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Exoplanet Science with E-ELT/METIS

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Abstract

METIS - the Mid-infrared E-ELT Imager and Spectrograph - is foreseen as one of the first instruments for the 39-m European Extremely Large Telescope (E-ELT). It will provide diffraction limited imaging and spectroscopy in the L, M, N and Q band and also feature a high-dispersion integral field unit in the L and M band. While being a multi-purpose instrument with a broad and diverse science case, exoplanets are one of the driving science topics for METIS.

In this talk I will highlight a few areas in exoplanet research, where METIS will be uniquely positioned to deliver breakthrough results early in the era of ground-based ELTs. In fact, it might be METIS that takes the first image of a small and possibly rocky planet around a nearby star.