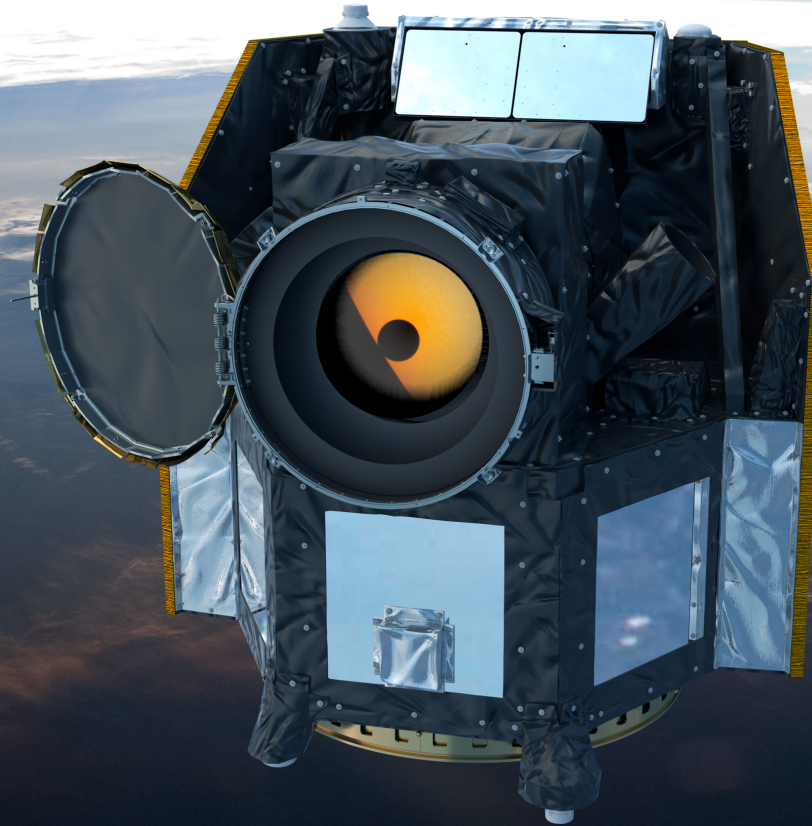




# The Characterising Exoplanets Satellite

David Ehrenreich & the CHEOPS Mission Consortium



UNIVERSITÉ  
DE GENÈVE

PlanetS



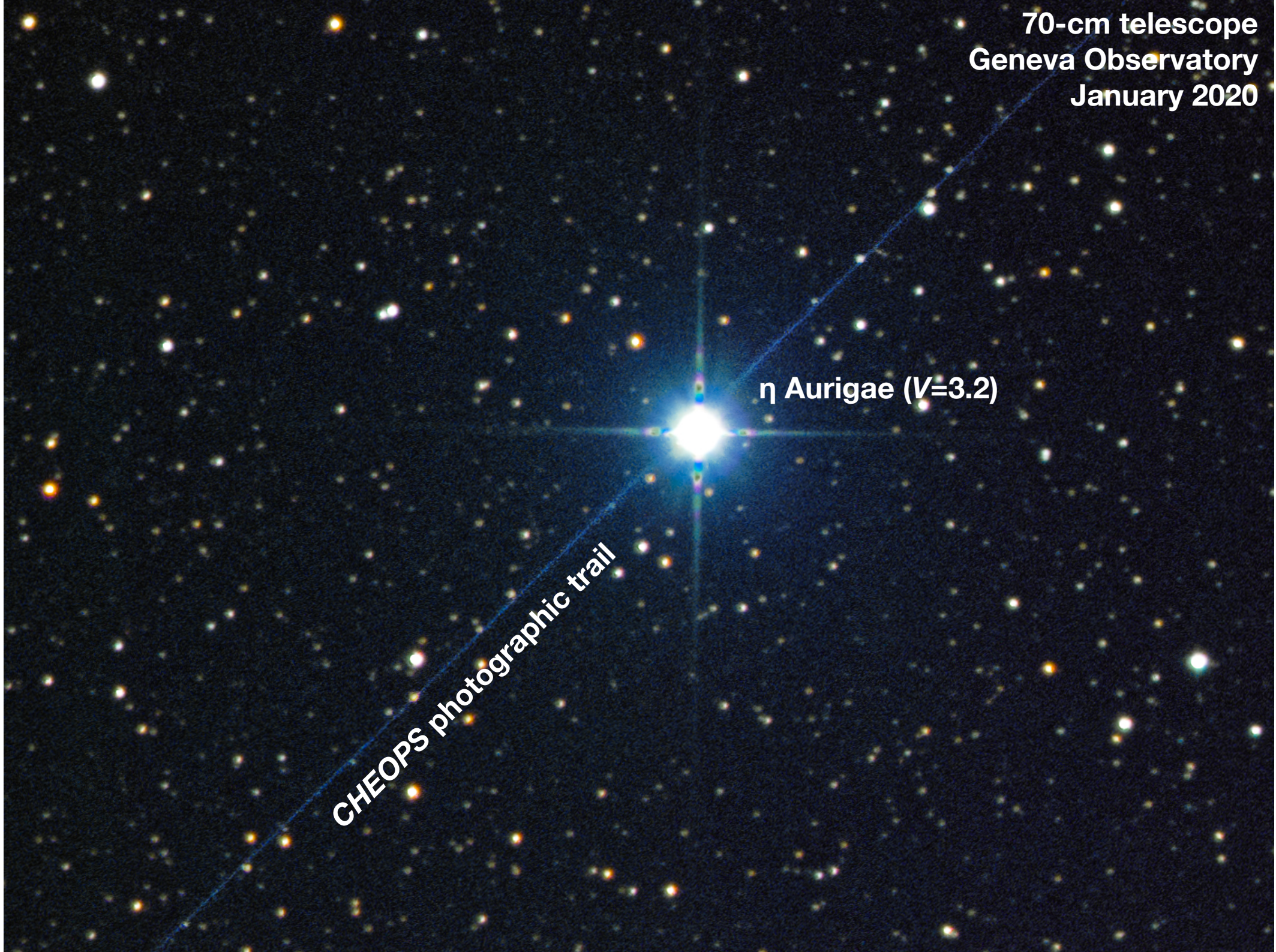
70-cm telescope  
Geneva Observatory  
January 2020



70-cm telescope  
Geneva Observatory  
January 2020

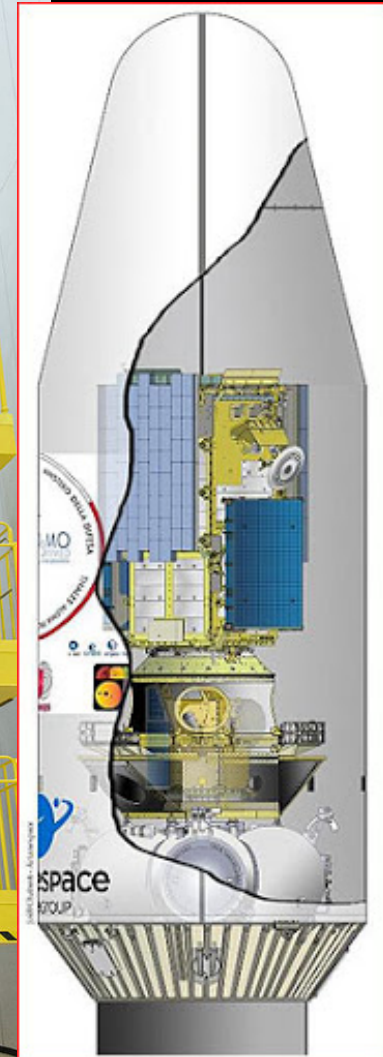
$\eta$  Aurigae (V=3.2)

CHEOPS photographic trail



# Soyuz VS-23 fairing at French Guyana Space Center December 2019

**CHEOPS!**



**Credits: Arianespace**

**Soyuz launch VS-23 from French Guyana Space Center  
18 December 2019**

**Credits: Arianespace**



**Insertion in low-Earth orbit at 700 km  
18 December 2019**



**Credits: ESA**



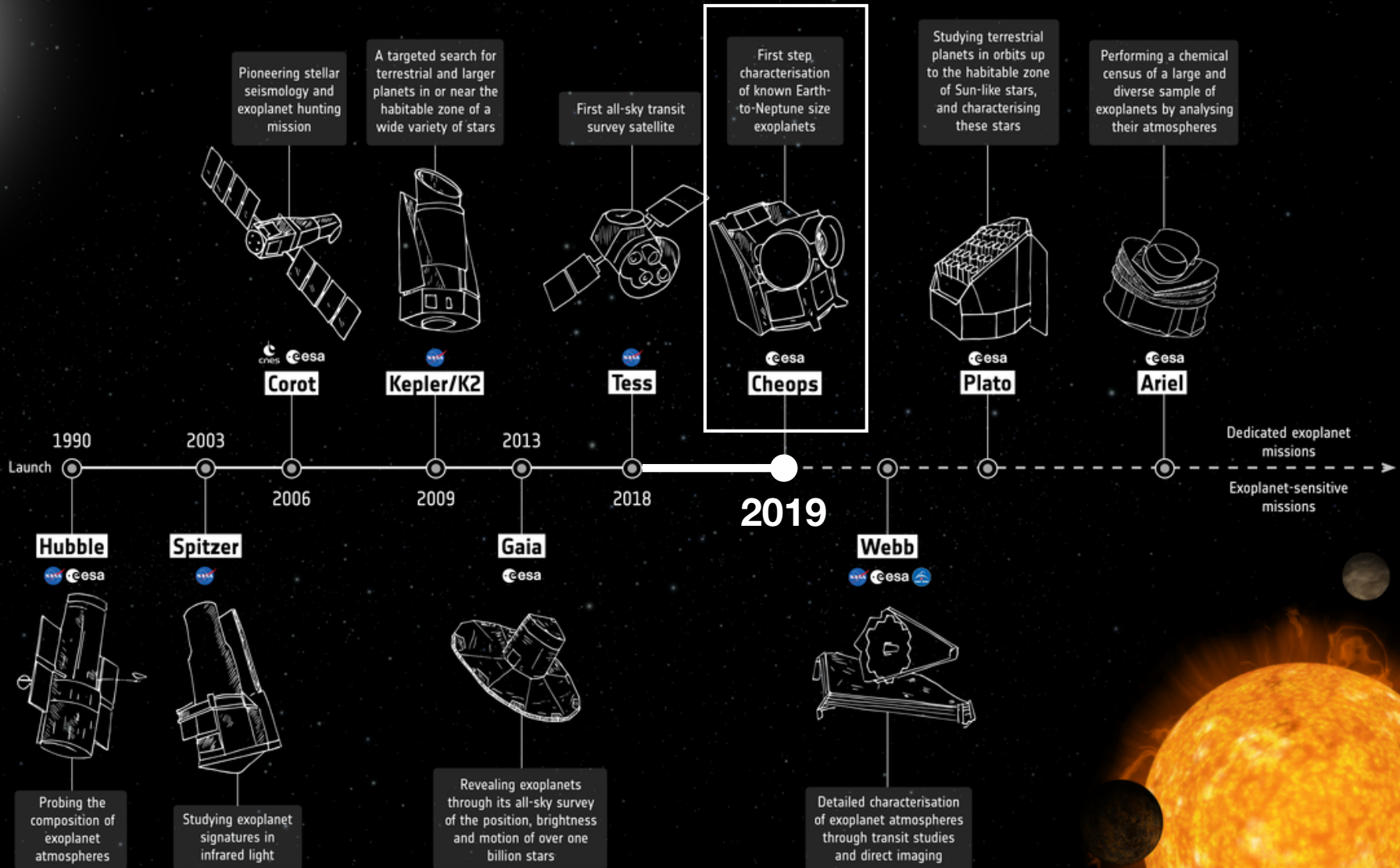
# CHEOPS

ESA's first S-class mission

First space mission dedicated to study known exoplanets

**Ground-based observatories**

First discoveries of exoplanets in the 1990s opened up the field of exoplanet research. New innovations and discoveries continue to this day



