

Lecture 16 – 24th March 2009



- **SCIENCE TOPICS:**

Extrasolar Planets (cont.)

How the Sun shines

- **READING**

Ch 4, sec 4.4: Planets Beyond the Solar System

Ch 9, sec 9.1, 9.2, 9.5

Beware of excessive detail

PRACTICE:

Chp. 9: Review: 1-3, 5, 8, 11, 13, 15

Chp. 9. Self-test: 1, 3, 6, 13, 14, 15;

Chp. 9. Problems: 8, 9

HOMEWORK 05: due tonight, 11:59pm

HOMEWORK 06: Out now, due next Tuesday, 30th March, 11:59pm

COMPREHENSION 02: This Thursday, 26th March

About Comprehension 2

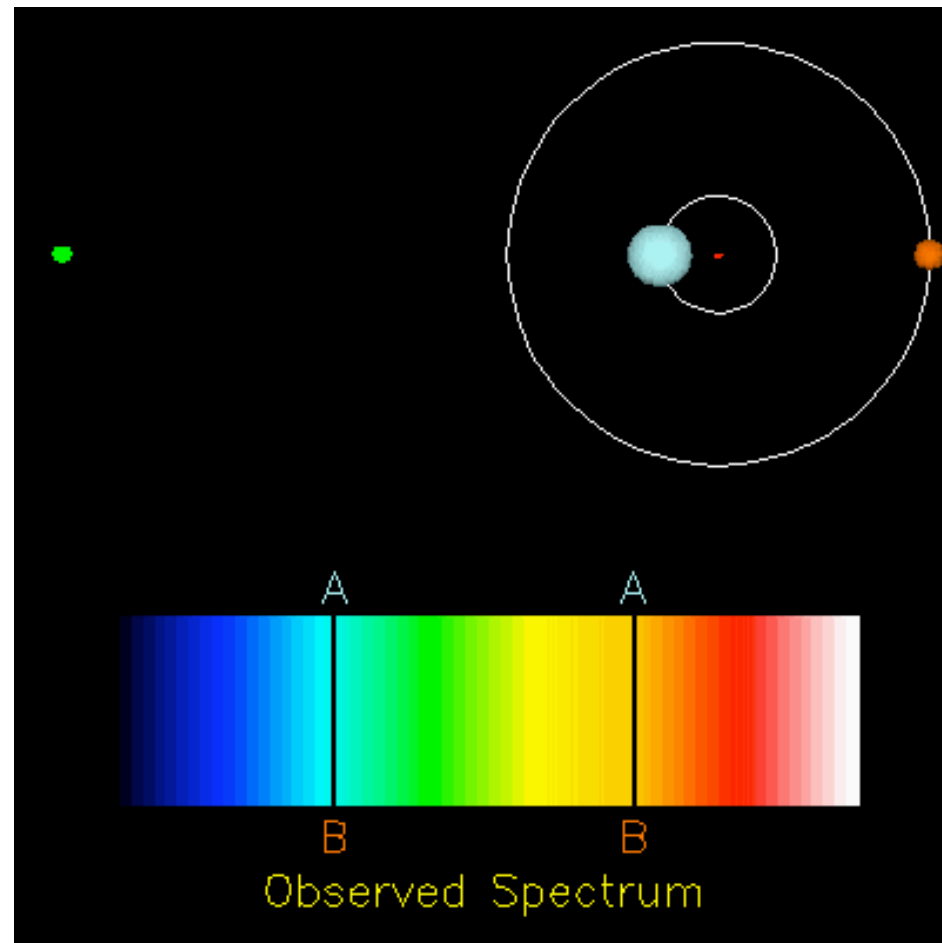
- **When and Where:** **Thursday**, 26 March 2009 in this classroom, during regular class time
- **Format and Time Limit:**
A passage of unseen text relevant to the course. 20 multiple choice questions; 1 mark per question. **ALL** the information you need to answer the questions will be provided in the text.
- **What to Bring:**
 - **your PSU ID card**
 - #2 pencils and eraser
 - a calculator
- **Other Rules and Regulations:**
 - closed book, closed notes
 - work on your own
 - items other than the above out of sight (*especially* cellphones)

