Diversity of Habitable planets: anthropic principle, panspermia, and Fermi Paradox

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19 slides





Anthropic Principle

Brandon Carter 1983

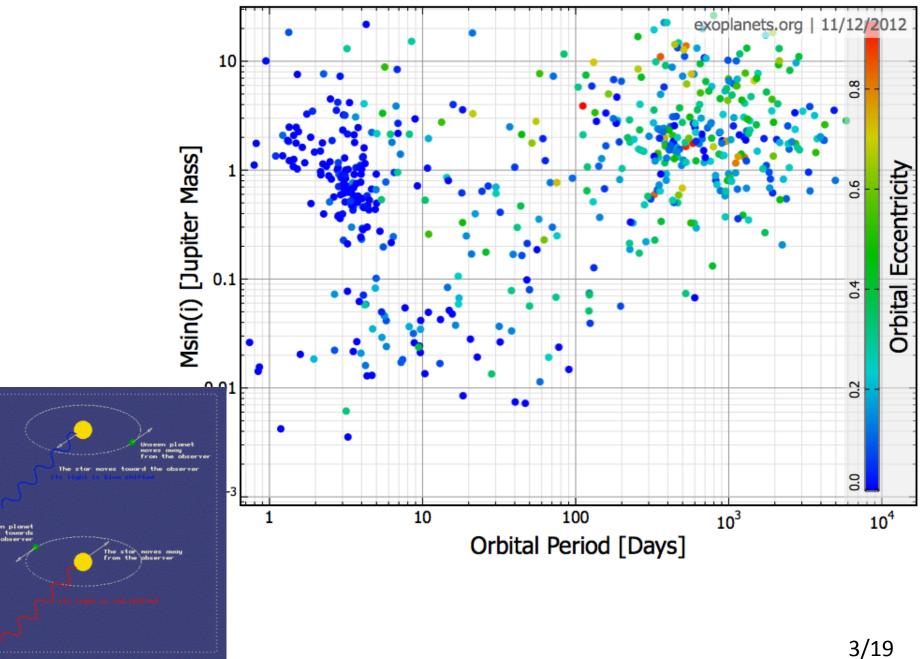


 Astrophysical and cosmological theorists run the risk of error in the interpretation of astronomical and cosmological information unless due account is taken of the biological restraints under which the information was acquired.
 (Strong Anthropic Principle)

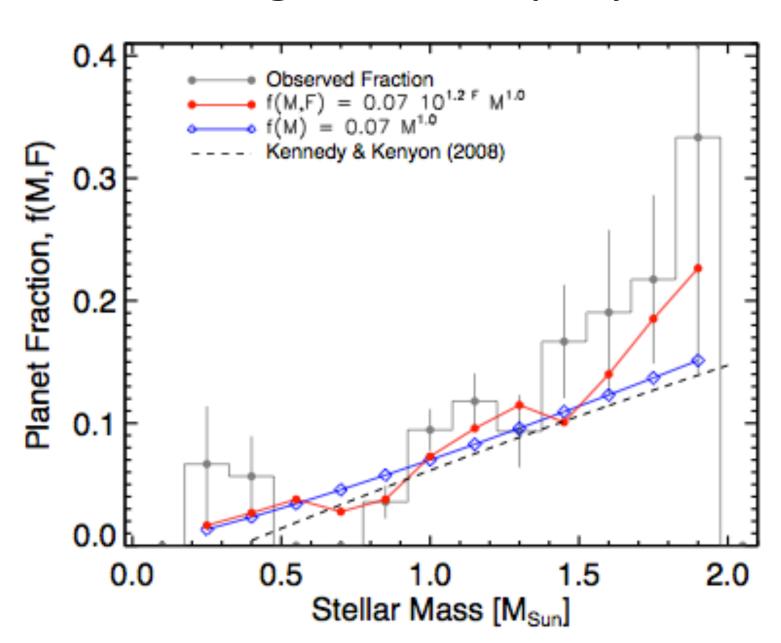
 Biological theorists also run the risk of error in the interpretation of the evolutionary records unless they take due heed of the astrophysical restraints under which evolution took place.

