Research opportunities in transiting exoplanets

Drake Deming Nov 22, 2010



Ground-based



Measure size of transiting planet, see radiation from star transmittedthrough the planet's atmosphere

Transit

Gravitational tug of unseen planets alters transit times TRA0009

Eclipse

Why research extrasolar planets in Astr 695?



Collaborators:

Heather Knutson, Caltech Dave Charbonneau, Harvard Joe Harrington, UCF Sara Seager, MIT **Exoplanets are interesting**

Data are available

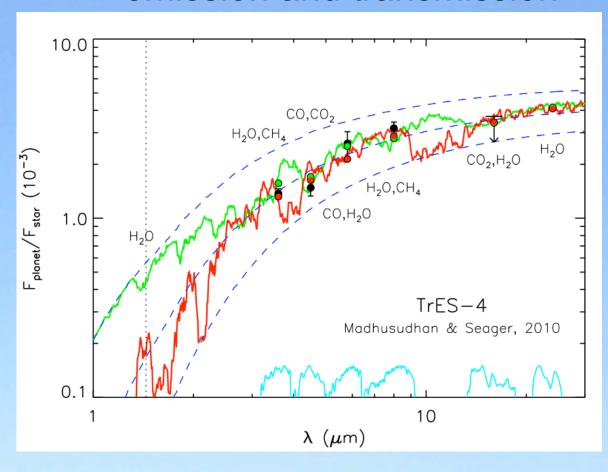
Hot field, good job prospects

Opportunity to participate in an observing run

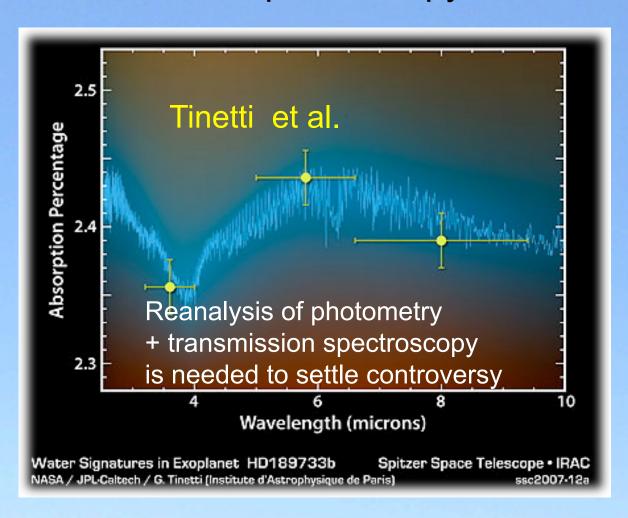
I'm easy to work with...
but very publication-focused

Specific examples of possible projects

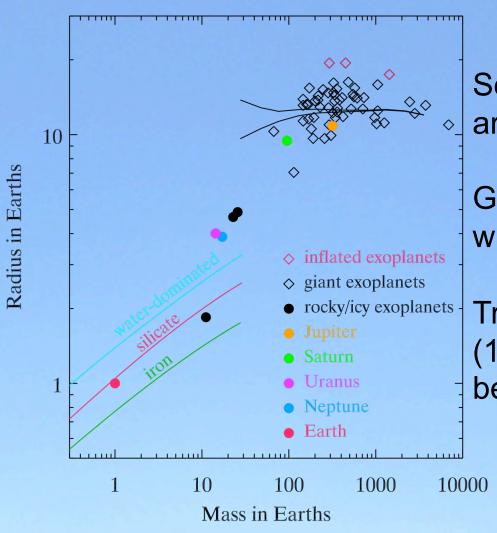
Hubble WFC3 grism spectroscopy of water in emission and transmission



Spitzer transmission spectroscopy of HD 189733b



J-band radii for giant exoplanets



Several giant exoplanets are "too big"

Generally a poor agreement with theory for R=f(M)

Transits observed in the J-band (1.2 microns) could produce better observed radii