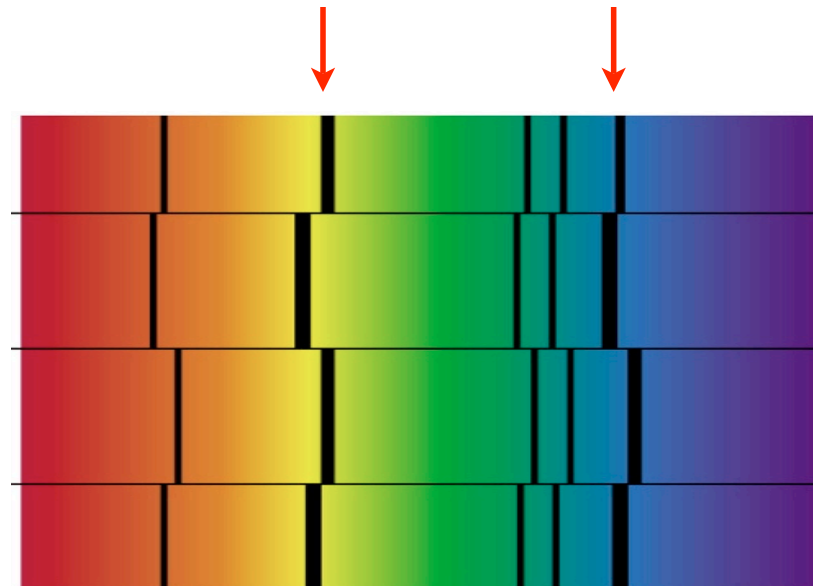
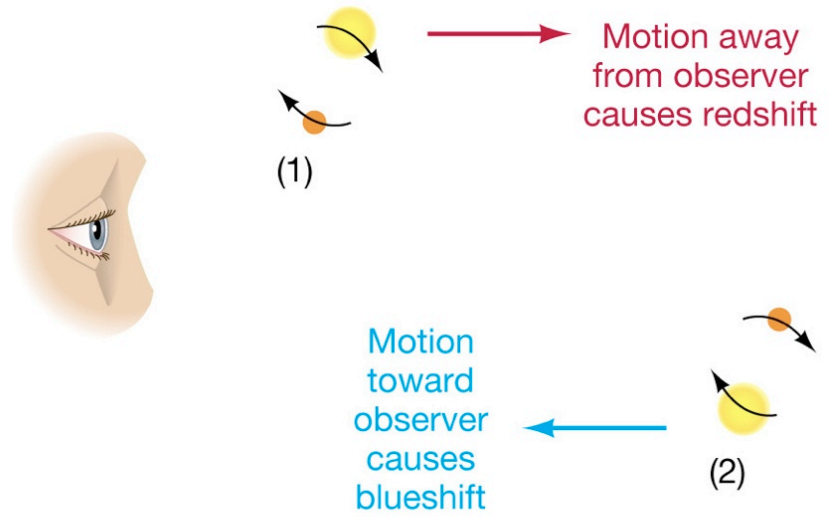
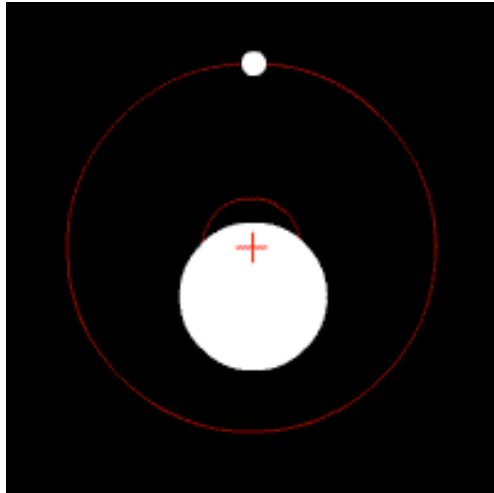
About Comprehension 2

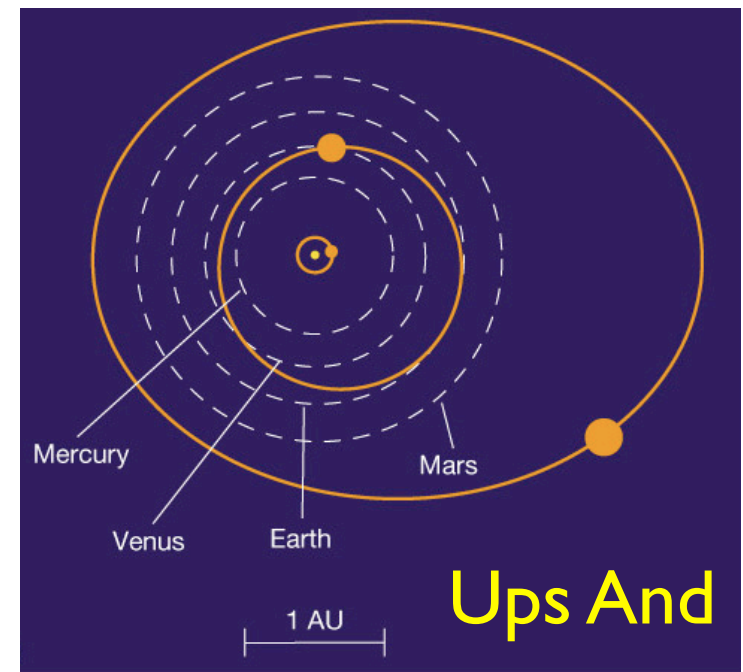
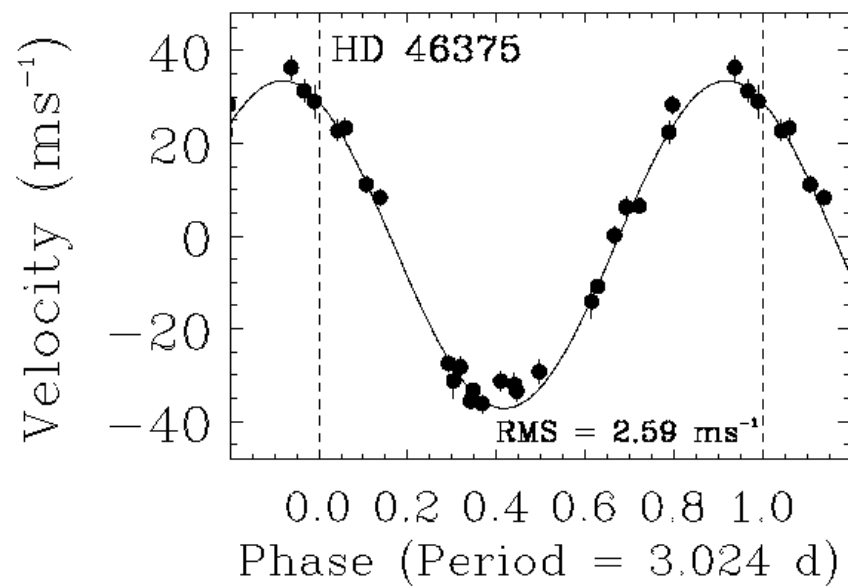
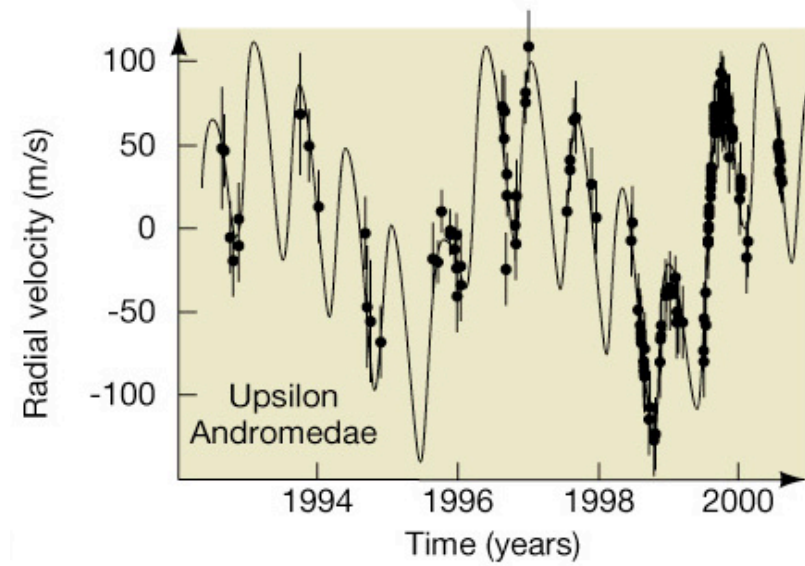
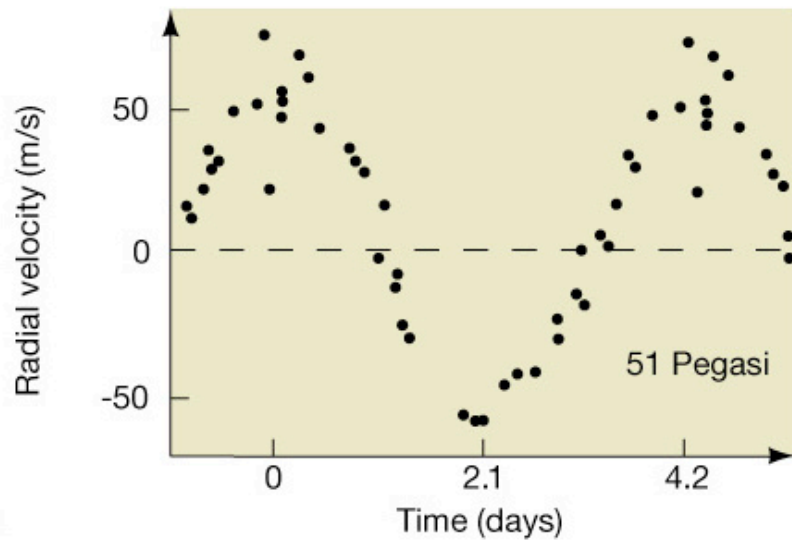
- **TIPS:**

