

A Cold Giant Planet in a Dynamically Hot, Multi-planet System, imaged with JWST

William O. Balmer (JHU/STScI)

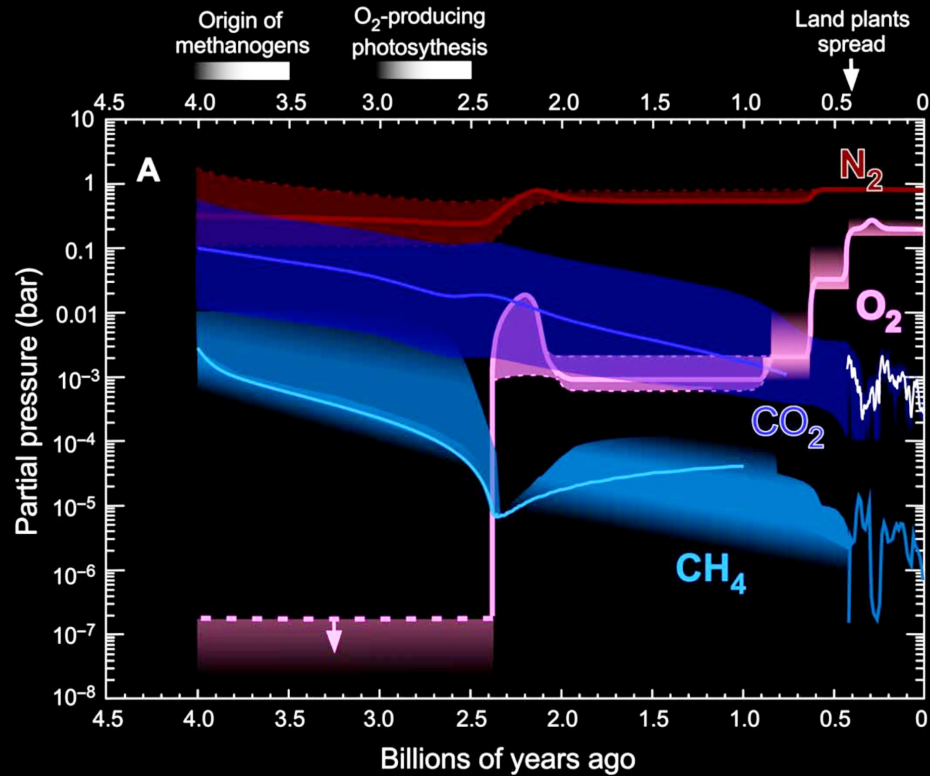
Mark R. Giovinnazzi (Amherst)

Press Release: DBG & WOB et al., ApJL

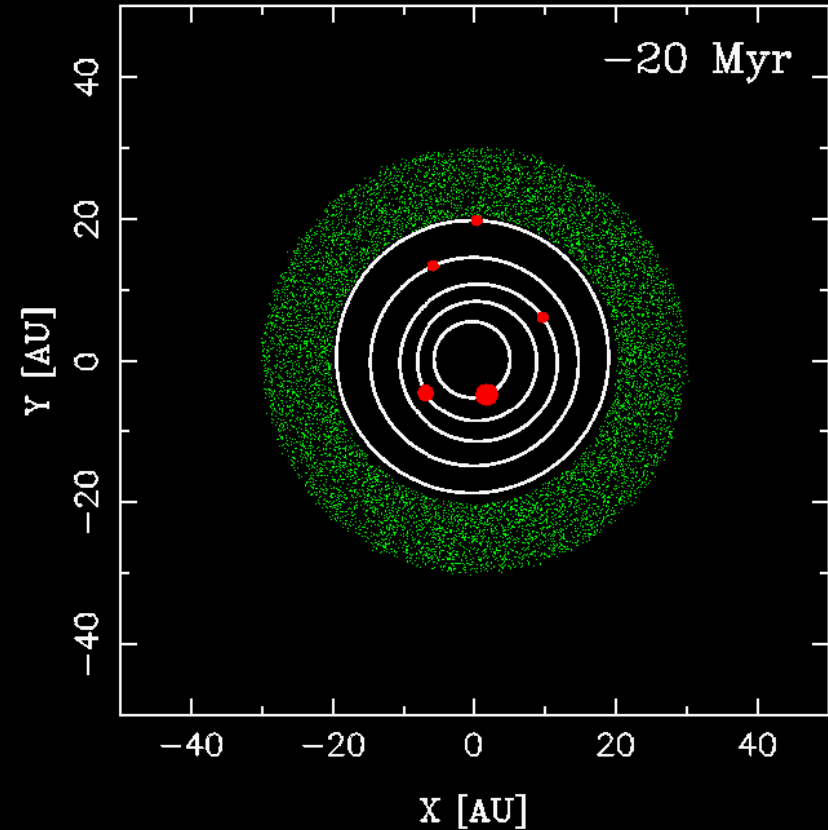
AAS 246th, Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Anchorage, AK

