temperate conditions ($<1200$ K) around the star 55 Cnc. The specific stellar abundance of 55 Cnc is taken into account when calculating $\rho_{\text{max}}$ and $\rho_{\text{55Cnc e}}$ (see text). The grey bar denotes uncertainty of $\rho_{\text{max}}/\rho_{\text{55Cnc e}}$.

Figure 14. Mass–radius plot showing WASP-47 e compared to scaled idealized interiors. We assume a 1:1 compositional relationship (i.e. ratios of refractory elements) between the host star WASP-47 and the PPD in which WASP-47 e formed. The variability of purely rocky planets forming at different times and locations within the disc is highlighted by the blue area. Purely rocky interiors that are built from temperate condensates ($T_{\text{cond}} < 1200$ K) follow the red area, which respects the uncertainty in measured stellar abundances. Interiors that fit the median stellar abundance follow the red curves. The solid coloured curves assume the lowest density of a Ca- and Al-rich composition plus a 0.1 bar mineral atmospheres.

Figure 15. Possible variability in bulk density for a rocky planet plotted as the ratio $\rho_{\text{max}}/\rho_p$ as a function of temperature $T_{\text{cond}}$ and semimajor axis $a$ (at $t_{\text{disc}} = 0$ Myr). The red and blue curves are adapted from cases of the Sun and HD219134, which show negligible differences due to their specific abundances. WASP-47 e can be built from condensates that formed at temperatures $T_{\text{cond}}$ because its density $\rho_{\text{WASP-47 e}}$ deviates from $\rho_{\text{max}}$. $\rho_{\text{max}}$ is the density that is realized for the majority of purely rocky planets that form at temperate conditions ($<1200$ K) around the star WASP-47. The specific stellar abundance of WASP-47 is taken into account when calculating $\rho_{\text{max}}$ and $\rho_{\text{WASP-47 e}}$ (see text). The grey bar denotes uncertainty of $\rho_{\text{max}}/\rho_{\text{WASP-47 e}}$.

from high-temperature condensates. In Fig. 15, the range 1.29–1.37 $\rho_p$ constitutes our stated $\rho_{\text{max}}$. $\rho_{\text{WASP-47 e}}$ is compared to the variability in bulk density as inherited from chemically different planetesimals within the PPD of Sun-like stars. The red and blue curves (identical to those shown in Fig. 11) can explain the planet properties only at high condensation temperatures.

Although the MgSiO$_3$ curve intersects the planetary data in Fig. 14, it is an idealized composition that represents the lowest density end-member of a purely rocky planet (dominated by Fe, Si, and Mg) but unlikely exists in nature.

In summary, WASP-47 e can be explained by a Ca- and Al-rich interior without thick gas layers. Given its high stellar irradiation, any gaseous envelope is subject to significant evaporative escape. So far, no characterization of the escaping atmosphere (exosphere) has been published. Given our Ca- and Al-rich interior scenario, we predict the absence of escaping hydrogen originating from a H/He
or water layer, but consider ionic calcium, silicon, magnesium, and maybe even aluminium to be possible in the exosphere. Which ions can be present in the exosphere is in part related to the vapour pressures, sputtering efficiencies, ionization, and escape rates of the different species.

5 FURTHER CANDIDATES

Future observations will show whether additional planetary systems can be found with Super-Earths that potentially formed from high-temperature condensates. If such Super-Earths exist, we expect to find them very close to their stars with densities 10–20 per cent lower than Earth-like compositions. Theoretically, Ca- and Al-rich interiors are indeed part of predicted planet populations from Carter-Bond et al. (2012a) and Thiaubaud et al. (2014) who assume chemical equilibrium in PPDs. Thiaubaud et al. (2014) find Ca- and Al-rich planets at <0.3 au. They state bulk compositions of 40–50 wt percent Al, 7–9 wt percent Ca, which is similar to compositions investigated here.

