

# PLATO

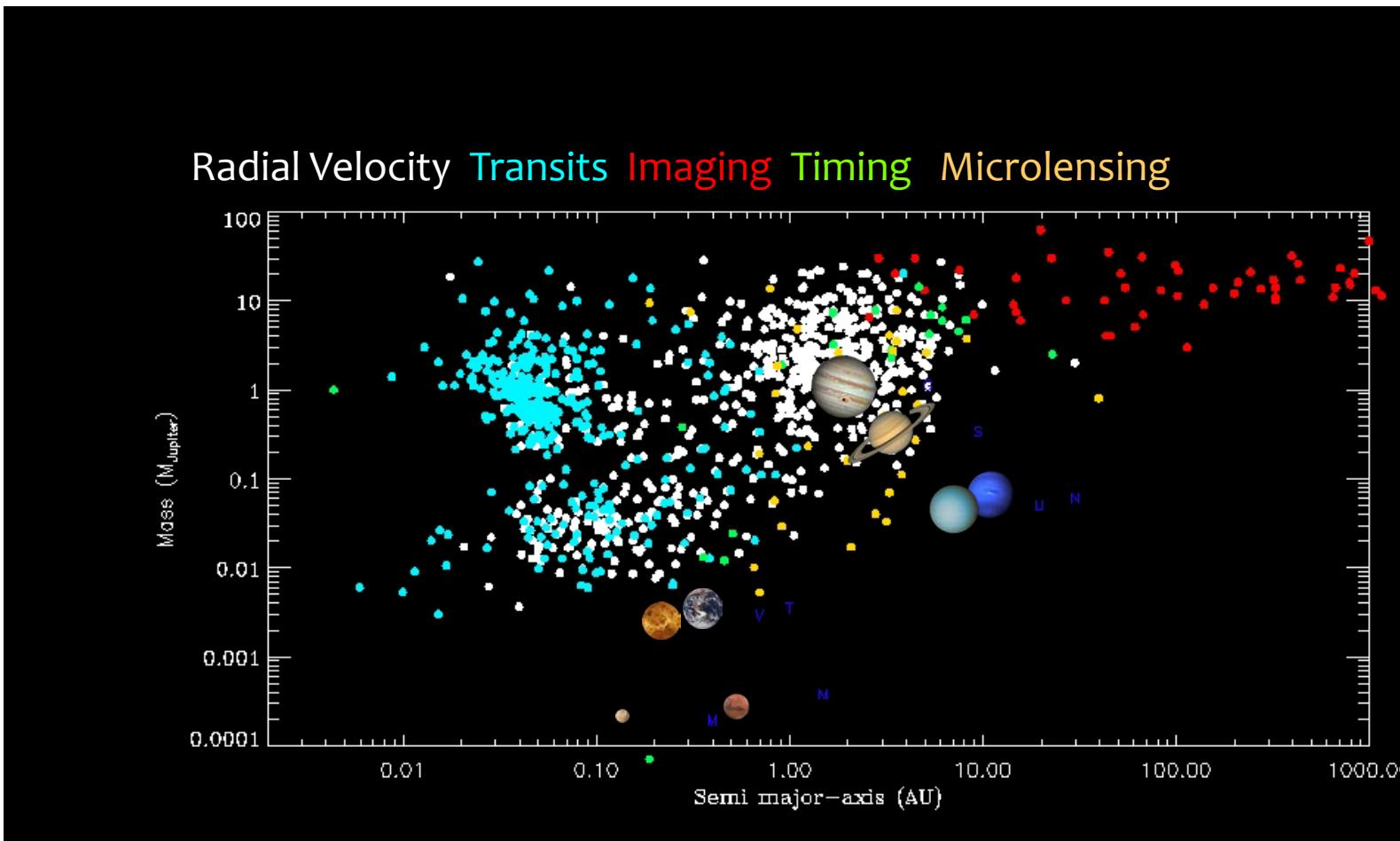
the ESA M3 mission  
in the Cosmic Vision 2015-25

**Isabella Pagano**  
INAF - Osservatorio Astrofisico di Catania

and the **PLATO Mission Consortium**

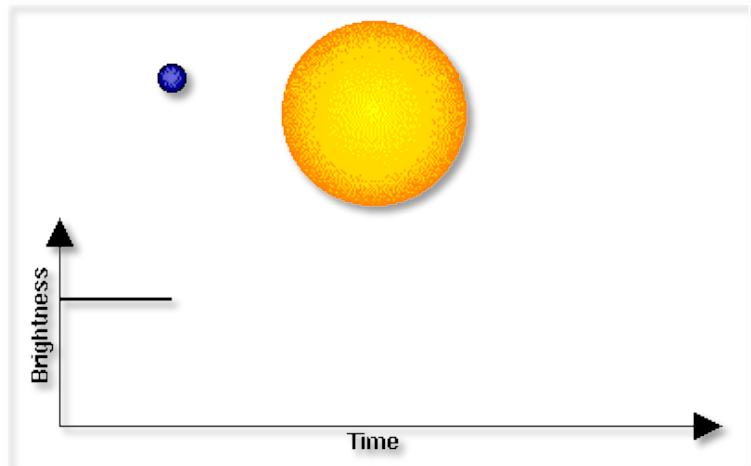


# Detections

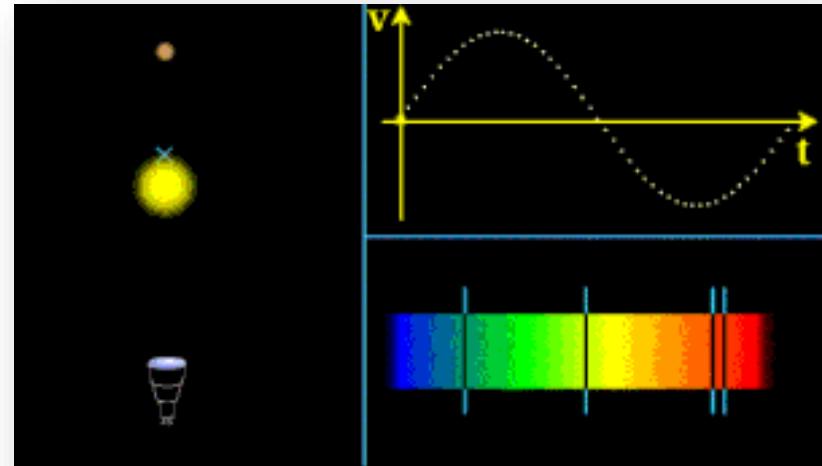


# RV & Transits: the power of complementarity

Transit Method



Radial velocity method



- Orbit parameters
- Orbital inclination,  $i$
- Planet radius,  $R_p$

$$\frac{\Delta F}{F} = \left( \frac{R_p}{R_*} \right)^2$$

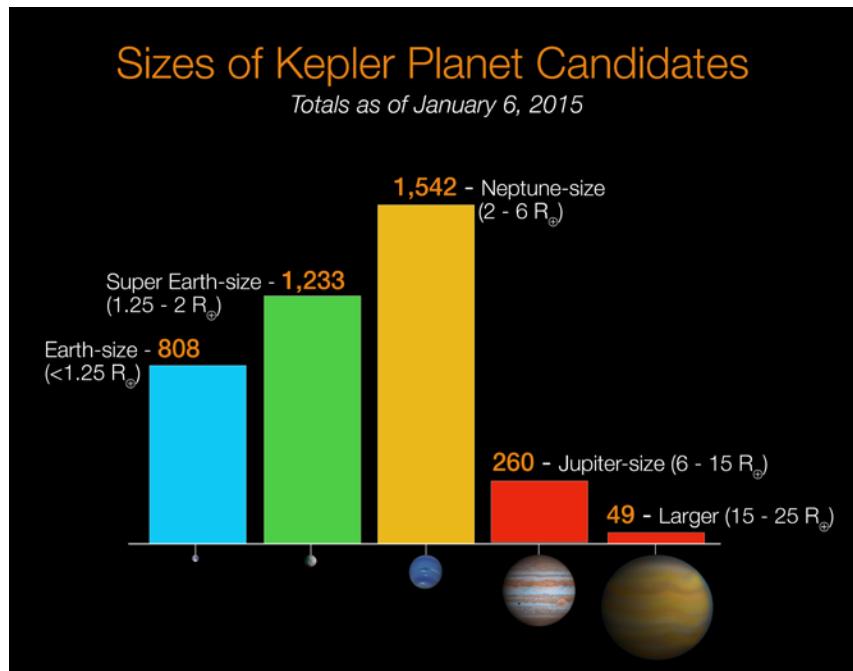
- Orbital parameters
- Minimum planet mass,  $M_p \sin i$

