



Jet Propulsion Laboratory
California Institute of Technology

You Had Me at Habitable: *NASA's Search for Habitable Planets and Life Beyond the Solar System*

Dr. Gary Blackwood, Program Manager

NASA Exoplanet Exploration Program

Jet Propulsion Laboratory

California Institute of Technology

March 21, 2017

SETI Institute Weekly Colloquium

Mountain View, CA



Program Overview

Science Updates

How Do We Discover & Characterize Exoplanets?

Progress towards 2010 Decadal Survey Priorities

Plan Forward: Science and Technology

You Had Me at Habitable

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NASA Exoplanet Exploration Program

Astrophysics Division, NASA Science Mission Directorate

NASA's search for habitable planets and life beyond our solar system



Program purpose described in
2014 NASA Science Plan

1. Discover planets around other stars
2. Characterize their properties
3. Identify candidates that could harbor life

ExEP serves the science community and NASA by implementing NASA's space science vision for exoplanets

SETI Mission Statement

THE MISSION OF THE
SETI INSTITUTE
IS TO **EXPLORE, UNDERSTAND AND EXPLAIN**
THE ORIGIN, NATURE AND PREVALENCE
OF LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE..

...and to apply the knowledge gained to inspire
and guide present and future generations.

NASA Exoplanet Exploration Program

Space Missions and Mission Studies



Decadal Studies



Public Communications



Supporting Research & Technology

Key Sustaining Research



Large Binocular Telescope Interferometer



Keck Single Aperture Imaging and RV



NN-EXPLORE

Technology Development



High-Contrast Imaging



Deployable Starshades

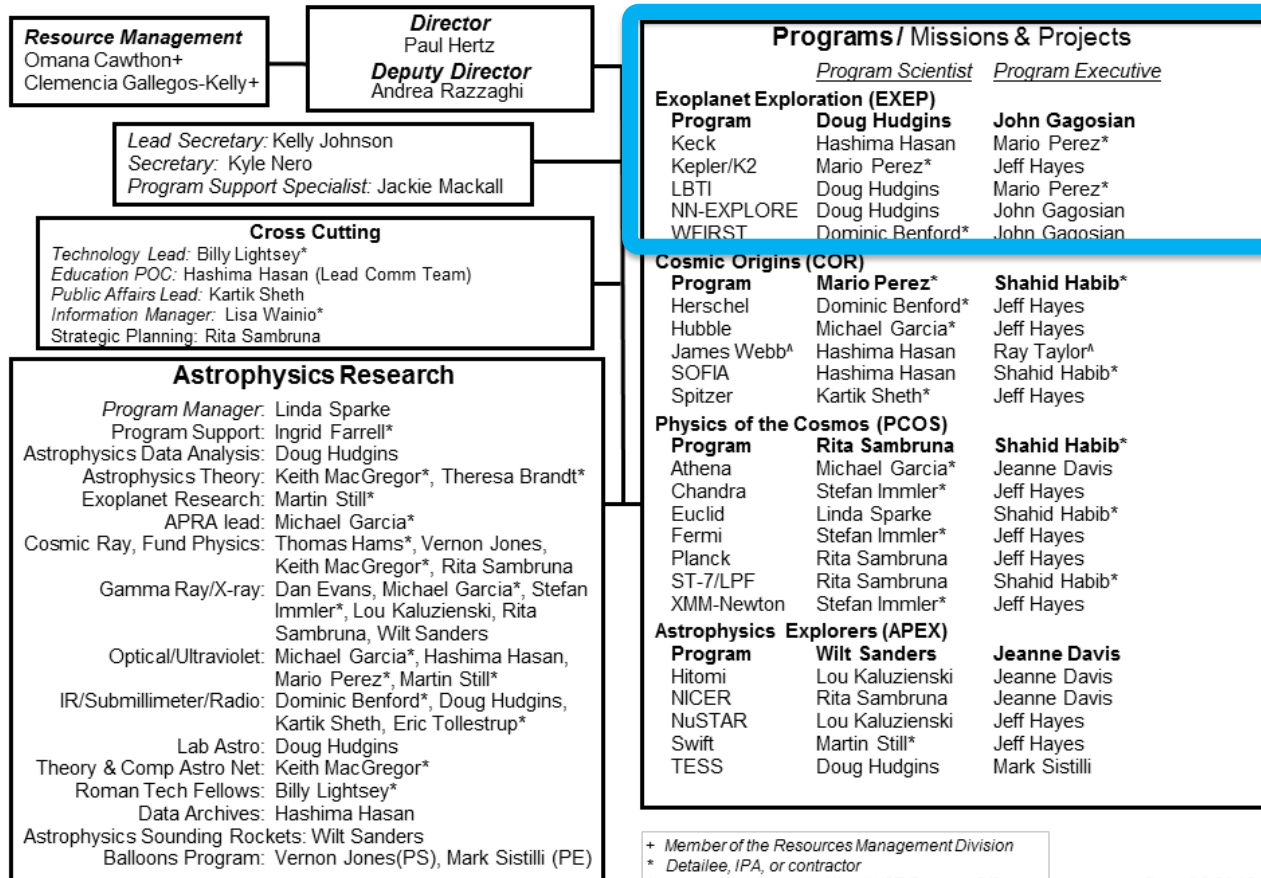
NASA Exoplanet Science Institute



<https://exoplanets.nasa.gov>

ExEP is a Program Office within the NASA Astrophysics Division

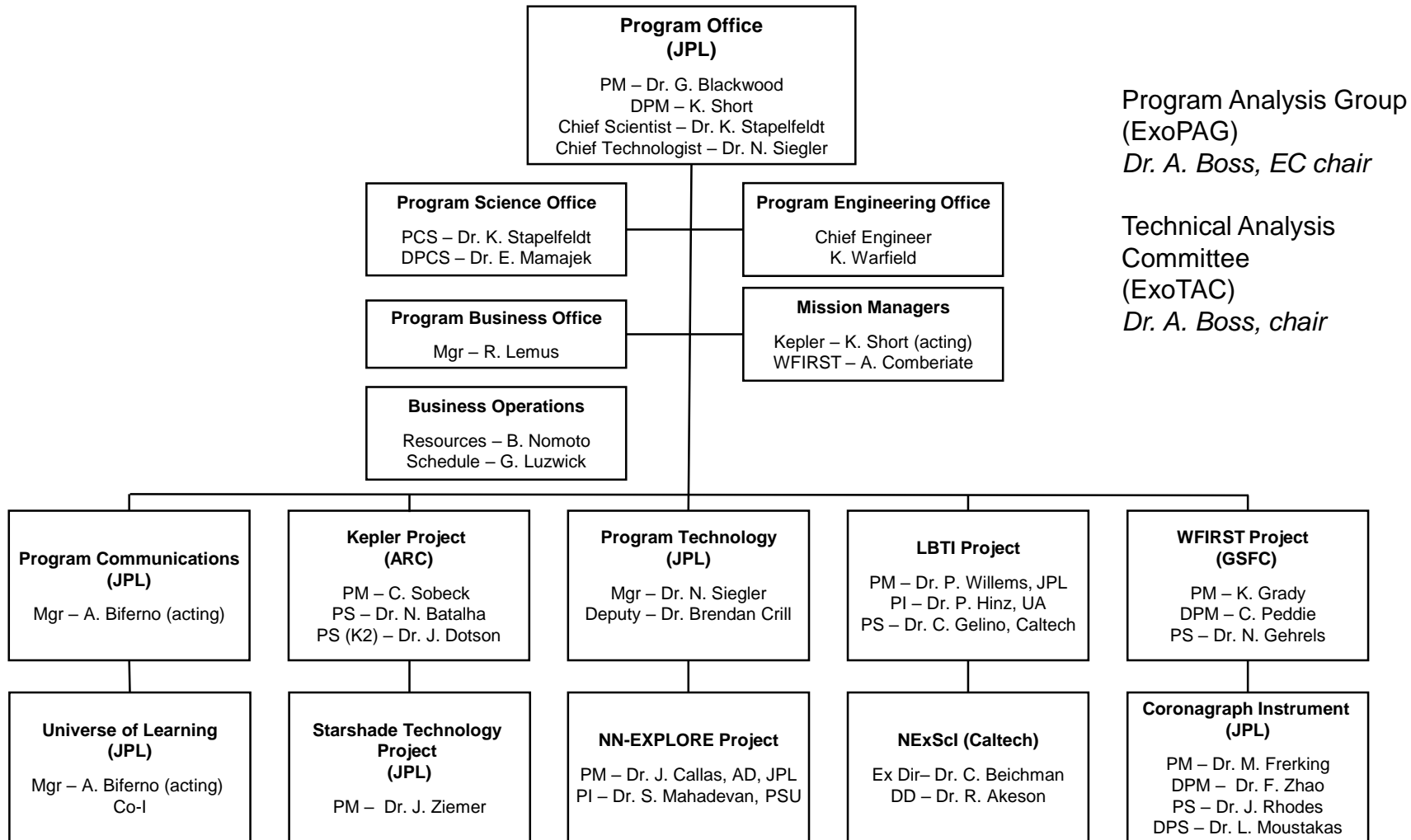
Astrophysics Division, NASA Science Mission Directorate



Dec, 06 2016

ExEP Resides within NASA JPL Directorate

Astrophysics Division, Science Mission Directorate



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Seven ExoPlanets Above the Fold

"All the News
That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

Late Edition

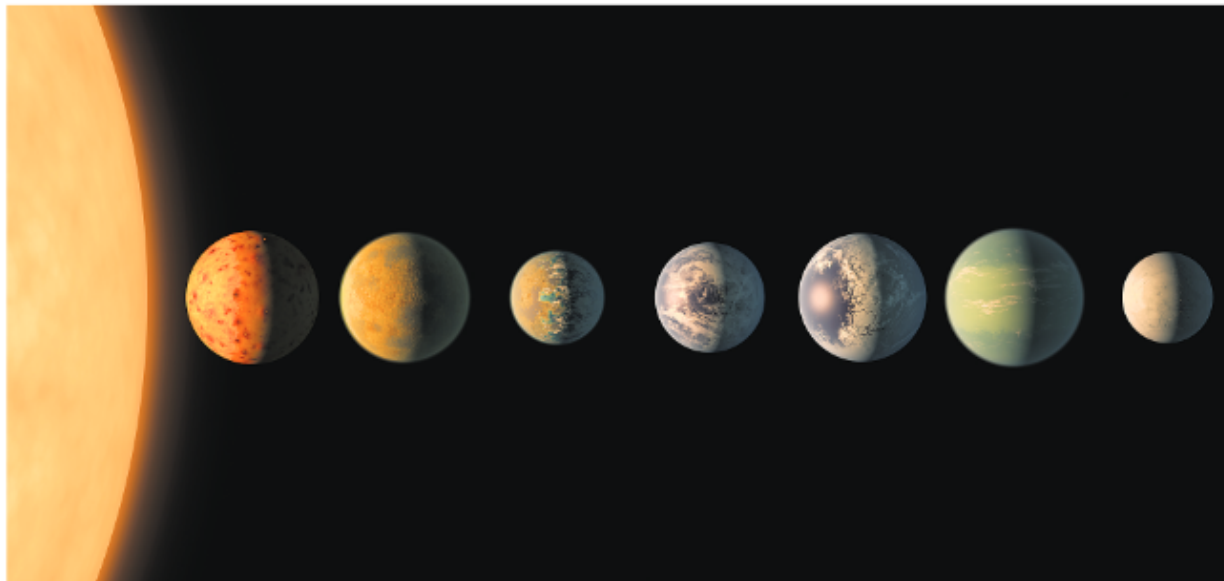
Today, patchy morning fog, partly sunny, warm, high 64. Tonight, mostly cloudy, mild, low 52. Tomorrow, clouds and sunshine, showers, high 66. Weather map is on Page B9.

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NEW YORK, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2017

\$2.50



A rendering of newly discovered Earth-size planets orbiting a dwarf star named Trappist-1 about 40 light-years from Earth. Some of them could have surface water. JPL, CALTECH/NASA

TRUMP RESCINDS OBAMA DIRECTIVE ON BATHROOM USE

ENTERING CULTURE WARS

Question of Transgender Rights Splits DeVos and Sessions

This article is by *Jeremy W. Peters, Jo Becker and Julie Hirschfeld Davis.*

WASHINGTON — President Trump on Wednesday rescinded protections for transgender students that had allowed them to use bathrooms corresponding with their gender identity, overruling his own education secretary and placing his administration firmly in the middle of the culture wars that many Republicans have tried to leave behind.

In a joint letter, the top civil rights officials from the Justice Department and the Education Department rejected the Obama administration's position that nondiscrimination laws require schools to allow transgender students to use the bathrooms of their choice.

That directive, they said, was improperly and arbitrarily devised, "without due regard for the primary role of the states and local school districts in establishing

Circling a Star Not Far Away, 7 Shots at Life

By **KENNETH CHANG**

Uber's Culture Of Gutsiness Under Review

By **MIKE ISAAC**

Migrants Hide, Fearing Capture on 'Any Corner'

By **VIVIAN YEE**

No going to church, no going to the store. No doctor's appointments for some, no school for others. No driving, period — not

IMMIGRATION A police department worries a crackdown will harm work to fight gangs. **PAGE A4**

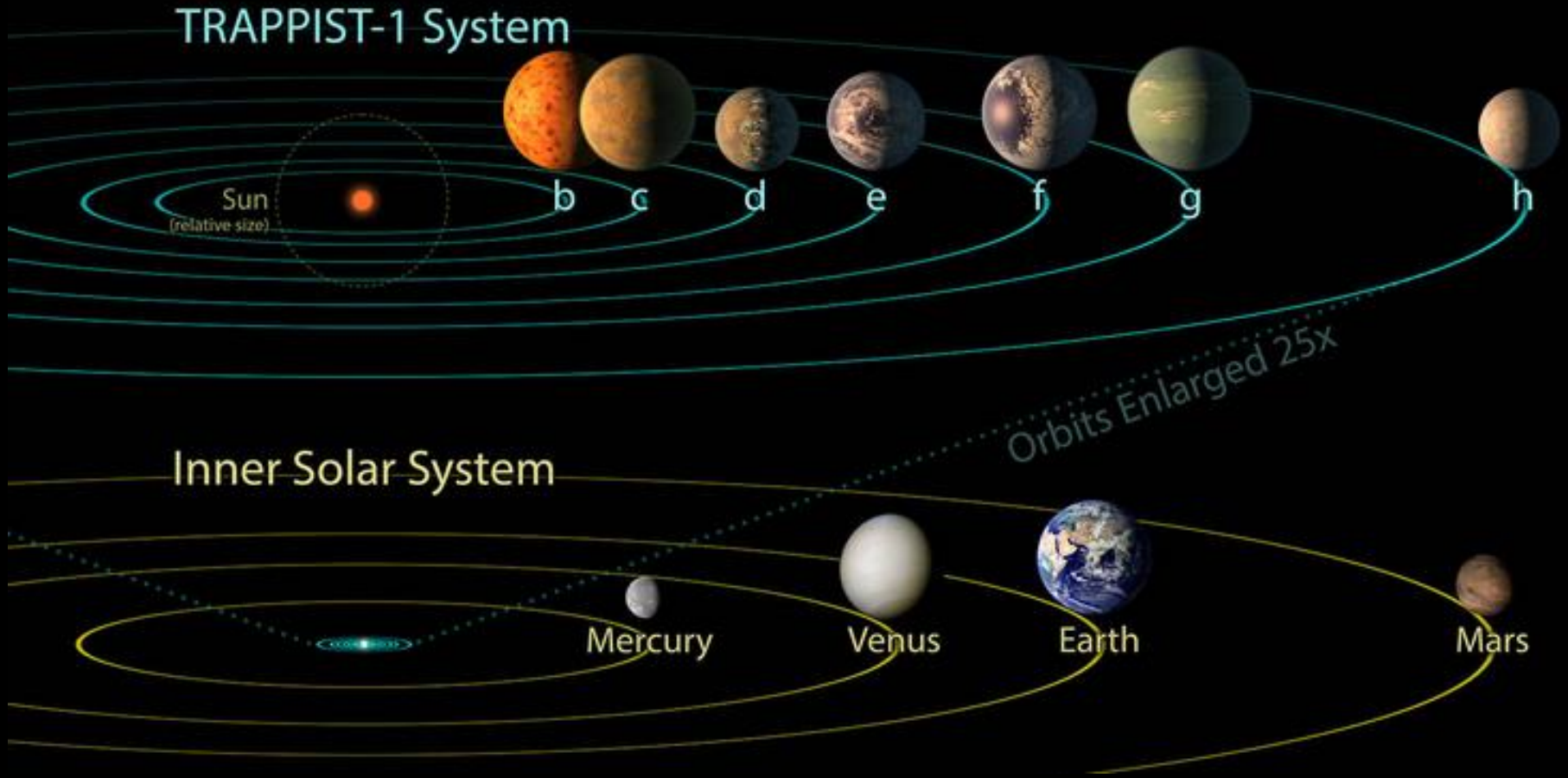
MEXICO The secretary of state pays a visit at a time of rising

duras.

If deportation has always been a threat on paper for the 11 million people living in the country illegally, it rarely imperiled those who did not commit serious crimes. But with the Trump ad-