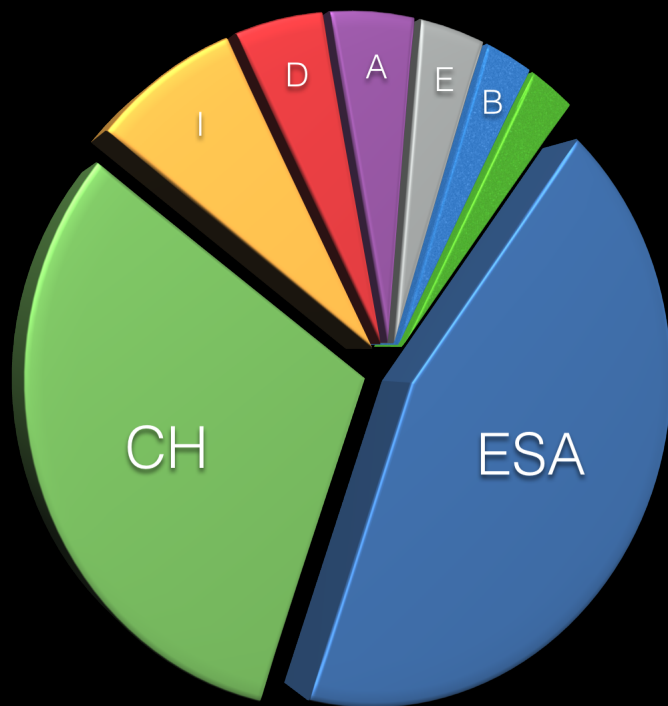
# S-class mission:

S is not for “Simple”

“Small” Budget

Short time

Several countries



milestone	when
call issued	Mar 2012
call answered	Jun 2012
mission selected	Nov 2012
<b>mission adopted</b>	<b>Feb 2014</b>
<b>instrument delivered</b>	<b>Feb 2019</b>
<b>launch</b>	<b>Dec 2019</b>



- total budget: ~105 M€
- ESA: 50 M€
- 4–5 years development time
- 11 countries & ESA
- ~30 institutions

