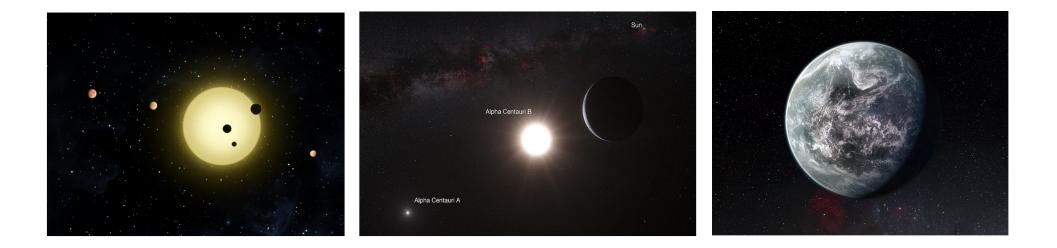
Introduction to exoplanetology

Michaël Gillon (<u>michael.gillon@uliege.be</u>) Olivier Absil (<u>olivier.absil@uliege.be</u>)

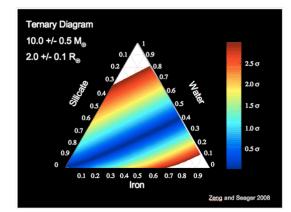


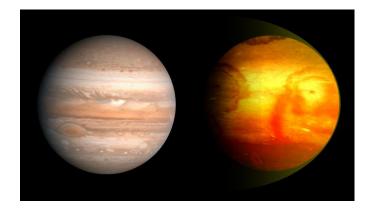


Introduction to exoplanetology. IX.

Structure and atmosphere of exoplanets







Michaël Gillon michael.gillon@uliege.be

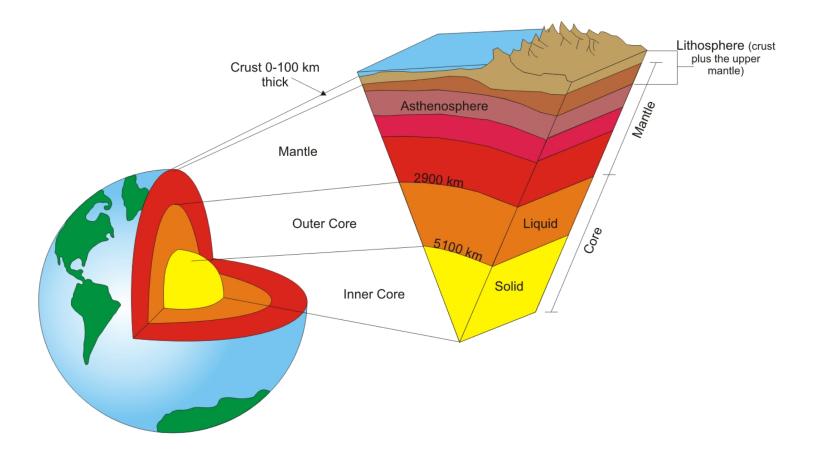


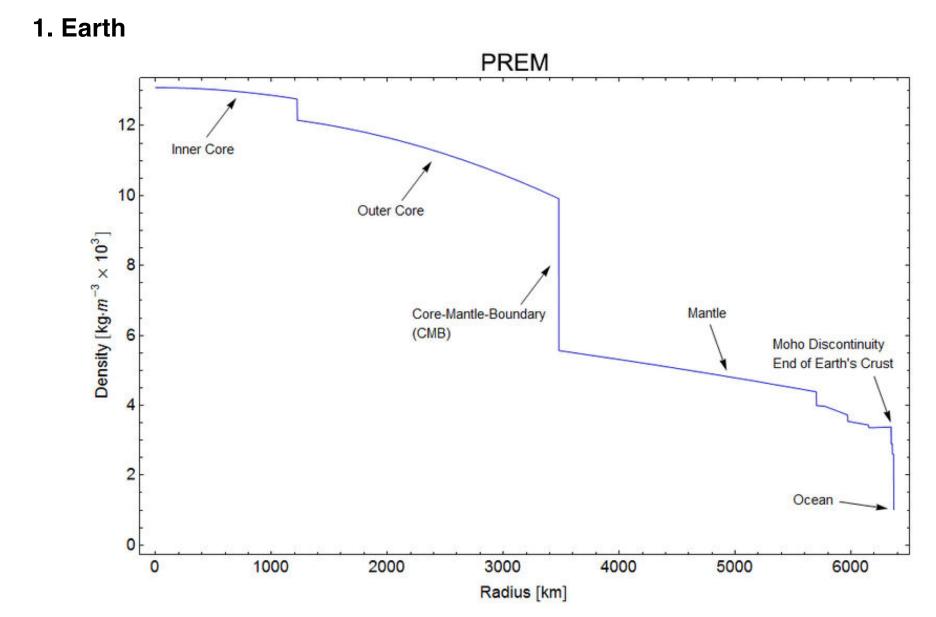
Master in Space Sciences – Academic year 2021-2022

1. Earth

Differentiated structure:

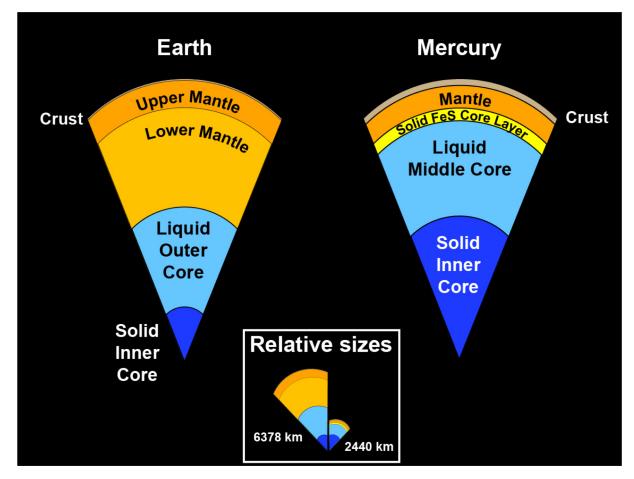
Crust of silicates, viscous mantle of silicates enriched with Fe, outer + inner core of Fe



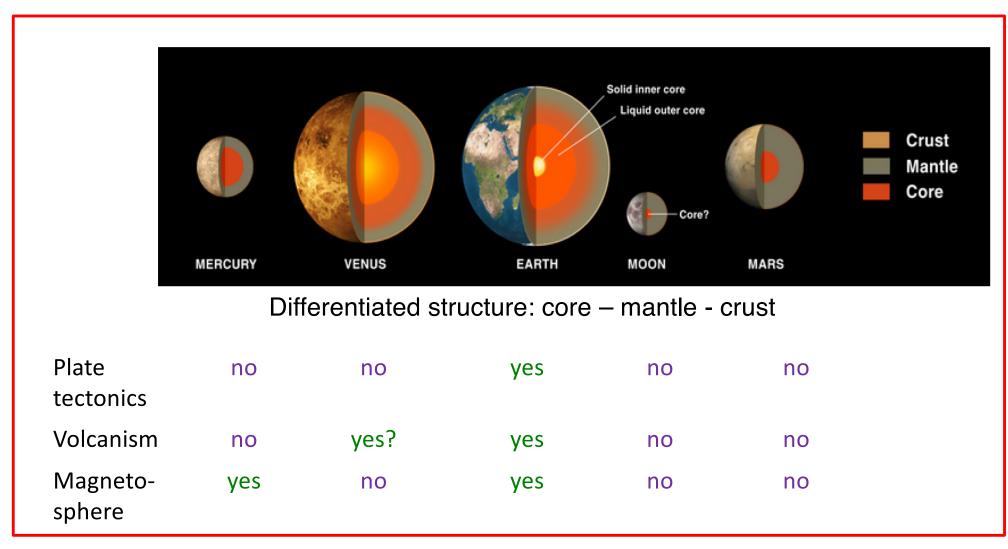


2. Mercury

Significantly enriched in Fe compared to Earth *Origins?* Maybe a giant impact having stripped out the planet of its outer shells (*Benz et al. 1988*)



3. Mars, Venus, and the Moon



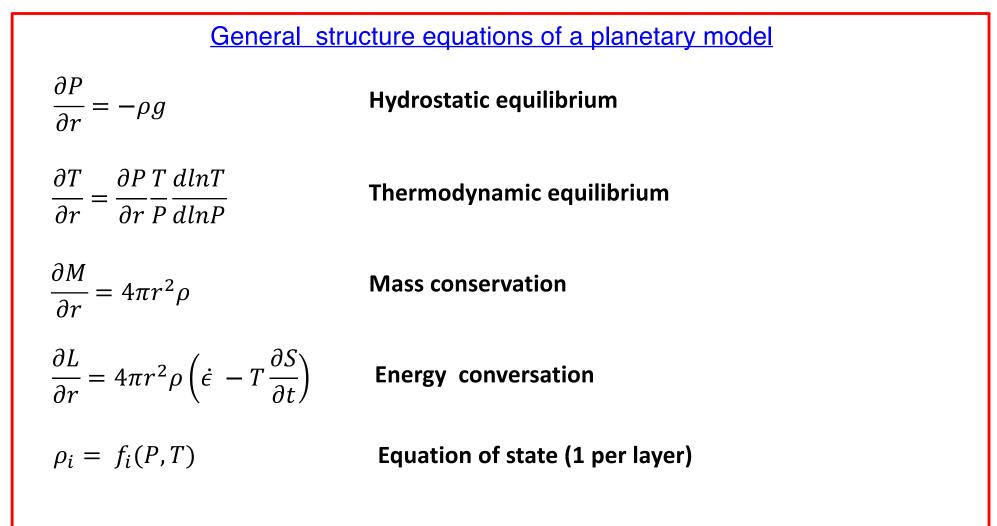
Elementary composition of the Earth

0:	30.3%		Ni: 2.0%		
Fe:	33.4%		Ca: 1.0%		
Si:	19.2%	+	Al: 0.9%	+	rest 0.1%
Mg:	12.2%		S: 0.9%		
Tota	:95.1%		Total = 4.8%		

