High-resolution imaging: Need for imaging follow-up in the Gaia era

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PLATO GOP meeting 2022



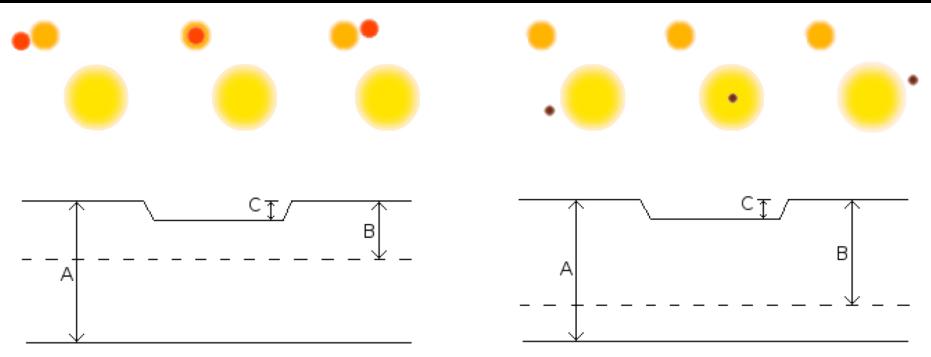


PLATO science requirements

R-SCI-L0-01: PLATO shall detect and characterise hundreds of planets around dwarf and subgiant stars of spectral types from F5 to K7, orbiting at distances up to the stellar habitable zones.

R-SCI-L0-05: PLATO shall provide photometric data to determine the radius of a planet of the same size as the Earth and orbiting a G0V star of V=10 (goal V=11) with an accuracy better than 3%.

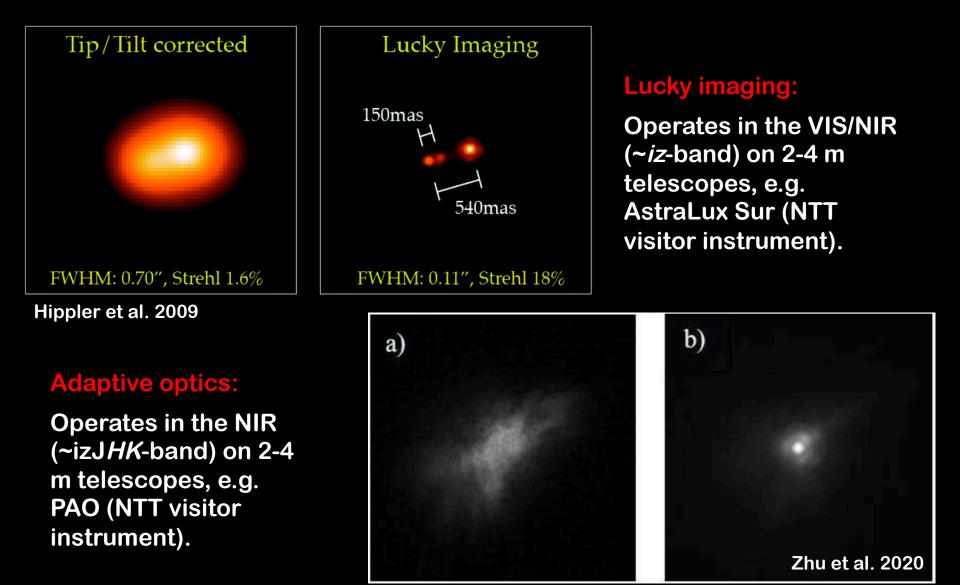
Issues with unresolved blends



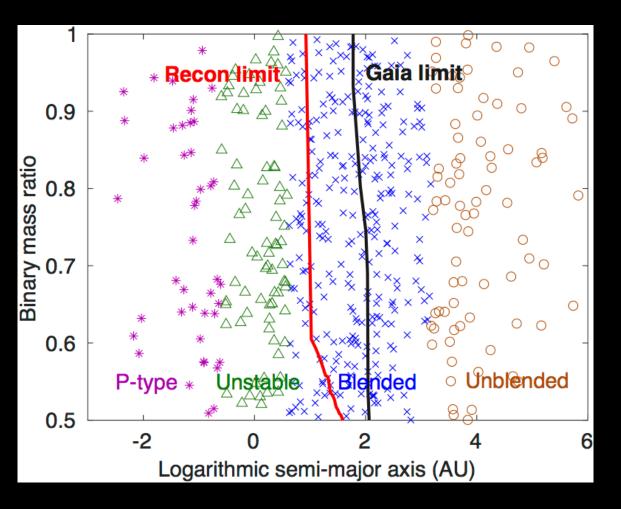
- A: Blended continuum
- B: Background binary continuum
- C: Observed dimming
- C/A: Apparent fractional transit depth
- C/B: Actual fractional eclipse depth

- A: Blended continuum
- B: Actual stellar continuum
- C: Observed dimming
- C/A: Apparent fractional transit depth
- C/B: Actual fractional transit depth

High-resolution imaging (with modestly sized telescopes)



Example performance



Template star is G2V at 91.5 pc distance.

~10 min per target => ~40 targets per night, including all necessary calibrations

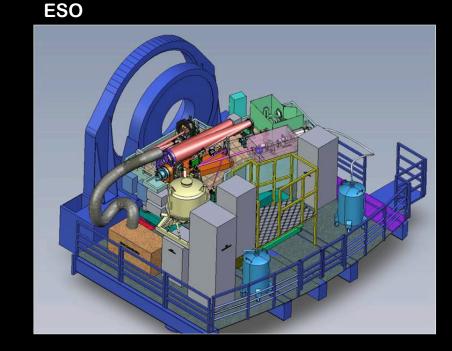
Gaia performance calculated in Brandeker & Cataldi (2019).

