

EXOPLANETARY SCIENCE

The background features a large, blue, gaseous planet on the right side, partially cut off by the edge of the frame. In the lower-left quadrant, there is a bright, glowing orange-red star. The rest of the background is a dark, star-filled space.

A GLOBAL ENDEAVOUR

GIOVANNA TINETTI

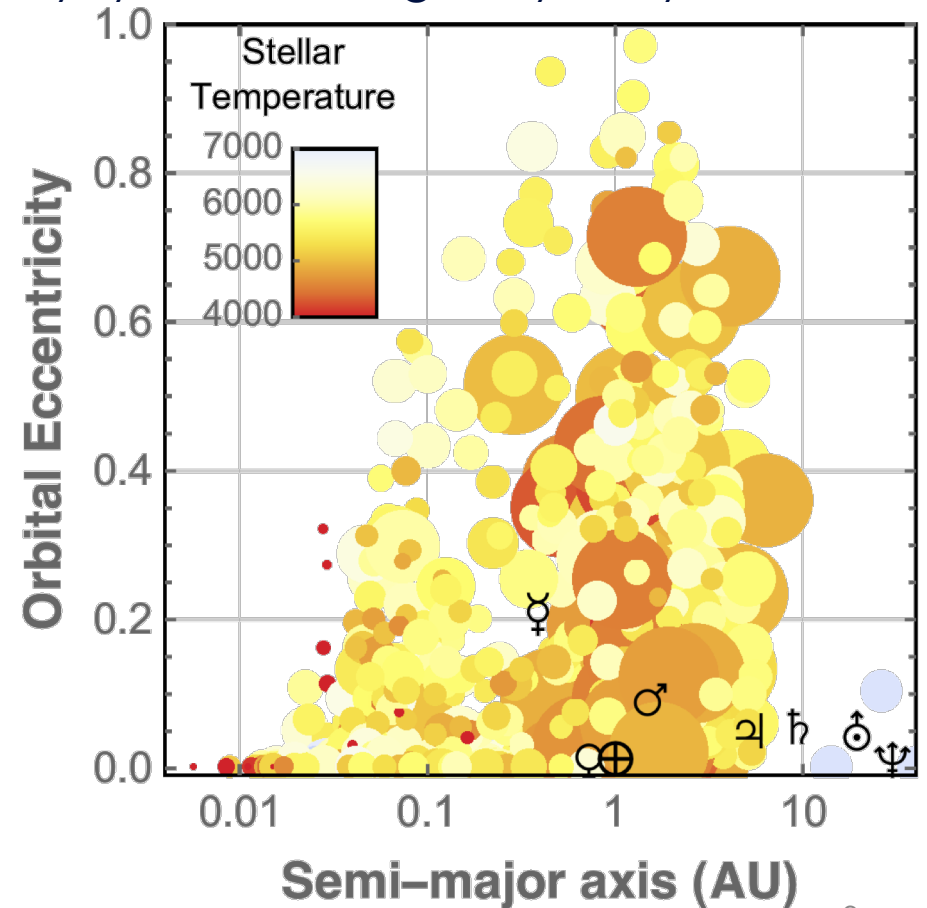
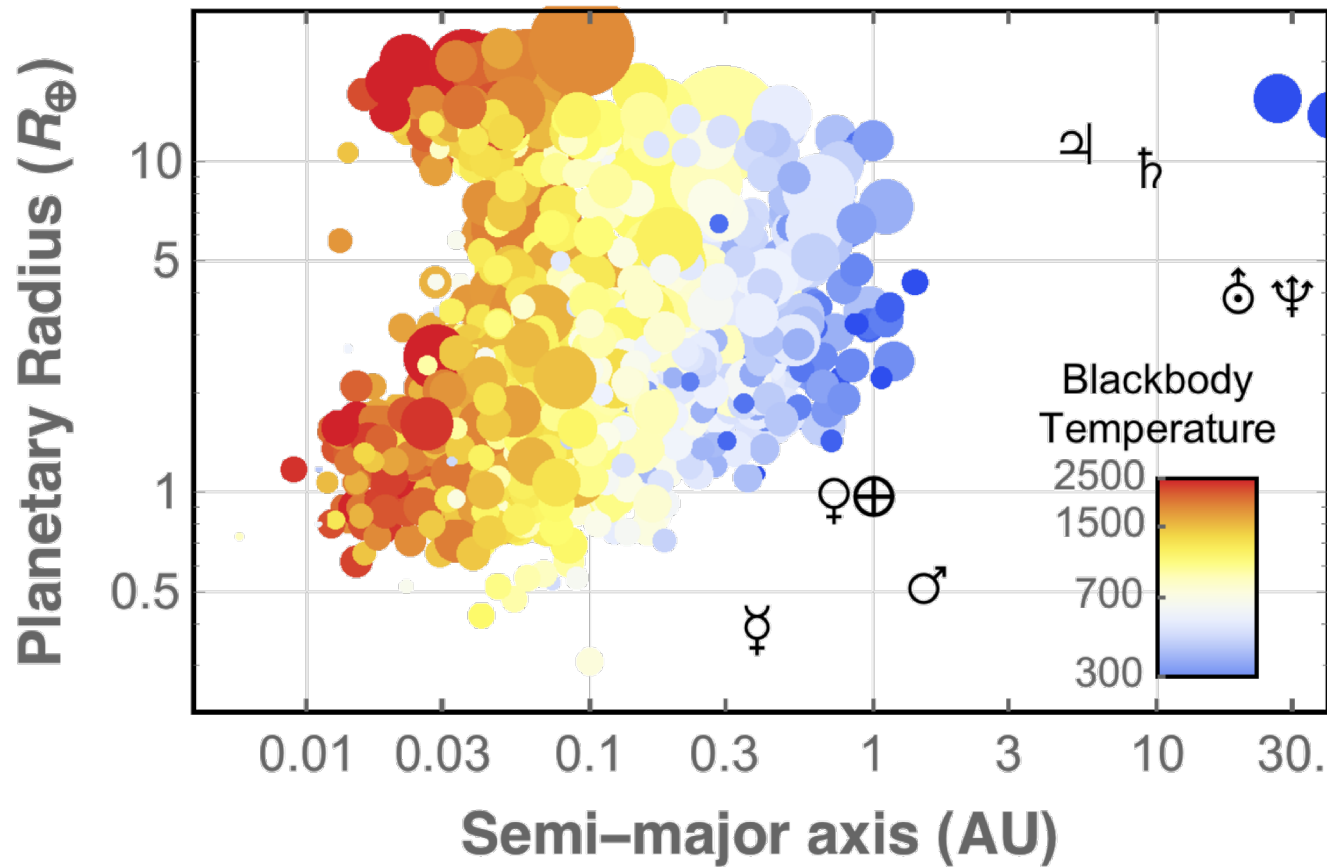
Planets are ubiquitous!

4800+	Confirmed planets
3500+	Planetary systems
1	Moon candidates

There are at least as many planets as stars...

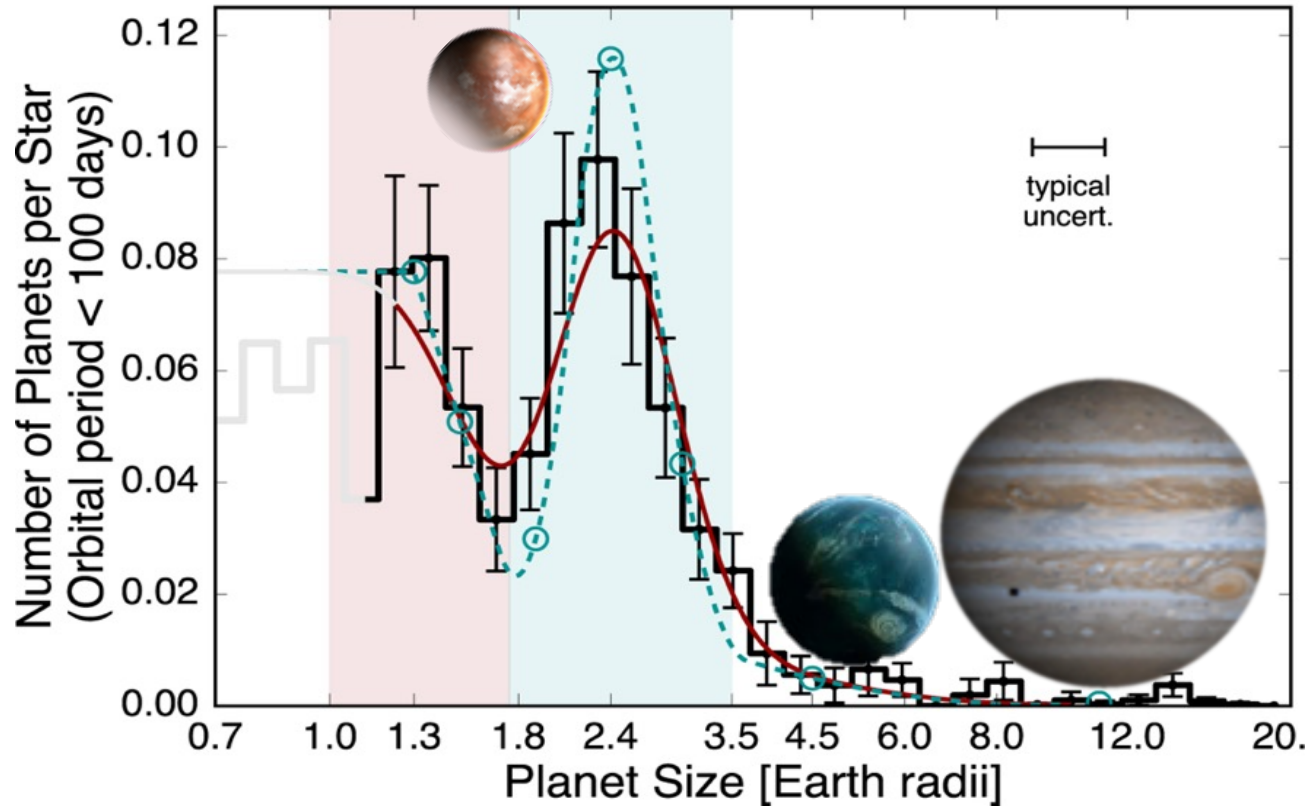
Planets are very diverse

The solar system is not the paradigm of planetary system in our galaxy. Why?



