Specks of light: Revealing planets around other stars

Gaspard Duchêne (UC Berkeley)

Curiosity (Mars)

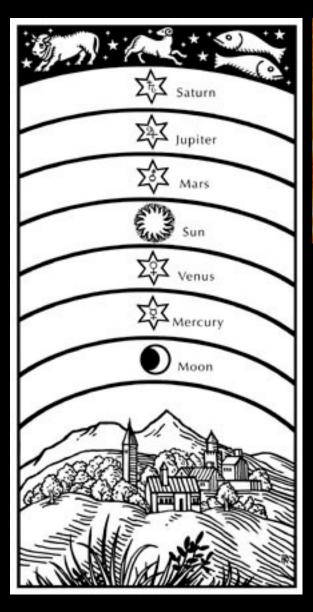
Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter

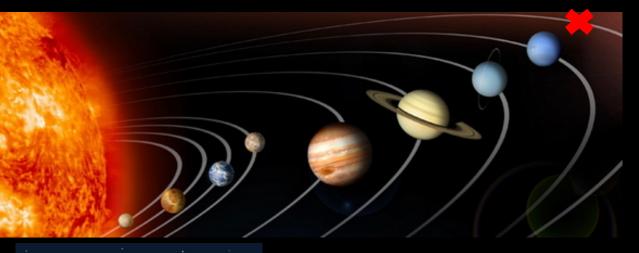
 \bigcirc

Messenger (Mercury)



Planets in the Solar System







🥹 whatever avys.



Planets in the Solar System



Planets around other stars?

LA PLURALITÉ



ET DE LA PHILOSOPHIE NATURELLE

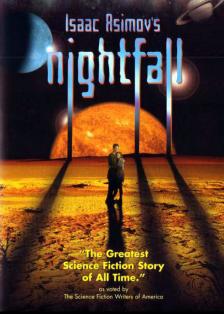
CAMILLE FLAMMARION

Autronome, ancien membre de l'Obsernataire de Paris, etc.

.... An sein des teathers de l'espare Notes terre Butte, petito Sa, Dans le grand archipet des Nondes,

DIX-SEPTIÈME ÉDITION

THE WAR OF SSICS elustrated THE WORLDS Featuring Stories by the World's Greatest Authors By H. G. WELLS 124



PARIS

LIBRAIRIE AGADÉMIQUE DIDIER ET C¹*, LIBRAIRES-ÉDITEURS 33. QUAI DES ADQUETING, 25 GUUTHER-FRILLRS, 187-LIS. DE L'ORSERVITOIRE 55, QUAI DES ADQUETING, 18

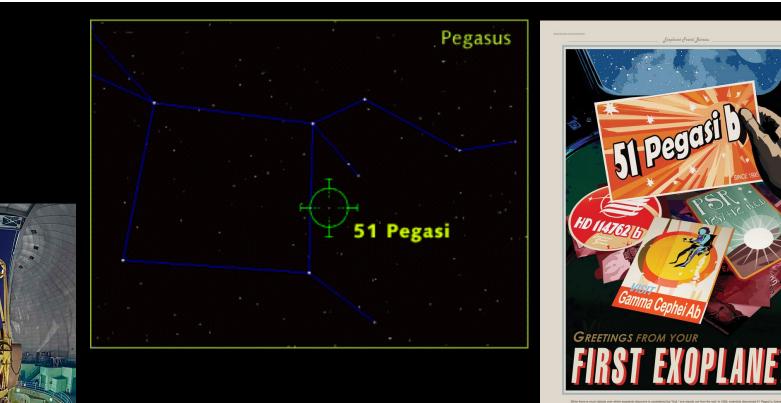
> 1 87 2 Tous droits réservés.

Planets around other stars!