How do Planetary Systems Evolve?



Earth's atmospheric composition over time (Caitling & Zahnle 2020)



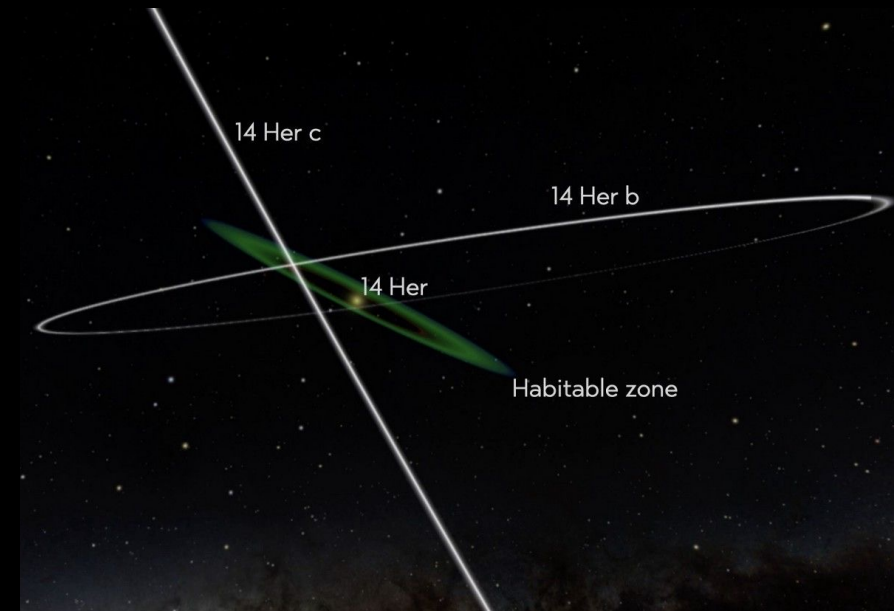
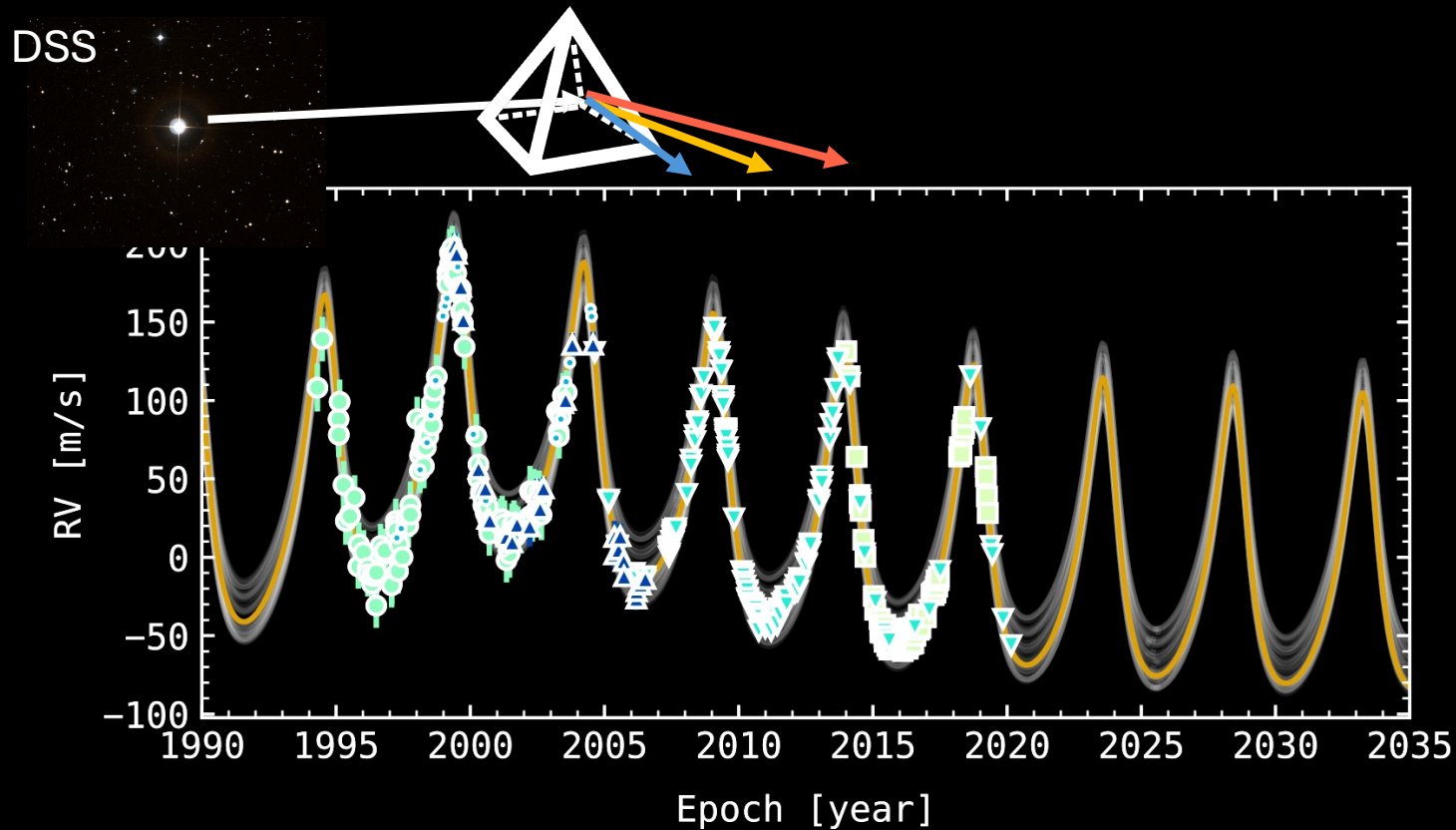
Scattering of a putative 5th solar system giant (David Nesvorný / SWRI)