Galactic statistics

Small planets are the most common planets



Fulton et al., 2017; 2018

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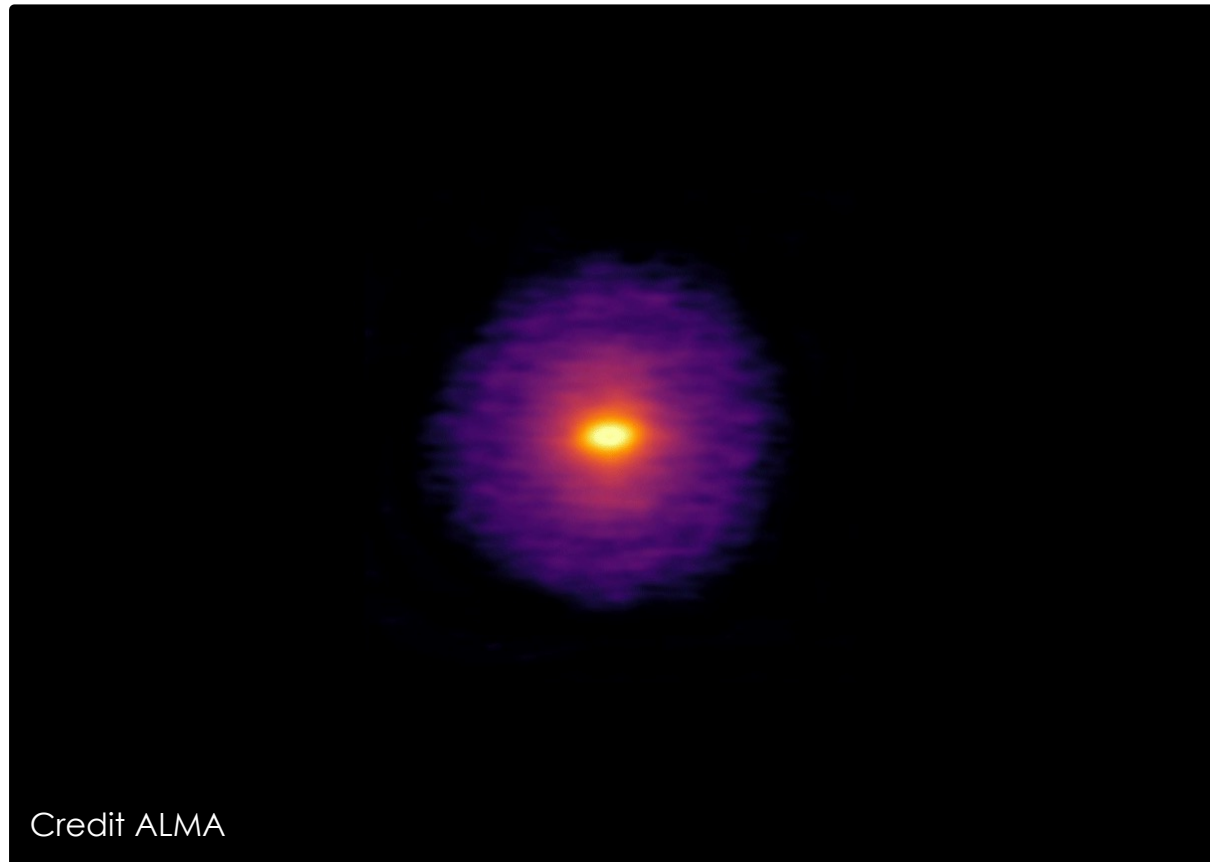
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NASA Kepler mission, 2009-2019

Constraints on planet formation

Giant planets need to form fast, in < 1 Myear

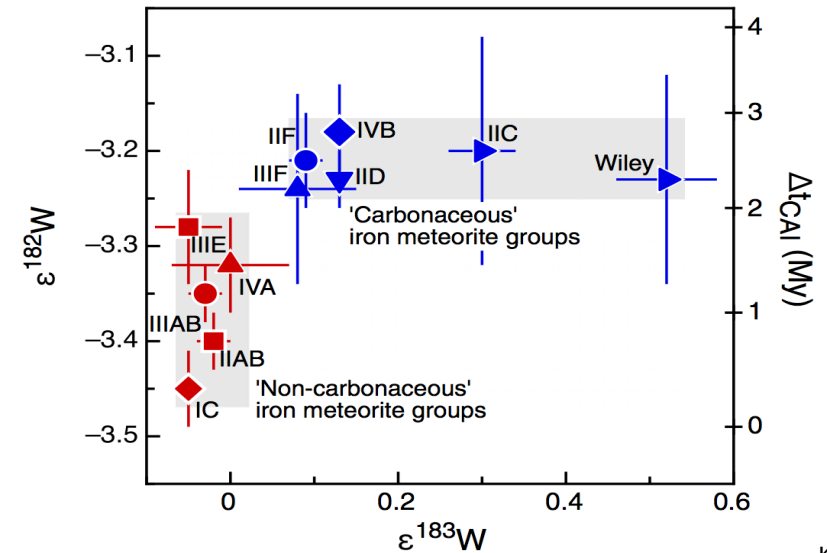


Credit ALMA

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- ☆ Structure and chemistry of discs from ALMA + direct imaging instruments in NIR
- ☆ Isotopic ratios from meteorites + in-situ measurements in solar system



Kruijer et al. (2017); Desch et al. (2018)

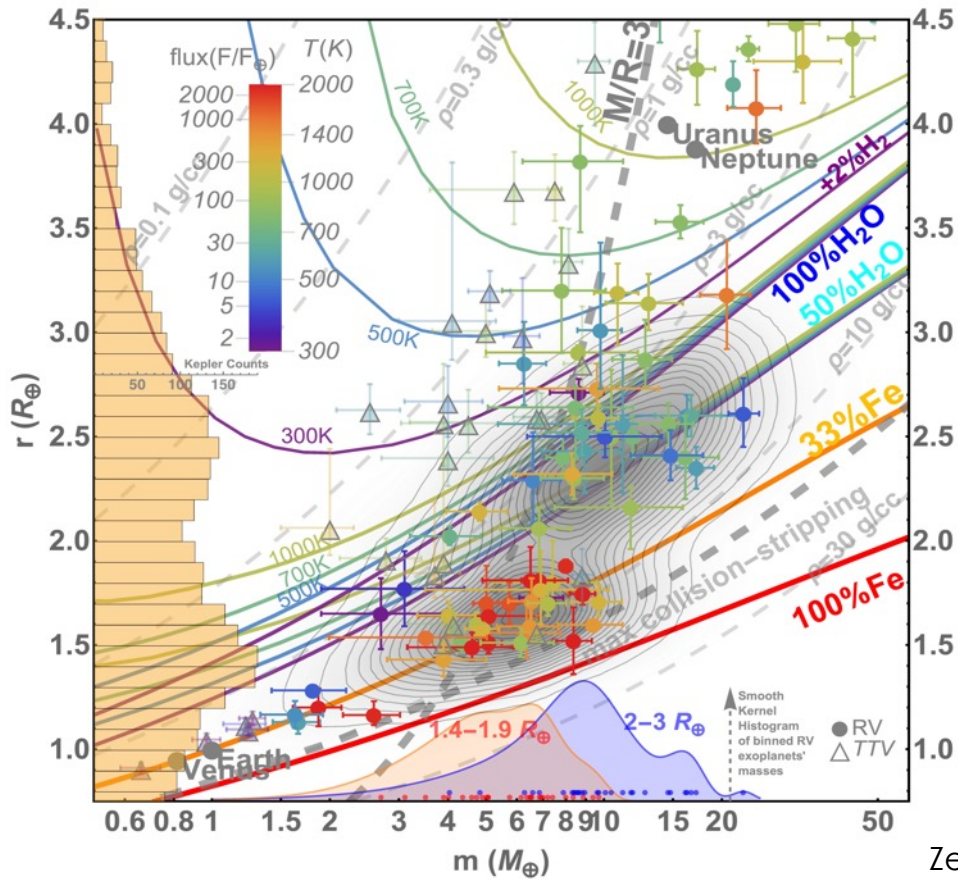
Constraints on planet formation



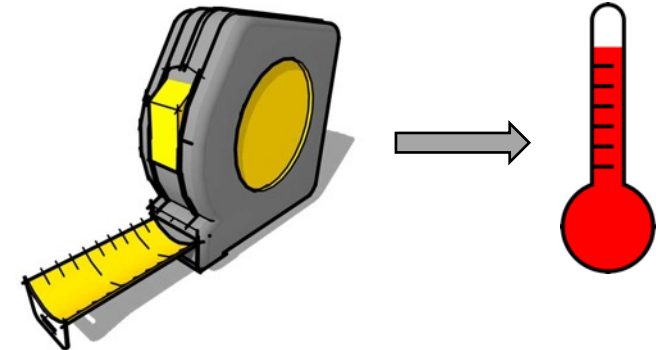
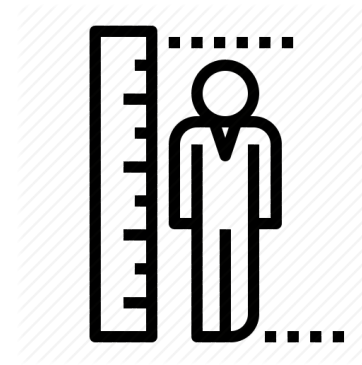
- ☆ SKA in the future will help identifying cm-size objects.
- ☆ Constraints to pebble accretion

What do we know?

Very little so far...



Zeng et al., 2019
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Measuring the mass

Toowoomba's eye on the sky: Minerva Australis



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INAF Telescopio Nazionale Galileo: HARPS-N



8

New questions



- ★ Why the Solar System is as it is?
- ★ What are exoplanets made of?
- ★ What's the weather like there?
- ★ Why are they so diverse?
- ★ How did they form?
- ★ Are they habitable?

Atmospheric composition

A tracer of the nature and history of planets in our galaxy

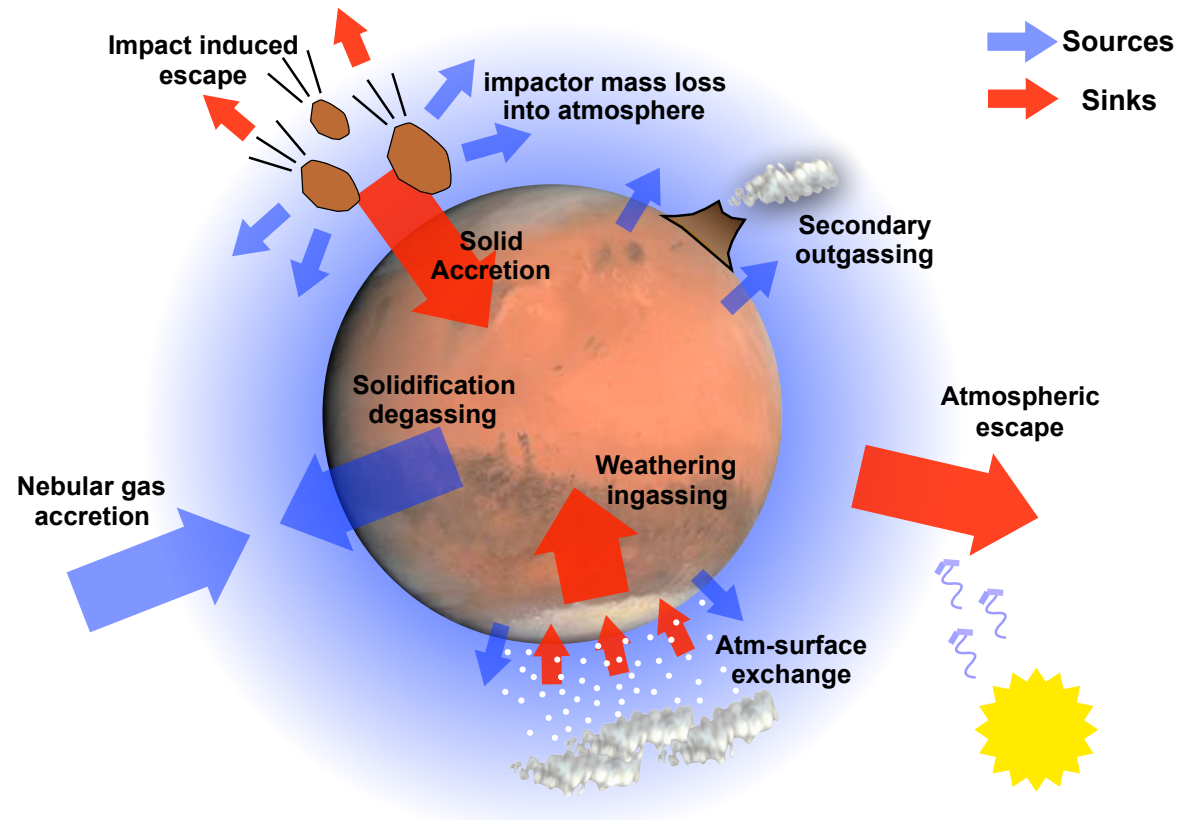
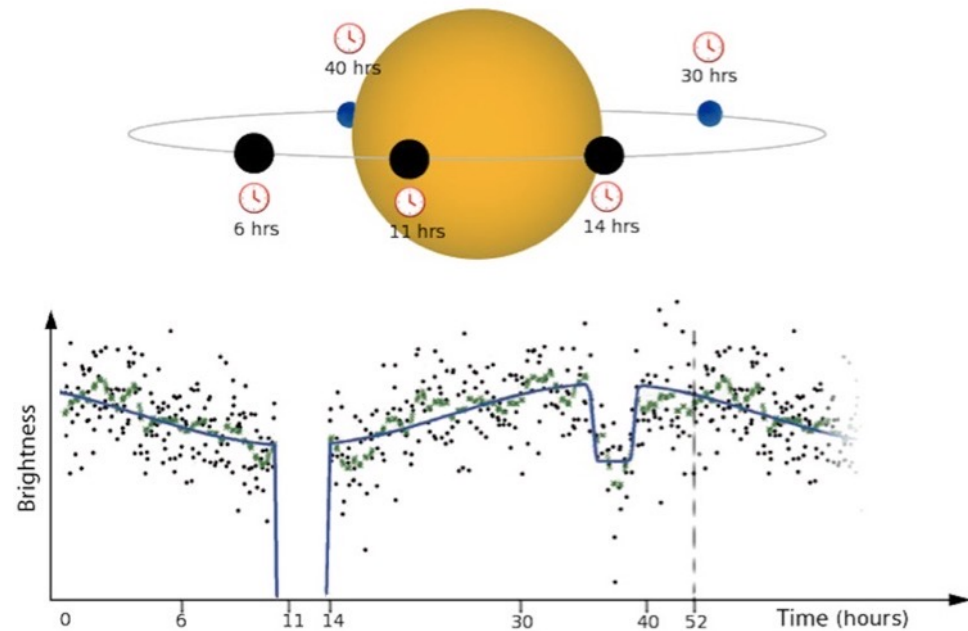