A Jupiter-mass companion to a solar-type star

Michel Mayor & Didier Queloz

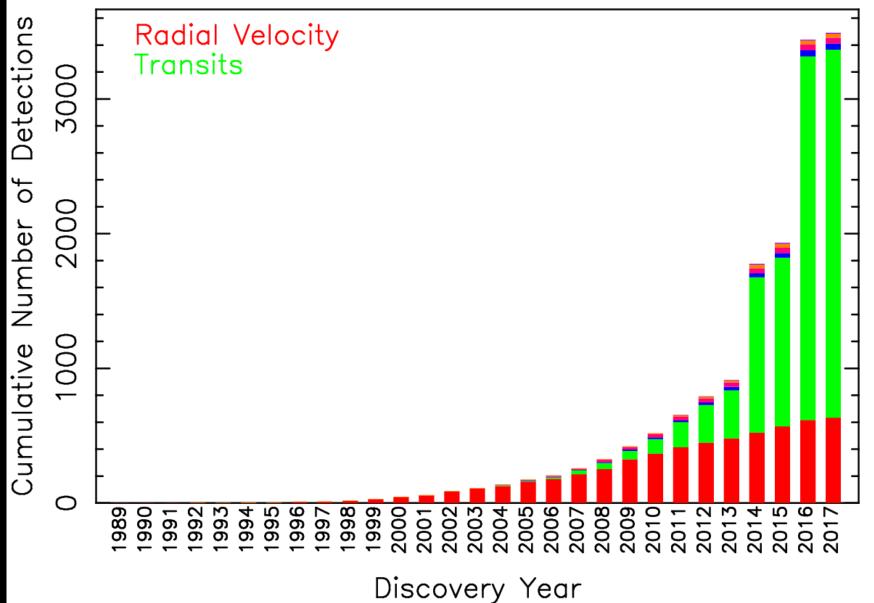
NATURE · VOL 378 · 23 NOVEMBER 1995

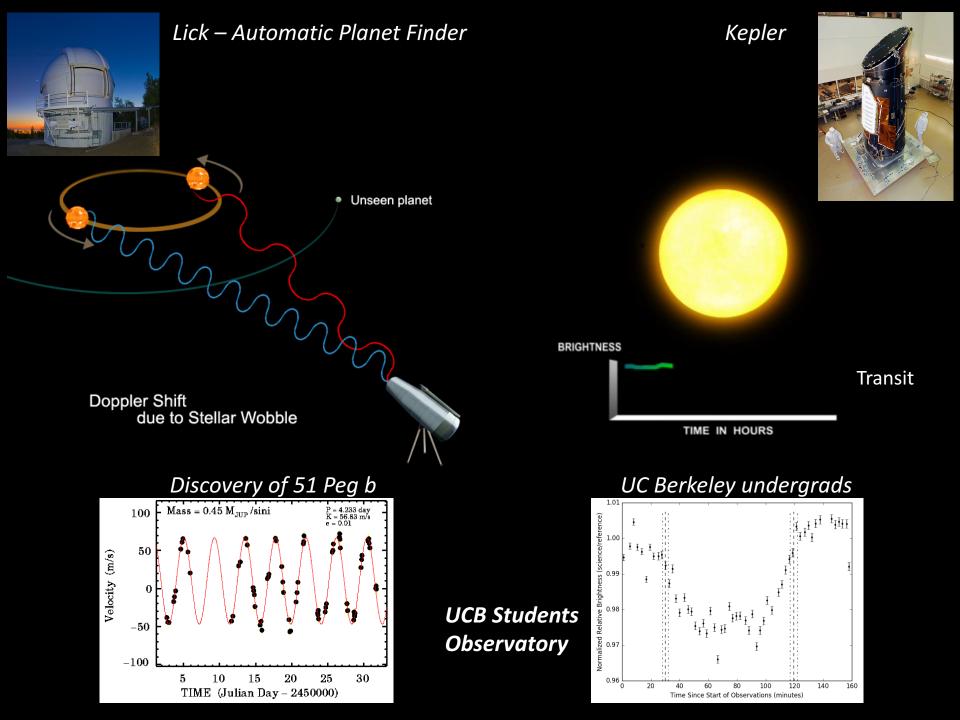


Lick – Shane Telescope

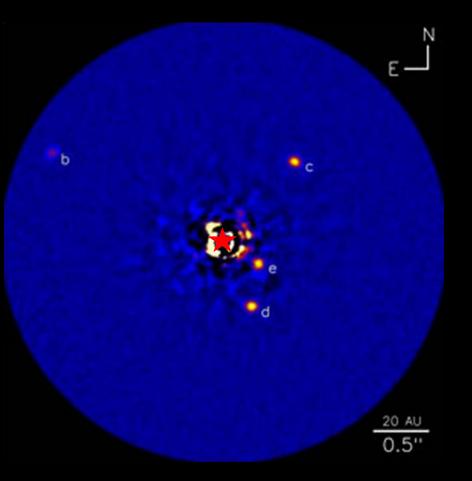
Cumulative Detections Per Year

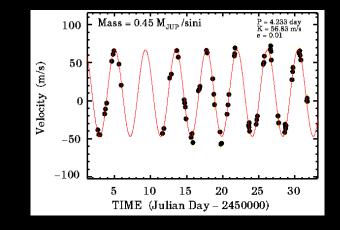
08 Jun 2017 exoplanetarchive.ipac.caltech.edu

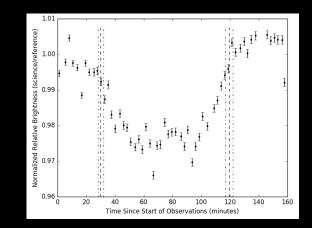




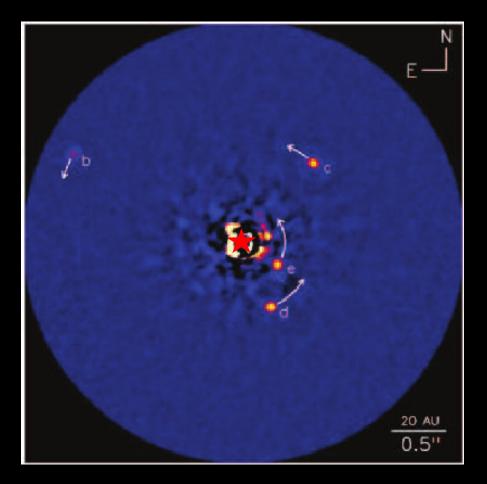
Why attempt direct imaging?



