

The Kepler Giant Planet Search. I:

A Decade of Kepler Planet Host Radial Velocities from the W. M. Keck Observatory

Lauren Weiss University of Notre Dame 51 Pegasi b 30 Année, OHP October 07, 2025

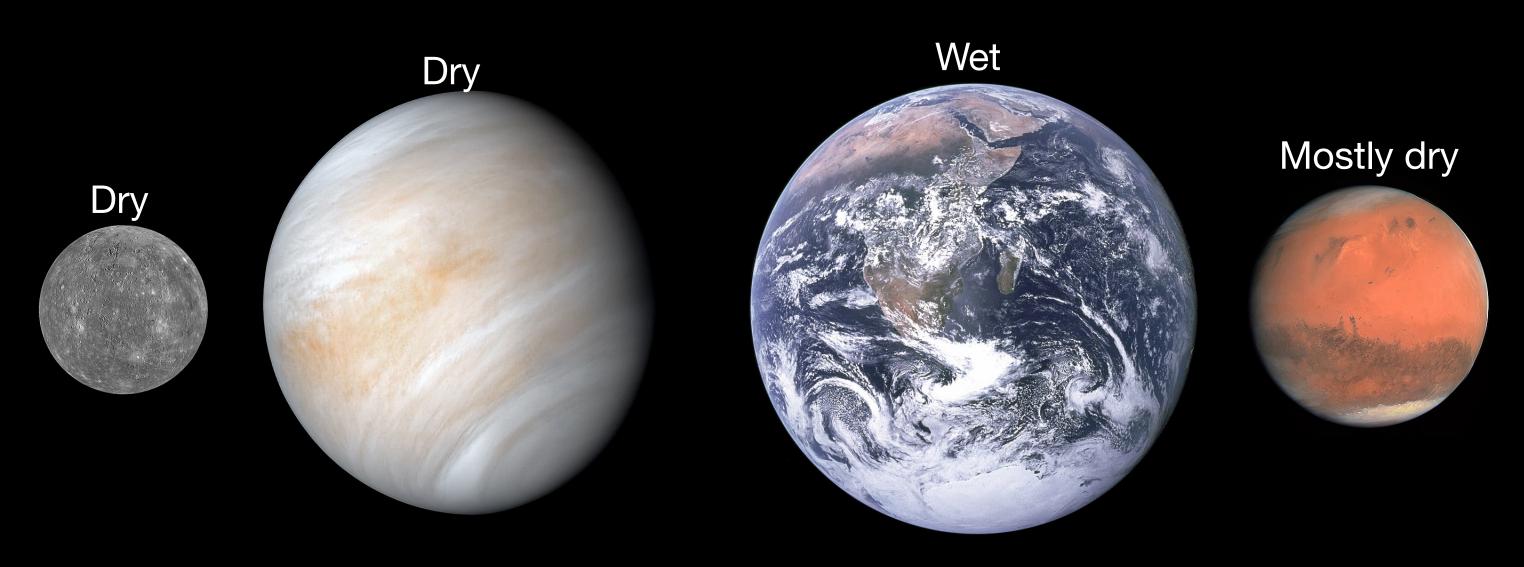
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How long is a decade?

