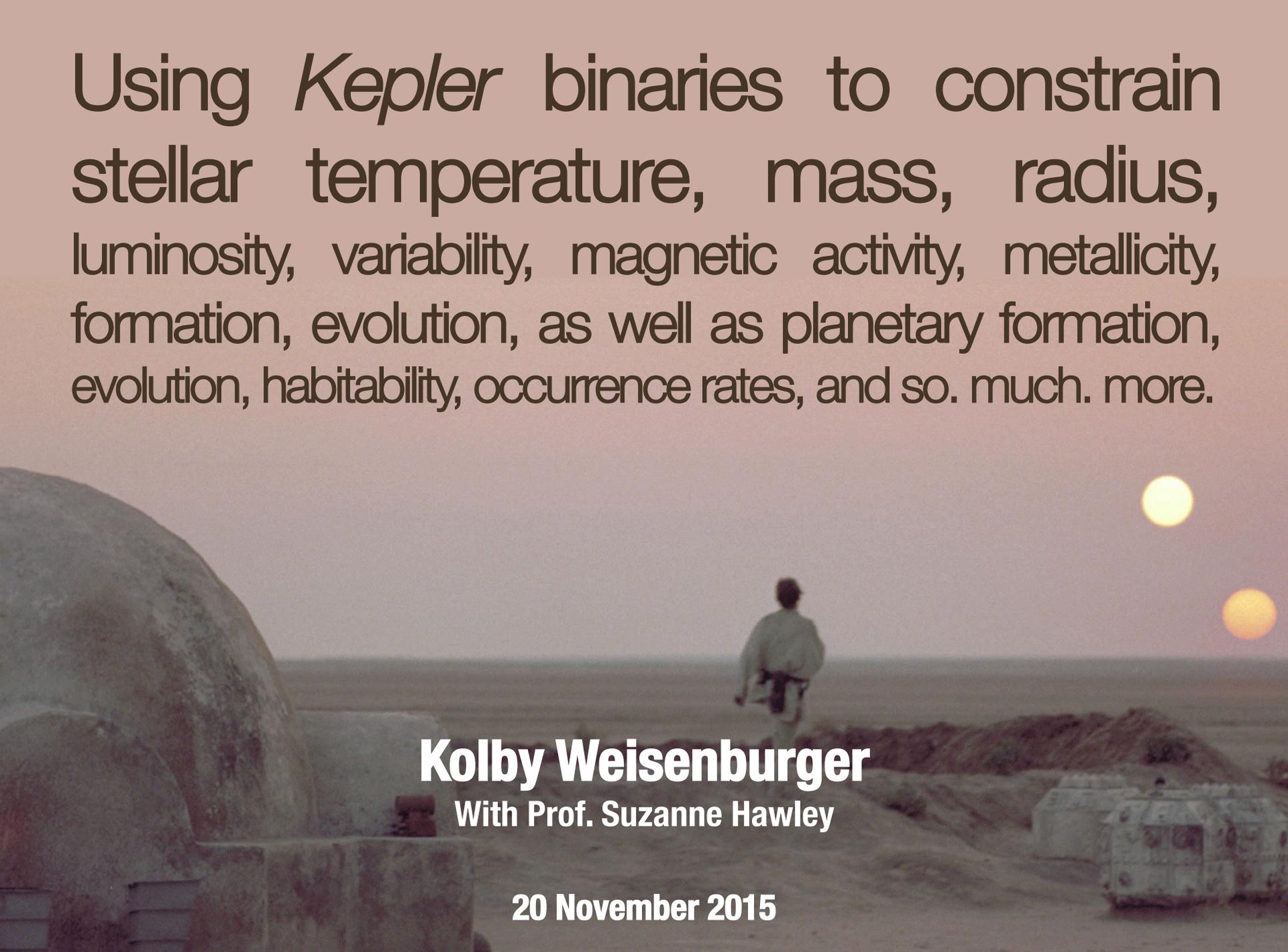


# Speaker Contact Information

- Kolby Weisenburger: [kweis@uw.edu](mailto:kweis@uw.edu)
- Russell Deitrick & Rory Barnes:  
[deitrr@u.washington.edu](mailto:deitrr@u.washington.edu) ,  
[rory@astro.washington.edu](mailto:rory@astro.washington.edu)
- Rodrigo Luger: [rodluger@uw.edu](mailto:rodluger@uw.edu)
- Jacob Lustig-Yaeger: [jlustigy@uw.edu](mailto:jlustigy@uw.edu)
- Eddie Schwieterman:  
[eschwiet@astro.washington.edu](mailto:eschwiet@astro.washington.edu)

Using *Kepler* binaries to constrain stellar temperature, mass, radius, luminosity, variability, magnetic activity, metallicity, formation, evolution, as well as planetary formation, evolution, habitability, occurrence rates, and so. much. more.



**Kolby Weisenburger**  
With Prof. Suzanne Hawley

**20 November 2015**

# KEPLER



# KEPLER

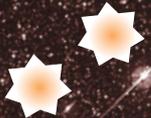


BRIGHTNESS

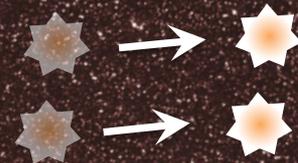
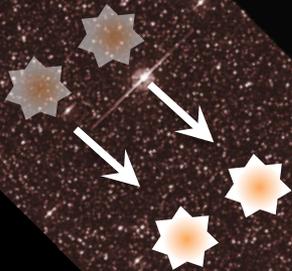
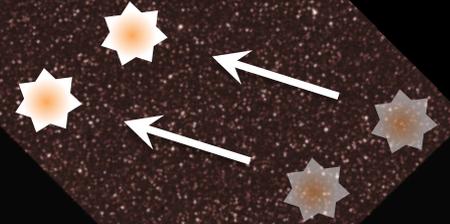
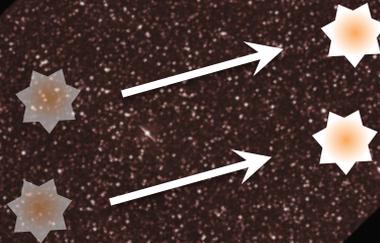
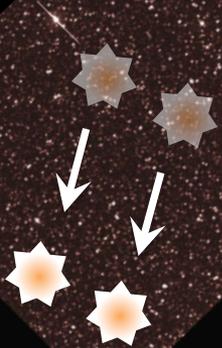


TIME IN HOURS

*Common proper motion*  
**BINARIES**

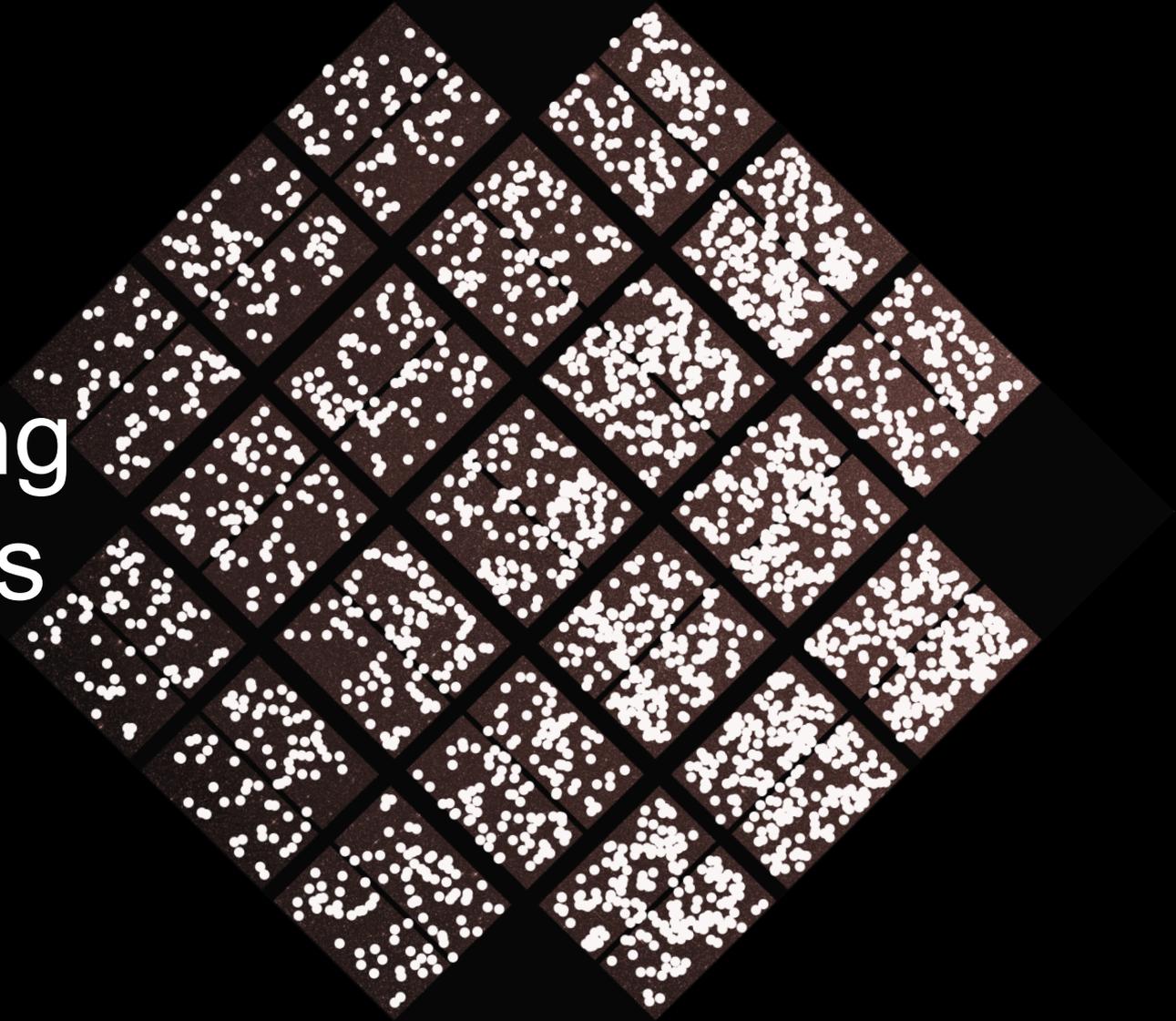


*Common proper motion*  
**BINARIES**



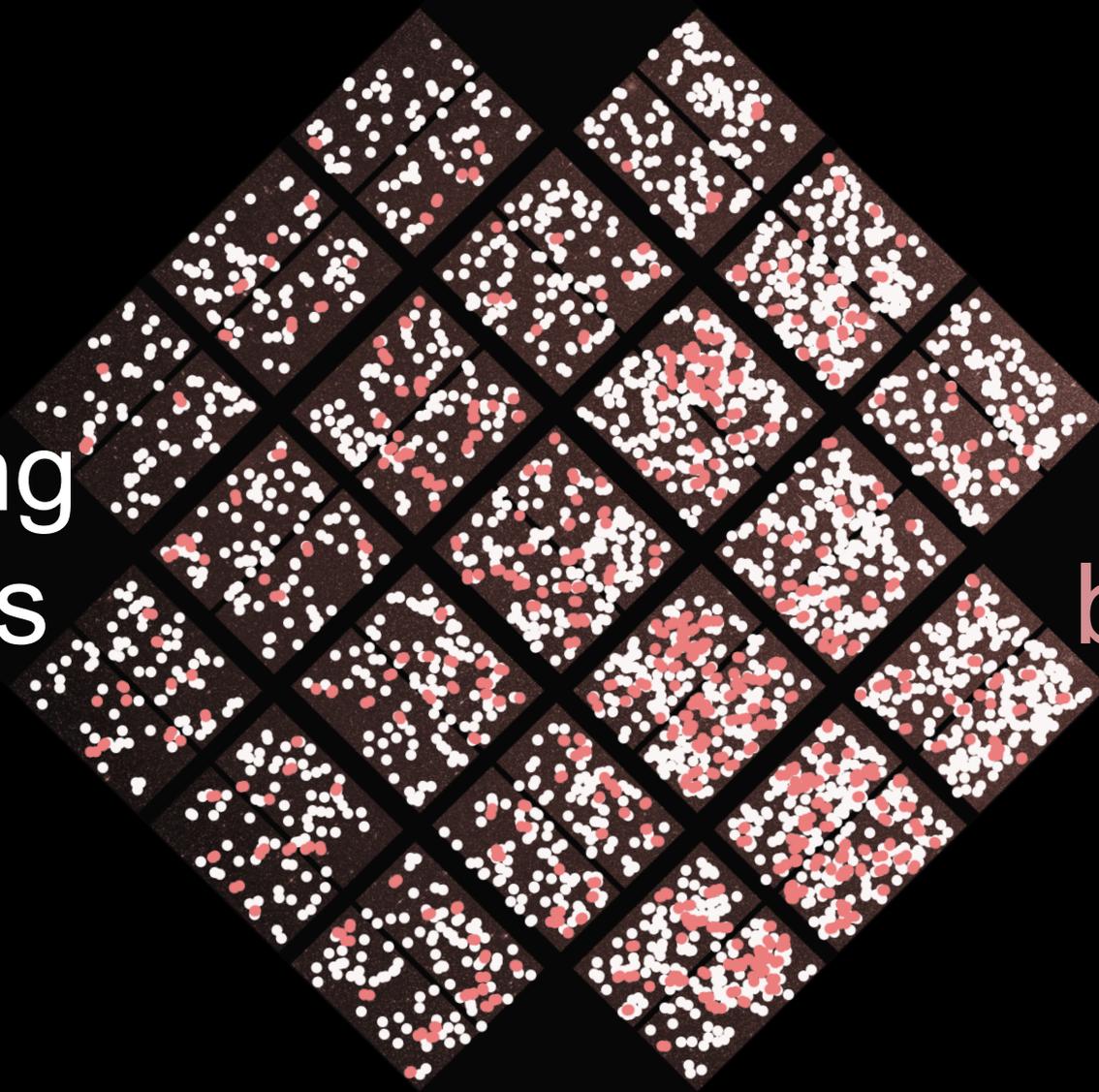
# KEPLER

Eclipsing  
binaries



# KEPLER

Eclipsing  
binaries



CPM  
binaries

# Thanks!



Image credit Joe Shymansky

# Obliquity evolution of Earth-like exoplanets and its effect on habitability



**Russell Deitrick**

Collaborators:

Rory Barnes

Cecilia Bitz

Tom Quinn

John Armstrong

Victoria Meadows

Benjamin Charnay



©Masato Hattori

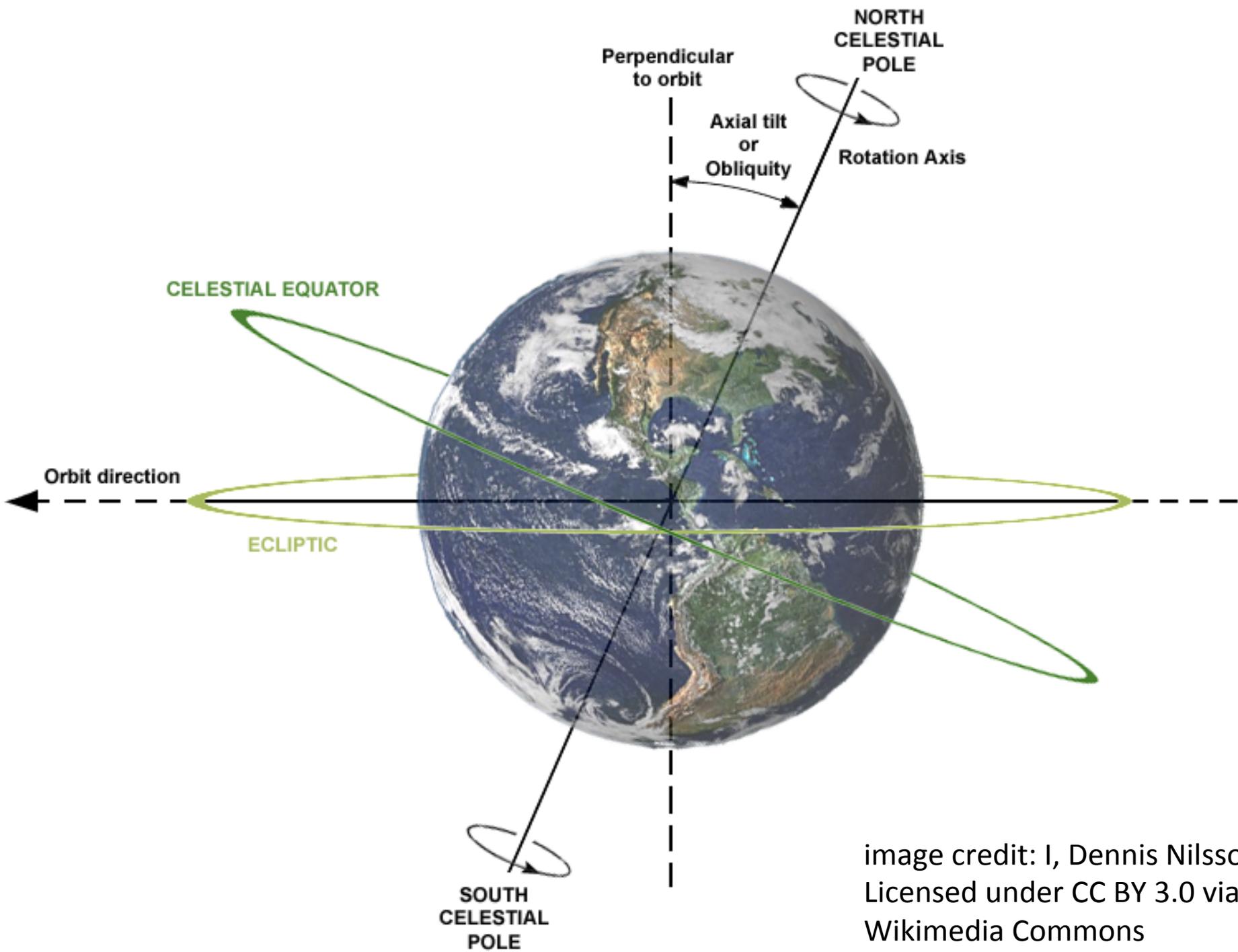
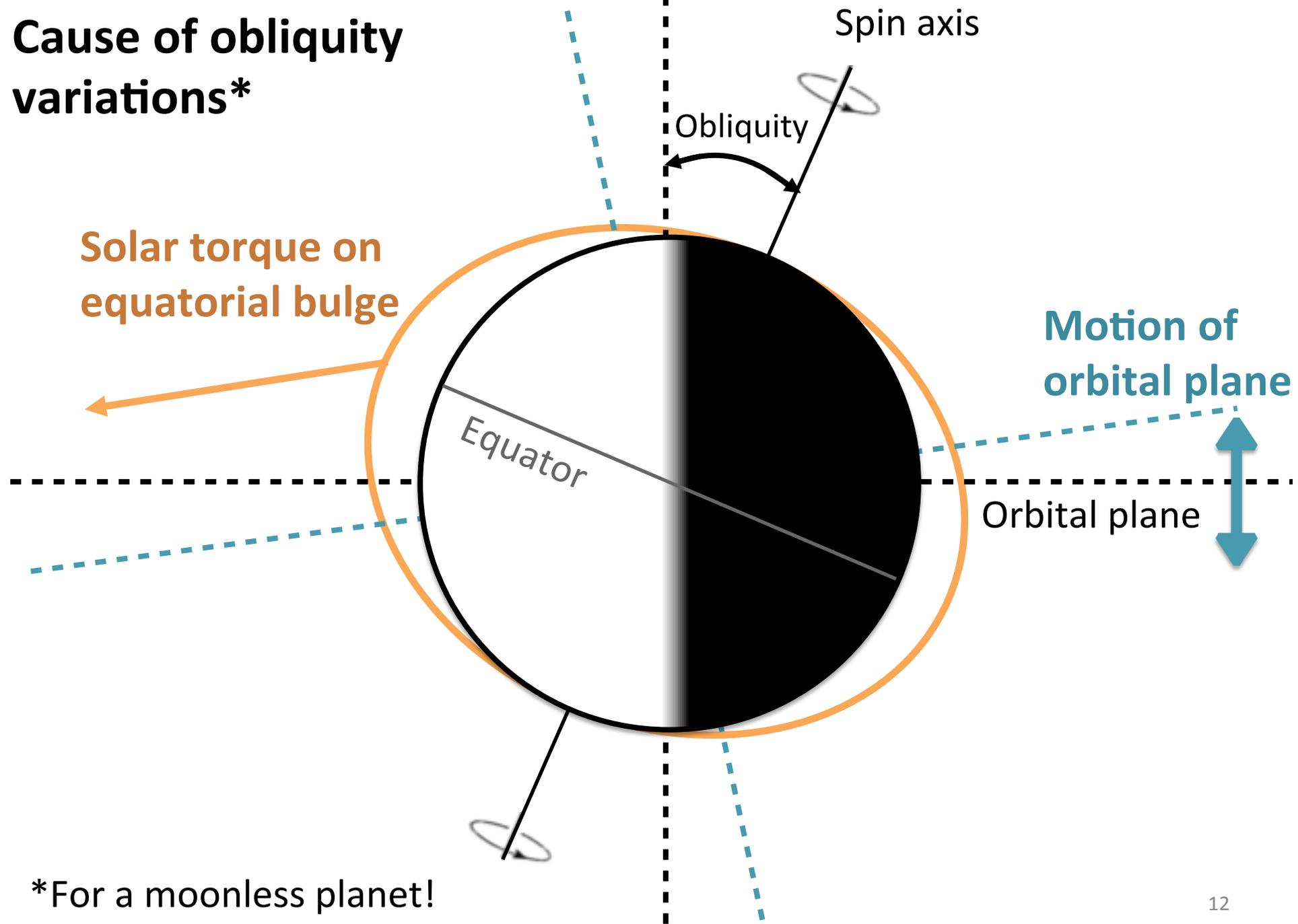


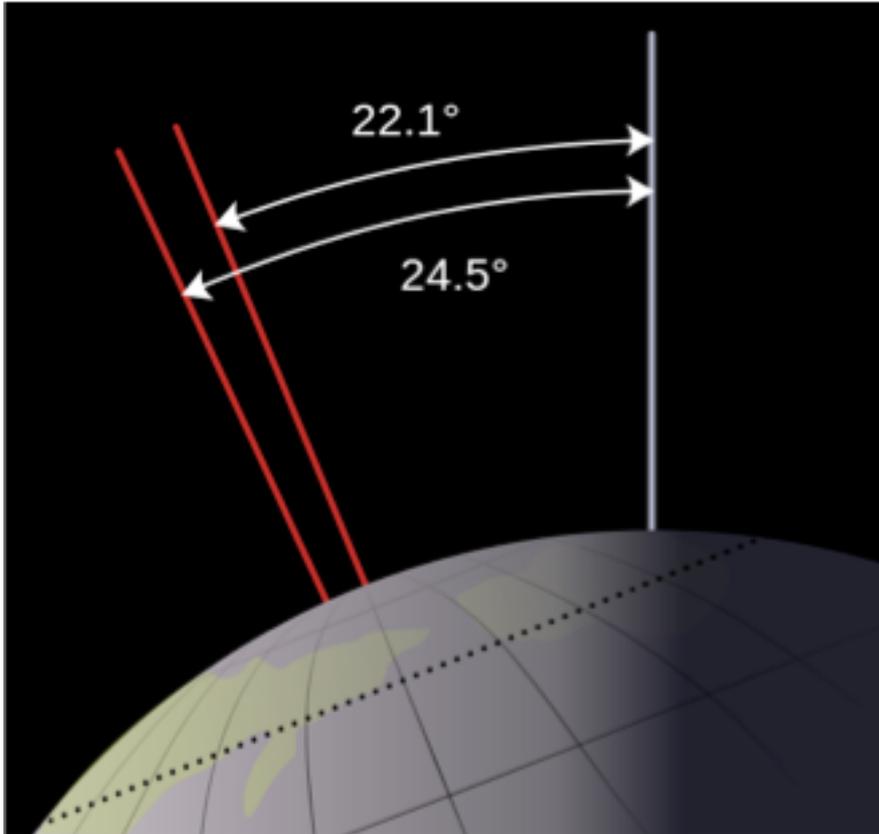
image credit: I, Dennis Nilsson.  
Licensed under CC BY 3.0 via  
Wikimedia Commons

# Cause of obliquity variations\*



\*For a moonless planet!

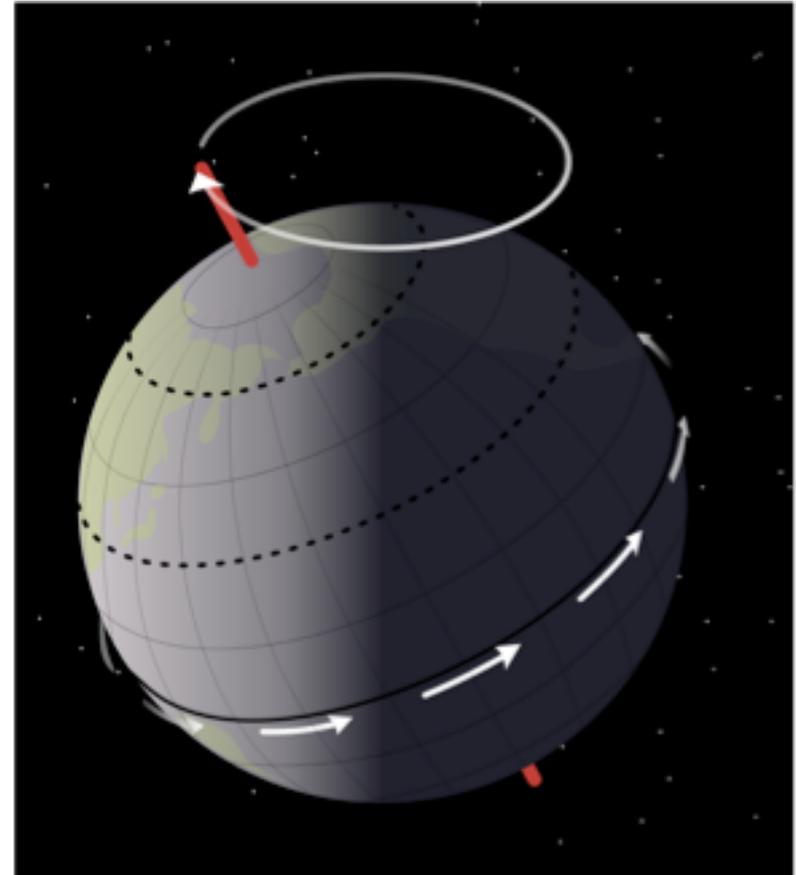
# Obliquity variations



Nutation aka "Wobble"



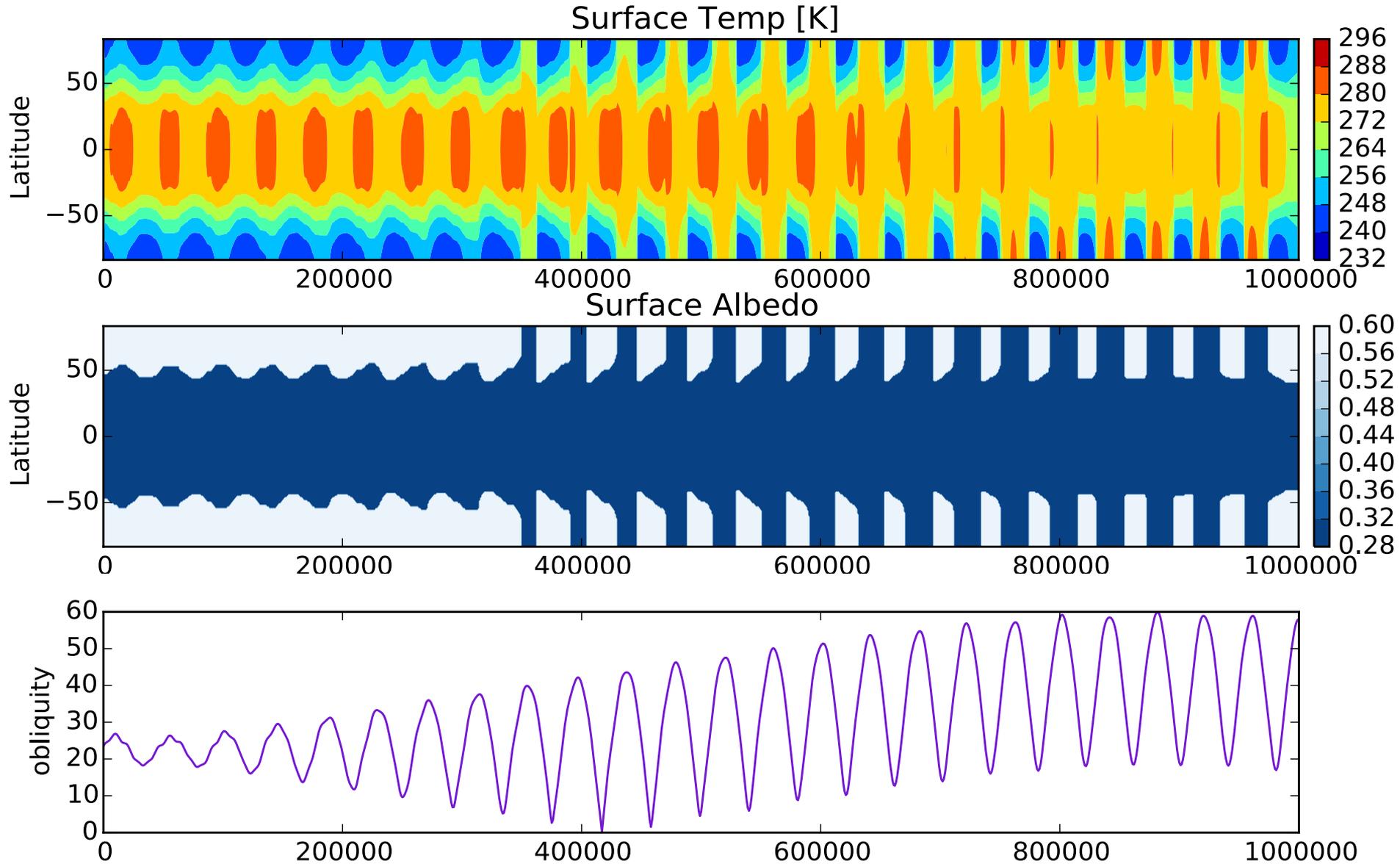
Small for Earth, because of the Moon



Precession

Image credit: NASA

# Climate impact





# FINDING AND CHARACTERIZING EXOPLANETS WITH KEPLER

RODRIGO LUGER  
GRADUATE STUDENT

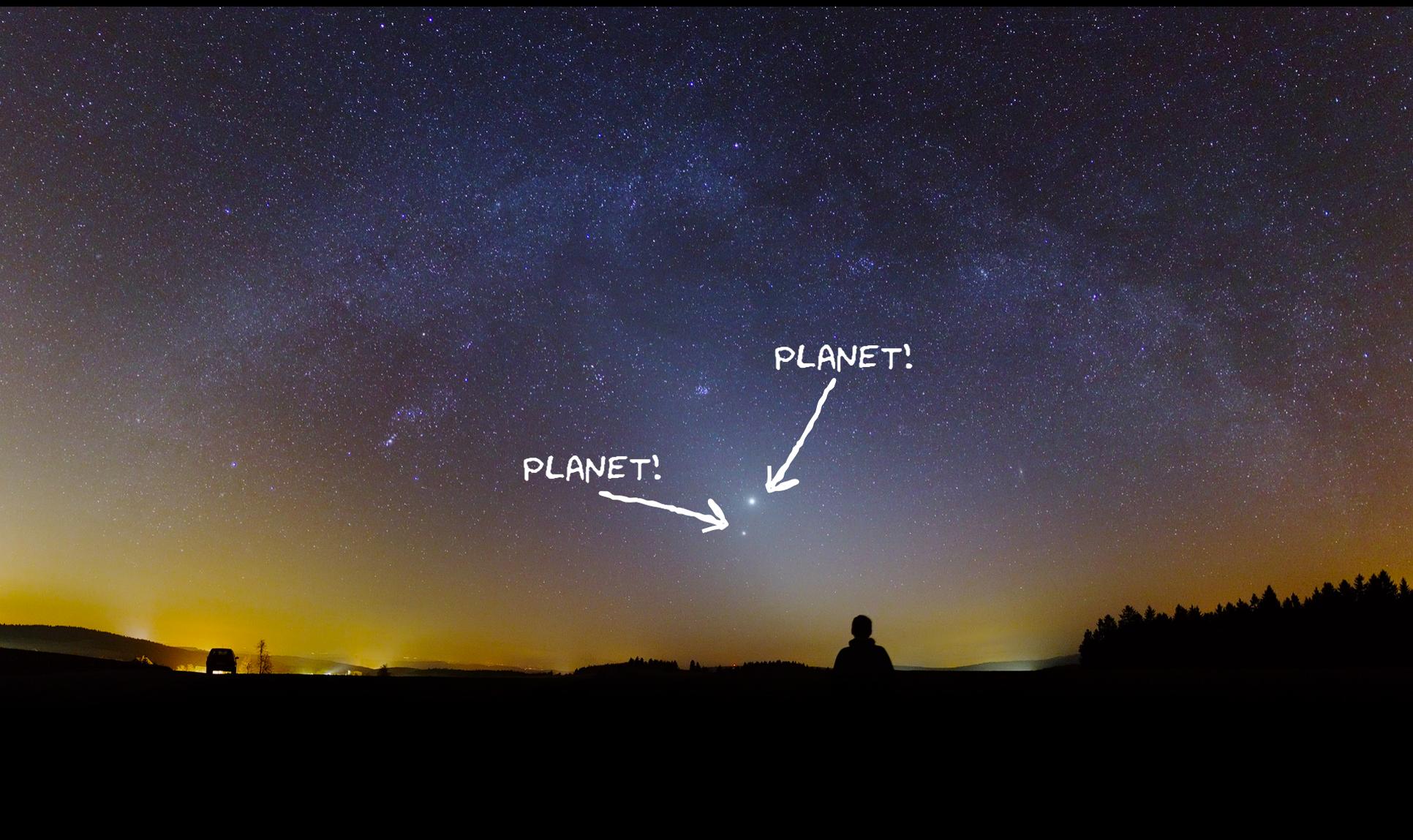


UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON

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DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY

# DETECTING PLANETS IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM (EASY)



# DETECTING EXTRASOLAR PLANETS

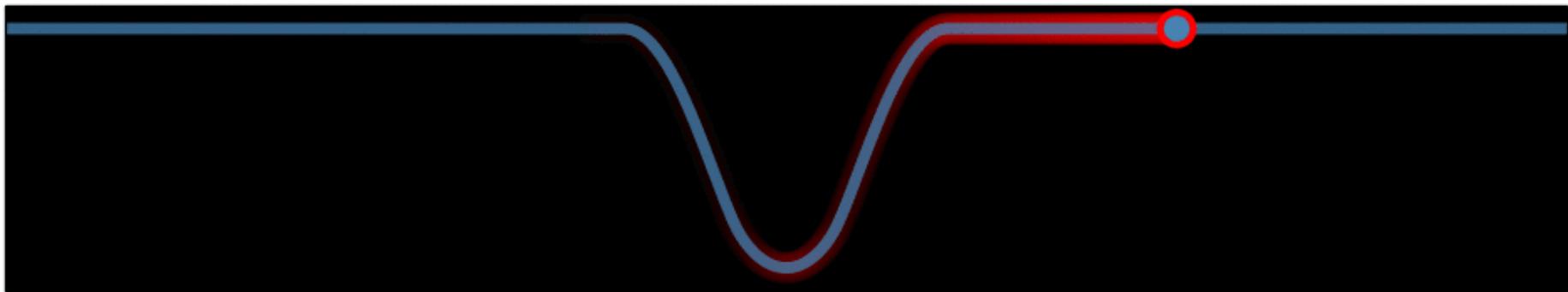
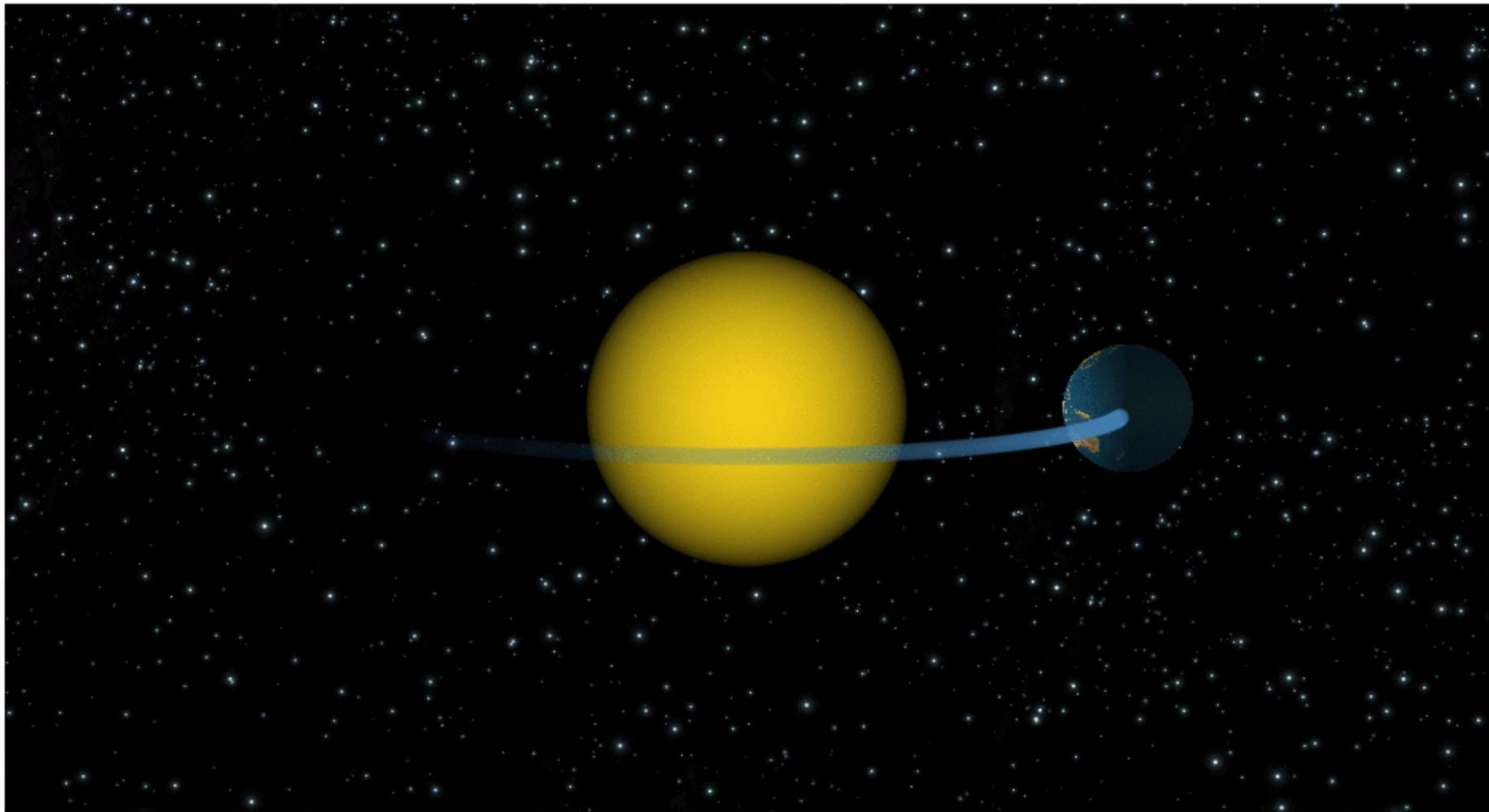


STAR (NO PLANET)

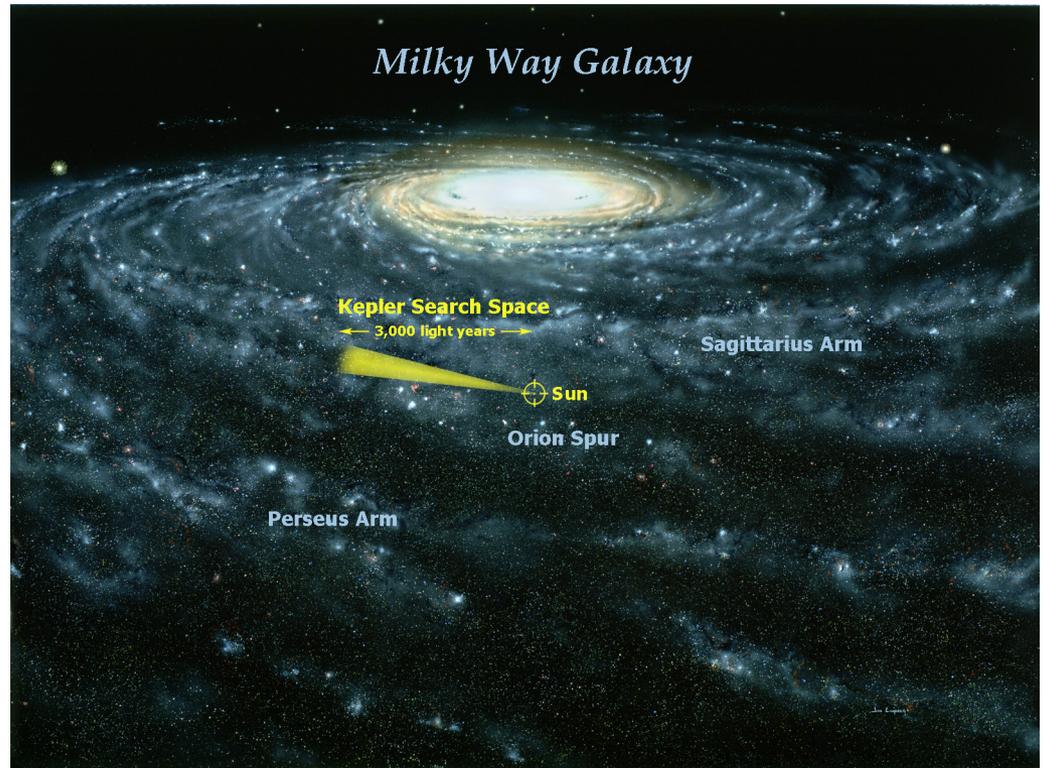
# DETECTING EXTRASOLAR PLANETS (HARD)

STAR (WITH PLANET)

A bright yellow star is centered in the image, with a blue planet visible as a small dot to its right. The background is a dark field filled with numerous smaller, distant stars. A faint crosshair is visible, centered on the star.



# THE KEPLER SPACECRAFT

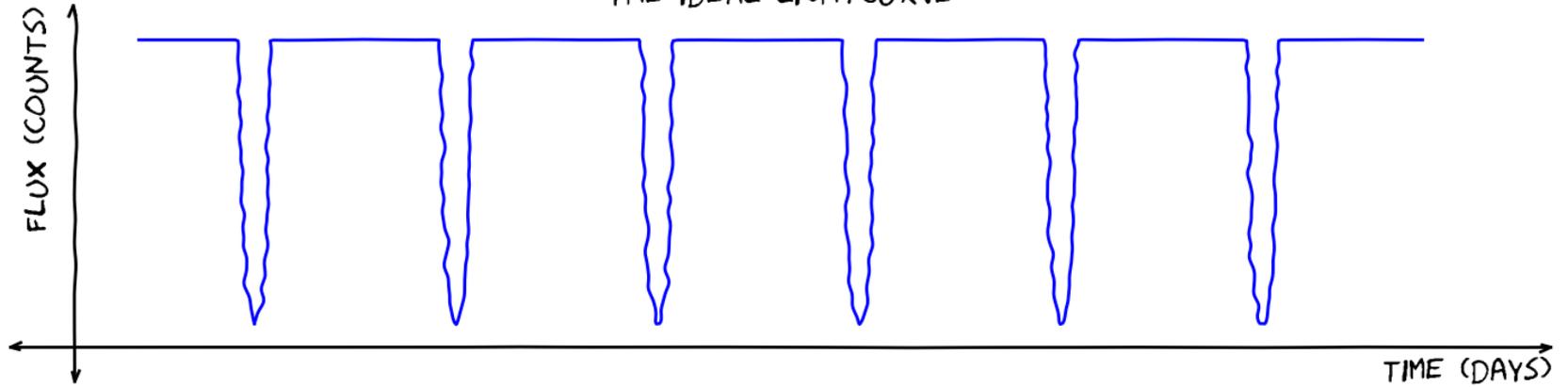


[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kepler\\_\(spacecraft\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kepler_(spacecraft))