Trappist-1 Discovery

The Richest Set of Earth-sized Planets Ever Found



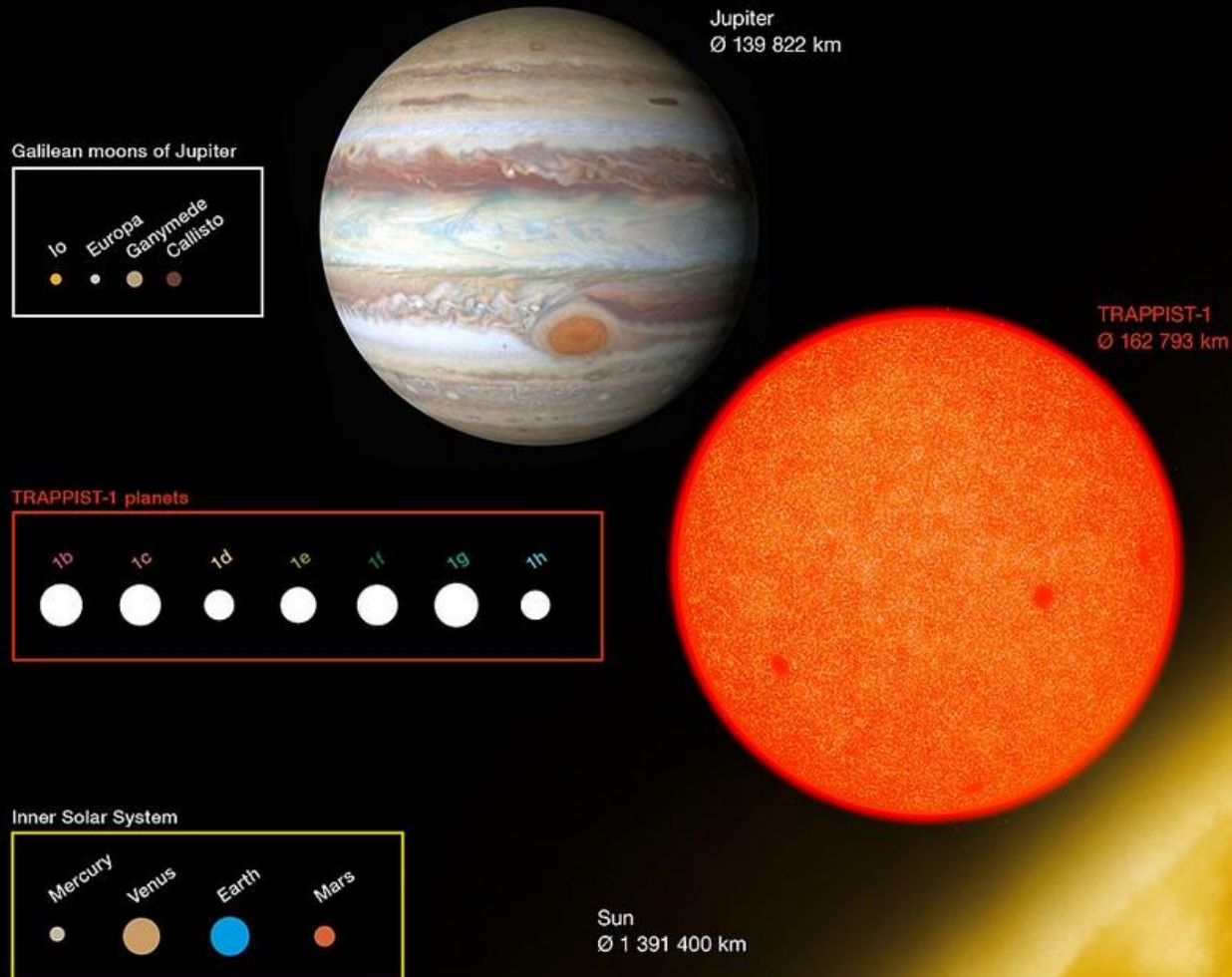
Credit: NASA/JPL

A Familiar Habitable Zone

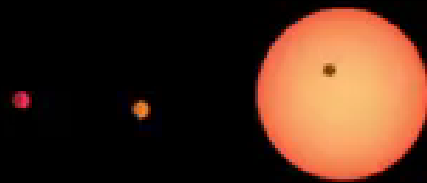


Credit: Luc Forsyth

Trappist-1: a Relatively Small Star



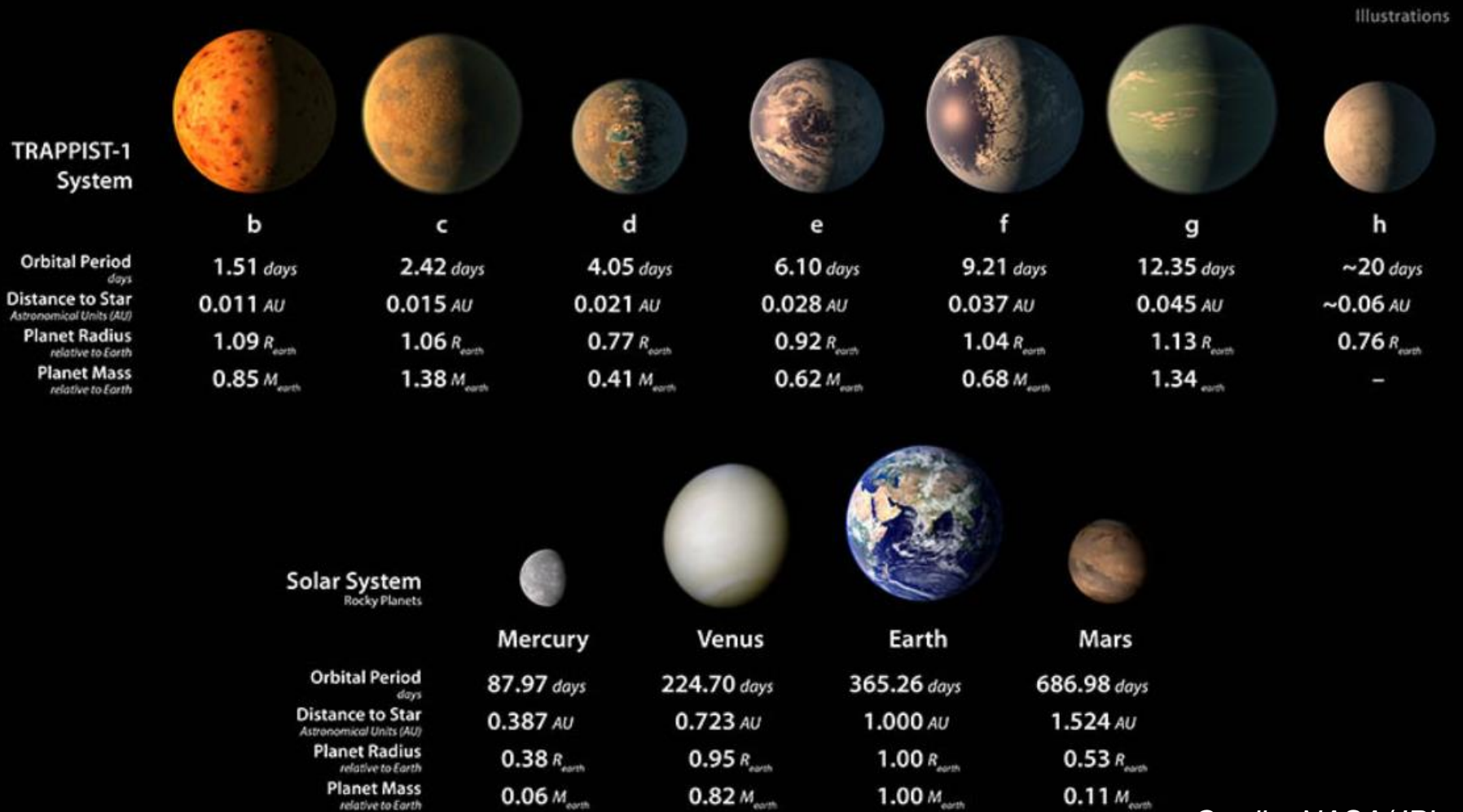
How Spitzer Observed the Trappist-1 System



Credit: NASA/JPL

Spitzer Measures Planet Size & Transit Timing

Orbital mechanics used to deduce mass from transit timing variations



Credit: NASA/JPL

EXPLORE

About the Planet

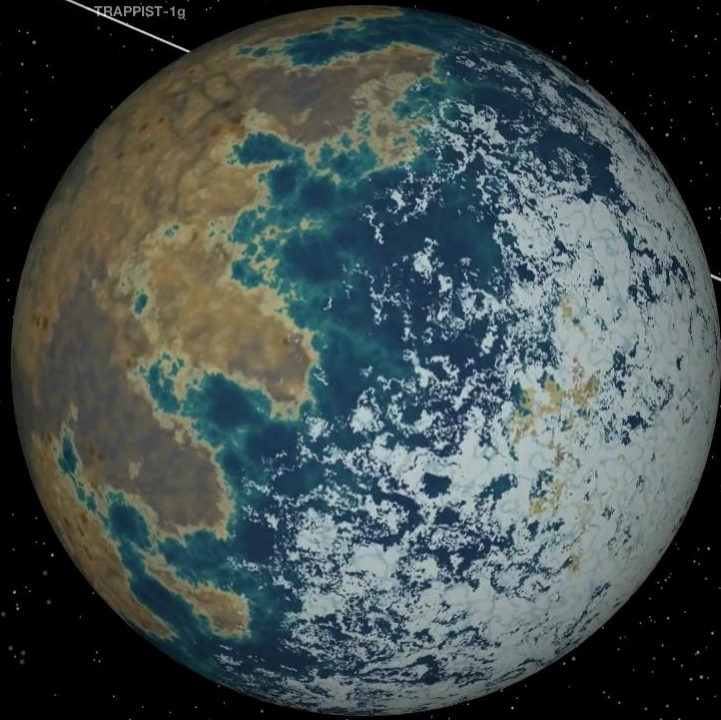
ROCKY PLANET



Name: TRAPPIST-1d
Planet type: Terrestrial
Discovery date: 2017
Mass: 0.41 x Earth
Planet radius: 0.77 Earths
Note: Water shown here is hypothetical

Orbital radius: 0.02 AU
Orbital period: 4 days
Eccentricity: 0
Method of Detection: Transit

- PLANET VIEW
- PLANETARY SYSTEM VIEW
- HOW LONG TO TRAVEL HERE?
- COMPARE WITH OUR SOLAR SYSTEM
- HABITABLE ZONE
- COMPARE SIZE



hypothetical visualization

SPEED 1.00 sec(s)/sec REAL RATE

Kepler K2: 80 days on Trappist-1

Campaign 12 ended March 4



Key Takeaways from Trappist Discovery

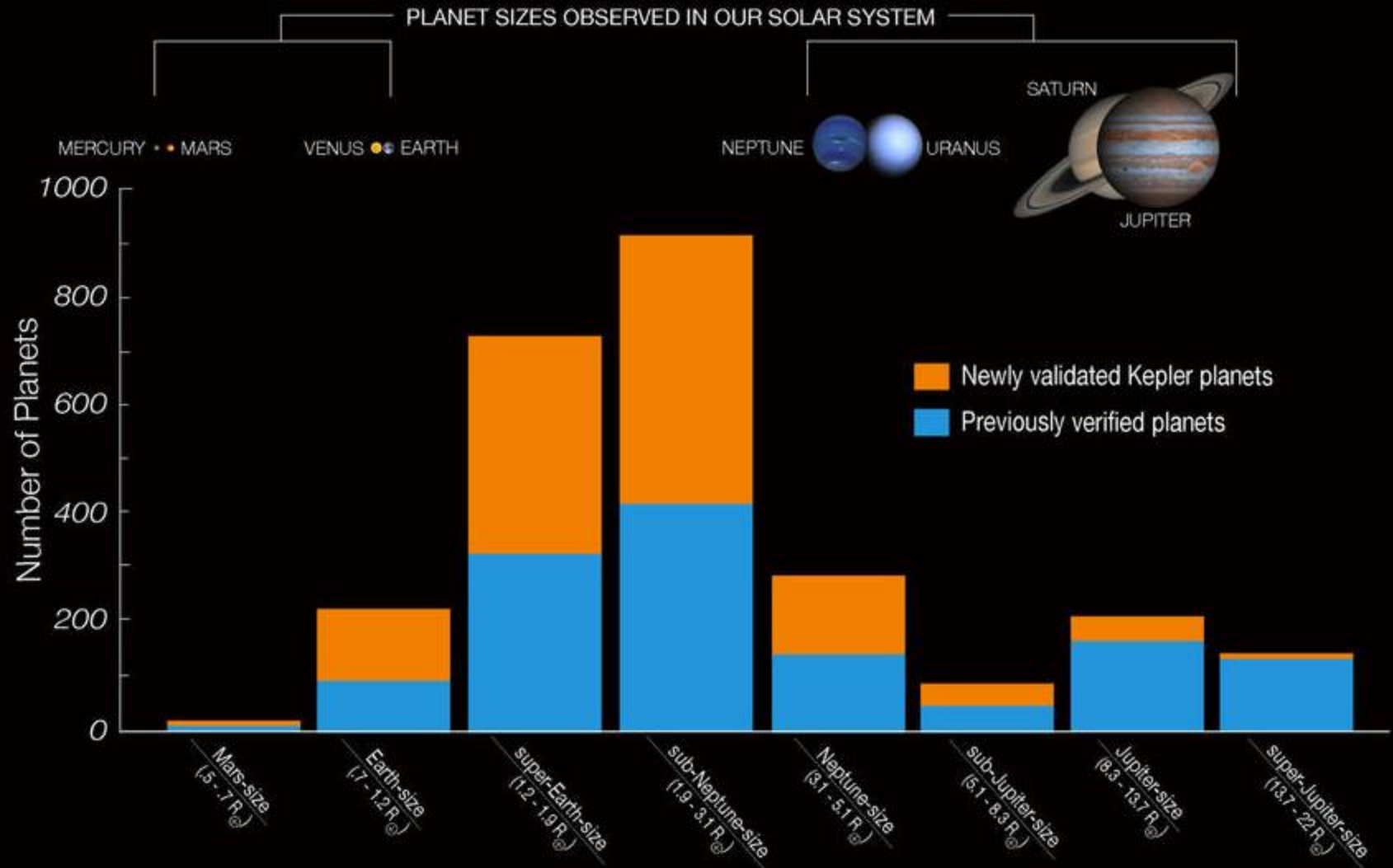


- This is the **richest set of Earth-sized exoplanets ever found** orbiting a single star, with 3 in the habitable zone.
- It shows that red dwarf stars, the most common type of star, can host rich planetary systems. **More discoveries like this can be expected**
- The **Trappist exoplanets will be top targets for future observations** with the James Webb Space Telescope. The presence and composition of an atmosphere can be measured through infrared spectra taken during transit; but the observations will be difficult.
- Most exoplanets do not transit their star. For the general case, **direct imaging remains essential for measuring atmospheres and possible biosignatures.**

Kepler's Verified Planets, by Size

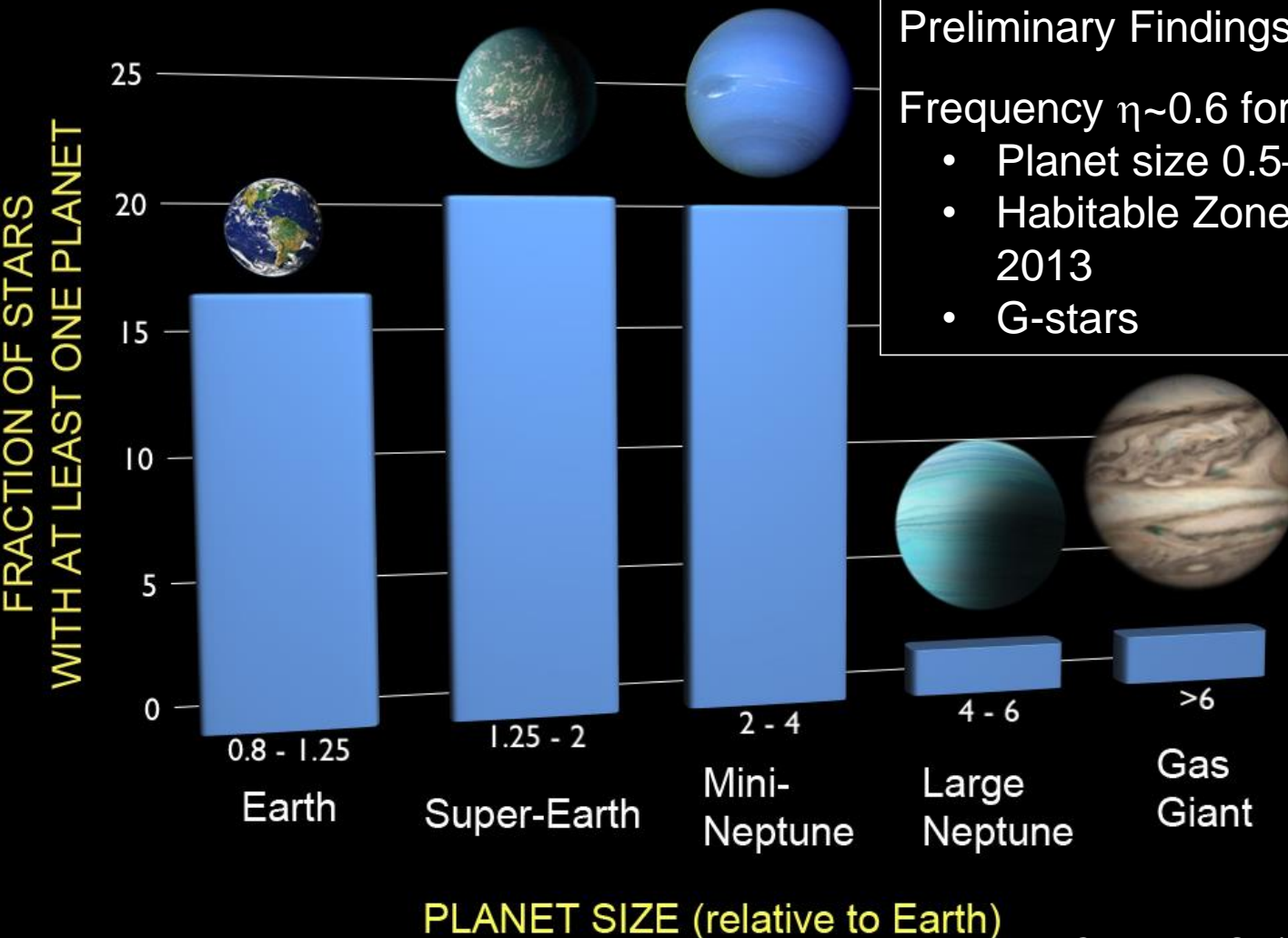
As of May 10, 2016

Final data release: spring 2017



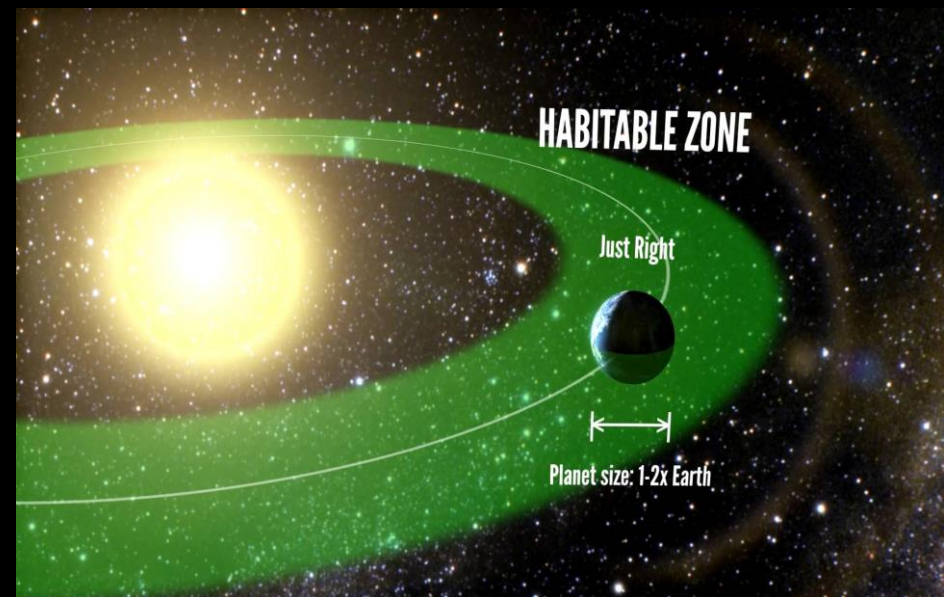
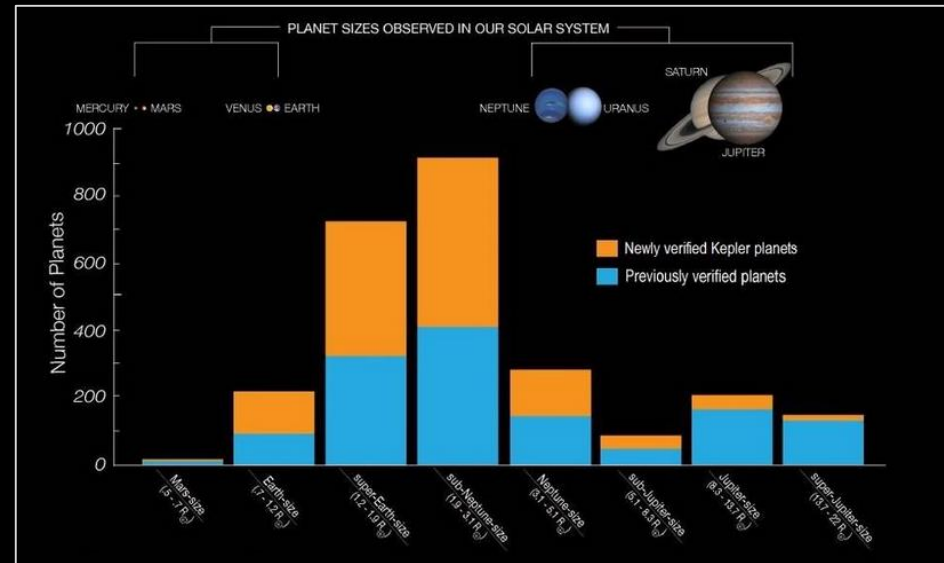
Credit: NASA/ARC

Exoplanetary Occurrence Rates



Three Key Kepler Results

1. On average there is at least one planet for each of the stars in the night sky
2. Small planets are the most common type in the Galaxy
3. Earth-sized (0.5 to 2 Earth radii) planets in the Habitable Zone are common



“Mamajek’s Law”

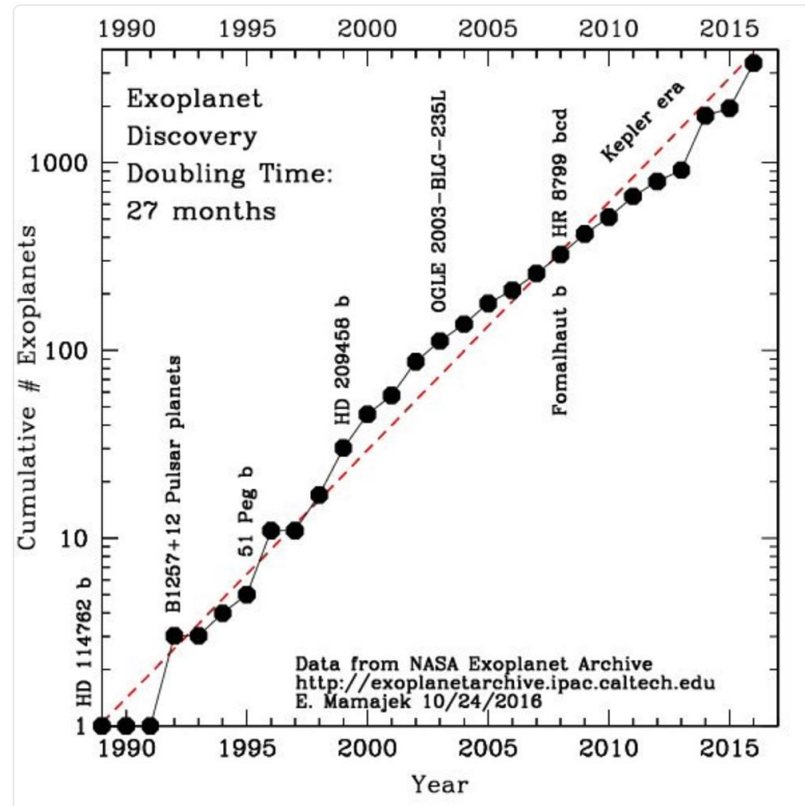
Exoplanet Discovery Doubling Time

NASAExoplanetArchive and 3 others liked



Eric Mamajek @EricMamajek · Oct 24

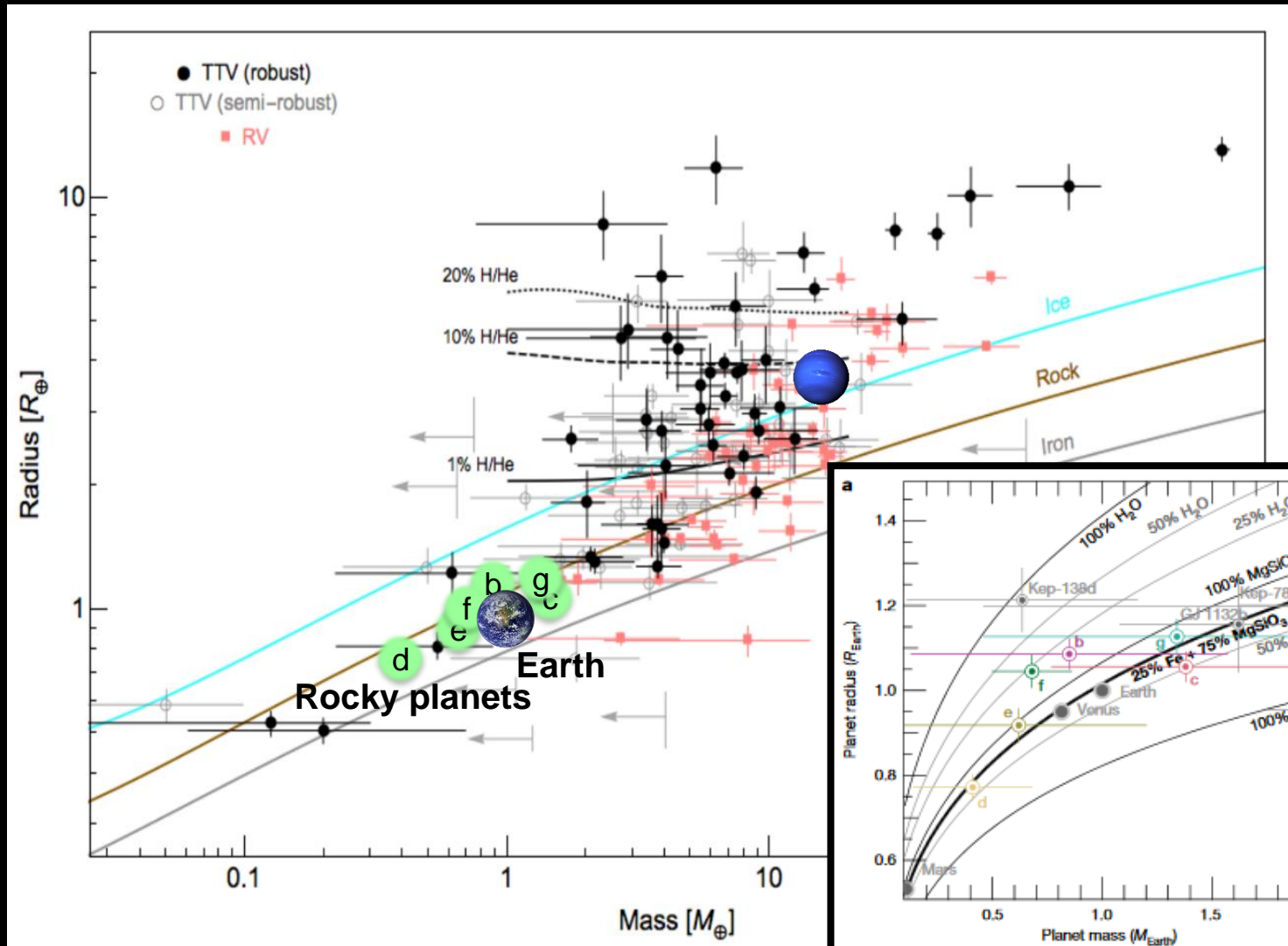
@aussiastronomer @NASAExoArchive Updtd versn of #exoplanet discovery # plot. Doubling time still ~27 months. Hit mil in 2034, bil in 2057?