Image credit: Jérémy Leconte

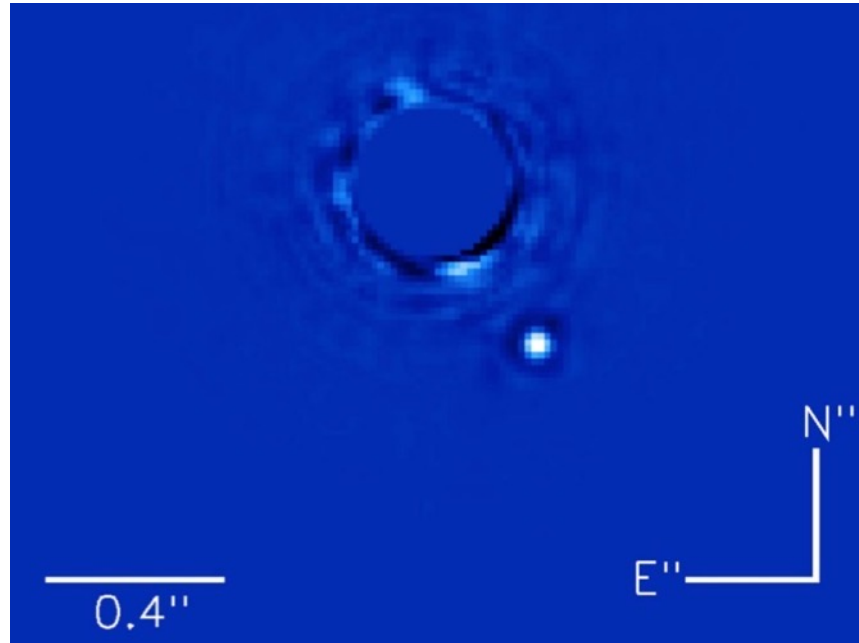
Atmospheric composition

Many different techniques...



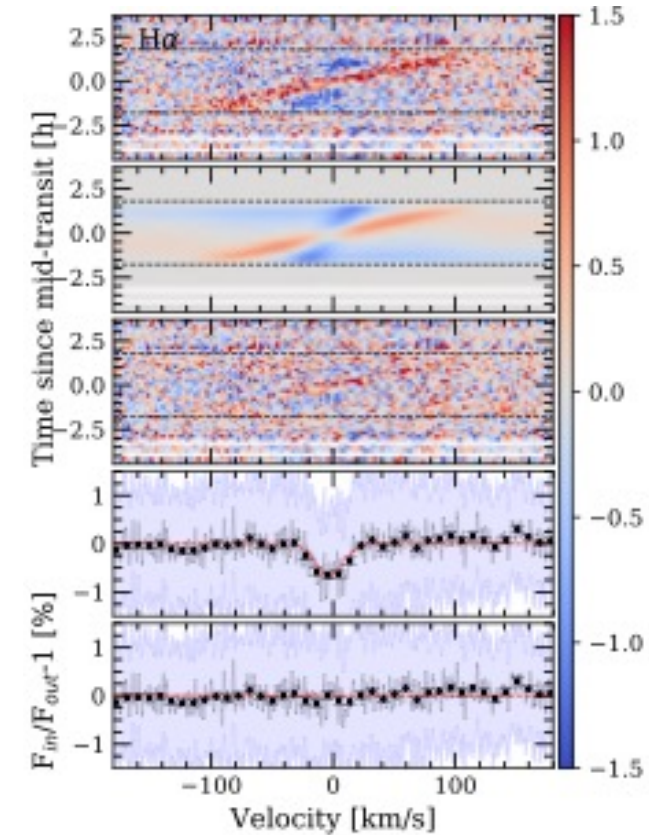
Transit

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Direct imaging

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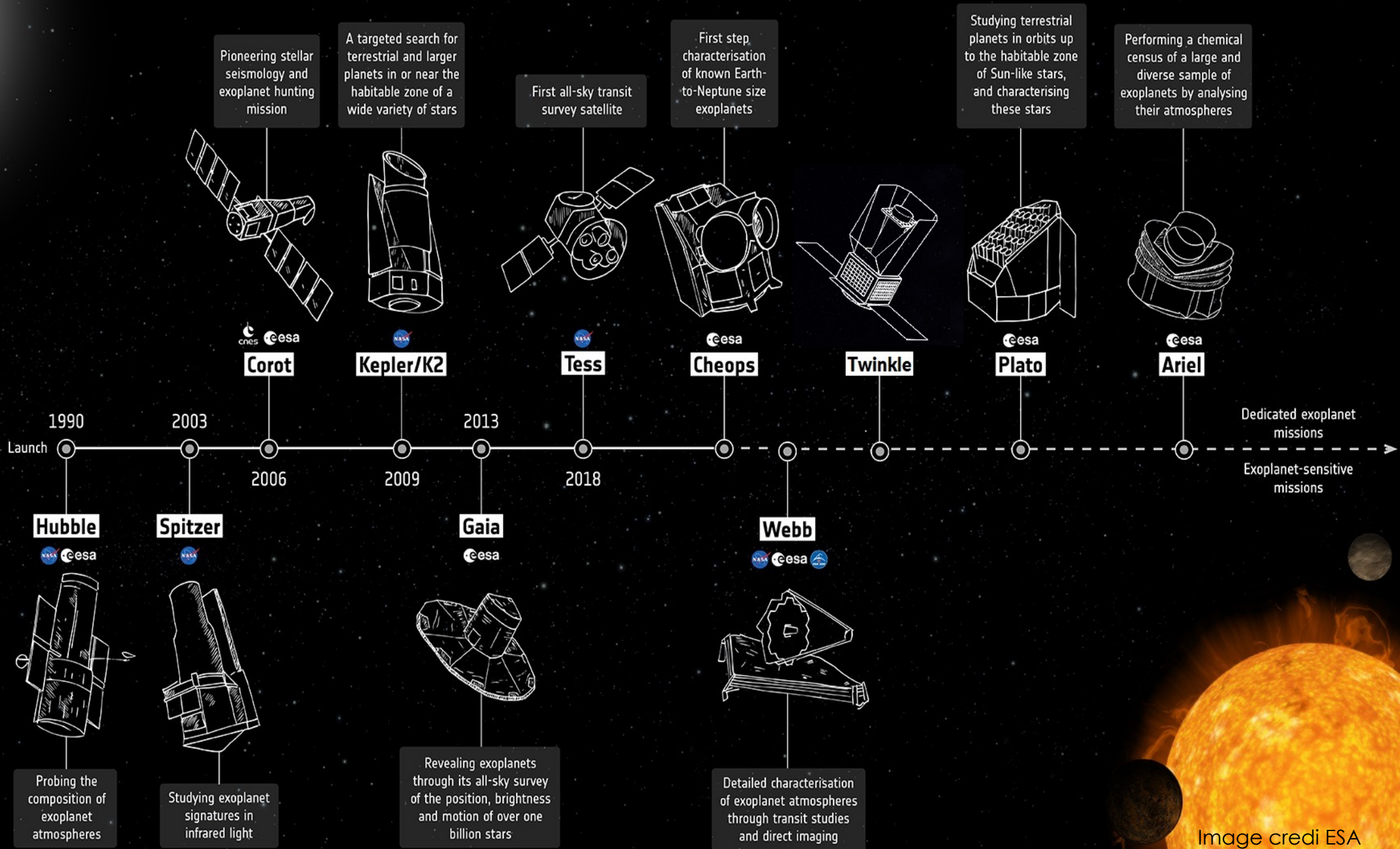
High-dispersion

11



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



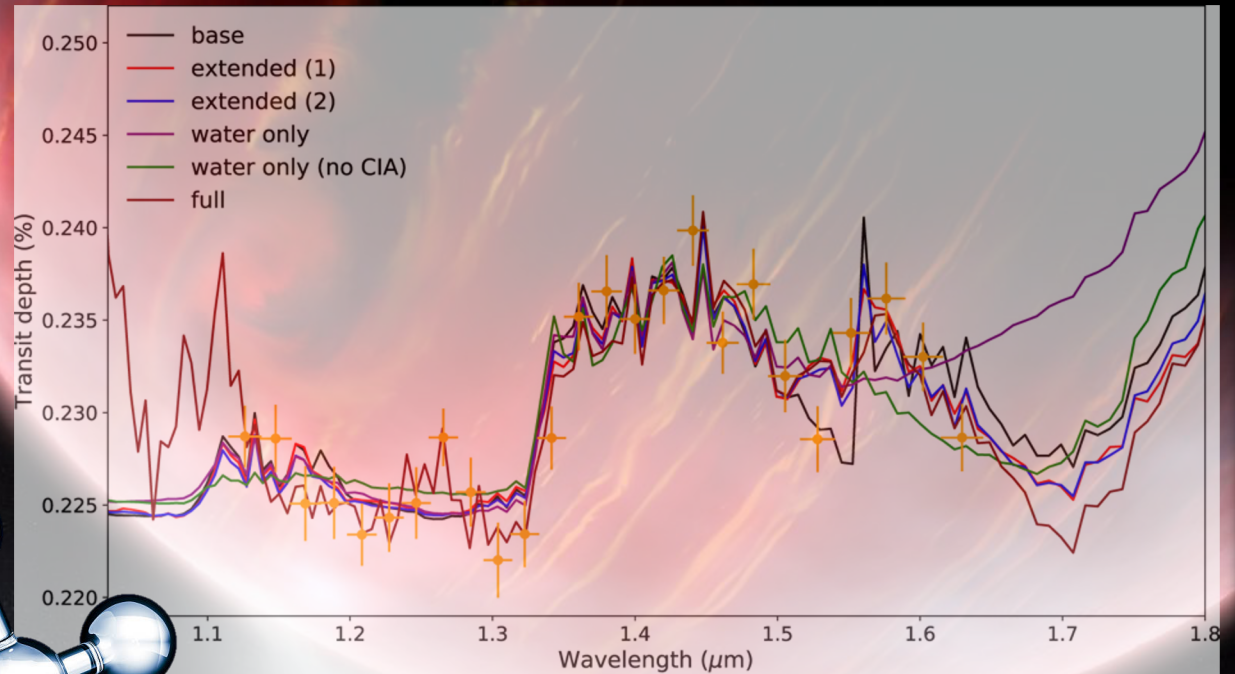
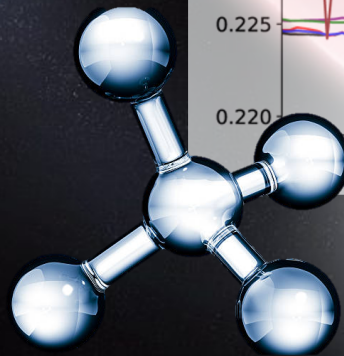
Exo-atmospheres observed... so far

