

EXOPLANETS – frontiers of modern planetology, where Sci-Fi meets science

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CONTENT of the lecture

- **Planet definition. What are the planets?**
- Exoplanet search methods
- Habitable zone and habitability
- **Planetary mass loss; the problem of planetary survival at close orbits; How** important are magnetospheres

- **A planet** (from Greek πλανήτης, a derivative of the word πλάνης = "moving") is a celestial body, which
	- (a) orbits a star or stellar remnant;
	- (b) is massive enough to be rounded by its own gravity (hydrostatic equil.);
	- (c) is not too massive to cause thermonuclear fusion $\overline{(M \leq 13 \text{ M}_{\text{Jupiter}})}$;

(d) has cleared its neigbouring region of **planetesimals**.

 A **planetesimals** -- solid objects, arising during accumulation of planets in protoplanetary disks (a) are kept by self-gravity;

(b) orbital motion is not much affected by gas drag.

Planetesimals in the solar nebula:

- objects larger than ~ 1 km (can attract gravitationally other bodies)
- most were ejected from the Solar system, or collided with larger planets
- a few may have been captured as moons (e.g., Phobos, Deimos and small moons of giant planets).
- Sometimes Planetesimals $=$ small solar system bodies, e.g. asteroids, comets

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 \Box

- **•** orbiting the Sun,
- sufficient mass for hydrostatic equilibrium $(\sim$ round shape)
- has "cleared neighbourhood" around its orbit.

⇒ **Dwarf Planet**

- orbiting the Sun,
- sufficient mass for hydrostatic equilibrium $(\sim$ round shape)
- has "cleared neighbourhood" around its orbit.
- ⇒ **Small solar system body (SSSB)**

- Reasons for the new definitions (Planet / Dwarf planet / SSSB):
	- (a) discovery of Pluto (1930) and its moon Charon (1978) \rightarrow new estimate for M_{Pluto} (~ 1/20 M_{Mercury})
	- (b) discovery of other objects comparable to Pluto (size, orbit) \rightarrow plutinos

James Christy (June 22, 1978) **magnified images of Pluto on photographic plates**

1996 image of Pluto & Charon (right) **ESA/Dornier UV camera FOC, NASA Hubble**

- **Minor planet / planetoid --** old official definition (before IAU 2006) for an astronomical object in direct orbit around the Sun that is *neither a planet nor a comet*.
	- used since the 19th century (Ceres discovery in 1801)
	- \sim $>$ 200,000 minor planets have been discovered (asteroid & Kuiper belts)

□ The IAU states: "the term 'minor planet' may still be used, but generally the term 'small solar system body' will be preferred."

Solar system planets

- **Central star** (host star)
	- The Sun: $G2V$ (~4.57 billion years old)
- **Planets** 8 planets and 5 dwarf planets:
	- *Internal* planets (Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars)
	- *External* planets (Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune)
	- *Dwarf* planets (Ceres, Pluto, Haumea, Makemake, Eris)

Extrasolar planets / Exoplanets

- An **extrasolar planet**, or **exoplanet**, is a planet beyond our solar system, orbiting a star other than our Sun.
	- **at 1 September 2010:** 413 planetary systems; 490 planets 49 multiple planet systems
- The "working" definition for extrasolar planets (IAU 2001, 2003) \rightarrow criteria:
	- Objects with masses below the limiting mass for thermonuclear *fusion of deuterium* (\sim 13 M_{Jupiter}, for the same isotopic abaundance as the Sun);
	- Orbit stars or stellar remnants;
	- Minimum mass $&$ size for an extrasolar object to be considered a planet are the same as that used in Solar system.
- Substellar objects with masses > 13 M**Jupiter** (allow thermonuclear fusion of deuterium, *but not eneough for hydrogen burning fusion*) **brown dwarfs**
- *Free-floating objects* (not orbiting any star), in young star clusters with masses < 13 M_{Jupiter} > "sub-brown dwarfs" not planets !!!