2 20 18

Credit: J. Christenson

Where are the Rocky Planets?



Credit: Hadden & Lithwick 2016

Credit: Gillon et al. 2017

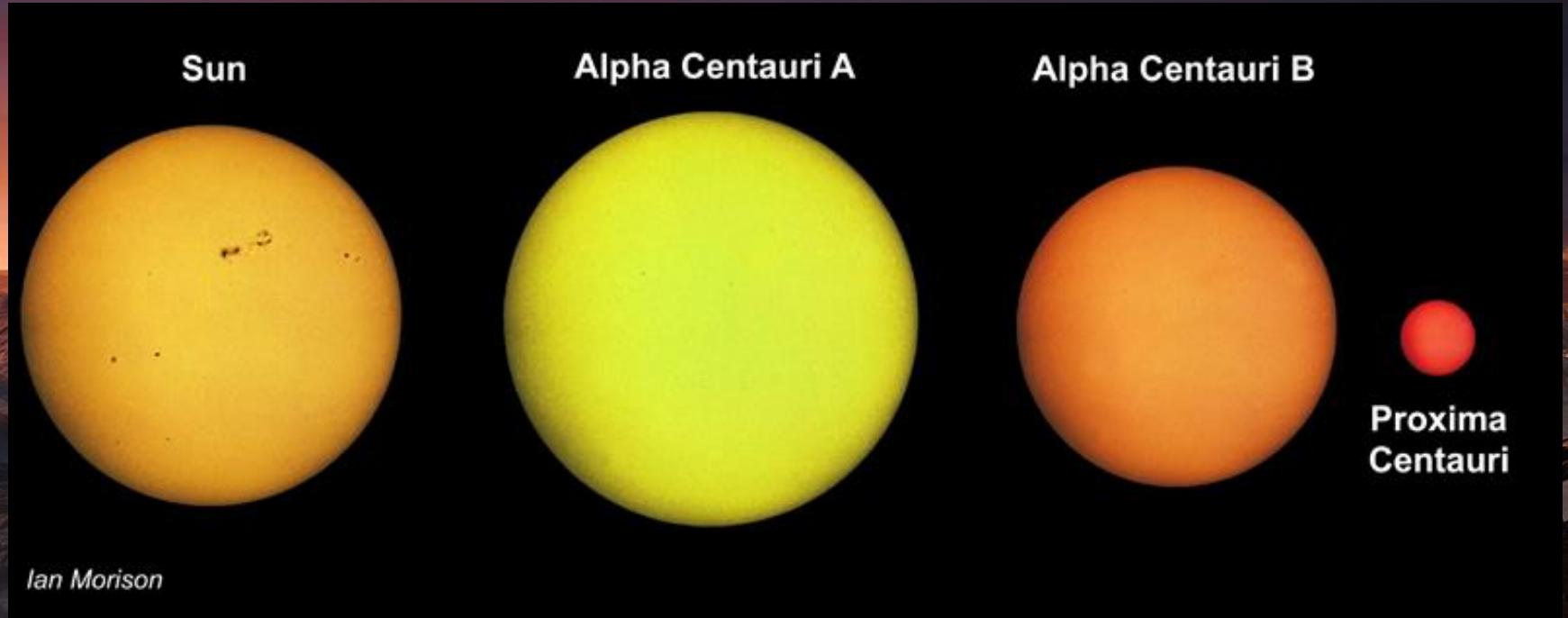
Our nearest stellar neighbors – 4 light years away: The α Centauri triple system

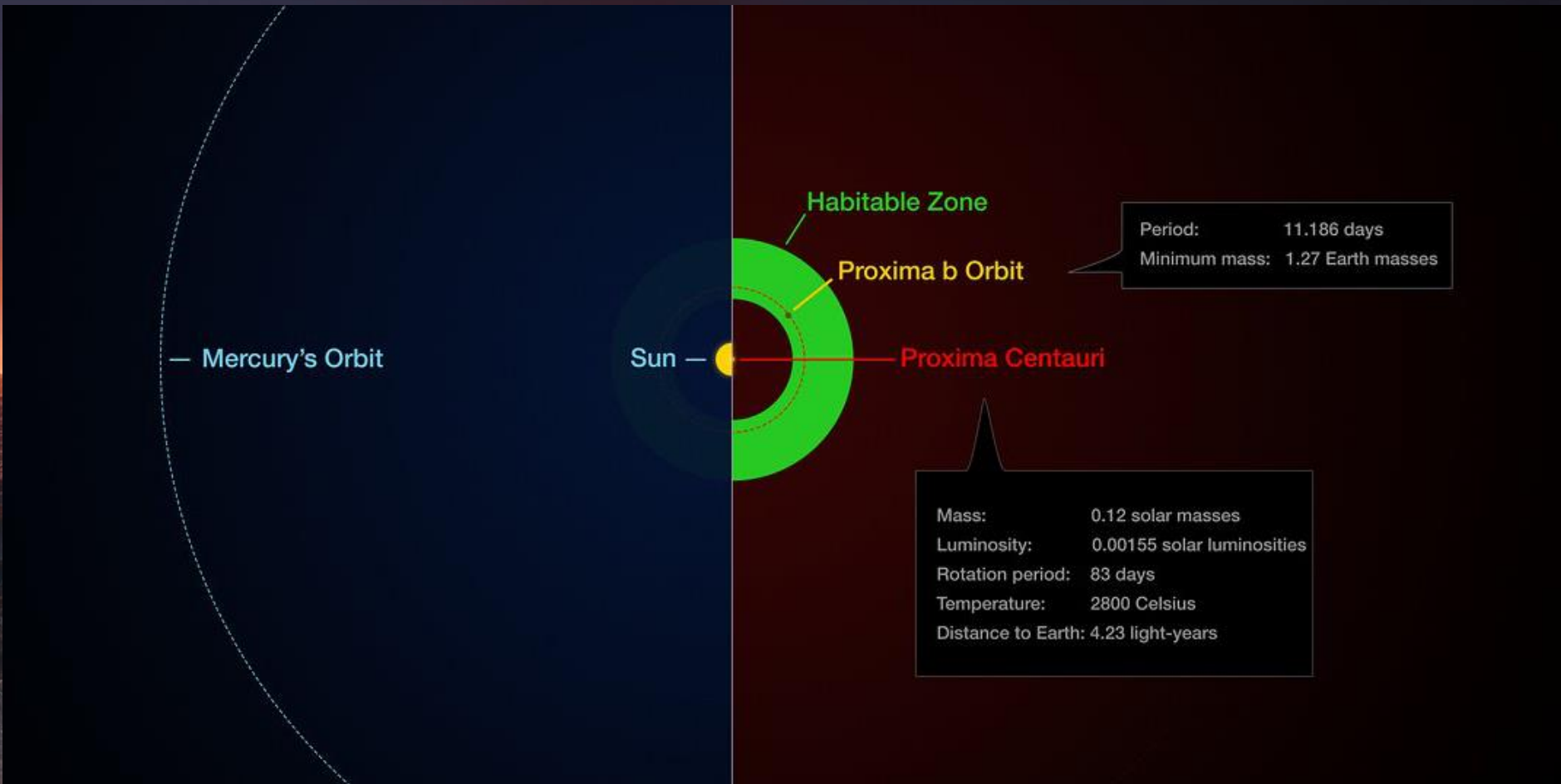
 { α Cen A/Rigel Kentaurus
 α Cen B

α Cen C/Proxima Centauri

Exoplanet Proxima Centauri b

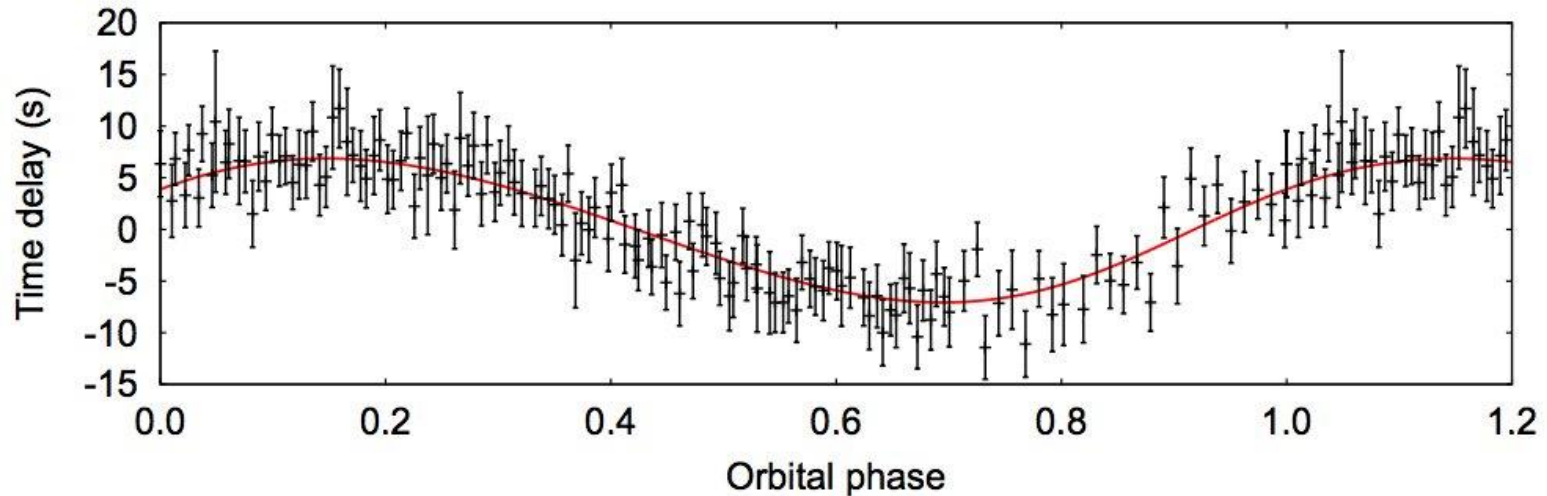
The α Centauri triple system





Planet Orbiting A-type Main Sequence Star

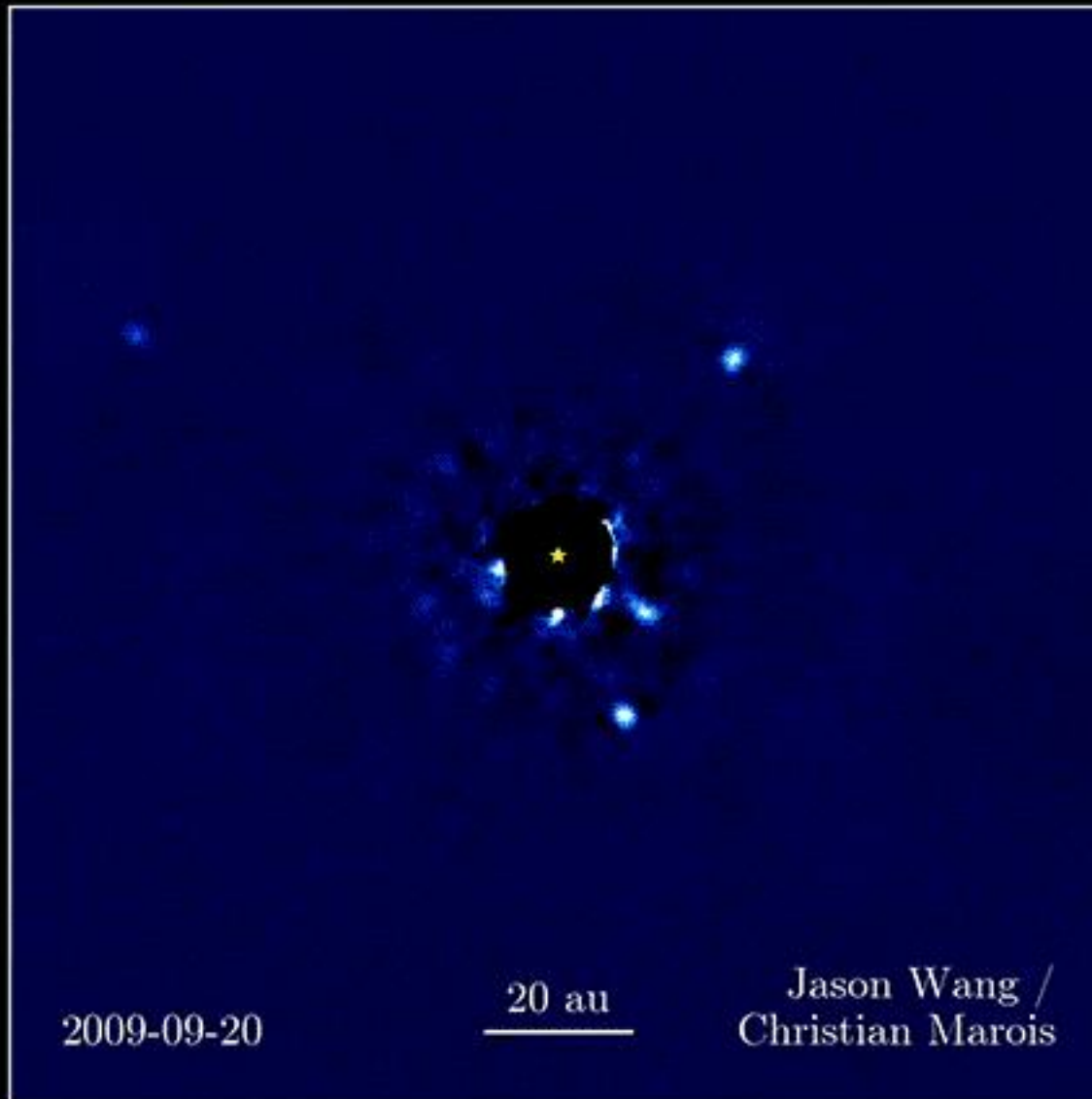
Murphy & Bedding 2016, arXiv:1608.02945 (accepted)



Planets orbiting A stars are hard to find via RV and transits due to rapid rotation, larger stellar radii, and pulsations.

This planet was identified via phase modulation of the stellar pulsations.

HR 8799: Orbital Motion of Four Giant Planets



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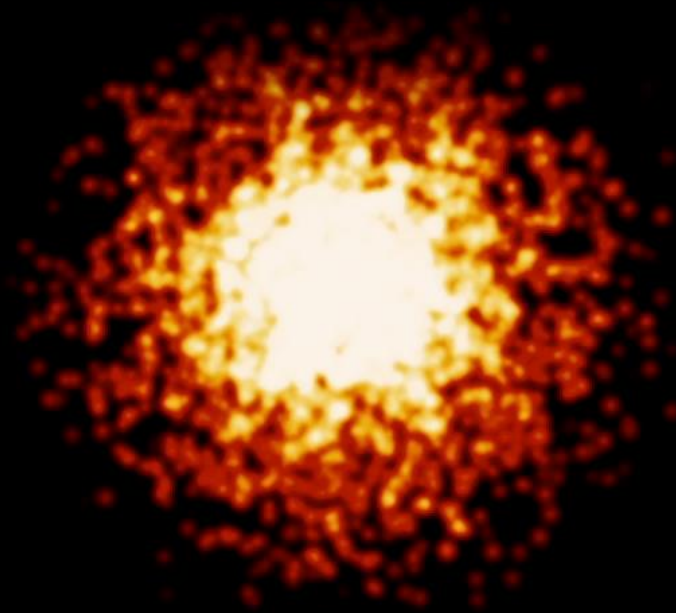
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Plan Forward: Science and Technology

