

Extraterrestrial Life



This class (Lecture 11):

Planets for Life

Itamar Allali

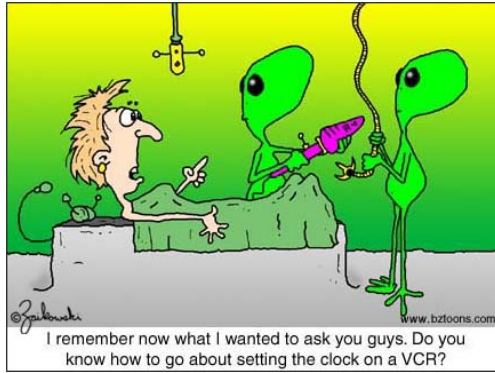
Brian Campbell-Deem

Next Class:

Planets for Life

Zoe Richter

Tara Chatteraj



Music: *We Are All Made of Stars*— Moby

HW #4 due Sunday night.

HW #2



Connor Bailey

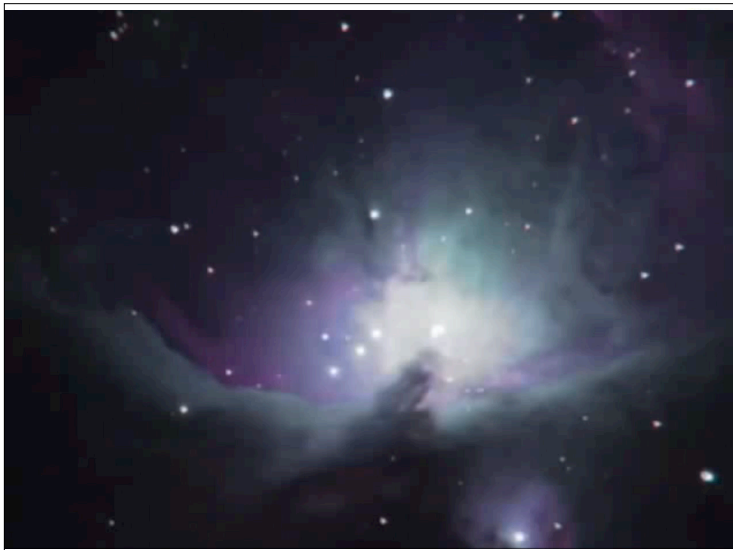
<http://www.ufoabduction.com/telepathy4.htm>

Fancy title "International Center for Abduction Research" and an editor with a PhD. However, everything on the website is anecdotal or otherwise unscientific

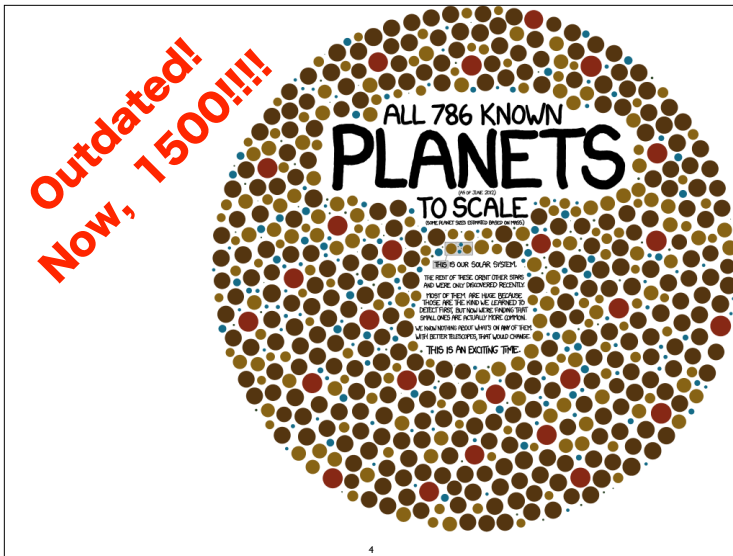
Kevin Brenner

<https://usahitman.com/cc-cracked/>

Crop circles have weird effects on their surroundings such as causing insects to refuse entering into them and causing scientists to grow faint when standing in them

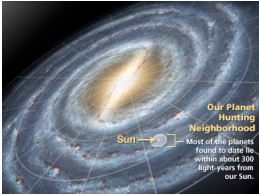



For 1 solar mass star, process takes about 10 million years. Density increase, temperature increases until fusion can occur. Blows away most of its natal circumstellar material. Becomes a hydrogen burning star



By far the most successful technique is the transit method.

