

An Earth-sized exoplanet with a Mercury-like composition

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The Earth, Venus, Mars, and some extrasolar terrestrial planets¹ have a mass and radius that is consistent with a mass fraction of about 30% metallic core and 70% silicate mantle². At the inner frontier of the solar system, Mercury has a completely different composition, with a mass fraction of about 70% metallic core and 30% silicate mantle³. Several formation or evolution scenarios are proposed to explain this metal-rich composition, such as a