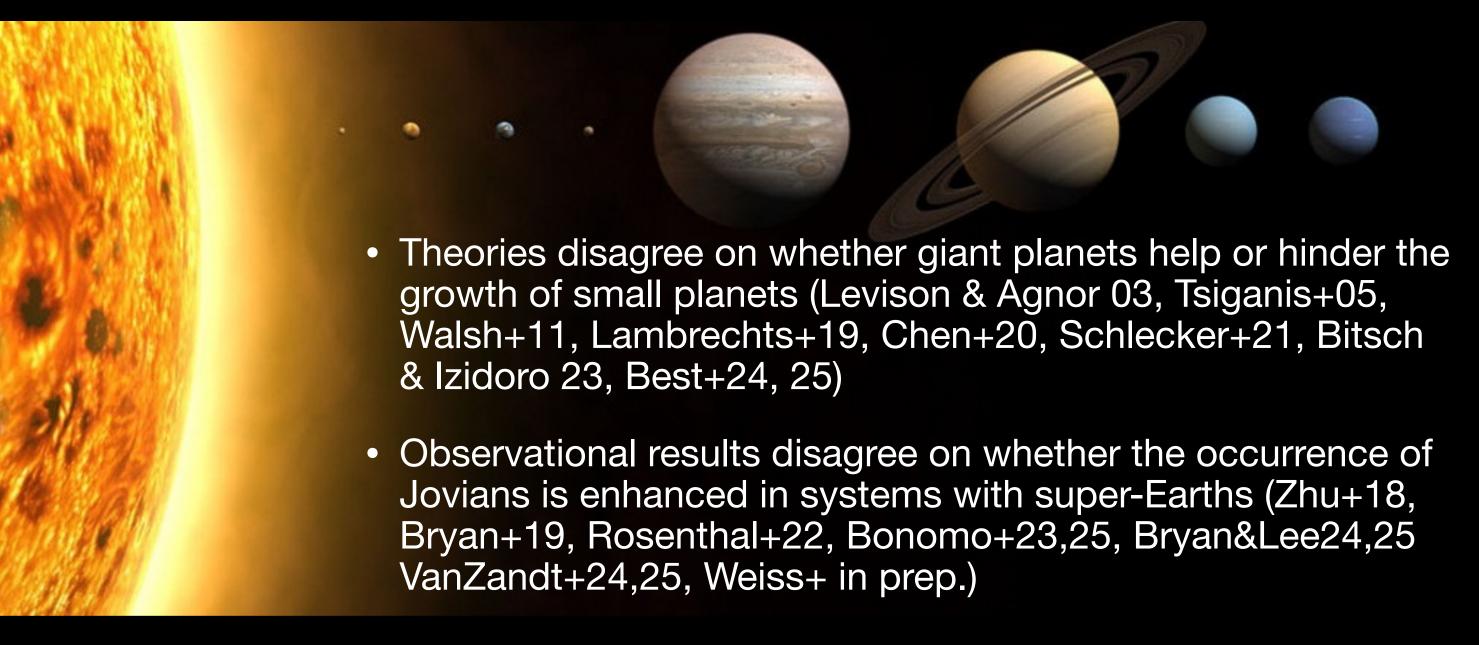
Grad student visiting OHP (Merci a Guillaume H. et Alex S.!)

THE TERRESTRIAL PLANETS (TO SCALE)



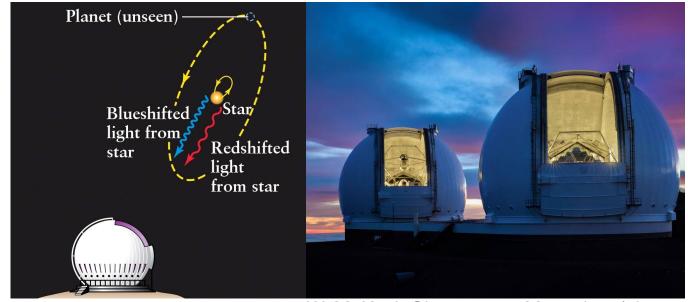
What accounts for the sizes (and size diversity) of terrestrial planets?

What is the role of giant planets in the origin of exo-Earths (and their water)?



The Kepler Giant Planet Search

- Goal: find the Jovian companions to small transiting planets
- Targeted 63 sun-like host stars of 157 transiting planets containing sub-Neptunes with P < 100 days
- Collected 2,844 RVs over a decade!



W. M. Keck Observatory, Maunakea (photo credit Ethan Tweedie)

Table 1: Kepler Giant Planet Search (KGPS) Paper Series

Weiss et al. 2024,	No.	Title
ApJS, 270:8	KGPS I	A Decade of Kepler Planet Host Radial Velocities from M. W. Keck Observatory
Weiss+ in prep.	▶ KGPS II	The Occurrence of Jovian Companions to Small Transiting Planets
	KGPS III+	Additional Patterns in the Architectures of Systems with Small and Jovian Planets

He & Weiss 2023, AJ, 166:36

[A new pattern between small planets and Jovians!]