Extrasolar planets / Exoplanets

- Free-floating PLANE**tary Mass Objects Planemos** (IAU, 2003)- called also *rogue planets* "or *,interstellar planets*" -- may have formed as a planet around a star, but were subsequently ejected from that planetary system.
	- **-** Planemo often is used to denote in general *an object [rounded by selfgravity] that does not achieve core fusion during its lifetime* (regardless of its orbit)

2MASSW.11207334-393254 778 mas 55 AU at 70 pc

Planemo 2M1207b, ~ 3-10 M_{Jupiter}, **orbiting Brown dwarf in Centaurus (VLT, infrared imaging, Sep.2004)**

Methods of detecting extrasolar planets (10 major)

- **Astrometry: tiny variations of a star's position**
- **Radial velocity / Doppler method: speed variations at which star moves towards/away from the Earth (observer)**
- **Pulsar timing: anomalies in the timing of pulsar's pulses.**
- **Transit method: periodic depletions of stellar btightness due to planet transit in front of the star disk**
- **Gravitational microlensing: anomalies, produced by a planet in the microlensing effect of the host star**
- **Direct imaging: image of planets directly.**
- **Polarimetry: periodic variations of polarization of the star light caused by an orbiting planet**
- **Circumstellar disks: specific features in dust distribution around stars**
- **Eclipsing binary: disturbances in the character of eclipses of double star systems**
- **Orbital phase: light variations due to changing amount of reflected light from a planet (orbital phase of a planet)**

- **Astrometry: precise measuring a star's position in the sky and observing the ways in which that position changes over time.**
	- gravitational influence of a planet causes the star itself to move in a tiny circular or elliptical orbit about the common center of mass (barycenter).
	- Ground-based observations are not enough precise \rightarrow *observations from space* (Hubble)
	- Characterization of exoplanetary systems, (in combination with other methods) gives

 Co fin or

- *masses*,
- *number* of planets
- *orbit inclination*
- **Gliese 876** system (1998, 2001, 2005)

 Radial velocity / Doppler method: measure of the speed variations at which star moves towards/away from the Earth (observer)

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- **Radial velocity / Doppler method: measure of the speed variations at which star moves towards/away from the Earth (observer)**
- **Most productive technique used so far:**
	- velocity variations ≥ 1 m/s can be detected (V_{star} << V_{planet});
	- used to confirm findings made by other methods (e.g., transit);
	- gives an estimate of planet *minimum mass,* M_{min} ; *true mass* is within 20% of M_{min} (depends on orbit inclination relative the line of sight)

- **Radial velocity / Doppler method: measure of the speed variations at which star moves towards/away from the Earth (observer)**
- Typical example: *51 Pegasi b* (unofficially *Bellerophon*), Oct.1995
	- **Parent star:** *51 Pegasi* the first Sun-like star found to have a planet :
		- Yellow dwarf, in *Pegasus* constellation (~50,1 light-years)
		- Spectral type G2.5V (Sun is G2V)
		- 4–6% more massive then Sun
		- Apparent magnitude: 5.49
		- 7.5 billion years old
	- **Hot Jupiter planet 51 Pegasi b,** $T \sim 1300$ **K**

- Discovery and confirmations:
- Obs. De Haute-Provence (France), ELODIE spectrograph.
- Lick Observatory, San Jose, CA, USA, Hamilton Spectrograph

- **Pulsar timing: anomalies in the timing of pulsar's pulses are used to track changes in its motion caused by the planets.**
- **Pulsars** are highly magnetized, rotating neutron stars (ultradense remnants of supernova) that emit beamed electromagnetic radiation.
	- Observed periods of pulses: 1.4 msec 8.5 sec;
	- Existing pulsars emit in radio, visible light, X-rays, and/or γ-rays;
	- The radiation can only be observed when the beam points towards the Earth.

The first discovery - in 1967 radio pulsar CP 1919 (PSR 1919+21)

Vela γ-ray pulsar - brightest in the sky; $P = 89$ msec: $E \sim 300$ MeV - 1 GeV:

Movie is constructed from images taken by Fermi Gamma-ray Large Area Space Telescope - GLAST (on orbit since 2008)

Image - from Chandra X-ray obs. (1999).

 Pulsar timing: anomalies in the timing of pulsar's pulses are used to track changes in its motion caused by the planets.

Motion of a pulsar with a planet around a common center of mass

- **e** enables detection of planets $\leq 1/10$ M_{Earth} (far smaller than any other method can)
- capable of detecting multi-planet system
- **Figure 1** reveals information about planets orbital parameters.

 Traditional life forms could not survive on planets orbiting pulsars (highenergy radiation, postexplosion stage of star evolution).

- **Pulsar timing: anomalies in the timing of pulsar's pulses are used to track changes in its motion caused by the planets.**
- **PSR B1257+12** in the constellation of Virgo first pulsar having a planet (PSR 1257+12b), which is the first confirmed planet outside Solar system
	- Discovery of pulsar in 1990 using the Arecibo radio telescope
	- Discovery of planets (b,c) in 1992 by Aleksander Wolszczan & Dale Erail
	- Discovery of small planets (a), in $\overline{1994}$, and (d), in 2002

First Dwarf

Additionally, this system may have an asteroid belt (like Kuiper belt).