You Had Me at Habitable

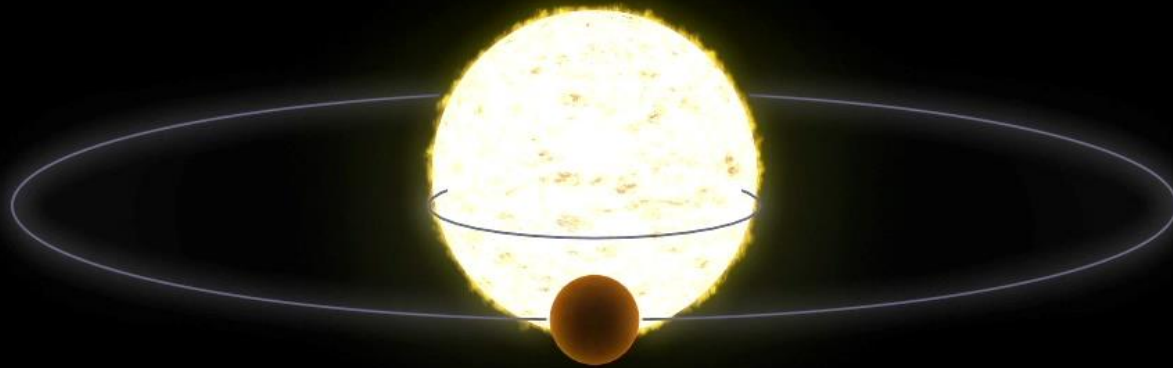
Techniques to Detect Exoplanets

Direct Imaging



Techniques to Detect Exoplanets

Astrometric Method



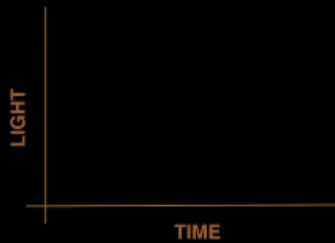
Techniques to Detect Exoplanets

Doppler Spectroscopy or Radial Velocity Method



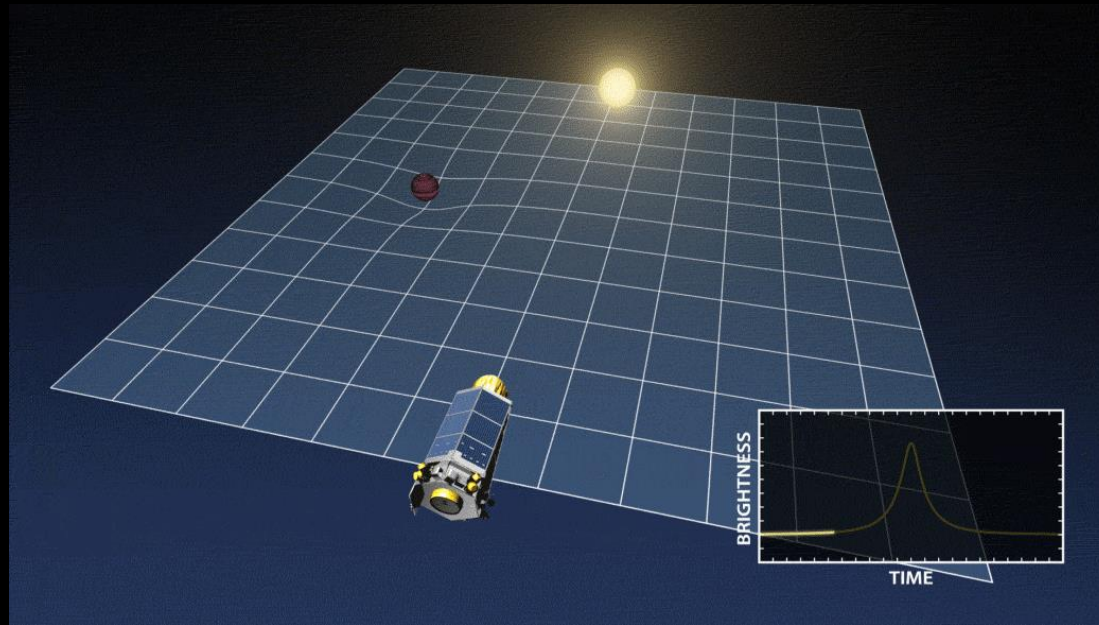
Techniques to Detect Exoplanets

Transit Method

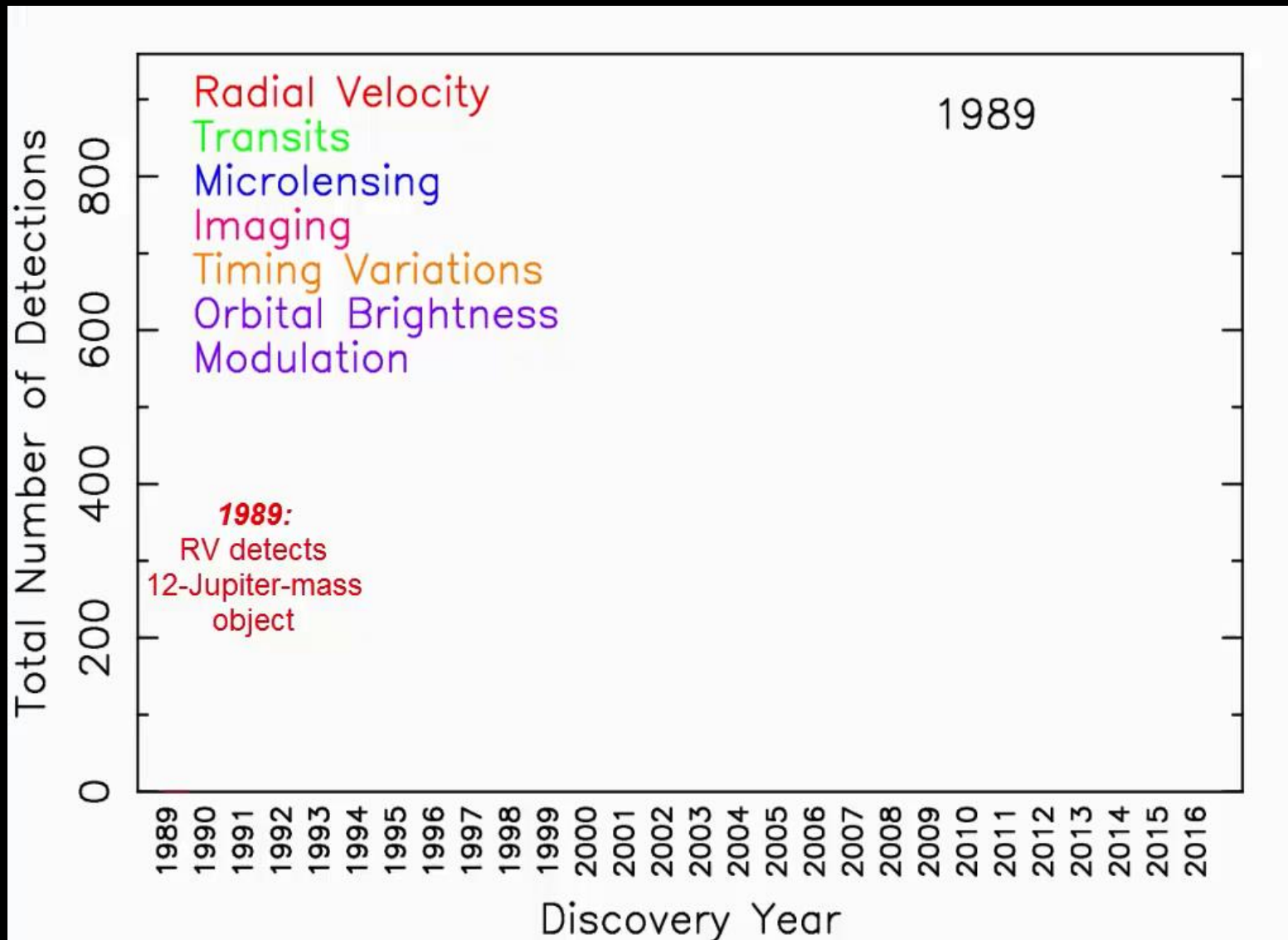


Techniques to Detect Exoplanets

Microlensing Method



Confirmed Exoplanets versus Time



Confirmed Exoplanets by Technique

Technique	Number as of 15 Feb 2017
Astrometry	1
Eclipse timing	8
Transit timing	15
Imaging	44
Microlensing	44
Orbital brightness modulation	6
Pulsar timing / pulsation	7
Stellar radial velocity	621
Transit	2732

Exoplanet Science by Technique

Sample	Planet Radius	Planet Mass	Planet Orbit	Characterize Atmosphere	System context view
Radial Velocity	No	Lower limit	Yes	No	Planets within $\sim < 5$ AU
Transit	Yes	Yes if RV, or if TT varies	Yes if RV	Yes for larger planets & scale heights	Coplanar & short orbital period planets
μ Lensing	No	Yes	partially	No	Usually no
Imaging of self-luminous planets	Estimate from radiometry	Yes, estimate from theory and age	Yes	Yes	Hot planets plus all dust
Imaging of reflected light planets	Rough estimate only	No	Yes	Yes	All but the closest planets & dust
Stellar Astrometry	No	Yes	Yes	No	All but the closest planets

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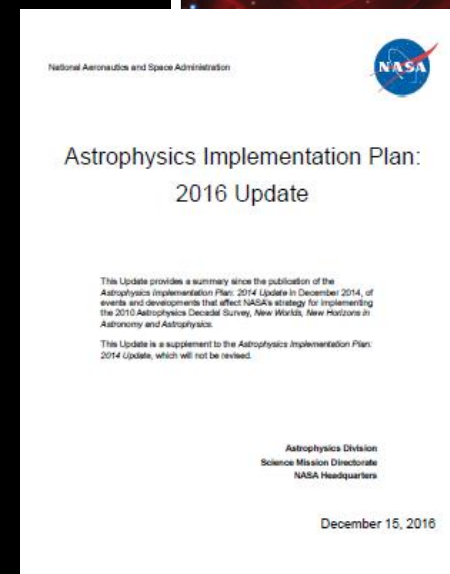
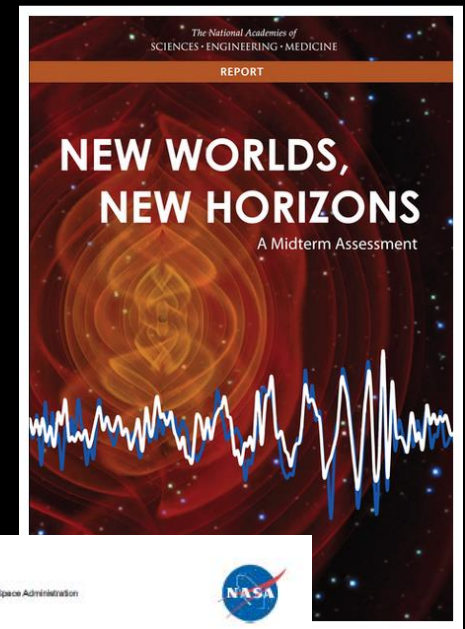
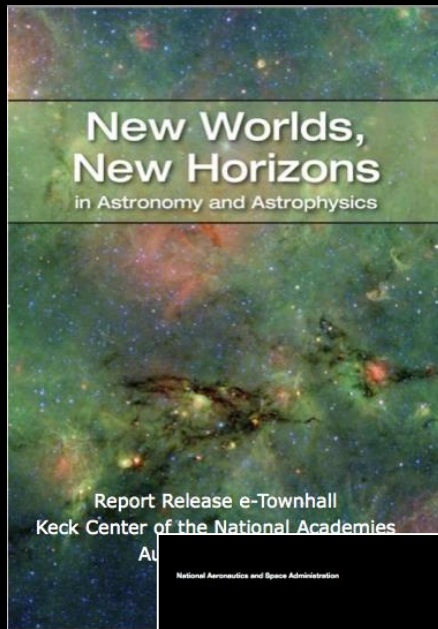
Plan Forward: Science and Technology

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Astrophysics Division: Driving Documents

Results of NWNH:

- WFIRST is top large-scale recommended activity
- NWNH technology program is top medium-scale recommended activity



Kepler Close-Out

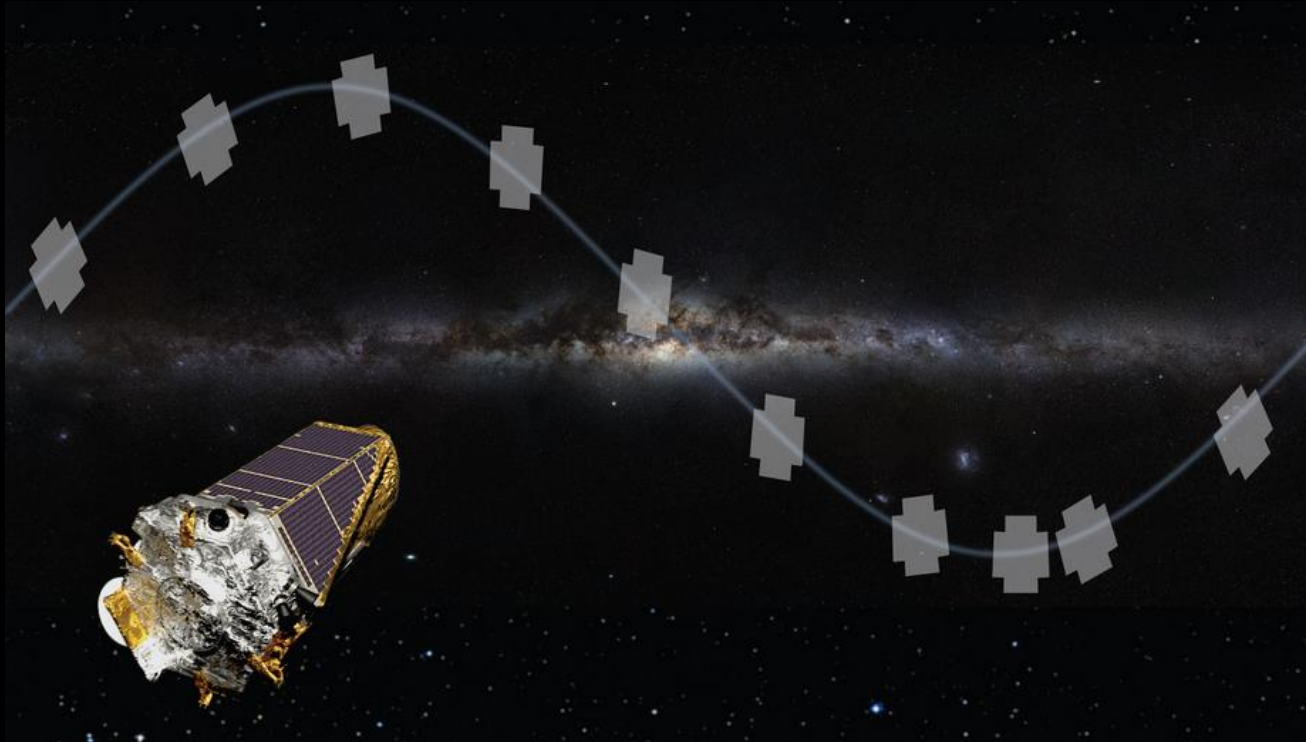
Delivering Kepler's Legacy

- Kepler closeout and final data processing continues steadily within overall schedule margin
 - The final reprocessing of the Kepler **Q0–Q17 short cadence light curves** has been completed, and the files are online at MAST (Mikulski Archive)
 - Held successful Documentation Completeness Review
 - SOC 9.3 **Final Occurrence Rate** Products planned for Spring 2017



Kepler K2

Extending the Power of Kepler to the Ecliptic



Upcoming

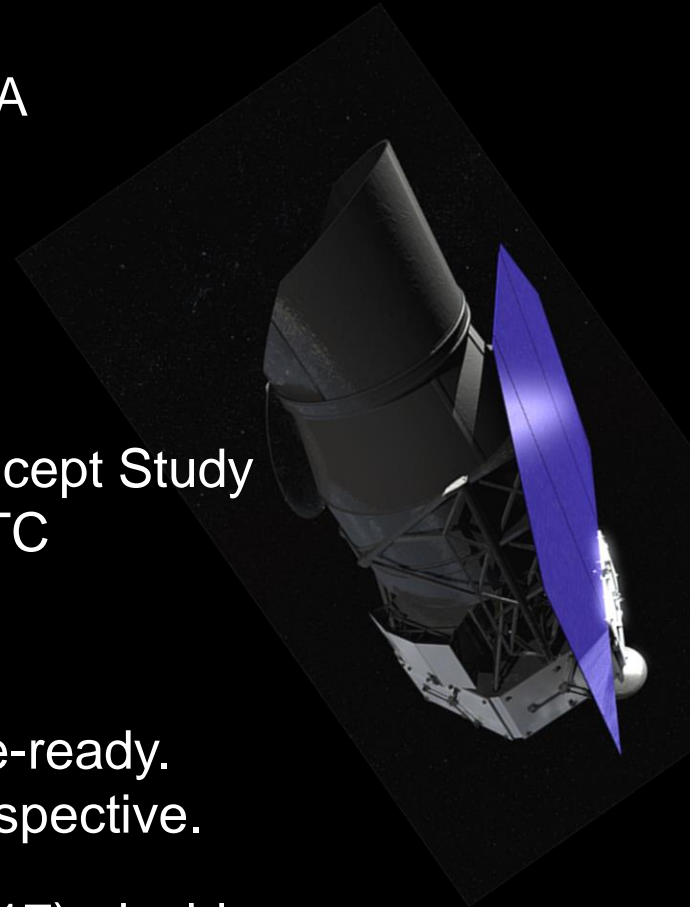
- Changed the position of the field for Campaign 16 – Kepler will observe in the forward-facing direction; emphasis on supernova science
- Release of Microlensing results from Campaign 9

<https://exoplanets.nasa.gov/k2>

Wide Field Infrared Survey Telescope (WFIRST)

Dark Energy, Infrared Survey... and Alien Worlds

- WFIRST is making great progress in Phase A
- All technology milestones were met on time
 - Five for IR Detector, now at TRL 6
 - Nine for Coronagraph, now at TRL 5
- Wide Field Instrument Industry 6-month Concept Study with Ball Aerospace and Lockheed Martin ATC
- Reviews for SRR/MDR: July 2017
- Actively studying making WFIRST starshade-ready.
First look: it's feasible from cost and risk perspective.
 - NASA Key Decision Point B (October 2017); decide whether WFIRST should remain starshade-compatible



Large Binocular Telescope Interferometer

Measuring HZ Exozodiacal Dust, Informing Designs of Future Missions

- 35-star HOSTS survey delivery planned for September 2018
- 2016B Progress: HOSTS total now at 15 stars
- Precision: 12 zodi, one star one sigma, Gives better than 2 zodi mean uncty (one sigma of ensemble).
- Will inform design of exoplanet large mission studies for 2020 Decadal Study

Phil Hinz, PI

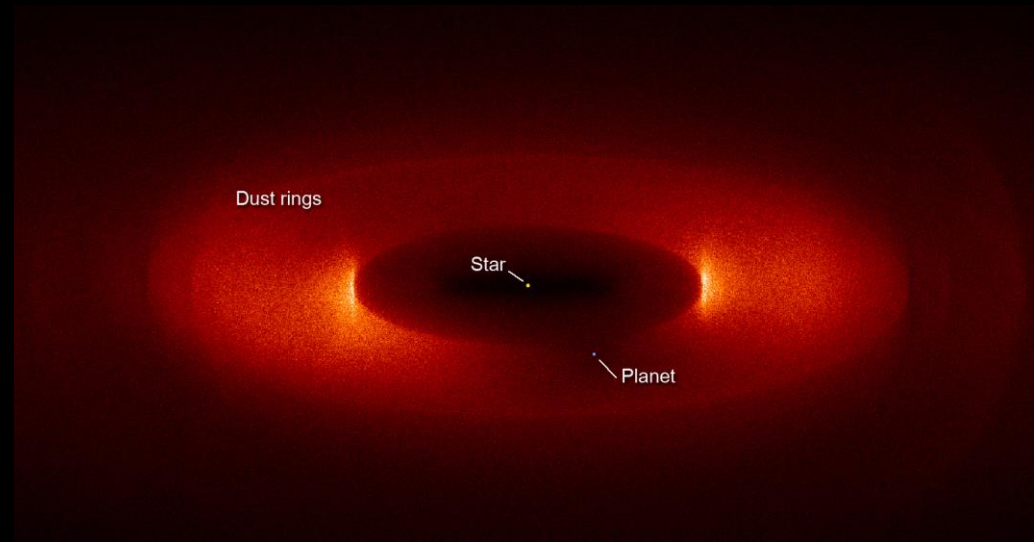


*LBTI instrument (green structure)
mounted between the two LBT
primary mirrors*

(Exo) Zodiacal Dust

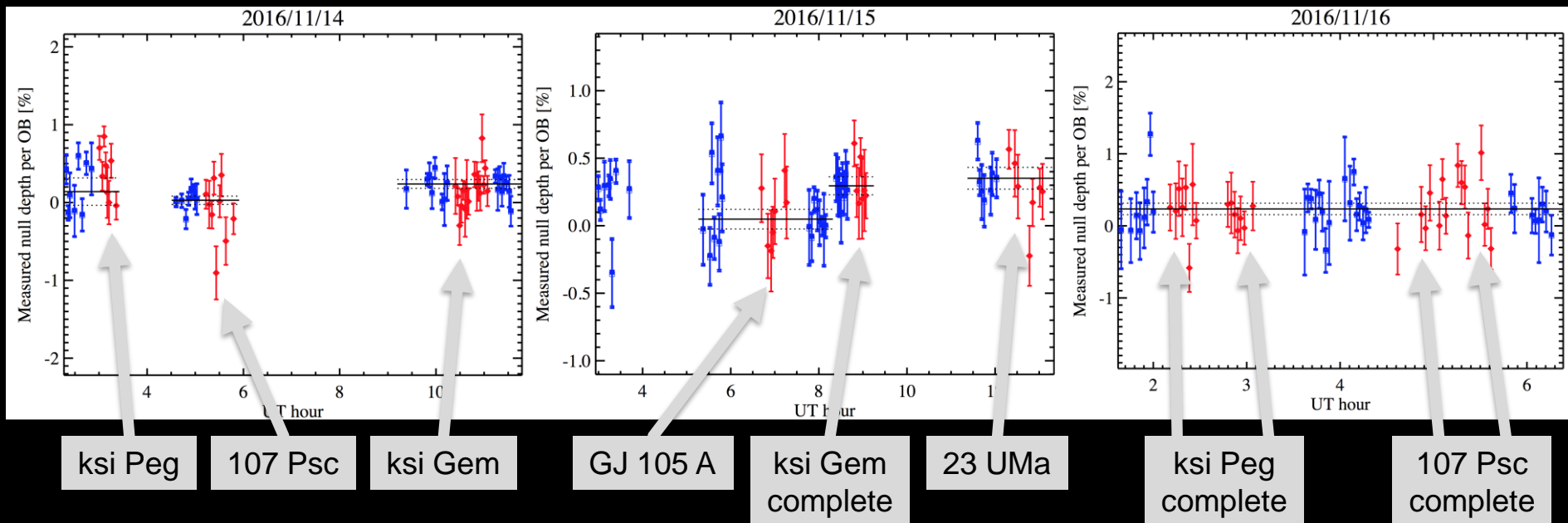


Credit: ESO/Y. Beletsky

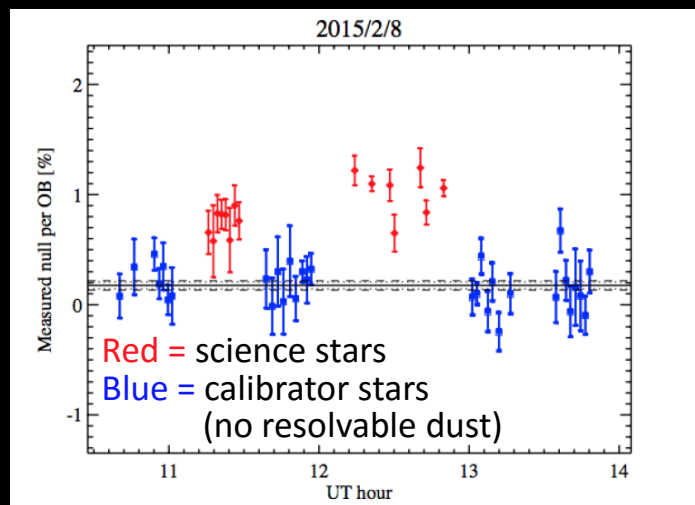


Credit: NASA/GSFC

Preliminary November 2016 HOSTS Data



Sample dust detection: beta Leo



The dust disk surrounding beta Leo (red data) emits 10 micron radiation not seen around calibrator stars (blue data). Measured dust brightness is 90 ± 8 zodis.



- **Motivation**

- 2010 Decadal Survey calls for precise ground-based radial-velocity spectrometer for exoplanet discovery and characterization
- Follow-up & precursor science for current missions (K2, TESS, JWST, WFIRST)



NN-Explore Exoplanet Investigations with Doppler Spectroscopy



PI: S. Mahadevan

- **Scope**

- Extreme precision radial velocity spectrometer (<0.5 m/s) for WIYN telescope development is underway
- Instrument planned to be commissioned by August 2019
- Ongoing Guest Observer program using NOAO share of telescope time for exoplanet research. Please propose!