ExoPlanets



1. Transit Technique
2. Astrometric
3. Radial Velocity
4. Direct Detection
5. Microlensing

Extra-Solar Planet = Exoplanet

Our Planet Hunting Neighborhood
Most of the planets found to date lie within about 300 light years from our Sun.

ExoPlanets

A hand-drawn 3D graphic of the word "EXOPLANETS" in a stylized, blocky font. The letters are white with black outlines and are set against a light yellow background. The word is slanted and has a sense of depth, with some letters appearing to be stacked or overlapping.

Direct Imaging



Hermann Lyot, 1939, at Pic du Midi
French Astronomer
Inventor of the Coronagraph

2003/01/28 17:54

7 November 1, 2009 L-band

Direct image of exoplanets around the star HR8799 using a Vortex coronagraph on a 1.5m portion of the Hale telescope

Planet Direct Imaging



Fomalhaut b
2004

Controversy
Candidates
versus
Confirmations

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Planet Direct Imaging



Confirmed

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From Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fomalhaut>

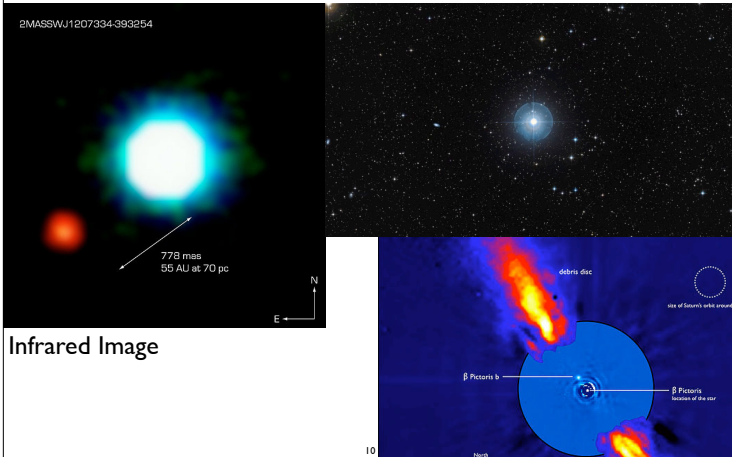
On November 13, 2008, astronomers announced an object, which they assumed to be an extrasolar planet, orbiting just inside the outer debris ring. This was the first extrasolar orbiting object to be seen with visible light, captured by the Hubble Space Telescope. A planet's existence had been previously suspected from the sharp, elliptical inner edge of that disk.[27] The mass of the planet, Fomalhaut b, was estimated to be no more than three times the mass of Jupiter but at least the mass of Neptune.[28] There are indications that the orbit is not apsidally aligned with the dust disk, which may indicate that additional planets may be responsible for the dust disk's structure.

However M-band images taken from the MMT Observatory put strong limits on the existence of gas giants within 40 AU of the star[30] and Spitzer Space Telescope imaging suggested that the object Fomalhaut b was more likely to be a dust cloud.[31] In 2012, two independent studies confirmed that Fomalhaut b does exist; but it is shrouded by debris, so it may be a gravitationally-bound accumulation of rubble rather than a whole planet.

Herschel Space Observatory images of Fomalhaut reveal a large amount of fluffy micrometer-sized dust is present in the outer dust belt. Because such dust is expected to be blown out of the system by stellar radiation pressure on short timescales, its presence indicates a constant replenishment by collisions of planetesimals. The fluffy morphology of the grains suggests a cometary origin. The collision rate is estimated to be approximately 2000 kilometre-sized comets per day.

Observations of the star's outer dust ring by the Atacama Large Millimeter Array point to the existence of two planets in the system, neither one at the orbital radius proposed for the HST-discovered Fomalhaut b. If there are additional planets from 4 to 10 AU, they must be under 20 MJ; if from 2.5 outward, then 30 MJ.

