Exoplanetary systems dynamics and habitability

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The Solar System is not like the others



Winn & Fabrycky 2015

Exoplanet systems



Winn & Fabrycky 2015

Stability of the Solar System



An unstable system



Scattering is seen to reproduce the observed eccentricity distribution.



e.g. Davies et al. 2014



Mustill, Davies & Johansen 2015; 2017

THE QUESTION:

What happens to habitable planets in systems which have gone through an unstable phase?

Habitable zones



Cockell et al. 2016; after Kasting et al. 1993

Do giant instabilities affect habitability?



Four giants OK, three Jupiters bad

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Four giants OK, three Jupiters bad



Adding planets lowers survival rate



More eccentricity implies lower resilience



Exoplanet systems



Winn & Fabrycky 2015

Summary

- I. The solar system is not like the others
- 2. Planet-planet scatterings occur in unstable systems: some planets are ejected
- 3. 3J systems leave planets on eccentric orbits
- 4. In 4G systems the Jupiter left behind is more often on lower-eccentricity orbits
- 5. Resilient habitability is much more common in 4G than 3J: eccentric orbits = bad for Earths