

The *Extreme* Physical Properties of Super-Earth CoRoT-7b



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Motivation for Work

COnvection **RO**tation and planetary **T**ransits (French exoplanet search mission)
One of **three** detected transiting exoplanets around star **CoRoT-7** (G9V).

Why CoRoT-7b over other planets?

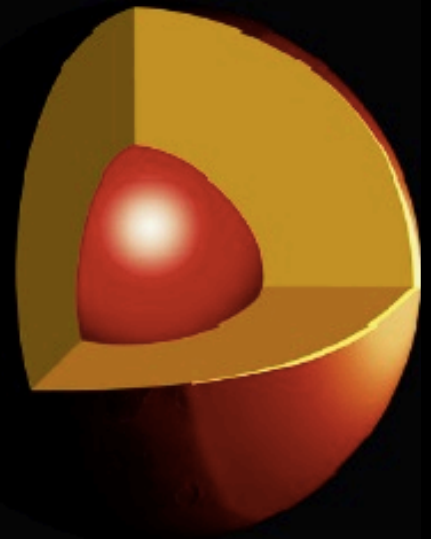
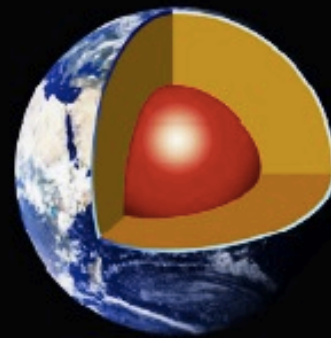
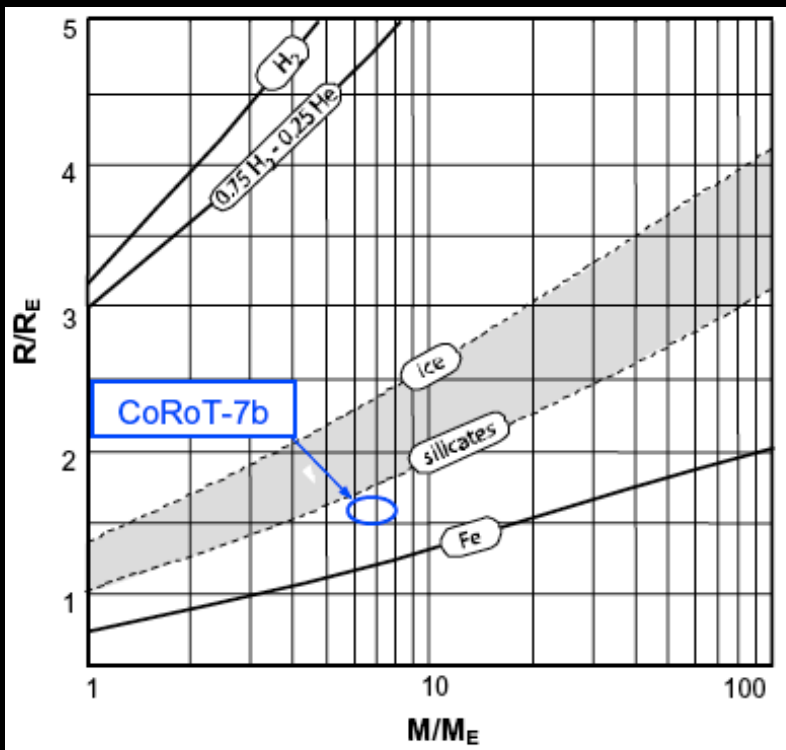
- $M > M_E$ ($\sim 6.9M_E$) rocky not gas giant, not too much larger than Earth ($\sim 1.58R_{\text{Earth}}$)!
- Close to Sun ($a = 0.0171 \text{ AU} = 4.48 R_{\text{st}}$ only!)
 - short orbits ($\sim 0.8 \text{ day} \rightarrow 100 \text{ orbits in 4 mos!}$)
 - Stronger signals (vary as $a^{-1/2}$)



