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ALL ABOUT SPACE

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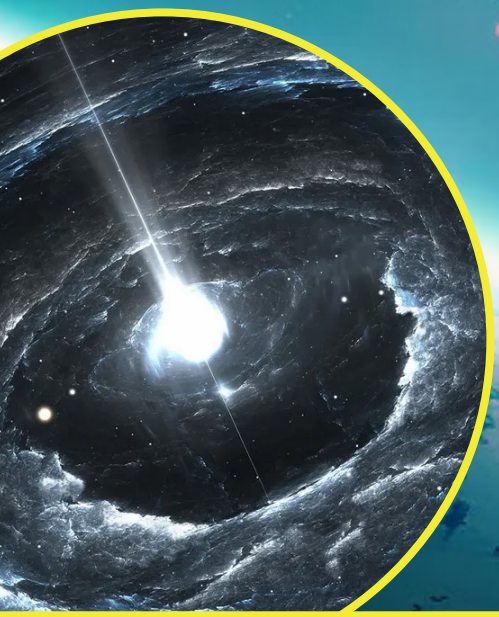
NEW EXOPLANET DISCOVERIES

...ALONG WITH RESEARCH THAT VERIFIES FOREIGN PLANETARY LIVING POSSIBLITIES



WHAT IS A NEUTRON STAR?

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REVEALING COSMIC SECRETS

SHATTERING THE BARRIERS OF INFINITY

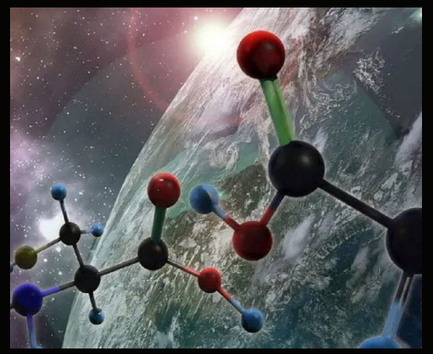
BLAST OFF: A TALK WITH ASTRONOMY'S GENIUSES

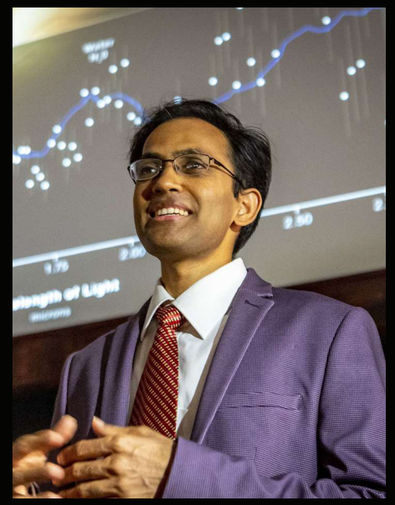
SPECIAL REPORT A NEARBY "DOOMSDAY" BLACK HOLE

THE SEARCH FOR PROSPECTIVE CELESTIAL HOMES

Life-sustaining molecules on **Exoplanets;** its impact on humans?

By Kerrington Wright





Picture of Professor Madhusudhan conducting a presentation

Dr. Nikku Madhusudhan is a University Associate Professor in Astrophysics, in the Institute of Astronomy at the University of Cambridge. His research includes understanding the atmospheres, interiors, geophysical processes, and formation conditions of exoplanets, or planets orbiting other stars. In an interview with CNN, Dr. Madhusudhan explains the discovery of methane in an exoplanet 120 light-years away from earth in our solar system, K2-18b. He explains how the detection of any carbon-bearing molecule in a habitable exoplanet is a "huge advancement" for the field of exoplanet exploration. Finding molecules such as methane in an exoplanet was never before seen, resulting in the "Missing Methane Problem". This discovery greatly implies the existence of a hydrogen rich atmosphere, such as a large ocean, on the planet. If this is indeed the case, the possibilty of life existing on the planet is also a reality, as all lifeforms, as far as we know, need water to thrive.