Potential facilities

Name	Telescope	Aperture	Owner	Hemisphere
SONG Lucky Imager	SONG	1.0	Aarhus/Copenh	N
KALAO	Swiss /La Silla	1.2	Geneva	S
Lucky Imager	Danish/La Silla	1.54	Denmark/ESO	S
AstraLux	Calar Alto	2.2	CSIC	N
ROBOAO	Hawaii	2.2	UH	N
AstraLux South	NTT/La Silla	3.5	ESO/MPIA	S
SPHERE-IRDIS	VLT/Paranal	8.2	ESO	S
SPHERE-IFS	VLT/Paranal	8.2	ESO	S
SPHERE-ZIMPOL	VLT/Paranal	8.2	ESO	S
SHARK-NIR	LBT/M. Graham	8.4	LBTO	Ν
LMIRCam	LBT/M. Graham	8.4+8.4	LBTO	N

The sensitivity of ~2m-class facilities is generally well matched to primary sample, though performance decreases at the faintest end.

Heavy artillery (for particular cases; WP led by Dino Mesa)

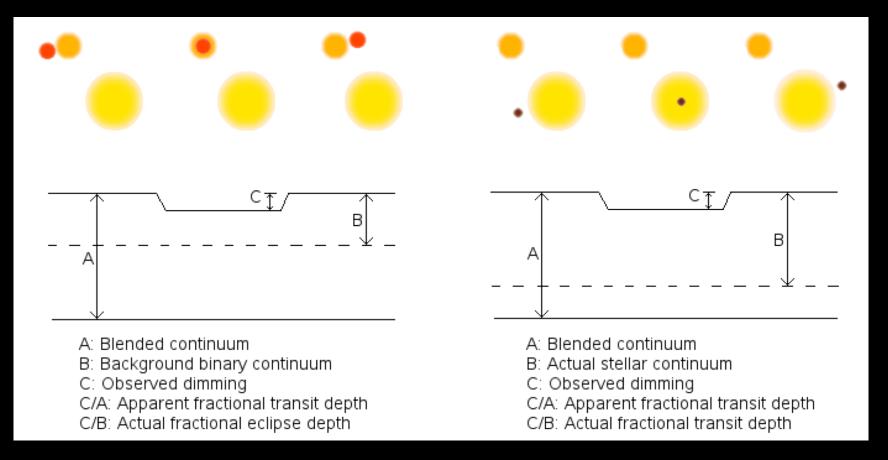


GRAVITY: Interferometry, ~2 mas resolution for reasonably bright targets

SPHERE: Extreme AO, starhopping RDI, 8m telescope

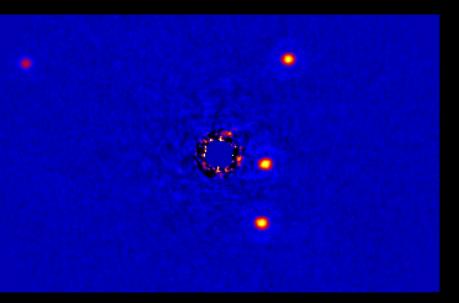


Prospects for combining high-resolution and time-critical photometry

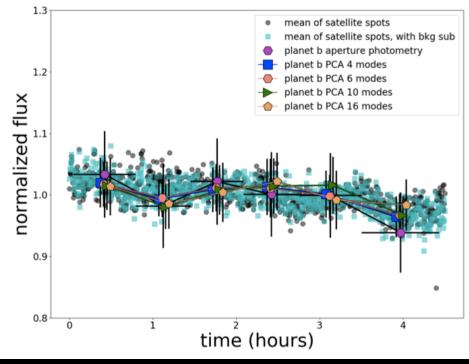


Resolving a system during eclipse can distinguish pathological cases (but requires timed observations)

Prospects for combining high-resolution and time-critical photometry



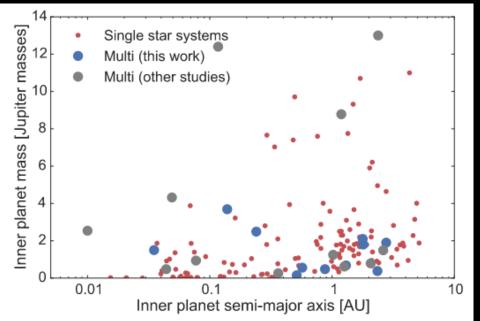
Variability sensitivity for the resolved HR 8799 planets corresponds to an unresolved variability of 10⁻⁴ – 10⁻⁵ => Basically every possible false positive eclipsing binary is within reach (but mind the longitude!) Resolving a system during eclipse can distinguish pathological cases (but requires timed observations)



Biller et al. 2021

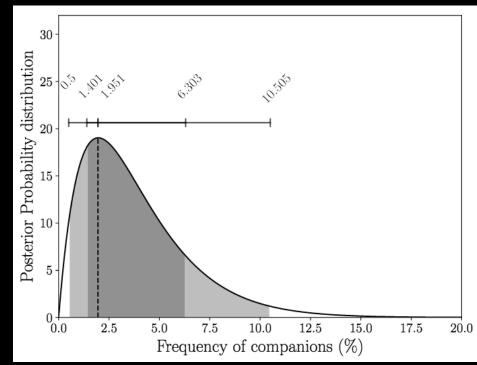
Ancillary science (not encompassed by the science requirements)

Ngo et al. 2017



How planetary systems depend on parent multiplicity is an important aspect for planet formation and habitability.

Approximately half of all Sun-like stars are in binary systems



Asensio-Torres et al. 2018