

# The Observing Accelerators with SCExAO Imaging Survey (OASIS): First Results

**Thayne Currie, Survey Principal Investigator  
(Subaru/U. Texas-Antonio)**

**Masayuki Kuzuhara, Survey Co-PI  
(NAOJ)**

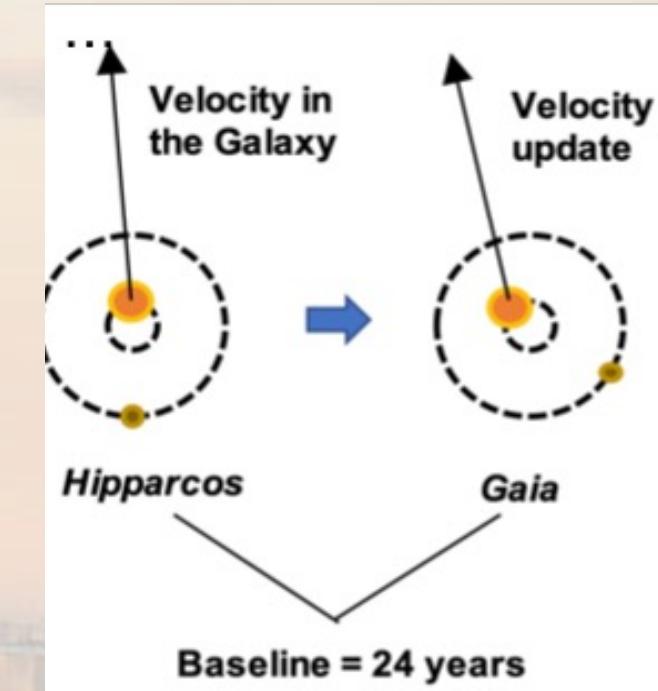
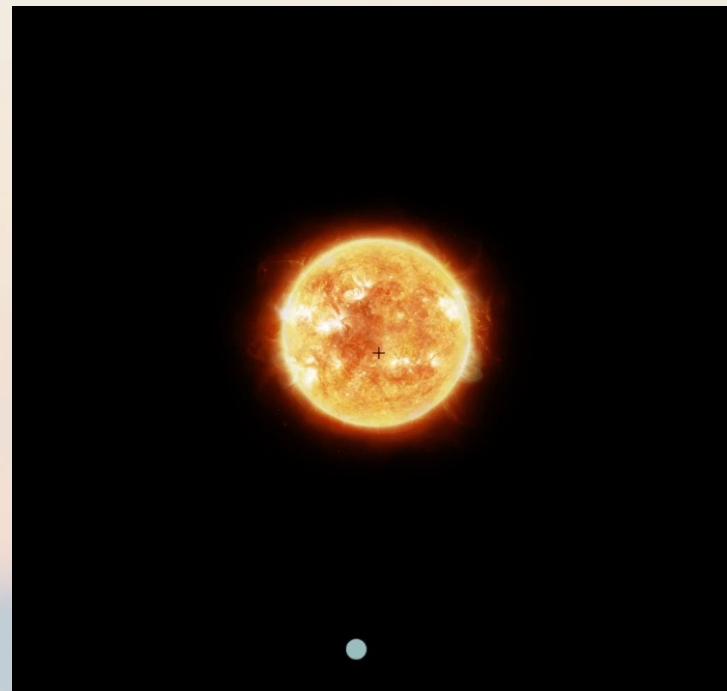
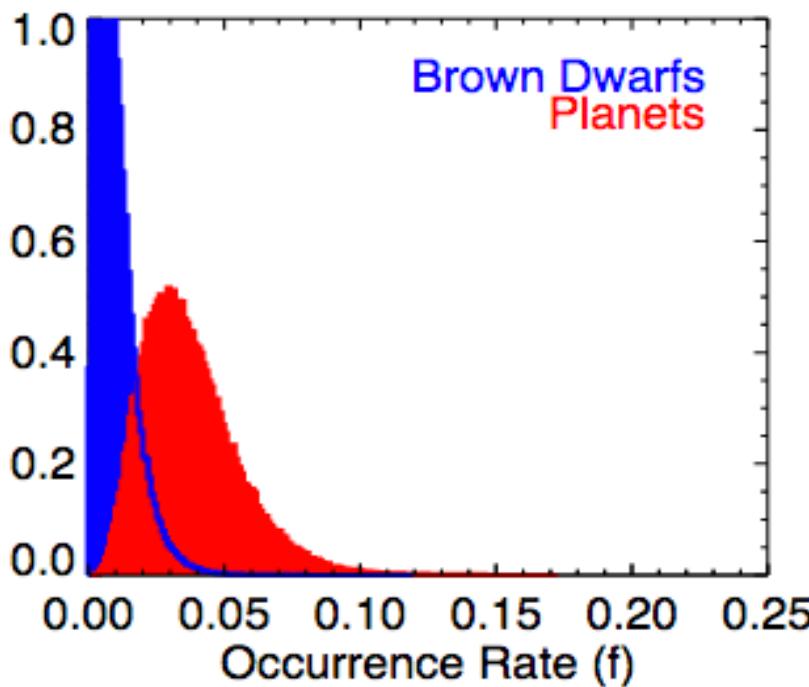
Supported by the National Science Foundation &  
NASA Keck Strategic Mission Support

# Outline

- Motivation, Basic Program Design, and Proof of Concept
- First Results
  - a new planet!
  - a new brown dwarf/Roman CGI tech demo target
- Follow-Up Plans
- Broad Scientific Goals and Outlook



# Motivation and Basic Program Design



## Previous Exoplanet Imaging Searches

- Large “unbiased/blind” surveys (e.g. GPIES, SPHERE/SHINE) few discoveries
- They yield limited knowledge of planet’s orbit and mass

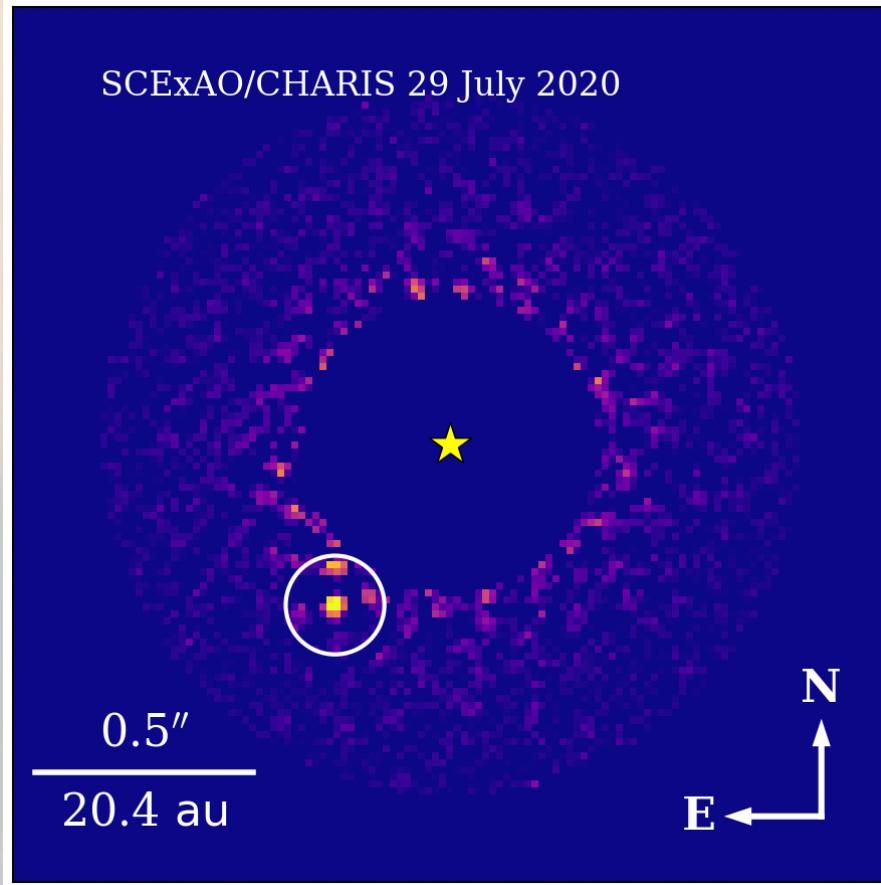
## A New Kind of Exoplanet Direct Imaging Search

- Precision Astrometry from Gaia & Hipparcos Identifies Stars That Are Being Gravitationally Accelerated by An Unseen Companion
- Target accelerating stars that are young enough to have imageable planets

