

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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ALMA chemical survey of disk-outflow sources in Taurus (ALMA-DOT) II: Vertical stratification of CO, CS, CN, H₂CO, and CH₃OH in a Class I disk

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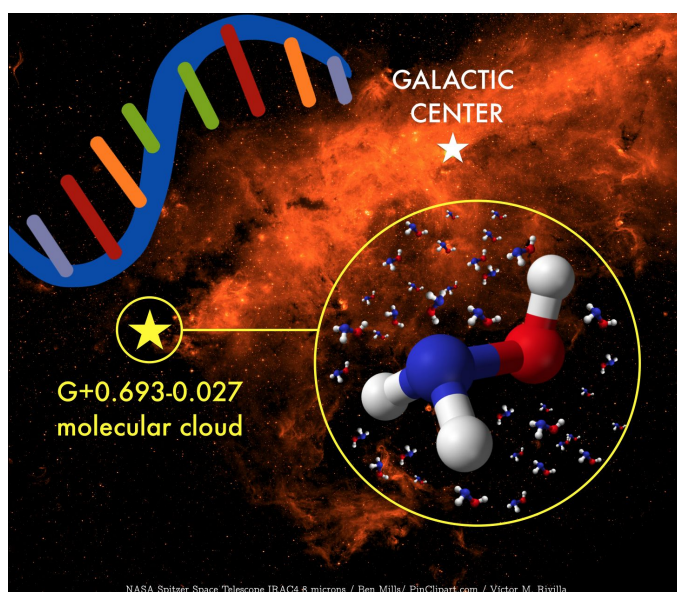
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The GAPS programme at TNG. XXIII. HD 164922 d: close-in super-Earth discovered with HARPS-N in a system with a long-period Saturn mass companion

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Nature Astronomy, in press

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<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0273117720305627?via=ihub>

S. Bianchi

Le comete a Firenze e la fine del mondo nel 1872

Giornale di Astronomia (2020), 46/3, 92

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TECHNOLOGICAL MILESTONES

PLATO - Instrument Control Unit (ICU) first switch-on

On August 26th, the first engineering model of the PLATO ICU has been switched on at INAF/IAPS in Rome. It represents a fundamental milestone for the overall PLATO Program development and accomplishment, as the ICU is the main computer on Payload side and the only electrical interface towards the Service Module (platform) on-board computer and mass memory subsystems. Most of the PLATO ICU HW and part of the on-board SW have been developed by Kayser Italia in Livorno (<http://www.kayser.it>) with a contribution from the IWF Institute in Graz (Austria), while the Unit's Application SW is developed by INAF/IAPS in Rome and the University of Wien.

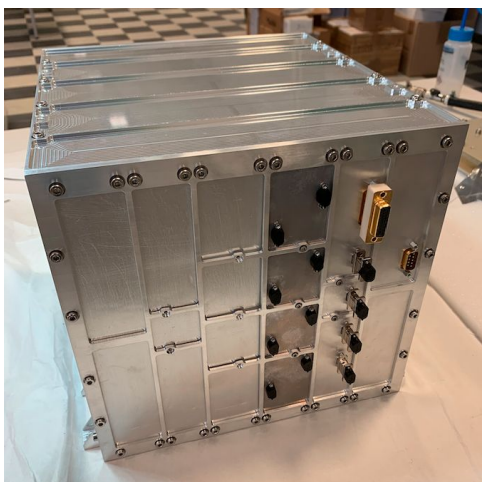
PLATO is the third Medium-class Mission of the European Space Agency (ESA), aimed at the discovery and characterisation of exoplanets and exoplanetary systems exploiting the transits method, down to Earth-like twins orbiting stars similar to our own Sun. Italy, with ASI and INAF, plays a fundamental technological role as it is responsible for the provision to the PLATO Mission Consortium (PMC) of the ICU along with the telescopes, and is providing the PLATO targets input catalog and the contribution to the coordination of the overall Consortium thanks to the Mission CoPi-ship.

INAF Arcetri Astrophysical Observatory is involved with **Mauro Focardi** in the coordination of the ICU design and development activities, as he's working as ICU System Engineer.

<https://platomission.com/2018/05/14/instrument-control-unit-icu/>

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Credits: PLATO/INAF-IASP