Water vapour & other molecules observed in ~60 Jupiter-type, hot exoplanets



NASA Spitzer, NASA-ESA Hubble

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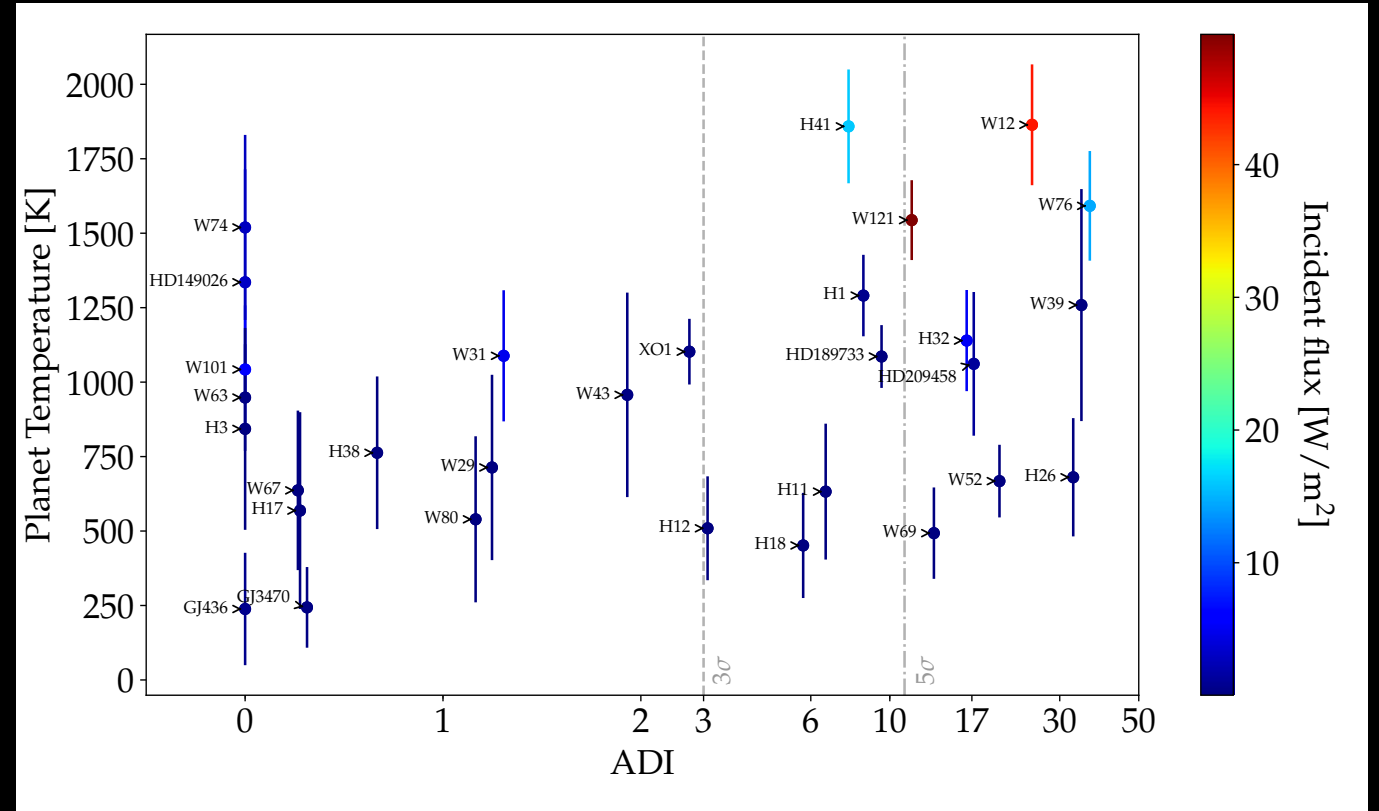
Changeat et al. 2021

Population studies

Beyond individual planets....



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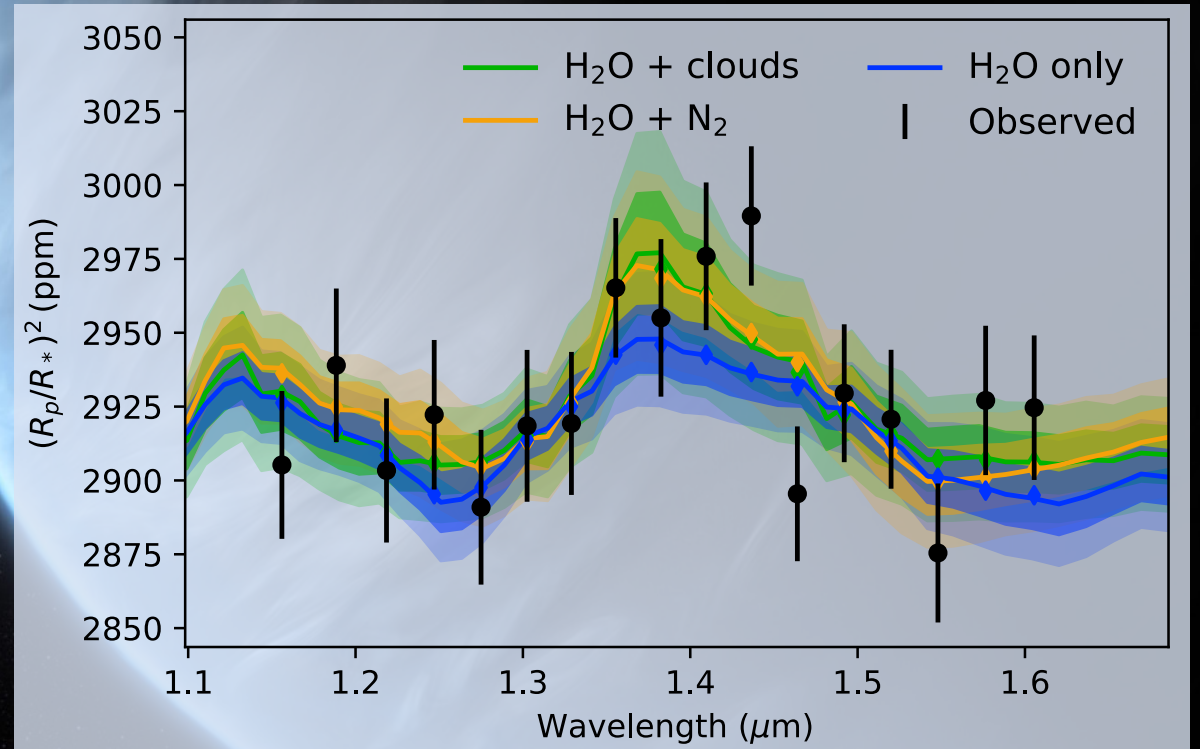
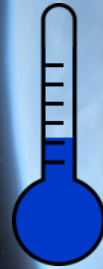
Tsiaras et al. 2018

The signature of water on K2-18 b

Temperate transitional planet (ocean world? sub-Neptune?)



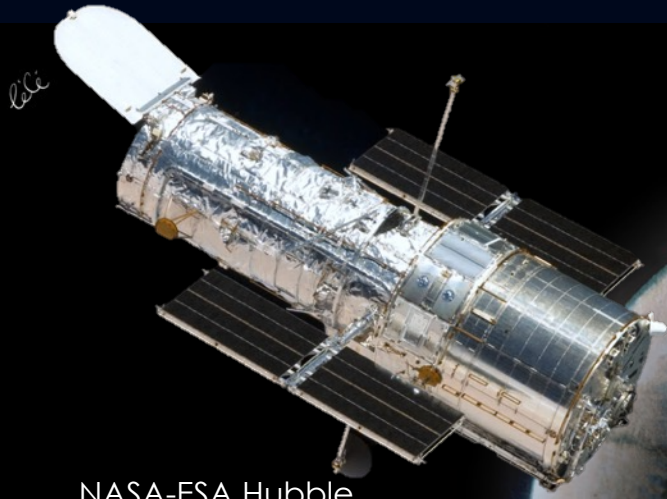
NASA-ESA Hubble



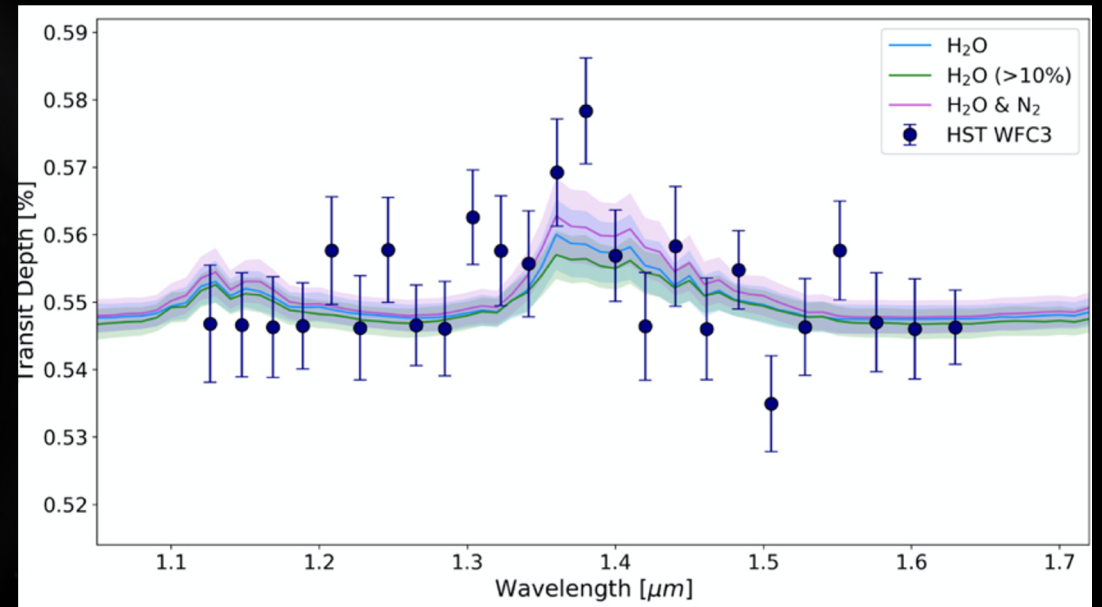
Tsiaras et al., *Nature Astron.*, 2019

LHS 1140b

Temperate super-Earth: atmospheric signal or stellar activity?