An open question is how much mass is available in the innermost disc region to form massive Ca- and Al-rich planets. Previous studies that employed N-body simulations find Ca- and Al-rich planets of up to 1 M⊕ (Carter-Bond et al. 2012a) and 3 M⊕ (Thiaubaud et al. 2014). Our proposed planet candidates are significantly more massive (up to 8.5 M⊕). In order to form such massive planets close to the star, the disc surface density needs to be high enough in the innermost region. Disc properties are indeed not well constrained and adjustments in, e.g., the total disc mass and the surface density gradient may allow to form massive Ca- and Al-rich planets. However, there is an additional interesting aspect to the three candidates. All of them occur in systems with gas giants. This suggests that the gas giants may alter the disc structure in such a way that the formation of very close-in Super-Earths becomes possible. Although Carter-Bond, O’Brien & Raymond (2012b) argue that Ca- and Al-rich planets are extremely rare when migrating giant planets result in large-scale mixing of planetesimals, giant planets may also isolate planetesimal reservoirs by altering the disc structure as suggested for Jupiter (Alibert et al. 2018).

In Fig. 16, we plot confirmed Super-Earths and highlight the discussed planets. PLATO (Rauer et al. 2014) will provide us with well-characterized planetary masses and radii that allow for 10 per cent precision on bulk density, which is necessary to place strong constraints on the existence of other Ca- and Al-rich interiors. However, mass and radius alone are insufficient to distinguish between interiors that are rich in either volatiles or Ca and Al. As demonstrated here, additional considerations of atmospheric escape (55 Cnc e, WASP-47 e) or constraints that stem from neighbouring planets (HD219134 b) are required to conclude for the presence of Ca- and Al-rich interiors.

6 CONCLUSIONS

We assumed that building blocks of rocky planets form from condensates of cooling PPDs. Very close to the star, temperatures in the gas disc are initially sufficiently high that most traditionally rocky species are vaporized. Theoretically, the building blocks that form at high temperatures (>1200 K) and in chemical equilibrium, can vary drastically in refractory element composition. A planet formed from these planetesimals can be rich in Ca and Al while being depleted in Fe. Here, we demonstrated that such compositional differences would be reflected in a lower bulk density of 10–20 per cent compared to Earth-like compositions, even less than pure MgSiO3. We have quantified the density variability of rocky planets as inherited from the chemical variability of planetesimals that formed in different temperature environments in the PPD. We demonstrated that there are at least three Super-Earths, HD219134 b, 55 Cnc e, and WASP-47 e for which Ca- and Al-rich and core-free interiors can explain their observed properties.

Identifying Ca- and Al-rich planets is impossible from bulk density alone. Additional constraints are necessary to rule out otherwise possible volatile-rich interiors that can have identical bulk densities. For our three studied candidates, these employed additional constraints differ. For the highly irradiated planets WASP-47 e and 55 Cnc e, the thickness of volatile layers is limited given atmospheric escape and restricted outgassing. For HD219134 b, the existence of the Super-Earth HD219134 c of similar mass but higher bulk density imposes additional constraints on their interiors. For 55 Cnc e, the observed escape of ionic calcium additionally supports an interior rich in Ca, however, further investigations are required to understand the possible detection of sodium (Ridden-Harper et al. 2016).