Including other elements than O, Fe, Si, Mg changes the results of the models at a level <1%

Basic assumptions of terrestrial planet models Planet composed of 2 basic components: Fe and silicates Differentiated structure, with different elementary compositions for each layer

Earth: core, lower and upper mantle crust? Negligeable. Same for hydrosphere and atmosphere



+ boundary conditions

Modeling

Are assumed a planetary mass O/Si, Fe/Si, Mg/Si, and Mg# = (Mg/Mg+Fe)_{silicates} *N* layers an elementary division for each layer (core: only Fe)

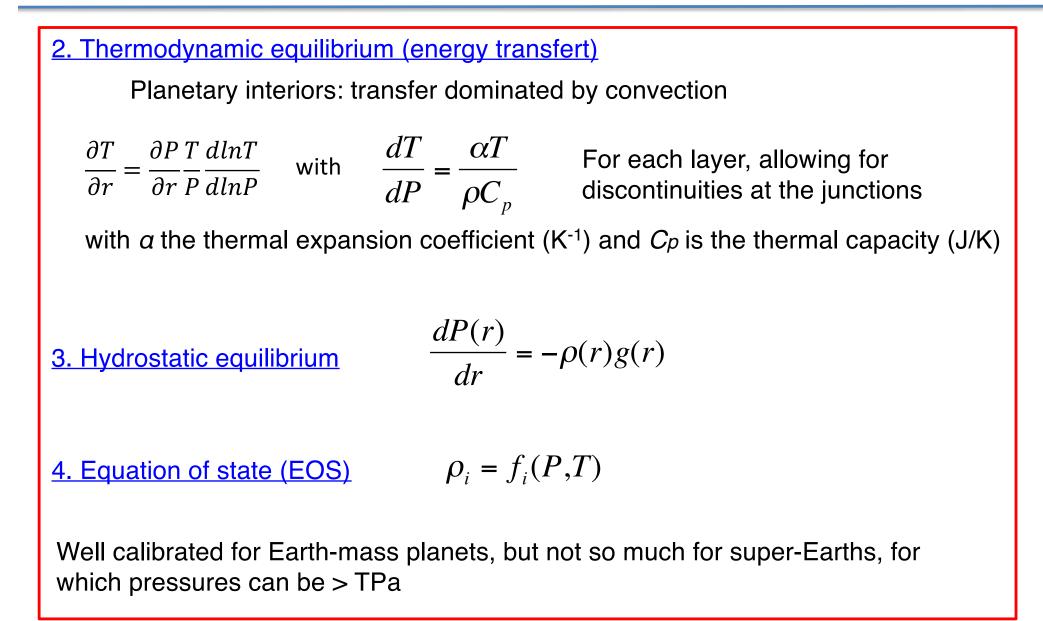
Elementary composition -> mineralogical composition

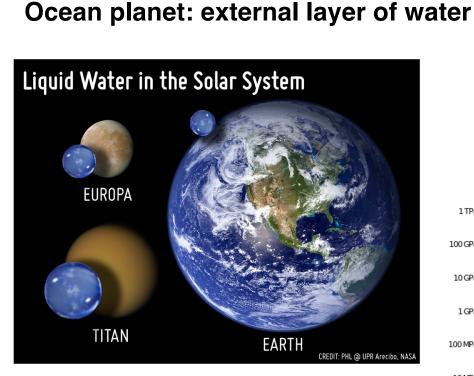
Structure equations

1. Mass conversation

$$M = 4\pi \int_0^R r^2 \rho(r) dr$$

with $\rho(r)$ depends on the local composition, T and P



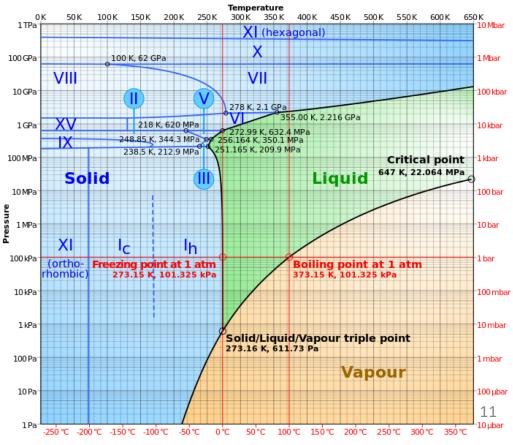


Water ice of type VII and X

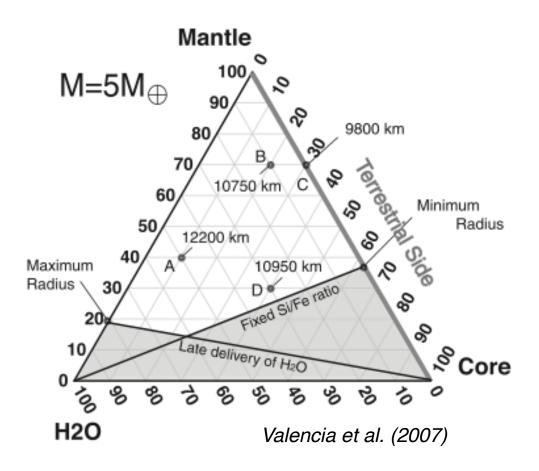
Liquid water layer?

External thin layer of water ice of type I? (cold enough planet)





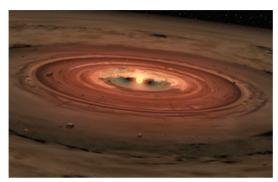
Ternary diagram



With M_p and R_p, the structure of the planet can't be unambiguously determined

Assume initial conditions: combining planetary and disk models?

Good idea a priori, but....



Planets can migrate by planet-disk, planetplanet, and planet/star interactions



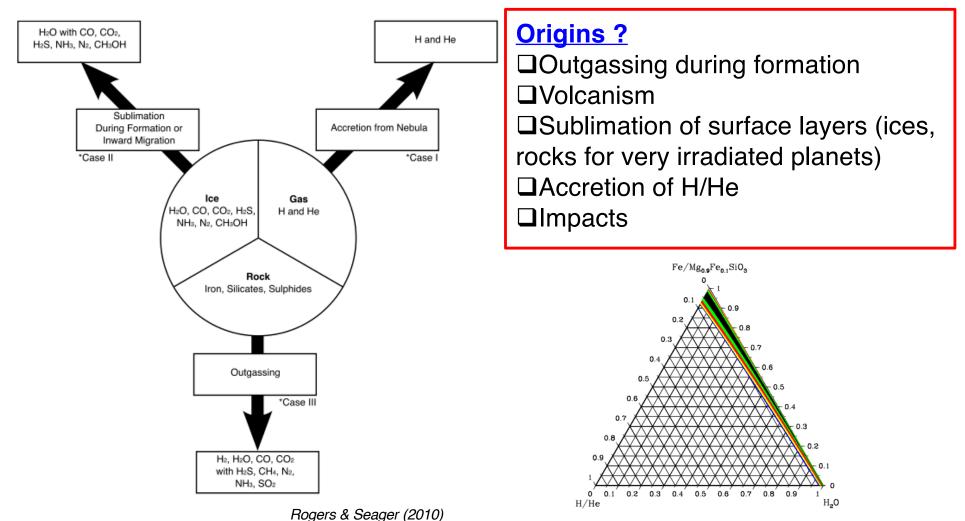
Collisions can significantly alter the planetary compositions (Mercury, Moon + Earth)



The evaporation of the external layers des should be significant for close-in planets

Internal structure of super-Earths

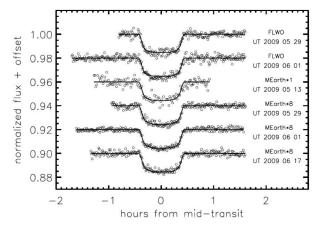
Additional degeneracy: possible massive gas envelope



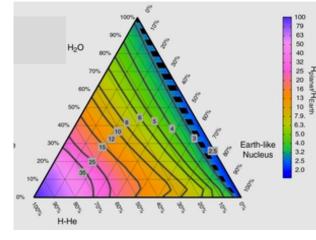
Internal structrure of terrestrial and super-Earth planets

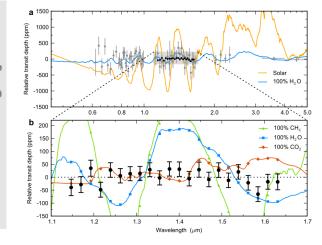
Solution: precise measurement of M_p and R_p AND study of the atmosphere

Ex: GJ1214b



Charbonneau et al. (2009)

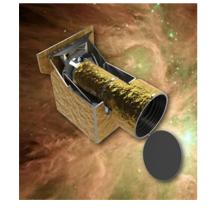


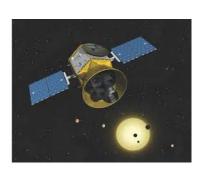


Valencia et al. (2013)

Kreidberg et al. (2014)

Target nearby stars!