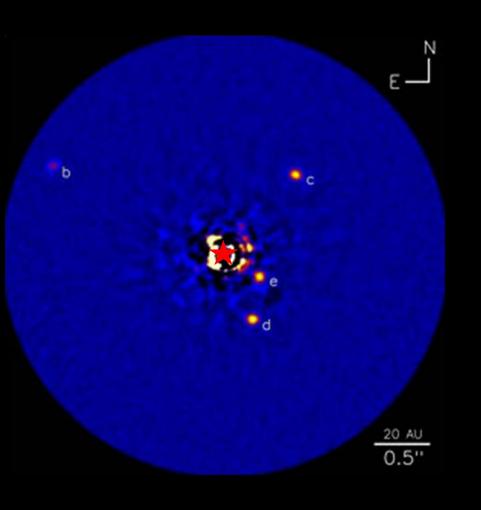


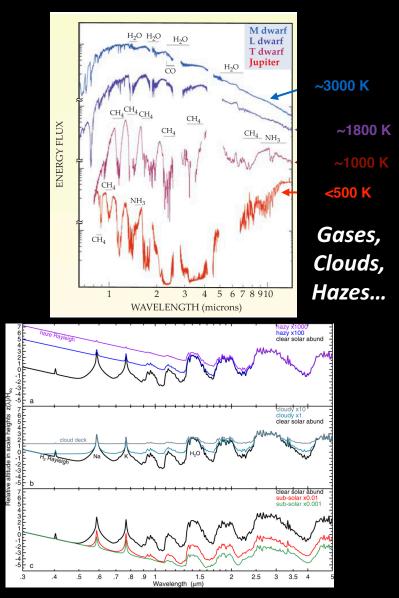


Mapping planetary orbits

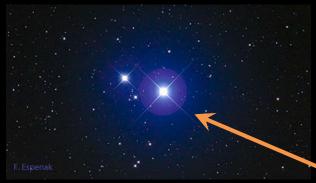


Studying atmosphere composition





Testing your eyesight

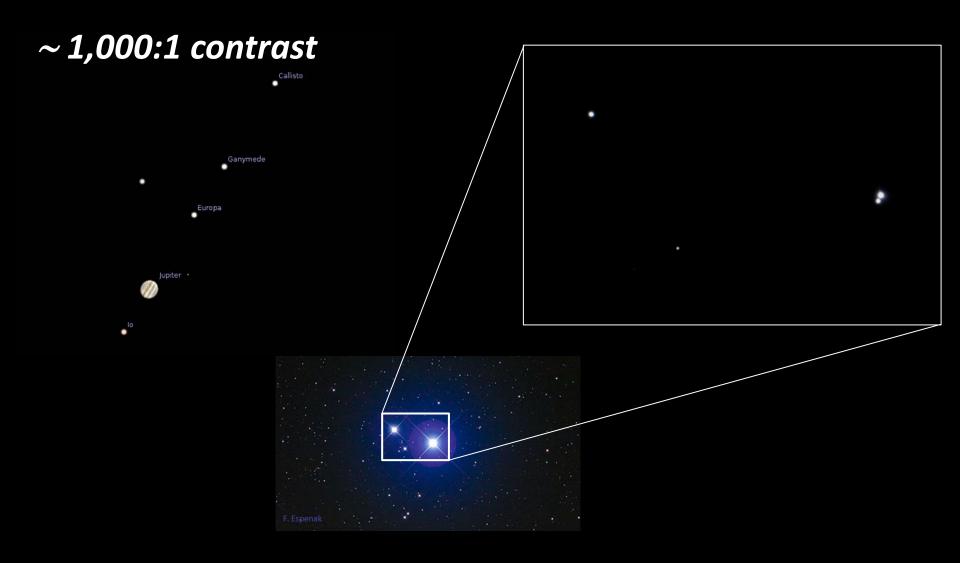




5:1 brightness ratio (contrast)

