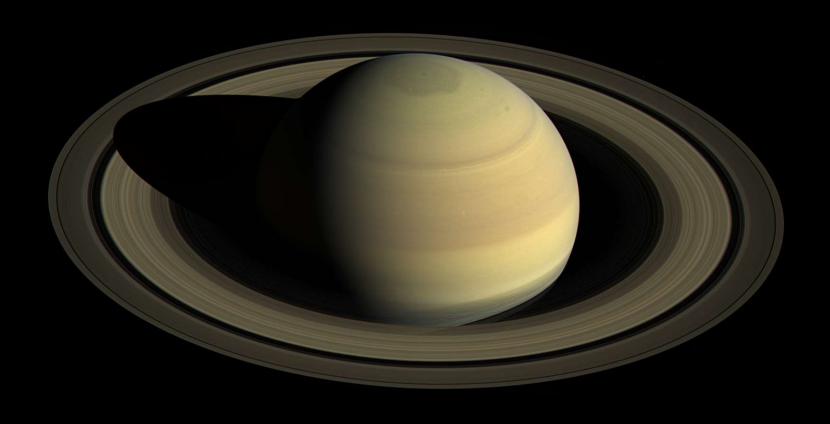
# AST 2002 Introduction to Astronomy



## A Few Quick Things...

E-mailing me: Must have AST2002 in the subject

**Mary Hinkle, Graduate Teaching Assistant:** 

Office Hours: Mon 1:30-3:00pm. PSB 316

My office hours: Mon 3:00-4:00pm. PSB 308

Tue 3-4 pm. PSB 308

Last day to Drop Classes is Wednesday 21st March...

I am currently trying to get all grades onto Webcourses... Exam results should be up later today

Next Knights Under the Stars Event – Thu 22nd Mar 8:30-10:00pm

Opportunity to make up the 1% extra credit that was offered (if you haven't been yet, worth 2%)

#### What have we covered, and what is next?

#### **Chapter 10: Other Planetary Systems: The New Science of Distant Worlds**

- 10.1. Detecting Planets Around Other Stars
- How do we detect planets around other stars?
- 10.2. The Nature of Planets Around Other Stars
- What properties of extrasolar planets can we measure?
- How do extrasolar planets compare with planets in our Solar System?
- 10.3. The Formation of Other Planetary Systems
- Do we need to modify our theory of Solar System formation?
- Are planetary systems like ours common?

# Why are extrasolar planets difficult to detect?

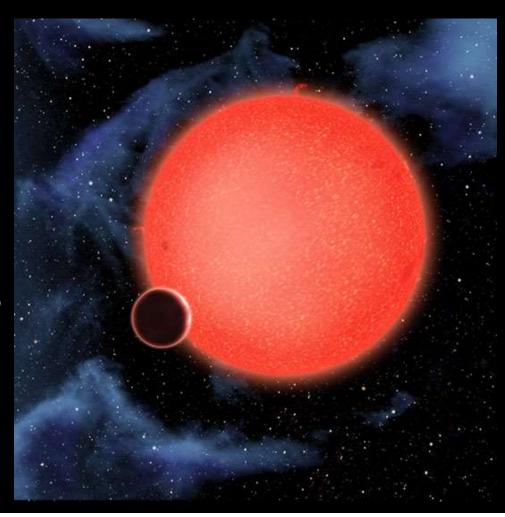
A Sun-like star is about a billion times brighter than the light reflected from its planets.

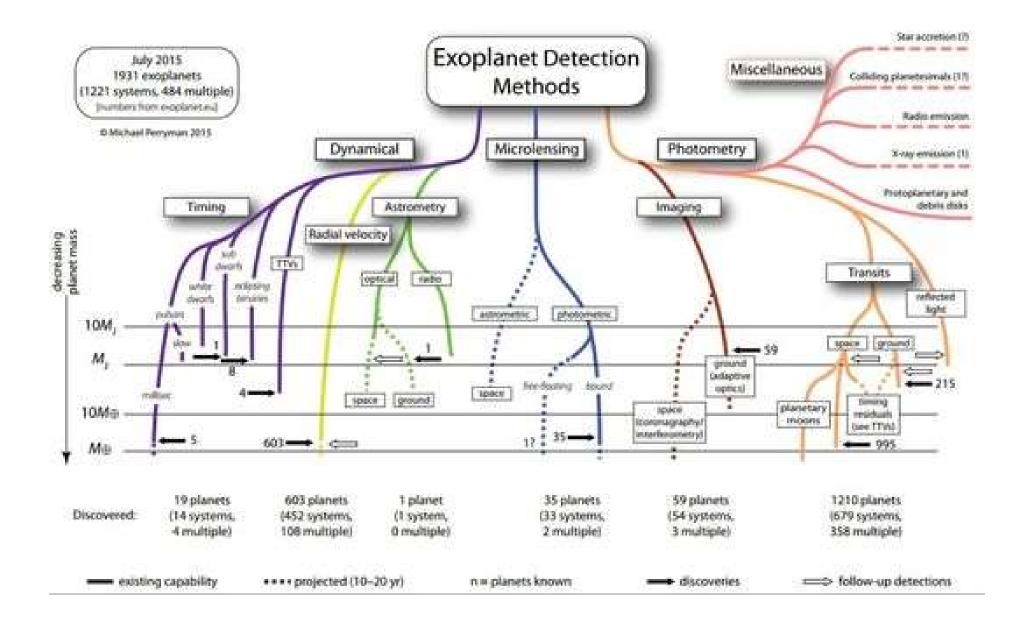
 Stars also have some variability in their light output

Planets are close to their stars, relative to the distance from us to the star.