- Don't be scared by the “jargon”
 - Maybe think of this more as an English test rather than as an Astronomy (science) exam
- Read the question carefully!!
- “There's not enough information in the text” is (sometimes) the correct answer.
- 2 or 3 questions require a (small) calculation. It's assumed you now know about “Powers of Ten”, and that e.g. 1 trillion = 1×10^9

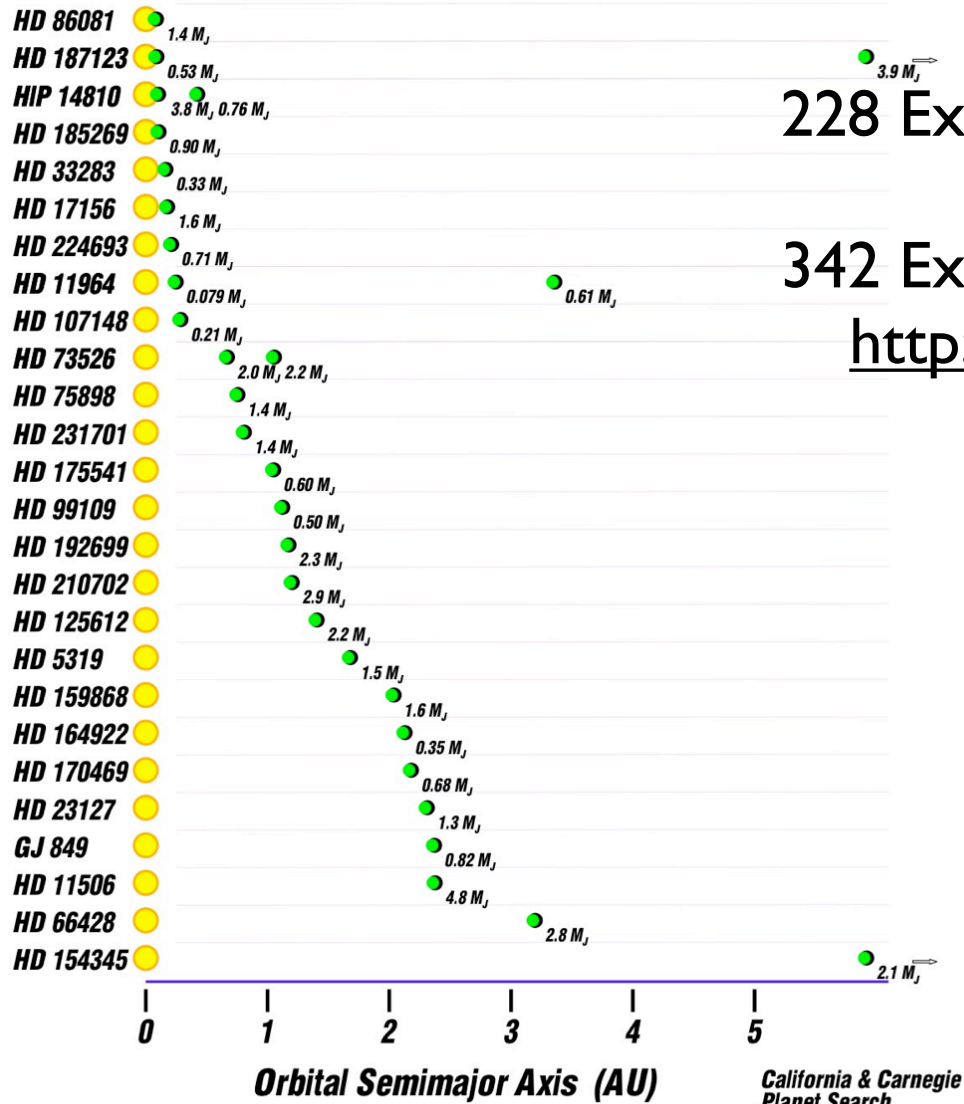
Extra-solar Planets ("Exoplanets")