# Accelerating Star Surveys: A Promising New Direction

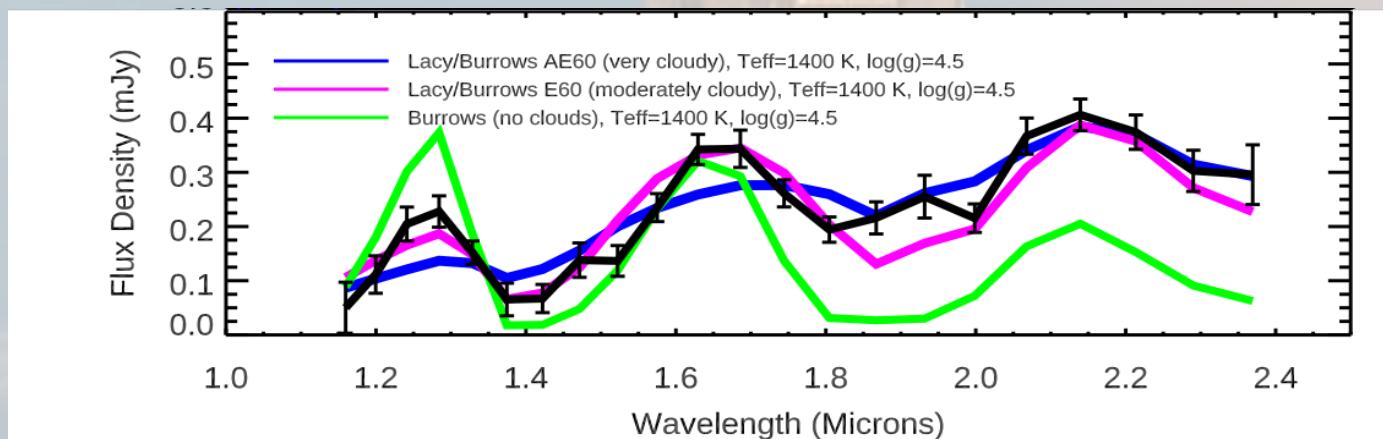
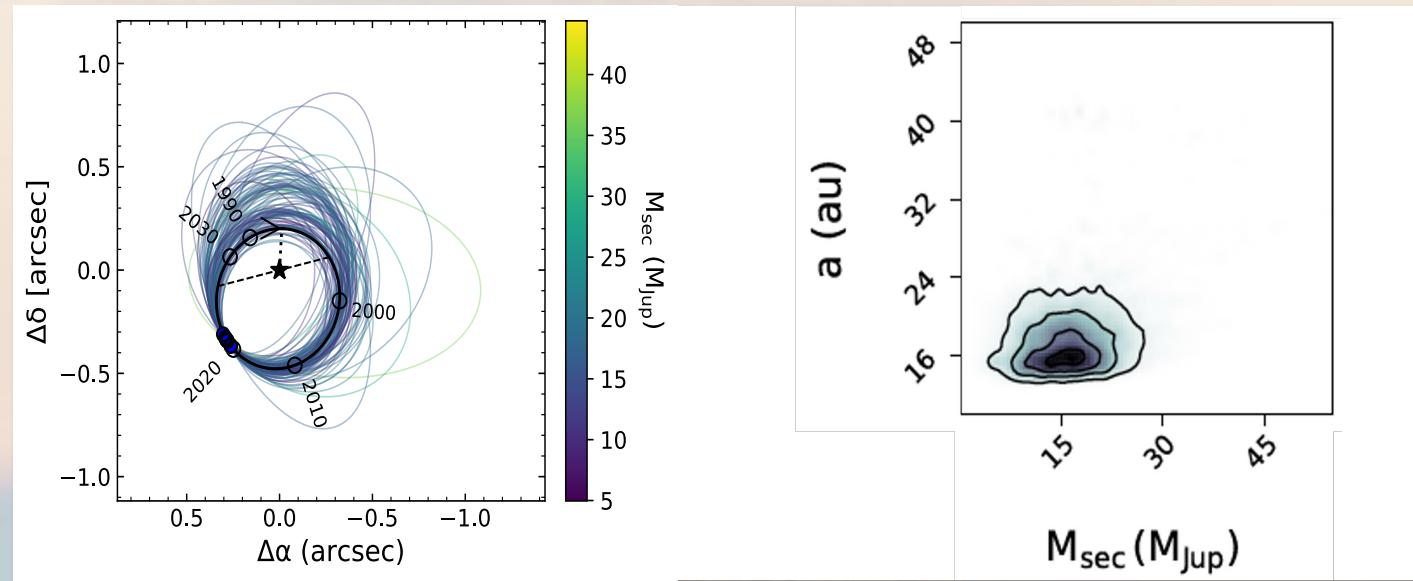
## More Planet Discoveries

### HIP 99770 b



Currie et al. 2023

## Better Characterization



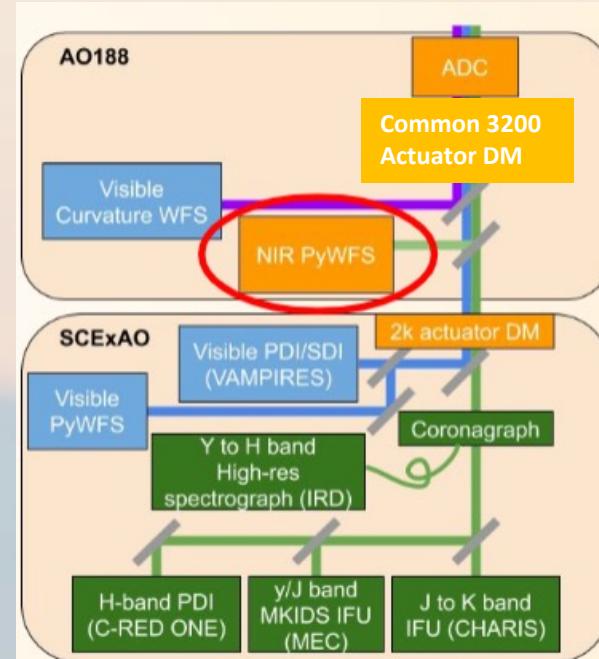
Currie et al. 2023

# Observing Accelerators with SCExAO Imaging Survey (OASIS)

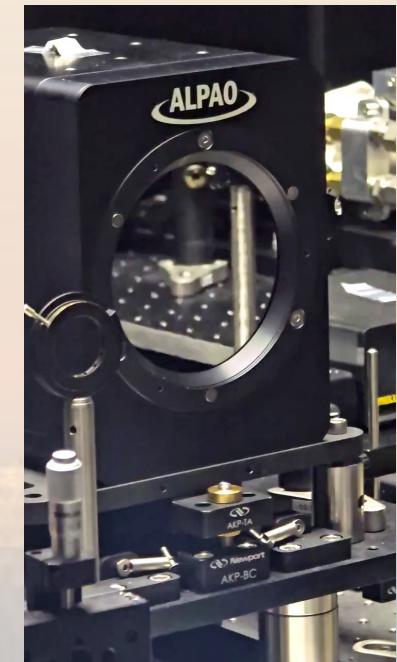
(PI. T Currie, Co-PI M. Kuzuhara)

## Instruments

- Subaru: two-stage extreme AO system  
AO3k+SCExAO  
CHARIS IFS (1.1–2.4 microns)  
~1e-6 contrast at 0.4", ~1e-5 at 0.2"
- Keck/NIRC2 imaging at Lp (3.78 microns)



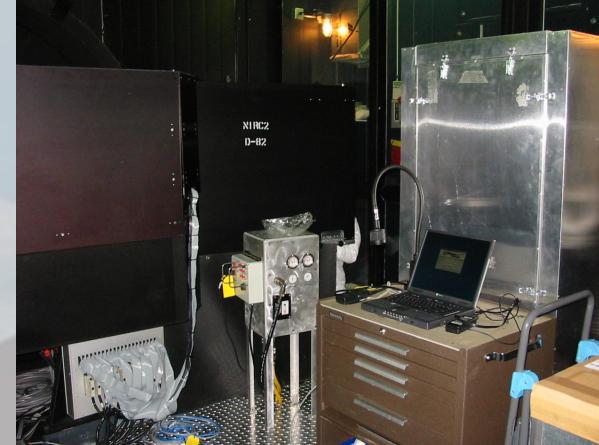
Credit: Maria Vincent (IfA)