 Equivalent to trying to see a pinhead on a grapefruit that is sitting in San Francisco ... from Washington D.C.

(that's our closest star...)





# Categories of Planet Detection Methods...

#### **Direct:**

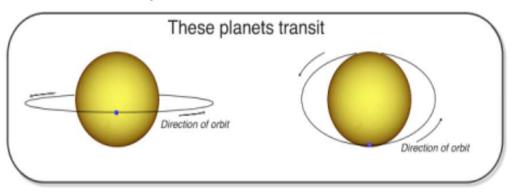
 Pictures (or spectra) of the planets themselves

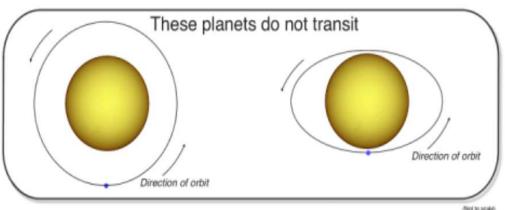
#### **Indirect:**

 Measurements of stellar properties revealing the effects of orbiting planets

Orientation of the planetary system relative to the star matters for both

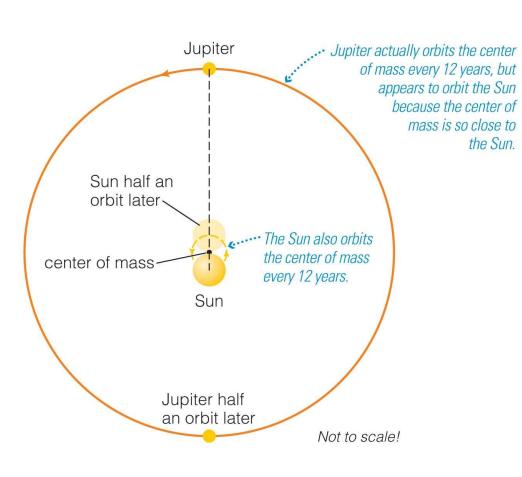
#### **Exoplanet Orbit Orientations**





# **Gravitational "Tugging"**

the Sun.

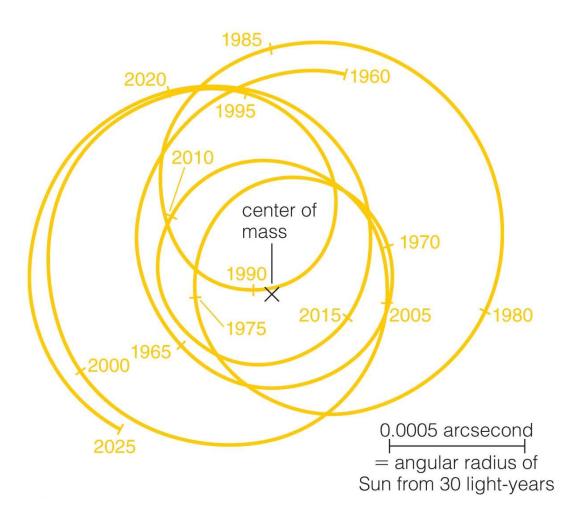


#### Remember:

Both the Sun and a Planet actually orbit around a common Barycenter (center of mass)

- The Sun and Jupiter orbit around their common center of mass.
- The Sun therefore wobbles around that center of mass with same period as Jupiter.

# How Gravitational Tugs Affect our Solar System



The Sun's motion around the solar system's center of mass depends on tugs from *all the planets*.

Astronomers around other stars that measured this motion could determine the masses and orbits of all the planets.

# The Astrometric Technique

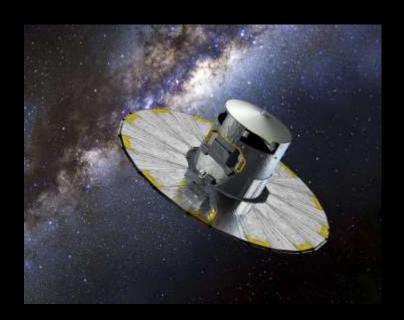
(An Indirect method)

The Detection of planets by measuring the stars 'Wobble' in the sky caused by the gravitational effects of the planetary system.

These effects are small (~ 0.001 arcsecond, or 1 milliarcseconds and since orbital periods are long requires extended observations

What can it (help) inform you of?

- Orbital period, distance and eccentricity
- Planetary mass

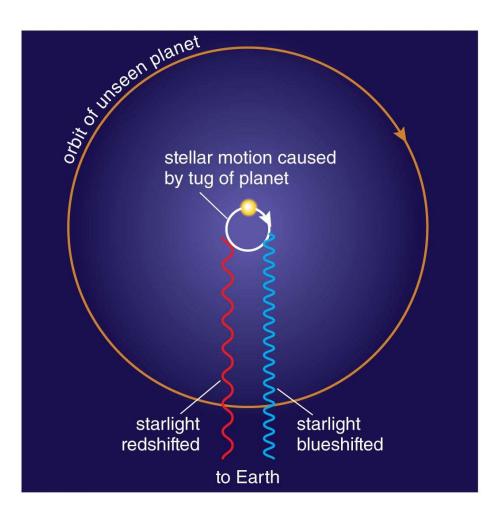


The GAIA Spacecraft (ESA) has been obtaining astrometric observations of a billion stars since 2013 (may last to 2022).