$$K \propto M_p / M_*^{2/3}$$

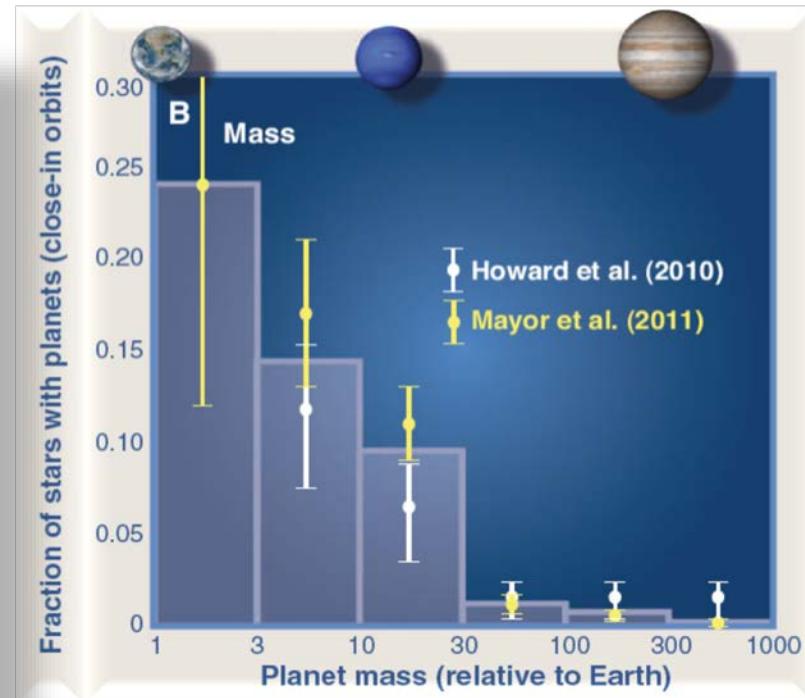
True planet mass and mean density

# Small planets are common

Size from Kepler



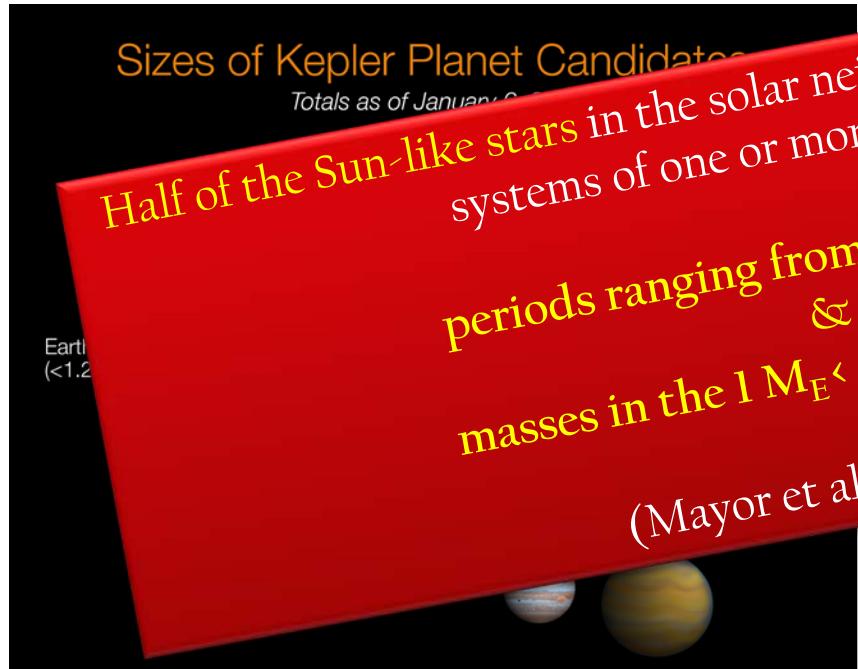
Mass from Radial Velocity Survey



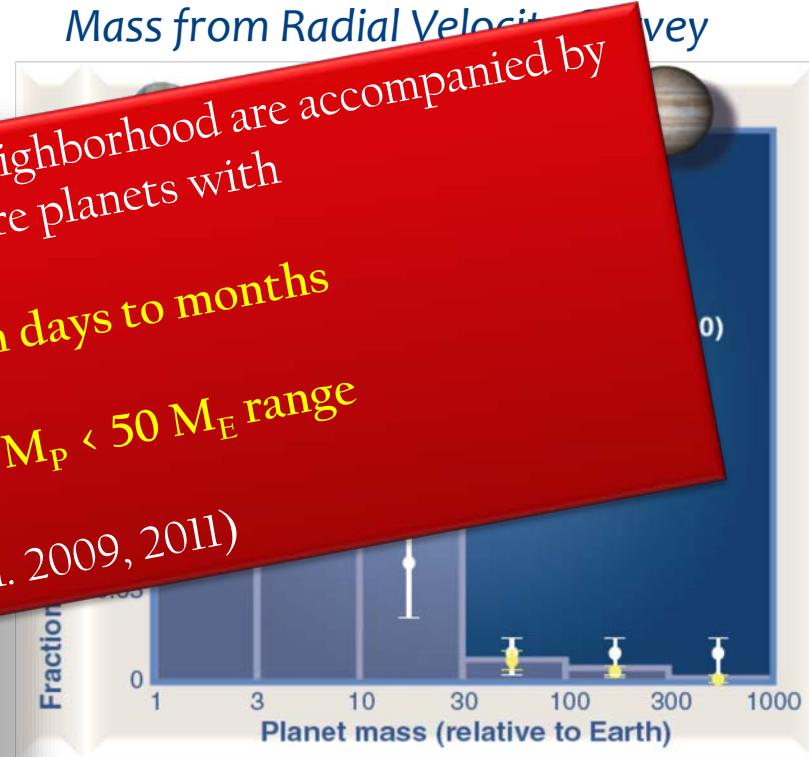
BUT mass and radius mostly come from different techniques: few objects with both measurements

# Small planets are common

## Size from Kepler

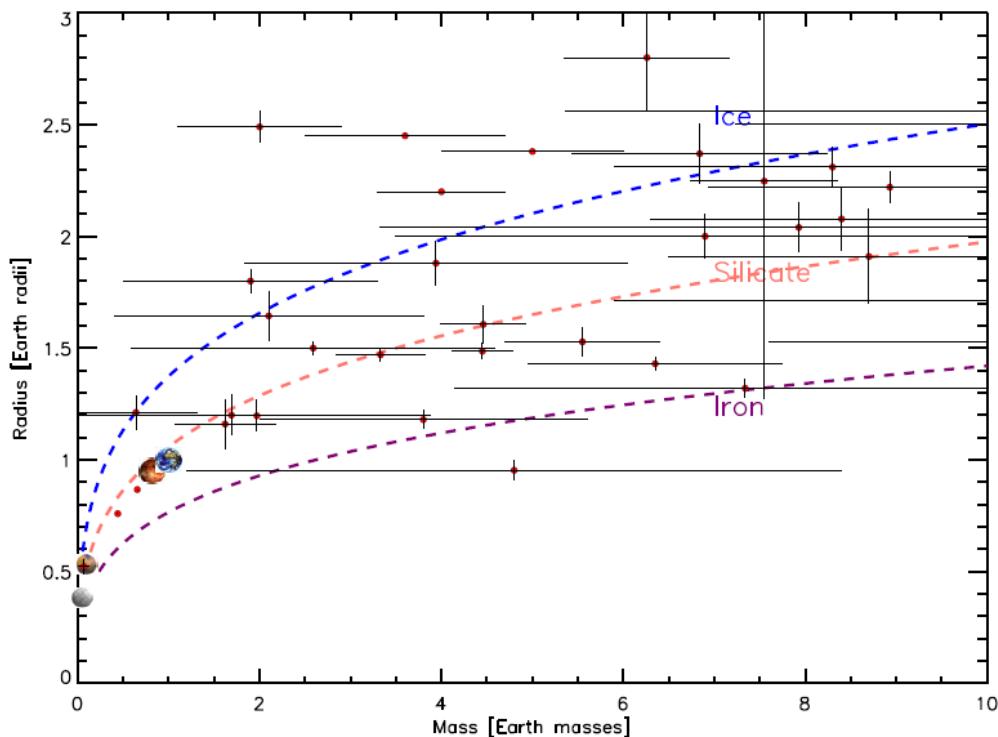


## Mass from Radial Velocity Survey



BUT mass and radius mostly come from different techniques: few objects with both measurements

# From CoRoT, Kepler and Most → Diversity of super-Earths



- ✓ Masses vary by a factor of ~4 (with large errors)
- ✓ Radii vary by a factor of ~3

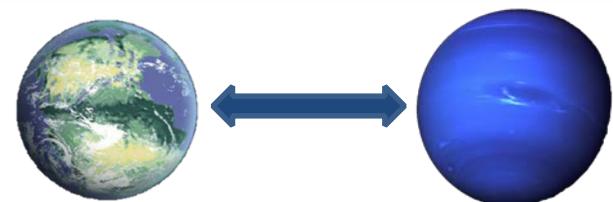
- ⑨ Accurate masses & radii are required to separate terrestrial from mini-gas planets

# Super-Earths: diversity and implications on habitability



Solar System planets are NOT the general rule:  
small  $\Rightarrow$  rocky, large  $\Rightarrow$  gaseous

- Small exoplanets are very diverse: from Earth-like to mini-gas planets
- Mini-gas planets are likely not habitable
- Silicate-iron planets are prime targets for atmosphere spectroscopy

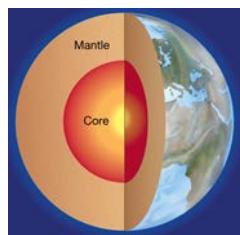


Searching for Habitability requires:

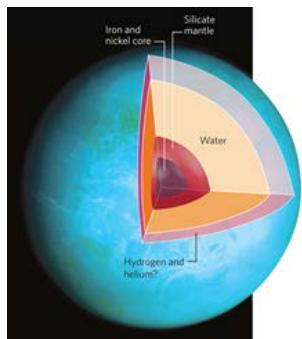
- accurate mean densities to identify terrestrial planets
- bulk characterize targets for atmosphere spectroscopy follow-up