SPECULOOS

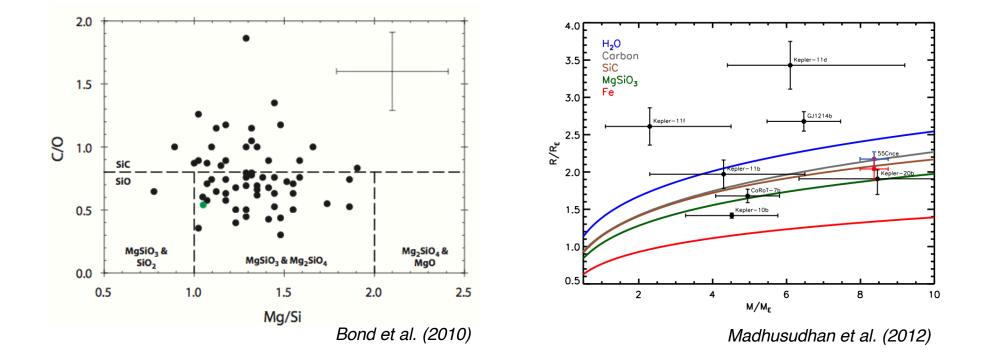
CHEOPS

TESS

Carbon planets

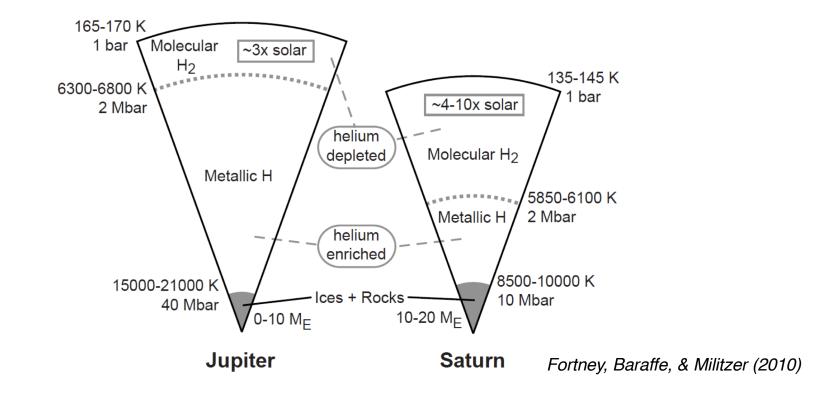
If C/O doubled compared to solar value in the protoplanetary disk, most silicates would be replaced par silicon carbides and other carbon

components Kuchner & Seager (2007)



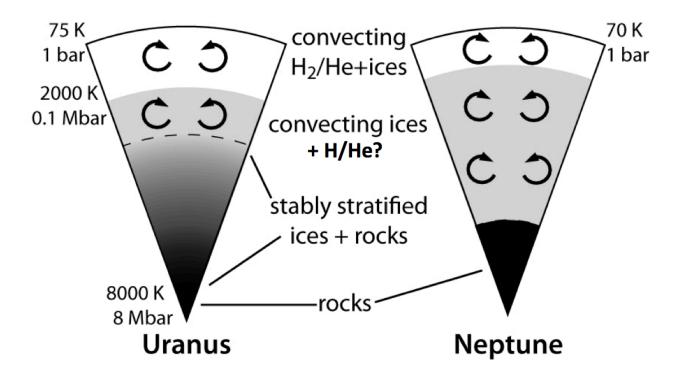
C/O increases with Fe/H and towards the center of the Galaxy

Jupiter and Saturn



Metallic hydrogen: trellis of protons with a spacing << Bohr radius (degenerate matter), uncoupled of the electrons \rightarrow highly conductor (heat and electricity). Required pressure: ~2 MBar Coupled to Jupiter's rotation \rightarrow strong magnetic field

Uranus and Neptune

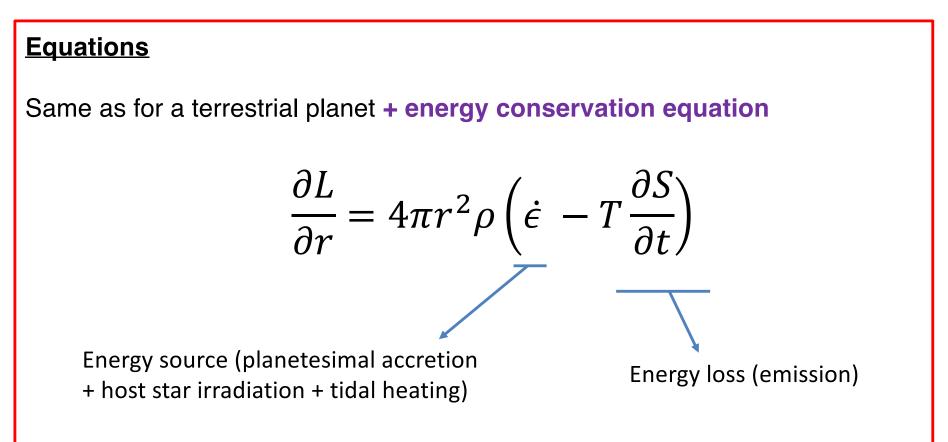


Fortney, Baraffe, & Militzer (2010) "Exoplanets" book, Arizona Space Science Series

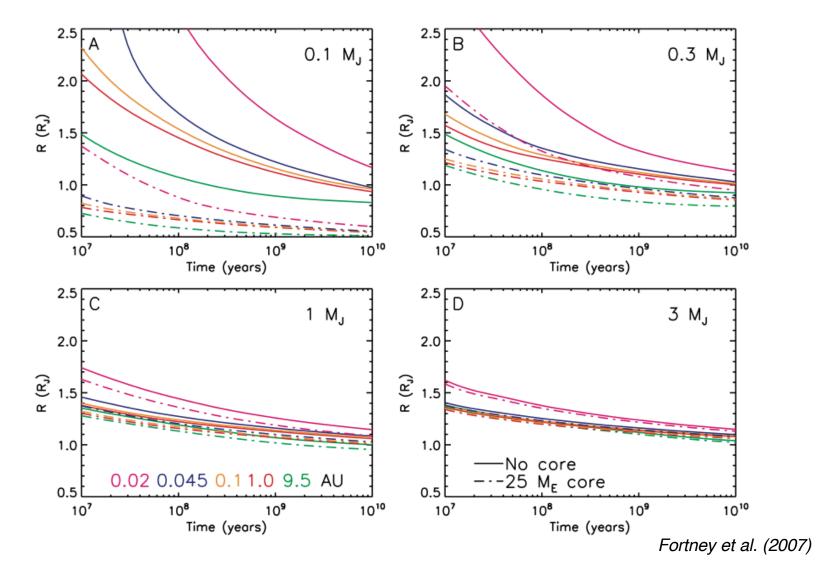
External H-He envelope = 5-10% of the mass of the planet, 10–20% of the radius

Giant planet model

First approximation : are neglected the magnetic field, the rotation, and the radiative pressure \rightarrow fluid object supported by gravity and gas pressure



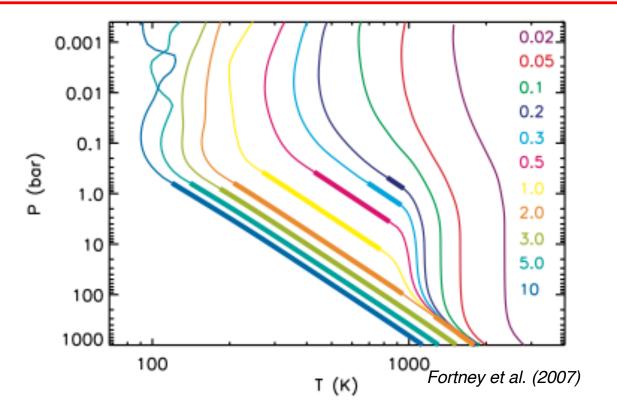
Evolution of the radius of an irradiated giant planet



Thermal evolution and connection interior-atmosphere

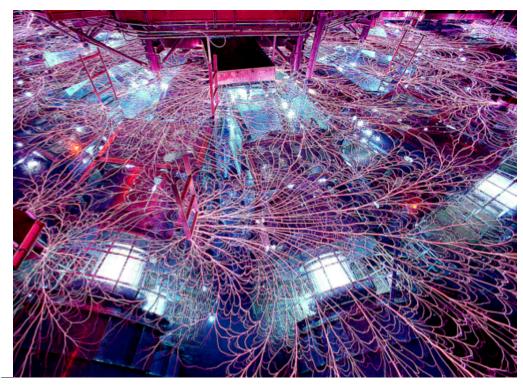
The atmosphere is the bottleneck that controls the deposit (irradiation) and the release of the energy.

