Planet Size and Mass: Distinguishing Rocky Worlds

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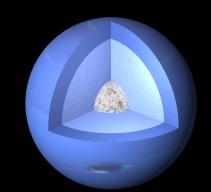
HabEx F2F #2- August 4, 2016

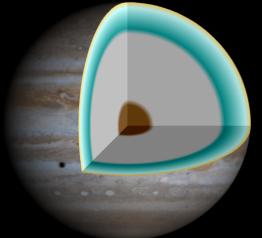
Do We Need to Measure Mass and Radius?

YES *

*Especially, if we proceed with Maggie's exploration story line

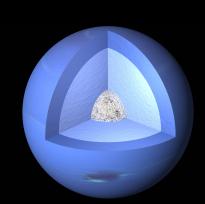


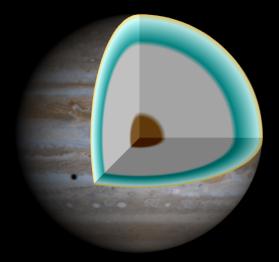




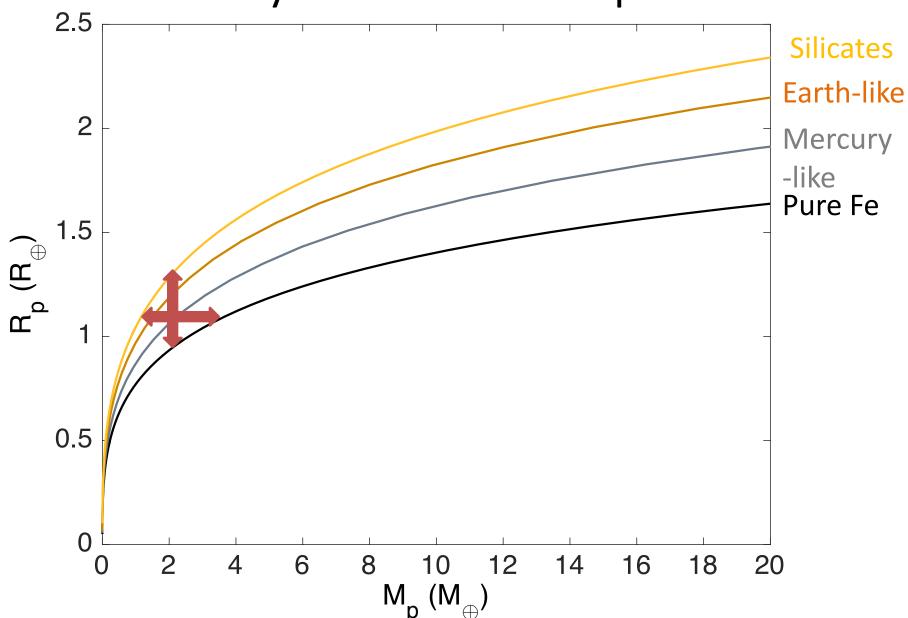
How Precisely How Do We Need to Measure Mass and Radius?