 Transit method: measuring of periodic depletions of stellar btightness caused by planet transits in front of the star disk

□ The amount by which the star dims depends on its size and on the size of the planet.

- **Transit method: measuring of periodic depletions of stellar btightness caused by planet transits in front of the star disk**
- Advantages:
	- Can determine the <u>size</u> ($\mathbf{R}_{\text{nlanet}}$) of a planet;
	- In combination with the radial velocity method (which gives M_{planet}) enables determination of the planet density \leftrightarrow physical properties);
	- Study of atmosphere of a transiting planet:
		- **→** *chemical composition* of upper atmosphere (analysis of stellar light, passed through the atmosphere).
		- measurement of the *planet radiation* by subtraction from the light curve of the star light measured during secondary eclipse (planet behind the star)
			- ⇒ planet's temperature; detection of clouds

- **Transit method: measuring of periodic depletions of stellar btightness caused by planet transits in front of the star disk**
- Ddisadvantages.
	- **Transits are only observable for planets with properly aligned orbits** (relative to observer)
	- The probability to see transit **P < a/R**:
		- **a** star rarius **R** – planet orbital distance

 a planet orbiting a sun-sized star at $I A U \Rightarrow P \sim 0.47\%$

■ Method suffers from a high rate of false detections \Rightarrow additional check by other methods (usually radial-velocity method)

- \Box **Transit method: measuring of periodic depletions of stellar btightness caused by planet transits in front of the star disk**
- □ Space observations of transits

absence of atmospheric scintillation allows improved accuracy

COROT (CNES, France) -- since Dec. 2006

Objectives:

- search for exoplanets with short orbital periods (down to Superearth mass),
- perform asteroseismology, i.e. solar-like oscillations in stars.
- **Kepler** (NASA, USA) -- since Mar. 2009

Objectives:

- monitoring of >100,000 stars in fixed field of view: Cygnus, Lyra and Draco
- discovery of Earth-like planets

- **Gravitational microlensing: detection of anomalies, produced by gravitational field of a planet in the microlensing effect of the host star**
- **Gravitational lensing** occurs when the gravitational field of a star acts like a lens, bending the light of a distant background object
	- ⇒ multiple distorted, magnified, and brightened images of the background source.

Gravitational microlensing

Lensing mass is small \rightarrow different observation technique

- **Gravitational microlensing: detection of anomalies, produced by gravitational field of a planet in the microlensing effect of the host star**
- Advantages:
	- can detect Earth-like planets at moderately wide orbits around ordinary main-sequence stars (e.g., **OGLE-2005-BLG-390Lb** by M-star in *Scorpius* near the center of the *Milky Way* in Jan.2006 **–** 1st low-mass $(5,5M_{Earth})$ planet on a wide $(2.6AU)$ orbit at $20,000$ light years)
	- Most fruitful for planets between Earth and the center of the galaxy (large number of background stars); Number of planets by mass
	- **Enables** estimation of M_{Planet} and orbital distance
	- Can be performed automatically (networks of robotic telescopes)

- **Gravitational microlensing: detection of anomalies, produced by gravitational field of a planet in the microlensing effect of the host star**
- Disadvantages:
	- **Two stars should be almost exactly aligned** \rightarrow **Lensing events are brief** lasting (weeks or days);
	- Very distant planets (several kps, $1 pc = 31 x 10^{12} km \sim 3.26$ light-years) \rightarrow limited opportunities for confirmation by other methods;
	- the lensing cannot be repeated, because the chance of alignment never occurs again;
- Discoveries:
	- **9** planetary systems
	- **10** planets / **1** multiple planet systems

- **Direct imaging: in certain cases modern telescopes may be capable to image planets directly.**
- Imaging may be possible if a planet is
	- large enough (considerably larger than Jupiter),
	- widely separated from its parent star (large orbital distance),
	- young (i.e. hot and emits intense infrared radiation).
- Discoveries:

11 planetary systems / 13 planets / 1 multiple planet system

HR 8799 system in *Pegasus* **(129 light-years): HR 8799d (bottom), HR 8799c (upper right), HR 8799b (upper left), (Keck & Gemini IR telescopes, Hawaii, Nov.2008)**

also found in Hubble/NICMOS IR images, dated by 1998

- **Direct imaging: in certain cases modern telescopes may be capable to image planets directly.**
- **Observational facilities:**
	- *Gemini North*, 8m telescope, Mauna Kea, Hawaii (4.213 m)
	- *Keck Observatory 10m telescope*, Mauna Kea, Hawaii (4.145 m)
	- *Subaru* 8.2m telescope, Mauna Kea, Hawaii (4.139 m)
	- ESO's *Very Large Telescope (VLT)* 8.2m, Paranal Obs.,Chile (2,635 m)
	- *Hubble Space Telescope*