The structure model must be coupled to an atmospheric model



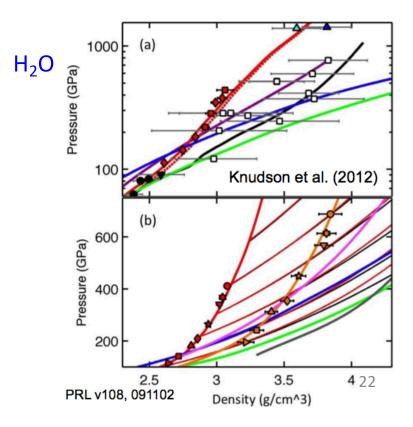
P-T profiles for 4.5 Gy Jupiterlike planets

Thick line = convective regions

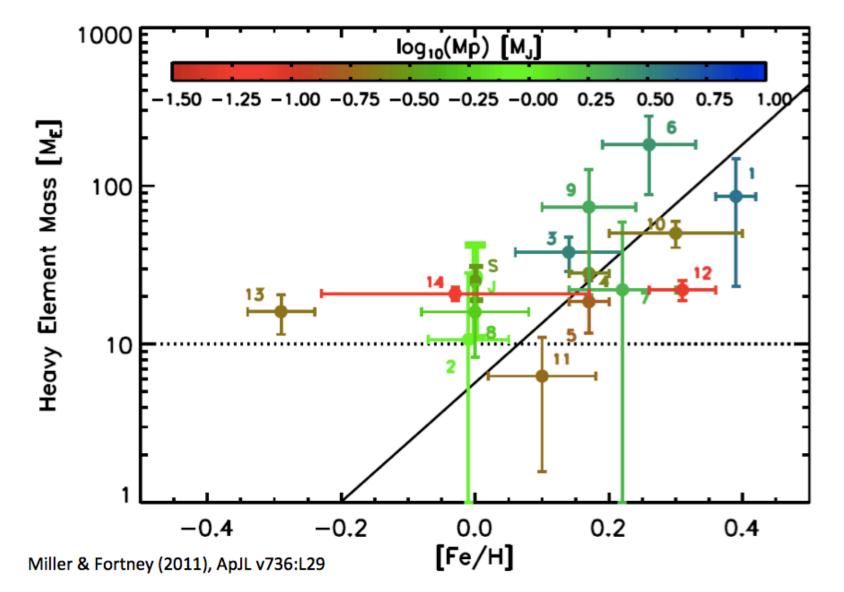


Equation of state at very high pressure and temperature

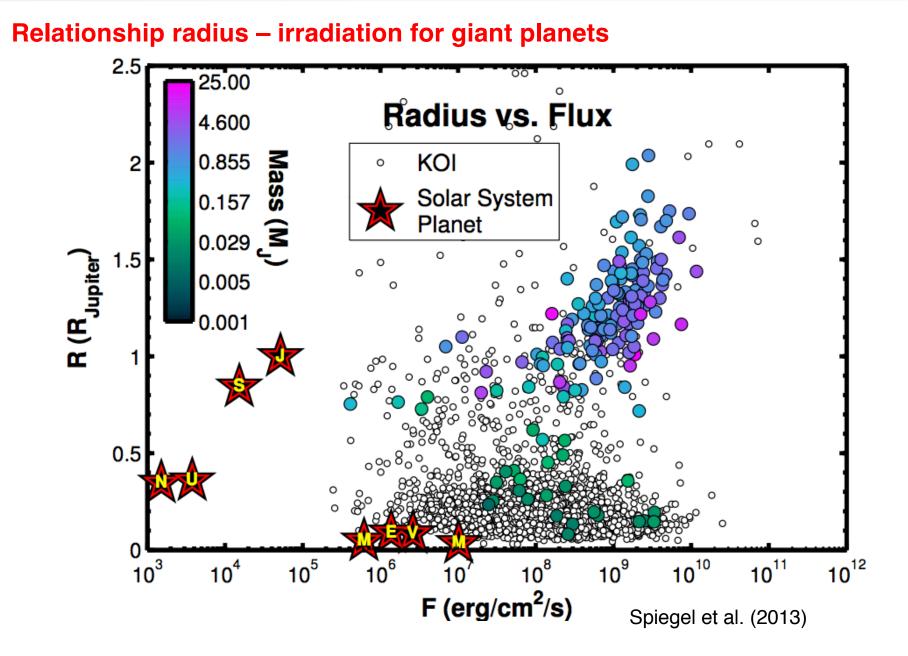
Sandia National Laboratory Z Machine High P (>1TPa) and T (>2GK) reached through high electromagnetic fields Recent significant advances via *Ab initio computations Precise measurements*



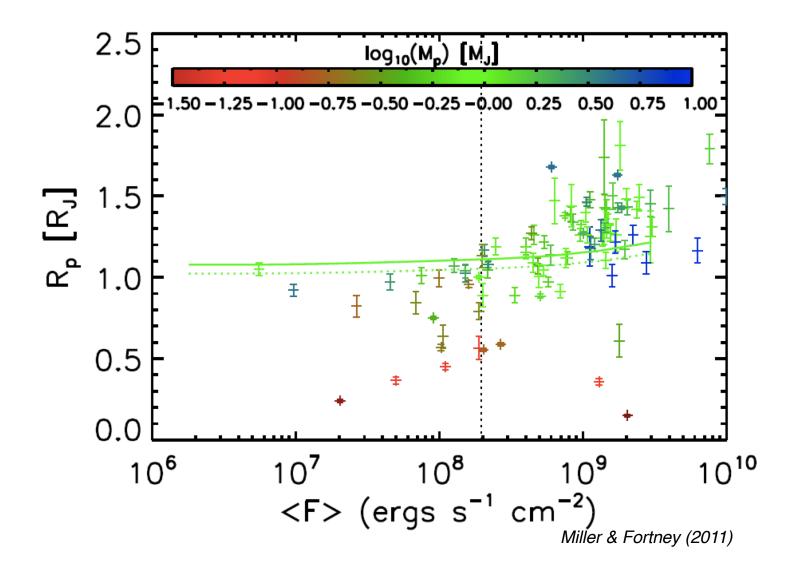
Correlation between stellar and planetary abundances?



Internal structure of giant planets: results



The most irradiated giant planets are often 'too' big



Origins of that "radius anomaly" ?

<u>1/ Deep deposit (at the radiative-convective limit, or lower) of 0.1 to 1% of incident</u> <u>irradiation</u> <u>Mechanism? Day-night winds (Guillot & Showman 2002)</u>; ohmic dissipation (Batygin & Stevenson 2010)

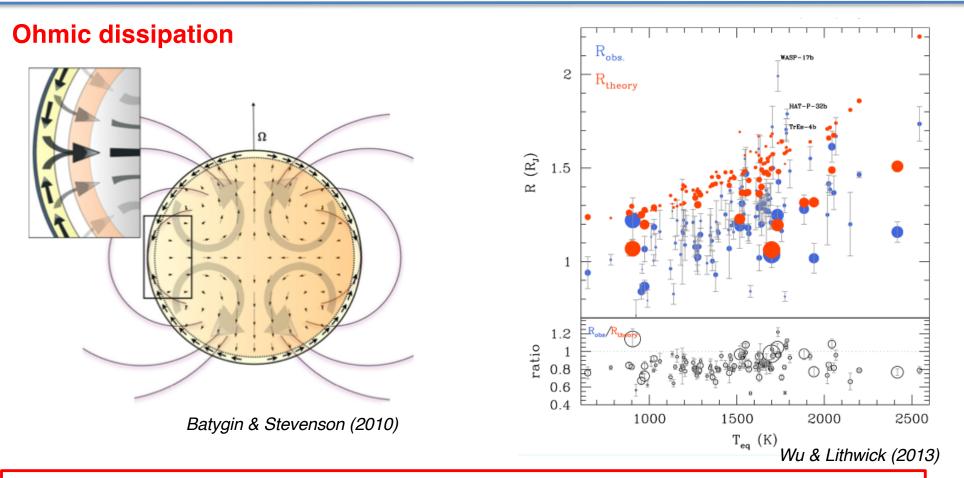
2/ Slowed down contraction

Current theories predict contractions too fast to explain radius anomalies.