Has an accuracy down to 10 microarcseconds (0.000010)

## The Doppler Method

(An Indirect Technique)



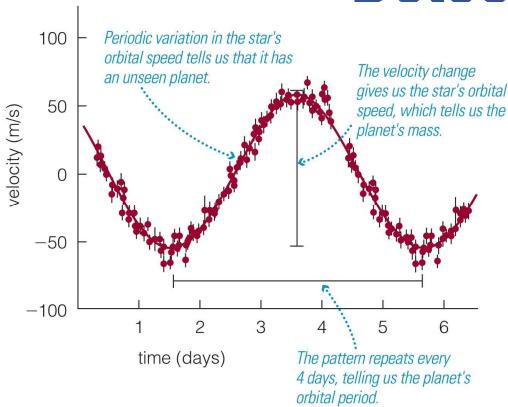
Requires the planetary system to be sufficiently 'edge-on'

- Measuring a star's Doppler shift can tell us its motion toward and away from us.
- Current techniques can measure motions as small as 1 m/s (walking speed!).

What can it (help) inform you of?

- Orbital period, distance and eccentricity
- Planetary mass (minimum, max is factor of ~two larger)

# The First Extrasolar Planet Detection



Requires large portion of orbital period to be monitored. Bias towards 'Hot Jupiter' planets – large planets that orbit very close to their parent star with orbital periods of days...

- Doppler shifts of the star 51
   Pegasi indirectly revealed a planet with 4-day orbital period.
- This short period means that the planet has a small orbital distance.
- This was the first extrasolar planet to be discovered around a Sun-like star (1995).
- Doppler shift measurements are often done as follow-ups to help constrain parameters such as planetary masses

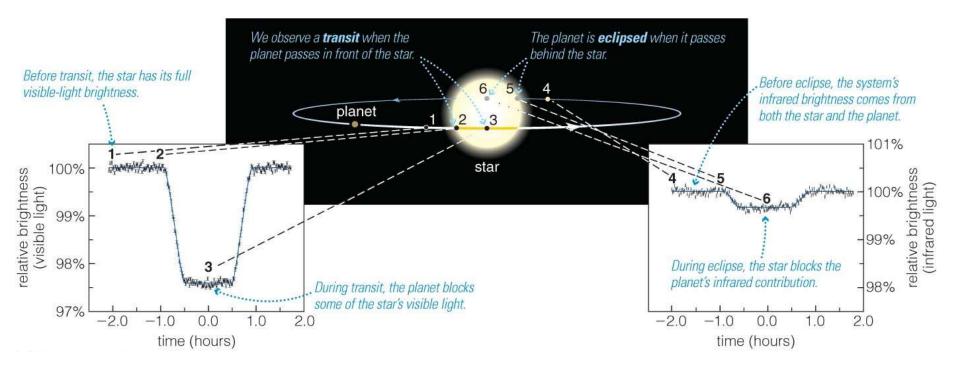
# Example of Direct Imaging: star HR 8799 and four planets



Infrared image from Large binocular Telescope

#### **The Transit Method**

(indirect technique)



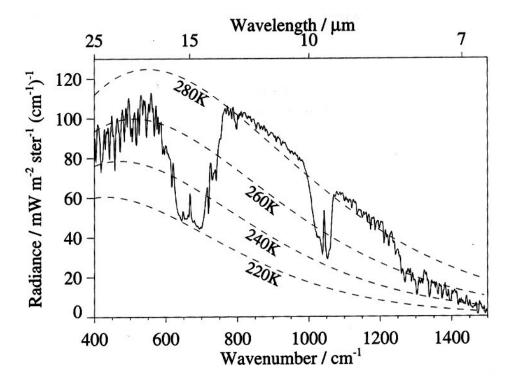
- A transit is when a planet crosses in front of a star.
- This reduces the star's apparent brightness and tells us planet's radius.
- Sometimes an **eclipse** the planet passing behind the star, can also be detected. (Contributions of exoplanet atmosphere are **now** hidden)

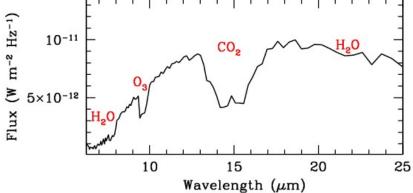
#### **The Transit Method**

(Direct technique)

What can if help inform you of?

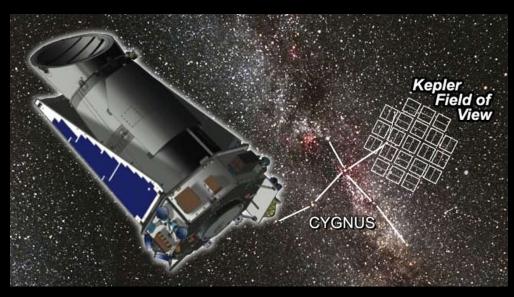
- Orbital periods and distances
- Size of a planet (radius), which can be used to help determine density
- Atmospheric composition, and temperature (from black body)





