

Report for Europlanet on the 5th CHEOPS Science Workshop

Summary

The 5th CHEOPS Science Workshop was held at Schloss Seggau, in the South of Austria, between the 24th and 26th of July 2017. The CHAracterizing ExOPlanet Satellite (CHEOPS) is the first mission dedicated to search for transits by means of ultra-high precision photometry on bright stars already known to host extra-solar planets. CHEOPS is a partnership between ESA and Switzerland, with important contributions from Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. CHEOPS is the first S- (small) class mission in ESA's Cosmic Vision 2015 – 2025.

The workshop aimed at bringing together the community interested in the mission, providing information about its current status and preparing its scientific exploitation. The workshop was particularly important as it was held the year before launch (end 2018) and a further workshop next year is currently not foreseen.

The workshop has registered a record number of participants and of requests for talks and posters in comparison to the previous 4 editions. This result is likely due to CHEOPS approaching launch date and to the chosen location, which attracted also the families of quite a few participants.

Scientific program

The scientific program consisted of 47 talks, spanning over the 2.5 days of the workshop, and 21 poster presentations. Because of the high demand for oral presentations, we kept the technical CHEOPS talks to the bare minimum of 2: general introduction of CHEOPS, given by the mission PI (Willy Benz, Switzerland), and short description of the scientific program which will be carried out by the CHEOPS consortium, given by the chair of the CHEOPS science team (Didier Queloz, UK). We also had one invited speaker (Eric Gaidos, USA). Most of the contributed talks were 20 minutes long (15 minutes for the presentation plus 5 minutes for questions), but, to give chances to everybody to present their work, we decided to shorten some talks to 10 minutes (7+3). The selection of the short talks was based exclusively on the scientific topic, namely the relevance to the CHEOPS mission, while the age, gender, and country of origin of the presenter were not part of the selection criteria.

The NASA Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) is foreseen to be a key target provider for CHEOPS. For this reason, we allocated 3 talks to present the TESS mission and its exploitation, which were given by the TESS mission PI and by two young female scientists from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). The 3 talks were then followed by a 10 minutes TESS Q&A session.

Participants overview

In total, we had 89 participants, 23 of which female (26%). We also had one participant from ASI (Italian Space Agency), which is one of the industrial partners of the CHEOPS consortium. A total of 8 participants came from outside Europe, and in particular 7 from the USA and 1 from Japan. We also had a relatively high attendance rate of scientists from inclusiveness countries with a total of 10 participants (11%; 7 from Portugal, 2 from Hungary, and 1 from Slovakia).

Bursaries overview

Europlanet provided 7500 Euro to fund bursaries to attend the science workshop. Each bursary covered the hotel accommodation and conference fee of 151 Euro, which included all meals, from Monday lunch to Wednesday lunch. The bursaries fostered a high attendance rate from young scientists, namely 17 PhD students (19%). We were able to give a bursary to each person who requested one. In total, we gave 18 bursaries for a total amount of 7154,50 Euro. Of the 18 bursaries, 11 went to PhD students coming from 9 different countries, 3 from non-EU countries (i.e., USA and Japan). Of the 18 bursaries, 6 bursaries (33%) went to scientists coming from inclusiveness countries (4 from Portugal and 2 from Hungary).

Workshop website: <http://geco.oeaw.ac.at/cheops-workshop-05.html>

SOC: D. Queloz (chair), CHEOPS science team

LOC: L. Fossati (chair), M. Lendl, P. Cubillos, I. Juvan, D. Kubyshkina, D. Hradecky

Workshop group picture



List of participants / contributions / bursaries

First Name	Family Name	Country	Contribution	Bursary
Roi	Alonso	Spain	None	
Sarah	Ballard	USA	Talk	Y
David	Barrado	Spain	None	
Susana	Barros	Portugal	Poster	Y
Daniel	Bayliss	Switzerland	Talk	
Mathias	Beck	Switzerland	None	
Willy	Benz	Switzerland	Talk	
Nicolas	Billot	Switzerland	None	
Xavier	Bonfils	France	None	
Luca	Borsato	Italy	Talk	
Vincent	Bourrier	Switzerland	Talk	
Andrew	Cameron	UK	None	
Tiago	Campante	Germany	Talk	
Heather	Cegla	Switzerland	Talk	
Sebastien	Charnoz	France	Poster	
Andrea	Chiavassa	France	Talk	