In summary, HD219134 b, 55 Cnc e, and WASP-47 e are candidates of a new class of Ca- and Al-rich Super-Earths.
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gas that is lost over 100 Myr, which is less than one per cent of the stellar age of HD219134 of 12.9 Gyr (Takeda et al. 2007). Here, the minimum threshold thickness \( \Delta R_{th} \) is defined as
\[
\Delta R_{\text{th}} = H \ln \left( \frac{P_b}{P_{\text{photo}}} \right) \approx H \ln \left( \frac{g_{\text{surf}} m_{\text{gas}} 100 \text{Myr}}{4\pi R_p^2 \eta} \right),
\]
where the pressure scale height \( H \) equals the universal gas constant \( R_s \) times equilibrium temperature \( T_{\text{eq}} \) divided by mean molecular weight \( \mu \) and surface gravity \( g_{\text{surf}} \). \( P_b \) corresponds to the pressure that the total amount of lost gas (over 100 Myr) would impose. The energy LIMITED gas loss rate \( m_{\text{gas}} \) is calculated following Lopez (2017):
\[
m_{\text{gas}} = -\eta \pi F_{\text{XUV}} R_{\text{base}}^2 \frac{\rho_w}{GM_p K_{\text{tide}}},
\]
where \( \eta \) is the photoevaporation efficiency or the fraction of incident XUV energy that removes gas. \( F_{\text{XUV}} \) is the XUV flux of the star \( (4 \times 10^{19} \text{erg sec}^{-1}) \) as estimated by Porto de Mello, Fernandez del Peloso & Ghezzi (2006), \( G \) is the gravitational constant, \( M_p \) is planet mass, \( K_{\text{tide}} \) accounts for contributions of tidal forces to the potential energy and is set to unity for simplicity. The dependence of \( m_{\text{gas}} \) on the mean molecular weight \( \mu \) is introduced through \( H \) by \( R_{\text{base}} \), which is the planetary radii at the base of the XUV photosphere and is approximated by
\[
R_{\text{base}} = R_p + H \ln \frac{P_{\text{photo}}}{P_{\text{base}}},
\]
where \( R_p \) is planet radii at \( P_{\text{photo}} \), that is the pressure at the optical photosphere in a transit geometry. \( P_{\text{photo}} \) is approximated by \( \frac{\rho_w}{\kappa} \sqrt{H/2\pi R_p} \), with \( \kappa = 0.1 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ g}^{-1} \) (Freedman et al. 2014) and is about 1 mbar for both planets.

The pressure at the XUV photosphere \( P_{\text{base}} \) is approximated by
\[
\rho_w \sqrt{H/2\pi R_p} = m_{\text{nuc}} g_{\text{surf}} H_{\text{eq}} \rho_w = 6 \times 10^{-18} (h_{\nu_0}/E_i)^{3/2} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ with a photon energy of } h_{\nu_0} = 20 \text{ eV} \text{ (Murray-Clay, Chiang & Murray 2009) and the ionization energy } E_i \text{ for hydrogen of } 13.6 \text{ eV.}}
\]

APPENDIX C: FURTHER DETAILS ON THE PPD MODEL

In the following section, \( t_{\text{disc}} \) is as defined in the main body of the paper as the time in the PPD phase. \( a \) is the radial distance from the host star as defined in the main body of the paper. \( M_0 \) is the mass of the PPD that is related to the mass of the host star via \( M_0 = 0.1 M_\star \). \( s_0 \) defined as the initial radial extent of the PPD and is kept at 33 au in accordance with Chambers (2009). All other constants are represented by their standard symbols.

The inner viscous evaporating region has a surface density given by
\[
\Sigma(a, t_{\text{disc}}) = \Sigma_{\text{evap}} \left( \frac{a}{s_0} \right)^{-3} \left( 1 + \frac{t_{\text{disc}}}{T_{\text{vis}}} \right)^{-\frac{17}{11}},
\]
where
\[
\Sigma_{\text{evap}} = \Sigma_{\text{vis}} \left( \frac{T_{\text{vis}}}{T_e} \right)^{\frac{11}{14}}
\]
and
\[ T_e = 1380 \text{ K.} \] The opacity in the inner viscous evaporating region follows the power law described in Stepinski (1998).