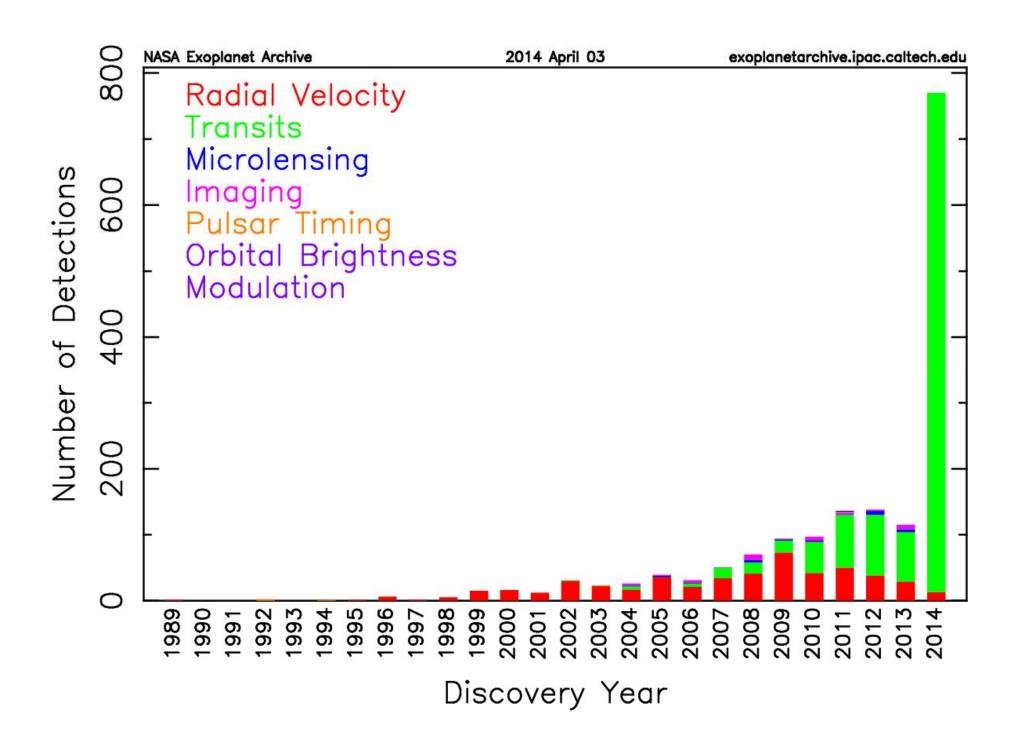
The James Webb Space Telescope will be able to determine atmospheric compositions as follow-up observations

# The Kepler Spacecraft



Detected over 1000 exoplanets in over 400 star systems

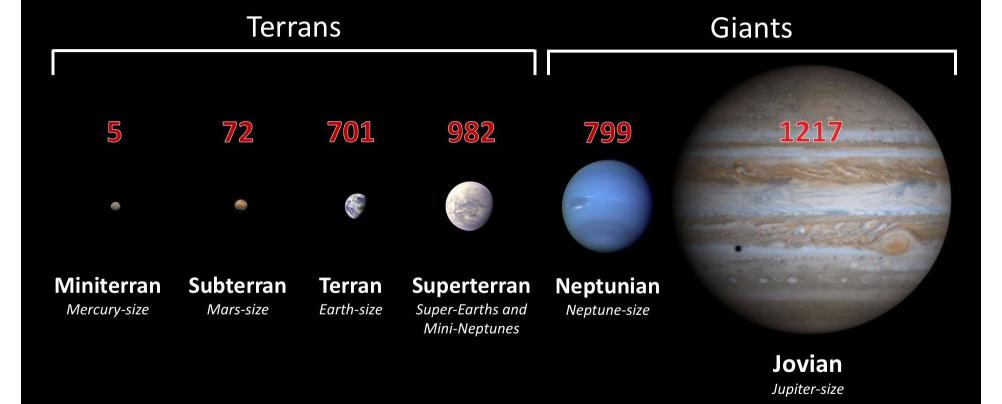
- NASA's *Kepler* mission searched for transits from 2009-2013.
- It was designed to measure the 0.008% decline in brightness when an Earthmass planet eclipses a Sun-like star.
- Monitoring ~ 150,000 stars towards the constellation Cygnus