Direct imaging with JWST

- ❖ With JWST, we can image at much **longer wavelengths** (redder colors) than before, and colder planets are brighter at redder wavelengths.
- ❖ Still, we need to find **nearby** star systems with planets that orbit far away enough from their bright host to be imaged.

14 Her System Overview

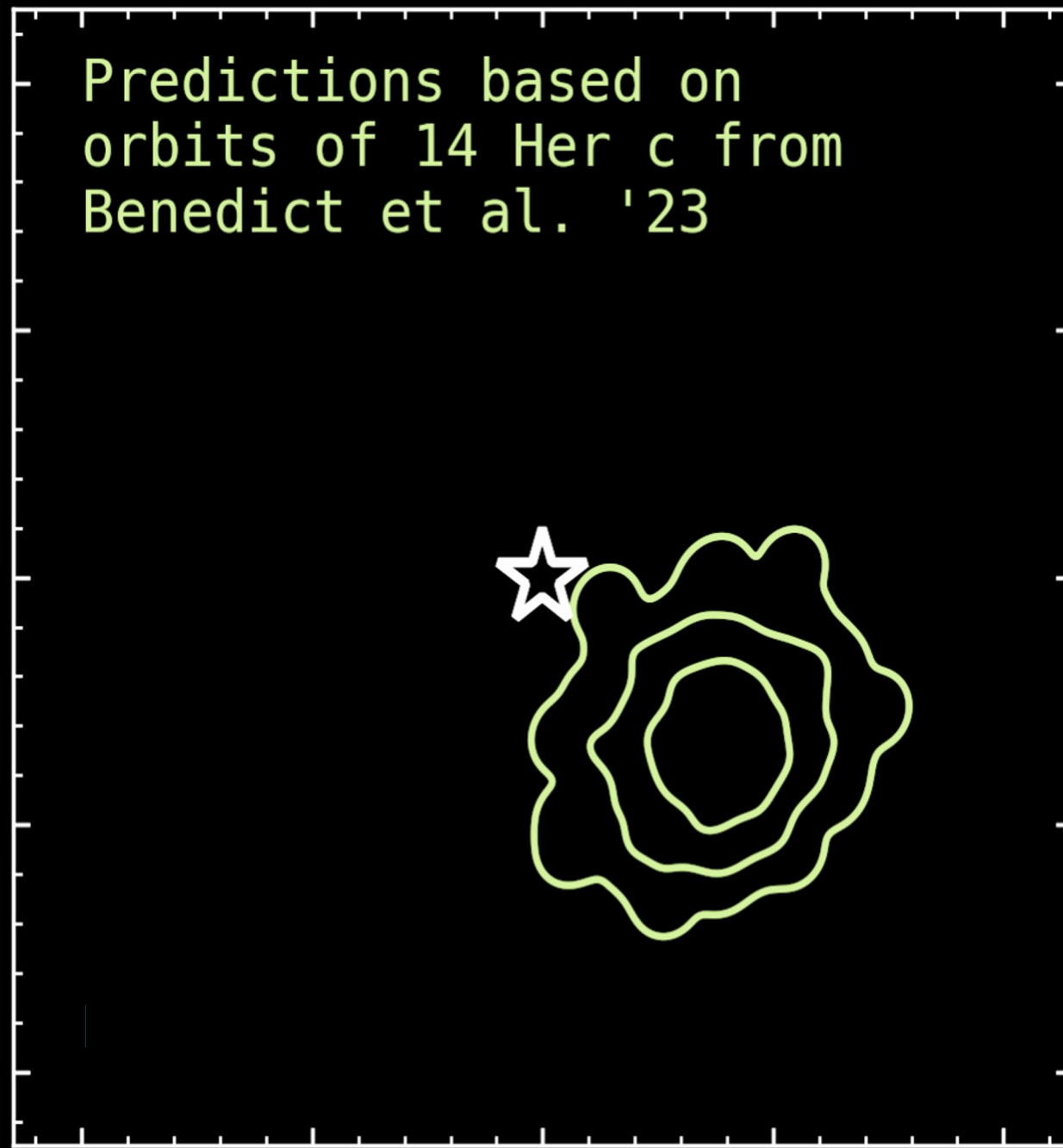
Indirect measurements (radial velocities, astrometry) imply that there are two gas giant planets on misaligned orbits around this nearby, old (solar system age) star