➔ **Top Science is expected!**

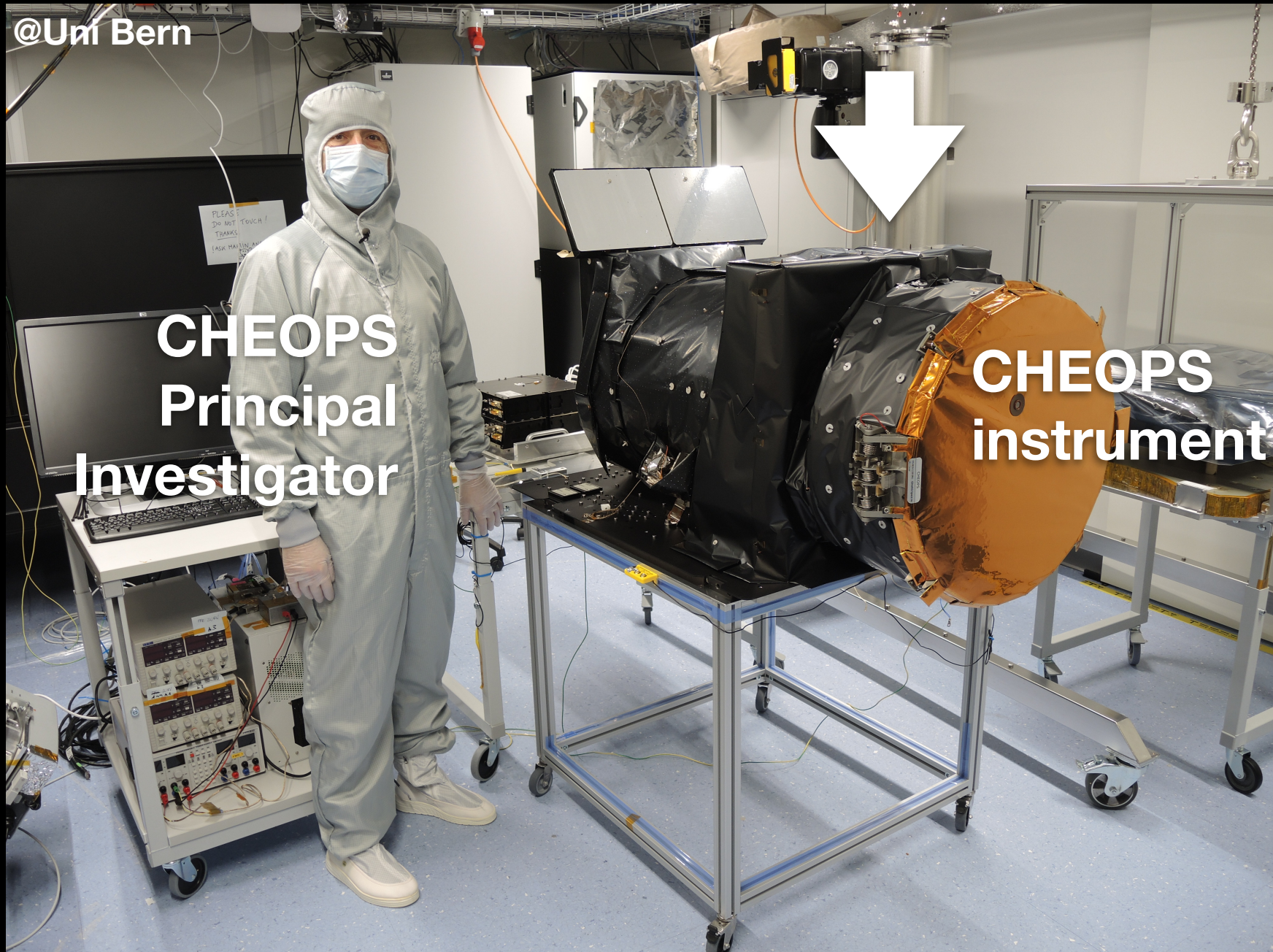


# CHEOPS instrument

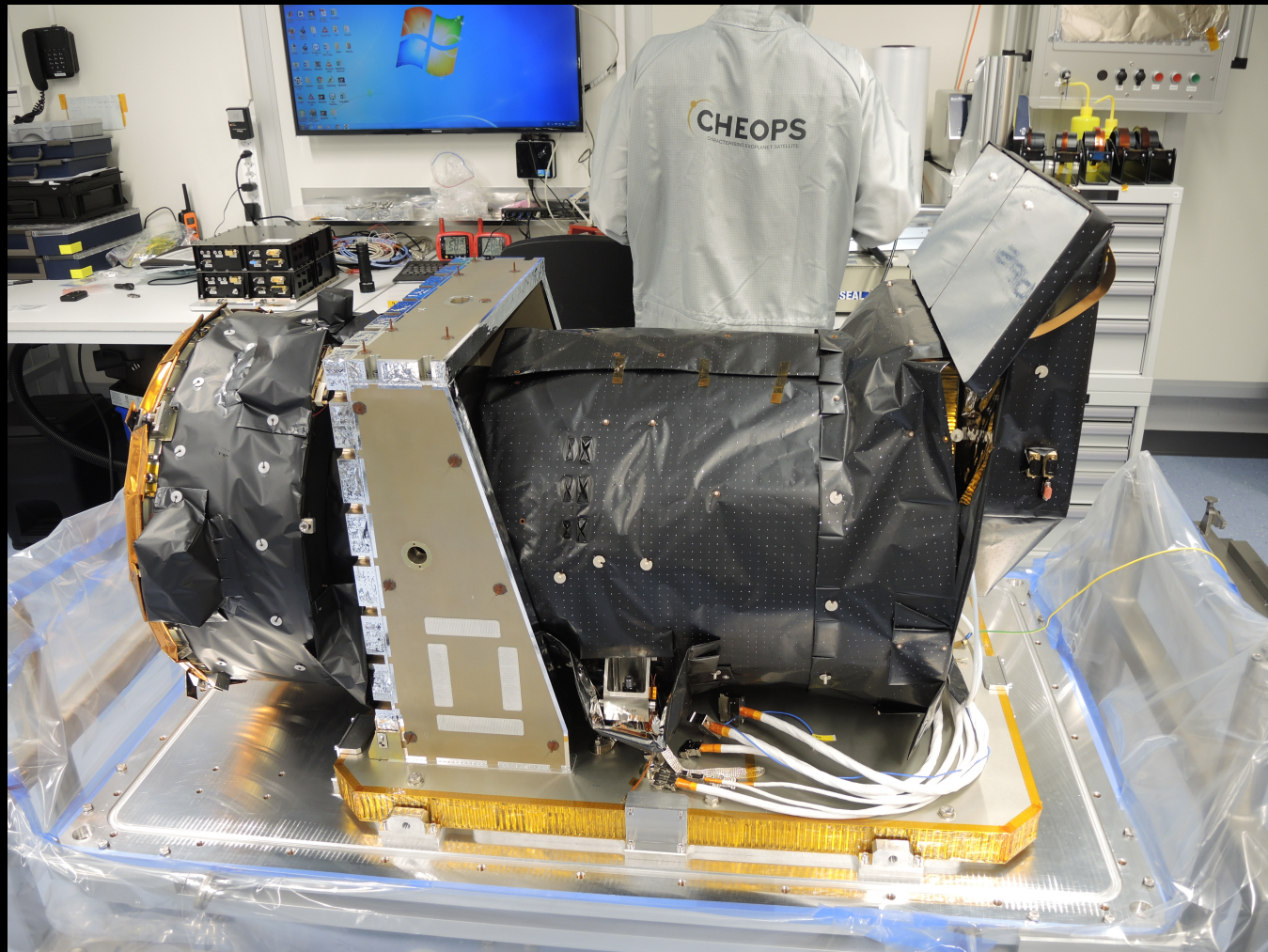
@Unf Bern

CHEOPS  
Principal  
Investigator

CHEOPS  
instrument

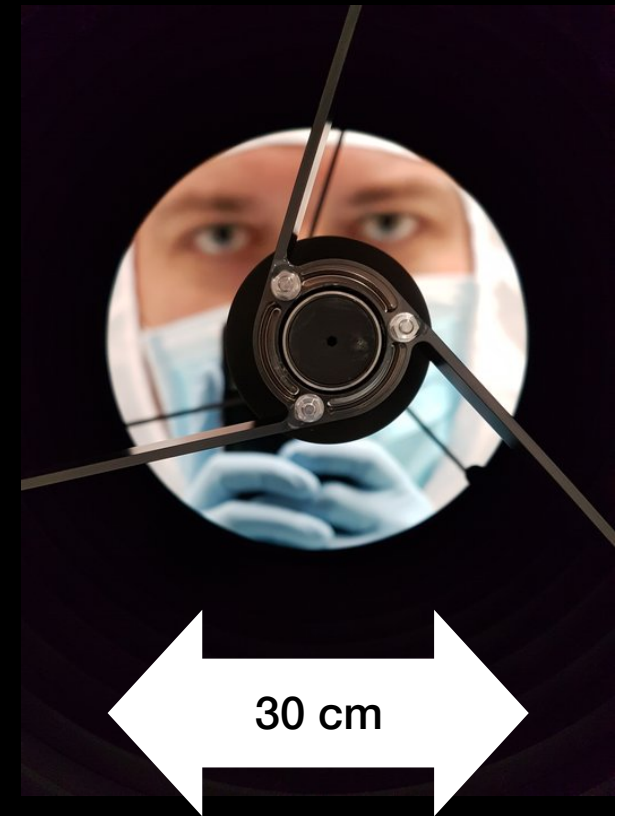


# CHEOPS instrument

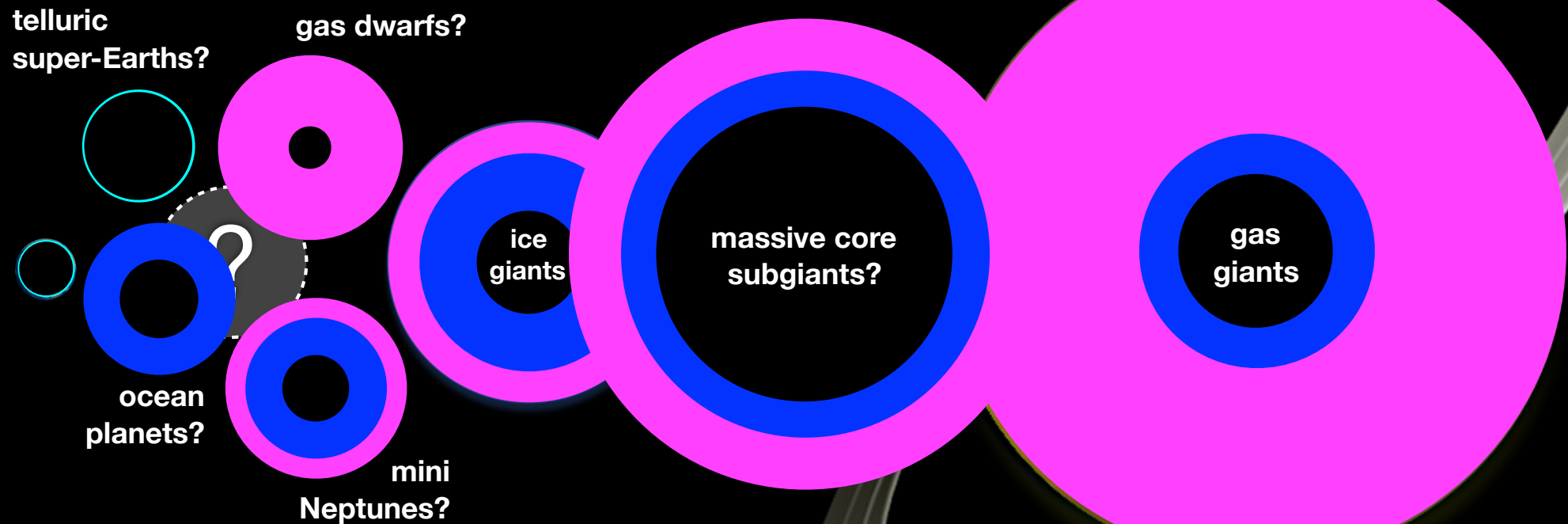


@Uni Bern

A 30-cm space telescope capable of ultra high-precision photometry



# What are exoplanets made of?

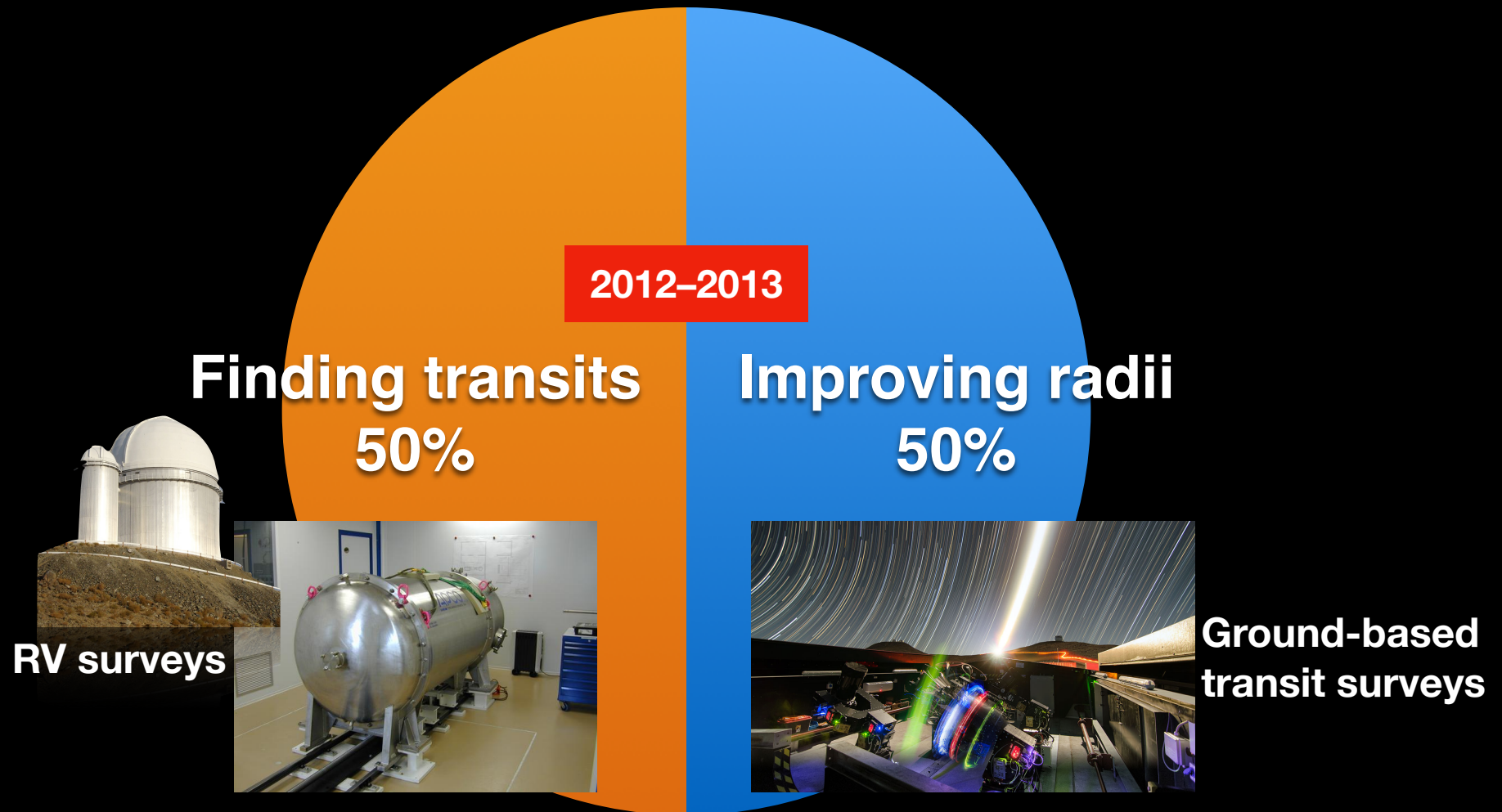


- hydrogen/helium envelope
- thin atmosphere
- ice mantle/volatile envelope
- solid core (rocks+metals)

Constraints based on  
**bulk density**

# Science goals

1. Measure precise densities for super-earths and neptunes
2. Identify “golden targets” for atmospheric characterisation

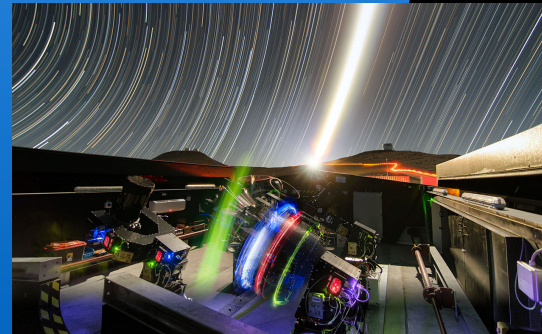
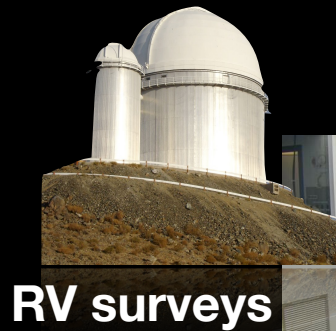


