

Exoplanets - Transits



The Transit Method For Discovering Exoplanets

- Exoplanets are planets that orbit stars, that are not our Sun.
- We now know of > 5,000 exoplanets.
- Most exoplanets have been discovered via the transit method.
- This is when a planet passes in front of its host star, and it dims the light received from the host star as it 'transits'.
From this we can measure: the size of the planet, and the length of its year (how long it takes to go round its star once).