## Allocation

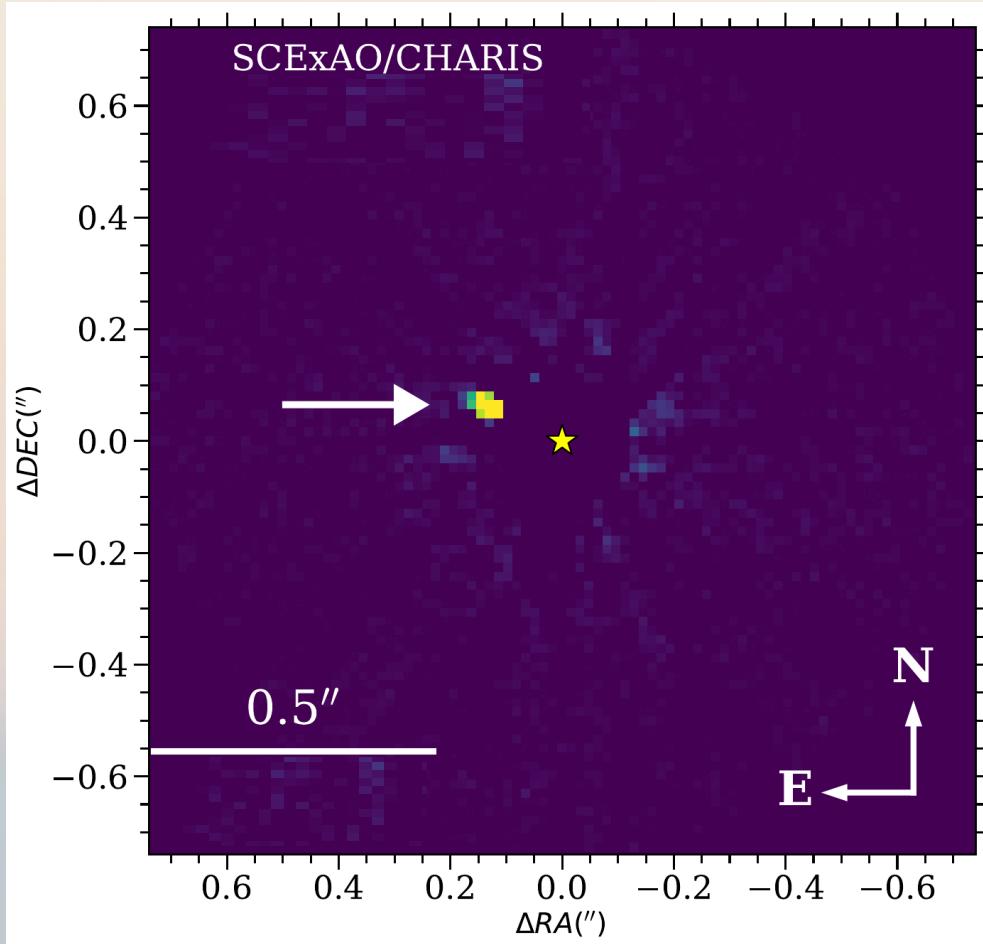
- 42 nights (34 on Subaru, 8 on Keck) –

**this is the largest current exoplanet direct imaging search**

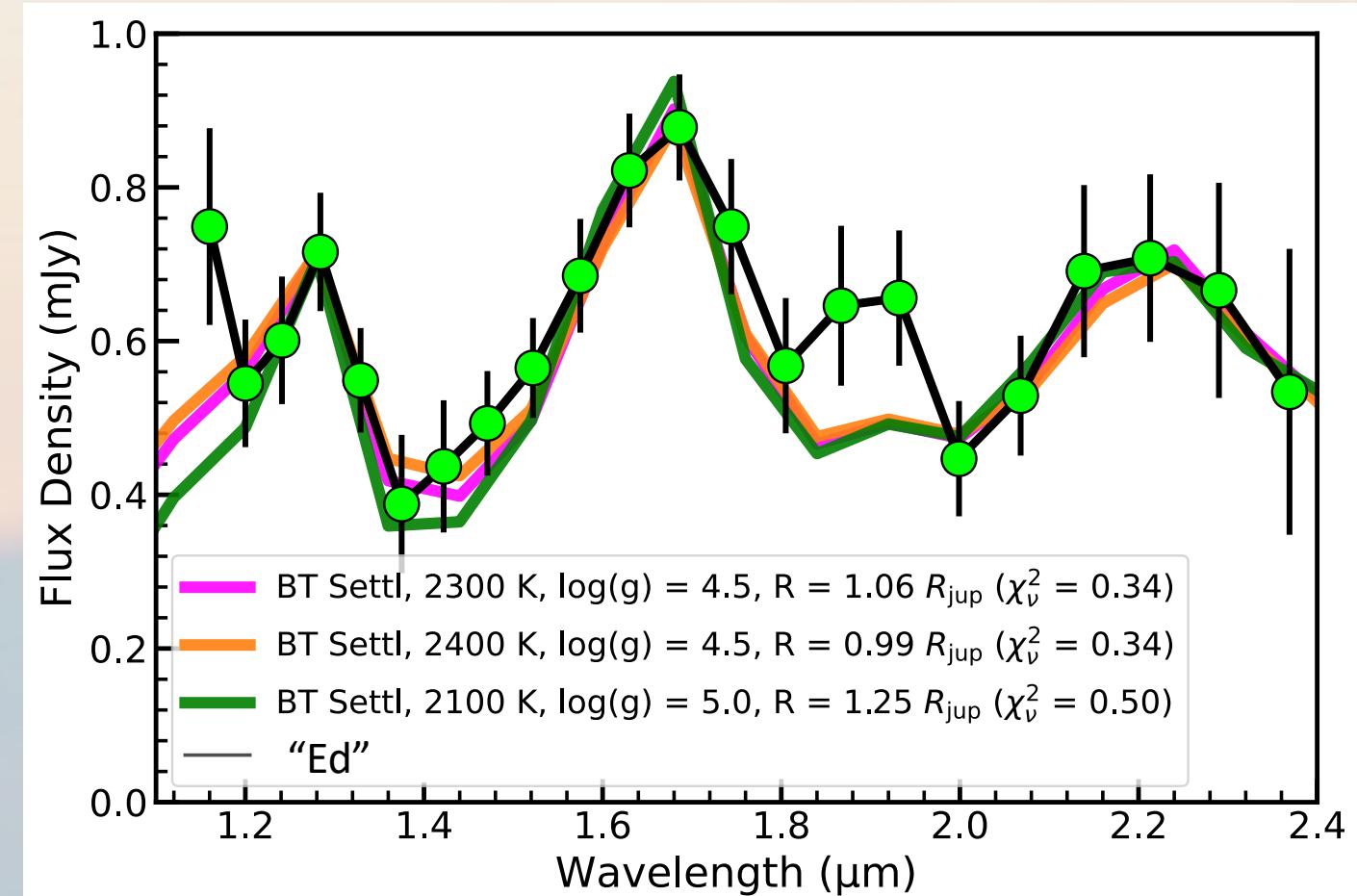


Described in  
El Morsy et al.  
2024, SPIE

# OASIS discovery #1 : A New Planet – HIP xxxxx b



Currie & Li et al. 2025, AJ  
accepted

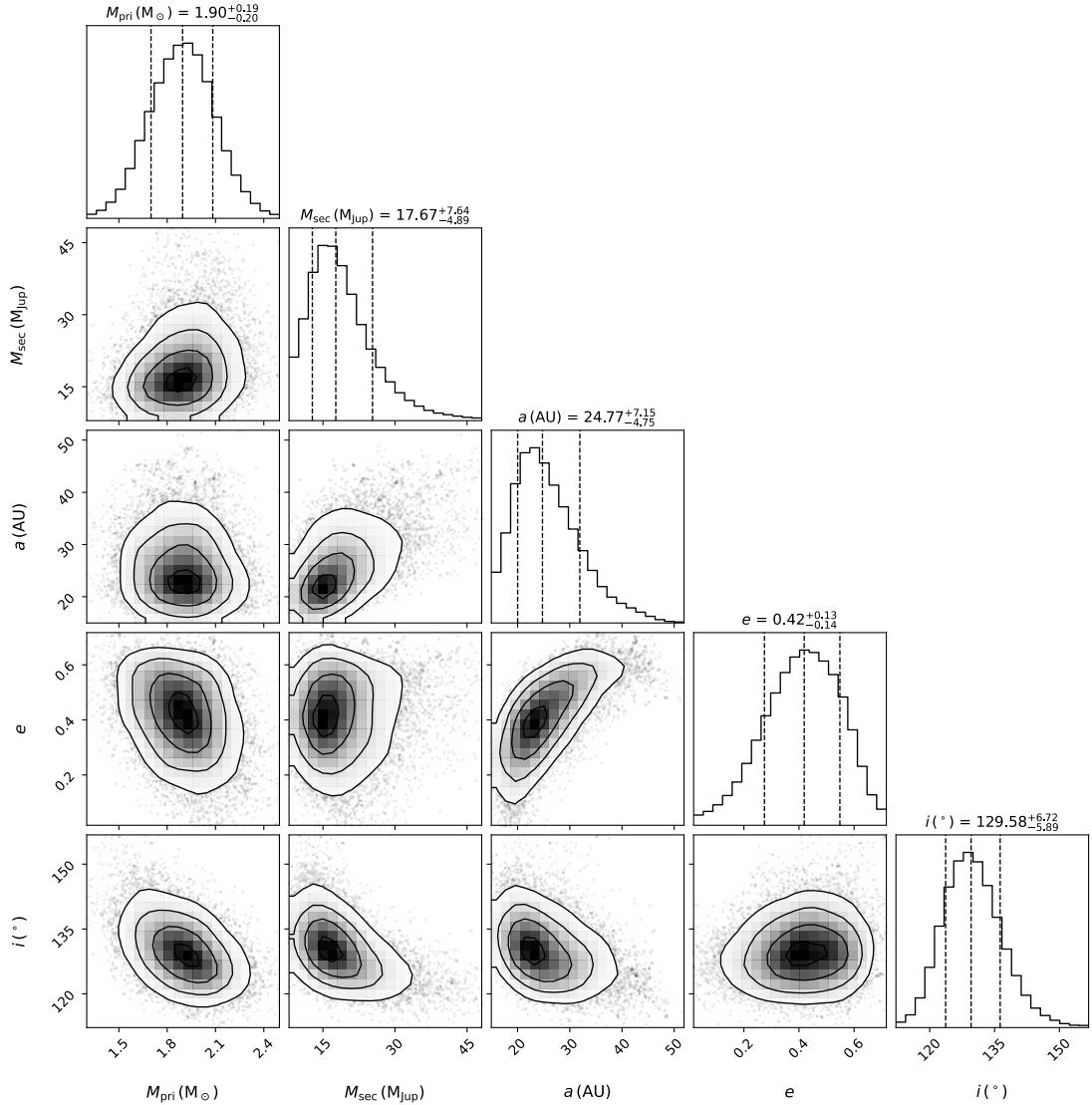


orbits a very young A star that has never  
been the subject of a planet search before

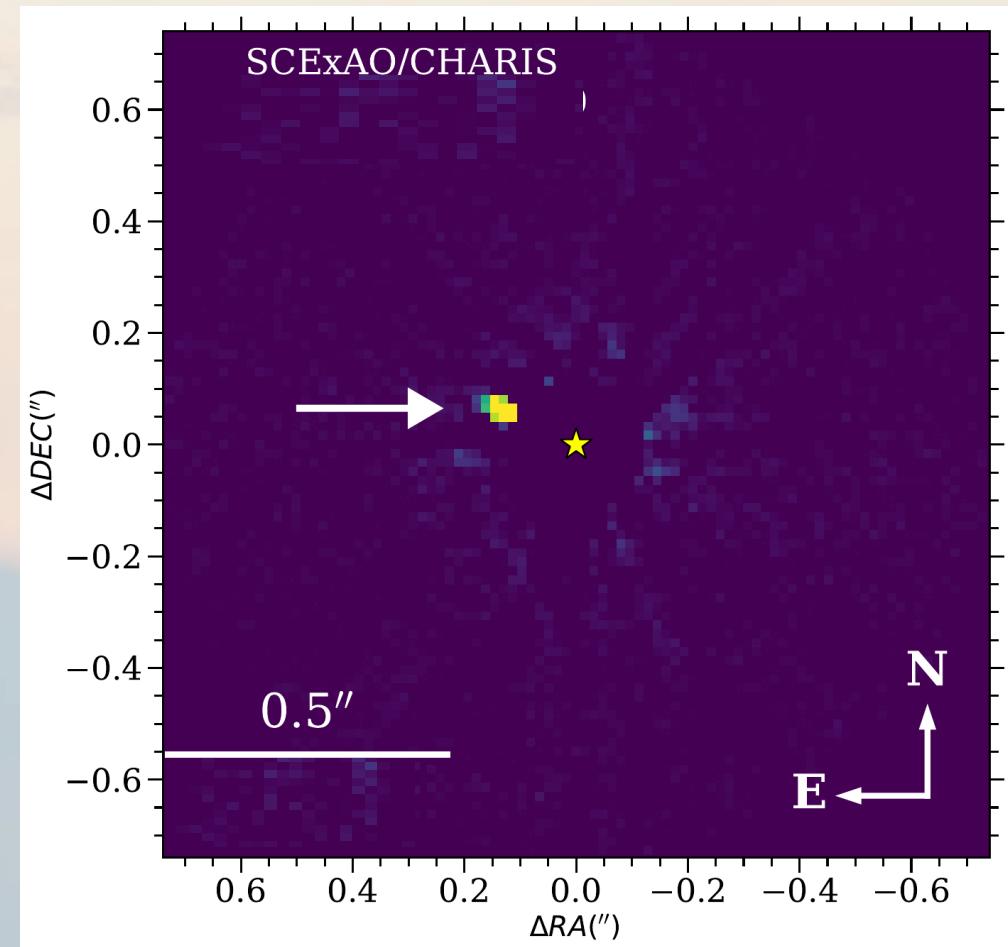
~3--4  $\lambda/D$  separation!

