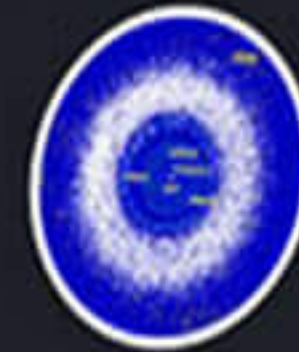




## Research Thrusts



### Astronomy and Astrophysics

How do galaxies, stars, planets, moons and minor bodies form and evolve? What is the path that leads from prebiotic organic compounds to life?



### Exoplanets

How abundant and diverse are planetary systems? How many exoplanets have developed habitable environments? How common are Earth-like planets?



### Planetary Exploration

What does solar system exploration teach us about the diversity of habitable environments, their evolution through time, and life? Might human destiny include Solar System colonization?



### Climate and Geosciences

What are the physical and chemical processes driving planetary climates? How do life and environment influence each other? How might climate change impact human life?



### Astrobiology

How does life begin and evolve? Does life exist elsewhere in the universe? What can terrestrial research teach us about biosignatures beyond Earth? What technologies can we develop to detect them?

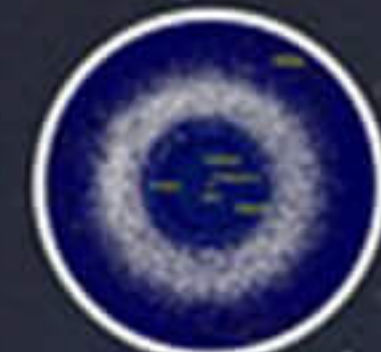


### SETI

Are we alone in the universe? Are there advanced civilizations that we can detect and what would be the societal impact if we do? How can we augment the odds of making contact?



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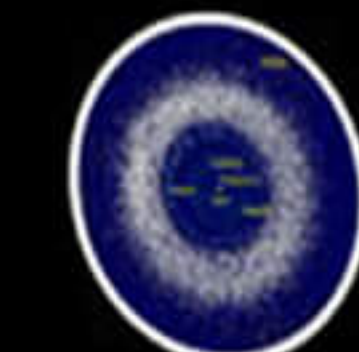


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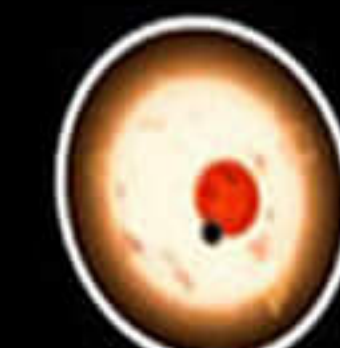


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