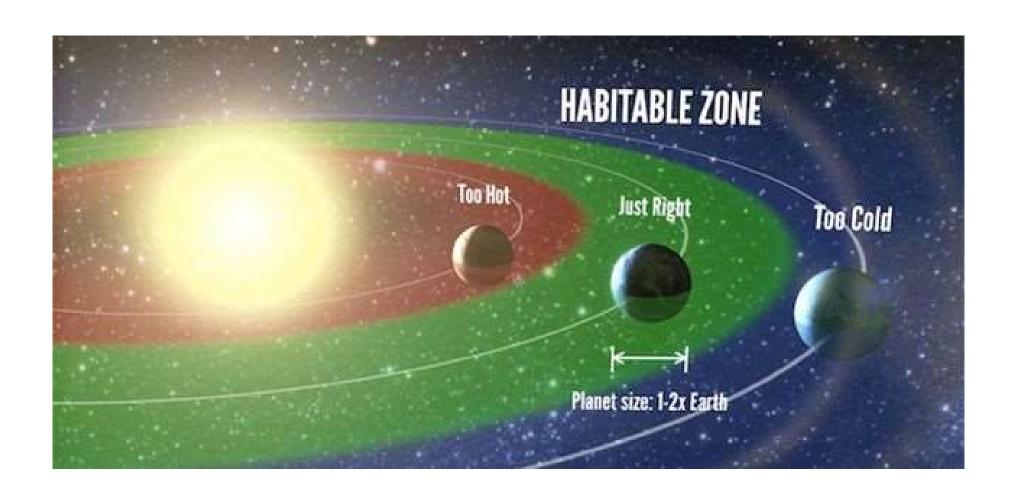
## **Summary of Detections to Date**

#### Over 3,700 Confirmed Exoplanets

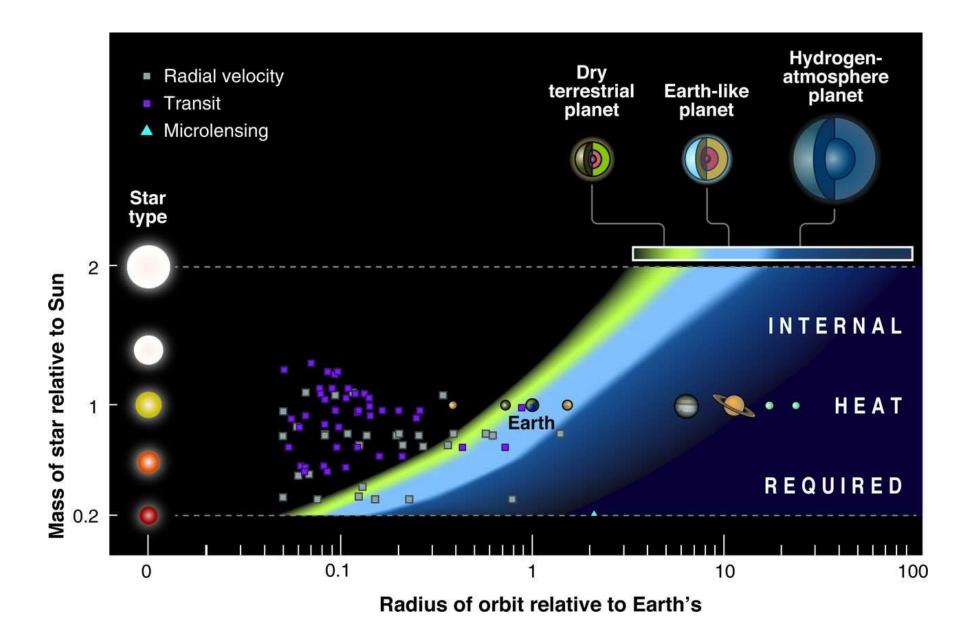




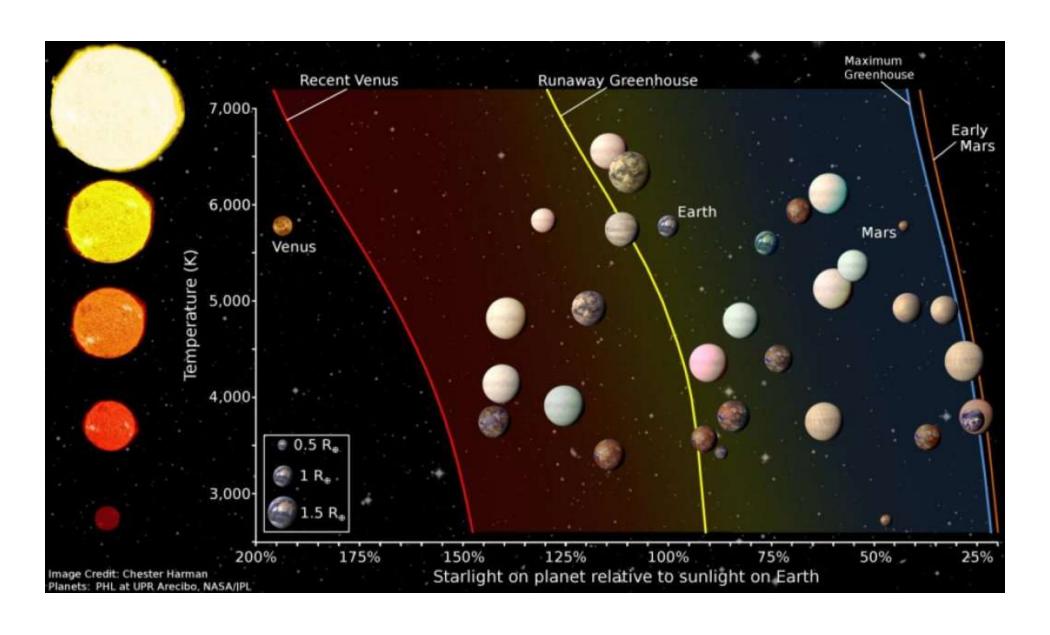
#### The Habitable Zone



#### The Habitable Zone Around Other Stars



#### The Habitable Zone Around Other Stars



In order to maximize your chance of seeing a faint, cooler planet next to a brighter, hotter star, you should observe:

- A. Using visible light.
- B. Using ultraviolet light.
- C. Using infrared light.
- D. Using X-ray light.

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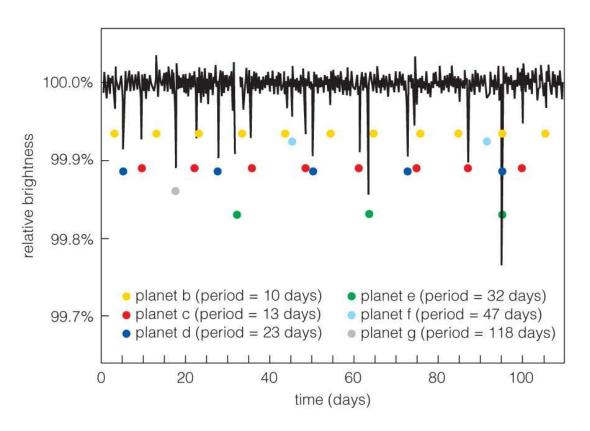
The shorter the period of the Doppler curve,

- A. The closer the unseen planet is to the star
- B. The farther the unseen planet is from the star
- C. The greater the mass of the planet
- D. The smaller the mass of the planet
- E. A and C.