~2100-2400 K, M/L transition object

# OASIS discovery #1 : A New Planet – HIP xxxxx b



Currie & Li et al. 2025, AJ  
resubmitted after minor revision



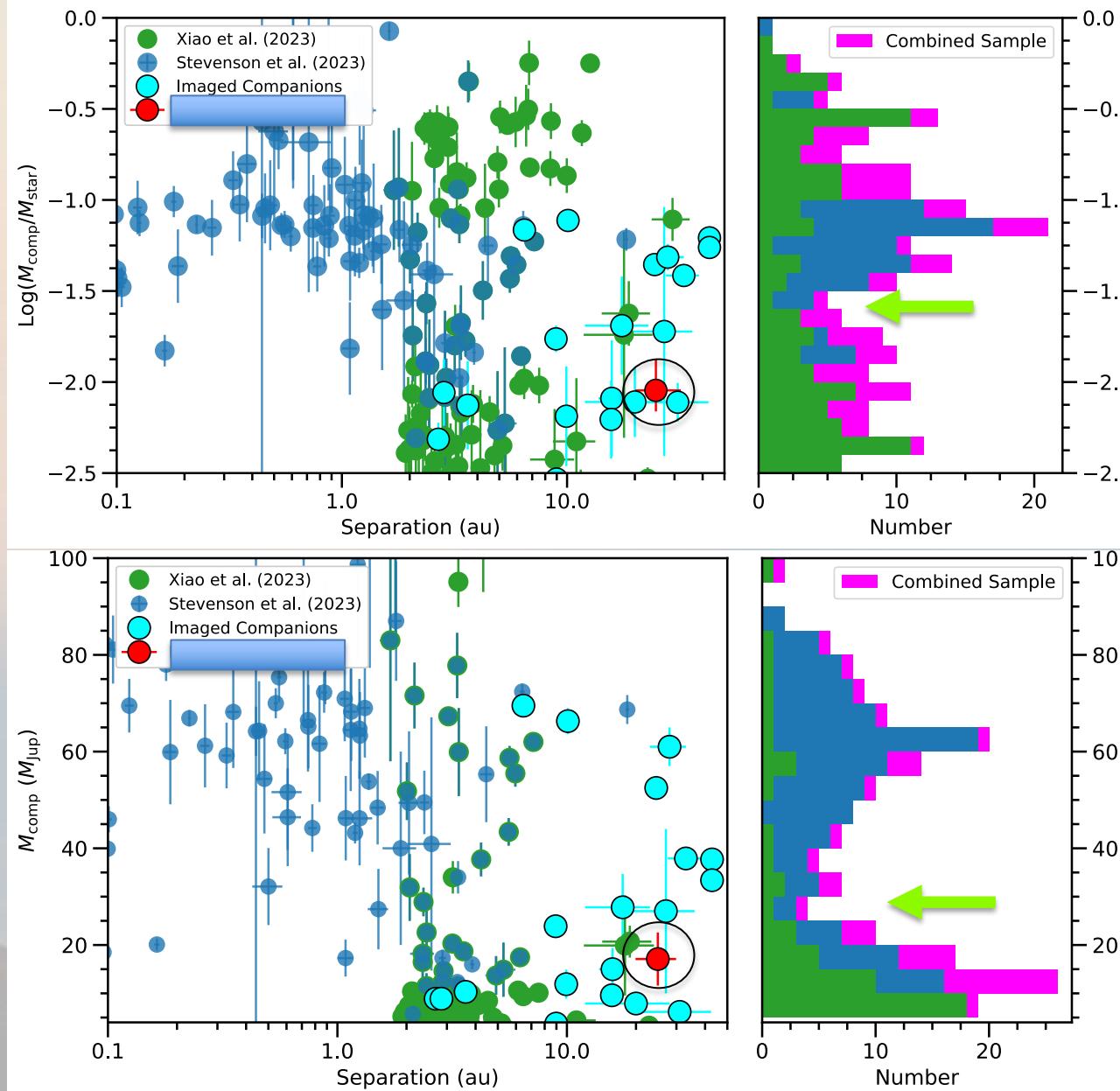
Mass: ~17.6 M<sub>J</sub>

Mass ratio ~9e-3

(similar to HR 8799 cde, HIP 99770 b)

sma ~ 25 au, ecc ~ 0.4

# HIP xxxx b: a planet, not a brown dwarf



**Deuterium burning limit fails to distinguish between planets and brown dwarfs**

e.g. see PPVII review

(Currie, Biller and Lagrange et al. 2023)

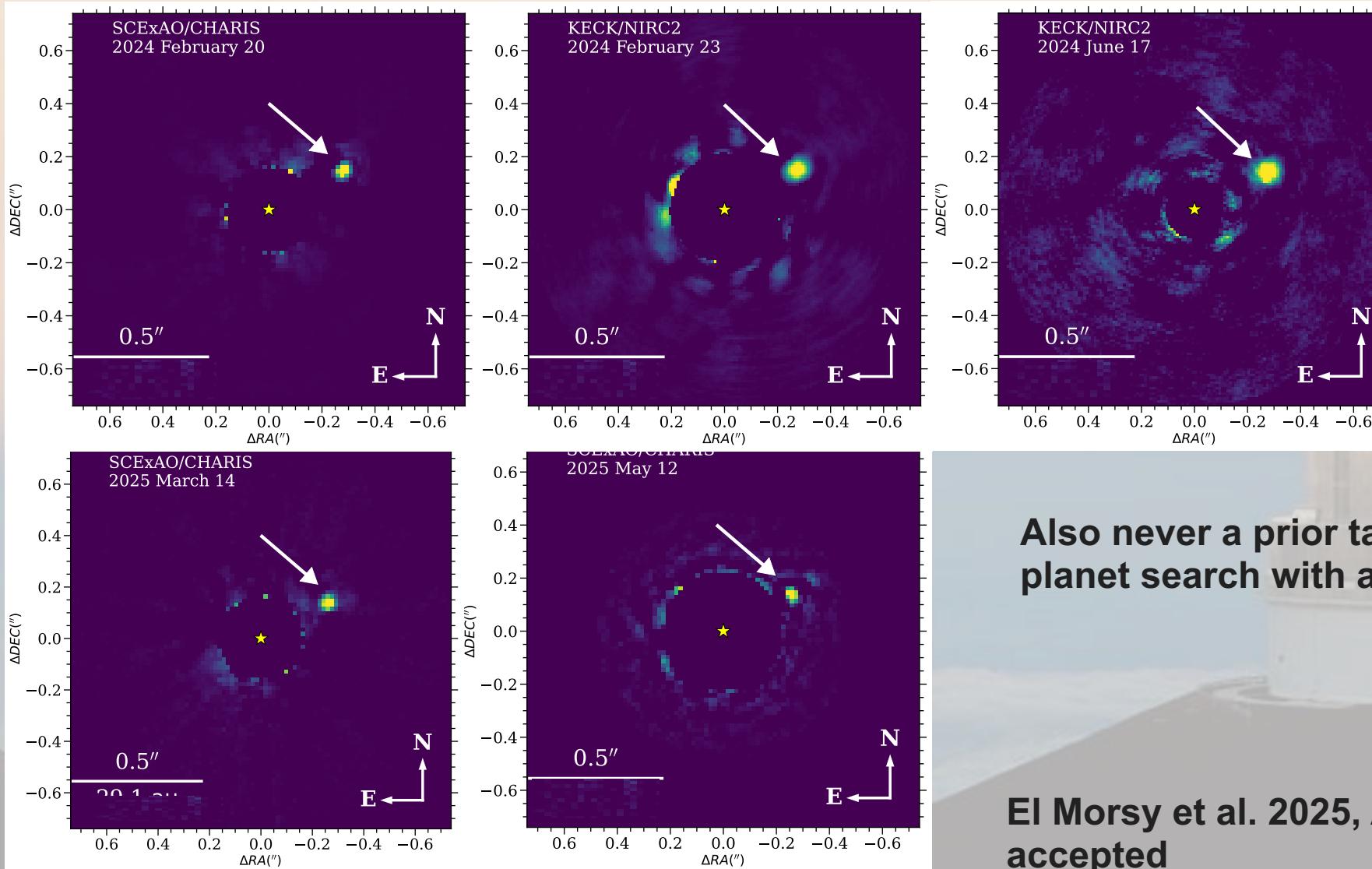
**Demographics of substellar companions instead suggests a turnover in the ‘planet’ population at**

**~25 M<sub>J</sub>; M/M<sub>star</sub> ~ 0.025** (PPVII review, Kiefer et al. 2019, Currie et al. 2023; Feng et al. 2023)