Tidally phase-locked (spin and orbit synced) thus certain extremes apply such as very thin & cloudless atmosphere, day-side vs night-side temperature dichotomy. Rare and interesting! Pioneer to study of “lava-ocean” planets. Author also states such *“planets would lead to better understanding of planet formation and migration mechanisms.”*

Structure and Composition

- Atmosphere eroded by stellar winds \rightarrow no He-H envelope or water; only major materials remain \rightarrow dry-earth like composition.
- Complete liquid core (unless $T_{\text{core}} = T_{\text{core_lower_limit}}$) $0.11V_{\text{pl}}$, silicate mantle, silicate mantle (like Earth), upper mantle only $0.08V_{\text{pl}}$ and completely solid (high g) except except day-side surface.

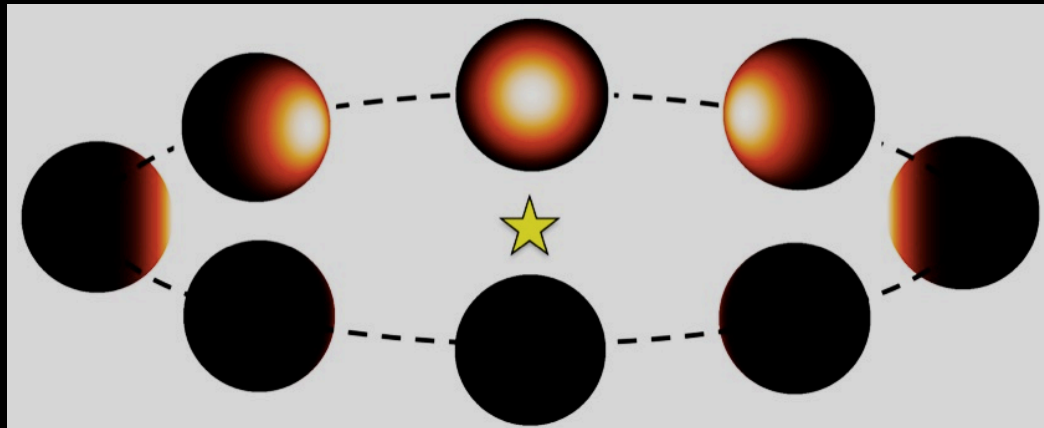


Iron core Silicate mantle Lava ocean

Formation and Orbit

Proposed scenarios

- (i) **In situ accretion** – requires large inner solid densities to initiate process, collisions cause accretion into planet: possible
- (ii) **Initial formation at larger a → inward migration** – requires resonant configurations with nearby planets (7a and 7c): possible
- (iii) **Resonant migration of large planet** – requires resonance with gas giants but RV data doesn't support: unlikely
- (iv) **Photoevaporation** – exposed core of hot Neptune/Saturn: possible
- (v) Eccentricity of orbit decrease over time, now near circular, timescale of tidal effects = \sim time to become circular orbit → tidal-locking



Day-side Temperature Distribution: Background

- Thermal evolution \rightarrow solely determined by T_{surf} .
- Winds/G.E. \rightarrow no effect on T distribution on either sides.
- Viscosity of high T lava \rightarrow need 3D model to know effect.
- Ocean radially symmetric from sub-stellar point.
- Maximum possible extent of ocean, θ_m , found from power emitted by *ocean* = received by *ocean*.

$$\Phi_{\text{em}} = 2\pi\epsilon_2\sigma T_{\text{oc}}^4 (1 - \cos \theta_m) R_{\text{pl}}^2$$