28 New Exoplanets



228 Extrasolar planets found so far
<http://exoplanets.org>

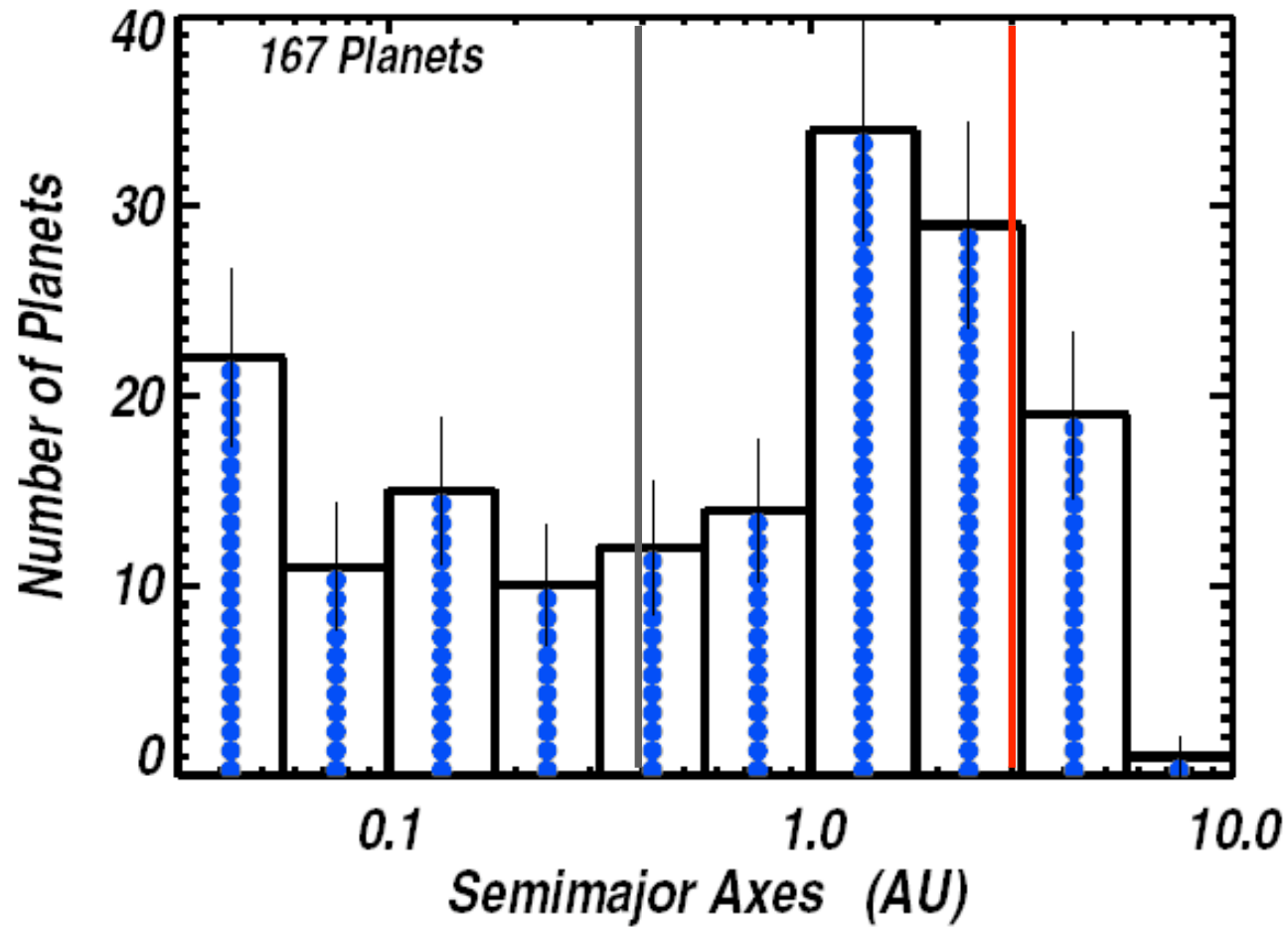
342 Extrasolar planets found so far
<http://planetquest.jpl.nasa.gov/>

(as of March 2009)