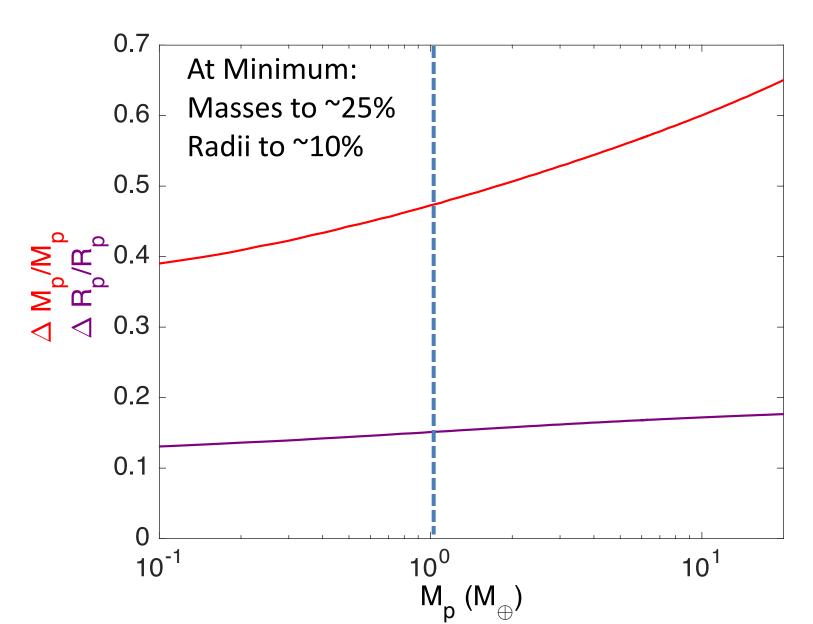




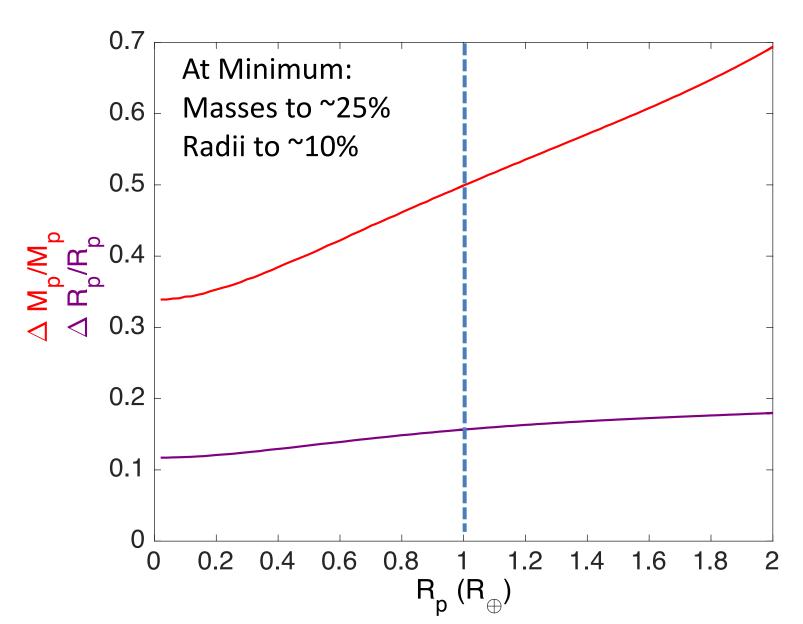
Rocky Planets in M-R Space



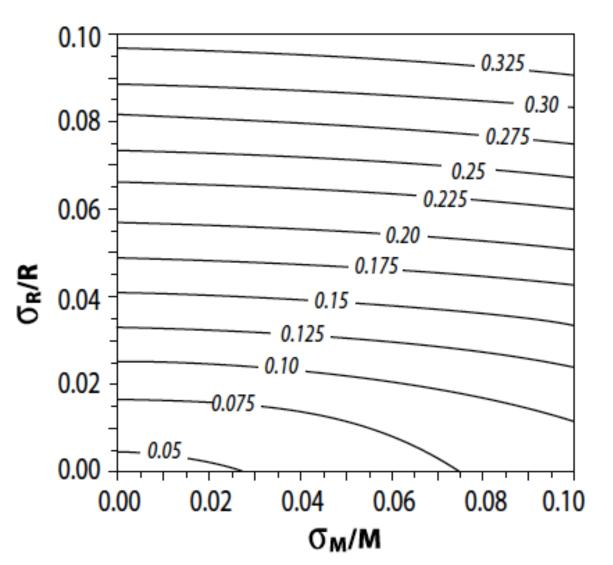
"Rule of Thumb" Baseline M-R Precision



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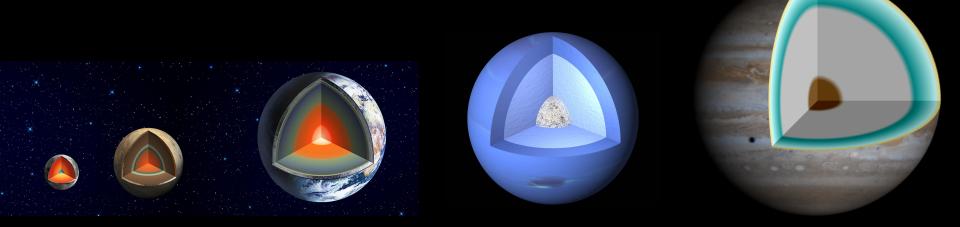


... For constraining water mass fraction.

