

Nordita Winter School 2017

# EXOPLANETS & Fermi paradox

UNIVERSITÉ  
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« In space there are countless constellations, suns and planets ;  
**we see only the suns because they give light ;  
the planets remain invisible, for they are small and dark.**

There are also numberless earths circling around their suns, as  
do the seven planets of our system.

*The innumerable worlds  
of the Univere are not worse  
and not less inhabited  
than our Earth.»*

Giordano Bruno,  
*de l'infinito universo e mondi*  
(1574)





# EXOPLANETS

Stars are a billion times brighter than planets.



# EXOPLANETS

Stars are a billion times brighter than planets.  
Like a firefly next to a lighthouse...



# EXOPLANETS

Stars are a billion times brighter than planets.  
Like a firefly next to a lighthouse...

... in New York !  
(stars are far, far away)



# EXOPLANETS

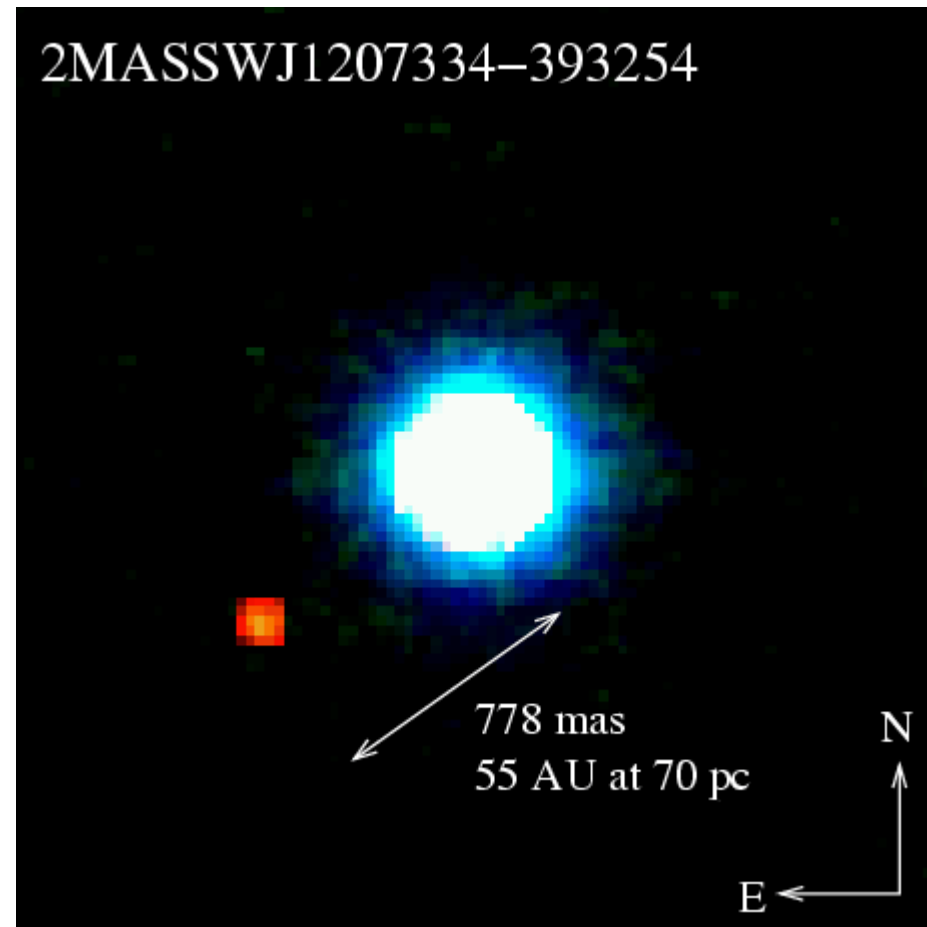
Sometimes, it works !

One can see directly the planet next to its star, if the latter is faint (e.g. : a brown dwarf).

First image of an  
exoplanet :  
Chauvin et al. (2004)



Maybe rather a double  
brown dwarf ?

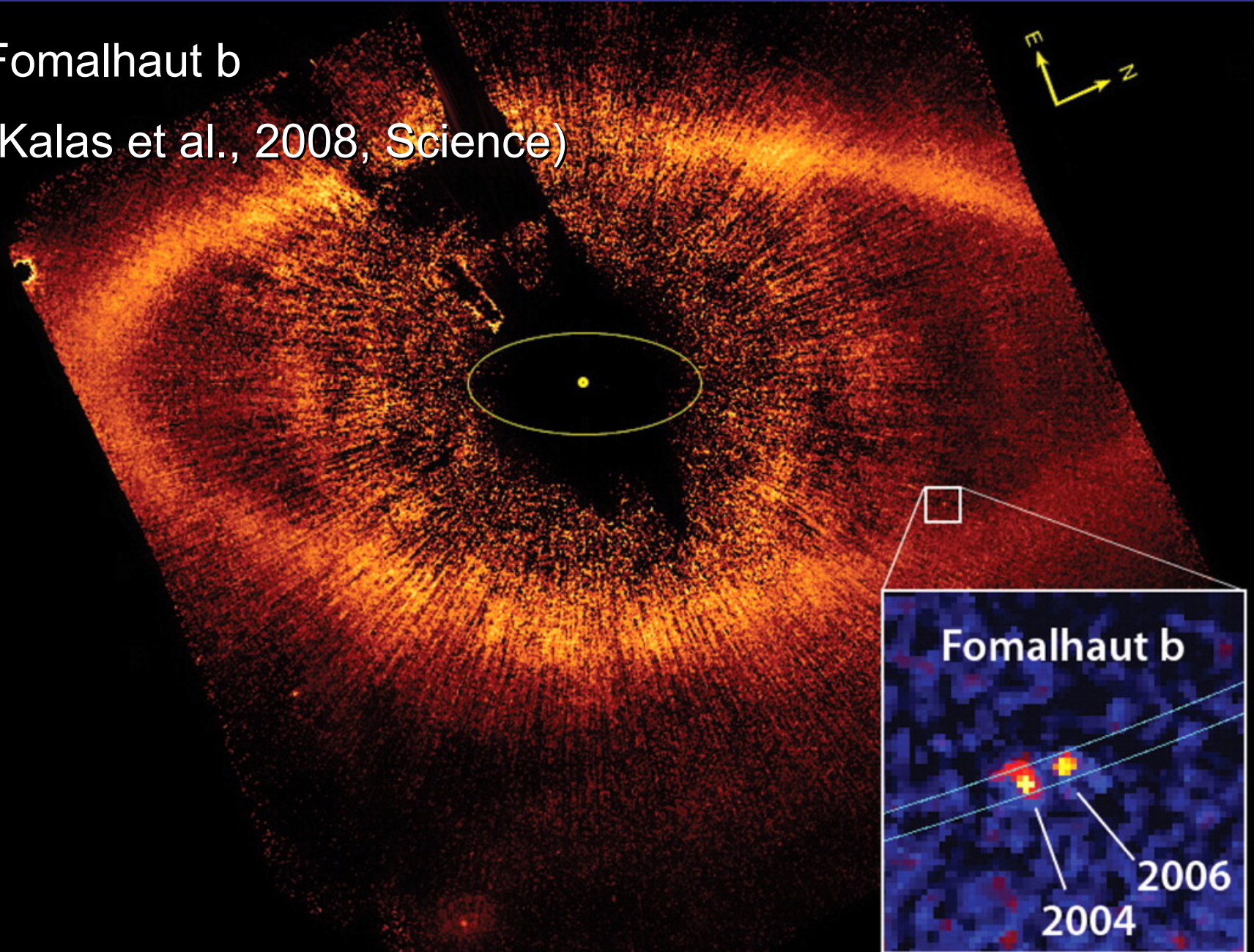




# EXOPLANETS

Fomalhaut b

(Kalas et al., 2008, Science)



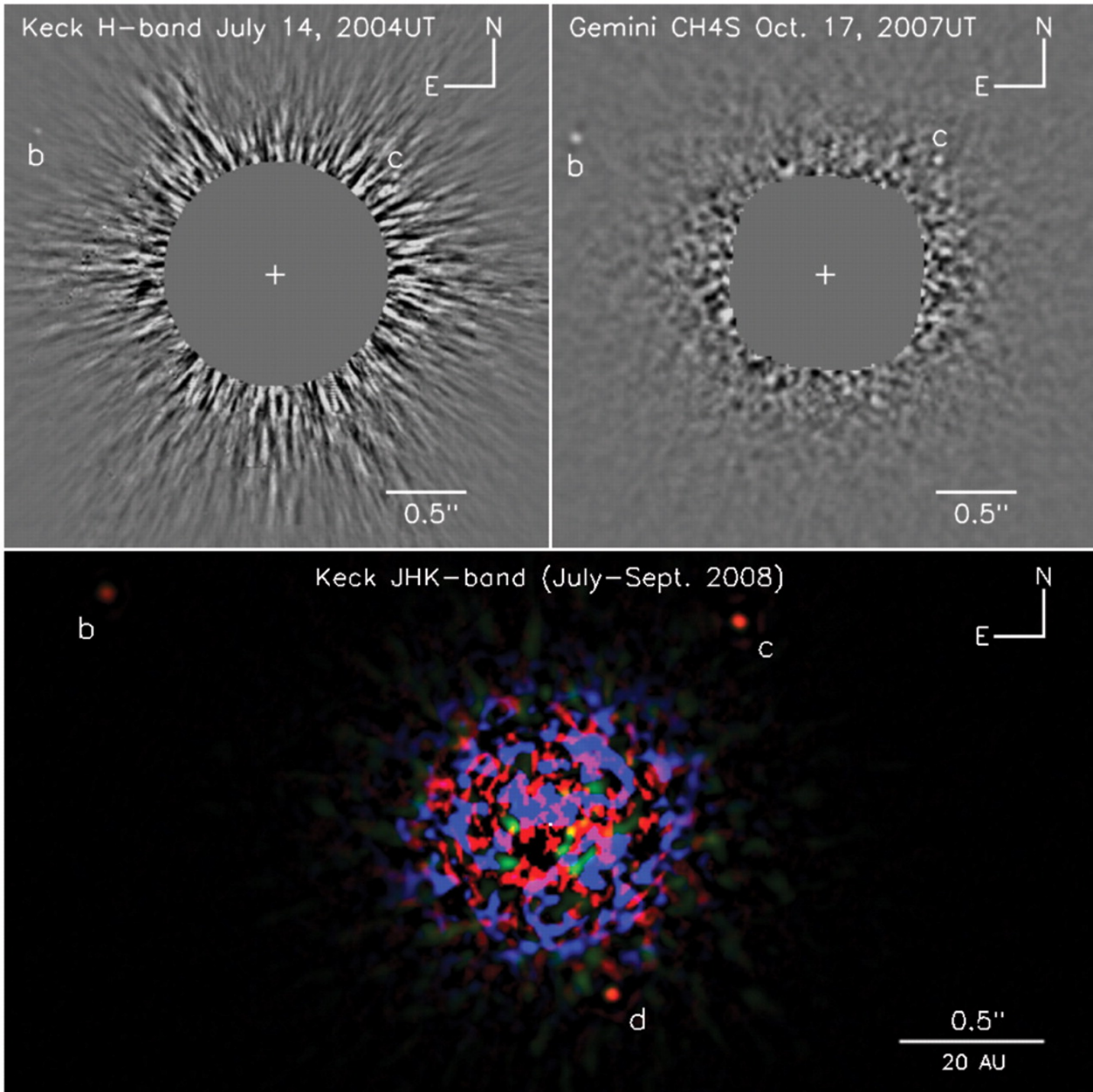


## HR8799 :

3 giant planets  
at 24, 38, 68  
AU of the star.

(Marois et al.,  
2008, Science)

+ 1 fourth one  
confirmed in  
november 2010





# EXOPLANETS

They exist ! Giordano Bruno was right.

It is a revolution in our understanding / view of the Universe.

- 1) heliocentrism (Copernic, 1543)
- 2) island universes = other galaxies (Hubble, 1925)
- 3) exoplanets (Mayor & Queloz, 1995)
- 4) extraterrestrial life ?