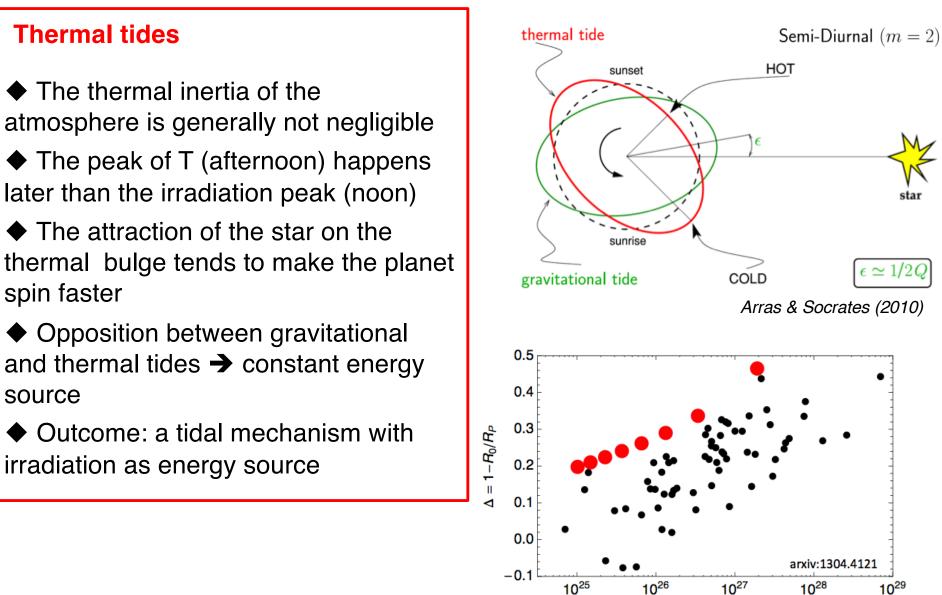
Additional mechanism? Larger opacities (Burrows et al. 2007); convection in layer due to composition gradient (Chabrier & Baraffe 2007)

3/ Tidal dissipation

Stellar tides: strong effect but drops to zero once the orbit is fully circularized (Bodenheimer et al. 2001) Thermal tides? Arras & Socrates (2010)



- Alkaline metals (Li, Na, K,...) thermally ionized and carried by advection in the strong winds of the external layer.
- Creation of a magnetic field distinct from the inner magnetic field (dynamo)
- Induced current deposits its energy by ohmic dissipation in the internal layers



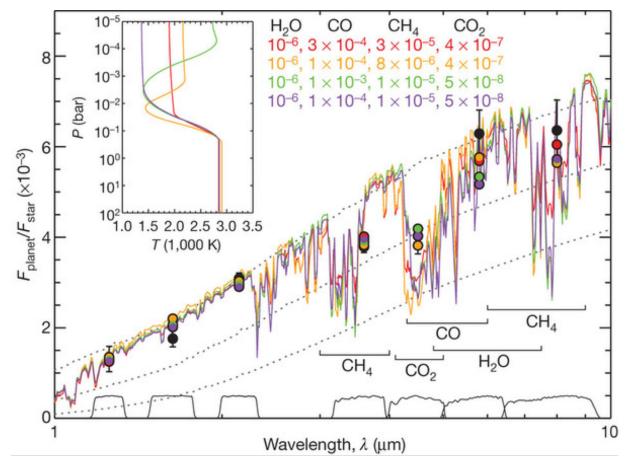
10²⁹ $L_{\text{thT}} = \sigma_{\text{SB}} R_P^4 T_{\text{eq}}^3 / C_p \text{ period}^2 \text{ [erg/s]}$ Socrates (2013)

 $\epsilon \simeq 1/2O$

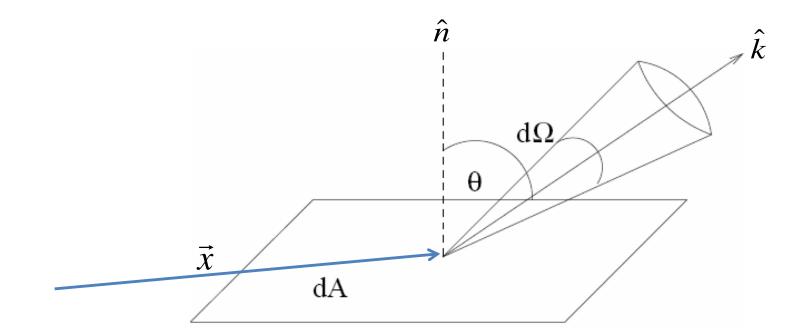
Study of exoplanet atmospheres

Composition, circulation, clouds, thermal structure, etc.

→ spectroscopy then inferences based on the comparison with radiative transfer models



Spectral radiance (a.k.a. specific intensity)



$$dE_{v} = I_{v} \cos\theta dA d\Omega dt dv$$

$$\downarrow$$
Spectral radiance
$$I_{v} = I(v, t, \vec{x}, \hat{k})$$
Units: W m⁻² sr⁻¹ Hz⁻¹

Planetary atmosphere

Flux

$$\vec{F}_{v}(\vec{x},v,t) = \int_{4\pi} I_{v}(\vec{x},v,t,\hat{n})\hat{n}d\Omega$$

Measurement of the quantity of energy crossing dA at a given time t and at a frequency v

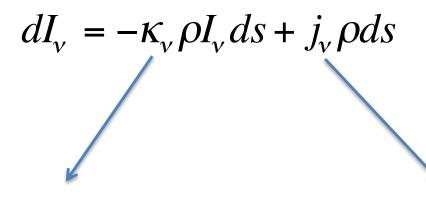
We are generally interested in the flux in our direction

$$F_{v} = \int_{4\pi} I_{v} \hat{n} \cdot \hat{k} d\Omega$$
$$F_{v} = \int_{4\pi} I_{v} \cos \theta d\Omega$$

We have thus $dE_v = I_v \cos\theta dA d\Omega dv dt$

Spectral radiance = the energy in a beam at a given time

The equation of radiative transfer describes how this energy varies due to the interactions between light and matter \rightarrow variations of I_v as a function of the length of the path travelled in the medium



Absorption cross section

Emission cross section

ds = infinitesimal distance travelled ρ = density of the crossed medium

Planetary atmosphere

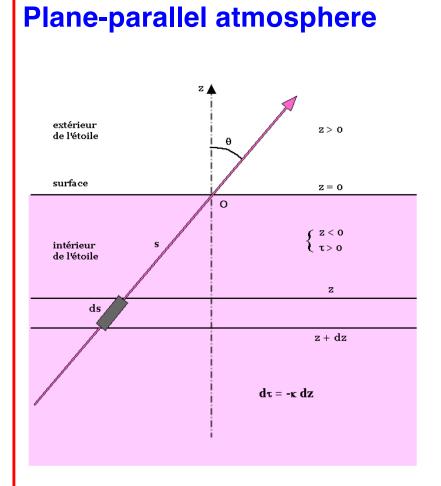
The equation of radiative transfer

$$\frac{dI_{v}}{\kappa_{v}\rho ds} = -I_{v} + S_{v}$$

With $S_v = \frac{J_v}{k_v}$ the source function

Apparently simple equation, but

- Not linear: I_v depends on j_v , but j_v depends also on I_v
- Opacities behind k_v and j_v depend on millions of atomic and molecular lines, and in the case of opacity due to clouds, include many free parameters.



The curvature of the atmospheric layers is neglected

If
$$\mu = \cos \theta$$

Then
$$dz=cos heta ds$$

Is then defined the optical depth τ_v , measured from the top of the atmosphere, as:

$$\tau_{v}(z) = -\int_{z} \kappa_{v}(z)\rho(z)dz$$

→ Equation of radiative transfer becomes

$$\mu \frac{dI_{v}}{d\tau} = I_{v} - S_{v}$$

Planetary atmosphere

Analytical solutions. I. Transmission in the optical

1 -

ח

 $\boldsymbol{\Omega}$

Thermal emission of the atmosphere negligible: $S_v = 0$

$$\mu \frac{dI_{v}}{d\tau} = I_{v} \qquad \blacksquare \qquad I_{v} = I_{v} (0)e^{-\tau_{v}/\mu}$$
Beer-Lambert law

II. Thermal emission without scattering, local thermodynamical equilibrium (LTE)

$$S_{\nu} = B_{\nu} \quad \text{Source function} = \text{Planck function}$$
$$\mu \frac{dI_{\nu}}{d\tau} = I_{\nu} - B_{\nu} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad I_{\nu}(z) = \int_{0}^{\pi} \frac{1}{\mu} \int_{0}^{\infty} B_{\nu}(\tau) e^{-\tau_{\nu}(z)/\mu} d\tau d\mu$$

Planetary atmosphere

Chemical composition

An elementary composition is adopted (e.g. solar) Assumed network of chemical reactions **The chemical equilibrium** is assumed (no change of abundances) The abundance of a given molecule in a given layer depends on P and T (in first approach).

Computation of abundances through minimization of Gibbs free energy G

First law of thermodynamic: dU = dQ - dW = TdS - PdV

Definition of G: G = U + PV - TS dG = dU + PdV + VdP - SdT - TdSdG = VdP - SdT

dG ≤0 until equilibrium for which dG=0

Chemical composition

Determination of the minimum of

$$G/RT = \sum_{i} n_{i} \left[\left(g_{i}^{0}(T)/RT \right) + \ln P + \ln \left(n_{i}/N \right) \right]$$
$$\sum_{i} a_{ij} n_{i} = b_{j}$$

with

 n_i =number of moles of molecule *i* g_i^o = Gibbs energy of molecule *i* at standard pressure **(Tables)** N = total number of moles of the system b_j = number of moles of element *j* a_{ij} = number of atoms of element *j* in molecule *i*

A charge constraint can also be used to take into account ions

Solid particules? Same but no pressure term

Planetary atmosphere

Departure from chemical equilibrium

If P and T are high, chemical reactions are fast and equilibrium is quickly reached.

But in the cold low-density layers, it can never be reached...

e.g. T-type brown dwarfs (T_{eff} < 1300K)

CO is the dominant form of carbon-bearing in the deep layers, and CH₄ should totally dominate the upper colder layers. Still, they also contain CO.

