

Transients in Middle Earth



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The James Webb Space Telescope: Engineering a New Era of Discovery

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The James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) is the most complex and sensitive space observatory ever deployed, combining revolutionary engineering with unprecedented scientific capability. With its segmented 6.5-meter primary mirror and suite of infrared instruments, JWST enables observations of the Universe with extraordinary sensitivity and angular resolution. In this talk, I will discuss the key technical innovations that underpin JWST's performance, as well as the challenges and excitement of on-orbit commissioning. I will also address some of the operational and technical obstacles encountered during the first years of science operations. Finally, I will highlight a selection of scientific results and demonstrate how JWST's engineering design directly enables these new discoveries.

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