- **Status**

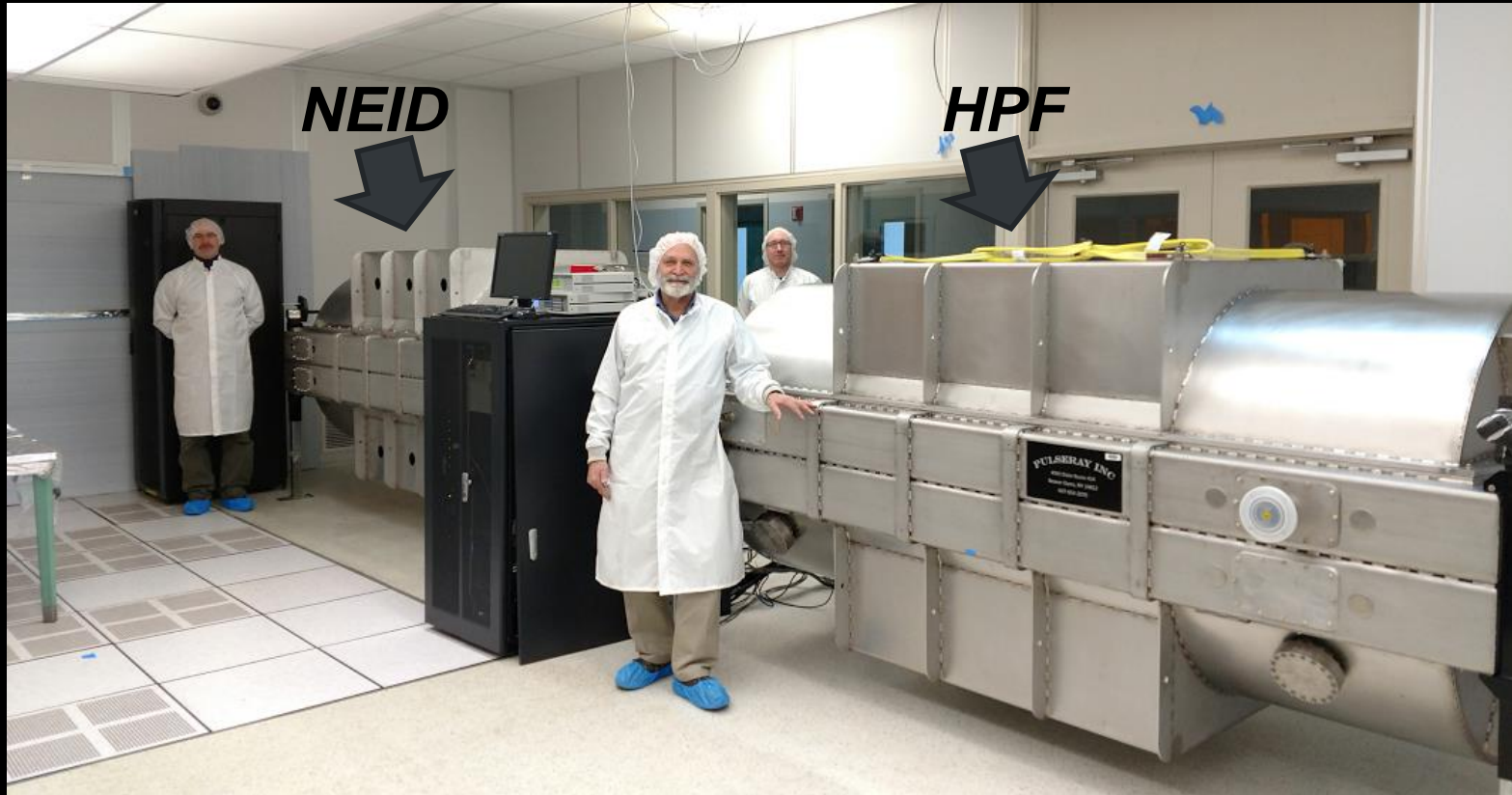
- Held Instrument Detailed Design Review, and PDR for port adapter
- Next steps: DDR for port adapter



NOAO 3.5-m WIYN Telescope, Kitt Peak National Observatory, Arizona

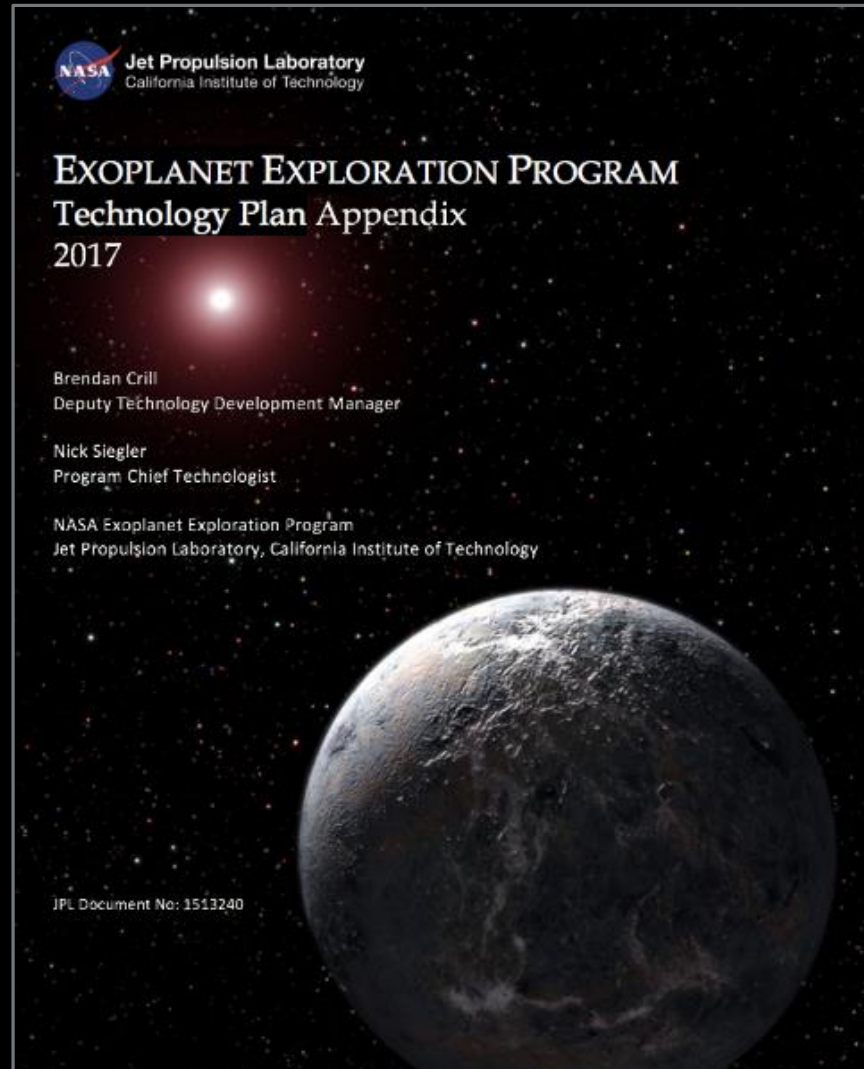
NEID Cryostat at Penn State

Cryostat built and integrated in upstate New York



Strategic Astrophysics Technology – TDEM

Advancing Technology Readiness towards next Decadal Survey

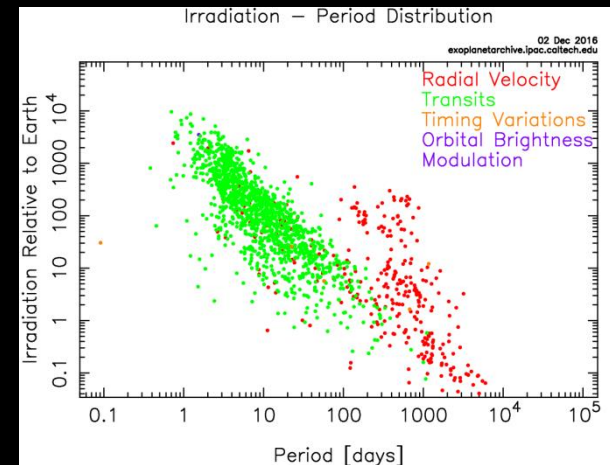


*Appendix revision
published January 2017*

NASA Exoplanet Science Institute



- Sagan Summer School, July 2016
“Is there a Planet in my Data?”
- Sagan Summer School, August 2017
“Microlensing in the Era of WFIRST”
- NASA/Keck times (90 nights/yr) supports Exoplanets, Cosmic Origins, Physics of the Cosmos and Solar System Science
- Exoplanet Archive tracks exoplanet population and Kepler pipeline products
- ExoFOP supports Kepler & K2 sources follow-up



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Exoplanet Missions



W. M. Keck Observatory



Large Binocular Telescope Interferometer



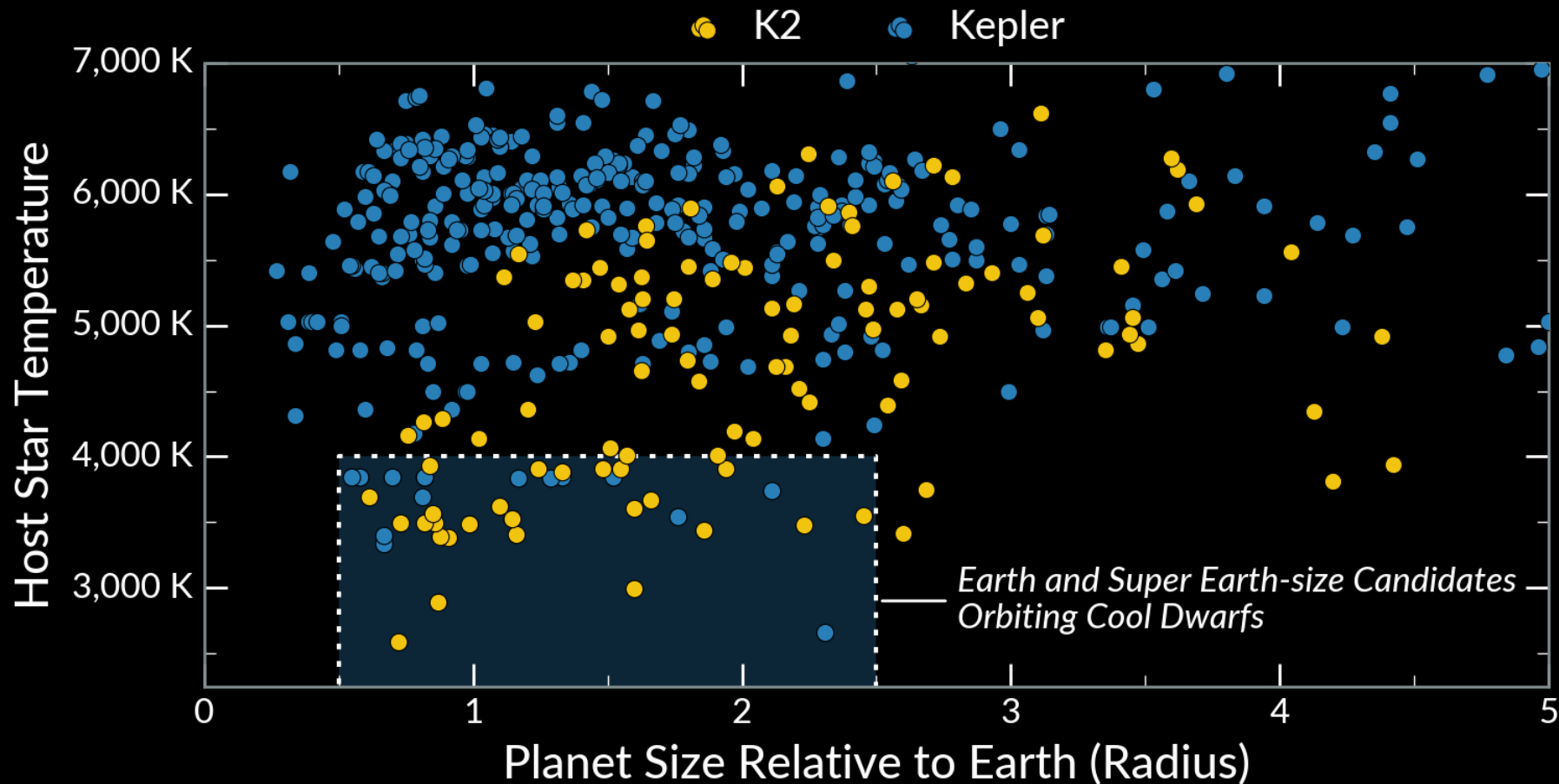
NN-EXPLORE

Ground Telescopes with NASA participation

- ¹ NASA/ESA Partnership
- ² NASA/ESA/CSA Partnership
- ³ CNES/ESA

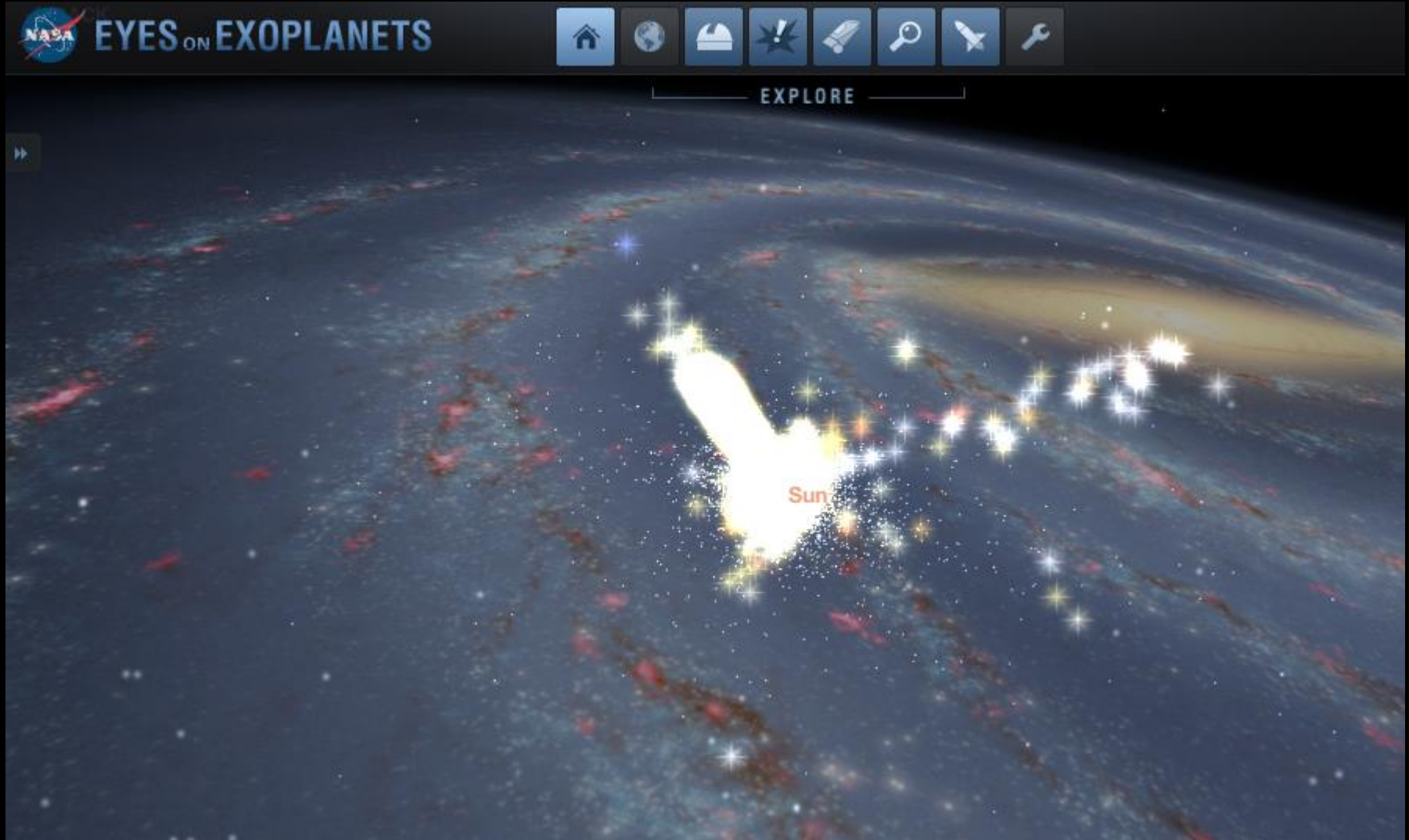


Planet Candidates for Atmospheric Characterization ($K_s < 11$)



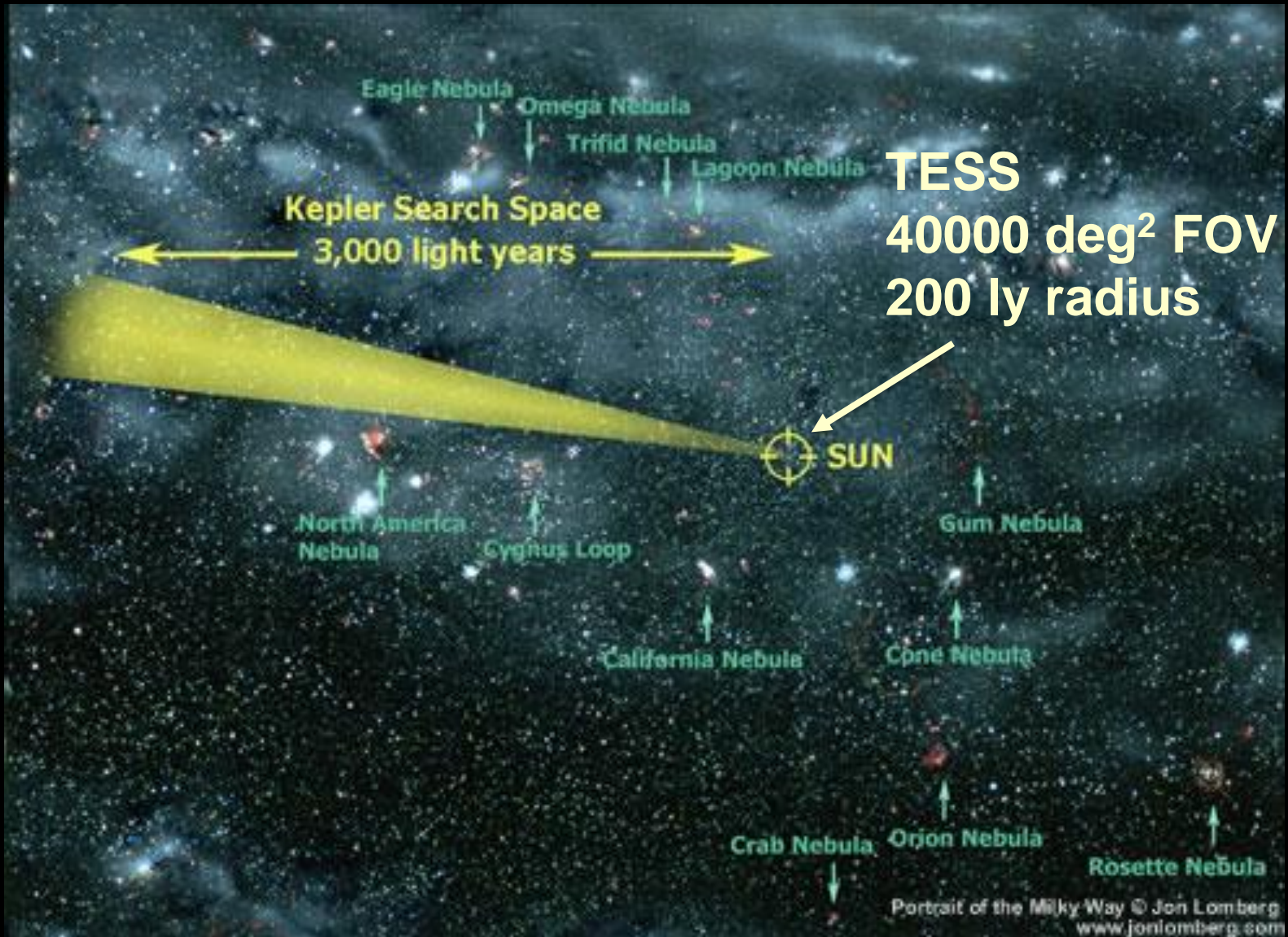
Exoplanet: Confirmed and Candidates

Visualization from *Eyes on Exoplanets*



TESS Will Survey Nearby Stars

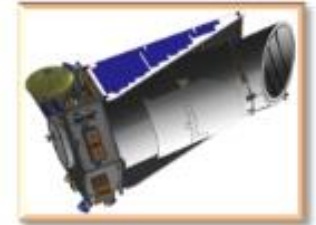
Provides Bright Targets for JWST Transit Spectroscopy



WFIRST Microlensing Census for Exoplanets

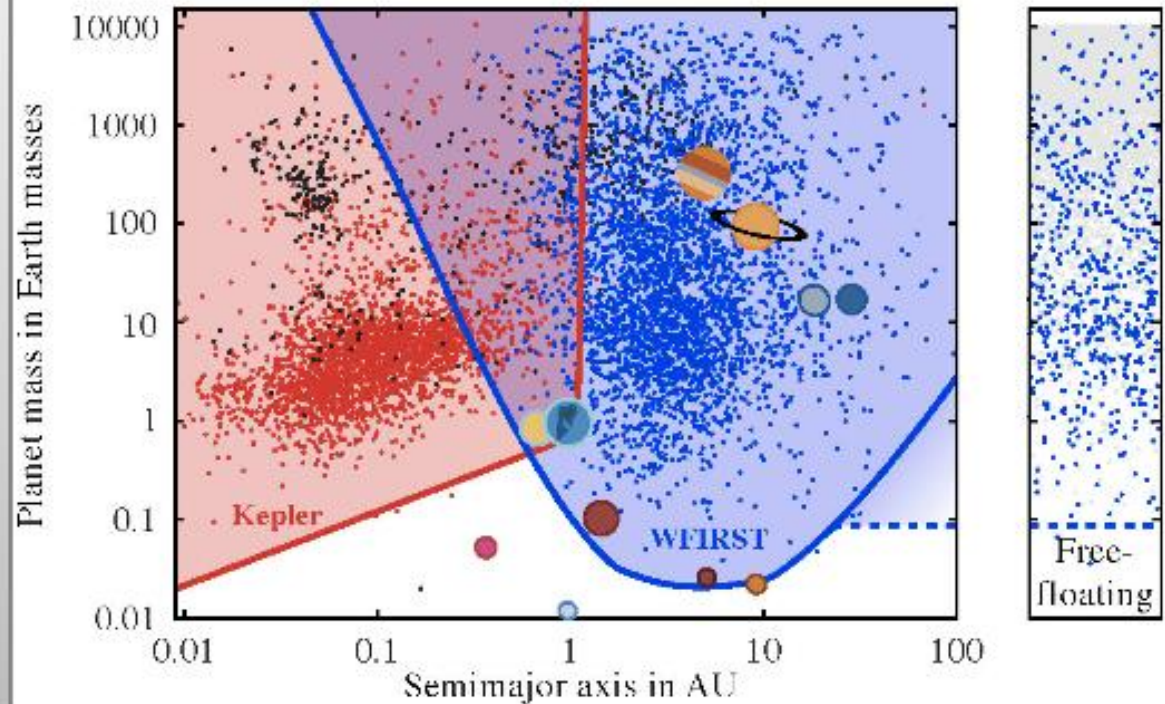


Together, Kepler and WFIRST-AFTA complete the statistical census of planetary systems in the Galaxy.



