

Search for Habitable Planets: Synergies and Long Term Prospects

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The search for habitable planets and life is a (very) long term voyage of exploration and scientific discovery. Using both ground- and space-based techniques we will eventually achieve our goal of characterizing neighboring solar systems. Despite a slowdown in the pace of developing future space-based missions, there is still a robust program of exoplanet research that should excite scientists and inspire the general public. However, to ensure progress beyond the present generation of experiments, we must continue to develop and articulate our goals of using observations of optical and infrared photons as well as astrometric and Doppler wobbles to find and characterize nearby planets and to search for life. I will discuss synergies between various planet finding techniques that will be possible in the near and long term