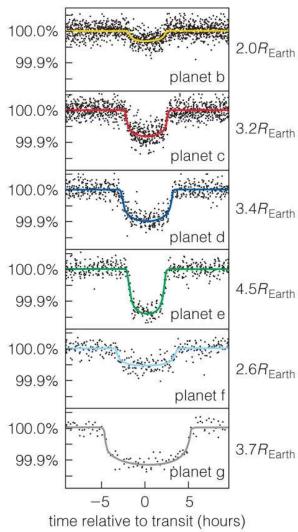
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#### Transit Example: The Kepler 11 system



The periods and sizes of Kepler 11's 6 known planets can be determined using transit data.



# Relationship Between Size and Fraction of Light Blocked

- A Larger planet will block a larger area of the Stars surface during a transit
- Although too distant, we know the fraction of light is proportional to the area of the planet and the area of the star, as follows:

Fraction of light blocked = 
$$\frac{area\ planet}{area\ Star} = \frac{\pi r^2(planet)}{\pi r^2(Star)} = \frac{r^2(planet)}{r^2(Star)}$$

**Example:** If a star has a radius of 800,000 km (1.15  $R_{sun}$ ), and the planet blocks 1.7% of the star's light during a transit, what is the radius of the planet?

Solution: we rearrange the equation as follows...

$$r_{planet} = r_{Star} \times \sqrt{\text{fraction of light blocked}}$$
  
= 800,000  $km \times \sqrt{0.017}$   
 $\sim 100,000 \ km$  (cf. Jupiter has radius  $\sim 71,500 \ \text{km}$ )

## Video of Microlensing

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\_continue=1&v=FHh0Qx7LPJY

#### **Gravitational Microlensing**

The Earth, a close star, and a brighter, more distant star, happen to come into alignment for a few weeks or months

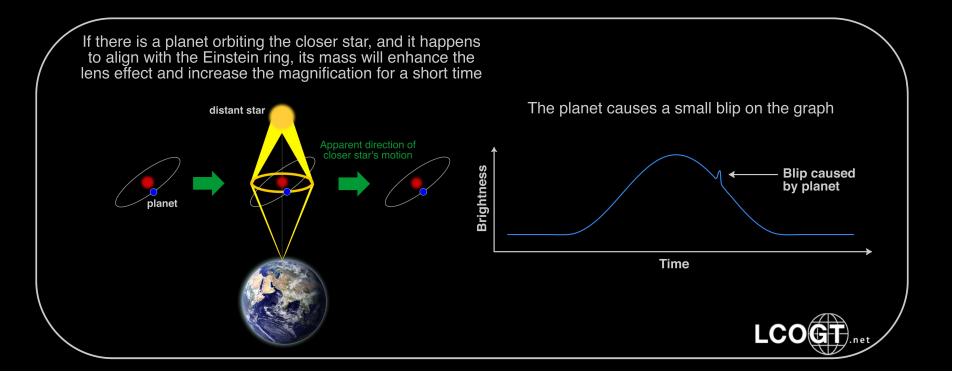
Light bent by gravity from closer star

Apparent direction of closer star's motion

The Einstein ring has a radius of about 2 AU and is the width of the angular width of the distant star

The Einstein ring has a radius of about 2 AU and is the width of the angular width of the distant star

**Time** 



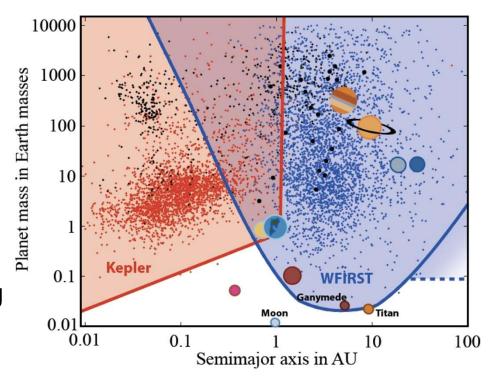
#### **Gravitational microlensing:**

Surprisingly good at detecting 'Earth-like planets'



Wide Field Infrared Survey Telescope (WFIRST) (NASA)

- Mid 2020s launch
- Would provide both direct imaging as well as be able to use microlensing to detect planets
- Can detect objects down to almost as small as our moon



But only get a snapshot of the system...
.... Mass & orbital distance estimates.

# Measurable Properties

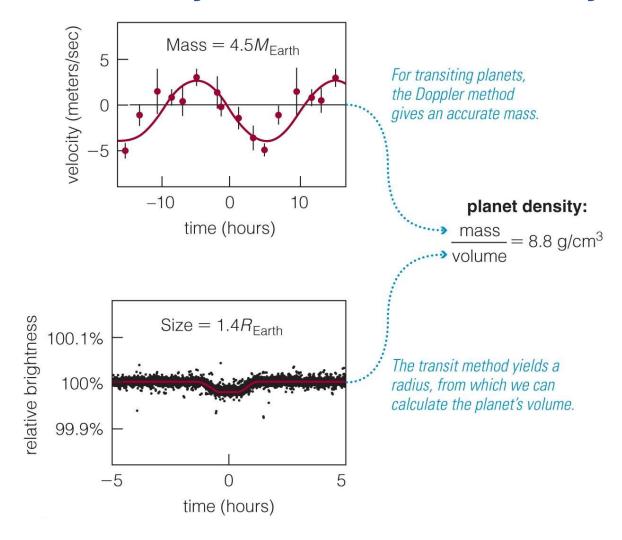
Planetary Property	Method(s) Used	Explanation
period	Doppler, astrometric, or transit	We directly measure orbital period.
distance	Doppler, astrometric, or transit	We calculate orbital distance from orbital period using Newton's version of Kepler's third law.
eccentricity	Doppler or astrometric	Velocity curves and astrometric star positions reveal eccentricity.
mass	Doppler or astrometric	We calculate mass based on the amount of stellar motion caused by a planet's gravitational tug.
size (radius)	transit	We calculate size based on the amount of dip in a star's brightness during a transi
density	transit plus Doppler	We calculate density by dividing the mass by the volume (using the size from the transit method).
atmospheric composition, temperature	transit or direct detection	Transits and eclipses provide data on atmospheric composition and temperature.