# DRAKE FORMULA

Drake (1971) : divide our ignorance about the number  $N$  of civilisations having developed an electromagnetic technology in our Galaxy:

$$N = R \times f \times L$$

$R$  = Rate of formation of solar type stars in the Galaxy ( $\sim 1$  / year)

$f$  = fraction of solar type stars of the Galaxy which have a planetary system which hosts an intelligent form of life which has developed electromagnetic communication systems

$$f = f_{\text{planets}} * n_{\text{habitable}} * f_{\text{life}} * f_{\text{intel}} * f_{\text{com}}$$

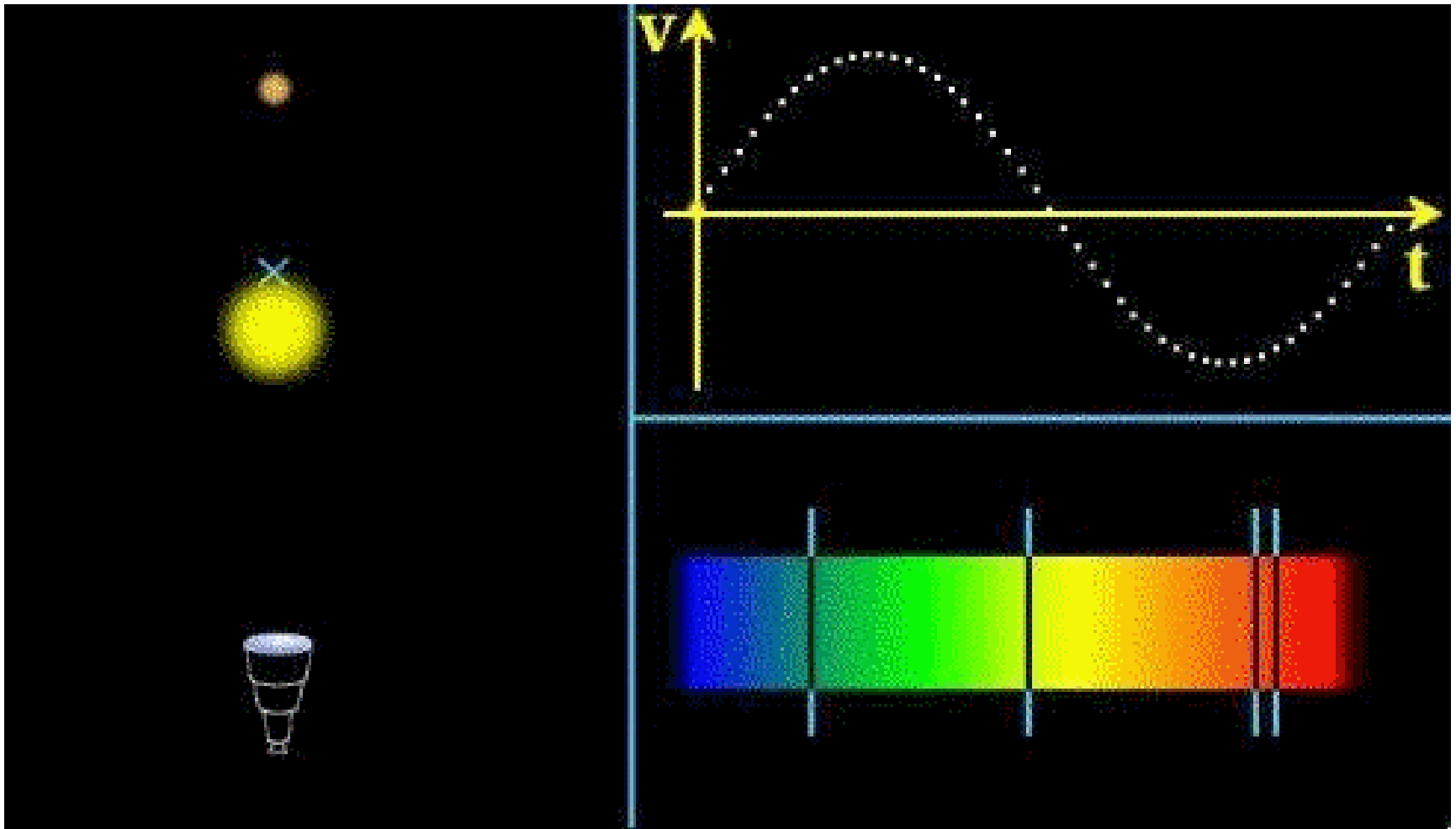
$L$  = Lifetime of these civilisations ( $L > 100$  years, apparently) .

$R, f_p, n_{\text{hab}}$  = astronomical factors, well known.

$f_{\text{vie}}, f_{\text{intel}}$  = biological factors.

$f_{\text{com}}, L$  = sociological factors.

# EXOPLANETS Ia) Radial velocity

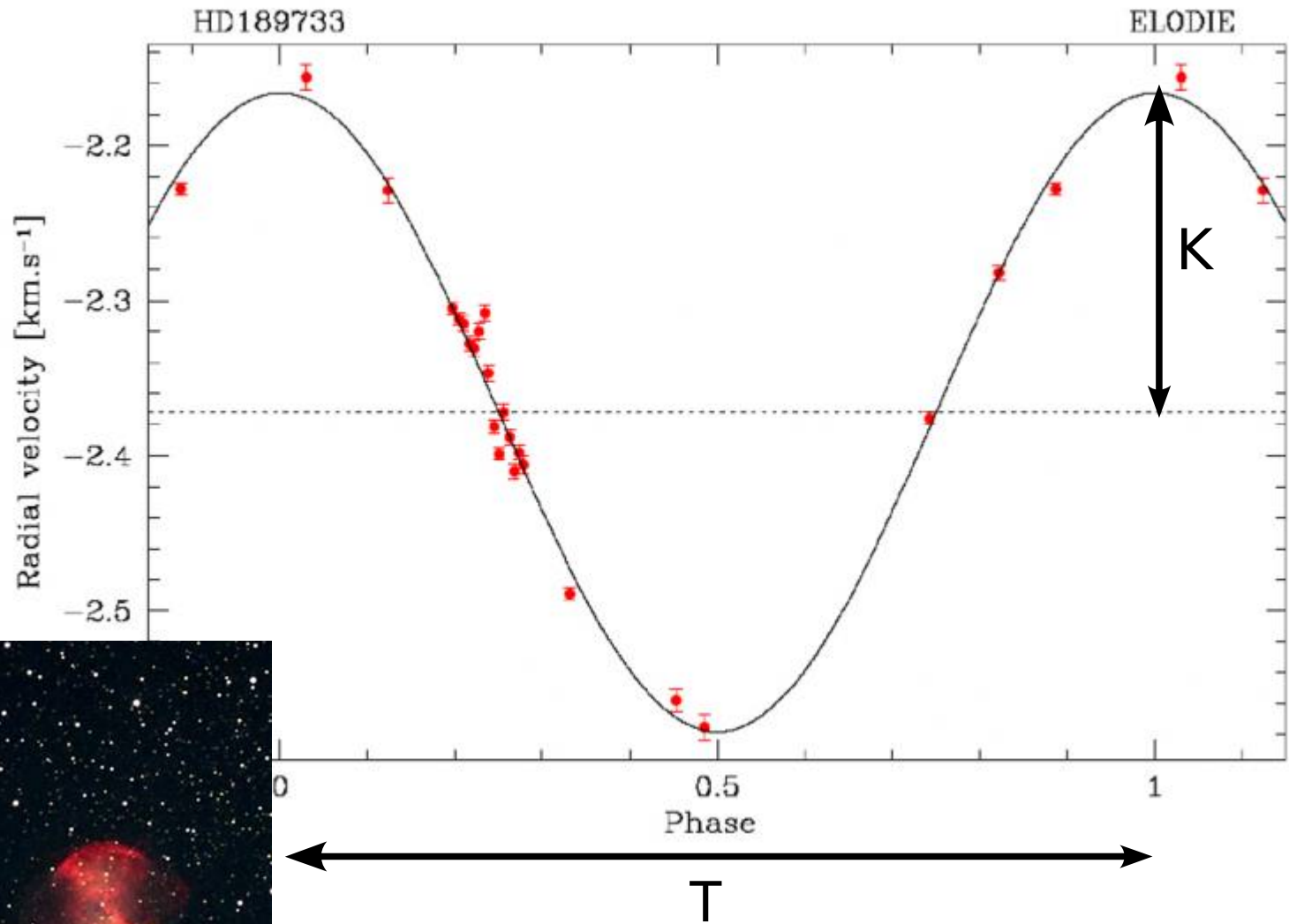




# EXOPLANETS Ia) Radial velocity

Example :

HD189733.



# EXOPLANETS Ia) Radial velocity

The **semi major axis**  $a$  is given by the period  $T$  :

$$T^2 = (4\pi^2/GM_*)a^3$$

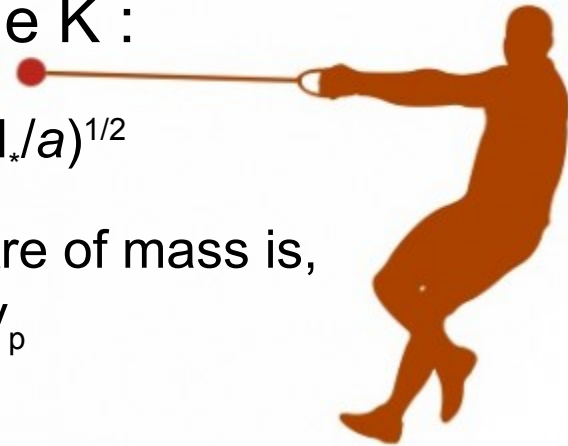


The **mass**  $q=M_p/M_*$  is given by the amplitude  $K$  :

The velocity of the planet is :  $v_p = a\Omega = (GM_*/a)^{1/2}$

Thus the velocity of the star around the centre of mass is, by conservation of the momentum :  $v_* = -q v_p$

Thus:  $q = K (a/GM_*)^{1/2}$ .



Numerical application : (reminder:  $M_{\text{Sun}}=2.10^{30}$  kg)

For Jupiter,  $q=10^{-3}$ ,  $a=5,2$  UA,  $\delta v = 13$  m.s<sup>-1</sup>.

For the Earth,  $q=3.10^{-6}$ ,  $a=1$ UA,  $\delta v = 0,09$  m.s<sup>-1</sup>.

# EXOPLANETS Ia) Radial velocity

## EXERCICE :

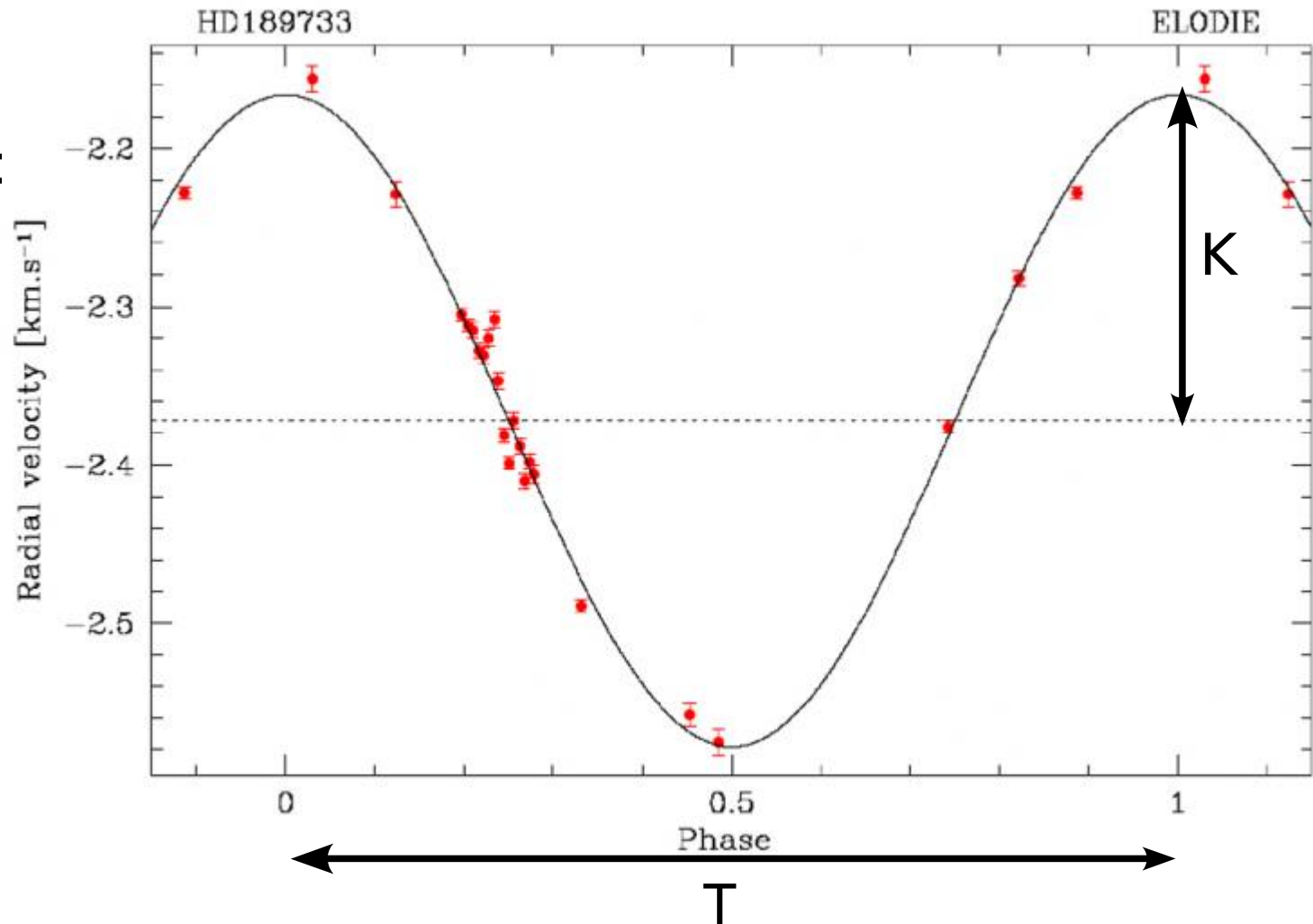
HD189733b :

One gives

$T=2,218$  days,

$M_{*}=1,6 \times 10^{30}$  kg.

Find  $q$ ,  $M_p$ .