# Planet diversity

Earth  $5.5 \text{ g/cm}^3$

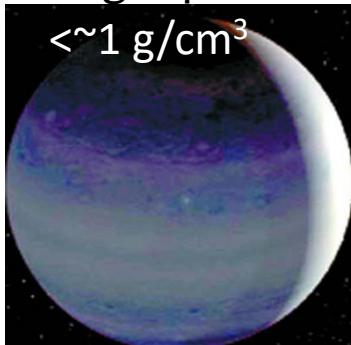


GJ1214b  $1.6 \text{ g/cm}^3$

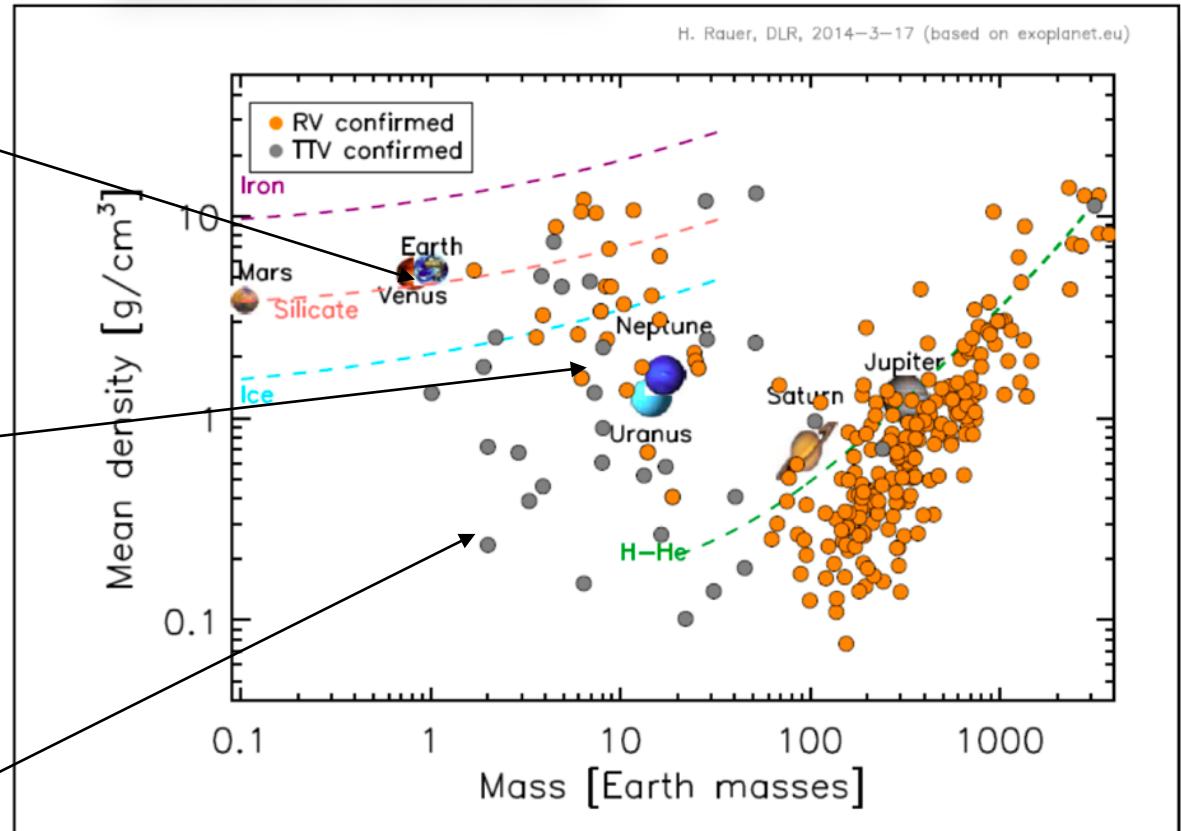


Mini gas planets

$<1 \text{ g/cm}^3$



- Planets of Earth mass and below remain to be detected and characterized

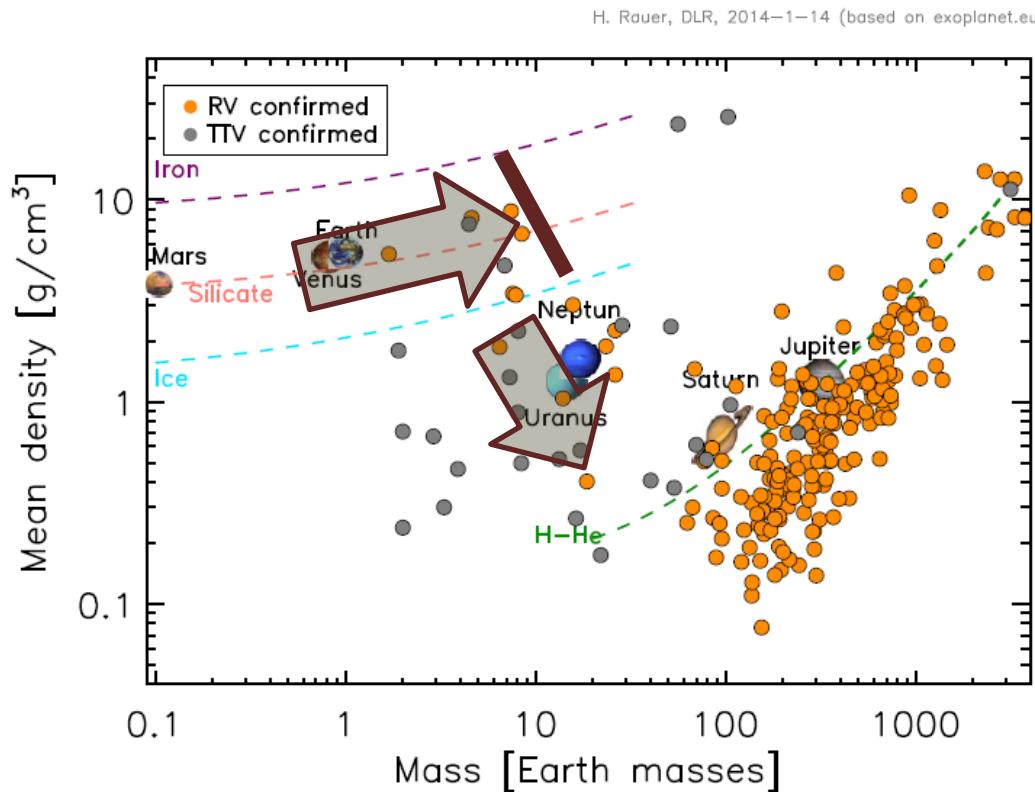


- → Need mean densities to separate terrestrial planets from mini-gas planets

# Planet diversity and planet formation

## Test planet formation models:

- What is the observed critical core mass? How massive can a solid **core** grow before accreting **volatiles**?
- Can super-massive rocky planets exist? How are they formed?
- Are light planets with H<sub>2</sub>-dominated atmospheres common?

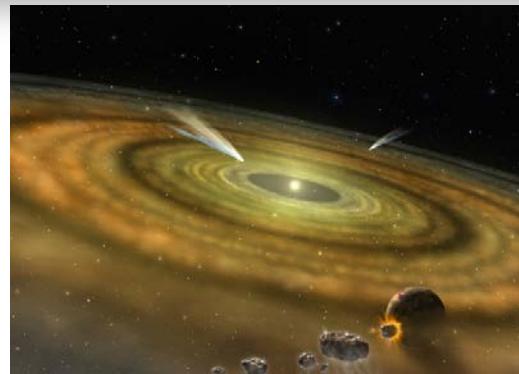
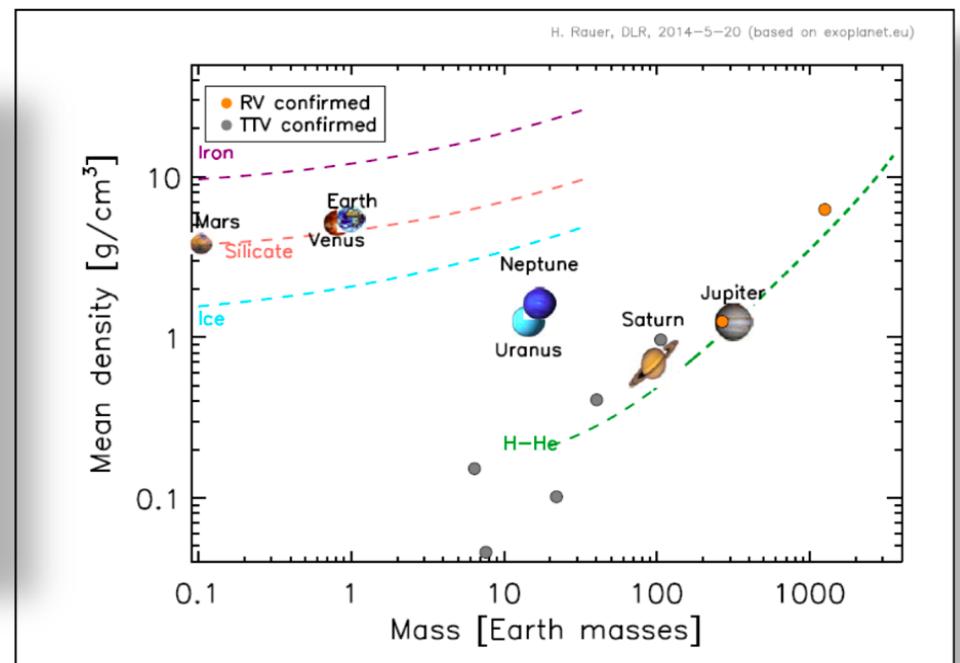
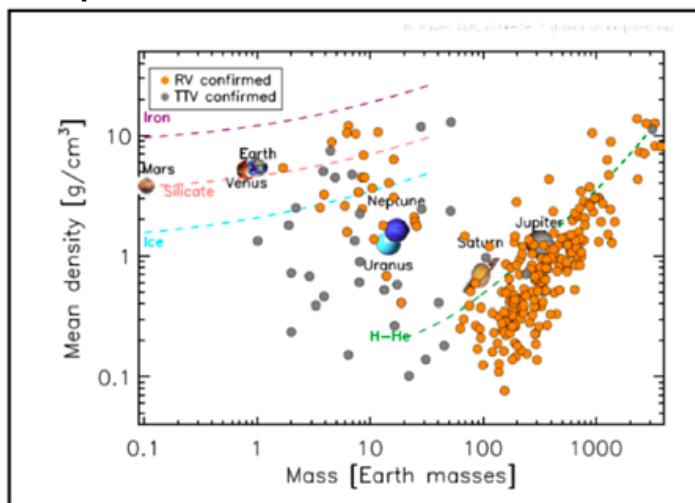


# A biased view

Our knowledge on planet nature is limited to close-in planets so far.

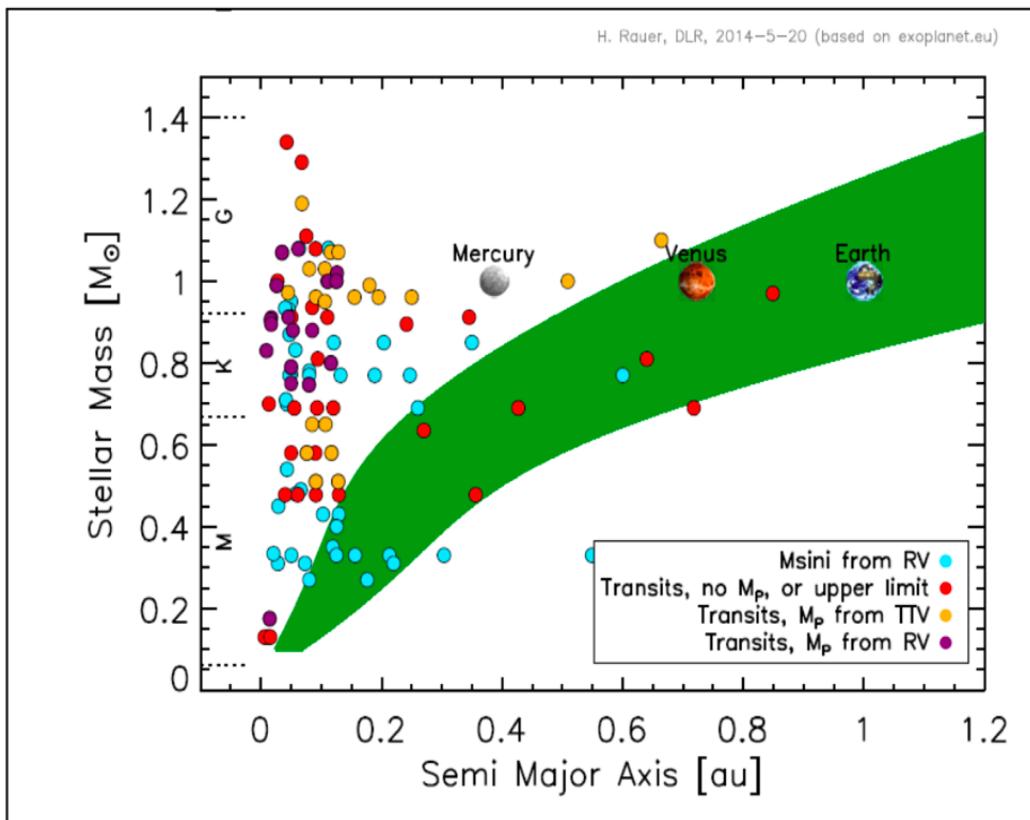
Planets with  $P > 80$  days

All planets



# Super-Earths in the habitable zone

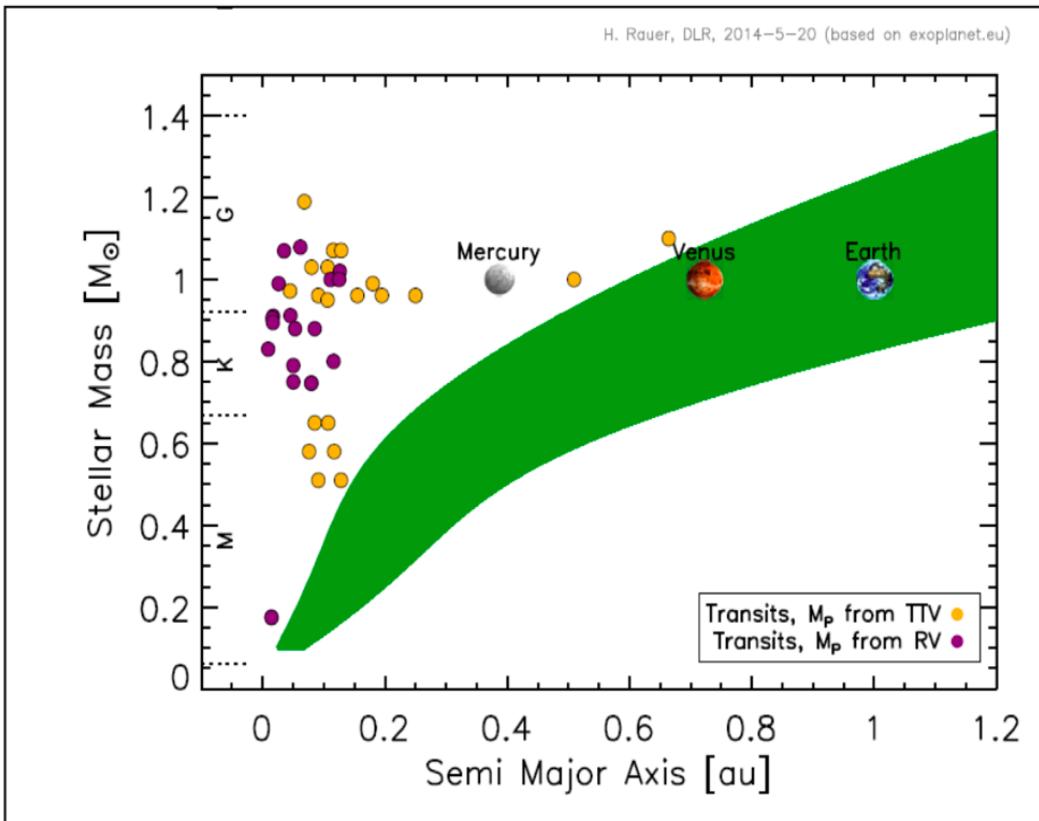
Detected super-Earths



- Goal: Detect and characterize super-Earths in habitable zones
- Status: very few small/light planets in habitable zones detected