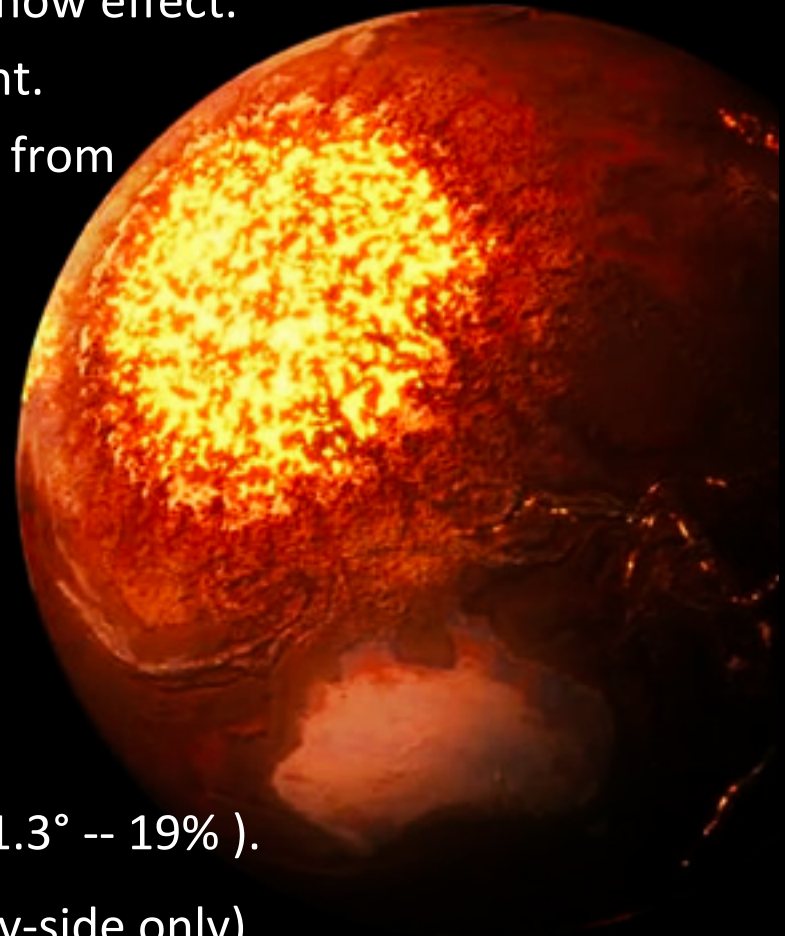
$$\Phi_{\text{rec}} = \pi\epsilon_5\sigma T_{\text{st}}^4 \sin^2 \theta_m R_{\text{pl}}^2$$

$$f(\theta_m) = \frac{1 - \cos(\theta_m)}{\sin^2(\theta_m)} = \frac{R_{\text{st}}^2}{2a^2} \left(\frac{T_{\text{st}}}{T_{\text{oc}}}\right)^4 \frac{\epsilon_5}{\epsilon_2}$$

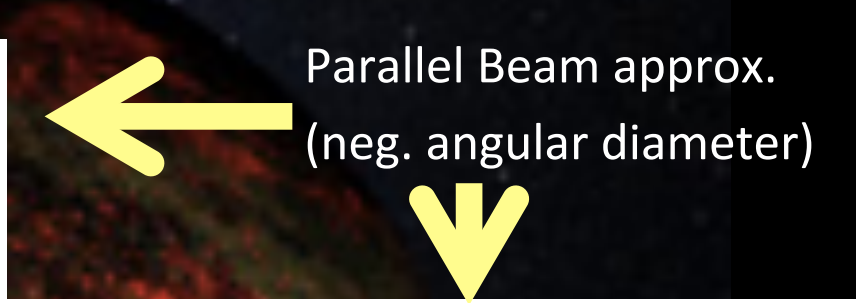
RHS = 0.88 (verified) but paper quotes θ_m as 75° (corresponding to 37% ocean coverage)

W.R.O.N.G! – $82^\circ \rightarrow$ 43% ocean (actual value is 51.3° -- 19%).