The KGPS sample is primarily main-sequence stars that are comparable to the field stars used for blind RV surveys.

Our selection criteria were:

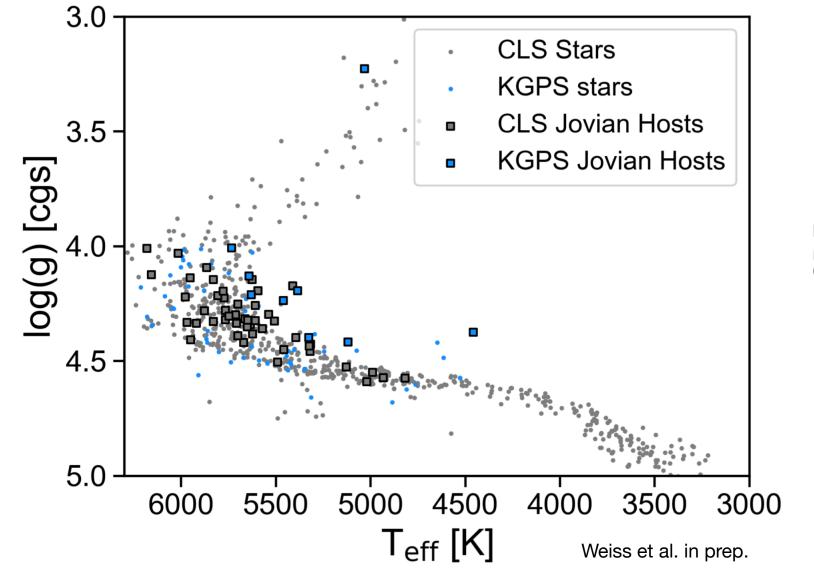
• Kepler stars with at least one transiting planet having $R_p < 4 R_{Earth}$, P < 100 days

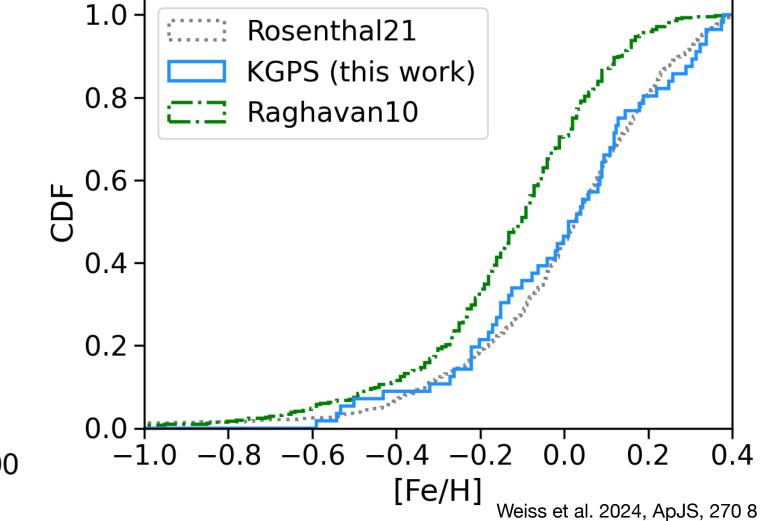
- At least 10 RVs
- At least 5 years of RV observation