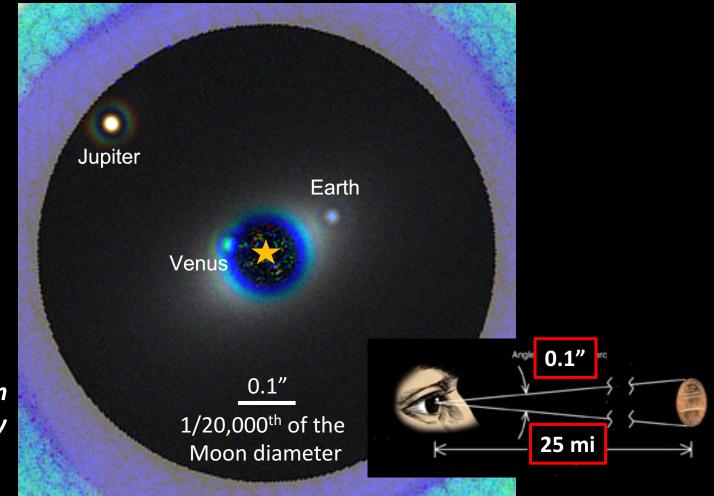


<u>Really</u> testing your eyesight!



A really, really tough challenge!

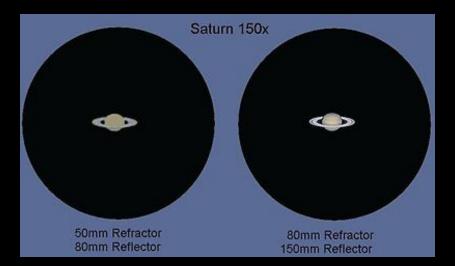
~ 1,000,000,000:1 contrast



Our Solar System from 45 l-y away



Larger telescope = higher resolution



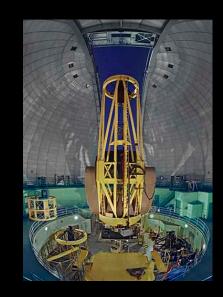


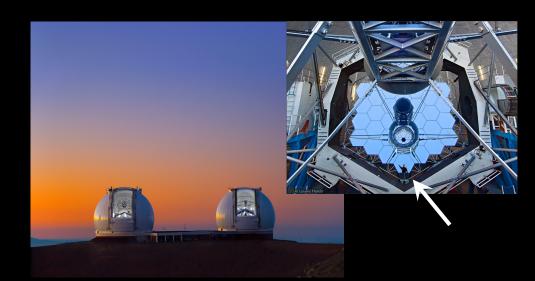
14-inch telescope



HST (94 inch)





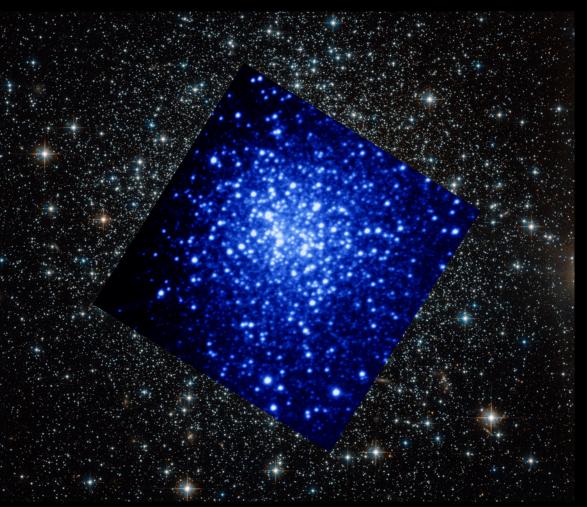






Hubble (94 inch)



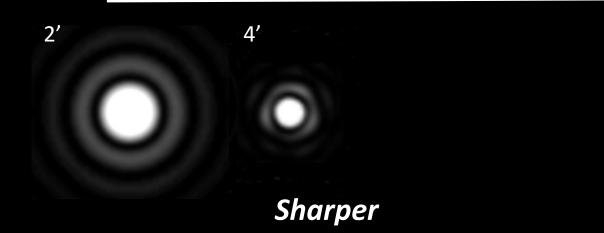


Hubble (94 inch)

Gemini (319 inch)

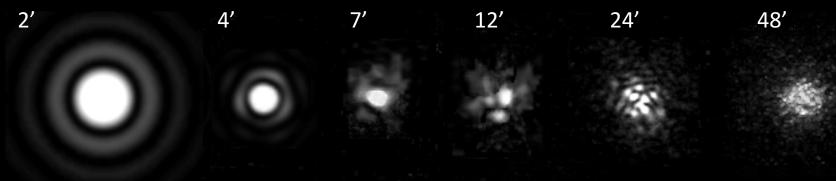
What is going on?

Larger telescope



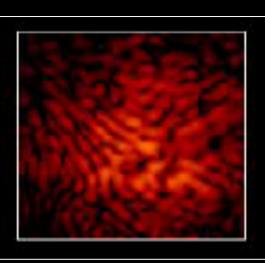
The atmosphere is in the way!