(Weak Anthropic Principle).

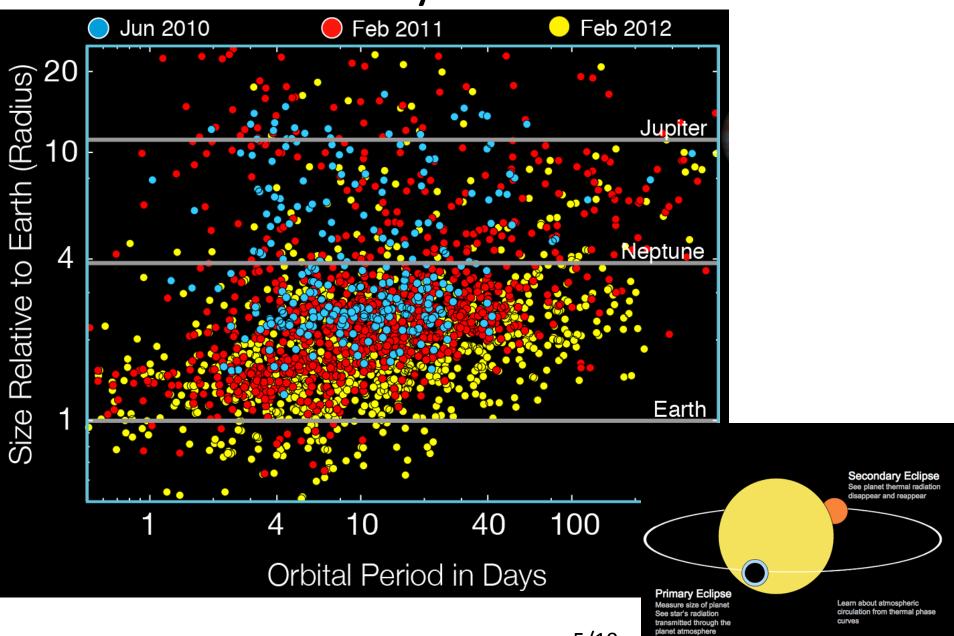
RV surveys: kinematic diversity



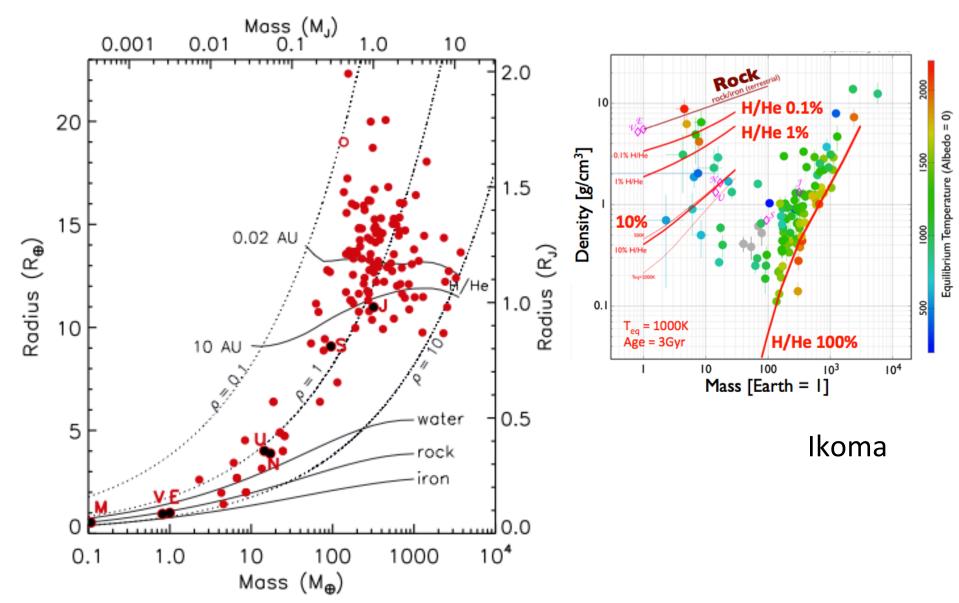
Gas giants: ubiquity



Transit surveys: size distribution



Structural diversity



Sequential assemblage of planets



Paradigm

shifts:

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a) natural and robust outcome => planets are common

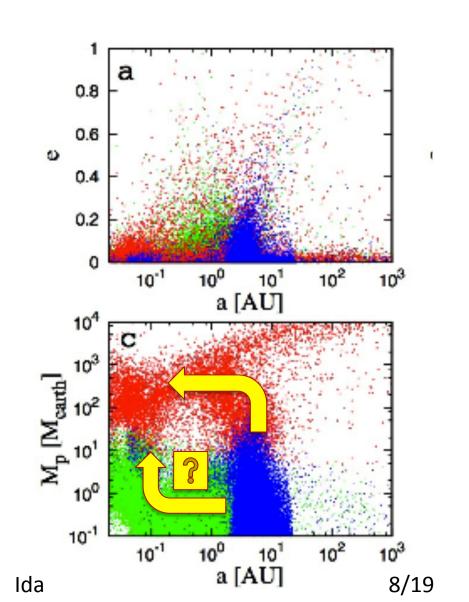
b) competing processes => planetary diversity

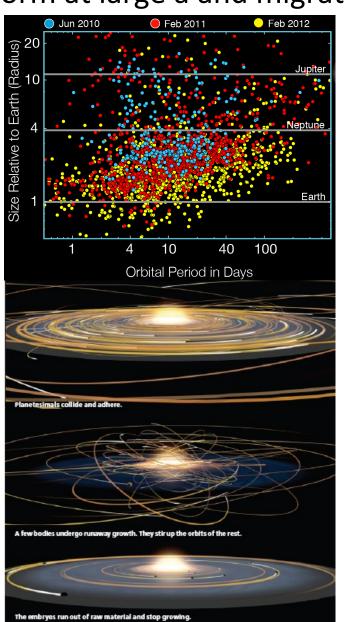
c) mobility => planetary systems' probabilistic destinies

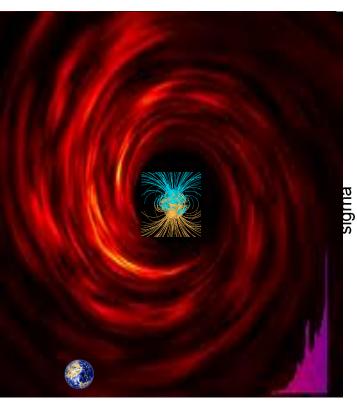
d) changing boundary conditions => evolving habitable zones

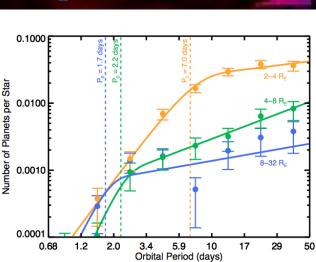
Super Earths: some key issues

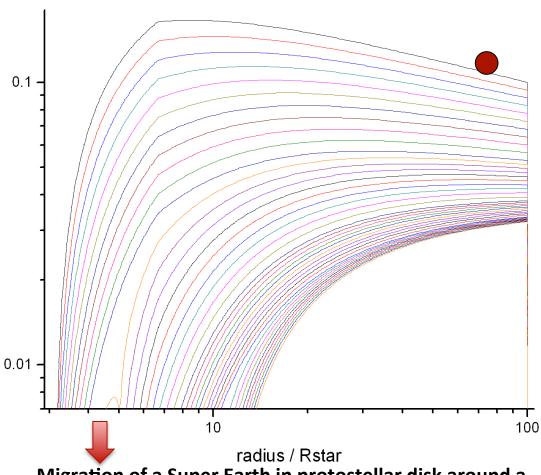
• Did super Earths assemble in situ or form at large a and migrate?