# Science strategy

CHEOPS is a **follow-up** mission  
it must be **flexible**

Finding transits  
50%

Improving radii  
50%



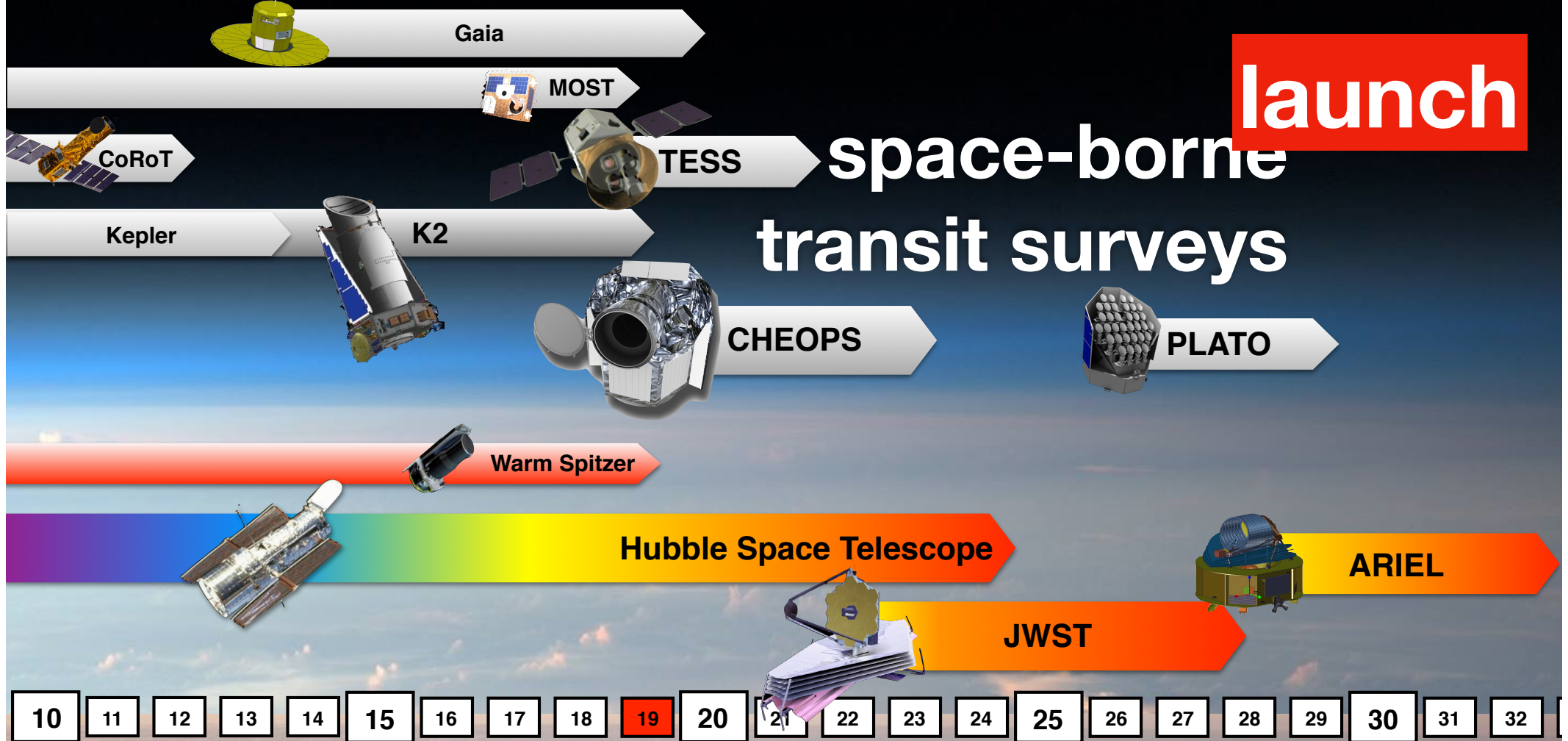
Ground-based  
transit surveys

# 2012 CHEOPS selection



**launch**

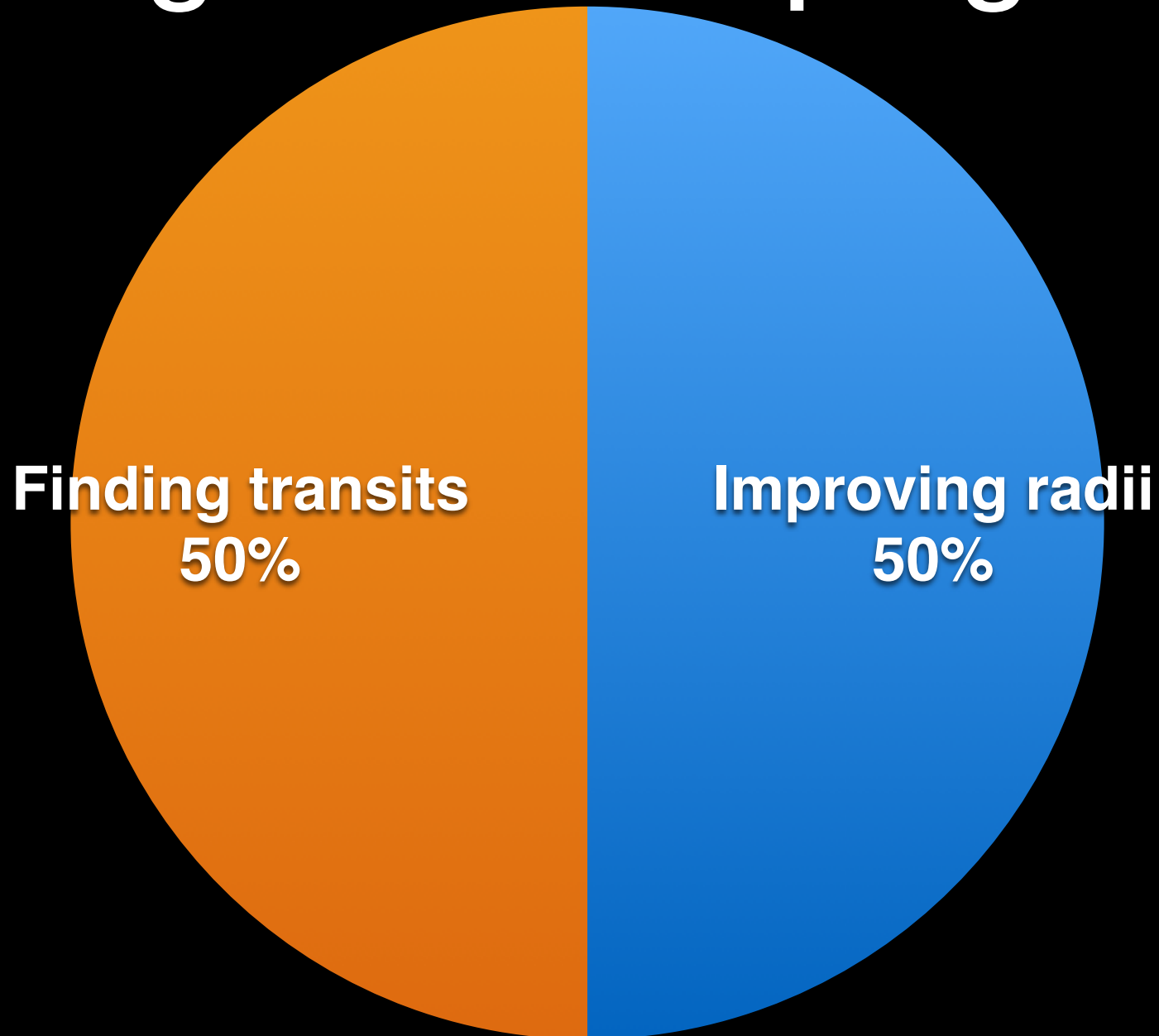
# space-borne transit surveys



# ground-based spectrographs

2012-2013

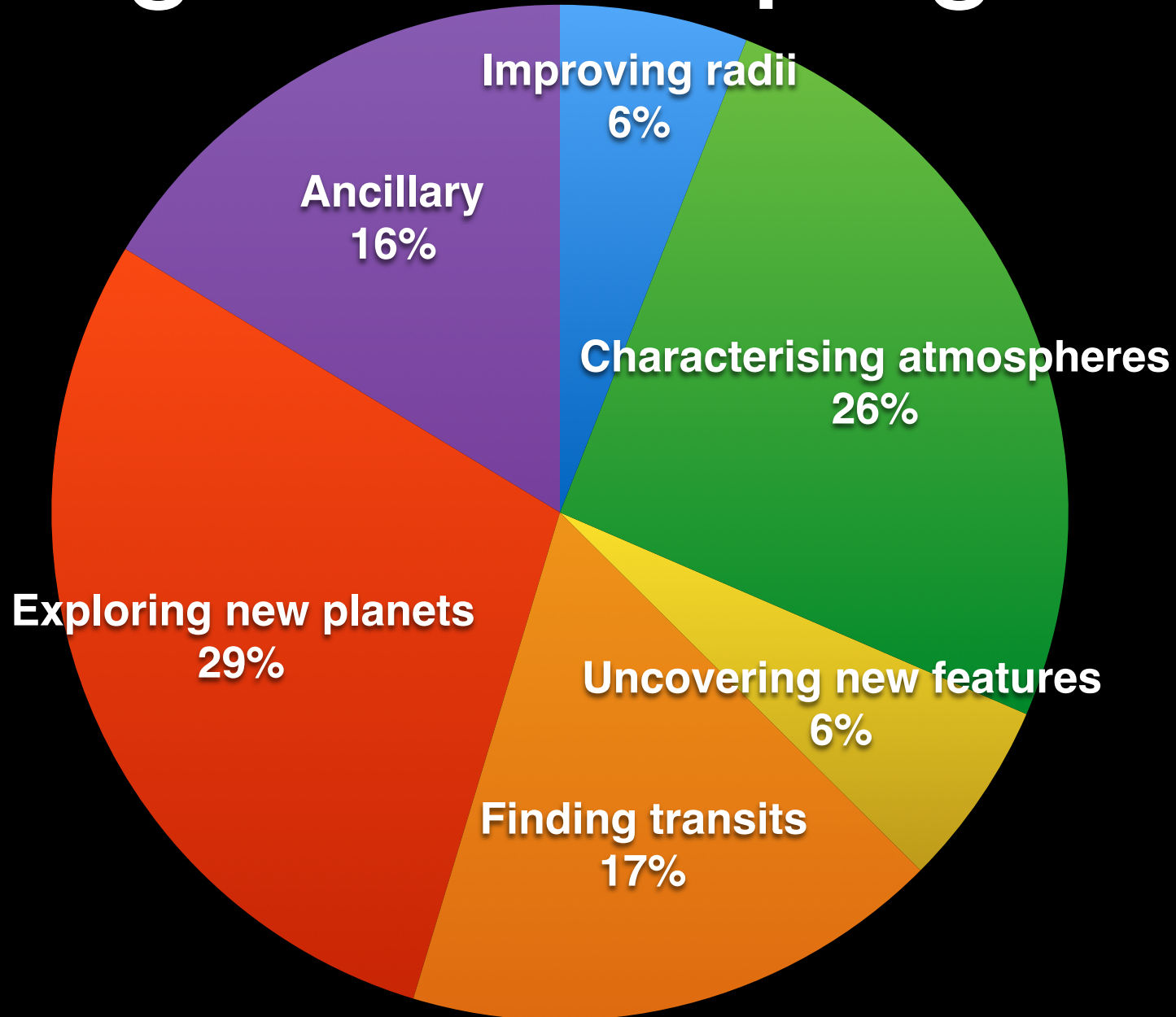
# Building a science programme





2013-2018

# Building a science programme



# Finding transits

## of known exoplanets

- Prioritise RV planets hard to detect with *TESS*
- **Warm & temperate super-earths & mini-neptunes**  
( $P > 9$  days) in Year 1
- Outer planets not known to transit in transiting systems
- ~60 exoplanets  $< 6M_{\oplus}$  (likely  $< 2R_{\oplus}$ )



# Improving radius of known transiting exoplanets



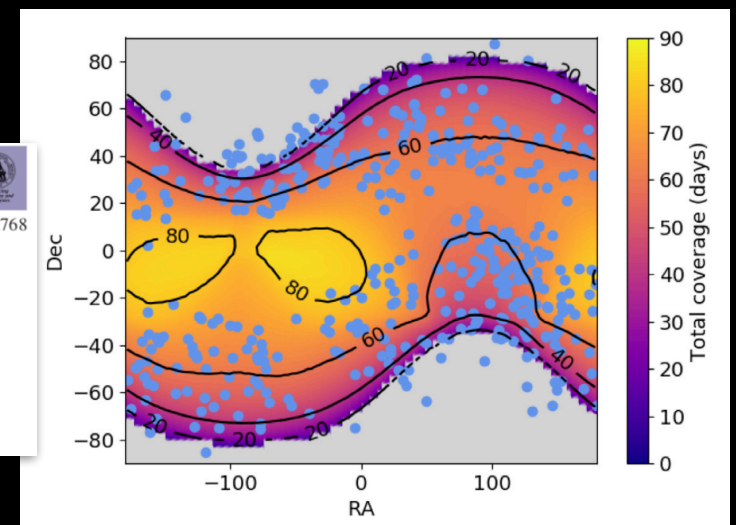
- Space-borne photometry  $\rightarrow$  higher photometric precision
- Larger collecting area  $\rightarrow$  higher photometric precision
- Follow-up of mono-transits  
~70% of *TESS* primary mission mono-transits  
can be followed-up by CHEOPS  
(assuming their  $P$  can be determined)



Monthly Notices  
of the  
ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY  
MNRAS **494**, 736–742 (2020)  
Advance Access publication 2020 March 18  
doi:10.1093/mnras/staa768

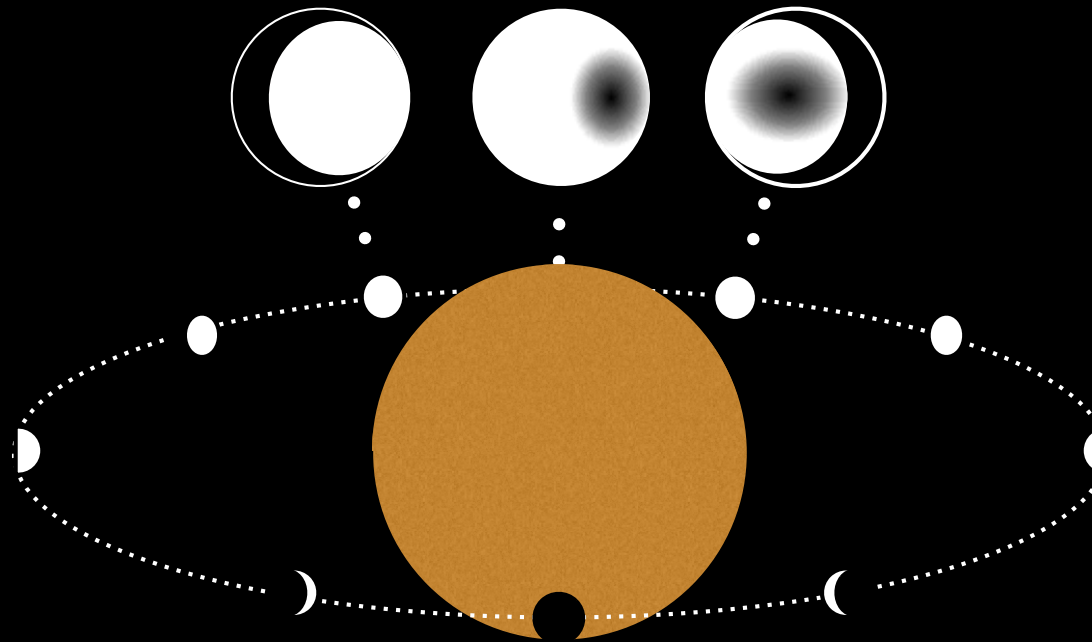
**CHEOPS observations of *TESS* primary mission monotransits**

Benjamin F. Cooke<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Don Pollacco<sup>1,2</sup>, Monika Lendl<sup>3,4</sup>, Thibault Kuntzer<sup>3</sup>  
and Andrea Fortier<sup>5</sup>



Cooke et al. (2020)

# Characterising atmospheres



- How common are very reflective hot Jupiters?
- **How reflective are ultrahot gas giants?**