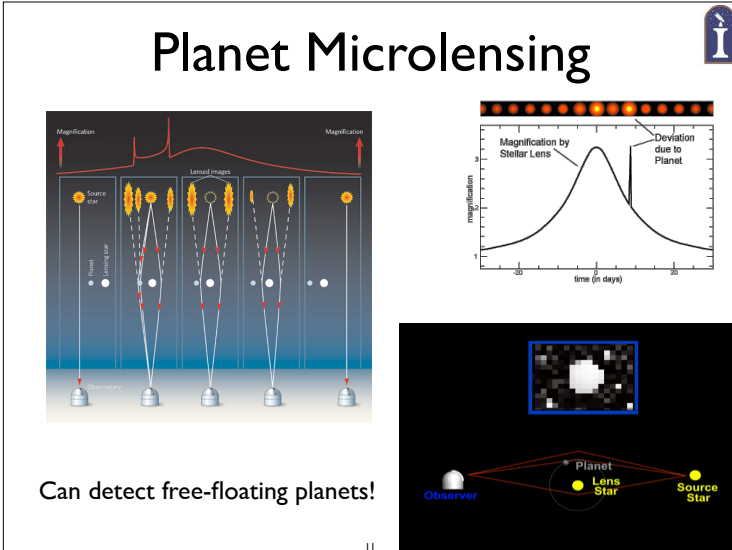
Direct Imaging



Infrared Image

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Planet Microlensing



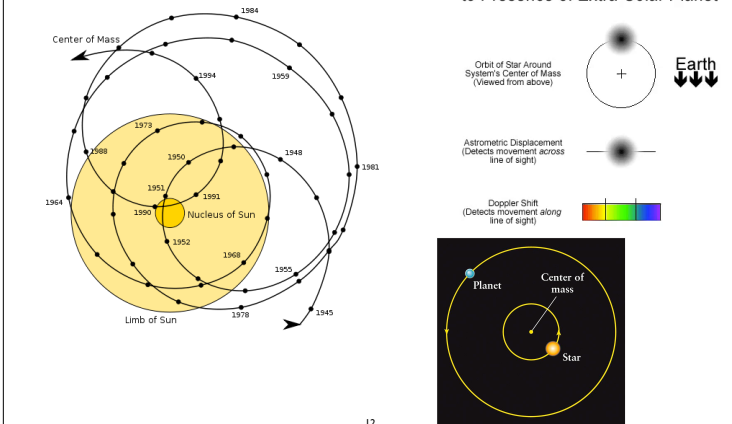
Can detect free-floating planets!

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Astrometric

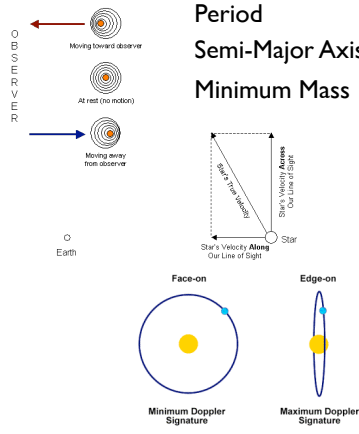
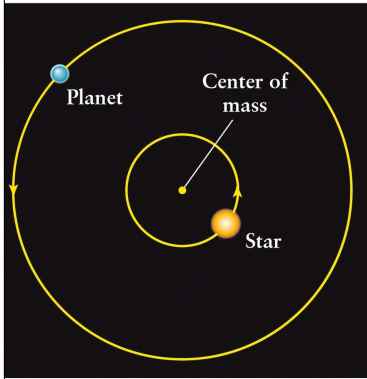


