



Astrophysics Advisory Committee

K2 End of Mission Science Planning

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K2 is a follow-on to the original Kepler mission, driven by the loss of two reaction wheels.

- Unable to control Roll, Pitch and Yaw against the solar pressure at the original Kepler Field of View as the sun incidence angle moves a degree/day
- The remaining reaction wheels could control two axes
- Solicited community input and received 42 white papers describing potential science
- Also solicited community input on attitude control options and hosted a 2-day workshop

The result was the K2 mission concept...



K2 Implementation



K2 points in the ecliptic, where the roll axis of symmetry is oriented towards the sun and the resulting roll disturbance is minimized.

- The remaining reaction wheels control Pitch and Yaw.
- Keeping the solar panels pointed at the sun limits the period the telescope can stare at a single field to ~80 days
- The mission observes a sequence of different fields along the ecliptic plane as the spacecraft orbits the sun





Kepler vs. K2



Kepler	K2
4-year observing period	80 days observing/campaign
Monthly science downlinks	Quarterly science downlinks
170,000 targets	≈30,000 targets/campaign (less frequent downlinks and larger apertures)
FOV selected for mature G-dwarfs, with few notable outliers	FOVs constrained to the ecliptic, with a wide range of available targets
Predominantly mission-directed research with a small competitive GO program	Community-directed research mission with science targets selected by peer review
	Data processing stops with photometry (no search done by the mission)



K2 Performance



K2's photometric precision is within 20% of that achieved by Kepler







Attitude Control

- The solar pressure balance ridge had to be determined on-orbit
- Dominated by the solar panels, but affected by other components
- No analytical model available

Communications

- At science attitude, low gain antennas pointed at ecliptic north/south
- Accurate high gain pointing (body-mounted antenna) was fuel inefficient
- Increasing range made both problems more difficult

Data Storage

- Data compression affected by spacecraft motion and scene
- Under/over filling the recorder results in loss of science

Fuel Efficiency

• It all comes down to fuel!



K2 Science Promised: Broad and Community-Driven





Examine astrophysics over a range of stellar properties Study of protoplanetary disks & migration limits





Explore accretion physics and supernovae





K2 Science Delivered: Broad and Community-Driven







K2 Science Highlights: *High-value Exoplanets*



K2 exoplanets are around bright stars and amenable to characterization.



KepMag



K2 Science Highlights: Stellar Rotation as a Probe of Evolution



- The mission is among the first to show well-defined period vs. color (mass) relation at very low masses (<0.4 Msun).
- For the youngest stars, the data is also shedding light on the angular momentum budget and its dependence on mass and circumstellar disk properties.
- Detailed analysis of the K2 light curves is revealing starspot evolution and stellar differential rotation





K2 Science Highlights: Supernovae







C16 & C17: Focus on Supernova

(with bonus star clusters!)



- C16 & C17 are "forward facing" to facilitate simultaneous ground observations.
- Observing ~ 10,000 galaxies in each campaign. Expected to yield 10 – 15 SN per campaign
- Star clusters M44 & M67
- C16 DDT deadline is 8/31
- C17 target deadline is 10/12









K2 Science Breadth





Simultaneously monitoring thousands of targets,

Community-driven science and no exclusive use period.

... the K2 mission has enabled a diverse array of scientific investigation!



Community Engagement









A dynamic community is incentivized by:

- Consensus selection of Fields-of-view
- Competitive, peer-reviewed selection of targets and funding
- Increased funding for investigators that deliver valueadded products to the community
- Open data access no exclusive data rights



Community Response – 1 Example



- Download the unofficial, "pseudo-TPF" file, created by Geert Barensten: Long Cadence | Short Cadence Important warnings and caveats can be found at this K2 Mission Office blog post.
- Download all the raw K2 Campaign 12 data here: https://archive.stsci.edu/missions/k2/c12_raw_cadence_data/
- Download the corresponding Pixel Mapping Reference Files (PMRFs) at: <u>https://archive.stsci.edu/missions/k2/pmrfs/c12</u>
- Search the Portal for all available MAST data of <u>TRAPPIST-1</u>.
- The community has made iPython notebooks available that show how to analyze the TRAPPIST1 raw data release.
 <u>Tom Barclay</u> has created an <u>iPython notebook</u> that demonstrates how to create a quicklook light curve using the pseudo-TPF file.