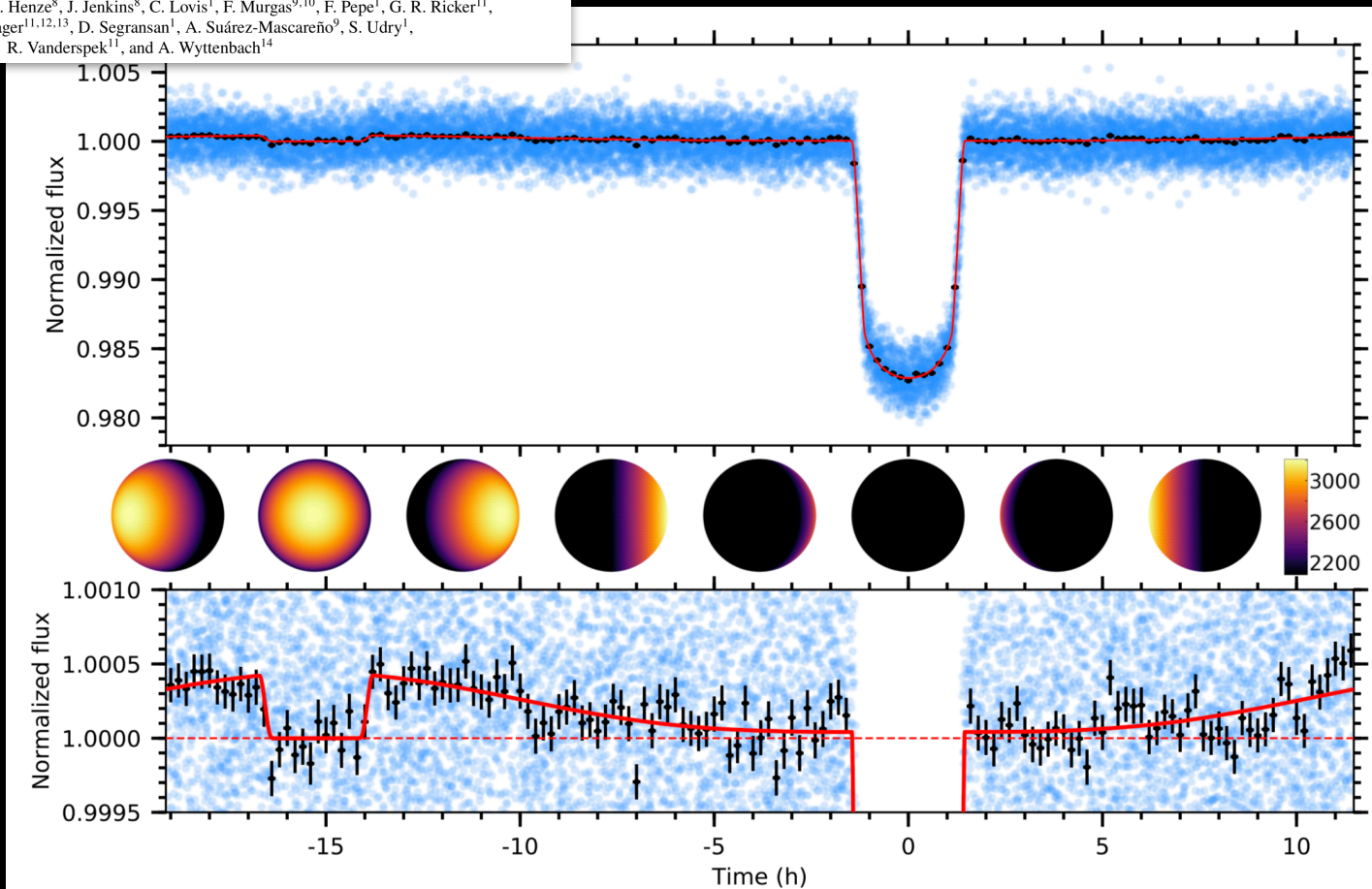
# Characterising atmospheres of ultrahot gas giants

A&A 637, A36 (2020)  
<https://doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361/201936647>  
© ESO 2020

Astronomy  
&  
Astrophysics

## Optical phase curve of the ultra-hot Jupiter WASP-121b\*

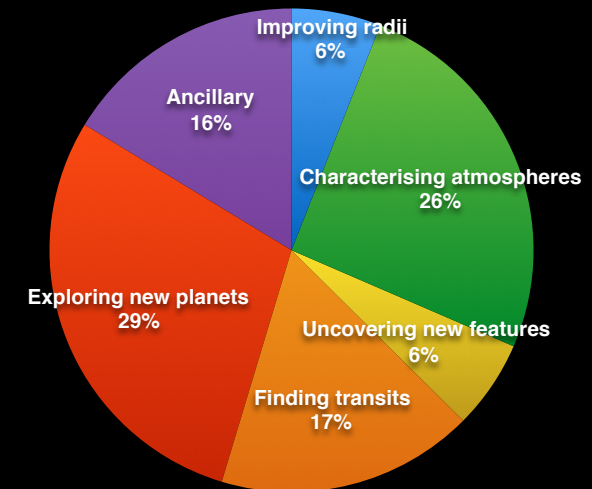
V. Bourrier<sup>1</sup>, D. Kitzmann<sup>2</sup>, T. Kuntzer<sup>1</sup>, V. Nascimbeni<sup>3</sup>, M. Lendl<sup>1</sup>, B. Lavie<sup>1</sup>, H. J. Hoeijmakers<sup>1,2</sup>, L. Pino<sup>4</sup>,  
D. Ehrenreich<sup>1</sup>, K. Heng<sup>2</sup>, R. Allart<sup>1</sup>, H. M. Cegla<sup>1</sup>, X. Dumusque<sup>1</sup>, C. Melo<sup>5</sup>, N. Astudillo-Defru<sup>6</sup>, D. A. Caldwell<sup>7,8</sup>,  
M. Cretignier<sup>1</sup>, H. Giles<sup>1</sup>, C. E. Henze<sup>8</sup>, J. Jenkins<sup>8</sup>, C. Lovis<sup>1</sup>, F. Murgas<sup>9,10</sup>, F. Pepe<sup>1</sup>, G. R. Ricker<sup>11</sup>,  
M. E. Rose<sup>8</sup>, S. Seager<sup>11,12,13</sup>, D. Segransan<sup>1</sup>, A. Suárez-Mascaresano<sup>9</sup>, S. Udry<sup>1</sup>,  
R. Vanderspek<sup>11</sup>, and A. Wyttenbach<sup>14</sup>



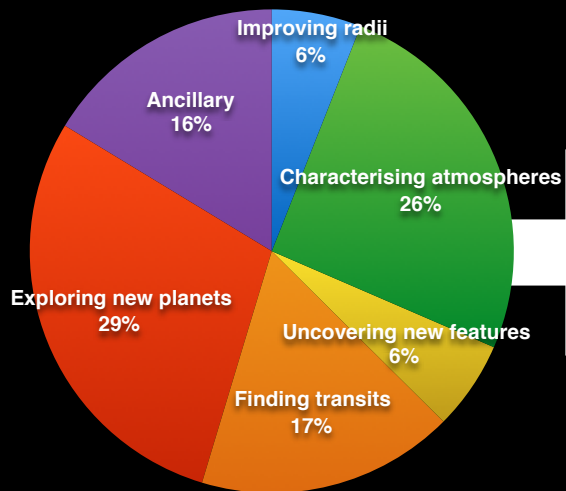
TESS lightcurve of WASP-121b · Bourrier et al. (2020)

# GTO programme summary

- 33 science programmes
- 350+ targets
- 13,500+ CHEOPS orbits = 2.5+ years



# Is this science programme schedulable?



## Mission Planning System



Jean Tinguely

Automatised planning software  
optimising observation efficiency  
based on genetic algorithm

## Data



End of commissioning & start of routine operations  
resistant to COVID-19 situation!

# Science Operations Center at the University of Geneva

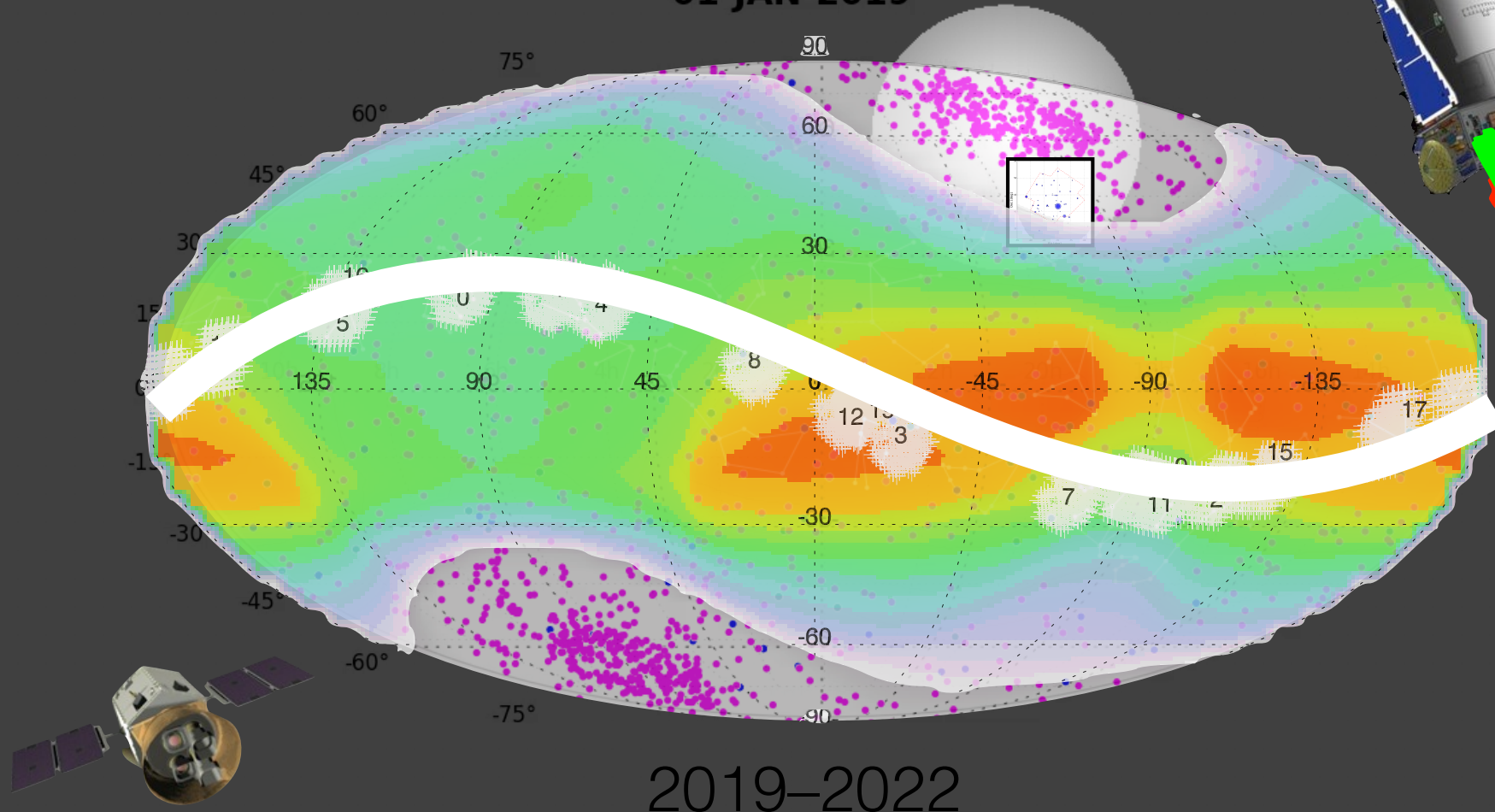


**(Communication antenna is in Spain)**



# Simulated CHEOPS mission

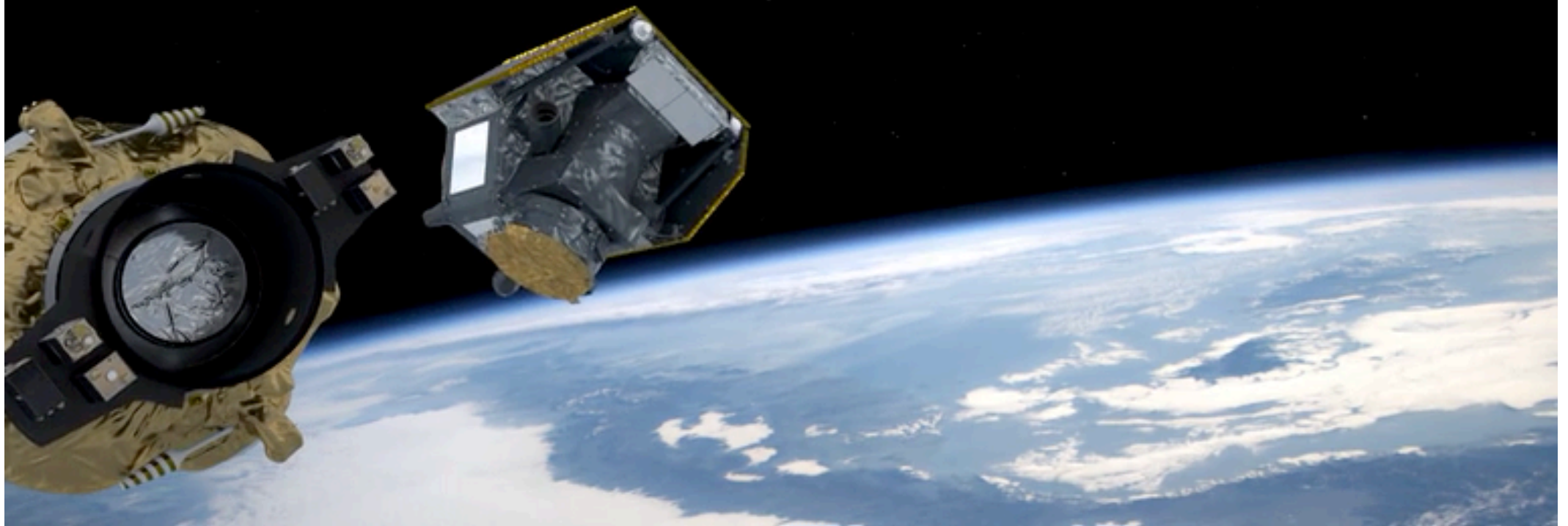
CHEOPS Simulation: Scheduled Observations  
01-JAN-2019



Sullivan et al. (2015)

N. Billot

# News since Dec 2019



# News since Dec 2019

- 8 Jan 2020: CHEOPS switched on (darks!)