# EXOPLANETS Ia) Radial velocity

## EXERCICE :

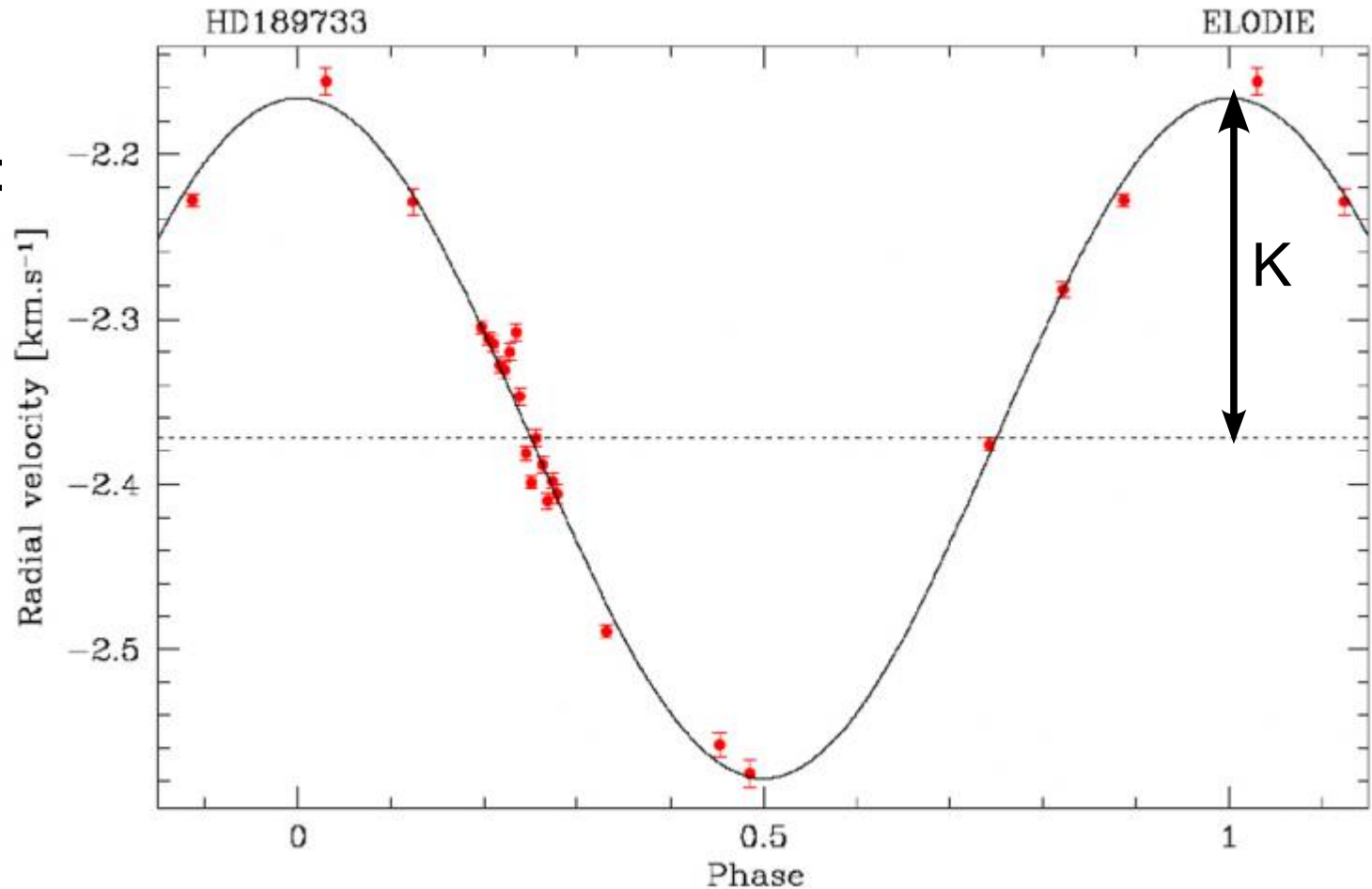
HD189733b :

One gives

$T=2,218$  days,

$M_{\star}=1,6 \times 10^{30}$  kg.

Find  $q$ ,  $M_p$ .



## SOLUTION :

$a = 4,64 \times 10^9$  m = 0.031 AU .       $K \sim 200$  m.s<sup>-1</sup>.

Thus  $q = 1,3 \times 10^{-3}$ , so  $M_p = 1,1 M_{\text{Jup}}$ .

# EXOPLANETS Ia) Radial velocity

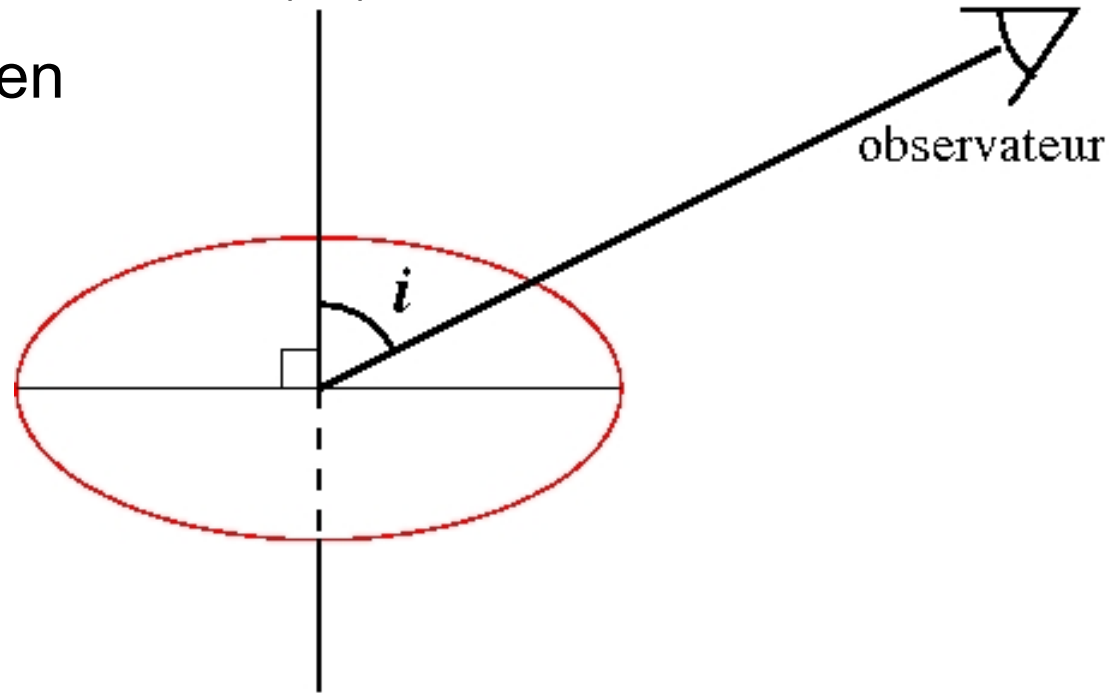
## Caution !

The measured velocity is actually  $qa_p \Omega_p \sin(i)$ ,

where  $i$  is the angle between the line of sight and the axis of the orbit.

$i=0^\circ$ : seen face-on, planet undetectable.

$i=90^\circ$ : seen edge-on, optimal case.



The obtained mass is actually  $M_p \sin(i)$ , where  $i$  is unknown !

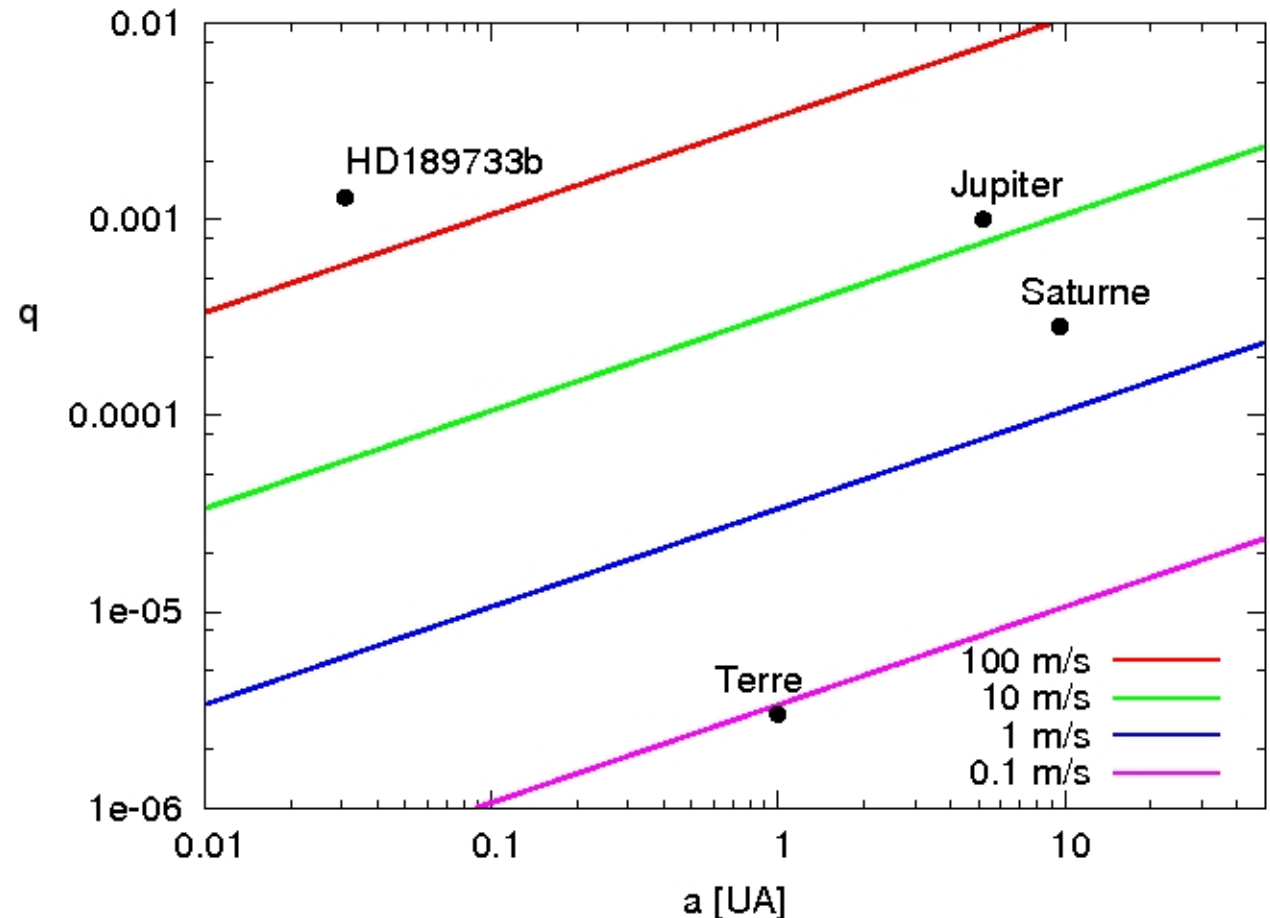
On average,  $1/\sin(i)$  is  $\pi/2$ .

# EXOPLANETS Ia) Radial velocity

Nowadays differences in velocity of the order of a few 0.1 m/s can be measured ! It corresponds to a difference in  $\lambda$  smaller than the width of a spectral line (remind  $\delta\lambda = \lambda_0 v/c$  ).

## Detectability :

It is much easier to detect a giant planet close to its star.



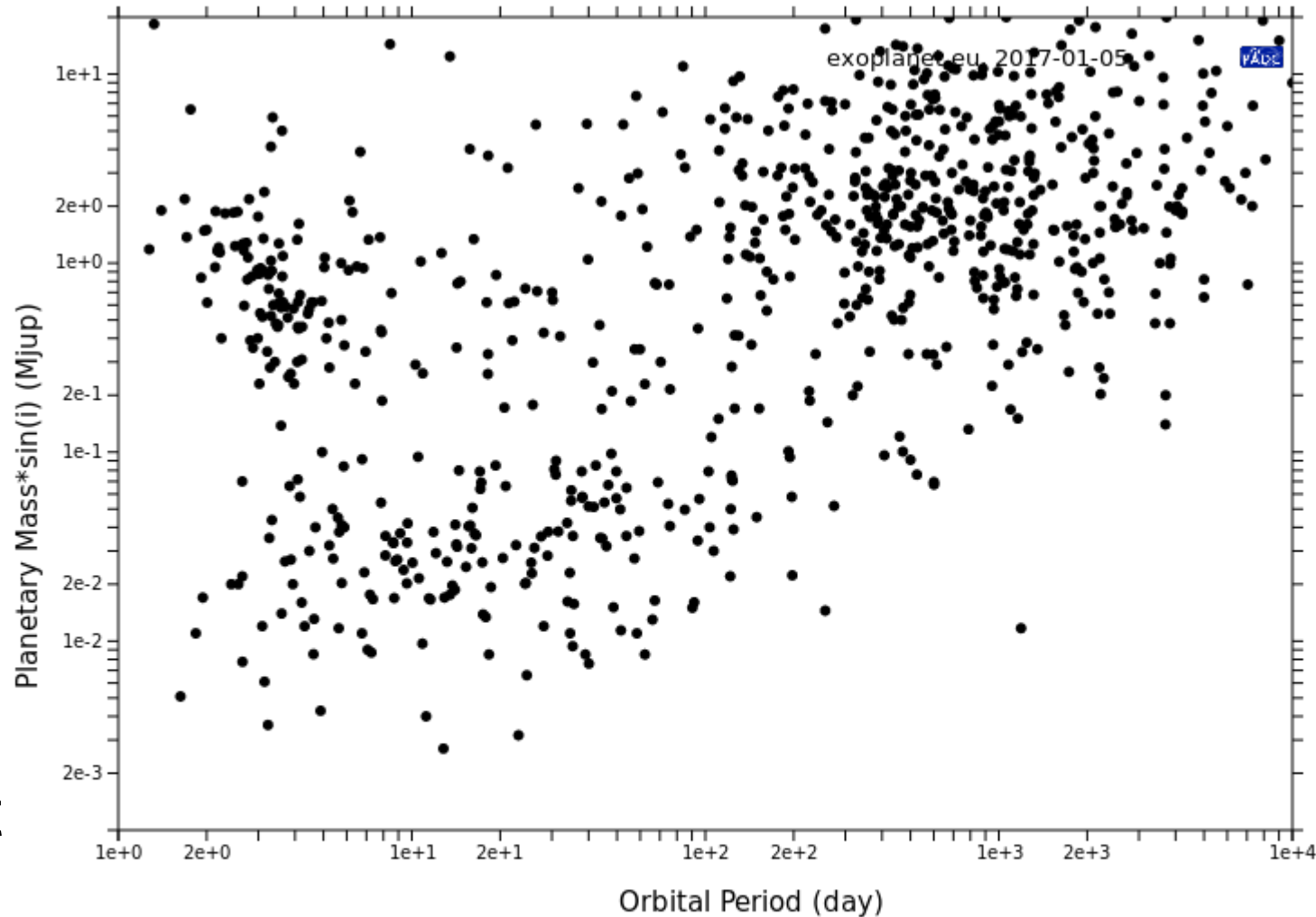


# EXOPLANETS Ia) Radial velocity

## Detections :

All 786 planets detected using radial velocity on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Clearly a bias against large  $a$  and small  $q$ ...