Observation of Stellar Motions Due to Presence of Extra-Solar Planet



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Radial Velocity

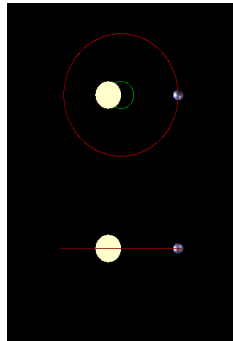


Wobbling Stars



Planet's gravity "tugs" the parent star

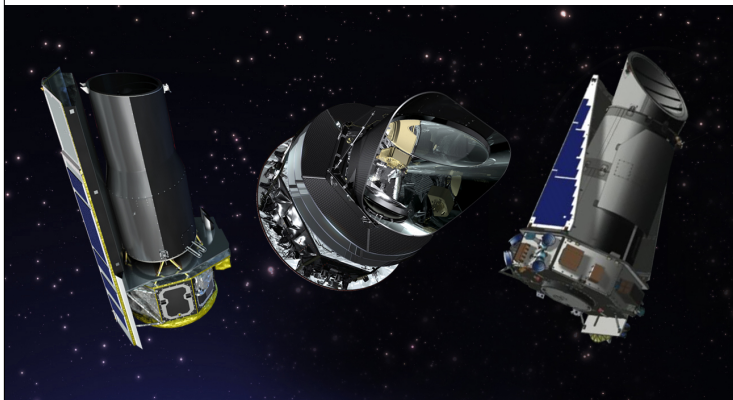
As planet orbits the star, the tugs make the star "wobble"



Star and planet each orbit around their mutual center of mass

Astronomers have generally had to resort to indirect methods. Instead of detecting the planet, they infer its existence by observing the effects that it has on its parent star.

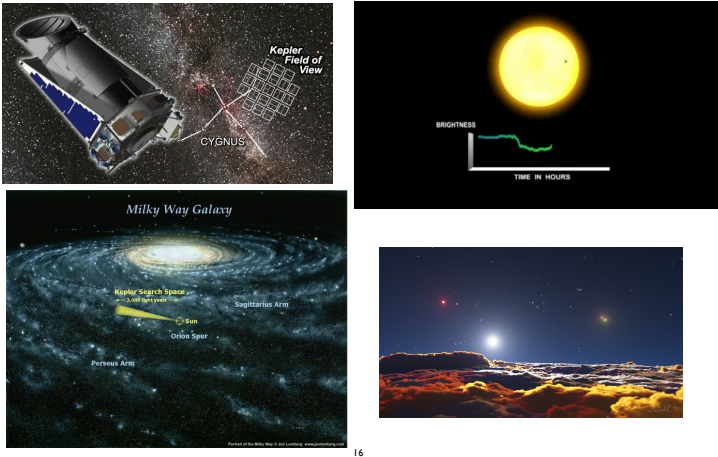
NASA's Kepler Mission



NASA's Kepler Mission



4 minutes

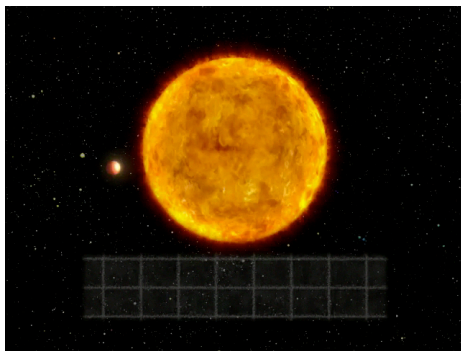


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Planet Transit



12 seconds



Extremely small variations

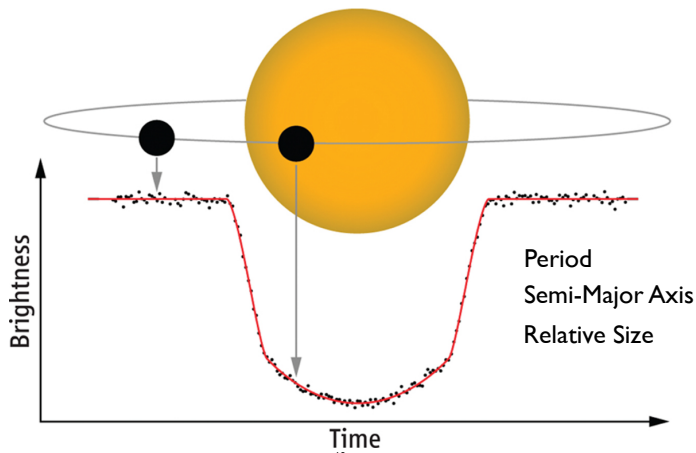
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Transit Method