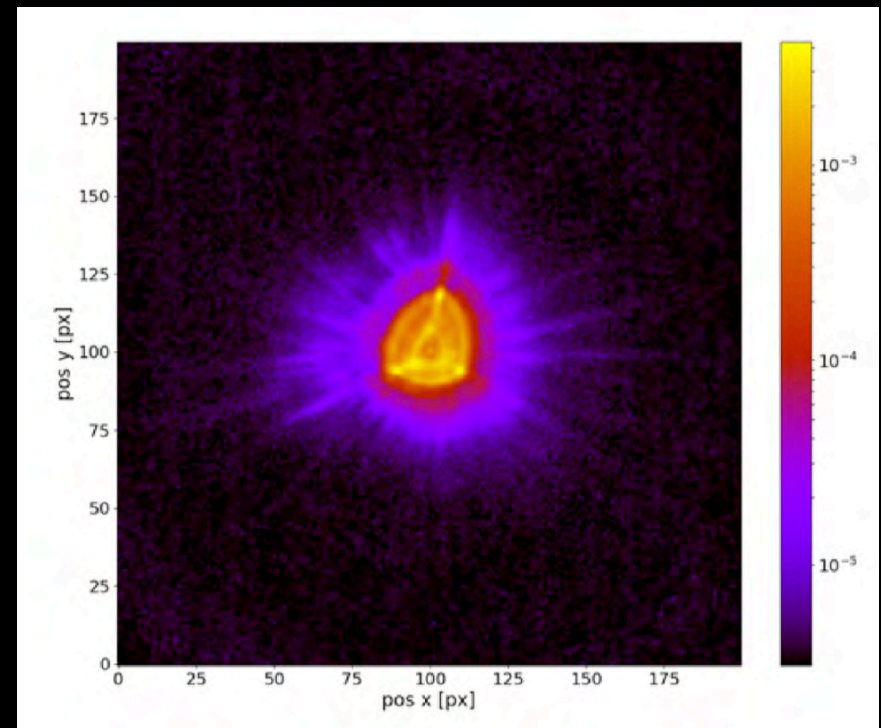
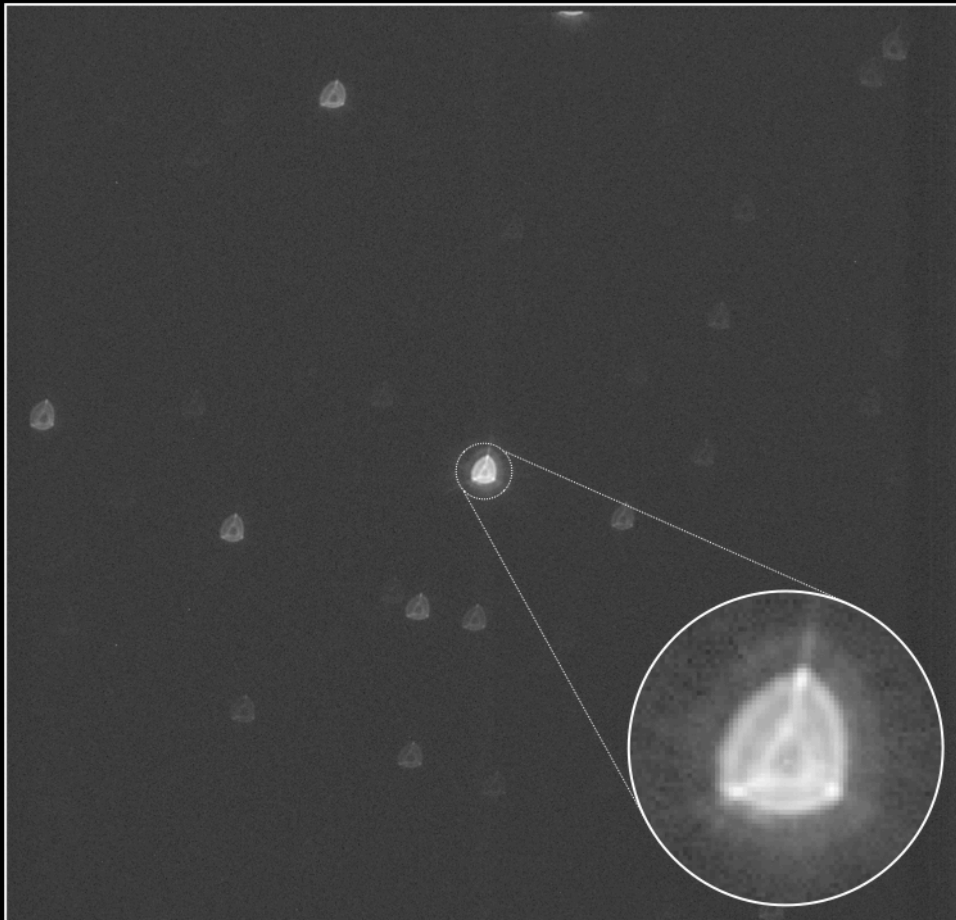
The screenshot displays the SAOImage ds9 software interface. The main window shows a dark image with a blue box highlighting a vertical strip of data. The interface is divided into several panels:

- Left Panel:** Metadata for the file 'LDT\_042\_0631868230\_000000.fits'. It lists various parameters such as SIMPLE, BITPIX, NAXIS, EXTEND, COMMENT, HIERARCH, and END.
- Center Panel:** The main image display area, showing a dark image with a blue box highlighting a vertical strip of data.
- Right Panel:** A control panel with tabs for 'Datei', 'Bearbeiten', 'Ansicht', 'Rahmen', 'Bin', 'Zoom', and 'Skal'. It includes a table for WCS coordinates and a small image thumbnail.

The bottom status bar shows pixel coordinates: 830, 1130, 1433, 1734, 2037, 2338, 2639, 2942, 3242, 615, 625, 635, 644.

# News since Dec 2019

- 8 Jan 2020: CHEOPS switched on (darks!)
- 29 Jan 2020: Cover opened!



**Benz et al. (submitted)**

# News since Dec 2019

- 8 Jan 2020: CHEOPS switched on (darks!)
- 29 Jan 2020: Cover opened!

•  
•

Lots of work  
by a wonderful  
& dedicated team

•  
•

- 25 March 2020: In-orbit commissioning review

**Successful!**



# CHEOPS

## Pre-flight performances

A&A 635, A22 (2020)  
<https://doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361/201935977>  
© ESO 2020

**Astronomy  
&  
Astrophysics**

### Expected performances of the Characterising Exoplanet Satellite (CHEOPS)

#### I. Photometric performances from ground-based calibration

A. Deline<sup>1</sup>, D. Queloz<sup>1,2</sup>, B. Chazelas<sup>1</sup>, M. Sordet<sup>1</sup>, F. Wildi<sup>1</sup>, A. Fortier<sup>3</sup>, C. Broeg<sup>3</sup>, D. Futyán<sup>1</sup>, and W. Benz<sup>3</sup>

**Deline et al. (2020)**

A&A 635, A23 (2020)  
<https://doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361/201936616>  
© ESO 2020

**Astronomy  
&  
Astrophysics**

### Expected performances of the Characterising Exoplanet Satellite (CHEOPS)

#### II. The CHEOPS simulator

D. Futyán<sup>1</sup>, A. Fortier<sup>2</sup>, M. Beck<sup>1</sup>, D. Ehrenreich<sup>1</sup>, A. Bekkelien<sup>1</sup>, W. Benz<sup>2</sup>, N. Billot<sup>1</sup>, V. Bourrier<sup>1</sup>, C. Broeg<sup>2</sup>, A. Collier Cameron<sup>3</sup>, A. Deline<sup>1</sup>, T. Kuntzer<sup>1</sup>, M. Lendl<sup>1,4</sup>, D. Queloz<sup>1,5</sup>, R. Rohlfs<sup>1</sup>, A. E. Simon<sup>2</sup>, and F. Wildi<sup>1</sup>

**Futyán et al. (2020)**

A&A 635, A24 (2020)  
<https://doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361/201936325>  
© S. Hoyer et al. 2020

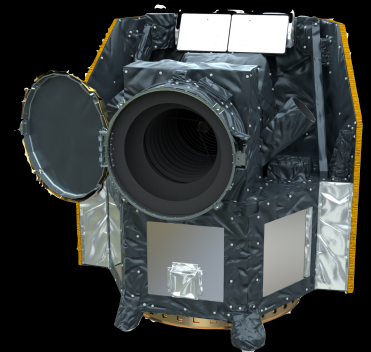
**Astronomy  
&  
Astrophysics**

### Expected performances of the Characterising Exoplanet Satellite (CHEOPS)

#### III. Data reduction pipeline: architecture and simulated performances

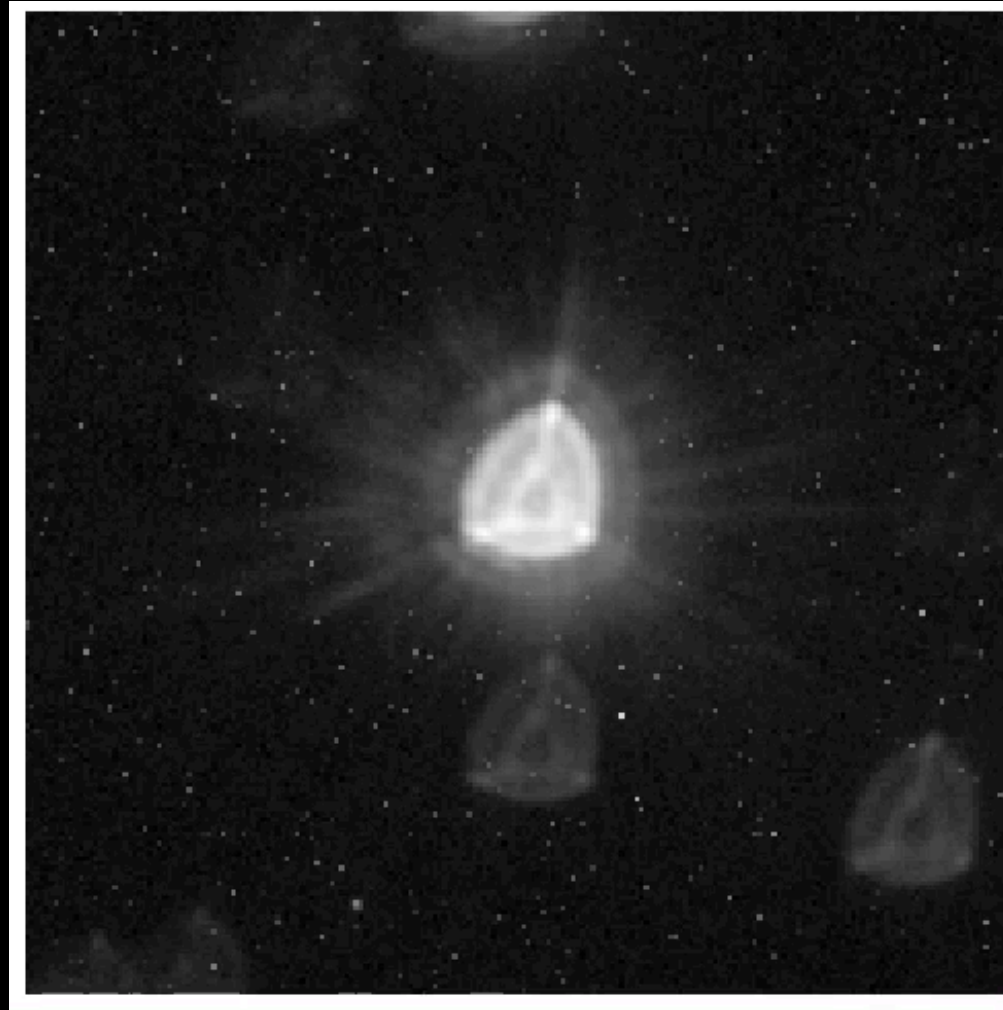
S. Hoyer<sup>1</sup>, P. Guterman<sup>1,2</sup>, O. Demangeon<sup>1,3</sup>, S. G. Sousa<sup>3</sup>, M. Deleuil<sup>1</sup>, J. C. Meunier<sup>1</sup>, and W. Benz<sup>4</sup>