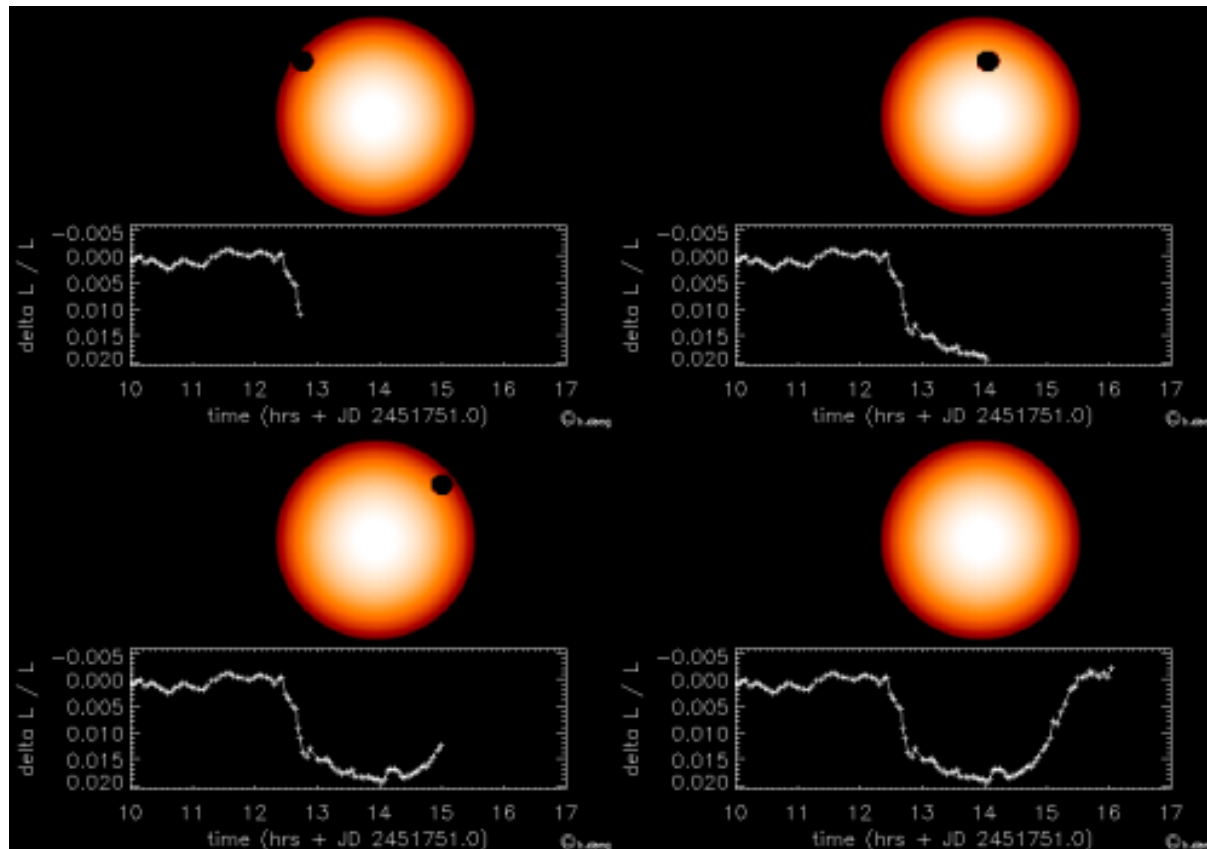
# EXOPLANETS : Ib) Transit



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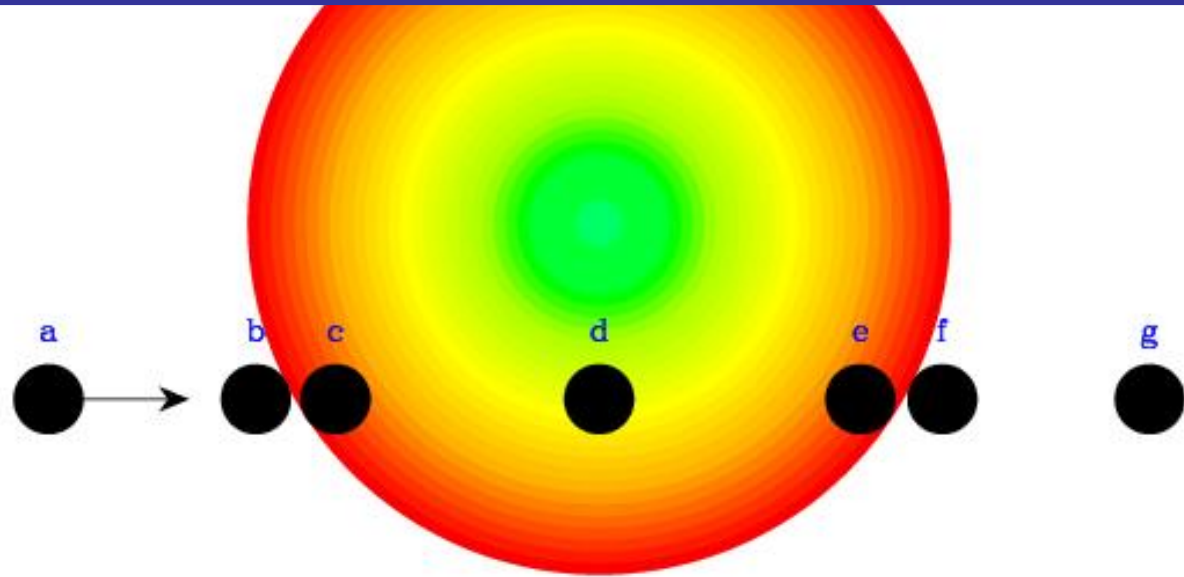
Like Venus in front of the Sun in 2004 and 2012, sometimes, an exoplanet moves in front of its star, this is a **transit**.

Then, one sees a decrease of the luminosity of the star :

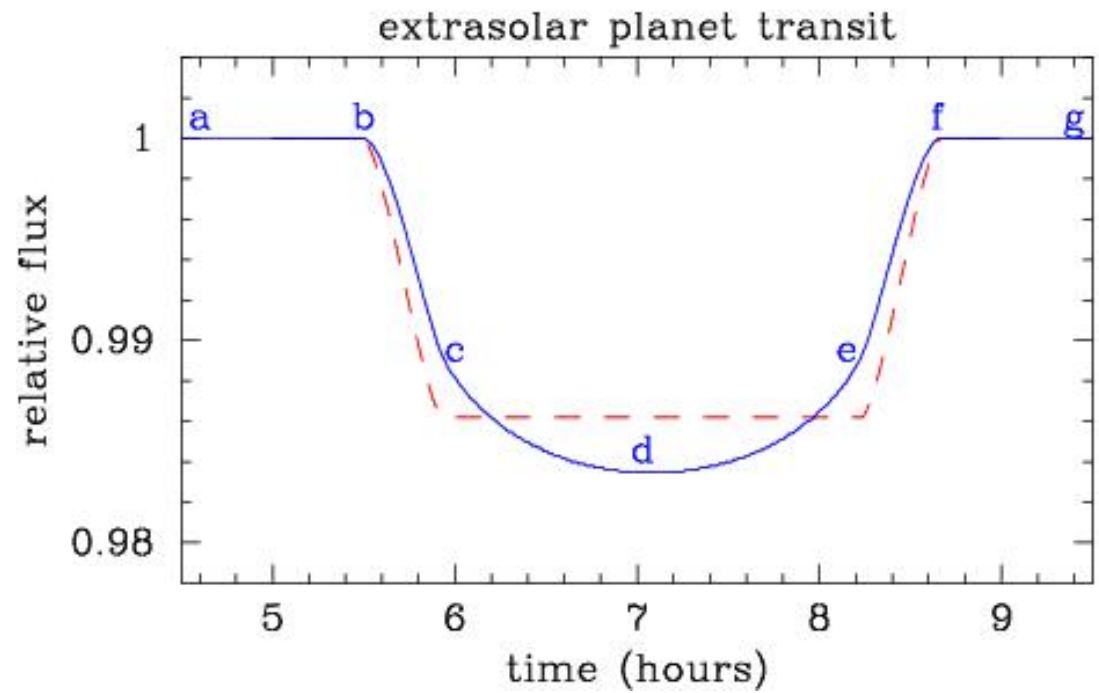


# EXOPLANETS : Ib) Transit

Limb darkening effect : the bottom of the transit isn't flat.



A transit lasts a few hours.

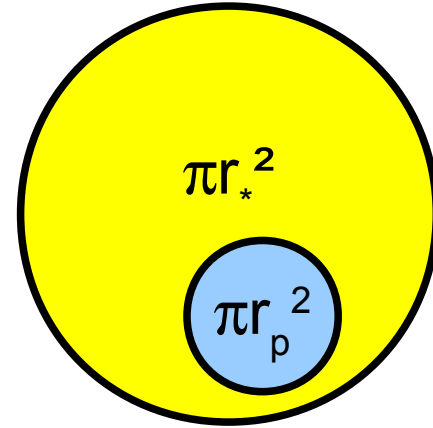


# EXOPLANETS : Ib) Transit

Advantages of the transit method :

The amplitude of the transit gives the radius of the planet :

$$\delta L/L = \pi r_p^2 / \pi r_*^2 = (r_p/r_*)^2$$



The period of the transit gives the semi major axis (Képler's law).

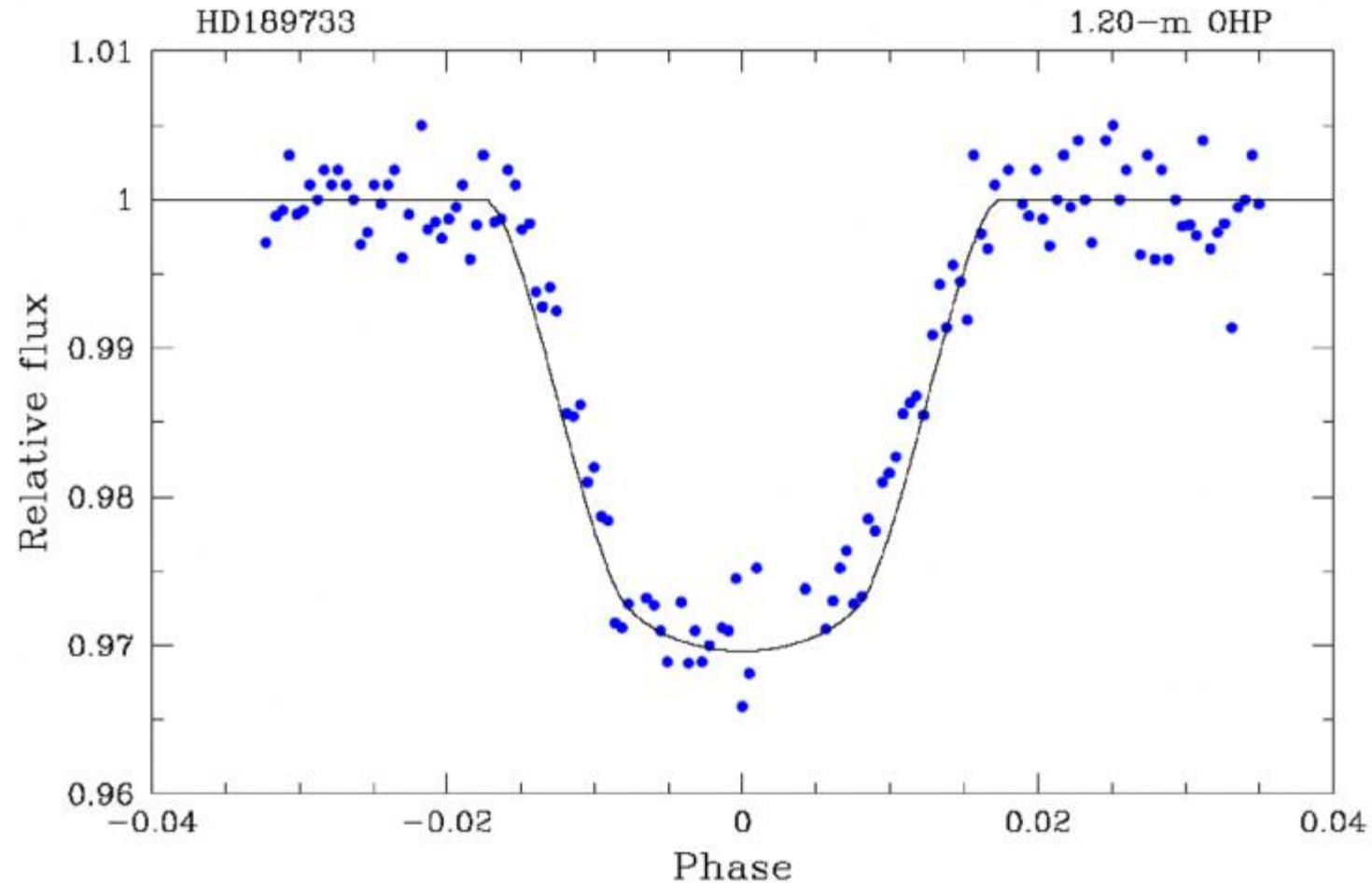
The radial velocity gives the real mass :  $i=90^\circ$ .

One derives the density of the planet !