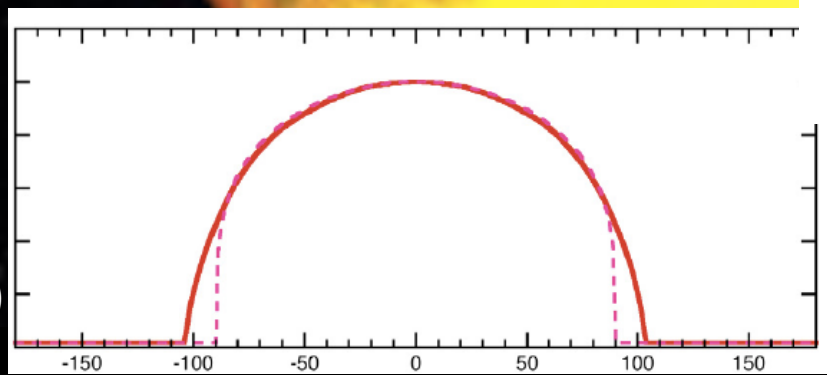
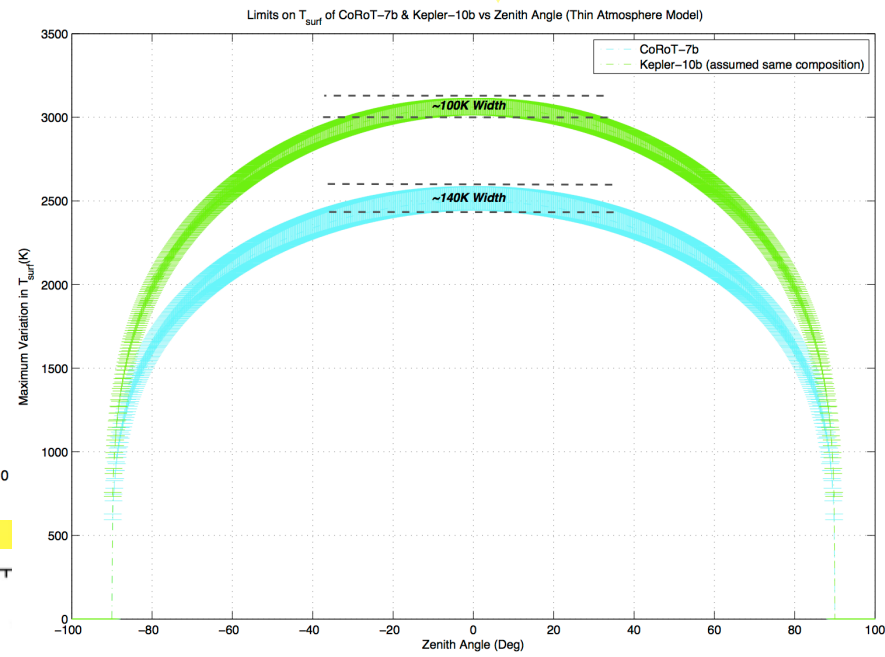
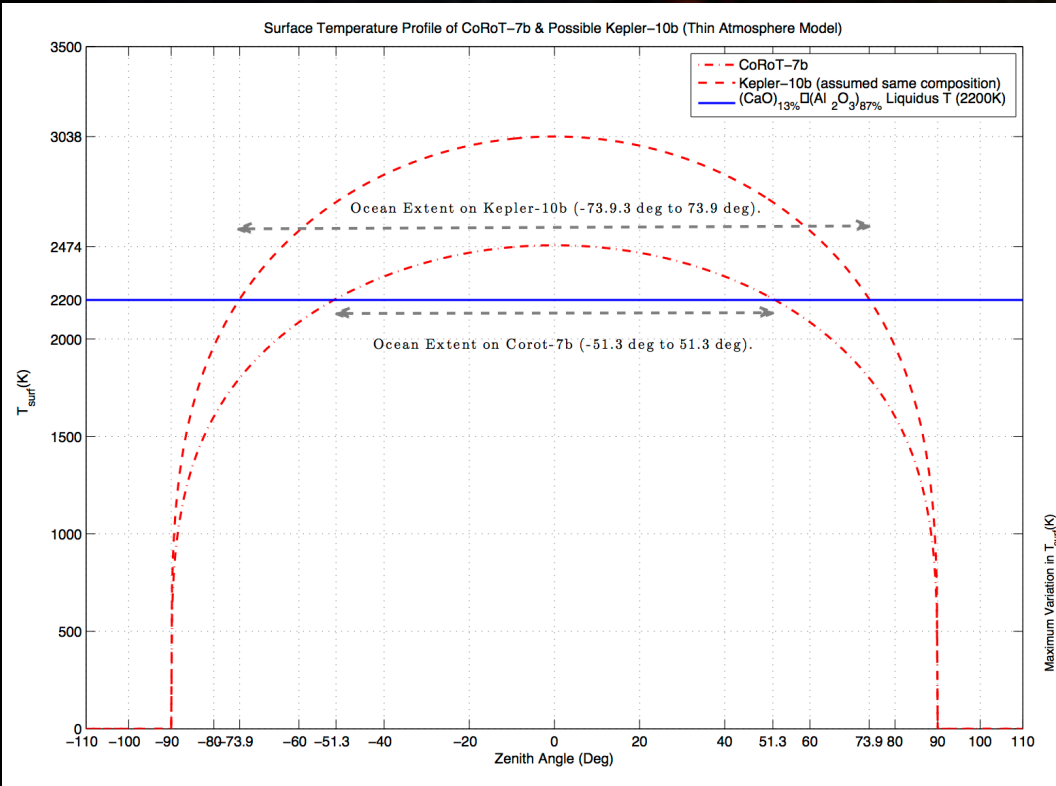
$$T_{\text{surf}} = (\epsilon_5/\epsilon_2)^{1/4} (R_{\text{st}}/a)^{1/2} (\cos \theta)^{1/4} T_{\text{st}} \quad (\text{day-side only})$$