Larger telescope



Sharper ... and then blurrier!

The blur pattern changes every millisecond!





60'

Going around the problem

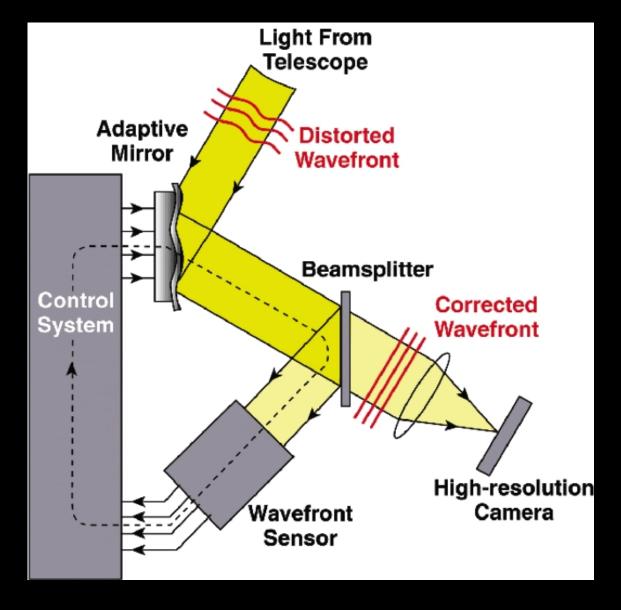
Hubble Space Telescope





Adaptive optics

- 1) Sense the blur introduced by the atmosphere
- 2) Evaluate the correction to apply to the optics
- 3) Alter the shape of a formable mirror
- 4) Rinse and repeat every millisecond!



Not so easy... but it can be done!

Vol. 65

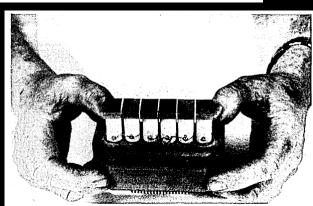
October 1953

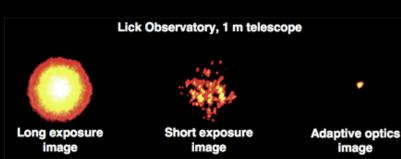
No. 386

THE POSSIBILITY OF COMPENSATING ASTRONOMICAL SEEING

Н. W. Вавсоск

1977 UCB Students Observatory, then Lick Obs.



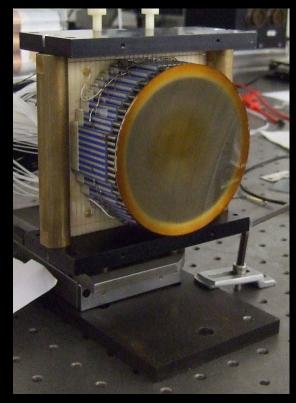


1989 Obs. Haute Provence





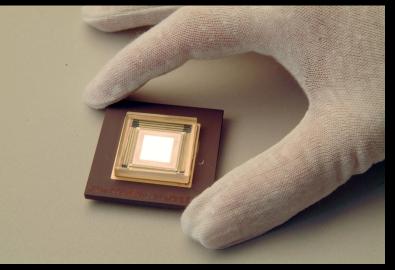
Technology to the rescue!



"standard" deformable mirror

"giant" (4 ft-diameter) deformable mirror

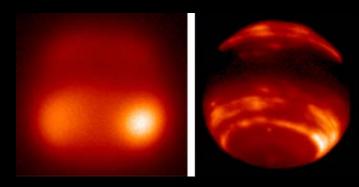
Micro-chip deformable mirror



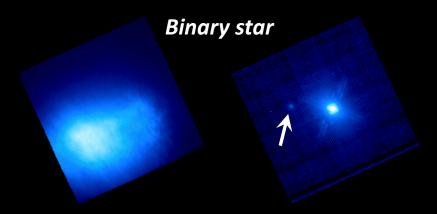


Neptune

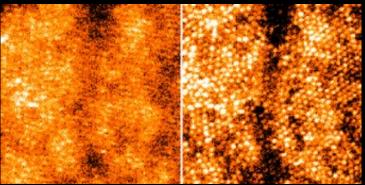


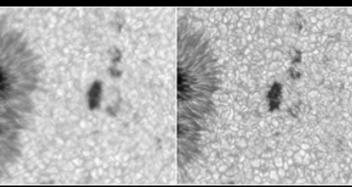


The Sun

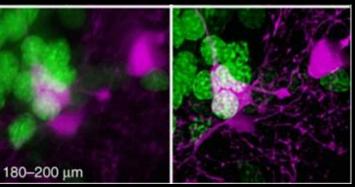


The back of your eye!





Living cells!