NASA-ESA Hubble

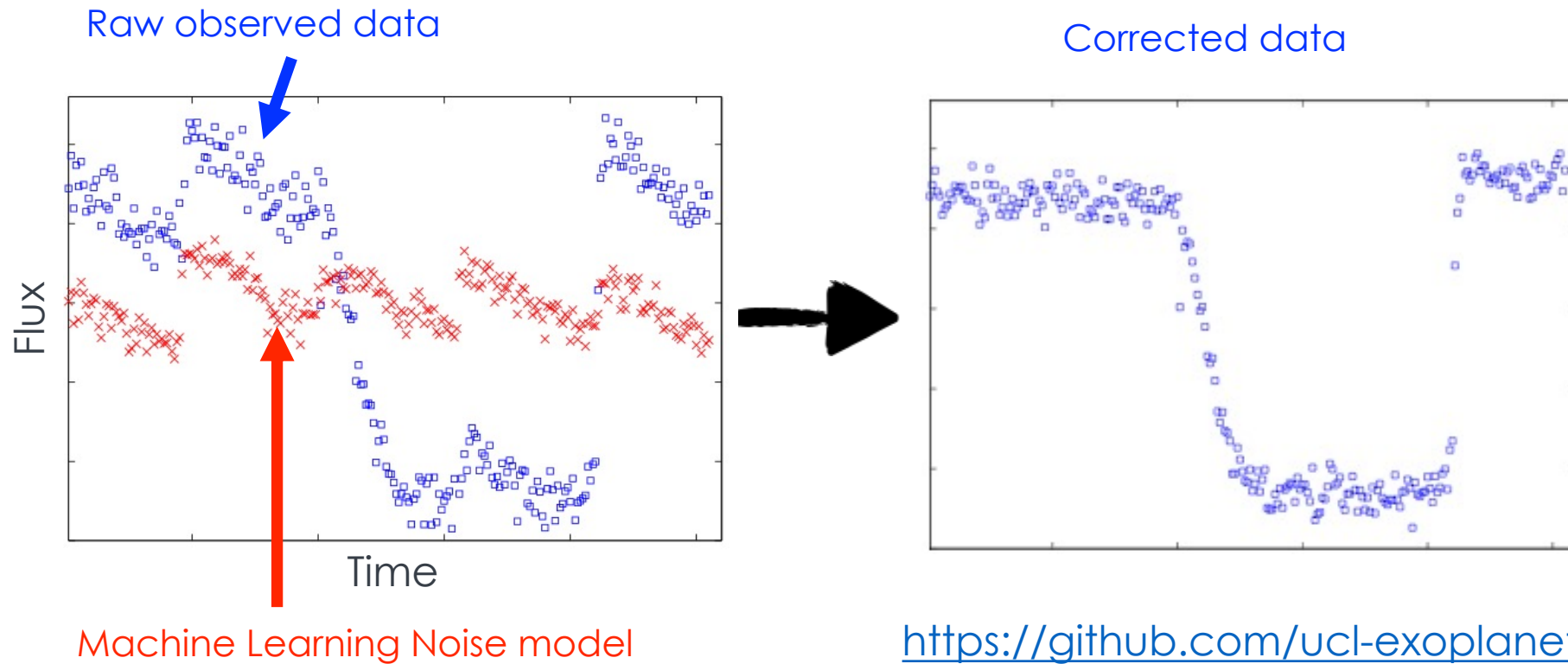


Edwards et al. 2021

Picture credit Lea Changeat

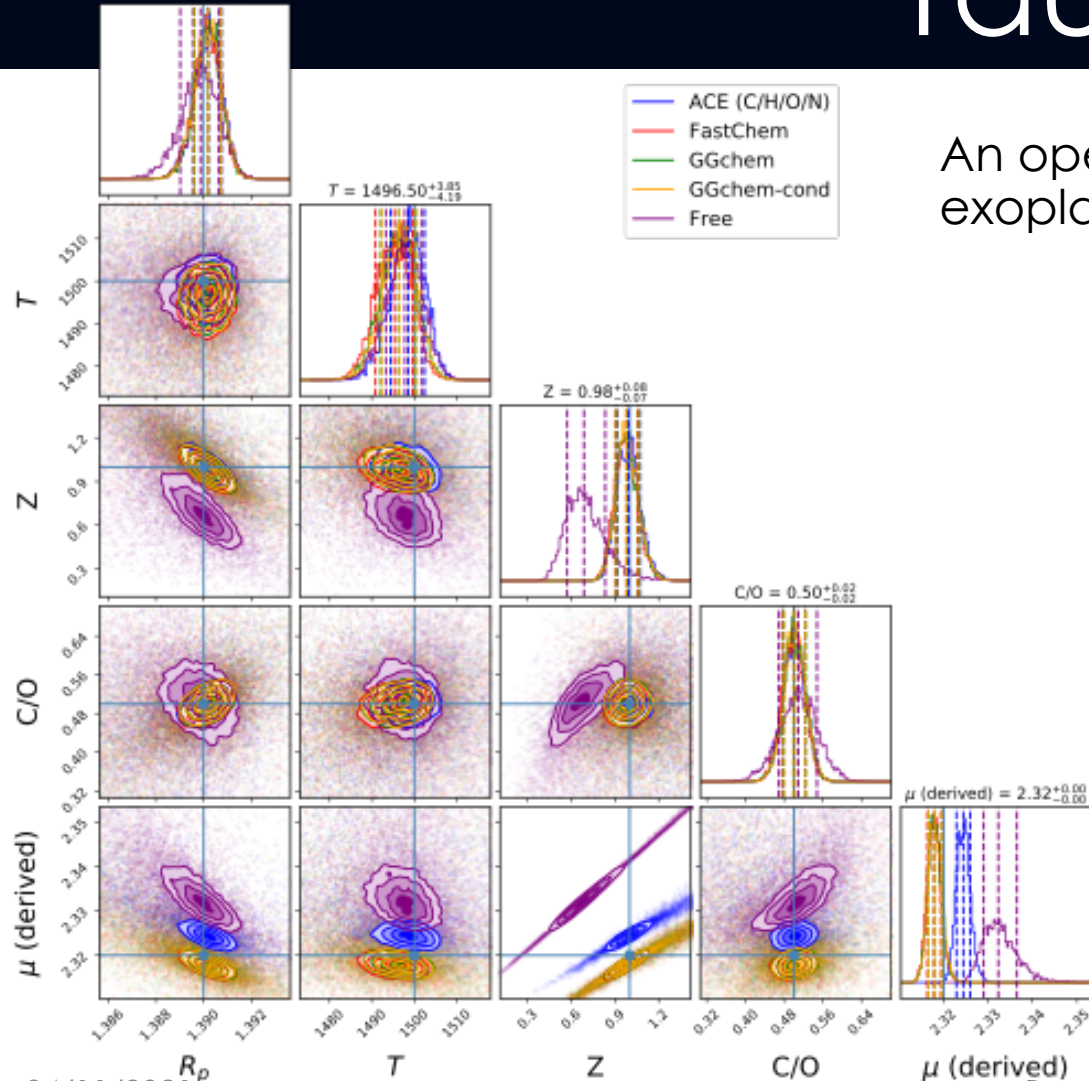
Machine learning

To correct for instrument systematics



TauREx

An open source platform to interpret exoplanetary spectra



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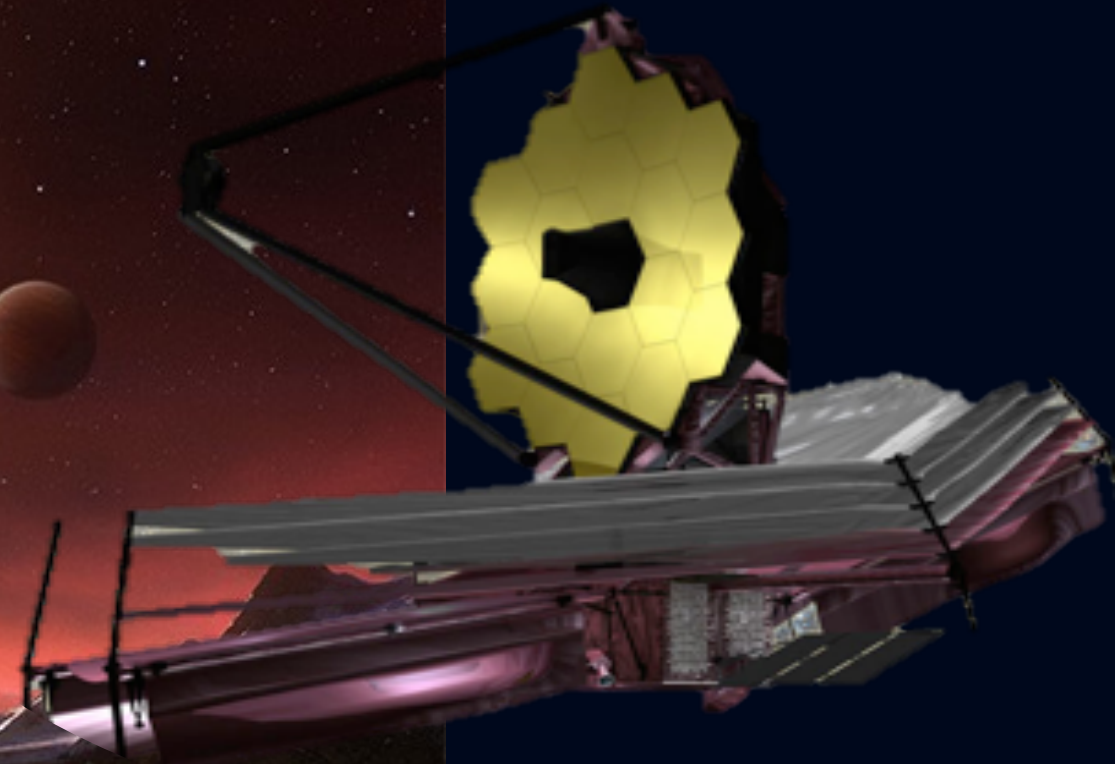
Article: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2110.01271>
 PyPi: <https://pypi.org/project/taurex/>
 Github: https://github.com/ucl-exoplanets/TauREx3_public

Al-Refaie+2020,2021; Waldmann+2015a,b;

James Webb Space Telescope

Ideal for cold rocky planets around M-dwarfs

6.5 m telescope in L2
Very broad infrared coverage
Launch 2021





<http://www.twinkle-spacemission.co.uk/>



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A sustainable path for space science

[Richard Archer](#) ✉, [Marcell Tessenyi](#) ✉, [Giovanna Tinetti](#), [Jonathan Tennyson](#), [Martin Charles Faulkes](#), [Giorgio Savini](#), [Philip Windred](#), [Dan Brown](#), [Billy Edwards](#), [Ian Stotesbury](#), [Max Joshua](#) & [Ben Wilcock](#)

Nature Astronomy **4**, 1017–1018 (2020) | [Cite this article](#)

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High-performance scientific satellites are currently the exclusive domain of government-funded agencies. The team behind the Twinkle Space Mission is developing a new class of small and sustainable science satellites that leverages recent innovations in the commercial space sector.