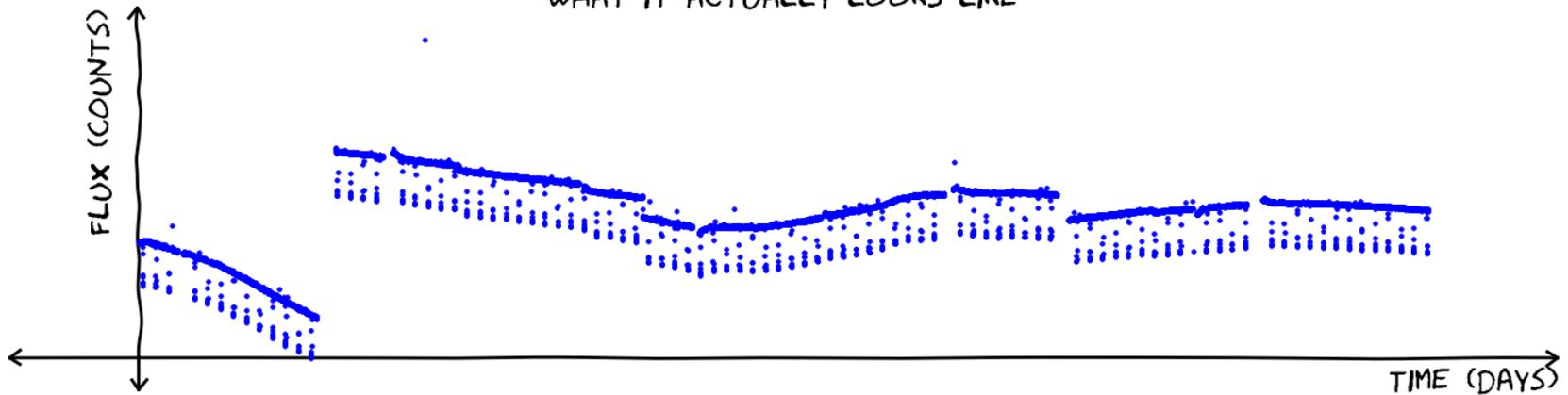
Credit: NASA

# TRANSIT LIGHTCURVES

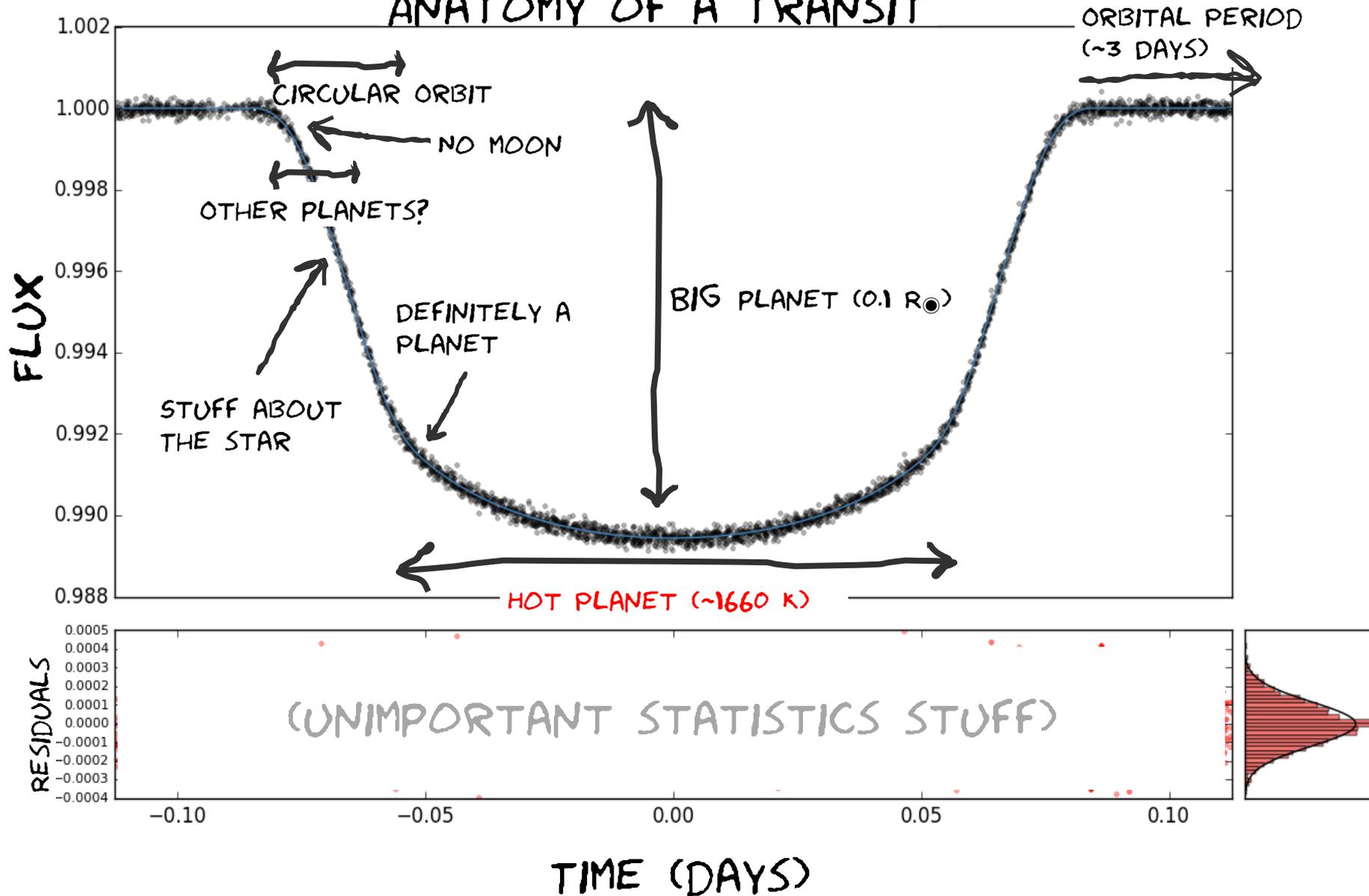
THE IDEAL LIGHTCURVE



WHAT IT ACTUALLY LOOKS LIKE

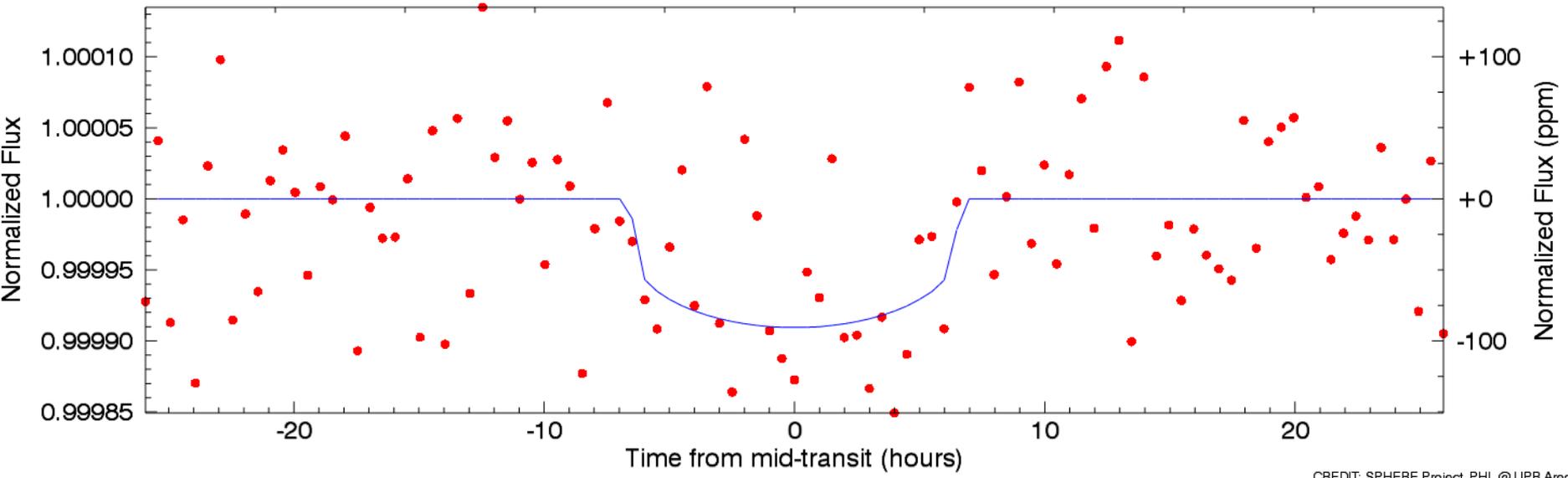


# ANATOMY OF A TRANSIT

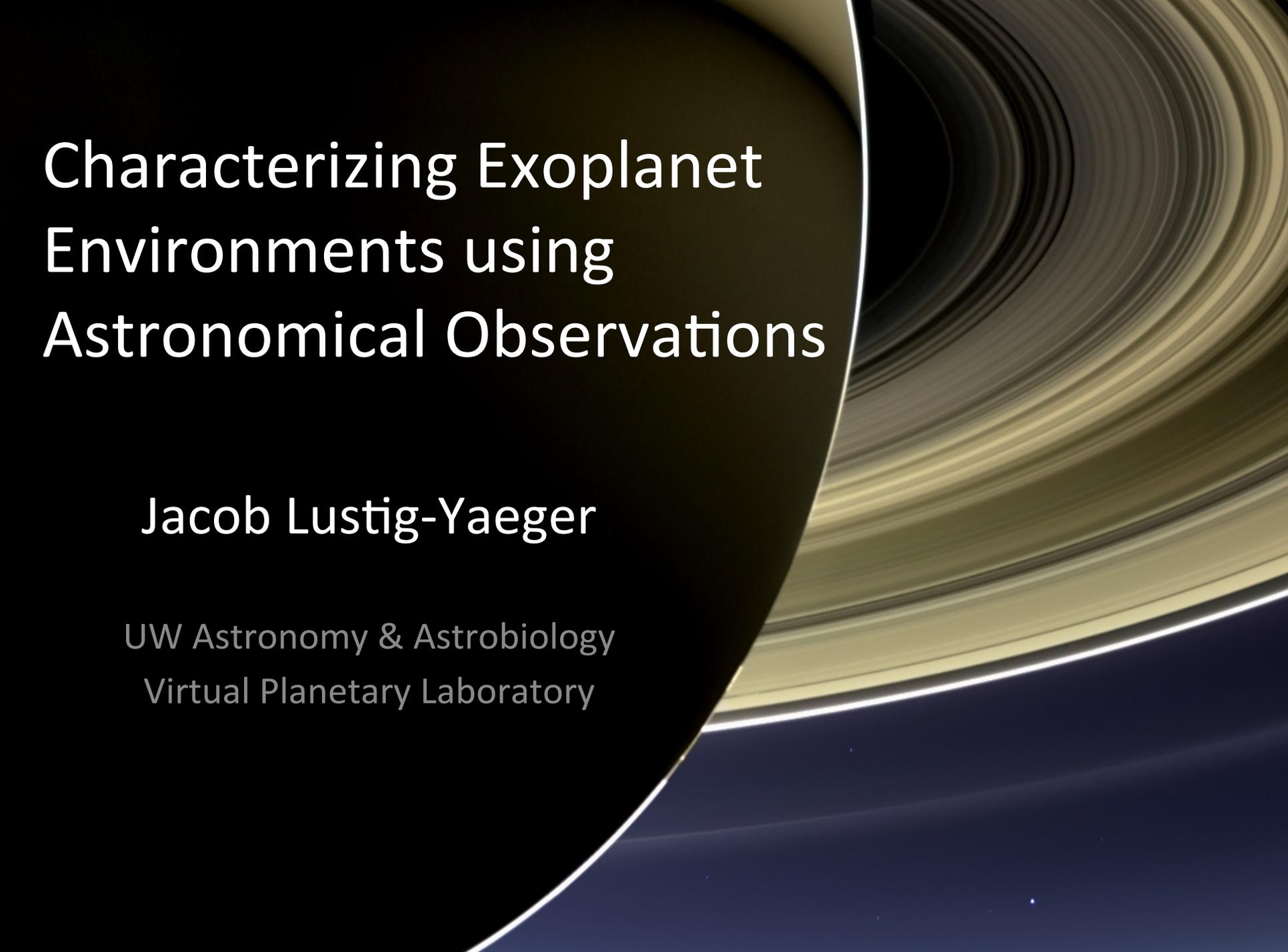


# EARTH TRANSITING THE SUN

Star Radius: 1.000  $R_{\odot}$  Planet Radius: 1.00  $R_{\oplus}$  Planet Distance: 1.000 AU Planet Period: 365.00 days Impact Parameter: 0.000 Noise: 60 ppm



CREDIT: SPHERE Project, PHL @ UPR Arcicba

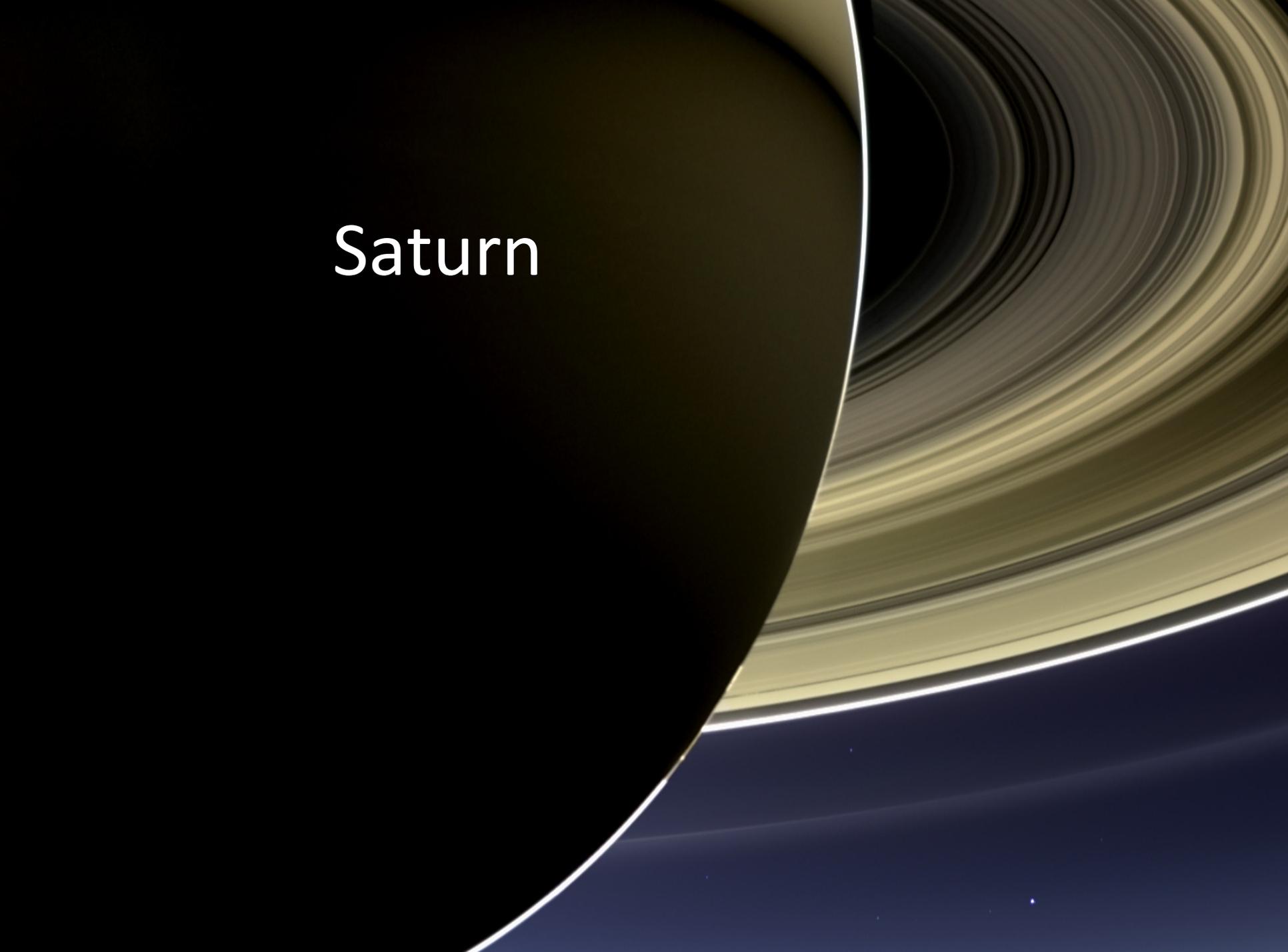


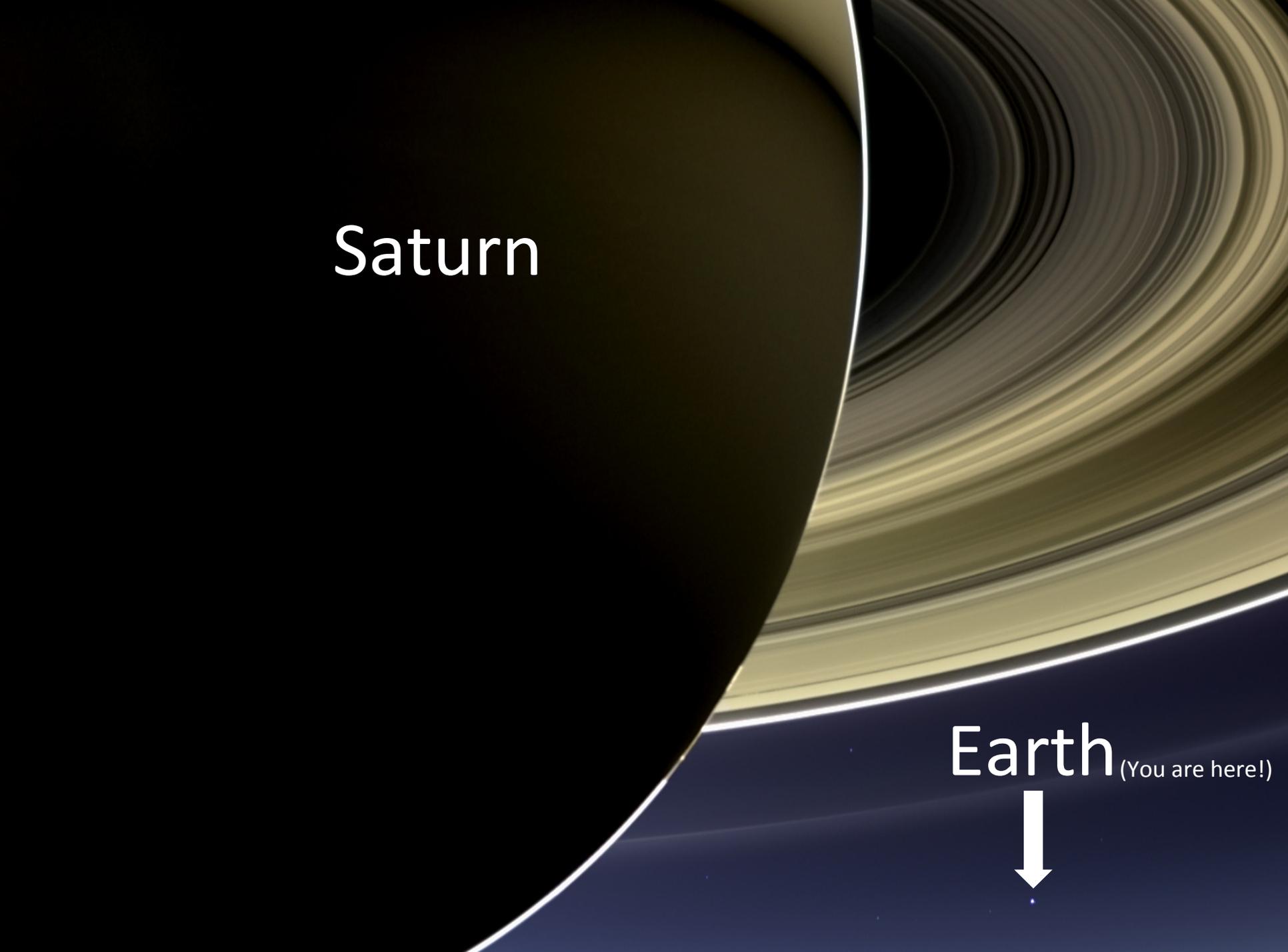
# Characterizing Exoplanet Environments using Astronomical Observations

Jacob Lustig-Yaeger

UW Astronomy & Astrobiology  
Virtual Planetary Laboratory

Saturn





Saturn

Earth (You are here!)



# Saturn



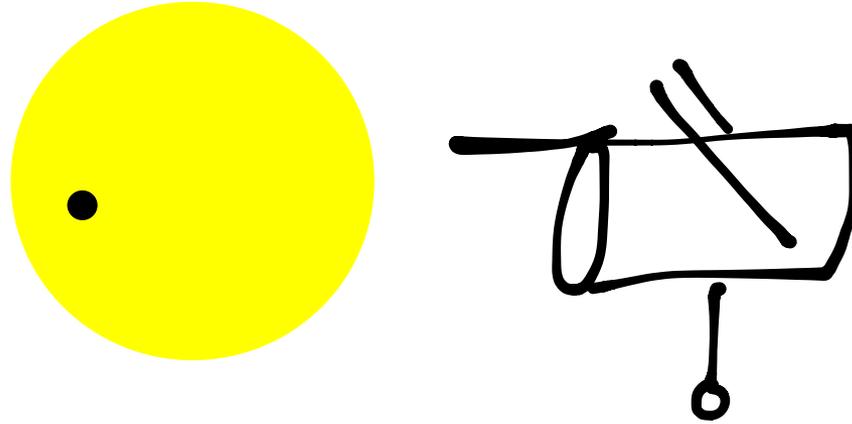
*How much can we learn  
about a planetary  
environment from afar?*

Earth (You are here!)