"Tighten" the lighthouse beam (adaptive optics)

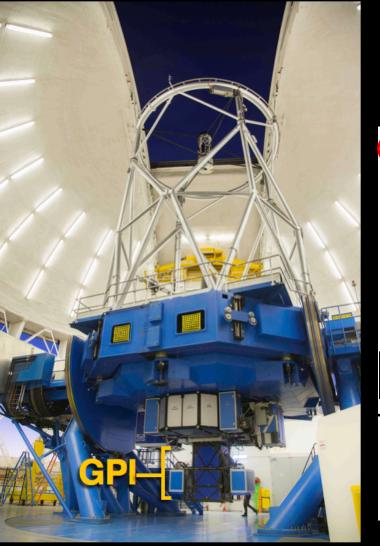
Turn off the lighthouse! (coronagraph)

Coronagraphy

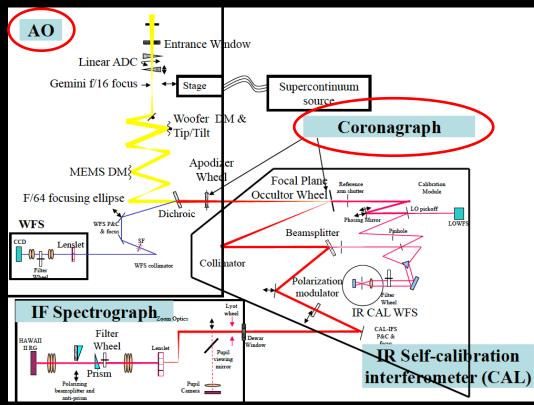




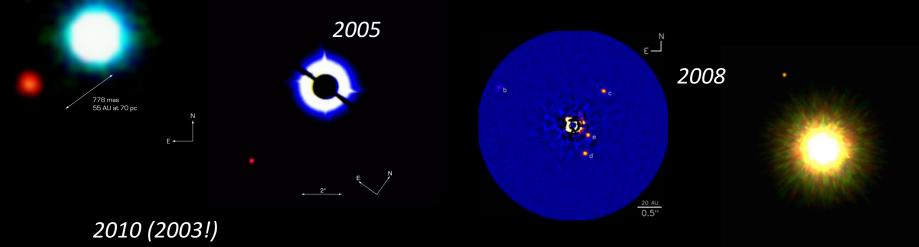
The state of the art

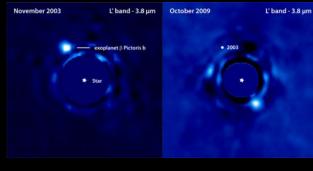


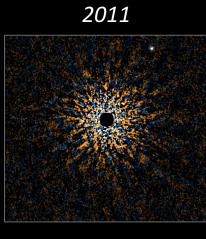
Gemini Planet Imager

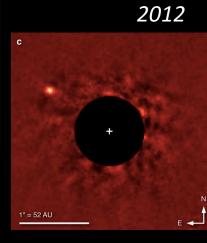


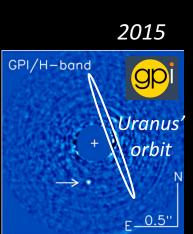
2004







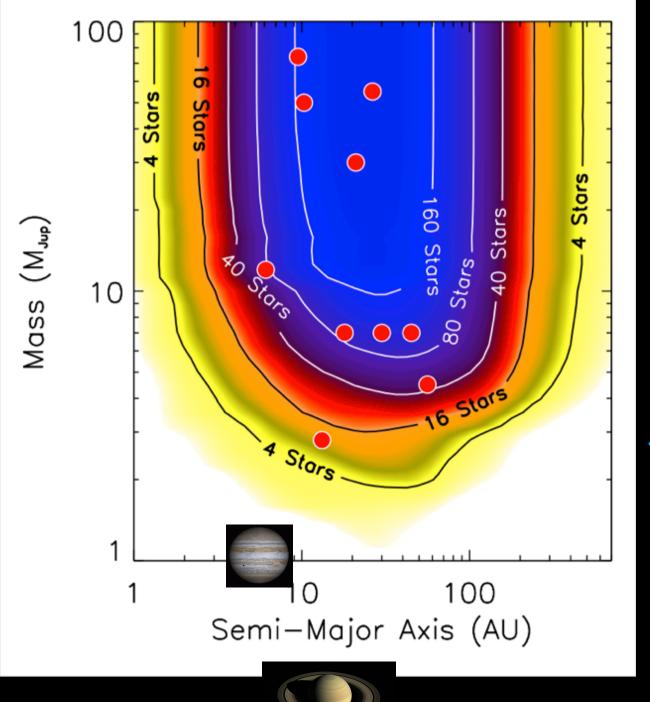




Gemini Observatory Legacy Image

Gemini Observatory / AURA / D. Latrenière, R. Jayawardhana, M. van Kerkwiik (Liebwrith of Toronh)

A young Solar System "analog"