NEWS

8 MINS READ · 08 OCT 2020

AN EXOPLANETARY TWINKLE IN USQ'S EYE

#Science #Astronomy #Exoplanets #Observatories #Telescopes

WRITTEN BY PROF. JONTI HORNER



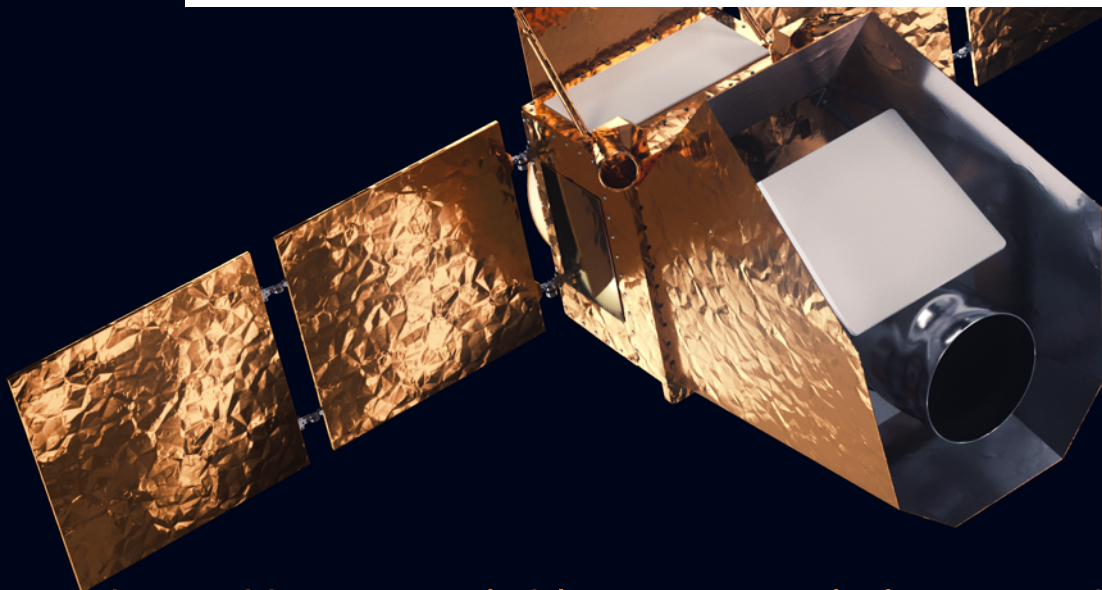
How do you study the atmosphere of an alien world, orbiting a distant star? By looking for the twinkle in the host star's light! A new space telescope, currently scheduled to launch in 2023 or 2024, will do just that – and today it was announced that Australian researchers at the University of Queensland are part of the new and exciting



Next-gen mission to explore skies above alien worlds

Space scientists from across the world are taking giant steps in the search for new planets, building their own

Live Chat



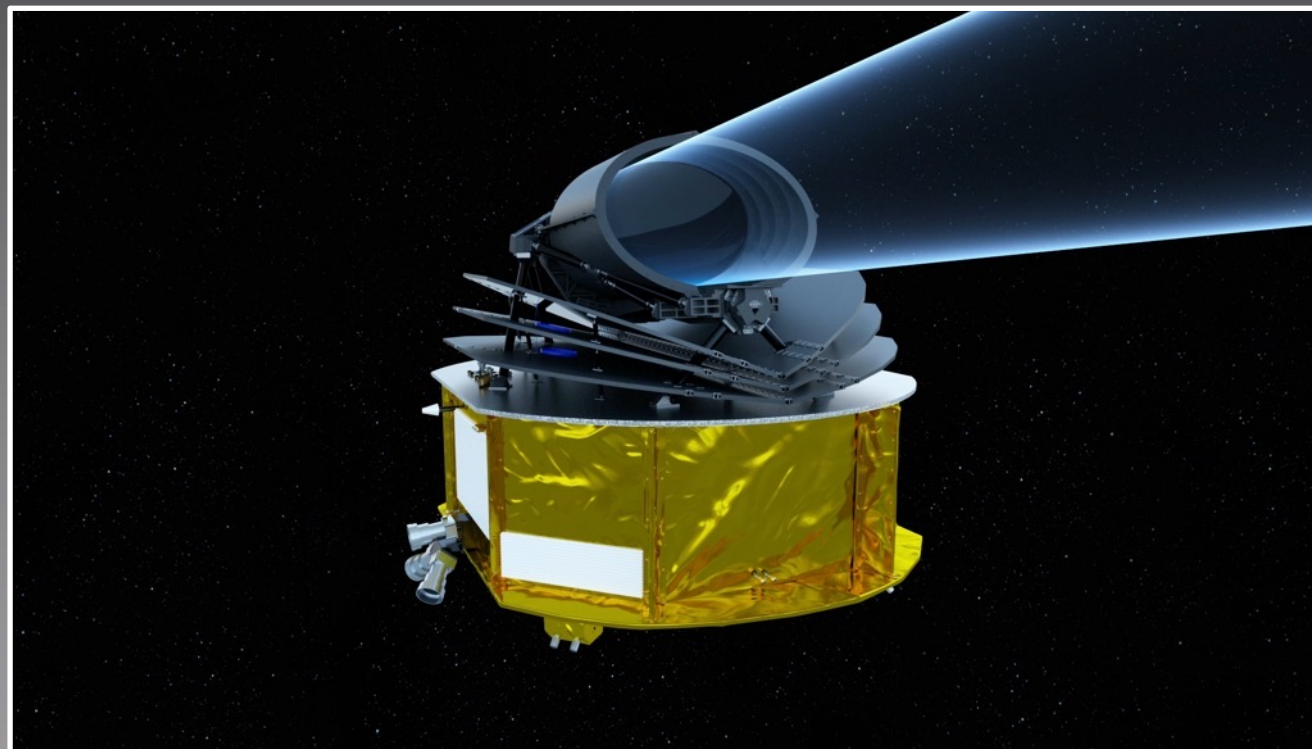
<http://www.twinkle-spacemission.co.uk/>

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Ariel



- Adopted as ESA M4 in Nov. 2020
- Launch 2029 in L2 with CI
- 1m-class telescope
- Simultaneous coverage 0.5-7.8 μm
- ~1000 exoplanets observed
 - Rocky + gaseous; 300-3000K; stars A-M



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=38YfVgAVUVs>



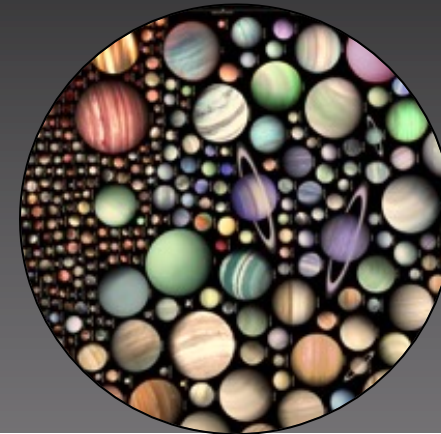
Ariel payload consortium



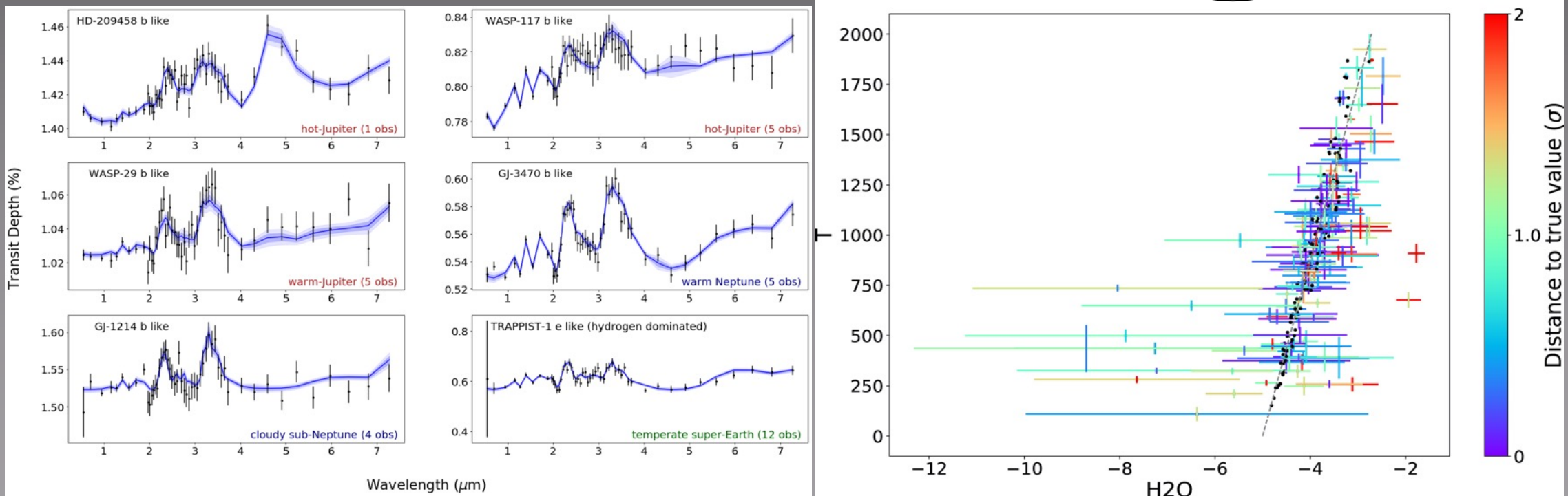
~500 SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS FROM 16 ESA COUNTRIES + NASA, JAXA PARTICIPATION



Chemical trends?



SEARCHING FOR CHEMICAL AND CLOUD TRANSITIONS



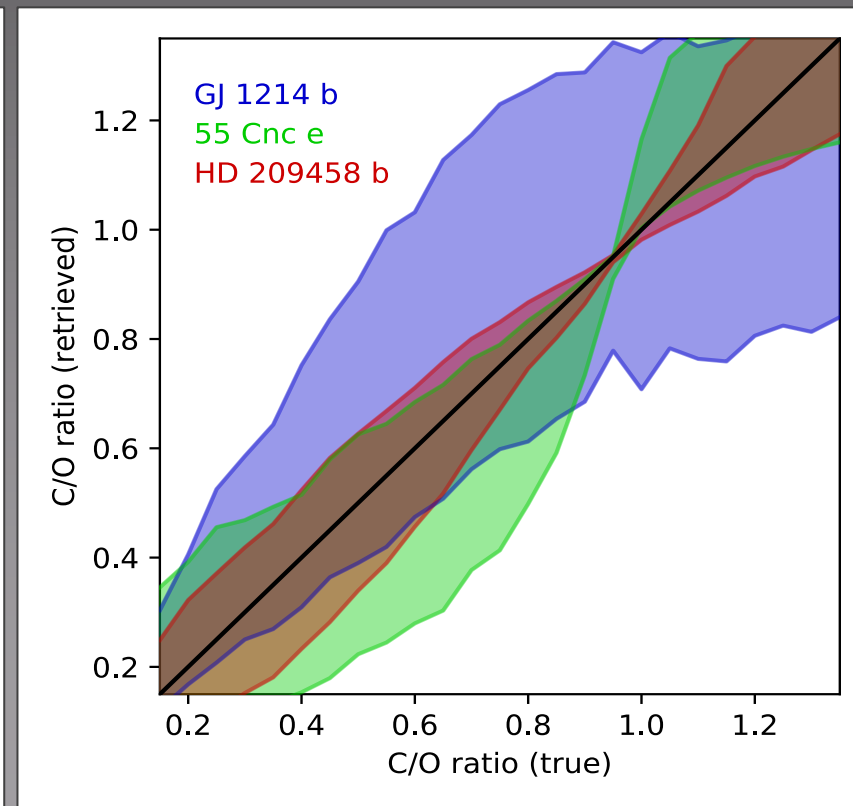
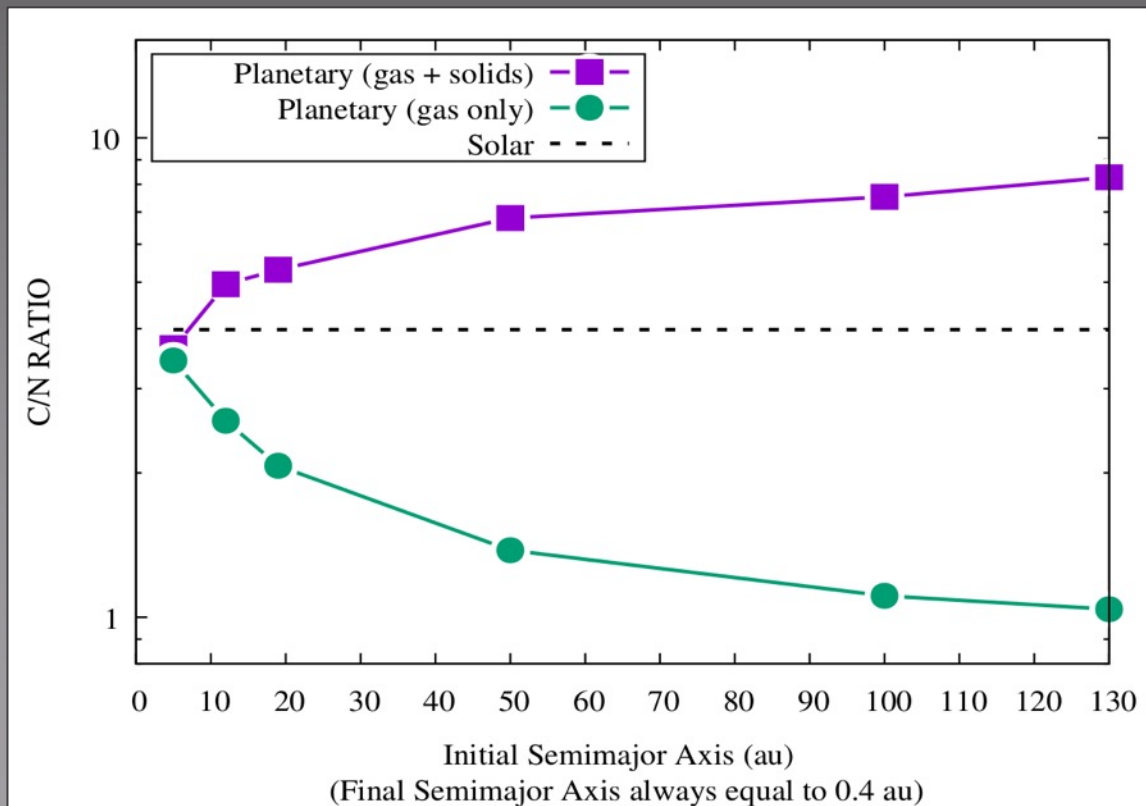
Changeat et al. 2020

