



SPRING '08 Colloquia

Refreshments at 3:15 PM, Talks at 3:30 PM in the John N. Bahcall Auditorium

www.stsci.edu/institute/sd/talks/Colloquia for updates

Wednesday March 26, 2008

Gaspar Bakos, CfA

Hunting for Transiting Exoplanets

The HATNet program employs six wide-field telescopes that are arranged in a network of two stations: Arizona and Hawaii. With the discovery of six transiting exoplanets to date, HATNet is one of the most successful transiting planet searches. I will give an overview of the project, and will reveal some of the secrets that are behind the scenes. I will take the audience through the basic steps of the 'hunt', briefly discussing the observing technique, transit recovery rate, number and classification of false positives, and confirmation of planets. I will describe HAT-P-1 through HAT-P-6, and place them in a broader context. I will close the talk by describing HAT-South, a new project that is expected to outperform HATNet by an order of magnitude.