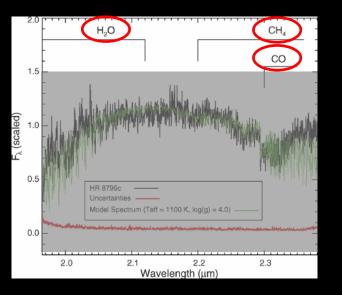




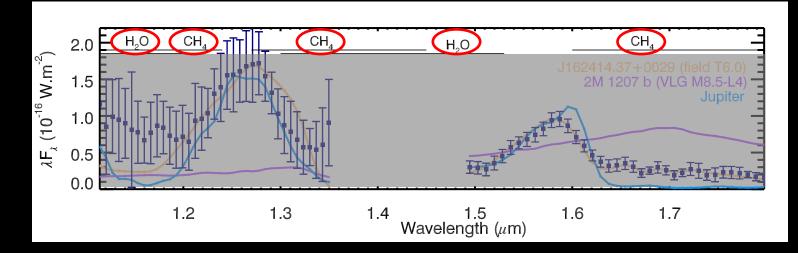
Not quite like our Solar System planets!

These systems are <u>rare</u> (a few % of all stars)

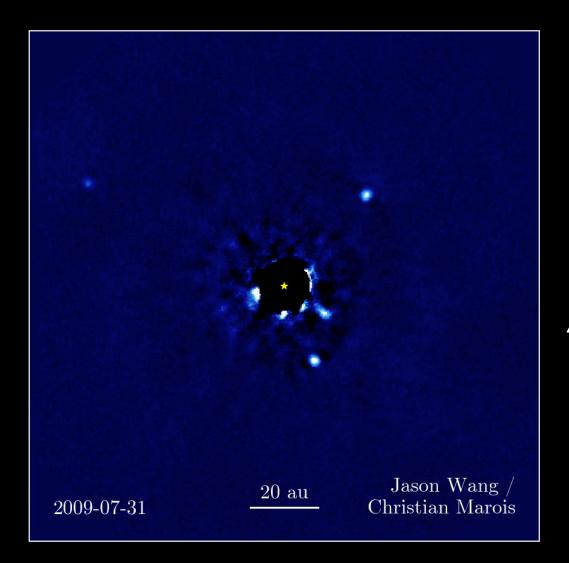
Similar planet composition



These are <u>gas giants</u>, with atmospheres made of standard molecules (CO, CH4, H2O)



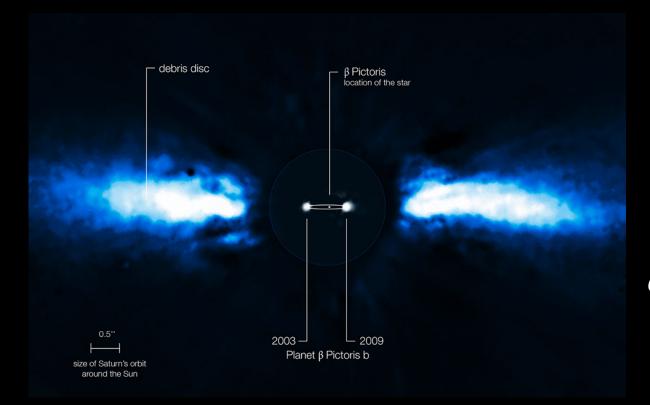
Some special systems





A nicely coplanar system

Some remarkable systems



<u>β Pic</u>

A planet interacting with a disk of dust, comets and asteroids

Some remarkable systems

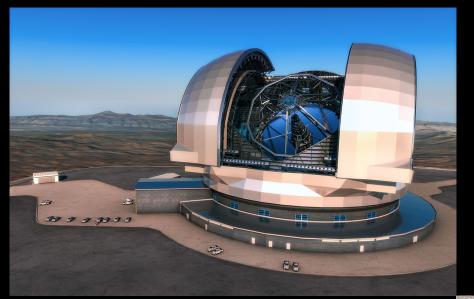
Planet 650 AU away (20 times Neptune's orbit!) on a highly inclined orbit!

HD 106906

An ejected planet?

Dusty disk around star

What's next?