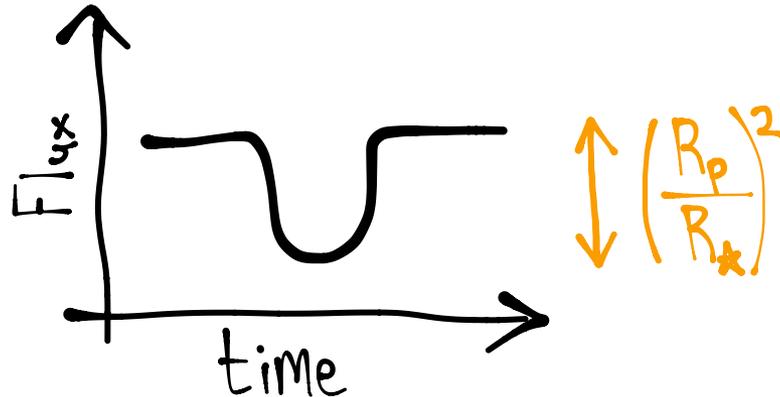


# Transiting Exoplanets

Observation:

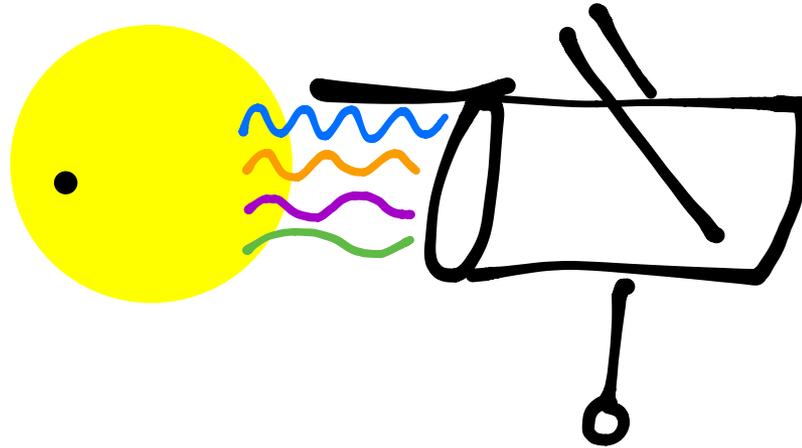


Measurement:

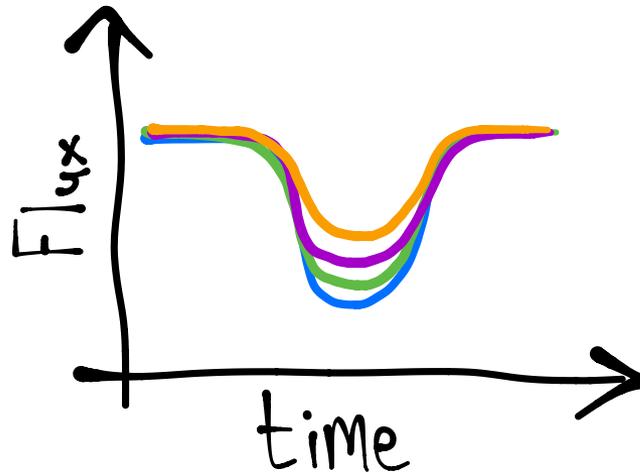


# Transiting Exoplanets

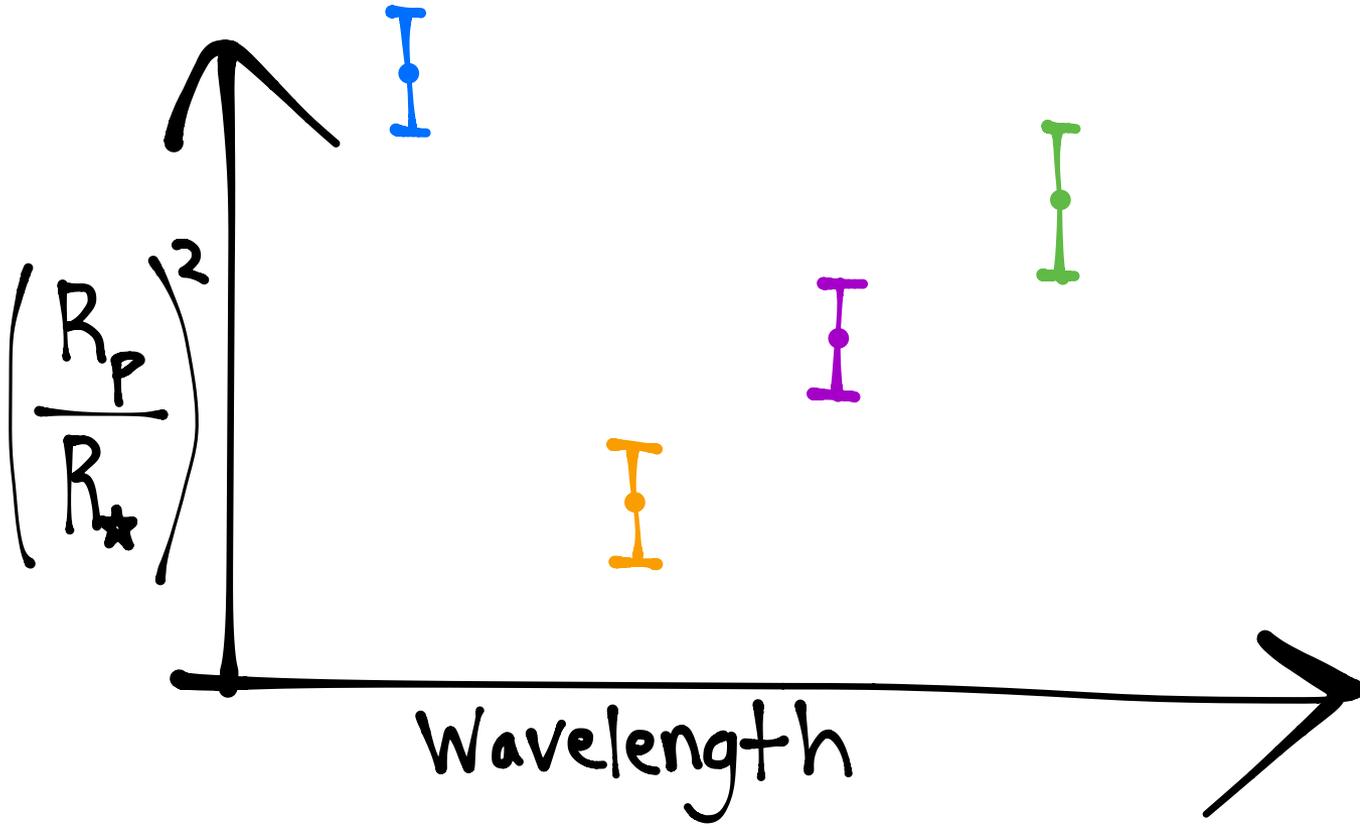
Observation:



Measurement:

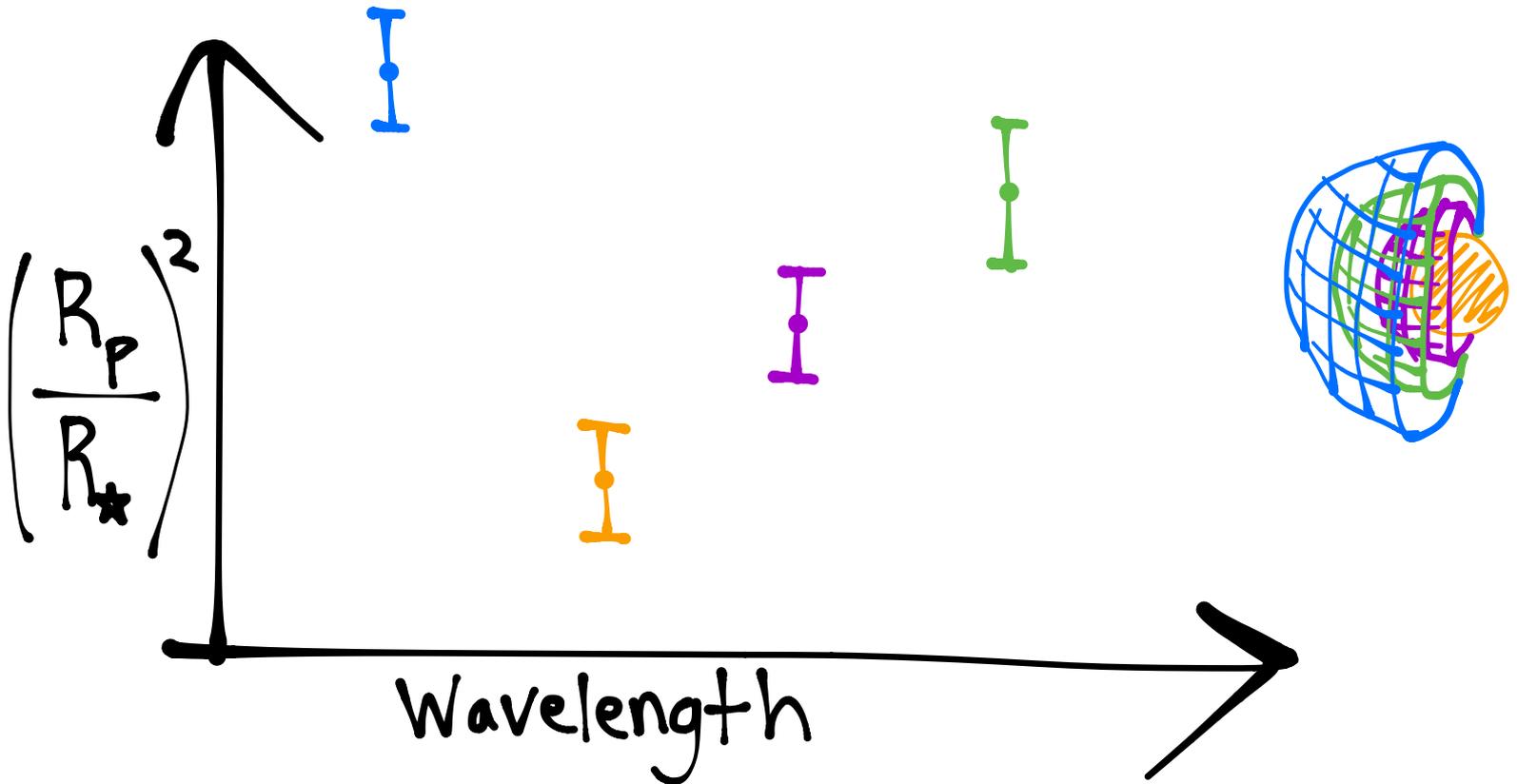


# Transiting Exoplanets



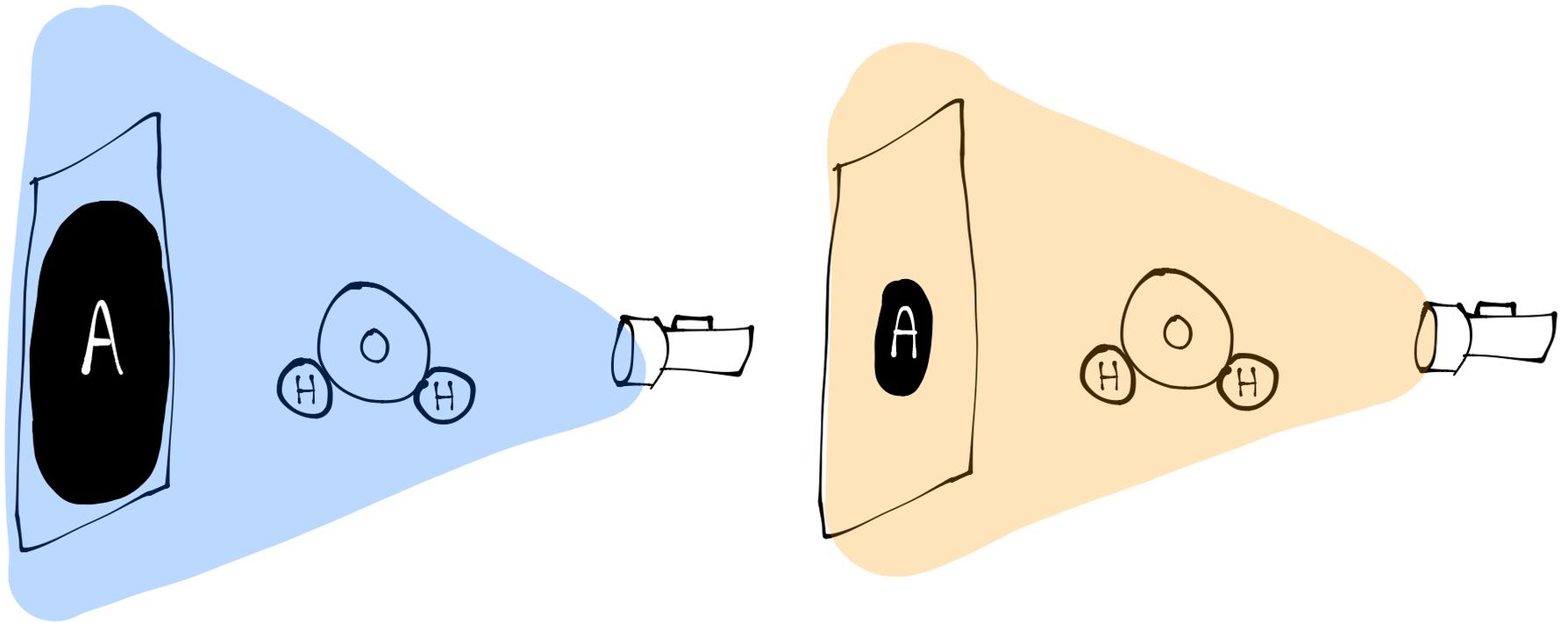
# Transiting Exoplanets

## Transmission Spectroscopy

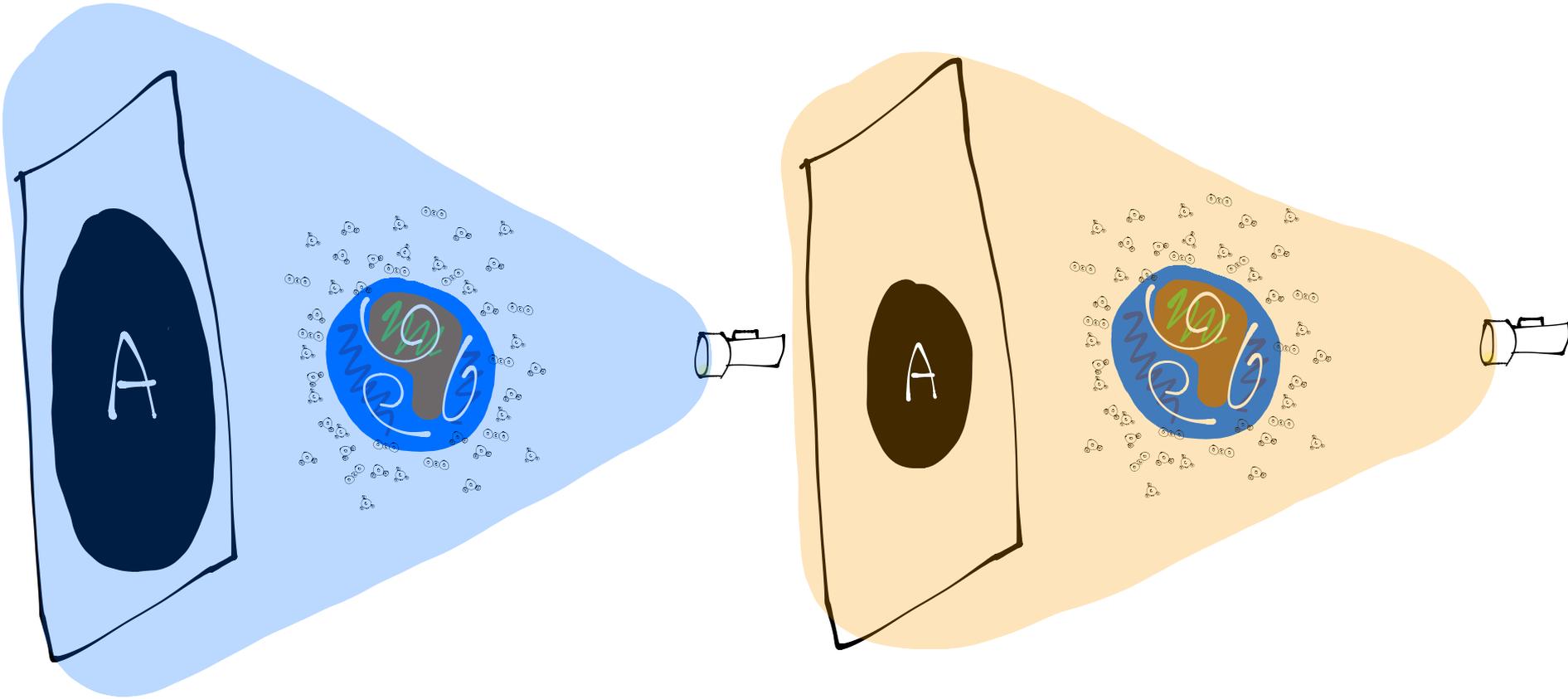


What causes the **radius** of a planet to change as a function of the **wavelength** of light observed?