OpenSpace, AMNH

14 Her c predicted location

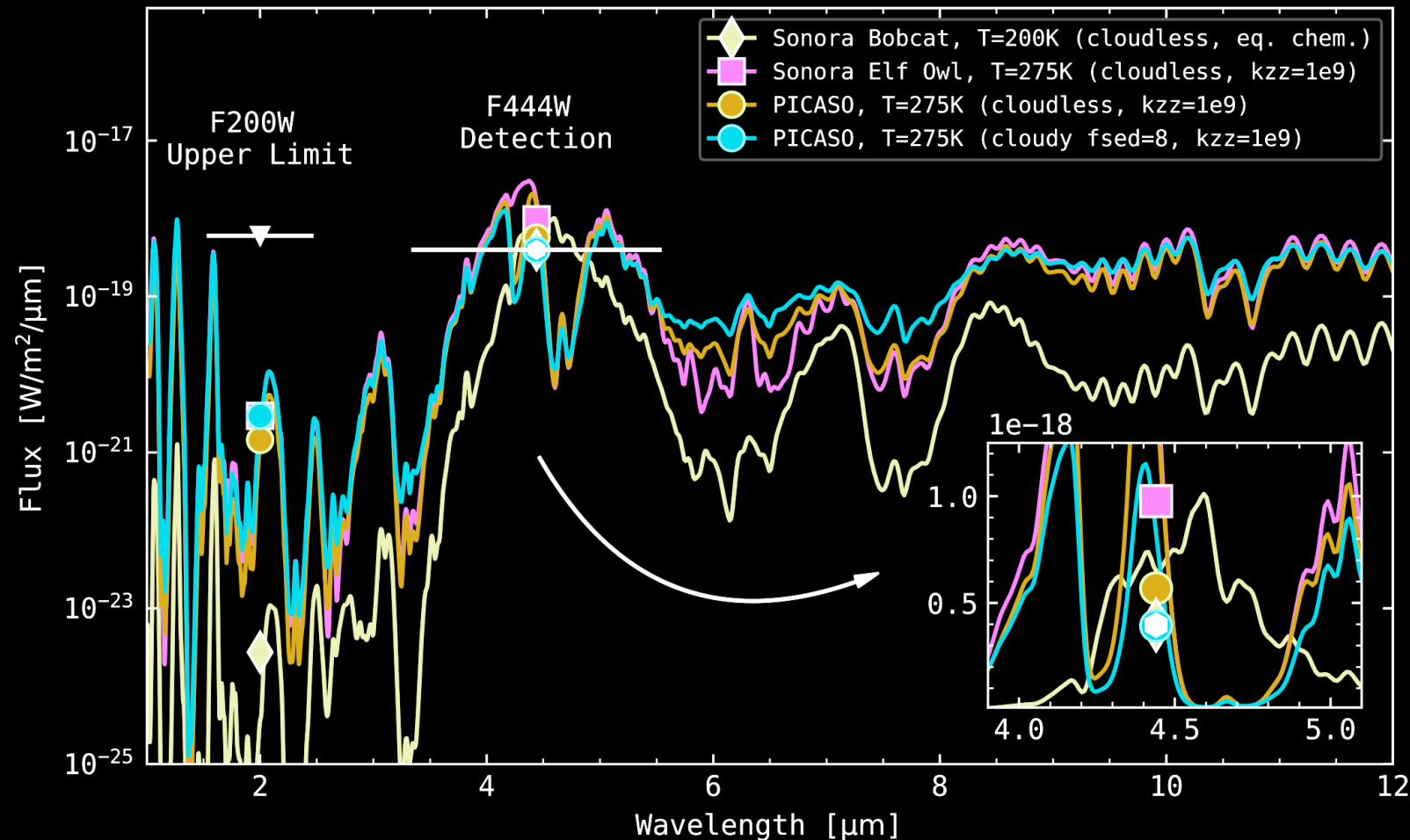
Predictions based on
orbits of 14 Her c from
Benedict et al. '23



14 Her c
direct
image



Cloudy, with a chance of wind

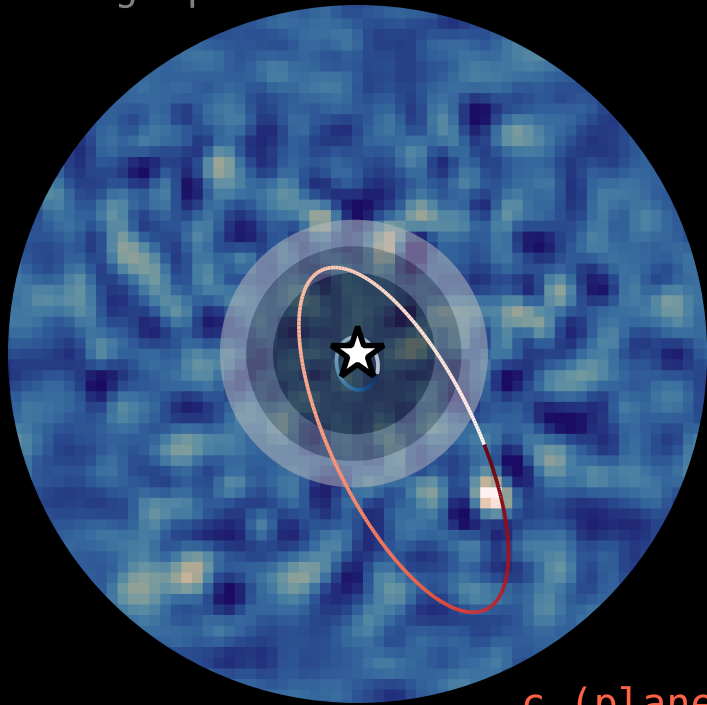


- ❖ One of the coldest planets directly imaged to date
- ❖ Strong **updrafts** and **water-ice clouds** likely made the planet slightly fainter than what we predicted

A dynamically hot system

Large, but stable, oscillations between planets. Likely c was scattered out to current orbit

JWST/NIRCam
Coronagraph



b (planet)

c (planet)

High amplitude example