**Hoyer et al. (2020)**



# In-flight performances

- 47 hour sequence on  $V=9$  star



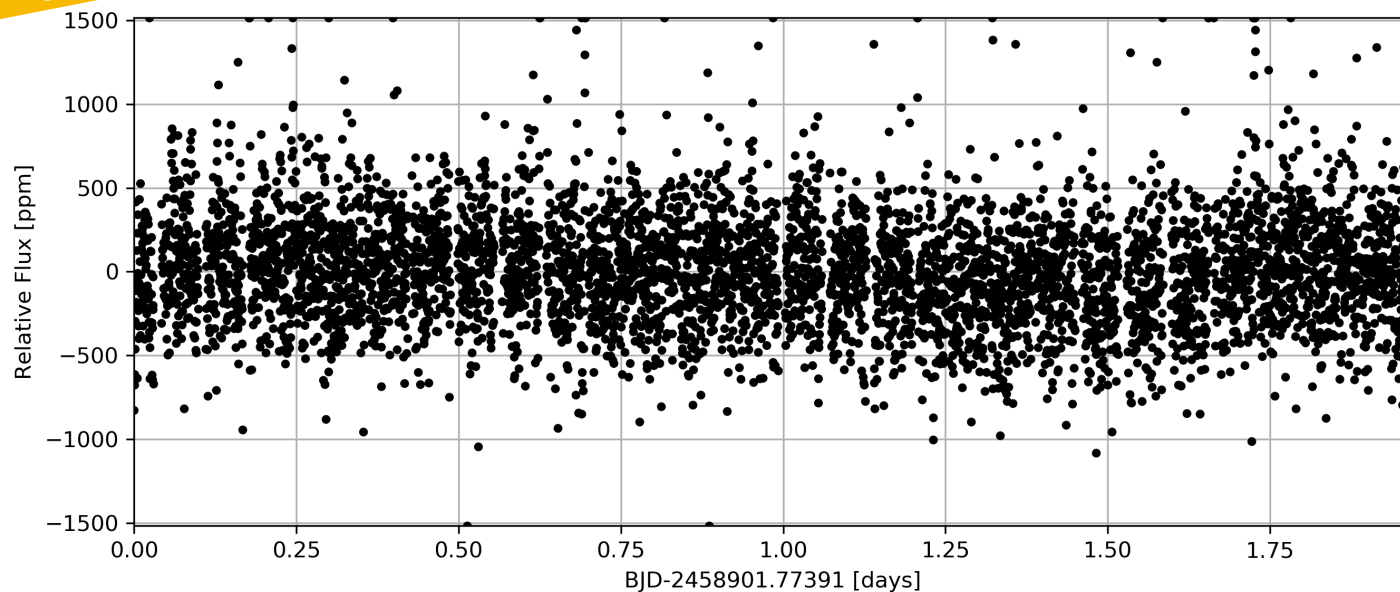
**Credits: CHEOPS Project Science Office**

**Andrea Fortier (Instrument scientist), Christopher Broeg (project manager)**

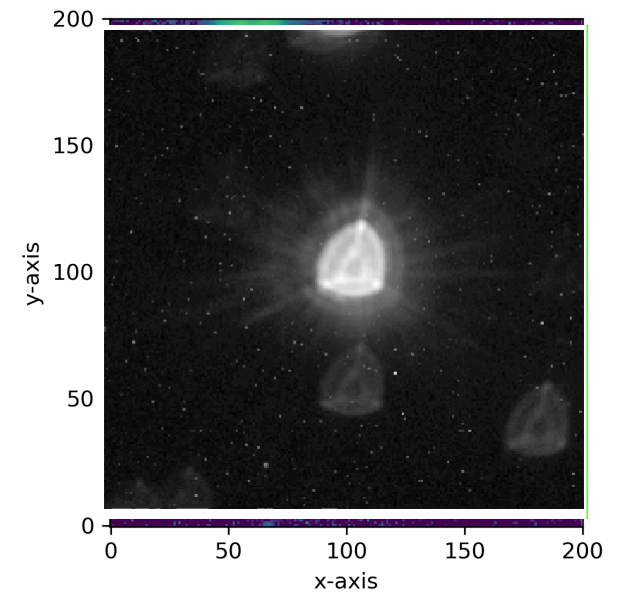
# In-flight performances

- 47 hour “flat” sequence on  $V=9$  star

Bright stars



Benz et al. (submitted)



Credits: CHEOPS Project Science Office

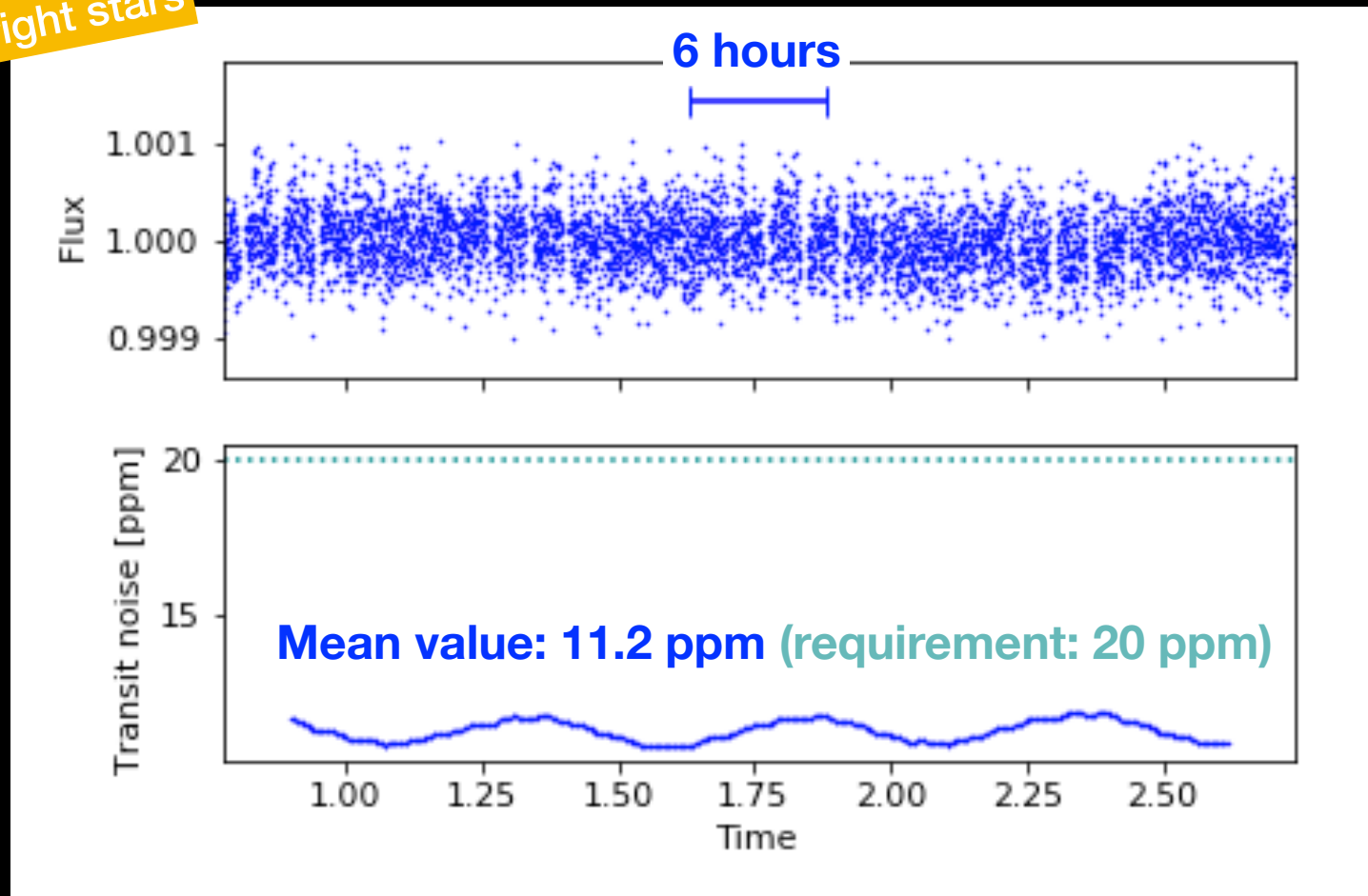
Andrea Fortier (Instrument scientist), Christopher Broeg (project manager)



# In-flight performances

Minimum transit depth that can be detected with SNR=1  
( $\approx$  Kepler's CDP; Christiansen et al. 2012)

Bright stars



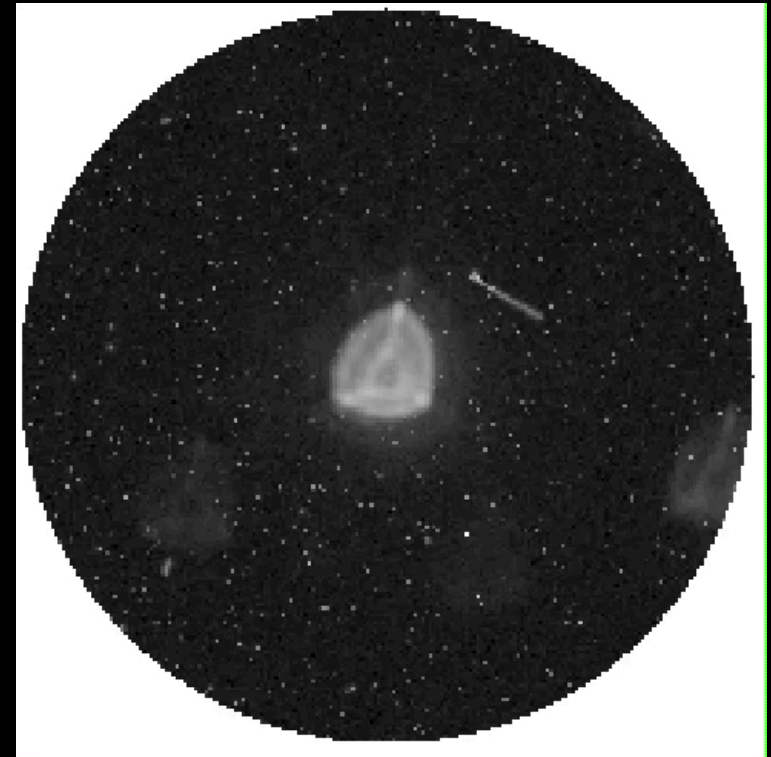
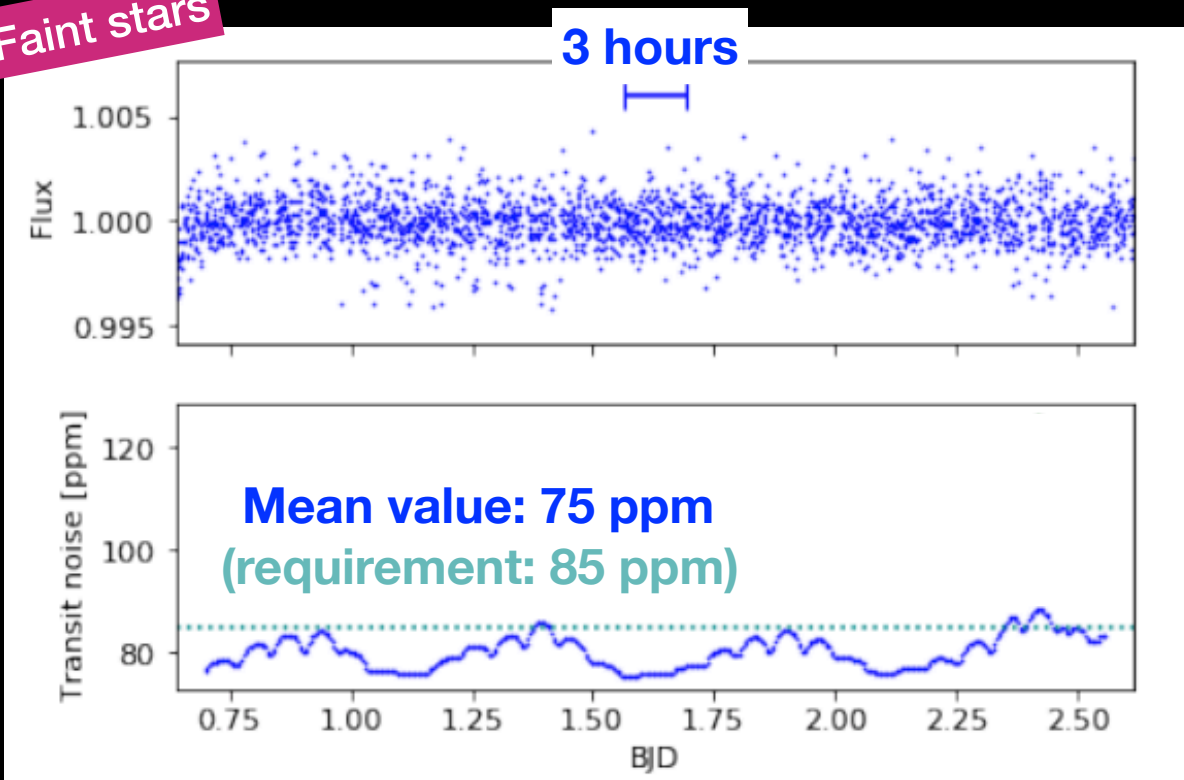
Credits: CHEOPS Project Science Office