# Super-Earths in the habitable zone

Super-Earths with measured **radius** and **mass**

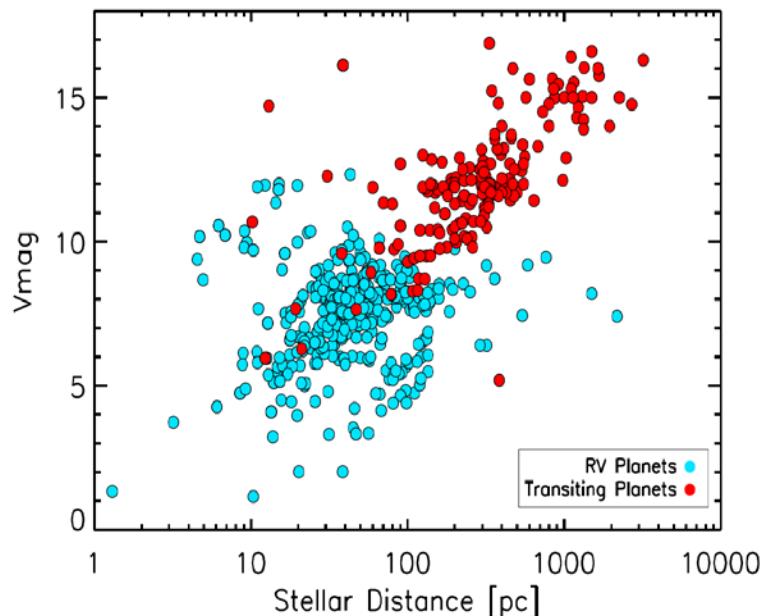


- Goal: Detect and characterize super-Earths in habitable zones
- Status: very few small/light planets in habitable zones detected

No „super-Earths“ with known mean density in the habitable zone !

# The need for bright stars

Known planets from radial velocity and transit surveys

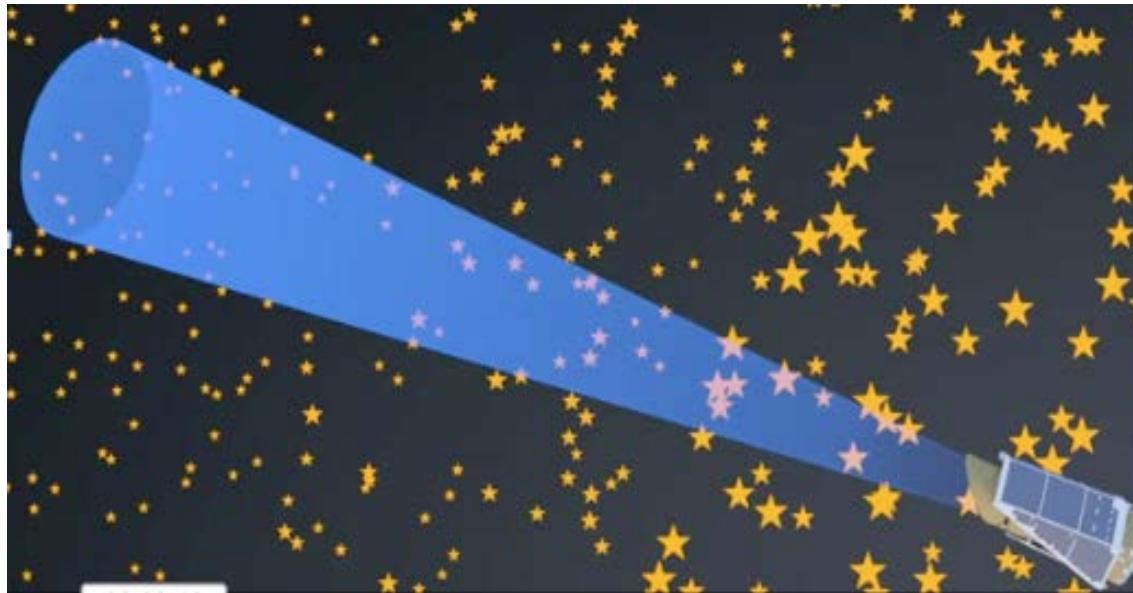


Why have so few targets been characterized?

- Transit surveys targeted faint and distant stars to maximize detection performance.
- Radial velocity surveys need bright stars ( $\leq 11$  mag) to keep telescope resources limited.

**Lessons learned:**  
**Future transit missions must target bright stars!**

# Large FoV concept

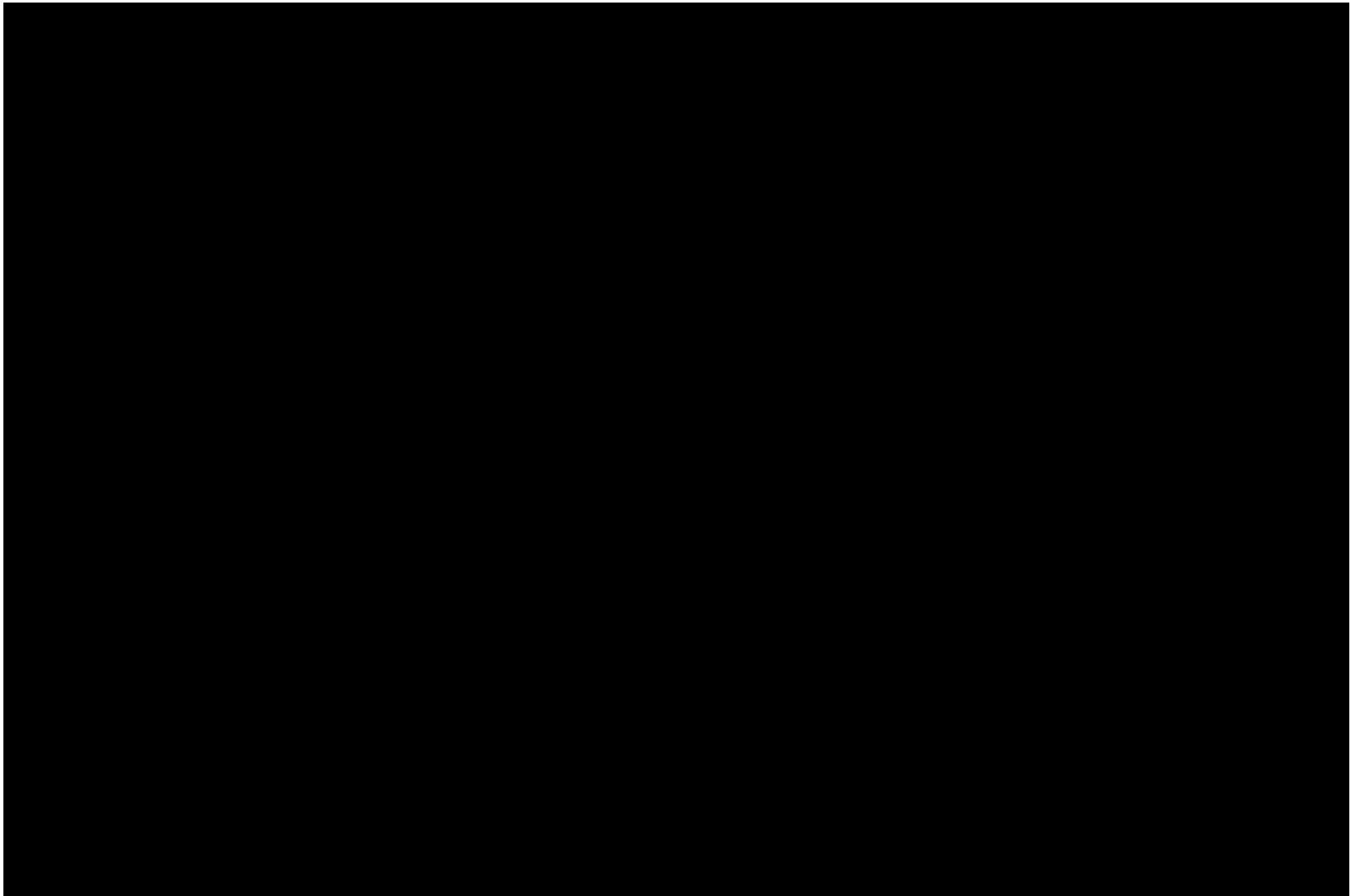


Searching for  
transits of Bright  
Stars ⑨  
⑨ large FoV!

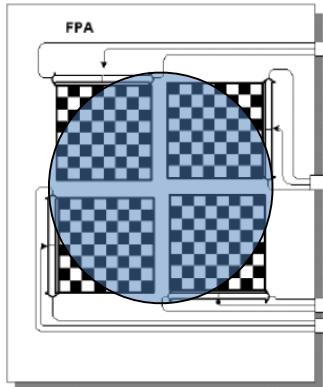


# One PLATO telescope

FoV~  $\sim$ 1200 sqdeg (12 times Kepler) – like a circle of 39 deg diameter



# Fast and Normal Telescopes



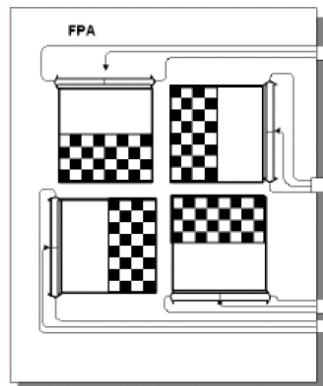
## « normal »

Full frame CCD  
 $4510 \times 4510$  18  $\mu\text{m}$  sq px  
 $m_V > 8$   
 $t=25$  s

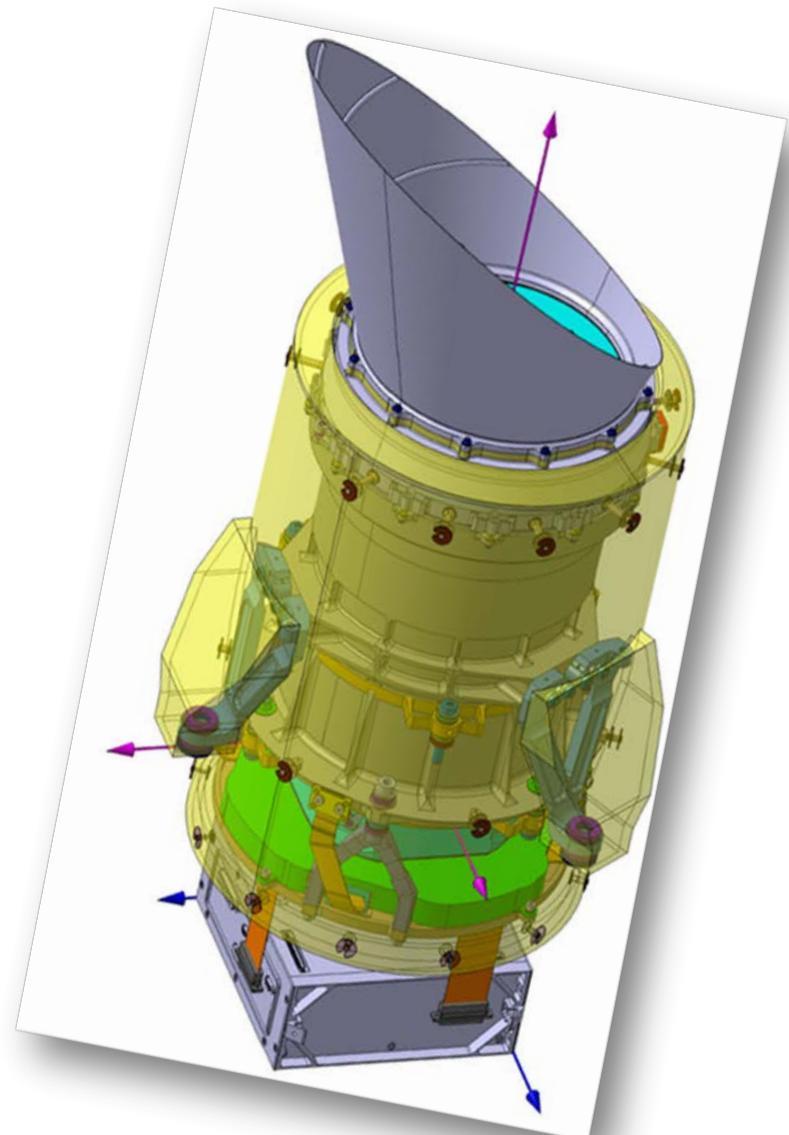
## « fast »

