

AST251 Project 3 – Evaluating Claims of Extraterrestrial Messaging

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Planet 1

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We have identified what may be an indication of extraterrestrial intelligence, as well as the planet where it may have originated. This document summarizes the information gathered so far about the candidate message and its candidate planet of origin.

Potential evidence for extraterrestrial intelligence

Astronomers have detected a broadband radio transmission that appears to have originated from this planet's solar system. The transmission is believed to contain an image and is displayed below with the most likely aspect ratio. The transmission lasted a short duration and then stopped. The transmission is shown below:

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1101001000110011010001101101001111011000100111001
1000101101110110010100101111110000011000111000000
000100101000110010111010110000111111000100100100
101001110001111011100110111100111011000100101000
1011111101011110001111101001111111000111000110001
0000100100110101001010110001010100000000001101001
1011000010110010101100101000110011010110010111110
1000110011000010010111111110001001100010100110110
```

This signal was first noticed at UTC 2078-04-26/02:14.

Parameters of the candidate planet of origin and its host star

Spectral Type	F
Stellar Luminosity (Solar Units)	1.89
Stellar Mass (Solar Masses)	1.17
Distance to Star (lightyears)	37.5
Planet Mass (Earth masses)	0.5
Atmospheric Pressure (atm)	0.6

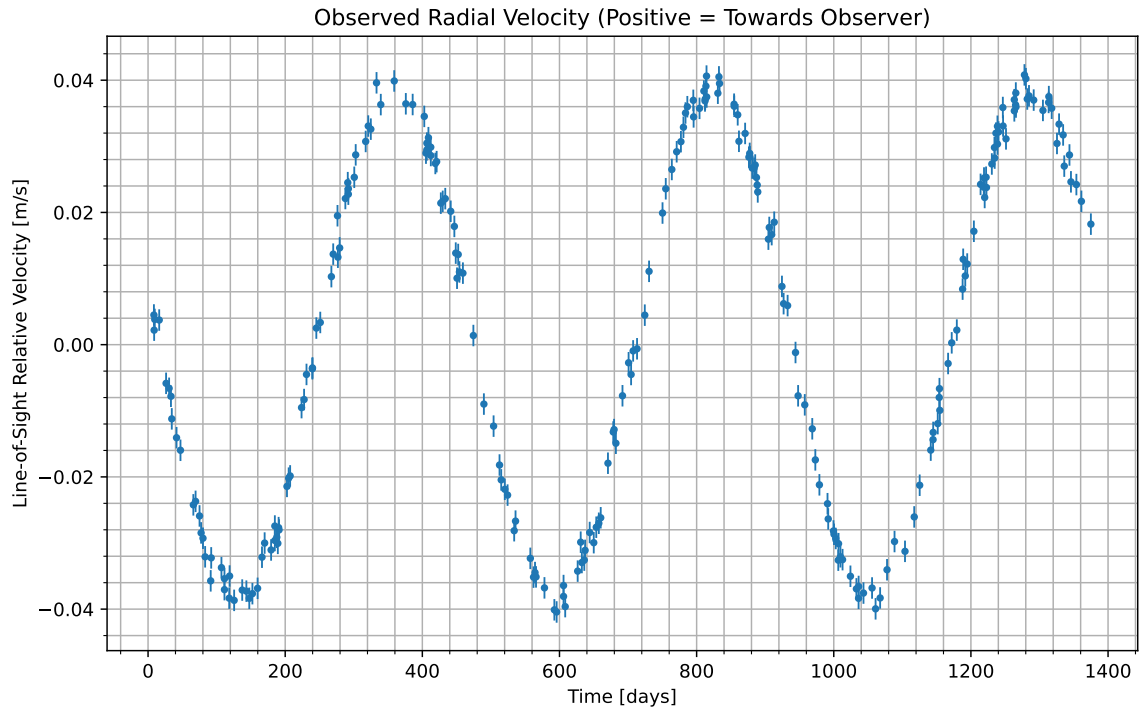


Figure 1: We have isolated the radial velocity of the host star due to the candidate planet. Data begins at UTC 2078-04-28/06:33. Positive values indicate the velocity at which the star is moving towards us; negative indicate the velocity at which it is moving away.

Atmospheric composition of the candidate planet (percent by volume)

Molecule	Concentration
N_2	48.2
CO_2	30.6
H_2O	21.2

Gas Abundance (percent by volume)

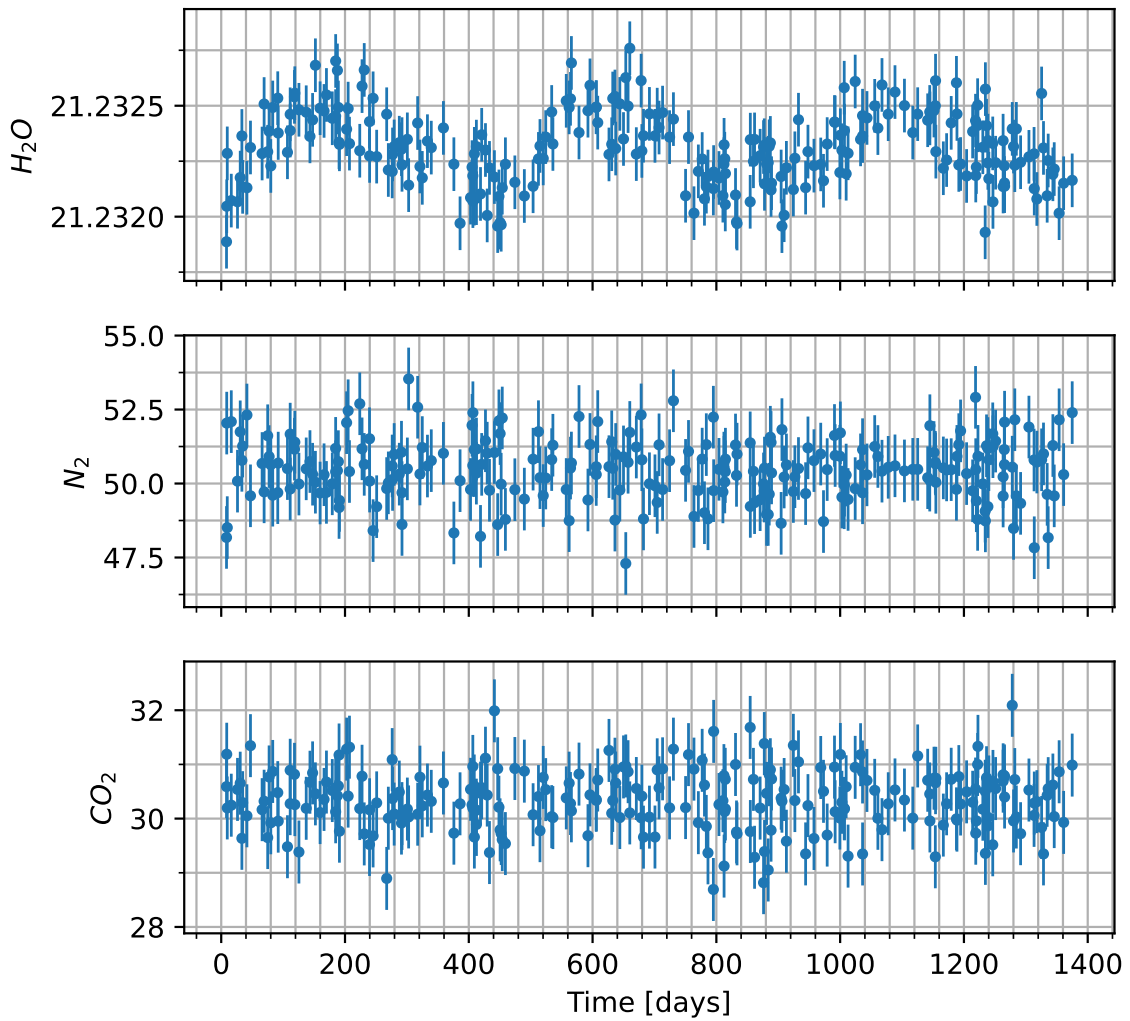


Figure 2: Concentration of various gases in the atmosphere of the candidate planet versus time. Note that the y-axis will usually only show the variation multiplied by some factor, shown in the upper left, and then added to some normal amount, also in the upper-left.

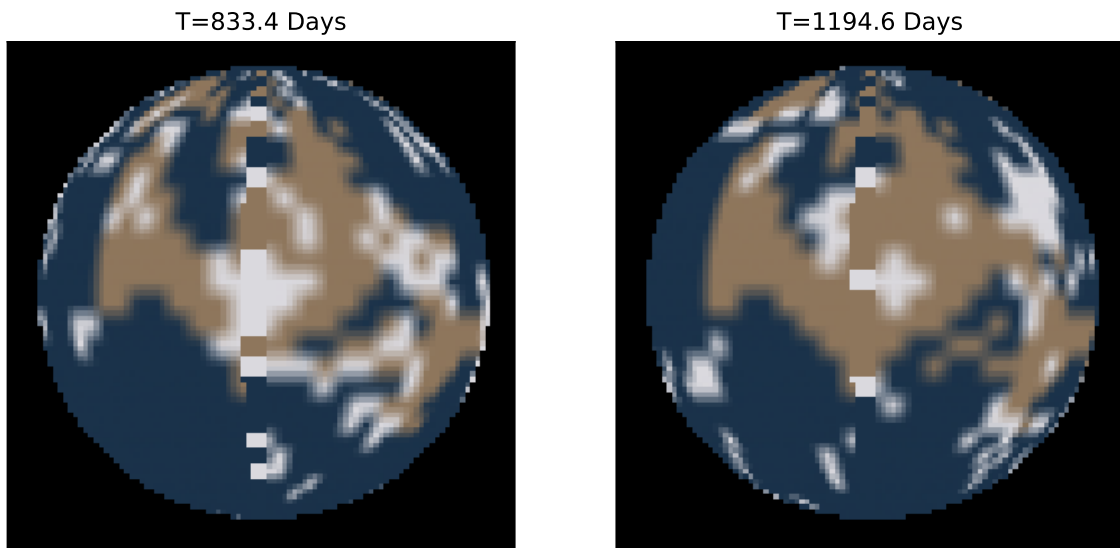


Figure 3: Maps of the surface of the candidate planet taken at two different times. Times are indicated above each image relative to the times shown in the radial velocity curve. Those maps are shown here. Tan areas indicate what we believe to be land, while blue-ish areas indicate what we believe to be liquid regions of some kind. Other colors present reflect the visible color as best as we are able to measure.