T_{surf} (Day) Distribution: CoRoT-7b + Kepler-10b



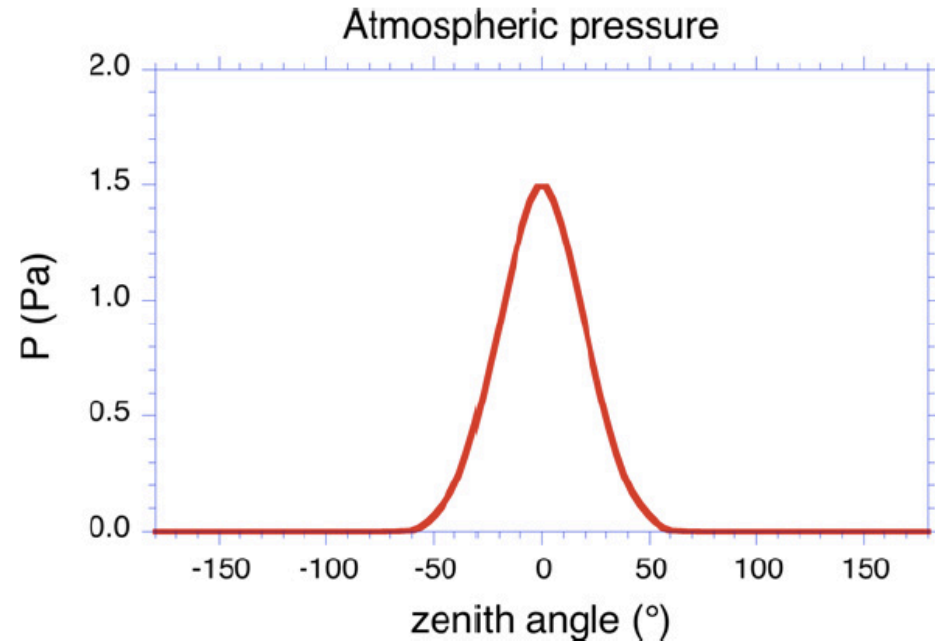
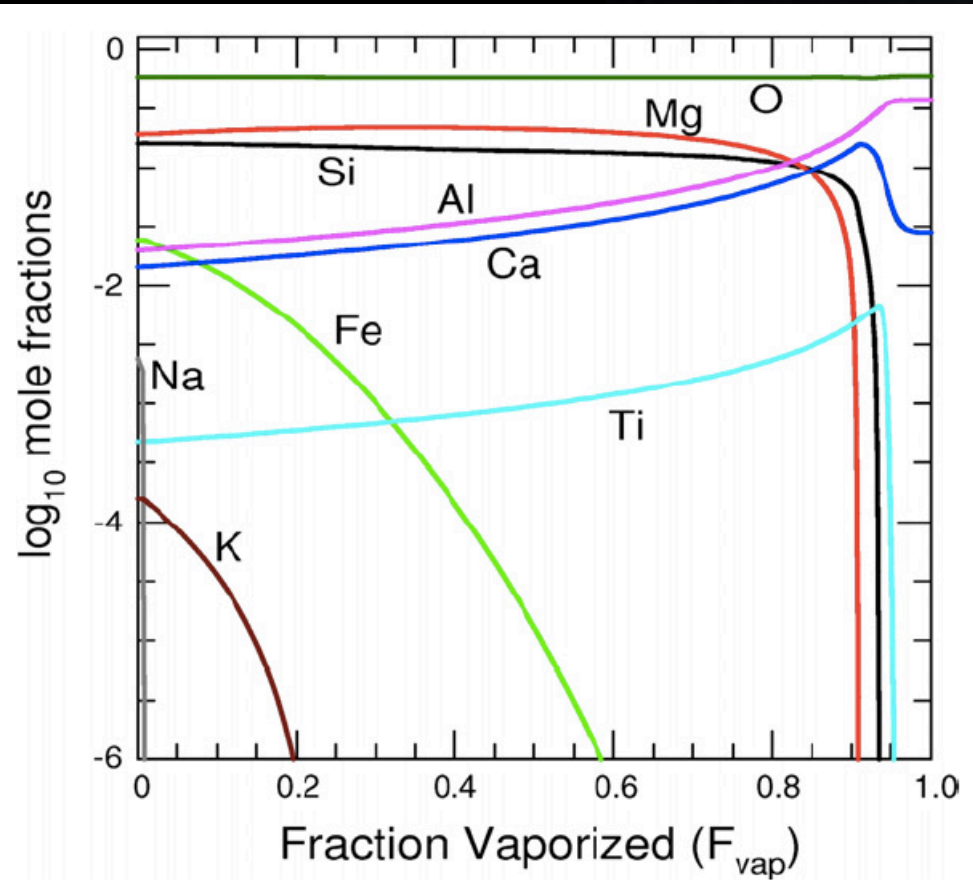
Parallel Beam approx.
(neg. angular diameter)



Angular diameter Included (CoRoT-7b)

Max. T at sub-stellar point.
Day \rightarrow night ($T_{\text{surf}} = 50\text{K}-75\text{K}$) at 102.7° ;
Light reaches further when Sun so close.

Atmosphere: Composition + Pressure



- **Refractory materials: hard to vaporize!** @High T \rightarrow CaO and Al_2O_3 remain in ocean.
- Pressure 1.5Pa \rightarrow 10^{-2} Pa (shore).
- vapor/sublim. at surface \rightarrow atmosphere, so local atm P = vapor P of rock at local T.
- Ocean depth is 45km (assumption: convection in inefficient).

Reference List for Visuals

Title Page Image + Most figures + equations:

Leger, A., Grasset, O., Fegley, B., 2011. *The extreme physical properties of the CoRoT-7b super-Earth*. Icarus 213, 1-11.

Slide 2 image:

<http://suptg.thisisnotatrueending.com/archive/6103018/>

Slide 4 image:

Rouan, D., Deeg, H.J., Demangeon, O., 2011. *The orbital phases and secondary transit of Kepler-10b*. arXiv:1109.2768

Slide 5 image:

<http://danielmarin.blogspot.com/2011/02/planetas-con-oceanos-de-lava.html>

Coriolis force:

Wikipedia

Surface temperature discussion:

Léger, A. et al., 2009. *Transiting exoplanets from the CoRoT space mission. VIII. CoRoT-7b: The first super-Earth with measured radius*. Astron. Astrophys. 506, 287–302 (LRS09).

