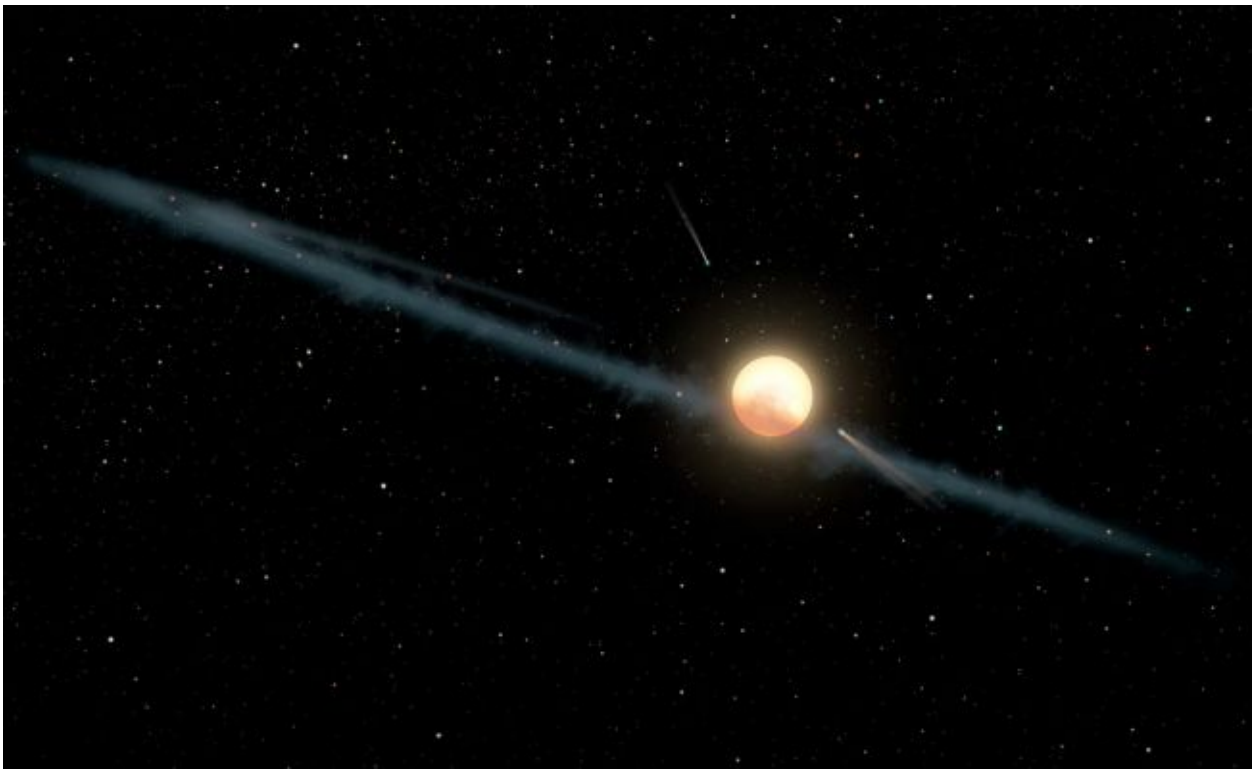
Article four: 'Alien Megastructure' Star May Not Be So Special After All

true

10-28-2019



Credit: (Image: © NASA/JPL-Caltech)

I - SOURCE OF THE ARTICLE WITH PUBLICATION DATE AND WORD COUNT:

Source : https://www.space.com/alien-megastructure-mysteriously-dimming-stars.html, September 19, 2019
Word count: 792

II - VOCABULARY:

Words from the text	Synonym/explanation in English	French translation
bouts	A short period of intense activity of a specified kind	Crise, accès de
bewildering	Causing (someone) to become perplexed and confused	Déroutant, déconcertant
flickering	(of light or a source of light) shine unsteadily; vary rapidly in brightness	(Lumière) vacillante

Words from the text	Synonym/explanation in English	French translation
substantial	Of considerable importance, size, or worth	Substantiel
prosaic	Having the style or diction of prose; lacking poetic beauty	Prosaïque
elusive	Difficult to find, catch, or achieve	Insaisissable
to comb	To search carefully and systematically	Fouiller

III - ANALYSIS TABLE ABOUT THE STUDY:

Researchers?	Tabetha "Tabby" Boyajian, Edward Schmidt
Published in? When (if mentioned)?	Space.com, September 19, 2019 The Astrophysical Journal Letters, July 18,2019
General topic	Possible alien megastructures
Procedure/what was examined	In 2015, a team led by Tabetha "Tabby" Boyajian studied the data sent from the space telescope "Kepler", the light spectrum of a multitude of stars. They discovered that the light of one of these stars mysteriously dimmed, up to 22%. They suggested it might be because of an alien structure, called a "Dyson sphere", that could encircle an entire star system to get as much energy from it as possible. Another team led by Edward Schmidt studied the spectrum of 14 million objects with varying brightness.
Conclusion/discovery	Schmidt found 21 more stars that add the same kind of dimming Boyajian's star had. Some of these are "slow dippers" similar to Boyajian's star, but some are "rapid dippers", "that showed even more extreme variability in their dimming rates".
Remaining questions	Why are some stars "rapid dippers"? Are these dips caused by alien structures, or something else? How common are these stars?