Grasset et al. (2009)

How Precisely How Do We Need to Measure Mass and Radius?

Beyond rough rules of thumb



Use Full Population of Planets to Inform Priors

Challenges:

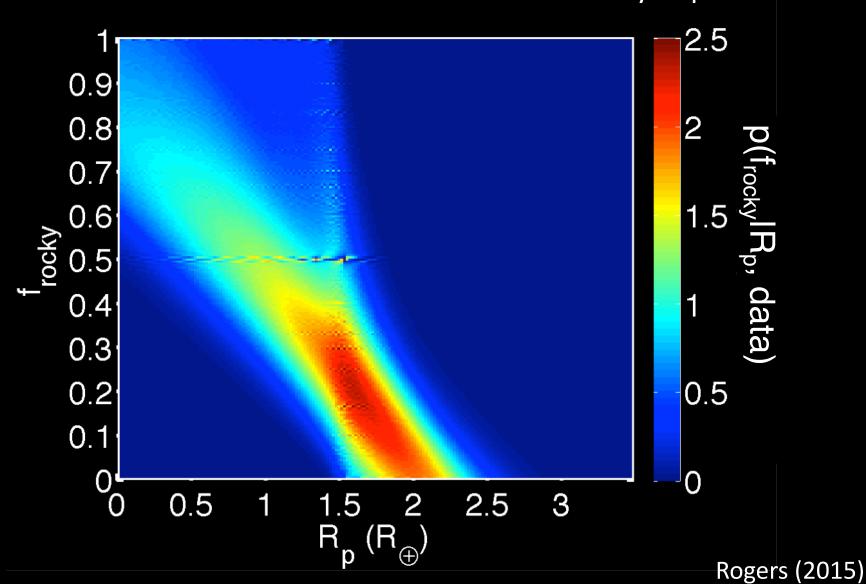
- Biases/Selection Effects Dominating current census of M-R
- Getting out to the HZ requires extrapolation in incident flux/host star type
- Rocky exoplanets characterized to date could all be evaporated cores
- Degeneracies



% H₂O <mark>% Silicate</mark> % Iron

Seager et al. (2007) M-R Relations

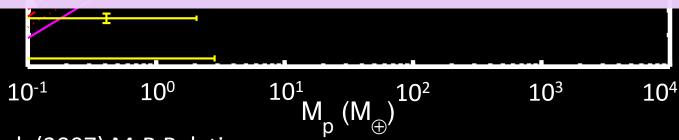
Linear Transition Model: Posterior Distribution for f_{rocky}(R_p)



Use Full Population of Planets to Inform Priors

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H₂O Silicate Iron

Seager et al. (2007) M-R Relations

How well can we hope to constrain the planet composition distribution?

Input Parameters



Parameterized Model of Planet Mass-Composition Distribution

Generate simulated sample of planets



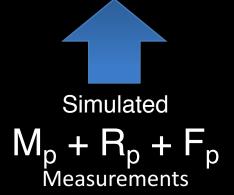
Output Parameters



Apply Hierarchical analysis using

Parameterized Model of Planet Mass-Composition Distribution





Rogers et al. in prep.

Main Takeaway Points

- Baseline Rule of Thumb: need to measure masses to $\sigma_{\rm M}/{\rm M}$ < 25% and $\sigma_{\rm R}/{\rm R}$ < 10% to help discriminate rocky/non-rocky.
- Of course, constraints on planet composition improve with improving precision.
- Moving forward, will leverage census of accumulating M-R measurements to inform interpretation.