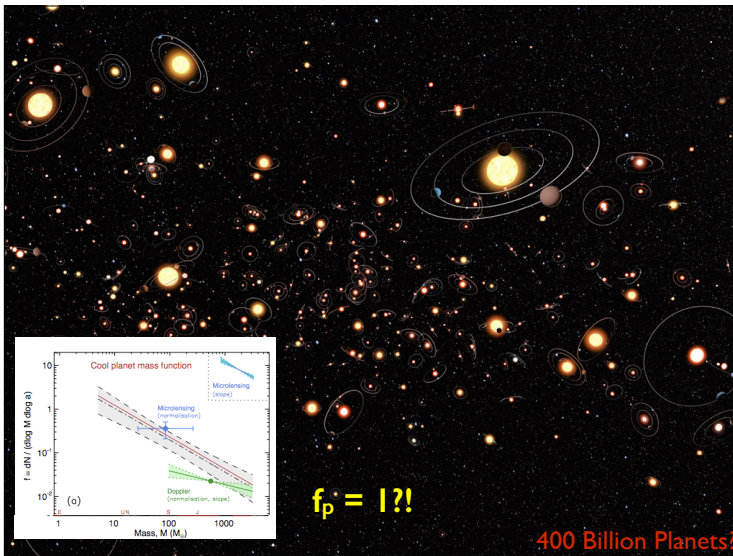
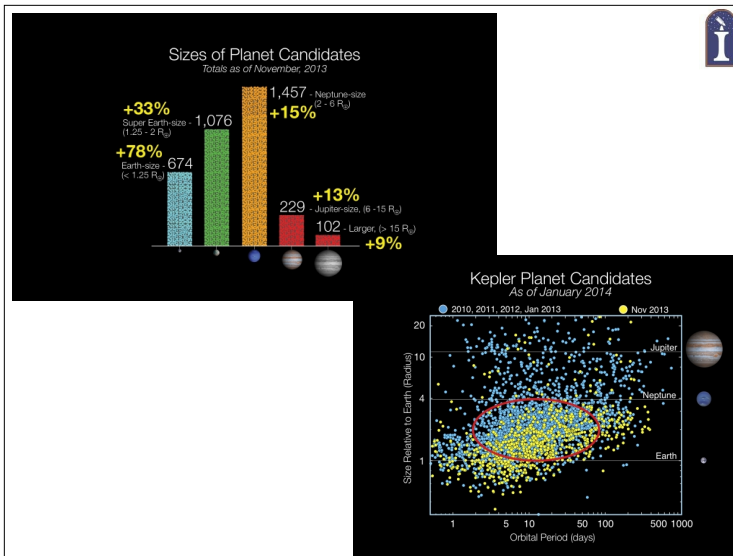


Fraction of starlight blocked tells us planet's size. Time between transits gives us orbit period. A Jupiter-sized planet transiting a Sun-like star would cause a 1% brightness drop. Best method to find Earth-like planets.

Must have planet block some of the star's light. Playing probability game as random orbits must intersect our line of sight. For Earth, the chance of this happening is 0.465%. If ALL stars have Earths, would see 678 Earths. But, Kepler group won't call objects candidates until they see the dip three times.. not yet enough time for Earth's at 1 AU.

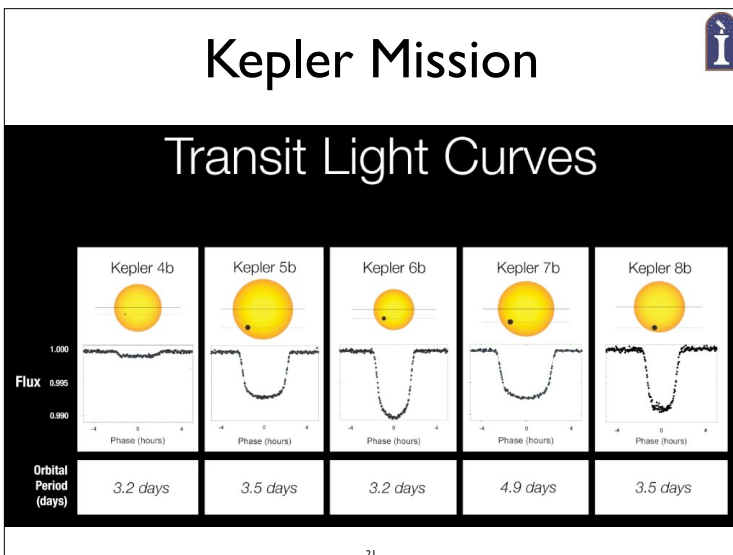


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Using the Kepler data and other data (micro-lensing), groups have estimated that on average every star in the Galaxy has 1.6 planets. Planets more common than stars! That means $f_p = 100\%$!