#### Planet mass and orbital tilt:

- We cannot measure an exact mass for a planet without knowing the tilt of its orbit using the doppler technique since it only forms us of the velocity towards/away from us
- Doppler will only provide lower limit on masses, but can provide excellent complimentary information for planets detected by the transit method, which must be edge-on.

#### The importance of Follow up Studies:

What does density tell us about our Solar System?



Suppose you found a star similar to the Sun (similar size, mass, age, etc.) and it was moving back and forth with a period of 2 years. What could you conclude?

- A. It has a planet orbiting at less than 1 AU
- B. It has a planet orbiting at greater than 1 AU
- C. It has ha planet orbiting at exactly 1 AU
- D. It has a planet, but we don't know its mass so we can't know its orbital distance for sure

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#### planetary mass (Jupiter units) The three dashed curves represent constant density. For example, all planets along the middle curve have the same average density as water. of Styrofoam planetary radius (Earth units) Jupiters HD 189733b (mostly H/He) studied by Neptune jovian planets (mostly H/He) Uranus planets rich in hydrogen Earth compounds super-dense Venus terrestrial planets (rock and metal) first known planet orbiting binary star metal-rich terrestrial planets planetary mass (Earth units) Kepler 11f Kepler 10b COROT 7b very low mass rocky super-Earth. very dense planet, member of super-Earth probably molten possible waterworld

# Exoplanets Properties Compared

- Much wider array of physical properties compared to the planets in our Solar System
- Some have the density of Styrofoam
- Some have the density of Iron
- Some planets have highly elliptic orbits
- Massive planets (hot Jupiters) are found close to their host stars...

# 10.3. The Formation of Other Planetary Systems

- Do we need to modify our theory of Solar System Formation?
- Are Planetary Systems like ours common?

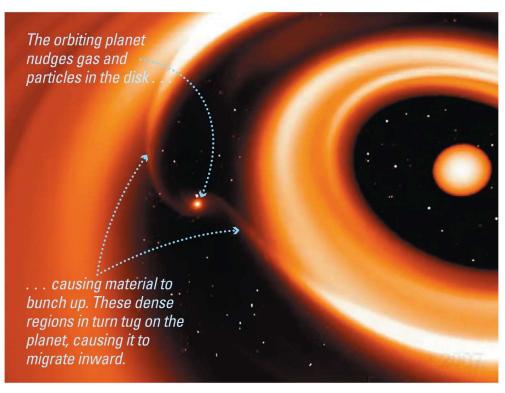
#### Revisiting the Nebula Theory

- The nebular theory predicts that massive Jupiter-like planets should not form inside the frost line (at << 5 AU).</li>
- The discovery of hot Jupiters must force a reexamination of nebular theory.

Solution: Planetary Migration...

- Close gravitational encounters between two massive planets can eject one planet while flinging the other into a highly elliptical orbit.
- Multiple close encounters with smaller planetesimals can also cause inward migration.

## **Planetary Migration II:**



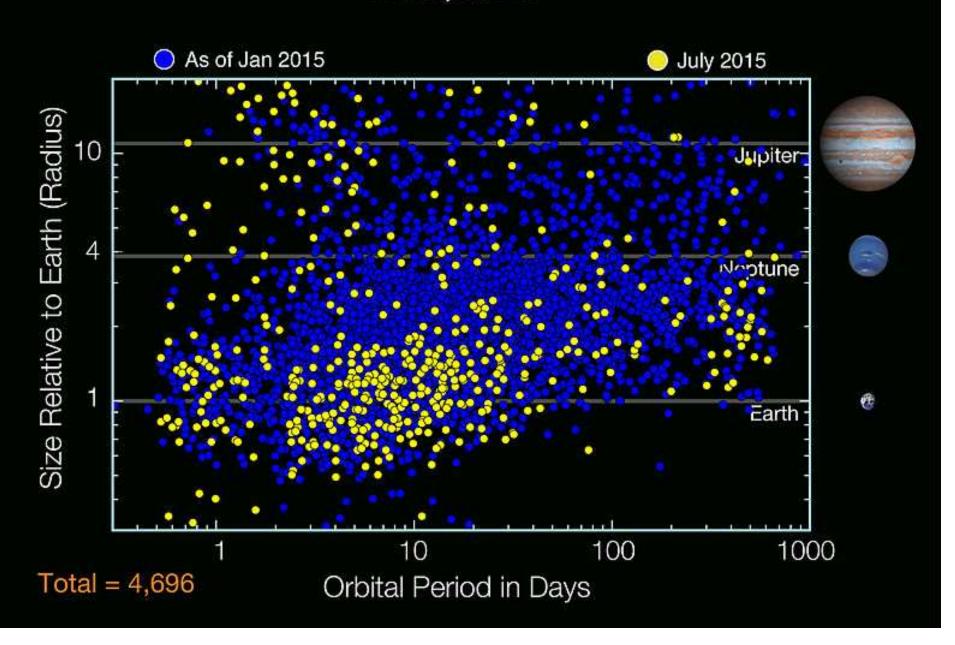
- A young planet's motion can create waves in a planet-forming disk.
- Models show that matter in these waves can tug on a planet, causing its orbit to migrate inward.
- Have identified some planets close to their stars which will crash into their host star within 1 million years
- Also have found evidence of planetary like material in outer layers of some stars.

