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SYMPOSIUM ON TECHNOLOGICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR FUTURE SPACE ASTRONOMY AND SOLAR-SYSTEM SCIENCE MISSIONS (A7)
Technology Needs for Future Missions, Platforms (3)

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THE PLATO VIEWPOINT: MULTIPLE, PARTIALLY OVERLAPPING, EYES TO CATCH GLIMPSES OF WORLDS OUTSIDE OUR SOLAR SYSTEM.

Abstract

PLATO, a Medium size mission selected by ESA, is composed by a few dozens of very wide field cameras arranged in a partially overlapping configuration in order to cover an unprecedent area in the sky. Continuous monitoring will allow to detect brightness glimpses that will be used to determine the mass of a large number of stars through asteroseismology and to assess on a few percent of them the detection of alien worlds, assuring measurements of their raddi, mass, and hence density altoghether with a few hints on their atmosphere, if any, tracing for a massive number of stars in our neighborhoods the first map of alien worlds where to further look for a detailed characterization.