From Cassen et al. Nature 2012
 17+6% of stars host Jupiter-mass planets (0.3–910 MJ, where MJ= 318 M \oplus and M \oplus is Earth's mass). Cool Neptunes (10–30 M \oplus) and super-Earths (5–10 M \oplus) are even more common: their respective abundances per star are 52+22% and 62+35%. We conclude that stars are orbited by planets as a rule, rather than the exception



NOTE that Kepler is sensitive to short period planets.

Kepler 10b



First rocky exoplanet.
Based on mass and size

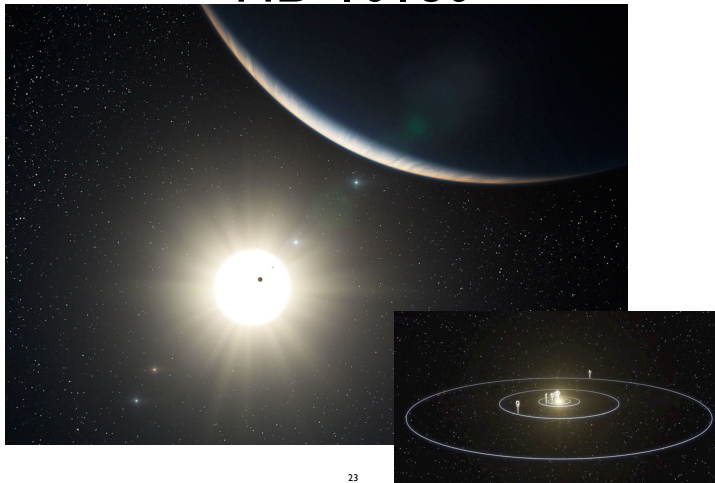
3.3 Earth masses
but 5x closer than Mercury
so lava planet



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Kepler could find closest planets fastest— it transits more often.

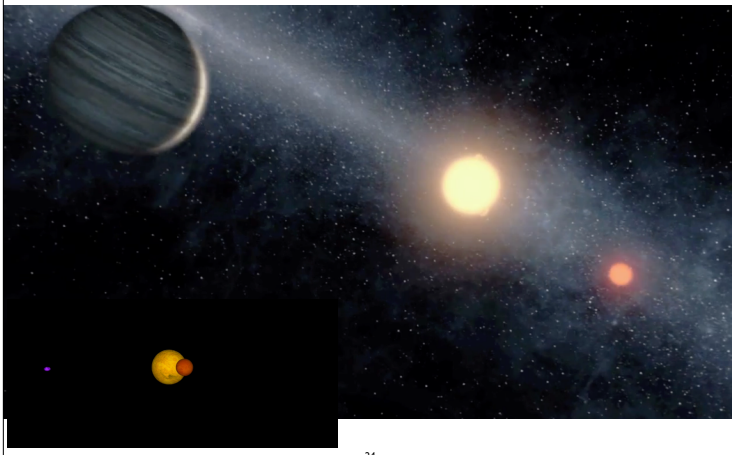
HD 10180



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The most confirmed planets — 7 and maybe 9, which would make it the largest number of planets including our Solar System!

Kepler 16b



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First confirmed planet in a binary star system!

Kepler 47b



25

Another circumbinary planetary system— but with at least 3 planets.