Gemini North, Hawaii Subaru Telescope, Hawaii VLT, Paranal Obs., Chile

- **Direct imaging: in certain cases modern telescopes may be capable to image planets directly.**
- Typical example: constell. *Piscis Austrinus: Fomalhaut b* , M < 3 M**Jupiter**

Fomalhaut b (in the Fomalhaut's dust cloud) imaged by The Hubble Space Telescope's coronagraph (ACS/HRC)

Summary of discoveries:

Exoplanets statistic // status Sep. 2010

- **413 Exoplanetary systems**
- **490 Exoplanets**
- **49 Multiple Planetary systems**
- \cdot 25 planets, <10 m_{Earth}

type worlds

Super-Earths ?

Exoplanets statistic // status Sep. 2010

Exoplanets statistic // status Oct. 2009

Exoplanet mass vs. semi-major axis: \rightarrow *Hot Jupiters* "family"

Exoplanets statistic // status Oct. 2009

Exoplanet mass vs. semi-major axis: \rightarrow *Hot Jupiters* "family"

Major questions of exoplanetary physics:

(?) *Way of formation of terrestrial type (rocky) planets*

- \rightarrow In-situ formation ?
- \rightarrow Migration ?
- \rightarrow Evolutional transformation from giant to other type planets ?

(?) *Evolution of planetary environments*

- → Magnetic dynamo / Intrinsic magnetic field / magnetosphere
- \rightarrow Surface
- \rightarrow Atmosphere

(?) *Could life have evolved somewhere else besides of Earth ?*

- → Definition of life / life forms
- \rightarrow Conditions for life development

⇒ **HABITABILITY** (criteria, key factors, etc.)

Habitability – definition & major influencing factors:

Traditional definition: Stellar Habitable Zone (HZ) is an area around a star, where climate & geophysical conditions on a planet with an atmosphere allow existence of *liquid H2O on the surface* over geological time periods

Inner edge of HZ: greenhouse conditions vaporization of the whole water

 reservoir; photodissociation of water vapor & loss of **The width and distance of HZ depends on the stellar luminosity that** *Outer edge of Hz: greenhouse effect can't keep surface of a planet above the surface of a planet above the surface EVOLVES during the star`s lifetime*

Habitability – definition & major influencing factors:

Traditional definition:

Simplifications:

- → Consideration of *Terrestrial-type* planets
- → Assumption about *Stellar luminosity as a major influencing factor*

→ *The classical HZ is defined for surface conditions only*

(chemiolithotrophic life with a metabolism that does not depend on the metabolism that does not depend on the m

Limitations:

The question of a planetary habitability is *much more* \blacksquare liquid H $\frac{1}{2}$ is available). → *Exclusion of extrasolar giant planet's satellite environments* abunce from its host star, in order to keep nquid **■ water on its surface.** → **Generalized de finition of HZ** *complex**than just having a planet located at the right distance* **from its host star, in order to keep liquid**

→ *Exclusion of planets with eccentric orbits near/within the HZ "shell"*

Habitability – definition & major influencing factors:

- **Two groups of factors, influencing planetary environments evolution:**
- *External, space environmental factors:*
	- → Radiation of the host star and stellar activity
	- → Astrospheric plasma environment (stellar winds, CMEs, shocks)

magnetic field plays

 an important role

- → Cosmic & galactic rays
- → Stellar planetary interactions (gravitational, e.-m., etc.)
- *Internal, planet related factors:*

→ Orbital parameters (distance to host star, eccentricity, etc.)