Frame transfer CCD  
 $4510 \times 2255$  18  $\mu\text{m}$  sq px  
 $m_V \sim 4-8$   
 $t=2.5$  s

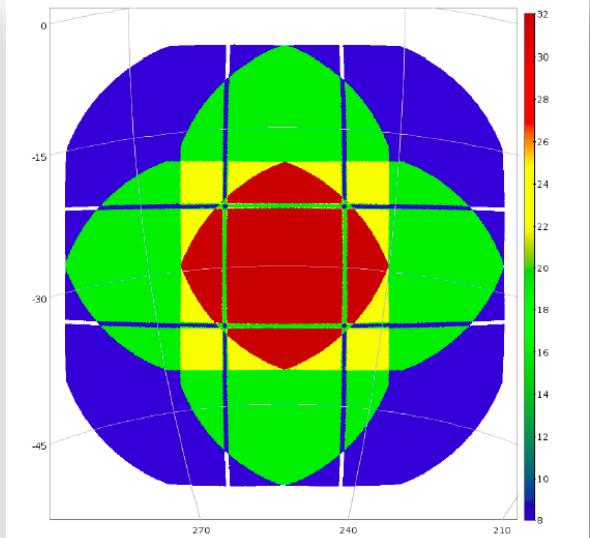
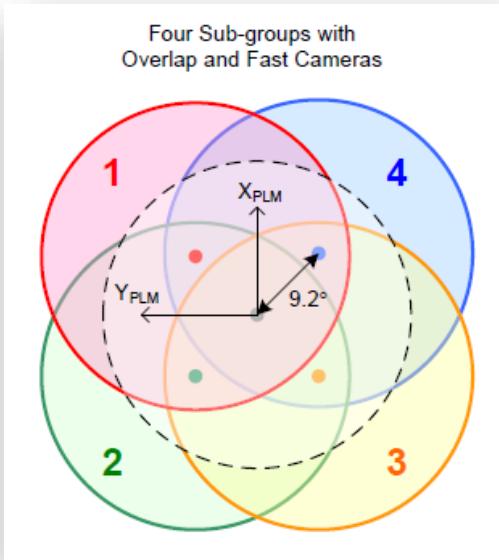
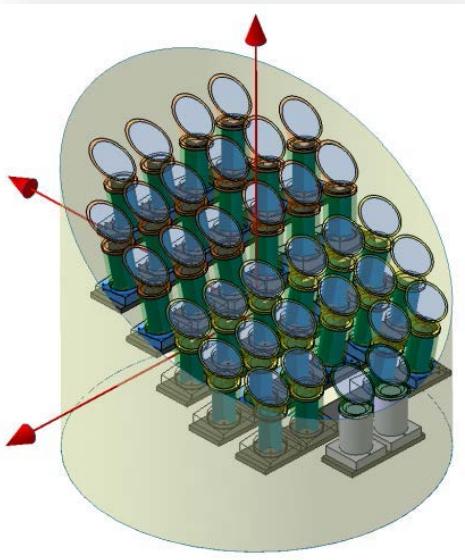
AOCS



- ✓ 132 CCDs ⑨ 0.95 sq meter
- ✓ 1 FEE / camera;
- ✓ 1 DPU / 2 cameras;
- ✓ 2 ICUs in cold redundancy



# Telescopes on the satellite



- 32 “Normal” telescopes: 4 sets of 8 telescopes
- 2 “Fast” telescopes

**NTEL=8**

**NTEL=16**

**NTEL=24**

**NTEL=32**

# PLATO – the set of 34 telescopes

**24 times Kepler**

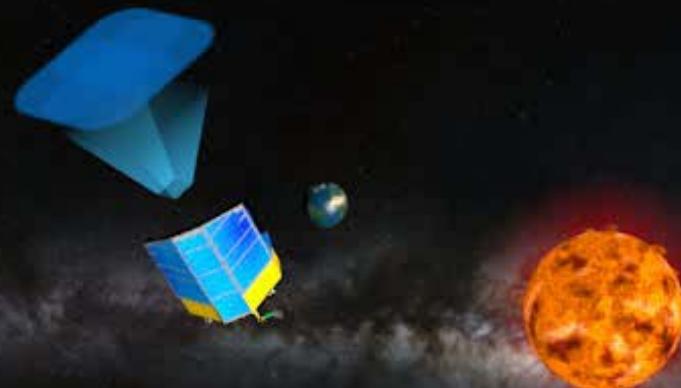
Overlapping FoV  $\sim$ 2250 sqdeg, equivalent to a circle of  $\sim$ 53 deg diameter



©PLATO @INAF

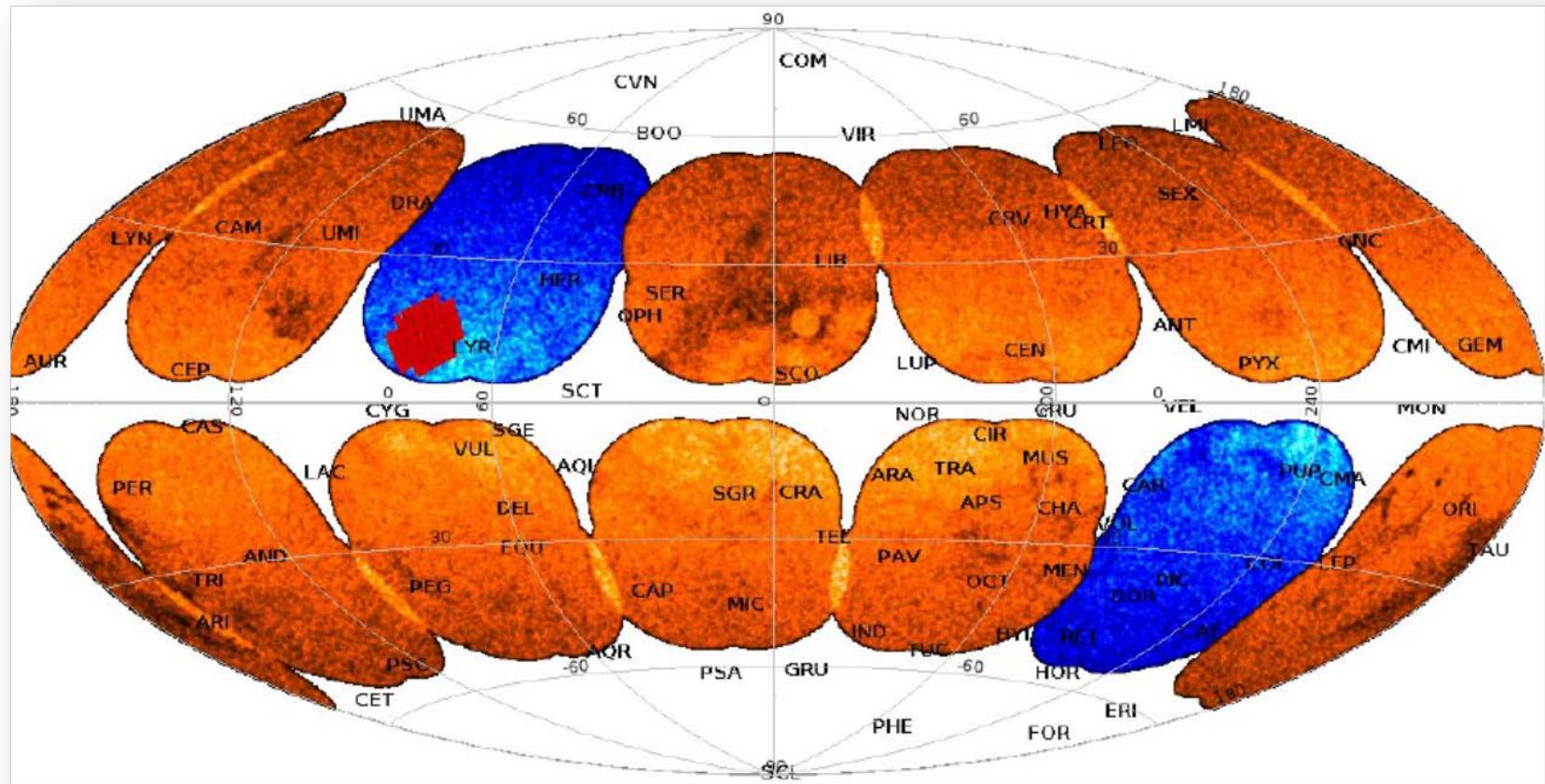
# Observing Strategy

The observing duty cycle will be at least 95%.





# The PLATO sky



→ ~50% sky coverage

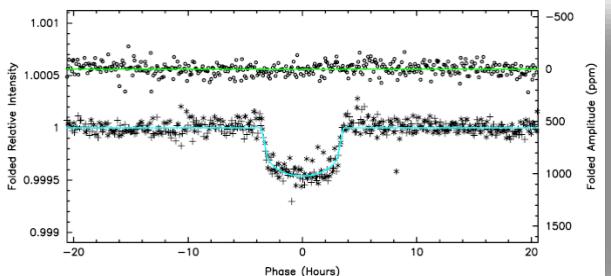
# PLATO Science Goals

## from the SMP

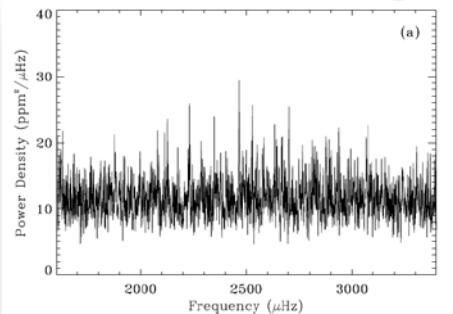
- Determine planet bulk properties (**mass, radius and mean density**)
- Study how planets and planet systems **evolve with age**
- Study the typical **architectures of planetary systems**
- Analyse the **correlation** of planet properties and their frequencies **with stellar parameters** (e.g., stellar metallicity, stellar type)
- Analyse **correlations with the environment** in which they formed
- Identify **targets for spectroscopy to investigate planetary atmospheres**
- Study the internal structure of stars and how it evolves with age
- + guest observer program (complementary and legacy science topics).

# The Method

## Photometric transit

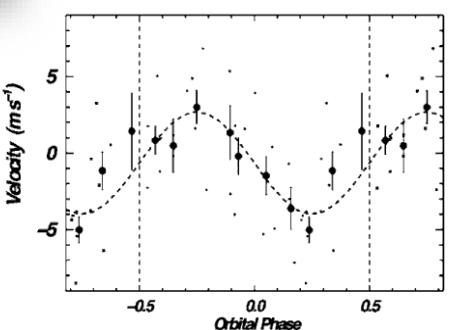


## Asteroseismology



**Example: Kepler-10 b ( $V=11.5$  mag)**

## RV – follow-up



★ radius ~2%

★ Mass ~10%

★ Age ~10%

# Exoplanets and Stars



Characterization of exoplanets ...