Migration of a Super Earth in protostellar disk around a magnetized T Tauri star. The Super Earth: (a) grows & migrate inward to inner-edge; (b) migrates slightly outwards with the expanding disk inner edge; (c) halts migrating after gas is mostly depleted. (Ju et al 2013 in preparation)



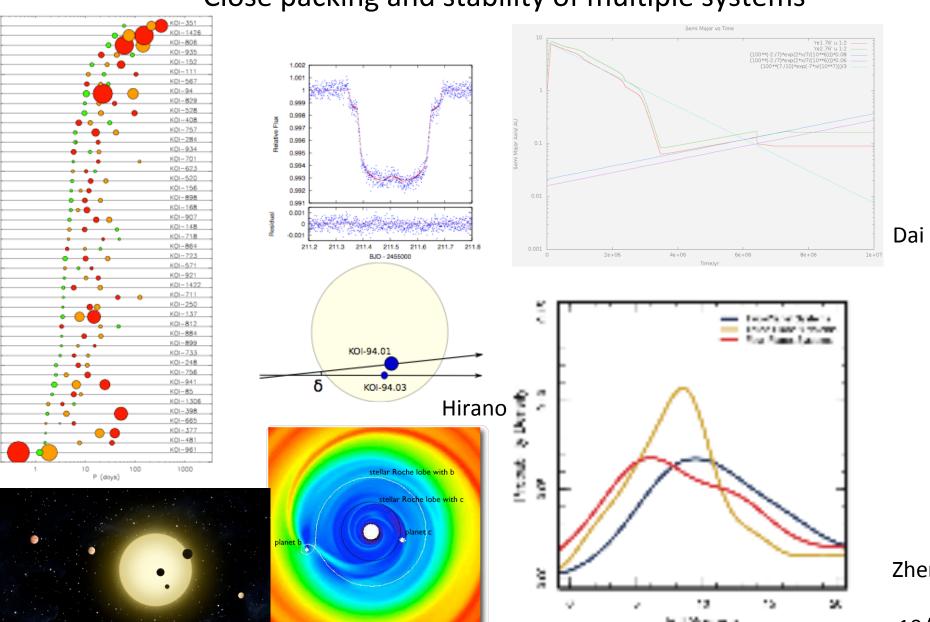
To model P distribution of Kepler's new-found planetary candidates.

KIAA undergraduate student Ju Wenhua now at Princeton **U**

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New Candidate Catalog

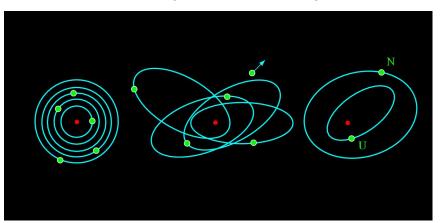
Close packing and stability of multiple systems



Zheng

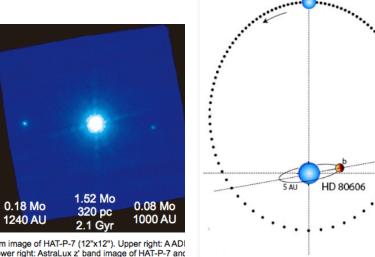
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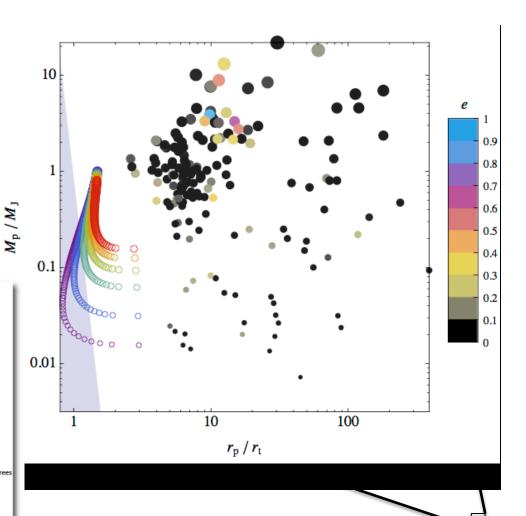
Dynamical perturbation by Jupiter-like planets



A gas giant planet disrupted by a sunlike star as a result of planet-planet scattering or the Kozai effect.