3/8 @ 9am C12 raw data released

March downloads: 1,469 GB 537 users 57 countries



Community Response – 1 Example





17





A terrestrial-sized exoplanet at the snow line of TRAPPIST-1

Rodrigo Luger, Marko Sestovic, Ethan Kruse, Simon L. Grimm, Brice-Olivier Demory, Eric Agol, Emeline Bolmont, Daniel Fabrycky, Catarina S. Fernandes, Valérie Van Grootel, Adam Burgasser, Michaël Gillon, James G. Ingalls, Emmanuël Jehin, Sean N. Raymond, Franck Selsis, Amaury H.M.J. Triaud, Thomas Barclay, Geert Barentsen, Laetitia Delrez, Julien de Wit, Daniel Foreman-Mackey, Daniel L. Holdsworth, Jérémy Leconte, Susan Lederer, Martin Turbet, Yaseen Almleaky, Zouhair Benkhaldoun, Pierre Magain, Brett Morris, Kevin Heng, Didier Queloz

(Submitted on 12 Mar 2017)

The TRAPPIST-1 system is the first transiting planet system found orbiting an ultra-cool dwarf star. At least seven planets similar to Earth in radius and in mass were previously found to transit this host star. Subsequently, TRAPPIST-1 was observed as part of the K2 mission and, with these new data, we report the measurement of an 18.764 d orbital period for the outermost planet, TRAPPIST-1h, which was unconstrained until now. This value matches our theoretical expectations based on Laplace relations and places TRAPPIST-1h as the seventh member of a complex chain, with three-body resonances linking every member. We find that TRAPPIST-1h has a radius of 0.715 Earth radii and an equilibrium temperature of 169 K, placing it at the snow line. We have also measured the rotational period of the star at 3.3 d and detected a number of flares consistent with an active, middle-aged, late M dwarf.

Comments: 36 pages, 8 figure, 2 tables Submitted to Nat. Astron. on 3/10/2017

60 hours after raw data release!





- Revised process for Cycle 6 proposals (Campaigns 17, 18, & 19) in order to avoid (possibly) unnecessary review overhead
 - Target proposals due in fall (Step 1)
 - Streamlined submission (outside of NSPIRES) and remote peer review
 - Funding proposals (Step 2) due after start of C17 (April 2018)
 - Standard NSPIRES proposal
 - Must use targets chosen from earlier step, but anyone can submit a proposal.
- GO office focusing on developing and updating legacy user tools and developing tutorials.
- Increased monitoring of critical spacecraft systems to facilitate early identification of performance degradation







Probably some time next Spring, when the fuel finally runs out – *inherently unpredictable*

- Spacecraft operations has become more fuel efficient over time – Science observing is the main consumer of fuel, followed by anomalies
- As fuel and pressure diminishes (mono-propellant hydrazine), thruster performance becomes less predictable
 - Will lead to degraded pointing control and more image motion
- When thrusters can no longer support good science pointing, a final downlink of the on-board recorder will be performed
 - Will communicate closely with the science community as the end of mission approaches
- Transmitters will be turned off and the spacecraft will be abandoned in place





Current funding runs into FY20, assuming fuel will last through Campaign 19

- In all cases, funding will provide for final campaign delivery to the archives and extended community support through the GO Office (as much as an additional year)
- If fuel is consumed earlier, we will consider using some of the funding to reprocess campaigns with the latest pipeline





Recipe for a Successful Open Mission (v 0.1)

Ingredients

- Data
 - Release early as possible
 - Multiple products with different levels of processing
 - Documentation
 - Software tools
 - Multiple repositories
- Science Funding
 - In-project scientists using data
 - Funding for broad community participation
- Outreach & more outreach

Special Sauces

- Data opens new phase space
 - Photometric sensitivity
 - Uninterrupted time sampling
- Data applicable to new & growing fields
 - Exoplanets
- Data applicable to fields that are short on data
 - Asteroseismology
 - Galactic archaeology
- Supportive Community