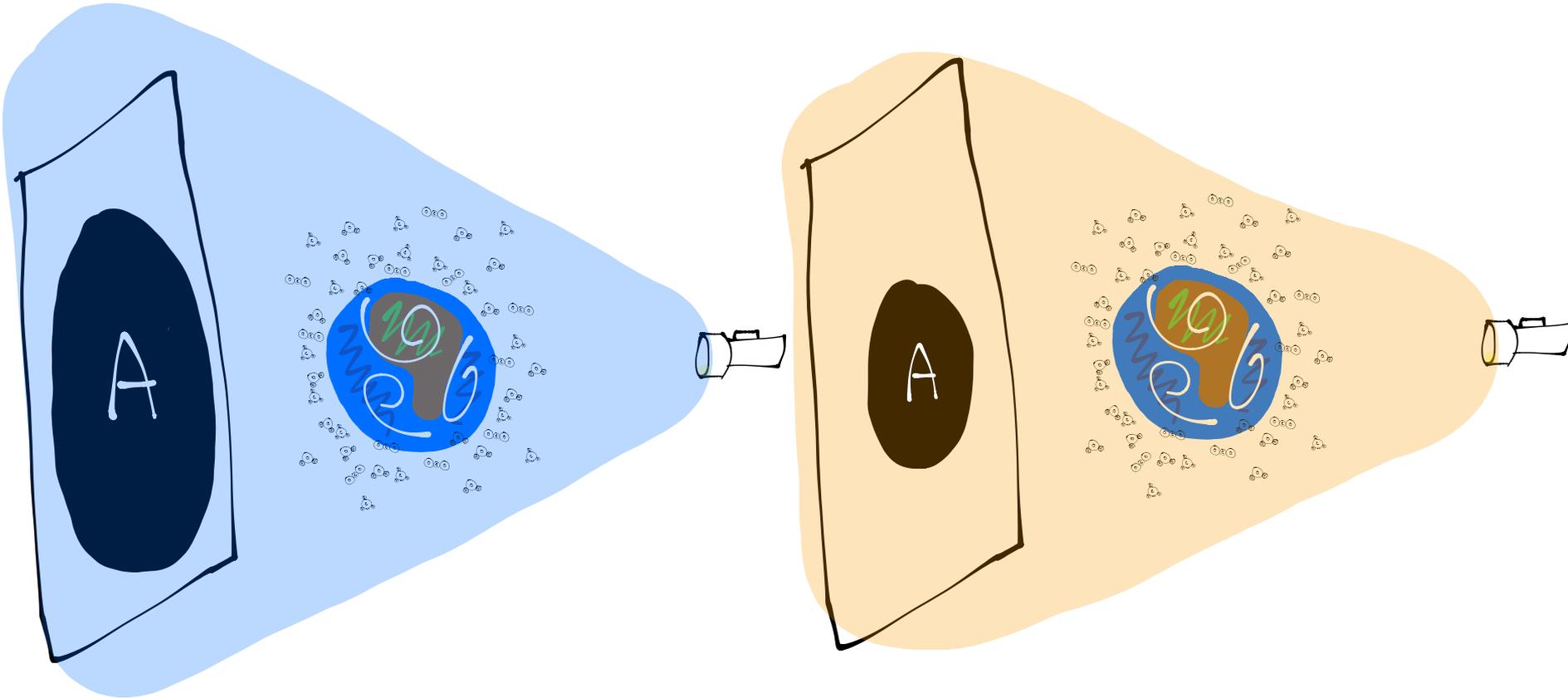
# Molecular Absorption



# Molecular Absorption



# Molecular Absorption

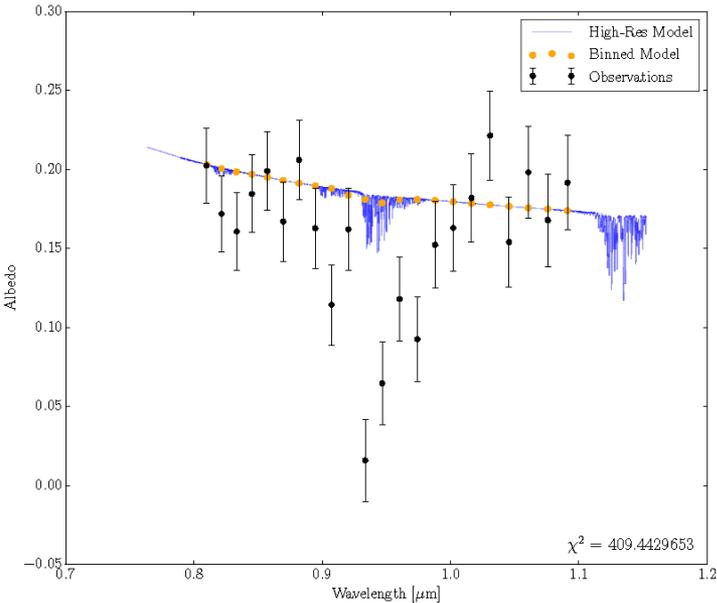


*The **composition** of the planet causes observed changes in radius!*

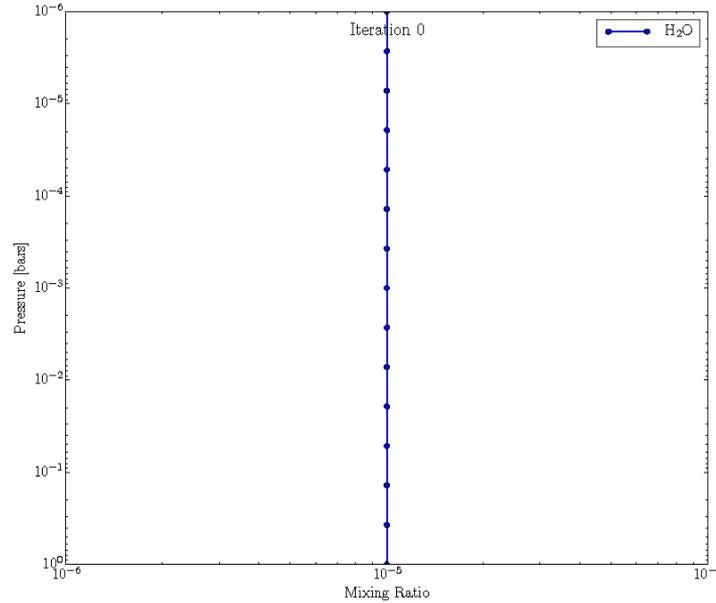
# Fitting a model to data

*Discovering the underlying **physical environment** that gives rise to an observation*

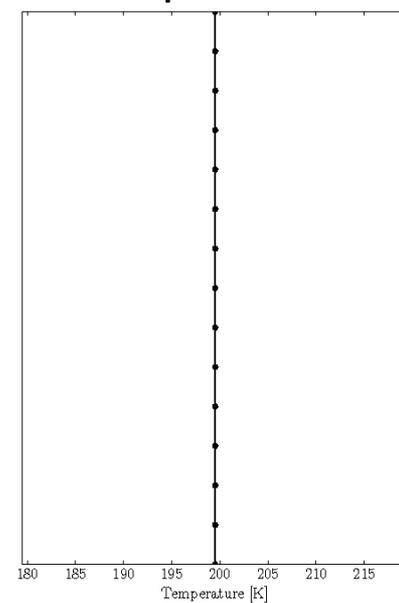
Model vs Data



Amount of water



Temperature

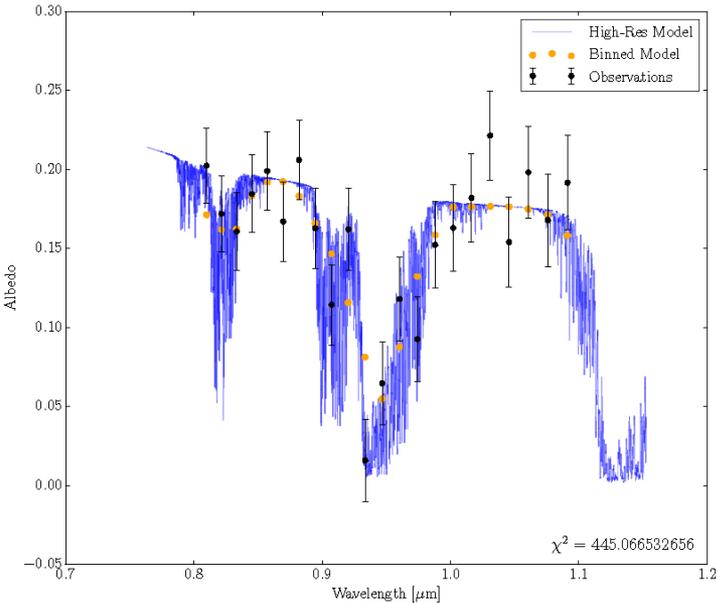


***Initial Conditions***

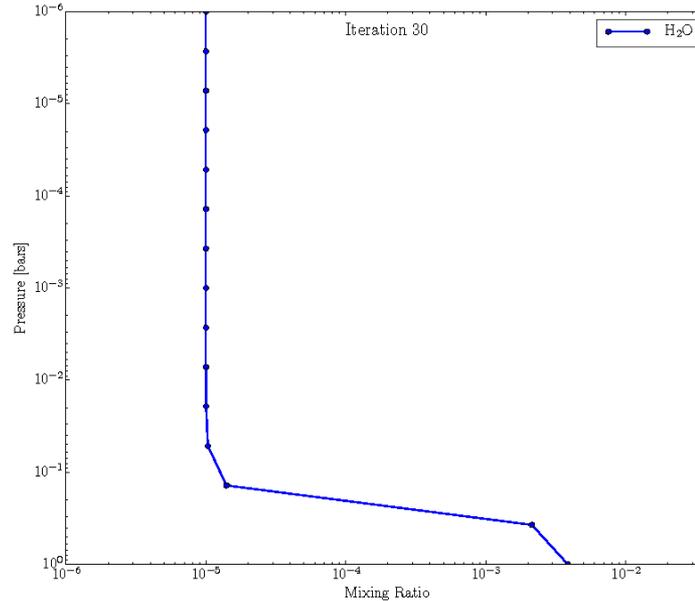
# Fitting a model to data

*Discovering the underlying **physical environment** that gives rise to an observation*

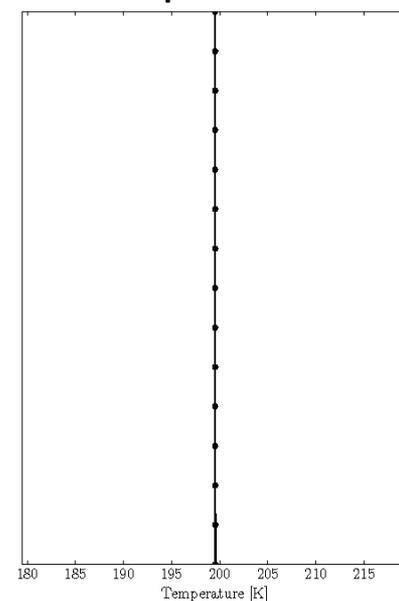
Model vs Data



Amount of water



Temperature



***Best Fitting Solution***

# The Virtual Planetary Laboratory

## Earth as an Exoplanet

*Earth Observations*  
*GCM Results*



## The Earth Through Time

*Field Work*  
*Lab Studies*  
*Computer Models*



## The Habitable Planet

*Planet Formation*  
*1-D/3-D Climate/Chemistry*  
*Orbital Dynamics*  
*Stellar Observations*