# EXOPLANETS : Ib) Transit

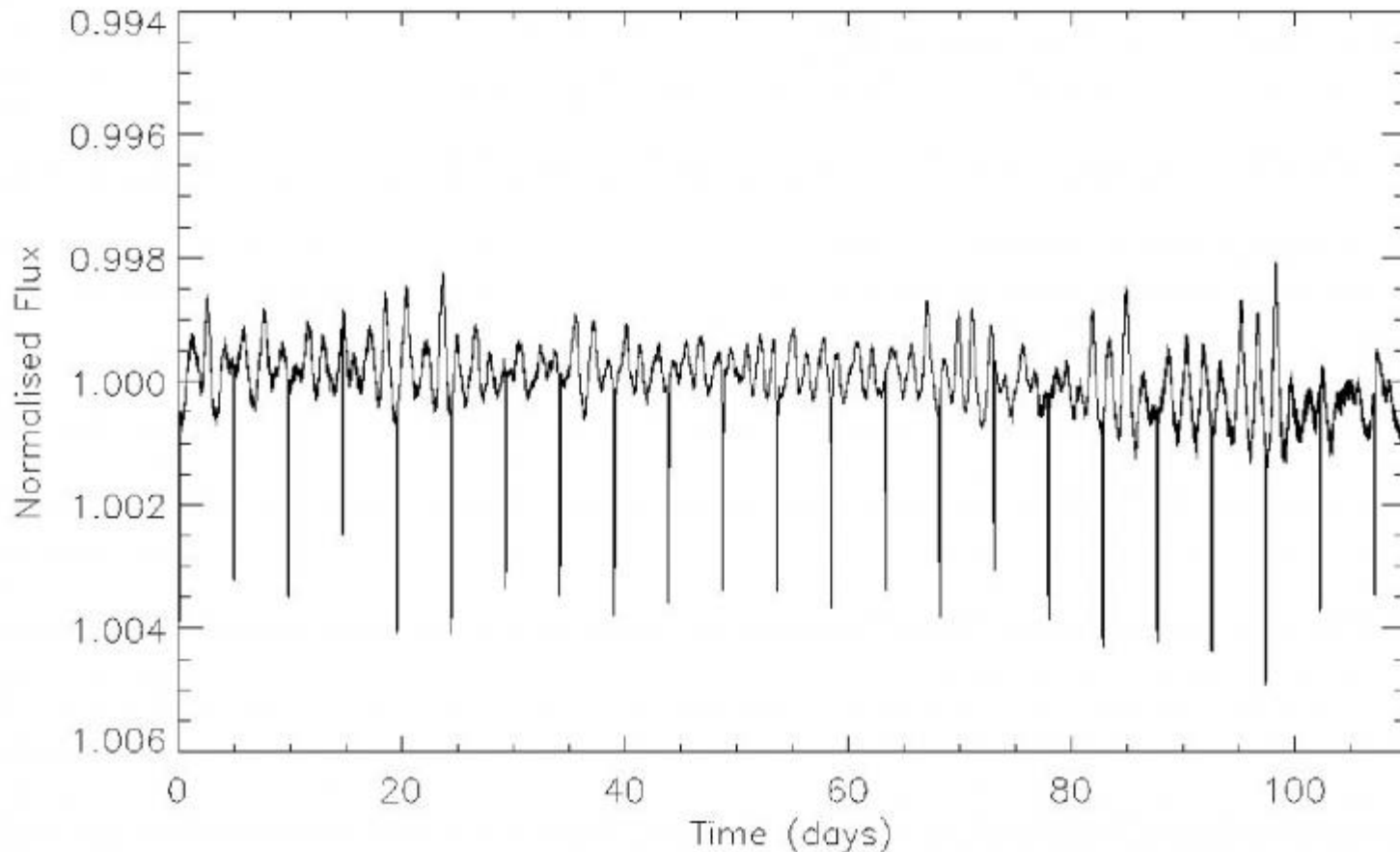
Ex: HD 189733b, seen in radial velocity, also has a transit :



# EXOPLANETS : Ib) Transit

Note : a planetary transit should be periodic.

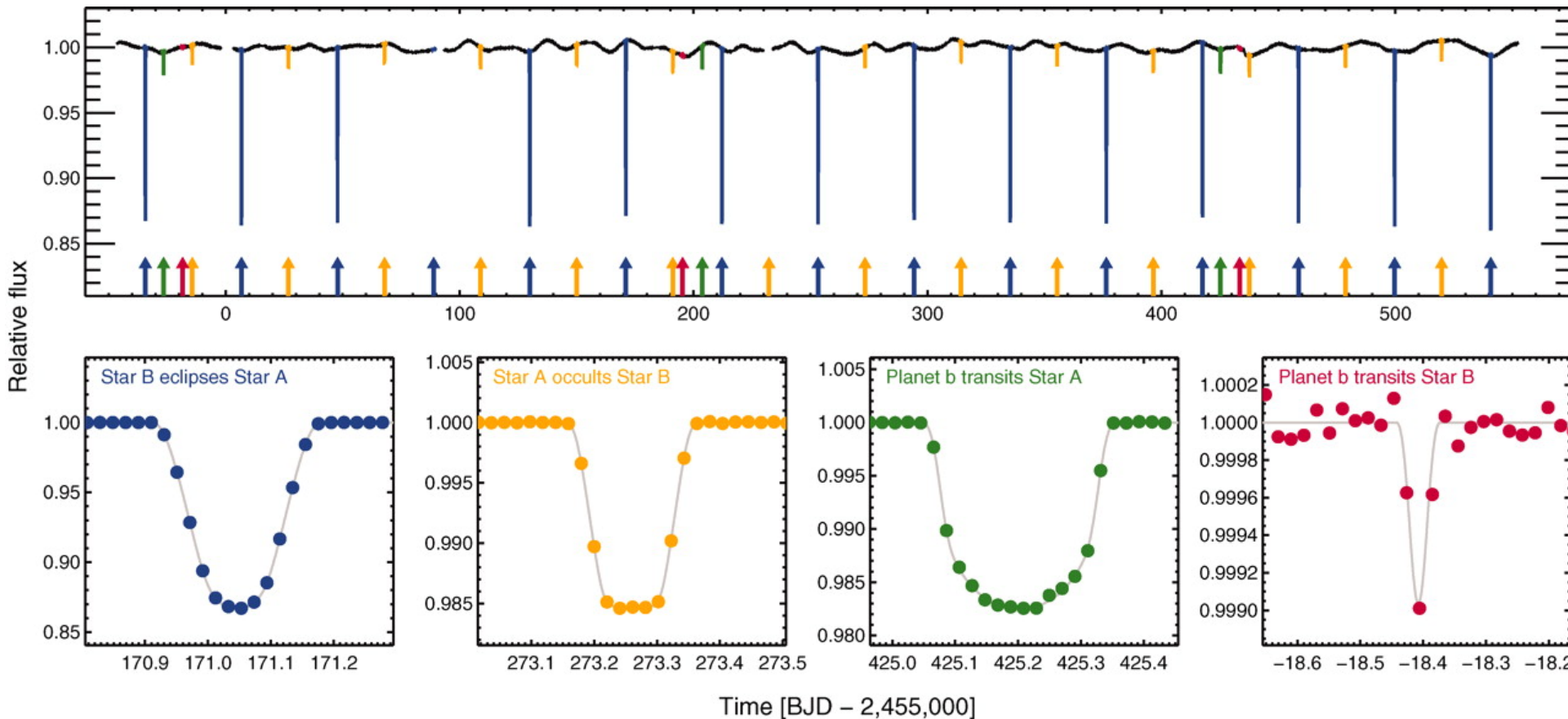
Ex: light curve of a star observed by Corot :



# EXOPLANETS : Ib) Transit

Note : a planetary transit should be periodic.

Ex: light curve of a double star with a planet.



# EXOPLANETS : Ib) Transit

## Transit dedicated missions :

Corot (2006-2014)

Kepler (2009-2013)

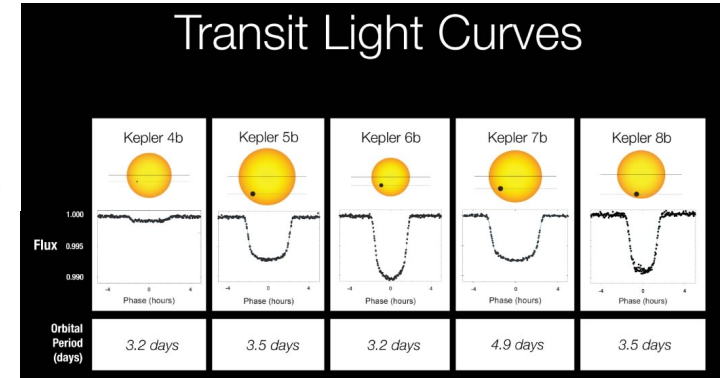


CHEOPS

TESS

**PLATO** : PLAnetary Transits and Oscillations  
of stars

Future M3 mission of ESA (launch 2024).  
Aims at bright stars.



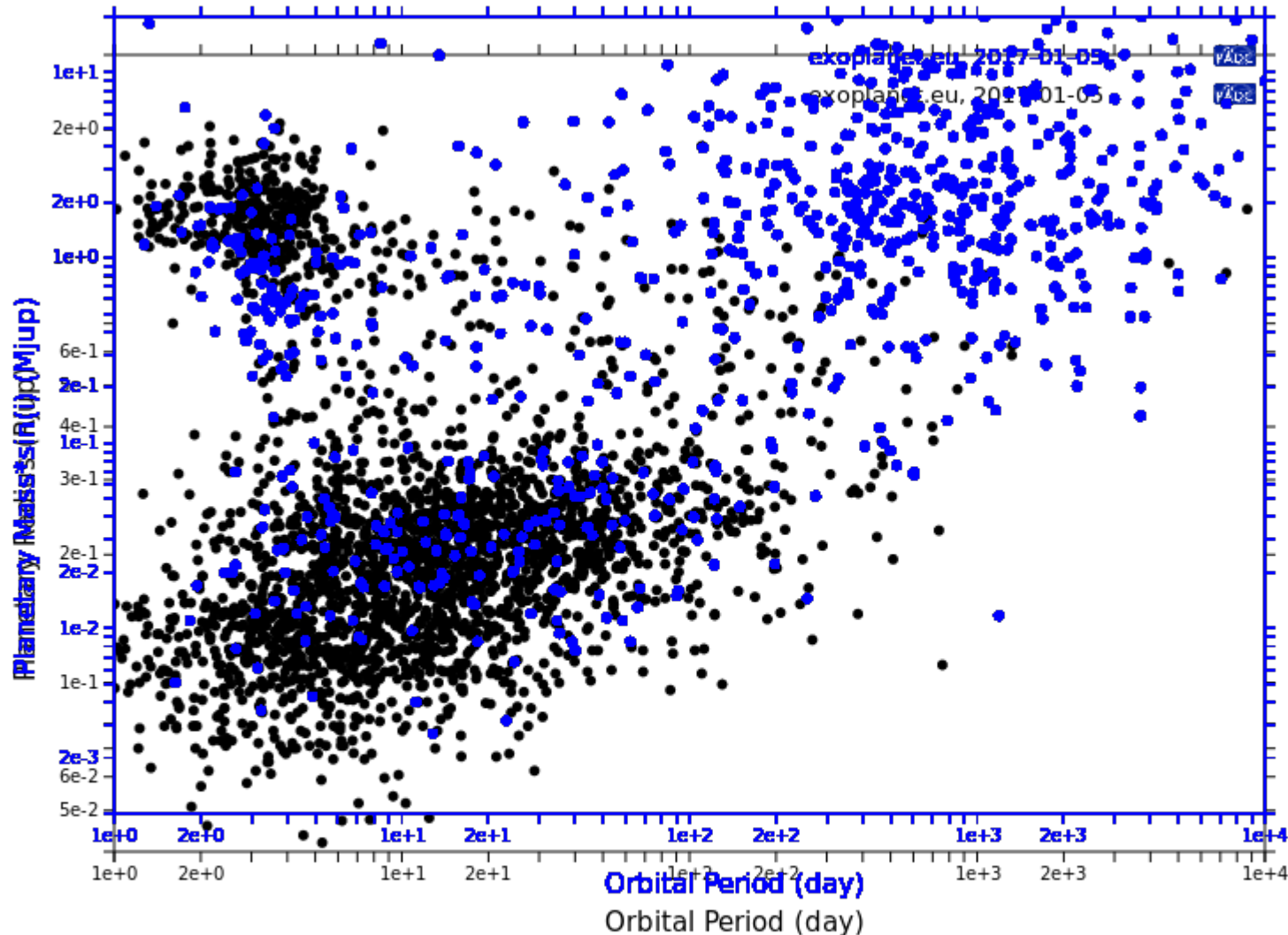
European Space Agency  
Agence spatiale européenne

# EXOPLANETS : Ib) Transit

## Detections :

All 2648 planets detected by transit on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

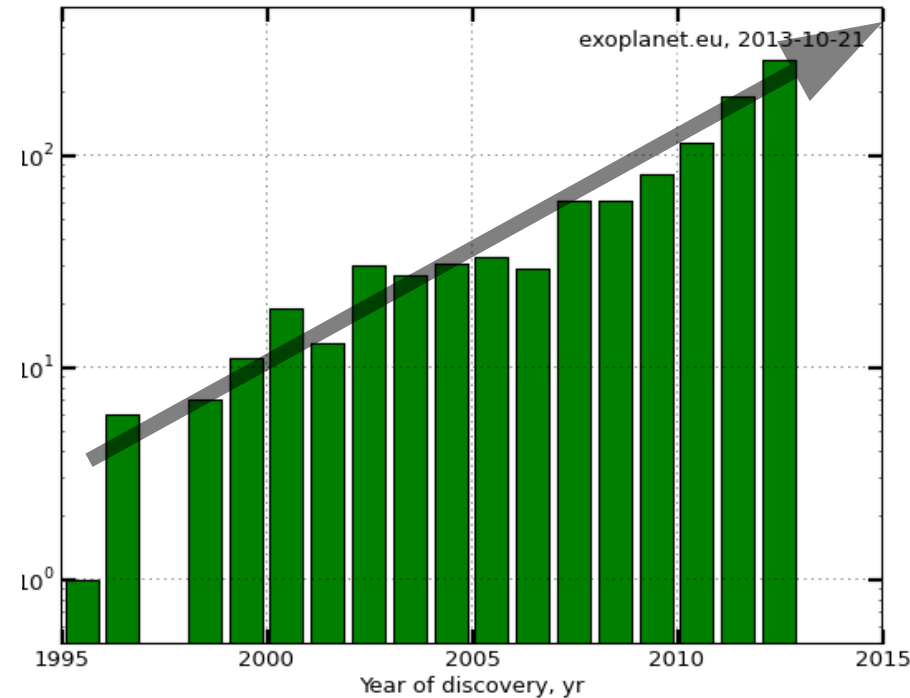
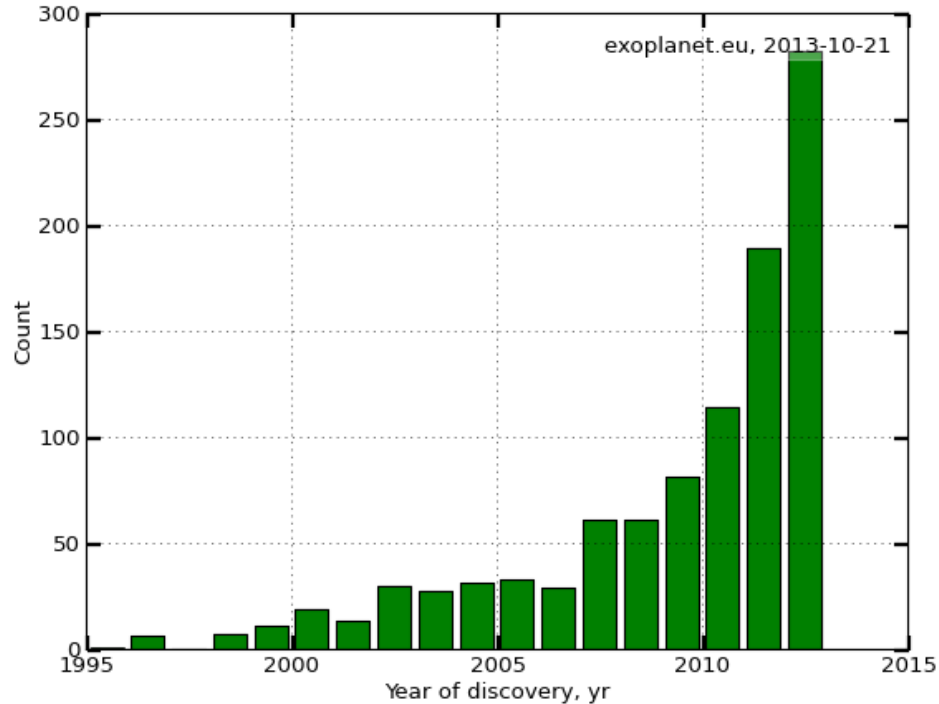
Clearly a bias against long T and small R...





