

A precursor mission to high contrast imaging balloon system

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ABSTRACT

The advent of space-based astronomical observations has transformed the fields of astronomy. However, all the advances of space-based observations come at a significant cost. A far cheaper alternative is to fly instrumentation aboard sub-orbital balloons which can be achieved at a fraction of the cost. HiCIBaS: High-Contrast Imaging Balloon System provides a platform to develop space-like imaging techniques to find planets. A high-altitude balloon can carry a telescope payload to a near-space environment, where high-contrast imaging experiments are possible.

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