

Lessons from Kepler

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Room 184 Nieuwland Science Hall

The Kepler space telescope has discovered hundreds of planetary systems. Many of the systems' properties are completely unexpected, based on what we thought we understood about planet formation. I will discuss some recent lessons learned, including the masses and eccentricities of over a hundred planets from transit time variations. I will also discuss what I think this and other puzzles might be teaching us about how these peculiar planetary systems formed and evolved.