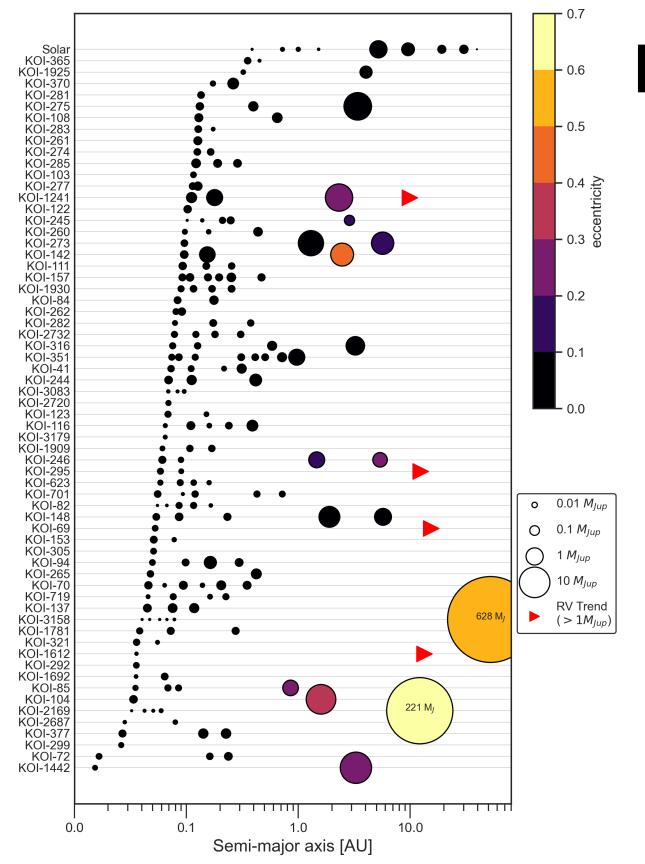
• V < 13.6

properties:

- Sun-like 4300 K < T_{eff} < 6300 K
 - Vsini < 10.1 km/s
 - log(g) > 4.0
 - $log(R'_{HK}) < -4.8$







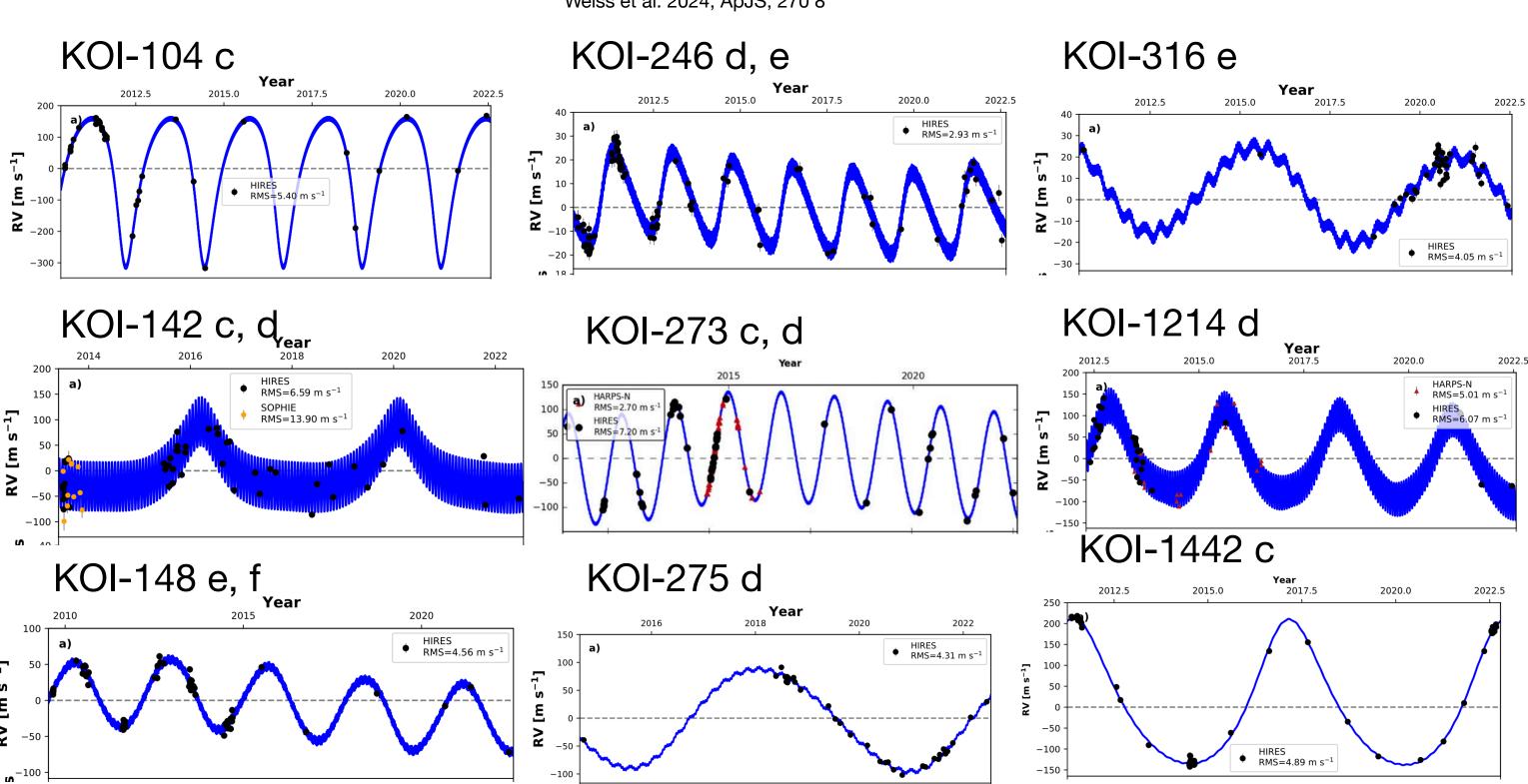
Kepler Giant Planet Search I:

A Decade of Kepler Planet Host Radial Velocities from W. M. Keck Observatory

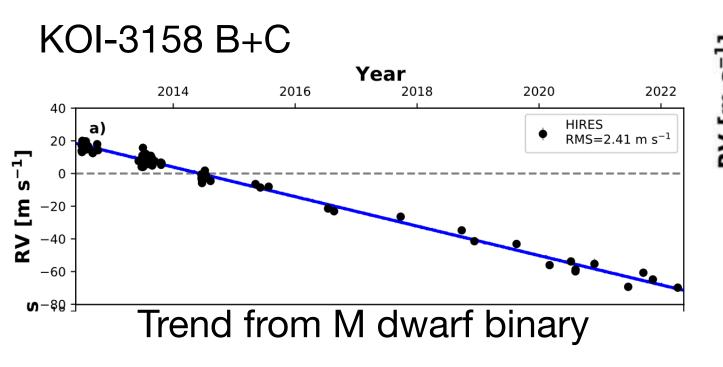
- Detected 27 non-transiting companions around 20 stars:
 - 13 Jovians (0.3 M_{Jup} < Msini < 13 M_{Jup}, 0.5 AU < a < 7 au)
 - 8 sub-Saturns (Msini < 0.3 M_{Jup})
 - 3 stars (M_{Jup} > 13 M_{Jup})
 - 3 ambiguous trends
- Updated masses of 84 transiting planets
- One of the longest-running and most data-rich collections of RVs of the NASA Kepler systems yet (see also Bonomo et al. 2023!)
- Some patterns are emerging!

13 Jovian Companions

Weiss et al. 2024, ApJS, 270 8



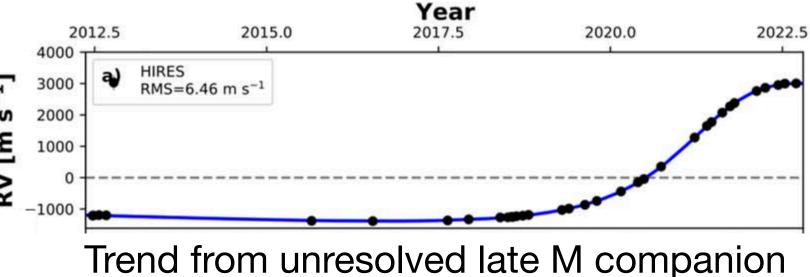
KOI-69 B 2010 2015 2020 HARPS-N RMS=2.03 m s⁻¹ HIRES RMS=3.09 m s⁻¹ Trend from unresolved companion Msini > 15 MJup



