



The Climates of Other Worlds: Exoplanet Climatology as a Pathway to Accurate Assessments of Planetary Habitability

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Sagan Exoplanet Summer Workshop

July 18, 2019

WE'RE LIVING IN A WHOLE NEW UNIVERSE NOW...



A Jupiter-mass companion to a solar-type star

Michel Mayor & Didier Queloz

1995

Geneva Observatory, 51 Chemin des Maillettes, CH-1290 Sauverny, Switzerland

The presence of a Jupiter-mass companion to the star 51 Pegasi is inferred from observations of periodic variations in the star's radial velocity. The companion lies only about eight million kilometres from **** star, which would be well inside the orbit of Mercury in our Solar System. a gas-giant planet that has migrated to this location through orbital e radiative stripping of a brown dwarf.



















TESS planets in the Earth-sized regime



Credit: NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

James Webb Space Telescope



Credit: Northrop Grumman

LUVOIR (Large UV/Optical/IR Surveyor)







Extremely Large Telescopes









New era, new approach

• Observational data AND computer models







Koshland Science Museum

Life's Requirements

A Liquid(H2O)Bioessential Elements(SPONCH)Energy(Stellar or chemical)

Photo: Frans Lanting

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The Habitable Zone

(Kasting et al. 1993, Kopparapu et al. 2013)



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- 1-D line-by-line radiative transfer models
 - 1-D in height
 - Atmospheric gas absorption
- Radiative convective climate models
- Energy Balance Models (EBMs)
 - O-D or 1-D (in latitude) usually
- 3-D General Circulation Models (GCMs)
 - Sophisticated treatment of atmospheric circulation, oceanatmosphere processes



<u>Models</u>



PREDICTING FUTURE CLIMATE ON EARTH

(Smagorinsky et al. 1965, Manabe et al. 1965, Holloway & Manabe 1971, Manabe & Wetherald 1975)



EFFECT OF SOLAR VARIATIONS ON TEMPERATURE AND ICE EXTENT





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Exploring thaw criteria for Snowball Earth

Tropical Dust Accumulation



Waterbelt Snowball Earth as refuge for photosynthetic life

Abbot et al. 2011





Warming Early Mars

Forget and Pierrehumbert 1997, Colaprete & Toon 2003, Forget et al. 2013, Kitzmann 2016, Wordsworth et al. 2017



Constraining zonal wind patterns on Venus (e.g., Lebonnois et al. 2010)














The Habitable Zone



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Synchronous rotation and surface pressure

(Joshi, Haberle, and Reynolds 1997)



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Synchronous rotation can be a benefit for climate and habitability (Yang et al. 2013)



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Climate Stability



Shields et al. (2014)

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Albedo

Surface Temperature

Shields et al. (2013)





Hadley circulation on deglaciating planets Northern hemisphere winter



Weaker Hadley circulation helps M-dwarf planet thaw more easily

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Climate Stability

Shields et al. (2014)



Identifying Multiple Possible Climate Regimes



M-dwarf planets

Sodium chloride dihydrate ("hydrohalite") NaCl ·2H₂O Image credit: ESO/L. Calçada

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Hydrohalite precipitation in sea ice $T < -23^{\circ} C$



Carns et al. 2015





Hydrohalite parameterization matters in the HZ, and climate sensitivity increases as instellation is lowered



Shields and Carns 2018

Stronger climate sensitivity to hydrohalite parameterization on synchronously-rotating M-dwarf planets







-Planets with higher land fractions are cooler -Lower albedo of ice vs. land on M-dwarf planets makes them warmer than other planets with similar land fraction





Igor Palubski

Temporal habitability and water loss on eccentric planets



Planets orbiting cooler stars are thawed for larger fractions of the year

Palubski, Shields, and Deitrick, in prep

Targeted planet studies

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Habitable climates on Proxima Centauri b



Multiple-planet systems







Stable eccentricities



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Linking theory to observations



Credit: Eric T. Wolf

The Climates of Other Worlds: A Review of the Emerging Field of Exoplanet Climatology

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ApJS, in press

ABSTRACT

The discovery of planets orbiting stars other than the Sun has accelerated over the past decade, and this trend will continue as new space- and ground-based observatories employ next-generation instrumentation to search the skies for habitable worlds. However, many factors and processes can affect planetary habitability, and must be understood to accurately determine a planet's habitability potential. While climate models have long been used to understand and predict climate and weather patterns on the Earth, a growing community of researchers has begun to apply these models to extrasolar planets. This work has provided a better understanding of how orbital, surface, and atmospheric properties affect planetary climate and habitability, how these climatic effects might change for different stellar and planetary environments, and how the habitability and observational signatures of newly-discovered planets might be influenced by these climatic factors. This review summarizes the origins and evolution of the burgeoning field of exoplanet climatology, discusses recent work using a hierarchy of computer models to identify those planets most capable of supporting life, and offers a glimpse into future directions of this quickly evolving subfield of exoplanet science.



Acknowledgments

- UCI
- National Science Foundation
- NASA Habitable Worlds Program
- Clare Boothe Luce Foundation
- UC President's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program
- Virtual Planetary Laboratory
- Collaborators –Eric Agol, Sarah Ballard , Rory Barns, Cecilia Bitz, Regina Carns, Benjamin Charnay, John Johnson , Manoj Joshi, Victoria Meadows, Igor Palubski , Ray Pierrehumbert, Tyler Robinson, Andrew Rushby, Vidya Venkatesan





Thank you!



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Take away point

Combining observations AND theory

How we will most accurately assess planetary habitability

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Exoplanet Climatology