**HIP xxxx b lies well below the mass and mass ratio turnover from planets to brown dwarfs (see plots on left)**

# OASIS discovery #2 – HIP xxxxx B

## A brown dwarf companion suitable for Roman Coronagraph Technology Demonstration

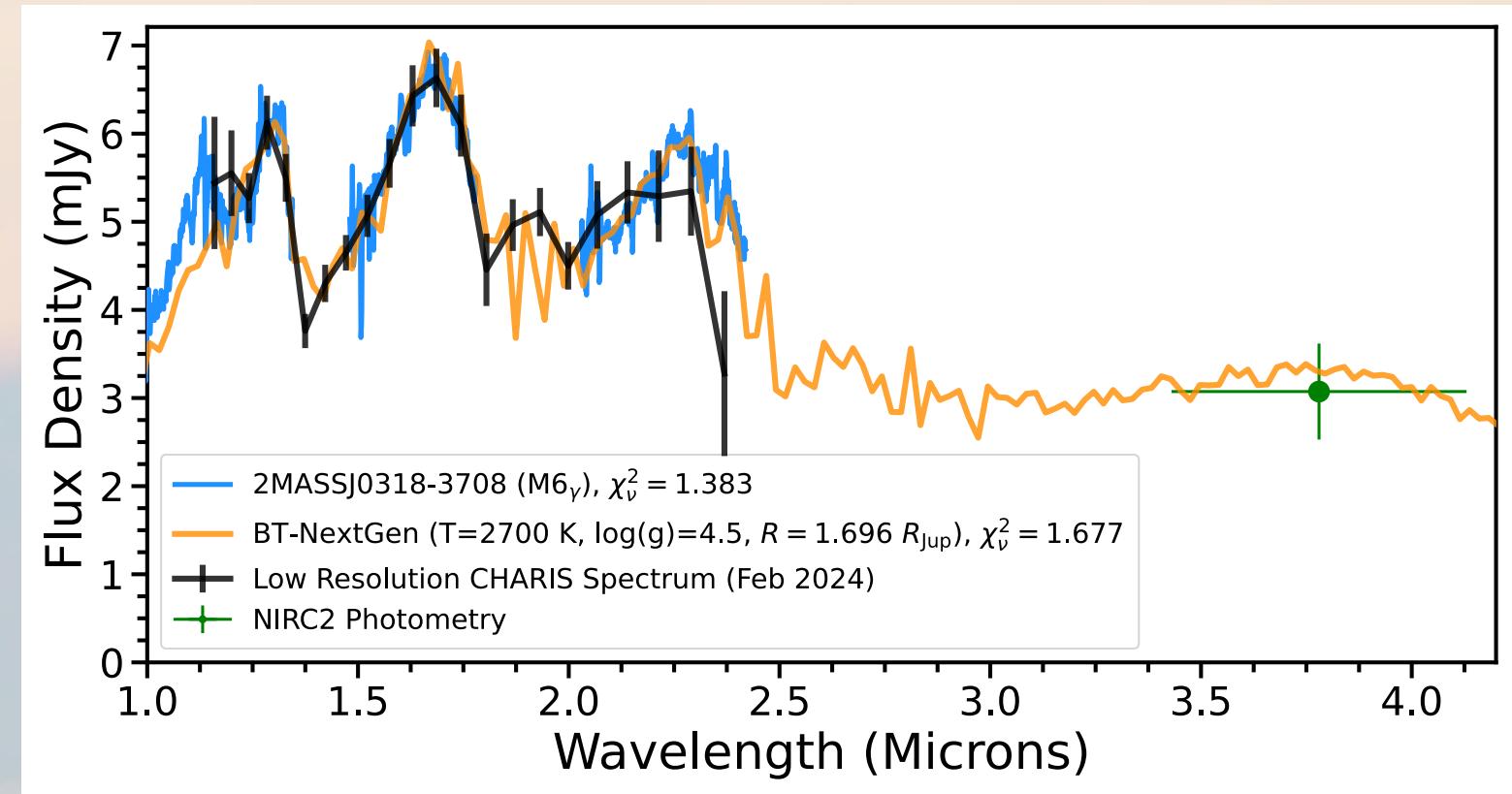
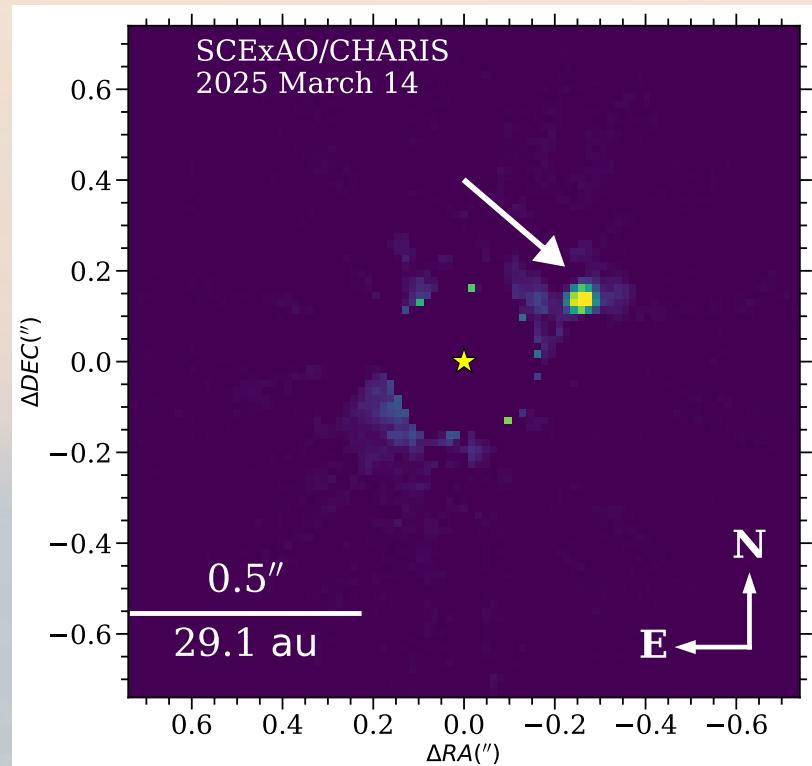


Also never a prior target for a deep planet search with any technique

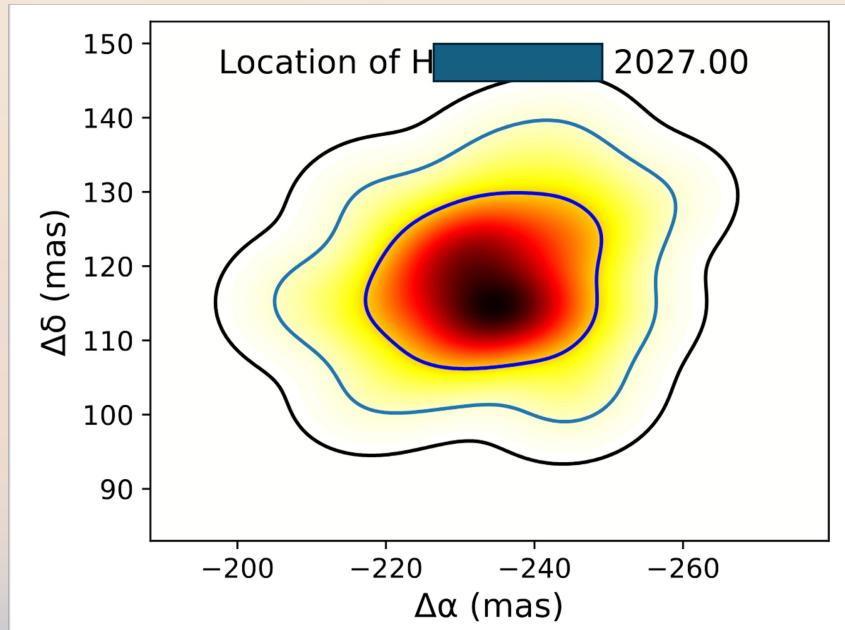
El Morsy et al. 2025, ApJ Letters, accepted