#### **Modifying the Nebular Theory**

- Observations of extrasolar planets have shown that the nebular theory was incomplete.
- Effects like planetary migration and gravitational encounters might be more important than previously thought.
- Planets that are close to their star may have 'puffed-up' atmospheres, which can explain the very low densities observed

#### **New Kepler Planet Candidates**

As of July 23, 2015

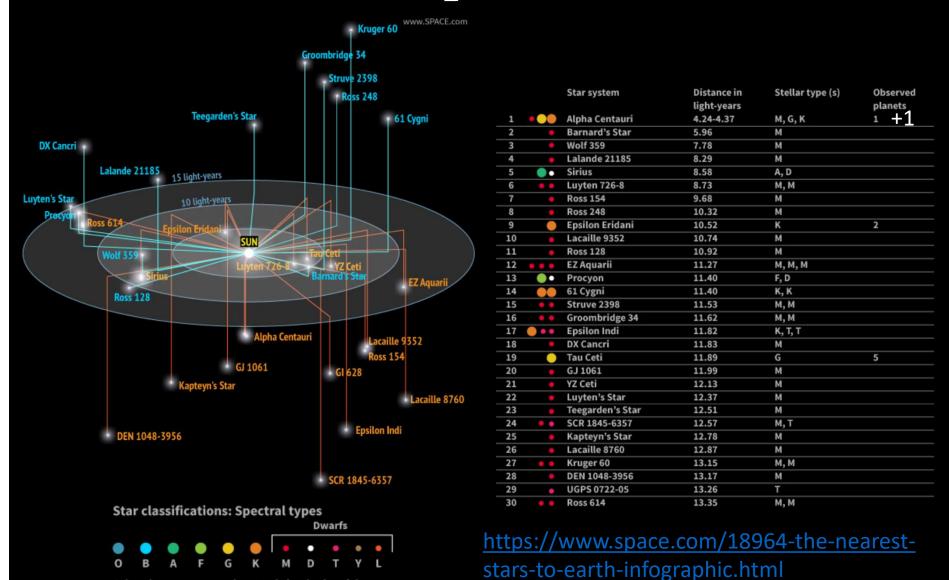


# **Extrasolar Planets Summary**

Based on extrapolations from data collected so far:

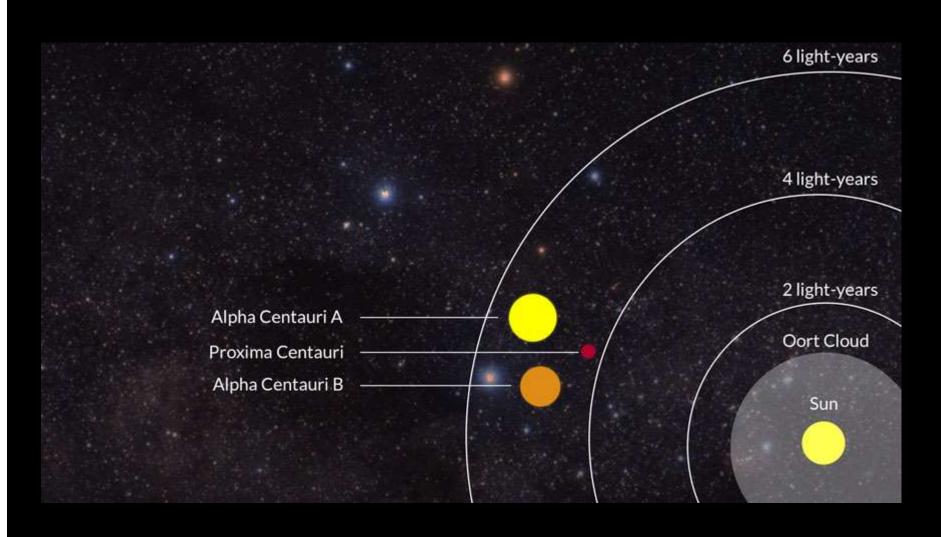
- There is >1 planet per star, on average per star
- At least 1 in 5 Sun-like stars have an Earth-sized planet within the habitable zone
- Estimated 11-40 billion Earth-sized exoplanets estimated within the Milky Way Galaxy Alone

## Other Nearby Stars (from ch2\_pt2)



Colors do not represent the actual visual color of the star.

# The Alpha Centauri System



#### Alpha Centauri B b

Alpha Centauri Planets





Earth Similarity Index = 0.27

CREDIT: PHL @ UPR Arecibo

Proxima Centauri b discovered Intense atmospheric loss in 2016

Mass > 1.27  $M_E$ 

Period 11.2 days

Dist. To star 0.05 AU

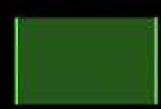


Propertie



Proxima b

Habitable zone



**End of Todays Lecture**