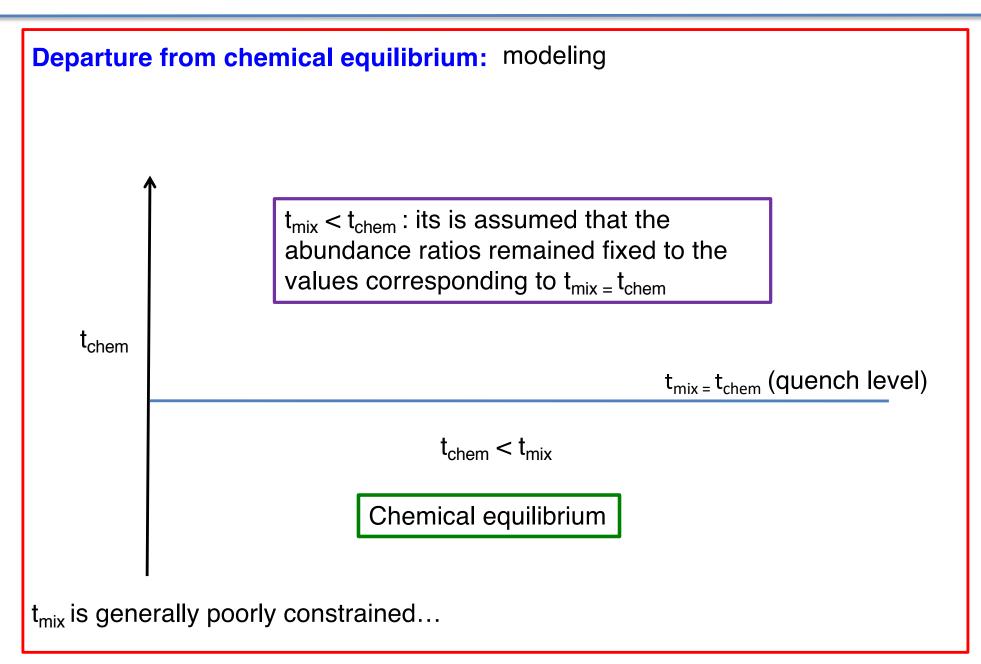
It is due to this following reaction which is there very slow:

 $CO + 3H_2 \iff CH_4 + H_2O$

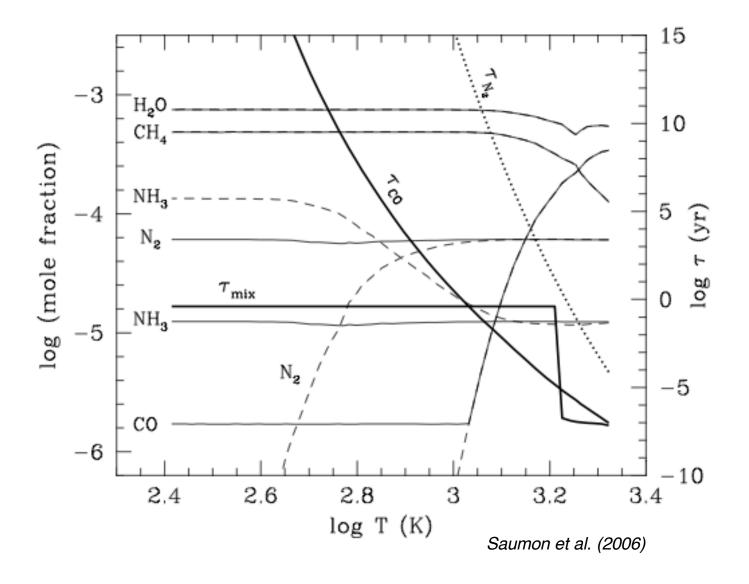
The vertical mixing rate of CO is much superior to its rate of transformation into CH_4 , so CO accumulates in the upper layers.

Same thing happens in Jupiter's atmosphere.

Planetary atmosphere



Departure from chemical equilibrium



Planetary atmosphere

Atmospheric model (simplest version)

Code of radiative transfer (1D plane-parallel + LTE). Resolution for each layer of the equation of radiative transfer + thermodynamic equilibrium (radiation or convection-dominated heat transfert) + hydrostatic equilibrium, so to obtain P(z), T(z), and I(z,v) =**atmospheric profile**

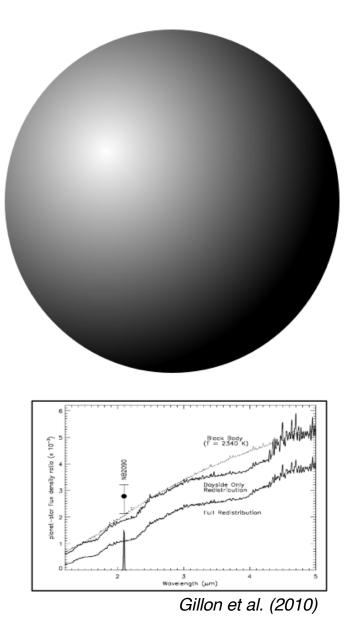
Limit conditions: stellar irradiation and internal entropy

Parameters:

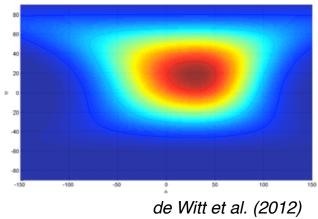
- Internal entropy
- Irradiation
- Opacities
- Choice of atomic and molecular species
- Elementary composition
- Chemical equilibrium or not (vertical mixing)
- Clouds (opacities)
- Efficiency of the day-night heat transfer

Planetary atmosphere

1D vs CGM 3D models







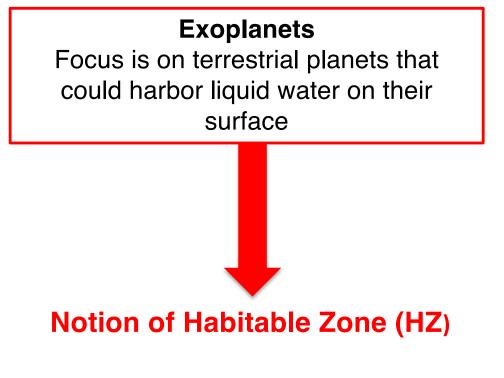
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Habitability

Habitability criteria (NASA)

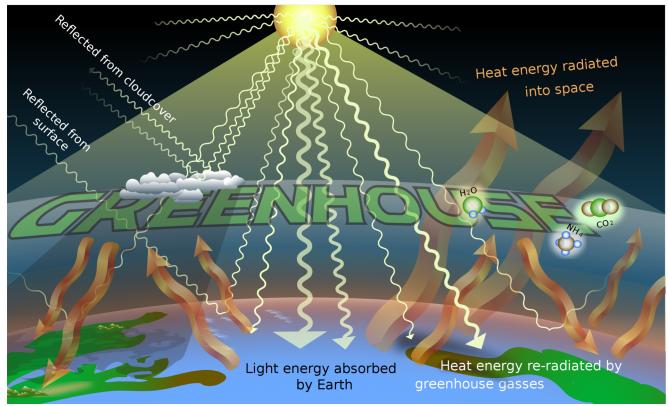
- 1. Extended areas of liquid water
- 2. Conditions suitable to the assembly of complex organic molecules
- 3. Sources of energy available to sustain metabolisms





The greenhouse effect

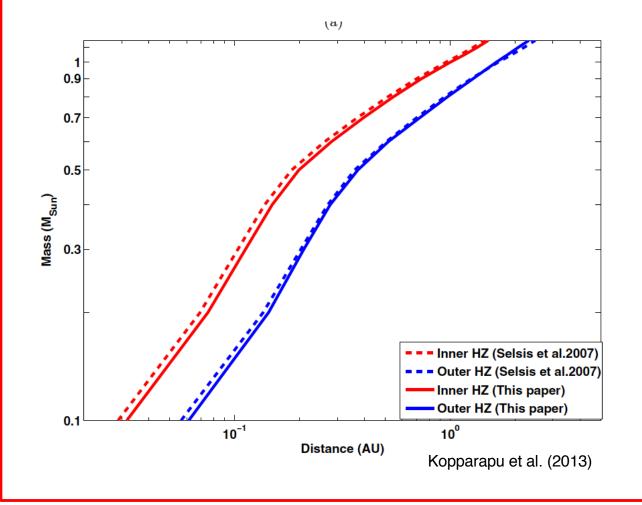
Trapping of radiation within the atmosphere by absorption & isotropic reemission of the infrared emission from the surface or lower atmospheric layers



Earth's greenhouse gases: $H_2O > CO_2 > CH_4 > N_2O > O_3 > CFCs$

The habitable zone

Distance range to a star in which a terrestrial planet with suitable atmospheric features could sustain liquid water on its surface (Huang 1959)



Inner limit:

Runaway greenhouse state -> water loss by photolysis and hydrogen loss

Outer limit:

Formation of CO₂ clouds that cool down the surface by increasing the albedo and decreasing the greenhouse effect

Solar system: from 0.99 AU to 1.7 AU (Kopparapu et al. 2013)

The greenhouse effect: importance of CO₂

Main CO₂ sources:

1) Decarbonation of carbon-containing rocks in subduction zones:

silicates + CaCO₃ -> other silicates + $CO_2 \rightarrow Outgassed$ by volcanoes, hot springs, etc.