# OASIS discovery #2 – “ELLA”: A brown dwarf companion suitable for Roman Coronagraph Technology Demonstration

60 M<sub>J</sub> brown dwarf at ~11 au

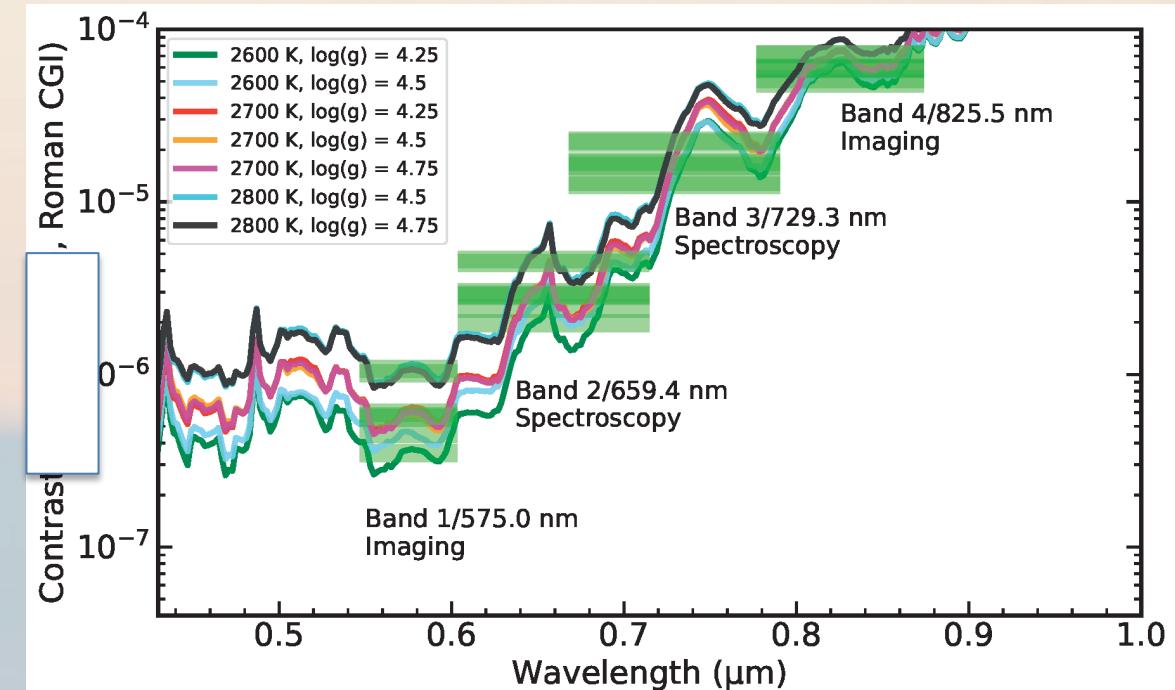


# OASIS discovery #2 –: Suitable for Roman CGI Tech Demo



## Predicted location in January 2027

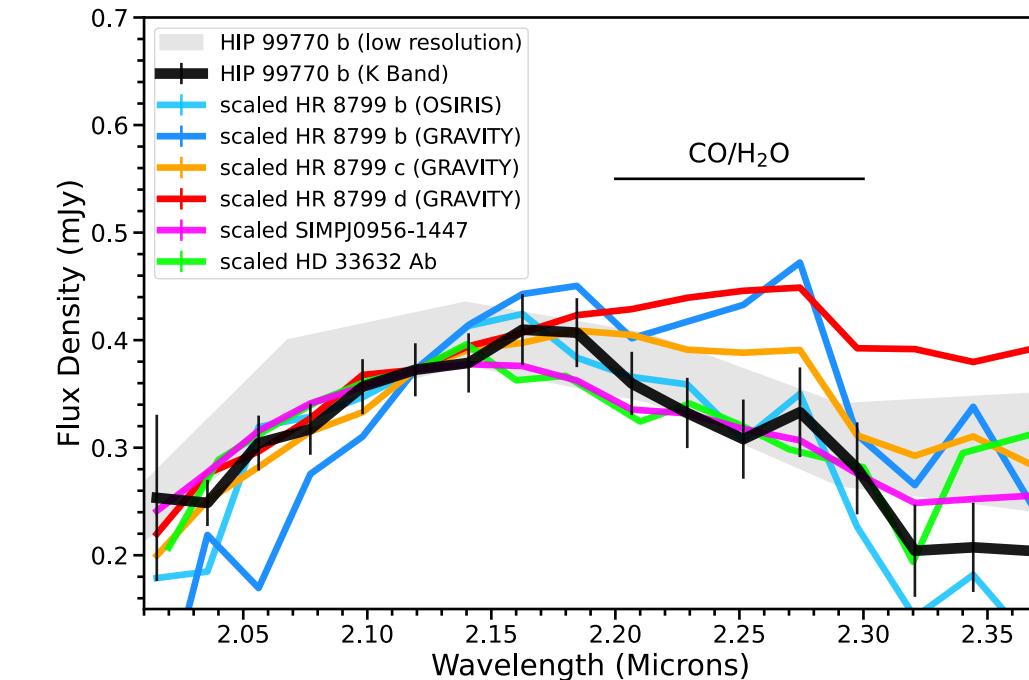
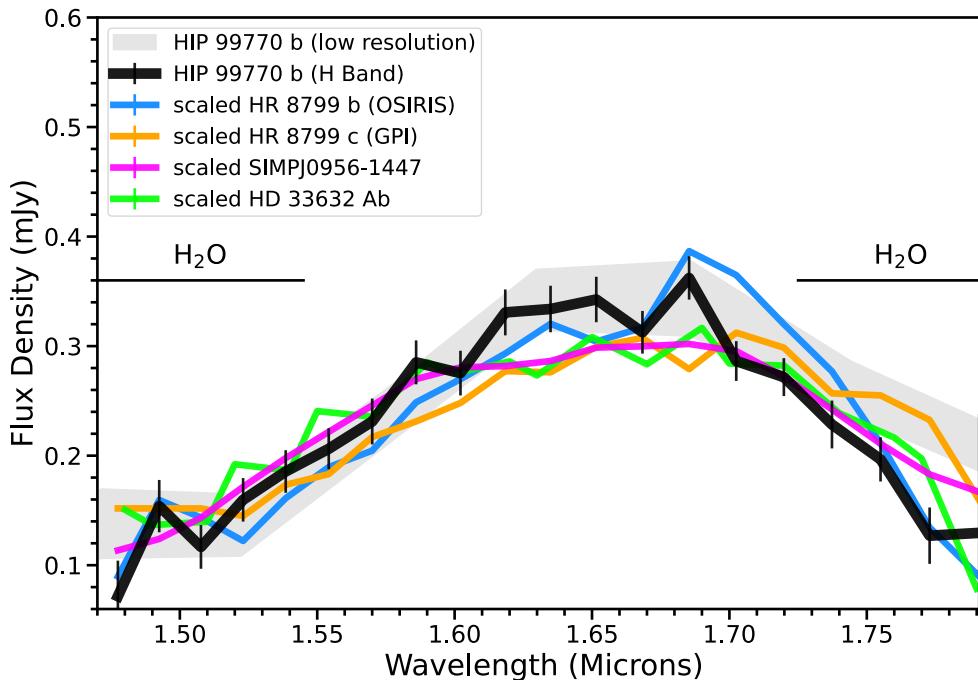
- Should lie  $\rho \sim 0.^{\circ}26$
- Well within the  $0.^{\circ}15$ – $0.^{\circ}45$  dark hole region where Roman CGI should get contrast of  $\approx 2 \times 10^{-8}$  or lower
- **highly suitable target for demonstrating Threshold Technical Requirement (TTR5) due to its predicted contrast, location and primary star brightness (and proximity to the Roman Continuous Viewing Zone and vetted PSF reference stars)**



## Predicted contrast in the coronagraph's passbands for different atmosphere models

- Predicted 575 nm contrast of a few  $\times 10^{-7}$
- **A high SNR detection will fulfill TTR5**

# Follow-Up Plans (e.g. HIP 99770 b)

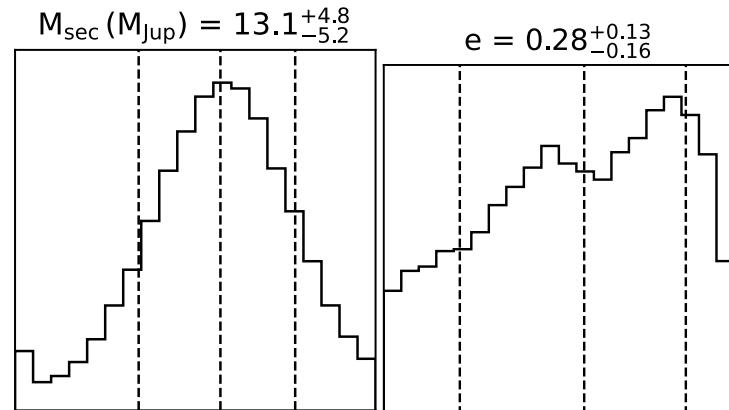


## H and K band spectroscopy

- Probes surface gravity, carbon chemistry

## Dynamical Modeling with longer time baseline

- Improves constraints on orbits and masses



Bovie et al. 2025

# Broader Scientific Impact

- Anchoring Luminosity Evolution Models

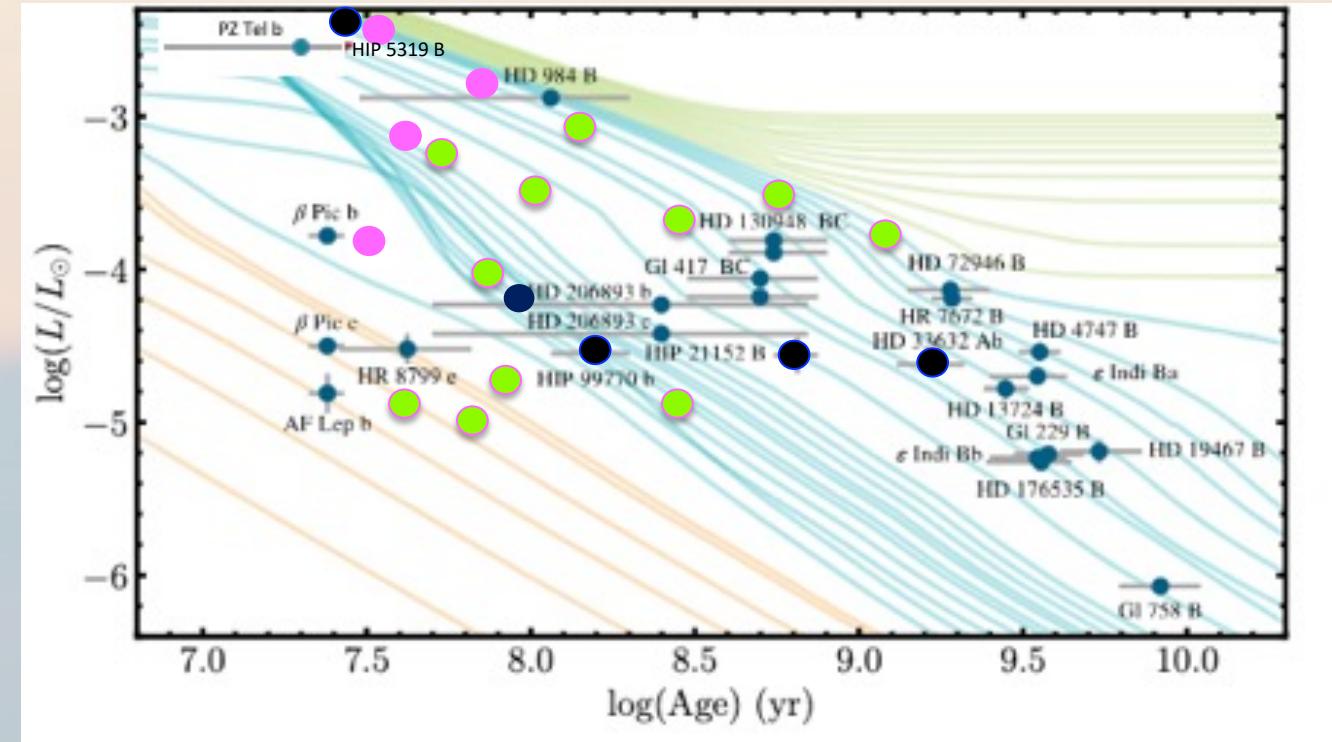
Measuring dynamical masses for many planets and low-mass brown dwarfs with different ages