**smallest extrasolar
 planets known:
 6-8 Earth masses**

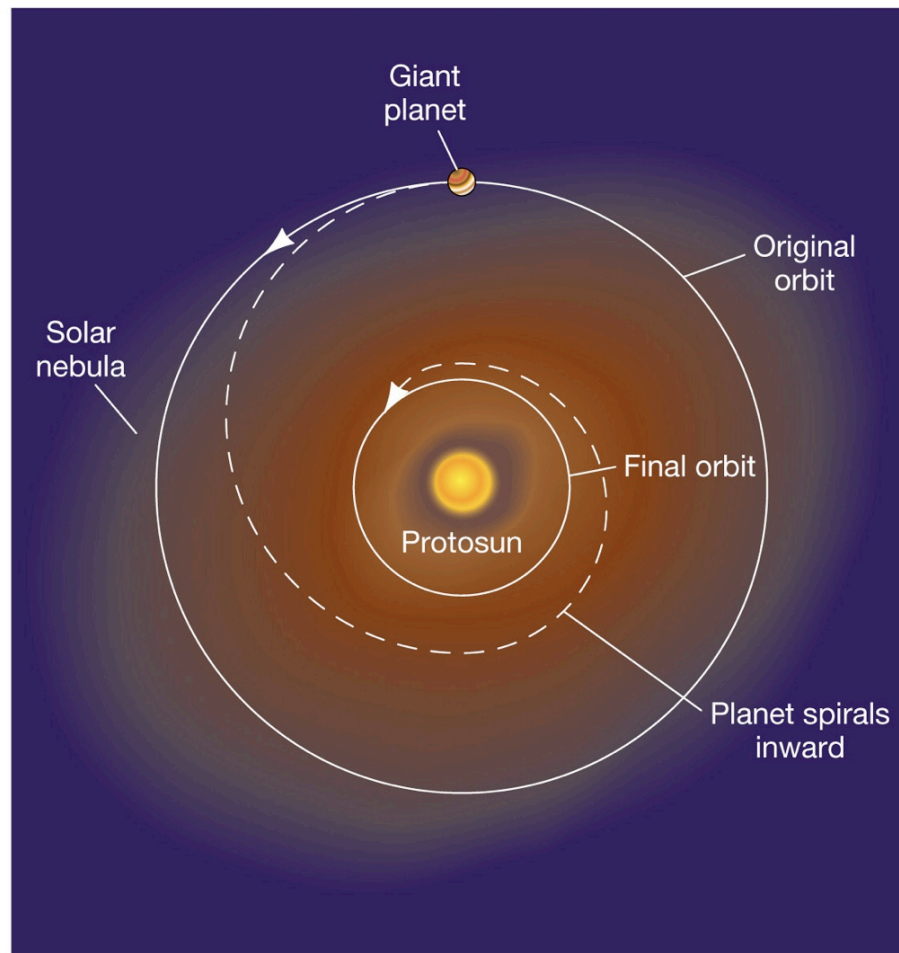
(“super-Earths”)

88% within 3 AU



“Hot Jupiters”

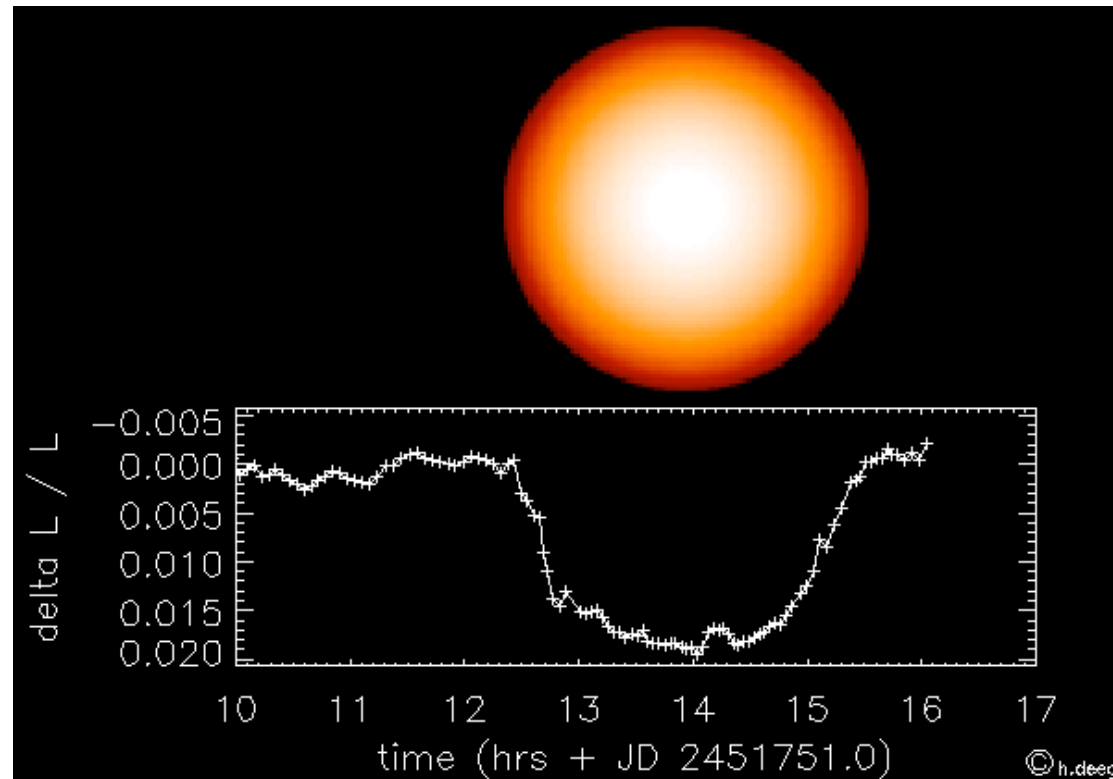
The missing ingredient from the planet formation scenario: Planetary Migration