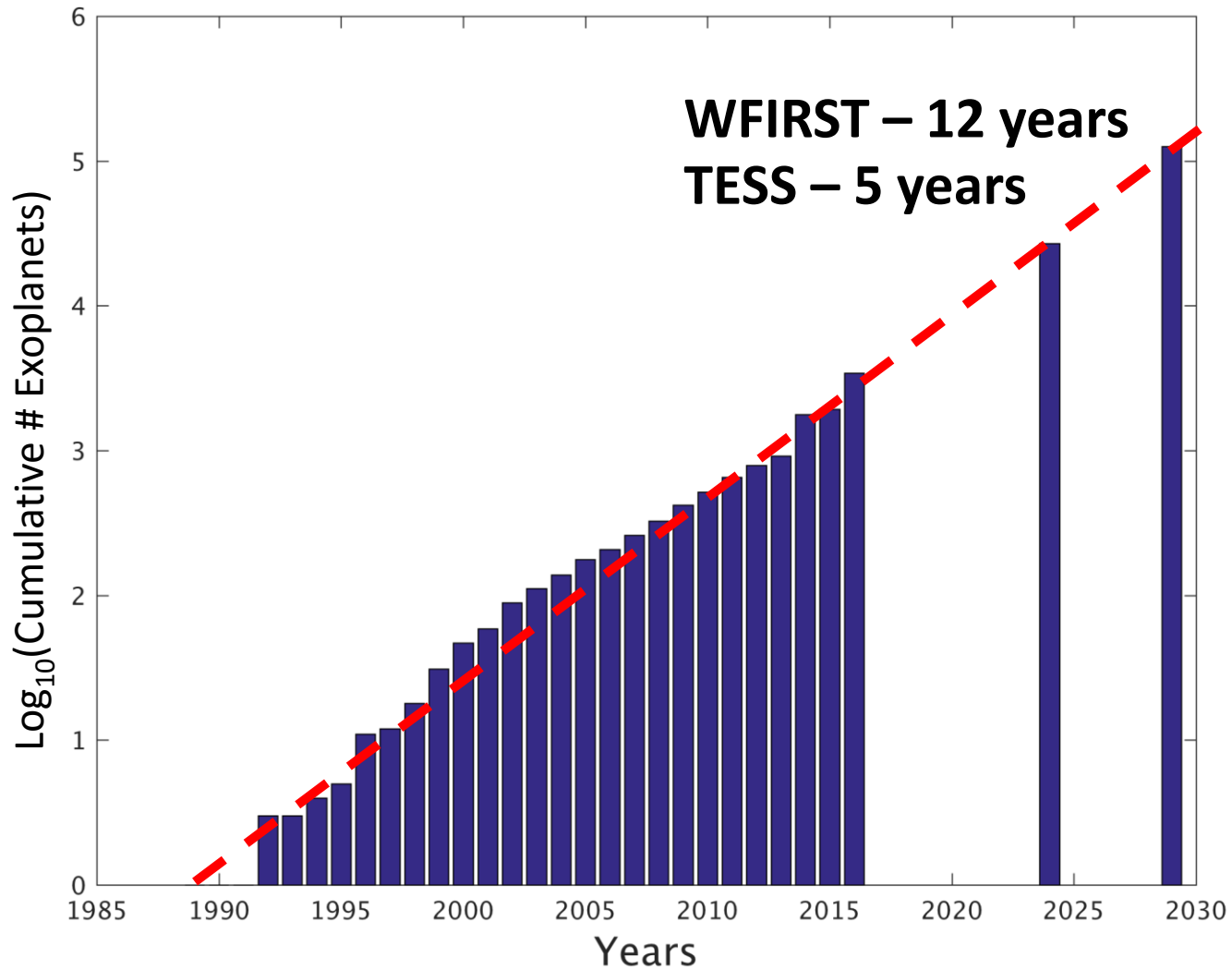
WFIRST-AFTA will:

- Detect 2800 planets, with orbits from the habitable zone outward, and masses down to a few times the mass of the Moon.
- Be sensitive to analogs of all the solar system's planets except Mercury.
- Measure the abundance of free-floating planets in the Galaxy with masses down to the mass of Mars



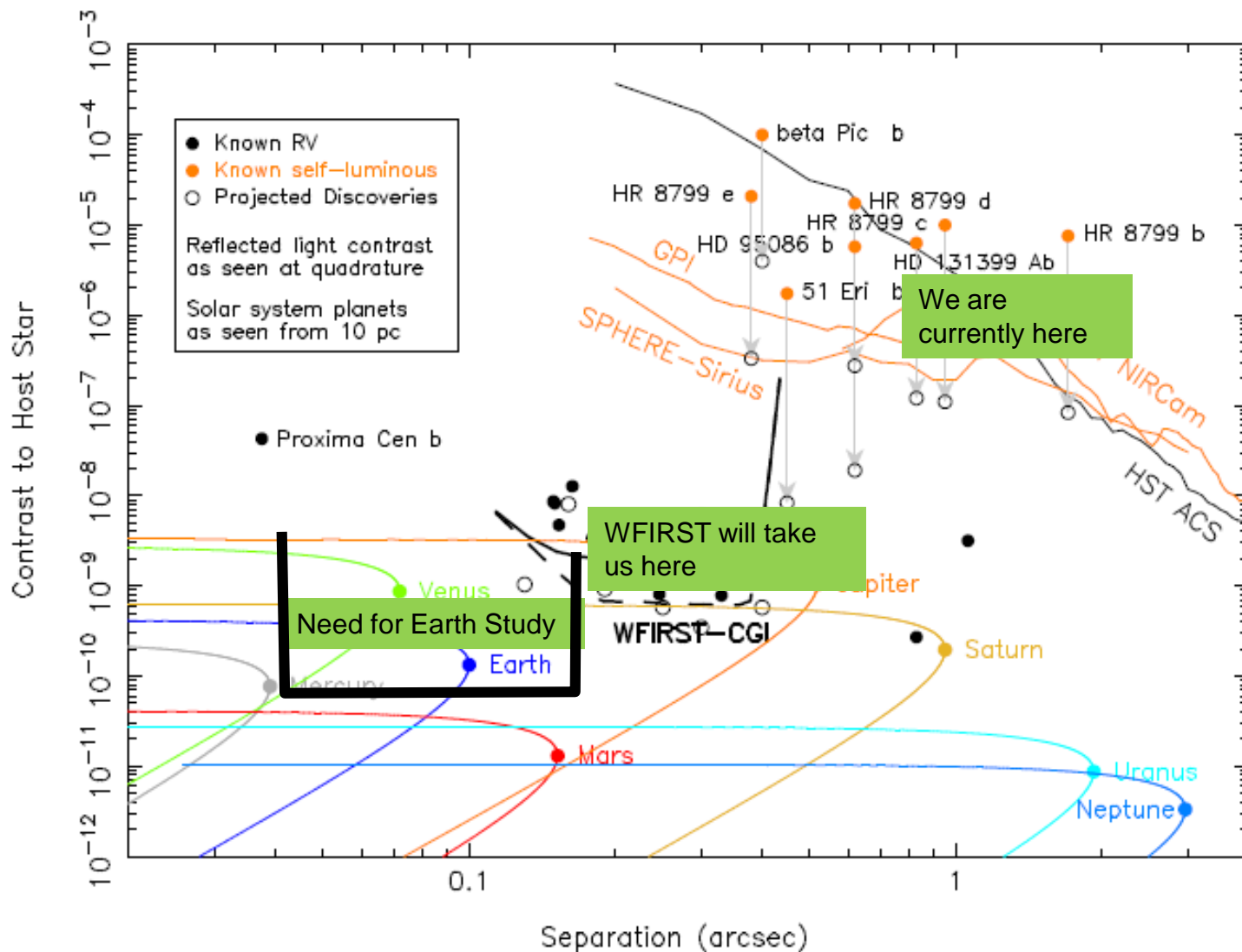
Credit: D. Bennett, M. Penny

How Much Longer Can Mamajek's Law Last?



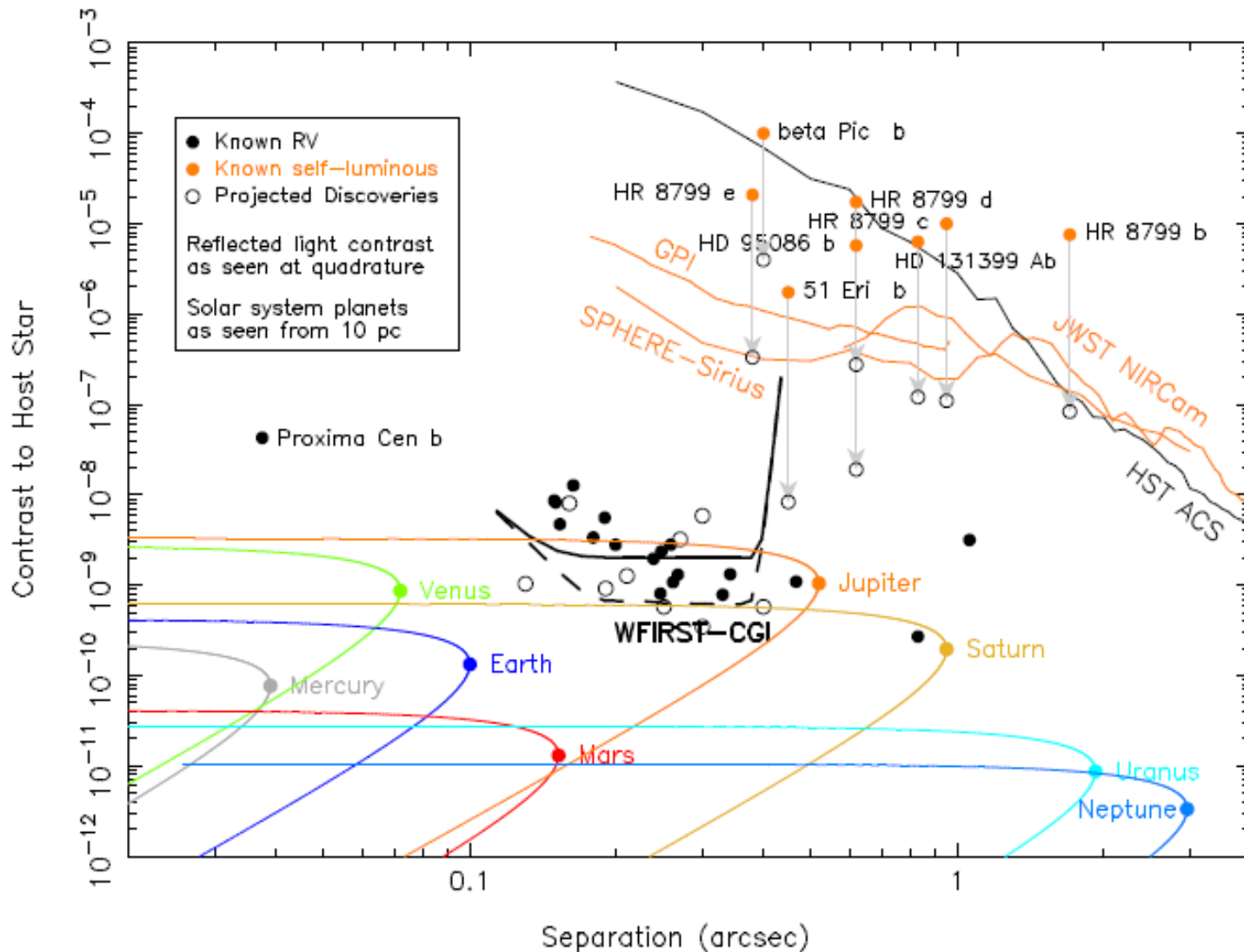
Exoplanet Direct Imaging

Exoplanet Direct Imaging in the Optical and Near-infrared



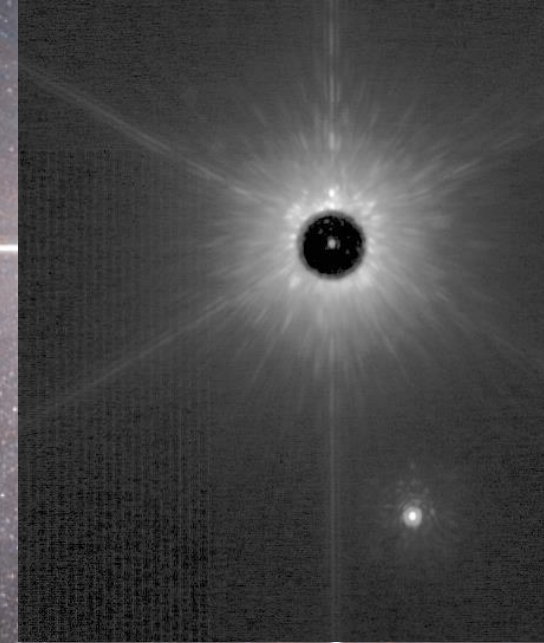
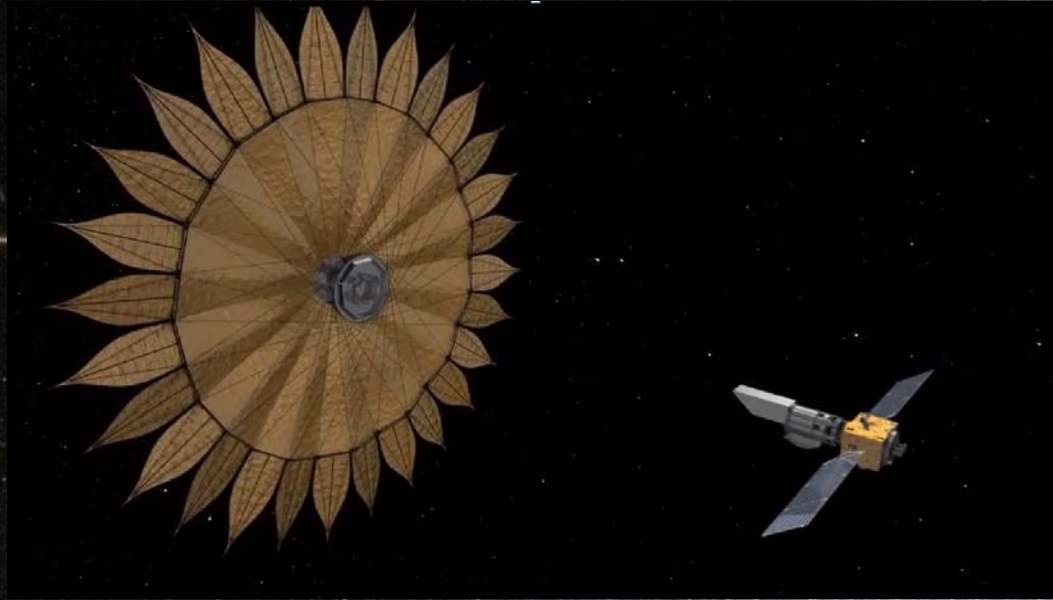
Exoplanet Direct Imaging

Exoplanet Direct Imaging in the Optical and Near-infrared

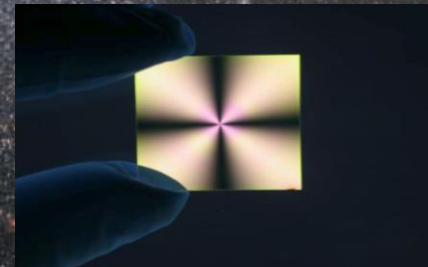


Starlight Suppression is the Key Technology in the Search for Life on Earth-Size Exoplanets

External Occulters (Starshades)

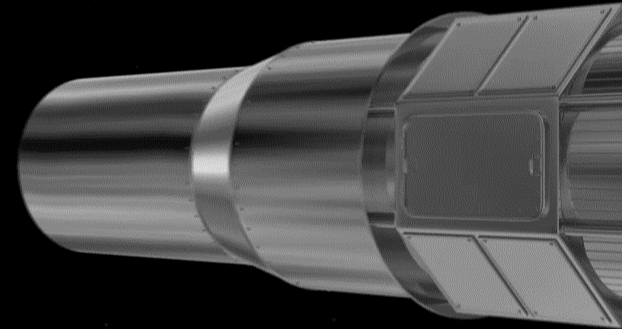


Internal Occulters (Coronagraphs)



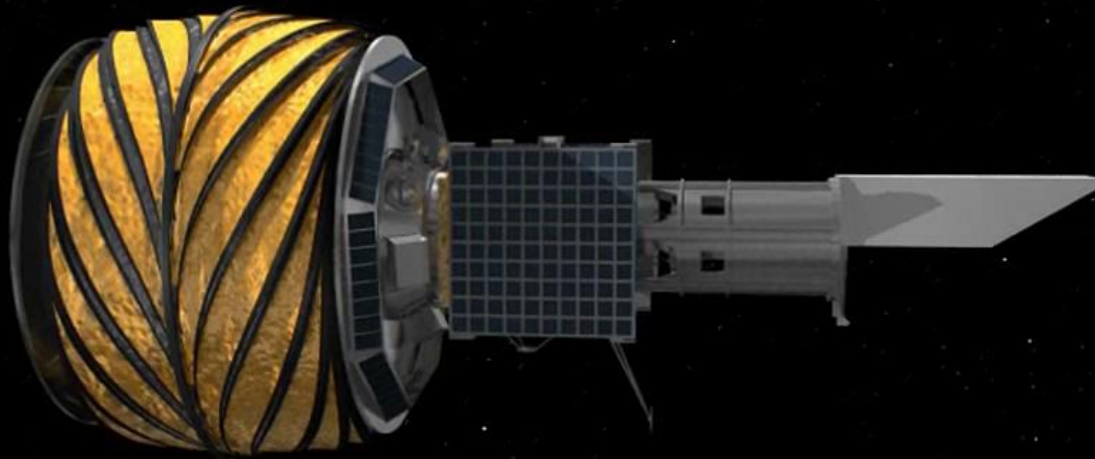
Internal Coronagraph

Controls Diffraction to Reveal Exoplanets in “Dark Hole”



Starshade (External Occulter)