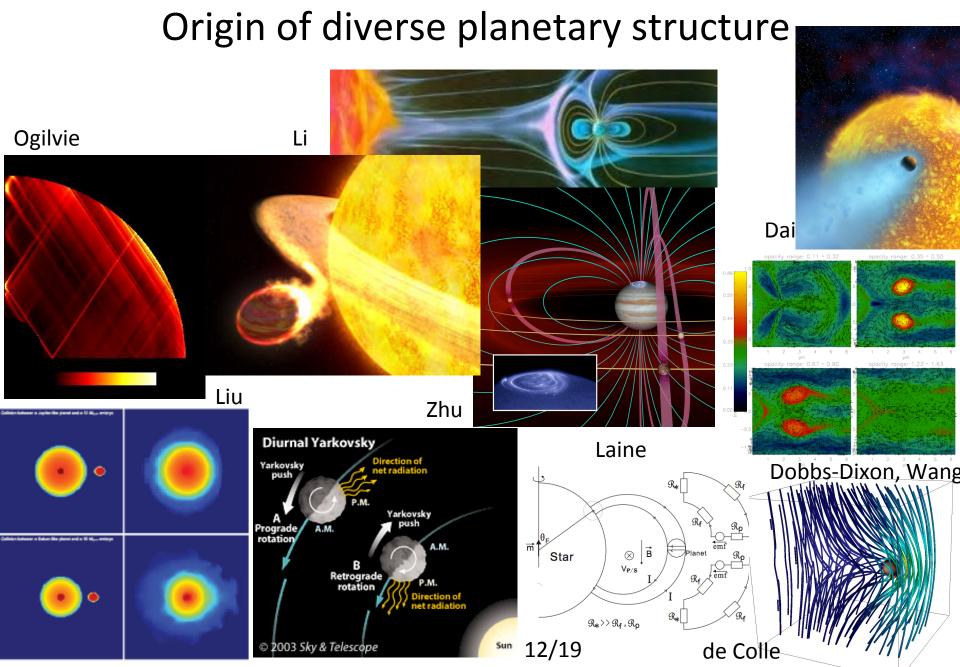
Nagasawa





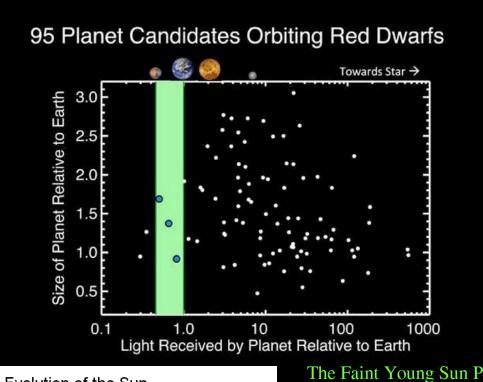
By Shangfei Liu, Graduate Student @ KIAA, PKU

Many competing physical processes

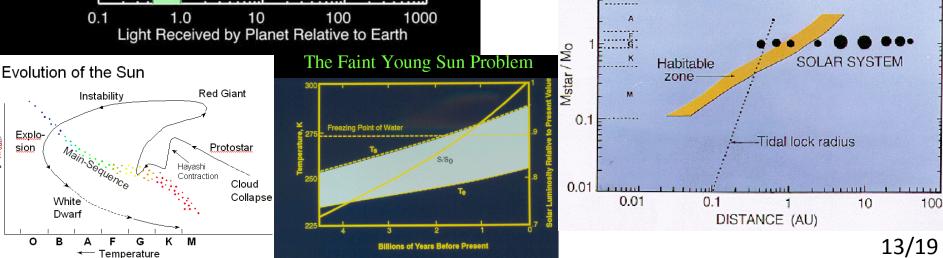


Potential life-supporting platforms:

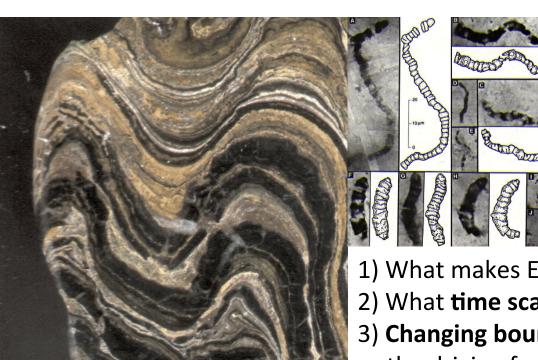
- a) evolving habitable zones
- b) common habitable planets

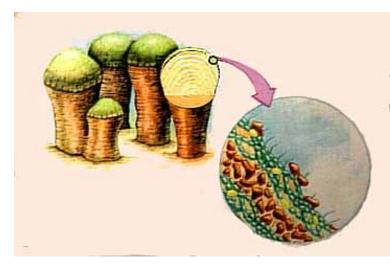


- 1) Many cradles to start native lives
- 2) Changing boundary condition as driving force for Darwinian evolution
- 3) Many targets for directed panspermia
- 4) Prospects of statistical survey & analysis quantitative proofs for genesis models



Option 1: In situ origin of life on Earth

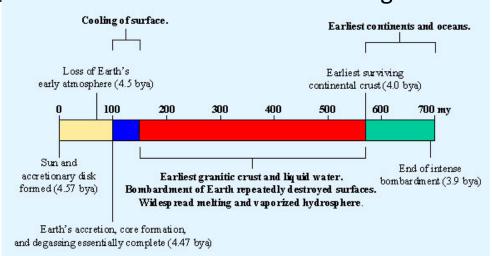




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1) What makes Earth unique in SS?

- 2) What time scale is needed?
- 3) Changing boundary conditions as the driving force for evolution





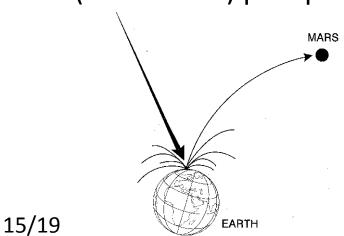


Option 2:Panspermia difficult to verify



Ballistic (interplanetary) panspermia

Litho (interstellar) panspermia



All turnes there

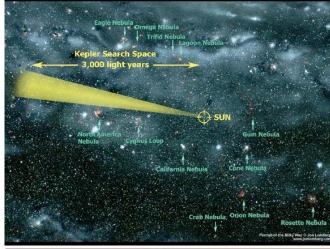
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Directed (informational) panspermia

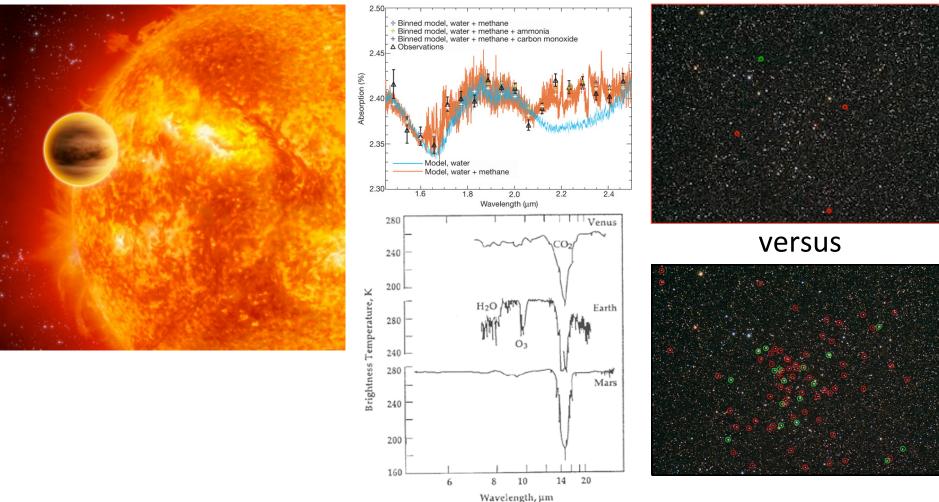
Few show-stoppers. Possible => probable Lian







