Community Exoplanet Follow-up Program

Steve Howell
NASA Ames Research Center

During the Kepler mission, our team provided the community with the highest resolution images available anywhere of exoplanet host stars. Using speckle interferometry on the 3.5-m WIYN, and 8-m Gemini telescopes, thousands of observations have been obtained reaching the diffraction limit of the telescope. From these public data available at the NASA Exoplanet Archive, numerous publications have resulted and many scientific results have been obtained for exoplanets including the fact that high-resolution imaging is critical to fully characterize the planet host stars and the planets themselves (e.g., planet radius and incident flux). Exoplanet host star observations have also occurred (and continue) for K2 mission candidates with archival data available as well. Observational programs for TESS candidates, WFIRST program stars, and Zodiacal light candidates are currently on-going. Availability to propose or obtain such observations are possible through 1) collaboration with our team, 2) successfully proposing to WIYN or GEMINI for telescope time, or 3) using publically available archival data. This poster will highlight the observational program, how time is allocated and how our queue observational program works, and new features and observational modes that are available now.