Link with planet formation



KEY MOLECULAR SPECIES/ELEMENTAL RATIOS CONNECTING ATMOSPHERES AND FORMATION

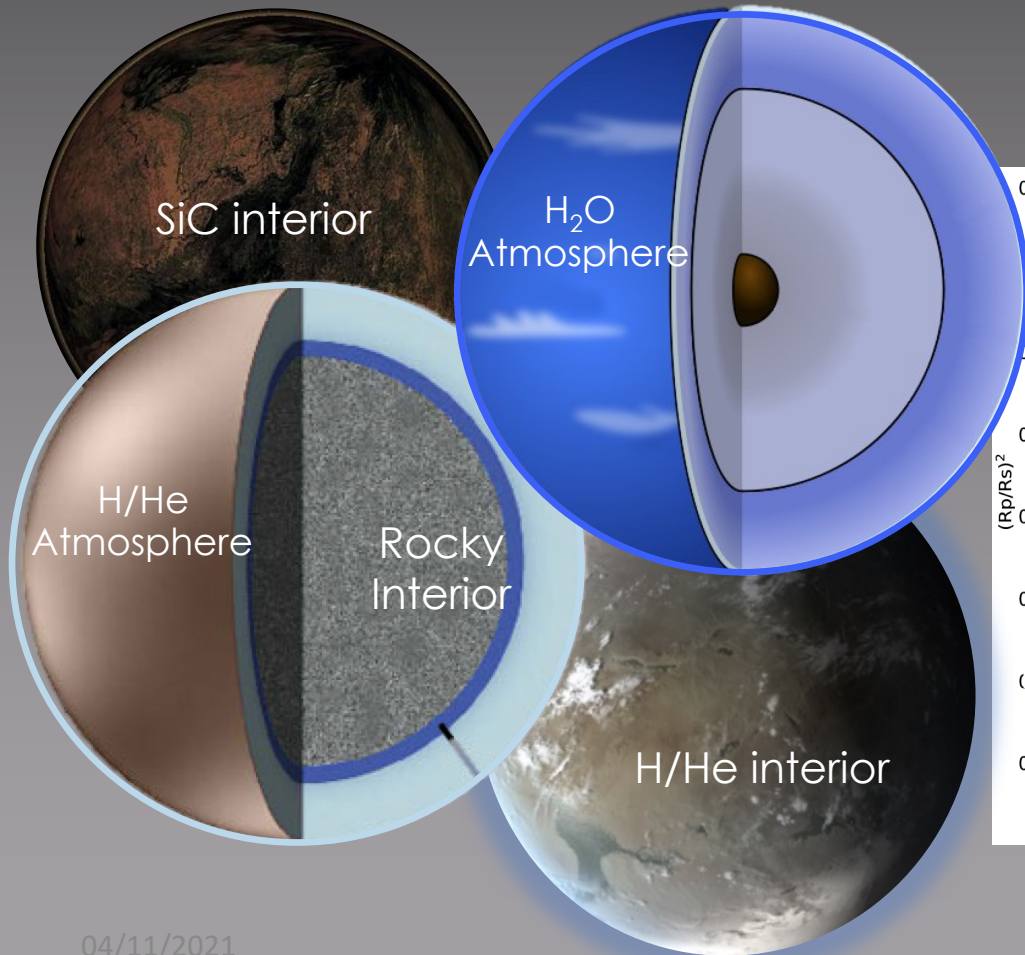
Ariel Formation WG



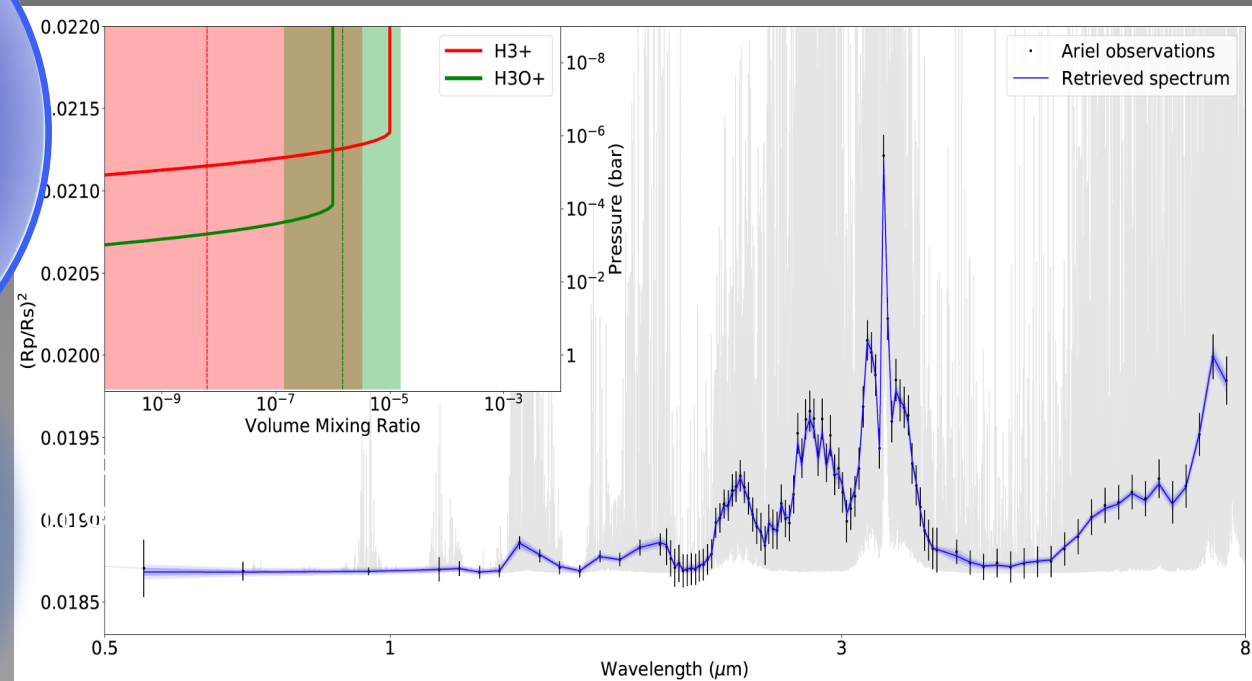
Small planets: what is their nature?



IS H₂ STILL THERE? IS THERE A SECONDARY ATMOSPHERE? HOW THICK IS THE ATMOSPHERE? WHAT ARE THE TRACE GASES?



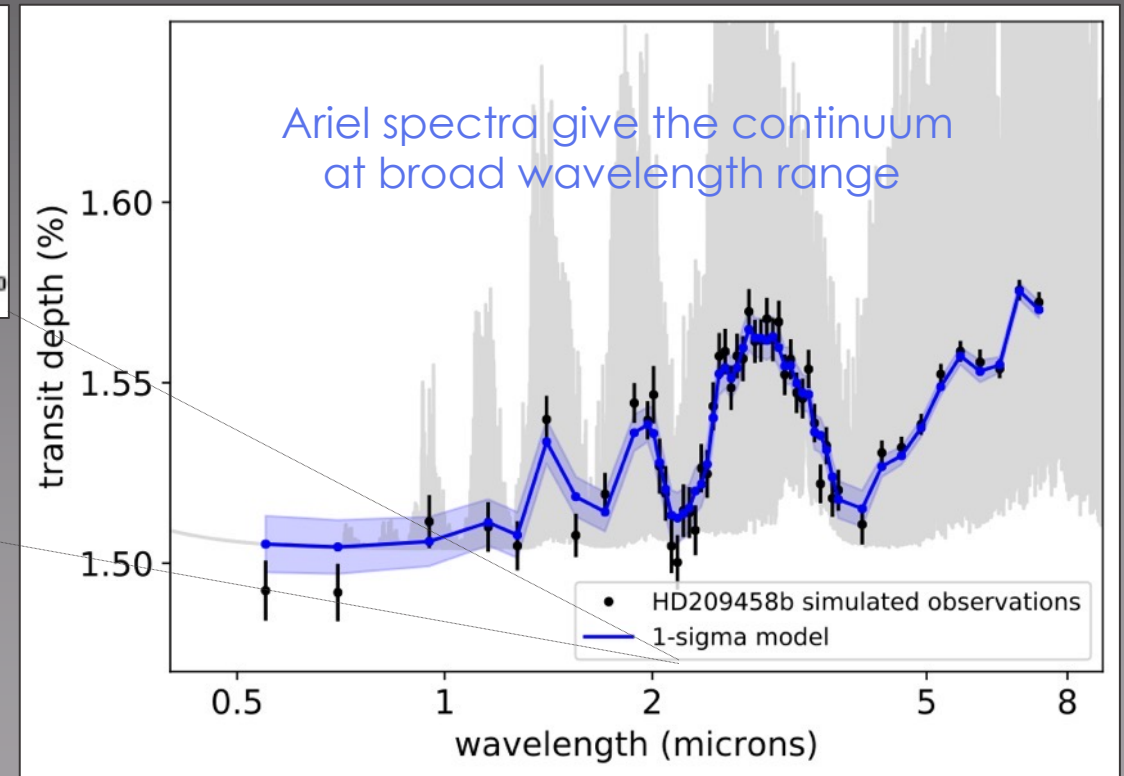
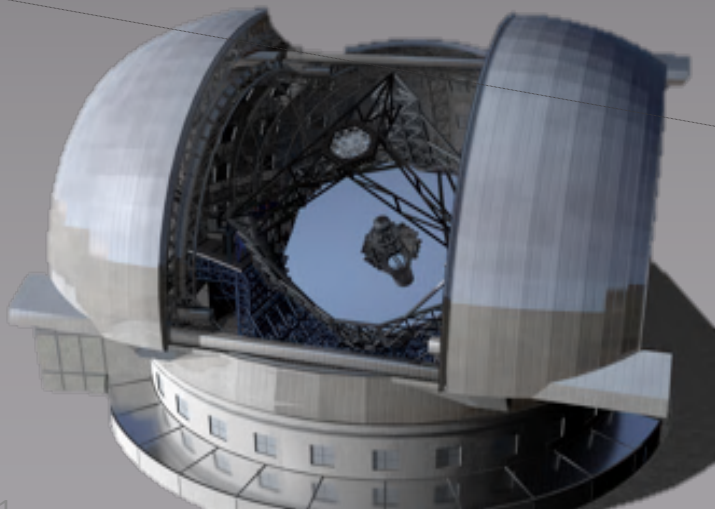
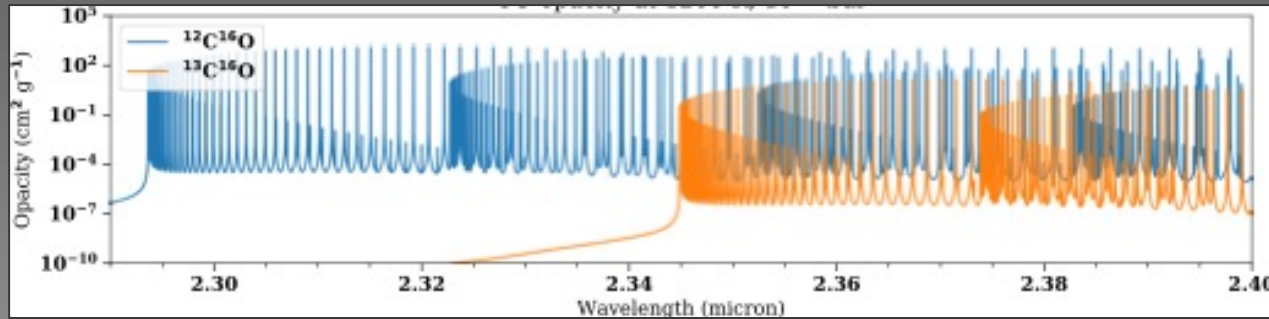
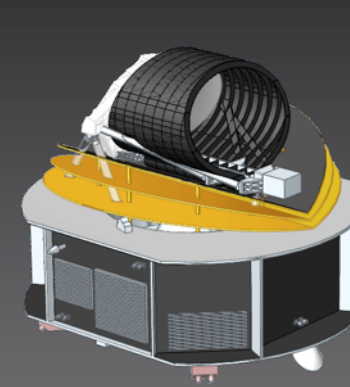
Ariel Retrieval, Chemistry WGs