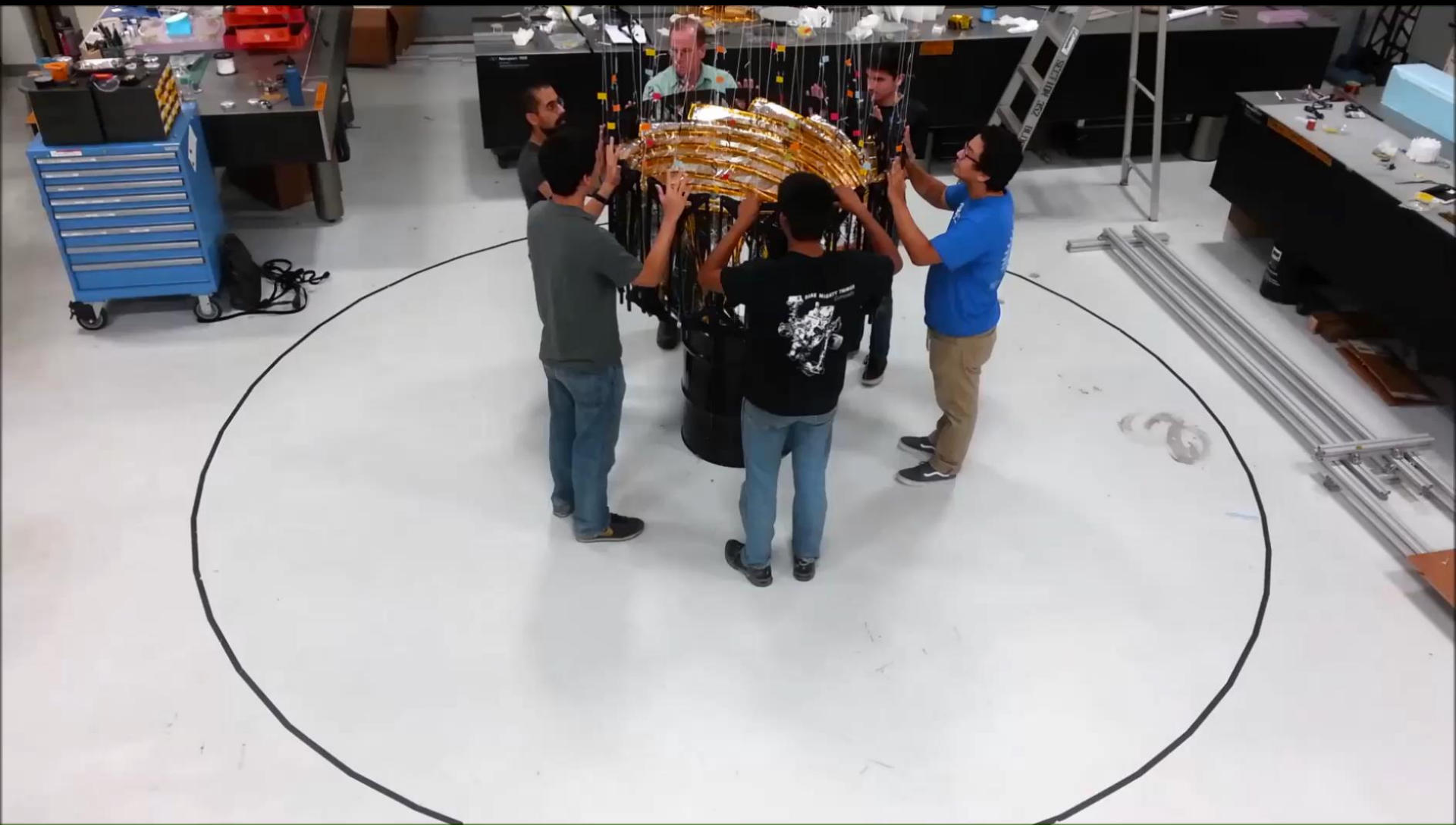
Blocks Starlight, Controls Diffraction prior to Entering Telescope



Early Inner Disk Deployment Trials at JPL

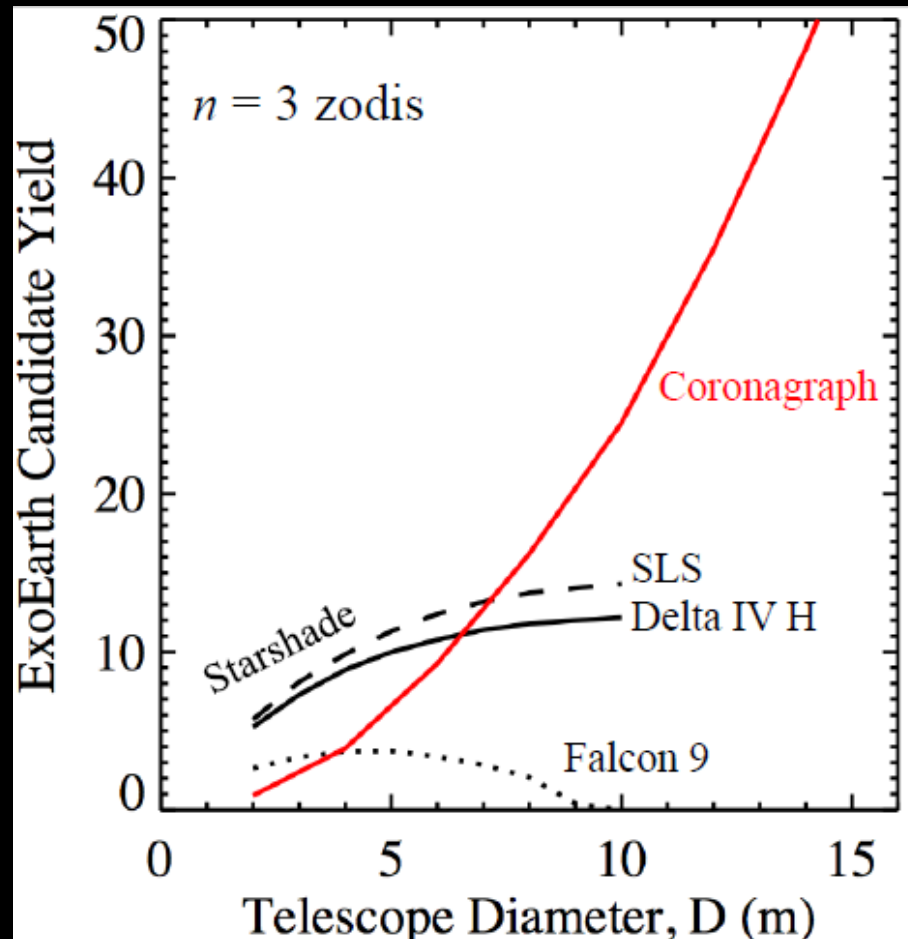


Starshade Optical Shield



Starshade and Coronagraph: Relative Yield

- Starshades appear to provide greater yield for telescope apertures less than ~6 m (depending upon launch vehicle and exozodi)



Credit: C. Stark et al 2016

Possible New Worlds Exoplanet Telescopes

(mid 2030s)

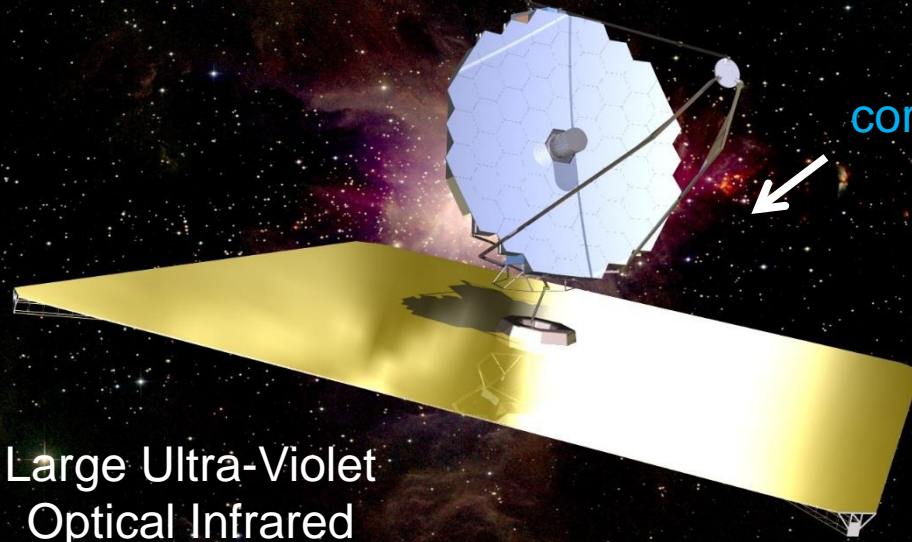
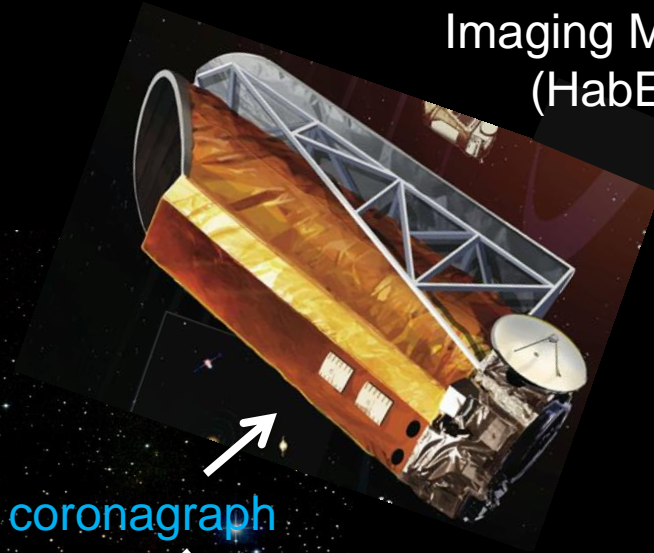
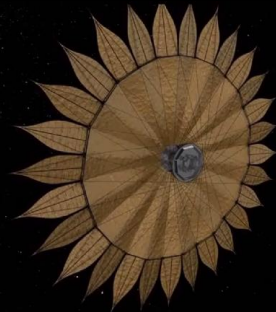
Habitable Exoplanet
Imaging Mission
(HabEx)

starshade

coronagraph

Large Ultra-Violet
Optical Infrared
Telescope (LUVOIR)

Origins Space
Telescope (OST)



“Blue of the sky”

measures
total amount
of atmosphere



**“Vegetation
jump”**

indicates
presence of
land plants

Carbon dioxide
suggests possible
volcanic activity



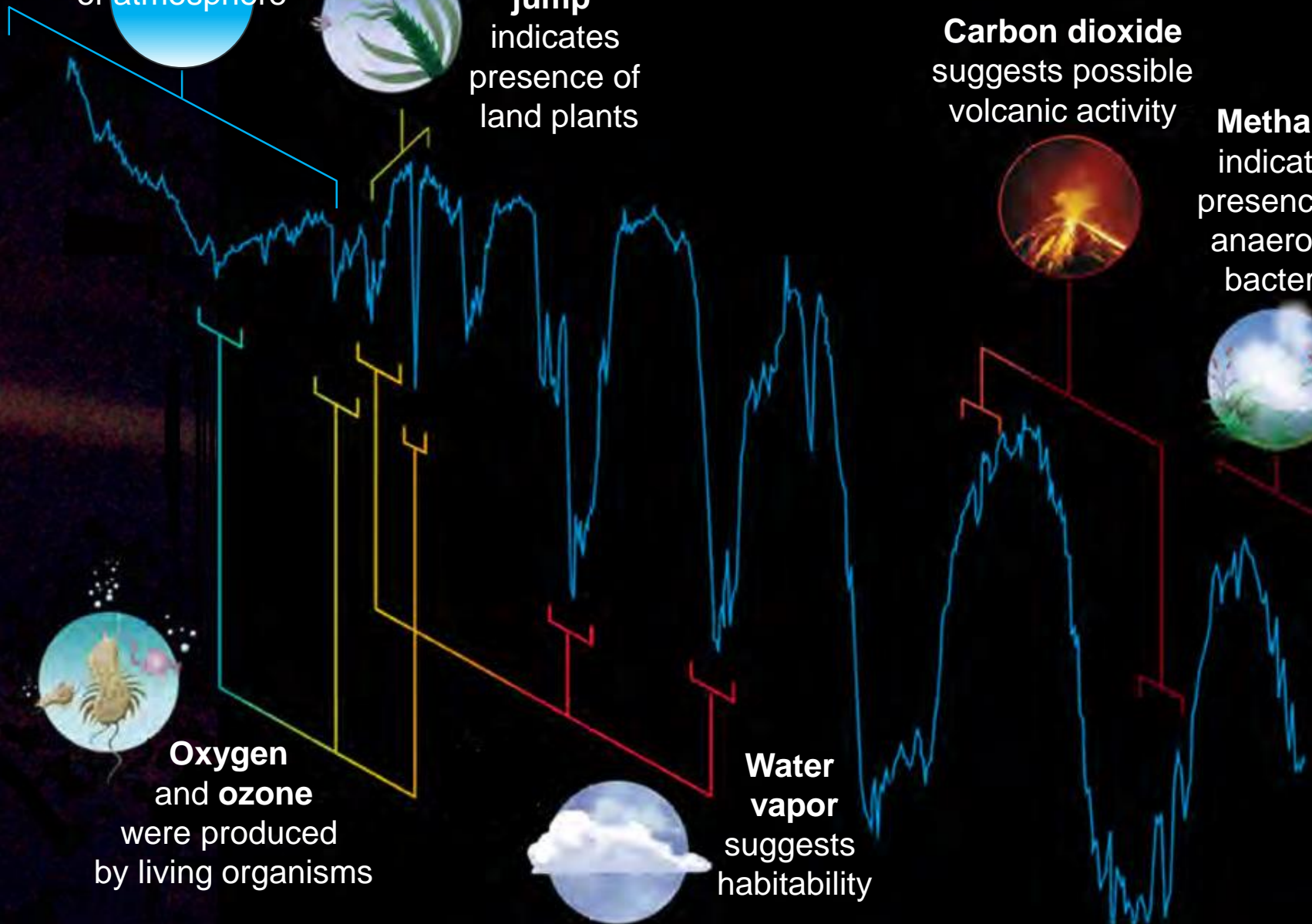
Methane
indicates
presence of
anaerobic
bacteria



**Oxygen
and ozone**
were produced
by living organisms



**Water
vapor**
suggests
habitability



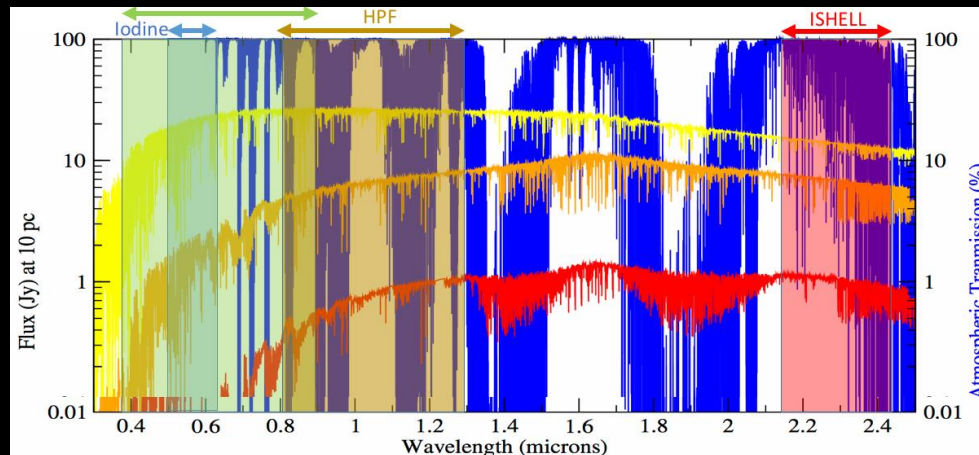
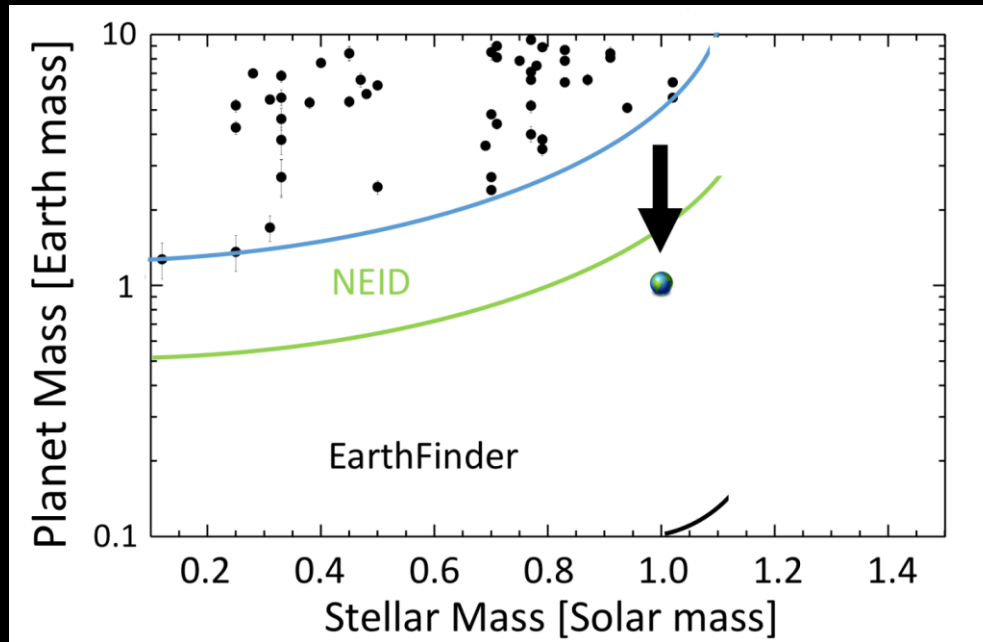
Medium-Scale Space Mission Concepts

Announced by NASA March 20

PI	Affiliation	Title
Camp, J.	NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center	Transient Astrophysics Probe Concept Study
Cooray, A.	Univ. California, Irvine	Cosmic Dawn Intensity Mapper
Danchi, W.	NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center	Cosmic Evolution through UV spectroscopy (CETUS)
Glenn, J.	Univ. of Colorado	Galaxy Evolution Probe
Hanany, S.	Univ. of Minnesota	Inflation Probe Mission Concept Study
Mushotzky, R.	Univ. of Maryland	AXIS: A High Spatial Resolution X-ray Probe Satellite
Olinto, A.	Univ. of Chicago	Concept Study of the Probe Of Extreme Multi Messenger Astrophysics (POEMMA)
Plavchan, P.	Missouri State Univ.	EarthFinder: A Diffraction-Limited Precise Radial Velocity Observatory in Space (<i>Partial selection</i>)
Ray, P.	Naval Research Laboratory	STROBE-X: X-ray Timing and Spectroscopy on Dynamical Timescales from Microseconds to Years
Seager, S.	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Starshade Rendezvous (<i>Partial selection</i>)

Precision Radial Velocity from Orbit

Avoid the Telluric Lines

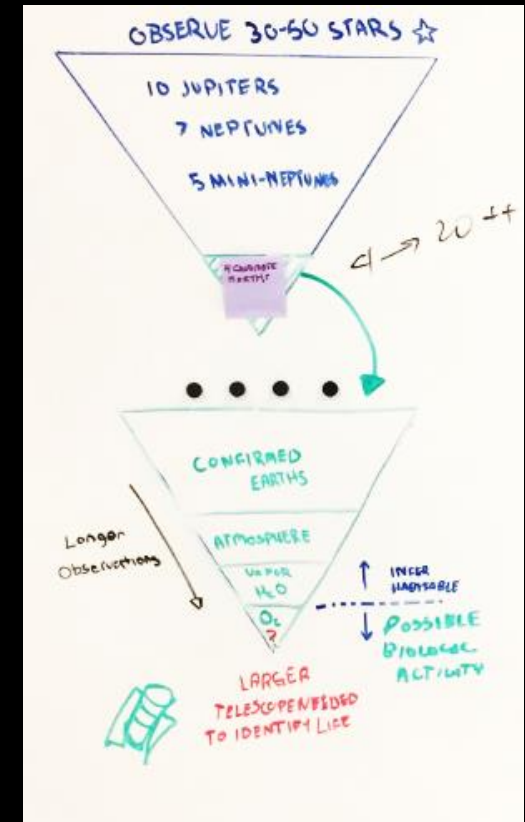
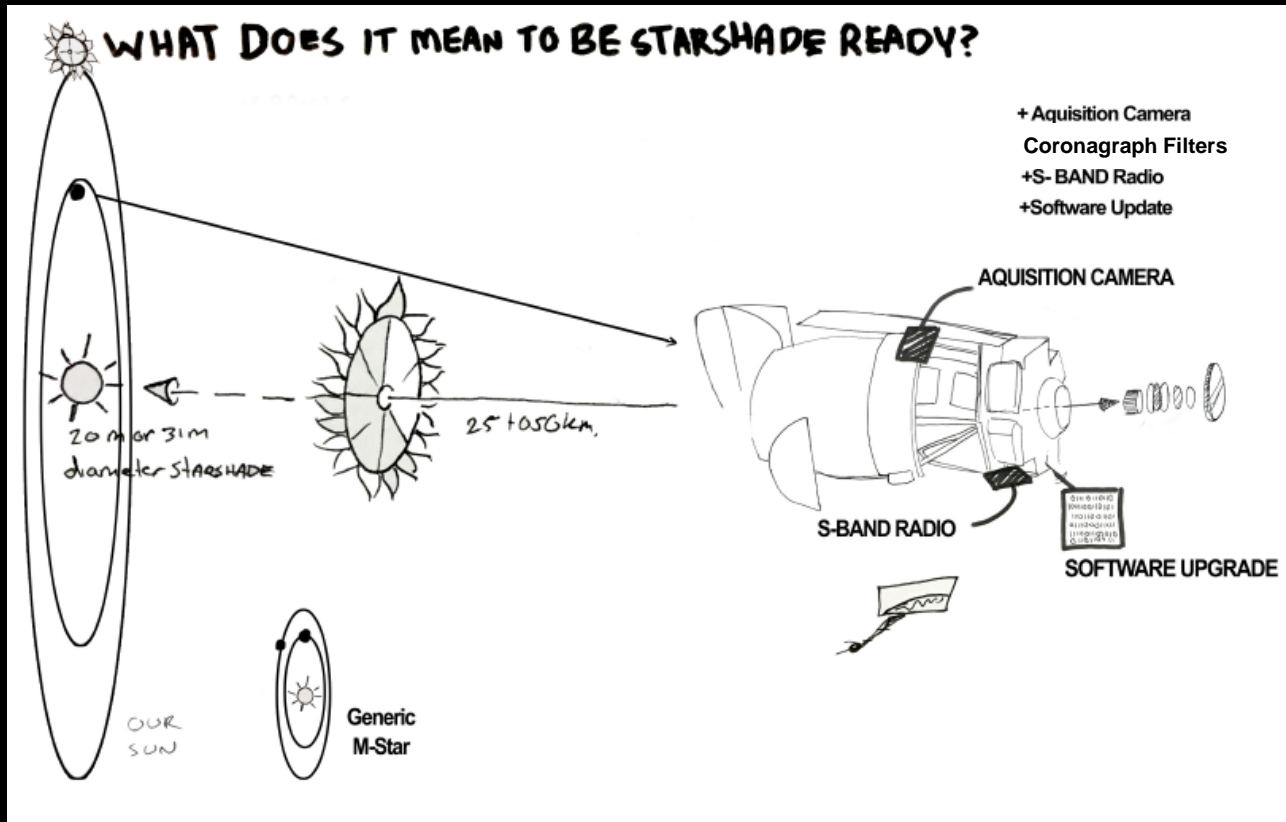