Kepler 37b



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Artist's concept of Kepler-37b. The planet is slightly larger than our moon, measuring about one-third the size of Earth. Credit:

Kepler 37b



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NASA's Kepler mission has discovered a new planetary system that is home to the smallest planet yet found around a star like our sun, approximately 210 light-years away in the constellation Lyra. Credit: NASA/Ames/JPL-Caltech

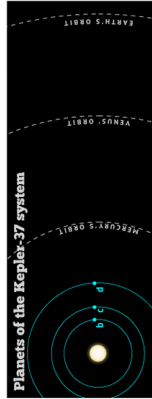
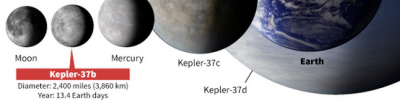
Kepler 37b



SPACE

Tiniest Exoplanet

The smallest exoplanet yet found orbits Kepler-37, a sun-like star located about 215 light-years from Earth. Kepler-37 formed about 1.5 billion years earlier in cosmic history than the Earth's solar system. Only about the size of Earth's moon, Kepler-37b is probably a rocky and airless world similar to Mercury.



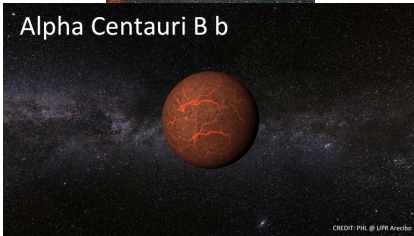
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NASA's Kepler mission has discovered a new planetary system that is home to the smallest planet yet found around a star like our sun, approximately 210 light-years away in the constellation Lyra. Credit: NASA/Ames/JPL-Caltech

Alpha Centauri



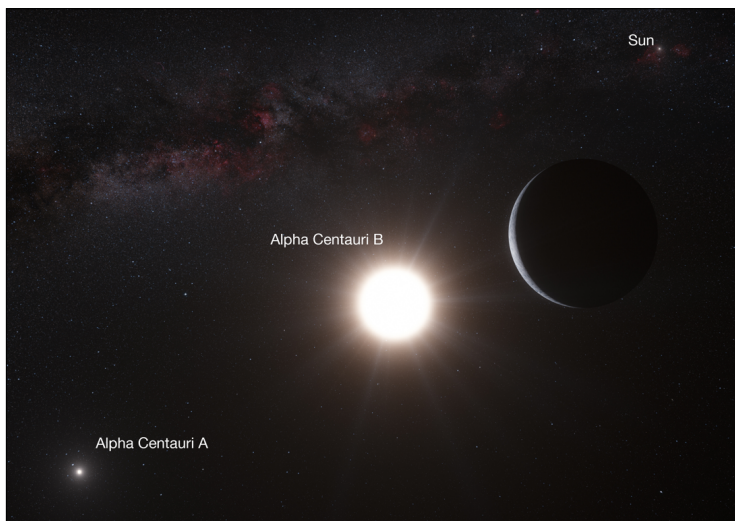
Alpha Centauri B b



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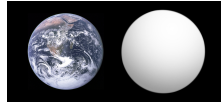
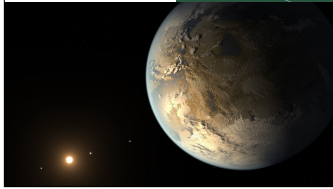
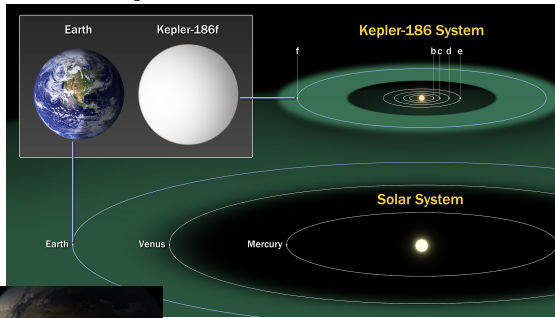


The bright star Alpha Centauri and its surrounding. If confirmed will be the closest exoplanet!



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Kepler-186f

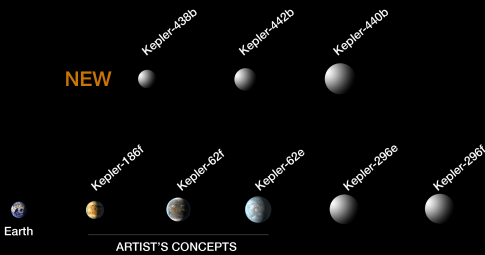


First Earth-like planet in habitable zone— red dwarf star has closer habitable zone.