## The Living Planet

*Field Work*  
*Lab Studies*  
*Computer Models*



**Observer**

# Products

*Validation*

*Disk-averaged spectra over a full year for Earth and other planets*

*Environmental constraints*

*Climate, Biosignatures*

*Disk-averaged spectra at several stages of evolution*

*Habitability assessment*

*Disk-averaged spectra*

*Climate and limits of the habitable zone for plausible extrasolar planets*

*Limits of photosynthesis*

*Impact of life on planetary environments*

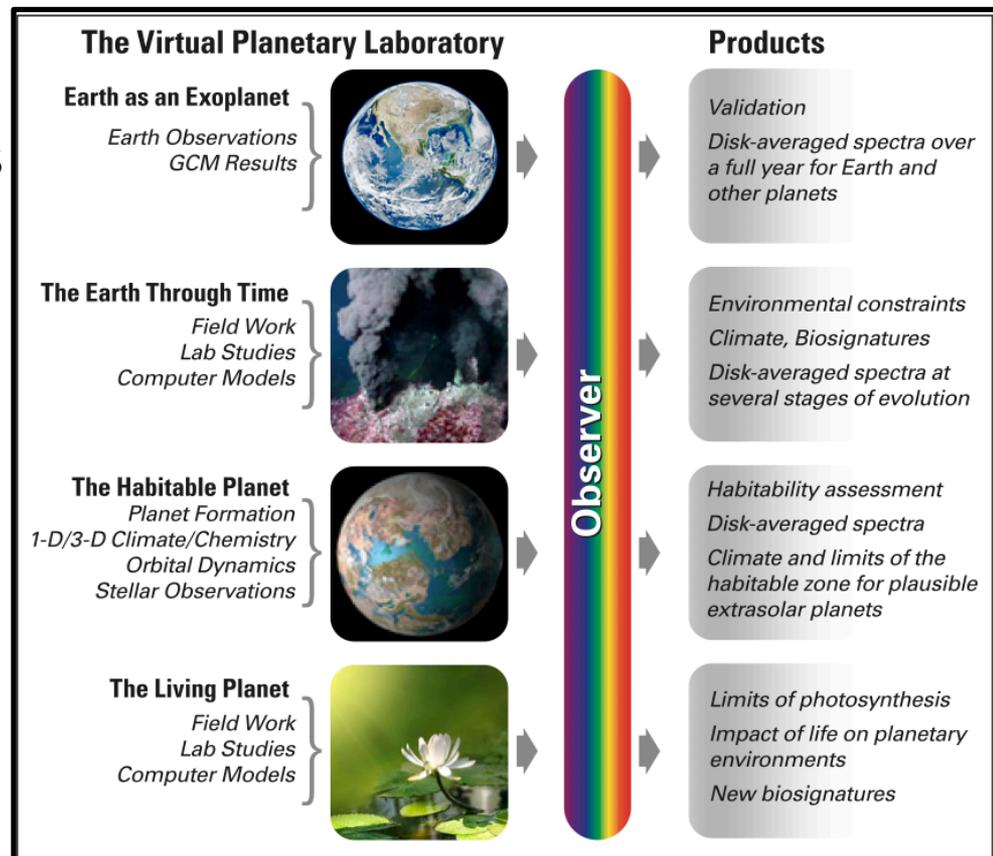
*New biosignatures*

# Eddie's Research: Astronomical Biosignatures & Habitability Markers

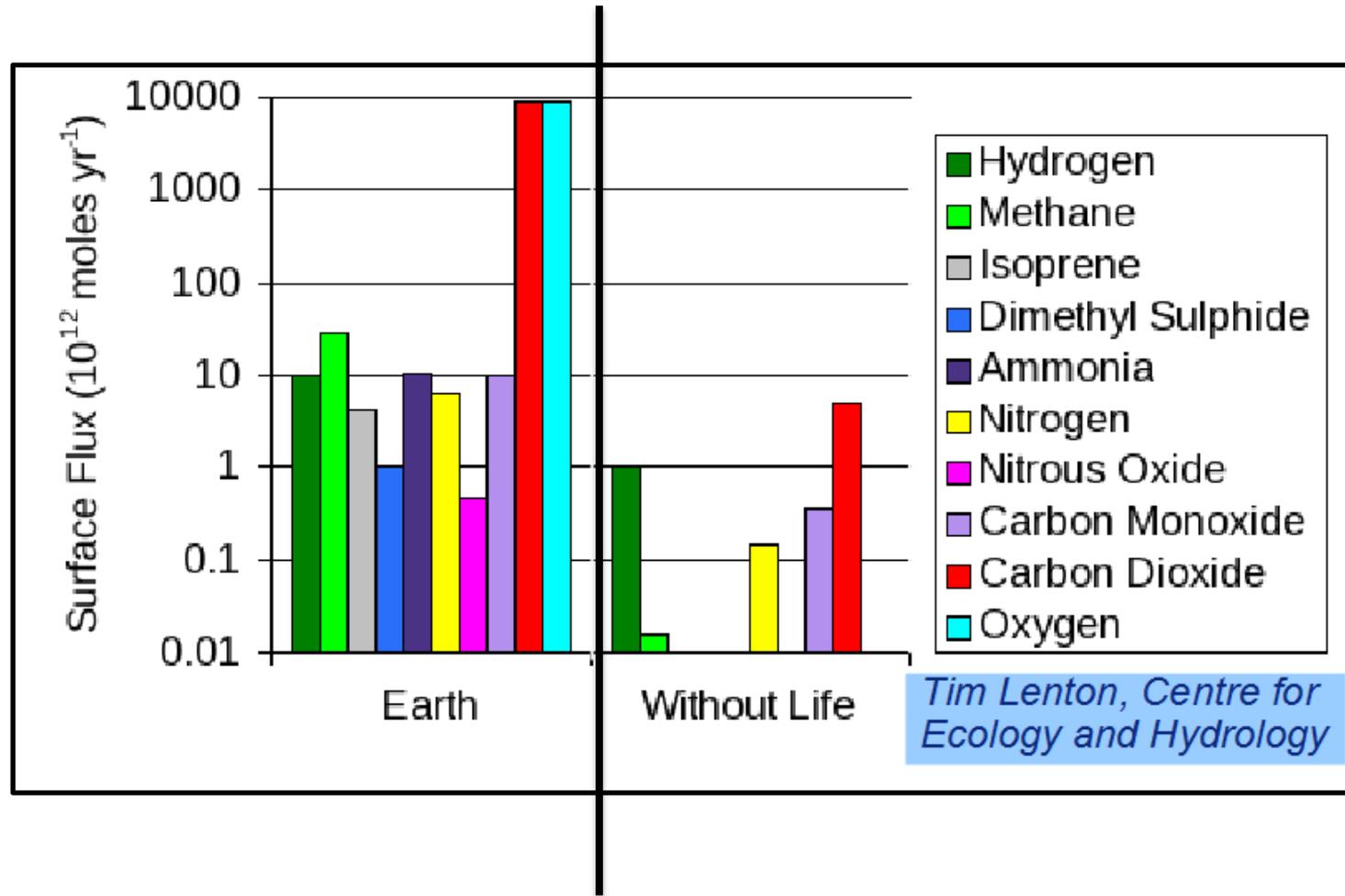
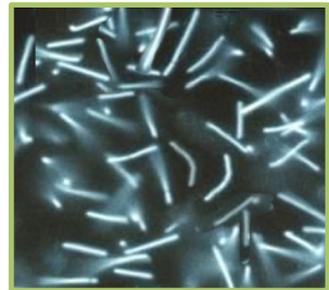
## Some of my projects

- Detecting N<sub>2</sub> in planetary atmospheres\*
- Non-photosynthetic pigments as biosignatures
- Phase-resolved spectral Earth (Earth through a Lunar Month)\*
- Spectral modeling of diverse planetary atmospheres\*
- **TOOLS:** Radiative transfer model, VPL Earth model, climate model, photochemistry code

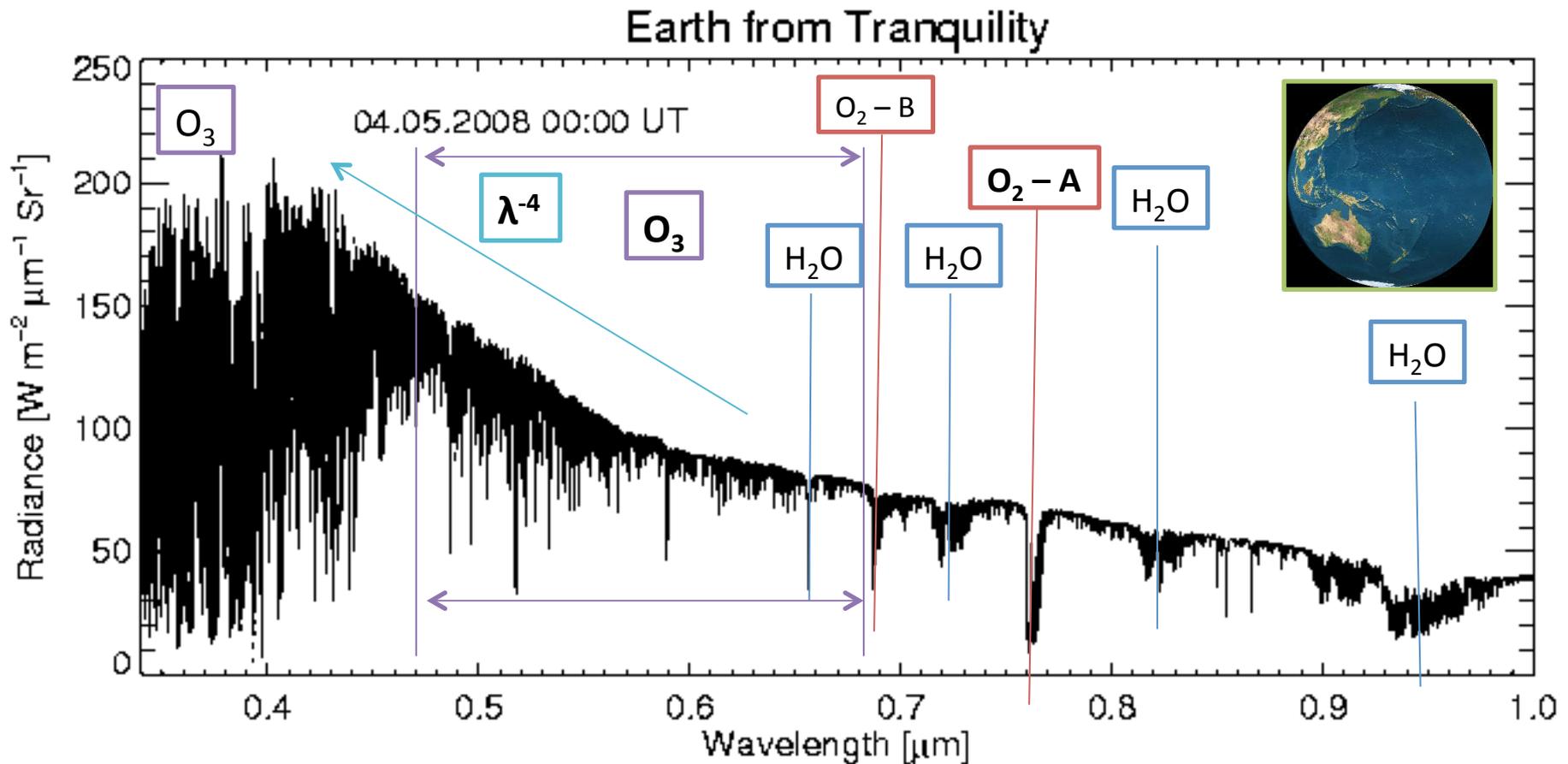
## VPL Tasks



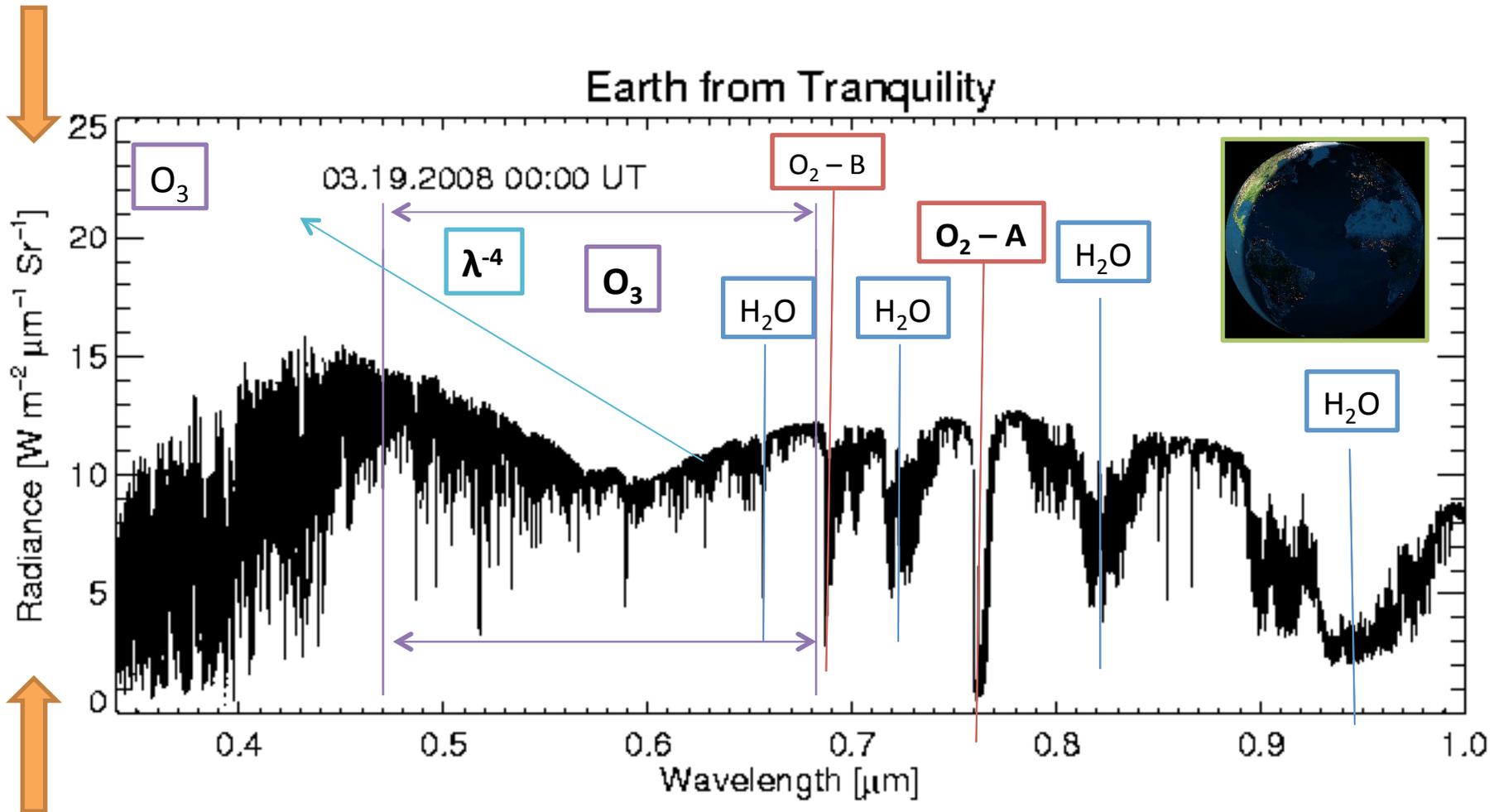
# Biology Has Changed Our Atmosphere



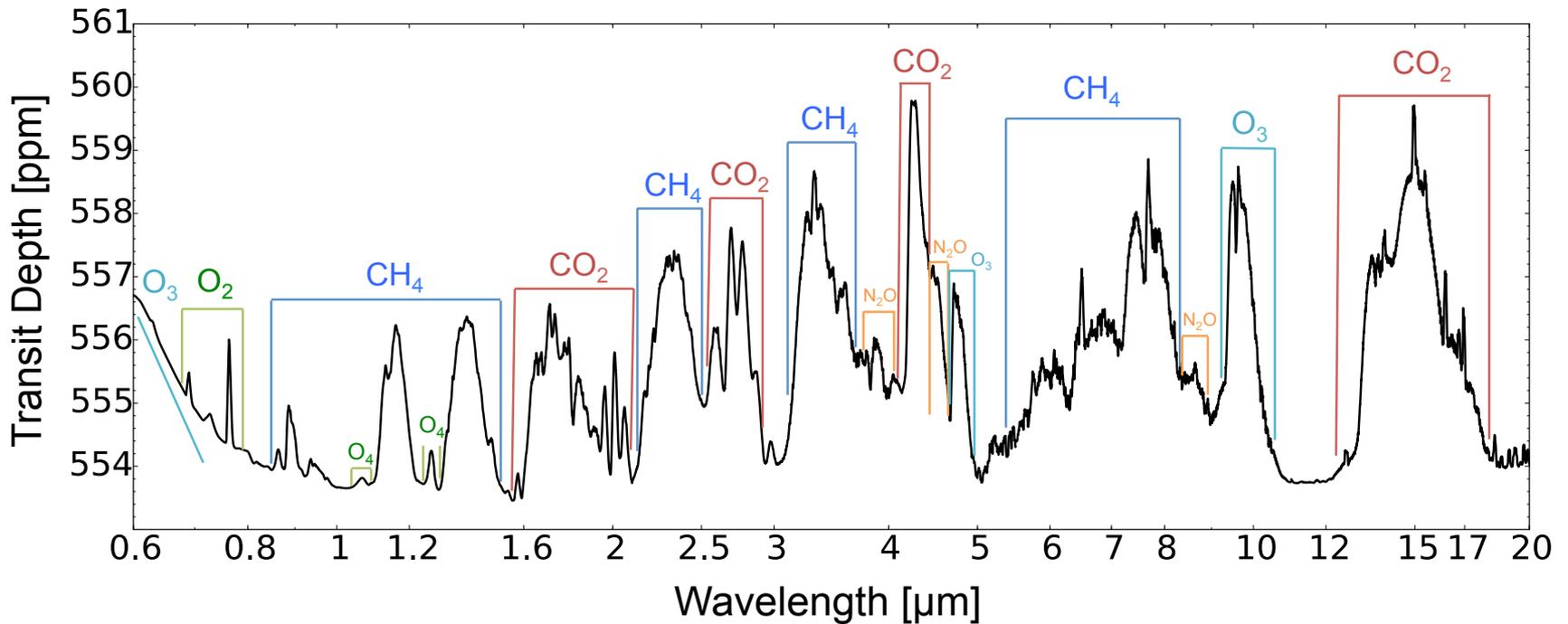
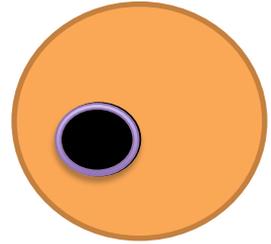
# The VPL Earth Model



# The VPL Earth Model

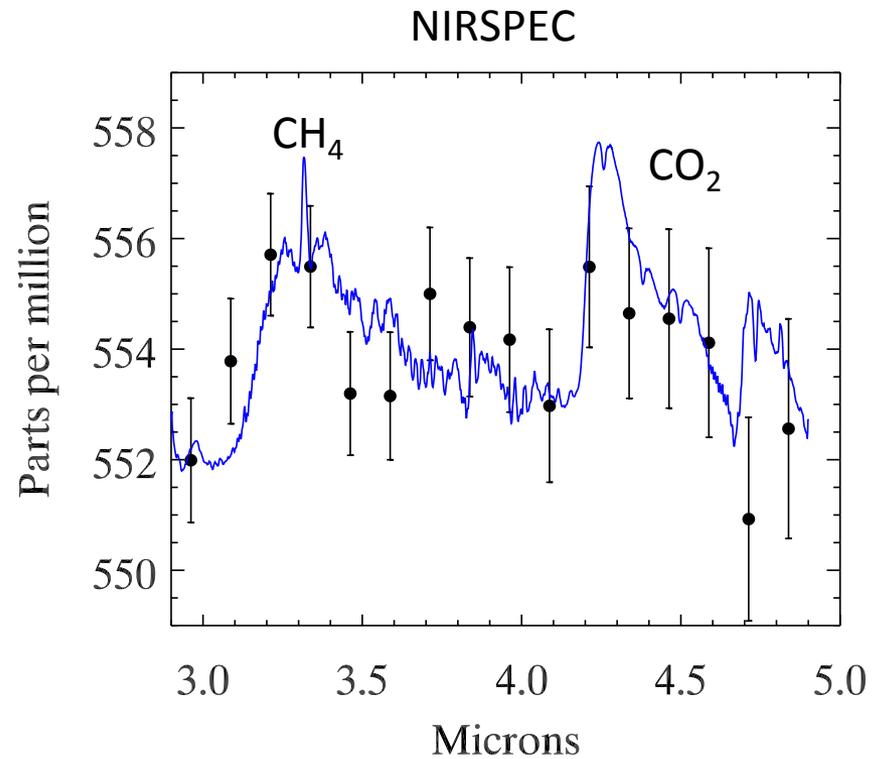
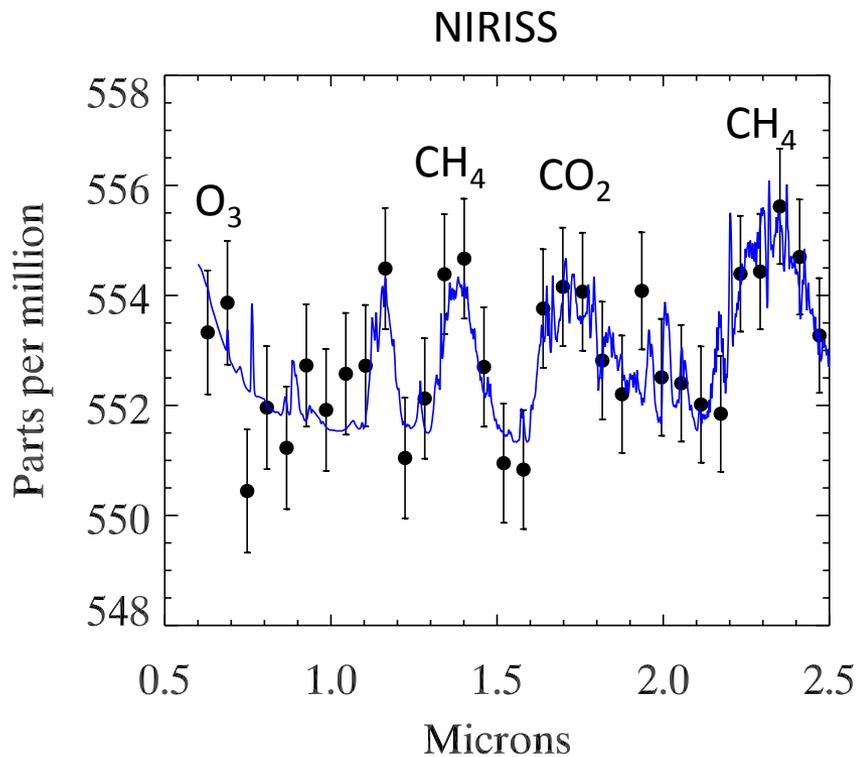