Credit: P. Plavchen

WFIRST Starshade-Ready

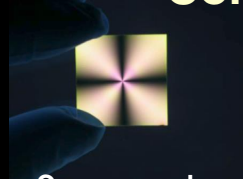
Accommodation Study to Enable a Rendezvous at L2

- WFIRST Starshade could directly image habitable-zone exo-earths in late 2020s

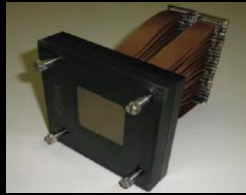


Coronagraph/Telescope Technology Needs

Contrast



Coronagraph architectures



Deformable mirrors

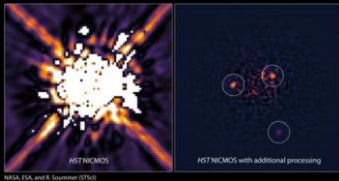
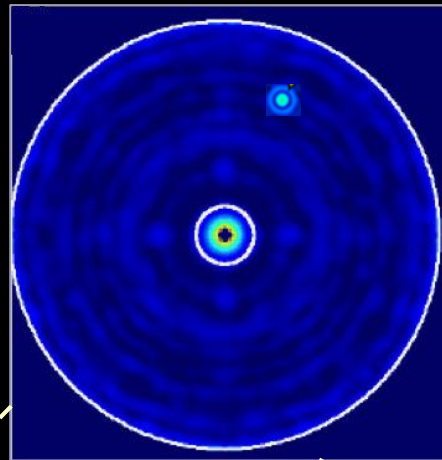
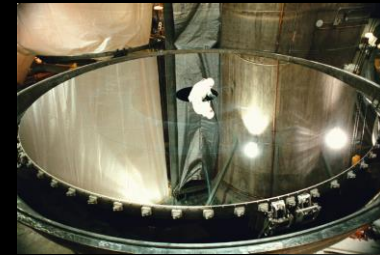


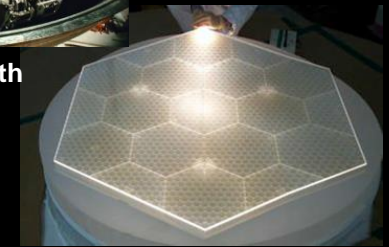
Image post-processing



Angular Resolution

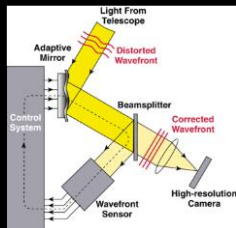


Large monolith



Segmented

Contrast Stability



Wavefront sensing and control

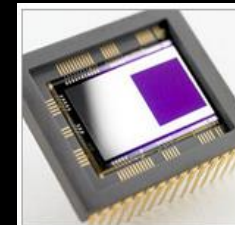


Segment phasing and rigid body sensing and control

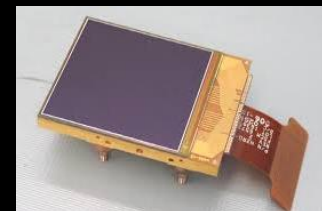


Telescope vibration sensing and control

Detection Sensitivity



Ultra-low noise visible and infrared detectors



Starshade Technology Needs

1) Starlight Suppression



Suppressing scattered light off petal edges from off-axis Sunlight (S-2)

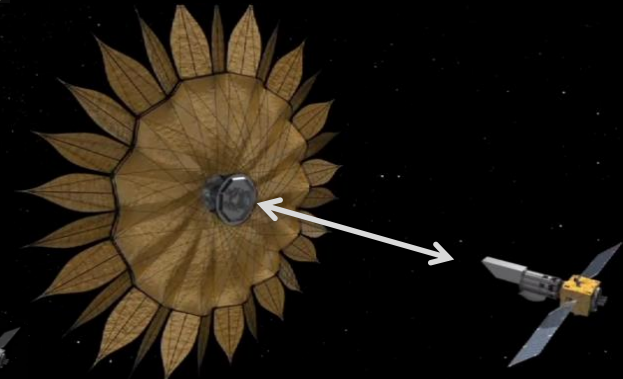


Suppressing diffracted light from on-axis starlight (S-1)



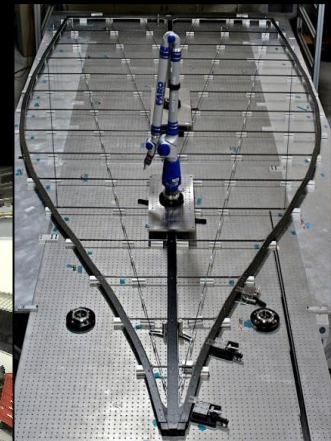
Positioning the petals to high accuracy, blocking on-axis starlight, maintaining overall shape on a highly stable structure (S-5)

2) Formation Sensing and Control



Maintaining lateral offset requirement between the spacecrafts (S-3)

3) Deployment Accuracy and Shape Stability



Fabricating the petals to high accuracy (S-4)

S-# corresponds to ExEP
Starshade Technology Gap number
<http://exoplanets.nasa.gov/exep/technology/gap-lists>

Program Overview

Science Updates

How Do We Discover & Characterize Exoplanets?

Progress towards 2010 Decadal Survey Priorities

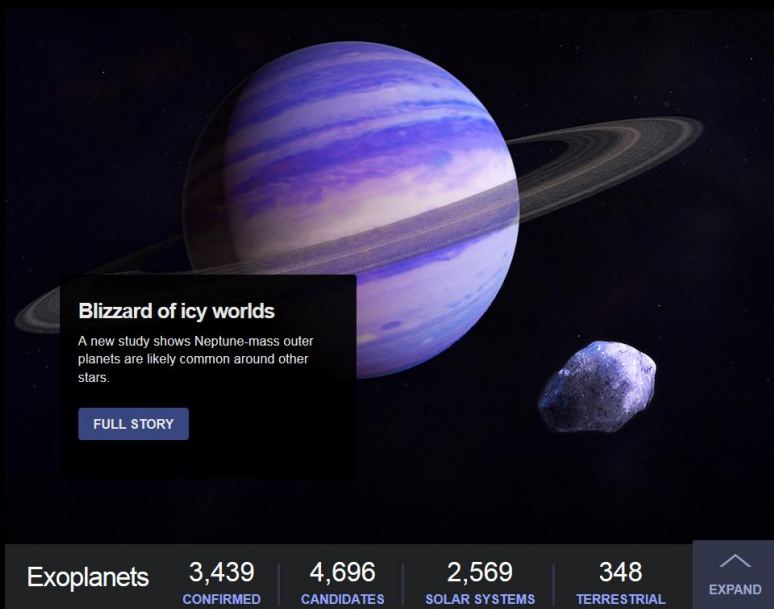
Plan Forward: Science and Technology

You Had Me at Habitable

Exoplanet Communications

Data Visualization Tools and New Thematic Exoplanet Hub

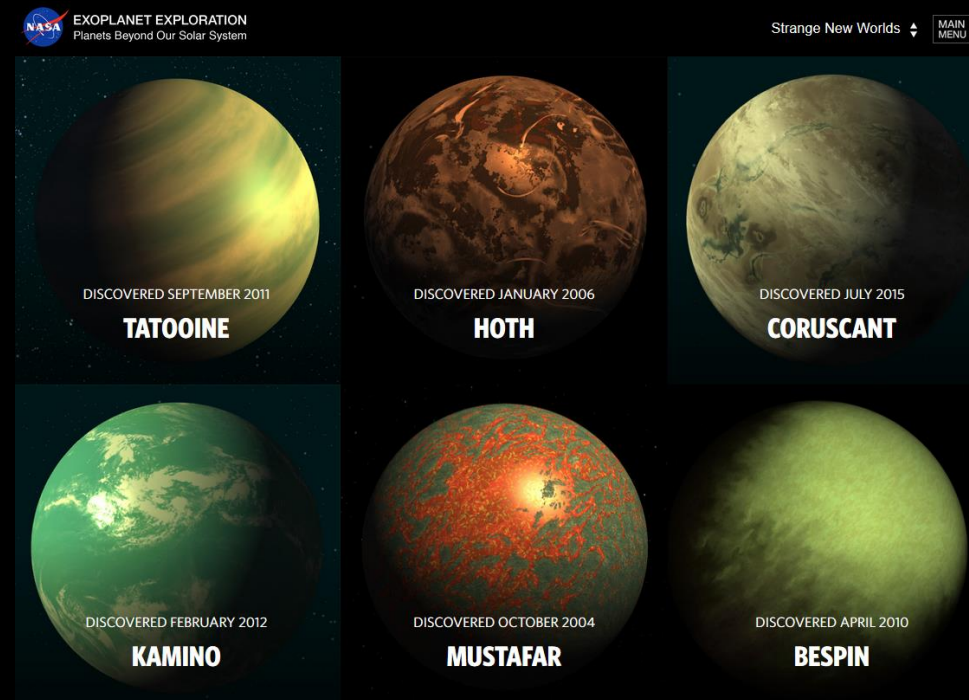
exoplanets.nasa.gov



Blizzard of icy worlds
A new study shows Neptune-mass outer planets are likely common around other stars.

[FULL STORY](#)

Exoplanets	3,439	4,696	2,569	348	EXPAND
	CONFIRMED	CANDIDATES	SOLAR SYSTEMS	TERRESTRIAL	



EXOPLANET EXPLORATION
Planets Beyond Our Solar System

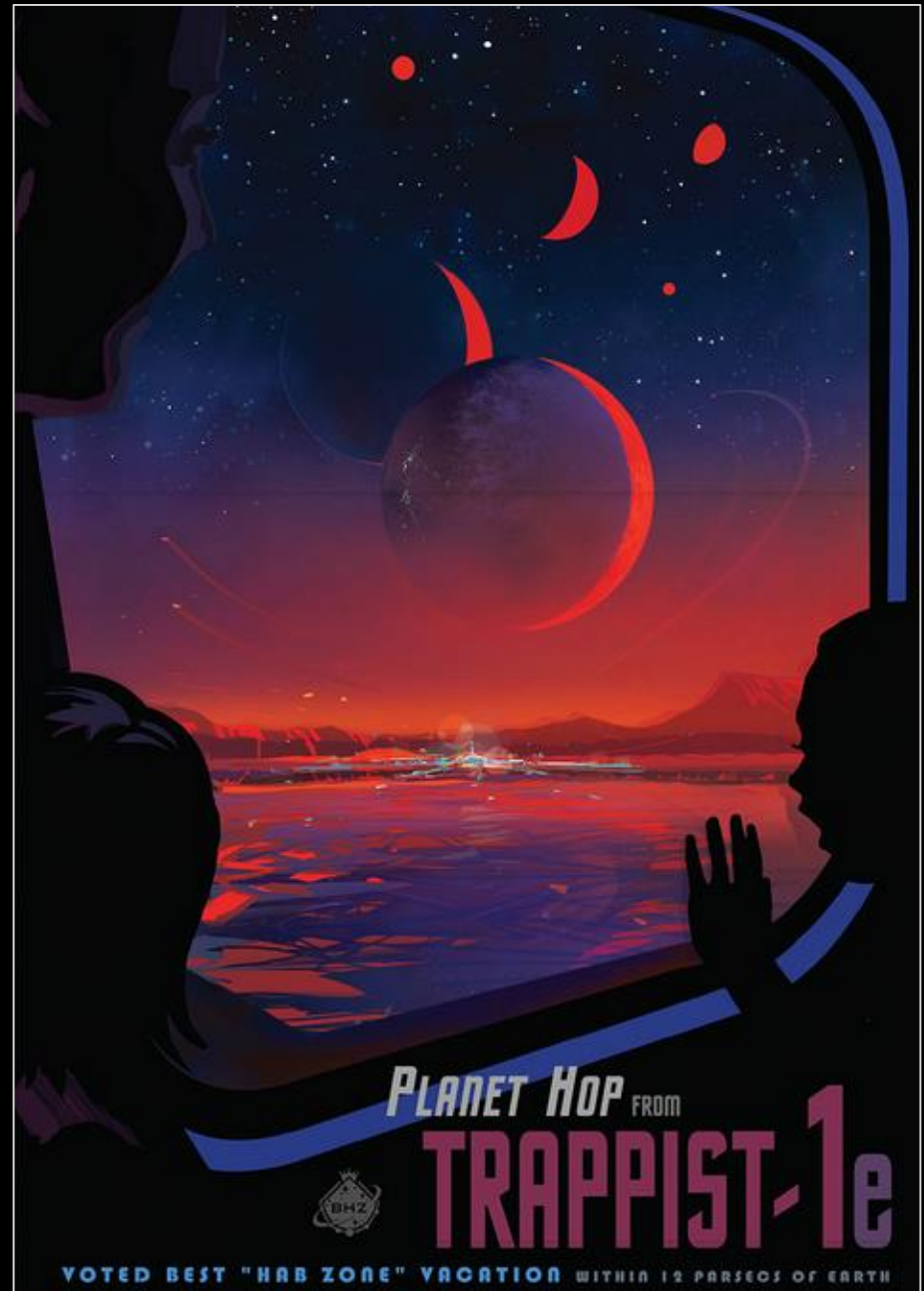
Strange New Worlds [MAIN MENU](#)

DISCOVERED SEPTEMBER 2011 TATOOINE	DISCOVERED JANUARY 2006 HOTH	DISCOVERED JULY 2015 CORUSCANT
DISCOVERED FEBRUARY 2012 KAMINO	DISCOVERED OCTOBER 2004 MUSTAFAR	DISCOVERED APRIL 2010 BESPIN

Replaced exoplanets.jpl.nasa.gov
Exoplanet-thematic content featuring
content across NASA.

3D, interactive planet renderings
Custom planet textures can be created
for press releases.
(contact the Comm team in advance)

Exoplanet Travel Bureau



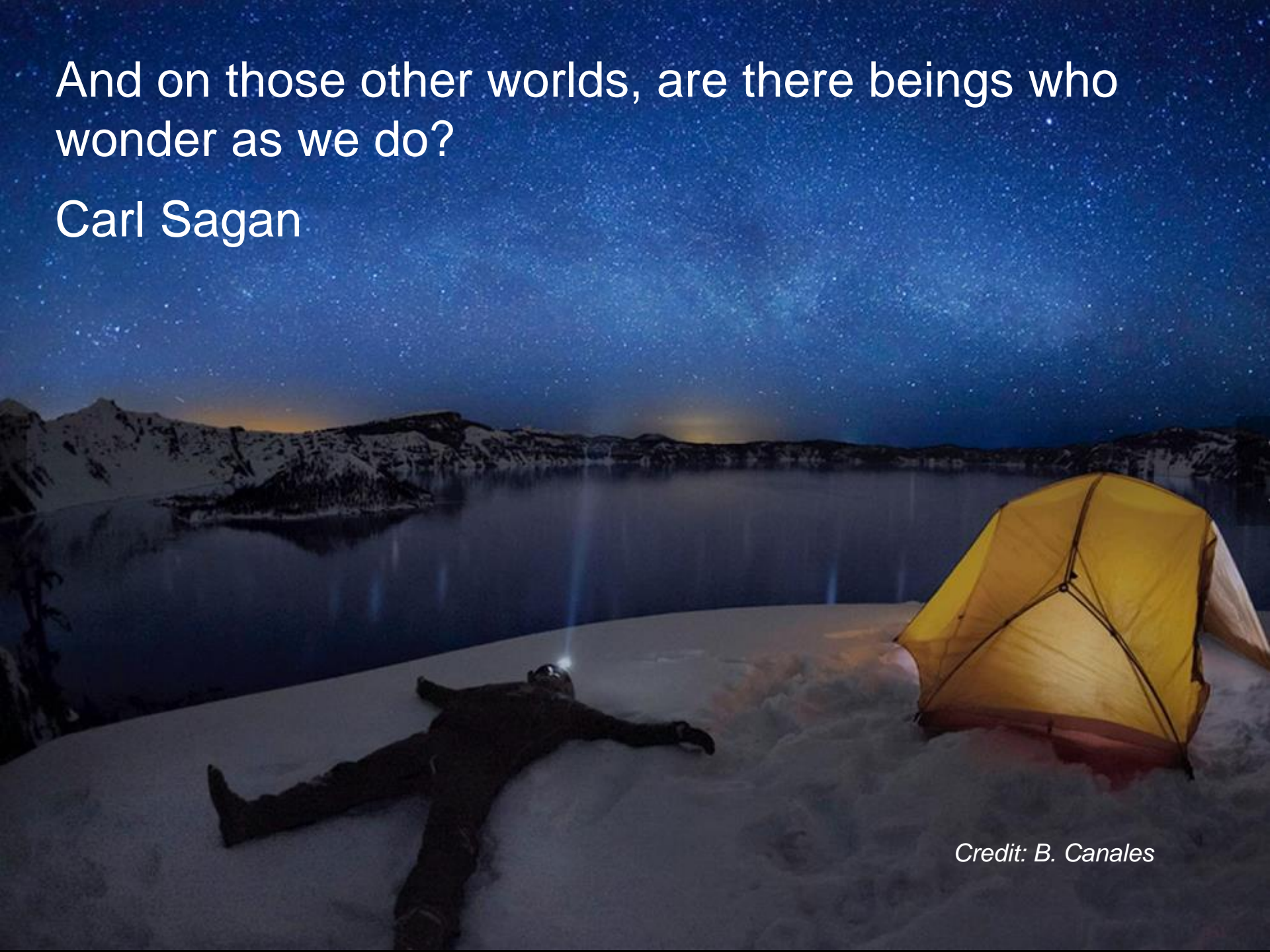
My Story



Credit: London Mint Office

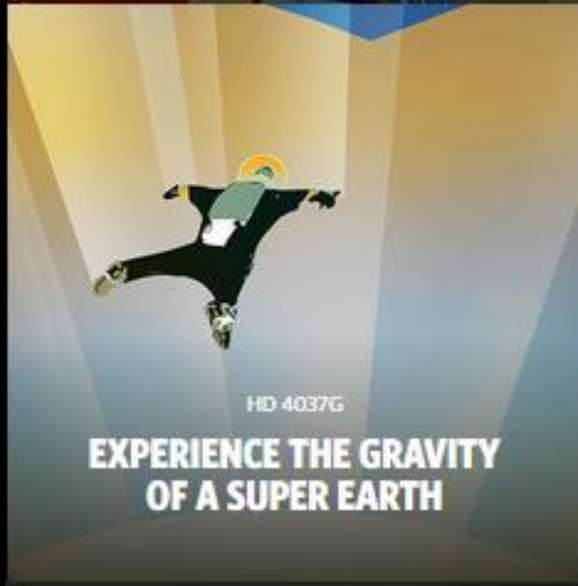
And on those other worlds, are there beings who wonder as we do?

Carl Sagan



Credit: B. Canales

Exoplanet Travel Bureau



Exploring a Galaxy of Worlds while Inspiring Our Own



Introducing Baby Kepler! (Cloutier)



You Had Me at Habitable

DOB 2/6/16 • Age on Earth – 1 • Kepler 16b – 1.5 • Proxima b – 33 • Trappist-1b – 243



Jet Propulsion Laboratory
California Institute of Technology

jpl.nasa.gov



National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Jet Propulsion Laboratory
California Institute of Technology
Pasadena, California

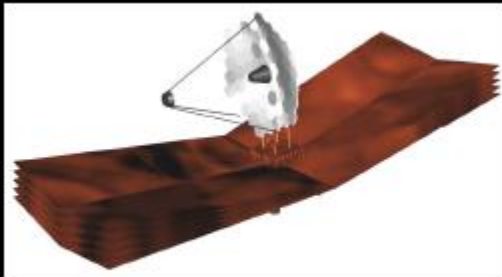
Acknowledgements

This work was carried out at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology under contract with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. © 2017 All rights reserved.

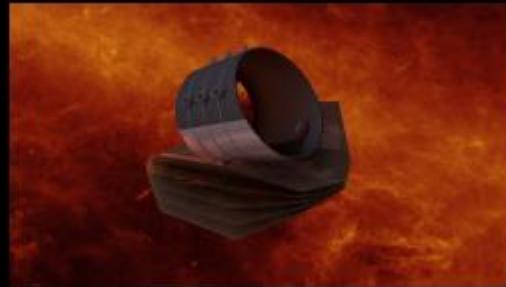
- Work was also carried out at NASA's
 - Goddard Space Flight Center
 - Ames Research Center
- Work was carried out as well under contracts with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and
 - Princeton University
 - University of Arizona
 - Northrop Grumman Aerospace Systems
 - National Optical Astronomy Observatory (NOAO)
 - Massachusetts Institute of Technology
 - Pennsylvania State University
- Contributions from ExEP program leadership and staff gratefully acknowledged

Origins Space Telescope

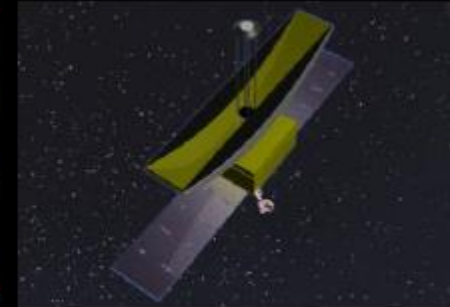
Credit: A. Cooray



JWST-like?



Spitzer-like?



Rotating aperture?

- 8–13 m single aperture
- 5–600 μm
- 4.5 K active-cooled
- Exoplanets
 - Transit/secondary eclipse spectroscopy
 - Direct imaging via a mid-IR coronagraph