# How the observations of CoRoT and Kepler satellites have contributed to our understanding of exoplanets?

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# Background



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# Introduction - myself

- Pro-am background in Taurus Hill Observatory.
- Now a PhD student in Tuorla Observatory, University of Turku.
- Currently modeling the x-ray observations of neutron stars.
- My Bachelor Thesis from 2014: How the observations of CoRoT and Kepler satellites have contributed to our understanding of exoplanets?

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## Introduction - Exoplanets

- How many found? Over 4000 validated and many still to be confirmed (http://exoplanet.eu/).
- How are they found?
  - Photometric: Transits (Kepler and CoRoT)
  - Spectroscopic: Doppler
- Most new planets found by Kepler but amateurs participation by confirming the candidates.



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# **Transit Photometry**



- The radius of the planet obtained from the amount of dimming of the primary star, if radius of the star known.
- Period of the orbit of the planet from observations of many transits.
- Distance between planet and the star from Kepler's 3. law.
- Mass of the planet only with spectroscopy (Doppler effect).

# CoRoT

- Convection, Rotation and planetary Transits.
- Space telescope mission which operated from 2006 to 2013.
- Astroseismology and exoplanet studies.
- V-magnitude range from 11 to 16.
- $\blacktriangleright \sim$  530 planet candidates, from which  $\sim$  30 finally found to be true planets.
- > 2 parabolic mirrors and aperture of 27 cm, 4 CCD cameras.

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## False positives



## **CoRoT** -achievements

- Discovered planets with masses down to about 4.8 M<sub>earth</sub> (CoRoT-7b) and up to 21 M<sub>jup</sub> (CoRoT-3b).
- Radius of CoRoT-3b still around 1 R<sub>jup</sub>: Likely to be an object at the boundaries of planets and brown dwarf stars.
- Radius of CoRoT-7b below 2 M<sub>earth</sub>: First known transiting rocky, Earth-like planet.
- ► The variety of internal structures in close-in giant planets.
- Multiple constraints on the formation, evolution, role of tides in planetary systems.
- Phase curves of CoRoT-1b revealed a large temperature contrast between the dayside and the nightside.
- Secondary transits also observed.

# Kepler

- Operated from 2009 to 2018.
- 1.4 meter primary mirror.
- Observed 530,506 stars and detected 2,662 planets.







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## Kepler - habitable planets

- Many Earth-size planets found from the habitable zone.
- Petigura 2013: 22% of Sun-like Stars have Earth-sized Planets in the Habitable Zone.



## Exoplanetary atmospheres

- Spectroscopy during transit: Absorption spectrum of the planet.
- Spectroscopy during secondary eclipse: Emission spectrum of the planet.
- CoRoT and Kepler did no spectroscopy but measured secondary eclipses phase curves giving information e.g. of the albedo and the cloudiness of the planets.
- HAT-P-7 b obtained by the Kepler:



# Thank you for your attention!

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