2) Uplifting of carbon-rich sediments (mostly of biological source) during mountain building (or by human intervention), which are oxidized and release CO₂.

3) **Decomposition/respiration:** $(CH_2O)n + nO_2 \rightarrow CO_2 + H_2O$

CO₂ sinks:

1) **Chemical weathering** $CO_2 + H_2O$ (rain water) : H_2CO_3

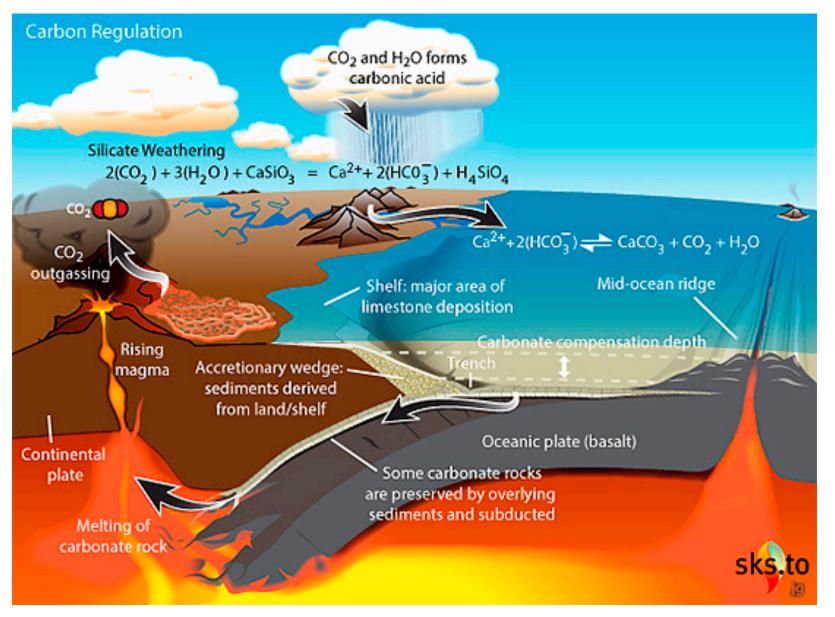
 $2H_2CO_3 + H_2O + CaSiO_3 -> Ca^{2+} + 2HCO_3^- + H_4SiO_4$ (chemical weathering of silicates)

 $Ca^{2+} + 2HCO_3^{-} -> CaCO_3 + CO_2 + H_2O$

2) Burial of carbon-rich sediments (e.g. late Carboniferous Period)

3) Photosynthesis: $nCO_2 + nH_2O \rightarrow (CH_2O)n + nO_2$

The greenhouse effect: importance of CO₂



Source: wikipedia

CO₂ and H₂O: climate feedbacks



If T increases -> more evaporated water -> more chemical weathering -> less CO₂ in the atmosphere -> smaller greenhouse effect -> T decreases

Negative feedback loop (stabilizing)

<u>H₂O:</u>

If T increases -> more evaporated water -> larger greenhouse effect -> T increases -> More clouds -> T increases or decreases

-> less ice -> lower albedo -> T increases

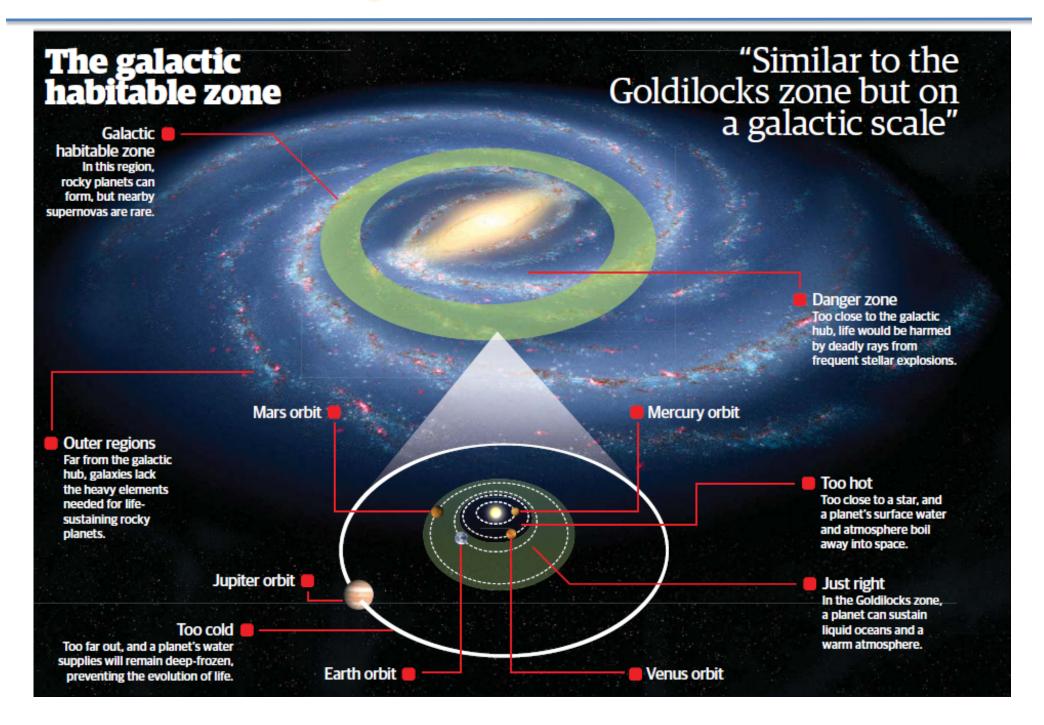
Positive feedback loop (destabilizing)

Habitability: a complex multi-factors problem

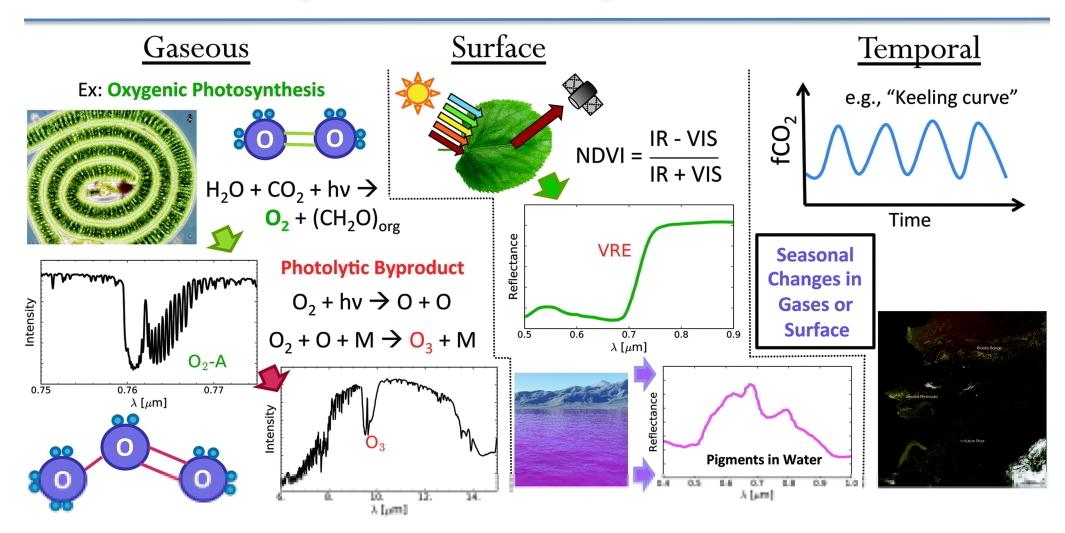
Parameters

- Axial tilt (importance of the Moon)
- Orbital eccentricity
- Continents' position
- Tides (heating, orbital evolution, tidal locking)
- Atmospheric composition (e.g. H₂ is a strong greenhouse gas)
- Life itself!
- Surface gravity
- Plate tectonism (could be more or less likely for super-Earths)
- Radioactive decay
- Atmospheric erosion
- Volcanism
- Impact rate
- Magnetosphere
- Heat redistribution: oceanic and atmospheric currents, rotation period
- Low insolation regime: regular snowball states
- Spectral type
- Etc...