→ Planet mass and type (gas giant or rocky planet)

 \rightarrow Efficiency of planetary magnetic dynamo (intrinsic m. field)

 \rightarrow Atmosphere composition

Stellar radiation & plasma – key factors for planet evolution

Stellar X-ray & EUV luminosity **energy deposition to upper atmospheres**

Stellar XUV induce *expansion and loss of planetary upper atmospheres*

Stellar radiation & plasma – key factors for planet evolution

- **Soft X-ray and EUV induced expansion of the upper atmospheres**
	- ⇒ high *thermal* & *non-thermal* loss rates
	- **Figure 1 Thermal escape:** particle energy $> W_{\text{EST}}$ \rightarrow Jeans escape – particles from "tails" \rightarrow hydrodynamic escape – all particles

- *Non-thermal escape***:**
	- \rightarrow Ion pick-up
	- \rightarrow Sputtering (S.W. protons & ions)
	- \rightarrow Photo-chemical energizing & escape
	- \rightarrow Electromagnetic ion acceleration

Mars, or Titan

Stellar radiation & plasma – key factors for planet evolution

Planetary magn.field and size of magnetosphere – key factors

Magnetic moment estimation from scaling laws range for possible *M*

 $M \propto \rho_{\rm c}^{1/2}$ $\omega r_{\rm c}^4$ **Busse, F. H.,** *Phys. Earth Planet. Int.***, 12, 350, 1976** $M \propto \rho_c^{1/2} \omega^{1/2} r_c^3 \sigma^{-1/2}$ **Stevenson, D.J.,** *Rep. Prog. Phys.,* **46, 555, 1983** Interval of possible values for Mizutani, H., **et ahe4dry Sprace resis dip 2015**: 1992 $M \propto \rho_c^{1/2} \omega^{3/4} r_c^{7/2} \sigma^{-1/4}$ **Mizutani, H., et al.,** *Adv. Space Res***., 12, 265, 1992** *Mmax … Mmin* $M \propto \rho_c^{1/2} \omega^{1/2} r_c^3 \sigma^{-1/2}$ **Sano, Y.,** *J. Geomag. Geoelectr,* **45, 65, 1993** $M \propto \rho_c^{1/2} \omega r_c^{7/2}$

 r_c - radius of the dynamo region ("core radius"): $r_c \sim M_p^{0.75} R_p^{-0.96}$ ρ_c - density in the dynamo region σ - conductivity in the dynamo region ω - planet angular rotation velocity

Magnetic moment estimation from scaling laws range for possible *M*

Limitation of M by tidal locking

$$
\tau_{\text{sync}} \approx Q \left(\frac{R_P^3}{GM_P} \right) (\omega_i - \omega_f) \left(\frac{M_P}{M_*} \right)^2 \left(\frac{d}{R_P} \right)^6
$$

- **Magnetic moment estimation from scaling laws range for possible** *M*
	- *Limitation of M by tidal locking*

H H_2 **≡** *M* \Rightarrow **strongly reduced magnetic** moments

- **Size of magnetosphere (Magnetospheric obstacle)**
- **Magnetopause stand-off distance**

■ pressure equilibrium at sub-stellar point:

⇒

$$
mnv^2 \propto \frac{\underline{B_{\rm p}}^2}{2\mu_0}
$$

$$
R_{\rm S} \propto M^{1/3} (nv^2)^{-1/6}
$$

■ Strong magnetospheric compression by stellar CMEs

- **CME induced H+ ion pick-up** atmospheric erosion & **mass loss** of planet
- **□** Case of 'Hot Jupiters', i.e. $d= 0.03-0.1 \text{ AU}$ → **HD209458 b** ($d=0.045 \text{ AU}$)

CME induced H+ ion pick-up atmospheric erosion & **mass loss** of planet

□ Case of 'Hot Jupiters', i.e. $d = 0.03 - 0.1 \text{ AU}$ → **HD209458 b** ($d = 0.045 \text{ AU}$)

Mass loss ~10¹¹ g/s even for weak CMEs & $M_{max} \Rightarrow$ *strong magn. protection*

Terrestrial planet magnetosphere compressed by stellar CMEs

SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS

- **Magnetospheric protection of planetary internal environments plays crucial** role for the planet evolution and habitability. Weakly magnetized Hot Jupiters may be eroded down to their core-mass/size, whereas atmospheres of terrestrial type planets in close-in HZ of low-mass active stars will be strongly $eroded \rightarrow non-habitable worlds$
- **Exoplanetology is a new fast developing branch** of modern space physics which is based on the continuously growing amount of observational data about extraterrestrial worlds.
- **Specific feature of Exoplanetology consists in its multidisciplinarity** (broad range of research directions from physics & chemistry till biology). Nowadays, strong **engineering aspect** comes, which deals with development of advanced observational techniques and preparation/realization of space missions.
- Research **expertise & knowledge from the solar system study** and other "tradi tional" space sciences are of high potential interest and importance for Exopla netology. The traditional stellar physics got new area of application.
- Exoplanetology opens **perspectives for development of "new physics"** (stellar planetary interactions, extreme conditions, new kind of planetary environments).