# Astro Exploration

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#### **Exoplanet detection** and characterization

# Near Earth Asteroids characterization

Identification and follow up of artificial satellites



## Exoplanet detection: the transit method

• Consists of detecting periodic dimmings in stellar light curves.



#### Exoplanet detection: detrended light curves

- Long-term trends are induced by stellar variability phenomena.
- These trends have to be removed before analyzing light curves.



## Shape dependency of transit-like signals

- Limb darkening effect makes the transits getting rounded.
- From a transit, different parameters can be inferred.





- Virtually millions of light curves to analyze from facilities like TESS or Kepler.
- Classical algorithms are robust but very time demanding.

• Solution: applying machine learning techniques to detect and characterize the systems.



## Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN)

- CNN are a type of Artificial Intelligence (AI) ideal for detecting shapedependency features.
- CNN filters extract the main characteristics (i.e. transits).



#### Dataset simulation

- There are not enough real light curves with transits to train the models.
- Batman package: simulates light curves with transits but without noise.
- Noise: Gaussian considering the SNR expected for TESS light curves..
- Stellar and planetary parameters: simulated considering physical limits.

Stellar Magnitude	SNR
8	40.84
10	36.20
12	31.56
14	26.92
16	22.28



#### Results...

- Inputs: complete light curves
- Outputs: presence of exoplanets, orbital period, planet radius, semimajor axis of the orbit.



# So... why 1D-CNN models are a good option?

- 1D-CNN models automatize the transits search.
- 1D-CNN are able to extract the main planetary parameters.
- The timeframe needed is much lower ((2-10)s/lc with current algorithms vs 74s for  $3\cdot 10^5$  lc.)
- Avoids human judge when classifying.
- Easy to generalize to different surveys and telescopes.

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- Near Earth Asteroids are rocky objects in the Solar System whose trayectories get close to the Earth ( < 0.3 Astronomical Units).
- Due to their size (~km) we observe these objects as point sources, even with big (optical) telescopes.
- We study their rotation period, spin state and shape using light curves from multiple seasons applying the light curve inversion method (LCIM).
- The LCIM finds the best fitting model for the asteroid parameters (spin and shape) for the observed light curves.



# Data and shape modelling

- New data provided from Instituto Astrofísico de Canarias (IAC); observations taken in 2020-2022.
- Archival data from DAMIT and ALCDEF databases.
- Lightcurve inversion method done with DAMIT code with both YORP and no YORP taken into account.

## Some results...

- (2100) Ra-Shalom
  - $\lambda = 278^{\circ} \pm 8^{\circ}$
  - $\beta = -60^{\circ} \pm 5^{\circ}$
  - $P_{rot} = 19.820107 \text{ hr} \pm 0.000040 \text{ hr}$
  - $\upsilon = (0.22 \pm 0.16) \times 10^{-8} \text{ rad } d^{-2}$
- The model with YORP effect has lower RMS and uncertainty, which could mean that this would be the slowest rotator being affected by YORP discovered.



- (3103) Eger
  - $\lambda = 214^{\circ} \pm 3^{\circ}$
  - $\beta = -71^{\circ} \pm 1^{\circ}$
  - $P_{rot} = 5.710148 \text{ hr} \pm 0.0000006 \text{ hr}$
  - $\upsilon = (0.85 \pm 0.05) \times 10^{-8} \, rad \, d^{-2}$





- (161989) Cacus
  - $\lambda = 251^{\circ} \pm 6^{\circ}$
  - $\beta = -62^{\circ} \pm 2^{\circ}$
  - $P_{rot} = 3.755067 \text{ hr} \pm 0.000001 \text{ hr}$
  - $\upsilon = (1.91 \pm 0.05) \times 10^{-8} \text{ rad } d^{-2}$





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Identification and follow up of artificial satellites

- Main goal: develop an autonomous detection system focussing on artificial satellites, space debris and also NEOs.
- Optical facilities and machine learning techniques.





Collaboration with Dr. René Duffard (Instituto de Astrofísica de Andalucía). More than 11.000 images to search for satellite tracks.

Pillarno Observatory (Ritchey-Chrétien 400 mm diameter telescope).

#### Real data

• Also simulated data...



- We identify the track of the satellite.
- Comparing the observed with the predicted (from ephemeris) coordinates of the satellite we can determine orbital changes.
- Also observing certain features in its light curve it is posible to infer its rotation state and operational status.





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- The K2-OjOs project is a pro am collaboration between researchers from ICTEA and amateur astronomers from SAA Omega.
- The goal of the project was to visually inspect light curves from the K2 mission to search for exoplanets.
- As a results 4 new planets were discoverd, along with 14 candidates; the power of the eye against modern techniques...





- To this day, despite thousands of exoplanets discovered, no exomoon has been detected.
- A few projects have automatically inspected light curves of the highest precision and high cadence in search of signals of possible exomoons, but the exomoons remain elusive (only one candidate: Kepler - 1625b l).
- Pro-am collaboration goal: trained (am) observers will inspect all the planetary transits present in short cadence light curves of the Kepler main mission to search for subtle signals that could be the signature of exomoons.

#### Simulated data



#### What to look for?



Modelo Batman ajustado

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Focusing on...

- Light curves with short cadence data (2 minutes).
- Exoplanets with transit timing variations (TTVs) and transit duration variations (TDVs).
- Exoplanets with transits of long duration.
- Inspect light curves of exoplanets not expected to harbor moons.
- Inspect exoplanets with long cadence data (30 minutos) and eventually all the light curves of exoplanet in Kepler data.
- Extend the search to other facilities as TESS.