

#### Schematic of Radiation from a Planet









The antigreenhouse effect on Titan reduces the surface temperature by 9 K whereas the greenhouse effect increases it by 21 K. The net effect is that the surface temperature (94 K) is

12 K warmer than the effective temperature (82 K). If the haze layer were removed, the antigreenhouse effect would be greatly reduced, the greenhouse effect would become even stronger, and the surface temperature would rise by over 20 K.





• Bright at 5  $\mu$ m – high T<sub>bright</sub>

Lee et al. (2012)

# A scientific case study: 2007-2013

I try to understand what planets around other stars "are like." How hot are they, what are they made of, how do the change with time?

It was known in 2007 that some "hot Jupiters" (gas giant, Jupiterlike planets that orbit very close to their parents) had **hot upper atmospheres** and some had **cold upper atmospheres** 



Whether or not the upper atmosphere is hot or cold changes the amount of **infrared light** that these planets emit

### In 2008 I thought that I had figured this out

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#### A UNIFIED THEORY FOR THE ATMOSPHERES OF THE HOT AND VERY HOT JUPITERS: TWO CLASSES OF IRRADIATED ATMOSPHERES

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### I proposed two class of "hot Jupiters"



- The hottest planets have TiO molecules in their atmosphere, which can strongly absorb starlight at low pressures, which heats the upper atmospheres
- The colder planets should not have this molecule in their atmosphere, because at cold temperatures it converts to a different molecule

I discussed in a lot of detail why this theory was consistent with all observational data available at that time

Only about 4 planets had been observed by that time, but since it matched all data, one could probably call it a **theory** rather than a **hypothesis** 

If there had been no data, and I had suggested how the planets would behave, then **hypothesis** might have been better

# I suggested a variety of different and new observations that could confirm or refute my theory



### I was wrong.

- Now about 40 planets have been observed, and there is no evidence for TiO molecules in any planet!
- However, about 1/3 of the hot Jupiters do have a hot upper atmosphere, and we still don't know why
  - However, some of the hot planets lack hot upper atmospheres
  - Some of the colder planets do have hot upper atmospheres
- Additional classification systems have been proposed

### A potential new scheme for classification



# We may be stuck for awhile

- We probably need better observations to figure out what is really going on in these atmospheres
- Like in much of astronomy, and other sciences, we need new tools (the James Webb Space Telescope, launching 2018) to obtain more and better data

HST hot Jupiter transmission spectral survey: evidence for aerosols and lack of TiO in the atmosphere of WASP-12b

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The scientists analysed Huygens' speed, direction of motion, rotation and swinging during descent. The DISR movie includes sidebar graphics that show:

(**Lower left corner**) Huygens' trajectory views from the south, a scale bar for comparison to the height of Mount Everest, colored arrows that point to the sun and to the Cassini orbiter.

(**Top left corner**) A close-up view of the Huygens probe highlighting large and unexpected parachute movements, and a scale bar for comparison to human height.

(Lower right corner) A compass that shows the changing direction of view as Huygens rotates, along with the relative positions of the sun and Cassini.

(**Upper right corner**) A clock that shows Universal Time for Jan. 14, 2005 (Universal Time is two hours earlier with respect to Central European Summer Time). Above the clock, events are listed in Mission Time, which starts with the deployment of the first of the three parachutes.

**Sounds from a left speaker** trace Huygens' motion, with tones changing with rotational speed and the tilt of the parachute. There also are clicks that clock the rotational counter, as well as sounds for the probe's heat shield hitting Titan's atmosphere, parachute deployments, heat shield release, jettison of the DISR cover and touch-down.

**Sounds from a right speaker** go with DISR activity. There's a continuous tone that represents the strength of Huygens' signal to Cassini. Then there are 13 different chimes - one for each of DISR's 13 different science parts - that keep time with flashing-white-dot exposure counters.

During its descent, DISR took 3500 exposures.









Habitable zones for stable planet orbits in binary systems Left: A *circumbinary planet* (orbiting both stars in a close binary system). Stable planet orbit is very large in comparison to binary star separation. Right: A wide binary system, where star-star distance remains very large in comparison to stable orbits of the planets. (These drawings are NOT to scale!)





#### HYDROGEN GREENHOUSE PLANETS BEYOND THE HABITABLE ZONE

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