- Mass + radius → mean density  
*gaseous vs. rocky, composition, structure*
- Orbital distance, atmosphere  
*habitability*
- Age  
*planet and planetary system evolution*

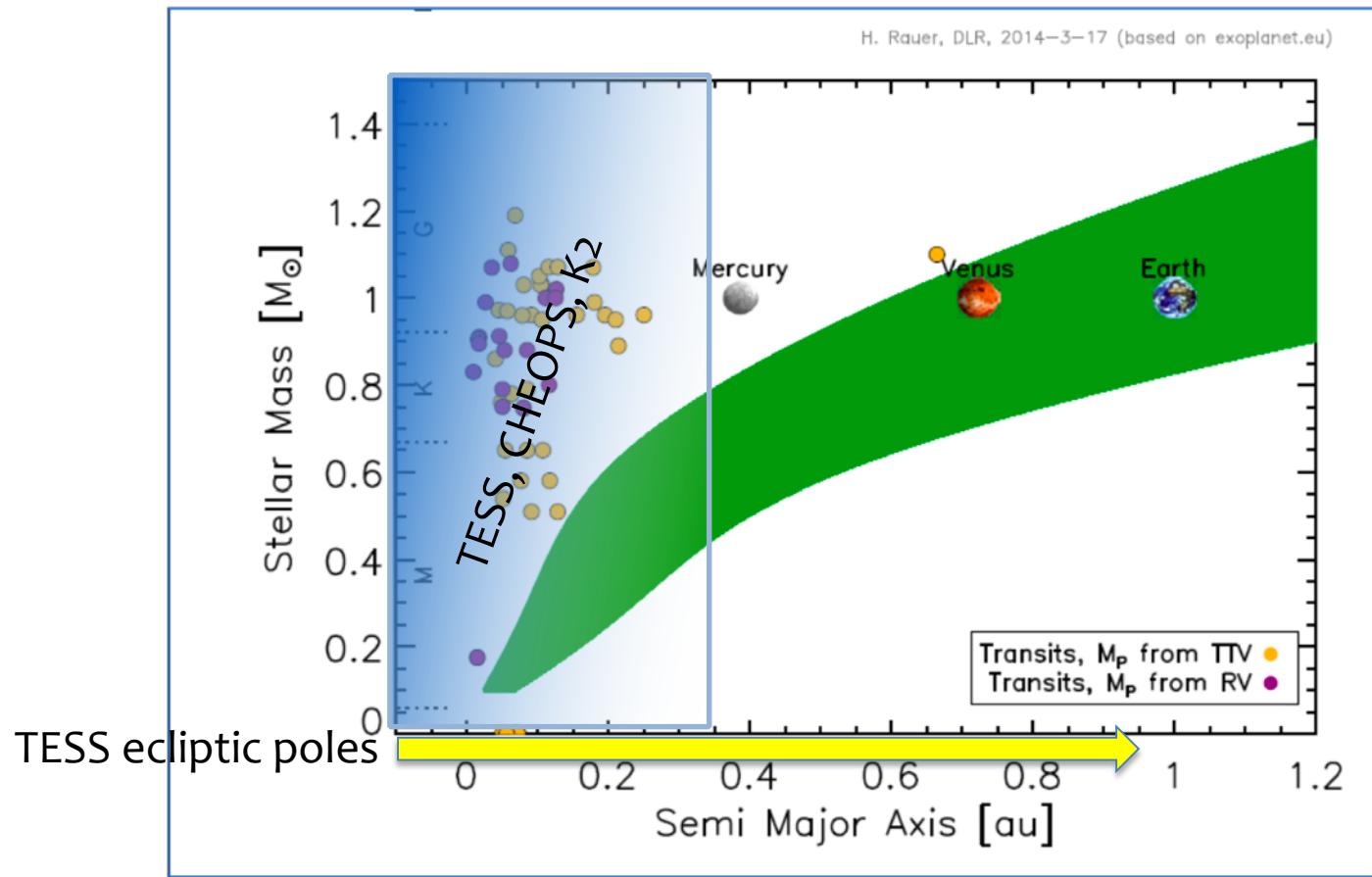


needs characterization of stars

- Stellar mass, radius  
*derive planet mass, radius*
- Stellar type, luminosity, activity  
*planet insolation*
- Stellar age  
*defines planet age*

# Prospects for characterized super-Earths in the habitable zone

„Super-Earths“ with measured **radius and mass**

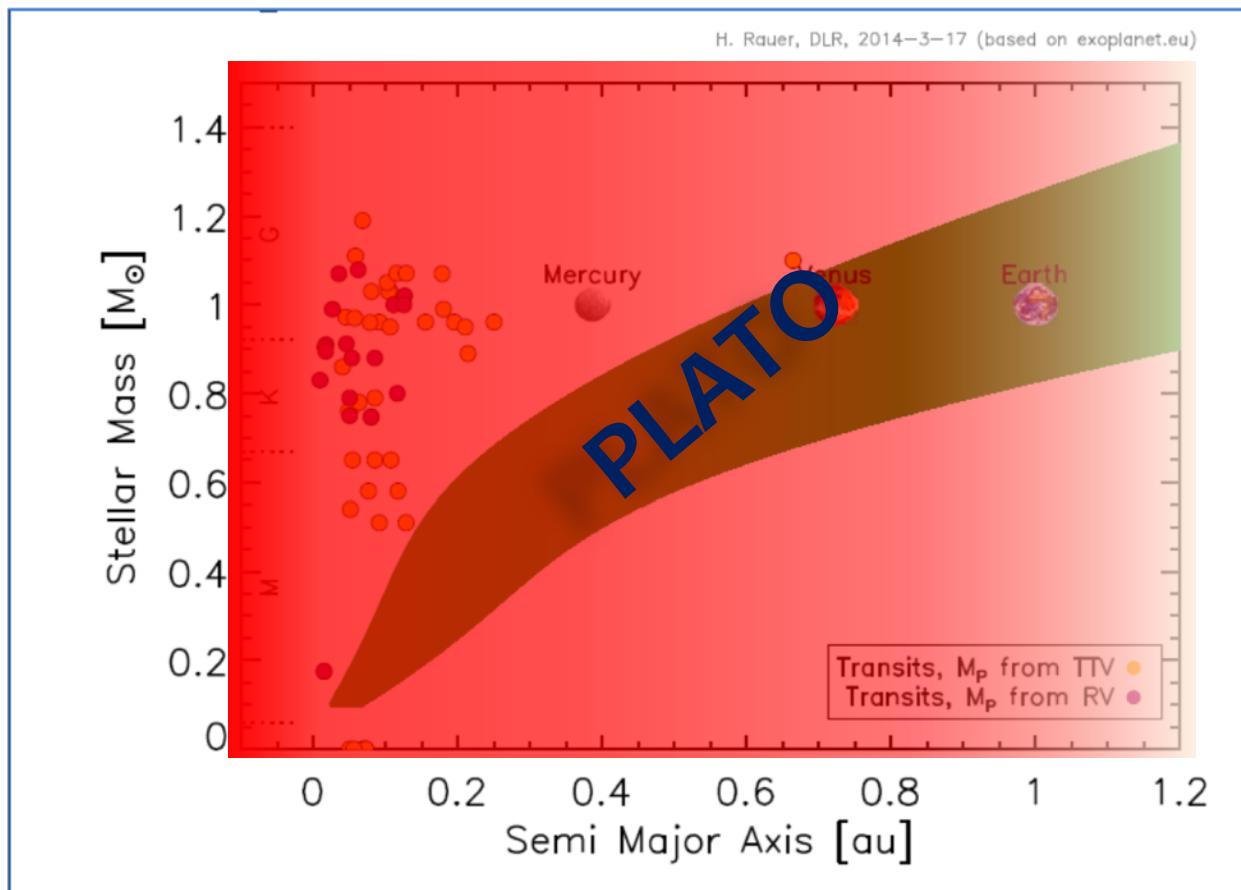


TESS, CHEOPS, K2 will mainly cover orbital periods up to ~80 days

# PLATO misurerà la densità dei pianeti piccoli con $P > 80$ g

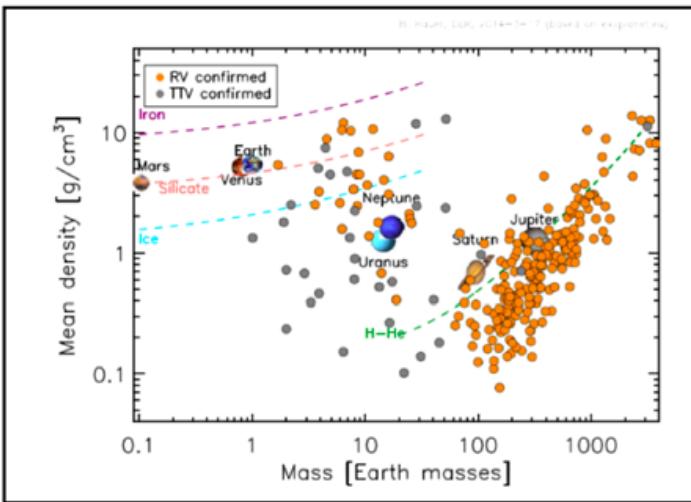


„Super-Earths“ with measured **radius and mass**

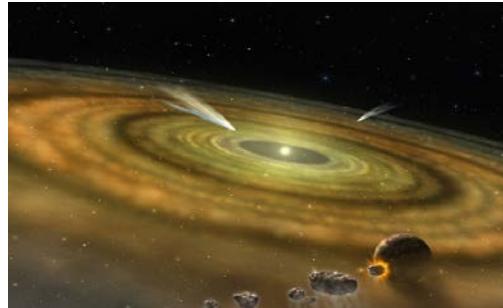


# PLATO uniqueness

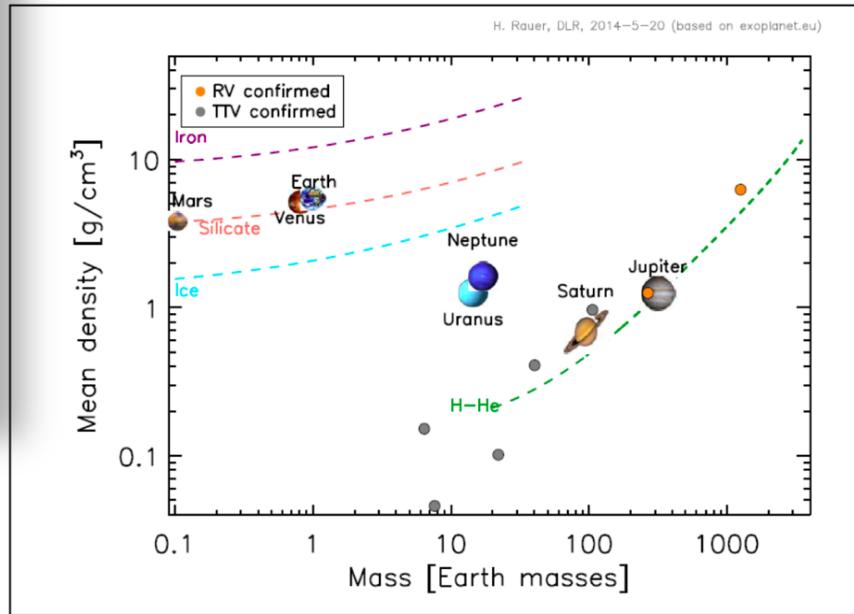
All planets



Our knowledge on planet nature is limited to close-in planets so far.