# Transmission Spectrum of an Earth around an M dwarf



Atmosphere chemical profile from Segura et al. 2005

# Earth around an M dwarf: Simulated JWST Observation

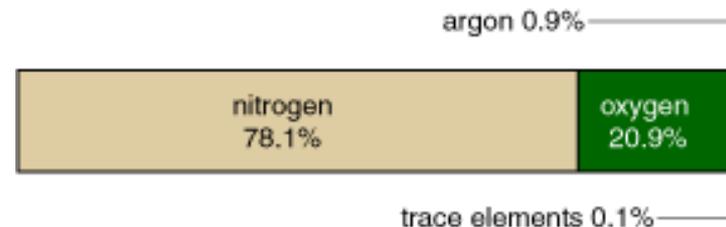
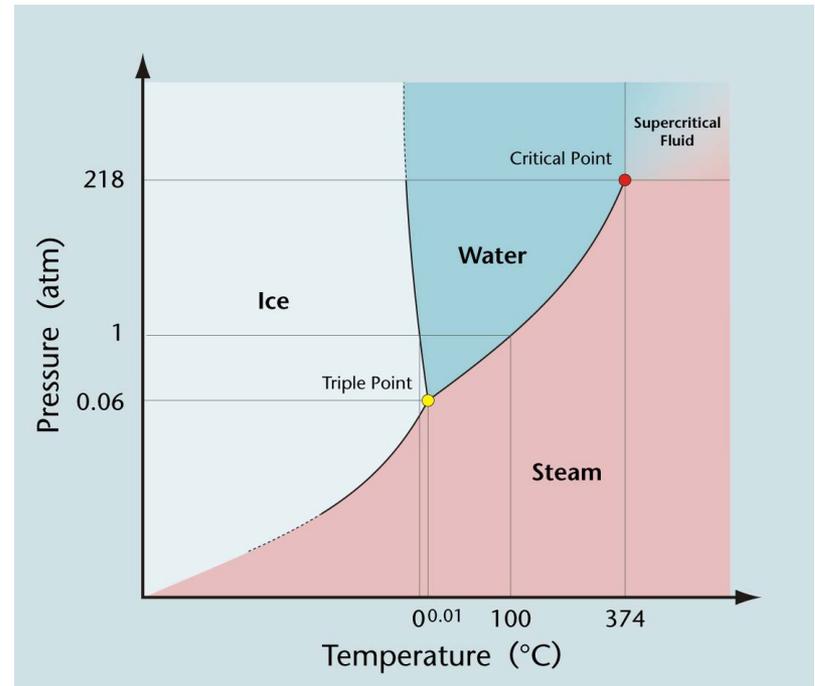


Noise calculation courtesy of Drake Deming, UMD

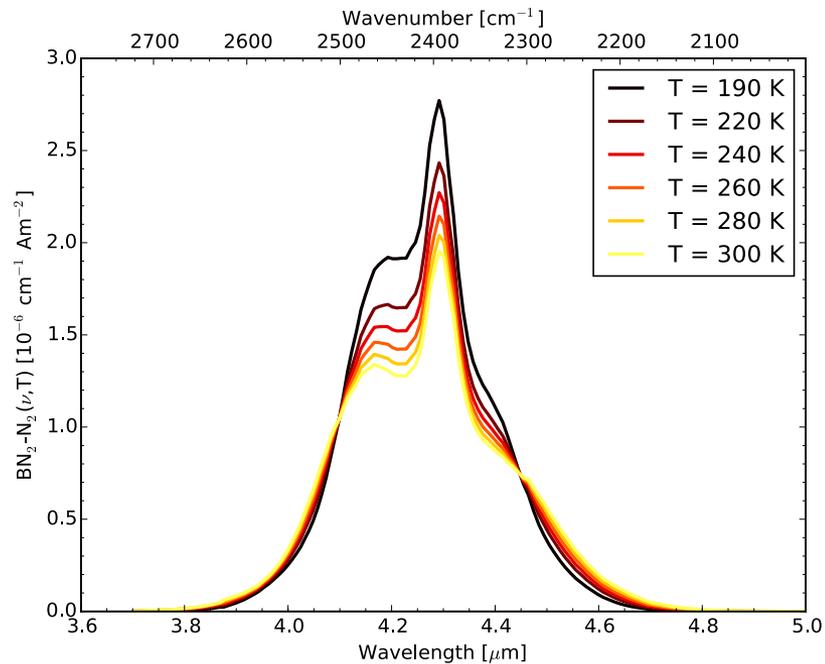
# Detecting Habitability



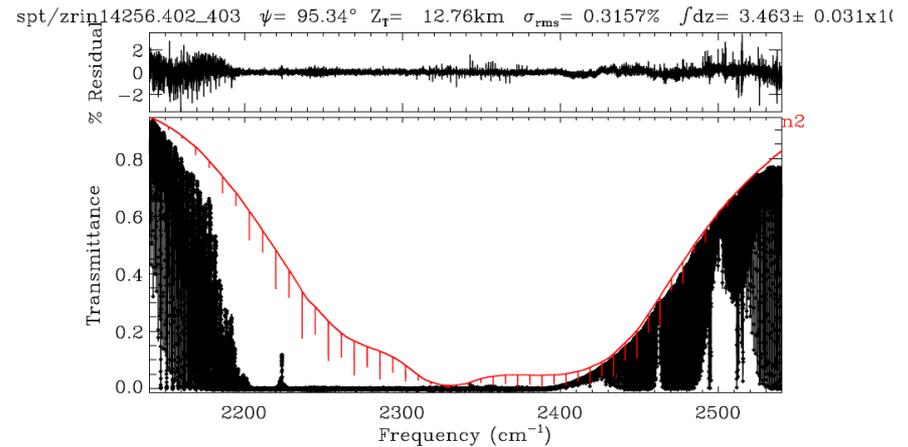
Robinson et al. 2010, 2014



# Detecting N<sub>2</sub> and the Bulk Atmosphere



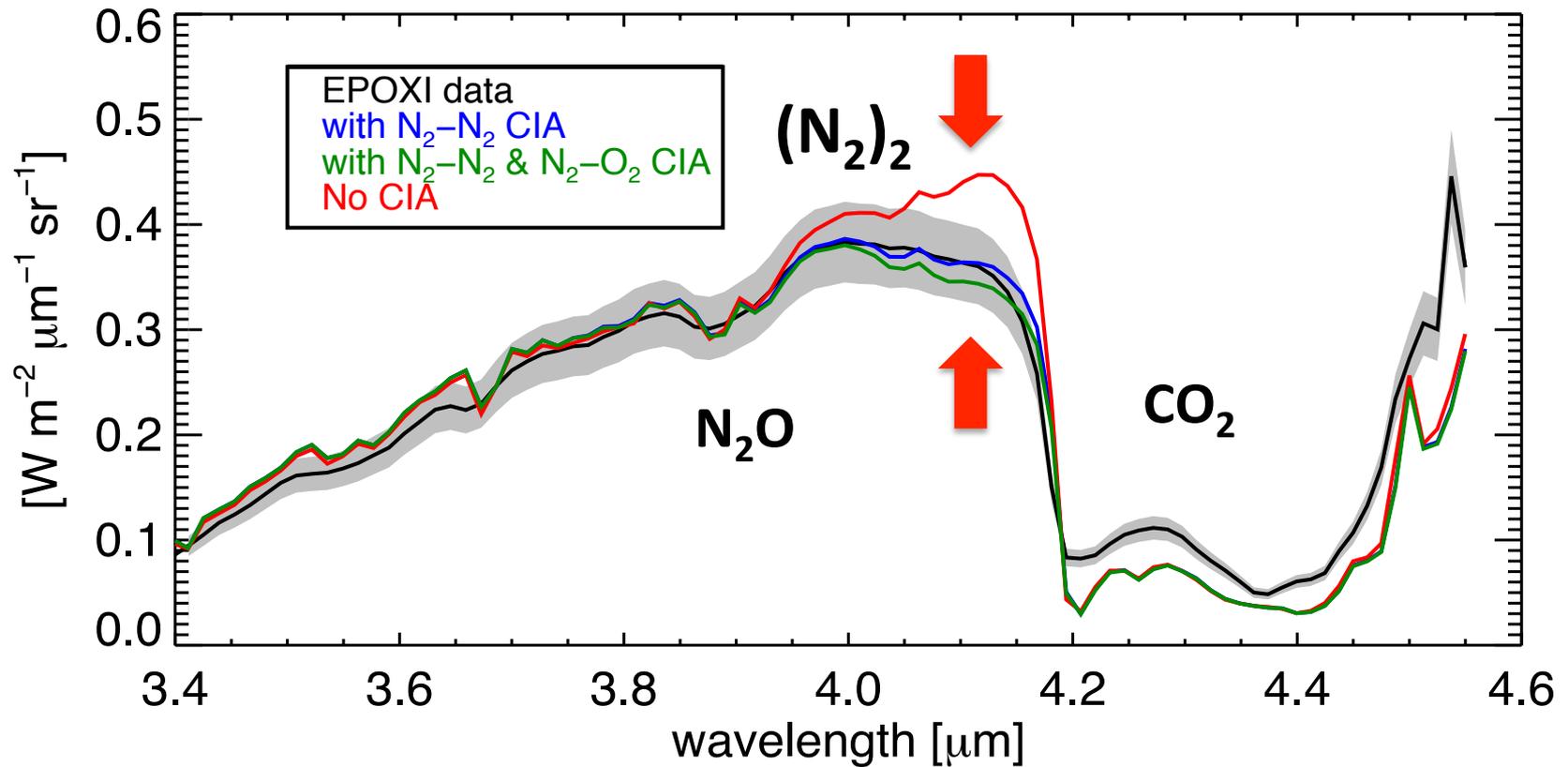
Schwieterman et al. 2015; coefficients from Lafferty et al. 1996



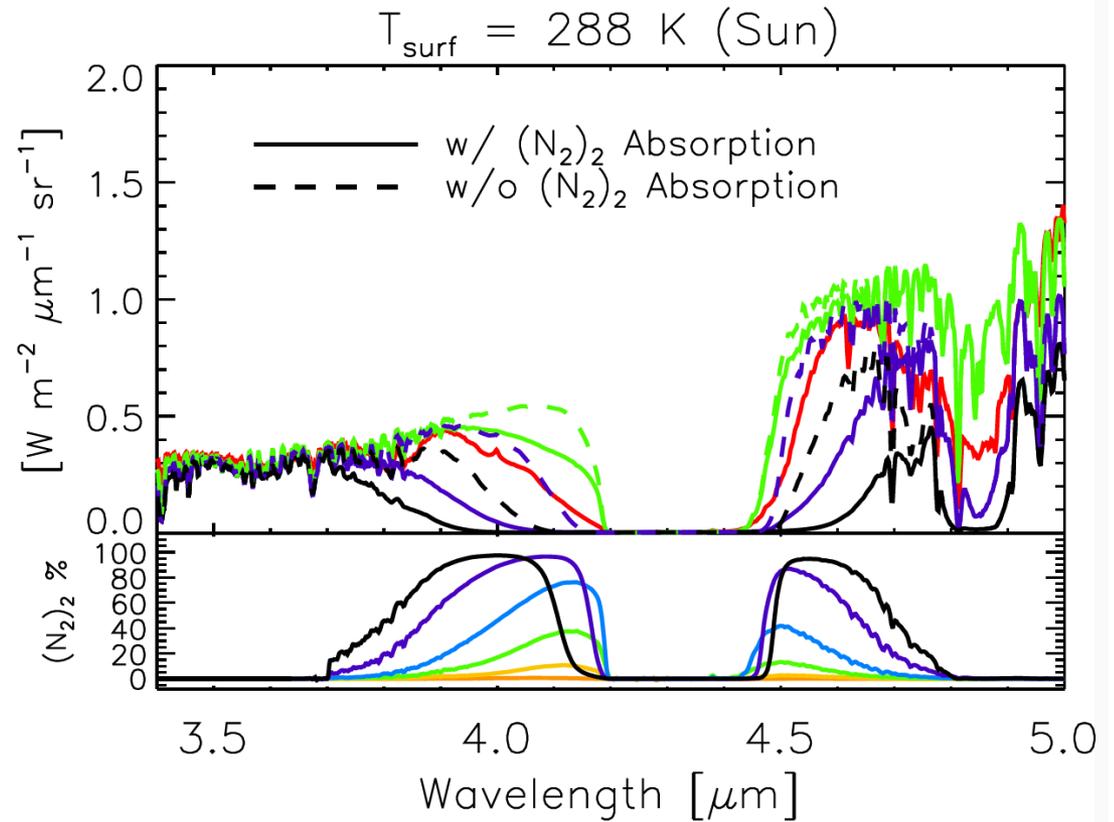
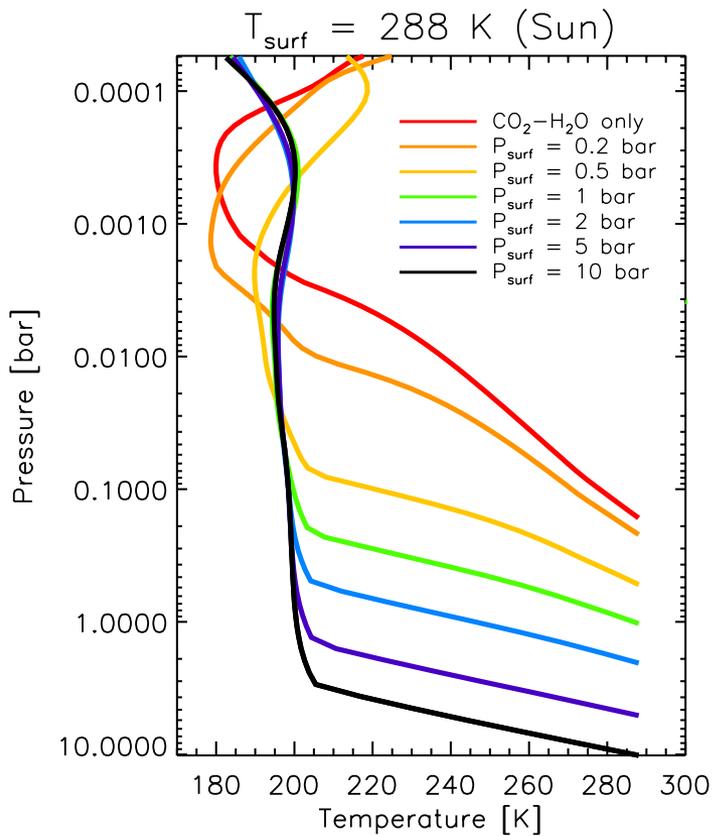
**Figure credit:**  
Geoffrey Toon

MkIV Sounding  
balloon with  
interferometer

# Validation: $(\text{N}_2)_2$ directly detected in Earth's disk-integrated spectrum



# Simulated N<sub>2</sub> Radiance Spectra



# Simulated N<sub>2</sub> Transmission Spectra