The galactic habitable zone



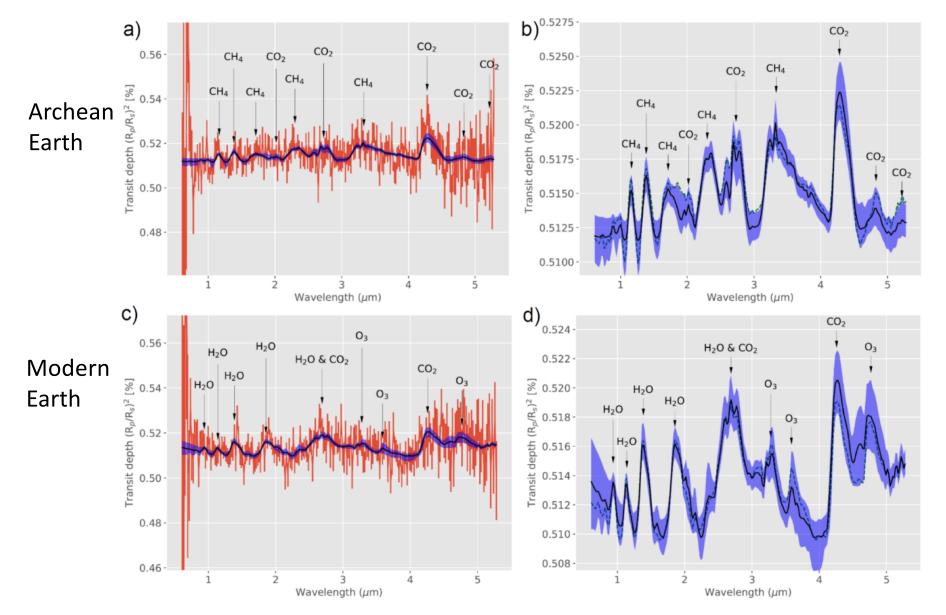
Biosignatures: detecting life elsewhere



Best prospect for exoplanets: strong chemical disequilibrium detected by spectroscopy

Best shot: O_2 / CH_4 . Together, these gazes form quickly CO_2 and H_2O

Case study: TRAPPIST-1e in transmission



Krissansen-Totton et al. 2018

No life around M dwarfs?

Tidal locking

The planets always shows the same face to the star.

→ The atmosphere freezes gradually on the night side (atmospheric collapsus)(Haberle et al. 1996)

→ 3D climate modeling show that 0.1bar is enough to avoid this collapsus (Joshi et al. 1997)

No flux in the visible

So no photosynthesis possible? Chlorophyll f absorbs light at 706nm (Chen et al. 2010) Some bacterioclorophylls absorbs up to 1.2 microns

M-dwarfs are magnetically actives (flares + spots)

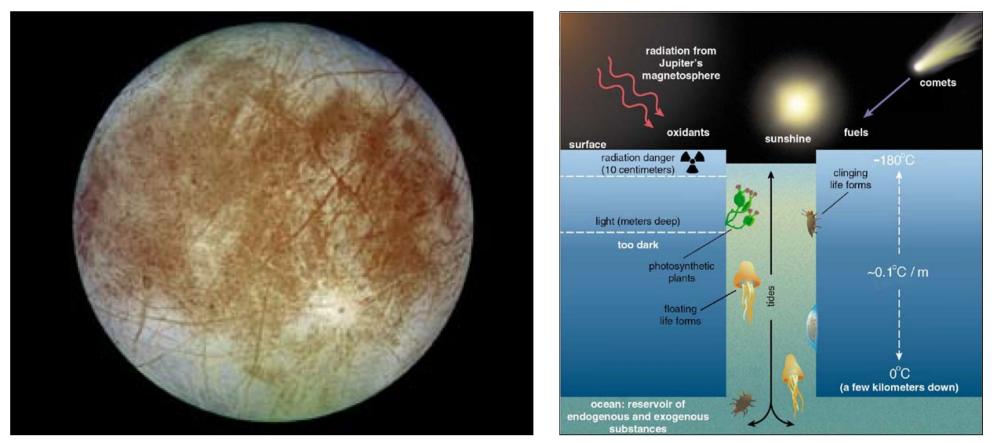
Spots -> effects similar to seasons on Earth (Joshi et al. 1997)

Flares -> emission in UV and X very strong but sporadic. The cumulated impact on the ground could be similar in amplitude to Earth (Heath et al. 1999)

→ strong emission of charged particules, so erosion of the atmosphere and harsh biological damages. A magnetosphere is required, but tidal locking could inhibate it (slow rotation).

But Mercury has a 59 days rotation and it has a significant magnetosphere...

No life outside the HZ?



Richard Greenberg

Why not? But for exoplanets, we are forced to focus on biospheres giving rise to strong atmospherical signatures (biosignatures) -> we focus on HZ

How many potentially habitable planets in the Galaxy?

Dressing & Charbonneau (2013)



Petigura et al. (2013)

Red dwarfs: 1/6 to 1/7 20 billions Solar-type stars: 1/5 8 billions

At least 25 billions of potentially habitable planets! Next step: study the atmospheres of some of the nearest

Exoplanets and Fermi's paradox



Enrico Fermi (1901-1954)

Summer 1950, Los Alamos: « Where is everybody? »

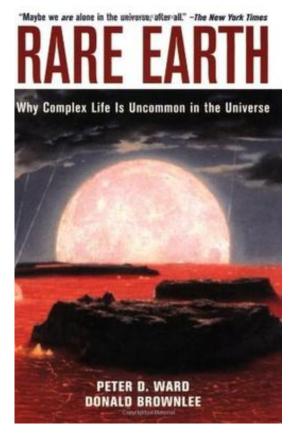
No trace of alien technology in any of our observations of the Universe

2019: Milky way hosts ~300 billions stars, and billions of potentially habitable planets. The Universe contains hundreds of billions of galaxies.

Several classes of solution (Cirkovic 2018):

- Logistic: They have not been able to come yet (interstellar travel is really hard)
- *Catastrophist:* They have been destroyed (SN, gamma-ray burst, self-destruction...)
- Rare Earth: they do not exist (early great filter, consciousness is ephemeral)
- *Solypsist:* they are here, or we live in a simulation
- *The Great Old Ones:* they have been there for long and do not like the competition

The Rare Earth – Great Filter Hypotheses



Peter D. Ward – paleontologist Donal Brownlee – astrophysicist

Habitable planets are frequent in the Universe Chemical elements required by life are frequent in the Universe Microbial life is probably frequent

BUT

The apparition of multicellular complex organisms –and especially technologicaly advanced species- requires so many special conditions and unlikely events that the odds for our galaxy to host another civilization are close to zero

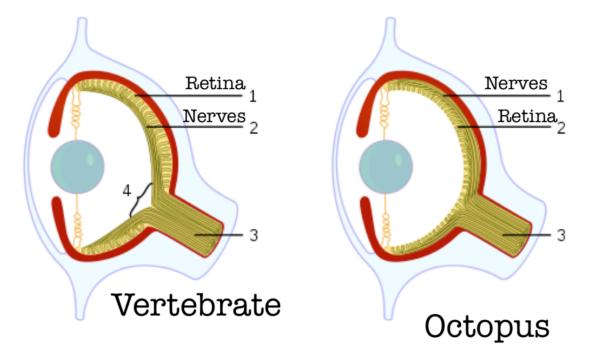
Only one low-probability event (**Great Filter**) in the chain of events that led to the apparition of life and its evolution to complex organisms and humans could explain the Fermi's paradox.

Critics against the Rare Earth – Great Filter Hypotheses

Misconception: « evolution building an intelligent being from microbes is as unlikely as a tornado in a junkyard assembling a 747 ».

BUT: evolution is not a random process, nor is it a process with a « goal » . It is based on the selection of traits produced by mutations that enable a species to survive under the pressure of the environnement, including the competition from other species. -> global tendency towards complexity.

Convergence: there are only a limited number of evolutionary solutions that work

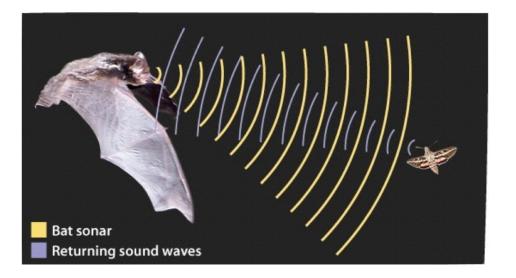


Critics against the Rare Earth – Great Filter Hypotheses

Intelligence is clearly a solution that works (for a time, at least...)



The diversity of the evolutionary « solutions » is much larger than generally thought





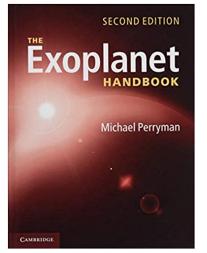
Mantis Shrim: 16 kinds of photoreceptors from UV to deep-red and polarized light

The Great Old Ones

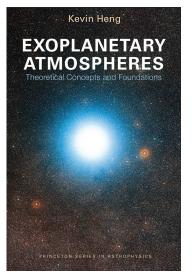


http://shop.alexanderjansson.com/product/the-great-old-ones

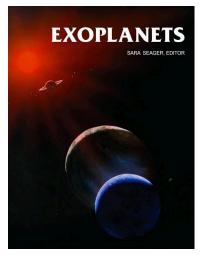
References



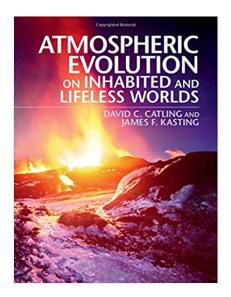
M. Perryman Cambridge University Press Chapter 11



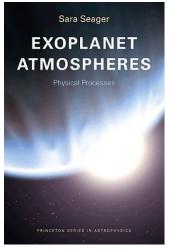
K. Heng Princeton Series in Astrophysics



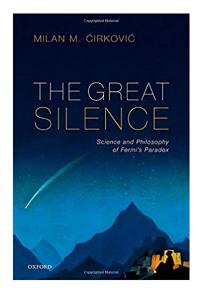
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M. M. Cirkovic Oxford University Press