Planets with  $P > 80$  days



PLATO will fill the parameter range for long orbital periods

Study planets where they form!

# Planets, planetary systems and their host stars evolve

Formation in proto-planetary disk,  
migration

Loss of primary

PLATO will for the first time provide accurate ages for a large sample of planetary systems

Planetary evolution studies will be possible !

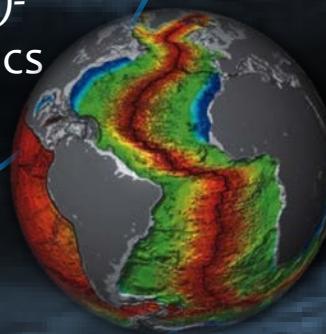
differentiation

g,  
differentiation

(plate)-  
tectonics

life

Secondary  
atmosphere



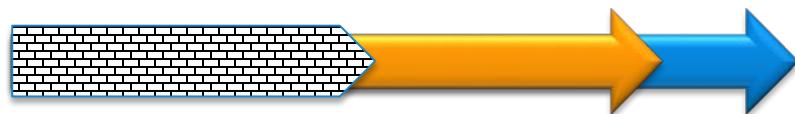
2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028 2029 2030 2031 2032 2033

**TESS**



nominal

**CHEOPS**

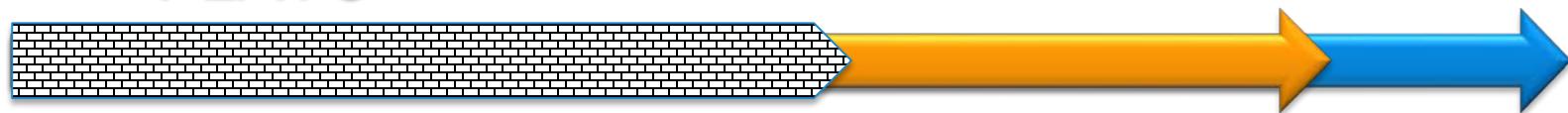


goal

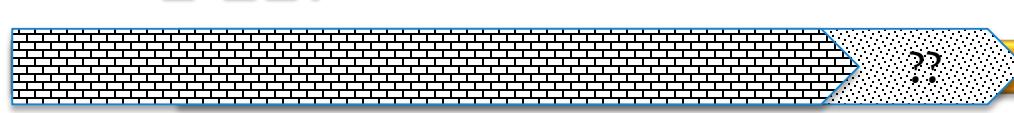
**JWST**



**PLATO**



**E-ELT**



2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028 2029 2030 2031 2032 2033

# The PLATO Community



# PLATO in Italia

Accordo ASI-INAF "PLATO Fasi B2/C" - n.2015-019-Ro del 29 luglio 2015



## ✓ INAF

- OA Catania ([Science, Payload](#))
- OA Padova ([Science, Payload](#))
- OA Brera ([Science, Payload](#))
- IAPS-Roma ([Science, Payload](#))
- FGG ([Payload](#))
- OA Palermo ([Science](#))
- OA Torino ([Science](#))
- OA Capodimonte ([Science](#))
- OA Roma (+Teramo) ([Science](#))
- OA Arcetri ([Science](#))



- ✓ **Padua University, Physics & Astronomy Dep. (Science)**
- ✓ **ASI-ASDC (PDC, Science)**

- Italian Scientific Responsible: I. Pagano
- Members of the Advisory Science Team: G. Piotto, R. Ragazzoni
- Members of the PMC Board: I. Pagano, G. Piotto

[www.plato-mission.eu](http://www.plato-mission.eu)

[www.oact.inaf.it/plato/Plato-Italia/](http://www.oact.inaf.it/plato/Plato-Italia/)

About 70 scientists/engineers active in PLATO in Italian research institutes!

About 120 scientists interested to exoplanets field in Italy!

# PLATO Italian Team

Laura Affer OAPA, Elio Antonello OAB, Stefano Basso OAB, Luigi Bedin OAPD, Andrea Bellini UNIPD, Serena Benatti OAPD, Milena Benedettini IAPS, Maria Bergomi OAPD, Katia Biazzo OACT, David Biondi IAPS, Alfio Bonanno OACT, Andrea Bonfanti UNIPD, Rosaria Bonito, Giuseppe Bono OARO, Aldo Bonomo OATO, Francesco Borsa OAB, Luca Borsato UNIPD, Alessandro Bressan OAPD, Enzo Brocato OARM, Roberto Buonanno ASDC, Santi Cassisi OATE, Marco Castellani OARM, Simonetta Chinellato OAPD, Riccardo Claudi OAPD, Rosario Cosentino FGG, Giuseppe Cutispoto OACT, Valentina D'Orazi OAPD, Mario Damasso UNPD, Domitilla De Martino OACN, Silvano Desidera OAPD, Salvatore Di Franco OAA, Anna Di Giorgio IFSI, Maria Pia Di Mauro IAFS, Marco Dima OAPD, Jacopo Farinato OAPD, Ettore Flaccomio OAPA, Mauro Focardi OAA, Antonio Frasca OACT, Mauro Ghigo OAB, Paolo Giommi ASI, Leo Girardi OAPD, Giuliano Giuffrida ASDC, Giovanni Giusi IAPS, Valentina Granata UNIPD, Davide Greggio OAPD, Marco Gullieuszik OAPD, Nuccio Lanza OACT, Alessandro Lanzafame OACT, Mario Gilberto Lattanzi OATO, Giuseppe Leto OACT, Gianluca Li Causi IAPS, Mattia Libralato UNIPD, John Scige Liu IAPS, Carla Maceroni OARM, Demetrio Magrin OAPD, Luca Malavolta UNIPD, Luca Marafatto OAPD, Marcella Marconi OAC, Paola Marigo UNIPD, Paola Maria Marrese ASDC, Francesco Marzari UNIPD, Dino Mesa OAPD, Sergio Messina OACT, Giusi Micela OAPA, Josepha Montalban UNIPD, Matteo Munari OACT, Ulisse Munari OAPD, Ilaria Musella OAC, Domenico Nardiello UNIPD, Valerio Nascimbeni UNIPD, Renato Orfei IFSI, Sergio Ortolani UNIPD, Emanuele Pace OAAR, Isabella Pagano OACT, Maurizio Pancrazi OAAR, Stefano Pezzuto IFSI, Giovanni Picogna INFNPD, Adriano Pietrinferni OATE, Giampaolo Piotto UNIPD, Ennio Porretti OAB, Loredana Prisinzano UNIPA, Roberto Ragazzoni OAPD, Gabriella Raimondo OATE, Monica Rainer OAB, Vincenzo Ripepi OAC, Thaise Rodriguez UNIPD, Gaetano Scandariato OACT, Daniela Sicilia OACT, Roberto Silvotti OATO, Richard Smart OATO, Alessandro Sozzetti OATO, Daniele Spiga OAB, Michele Trabucchi UNIPD, Paolo Ventura OARO, Rita Ventura OACT, Valentina Viotto OAPD, Ricardo Zanmar Sanchez OACT,



# Italian TOU Team

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**INAF-OAB:** Stefano Basso, Francesco Borsa, Mauro Ghigo, Daniele Spiga;

**INAF-OACT:** Matteo Munari, Isabella Pagano, Gaetano Scandariato, Daniela Sicilia;

**INAF-OAPD:** Maria Bergomi, Simonetta Chinmellato, Mario Dima, Davide Greggio, Jacopo Farinato, Demetrio Magrin, Luca Marafatto, Roberto Ragazzoni, Valentina Viotto.