# EXOPLANETS : I Detections summary

The number of detections per year seems to grow exponentially :



Life is in logscale...

# EXOPLANETS : II) Statistics

See [www.exoplanet.eu](http://www.exoplanet.eu) :

data, statistics, correlations, ...

## Over 1000 Confirmed Exoplanets

Terrestrial

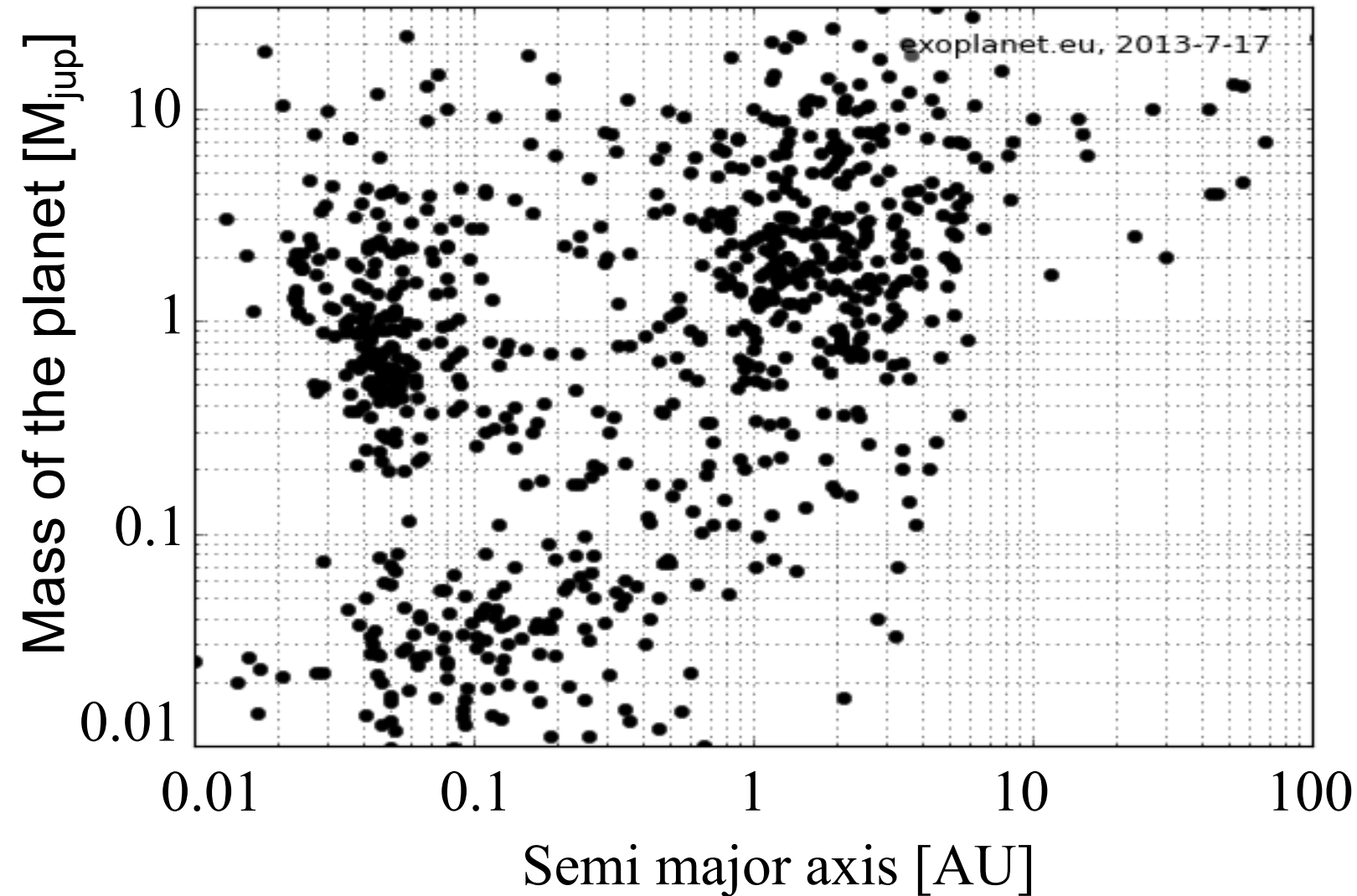
Gas Giants



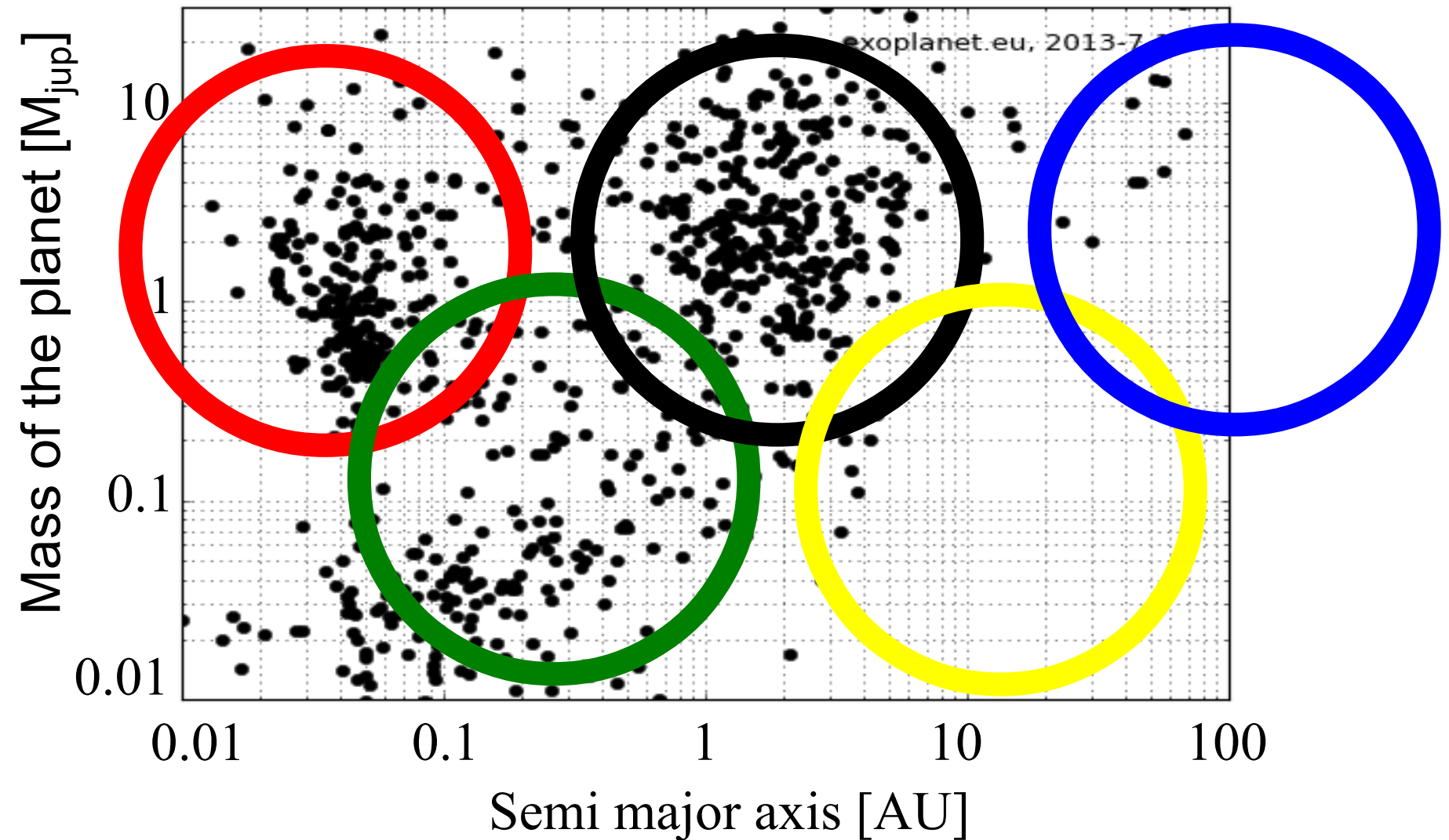
Number of confirmed exoplanets in each category are in red, total 1010.

Credit: PHL @ UPR Arcibo, Oct 2013

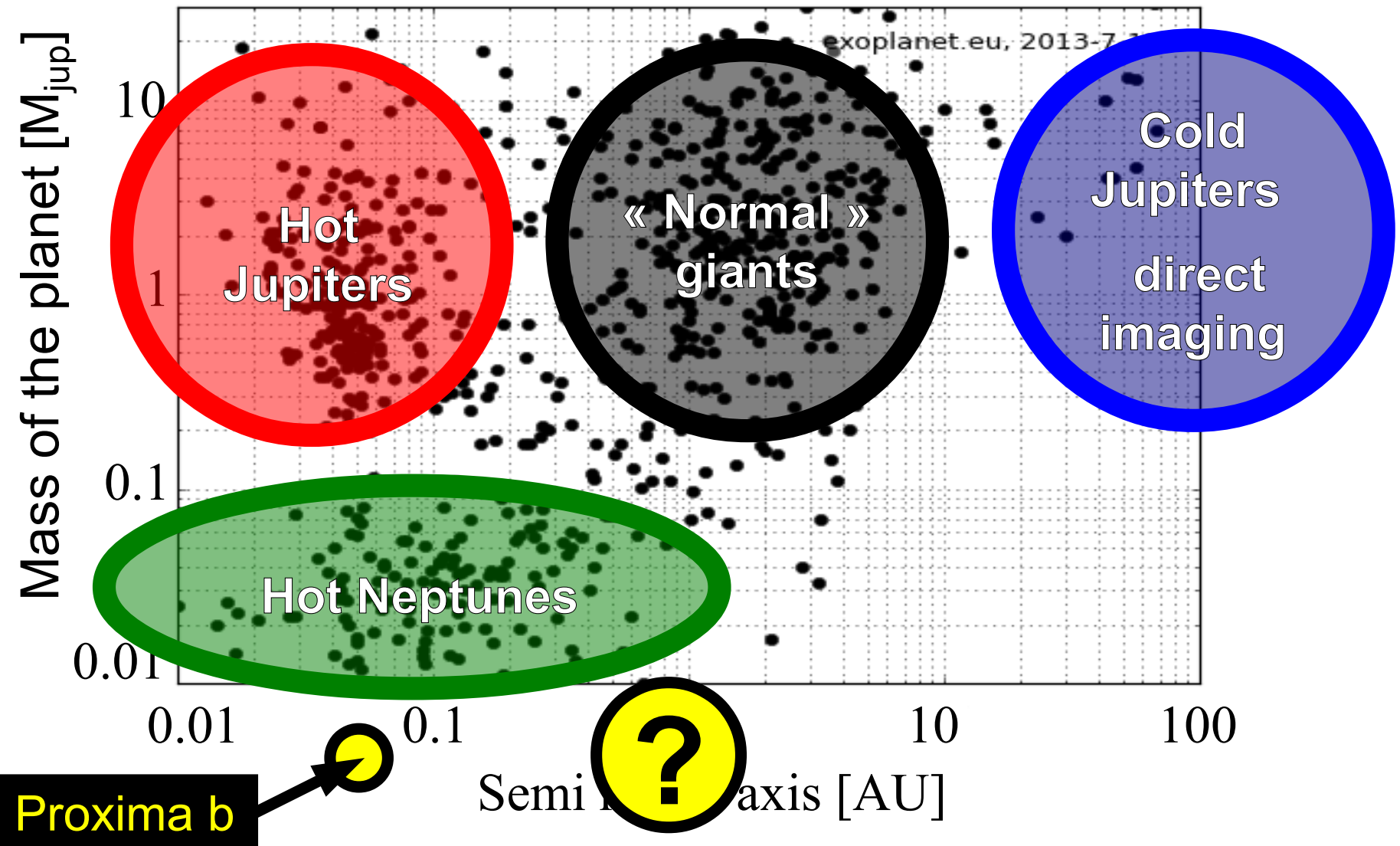
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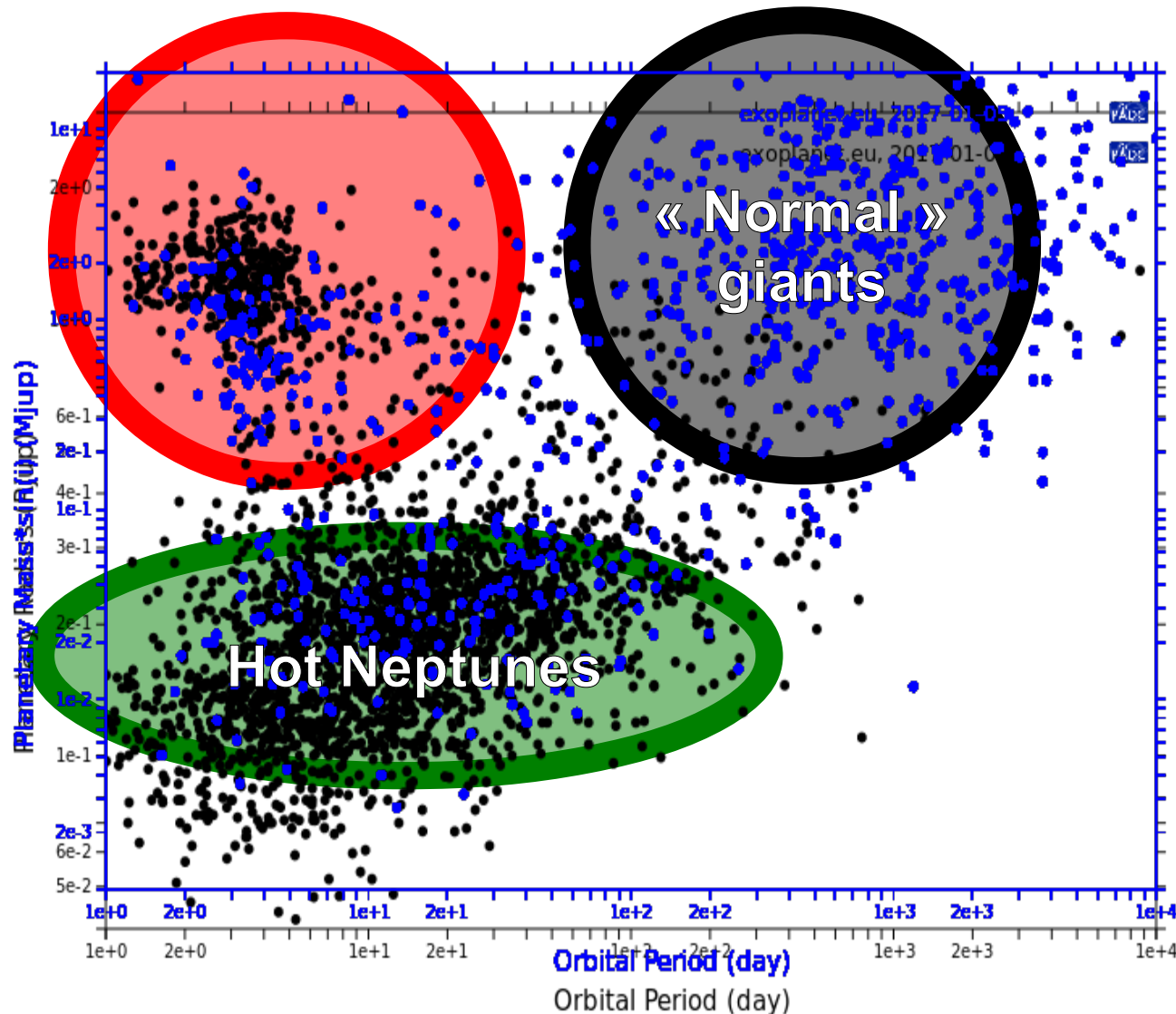


