

Detectability of Surface Biosignatures for Directly Imaged Exoplanets

Gabrielle Jones, Schuyler Borges,
Tyler Robinson

gabriellegjones18@gmail.com

Department of Astronomy and Planetary
Science, Northern Arizona University



AbGradCon 2021



1
00:00:03,669 --> 00:00:02,070
hello i'm gabrielle jones and i will be

2
00:00:05,510 --> 00:00:03,679
presenting on the detectability of

3
00:00:07,110 --> 00:00:05,520
surface biosignatures for directly

4
00:00:09,190 --> 00:00:07,120
imaged exoplanets

5
00:00:10,790 --> 00:00:09,200
currently it is unknown if no resources

6
00:00:13,110 --> 00:00:10,800
will allow for the detection of these

7
00:00:15,110 --> 00:00:13,120
surface biosignatures on an exoplanet

8
00:00:16,790 --> 00:00:15,120
we modeled an exoplanet's atmosphere

9
00:00:18,710 --> 00:00:16,800
with earth-like conditions and computed

10
00:00:19,670 --> 00:00:18,720
definitive detection times of surface

11
00:00:21,670 --> 00:00:19,680
biosignatures

12
00:00:23,750 --> 00:00:21,680
using the atmospheric radiative transfer

13
00:00:24,710 --> 00:00:23,760

model smart and the luvoir noise

14

00:00:26,390 --> 00:00:24,720

detection model

15

00:00:28,310 --> 00:00:26,400

the surface biosignatures we are

16

00:00:29,669 --> 00:00:28,320

focusing on are biological pigments and

17

00:00:31,830 --> 00:00:29,679

the vegetation red edge

18

00:00:33,110 --> 00:00:31,840

we used orange and black microbial mats

19

00:00:34,470 --> 00:00:33,120

because they have been prevalent on

20

00:00:36,389 --> 00:00:34,480

earth throughout its history

21

00:00:37,590 --> 00:00:36,399

and have prominent vre and pigment

22

00:00:39,350 --> 00:00:37,600

absorption features

23

00:00:41,030 --> 00:00:39,360

we found that 100 black matte is

24

00:00:43,750 --> 00:00:41,040

detected both in 12 hours

25

00:00:44,470 --> 00:00:43,760

100 orange mat is detectable within 22

26

00:00:46,549 --> 00:00:44,480

hours

27

00:00:48,310 --> 00:00:46,559

and is quite reasonable to devote tens

28

00:00:50,549 --> 00:00:48,320

of hours of observation time

29

00:00:52,549 --> 00:00:50,559

to detect life on another planet

30

00:00:54,869 --> 00:00:52,559

understanding techniques for detecting

31

00:00:56,470 --> 00:00:54,879

life on exoplanet surfaces will aid in

32

00:00:58,470 --> 00:00:56,480

our search for life beyond earth

33

00:00:59,910 --> 00:00:58,480

and one inform future telescope missions