



1

00:00:00,020 --> 00:00:04,240

[Music] How can you find planets orbiting other stars?

2

00:00:05,300 --> 00:00:08,160

So far, the most common and successful

3

00:00:08,160 --> 00:00:11,780

method is watching for distant eclipses, called transits.

4

00:00:13,260 --> 00:00:15,880

As a planet passes in front of its star,

5

00:00:15,880 --> 00:00:19,860

it blocks some of the light, causing a slight drop in brightness.

6

00:00:20,900 --> 00:00:24,500

A very sensitive camera, watching the same star

7

00:00:24,500 --> 00:00:27,640

for long enough, can see two or more of these drops.

8

00:00:28,680 --> 00:00:32,640

The timing and amount of change provide information

9

00:00:32,640 --> 00:00:35,600

about the size of the planet and its distance from its host star.

10

00:00:36,440 --> 00:00:39,540

Larger drops usually mean larger planets.

11

00:00:40,620 --> 00:00:43,920

Complicated dip patterns can indicate multiple planets.

12

00:00:45,720 --> 00:00:49,260

The transit method has already found thousands of planets outside

13

00:00:49,260 --> 00:00:53,660

our solar system, and with upcoming missions scanning even more of the sky,