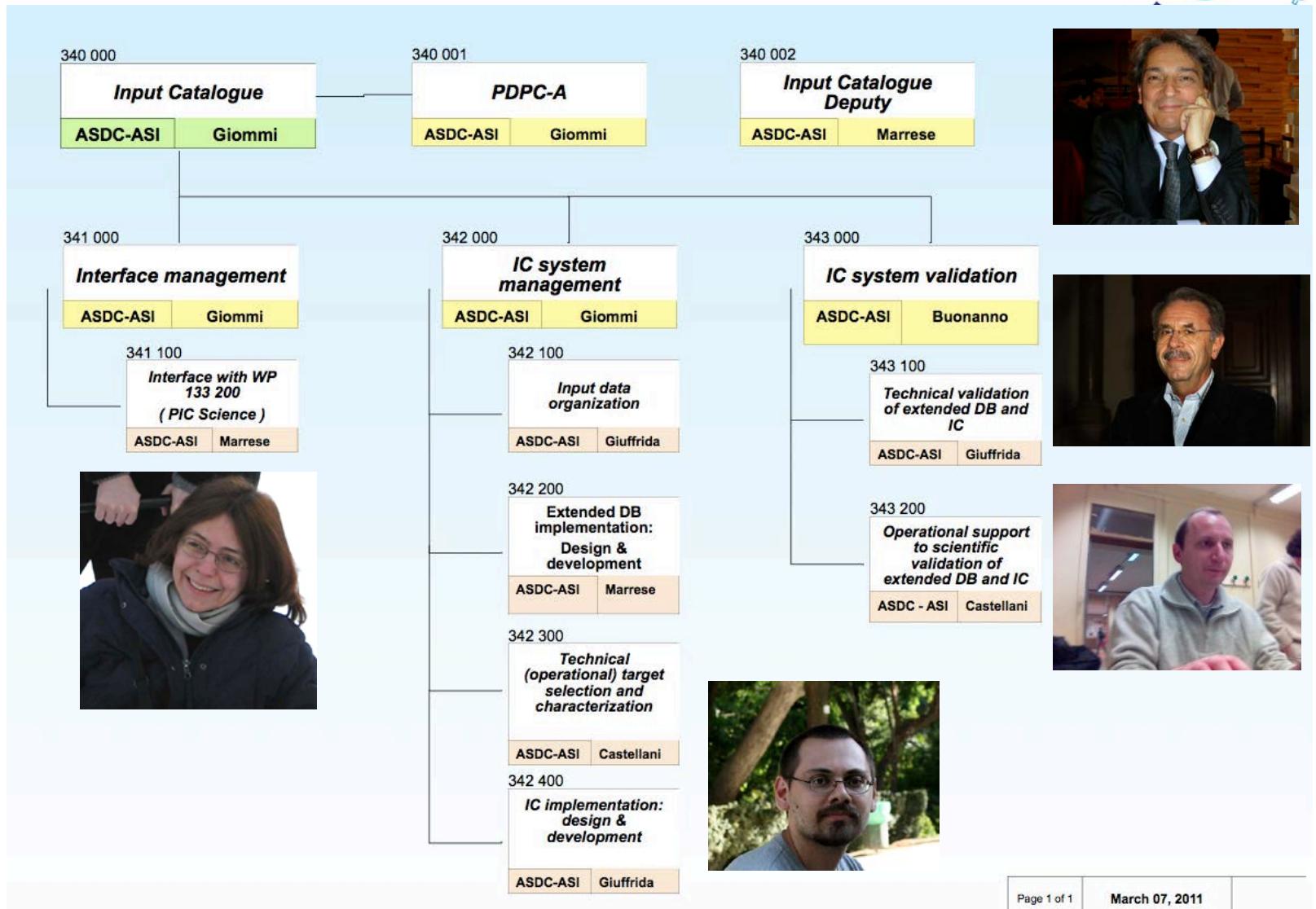


# Italian ICU Team

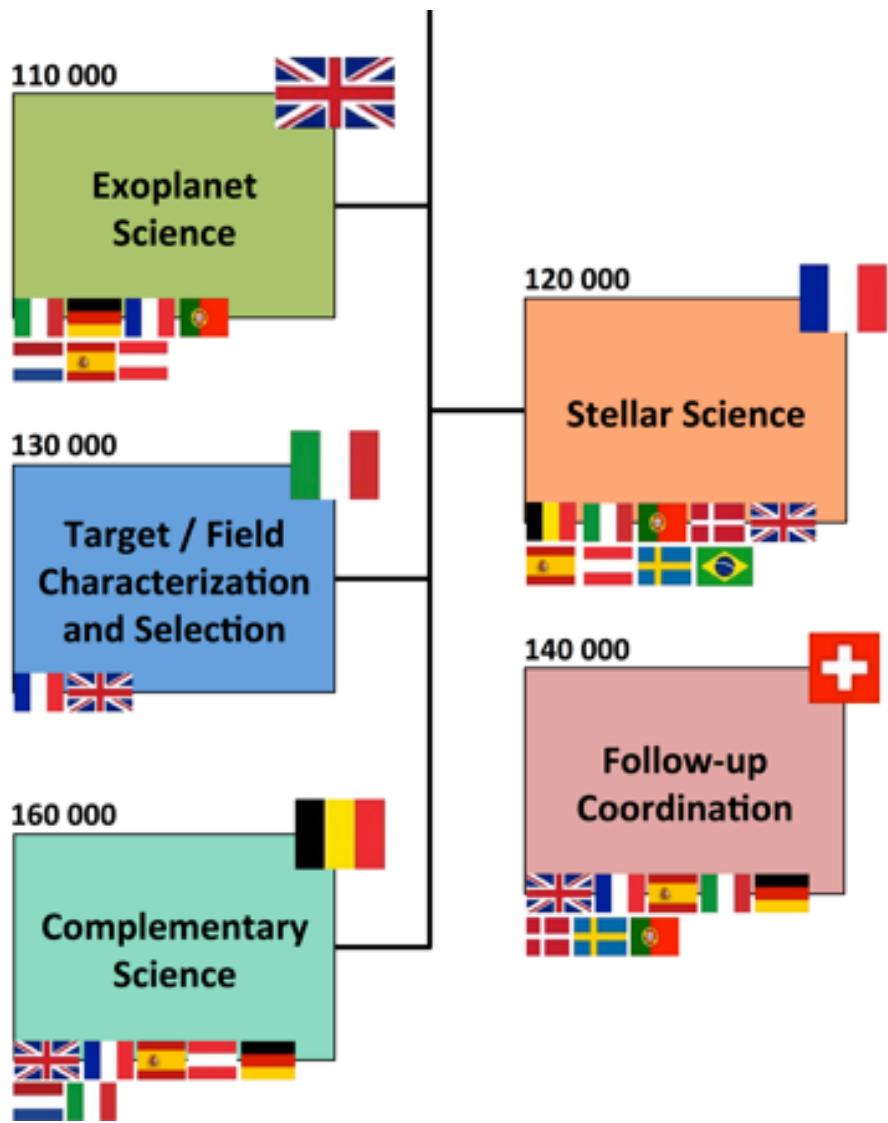
e-mail: PLATO-ICU-IT@oact.inaf.it

- **INAF-FGG:** R. Cosentino;
- **INAF-IFSI:** S. Pezzuto, M. Benedettini, D. Biondi, A. Di Giorgio, G. Giusi, G. Li Causi, J. Liu, R. Orfei ;
- **INAF-OAA:** M. Focardi, M. Pancrazzi, E. Pace, S. Di Franco.





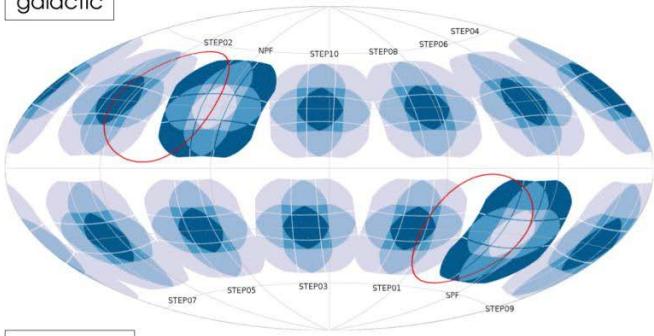
# Science Preparation



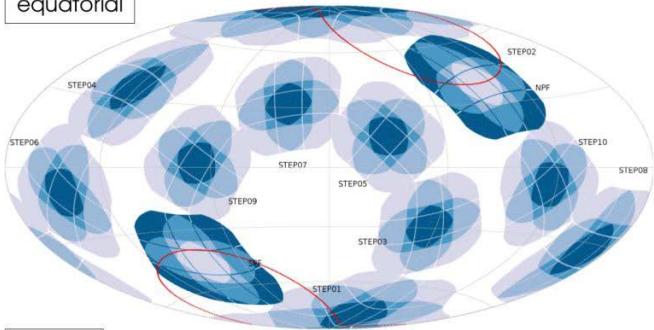


# Field Characterization and Target Selection

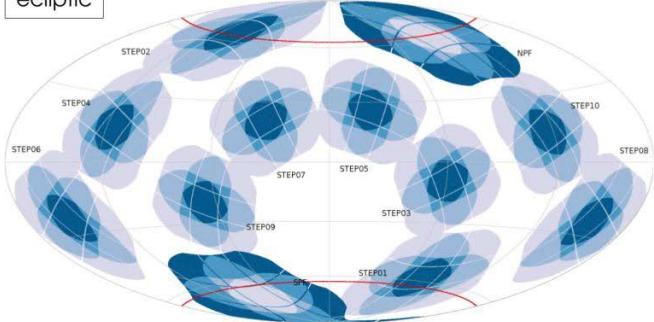
galactic



equatorial



ecliptic



- 2 "long-duration" (LD) fields + "step & stare" (S&S) fields
- Scientific requirements: 5 stellar (dwarfs & giants) samples (**P1 – P5**)
  - **P1**  $\geq$  20 000 stars in LD fields (spectral type  $> F5$ ;  $V < 11$ )
  - **P2**  $\geq$  1000 stars in LD fields ( $V < 8$ )
  - **P3**  $\geq$  3000 stars (extension of P2) in LD and/or S&S fields
  - **P4**  $\geq$  10 000 M stars (5000 in LD + 5000 in S&S)
  - **P5**  $\geq$  245 000 stars in LD fields ( $V < 13$ )
- PLATO will not download the images
  - **P1 – P5 selected in advance**
  - **Spectral-type selection**
- **No suitable all-sky catalogs exist for stellar parameters**
- **Gaia:** intermediate catalog release in 2017
  1. Single-catalog dependence is a risk
  2. Gaia will be affected by crowding at low Galactic latitudes
  3. Degeneracy between parameters (temperature and interstellar extinction)
  4. Complementary catalogs
- Analysis of available catalogs in literature (UCAC4, RAVE, ... )
- Analysis of theoretical models (GUMS) and available techniques
- **UCAC4-RPM:** a new *ad-hoc* all-sky database for FGKM stars, based on already known tools and catalogs



# ICT needs: topics

- Management
- Design and performance analysis
- Instrument simulation
- Input catalogs
- Archives (?)
- Data analysis
- Modeling

# Management

- ECOS (great support from the Space Office!)
- Acrobat PRO (campus license ??)
- Zoom (videoconferencing)
- Office (Windows, Mac)
- Wordpress premium
- TWIKI
- Eclipse (access granted by other partners)



# Science

- SW
  - IDL
  - R
  - Python
- HW
  - Single Workstation
  - Local cluster (Tier 3)
  - Grid

# Optical Design & Performance Analysis

## S/W

- Zemax, ASAP, Fred
  - 3 licenze Zemax (OAPD, OACT)
  - 1 licenza ASAP (OACT)
  - 1 licenza Fred (OACT, OAPD).

## H/W

- Workstation singole multi processore (28-64 cores) con RAM  $\geq$  64 GB, Spazio disco  $\sim$ 10 TB (necessità di accesso veloce)

# Mechanical Design

- ANSYS
- Sigfit
- CATIA

# Radiation Analysis

- FASTRAD

# PLATO Status

- PHASE B2 in progress
- Mission Adoption Review: completed
- PDR: summer 2017

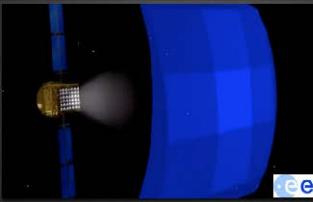
Adoption in Nov 2016

Launch end of 2024

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MEETINGS PHOTO GALLERY ON THE PRESS PUBLICATIONS CALENDAR UNKS

## PLATO 2.0

An European Space Agency (ESA) Cosmic Vision 2015-2025 Project




**PLATO 2.0** (PLAneTary Transits and Oscillations of stars) is a medium class (M class) mission studied in the framework of the [ESA Cosmic Vision](#) 2015-2025 program.

The **scientific goals** of PLATO 2.0 are:

- reveal the interior of planets and stars
- detect planets over the whole sky, including terrestrial planets in the habitable zone
- constrain planet formation and evolution
- provide accurate ages of planetary systems
- provide targets for atmosphere spectroscopy

**Key strategy** for PLATO 2.0 is the observation of a large sample of **bright stars**. In this way PLATO 2.0 is able to completely characterize the discovered planets and their hosting stars. Specifically, the characterization includes the seismic analysis of the parent stars in order to precisely determine their mass, radius and age, i.e. those fundamental parameters that are required to precisely derive the same quantities for the hosted planets.

[PLATO ESA website](#)

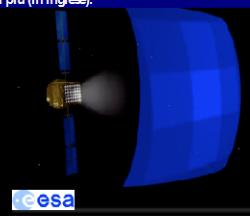
Moreover, the planetary systems discovered by PLATO 2.0, being bright, can be followed-

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## PLATO

Un progetto selezionato nell'ambito della Cosmic Vision dell'Agenzia Spaziale Europea (ESA)

**NEWS**  
Il più (in inglese).




Le attività PLATO IN ITALIA sono finite e si è passati alla fase di definizione. Durante lo studio di definizione con contratto ASI-Univ. di Padova N. 1048/10/2010

**Benvenuti su PLATO - ITALIA**

**PLATO** (PLAneTary Transits and Oscillations of stars) è una missione di classe media (classe M) studiata nell'ambito del programma [ESA Cosmic Vision 2015-2025](#).  
Scopo scientifico principale della missione è la scoperta e lo studio di sistemi planetari extrasolari tramite l'identificazione e l'analisi dei transiti.

PLATO osserverà un grande campione di stelle brillanti e permetterà la completa caratterizzazione dei pianeti e delle loro stelle ospiti. In particolare, la caratterizzazione include l'analisi sismica delle stelle ospitanti pianeti dalla quale ottenere una precisa misura di massa, raggi ed età, parametri fondamentali per poi ricavare una precisa misura delle stesse quantità per i pianeti ospitati.

L'acronimo PLATO coincide con il nome inglese del filosofo PLATONE. Secondo la testimonianza di Simplicio (VI secolo d.C.), Platone avrebbe proposto agli astronomi

<http://www.plato-mission.eu>

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**INAF**  
NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ASTROPHYSICS

**PLATO2.0 News by PMC** @PLATOMissionCon

PLATO 2.0 is a M class mission of the ESA Cosmic Vision 2015-2025 program dedicated to the detection and characterization of exoplanets. Tweets by the PMC.

Europe · plato-mission.eu

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**Tweets**

**PLATO2.0 News by PMC** @PLATOMissionCon 11 Jan  
ESA Cosmic Vision. Presentation of the #M3competition, January 21st Paris sci.esa.int/M3missions2014 come and support #PLATO 2.0  
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