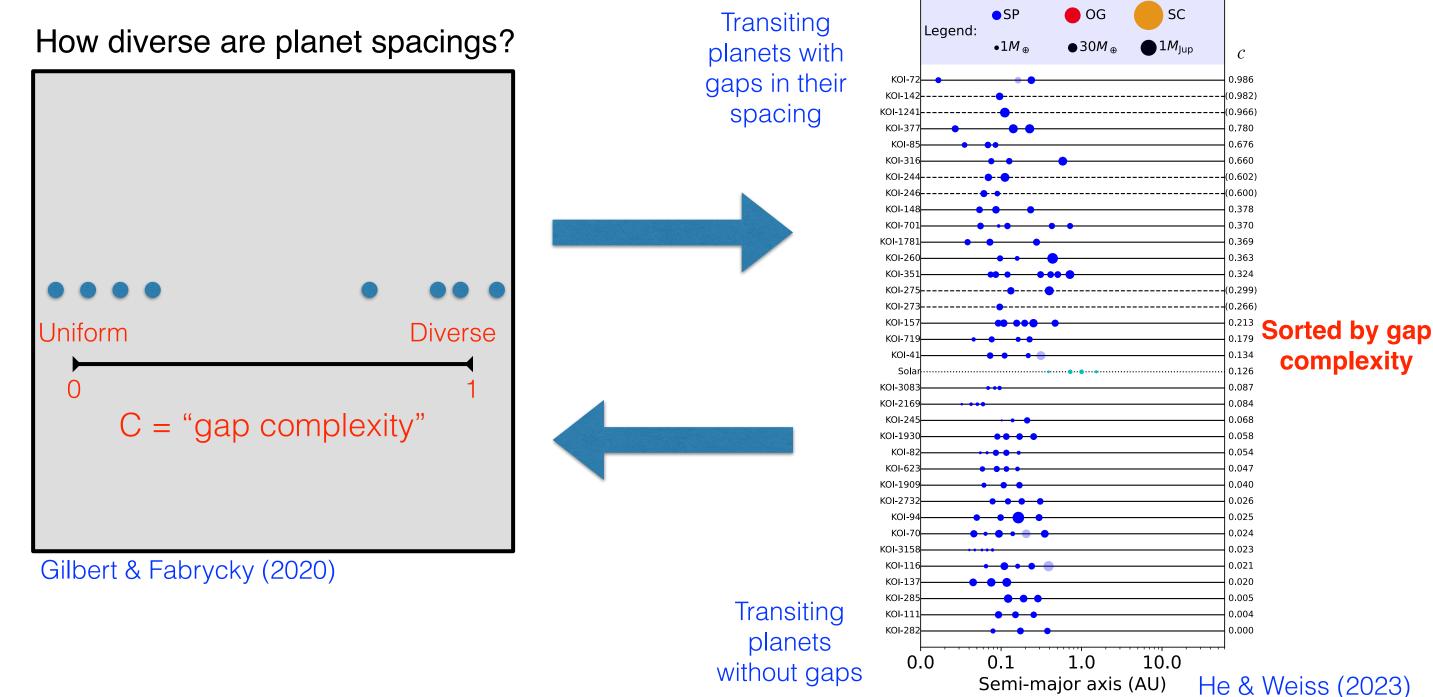
3 BD/Stellar Companions

Weiss et al. 2024, ApJS, 270 8

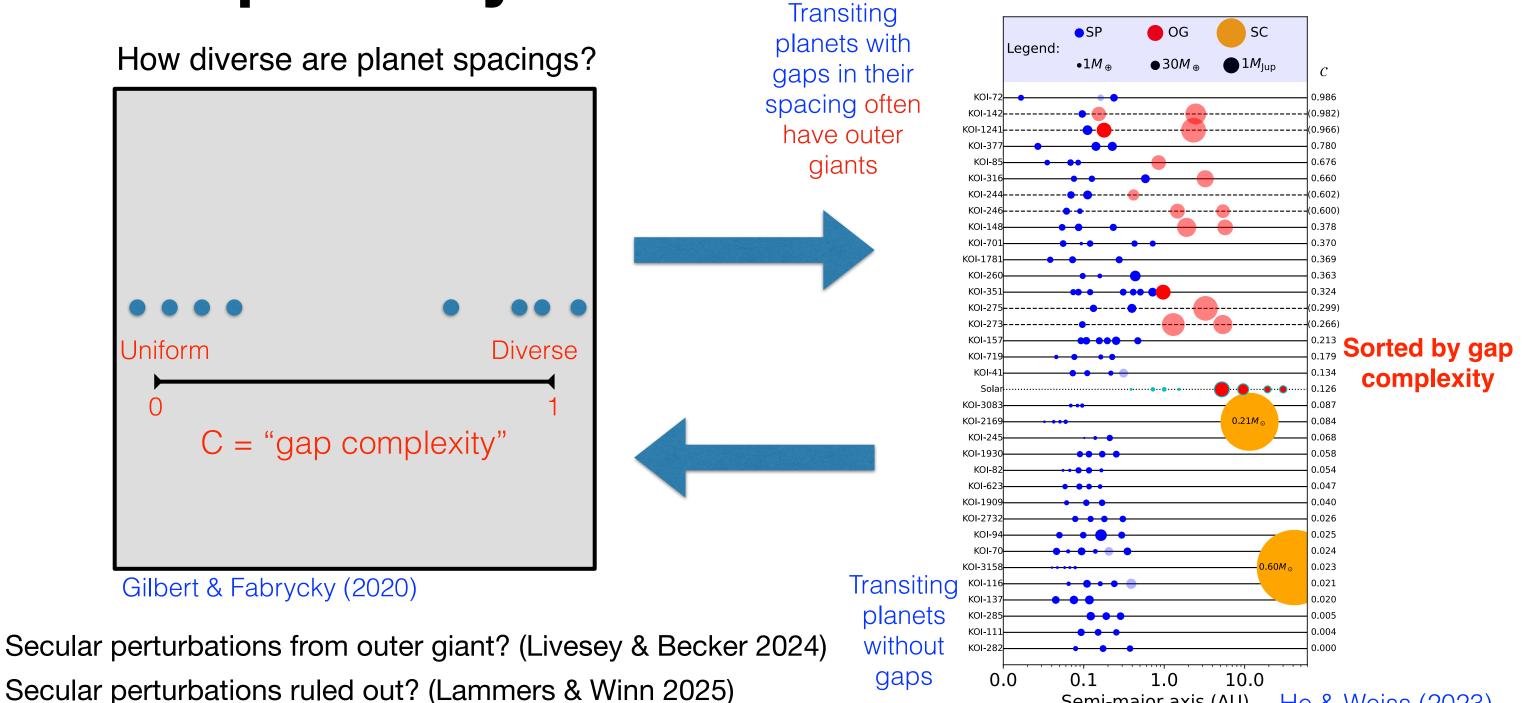
KOI-2169 B



A Strong Dynamical Relationship between Outer Giant Planets and Inner Transiting Planets:



Long-Period Giant Planets Correlate with Gaps in Multiplanet systems!



Semi-major axis (AU)

He & Weiss (2023)



- Kepler Giant Planet Search I: A catalog of 2,844 RVs of 63 host stars of 157 Mars-Neptune sized transiting planets from the Kepler Prime Mission (Weiss et al. 2024)
 - Long-period giant planets correlate with *gaps* in multi-transiting systems (He & Weiss 2023), with multiple proposed dynamical pathways (Livesey & Becker 2024, Lammers & Winn 2025)
 - If time: bonus slides w/ preliminary results on non-enhancement of the occurrence, sizes, and masses of transiting planets in systems with outer giants; examination of host star metallicities