→ empirically constrain gas giant luminosity evolution vs mass

- Evolution of Atmospheric Properties Vs. Mass

dynamical masses + atmospheres

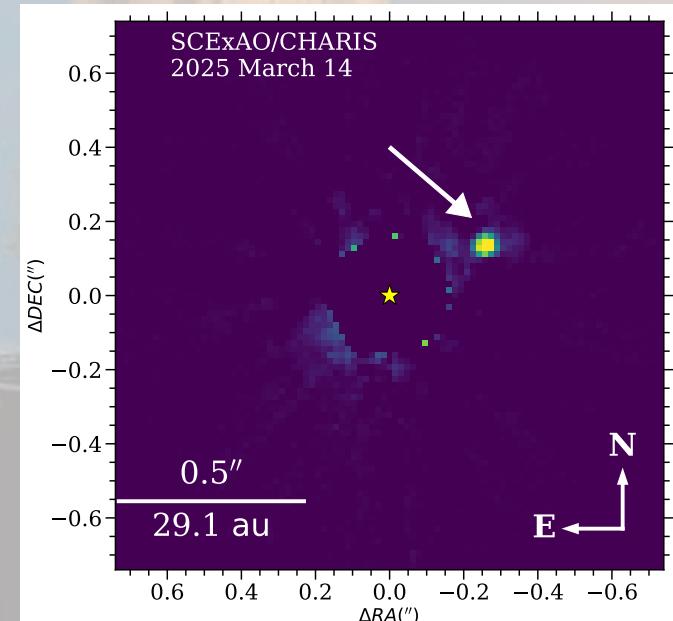
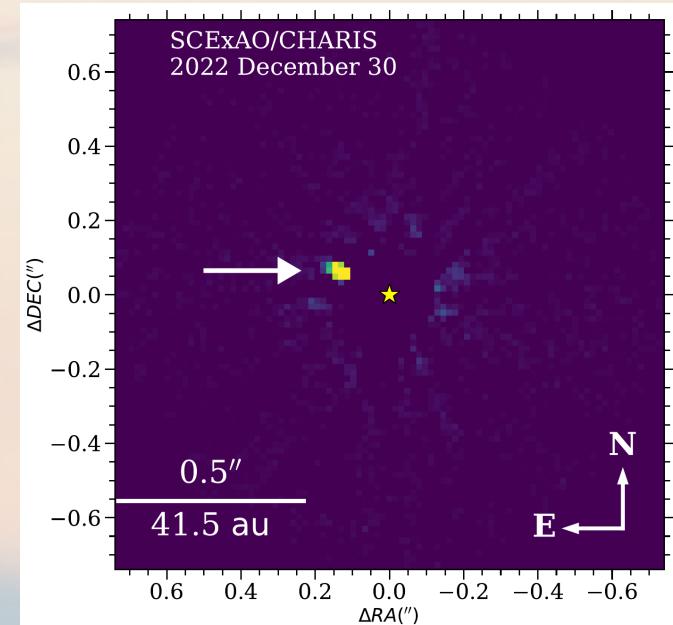
→ how the atmospheres jovian exoplanets and low-mass brown dwarfs of different masses evolve with time



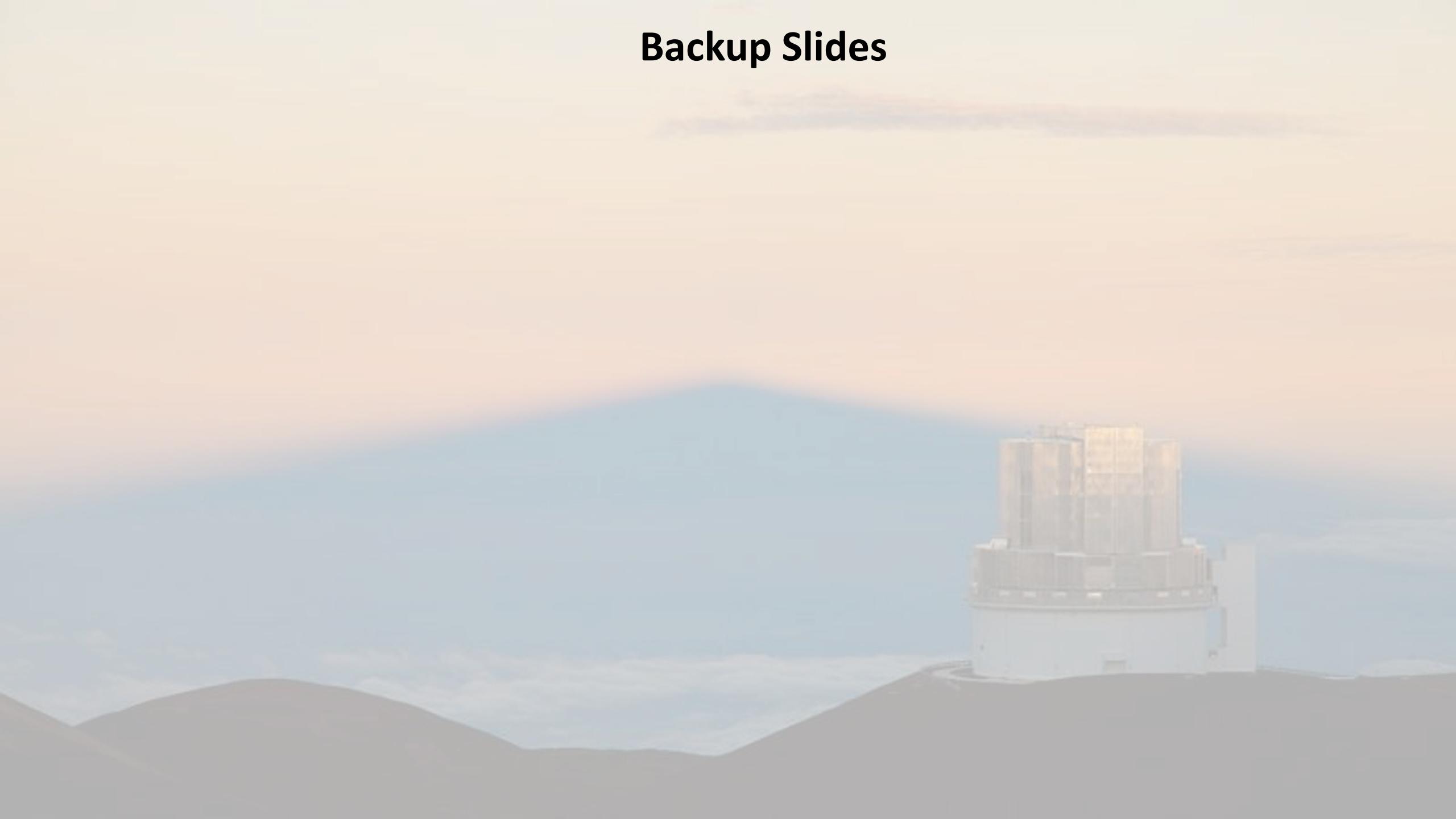
- Dark blue – published discoveries
- Magenta – unpublished discoveries
- Green – hypothetical results from survey