Search for clustered distribution and age of habited planets



- A systematic survey for bio-signatures on habitable planets.
- 1) Spatial and temporal distribution
- 2) Dependence on stellar and planetary-system properties

Fermi's paradox: WHERE IS ET?

Ingredient for Darwinian Evolution:

Meta-stable information bases

Survival against obstacles and disasters:

Exponential growth & dissemination of mutation sexual genetic reproduction

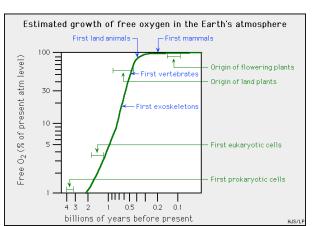


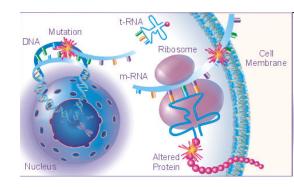
Natural selection, expansionism, ``space filling''.

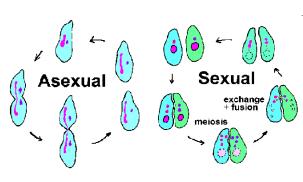
Intelligence and self awareness:

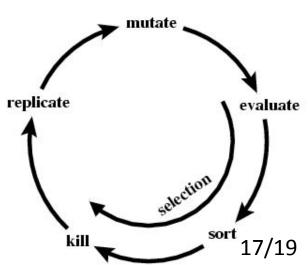
strategy for survival and proliferation.



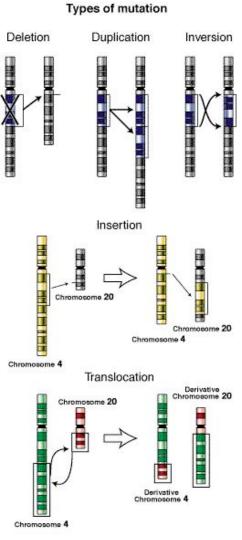




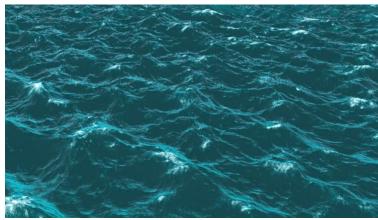


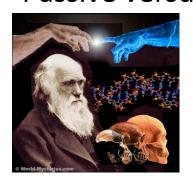


Fitness peaks & ``potential'' valleys











Local, regional, and global minima

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Advanced civilization may be 1 trapped into evolutionary holes

2 reached nonlinear saturation.

Summary

- Planet formation is a series of robust, complex, competitive process.
- Multiple paths of migration during formation and evolution have produced the statistical properties of planetary systems.
- Individual planets' structure and planetary systems' dynamical architecture are DIVERSE.
- Comparative planetology is needed to understand the mean and dispersion in the boundary conditions of habitable environments.
- Weak anthropic principle provides a scientific and philosophical basis for an interdisciplinary approach in the search for our roots & destiny.
- Characterization of exoplanets will greatly expand our horizon with sites of ongoing biological and geological genesis and evolution.
- The discovery and systematic census of bio-signatures on habitable planets will provide historic paradigm-changing evidences to back up extraordinary speculations.
- May ELSI play a prominent and leading role in this exciting scientific endeavor and global, profound intellectual pursuit.