### Observations of Gas-Giant Exoplanet Atmospheres

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:UpsilonAndromedae\_D\_moons.jpg

#### Brian Jackson - NASA/GSFC

#### Earliest Observations of a Jovian atmosphere



From Rogers (1995) The Giant Planet Jupiter.

#### Earliest Observations of Jupiter's Weather

"Campani affirms he hath observed by the goodness of his glasses certain protuberancies and inequalities, much greater than those that have been seen therein hitherto. He addeth, that he is now observing whether those sallies in the said planet do not change their scituation ....

The ingenious Mr. Hook did, some moneths since, intimate to a friend of his that he had observed some days before he then spoke of it a small spot in [one of the] belts ..."

From Rogers (1995) The Giant Planet Jupiter.



Deming & Seager review in Nature 462, 301 (2009) Also, Seager & Deming ARAA (2010), astro-ph/1005.4037

## Exploit *transits* to characterize exoplanet atmospheres...



## Transits require photometric stability

But tolerate poor image quality



TRA0009

+0.5%

#### **"First Light" Thermal Emission**

#### Spitzer enables direct detection of IR light from the planets

eclipse depth ~  $(R_p/R_{star})^2(T_p/T_{star})$ 





0.0% -0.5% ghtnes 'n Relative Planet HD 209458b +0.5% 0.0% -0.5% -3 -2 Time (hours)

Planetary Eclipses Sp

Spitzer Space Telescope • IRAC • MIPS

Planet TrES

NASA / JPL-Caltech / D. Charbonneau (Harvard-Smithsonian CfA) D. Deming (Goddard Space Flight Center) ssc2005-09a

#### "First Light" Thermal Emission

...Charbonneau found himself locked in a race with Deming to be the first to detect the ... secondary eclipse....

...Deming ... was observing HD 209458 b, with the Spitzer Space Telescope.... Charbonneau, he knew, had collected data on [TrES-1] ... a month earlier. "We didn't want to be second," Deming recalls. "I was analyzing data while I was eating Christmas dinner. I had to catch Dave."

In the end they published papers simultaneously and held a joint press conference.

--http://discovermagazine.com/2008/nov/10-how-long-until-we-find-a-second-earth/article\_view?b\_start:int=2&-C=







Fortney et al. (2003)



Incident Flux (erg s<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup>)





Knutson et al. (2008)





Madhusudhan & Seager (2010)

#### HD 209458 b



Knutson et al. (2008)







Knutson et al. (2010)







Normalized Flux



## HD 209458 b









Welsh et al. (2010)

# ~ 30% of FGKM stars host superEarths, based on: Microlensing (Gould et al. 2006, ApJ 644, 237) Radial Velocity Surveys (Mayor et al. 2009, ApJ 493, 639)

Their atmospheres initially contain:  $H_2$ ,  $H_2O$ , CO,  $CO_2$ 

Elkins-Tanton & Seager 2008 ApJ 685, 1237 Schaefer & Fegley 2009, astro-ph/0909.4050 Miller-Ricci et al. 2009, ApJ 690, 1056



Both thermal and non-thermal atmospheric escape rates are uncertain... so we here adopt the intermediate H<sub>2</sub> case of Miller-Ricci et al.

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## The James Webb Space lescope

#### 6.5 m diameter 26 m<sup>2</sup> collecting area 0.7 - 25 microns

## Example of carbon dioxide in a habitable SuperEarth





"Mensus eram coelos, nunc terrae metior umbras Mens coelestis erat, corporis umbra iacet.

I measured the skies, now the shadows I measure. Skybound was the mind, earthbound the body rests."

**Johannes Kepler**