# Summary

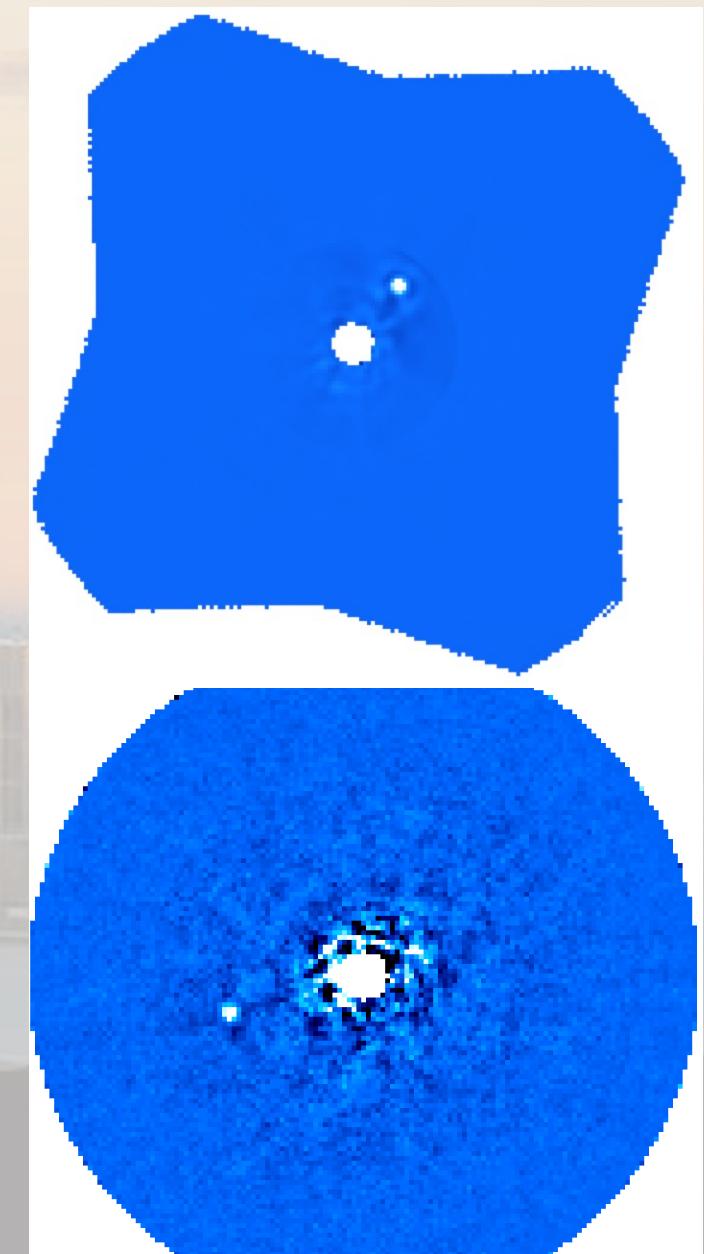
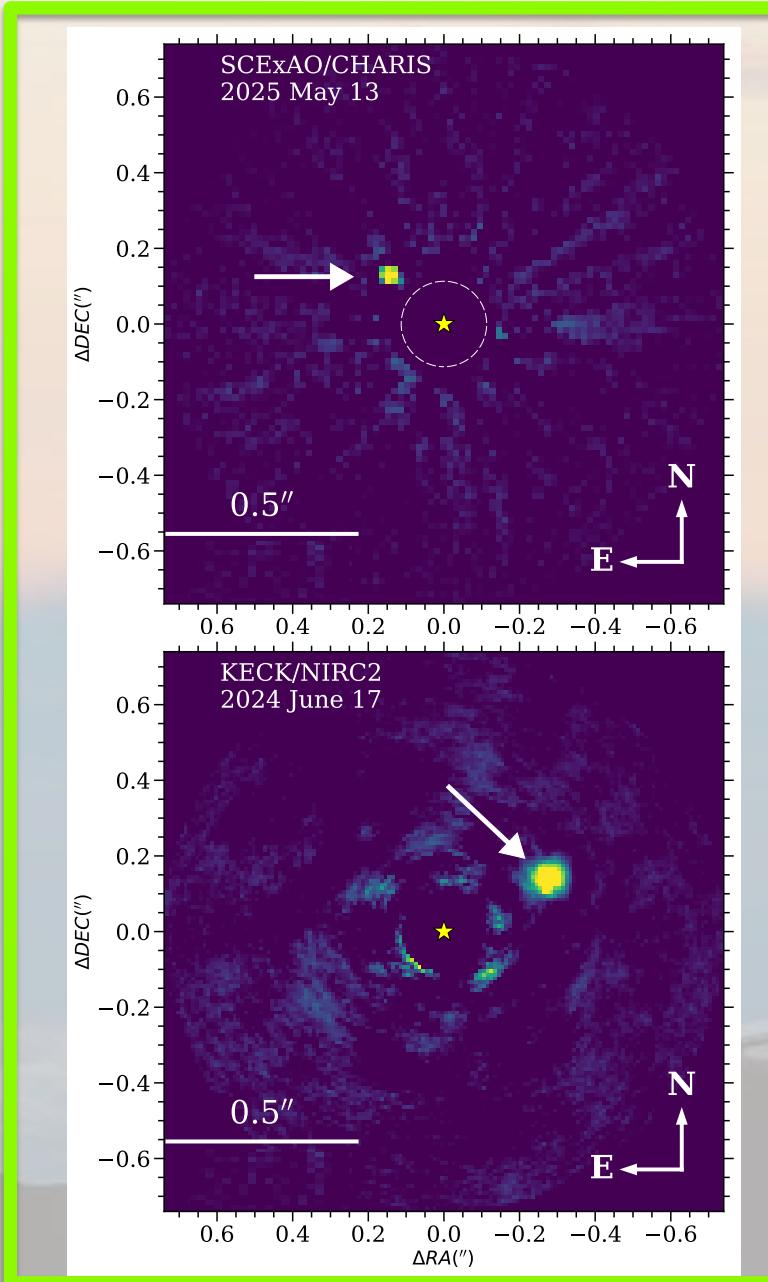
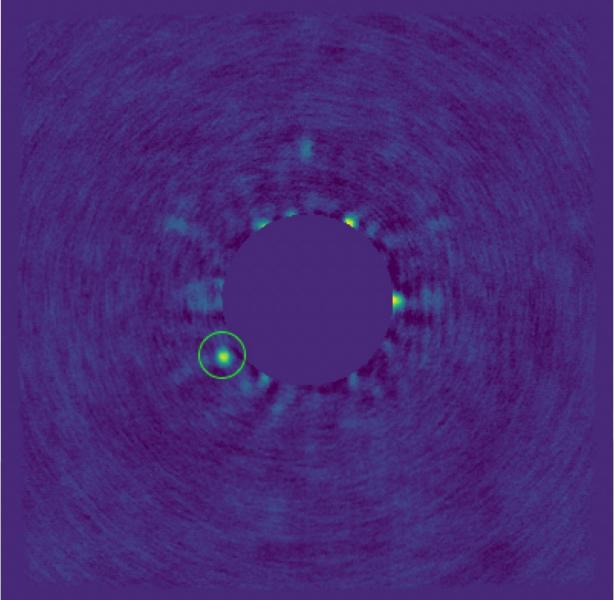
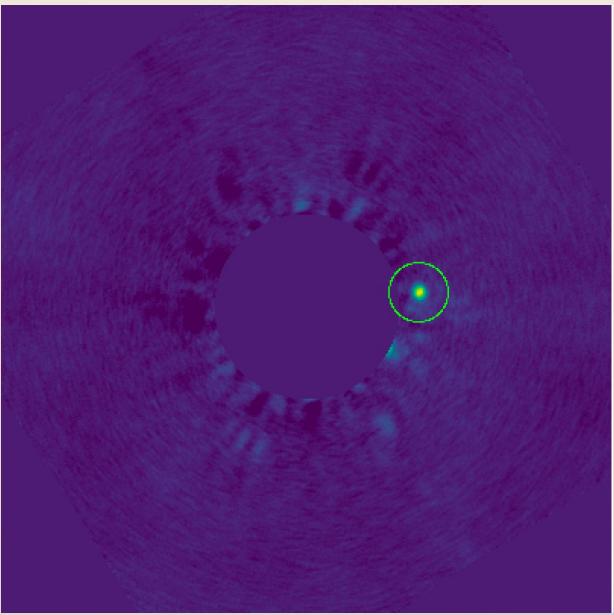
- OASIS: A Subaru Intensive Survey combining Direct Imaging and Astrometry
- First Results (soon to be accepted)
  - a new planet!
  - a new brown dwarf/Roman CGI tech demo target
- Follow-Up Plans
- Broad Scientific Goals and Outlook



# Backup Slides



# Selected New Discoveries (incomplete list)

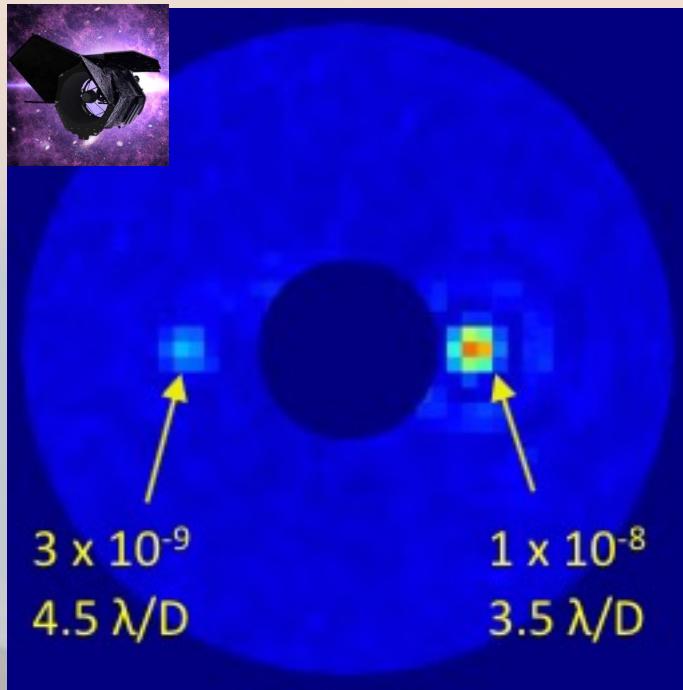


# Program Impact for NASA: Improving the Prospects for a Successful CGI Tech Demo

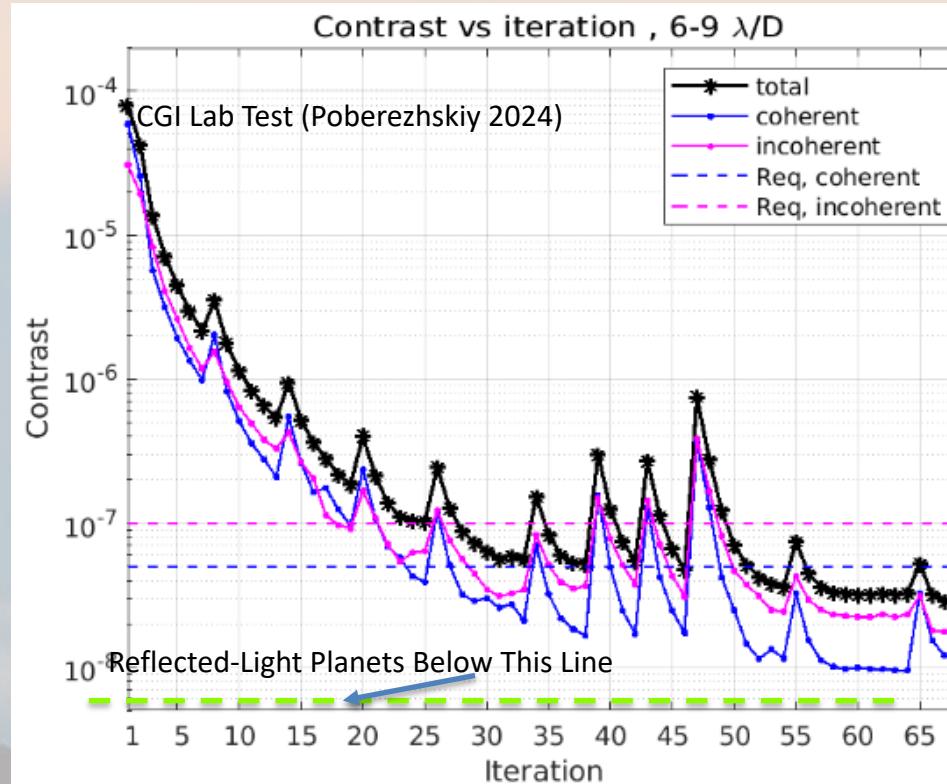
## Significant concerns

Roman CGI "tech demo":  
wavefront control in space

... if successful, possible  
follow-on science program



- Very few if ANY known suitable companions satisfying CGI TTR5 + Obj 2.2.1-2.2.5
- Even fewer near a bright PSF ref star
- Even in principle, reflected-light planet detection very challenging



Unless CGI is provided a flexible list of tech demo-  
suitable targets before flight, it risks not meeting its goals