# EXOPLANETS : II) Statistics





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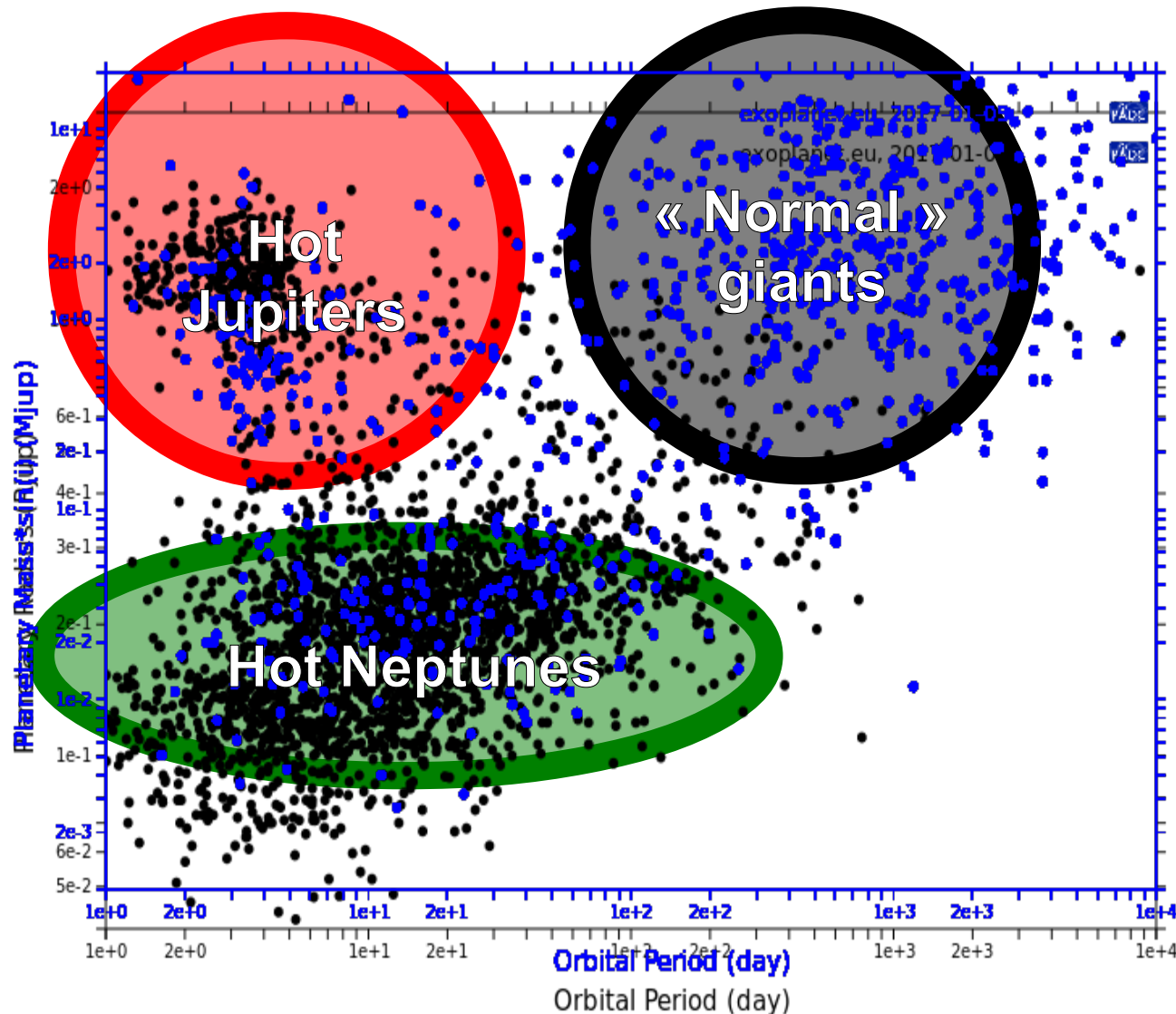


Hot Jupiters are not as massive as large  $\rightarrow$  less dense than Jupiter :  
« inflated hot Jupiters »

Formation ?

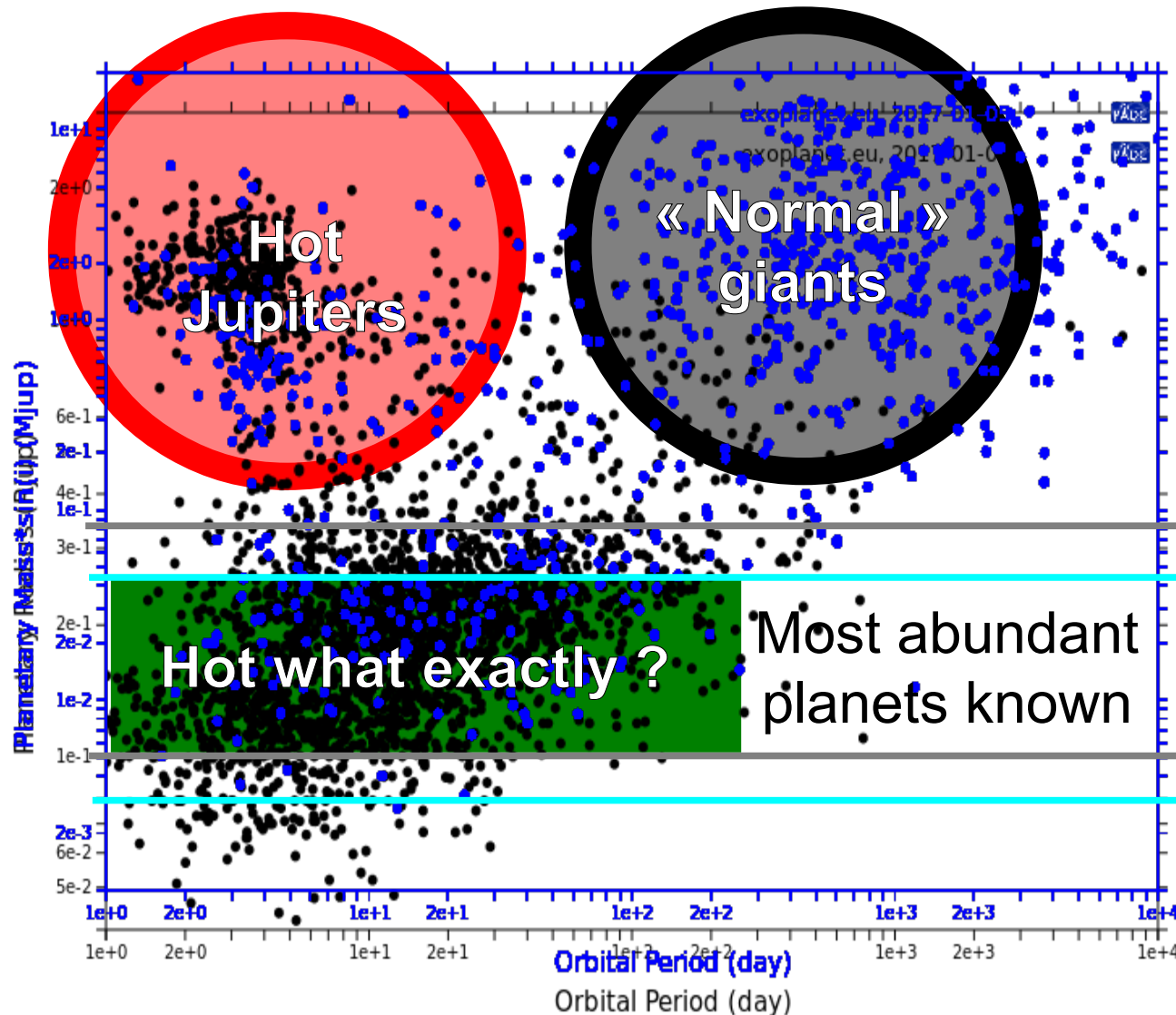
Evolution ?

# EXOPLANETS : II) Statistics



$0.2 R_{Jup} \rightarrow$   
 $0.022 M_{Jup}$ .  
Hot Neptunes  
are  $\sim 3$  times  
denser than  
Jupiter, as is  
Neptune.

# EXOPLANETS : II) Statistics

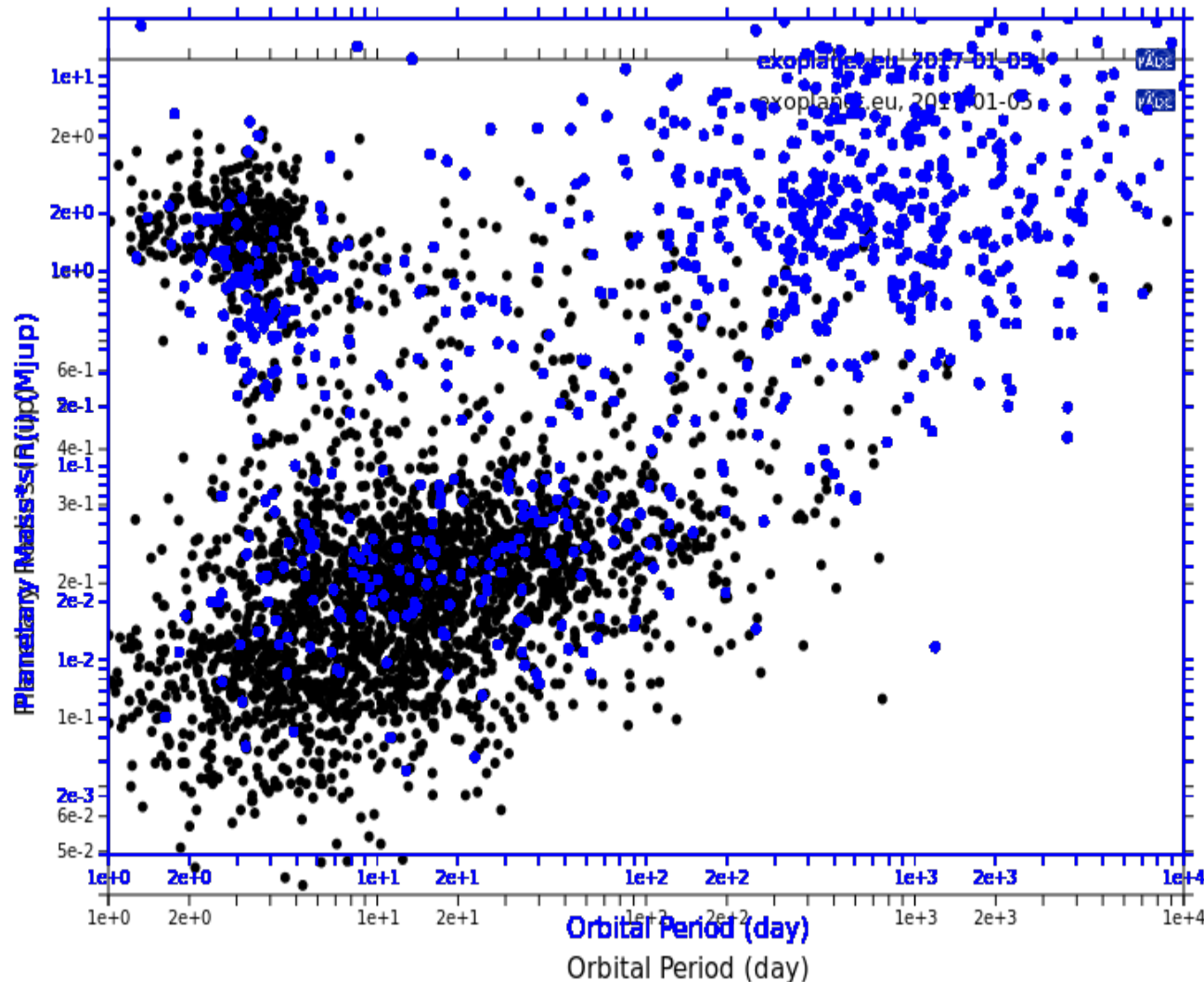


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Neptune's radius  
Uranus' mass

Earth radius  
Earth mass

# EXOPLANETS : II) Statistics



Local formation  
close to the  
stars ?