Andrea Fortier (Instrument scientist), Christopher Broeg (project manager)

# In-flight performances

- 47 hour “flat” sequence on  $V=12$  star

Faint stars

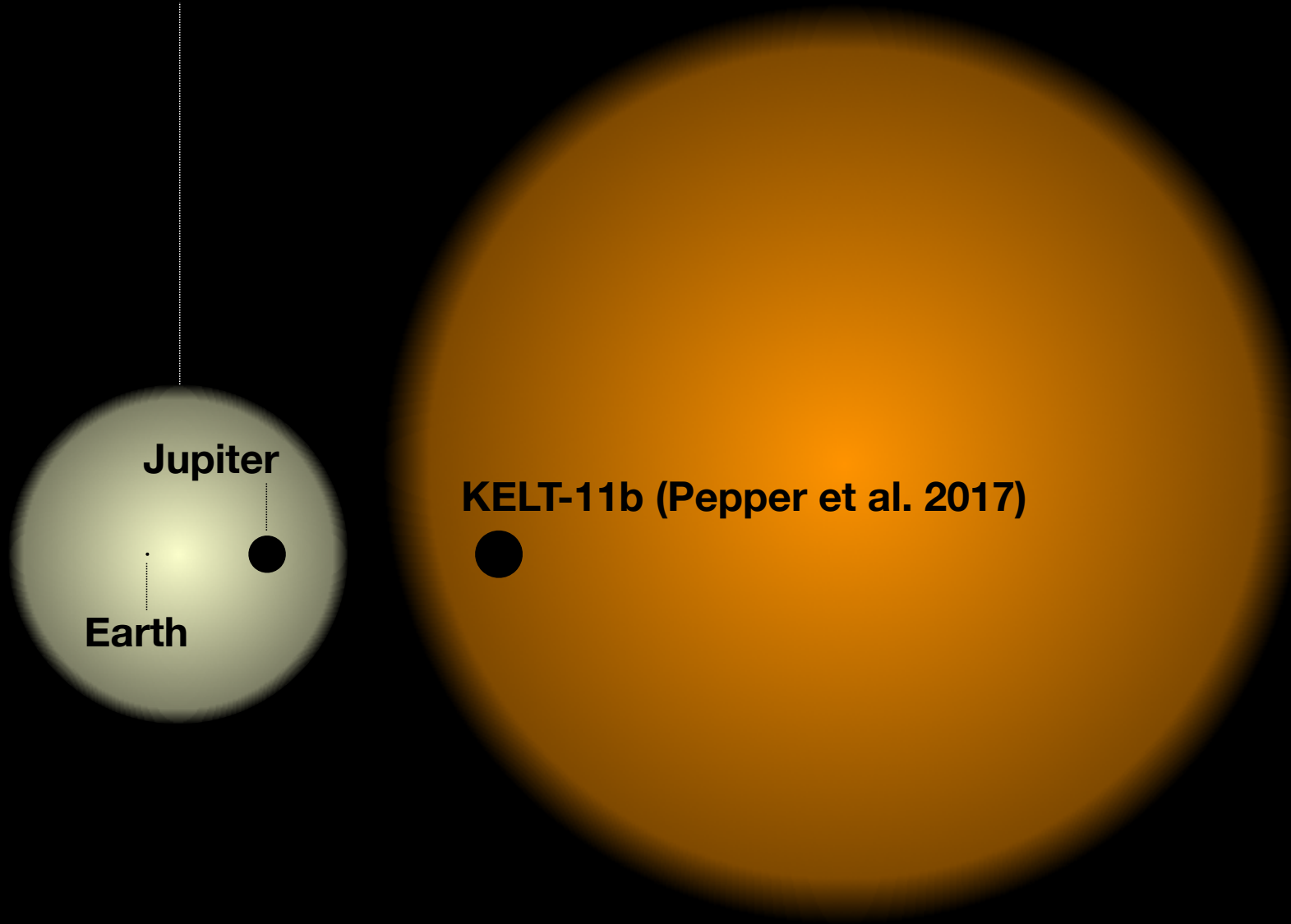


Credits: CHEOPS Project Science Office

Andrea Fortier (Instrument scientist), Christopher Broeg (project manager)

**The Sun**

**HD 93396 (V=8)**

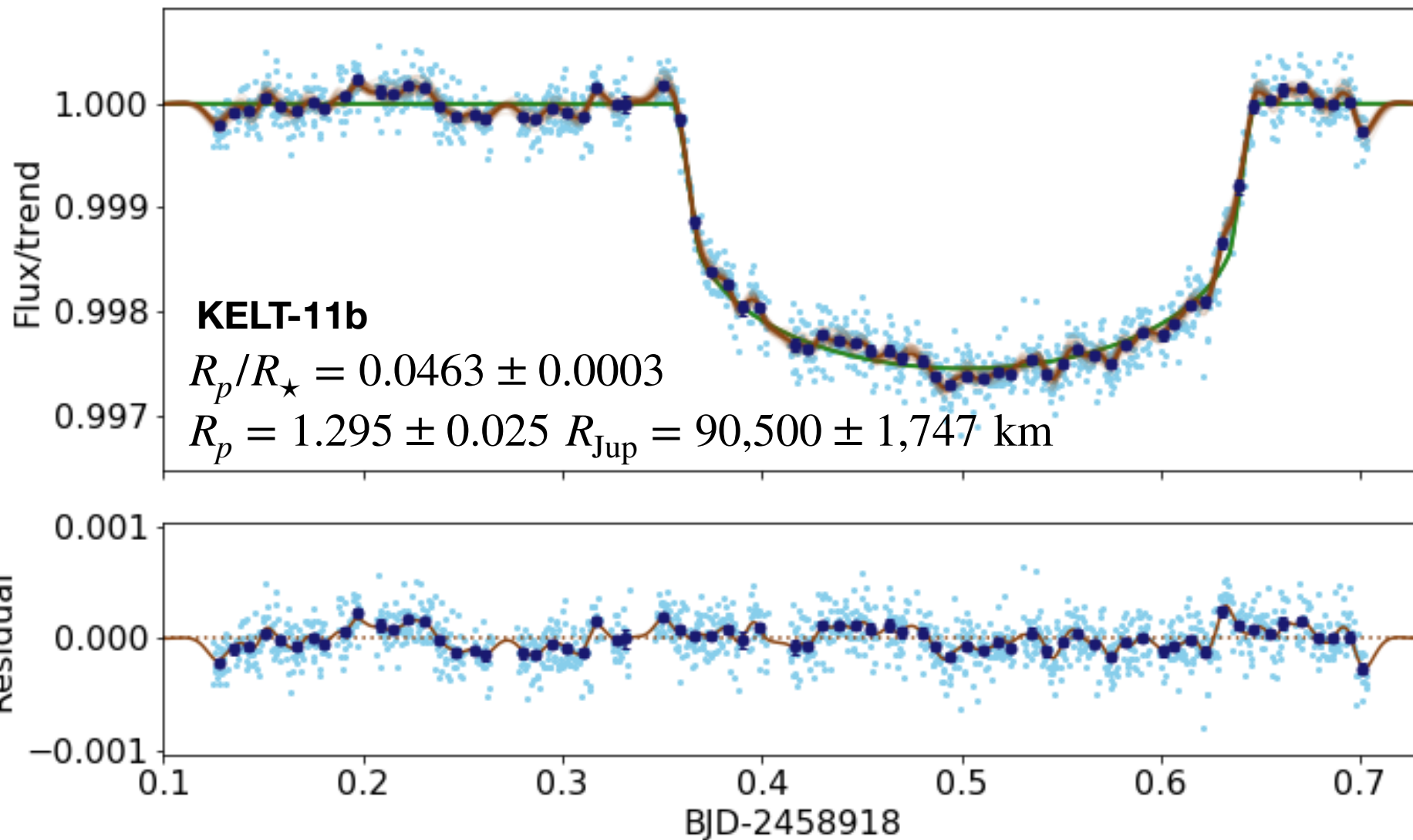


**Jupiter**

**Earth**

**KELT-11b (Pepper et al. 2017)**

**9 March 2020: CHEOPS' first transit!**

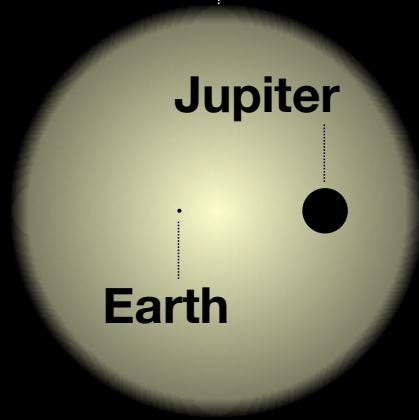
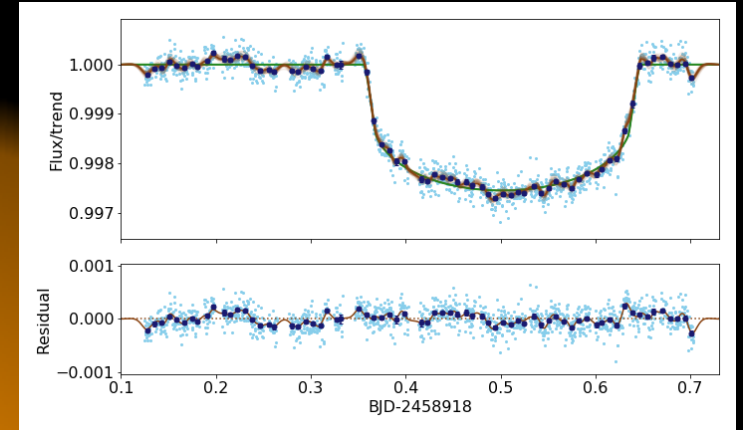


Benz et al. (submitted)

9 March 2020: CHEOPS' first transit!

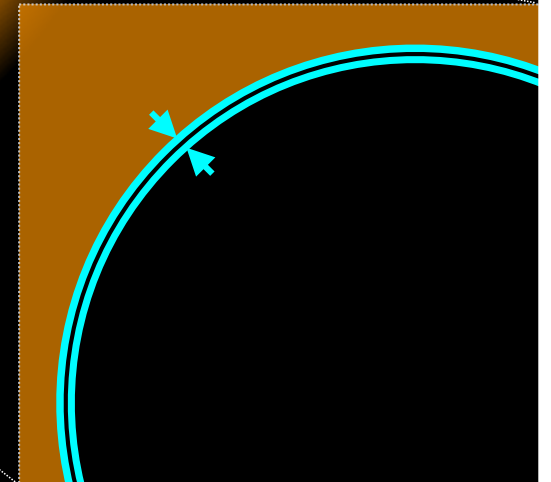
The Sun

HD 93396



KELT-11b

$$R_p = 90,500 \pm 1,747 \text{ km}$$





# ESA Guest Observer's programme

- 20% observing time to Community
  - Proposals solicited through Annual Calls, open to *all*
  - Selected on scientific merit, by an ESA-appointed TAC
  - Can be on *any science topic*,  
using existing capabilities of CHEOPS
    - \* Targets on the Guaranteed Time Target List (Science Team) are *blocked*
  - Second Call/Announcement of Opportunity  
→ Fall 2020 (for observations beginning in April 2021)
- + ESA DDT programme opening soon