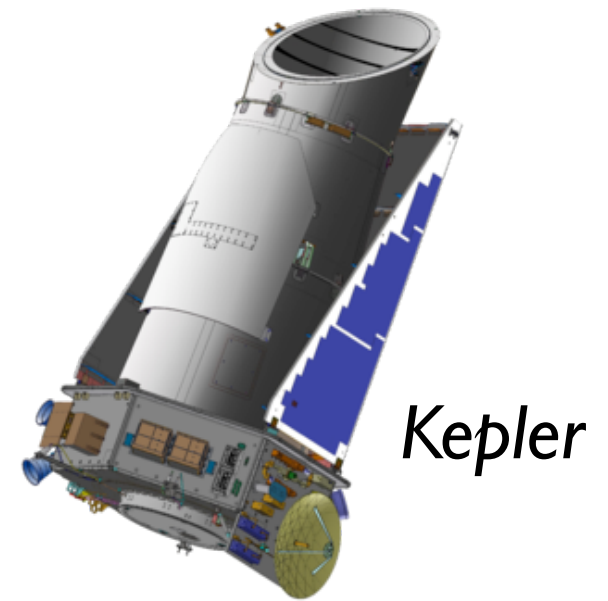
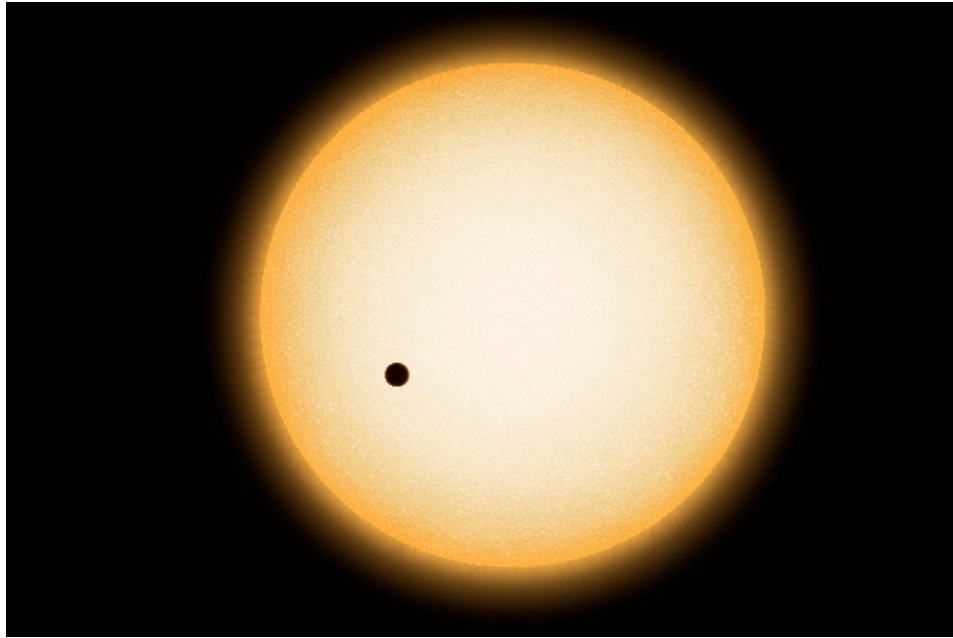
Methods for finding exoplanets

- Radial Velocities
- Transits
 - COROT, Kepler satellites
- Gravitational Lensing
- Interferometry
- Direct Imaging

Alternative Method: Transits



Notice that the dimming is 2% or less.
Therefore, very accurate measurements are needed.
4 planets discovered this way prior to 2006.



7 more since Dec. 2006 by the satellite **COROT**
incl. a 1.7 Earth-radius planet: COROT-Exo-7b

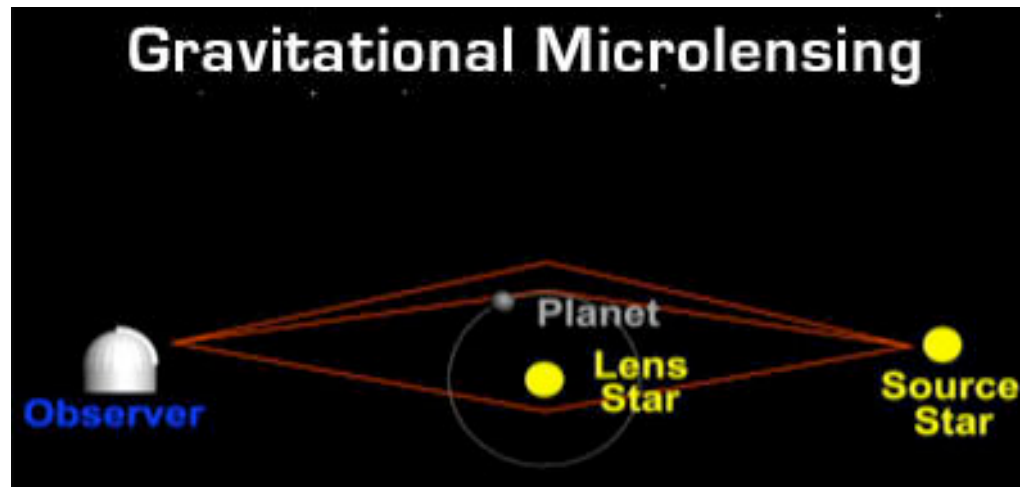
Kepler Mission: Just launched.

Aim: repeatedly observe the brightness of over 100,000 stars over 3.5 years to detect periodic transits

More Methods:

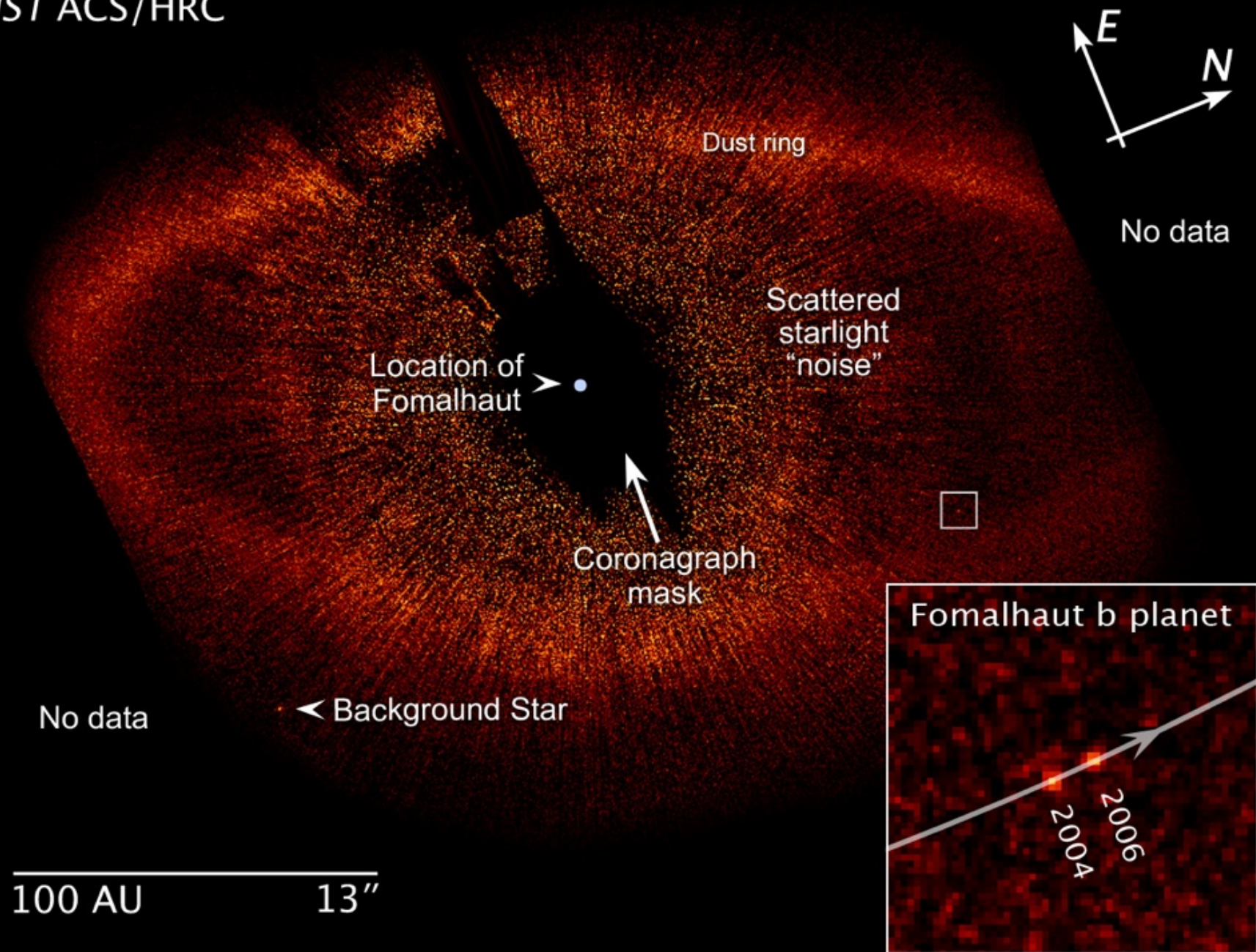
- Gravitational Microlensing

A handful of planets discovered this way so far



- Direct imaging: “coronagraphy” (**happening NOW!!**)

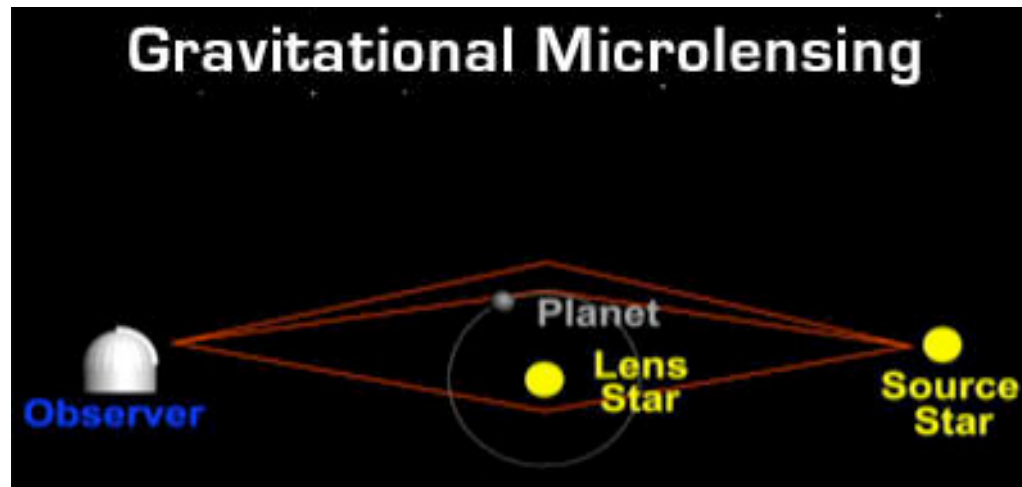
Fomalhaut
HST ACS/HRC



More Methods:

- Gravitational Microlensing

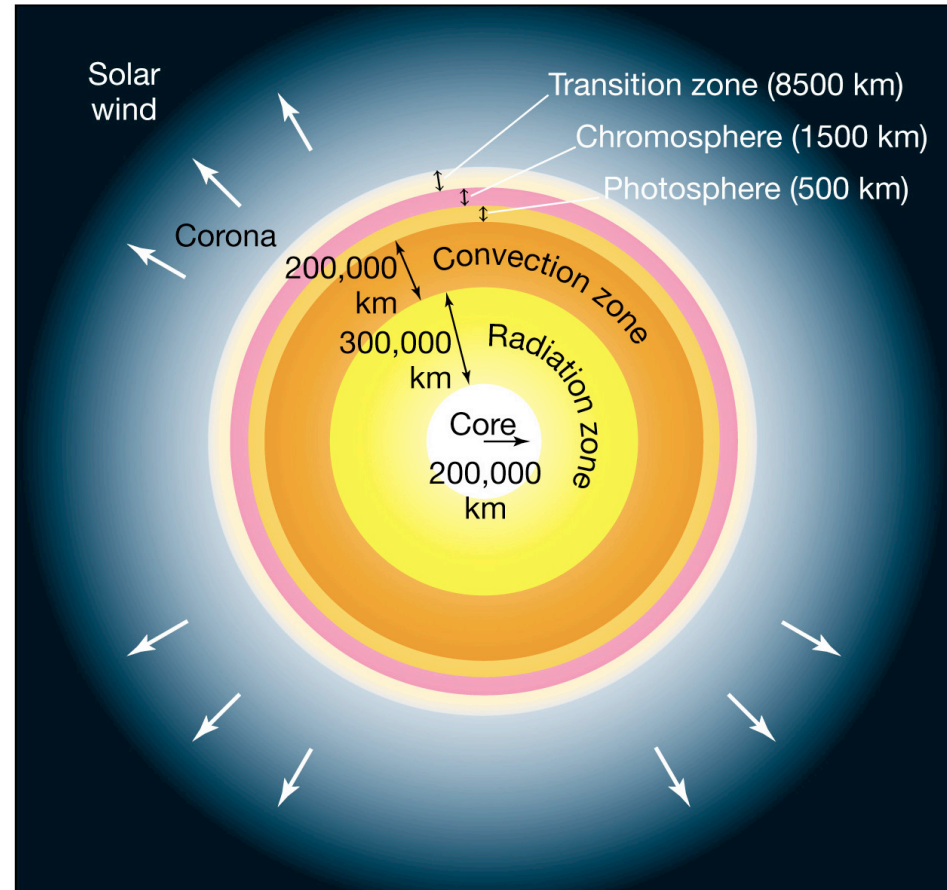
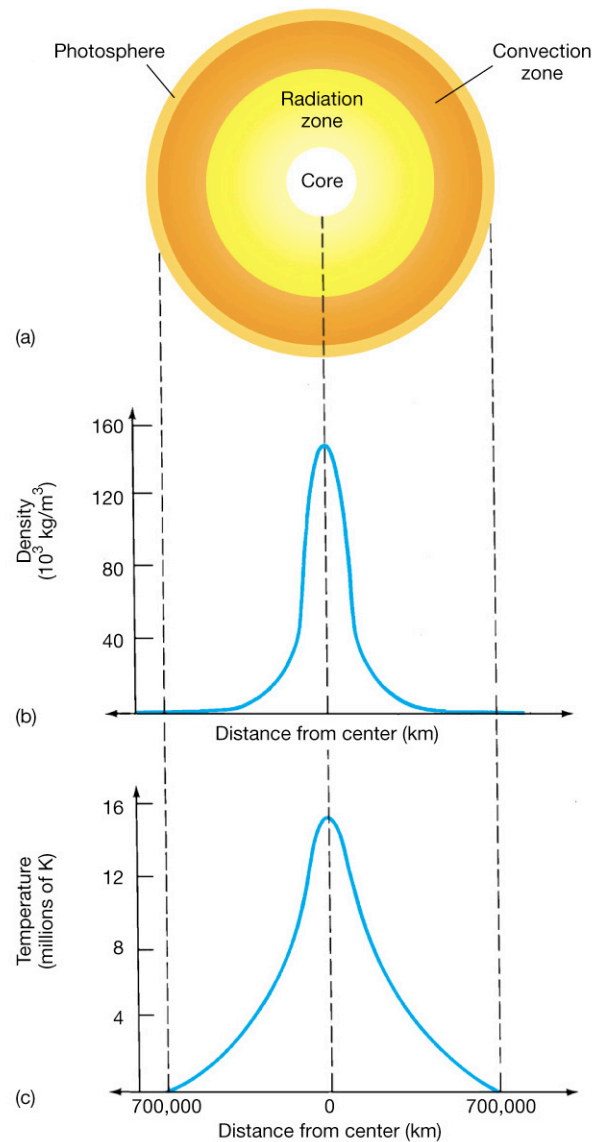
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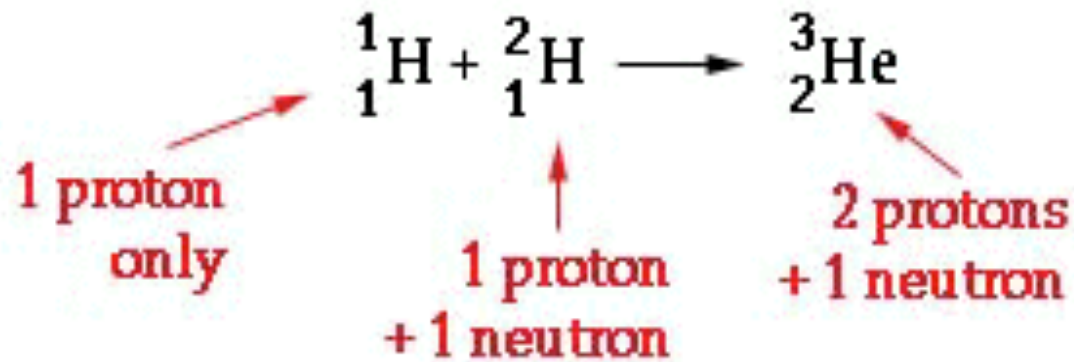
- Direct imaging: “coronagraphy” (**happening NOW!!**)
- Interferometry (“Darwin” or “New Worlds”): stay tuned...

The Sun and How it Shines

Quick Anatomy of the Sun



Example of a Nuclear Reaction



We add the mass numbers and the atomic numbers of the ingredients to get the product.