Migration ?

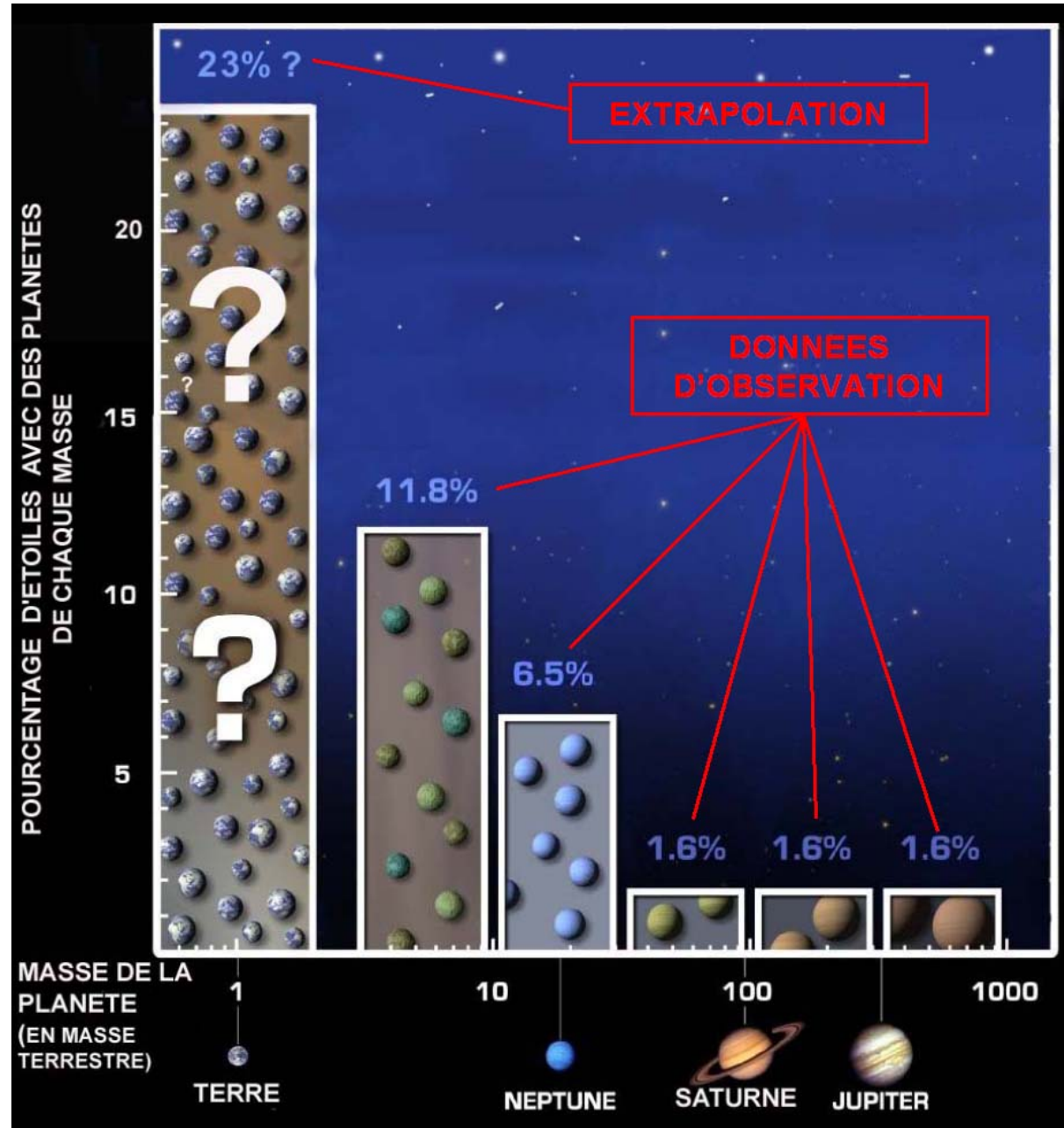
Amazing variety  
→ most likely  
various paths to  
a planet...

# EXOPLANETS : II) Statistics

25% of stars have (at least) a planet.

Let's extrapolate :  
there is at least 46 billion terrestrial planets in our own galaxy !

Note: Incredible variety, with planets of type unknown in the Solar System (hot Jupiters, super-Earths...) → more work for theorists :-).





# BACK to DRAKE FORMULA

$$\mathbf{N} = \mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{f}_p \times \mathbf{n}_{hab} \times \mathbf{f}_v \times \mathbf{f}_i \times \mathbf{f}_c \times \mathbf{L}$$

$$\mathbf{N} = N_p \times f_v \times f_i \times f_c \times f_t = N_p \times \varepsilon$$

$$N_p \approx 46\,000\,000\,000, \text{ and } N \geq 1.$$

So, we know that  $\varepsilon > 0,000\,000\,000\,022\dots$

What if  $\varepsilon = 0,000\,000\,000\,05$  ? Then,  $N > 2$  !

It seems very unlikely that intelligent life appeared only once.

$$\text{And } N_p \times f_v \gg N_p \times \varepsilon \geq 1.$$

There may be life everywhere !

# A LITTLE CHRONOLOGY OF LIFE

14 billion years : Big Bang, birth of the Universe.

4,5 billion years : Formation of the Earth.

480 million years : First terrestrial plants.

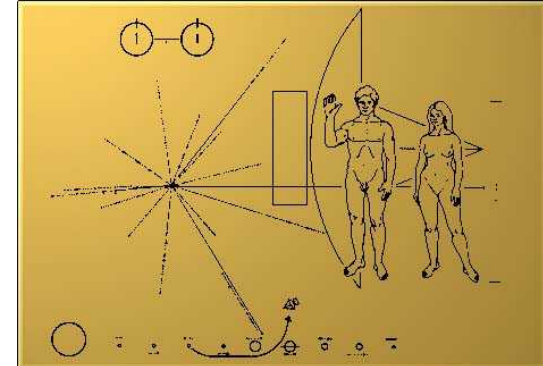
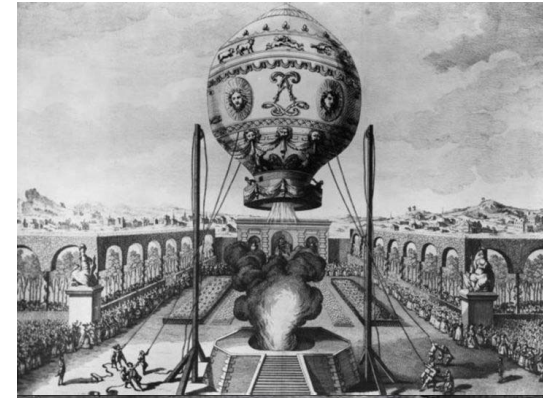
65 millions years:End of the dinosaurs, rise of mammals.

3 millions years : Australopithecus.

400 000 years : prehistoric humans master fire.

# CHRONOLOGY of TRANSPORTATION

- 4500 : Domestication of the horse.
- 1520 : Magellan('s ship) circles the world.
- 1782 : Montgolfière.
- 1906 : First flight with a plane.
- 1947 : A plane faster than sound speed.
- 1961 : Gagarine in space.
- 1969 : Man on the Moon.
- 1975 : *Viking* on Mars.
- 2004 : *Cassini* orbits Saturn.
- 2012 : *Voyager* leaves the Solar System.
- 10 000 : Man conquers the Galaxy ???



# FERMI's PARADOX

If we continue our development, we will conquer the whole Milky Way in a snap on the Universe's clock.

Why, among the 46 billion terrestrial planets isn't one 10000 years ahead of us ? Formed just 4500,01 million years ago ?

Where are they ?

Is there a fluke  
in this reasoning ?



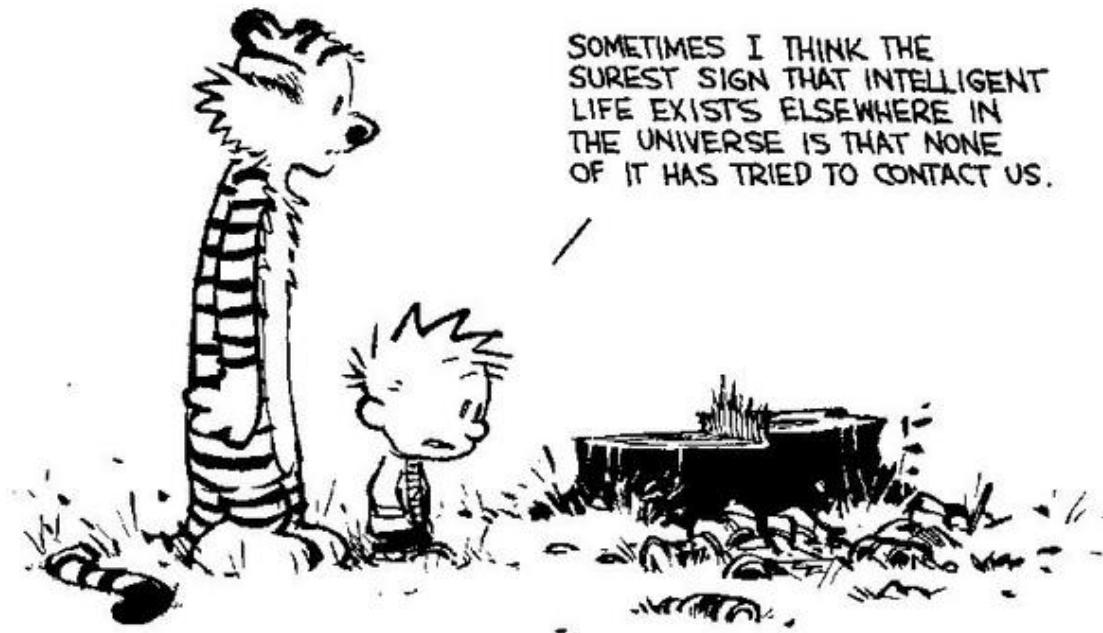
# FERMI's PARADOX

In my humble opinion :

An exponential development is not possible indefinitely.

1) physical limits :

- speed of light unreachable
- limited ressources



# FERMI's PARADOX

In my humble opinion :

An exponential development is not possible indefinitely.

1) physical limits :

Consider a 2% growth per year :

$100 \rightarrow 102 \rightarrow 104,04 \rightarrow 106,16 \rightarrow 108,24 \rightarrow 110,41 \rightarrow 112,62 \rightarrow 114,87$   
 $\rightarrow 117,17 \rightarrow 119,51 \rightarrow 121,90 = 21,9\%$  in 10 years

In 100 years ?  $100 \rightarrow 121,9 \rightarrow 148,6 \rightarrow 181 \rightarrow 221 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow 724,46 !!!$

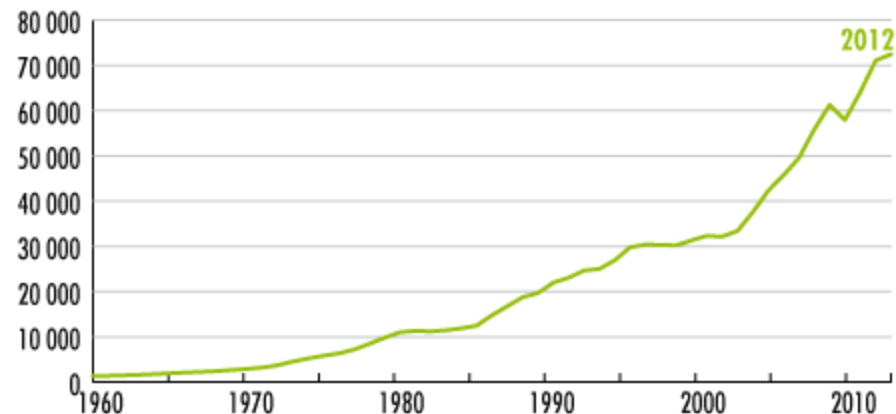
In 200 years ?  $\times 50$ .

In 350 years ?  $\times 1000$ .

In 1000 years ?  $\times 400$  millions.

In 1047 years  $\rightarrow \times 1$  billion !

PIB MONDIAL  
EN MILLIARDS DE DOLLARS





# FERMI's PARADOX

In my humble opinion :

An exponential development is not possible indefinitely.

## 2) Social limits :

The factor L in Drakes equation may not be so long...

- remember the cold war

- how do civilisations collapse ? Generally at least one of 3 key factors : inequalities, shortage in ressources, climate change...

→ **2 possibilities, now :**

**Either we try and we exhaust/burn our planet,  
or we admit we can't grow for ever and we look  
for an alternative model...**

**Looking at other stars and planets  
brings you back on Earth...**

**The more planets  
we find, the more  
we realize we should  
protect ours, and  
share it fairly...**