Appendix: Assumptions

Radius → measured with acceptable accuracy ($\pm 6\%$) by transit method

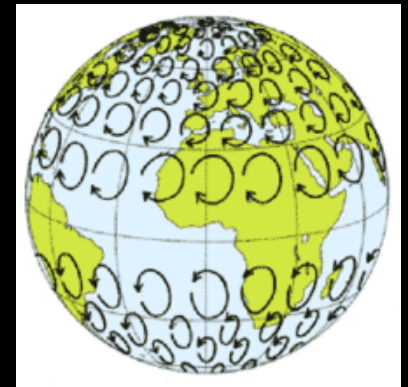
Mass → $\pm 17\%$ accuracy by RV data analyses (median of five different analyses)
(stellar activity noise is large ($\propto a^{-1/2}$), cannot be removed in inner regions)

No clouds ($A = 0$) for day-side → atm pressures are very low, thin atmosphere.

“Dry Earth” atmosphere with no condensible species (mean molecular mass due to SiO and Mg > higher than Earth!).

Coriolis force neglected (for equatorial regions)

- Radial symmetry.
- Heat transport only along equator → E-W circulation only
- No fishy wind motion!



Remarks about actual ocean circulation mechanisms, shape and distribution require a full 3D treatment.

Appendix: Determined Parameters (so far...)

Parameter	CoRoT-7b	Note	Kepler-10b	Note
Star				
T_{st} (K)	5250 ± 60	(a)	5627 ± 44	(e)
R_{st} (R_{Sun})	0.82 ± 0.04	(a)	1.056 ± 0.021	(e)
L_{st} (L_{Sun})	0.48 ± 0.07	(a)	1.004 ± 0.059	(e)
M_{st} (M_{Sun})	0.91 ± 0.03	(a)	0.895 ± 0.060	(e)
Age (Gyr)	1.2–2.3	(b)	11.9 ± 4.5	(e)
Mag	$V = 11.7, R = 11.3$	(a)	Kepl = 10.96	(e)
Sp type	G9 V	(a)	~G3 V	
Planet				
$\Delta F/F$ (ppm)	335 ± 12	(b)	152 ± 4	(e)
Tr. dur. (h)	1.25 ± 0.05	(b)	1.81 ± 0.02	(e)
b	0.61 ± 0.06	(b)	0.30 ± 0.08	(e)
i ($^\circ$)	80.1 ± 0.3	(b)	84.4 ± 1.4	
P_{orb} (day)	$0.85359 \pm 3 \times 10^{-5}$	(b)	$0.837495 \pm 5 \times 10^{-6}$	
R_{pl} (R_{Earth})	1.58 ± 0.10	(b)	1.416 ± 0.034	(e)
M_{pl} (M_{Earth})	6.9 ± 1.2	(c)	4.56 ± 1.23	(e)
ρ ($g\ cm^{-3}$)	9.7 ± 1.9	(a) + (c)	8.8 ± 2.5	(e)
a (AU)	0.01707 ± 0.00019	(b)	0.01684 ± 0.00033	(e)
a/R_{st}	4.48 ± 0.22	(a) + (b)	3.43 ± 0.10	(e)
F_{st} ($MW\ m^{-2}$)	2.14 ± 0.24	(d)	4.87 ± 0.33	(e) + (d)
Modelling				
T_{sub-st} (K)	2474 ± 71	(d)	3038 ± 51	(e) + (d)
θ_{lava} ($^\circ$)	51.3 ± 5.3	(d)	73.9 ± 1.1	(e) + (d)
$\theta_{day-night}$ ($^\circ$)	102.7 ± 0.7	(d)	106.7 ± 0.5	(e) + (d)
$2\theta_{st/pl}$ ($^\circ$)	25.8	(d)	33.9	(e)