

What we expect from PLATO

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Labeled as M3 in the ESA Cosmic Vision 2015-2025 program, the PLATO (PLAnetary Transits and Oscillations of stars) satellite is scheduled for a launch with Ariane 6 from French Guyana at the end of 2026. Although conceived and preliminary designed 16 years ago, when the research on exoplanets was at his infancy, the PLATO mission main scientific objectives continue to be unachieved by other experiments appeared in meantime. With 26 telescopes on board, providing a huge field of view (eleven thousand times the size of the full Moon in the sky) PLATO is expected to monitor at high cadence and for uninterrupted series - lasting months to years - MS bright stars, in this way providing unique information on their age and mass and on the architecture of their planetary system, with unprecedented characterisation of the interior of terrestrial planets in the habitable zones of solar type stars.

I will illustrate the project and the opportunities it will offer to the researchers' community.

sessioni congresso

Stelle, popolazioni stellari e mezzo interstellare

Primary author: Dr PAGANO, Isabella (INAF)

Presenter: Dr PAGANO, Isabella (INAF)

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