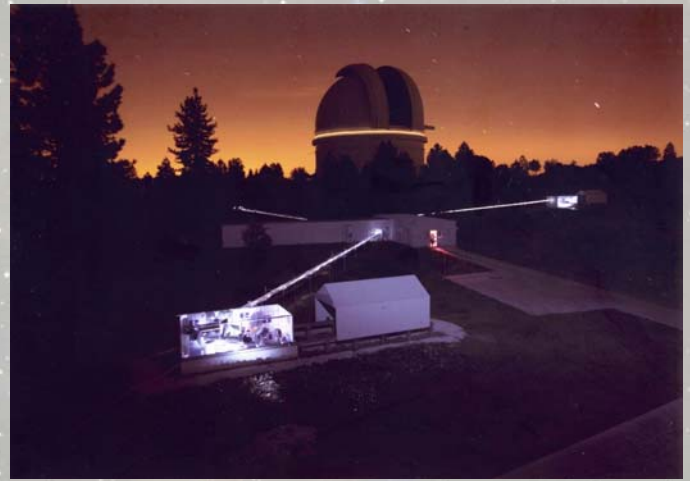


Are we alone? No! Since 1995, astronomers have been detecting planets circling other stars – more than 145 have been found to date. Most are large, Jupiter-sized bodies – about 300 times the size of Earth – but the goal of finding places like Earth is part of NASA's Navigator Program over the next 15 years.

For more information, please visit our websites:

<http://planetquest.jpl.nasa.gov>

<http://msc.caltech.edu>



PTI Operations are funded and managed by the Michelson Science Center. The MSC is a science operations and analysis service organization for selected NASA Origins Theme projects and the scientists and engineers that use them.

Other NASA Navigator Program Missions for Detecting & Characterizing Extrasolar Planets



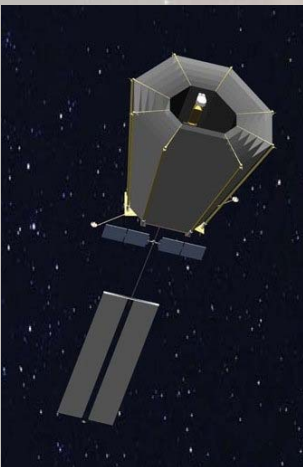
Keck Interferometer

Technologies developed at PTI have been implemented in Hawaii with the Keck Interferometer, which has led the way for large telescope interferometers. Light from the twin 10-meter Keck telescopes is combined to measure the emission from dust orbiting nearby stars and to directly detect and characterize hot gas giant planets in other solar systems.



SIM-PlanetQuest

The Space Interferometer Mission-PlanetQuest will survey our sun's neighborhood for Earth-sized planets around thousands of nearby stars, and measure the motions and distances of stars throughout the Galaxy several hundred times more accurately than any previous program.



Terrestrial Planet Finder

The TPF observatories will study all aspects of planets outside our solar system: from their formation and development in disks of dust and gas around newly forming stars to the presence and features of those planets orbiting the nearest stars; from the numbers at various sizes and places to their suitability as an abode for life.