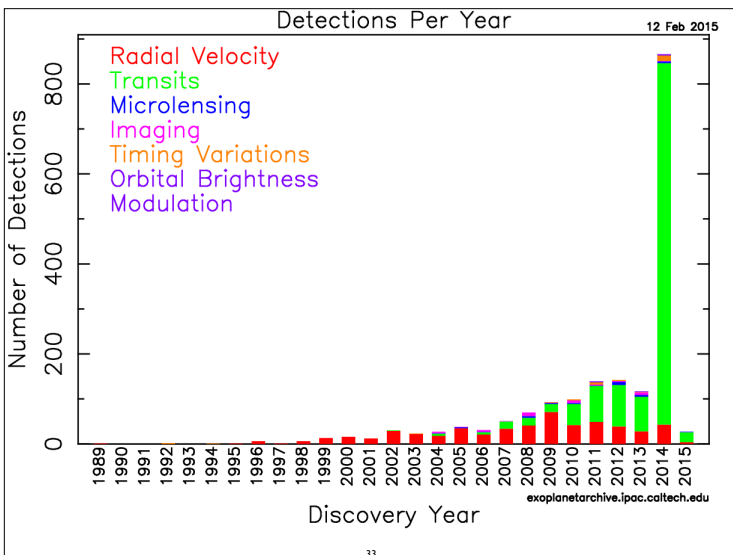
Kepler's Hall of Fame

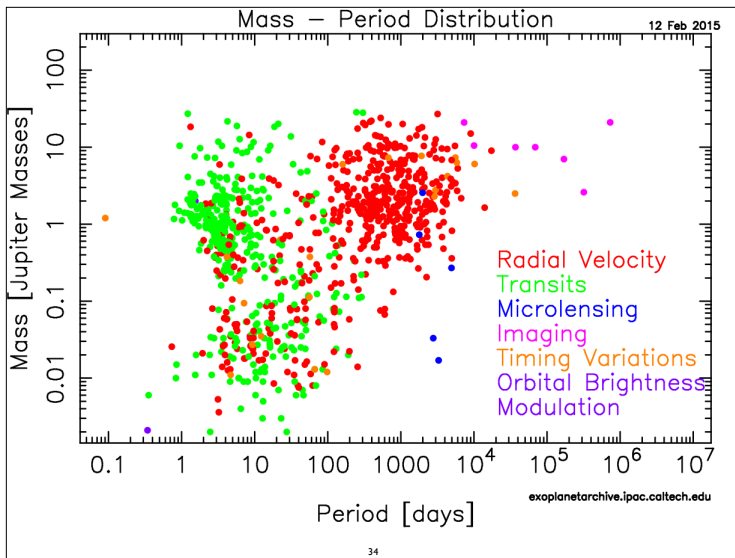


NASA Kepler's Hall of Fame:
Small Habitable Zone Planets
As of January 2015

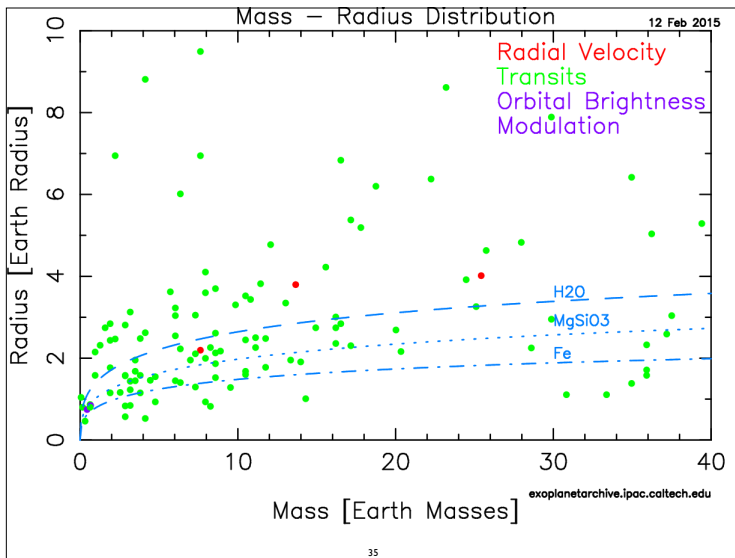


ARTIST'S CONCEPTS





Updated Weekly



Updated Weekly