Alexandre	Correia	Portugal	Talk	
Patricio	Cubillos	Austria	Talk	
Melvyn	Davies	Sweden	Talk	
Adrien	Deline	Switzerland	Talk	Y
Olivier	Demangeon	Portugal	Talk	Y
Brice-Olivier	Demory	Switzerland	Talk	
Aliz	Derekas	Hungary	Poster	Y
Julia	Donnerer	Austria	Poster	
Diana	Dragomir	USA	Talk	
David	Ehrenreich	Switzerland	Talk	
Joao	Faria	Portugal	Talk	Y
Andrea	Fortier	Switzerland	None	
Luca	Fossati	Austria	None	
Malcolm	Fridlund	The Netherlands	Poster	
Eric	Gaidos	USA	Talk	Y
Davide	Gandolfi	Italy	Talk	
Antonio	Garcia Munoz	Germany	Talk	
Dawn	Gelino	USA	Poster	
Helen	Giles	Switzerland	Talk	Y
Edward	Gillen	UK	Talk	
Michael	Gillon	Belgium	Talk	
Eike	Guenther	Germany	Poster	
Maximilian	Guenther	UK	Talk	Y
Jonas	Haldemann	Switzerland	Talk	Y
Nathan	Hara	France	Talk	Y
Kirstin	Hay	UK	Talk	
Kevin	Heng	Switzerland	Talk	
Diego	Hidalgo Soto	Spain	Poster	Y
Sergio	Hoyer	France	None	
Kate	Isaak	ESA	None	
Ines	Juvan	Austria	Talk	
Stephen	Kane	USA	Talk	
Maximilian	Khodachenko	Austria	Poster	
Flavien	Kiefer	France	Talk	
Daria	Kubyshkina	Austria	Talk	
Helmut	Lammer	Austria	Poster	
Jacques	Laskar	France	Talk	
Adrien	Leleu	Switzerland	None	
Monika	Lendl	Austria	Talk	
Giuseppe	Leto	Italy	None	
Jorge	Lillo-Box	ESO	Talk	
John	Livingston	Japan	Talk	Y
David	Lopez Fernandez Nespral	Spain	Poster	Y
Pierre	Maxted	UK	Talk	
Pilar	Montanes	Spain	None	
Alexander	Mustill	Sweden	Talk	
Valerio	Nascimbeni	Italy	None	
Lisa	Nortmann	Spain	Poster	Y

Petra	Odert	Austria	Poster	
Mahmoudreza	Oshagh	Germany	Talk	
Isabella	Pagano	Italy	None	
Enric	Palle	Spain	Talk	
Hannu	Parviainen	Spain	Poster	
Carina	Persson	Sweden	Poster	
Elke	Pilat-Lohinger	Austria	Talk	
Giampaolo	Piotto	Italy	None	
Eva	Plavalova	Slovakia	None	
Didier	Queloz	UK	Talk	
Stefanie	Raetz	Germany	Poster	
Roberto	Ragazzoni	Italy	None	
Ignasi	Ribas	Spain	Talk	
George	Ricker	USA	Talk	
Nuno	Santos	Portugal	Talk	
Gaetano	Scandariato	Italy	Poster	
Richard	Schwarz	Austria	Poster	
Luisa Maria	Serrano	Portugal	Talk	Y
Attila	Simon	Switzerland	None	
Vikash	Singh	Italy	Poster	Y
Sergio	Sousa	Portugal	Talk	
Gyula	Szabo	Hungary	Poster	Y
Stephane	Udry	Switzerland	None	
Valerie	Van Grootel	Belgium	Talk	
Francesco	Verrecchia	Italy	None	