Transits: planet detection and false signals

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Outline

- Transit method basics
- Transit discoveries so far
- From transit detection to planet confirmation
- Astrophysical false positives
- Factors that can affect derived planet parameters:
 - stellar activity
 - stellar parameter estimations







Assuming circular orbit and $i = 90^{\circ}$:

Jupiter

δ = 1%









 \Rightarrow It is easier to find small planets around small stars.

What is the transit method?Assuming circular orbit and $i = 90^{\circ}$:JupiterEarth $\delta = 1\%$ $\delta = 84$ ppm

Collier Cameron, A., 2016. Methods of Detecting Exoplanets Seager & Mallén-Ornelas 2003, ApJ 585, 1038 Winn 2010. Exoplanets edited by S. Seager

Brightness

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Assuming circular orbit and $i = 90^{\circ}$:

Earth

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 $T \approx 30h$





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 \Rightarrow Transit surveys must monitor thousands of stars at a time. They find planets in small orbits around large parent stars.

>2920 transiting planets confirmed since 1999



Year of Discovery (year)

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Year of Discovery (year)



See also Zeng et al. (2017), Van Eylen et al. (2017), Schlichting (2018)





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Kovács, Zucker & Mazeh (2002)

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10 parameters: $P, t_0, \omega, e, i, a/R_*, R_P/R_*, F_0, u_1, u_2$



See also Aigrain & Irwin (2004), Collier Cameron et al. (2006) and others

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Detecting transits: the Box-fitting Least Squares technique (BLS)



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There are other techniques for transit detection, eg. the Transiting Planet Search (TPS, Jenkins 2002), Trend Filtering Analysis (TFA, Kovàcs et al. 2005), Schwarzenberg-Czerny (1989, 1996), etc.





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"... the number of planets detected by TESS [...]

with P > 25 days will be doubled [...]

Detected by human eyeballing (eg. PlanetHunters), machine learning (see Dittmann et al. 2017, Foreman-Mackey et al. 2016)

with P > 250 days will be increased by an order or magnitude"

Villanueva, Dragomir & Gaudi (submitted to AAS Journals)

\Rightarrow Find the period with RVs or more photometry





Astrophysical scenarios that create transits



Transiting planets

Morton et al. 2011, 2012; Santerne et al., 2012,2013; Latham et al. 2009; Collier Cameron et al. 2007; Pont et al. 2005 and others

Astrophysical scenarios that create transits (astrophysical false positives)



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PollingBand-fgt: 1.00 [367/367]



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DiffimageQuality-fgm: 1.00 [17/17] DiffImageOverlap-Ino: 1.00 [17/17]















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DiffimageQuality-fgm: 1.00 [16/16] DiffimageOverlap-Ino: 1.00 [17/17]





LongPeriod-sig: 100.0% [449.60r]

OotOffset-rm: 0.013 arcsec [0.20a] KicOffset-rm: 0.025 arcsec [0.37u] DiffimageQuality-fgm: 1.00 [17/17] DiffImageOverlap-Ino: 1.00 [17/17]



LongPeriod-sig: 100.0% [449.60r] BollingBand-fgt: 0.99 [416/422]

Centroid-so: 0.211 arcsec [49.94o] OotOffset-rm: 0.013 arcsec [0.20a] KicOffset-rm: 0.025 arcsec [0.37a] DiffimageQuality-fgm: 1.00 [17/17] DiffImageOverlap-Ino: 1.00 [17/17]




Software Revision: svn+ssh://murzim/repo/soc/tags/release/9.3.42@60958 -- Date Generated: 02-Feb-2016 07:04:11 Z This Data Validation Report Summary was produced in the Kepler Science Operations Center Pipeline at NASA Arres Research Center DiffimageQuality-fgm: 1.00 [16/16] DiffimageOverlap-Inc: 1.00 [16/16]



Software Revision: svn+ssh://murzim/repo/soc/tags/release/9.3.42@60958 -- Date Generated: 30-Jan-2016 13:34:02 Z This Data Validation Report Summary was produced in the Kepler Science Operations Center Pipeline at NASA Amea Research Center ModelChiSquareGot-sig: 100.0%

Centroid-so: 2.761 arcsec [2.20o] OotOffset-rm: 1.691 arcsec [2.60c] KicOffset-rm: 1.687 arcsec [3.19a] DiffimageQuality-fgm: 0.75 [3/4] DiffimageOverlap-ino: 1.00 [4/4]





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Stars vary on timescales from minutes to years:





Full Sun: SDO/HMI continuum

Swedish Telescope, V. Henriques

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Granulation



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See Huber et al. (2016, 2014, 2013), Petigura et al. (2017), Bastien et al. (2014), Dressing & Charbonneau (2013) and others



Revise stellar radius down to lower value



The planet gets bigger too

See Huber et al. (2016, 2014, 2013), Petigura et al. (2017), Bastien et al. (2014), Dressing & Charbonneau (2013) and others



Inaccurate stellar radii bias planet radii



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- For accurate and precise planet parameters, we need accurate and precise stellar parameters!!!

The basics of exoplanet detection and characterisation:

Seager, S. & Mallén-Ornelas, G. 2003. ApJ 585, 1038.

Winn 2010. *Exoplanets* edited by S. Seager, University of Arizona Press, Tucson, AZ, p.55-77, ISBN 978-0-8165-2945-2.

Collier Cameron, A., 2016. *Methods of Detecting Exoplanets*, Astrophysics and Space Science Library 428, Bozza V. et al. (eds), DOI 10.1007/978-3-319-27458-4_2.

Haswell, C. 2010. Transiting Exoplanets, Cambridge University Press, ISBN: 9780521139380.

Reviews on stellar activity:

Haywood, R. D. (2015). *Hide and Seek: Radial-Velocity Searches for Planets around Active Stars*. Chapter 1, PhD thesis, University of St Andrews.

Schrijver, C. J., & Zwaan, C. 2000, Solar and stellar magnetic activity / Carolus J. Schrijver, Cornelius Zwaan. New York : Cambridge University Press, 2000. Cambridge astrophysics series; 34.

Hall, J. C. 2008, Living Reviews in Solar Physics, 5, 2.

Reiners, A. 2012, Living Rev. Solar Phys., 9.

(The talk slides contain many more references about specific topics not listed on this slide.)