The temperature in the viscous evaporating inner region is given by
\[
T(a, t_{\text{disc}}) = T_{\text{vis}} \left( \frac{a}{s_0} \right)^{-\frac{7}{11}} \left( 1 + \frac{t_{\text{disc}}}{T_{\text{vis}}} \right)^{-\frac{11}{14}}.
\]
and the transition radius to the intermediate viscous region is
\[ r_t(t_{\text{disc}}) = s_0 \left( \frac{\Sigma_{\text{rad}}}{\Sigma_{\text{vis}}} \right)^{\frac{11}{19}} \left( 1 + \frac{t_{\text{disc}}}{\tau_{\text{vis}}} \right)^{-\frac{19}{11}}. \]  
(C4)

The surface density in the intermediate viscous region is
\[ \Sigma(a, t_{\text{disc}}) = \Sigma_{\text{vis}} \left( \frac{a}{s_0} \right)^{\frac{11}{19}} \left( 1 + \frac{t_{\text{disc}}}{\tau_{\text{vis}}} \right)^{-\frac{19}{11}}, \]  
(C5)

where
\[ \Sigma_{\text{vis}} = \frac{7M_0}{10\pi s_0}. \]  
(C6)

The temperature in the intermediate viscous region is
\[ T(a, t_{\text{disc}}) = T_{\text{vis}} \left( \frac{a}{s_0} \right)^{\frac{11}{19}} \left( 1 + \frac{t_{\text{disc}}}{\tau_{\text{vis}}} \right)^{-\frac{19}{11}}, \]  
(C7)

where
\[ T_{\text{vis}} = \left( \frac{27s_0}{64\sigma} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \frac{\alpha \gamma k}{\mu m_H} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \frac{7M_0}{10\pi s_0^3} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \frac{GM_*}{s_0^3} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}. \]  
(C8)

and
\[ \tau_{\text{vis}} = \frac{1}{16\pi} \frac{\mu m_H \Omega_0 M_0}{\alpha \gamma k \Sigma_{\text{vis}} T_{\text{vis}}}. \]  
(C9)

The surface density in the outer irradiated region is
\[ \Sigma(a, t_{\text{disc}}) = \Sigma_{\text{rad}} \left( \frac{a}{s_0} \right)^{\frac{11}{19}} \left( 1 + \frac{t_{\text{disc}}}{\tau_{\text{vis}}} \right)^{-\frac{19}{11}}, \]  
(C11)

where
\[ \Sigma_{\text{rad}} = \frac{T_{\text{vis}}}{T_{\text{rad}}}, \]  
(C12)

and
\[ T_{\text{rad}} = \left( \frac{4}{7} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \frac{T_* R_* k}{GM_* \mu m_H} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \frac{R_*}{s_0} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} T_*, \]  
(C13)

and the temperature in the outer irradiated region is
\[ T(a) = T_{\text{rad}} \left( \frac{a}{s_0} \right)^{-\frac{1}{7}}. \]  
(C14)

To convert the surface density profile into a pressure profile, we have assumed that the disc is an ideal gas with a Gaussian density profile. The surface density is converted into a pressure as follows:
\[ P = \frac{k \rho T}{\mu m_H}, \]  
(C15)

and
\[ \int \rho \, dz = \Sigma, \]  
(C16)

and we assume that
\[ \rho = \rho_0 e^{-\frac{z^2}{2H^2}}. \]  
(C17)

We therefore find that
\[ \Sigma = \rho_0 \sqrt{2H^2 \pi}, \]  
(C18)

hence the pressure at the mid-plane is
\[ P = \frac{k \Sigma T}{\mu m_H H \sqrt{2\pi}}. \]  
(C19)

Using the standard formulae,
\[ c_s^2 = \frac{kT}{\mu m_H}, \]  
(C20)

\[ H = \frac{c_s}{\Omega}, \]  
(C21)

\[ \Omega = \sqrt{\frac{GM_*}{a^3}} \]  
(C22)

We find that the relationship between the pressure profile and the surface density profile is
\[ P = \frac{GM_* k \Sigma^2 T}{2\pi \mu m_H a^3}. \]  
(C23)