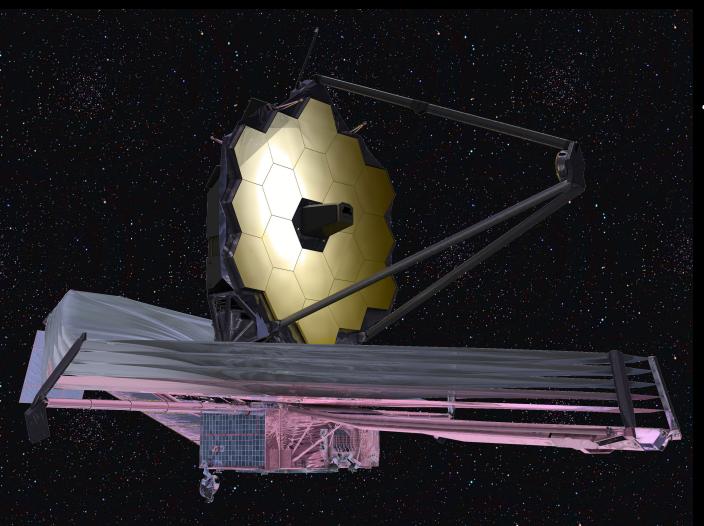


Thirty Meter Telescope

Extremely Large Telescope

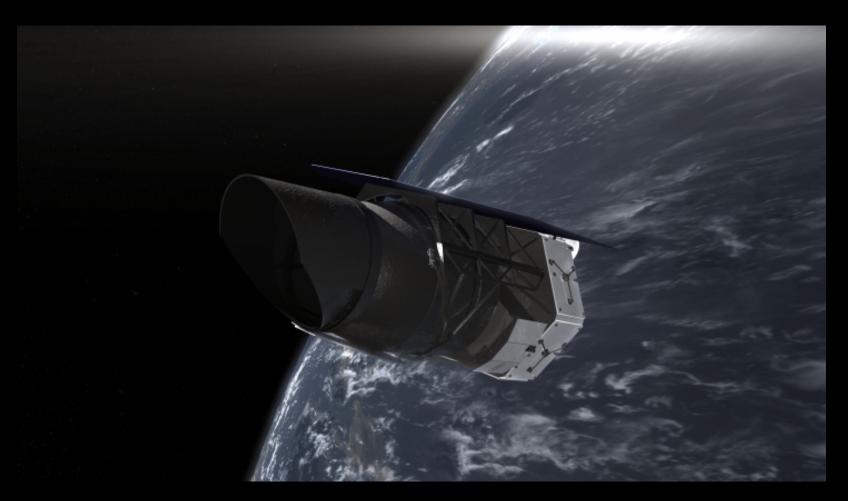


What's next?

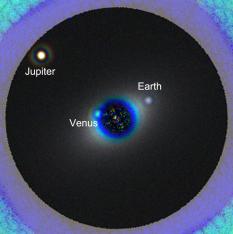


James Webb Space Telescope





Wide Field Infrared Space Telescope (WFIRST)

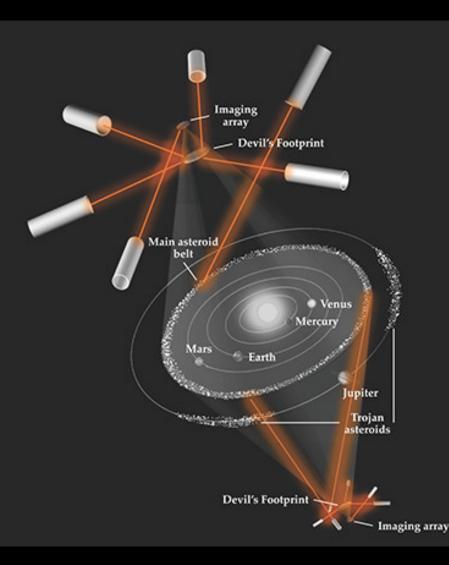


What's next?

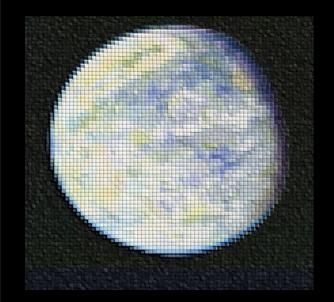


LUVOIR + "Starshade"

Dreaming ahead...

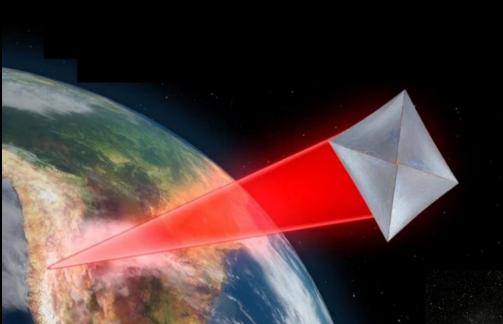


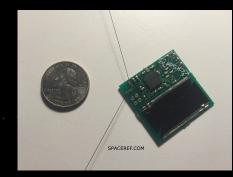
Asteroid Belt Astronomical Telescope

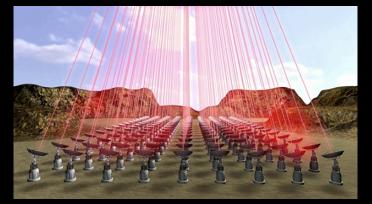


© Physics Today (2016)

Dreaming ahead...







Breakthrough Starshot



A journey to be continued!