Bourgalais et al. 2020

Synergies ground

HIGHLY COMPLEMENTARY TO LARGE, GROUND-BASED FACILITIES



The Ariel Data Challenges

ariel-datachallenge.space

- The ML Data Challenge in 2019 & 2021 had 100+ international teams of professionals and amateurs participating
- Organised with European Conference of Machine Learning



SCAN ME



<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2010.15996.pdf>



Citizen-science programs

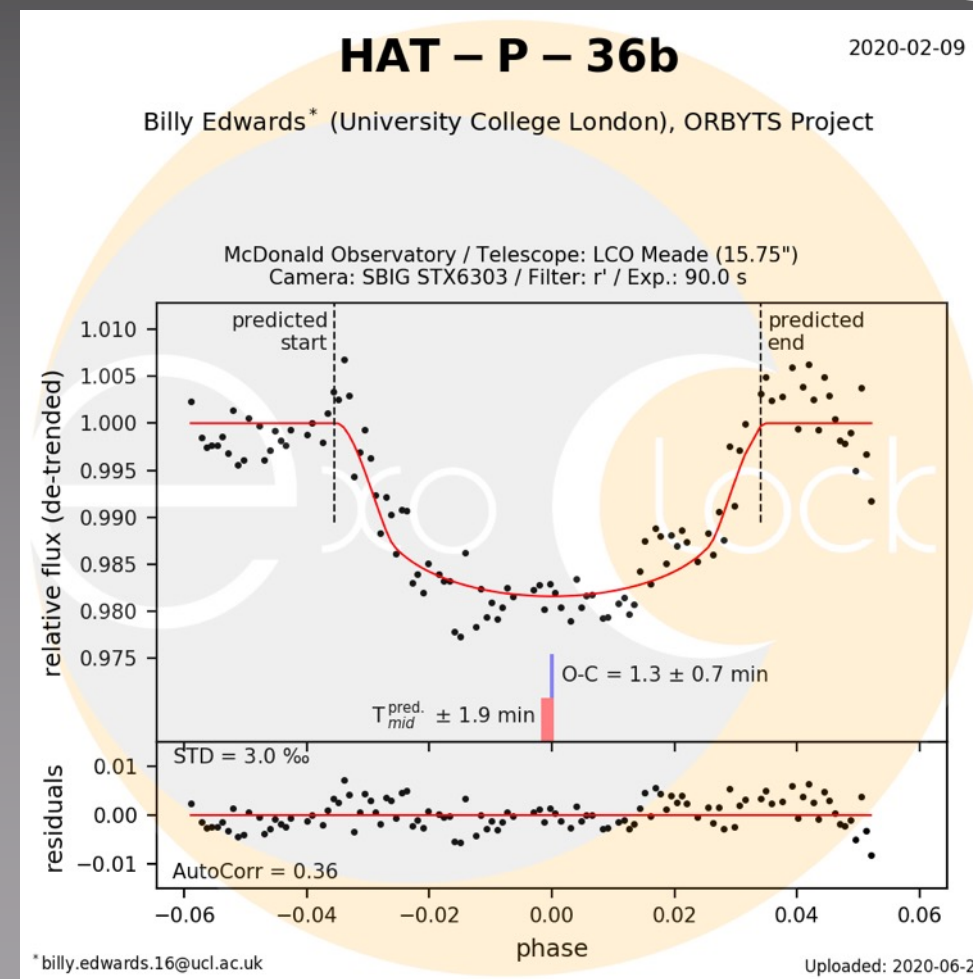


exoclock.space

- Open platform to monitor the ephemerides of Ariel targets with contributions from the public.
- Huge global success, hundreds of active participants!
- Used to engage school students in scientific research.

Planet Name & Remarks	Star RA/DEC [h/deg]	Star Vmag [mag]	Transit Depth [mmag]	Transit Duration [h]	Observ. Start [TZ:2.0]	Transit Start [TZ:2.0]	Transit Mid-point [TZ:2.0]	Transit End [TZ:2.0]	Observ. End [TZ:2.0]
WASP-52b LOW PRIORITY NO PRE-TRANSIT	23:13:58.74 8:45:40.5 FOV	12.0	33.51	1.82	2019/09/06 19:31 16° E	2019/09/06 20:31 27° E	2019/09/06 21:26 36° SE	2019/09/06 22:20 44° SE	2019/09/06 23:20 52° SE
TrES-2b MEDIUM PRIORITY	19:07:14.03 49:18:59.0 FOV	11.41	15.44	1.84	2019/09/06 19:59 82° NE	2019/09/06 20:59 82° NW	2019/09/06 21:54 74° NW	2019/09/06 22:49 66° NW	2019/09/06 23:49 56° NW
HAT-P-32b MEDIUM PRIORITY NO PRE-TRANSIT	2:04:10.28 46:41:16.2 FOV	11.29	29.63	3.12	2019/09/06 20:04 19° NE	2019/09/06 21:04 27° NE	2019/09/06 22:38 41° NE	2019/09/07 00:12 56° NE	2019/09/07 01:12 66° E
Qatar-1b LOW PRIORITY	20:13:31.60 65:09:43.3 FOV	12.84	25.33	1.65	2019/09/06 20:25 66° N	2019/09/06 21:25 68° N	2019/09/06 22:15 68° N	2019/09/06 23:04 65° N	2019/09/07 00:04 60° NW

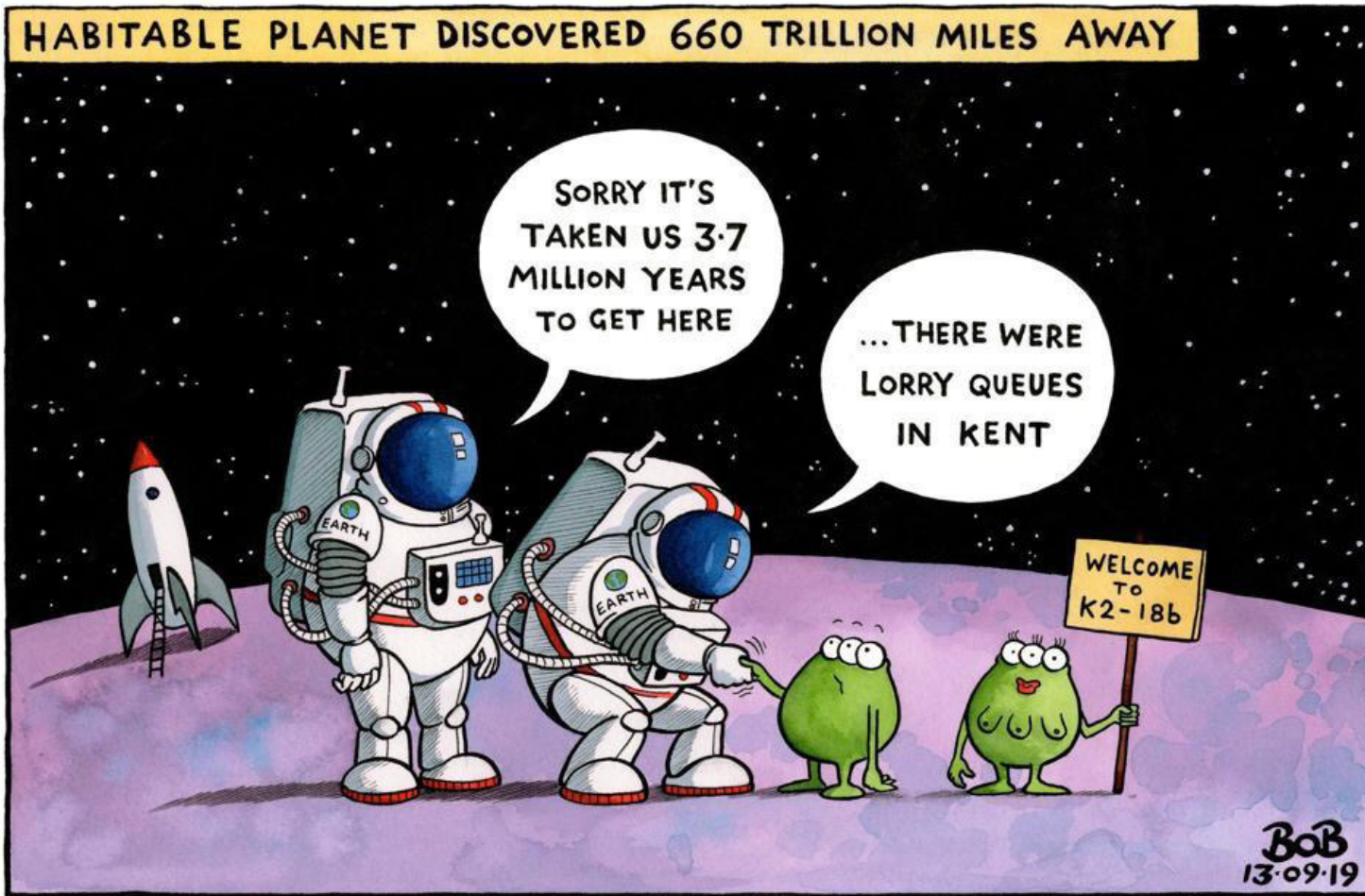
Kokori, et al. 2020, 2021; Edwards et al 2020a,b



CONCLUSIONS

- Exoplanets appear to be ubiquitous in our Galaxy
- The number of discovered exoplanets is increasing exponentially, but we still know very little about them
- We will have a suite of dedicated space missions in the next decade to discover more and more interesting targets (TESS, Cheops, PLATO)
- ALMA and SKA (will) give important contributions to our understanding of planet formation
- We have large facilities from the ground (ELT, TMT) and satellites in space (JWST, Twinkle) + dedicated missions (Ariel) to observe the atmospheric composition and structure of a large number of exoplanets
- **Exoplanetary science is and will continue to be a global endeavour!**

...we can't go there yet!



We need to take care of this one!

